Short, Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Chatancin Zhao, Y.-M.; Maimone, T. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015,** *54,* 1223–1226.



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Previous Isolation and Biological Activity



(+)-chatancin (**1**) active against PAF



*dehydro-***1** no activity against PAF

- Originally isolated from an Okinawan soft coral, Sarcophyton sp.
- Found to inhibit platelet aggregation induced by platelet activation factor (IC $_{50}$ = 2.2 $\mu M).$
- Demonstrated no effect on aggregation induced by adenosine diphosphate, arachidonic acid, or collagen (IC₅₀ > 300 μ M).
- Activity ascribed to the hemiketal moiety (no activity observed for dehydro form)

Previous Syntheses



- Racemic synthesis reported by Gössinger in 1998.
- 33 steps longest linear sequence from thymoquinone.

Aichberger, W. D.; Aigner, J.; Gössinger, E.; Gruber, K.; Menz, G. Monatsh. Chem. 1994, 125, 991–1010. (German ³ language)
Aigner, J.; Gössinger, E.; Kählig, H.; Menz, G.; Pflugseder, K. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 1998, 37, 2226–2228.

Previous Syntheses



- Enantioselective synthesis achieved by Deslongchamps in 2003.
- 23 steps longest linear sequence from *cis*-2-butene-1,4-diol.

(+)-1 Retrosynthesis



- Exceedingly acid-sensitive hemiketal moiety formed in the penultimate step.
- Intramolecular Diels-Alder cyclization with pyrone diene to set four of the final product's seven stereocenters.
- Vinylogous Mukaiyama aldol addition to combine two fragments containing all necessary carbon atoms.



- The authors begin their synthesis with **2** prepared by oxidation of a sample of (*S*)-2,3-dihydrofarnesol received from the Takasago Corporation.
- The above scheme shows a potential route to **2** from a more readily available starting material: farnesol.
- Farnesol can be readily oxidized to farnesal using a variety of reagents; conditions for DMP oxidation are shown as an example.

DMP = Dess-Martin periodinane
Zhao, Y.-M.; Maimone, T. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2015, *54*, 1223–1226.
Estévez, R. E.; Justicia, J.; Bazdi, B.; Fuentes, N.; Paradas, M.; Choquesillo-Lazarte, D.; García, J. M.; Robles, R.; Gansäuer, A.; Cuerva, J. M.; Oltra, J. E. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2009, *15*, 2274–2791.
Mayer, S.; List, B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2006, *45*, 4193–4195.



LDA = lithium diisopropylamide; DMP = Dess-Martin periodinane; DIPEA = *N*,*N*-diisopropyl-*N*-ethylamine Zhao, Y.-M.; Maimone, T. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015,** *54*, 1223–1226. Fettes, A; Carreira, E. M. *J. Org. Chem.* **2003,** *68*, 9274–9283.



- Diastereomers 7 and 8 separable by column chromatography.
- Only decarboxylated products obtained when attempted with triflate 5.
- Significant decarboxylation also observed in more polar solvents (DMF, acetonitrile), and at higher temperatures (120 °C).
- Cyclization reaction was markedly sluggish at 80 °C.



Summary

- Asymmetric synthesis of (+)-chatancin in 9 steps longest linear sequence from farnesol; 13% overall yield from **2**.
- Synthetic strategy facilitates general avoidance of protecting groups.
- Stereocenters set by asymmetric transfer hydrogenation (alternatively from chiral pool material) and intramolecular pyrone/alkene [4+2] cyclization.
- Sensitive, acid-labile hemiketal moiety formed in penultimate step.

Mechanisms: Dess-Martin Periodinane Oxidation



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Mechanisms



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- not observed
- Diastereomers **7** and **8** form through the more favorable chair-conformer transition states **TS-7** and **TS-8**.
- Relatively unrestricted rotation of the pyrone group results in a 1:1 mixture.
- Diastereomers 7' and 8' resulting from the boat-conformer transition states TS-7' and TS-8' were not observed.

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Mechanisms





• A hemiketal formation mechanism involving intramolecular attack of a zincate on the lactone carbonyl is also plausible.

