# One-Pot Synthesis of 2,4-Disubstituted Thiazoline from  $\beta$ -Azido Disulfide and Carboxylic Acid

Yi Liu,<sup>‡</sup> Jun Liu,\*<sup>,†</sup> Xiangbing Qi,<sup>§</sup> and Yuguo Du\*<sup>,†,‡</sup>

† State Key Laborato[ry](#page-4-0) of Environmental Chemistry and Eco-to[xico](#page-4-0)logy, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100085, China

‡ School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China  $^{\$}$ Department of Biochemistry, Division of Chemistry, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75390-9038, United States

**S** Supporting Information

[AB](#page-4-0)STRACT: [A concise a](#page-4-0)nd efficient one-pot four-step synthesis of 2,4-disubstituted thiazoline via a cascade disulfide bond cleavage/thiocarbonylation/Staudinger reduction/aza-Wittig reaction is established. Treatment of various carboxylic



acids with  $β$ -azido disulfides under this one-pot procedure obtained the desired thiazolines in good to excellent isolated yields.

Thiazoles and thiazolines are widely distributed in natural<br>bioactive components and show a wide range of potential<br>modicinal analizations, such as antitumor, anti HIV antimizes medicinal applications, such as antitumor, anti-HIV, antimicrobial, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory functions.<sup>1</sup> Thiazole is the aromatic form of thiazoline and can be obtained from direct oxidative dehydrogenation of the correspondin[g](#page-4-0) thiazoline. Due to their fascinating structures and promising biological activities, thiazoline/thiazole-containing natural products, such as largazole  $(1)$ , hoiamides  $(2)$ , and cystothiazoles  $(3)$ , have long been attractive targets in medicinal chemistry (Figure 1). Recently, the [po](#page-4-0)lyketide natur[al](#page-4-0) products thuggacins [A](#page-4-0) (4) were isolated from the myxobacterium Sorangium cellulosum [b](#page-1-0)y Jansen et al.<sup>5</sup> The thuggacins show strong antibiotic activity against Mycobacterium tuberculosis strain H37RV by targeting the bacteria[l](#page-4-0) respiratory chain<sup>6</sup> and have attracted several synthetic efforts on total or partial structural synthesis.<sup>7</sup> Encouraged by the challengin[g](#page-4-0) molecular architecture and potential pharmacological activity of thuggacins, we started [a](#page-4-0) project toward the total synthesis of these thiazole-containing natural compounds.

For the preparation of the C1−C12 fragment of thuggacin A (4), a facile synthesis of 2,4-disubstituted thiazoline moiety from readily available starting materials is needed. Various methods for the synthesis of 2,4-disubstituted thiazoline have been reported.<sup>1,8−11</sup> The general methods for construction of the thiazoline ring include condensation−dehydration of vicinal amino thiols [w](#page-4-0)i[th](#page-4-0) suitable carbonyl derivatives, such as carboxylic acids, esters, nitriles, iminoethers, and iminium triflates.<sup>8</sup> However, difficult access to vicinal amino thiols was a serious limitation of this method. In addition, due to the high reactivi[ty](#page-4-0) and sensitivity, odoriferous amino thiols were not suitable for handling in the synthesis of complex compounds. The second method commences with more widely available amino alcohols and necessitates a multistep sequence of reactions (acylation/thionation/cyclization). In addition, conversion of oxazolines to thiazolines was also reported, $1,8$  and the

