SYNTHESIS OF THE POLYETHER FRAGMENT A/B-RING SYSTEM OF TETRONOMYCIN

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The polyether fragment 18 of tetronomycin (1) that contains the tetrahydrofuryl and tetrahydropyranyl groups has been synthesized *via* a Lewis acid-catalyzed coupling of a 2-methoxytetrahydrofuran 16 with a 2-(1-trimethylsilyl-2-propen-1-yl)tetrahydropyran 15. **KEYWORDS** allylsilane; allylation; ionophore antibiotic; total synthesis; tetronomycin.

In a previous paper, $^{1)}$ we reported the synthesis of the enantiomeric polyether fragment of tetronomycin (1), $^{2)}$ in which a Julia coupling was used to connect the two oxygen-containing heterocycles 2 and 3. Here we describe the synthesis of the A/B ring system (18) having the correct absolute stereochemistry. The strategy involves the use of allylsilane chemistry for the stereospecific, high-yield formation of the central double bond, in contrast to the Julia method that provided a 2:1 E/Z mixture in a modest yield.

Synthesis of tetrahydropyran subunit 12 began with bishomologation of (R)-3,4-dihydroxybutyrate acetonide (4) derived from L-ascorbic acid^{3a)} or dimethyl (R)-malate^{3b)} (Chart 1). Thus, compound 4 was converted to 5,4) $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ -14.4° (c= 2.89, CHCl₃) in 83% yield by a 3-step sequence of reactions: reduction with 1.1 eq diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) in ether at -90 °C; Wittig reaction with Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me in refluxing MeCN; and catalytic hydrogenation (H₂, 10% Pd-C, AcOEt). The ester 5 was hydrolyzed (KOH in MeOH-H₂O, room temperature), and the resulting carboxylic acid was allowed to react with (4S,5R)-4-methyl-5-phenyl-2-oxazolidinone (1.1 eq) in the presence of dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (1.2 eq) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) (a catalytic amount) in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature to give

Chart 1

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N-acyloxazolidinone 6, mp 128-129°C, $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ -41.2° (c= 2.85, CHCl₃), in 70% yield from 5. Treatment of 6 with 1.1 eq NaN(Me₃Si)₂ in tetrahydrofuran (THF) at -80 °C, then with 3 eq MeI at -80 to -30 °C (Evans protocol)⁵) provided ca. a 8:1 mixture of 7 and its α-Me isomer (not shown in the Chart) in 99% yield. Treatment of this material with LiOH and H₂O₂ in aq.THF and then acidification (HCl) produced δ-lactone 8,6 which on silylation with tert-butyldimethylsilyl (TBS) chloride gave 96 in 87% yield. Compound 9 was transformed into 10 according to the procedures used to prepare the enantiomer: ^{1,7)} Dibal reduction; Wittig reaction with Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me; and treatment with methanolic KOH, then with tert-BuOK in THF (61% overall yield of a mixture of 10 and α-Me epimer). The mixture was separated by silica gel chromatography after Dibal reduction of the ester group. The stereochemically homogeneous alcohol 11 thus obtained in 73% yield was protected by O-trimethylacetylation, and the product was converted to aldehyde 12,¹⁴⁾ $[\alpha]_D^{26} + 119.7^\circ$ (c=1.40, CHCl₃), via desilylation and Swern oxidation⁹⁾ (86% overall yield).

