

# An Efficient Access to the Optically Active Manzamine Tetracyclic Ring System

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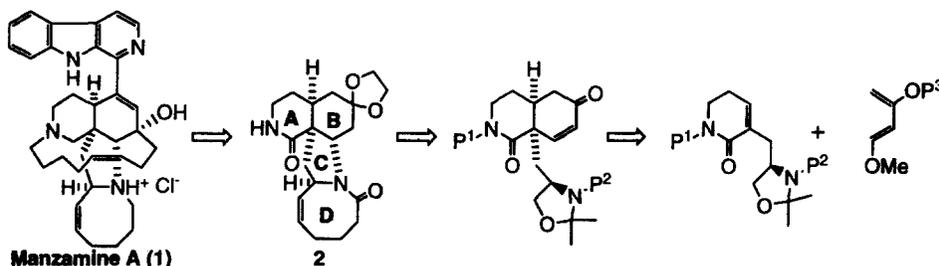
Received 21 September 1998; accepted 23 October 1998

## Abstract

The highly stereoselective synthesis of the optically active tetracyclic core **2** of Manzamine A **1** was achieved via the Diels-Alder reaction of dihydropyridinone **12b**, derived from L-serine, with siloxydienes, followed by sequential new and conventional pathways. © 1998 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

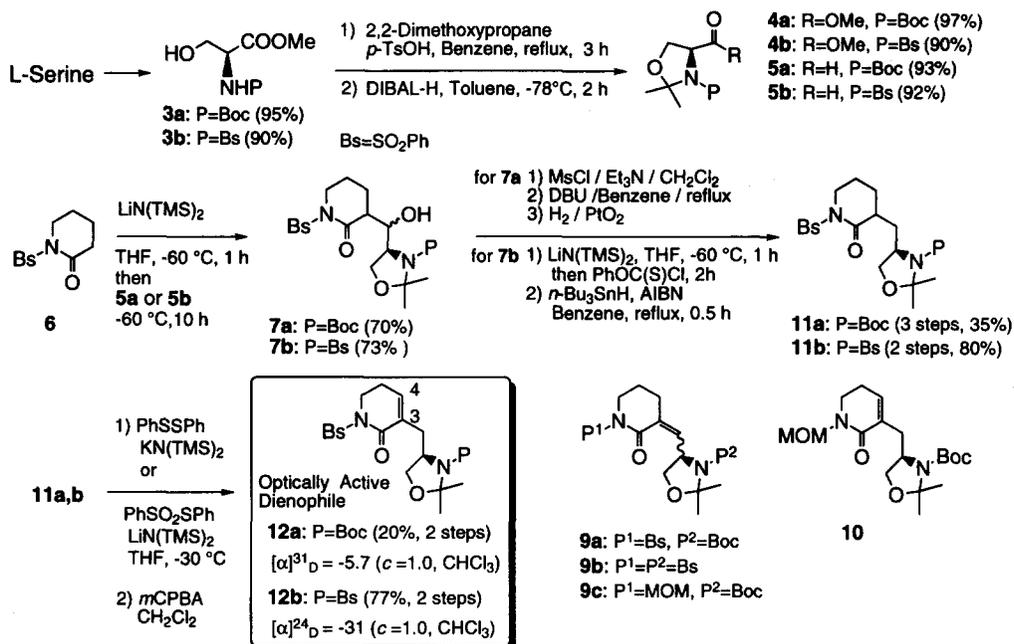
**Keywords:** Alkaloids; Asymmetric Synthesis; Cycloadditions; Azocines;

Since their isolation in 1986 [1], the antitumor and antibiotic marine alkaloids manzamine A **1** and biologically related congeners, such as ircinal A and keramaphidin B, have been attractive molecules for total synthesis due to their biological activities and the structural complexity of the novel poly-aza-ring system [2,3]. Recently, two total syntheses of manzamine A **1** have been accomplished by Winkler's [4] and Martin's groups [5], respectively. In our previous paper in this series, we reported the synthesis of the tetracyclic core structure **2** of manzamine A in a racemic form [6-9]. In this paper, we report the synthesis of optically active **2** via a more efficient method based on the Diels-Alder reaction of a new dienophile with siloxydienes.



