#### Development of Epipolythiodiketopiperazine Syntheses and the Total Synthesis of Diketopiperazine Alkaloids



**Timothy C. Adams** 

B.S., Chemistry University of Florida, 2009

Submitted to the Department of Chemistry In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

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Professor Mohammad Movassaghi Professor of Chemistry Thesis Supervisor

## **Signature redacted**

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### *To my family*

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#### **Preface**

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#### Development of Epipolythiodiketopiperazine Syntheses and the Total Synthesis of Diketopiperazine Alkaloids

**By**

Timothy Adams

Submitted to the Department of Chemistry on February **15, 2015** in Partial Fullfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Organic Chemistry

ABSTRACT

#### **I.** The Development of Epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) Syntheses

Epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) alkaloids represent a structurally complex and biologically potent class of secondary fungal metabolites and these molecules have been known since the 1930s. The biological activity of these molecules is quite potent and the modes of toxicity possessed **by** these agents involve the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and direct manipulation of target proteins. The biosynthesis of these compounds has been the subject of active study and we have presented our own hypothesis how theses molecules are synthesized **by** fungi. Efforts to synthesize these alkaloids have been known since the late **1960** to early 1970s and all have highlighted the need to install the requisite disulfide bridge at a late-stage. The ETP motif is known to be notoriously sensitive as it is reactive towards bases and Lewis acids, and in photochemical and redox reactions.

#### **II.** Development of ETP Syntheses for the Application of the Total Synthesis of **(+)-** Bionectin **A**

The concise and efficient total synthesis of (+)-bionectin **A** is described. Our approach to these natural products features a new and scalable method for *erythro-* hydroxytryptophan amino acid synthesis and a new mercaptan reagent for the epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) synthesis that can be unraveled under very mild conditions. The development of this new reagent was accomplished after exploring the acid promoted incorporation of different alkyl thiols into diketopiperazine diol substrates.

#### **III.** Concise Total Synthesis of (+)-Luteoalbusin **A**

The first total synthesis of (+)-luteoalbusin **A** is described. Our concise and enantioselective synthesis began from the simple starting materials L-alanine and Ltryptophan. Transformations central to our route include a **highly** regioselective Friedel-Crafts indolization that can be performed on multi-gram scale, as well as a **highly** diastereoselective oxidation and thiolation. Moreover, this divergent synthesis features a common aminothioisobutyryl intermediate that can be utilized to construct **(+)** luteoalbusin **A.** The spectral data obtained from the synthetic samples confirmed the assigned structure for this natural product.

Thesis Supervisor: Professor Mohammad Movassaghi Title: Professor of Chemistry

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Chapter I.

**I.** The Development of Epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) Syntheses

#### **Introduction and Background**



**(+)-11,11'-dideoxyverticillin A (4) (+)-bionectin A (5) (+)-12,12'-dideoxychetracin A (6) Figure 1.** Representative epipolythiodiketopiperazine alkaloids.

Epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) alkaloids represent a structurally complex and biologically potent class of secondary fungal metabolites (Figure 1).<sup>1,2,3</sup> This class of compounds can be arranged in different categories, including monomeric, dimeric C3,C3' (sp<sup>3</sup>-sp<sup>3'</sup>) linked homo- and heterodimers, as well as C3-(3'-indolyl) derivatives (Figure 1). These molecules are all known to contain reactive bicyclic disulfide bonds that exhibit reactivity towards oxidants, reductants, UV light, as well as strong acids and bases.4 Gliotoxin (1), a natural product that was first reported by Weindling in 1936 and was later synthesized by Kishi and coworkers in 1970, represents one of the earliest naturally occurring epidithiodiketopiperazines known.<sup>5,6</sup> The dimeric subset of these alkaloids have been known since the 1970s, with the discovery of (+)-chaetocin A (2),  $(+)$ -chaetocin C (3), and  $(+)$ -11,11<sup>'</sup>-dideoxyverticillin A (4)<sup>78</sup> The C3-(3'-indolyl) alkaloids such as  $(+)$ -bionectin A  $(5)$  exhibit significant cytotoxic activity against the murine P388 lymphocytic leukemia cell line.<sup>9-11</sup>

#### **Biological Activity of ETPs**

Structure activity relationships (SAR) studies have shown the importance of the ETP motif in these molecules.<sup>12,13</sup> There are several known ways in which epidithiodiketopiperazines alkaloids are known to induce cytotoxicity. These methods include direct sulfidation of cysteine residues of proteins resulting in covalent deactivation of the protein, **by** the evolution of reactive oxygen species through redox cycling, and **by** the sequestration of zinc cations from proteins through the zinc-ejection mechanism.

Evidence that advances the hypothesis for the deactivation of enzymes through direct incorporation of the ETPs into proteins stems from toxicity studies of gliotoxin in thymocyte cells.<sup>12</sup> With concentrations of gliotoxin greater than 50  $\mu$ M, calcium influx in these cells had been observed and this was directly implicated in the toxicity of gliotoxin. The increase in calcium flux is known to be due to the interaction of gliotoxin with a thiol residue in the redox-sensitive plasma membrane calcium channel. The addition of glutathione or dithiothreitol was found to inhibit this activity since the reduced ETP is unable to oxidatively modify the thiol residues of proteins. This study provided evidence for mixed disulfide formation as a possible means for the necrotic effects of gliotoxin. Furthermore, gliotoxin was found to deactivate proteins such as alcohol dehydrogenase **by** forming a **1:1** covalent complex with cysteine residue **281** or **282."**

Redox cycling is another way in which these molecules can exhibit virulence towards bacterial cells (Figure **1).13'5** This process was implicated as part **of** the toxic biological activity of sporidesmin and of other ETPs on erythrocytes, where the toxic



Scheme **1.** ETP-catalyzed autoxidation of glutathione.

effects appear to be due the generation of reactive oxygen species.<sup>12</sup> The process involves the cycling between two alternative states of the ETP, from the oxidized, bicyclic form to the reduced, dithiol state. In biological environments, the disulfide bond of ETPs such as in **7**, is known to break when exposed to cofactors such as glutathione.<sup>16</sup> As the thiols of **8** cyclize to the closed form **(7),** an equivalent of the dimeric glutathione is reduced to two equivalents of glutathione, and reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as hydrogen peroxide and super oxide are generated **by** the ETP. These reactive oxygen species are thought to promote cell death through oxidative damage or cell signaling."

Beyond the generation of harmful reactive oxygen species or the direct incorporation of ETPs to proteins, the third known mechanism of ETP-related toxicity has been linked to the sequestration of key cationic metals from critical proteins such as p300 in thymocyte cells.<sup>15</sup>These proteins are critical to the preservation of cells during episodes of hypoxia-related stress. ETPs were found to reversibly bind to the **CH** 1 domain of these **p300** proteins when reducing additives such as dithiothreitol (DDT) were added. The **CHI** domain contains three key zinc cations, and when these active sites were exposed to ETPs such as gliotoxin **(1),** Zn ejection from the domain was observed. This observation suggested that the ETP can bind to the **CH1** domain and coordinate to the zinc cations, and in high enough concentrations, the ETP may form a stable complex with the zinc atoms; thereby disrupting the tertiary structure of the domain. This interaction has been found to severely impede the activity of these proteins.

**Figure** 2. ETP derivatives that lack cytotoxic effects.



According to our own SAR studies, the ETP motif in these molecules is imperative for the anticancer biological activity against U-937 and HeLa cell lines.<sup>3a</sup> Based on the SAR studies of our prepared synthetic intermediates used in the preparation of ETP alkaloids, those intermediates possessing non-oxidized  $\alpha$ -positions such as diketopiperazine  $(+)$ -9, open diketopiperazines including 10, and  $\alpha$ -hydroxylated analogues such as **(-)-11** result in a complete loss of biological activity against **U-937** and Hela cell lines (Figure 2). $<sup>3</sup>$  Furthermore, the study demonstrated that sulfuration at only</sup> the tryptophan  $C-\alpha$  position is not sufficient for potent activity as in the case of C11 monothiols 12, **C 1I** thioester **(+)-13,** and open chain polysulfane derivatives (+)-14. This study, consistent with other reports on the activity of these compounds, suggests the need for the disulfide bond for anticancer activity.

#### **Biosynthesis of these compounds**



**Scheme** 2. Three common modes for the synthesis of ETPs

When considering the mechanism of the sulfidation of these diketopiperazines, the introduction of sulfur at the  $C$ - $\alpha$ -positions of these diketopiperazines is believed to proceed through the generation of reactive acyl iminiums.<sup>18</sup> There are three pathways that are described for the biosynthetic formation of the disulfide functional group of ETPs. The biosynthetic routes for the incorporation of sulfur may be achieved through the protonation of the enamide derived from  $\beta$ -elimination (19),  $\alpha$ -elimination of the  $\alpha$ hydroxyamino acid (20), or **by** elimination of the N-Hydroxylated amino acid (21) (Scheme **2)."**



Scheme **3.** Kirby's studies on the incorporation of B-deuterated phenylalanine into gliotoxin.

The possibility of acyl imiunium formation resulting from protonation of the enamide is certainly possible given the existence of these intermediates in biological processes.<sup>19</sup> These enamide intermediates may arise by  $\beta$ -elimination of heteroatom linked amino acid residues such as cysteine, threonine, serine, etc. Despite the existence of these intermediates, feeding studies conducted **by** Kirby and coworkers suggests that the intermediate involved in the formation of the ETP may not involve the enamine (Scheme **3).20** Exposing monodeutero- and dideuterophenyl alanine (22 and **24)** to T. *viride* species of fungus resulted in the formation of monodeutero- **(23)** and dideuterogliotoxin *(25)* derivatives. Kirby had postulated that the benzylic proton exchange of **23** should be faster than its rate of incorporation into gliotoxin. The cofactor, pyridoxal, was implicated in proton/deuteron exchange at the methylene position. Furthermore, although the exchange of the isotopic label could be enzymatically driven, the process would not be necessary for the biosynthesis of gliotoxin. The formation of the dideuterogliotoxin *(25)* derivative among the reaction products greatly diminished the likelihood of the acyl iminium cation forming as a result of enamide protonation.

Having considered the enamide alternative, the acyl iminum could be hypothetically generated from elimination of the C-hydroxylated species (20) or the *N-*Hydroxylated intermediate (21). Ottenheijm and coworkers championed the hypothesis involving the elimination of the N-Hydroxyl group.<sup>18,21</sup> N-Hydroxylated natural compounds are also known as in the case of mycelianamide<sup>22</sup> and astechrome.<sup>23</sup>

Ottenheijm's biosynthetic proposal for the formation of gliotoxin begins with the L-phenylalanine/L-serine diketopiperazine **26** (Scheme 4)." The substrate subsequently



Scheme 4. Ottenheijm's biosynthetic hypothesis for gliotoxin.

undergoes enzymatic oxidation to form the bis-N,N-dihydroxylated epoxide **27.** Dehydrative elimination of the N-Hydroxyl group, followed **by** cyclization generates iminium cation **28.** This electrophile is trapped **by** an equivalent of cystine, forming the intermediary sulfonium  $29$ .  $\beta$ -elimination from one of the cysteine residues would lead to mixed disulfide **30.** N-methylation of **30** leads to the formation of another acyl iminium cation, **31,** that undergoes nucleophilic trapping of the mixed disulfide to generate bicyclic sulfonium **32**. A final  $\beta$ -elimination of the sulfonium of **32** leads to the desired product, gliotoxin **1.**

Despite the precedence of N-Hydroxylated natural products, a closer examination of the dimeric and C3-(3'-indolyl) ETP alkaloids reveals that many of these compounds possess an  $N$ -methyl group.<sup>18</sup> Given the widespread presence of the  $N$ -alkylated variations of these natural products and of those which lack the disulfide bridge, it is plausible that the installation of sulfur at the  $\alpha$ -positions takes place after N-methylation. Such a hypothesis is inconsistent with Ottenheijm's biosynthetic proposal, which would require the involvement of non N-alkylated substrates.

Support for our proposal involving  $C$ - $\alpha$ -hydroxlated intermediates (such as 20) as biosynthetic precursors for the ETP is further substantiated **by** the existence **of** natural products such as  $(+)$ -WIN 64821<sup>24</sup> and  $(-)$ -ditryptophenaline.<sup>25</sup> Although a biosynthetic lineage of these compounds to related ETPs has yet to be proven, it is possible for the installation of sulfur to be late stage. **If** indeed the ETP were formed at a late stage, such a transformation would rely on the  $C-\alpha$ -hydroxylated intermediate for accessing the acyl iminium cation. Further support for the late stage installation of sulfur can be gathered when considering the biosynthetic mechanism involved in the dimerization of cyclotryptamine compounds. For natural products such as  $(-)$ -chimonanthine, single electron oxidation of the indole substructure in tryptamine is necessary for the dimerization of these molecules; a process that may be incompatible with the presence of the redox sensitive disulfide bond.

The  $C$ - $\alpha$ -hydroxylated precursor to the acyl iminium cation seemed the most likely intermediate, and such reactive intermediates are known as in the biosynthesis of ergotamine.<sup>18,26</sup> We have conjectured in our biosynthetic proposal for these ETPs that the oxidation of the  $C$ - $\alpha$ -centers can be accomplished by oxidative enzymes such as P450 monooxygenases. Evidence supporting this hypothesis can be found from experiments conducted **by** Howlett and coworkers, whose biogenetic studies elucidated the genes involved in the synthesis of these of sporidesmin PL and gliotoxin.<sup>27</sup> In her gene knockout and mutation studies, Howlett had identified biosynthetic gene clusters that were critical to the production of proteins responsible for the modification of the side

chains in the epidithiodiketopiperazine substructure. Furthermore, he had determined that a number of gene products involved in the biosynthetic pathways of sporidesmin PL and gliotoxin bore sequence homology to key enzymes such as P450 monoxygenase, zinc finger transcriptional regulator, dipeptidase, etc. $18,27$ 

When considering other structural elements of sporidesmin **A,** components such as the sulfur bridge and the N-methyl group were found to be traced to isotopically labeled feedstocks.<sup>28</sup> The metabolic processing of  $S$ -<sup>14</sup>CH<sub>3</sub> methionine by *P. chartarum* led to formation of  $N^{-14}CH_3$  sporidesmin A. Furthermore, experiments conducted by Towers and Wright suggests that the source of sulfur may be cysteine.<sup>18, 28</sup> Although isotopic labeling studies had shown inorganic sulfur and methionine to be competent contributors of  $^{14}S$  labeled sulfur atoms, L-cysteine- $^{35}S$  was shown to contribute the highest levels **of 3S** incorporated sporodesmin **A (33)** (Scheme **5).'8** The cofactor, pyridoxal, was implicated in the transfer of sulfur. For the formation of the disulfide bond, the presumption is that the bond formation takes place spontaneously in the presence of oxygen.



Scheme *5.* Kirby's studies on the incorporation of b-deuterated phenylalanine into gliotoxin.

