



Article

Investigation of the Anti-Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Activity of (+)-Tanikolide- and (+)-Malyngolide-Based Analogues Prepared by Asymmetric Synthesis

Joseph Breheny¹, Cian Kingston², Robert Doran¹, Joao Anes³, Marta Martins³, Séamus Fanning³ 
and Patrick J. Guiry^{1,2,*}

- ¹ Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology, School of Chemistry, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin D04 N2E5, Ireland; joseph.breheny@ucdconnect.ie (J.B.); robert.doran@ucdconnect.ie (R.D.)
² Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre, School of Chemistry, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin D04 N2E5, Ireland; cian.kingston@ucdconnect.ie
³ UCD-Centre for Food Safety, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin D04 N2E5, Ireland; joao.anes@ucdconnect.ie (J.A.); marta.martins@ucd.ie (M.M.); sfanning@ucd.ie (S.F.)
* Correspondence: p.guiry@ucd.ie; Tel.: +353-1-716-2309

Abstract: Herein, we report antibacterial and antifungal evaluation of a series of previously prepared (+)-tanikolide analogues. One analogue, (4*S*,6*S*)-4-methyltanikolide, displayed promising anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* activity with a MIC of 12.5 µg/mL. Based on the antimicrobial properties of the structurally related (–)-malyngolide, two further analogues (4*S*,6*S*)-4-methylmalyngolide and (4*R*,6*S*)-4-methylmalyngolide bearing a shortened *n*-nonyl alkyl side chain were prepared in the present study using a ZrCl₄-catalysed deprotection/cyclisation as the key step in their asymmetric synthesis. When these were tested for activity against anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, the MIC increased to 50 µg/mL.

Keywords: (+)-tanikolide; (–)-malyngolide; asymmetric synthesis; anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* activity



Citation: Breheny, J.; Kingston, C.; Doran, R.; Anes, J.; Martins, M.; Fanning, S.; Guiry, P.J. Investigation of the Anti-Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Activity of (+)-Tanikolide- and (+)-Malyngolide-Based Analogues Prepared by Asymmetric Synthesis. *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2021**, *22*, 6400. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms22126400>

Academic Editor: Witold Gładkowski

Received: 10 March 2021

Accepted: 10 June 2021

Published: 15 June 2021

Publisher's Note: MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



Copyright: © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

1. Introduction

We developed a ZrCl₄-catalysed one-pot deprotection/cyclisation synthetic protocol for the construction of δ -lactones [1]. The methodology was subsequently applied in the asymmetric synthesis of both enantiomers of a mosquito attractant pheromone [2], substituted tetrahydropyrans which provided useful synthons for the enantioselective synthesis of (+)-*exo*- and (+)-*endo*-brevicomin [3] and for the efficient synthesis of (–)-frontalin and (–)-*exo*-isobrevicomin [4]. Finally, of relevance to this report, the methodology was applied to the asymmetric synthesis of (+)-tanikolide, **1**, affording the δ -lactone based natural product in an overall yield of 26.4% [5]. (+)-Tanikolide **1** displays strong toxicity against brine shrimp and snails and interesting antifungal activity against *C. albicans* [6]. *C. albicans* is the most common fungal pathogen of human diseases and together with other *Candida* species are responsible for ca. 400,000 life-threatening infections per annum with a mortality rate as high as 40% [7,8]. Current therapeutic drugs for *Candida* infections include members of five classes of compounds: polyenes, allylamines, azoles, fluoropyrimidines and echinocandins [9] with amphotericin B, terbinafine, fluconazole, 5-fluorocytosine and caspofungin being the most well-known examples [10].

(+)-Tanikolide **1** is structurally closely related to the marine antibiotic (–)-malyngolide, **2**, with three key differences illustrated in Figure 1; a shortened alkyl side chain (Figure 1, **2** difference A), opposite configuration at the quaternary stereocentre (Figure 1, **2** difference B) and a methyl group α - to the carbonyl (Figure 1, **2** difference C). Interestingly, despite the similarity to (+)-tanikolide **1**, (–)-malyngolide **2** displays no activity against

C. albicans [6]. However, (–)-malyngolide **2** does display anti-microbial activity against *Mycobacterium smegmatis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis* and *Streptococcus pyogenes* [11]. The bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus* is among one of the most aggressive human pathogenic agents [12]. Antibiotic resistance to *S. aureus* is a major medical issue [13] and is the result of the widespread use of antibacterial antibiotics since the 1940s [14]. The most effective antibiotics for MRSA eradication are vancomycin, linezolid and a few others in combination with vancomycin. Daptomycin, clindamycin, doxycycline, tigecyclin and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole combination is also efficient against most MRSA strains [15]. The search for new compounds to act as antifungal and antimicrobial agents is an active field of research and, herein, we report our results with analogues of (+)-tanikolide **1** and (–)-malyngolide **2**.

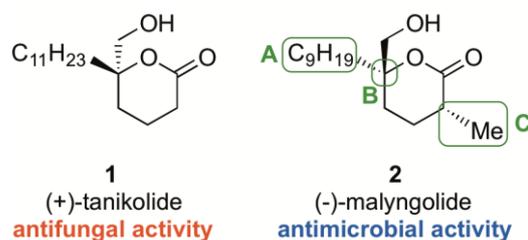


Figure 1. (+)-Tanikolide and (–)-malyngolide.

In addition, to our reported synthesis of (+)-tanikolide **1**, we wished to probe the biological importance of the position of the methyl group and hence the four β -methyl modified analogues (**3–6**) were synthesised using the same δ -lactone forming methodology with the aim to enhance the antifungal activity against *C. albicans* (Figure 2) [5]. These analogues (**3–6**) were subsequently biologically evaluated, the results of which we report now (Table 1).

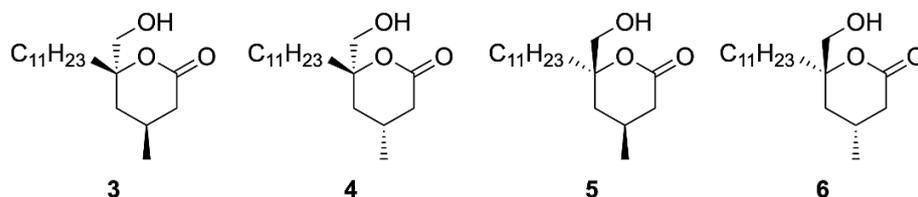


Figure 2. β -Methyl-(+)-tanikolide based analogues **3–6**.

Table 1. Antibacterial activity of **3–6**—MIC and MBC results (triplicates) ^[a].

