

STUDIES ON  $\beta$ -LACTAM ANTIBIOTICS. III<sup>†</sup>SYNTHESIS AND ENZYMIC STABILITY OF 3-ACYLOXYMETHYL-7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-AMINO-4-THIAZOLYL)-2-(METHOXYIMINO)ACETAMIDO]-3-CEPHEM-4-CARBOXYLIC ACIDSTAKAO TAKAYA\*, HISASHI TAKASUGI, TAKEO MURAKAWA  
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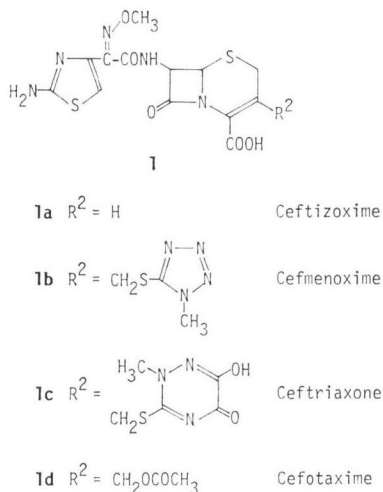
3-Acyloxymethyl-7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acids (**7**) were synthesized. The stability of **7** to enzymatic hydrolysis and their antimicrobial activity were evaluated. **7** showed good antimicrobial activity against a wide range of microorganisms. Cephems (**7b** and **7c**) with sterically more hindered acyl groups such as *t*-butyl and cyclohexyl were most resistant to enzymatic hydrolysis.

Recently, extensive studies have been undertaken on a new family of cephalosporins bearing the oxyiminoacetyl side chain at the C-7 position of a cephem nucleus. Especially, cephalosporins (Fig. 1) with (Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetyl group, such as ceftizoxime,<sup>1,2,8)</sup> cefotaxime,<sup>4,5)</sup> cefmenoxime<sup>6)</sup> and ceftriaxone<sup>7)</sup> have been reported to possess excellent antibacterial activity.

In this series, we became interested in the effect of structural modification of the acyl moiety in the 3-acetyloxymethyl group on the stability toward enzymatic hydrolysis, because cephalosporins with the 3-acetyloxymethyl group, such as cephalothin,<sup>8)</sup> cephacetrile,<sup>9)</sup> cephalpirin<sup>10)</sup> and cefotaxime<sup>11)</sup> are known to be metabolized by hydrolysis to the corresponding 3-hydroxymethylcephems (**3a~d**) which are less active than the 3-acetyloxymethylcephems (**1d** and **2a~c**) (Scheme 1). In order to overcome this drawback, we intended to change the acetyl radical at the 3-position of the cephem nucleus for a sterically more hindered acyl moiety which can be expected to be resistant to hydrolysis.

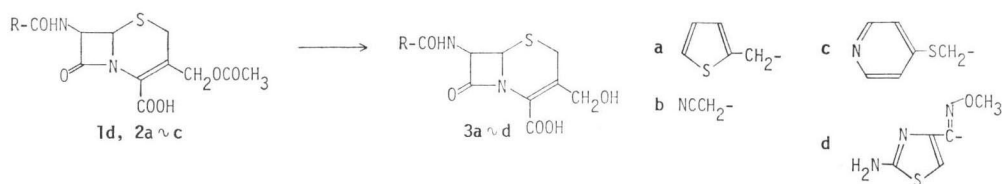
We here report the synthesis (Schemes 2 and 3), stability to enzymatic hydrolysis (Fig. 2), and antimicrobial activity (Table 1) of cephalosporins (**7**) with various 3-acyloxymethyl groups.

Fig. 1.

