## DISSERTATION

# THE TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF (-)-PARAHERQUAMIDE A

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WE HEREBY RECOMMEND THAT THE DISSERTATION PREPARED UNDER OUR SUPERVISION BY JIANHUA CAO ENTITLED THE TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF (-)-PARAHERQUAMIDE A BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING IN PART REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY.

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# ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION THE TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF (-)-PARAHERQUAMIDE A

The first stereocontrolled total synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A is described in 48 chemical steps. The synthesis is a convergent one, starting from ethyl glycinate, ethyl acrylate and vanillin. The longest linear route is 35 steps. Vanillin was acetylated and nitrated to provide nitrovanillins (94 and 95). These were converted to the azalactones, hydrolyzed to the  $\alpha$ -ketocarboxylic acids, oxidatively decarboxylated to acids 99 and 108. Compound 99 was reductively cyclized to oxindoles 100, which was then demethylated to give pure oxindole 101. The oxindole was regioselectively prenylated, epoxidized, and subjected to a key seven-membered ring forming procedure to provide the unique dioxepin 104. Compound 104 was reduced to indole 105 and indoline 106 which was converted to 105 by reaction with DDQ. Indole 105 was protected and subjected to a Mannich reaction to afford the gramine derivative 60. The Michael adduct 150 from ethyl glycinate and ethyl acrylate was protected, intramolecularly condensed and reduced with Baker's yeast to give cis-\beta-hydroxy proline ester 129. Stereoselective  $\alpha$ -alkylation of **129**, protection, deprotection, bromoacetyl amide formation, aminolysis, cyclization and dimethoxycarbonylation provided diketopiperazine (DKP) 91. DKP 91 was alkylated with compound 60 to provide indoles 303 and 304, which were then individually decarbomethoxylated to afford four separable diastereomers anti-305 (305E/Z) and syn-306 (306E/Z). These four diastereomers were individually converted to the corresponding S<sub>N</sub>2' substrates through lactim ether formation, protection of the indole nitrogen, deprotection, allylic chloride formation and TBS ether formation. S<sub>N</sub>2' cyclization of these four S<sub>N</sub>2' substrates individually provided the same product 327.

Cyclization of lactim ether 327, ring opening of the lactim ether moiety and ring closure afforded DKP 338. Selective amide group reduction of 338, N-methylation, MOM ether deprotection, oxidation, bis-deprotection by TFA provided indole-ketone 344. Oxidative spirooxidation of 344 followed by dehydration gave ketone-olefin 43. Stereoselective methyl addition to 43 afforded (-)-paraherquamide A.

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Ac <sub>2</sub> O	acetic anhydride
AcOH	acetic acid
Bn	benzyl
BOC	tert-butoxycarbonyl
(BOC) <sub>2</sub> O	di-tert-butyl dicarbonate
BSTFA	bis(trimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide
Bz	benzoyl
18-C-6	1,4,7,10,13,16-hexaoxacyclooctadecane
CAN	ceric ammonium nitrate
Cbz	benzyloxycarbonyl
Collidine	2,4,6-trimethylpyridine
m-CPBA	meta-chloroperbenzoic acid
CSA	camphorsulfonic acid
DABCO	1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane
DBU	1,8-diazobicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
DCC	1,3-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide
DCU	1,3-dicyclohexylurea
DDQ	2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone
DIBAL	diisobutylaluminum hydride
DKP	diketopiperazine
DMAP	4-N,N-dimethylaminopyridine
DME	1,2-dimethoxyethane
DMEA	dimethylethyl amine
DMF	N,N-dimethylformamide
DMPU	1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2(1H)-
	pyrimidinone

# List of Abbreviations

DMS	dimethyl sulfide
DMSO	dimethyl sulfoxide
EtOAc	ethyl acetate
EtOH	ethanol
HMPA	hexamethylphosphoramide
im	1-imidazolyl
LDA	lithium diisopropylamine
2,6-Lutidine	2,6-dimethylpyridine
MeOH	methanol
MOM	methoxymethyl
Ms	methanesulfonyl(mesylate)
MTPI	methyl triphenoxyphosphonium iodide
NCS	N-chlorosuccinimide
pMB	p-methoxybenzyl
PPTS	pyridinium p- toluenesulfonate
PTLC	preparative thin layer chromatography
pv	pivaloyl
Ру	pyridine
TBDMS	tert-butyldimethylsilyl
t-BDMSCl	tert-butyldimethylsilyl chloride
t-BDMSOTf	tert-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate
TBAF	tetrabutylammonium fluoride
TBDPS	tert-butyldiphenylsilyl
TBS	tert-butyldimethylsilyl
t-BuOH	tert-butanol
Tf	trifluoromethanesulfonate
TFAA	trifluoroacetic anhydride

TFA	trifluoroacetic acid
THF	tetrahydrofuran
THP	tetrahydropyran
TLC	thin layer chromatography
TMS	trimethylsilyl
TMSI	trimethylsilyl iodide
TS	toluenesulfonyl

# CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background and Significance

Paraherquamide A (1), a toxic metabolite, was first isolated from the mold *Penicillium paraherquei* in 1980 by Yamazaki and Okuyama.<sup>1</sup> Relevant data (NMR, IR, UV, MS) was obtained, including a single crystal X-ray structural analysis that firmly established the structure and relative stereochemistry of this molecule. In 1989 an investigation by researchers at Merck Sharp & Dohme<sup>2</sup> conclusively established the absolute configuration of paraherquamide A (Scheme 1).

Scheme 1



1, (-)-paraherquamide A

In 1990 a group at Merck isolated paraherquamide A (1) and six structurally related compounds (paraherquamides B-G) from the fermentation broth of *Penicillium charlesii* (ATCC 20841).<sup>3</sup> A similar group from SmithKline Beecham discovered paraherquamide A (1) and three of the six previously mentioned paraherquamides from an organism found in the soil of Kemer, Turkey.<sup>4</sup> This strain was later identified as a *Penicillium* species. The growing interest in paraherquamide A (1) (and the other paraherquamides) has resulted

from the discovery of its potent anthelmintic activity.<sup>5</sup> After this revelation, paraherquamide A (1) was intensively studied, in an attempt to elucidate both the chemical and pharmacological properties of this molecule. To date, a number of patents relating to the culture and isolation have been published (Scheme 2).

Scheme 2



1, (-)-paraherquamide A



3, (-)-paraherquamide C



5, (-)-paraherquamide E



2, (-)-paraherquamide B



4, (-)-paraherquamide D



6, (-)-paraherquamide F



7, (-)-paraherquamide G

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The importance of a new antinematodal (anthelmintic) agent cannot be overstated. Helminths or intestinal nematodes infect large numbers of livestock world wide and result in sickness or death of the host animal. This devastation on the farmer or stock owner is immeasurable. It not only causes financial loss, but also increased human suffering. This is particularly painful to those people who depend entirely on their animals for sustenance. Today, there are essentially three classes of broad spectrum anthelmintics: the benzimidazoles, the levamisoles/morantel and the avermectins/milbemycins. Unfortunately, the first two groups have lost much of their original anthelmintic activity because of the resistance built up by the helminths.<sup>6</sup> More recently, the third group has also started to lose effectiveness against various parasites.<sup>7</sup> Paraherquamide A and the other paraherquamides represent a brand new class of antiparasitic agents. They could play a large role in supplanting or complementing the anthelmintics currently on the market.

### 1.2 Physical-Chemical and Structural Characteristics

Yamazaki and Okuyama<sup>1</sup> reported the following characteristics of paraherquamide A (1): colorless prisms, mp = 244-247 °C (decomposition);  $[\alpha]_D^{22} = -28^\circ$  (c = 0.43, CH<sub>3</sub>OH); C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M + m/e 493); UV  $\lambda$  max (EtOH) nm ( $\epsilon$ ): 226 (32400), 260 (6100), 290 (1600); IR (KBr) 3510, 3430, 3245, 1714, 1650 cm <sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 0.86 (3H, s); 1.10 (3H, s); 1.45 (6H, s); 1.85 (1H, d, J = 15 Hz); 1.77-2.40 (5H, m); 2.55 (1H, d, J = 11 Hz); 2.58 (1H, s, D<sub>2</sub>O exch.); 2.67 (1H, d, J = 15 Hz); 2.93-3.25 (2H, m); 3.03(3H, s); 3.58 (1H, d, J = 11 Hz); 4.87 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz); 6.30 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz); 6.64 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz); 6.78 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz); 8.33 (1H, s, D<sub>2</sub>O exch.). A Dragendorf test gave a positive color. Crystals were grown in ethyl acetate and an X-ray diffraction pattern was obtained which established the relative stereochemistry. Later, workers at Merck & Company published data from <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra taken in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO. They also reported data from a <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. They made the carbon and proton assignments from these spectra and also a one-bond <sup>13</sup>C-<sup>1</sup>H chemical shift correlation experiment (HETCOR); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  0.84 (3H, s, 23H); 1.08 (3H, s, 22-H); 1.41 (3H, s, 27-H); 1.43 (3H, s, 28-H); 1.56 (3H, s, 17-H); 1.75 (1H, dd, J = 10.5, 12.5 Hz, 19-H $\beta$ ); 1.77 (1H, dd, J = 10.8, 10.8 Hz, 19-H $\alpha$ ); 1.80 (1H, m, 15-H $\alpha$ ); 1.97 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz, 10-H $\beta$ ); 2.18 (1H, d, J = 16.1 Hz, 10-H $\alpha$ ); 2.66 (1H, br s, D<sub>2</sub>O exch, 14-OH); 2.96 (1H, ddd, J = 2.0, 10.3 Hz, 20-H); 2.99  $(3H, s, 29-H); 3.17 (1H, m, 16-H\beta); 3.58 (1H, d, J = 10.8 Hz, 12-H\beta); 4.90 (1H, d, J)$ = 6.8 Hz, 25-H); 6.32 (1H, d, J = 7.8 Hz, 24-H); 6.68 (1H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, 5-H); 6.84 (1H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, 4-H); 7.5 (1H, br s,  $D_2O$  exch, 1-H), (proton assignments as numbered according to Chemical Abstracts) (Scheme 1). They reported a UV  $\lambda$  max (methanol) of 225 nm (log $\varepsilon$  = 4.50) and a Rf value of 0.51 using Whatman KC18F reverse phase TLC: methanol/H2O (8/2). Mass spectral data was also reported; C28H35N3O5 493 m/e M+ (493) (165) (163). They found paraherquamide A (1) soluble in methanol, ethyl acetate, acetone, and dimethylsulfate but essentially insoluble in water. Paraherquamide A responded to iodine and 50% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Workers at SmithKline Beecham performed similar work including a 2D, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and COSY NMR experiment and obtained the same structural assignments as the Merck group. The absolute configuration for paraherquamide A (1) was established via an X-ray crystal analysis of a bromine atom-containing semisynthetic analog. The Merck workers performed detailed spectroscopic work (COSY, HETCOR, NOE, MS) on the other paraherquamides (C-G) and obtained the structures shown in Scheme 2. They reported similar spectral characteristics for all seven compounds. As would be expected, the only major change in the NMR spectra stemmed from the signals contained on the proline ring (except for paraherquamides E-F). The chemical shifts of the other signals were quite close This can be gleaned from a perusal of the proton NMR spectral data of paraherquamide A and B. The conclusions reached by the Merck group, were independently confirmed by the SmithKline workers for paraherquamides A and E-G. They concluded that the relative stereochemistry must be the same for all seven analogs. The Merck group also reported that the absolute stereochemistry for the other six products was the same as for paraherquamide A(1).

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## 1.3 Relatives of the Paraherquamides

The paraherquamides are structurally very similar to the marcfortines (A-C), and the brevianamides (A-B) )Scheme 3). Marcfortines A,8 B and C were isolated from Penicillium roqueforti (strain B26) in 1980 by Polonsky.9 The similarities between the paraherquamides and the marcfortines is striking. The only difference between paraherquamide B (2) and marcfortine A is that marcfortine A contains a pipecolic residue instead of a proline unit. The marcfortine structures were solved by X-ray diffraction. Patterns were obtained for both marcfortines A and C. This data confirmed that the paraherquamides and marcfortines have the same relative stereochemistry. As would be expected, the published NMR data for marcfortine A is similar to that of the paraherquamides (A-E). Similarly, marcfortine C has the identical pyran ring system as in paraherquamides F and G (and similar NMR characteristics), but marcfortine B and C lack the N-methyl group found in marcfortine A and all the paraherquamides. The paraherquamides also have structural features reminiscent of the brevianamides.<sup>10</sup> (+)-Brevianamide B (11b) is similar to the paraherquamides in that it contains the same proline moiety as well as the bicyclo [2.2.2] ring structure. Interestingly, the bicyclo [2.2.2] ring system of (+)-brevianamide A (11a) possesses the opposite absolute configuration relative to (+)-brevianamide B, the paraherquamides and marcfortines (Scheme 3). In addition, other paraherquamide relatives such as sclerotamide (8f),<sup>11</sup> aspergamide A (10a) and B (10b),12 VM55596 (8a), VM55587 (8b), SB203105 (8c), SB200437 (8d), VM55595 (8e), and VM55599 (12),<sup>13a,b</sup> asperparaline A and VM55598 (13a),<sup>14</sup> as well as SB202327 (13b) have been described.

The paraherquamides, marcfortines, brevianamides, aspergamides and asperparaline belong to a large group of natural products containing a diketopiperazine moiety, produced from the condensation of two amino acid subunits. This group includes such notable toxins as the echinulins, gliotoxins and the sporidesmins. Scheme 3



8a, VM555596,  $R_1 = OH$ ,  $R_2 = Me$ ,  $R_3 = H_2$ ,  $X = N^+ \cdot O^-$ ,  $R_4 = H$ 8b, VM555597,  $R_1 = OH$ ,  $R_2 = Me$ ,  $R_3 = H_2$ , X = N,  $R_4 = H$ 8c, SB203105,  $R_1 = H$ ,  $R_2 = Me$ ,  $R_3 = H_2$ , X = N,  $R_4 = OH$ 8d, SB200437,  $R_1 = H$ ,  $R_2 = Me$ ,  $R_3 = H_2$ , X = N,  $R_4 = H$ 



8e, VM55595,  $R_1 = H$ ,  $R_2 = Me$ ,  $R_3 = H_2$ ,  $X = H_2$ ,  $R_4 = H$ 8f, , sclerotamide,  $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = H_2 = R_4 = H$ , X = O



11a, (+)-brevianamide A



11b, (+)-brevianamide B



13a, asperparaline A (X = H<sub>2</sub>) aspergillimide (VM55598)

13b, SB202327 (X = O)



9a, (-)-marcfortine A, R = Me

9b, (-)-marcfortine B, R =H



9c, (-)-marcfortine C

Me Me Me H, OH OH OH

10a, aspergamide A



10b, aspergamide B



12, VM55599

## 1.4 Pharmacology

Originally, paraherquamide A was tested on a simple animal model (gerbils). The results showed that paraherquamide A (1) has strong activity against a benzimidazole- and avermectin-resistant helminth (*Trichustiogylus colubriformis*). Paraherquamide A (1) was well-tolerated by the gerbils even at a high dose (200 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>5</sup> (Table 1).

## Table 1

Efficacy of paraherquamide A against immature *Trichstrongylus colubriformis* in gerbils and a comparison to some other anthelmintics.

Treatment	Dosage (mg/kg)	Number of Animals	Efficacy %
Placebo		8	
Paraherquamide A	200	3	100
	100	3	100
	50	3	100
	6.25	5	100
	3.12	4	99.7
	1.56	3	98.1
	0.78	3	96.5
	0.39	3	66.3
Thiabendazole	200	3-6	85
	100	3-6	72.3
	50	3-6	44.1
Levamisole hydrochloride	6.25 3.125 1.562	3-6 3-6 3-6	100 80.3 40.7
Avermectin A <sub>1</sub> a	0.125	3-6	99.4
	0.0625	3-6	79.3
	0.0312	3-6	57.4
Avermectin A <sub>2</sub> a	0.125	3-6	99.8
	0.0625	3-6	90.1
	0.0312	3-6	55.9
Avermectin B <sub>1</sub> a	0.0312	3-6	100
	0.0156	3-6	75.4
	0.0078	3-6	18.8
Avermectin B <sub>2</sub> a	0.0312	3-6	100
	0.0156	3-6	95
	0.0078	3-6	75.7

A subsequent animal study was performed on various nematode-infected sheep. Seven different species, larval and adult, were presented to the sheep including an

avermectin-resistant strain (Haemochus contortus) and an avermectin/benzimidazoleresistant strain (Trichostrongylus colubriformis). Paraherquamide A (1) showed good activity against these organisms, in doses ranging from 2.00-0.25 mg of paraherquamide A per kg of sheep body weight. In almost all cases the efficacy was 99% or greater; however, 1 was ineffective against Oesophagostomum columbianum (zero percent efficacy at the 0.25 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> level). Another study demonstrated the safety and efficacy of paraherquamide A in cattle. Calves were infected with nine different species of nematode larvae and then treated with paraherquamide A at doses ranging from 4 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> to 0.5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>. The only nematode that was not affected was C. punctata (zero percent efficacy at the 0.5 mg kg-1 level). The other eight parasites were killed with >95% efficacy at the 1.0 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> level. It was reported that the calves suffered no ill effects. Problems arose when 1 was fed to dogs at doses much lower than those used on calves and sheep. The mixed breed dogs showed acute toxicity reactions<sup>15</sup> and because of this, a toxicity profile was undertaken comparing paraherquamide A (1) to avermectin using mice as the animal vector.<sup>16</sup> It was concluded that not only is paraherquamide A more toxic than avermectin but it has a different mode of toxicity. The mice fed paraherquamide A suffered respiratory distress followed by death. In contrast, the mice fed avermectin suffered ataxia, coma and then death.

A Merck group performed a study<sup>17</sup> that reported a membrane binding site of paraherquamide A (1) in a membrane preparation from *Caenohabditis elegans*. This was done by synthesizing [<sup>3</sup>H] paraherquamide (<sup>3</sup>H incorporated at position 24)<sup>18</sup> and incubating it with membranes obtained from macerated *C. elegans* worms. A Scatchard plot analysis of the binding data pointed to one particular high affinity binding site for paraherquamide A. The dissociation constant  $K_d = 263 \mu M$  was found that compared favorably with 268  $\mu$ M obtained from a kinetic binding study. This value  $k_{-1}/k_1 = K_d$  was found by examining the effect of excess unlabeled paraherquamide A (1) incubated with the <sup>3</sup>H paraherquamide A membrane complex and measuring the rate of decline of the [<sup>3</sup>H] paraherquamide over time (giving  $k_{-1} = 1.1 \text{ min}^{-1}$ ). The specificity of paraherquamide A to

this binding site was also examined. Various analogs of paraherquamide A were tested to see how well they inhibited paraherquamide A binding. While none of the analogs bound as strongly to this site as paraherquamide A itself, there was an almost one-to-one correlation between the binding and the motility assay (Ec50 ug/mL) for *C.elegans*, indicating that this binding site is indeed the active site for biological activity. Another experiment was done to determine if the membrane binding site of paraherquamide A is the same as that for other anthelmintic agents. While all of the compounds tested showed antinematode activity, only the phenothiazine analogs had any specific inhibitory effects at the paraherquamide A binding site. This was an interesting result indicating that both types of compounds interact at a common or close binding site. The mode of action of phenothiazine is not known, though it does possess both anthelmentic and antiprotozoal activity. The Merck group concluded that paraherquamide A interacts (interferes) with a specific ligand-receptor that could be the same as for the phenothiazines. The nature of this site remains to be determined.

The Merck group did extensive semi-synthetic work in modifying paraherquamide A. They reported making over 100 different analogs of this compound. Unfortunately, paraherquamide A was the most active. Additionally, of the natural paraherquamides, paraherquamides A (1) is the most active (Table 2).

#### Table 2

Antinematodal activity of the natural paraherquamides against C.elegans.

#### Compound

(-)-	paraherquamide A (1)	
(-)-	paraherquamide B (2)	
(-)-	paraherquamide C (3)	
(-)-	paraherquamide D (4)	
(-)-	paraherquamide E (5)	
(-)-	paraherquamide F (6)	
(-)-	paraherquamide G (7)	1

## 1.5 Chemical Modification of (-)-Paraherquamide A

### 1.5.1 Merck's Modification

As part of a program directed at searching for more potent and less toxic antiparasitic analogs of (-)-paraherquamide A, Blizzard and coworkers at Merck Sharp & Dohme investigated the chemical properties of (-)-paraherquamide A by modifying its chemical structure at different positions. The following is a brief review of the chemistry done by the researchers at Merck towards (-)-paraherquamide A. The chemical properties of (-)-paraherquamide A will provide key information for our design of a synthetic plan towards (-)-paraherquamide A.

Blizzard et al., <sup>19</sup> (Scheme 4) treated 1 with phosgene and quenched the reaction with MeOH, expecting to provide the methyl carbonate, but instead, several by-products were obtained. By quenching with aqueous base instead of MeOH, they produced the cyclic carbamate 15.

Scheme 4



This interesting product (15) was presumably formed by chloride ion induced opening of a strained, reactive intermediate 14, which is believed to be formed by attack of the tertiary nitrogen at the initially produced chloroformate, since paraherquamide analogs lacking the C-14 hydroxyl group did not undergo ring cleavage under identical reaction conditions.

5-Bromoparaherquamide A (17) was prepared by treating 1 with two equiv. of bromine followed by zinc reduction of the intermediate tribromide 16 (Scheme 5). When four equiv. of  $Br_2$  was allowed to react with 1, and then followed by zinc dust reduction, compounds 17 and 18 were formed. Compound 18 was first treated with KH to form the amide anion and alkoxide. Subsequent addition of t-BuLi resulted in halogen-metal exchange, and the incipient carbon anion was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O to provide 19. The structure of 19 was confirmed by chemical correlation. Platinum-catalyzed air oxidation of paraherquamide A also afforded compound 19 (Scheme 6).

Scheme 5



Blizzard and coworkers<sup>20</sup> reported that when 1 was reacted with DAST, the major product formed was the *exo*-olefin 20 in 38% yield (Scheme 7). Bromination of 20 using two equiv. of bromine selectively added to the enol ether double bond and the 5-position of the oxindole instead of the C-14 *exo*-double bond due to their different reactivities. The tribromide 21 was synthesized in order to protect the enol ether double bond in the ozonolysis step. Ozonolysis of 21 in acidic methanol solution (to protonate the tertiary amine ) with dimethyl sulfide workup followed by zinc dust reduction afforded the desired ketone 22.

Scheme 6





Scheme 7









Scheme 9







When ketone 22 was treated with NaBH<sub>4</sub>, epimeric adducts 23a and 23b (R=H) were obtained in a 40:60 ratio, with 23a being the desired epimer (Scheme 8). Methylmagnesium bromide addition to 22 provided a 1:2 ratio of products while ethylmagnesium bromide gave a 3:1 ratio of products, favoring the desired isomer.

However, introduction of a benzyl group formed only **23b** with the *epi*-stereochemistry at C-14.

Blizzard and coworkers<sup>21</sup> studied the chemical behavior of the vinyl ether double bond in PA (1). Acid-catalyzed alcohol addition to the olefin failed to provide the desired product 24. By using an indirect two-step approach, compounds 24a-24d were obtained. Selective addition of bromine to PA 1 gave the dibromide intermediates, which were treated with DBU/ROH to produce the alkoxy analogs 25a-25d. Reductive debromination with Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH led to the ketal analogs 24a-24d (Scheme 9).

As outlined in Scheme 10, Blizzard et al. also explored ozonolysis of the vinyl ether as a source of new analogs.

Scheme 10



b) HF-pyridine, R = OH, **30** 

Brief treatment (5 min) of a solution of PA (1) in acidic methanol with ozone at -78 °C followed by (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S workup cleanly afforded compound **26**. However, ozonolysis of **1** in MeOH gave a mixture of products, presumably due to oxidation of the free tertiary amine. The 14-O-trimethylsilyl PA **27**, made by reaction of **1** with BSTFA, was treated with ozone to provide hemiketal **28**. Reaction of **28** with DAST resulted in the formation of fluoride **29**, and deprotection with HF/pyridine/THF afforded the fluoride compound **30** (Scheme 10).

The same Merck group led by Blizzard<sup>22</sup> attempted to introduce substitutents at the C-14-O position. They found that under all the conditions they tried, the 1-NH group was significantly more reactive than the C-14-OH group toward electrophiles. For example, reaction of **1** with excess KH in THF (25 °C, 2h) followed by addition of  $CH_3I$  (10 eq, 5 min) afforded 1-N-methyl-PA **31a** as the major product (65%) along with a small amount of the 1-N, 14-O-bis alkylated product. None of the 14-O-methyl analog was observed (Scheme 11).

Scheme 11



They also found that the amide nitrogen could be selectively acylated (Scheme 12) to give product **32**.

Scheme 12



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#### 1.5.2 Pharmacia and Upjohn's Modification

## The First Formal Synthesis of (-)-Paraherquamide A

In 1997, Lee and Clothier<sup>23</sup> at Pharmacia and Upjohn reported the first formal synthesis of (-)paraherguamide A from (-)-paraherguamide B (Scheme14 and 15), which came from the conversion of marcfortine A (Scheme 13). Marcfortine A, reported by Polonsky et al.,<sup>8</sup> is a fungal metabolite of *Penicillium roqueforti* and is structurally related to paraherquamide B, the sole difference occurring in ring G. Paraherquamide B contains a five-membered G-ring, and the G-ring of marcfortine A is six-membered. Opening the Gring of marcfortine A, oxidatively removing one carbon atom, and reclosing the ring was expected to give paraherquamide B. This approach was accomplished in six steps as depicted in Scheme 13. Von Braun reaction of 8 with cyanogen bromide provided bromide 33, which was converted to selenide 34 in the presence of diphenyl diselenide and NaBH<sub>4</sub>. Oxidation of 34 with NaIO<sub>4</sub> followed by elimination of the resulting selenol in refluxing benzene gave alkene 35. Hydrolysis of alkene 35 produced compound 36 that under osmylation conditions, provided diol 37 (70%). Cleavage of the diol with NaIO<sub>4</sub> followed by reductive amination gave (-)-paraherquamide B. (-)-Paraherquamide B and (-)paraherquamide A both have the same stereochemistry, but paraherquamide A also has a tertiary alcohol moiety at the C-14 position. The formal synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A was completed in seven steps starting with (-)-paraherquamide B according to the synthetic pathway illustrated in Scheme 14 and 15.

Scheme 13



2, (-)-paraherquamide B

Oxidation of paraherquamide B with  $I_2/NaHCO_3$  gave lactam 38. The  $\alpha,\beta$ unsaturated lactam 39 was formed by treatment of 38 with LDA/PhSeCl followed by  $H_2O_2$ oxidation (58%). Stereoselective epoxidation followed by epoxide ring-opening with SmI<sub>2</sub> provided alcohol 41. Selective reduction of one of the amide groups in 41 with LAH gave 42, which was then oxidized to the C-14 ketone 43 (71%). A slightly modified procedure (THF, 3 M MeMgBr in ether, 50% yield based on recovered starting material) relative to the original method (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 2 M MeMgBr in THF) by the Merck group was used to introduce the methyl group and resulted in almost exclusively the desired isomer with only a trace amount of epimer.

# Scheme 14





Scheme 15













1, (-)-paraherquamide A

## 1.6 The Total Synthesis of (-)-Brevianamide B

In 1988 Williams et al.<sup>24</sup> completed the total synthesis of (-)-breviamide B in 20 steps from L-proline based on a model study developed by the same group <sup>25</sup> (Scheme 16). The formation of **47** from L-proline (**44**) was based on the procedure developed by Seebach<sup>26</sup>. Proline was condensed with pivaldehyde to give aminal **45**, which was stereospecifically alkylated with allylic bromide to provide **46**. Ring-opening of **46** by the preformed amide anion afforded amide **47**. Reaction of **47** with bromoacetyl bromide and subsequent cyclization provided diketopiperazine **48**. Ozonolysis of **48** (dimethylsulfide work-up) followed by a Wittig reaction gave aldehyde **50** (Scheme 17). Reduction of the aldehyde to the corresponding alcohol followed by TBS ether protection and further introduction of the methoxycarbonyl group provided the key intermediate **51**.





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Compound **51** was treated with gramine in the presence of  $Bu_3P$  in refluxing CH<sub>3</sub>CN to give only the *syn*-diastereomer **53** (Scheme 18). Decarbomethoxylation, protection of the indole nitrogen as the t-BOC derivative, deprotection of the TBS ether moiety, and allylic chloride formation (MgCl, LiCl, DMF collidine, 85%) led to the S<sub>N</sub>2' precursor **54**. Intramolecular S<sub>N</sub>2' cyclization of **54** was best carried out in refluxing THF with 18-C-6 and NaH to provide the *anti*-isomer **55**. Treatment of compound **55** with HCl in dioxane induced electrophilic cyclization to give indole **56**. Oxidation of **56** with m-CPBA resulted in the formation of hydroxy indolenine **57**, which was immediately treated with NaOMe in MeOH to effect a stereoselective pinacol-type rearrangement, yielding the rdesired indoxyl **58**. Removal of the *para*-methoxy benzyl group in **58** provided (-)-brevianamide B (**59**) in 40% yield.



#### 1.7 Total Synthesis of (+)-Paraherquamide B

In 1993, Cushing, Sanz-Cervera and Williams<sup>27a,b</sup> finished the total synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B in 42 chemical steps. This synthesis was a convergent one, which coupled two key pieces together using the same Somei/Kametani reaction used during the synthesis of (-)-brevianamide B.

The synthetic approach after the Somei/Kametani coupling step is shown in Scheme 19. Gramine derivative **60** was coupled with diketopiperazine **61** by catalysis with 0.5 equiv. of Bu<sub>3</sub>P to give the *syn*-stereoisomer **62** in 73% yield. Decarbomethoxylation, lactim ether formation, indole nitrogen protection with (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O/DMAP in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and removal of both TBS ether protecting groups gave diol **64**. Conversion of the allylic alcohol to the allylic chloride under Corey-Kim conditions followed by reprotection of the secondary alcohol as its t-butyldimethylsilyl ether, led to the precursor **65** for the key S<sub>N</sub>2' reaction. Compound **65** was treated with NaH in refluxing benzene to give the cyclization product **66** in a stereoselective fashion. Stoichiometric Pd(II)-mediated reaction followed by reduction with NaBH<sub>4</sub> provided the heptacyclic product **67**. Selective reduction of the tertiary amide, N-methylation, and subsequent deprotection of both the N-t-BOC and the tbutyldimethylsilyl ether gave the indole-alcohol **68**. Oxidative Pinacol-type rearrangment of **68** afforded oxindole **69**. Dehydration of **69** was effected with MTPI in DMPU to give paraherquamide B in 83% yield.







2a, (+)-paraherquamide B

#### 1.8 The Synthetic Strategy towards (-)-Paraherquamide A

Our synthetic strategy is based on the success of the synthetic approaches to (-)breviamide B and (+)-paraherquamide B. The key intermediate for our synthesis of (-)paraherquamide A is similar to the key intermediates used in the (-)-breviamide B and (+)paraherquamide B work. This intermediate is diketopiperazine **70** (Scheme 21).

According to the retrosynthetic design for (-)-paraherquamide A shown in Scheme 21, compound **70** can be constructed in two different ways. The first approach is to connect bond **a** between the two fragments **71** and **60** using the same Somei/Kametani coupling reaction found in the (-)-breviamide B and (+)-paraherquamide B syntheses. Cyclic dipeptide formation between **73** and **74** should provide **72**, and **71** will be obtained upon further functionalization of **72**. The second approach is the disconnection of bond **b**,

and this will lead to an acyclic dipeptide **75**, which can come from the coupling between diphenyl imine compound **76** and gramine derivative **60** (Scheme 21). The retrosynthetic analysis and the synthetic details for compounds **73** and **76** will be discussed in Chapter 2.

Our final retrosynthetic analysis of paraherquamide A is summarized in Scheme 22. (-)-Paraherquamide A contains a tertiary methyl alcohol moiety at the C-14 position, and paraherquamide B lacks this structural feature at the C-14 position. In order to carry out the synthesis of paraherquamide A, there are different and challenging problems that we need to carefully consider. First, we need to find a way to asymmetrically synthesize the chiral intermediate **73** in a practical and efficient manner, and then further transform **73** into diketopiperazine **71**. Second, when do we introduce the tertiary methyl alcohol functionality at C-14? If we decide to introduce this moiety as a secondary alcohol and convert it into the tertiary methyl alcohol at the final stage of the synthesis, what kind of protecting group will we need to use for the secondary alcohol? Third, and most importantly, will the newly introduced functional group at the C-14 position affect the stereochemistry at the  $S_N 2'$  reaction step and at the Pinacol-type rearrangement step (both steps create a new chiral center)?

In our retrosynthetic plan, we have decided to put a protected secondary alcohol at the C-14 position instead of the tertiary methyl alcohol. During the final stage of our synthesis, the protected hydroxy group at the C-14 position will be deprotected and oxidized to provide a ketone. Methyl addition to the ketone should lead straightforwardly to the tertiary methyl alcohol.






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TBSO TBSO Me Me PO PO OEt OEt NH<sub>2</sub> Ph ő Ph Me OTBS 76 75

There are four reasons for this particular synthetic plan. First, we want to ensure that the group at the C-14 position is sterically as small as possible, in order to mimic the steric situation at the C-14 position of (+)-paraherquamide B. (+)-Paraherquamide B has two hydrogens at this position. If we place the tertiary alcohol at the C-14 position, and protect this alcohol, the groups at the C-14 position will be quite large. Second, from the chemical modification studies of (-)-paraherquamide A, we know that the tertiary alcohol moiety at the C-14 position of paraherquamide A is very unreactive, and therefore

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protection of this alcohol will be difficult. Third, construction of the methyl alcohol will use the known reaction of methylmagnisum bromide addition to a ketone group. This reaction should be feasible in terms of yield, stereoselectivity and scale. Merck's procedure for the methylmagnesium bromide addition to the C-14 ketone group gave products in a ratio of 1:2, favoring the wrong stereoisomer. The modified procedure of Upjohn provided almost exclusively the desired isomer in 50% yield. At the early stage of a long synthesis, any low yield and/or poor diastereoselectivity in a single step will be a disaster to the whole project. Finally, the formation of the ketone at the final stage of our synthesis will provide us with a handle to make different analogs of paraherquamide A (PA). Interestingly, when Lee and Clother published the first formal synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A (Scheme 14 and 15) in 1997, they used the same synthetic strategy at the last two steps (from **42** to **43**, then to PA) that we plan to use.

The first synthetic plan for (-)-paraherquamide A proposed by Professor Williams is illustrated in Scheme 23. Comparison of this synthetic route with our actual final synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A shows that the two are very similar.





1, (-)-paraherquamide A











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#### CHAPTER TWO

#### THE TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF (-)-PARAHERQUAMIDE A

# 2.1 The Improved Large Scale Synthesis of the Dioxepin-indole of Paraherquamide A

#### 2.11 Introduction

Dioxepin-indole **60** is one of the two key intermediates required for our proposed synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A (Scheme 24).

#### Scheme 24



In the course of the (+)-paraherquamide B synthesis,<sup>27a,b</sup> Tim Cushing synthesized **60** in fourteen chemical steps (Scheme 25). Developing a synthetic approach to make compound **60** on a large scale (30-40 grams) practically and efficiently is critical for the successful synthesis of (-) paraherquamide A since the proposed synthetic approach would require an additional 21 steps starting from the coupling between **60** and **91**.

Cushing made a tremendous effort in discovering the above approach for the construction of **60**, which was successfully used for the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B. There are several advantages in the above synthetic approach to compound **60**. There are no column chromatographies necessary until the purification of compound **102**. Most of the chemical steps do not require special equipment and give reproducible results.



However, there are also some disadvantages which exist in this synthetic route, creating an obstacle for quick and efficient large-scale synthesis of **60**. Therefore, I have further optimized our synthetic route towards compound **60**, and in the following sections, I will discuss the details of these improvements.

### 2.12 The Synthesis of Dioxepin-Indole 60 Optimized from 14 Steps to 13 Steps

As shown in Scheme 25, vanillin (92) was acetylated with acetic anhydride to provide acetate 93, which was then treated with fuming nitric acid to afford 94, the desired regioisomer, and 95, the undesired isomer, in a ~10:1 ratio. TLC showed that 94 had a lower  $R_f$  and 95 had the exact same  $R_f$  as the starting material 93. Flash column chromatography was used to give a nice separation of 94 and 95. However, in the course of our (-)-paraherquamide A synthesis, more than 6.3 kg of the nitro-substituted acetate 94 and 95 was needed, and flash column chromatography is not the optimal method for separating large amounts of 94 and 95. The original method used to separate compounds 94 and 95 is as follows: the mixture of 94 and 95 was hydrolyzed in a solution of KOH/MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O to give the phenoxide mixture, which was then neutralized with HCl to provide free phenol 96 and the phenol corresponding to 95. The two phenol isomers were then taken up in EtOH at 23 °C. The resulting mixture, due to the high solubility of 96 and the low solubility of the by-product phenol, was filtered to give a filtrate containing almost pure phenol 96. This filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was recrystallized in water to give the pure product 96.



A comparison of our new improved approach and the originl approach is outlined in Scheme 26. The new approach avoids the KOH/MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O hydrolysis step and the crude product recrystallization process. Instead, it directly used the mixture of nitro-acetaldehydes 94 and 95. After a three-step transformation, 94 provided the desired acid 99, and 95 provided the undesired acid 108. The next step is the hydrogenation of the nitro group to the corresponding amine at 80 °C in acetic acid. Compound 99 cyclized into oxindole 100, but 108 was simply reduced to amino acid 109, which cannot undergo the intramolecular cyclization reaction due to geometric restriction. Demethylation of 100 and 109 using BBr<sub>3</sub> at -78 °C in  $CH_2Cl_2$  provided oxindole 101 and acid 110. The work-up procedure for this reaction requires quenching the reaction mixture with water, and produced hydrobromic acid (HBr). The resulting HBr reacted with the amino group of 110, forming a water soluble salt. In contrast, compound 101 was insoluble in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (the reaction solvent). Filtration of the acidic mixture and washing the solid product pad (101) with water provided a very pure solid product 101. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and TLC showed that intermediate 101 had the same purity as the batches which were made by the old approach. The advantages of this new approach were significant. The yield of 96 increases from 54% to more than 80% (94). Considering that over 6.3 kg of 94 and 95 has been used, removing the KOH/MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O hydrolysis step and the recrystallization process lowers the cost of making 60, increases the overall yield, and more importantly saves time.

## 2.13 Synthetic Investigation of the Transformation of Nitro-Aldehyde 93 to Azalactone 97

The synthesis of azalactone **97** from **93** or **96** takes eight days and the yields are not reproducible. The yield ranges from 25-52% (Scheme 27).

Scheme 27



From a retrosynthetic point of view, azalactone 97 can also be made from aldehyde 93 and azalactone 111 (Scheme 28).



