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Synthetic Studies on Bryostatins, Potent Antineoplastic Agents: Synthesis of the C17-C27 Fragment of C20 Oxygenated Bryostatins

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Abstract: Synthetic process towards the bottom half portion of C₂₀ oxygenated series of bryostatins is described. The stereogenic center at C₂₀ position was constructed through a hydroxyl group-directed epoxidation by using mCPBA. It was found that silver (I) salt is an effective and mild reagent for regioselective ring cleavage of α -bromoepoxides into the corresponding α -hydroxyketones via oxonium ion intermediates.

Bryostatins,¹ polyether macrolides isolated from the marine bryozoans *Bugula neritina* Linnaeus and *Amathia convoluta*, possess remarkably powerful antineoplastic activities and the potential to promote kinase C activity, properties which have attached the interest of synthetic chemists.² In a previous paper,³ we described the efficient synthesis of the bottom-half fragment suitable for the C_{17} - C_{27} backbone of the C_{20} deoxygenated series (bryostatins 10, 11 and 13). With this encouraging result in hand, we extended our attention to synthesis of the same part of other C_{20} oxygenated series that include a majority of the bryostatin family. We disclose herein efficient construction of the bottom-half fragment suitable for the C_{17} - C_{27} portion, according to a retrosynthetic analysis involving the bond disconnection between C_{21} and C_{22} (Figure 1).

Asymmetric synthesis of the C_{17} - C_{21} fragment (1). Scheme 1 summarizes preparation of the subject alkyne (1) whose asymmetric center was indispensable for the following stereoselective epoxidation of a secondary allyl alcohol unit. Thus, commercially available 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-propanediol was submitted to a four-step sequence consisting of monomesylation (65%), alcohol protection as a THP ether (95%), treatment with sodium thiophenoxide to introduce a phenyl sulfide substituent (82%), then removal of the THP group under acidic conditions (80%) to afford 3. Oxidation and Horner-Emmons olefination sequence effected conversion of 3 into α,β -unsaturated ester 4 in high yield. Several chiral ligands for asymmetric





Scheme 1. reagents: a) i. MsCl, pyr/CH₂Cl₂; ii. DHP, p-TsOH/CH₂Cl₂ (62% in 2 steps); iii. PhSNa, 18-Crown-6/DMF, 90 °C (82%); iv.THF-H₂O-AcOH (4:2:1) (80%). b) i. SO₃·Pyr, Et₃N, DMSO/CH₂Cl₂ (83%); ii. (EtO)₂P(O)CH₂CO₂Et, NaH/toluene (quant). c) DHQPHN (2mol%), K₂OsO₂(OH)₄ (0.4mol%), K₃FeCN₆ (3eq.), K₂CO₃ (3eq.), MeSO₂NH₂ (1eq.)/tBuOH-H₂O, 0 °C, 18 h (94%, 90% ee.). d) Me₂C(OMe)₂, p-TsOH/CH₂Cl₂. e) LiAlH₄/THF. f) Ph₃P, CCl₄, reflux (93% in 3 steps). g) (R)-MTPACl, pyr, DMAP/CH₂Cl₂. h) i. nBuLi, HMPA; ii. TBSCl, imidazole (90% in 2 steps).

dihydroxylation according to Sharpless protocol⁴ were evaluated to introduce stereogenic centers to 4. Among them, interestingly, the dihydroquinine-based phenanthryl ether ligand (DHQ-PHN) gave the corresponding diol 5 with much higher enantioselectivity⁵ than other chiral ligands. After protection of the diol moiety of 5 as an acetonide, exhaustive reduction of 6 using excess LiAlH₄ in THF provided primary alcohol 7, which was then treated with Ph₃P-CCl₄ to give chloride 9. Transformation from 9 to 1^{12} was performed by base-induced fragmentation⁶ under nBuLi-HMPA conditions at -60°C, followed by protection of the resulting secondary alcohol as a TBS ether.

Construction of the bottom-half unit (25). A lithium anion of 1 generated by nBuLi at -78°C was reacted with epoxide 2³ in the presence of BF₃OEt₂⁷ to afford a mixture of the adduct 10 (92%) and its C₁₉ epimer that was easily separable by silica gel chromatography. Protection of a secondary alcohol of 10 as a BOM ether followed by desilylation using nBu₄NF provided propargyl alcohol 11 (93% in 2 steps). Regioselective hydroalumination⁸ of a propargyl unit of 11 was achieved with LiAlH₄, and subsequent NBS work-up gave vinyl bromide 12 (80%). It was then necessary to introduce an oxygen function into the C_{20} position. Previous attempts to oxidize this position by stereoselective dihydroxylation of 12 or its C19 protected derivatives employing OsO4 failed, probably due to a sterically hindered situation of the olefinic moiety. After numerous efforts, the optimal result was obtained by the C19 hydroxyl group-directed epoxidation by using mCPBA in the presence of Na₂HPO₄ buffer in CH₂Cl₂. The reaction proceeded slowly and accompanied oxidation of a phenyl sulfide to the corresponding sulfone, leading to α -bromoepoxide 13 as a single diastereomer (40%), along with vinyl bromide 15 (35%). During our related investigation,⁹ we found that silver (I) salt is an effective and mild reagent to convert α -haloepoxides to the corresponding α -hydroxyketones via oxonium ion intermediates. Indeed, after protection as a siloxy ether, exposure of 14 to AgBF4 afforded ahydroxyketone 16 (84%) as the only detectable isomer, 10 which was labile to silica gel work-up to course a serious epimerization. This difficulty was overcome by protection of the C₂₀ hydroxyl group as a SEM ether before purification procedure to give 17 and its C_{20} epimer as a 16:1 separable diastereometric mixture. Reductive removal of a BOM group furnished aldol 18, which upon acylation gave α -bromoacetate 19. According to a previous paper,³ 19 was submitted to SmI₂-mediated intramolecular Reformasky reaction¹¹ and