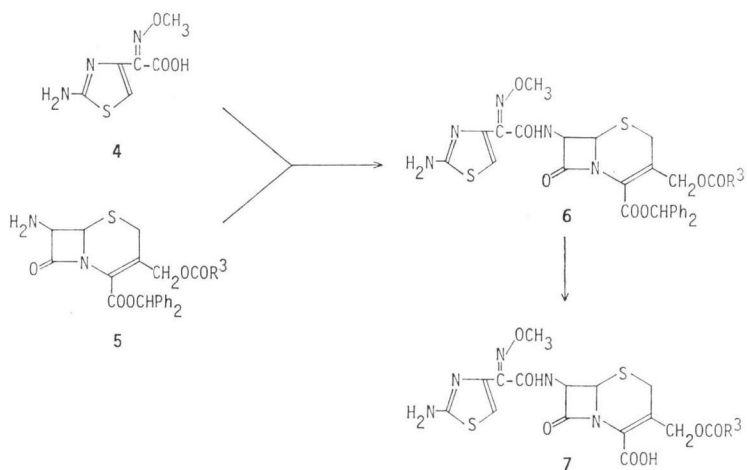


<sup>†</sup> Paper II. TAKAYA, T.; H. TAKASUGI, T. MASUGI, H. KOCHI & H. NAKANO: Studies on  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics. II. Synthesis and structure-activity relationships of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyiminoarylacetyl cephalosporins. J. Antibiotics 34: 1290~1299, 1981

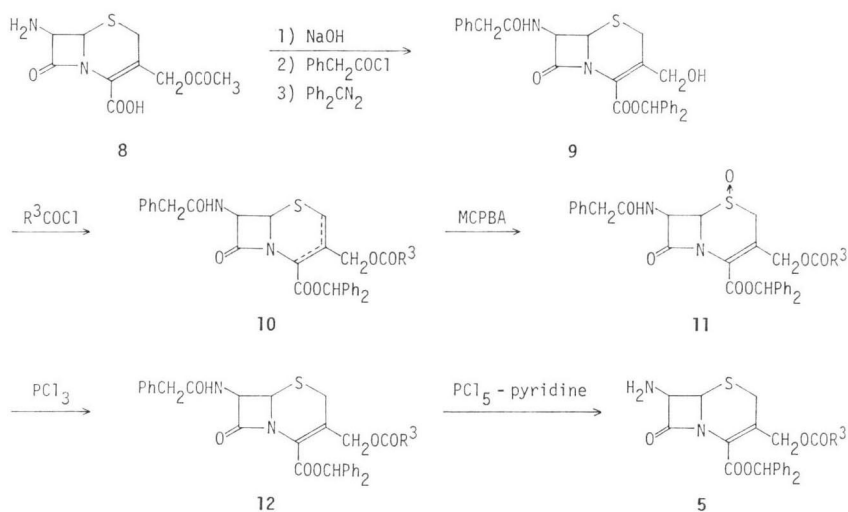
Scheme 1.



Scheme 2.



Scheme 3.



## Chemistry

Semisynthetic cephalosporins (**7**) were synthesized by acylation of diphenylmethyl 7-amino-3-acyloxymethylcephalosporanate (**5**) with (*Z*)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetic acid (**4**)<sup>12</sup> followed by subsequent deprotection of the esters (**6**), as outlined in Scheme 2. The 7-amino-3-acyl-

oxymethylcephems (**5**) were prepared according to the improved reaction sequence (Scheme 3) which was accomplished by a combination of the synthetic procedures described by KUKOLJA,<sup>13)</sup> VAN HEYNINGEN<sup>14)</sup> and the Glaxo group.<sup>15)</sup> A 3-hydroxymethyl derivative (**9**) was prepared in a one-pot process from alkaline hydrolysis<sup>16)</sup> of 7-aminocephalosporanic acids (7-ACA) followed by subsequent phenylacetylation, and esterification. Acylation of the 3-hydroxymethyl function of **9** with acyl chloride gave a mixture (**10**) of  $\Delta^2$ - and  $\Delta^3$ -acyloxymethylcephems. The  $\Delta^3$ -3-acyloxymethylcephems (**12**) were prepared from the above mixture by utilizing the oxidative-reductive process (**10**→**11**→**12**) for isomerization of the double bond. Cleavage for the phenylacetyl side chain of **12** with  $\text{PCl}_5$  gave the  $7\beta$ -amino-3-acyloxymethylcephems (**5**). A cephem ester (**6**) was obtained by coupling of **5** with an activated acid which was prepared by treatment of the acid (**4**) with VILSMEIER-like reagent ( $\text{POCl}_3$ -DMF) without protection of the 2-amino function. Deprotection of **6** with  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$ -anisole gave the 3-acyloxymethylcephem (**7**).

