## The Total Synthesis of (–)-Nitidasin



D. T. Hog, F. M. E. Huber, P. Mayer, D. Trauner, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 8513–8517

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- Isolated from *Gentianella nitida* and *Gentianella alborosea*
- Used in Peruvian herbal infusions "Hercampuri"
- Remedy against hepatitis, diabetes and hypertension
- Sesterterpenoid (25 C), 5-8-6-5 skeleton, ten stereogenic centeres
- Oxygenated trans-hydrindane moiety





#### **Retrosynthesis**





D. T. Hog, P. Mayer, D. Trauner, *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 5838–5843 Z. G. Hajos, D. R. Parrish, *Org. Synth.* **1985**, *63*, 26–31

#### **Synthesis I** Preparation of Starting *trans*-Hydrindane



#### **Synthesis II** Preparation of Starting *trans*-Hydrindane, First Building Block



- Possible to synthesize gram quantities of key ketone



- Alkylation protocol developed by Negishi
- Other attempts with standard alkylation procedures were unsuccessful

E.-I. Negishi, H. Matsushita, S. Chatterjee, R. A. John, J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 3188–3190

#### Synthesis III First Building Block



- Methylation with MeI from the convex face  $\rightarrow$  single diastereoisomer
- Double Silylation → Chemoselective Oxidation (carefully optimised conditions)
- Resulting ketone bearing **5 of 10 stereocenters** of nitidasin

#### Synthesis IV Second Building Block, Vinyl Lithium Precursor



- Corey-Fuchs Homolgation
- Zr-mediated cyclometalation by Negishi  $\rightarrow$  in situ generation of Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr
- Analysis using Mosher's ester (60% ee)  $\rightarrow$  low optical purity of sm
- **Epimerisation** at the aldehyde stage **not** observed (allylic strain of an intermediary enolate

G. Angel, Z. Owczarczyk, E.-I. Negishi, Tetrahedron Lett. 1992, 33, 1543–1546

#### **Synthesis V** Model Studies, Addition of Vinyl Lithium to Carbonyl



- Tetrasubstituted alkenyl lithium species are rarely used in synthesis
- Addition is highly stereoselective with respect to the trans-hydrindanone
- RCM before epoxidation resulted in formation of cyclopentene
- First epoxidation → virtually no epoxidation of terminal double bonds observed, clean, chemo- and stereoselective (even with large excess of reagent)

#### **Synthesis VI** Applying Model Studies, Finishing the Synthesis



- Hydrogenation after RCM  $\rightarrow$  leading to sensitive substrate
- Carefully prepared acid-free CDCl<sub>3</sub> for NMR

### Conclusion

- Development of first total synthesis of nitdasin in 22 linear steps (overall yield: 4%)
- Several high diastereoselective transformations for ten stereogenic centres
  - Addition of complex tetrasubstituted **alkenyl lithium** compound
- Efficient RCM to form highly substituted 8-membered ring
  - Benefits from conformational **pre-organisation** of substrate
- Total synthesis of **YW-compounds** (inhibitor of mammalian GPI-anchor biosynthesis) under investigation



YW-3699

YW-3548

#### Supplementary Information Synthesis of Starting Ketone



Z. G. Hajos, D. R. Parrish, *Org. Synth.* **1985**, *63*, 26–31 R. A. Micheli *et al.*, *J. Org. Chem.* **1975**, *40*, 675–681

# Supplementary Information (S)-Proline Catalysis



#### Supplementary Information Mosher-Ester Analysis



#### Supplementary Information Zirconium Mediated Cyclometalation



G. Angel, Z. Owczarzczyk, E.-I. Negishi, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1992**, *33*, 1543–1546 A. M. Garcia, J. L. Mascarenas, L. Castedo, A. Mourino, *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 6353–6358