

## Total Synthesis of (±)-Furodysin and (±)-Furodysin

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Furodysin and furodysin, marine origin furanosesquiterpenes having a unique carbocyclic ring system, have been first synthesized as racemic forms from a cis-decalone derivative.

Furodysin (1) and furodysin (2) are furanosesquiterpenes first isolated from a species of the sponge genus *Dysidea* in 1978.<sup>1)</sup> These compounds possess a unique carbocyclic ring system, and would be obtained biogenetically via a skeletal rearrangement of a precursor such as 3, which was also isolated from the sponge *D. herbacea*.<sup>2)</sup> In this paper we report the first and short-steps total synthesis of these two compounds (1 and 2).

There have already been known various methods to construct a furan ring. We planned to synthesize these compounds (1 and 2) from a common intermediate such as 4, to which one of these synthetic methods for a furan ring being applied.<sup>3)</sup> Treatment of a racemic cis-decalone derivative (5), which was prepared stereospecifically via anionic oxy-Cope rearrangement of a bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivative using a modified procedure from a literature,<sup>4)</sup> with methyl iodide and potassium t-butoxide in t-butyl alcohol and benzene afforded the objective gem-dimethyl compound (4) regioselectively in 78% yield.<sup>5)</sup>

For the synthesis of furodysin (1), the ketone (4) was treated with lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) followed by ethyl bromoacetate to afford keto ester (6; IR: 1735 and 1715  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) in 83% yield as a diastereomeric mixture.<sup>6)</sup> After hydrolysis of ester (6) with potassium hydroxide in methanol (80% yield), the resulting keto acid was heated with sodium acetate and acetic anhydride to afford unsaturated lactone (7; IR: 1760 and 1655  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) in 83% yield. Racemic furodysin (1) was obtained by the treatment of the lactone (7) with diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) in THF followed by acidification in 57% yield.<sup>3)</sup>

On the other hand, the ketone (4) was treated with LDA followed by MoOPH<sup>7)</sup> to afford a diastereomeric mixture of hydroxy ketone (8; IR: 3500 and 1715  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) in 69% yield, for the synthesis of furodysin (2). After protection (84% yield) of the hydroxyl group of 8, the methoxymethoxy ketone was treated with lithium enolate of t-butyl acetate to afford 9 as a mixture of four diastereomeric isomers in 97% yield. Treatment of 9 with p-toluenesulfonic acid in benzene afforded dihydroxy acid (10) in 69% yield. When 10 was refluxed with sodium acetate and acetic anhydride followed by DIBAL as the same procedures mentioned above,<sup>3)</sup> racemic furodysin (2) was obtained in 55% yield.

