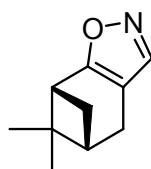


The First Total Synthesis of Xenitorins B and C: Assignment of Absolute Configuration

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Experimental

(1*R*,8*R*)-9,9-Dimethyl-3-oxa-4-aza-tricyclo[6.1.1.0^{2,6}]deca-2(6),4-diene

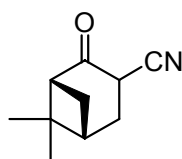


(-)-9

To a solution of compound **8** (2.01 g, 12.13 mmol) in ethanol (50 mL) at 0 °C was added potassium carbonate (2.55 g, 18.19 mmol) followed by hydroxylamine hydrochloride (1.70 g, 14.13 mmol). The reaction mixture thus obtained was refluxed for 2 h and then quenched with water followed by acidification with concentrated HCl solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 30 mL) and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude product which was chromatographed over silica gel (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 9:1) to afford compound **9** (1.57 g, 79%) as a light yellow oil.

IR (cast, CHCl₃, cm⁻¹): 1706, 1619 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.05 (s, 1H), 3.03 (t, *J* = 4 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (td, *J* = 3.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (qd, *J* = 18.4, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 2.33~2.29 (m, 2H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 0.67 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 177.8 (C), 148.6 (CH), 106.5 (C), 41.9 (C), 41.8 (CH), 41.4 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH₃), 23.0 (CH₂), 21.2 (CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₃NO: 163.0996; found 163.0997; [α]₂₀^D = -29.1° (c = 5.7, CHCl₃).

(1*R*,5*R*)-6,6-Dimethyl-2-oxo-bicyclo[3.1.1]heptane-3-carbonitrile

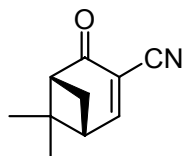


(+)-10

A solution of compound **9** (2.85 g, 17.5 mmol) in absolute EtOH (10 mL) was added dropwise into a stirred solution of freshly prepared NaOEt (35 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL) at 0 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt and stirred at rt for 6 h. Excess base was then neutralized by the addition of aqueous 2*N* HCl and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product thus obtained was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give compound **10** (2.65 g, 93%) as a yellowish solid.

IR (cast, CHCl₃, cm⁻¹): 2246 (CN), 1725 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.71 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.54~2.62 (m, 2H), 2.30 (q, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.16~2.22 (m, 1H), 1.59 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 202.6 (C), 117.5 (C), 56.3 (CH), 42.6 (C), 39.2 (CH), 34.9 (CH), 27.0 (CH₂), 25.5 (CH₃), 23.8 (CH₂), 21.6(CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₃NO: 163.0997; found 163.0997; [α]₂₀^D = +40.0° (c = 3.2, CHCl₃); mp 71-72 °C.

(1*R*,5*R*)-6,6-Dimethyl-4-oxo-bicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-ene-3-carbonitrile



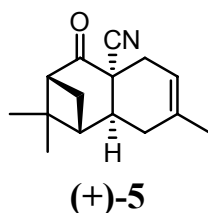
(+)-4

To a solution of phenylselenenyl chloride (1.05 g, 5.50 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (25 ml) at 0 °C was added pyridine (0.55 mL, 6.88 mmol). After stirring for 20 min, a solution of compound **10** (0.74 g, 4.58 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was introduced over a period of 10 min at 0 °C. The reaction mixture thus obtained was allowed to warm to rt and

stirred overnight. Excess pyridine was removed by sequential washing of the organic layer with 1N HCl_(aq). The remaining organic layer was cooled to 0 °C and treated with H₂O₂ (30 %, 1.18 mL, 13.76 mmol) to effect the oxidative elimination process. Water was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure, and the crude product thus obtained was subjected to flash chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate:*n*-hexane = 1:10) to furnish compound **4** (0.71 g, 97%) as a white solid.

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 2231 (CN), 1704 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.23 (dd, *J* = 5.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90~2.94 (m, 1H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (q, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 195.5 (C), 169.1 (CH), 113.5 (C), 113.4 (C), 57.4 (CH), 55.2 (C), 44.5 (CH), 40.4 (CH₂), 26.4 (CH₃), 22.2 (CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁NO: 161.0841; found: 161.0837; [α]₂₀^D = +262.6° (c = 3.3, CHCl₃); mp 58-59 °C.

(1*R*,3*R*,4*aS*,8*aS*)-7,9,9-Trimethyl-4-oxo-1,3,4,5,8,8a-hexahydro-2*H*-1,3-methano-naphthalene-4a-carbonitrile

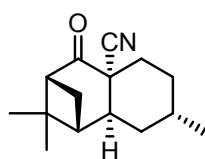


To a 50 mL 2-neck round bottom flask was placed ZnCl₂ (544 mg, 4.0 mmol). This was heat-fused to give a clear colorless melt and cooled to rt. Anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was added and the mixture stirred until a fine suspension was formed (a spatula was used to crush the big pieces to facilitate this process). A solution of compound **4** (322 mg, 2.0 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added dropwise and the cloudy mixture stirred for 30 min, at which time a clear solution was obtained. Isoprene (2.7 mL, 20 mmol) was introduced and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at rt. Water was added to quench the reaction, and the aqueous layer was separated and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 20:1) to give compound (+)-**5** (384 mg, 84%) as a white solid.

