

**Research Articles** 

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#### Natural Products Synthesis

#### **Enantioselective Total Synthesis of (–)-Cephalotanin B**

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Cephalotaxus Diterpenoids Intriguing Biological Properties Discovered in 2016 No Report on Its Synthesis



Congested Heptacyclic Skeleton

9 Consecutive Stereocenters

3 Lactone Units

(-)-cephalotanin B

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#### **Retrosynthetic Analysis**













g







### ← Step 1 Asymmetric Michael Addition



$$R = R_1 = Me$$
$$R_2 = Et$$
82% yield, -64% ee

Chem. Eur. J., 2008, 14, 6155.



*RSC Adv.*, **2018**, *8*, 41699.

## Step 1 Asymmetric Michael Addition

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*RSC Adv.*, **2018**, *8*, 41699.

# Step 1 Asymmetric Michael Addition









N N

Ν

cat. V

Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Catalyst	Conditions	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	ee [%]
1 <sup>[c]</sup>	cat. I	PhMe, 5% NaOH, rt	4	-9
2 <sup>[c]</sup>	cat. II	PhMe, 5% NaOH, rt	0	no reaction
3	cat. III	PhMe, 40 °C	69	98
4	cat. IV	PhMe, 40 °C	83	-94
5	cat. V	THF, 40 °C	17	-29

# Step 1 Asymmetric Michael Addition





Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Catalyst	Conditions	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	ee [%]	
6	cat. III	THF, 40 °C	95	98	
7	cat. III	1,4-dioxane, 40 °C	40	97	
8	cat. III	Et <sub>2</sub> O, 40 °C	78	97	
9	cat. III	DCM, 40 °C	44	93	
10	cat. III	acetone, 40 °C	65	96	
11 <sup>[d]</sup>	cat. III	THF, 40 °C	93	97	

[a] Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed with 0.25 mmol of **13**, 0.275 mmol of **14** and 5 mol% catalyst in 2 mL solvent.

[b] Yield of the isolated product.

4

[c] 0.038 mmol of NaOH (5 % aq.) was added after the dissolution of the catalyst.

[d] The reaction was performed on a 20 g scale with respect to 13.

#### Step f&19 Pauson-Khand Reaction



R<sup>1-6</sup> = H, alkyl, aryl, substituted alkyl and aryl; <u>transition metal complex</u>: Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub>, Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub>, Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>, Cp<sub>2</sub>TiR<sub>2</sub>, Ni(COD)<sub>2</sub>, W(CO)<sub>6</sub>, Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub>, [RhCl(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>; <u>promoter</u>: NMO, TMAO, RSCH<sub>3</sub>, high-intensity light/photolysis, "hard" Lewis base

#### Step f&19 Pauson-Khand Reaction

#### Mechanism: 48-62

The mechanism of the *Pauson-Khand reaction* has not been fully elucidated. However, based on the regio- and stereochemical outcome in a large number of examples, a reasonable hypothesis has been inferred.



#### **Pauson-Khand Cycloaddition of Allenenes**

Step i

4



Org. Lett., 2008, 10, 2385.

# **EXAMPLE 19** Reductive Capability of Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub>

•  $CoH(CO)_4$  as a Reductant



Tetrahedron Lett., 2003, 44, 2775.





Chem. Lett., 2005, 34, 340.

• Reductive Deacyloxylation: Similar to SmI<sub>2</sub>



 $RCHO + 2HCo(CO)_4 \longrightarrow RCH_2OH + Co_2(CO)_8$  (1)



J. Org. Chem., 1962, 27, 3698.

Org. Lett., 2008, 10, 2385.

## **Step g** Alkyne Zipper Reaciton



J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1975, 97, 891.

# **Step 25 Epoxide-opening/Elimination/Dual-Lactonization Cascade**



Conditions	Yield of <b>1</b> (from <b>26</b> )
TiCl <sub>4</sub> , DCM, 0 °C	decomposition
TMSOTf, DCM, 0 °C	decomposition
HNTf <sub>2</sub> , DCE, 0 °C	decomposition
TFA, DCE, 90 °C	15%
PTSA, DCE, 90 °C	23%
PTSA, DCE, 65 °C	42%
PTSA, PhMe, 65 °C	13%
PTSA, PhH, 65 °C	51%
LDA, THF, -78 °C	decomposition
LiOH, THF, 40 °C	no reaction
Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , THF, 40 °C	no reaction