#### A Unified Approach for the Enantioselective Synthesis of the Brominated Chamigrene Sesquiterpenes

Burckle, A. J.; Vasilev, V. H.; Burns, N. Z. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 11476–11479.





Zachary X. Giustra Liu Group January 1, 2017

## Previous Isolation and Biological Activity



(–)- $\alpha$ -bromochamigrene (**1**)



(–)-dactylone (**3**)



(+)- $\beta$ -bromochamigrene (2)



(+)-aplydactone (4)

- (–)-α- and (+)-β-bromochamigrene (1 and 2) isolated from seaweeds of the genus Laurencia.
- Dactylone (3) and aplydactone (4) isolated from the sea hare *Aplyia dactylomela*; dactylone exhibited activity against human lung, colon, and skin cancer cell lines.

Howard, B. M.; Fenical, W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1976, *17*, 2519–2520.
Guella, G.; Öztunç, A.; Mancini, I.; Pietra, F. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1997, *38*, 8261–8264.
Fedorov, S. N.; Reshetnyak, M. V.; Schedrin, A. P.; Ilyin, S. G.; Struchkov, Y. T.; Stonik, V. A.; Elyakov, G. B. *Dokl. Akad. Nauk. SSSR* 1989, *305*, 877–879.
Fedorov, S. N.; Radchenko, O. S.; Shubina, L. K.; Kalinovsky, A. I.; Gerasimenko, A. V.; Popov, D. Y.; Stonik, V. A. *Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, *123*, 504–505.

Fedorov, S. N.; Shubina, L. K.; Bode, A. M.; Stonik, V. A. Cancer Res. 2007, 67, 5914–5920.



- Only racemic syntheses of α-bromochamigrene have been reported (Faulkner, 1976 and Kato, 1978); the stereochemistry of the final products obtained by these approaches was not determined.
- Both enantiomers of β-bromochamigrene ((+)-2 and (–)-*ent*-2) have been synthesized by a route involving fractional recrystallization and classical resolution (Martin, 1986).
- All syntheses feature a bromonium-induced cyclization of terpenoid precursors to construct the C–Br bond present in the final products.

LDA = lithium diisopropyl amide; TBCD = 2,4,4,6-tetrabromocyclohexane-2,5-dienone

- Wolinsky, L. E.; Faulkner, D. J. J. Org. Chem. 1976, 41, 597-600.
- Ichinose, I.; Kato, T. Chem. Lett. 1978, 61-62.
- Martín, J. D.; Pérez, C.; Ravelo, J. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1986, 108, 7801-7811.

### **Previous Syntheses**



- No previously reported syntheses of 3.
- First racemic synthesis of aplydactone reported in the very previous issue of *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*
- C-Br bond formed via late-stage radical bromination.

*p*-ABSA = 4-acetamidobenzenesulfonyl azide Meier, R.; Trauner, D. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 11251–1255.

#### Retrosynthesis



- Catalytic, enantioselective heterodihalogention of allylic alcohol to form C–Br bond, and set up solvolysis-assisted cyclization through non-racemizing bromonium intermediate.
- Form spirocycle through Diels-Alder [4+2] cycloaddition.
- Derive 1 and (–)-*ent*-2 from one Diels-Alder diastereomer, and 3 from the other.
- Convert 3 directly to 4 via [2+2] photocycloaddition.

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![](_page_5_Figure_1.jpeg)

- SeO<sub>2</sub> allylic oxidation selective for more electron-rich alkenes, more substituted terminus of tri-substituted alkenes; rendered catalytic in SeO<sub>2</sub> with excess <sup>t</sup>BuOOH.
- Catalyzed heterodihalogenation is chemoselective for allylic alcohols over trisubstituted alkenes.
- OH group controls regioselectivity by directing chloride addition to the proximal carbon of the alkene.

NBS = *N*-bromosuccinimide

- Umbreit, M. A.; Sharpless, K. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1977, 99, 5526-55528.
- Hu, D. X.; Seidl, F. J.; Bucher, C.; Burns, N. Z. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 3795-3798.
- Burckle, A. J.; Vasilev, V. H.; Burns, N. Z. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 11476-11479.

![](_page_6_Figure_1.jpeg)

- HFIP serves as a non-nucleophilic, ionizing solvent.
- Enantiomerically pure bromonium ions have been generated previously from bromohydrins, but not from dihalides.