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 2236 (CN), 1715 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ

5.73 (bs, 1H), 2.78 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 1H), 2.72 (t, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.68 (td, $J = 4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.51~2.56 (m, 1H), 2.19 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.11~2.16 (m, 2H), 1.93~1.96 (m, 1H), 1.83 (bs, 3H), 1.75 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3): δ 205.7 (C), 138.6 (C), 122.7 (C), 118.9 (CH), 56.5 (CH), 47.5 (CH), 41.4 (C), 37.9 (CH), 35.0 (CH_2), 32.2 (CH_2), 25.9 (CH_3), 23.7 (CH_2), 23.1 (CH_3), 22.2 (CH_3); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}$: 229.1467; found: 229.1466; $[\alpha]_{20}^{\text{D}} = +81.0^\circ$ ($c = 2.5, \text{CHCl}_3$); mp 100-10 $^\circ\text{C}$.

(1R,3R,4aS,7S,8aS)-7,9,9-Trimethyl-4-oxo-octahydro-1,3-methano-naphthalene-4a-carbonitrile

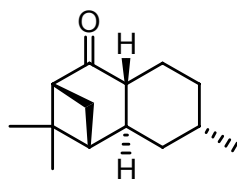


(+)-14

A black suspension of compound (+)-**5** (300 mg, 1.3 mmol) and 20% Pd/C (60 mg) in EtOH (10 mL) was shaken under an atmosphere of hydrogen (30 psi) for 30 h at rt. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite[®] and the residue was rinsed with ethyl acetate (2 x 10 mL). The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 20:1) to afford compound (+)-**14** (252 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2234 (CN), 1720 (C=O) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.62 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.59 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.48~2.54 (m, 1H), 2.11~2.15 (m, 1H), 2.05 (t, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.88~1.97 (m, 3H), 1.46~1.64 (m, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.16~1.26 (m, 1H), 0.85 (dd, $J = 11.2, 4.8$ Hz, 3H), 0.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3): δ 205.2 (C), 121.1 (C), 56.5 (CH), 48.2 (CH), 45.5 (C), 43.4 (C), 36.3 (CH_2), 35.8 (CH), 34.3 (CH_2), 30.0 (CH_2), 26.5 (CH_3), 25.7 (CH), 25.3 (CH_2), 22.6 (CH_3), 21.8 (CH_3); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$: 231.1623; found: 231.1626; $[\alpha]_{20}^{\text{D}} = +60.4^\circ$ ($c = 6.7, \text{CHCl}_3$).

(1R,3R,4aR,7S,8aS)-7,9,9-Trimethyl-octahydro-1,3-methano-naphthalen-4-one

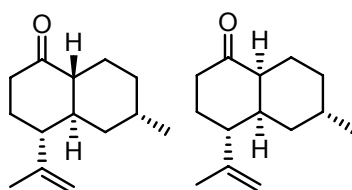


(+)-12

To a solution of compound (+)-14 (160 mg, 0.69 mmol) in THF (6 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise a precooled (-78 °C) 0.98M solution of LN in THF until the color of the reaction mixture remained deep green (2.01 mmol of LN was used). After stirring at -78 °C for 1 h, the mixture was warmed to room temperature and an aqueous saturated solution of NH₄Cl was added. The separated aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 15 mL) and the combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product thus obtained was purified by flash chromatography (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 40:1) to afford compound (+)-12 (120 mg, 86%) as a colorless oil.

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 1712 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.47 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (ddd, *J* = 10.8, 7.2, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.07~2.10 (m, 2H), 1.81~1.92 (m, 4H), 1.78 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 1.45~1.64 (m, 3H), 1.31~1.39 (m, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 0.74 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 214.9 (C), 58.2 (CH), 50.8 (CH), 45.8 (CH), 44.9 (C), 37.7 (CH₂), 33.6 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 28.2 (CH), 26.7 (CH₃), 24.4 (CH₂), 21.8 (CH₃), 19.5 (CH₂), 19.3 (CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₂O: 206.1672; found: 206.1666. [α]₂₀^D = +66.7° (c = 1.7, CHCl₃).

