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## Concise Entry to Both Enantiomers of 8-Oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one Based on Novel Oxidative Etherification: Formal Synthesis of (+)-Sundiversifolide

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## **ABSTRACT**

Both enantiomers of 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one (6) have been synthesized from 4-hydroxycyclohept-2-enone (3) on the basis of a novel oxidative cyclo-etherification using Phl(OH)OTs (Koser's reagent). (-)-(1S,5R)-8-Oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one [(-)-6, 95% ee] was expeditiously transformed to (+)-sundiversifolide (1).

The diastereoselective functionalization of a cycloheptane derivative often poses challenges to synthetic chemists owing to the inherent conformational uncertainties. To address this issue, the structural motif of 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]octanes<sup>1</sup> with definite stereoelectronic basis has often served as a useful platform for the manipulation of cycloheptane derivatives.<sup>2</sup>

Current methods of securing an 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1] octane skeleton rely predominantly on  $[4+3]^{-3}$  or [5+2]-type<sup>4</sup> cycloaddition reactions: Unfortunately, they typically require many steps in the elaboration of the substrates, particularly in the case of enantioselective synthesis. We envisioned that 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one  $(6)^5$  would be accessible from 4-hydroxycyclohept-2-enone (3) via an oxidative transformation.

In this paper, we disclose a concise entry to both enantiomers of 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one (6), featuring PhI(OH)OTs<sup>6</sup> (Koser's reagent)-mediated, intramolecular oxidative etherification<sup>7</sup> of 4-hydroxycyclohept-2-enone (3). We also demonstrate its use by converting (–)-6 to (+)-sundiversifolide (1), which was isolated from the

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exudate of germinating sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus* L.) as a species-selective allelopathic substance. <sup>8,9</sup>

The preparation of the chiral starting material **3** (95% ee) was facilitated by cooperative asymmetric organo- and enzymatic catalysis (Scheme 1). Thus, the prochiral endoperoxide **2**, prepared in situ by the photooxygenation of 1,3-cycloheptadiene, was subjected to the chiral amine-catalyzed Kornblum—DeLaMare rearrangement <sup>10</sup> using 5 mol % of deMeQDAc (**4**) or deMeQAc (**5**), developed by Toste and co-workers, <sup>10e</sup> to give the (*S*)-(-)-4-hydroxy-cyclohept-2-enone (-)-**3** in 90% yield with 88% ee or (+)-**3** in 91% yield with 86% ee, respectively. On treatment of (-)-**3** (88% ee) with vinyl acetate in the presence of lipase PS in THF, (-)-**3** (95% ee) was obtained in 83% yield. Meanwhile, (+)-**3** (95% ee) was obtained from (+)-**3** (86% ee) in 71% yield, via acetylation and subsequent lipase-PS-catalyzed hydrolysis of acetate in phosphate buffer—acetone (9:1). <sup>11</sup>

Scheme 1. Preparation of Both Enantiomers of 3

The projected oxidative etherification of **3** to give 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one (**6**) was an unprecedented reaction, but a clue was found by screening hypervalent iodine reagents.<sup>7</sup> Thus, upon treatment of **3** with

PhI(OH)OTs<sup>6</sup> in warm MeCN, 6 was obtained in 36% yield accompanied by the enedione 7 in 8% yield (Table 1, entry 1). Attempts using other hypervalent iodine reagents, including 2-iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX), Dess-Martin periodinane (DMP), and PhI(OAc)2, 7a resulted in a simple oxidation of the allylic alcohol moiety to give 7 (data not shown). Changing the solvent to 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2propanol (HFIP) and DMF among others or increasing and/or decreasing the reaction temperature did not improve the yield (entries 3-8). The dilution of the reaction was found to be beneficial: the optimal reaction was performed at 0.1 M to obtain a yield of 44% (entry 9). We were delighted to find that the addition of NaOAc brought about marked improvement: the treatment of (+)-3 (95% ee) with 1.5 equiv of PhI(OH)OTs in the presence of 1.4 equiv of NaOAc in MeCN at 50 °C, followed by addition of SiO2 to the mixture, afforded (-)-6 in 65% yield, the enantiomeric purity of which was preserved throughout the reaction. In Intriguingly, the addition of KOAc or CsOAc stopped the formation of (-)-6; instead, 7 was obtained chemoselectively (entries 11 and 12).

