

The First Total Syntheses of Ircinol A, Ircinal A, and Manzamines A and D

Jeffrey D. Winkler* and Jeffrey M. Axten

Department of Chemistry, The University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

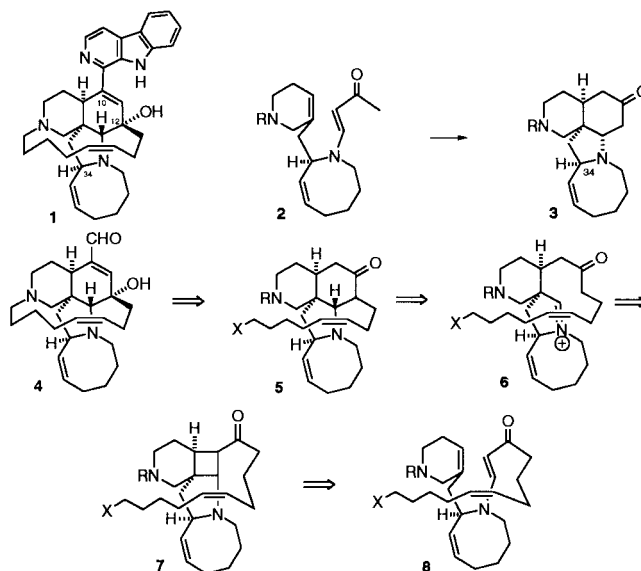
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In 1986, Higa, Jefford, and co-workers reported the isolation of a structurally novel polycyclic alkaloid, manzamine A, **1**, from a sponge harvested near the coast of Okinawa.¹ The unique structure of **1** consists of a β -carboline heterocycle attached to a novel pentacyclic diamine core containing both eight- and thirteen-membered rings on a pyrrolo[2,3-*i*]isoquinoline framework. The cytotoxic activity ($IC_{50} = 0.07 \mu\text{g/mL}$ against P-388 mouse leukemia cells) and unique structure of **1** have stimulated considerable interest and activity directed toward the total synthesis of manzamine A which has not yet been successfully achieved to date.² The intramolecular vinylogous amide photoaddition/fragmentation/Mannich closure sequence that we have developed has been applied to the stereoselective synthesis of complex structural types including mesembrine and the aspidosperma alkaloids from simple precursors.³ We have described the application of this methodology to the construction of the tetracyclic core of the manzamine alkaloids, in which the single stereocenter on the unsaturated eight-membered ring template **2** dictates all of the requisite stereochemical relationships embodied in **3**, which represents the tetracyclic core of manzamine A.⁴ Outlined herein is the extension of these preliminary investigations to the first total synthesis of manzamine A.

The retrosynthetic analysis for our approach to the synthesis of manzamine A is outlined in Scheme 1. Disconnection of the β -carboline from **1** leads to ircinal A, **4**, a naturally occurring compound that has been converted to **1** by Pictet–Spengler cyclization followed by DDQ oxidation.⁵ We anticipated that ircinal A could be formed by B-ring functionalization and macrocyclization of **5**. The tetracyclic ring system of **5** would result from the Mannich closure of ketoiminium **6**, which is derived by retro-Mannich fragmentation of **7**, the product of intramolecular cycloaddition of **8**.

The preparation and reaction of the requisite photosubstrate is outlined in Scheme 2.⁶ Reaction of the previously described secondary amine **9** with acetylenic ketone **10**⁸ gave the requisite vinylogous amide photosubstrate **11** in 99% yield from **9**. Photoaddition and retro-Mannich fragmentation of **11** led, via O-closure of the ketoiminium intermediate **13**, to amina **14**. The

Scheme 1



isomerization of **14** to the manzamine tetracycle **16** proceeded on exposure of **14** to pyridinium acetate to give **16** as a single stereoisomer in 20% overall yield from **11** (an average of 60% yield/step for photoaddition, fragmentation, and Mannich closure). The assignment of the relative stereochemistry shown in **16** follows from our published studies on the photocycloaddition of **2**⁴ and the conversion of **16** to manzamine A, as detailed below. The unique stereochemistry of the C-12 substituent in **16**, which is not critical to the subsequent stereoselective introduction of the C-12 α hydroxyl moiety, was not established at this stage.

The elaboration of the B ring of **16** to include the functionality present in manzamine A was achieved as follows: Carboxylation of the kinetic enolate derived from **17**, the silyl ether of **16**, with Mander's reagent gave ketoester **18**, with the C-10 α ester on the convex face of the AB ring system. Reduction of the C-11 ketone, followed by elimination of the derived mesylate with DBU in refluxing benzene, gave a 2:1 mixture of the α,β - and β,γ -unsaturated esters **19** and **20**, respectively. Equilibration of **19** to a 2:1 mixture of **19** and **20** could be achieved in quantitative yield by reexposure of **19** to DBU in refluxing benzene.