The structure of all compounds (**5**, **6**, **7**, **11** and **12**) were supported by their IR and NMR spectra. Their yields and spectral data are summarized in Tables 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

#### Biological Results

Enzymatic cleavage of the various 3-acyloxymethylcephems (**7**) by rat liver homogenates was examined. Results are pictured in Fig. 2. The 3-acetoxymethyl analog (**1d**) and **7g** ( $\text{R}^3 = -\text{CH}_2\text{O}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{OCH}_3$ ) were easily hydrolyzed by rat liver homogenates to a similar extent. In contrast, cephem (**7b** and **7c**) with sterically more hindered acyl groups such as *t*-butyl and cyclohexyl were the most resistant to enzymatic hydrolysis. Especially **7b** was virtually stable under these experimental conditions. In general, the more bulky the 3-acyloxymethyl group in the cephem (**7**) is, the more resistant it can be to undergo metabolic conversion to the less active 3-hydroxymethyl cephem (**3d**), as is expected.

The *in vitro* activity of the above various acyloxymethylcephems (**7a**~**7g**) against selected Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms is shown in Table 1. Their antibacterial activity except for **7b**, **e**, **g** tends to be enhanced (*ca.* 2~4 times) against Gram-positive bacteria and indole-negative *Proteus* species such as *Proteus vulgaris* 2 (*ca.* 2~8 times), but to be relatively reduced against other Gram-negative bacteria as compared to that of the 3-acetoxymethylcephem (**1d**). However, they still retain good antibacterial activity and a broad spectrum of activity.

#### Experimental

NMR spectra were recorded at 60 MHz on a JNM-PMX 60 NMR spectrometer and at 100 MHz on a JEOL-MH 100 NMR spectrometer using  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  as an internal standard. IR spectra were taken on

Fig. 2. Enzymatic hydrolysis of the 3-acyloxymethyl cephalosporins (**7**).

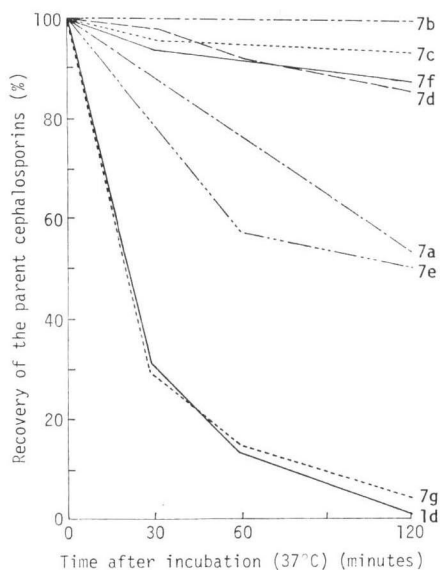
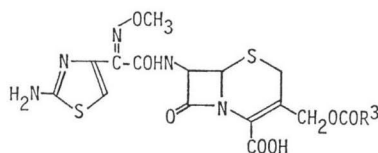







Table 1. Antibacterial activity of the 3-acyloxymethyl cephalosporins (7).



Compounds R <sup>3</sup>	MIC (mcg/ml)						
	<i>S. aureus</i> 209 P JC 1	<i>B. subtilis</i> ATCC 6633	<i>E. coli</i> 28	<i>K. pneumo-</i> <i>oniae</i> 20	<i>P. mira-</i> <i>bilis</i> 1	<i>P. vulg-</i> <i>aris</i> 2	<i>P. aeruginosa</i> NCTC 10490
<b>1d</b> -CH <sub>3</sub>	3.13	6.25	0.20	0.05	0.05	1.56	6.25
<b>7a</b> -(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	1.56	0.78	0.78	0.20	0.39	1.56	6.25
<b>7b</b> -C(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	12.5	3.13	0.78	0.78	1.56	0.78	50
<b>7c</b> 	3.13	3.13	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	25
<b>7d</b> 	1.56	1.56	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	12.5
<b>7e</b> 	6.25	3.13	0.78	0.78	0.20	0.78	50
<b>7f</b> 	1.56	0.78	0.39	0.20	0.39	0.20	25
<b>7g</b> 	25	6.25	1.56	0.39	0.20	0.78	800





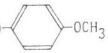
a Hitachi 260-10 spectrophotometer or Shimadzu IR-420 spectrophotometer.