Table 1. Optimization of the Oxidative Cycloetherification

entry	solvent	additive	$\mathrm{yield}^a$	
			6b	7
1	MeCN		36	8
2	HFIP		9	3
3	DMF		29	1
4	DMSO		28	5
5	THF		11	1
6	benzene		26	4
$7^b$	MeCN		28	0
$8^c$	MeCN		28	6
$9^d$	MeCN		44	4
$10^{d,e,f}$	MeCN	NaOAc (1.4 equiv)	65	3
$11^{d,f}$	MeCN	KOAc (1.4 equiv)	0	32
$12^{d,f,g}$	MeCN	CsOAc(1.4 equiv)	0	61

<sup>a</sup> The ratio or products was determine by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrometry. <sup>b</sup> The reaction was carried out at 0 °C. <sup>c</sup> The reaction was carried out at 80 °C. <sup>d</sup> Concentration of the reaction was 0.1 M. <sup>e</sup> After the oxidative reaction, SiO<sub>2</sub> was added to crude mixture. <sup>f</sup> 1.5 equiv of Koser's reagent was used . <sup>g</sup> The reaction time was 24 h.

Plausible pathways of the PhI(OH)OTs-mediated oxidative etherification of (+)-3 are outlined in Scheme 2. The enol form of 3 would react with a hypervalent iodine reagent to form intermediate A in preference to form B. Then, an intramolecular  $S_N$ 2 displacement by the hydroxy group should proceed to give (-)-6 (path a), or an

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<sup>(8)</sup> Isolation: Ohno, S.; Tomita-Yokotani, K.; Kosemura, S.; Node, M.; Suzuki, T.; Amano, M.; Yasui, K.; Goto, T.; Yamamura, S.; Hasegawa, K. *Phytochemistry* **2001**, *56*, 577.

<sup>(9)</sup> For total synthesis of sundiversifolide, see the following references. (+)-Form: (a) Yokoe, H.; Sasaki, H.; Yoshimura, T.; Shindo, M.; Yoshida, M.; Shishido, K. *Org. Lett.* **2007**, *9*, 969. (±)-Form:(b) Hashimoto, T.; Tashiro, T.; Sasaki, M.; Takikawa, H. *Biosci. Biotecnol. Biochem* **2007**, *71*, 2046. (+)- and (-)-forms: (c) Ohtsuki, K.; Matsuo, K.; Yoshikawa, T.; Moriya, C.; Tomita-Yokotani, K.; Shishido, K.; Shindo, M. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 1247. (d) Shishido, K. *Heterocycles* **2009**, *78*, 873. (e) Matsuo, K.; Ohtsuki, K.; Yoshikawa, T.; Shishido, K.; Yokotani-Tomita, K.; Shindo, M. *Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 8407.

<sup>(10) (</sup>a) Kornblum, N.; DeLaMare, H. E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1951, 73, 880. (b) Hagenbuch, J. P.; Vogel, P. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1980, 1062. For mechanistic studies, see: (c) Kelly, D. R.; Bansal, H.; Morgan, J. J. G. Tetrahedron Lett. 2002, 43, 9331. (d) Mete, E.; Altundas, R.; Secen, H.; Balci, M. Turk. J. Chem. 2003, 27, 145. (e) Staben, S. T.; Linghu, X.; Toste, F. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 12658.

<sup>(11)</sup> For the gram-scale preparation of both enantiomers of  $\mathbf{6}$ , see the Supporting Information.

