

α -Carbonyl radical cyclization approach toward spiro[4.4]nonene: total synthesis of dimethyl gloiosiphone A

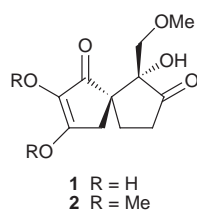
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Received (in Cambridge, UK) 2nd November 1998, Accepted 9th November 1998

The total synthesis of dimethyl gloiosiphone A **2** was achieved via an α -carbonyl radical spirocyclization.

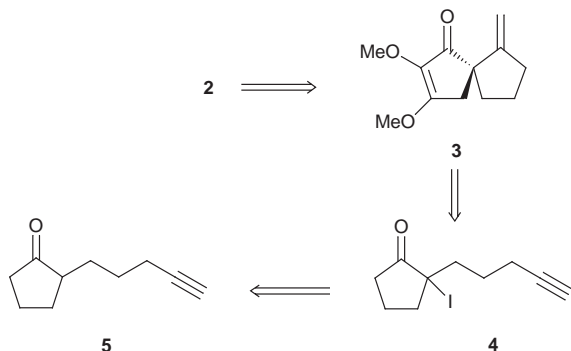
Gloiosiphone A **1** and its dimethyl derivative **2** were isolated from red marine algae *Gloiosiphonia verticillaris*.¹ Crude lipid collections of *Gloiosiphonia verticillaris* were found to exhibit profound antimicrobial activity against several *Staphylococcus*,



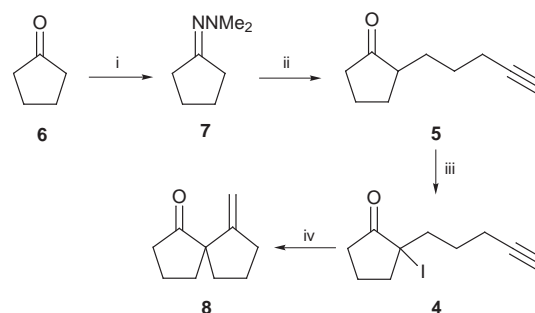
Bacillus and *Salmonella* species. Since the causative agent **1** was not stable enough for isolation, the crude collections were treated with CH_2N_2 to furnish the more stable dimethyl derivative **2**.

Compounds **1** and **2** comprise a new structural class featuring a highly oxygenated spiro[4.4]nonene system. Due to their potential antimicrobial activity and novel molecular skeleton, these compounds are challenging synthetic targets. The first total synthesis of dimethyl gloiosiphone A **2** has been achieved recently by Paquette's group.² As an extension of our work on the α -carbonyl radical cyclization reaction,³ we report herein the total synthesis of **2** using an α -carbonyl radical cyclization as the key step. The retrosynthetic analysis is outlined in Scheme 1. The spiroonene structure in **2** could be produced by an α -carbonyl radical cyclization followed by appropriate oxidation (**4**→**3**). The radical precursor iodo ketone **4** would be generated according to our method⁴ from **5**, which in turn could be prepared from cyclopentanone **6** according to Yamashita's procedure.⁵

Treatment of cyclopentanone **6** with *N,N*-dimethylhydrazine in the presence of TFA as catalyst furnished hydrazone **7** (Scheme 2). Deprotonation of **7** with Bu^nLi at 0 °C followed by alkylation with 5-iodopent-1-yne and hydrolysis yielded the required ketone **5**. Ketone **5** was sequentially treated with HMDS/TMSI and NaI/MCPBA in THF to afford iodo ketone **4**.



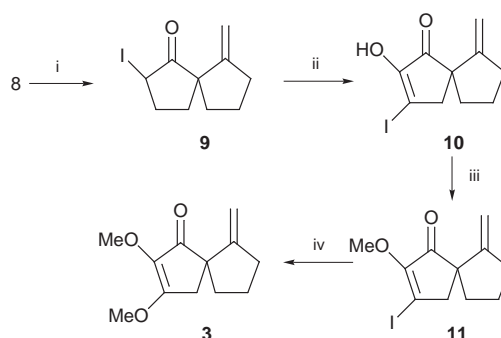
Scheme 1



Scheme 2 Reagents and conditions: i, H_2NNMe_2 , 90%; ii, Bu^nLi , 0 °C, 5-iodopent-1-yne, then 10% HCl, 1 h, 80%; iii, HMDS, TMSI, CH_2Cl_2 , then NaI , MCPBA, THF, 82%; iv, $(\text{Bu}_3\text{Sn})_2$ (0.1 equiv.), sun lamp, C_6H_6 , 1.5 h, then Bu_3SnH (1.05 equiv.), AIBN, C_6H_6 , 87%.

Treatment of **4** with Bu_3SnH under standard conditions furnished the required spirocyclic compound **8** in 50% yield. To improve the yield, an atom transfer radical reaction was adopted.⁶ Thus, irradiation of a benzene solution of ketone **4** at reflux with a sun lamp in the presence of $(\text{Bu}_3\text{Sn})_2$ (0.1 equiv.) followed by reduction of the resulting vinyl iodide with Bu_3SnH (1.05 equiv.) using AIBN as initiator furnished spiro compound **8** in 87% overall yield.

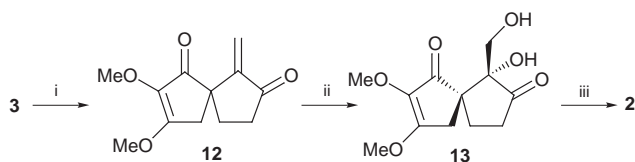
We then focused our attention on the introduction of enol ether moieties into **8**. First, iodo ketone **9** was generated from **8** by the same method used for the transformation of **5**→**4** (Scheme 3).³ The iodo ketone **9** was then converted into unsaturated ketone **10** via a modified version of Sato's method.⁷ Accordingly, **9** was oxidized with DMSO at 70 °C followed by addition of I_2 (1 equiv.) to provide **10**.



Scheme 3 Reagents and conditions: i, HMDS, TMSI, CH_2Cl_2 , then NaI , MCPBA, THF, 82%; ii, DMSO, I_2 , 86%; iii, NaH , MeI, DMF, 95%; iv, NaOMe (10 equiv.), MeOH, 92%.

Compound **10** was subsequently methylated with NaH and MeI to give methoxy iodo enone **11**. Nucleophilic displacement of iodide in **11** with NaOMe then furnished dimethoxy enone **3**.

Allylic oxidation of **3** with SeO_2 gave diketone **12** (60%) (Scheme 4). Treatment of **12** with a catalytic amount of OsO_4 with NMO as the co-oxidant gave dihydroxy ketone **13**. Finally, selective methylation of the primary alcohol with dimethyl sulfate in presence of excess K_2CO_3 (10 equiv.) afforded



Scheme 4 Reagents and conditions: i, SeO_2 , dioxane, reflux, 60%; ii, OsO_4 , NMO, Bu^tOH , THF, H_2O , 87%; iii, K_2CO_3 (10 equiv.), Me_2SO_4 , 75%.

dimethyl gloiosiphone A **2**. All spectral data for **2** are in good agreement with those reported in the literature.^{1,2}

In summary, a total synthesis of dimethyl gloiosiphone A **2** has been accomplished in a stereoselective manner in which an α -carbonyl radical cyclization reaction was employed to facilitate the construction of the key spiro[4.4]nonene skeleton. Application of this versatile α -carbonyl radical cyclization methodology toward the total synthesis of more complex natural products is under current investigation.

We thank the National Science Council of the Republic of China for financial support (NSC87-2113-M-007-043).

Notes and references

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Communication 8/08455F