# A tandem Friedel-Crafts based method for the construction of tricyclic pyrroloquinoline skeleton and its application to the synthesis of ammosamide B

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## 1) General

Flash chromatography was performed on Silica gel 60 (spherical, particle size  $40 \sim 100 \ \mu m$ ; Kanto).  $^{1}$ H and  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM-AL 300, JNM-ECX 400, and JNM-ECA 500. The spectra are referenced internally according to residual solvent signals of CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $^{1}$ H NMR;  $\delta = 7.26 \ ppm$ ,  $^{13}$ C NMR;  $\delta = 77.0 \ ppm$ ), acetone-d6 ( $^{1}$ H NMR;  $\delta = 2.05 \ ppm$ ,  $^{13}$ C NMR;  $\delta = 29.8 \ ppm$ ), DMSO-d6 ( $^{1}$ H NMR;  $\delta = 2.50 \ ppm$ ,  $^{13}$ C NMR;  $\delta = 39.5 \ ppm$ ). Data for  $^{1}$ H NMR are recorded as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad), integration, coupling content (Hz). Data for  $^{13}$ C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm). Mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-T100LC spectrometer with ESI-MS mode using methanol as solvent.

# 2) Experimental Section

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
CI & & \\
\hline
HNO_3, H_2SO_4 \\
\hline
100 ^{\circ}C, 24 \text{ h} \\
\hline
78\% & & \\
\hline
M-dichlorobenzene & 18
\end{array}$$

#### Dichloro dinitro benzene 18

To a solution of nitric acid (150 mL) and sulfuric acid (80 mL) at 0 °C was added a solution of m-dichlorobenzene (15 mL, 132.65 mmol) dropwise via pipette. The mixture was heated at 100 °C for 24 h, poured into ice-cold water, and extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with water, saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc, added n-hexane and precipitate was formed. This precipitate was collected with filtration using filter paper, to give **18** as a light yellow solid (24.49 g, 103.32 mmol 78%). Spectral data for **18**:  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.57 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.5, 135.2, 132.4, 123.3;

Bis-amino bis-nitro substituted benzene 7

To a solution of dichloro dinitro benzene **18** (6.00 g, 25.3 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (150 mL) was added  $K_2CO_3$  (17.5 g, 126.5 mmol) and aminoacetoaldehyde dimethyl acetal (11 mL, 101.3 mmol) at room

temperature under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The mixture was heated at 80 °C for 2.5 h, cooled at room temperature. The reaction mixture was added saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and H<sub>2</sub>O, and precipitate was formed. This precipitate was collected with filtration using filter paper, to give **7** as a yellow solid (9.13 g, 24.4 mmol 97%). Spectral data for **7**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  8.95 (s, 1H), 8.35 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 4.69 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 4H), 3.37 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  148.0, 128.5, 123.6, 101.6, 91.6, 53.8, 44.3; HRMS (ESI,  $M + Na^+$ ) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>8</sub> 397.1335, found 397.1325.

# *N*-methyl oxyindole **11**

To a solution of bis-amino bis-nitro substituted benzene **7** (2.00 g, 5.35 mmol) in toluene (50 mL) was added BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (5.0 mL, 39.8 mmol) dropwise via pipette at 0 °C under Ar atmosphere. After 3 h, the reaction mixture was added saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. To a solution of the residue in MeCN (50 mL) was added CAN (3.06 g, 5.58 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h. The mixture was added saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with EtOAc. The extracted were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. To a solution of residue in DMF (40 mL) was added NaH (71.6 mg, 1.79 mmol) and MeI (110  $\mu$ L, 1.77 mmol) at 0 °C under Ar atmosphere. After 8 h, the reaction mixture was added saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 1:0 to 50:1) to give **11** as a yellow solid (679 mg, 2.48 mmol, 46%). Spectral data for **11**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  9.53 (d, J = 4.5 Hz 1H), 8.97 (s, 1H), 8.31. (d, J = 4.5 Hz 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  167.9, 158.4, 140.7, 138.5, 137.6, 133.0, 127.6, 126.6, 122.4, 120.3, 30.2; HRMS (ESI, M + H<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 275.0416, found 275.0466.

# Aniline 12

To a solution of N-methyl oxyindole 11 (257 mg, 0.94 mmol) in THF (10 mL) and MeOH (10 mL)

was added 20% Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under an atmosphere of hydrogen gas (balloon). After 3 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and eluted with EtOAc. The filtrates were concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 20:1 to 10:1) to give **12** as a purple solid (160 mg, 0.75 mmol, 80%). Spectral data for **12**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  8.64 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 5.87 (br, 2H), 5.86 (br, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  164.1, 143.5, 143.2, 134.8, 134.6, 129.4, 120.2, 117.5, 106.0, 101.9, 28.4; HRMS (ESI, M + Na $^+$ ) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO 237.0752, found 237.0783.

#### Bis-trifluoroacetamide 13

To a solution of aniline **12** (267 mg, 1.25 mmol) in THF (12 mL) was added TFAA (700  $\mu$ L) dropwise via pipette at 0 °C. After 1.5 h, the reaction mixture was added H<sub>2</sub>O and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub> 100%) to give **13** as yellow solid (386 mg, 0.95 mmol, 76%). Spectral data for **13**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  10.66 (br, 1H), 10.10 (br, 1H), 9.13 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  166.9, 158.1 (q, J = 37.2 Hz), 155.5 (q, J = 37.2 Hz), 153.7, 137.5, 134.5, 132.9, 128.4, 122.3, 120.7, 119.5, 117.0 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 116.7 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 114.8, 27.8; HRMS (ESI, M + Na<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> 429.0398, found 429.0392.

