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2. Synthesis of the C.14-C.26 hydrophilic domain of amphidinolide B1 and formation of the (E)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene sector

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Abstract: In the preceding letter, we described a synthesis of the conserved C.1-C.13 hydrophobic domain common to the potent B-type amphidinolides. In this letter, we present syntheses of the C.14-C.26 hydrophilic domain specific to amphidinolide B1 and a model for uniting the hydrophobic and hydrophilic domains to form the (E)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene. © 1999 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

A retrosynthetic outline for a unified synthesis of the highly cytotoxic B-type amphidinolides is shown in Figure 1.² We have reported the synthesis of a methyl ketone precursor to vinyl anion 2 in the preceding letter.³ In this letter, we describe the synthesis of the hydrophilic domain aldehyde 1 specific to amphidinolide B1. Finally, we present a model allylic alcohol that examines the coupling of the two domains for the synthesis of the critical (E)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene moiety found in the B-type amphidinolides.



The synthesis of aldehyde 1 begins with geraniol epoxide 3, available in 97% e.e. from a Sharpless asymmetric epoxidation (Scheme 1).⁴ The latent C.30 vinyl methyl group was introduced regioselectively with lithium dimethyl cuprate to give diol 4. Installation of the PMB ether *via* a two-step procedure gave primary alcohol 5. Alcohol 5 was protected as its silyl ether, and the trisubstituted olefin moiety was oxidatively cleaved and converted to an aryl selenide. *In situ* oxidation of the selenide with H_2O_2 gave terminal olefin 6.⁵ Installation of the C.18 stereocenter was accomplished by a Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation using

Sharpless' DHQ₂PYR ligand to give a >3:1 mixture of diastereomers.⁶ Careful silica gel chromatography (30% EtOAc/30% CH₂Cl₂/40% Hx) gave the desired diol 7 in 75% overall yield. Conversion of the diol to the epoxide was cleanly accomplished with NaH/tosyl imidazole and the resulting epoxide was homologated regioselectively with KCN/LiClO₄ in near refluxing MeCN to give C.18 alcohol 8.^{7,8} Following protection of the free alcohol, the nitrile was reduced and hydrolyzed to the stable aldehyde 9.⁹ Addition of the lithium anion of dimethyl methyl phosphonate and TPAP oxidation of the resulting crude mixture gave the ketophosphonate 10. Aldehyde 11 was synthesized by a Parikh-Doering oxidation (SO₃:pyr, Et₃N, 84%) of the universal alcohol described in the preceding paper.¹⁰ Coupling of the two pieces under Roush-Masamune conditions smoothly led to ketone 12.¹¹



Scheme 1. Synthesis of C.14-C.26 carbon framework.

The remaining two stereocenters were installed under modified Sharpless conditions (5 mol% Os, 5 mol% DHQ₂PHAL) since ketone **12** proved to be a slow-reacting substrate.¹² The resulting 6:1 mixture of diastereomers was easily separated by normal silica gel chromatography and the desired diol **13** was isolated in 58% yield. Persilylation of the diol with TBSOTf and selective removal of the primary C.14 silyl group gave primary alcohol **14**. Oxidation of **14** with TPAP/NMO then gave the C.14-C.26 hydrophilic aldehyde **1**.¹³



Scheme 2. Synthesis of the fully functionalized C.14-C.26 hydrophilic domain.

The novel (*E*)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene sector is not unique to the amphidinolides and interestingly occurs in the fungal extract galbonolide B, for which synthetic studies, including a total synthesis, have been reported.¹⁴⁻¹⁵ However, since we were interested in a unified synthesis of the B-type amphidinolides wherein the diene would ultimately be formed as a result of a coupling between the common and variable domains, we sought strategies that would be compatible with this requirement. Hauser has shown that simple racemic allylic acetates containing an *exo*-methylene group can eliminate to form an (*E*)-1,3-disubstituted diene exclusively when treated with Pd(0) generated *in situ*.¹⁶ Since formation of the overall *E*-alkene geometry was found to be independent of the stereochemistry of the starting acetate, we wondered whether a similar level of specificity could be expected in the construction of the more complex (*E*)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene found in the B-type amphidinolides.

Toward that end, alcohol **5** was oxidized and added to a vinyl anion generated from the trisylhydrazone of 2-octanone to give alcohol **15** as a single, undetermined diastereomer (Scheme 3).¹⁷ Conversion of the resulting allylic alcohol **15** to the corresponding acetate (Ac₂O, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂) and elimination under Hauser conditions (10% Pd(OAc)₂, Ph₃P, CaCO₃, dioxane) typically gave low yields of the desired diene. However, activation of alcohol **15** as its trifluoroacetate ester and treatment with 10% Pd(OAc)₂, 1 eq. PPh₃, and 1 eq. CaCO₃ to scavenge the eliminated acid was found to be the most reliable sequence in securing diene **16**. The *E*-alkene geometry was assigned based on comparison of its spectroscopic data to that of the known B-type amphidinolides.² In particular, the vinyl C.30 methyl group of diene **16** exhibited a high upfield ¹³C resonance (14.0 ppm) as would be expected for methyl groups of *E*-olefins and compared favorably to the C.30 methyl resonances found in amphidinolides B1, B2, B3, and D (15.0 ppm-15.8 ppm).¹⁸ We have found diene **16** to be stable and can be stored in untreated CDCl₃ for months at room temperature without any noticeable decomposition.



In summary, an (*E*)-1,1',3-trisubstituted diene similar to the C.12-C.17 sector of the Btype amphidinolides was synthesized in good yield from allylic alcohol **15** upon activation as its trifluoroacetate ester and elimination with Pd(0). An efficient and practical synthesis of the hydrophilic domain aldehyde **1** of amphidinolide B1 is presented and represents a potential precursor to a more advanced and useful allylic alcohol. Critical to the synthesis of **1** is the late stage dihydroxylation of the fully coupled C.14-C.26 β -silyloxy enone **12**. The successful timing of such an event enabled the assembly of the complete carbon skeleton of the hydrophilic domain without simultaneous generation of a stereocenter, thereby avoiding potential problems in separation and identification. Finally, the six carbon universal alcohol described in the preceding letter is used as a precursor to the C.22-C.26 portion of the hydrophilic domain. Since the parent alcohol of aldehyde **11** is used in both syntheses of the hydrophilic and hydrophobic domains, it accounts for 12 of the 32 amphidinolide B1 carbons and provides an atomeconomical solution to the large number of isolated stereocenters found in the B-type amphidinolides.

References and Notes

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