### Supporting Information

# Synthesis of Pachastrissamine from Phytosphingosine: A Comparison of Cyclic Sulfate vs Epoxide Intermediate in Cyclization

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### **Contents**

General Experimental Method	S2
Full experimental procedures and analytical data of compounds	S3-S9
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>4</b>	S10-S11
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>1</b>	S12-S13
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>7</b>	S14-S15
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>9</b>	S16-S17
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>10</b>	S18-S19
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>11</b>	S20-S21
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compound <b>12</b>	S22-S23

General. All chemicals were reagent grade and used as purchased. All reactions were performed under an inert atmosphere of dry argon or nitrogen using distilled dry solvents. Reactions were monitored by TLC analysis using silica gel 60 F-254 TLC plates. Melting points are uncorrected. Flash column chromatography was carried out on silica gel (230-400 mesh). Optical rotations were measured using sodium light (D line 589.3 nm). <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in δ units relative to deuterated solvent as internal reference at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively. IR spectra were measured on a Fourier Transform Infrared spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded using fast atom bombardment (FAB) or chemical ionization (CI).

### (2S,3S,4S)-4-Azido-2-tetradecyl-tetrahydrofuran-3-ol (4)

RO 
$$C_{13}H_{27}$$
  $C_{13}H_{27}$   $C$ 

From **3a**: To a solution of cyclic sulfate **3a**<sup>5</sup> (258 mg, 0.400 mmol) in THF (8 mL) was added TBAF (0.44 mL, 0.440 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, and to it were added concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (34 μL), H<sub>2</sub>O (42 μL) and THF (524 μL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and then diluted with EtOAc. It was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated, and purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give **4** (112 mg, 86%) as a white solid.

From **3b**: To a solution of cyclic sulfate **3b**<sup>5</sup> (136 mg, 0.210 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (3 mL) was added H<sub>2</sub>O (0.20 mL, 11.1 mmol, 50 equvi) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 6 h, and then concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give **4** (50 mg, 74%) as a white solid: mp 99.4-100.1 °C;  $[\alpha]^{24}_D$  +16.7 (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.43 (m, 24H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 2.10 (br s. 1H), 3.76 (ddd, J = 3.6, 6.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (dd, J = 6.6, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (dd, J = 7.2, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (ddd, J = 4.8, 6.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, J = 3.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 22.7, 26.0, 28.8, 29.3, 29.51, 29.55, 29.65, 31.9, 63.7, 68.4, 72.5, 82.1; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\nu_{max}$  3329, 2917, 2849, 2105, 1468 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (CI) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{36}O_2N_3$  ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 326.2808, found 326.2805.

### (2S,3S,4S)-4-Amino-2-tetradecyl-tetrahydrofuran-3-ol (pachastrissamine, 1)

A solution of **4** (88 mg, 0.27 mmol) in MeOH (4 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was charged with 10% Pd/C (45 mg, 50 wt%). The mixture was stirred for 3 h under a balloon filled with H<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. It was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH and filtered through a pad of Celite. The solvent was removed, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 9:1, 1% NH<sub>4</sub>OH) to give pachastrissamine (**1**) (74 mg, 93%) as a white solid: mp 96.6-97.2 °C (lit.<sup>3c</sup> mp 70-72 °C, lit.<sup>3e</sup> mp 89-91 °C);  $[\alpha]^{24}_D$  +76.0 (c 0.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>),  $[\alpha]^{23}_D$  +19.7 (c 0.5, MeOH), (lit.<sup>1</sup>  $[\alpha]_D$  +18 (c 0.1, EtOH), lit.<sup>2</sup>  $[\alpha]^{20}_D$  +7 (c 0.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit.<sup>3a</sup>  $[\alpha]_D$  +9 (c 1.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit.<sup>3b</sup>  $[\alpha]^{25}_D$  +7 (c 0.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit.<sup>3c</sup>  $[\alpha]^{25}_D$  +7.0 (c 0.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit.<sup>3e</sup>  $[\alpha]^{22}_D$  +4.8 (c 1.0, MeOH)); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.87 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.43 (m, 24H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 2.09 (br s, 3H), 3.50 (dd J = 6.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (dt, J = 5.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (app. dt, J = 3.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (dd, J = 3.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (dd, J = 7.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 22.7, 26.3, 29.3, 29.4, 29.57, 29.59, 29.7, 29.8, 31.9, 54.3, 71.8, 72.3, 83.2; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\nu_{max}$  3351, 3056, 2907, 2851, 1477 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (FAB) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 300.2903, found 300.2898.