#### Preparation of Diphenylmethyl 3-Hydroxymethyl-7 $\beta$ -phenylacetamido-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (9)

To a stirred suspension of 7-ACA (50 g, 0.183 mole) in H<sub>2</sub>O (200 ml) was added 20% NaOH solution (85 ml, 0.402 mole) during 5 minutes to keep the reaction temperature between 2~5°C under cooling in an ice-salt bath. After stirring for a further 5 minutes at this temperature, the reaction solution was adjusted to pH 8.5 with AcOH and diluted with acetone (150 ml). To the solution was dropwise added a solution of phenylacetyl chloride (34.1 g, 0.22 mole) in acetone (35 ml) at 0~5°C, keeping the pH between 7.5~8.5 with Et<sub>3</sub>N. The reaction mixture was stirred for one hour at 0~5°C, and then concentrated *in vacuo* to remove the organic solvent. The resulting solution was overlaid with ethyl acetate (AcOEt) (700 ml), and acidified to pH 3.0 with 17.5% HCl. The aqueous layer was further extracted with AcOEt (300 ml). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered. To the obtained solution was added an AcOEt solution (*ca.* 0.7~0.8 mole) of diphenyldiazomethane under stirring until the color of diphenyldiazomethane persisted. The reaction solution was concentrated to a volume of *ca.* 400 ml and then cooled to 5~10°C in a refrigerator. The precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with AcOEt to give 45.8 g (48.5%) of **9**; mp 178~179°C (Ref. 17, mp 176.5°C); IR (Nujol) 3500, 3280, 1760, 1710, 1660 cm<sup>-1</sup>; NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  3.60 (2H, s), 3.63 (2H, s), 4.27 (2H, d, *J*=6Hz), 5.12 (1H, d, *J*=6Hz), 5.73 (1H, dd, *J*=5,8Hz), 6.93 (1H, s), 7.10~7.73 (15H, m), 9.10 (1H, d, *J*=8Hz).

#### General Preparation of Diphenylmethyl 3-Acyloxymethyl-7 $\beta$ -phenylacetamido-3-cephem-4-carboxylate 1-Oxide (11)

Table 2. Yields of **5**, **6**, **7**, **11** and **12**.

Compounds	R <sup>3</sup>	O-Acylation & oxidation	Reduction	Cleavage	N-Acylation	Deprotection
		<b>11</b> (%)	<b>12</b> (%)	<b>5</b> (%)	<b>6</b> (%)	<b>7</b> (%)
<b>a</b>	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	58.4	95.0	72.2	75.6	58.8
<b>b</b>	-C(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	50.8	84.7	77.3	66.3	60.0
<b>c</b>		64.7	98.5	63.2	73.5	55.3
<b>d</b>		71.5	95.5	75.7	77.8	74.9
<b>e</b>		66.4	95.4	88.7	71.0	59.7
<b>f</b>	-CH <sub>2</sub> - 	72.0	92.6	68.3	82.9	78.7
<b>g</b>	-CH <sub>2</sub> O-  -OCH <sub>3</sub>	72.8	92.0	93.3	80.0	71.8

Acyl chloride (0.04 mole) was added to the solution of **9** (0.02 mole) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.04 mole) in tetrahydrofuran (200 ml), and the mixture was stirred at 50~60°C for 2~5 hours. After removing the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was dissolved in a mixture of AcOEt (200~300 ml) and H<sub>2</sub>O (100 ml). The separated AcOEt layer was washed with 10% HCl, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, and brine. The AcOEt layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered.

To the above filtrate was dropwise added a solution of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (0.02 mole) in AcOEt (40 ml) under ice-cooling, and the mixture was stirred at similar temperature for 1~3 hours. After addition of AcOEt (100~300 ml) to the reaction mixture, the resulting solution was washed successively with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, brine, and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* to a volume of *ca.* 100~150 ml, and then cooled to 5~10°C in a refrigerator. The precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with AcOEt or diethyl ether to afford **11** as crystals.