reaction could be carried out in one step by direct sulfurization of oxazoline with  $P_2S_5$  in moderate yield<sup>9</sup> or multiple steps through oxazoline ring opening by Wipf's method.<sup>10</sup> Forsyth and others reported a novel thiazoline [fo](#page-4-0)rmation approach based on the intramolecular Staudinger reduction[/az](#page-4-0)a-Wittig reaction of vicinal azido thiolesters in the presence of triphenylphosphine.<sup>11</sup> In this process, triphenylphosphine reduced azide to form the phosphinimine (aza-ylide) that reacted with the vic[ina](#page-4-0)l thioester carbonyl to give the desired thiazoline. The efficiency of this approach was also demonstrated in their total synthesis of apratoxins.<sup>11b,c</sup> It is worth noting that, in their work, vicinal azido thiolester also needed multiple steps to be prepared from carboxylic [acid](#page-4-0) and  $\beta$ -azido thiol. Although various methodologies have been developed, the formation of the thiazoline is still limited with respect to yield and scope, especially with acid-sensitive or racemizationprone substrates.<sup>12</sup> The development of new synthetic methods for the efficient preparation of heterocycles containing thiazoline and/[or](#page-4-0) thiazole ring is therefore an interesting challenge. Herein, we report a four-step one-pot process by using  $\beta$ -azido disulfides and carboxylic acid as substrate that leads to improved access to a wide range of thiazoline in good to excellent yields.

Our initial studies were focused on examining the feasibility of coupling between dialkyl  $\beta$ -azido disulfide and aliphatic acid since azido disulfides were much easier to prepare and handle than amino thiols and amino alcohols. Dialkyl  $β$ -azido disulfide derivatives were easily obtained from L-cystine in two steps or 2-methyl cysteine on a multigram scale through copper(II) catalyzed diazo transfer method and the introduction of suitable functional groups.<sup>13</sup>

On the basis of phosphine-promoted transformation of diaryl disulfide to thiole[ste](#page-4-0)r,14−<sup>16</sup> we envisaged that phosphine could

Received: May 22, 2[012](#page-5-0) Published: July 26, 2012

<span id="page-1-0"></span>

Largazole (1)



Hoiamide C (2a,  $R = C_2H_5$ ); Hoiamide D (2b,  $R = H$ );



Cystothiazole A (3a, R = H); Cystothiazole B (3b, R= OH);



Thuggacin A  $(4)$ 

Figure 1. Structures of largazole (1), hoiamides (2), cystothiazoles (3), and thuggacins A (4).

trigger sequential disulfide cleavage/thiocarbonylation/intramolecular Staudinger reduction/aza-Wittig reactions to form thiazoline from azido disulfides and carboxylic acid in one pot. We began our investigation by treating  $\beta$ -azido disulfide ester with n-butyric acid under Forsyth's thiocarbonylation condition and obtained only recovered starting materials (Table 1, entry 2).11a Several conditions, such as activated carboxylic acid with p-toluenesulfonyl chloride<sup>17</sup> or Mitsunobu conditions,<sup>18</sup> were als[o in](#page-4-0)vestigated, and no desired product was observed (entries 3 and 4). However, we fo[un](#page-5-0)d that desired thiazoline [cou](#page-5-0)ld be achieved in the presence of DCC and DMAP albeit in 20% yield (entry 5).<sup>19</sup> After an extensive screening, we were pleased to find that both EDCI and DCC could generate good yields of thiazoline form[ati](#page-5-0)on in one pot. So we set EDCI/DIPEA as the coupling reagents for the further study.

The role of each component in the reaction was examined. Control experiments indicated that the reaction did not occur without  $Ph_3P$  and EDCI. In the absence of DIPEA, the reaction also proceeds with modest yield (58%), implying that this protocol could be potentially applicable to the synthesis of thiazolines with base-sensitive functional groups. $^{12}$ 

We also found that the temperature was important for this transformation (entries 6−10). Lower yield[s](#page-4-0) and longer reaction times were found using lower temperatures (entry 8). However, increasing the temperature presumably accelerates the rate-limiting step by formation of phosphinimine intermediate (aza-ylide), dramatically reducing the reaction time with an acceptable reaction yield (53%).



a Unless otherwise noted, butyric acid was 3.0 equiv to the dialkyl disulfide. The coupling reagents and butyric acid were introduced into the solvent and stirred for  $0.5$  h at rt, and then PPh<sub>3</sub> was added into the mixture. <sup>b</sup> DEAD, azodicarboxylic acid diethyl ester; DPPA, phosphoric acid diphenyl ester azide; HOBt, 1-hydroxybenzotriazole; DIPEA, N,N-diisopropylethylamine; EDCI, 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride; "Isolated yield. <sup>d</sup>No desired product. <sup>e</sup>The reaction was heated to reflux after  $PPh_3$  was added. <sup>*f*</sup>No racemization was observed.

