# Literature Report I

#### **Total Synthesis of (-)-Ambiguine P**

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Rawal, V. H. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 4820-4823

#### **Education and Employment:**

- □ 1976–1980 B.S., University of Connecticut
- **1980–1986** Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
- □ 1986–1988 Postdoctor, Columbia University
- □ 1988–1994 Assistant Professor, Ohio State University
- □ 1994–1995 Associate Professor, Ohio State University
- □ 1995–Now Professor, University of Chicago

#### **Research Interests:**

- >Total synthesis of natural products (potent biological activities)
- The effective catalysts for enantioselective reactions



# **Stille coupling**









# 1 Introduction

# 2 The Synthesis of (-)-Ambiguine P



## Introduction





blue-green algae

- It was isolated from the roots of blue-green algae;
- It exhibits a broad range of bioactivities including antimycotic, antifungal and antibiotic properties;
- The first asymmetric synthesis of (-)-Ambiguine P was completed by Sarpong and co-workers. (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2019, 141, 4820)

Smitka, T. A. et al. J. Org. Chem. 1992, 57, 857.

#### Introduction

#### Representative members of the ambiguine group



ambiguine H(2); X = H

Me Me H H V H NH Me NH Me

ambiguine K (**3**); X = Cl ambiguine L (**4**); X = H





## Synthetic strategy to access the Amibiguines



#### Synthesis of 11 and 19









Richter, J. M. et al. Nature 2007, 446, 404-408

#### Probable mechanism of the c to d





Richter, J. M. et al. Nature 2007, 446, 404-408

## Probable mechanism of the d to e





Richter, J. M. et al. Nature 2007, 446, 404-408



## **Exploration of the [4+3] cycloaddition**



# **Exploration of the [4+3] cycloaddition**













# **Synthesis of (-)-Ambiguine P**





## **Probable mechanism for the (-)-Ambiguine P**







- Total synthesis of (-)-Ambiguine P: 12 steps, 9% overall yield;
- Inspired by a [4+3] cycloaddition reaction/Friedel-Crafts reaction/NBSmediated bromination/S<sub>N</sub>1' displacement.

# The first paragraph

#### Writing thought



Since the report of the first few ambiguine indole alkaloids from bluegreen algae in 1992 by Smitka, Moore et al., a total of 18 members of this group of hapalindoles have been identified. These secondary metabolites exhibit a broad range of bioactivities including antimycotic, antifungal, and antibiotic properties, with two members showing activities comparable to clinical agents streptomycin, puromycin, and amphotericin. Ambiguines posses the core structure of hapalindoles, but with an additional reverse prenyl group at the C-2 position of the indole moiety. Frequently, as found in 13 members of the group, the prenyl group connects the indole C-2 position and the distal cyclohexane ring, to form a seven-membered ring.

## The last paragraph

#### Writing thought



In summary, we have completed the total synthesis of (-)-ambiguine P through a concise sequence starting from known ketone **16.** The synthesis, inspired by a [4+3] cycloaddition reaction, features a two-step sequence to construct the cyclohepta[b]indole motif and a Friedel-Crafts reaction to assemble the pentacyclic ambiguine framework. An NBSmediated bromination in the presence of water achieved an electrophilic bromination/ $S_N$ 1' displacement to install the crucial C-15 hydroxy group of the natural product. The strategy is sufficiently general so as to lay the groundwork for accessing other pentacyclic members of the ambiguine alkaloid family.

This objective was accomplished by treating **21** with BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> and MeOH, which formed the ambiguine framework in good yield. Based on the encouraging results of the model studies, we embarked on the construction of the ambiguine pentacycle using a suitably decorated diene.

The unexpected formation of the C-15 hydroxylated product can be explained by plausible reactivity considerations.

The strategy is sufficiently general so as to lay the groundwork for accessing other pentacyclic members of the ambiguine alkaloid family.

#### Acknowledgement

# Thanks for your attention