Communications to the editor

THE PREPARATION OF GARAMINE, A NOVEL PSEUDODISACCHARIDE FROM SISOMICIN

Sir:

Recent studies in these laboratories have established the gross structure⁽¹⁾ of sisomicin (1), a novel unsaturated aminoglycoside antibiotic produced by *Micromonospora inyoensis* and have demonstrated that the unsaturated sugar was attached to the 4-position of 2-deoxy-streptamine.²⁾ Evidence for the position of attachment of the garosamine is given below.

Sisomicin (1) was converted to the penta-Ncarbobenzoxy derivative (2)* which was found to be highly labile towards even mild acidic reagents. A solution of 2 in tetrahydrofuran on treatment with Amberlite IR 120 (H+) ionexchange resin at 25°C effected a smooth conversion to N-carbobenzoxygaramine (3) in 71% yield. The conversion could also be effected by adjusting the pH to 1 by means of a few drops of concentrated sulphuric acid, or by treating the solution with m-chloroperbenzoic acid, and aqueous sodium bicarbonate, or by treatment with hypobromous acid, and barium carbonate. Hydrogenation of the N-carbobenzoxygaramine (3) over 10% palladium on carbon gave a novel disaccharide which was named garamine (4), $[\alpha]_D^{26} + 135.4^\circ$ (H₂O), δ (D₂O) 1.19 (3H, S, 4'-CH₃), 2.51(3H, S, 3'-NCH₃), 2.57(1H, d, $J_{2'8'}=10.5 \text{ Hz}$, $H_{8'}$), 3.30(1H, d, $J_{5'8,5'6}=12.5$ Hz, $H_{5'a}$), 3.79 (1H, dd, $J_{2',3'}=10.5$ Hz, $J_{1',2'}$ $=4 \text{ Hz}, H_{2'}$), 4.03(1H, d, $J_{5'a,5'e}=12.5 \text{ Hz}, H_{5'e}$), 5.06 ppm. (1H, d, $J_{1',2'}=4$ Hz, $H_{1'}$). The mass spectrum of 4 showed an M^++1 ion at m/e 322 with prominent fragment ions at m/e 191, 173, 163, 145, and 1603 consistent with the proposed structure. Methanolysis of garamine (4) using 6 N hydrochloric acid in methanol at reflux temperatures, gave 2-deoxystreptamine**, and methyl garosaminide** lending chemical support to the structure of garamine (4). The c.d. spectrum*** of a cuprammonium A complex of

N-acetylgaramine (5) exhibited a positive extremum at $290 \,\mathrm{m}\mu$ and a negative extremum at $550 \,\mathrm{m}\mu$ consistent with a positive dihedral angle for the glycol,⁴⁾ clearly establishing that the garosamine was located at the 6-position of 2-deoxystreptamine in sisomicin.

Further confirmation for the location of the unsaturated sugar at the 4-position and of garosamine at the 6-position in sisomicin was obtained by the following series of reactions. Sisomicin (1) was converted to the N-acetyl derivative (6) by treatment with acetic anhydride in methanol. The N-acetate (6) was markedly more stable towards acid hydrolysis to garamine than was the corresponding N-carbobenzoxy

- * All compounds gave satisfactory microanalytical, and spectral data.
- ** Identical in all respects with authentic samples.
- *** The authors are indebted to Dr.R.D. Guthrie, University of Sussex, Brighton, England, for running the Cupra A c.d. spectrum.

(7)

derivative (2). Permethylation of the N-acetate (6) using sodium hydride, and methyl iodide in dimethylformamide gave the derivative (7). The mass spectrum of 7 showed a molecular ion at m/e 755 in agreement with a permethylated structure, with characteristic fragment ions at m/e 239, 230, 509, 500, 317, 299, 289 and 271.3) Hydrolysis of 7 with 6 N hydrochloric acid on a steam bath gave the methylated deoxystreptamine derivative (8) which was identical (m.s., t.l.c., g.l.c. of the TMS ether) with an authentic sample.5) The formation of a 5-methylated deoxystreptamine by the above process clearly confirmed by chemical means that the sugars were glycosidically attached to the 4- and 6positions in deoxystreptamine in sisomicin. The total structure, and absolute stereochemistry of sisomicin* may now be represented by the structure 1.

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^{*} The sugar linkages were also determined in dihydrosisomicin by H. Reimann and R.S. Jaret, unpublished results.