Mukerjee and coworkers<sup>28</sup> reported a very similar reaction which is depicted in Scheme 29. These researchers started with N-acetylglycine and treated it with ClCO<sub>2</sub>Et and Et<sub>3</sub>N to give azalactone **111**, which coupled with benzaldehyde in situ to provide the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated azalactone **112**. According to the above procedure, aldehyde **96** was treated with ethyl N-acetylglycinate and ClCO<sub>2</sub>Et in the presence of Et<sub>3</sub>N. However, none of the desired product **114** was formed. The only product was the ethyl carbonate **113** (Scheme 29).

Scheme 29



We believe that if N-acetylglycine was used instead of ethyl N-acetyl glycinate, the desired azalactone **114** might be formed because the N-acetyl-glycine could be activated by

 $ClCO_2Et$  to form a mixed anhydride which will be a much better leaving group than the ethyl ester and therefore facilitate cyclization to azalactone **111**.

In 1998, Das and coworkers<sup>29</sup> reported an interesting synthesis of azalactone **116** (Scheme 30). A variety of aromatic aldehydes were treated with glycine derivative **115** in the presence of  $1:1/Al_2O_3-H_3BO_3$  and provided **116** in very good yields (81-91%). The reaction time was short, and the work-up was easy. This protocol should be a feasible method to make **97**.

#### Scheme 30



## 2.14 Different Approaches for the Synthesis of Oxindole 100 from Nitrophenyl Acetic Acid 99

The reaction conditions illustrated in Scheme 31 are the original ones used for the synthesis of (+) paraherquamide B. It is a very good method in terms of reaction set-up, work-up and yield.





The only disadvantage is that only 23 grams of **99** can be used in each batch because the hydrogenation is a heterogeneous reaction. Too much starting material will give by-products that are only partially reduced, and the product will not be pure. The following three different methods were attempted (Scheme 32) in order to solve the scale-up problem, but none of them proved to be as good as the original method.



For the catalytic hydrogen transfer reduction, two conditions were used. One used HOAc as the solvent while the other used EtOH as the solvent and was heated at reflux for 3 days. Both methods gave the desired compound **100**, but there was always some starting material **99** remaining no matter how long the reaction was run and how many equivalents of cyclohexene were used. The third method involved the mild  $NH_4CI/Fe$  reflux condition. This reaction has been run several times, and the yield was between 70-80%. The drawbacks are the lower yield and the work-up is more complex and time consuming.

2.15 Investigation of the Selective 7-Hydroxy Prenylation Reaction of 6,7-Dihydroxy Oxindole 101

Scheme 33



The reaction shown in Scheme **33** is the original conditions to synthesize the desired compound **102**. Two by-products **117** and **118** were formed. The drawback for this reaction is that the R<sub>f</sub>s of **102**, **117** and **118** are very close, and the separation is very difficult. The reason for the selective prenylation of the 7-hydroxy position is due to the ortho alkylcarbonylamino group which has a net electron-withdrawing effect ( $\sigma > 0.14$ ).<sup>30</sup> This electron-withdrawing effect applies to both hydroxy groups, but the effect at the 7-hydroxy group is greater than at the 6-hydroxy group. Therefore, the acidity of the 7-hydroxy moiety is larger than that of the 6-hydroxy moiety.



As diagrammed in Scheme 34,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , the rate constants for each productdetermining steps, are smaller than  $k_3$  and  $k_4$ . Compounds 119, 101, 120 are in equilibrium with each other. Anion 120 is more stable than anion 119 (acidity difference), therefore  $k_1 > k_2$ , which in turn determines the ratio of products. In my own investigation of this reaction, employing Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as the base makes no difference. However, when Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> is used, both yield and selectivity of 102 are slightly higher. For the separation of compounds 102, 117 and 118, phenols 102 and 118 have a free phenol group while 117 does not have a free phenol group. Using a basic extraction, the phenoxide salts of 102 and 118 should stay in the aqueous layer. The separated aqueous layer containing 102 and 118 can be acidified to give back 102 and 118 as the free forms. This removal of by-product 117 made the flash column purification much easier, and this proved to be successful. The mixture of 102, 117 and 118 was treated with 1 N NaOH (3 times) and the separated aqueous portion acidified with 0.8 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to afford a mixture of only 102 and 118, which were separated by a short flash column chromatography. 2.16 Epoxidation Investigation of Olefin-Containing Oxindole 102 Scheme 35



The original epoxidation of olefin **102** with m-CPBA was very fast, but the yield was moderate, usually around 64% yield. An undesired six membered ring by-product formed which resulted from the intramolecular hydroxy attack of the epoxide at the less-substituted carbon. The by-product formation is promoted by factors such as the presence of acid, strong base and water. A summary of the conditions which were examined is collected in Table 3. According to the results in Table 3, entry JC-384 gave the best result. Magnesium sulfate was added to remove any water which promotes the by-product formation.

Table 3

Entry	Solvent	Conditions, 0°C	Results	Yield(%)
JC-379	CH2Cl2	once mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq) ,1h twice mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> ,2h	some byproduct, mainly desired	64
JC-381	CH2Cl2/H2O	once mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1.5eq) ,1h twice mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1.5eq) ,>2h	byproduct +SM+product	not calculated
JC-382	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O No NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	once mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq) ,1h twice mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq) ,>2h	byproduct +SM+product	not calculated
JC-384	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> NaHCO <sub>3</sub> ,MgSO <sub>4</sub>	once mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq) ,1h twice mCPBA(1eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq) ,3h		87
JC-386	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> NaHCO <sub>3</sub> ,MgSO <sub>4</sub>	mCPBA(2.5eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (5eq) ,35min then,SM, 1h		54.6
JC-387	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> NaHCO <sub>3</sub> ,MgSO <sub>4</sub>	mCPBA(2.5eq)/NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (5eq) ,35min MgSO <sub>4</sub> ,filtered,then,SM+NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1eq)		50

2.17 Investigation of the Reduction of Oxindole 104 to Indole 105 and Indoline 106

Scheme 36



When oxindole **104** is treated with  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$  and  $NaBH_4$  in THF, there are two products formed. Indole **105** is the desired compound and indoline **106** is the undesired compound (Scheme 36). This reaction developed by Cushing is a very challenging one, considering the very restricted requirement of the reducing agent and the substrate being an N-unsubstituted oxindole. When other reducing agents (1.0 M BH<sub>3</sub> in THF) were used, there was no reaction. Unfortunately, the ratio of **105/106** can vary in different batch reactions from 4:1 to 2:1. Since this reaction is the 12th step of a 14 step synthesis, the loss of compound **106** as a by-product is a very big problem. Indoline **106** is presumably formed from the reduction of iminium **121** with excess NaBH<sub>4</sub> (Scheme 37).

Therefore, we believed that minimizing the amount of reducing agent would be helpful for maximizing the formation of the desired indole **105**. LiAl(OtBu)<sub>3</sub>H has been examined as the reducing agent since each molecule of LiAl(OtBu)<sub>3</sub>H can only contribute one hydride as the reducing agent. Unfortunately, there was no reaction occurring for different equivalents of LiAl(OtBu)<sub>3</sub>H alone or in combination with BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O. For the BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O/NaBH<sub>4</sub> reducing condition, the real mechanism of this reaction is still not clear. One possibility is that the actual reducing agent is BH<sub>3</sub>, which can be formed in situ from the reduction of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O with NaBH<sub>4</sub>. Another possibility is that the Lewis acid properties of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O activate the oxindole to reduction and NaBH<sub>4</sub> or a similar species actually does the reduction. During the  $LiAl(OtBu)_{3}H$  experiment, the oxindole amide hydrogen may react with the hydride of  $LiAl(OtBu)_{3}H$ , giving off  $H_{2}$  to yield an amide anion-aluminum salt, which is inert to further reduction.

Scheme 37



The question remains, can we find a way to convert **106** to **105** and solve this problem in an indirect manner? Tim Cushing treated **106** with salcomine, bubbling  $O_2$ through the reaction solution, but unfortunately, no reaction occurred. There are some reports in the literature<sup>31</sup> mentioning that DDQ can oxidize an indoline to an indole but no reaction conditions are reported. When a solution of **106** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was treated with solid DDQ, the color of the solution changed instantly. After 10-15 min, all the starting material **106** was converted into the desired compound **105**. On a small scale, when CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was used as a solvent, the yield was quantitative. On a large scale, THF is the best solvent, and the reaction usually gives greater than 90% yield (Scheme 38).



2.18 Optimization Investigation of the t-Butyldimethylsilylation Reaction of Hydroxyindole 105

Scheme 39



Tim Cushing found that when **105** was treated with TBSCl and imidazole in DMF at 23 °C, the reaction was very slow, because the secondary hydroxy group of **105** is adjacent to a gemdimethyl substituted carbon. When the mixture was warmed to 40 °C and TBSCl (2 eq) and imidazole (7 eq) were used, the yield was 82%. Initially, when I repeated this reaction on a small scale, there was always starting material remaining and the reaction was very slow. The yield is about 40%. TBSOTf is a more reactive silylating

reagent and reacts with indole **105** to give very little desired product. TLC shows many products including the N,O-double silylation product. (Scheme 40).

Scheme 40



It has been shown that TBS ether formation of hindered alcohols is very sensitive to the concentration of the reactants. Therefore, if we increase the equivalents of TBSCl and decrease the amount of DMF used, the yield will be higher. The optimized conditions found are: TBSCl (3 eq), imdazole (7 eq) and at 45 °C with SM:DMF/1 mmol:2 mL. The latter provides product **107** with greater than 95% yield.

#### 2.19 McWhorter's Route to 6,7-Dihydroxyindole 101

In 1996 McWhorter and Savall<sup>32</sup> reported a short and efficient synthesis of 6,7-Dihydroxyindole (101) (Scheme 41) which was the intermediate for the synthesis of dioxepin-indole sub-unit (60) (Scheme 25). They used the methodology of Gassman and co-workers to form 101 in four steps with an overall yield of 35% from a commercially available starting material 2,3-dimethoxybenzoic acid (121).

2,3-Dimethoxybenzoic acid (121) was converted to 2,3-dimethoxyaniline by the Yamada modification of the Curtius rearrangement followed by hydrolysis of the resulting urethane (Scheme 41). 2,3-Dimethoxyaniline (122) was converted to 3-(methylthio)-6,7-dimethoxyoxindole (123) by means of a modified Gassman oxindole synthesis. Ethyl methylthioacetate was chlorinated with sulfuryl chloride and reacted with 2,3-dimethoxyaniline (122) in the presence of 1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthylene to produce an azasulfonium salt, which was in turn treated with triethylamine to bring about the rearrangement of the azasulfonium ylide to afford the ethyl ester of 2-amino-3,4-dimethoxy-a-(methylthio)benzeneacetic acid. This acic was treated with acetic acid to yield oxindole (123) in 80% overall yield. This oxindole (123) was desulfurized with Raney nickel to give 6,7-dimethoxyoxindole (124) in 62% yield. 6,7-Dimethoxyoxindole (124) was demethylated with BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to produce of 6,7-Dihydroxyindole (101) in 86% yield.

The McWhorter's route is short and give overall high yield. This approach may be the optimal method for the synthesis of dihydroxyindole (101). However, the experimental part of this work only demonstrated relatively small scale synthesis. In Cushing's route to oxyindole 101, each step except the hydrogenation one can be carried out on about hundred gram-scale without chromatography purification and provides ~40 grams of 6,7-dihydroxyindole (101) in a single run. According to our experience, if we need to make 30-40 grams of compound 60, about 200 grams of 6,7-dihydroxyindole (101) is required.



Scheme 42 Cushing's Synthetic Route to Dioxepin-indole 60





#### Scheme 43 The Improved Synthesis of Dioxepin-indole Subunit 60

#### 2.2 The Synthesis of Diketopiperazine Subunit

According to the retrosynthetic plan for (-)-paraherquamide A illustrated in Scheme21, the coupling between diketopiperazine (DKP) subunit **71** and the dioxepinindole subunit **60** can lead to the synthesis of compound **70**. Here we will discuss the synthesis of DKP **71**.

#### 2.21 Retrosynthetic Analysis of the Proline Derivative 125

DKP 71 and its analogs can be synthesized from proline derivative 125 (a representative of compound 73, P = Bn) and glycine derivative 74. The benzyl ether group at the  $\beta$ -position of the proline ring in compound 125 was our first generation protecting group. The synthetic route using intermediate 125 with the benzyl ether protecting group did not lead to the successful synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A. The successful route used a MOM ether as the protecting group. In order to present the research results in a logical way, we chose compound 125 as the example in our retrosynthetic analysis (Scheme 44).



Basically, there are two different places where we can disconnect the bonds in compound **125** from a retrosynthetic point of view. One position is bond **a**, and the other is bond **b**. Each of them can lead to either racemic or asymmetric syntheses of the proline subunit **125**. The details of our investigation of the synthetic approaches to **125** depicted in Scheme 44 will be discussed in the following sections.





2.22 Known Synthetic Methods Related to Proline Subunit 125

In 1983, Seebach and coworkers<sup>26</sup> developed a method to make optically active  $\alpha$ substituted proline derivatives (Scheme 45). The enolate formed from aminal **45** reacted with a variety of alkylating reagents to produce the  $\alpha$ -substituted aminal **46** and its analogs. These products can only be hydrolytically cleaved with 15%-48% HBr at refluxing temperature to give the  $\alpha$ -substituted proline derivative. Compound **46** and its analogs react with lithium amide to give the  $\alpha$ -substituted amide **47** and its analogs. They also found that the enolate formed from 45 only reacted with activated alkylating reagents. Comparing the  $\alpha$ -substituted proline derivatives made by Seebach's method with the required compound 125, which has the  $\beta$ -benzyl ether group, the acid-labile TBS ether group and double bond, obviously this method can not be used to synthesize this intermediate of (-)-paraherquamide A.

Scheme 45



The initial Ph.D. project of Cushing<sup>33</sup> in the Williams group was to synthesize (-)paraherquamide A. He investigated the racemic synthesis of analogs of **125**, and the results are outlined below (Scheme 46). A mixture of diastereomers **136**, synthesized from the Michael addition of **135** to methyl vinyl ketone, was treated with different bases and an excess of allyl iodide. Cushing hoped to alkylate both the  $\alpha$ -C position and the tertiary alcohol at the same time, since an allyl ether protecting group can be easily removed. In spite of his efforts, this approach was unsuccessful due to there being no  $\alpha$ -alkylation. Apparently, the proline derivative **136** is sterically too congested for the reaction to take place.

Scheme 46



To avoid this problem, he thought it might be easier to incorporate the allyl group prior to the cyclization. Compound **138** was made from 2-amino-4-pentenoic acid in two steps in 66% yield and was subjected to the same cyclization conditions as ester **135**, however none of the desired compound **139** was found. The only material isolated was the N-alkylated derivative **140** (Scheme 47).

Scheme 47



The attempted alkylation of racemic oxazolone 82 with methyl vinyl ketone gave ketone 141, and none of the cyclization product 142 was formed (Scheme 48).

Scheme 48



#### 2.23 Racemic Synthesis of Proline Subunit 125

Our goal was the stereocontrolled asymmetric synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A. Two methods relating to the synthesis of proline subunit **125** are reviewed in section 2.22. Although these methods can provide us with important information, none of them can be used for the synthesis of compound **125**. Basically, there is no known synthetic method available for the construction of this type of compound. Generally, developing a racemic synthetic method should be easier than developing an asymmetric one. According to this idea, we decided to carry out a racemic synthesis of **125** and then use **125** as an intermediate to further make DKP 71 (P = Bn). This racemic approach can give us very useful information and guidelines for the asymmetric synthesis of compound 125. The retrosynthetic analysis of racemic proline subunit 125 is shown in Scheme 49.

Scheme 49.



Compound 125 can be obtained from ketone 143 through the reduction of the ketone to the corresponding alcohol, protection of the alcohol as the benzyl ether followed by deprotection of the N-t-BOC group. If the enolate, formed from  $\beta$ -ketoester 131, undergoes alkylation with iodide 127, it will provide the  $\alpha$ -substituted  $\beta$ -ketoester 143. Theoretically, this racemic approach can also be used to make the optically active proline derivatives 144a and 144b.  $\beta$ -Ketoester 144 can be treated with a chiral organic acid

HA\* to provide a mixture of diastereomeric salts of 145a and 145b. Separation of 145a and 145b and subsequent neutralization with ammonia will provide the optically active compounds 144a and 144b.

Westermann and coworkers<sup>34</sup> reported a method which used pig liver esterase (PLE) to affect a kinetic resolution of  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ -ketoester **146** (Scheme 50). In a pH 8 phosphate buffer media and at 20 °C, PLE hydrolyzed one of the enantiomers of compound **146** much faster than the other one. After a certain period of time (depending on different substrates, the required time is different), the reaction was quenched and work-up provided the optically active  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ -ketoester **147**. Theoretically, the  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ -ketoester **143** or **144** can also be used to undergo a PLE-catalyzed kinetic resolution to provide the required optically active  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ -ketoester, which can then be utilized for the synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A.

Scheme 50



At the initial stage of the racemic synthesis, optimization of the synthesis of allyl iodide derivative **127** was not our top priority. Our focus is to quickly find a route for the synthesis of proline derivative **125** and its analogs and further convert them into the corresponding diketopiperazines (DKP). Prenyl bromide is a commercially available reagent and structurally similar to allylic iodide derivative **127**. Therefore, prenyl bromide



was used as the alkylation reagent for  $\beta$ -ketoester 131. A model synthetic study for  $\alpha$ prenyl- $\beta$ -methoxylmethyl ether diketopiperazine 149 is depicted in Scheme 51.

At the time when compound 131 was our target, there was no known method for its preparation of 131. Rapport et al.<sup>35</sup> in 1964 reported a similar synthesis of compound

163 (Scheme 52). Compound 160 has an ethyl carbamate protecting group at the nitrogen. When 160 was treated with KOtBu in toluene at 0 °C, two regioisomers 161 Scheme 52



and 162 were formed. The synthesis of 163 used a more complex route than the one shown in Scheme 51 for our synthesis of 131. We proposed a Michael addition and N-t-BOC protection approach. In order to successfully synthesize (-)-paraherquamide A, these two steps should be feasible in terms of yield, scale and require no flash column chromatography. Michael addition of ethyl glycinate to ethyl acrylate in the presence of EtOH and Et<sub>3</sub>N provided 150 in 67% yield, and this was the best condition among eight different conditions examined. Compound 150 can be made on a several hundred gramscale using vacuum distillation as the purification process. t-BOC protection of 150 gave **151** in 95% yield which again was purified by vacuum distillation. Dieckman condensation of 151 by treatment with KOt-Bu in toluene at 0 °C (a slightly modified condition of Rapport) provided the desired isomer 131 and the by-product 152, which were separated by extracting 152 with pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer. The principle of this separation is as follows: because of the steric interaction between N-t-BOC group at the N-1 position and the ethoxycarbonyl group at the C-2 position of compound 131, it is not easy to form an enolate for 131 under pH 10 condition, and therefore it can not be extracted by the sodium carbonate buffer. For compound 152, there is no 1,2-interaction as in compound

131, and the  $\beta$ -ketoester moiety can be easily deprotonated and reacted with pH 10 carbonate buffer to form an enolate which is water soluble. A lot of effort was invested to run this reaction successfully on a large scale in a practical manner. The purified intermediate 131 (distilled) still contained some starting material 151 and was used as a mixture in the following alkylation step as well as in the Baker's yeast reduction procedure which will be discussed at a later stage. Six different conditions were examined for the alkylation, and the reaction conditions (NaH/DME, 45-50 °C) was the best one to provide **153.** Several conditions were examined for the deprotection of the N-t-BOC group in **153**, including TFA/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (at 0 °C or room temperature), 3.28 N HCl/EtOAc (at 0 °C or room temperature) and ZnBr<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, but only TFA/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> conditions provided the desired compound in about 10% yield. We decided to reduce the ketone moiety and protect the formed alcohol before deprotecting the N-t-BOC group, in hopes of solving this problem. Ketone ester 153 was treated with NaBH<sub>4</sub> in MeOH to provide 154 as a diastereomeric mixture, which was reacted with MOMCl to afford methoxymethyl ether 155 in 66% yield. There are three reasons that we chose the methoxymethyl ether as our protecting group. First, it can withstand many different reaction conditions required during the synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A (the benzyl ether protecting group may be even better than the methoxymethyl ether in terms of stability). Second, the methoxymethyl ether can be introduced easily, and third, it can be deprotected under mild conditions. The protocol (ZnBr,/CH,Cl,) developed by Nigam et al.<sup>36</sup> can be used to selectively deprotect a secondary amine t-BOC group in the presence of a primary amine t-BOC group in a mild and almost neutral manner. When 155 was treated with ZnBr2/CH2Cl2 at room temperature, the desired amine 156 was obtained in 50% yield. At the later stage of this project when the optimal work-up procedure was used, usually greater than 95% yield can be obtained for other similar substrates. Compound **156** was then treated with bromoacetyl bromide to give 157 in 97% yield under Schotten-Baumann condition. Displacement of the bromine with ammonia in methanol solution followed by in-situ cyclization of the aminoester intermediate provided racemic *trans*-DKP149. The *cis*-(ester group and MOM ether group are in a *cis*-relationship) compound 158 could not cyclize to give the corresponding DKP compound. A possible explanation will be discussed later.

After the successful synthesis of DKP 149, the real synthetic target 171 was made following a similar route (Scheme 53). Epoxide 165, commercially available or made from the epoxidation of isoprene by m-CPBA, was treated with n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI and TBSCl to provide iodide 127 as a ~5/1 mixture of E/Z isomers in 58% yield. Alkylation of 131 by treatment with NaH and iodide 127 afforded 166, which was then reduced to the alcohol with NaBH<sub>4</sub> followed by benzyl ether formation to give intermediate 169 as a diastereomeric mixture. Bromide 170 was obtained from 169 through a two-step process involving the deprotection of the N-t-BOC group by  $ZnBr_2$  (in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) followed by bromoacetate formation. Aminolysis of the bromide 170 with a solution of NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH gave the *trans* -isomer DKP 171 and the *cis*-isomer aminoester compound 172. DKP 171 was produced from the cyclization of the in situ formed *trans* amino ester compound. However, the cyclization of aminoester 172 to the corresponding DKP requires much stronger conditions, and therefore 172 was obtained as an aminoester.

The synthetic approach to racemic DKP 171 was completed in 12 steps. The majority of the transformations proceed in very good yield and under mild classical conditions. We not only learned that racemic 125 can be made from the alkylation approach of proline  $\beta$ -ketoester 131, but also that this alkylated compound can be transformed into DKP 171, a proposed key intermediate for the synthesis of paraherquamide A.





OTBS

Scheme 53



#### 2.24 Asymmetric Synthesis of Proline Subunit 125

#### 2.24.1 Lactone Alkylation Approach

We first investigated the lactone (83) alkylation approach illustrated in Scheme 54. Scheme 54



Williams lactone 173, discovered in the Williams group for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ amino acids, was treated with TFA to provide amine 82. Theoretically, Michael addition of 82 to methyl acrylate or reaction with  $\beta$ -halogen propionate should provide 174. We examined a variety of Michael acceptors, various bases, different temperatures, and solvents, but none of these reactions gave the desired compound. It is presumably the sterically hindered environment which renders this secondary amine less nucleophilic. The only successful Michael addition reaction is shown in Scheme 55. Compound 141 was formed by the reaction of 82 with methyl vinyl ketone, but the subsequent aldol reaction to form 142 did not occur.





An alternative synthetic plan is depicted in Scheme 56. but did not have time to investigate this approach. Addition of the boron enolate formed from CBz-lactone 175 to aldehyde 176 can provide alcohol 177. This type of reaction is presented in a paper published by Miller et al.<sup>37</sup> Alcohol 177 is then treated with TBAF to provide a diol which can be selectively mesylated at the primary alcohol. Deprotection of the N-CBz group and in situ cylization of the amino mesylate intermediate will afford alcohol 178. Oxidation of 178 should provide compound 83, and a similar reaction was done by myself for a different substrate in good yield. Finally, the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of 83 with iodide 127 is expected to give the desired compound 179.





## 2.24.2 Asymmetric $\alpha$ -Alkylation of Proline $\beta$ -Ketoester via Chiral Enamine Intermediate

According to the retrosynthetic analysis, a chiral nonracemic compound 125 can be synthsized from the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of compound 180 in which there is a chiral functional group (FG\*) introduced at the  $\beta$ -position of the proline ring (Scheme 57). Based on this idea, a chiral enamine moiety was introduced at the  $\beta$ -position of 180 which is an equivalent of 182, an intermediate formed from the chiral enamine 183 with LiN(TMS)<sub>2</sub>.


In 1984, Koga and coworkers<sup>38</sup> developed methodology for the asymmetric alkylation of  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ -ketoesters to form  $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -dialkyl- $\beta$ -ketoesters by using enamine **184** as the chiral intermediate. One of their substrate was the cyclohexanone ester derivative **184** (Scheme 58). The bases, solvents, solvent/cosolvent ratio, alkylating reagents and reaction temperature all affect the diastereoselectivity of the products.

Scheme 58



At first we proposed to use  $\alpha$ -methyl benzyl amine as the chiral auxiliary in compound 183. After Koga and coworker's paper was considered, we decided to follow their protocol. The synthetic investigation towards chiral nonracemic 189 is diagrammed in Scheme 59. β-Ketoester 131 was condensed with S-valine t-butyl ester by using Et<sub>3</sub>N, TsOH, MgSO<sub>4</sub> in refluxing benzene to provide 186 in almost quantitative yield. Enamine 186 is not very stable. When purified by silica gel chromatography, compound 186 decomposes to starting material. Even when stored at room temperature for 1-2 days, 186 decomposes slowly. A solution of 186 in toluene/HMPA at -78 °C was treated with LiN(TMS)<sub>2</sub> followed by addition of prenyl bromide providing a mixture of several compounds on TLC. After preparative TLC purification, one of the major spots was obtained as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR indicated that it contained all the required peaks corresponding to the desired compound 188. Due to the presence of rotamers and/or possible diastereomers, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR is very complex, and interpretation was difficult. The stereochemistry of 188 was assigned arbitrarily. Surprisingly, when 188 was treated with HOAc/NaOAc (pH 4) or 1 N HCl, typical conditions<sup>39</sup> for the cleavage of an imine, no reaction took place. However, when 188 was condensed with hydroxylamine catalyzed by BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, oxime 189 was formed very cleanly. The racemic version of 189, was also synthesized through a two-step process from 131. It turned out that both of these products from two different routes showed the same mobility on TLC and the same <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The approach shown in Scheme 59 demonstrates that the  $\beta$ -ketoester alkylation method through a chiral enamine intermediate can result in the asymmetric synthesis of  $\alpha$ -alkyl- $\beta$ substituted proline derivatives. There are several drawbacks which prevent this method from being used in the real synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A. First, enamine 186 is not stable enough to be stored for even two days. Second, the diastereoselectivity of the asymmetric alkylation product depends on too many factors, and this is not good news for an asymmetric synthesis, especially on large scale. Third, imine 188 is too stable to be hydrolyzed into the corresponding ketone.



RAPE REALED TO DEED

# 2.24.3 Intramolecular Epoxide Opening-Amination Approach and Intramolecular Amido-Mercuration Approach

65

These two approaches have some similarity and are discussed here in the same section. For the intramolecular epoxide opening-amination approach (Eq I), there is one literature example published in 1993.<sup>40</sup> (Scheme 60). The N-t-BOC protected epoxide **192** was treated with HCl to remove the t-BOC group and gave the corresponding amine hydrochloric acid salt. Neutralization with NaOH allowed the free amino group to attack the epoxide and provided pyrrolidine **193**.

The synthetic plan for chiral nonracemic compound **203** is outlined in Scheme 61. The synthesis of aldehyde **197** and ester **199** should be straightforward. The coupling reaction between **197** and **199** (Horner-Emmons reaction)  $^{41,42,43}$  should proceed without any problem. The only uncertainty is the olefin E/Z selectivity. The required isomer **200** is the Z configuration, and there are several factors which influence the E/Z selectivity.



By examining all the possible factors, the desired Z isomer **200** can be obtained as the major isomer. Imidate cleavage with hydrazine followed by protection of the nitrogen as its t-BOC derivative will provide compound **201**. Sharpless epoxidation using (-)-DET can give epoxide **202**, which is then treated with  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$  to induce cyclization on the epoxide and provide the desired diol **203**.





A model study was carried out and is summarized in Scheme 61 and 62. A solution of **194** and **195** in CHCl<sub>3</sub> was refluxed to provide alcohol **196** which was then oxidized to aldehyde **197**. Compound **204** was obtained in 65% yield from the alkylation of **198** by the treatment of NaH in DMF. Horner-Emmons reaction between **204** and **197** gave a mixture of **205** and **206** in a 1:4 ratio. The required Z isomer **205** was the minor isomer. Since this approach has too many steps and the set-up for the Sharpless epoxidation reaction is not very convenient<sup>44</sup>, this is therefore not the best approach for the total synthesis of paraherquamide A. We decided to dismiss this approach. With further optimization, a practical but longer synthetic route based on this intramolecular epoxide opening-amination approach might prove feasible.





In Eq II (Scheme 60), a similar strategy using an intramolecular amido-mercuration approach to build diol **191** is depicted. Takahata and coworkers<sup>45</sup> reported a similar case (Scheme 63) in 1997.



Sharpless kinetic resolution of racemic alcohol 207 provided the optically active compounds 208 (36%) and 210 (33%). Olefin 208 was subsequently used for the intramolecular amido-mecuration reaction to give intermediate 211 followed by work-up with  $O_2/NaBH_4$  in DMF to provide diol 212 in 64% yield. According to this idea, a synthetic plan for compound 219 is illustrated in Scheme 64.

The synthesis of aldehyde **216** will follow normal procedures and should have no problems. The addition of boron enolate, formed from Evans oxazalone **215**, to aldehyde **216** is expected to give alcohol **217**. The transformation of **217** to amino alcohol **218** follows a similar four-step process<sup>46</sup>. The last three steps follow the procedure developed by Takahata and coworkers<sup>45</sup> as shown in Scheme 63. Due to the success of the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of cis- $\beta$ -hydroxy proline ester **129**, we did not attempt to investigate this plan.









The retrosynthetic analysis of this approach is illustrated in Scheme 65. Amino ester 125 can be obtained from alcohol 220a by several functional group transformations. These transformations were done previously during the racemic series synthesis. Aminoester 125 can be used to synthesize the corresponding diketopiperazine (DKP)

which was designed to be the key intermediate for the total synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A. The methodology which remains to be developed is the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of cis- $\beta$ -hydroxyproline ethylester **129**. By using this method, compound **220a** and analogs can be made. The idea for the stereoselective  $\alpha$ -alkylation of ester **129** is as follows: when the dianion of compound **129** reacts with alkylating reagents, the alkoxide at the  $\beta$ -position of **129** will induce the incoming alkyl group *anti*-to the alkoxide due to the 1,2-induction and therefore provide the desired stereoisomer **220a**. The regioselectivity issue, whether  $\alpha$ -C or  $\beta$ -O alkylation occurs, can be answered only by experimental result. However, from literature reports,<sup>52,53</sup> the ratio of polar aprotic solvent in a co-solvent reaction media has a profound effect on the ratio of C/O alkylations.

A literature search found reports by Frater and coworkers,<sup>47,48</sup> in which the investigation of  $\alpha$ -alkylation of chiral cis-ethyl-2-hydroxy-cyclohexanecarboxylate **221** (Scheme 66) was carried out. The *cis* (**222**) and *trans* (**223**) compounds were obtained in a 94.5/5.5 ratio with a combined 72% yield. The conditions are as follows: to a LDA (2.5 eq) solution at -50 °C in THF was added a solution of **221** in THF, and the reaction mixture was stirred at -15 °C for 10 min to give a dianion solution of **221**. At this time, a mixture of allylic bromide in HMPA (4.2 eq) was added to the above dianion solution. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 32 °C, it was quenched with a NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution followed by normal work-up to provide **222** and **223** in 72% yield.

### Scheme 66



First, we needed to make chiral nonracemic proline ester **129**. Three different groups have reported the synthesis of **129** through yeast-mediated bio-transformation (Scheme 67). The method<sup>49</sup> in Eq I gave **225** in 80% yield with >99% e.e., but the yeast

*Dipodascus sp* was not available. Sibi et al.<sup>50</sup> (Eq II) used the CBz substrate **226** and immobilized baker's yeast as the reducing reagent to synthesize the corresponding CBzalcohol in 85% yield (I repeated this reaction in 40% yield). CBz cleavage (Pd/C, H<sub>2</sub>) and in-situ protection of the amine using (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O gave **129** in 90% yield. For the immobilized baker's yeast reduction conditions, the work-up process was much easier than the normal yeast conditions. The only drawbacks are the low yield of this reaction and the extra protection step needed to make **129**. The method<sup>51</sup> we used for the synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A is shown in Eq III. Although it gave **129** in 90% e.e., it usually provides **129** in high yields (80-83%) on a large scale.

Scheme 67



Table 4 tabulates the results of our study of the  $\alpha$ -alkylation reaction. First, we have used prenyl bromide as our model alkylating reagent. When the same reaction conditions as reported by Frater was used, only the O-alkylation product was produced. We believe this result was due to the excess molar equivalents of HMPA used. When the

quantity of HMPA used was 10 eq or 8.4 eq again only O-alkylation occurred. Once the molar equivalents of HMPA was lowered to 2.3 eq or 1 eq, the desired  $\alpha$ -C-alkylation product was obtained in 73% yield, and only a minor amount of O-alkylation was produced. For entry 5, the real allylic iodide derivative **127** was the alkylating reagent, and the desired product **220a** was obtained in 45-70% yield. Employing NaN(TMS)<sub>2</sub> as the base did not give any desired product. Other polar apotic solvents such as DMPU and TMEDA were also examined. DMPU was not as good as HMPA in terms of yield, and for TMEDA there was no reaction. In summary, we found that the absence of HMPA produced no alkylation reaction while an excess of HMPA gave only O-alkylation product.



5) Only one diastereomer is formed

Simplified conditions for the formation of compound 220a



\*different batches of **129** required distinct equiv. of HMPA ranging from 1.5, 4.5, 9.7 to 13.7 eq.



After the successful synthesis of **220a** and **220b**, we decided to extend this methodology to other activated or nonactivated alkylating reagents. The results are shown in Scheme 68. Compounds **220c-e** were obtained in good yield. The simplified condition was used only for the large scale synthesis of **220a**. The difference between the two conditions is in the procedure for forming the dianion while the work-up is the same. The simplified condition (LDA in THF at -78 °C, addition of **129** in THF, then at 0 °C for 35 min) to form the dianion of **129** is much simpler than the old one. Therefore, the simplified condition to form the dianion can also be used for the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of other alkylating agents. In each case, only one diastereomer was formed, and little or no O-monoalkylated or O-, C-dialkylated by-products were produced. These highly stereoselective alkylation reactions all proceeded with net retention of configuration giving a single diastereomer as

evidenced by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and other analytical data including the X-ray analysis of **220e** (Figure 1) and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the t-BOC-deprotected derivative of compound **220a**. The relative and absolute stereochemistry of the alkylation products was rigorously secured through a single crystal X-ray analysis for **220e** (Figure 1). Chemical correlation was used to determine the relative and absolute stereochemistry of **220a** (Scheme 69). We also attempted to use a NOE method to determine the relative stereochemistry of all the  $\alpha$ -alkylated products, but the results were inconclusive. The relative, and thus, absolute stereochemistry was assigned based on similarities in nmr spectroscopic characteristics and optical rotation.

The dianion **227** derived from **129** is expected to have a concave shape due to a Licoordinated bicyclic [4.3.0] ring system geometry. Alkylation from the convex face opposite the alkoxy substituent is the expected (and observed) diastereofacial bias.



The chemical correlation method used for the absolute and relative stereochemistry determination of **220a** is outlined in Scheme 69. Barton deoxygenation of **220a** through a two-step process provided ester **229**, which was then treated with ZnBr<sub>2</sub> to remove the N-t-BOC group followed by reaction with bromoacetyl bromide to afford bromide **231**. Aminolysis of **231** and in-situ cyclization resulted in DKP **232**. Aldehyde **233**, a known compound synthesized during the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B, was converted to DKP **235**, an enantiomer of **232**. DKP **232** and **235** have the exact same <sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR and mobility on TLC. These facts indicate that DKP **232** and **235** have the same relative stereochemistry. DKP **232** has an optical rotation of  $[\alpha]^{D}_{25} = +51.4$  (c 0.36, EtOAc) and DKP **235** has an optical rotation of  $[\alpha]^{D}_{25} = -62.5$  (c 0.39, EtOAc). These opposite

optical rotations indicate that DKP 232 and 235 are enantiomers. Since DKP 232 is contaminated with a very minor amount of the Z isomer, we can not use the optical rotation of 232 to calculate its enantiomeric excess.

## Scheme 69



Figure 1 The molecular structure of 220e through X-ray analysis



Herein we will discuss the issue of  $\alpha$ -alkylation diastereoselectivity in more detail. In Scheme 70, chiral nonracemic DKP 240 was synthesized from compound 220a. In the aminolysis step (238 to 239), the amino ester compound 239 did not cyclize to give DKP 240 because it is the *cis*-isomer. However, the corresponding *trans*-isomer, which was made in the synthesis of the racemic series of compounds, can cyclize to give the corresponding DKP 171 (Scheme 72) under the aminolysis conditions. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR of DKP 171 is very unique. For all the aminolysis reactions, the measured <sup>1</sup>H NMRs of 239 and its analogs showed no formation of DKP 171 and its analogs. Based on these results, it was concluded that no *trans*-isomer was formed in the  $\alpha$ -alkylation step. Since the process of producing the dianion of compound 129 did not touch the hydroxy-attached chiral center at the  $\beta$ -position of 129 and only one stereoisomer was formed, the enantiomeric excess of all the  $\alpha$ -alkylated products should be the same as that of 129 (>90% ee).

The total synthesis of paraherquamide A required large scale synthesis of 220a. There was a very interesting and unique phenomenon discovered during this large scale synthesis of 220a. The first batch of compound 129 was synthesized on a 1.5 gram scale and was used to develop the  $\alpha$ -alkylation methodology. For this batch of 129, 1.4 equivalents of HMPA were found to be sufficient to make the alkylation reaction take place. If greater than four equivalents of HMPA were used, only the O-alkylation product was observed. The second batch of compound 129 was made on a 5 gram scale. The exact same conditions were used for the alkylation, but no reaction occurred and only starting material was recovered. After two weeks of investigation, it was discovered that 4.5 equivalents or more of HMPA were needed to make the alkylation reaction successful. Interestingly, the remaining 129 of the first batch only required 1.4 equivalents of HMPA in the same alkylation reaction. The third batch of 129 was synthesized on a 30 gram scale, and 13.7 equivalents of HMPA were found to be necessary for the alkylation procedure. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR, TLC and specific optical rotation of these three batches of 129 were

identical. For the second batch of **129**, this compound was repurified by distillation or column chromatography. However, the alkylation still required 4.5 equivalents or more of HMPA and showed no difference from the non-repurified same batch of **129**. The reason<sup>54</sup> for this phenomenon is still not clear. We also found that the yield of a 3 gram versus 2 gram scale reaction of **129** were the same and the recovered starting material did not undergo the alkylation.

