

Synthesis via a Bicyclic β -Lactam of ($\alpha S, 2R/\alpha R, 2S$)- α -Aminopiperidine-2-acetic Acid, an Amino-acid Related to the Anti-tumour Agent '593A' [3,6-Bis-(5-chloro-2-piperidyl)piperazine-2,5-dione]

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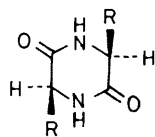
Summary A stereoselective synthesis of ($\alpha S, 2R/\alpha R, 2S$)- α -aminopiperidine-2-acetic acid (**2a**) from ethyl 8-oxo-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]octane-7-carboxylate (**4a**) is described

We have undertaken the synthesis of the bifunctional alkylating agent 3,6-bis-(5-chloro-2-piperidyl)piperazine-2,5-dione ['593A' or *cyclo-streptoletyl-streptoletyl*, (**1**)] produced by *Streptomyces griseoluteus*¹. This compound is a potential anti-cancer drug² and its stereoisomers, homologues, and radiolabelled derivatives are required for biological evaluation. We now report a straightforward synthesis of both diastereoisomers of α -aminopiperidine-2-acetic acid [(**2a**) and (**2b**)], the parent amino-acid of (**1**), thus paving the way to (**1**) and many analogues. Other approaches to (**1**) have recently been reported^{3,4†}.

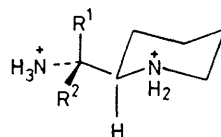
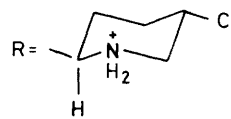
There is a correlation between the structure and stereochemistry of (**1**) and the penicillins, *e.g.* penicillin G (**3**). Strategies for the synthesis of β -lactam antibiotics and their nuclear analogues should therefore be adaptable to the preparation of (**1**) and analogues. We have sought to extend Lowe's method⁵ for preparing nuclear analogues of penicillins to the synthesis of structures related to (**1**).

Racemic ethyl 8-oxo-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]octane-7-carboxylate⁵ (**4a**) was hydrolysed (1 equiv KOH in aq dioxan left overnight at room temperature) to the acid (**4b**) ‡. Several attempts, using literature procedures,^{5,6} to replace the carboxy-group of (**4b**) by an amino group failed. Treating (**4a**) with NaH (1 equiv) in dimethyl sulphoxide easily generated the anion (**4c**), which was characterised by its ¹H n m r spectrum and by kinetic protonation (rapid addition to excess of dil acetic acid) to (**4a**) + (**4d**) (9:1). Reaction of the anion (**4c**) [generated by treating (**4a**) with lithium di-isopropylamide in tetrahydrofuran] with toluene-*p*-sulphonyl azide followed by chlorotrimethylsilane (procedure of ref 7) gave the azides (**4e**) ‡ and (**4f**) ‡ [the mixture was purified by 'flash chromatography'⁸ on silica gel 60 (elution with ether)]. Reduction (excess of H₂S and triethylamine⁹ in CH₂Cl₂ for 15 min at room temperature) of (**4e**) + (**4f**) gave the amino-esters (**4g**) ‡ and (**4h**) ‡ purified by short column chromatography on silica gel (gradient elution with ether-methanol). Saponification (1.1 equiv NaOH in ethanol left overnight at room temperature) of (**4g**) + (**4h**) gave (**4i**) ‡ which separated directly from the reaction mixture in 78% yield. Heating (**4i**) in 5 M hydrochloric acid (5 h, 110 °C) gave a 2:1 mixture of the diastereoisomers [54% overall yield from (**4a**)], characterised as (**2a**) ‡ and (**2b**), ‡ respectively, by comparing their ¹H n m r spectra in 2 M DCl/D₂O with spectra¹⁰ for *threo*- and *erythro*-2,3-diaminobutanoic acid, respectively. The predominant diastereoisomer (**2a**) shows a narrow

doublet (*J* 3 Hz) for α -H, as expected^{10,11} for the diprotonated structure (**2a**) in the preferred conformation shown (protonated amino groups *anti*) (*cf J* 3.6 Hz for α -H of *threo*-2,3-diaminobutanoic acid under similar conditions)¹⁰. The ($\alpha S, 2R$)-isomer of (**2a**) has the same chirality as at C-3 and C-2 of (**1**). The minor diastereoisomer (**2b**) shows a relatively wide doublet (*J* 7 Hz) for α -H which is consistent with the diprotonated structure (**2b**) existing in the preferred conformation shown (*cf J* 6.6 Hz for α -H of *erythro*-2,3-diaminobutanoic acid)¹⁰.

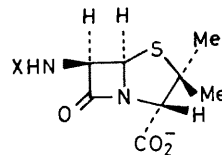


(1)



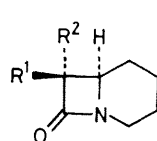
(2)

- a, R¹ = CO₂H, R² = H
b, R¹ = H, R² = CO₂H



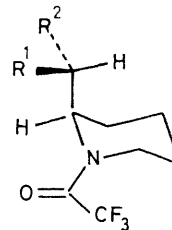
(3)

- X = PhCH₂C(=O)



(4)

- a, R¹ = H, R² = CO₂Et
b, R¹ = H, R² = CO₂H
c, R¹, R² = CO₂Et, -
d, R¹ = CO₂Et, R² = H
e, f, R¹, R² = CO₂Et, N₃
g, h, R¹, R² = CO₂Et, NH₂
i, R¹, R² = CO₂⁻Na⁺, NH₂



(5)

- a, R¹ = NHCOFCF₃, R² = CO₂Me
b, R¹ = CO₂Me, R² = NHCOFCF₃

† Since submission of this manuscript, the synthesis of racemic (**1**) has been reported (T Fukuyama, R K Frank, and C F Jewell, *J Am Chem Soc*, 1980, **102**, 2122) via a monocyclic β -lactam

‡ New compounds had spectroscopic characteristics in accord with their assigned structure.

The mixture of amino-acids (**2a**) and (**2b**) was converted into their bis-*N*-trifluoroacetyl methyl esters (**5a**)[‡] and (**5b**)[‡], respectively, which were easily separated [60% recovery based on (**2a**) and (**2b**)] by 'flash chromatography'⁸ on silica gel 60 (elution with ether-petrol, 1:1). The predominant diastereoisomer shows R_f 0.27 (t.l.c. Kieselgel GF₂₅₄, elution with ether-petrol, 1:1); m.p. 122.5–123.5 °C; δ (CDCl₃) 1.4–1.9 (m, CH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.31 (sextuplet, H-6_{ax}), 3.83 (m, H-6_{eq}), 3.83 (s, OCH₃), 4.88 (d of t, *J* 11, 3, and 3 Hz, H-2_{eq}), 5.15 (dd, *J* 10 and 11 Hz, α -H), and 7.13 (d, *J* 10 Hz, NH). As expected¹² for a 2-substituted *N*-acylpiperidine the preferred conformation of (**5a**) is a chair

with the substituent at C-2 axial. Saponification (4 equiv. NaOH in 1:1 aq. methanol for 1 h at room temperature) of (**5a**) gave pure (**2a**). Similar treatment of (**5b**) [m.p. 122.5–123.5 °C, R_f 0.37 (t.l.c. as above)] gave (**2b**).

Conversion of (**5a**) into de-chloro-(**1**) and extension of the described route to (**1**) and a variety of analogues is in progress.

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¹¹ Concerning the application of the Karplus relationship to amino-acids see R. B. Martin, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 1979, **83**, 2404.

¹² D. J. Hart, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1980, **102**, 397, and references cited therein.