Selenation of the conjugate base of **19** (LiTMP) led to the formation of the α -selenated product **21** in ca. 40% yield, while selenation of the deconjugated ester **20** led to the formation of the same product in 78% yield. We attribute this difference in reactivity to the relative difficulty of deprotonation of the C-12 hydrogen in **19**. Oxidation of selenide **21** resulted in the formation of the desired C-12 α alcohol **22**, the stereochemical assignment of which was supported by the H bonding observed between the hydroxyl hydrogen and the azocine nitrogen by ¹H NMR (br s, δ 6.5, exchanges with D₂O) and subsequently confirmed by the conversion of **22** to manzamine A. The same product **22** could be obtained more efficiently via epoxidation of the β,γ -unsaturated ester **20** and treatment of the derived epoxide with sodium methoxide (69% overall yield of **22** from **20**). The closure of the macrocyclic 13-membered ring to complete the synthesis of the pentacyclic ring system of manzamine A proved challenging. Deprotection of silyl ether **22**, followed by tosylation of the

(6) All compounds were fully purified (>95%) and characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR, IR, HRMS, and specific rotation. See the Supporting Information for experimental procedures, tabulated data, and copies of spectra.

(7) The eight-membered ring of **9** was prepared by intramolecular alkylation of the corresponding *N*-Alloc *O*-tosylate using NaH (82%), followed by nitrogen deprotection (Pd⁰, 90%) as described in ref 4.

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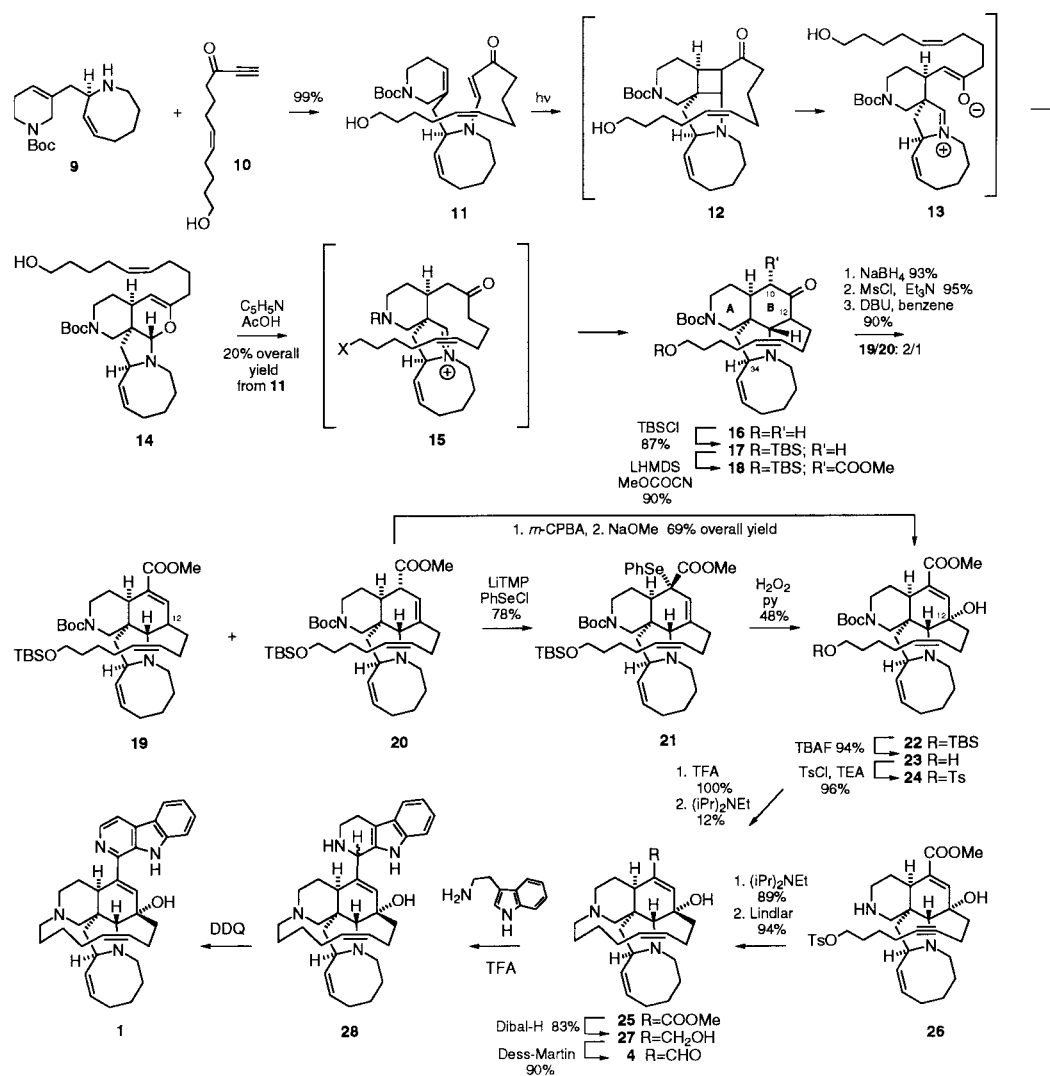
(2) For an excellent review of synthetic efforts in this area, see: Matzkanke, N.; Gregg, R. J.; Weinreb, S. *M. Org. Prep. Proc. Int.* **1998**, *30*, 1 and references therein. For synthetic approaches disclosed since 1996, see: (a) Brands, K. M. J.; DiMichele, L. M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, *39*, 1677. (b) Li, S.; Yamamura, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, *39*, 2597. (c) Li, S.; Yamamura, S.; Hosomi, H.; Ohba, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, *39*, 2601. (d) Baldwin, J. E.; Bischoff, L.; Claridge, T. D. W.; Heupel, F. A.; Spring, D. R.; Whitehead, R. C. *Tetrahedron* **1997**, *53*, 2271. (e) Li, S.; Ohba, S.; Kosemura, S.; Yamamura, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 7365. (f) Baldwin, J. E.; Claridge, T. D. W.; Culshaw, A. J.; Heupel, F. A.; Smrczkova, S.; Whitehead, R. C. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 6919. (g) Torisawa, Y.; Hosaka, T.; Tanabe, K.; Suzuki, N.; Motohashi, Y.; Hino, T.; Nakagawa, M. *Tetrahedron* **1996**, *52*, 10597. (h) Martin, S. F.; Chen, H.-J.; Courtney, A. K.; Liao, Y.; Pätz, M.; Ramser, M. N.; Wagman, A. S. *Tetrahedron* **1996**, *52*, 7251. (i) Pandit, U. K.; Borer, B.; Bieraugel, H. *Pure Appl. Chem.* **1996**, *68*, 659.

