First Total Synthesis of Mosin B

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ABSTRACT



The first total synthesis of mosin B and a diastereomer was accomplished using asymmetric desymmetrization of the σ -symmetric diol and the Nozaki–Hiyama–Kishi reaction as the key steps. The THF core segment was stereoselectively constructed employing a stereodivergent synthesis starting from a common intermediate, 4-cyclohexene-1,2-diol, based on a desymmetrization strategy. By virtue of these synthetic results, it is suggested that the absolute configuration is 1a.

Mosin B (1) is a mono-tetrahydrofuran acetogenin^{1,2} isolated by McLaughlin's group from the bark of *Annona squamosa* and shows selective cytotoxic activity against the human pancreatic tumor cell line, PACA-2, with potency 100 times that of adriamycin.³ The structure of **1**, which possesses a mono-THF ring and a carbonyl group at the C₉ position, was elucidated by spectroscopic and chemical methods. Although the absolute configuration of the γ -lactone moiety was established as 4R,34S and the relative stereochemistry of the THF part was determined as threo/trans/erythro in 1997,^{1c} the absolute configuration remained unknown. Two possible

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structures 1a and 1b would be difficult to differentiate by ¹H or ¹³C NMR spectroscopic data, since two stereogenic



Figure 1.

regions, that is, the THF ring core part ($C_{15}-C_{20}$) and the butenolide segment (C_4 and C_{34}), are separated by a long carbon chain. Moreover, the absolute stereochemical assignment of the threo/trans/erythro-type acetogenin using the advanced Mosher ester methodology is generally difficult since the protons of the THF part experienced shielding effects of both flanking MTPA esters.^{3,4} X-ray analysis is

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also very difficult due to the waxy nature of this compound. To establish the absolute configuration of mosin B, we planned to synthesize two candidates **1a** and **1b**, employing a stereodivergent synthesis starting from a common intermediate, 4-cyclohexene-1,2-diol **3**, based on a desymmetrization strategy.⁵

The σ -symmetric diol **3** can be readily converted into desymmetrized alcohols **4a** and **4b** with very high enantioselectivity (>98% ee) by means of diasteroselective acetal fission using a *C*₂-symmetric bis-sulfoxide **2**, a new chiral auxiliary for asymmetric desymmetrization recently developed in our laboratory (Scheme 1).⁵ The resulting chiral



alcohols **4a** and **4b** are versatile chiral building blocks for the construction of stereogenic centers at the C_{19} and C_{20} positions in both **1a** and **1b**.

Scheme 2 outlines our synthetic strategy. One of the key steps is a coupling of the THF core segment **5** and the γ -lactone segment **6** by the Nozaki–Hiyama–Kishi reaction.⁶ The THF core segment **5** is stereoselectively constructed by iodoetherification⁷ of *E*-allylic alcohol **7**, which is prepared from chiral alcohol **4a**.⁵ On the other hand, the γ -lactone segment **6** is synthesized by α -alkylation of α -sulfenyl γ -lactone **9**⁸ with **8** prepared from the known aldehyde **10**.⁹



Synthesis of THF core segment 21 was started from optically pure alcohol 4a, which was converted into lactol 11 by dihydroxylation of the double bond followed by oxidative cleavage of 1,2-diol (Scheme 3). An alkyl chain was introduced into the free aldehyde by Wittig reaction, and the lactol was reduced with NaBH₄ to give diol 12. Hydrogenation of the double bond accompanied with debenzylation afforded triol 13. After the 1,2-diol was selectively protected as an acetonide,¹⁰ iodination of the primary alcohol was carried out via mesylation, giving the iodide 15. The coupling reaction of 15 and the acetylide generated from the TBS ether of propargyl alcohol¹¹ using n-BuLi afforded the alkyne 16, which was converted into the *E*-allylic alcohol **7** by deprotection of the TBS ether to give alcohol 17 followed by *E*-selective reduction of the triple bond. Upon treatment of 7 with I(coll)₂ClO₄⁷ in MeCN-H₂O, iodoetherification proceeded highly stereoselectively to give epoxide 18 as a single isomer after subsequent base treatment. The epoxide 18 was subjected to Grignard reaction7b,12 using 6-hexenylmagnesium bromide in the presence of CuBr to give diol 19.13 Silvlation of the diol followed by oxidative cleavage of the terminal olefin to the aldehyde gave the THF core segment 21.

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⁽¹⁶⁾ Although an alkylation of the thiophenyl lactone **9** is a convenient method and was often used to construct the γ -lactone moiety of acetogenins,^{2g,17} this method has not been applied to a synthesis of 4-hydroxylated acetogenins except for Jacobsen's synthesis of muconin.¹⁸ The attempted coupling of the iodide **24b** with **9** in the Jacobsen's conditions was failed due to the low reactivity of **24b**.

