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**Synthetic Studies towards
Griseusin A**

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment
of the requirements

for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

in Chemistry at Massey University

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Spring 1995

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost I would like to thank my supervisor Dr. Margaret Brimble (University of Sydney) for the expertise and assistance she provided during the course of this work. The last few years in many ways have been the most challenging for us, both personally and professionally, and I am indebted to her perseverance during this time. Thanks also must go to my co-supervisor Dr. Eric Ainscough (Massey University) for his administrative and negotiating skills in the procurement of time and resources.

I gratefully acknowledge the University Vice Chancellors Committee for the award of a postgraduate scholarship which allowed me to undertake much of this research, and additionally the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Massey University for their generous support by way of stipends and conference travel during my initial time there. I would like also to express my sincere thanks to the Chemistry Department of the University of Auckland for the granting of a Teaching Fellowship, which gave me bench space and facilities, a living allowance, and invaluable experience working at another university. Floor three students deserve mention here for welcoming a stranger into their midst.

I am obliged to the many people I have been fortunate to work with for their skills, friendship and humour, including Geoff Williams (making life in the laboratory bearable all those years ago), Russell Clark (providing both insightful discussions and hard-to-get journal articles from Auckland), and especially Aaron Dobbs (health camp entrepreneur and UN humanitarian ambassador - currently posted in France!). My appreciation is extended to the 1995 occupants of A4-18 (Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Massey University), notably Michael Edmonds and David Reid, who have allowed me to monopolize a computer these past months.

Special thanks to Peter and Paula Gatenby-Garnham for their many years of friendship and kindness, and allowing me to share the milestones of their lives. I was truly fortunate to meet you that cold night in August '87. I am furthermore beholden to Jacqueline Tanner for continuing to flat with me and ask how I am.

Lastly I acknowledge my family (who are still not quite sure what I do) during the (extended) tenure of this thesis, the completion of which unfortunately came too late for my grandmothers Marion Dorothy Barnes and Helen Nairn, and my very good friend Christina M Young.

ABSTRACT

This thesis presents the synthesis and attempted functionalization of the unsaturated ring system of the naturally occurring pyranonaphthoquinone antibiotic griseusin A **88**. Unsaturated spiroketals **333,334** were constructed *via* the addition of 2-trimethylsilyloxyfuran **189** to quinone **328**. Initial work using acetylenic quinone **321** afforded a pentacyclic product **323**, wherein an unanticipated third Michael reaction occurred due to the phenolic hydroxyl group cyclizing onto the α,β -unsaturated ketone moiety. Altering the reaction conditions gave trimethylsilyl analogue **325**, where the final Michael reaction abstracted not a proton (**323**) but a trimethylsilyl cation liberated from **189**. Naphthoquinone **328**, bearing a 2-alkenyl side chain rather than an acetylene, was synthesized using similar methodology to **321** and subsequently converted to furonaphthofuran adduct **330**. Ceric ammonium nitrate oxidative rearrangement of **330** produced diol **332**, which was then cyclized to spiroketals **333,334** under a variety of conditions. The isomer ratio **333:334** resulting from these conditions was determined by high field ^1H nmr spectroscopy.

With the two spiroketals **333,334** in hand, efforts were directed towards the functionalization of the C3'-C4' double bond. Osmium tetroxide catalytic dihydroxylation of model olefin **345** gave diol **353**, where approach of the reagent was from the opposite face to that required for griseusin A **88**. Selective acetylation of the less hindered hydroxyl group was however achieved, giving **354**.

The Woodward-Prevost reaction of olefin **345** formed the iodoacetates **367-369**. Attempts to displace the iodine from the major diaxial iodoacetate **368** gave a complex mixture. Iodoacetate **387** was then prepared wherein the iodine and acetate positions were reversed, treatment of which with silver acetate afforded the fragmentation products **401** and **402**. The minor diequatorial iodoacetate **367** gave, like its stereoisomer **368**, a complex mixture when subjected to displacement conditions. Only iodoacetate **410**, formed from **367**, produced spiroketal hydroxyacetates as hoped for, however both of these had the opposite stereochemistry at C-4 and C-5 to that desired. One of these two hydroxyacetates (**354**) had also been isolated from the selective acetylation of diol **353**.

Several attempts using a variety of reaction conditions were made in an effort to force **333,334** to react with osmium tetroxide. It was found that the functional groups present in **333, 334, 336, 330** and **323** were incompatible with this reagent. Ketone **327** was the only compound that successfully underwent *syn*-hydroxylation, affording diols **419** and **420**. Use of cetyltrimethylammonium permanganate as an hydroxylation reagent for **333,334** afforded **423** and **421** rather than **343** and **344**, where reaction had occurred at the C5a-C11a double bond.

The difficulty in introducing the oxygenated substituents onto the O1'-C6' spiroketal ring was proposed to be overcome by synthesizing naphthoquinone **430**. The protected hydroxyl groups at C-2' and C-3' in this compound would possess the correct stereochemistry for elaboration to the hydroxyl and acetate groups at C-3' and C-4' respectively in griseusin A **88**.