Compound	<i>E. coli</i> 25922		<i>E. coli</i> 4		MRSA ATCC 43300		MRSA 06/04	
	MIC ^[b]	MBC	MIC	MBC	MIC	MBC	MIC	MBC
3	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100 *	>100
4	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100 *	>100
5	>100	>100	>100	>100	12.5	12.5	12.5	50
6	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100	>100 *	>100

^[a] * denotes a change in strain phenotype ^[b] MIC—minimum inhibitory concentration, MBC—minimum bactericidal concentration. Values are given in $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$. Bold-face values denote compounds that showed activity against the tested bacteria. The maximum concentration of compound tested in each case was 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$.

2. Results

The four β -methyl (+)-tanikolide based analogues (**3–6**) were submitted for biological testing to ascertain if they exhibited any antifungal and antimicrobial activity. The compounds were tested against *Candida albicans* and *Candida parapsilosis*. Unfortunately, the compounds displayed no inhibition of growth even at concentrations as high as 800 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$.

However, the series of compounds were also tested for activity against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) (Table 1). Although the compounds showed no activity against *E. coli*, analogue **5** was found to exhibit promising results against MRSA with an MIC of 12.5 µg/mL. This compares favourably with the typical MIC values of vancomycin (4.8 µg/mL) [16] and linezolid (0.1–4 mg/L) [17]. Analogue **5** was shown to be stable for the duration of the assay. The configuration of a methyl group—to the carbonyl had a dramatic effect upon the specific activity of the compound, as shown by analogue **6** which displayed no bioactivity. Analogue **5** bears the opposite stereochemistry at the quaternary carbon centre to **1**, upon which the analogues were initially designed. Interestingly, the configuration is the same as found in (–)-malyngolide **2**, a known anti-microbial agent.

In an effort to further increase the efficacy of these potential anti-MRSA agents, we wished to synthesise analogues bearing the shortened *n*-nonyl side chain found in (–)-malyngolide **2**. The optimal stereochemistry of the β-methyl group will be determined once again by the synthesis and evaluation of both diastereomers. A number of approaches to asymmetric synthesis of **2** have been published since the first report by Mukaiyama in 1980 [18], including the use of chiral auxiliary [19–27], chiral pool [28–37], other asymmetric syntheses [38–40] and catalytic asymmetric syntheses [41–49].

The synthesis of (–)-malyngolide based analogues **7** and **8** was adapted from our initial synthesis of (+)-tanikolide based compounds **3–6** (Figure 3) [5]. The first step was monoalkylation of phosphonate **9** which afforded intermediate **10** in a yield of 51%. A Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction with 35% aqueous formaldehyde successfully gave the desired terminal alkene of intermediate **11** in a yield of 73%. DIBAL reduction of the ethyl ester provided allylic alcohol **12** in 25% yield. A Sharpless asymmetric epoxidation using Ti(OiPr)₄, (–)-diisopropyltartrate and cumene hydroperoxide was used to afford intermediate **13** with the desired stereochemistry in a yield of 80%. The *ee* was subsequently determined after benzyl protection of the primary alcohol in **13** due to the absence of a chromophore on the unprotected epoxide. The stereochemistry of the product was assigned based on extensive NOE experiments carried out on analogues **3–6** [5]. Protection of the alcohol was achieved using sodium hydride as a base with benzyl bromide in the presence of tetrabutylammonium iodide to give **14** in a yield of 86% with an *ee* greater than 99% (see Figure S1 for reference chiral SFC chromatograms). At this point a diol protection/bromination of crotonaldehyde **16** was carried out which provided intermediate **15** in 83% yield. Intermediate **15** was then applied in a copper-catalysed Grignard addition to epoxide **14** which, upon separation via silica gel column chromatography, provided diastereomers **18** and **21** in an overall yield of 69% [50]. **18** was subjected to our developed ZrCl₄-catalysed one-pot deprotection/cyclisation technique to afford diastereomeric acetals **19** and **20** in a yield of 92%. Conversion to the desired δ-lactone **21** was achieved using the Lewis acid BF₃·OEt₂ and mCPBA with a yield of 52% [51,52]. Hydrogenolysis of the benzyl ether was carried out using Pearlman's catalyst at 25 bar pressure to provide (4*S*, 6*S*)-4-methyl-malyngolide **7** in a yield of 94%. Diastereomer **21** was subjected to a similar synthetic sequence to afford (4*R*, 6*S*)-4-methyl-malyngolide **8** with yields of 89, 42 and 65% obtained for the cyclisation, oxidation and deprotection steps, respectively.

Table 2. The MIC and MBC measurements for compounds 7 and 8.

Compound	<i>E. coli</i> 25922		<i>E. coli</i> 4		MRSA ATCC 43300		MRSA 06/04	
	MIC ^[a]	MBC	MIC	MBC	MIC	MBC	MIC	MBC
7	>100	>100	>100	>100	50	50	50	50
8	>100	>100	>100	>100	50	100	50	50

^[a] MIC—minimum inhibitory concentration, MBC—minimum bactericidal concentration. Values are given in µg/mL. Bold-face values denote compounds that showed activity against the tested bacteria. The maximum concentration of compound tested in each case was 100 µg/mL.

3. Conclusions

In summary, we have determined anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* activity (MIC of 12.5 µg/mL) by a novel β-methyl analogue 5 of (+)-tanikolide 1. In an effort to improve upon this activity, two further analogues 7 and 8 bearing a shortened *n*-nonyl alkyl side chain were prepared in the present study using a ZrCl₄-catalysed deprotection/cyclisation as the key step. When these were tested for activity against anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* the MIC increased to 50 µg/mL. It is hoped the results described above will lead to further improvements in this class of potentially potent anti-methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* compounds.

4. Materials and Methods—Chemistry

Unless otherwise noted, reactions were performed with rigorous exclusion of air and moisture, under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen in flame-dried glassware with magnetic stirring using anhydrous solvents. N₂-flushed stainless steel cannulas or plastic syringes were used to transfer air and moisture-sensitive reagents. All reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. All anhydrous solvents were obtained from commercial sources and used as received with the following exceptions: diethyl ether (Et₂O), dichloromethane (CH₂Cl₂) and toluene (PhCH₃) were dried by passing through activated alumina columns. Powdered activated 4 Å molecular sieves were purchased from Sigma Aldrich and were stored in an oven at 120 °C. In vacuo refers to the evaporation of solvent under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on aluminium plates pre-coated with silica gel F254. They were visualised with UV-light (254 nm) fluorescence quenching, or by charring with Hanessian's staining solution (cerium molybdate, H₂SO₄ in water), basic potassium permanganate staining solution (potassium permanganate, K₂CO₃ and NaOH in water), or an acidic vanillin staining solution (vanillin, H₂SO₄ in ethanol). Flash column chromatography was carried out using 40–63 µm, 230–400 mesh silica gel.