<sup>(12)</sup> For additional discussion, see the Supporting Information.

intermolecular  $S_N$ 2 displacement by a tosylate might precede to give the  $\alpha$ -tosyloxyenone 8, which collapses to give (–)-6 as above (path b). The reason why the oxidation of allylic alcohol by the addition of KOAc and CsOAc chemoselectively proceeded is under scrutiny.

**Scheme 2.** Plausible Reaction Pathway for the Oxidative Etherification

To demonstrate the use of **6**, we embarked on the formal total synthesis of the (+)-sundiversifolide (1). 8,9 As shown in Scheme 3, the synthesis commenced with the 1,4-addition of the cuprate reagent derived from methylmagnesium bromide and CuI onto (-)-6 to furnish 9 as a single isomer<sup>13</sup> in good yield. The treatment of 9 with L-Selectride allowed the stereocontrolled reduction to give the desired  $\beta$ -alcohol **10** quantitatively. <sup>14</sup> The next focus of our endeavor was the installation of  $\gamma$ -lactone to form the 8-oxabicyclo[5.3.0]decane skeleton of the target molecule. To this end, the alcohol 10 was treated with diketene to give 11, which was subjected to Regitz diazo-transfer reaction 15 to give the diazo ester 12. We attempted the C-H insertion of 12 under various conditions, but the desired product was only obtained in a disappointing yield. After considerable experimentation, it was found that the adoption of the protocol of Bolm et al., 16 introducing a TMS group at the α-position of the diazo group, was crucial for the desired C-H insertion to be successful. As such, upon treatment with a catalytic amount of Rh<sub>2</sub>(OAc)<sub>4</sub> in boiling 1,2dichloroethane, 13 furnished 14 as a single isomer in 80% yield, the stereochemistry of which was confirmed from NOESY correlations. With the bicyclic skeleton in hand, we attempted the selective cleavage of the oxo-bridge in 14. Treatment with TBAF gave not only 15 but also 16,

which was considered to be furnished via the oxy-Michael addition of **15**. After various attempts, the best conditions identified were the use of *p*-TsOH in 1,4-dioxane at 50 °C. Sequential hydrogenation, DIBAL-H reduction, and acetalization with *p*-TsOH in MeOH provided the alcohol **18**, which was efficiently oxidized with the aid of a catalytic amount of 1-methyl-2-azaadamantane *N*-oxyl (1-Me-AZADO)<sup>15</sup> in the presence of PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> to give known ketone **19**<sup>9a</sup> in 93% yield. Compound **9** was conveniently converted to **1** in accordance with a previously reported procedure. <sup>9a</sup> It is interesting to note that previous enantioselective syntheses of **1** employed annulations of the advanced linear precursors for the construction of the cycloheptane motif of **1**, <sup>9a,c</sup> showing a clear contrast to our substrate-controlled approach.

Scheme 3. Application to the Formal Total Synthesis of 1

In summary, we have developed a novel entry for both enantiomers of 8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one (6) based on PhI(OH)OTs (Koser's reagent)-mediated, intramolecular oxidative etherification of 4-hydroxycyclohept-2-enone (3). The synthetic versatility of 6 as a chiral building block was demonstrated by its conversion to allelopathic bisnorsesquiterpene (+)-sundiversifolide (1). Further studies for expanding the synthetic scope of the novel oxidative etherification are underway.

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<sup>(13)</sup> Reaction of 4-triethylsiloxy-cyclophet-2-enone with MeMgBr/CuI gave the 1,4-adduct as a single diastereomer, but the NaBH4 reduction of which resulted in 1:1 diastereomeric alcohols, indicating an advantage of the oxa-bridged structure of  $\bf 6$ .

<sup>(14)</sup> NaBH<sub>4</sub>-mediated reduction of 9 gave the  $\alpha$ -alcohol selectively.

<sup>(15)</sup> Regitz, M. Synthesis 1972, 351.

<sup>(16)</sup> Bolm, C.; Saladin, S.; Kasyan, A. Org. Lett. 2002, 4, 4631.

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**Supporting Information Available.** Full experimental and characterization details for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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