Towards this end, the synthesis of the required naphthalene precursor (**432**) was undertaken *via* an enantioselective aldol condensation of imide **435** with (*R*)-aldehyde **437**. **435** was formed from (*R*)-phenylalanine and 2-(benzyloxy)acetyl chloride **439** and reacted with **437** using stannous triflate and tetramethylethylenediamine. The major product **452**, possessing the desired 2',3'-*anti* stereochemistry, was protected and the auxiliary reductively removed to give alcohol **459**. Oxidation of **459** using *tetra-n*-propylammonium perruthenate gave aldehyde **434**, ready to be coupled to the Grignard reagent (**498**) of trimethoxybromide **433**.

Trials using heptanal and various organometallic reagents found *n*-butyllithium to be the reagent of choice for generating the anion (in this case the lithiate, **500**) of **433**. With the optimum time determined, the coupling of **500** with **434** was undertaken but yielded only the debrominated compound **499**. The basicity of **500** and the hindrance at the carbonyl group of **434** were cited as possible reasons for this result, and attempts were made to "soften" the anion. Unfortunately both magnesium bromide and ceric chloride failed to produce the desired products **503,504**.

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ABBREVIATIONS

2D	=	two dimensional
aq.	=	aqueous
amu	=	atomic mass units
av	=	average
ax	=	axial
BINAP	=	2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl
b.p.	=	boiling point
<i>n</i> -Bu, Bu ^{<i>n</i>}	=	<i>n</i> -butyl
Bu ^{<i>t</i>}	=	<i>tert</i> -butyl
Bz	=	benzyl
CAN	=	ceric ammonium nitrate
cat.	=	catalytic
CD	=	circular dichroism
cm ³	=	cubic centimetres (ml)
CoA	=	coenzyme A
conc.	=	concentrated
COSY	=	correlation spectroscopy
CSA	=	camphor sulphonic acid
CTAP	=	cetyltrimethylammonium permanganate
D	=	deuterium
DBN	=	1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene
DBU	=	1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
decomp.	=	decomposed
deg	=	degree
DEPT	=	distortionless enhancement by polarization transfer
DIBAL	=	diisobutylaluminium hydride
dil.	=	dilute
DMAP	=	4-dimethylaminopyridine
DME	=	dimethoxyethane/ethylene glycol dimethyl ether
DMF	=	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylformamide
DMSO	=	dimethyl sulphoxide
ds	=	diastereoselection
ee	=	enantiomeric excess

18C6	=	1,4,7,10,13,16-hexaoxacyclooctadecane (18-crown-6 ether)
eq	=	equatorial
equiv.	=	equivalents
FAB	=	fast atom bombardment
h	=	hour
[H]	=	reduction
HETCOR	=	heteronuclear correlation spectroscopy
hplc	=	high pressure liquid chromatography
hrms	=	high resolution mass spectrometry
imid	=	imidazole
IR	=	infra-red
<i>J</i>	=	nmr coupling constant (hertz)
LDA	=	lithium diisopropylamide
MCPBA	=	<i>meta</i> -chloroperbenzoic acid
mg	=	milligrams
min	=	minutes
mm ³	=	cubic millimetres (μl)
mmol	=	millimoles
mol	=	moles
MOM	=	methoxymethyl
m.p.	=	melting point
ms	=	mass spectrometry
NADH	=	reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
NADPH	=	reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
NBA	=	<i>N</i> -bromoacetamide
NMO	=	4-methylmorpholine <i>N</i> -oxide
nmr	=	nuclear magnetic resonance
NOE	=	nuclear Overhauser effect
[O]	=	oxidation
OAc	=	acetate
ORD	=	optical rotatory dispersion
PCC	=	pyridinium chlorochromate
PDC	=	pyridinium dichromate
PMB	=	<i>p</i> -methoxybenzyl
PPTS	=	pyridinium <i>p</i> -toluenesulphonate
Pr ⁱ	=	isopropyl

PTC	=	phase transfer catalyst
py	=	pyridine
R _f	=	distance travelled by compound÷distance travelled by solvent on TLC plate
RT	=	room temperature
s	=	seconds
t	=	time
TBAF	=	tetrabutylammonium fluoride
TBDMS	=	<i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl
TES	=	triethylsilyl
Tf	=	trifluoromethanesulphonyl
TFA	=	trifluoroacetic acid
THF	=	tetrahydrofuran
THP	=	tetrahydropyranyl
TLC	=	thin layer chromatography
TMEDA	=	<i>N,N,N',N'</i> -tetramethylethylenediamine
TMS	=	trimethylsilyl
TPAP	=	<i>tetra-n</i> -propylammonium perruthenate
Tr	=	trityl (Ph ₃ C)
TsOH	=	<i>p</i> -toluene sulphonic acid (tosic acid)
UV	=	ultra-violet
var.	=	variety
wt.	=	weight