#### Our Hypothesis for ETP Biogenesis

Based on our own biosynthetic hypothesis, which was later corroborated **by** Hertweck and coworkers in 2014,<sup>27 $\text{c}$ </sup> it is believed that the installation of sulfur of the

ETPs involves the addition of nucleophilc sulfur onto an acyl iminum species (Scheme 6<sup> $34$ </sup> Diketopiperazine 34 may undergo dihydroxylation at the  $\alpha$ -positions to form diketopiperazine diol *35.* Ionization of the a-hydroxylated species forms the acyl iminum **36,** which may undergo nucleophilc attack from the thiol of glutathione to form



Scheme 6. Our unifying biosynthetic proposal for the incoporation of sulfur In ETP alkaloids. the glutathione-linked intermediate 37. Subsequent hydrolysis of the L-glutamine and Lglycine residues of the glutathione-ETP intermediate leads to the formation of the cysteine-linked diketopiperazine 38. The removal of the bound cysteine residue could be achieved by its interaction with the cofactor, pyridoxal phosphate (PLP). The free amine of the cysteine-bound ETP adds to the aldehyde functional group of the PLP cofactor, resulting in condensation and formation of the corresponding imine **39.** The protonated pyridinium acts as an electron sink, which allows for the tautomerization of the imine to generate exocyclic enamine 40. Enamine 40 can expel the bound diketopiperazine-

thiolate leading to form hydroxythiol **41.** After a second round of these transformations at the other  $\alpha$ -position to produce iminothiol 42, a transient dithiol is formed and undergoes oxidative cyclization to form epidithiodiketopiperazine **43.**



Scheme **7.** Our unifying biosynthetic proposal for the incoporation of sulfur in higher order **ETP** alkaloids.

Furthermore, higher order polysulfane derivatives can be produced in a similar fashion, starting from the epidithiodiketopiperazine (43) (Scheme 7).<sup>3d,4</sup> Our proposed biosynthetic pathway involves the addition of a second equivalent of a glutathione nucleophile to the diketopiperazine disulfide bond of 43 to form intermediate thiol 44. The epitrithiodiketopiperazine substrate (47) can be accessed in two different ways. One of which involves the imine tautomerization of the PLP-linked thiol **(46)** to form the enamine functionality needed to expel the disulfide of **46** that leads to epitrithiodiektopiperazine 47 after oxidation. The second mechanism can be described as an intramolecular nucleophilic attack of the disulfide by the free  $C$ - $\alpha$  thiol in 45 to directly lead to 47. Further sulfurations of the polysulfide bridge would be achieved through this iterative process, thus leading to epitetrathiodiketopiperazine **49.**

#### **Methods for Accessing ETPs**

**Scheme 8. Prior** synthetic approaches to the epidithiodiketopiperazine substructure



Scheme **8** shows representative methods for accessing the epidithiodiketopiperazine functional group.<sup> $27c,28$ </sup> One of the earliest methods for the synthesis of ETPs originates from Trown and coworkers in **1968.29** After bromination **of** the  $\alpha$ -positions of sarcosine anhydride **50** with bromine and heating in dichloroethane to 150 °C, direct displacement of the secondary bromide of  $\alpha$ -positions of 51 with thioacetate led to the formation of the bis-thioacetic ester intermediate in **95%** yield. Following this step, the acetyl groups of the thioesters were cleaved with a solution **of** hydrochloric acid in ethanol, and the intermediate dithiol was treated with 5,5'-dithiobis- (2-nitrobenzoic acid). This oxidation led to the formation of the desired bis-sarcosine ETP **52** in **72%** yield. The *syn* substitution for these thiols is required in order for successful oxidation to the disulfide.

Furthermore, other methods for accessing these ETPs have included deprotonation of the  $C$ - $\alpha$ -positions of 53 with sodium hydride and trapping the enolate with an electrophilic sulfur source as demonstrated by Hino in 1971.<sup>30</sup> The intramolecular trapping of the sulfenyl chloride to produce ETP 54 precludes the use of oxidants for forming the disulfide bond. This method also helped to enhance the syn diastereoselectivity of the sulfidation of the *C-a* positions. Use of elemental/monoclinic sulfur to synthesize ETPs was first reported **by** Schmidt in **1972.3'** Repeated treatments to these sulfidation conditions were necessary for the double incorporation of sulfur at the *C-a* positions. **A** separate oxidation step, with *in situ* generated potassium triiodide from iodine and potassium iodide, was necessary to form the desired bicycle *57* in *45%* over 4 steps.

One of the earliest examples of forming ETPs through the use of Lewis Acids and hydrogen sulfide was executed by Schmidt in 1973.<sup>31</sup> Radical oxidation of the  $C-\alpha$ positions of *55* with lead tetraacetate in benzene at **70 'C,** followed **by** hydrolysis of the corresponding  $C-\alpha$  acetate esters led to the formation of diol **58**. Ionization of these tertiary alcohols was achieved **by** using zinc dichloride, and the resulting acyl iminium cations were trapped **by** a hydrogen sulfide. Potassium triiodide oxidation of the bisthiols led to the formation of *57* in **66%** yield. Furthermore, future advances in the synthesis of ETPs centered on the trapping of acyl iminium cations generated **by** non-alcohol leaving groups as shown **by** Matsunari in **1975** (Scheme **9).3** Treatment of diketopiperazine *59* with **NBS** and **AIBN**



Scheme **9.** Prior synthetic approaches to the epidithiodiketopiperazine substructure

led to radical bromination of the *C-a* centers. This was followed **by** exposure to sodium acetate in methanol produced the *C-a* bisdimethoxy intermediate **60** in **66%** yield. After reduction of the bromides with tributyltin hydride and **AIBN,** the dimethoxydiketopiperazine was sequentially treated with zinc dichloride and hydrogen sulfide and was followed **by** oxidation with potassium triiodide to afford the desired ETP **61** in **18%** yield over three steps. In the same year, Ottenheijm had reported a case where activation of the  $C$ - $\alpha$  centers could be achieved by the synthesis of diketopiperazine substrates through the use of  $\alpha$ -ketoacid chlorides.<sup>33</sup> Exposure of indoline amide 62 to 2oxo-propanoyl chloride afforded chloro-hydroxy diketopiperazine **63.** Treatment **of 63** with zinc dichloride and hydrogen sulfide, followed **by** molecular oxygen generated the desired indoline ETP **64** in **37%** yield over three steps. Overman's **2007** report for the synthesis of ETP 67 illustrates another method that involves oxidation of the  $\alpha$ -positions through esterification.<sup>34</sup> Radical oxidation of intermediate 65 with copper diacetate and **AIBN** afforded silyl ether **67** in **73%** yield. After converting the TMS silyl ether to the acetate in high yield, scandium triflate promoted ionization of the acetate groups and trapping with hydrogen sulfide produced the corresponding bisthiol, which was exposed to molecular oxygen to afford **67** in **37%** over two steps.

Use of thiol nucleophiles to trap acyl iminium cations was shown to be possible in more advanced systems as demonstrated **by** Movassaghi and coworkers in **2009.** The report had shown the utility of trithiocarbonate diketopiperazine adducts as precursors to the ETP in the total synthesis of 11,1 '-dideoxyverticillin **A.<sup>4</sup>**Use of this dithiol nucleophile was intended to maximize the diastereoselectivity of the sulfidation step. Treatment diol **68** with potassium trithiocarbonate with **TFA** led to the formation of the

bistrithiocarbonate adduct **69** in **56%** yield. Mild aminolysis of the trithiocarbonates was executed with the addition of ethanolamine, and the subsequent titration of the reaction mixture with potassium triiodide gave **(+)-11,1** '-dideoxyverticillin **(70)** in **62%** yield.

In the synthesis of (+)-chaetocin **A (72),** a different set of synthetic challenges related to differences in ionization potential of the analogous tertiary alcohols prompted the search for other complimentary sulfidation methods. These differences in ionizing ability of these tertiary alcohols stemmed from the presence of neighboring heteroatoms, thus slowing the rate of ionization due to inductive effects. As a result, a new systematic approach was developed to address the syntheses of ETPs such as  $(+)$ -chaetocin A  $(72)$ .<sup>3d</sup> The dimeric bisdisulfide **71** was found to cyclize upon exposure to Lewis acids such as BF<sub>3</sub>.OEt<sub>2</sub> with dichloromethane in 82%. Methanolysis of the alcohols was achieved using Otera's catalyst in methanol and toluene at **85 'C,** which afforded the natural product **(72)** in **92%** yield. The utility of this method was further revealed in its application to the syntheses of higher order ETPs such as (+)-chaetocin **C** and (+)-12,12'-dideoxychetracin **A.3d**

In 2012, Nicolaou had applied Schmidt's method of using monoclininc sulfur and strong bases such as sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (NaHMDS) to convert bis-Lphenylalanine diketopiperazine **73** to tetrasulfide **74.35** Reduction of this higher order polysulfane (74) with sodium borohydride, followed **by** treatment with potassium triiodide produced the desired ETP **75** in **72%.** Furthermore, acyclic ETP precursors such as **76** may undergo cyclization and thiolation in a one pot procedure as delineated **by** Hilton in 2013.<sup>36</sup> Treatment of diacetate 76 with benzylamine and 4-methoxy- $\alpha$ toluenethiol (PMBSH) and 4-N,N-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) was shown to

produce bis-para-methoxybenzyl disulfide **77** in **68%** yield. Cleavage of the two thioethers with boron tribromide at **-78 'C,** followed **by** exposure to iodine at **23 \*C** produced the desired ETP **78** in *85%* yield.

Furthermore, Movassaghi and coworkers had developed another method of synthesizing ETPs through a highly diastereoselective bissulfidation strategy.<sup>3e</sup> In the synthesis of (+)-bionectin **A,** advanced intermediate **(+)-79** was found to undergo a diastereoselective double sulfidation when treated with 4-mercapto-2-butanone and **TFA,** with concomitant loss of the BOC protecting groups on the **N'1** and **C12** positions. This produced the desired bisthioether major product **80** in **80%** yield as a **3:1** mixture **of** diastereomers. The desired adduct was isolated after the photoinduced deprotection of the benzenesulfonyl protecting group, which afforded the penultimate bisthioether intermediate **(80)** in *56%* yield. Mild unraveling of these thioethers with pyrrolidine in the presence of ethanethiol produced (+)-bionectin **A (81)** in **81%** yield.

#### **Representative Synthesis of ETP natural products**



Over the course of the early 1970s, Kishi and coworkers were able to complete the total syntheses of a number of epidithiodiketopiperazine alkaloids.<sup>28</sup> Example

syntheses include gliotoxin, sporodesmin<sup>37</sup> and hyalodendrin.<sup>38</sup> For the total syntheses of these natural products, Kishi's strategy involved the early installation of sulfur at the **C-** $\alpha$ -positions as a protected thiol ketal, followed by subsequent alkylation steps for further elaboration at the bridgehead carbons. This thioketal protecting group effectively enabled the sulfur functionality to be carried over many steps. The thiols were deprotected at a late stage and were oxidized to form the desired dissulfide bond.

For Kishi's gliotoxin synthesis, the sarcosine-glycine derived diketopiperazine **82** was elaborated using the method first developed **by** Trown and coworkers (Scheme **10).2"** After accessing the dithioacetal  $(\pm)$ -84 through the thioketalization of 83 with anisaldehyde and  $BF_3$ ·OEt<sub>2</sub>, the compound was treated with Triton B and epoxide  $(\pm)$ -85 in DMSO, which resulted in the formation of *N*-alkylated intermediate  $(\pm)$ -86. Further synthetic steps led to the formation of benzylic chloride  $(\pm)$ -87, which was cyclized via bridgehead deprotonation with phenyl lithium, followed **by** intramolecular displacement of the benzylic chloride and bridgehead alkylation with benzyl chloromethyl ether (BOMCl) to form intermediate **( )-88** in 45% yield. Deprotection of the benzyl ether **of ( )-88** with boron trichloride, followed oxidative deprotection of the *para*methoxyphenyl (PMP) group with mCPBA in perchloric acid furnished  $(\pm)$ -gliotoxin **(1)** 



in **65%** yield.

For the synthesis of sporodesmin, Kishi's synthesis commenced with the thiolation of diketopiperazine 89 (Scheme 11).<sup>37</sup> Radical bromination of the  $\alpha$ -centers with NBS was followed by elimination and  $S_N^2$  displacement with potassium thioacetate to afford intermediate **90** in 74% yield. Methanolysis of the thioester with catalytic hydrochloric acid, followed **by** treatment with boron trifluoride diethyletherate and trapping of the acyl iminum with anisaldehyde dithioketal trimer led to the formation of PMP protected disulfide ( $\pm$ )-91 in 80% yield as a 2:1 mixture of diastereomers. After the installation of the C- $\alpha$ -sulfur groups, intermediate  $(\pm)$ -91 was treated with *nBuLi* and acid chloride **92**. This coupling reaction led to the formation of  $(\pm)$ -**93** in 61% yield. After further elaborations, tetracyclic diacetate  $(\pm)$ -94 was treated with sodium hydroxide to hydrolyze the acetyl groups. The protected thiols were released upon addition of mCPBA and  $BF_3$ ·OEt<sub>2</sub>, which ultimately afforded sporodesmin  $(\pm)$ -95 in 25% yield over three steps.





In Kishi's hyalodendrin synthesis, a similar early stage installation of the sulfur functionality at the  $C-\alpha$  positions was adopted, with the thiols protected as bisthiolethers (Scheme 12)."' Dithiol **96** was prepared from sarcosine anhydride *50* using Trown's

methodology.<sup>29</sup> The thiols of 96 were protected as the bisthioethers through treatment with potassium *tert*-butoxide and chloromethyl methyl ether to form the Bis-MOM protected dithioether  $(\pm)$ -97 in 80% yield. Subsequent alkylation steps were performed with exposure of  $(\pm)$ -97 to 2 equivalents of LDA, which was followed by treatment with benzyl bromide and bromomethyl methyl ether to produce the syn-dialkylated intermediate  $(\pm)$ -98. Deprotection of the bisthioether group of  $(\pm)$ -98 involved oxidative unraveling with iodine, followed **by** exposure to perchloric acid to hydrolyze the methoxy group. These steps afforded the desired natural product  $(\pm)$ -100 in 28% over two steps.



Furthermore, Rastetter and coworkers had made contributions to ETP total synthesis (Scheme 13). The synthesis of (±)-hyalodendrin by Rastetter in 1980, as opposed to the syntheses conducted **by** Kishi and coworkers, features a late stage installation of sulfur at the  $\alpha$ -positions that was followed by diketopiperazine alkylation.<sup>39</sup> This total synthesis was one of the first to employ acyclic disulfides as precursors to the ETP. Starting with enol **101,** protection of the enol alcohol with tertbutyldiphenylchlorosilane (TBDPSCI), followed **by** benzylation of the other a-center with benzyl bromide and LDA produced silyl ether ( $\pm$ )-102 in 97% yeild. After sulfur incorporation to produce thiol  $(\pm)$ -103 in a manner akin to Schmidt's sulfidation methodology, further elaborations to construct the mixed disulfide of  $(\pm)$ -104 involved treating  $(\pm)$ -103 with triethylamine, followed by the addition of methyl sulfenyl chloride. Methanolysis of the silylenol ether of this intermediate afforded **( )-104** in **51%** yield over the three-step process. The formation of the mixed trityl disulfide  $(\pm)$ -105 was achieved in a similar fashion, with exposure of  $(\pm)$ -104 to triethylamine and trityldisulfenyl chloride. Both disulfides were reductively cleaved with sodium borohydride to generate the *in situ* unprotected dithiols, which were oxidized to afford ( )-hyalodendrin **(100)** in **29%** yield over the three steps.