(4*R*,4*aS*,6*S*,8*aR*)-4-Isopropenyl-6-methyl-octahydro-naphthalen-1-one
& (4*R*,4*aS*,6*S*,8*aS*)-4-Isopropenyl-6-methyl-octahydro-naphthalen-
1-one



(-)-6

(+)-17

Ethylene glycol (0.6 mL, 11.0 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (230 mg, 1.2 mmol) were added to a solution of compound (+)-12 (255 mg, 1.25 mmol) in benzene (60 mL). A Dean-Stark apparatus was fitted onto the reaction flask for azeotropic

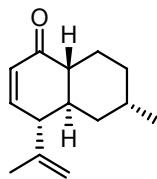
removal of water and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 48 h. The remaining benzene layer cooled to rt and washed with 1M NaOH_(aq) solution and brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The reaction product thus obtained was, without further purification, dissolved in acetone-water (10:1, 15 mL) containing a small amount of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (76 mg, 0.4 mmol) and the solution mixture was refluxed for 3 h, cooled to rt,, the volatiles removed, and the remaining residue dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL). This was then washed with 1M NaOH_(aq) and brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product thus obtained was chromatographed over silica gel (*n*-hexane:ethyl acetate = 40:1) to afford compound (-)-**6** (137 mg, 54%) as a white solid along with compound (+)-**17** (94 mg, 37%) as a colorless oil.

Compound (-)-**6**: IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 1712 (C=O), 1640 (C=C) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.75 (m, 2H), 2.36~2.40 (m, 2H), 2.18 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 10.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.88~1.96 (m, 3H), 1.42~1.82 (m, 10H), 1.20 (td, *J* = 12.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 211.5 (C), 146.1 (C), 111.9 (CH₂), 53.9 (CH), 51.1 (CH), 41.0 (CH₂), 39.5 (CH), 37.5 (CH₂), 32.1 (CH₂), 30.2 (CH₂), 26.7 (CH), 19.2 (CH₂), 18.1 (CH₃), 17.2 (CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₂O: 206.1672; found: 206.1670; [α]₂₀^D = -11.12° (c = 0.8, CHCl₃); mp 71-72 °C.

Compound (+)-**17**: IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 1710 (C=O), 1640 (C=C) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.75(m, 2H), 2.68 (td, *J* = 9.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (td, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (ddd, *J* = 12.6, 6.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.20~2.24 (m, 1H), 1.93~1.97 (m, 1H), 1.83~1.87 (m, 1H), 1.47~1.72 (m, 9H), 0.80~0.91 (m, 2H), 0.78 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 215.0 (C), 146.5 (C), 112.3 (CH₂), 52.5 (CH), 42.3 (CH), 38.8 (CH), 37.8 (CH₂), 36.1 (CH₂), 34.2 (CH₂), 31.5 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH), 22.7 (CH₃), 18.0 (CH₃) ; HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₂O: 206.1672; found: 206.1669; [α]₂₀^D = +106.8 ° (c = 1.2, CHCl₃).

Epimerization of (+)-**17** to (-)-**6**: Compound (+)-**17** (55 mg, 0.27 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (10 mL) and 3M NaOH_(aq) (3.5 mL) was added to the solution. The mixture was refluxed for 22 h, cooled to rt, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, washed with water, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give a mixture of (-)-**6** and (+)-**17** (41 mg, 74%, 3:1 ratio by ¹H nmr integration).

(4*R*,4*aS*,6*S*,8*aR*)-4-Isopropenyl-6-methyl-4*a*,5,6,7,8,8*a*-hexahydro-4*H*-naphthalen-1-one



(-)-18

To a solution of anhydrous diisopropylamine (0.11 mL, 0.70 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) at 0 °C under a nitrogen atmosphere, was added *n*-BuLi (2.2M solution, 0.35 mL, 0.78 mmol) slowly. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min and then cooled to -78 °C. A solution of (-)-6 (80 mg, 0.39 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was introduced dropwise, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h, at which time a solution of diphenyl diselenide (157 mg, 0.70 mmol) in anhydrous THF (3 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 24 h. Water was added and the quenched reaction mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were chilled to 0 °C and treated with 35% H₂O₂ (0.08 mL, 0.78 mmol). When no more starting material was detected by TLC, water was added and the separated aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product thus obtained was purified by chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate:*n*-hexane = 1:30) to furnish compound (-)-18 (57 mg, 72%) as a colorless oil.

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 1674 (C=O), 1645 (C=C) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.60 (dt, *J* = 10, 2 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (dt, *J* = 10.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (bs, 1H), 2.77 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.87~2.01 (m, 4H), 1.52~1.59 (m, 6H), 1.29~1.37 (m, 1H), 1.18~1.28 (m, 1H), 0.87 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 2.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 200.9 (C), 152.8 (CH), 144.4 (C), 129.1 (CH), 114.1 (CH₂), 52.2 (CH), 50.5 (CH), 36.7 (CH), 36.6 (CH₂), 30.4 (CH₂), 26.5 (CH), 19.5 (CH₂), 19.3 (CH₃), 17.3 (CH₃); HRMS (EI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₀O: 204.1514; found: 204.1515; [α]₂₀^D = -40.5° (c = 0.2, CHCl₃).

(1R,4R,4aS,6S,8aR)-4-Isopropenyl-1,6-dimethyl-1,4,4a,5,6,7,8,8a-octahydronaphthalen-1-ol and xenitorin C

