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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.037 wR factor = 0.105 Data-to-parameter ratio = 9.1

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

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# (3*R*,4*S*)-*cis*-3-Acetoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(2-furanyl)azetidin-2-one

The enantiopure title compound,  $C_{16}H_{15}NO_5$ , was obtained, together with its hydrolysed (3*S*,4*R*)-enantiomer, by resolution of racemic *cis*-3-acetoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(2-furanyl)azetidin-2-one using a native enzyme MTCC 5125. The two H atoms on the azetidinone ring are sited in a *cis* configuration above the plane of the  $\beta$ -lactam ring, as indicated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

## Comment

Recently,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy- $\beta$ -lactams have attracted much attention because they are convenient intermediates for the semisynthesis of the antitumour drug Taxol (Paclitaxel), Taxotere (Docletaxel) and other bioactive analogues (Hattori & Yamamoto, 1994; Ojima, 1995; Kanazawa *et al.*, 1993; Brieva *et al.*, 1993).  $\beta$ -Lactams are also versatile synthons for amino acids, alkaloids and natural products, and are key intermediates in the synthesis of biologically active antibiotics (Jayaram *et al.*, 1997; Nagahara & Kametani, 1987; Dürckheimer *et al.*, 1985). They have also been recognized as precursors of various non- $\beta$ -lactam derivatives (Manhas *et al.*, 1976; Ojima *et al.*, 1992; Ojima, 1993).



The title compound, (I), was prepared by the Staudinger reaction using a Schiff base and acetoxyacetyl chloride, and resolved by a native enzyme (chiral HPLC) in 99% enantiopurity. Its structure has now been confirmed by X-ray structural analysis. Holton & Vu (2003) have also resolved other azetidinone derivatives using beef liver suspension. The *cis* configuration of the C3 and C4 H atoms in (I) is in accordance with their strong <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling (J = 4.73 Hz) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution. Interplanar angles of 1.6 (2) and 83.4 (1)° are observed between the  $\beta$ -lactam ring and its 4-methoxyphenyl and furanyl substituents, respectively. As a result of the partial double-bond character of the amide bond N1–C2 [1.369 (3) Å], the C11–N1–C2 angle of 134.1 (2)° is markedly wider than the adjacent C11–N1–C4 angle [130.6 (2)°].

## **Experimental**

Racemic *cis*-3-acetoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(2-furanyl)azetidin-2one (1 equivalent) and lipase enzyme (MTCC 5125) (0.2 equivalent, lypholysed powder) in the presence of DMF (10%, v/v buffer) were stirred in phosphate buffer (0.1 M, pH 7.0) for 5 h at 298 K. After the required hydrolysis, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water, dried over sodium sulfate and chromatographed on a silica-gel column to furnish optically pure (I) and its hydrolysed (3S,4R)-isomer in an overall yield of 92%. The title compound was analyzed for C16H15NO5 (calculated: C 63.76, H 5.02, N 4.65%; found: C 63.81, H 5.07, N 4.66%) and its chemical structure established on the basis of its spectroscopic data. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Bruker, 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.93 (*s*, 3H, -OCOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.76  $(s, 3H, -OCH_3), 5.39 (d, 1H, J = 4.72 Hz, C_4-H), 5.95 (d, 1H, J =$ 4.73 Hz, C<sub>3</sub>-H), 6.39 (dd, 1H, J = 3.19 and 1.36 Hz, furanyl C<sub>4</sub>-H), 6.43 (d, 1H, J = 3.21 Hz, furanyl C<sub>3</sub>-H), 6.83 (d, 2H, J = 9.00 Hz, Ar-H), 7.29 (d, 2H, J = 9.00 Hz, Ar-H), 7.45 (d, 1H, J = 0.97 Hz, furanyl C<sub>5</sub>-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 20.01, 55.32, 55.45, 76.10, 110.83, 110.84, 114.41, 118.61, 130.22, 143.62, 146.77, 156.73, 161.03, 169.36. FT-IR (Bruker, KBr)  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3476 (m), 2959 (m), 1743 (s), 1590 (w), 1516 (s), 1378 (s), 1301 (m), 1229 (s), 1153 (m), 1066 (m), 832 (s). MS/MS (Thermo Finnigan TSQ5000): m/z (%) = 301.9 (10)  $(M + H)^+$ , 259.8 (18), 241.9 (100), 213.9 (45), 201.8 (23), 185.9 (8), 152.9 (11), 110.9 (8). (I) was crystallized from a mixture of dichloromethane and *n*-hexane (19:1) [m.p. 432–434 K (uncorrected),  $[\alpha]^{30}D = (+) 13.6^{\circ}$  (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Crystals of (I) suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction were selected directly from the sample as prepared.

### Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{15}NO_5$
$M_r = 301.29$
Monoclinic, P2 <sub>1</sub>
a = 5.459 (3)  Å
b = 8.011 (3) Å
c = 17.205(5) Å
$\beta = 96.00 (3)^{\circ}$
$V = 748.3 (5) \text{ Å}^3$
Z = 2
Data collection
Siemens P4 four-circle
diffractometer
Profile-fitted $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: $\psi$ scan
(XPREP in SHELXTL-Plus;
Sheldrick, 1995)
$T_{\min} = 0.930, T_{\max} = 0.962$
2019 measured reflections
1833 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.037$   $wR(F^2) = 0.105$  S = 1.041833 reflections 202 parameters H-atom parameters constrained Cell parameters from 15 reflections  $\theta = 7.5-15^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 (2) KPrism, colourless  $0.52 \times 0.51 \times 0.40 \text{ mm}$ 1592 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

 $D_x = 1.337 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

 $\begin{aligned} R_{\text{int}} &= 0.023\\ \theta_{\text{max}} &= 27.5^{\circ}\\ h &= -7 \rightarrow 0\\ k &= 0 \rightarrow 10\\ l &= -22 \rightarrow 22\\ 3 \text{ standard reflections}\\ \text{ every 100 reflections}\\ \text{ intensity decay: } 2\% \end{aligned}$ 

$$\begin{split} w &= 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0627P)^2 \\ &+ 0.0621P] \\ \text{where } P &= (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} &< 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{max}} &= 0.17 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{min}} &= -0.17 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \\ \text{Extinction correction: } SHELXL97 \\ \text{Extinction coefficient: } 0.025 (6) \end{split}$$

All H atoms were visible in difference maps and subsequently refined as riding atoms, with C–H distances of 0.93 (aromatic CH), 0.96 (CH<sub>3</sub>) or 0.98 Å (CH). In the absence of any significant anomalous scattering, the Flack (1983) parameter was indeterminate (Flack & Bernardinelli, 2000) for Mo K $\alpha$  radiation. Hence, no Friedel-related intensities were collected for Mo radiation and the absolute configuration was set by reference to the known chirality of





The moleclar structure of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

the enantiopure title compound. The chirality of (I) was also independently confirmed by collection of a Cu K $\alpha$  data set ( $\theta_{max} = 65.48^{\circ}$ , R = 0.047,  $wR(F^2) = 0.128$  for 1896 unique reflections including Friedel pairs), which yielded an Flack (1983) parameter of x = 0.0 (3) for the correct 3R,4S formulation.

Data collection: R3m/V User's Guide (Siemens, 1989); cell refinement: R3m/V User's Guide; data reduction: XDISK in R3m/V User's Guide; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL-Plus (Sheldrick, 1995); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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