Scheme **14.** Synthesis of (+)-hyalodendrin (Fukuyama)



In 2014, Fukuyama and coworkers had reported a synthesis of (+)-hyalodendrin that was similar to Kishi's total synthesis in that it relies on the incorporation of sulfur at an early stage (Scheme  $14$ ).<sup>40</sup> Critical to this synthesis was the polysulfane cyclization methodology developed in our laboratory for the synthesis of more complex ETPs.<sup>3d</sup> In this route, L-cysteine derivative **106** was further elaborated into diketopiperazine **107.** Treatment of **107** with trimethylsilyl bromide (TMSBr) in refluxing acetonitrile generated the cyclized, monoprotected  $C-\alpha$  sulfide 108. Alkylation of intermediate 108 was conducted using benzaldehyde and **LDA** at **-78 \*C** in **56%** yield. The resulting secondary benzylic alcohol was efficiently mesylated and was reduced using trimethylsilyl triflate **(TMSOTf)** and triethyl silane as the reductant, which led to the formation of bicycle **109** in **66%** yield. The exocyclic olefin in **110** was produced though elimination of the sulfide with **LDA** and the resulting thiolate was treated with tritylsulfenyl chloride to generate the mixed trityldisulfide **110.** This enamide double bond underwent dihydroxylation with Upjohn's conditions and the resulting trityl disulfide was cyclized with  $BF_3$  $·$ OEt, at 0  $°C$ to afford the desired (+)-hyalodendrin **(100)** in 49% over two steps.

**Scheme 15.** Synthesis of (-)-Acetylaranotin (Reisman)



Reisman's synthesis of  $(-)$ -acetylaranotin represents the utility of installing sulfur groups at the  $C-\alpha$  positions with the use of diketopiperazine enolates and trapping with electrophilic sulfur (Scheme 15).<sup>41</sup> Few synthetic strategies involve late stage sulfur incorporation with harsh basic conditions in complex molecular settings as in this case. The synthesis involved the coupling of amine **111** and carboxylic acid 112 with *N,A"* bis(2-oxo-3-oxazolidinyl) phosphinic chloride (BOPCI) to produce amide **113** in **87%** yield. Cleavage of the TBS silyl ether and of the Teoc group with TBAF in acetonitrile, followed **by** heating to **70 \*C** led to the formation of diketopiperazine diol 114. Exposure of diol **114** to NaHMDS and monoclinic sulfur, followed **by** the addition of more NaHMDS led to the formation of tetrasulfide **115** in moderate yield. The remaining steps involved acetylation of the secondary allylic alcohols with acetyl chloride and DMAP in **70%** yield, followed **by** sequential treatment with propanedithiol and molecular oxygen under basic conditions. These last steps afforded the natural product  $(-)$ -117 in 45% yield.

#### Conclusion

The characterization of epipolythiodiketopiperazines has had a rich history that extends back to the early  $20<sup>th</sup>$  century.<sup>5</sup> ETPs display cytotoxic activity in ways that involve the direct sulfidation of protein residues, the formation of reactive oxygen species, and through the sequestration of metals from enzymes. Such activity is thought to be possessed in higher order ETP containing natural products as well. These compounds display a wide variety of biological activity, including antibacterial, anticancer, antiviral, and antiparasitic activity. The earliest syntheses to be completed for these compounds were competed in the 1970s and 1980s from Kishi, Rastetter and others. The early methods of the syntheses of ETPs involved the use of strongly basic conditions and electrophilic sulfur sources to generate the ETP. This approach to the synthesis of ETPs could best be achieved using simple diketopiperazine scaffolds, although there are known syntheses that have been able to use this strategy in complex systems, as in the case of Reisman's synthesis of  $(-)$ -Acetylaranotin. More developments have highlighted the biomimetic approach of using acidic conditions and nucleophilic thiols to install the sulfur functional groups that would serve as precursors to the ETP. When addressing complex syntheses of these compounds, careful retrosynthetic planning
is necessary to access these molecules given their inherent sensitivity to a number of reaction conditions.

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**II.** Development of ETP Syntheses for the Application of the Total Synthesis of (+)-Bionectin **A**

## **Introduction and Background**

The development of more technologies for the syntheses of epipolythiodiketopiperazines has been an area of active research.' Beginning in the late 1970s, the early methods for synthesizing ETPs called for the use of radical intermediates and strong bases. Although these methods can indeed produce the desired ETP moiety, they may prove too harsh with respect to late-stage incorporation of sulfur for certain natural products. The ETP motif is known to be quite sensitive to bases and **UV** light, possess mild stability to acids, and are known to be redox active.<sup>2</sup> Functional group incompatibility issues may certainly arise due to the sensitivity of this group; and therefore, we had sought to develop more robust, complimentary methods for accessing these structures at the late stage. Preliminary studies in our group had shown the direct conversion of the complex diketopiperazine **1-DKP** (Scheme **1)** to the corresponding epidithiodiketopiperazine **1-ETP** to be challenging (Scheme **1).** Eventually, greater success in accessing the ETP natural products would involve the use of acidic conditions.



Scheme 2 shows the final steps of our previous methods for the construction of complex epidithiodiketopiperazines. Diene 2, reaction **A,** a model substrate used to test



the effectiveness of a direct sulfidation, was converted to the ETP with exposure to hydrogen sulfide and boron trifluoride diethyl etherate ( $BF_3$  $-OE$ ) in moderate yield.<sup>2</sup> A 2:1 mixture of diastereomers was obtained, with the desired diasteromer 3 being the major component. We have developed other ETP synthetic methodologies, such as the use of a trithiocarbonate in order to maximize the diastereoselectivty of the thiolation step.<sup>2</sup> Final elaboration to ETP  $(+)$ -7, reaction **B**, involved cleavage of the trithiocarbonate with ethanolamine and titration of the reaction mixture with a  $KI$ <sup>3</sup> pyridine solution. This produced the desired  $(+)$ -11,11'-dideoxyverticillin A  $(+)$ -7 in 62% yield. Furthermore, a robust method for accessing higher order polysulfane ETPs (such as epitrithiodiketopiperazines and epitetrathiodiketopiperazines) was developed.<sup>2</sup> An example of this methodology was delineated in the synthesis of (+)-chaetocin A **(9),** reaction **C,** where the dimeric disulfide 8 was obtained using a highly diastereoselective monothiolation reaction of the Cli position, followed by sulfidation of this monothiol with trityl sulfenyl chloride.<sup>2b,3</sup> Ionization of the isobutyrate leaving group of 8 with

boron trifluoride diethyl etherate  $(BF_3 \cdot OEt_2)$  followed by methanolysis of the acetate using Otera's catalyst in toluene at **90 'C** led to the cyclization of the mixed disulfide to form the (+)-chaetocin **A (9).**

### **Development of Alkyl Mercaptan Reagents for the Synthesis of ETPs**

The previous ETP synthetic methods outlined above were quite successful in their application of the total synthesis of certain natural products. However, when addressing the syntheses of other related ETPs, such as in (+)-bionectin **A,** limitations to the scope of these methods became apparent.' Differences in ionizing potential of either tertiary alcohol of the  $C$ - $\alpha$ -positions resulted in either incomplete or poorly diastereoselective sulfidations in the presence of Bronsted or Lewis acids and hydrogen sulfide. Thus, a complementary method was sought to aid in the preparation (+)-bionectin **A** and of other related systems.

Scheme **3.** Synthesis of (+)-gliocladin B with alkyl thiols



From our previous study of (+)-gliocladin B, we had observed that direct conversion of diketopiperazine diol **(+)-10** to (+)-gliocladin B **(11)** was possible with **TFA** and alkyl thiols such as sodium methane thiolate (Scheme **3):?** The desired benzene sulfonyl protected natural product was obtained in **77%** as a single diasteromer. The high diastereoselectivity of this reaction prompted us to seek an analogous transformation with other alkyl thiols to essentially serve as hydrogen sulfide surrogates, where removal of the alkyl group could be conducted at a late stage and under mild conditions to afford the

ETP. We conjectured that the process **by** which the alkyl group could be removed would involve a  $\beta$ -elimination of the thiol. After investigating different electron withdrawing groups, we determined that ketones were the optimal functional group for this elimination. Since ETPs are known to possess sensitivity to a basic conditions, we sought the use of milder reaction conditions such as secondary amines. Through a mechanism analogous to our biosynthetic proposal of ETPs, we hypothesized that the secondary amine, such as pyrrolidine, could condense with the bisketone 12 to form iminium **13** (Scheme 4). Tautomerization to form the enamine 14 and expulsion of the thiol via **3** elimination would lead to intermediate *15.* After a second round of this pyrrolidinecatalyzed @-elimination at the other sulfide, dithiol **16** would be liberated and in the presence of molecular oxygen, would ultimately lead to the formation of ETP **17.**



**Scheme 4.** New biogenetically inspired route to ETPs

**In the** development of this chemistry, two concerns had to be addressed. One of which involved the reversibility of the thiol expulsion. To drive the equilibrium towards product formation, a sacrificial thiol (or excess pyrrolidine) was necessary to sequester the reactive unsaturated iminium-leaving group. The second concern pertained to the final oxidation step leading to product formation. Although molecular oxygen appeared to be suitable for the disulfide bond formation in select model systems, the addition of K13-pyridine solutions was sometimes necessary to effect the final **S-S** bond formation.

### **Results and Discussion**

### **Development of Alkylthiol Nucleophiles**



**Scheme 5.** Synthesis of 3-mercaptopropiophenone

The thiol nucleophiles could be readily prepared from the conjugate addition of the corresponding enone with a thioacid or through the direct displacement of the alkyl halide, followed by hydrolysis.<sup>4</sup> *In situ* generation of the enone from the alkyl halide upon exposure to bases such as triethylamine may also be involved. For preparation of the 3-mercapto-propiophenone, chloride **18** was exposed to thioacetic acid and triethyl amine to produce the intermediate thioester, which was subjected to **6 N** aqueous hydrochloric acid and heated to reflux (Scheme *5).* This hydrolysis produced the desired mercaptan **19** in *59%* over two steps, which was one of two main thiols that were explored in the acid promoted thiolation and in the sulfide deprotection steps.

Table 1 (font) shows the select substrates that were utilized in the development of this methodology. Subjection of the bisproline. diketopiperazine diol to trifluoroacetic acid and commercially available 4-mercapto-2-butanone in acetonitrile produced diketopiperazine bissulfide 20 as a 4:1 mixture of diastereomers, where the major (syn) product was isolated in **70%** yield. Unraveling the protected thiols of 20 with pyrrolidine in acetonitrile under an oxygen atmosphere provided the desired ETP **17** in *65%* yield. Employment of other thiols for this substitution was successful, with **3** mercaptopropiophenone providing high levels of diastereoselectivity and comparable yields. Treatment of the bisproline diol with 3-mercaptopropiophenone **(19)** and **TFA** in acetonitrile produced bisthioether 12 as **9:1** mixture of diastereomers, where the desired syn product was isolated in **78%** yield. This bisthioether adduct was mildly cleaved upon treatment with pyrrolidine while under an oxygen atmosphere and this produced ETP **17** in **60%** yield. When testing this methodology on the more advanced tetracyclic model substrates, bisthioether 21 was synthesized from its corresponding diol as an **8:1** mixture of diasteromers, with the desired syn product being isolated in *75%* yield. Cleavage of the thioethers with pyrrolidine in acetonitrile gave the desired ETP **3** in *57%* yield.



Table **1.** Stereoselective sulfidation of diketopiperazines. *Conditions:* (a) 4-mercapto-2-butanone, **TFA,** MeCN, **23 0C; (b) 3** mercaptopropiophenone, TFA, MeCN, 23 °C. (c) pyrrolidine, O<sub>2</sub>,  $MeCN$ ,  $23 °C$ .

One advantage of the use of the 4-mercapto-2-butanone reagent is that its corresponding bissulfide adduct underwent the pyrrolidine-catalyzed deprotection at a faster rate and was thus more suitable when applied to more sensitive systems.<sup>4</sup>

Scheme 6. Other explored thiols for the sulfidation diketopiperazines.



As seen previously, other thiols such as hydrogen sulfide, and thiols such as **19** and 22, are able to trap the  $C-\alpha$  acyl iminium of the diketopiperazines under acidic conditions. Commercially available reagent 22 was a thiol that was utilized in our total synthesis of (+)-bionectin **A** and **C** (Scheme **6).** In light of these thiols, other reagents were found to be less applicable to ETP synthesis. After initial consideration **of** aldehyde *25,* we decided that this thiol would not be an optimal reagent for sulfidation of diketopiperazines due to its known propensity to spontaneously oligomerize to **26.'** Other reagents such as the methyl ester 23<sup>6</sup>, the commercially available carboxylic acid 24, and the amide  $27^7$  were found to be competent nucleophiles in the thiolation of the *C*- $\alpha$  acyl iminium. However, the alkyl groups of these sulfides could not be removed using the mild pyrrolidine conditions. These sulfide adducts were unreactive towards amine and alkoxide bases in protic or aprotic solvent. Ultimately, ketone thiols were shown to be the most reliable reagent with respect to the thiolation and removal of the ketoalkyl groups.

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## **Total Synthesis of (+)-Bionectin A**

 $(+)$ -Bionectins A and C belong to the subclass of  $\beta$ -Hydroxytryptophan derived natural products, and they were first isolated in **2006 by** Zheng et al. from the fungus Bionectra byssicola species (Figure **1).'** These compounds are known to be cytotoxic towards methicillin-resistant and quinolone-resistant staphylococcus aureus Grampositive eubacteria with MICs as low as 10  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup>. These molecules possess a C3-(3<sup>-</sup>indolyl) substructure and belong to the  $\beta$ -hydroxy subclass of ETP natural products (Figure **1).**



Overman has previously reported the synthesis of several bionectin natural products and of other related derivatives such as (+)-gliocladine **C** (Scheme **7).'** His synthesis involved the preparation of the advanced C3-(3'-indolyl) intermediate **32,** which was oxidized using the Sharpless dihydroxylation protocol to generate the desired diol **33** in **80%** yield. The diols were acetylated with acetic anhydride and DMAP to afford intermediate **34** in high yield. The *CII* tertiary alcohol and the **C15** silyl ether of **34** were treated with boron trifluoride diethyl etherate and hydrogen sulfide to produce

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bisthiol *35.* The generated bisthiol **35** was oxidized in the same pot with molecular oxygen to produce the desired ETP *36.* Alternatively, iodine and triethylamine were found to be suitable conditions for this disulfide formation and the reaction yield ranged from *53%* to **70%** yield. **A** final methanolysis of the **C12** secondary acetate with lanthanum triflate in methanol at *45* **\*C** was found to produce (+)-gliocladine **C (37)** in *75%* yield.