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a 300, 400 or 500 MHz spectrometer. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 or 500 MHz spectrometer at 101 or 126 MHz. ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz spectrometer at 376 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield from tetramethylsilane and for ¹H NMR are referenced to residual proton in the NMR solvent (CDCl₃ = δ 7.26 ppm). ¹³C NMR are referenced to the residual solvent peak (CDCl₃ = δ 77.16 ppm). All ¹³C spectra are ¹H decoupled. NMR data are represented as follows: chemical shift (δ ppm), integration, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = double doublet, m = multiplet, app. d = apparent doublet, app. t. = apparent triplet), coupling constant (*J*) in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra [electrospray ionisation (ESI-TOF)] (HRMS) were measured on a micromass LCT orthogonal time-of-flight mass spectrometer with leucine enkephalin (Tyr-Gly-Phe-Leu) as an internal lock mass. Infrared spectra were recorded on a FT-IR spectrometer and are reported in terms of wavenumbers (ν_{max}) with units of reciprocal centimetres (cm⁻¹). Microwave experiments were conducted in a CEM Discover S-class microwave reactor with controlled irradiation at 2.45 GHz using standard microwave process Pyrex vials. Reaction time reflects time at the set reaction temperature maintained by cycling of irradiation (fixed hold times). Optical rotation (α) values were measured at room

temperature and specific rotation ($[\alpha]_D^{20}$) values are given in $\text{deg}\cdot\text{dm}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^3\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$. Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes. Supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) was performed on a Waters UPC² system using a Chiralpak IB column.

4.1. Ethyl 2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)undecanoate (10)

NaH (60% in mineral oil, 6.0 g, 150 mmol) was placed in a dry 500 mL two-necked room-bottom flask (RBF) containing a magnetic stirrer bar under an inert atmosphere, was washed with anhydrous hexanes (2×20 mL) and dried under high vacuum. Dry THF (250 mL) was added to the reaction flask and triethylphosphonoacetate **9** (19.8 mL, 100 mmol) in dry THF (30 mL) was added dropwise over 20 min to the reaction mixture, with evolution of H₂ gas. NaI (3.7 g, 25 mmol) was added to the reaction flask followed by dropwise addition of 1-bromononane (9.6 mL, 50 mmol) and the reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 24 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with H₂O (100 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (3×100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (100 mL) and brine (100 mL) and dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/ether, 9:1 \rightarrow 4:1) to yield **10** as a colourless oil (8.93 g, 51%).

Spectroscopic analysis of **10**: $R_f = 0.20$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:9); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3477, 2926, 2854, 1729, 1465, 1250, 1029$ cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.28–4.09 (m, 6 H), 2.92 (ddd, $J = 22.5, 11.1, 3.7$ Hz, 1 H), 2.04–1.90 (m, 1 H), 1.90–1.77 (m, 1 H), 1.50–1.09 (m, 23 H), 0.88 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.2 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz), 62.6 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 62.5 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 61.2, 45.8 (d, $J = 131.0$ Hz), 31.8, 29.4, 29.2 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz), 29.0, 28.4, 28.3, 26.9 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz), 22.6, 16.3 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz), 16.3 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz), 14.1, 14.0 ppm; ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.98 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for C₁₇H₃₅O₅PNa [M + Na]⁺ 373.2120; found 373.2108. (see Figure S2 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra).

4.2. Ethyl 2-methyleneundecanoate (11)

Phosphate ester **10** (8.93 g, 25.5 mmol) was placed in a 250 mL two-necked RBF containing a magnetic stirrer bar, followed by deionised water (30 mL), K₂CO₃ (14.1 g, 101.9 mmol) and aqueous formaldehyde (16.5 mL, 37%, 203.8 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 85 °C for 18 h. The reaction mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3×100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (100 mL) and brine (100 mL) and dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Excess solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1) to yield **11** as a colourless oil (4.24 g, 73%). (see Figure S3 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **11**: $R_f = 0.70$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2926, 2856, 1720, 1179, 1147$ cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.12 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1 H), 5.50 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1 H), 4.20 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2 H), 2.29 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2 H), 1.50–1.41 (m, 2 H), 1.37–1.19 (m, 15 H), 0.88 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 141.2, 124.0, 60.5, 31.9, 31.8, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 28.4, 22.7, 14.2, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for C₁₄H₂₆O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 249.1831; found 249.1840.

4.3. 2-Methyleneundecan-1-ol (12)

Allylic ester **11** (4.24 g, 18.71 mmol) was placed in a dry 100 mL two-necked RBF containing a magnetic stirrer bar and dissolved in dry THF (55 mL), under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was cooled to -30 °C and DIBAL (25 wt.% in toluene, 9.5 mL, 41 mmol) was added dropwise over 40 min and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with diethyl ether (5 mL) and a saturated solution of Rochelle's salt (potassium sodium tartrate) (50 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The product was extracted with diethyl ether (3×100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (100 mL) and brine (100 mL) and dried

with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Excess solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 4:1) to yield **12** as a colourless oil (0.856 g, 25%). (see Figure S4 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **12**: R_f = 0.19 (pentane/diethyl ether, 4:1); IR (neat): ν_{max} = 3323, 2926, 2856, 1653, 1465, 1027 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.03–4.98 (m, 1 H), 4.88–4.83 (m, 1 H), 4.07 (s, 2 H), 2.05 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 1.50–1.37 (m, 2 H), 1.36–1.17 (m, 12 H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.3, 107.9, 64.9, 32.0, 30.9, 28.6, 28.5, 28.4, 28.3, 26.8, 21.7, 13.1 ppm; HRMS (EI-TOF): calcd. for C₁₂H₂₄O [M]⁺ 184.1828; found 184.1827.

