# **Supporting Information**

# Total Synthesis of $(\pm)$ -Chondrosterin I Using Desymmetric Intramolecular Aldol Reaction

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## **Table of Contents**

Experimental procedure	S1
<sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of new compounds	S8

#### General

All reactions involving air- and moisture-sensitive reagents were carried out using standard syringe-septum cap techniques. Unless otherwise noted, all solvents and reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Routine monitoring of reactions was carried out Merck silica gel 60 F254 TLC plates. Column chromatography was performed on Kanto Chemical Silica Gel 60N (spherical, neutral 60–230 µm) with the solvents indicated. Melting points were taken on a Yanako MP-S3 micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were measured with a JASCO ECZ 400S (400 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts were expressed in ppm using CHCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C NMR) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as internal standard. Infrared spectral measurements were carried out with a JASCO FT/IR-4700 and only noteworthy absorptions were listed. HRMS spectra measured on a Micromass LCT spectrometer. X-ray crystallographic analysis was taken with Burker APEX2 Ultra TXS.

Methyl 4,4-dimethyl-2-(1-nitropropyl)cyclopentane-1-carboxylate (10)

To a stirred solution of **9** (2.00 g, 13.0 mmol) in 1-nitropropane (1.20 ml, 13.4 mmol) were added dropwise TBAF (1.0 M in THF, 13.0 ml, 13.0 mmol) at room temperature under Ar atmosphere, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 M HCl, and extracted with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 5:1) to afford **10** (2.90 g, 92%) as a colorless oil and a mixture of 2 diastereomers. IR (neat) 2955, 2871, 1737, 1550, 1463, 1437, 1370, 1314, 1261, 1245, 1199, 1171, 808 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.88-0.96 (3H, m), 0.99-1.05 (6H, m), 1.21-1.42 (1H, m), 1.62-2.04 (5H, m), 2.61-3.05 (2H, m), 3.66, 3.71 (3H, s) 4.29-4.41 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.4, 10.5, 25.3, 25.4, 28.6, 29.0, 29.5 (overlapping of 2 diastereomers), 38.4, 38.6, 43.1, 44.2, 45.0, 45.2, 45.2, 45.3, 46.2, 46.4, 52.0, 52.1, 93.7, 93.9, 175.5, 175.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 266.1368. Found 266.1361.

Methyl 4,4-dimethyl-2-propionylcyclopentane-1-carboxylate (8)

To a stirred solution of **10** (1.00 g, 4.11 mmol) in MeOH (20 ml) was added dropwise sodium methoxide (28% in MeOH, 1.50 ml, 6.17 mmol) at room temperature under Ar atmosphere, the reaction mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 30 min, and then was bubbled ozone at -78 °C for 5 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with dimethyl sulfide and allowed to room temperature for over night. The mixture was partitioned between AcOEt and sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aqueous solution, the combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 10:1) to afford **8** (750 mg, 86%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat) 2954, 2870, 1734, 1714, 1462, 1437, 1369, 1350, 1248, 1200, 1175, 1117 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.94-1.08 (9H, m), 1.43-1.52 (1H, m), 1.64-1.72 (1H, m), 1.77-1.88 (2H, m), 2.37-2.53 (2H, m), 3.30-3.44 (2H, m), 3.63 (3H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.6, 28.8, 28.9, 35.3, 39.5, 44.2, 44.3, 44.8, 51.8, 53.4, 175.8, 211.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 235.1310. Found 235.1304.

(3aR,6aS)-2,5,5-Trimethyltetrahydropentalene-1,3(2H,3aH)-dione (7)

To a stirred solution of **8** (135 mg, 0.640 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was added potassium *tert*-butoxide (1.0 M in THF, 1.90 ml, 1.90 mmol) at room temperature under Ar atmosphere, and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 M HCl, and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (AcOEt, 100%) to afford **7** (85 mg, 74%) as a colorless amorphous. IR (neat) 2955, 2867, 1775, 1732, 1575, 1465, 1446, 1395, 1360, 1245, 1220, 1111, 1084, 983 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.99 (6H, s), 1.43 (2H, dd, J = 13.2, 6.0 Hz), 1.62 (3H, s), 1.80 (2H, dd, J = 13.2, 9.2 Hz), 3.20 (2H, ddd, J = 12.0, 6.2, 5.6 Hz), 10.68 (1H, br); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.8, 28.1, 28.5, 42.1, 43.5, 48.1, 111.0, 201.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF)

Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 181.1229. Found 181.1222.

