Enantioselective Synthesis of the Macrolide Antibiotic Oleandomycin Aglycon

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The stereochemical and heterofunctional complexity of the polypropionate-derived macrolide antibiotics poses a formidable challenge for stereoselective synthesis, and these target structures have provided the stimulus for the development of a host of new enantio- and diastereoselective bond constructions.¹ In this paper we illustrate, in the context of an efficient synthesis of oleandolide aglycon (1),² how polypropionate chains may be rapidly assembled using the chiral β -ketoimide building block 2 and its associated aldol reaction methodology recently developed in these laboratories.^{3,4}

As illustrated in Scheme 1, the synthesis plan relied upon β -ketoimide **2** for the construction of both the C₁–C₈ and C₉–C₁₄ oleandolide fragments. Concurrent application of a sequential aldol reduction strategy to both fragments established 8 of the 10 requisite stereocenters, while an imide enolate alkylation reaction was employed to control the lone C₆ stereocenter in the C₅–C₈ subunit. In the final stereoselective transformation, the introduction of the C₈-epoxide with the desired stereochemistry was effected through the directed VO-(acac)₂/*t*-BuO₂H epoxidation of the 9-(*S*)-allylic alcohol prior to macrocyclization.^{5,6} This last step becomes much more challenging to implement when it is postponed until after macrocycle construction as the two previous syntheses of oleandolide have revealed.²

The synthesis of the C₁–C₈ fragment began with the titaniummediated *syn* aldol reaction between aldehyde **4**⁷ and β -ketoimide **2** (Scheme 2).^{3a,8} This double stereodifferentiating reaction (eq 1) proceeded in excellent yield with high *anti* Felkin diastereoselection. Treatment of aldol adduct **5** with Zn(BH₄)₂ established the C₅-hydroxyl stereocenter *via* a chelate-controlled

(3) (a) Evans, D. A.; Clark, J. S.; Metternich, R.; Novack, V. J.; Sheppard, G. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 866–868. (b) Evans, D. A.; Ng, H. P.; Clark, J. S.; Rieger, D. L. *Tetrahedron* **1992**, *48*, 2127–2142.

(4) The sequence of β -ketoimide aldol coupling followed by reduction, thereby establishing four stereocenters in two steps, has been applied to the recent total syntheses of calyculin, rutamycin, and lonomycin: (a) Evans, D. A.; Gage, J. R.; Leighton, J. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1992**, 114, 9434–9453. (b) Evans, D. A.; Ng, H. P.; Rieger, D. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1993**, 115, 11446–11459. (c) Evans, D. A.; Ratz, A. M.; Huff, B. E.; Sheppard, G. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, 117, 3448–3467.

(5) (a) The precedent for the stereochemical outcome of this reaction has been established: Sharpless, K. B.; Verhoeven, T. R. *Aldrichim. Acta* **1979**, *12*, 63–73. (b) For a general review of directed reactions, see: Hoveyda, A. H.; Evans, D. A.; Fu, G. C. *Chem. Rev.* **1993**, *93*, 1307–1370.

(6) Initial attempts to directly form the C_9 stereocenter from vinyl metal addition to the aldehyde proved either unselective or resulted in decomposition.

(7) The known aldehyde **4** was prepared from *N*-propionyl-4-(*R*)-(phenylmethyl)-oxazolidinone in direct analogy to the reported procedure: Evans, D. A.; Bender, S. L.; Morris, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 2506–2526.

(8) Use of Ti(O-*i*-Pr)Cl₃ rather than the standard TiCl₄ was found to maximize conversion in the coupling of β -ketoimide **2** with aldehyde **4**.

Scheme 1



Fragments C_1 - C_4 and C_9 - C_{12} Fragment C_5 - C_8

Scheme 2



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) LDA, 2,3-dibromopropene, -78 to -35 °C. (b) LiBH₄, H₂O, 25 °C. (c) (COCl)₂, DMSO, Et₃N, -78 to 0 °C. (d) Ti(O-*i*-Pr)Cl₃, Et₃N, **4**, -78 °C. (e) Zn(BH₄)₂, -78 to -50 °C. (f) (MeO)₂CHPh, CSA, 10 Torr, 25 °C. (g) (Me₃Sn)₂, Pd(PPh₃)₄, *i*-Pr₂NEt, 80 °C.

Scheme 3



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) Sn(OTf)₂, Et₃N, acetaldehyde, -78 °C. (b) NaBH(OAc)₃, HOAc, 25 °C. (c) TIPS-OTf, 2,6-lutidine, -5 °C. (d) TES-OTf, 2,6-lutidine, 25 °C. (e) LiOOH, 0 °C. (f) (COCl)₂, DMF, 25 °C.

syn reduction (diastereoselection >95:5)⁹ while subsequent diol protection afforded vinyl bromide **6**. Further elaboration of this intermediate to the 1,1-disubstituted vinylstannane **7** completed the synthesis of the C_1-C_8 oleandolide subunit.

The synthesis of the C₉–C₁₄ subunit was initiated from the same β -ketoimide building block **2** *via* a Sn(II)-mediated aldol reaction with acetaldehyde to afford the complimentary *syn* aldol adduct (Scheme 3, eq 2).^{3a} It is noteworthy that both of the requisite *syn* aldol bond constructions may be accessed from

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^{(2) (}a) Paterson, I.; Norcross, R. D.; Ward, R. A.; Romea, P.; Lister, M. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 11287–11314. (b) Paterson, I.; Lister, M. A.; Norcross, R. D. Tetrahedron Lett. 1992, 33, 1767–1770. (c) Paterson, I. Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 24, 1311–1314. (d) Tatsuta, K.; Ishiyama, T.; Tajima, S.; Koguchi, Y.; Gunji, H. Tetrahedron Lett. 1990, 31, 709–712. (e) Tatsuta, K.; Kobayashi, Y.; Gunji, H. J. Antibiot. 1988, 41, 1520–1523. (f) Tatsuta, K.; Kobayashi, Y.; Gunji, H.; Masuda, H. Tetrahedron Lett. 1988, 29, 3975–3978.