With enough 220a in hand, DKP 240 was synthesized from 220a according to the route shown in Scheme 70. Protection of the secondary alcohol of 220a as the benzyl ether (73%), and subsequent deprotection of the N-t-BOC group with  $ZnBr_2$  (99%) followed by treatment with bromoacetyl bromide provided bromide 238 (78%). Aminolysis of 238 was accomplished by the syringe pump-mediated addition of 238 in MeOH to an ammonia solution in MeOH (5.76 M) to avoid the formation of by-products such as the secondary and tertiary amines.





The amide formation step turned out to be quite difficult. In Scheme 71, the reaction conditions examined are illustrated. When toluene or EtOH was used as the solvent under room temperature or reflux, there was no reaction. DKP 240 was obtained in about 35% yield with the addition of NaH in THF. Toluene was a superior solvent compared to THF, and the yield was 53-60%. However, there were some disadvantages for the toluene/NaH (8 eq) conditions. This reaction was not reproducible. Sometimes it was complete in 2 h, and sometimes there was no reaction even after 24 h. Eight equivalents of NaH were definitely required. The difficulty of this intramolecular amidation reaction lies in the sterichindrance of the  $\alpha, \alpha$ -disubstituted ethyl ester. There are two ways to overcome this problem. One approach was to activate the RNH anion and to render it more nucleophilic. The other approach was to activate the ester group by Lewis acid coordination to the carbonyl oxygen, hence increasing the electrophilicity of the carbonyl group. The RNH anion activation can be achieved by using HMPA or any other polar aprotic solvents which coordinate the sodium cation. Another alternative was to use Weinreb's<sup>55</sup> aluminum amide to convert the ester to the corresponding amide. When three equivalents of HMPA were added, the amidation reaction proceeded very quickly and was finished within 2 h. Only two equivalents of NaH were needed to give a 53% yield, and this reaction was reproducible on a large scale.



53%

There was an interesting observation regarding the DKP formation from the corresponding amino ester (for example 239 to 240). Several examples of this amide formation reaction are shown in Scheme 72.

Amino ester 239 (*cis*) has a diastereomer 168 (*trans*) that can be cyclized in MeOH at room temperature to provide ( $\pm$ ) DKP 171 in >82% yield. In comparison, the *cis*-isomer 239 requires much stronger reaction conditions for cyclization. Compounds 241 and 149a exhibit the same behavior. We decided to spend some time investigating this phenomenon, and hoped to find an answer which will help us to understand more about this reaction and hopefully improve the yield of the *cis*-isomer cyclization.





A and **B** are the two transition state models for *cis*-239 and *trans*-168 respectively (Figure 2). For the *cis*-compound, the transition state adopts a half chair-chair conformation (**A**). The large allylic group is in an axial position, and benzyl ether is also in an axial position. The carbonyl oxygen has a partial negative charge and the amino group has a partial positive charge. Due to the strong 1,3-axial-axial interaction between the benzyl ether group and hydrogen as well as the carbonyl group, the activation energy  $E_A^*$  for cyclization is higher than that of  $E_B^*$ . For *trans*-168, the transition state structure **B** has a lower activation energy  $E_B^*$  because the benzyl ether group is in the equatorial position. Therefore, the cyclization of the *cis*-isomer 239 is more difficult than that of *trans*-isomer 168. According to this model, if we change the protecting group at the  $\beta$ -position to a smaller one, the amide formation should be easier. Hydroxy bromide 246 was made from 220a in four steps (Scheme 73). 220a reacted with acetic anhydride catalyzed by DMAP to give acetate 243. Deprotection of the N-t-BOC group with ZnBr<sub>2</sub> followed by another deprotection of the acetate moiety with NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH provided hydroxy amine 245.

Treatment of **245** with one equivalent of bromoacetyl bromide under basic conditions afforded hydroxy bromide **246** in good yield. Aminolysis of **246** gave amine **247**, which was cyclized in-situ in a solution of NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH to afford DKP **248** in almost quantitative yield. Bromide **246** was also treated with a solution of CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> in MeOH and DKP **249** was obtained in >95% yield. In Scheme 72, the formation of DKP **242** (83%), which has a smaller MOM ether protecting group at the  $\beta$ -position, was also much easier than that of compound **239**. Therefore, the difficulty in cyclization of the *cis*-amino esters to the corresponding DKPs is in the order of PhCH<sub>2</sub>O > MOMO > OH. These facts support the transition model drawn in Figure 2.

Scheme 73



# 2.3 Two Connecting Methods between the Indole-dioxepin Subunit and Proline Derivatives

According to the synthetic strategy to access (-)-paraherquamide A, there were two methods envisioned for the connection of the indole-dioxepin subunit and the proline derivative. One approach was the dipeptide cyclization to the DKP (section 2.31), and the other was the Somei/Kametani coupling method. In this section, these two methods will be discussed in detail.

### 2.31 Dipeptide Cyclization to Diketopiperazine Method



Retrosynthetically, indole derivative 70 can be obtained from the cyclization of dipeptide 75. The coupling between compounds 60 and 76, and subsequent functional group transformations can provide intermediate 75. In fact, the coupling reaction between compounds 60 and 76 is the reaction which constructs the tryptophan derivative (right hand side amino acid of 75). The best available method is the one developed by Somei and Kametani et al.<sup>56,57</sup> in 1981 (Scheme 74).



Condition: n-Bu<sub>3</sub>P, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux, 4 h

The malonates 250 and 251 and the nitro compound 252 were coupled with gramine 52 in the presence of  $Bu_3P$  in refluxing CH<sub>3</sub>CN to provide a variety of  $\alpha$ -substituted tryptophan derivatives or nitro indole 255. For the Somei/Kametani reaction, a relatively strong carbon acid (pKa < 12) substrate (such as malonates 250 and 251, or nitro compound 252) is required. These substrates have two electron-withdrawing groups or an electron-withdrawing nitro group. Based on this method, (-)-brevianamide B and (+)-paraherquamide B were synthesized in the Williams group (Scheme75). In order to synthesize a suitable substrate for the Somei/Kametani type coupling reaction, two electron-withdrawing groups must be attached to the same carbon. Compound 61was considered a reasonable substrate, and it was made from 256 by a two-step process. After the coupling

step, one of the electron-withdrawing groups must be removed to in order to make the tryptophan-type derivative. The whole process involves four steps.

Scheme 75



2a, (+)-paraherquamide B

Can we find a substrate that has a relatively high pKa but will still couple with gramine derivatives to afford tryptophan-type compounds? Based my own experience with amino acids, imine protected glycine ester may be an appropriate substrate worth examining. In 1978, O'Donnell and coworkers<sup>58</sup> developed a methodology for synthesizing racemic  $\alpha$ -amino acids from the stable Schiff base **259**<sup>59</sup> derived from glycine ethyl ester and benzophenone (Scheme 76).



Tryptophan and its analogs are  $\alpha$ -amino acids. The pKa of imine ester **259** is 18.8.<sup>59</sup> Several related syntheses of tryptophan and derivatives was found through extensive literature search. Some researchers used lithium enolate to react with the gramine methiodide<sup>60,61</sup>. Others <sup>62,63</sup> have used compound **259** in an alkylation reaction with gramine methiodide under phase transfer catalysis conditions.

The possible mechanism (I) of the Somei/Kametani reaction is shown in Scheme 77. Under refluxing CH<sub>3</sub>CN, gramine is in equilibrium with dimethylamine and **262** which can be attacked by the catalyst Bu<sub>3</sub>P to provide anion **263**. Anion **263** can act as a base to abstract a proton from a relatively acidic carbon acid H<sub>2</sub>CXY to form the carbanion intermediate HCXY. S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction at the  $\alpha$ -carbon of **264** provides the coupling product **265** and returns the catalyst Bu<sub>3</sub>P. Another possible mechanism (II) in Scheme 77 shows some difference from the first one. In order to propagate this catalytic cycle, **263** must be a stronger base than anion HCXY or very close. The pKa value for the deprotonation of indole is 16.97.<sup>64</sup> The pKa of **259** is 18.8. These two pKa valves are very close. There is a good chance for imine **259** to undergo the Somei/Kametani reaction, because, in different solvent systems, the pKas of different substrates will respond differently. When imine **259** was treated with gramine under Bu<sub>3</sub>P catalysis in refluxing CH<sub>3</sub>CN, the desired coupling product (**266**) was obtained in 80% yield (Scheme 78).

# Somei/Kametani Reaction



Another method, the alkylation of the enolate formed from imine 259 and  $LiN(TMS)_2$  with gramine methiodide also provided 266 in >80% yield (Scheme 78).



Based on the successful synthesis of 266, lactim ether 268, obtained from amide 240 in 77% yield (Scheme 79), was treated with gramine under Somei/Kamatani condition, but no reaction occurred. Lactim ether 270, a racemic diastereomer of 268, was treated with the base  $LiN(TMS)_2$  and gramine methiodide and produced no coupling product. Other bases such as NaH, LDA and additives such as 15-C-5 were also used, but only the starting material lactim ether 268 or 270 were recovered. In a comparison of the pKa between 268 and 259, certainly the pKa of 268 is greater than that of 259. This pKa difference may reach the critical point such that the  $Bu_3P$ -catalyzed reaction cycle can not occor. The reason for the lack of coupling between lactim ether 268 or 270 with gramine methiodide in the presence of strong base is still not clear.



Initially, we reasoned that the anion was too stable and the lactim ether substrate was too hindered for reaction to occur. A much simple lactim ether **272** (Scheme 80), synthesized from proline, was treated with the same basic conditions. Although no starting material remained, no desired coupling product **273** was formed.



Next, we decided to synthesize compound 70 by alkylation of compound 76 with gramine derivative 60 before ring closure to the DKP system. First, a model study was carried out (Scheme 81). Primary amine 239 was reacted with diphenyl imine<sup>65,66</sup> to give the proline derivative 274. Compound 274 was treated with LiN(TMS), in THF/HMPA at -78 °C, and then gramine methiodide was added at room temperature. After 2 h, the desired product 275 was obtained as a diastereomeric mixture in 42% yield. The anti-and syn-free amines 276 and 277 were obtained by deprotection of the diphenylimine with hydroxylamine.<sup>67,68</sup> Compounds 276 and 277 were treated with NaH in toluene/HMPA repectively to give the anti-isomer 278 and the syn-isomer 279. The major anti-isomer 278 was converted into the lactim ether 280 followed by protection of the indole nitrogen as its t-BOC derivative, and TBAF-promoted t-butyldimethylsilyl ether deprotection to give lactim ether-alcohol 282. Compound 282 was a proposed intermediate for the stereocontrolled asymmetric synthesis of VM5559913a,b, a structurally similar alkaloid to (-)-paraherquamide A. The approach shown here is a new method for the coupling reaction between a complex proline derivative and a tryptophan in order to form a diketopiperazine like 278 and 279. For the formation of 275, the Somei/Kametani reaction condition was also used on substrate 274, but the desired compound 275 was obtained in lower yield with a longer reaction time. The stereochemical assignment for amines 276/277 and diketopiperazines 278/279 were based on similar intermediates made during the synthesis of breviamide B, (+)-paraherquamide B, and Kishi/Hutchison's work<sup>70</sup>. The syn-DKP 279 is more polar (lower Rf) and anti-DKP 278 is less polar (high Rf). The relative

polarity of the *syn* and *anti* diastereomers are the same as those of the corresponding proline–containing diketopiperazines (DKP). Westly and coworkers<sup>71</sup> found that of various DKPs, the *syn*-isomer is the most polar, and the *anti*-isomer was the least polar on the TLC system. Additional evidence supporting these structural assignments will be discussed in the actual synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A.





Following the synthetic route of the model system, the synthetic approach to (-)paraherquamide A was devised as shown in Scheme 82. Gramine derivative **60** reacted with methyl iodide in THF to provide **283** in almost quantitative yield. Diphenyl imine derivative **274** was treated with LiN(TMS)<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C in a solvent system of THF/HMPA to provide the enolate intermediate, which was coupled with **283** to give a diphenyl imino dipeptide in 19% yield. Deprotection of the diphenyl imino group with hydroxylamine produced amine **284** in 55% yield. Compound **284** was then subjected to the standard cyclization conditions successfully used in the other diketopiperazine-forming reactions (HMPA/toluene/NaH, at room temperature or reflux), but there was no reaction. Other conditions such as DMSO/NaH were also tried, and again there was no reaction. The only difference between amine **284**, and amine **276** (*anti*-isomer), is that **284** has a tbutyldimethylsilyl (TBS) ether protected dioxepin ring fused to the indole ring. First, we believed that the TBS group was quite large, and this may force the molecule (**284**) to adopt a stable conformation that can not cyclize to the desired diketopiperazine. When the intermediate without the TBS ether protecting group was treated with the same cyclization conditions, no reaction occurred. Due to the difficult cyclization reaction and the low yield (19%) coupling reaction between compounds **274** and **283**, the cyclic dipeptide formation approach from the acyclic dipeptide was abandoned.

# 2.32 The Coupling between Benzyl Ether Substituted DKP and Gramine Derivative via Somei/Kametani Coupling Reaction

Benzyl ether substituted DKP **240** is the first candidate to undergo the Somei/Kametani coupling reaction. At the initial stage of planning for the synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A, both benzyl ether and MOM ether protecting groups were carefully examined (including their stability towards all possible reaction conditions and the method of introducing and removing them). The benzyl ether group became our first choice due to its ease of introduction, stability to a variety of reaction conditions and its unique and neutral deprotection method. The only disadvantage of this protecting group is its steric bulkiness relative to the hydrogen atom found in (+)-paraherquamide B, and we want the protecting group to be as small as possible in order to mimic the steric environment of the intermediates used in the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B. The synthetic approach using benzyl ether DKP **240** is illustrated in Scheme 83.

The amide nitrogen of **240** was protected with a methoxycarbonyl group to provide **286** in 85-100% yield. When **286** was treated with  $LiN(TMS)_2$  (5 eq) at -78 °C and reacted with methyl chloroformate (7 eq), a second methoxycarbonyl group was introduced at the  $\alpha$ -position of the glycine molety in **286** to give **287** with the newly created chiral center as a single stereoisomer (as a mixture of E/Z isomers) which was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR. Compound **287** was then reacted with gramine derivative **60** in the presence of Bu<sub>3</sub>P (in refluxing CH<sub>3</sub>CN for 6 h, 52%) to provide the *syn*-isomer **288** (a mixture of four diastereomers, E/Z and R/S) and the *anti*-isomer **289** (a mixture of four diastereomers) in a 3.3:1 ratio. The stereochemical assignment of **288** and **289** was based on their mobilities on TLC, the major less polar compound **288** possessing the *syn*- configuration (but the allylic group is *anti* to the large indole ring, so **288** is less polar) and the minor more polar compound **289** being the *anti*-configuration.

Scheme 83



Scheme 84



Although compound **288** was a mixture of four diastereomers and the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were complex, the high resolution mass spectrum (HRMS, FAB<sup>+</sup>) displayed the correct molecular mass. Both *syn*-and *anti*-isomers **288** and **289** smoothly underwent decarbomethoxylation [HMPA, H<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 eq), LiCl (5 eq), 100-105 °C, 7-9 h] respectively to provide DKP **290** and **291** in a 1:1.6 ratio in 65% yield. The same result can be obtained for this reaction if a mixture of **288** and **289** were used. The stereochemical assignment of **290** and **291** were again based on their mobilities on TLC, the major more polar compound **291** possessing the *syn*-configuration, and the minor less polar compound **290** being the *anti*-configuration. The *syn*-isomer **291** was then treated with Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> (2.5 eq) [CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (20 eq)] to give a spot on TLC which had the exact same R<sub>f</sub> as the starting material **291** (Scheme 84). Several solvent systems were used (including EtOAc:hexane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:Et<sub>2</sub>O), but we did not achieve

any separation for the possible products and the starting material. <sup>1</sup>H NMR indicated that the spot was a mixture of desired lactim ether 292, starting material 291 (292:291/~1:0.6) and some amide N-methylation product. Compound 291 was also treated with Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> (5.0 eq) [CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (20 eq)], under the condition used successfully in the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B. However, the results were even worse. Considering the E/Z isomers, this spot is a mixture of twelve components. The subsequent protection of the indole nitrogen was accomplished by the reaction of 292 with (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $Et_3N$  in about 50% yield. Since the starting material was a mixture, the obtained 293 was also a mixture of the desired O-methylation and N-methylation compounds. Deprotection of both TBS ether groups with TBAF provided 294 as a mixture of many compounds. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and MS showed the product mixture contained the desired compound. Clearly, the lactim ether formation step was a major problem and can not be used in the total synthesis. Apparently, the  $Me_3OBF_4$  reagent is the best choice<sup>72</sup> for this kind of transformation. Other reagents such as Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> are too harsh for the sensitive indole and lactim ether moiety and employing Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> may also produce amide N-methylation products<sup>73</sup>. Usually, the N- and O-methylation products are inseparable or very close in mobility on TLC. From our experience of working with the lactim ether formation reaction using Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub>, the results strongly depend on the substrate. Usually you can obtain the desired product quickly in moderate to very good yield with trace amount of starting material remaining and no N-methylation. At other times, there is always a certain amount of starting material remaining no matter how many equiv. of Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> are used and how long the reaction is run. If these substrates contain functional groups which are labile to Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub>, too much Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> and longer reaction time will usually cause the starting material or product to decompose. Some typical reaction conditions are listed in Scheme 85.
#### Scheme 85



During the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B, **296** was obtained from **295** in 81% yield under the conditions of  $Me_3OBF_4$  (5 eq) and  $Na_2CO_3$  (20 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  for 4-6 h. When the same conditions was applied to compound **240**, the obtained products were the desilylated **240** (**298**) and desilylated lactim ether **297** in low yield, and if less  $Me_3OBF_4$  (1-2 eq) was used, there was starting material remaining even after 24 h. We finally found that  $Cs_2CO_3$  was a much better buffering reagent than  $Na_2CO_3$ . Compound **240** smoothly underwent lactim ether formation with 1.5 equiv. of  $Me_3OBF_4$  and  $Cs_2CO_3$ 

(20 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  within 4 h in 77% yield, with only a trace amount of starting material remaining. Compound **280** was obtained in 51% yield without starting material remaining (Scheme 81). There are several factors that may be responsible to the better performance (high yield, much less cleavage of TBS-ether functional group, less favoring the formation of N-methylation product) for  $Cs_2CO_3$ . HBF<sub>4</sub>, produced during the formation of lactim ether functional group, is the cause for the cleavage of TBS-ether group.  $Cs_2CO_3$  is a much stronger base than Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and can quickly react with HBF<sub>4</sub>. Therefore the cleavage of TBS-ether group is decreased dramatically. The proton at the amide group can be pulled away much easier by  $Cs_2CO_3$  and this may be responsible for the higher yield of the desired product. The  $Cs^+$  ion has a larger radius than Na<sup>+</sup> ion. The oxygen anion in the O<sup>-</sup>Cs<sup>+</sup> ion pair is looser than that in O<sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup> ion pair. Therefore the oxygen anion in the former is harder and reacts fast with a harder reagent like Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub>, favoring the formation of O-methylation product.

# 2.33 The Coupling between the MOM Ether Substituted DKP and Gramine Derivative via Somei/Kametani Coupling Reaction

#### The Successful Synthesis of (-)-Paraherquamide A

At this point, due to the failed lactim ether transformation of **291** to **292**, we decided to examine the MOM ether-protected substrates **305/306** (Scheme 87). Our reasoning was that the MOM ether group is more polar than the benzyl ether group, and the corresponding lactim ether product may have a different  $R_f$  from the starting material. Also the lactim ether formation reaction using Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> usually varies with different substrates, and changing to a different substrate may produce a better result.

The MOM ether protected diketopiperazine **91** was synthesized from **220a** (Scheme 86). Treatment of alcohol **220a** with MOMCl and  $iPr_2NEt$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  provided the MOM ether ester **299** in 91% yield, which was then reacted with  $ZnBr_2$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  to give amino ester **300** in 94% yield. Subsequent reaction of **300** with bromoacetyl bromide afforded bromide **301** in quantitative yield. Aminolysis of **301** with ammonia in MeOH

(5.76 M) provided the amino ester 241 in 94% yield. The resulting compound 241 was converted into the MOM ether DKP 242 in 84-93% yield. Amide nitrogen protection was carried out by treatment of 242 with n-BuLi at -78 °C followed by addition of methyl chloroformate to give 302, and further introduction of a second methoxycarbonyl group (THF,  $LiN(TMS)_2$ , -78 °C,  $ClCO_2CH_3$ , 1 h) resulted in the desired MOM ether protected DKP 91 as a mixture of E:Z isomers, with the newly created chiral center as a single stereoisomer. Scheme 86



At this point, we were ready for the coupling reaction (Scheme 87). The Somei/Kametani reaction between compounds 60 and 91 provided the *syn*-isomer 303 (high  $R_p$ , as a mixture of four diastereomers) and the *anti*-isomer 304 (lower  $R_p$ , as a mixture of four diastereomers) in a 3.1:1 ratio in 70% yield. Decarbomethoxylation of

303 and 304 were carried out respectively to give, with the same results, four separable diastereomers 305Z, 305E, 306Z and 306E in a combined 89% yield, and each of these is a mixture of two diastereomers (epimeric at the dioxepin 2° alcohol carbon). This reaction was reproducibly run on a 1 g scale. If more than 1 g of 303 or 304 was used, or the external reaction temperature was greater than 104-105 °C, or the reaction lasted longer than 5 h, a by-product was formed in 20% yield. This by-product was deprotection of only the primary TBS ether moiety. One can convert the by-product into the desired product by standard TBS ether formation protocol. In order to ensure the right amount of water (1.5 eq) was added, a stock solution of water in HMPA was always used. Next, we were ready to test the important key lactim ether-forming reaction. Compounds 306E/Z underwent lactim ether formation smoothly to provide the desired compound 308E/Z in 57-64% yield (86% yield based on recovered 306E/Z) under the conditions of Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> (2.5 eq) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (20 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 8 h or overnight with about 30% starting material remaining. There was neither N-methylation, nor TBS ether cleavage observed. The desired product has a mobility higher than the starting material, and therefore the reaction process can be monitored by simple TLC. The advantage for this reaction is that the remaining starting material can be easily separated on a short flash column and can be recycled to give the desired lactim ether. This reaction has been run on a 1.5 g scale without problem. Literature precedent<sup>74</sup> reveals that the stability of the MOM ether group is marginal to Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> and may be cleaved. Fortunately, all four substrates **305E/Z** and **306E/Z** are stable to Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> when used individually or as a mixture of **305E/Z** or 306E/Z.



Herein we wish to discuss the stereochemical assignment of the lactim ether isomers 307E/Z and 308E/Z. We previously assigned our proline-containing DKP compounds based on their mobility on TLC. The anti-isomer is less polar and the synisomer is more polar by TLC. For compounds 307E/Z (formed from 305E/Z), we assign them as the anti-isomers. The <sup>1</sup>H NMRs of these anti-isomers have a distinct difference with those of the syn-isomers 308E/Z. The methyl peaks of the MOM group are at 3.06 and 3.18 ppm for the two diastereomers of 307E and at 3.04 and 3.17 ppm for the two diastereomers of 307Z. However, the methyl peaks of the MOM group are at 3.31 ppm (3H, s) for the syn-isomers 308E/Z. The methyl peaks of anti-isomer 307E/Z appear at a higher field than that of syn-isomers 308E/Z. This observation can be explained by their structural difference. The methyl group of the MOM ether in the anti-isomers 307 (307E/Z) is on the same face and close to the dioxepin-indole ring, and is shielded by the dioxepin-indole ring. Therefore, they appear at higher field. For the syn-isomer 308E/Z, the dioxepin-indole ring is on the opposite face to the MOM ether group, and the methyl group of MOM ether is not shielded by the dioxepin-indole ring and appears at a lower field at 3.31 ppm. This phenomena appears for all the compounds (prior to  $S_N 2'$ ) containing the lactim ether moiety. In summary, the stereochemical assignments for the DKP intermediates based on the their TLC mobility are correct and consistent with the <sup>1</sup>H NMR evidence.

Protection of the indole nitrogen for 307 and 308 was straightforward and provided the corresponding products in >95% yield (Scheme 87). Usually, 308E/Z were converted directly to diols 312E and 312Z by a two-step one pot process in 95~100% yield. Sometimes more than 5 equiv. of TBAF were needed to completely convert 310 to 312 when the reaction was conducted on a 1 g scale. In the decarbomethoxylation step, *anti*-isomers 305Z and 305E can be separated easily by flash column chromatography. However, the separation of the *syn*-isomers 306E and 306Z was much more difficult.

Instead, they were converted to the diols 312E/Z, and these two compounds can be separated by radial chromatography on a 1 g scale.

Scheme 88



The allylic chloride formation step, such as the formation of **317** or **316**, is one of the most difficult transformations in both the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B and (-)-paraherquamide A (Scheme 88). During the synthesis of (-)-brevianamide B, the Meyers

procedure<sup>75</sup> (DMF, MsCl, LiCl, Collidine) was used successfully for the synthesis of **54** from **313** (Scheme 88). However, for (+)-paraherquamide B intermediate **314**, the same procedure only led to the lactim ether-cleaved product **315**. Cushing also tried several alternative routes to synthesize **316**, but they all failed. Finally, this problem was solved by embracing the procedure of Corey<sup>76</sup>, essentially a modified Corey-Kim oxidization but without the base. Compound **316** was obtained in 81% yield (based on recovered starting material).





Here is a quote about using the Corey-Kim procedure from Cushing's thesis " however, this reaction was somewhat problematic. It was extremely sluggish. On a large scale it had to be stirred all day at -23 °C and then placed in the freezer (~ -35 °C) and stirred for an additional period. If the reaction mixture was placed in the freezer one more night total decomposition would result ".

When the same Corey-Kim procedure was used for diol **312E** (Scheme 89), there were two reactions which gave good results (14 mg and 45 mg scale). For all other cases, small or large scale, a complex mixture was produced including the starting material, the lactim ether moiety-cleaved starting material **318**, the desired product **317E** and an unusual dichloro intermediate **319**. A yellow-orange oily mixture was always obtained without exception. Compound **319** was presumably formed from the reaction of the highly electron-rich indole moiety with the intermediate **320**. The structure of **319** was rigorously confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR and HRMS. We also purified the NCS by recrystallization from H<sub>2</sub>O, AcOH or benzene and redistilled DMS from sodium. However, compound **319** was always produced as a nearly inseparable spot on TLC from the desired compound **317E**.

At this point, for this type of diol, the sensitive functionalities such as t-BOC group, electron-rich indole and lactim ether, the allylic chloride formation proved to be a major obstacle. We decided to do a methodology investigation. According to a literature procedure<sup>77</sup>, diol **312E** was treated with TsCl, DMAP and Et<sub>3</sub>N in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 3-4 days at room temperature, in hopes of producing the allylic chloride **317E** (Scheme 90). Instead, the product obtained was the tosylate **321** and about half of the starting material was recovered. Phenyl sulfonate was expected to be more reactive and be displaced by chloride anion more easily to generate the allylic chloride. Diol **312E** was reacted with PhSO<sub>2</sub>Cl (10 eq) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (10 eq) in THF to provide the desired allylic chloride **317E** in 25-30% yield with a trace amount of **322** formed. Although this reaction went from spot to spot, for some unknown reason, the yield was low. At this time, we had depleted our supply of compound **312E** and had 240 mg of **312Z**, which was then used as the starting material for studying the allylic chloride-forming reaction. From our previous examples,

we knew that the allylic phenylsulfonate is not stable and can be displaced by the Cl in THF. The allylic mesylate is even less stable and may be used as an intermediate to synthesize the desired allylic chloride. The first example of this idea was conducted by treating **312Z** with MsCl (2 eq) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (4 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 24 h at room temperature. Work-up gave two products, one is the allylic chloride-mesylate **323**, the other is the desired allylic chloride **317Z** in a 11:1 ratio. In order to decrease the formation of **323**, less MsCl (1 eq) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (2 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (at 0 °C for 10 h, then r.t. for 24 h) were used, and gave a mixture of **317Z/312Z** in a 29:22 ratio in 75% yield based on the recovered starting material **312Z**.

Due to the by-product **323** formation, we did a literature search in order to solve this selective mesylation problem. In 1998, Burke et al.<sup>78</sup> published a paper entitled "Selective Mesylation of Vicinal Diols: A Systematic Case Study." In this paper, they stated "It is known that the reaction of methanesulfonyl chloride with Et<sub>3</sub>N results in a very reactive sulfene intermediate, which is unlikely to be kinetically selective. The increased selectivity observed with Hunig's base can be attributed to its lower basicity, thus generating less of the reactive sulfene intermediate." We modified their best conditions to test diol substrate **312E** (Scheme 91). The base was changed from Et<sub>3</sub>N to a large excess of a more hindered base collidine, the reaction was run at 0 °C and at low concentration (0.05 M), in hopes of decreasing the formation of the by-product dimesylate. Scheme 90



To a solution of **312E** in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at 0 °C was added collidine (10 eq) and MsCl (1.1 eq), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h and at 7 °C for 17 h, the desired allylic mesylate-OH was obtained in >90% yield, and the by-product bis mesylate in only 7% yield. Displacement of the mesylate by the Cl<sup>-</sup> formed in-situ proceeded very slowly at 0.05 M concentration in  $CH_2Cl_2$ . This reaction should be faster if HMPA or DMF or an external Cl<sup>-</sup> source such as  $Bu_3BnNCl$  were added because this is an ionic reaction and can be accelerated by the addition of a polar solvent. When the mesylate solution in  $CH_2Cl_2$  was concentrated to half volume and HMPA (5.7 eq) and  $Bu_3BnNCl$  (4 eq) were added, the desired allylic chloride was produced in 90% yield in 24 h without any cleavage of the lactim ether moiety which occurred with the Meyers procedure. This procedure always gave the product as a nice white foam. The above method is a simple, practical and reproducible way to synthesize the allylic chloride compounds which have labile founctionalities.

## Scheme 91



The secondary alcohols of the desired allylic chlorides were carefully reprotected with t-butyldimethylsilyl triflate to furnish the key  $S_N 2'$  cyclization substrate 325E/Z (syn series) and 326E/Z.(anti series) (Scheme 92).





 $S_{N}2'$  substrate 325E (14 mg) was treated with NaH (20 eq) in refluxing benzene for 32 h (Scheme 93). Three products were obtained and less than 1 mg 325E was recovered. Compound 327 is the desired product and macrocyclization compound 328 is the undesired product, which was formed from intramolecular alkylation of the indole nitrogen. The t-BOC group at the indole nitrogen is more labile than a t-BOC group of a normal alkyl amine under basic conditions and therefore was cleaved by extraneous hydroxide in the reaction. Compound **326E** is the diastereomer of **325E**, and this material was formed by epimerization of the stereogenic center adjacent to the lactim ether double bond. The above reaction was very sluggish and provided the desired product in very low yield (25-26%). During the synthesis of paraherquamide B, chloride 65 was treated with NaH (20 eq) in refluxing benzene and the desired product 66 was obtained in 93% yield after 6-8 h with no macrocyclization by-product formed (Scheme 19). The only difference between compound 65 and 325E is that 325E has a MOM ether group at the C-3 position of the proline ring, which results in a large change in reactivity. Since the MOM ether group of 325E is on the  $\alpha$ -face and the indole moiety is on the  $\beta$ -face of the diketopiperazine ring, these two groups are on opposite sides of the DKP ring and block the NaH from pulling the proton from the reactive site; therefore the reaction is very sluggish.





One possible explanation may be as follows: NaH in benzene may not exist as a monomer but as a cluster. This will make it difficult for the NaH to reach the reactive site. A possible solution is to use THF as the solvent to disassociate the cluster of NaH. When **325E** was treated with NaH in refluxing THF for 6 h, the desired product was obtained in 65% yield with no starting material left and no macro-cyclization by-product (Scheme 94). When this reaction was run on a large scale, the desired product was obtained in >87% yield. Occasionally , if the reaction takes longer than 9 h and is contaminated with moisture, compound **329** was obtained, which can then be converted back to **327** very easily. Bis-MOM ether compound **330** was also synthesized from **317E** in 90% yield. Under NaH/PhH conditions, there was no desired product **331** formed, and there was a tiny bit of decomposition of compound **330**. Once the solvent was changed to

THF, the reaction underwent cyclization very quickly to give the desired product **331** and some **332**.

Scheme 94



Scheme 95



Interestingly, **325Z**, the Z-isomer, and the Z-isomer of similar analogs have never been subjected to the  $S_N 2'$  cyclization previously. In this case, **325Z** provided the desired cyclization product with exclusively *syn*-stereochemistry (*syn* refers to isopropenyl group and the proline nitrogen in compound **327**) identical to the E-somers (Scheme 95). Fortunately, for both *syn*-series compounds **325** and *anti*-series compounds **326**, the MOM ether group at the  $\beta$ -position of the proline ring did not affect the stereoselectivity of the newly created chiral center, and the result is the same as for paraherquamide B. The purity of the newly created stereogenic center was rigorously confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.

The high degree of facial selectivity observed in the cyclization from *syn*-325E to 327 is quite interesting and warrants some comments. It is generally accepted that  $S_N 2'$  reactions favor a *syn* orientation (i.e., the incoming nucleophile attacks the  $\pi$ -electrons from the same face as the departing leaving group, polarizing the  $\pi$ -system in the proper orientation for a backside displacement on the C-Cl bond). In the synthesis of (-)-brevianamide B Williams et al.<sup>24</sup> found that in a polar aprotic solvent (DMF or in the presence of 18-C-6), the major product was the *exo-(anti)* structure, while in a nonpolar solvent (benzene) the *endo-(syn)* product predominated. In the synthesis of (+)-paraherquamide B, the *syn*-S<sub>N</sub>2' product was formed exclusively in the presence of NaH under reflux in benzene. The stereochemistry outcome of the S<sub>N</sub>2' cyclization can be

explained by whether the transition state possesses a chelation-control closed structure or not. In the presence of DMF or 18-C-6, the chelation-control closed structure (transition state) (like **333**) was forced to open to form a *exo*-open transition state structure, that would lead to the formation of *anti*-product, while in the presence of benzene or THF the chelation-control closed structure (transition state) can exist and would lead to the formation of the *syn*-product (Scheme 96).

## Scheme 96



(exclusively syn-)

327



When the successful cyclization procedure used for the corresponding paraherquamide B intermediate was applied to olefin **325**, the reaction gave a lot of spots on TLC (Scheme 97). There was no desired cyclized product **337** formed. Each of the spots were separated, and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR indicated that they were most likely the deprotected products **334**, **335** and **336** produced by the HBF<sub>4</sub> formed in-situ. When the more eletrophilic Pd reagent [Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was stirred with **325** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN for two days at room temperature, no reaction occurred. Based on the information of the separated products from the PdCl<sub>2</sub>-AgBF<sub>4</sub> mediated reaction, obviously the products were produced by an acid formed in-situ (most likely HBF<sub>4</sub>). To prevent this from happening, a base should be added to neutralize the HBF<sub>4</sub>. Et<sub>3</sub>N is not a proper choice because it will reduce Pd<sup>2+</sup> to Pd<sup>o</sup> medal as indicated by Trost et al.<sup>79</sup> 2,6-Lutidine, a hindered base in which the  $\alpha$ -carbon of the nitrogen has no hydrogen, was added to the reaction mixture, but only starting material was recovered. Finally, when 54 equiv. of propylene oxide were added, the desired cyclization product **337** was obtained in good yield (on a 50 mg scale, 66% yield; on a 201 mg scale, 85% yield) (Scheme 98). Scheme 98



The transformation of lactim ether **337** to lactam **338** in a practical manner turned out to be very difficult (Scheme 99). Two procedures (LiCl, HMPA, H<sub>2</sub>O, and Bu<sub>3</sub>BnNCl, 60 °C)<sup>80</sup> and [NCS,  $(CH_3)_2S$ , 0 °C to r.t.,  $CH_2Cl_2]^{81}$  were able to provide the desired product **338**, but these reactions gave complex mixtures and the yield was low, and were often not reproducible. Other conditions like 1 N HCl in THF (1:1), or 1 N HCl in THF (1:6), or PPTS in EtOH gave a complex mixture which contained some of the amino ester **339**.

Scheme 99





337

Condition: THF:0.1 N HCl aq/12.5:1, 0 °C, 1 h

At this point, I had to leave Colorado State University to work at Schering-Plough Corporation, New Jersey. At the same time, Dr. Hidekazu Tsujishima joined this project. He worked on the rest of this total synthesis work till the finish of the total synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A.

However, when THF:0.1 N HCl/12.5:1 was used for compound **337**, the desired amino ester **339** were obtained in high yield. Reformation of the diketopiperazine **338** was accomplished by refluxing **339** in toluene catalyzed with 2-hydroxypyridine to provide **338** in 83% yield (Scheme 100).

In the paraherquamide B synthesis,  $AIH_3-Me_2NEt^{85}$  complex and  $Et_3AI$  were used to carry out the reduction in 64-71%. However, making this alane complex reagent and subsequent titration were time-consuming and not convenient. In the total synthesis of (±)-gelsemine by Fukuyama et al.<sup>82</sup>, they reported the selective reduction of a tertiary amide in the presence of a secondary amide using DIBAL-H in 82% yield. Regioselective reduction of the tertiary amide of **338** following the same procedure of Fukuyama proceeded cleanly with DIBAL-H in toluene to give tertiary amine **340** in 72% yield. N-Methylation of the secondary amide in **340** (NaH, MeI in DMF, 96%) afforded intermediate **341** (Scheme 100).





Selective deblocking<sup>83</sup> of the MOM ether protecting group in 341 (bromocatecholborane, 6 eq, in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , at °C) gave 342 in 91% yield (Scheme 101). This secondary alcohol was oxidized with Dess-Martin periodinane to afford compound 343 in 85% yield. In order to ensure that the oxidation of this hindered secondary alcohol would be successful, during the early stage of this project, a model study was conducted and the desired ketone 166 was obtained from 220a in >85% yield (Scheme 101).





Scheme 102



Scheme 103



Deblocking of both protecting groups of 343 (510 eq of TFA in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) gave keto-alcohol 344 in 97% yield (Scheme 102). The oxidative spirooxidation was accomplished by a two-step oxidation/rearrangement process (Scheme 103). Chloroindolenine 345 was obtained by treatment of 344 at -15 °C with a complex of pyridine and t-BuOCl. Hydration of the chloroindolenine 345 in a relatively less polar solvent system (90% THF/10% H<sub>2</sub>O) with 5 equiv. of TsOH affected rearrangement to oxindole 347 in 54% yield. It was found necessary to rigorously remove all of the pyridine solvent prior to the Pinacol-type rearrangement. It is assumed that the chlorination of 344 proceeds from the least hindered face of the indole giving the  $\alpha$ chloroindolenine 345. The hydration of the imine functionality interestingly, must also occur from the same  $\alpha$ -face which is *syn*-to the relatively large chlorine atom furnishing the *syn*-chlorohydrin 346 which subsequently rearranges stereospecifically to the desired spiro-oxindole 347.