Scheme 3^a



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) cat. OsO₄, NMO, acetone–THF, rt; (b) NaIO₄, acetone–H₂O, rt; (c) Ph₃PC₁₀H₂₁Br, KHMDS, THF, –78 °C to rt; (d) NaBH₄, MeOH, rt (20% in four steps); (e) H₂, Pd–C, 3 atm, MeOH, rt (quant.); (f) TsOH, acetone, rt (93%); (g) MsCl, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, rt; (h) NaI, NaHCO₃, acetone, reflux (88% in two steps); (i) 1-*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy-2-propyne, *n*-BuLi, THF–HMPA, 0 °C (74%); (j) TBAF, THF, rt (quant.); (k) LiAlH₄, THF, reflux (90%); (l) I(coll)₂ClO₄, MeCN–H₂O, rt; (m) K₂CO₃, MeOH, rt (80% in two steps); (n) 6-bromo-1-hexene, Mg, CuBr, THF, 0 °C (89%); (o) TBSOTf, 2,6-lutidine, CH₂Cl₂, rt (83%); (p) cat. OsO₄, NMO, THF– acetone–H₂O (1:1:1), rt (79%); (q) NaIO₄, CH₂Cl₂–acetone–H₂O (10:6:1), rt (75%).

Scheme 4 shows the synthesis of the γ -lactone segment **26**. Takai's olefination¹⁴ followed by deacetalization of the known aldehyde **10** prepared from D-glutamic acid afforded diol **23** in a 9:1 mixture of *E/Z* isomers. Selective triflation of the primary alcohol in **23** with Tf₂O and subsequent silylation of the secondary alcohol was carried out in a onepot reaction.¹⁵ Coupling reaction of **24a** and lactone **9** provided **25** in 79% yield. It is noteworthy that a combination of the leaving group (OTf) and the protecting group (TBS) in **24a** is important to achieve high yield.^{16,19} Other leaving groups (iodide, chloromethanesulfonate²⁰) or protecting group (MOM) resulted in a poor yield or gave no product. This methodology would be useful for the synthesis of other



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) CrCl₂, CHI₃, THF, rt; (b) Dowex 50W, MeOH, rt (58% in two steps); (c) Tf₂O, 2,6-lutidine, CH₂Cl₂, -50 °C then TBSOTf, 0 °C (92%); (d) **9**, KHMDS, THF, 0 °C then **24a**, rt (79%); (e) (i) *m*-CPBA, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C; (ii) toluene, reflux (85% in two steps).

acetogenins having a hydroxy group at the C_4 position. Oxidation of the sulfide **25** into sulfoxide followed by thermal elimination afforded the γ -lactone segment **26**.

Both segments were coupled by the Nozaki–Hiyama– Kishi reaction mediated by $CrCl_2/NiCl_2$ in DMF–Me₂S solvent system²¹ to give *E*-allylic alcohol **22**²² in good yield (Scheme 5). Oxidation of **22** with SO₃-pyridine complex and



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) **26**, CrCl₂, cat. NiCl₂, DMF–Me₂S, rt (71%); (b) SO₃•pyridine, DMSO, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt (72%); (c) H₂, (Ph₃P)₃RhCl, benzene, rt (78%); (d) HF (aq), MeCN–THF, rt (72%).

DMSO followed by selective reduction of the resulting enone with Wilkinson's catalyst afforded the tri-TBS ether of mosin

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B. Finally, deprotection of these TBS ethers with HF afforded the candidate $1a^{23}$ On the other hand, the other candidate $1b^{24}$ was synthesized from **4b** using the same procedure for **1a**.

The two synthetic samples (1a, 1b) could not be differentiated by the spectral data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, MS). On the other hand, their specific rotations showed sharp contrast. While the specific rotation of synthetic 1a ($[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +18.7, *c* 0.50, CH₂Cl₂) is higher than the reported value of the naturally occurring mosin B³ ($[\alpha]^{23}_{D}$ = +11.5, *c* 0.005, CH₂Cl₂), that of 1b ($[\alpha]^{26}_{D}$ = +2.2, *c* 0.39, CH₂Cl₂) showed a very small value. Taking into account that the reported

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(23) Physical and spectroscopic data for **1a**: $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +18.7$ (*c* 0.50, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (qd, J = 6.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85–3.89 (m, 2H), 3.79–3.84 (m, 2H), 3.36–3.40 (m, 1H), 2.52 (ddd, J = 15.3, 3.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.38–2.43 (m, 1H), 1.97–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.56–1.65 (m, 1H), 1.46–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.44 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 1.35–1.41 (m, 4H), 1.26 (br s, 30H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 211.4, 174.7, 152.0, 131.0, 83.2, 82.1, 78.0, 74.2, 71.5, 69.6, 42.7, 42.5, 37.0, 33.4, 32.9, 32.5, 31.9, 29.7 (2C), 29.63 (2C), 29.59, 29.5, 29.3, 29.2, 28.6, 26.0, 25.3, 25.2, 25.1, 23.6, 23.4, 22.7, 19.1, 14.1; IR (KBr) 3444, 2953, 2918, 2850, 1767, 1755, 1743, 1703, 1072 cm⁻¹; MS (FAB) m/z 595 [M⁺ + H]. HRMS (FAB) calcd for C₃₅H₆₃O₇ [M⁺ + H] 595.4574, found 595.4556.

optical rotations of acetogenins sometimes show smaller values than their actual ones when they are measured at low concentrations presumably owing to experimental error or the presence of impurities,^{2c-d,25} we suggest strongly that natural mosin B is **1a**, not **1b**.

In conclusion, the first total synthesis of mosin B (1a) and the diastereomer 1b was accomplished using asymmetric desymmetrization of the s-symmetric diol 3 and the Nozaki– Hiyama–Kishi reaction as key steps. The overall yield was 1.1% through 20 steps from desymmetrized alcohol 4a. On the basis of the present data, it is suggested that mosin B is 1a.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures, characterization data, and ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of key intermediates. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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