The synthetic strategy used in our synthesis of (+)-bionectin **A** relied on our bisthiolation/deprotection methodology for the installation of the disulfide bridge (Scheme **8).** Our synthesis of (+)-bionectin **A** and **C** commenced with a diastereoselective aldol coupling of indole-3-carboxaldehyde **38** and (-)-pinanone-derived ethyl iminoglycinate  $39<sup>11</sup>$  to produce  $\beta$ -hydroxytryptophan derivative 40 in 58% yield in 14:1 diastereomeric ratio. Silyl protection of the benzylic secondary alcohol was achieved with **TBSOTf** and 2,6-lutidine at **0 'C.** Subsequent hydrolysis of the imine with 2 **N** hydrochloric acid afforded the amine **(+)-41** in *75%* yield over two steps. Compounds of this type were previously accessed using methods of Feldman.<sup>12</sup> The efficient EDC promoted amino acid coupling of amine  $(+)$ -41 with N-Boc-sarcosine afforded the intermediate peptide in



Scheme **8.** Asymmetric synthesis of b-hydroxy intermediate **(+)-46**

94% yield, which was subjected to trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane. The reaction was concentrated and treated with acetic acid, morpholine and *tert-butanol* at **80 'C** to generate diketopiperazine  $(-)$ -42 in 89% yield. Exposure of  $(-)$ -42 to bromine in acetonitrile at  $0^{\circ}$ C cleanly produced the desilylated tetracycle intermediate  $(+)$ -43 as a **9:1** mixture of endo:exo products, favoring the desired endo diastereomer in **55%** yield. The above synthetic sequence was contemporaneously executed and refined **by** Dr. Justin Kim and Dr. Alexis Coste, my collaborators on this project.<sup>10</sup> They proceeded to advance diketopipeazine **(+)-43** to silacycle (+)-44 and verified its absolute stereochemistry.

For the remaining steps leading towards (+)-bionectin **(28),** Dr. Kim demonstrated the esterification of the **ClI** and **C15** alcohols of intermediate *(-)-45* using pivaloyl chloride and DMAP at **23 'C** to produce diester *(+)-46* in **83%** yield (Scheme **9).** Treatment of a solution of dipivaloate (+)-46 with 4-mercapto-2-butanone with **TFA** in nitromethane at **23 'C** produced bisthioether 47 in **80%** yield as a **3:1** diastereomeric



**Scheme 9.** Final steps for the synthesis of (+)-bionectins **A** and **C** (Executed **by** Justin Kim)

mixture with concomitant loss of the tert-butoxycarbonyl groups at the **NI'** amine and **C12** alcohol. The major diastereomer possessed the desired CI1,C15-stereochemistry and could be isolated in **56%** yield upon photoinduced electron transfer-mediated removal of the benzenesulfonyl group to form  $(+)$ -48.<sup>13</sup> The bisthioethers were removed with a mild enamine-mediated transthioetherification protocol employing pyrrolidine in tetrahydrofuran at **23 'C.** As opposed to the model substrates that were explored in Table 1, a sacrificial thiol additive was found to optimize the unveiling of the  $C$ - $\alpha$  thiols: exposure to an atmosphere of oxygen was insufficient in oxidizing the dithiol to the disulfide. Mild oxidation of the generated dithiol with  $KI$ <sub>3</sub> in pyridine afforded the target natural product (+)-bionectin **A (28)** in **81%** yield over two steps. Consistent with the biosynthesis of (+)-bionectin **C,** the bis-S-methyl derivative **(+)-29** was produced in **97%**

yield **by** reduction of disulfide **(+)-28** with sodium borohydride, followed **by** the addition of methyl iodide.

## Conclusion

Using a biomimetic protocol for the cleavage of  $\beta$ -mercaptan-linked ketones, we were able to access (+)-bionectin **A** and **C.** The use of this method was advantageous in that the previous methods used to synthesize other complex ETPs weren't not applicable to these natural products. This lack of applicability is due to the incomplete ionization of the **Cl I** alcohol and the lack of stereocontrol for the **C15** sulfidation. Although different thiols were able to diastereoselectively add to diketopiperazine substructures, only ketone thiols were found to undergo mild cleavage to reveal the thiol. This procedure is robust for the synthesis of ETPs and the method obviates the need for noxious hydrogen sulfide. This method of synthesizing ETPs compliments our growing repertoire of strategies that can be used to access a broad range of alkaloids.

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### **Experimental Section**

**General Procedures. All** reactions were performed in oven-dried or flame-dried roundbottom flasks. The flasks were fitted with rubber septa and reactions were conducted under a positive pressure of argon. Cannulae or gas-tight syringes with stainless steel needles were used to transfer air- or moisture-sensitive liquids. Where necessary (so noted), solutions were deoxygenated **by** sparging with argon for a minimum of **10** min. Flash column chromatography was performed as described **by** Still et al. using granular silica gel  $(60-\text{\AA})$  pore size,  $40-63 \mu \text{m}$ ,  $4-6\%$  H<sub>2</sub>O content, Zeochem).<sup>1</sup> Analytical thin layer chromatography **(TLC)** was performed using glass plates pre-coated with *0.25* mm 230-400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). **TLC** plates were visualized **by** exposure to short wave ultraviolet light *(254* nm) and an aqueous solution of ceric ammonium molybdate **(CAM)** followed **by** heating on a hot plate **(- 250 C).** Organic solutions were concentrated at **29-30 \*C** on rotary evaporators capable of achieving a minimum pressure of  $\sim$ 2 torr. The benzenesulfonyl photodeprotection was accomplished **by** irradiation in a Rayonet RMR-200 photochemical reactor (Southern New England Ultraviolet Company, Branford, **CT, USA)** equipped with **16** lamps (RPR-3500, 24 W,  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 350 \text{ nm}$ , bandwidth ~ 20 nm).

**Materials.** Commercial reagents and solvents were used as received with the following exceptions: dichloromethane, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, methanol, pyridine, toluene, and triethylamine were purchased from J.T. Baker (Cycletainer<sup>TM</sup>) and were purified by the method of Grubbs *et al.* under positive argon pressure.<sup>2</sup> Nitromethane and nitroethane (from Sigma-Aldrich) were purified **by** fractional distillation over calcium

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Still, W. C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. 1978, 43, 2923..<br><sup>2</sup> Pangborn, A. B.; Giardello, M. A.; Grubbs, R. H.; Rosen, R. K.; Timmers, F. J. Organometallics 1996, 15, 1518.

hydride and were stored over Linde 4A molecular sieves in Schlenk flasks sealed with septa and teflon tape under argon atmosphere.<sup>3</sup> Titanium (IV) ethoxide (99.99%-Ti) PURATREM and bromine were purchased from Strem Chemicals, Inc.; **N-Boc-L**sarcosine, 1 -ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide hydrochloride, *N-*Hydroxybenzotriazole, tert-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate, trifluoroacetic acid, 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine, silver nitrate were purchased from Chem-Impex; 1,4 dimethoxynaphthalene was purchased from Alfa Aesar; di-tert-butyl dicarbonate was purchased from Oakwood Products, Inc.; 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylpyridine (DTBMP) was purchased from OChem Incorporation. **All** other solvents and chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. 1,4-Dimethoxynaphthalene was purified **by** crystallization from absolute ethanol.

**Instrumentation.** Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectra were recorded with a Bruker **AVANCE-600** NMR spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting actively-shielded magnet) or with a Varian inverse probe **500 INOVA** spectrometer, are reported in parts per million on the  $\delta$  scale, and are referenced from the residual protium in the NMR solvent  $(CDCl<sub>3</sub>: \delta$  7.26  $(CHCl<sub>3</sub>)$ , or acetone-d<sub>6</sub>:  $\delta$  2.05 (acetone-d<sub>6</sub>).<sup>4</sup> Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet,  $d =$  doublet,  $t =$  triplet,  $sp =$  septet,  $m =$  multiplet), coupling constant(s) in Hertz, integration, assignment]. Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) spectra were recorded with a Bruker **AVANCE-600** NMR Spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting actively-shielded magnet) or a Bruker **AVANCE-400** NMR

**<sup>3</sup>** Armarego, W. L. F.; Chai, **C.** L. L. *Purification ofLaboratory Chemicals,* **5'h** ed.; Butterworth-Heinemann: London, **2003.**

<sup>4</sup> Fulmer, **G.** R.; Miller, **A. J.** M.; Sherden, **N.** H.; Gottlieb, H. **E.;** Nudelman, **A.;** Stoltz, B. M.; Bercaw, **J. E.;** Goldberg, K. *I. Organometallics 2010, 29,* **2176.**

Spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting magnet) or with a Varian **500 INOVA** spectrometer, are reported in parts per million on the **6** scale, and are referenced from the carbon resonances of the solvent  $(CDCI_3$ :  $\delta$  77.23, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>: 29.84). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity, coupling constant(s) in Hertz, assignment). Infrared data (IR) were obtained with a Perkin-Elmer 2000 FTIR and are reported as follows: frequency of absorption (cm'), intensity of absorption (s **=** strong, m  $=$  medium,  $w =$  weak,  $br =$  broad). Optical rotations were measured on a Jasco-1010 polarimeter with a sodium lamp and are reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_1^T C$  (c =  $g/100$  mL, solvent). We are grateful to Dr. Li Li and Deborah Bass for obtaining the mass spectrometric data at the Department of Chemistry's Instrumentation Facility, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Bruker Daltonics APEXIV 4.7 Tesla FT-ICR-MS using an electrospray **(ESI)** ionization source.

Positional Numbering System. At least three numbering systems for dimeric diketopiperazine alkaloids exist in the literature.5 In assigning the 1H and **13C** NMR data of all intermediates en route to our total syntheses of (+)-bionectins **A (1)** and **C** (2), we wished to employ a uniform numbering scheme. For ease of direct comparison, particularly between early intermediates, non-thiolated diketopiperazines, and advanced compounds, the numbering system used **by** Barrow for (+)-WIN-64821 (using positional numbers 1-21) is optimal and used throughout this report. In key instances, the products are accompanied **by** the numbering system as shown below.

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(-)-gliocladine **C** Kim's isolation report Overman's report



(+)-WIN-64821 Barrow's numbering for the simpler diketopiperazine framework

H **H0 0** HQ .<sub>N</sub>.Me **S N** <sup>H</sup>**0**

(+)-bionectin **A (1) This document**

H Me HO **6 1** .Me 'SMe H **0**

(+)-bionectin **C** (2) **This document**



### **12-Hydroxytryptophan Alcohol 40:**

**A** solution of chlorotitanium (IV) triethoxide **(11.2 g,** *51.5* mmol, **1.05** equiv) in dichloromethane **(69** mL) was added via cannula to a solution of ethyl **2-((IS,2S,5S)-2** hydroxypinan-3-imino)glycinate **(39,** 12.4 **g,** 48.9 mmol, 1 equiv) in dichloromethane (300 mL) at  $-10$  °C. A fine powder of 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-1H-indole-3-carbaldehyde (10, 14.7 **g, 51.5** mmol, **1.05** equiv) was then added to the reaction mixture. Triethylamine **(13.6** mL, **98.0** mmol, 2.00 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at **0 'C.** After **7** h, brine **(1** L) at **0 'C** was added to the reaction mixture and the resulting bilayer suspension was filtered through Celite. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane  $(2 \times 100)$ mL). The combined organic layers were dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange foam was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: gradient,  $30\rightarrow 50\%$  ethyl acetate in hexanes) to provide an inseparable mixture of diastereomeric aldol products *(15.2* **g,** *55%)* as a foam. For the full characterization data of 40, please see Coste, **A.;** Kim, **J.;** Adams, T. **C.;** Movassaghi, M. *Chem. Sci.* 2013,4,3191.



## **12-Hydroxytryptophan Amine (+)-41:**

t-Butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate **(7.26** mL, **31.5** mmol, 1.20 equiv) was added via syringe to a solution of 12-hydroxytryptophan alcohol 40 (14.1 **g, 26.3** mmol, 1 equiv) and 2,6-lutidine **(6.23** mL, **53.7** mmol, 2.04 equiv) in dichloromethane **(500** mL) at **0 \*C.** After 2 h, saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution **(750** mL) was added to the reaction mixture and the resulting solution was allowed to warm to **23 'C.** After **10** min, the layers were separated and the aqueous layer was further extracted with dichloromethane  $(2 \times 200 \text{ mL})$ . The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange foam was advanced to the amine hydrolysis step. Aqueous hydrogen chloride solution (2 **N, 300** mL) was added to a solution of the crude 12 hydroxytryptophan silyl ether in tetrahydrofuran **(300** mL) at **23 'C.** After 2.0 h, the mixture was concentrated to remove the organic solvent. The resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 300 \text{ mL})$ . The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange foam was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel **(30%** ethyl acetate in hexanes) to provide 12-hydroxytryptophan amine (+)-41 **(11.8 g,** *75%)* as a yellow foam. For the full characterization data of **(+)-41,** please see Coste, **A.;** Kim, **J.;** Adams, T. **C.;** Movassaghi, M. *Chem. Sci. 2013,* **4, 3191.**



## Diketopiperazine  $(-)$ -42:

**A** round-bottom flask was charged sequentially with 12-hydroxytryptophan amine **(+)-41** *(7.05* **g,** 14.0 mmol, 1 equiv), N-Boc-sarcosine *(2.57* **g, 13.6** mmol, **1.30** equiv), N-hydroxybenzotriazole **(2.13 g, 15.7** mmol, *1.50* equiv), 1-ethyl-3-(3 dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide hydrogen chloride (4.03 **g,** 21.0 mmol, 2.00 equiv), and powdered 4 **A** molecular sieves **(3.00 g),** and the contents were placed under an atmosphere of argon. Dichloromethane **(70** mL) was introduced via cannula and the resulting solution was cooled to **0 \*C.** Triethylamine (4.40 mL, *31.5* mmol, **3.00** equiv) was subsequently added dropwise via syringe and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to **23 \*C.** After **8** h, saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (200 mL) was added, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 250 \text{ mL})$ . The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange foam was advanced to the diketopiperazine formation stage. Trifluoroacetic acid **(27** mL) was introduced dropwise to a solution of the crude dipeptide in dichloromethane **(140** mL) at **23 \*C.** After 1 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure. The crude residue was dissolved in tert-butanol (210 mL). Acetic acid **(32** mL) and morpholine **(32** mL) were successively added to the solution, and the resulting reaction mixture was warmed to **80 \*C.** After *1.5* h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the solids were removed **by** vacuum filtration over a sintered funnel. The solids were extracted with ethyl acetate and the combined organic filtrates were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange oil was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: *50%* ethyl acetate in hexanes) to provide diketopiperazine  $(-)$ -42 (5.0 g, 89% over two steps) as a yellow foam. For the full characterization data of (-)-42, please see Coste, **A.;** Kim, **J.;** Adams, T. **C.;** Movassaghi, *M. Chem. Sci.* 2013,4,3191.