Scheme 2. Reagents: a) nBuLi/THF, -78°C, 30 min, then 2, BF₃·OEt₂, -78°C, 15 min (92%). b) i. BOMCl, iPr₂NEt/CH₂Cl₂; ii. nBu₄NF/THF (93% in 2 steps). c) LiAlH₄ (1.5eq.)/THF, rt, 20 h, then NBS, 0 °C (80%). d) mCPBA, Na₂HPO₄, CH₂Cl₂, -30 °C then rt, 30 h (40%, and 35% recovered 15). e) TBSOTf, 2,6-lutidine/CH₂Cl₂, 0°C (83%). f) AgBF₄/10% aq.THF, 0 °C, 10 min (84%). g) SEMCl, nBu₄NI, iPr₂NEt/CH₂Cl₂. h) Pd-C, H₂/EtOH (70% in 2 steps). i) BrCH₂COBr, pyr/CH₂Cl₂ (93%). j) SmI₂/THF, -78 °C (82%). k) Ac₂O, DMAP, pyr/PhH, reflux (97%). l) NaBH₄/dioxane-MeOH (10:1). (92%). m) i. nBu₄NF/THF; ii. TBDPSCl, imidazole/DMF (85% in 2 steps). n) i. p-BrBzCl, DMAP/pyr; ii. Ac₂O/DMSO (80% in 2 steps). o) K₂CO₃/MeOH then SiO₂ (36%).

subsequent β -elimination to provide the desired α,β -unsaturated lactone 20 (80% in 2 steps). Reductive cleavage of the lactone moiety of 20 to allyl alcohol 21 was accomplished by using NaBH4 in high regioselectivity. Deprotection of a TBS group with nBuN4F and the following selective silylation of a primary allyl alcohol gave 22 (85% in 2 steps), which was subjected to selective protection of the less hindered hydroxyl group with p-BrC6H4COCl-pyr, and then the remaining secondary alcohol (C19) was oxidized to ketone 23¹² (80% in 2 steps) which is a synthetic equivalent of the bottom half of C20 oxygenated bryostatins. Finally, deprotection of a p-bromobenzoyl ester group, and silica gel treatment afforded an equilibrium mixture (*ca.* 12:1) of the desired hemiacetal (25) and the corresponding δ -hydroxyl ketone (24).¹²

In conclusion, we have demonstrated an approach involving an efficient chirality induction $(12\rightarrow 16)$ to the bottom-half unit of C₂₀ oxygenated bryostatin series involving bryostatin 1.

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- 12. 1: IR (film) 3300, 1585, 1465, 1250 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.10 (3H, s), 0.17 (3H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.05 (3H, s), 1.08 (3H, s), 2.39 (1H, d, J=2.2Hz), 3.04 (1H, d, J=12.5Hz), 3.11 (1H, d, J=12.5Hz), 4.30 (1H, d, J= 2.2Hz), 7.14 (1H, tt, J= 7.3, 1.5Hz), 7.23-7.28 (3H, complex), 7.33-7.36 (2H, complex). 23: [α]D¹⁹ +22.9° (c 0.15, CHCl₃); IR (film) 1720, 1590, 1450, 1430, 1380 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ -0.05 (9H, s), 0.81-0.89 (2H, complex), 1.00 (9H, s), 1.19 (3H, d, J=5.9Hz), 1.23 (3H, s), 1.24 (3H, s), 1.38 (3H, s), 1.58 (3H, s), 1.45-1.80 (2H, complex), 2.35 (1H, brs), 2.37 (1H, brs), 3.40 (1H, d, J= 13.9Hz), 3.45-3.52 (2H, complex), 3.61-3.73 (2H, complex), 4.14 (1H, dd, J= 13.2, 4.8Hz), 4.43 (1H, dd, J=13.2, 8.1Hz), 4.63 (1H, d, J=7.0Hz), 4.65 (1H, d, J=7.0Hz), 5.24 (1H, s), 5.34 (1H, m), 5.94 (1H, dd, J= 7.7, 4.4Hz), 7.34-7.44 (8H, complex), 7.52-7.67 (9H, complex), 7.90-7.92 (2H, complex). 25 (contaminated with 24): C45H65O9SSi2 [m/z 837.3881 (M⁺-CH₃)]; IR (film) 3480, 1720, 1440, 1430, 1370 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃ assigned as a major tautomer) δ 0.00 (3H, s), 0.02 (6H, s), 0.85-0.92 (2H, complex), 1.03 (9H, s), 1.20 (3H, d, J= 5.5Hz), 1.25 (3H, s), 1.28 (3H, s), 1.33 (3H, s), 1.37 (3H, s), 1.40-1.70 (2H, complex), 1.80 (1H, brt, J= 13.6Hz), 2.08 (1H, dd, J= 13.6, 2.9Hz), 2.90 (1H, brs, OH), 3.38 (1H, d, J= 14.6Hz), 3.49 (1H, td, J= 10.3, 6.6Hz), 3.59-3.64 (2H, complex), 3.76 (1H, td, J= 10.3, 6.6Hz), 3.82 (1H, m), 3.95 (1H, d, J= 6.9Hz), 7.52-7.55 (2H, complex), 7.59-7.66 (5H, complex), 7.90-7.92 (2H, complex), 7.52-7.55 (2H, complex), 7.59-7.66 (5H, complex), 7.90-7.92 (2H, complex).

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