The final dehydration was affected with MTPI in DMPU<sup>84</sup> to provide 14-keto-(-)paraherquamide A **43** in 55% yield (Scheme 104). This material proved to be identical to the semi-synthetic intermediate prepared by Lee<sup>23</sup> at Pharmacia-Upjohn by <sup>1</sup>H nmr, HRMS and mobility on TLC. The final step, that involves methylmagnisum bromide addition to ketone **43** followed the same procedure that was successfully used by Lee<sup>23</sup> at Pharmacia-Upjohn to give (-)-paraherquamide A as the exclusive product (Scheme 104) (the C-14 epimer was not detected) in 42% yield that was identical in all respects (<sup>1</sup>H nmr, <sup>13</sup>C nmr, ir, exact mass, mobility on TLC). The synthetic sample recrystallized from ether has m.p. 250 °C (decomp.) and  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -22$  (c = 0.2 MeOH). A sample of natural paraherquamide A recrystallized from ether under the same conditions rendered a sample with m.p. 250 °C (decomp.) and  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -21$  (c = 0.2 MeOH). The final synthetic paraherquamide A upon recrystallization from ether is ~optically pure.

Scheme 104



## 2.4 Summary of the Total Synthesis of (-)-Paraherquamide A

The first stereocontrolled total synthesis of (-)-paraherquamide A was completed in 48 chemical steps. This synthesis is a convergent one, starting from ethyl glycinate, ethyl acrylate and vanillin. The longest linear route is 35 steps.

Dioxepin-indole **60**, one of the key intermediates, was synthesized in 13 steps from 4 kg of vanillin according to a known synthetic approach. Five different steps of this synthesis were optimized by way of increasing the yield of products, avoiding unnecessary chemical transformations and simplifying purification procedure. Key features of these optimizations include: the synthetic route was shortened from 14 to 13 steps by avoiding a basic hydrolysis step and the following recrystallization procedure; a simplified purification procedure for the prenynation reaction of compound **101**; the yield of the epoxidation of **102** was increased to 85% from 64%; the over-reduced indoline **106** was converted to the desired indole **105** in almost quantitative yield; and finally, the yield of a hindered alcohol t-butyldimethylsilylation reaction was increased to 95% from 82%.

Both racemic and asymmetric synthetic methods were developed to synthesize  $\alpha$ substituted  $\beta$ -hydroxy proline derivatives (**219a-e**). This compound was further transformed to DKP **91**, the other key intermediate for the synthesis of paraherquamide A. The direct  $\alpha$ -alkylation of  $\beta$ -hydroxy proline ester **129** produced only one diastereomer, and this method demonstrated convenience and simplicity without the need for additional protection of **129**. Other novel features are as follows: a complex DKP **91** and compound **60** were coupled together by using the Somei/Kametani reaction; a MOM ether protected substrate was converted to the lactim ether by using optimized conditions to overcome this often problematic transformation; a unique, convenient and mild allylic chloride formation procedure was found for the synthesis of compound **317** and its analogs ; a high yielding entirely stereoselective  $S_N 2'$  reaction was carried out in THF not only for the E-isomeric allylic chloride, but also, for the first time, the Z isomer; a unique Pd(II)-mediated cyclization reaction through addition of propylene oxide to neutralize the in-situ formed acid; and a mild acidic condition for cleavage of the lactim ether without cleaving other acid-labile protecting groups.



### Scheme 105 The Improved Synthesis of Dioxepin-indole Subunit 60



## Scheme 106 Completion of the Paraherquamide A Synthesis









1 (-)-paraherquamide A

## CHAPTER THREE EXPERIMENTAL

## **General** information

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were acquired using either a Bruker WP-270SY 270 MHz or a Bruker AC300P or Varian JS-300 NMR spectrometer. The chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) downfield from TMS at  $\delta$  0.0 ppm or relative to residual CHCl3 at  $\delta$  7.24 ppm. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 1600 FT IR as thin films from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> or CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Both low and high resolution mass spectra were obtained from Colorado State University. Elemental analysis were from M-H-W Laboratories, Phoenix Arizona. Optical rotations were recorded on Perkin-Elmer 24 polarimeter at a wavelength of 589 nm using a 1.0 decimeter cell of 1.0 mL total volume.

## Chromatography

Flash column chromatography was performed with silica gel grade 60 (230-400 mesh). Radial chromatography was performed with a Harrison Research Chromatotron model 7924 using E.Merck silica gel 60 PF-254 containing gypsum and one, two or four millimeter plates were used as needed. Preparative thin layer chromatography (PTLC) was carried out with Merck Kieselgel 60  $F_{254}$  precoated glass plates (20 x 20 cm x 0.25 mm). These plates were also used as a qualitative indicator for reaction completion, with ultraviolet light and heating with a solution of 5-7 % phosphomolybdic acid in 95% ethanol. Additional visualization stains (L/vanillin) were occasionally used.

## **Reagents and solvents**

Unless otherwise noted materials were obtained from commercially available sources and used without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran and diethyl ether were distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl under a nitrogen atmosphere. Methylene chloride, triethylamine, pyridine, acetonitrile, toluene, benzene, and diisopropylamine were distilled from calcium hydride under a nitrogen atmosphere. DMF and HMPA were dried over 3 Å molecular sieves for 1 week prior to use. The molecular sieves were activated by heating to 200 °C at 1 mm Hg for 4 h in a round bottom flask. NCS was recrystallized from benzene or acetic acid. LiCl and AgBF<sub>4</sub> are hydroscopic and were handled quickly. Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> was stored in a freezer and weighed in the air without problem. After each use, Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> was placed on the vacuum line and filled with nitrogen or argon. A stock solution of water in HMPA was used for the decarbomethoxylation reaction. A mesyl chloride stock solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was used for the allylic chloride formation reaction. Zinc chloride was dried by heating to 210 °C for 4 h under vacuum in a flask.



### $\beta$ -Alanine, N-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)-, ethyl ester (150)

To a stirred solution of ethyl glycinate hydrochloride salt (100.5 g, 720 mmol, 1.0 eq) in 95% ethanol (1650 mL) at room temperature was added ethyl acrylate (79.3 g, 793 mmol, 1.1 eq) followed by triethyl amine (73.3 g, 720 mmol, 1 eq). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2-3 days. TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/4:2:1) was used to monitor the reaction. After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was concentrated, and water was added. The product was extracted with EtOAc, and the combined organic solution was washed with brine (3 times), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by vacuum distillation (104-108 °C/0.6-1 mmHg) to afford 111 g (76%) of **150** as a colorless oil (lit., <sup>51</sup>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.22-1.31 (6H, m), 1.92 (1H, broad, s), 2.50 (2H, t, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 2.90 (2H, t, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 3.41 (2H, s), 4.07-4.25 (4H, m)

IR (NaCl, film) 3338, 2982, 2937, 2910, 1732, 1465, 1371, 1888 cm<sup>-1</sup>





β-Alanine, N-[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]-N-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl), ethyl ester (151)

To a stirred solution of **150** (17.6 g, 86.8 mmol, 1 eq) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (190 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C was added (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (25.9 g, 119 mmol, 1.37 eq) followed by 5% NaOH (190 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0  $^{\circ}$ C for about 1 h and at room temperature for 10 h. TLC (hexane:EtOAc/4:1) was used to monitor the reaction. The reaction mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to provide 50 g of a crude oil. Purification of the product by vacuum distillation (123-128  $^{\circ}$ C/0.15 mmHg) afforded 23.5 g (90-95%) of **151** as a colorless oil (lit., <sup>50,51</sup>)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.21-1.33 (6H, m), 1.40-1.53 (9H, m), 2.59-2.70 (2H, m), 3.49-3.60 (2H, m), 3.95-4.05 (2H, s), 4.08-4.30 (4H, m)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.9, 172.6, 170.8, 170.6, 156.0, 155.5, 80.6, 80.5, 61.1, 60.7, 60.6, 51.0, 50.2, 45.0, 44.9, 34.3, 33.9, 28.5, 28.3, 14.4, 14.3. IR (NaCl, film) 2978, 2938, 1743, 1702, 1462, 1367, 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup>

FAB HRMS m/e 304.1760 (C14H25NO6 + H requires 304.1760)




1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3-oxo-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (131)

A suspension of KO'Bu (24.48 g, 218.0 mmol, 1.5 eq) in toluene (580 mL) was cooled to 0 °C by means of an external ice-NaCl bath (-6 °C to -8 °C) and was stirred vigorously by a mechanic stirrer. A solution of **151** (44.8 g, 145.6 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (80 mL) was added via cannula over 12 min. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 85 min, it was quenched with acetic acid (16 mL) (in one portion) followed by a cold solution of NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O (80 g) in H<sub>2</sub>O (800 mL). The upper organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (500 mL, 300 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with pH 7 phosphate buffer (2 × 150 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give 36 g of an oil. Toluene (800 mL) was added to the above crude oil, and the resulting solution was washed with pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer (5 × 400 mL), followed by water (1 × 200 mL). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to afford 16 g of a reddish oil. The product was purified by Kugelrohr distillation (125-145 °C/2-3 mmHg) to yield 14.0 g (37.4%) of **131** as a colorless oil (lit., <sup>50.51</sup>). TLC solvent system was hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/ 5:2:0.5.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.30 (3H, m), 1.40-1.50 (9H, m), 2.65-2.71 (2H, m), 3.75-3.95 (2H, m), 4.20-4.30 (2H, m), 4.45-4.55 (1H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 205.3, 204.8, 166.9, 166.7, 154.7, 81.7, 66.4, 66.0, 62.7, 42.8, 42.2, 37.7, 37.0, 34.7, 34.3, 28.8, 14.8.

IR (NaCl, film) 2978, 2930, 1771, 1738, 1704, 1391, 1160 cm<sup>-1</sup>





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3(S)-hydroxy, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2(R)-ethyl ester (129)

To a 6-L Erlenmeyer flask, immersed in a water bath, was added in succession, 131 (34.15 g, 0.132 mol, 1 eq), sucrose (513 g) and distilled water (2731 mL). The mixture was stirred until the sucrose dissolved, after which dry Baker's yeast (341 g, Red Star<sup>R</sup>) was added. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 32 °C to 33 °C for 24 h, it was centrifuged. The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with ether (4 times). The combined extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc /4:1 then 2:1) gave 28.7 g (84%) of **129** as a pure oil (lit., <sup>50,51</sup>). Both <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of the derived Mosher's ester of **129** indicated an enantiomeric excess of *ca* .90% (Knight et al. <sup>51</sup>).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.28-1.35 (3H, m), 1.45-1.50 (9H, m), 1.95-2.18 (2H, m), 3.30 (1H, broad, s), 3.42-3.55 (1H, m), 3.55-3.65 (1H, m), 4.15-4.25 (2H, m), 4.30-4.42 (1H, m), 4.55-4.65 (1H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.6, 170.5, 154.4, 154.0, 80.2, 80.1, 72.2, 71.3, 64.0, 63.5, 61.0, 44.3, 43.8, 32.6, 32.0, 28.4, 28.2, 14.3, 14.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3449, 2982, 2958, 2899, 1742, 1702, 1420, 1358, 1211, 1194 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$  + 19.0 (c 1.21, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). lit., <sup>51</sup>  $[\alpha]^{27}_{D}$  + 18.2 (c 1.45, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 55.58; H, 8.16; N, 5.40. Found: C, 55.41; H, 7.93; N, 5.15.





Silane, (1,1-dimethylethyl)[(E)-(4-iodo-2-methyl-2-butenyl)oxy]dimethyl (127)

To a stirred solution of **165** (4.70 g, 50.3 mmol, 1 eq), at 0 °C, in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (87.5 mL) was added MgSO<sub>4</sub> (3.0 g), *t*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (7.43 g, 49.3 mmol, 0.98 eq) and tetrabutylammonium iodide (22.25 g, 60.30 mmol, 1.2 eq). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 27 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and hexane was added. The resulting suspension was filtered, and the solid pad was washed with hexane. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by Kugelrohr distillation (80-90 °C/0.1 mmHg) to give 9.33 g (58%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**127**) and the Z isomer (a colorless liquid, as an E:Z/6.4:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.05 (6H, m), 0.89 (9H, m), 1.65-1.82 (3H, s), 4.05 (2H, s), 4.12-4.31 (2H, m), 5.65-5.75 (1H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.6, 141.2, 121.9, 119.3, 67.4, 61.8, 40.5, 40.1, 26.0, 25.8, 21.3, 18.5, 13.4, -5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 2956, 2930, 2886, 2857, 1472, 1463, 1389, 1362, 1254, 1147, 1115, 1078, 1006, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R)-[E-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-hydroxy-,1-(1,1-dimethylethyl),2-ethyl ester (220a)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (2.38 g, 25.8 mmol, 3.25 eq) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> was added CH<sub>3</sub>Li (25.8 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 25.8 mmol, 3.25 eq) over 8 min. The resulting brown solution was stirred at 0 °C for 20 min and then cooled to -78 °C. A solution of **129** (2.02 g, 7.80 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (12.5 mL + 2.5 mL rinse) was added via cannula over 7 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for an additional 3 min and at 0 °C for 50 min, then recooled to -78 °C. A solution of allylic iodide derivative (4.56 g, 14.0 mmol, 1.8 eq) in HMPA (19.0 g, 106 mmol, 13.7 eq) was introduced in one portion to the above vigorously stirred solution. The reaction was allowed to proceed at 0 °C for a further 2 h before being quenched with EtOAc and saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 times), and the combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a liquid. TLC system (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) was used to monitor the reaction. Purification by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/4:1) provided 2.08 g (58%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**220a**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/4.3:1 mixture). On a scale of 1.68 g, 2.04 g product was obtained (70%).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01–0.02 (6H, m), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.17-1.26 (3H, m), 1.32-1.41 (9H, m), 1.37-1.70 (3H, m), 1.89-1.98 (2H, m), 2.50 (1H, broad, s), 2.74-2.88 (2H, m), 3.14-3.19 (1H, m), 3.60-3.77 (1H, m), 3.94 (2H, s), 4.02-4.22 (3H, m), 5.25-5.29 (1H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.3, 153.8, 138.6, 138.2, 118.1, 117.7, 80.4, 79.6,
76.8, 76.5, 71.7, 71.2, 68.4, 68.1, 61.3, 45.4, 44.9, 31.4, 31.1, 30.4, 30.2, 28.5, 28.4,
26.0, 22.0, 18.5, 14.4, 14.3, 14.1, 14.0, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3449, 2977, 2955, 2928, 2857, 1739, 1703, 1391, 1367, 1251, 837, 774 cm<sup>-1</sup>

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>43</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>Si: C, 60.36; H, 9.47; N, 3.06. Found: C, 60.17; H, 9.30; N, 3.05.





## 1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3(S)-hydroxy-2(R)-methyl-, 1-(1,1dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (220d)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (113 mg, 1.20 mmol, 3 eq) in THF (0.2 mL) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> was added CH<sub>3</sub>Li (1.32 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 1.32 mmol) over 3 min. After the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min and cooled to -50 °C, a solution of **129** (104 mg, 0.40 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (0.4 mL) was added via cannula over 3 min. The temperature was raised to -10 °C and held for 25 min, then at 0 °C for 5 min and lowered to -35 °C to -40 °C. A solution of methyl iodide (87 mg, 0.60 mmol, 1.5 eq) in HMPA (100 mg, 0.56 mmol, 1.4 eq) was added by syringe in one portion. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1.5 h, at room temperature for 24 h and at 35 °C for 20 h, it was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine (4 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) to give 54 mg (57%, based on 15 mg of recovered **129**) of **220d** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.18-1.26 (3H, m), 1.36-1.41 (9H, m), 1.52-1.56 (3H, m), 1.89-1.96 (1H, m), 2.00-2.08 (1H, m), 2.83 (1H, broad, s), 3.33-3.14 (1H, m), 3.65-3.71 (1H, m), 4.05-4.21 (3H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.3, 154.1, 81.1, 80.4, 80.0, 79.8, 69.1, 61.5,

31.4, 30.8, 28.6, 28.5, 22.6, 21.6, 14.4.

IR (NaCl, film) 3443, 2980, 2936, 1746, 1731, 1698, 1391, 1167, 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[\alpha]^{25}$ <sub>D</sub> -3.9 (c 0.54, EtOAc)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 57.13; H, 8.48; N, 5.12. Found: C, 56.92; H, 8.28; N, 5.05.







1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3(S)-hydroxy-2(R)-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (220b)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (113 mg, 1.2 mmol, 3 eq) in THF (0.2 mL) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> was added CH<sub>3</sub>Li (1.32 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 1.32 mmol, 3.24 eq) over 3 min. After the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min and cooled to -50 °C, a solution of **129** (104 mg, 0.4 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (0.4 mL) was added via cannula over 3 min. The reaction temperature was raised to -10 °C and held for 25 min, then at 0 °C for 5 min and lowered to -35 °C to -40 °C. A solution of prenyl bromide (91 mg, 0.60 mmol, 1.5 eq) in HMPA (100 mg, 0.56 mmol, 1.38 eq) was added by syringe in one portion. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2.5 h, and at room temperature for 2 h, it was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine (4 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) to provide 98.4 mg (73.4%) of **220b** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.22-1.29 (3H, m), 1.34-1.37 (9H, m), 1.53-1.65 (6H, m), 1.84-2.01 (2H, m), 2.70-2.91 (3H, m), 3.10-3.19 (1H, m), 3.57-3.77 (1H, m), 4.03-4.19 (3H, m), 4.92-4.94 (1H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.4, 172.3, 154.1, 154.0, 135.9, 135.8, 118.7,

118.4, 80.5, 79.7, 76.5, 71.9, 71.461.4, 45.6, 45.0, 31.8, 31.3, 30.9, 30.6, 28.6, 28.5, 26.4, 26.3, 18.5, 18.3, 14.5, 14.4. IR (NaCl, film) 3447, 2972, 2930, 2873, 1743, 1699, 1668, 1391, 1170, 1137 cm<sup>-1</sup>. [α]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> -48.2 (c 0.98, EtOAc).

Anal. Caled. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 62.36; H, 8.93; N, 4.28. Found: C, 62.19; H, 9.03; N, 4.27.







1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3(S)-hydroxy-2(R)-(phenylmethyl)-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (220c)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (113 mg, 1.2 mmol, 3 eq) in THF (0.2 mL) at 0 °C under N, was added CH<sub>3</sub>Li (1.32 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 1.32 mmol, 3.3 eq) over 3 min. After the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min and cooled to -50 °C, a solution of 129 (104 mg, 0.4 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (0.4 mL) was added via cannula over 3 min. The reaction temperature was raised to -10 °C and held for 25 min, then at 0 °C for 5 min and lowered to -35 °C to -40 °C. A solution of benzyl bromide (109 mg, 0.64 mmol, 1.6 eq) in HMPA (100 mg, 0.56 mmol, 1.4 eq) was added by syringe in one portion. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1.5 h, and at room temperature for 50 h, it was quenched with saturated NH4Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine (4 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) to provide 64 mg (53%, based on 15 mg of recovered 129) of 220c as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.26–1.31 (3H, m), 1.38-1.46 (1H, m), 1.48 (9H, s), 1.69-1.80 (1H, m), 2.66 (1H, broad, s), 2.70-2.80 (1H, m), 3.22-3.27 (1H, m), 3.54-3.81 (2H, m), 4.11-4.19 (1H, m), 4.23-4.31 (2H, m), 7.11-7.27 (5H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.1, 169.5, 154.2, 153.9, 136.8, 136.5, 130.9, 130.8, 128.5, 128.3, 126.9, 126.7, 80.8, 79.9, 75.9, 72.5, 72.2, 61.6, 60.6, 45.3, 45.0, 37.8, 36.8, 30.9, 30.5, 28.6, 14.46, 14.41. IR (NaCl, film) 3446, 3085, 3062, 3030, 2979, 2881, 1732, 1693, 1681, 1392, 1367, 1167 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 65.31; H, 7.79; N, 4.01. Found: C, 65.15; H, 7.69; N, 3.87. [α]<sup>25</sup>D -77.6 (c 0.59, EtOAc).





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R)-(4-bromobutyl)-3(S)-hydroxy-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (220e)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (113 mg, 1.2 mmol, 3 eq) in THF (0.2 mL) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> was added CH<sub>3</sub>Li (1.32 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 1.32 mmol, 3.3 eq) over 3 min. After the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min and cooled to -50 °C, a solution of **129** (104 mg, 0.40 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (0.4 mL) was added via cannula over 3 min. The reaction temperature was raised to -10 °C and held for 25 min, then at 0 °C for 5 min and lowered to -35 °C to -40 °C. A solution of 1,4-dibromobutane (130 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 eq) in HMPA (100 mg, 0.56 mmol, 1.4 eq) was added by syringe in one portion. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, and at room temperature for 19 h, it was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined extracts were washed with brine (4 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc/1:1) to provide 54 mg (49%, based 16 mg of recovered **129**) of **220e** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.21–1.24 (3H, m), 1.28–1.40 (2H, m), 1.32–1.40 (9H, m), 1.83-2.40 (7H, m), 2.62 (1H, broad, s), 3.22-3.28 (1H, m), 3.38 (1H, t, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.65-3.75 (1H, m), 4.06-4.22 (2H, m), 4.24-4.30 (1H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.3, 154.0, 80.5, 79.9, 76.8, 76.6, 71.0, 61.4, 45.5, 45.0, 34.0, 33.6, 32.9, 32.7, 32.4, 31.2, 30.6, 28.5, 22.1, 21.9, 14.4. IR (NaCl, film) 3438, 2973, 2934, 2875, 1735, 1696, 1672, 1383, 1366, 1246, 1168, 772 cm<sup>-1</sup>. [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>25</sup>D -22.8 (c 0.54, EtOAc). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub>: C, 48.74; H, 7.16; N, 3.55. Found: C, 48.90; H, 7.31; N, 3.60.





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid,2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-[(methylthio)thioxomethoxy]-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (228)

To a solution of **220a** (92 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C was added 60% NaH (17 mg, 0.42 mmol, 2.1 eq) under Ar. After 15 min, CS<sub>2</sub> (126 mg, 1.66 mmol, 8.3 eq) was added to the reaction mixture, producing a deep red solution. After 20 min, methyl iodide (454 mg, 3.2 mmol, 16 eq) was added to the above solution in one portion. The resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature slowly. After 8.5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a yellow oil. Purification of the product by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/12:1) gave 86 mg (79%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**228**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/~3:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.05 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, m), 1.25-1.35 (3H, m), 1.40-1.50 (9H, m), 1.60-1.75 (3H, m), 2.00 (1H, m), 2.30 (1H, m), 2.50 (3H, s), 2.75-2.90 (1H, m), 3.30-3.42 (1H, m), 3.68-3.90 (1H, m), 4.00 (2H, s), 4.05-4.25 (3H, m), 5.05-5.35 (1H, m), 5.85-5.95 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2979, 2958, 2931, 2851, 1744, 1701, 1390, 836, 775 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





## 1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid,2(S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (229)

To a solution of AIBN (56.0 mg, 0.341 mmol, 0.86 eq) in toluene (20 mL) was added Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (892 mg, 3.06 mmol, 8 eq) via syringe under Ar, and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux. A solution of **228** (209 mg, 0.383 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (10 mL) was added dropwise over 20 min. After 4.5 h, the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by radial chromatography (hexene:EtOAc/12:1) to yield 115 mg (69%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**229**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

There were occasions of obtaining pure E isomer by radial chromatography purification method.

Data of the E isomer:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.00-0.02 (6H, m), 0.85-0.90 (9H, m), 1.20-1.30 (3H, m), 1.35-1.45 (9H, m), 1.55-1.62 (3H, m), 1.70-1.90 (2H, m), 1.90-2.00 (2H, m), 2.60-2.90 (2H, m), 3.25-3.40 (1H, m), 3.50-3.70 (1H, m), 4.00 (2H, s), 4.05-4.20 (2H, m), 5.35 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2954, 2928, 2855, 1738, 1699, 1388, 1251, 1169, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>





D-Proline, 2(S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2butenyl]-, ethyl ester (230)

To a suspension of zinc bromide (53 mg, 0.24 mmol, 4 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) at room temperature was added a solution of **229** (22.7 mg, 0.051 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (600  $\mu$ L + 1 mL rinse) via cannula over 2 min. After 7 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with pH sodium 10 carbonate buffer and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 15 mL). The aqueous layer was filtered through a Celite pad, and the filtrate was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give 19.5 mg (100%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**230**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil that was used without further purification.

Data of the E isomer:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (6H, s), 0.86 (9H, s), 1.20-1.40 (1H, m), 1.22 (3H, t, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 1.57 (3H, s), 1.60-1.80 (3H, m), 2.15 (1H, m), 2.30 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.5, 14.4 Hz), 2.55 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.5, 14.4 Hz), 2.94 (2H, t, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 3.96 (2H, s), 4.10 (2H, q, *J* = 4 Hz), 5.34 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2957, 2855, 1731, 1253, 1180, 835 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 1-(bromoacetyl)-2(S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-, ethyl ester (231)

To a solution of **230** (65 mg, 0.19 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in water (572  $\mu$ L, 0.286 mmol, 1.5 eq) followed by bromoacetyl bromide (57.9 mg, 0.286 mmol, 1.5 eq). After 5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give 74 mg (83%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**231**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/3:1 mixture) that was used without further purification.

Data of the E isomer:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (6H, s), 0.87 (9H, s), 1.23 (3H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.58 (3H, s), 2.02 (4H, m), 2.70 (1H, dd, J = 8.4, 15 Hz), 3.13 (1H, dd, J = 6.6, 15 Hz), 3.50-3.60 (1H, m), 3.73 (1H, d, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.75 (1H, d, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.75 (1H, m), 3.97 (2H, s), 4.15 (2H, q, J = 7.2 Hz), 5.31 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2951, 2853, 1738, 1654, 1439, 1412, 1209, 1108, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione, 8a(S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro (232)

A solution of **231** (35.0 mg, 0.076 mmol, 1.0 eq) in 2.59 M/NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH (2.4 mL, 6.21 mmol, 82 eq) was stirred at room temperature for 28 h. The solvent and excess ammonia were removed *in vacuo* and a solid residue. EtOAc was added, and the resulting suspension was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to give 26 mg (97%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**232**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

Data of the E isomer:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.05 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.56 (3H, s), 1.98-2.00 (2H, m), 2.13-2.18 (2H, m), 2.47 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4, 16 Hz), 2.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4, 16 Hz), 3.45-3.55 (1H, m), 3.73 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 3.70-3.82 (1H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.12 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 5.50 (1H, m), 6.00 (1H, broad, s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3241, 2952, 2927, 2857, 2892, 1667, 1445, 1254, 1107 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[\alpha]^{D}_{25} = +51.4$  (c 0.36, EtOAc).

For compound **235**, the enantiomer of **232**,  $[\alpha]^{D}_{25} = -62.5$  (c 0.39, EtOAc).





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione,8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro (235)

To a solution of **234** (130 mg, 0.546 mmol, 1 eq) in DMF (1.5 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C was added *t*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (124 mg, 0.819 mmol, 1.5 eq) followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (83.5 mg, 0.819 mmol, 1.5 eq). After 3 h, saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give a crude oil 176 mg. The product was purified by preparative TLC (EtOAc:MeOH/7:1) to afford 39 mg (20%) of **235** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.05 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.56 (3H, s), 1.98-2.0 (2H, m), 2.13-2.18 (2H, m), 2.47 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4, 16 Hz), 2.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4, 16 Hz), 3.45-3.55 (1H, m), 3.73 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 3.70-3.82 (1H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.12 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 5.50 (1H, m), 6.00 (1H, broad, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.3, 163.5, 140.3, 116.1, 67.8, 46.7, 45.2, 35.9, 34.8, 26.0, 20.4, 18.4, 13.7, 5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3241, 2952, 2857, 1667, 1445, 1254, 1107 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[\alpha]^{D}_{25} = -62.5$  (c 0.39, EtOAc).





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethy lsilyl]-oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, 1-(1,1-dimethyl ethyl) 2-ethyl ester (236)

To a suspension of 60% NaH (35.2 mg, 0.880 mmol, 1.5 eq) in THF (3 mL) at room temperature was added a solution of **220a** (91 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (8 mL) via cannula. After 5 min, Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (91.3 mg, 0.234 mmol, 0.4 eq) and benzyl bromide (154 mg, 0.88 mmol, 1.5 eq) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred 2.5 h, quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by preparative TLC to give 80 mg (73%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**236**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/~2.3:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, m), 0.86 (9H, m), 1.22 (3H, m), 1.38-1.42 (9H, m), 1.54-1.72 (3H, m), 2.00 (2H, m), 2.85 (2H, m), 3.12-3.18 (1H, m), 3.80-3.93 (1H, s), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.05-4.23 (3H, m), 4.47-4.54 (2H, m), 5.05-5.25 (1H, m), 7.06-7.31 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3066, 3030, 2976, 2954, 2885, 2857, 1737, 1705, 1696, 1392, 1250, 1112, 836, 774 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (237)

To a suspension of zinc bromide (568 mg, 2.40 mmol, 2.5 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (11.4 mL) at room temperature was added a solution of **236** (550 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) via cannula over 2 min. After 20 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer and extracted with ether (90 mL, 50 mL, 2 x 40 mL). The combined ether solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give 441 mg (99%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**237**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/2.3:1 mixture) that was used without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.16 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.56 (3H, s), 1.89-1.94 (2H, m), 2.01-2.15 (1H, m), 2.52-2.65 (1H, m), 2.90 (1H, br, s), 2.95-2.96 (1H, m), 3.23 (1H, m), 3.94 (2H, s), 4.04-4.12 (1H, m), 4.08 (2H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.41 (1H, 1/2 ABq, *J* = 12 Hz), 4.50 (1H, 1/2 ABq, *J* = 12 Hz), 5.34-5.35 (1H, m), 7.21-7.29 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3358, 3064, 2951, 2857, 1732, 1457, 1250, 1112, 1067, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>





D-Proline,1-(bromoacetyl)-2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (238)

To a solution of 237 (441 mg, 0.980 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution in water (3.3 mL, 1.65 mmol, 1.68 eq) followed by bromoacetyl bromide (408 mg, 2.00 mmol, 2 eq). After 6 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined extracts were washed with brine (3 x 20 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/12:1 then 3:1) to gave 435 mg (78%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (238) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.86 (9H, s), 1.18 (3H, m), 1.52 (3H, s), 2.00-2.15 (2H, m), 2.80-2.90 (1H, m), 3.18-3.28 (1H, m), 3.35-3.45 (1H, m), 3.65-3.70 (1H, m), 3.65-3.85 (1H, m), 3.80-3.85 (1H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.00-4.10 (1H, m), 4.10-4.20 (2H, m), 4.50-4.60 (2H, m), 5.20 (1H, m), 7.25 (5H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.1, 164.7, 138.8, 137.8, 128.8, 128.5, 127.6, 117.2,
82.4, 72.5, 72.1, 68.1, 61.3, 46.9, 29.8, 29.4, 27.4, 26.0, 18.4, 14.3, 14.0, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3089, 3064, 3032, 2955, 2930, 2855, 1738, 1659, 1651, 1435, 1413, 1249, 1109, 1069, 1029, 837, 776, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 1-(aminoacetyl)-2(R)-[E-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (239)

A solution of **238** (435 mg, 0.74 mmol, 1.0 eq) in NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (15 mL, 2.59 M, 37 mmol, 50 eq) was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. The solvent and excess ammonia were removed *in vacuo* and gave a solid residue. EtOAc was added, and the resulting suspension was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to give 387 mg (100%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**239**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/2.3:1 mixture) that was used without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.86 (9H, s), 1.20 (3H, m), 1.55 (3H, s), 2.10 (2H, m), 2.85-2.95 (1H, m), 3.10-3.20 (1H, m), 3.30-3.40 (1H, m), 3.70-4.00 (5H, m), 4.00-4.10 (1H, m), 4.10-4.25 (2H, m), 4.52 (2H, s), 5.20 (1H, m), 5.50 (2H, br s), 7.40 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3200, 3087, 3062, 2952, 2852, 1737, 1667, 1455, 1360, 1252, 1108, 1070, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>.




Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-8(S)-(phenylmethyloxy) (240)

To a solution of **239** (197 mg, 0.388 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (6 mL) at room temperature was added 60% NaH (64.0 mg, 1.56 mmol, 4 eq) followed by HMPA (200  $\mu$ L). After 3.5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, and extracted with EtOAc (4 x 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by preparative TLC (EtOAc:MeOH/10:1) to gave 93.5 mg (53%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**240**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/8:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.86 (9H, s), 1.56 (3H, s), 2.00-2.15 (2H, m), 2.16-2.25 (1H, m), 2.68-2.78 (1H, m), 3.50 (1H, m), 3.75-3.85 (1H, m), 3.96 (2H, s), 3.90-4.00 (1H, m), 4.00-4.20 (2H, m), 4.50-4.70 (2H, m), 5.50 (1H, m), 5.82 (1H, s, br) 7.40 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3229, 3063, 2955, 2932, 2858, 1692, 1682, 1667, 1455, 1321, 1252, 1110, 1068, 837, 775, 755 cm<sup>-1</sup>.







Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-1,4-dioxo-8(S)-(phenylmethyloxy), 2-methyl ester (286)

To a solution of **240** (140 mg, 0.306 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (3.82 mL) at -78°C was added n-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane) (229  $\mu$ L, 0.37 mmol, 1.2 eq) over 2 min under Ar. After 0.5 h, methyl chloroformate (31.7 mg, 0.336 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added over 1 min. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 35 min, it was diluted with a mixture of EtOAc (5 mL) and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (8 mL) solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 159.4 mg (100%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**286**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/8:1 mixture) that was used without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.51-1.71 (3H, s), 2.06 (2H, dd, J = 2.1, 6.6 Hz), 2.18 (1H, dd, J = 8.1, 13.8 Hz), 2.74 (1H, dd, J = 8.1, 13.8 Hz), 3.49 (1H, dd, J = 6.6, 9 Hz), 3.85 (3H, s), 3.92 (2H, s), 3.90-4.00 (1H, m), 4.26 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 17.1 Hz), 4.16 (1H, dd, J = 2.1 Hz), 4.38 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 17.1 Hz), 4.50 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 11.7 Hz), 4.57 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 11.7 Hz), 5.41 (1H, dd, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.20-7.30 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3065, 3031, 2955, 2853, 1784, 1733, 1668, 1435, 1377, 1285, 1258, 1230, 1107, 1070, 835, 777, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-2,3(1H)(S)-dicarboxylic acid, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethyl ethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-1,4-dioxo-8(S)-(phenyl methyloxy)-, 2,3-dimethyl ester (287)

To a solution of **286** (137.4 mg, 0.2663 mmol, 1 eq) and methyl chloroformate (176 mg, 1.86 mmol, 7 eq) in THF (2 mL) at -78°C was added  $LiN(TMS)_2$  (1.33 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 1.33 mmol, 5 eq). After 2.5 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc at -78 °C, quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine (2 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 145 mg (95%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**287**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/8:1 mixture) that was used without further purification. Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.02 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.56 (3H, s), 2.01-2.07 (2H, m), 2.59 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.5, 14.4 Hz), 3.42-3.50 (1H, m), 3.73 (3H, s), 3.86 (3H, s), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.00-4.10 (1H, m), 4.20 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.1, 2.7 Hz), 4.49 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 4.54 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 5.5 (1H, m), 7.20-7.30 (5H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 165.0, 140.4, 138.0, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 115.4, 84.1,
74.4, 72.1, 68.1, 55.2, 54.8, 35.4, 26.6, 26.0, 18.5, 13.9, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3034, 2955, 2858, 1789, 1756, 1692, 1434, 1258, 1200, 1109, 1072, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 573.2628 ( $C_{29}H_{42}N_2O_8Si + H$  requires 573.2632)







D-Proline, 3(S)-(acetyloxy)-, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3 methyl-2-butenyl], ethyl ester (244)

To a suspension of zinc bromide (552 mg, 2.45 mmol, 2.5 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (14 mL) at room temperature was added a solution of **243** (450 mg, 0.90 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (14 mL + 3 mL rinse) via cannula over 2 min. After the reaction mixture was stirred overnight, it was quenched with pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer (140 mL) and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (3 × 40 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , and concentrated to give 352 mg (98%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**244**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil. The product was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.05 (6H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 1.22-1.28 (3H, m), 1.61 and 1.74 (total 3H, s), 2.00 (3H, s), 2.20-2.32 (2H, m), 2.60-2.70 (2H, m), 3.00-3.10 (1H, m), 3.20-3.30 (1H, m), 3.99 (2H, s), 4.08-4.18 (2H, m), 5.20-5.40 (2H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3361, 2925, 2853, 1742, 1364, 1239, 1073, 835 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl] -3(S)-hydroxy, ethyl ester (244)

A solution of 244 (541 mg, 1.35 mmol, 1 eq) in NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (63.3 mmol, 5.76 M, 11 mL, 47 eq) was stirred at room temperature for 21 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated to give 473 mg (98%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (245) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil that was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.20-1.30 (3H, m), 1.60 and 1.75 (total 3H, s), 1.75-1.90 (1H, m), 2.10-2.25 (2H, m), 2.55-2.65 (1H, m), 2.75 (2H, br s), 3.00 (1H, m), 3.20-3.30 (1H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.10-4.25 (3H, m), 5.15-5.40 (1H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3360, 2955, 2858, 1738, 1732, 1251, 1072, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 1-(bromoacetyl)-2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-hydroxy-, ethyl ester (246)

To a solution of **245** (473 mg, 1.32 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (26 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution in water (3.97 mL, 1.98 mmol, 1.5 eq) followed by bromoacetyl bromide (294 mg, 1.45 mmol, 1.1 eq). After 3 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 × 20 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 490 mg (77%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**246**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/16:1 mixture) that was used in the next step without further purification. Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 1.25-1.35 (3H, m), 1.62 and 1.78 (total 3H, s), 2.10-2.25 (2H, m), 2.30-2.50 (1H, br s), 2.85-3.20 (2H, m), 3.50 (1H, m), 3.70-3.90 (3H, m), 4.00 (2H, s), 4.20-4.30 (3H, m), 5.10-5.40 (1H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3421, 2956, 2930, 2858, 1737, 1640, 1443, 1252, 1070, 839 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl] oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-8(S)-hydroxy (248)

A solution of **246** (478 mg, 1 mmol, 1 eq) in NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (25 mL, 5.76 M, 144 mmol, 144 eq) was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. EtOAc was added to the residue, and the resulting suspension was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to give 368.5 mg (100%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**248**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/16:1 mixture) that was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (6H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 1.25 (3H, s), 1.95-2.04 (1H, m), 2.12-2.27 (1H, m), 2.23 (1H, ddd, J = 7.2, 7.8, 13.8 Hz), 2.5 (1H, ddd, J = 7.2, 7.2, 13.8 Hz), 2.83 (1H, br s), 3.47-3.55 (1H, m), 3.74 (1H, d, J = 17.8 Hz), 3.92 (2H, s), 3.88-3.95 (1H, m), 4.03 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 17.8 Hz), 4.35-4.72 (1H, m), 5.42(1H, dd, J = 7.8, 8.4 Hz), 6.46 (1H, d, J = 3.3 Hz).

