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# Synthesis of 1,2-anti amino alcohols and their applications in the asymmetric synthesis of polyhydroxylated indolizidine and pyrrolizidine alkaloids

Christopher Wai Gee Au University of Wollongong

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# Synthesis of 1,2-anti Amino Alcohols and Their Applications in the Asymmetric Synthesis of Polyhydroxylated Indolizidine and Pyrrolizidine Alkaloids

A thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of

#### **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

from

#### UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG



## Christopher Wai Gee Au

B.S. (California)

School of Chemistry
March, 2010

#### i

## **Declaration**

I, Christopher Wai Gee Au, declare that this thesis, submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Doctor of Philosophy, in the School of Chemistry, University of Wollongong, is wholly my own work unless reference is provided. This document has not been submitted for qualifications at any other academic institution.

Christopher Wai Gee Au

March, 2010

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## List of Abbreviations

 $[M]^+$  molecular ion  $[\alpha]_D$  optical rotation

Ac acetyl

AD or ADH asymmetric dihydroxylation

amu atomic unitsb.p. boiling point

Bn benzyl

Boc *tert*-butyloxycarbonyl

br. broad Bu butyl

c concentration in g/100 mL

ca. circa

CAN cerium(IV) ammonium nitrate

cat. catalyst

Cbz carboxybenzyl
CM cross metathesis

COSY correlation spectroscopy

CSA camphor sulfonic acid

d doublet

δ chemical shift

DADP 2,5-dideoxy-2,5-imino-D-alloitol DALDP 2,5-dideoxy-2,5-imino-D-altroitol

DBB 4,4'-ditertbutylbiphenyl

DBU 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene

DCC *N,N'*-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide

DDQ 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone

DET diethyl tartrate

DGDP 2,5-dideoxy-2,5-imino-D-glucoitol
DGADP 2,5-dideoxy-2,5-imino-D-galactoitol

DH dihydroxylation

DHQ dihydroquinine

DHQD dihydroquinidine

DIAD diisopropyl azodicarboxylate
DIBAL-H diisobutylaluminium hydride

DIPEA diisopropylethylamine

DMAP 4-dimethylaminopyridine

DMDP 2,5-dideoxy-2,5-imino-D-mannitol

DMF *N,N*-dimethylformamide DMP Dess-Martin periodinane

DMSO dimethyl sulfoxide dr diastereomeric ratio ee enantiomeric excess

equiv. equivalents

ESIMS electrospray ionization mass spectrometry

Et ethyl

FAB fast atom bombardment

GC gas chromatography

HF Hartree-Fock

HMBC heteronuclear multiple bond coherence

HOMO highest occupied molecular orbital

HRESIMS high resolution electrospray ionization mass spectroscopy

HSQC heteronuclear single quantum coherence

Hz hertz

IBX 2-iodoxybenzoic acid

IC<sub>50</sub> half maximal inhibitory concentration

imid. imidazole IND indole

*i*-Pr isopropyl

J coupling constant

m multiplet

m meta M molar

m.p. melting point

m/z mass/charge ratio

*m*-CPBA *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid

Me methyl mole

MOM methoxymethyl

Ms mesyl, methanesulfonyl

MS (as in 3 Å MS) molecular sieves

MS (as in GC-MS) mass spectrometry

NBS *N*-bromosuccinimide

NMO 4-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide

NMR nuclear magnetic resonance

NOE nuclear Overhauser effect

NOESY nuclear Overhauser effect spectroscopy

OTf triflate, trifluoromethanesulfonate

Pd/C palladium on carbon

petrol petroleum spirit b.p. 40-60 °C

Ph phenyl

PHAL phthalazine
Piv pivaloyl

PMB para-methoxybenzyl
PMP para-methoxyphenyl

ppm parts per million

PPTS pyridinium *para*-toluenesulfonate

PTSA para-toluenesulfonic acid

q quartet

quant. quantitative

quint. quintet

RCM ring-closing metathesis

 $R_f$  retention factor, retardation factor

rt room temperature

s singlet

S<sub>N</sub>2 bimolecular nucleophilic substitution

t triplet

t- tert-

TBAF tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride

TBDPS tert-butyldiphenylsilyl
TBHP tert-butyl hydroperoxide
TBS tert-butyldimethylsilyl

