Research Article

Asymmetric synthesis of $L-[4-^{13}C]$ lysine by alkylation of oxazinone derivative as a chiral glycine equivalent

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Summary

L-[4-¹³C]Lysine (2) was synthesized from sodium [2-¹³C]acetate (3) and Dellaria's oxazinone 1 as a chiral glycine equivalent. Wittig reaction of the glycinal 7 and ¹³C-labeled phosphonium ylide 5, prepared from sodium [2-¹³C]acetate (3), gave the α , β -unsaturated ester 8. The ester 8 was converted to the allylic bromide 10. Alkylation of the oxazinone 1 with 10 proceeded with high diastereoselectivity. Ethanolysis, hydrogenation of the double bond with diimide, removal of the chiral auxiliary, and hydrolysis gave L-[4-¹³C]lysine (2). Copyright © 2004 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Key Words: L-[4-¹³C]lysine; labeled amino acid; chiral glycine equivalent; oxazinone

Introduction

Amino acids are the fundamental constituents of proteins and the biosynthetic starting materials of a large number of biologically important primary and secondary metabolites. The use of stable isotope-labeled amino acids has became important for the diagnosis of disease, the study of the biosynthesis of natural products and other biological studies.^{1–3} We have reported asymmetric syntheses of L-[3-¹³C]phenylalanine, L-[3-¹³C]tyrosine,⁴ L-[2-¹³C]aspartic acid⁵ and L-[3-¹³C]alanine⁶ from Dellaria's oxazinone 1⁷ or its ¹³C-labeled form as a chiral optically active glycine equivalent. This method is also applicable to the synthesis of various amino acids with specific labeling at other positions. In this paper, we describe an asymmetric synthesis of L-¹³C]lysine (2).^{8–14}

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In our synthetic plan, the carbons of lysine originate from two molecules of sodium acetate and one molecule of glycine, both of which are commercially available as ¹³C-labeled compounds, suitable for the synthesis of multiply and specifically labeled lysine.

Results and discussion

The C3-C6 unit of lysine was prepared from sodium $[2^{-13}C]$ acetate (3) and glycine (4) (Scheme 1). Phosphonium ylide 5 was derived from sodium $[2^{-13}C]$ acetate (3) via ethyl bromo $[2^{-13}C]$ acetate^{5,15} by a usual method in 71% yield from 3.^{16,17} Benzylation of glycine with 3 eq. of benzyl bromide afforded *N*,*N*-dibenzylglycine benzyl ester (6) in 96% yield. Conversion to the aldehyde 7 was performed sequentially by LiAlH₄ reduction to 2-(dibenzylamino)ethanol and Swern oxidation of the hydroxyl group, in 85% yield.¹⁸ The aldehyde 7 was immediately used in the next step without purification. Wittig reaction of the ¹³C-labeled phosphonium ylide 5 and 7 gave the α,β -unsaturated ester 8 in 94% yield from 5. DIBAL reduction of the ester 8 and substitution of the resulting alcohol 9 with LiBr, methanesulfonyl chloride and triethylamine gave the ¹³C-labeled allylic bromide 10 in 62% yield from 8.

Alkylation of Dellaria's oxazinone 1 (corresponding to the C1-C2 unit of lysine), which could be prepared in ¹³C-labeled form, if required, by modifying our reported method from sodium acetate,⁵ with the ¹³C-labeled allylic bromide 10 was performed by treatment of 1 with lithium *bis*(trimethylsilyl) amide (LHMDS) in THF:DME = 5:1, followed by addition of HMPA and 10 to the resulting enolate of 1 at -40° C to give the allylic oxazinone 11 with high diastereoselectivity, *syn:anti* = 1:16 (Scheme 2). The ratio was enhanced to 99% de., as determined by HPLC analysis, by crystallization from ethyl acetate–hexane in 86% yield based on 10. Ethanolysis of the oxazinone ring and removal of the Boc group of 11 were simultaneously carried out by



Scheme 1. *Reagents and conditions*: (a) BnCl (3 eq), K₂CO₃, (1.7 eq.), 96%; (b) (i) LiAlH₄, 85%, (ii) DMSO, (COCl)₂, Et₃N, quant.; (c) (i) PhCOBr, PhCO₂H, (ii) Br₂, (iii) EtOH, (iv) Ph₃P, (v) NaOH, 71% from 3; (d) benzene, 94% from 5; (e) DIBAL, 87%; (f) LiBr, MsCl, Et₃N, 71%