The amount of  $PPh_3$  was crucial to the yield, and the acceptable PPh<sub>3</sub> loading was thus determined to be  $6.0-12.0$ equiv (67−71%). The same reaction in the presence of more activated n-Bu3P (0.5−8.0 equiv) led only to unidentified decomposition products. Interestingly, we observed a dramatic improvement (up to 15%) when  $Bu_3P$  was used as an additive. The loading of  $n-Bu_3P$  with less than 1.0 equiv did not increase the yield significantly, whereas the yield was obviously enhanced by adding more than 2.0 equiv of  $n-Bu_3P$ . However, further increase of  $n$ -Bu<sub>3</sub>P sharply decreased the yield. Under the optimized conditions, treatment of  $\beta$ -azido disulfides and carboxylic acid in DCM with 8 equiv of  $Ph_3P$  and 2.2 equiv of  $Bu<sub>3</sub>P$  furnished the desired product in excellent yield (86%). In order to avoid the tedious work in product purification, commercially available polymer-supported triphenylphosphine (8.0 equiv, loading 3 mmol/g) was applied to the same reaction. It was found that the desired thiazoline 7a could be generated in 54% yield without adding  $n-Bu_3P$  or in 67% yield in the presence of  $n-Bu_3P$  (2.2 equiv) under the optimized reaction conditions.

The solvent had a great effect on the reaction in view of the yield. All of the chlorinated solvents gave excellent results, and dichloromethane (DCM) was recommended. The same reaction performed in DMSO or  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  did not give satisfactory results. All solvents were used directly without pretreatment because there was no increase observed in the yield when anhydrous solvent was employed. As noted in Table 1,



a<br>Unless otherwise noted, the acid (4.0 equiv), EDCI (4.0 equiv), and DIPEA (8.0 equiv) in DCM were used at room temperature; 15 min later, dialkyl disulfide and n-Bu3P (2.2 equiv) was added into the solution and stirred for 1 h at room temperature, then PPh<sub>3</sub> (8.0 equiv) was added into the mixture and refluxed for a further  $5$  h.  $<sup>b</sup>$  Isolated yield.  $<sup>c</sup>$ No epimerization was observed.</sup></sup>

increasing the temperature dramatically shortens the reaction time. The optimal temperature was found where  $Bu_3P$  reacted with dialkyl disulfide in DCM at room temperature and then PPh<sub>3</sub> was added into the solution and refluxed for a further 5 h.

With the optimized reaction conditions in hand, we investigated the scope and limitations of the reaction by treating various carboxylic acids with  $\beta$ -azido disulfide derivatives. Under the optimized reaction conditions, both aliphatic and aromatic carboxylic acid afforded good to high yield of thiazolines ranging from 42 to 86% (Table 2), and butyric acid had the highest yield at 86% (entries 1, 2, 8, and 9). The reaction with bulky steric hinder acid and formic acid also achieved moderate yield (entries 6, 7, and 10). The special 1 pyrenebutyric acid also furnished a 69% yield (entry 5). However, a strong acid, such as trifluoroacetic acid, gave only trace amounts of the target product (entry 3).

Attempts to extend this methodology to other useful substrates were also explored successfully. The same reactions performed with Weinreb amide (5b) and  $\beta$ -azido disulfide ester with a tert-butyl group<sup>26</sup> (5c) gave satisfactory results that broadened the versatility of the protocol (entries 8−12). Both the butyric acid and b[en](#page-5-0)zoic acid achieved excellent yields. Especially, 2-deoxy-D-glucose derivative as the substrate was also obtained with good yield (entry 11). The reaction between benzoic acid and (S)-2-methylcystine methyl ester derivative (5c) led to the 4-methylthiazoline in 49% yield (entry 12), indicating that this protocol could be applicable to the synthesis of 4-methylthiazole-containing natural products, such as hoiamide C and D. In all cases studied, the thiazoline was

formed without any detectable epimerization at the  $\alpha$ -carbon when optically pure carboxylic acids were used. We believe that these results clearly demonstrate the potential usage of this methodology to allow access to highly functionalized targets.

