



## Synthesis of the C7–C24 fragment of (–)-Macrolactin F

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### ABSTRACT

An enantioselective and convergent synthesis of the C7–C24 fragment of Macrolactin F was achieved from four main fragments. A hydrotelluration/transmetalation sequence was used to install the *E,Z* diene present in the molecule, while a hydrozirconation/transmetalation sequence was used to connect two advanced intermediates.

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The Macrolactins are a class of secondary metabolites first isolated by Fenical from a taxonomically unclassifiable deep sea bacterium found in the North Pacific. Reported with their initial findings were general structural assignments for Macrolactins A–F.<sup>1</sup> The absolute stereochemistry was later established for Macrolactins B and F through degradation, chemical correlation and <sup>13</sup>C acetamide analysis.<sup>2</sup> Macrolactin A exhibits significant antiviral and cytotoxic activities. More recently, several Macrolactins have been isolated<sup>3</sup> and some of them had their biological properties screened.<sup>4</sup>

Approaches to fragments of (–)-Macrolactin A,<sup>5</sup> and the total syntheses of (–)-Macrolactin A<sup>6</sup> and (+)-Macrolactin E<sup>7</sup> were completed, confirming the structure and the stereochemical assignment previously reported. However, there are no described studies toward total synthesis of (–)-Macrolactin F (Fig. 1).

Vinylcopper intermediates are synthetically useful reagents and are classically prepared by reacting the corresponding lithium or Grignard reagent with an appropriate copper salt.<sup>8</sup> One of the most important methods to prepare *E*- or *Z*-vinylic higher order cuprates is through transmetalation reactions. The driving force for both transformations is mainly the change of an sp<sup>3</sup>-hybridized ligand in the coordination sphere of copper for an sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized ligand.<sup>9</sup>

In our disconnection approach, (–)-Macrolactin F was divided into five main intermediates, A–E.

Fragment A contains an *E,Z* diene unit which was prepared from the hydrotelluration reaction of the corresponding alkyne.<sup>10</sup> Fragment B was prepared according to a literature procedure.<sup>11</sup> Fragment C is commercially available. Fragment D was also prepared

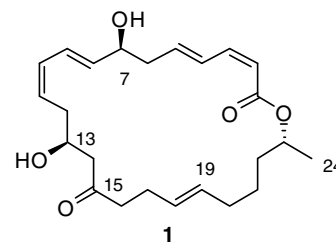
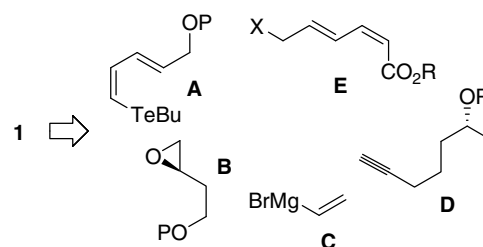


Figure 1. (–)-Macrolactin F.

from a literature procedure. Finally, Fragment E could be prepared from the same precursor as Fragment A.

The required telluride for the synthesis of Fragment A was prepared as shown in Scheme 1. (*E*)-2-Penten-4-yn-1-ol, **2**, was prepared from epichlorohydrin according to a known procedure.<sup>12</sup> Protection of the alcohol **2** as its tetrahydropyranil ether<sup>13</sup> **3** was accomplished with DHP at room temperature. Conversion to the vinyl telluride was achieved by treating the terminal alkyne **3** with dibutyl ditelluride in the presence of sodium borohydride<sup>10</sup> to give

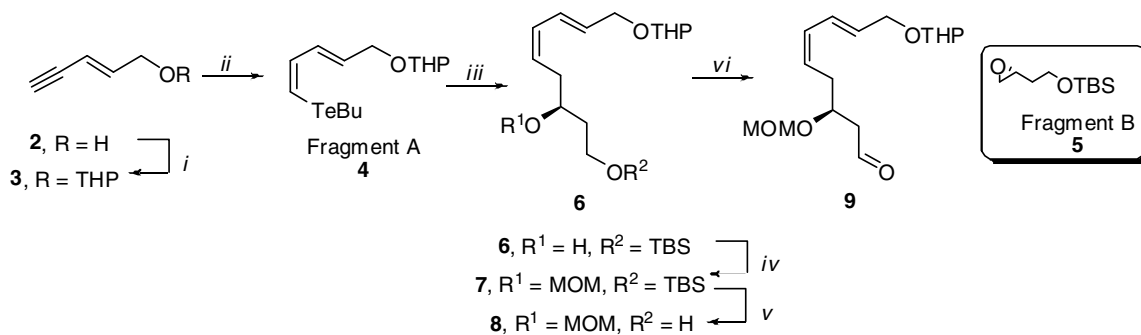


Scheme 1. Retrosynthetic analysis for 1.