#### General Preparation of Diphenylmethyl 3-Acyloxymethyl-7β-phenylacetamido-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (**12**)

Phosphorus trichloride (0.02 mole) was added to a solution of **11** (0.01 mole) in DMF (80~100 ml) at -40°C and the mixture was stirred at -40~-10°C for 1~2 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into cold water (400 ml). The precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, and dried (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) to afford **12** as crystals or powder.

#### General Preparation of Diphenylmethyl 3-Acyloxymethyl-7β-amino-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (**5**)

Pyridine (0.015 mole) was added to a suspension of PCl<sub>5</sub> (0.015 mole) in methylene chloride (30~40 ml) at 5°C, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. **12** (0.015 mole) was added to the above mixture at 5°C and stirred at 5~8°C for 1~2 hours. Then, MeOH (0.25 mole) was added to reaction mixture at -30°C and the resulting solution was stirred at -15~0°C for 1~2 hours. After removing the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was added to a mixture of H<sub>2</sub>O and diethyl ether. The separated aqueous layer was adjusted to pH 7.5 with 20% aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, and extracted with AcOEt. The AcOEt layer was washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and evaporated. The residue was triturated with diethyl ether or diisopropyl ether to afford **5** as a powder.

Table 3. IR spectral data of **5**, **6**, **7**, **11** and **12**.

Compounds	R <sup>3</sup>	IR $\nu_{\max}^{\text{Nujol}}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )													
		<b>11</b>			<b>12</b>			<b>5</b>		<b>6</b>			<b>7</b>		
		$\beta$ -Lactam	Ester	CONH	$\beta$ -Lactam	Ester	CONH	$\beta$ -Lactam	Ester	$\beta$ -Lactam	Ester	CONH	$\beta$ -Lactam	Ester	CONH
<b>a</b>	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	1780	1720	1650	1780	1730	1665	1770	1730	1780	1725	1670	1780	1705	1660
<b>b</b>	-C(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	1780	1728	1650	1780	1720 1710	1680	1780*	1720*	1780	1725	1680	1780	1720	1675
<b>c</b>		1780	1720	1650	1770	1720	1670	1800	1730	1780	1730	1690	1780	1730	1675
<b>d</b>		1780	1725 1710	1650	1770	1720	1685	1780	1720	1770	1710	1670	1780	1720	1680
<b>e</b>		1780	1715 1705	1650	1770	1720 1690	1680	1770	1710	1770	1710	1670	1780	1710	1680
<b>f</b>		1785	1730 1725	1650	1780	1725	1670	1770	1730	1780	1720	1660	1780	1710	1660
<b>g</b>		1780	1740	1650	1775	1745 1725	1650	1780	1720	1780	1725	1680	1780	1740 (sh)	1680

\* Film.  
sh=shoulder

Table 4. NMR spectral data of **5**, **11** and **12**.






Compounds	R <sup>3</sup>	NMR (DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> , $\delta$ )											
		<b>11</b>				<b>12</b>				<b>5</b>			
		CONH d <i>J</i> =8Hz	C <sub>7</sub> -H dd <i>J</i> =5,8Hz	C <sub>6</sub> -H d <i>J</i> =5Hz	C <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> AB, q <i>J</i> =13Hz	CONH d <i>J</i> =8Hz	C <sub>7</sub> -H dd <i>J</i> =5,8Hz	C <sub>6</sub> -H d <i>J</i> =5Hz	C <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> AB, q <i>J</i> =13Hz	C <sub>7</sub> -H	C <sub>6</sub> -H	C <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> br.s
<b>a</b>	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	8.40	5.93	4.97	4.60 5.13	9.17	5.83	5.17	4.65 5.00		4.60~5.17 4H, m		3.60
<b>b</b>	-C(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	8.42	6.00	5.00	4.65 5.18	9.23	5.87	5.22	4.73 5.03		4.60~5.17 4H, m		3.57
<b>c</b>		8.40	5.90	4.94	4.64 5.16	9.17	5.83	5.20	4.68 4.98		4.66~5.33 4H, m		3.58
<b>d</b>		8.44	5.96	4.98	4.90 5.40	9.22	5.87	5.23	4.93 5.23		4.88~5.44 4H, m		3.82
<b>e</b>		8.42	5.95	4.98	4.83 5.38	9.10	5.75	5.11	4.90 5.18	5.12 d <i>J</i> =5Hz	4.90 d <i>J</i> =5Hz	5.03 dd <i>J</i> =13Hz	3.68
<b>f</b>	-CH <sub>2</sub> - 	8.45	5.95	4.95	4.65 5.17	9.12	5.78	5.13	4.68 4.98	5.03 d <i>J</i> =5Hz	4.85 d <i>J</i> =5Hz	4.80 dd <i>J</i> =13Hz	3.50
<b>g</b>	-CH <sub>2</sub> O-  -OCH <sub>3</sub>	8.41	5.93	4.92	4.90 5.20	9.00	5.72	5.07	4.70 4.97		4.60~5.10 4H, m		3.52

