

## Synthesis of the Precursor of (+)-Thienamycin utilizing D-Glucosamine

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D-Glucosamine was transformed into the known synthetic intermediate (**18**) of (+)-thienamycin (**1**).

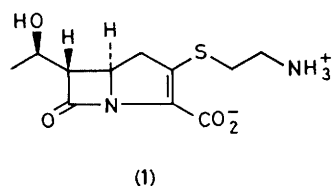
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The rapidly expanding family of carbapenem antibiotics has attracted much attention owing to the wide spectrum of their antibacterial usage, and this has consequently stimulated synthetic efforts. Thienamycin (**1**), a representative of this family, has been synthesised in the racemic form,<sup>1</sup> and as its

natural enantiomer from L-aspartic acid,<sup>2</sup> 6-aminopenicillanic acid,<sup>3</sup> D-allo-,<sup>4</sup> and L-threonine.<sup>4</sup>

We describe herein the chiral synthesis of (+)-(**1**) starting with commercially available D-glucosamine.

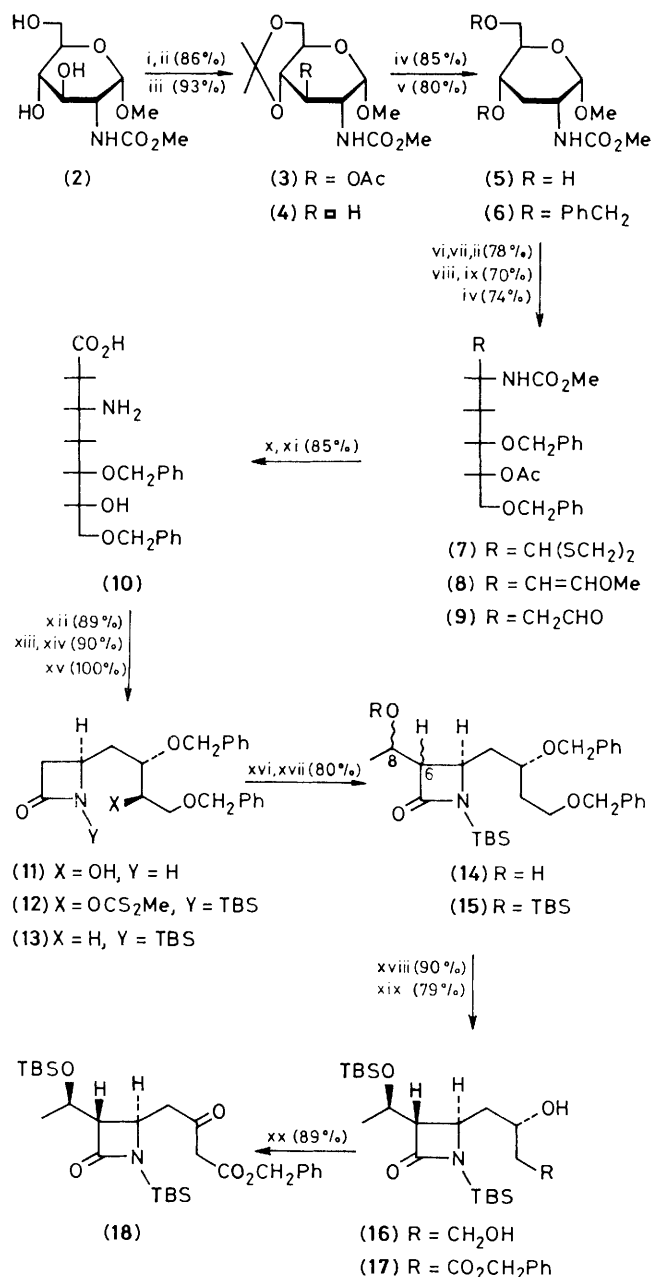
Methyl 2-deoxy-2-methoxycarbonylamino- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyr-