4.4. (R)-(2-Nonyloxiran-2-yl)methanol (**13**)

Molecular sieves (4 Å, 400 mg) and dry CH₂Cl₂ (11.5 mL) were added to a dry 50 mL Schlenk tube containing a magnetic stirrer bar, followed by Ti(OⁱPr)₄ (0.141 mL, 0.464 mmol) and (–)-diisopropyltartrate (0.146 mL, 0.697 mmol), at –35 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min. Allylic alcohol **12** (0.856 g, 4.64 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. Cumene hydroperoxide (1.37 mL, 9.29 mmol) was added over 20 min. The reaction temperature was increased to –25 °C and the progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC until the consumption of the alcohol. Upon reaction completion at 18 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (1 mL) and ether (5 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite® and concentrated in vacuo. The epoxide was purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1 → 4:1) to yield epoxide **13** as a colourless oil (0.743 g, 80%, > 99% ee). (The ee was calculated by SFC analysis of benzyl-protected epoxide **7** (Waters Acquity UPC², Chiracel IB, scCO₂/isopropanol = 95:5, flow rate = 2 mL min⁻¹)). (see Figure S5 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **13**: R_f = 0.22 (pentane/diethyl ether, 3:2); SFC: R_t (R) = 1.543 min (major); R_t (S) = 2.215 min (minor); [α]_D²⁰ = + 6.3 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat): ν_{max} = 3430, 2926, 2856, 1466, 1047 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.75 (dd, J = 12.3, 4.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.61 (dd, J = 12.3, 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.86 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.64 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1 H), 1.83–1.66 (m, 2 H), 1.48 (dt, J = 14.0, 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.40–1.14 (m, 14 H), 0.85 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 62.7, 59.8, 49.8, 32.0, 31.8, 29.7, 29.4, 29.2, 24.6, 22.6, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for C₁₂H₂₄O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 223.1674; found 223.1683.

4.5. (S)-2-[Benzyloxy)methyl]-2-undecyloxirane (**14**)

NaH (60% in mineral oil, 0.175 g, 4.379 mmol) was placed in a dry 100 mL two-necked RBF containing a magnetic stirrer bar under an inert nitrogen atmosphere, washed with anhydrous hexanes (2 × 5 mL) and dried under high vacuum. Dry THF (14.6 mL) was added and the reaction vessel cooled to 0 °C. Epoxide **13** (0.731 g, 3.649 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (2 mL) and added to the reaction mixture, which was stirred for 30 min. Benzyl bromide (0.46 mL, 3.83 mmol) was added dropwise followed by tetra-*n*-butylammonium iodide (0.674 g, 1.825 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min and then at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with H₂O (10 mL) and the aqueous layer extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 15 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with H₂O (25 mL) and brine (25 mL) and dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1) to yield **14** as a colourless oil (0.911 g, 86%). (see Figure S6 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **14**: R_f = 0.60 (pentane/diethyl ether, 4:1); [α]_D²⁰ = –3.4 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat): ν_{max} = 2926, 2854, 1454, 1217, 1095 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39–7.26 (m, 5 H), 4.59 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.54 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.61 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.47 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.71 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.64 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 1.87–1.75

(m, 1 H), 1.61–1.50 (m, 1 H), 1.42–1.17 (m, 14 H), 0.88 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.0, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 73.2, 71.9, 58.6, 50.3, 32.0, 31.9, 29.7, 29.49, 29.5, 29.3, 24.6, 22.6, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 313.2144; found 313.2153.

4.6. 2-(2-Bromopropyl)-1,3-dioxane (15)

Anhydrous acetonitrile (50 mL) was added to a 250 mL RBF containing a magnetic stirrer bar under an inert nitrogen atmosphere and cooled to 0 °C. Crotonaldehyde (**16**) (4.1 mL, 50 mmol) was added followed by dropwise addition of TMSBr (7.9 mL, 60 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min prior to the dropwise addition of propan-1,3-diol (**17**) (4.3 mL, 60 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2.5 h at 0 °C, then warmed to room temperature and quenched into a solution of pentane (150 mL) and Na_2CO_3 (50 mL, 10% w/v). The solution was stirred for 5 min and added to a separating funnel. Three layers were observed, the top layer containing pentane and the product, the middle layer containing acetonitrile and the product and the bottom aqueous layer. The aqueous layer was run-off and extracted with pentane (10 mL) and sodium thiosulfate (50 mL, 10% w/v). The organic fractions were combined, washed with water (3×60 mL) and dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . Excess solvent was removed in vacuo and the remaining yellow solution was purified by high-vacuum distillation (bath temperature 105 °C, neck temperature 72 °C) to yield **15** as a colourless oil (8.66 g, 83%). (see Figure S7 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **15**: $R_f = 0.38$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2964, 2856, 1379, 1140$ cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 4.70 (dd, $J = 7.1, 3.4$ Hz, 1 H), 4.32–4.14 (m, 1 H), 4.13–3.98 (m, 2 H), 3.85–3.64 (m, 2 H), 2.22–1.86 (m, 3 H), 1.68 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.38–1.24 (m, 1 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 100.5, 66.7, 46.0, 45.6, 26.7, 25.7 ppm; HRMS (EI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2^{79}\text{Br}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^+$ 207.0021 and $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2^{81}\text{Br}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^+$ 209.0000; found 207.0023 and 208.9995, respectively. All physical data was identical to those previously reported [5].

4.7. (2*S*,4*S*)-4-((Benzyloxy)methyl)-1-(1,3-dioxan-2-yl)-2-methyltridecan-4-ol ((2*S*,4*S*)-**18**) & (2*R*,4*S*)-4-((benzyloxy)methyl)-1-(1,3-dioxan-2-yl)-2-methyltridecan-4-ol ((2*R*,4*S*)-**22**)

The Grignard reagent was prepared by addition of bromide **15** (1.941 g, 9.285 mmol) to a dry 25 mL two-necked RBF containing a magnetic stirrer bar, magnesium turnings (0.226 mg, 9.285 mmol) and a crystal of I_2 in anhydrous THF (9 mL) under an inert nitrogen atmosphere followed by heating to reflux for 1.5 h. The solution was cooled to room temperature then transferred by cannula to a dry 25 mL two-necked RBF containing copper (I) iodide (0.059 g, 0.310 mmol) at -45 °C and stirred for 30 min. Benzyl epoxide **14** (0.899 g, 3.095 mmol) in anhydrous THF (3 mL) was added dropwise over 20 min and stirring was continued for a further 2 h at -45 °C. The reaction was quenched by the addition of solid NH_4Cl (0.90 g) and saturated NH_4Cl solution (5 mL) and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. The solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (6×30 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with water (50 mL) and brine (50 mL) and dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/dichloromethane/ether, 5.5:3:1.5, repeated three times) to yield (2*S*,4*S*)-**18** as a colourless oil (0.397 g, 30%), (2*R*,4*S*)-**22** as a colourless oil (0.424 g, 33%) and a mixture (0.072 g, 6%). (see Figure S8 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compound **8** and Figure S9 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compound **22**).