## **Tetracyclic Bromide (+)-43:**

**A** solution of bromine (2 M, **20.3** mL, 40.0 mmol, 4.00 equiv) in acetonitrile that was precooled to **0 \*C** was poured in one portion into a solution of diketopiperazine **(-)- 15** *(5.36* **g, 10.1** mmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile (200 mL) at **0 'C.** After **10** min, anisole **(6.63** mL, **61.0** mmol, **6.00** equiv) was poured into the reaction mixture. After **10** min, a mixture of saturated aqueous sodium thiosulfate solution and saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution **(1:1, 300** mL) was added to the red solution. The reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 100 \text{ mL})$ . The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **30%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the endo-tetracyclic bromide *(+)-* (+)-43 *(5.50* **g,** *55%)* as a white foam. For the full characterization data of (+)-43, please see Coste, A.; Kim, J.; Adams, T. **C.;** Movassaghi, M. *Chem. Sci.* 2013,4, 3191.



### **3-Mercaptopropiophenone (18):**

Triethylamine (1.49 mL, **10.7** mmol, **1.50** equiv) was added to a solution of **3** chloropropiophenone (1.20 **g, 7.12** mmol, 1 equiv) in dichloromethane **(100** mL) at **23 'C.** Thioacetic acid **(602 pL,** *8.54* mmol, 1.20 equiv) was then added dropwise to the solution. After 1 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran **(50** mL) and aqueous hydrochloric acid **(6 N, 50** mL) was added to the solution. Thee reaction mixture was then heated to reflux. After **36** h, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (200 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (400 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 200 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: 20% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to afford 3-mercaptopropiophenone **(18,703** mg, 59.4%) as a colorless oil.





### Bisproline Bis(ethylmethylketone thioether) **(-)-19:**

Trifluoroacetic acid *(15* mL) was added via syringe to a solution of bisproline diol **Si (397** mg, **1.76** mmol, 1 equiv) and 3-mercaptobutan-2-one **(18, 928 pL, 8.77** mmol, **5.00** equiv) in acetonitrile **(15** mL) at **23 \*C.** The clear solution immediately turned yellow. After **30** min, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate **(50** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution **(50** mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 20 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the bisproline bis(ethylmethylketone thioether) **(-)-19** (490 mg, **70.2%)** as a white solid.





## **Bisproline Epidithiodiketopiperazine (-)-20:**

Pyrrolidine (70.0 µL, 852 µmol, 4.07 equiv) was added to a solution of bis(ethylmethylketone thioether)  $(-)$ -19 (83.5 mg, 210 µmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile (250 **PL)** at **23 \*C,** and the reaction was placed under a balloon of oxygen. The clear solution immediately turned orange. After 1 h, the reaction was diluted with dichloromethane **(5** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution **(5** mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 3 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The orange residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the bisproline epidithiodiketopiperazine  $(-)$ -20 (34.8 mg, 64.8%) as a white solid.



**TLC (10%** acetone in dichloromethane), Rf.

**65**



## Bisproline bis(ethylphenylketone thioether) (-)-21:

Trifluoroacetic acid **(1** mL) was added via syringe to a solution of bisproline diol **S1 (36.6** mg, **0.162** mmol, 1 equiv) and 3-mercaptopropiophenone **(18, 76.2 pL, 801** *pnol, 5.00* equiv) in acetonitrile **(1** mL) at **23 'C.** The clear solution immediately turned yellow. After **30** min, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate *(5* mL) and washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution *(5* mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the bisproline bis(ethylmethylketone thioether)  $(-)$ -21 (65.9 mg, **77.5%)** as a white solid.





### Bisproline Epidithiodiketopiperazine (-)-20:

Pyrrolidine  $(24.3 \mu L, 284 \mu mol, 3.79 \neq 0)$  was added to a solution of bis(ethylmethylketone thioether) (-)-21 (39.2 mg, 75.0 µmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile (250 *liL)* at **23 \*C,** and the reaction was placed under a balloon of oxygen. The clear solution immediately turned orange. After 1 h, the reaction was diluted with dichloromethane **(5** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution **(5** mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane  $(3 \times 3 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The orange residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the bisproline epidithiodiketopiperazine (-)-20 **(11.5** mg, **59.8%)** as a white solid. Please see page **61** for the full characterization data for bisprolineepidithiodiketopiperazine  $(-)$ -20.



## 3-Propyl Tetracyclic Bis(ethylphenylketone thioether) **(+)-23:**

Trifluoroacetic acid **(1** mL) was added via syringe to a solution of 3-propyl tetracyclic diol **S2** (46.3 mg, 95.4 pmol, 1 equiv) and 3-mercaptopropiophenone **(18,72.3**  $\mu$ L, 477  $\mu$ mol, 5.00 equiv) in acetonitrile (1 mL) at 23 °C. The clear solution immediately turned yellow. After **30** min, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate **(5** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (2 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the **3** propyl tetracyclic bis(ethylphenylketone thioether) **(+)-23** (54.5 mg, **73.1%)** as a white solid.

'H NMR **(500** MHz, **CDC 3, 20** \*C):

**8 8.00-7.97 (m,** 4H, COPh-m-H), **7.81**  $(d, J = 8.5, 2H, SO_2Ph-o-H)$ , 7.67 (d, **lH, C<sub>8</sub>H), (7.53–7.48, (m, 1H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph**p-H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 2H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph-m-H), **7.47-7.53 (m,** 4H, COPh-o-H), **7.47- 7.35 (m,** 2H, **COPh-p-H), 7.53-7.48**  $(m, 1H, SO_2Ph-p-H), 7.17 (app-dt, J =$ **1.3, 7.0, 1H, C7H), 7.06 (d,** *J* **= 7.5,** 1H,  $C_5H$ ), 7.00 (app-t,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H, **CH), 6.26** (s, **1H, C2H), 3.45-3.38 (m,** 1H, **C19Ha), 3.30-3.23 (m, IH, CI9Hb), 3.12-3.02 (m, 2H, C20H), 3.07** (s, **3H,**  $C_{18}H$ ), 2.99–2.92 (m, 2H,  $C_{22}H$ ), 2.81  $(d, J = 14, 1H, C_{12}H_a)$ , 2.61–2.68 (m,  $2H, C_{23}H$ , 2.30 (d,  $J = 14$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_b$ ), **1.92** (s, **3H, C1 7H),** 1.44-1.37 **(m,** 2H, **CH2CH2CH3), 1.31-1.22 (m,** 2H, **CH2CH2CH3), 0.56-0.52 (m, 3H,**  $CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>$ ).  $\delta$  199.1 **(C<sub>21</sub>)**, 198.4 **(C<sub>24</sub>)**, 166.7 **(C<sub>16</sub>)**,

 $164.8$  ( $C_{13}$ ), 143.6 ( $C_9$ ), 138.9 (SO<sub>2</sub>Ph*ipso-C), 137.2 (COPh-ipso-C), 137.1 (COPh-ipso-C),* **136.3** (C4 ), **133.9 (SO2Ph-p-C), 133.9 (COPh-p-C), 133.8 (COPh-p-C), 129.9 (C7),** 129.4

**13C** NMR **(125** MHz, **CDCl 3,** 20 \*C):



**TLC (5%** acetone in dichloromethane), Rf.

 $\sim 10^{-10}$ 

**69**



# 3-Propyl Pentacyclic Epidithiodiketopiperazine (24):

Pyrrolidine  $(6.8 \mu L, 82.8 \mu mol, 4.16 \text{ equiv})$  was added to a solution of 3-propyl tetracyclic bis(ethylphenylketone thioether) (+)-23 (15.6 mg, 19.9 µmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile  $(150 \mu L)$  at  $23 \text{ °C}$ , and the reaction was placed under a balloon of oxygen. The clear solution immediately turned orange. After 1 h, the reaction was diluted with dichloromethane **(3** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution **(3** mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate **(3** x 2 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The orange residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **3%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the 3-propyl pentacyclic epidithiodiketopiperazine 24 **(5.9** mg, 57.4%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):



 $HRMS (ESI) (m/z):$ 

calc'd for  $C_{24}H_{25}NaN_3O_4S_3$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> **538.0899,** found: **538.0923.**

**TLC (1 %** acetone in dichloromethane), Rf.

0.21 **(UV, CAM).**
Chapter III.

Concise Total Synthesis of (+)-Luteoalbusin **A**

# **Introduction and Background**



Marine natural products, such as epipolythiodiketopiperazine (ETP) alkaloids, represent a structurally complex and biologically potent class of secondary fungal metabolites.<sup>1,3</sup> The nature of the substituent at the C3 position of these ETPs can give rise to different varieties of these compounds.<sup>4-7</sup> Dimeric ETPs such as  $(+)$ -dideoxyverticllin, (+)-chaetocin **A** and other structurally related derivatives have been synthesized **by** our laboratory.<sup>8</sup> In addition, the C3-(3'-indolyl) substitution establishes an interesting subset of these diketopiperazine alkaloids and representative examples are shown in Figure **1.9"Io** These molecules possess a hexahydropyrroloindole substructure, as well as an epipolythiodiketopiperazine moiety. In 2012, the synthesis of two C3-(3'-indolyl) ETPs,  $(+)$ -12-deoxybionectin and  $(+)$ -bionectin A, were reported by our laboratory.<sup>8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ </sup> As part of our expanding program to access new  $C_3$ - $(3)$ -indolyl) alkaloids, we took interest in the synthesis of a recently discovered molecule: (+)-luteoalbusin **A (1).** This natural product was first isolated from the marine fungi *Acrostalagmus luteoalbus* **SCSIO** *F457* **by** Wang and coworkers in 2012.<sup>10</sup> This mycotoxin is derived from L-tryptophan and L-serine. It has been found in related systems that these molecules possess increased virulence activity with an increased degree of sulfuration of the ETP moiety." The biological targets of these natural products includes a range of ailments such as antitumor, antiviral, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, and various psychiatric disorders.<sup>10</sup> Howlett and coworkers had reported that the cytotoxic activity characteristic of these molecules involves the generation of reactive oxygen species from the epipolysulfane bridge.<sup>12</sup> Given the intriguing biological activity and structural complexity of these compounds, we sought the development of their efficient syntheses. Herein, we report the first concise total synthesis of and the synthetic challenges associated with the preparation of **(+)** luteoalbusin **A (1).**

## **Results and Discussion**

# **Retrosynthetic Analysis**



The retrosynthesis of **(1)** involved a late stage deacetylation of the **C 17** alcohol and Lewis acid promoted cyclization of the corresponding disulfide **(-)-11** (Scheme **1).** Introduction of the mixed sulfides was achieved through the formation of key intermediate **(+)-9.** We envisioned that the requisite substrate for the introduction of sulfur at the **CiI** position to be diol **(+)-6.** Diketopiperazinediol **(+)-6** was readily

obtained **by** utilizing a **highly** diastereoselective double **C-H** oxidation at the **CII** and **C15** positions of **(+)-5** with bispyridinesilver(I) permanganate. Diketopiperazinediol precursor **(+)-5** was produced **by** utilizing a **highly** regioselective Friedel-Crafts indolization of **(+)-3** and C5'-bromo-N1'-TIPS indole. Tetracyclic diketopiperazine bromide **(+)-3** was quickly accessed in **3** steps according to our previously reported procedure.<sup>8b</sup>

#### Synthetic **Approach**



Our synthesis of (+)-luteoalbusin **A (+)-I** began with the silver-mediated Friedel-Crafts indolization of **(+)-3** (Scheme 2). From our preliminary studies on the regioselectivity of the indolization, Friedel-Crafts reactions involving an indole nucleophile typically result in a mixture of constitutional isomers, with the **C3-NI'** linked product as the major product. Because of this lack of selectivity, protecting groups were required on the **Ni'** position, as well as the **C5'** position, to maximize the formation of the desired  $C3-C3$ ' regioisomer.<sup>9c</sup> Therefore, we had designed the nucleophilic indole fragment to contain a removable bromide at the **C5'** position and a triisopropyl silyl **(TIPS)** group at the **Nl'** position. Treatment of **(+)-3** with 5-bromo-l-(triisopropylsilyl)-

lH-indole and silver(I) tetrafluoroborate in nitroethane at **0 'C** afforded the desired **C3** indolylhexacyclic bromide  $(+)$ -4 as the sole regioisomer in 74% yield. With the desired product in hand, the **C5'** bromide of (+)-4 was removed through hydrogenolysis under one atmosphere of hydrogen gas in a **2:3** mixture of ethyl acetate and methanol at **23 'C** to produce hexahydropyrroloindole **(+)-5** in **83%** yield. After construction of the hexacyclic core, further functionalization of the diketopiperazine moiety was addressed. Oxidation of the *ClI* and **C15** alpha centers of the diketopiperazine would be necessary to install the requisite polysulfide bridge in both natural products. **A** diastereoselective dihydroxylation of the **CII** and **C15** alpha centers of **(+)-5** with bis(pyridine)silver(I) permanganate (Py 2AgMnO4) in acetonitrile at **23 'C** provided hexacyclic diol **(+)-6** as a single diastereomer in **58%** yield, which represents an approximate yield of **80%** for each oxidation event.<sup>13,14</sup> The mechanism is believed to go through a stereoretentive radical rebound mechanism with initial hydrogen atom abstraction, followed **by** trapping of the generated carbon centered radical.<sup>15</sup> The shown configurations for the C11 and C15 tertiary alcohols in **(+)-6** are consistent with our previous observations for this oxidation on similar systems **by** NMR analysis.' For the subsequent sulfidation of the **CII** position, it has been observed in our earlier studies of related systems that nonnucleophilic solvents are necessary for the selective ionization of the **CII** alcohol and trapping with an alkyl mercaptan.<sup>&,9c</sup> Furthermore, due to the inductive effect of the neighboring heteroatom at C17, the rate of ionization at the C15 position is greatly decreased.<sup>8b</sup> Thus, exposure of diol **(+)-6** to trifluoroacetic acid **(TFA)** in hydrogen sulfide **(H 2S)** saturated nitroethane at **0 'C** produced monothiol **7** with concomitant loss of the **TIPS** protecting group at the N1' position.<sup>16</sup> After concentrating the reaction, the residue was treated with

4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) and isobutyryl chloride in dichloromethane at **0 \*C** to generate the desired isobutyrylthioester **(+)-8** in **72%** yield over two steps. The isobutyrate groups at **CII** and **C15** served two purposes. Activation of the tertiary alcohol at *C15* through esterification with isobutyryl chloride was required for the polysulfane cyclization step. Moreover, the acylation of the **CII** thiol was necessary to enhance the stability of the molecule for the photoinduced electron transfer-promoted removal of the N1-benzenesulfonyl group.<sup>17</sup> Other sulfur containing functional groups at the C11 position were observed to be incompatible with the photochemical reaction conditions and would often lead to decomposition of the substrate. Thus treatment of **(+)-9** with 1,4 dimethoxynapthalene (1,4-DMN) in buffered aqueous ascorbic acid/acetonitrile solution in **350** nm light produced the desired common intermediate **(+)-9** in **83%** yield.