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Scheme 2. *Reagents and conditions*: (a) LHMDS, then 10 HMPA, -40° C, 86% based on 10; (b) sat. HCl/EtOH, 93%; (c) KO₂CN = NCO₂K, AcOH, twice, 13 of 70% and 14 of 30%; (d) sat. HCl/EtOH, 73%; (e) (i) H₂, Pd(OH)₂, (ii) 6 M HCl, 51% from 13

heating at 60°C in ethanol-saturated HCl gas to give 12 in 93% yield. Hydrogenolysis of the three benzyl groups, including the α -N-alkyl chain of 12, and hydrogenation of the double bond proceeded simultaneously on various catalysts, such as Pd-C, Pd(OH)₂, PtO₂, and Wilkinson's catalyst, but under all conditions, the unexpected product, ethyl 2-amino[4-13C]hexanote was mainly obtained. Therefore, the double bond alone was hydrogenated initially. Hydrogenation of 12 by treatment with diimide afforded the desired 13,¹⁹ but the reaction was partial and the starting material 12 was also recovered (12:13 = ca. 1:2). The crude mixture of 12 and 13 was hydrogenated once again with diimide. The reaction went to completion, affording 13 and its hydrazide 14, which was formed from the ester 13 and hydrazine generated from diimide, in 70 and 30% yields, respectively. The hydrazide 14 was readily converted to the ethyl ester 13 with saturated (sat.) HCl in ethanol at 60° C for 6h in 73% yield. Hydrogenolysis of the three benzyl groups with Pd(OH)₂ proceeded cleanly at 60°C in ethanol to give lysine ethyl ester. Finally, hydrolysis of lysine ethyl ester gave L-[4-¹³C]lysine (2) in 51% yield from 13.

The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **2** showed the enriched signal at 24.2 ppm, assigned to the 4-position of lysine. The optical purity was 92% ee and the absolute configuration was L, as determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral column.²⁰

In summary, we have synthesized L-lysine (2) 13 C-labeled at the 4-position, which is the most difficult position in lysine to label specifically, from sodium [2- 13 C]acetate (3) by using diastereoselective alkylation of Dellaria's oxazinone 1. Other specifically labeled 13 C-isotopomers should be similarly obtainable from the appropriate commercially available sodium 13 C-acetate and 13 C-glycine.

Experimental

Sodium [2-13C]acetate (99 at% 13C) was supplied by Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. Melting points were measured on a Yanaco micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra were Varian Gemini-2000 (300 MHz) Fourier-transform recorded on а spectrometer. The chemical shifts are reported in δ values relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) at 0 ppm in CDCl₃ or sodium 3-trimethylpropionate- d_4 (TSP) at 0 ppm in D₂O for ¹H-NMR and relative to CDCl₃ at 77.0 ppm or TSP at 0 ppm in D₂O for ¹³C-NMR. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO VALOR-III Fourier-transform spectrometer. EI- and HR-FAB-MS were obtained with a JEOL JMS-700 double-focusing spectrometer. HPLC analysis was carried out on a JASCO 800 Series HPLC system with a JASCO 875-UV detector. HPLC-CD analysis for determination of the optical purity of lysine was performed at 22°C by using a Crown Pak CR(-) column ($150 \text{ mm} \times 4 \text{ mm}$ i.d.), purchased from Daicel, and pH 1.0 HClO₄ as the eluent. Other conditions were as described in a previous report.²⁰

Ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene) $[2-^{13}C]$ *acetate (5)*

Bromo[2-¹³C]acetyl bromide was prepared from sodium [2-¹³C]acetate (3, 4.82 g) by using the method previously reported.^{5,15} To the crude bromo-[2-13Clacetyl bromide was added slowly dropwise dry ethanol (7.0 ml, 121.0 mmol), and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature (rt). The mixture was extracted three times with benzene (total 66 ml), then the combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. Triphenylphosphine (15.9 g, 61.0 mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was stirred overnight at rt. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with benzene. The precipitate was dissolved in water (54 ml), and benzene (30 ml) was added. Then 3 M NaOH (8.3 ml, 24.9 mmol) was slowly added dropwise to the mixture at rt with vigorous stirring. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted three times with benzene. The combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The crude product was crystallized from CHCl₃-ether to give 5 (14.5 g) in 71% yield. mp. 124.9–126.3°C. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 0.88–1.35 (br, 3H), 2.45–3.44 (br-d, $J_{C-H} = 148$ Hz, 1H), 3.97 (br, 2H), 7.51–7.69 (m, 15H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 30.2 (d, $J_{C-P} = 126.0 \text{ Hz}$). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3057, 2977, 2901, 1605, 1483, 1437, 1368, 1323, 1300, 1121, 1106, 1060, 879, 755, 696, 520, 507. HR-MS Calcd for C₂₁ ¹³CH₂₁O₂P: m/z 349.1313. Found: m/z 349.1305 (M⁺). EI-MS m/z (%): 349 (M⁺, 19), 302 (100), 277 (21).

