The total syntheses of (+)-Cortistatin A

Dr. Tomas Loïc 10/01/2012 Biblio-Seminar



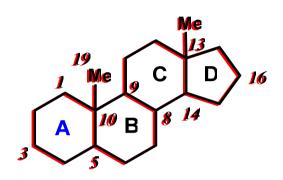
Cortistatin A : presentation

- Cytotoxic steroidal alkaloid extracted from a marine sponge called Corticium simplex
- Molecule discovered and isolated in 2006 by Kobayashi along 3 other closed related molecules

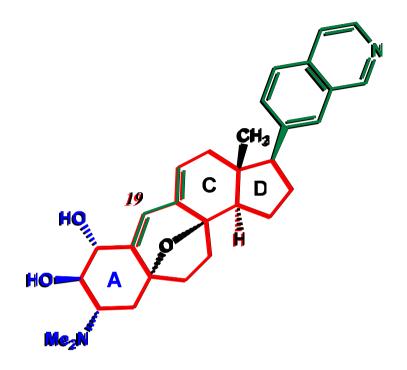
The rest of the family was disclosed in 2007 by kobayashi
 Cortistatins E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L

Cortistatin A: interest of the steroid

Structural particularities :



Steroidal core



- Common rearranged steroidal core:
 C19 methyl group incorporated into the rare oxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ring
- Original substitution of the A ring: two hydroxy groups and one dimethylamino group
- Isoquinoline substituant on the D ring and presence of a diene motif

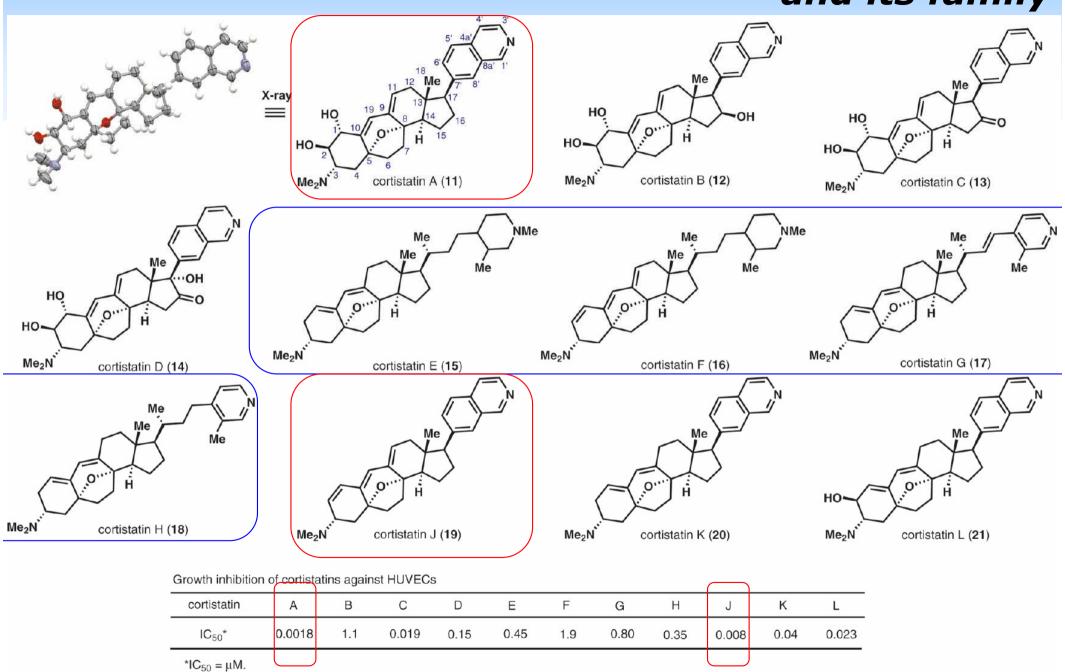
Cortistatin A : interest of the steroid

- Biological properties :
- Important antiproliferative activity against human umbilical vein endothelial cells $IC_{50} = 1.8 \text{ nM}$
- A potent inhibitor of angiogenesis (processus of new blood vessels generation)
- Studies show no general toxicity toward either healthy or cancerous cell lines IC_{50(testing cells)}/IC_{50(HUVECs)} > 3300
- Preliminary SAR's studies suggest isoquinoline moiety crucial for potent activity



Potential use in cancer treatment to reduce the growth of new blood capillaries to tumors

Cortistatin A: and its family



Cortistatin A : synthetical studies

- 5 Total syntheses (one semisynthesis) :
 - 2008: Baran (JACS, 2008, 130, 7241)
 Nicolaou Chen (ACIE, 2008, 47, 7310)
 Shair (JACS, 2008, 130,1684)
 - 2010 : Myers (NCHEM, 2010, 2, 886)
 - 2011 : Hirama (JOC, 2011, 76, 2408)
 Baran (JACS, 2011, 133, 8014)

Over a dozen of papers about synthetic studies
 (Gung, Danishefsky, Sarpong, Corey, Sorensen, Stoltz, Magnus...)