Spectroscopic analysis of (2*S*,4*S*)-**18**: $R_f = 0.38$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:1); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -3.5$ ($c = 0.7$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3446, 2962, 2852, 1454, 1261, 1088$ cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38–7.24 (m, 5 H), 4.62–4.47 (m, 3 H), 4.08 (dd, $J = 12.1, 4.9$ Hz, 2 H), 3.72 (td, $J = 12.1, 2.4$ Hz, 2 H), 3.34 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1 H), 3.30 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1 H), 2.45 (s, 1 H), 2.13–1.99 (m, 1 H), 1.87 (dtd, $J = 13.5, 6.8, 4.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.68–1.59 (m, 1 H), 1.58–1.42 (m, 5 H), 1.38 (dd, $J = 14.5, 7.1$ Hz, 1 H), 1.34–1.16 (m, 14 H), 1.00 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (t,

$J = 7.0$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.3, 128.3, 127.6, 127.5, 101.3, 75.6, 74.3, 73.3, 66.8, 66.8, 43.7, 43.2, 37.5, 31.9, 30.3, 29.6, 29.6, 29.3, 25.8, 24.0, 23.6, 22.7, 22.6, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 443.3137; found 443.3120.

Spectroscopic analysis of (2*R*,4*S*)-**22**: $R_f = 0.32$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +3.2$ ($c = 0.55$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3452, 2960, 2852, 1454, 1263, 1109$ cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37–7.22 (m, 5 H), 4.60–4.44 (m, 3 H), 4.06 (dd, $J = 12.1, 4.2$ Hz, 2 H), 3.71 (td, $J = 12.1, 2.4$ Hz, 2 H), 3.32 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1 H), 3.28 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1 H), 2.47 (s, 1 H), 2.13–1.95 (m, 1 H), 1.85 (dt, $J = 13.4, 6.7, 4.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.69–1.56 (m, 1 H), 1.55–1.40 (m, 5 H), 1.36 (dd, $J = 14.5, 7.0$ Hz, 1 H), 1.33–1.14 (m, 14 H), 0.98 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3 H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.3, 128.3, 127.5, 127.5, 101.4, 75.8, 74.3, 73.3, 66.8, 66.8, 43.5, 43.4, 37.4, 31.8, 30.3, 29.6, 29.5, 29.3, 25.8, 24.0, 23.6, 22.7, 22.6, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 443.3137; found 443.3125.

4.8. (2*S*,4*R*)-2-((Benzyloxy)methyl)-6-methoxy-4-methyl-2-nonyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (23/24)

Dioxane (2*R*,4*S*)-**22** (0.230 g, 0.547 mmol) and ZrCl_4 (0.013 g, 0.055 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous methanol (0.6 mL) in a 10 mL microwave vial containing a stirrer bar and stirred under microwave irradiation at 50 °C at 100 W for 6 min. The crude product was purified directly by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1) to yield **23** and **24** as an inseparable mixture of colourless oils (0.184 g, 89%). (see Figure S10 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds **23/24**).

Spectroscopic analysis carried out on pure mixture **23/24**: $R_f = 0.28$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -31.9$ ($c = 1.0$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2929, 2854, 1454, 1101, 1053$ cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37–7.21 (m, 5 H), 4.79 (d, $J = 3.5$ Hz, 1 H), 4.61–4.52 (m, 3 H), 4.49 (dd, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1 H), 3.48–3.37 (m, 4 H), 3.31–3.22 (m, 1 H), 2.12–1.94 (m, 1 H), 1.93–1.40 (m, 5 H), 1.37–0.80 (m, 25 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.8, 138.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 127.6, 99.9, 97.9, 77.4, 77.3, 76.5, 76.0, 73.6, 56.0, 55.7, 40.5, 39.9, 39.1, 39.0, 35.3, 32.1, 30.9, 30.6, 30.4, 29.8, 29.8, 29.5, 25.2, 24.6, 22.8, 22.6, 22.3, 19.9, 14.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{40}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 399.2875; found 399.2865.

4.9. (2*S*,4*S*)-2-((Benzyloxy)methyl)-6-methoxy-4-methyl-2-nonyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (19/20)

Dioxane (2*S*,4*S*)-**18** (0.291 g, 0.691 mmol) was subjected to the same procedure as **22**. The crude product was purified directly by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 9:1) to yield **19** and **20** as an inseparable mixture of colourless oils (0.240 g, 92%). (see Figure S11 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds **19/20**).

Spectroscopic analysis carried out on pure mixture **19/20**: $R_f = 0.75$ (pentane/ethyl acetate, 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -18.3$ ($c = 0.5$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2923, 2853, 1454, 1376$ cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38–7.27 (m, 5 H), 4.73 (d, $J = 3.4$ Hz, 1 H), 4.58–4.51 (m, 3 H), 3.69 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1 H), 3.56–3.40 (m, 3 H), 3.36 (s, 3 H), 1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.83–1.47 (m, 5 H), 1.39–1.14 (m, 19 H), 1.04–0.81 (m, 9 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.9, 138.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 127.6, 127.5, 99.7, 98.5, 77.0, 76.3, 73.5, 73.3, 72.7, 70.4, 55.9, 55.5, 40.1, 39.9, 39.6, 39.4, 39.4, 38.8, 32.1, 30.4, 30.4, 29.9, 29.8, 29.8, 29.8, 29.5, 25.5, 23.0, 23.0, 22.9, 22.5, 22.4, 20.3, 14.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{40}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 399.2875; found 399.2864.

4.10. (4*R*,6*S*)-6-((Benzyloxy)methyl)-4-methyl-6-nonyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-one (25)

Acetals **23/24** (0.164 g, 0.436 mmol) were dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (13 mL) in a dry 50 mL Schlenk tube containing a magnetic stirrer bar and cooled to 0 °C. *m*-CPBA (0.113 g, <77%, 0.653 mmol) was added followed by $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$ (0.070 mL, 0.566 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. The reaction mixture was cooled back to 0 °C, quenched slowly with Et_3N (0.30 mL, 2.18 mmol) and stirred for 30 min. Excess solvent removed in vacuo. The crude product residue was purified by silica gel column

chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 4:1) to yield **25** as a colourless oil (0.066 g, 42%). (see Figure S12 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **25**: $R_f = 0.36$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 3:2); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -7.0$ ($c = 0.9$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2929, 2856, 1720, 1454, 1215, 1099 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.44–7.22 (m, 5 H), 4.62 (d, $J = 12.1$ Hz, 1 H), 4.54 (d, $J = 12.1$ Hz, 1 H), 3.46 (s, 2 H), 2.62–2.51 (m, 1 H), 2.16–1.97 (m, 2 H), 1.81 (dd, $J = 13.6, 3.5$ Hz, 1 H), 1.74–1.54 (m, 3H), 1.48–1.17 (m, 14 H), 1.04 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 3 H), 0.90 (t, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.8, 138.0, 128.4, 127.6, 127.6, 85.1, 75.2, 73.6, 38.2, 37.6, 36.3, 31.8, 30.0, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 24.0, 23.3, 22.6, 21.2, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 383.2562; 383.2574.

