

## TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF ( $\pm$ )-SARCOPHYTOL-M

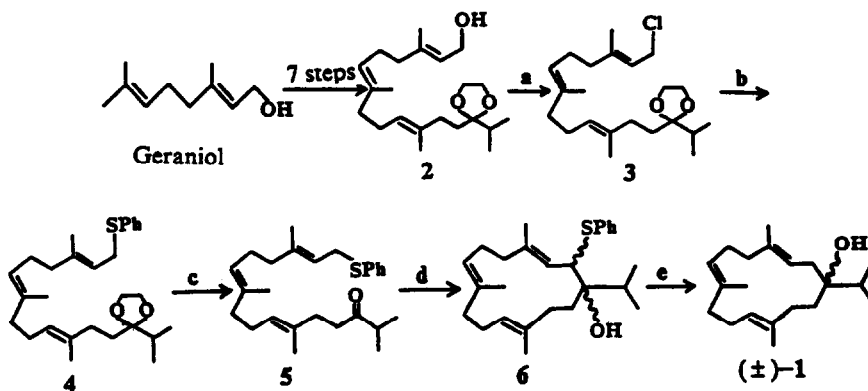
Yulin LI\* Xiangjun YUE Yacheng XING

State Key Laboratory of Applied Organic Chemistry and Institute of Organic  
Chemistry, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou 730000, P. R. CHINA

**Abstract:** The total synthesis of ( $\pm$ )-sarcophytol-M, a marine cembranol, was first achieved from geraniol through twelve steps by using intramolecular nucleophilic addition of sulfur-stabilized carbanion to ketone as the key step.

(+)-Sarcophytol-M(1), a cembrane-type diterpenoid was first isolated from a soft coral (*Sarcophyton glaucum*) in 1989, and its structure was established as (3*E*,7*E*,11*E*,1*R*)-cembra-3,7,11-trien-1-ol<sup>1</sup>. As far as we know, the total synthesis of 1 has not been reported yet. Herein we wish to describe the total synthesis of ( $\pm$ )-sarcophytol-M.

In a previous work<sup>2</sup>, intermediate 2 has been prepared from geraniol *via* 7 steps from which the total synthesis of cembrene -C has been succeeded. With alcohol 2 in hand, the synthetic route of ( $\pm$ )-Sarcophytol-M from 2 was outlined below:



a)  $\text{CCl}_4$ ,  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ , reflux, 78%; b)  $\text{PhSNa}$ ,  $\text{MeOH}$ , 80%; c)  $\text{TsOH}$ , acetone, 98%;  
d)  $\text{LDA-THF}$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ , 58%; e)  $\text{Li-EtNH}_2$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ , 78%.

Ketal alcohol 2 was converted into its chloride 3 by chlorination using  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P} / \text{CCl}_4$ . 3 was subjected to nucleophilic substitution to give the corresponding sulfuride 4<sup>3</sup>. After removal of the ketal protective group, the cyclized precursor 5 was obtained in 62% overall yield from 2 *via* 3 steps.

Precursor 5 was cyclized using  $\text{LDA}$  in anhydrous  $\text{THF}$  at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  under argon atmosphere to give 6 in 58% yield. 6 was reduced with  $\text{Li-EtNH}_2$ <sup>4</sup> at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  to afford ( $\pm$ )-1 in 70% yield.

The intermediates 3–6 were first prepared and their structures were established by the spectral data of IR, MS and <sup>1</sup>HNMR<sup>5</sup>. The spectral data of (±)-1 coincide with those of literature<sup>1</sup>. Thus, the total synthesis of (±)-sarcophytol-M was accomplished in twelve steps and in 8.9% overall yield from geraniol. The bioactive test is in progress.

#### Acknowledgement

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#### References and notes

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3. Schwabe, R., Farkas, I., and Pfander, H., *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **1988**, 71(1), 292–297.
4. Biellmann, J.F., and Ducep, J.B., *Tetrahedron*, **1971**, 27, 5861–5872.
5. The spectral data
  - 3  $\delta$ (80MHz): 0.96(d, 6H,  $J=6.9$ Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.52(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.56(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.64(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.20–2.40(m, 13H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.96(d, 2H,  $J=7.9$ Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.90(s, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.80–5.60(m, 3H, CH=);  $m/z$ (EI): 368(M<sup>+</sup>, 1%), 243(10), 135(17), 153(47), 93(30), 81(65), 71(100). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>37</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl: C, 71.61; H, 10.11; Cl, 9.61. Found: C, 71.71; H, 10.08; Cl, 9.34.
  - 4  $\nu_{\max}$ : 740, 651(SPh)cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta$ (80MHz): 1.00(d, 6H,  $J=6.9$ Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.46(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.52(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.60–2.42(m, 13H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.46(d, 2H,  $J=7.6$ Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>SPh), 3.90(s, 4H, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O-), 5.00–5.40(m, 3H, CH=), 7.20–7.50(m, 5H, ArH)ppm;  $m/z$ (EI): 442(M<sup>+</sup>, 15%), 389(20), 289(100), 261(15), 93(40), 81(60), 71(100). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>42</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 75.97; H, 9.56; S, 7.24. Found: C, 75.68; H, 9.60; S, 7.42.
  - 5  $\nu_{\max}$ : 1711(s, C=O), 739, 651(-SPh)cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta$ (80MHz): 1.01(d, 6H,  $J=6.8$ Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.48(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.56(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.60–2.40(m, 13H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.46(d, 2H,  $J=7.6$ Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>SPh), 5.00–5.40(m, 3H, CH=), 7.2–7.5(m, 5H, ArH)ppm;  $m/z$ (EI): 398(M<sup>+</sup>, 10%), 313(10), 289(100), 275(40), 153(50), 81(65), 71(100). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>OS: C, 78.34; H, 9.61; S, 8.04. Found: C, 78.56; H, 9.62; S, 8.28.
  - 6  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3390(s, OH), 750, 690(-SPh)cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta$ (80MHz): 1.04(d, 6H,  $J=6.9$ , CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.50(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.58(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10–2.30(m, 14H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>, OH), 3.50(d, 1H,  $J=7.6$ Hz, CHSPh), 4.80–5.40(m, 3H, CH=), 7.2–7.50(m, 5H, ArH)ppm;  $m/z$ (EI): 398(M<sup>+</sup>, 0.4%), 305(20), 261(10), 153(50), 93(40), 81(65), 71(100). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>OS: C, 78.34; H, 9.61; S, 8.04. Found: C, 78.29; H, 9.58; S, 8.07.

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