IR (NaCl, film) 3258, 2953, 2931, 2859, 1674, 1650, 1455, 1322, 1254, 838 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy] -3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(methoxymethoxy)-, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl), 2-ethyldiester (299)

To a solution of **220a** (9 g, 1.69 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2CI_2$  (50.4 mL) at 0 °C was added diisopropylethylamine (13.08 g, 98.46 mmol, 5 eq) followed by methoxymethyl chloride (8.14 g, 98.46 mmol, 5 eq). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 23 °C over 1 h and after 26 h, it was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (300 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. TLC solvent system (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:2: 0.5) was used to monitor the reaction. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/6:1) afforded 9 g (91.2%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**299**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/3.3:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.04-0.11 (6 H, m), 0.901, 0.907 and 0.913 (total 9 H, s), 1.22-1.32 (3 H, m), 1.41, 1.44 and 1.45 (total 9 H, s), 1.63, 1.67 and 1.77 (total 3 H, s), 1.98-2.11 (2 H, m), 2.74-2.99 (2 H, m), 3.04-3.27 (1 H, m), 3.337 and 3.344 (total 3 H, s), 3.68-3.91 (1 H, m), 4.02 (2 H, s), 4.04-4.32 (3 H, m), 4.59 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 4.62 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 5.07 (1/5 H, m), 5.24-5.34 (4/5 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.6, 171.62, 153.7, 139.0, 138.5, 138.1, 120.0, 118.0, 117.6, 96.5, 96.4, 96.2, 82.6, 82.2, 81.1, 70.6, 70.1, 69.9, 68.5, 68.1, 62.0, 61.9, 61.0, 55.7, 45.7, 45.2, 31.1, 30.0, 29.5, 29.0, 28.9, 28.5, 28.4, 21.7, 14.5, 14.0, -5.1, -5.2. IR (NaCl, film) 2957, 2852, 1739, 1701, 1391 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 502.3217 (C25H47NO7Si+ H requires 502.3200)





D-Proline,2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(methoxymethoxy)-, ethyl ester (300)

To a suspension of zinc bromide (11.0 g, 48.8 mmol, 2.7 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2(205 \text{ mL})$  at 23 °C was added a solution of **299** (9.0 g, 17.95 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2(180 \text{ mL} + 25 \text{ mL rinse})$  via cannula under Ar. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 24 h, it was checked by TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:2:0.5), and all the starting material had gone. The reaction mixture was poured into a flask containing pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer (2 L) and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (1300 mL, 800 mL, 700 mL). The combined  $Et_2O$  solution was washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered and concentrated to give 6.8 g (94.4%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**300**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/3.5:1 mixture) that was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.042, 0.044 and 0.07 (total 6 H, s), 0.87-0.94 (9 H, m), 1.27 (3 H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.63 and 1.74 (total 3 H, br s), 1.91-2.11 (2 H, m), 2.12-2.25 (1 H, m), 2.67 (1 H, dd, *J* = 14.4, 7.8 Hz), 2.74-3.14 (2 H, m), 3.24-3.43 (1 H, m), 3.35 (3 H, s), 4.00 (2 H, br s), 4.05-4.30 (3 H, m), 4.60 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), ), 4.63 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 5.21 (2/7 H, m), 5.39 (5/7 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.9, 138.4, 138.0, 120.3, 118.9, 100.1, 95.6, 83.5, 74.4, 68.7, 62.1, 61.29, 61.25, 55.7, 44.6, 44.5, 35.3, 35.0, 31.8, 26.1, 21.5, 18.5, 14.3, 14.0, -5.1, -5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3360, 2953, 2891, 1739, 1250, 1182, 1040, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 402.2665 (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>Si + H requires 402.2675)





D-Proline,1-(bromoacetyl)-2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-me thyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(methoxymethoxy), ethyl ester (301)

To a stirred solution of **300** (3.40 g, 8.48 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (155 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution in water (43 mL, 21.2 mmol, 2.5 eq) followed by bromoacetyl bromide (34.8 g, 16.9 mmol, 2 eq). After 2.5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (150 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 4.4 g (100%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**301**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/3.5:1 mixture) that was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.06 and 0.08 (total 6 H, br s), 0.91 (9 H, s), 1.27 and 1.28 (total 3 H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.64 and 1.77 (total 3 H, s), 2.14-2.25 (2 H, m), 2.78-2.91 (1 H, m), 3.12-3.53 (2 H, m), 3.357 and 3.363 (total 3 H, s), 3.74 and 3.75 (total 1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 3.83 and 3.85 (total 1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 4.00 (2 H, br s), 4.07-4.27 (3 H, m), 4.64 (2 H, s), 5.05 (1/3 H, m), 5.26 (2/3 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.1, 164.8, 164.7, 139.7, 138.9, 119.5, 117.0, 96.5, 96.4, 81.0, 80.7, 71.7, 71.6, 68.2, 61.9, 61.4, 55.8, 30.1, 29.9, 29.6, 27.3, 26.1, 21.8, 18.5, 14.2, 14.0, -5.0.

IR (NaCl, film) 2955, 2893, 1747, 1650, 1416, 1249, 839, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 522.1727 (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>40</sub>BrNO<sub>6</sub>Si + H requires 522.1709).





D-Proline,1-(aminoacetyl)-2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(methoxymethoxy), ethyl ester (241)

To a stirred solution of **301** (6.66 g, 12.77 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>3</sub>OH (296 mL) at 23 °C was added NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (165 mL, 5.76 M, 950 mmol, 75 eq) over 1 min. After 2 h, the solvent and excess ammonia were removed under reduced pressure. EtOAc (600 mL) was added to the residue followed by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (600 mL) and 1 N NaOH (60 mL) solutions. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (1 × 200 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine (2 × 200 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 5.49 g (94%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**241**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/3.5:1 mixture) that was used in the next step without further purification.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.00-0.10 (6 H, m), 0.87 and 0.89 (total 9 H, s), 1.15-1.33 (3 H, m), 1.51-1.80 (3 H, m), 1.99-2.28 (2 H, m), 2.60-2.95 (1 H, m), 2.95-3.86 (8 H, m), 3.90-4.06 (2 H, m), 4.06-4.45 (3 H, m), 4.50-4.76 (2 H, m), 4.90-5.50 (1 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.2, 169.8, 168.6, 163.3, 162.5, 140.7, 139.2, 138.9, 138.5, 117.2, 116.8, 114.9, 96.3, 96.33, 96.1, 80.8, 80.5, 79.9, 72.8, 72.5, 71.9, 68.1, 67.6, 61.9, 61.3, 61.1, 56.0, 55.8, 48.2, 46.2, 45.1, 43.2, 34.6, 30.3, 30.0, 27.1, 26.0, 25.8, 18.4, 14.3, 14.0, 13.7, -3.4, -5.1, -5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3474, 3316, 3060, 2951, 2843, 1745, 1652, 1454, 1252, 1045, 838, 774 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 459.2908 (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Si + H requires 459.2890)





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-8(S)-(methoxy methoxy) (242)

To a stirred solution of **241** (2.74 g, 5.98 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (70 mL) at 23 °C was added 60% NaH (710 mg, 17.9 mmol, 3 eq) over 5 min followed by HMPA (5.5 mL). After 75 min, the reaction mixture was added dropwise to a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (300 mL). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (300, 200, 100 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine ( $3 \times 260$  mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (EtOAc) provided 2.06 g (84%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**242**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/~3:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.03 and 0.04 (total 6 H, s), 0.88 (9 H, s), 1.56 and 1.74 (total 3 H, s), 2.02-2.32 (3 H, m), 2.60-2.76 (1 H, m), 3.34 and 3.35 (total 3 H, s), 3.51 (1 H, m), 3.72-3.85 (1 H, m), 3.89-4.07 (2 H, m), 3.96 (2 H, br s), 4.26-4.33 (1 H, m), 4.58 and 4.59 (total 1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.70 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.19 (1/3 H, m), 5.44 (2/3 H, m), 6.44-4.72 (1 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.9, 163.5, 141.8, 140.8, 117.5, 115.0, 96.2, 80.9, 72.9, 67.7, 61.6, 56.1, 46.3, 43.4, 34.7, 34.6, 27.2, 26.1, 21.8, 18.5, 13.9, -5.0, -5.1. IR (NaCl, film) 3237, 2955, 2855, 1694, 1638, 1639, 1053, 1323, 1252, 1112, 1064, 835, 775 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 413.2475 (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Si + H requires 413.2471)





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-2,3(1H)-dicarboxylic acid, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethyl ethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-1,4-dioxo-8(S)-(methoxy methoxy)-, 2,3-dimethyl ester (91)

To a stirred solution of **242** (5.02 g, 12.17 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (192 mL) at -78 °C under Ar was added n-BuLi (1.1 M in hexane) (14.4 mL, 15.83 mmol, 1.3 eq) over 6 min. When the addition of n-BuLi was almost over, the reaction mixture changed to brown, and then was stirred for an additional 10 min. Methyl chloroformate (1.49 g, 15.8 mmol, 1.3 eq) was added over 3 min. After 40 min, the reaction was complete (TLC system EtOAc:MeOH/10:1) and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 10 min. At this time, methyl chloroformate (4.60 g, 48.7 mmol, 4 eq) was added by syringe to the above reaction mixture at -78 °C over 2 min, followed by LiN(TMS)<sub>2</sub> (60.8 mL, 60.8 mmol, 1.0 M in THF, 5 eq) over 8 min. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 70 min (TLC system EtOAc), it was quenched with EtOAc (400 mL) and saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (800 mL). The EtOAc layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 × 400 mL). The combined organic solution (red color) was washed with brine (3 × 500 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a red oil. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (EtOAc) gave 6.0 g (93.4%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**91**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E/Z mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.06 (6 H, s), 0.89 and 0.90 (total 9 H, s), 1.53, 1.58 and 1.75 (total 3 H, br s), 1.84-2.35 (2 H, m), 2.44-2.80 (2 H, m), 3.345 and 3.348 (total 3 H, s), 3.35-3.69 (2 H, m), 3.86 (3 H, s), 3.90 (3 H, s), 3.91-4.15 (3 H, m), 4.35 and 4.37

(total 1 H, br s), 4.572 and 4.575 (total 1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.65 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.23 (1/3 H, m), 5.43 (2/3 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.1, 165.8, 158.4, 158.42, 140.2, 139.8, 118.0, 116.0, 113.5, 96.2, 96.1, 81.7, 81.0, 74.1, 74.0, 68.3, 67.3, 63.2, 61.8, 67.3, 56.2, 54.8, 54.0, 44.4, 44.2, 34.9, 34.6, 27.3, 27.0, 26.1, 21.9, 21.2, 18.5, -5.0.

IR (NaCl, film) 2955, 2857, 1793, 1749, 1680, 1434, 1375, 1222, 1035, 838, 779 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 529.2592 (C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>40</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Si + H requires 529.2581)







1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 3-oxo-, 2(R/S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsily]]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl], 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (166)

To a suspension of 60% NaH (88 mg, 2.2 mmol, 1.1 eq) in DME (5 mL) at 0 °C was added a solution of **131** (514 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1 eq) in DME (1 mL). After 10 min, tbutyldimethylsilylether substituted prenyl iodide (915 mg, 3.10 mmol, 1.4 eq) was added. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 30 min and at 41 °C for 17 h, it was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/25:1) provided 637 mg (70%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**166**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/10.3:1 mixture). Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01-0.05 (6H, m), 0.83-0.87 (9H, m), 1.16-1.23 (3H, m), 1.35-1.43 (9H, m), 1.51-1.56 and 1.68 (total 3H, m), 2.29-2.45 (1H, m), 2.25-2.71 (1H, m), 2.85-2.97 (2H, m), 3.53-3.60 (1H, m), 3.78-3.87 (1H, m), 3.90-3.94 (2H, m), 4.05-4.21 (2H, m), 5.14-5.47 (total 1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2974, 2928, 2856, 1769, 1738, 1707, 1389, 1251, 1109, 835, 769 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R/S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(R/S)-hydroxy-,1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) 2-ethyl ester (167)

To a stirred solution of **166** (303 mg, 0.666 mmol, 1 eq) in MeOH (5 mL) at 0 °C was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (103 mg, 2.66 mmol, 4 eq) over 10 min. After 7 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with 0.25 M KHSO<sub>4</sub> solution (0.6 mL). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Water was added to the residue followed by aqueous KHSO<sub>4</sub> solution until the acidity of the mixture reached pH 2-3. The product was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $4 \times 30$  mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a colorless oil. Preparative TLC purification of the product (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:2:0.5) provided 280 mg (92%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**167**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.20-1.30 (3H, m), 1.35-1.45 (9H, m), 1.50-1.65 (3H, m), 1.65-1.80 (1H, m), 2.05-2.15 (1H, m), 2.30-2.70 (1H, m), 2.70-2.90 (1H, m), 3.30-3.70 (2H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.05-4.20 (3H, m), 4.25-4.50 (1H, m), 5.25-5.50 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3426, 2976, 2892, 1731, 1738, 1698, 1673, 1391, 1366, 1252, 1174, 837.





1,2-Pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, 2(R/S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethy lsilyl]-oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(R/S)-(phenylmethoxy)-, 1-(1,1-dimethyl ethyl) 2-ethyl ester (169)

To a suspension of 60% NaH (36.7 mg, 0.90 mmol, 1.5 eq) in THF (4 mL) at 23 °C under Ar was added a solution of **167** (280 mg, 0.612 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (7 mL) via cannula. After 5 min,  $Bu_4NI$  (95.4 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.4 eq) and benzyl bromide (157 mg, 0.919 mmol, 1.5 eq) were added. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h, it was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product (hexane:EtOAc/14:1) by radial chromatography provided 276 mg (83%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**169**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.02 (6H, m), 0.88 (9H, m), 1.15-1.23 (3H, m), 1.40 (9H, m), 1.54 (3H, m), 1.82-2.12 (2H, m), 2.72-3.17 (2H, m), 3.21-3.50 (2H, m), 4.05 (2H, s), 4.00-4.29 (3H, m), 4.45-4.65 (2H, m), 5.45-5.57 (1H, m), 7.22-7.35 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3032, 2976, 2885, 1738, 1697, 1390, 1366, 1249, 1177, 1108, 836 cm-1.





## D-Proline, 2(R/S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2butenyl]-3(R/S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (125)

To a suspension of zinc bromide (320 mg, 1.42 mmol, 2.8 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2(5 mL)$  at 23 °C under Ar was added a solution of **169** (279 mg, 0.51 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2(5 mL)$  via cannula. After 15h, the reaction mixture was quenched with pH 10 sodium carbonate buffer (40 mL) and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (4 times). The combined ether solution was washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated to provide 200 mg (88%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**125**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/7.5:1 mixture) that was used in next step without further purification

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.15-1.25 (3H, m), 1.54 and 1.70 (total 3H, s), 1.86-1.96 (2H, m), 2.50-2.75 (3H, m), 2.90-3.15 (2H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.05-4.18 (3H, m), 4.55-4.65 (2H, m), 5.30-5.40 (1H, m), 7.20-7.35 (5H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3354, 3087, 3060, 2953, 2854, 1732, 1462, 1251, 1183, 1111, 1067, 837,

735 cm<sup>-1</sup>.




D-Proline,1-(bromoacetyl)-2(R/S)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3methyl-2-butenyl]-3(R/S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (170)

To a solution of **125** (200 mg, 0.447 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (9 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution in water (1.34 mL, 0.67 mmol, 1.5 eq) followed by bromoacetyl bromide (136 mg, 0.67 mmol, 1.5 eq). After 6 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product (hexane:EtOAc/12:1 then 3:1) by radial chromatography provided 184 mg (73%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**170**) and the Z isomer (a colorless oil, as an E:Z/8.2:1 mixture).

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.20-1.30 (3H, m), 1.52 and 1.72 (total 3H, s), 2.10-2.25 (2H, m), 2.75-2.85 (1H, m), 3.10-3.20 (1H, m), 3.50-3.65 (2H, m), 3.70 (2H, s), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.05-4.20 (3H, m), 4.45-4.50 (1H, m), 4.60-4.65 (1H, m), 5.50 (1H, m), 7.40-7.60 (5H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 3089, 3065, 3030, 2955, 2855, 1739, 1660, 1440, 1441, 1250, 1111, 1063, 838, 776.





(±)-Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione,8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-8(R)-(phenylmethyloxy) (171)

A solution of **170** (156.4 mg, 0.275 mmol, 1 eq) in NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (4 mL, 2.59 M, 10.36 mmol, 38 eq) was stirred at 23 °C for 24 h. The solvent and excess ammonia were removed *in vacuo* and gave a solid residue. EtOAc was added, and the resulting suspension was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to give 136.3 mg of a crude oil. Preparative TLC purification of the product (EtOAc:MeOH/10:1) provided 85.0 mg (67%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (171) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil and 20 mg (14.4%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (172) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil. Data of **171** (E isomer):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.02 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.55 (3H, s), 1.88-2.01 (1H, m), 2.15-2.26 (1H, m), 2.51 (1H, dd, J = 8.7, 14.4 Hz), 2.83 (1H, dd, J = 7.5, 14.4 Hz), 3.35-3.44 (1H, m), 3.55-3.65 (1H, m), 3.71 (1H, dd, J = 3.9, 16.8 Hz), 3.94 (2H, s), 4.10 (1H, d, J = 16.8 Hz), 4.18 (1H, dd, J = 8.7, 8.7 Hz), 4.73 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 12 Hz), 4.96 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 12 Hz), 5.50-5.56 (1H, m), 5.72 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 7.28-7.40 (5H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3233, 3088, 3029, 2954, 2854, 1681, 1661, 1434, 1256, 1111, 837, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





### DL-Tryptophan, N-(diphenylmethylene)-, ethyl ester (266)

To a flask charged with **259** (267 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 eq) and gramine (194 mg, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added CH<sub>3</sub>CN (21 mL) and Bu<sub>3</sub>P (101 mg, 0.5 mmol, 0.5 eq). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 11.5 h. TLC (hexane:EtOAc/4:1) was used to monitor the reaction. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/10:1 then 5:1) to provide 280 mg (80%, based on 16 mg of recoverd **259**) of **266** as a white foam.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.15 (3H, t, *J* = 4.2 Hz), 3.25 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.7, 14.7 Hz), 3.46 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.8, 14.7 Hz), 4.10-4.20 (2H, m), 4.39 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.8, 8.4 Hz), 6.50-7.60 (15H, m), 8.12 (1H, br, s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3405, 3053, 2981, 2926, 1732, 1618, 1442, 1289 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-1-[N-(diphenylmethylene)amino]acetyl l-, 3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, ethyl ester (274)

To a solution of **239** (50.4 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) at 23 °C was added diphenylimine (50.4 mg, 0.28 mmol, 2.8 eq), producing a white cloudy mixture. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 15.5 h, it was concentrated. Preparative TLC (EtOAc:hexane/1:1) purification of the product provided 44 mg (>66%) of an isomeric mixture of the E (**274**) and the Z isomer as a colorless oil.

Data of the E/Z mixture:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, m), 0.89 (9H, m), 1.20 (3H, m), 1.55 (3H, s), 2.00-2.20 (2H, m), 2.80-2.95 (1H, m), 3.20-3.50 (2H, m), 3.80-3.90 (1H, m), 3.95 (2H, s), 4.00-4.25 (5H, m), 4.50-4.65 (2H, m), 5.00-5.30 (1H, m), 7.20-7.80 (15H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3061, 3030, 2954, 2929, 2853, 1731, 1650, 1417 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, 1-DL-[N-(diphenylmethylene)]tryptophyl, ethyl ester (275)

To a solution of **274** (179 mg, 0.268 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (4 mL) at -78 °C under Ar was added LiN(TMS)<sub>2</sub>(348 µL, 0.348 mmol, 1.3 eq). After 30 min, HMPA (192 mg, 1.07 mmol, 4 eq) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 23 °C over 10 min, and gramine methyl iodide salt (92.8 mg, 0.29 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added in one portion. After 4 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc/12:1) purification of the product gave 89 mg (42%).of a diastereomeric mixture **275** as a colorless oil (pure E isomer).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01-0.10 (6H, m), 0.86-0.92 (9H, m), 1.15-1.30 (3H, m), 1.62 (3H, s), 1.80-2.10 (2H, m), 2.85-3.05 (2H, m), 3.20-3.70 (4H, m), 3.80-4.00 (3H, m), 4.10-4.25 (3H, m), 4.50-4.70 (2H, m), 5.25 (1H, m), 6.80-7.20 (20H, m), 8.2 (1H, br s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3302, 3058, 2958, 2926, 2858, 1739, 1729, 1651, 1455, 1252, cm<sup>-1</sup>





D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, 1-D-tryptophyl, ethyl ester (276)

D-Proline, 2(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3(S)-(phenylmethyloxy)-, 1-L-tryptophyl, ethyl ester (277)

To a solution of 275 (40 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1.2 mL) at 23 °C was added NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (30 mg, 0.35 mmol, 7.1 eq) followed by NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (26.4 mg, 0.38 mmol, 7.6 eq). After 9 h, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC ( $CH_2Cl_2$ :MeOH/15:1) purification of the product provided 16 mg (50%) of 276 (a white foam, as a single *anti/E* isomer) and 8.4 mg (26.4%)of 277 (a white foam, as a single *syn/E* isomer) (total yield 77%)

Data of anti/E isomer (276):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, s), 0.85 (9H, s), 1.15-1.25 (3H, m), 1.55 (3H, s), 1.90-2.00 (2H, m), 2.80-2.95 (2H, m), 3.10-3.25 (2H, m), 3.35-3.65 (3H, m), 3.97 (2H, s), 3.85-4.00 (2H, m), 4.10-4.20 (2H, m), 4.50 (2H, s), 7.10-7.35 (9H, m), 7.60 (1H, m), 8.4 (1H, br s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3355, 3284, 3069, 2985, 2854, 1738, 1650, 1455, 1361, 1248, 1105, 1056, 858 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione, 8a(R)-[E-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]3-methyl-2-butenyl]hexahydro-3(R)-(1H-indol-3-ylmethyl)-8(S)-

## (phenylmethyloxy) (278)

To a stirred solution of **276** (15.0 mg, 0.024 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (600  $\mu$ L) was added 60% NaH (7.6 mg, 0.19 mmol, 8 eq) followed by HMPA (300  $\mu$ L). After 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (EtOAc:hexane/4:1) purification of the product provided 6 mg (43%) of **278** (a colorless oil, as a single *anti/*E isomer)

## Data of 278:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (3H, s), 0.02 (3H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.55 (3H, s), 2.10-2.25 (3H, m), 2.77 (1H, dd, J = 15, 7.8 Hz), 2.95 (1H, dd, J = 10.2, 15 Hz), 3.45-3.55 (1H, m), 3.61 (1H, dd, J = 4.5, 15 Hz), 3.94 (2H, s), 4.00-4.13 (1H, m), 4.17 (1H, m), 4.32 (1H, dd, J = 3.6, 9.9 Hz), 4.57 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 11.4 Hz), 4.64 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 11.8 Hz), 5.40 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 5.72 (1H, br s), 6.90-7.54 (10H, m), 7.9 (1H, br s). IR (NaCl, film) 3039, 3360, 3286, 2954, 2857, 1682, 1649, 1434, 1253, 1108 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-4(3H)-one, 8a(R)-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl] oxy]-6,7,8,8a-tetrahydro- 3(R)-[(indol-3-yl)methyl]-1-methoxy-8(S)-

(phenylmethyloxy) (280)

To a solution of **278** (23.0 mg, 0.039 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) at 23 °C was added  $Cs_2CO_3$  (255 mg, 0.78 mmol, 20 eq) followed by  $Me_3OBF_4$  (14.1 mg, 0.095 mmol, 2.35 eq) under Ar. After 24 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (EtOAc:hexane/1:1) purification of the product provided 12 mg (51%) of **280** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.01 (6H, m), 0.88 (9H, s), 1.55 (3H, s), 2.05-2.16 (3H, m), 2.48 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 12 Hz), 3.42 (3H, m), 3.66 (3H, s), 3.94 (2H, s), 3.90-4.00 (3H, m), 4.23-4.38 (2H, m), 5.30 (1H, m), 6.89 (1H, m), 7.00-7.40 (9H, m), 7.65 (1H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3295, 3064, 2931, 1697, 1651, 1456, 1436, 1102, 1069, 839, 739 cm<sup>-1</sup>.







To a stirred solution of **280** (10.0 mg, 0.0166 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200  $\mu$ L) at 23 °C was added triethylamine (1.8 mg, 0.08 mmol, 1.1 eq), DMAP (2.0 mg, 0.0166 mmol, 1.0 eq) and (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (11.4 mg, 0.049 mmol, 3.0 eq). After 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (EtOAc:hexane/1:1) purification of the product provided 5 mg (43%) of **281** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01 (3H, s), 0.02 (3H, s), 0.84 (9H, s), 1.51 (3H, s), 1.62 (9H, s), 1.96-2.11 (3H, m), 2.40 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.3, 14.7 Hz), 3.07-3.14 (1H, m), 3.30-3.45 (1H, m), 3.50 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.2, 14.4 Hz), 3.60 (3H, s), 3.85 (1H, m), 3.90 (2H, s), 3.96-4.03 (1H, m), 4.19-4.37 (3H, m), 5.24 (1H, m), 7.03-7.06 (2H, m), 7.18-7.27 (5H, m), 7.53 (1H, s), 7.65-7.68 (1H, m), 8.00-8.10 (1H, m).

IR (NaCl, film) 2930, 2857, 1732, 1694, 1650, 1372, 1254, 1159, 1090, 1069 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





3-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-(hydroxy)-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(phenylmethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3R-yl]methyl]-indole-1-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (282)

A solution of **281** (5.0 mg,  $7.1 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq) and TBAF (11µL,  $1.1 \times 10^{-2}$  mmol, 1.0 M in THF, 1.5 eq) in THF (150 µL) was stirred at 23 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give **282** as an oil (yield, unknown)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.58 (3H, s), 1.63 (9H, s), 1.95-2.10 (3H, m), 2.35-2.45 (1H, m), 3.10-3.20 (1H, m), 3.35-3.45 (1H, m), 3.50-3.60 (1H, m), 3.60 (3H, s), 3.78-3.85 (1H, m), 3.91 (3H, s), 3.90-4.00 (1H, m), 4.10-4.40 (2H, m), 5.25-5.30 (1H, m), 7.00 (1H, s), 7.20-7.50 (6H, m), 7.40-7.50 (1H, m), 7.65-7.75 (1H, m), 7.95-8.05 (1H, m). IR (NaCl, film) 3387, 2964, 2935, 1730, 1710, 1651, 1371, 1253 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 588.3072 ( $C_{34}H_{41}N_3O_6$  + H requires 588.3073)





#### (±)-1,3-Dihydro-7-[3,3-dimethyloxiranyl)methoxy]-6-hydroxy-2H-indol-2-one (103)

To a solution of m-CPBA (8 g, 46.3 mmol, 1.4 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (250 mL) at 0 °C was added NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (4.87 g, 59 mmol, 1.8 eq) and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (10 g). A solid of **102** (7.6 g, 32.6 mmol, 1 eq) was added to the reaction mixture in one portion. After 1 h, NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (5 g, 60 mmol, 1.85 eq) and m-CPBA (8 g, 46.3 mmol, 1.4 eq) were added to the reaction mixture. After 1.5 h, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the solid pad was washed with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The filtrate was washed twice with a mixture solution of 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (100 mL) with 10% Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (100 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 200 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine (1 x 400 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 7.1 g (87%) of **103** as a black foam. The crude product was used without further purification.

Epoxide 103 is a known compound. Analytical data: lit. <sup>33</sup>.



# (±)-3,4,8,10-Tetrahydro-3-hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,9H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indole-9-one (104)

SnCl<sub>4</sub> (3.94 mL, 33.6 mmol, 1.2 eq) was added dropwise to a flame-dried flask charged with anhydrous THF (400 mL) at 0 °C. After 20 min, a solution of **103** (7.1 g, 28.5 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (65 mL) was added to the reaction mixture via cannula over 7 min to give a gray mixture. The ice-bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2.5 h. Approximately one-half of the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the remaining solution poured into a separatory funnel containing saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (400 mL) and water (200 mL), which was then exhaustively extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 x 500 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with brine (1 x 600 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 7.0 g of **104** as a black solid. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:Hexane/3:1) to yield 3.7 g (52%) of **104** as a reddish solid.

Epoxide 104 is a known compound. Analytical data: lit. 33.



#### (±)-3-Hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-3,4,10-trihydro-2H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indole (105)

To a solution of **106** (2.9 g, 12.3 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (230 mL) at 0 °C was added DDQ (3.48 g, 16.7 mmol, 1.36 eq) over 2-3 min. After 20 min, the reaction mixture was concentrated and EtOAc was added to the residue. The EtOAc solution was washed with 1 N NaOH (1 x 200 mL), brine (2 x 150 mL), dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:Hexane/1:1) to yield 2.6 g (91%) of **105** as a white purplish solid.

Epoxide 105 is a known compound. Analytical data: lit. 33.

Data for 106:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.22 (3H, s), 1.58 (3H, s), 3.04 (2H, t, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 3.61 (2H, t, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 3.65 (1H, m), 4.09 (1H, d, *J* = 12 Hz), 4.21 (1H, dd, *J* = 12, 4.2 Hz), 6.36 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.73 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz).





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(±)-3-[[1,1-Dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-4,4-dimethyl-3,4,10-trihydro-2H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indole (107)

A solution of **105** (2.68 g, 11.5 mmol, 1 eq), imidazole (5.13 g, 75.4 mmol, 6.6 eq) and TBSCl (4.88 g, 32.3 mmol, 2.81 eq) in DMF (22.6 mL) was heated at 44-45 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (200 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 70 mL). The combined EtOAc solution was washed with brine (200 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a white solid. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:Hexane/1:6) to yield 3.9 g (98%) of **107** as a white solid.

Epoxide 107 is a known compound. Analytical data: lit. <sup>33</sup>.



3-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(*E*/*Z*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-octahydro-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-1,4-dioxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazine-3R-carboxylic acid, methyl ester (303) 3-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(*E*/*Z*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethyl silyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-octahydro-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-1,4-dioxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazine-3S-carboxylic acid, methyl ester (304)

To a flame-dried 1-L flask charged with **91** (6.0 g, 11.35 mmol, 1 eq), gramine derivative **60** (5.04 g, 12.5 mmol, 1.1 eq) and molecular sieves (4 Å, 6.5 g) under Ar was added CH<sub>3</sub>CN (340 mL, anhydrous). The reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 10 min and then Bu<sub>3</sub>P (1.59 g, 7.95 mmol, 0.7 eq) was added in one portion. After the reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 12 g of a foamy solid. Purification of the products by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/2.5:1, 2:1 then EtOAc) gave 5.0 g (53%) of **303** ( a white foam, as a high

 $R_f$  syn isomer) and 1.6 g (17%) of **304** (a white foam, as a lower  $R_f$  anti isomer). The combined yield was 70%.

Data of syn isomer (303) (mixture of four diasteromers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.03 and 0.04 (total 6 H, s), 0.12-0.19 (total 6 H, s), 0.88 and 0.91 (total 18 H, s), 1.11-1.17 (3 H, m), 1.46 and 1.48 (total 3 H, s), 1.55 and 1.68 (total 3 H, s), 1.82-2.19 (3 H, m), 2.20-2.36 (1 H, m), 2.46-2.63 (1 H, m), 3.22-3.60 (2 H, m), 3.23, 3.29, 3.31 and 3.75 (total 3 H, s), 3.71, 3.73, 3.74 and 3.32 (total 3 H, s), 3.79-4.28 (7 H, m), 4.41-4.50 (1 H, m), 4.53-4.62 (1 H, m), 5.11 (3/5 H, m), 5.34 (2/5 H, m), 6.11, 6.13 and 6.16 (total 1 H, s), 6.75 and 6.76 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.97-7.02 (1 H, m), 7.06 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.25 and 8.27 (total 1 H, br s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.6, 169.63, 167.3, 166.9, 161.9, 141.9, 141.6, 140.3, 139.6, 137.0, 136.8, 129.2, 129.1, 125.9, 125.8, 123.7, 117.9, 117.8, 116.5, 116.53, 113.1, 113.15, 108.3, 95.9, 95.8, 80.9, 80.6, 80.5, 76.3, 76.2, 73.1, 71.6, 68.4, 66.9, 66.8, 61.6, 55.9, 53.6, 44.2, 43.9, 34.1, 33.8, 28.4, 28.1, 27.2, 27.1, 26.0, 25.8, 21.8, 19.6, 19.0, 18.5, 18.0, 13.7, -4.0, -4.6, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3310, 2954, 2857, 1742, 1676, 1438, 1251, 1091, 837, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 829.4377 (C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>67</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> requires 829.4365)

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>67</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> C, 60.76; H, 8.13; N, 5.06. Found: C, 60.58; H, 7.96; N, 5.13

Data of *anti* isomer (**304**) (mixture of four diasteromers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -0.11-0.20 (12 H, m), 0.78-0.95 (18 H, m), 1.09 and 1.12 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 (3 H, s), 1.54-1.80 (3 H, m), 1.80-2.80 (4 H, m), 3.29 (3 H, s), 3.21-3.58 (2 H, m), 3.65-4.75 (11 H, m), 4.52 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 4.62 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.07-5.52 (1 H, m), 6.32-6.52 (1 H, m), 6.70-6.81 (1 H, m), 6.90-7.03 (1 H, m), 7.05 -7.19 (1 H, m), 8.35, 8.39 and 8.46 (total 1 H, br s)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.8, 168.7, 166.5, 166.4, 162.5, 141.6, 141.5, 139.6, 139.4, 136.8, 129.1, 129.0, 126.0, 124.5, 117.8, 116.1, 116.0, 113.8, 108.6, 95.6,

80.6, 80.2, 76.3, 73.1, 73.0, 72.9, 72.94, , 71.6, 68.0, 61.7, 55.9, 55.8, 53.5, 43.8, 35.2, 35.0, 33.8, 33.6, 29.8, 28.4, 28.3, 27.4, 26.0, 25.8, 19.3, 19.1, 18.5, 18.0, 13.9, 13.8, -4.0, -4.6, -5.1, -5.3.

IR (NaCl, film) 3285, 2950, 2855, 1751, 1678, 1662, 1442, 1254, 1091, 1044, 840, 777 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 829.4360 (C42H67N3O10Si2 requires 829.4365)











3R-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(Z)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-hexahydro-1,4-dioxo-8S-(methoxymethoxy)pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine (305Z)

3R-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-octahydro-1,4-dioxo-8S-(methoxymethoxy)pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine (305E)

3S-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(Z)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-hexahydro-1,4-dioxo-8S-(methoxymethoxy)pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine (306Z)

3S-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(E)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl) dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-octahydro-1,4-dioxo-8S-(methoxymethoxy)pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine (306E)

To a 50-mL flask charged with **303** (1.0 g, 1.20 mmol, 1 eq) and LiCl (260 mg, 6.02 mmol, 5 eq) under Ar was added a solution of  $H_2O$  (32.5 mg, 1.81 mmol, 1.5 eq) in HMPA (9.32 mL). After the reaction mixture was heated on an oil bath at 104-105 °C for 5 h, it was cooled to 23 °C and poured into a 250-mL Erlenmeyer flask containing EtOAc (70 mL) and saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (60 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 × 40 mL). The combined extracts were washed with brine (6 × 50 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give a white foam. Purification of the products by radial chromatography (EtOAc:hexane/2:1) provided 280 mg (30%) of a diastereomeric mixture of the *anti/Z* (**305Z**) and the *anti/E* (**305E**) isomer as a white foam and 545 mg (59%) of a diastereomeric mixture of the *syn/Z* (**306Z**) and the *syn/E* (**306E**) isomer as a white foam. The combined yield was 89%.

The analytical samples of *anti/Z*, *anti/E*, *syn/Z* and *syn/E* were obtained through careful separation of the products by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/2:1, 1:1 then EtOAc)

Data of anti/Z isomer (305Z) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.03-0.17 (12H, m), 0.88 (9H, s), 0.92 (9H, s), 1.14 and 1.16 (3H, s), 1.49 (3H, s), 1.70 (3H, s), 2.06-2.30 (4H, m), 2.58-2.66 (1H, m), 2.82 (1H, dd, J = 3.3 Hz, J = 11.4 Hz), 3.37 (3H, s), 3.41-3.59 (2H, m), 3.69-3.75 (1H, m), 3.86-4.06 (6H, m), 4.61 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 4.73 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.16 (1H, m), 5.67 (1H, m), 6.77 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.03 (1H, s), 7.08 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 8.16 (1H, br s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3, 166.1, 165.6, 142.1, 141.5, 141.4, 140.5, 140.4, 137.2, 134.8, 129.9, 129.7, 125.7, 125.1, 124.8, 119.7, 117.8, 115.4, 115.3, 112.9, 110.8, 96.5, 96.3, 96.2, 80.96, 80.90, 76.3, 73.6, 73.5, 71.8, 67.7, 67.8, 61.6, 56.0, 54.4, 54.3, 44.1, 43.3, 34.5, 29.9, 28.6, 28.4, 27.5, 26.7, 26.0, 25.9, 21.7, 19.5, 19.3, 18.8, 18.5, 18.1, 13.8, -3.9, -4.6, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3366, 2955, 2929, 2893, 2856, 1681, 1445, 1251, 1221, 1090, 1042, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 771.4286 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>65</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> requires 771.4310)

Data of anti/E isomer (305E) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01, 0.02, 0.15 and 0.16 (total 12 H, s), 0.87 (9 H, s), 0.91 (9 H, s), 1.14 (3 H, s), 1.49 (3 H, s), 1.53 and 1.54 (total 3 H, s), 1.90-2.31 (4 H, m), 2.67 (1 H, br dd, J = 14.7, 8.4 Hz), 2.85 (1 H, dd, J = 14.7, 11.4 Hz), 3.12-3.77 (3 H, m), 3.37 (3 H, s), 3.81-4.10 (4 H, m), 4.18-4.38 (2 H, m), 4.60 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 4.72 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.40 (1 H, br t, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.70 (1 H, br s), 6.76 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.02 and 7.03 (total 1 H, br s), 7.09 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 8.17 (1 H, br s)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.2, 165.5, 142.0, 141.9, 140.5, 137.1, 129.8, 129.7, 125.0, 125.03, 123.1, 117.8, 117.7 115.4, 115.2, 112.96, 112.90, 110.87, 110.82, 96.1, 80.85, 80.80, 76.3, 73.5, 71.7, 67.88, 67.81, 56.0, 54.5, 54.4, 43.3, 34.5, 29.8, 28.8, 28.7, 28.39, 28.35, 26.0, 25.8, 19.4, 19.3, 18.4, 18.0, 13.7, -4.0, -4.6, -5.1, -5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3366, 2955, 2929, 2894, 2857, 1681, 1445, 1251, 1107, 1043, 837, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 771.4286 (C40H65N3O8Si2 requires 771.4310)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>65</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>: C, 62.22; H, 8.48; N, 5.44. Found: C, 62.40; H, 8.48; N, 5.34

Data of syn/Z isomer (306Z) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.10 (6H, s), 0.15 and 0.17 (6H, s), 0.91 and 0.93 (9H, s), 1.14 (3H, s), 1.49 (3H, s), 1.87 (3H, s), 2.07-2.28 (2H, m), 2.70-2.88 (2H, m), 3.30 (3H,

s), 3.37-3.47 (2H, m), 3.55-3.63 (1H, m), 3.85-4.00 (2H, m), 4.16 (2H, s), 4.20-4.30 (4H, m), 4.54 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.62 (1H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.28 (1H, m), 5.74 (1H, br, s), 6.79 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.01 (1H, s), 7.16 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.16 (1H, br, s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3297, 2955, 2857, 1681, 1651, 1445, 1252, 1221, 1092, 1049, 837, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 777.4318 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>65</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> requires 777.4310)

Data of syn/E isomer (306E) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01-0.18 (12 H, m), 0.85-0.95 (18 H, m), 1.13 and 1.14 (total 3 H, s), 1.48 (3 H, s), 1.63 and 1.86 (total 3 H, br s), 2.00-2.26 (3 H, m), 2.61-2.99 (2 H, m), 3.30 (3 H, s), 3.35-3.63 (2 H, m), 3.82-4.01 (2 H, m), 4.05-4.35 (6 H, m), 4.54 and 4.55 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 4.61 and 4.62 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 5.20-5.57 (1 H, m), 5.65-5.86 (1 H, m), 6.74-6.82 (1 H, m), 6.98-7.05 (1 H, m), 7.12-7.19 (1 H, m), 8.13-8.26 (1 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (mixture of four diastereomers) δ 166.5, 165.7, 141.8, 140.0, 139.9, 137.0, 129.6, 124.9, 123.3, 118.7, 117.7, 117.6, 116.0, 113.1, 110.9, 110.8, 95.4, 80.6, 80.7, 76.2, 73.0, 71.6, 68.0, 61.7, 57.3, 57.2, 55.8, 43.2, 33.5, 32.4, 28.3, 27.0, 26.0, 25.8, 21.9, 19.2, 18.5, 18.0, -4.0, -4.7, -5.1, -5.2.