In conclusion, we have, for the first time, successfully demonstrated a facile transformation of dialkyl disulfides into thiazolines via a cascade disulfide cleavage/thiocarbonylation/ intramolecular Staudinger reduction/aza-Wittig reaction. This one-pot procedure permits convenient access to the desired thiazoline products starting from suitable  $\beta$ -azido dialkyl disulfides and carboxylic acids in a cost-effective way. Application of this methodology to the total synthesis of thuggacin A and its analogues is currently underway and will be reported in due course.

# **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

General Experimental. All solvents were dried according to the established procedures before use. All reagents were purchased from commercial corporations. Flash chromatography (FC) was performed using silica gel (200−300 meshes) according to the protocol of Still, Kahn, and Mitra.<sup>20</sup> All reactions under standard conditions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on gel F254 plates. Optical rotations [we](#page-5-0)re measured using a polarimeter with a thermally jacketed 5 cm cell at approximately 20 °C. Infrared spectra were recorded as KBr discs using a FT-IR spectrophotometer with wave numbers expressed in cm<sup>-1</sup>. High-resolution mass spectrometry data (HRMS) were acquired using a Q-TOF analyzer.  ${}^{1}H$  NMR and  ${}^{13}C$ NMR were measured on 400 or 100 MHz spectrometers (NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with TMS as an internal standard). Chemical shifts  $(\delta)$  are given in parts per million and coupling constants (J) in hertz.

Synthesis of Dialkyl β-Azido Disulfides. (2R,2′R)-Dimethyl-3,3'-disulfanediylbis(2-azidopropanoate) (5a): To a mixture of NaN<sub>3</sub> (6.0 g, 89.95 mmol) dissolved in distilled  $H_2O$  (20 mL) with DCM (30 mL) was carefully added triflyl anhydride (3.12 mL, 18.62 mmol) with vigorous stirring at 0 °C for a further 2 h. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2  $\times$  15 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with saturated  $Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>$  and used without further purification. To a solution of (L- $Cys)_2$  (1.1 g, 4.60 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (1.9 g, 13.80 mmol) in distilled  $H<sub>2</sub>O$  (20 mL) and CH<sub>3</sub>OH (40 mL) was added CuSO<sub>4</sub> pentahydrate (11.5 mg, 0.046 mmol) into the solution and stirred for 5 min. The triflyl azide in DCM (60 mL, as prepared above) was added, and the mixture was stirred at ambient temperature overnight. The organic solvents were removed under reduced pressure, and the aqueous slurry was acidified to pH 2 with concentrated HCl. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc  $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ . These EtOAc extracts were combined, dried  $(Na_2SO_4)$ , and evaporated to dryness to obtain a white solid as  $\alpha$ -azido carboxylic acid with no need for further purification.<sup>13</sup> Crude  $\alpha$ -azido carboxylic acid was dissolved in MeOH  $(20 \text{ mL})$ , and  $S OCl<sub>2</sub>$   $(1.3 \text{ mL})$ , 18.4 mmol) was added dropwise into the solution [u](#page-4-0)nder an ice bath. The mixture was stirred for 6 h at room temperature. The solution was removed by reduced pressure. The crude was purified by FC (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc 4:1) to give compound 5a as colorless oil (1.22 g, 83% for two steps):  $\lbrack \alpha \rbrack_{\rm D}^{20}$  $-188.6$  (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  2.99 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J  $= 14.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd,  $J = 5.2$  Hz,  $J = 14.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.26 (dt,  $J = 5.2$  Hz,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz)  $\delta$  40.0, 53.1, 61.0, 169.3; IR (film) 3005, 2955, 2117, 1744, 1436, 1250, 1209, 1009 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for  $C_8H_{12}N_6O_4S_2$  ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 343.0254, found 343.0213.