Selective hydrazinolysis of the thioisobutyryl group at C11 over the C15 isobutyrate was achieved with one equivalent of hydrazine in THF at 23 °C (Scheme 3). Subsequent exposure of the regenerated hemithioaminal **9a** to triphenylmethane sulfenyl chloride (TrSCI) and triethyl amine provided the desired mixed disulfide **(-)-1** in **80%**

yield.<sup>18,19</sup> Ionization of the C15 isobutyrate group and subsequent cyclization of the disulfide with concomitant loss of the triphenylmethyl cation was accomplished through the treatment of **(-)-10** with boron trifluoride diethyletherate and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4 methylpyridine (DTBMP) in dichloromethane. This furnished the penultimate luteoalbusin **A** acetate **(+)-11** in **73%** yield. Late-stage deprotection of the **C17** alcohol **of**  $(+)$ -11 was achieved by utilizing trimethyltin hydroxide in toluene at 90  $^{\circ}C$ <sup>20</sup>. This deprotection afforded (+)-luteoalbusin **A (1)** in **73%** yield. The data obtained from our synthetic samples matched the known characterization data from the isolation report.<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, consistent with our earlier synthesis of epipolythiodiektopiperazines,<sup>8b</sup> a similar stategy has been applied to the first total synthesis of  $(+)$ -luteoalbusin B and efforts towards the optimization of this synthesis are presently ongoing.

# Conclusion

Epipolythiodiketopiperazine alkaloids represent a structurally fascinating and biologically potent class of natural products. Using commercially available starting materials, (+)-luteoalbusin **A** have been synthesized from the tetracyclic bromide **(+)-3.** Friedel-Crafts arylation of the **C3** position generated the desired hexacyclic bromide **(+)- 3.** The C5'-bromide and **Ni'-TIPS** groups were instrumental for maximizing regioselectivity in the addition. Two **highly** diastereoselective functionalizations were critical to the synthesis: a dihydroxylation of the **C11** and *C15* positions and the sulfidation of the **Cl I** position with hydrogen sulfide. Furthermore, studies conducted **by** our laboratory and **by** our collaborators have provided evidence for the translational applicability of the biological activity of these compounds in cancer cell lines.

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#### Experimental Section

General Procedures. **All** reactions were performed in oven-dried or flame-dried roundbottom flasks. The flasks were fitted with rubber septa and reactions were conducted under a positive pressure of argon. Cannulae or gas-tight syringes with stainless steel needles were used to transfer air- or moisture-sensitive liquids. Where necessary (so noted), solutions were deoxygenated **by** sparging with argon for a minimum of **10** min. Flash column chromatography was performed as described **by** Still et al. using granular silica gel  $(60-\text{\AA})$  pore size,  $40-63 \mu \text{m}$ ,  $4-6\%$  H<sub>2</sub>O content, Zeochem).<sup>6</sup> Analytical thin layer chromatography **(TLC)** was performed using glass plates pre-coated with *0.25* mm 230-400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). **TLC** plates were visualized **by** exposure to short wave ultraviolet light (254 nm) and an aqueous solution of ceric ammonium molybdate **(CAM)** followed **by** heating on a hot plate **(~ 250 'C).** Organic solutions were concentrated at **29-30 \*C** on rotary evaporators capable of achieving a minimum pressure of  $\sim$ 2 torr. The benzenesulfonyl photodeprotection was accomplished **by** irradiation in a Rayonet RMR-200 photochemical reactor (Southern New England Ultraviolet Company, Branford, **CT, USA)** equipped with **16** lamps (RPR-3500, 24 W,  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 350 \text{ nm}$ , bandwidth ~ 20 nm).

Materials. Commercial reagents and solvents were used as received with the following exceptions: dichloromethane, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, methanol, pyridine, toluene, and triethylamine were purchased from J.T. Baker (Cycletainer<sup>TM</sup>) and were purified by the method of Grubbs et *al.* under positive argon pressure.' Nitromethane and nitroethane (from Sigma-Aldrich) were purified **by** fractional distillation over calcium

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hydride and were stored over Linde 4A molecular sieves in Schlenk flasks sealed with septa and teflon tape under argon atmosphere.<sup>8</sup> Titanium (IV) ethoxide (99.99%-Ti) PURATREM and bromine were purchased from Strem Chemicals, Inc.; **N-Boc-L**sarcosine, **I** -ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide hydrochloride, *N-*Hydroxybenzotriazole, tert-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate, trifluoroacetic acid, 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine, silver nitrate were purchased from Chem-Impex; 1,4 dimethoxynaphthalene was purchased from Alfa Aesar; *di-tert-butyl* dicarbonate was purchased from Oakwood Products, Inc.; 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylpyridine (DTBMP) was purchased from OChem Incorporation. **All** other solvents and chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. 1,4-Dimethoxynaphthalene was purified **by** crystallization from absolute ethanol.

**Instrumentation.** Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectra were recorded with a Bruker **AVANCE-600** NMR spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting actively-shielded magnet) or with a Varian inverse probe **500 INOVA** spectrometer, are reported in parts per million on the  $\delta$  scale, and are referenced from the residual protium in the NMR solvent  $(CDCl_3$ :  $\delta$  7.26  $(CHCl_3)$ , or acetone-d<sub>6</sub>:  $\delta$  2.05 (acetone-d<sub>6</sub>).<sup>9</sup> Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (br = broad,  $s =$ singlet,  $d =$  doublet,  $t =$  triplet,  $sp =$  septet,  $m =$  multiplet), coupling constant(s) in Hertz, integration, assignment]. Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) spectra were recorded with a Bruker **AVANCE-600** NMR Spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting actively-shielded magnet) or a Bruker **AVANCE-400** NMR

**<sup>8</sup>** Armarego, W. L. F.; Chai, **C.** L. L. *Purification of Laboratory Chemicals,* **5th** ed.; Butterworth-Heinemann: London, **2003.**

**<sup>9</sup>** Fulmer, **G.** R.; Miller, **A. J.** M.; Sherden, **N.** H.; Gottlieb, H. **E.;** Nudelman, **A.;** Stoltz, B. M.; Bercaw, **J. E.;** Goldberg, K. *I. Organometallics 2010, 29,* **2176.**

Spectrometer (with a Magnex Scientific superconducting magnet) or with a Varian **500 INOVA** spectrometer, are reported in parts per million on the  $\delta$  scale, and are referenced from the carbon resonances of the solvent  $(CDCI_3$ :  $\delta$  77.23, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>: 29.84). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity, coupling constant(s) in Hertz, assignment). Infrared data (IR) were obtained with a Perkin-Elmer 2000 FTIR and are reported as follows: frequency of absorption  $(cm<sup>-1</sup>)$ , intensity of absorption (s = strong, m **=** medium, w **=** weak, br **=** broad). Optical rotations were measured on a Jasco-1010 polarimeter with a sodium lamp and are reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_1^T C$  (c =  $g/100$  mL, solvent). We are grateful to Dr. Li Li and Deborah Bass for obtaining the mass spectrometric data at the Department of Chemistry's Instrumentation Facility, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Bruker Daltonics APEXIV 4.7 Tesla FT-ICR-MS using an electrospray **(ESI)** ionization source.

Positional Numbering System. At least three numbering systems for dimeric diketopiperazine alkaloids exist in the literature.'0 In assigning the 'H and **3C** NMR data of all intermediates en route to our total syntheses of (+)-luteoalbusin **A (1)** and B (2), we wished to employ a uniform numbering scheme. For ease of direct comparison, particularly between early intermediates, non-thiolated diketopiperazines, and advanced compounds, the numbering system used **by** Barrow for (+)-WIN-64821 (using positional numbers 1–21) is optimal and used throughout this report. In key instances, the products are accompanied **by** the numbering system as shown below.

<sup>&#</sup>x27; <sup>0</sup> (a) Von Hauser, **D.;** Weber, H. P.; **Sigg,** H. P. *HeIv. Chim. Acta 1970, 53, 1061.* **(b)** Barrow, **C. J.;** Cai, P.; Snyder, **J.** K.; Sedlock, **D.** M.; Sun, H. H.; Cooper, R. *J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58,* **6016.** (c) Springer, **J.** P.; Buchi, **G.;** Kobbe, B.; Demain, **A.** L.; Clardy, **J.** *Tetrahedron Lett. 1977, 28,* 2403. **(d)** Zheng, **C.-J. ;** Kim, **C.-J. ;** Bae, K. **S. ;** Kim, Y.-H. **;** Kim, W.-G *J. Nat. Prod* **2006, 69, 1816.** (e) DeLorbe, **J. E.;** Jabri, **S.** Y. **;** Mennen, **S.** M. **;** Overman, L. **E. ;** Zhang, F.- L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, *133,* **6549.**

H **7' N <sup>1</sup>** Ω **10 0** 12<br>2 **Me oa**. ∕<sup>n</sup> i **A**  $\overline{H}$ **5** <sup>H</sup> <sup>1</sup>**0**

(+)-bionectin **A** Kim's isolation report Overman's reports

H **8 N'** 7 ,17<br>.Me U13 **7'6** - **<sup>12</sup>**SN'  $\overline{2}$ .OH  $\widetilde{17}$ **6** H **0**

(+)-luteoalbusin **A (1) This document**

 $P_H$   $N$ H, **N Ph**  $\leftarrow$  HN **HN 2 12 12 NH** Ph س<sup>"µ</sup>مبر? **<sup>8</sup>**<sup>H</sup>**0**

(+)-WiN-64821 Barrow's numbering for the simpler diketopiperazine framework

H **8 ' 9.N' 5** L<sub>13</sub> <sup>17</sup><br>12 **Me**<br>11 **S** M **8** J<sub>13</sub> HO. 3\2\_N \**\_\**l<sup>to</sup> ň Ή ‼ Ŝ **8 H** 

(+)-luteoalbusin B (2) **This document**



# **C3-(5-Bromo-1-TIPS-indol-3-yl)-pyrrolidinoindoline (+)-6:**

**A** round-bottom flask was charged with endo-tetracyclic bromide **(+)-3 (348 mg, 630** imol, 1 equiv), 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylpyridine (DTBMP, *155* mg, **760** gmol, 1.20 equiv), and 5-bromo-1-triisopropylsilyl-1H-indole **(889** mg, **2.52** mmol, 4.00 equiv), and the mixture was dried azeotropically (concentration of a benzene solution,  $2 \times 15$ mL) under reduced pressure and placed under an argon atmosphere. Anhydrous nitroethane **(10** mL) was introduced via syringe, and the mixture was cooled to **0 \*C** in an ice-water bath. **A** solution of silver **(I)** tetrafluoroborate (491 mg, **2.52** mmol, 4.00 equiv) in anhydrous nitroethane **(5** mL) at **0 \*C** was introduced via cannula to the solution containing the tetracyclic bromide *(+)-17.* After **5** min, a black precipitate was observed in the clear yellow reaction solution. The reaction flask was covered in aluminum foil, and the suspension was maintained at  $0^{\circ}$ C. After 1 hour, saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution **(25** mL) was introduced, and the resulting biphasic mixture was vigorously stirred for **30** min at **0 \*C.** The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate **(10** mL), was filtered through a Celite pad, and the solid was washed with ethyl acetate **(3**  $\times$  20 mL). The combined filtrates were washed with 5% aqueous citric acid solution (2  $\times$ **50** mL), water **(3** x **50** mL), and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution **(25** mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, was filtered, and was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography (eluent: gradient,  $2 \rightarrow 10\%$  acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the indole adduct **(+)-6** (421 mg, **81.0%)** as a white solid. Structural assignments were made with additional information from **gCOSY, HSQC,** and HMBC data.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):  $\delta$  7.97 (d, *J* = 8.5, 2H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph- $o$ -H),  $7.71$  (d,  $J = 8.5$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**),  $7.51$  (*t*,  $J =$ 7.5, 1H,  $SO_2Ph-p-H$ ), 7.36 (t,  $J = 7.5$ , 2H, SO2 Ph-m-H), **7.29-7.25 (m,** (2H,  $C_7H$ ,  $C_8H$ ), 7.13 (dd,  $J = 9.0, 2.0, 1H$ ,  $C_T$ **H**), 6.96 (apt-*t*, *J* = 7.5, 1H,  $C_6$ **H**), **6.89 (s, 1H, C2,H),** 6.84 **(d,** *J* **= 7.5,**  $1H, C_5H$ , 6.51, d,  $J = 1.8$ , 1H,  $C_5H$ , **6.27 (s, 1H, C2H), 4.86 (dd,** *J =* **12.5, 2.5, 1H, Ci7Ha), 4.60** *(dd, J=* **12.5, 2.5, 1H, C17Hb), 4.47** *(dd, J=* **10.5, 7.5, 1H,**  $C_{15}H$ ) 4.05 (app-t,  $J = 2.5$ , 1H,  $C_{15}H$ ),  $3.05$  (dd,  $J = 14.5$ , 10.5, 1H, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>a</sub>), **3.03** (s, **3H, C18H), 2.80 (dd,** *J =* **14.5,**



**TLC (5%** acetone in dichloromethane), Rf.

0.26 (UV, CAM, KMnO<sub>4</sub>).



## C3-(1-TIPS-indol-3-yl)-pyrrolidinoindoline **(+)-7:**

**A** mixture of anhydrous methanol and ethyl acetate **(3:2** *v/v, 5* mL) was introduced into around-bottom flask charged with the indole adduct **(+)-6 (108** mg, **130** *pmol,* 1 equiv) and palladium on activated charcoal **(10%** w/w, **27.7** mg, **301** pmol, 0.200 equiv). The flask was purged with argon for **5** minutes. The flask was then sealed under an atmosphere of hydrogen after being purged with hydrogen gas for **10** minutes. The solution was vigorously stirred at room temperature for **8** hours. The reaction was diluted with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution and extracted with ethyl acetate ( $2 \times$ **10** mL). The organic layers were combined, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting orange residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography (eluent: gradient,  $2 \rightarrow 10\%$  acetone in dichloromethane) to afford the indole adduct **(+)-7 (80.7** mg, quantitative yield) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):

**13C** NMR **(150** MHz, **CDCl 3, 20** \*C):  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.0$ , 2H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph- $o$ -H), 7.82 (d,  $J = 8.5$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**), 7.57 (app-t,  $J = 7.0, 1H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph-p-H$ , 7.41-7.38  $(m, 3H, C_sH, SO_2Ph-m-H)$ , 7.25  $(t, J)$  $= 8.0, 1H, C<sub>7</sub>H$ , 7.01 (t,  $J = 7.5, 1H$ ,  $C_T$ **H**), 6.97 (s, 1H,  $C_2$ **H**), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.5, 1H,  $C_6H$ ), 6.76 (d,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H,  $C_5$ **H**), 6.55 (t, *J* = 7.5, 1H,  $C_6$ **H**), 6.32  $(S, 1H, C, H), 6.02$  (d,  $2H, J = 8.5, 1H$ ,  $C_5$ **H**), 4.90 (dd,  $J = 11.5$ , 3.0, 1H,  $C_{17}H_a$ , 4.60 (dd,  $J = 11.5, 3.0, 1H$ ,  $C_{17}H_{b}$ , 4.46 (dd,  $J = 10.5, 6.5, 1H$ ,  $C_{15}H$ , 4.03 (app-t,  $J = 2.7$ , 1H,  $C_{11}H$ ), 3.09 (dd,  $J = 14.0$ , 10.5, 1H,  $C_1$ <sub>2</sub>H<sub>a</sub>), **3.05** (s, **3H, C,8H), 2.69 (dd,** *J =* 14.5, 10.0, 1H,  $C_1$ **H**<sub>h</sub>), 2.04 (s, 3H, CH3acetate), **1.61** (app-sp, **J = 7.5, 3H,**  $C_{10}$  **H**), 1.07 (app-d,  $J = 18.0$ , 18H,  $C_{11'}H$ ).  $\delta$  171.0 (**C**=O<sub>acetate</sub>), 168.9 (**C**<sub>13</sub>), **166.5**



**90**

 $(SO_2Ph-m-C)$ , **129.1**  $(SO_2Ph-o-C)$ , **128.5 (C<sub>4</sub>), 128.3 (C<sub>7</sub>), 124.6 (C<sub>7</sub>),** 123.8 **(C<sub>6</sub>), 122.3 <b>(C<sub>5</sub>), 120.2 <b>(C**<sub>5</sub>), **119.3** (**C<sub>8</sub><sup>\*</sup>), 115.7 (<b>C<sub>8</sub>**)</sub> 115.3 (**C**<sub>3</sub><sup>\*</sup>), 114.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 82.9 (C<sub>2</sub>), 61.1 (C<sub>11</sub>), 60.9 (C<sub>17</sub>), 59.5 (C<sub>15</sub>), 55.3 (C<sub>3</sub>), 38.6 (C<sub>12</sub>), 29.9 (C<sub>17</sub>), 21.0 (CH<sub>3 acetate</sub>), (18.4 (C<sub>11</sub><sup>)</sup>), 13.0  $(C_{10})$ . **2950** (br-s), 1734 **(m), 1675 (m),** 1384 **(m), 1150** (m), calc'd for  $C_{40}H_{52}N_5O_6SSi$  [M+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: **758.3402,** found: **758.3391.**  $FTIR$  (thin film)  $cm^{-1}$ :  $HRMS (ESI) (m/z):$  $\alpha\vert_{\rm D}^{24}$ :  $+137.1$  ( $c = 1.12$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

0.34 (UV, CAM, KMnO<sub>4</sub>).