4.11. (4*S*,6*S*)-6-((Benzyloxy)methyl)-4-methyl-6-nonyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-one (**21**)

Acetals **19/20** (0.212 g, 0.563 mmol) were subjected to the same procedure as **23/24**. The crude product residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether, 4:1) to yield **21** as a colourless oil (0.106 g, 52%). (see Figure S13 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **21**: $R_f = 0.29$ (pentane/ethyl acetate, 95:5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +27.75$ ($c = 0.55$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3017, 2963, 2855, 1717, 1455 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38–7.26 (m, 5 H), 4.56–4.44 (m, 2 H), 3.44 (s, 2 H), 2.61–2.53 (m, 1 H), 2.22–2.08 (m, 1 H), 2.05–1.97 (m, 1 H), 1.88 (dd, $J = 17.5, 12.1$ Hz, 1 H), 1.72–1.53 (m, 2 H), 1.45–1.18 (m, 15 H), 0.96 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.7, 137.9, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 84.7, 74.1, 73.7, 39.3, 38.4, 37.2, 32.0, 30.0, 29.7, 29.5, 23.9, 22.8, 22.8, 21.7, 14.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 383.2562; found 383.2558.

4.12. (4*R*,6*S*)-4-Methylmalyngolide (**8**)

In a 10 mL conical flask containing a magnetic stirrer bar, protected lactone **25** (0.045 g, 0.125 mmol) was dissolved in ethyl acetate (2 mL) and $\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_2/\text{C}$ (20 wt.%) (0.0018 g, 0.0125 mmol) was added. The reaction vessel was placed in a Parr reactor under 25 bar H_2 pressure for 72 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:1). Upon reaction completion, the crude product was run through a small silica gel column (ethyl acetate) to yield (4*R*, 6*S*)-4-methylmalyngolide **8** as a colourless oil (0.022 mg, 65%). (see Figure S14 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **8**: $R_f = 0.08$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -14.8$ ($c = 0.7$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3423, 2924, 2854, 1722, 1458, 1377, 1246, 1088 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.68 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.50–3.41 (m, 1H), 2.60 (ddd, $J = 17.2, 4.4, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.16–2.03 (m, 1H), 1.97 (dd, $J = 17.2, 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.79–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 1H), 1.37–1.19 (m, 14H), 1.03 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 3H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.6, 86.6, 67.7, 38.1, 36.5, 34.6, 31.8, 30.0, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 23.8, 23.5, 22.6, 21.4, 14.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 293.2093; found 293.2088.

4.13. (4*S*,6*S*)-4-Methylmalyngolide (**7**)

Protected lactone **21** (0.075 g, 0.208 mmol) was subjected to the same procedure as **25**. Upon reaction completion, the crude product was run through a small silica gel column (ethyl acetate) to yield (4*S*,6*S*)-4-methylmalyngolide **7** as a colourless oil (0.053 mg, 94%). (see Figure S15 for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra).

Spectroscopic analysis of **7**: $R_f = 0.10$ (pentane/diethyl ether, 1:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +45.3$ ($c = 0.35$, CHCl_3); IR (neat): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3018, 2928, 1711, 1215 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.64 (d, $J = 11.7$ Hz, 1 H), 3.58 (d, $J = 11.7$ Hz, 1 H), 2.59 (ddd, $J = 17.4, 4.5, 2.3$ Hz, 1 H), 2.29–2.17 (m, 1 H), 1.95–1.84 (m, 2 H), 1.69–1.57 (m, 2 H), 1.43–1.18 (m, 16 H), 0.99 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz,

3 H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3 H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.1, 86.1, 68.0, 38.4, 38.4, 37.1, 32.0, 30.0, 29.6, 29.4, 24.4, 23.1, 22.8, 21.6, 14.2 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 293.2093; found 293.2080.

5. Materials and Methods—Biological Testing

5.1. Preparation of Compounds

Samples were reconstituted into an appropriate volume of DMSO to achieve a final concentration of 10 mg/mL.

5.2. Antibacterial Activity Testing—Determination of Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) and Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC)

Samples of each of these chemical compounds were reconstituted into an appropriate volume of DMSO to achieve a final concentration of 10 mg/mL. MIC values for these compounds was determined by two-fold broth microdilution in 96-well microtiter plates. Briefly, overnight cultures of *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Escherichia coli* 4, MRSA ATCC 43300 and MRSA 06/04 (see Table S1 for further information about the isolates) were diluted in sterilised PBS to approximately 10^5 CFU/mL. Aliquots of 5 μL were then transferred to separate wells in a 96-well plate that contained 100 μL of each compound at varying concentrations (ranging from 100–0.195 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) prepared from two-fold serial dilutions in Mueller-Hinton (MH) broth. Plates were incubated at 37 °C for 18 h using an Omnilog[®] automated incubator (Biolog Inc.; 21124 Cabot Boulevard, Hayward, CA 94545, USA) and MIC values recorded.

Determination of the MBC values for all compounds tested above was performed in MH broth media. Again, 5 μL were collected from the MICs 96-well plates (above) and re-inoculated into fresh sterile 96-well plates containing fresh MH. Plates were incubated under the same conditions mentioned above. The assay was performed in triplicate for each compound. (see Table S1 for UCD Centre for Food Safety strains used for determination of antibacterial activity and Table S2 for Antibacterial activity of compounds tested – MIC and MBC results (triplicates)).

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online at <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/ijms22126400/s1>. Figure S1: SFC Chromatograms of Reference and Intermediate 14; Figure S2: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 10; Figure S3: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 11; Figure S4: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 12; Figure S5: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 13; Figure S6: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 14; Figure S7: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 15; Figure S8: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 18; Figure S9: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 22; Figure S10: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compounds 23/24; Figure S11: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compounds 19/20; Figure S12: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 25; Figure S13: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 21; Figure S14: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 8; Figure S15: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compound 7.

Author Contributions: Conceptualisation, P.J.G.; synthetic methodology, J.B., C.K. and R.D.; biological testing J.A. and M.M.; writing—original draft preparation, C.K.; writing—review and editing, P.J.G.; supervision, P.J.G. and S.F.; project administration, P.J.G.; funding acquisition, P.J.G. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding: J.B. is grateful for the award of an IRCSET/LEO Pharma Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postgraduate Research Scholarship (EPSPG/2012/350). This publication has emanated from research conducted with the financial support of the Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC), funded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) under grant numbers 12\RC\2275. C.K. is grateful for the award of a SSPC Ph.D. Scholarship. R.D. is grateful for the award of an Irish Research Council (IRC) EMBARK Initiative PhD Scholarship (RS/2010/2191).