### (2S,3S,4S)-4-Acetamido-2-tetradecyl-tetrahydrofuran-3-yl acetate(pachastrissamine diacetate)

To a solution of pachastrissamine (1) (33 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL) were added acetic anhydride (50 µL, 0.53 mmol) and triethylamine (80 µL, 0.57 mmol) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C. After 6 h, this reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc, 2:1) to give pachastrissamine diacetate (39 mg, 91%) as a white solid; mp 109.7-110.4  $^{\circ}$ C (lit.<sup>3e</sup> mp 95-98  $^{\circ}$ C); [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>24</sup><sub>D</sub> -18.5 (c 0.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) (lit.<sup>3a</sup> [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -28.4 (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit.<sup>3e</sup> [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>22</sup><sub>D</sub> -22.6 (c 1.0, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.87 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.47 (m, 26H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 3.59 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (m, 1H), 4.07 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dddd, J = 5.4, 8.1, 8.1, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (dd, J = 3.3, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (br d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 20.7, 22.7, 23.1, 26.0, 29.27, 29.32, 29.4, 29.51, 29.55, 29.62, 29.65, 31.9, 51.3, 69.9, 73.5, 81.2, 169.8, 169.9; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu_{max}$  2919, 2853, 1739, 1643 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (FAB) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>42</sub>O<sub>4</sub>N ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 384.3114, found 384.3107.

## $\{(S)\text{-}2\text{-}Azido\text{-}2\text{-}[(2S,3R)\text{-}3\text{-}tetradecyloxiran\text{-}2\text{-}yl]ethoxy}\}\text{-}tert\text{-}butyldiphenylsilane}$

To a solution of **8**<sup>5</sup> (102 mg, 0.147 mmol) in MeOH (4 mL) was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (41 mg, 0.30 mmol). This reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and then

diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. It was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed, and the residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 15:1) to give epoxide **7** (83 mg, 99%) as a colorless oil:  $[\alpha]^{24}_D$  +7.1 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $^1$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.89 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (s, 9H), 1.28-1.60 (m, 26H), 2.99-3.03 (m, 2H), 3.19 (ddd, J = 3.0, 6.3, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (dd, J = 6.3, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (dd, J = 3.0, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.48 (m, 6H), 7.70-7.73 (m, 4H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 19.1, 22.7, 26.4, 26.7, 27.9, 29.3, 29.41, 29.47, 29.51, 29.7, 31.9, 54.1, 57.0, 60.9, 65.3, 127.8, 129.8, 132.7, 132.9, 135.57, 135.59; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\nu_{max}$  2924, 2841, 2106, 1425 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (CI) calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>54</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Si ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 564.3985, found 564.3981.

### (S)-2-Azido-2-[(2S,3R)-3-tetradecyloxiran-2-yl]ethanol (9)

TBDPSO 
$$C_{13}H_{27}$$
  $C_{13}H_{27}$ 

To a solution of epoxide **7** (123 mg, 0.218 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added TBAF (0.3 mL, 0.30 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) at room temperature. After being stirred for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give epoxy alcohol **9** (70 mg, 99%) as a white solid: mp 67.1-67.4 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>24</sup><sub>D</sub> +34 (c 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.26-1.68 (m, 26H), 1.91 (br s, 1H), 3.02 (dd, J = 3.9, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (ddd, J = 3.9, 4.2, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (ddd, J = 3.9, 6.3, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (dd, J = 6.3, 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (dd, J = 3.9, 11.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 22.6, 26.4, 28.0, 29.3, 29.40, 29.44, 29.5,

29.57, 29.61, 29.63, 29.64, 31.9, 54.7, 57.2, 60.9, 63.6; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\upsilon_{max}$  3285, 3177, 2917, 2851, 2141, 2095, 1472 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (CI) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{36}O_2N_3$  ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 326.2808, found 326.2806.