Ethyl (E)-4-dibenzylamino-2- $[2^{-13}C]$ butenoate (8)

Benzylation of glycine (**4**, 5.00 g, 66.6 mmol) with 3.0 eq. of benzyl bromide and 1.7 eq. of K_2CO_3 in water at 100°C for 15 h gave the ester **6** (22.18 g) in 96% yield. Reduction of the ester **6** (22.2 g, 64.2 mmol) with LiAlH₄ in THF at rt for 3 h gave 2-(dibenzylamino)ethanol (13.2 g) in 85% yield. Swern oxidation of this alcohol (5.03 g, 20.8 mmol) with 7 eq. of DMSO, 5 eq. of oxalyl chloride and 12 eq. of triethylamine gave 7.12 g of crude *N*,*N*dibenzylglycinal (7).¹⁸

To a solution of the resulting 7 (corresponding to 20.8 mmol) in benzene (70 ml) was added ¹³C-labeled phosphonium ylide **5** (6.55 g, 17.8 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 13 h at rt, then evaporated to $\frac{1}{3}$ volume. A mixture of hexane and ether (4:1, 300 ml) was added. The precipitated phosphine oxide was filtered off, and the filtrate was evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane:ethyl acetate = 7:1) to give **8** (5.45 g) in 94% yield from **5**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 1.29 (t, *J*=7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.19 (dt, *J*=1.6, 5.8 Hz, ³*J*_{C-H}=5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.59 (s, 4H), 4.19 (q, *J*=7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.08 (ddt, *J*_{C-H}=162.6 Hz, *J*=15.7, 16 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (ddt, ²*J*_{C-H}=2.2 Hz, *J*=15.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.40 (m, 10H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 122.7. IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3029, 2981, 2931, 2799, 1718, 1495, 1368, 1304, 1264, 1178, 1029, 747, 699. HR-MS Calcd for C₁₉ ¹³CH₂₃NO₂: *m/z* 310.1762. Found: *m/z* 310.1763 (M⁺). EI-MS *m/z* (%): 310 (M⁺, 6), 281 (8), 265 (6), 233 (12), 219 (92), 210 (10), 91 (100).

(E)-4-Dibenzylamino-2-[2-¹³C]buten-1-ol (9)

To a stirred solution of the ester **8** (4.80 g, 15.5 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (40 ml) was added dropwise a 1 M solution of DIBAL in toluene (43.4 ml, 43.4 mmol) over 1 h at -78° C, and the mixture was stirred for 2 h. The reaction was quenched with MeOH, and a large amount of ether and a proper amount of sat. NaCl were added to precipitate aluminous salt. The precipitate was filtered off, and the filtrate was evaporated. The crude product was chromatographed on silica gel to give the alcohol **9** (3.53 g) in 87% yield. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 3.07 (t, ³J_{C-H}=5.8 Hz, J=5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.58 (s, 4H), 4.10 (m, 2H), 5.77 (m, 1H), 5.79 (ddt, J_{C-H} =154.4 Hz, J=15.4, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.39 (m, 10H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 131.7. IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3342, 3027, 2796, 1494, 1454, 1366, 1124, 1074, 1028, 971, 746, 698. HR-MS Calcd for C₁₇ ¹³CH₂₁NO: m/z 268.1657. Found: m/z: 268.1665 (M⁺). EI-MS m/z (%): 268 (M⁺, 9), 210 (20), 197 (25), 191 (19), 106 (34), 91 (100).

