Synthesis of the Paralytic Shellfish Poisons (+)-Gonyautoxin 2, (+)Gonyautoxin 3, and (+)-11,11-Dihydroxysaxitoxin

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L-serine methyl ester hydrochloride

1 – 5

A

6 – 12

B

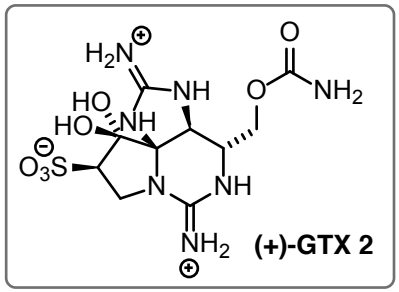
1) pyrrole-1-carboxylic acid, $(COCl)_2$, cat. DMF, aq. $NaHCO_3$, THF
2) TBDPSCl, imidazole, DMF
3) *i*-BuAlH, DCM, –90 °C
4) allylamine *then* $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$, DCM
5) $Pd(PPh_3)_4$, 1,3-dimethylbarbituic acid, DCM *then* TcesNC(SMe)Cl, aq. Na_2CO_3
6) EtOTf, 2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylpyrimidine, DCM
7) NH_3, NH_4OAc, MeOH, 70 °C
8) $Cl_3CC(O)Cl$, *i*-Pr_2NEt, DCM
9) $Rh_2(esp)_2$ (cat.), $PhI(OAc)_2$, MgO, DCM, 40 °C
10) $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$, Et_3SiH
11) n-Bu_4NF, THF
12) $Cl_3CC(O)CNCO$, *then* MeOH

Please give a mechanism for step 1

Please give name and mechanism for step 4 and explain why one diastereomer is preferred (dr: >20:1)

Step 6: can you imagine why this transformation proved to be challenging?

Please suggest a mechanism for step 9



(+)-GTX 2

13 – 18

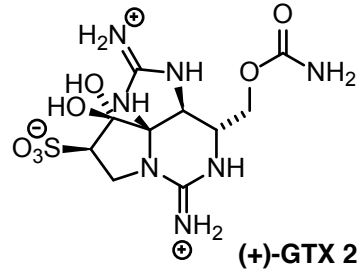
13) OsO_4 (cat.), NMR, THF
14) PhC(O)CN, DMAP, –78 °C
15) DMP, DCM
16) H_2, Pd/C, MeOH, CF_3COOH
17) NH_3, MeOH
18) DMF · SO_3, 2,6-di-*t*-butyl-4-methylpyridine

Step 18: what is the role of the pyridine?

(+)-GTX 3

19

19) 0.3 M aq. NaOAc



(+)-GTX 2

Bonus question: The gonyautoxins as well as closely related saxitoxins are highly potent toxins. Can you imagine how they work?