## **Supporting Information**

Stereospecific Approach to the Synthesis of Ring-A Oxygenated *Sarpagine* Indole Alkaloids. Total Synthesis of the Dimeric Indole Alkaloid *P*-(+)-Dispegatrine and Six Other Monomeric Indole Alkaloids

Chitra R. Edwankar,<sup>†</sup> Rahul V. Edwankar,<sup>†</sup> Ojas A. Namjoshi, Xuebin Liao<sup>†</sup> and James M. Cook<sup>\*,</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, WI-53201,

USA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*</sup>To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: 414-229-5856; Fax: 414-229-5530;

E-mail: capncook@uwm.edu

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### **General Experimental Considerations**

All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere with dry solvents using anhydrous conditions unless otherwise stated. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) and diethyl ether were freshly distilled from Na/benzophenone ketyl prior to use. Dichloromethane was distilled from calcium hydride prior to use. Methanol was distilled over magnesium sulfate. Benzene and toluene were distilled over Na. Acetonitrile was distilled over CaH<sub>2</sub> prior to use. Reagents were purchased of the highest commercial quality and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on UV active silica gel, 200 µm, plastic backed and UV active alumina N, 200 µm, F-254 plastic backed. Flash and gravity chromatography were performed using silica gel P60A, 40-63 µm, basic alumina (Act I, 50-200 µm) and neutral alumina (Brockman I, ~150 mesh). TLC plates were visualized by exposure to short wavelength UV light (254 nm). Indoles were visualized with a saturated solution of ceric ammonium sulfate in 50% sulfuric acid. All samples submitted for CHN analyses were first dried under high vacuum for a minimum of six hours using a drying pistol with isopropyl alcohol or benzene as the solvent with potassium hydroxide pellets in the drying bulb. <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quin = quintet, dd = doublet of doublet, dt = doublet of triplet, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets, td = triplet of doublets, qd = quartet of doublets, m = multiplet), integration, and coupling constants (Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR data are reported in parts per million (ppm) on the  $\delta$  scale. The low resolution mass spectra (LRMS) were obtained as electron impact (EI, 70eV) using a magnetic sector (EBE) analyzer. HRMS were recorded by electrospray ionization (ESI) using a TOF analyzer, electron impact (EI) using a trisector analyzer and Matrix-assisted laser desorption (MALDI) using an ion trap analyzer.

<b>Protons</b> <sup><i>a</i></sup>	<sup>1</sup> H NMR Natural	<sup>1</sup> H NMR Synthetic
	$(HDO)^{a,b,c,d}$	$(600 \text{ MHz}, \text{CD}_3\text{OD})^b$
H-12	7.35 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.0 Hz)	7.31 (d, 1H, $J = 9.0$ Hz)
H-9	7.00 (br, s)	7.04 (br, s, 1H)
H-11	6.70 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.0 Hz)	6.87 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.4 Hz)
H-19	5.50 (q)	5.68 (q, 1H, <i>J</i> = 6.6 Hz)
	nr	4.91 (1H, peak is embedded in $CD_3OD$
		peak)
	nr	4.46 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 15.6 Hz)
	nr	4.25 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 15.6 Hz)
Ar-OMe	3.77 (s)	3.85 (s, 3H)
	nr	3.58 (d, 3H, <i>J</i> = 7.8 Hz)
	nr	3.31 (d, 1H, $J = 4.8$ Hz, part of the peak is
		embedded in CD <sub>3</sub> OD peak)
$N_b^+$ —Me	2.82 (s)	3.15 – 3.10 (m, 5H)
	nr	2.55 (t, 1H, <i>J</i> = 12.0 Hz)
	nr	2.21 – 2.17 (m, 2H)
3(H-18)	1.55 (d)	1.74 (d, 3H, <i>J</i> = 6.6 Hz)

 Table 1. Comparison of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for Natural and Synthetic (+)-Lochneram (11)

<sup>*a*</sup>The numbering and the assignment of the protons follows that from the literature. <sup>§ *b*</sup>Values are in ppm ( $\delta$ ). <sup>*c*</sup>nr = not reported. <sup>*d*</sup>NMR frequency not reported.

<sup>8</sup>Arnold, W.; Berlage, F.; Bernauer, H.; Schmid, H.; Karrer, P. Helv. Chim. Acta. **1958**, 41, 1505.