(2r,3aR,6aS)-2-Allyl-2,5,5-trimethyltetrahydropentalene-1,3(2*H*,3a*H*)-dione (**11**) and (3a*R*,6a*S*)-3-(Allyloxy)-2,5,5-trimethyl-4,5,6,6a-tetrahydropentalen-1(3a*H*)-one (**12**)

To a stirred solution of **7** (470 mg, 2.61 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (50 ml) was added allyl bromide (0.442 ml, 5.22 mmol) and potassium fluoride (758 mg, 13.1 mmol) at room temperature under Ar atmosphere, and the mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 2 h. After cooling to room temperature the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 M HCl, and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 3:1) to afford **11** (350 mg, 61%) as a yellow oil and **12** (185 mg, 32%) as an orange oil. A solution of **12** (50.0 mg, 0.227 mmol) in DMF (2 ml) was stirred at 110 °C for 48 h under Ar atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted with diethyl ether. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 10:1) to afford **11** (47 mg, 94%) as a yellow oil.

#### Data for 11

IR (neat) 2956, 2932, 2868, 1760, 1719, 1464, 1450, 1370, 1209, 924 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.73 (3H, s), 0.98 (3H, s), 1.10 (3H, s), 1.74-1.88 (4H, m), 2.28 (2H, d, J = 7.2 Hz), 3.26-3.35 (2H, m), 5.00-5.12 (2H, m), 5.51-5.63 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  17.2, 27.4, 27.8, 40.8, 42.4, 44.6, 51.6, 59.6, 120.0, 131.0, 218.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 219.1385. Found 219.1390.

### Data for 12

IR (neat) 2953, 2864, 1686, 1627, 1388, 1336, 1285, 1240, 1222, 1124, 977, 935 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.99 (3H, s), 1.00 (3H, s), 1.37 (1H, dd, J = 12.0, 8.0 Hz), 1.43 (1H, dd, J = 12.8, 8.0 Hz), 1.61 (3H, s), 1.72-1.89 (2H, m), 3.01-3.09 (1H, m), 3.30-3.38 (1H, m), 4.63-4.73

(2H, m), 5.25-5.40 (2H, m), 5.90-6.01 (1H, m);  $^{13}$ C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.3, 27.7, 28.5, 41.7, 43.3, 43.9, 43.9, 51.1, 70.1, 113.8, 117.8, 132.3, 185.5, 207.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{20}O_2Na$  [M+Na]+ 243.1361. Found 243.1352.

tert-Butyl (E)-4-((2r,3aR,6aS)-2,5,5-trimethyl-1,3-dioxooctahydropentalen-2-yl)but-2-enoate (13)

To a stirred suspension of Grubbs II catalyst (58.0 mg, 0.0680 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at reflux under Ar atmosphere was added **11** (300 mg, 1.36 mmol) and *tert*-butyl acrylate (0.990 ml, 6.80 mmol), and the suspension was stirred at the same temperature for 14 h. After cooling to room temperature the reaction mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 7:1) to afford **13** (356 mg, 82%) as a white crystal. Mp 90-93 °C; IR (KBr) 2957, 2934, 1757, 1714, 1655, 1366, 1336, 1301, 1280, 1167, 1151, 1132, 1029, 981 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.75 (3H, s), 0.98 (3H, s), 1.13 (3H, s), 1.43 (9H, s), 1.74-1.90 (4H, m), 2.37 (2H, dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz), 3.26-3.35 (2H, m), 5.71 (1H, dt, J = 15.2, 1.2 Hz), 6.50-6.59 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  17.8, 27.3, 27.8, 28.0, 39.7, 40.8, 44.7, 51.6, 58.5, 80.5, 127.6, 139.1, 164.7, 218.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 343.1885. Found 343.1878.