(2R,2′R)-3,3′-Disulfanediylbis(2-azido-N-methoxy-N-methylpro*panamide*) (5b): The  $\alpha$ -azido carboxylic acid was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above from  $(L-Cys)_2$  (1.1 g, 4.60) mmol). The  $\alpha$ -azido carboxylic acid and N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1.76 g, 18.40 mmol) were dissolved in dry DCM (40 mL). Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) (3.79 g, 18.40 mmol) and 4 dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) (56 mg, 0.46 mmol) were added into the mixture at room temperature and stirred for a further 30 h.

The reaction was quenched by  $H_2O$  (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc  $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ . Combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under vacuum. The crude was purified by FC (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc 3:1) to give compound 5b as a pale yellow oil (0.97 g, 56% for two steps):  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$  40.0 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  2.99 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J =14.0 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd, J =7.2 Hz, J =14.0 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 4.47 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz)  $\delta$  32.3, 38.3, 57.0, 62.0, 168.7; IR (film) 2974, 2941, 2113, 1668, 1424, 1258, 1177, 990 cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> ; ESI-HRMS calcd for  $C_{10}H_{18}N_8O_4S_2$  ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 401.0761, found 401.0776.

(2R,2′R)-Dimethyl-3,3′-disulfanediylbis(2-azido-2-methylpropanoate) (5c): To a stirred solution of  $(R)$ -2-methylcysteine hydrochloride<sup>26a</sup> (514 mg, 3 mmol) in 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were added NaI (4.5) mg, 0.03 mmol) and 30%  $H_2O_2$  (0.39 mL, 3.5 mmol), and the mixture was stir[red](#page-5-0) at room temperature for a further 0.5 h. After the mixture was cooled to 0  $\mathrm{^{\circ}C}$ , Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> was carefully added into the solution to quench the reaction. The solution was removed by reduced pressure, and the crude  $\beta$ -amino disulfide ester was used for next step without further purification. The  $\alpha$ -azido ester 5c was prepared from the crude product according to the typical procedure, as described above for 5a:  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –128 (c 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.59 (s, 3H), 3.12  $(d, J = 14.0 \text{ Hz}, 1H), 3.24 (d, J = 14.0 \text{ Hz}, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H);$ <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) δ 22.1, 48.9, 53.1, 66.5, 171.5; IR (film) 2955, 2115, 1742, 1245, 1175, 1103 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>  $([M + Na]^+)$  371.0546, found 371.0567.

General Procedure for the Formation of Thiazolines. Typical Procedure for the Formation of Thiazoline 7a. To a solution of butyric acid (55.1 mg, 0.63 mmol) in DCM (6 mL) were added 1 ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDCI) (119.8 mg, 0.63 mmol) and N,N′-diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA) (161.6 mg, 1.26 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 15 min, 5a (50 mg, 0.156 mmol) was added into the solution and then  $Bu_3P$ (69.4 mg, 0.343 mmol) was added slowly into the mixture away from light. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for another 1 h. PPh<sub>3</sub> (327.8 mg, 1.25 mmol) was added into the solution and heated to reflux for a further 5 h. The reaction solution was removed by reduced pressure. The crude yellow mixture was purified by FC (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc 3:1) to give compound 7a as colorless oil (50.2 mg, 86%).

Characterization of Compounds. (R)-Methyl-2-propyl-4,5 dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate  $(7a)$ : The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above in 86% yield as colorless oil:  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$  36.4 (c 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  0.96 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.67 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.53 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (dd,  $J = 9.6$  Hz,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.57 (dd,  $J = 9.6$ Hz,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 5.06 (t,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) δ 13.6, 21.1, 35.4, 36.3, 52.8, 77.8, 171.4, 175.2; IR (film) 2958, 2931, 2872, 1743, 1621, 1436, 1200, 1036 cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> ; ESI-HRMS calcd for  $C_8H_{13}NO_2S$  ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 210.0559, found 210.0552.

(R)-Methyl-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate (7b): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7b as a white solid (49.0 mg, 71%). Data are consistent with a previously characterized compound.<sup>21</sup>

(R)-Methyl-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate (7d): The title compound was prepared according to the typical proced[ur](#page-5-0)e, as described above to give compound 7d as colorless oil (36.3 mg, 73%). Data are consistent with a previously characterized compound.