Tf<sub>2</sub>O = trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride; L-Selectride = lithium tri(*sec*-butyl)borohydride; HFIP = 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoroisopropanol Schadt, F. L.; Bentley, T. W.; Schleyer, P. v. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1976,** *98,* 7667–7674. Denmark, S. E.; Burk, M. T.; Hoover, A. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010,** *132,* 1232–1233. Braddock, D. C.; Marklew, J. S.; Thomas, A. J. F. *Chem. Commun.* **2011,** *47,* 9051–9053. Burckle, A. J.; Vasilev, V. H.; Burns, N. Z. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016,** *55,* 11476–11479.

![](_page_7_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Dehydration of **10** had to be run under  $N_2$  (rather than argon) to avoid possible condensation of the reaction atmosphere at -196 °C.
- Addition of MeCN to the solvent system for RuO<sub>4</sub> oxidation was originally found by Sharpless to improve overall reaction performance.
- The initial elimination product from the addition of DBU to 12 underwent spontaneous hetero-Diels-Alder dimerization upon attempts to isolate it, so a twostep procedure was devised to obtain 13 and 14 directly.

DBU = 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene. Carlsen, P. H. J.; Katsuki, T.; Martin, V. S.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Org. Chem.* **1981,** *46,* 3936–3938. Burckle, A. J.; Vasilev, V. H.; Burns, N. Z. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016,** *55,* 11476–11479.

![](_page_8_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Methylation with MeCeCl<sub>2</sub> generated *in situ* had previously been used by Stoltz in the synthesis of the related halogenated chamigrene (+)-elatol.
- 1 and (-)-ent-2 were isolated as a mixture from column chromatography and were only separated for analysis by preparative TLC.

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Only the Mg<sup>0</sup>/TiCl<sub>4</sub>/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> system afforded effective methylenation of 13, probably due to steric congestion.
- Successful conversion of 3 to 4 by [2+2] photocyclization was surprising given the 2001 isolation report's conclusion that this reaction was ineffective.
- Significant decomposition was observed when 254 nm light was used; minor but significant conversion (~15%) was observed when 3 was exposed to regular sunlight for 8 days.

IBX = 2-iodoxybenzoic acid

- Yan, T.-H.; Tsai, C.-C.; Chien, C.-T.; Cho, C.-C.; Huang, P.-C. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 4961–4963.
- Fedorov, S. N.; Radchenko, O. S.; Shubina, L. K.; Kalinovsky, A. I.; Gerasimenko, A. V.; Popov, D. Y.; Stonik, V. 10 A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 504–505.
- Burckle, A. J.; Vasilev, V. H.; Burns, N. Z. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 11476–11479.

# Summary

- Syntheses of (–)-α-bromochamigrene, (–)-*ent*-β-bromochamigrene, (–)dactylone, and (+)-aplydactone all from a common precursor ultimately derived from geranyl acetate.
- Early catalytic, enantioselective heterodihalogenation sets Br-containing stereocenter found in the final products.
- Formation of non-racemizing bromonium intermediate under solvolytic conditions leads to stereoselective cyclization.
- Direct, possibly biomimetic, conversion of (–)-dactylone to (+)-aplydactone with UV irradiation was successful, contrary to negative results reported in prior literature.

# Mechanisms: Riley SeO<sub>2</sub> Oxidation

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Mechanisms: Heterodihalogenation

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

R

NBr

 $\cap$ 

 $\overset{\scriptscriptstyle{}}{O}$ 

NBS

# Mechanisms: Solvolysis-Assisted Cyclization

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Mechanisms: Dehydration and Oxidation

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Mechanisms: Spirocycle Formation

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Mechanisms: $Mg^{0}/TiCl_{4}/CH_{2}Cl_{2}$ Methenylation

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

Aleandri, L. E.; Bogdanović, B.; Gaidies, A.; Jones, D. J.; Liao, S.; Michalowicz, A.; Rozière, J.; Schott, A. J.
 *Organomet. Chem.* 1993, 459, 87–93.

Yan, T.-H.; Tsai, C.-C.; Chien, C.-T.; Cho, C.-C.; Huang, P.-C. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 4961–4963.

# Mechanisms: [2+2] Photocycloaddition

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)