TEA triethylamine
TES triethylsilyl

TFA trifluoroacetic acid
THF tetrahydrofuran

TLC thin layer chromatography
TMO trimethylamine *N*-oxide
TMP tetramethylpiperidide

TMS trimethylsilyl or trimethylsilane
TPAP tetrapropylammonium perruthenate

Ts tosyl, *para*-toluenesulfonyl

### Abstract

Polyhydroxylated alkaloids—natural heterocycles that contain one or more basic nitrogen atoms and various numbers of hydroxy substituents—are a class of organic compounds that has attracted much attention due to their inhibitory activities against glycosidase enzymes. The 1,2,8-trihydroxy-indolizidine alkaloid (-)-swainsonine 1 was first isolated in 1973 from the fungus *Rhizoctonia leguminicola* and exhibited high inhibitory activities (IC $_{50}$  = 0.2  $\mu$ M) towards both Golgi mannosidase II and lysosomal  $\alpha$ -d-mannosidase. The polyhydroxylated pyrrolizidine alkaloid hyacinthacine  $B_3$  104 was isolated from fresh bulbs of the Hyacinthaceae plant *Muscari armeniacum* and was found to be a moderate inhibitor of  $\beta$ -galactosidase (IC $_{50}$  = 18  $\mu$ M) and was a weak amyloglucosidase inhibitor (IC $_{50}$  = 51  $\mu$ M). Hyacinthacine  $B_7$  112, reported to be the C-7 epimer of 104, was isolated from the bulbs of *Scilla socialis* and exhibited weak inhibitory activity towards an amyloglucosidase enzyme.

The main focus of this study was to examine the utility of 1,2-*anti* amino alcohols in the development of a general strategy towards synthesizing polyhdroxylated indolizildine and pyrrolizidine alkaloids. Chiral α-hydroxy aldehydes generated *in situ* by the Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation (ADH) reaction of vinyl sulfones underwent a borono-Mannich reaction with β-styrenyl boronic acid and primary amines to give 1,2-*anti* amino alcohols in high enantiomeric purities (83-95% ee). The *anti* amino alcohol **353**, synthesized *via* the Sharpless-Petasis sequence from 4-penten-1-ol, was converted into indolizidine **22** in an additional four synthetic steps. This represented a formal synthesis of (-)-**1** in ten-steps and 7.7% overall yield from commercially available starting material.

The utility 1,2-*anti* amino alcohols in alkaloid synthesis was further exemplified in the total syntheses of hyacinthacine  $B_3$  **104** and the purported structure of hyacinthacine  $B_7$  **112**. Starting from (*S*)-4-penten-2-ol, the *anti* amino alcohol **382** was synthesized *via* the Sharpless-Petasis sequence and was converted to **104** in a total 13 steps and 5.6% overall yield. This total synthesis confirms the structure of hyacinthacine  $B_3$ . In an analogous fashion, the reported structure of hyacinthacine  $B_7$  **112** was synthesized in 13 synthetic steps from (*R*)-4-penten-2-ol (**397**) and 3.4% overall yield. However, the NMR data of our synthetic **112** did

not agree with those of the natural product. Further spectroscopic studies have confirmed the structure and stereochemical configuration of our synthetic 112 and concluded that the reported structure of hyacinthacine B<sub>7</sub> was incorrect.

## Publications arising from this thesis

- 1. Au, Christopher W.G.; Nash, Robert, J.; Pyne, Stephen G. 'Synthesis of hyacinthacine B<sub>3</sub> and purported hyacinthacine B<sub>7</sub>' *Chem. Commun.*, **2010**, *46*, 713-715.
- 2. Pyne, Stephen G.; Au, Christopher W.G.; Davis, Andrew S.; Morgan, Ian R.; Ritthiwigrom, Thunwadee; Yazici, Arife. 'Exploiting the borono-Mannich reaction in bioactive alkaloid synthesis' *Pure Appl. Chem.*, **2008**, *80*, 751-762.
- 3. Au, Christopher W.G.; Pyne, Stephen G. 'Asymmetric synthesis of *anti-*1,2-amino alcohols *via* the Borono-Mannich reaction: a formal synthesis of (-)-swainsonine' *J. Org. Chem.*, **2006**, *71*, 7097-7099.