(R)-Methyl-2-(3-(pyren-1-yl)propyl)-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate (7e): The title compound was prepared according [to](#page-5-0) the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7e as a pale yellow oil (88.3 mg, 73%):  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$  34.0 (c 2.4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  2.21–2.27 (m, 2H), 2.73 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J  $= 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 5.11 (t, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97−8.02 (m, 3H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.14−8.17 (m, 2H), 8.28 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz)  $\delta$  29.3, 32.5, 34.0, 35.4, 52.6, 77.8, 123.2, 124.5, 124.6, 124.7, 124.8, 124.9, 125.6, 126.5, 127.2, 127.3, 128.5, 129.7, 130.7, 131.2, 135.5, 171.2, 174.3; IR (film) 3039, 2949, 2867, 1742, 1620, 1435, 1339, 1201, 1179, 1108,

<span id="page-4-0"></span>1023, 845, 758, 721, 682, 620 cm<sup>-1</sup>; EI-HRMS calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S ([M]+ ) 387.1293, found 387.1298.

(R)-Methyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate (7f): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7f as colorless oil (19.1 mg, 42%). Data are consistent with a previously characterized compound.<sup>23</sup>

(R)-Methyl-2-((S)-1-(tert-butyldiphenylsilyloxy)ethyl)-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate  $(7g)$ : The title compound [w](#page-5-0)as prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7g as colorless oil (72.7 mg, 51%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  10.6 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.12 (s, 9H), 1.29 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 3.39−3.51 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.78 (q, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.08  $(t, J = 9.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$ , 7.34–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.67–7.69 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) δ 19.3, 23.4, 26.9, 33.6, 52.7, 70.4, 78.2, 127.6, 127.7, 129.8, 129.9, 132.8, 133.6, 135.8, 135.9, 171.2, 181.5; IR (film) 3070, 2953, 2932, 2892, 2857, 1745, 1622, 1428, 1173, 1110, 1026, 922, 822, 703, 612, 504 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi ([M +Na]<sup>+</sup>) 450.1559, found 450.1551.

(R)-N-Methoxy-N-methyl-2-propyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxamide (7h): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7h as a pale yellow oil (47.4 mg, 83%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  134.8 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  0.94 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.66 (dq, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 14.8 Hz, 2H), 2.49  $(t, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 2H)$ , 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.37 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 5.41 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) δ 13.6, 21.0, 32.4, 34.8, 36.2, 61.7, 75.4, 170.9, 173.9; IR (film) 2962, 2934, 2873, 2892, 1666, 1621, 1460, 1424, 1385, 1176, 1119, 993 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 217.1011, found 217.1010.

(R)-N-Methoxy-N-methyl-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxamide (7i): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7i as colorless oil (51.6 mg, 78%). Data are consistent with a previously characterized compound.<sup>24</sup>

(R)-2-((S)-1-(tert-Butyldiphenylsilyloxy)ethyl)-N-methoxy-N-meth $y$ l-4,5-dihy[dr](#page-5-0)othiazole-4-carboxamide (7j): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7j as colorless oil (59.9 mg, 53%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  42.5 (c 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.11 (s, 9H), 1.28 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.33 (t,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.62 (t,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 4.71−4.75 (m, 1H), 5.44 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36−7.43  $(m, 6H)$ , 7.69–7.72  $(m, 4H)$ ; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz)  $\delta$  19.3, 23.3, 26.9, 32.4, 33.3, 61.7, 70.4, 76.1, 127.6, 127.7, 129.7, 129.8, 132.8, 133.9, 135.9, 136.0, 170.7, 180.2; IR (film) 3070, 2949, 2932, 2857, 1669, 1620, 1469, 1427, 1387, 1366, 1182, 1110, 999, 926, 822, 741, 704, 611, 504 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for  $C_{24}H_{32}N_2O_3SSi$  ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 479.1801, found 479.1802.