IR (NaCl, film) 3297, 2955, 2857, 1681, 1651, 1445, 1252, 1221, 1092, 1049, 837, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 771.4318 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>65</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> requires 771.4310)








Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-4(3H)-one, 3R-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(*Z*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-6,7,8,8atetrahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy) (307Z) Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-4(3H)-one, 3R-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(*E*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-6,7,8,8a-

## tetrahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy) (307E)

To a flask charged with **305** (45.0 mg, 58.3  $\mu$ mol, 1 eq), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (380 mg, 1.16 mmol, 20 eq) and Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub> (21.5 mg, 0.145 mmol, 2.5 eq) under Ar was added CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.93 mL). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 10 h, it was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a white foam. Preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:2:0.5) purification of the products gave 8.3 mg (18%) of **307Z** ( a white foam, as a high R<sub>f</sub> *antil*Z isomer) and 21.3 mg (46.5%) of **307E** (a white foam, as a lower R<sub>f</sub> *antil*E isomer). The combined yield was 65%.

Data of anti/Z isomer (307Z) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.04 and 0.13-0.15 (total 12H, s), 0.87-0.90 (total 18H, s), 1.06 and 1.39 (total 3H, s), 1.44 and 1.48 (total 3H, s), 1.72 (3H, s), 1.82-2.10 (total 3H, m), 2.37-2.47 (total 1H, m), 3.00 and 3.14 (total 3H, s), 3.31-3.50 (total 3H, m), 3.61 and

3.63 (total 3H, s), 3.75-4.30 (total 10H, m), 5.05 and 5.22 (total 1H, m), 6.67 and 6.70 (total 1H, s), 6.98 and 7.01 (total 1H, d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 7.24-7.29 (total 1H, m), 7.94-7.95 (1H, d, *J* = 5.1 Hz).

IR (NaCl, film) 3320, 2958, 2862, 1707, 1643, 1466, 1361, 1249, 1089, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 786.4507 (C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>67</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> + H requires 786.4544).

Data of *anti*/E isomer (307E) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.012, 0.018, 0.025 and 0.030 (total 6 H, s), 0.14 and 0.15 (total 6 H), 0.88, 0.89, 0.90 and 0.91 (total 18 H, s), 1.07 and 1.13 (total 3 H, s), 1.45 and 1.48 (total 3 H, s), 1.52 (3 H, s), 1.82-2.16 (3 H, m), 2.41 (1 H, m), 3.03 and 3.16 (total 3 H, s), 3.26-3.52 (3 H, m), 3.62 and 3.64 (total 3 H, s), 3.71-4.32 (10 H, m), 5.19-5.29 (1 H, m), 6.69 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.99 and 7.03 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 7.27 and 7.29 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.93 and 7.95 (1 H, br s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.1, 169.12, 141.4, 141.0, 139.9, 136.7, 136.6, 128.8, 127.6, 127.2, 123.1, 123.0, 116.4, 116.3, 115.9, 114.7, 114.5, 113.8, 113.5, 95.5, 94.9, 80.5, 80.2, 79.7, 79.5, 76.6, 71.7, 71.6, 71.4, 71.3, 68.16, 68.11, 61.0, 60.7, 55.6, 55.5, 42.0, 41.9, 33.5, 33.51, 29.1, 28.9, 28.7, 28.1, 27.7, 26.1, 25.9, 19.7, 18.7, 18.5, 18.1, 13.7, -3.8, -3.9, -4.5, -5.1.

IR (NaCl, film) 3320, 2958, 2862, 1707, 1643, 1446, 1254, 1217, 1105, 1041, 839, 775 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 785.4462 (C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>67</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> requires 785.4466)





Pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-4(3H)-one, 3S-[[3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2H,10H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indol-8-yl]methyl]-8aR-[(*E/Z*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-6,7,8,8atetrahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy) (308)

To a flask charged with **306** (1.50 g, 1.94 mmol, 1 eq),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (9.50 g, 29.1 mmol, 15 eq) and  $Me_3OBF_4$  (863 mg, 5.83 mmol, 3 eq) was added  $CH_2Cl_2$  (65 mL). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 11 h, it was quenched with  $H_2O$  (120 mL), and extracted with EtOAc (3 times). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated to give 1.60 g of a foamy solid. The product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:hexane/1:1) to give 877 mg of **308** (57%, 86% based on the recovered 500 mg of a mixture of starting material and product) Data of **308** (mixture of four diasteromers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.00-0.18 (12 H, m), 0.87, 0.88, 0.90 and 0.91 (total 18 H, s), 1.07 and 1.10 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.48 (total 6 H, s), 1.51-2.03 (4 H, m), 3.04-3.16 (1 H, m), 3.20-3.51 (2 H, m), 3.28 (3 H, s), 3.70 (3 H, br s), 3.74-3.86 (1 H, m), 3.90-4.23 (6 H, m), 4.37-4.47 (1 H, m), 4.53 (2 H, s), 5.15-5.29 (1 H, m), 6.72 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.06-7.11 (1 H, m), 7.20 and 7.21 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.05 (1 H, br s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.8, 158.5, 141.5, 141.4, 139.6, 139.3, 138.5, 138.3, 136.8, 128.9, 129.0, 126.4, 122.6, 119.3, 116.8, 114.2, 114.1, 113.9, 113.6, 94.9,

80.4, 80.3, 79.5, 71.6, 70.79, 70.73, 62.8, 62.7, 61.6, 55.7, 52.7, 42.2, 33.6, 33.2, 31.6, 28.5, 28.3, 27.1, 26.0, 25.8, 21.8, 19.2, 18.8, 18.4, 18.0, 13.5, -3.9, -4.6, -5.2. IR (NaCl, film) 3327, 2956, 2855, 1694, 1644, 1448, 1252, 1087, 1042, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 786.4525 (C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>67</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> + H requires 786.4544)





8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2*a*]pyrazin-3R-yl]methyl]-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (309E)

To a solution of **307** (300 mg, 0.382 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3.74 mL) at 0 °C was added triethylamine (42.3 mg, 0.419 mmol, 1.1 eq), DMAP (46.6 mg, 0.381 mmol, 1 eq) and (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (250 mg, 1.15 mmol, 3.0 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 6 h, the solvent was removed, and the residue was purified by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/3:1) to provide 120 mg of **309** (a white foam, as a mixture of the *anti/*E and the *anti/*Z isomer) and 208 mg of **309E** (a white foam, as an *anti/*E isomer). The combined yield was 97%

Data of anti/E isomer (309E) (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.008, 0.014, 0.018 and 0.024 (total 6 H, s), 0.14, 0.15 and 0.16 (total 6 H, s), 0.87, 0.88, 0.90 and 0.91 (total 18 H, s), 1.06 and 1.10 (total 3 H, s), 1.48 and 1.49 (total 3 H, s), 1.52 (3 H, br s), 1.595 and 1.598 (total 9 H, s), 1.76-1.95 (1 H, m), 1.97-2.13 (2 H, m), 2.35-2.48 (1 H, m), 3.02 and 3.15 (total 3 H, s), 3.18-3.48 (3 H, m), 3.55 and 3.61 (total 3 H, s), 3.70-4.06 (4 H, m), 3.93 (2 H, br s), 4.09-4.31 (4 H, m), 5.17-5.27 (1 H, m), (1 H, m), 6.85 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.22-7.32 (2 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: -5.1, -4.6, -3.65, -3.58, 13.7, 18.2, 18.6, 18.7, 19.1, 26.0, 26.1, 27.7, 28.4, 28.6, 28.9, 33.5, 42.0, 52.7, 55.4, 55.6, 60.3, 60.7, 68.0, 68.1, 71.1, 71.2, 76.2, 79.0, 79.2, 80.3, 82.39, 82.44, 94.6, 114.9, 115.8, 116.7, 116.9, 119.1, 126.9, 127.0, 127.7, 131.1, 131.4, 139.9, 140.2, 140.3, 145.76, 145.85, 149.1, 158.0, 168.8, 169.2. IR (NaCl, film) 2953, 2892, 1749, 1700, 1649, 1494, 1435, 1250, 1257, 1085 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 886.5069 ( $C_{46}H_{75}N_3O_{10}Si_2 + H$  requires 886.5069)



8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3R-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (311E)

To a solution of **309E** (190 mg, 0.214 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (2.6 mL) at 23 °C was added TBAF (0.70 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 0.70 mmol, 3.3 eq). After 11 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water (55 mL) and extracted with EtOAc/Et<sub>2</sub>O (1/1) (three times). The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated to give an oil. The product was purified by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/1:2) to provide 132 mg (94%) of **311E** as a white foam

Data of **311E** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.19 and 1.21 (total 3 H, s), 1.55 and 1.57 (total 3 H, s), 1.591 and 1.594 (total 12 H, s), 1.77-1.97 (1 H, m), 1.98-2.16 (1 H, m), 2.44 (1 H, m), 3.01-3.12 (1 H, m), 3.04 and 3.15 (total 3 H, m), 3.20-3.44 (4 H, m), 3.49-3.67 (1 H, m), 3.52 and 3.61 (total 3 H, s), 3.75-4.38 (8 H, m), 3.95 (2 H, s), 5.22 (1 H, m), 6.88 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.22-7.30 (2 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.9, 158.0, 148.8, 146.0, 140.5, 131.3, 131.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.0, 126.8, 118.7, 116.4, 115.3, 115.2, 94.6, 94.4, 82.5, 82.4, 79.9, 79.8, 79.1, 78.7, 75.6, 71.1, 70.8, 70.7, 67.9, 60.5, 60.1, 55.4.

IR (NaCl, film) 3406, 2980, 2883, 1745, 1696, 1634, 1439, 1435, 1367, 1251, 1155, 1043, 966, 917 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 658.3328 ( $C_{34}H_{47}N_3O_{10}$  + H requires 658.3339)





8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (312E)

8-[[8aR-[(Z)-4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (312Z)

To a solution of **308** (877 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8 mL) at 0 °C under Ar was added triethylamine (124 mg, 1.22 mmol, 1.1 eq), DMAP (136 mg, 1.10 mmol, 1.0 eq) and (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (730 mg, 3.34 mmol, 3.1 eq). After 4 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. THF (0.8 mL) and TBAF (2.84 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 2.84 mmol, 2.47 eq) were added to the above residue at 23 °C. After 16 h, additional TBAF (1.70 mL, 1.70 mmol, 1.48 eq) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h, and then a third aliquot of TBAF (1.0 mL, 1.0 mmol, 0.87 eq) was added. The reaction was allowed to proceed for a further 10 h before being quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (400 mL). TLC (EtOAc:MeOH/10:1) was used to monitor the reaction. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc/ether (2/1) (3 × 200 mL). The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a foamy solid. The products were purified by radial chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/1:2) to provide 550 mg of **312E** (a white foam, as a high  $R_f syn/E$  isomer) and 240 mg of **312Z** (a white foam, as a lower  $R_f syn/Z$  isomer). The combined yield was 100%.

Data of 312E (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.20 and 1.22 (total 3 H, s), 1.54-1.59 (6 H, m), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.74-2.19 (4 H, m), 2.93-3.23 (2 H, m), 3.25-3.41 (2 H, m), 3.29 and 3.30 (total 3 H, s), 3.58 (1 H, br s), 3.70 (3 H, s), 3.80-3.95 (2 H, m), 4.00-4.17 (2 H, m), 4.23-4.35 (2 H, m), 4.42 (1 H, m), 4.54 and 4.55 (total 2 H, s), 4.71 and 5.03 (total 1 H, m), 6.91 and 6.92 (total 1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.21 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.35 and 7.39 (total 1 H, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.6, 169.3, 159.2, 158.4, 148.8, 146.6, 146.5, 141.0, 139.0, 138.8, 130.5, 130.4, 128.5, 126.9, 126.8, 119.5, 119.4, 118.2, 117.9, 117.1, 116.8, 115.1, 95.0, 94.8, 83.0, 80.2, 80.1, 75.8, 71.0, 70.9, 68.4, 68.3, 62.2, 61.8, 52.8, 52.7, 42.8, 42.3, 34.2, 33.8, 30.9, 28.2, 27.1, 26.4, 26.0, 23.6, 23.3, 14.3, 13.9.

IR (NaCl, film) 3416, 1750, 1693, 1636, 1493, 1368, 1157, 757 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 657.3263 (C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>47</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub> requires 657.3261)

Data of 312Z (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.20 and 1.21 (total 3H, s), 1.53 and 1.54 (total 3H, s), 1.60 (total 9H, s), 1.77 (total 3H, s), 1.90-2.15 (total 3H, m), 2.83-2.95 (2H, m), 3.28 and 3.29 (total 3H, s), 3.21-3.41 (total 3H, m), 3.59 (1H, br s), 3.67 and 3.68 (total 3H, s), 3.83 and 3.97 (total 2H, m), 4.01-4.15 (total 2H, m), 4.27-4.28 (total 2H, m), 4.37-4.42 (total 1H, m), 4.530 and 4.539 (total 2H, s), 5.05 (1H, m), 6.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.18 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.37 and 7.39 (total 1H, s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3420, 2977, 2945, 1750, 1699, 1635, 1368, 1154, 1037 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 657.3234 (C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>47</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub> requires 657.3261)







8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3R-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (324E)

To a solution of **311E** (55.0 mg, 0.084 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) at 0 °C was added collidine (101 mg, 0.84 mmol, 10 eq) followed by dropwise addition of MsCl (110  $\mu$ L, 0.607 M MsCl in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.092 mmol, 1.1 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3.5 h and at 7 °C for 14 h. TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/18:1) showed that the starting material had reacted and that the desired allylic mesylate and by-product bis mesylate (minor) were formed. At this time, the reaction mixture was concentrated and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (675  $\mu$ L) was added followed by HMPA (84.8 mg, 0.453 mmol, 5.4 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 24 h, Bn(Bu)<sub>3</sub>NCl (104 mg, 0.32 mmol, 4 eq) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 23 °C for an additional 6 h. TLC (hexane:EtOAc/1:1) showed that the reaction was finished. The reaction mixture was concentrated with (EtOAc/Et<sub>2</sub>O) (2/1). The combined extracts were washed with 0.005 N HCl in water (5 × 35 mL), washed with brine (once), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 60 mg of a while foam. Preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/25:1) purification of the products gave 43 mg (77%) of **324E** as a white foam Data of **324E** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.18 and 1.21 (total 3 H, s), 1.53 and 1.56 (total 3 H, s), 1.58 and 1.59 (total 9 H, s), 1.67 (3 H, br s), 1.78-2.15 (4 H, m), 2.38-2.51 (1 H, m), 3.03-3.65 (4 H, m), 3.04-3.14 (total 3 H, s), 3.51 and 3.61 (total 3 H, s), 3.77-4.36 (7 H, m), 3.92 (2 H, s), 5.26-5.38 (1 H, m), 6.87 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.21-7.29 (2 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.5, 157.7, 157.6, 148.9, 146.2, 140.7, 140.6, 137.1, 131.5, 131.1, 128.1, 128.0, 127.1, 126.9, 122.2, 118.9, 118.7, 116.7, 116.5, 115.4, 115.3, 94.7, 94.6, 82.6, 82.5, 80.0, 79.9, 79.2, 78.8, 75.8, 71.0, 71.03, 70.9, 70.8, 60.6, 60.0, 55.5, 55.3, 52.69, 52.7, 51.4, 42.0, 33.9, 33.8, 28.5, 28.4, 28.2, 27.5, 26.4, 26.0, 23.4, 23.2, 14.4.

IR (NaCl, film) 3419, 2978, 2894, 1745, 1698, 1645, 1436, 1158, 1037, 733 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 676.2992 (C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Cl + H requires 676.2992)





8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (317E)

To a solution of **312E** (100 mg, 0.152 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2.7 mL) at 0 °C was added collidine (183 mg, 1.52 mmol, 10 eq) followed by dropwise addition of MsCl (275 µL, 0.607 M in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 0.167 mmol, 1.1 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h and at 7 °C for 17 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1.35 mL) was added followed by HMPA (155 mg, 0.863 mmol, 5.7 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 22 h, Bn(Bu)<sub>3</sub>NCl (189 mg, 0.61 mmol, 4 eq) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 23 °C for an additional 5 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and extracted with (EtOAc/Et<sub>2</sub>O) (2/1). The combined extracts were washed with 0.005 N HCl in water (4 × 70 mL, 1 × 15 mL), washed with brine (once), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give 119 mg of a while foam. Preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/18:1) purification of the products gave 90 mg (90%, based on recovered 2 mg of **312E**) of **317E** as a white foam and 8 mg (7%) of by-product chloride-mesylate **323E** as a white foam.

Data of **317E** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.20 and 1.21 (total 3 H, s), 1.57 and 1.58 (total 3 H, s), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.69 (3 H, br s), 1.78-1.95 (1 H, m), 1.96-2.11 (2 H, m), 2.12-2.33 (1 H, m),

2.84 (1 H, dt, *J* = 14.4, 9.3 Hz), 3.02-3.14 (1 H, m), 3.21-3.43 (2 H, m), 3.295 and 3.299 (total 3 H, s), 3.56-3.64 (1 H, m), 3.66 and 3.67 (total 3 H, s), 3.93 (2 H, s), 4.10-4.25 (2 H, m), 4.25-4.33 (2 H, m), 4.38 (1 H, m), 4.55 (2 H, ABq), 5.22 and 5.29 (total 1 H, br t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.92 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.19 and 7.27 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.42 and 7.43 (total 1 H, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.5, 158.1, 157.8, 148.8, 146.6, 141.1, 136.1, 136.0, 130.3, 128.47, 128.40, 126.8, 122.97, 122.90, 119.4, 117.0, 116.8, 114.9, 94.8, 82.9, 80.1, 80.0, 79.6, 79.5, 75.7, 70.9, 70.7, 61.8, 55.8, 52.8, 51.5, 42.3, 33.9, 33.8, 31.5, 31.4, 28.2, 27.1, 27.0, 26.4, 23.4, 23.3, 14.4.

IR (NaCl, film) 3234, 2982, 2941, 1751, 1699, 1643, 1370, 1036 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 675.2920 (C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Cl requires 675.2922)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Cl: C, 60.39; H, 6.85; N, 6.21. Found: C, 60.52; H, 6.74; N, 5.98.





8-[[8aR-[(Z)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-3,4-dihydro-3hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (317Z)

To a solution of **312Z** (60.0 mg,  $91.2 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) at 0 °C were added triethylamine (18.9 mg, 0.182 mmol, 2 eq) followed by dropwise addition of MsCl (150 µL, 0.607 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $91.2 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 11 h and at 23 °C for 3 h, it was concentrated and extracted with (EtOAc/Et<sub>2</sub>O) (2/1). The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. Preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/25:1) purification of the product gave 29 mg (75% yield, based on 22.6 mg of recovered **317Z**) of **317Z** as a white foam.

Data of **317Z** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.20-1.21 (total 3H, s), 1.56-1.57 (total 3H, s), 1.61 (total 9H, s), 1.84 (total 3H, s), 1.90-2.20 (total 3H, m), 2.32-2.45 (total 1H, m), 2.71-2.88 (total 1H, m), 3.02-3.18 (total 1H, m), 3.29-3.30 (total 3H, s), 3.23-3.41 (2H, m), 3..57-3.61 (1H, m), 3.66-3.68 (total 3H, s), 3.93-3.97 (2H, m), 4.10-4.39 (total 5H, m), 4.54-4.55 (2H, s), 5.20 (total 1H, m), 6.92 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.18 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.43 (total 1H, s).

IR (NaCl, film) 3407, 2979, 2929, 1747, 1698, 1643, 1493, 1369, 1046 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 676.2994 (C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Cl + H requires 676.2922)





8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3R-yl]methyl]-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethyl ethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3g]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (326E)

To a solution of **324E** (40.0 mg,  $59.2 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq) and 2,6-lutidine (12.7 mg, 0.118 mmol, 2 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.18 mL) at 0 °C under Ar was slowly added tbutyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (23.4 mg, 0.183 mmol, 2 eq). After 3.5 h, additional 2,6-lutidine (12.7 mg, 0.118 mmol, 2 eq) and t-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethane-sulfonate (23.4 mg, 0.183 mmol, 2 eq) were added, and the reaction was allowed to stir for 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a foamy solid. Preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc/1:1) purification of the product gave 41.5 mg (89%) of **326E** as a white foam.

Data of **326E** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.135, 0.140 and 0.148 (total 6 H, s), 0.89 and 0.90 (total 9 H, s), 1.05 and 1.10 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.48 (total 3 H, s), 1.59 (9 H, s), 1.65-1.69 (3 H, m), 1.81-1.93 (1 H, m), 1.96-2.11 (2 H, m), 2.37-2.49 (1 H, m), 3.00 and 3.13 (total 3 H, s), 3.18-3.40 (3 H, m), 3.53 and 3.60 (total 3 H, s), 3.73-4.26 (7 H, m), 3.92 (2 H, s), 4.27-4.35 (1 H, m), 5.28-5.36 (1 H, m), 6.84 (1 H, d, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 7.18-7.28 (2 H, m).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.3, 168.9, 168.8, 157.8, 157.7, 149.1, 145.9, 145.2, 137.1, 131.3, 131.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.0, 126.9, 122.26, 122.2, 119.1, 116.6, 116.5, 114.84, 114.80, 94.6, 82.3, 82.4, 80.2, 79.0, 78.8, 76.17, 76.14, 71.07, 71.02, 60.6, 60.5, 60.1, 55.5, 55.3, 53.6, 52.7, 51.4, 42.0, 41.9, 33.9, 33.8, 28.7, 28.6, 28.4, 28.2, 27.5, 25.9, 21.2, 19.0, 18.5, 18.0, 14.4, 14.3, -3.71, -3.79, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, film) 2953, 2894, 1749, 1701, 1652, 1491, 1369, 1247, 1159 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 790.3854 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>SiCl + H requires 790.3865)





8-[[8aR-[(*E*)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethyl ethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3g]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (325E)

To a solution of **317E** (152 mg, 0.225 mmol, 1 eq) and 2,6-lutidine (48.2 mg, 0.45 mmol, 2 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.4 mL) at 0 °C under Ar was slowly added t-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (88.6 mg, 0.450 mmol, 2 eq). After 4 h, additional 2,6-lutidine (48.2 mg, 0.45 mmol, 2 eq) and t-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (88.6 mg, 0.450 mmol, 2 eq) were added, and the reaction was allowed to proceed for a further 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a foamy solid. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/1:1) gave 140 mg (79%) of **325E** as a white foam.

Data of 325E (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.14 and 0.15 (total 6 H, s), 0.89 (9 H, s), 1.07 and 1.09 (total 3 H, s), 1.48 (3 H, br s), 1.60 (9 H, s), 1.66 (3 H, s), 1.77-1.91 (1 H, m), 1.93-2.26 (3 H, m), 2.78-2.96 (1 H, m), 3.282 and 3.284 (total 3 H, s), 3.20-3.42 (2 H, m), 3.65 and 3.66 (total 3 H, s), 3.71-3.84 (1 H, m), 3.91-3.98 (1 H, m), 3.92 (2 H, br s), 4.08-4.23 (3 H, m), 4.35-4.41 (1 H, m), 4.50-4.57 (2 H, ABq), 5.20 and 5.29 (total 1 H, br t, *J* = 7.5

Hz), 6.89 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.15 and 7.16 (total 1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.40 and 7.41 (total 1 H, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.5, 158.1, 157.8, 149.0, 148.9, 146.22, 146.2, 140.6, 136.1, 135.9, 130.1, 127.9, 126.7, 122.93, 122.98, 119.7, 116.9, 114.2, 94.8, 82.8, 80.3, 79.6, 76.0, 71.1, 70.7, 70.6, 61.8, 61.7, 55.7, 52.7, 51.4, 42.3, 34.0, 33.9, 31.5, 31.4, 28.7, 28.6, 28.2, 27.2, 27.1, 25.9, 18.5, 18.6, 18.0, 14.4, -3.9, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, film) 2955, 2855, 1749, 1699, 1644, 1433, 1368, 1252, 1157, 1087, 856, 835. FAB HRMS m/e 790.3853 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>SiCl + H requires 790.3865)





8-[[8aR-[(Z)-4-chloro-3-methyl-2-butenyl]-3,4,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-4-oxopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethyl ethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3g]indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (325Z)

To a solution of **317Z** (17.5 mg,  $25.9 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq) and 2,6-lutidine (5.5 mg,  $51.8 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 2 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (500 µL) at 0 °C under Ar was slowly added tbutyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (10.2 mg,  $51.8 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 2 eq). After 2 h, additional 2,6-lutidine (5.5 mg,  $51.8 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 2 eq) and t-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethane-sulfonate (10.2 mg,  $51.8 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 2 eq) were added, and the reaction was allowed to proceed for a further 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Purification of the product by flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc/2:1) gave 15.4 mg (75%) of **325Z** as a white foam.

Data of 325Z (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.14 and 0.16 (total 6H, s), 0.91 (9H, s), 1.07 and 1.09 (total 3H, s), 1.49-1.50 (total 3H, s), 1.62-1.67 (total 9H, s), 1.83 (total 3H, s), 1.90-2.10 (total 3H, m), 2..20-2.42 (total 1H, m), 2.71-2.92 (total 1H, m), 3.29-3.30 (total 3H, s), 3.35-3.41 (total 2H, m), 3.65-3.67 (total 3H, s), 3.76-3.83 (total 1H, m), 3.93-3.98 (total

3H, m), 4.14-4.21 (total 3H, m), 4.34-4.39 (total 1H, m), 4.54 and 4.55 (total 2H, s), 5.2 (1H, m), 6.91-6.94 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.16-7.19 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.43 (total 1H, s). IR (NaCl, film) 2957, 2860, 1749, 1701, 1700, 1652, 1491, 1370, 1253, 1156, 1088, 1039 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 789.3782 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>SiCl requires 789.3782)





3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-8-[[3,4,7,8-tetrahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-10S-(1-methylethenyl)-4-oxo-6H-3,8aR-ethanopyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]- 2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g] indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (327)

To a suspension of anhydrous ether washed NaH (79.0 mg, 3.24 mmol, 20 eq) in THF 100 mL) was added solid **325E** (128 mg, 0.162 mmol, 1 eq) under Ar. After the reaction mixture was gently refluxed for 9.5 h, it was added dropwise to a flask containing H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) and EtOAc (35 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil which contained mostly the desired SN'<sub>2</sub> product **327** and some minor SN'<sub>2</sub> product (**329**) with the N-tBOC group removed. The above mixture was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL). Triethylamine (2.54 mg, 0.025 mmol, 0.16 eq), DMAP (2.8 mg, 0.023 mmol, 0.14 eq) and (BOC)<sub>2</sub>O (15 mg, 0.069 mmol, 0.42 eq) were added to the above mixture solution at 0 °C under Ar. After 3 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. The crude product was purified by radial chromatography (EtOAc:hexane/1:2 then 1:1) to provide 107 mg of **327** (87%) as a white foam.

Data of **327** (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.15 and 0.16 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 (9 H, s), 1.09 and 1.10 (total 3 H, s), 1.39-1.49 (1 H, m), 1.49 (3 H, s), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.64 (3 H, s), 1.98-2.06 (1 H, m), 2.08-2.24 (2 H, m), 2.44-2.54 (1 H, m), 3.02-3.12 (1 H, m), 3.33-3.42 (1 H, m), 3.42 and 3.43 (total 3 H, s), 3.52-3.72 (2 H, m), 3.69 and 3.61 (total 3 H, s), 3.75-3.87 (1 H, m), 3.93-4.00 (1 H, m), 4.15-4.24 (1 H, m), 4.29-4.36 (1 H, m), 4.62-4.91 (4 H, m), 6.856 and 6.861 (total 1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.32 and 7.39 (total 1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.47 and 7.56 (total 1 H, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 171.2, 170.2, 149.1, 145.79, 143.8, 143.5, 140.2, 140.1, 131.5, 127.9, 127.6, 119.1, 116.26, 116.2, 115.8, 96.7, 82.4, 80.2, 79.0, 76.1, 71.6, 71.10, 69.3, 69.0, 66.53, 66.5, 66.0, 56.0, 54.6, 54.56, 48.9, 48.6, 41.5, 36.9, 31.4, 28.7, 28.2, 26.9, 26.8, 25.9, 19.7, 18.8, 18.7, 18.0, -3.7, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, film) 2950, 2892, 1749, 1677, 1633, 1474, 1368, 1248, 1156, 1089, cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 754.4099 ( $C_{40}H_{59}N_3O_9Si + H$  requires 754.4094)





3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4-dihydro-4,4-dimethyl-8-[[3,4,7,8tetrahydro-1-methoxy-8S-(methoxymethoxy)-10S-(1-methylethenyl)-4-oxo-6H-3,8aR-ethanopyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3S-yl]methyl]- 2*H*,10*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*g*] indole-10-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (327)

To a suspension of anhydrous ether washed NaH (24.6 mg, 1.03 mmol, 24 eq) in THF (2.8 mL) was added solid **325Z** (33.8 mg, 0.043 mmol, 1 eq) under Ar. After the reaction mixture was gently refluxed for 11.5 h, it was added dropwise to a flask containing  $H_2O$  (20 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/18:1) purification of the product gave 16 mg (50%) of **327** as a white foam.


(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-17-methoxy-13S-(methoxymethoxy)-4,4,15,15-tetramethyl-9-oxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(nitrilomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (337)

To a flask charged with AgBF<sub>4</sub> (40.0 mg, 0.205 mmol, 3.1 eq)<sup>1</sup> and PdCl<sub>2</sub> (55.0 mg, 0.310 mmol, 4.68 eq) was added CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.25 mL) at room temperature under Ar. After 6.5 h, propylene oxide (207 mg, 3.56 mmol, 53.6 eq) was added and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. **327** (50.0 mg, 0.066 mmol, 1 eq) was added in one portion as a solid and produced a deep red color immediately. After the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 40 h<sup>2</sup> and then cooled to 0 °C, absolute ethanol (1.68 mL) was added. NaBH<sub>4</sub> (30 mg, 0.793 mmol, 12 eq) was added portionwise over 45 min, yielding a black solid and a colorless clear solution. The mixture was stirred for an additional 40 min and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated, and EtOAc was added to the residue. The resulting solution was washed with 0.01 N HCl in water followed by brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) purification of the crude product gave 32.8 mg (66%) of **337** as a white foam (201 mg scale, 85% yield).

1. AgBF<sub>4</sub> is hydroscopic and should be handled quickly.

2. After 40 h reaction, TLC (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) showed there was no 327 left.

Data of 337 (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.11 and 0.14 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.10 and 1.20 (total 3 H, s), 1.23 and 1.26 (total 3 H, s), 1.33-1.35 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.49 (total 3 H, s), 1.58 ad n1.60 (total 9 H, s), 1.73 (1 H, dd, *J* = 12.9, 4.2 Hz), 1.94-2.07 (1 H, m), 2.11-2.32 (3 H, m), 3.00-3.10 (1 H, m), 3.34-3.76 (3 H, m), 3.47 (3 H, s), 3.83 (3 H, s), 3.83-3.96 (2 H, m), 4.04-4.19 (1 H, m), 4.43 (1 H, m), 4.75 (1 H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.86 (1 H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.80 and 6.81 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.06-7.07 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.7, 170.7, 153.6, 143.4, 143.3, 139.5, 139.3, 138.6, 138.1, 129.3, 129.2, 125.7, 125.6, 118.7, 118.1, 113.1, 113.0, 110.8, 96.8, 84.4, 84.2, 80.7, 80.2, 79.1, 76.3, 72.1, 71.4, 67.0, 65.3, 56.0, 54.6, 49.1, 49.0, 41.6, 40.5, 37.0, 32.0, 31.6, 28.8, 28.6, 28.0, 27.5, 27.3, 26.9, 20.5, 20.4, 19.5, 19.1, 18.0, -3.9, -4.0, -4.7, -4.8.

IR (NaCl, film) 2975, 2956, 2897, 1745, 1682, 1633, 1369, 1047, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FAB HRMS m/e 753.4034 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Si requires 753.4020)





8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-13S-(methoxymethoxy)-4,4,15,15-tetramethyl-9,17-dioxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (338)

To a mixture of **337** (4.0 mg,  $5.3 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1 eq), LiCl (12.0 mg, 0.028 mmol, 53 eq) and BnBu<sub>3</sub>NCl (2.0 mg,  $5.3 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol, 1.3 eq) was added a solution of H<sub>2</sub>O (1.1 mg, 0.058 mmol, 11 eq) in HMPA (300 µL). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h, it was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with brine (5 times), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give an oil. Preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/10:1) purification of the product provided 1 mg of **338** and 2 mg of recovered starting material.

Data of 338 (mixture of two diastereomers):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.11 and 0.14 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.10 and 1.21 (total 3 H, s), 1.25 and 1.27 (total 3 H, s), 1.36 and 1.37 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.49 (total 3 H, s), 1.59 and 1.61 (total 9 H, s), 1.89 (1 H, dd, *J* = 13.2, 4.8 Hz), 2.14-2.29 (2 H, m), 2.34 (1 H, dd, *J* = 13.2, 10.2 Hz), 2.52-2.65 (2 H, m), 3.48 (3 H, s), 3.58-4.17 (5 H,m), 4.05-4.21 (1 H, m), 4.44 (1 H, m), 4.78 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.00 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.94 (1 H, br s), 6.81 and 6.83 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.999 and 7.007 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.2, 168.2, 153.3, 153.2, 143.6, 143.4, 139.5, 139.3, 138.7, 138.0, 129.3, 129.1, 125.1, 124.9, 119.0, 118.3, 112.7, 112.5, 108.5, 97.4, 84.8, 84.6, 81.0, 80.4, 79.2, 76.3, 72.4, 71.5, 68.53, 68.48, 59.7, 56.1, 51.2, 51.1, 42.5, 36.7,

31.5, 31.2, 28.9, 28.7, 27.6, 27.0, 26.7, 26.0, 25.9, 25.1, 20.2, 20.0, 19.7, 19.1, 18.13, 18.09, -3.9, -4.0, -4.6, -4.8.

IR (NaCl, film) 3246, 2929, 2855, 1747, 1694, 1493, 1367, 1256, 1156, 1092, 1039, 839 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 739.3848 (C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>57</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Si requires 739.3864)



8aS-amino-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8a,9,12,13,14aS,15octahydro-13S-(methoxymethoxy)-4,4,15,15-tetramethyl-9-oxo-2*H*,8*H*-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-*a*]indolizino[6,7-*h*]carbazole-13aR,16(11*H*,14*H*)-dicarboxylic acid, 16-(1,1-dimethylethyl), 13a-methyl ester (339)

To a solution of crude **337** (a product from  $PdCl_2/AgBF_4$  mediated cyclization reaction, 201 mg scale) in THF (25 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.1 M HCl in water (2 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> in water, and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by Preparative TLC on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/20:1) to give 155.2 mg (two steps, 75.4%) of **339** as a white foam.

Data for 339 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.11, 0.12 and 0.13 (total 6 H, s), 0.89 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.08 and 1.17 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.48 (total 3 H, s), 1.54 and 1.55 (total 3 H, s), 1.62 and 1.64 (total 9 H, s), 1.77 and 1.78 (total 3 H, s), 1.88-2.15 (3 H, m), 2.24-2.41 (1 H, m), 2.78 (1 H, d, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 2.86 (1 H, dd, *J* = 16.8, 2.1 Hz), 3.16 (1 H, br d, *J* = 13.8 Hz), 3.35 (3 H, s), 3.63-3.96 (5 H, m), 3.83 (3 H, s), 4.13 (1 H, m), 4.64 (2 H, ABq), 6.78 and 6.79 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.88 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.0, 171.2, 153.4, 143.4, 139.0, 138.9, 138.6, 138.1, 129.1, 129.0, 125.7, 125.6, 118.8, 118.3, 112.4, 107.21, 107.17, 96.3, 84.9, 84.7, 83.5, 80.8, 80.4, 76.3, 76.2, 72.0, 71.5, 69.7, 69.6, 57.8, 56.0, 52.9, 50.24, 50.17, 43.8, 36.0,

33.7, 33.6, 31.2, 30.7, 30.5, 28.9, 28.6, 27.6, 27.2, 27.0, 26.0, 25.9, 19.4, 19.2, 18.1, -3.9, -4.0, -4.7, -4.8.

IR (NaCl, neat) 2954, 2930, 2891, 2861, 1743, 1644, 1496, 1438, 1368, 1251, 1232, 1155, 1115, 1091, 1050, 838, 776 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FAB HRMS m/e 772.4222 (C40H62N3O10Si + H requires 772.4204)





8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-13S-(methoxymethoxy)-4,4,15,15-tetramethyl-9,17-dioxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (338)

To a solution of **339** (155.2 mg, 0.201 mmol, 1 eq) in toluene (6.7 mL) was added 2-hydroxypyridine (20.8 mg, 0.219 mmol, 1.1 eq). After the reaction mixture was heated at 120 °C for 2 h, it was concentrated in vacuo, and the residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:10:1) to give 124.0 mg (83.4%) of **338** as a white foam.

Data for **338** (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.11 and 0.14 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.10 and 1.21 (total 3 H, s), 1.25 and 1.27 (total 3 H, s), 1.36 and 1.37 (total 3 H, s), 1.47 and 1.49 (total 3 H, s), 1.59 and 1.61 (total 9 H, s), 1.89 (1 H, dd, *J* = 13.2, 4.8 Hz), 2.14-2.29 (2 H, m), 2.34 (1 H, dd, *J* = 13.2, 10.2 Hz), 2.52-2.65 (2 H, m), 3.48 (3 H, s), 3.58-4.17 (5 H,m), 4.05-4.21 (1 H, m), 4.44 (1 H, m), 4.78 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.00 (1 H, 1/2ABq, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.94 (1 H, br s), 6.81 and 6.83 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.999 and 7.007 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.2, 168.2, 153.3, 153.2, 143.6, 143.4, 139.5, 139.3, 138.7, 138.0, 129.3, 129.1, 125.1, 124.9, 119.0, 118.3, 112.7, 112.5, 108.5, 97.4, 84.8, 84.6, 81.0, 80.4, 79.2, 76.3, 72.4, 71.5, 68.53, 68.48, 59.7, 56.1, 51.2, 51.1, 42.5, 36.7, 31.5, 31.2, 28.9, 28.7, 27.6, 27.0, 26.7, 26.0, 25.9, 25.1, 20.2, 20.0, 19.7, 19.1, 18.13, 18.09, -3.9, -4.0, -4.6, -4.8.