The four-step synthesis of the protected serinal **5** begins with ester formation followed by N-protection of L-serine by a Boc or benzenesulfonyl group to give the methyl ester **3**, which is converted to the corresponding acetonide **4**. Ester **4** is then reduced to aldehyde **5** in excellent yield by treatment with DIBAL-H. A key reaction of N-benzenesulfonylpiperidone

**6** with the Garner aldehyde **5a** using  $\text{LiN}(\text{TMS})_2$  proceeded at  $-60\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  to give the alcohol **7a** as a mixture of diastereomers in 70% yield. A similar reaction of **5b** with **6** gave **7b** (73%).

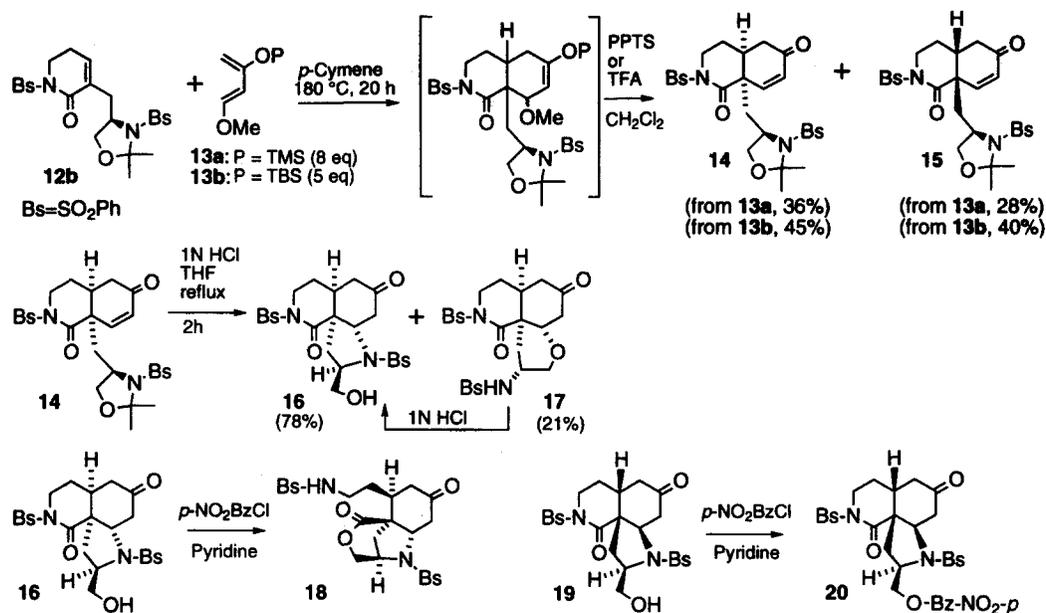


Scheme 1

Dehydration of **7a** via mesylation followed by treatment with DBU gave **9a** in 75% yield (2 steps). Originally, we had envisioned installing the C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> double bond through *exo-endo* isomerization. In previous studies, we achieved isomerization of the *exo*-enone **9c** to the *endo*-enone **10** by use of silane-Rh-mediated conditions [9]. However, in contrast to **9c**, similar *exo-endo* isomerization of either **9a** or **9b** to the corresponding *endo* isomer failed. Therefore, we turned to the reduction-oxidation sequence. Catalytic hydrogenation of **9a** gave **11a**, but hydrogenation of **9b** under similar conditions was unsuccessful. Therefore, we applied Barton's deoxygenation method via the phenoxythiocarbonyl ester for **7b** [10]. Conversion of **11a,b** to the desired enantiomerically pure dienophile **12a,b** was achieved by base-induced thiophenylation at the 3 position of **11** followed by oxidative elimination using standard methods.

With an efficient route to the dienophile **12b** established, we turned our attention to the Diels-Alder reaction of **12b** with Danishefsky diene **13a**.<sup>1</sup> Thus, the reaction of **12b** with an excess amount (8 equiv) of **13a** in *p*-cymene at  $180\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  proceeded smoothly to give regioselective cycloaddition. Without isolation, the cycloadduct was readily transformed into the corresponding enones (**14**:**15**=**36**:**28**) in 64% yield after deprotection with PPTS. A similar reaction of **12b** with **13b** (5 equiv) gave the corresponding enone in 85% yield.