tert-Butyl 4-((2r,3aR,6aS)-2,5,5-trimethyl-1,3-dioxooctahydropentalen-2-yl)butanoate (6)

A suspension of 13 (280 mg, 0.873 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (47 mg, 0.0437 mmol) in EtOH was stirred at room temperature for 2 h under  $H_2$  atmosphere. The insoluble material was removed by filtration, and concentrated in vacuo to afford 6 (280 mg, 98%) as a pink oil. IR (neat) 2961,

2930, 2868, 1722, 1712, 1366, 1260, 1148, 1073 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.70 (3H, s), 0.97 (3H, s), 1.09 (3H, s), 1.38 (9H, s), 1.41-1.61 (4H, m), 1.73-1.91 (4H, m), 2.05-2.16 (2H, m), 3.32-3.45 (2H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.4, 19.5, 27.4, 27.8, 28.0, 34.9, 36.8, 40.8, 44.5, 51.3, 58.9, 80.7, 171.9, 218.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 345.2042. Found 345.2036.

*tert*-Butyl (3a*S*,7a*R*)-2,2,4-trimethyl-7-oxo-1,2,3,3a,5,6,7,7a-octahydro-6a*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]pentalene-6a-carboxylate (**15**)

To a stirred solution of 6 (20 mg, 0.0620 mmol) in THF (1 ml) was added potassium tert-butoxide (1.0 M in THF, 0.200 ml, 0.200 mmol) at -20 °C under Ar atmosphere, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aqueous solution, and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo to afford the crude 14. To a stirred solution of the crude 14 and DMAP (10 mg, 0.0819 mmol) in pyridine (0.5 ml) was added POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.0700 ml, 0.751 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 15 h. After cooling to room temperature the reaction mixture was quenched with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution, acidified with 1 M HCl, and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 10:1) to afford 15 (15 mg, 79%) as a pale yellow crystal. Mp 72-75 °C; IR (KBr) 3449, 3000, 2928, 2867, 1712, 1465, 1444, 1367, 1246, 1221, 1133, 1095, 844, 827 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.95 (3H, s), 1.08 (3H, s), 1.46 (9H, s), 1.41-1.52 (2H, m), 1.76 (3H, s), 1.60-1.87 (2H, m), 1.95-2.05 (1H, m), 2.16-2.30 (2H, m), 2.87-3.10 (2H, m), 3.28-3.37 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.2, 26.4, 27.9, 28.0, 34.1, 40.0, 40.3, 43.3, 43.6, 45.1, 57.7, 72.0, 81.9, 137.7, 138.6, 172.4, 214.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{28}O_3Na \ [M+Na]^+ \ 327.1936$ . Found 327.1934.

*tert*-Butyl (3a*S*,3b*R*,6a*S*,7a*S*)-3a-hydroxy-5,5,7a-trimethyl-7-oxodecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]pentalene-3-carboxylate (**16**)

$$t\text{-BuOK}$$

THF, -78 °C, 2 h

 $t\text{-BuO}_2$ C

 $t\text{-BuO}_2$ C

16

To a stirred solution of 6 (80 mg, 0.248 mmol) in THF (4 ml) was added potassium *tert*-butoxide (1.0 M in THF, 0.750 ml, 0.750 mmol) at -78 °C under Ar atmosphere, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aqueous solution, and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 8:1) to afford 16 (60 mg, 75%) as a mixture of diastereomers (3:1).