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Scheme 2



derived alcohol **23**, gave **24**. Removal of the Boc protecting group and exposure of the secondary amine to Hünig's base under high dilution conditions (1 mM) led to the formation of methyl ircinate **25** in a disappointing 12% yield. We were delighted to find that cyclization of the acetylenic substrate **26**⁹ under the same reaction conditions led to the formation of the desired macrocyclic product in 89% yield, which on Lindlar reduction gave **25** in 94% yield.

Reaction of the unsaturated ester **25** with DIBAL-H resulted in the first total synthesis of ircinol A, **27**, [α]_D = -18° (c = 0.30, MeOH), in 83% yield, the isolation of which was recently reported by Kobayashi and co-workers.¹⁰ Oxidation of **27** with the Dess–Martin reagent gave a 90% yield of ircinal A, **4**, ([α]_D = +46° (c = 0.23, CHCl₃); lit.⁵ [α]_D = +48° (c = 2.9, CHCl₃)), the transformation of which to manzamine A has been reported by Kobayashi.⁵ Following that procedure, reaction of **4** with tryptamine in the presence of trifluoroacetic acid gave manzamine D, **28**, in 58% yield, which on oxidation with DDQ provided

manzamine A, **1** (50% yield), which was identical in all respects with an authentic sample kindly provided to us by Professor Kobayashi.

The completion of the first total synthesis of manzamine A in 17 steps from the readily available bicyclic precursor **9** (which was prepared in 14 steps from pyridine-3-methanol)⁴ underscores the utility of the vinylogous amide photoaddition/fragmentation/Mannich closure sequence that we have developed for the synthesis of complex structures from simple precursors. The establishment of all of the stereochemical relationships in **1** from the single stereogenic center in **9** further attests to the remarkable levels of stereochemical control that are possible using this photochemical cascade in organic synthesis.

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Supporting Information Available: Preparation procedures for **1**, **11**, **14**, and **16–28** with spectral data (21 pages, print/PDF). See any current masthead page for ordering and Web access instructions.

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(8) The acetylenic ketone **10** was prepared in three steps from the known methyl 10-hydroxy-5-decyanoate (Nowak, W.; Gerlach, H. *Liebigs Ann. Chem.* **1993**, 153) by the following sequence: (1) formation of the Weinreb amide (Me₃Al, MeNHOMe-HCl, 94%); (2) semi-hydrogenation (Lindlar, 99%); (3) reaction with ethynylmagnesium bromide (79%).

(9) The acetylenic substrate **26** was prepared from **9** and the diyne corresponding to **10** (which was available by the route outlined in ref 8, albeit without semi-hydrogenation of the intermediate alkyne) by the same reaction sequence employed for the preparation of **24** from **9** and **10**.

(10) The levorotatory rotation that we observe for ircinol A, which differs in sign from that of the previously published report (Tsuda, M.; Kawasaki, N.; Kobayashi, J. *Tetrahedron* **1994**, 50, 7957), is consistent with data recently obtained by Professor Kobayashi (personal communication).