(R)-N-Methoxy-N-methyl-2-(((4S,4′R,5R)-2,2,2′,2′-tetramethyl-4,4′-bi(1,3-dioxolan)-5-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxamide (7k): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7k as colorless oil (58.5 mg, 57%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  31.0 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$ 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 2.87 (dd,  $J = 8.4$ Hz, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.02–3.06 (m, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.41 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.66 (t,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.80  $(s, 3H)$ , 3.93 (dd, J = 4.8 Hz, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.02–4.07 (m, 1H), 4.11 (dd,  $J = 6.0$  Hz,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dt,  $J = 4.8$  Hz,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.45 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz)  $\delta$  25.2, 26.7, 26.9, 27.2, 32.4, 34.9, 38.4, 61.8, 67.6, 75.1, 76.9, 77.8, 80.6, 109.7, 109.8, 170.5, 170.8; IR (film) 2984, 2932, 1667, 1620, 1458, 1437, 1374, 1213, 1156, 1068, 994, 841 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI-HRMS calcd for  $C_{17}H_{28}N_2O_6S$  $([M + Na]^+)$  411.1566, found 411.1577.

(R)-Methyl-4-methyl-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate (7l): The title compound was prepared according to the typical procedure, as described above to give compound 7l as a white solid (34.0 mg, 49%). Data are consistent with a previously characterized compound.<sup>25</sup>

# ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **S** Supporting Information

Spectral data for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

# ■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

#### Corresponding Author

\*E-mail: junliu@rcees.ac.cn, duyuguo@rcees.ac.cn.

#### Notes

The auth[ors declare no com](mailto:junliu@rcees.ac.cn)peting fi[nancial intere](mailto:duyuguo@rcees.ac.cn)st.

# ■ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by NNSF of China (Projects 21072217 and 2012CB822101).

#### ■ REFERENCES

(1) For selected reviews, see: (a) Roy, R. S.; Gehring, A. M.; Milne, J. C.; Belshaw, P. J.; Walsh, C. T. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1999, 16, 249−263. (b) Wipf, P. Chem. Rev. 1995, 95, 2115−2134. (c) Jin, Z. Nat. Prod. Rep. 2011, 28, 1143−1191. (d) Blunt, J. W.; Copp, B. R.; Munro, M. H. G.; Northcote, P. T.; Prinsep, M. R. Nat. Prod. Rep. 2011, 28, 196− 268. (e) Houssen, W. E.; Jaspars, M. ChemBioChem 2010, 11, 1803− 1815.

(2) For recent reviews, see: (a) Newkirk, T. L.; Bowers, A. A.; Williams, R. M. Nat. Prod. Rep. 2009, 26, 1293−1320. (b) Morris, J. C.; Phillips, A. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 2010, 27, 1186−1203. (c) Hong, J.; Luesch, H. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 2012, 29, 449−456.

(3) For recent total syntheses of hoiamides, see: (a) Wang, L.; Xu, Z. S.; Ye, T. Org. Lett. 2011, 13, 2506−2509. (b) Malloy, K. L.; Choi, H.; Fiorilla, C.; Valeriote, F. A.; Matainaho, T.; Gerwick, W. H. Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. 2012, 22, 683−688.

(4) For recent total syntheses of cystothiazoles, see: (a) Shao, J.; Panek, J. S. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 3083−3085. (b) Akita, H.; Sutou, N.; Sasaki, T.; Kato, K. Tetrahedron 2006, 62, 11592−11598. (c) Chu, Y.; Gao, B.; Yue, Q.; Wang, Y.; Wang, S. Sci. China, Ser. B: Chem. 2008, 51, 661−668.

(5) Steinmetz, H.; Irschik, H.; Kunze, B.; Reichenbach, H.; Hofle, G.; Jansen, R. Chem.-Eur. J. 2007, 13, 5822-5832.

(6) (a) Bock, M.; Muller, R.; Buntin, K.; Kirschning, A. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2008, 47, 2308−2311. (b) Irschik, H.; Reichenbach, H.; Hofle, G.; Jansen, R. J. Antibiot. 2007, 60, 733−738.