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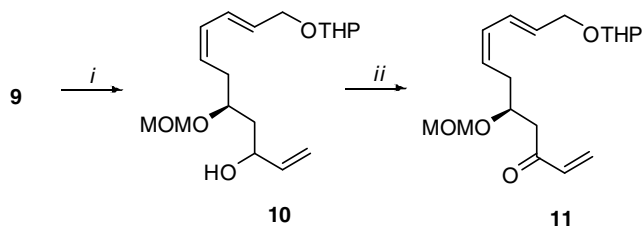
**Scheme 2.** Reagents and conditions: (i) DHP, PPTS, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C, 3 h (90%); (ii) BuTeTeBu, NaBH<sub>4</sub>, EtOH, reflux, 3 h (80%); (iii) (2-Th)BuCu(CN)Li<sub>2</sub>, THF, –78 to 25 °C, 1 h then 5, 3 h, –78 to 25 °C (80%); (iv) MOMCl, DIPEA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 18 h, 25 °C (78%); (v) TBAF, THF, 25 °C, 1 h (90%); (vi) Dess–Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C, 1 h (90%).

the desired Fragment A (**4**), as a single diastereoisomer. Transmetalation<sup>14</sup> of **4** with a higher order cyanocuprate, followed by treatment with the Fragment B (**5**)<sup>11</sup> gave the homoallylic alcohol **6** with the correct stereochemistry at C13. Protection of **6** with MOM–Cl<sup>15</sup> gave **7**, which was selectively deprotected using TBAF<sup>16</sup> to yield **8**. Finally, treatment with Dess–Martin periodinane<sup>17</sup> gave the aldehyde **9** (Scheme 2).

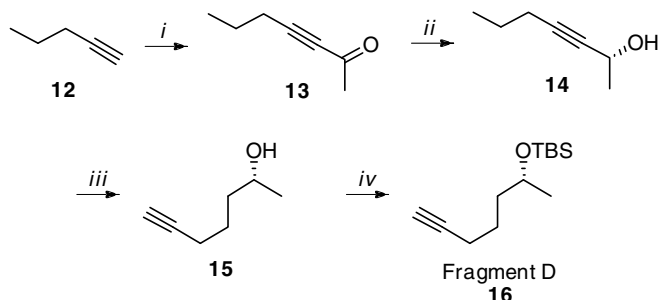
Addition of vinylmagnesium bromide (Fragment C) to **9** occurred in low yield; this problem might be caused by an enolization process by the Grignard reagent acting as a base.<sup>18</sup> By transforming the Grignard reagent into the corresponding organocesium compound,<sup>19</sup> the alcohol **10** was obtained in good yield (ca. 70% vs 40%), and re-oxidized to the corresponding  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketone **11** in 92% (Scheme 3). The overall yield for this sequence after 8 steps was 23%.

Fragment D was prepared according to a literature protocol<sup>20</sup> (Scheme 4).

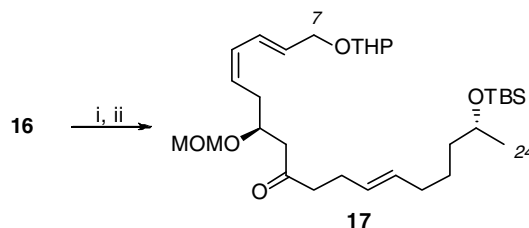
Reaction of the lithium anion of 1-pentyne with acetic anhydride gave propargylic ketone **13**, which was reduced using



**Scheme 3.** Reagents and conditions: (i) CeCl<sub>3</sub>, THF, 25 °C, 18 h, then vinylmagnesium bromide, –78 °C, 3 h (70%); (ii) Dess–Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C, 1 h (92%).



**Scheme 4.** Reagents and conditions: (i) *n*-BuLi, THF, –78 °C, 0.25 h then Ac<sub>2</sub>O, THF, 2 h (68%); (ii) *i*-PrOH, KOH, (*R,R*)-tosyldiphenylethylenediamine, [RuCl<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (50%); (iii) KNH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, *t*-BuOK, 25 °C, 5 h, (65%); (iv) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, 25 °C, 12 h (90%).



**Scheme 5.** Reagents and conditions: (i) Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(H)Cl, THF, 25 °C, then MeLi (2 equiv) –30 to –78 °C, THF; (ii) CuCN, MeLi (1 equiv), –30 to –78 °C, THF, then **11**, –78 °C, 2 h (65%).

Noyori's protocol<sup>21</sup> to yield **14** in high enantiomeric excess. Finally, **14** was subjected to prototropic migration of the triple bond using potassium 3-aminopropanamide (KAPA)<sup>22</sup> to give **15**, which was protected as its TBS ether<sup>16</sup> **16** (Scheme 4).

Hydrozirconation of Fragment D (**16**), followed by treatment of the alkenylzirconium intermediate with 2 equiv of methyl lithium, and sequential addition of 1 equiv of CuCN and methyl lithium gave the corresponding higher order cyanocuprate,<sup>23</sup> to which was added **11** at low temperature. Using this sequence, fragment C7–C24, **17** was obtained in 65% (Scheme 5).

In summary, an advanced intermediate in the synthesis of Macrolactin F was achieved. The synthesis features the use of a vinyl telluride and a vinyl zirconium as precursors for the preparation of the corresponding *Z* and *E* vinyl cuprates, respectively. Two of the three stereocenters and three of the five double bonds of Macrolactin F were installed in a convergent approach in 12% overall yield. Further progress toward Macrolactin F will be reported in the due course.

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## Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.tetlet.2008.07.113.

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