## Synthesis of the B,C,D,E,F-Ring Fragment of Pinnatoxins

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**Abstract:** Construction of the B,C,D,E,F-ring of pinnatoxins is disclosed. Julia coupling reaction between the E,F-ring fragment ( $C_{26}$ - $C_{31}$ ) as the sulfone and the B,C,D-ring fragment ( $C_{10}$ - $C_{25}$ ) as the aldehyde proceeded smoothly to afford the B,C,D,E,F-ring system via acetalization.

**Key words:** pinnatoxin, dispiroacetal, trioxadispiro[5.1.5.2]pentadecane dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane

Pinnatoxins are potent shellfish toxins isolated from *Pinna muricata*,<sup>1</sup> and their unique structures and biological properties have attracted the attention of scientists.<sup>2</sup> Recently, we reported the stereoselective construction of the dispiroacetal core ( $C_{10}$ - $C_{24}$  fragment) of pinnatoxins.<sup>3</sup> In this report, the synthesis of the B,C,D,E,F-ring system **2** is described.

Our retrosynthetic pathway is shown in Scheme 1. The coupling of the E,F-ring part and the dispiroacetal core  $3^{4,5}$  would be effected by Julia coupling reaction. All the chiral centers in sulfone 4 could be introduced by Sharpless asymmetric epoxidation (AE).



Scheme 1

Propargyl alcohol was protected as its benzyl ether which, upon addition to the *p*-formaldehyde, gave the primary alcohol **5** in 82% yield for 2 steps (Scheme 2). The triple bond was reduced with LAH in THF at low temperature

to afford **6** in 73% yield. When the reaction was carried out at rt, elimination of the benzyloxy group took place to give the allene compound. Sharpless AE of **6** provided epoxide **7** in 93% yield in 92% ee.<sup>6</sup> The epoxide was opened regioselectively with  $Ti(O'Pr)_4$  and benzoic acid to afford **8** in 94% yield. The benzoyl group in **8** was cleaved with NaOH aq in MeOH (94% yield) and the primary hydroxyl group of the resulting triol compound was protected as a



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: a) NaH, BnBr, TBAI, THF, rt, 7.5 h, 93%; b) BuLi, (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, THF, -78 °C → 0 °C, 50 min, 88%; c) LAH, THF, -78 °C → 0 °C, 7.5 h, 73%; d) L-(+)-DET, Ti(O'Pr)<sub>4</sub>, TBHP, MS4A, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -25 °C, 21 h, 93%, >92% ee; e) Ti(O'Pr)<sub>4</sub>, PhCO<sub>2</sub>H, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 2 h, 94%; f) 4M aq. NaOH, MeOH, rt, 45 min, 94%; g) PivCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Py, 0 °C, 18 h, 76%; h) TBSOTf, 2,6-lutidine, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 25 min, 100%; i) DIBAL, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C, 20 min, 98%; j) DMPI, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 2 d; k) Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CHCO<sub>2</sub>Me, PhH, rt, 21 h, 86% for 2 steps; l) DIBAL, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C, 20 min, 99%; m) D-(-)-DET, Ti(O'Pr)<sub>4</sub>, TBHP, MS4A, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -25 °C, 21 h, 93%; n) Me<sub>2</sub>CuLi, ether, -30 °C, 23 h, 96%; o) *N*-(phenythio)phthalimide, Bu<sub>3</sub>P, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 4 h, 76%; p) SEMCI, Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt, TBAI, (CICH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, reflux, 6 h, ~100%; q) *m*-CPBA, Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 25 min, 95%.

pivaloate ester to obtain 9 in 76% yield. Silylation of two secondary hydroxyl groups with TBSOTf and detachment of the primary pivaloyl group gave 10 in 98% yield for 2 steps. Oxidation of 10 with Dess-Martin periodinane and the following Wittig reaction provided the ester 11 (86%) yield, 2 steps), which was reduced with DIBAL to allyl alcohol 12 in 99% yield. Sharpless AE of 12 proceeded with excellent selectivity; when the substrate of 92% ee was treated under the standard conditions, the epoxide 13 was obtained in >98% ee as a result of kinetic resolution.<sup>7</sup> On the other hand, when 12 was exposed to m-CPBA, the opposite and high stereoselectivity was observed according to the literature.<sup>8</sup> Regioselective opening of the epoxide was effected by Me<sub>2</sub>CuLi in ether at -30 °C to give 14 in 96% yield. The primary hydroxyl group of 14 was converted to phenyl sulfide in 76% yield with N-(phenylthio)phthalimide and Bu<sub>3</sub>P in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The remaining secondary hydroxyl group was protected as SEM ether in a quantitative yield. Finally, the sulfide group was oxidized with *m*-CPBA to provide sulfone **4** in 95% yield.