(7) (a) Bock, M.; Dehn, R.; Kirschning, A. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2008, 47, 9134−9137. (b) Tang, S.; Xu, Z.; Ye, T. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 2009, 20, 2027−2032. (c) Zarate-Ruiz, G. A.; Figueiredo, R. M.; Niel, G.; Campagne, J. M. Synlett 2012, 23, 219−222.

(8) For selected reviews, see: (a) Nora De Souza, M. V. J. Sulfur Chem. 2005, 26, 429−449. (b) Gaumont, A. C.; Gulea, M.; Levillain, J. Chem. Rev. 2009, 109, 1371−1401. (c) Xu, Z. S.; Ye, T. Heterocycles in Natural Product Synthesis: Thiazoline and Thiazole and their Derivatives; Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH&Co. KGaA: Weinheim, Germany, 2011, Chapter 13.

(9) Aitken, R. A.; Armstrong, D. P.; Galt, R. H. B.; Mesher, S. T. E. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1997, 935−944.

(10) Wipf, P.; Fritch, P. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 12358− 12367.

(11) (a) Chen, J.; Forsyth, C. J. Org. Lett. 2003, 5, 1281−1283. (b) Chen, J.; Forsyth, C. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 8734−8735. (c) Chen, J.; Forsyth, C. J. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2004, 101, 12067−12072. (d) Riedrich, M.; Harkal, S.; Arndt, H. D. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 2701−2703.

(12) (a) You, S. L.; Razavi, H.; Kelly, J. W. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 83−85. (b) Charette, A. B.; Chua, P. J. Org. Chem. 1998, 63, 908−909. (c) Fernandez, X.; Fellous, R.; Dunach, E. Tetrahedron Lett. 2000, 41, 3381−3384. (d) Muir, J. C.; Pattenden, G.; Ye, T. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 2002, 2243−2250.

(13) Lundquist, J. T.; Pelletier, J. C. Org. Lett. 2001, 3, 781−783.

# <span id="page-5-0"></span>The Journal of Organic Chemistry Note

(14) Corey, E. J.; Nicolaou, K. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1974, 96, 5614− 5616.

- (15) (a) Overman, L. E.; O'Connor, E. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 771−775. (b) Amos, R. A.; Fawcett, S. M. J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 2637−2639.
- (16) (a) Brindaban, C. R.; Tanmay, M. J. Org. Chem. 2004, 69, 5793−5795. (b) Nambu, H.; Hata, K.; Matsugi, M.; Kita, Y. Chem. Eur. J. 2005, 11, 719−727.
- (17) Wakasugi, K.; Iida, A.; Misaki, T.; Nishii, Y.; Tanabe, Y. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2003, 345, 1209−1213.
- (18) Mitsunobu, O.; Yamada, M.; Mukaiyama, T. Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1967, 40, 935−939.
- (19) Boden, E. P.; Keck, G. E. J. Org. Chem. 1985, 50, 2394−2395. (20) Still, W. C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. 1978, 43, 2923− 2925.
- (21) Raman, P.; Razavi, H.; Kelly, J. W. Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 3289− 3292.
- (22) Emtenäs, H.; Alderin, L.; Almqvist, F. J. Org. Chem. 2001, 66, 6756−5761.
- (23) Emtenäs, H.; Carlsson, M; Pinkner, J. S.; Hultgren, S. J.; Almqvist, F. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2003, 1, 1308−1314.
- (24) Lu, Y.; Li, C. M.; Wang, Z.; Ross, C. R.; Chen, J.; Dalton, J. T.; Li, W.; Miller, D. D. J. Med. Chem. 2009, 52, 1701−1711.
- (25) Han, F. S.; Osajima, H.; Cheung, M.; Tokuyama, H.; Fukuyama, T. Chem.-Eur. J. 2007, 13, 3026-3038.
- (26) (a) Pattenden, G.; Thom, S. M.; Jones, M. F. Tetrahedron 1993, 49, 2131−2138. (b) Kirihara, M.; Asai, Y.; Ogawa, S.; Noguchi, T.; Hatano, A.; Hirai, Y. Synthesis 2007, 21, 3286−3289.