anoside<sup>5</sup> (**2**), readily accessible from D-glucosamine, was converted into an acetonide, and then acetylated to give (**3**), whose acetoxy-group was then removed photochemically<sup>6</sup> (Scheme 1). Selective acid hydrolysis of the resulting 3-deoxy-derivative (**4**) gave the known compound (**5**),<sup>7</sup> m.p. 163.5–164 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 126^\circ$  (MeOH), which was benzylated to give (**6**), m.p. 100–103 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 84.1^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>). After acid hydrolysis, (**6**) was converted into (**7**) by thio-acetalisation and acetylation. For one-carbon homologation, (**7**) was hydrolysed to an unstable aldehyde, which, without purification was submitted to the Wittig reaction with methoxymethylenetriphenylphosphorane. The resulting vinyl ether (**8**) was hydrolysed by acid to the homoaldehyde (**9**),  $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 9.8^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), under mild conditions in order to suppress the eliminative deamination of the product. Upon oxidation followed by alkaline hydrolysis, (**9**) provided the  $\beta$ -amino acid (**10**), m.p. 167–169 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 45.6^\circ$  (MeOH), after chromatographic purification on Dowex 50W (H<sup>+</sup> form). The key  $\beta$ -lactam (**11**),  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 2.9^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), was obtained in high yield by treatment of (**10**) with 2,2'-dipyridyl disulphide-Ph<sub>3</sub>P.<sup>8</sup> After the NH group in (**11**) had been protected by silylation, the product was converted into the xanthate (**12**),  $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 53.1^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), and then submitted to trialkylstannane reduction yielding the deoxy compound (**13**),  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 41.9^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), quantitatively. Trapping of the lithium enolate of (**13**) with acetaldehyde gave an inseparable mixture of the diastereoisomers of (**14**), which by silylation and the subsequent chromatographic separation, furnished the pure desired diastereoisomer (6*S*, 8*R*)-(**15**),<sup>†</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 42.9^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), in 39% yield from (**13**). The undesired diastereoisomers, (6*S*, 8*S*)-, (6*R*, 8*R*)-, and (6*R*, 8*S*)-(**15**), were efficiently recycled to (6*S*, 8*R*)-(**14**) as follows: a mixture of these undesired isomers was hydrolysed with acid (HCl, aqueous MeOH) and the product was selectively *N*-silylated [Bu<sup>t</sup>Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, dimethylformamide (DMF)]. The single ketone, obtained from the *N*-silylated product by Swern oxidation [(CF<sub>3</sub>CO)<sub>2</sub>O, Me<sub>2</sub>SO, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>], provided a mixture of (6*S*, 8*R*)- and (6*S*, 8*S*)-(**14**) in the ratio *ca.* 10:1 on reduction with *K*-Selectride<sup>2,9</sup> (63% combined overall yield).

The diastereoisomer (6*S*, 8*R*)-(**15**) was debenzylated by Hanessian's procedure<sup>10</sup> to give the diol (**16**), m.p. 139–141 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 70.1^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The selective oxidation of the primary hydroxyl group of (**16**) was achieved by Pt-catalysed autoxidation yielding a hydroxy acid, which was then esterified to give (**17**), m.p. 131–132 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 41.7^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Collins oxidation of (**17**) provided the reported synthetic intermediate<sup>3</sup> (**18**), m.p. 77.5–79 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 48.4^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), of (+)-thienamycin (**1**), which was identified by spectral comparison.

The optical purity of (**18**) was checked by the transformation of the key intermediate (**13**) into (**19**) as follows: (**13**) was debenzylated (H<sub>2</sub>, Pd-C) and then oxidised (O<sub>2</sub>, Pt). The hydroxy acid obtained was esterified [PhCH<sub>2</sub>Br, 1,5-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-ene (DBU)], oxidised (Collins reagent), and finally desilylated (HCl, aqueous MeOH) to give the known (+)-enantiomer of (**19**),<sup>11,12</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{21} + 49.2^\circ$  (PhH),<sup>‡</sup> in



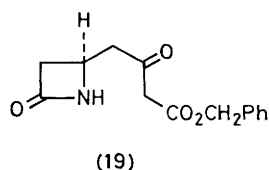
**Scheme 1.** TBS = Bu<sup>t</sup>Me<sub>2</sub>Si Reagents: i, Me<sub>2</sub>C(OMe)<sub>2</sub>, *p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H, DMF; ii, Ac<sub>2</sub>O, pyridine; iii, *hν*, aqueous hexamethylphosphoric triamide; iv, aqueous HOAc; v, PhCH<sub>2</sub>Br, NaH, dimethoxyethane; vi, HCl, aqueous HOAc; vii, (CH<sub>2</sub>SH)<sub>2</sub>, BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O; viii, MeI, aqueous MeCN; ix, Ph<sub>3</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>OMeCl, EtMe<sub>2</sub>CONa, PhH; x, Jones reagent; xi, aqueous Ba(OH)<sub>2</sub>; xii, (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NS)<sub>2</sub>, Ph<sub>3</sub>P, MeCN; xiii, Bu<sup>t</sup>Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, DMF; xiv, CS<sub>2</sub>, NaH, tetrahydrofuran (THF) then MeI; xv, Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH, azoisobutyronitrile, PhMe; xvi, lithium di-isopropylamide, MeCHO, THF; xvii, Bu<sup>t</sup>Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl, imidazole, DMF; xviii, cyclohexene, Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>, EtOH; xix, O<sub>2</sub>, Pt, aqueous dioxan, then PhCH<sub>2</sub>Br, DBU, MeCN; xx, CrO<sub>3</sub>-pyridine.

34% overall yield. Although the optical rotation of (**18**) has not been reported, the observed optical rotational value of (**19**) demonstrates that our synthesis, in which all the carbon atoms of D-glucosamine were included in the target molecule, was probably performed throughout without loss of optical purity.

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<sup>†</sup> This diastereoisomer was the major product and its ratio to the other isomers (6*S*, 8*S*), (6*R*, 8*R*), and (6*R*, 8*S*) was 49:29:13:9 (or 49:29:9:13) respectively, as revealed by h.p.l.c. analysis.

<sup>‡</sup> Lit.<sup>11</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 43.2^\circ$  (PhH).



Dohme) for providing us with the spectra of (19) and (18), respectively.

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