Acknowledgments: Facilities were provided by the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB), funded by the Higher Education Authority's PRTL. The authors wish to thank Yannick Ortin of the UCD NMR Centre in the School of Chemistry/CSCB for help with NMR spectroscopic studies.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References

1. Singh, S.; Duffy, C.; Shah, S.T.A.; Guiry, P.J. ZrCl₄ as an efficient catalyst for a novel one-pot protection/deprotection synthetic methodology. *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, *73*, 6429–6432. [CrossRef]
2. Singh, S.; Guiry, P.J. A facile synthesis of both enantiomers of 6-acetoxy-5-hexadecanamide, a major component of mosquito oviposition attractant pheromones. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 1896–1901. [CrossRef]
3. Singh, S.; Guiry, P.J. Microwave-assisted synthesis of substituted tetrahydropyrans catalyzed by ZrCl₄ and its application in the asymmetric synthesis of *exo*- and *endo*-brevicomine. *J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, *74*, 5758–5761. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
4. Singh, S.; Guiry, P.J. A short and efficient asymmetric synthesis of (–)-frontalin, (–)-*exo*-isobrevicomine and a volatile contributor of beer-aroma. *Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 5701–5706. [CrossRef]
5. Doran, R.; Duggan, L.; Singh, S.; Duffy, C.D.; Guiry, P.J. Asymmetric synthesis of (+)-tanikolide and the β-methyl-substituted analogues of (+)-tanikolide and (–)-malyngolide. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, 7097–7106. [CrossRef]
6. Singh, I.P.; Milligan, K.E.; Gerwick, W.H. Tanikolide, a toxic and antifungal lactone from the marine cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1999**, *62*, 1333–1335. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
7. Brown, G.D.; Denning, D.W.; Gow, N.A.R.; Levitz, S.M.; Netea, M.G.; White, T.C. Hidden killers: Human fungal infections. *Sci. Trans. Med.* **2012**, *4*, 165rv13. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
8. Giri, S.; Kindo, A.J. A review of *Candida* species causing blood stream infection. *Indian J. Med. Microbiol.* **2012**, *30*, 270–278. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
9. Rabes, A.; Zimmermann, S.; Reppe, K.; Lang, R.; Seeberger, P.H.; Suttrop, N.; Witznath, M.; Lepenies, B.; Opitz, B. The C-type lectin receptor muncle binds to streptococcus pneumoniae but plays a limited role in the anti-pneumococcal innate immune response. *PLoS ONE* **2015**, *10*, 0117022. [CrossRef]
10. Odds, F.C.; Brown, A.J.P.; Gow, N.A.R. Antifungal agents: Mechanisms of action. *Trends Microbiol.* **2003**, *11*, 272–279. [CrossRef]
11. Cardllina, J.H., II; Moore, R.E.; Arnold, E.V.; Clardy, J. Structure and absolute configuration of malyngolide, an antibiotic from the marine blue-green alga *Lyngbya majuscula* Gomont. *J. Org. Chem.* **1979**, *44*, 4039–4042. [CrossRef]
12. Tong, S.Y.C.; Davis, J.S.; Eichenberger, E.; Holland, T.L.; Fowler, V.G. *Staphylococcus aureus* infections: Epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, and management. *Clin. Microbiol. Rev.* **2015**, *28*, 603–661. [CrossRef]
13. Klevens, R.M.; Morrison, M.A.; Nadle, J.; Petit, S.; Gershman, K.; Ray, S.; Harrison, L.H.; Lynfield, R.; Dumyati, G.; Townes, J.H.; et al. Invasive methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections in the United States. *JAMA* **2007**, *298*, 1763–1771. [CrossRef]
14. McDougal, L.K.; Carey, R.B.; Talan, D.A. Methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* infections among patients in the emergency department. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **2006**, *355*, 666–674. [CrossRef]
15. Deresinski, S. Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: An evolutionary, epidemiologic, and therapeutic odyssey. *Clin. Infect. Dis.* **2005**, *40*, 562–573. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
16. Walters, M.; Lonsway, D.; Rasheed, K.; Albrecht, V.; McAllister, S.; Limbago, B.; Kallen, A. Investigation and Control of Vancomycin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: A Guide for Health Departments and Infection Control Personnel. Atlanta, GA, USA, 2015. Available online: http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/VRSA-Investigation-Guide-05_12_2015.pdf (accessed on 10 June 2021).
17. Gemmell, C.G. Susceptibility of a variety of clinical isolates to linezolid: A European inter-country comparison. *J. Antimicrob. Chemother.* **2001**, *48*, 47–52. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
18. Sakito, Y.; Tanaka, S.; Asami, M.; Mukaiyama, T. An asymmetric total synthesis of a new marine antibiotic-Malyngolide. *Chem. Lett.* **1980**, 1223–1226. [CrossRef]
19. Mukaiyama, T. Asymmetric synthesis based on chiral diamines having pyrrolidine ring. *Tetrahedron* **1981**, *37*, 4111–4119. [CrossRef]
20. Kogure, T.; Eliel, E.L. A convergent asymmetric synthesis of (–)-malyngolide and its three stereoisomers. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 576–578. [CrossRef]
21. Guingant, A. An asymmetric synthesis of (R)-(+)-2-nonyl-2-(carbomethoxy) cyclopentanone, a known precursor of the antibiotic (–)-malyngolide. *Tetrahedron Asymmetry* **1991**, *2*, 415–418. [CrossRef]
22. Enders, D.; Knopp, M. Novel asymmetric syntheses of (–)-malyngolide and (+)-*epi*-malyngolide. *Tetrahedron* **1996**, *52*, 5805–5818. [CrossRef]
23. Maezaki, N.; Matsumori, Y.; Shogaki, T.; Soejima, M.; Tanaka, T.; Ohishi, H.; Iwata, C. Stereoselective synthesis of a chiral synthon, 2,2,5-trisubstituted tetrahydropyran, based on simultaneous 1,3- and 1,6-asymmetric induction via nucleophilic acetal cleavage reaction of the bicyclic acetal: A total synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *Chem. Commun.* **1997**, 1755–1756. [CrossRef]
24. Winter, E.; Hoppe, D. A new route to the asymmetric synthesis of (–)-malyngolide and (–)-*epi*-malyngolide using *N*-sulfonyl-1,3-oxazolidines as chiral auxiliaries. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 10329–10338. [CrossRef]
25. Maezaki, N.; Matsumori, Y.; Shogaki, T.; Soejima, M.; Ohishi, H.; Tanaka, T.; Iwata, C. Stereoselective synthesis of a 2,2,5-trisubstituted tetrahydropyran chiron via 1,3- and 1,6-asymmetric induction: A total synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 13087–13104. [CrossRef]
26. Suzuki, T.; Ohmori, K.; Suzuki, K. *Pseudo*-C₃-symmetric tertiary alcohol building block via group-selective hydroalumination: A synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 1741–1744. [CrossRef] [PubMed]