⁽⁹⁾ Oishi, T.; Nakata, T. Acc. Chem. Res. 1984, 17, 338-344.



^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (a) Pd₂(dba)₃, *i*-Pr₂NEt, benzene, 25 °C. (b) HF•pyr, 0 °C. (c) Zn(BH₄)₂, -45 °C. (d) VO(acac)₂, *t*-BuOOH, 25 °C. (e) TBS-OTf, 2,6-lutidine, -78 °C. (f) LiOOH, 0 °C. (g) Et₃N•HF, 25 °C. (h) 2,4,6-trichlorobenzoyl chloride, *i*-Pr₂NEt, DMAP, 25 °C. (i) HF•pyr, 25 °C. (j) SO₃•pyr, Et₃N, 25 °C. (k) 20% Pd(OH)₂/C, H₂, dioxane 25 °C.

the (*Z*)-enolate of **2** by judicious choice of metal center (eq 1 vs eq 2).^{3a} Subsequent *anti* reduction of **8** with NaBH(OAc)₃¹⁰ and regioselective protection of the C₁₃-alcohol yielded triisopropylsilyl (TIPS) ether **9** in good overall yield and selectivity. At this stage, the C₁₁-hydroxyl moiety was protected as its derived triethylsilyl (TES) ether with the anticipation that it might be selectively revealed after fragment coupling in the presence of the C₁₃-OTIPS protecting group (*vide infra*). Imide hydrolysis followed by treatment with oxalyl chloride provided the C₉-C₁₄ acid chloride **11** suitably activated for fragment coupling.

The palladium-catalyzed acylation¹¹ of vinylstannane 7 (C_1 - C_8) with acid chloride **11** (C_9-C_{14}) proved to be an excellent fragment coupling process (Pd₂(dba)₃, *i*-Pr₂NEt, benzene, 25 °C, 88% yield) (Scheme 4). The use of the trimethylstannyl derivative was found to be essential for a high-vielding transformation, in accord with literature precedent indicating reaction sensitivity to steric effects at the stannyl moiety.¹¹ Treatment of enone 12a with HF pyridine effected selective deprotection of the C11-OTES moiety in the presence of the C_{13} -OTIPS ether, and the subsequent $Zn(BH_4)_2$ reduction, directed by the newly revealed C₁₁-OH, afforded allylic alcohol 13 with the desired (S)-stereochemistry at C_9 as a single isomer. It is noteworthy that the analogous reduction of benzyl ether 12b, contrary to expectation, produced the undesired 9-(R)alcohol diastereomer as the major product, despite ample precedent for the operation of chelate control on similar substrates.¹² With the 9-(S)-hydroxyl configuration established as a controller for directed epoxidation, treatment of 13 with VO(acac)₂/tert-butylperoxide afforded the desired epoxy alcohol 14 as a single diastereomer,⁵ thereby establishing the 10 requisite oleandolide stereocenters in 11 linear steps.

Unfortunately, attempts to move forward with the C_9,C_{11} diol **14** met with failure, since the diol epoxide moieties proved too labile to survive subsequent steps. Although some of the carboxylic acid triol **15b** was obtained, all macrocyclization attempts led only to substrate decomposition. Even under buffered conditions, this series of epoxide-containing intermediates readily rearranged to the corresponding tetrahydrofurans, as shown for the conversion of **14** to **17** (eq 3).



In an attempt to inhibit this rearrangement, diol **14** was treated with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl triflate (TBS-OTf). It is of note

that only the C₉-position was silvlated; all attempts to modify the C11-alcohol failed. Nonetheless, this added protecting group did attenuate the reactivity of the epoxide, possibly through enforcing a conformation less prone to rearrangement by an alteration of the hydrogen bonding network. Following imide hydrolysis, the C13-OTIPS ether was selectively removed in the presence of the C₉-OTBS moiety through the use of triethylammonium fluoride to afford 15a.¹³ Gratifyingly, the macrocyclization of this substrate proceeded in quantitative yield with 2,4,6-trichlorobenzoyl chloride.¹⁴ Silyl deprotection, oxidation, and acetal hydrogenolysis then afforded oleandolide (1) in 84% overall yield. The spectral and chromatographic characteristics of **1** proved identical to the published data.^{2a} As further proof of structure, the triacetate derivative of 1 was also prepared, and its properties proved to be identical to published data as well.2a

Synthesis of oleandolide was completed in 18 linear steps with a 15% overall yield. Utilizing auxiliary-controlled aldol reactions, directed reductions, and a directed epoxidation, the 10 stereocenters of oleandolide were established on the acyclic carbon framework from the chiral β -ketoimide building block **2**.

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Supporting Information Available: Spectral data for all compounds are provided (7 pages). See any current masthead page for ordering and Internet access instructions.

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⁽¹²⁾ Reetz, M. T. Acc. Chem. Res. 1993, 26, 462-468 and references cited therein.

⁽¹³⁾ Et_3N •HF was prepared from the HF•pyridine complex and Et_3N . The excess base was removed *in vacuo*, and the resultant white crystalline solid was stored under argon.

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