Data for less polar diastereomer (white crystal)

Mp 103-105 °C; IR (KBr) 3568, 2932, 1712, 1455, 1383, 1316, 1255, 1130, 1074, 1030, 845 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.94 (3H, s), 1.03 (3H, s), 1.10 (3H, s), 1.50 (9H, s), 1.41-1.73 (5H, m), 1.78-1.96 (3H, m), 2.72-2.80 (1H, m), 2.80 (1H, s), 2.90-3.03 (2H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  20.3, 27.2, 27.9, 28.2, 29.1, 36.8, 40.8, 43.0, 43.6, 48.8, 52.5, 56.7, 59.2, 81.9, 85.4, 173.4, 224.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 345.2042. Found 345.2032. Data for polar diastereomer (white crystal)

Mp 104-108 °C; IR (KBr) 3478, 2955, 2868, 1732, 1706, 1454, 1380, 1302, 1258, 1219, 1157, 1101cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.96 (3H, s), 1.07 (3H, s), 1.20 (3H, s), 1.48 (9H, s), 1.41-1.74 (4H, m), 1.81-2.15 (4H, m), 2.47-2.53 (1H, m), 2.88-3.06 (2H, m), 3.64 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  17.9, 23.8, 28.2, 28.7, 36.2, 41.0, 42.2, 42.3, 46.0, 52.6, 56.8, 60.2, 81.8, 86.0, 172.2, 222.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 345.2042. Found 345.2037.

tert-Butyl (3bR,6aS,7aS)-5,5,7a-trimethyl-7-oxo-2,3b,4,5,6,6a,7,7a-octahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]pentalene-3-carboxylate (**19**)

$$t$$
-BuO<sub>2</sub>C  $t$ -BuO<sub>2</sub>C  $t$ -BuO<sub>2</sub>C  $t$ -Bu  $t$ -BuO<sub>2</sub>C  $t$ -Bu

To a stirred solution of **16** (20 mg, 0.0650 mmol) in pyridine (1 ml) was added SOCl<sub>2</sub> (0.0500 ml, 0.650 mmol) at room temperature under Ar atmosphere, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 16 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with 1 M HCl, and extracted with ether. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The resultant residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 12:1) to afford **19** (16 mg, 81%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat) 3434, 2956, 1739, 1702, 1655, 1368, 1168, 1110 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.99 (3H, s), 1.13 (3H, s), 1.39 (3H, s), 1.51 (9H, s), 1.53-1.69 (2H, m), 1.76-1.82 (1H, m), 1.90-2.05 (3H, m), 2.66 (1H, dd, J = 16, 8.4 Hz), 2.77-2.87 (1H, m), 3.18 (1H, ddd J = 9.6, 9.6, 9.6 Hz), 3.88 (1H, ddd, J = 9.6, 9.6, 9.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  23.7, 26.3, 28.0, 28.2, 32.8, 35.6, 42.1, 43.3, 45.9, 46.3, 57.8, 63.4, 80.3, 128.9, 164.4, 164.7, 220.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 327.1936. Found 327.1927.

(3bR,6aS,7aS)-5,5,7a-Trimethyl-7-oxo-2,3b,4,5,6,6a,7,7a-octahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]pentalene-3-carboxylic acid (1)

TFA

$$CH_2Cl_2$$
, rt, 3 h

 $CO_2t$ -Bu

 $O$ 
 $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt, 3 h

 $O$ 
 $CO_2H$ 
 $CO_2H$ 
 $CO_2H$ 
 $CO_2H$ 
 $CO_2H$ 

To a stirred solution of **19** (60 mg, 0.197 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 ml) was added TFA (0.23 ml) at the room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 3 h. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt, 3:1) to afford **1** (45 mg, 92%) as a white crystal. Mp 186-189 °C; IR (KBr) 2957, 1737, 1683, 1432, 1369, 1336, 1296, 1279, 1207, 1119, 1075, 914, 714 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.00 (3H, s), 1.14 (3H, s), 1.43 (3H, s), 1.57-1.70 (2H, m), 1.81-1.87 (1H, m), 1.95-2.10 (3H, m), 2.72 (1H, dd, J = 16.0, 8.8 Hz), 2.83-2.95 (1H, m), 3.22 (1H, ddd, J = 9.6, 9.6, 9.6 Hz), 3.95 (1H, ddd, J = 9.6, 9.6, 9.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  23.8, 26.5, 28.2, 32.5, 35.6, 42.2, 43.5, 46.1, 46.1, 58.2, 63.8, 126.6, 170.2, 170.2, 220.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{19}O_3$  [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 247.1334. Found 247.1340.