## *N*-oxide **14**

To a solution of bis-trifluoroacetamide 13 (190 mg, 0.47 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) was added m-CPBA (528 mg, 2.35 mmol) at room temperature. After 15 h, the reaction mixuture was added H<sub>2</sub>O and the organic layer was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The water layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracted were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The

residue was chromatographed on silica gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 1:0 to 50:1) to give **14** as an orange solid (194 mg, 0.46 mmol, 98%). Spectral data for **14**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  10.74 (br, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  165.1, 158.0 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 154.8 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 142.0, 132.1, 128.6, 126.7, 124.9, 124.5, 121.7, 120.8, 116.9 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 116.8, 116.6 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 27.9; HRMS (ESI, M + Na<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $C_{15}H_8F_6N_4NaO_4$  445.0347, found 445.0313.

$$F_{3}C \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{H} \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{Me}^{H} O \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{F_{3}C} \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{H} \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{H} O \bigvee_{CF_{3}} \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{H} O \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{NH}^{H} O \bigvee_{O} \bigvee_{$$

## C4 chlorine compound **15**

To a solution of *N*-oxide **14** (91.5 mg, 0.22 mmol) in POCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) was heated at 100 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After 1 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, poured into ice-cold water, and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAe. The extracted were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub> 100%) to give **15** as a yellow solid (57.0 mg, 0.13 mmol, 59%). Spectral data for **15**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  10.74 (br, 1H), 10.31 (br, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  165.8, 158.0 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 155.9 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 153.8, 138.2, 137.5, 133.3, 127.7, 125.2, 121.2, 120.2, 117.0 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 116.7 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 115.6, 28.0; HRMS (ESI, M + Na $^+$ ) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>7</sub>ClF<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> 463.0009, found 462.9996.

$$F_3C \longrightarrow 0 \\ HN \longrightarrow 0 \\ NH \longrightarrow 0 \\$$

#### Methyl ester 16

To a solution of C4 chlorine compound **15** (133 mg, 0.30 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added  $Et_3N$  (220  $\mu$ L, 1.59 mmol) dropwise via pipette and  $PdCl_2(dppf)$  (25.4 mg, 0.031 mmol) at room temperature, and the vessel was pressurized to 10 atm with CO gas and heated to 100 °C. After 11 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and reduced the pressure. The reaction mixture was added EtOAc and  $H_2O$  and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAc. The water layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO_4$ , filtered,

and concentrated *in vacuo*. To a solution of residue in pyridine (5 mL) was added TFAA (3 mL) dropwise via pippete at 0 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 1:0 to 100:1) to give **16** as orange solid (73 mg, 0.16 mmol, 53%). Spectral data for **16**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  8.58 (s, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 1H), 3.55 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  166.3, 165.1, 158.0 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 155.7 (q, J = 38.4 Hz), 151.3, 137.0, 136.1, 132.4, 129.1, 123.3, 122.2, 119.5, 117.0 (q, J = 286.7 Hz), 116.7, 116.7 (q, J = 286.7 Hz), 53.6, 28.0; HRMS (ESI, M - H<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $C_{17}H_9F_6N_4O_5$  463.0477, found 463.04300.

$$F_3C \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow OMe$$

$$F_3C \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow OMe$$

$$NCS \longrightarrow Pyridine$$

$$O \longrightarrow NH$$

$$O \longrightarrow$$

### C7 chlorine compound 17

To a solution of methyl ester **16** (10.7 mg, 0.023 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added pyridine (100  $\mu$ L) dropwise via pipette and NCS (9.5 mg, 0.071 mmol), and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C. After 1 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and added EtOAc and H<sub>2</sub>O and the organic layer was extracted with EtOAc. The water layer was extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 100:1) to give **17** as a yellow solid (6.3 mg, 0.013 mmol, 57%). Spectral data for **17**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  10.74 (br, 1H), 9.89 (br, 1H), 8.56 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  178.9, 166.7, 165.3, 158.2 (q, J = 37.2 Hz), 156.8 (q, J = 37.2 Hz), 153.9, 141.6, 139.2, 138.3, 136.6, 121.7, 119.5, 117.1 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 116.9 (q, J = 287.9 Hz), 113.9, 53.5, 27.8; HRMS (ESI, M - H<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>8</sub>CIF<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 497.0087, found 497.0057.

$$F_3C \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow OMe$$

$$F_3C \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow NH_2$$

$$O \longrightarrow NH_2$$

$$O \longrightarrow NH_3 / MeOH$$

$$O \longrightarrow NH_2$$

## Ammosamide B (2)

To a solution of C7 chlorine compound **17** (5.5 mg, 0.011 mmol) in 4% NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH solution (2mL) was heated at reflux. The reaction mixture was stirred for 21 h and then concentrated *in vacuo*.

The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 50:1 to 10:1) to give **2** as a purple solid (1.9 mg, 0.013 mmol, 59%). Spectral data for **2**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  8.88 (br, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.63 (br, 1H), 6.69 (br, 2H), 6.14 (br, 2H), 3.59 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d6)  $\delta$  166.1, 164.0, 144.7, 140.5, 132.4, 130.8, 130.6, 119.1, 115.3, 106.3, 104.5, 28.6; HRMS (ESI, M - H<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>ClN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 290.0445, found 290.0416.







