The reaction of 12 with vinylmagnesium bromide in THF at room temperature afforded vinyl carbinol 13 (86% yield), which, on treatment with 2 eq thionyl chloride in ether, afforded the rearranged allyl chloride 14 in 52% yield (Chart 2). Treatment of 14 with 2.5 eq Me₃SiCu-Me₂S by the method of J.G. Smith¹⁰) afforded the desired allylsilane $15^{11,14}$) in 96% yield. The reaction¹²) of 15 with the tetrahydrofuran fragment 16^{13}) in the presence of 1 eq BF₃-Et₂O in CH₂Cl₂ at -40 to -20 °C for 3 h proceeded cleanly to afford exclusively (*E*)-olefin 17 in 92% yield as a 95:5 mixture of epimers 17a and 17b. The epimers were readily separated by silica gel chromatography after desilylation (*n*-Bu₄NF, THF), and the hydroxyl compound obtained from 17a was subjected to *O*-methylation (8 eq NaH, 4 eq Me₂SO₄, THF, room temperature) to provide the target A/B system $18,^{14}$ [α]_D²⁶ +38.0° (c=1.05, CHCl₃) in 63 % yield.

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- 6) Contaminated with C(3)-epimer (10~15%).
- 7) A comparable overall yield of 10 was realized by using the method of Kishi⁸⁾ that involves reaction of 9 with Li-enolate of MeCO₂Me and subsequent treatment of the adduct with Et₃SiH/BF₃•Et₂O.
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- 14) ¹H-NMR spectral data (270 MHz, CDCl₃).
 - 12:8 0.86 (3H, d, J=6.4 Hz, Me-3), 1.20 (9H, s, ^tBu), 1.22-1.50 (3H, m), 1.69-1.92 (3H, m), 2.06 (1H, dddd, J=14.4, 8.1, 7.3, 2.4 Hz, CHHCH2OPiv), 3.12 (1H, dt, J=9.3, 2.4 Hz, H-2), 3.74 (1H, dd, J=11.4, 2.7 Hz, H-6), 4.21 (1H, ddd, J=10.8, 8.1, 6.1 Hz, CHHOPiv), 4.29 (1H, ddd, J=10.8, 7.3, 5.0 Hz, CHHOPiv), 9.63 (1H, s, CHO).
 - 15: δ (major isomer) 0.05 (9H, s, SiMe₃), 0.80 (3H, d, J=6.4 Hz, Me-3), 1.09-1.79 (7H, m), 1.19 (9H, s, ^tBu), 1.90-2.02 (1H, m), 2.98 (1H, dt, J=9.0, 2.2 Hz, H-2), 3.42 (1H, dt, J=11.0, 2.7 Hz, H-6), 4.11 (1H, ddd, J=10.8, 8.8, 6.4 Hz, CHHOPiv), 4.26 (1H, ddd, J=10.8, 7.1, 4.6 Hz, CHHOPiv), 4.54 (1H, ddd, J=17.1, 2.4, 1.0 Hz, CH=CHH), 4.87 (1H, dd, J=10.5, 2.4 Hz, CH=CHH), 5.84 (1H, dt, J=17.1, 10.5 Hz, CH=CH₂).
 - 18: δ 0.83 (3H, d, J=6.1 Hz, Me-3), 1.11-1.86 (8H, m), 1.12 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz, CH(Me)OMe), 1.19 (9H, s, ^tBu), 1.90-2.05 (3H, m), 2.15 (1H, ddd, J=13.9, 7.3, 6.0 Hz, CH=CH-CHH), 2.36 (1H, dt, J=13.9, 6.0 Hz, CH=CH-CHH), 3.05 (1H, dt, J=9.3, 2.4 Hz, H-2), 3.34 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 4.9 Hz, CH(Me)OMe), 3.37 (3H, s, OMe), 3.72 (1H, ddd, J=10.8, 5.0, 2.1 Hz, H-6), 3.90 (1H, dt, J=7.3, 4.9 Hz, H-5'), 3.99 (1H, ddt, J=8.0, 7.3, 6.0 Hz, H-2'), 4.17 (1H, ddd, J=10.5, 8.3, 7.9 Hz, CHHOPiv), 4.24 (1H, ddd, J=10.5, 7.8, 5.1 Hz, CHHOPiv), 5.53 (1H, dd, J=15.9, 5.0 Hz, CH=CH-CH₂), 5.63 (1H, dt, J=15.9, 6.0 Hz, CH=CH-CH₂).

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