In order to construct the E,F-ring fragment, we examined the coupling of **4** and the acetalization reaction as model studies (Scheme 3). The coupling reaction of **4** and hydrocinnamaldehyde **15** proceeded under the standard Julia coupling conditions and the resulting diastereomeric mixture was oxidized with Dess-Martin periodinane to ketosulfone. The subsequent desulfonylation reaction with Al(Hg) was somewhat troublesome, e.g., the reaction often stopped without completion. Eventually, the coupled product **16** was provided in 53% overall yield. Under both aqueous and non-aqueous conditions (46% HF aq in MeCN and SiF<sub>4</sub> in MeCN, respectively), the deprotection



**Scheme 3.** Reagents and conditions: a) i) BuLi, THF, -78 °C, 30 min, then 15, -78 °C, 15 min, ii) DMPI,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt, 50 min, iii) Al(Hg), THF-H<sub>2</sub>O (10:1), rt, 3.5 d, 53% from 29; b) 46% aq. HF-MeCN (1:20), rt, 23 h, 77%; c) SiF<sub>4</sub>, MeCN, rt, 25 min, 74%.



Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: a) TESOTf, 2,6-lutidine, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 15 min, 95%; b) Raney Ni (W2), H<sub>2</sub>, EtOH, rt, 4 h, 81%; c) DMPI, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 5 h, 100%; d) 4, BuLi, THF, -78 °C, 30 min, then 3, -78 °C, 1.5 h; e) DMPI, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 3 h; f) SmI<sub>2</sub>, THF-MeOH (7:1), -95 ~ -80 °C, 1 h, 21a: 21%, 21b: 34%, from 3; g) Zn-Cu couple, sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl in MeOH, rt, 10 min, 79% from 21a, 90% from 21b; h) 46% aq. HF-MeCN-THF (1:10:2), rt, 11 h, 23: 60%, 22: 32%; i) HF·Py, THF, rt, 67 h, 53%; j) TBSOTf, 2,6-lutidine, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 20 h, 25: 49%, 26: 34%; k) CSA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 5 h, 100% (25:26, 4.3:1).

and the following acetalization reaction occurred to produce predominantly bicyclo compound **17** having the natural relative configuration, albeit the  $C_{28}$  SEM group was cleaved under the reaction conditions. These results revealed that the bicyclo system of **17** was more favored than the other isomers, which finding was in good agreement with the results of MM2 calculations.<sup>9</sup> Keeping these results in mind, we aimed to construct the B,C,D,E,F-ring fragment **2**.

Compound 18 was prepared by our previous procedure<sup>4</sup> and its tertiary hydroxyl group was protected as TES ether to afford 19 in 95% yield (Scheme 4). The benzyl group was detached selectively with Raney nickel and the resulting primary hydroxyl group was oxidized to aldehyde 3. The Julia coupling between 3 and 4 proceeded smoothly and the subsequent oxidation reaction gave keto-sulfone 20. The desulforylation reaction was performed with  $SmI_2$  in THF/MeOH at -95 ~ -80 °C. The product was an unexpected diastereometric mixture of  $\alpha$ -iodo-ketones 21a and 21b. Although the stereochemistry at C26 was not determined, **21a** and **21b** were obtained in 21% and 34% yields from aldehyde 3, respectively, along with the recovery of unreacted sulfone 4 (58% yield). The  $\alpha$ -iodo-ketones 21a and 21b were reduced easily with a Zn-Cu couple to the corresponding ketone 22 in 79% and 90% yields, respectively. The final acetalization reaction was first examined with 46% aq. HF-MeCN. When the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 6 h, all silicon protecting groups were removed, and the isolated yield of penta-cyclic compound 23 resulted only in 40%. When a mixture of 46% aq. HF-MeCN-THF (1:10:2) was used,<sup>10</sup> the reaction proceeded sluggishly, and after 11 h, 23 was obtained in 60% yield along with a mixture of the compounds 24 in 32% yield which had two TBS groups and no TES and SEM groups. The latter was further treated with HF·Py in THF at rt for 67 h to afford 53% of 23. As a result, the yield of 23 amounted to 78% from 22. When 22 was directly reacted with HF·Py in THF at rt for 24 h, the yield of 23 was only 48%.