Cortistatin A: today's talk

 Quick presentation of the 5 total syntheses of the natural alkaloid with emphasis on the B-ring formation and key steps

- The 5 total syntheses display the most recurrent approaches for the B-ring construction :
 - Ring expansion through cyclopropane fragmentation
 - Oxidative dearomatization
 - Domino sequence
 - Electrocyclisation

Retrosynthesis:

- Key steps: cyclopropane fragmentation/ring expansion
 - Bridging bicyclic ether by conjugated displacement

• A-ring functionalization :

Increasing of structural rigidity:

Mukaiyama Hydration: Chem Lett 1989, 1071-1074.

Selective angular methyl oxidation :



Probably the first alcohol-directed geminal dihalogenation of unactivated hydrocarbon

• Ring expansion :

• Bicyclic ether formation:

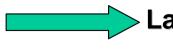
• Bicyclic ether optimized conditions for multigram-scale synthesis :



3 steps reduction and improved yield for total synthesis

Completion of the synthesis :

Earlier isoquinoline installation was not possible (makes dihalogenation impossible)



Late stage introduction allowed synthesis of various analogs

Cortistatin A : Shair's synthesis

Retrosynthesis:

• Key steps : - cyclopropane fragmentation/ring expansion

- Aza-Prins cyclization

Cortistatin A : Shair's synthesis

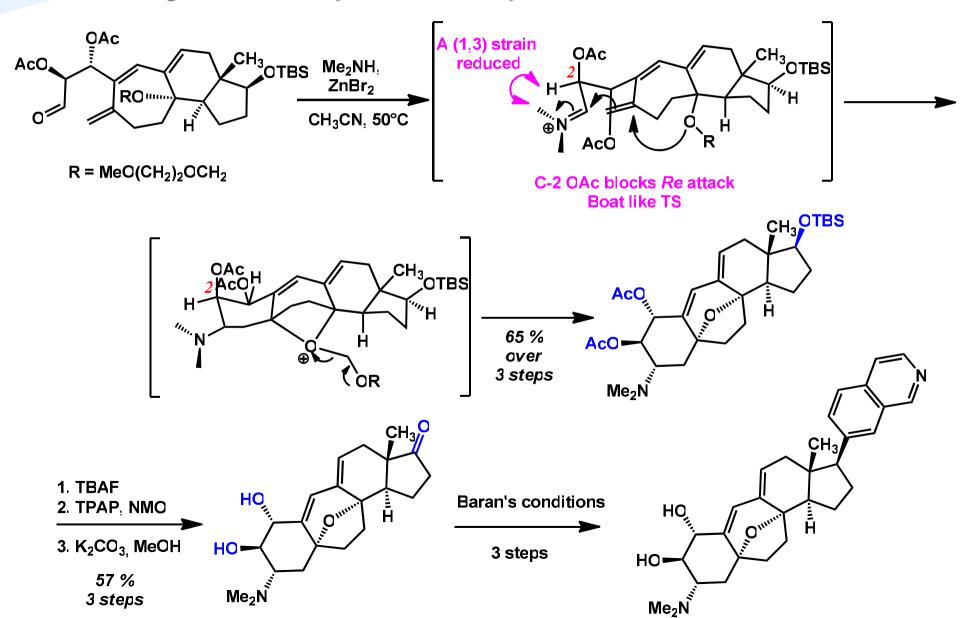
B ring expansion :

Siloxane case

Cortistatin A : Shair's synthesis

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A-ring formation by Aza-Prins cyclization :



Cortistatin A: Myers' synthesis

Retrosynthesis:

• Key steps: - 7-membered ring formation by metathesis

- Oxidative cyclization to oxabicyclic core synthesis

Cortistatin A : Myers' synthesis

7-membered ring set-up :

Cortistatin A : Myers' synthesis

B-ring installation :

Cortistatin A : Myers' synthesis

Versatility of the approach :

Retrosynthesis:

• Key steps: - 1,4-addition / aldol / dehydratation cascade

Cascade precursor preparation :

Cascade and B-ring complete formation :

Introduction of the isoquinoline :

A-ring functionalization and completion of the synthesis:

Cortistatin A : Hirama's synthesis

Retrosynthesis:

- Key steps : Radical cyclization
 - Knoevenagel condensation/Electrocyclisation

Cortistatin A : Hirama's synthesis

B-ring set-up :

Cortistatin A : Hirama's synthesis

B-ring completion by radical cyclization :

Completion by installation of the isoquinoline group before A-ring functionalization to obtain Cortistatin A and J