Table 5. NMR spectral data of 6.











Compounds	R <sup>3</sup>	NMR (DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> , δ)									
		CONH 1H, d <i>J</i> =8Hz	$\begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \diagdown \\ \text{C} \\ \diagup \\ \phi \end{array}$ 10H, m	$\begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \diagdown \\ \text{CH-} \\ \diagup \\ \phi \end{array}$ 1H, s	Thiazole C <sub>5</sub> -H 1H, s	C <sub>7</sub> -H 1H, dd <i>J</i> =5,8Hz	C <sub>6</sub> -H 1H, d <i>J</i> =5Hz	C <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> 2H, dd <i>J</i> =13Hz	C <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> 2H, br.s	=N-OCH <sub>3</sub> 3H, s	R <sup>3</sup>
a	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	9.67	7.1 ~7.70	6.97	6.80	5.93	5.25	4.83	3.63	3.87	2.27 2H, t, <i>J</i> =7Hz 1.0~1.67 6H, m 0.83 3H, t, <i>J</i> =6Hz
b	-C(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	9.73	7.12~7.68	6.98	6.80	5.96	5.26	4.86	3.62	3.88	1.13 9H, s
c		9.80	7.1 ~7.58	7.00	6.83	5.83	5.20	4.83	3.60	3.97	3.07~3.33 1H, m 1.0~2.09 10H, m
d		9.62	7.1 ~7.60	7.00	6.77	5.83	5.20	5.17	3.73	3.87	7.45~7.73 3H, m 7.87~8.13 2H, m
e		9.67	7.1 ~7.67	6.97	6.77	5.93	5.27	5.03	3.73	3.87	7.71~8.1 2H, m 7.1~7.67 1H, m
f	-CH <sub>2</sub> - 	9.73	7.1 ~7.70	7.00	6.83	5.96	5.25	4.88	3.68	3.90	3.63 2H, s 7.1~7.7 5H, m
g	-CH <sub>2</sub> O- 	9.64	7.07~7.64	6.95	6.78	5.92	5.22	4.91	3.58	3.87	4.70 2H, s 3.70 3H, s 6.88 4H, s



Table 6. NMR spectral data of 7.

Compounds R <sup>3</sup>	NMR (DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> , δ)							
	CONH	Thiazole C <sub>5</sub> -H	C <sub>7</sub> -H	C <sub>6</sub> -H	C <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>	=N-OCH <sub>3</sub>	R <sup>3</sup>
	1H,d <i>J</i> =8Hz	1H,s	1H,dd <i>J</i> =5,8Hz	1H,d <i>J</i> =5Hz	2H,dd <i>J</i> =13Hz	2H,br.s	3H,s	
<b>a</b> $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CH}_3$	9.63	6.78	5.81	5.17	4.88	3.56	3.84	2.32 2H,t, <i>J</i> =7Hz 1.0~1.72 6H,m 0.86 3H,t, <i>J</i> =6Hz
<b>b</b> $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$	9.58	6.75	5.76	5.13	4.83	3.50	3.80	1.14 9H,s
<b>c</b> 	9.62	6.77	5.82	5.18	4.88	3.53	3.87	1.0~2.03 10H,m 3.83 1H,m
<b>d</b> 	9.63	6.75	5.83	5.19	5.15	3.72	3.83	7.45~7.75 3H,m 7.87~8.1 2H,m
<b>e</b> 	9.72	6.85	5.83	5.22	5.15	3.70	3.92	7.27 1H,m 8.12~7.83 2H,m
<b>f</b> $-\text{CH}_2-$ 	9.58	6.73	5.77	5.12	4.88	3.70	3.84	3.47 2H,s 7.18 5H,s
<b>g</b> $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$  $-\text{OCH}_3$	9.80	6.90	5.78	5.14	4.96	3.53	3.93	3.68 3H,s 4.74 2H,s 6.86 4H,s