(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-13S-(methoxymethoxy)- 4,4,15,15,-tetramethyl-17-oxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (340)

To a solution of **339** (32.8 mg, 0.044 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.2 mL) at 0 °C was added DIBAL-H (0.22 mL, 0.22 mmol, 1.0 M in toluene, 5 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and at room temperature for 1 h, additional DIBAL-H (0.14 mL, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 M in toluene, 3.2 eq) was added. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, and at room temperature for 1 h, it was cooled to 0 °C, quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq.), and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (developed twice with hexane:EtOAc:MeOH /5:3:0.5) to give 23.3 mg (72.1 %) of **340** as a white foam.

Data for 340 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.115, 0.119 and 0.137 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.14 and 1.18 (total 3 H, s), 1.40 and 1.41 (total 3 H, s), 1.48 (3 H, s), 1.56 (3 H, s), 1.62 and 1.64 (total 9 H, s), 1.84 (1 H, dd, J = 13.2, 4.2 Hz), 2.10-2.52 (6 H, m), 2.73 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 15.6 Hz), 2.82 (1 H, 1/2ABq, J = 15.6, 1.8 Hz), 3.19 (1 H, td, J = 8.7, 5.4 Hz), 3.44-3.50 (1 H, m), 3.45 (3 H, s), 3.74-3.97 (2 H, m), 4.03 (1 H, t, J = 9.0 Hz), 4.16 (1 H, td, J = 11.7, 3.3 Hz), 4.79 (2 H, s), 5.95 (1 H, br s), 6.81 and 6.82 (total 1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.2, 153.4, 153.3, 143.5, 141.3, 141.2, 138.7, 138.3, 129.4, 125.1, 125.0, 118.9, 118.5, 112.06, 112.01, 108.1, 108.0, 96.9, 85.0, 84.9, 81.4, 81.0, 80.7, 76.4, 76.3, 72.3, 71.7, 64.3, 59.9, 56.3, 55.7, 52.8, 47.9, 35.8, 35.7, 30.4, 30.1, 29.04, 28.93, 28.7, 28.6, 28.5, 27.7, 26.0, 22.1, 22.0, 19.7, 19.5, 18.2, -3.8, -4.0, -4.6, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, neat) 2937, 2932, 2902, 2855, 1748, 1693, 1682, 1496, 1446, 1369, 1308, 1253, 1234, 1155, 1111, 1092, 1052, 992, 914, 838, 776, 732 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 726.4150, found 726.4168.





(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-13S-(methoxymethoxy)- 4,4,15,15,18-pentamethyl-17-oxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (341)

To a solution of **340** (37.8 mg, 0.052 mmol, 1 eq) in DMF (1.7 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (43.1 mg, 1.08 mmol, 60% oil dispersion, 20 eq). After 15 min, MeI (159 mg, 1.12 mmol, 22 eq) was added. After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, and at room temperature for 1 h, it was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq.), and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:10:1) to provide 36.9 mg (95.8%) of **341** as an amorphous solid.

Data for 341 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.12 and 0.14 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.16 and 1.19 (total 3 H, s), 1.40 and 1.41 (total 3 H, s), 1.49 (3 H, s), 1.58 and 1.60 (total 3 H, s), 1.62 and 1.64 (total 9 H, s), 1.78-1.88 (1 H, m), 2.05-2.44 (6 H, m), 2.73-2.82 (1 H, m), 3.07 (3 H, s), 3.12-3.24 (2 H, m), 3.34-3.42 (1 H, m), 3.45 (3 H, s), 3.76-4.04 (3 H, m), 4.09-4.20 (1 H, m), 4.77 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9 Hz), 4.80 (1H, 1/2ABq, J = 6.9Hz), 6.82 and 6.83 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.96 (1 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.1, 153.3, 143.5, 141.0, 140.8, 138.7, 138.3, 129.7, 129.5, 125.3, 125.1, 118.8, 118.4, 111.9, 108.4, 108.2, 96.8, 84.9, 84.8, 81.7, 81.0, 80.7,

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76.4, 76.3, 72.2, 71.8, 63.4, 60.0, 58.4, 55.6, 53.1, 47.0, 46.9, 36.2, 36.1, 29.8, 29.0, 28.8, 28.7, 28.3, 28.2, 27.7, 25.9, 24.7, 22.6, 22.5, 19.6, 19.5, 18.1, -3.8, -4.0, -4.66, -4.72. IR (NaCl, neat) 2955, 2932, 2896, 2857, 1747, 1677, 1496, 1368, 1252, 1233, 1154, 1116, 1091, 1052, 838.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for  $C_{40}H_{62}N_3O_8Si$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 740.4306, found 740.4391.





(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro-13S-hydroxy- 4,4,15,15,18-pentamethyl-17-oxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (342)

To a solution of **341** (36.9 mg, 0.050 mmol, 1 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2.5 mL) at 0 °C was added bromocatecholborane (1.5 mL, 0.30 mmol, 0.2 M in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 6 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h, it was quenched with 10% NaOH (aq.) (3 mL), and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) to give 31.5 mg (90.8%) of **342** as an amorphous solid.

Data for 342 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.12 and 0.14 (total 6 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.15 and 1.19 (total 3 H, s), 1.41 and 1.49 (total 3 H, s), 1.58 (3 H, s), 1.62 and 1.64 (total 9 H, s), 1.82-2.06 (2 H, m), 2.13-2.45 (5 H, m), 2.79 (1 H, dd, *J* = 15.6, 1.8 Hz), 3.09 (3 H, s), 3.10-3.15 (1 H, m), 3.20 (1 H, d, *J* = 15.6 Hz), 3.43 (1 H, d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 3.73- 3.97 (2 H, m), 4.04-4.23 (2 H, m), 5.405 and 5.408 (total 1 H, dd, *J* = 11.4 Hz), 6.83 and 6.84 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.96 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.8, 153.4, 153.3, 143.6, 140.8, 140.7, 138.7, 138.4, 129.7, 129.6, 125.2, 125.1, 118.9, 118.5, 111.9, 108.0, 107.8, 85.1, 85.0, 81.1, 80.8, 77.3, 76.4, 76.3, 72.3, 71.8, 62.0, 60.2, 58.7, 53.3, 47.32, 47.27, 36.3, 36.2, 32.5, 29.7, 29.0,

28.9, 28.8, 28.7, 27.9, 27.7, 26.01, 25.98, 24.7, 22.8, 22.7, 19.6, 18.2, -3.8, -4.0, -4.6, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, neat) 3407, 2954, 2932, 2858, 1747, 1644, 1496, 1445, 1390, 1369, 1253, 1233, 1155, 1108, 1089, 838, 733 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>58</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Si (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 696.4044, found 696.4032.





(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-[[(1,1-dimethylethyl)dimethylsilyl]oxy]-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15octahydro- 4,4,15,15,18-pentamethyl-13,17-dioxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole-16-carboxylic acid, 1,1dimethylethyl ester (343)

To a stirred solution of **342** (13.2 mg, 0.019 mmol, 1 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.9 mL) at room temperature was added Dess-Martin periodinane (40.7 mg, 0.0960 mmol, 5 eq). After 0.5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with a solution of 0.5 M Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in 1 M NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (aq.) (0.8 mL), and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:3:0.5) to give 11.2 mg (85.1%) of **343** as an amorphous solid.

Data for 343 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.12 and 0.14 (total 3 H, s), 0.90 and 0.91 (total 9 H, s), 1.16 and 1.20 (total 3 H, s), 1.395 and 1.399 (total 3 H, s), 1.49 (3 H, s), 1.58 (3 H, s), 1.62 and 1.64 (total 9 H, s), 1.90-2.02 (1 H, m), 2.14-2.28 (2 H, m), 2.32 (1 H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 2.42-2.71 (5 H, m), 2.825 and 2.833 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 3.08 (3 H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 3.19 (1 H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 3.75-3.98 (2 H, m), 4.11-4.24 (1 H, m), 6.836 and 6.845 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.96 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ δ: 209.8, 169.9, 153.3, 153.2, 143.6, 140.8, 140.6, 138.7, 138.3, 129.7, 129.6, 125.1, 125.0, 118.9, 118.6, 111.9, 107.8, 85.1, 85.0, 81.1, 80.8, 76.4, 76.3, 72.4, 71.8, 67.6, 60.5, 57.9, 50.6, 47.1, 47.0, 36.9, 36.33, 36.28, 29.0, 28.8, 28.6, 27.8, 27.7, 26.9, 26.0, 25.0, 22.8, 22.6, 19.6, 18.1, -3.8, -4.0, -4.6, -4.7.

IR (NaCl, neat) 2956, 2930, 2855, 1760, 1748, 1670, 1496, 1252, 1233, 1157, 1139, 1112, 1092, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>56</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Si (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 694.3888, found 694.3870.





(8aS,13aS,14aS)-3R/S-hydroxy-3,4,8,12,13,14,14a,15-octahydro- 4,4,15,15,18pentamethyl-13,17-dioxo-9H,11H-8a,13a-(iminomethano)-2H,16H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-a]indolizino[6,7-h]carbazole (344)

To a solution of **343** (26.2 mg, 0.038 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1.5 mL) at 0 °C was added TFA (2.22 g, 19.5 mmol, 513 eq). After the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h and at room temperature for 3 h, it was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (aq.) and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:25:1) to give 17.5 mg (96.7%) of **344** as an amorphous solid.

Data for 344 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.24 and 1.26 (total 3 H, s), 1.33 and 1.36 (total 3 H, s), 1.41 and 1.44 (total 3 H, s), 1.568 and 1.574 (total 3 H, s), 1.88-2.00 (1 H, m), 2.16-2.28 (2 H, m), 2.35 (1 H, d, *J* = 10.2 Hz), 2.40-2.72 (3 H, m), 2.87 and 2.88 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 15.0 Hz), 3.03-3.08 (1 H, m), 3.10 (3 H, s), 3.22 and 3.24 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 15.0 Hz), 3.29-3.39 (1 H, m), 3.55 and 3.58 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 10.2 Hz), 3.66 (1 H, dt, *J* = 11.4, 3.0 Hz), 4.22 (1 H, dd, *J* = 11.7, 4.2 Hz), 4.35 (1 H. dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.9 Hz), 6.79 and 6.80 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.04 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.9, 169.9, 142.3, 142.2, 140.2, 137.6, 129.6, 125.2, 116.93, 116.86, 112.8, 104.9, 79.9, 76.0, 71.3, 67.5, 61.3, 58.4, 58.3, 50.8, 45.3, 45.2, 34.89, 34.85, 30.9, 30.8, 27.9, 26.7, 26.3, 26.1, 25.2, 25.1, 24.9, 23.8, 23.7. IR (NaCl, neat): 3374, 2970, 2932, 1759, 1654, 1507, 1474, 1397, 1364, 1232, 1136, 1096, 1065, 1048, 1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 480.2498, found 480.2478.





2,2',3,3',8'aS,9'-hexahydro-3R/S-hydroxy-4,4,8',8',11'-pentamethyl-spiro[4H,8H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3-g]indole-8,7'R(8'H)-[5H,6H-5aS,9aR](iminomethano)[1H] -cyclopent[f]indolizine]-1',9,10'(10H)-trione (347)

To a solution of **344** (9.8 mg, 0.021 mmol, 1 eq) in pyridine (0.4 mL) at -15 °C was added 'BuOCl (0.31 mL, 0.031 mmol, 0.1 M in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 1.5 eq). After 2 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and the trace amount of pyridine was removed azeotropically with benzene. To the above residue dissolved in THF (1.8 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (0.2 mL) was added TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (18.4 mg, 0.102 mmol, 5 eq). After the mixture was refluxed for 0.5 h, it was cooled to room temperature, quenched with a mixture of EtOAc and 0.5 M K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (aq.), and extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/20:1) on silica gel (developed three times) to give 5.5 mg (54.4%) of **347**.

Data for 347 (mixture of two diastereomers)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.84 and 0.86 (total 3 H, s), 1.08 and 1.09 (total 3 H, s), 1.26 and 1.29 (total 3 H, s), 1.53 and 1.55 (total 3 H, s), 1.56-1.64 (1 H, m), 1.81 and 1.90 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 2.21 (1 H, t, *J* = 11.4 Hz), 2.37-2.76 (5 H, m), 2.98-3.46 (3 H, m), 3.09 and 3.10 (3 H, s), 3.62-3.78 (2 H, m), 4.08-4.30 (2 H, m), 6.62 and 6.66 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.78 and 6.81 (total 1 H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.72 and 7.94 (total 1 H, br s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  208.4, 182.5, 182.3, 168.7, 148.4, 148.1, 136.4, 136.2, 133.7, 133.6, 125.6, 121.1, 117.3, 116.8, 81.1, 80.9, 77.4, 75.6, 71.5, 71.3, 70.3, 66.3,

63.3, 60.1, 52.54, 52.46, 50.0, 46.4, 46.2, 37.2, 36.9, 36.7, 29.9, 26.1, 25.9, 25.6, 24.6, 24.3, 23.9, 20.7.

IR (NaCl, neat) 3421, 2975, 2936, 1762, 1705, 1653, 1498, 1464, 1418, 1390, 1330, 1212, 1194, 1149, 1112, 1065 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for  $C_{27}H_{34}N_3O_6$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 496.2448, found 496.2447.





2',3',8'aS,9'-tetrahydro-4,4,8',8',11'-pentamethyl-spiro[4H,8H-[1,4]dioxepino[2,3g]indole-8,7'R(8'H)-[5H,6H-5aS,9aR](iminomethano)[1H]cyclopent[f]indolizine]-1',9,10'(10H)-trione (43)

To a solution of **347** (6.6 mg, 0.0133 mmol, 1 eq) in DMPU (0.27 mL) at room temperature was added methyltriphosphonium iodide (30.3 mg, 0.0669 mmol, 5.0 eq) After the reaction mixture was stirred for 21 h, it was quenched with 1 M KOH (aq.), stirred for 10 min, and then 1 M HCl (aq.) was added. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH/10:1) to give 3.6 mg (54.8%) of **43**.

Data for 43

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.88 (3 H, s), 1.11 (3 H, s), 1.15 (3 H, s), 1.47 (3 H, s), 1.63 (1 H, m), 1.91 (1 H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 2.22 (1 H, d, *J* = 12.6, 11.1 Hz), 2.42-2.76 (5 H, m), 3.09 (3 H, s), 3.15 (1 H, t, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 3.35 (1 H, t, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 3.76 (1 H, d, *J* = 11.4 Hz), 4.91 (1 H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.32 (1 H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.70 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.83 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.31 (1 H, br s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 208.3, 182.4, 168.7, 146.3, 139.1, 135.5, 132.5, 125.0, 120.5, 117.6, 115.2, 80.0, 70.3, 66.3, 63.2, 60.0, 52.5, 49.9, 46.3, 37.0, 36.7, 30.1, 30.0, 29.9, 26.0, 24.6, 23.9, 20.7.

IR (NaCl, neat) 3226, 2927, 2853, 1762, 1702, 1654, 1502, 1466, 1387, 1328, 1190, 1112, 1047 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 478.2342, found 478.2336.





## (-)-Paraherquamide A (1)

To a solution of 43 (5.3 mg, 0.011 mmol, 1 eq) in THF at – 30 °C was added MeMgBr (35  $\mu$ L, 0.105 mmol, 9.5 eq, 3 M in ether). After 1 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 times). The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (developed five times) (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH/5:25:1) to give 2.0 mg of (-)-paraherquamide A (1) as an amorphous solid (42%, based on recovered 0.7 mg of starting material 43).

## Data for (-)-paraherquamide A (1):

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.85 (3 H, s), 1.09 (3 H, s), 1.43 (3 H, s), 1.45 (3 H, s), 1.65 (3 H, s), 1.75-1.91 (4 H, m), 2.19-2.25 (1 H, m), 2.30-2.37 (1 H, m), 2.56 (1 H, d, J = 11.6 Hz), 2.64 (1 H, s), 2.69 (1 H, d, J = 15.2 Hz), 2.99-3.01 (1 H, m), 3.05 (3 H, s), 3.20 (1 H, m), 3.60 (1 H, d, J = 11.2 Hz), 4.88 (1 H, d, J = 8 Hz), 6.30 (1 H, d, J = 8 Hz), 6.68 (1 H, d, J = 8 Hz), 6.80 (1 H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.41 (1 H, s, br).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 182.5, 171.6, 146.2, 139.2, 135.4, 132.4, 125.2, 120.6, 117.5, 115.2, 80.0, 78.2, 71.4, 65.5, 63.2, 59.4, 52.1, 51.6, 46.6, 38.2, 37.3, 30.1, 30.0, 29.9, 26.1, 24.0, 22.3, 20.6, 19.2. IR (NaCl, neat) 3409, 3212, 2972, 2934, 1703, 1654, 1328, 1193, 1047 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (FAB) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 494.2654, found. 494.2653. The synthetic sample recrystallized from ether has m.p. 250 °C (decomp.) and  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -22$  (c = 0.2 MeOH). A sample of natural paraherquamide A recrystallized from ether under the same conditions rendered a sample with m.p. 250 °C (decomp.) and  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -21$  (c = 0.2 MeOH).





1, (-)-paraherquamide A



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Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 1.

Identification code	rw34
Empirical formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>28</sub> BrNO <sub>5</sub>
Formula weight	394.30
Temperature	173(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	Orthorhombic
Space group	P212121
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.4682(11) Å alpha = 90° b = 10.3094(8) Å beta = 90° c = 19.254(2) Å gamma = 90°
Volume, Z	1879.4(3) Å <sup>3</sup> , 4
Density (calculated)	1.394 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	2.210 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	824
Crystal size	0,20 x 0.20 x 0.22 mm
heta range for data collection	2.12 to 25.01°
Limiting indices	$-1 \le h \le 11$ , $-1 \le k \le 12$ , $-1 \le l \le 22$
Reflections collected	2540
Independent reflections	2357 ( $R_{int} = 0.0507$ )
Absorption correction	None
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$
Data / restraints / parameters	2357 / 0 / 208
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.819
Final R indices [1>20(1)]	R1 = 0.0486, $wR2 = 0.1124$
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0837, $wR2 = 0.1253$
Absolute structure parameter	0.00(2)
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.630 and -0.395 eÅ <sup>-3</sup>

	x	у	z	U(eq)
	1000///>	10/07///	1202.00	
N(1)	1323(6)	10697(5)	1391(2)	22(1)
0(1)	2055(5)	13496(4)	351(2)	31(1)
0(2)	1616(5)	8698(4)	997(2)	30(1)
0(3)	331(5)	9032(4)	1981(2)	33(1)
0(4)	1830(4)	10900(4)	-449(2)	27(1)
0(5)	-184(5)	11002(5)	169(2)	34(1)
Br(1)	6223(1)	8116(1)	2155(1)	70(1)
C(1)	591(7)	11681(7)	1805(3)	32(2)
C(2)	714(6)	12915(6)	1373(3)	30(2)
C(3)	2049(7)	12690(6)	951(3)	25(2)
C(4)	2045(7)	11218(6)	780(3)	20(2)
C(5)	1037(7)	9429(6)	1493(3)	26(2)
C(6)	1573(7)	7257(6)	1021(3)	31(2)
C(7)	2259(7)	6781(7)	1685(4)	42(2)
C(8)	2454(9)	6893(8)	393(3)	53(2)
C(9)	57(7)	6798(8)	959(4)	49(2)
C(10)	3556(6)	10729(6)	660(3)	23(2)
C(11)	4406(6)	10496(7)	1316(3)	27(2)
C(12)	5941(7)	10139(7)	1146(4)	38(2)
C(13)	6806(8)	9742(8)	1766(4)	49(2)
C(14)	1100(8)	11022(6)	141(3)	26(2)
C(15)	1034(8)	10748(8)	-1080(3)	38(2)
C(16)	2029(9)	10684(11)	-1672(4)	62(3)

Table 2. Atomic coordinates [ x  $10^4$ ] and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters [Å<sup>2</sup> x  $10^3$ ] for 1. U(eq) is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

N/11.C/51	1 350(8)	N(1)-C(1)	1 464(8)
N(1)-C(4)	1.463(8)	0(1)-C(3)	1 423(7)
0(2)-C(5)	1 335(8)	O(2) - C(6)	1 488(7)
0(3)-C(5)	1 223(7)	O(4) - C(14)	1 336(7)
O(4) - C(15)	1 438(7)	O(5) - C(14)	1 217(8)
Br(1)-C(13)	1 917(8)	C(1)-C(2)	1 525(9)
C(2)-C(3)	1 520(8)	C(3)-C(4)	1 554(9)
C(4) - C(16)	1 534(9)	C(4)-C(10)	1 535(9)
C(6) C(9)	1.516(10)	C(4) - C(10)	1 515(0)
0(0)-0(3)	1.516(10)		1.515(9)
G(0)-G(1)	1.515(9)	C(10) - C(11)	1.51/(0)
	1.535(9)	0(12)-0(13)	1.505(9)
C(15)-C(16)	1.481(10)		
C(5)-N(1)-C(1)	119.8(5)	C(5)-N(1)-C(4)	124.5(5)
C(1)-N(1)-C(4)	113.9(5)	C(5)-O(2)-C(6)	122.0(5)
C(14)-O(4)-C(15)	117.2(5)	N(1) - C(1) - C(2)	104.1(5)
C(3)-C(2)-C(1)	103.2(5)	0(1)-C(3)-C(2)	110.4(5)
0(1)-C(3)-C(4)	113.4(5)	C(2) - C(3) - C(4)	105.1(5)
N(1)-C(4)-C(14)	108.9(5)	N(1) - C(4) - C(10)	115.9(5)
C(14)-C(4)-C(10)	112.3(5)	N(1)-C(4)-C(3)	100.9(5)
C(14)-C(4)-C(3)	107.5(5)	C(10)-C(4)-C(3)	110,5(3)
0(3)-C(5)-0(2)	125.8(6)	0(3)-C(5)-N(1)	123.1(6)
0(2)-C(5)-N(1)	111.1(5)	0(2)-C(6)-C(9)	109.6(6)
0(2)-C(6)-C(8)	102.0(6)	C(9)-C(6)-C(8)	112.4(6)
0(2)-C(6)-C(7)	109.7(6)	C(9)-C(6)-C(7)	111.8(6)
C(8)-C(6)-C(7)	110.9(6)	C(11)-C(10)-C(4)	114.9(5)
C(10)-C(11)-C(12)	111.2(5)	C(13)-C(12)-C(11)	114.2(6)
C(12)-C(13)-Br(1)	113.1(5)	0(5)-C(14)-O(4)	123.5(6)
0(5)-C(14)-C(4)	123.3(6)	O(4) - C(14) - C(4)	113.1(6)
O(4)-C(15)-C(16)	108.8(6)		

Table 3. Bond lengths [Å] and angles [ $^{\rm O}$ ] for 1.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

Table 4. Anisotropic displacement parameters  $[\dot{A}^2 \times 10^3]$  for 1. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form:  $-2\pi^2 [(ha^*)^2 U_{11}^2 + \ldots + 2hka^* b^* U_{12}^2]$ 

	U11	U22	U33	U23	U13	U12
N(1)	19(3)	25(3)	23(3)	-1(2)	4(3)	-2(3)
0(1)	29(2)	28(3)	36(3)	6(2)	4(2)	2(2)
0(2)	39(3)	22(2)	29(3)	1(2)	5(2)	-5(2)
0(3)	31(3)	35(3)	33(3)	6(2)	8(2)	-2(2)
0(4)	21(2)	37(3)	24(2)	-2(2)	-5(2)	3(2)
0(5)	21(3)	43(3)	39(3)	4(2)	-5(2)	1(2)
Br(1)	40(1)	79(1)	91(1)	50(1)	-6(1)	9(1)
C(1)	28(3)	40(4)	28(3)	-5(3)	4(3)	5(4)
C(2)	20(3)	29(4)	41(4)	-6(4)	-1(3)	0(3)
C(3)	19(3)	25(4)	32(4)	3(3)	0(3)	-1(3)
C(4)	19(4)	23(4)	19(3)	2(3)	3(3)	1(3)
C(5)	23(4)	37(4)	19(3)	7(3)	1(4)	3(4)
C(6)	42(4)	19(4)	30(4)	3(3)	0(4)	-11(3)
C(7)	43(4)	27(4)	56(5)	8(4)	-5(4)	-2(4)
C(8)	89(6)	29(4)	41(4)	-8(4)	20(4)	-2(5)
C(9)	48(4)	38(5)	62(5)	8(4)	-27(4)	-13(5)
C(10)	19(3)	21(3)	30(4)	0(3)	2(3)	-1(3)
C(11)	20(3)	27(4)	34(4)	4(3)	-3(3)	5(3)
C(12)	26(4)	49(5)	39(4)	17(4)	3(4)	2(4)
C(13)	27(4)	58(5)	63(5)	9(5)	-6(4)	-7(4)
C(14)	30(4)	13(3)	34(4)	5(3)	-3(4)	-1(4)
C(15)	33(4)	56(5)	25(4)	-5(4)	-8(4)	3(4)
C(16)	52(5)	101(8)	34(4)	-7(5)	-9(4)	19(6)

	×	v	7	U(eq)
	~			-1-1/
H(1C)	2796(5)	13362(4)	122(2)	47
H(1A)	1048(7)	11791(7)	2264(3)	38
4(1B)	-412(7)	11441(7)	1876(3)	38
1(2A)	-117(6)	13025(6)	1066(3)	36
H(2B)	808(6)	13689(6)	1673(3)	36
1(3A)	2892(7)	12897(6)	1244(3)	31
1(7A)	3235(7)	7097(7)	1707(4)	63
ł(7B)	2257(7)	5831(7)	1691(4)	63
4(7C)	1730(7)	7109(7)	2085(4)	63
1(8A)	3422(9)	7208(8)	457(3)	79
H(8B)	2046(9)	7287(8)	-24(3)	79
1(8C)	2465(9)	5947(8)	341(3)	79
1(9A)	-470(7)	7055(8)	1375(4)	74
H(9B)	39(7)	5851(8)	914(4)	74
1(90)	-379(7)	7191(8)	548(4)	74
1(10A)	3511(6)	9907(6)	394(3)	28
H(10B)	4064(6)	11370(6)	370(3)	28
1(11A)	3967(6)	9786(7)	1586(3)	33
4(11B)	4392(6)	11289(7)	1606(3)	33
1(12A)	5939(7)	9418(7)	806(4)	46
H(12B)	6400(7)	10894(7)	922(4)	46
1(13A)	6731(8)	10422(8)	2127(4)	59
H(13B)	7810(8)	9679(8)	1627(4)	59
ł(15A)	382(8)	11490(8)	-1140(3)	46
H(15B)	466(8)	9942(8)	-1058(3)	46
1(16A)	1497(9)	10583(11)	-2106(4)	94
H(16B)	2664(9)	9942(11)	-1612(4)	94
1(16C)	2584(9)	11486(11)	-1692(4)	94

Table 5. Hydrogen coordinates (  $x = 10^4$ ) and isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for 1.

Table	6.	Observed	and	cald	ulated	structur	e facto	rs	for 1												Page	5 3
h k 1	10Fo	10Fc 10s	h	ĸ	1 10Fo	10Fc 10:	h	k	L 10Fo	10Fc	10s	h k	I.	10Fo	10Fc	10s	h:	k	1	10Fo	10Fc	10s
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Page 1 6 6. Observed and calculated structure factors Table for 10Fo 10Fc 10s 10Fo 10Fc 10s 10Fo 10Fc 10s k ŧ. t 10Fo 10Fc 10s h 10Fo 10Fc 10s ħ h k  $\begin{array}{c} 107\\ 563\\ 534\\ 63\\ 140\\ 779\\ 107\\ 126\\ 329\\ 927\\ 56\\ 0\\ 122\\ 63\\ 101\\ 956\\ 0\\ 61\\ 0\\ 0\\ 80\\ 0\end{array}$ 107 54 128 488 1370 55 882 885 60 56 86 47 30 36 96 68 87 36 96 68 67 36 96 68 67 36 96 68 67 36 96 68 17 36 96 17 36 17 36 17 36 10 455554246998813561263395168861181  $\begin{array}{c} 183\\ 106\\ 84\\ 125\\ 94\\ 136\\ 80\\ 0\\ 0\\ 171\\ 126\\ 0\\ 599\\ 72\\ 78\\ 433\\ 66\\ 0\\ 0\\ 95\\ 133\\ 917\\ 762\\ 577\\ 71\\ 15 \end{array}$ 24244675991616161461182251712174146317715 3333333444444555555000011111111122 0 153 138 135 0 499 72 0 9 0 61 100 0 787 783 0 21 903 1475 130 0 131 0 130 0 135 0 135 0 100 0 100 0 110 0 110 10 NNNNMMMM4444000011111NNNNMMM 34510123451012341012123456654921 44455555555666666677770000000111111 108 73 92 94 120 99 94 133 1255 95 160 89 88 438 88 88 88 90 107 20 85 105 119 85 343344444493388370654669911225177412666139 01234561012345610123451012345101 16535911991168814728830108493311651 NW4101NM01NM4N4494P01NM4N101NM4N 128375 135 135 148 168 188742 1292753 126 1300662 -204-0120101201201210121012101 1111111222222222233333333333444444444555



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## Studies on the Total Synthesis of Paraherquamide A. Stereocontrolled, Asymmetric Synthesis of α-Alkyl-β-Hydroxyproline Derivatives

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Summary: The dianion formed from 3(S),2(R)-3-hydroxyproline ethyl ester (5) with LDA, can be alkylated with a variety of alkyl halides with net retention of configuration to give the corresponding  $\alpha$ -alkylated- $\beta$ -hydroxyproline esters (6) in good yield. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

Substituted proline derivatives are widely found as constituents of natural products.<sup>1</sup> For example, the microbial products paraherquamide A (1)<sup>2</sup> and lactacystin (2)<sup>3</sup> contain densely functionalized  $\alpha$ -substituted-3-hydroxyproline moieties. As part of a general program<sup>4</sup> aimed at developing new methods to access  $\alpha$ substituted amino acids in high optical purity, we have examined the enolate alkylation of 3(S), 2(R)-3hydroxyproline ethyl ester (5) which is readily available from racemic 3-ketoproline by Baker's yeast reduction as described by Cooper, Gallagher and Knight.<sup>5</sup> More specifically, ongoing work in these laboratories on the total synthesis of paraherquamide A,<sup>6a</sup> mandated access to a  $\beta$ -functionalized  $\alpha$ -prenylated proline derivative corresponding to 1.



There are no general synthetic methods available for the synthesis of optically active  $\alpha$ -substituted- $\beta$ aydroxyproline derivatives. Seebach<sup>7</sup> has developed a useful method to  $\alpha$ -alkylate proline via formation of the corresponding bicyclic pivaldehyde aminal, followed by enolate alkylation which, proceeds with net retention of configuration; subsequent vigorous hydrolysis of the hindered,  $\alpha$ -alkylated bicyclic aminal, provides the corresponding  $\alpha$ -substituted proline derivatives in high enantiomeric excess.

N-Boc-3(S), Z(R)-3-Hydroxyproline ethyl ester (5),<sup>5</sup> made by Baker's yeast reduction of N-Boc-3ketoproline ethyl ester (4) in >90% ee, was treated with 3 equivalents of LDA at -10°C in THF to form the corresponding alkoxy enolate dianion. The subsequent alkylation was performed by cooling the mixture to -30°C and a mixture of alkyl halide (1.5 eq) and HMPA (1.4 eq) was added. The reaction was allowed to warm to 0 °C and then to 25 °C for 4 hours up to 1-2 days depending on the specific alkyl halide. Following standard work-up and extraction of the organic-soluble product, the  $\alpha$ -alkylated products 6a-e (Scheme 1) were purified by silica gel chromatography and were obtained in moderate-good yields. In each case, only one diastereomer was formed, and little or no O-mono-alkylated or O-,C-dialkylated by-products were produced.



For 6c, 6d, and 6e, only the desired C-alkylation product was obtained, and there was no evidence for the production of O-alkylation products. For 6a and 6b, there was less than 1-2% of the corresponding O-alkylation products which, were easily removed by chromatography.

These highly stereoselective alkylation reactions all proceeded with net retention of configuration giving single diastereoisomers as evidenced by <sup>1</sup>H nmr. The relative stereochemistry of alkylation was rigorously secured through a single crystal X-ray analysis for **6e** (Figure 1). The absolute and relative stereochemistry of **6a** was secured by chemical correlation.<sup>6</sup> The relative and thus, absolute stereochemistry for all alkylation products **6a-e** was assigned based on similarities in nmr spectroscopic characteristics and optical rotation.

The dianion derived from 5 (see structure  $A^8$ ) is expected to have a concave shape due to the Licoordinated bicyclo[4.3.0] ring system geometry; alkylation from the convex face opposite the alkoxy substituent is the expected (and observed) diastereofacial bias.



Figure 1. X-ray Structure for 5e. Spheres are of fixed, arbitrary radius.

General experimental procedure: A solution of 5 (104 mg, 0.4 mmol) in THF (0.4 mL) was cannulated over a period of 2 min. to a magnetically stirred solution of LDA (1.2 mmol, 0.8M solution in THF) at -50°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -10 °C for 25 min., and then at 0 °C for 5 min. followed by the dropwise addition of a solution of alkylating reagent (0.6 mmol) in HMPA (0.56 mmol) at -30 °C over a period of 2 min. The mixture was stirred at 0°C for about 1 h; the ice bath was then removed and the mixture was allowed to continue stirring at room temperature for 4 h (6a and 6b) or 48h (6c-e). The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH4Cl, extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL), washed with brine (5 x 10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (eluted with hexane:EtOAc:MeOH, 5:3:0.5) to afford 6a-e.<sup>9-13</sup>.

It is noteworthy that, neither  $\beta$ -elimination nor significant O-alkylation attended these transformations. Further, the convenience and simplicity of performing the alkylations directly on substrate 5 without the need for additional protection<sup>6,7</sup> or manipulation should render this approach a highly attractive and general method for synthesizing functionalized pyrrolidine derivatives. The application of this methodology to the total synthesis of paraherquamide A (*via* 6a), lactacystin and related substituted proline derivatives and pyrrolizidine alkaloids is under active investigation in these laboratories.

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Structure A was minimized and rendered on CSC Chem 3D Plus<sup>™</sup>.

9. Data for 6a, colorless oil, yield (70%),  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -32.2 (C, 0.74, EtOAc). IR(neat): 3449, 2977, 2955, 2928, 2857, 1739, 1703, 1391, 1367, 1251, 837, 774. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.01-0.02(6H, m), 0.83-0.84(9H, m), 1.17-1.26(3H, m), 1.32-1.41(9H, m), 1.37-1.70(3H, m), 1.898-1.98(2H, m), 2.74-2.88(2H, m), 3.14-3.19(1H, m), 3.60-3.77(1H, m), 3.94(2H, s), 4.02-4.22(3H, m), 5.25-5.29(1H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ -5.1, 14.0, 14.1, 14.3, 14.4, 18.5, 22.0, 26.0, 28.4, 28.5, 30.2, 30.4, 31.1, 31.4, 44.9, 45.4, 61.3, 68.1, 68.4, 71.2, 71.7, 76.5, 76.8, 79.6, 80.4, 117.7, 118.1, 138.2, 138.6, 153.8, 172.3. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>23H43</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>Si: C, 60.36; H, 9.47; N, 3.06. Found: C, 60.17; H, 9.30; N, 3.05. (reaction scale: 1.67 g of 5).

10. Data for 6b, colorless oil, yield (73%),  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -48.2 (C, 0.98, EtOAc). IR(neat): 3447, 2972, 2930, 2873, 1743, 1699, 1668, 1391, 1170, 1137. <sup>1</sup>H NMR(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.22-1.29(3H, m), 1.34-1.37(9H, m), 1.53-1.65(6H, m), 1.84-2.01(2H, m), 2.70-2.91(3H, m), 3.10-3.19(1H, m), 3.57-3.77(1H, m), 4.03-4.19(3H, m), 4.92-4.94(1H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  18.3, 18.5, 26.3, 26.4, 28.5, 28.6, 30.6, 30.9, 31.3, 31.8, 45.0, 45.6, 61.4, 71.4, 71.9, 76.5, 79.7, 80.5, 118.4, 118.7, 135.8, 135.9, 154.0, 154.1, 172.3, 172.4. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 62.36; H, 8.93; N, 4.28. Found: C, 62.19; H, 9.03; N, 4.27. (reaction scale: 312 mg of 5).

11. Data for 6c, colorless oil, yield (53%),  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -77.6 (C, 0.59, EtOAc). IR(neat): 3446, 3085, 3062, 3030, 2979, 2881, 1732, 1693, 1681, 1392, 1367, 1167. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.26-1.31(3H, m), 1.38-1.46(1H, m), 1.48(9H, s), 2.66(1H, broad), 2.70-2.80(1H, m), 3.22-3.27(1H, m), 3.54-3.81(2H, m), 4.11-4.19(1H, m), 4.23-4.31(2H, m), 7.11-7.27(5H, m), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.41, 14.46, 28.6, 30.5 30.9, 36.8, 37.8, 45.0, 45.3, 60.6, 61.6, 72.2, 72.5, 75.9, 79.9, 80.8, 126.7, 126.9, 128.3, 128.5, 130.8, 130.9, 136.5, 136.8, 153.9, 154.2, 169.5, 172.1. Anal Calcd for C19H27NO5: C, 65.31; H, 7.79; N, 4.01. Found: C 65.15; H, 7.69; N, 3.87 (reaction scale: 104 mg of 5)

12. Data for 6d, colorless oil, yield (57%),  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -3.9 (C, 0.54, EtOAc). IR(neat): 3443, 2980, 2936, 1746 1731, 1698, 1391, 1167, 1094. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.18-1.26(3H, m), 1.36-1.41(9H, m), 1.52-1.56(3H, m), 1.89-1.96(1H, m), 2.00-2.08(1H, m), 2.83(1H, broad), 3.33-3.14(1H, m), 3.65-3.71(1H, m), 4.05-4.21(3H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.4, 21.6, 22.6, 28.5, 28.6, 30.8, 31.4, 61.5, 69.1, 79.8, 80.0 80.4, 81.1, 154.1, 172.3. Anal. Calcd. for C13H23NO5: C. 57.13; H, 8.48; N, 5.12. Found: C, 56.92; H, 8.28 N, 5.05. (reaction scale: 104 mg of 5).