### (2R,3S,4S)-4-Azido-2-tetradecyl-tetrahydrofuran-3-ol (10)

$$N_3$$
 OH  $C_{13}H_{27}$ 

To a solution of epoxy alcohol **9** (43 mg, 0.132 mmol) in toluene (4 mL) was added TsOH (2 mg, 10 µmol, 0.1 equiv). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 12 h and cooled to room temperature. It was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give **10** (34 mg, 79%) as a white solid: mp 64.7-65.8 °C;  $[\alpha]^{24}_D$  +29.9 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.69 (m, 26H), 2.24 (br d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.58-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.80 (dd, J = 4.5, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (br app. q, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (ddd, J = 4.8, 5.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (dd, J = 5.7, 9.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 22.7, 25.7, 29.3, 29.50, 29.55, 29.58, 29.6, 29.7, 31.9, 33.2, 63.3, 69.3, 76.2, 82.9; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\upsilon_{max}$  3293, 2920, 2849, 2108, 1468 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (CI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub> ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 326.2808, found 326.2806.

### (2S,3S,4S)-2-Azido-1,3-dihydroxyoctadecan-4-yl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (11)

To a solution of epoxy alcohol **9** (42 mg, 0.129 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL) was added TsOH (30 mg, 0.158 mmol, 1.2 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 8 h, and then diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. It was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give **10** (20 mg, 48%) and the unstable hydroxyl tosylate **11** (21 mg, 32%) as a colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.26-1.78 (m, 26H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 3.46-3.56 (m, 2H), 3.92 (dd, J = 4.2, 11.7 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, J = 3.6, 11.7 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dt, J = 1.5, 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 21.6, 22.7, 25.0, 25.7, 29.1, 29.3, 29.4, 29.7, 31.1, 31.9, 62.5, 62.9, 71.1, 82.3, 127.8, 129.9, 133.7, 145.2.

#### (2R,3S,4S)-4-Amino-2-tetradecyl-tetrahydrofuran-3-ol (epi-pachastrissamine, 12)

A solution of **10** (52 mg, 0.16 mmol) in MeOH (4 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was charged with 10% Pd/C (26 mg, 50 wt%). The mixture was stirred for 3 h under a balloon filled with H<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. It was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH and filtered through a pad of Celite. The solvent was removed, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 9:1, 1% NH<sub>4</sub>OH) to give *epi*-pachastrissamine (**12**) (45 mg, 94%) as a white solid: solid: mp 103.9-104.9 °C (lit. <sup>3e</sup> mp 85-87 °C, lit. <sup>16</sup> mp 103.5-104.2 °C);  $[\alpha]^{23}_{D}$  +23.2 (*c* 1.0, MeOH) (lit. <sup>3e</sup>  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$  +15.0 (*c* 1.0, MeOH), lit. <sup>16</sup>  $[\alpha]^{23}_{D}$  +14.8 (*c* 0.2, EtOH)); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  0.87 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.60 (m, 26H), 2.13 (br s, 3H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.45

(m, 1H), 3.60 (dd, J = 5.1, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (m, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 6.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 22.7, 25.9, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 29.7, 31.9, 33.7, 52.7, 73.1, 74.8, 85.2; IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl)  $\nu_{max}$  3420, 2917, 2851, 1474 (cm<sup>-1</sup>); HRMS (FAB) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{38}O_2N$  ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) 300.2903, found 300.2903.



