Then, the isomerization of 23 to the compound having the natural relative stereochemistry was attempted. In order to cleave the intramolecular hydrogen-bonding, two hydroxyl groups were protected as TBS ethers. When the diol 23 was reacted with TBSOTf-2,6-lutidine (1:2) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at rt for 4 h, the products  $25^{11}$  and  $26^{12}$  were obtained in 49% and 34% yields, respectively. Further treatment effected no change. It is to be noted that the isomerization at C19 was not completed under standard silvlation conditions, in contrast with the results of Kishi's report.<sup>1d</sup> When each sample of pure 25 or 26 was stirred with TBSOTf-2,6-lutidine (1:2) and MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, no reaction was observed. These results indicate that the isomerization in question occurred before the two hydroxyl groups were silylated. Once the two hydroxyl groups had been silylated, the TfOH-2,6-lutidine system no longer promoted the isomerization. When 25 was exposed to more acidic conditions (cat. CSA in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ), the isomerization to 26 oc-



Figure

curred. The reaction appeared to be in equilibrium within 10 min judging from TLC and further treatment (up to 4.5 h) was not effective. The product consisted of a 4.3:1 mixture of **25** and **26** in 100% total yield on the basis of NMR analysis.

The structures of **25** and **26** were confirmed by HMBC, HSQC, and NOE experiments (Figure). The characteristic NOE's correlations between H12 and H23 were observed in **26**, which exactly corresponded to the B,C,D,E,F-ring part of pinnatoxins A, B, and C. These results could open an alternate route to providing the compound **26** preferentially having the desired configuration on several recycles of **25**.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated the construction of all acetal rings of pinnatoxins. Further efforts toward the total synthesis of pinnatoxins are underway in our laboratory.

## **References and Notes**

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- (9) The relative energy differences among the model compounds are shown below: The calculation was performed by Cache Mechanics 3.6.



(10) Since the solubility of **22** in MeCN was very low, THF was required as a co-solvent for larger scale reaction.

- (11) **25**:  $[\alpha]_{D}^{18}$  -61.7 (*c* 0.12, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  0.02 (3H, s), 0.04 (3H, s), 0.08 (6H, s), 0.82 (3H, d, J = 6.6Hz, H36), 0.88 (9H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 1.19 (1H, dq, J = 3.0, 12.7 Hz, H22ax), 1.28 (3H, s, H37), 1.41 (1H, brt, J = 13.5 Hz, H26ax), 1.42 (1H, m, H13ax), 1.50 (1H, dd, J = 5.8, 13.5 Hz, H26eq), 1.55 (1H, m, H20a), 1.56 (1H, m, H17a), 1.56 (1H, m, H21ax), 1.57 (1H, m, H13eq), 1.57 (1H, m, H14eq), 1.64 (1H, m, H20b), 1.68 (2H, m, H11), 1.74 (1H, dd, J = 10.8, 14.0 Hz, H24a), 1.87 (1H, m, H18a), 1.88 (1H, m, H21eq), 1.95 (1H, m, H18b), 1.96 (1H, m, H22eq), 2.19 (1H, m, H27), 2.20 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.0, 14.0 Hz, H24b), 2.21 (1H, dt, *J* = 4.2, 13.2 Hz, H14ax), 2.28 (1H, dt, J = 9.3, 11.6 Hz, H17b), 3.47 (1H, m, H28), 3.49 (2H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, H10), 3.61 (1H, dd, J = 7.3, 10.0 Hz, H31a), 3.76 (1H, dd, J = 6.4, 10.0 Hz, H31b), 3.80 (3H, s, MPM), 3.95 (1H, m, H12), 4.12 (1H, m, H30), 4.13 (1H, m, H23), 4.21 (1H, dd, J = 2.0, 4.4 Hz, H29), 4.36 (1H, d, J = 11.5 Hz, MPM), 4.41 (1H, d, J = 11.5 Hz, MPM), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 12.4 Hz, Bn), 4.63 (1H, d, J = 12.4 Hz, Bn), 6.86 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, MPM), 7.24 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, MPM), 7.29-7.37 (5H, m, Bn).
- (12) **26**:  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -85 (*c* 0.02, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ 0.05 (3H, s), 0.06 (3H, s), 0.10 (3H, s), 0.16 (3H, s), 0.97 (3H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, H36), 0.99 (9H, s), 1.00 (9H, s), 1.314 (3H, s, H37), 1.33-1.36 (1H, m), 1.38-1.42 (1H, m), 1.47-1.52 (1H, m), 1.61-1.93 (10H, m), 2.06 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.8, 13.8 Hz, H26ax), 2.10-2.20 (3H, m, H27, H11), 2.16 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.6, 14.5 Hz, H24a), 2.25-2.33 (2H, m), 2.44 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.0, 14.5 Hz, H24b), 3.32 (3H, s, MPM), 3.54 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 9.4 Hz, H31a), 3.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.8, 4.0 Hz, H28), 3.69 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.5, 9.4 Hz, H31b), 3.76 (1H, m, H30), 3.97 (1H, m, H23), 4.19 (1H, d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 4.32 (1H, d, *J* = 11.9 Hz), 4.53 (1H, d, *J* = 11.9 Hz), 6.85 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, MPM), 7.10 (2H, m, Bn), 7.18-7.22 (3H, m, Bn), 7.37 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, MPM).

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