(E)-Dibenzyl(4-bromo-2-[3-¹³C]butenyl)amine (10)

A mixture of alcohol 9 (3.53 g, 13.2 mmol) and LiBr (17.2 g, 198.3 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (73 ml) at 0°C, and triethylamine (9.2 ml, 66.1 mmol) was

added. Methanesulfonyl chloride was added dropwise to the mixture at -78° C, and the whole was slowly warmed to -40° C over 2 h. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at that temperature, and then allowed to warm to 0°C. The mixture was poured into sat. NaHCO₃, and extracted five times with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated at 0°C. The residue was rapidly chromatographed on silica gel (hexane:ether = 10:1) to give the bromide **10** (3.12 g) in 71% yield. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 3.07 (t, ³J_{C-H}=6.0 Hz, J=6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 4H), 3.95 (ddd, ²J_{C-H}=4.1 Hz, J=7.7, 0.5 Hz, 2H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 5.86 (ddt, J_{C-H}=160.2 Hz, J=15.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.39 (m, 10H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 129.0.

(E)-(3S,5S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-3-(4-dibenzylamino-[2-¹³C]butenyl)-5-phenyl-N-(tert-butyloxycarbonyl)-4H-1,4-oxazin-2-one (11)

LHMDS was prepared from BuLi (1.58 M in hexane solution, 8.6 ml, 13.6 mmol) and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexamethyldisilazane (3.1 ml, 14.7 mmol) in a mixture of THF (8 ml) and DME (4 ml) at 0°C under nitrogen. To a solution of oxazinone 1 (3.13 g, 11.3 mmol) in a mixture of THF (10 ml) and DME (5 ml) was added dropwise the LHMDS solution though a cannula at -40° C under nitrogen. The flask was washed with THF (6 ml), and the solution was similarly added to the LHMDS solution. The mixture was stirred for 30 min, then HMPA (2.62 ml, 15.1 mmol) was added. This mixture was stirred for 10 min, then a solution of the bromide 10 (3.12 g, 8.44 mmol) in THF (16 ml) and DME (3 ml) was added dropwise over 20 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at -40° C overnight. The reaction was quenched with sat. NH₄Cl, and the mixture was extracted five times with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over MgSO4, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (hexane:ethyl acetate = 4:1). Pure 11 (4.28 g, 86% yield) was obtained by crystallization from hexane-ethyl acetate. mp. 142.4-143.3°C. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 55°C) δ: 1.26 (brs, 9H), 2.74 (m, 2H), 3.06 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.58 (s, 4H), 4.31 (m, 1H), 4.71 (dd, J = 11.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.71–5.10 (m, 2H), 5.68 (m, $J_{C-H} = 154.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.70 (m, 1H), 7.06 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.37 (m, 13H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 55°C) δ: 126.6. IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 2977, 2923, 2797, 1740, 1699, 1453, 1359, 1297, 1221, 1169, 1123, 1075, 746, 698. HR-MS Calcd for C₃₂ ¹³CH₃₈N₂O₄: *m*/*z* 527.2865. Found: *m*/*z* 527.2874 (M⁺). EI-MS *m*/*z* (%): 527 (M⁺, 31), 470 (10), 336 (16), 251 (49), 237 (13), 210 (14), 196 (44), 106 (25), 91 (100). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +114.0^{\circ}$ (c. 1.01, CHCl₃).

Ethyl (2S)-6-dibenzylamino-2-[(S)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethylamino)]-4-[$4^{-13}C$] hexenoate (12)

A solution of the oxazinone 11 (2.02 g, 3.83 mmol) in sat. HCl in ethanol (40 ml) was stirred at 60°C for 6 h. The mixture was evaporated, and the

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residue was made basic with sat. NaHCO₃. The mixture was extracted four times with ethyl acetate, and the combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give **12** (1.68 g) in 93% yield. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 1.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.41 (q, ${}^{2}J_{C-H} = 6.3$ Hz, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, ${}^{3}J_{C-H} = 6.0$ Hz, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (dt, ${}^{3}J_{C-H} = 4.7$ Hz, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (dd, J = 11.0, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (s, 4H), 3.65 (dd, J = 11.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, J = 8.2, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.31 (m, 1H), 5.57 (m, $J_{C-H} = 152.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.63 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.39 (m, 15H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 128.0. IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3440, 3332, 3028, 2925, 2796, 1734, 1494, 1454, 1371, 1196, 1028, 972, 748, 699. HR-MS Calcd for C₂₉ 13 CH₃₆N₂O₃: m/z 473.2759. Found: m/z 473.2766 (M⁺). EI-MS m/z (%): 473 (M⁺, 0.2), 442 (24), 382 (23), 336 (18), 278 (16), 251 (17), 222 (21), 203 (33), 196 (40), 121 (18), 106 (29), 91 (100). [α]_D²⁰ = +31.3° (c. 1.03, CHCl₃).