**TLC (5%** acetone in dichloromethane), Rf.

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# C3-(1-TIPS-indol-3-yl)-pyrrolidinoindoline diol **(+)-8:**

Bis(pyridine)silver permanganate **(581** mg, **1.51** mmol, **5.00** equiv) was added as a solid to a solution of C3-(1-TIPS-indol-3-yl)-pyrrolidinoindoline **(+)-7** (224 mg, **303** µmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile (10 mL) at 23 °C. After 2 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate **(10** mL) and washed with aqueous sodium bisulfite solution **(1** M, 20 mL). The resulting aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(2 \times 20 \text{ mL})$  and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **5%** acetone in dichloromethane) to afford pyrrolidinoindoline diol **(+)-8 (136** mg, **58%)** as a colorless solid. Structural assignments were made using additional information from **gCOSY, HSQC,** and HMBC experiments.

'H NMR **(500** MHz, **CDC <sup>3</sup> , 20** \*C):

7.0, 1H, C<sub>5</sub>H), 6.92 (s, 1H, C<sub>2</sub>·H), 6.67  $(t, J = 7.0, 1H, C<sub>6</sub>H), 6.53$  (br-d,  $J =$ **7.0, 1H, C5,H),** 5.04 (br-s, 1H, OH), **5.02** (br-s, OH), 4.85 **(d,** *J =* **11.0, 1H,**  $C_{17}H_a$ , 4.25 (d,  $J = 11.0$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_b$ ), 3.21  $(d, J = 14.5, 1H, C_{12}H_a)$ , 3.15  $(d, J)$  $=$  14.5, 1H,  $C_{12}H_b$ , 2.98 (s, 3H,  $C_{17}H$ ), **1.88** (s, **3H,** CH 3aceate), **1.59** (h, **3H,**  $C_{10'}H$ , 1.05 (app-d, 18H,  $C_{11'}H$ ). 6 170.4 (C=Oacetate), **167.3 (C13 ), 167.0**

**(C<sub>16</sub>)**, 142.6 **(C<sub>9</sub>)**, 139.7 **(C<sub>9</sub>)**, 137.5  $(C_4)$ , 135.4  $(C_4)$ , 133.7  $(SO_2Ph-p-C)$ , 131.0  $(C_6)$ , 129.4  $(C_7)$ , 129.2  $(SO_2Ph$ *m*-**C**), 128.4 (SO<sub>2</sub>Ph-*i*-**C**), 128.1  $(SO_2Ph-o-C)$ , 125.0  $(C_2)$ , 124.6  $(C_5)$ , 122.3 ( $C_7$ ) 120.6 ( $C_6$ ), 119.4 ( $C_5$ ), 116.7  $(C_3)$ , 115.9  $(C_8)$ , 114.6  $(C_8)$ , 88.3 (C<sub>11</sub>), 86.3 (C<sub>15</sub>), 83.7 (C<sub>2</sub>), 63.8

 $\delta$  7.81 (d,  $J = 8.3$ , 2H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph- $o$ -H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H, C<sub>8</sub>H), 7.46 (t,  $J =$ 8.0, 1H,  $SO_2Ph-p-H$ ), 7.41 **(d,**  $J = 8.0$ , 1H, C<sub>8</sub>**H**), 7.28-7.23 (m, 3H, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph $m-H$ , C<sub>7</sub>H), 7.05 (t,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H, C<sub>7</sub>H),  $7.02$  (t,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H,  $C_6$ **H**), 6.95 (d,  $J =$ 

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):





# Hexacyclic thioisobutyrate **(+)-10:**

**A** slow stream of hydrogen sulfide gas was introduced into a solution of diol **(+)-8**  $(507 \text{ mg}, 660 \text{ µmol}, 1 \text{ equiv})$  in anhydrous nitroethane  $(10.0 \text{ mL})$  at  $0 \text{ °C}$ , providing a saturated hydrogensulfide solution. After **15** min, trifluoroacetic acid **(1** mL) was added via syringe, and the slow introduction of hydrogen sulfide into the mixture was maintained for another **10** min. The reaction mixture was left under an atmosphere of hydrogen sulfide for an additional 2 h at **0 \*C.** The resulting mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the hexacyclic aminothiol **9** that was used in the next step without further purification. The orange residue was dissolved in anhydrous dichloromethane **(10** mL) and cooled to **0 \*C** in an ice-water bath. 4 dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) **(802, 6.56** mmol, **10.0** equiv) was added to the solution of the hexacyclic aminothiol **9** followed **by** addition of isobutyryl chloride (344 piL, **3.28** mmol, **5.00** equiv). After **30** minutes, the ice-water bath was removed, and the yellow solution was allowed to warm to **23 \*C.** Methanol **(1** mL) was added to the solution. After **5** min, the reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane **(10** mL). The resulting mixture was sequentially washed with aqueous hydrogen chloride solution  $(1 \text{ N}, 2 \times 20)$ mL), water  $(2 \times 20 \text{ mL})$ , and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, was filtered, and was concentrated under reduced pressure. The yellow residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: gradient,  $15 \rightarrow 30\%$  acetone in hexanes) to afford the thioisobutyrate  $(+)$ -10  $(368 \text{ mg}, 72.1\%)$  as a colorless gel.

 $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):  $^{8}$  7.88 (br-s, 1H, N<sub>I</sub>H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H,  $C_8H$ ), 7.52 (app-d,  $J = 8.5$ , 2H, SO2 Ph-o-H), *7.35-7.26* **(m, 3H,**  $C_6$ **H**,  $C_7$ **H**, SO<sub>2</sub>Ph-*p*-**H**), 7.23 (d,  $J =$ **8.5, 1H, C5H) 7.11** (app-d, *J=* **7.5, 1H,**  $C_s$ **H**), 7.07 (app-d,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H,  $C_s$ **H**),  $7.06-7.01$  (m,  $3H$ , SO<sub>2</sub>Ph-m-H, C<sub>6</sub>H),  $6.75$  (app-t,  $J = 7.5$ ,  $1H$ ,  $C_T$ **H**),  $6.74$  (s,  $1H, C, H$ , 6.36 (d,  $J = 2.5$ , 1H, C<sub>2</sub>, H), 4.81 (d,  $J = 11.5$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_a$ ), 4.47 (d, J  $= 11.5, 1H, C_{17}H_b$ , 3.91 (d,  $J = 14.5$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_a$ , 3.50 (d,  $J = 14.5$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_{b}$ ), 2.89 (s, 3H,  $C_{18}H$ ), 2.63 (app $sp, J = 7.0, 1H, CH_{isobutvrate}$ , 2.18 (app- $\text{sp}, J = 7.0, 1H, \text{CH}_{\text{thioisobutvrate}}), 2.14 \text{ (s, }$ **3H, CH3acetate), 1.25-1.19 (m, 6H,**  $CH_{3isobutvrate}$ , 0.92 (d,  $J = 7.5$ , 3H,

**94**



CH3tioisoutyrate), **0.82 (d, J = 7.5, 3H,**

CH<sub>3thioisobutyrate</sub>



#### Hexacyclic aminothioisobutyrate **(+)-9:**

**A** *125-mL* Pyrex round-bottom flask was sequentially charged with hexacyclicthioisobutyrate **(+)-8** (524 mg, *565* pmol, 1 equiv), L-ascorbic acid **(966** mg, *5.65* mmol, **10.0** equiv), sodium L-ascorbate (1.11 **g, 5.65** mmol, **10.0** equiv), and 1,4 dimethoxynaphthalene (2.12 **g, 11.3** mmol, 20.0 equiv), and the mixture was placed under an argon atmosphere. A solution of water in acetonitrile  $(20\% \text{ v/v}, 20 \text{ mL})$  that was purged with argon for **15** min at **23 \*C** was transferred to the flask via cannula. The system was vigorously stirred under an argon atmosphere and irradiated with a Rayonet photoreactor equipped with **16** lamps emitting at **350** nm at **23 \*C.** After **6** hours, the lamps were turned off, and the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate **(30** mL). The resulting solution was sequentially washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution  $(30 \text{ mL})$ , water  $(2 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ , and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (30 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $2 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: gradient,  $5\rightarrow 20\%$  aceteone in hexanes) to afford the aminothioisobutyrate **(+)-9 (297** mg, **83.0%)** as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):  $\delta$  8.36 (br-s, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>H), 7.82 (d, *J* =

8.5, 1H,  $C_5$ **H**), 7.30 (d,  $J = 8.5$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**), 7.16-7.13 (m, 2H,  $C_7$ **H**,  $C_5$ **H**), **7.09** (app-t, *J* **= 7.5, 1H, C7H), 7.02**  $(\text{app-t}, J = 7.5, 1H, C<sub>6</sub>, H), 6.82$  (d,  $J =$ **2.6, 1H, C<sub>2</sub>, <b>H**), 6.71 (app-t,  $J = 7.5$ ,  $1H, C_6H$ , 6.66 (d, J = 7.5, 1H, C<sub>8</sub>H), **6.11** (s, 1H, C<sub>2</sub>H), 4.81 (d,  $J = 13.5$ , **1H,**  $C_{17}H_a$ , 4.46 (d,  $J = 13.5$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_{b}$ , 4.18 (d,  $J = 14.5$ , 1H,  $C_{12a}H$ ), 3.57 (d,  $J = 14.5$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_b$ ), 2.94 (s, 3H,  $C_{18}H$ ), 2.62 (app-sp,  $J = 7.0$  1H,  $CH_{isobutvrate}$ ), 2.19 (app-sp,  $J = 7.0$  1H,  $CH<sub>thioisobutyrate</sub>$ , 2.12 (s, 3H,  $CH<sub>3acetate</sub>$ ), 1.21 (d,  $J = 7.0$ , 3H, CH<sub>3isobutyrate</sub>), 1.18  $(d, J = 7.0, 3H, CH<sub>3isobutvrate</sub>), 0.92$   $(d, J)$  $= 7.0, 3H, CH_{3thioisobutvrate}$ , 0.83 (d,  $J =$  $7.0, 3H, \mathrm{CH}_{3thioisobutryate}$ ).



**(C,.), 133.1 (** C4), 129.4 **(C7 ), 125.7**  $(C_4)$ , **125.1**  $(C_5)$ , **123.5**  $(C_2)$ , **122.9**  $(C_7)$ , 120.9  $(C_6)$ , 120.4  $(C_5)$ , 120.1  $(C_6)$ , 118.2  $(C_3)$ , 112.2  $(C_8)$ , 110.1  $(C_8)$ , 87.1  $(C_{15})$ , 84.0  $(C_2)$ , 73.9  $(C_{11})$ , **63.7 (C**<sub>17</sub>), **54.7 (C**<sub>3</sub>), **44.0 (C**<sub>12</sub>), **43.8**  $(CH<sub>thioisobutvrate</sub>), 34.5 (CH<sub>isobutvrate</sub>), 29.0)$  $(C_{18})$ , 21.8  $(CH<sub>3acetate</sub>)$ , 19.9 (CH3soutyrate), **19.7** (CH3sobutryate), **19.5** (CH3thioisobutryate), **19.1** (CH3thioisobutyrate)

**6** 201.2 (C=Othiosiobutryate), **175** .5 (C=Oisobutyrate), **170.5** (C=Oacetate), **166.5 (C<sub>13</sub>)**, 162.7 **(C<sub>16</sub>)**, 149.5 **(C<sub>9</sub>)**, 137.9

**3385** (br), **2975 (m), 2360 (m), 1748** (s), **1686** (s), **1609** (w), 1484 (w), 1423 (w), **1379 (m), 1223 (m), 1067** (w), **747 (m).**

calc'd for  $C_{33}H_{36}N_4NaO_7S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: **655.2197,** found: **655.2183.**

 $+26$  ( $c = 0.085$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**0.38 (UV, CAM).**

 $FTIR$  (thin film)  $cm^{-1}$ :

 $HRMS$  (ESI)  $(m/z)$ :

 $\alpha \cdot \alpha$ <sup>24</sup>:

**TLC (50%** ethyl acetate in hexanes), Rf.

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#### **Triphenylmethanedisulfide (-)-11:**

Anhydrous hydrazine in tetrahydrofuran (1 M, 800 µL, 800 µmol, 1.00 equiv) was added via syringe to a solution of aminothioisobutyrate  $(+)$ -9  $(50.3 \text{ mg}, 800 \text{ \mu mol}, 1)$ equiv) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) at **0 \*C.** After **10** min, the reaction mixture was diluted sequentially with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution *(5* mL) and ethyl acetate **(5** mL). The organic layer was sequentially washed with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution  $(10 \text{ mL})$ , water  $(2 \times 10 \text{ mL})$ , and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (10 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(2 \times 10)$ mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the hexacyclic aminothiol that was used in the next step without further purification.Triethylamine (111 **pL, 8.00** mmol, **10.0** equiv) and solid triphenylmethanesulfenyl chloride (124 mg, 4.00 mmol, **5.00** equiv) were sequentially added to a solution of aminothiol in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) at **0 'C** under an argon atmosphere. After 1 h, the solution was partitioned between saturated aqueous ammonium chloride **(5** mL) and ethyl acetate *(5* mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(2 \times 10 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were washed sequentially with water  $(2 \times 20 \text{ mL})$  and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (20 mL), were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: gradient,  $10 \rightarrow 50\%$  ethyl acetate in hexanes) to afford triphenylmethanedisulfide  $(-)$ -11 (53.6 mg, 80.1 %) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):  $\delta$  8.01 (br-s, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>·H), 7.82 (d, *J* = **8.0, 1H, C<sub>5</sub>H), 7.32 (d,**  $J = 8.0$ **, 1H, C<sub>8</sub>H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 9H, C(Ph-** $o$ **-H)<sub>3</sub>, C(Ph-p-H)**<sub>3</sub>), 7.22-7.19 (m, 2H, C<sub>7</sub>H,  $C_7$ **H**), 7.17-7.14 (m, 6H, C(Ph-*m*-**H**)<sub>3</sub>), 7.06 (app-t,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H,  $C_6$ **H**), 6.82 (d,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H, C<sub>8</sub>H), 6.73-6.69 (m, 3H,  $C_2$ **H, C<sub>6</sub>H, C<sub>5</sub>H), 5.93 (s, 1H, C<sub>2</sub>H),** 4.93 (s, IH, **NIH),** 4.66 **(d,** *J = 12.5,* 1H,  $C_{17}H_a$ , 4.40 (d,  $J = 12.5$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_{b}$ , 3.55 (d,  $J = 15.0$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_{a}$ ), 2.92 (d,  $J = 15.0$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_b$ ), 2.80 (s, 3H,  $C_{18}H$ ), 2.61 (app-sp,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H,  $CH_{isobutyrate}$ , 1.98 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3acetate}$ ), 1.21-1.18 (m, 6H, CH<sub>3isobutyrate</sub>).