13. Data for 6e, white powder, yield (49%),  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -22.8 (C, 0.54, EtOAc). IR(neat): 3438, 2973, 2934, 2875 1735, 1696, 1672, 1383, 1366, 1246, 1168, 772. <sup>1</sup>H NMR(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.21-1.24(3H, m), 1.28-1.40(2H, m), 1.32-1.40(9H, m), 1.83-2.18(6H, m), 2.62(1H, broad), 3.22-3.28(1H, m), 3.36-3.41(1H, t J=6.5Hz), 3.65-3.75(1H, m), 4.06-4.22(2H.<sup>4</sup>m), 4.24-4.30(1H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.47 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.4, 21.9 22.1, 28.5, 30.6, 31.2, 32.4, 32.7, 32.9, 33.6, 34.0, 45.0, 45.5, 61.4, 71.0, 76.6, 76.8, 79.9, 80.5, 154.0, 172.3 Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub>: C, 48.74; H, 7.16; N, 3.55 Found: C, 48.90; H, 7.31; N,3.60. (reaction scale 104 mg of 5).

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### Asymmetric Synthesis of

2,6-Diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic Acid: Assignment of Stereochemistry

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Abstract: The asymmetric synthesis of (2S,6R)-2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (17) and (2S,6S)-2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (4) has been accomplished. Sequential enolate alkylation of (5S,6R)-4-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1,4-oxazin-2-one (9) with 1-iodo-3-butene and bromomethyl methyl ether gave the  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$ -disubstituted lactone in ~100% de; subsequent ozonolysis gave the quaternary aldehyde 19. Aldol condensation with the enol borane of (55.6R)-4-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1,4-oxazin-2-one (9) gave the dilactone 20. Barton deoxygenation, reductive cleavage of the oxazinones, and demethylation gave (25,65)-2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (4). Synthesis of the 25,6R isomer followed the same protocol, only starting with (5R,6S)-4-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1,4-oxazin-2-one (5). Comparison of these two amino acids reveals that the 25,65 isomer 4 is the constituent of natural N-[2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimel-1-yl]-L-alanine (3), a natural antibiotic produced by Micromonospora chalcea.

#### Introduction

2,6-Diaminopimelic acid (1, DAP) is an important, naturally occurring amino acid biosynthesized in bacteria and higher plants. L.L- and meso-DAP serve as the penultimate biosynthetic precursors of the essential amino acid L-lysine. meso-DAP functions as a cross-linking constituent of virtually all Gram-negative and some Gram-positive bacterial peptidoglycans, and also serves to anchor various membrane-associated macromolecules, such as lipoprotein, to the cell wall. Recognition of the pivotal roles DAP plays in microbial metabolism<sup>2</sup> and cell wall structure has resulted in an increased level of interest in possible means to selectively disrupt the DAP biosynthetic pathway. A flurry of recent papers on the synthesis of DAP and, more significantly, structural analogues of DAP that can function as substrate-based inhibitors of key biosynthetic transformations attests to the potential importance of the DAP/lysine pathway as a viable target for antibiotic design. Recent studies in several laboratories demonstrate that a number of compounds that inhibit the formation or metabolism of 2,6-diaminopimelic acid in bacteria possess antibiotic activity.4 Since mammals lack the diaminopimelate pathway and require L-lysine in their diet,5 specific inhibitors of the enzymes along this route are potential antimicrobial agents that should display low mammalian host toxicity.

Despite the apparent simplicity of this amino acid, there exist no stereochemically unambiguous syntheses of meso-DAP nor asymmetric synthesis of L.L-DAP. Two very recent exceptions

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are the synthesis of  $\beta$ -fluoro DAP by Vederas and Gelb<sup>64</sup> and  $\beta$ -hydroxy DAP by Bold and associates.<sup>66</sup> The potential importance of inhibiting the DAP pathway through the design and synthesis of functionalized DAP analogues renders this class of amino acids an attractive and worthy synthetic problem. A recent example is the (stereorandom) preparation of the aziridino DAP 2 that was shown7 to be a potent inhibitor of L.L-DAP epimerase and exhibits antimicrobial activity. In this paper, we report a stereochemically unambiguous asymmetric synthesis of two stereoisomers of the only known natural DAP homologue, 2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (4).4

N-[2,6-Diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimel-1-yl]-L-alanine (3) was isolated from the culture extracts of a microorganism identified as Micromonospora chalcea by the Shionogi Co. in Japan." The dipeptide 3 exhibits limited antimicrobial activity against Escherichia coli on a synthetic medium, and this activity is synergistically enhanced by several cell wall synthesis inhibitors such as penicillin G, phosphonomycin, cycloserine, chloro-D-alanine, macarbomycin, and cephaloridine.

The structure of 3 was determined by spectroscopic methods and chemical degradation.\* The natural substance was assumed to be a dipeptide composed of an unknown amino acid and alanine. This was established by hydrolysis and subsequent analysis of the hydrolysate by an automatic amino acid analyzer. Specific optical rotation and ORD spectra proved that the alanine isolated from the hydrolysate has the L configuration. Elemental analysis indicated that the molecular formula of the unknown amino acid is  $C_4 H_{16} N_2 O_5$ . Furthermore,  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectroscopic data

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Asymmetric Synthesis of a Pimelic Acid

Scheme 1



suggested that the unknown amino acid should be 2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (4). This was further corroborated by chemical degradation. Amino acid 4 was acetylated with acetic anhydride in a dilute sodium bicarbonate solution, and then treated sequentially with NaIO4 in a dilute alkaline solution followed by oxidation with KMnO4; subsequent hydrolysis furnished L-aaminoadipic acid. Thus, the new amino acid proved to be 2,6diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid with the L configuration at the C-2 stereogenic center. Employment of the Scheinblatt method9 established the connectivity shown in 3. However, the relative and absolute stereochemistry at C-6 remained unknown.

In spite of the weak biological activity exhibited by 3, we decided to synthesize this natural product in a stereochemically unambiguous manner. In this way, we hoped to be able to assign the stereochemistry at C-6 and develop methodology that would be generally applicable to the 2,6-diaminopimelic acid (DAP) family of amino acids. In addition, 4 and stereoisomeric derivatives would appear to be ideal precursors for unambiguously preparing all individual stereoisomers of the biologically active aziridine 2.

**Results and Discussion** 

We have previously reported10 on the utility of the diphenyloxazinones 5 as versatile templates from which both electrophilic11 and nucleophilic12 C-C bond-forming strategies can be employed to access a variety of nonproteinogenic a-amino acids. In selecting a strategy to accomplish the key coupling of two optically pure glycinates to a three-carbon tether, we examined a variety of C-C

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bond-forming reactions between two oxazinones, one carrying the activated three-carbon tether and the other, unsubstituted. Attempted enolate couplings to various 3'-halo derivatives all met with complete failure. Similarly, attempted electrophilic couplings between metallo-alkynylated<sup>11f</sup> substrates also failed to give the desired homologations. Finally, we found that employment of the enol borane aldol couplings reported by Miller13 on these oxazinone systems proved to be effective. Initially, we attempted to synthesize the 2S.6R isomer. As shown in Scheme 1, the commercially available14 lactone 5 was treated with homoallyl iodide in the presence of lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide to give the homoallyloxazinone 6 in 47% yield. After extensive experimentation, it was found that enolate alkylation of 6 could be carried out in high yield by the following procedure. To a solution of 6 in THF at -78 °C was added potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide; after 5 min, bromomethyl methyl ether was added. The (methoxymethyl)homoallyloxazinone 7 was obtained in 97% yield (~100% de) after chromatography. We could not detect any of the ep-imeric alkylation product in the crude reaction mixture by 'H NMR analysis. Approach of the electrophile to the least hindered

(13) Reno, D. S.; Lotz, B. T.; Miller, M. J. Tetrahedron Lett. 1990, 31, 827. face of the enolate has been corroborated<sup>12b</sup> through single-crystal X-ray analysis of a related dialkylation on 5. The homologated oxazinone 7 was ozonized and then quenched with dimethyl sulfide to afford the aldehyde 8 in 94% yield.

Preparation of the boron enolate of 9 according to Miller13 followed by aldol condensation with the aldehyde 8 gave the β-hydroxy dilactone 11 (61%) as the major product and 12 (4%) as the minor product. It is assumed that the relative stereochemistry of the minor diastereomer 12 at the a-position is syn to the two phenyl rings (R) because of the characteristic lie relative difference in chemical shifts of methine protons at the benzylic positions of the oxazinone ring. For the anti diastereomer 11, the difference in chemical shift ( $\Delta\delta$ ) for the benzylic methines in the monosubstituted lactone ring is 1.26 ppm while  $\Delta\delta$  for the syn diastereomer 12 is 0.47 ppm. This assignment is based on the additional assumption that both the syn and anti diastercomers have similar chemical shift differences for the methines in the quaternary lactone system. These relative chemical shift differences are in accord with empirical observations first discussed by Sinclair.11e Although ultimately unimportant for the synthesis of 4, the diastereoselectivity of the aldol condensation appears to be excellent. Out of a total of four possible diastereoisomers, only two were observable in the crude reaction mixture. The small vicinal coupling constants (~1.9 Hz) for the C-2/C-3 (DAP numbering) methines for each diastereomer (11 and 12) are in

<sup>(14)</sup> Lactones 5 and 9 are commercially available from Aldrich Chemical Co.; 5: catalog # 33, 185-6; 9: catalog # 33, 187-2.

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accord with the anti selectivity observed by Miller13 in related aldolizations.

Next, we examined reductive functional transformation of the β-hydroxy group to obtain the requisite deoxygenation product. This proved to be very difficult since this alcohol moiety is very hindered and is prone to  $\alpha,\beta$ -elimination. Many attempts at activating the hydroxyl for hydride displacement resulted in either no reaction or a.8-dehydrogenation.15

After examining a multitude of reductive activation possibilities, we established conditions to prepare a Barton reaction<sup>16</sup> precursor. As shown in Scheme I, treatment of the alcohol 11 with phenyl chlorothionoformate in the presence of sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide furnished the thionoformate 13 in 62% yield. Standard procedures17 to prepare phenyl thionoformates afforded either the a, B-unsaturated lactone or unreacted starting material, depending on the reaction conditions. Several attempts to prepare other Barton reaction precursors failed, leading to no reaction. Among several bases examined (nBuLi, LiN(SiMe<sub>1</sub>), NaN(SiMe<sub>1</sub>), KN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide gave the best result for the conversion of 11 to 13.

The reduction of 13 with tributyltin hydride in the presence of AIBN in refluxing toluene provided the deoxygenated product 14 in 60% yield along with an epimer 15 in 15% yield (major:minor ~5:1). Formation of the unexpected minor isomer 15 can be explained mechanistically as follows: the initially formed secondary  $\beta$ -radical from tin hydride removal of the thionoformate is quenched with tributyltin hydride to afford the major diastereomer 14. However, a more stable tertiary radical at the  $\alpha$ position of the monosubstituted lactone can be formed by two pathways: (1) 1,2-hydrogen migration of the B-radical, or (2) abstraction of the a-hydrogen in the initially formed dilactone 14 by the secondary  $\beta$ -radical or from a stannane radical. Hydrogen-atom transfer from tributyltin hydride to the putative tertiary radical is expected to proceed from the least hindered face (anti to the phenyl rings), leading to the minor product 5. It is unlikely that 1.2 hydrogen atom migration occurs because this process is not allowed by orbital symmetry theory. The latter explanation is therefore the most plausible.

Finally, 14 was smoothly converted into (2S,6R)-2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (17). Dilactone 14 was hydrogenated to give the amino acid 16, which was directly converted into 17 in 95% yield by demethylation in refluxing 48% HBr and subsequent scavenging of HBr with propylene oxide in refluxing ethanol.

Measurement of the specific optical rotation of 17 indicates that the 6R stereochemistry is not that of the natural amino acid  $[[\alpha]^{25}_{D} + 22.5^{\circ} (c \ 0.6, 5 \ N \ HCl), \text{ lit.}^{8} [\alpha]^{25}_{D} + 8.1 \pm 1.0^{\circ} (c \ 0.506,$ 5 N HCl)]. Since the stereochemistry at C-2 of the natural

(15) The reaction of i with mesyl chloride in the presence of triethylamine and subsequent treatment with excess triethylamine furnished the alkene ii. Unfortunately, sequential hydrogenation, hydrolytic deprotection of the methyl ether, and scavenging of acid with propylene oxide produced the amino acids iii and iv as a 1:1 mixture of diastercomers.



(16) (a) Barton, D. H. R.; McCombie, S. W. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1975, 1574. (b) Barton, D. H. R.; Subramanian, R. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1977, 1718.
(17) (a) Robins, M. J.; Wilson, J. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1981, 103, 932 (b) Robins, M. J.; Wilson, J. S.; Hansske, F. 1983, 105, 4059.

product had been assigned by the oxidative degradation to L-aaminoadipic acid, preparation of the 2S,6S isomer starting with the antipodal lactone 18 (Scheme 11) was carried out.

Following the identical protocol used to prepare 7, the antipodal quaternary lactone aldehyde 19 was prepared. As shown in Scheme II, aldol condensation of 10 with 19 provided the hydroxy dilactone 20 as the major diastereomer (51%) plus 21 as the minor isomer (2%). Again, as in the case above for 11 and 12, excellent diastereoselectivity in the aldol reaction was observed. The vicinal coupling constants for the C-2/C-3 system were 0 and 2.4 Hz for 20 and 21, respectively. We could not detect the corresponding anti (aldol) diastereomers in the crude reaction mixture by NMR analysis. Both sets of aldolizations support a Zimmerman-Traxler chair-type transition state predominantly from the face of the oxazinone anti to the two phenyl rings with the aldehyde methine oriented toward the inside of the oxazinone ring. The major isomer 20 was converted into the thionoformate 22 by the method described above for 13. The reduction of 22 with tributyltin hydride gave the dilactone 23 (60%), and the minor syn isomer 24 was obtained in 10% yield. Employment of triphenyltin hydride instead of tri-n-butyltin hydride enhanced the yield of reduction, giving the major isomer 23 in 81% yield and the minor isomer 24 in 5%. Catalytic hydrogenolysis and demethylation produced (25,65)-2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic acid (4) in 91% overall yield from 23. Measurement of the specific rotation of synthetic 4 demonstrates that the natural product possesses the 25,65 relative and absolute stereochemistry [[ $\alpha$ ]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> +7.1° (c 0.55, 5 N HCl) [it.<sup>8</sup> [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> +8.1 ± 1.0° (c 0.506, 5 N HCl)]. The synthetic amino acid 4 proved to be identical ('H NMR, TLC) with an authentic sample of 4 obtained from hydrolytic cleavage1 of the natural product 3 obtained from Shionogi & Co. Since the diastereochemical purity of 19 is ca. 100% de, the enantiomeric purity of the synthetic amino acid 4 is similarly ca. 100% ee.

Thus the complete stereostructure for the natural dipeptide 3 is (25,65)-N-(2,6-diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimel-1-yl)-L-alanine:



We have examined the biological activity of both amino acids 4 and 17 against nine microorganisms (Bacillus subtilis, Staphylococcus aureus, Micrococcus luteus, Candida albicans, Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, and Seratia marcescens) and find that neither compound displays significant antimicrobial activity up to 1 mg/mL.

In summary, we have developed an asymmetric and stereochemically defined construction of an a-functionalized diaminopimelic acid system and have assigned, through total synthesis, the stereochemistry at the quaternary center of the natural product 3. The availability14 of both optical antipodes of the oxazinone systems renders this chemistry adaptable to preparing all possible diastereoisomers of substances based on the DAP skeleton in optically pure form. Efforts to extend this methodology to construct other functionalized DAP systems, particularly those with potential antimicrobial activity, are being pursued in these laboratories and will be reported on in due course.

#### Experimental Section

General Information. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained on the following instruments: Brucker WP-200SY 200-MHz spectrometer, Brucker WP-270S 270-MHz spectrometer, or Brucker AC 300-MHz spectrometer. "F NMR spectra were recorded on the Brucker WP-200 SY 200 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million downfield from the internal standard. Infrared spectra were recorded on

<sup>(18)</sup> Natural 3 was hydrolyzed and separated according to the procedure detailed in reference 8 to provide an authentic comparison sample of 4.

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Perkin-Elmer 1600 Series FTIR and are reported as Amas in cm<sup>-1</sup>. Melting points were determined in open-ended capillary tubes on a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were obtained on a Rudolph Research Autopol III automatic polarimeter at wavelength 589 nm (sodium D line) using a 1.0-decimeter cell with a total volume of 1 mL. Specific rotations,  $[a]_{D}$  are reported in degrees per decimeter at the specified temperature and the concentration (c)given in grams per 100 mL in the specified solvent. Elemental analyses were performed by M-H-W Laboratories, Phoenix, AZ, and are accurate to within the calculated values by ±0.4%. High-resolution mass spectra were carried out by Midwest Center for Mass Spectrometry, Department of Chemistry, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE. Thinlayer chromatography (TLC) was performed on 0.25-mm E. Merck precoated silica gel glass plates. Visualization on TLC was achieved with ultraviolet light, an 12 developing chamber, and/or heating of TLC plates submerged in a 5% solution of phosphomolybdic acid in 95% ethanol. Preparative chromatography was performed by the following methods. Column chromatography was performed with Merck silica gel grade 60, 230-400 mesh, 60 Å. Radial chromatography was done on 1-, 2-, and 4-mm silica gel plates using E. Merck silica gel 60 PF-254 containing gypsum on a Harrison Research Chromatotron Model 7924. Reagents and solvents were commercial grades and were used as supplied with the following exceptions. Tetrahydrofuran was freshly distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl. Dry methylene chloride and carbon tetrachloride were obtained by distillation over CaH<sub>2</sub>, DMF and HMPA were dried over activated 4-Å molecular sieves. All moisture-sensitive reactions were carried out in glassware that was flame-dried under high vacuum (0.5-2.0 mmHg) and then purged with N2. The term "concentrated" refers to solvent removal using a Buchi Rotavapor. The amino acids furnished crude from the hydrogenation were always obtained in greater than the theoretical amount due to a certain fraction of HCl salt resulting from the PdCl; catalyst. To ascertain the exact amount of amino acid by weight in the residue, the mixture was dissolved in D<sub>2</sub>O with a known amount of terleucine (purity titrated against ultrapure acetamide), and <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration of a well-resolved resonance of the amino acid against the nine-proton singlet of terleucine was carried out, averaged, and calculated to give the adjusted chemical yields.

(35,57,65)-4-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-3-(3'-butenyl)-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-4H-1,4-oxazin-2-one (6). To a stirred solution of 5 (3 g. 7.744 mmol, 1 equiv) and 4-iodobutene (4.2 mL, 39.35 mmol, 5.1 equiv) in warm THF (90 mL) and HMPA (9 mL) was added lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (13.9 mL, 13.9 mmol, 1.8 equiv, 1 M solution in THF) dropwise via syringe at -78 °C. After 10 min the dry ice bath was removed. After an additional 1 h, the reaction mixture was poured into ethyl actate. The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 1.59 g (46.5%) of 6a s white solid. The antipode was obtained from 9 in 48.5% yield. Data for 6: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta 2.18-2.31$  (4 H, m), 4.81-5.16 (5 H, m), 5.27 (1 H, d, J = 2.93 Hz), 5.77-5.95 (1 H, m), 6.22 (1 H, d, J = 3.02 Hz), 6.54-6.59 (2 H, m), 7.02-7.24 (13 H, m): IR (NaCi, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 1747, 1704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 146-147 °C; (a)<sup>15</sup> b +44.1° (c 0.49, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), antipode (from 9) -45.2° (c 0.42, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>). Anal. (recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes) Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>; C, 76.17; H, 6.17; N, 3.17. Found: C, 76.07; H, 6.36; N, 3.20.

(3*R*,5*R*,6*S*)-4. (Benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-3. (3'-butenyl)-3. (methoxymethyl)-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-4*H*-1,4-oxazin-2-one (7). To a stirred solution of 6 (1:1 g, 2.49 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF (15 mL) was added potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (8.9 mL, 12.46 mmol, 5 equiv, 1.4 M solution in THF) dropwise via syringe at -78 °C. After 5 min bromomethyl methyl ether (2 mL, 24.9 mmol, 10 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture at -78 °C. After an additional 50 min, the reaction mixture was poured into ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 1.17 g (96.7%) of 7 as a colorless oil. The antipode was obtained in 88.5% yield. Data for 7: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-4<sub>6</sub>, 393 K, vs TMS) & 1.29-1.43 (1 H, m), 1.51-170 (1 H, m), 2.09-2.38 (2 H, m), 3.32 (3 H, s), 3.64 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.76 Hz), 4.37 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Ab q, J = 9.79 Hz), 4.65-4.79 (2 H, m), 5.15 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.31 Hz), 5.24 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.07 Hz), 5.41-5.64 (1 H, m), 5.72 (1 H, d, J = 3.32 Hz), 6.35 (1 H, d, J = 3.28 Hz), 7.07-7.31 (15 H, m); 1R (NaCL, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>) 1746, 1702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; [a]<sup>12</sup><sub>0</sub> -49.4° (c 0.35, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>), antipode +48.7° (c 0.39, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>); exact mass (FAB) caled for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N-O<sub>4</sub>Li 492.236228, found 492.2381.

(3R,5R,6S)-4-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-5,6-diphenyl-3-(2'-carbonylethyl)-3-(methoxymethyl)-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-4H-1,4-oxazin-2-one (8). Ozone was bubbled through a solution of 7 (316 mg, 0.651 mmol, 1 equiv) in MeOH-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL, 1:1) until the solution turned blue (ca.

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5 min). Nitrogen gas was then passed through the reaction mixture to remove excess ozone until the solution became colorless. The resulting solution was quenched with excess dimethyl sulfide. After 15 h the reaction mixture was concentrated and separated by radial chromatography on silica gel to afford 319 mg (96%) of 8 as a colorless oil. The antipode 19 was obtained in 94% yield. Data for 8: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>4</sub>, 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.69–1.84 (1 H, m), 1.95–2.10 (1 H, m), 2.28–2.60 (2 H, m), 3.32 (3 H, s), 3.68 (1 H,  $^{1}_{2}$  AB q, J = 9.79 Hz), 4.38 (1 H,  $^{1}_{1}$  AB q, J = 9.81 Hz), 5.14 (1 H,  $^{1}_{1}$  AB q, J = 3.40 Hz), 6.35 (1 H, d, J = 3.44 Hz), 7.14–7.32 (15 H, m), 9.32 (1 H, s); 1R (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 1745, 1722 (shoulder), 1701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; [a]<sup>20</sup><sub>B</sub> –79.9° (c 1.2, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), antipode 19 +80.4° (c 0.7, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); exact mass (FAB) called for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> 488.207314 (M<sup>+</sup> + H), found 488.2070.

Aldol Adducts 11 and 12. To a stirred solution of 9 (445 mg, 1.15 mmol, 1 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8 mL) was added dibutylboron triflate (2.3 mL, 2.30 mmol, 2 equiv, 1 M solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) followed by the addition of triethylamine (320 mL, 2.30 mmol, 2 equiv) at 0 °C. After 20 min the reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C and a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (11 mL) solution of aldehyde 8 (1.12 g, 2.297 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to it. After 30 min the reaction mixture was quenched with phosphate buffer solution (0.025 M, pH 6.9) and poured into water. The aquecous layer was extracted three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic solution was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 613 mg (61%) of 11 as a white solid and 41 mg (4%) of 12 as a white solid.

(61%) of 11 as a white solid and 41 mg (4%) of 12 as a white solid. 11: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_{d}$ , 393 K, vs TMS) § 1.32-1.55 (2 H, m), 2.36-2.47 (2 H, m), 3.34 (3 H, s), 3.65 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J =9.86 Hz), 3.89-3.99 (1 H, m), 4.38 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J = 9.74 Hz), 4.52 (1 H, d, J = 1.89 Hz), 4.89 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J = 12.66 Hz), 4.98 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J = (2.52 Hz), 5.11 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J = 12.47 Hz), 5.18 (1 H, d, J = 3.21 Hz), 5.23 (1 H,  $J_2$  AB q, J = 12.39 Hz), 5.56 (1 H, d, J = 3.50 Hz), 6.44 (1 H, d, J = 3.14 Hz), 6.52 (2 H, d, J = 6.76 Hz), 6.93-7.34 (28 H, m); IR (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3474, 1749, 1704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 123-125 °C; [a]<sup>35</sup><sub>D</sub>-7.9° (c, 0.92, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), Anal. (recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>/hexanes) Calcd for Cs<sub>3</sub>H<sub>80</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>; C, 72.76; H, 5.76; N, 3.20. Found: C, 72.94; H, 6.02; N, 3.02.

Found: C, 72.94; H, 6.02; N, 3.02. 12: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.41–1.59 (2 H, m), 1.96–2.11 (1 H, m), 2.39–2.55 (1 H, m), 3.35 (3 H, s), 3.54 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.78 Hz), 3.63–3.71 (1 H, m), 3.91 (1 H, d, D<sub>2</sub>O exch, J = 4.79 Hz), 4.33 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.82 Hz), 4.58 (1 H, d, J = 1.96 Hz), 5.11 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.31 Hz), 5.13 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.43 Hz), 5.20 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.31 Hz), 5.13 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.43 Hz), 5.54 (2 H, d, J = 3.23 Hz), 6.08 (1 H, d, J = 3.29 Hz), 6.31 (1 H, d, J = 3.31 Hz), 7.07–7.39 (30 H, m); IR (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3483, 1746, 1702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 101–103 °C; [a]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> +11.1° (c 0.56, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); exact mass caled for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>51</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>46</sub> (M<sup>+</sup> + H) 875.35453, found 875.3521.

Phenyl Thionoformate 13. To a solution of 11 (237 mg, 0.271 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF (4 mL) was added phenyl chlorothionoformate (187 mL, 1.352 mmol, 5 equiv) followed by addition of sodium bis(trimethyl-1.352 mmol, 5 equiv) followed by addition of sodium bis(trimethyl-1.352 mmol, 5 equiv) followed by addition of sodium bis(trimethylreaction for 3 h, the reaction mixture was poured into ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 170 mg (62%) of 13 as a labile white solid. This compound was used directly after purification for the subsequent tin hydride reaction. Data for 13: 'H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.50-1.76 (2 H, m), 2.22-2.65 (2 H, m), 3.35 (3 H, s), 3.66 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.56 Hz), 4.38 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.83 Hz), 4.94 (1 H, d, J = 1.66 Hz), 4.94 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.31 Hz), 5.30 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.27 Hz), 5.31 (1 H, d, J = 3.15 Hz), 5.75 (1 H, d, J = 3.32 Hz), 5.77-5.85 (1 H, m), 6.00 (1 H, d, J = 3.21 Hz), 6.37 (1 H, d, J = 3.34 Hz), 6.56 (2 H, d, J = 6.84 Hz), 6.97-7.46 (33 H, m); IR (NaCL, CH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>3</sub>) 1754.

Reduction Products 14 and 15. To a solution of 13 (170 mg, 0.168 mmol, 1 equiv) in toluene (5 mL) was added AIBN (5.5 mg, 0.033 mmol, 0.2 equiv) followed by addition of tributyltin hydride (90  $\mu$ L, 0.335 mmol, 2 equiv). The resulting solution was brought to reflux. After 3 h the toluene was evaporated off and the residue was separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 71 mg (49%) of 14 as a white solid and 16 mg (11%) of 15 as a white solid.

14. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (220 MHz, DMSO- $d_4$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.01–1.18 (1 H, m). 1.22–1.38 (1 H, m), 1.79–2.03 (2 H, m), 2.11–2.25 (1 H, m), 2.35–2.48 (1 H, m), 3.33 (3 H, s), 3.64 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , AB q, J = 9.78 Hz), 4.37 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , AB q, J = 9.78 Hz), 4.55 (1 H, dd, J = 9.69 Hz, J = 4.64 Hz), 4.90 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , AB q, J = 12.71 Hz), 4.99 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , AB q, J = 12.75

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Hz), 5.13 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 12.33 Hz), 5.19 (1 H, d, J = 3.32 Hz), 5.22 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 12.25 Hz), 5.66 (1 H, d, J = 3.48 Hz), 6.08 (1 H, d, J = 3.03 Hz), 6.35 (1 H, d, J = 3.45 Hz), 6.50–6.54 (2 H, m), 7.01–7.34 (28 H, m); IR (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 1748, 1704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 99–101 °C; [a)<sup>21</sup>b - 16° (c 0.5, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) texact mass (FAB) calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>36</sub>-N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub>Li 865.367637, found 865.3675.

N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>C<sub>1</sub> 865.367/837, round 865.3675. **15**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  0.64–1.02 (3 H, m), 1.31–1.46 (1 H, m), 1.70–1.85 (1 H, m), 2.06–2.21 (1 H, m), 3.29 (3 H, s), 3.52 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.77 Hz), 4.24 (1 H, dd, J = 9.66 Hz, J = 4.33 Hz), 4.27 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.83 Hz), 5.02 (2 H, s), 5.07 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.74 Hz), 5.18 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.34 Hz), 5.62 (1 H, d, J = 3.54 Hz), 5.83 (1 H, d, J = 2.76 Hz), 5.88 (1 H, d, J = 2.76 Hz), 6.29 (1 H, d, J = 3.48 Hz), 7.03–7.43 (30 H, m); 1R (NaC1, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); exact mass (FAB) calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Li 865.367637, found 865.3662.

(25,6*R*)-2,6-Diamino-6-(hydroxymethyl)pimelic Acid (17). To a solution of 14 (66 mg, 0.077 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF and EtOH (3 mL, 1:1) was added palladium chloride (41 mg, 0.231 mmol, 3 equiv). The reaction mixture was hydrogenated at 50 psi for 48 h. The mixture was then purged with nitrogen and filtered through Celite to remove the catalyst. The filtrate was concentrated and dried in vacuo. The crude product 16 was dissolved in 48% HBr and refluxed for 3 h. The solvent was evaporated off and the residue was treated with excess propylene oxide for 20 min in refluxing EtOH. The white precipitate was filtered to give 16 mg (95%) of 17 as a white solid: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, D;O, vs DSS) 5 i. 1.26-1.45 (2 H, m), 1.65-1.90 (4 H, m), 3.66 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, *J* = 11.90 Hz), 3.74 (1 H, m), 3.80 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, *J* = 11.80 Hz): <sup>13</sup>C NMR (69.73 MHz, D;O)  $\delta$  (DSS) 21.3, 34.3, 56.8, 66.8, 68.7, 176.4, 176.6; IR (ZnS, H<sub>2</sub>O) 3/435, 3119, 1618 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 220-230 °C dec, [a]<sup>33</sup>p +22.5° (c 0.6, 5 N HCI); exact mass calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M + H<sup>\*</sup>) 221.11375, found 221.1137.

Aldol Adducts 20 and 21. To a solution of 9 (407 mg, 1.05 mmol, 1 equiv) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (8 mL) was added dibutylboron triflate (2.1 mL, 2.1 mmol, 2 equiv, 1 M solution in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) followed by addition of triethylamine (233  $\mu$ L, 2.1 mmol, 2 equiv) at 0 °C. After 20 min the reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C and a  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) solution of 19 (1.024 g, 2.1 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to it. After 30 min the reaction mixture was quenched with a phosphate buffer solution (pH 6.9) and poured into water. The aqueous layer was extracted three times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organic solution was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 465 mg (50.6%) of 20 as a white solid.

magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 465 mg (50.6%) of 20 as a white solid and 17 mg (2%) of 21 as a white solid. 20: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_{4}$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.34-1.69 (2 H, m), 2.19-2.64 (2 H, m), 3.34 (3 H, s), 3.64-3.71 (1 H, m), 3.91-4.02 (1 H, m), 4.40 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.87 Hz), 4.66 (1 H, s), 4.98 (2 H, s), 5.11 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.38 Hz), 5.13 (1 H, d, J = 3.16 Hz), 5.22 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, AB q, J = 12.58 Hz), 5.40 (1 H, d, D<sub>2</sub>O exch, J = 5.22 Hz), 5.64 (1 H, d, J = 3.04 Hz), 6.55-6.58 (2 H, m), 6.91-7.37 (28 H, m); IR (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>) a477, 1749, 1704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 92-94 °C; [a]<sup>32</sup><sub>D</sub> + 3.6° (c 0.94, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>); exact mass calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> (M<sup>+</sup> + H) 875.354 53, found 875.3508.

found 875.3508. 21: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.27-1.45 (1 H, m), 1.58-1.76 (1 H, m), 2.05-2.41 (2 H, m), 3.31 (3 H, s), 3.56 (1 H,  $l_2$  AB q, J = 9.70 Hz), 3.52-3.63 (1 H, m), 3.99 (1 H, d, D<sub>2</sub>O exch, J = 6.70 Hz), 4.33 (1 H,  $l_2$  AB q, J = 9.75 Hz), 4.47 (1 H, d, J = 2.39 Hz), 5.06 (1 H,  $l_2$  AB q, J = 12.64 Hz), 5.17 (2 H, s), 5.18 (1 H,  $l_1$  AB q, J = 12.22 Hz), 5.57 (1 H, d, J = 3.49 Hz), 5.60 (1 H, d, J = 3.60 Hz), 6.02 (1 H, d, J = 3.45 Hz), 6.30 (1 H, d, J = 3.47 Hz), 7.02-7.33 (30 H, m); 1R (NaC1, CH<sub>2</sub>C1<sub>3</sub>) 3488, 1747, 1704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 105-107 °C: 1a<sup>122</sup>a, +56.9° (c 0.36 CH, C1,)

102-103 (50 m, m); IK (194C), CH<sub>2</sub>(1) 3486, 1147, 1106 cm<sup>-2</sup>; mp 105-107 °C; [a]<sup>23</sup><sub>b</sub> +56.9° (c 0.36, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). Phenyl Thionoformate 22. To a solution of 20 (400 mg, 0.437 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF (4 mL) was added phenyl chlorothionoformate (316  $\mu$ L, 2.284 mmol, 5 equiv) followed by addition of sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (503  $\mu$ L, 0.503 mmol, 1.1 equiv, 1 M solution in THF) at -78 °C. After 3 h, the reaction mixture was poured into ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous

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magnesium sulfate, filtered, concentrated, and separated by colui chromatography on silica gel to alford 174 mg (38%) of 22 as a wh solid and 135 mg (34%) of unreacted 22: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 Mł DMSO- $d_6$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.41–1.59 (1 H, m), 1.76–1.59 (1 H, m), 2.36–2.61 (2 H, m), 3.35 (3 H, s), 3.66 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 9.77 H 4.39 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 9.77 H 2.39 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 9.77 H 3.9 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 9.71 H 4.39 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 9.70 Hz), 5.00 (2 H, s), 5.08 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 12.32 Hz), 5.09 (1 H, d, J = 1.70 Hz), 5.24 (1 H,  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB q, J = 12.32 Hz), 5.31 (1 H, d, J = 3.09 Hz), 6.37 (1 H, d, J = 3.40 Hz), 6. (2 H, d, J = 6.74 Hz), 6.98–7.44 (33 H, m); IR (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 174 1705 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Reduction Products 23 and 24. To a solution of 22 (155 mg, 0.1: mmol, 1 equiv) in toluene (5 mL) was added A1BN (8 mg, 0.049 mm 0.3 equiv) followed by addition of triphenyltin hydride (269 mg, 0.71 mmol, 5 equiv). The resulting solution was brought to reflux. After 2 h the toluene was removed under reduced pressure and the residue w, separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 107 m (81%) of 23 as a white solid and 7 mg (5%) of 24 as a white soli

separated by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 107 rr (81%) of 23 as a white solid and 7 mg (5%) of 24 as a white solid 23: 'H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , 193 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  1.09–1.3 (2 H, m), 1.88 (2 H, q, J = 7.67 Hz), 2.30 (2 H, t, J = 8.07 Hz), 2.5 (3 H, s), 3.65 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.87 Hz), 4.37 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 7.87 Hz), 4.37 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 7.87 Hz), 4.38 (1 H, t, J = 6.43 Hz), 4.98 (2 H, s), 5.10 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.31 Hz), 5.19 (1 H, d, J = 2.99 Hz), 5.20 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.42 Hz), 5.63 (1 H, d, J = 3.36 Hz), 6.10 (1 H, d, J = 3.02 Hz) 6.35 (1 H, d, J = 3.40 Hz), 6.51-6.55 (2 H, m), 6.98-7.29 (28 H, m) R (NaCl. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 1750, 1705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 98-100 °C; [a]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub>-8.8° (c 0.2 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). Anal. (recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes) Calcd fo C<sub>51</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 74.11; H, 5.87; N, 3.26. Found: C, 74.18; H, 6.04; N 3.08. Exact mass (FAB) calcd for C<sub>53</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Li 865.367637, foun 865.3670.

24: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , 393 K, vs TMS)  $\delta$  0.66–0.8: (2 H, m), 1.01–1.14 (1 H, m), 1.28–1.42 (1 H, m), 1.96 (2 H, t, J = 8.2i Hz), 3.30 (3 H, s), 3.53 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.75 Hz), 4.25 (1 H, t, = = 4.61 Hz), 4.27 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 9.72 Hz), 5.02 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q J = 12.87 Hz), 5.08 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.51 Hz), 5.11 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.86 Hz), 5.19 (1 H, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 12.51 Hz), 5.61 (1 H, d, \_ = 3.56 Hz), 5.84 (1 H, d, J = 3.29 Hz), 5.86 (1 H, d, J = 3.32 Hz), 6.25 (1 H, d, J = 3.49 Hz), 7.01–7.39 (30 H, m); 1R (NaCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 1749 1705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 88–90 °C; [a]<sup>28</sup><sub>D</sub> + 12.9° (c 0.22, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). (25,65)-2,6-Diamino-6 (hydroxymethyl)pimelic Acid (4). To a so lution of 23 (73 mg, 0.085 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF and EtOH (3 mL, 1:1)

(25,65)-2,6-Diamino-6- (hydroxymethyl)pimelie Acid (4). To a solution of 23 (73 mg. 0.085 mmol, 1 equiv) in THF and EtOH (3 mL, 1:1) was added palladium chloride (90 mg, 0.508 mmol, 6 equiv). The reaction mixture was hydrogenated at 50 psi for 48 h. The mixture was then purged with nitrogen and filtered through Celite to remove the catalyst. The filtrate was concentrated and dried in vacuo. The crude product was dissolved in 48%. HBr and refluxed for 3 h. The solvent was evaporated off and the residue was treated with excess propylene oxide for 20 min in refluxing EtOH. The white precipitate was filtered to give 17 mg (91%) of 4 as a white solid. This material proved to be indistinguishable by 'H NMR and TLC from the authentic amino acid obtained by hydrolysis of natural 3 provided by Shionogi & Co. Data for 4: 'H NMR (300 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, vs DSS)  $\delta$  1.29–1.39 (1 H, m), 1.43–1.57 (1 H, m), 1.62–1.90 (4 H, m), 3.64 (1 H, '/<sub>2</sub> AB q, J = 11.69 Hz). 3.65 (1 H, m), 3.89 (1 H, '/<sub>4</sub> AB q, J = 11.83 Hz); <sup>11</sup>C NMR (67.93 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  DSS 21.7, 33.2, 34.6, 57.4, 66.7, 68.6, 176.4, 176.9; IR (ZRS, H<sub>2</sub>O) 3395, 3109, 1614 cm<sup>-1</sup>; mp 235–245 °C dec, it.<sup>1</sup> mp 240–250 °C dec; [a<sup>123</sup>b +7.1° (c 0.55, 5 N HCI), it.<sup>1</sup> +8.1  $\pm$  1.0° (c 0.506, 5 N HCI)

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