Larry Overman: Synthetic Highlights of an Amazing Chemist



Introduction:



- 2. Targets Achieved by Prins-Pinacol Rearrangement
 - a. (-)-Magellanine
 - b. (+)-Shahamin K
 - c. (-)-7-Deacetoxyalcyonin Acetate
 - d. Briarellins E and F
- 3. Targets Achieved by an Aza-Cope-Mannich Rearrangement
 - a. (±)-Meloscine
 - b. (±)-dl-16-Methoxytabersonine
 - c. (–)-Pancracine
 - d. (-)-Strychnine
- 4. Targets Achieved via Asymmetric Heck Reaction
 - a. (–)-Scopadulcic Acid A
 - b. (-)-Chimonanthine
 - c. (–)-Morphine
- 5. Misc. Targets achieved in the Overman Lab a. Adociasulfate 1 b. (±)-Kumausallene
- 6. Conclusion



Chimonanthine



dl-16-Methoxytabersonine

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Who is Larry E. Overman???

The Boy:

-Born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1943

-Raised in Hammond Indiana, an industrial town in which he worked in local steel mills during summers to pay for college

The Chemist:

-Obtained B.A. from Earlham College in 1965 -Received his Ph.D. from University of Wisconsin in 1969 -NIH postdoctoral fellowship with Prof. Ronald Breslow (Columbia)

-Began at UC Irvine in 1971

-Currently a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry

-Awards/Honors include: ACS Arthur C. Cope Award (2003), ACS Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry (1995), and much more...

-Lab has completed syntheses of over 80 complex natural products and close to 260 publications in major journals

Larry on chemistry:

"I had absolutely no interest in chemistry until I was inspired by a great teacher in college. What ultimately intrigued me was not only the idea of studying the natural world but also creating things that didn't exist before."¹

"I hated chemistry in high school."2

"What my laboratory does is engineer and invent new chemical reactions that make structures that are by nature drug-like, and make them efficiently."¹

1. http://www.scienceblog.com/community/older/2003/C/2003436.html 2. http://pubs.acs.org/cen/awards/8106/8106awards.html

Gilbert Stork on Larry

"The remarkable fact is that essentially every one of [his] papers contains either novel methodology or the imaginative application of methodology, more often than not arising from Overman's own research, to highly original total syntheses."²

Dave Evans on Larry:

"[he is] one of those scientists who are changing the way organic chemists build molecules, ... [he has] encompassed both the synthesis of complex molecular targets and the development of highly innovative synthesis methodology, has elevated the capabilities of our discipline,"²

Currently:

Larry is editor-in-chief of *Organic Reactions*, an editor for *JACS, Org Lett*, and others. He consults for many pharmaceuticals, including Pfizer, Roche, Cytokinetics, and Chiron. He is married to wife Joanne, a high school chemistry teacher, and they have two children.

He is, of course, still at UC Irvine.

And most importantly, what about life outside of chemistry:

"I decided early on that there would be at least one day a week that I would not do anything related to work."

Larry enjoys free-diving and spear fishing in Australia, Mexico, and the southern California coast.²

The Power of the Prins-Pinacol Rearrangement















Total Synthesis of (+)-Shahamin K: Retrosynthetic Analysis







՝SPh ⊕

SPh

DMTSF =

 BF_4 Θ ∽s ⊕

Me

SPh

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80%









Briarellins E and F: A Similar Approach to Similar Molecules



J. AM. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 6650





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1. Introduction to Larry Overman

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Scopadulcic A

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Chimonanthine

Target: (±)-Meloscine, a Pentacyclic Alkaloid







(-)-Pancracine: Another Alkaloid realized by the Aza-Cope Mannich Methodology





Last, but surely not least, all hail to (-)-Strychnine







Introduction:



Chimonanthine







 $\mathbf{R}^{1} = \mathbf{CH}_{2}\mathbf{CH}_{2}\mathbf{CH}(\mathbf{OCH}_{2}\mathbf{CH}_{2}\mathbf{O})$



Formation of Vicinal Quaternary Carbon Centers using Intramolecular Heck Cascade



Meyer's Theory of Vicinal Quaternary Center Formation



Asymmetric Synthesis of My favorite Analgesic: (–)-Morphine





Introduction:



Retrosynthesis of (–)-Adociasulfate 1





Retrosynthesis of (±)-Kumausallene





To Conclude with Larry Overman

Goals of the Talk:

N N H H Me

1. The power of the Prins-Pinacol Rearrangement to form highly substituted tetrahydrofurans with high stereo-control 2. The power of the Aza-Cope Mannich to form highly substituted pyrrolidine rings and fused ring systems in a highly controlled manner 3. The power of the Heck Reaction to form isolated, and vicinal quaternary centers in an asymmetric manner 4. The amazing variety of natural products that have been synthesized by the latter methodologies, and more importantly, by a creative, thoughtful, and elegant mind of Larry Overman Acknowledgements: There is one man to acknowledge: Larry Overman Other Molecules that are worth looking at: Me MeHN IMe О 'n н (–)-physostigmine J. Org. Chem. **1993**, *58*, 6949 Mel он (±)-Gelsemine ACIEE, 1999, *38*, 2934 ōн Ĥ Йe

> Quadrigemine C and Psycholeine J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 9008

> > 18

(+)-pumiliotoxin B

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 4192

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