**1 3 C** NMR **(125** MHz, **CDCl 3, 20 C):**

**8 175.5** (C=Oisobutyate), **170.8**  $(C=O_{\text{acetate}}), 164.7 (C_{13}), 163.1 (C_{16}),$ **148.7 (C9 ),** 144.8 **(C(Ph-i-C) 3), 137.9**  $(C_9)$ , 131.9  $(C_4)$ , 131.4  $(C(Ph-m-C)_3)$ , **129.6 (C7 ), 128.3 (C(Ph-o-C) 3), 127.8**  $(C(Ph-p-C)<sub>3</sub>), 125.9 (C<sub>4</sub>), 126.0 (C<sub>5</sub>),$ **123.5 (C<sub>2</sub>), 122.9 (C<sub>7</sub>), 121.1 (C<sub>6</sub>),** 120.5  $(C_5)$ , 120.3  $(C_6)$ , 118.3  $(C_3)$ , 112.0  $(C_8)$ , 110.3  $(C_8)$ , 87.5  $(C_2)$ , 84.1  $(C_{15})$ , 73.7  $(C_{11})$ , 63.4  $(C_{17})$ , 54.2  $(C_{3})$ , 47.2 **(C 12),** 34.4 (CHisoutyrate), **28.7**  $(C_{18})$ , 21.7  $(CH<sub>3</sub> \text{acetate})$ , 19.5  $(\text{CH}_{3isobutyrate})$ , 19.1  $(\text{CH}_{3isobutyrate})$ .

 $FTIR$  (thin film)  $cm^{-1}$ :

HRMS  $(ESI)$   $(m/z)$ :

 $\alpha\vert_{\mathbb{D}}^{24}$ :

**TLC (50%** ethyl acetate in hexanes), Rf

(w), 1747(m), 1684 (s), **1609** (w), 1485 (w), 1459 (w), 1446 (w), **1377 (m), 1223** (w), **1067 (m)**

3402 (br-m), **3056** (w), **2975** (w), **2360**

calc'd for  $C_{48}H_{44}N_4NaO_6S_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: **859.2594,** found: **859.2569.**

 $-50$  ( $c = 0.38$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**0.58 (UV, CAM).**



# **(+)-Luteoalbusin A Acetate (12):**

Dichloromethane **(1** mL) was added via syringe to a flask charged with bis(triphenylmethanedisulfide) (-)-11 (37.4 mg, 400  $\mu$ mol, 1 equiv) and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylpyridine **(118** mg, *570* mmol, **15.0** equiv) under an argon atmosphere. Triethylsilane (60.2  $\mu$ L, 400  $\mu$ mol, 10.0 equiv) was then added to the solution at 23 °C via syringe followed **by** borontrifluoride-etherate (45.9 **pL,** 0.40 mmol, **10.0** equiv). After 2 hours, a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution (2 mL) was added to the solution. The reaction mixture was dilutedwith dichloromethane **(10** mL) and washed with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution *(5* mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane  $(2 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ , and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, were filtered, and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified **by** flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: **50%** ethyl acetate in hexanes) to afford (+)-luteoalbusin **A** acetate (12) (14.0 mg, **73.0%)** as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 20 °C):

**' 3 C** NMR **(150** MHz, **CDCl 3, 20** \*C):

 $\delta$  8.07 (br-s, 1H, N<sub>P</sub>H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.5, 1H,  $C_5$ **H**), 7.38 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**), 7.24-7.18 (m, 3H,  $C_7$ **H**,  $C_7$ **H**,  $C_5H$ , 7.10 (app-t,  $J = 8.5$ , 1H,  $C_6H$ ),  $6.96$  (d,  $J = 2.6$ , 1H,  $C_2$ ·H), 6.88 (app-t, *J= 7.5,* **1H,C6H), 6.75** *(d, J= 7.5,* **1H, CH), 5.99** (s, **1H, C2H), 5.32** (s, 1H,  $N_1H$ , 4.99 **(d, J** = 13.5, 1H, C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>a</sub>),  $4.71$  (d,  $J = 13.5$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_b$ ), 4.15 (d, *J*  $= 15.0, 1H, C_{12}H_a$ , 3.14 (s, 3H, C<sub>18</sub>H), 3.00  $(d, J = 15.0, 1H, C_{12}H_b)$ , 2.18  $(s,$ 3H, CH<sub>3acetate</sub>).

 $\delta$  170.3 (**C**=O<sub>acetate</sub>), 166.6 (**C**<sub>13</sub>), 161.9  $(C_{16})$ , 148.7  $(C_9)$ , 138.0  $(C_9)$ , 132.3  $(C_4)$ , 129.9  $(C_7)$ , 125.6  $(C_4)$ , 124.7  $(C_5)$ , 123.4  $(C_2)$ , 123.3  $(C_7)$ , 120.9  $(C_6)$ , 120.6  $(C_5)$ , 120.1  $(C_6)$ , 117.0  $(C_3)$ , 112.4  $(C_8)$ , 110.8  $(C_8)$ , 83.8  $(C_2)$ , **75.5**  $(C_{15})$ , **75.0**  $(C_{11})$ , **60.6**  $(C_{17})$ , 56.2 (C<sub>3</sub>), 44.3 (C<sub>12</sub>), 28.8 (C<sub>18</sub>), 21.4  $\text{(CH}_{\text{3acetate}}).$ 





# **(+)-Luteoalbusin A (1):**

Trimethyltin hydroxide (3.9 mg, 200 µmol, 1.00 equiv) was added as a solid to a sealed tube reaction vessel containing a solution of (+)-luteoalbusin **A** acetate (12) **(11.0** mg, 200 µmol, 1 equiv) in toluene (2 mL) under an argon atmosphere. The resulting reaction mixture was heated to **90 \*C.** After **5** h, the solution was diluted with dichloromethane **(10** mL) and loaded onto a silica gel column and purified **by** flash column chromatography (eluent: *50%* ethyl aceate in hexanes) to afford (+)-luteoalbusin **A (1,** 7.4 mg, **73%)** as a colorless gel.



 $\delta$  10.25 (br-s, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>·H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.0, 1H,  $C_5$ **H**), 7.43 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**), 7.33 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H,  $C_5$ **H**), 7.12 **(dd,** *J = 8.0, 7.5,* **1H, C7H), 7.12 (dd,** *J*  $= 8.0, 7.5$  1H (C<sub>7</sub>H) 6.99 (dd,  $J = 8.0$ , 7.5, 1H,  $C_6$ **H**), 6.79 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H,  $C_8$ **H**), 6.78 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 7.5, 1H, C_6$ **H**), **6.22** (br-s, **I** H, **NIH), 5.98 (d,** *J=* **1.0, IH, C2H),** 4.66 **(dd,** *J* **=** *7.5,* **6.0, 1H,** OH), 4.34 (d,  $J = 12.7$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_a$ ), 4.41 (d,  $J = 12.7$ , 1H,  $C_{17}H_b$ ), 4.05 (d, J  $= 15.0, 1H, C_{12}H_a$ , 3.18 (s, 3H, C<sub>18</sub>H),  $3.10$  (d,  $J = 15.0$ , 1H,  $C_{12}H_b$ ).



**TLC (50%** ethyl acetate in hexanes), Rf **0.36 (UV, CAM).**

	<b>This Work</b>	<b>Wang's Report</b>	
	$(+)$ -Luteoalbusin A	$(+)$ -Luteoalbusin A	Δδ
<b>Assignment</b>	<sup>1</sup> H NMR, 500 MHz,	<sup>1</sup> H NMR, 500 MHz,	(ppm)
	acetone- $d_6$ , 20 °C	acetone- $d_6$ , 20 °C	
N1			
	6.22(s)	6.22(s)	$\mathbf{0}$
C <sub>2</sub>	5.98 (d, $J = 1.0$ )	5.98 (d, $J = 0.9$ )	$\mathbf{0}$
C <sub>3</sub>			
C <sub>4</sub>			
C <sub>5</sub>	7.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ )	7.33 (d, $J = 8.0$	$-0.01$
C6	6.77 (dd, $J = 8.0$ ) 7.5)	6.78 (dd, $J = 8.0$ , 7.5)	$-0.01$
C7	7.11 (dd, $J = 8.0$ , 7.5)	$7.12$ (dd, $J = 7.9$ , 7.6)	$-0.01$
C8	6.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ )	$6.79$ (d, $J = 8.0$ )	$-0.01$
C9			
N10			
C11			
C12	3.09 (d, $J = 15.0$ ), 4.06 (d, $J = 15.0$ )	$3.10$ (d, $J = 15.0$ ), 4.05 (d, $J = 15.0$ )	$0.01, -0.01$
C13			
C14	3.17(s)	$\overline{3.18}$ (s)	$-0.01$
$\overline{C15}$			
$\overline{C}$ 16			
C17	4.34 (d, $J = 12.7$ ), 4.41 (d, $J = 12.7$ )	$4.34$ (d, $J = 12.8$ ), 4.41 (d, $J = 12.8$ )	$\mathbf 0$
<b>OH</b>		4.67 (dd, $J = 7.5$ , 6.0)	
N1'	10.27(s)	10.25(s)	0.02
$\overline{C2}$	7.13 (d, $J = 2.5$ )	7.15 (d, $J = 2.5$ )	$-0.02$
C3'			
C4'			
C5'	7.55 (d, $J = 8.0$ )	7.56 (d, $J = 7.9$ )	$-0.01$
C6'	6.99 (dd, $J = 8.0$ , 7.5)	6.99 (dd, $J = 8.0$ , 7.4)	$\mathbf 0$
C7	7.11 (dd, $J = 8.0$ ) 7.5)	7.12 (dd, $J = 8.0$ , 7.5)	$-0.01$
C8	7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ )	7.43 (d, $J = 8.0$ )	0.01
C9'			

**Table Si. Comparison of our data for (+)-Luteoalbusin A with literature:**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>This Work</b> $(+)$ -Luteoalbusin A $^{13}$ C NMR, 125 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ , 20 °C	<b>Wang's Report</b> $(+)$ -Luteoalbusin A $^{13}$ C NMR, 125 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ , 20 °C	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
N <sub>1</sub>			
C2	85.1	85.1	$\bf{0}$
C <sub>3</sub>	57.5	57.5	$\bf{0}$
C <sub>4</sub>	134.4	134.4	$\bf{0}$
C <sub>5</sub>	125.9	125.9	$\bf{0}$
C6	120.7	120.8	$-0.1$
$\overline{\text{C7}}$	130.5	130.6	$-0.1$
C8	111.5	$\overline{111.6}$	$-0.1$
C9	150.7	150.7	$\bf{0}$
N10			
C11	76.0	76.1	$-0.1$
C12	45.5	45.5	$\boldsymbol{0}$
C13	168.1	168.1	$\boldsymbol{0}$
C14	28.7	28.8	$-0.1$
C15	79.1	79.0	0.1
$\overline{C}16$	164.2	164.3	$-0.1$
C17	61.1	61.4	$-0.3$
OH			
N1			
C2	124.9	125.0	$-0.1$
C3'	118.4	118.5	$-0.1$
$\overline{C4}$	127.1	127.1	$\bf{0}$
C5	121.1	120.8	0.3
C6	121.1	121.1	$\boldsymbol{0}$
$\overline{C7'}$	123.6	123.7	$-0.1$
$\overline{C8}$	113.8	113.9	$-0.1$
C9'	139.7	139.7	$\pmb{0}$

**Table S2. Comparison of our data for (+)-Luteoalbusin A with literature:**

Appendix **A.**

Spectra for Chapter 2




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Appendix B.

 $\label{eq:3.1} \mathcal{F}^{\text{R}}_{\text{max}} = \mathcal{F}^{\text{R}}_{\text{max}}$ 

Spectra for Chapter **3**

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 $\label{eq:2.1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathcal{L}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathcal{L}}$ 



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## **Curriculum Vitae**

#### **Timothy C. Adams**

**88** Sumner Street, Apartment 1 Boston, MA **02125**

tadams@mit.edu Phone: *321.759.9115*

## **Education**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA *Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry, expected Jan 2015* Graduate Research Advisor: Professor Mohammad Movassaghi Focus: Multi-step chemical synthesis

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

*B.S. in Chemistry, 2009* Undergraduate Research Advisor: Professor Sukwon Hong Focus: Organocopper chemistry

## **Professional and Research Experience**

Graduate Research Assistant

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mohammad Movassaghi, Cambridge, MA, 2009 present*

- Conducted methodology studies for the synthesis of densely functionalized sulfurcontaining diketopiperazine molecules. The project involved the design and synthesis of a new mercaptan reagent for use as a hydrogen sulfide surrogate. This discovery led to the completion of several natural products, including  $(+)$ bionectins **A** and **C.**
- \* Conducted the first known total synthesis of (+)-luteoalbusins **A. A** novel, intramolecular thiolation strategy was developed to access the higher order polysulfane congeners for this family of alkaloids.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

*University of Florida, Sukwon Hong, Gainesville, FL, 2007-2009*

\* Designed and synthesized chiral, acyclic diaminocarbene ligands for Cu **(I)** catalyzed Michael addition reaction. Studies were also conducted to elucidate the mechanism for this transformation.

## **Academic Honors and Awards**



# **Teaching Experience**

Grader in Synthetic Organic Chemistry II (graduate) *Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 2014* Teaching Assistant in Organic Chemistry **I** (undergraduate)

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 2010*

\* Led multiple discussion sections centered on molecular structure and chemical reactivity.

Teaching Assistant in Organic Chemistry II (undergraduate)

- *Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 2009*
	- **\*** Led multiple discussion sections focused on rudimentary organic synthesis.

Tutor in Organic Chemistry **I** and II (undergraduate)

- *Brevard Community College, Palm Bay, FL, 2007*
	- \* Held one on one tutoring sessions in basic organic chemistry.

### Publications

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