<sup>1</sup> With the reaction of **12a** and **13a**, only degradation products were observed.



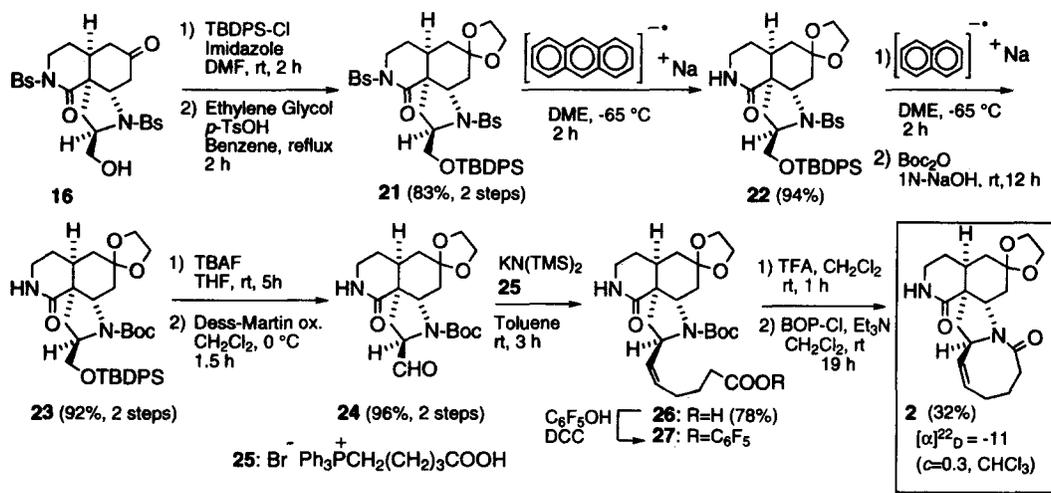
Scheme 2

The acetone **14** was then treated with 1N HCl in THF to give a tricyclic alcohol **16** (78%), together with **17** (21%), which could readily revert to **16** with HCl. The desired stereochemistry of **16** was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy and chemical transformation. When **16** was treated with *p*-nitrobenzoyl chloride in pyridine, the lactone **18** was newly formed in 70% yield, whereas the isomer **19**, obtained from **15** in an analogous manner, selectively gave the corresponding *p*-nitrobenzoate **20**. These results supported the *cis* relationship of the hydroxymethyl group and ring A in **16**. The alcohol **16** was then protected with TBDPS and converted into the ketal **21**.

In a previous report [8], we noted that the *N*-benzenesulfonyllactam is susceptible toward the Wittig reagent and could be successfully deprotected using sodium anthracenide. We have now found that the highly functionalized *N*-benzenesulfonyllactam **21** is also a suitable substrate for this reaction. A sulfonyl group of the lactam **21** was selectively removed with sodium anthracenide to give **22** in 94% yield. Consequently, the sulfonyl group of the secondary amine was readily removed with sodium naphthalenide, and this was followed by reprotection with a Boc group to afford **23**.

The remaining task was elongation of the side chain to construct the azocine ring system. Deprotection of the primary TBDPS ether was followed by Dess-Martin periodinane oxidation of the derived primary alcohol to give the labile aldehyde **24**. Homologation of the resulting aldehyde **24** using the Wittig reagent, prepared from phosphonium bromide **25** *in situ*, furnished the olefin **26** (*E/Z* ratio 1:5) as the key cyclization substrate. A 1:5 ratio of the *E* and *Z* isomers was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy of the resultant mixture of the pentafluorophenyl ester **27**. At this stage, we chose BOP-Cl [11] for the final cyclization.

Thus, a Boc group was first deprotected and the amino acid was treated with BOP-Cl to furnish the desired tetracyclic key compound **2**  $[[\alpha]^{22}_D = -11$  ( $c=0.3$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ )]. Its spectroscopic properties were identical in all respects to those of  $(\pm)$ -**2** [8].



Scheme 3

#### Acknowledgment

This research was supported by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research from the Ministry of Science, Education, Sports and Culture. We thank Dr. H. Seki, and Miss R. Hara at the Analytical Center of Chiba University for measuring mass spectra and for the elemental analyses.

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