<b>Protons</b> <sup><i>a,b</i></sup>	<sup>1</sup> H NMR Natural	<sup>1</sup> H NMR Synthetic
	(60 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) <sup><i>a,b</i></sup>	$(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)^b$
NH	8.06 (s)	10.2 (br, s, 1H)
H-12	7.13 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz)	7.30 (d, 1H, part of the peak is
H-9	6.89 (d, <i>J</i> = 2.5 Hz)	embedded in CDCl <sub>3</sub> peak) 6.87 (d, 1H, $J = 2.2$ Hz)
H-11	6.75 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.5$ Hz)	6.80 (dd, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.8, 2.3 Hz)
H-19	5.29 (q)	5.16 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 6.8 Hz)
	nr	4.43 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.8 Hz)
	nr	3.88 – 3.84 (m, 4H)
	nr	3.71 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 17.6 Hz)
	nr	3.52 (dd, 1H, $J_2 = 7.2$ Hz, part of the
	nr	peak is embedded in MeOH peak) 3.50 (1H is embedded in MeOH peak)
	nr	3.11 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 16.6 Hz)
	nr	3.36 – 3.24 (m, 2H)
	nr	2.93 (br, s, 1H)
	nr	2.35 – 2.33 (m, 1H)
OH	2.08 (s)	2.19 (s, 1H)
	nr	2.03 – 1.95 (m, 2H)
3(H-18)	1.57 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz)	1.63 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz)

 Table 2. Comparison of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for Natural and Synthetic Lochvinerine (9)

<sup>*a*</sup>The numbering and the assignment of the protons follows that from the literature.<sup>‡ *b*</sup>Values are in ppm ( $\delta$ ). <sup>*c*</sup>nr = not reported.

<sup>‡</sup>Banerji, A.; Chakrabarty, M. *Phytochemistry* **1974**, *13*, 2309.

#### X-ray Structural Analysis and Methods for 16 and 36a

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data on compounds **16** and **36a** were collected using MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) and a Bruker APEX 2 CCD area detector. Crystals were prepared for data collection by coating with high viscosity microscope oil (Paratone-N, Hampton Research). The oil-coated crystal was placed on a MicroMesh mount (MiTeGen, Ithaca, NY) and transferred immediately to the diffractometer. Data collection temperature is as indicated in the summary information for each compound. Corrections were applied for Lorentz polarization, and absorption effects.

The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least squares on  $F^2$  values using the programs found in the SHELXTL suite (Bruker, SHELXTL v6.10, 2000, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI). Parameters refined included atomic coordinates and anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. Hydrogen atoms on carbons were included using a riding model [coordinate shifts of C applied to H atoms] with C-H distance set at 0.96 Å.



**Figure S1:** Displacement ellipsoid plot of (*6S*,11*aS*,*E*)-9-ethylidene-2-methoxy-6,8,9,10,11a,12hexahydro-6,10-methanoindolo-[3,2-*b*]quinolizin-11(5*H*)-one (**16**).

**16.** The 0.06 x 0.05 x 0.02 mm<sup>3</sup> crystal was monoclininc in space group *P* 2<sub>1</sub> with unit cell dimensions a = 13.6533(4) Å, b = 5.9180(2) Å, c = 16.7753(5) Å, and  $\beta = 99.732(2)^{\circ}$ . Data were 94.3% complete to 58.94°  $\theta$  (approximately 0.83 Å) with an average redundancy of 2.72.



**Figure S2:** Displacement ellipsoid plot of (*6S*,11*aS*,*E*)-9-ethylidene-2-methoxy-6,8,9,10,11a,12hexahydro-6,10-methanoindolo-[3,2-*b*]quinolizin-11(5*H*)-one (**36a**).

**36a.** The 0.586 x 0.456 x 0.055 mm<sup>3</sup> crystal was orthorhombic in space group  $P 2_1 2_1 2_1$  with unit cell dimensions a = 8.2247(4) Å, b = 12.0571(6) Å, and c = 26.6490(10) Å. Data were 99.8% complete to 29.15°  $\theta$  (approximately 0.73 Å) with an average redundancy of 6.39.

## Copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra:

Spectra's are in the following order for each compound (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT 135 and DEPT 90) or (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT 90)























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