Synthesis of the C20–C32 Tetrahydropyran Core of the Phorboxazoles and the C22 Epimer via a Stereodivergent Michael Reaction

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A stereoselective synthesis of the C20–C32 tetrahydropyran core of the phorboxazoles has been achieved in only seven steps and in a 31% overall yield. The C22 epimer was also synthesized. The key step was a silvl ether deprotection/oxy-Michael cyclization. When this step was conducted under Bronsted acid conditions, the C20–C32 core was formed with the desired 2,6-*cis*-stereochemistry. However, when the silvl ether deprotection/oxy-Michael cyclization was conducted under fluoride conditions buffered with acetic acid, the C22 epimer of the core was the sole product.

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Isolation and Biological Activity



- Isolated by Searle and Molinski in 1995
- The relative and absolute stereochemistries assigned by 2D NMR analysis, degradation studies, and synthetic correlation studies
- 4 different THP rings, two oxazole rings, and 15 stereocenters
- Subnanomolar activity against the NCI's 60 tumor cell lines



Phorboxazole A: R_1 =H, R_2 =OH **Phorboxazole B**: R_1 =OH, R_2 =H



http://portphillipmarinelife.net.au/species/76804/2012

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, *117*, 8126. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 9422. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 7879.

Previous Synthetic Work on the Phorboxazoles

- Phorboxazole A (7 total syntheses)
 - Forsyth: J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 5597.
 2nd Generation: J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 1484 and J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 1506.
 - Smith: J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 4834;
 2nd Generation: Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 4399 and J. Org. Chem. 2008, 73, 1192.
 - Pattenden: Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 1255 and Org. Biomol. Chem. 2003, 1, 4173.
 - Williams: Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 1258.
 - White: Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 6039 and Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 6043.
- Phorboxazole B (3 total syntheses)
 - Evans: J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 10033 (Studies);
 Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 2533 and Angew.
 Chem., Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 2536.
 - Zhou and Lin: Chem. Eur. J. 2006, 12, 1185.
 - Burke: Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 769.



Phorboxazole A: $R_1=H$, $R_2=OH$ Phorboxazole B: $R_1=OH_4R_2OH_2$

Tetrahydropyran and Tetrahydropyran synthesis



- Six-membered oxygenated heterocycles (pyrans) range from glucose to complex metabolites like the Phorboxazoles
- Cyclization methods
 - Type 1: S_N^2 and S_N^1 -mediated cyclizations, metal-promoted processes and Michael-like reactions
 - Type 2 and Type 3: Prins sequences, Petasis-Ferrier rearrangements and RCM reactions
 - Other: Maitland-Japp multicomponent reactions, Hetero-Diels-Alder cyclizations

Synthetic work on the THP core





Retrosynthetic Analysis of the Phorboxazoles





When the Maitland-Japp reaction was used to synthesize the C20-• C32 core, the THP was not obtained diastereomerically pure Benjamenoagh to continue or epimerico et @23 11/4/2012

Tet. Let. 2010, 51, 4731.

Fuwa and mimicing acyl transfer proteins



- 6-*exo*-trig cyclization often lead to 2,6-*trans* product where forcing conditions are required to form the 2,6-*cis*-THP
- Mimic thioester of acyl carrier protein (ACP) that would be activated by pyran synthase
- Biomimetic acid catalyzed oxa-Michael cyclization proceeding through a late transition state favoring 2,6-*cis*-THP
- Several multi-substituted examples in the paper cyclized in high diastereoselectivity and good yields
 - Thioester easily elaborated to further analogues

Construction of the Stereochemical Tetrad





Olefin Cross Metathesis to Precursors



- Thioester metathesis issues
 - Same conditions: low yielding
 - Incresing temperature: 70 °C- 20%, 90 °C- 0%
 - CH_2CI_2 and higher loading: 50%
 - Hypothesis: self-dimerization of thioester



Cyclization of esters



Summary

- 7 steps, 31% overall yield to C20-C32 phorboxazole core
- Selective Michael cyclization with thioester electrophile to
 - 2,6-*cis*-THP
 - 2,6-trans-THP
- More complete examination of the switch in selectivity in progress
- Completion of Phorboxazole B *in progress*