27. Date, M.; Tamai, Y.; Hattori, T.; Takayama, H.; Kamikubo, Y.; Miyano, S. Efficient 1,8- and 1,9-asymmetric inductions in the Grignard reaction of δ - and ϵ -keto esters of 1,1'-binaphthalen-2-ols with an oligoether tether as the 2'-substituent: Application to the synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans.* **2001**, *1*, 645–653. [[CrossRef](#)]
28. Pougny, J.-R.; Rollin, P.; Sinay, P. A synthesis of the marine antibiotic (–)-malyngolide from D-glucose. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, *23*, 4929–4932. [[CrossRef](#)]
29. Ho, P.-T.; Wong, S. Branched-chain sugars in asymmetric synthesis. Total synthesis of marine antibiotic (–)-malyngolide. *Can. J. Chem.* **1985**, *63*, 2221–2224. [[CrossRef](#)]
30. Tokunaga, Y.; Nagano, H.; Shiota, M. Synthesis of (+)-malyngolide from (+)-tartaric acid. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans.* **1986**, *1*, 581–584. [[CrossRef](#)]
31. Trinh, M.-C.; Florent, J.-C.; Monneret, C. Total synthesis of (s)-(-) and (r)-(+)-frontalin and of (–)-malyngolide from the branched-chain sugar “ α ”-d-isosaccharino-lactone as chiral template. *Tetrahedron* **1988**, *44*, 6633–6644. [[CrossRef](#)]
32. Honda, T.; Imai, M.; Keino, K.; Tsubuki, M. An enantiocontrolled synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans.* **1990**, *1*, 2677–2680. [[CrossRef](#)]
33. Ichimoto, I.; Machiya, K.; Kirihata, M.; Ueda, H. Stereoselective Synthesis of Marine Antibiotic (–)-Malyngolide and Its Stereoisomers. *Agric. Biol. Chem.* **1990**, *54*, 657–662. [[CrossRef](#)]
34. Matsuo, K.; Hasuike, Y.; Kado, H. Synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide from D-Lactose. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1990**, *38*, 2847–2849. [[CrossRef](#)]
35. Nagano, H.; Ohno, M.; Miyamae, Y. Diastereoselective addition of grignard reagents to 3,4-O-Isopropylidene-1-O-triphenylmethyl-L-glycero-2-tetrol and 1-O-Benzoyl-3,4-O-isopropylidene-L-glycero-2-tetrol. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1992**, *65*, 2814–2820. [[CrossRef](#)]
36. Ohira, S.; Ida, T.; Moritani, M.; Hasegawa, T. Synthesis of (–)-malyngolide using reactions of alkylidenecarbenes. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans.* **1998**, *1*, 293–297. [[CrossRef](#)]
37. Carda, M.; Castillo, E.; Rodriguez, S.; Marco, J.A. A stereoselective synthesis of (+)-malyngolide via a ring-closing olefin metathesis. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 5511–5513. [[CrossRef](#)]
38. Noda, Y.; Kikuchi, M. A convenient synthesis of (+)-Malyngolide. *Synth. Commun.* **1985**, *15*, 1245–1252. [[CrossRef](#)]
39. Wan, Z.; Nelson, S.G. Optically active allenes from β -lactone templates: Asymmetric total synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 10370–10471. [[CrossRef](#)]
40. Asaoka, M.; Hayashibe, S.; Sonoda, S.; Takei, H. New route to (–)-frontalin and (–)-malyngolide via epoxyketone rearrangement. *Tetrahedron* **1991**, *47*, 6967–6974. [[CrossRef](#)]
41. Flörke, H.; Schaumann, E. Synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide. *Liebigs Ann.* **1996**, 147–151. [[CrossRef](#)]
42. Konno, H.; Hiroya, K.; Ogasawara, K. A new tactic for diastereo- and enantiocontrolled synthesis of (–)-malyngolide via catalytic meso-asymmetrization. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 6023–6026. [[CrossRef](#)]
43. Kanada, R.M.; Taniguchi, T.; Ogasawara, K. Asymmetric hydrogen transfer protocol for a synthesis of (+)-frontalin and (–)-malyngolide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 3631–3635. [[CrossRef](#)]
44. Ghosh, A.K.; Shirai, M. Asymmetric hetero Diels–Alder route to quaternary carbon centers: Synthesis of (–)-malyngolide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, *42*, 6231–6233. [[CrossRef](#)]
45. Miyamoto, H.; Iwamoto, M.; Nakada, M. A new asymmetric total synthesis of enantiopure (–)-Malyngolide. *Heterocycles* **2005**, *66*, 61–68. [[CrossRef](#)]
46. Trost, B.M.; Tang, W.; Schulte, J.L. Asymmetric synthesis of quaternary centers. Total synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide. *Org. Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 4013–4015. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
47. Sato, T.; Maeno, H.; Noro, T.; Fujisawa, T. Asymmetric synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide and (–)-frontalin by utilizing bakers' yeast reduction of (S)-Ethyl-2-cyclopentanonecarboxylthiolate. *Chem. Lett.* **1988**, *17*, 1739–1742. [[CrossRef](#)]
48. Suemune, H.; Harabe, T.; Xie, Z.-F.; Sakai, K. Enzymatic hydrolysis of 2,2-Bis(acetoxymethyl)cycloalkanones, and its application to formal synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1988**, *36*, 4337–4344. [[CrossRef](#)]
49. Srivastava, N.; Reddy, B.V.S. Biocatalytic Approach for the total synthesis of (–)-Malyngolide and Its C(5)-Epimer. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **2016**, *99*, 267–272. [[CrossRef](#)]
50. O'Sullivan, T.P.; Vallin, K.S.A.; Shah, S.T.A.; Fakhry, J.; Maderna, P.; Scannell, M.; Sampaio, A.L.F.; Perretti, M.; Godson, C.; Guiry, P.J. Aromatic lipoxin A₄ and lipoxin B₄ analogues display potent biological activities. *J. Med. Chem.* **2007**, *50*, 5894–5902. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
51. Grieco, P.A.; Oguri, T.; Yokoyama, Y. One-step conversion of protected lactols into lactones. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1978**, *19*, 419–420. [[CrossRef](#)]
52. Wan, S.; Gunaydin, H.; Houk, K.N.; Floreancig, P.E. An experimental and computational approach to defining structure/reactivity relationships for intramolecular addition reactions to bicyclic epoxonium ions. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 7915–7923. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]