Ethyl (2*S*)-6-*dibenzylamino*-2-[(*S*)-2-*hydroxy*-1-*phenylethylamino*)]-4-[4-¹³*C*] *hexanoate* (13)

To a mechanically stirred mixture of 12 (1.68 g, 3.54 mmol) and dipotassium azodicarboxylate (48.8 g, 248 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (350 ml) was added dropwise acetic acid (28.3 ml, 495 mmol) at 70°C over 8 h, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 3 h. The mixture was made basic with sat. NaHCO₃, and filtered through Celite, then the filtrate was evaporated. Sat. NaHCO₃ was added to the residue, and the mixture was extracted five times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with sat. NaCl, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The crude product was treated once again under these conditions for diimide reduction. The resulting products were separated by chromatography on silica gel (hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1) to give 13 (1.17 g)and 14 (548 mg) in 70 and 30% yields, respectively. 13: ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.05 - 1.60 (m, 6H), 2.39 (m, 2H), 3.18 (m, 1H), 3.53 (s, 10.10) (m, 104H), 3.45 (dd, J = 12.1, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.63–3.71 (m, 2H), 3.87 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19–7.38 (m, 15H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 23.3. IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3339, 3062, 2937, 2860, 2796, 1731, 1494, 1454, 1372, 1191, 1028, 748, 699. HR-MS Calcd for C₂₉ ¹³CH₃₈N₂O₃: *m*/*z* 475.2910. Found: *m*/*z* 475.2913 (M⁺). EI-MS m/z (%): 475 (M⁺, 0.3), 429 (27), 384 (23), 338 (52), 210 (100), 104 (9), 91 (88). $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{20} = +30.5^{\circ}$ (c. 1.03, CHCl₃). 14: ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 1.05–1.80 (m, 6H), 2.41 (m, 2H), 3.02 (m, 1H), 3.53 (d, J=13.6 Hz, 2H), 3.55 (d, J=13.6 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (dd, J=11.3, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.64–3.74 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.39 (m, 15H), 7.82 (s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 23.2. IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3321, 3028, 2934, 2858, 2797, 1656, 1494, 1454, 1366, 1127, 1058, 1028, 750, 700. EI-MS m/z (%): 461 (M⁺, 0.7), 430 (8), 402 (16), 370 (48), 355 (23), 338 (12), 310 (11), 210 (71), 106 (11), 91 (100).

 $L-[4-^{13}C]$ lysine dihydrochloride (2)

Benzylamine 13 (1.44 g, 3.03 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol (20 ml), and 20% Pd(HO)₂ on carbon (4.25 g, 6.05 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 60°C for 39h under a hydrogen atmosphere. The catalyst was removed by filtration through Celite, and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in water and washed three times with ether. The combined organic layers were extracted three times with water. All aqueous layers were combined and evaporated at 30°C to give a mixture (390 mg) of lysine ethyl ester and small amounts of lysine, partially hydrolyzed by work-up, as the residue. The residue (314 mg) was dissolved in 6 M HCl (30 ml). The mixture was heated at 85°C for 8h, then evaporated to give crude 2 (579 mg). Crystallization from ethanol-ether (390 mg) gave pure L-[4-¹³C]lysine dihydrochloride (2) in 51% yield from 13. mp. 184.3-185.4°C. HPLC-CD: Rt = 8.6 min (trace D-form gave Rt = 11.0 min). ¹H-NMR (D₂O) δ : 1.10–1.90 (m, 6H), 2.89 (m, 2H), 3.84 (m, 1H). 13 C-NMR (D₂O) δ : 24.2. IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3423, 3100-2300 (br), 1736, 1618, 1509, 1501, 1212, 1129, 998, 821, 735. HR-FAB-MS (glycerol) Calcd for C_5^{-13} CH₁₄N₂O₂: m/z 148.0586. Found: m/z 148.1175 (MH⁺). CD (pH 1.0 HClO₄) λ nm ($\Delta \epsilon$): 196 (+4.25), 211 (+2.67).

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