General Preparation of Diphenylmethyl 3-Acyloxymethyl-7β-[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (6)

A mixture of (Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetic acid (4) (0.011 mole) and POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.012 mole) in AcOEt (20~40 ml) was stirred at 2~6°C for 30 minutes. Then POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.012 mole) was added to the reaction mixture, and stirred at 4~6°C for 30 minutes. Then DMF (0.012 mole) was added all at once to the above reaction mixture and stirred at same temperature for an hour to produce an activated acid solution of 4. To the solution of 5 (0.01 mole) and *N*-(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.06 mole) in AcOEt (30~40 ml) was added the above activated acid solution at -10~-5°C for one hour. AcOEt and H<sub>2</sub>O were added to the above mixture. The separated organic layer was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was treated with Et<sub>2</sub>O to afford diphenylmethyl 3-acyloxymethyl-7β-[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (6) as a powder.

General Preparation of 3-Acyloxymethyl-7β-[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic Acid (7)

Trifluoroacetic acid (0.1 mole) was added to a mixture of 6 (0.005 mole) in anisole (0.02 mole) and methylene chloride (10~20 ml) under ice-cooling, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30~60 minutes. After removing the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was added to a mixture of H<sub>2</sub>O and AcOEt, and adjusted to pH 7.5 with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The separated aqueous solution was adjusted to pH 5.5 with 10% HCl, and washed with AcOEt. The separated aqueous solution was evaporated *in vacuo* to remove the organic solvent, and then acidified to pH 3.0 with 10% HCl under ice-cooling. The precipitate was collected by filtration, and dried (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) to afford 3-acyloxymethyl-7β-[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (7).

Antibiotic Susceptibility

All the *in vitro* antibacterial activity data are given as the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)

in mcg/ml required to prevent growth of the bacterial culture. MIC was determined by agar dilution method using heart infusion agar (Difco) after incubation at 37°C for 20 hours and the inoculum size was about 10<sup>8</sup> C.F.U./ml. *Escherichia coli* 28 is a cephalosporin-resistant strain.

#### Enzymatic Deacylation of 7

The enzymatic deacylation of the derivatives (7) was determined with the deacylase prepared from rat liver. Six weeks old Sprague Dawley rats were exsanguinated and the liver was removed, washed with 0.9% saline and blotted with filter paper. The livers were pooled and homogenized with a Polytron homogenizer after addition of 2 ml of 1/15M phosphate buffer (pH 7) per g of the liver. The homogenate was centrifuged at 100,000 × g for 60 minutes. The 6-fold dilution of the supernatant fluid with 1/15M phosphate buffer was used as the deacylase preparation. The reaction mixture consisted of 4 ml of a drug solution (300 μg/ml) in 1/15M phosphate buffer (pH 7) and 1 ml of the enzyme solution, and was incubated at 37°C, 0.5 ml of the reaction mixture being sampled at the specified intervals. The enzymatic activity was stopped by addition of 1 ml of 99% EtOH, and the solution was centrifuged at 10,000 × g for 10 minutes. The resulting supernatant fluid was filtered through a membrane filter (pore size: 0.45 μ, Millipore Corp.), and the drug concentrations in the filtrate was determined by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). HPLC was carried out using a Waters Model 6000 A pump with a Waters Model U6K injector. Chromatography was monitored by UV detector, Waters Model 440 at 254 nm. For analytical purpose, a steel column (4.0 × 30.5 mm) packed with a Bondapak C<sub>18</sub> (Waters Assoc.) was used at a flow rate of 1.0 ml/minute. Mobile phase consisted of a mixture of methanol and 1% aqueous acetic acid (70:30).

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