

potassium anthranilate, 16.4 ml of 4-ethylmorpholine, 2.5 g of CuBr_2 , and 50 ml of DMF was stirred under reflux for 2 hr and made alk with aq NaOH. The mixt was filtered warm to remove insoluble impurities, and the filtrate was acidified to ppt the crude product as an oil which soon solidified. Recrystn first from EtOH- H_2O (decolorizing charcoal), then from C_6H_6 , afforded 11.2 g (32%) of yellow needles, mp 202–204°. *Anal.* ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$) C, H, N, S.

6-Chloro[1]benzothieno[3,2-*b*]quinoline (4). *N*-(Benzo[*b*]thien-3-yl)anthranilic acid (3) (10.0 g, 0.037 mole) was added to 100 g of POCl_3 , and the mixt was cautiously warmed on a steam bath with stirring. An exothermic reaction ensued. The mixt was heated under reflux for 1.5 hr, cooled, and poured slowly with vigorous stirring into 1 kg of ice. After hydrolysis of the POCl_3 , the mixt was made alk with an excess of 50% aq NaOH in ice and the product was extd with CHCl_3 . The combined CHCl_3 exts were washed with H_2O , and the CHCl_3 was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was crystd from MeCN to give 6.5 g (65%) of pale yellow needles, mp 157–158°. *Anal.* ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{ClNS}$) C, H, Cl, N.

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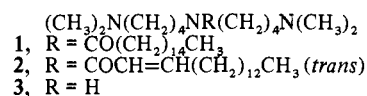
Tumor Inhibitors. 70. Structure-Cytotoxicity Relationships among *N*-Acyltriamines Related to Solapalmitine¹†

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The results of a study directed toward determination of the structural requirements for growth-inhibitory activity among *N*-acyltriamines and other relatives of solapalmitine (**1**) are reported. Most of the synthetic derivatives were prepared *via* hydrogenation of tertiary aminonitriles (**4**) to the appropriate secondary amines (**5**) and acylation to the *N*-acyltriamines (**6**). It was found that, for maximal cytotoxicity, *N*-acyltriamines require an acyl residue at least 12 C in length. The number of CH_2 's between the tertiary amine functions and the amide N is not crucial, and variation from 2 to 7 CH_2 groups causes no major change in activity. Reduction of the amides to the corresponding *N*²-alkyltriamines afforded products with potent cytotoxicity in the series wherein the *N*²-alkyl group is at least 12 C in length. Ten of the most cytotoxic compounds were found to show significant *in vivo* inhibitory activity against the Walker 256 carcinosarcoma in the rat. The palmitamide and solamine moieties appear to represent the optimal structural characteristics for *in vivo* inhibitory activity. Four of the most cytotoxic compounds inhibited the growth of *Escherichia coli* at very low concns. The mode of action of these *N*-acyltriamines appears to be disruption of surface properties of the cell walls.

In the course of a continuing search for tumor inhibitors of plant origin, 2 new liquid alkaloids, solapalmitine (**1**) and solapalmitine (2), were isolated from an alcoholic extract of *Solanum tripartitum* Dunal (Solanaceae).² Both alkaloids showed significant inhibitory activity *in vivo* against the Walker 256 im carcinosarcoma in rats (WM) and *in vitro* against cells derived from the human carcinoma of the nasopharynx (KB). We report herewith the results of a study directed toward the determination of the structural requirements for biological activity among *N*-acyltriamines and other compounds related to solapalmitine.



Biological evaluation of solamine (**3**) revealed that this triamine was devoid of *in vivo* or *in vitro* growth inhibitory activity. Consequently, the first synthetic efforts were directed toward *N*-acyltriamines bearing the general structure **6** (Table I). The acylsolamines **15**–**23** were prepared by acylation of solamine in Et_2O with the appropriate acyl chloride in the presence of a 10-fold excess of Et_3N . The next series was addressed to the effect of varying the distance between the terminal tertiary amino functions and

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the compounds with the highest KB cytotoxicity. Among the *N*-acyltriamines, significant *in vivo* activity was noted among 5 of the 6 palmitamides tested (*viz.*, **1**, **10**, **14**, **29**, and **31**). Indeed, the only other palmitamide, **27**, showed a *T/C* = 45% at 5.00 mg/kg, and this compound would very probably meet the criteria for significant inhibitory activity at a slightly higher dose. Four of the 8 active *N*-acyltriamines contained the solamine moiety; the C₄-chain length between the tertiary nitrogens and the amide N thus appears to be advantageous for *in vivo* inhibitory activity. Among the *N*²-alkyltriamines, the C-12 alkyl group appears to be most advantageous for *in vivo* activity.

In an attempt to elucidate a possible mechanism of action of the acyltriamines, 4 of the most cytotoxic compounds (*viz.*, **1**, **10**, **21**, and **29**) were evaluated for their effects upon cell permeability and active transport in *Escherichia coli*.⁶ All 4 compounds were found to be growth inhibitory for *E. coli* at very low concns. The mode of action appears to be disruption of surface properties (the cells did not lyse), since at inhibitory concns the cells became leaky and lost radioactive K⁺ and thiomethyl galactoside. The specific energy dependent accumulation of K⁺ and thiomethyl galactoside was also inhibited. When 10⁻⁴ *M* solapalmitine (**1**) was added to KB cells that had been accumulating ²⁸Mg for over 2 hr, a rapid loss of more than 95% of the accumulated ²⁸Mg was noted.⁷ The loss of ²⁸Mg was so rapid that the cells were examined under the phase-contrast microscope. Some of the effects of the compound on membrane permeability were deemed not to be due to cell lysis. The cells looked normal under phase microscopy for the duration of the experiments in 10⁻⁵ *M* solapalmitine. However, in the presence of high (10⁻⁴ *M*) concns of solapalmitine, the KB cells rapidly developed blebs and disintegrated. Monolayers of KB cells after exposure to 10⁻⁵ *M* solapalmitine for 1 hr at 37°, followed by rinsing with fresh medium, remained attached to the plastic surface and apparently viable 24 hr later. However, with exposure to 10⁻⁵ *M* solapalmitine overnight, the cells detached and became permeable to trypan blue.

Experimental Section[§]

Aminonitriles (4). The following aminonitriles were commercially available: dimethylaminoacetonitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 2), K&K 7050, 3-dimethylaminopropionitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 3), K&K 22996, and 4-dimethylaminobutyronitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 4), K&K 15060.

5-Dimethylaminovaleronitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 5) was obtained from 5-chlorovaleronitrile (Aldrich C 7300) and Me₂NH according to Price, *et al.*:⁸ bp 56–59° (1.0 mm) (vapor temp) [lit.⁸ 106–108° (30 mm)].

6-Dimethylaminocapronitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 6). A mixture of 13.1 g (0.10 mole) of 6-chlorocapronitrile (Pfalz & Bauer), 75 g (0.42 mole) of 25% Me₂NH in H₂O, and 1.0 g of KI was stirred at 40° for 1.5 days to give 8.50 g (61%) of the aminonitrile: bp 75° (1.0 mm) [lit.⁹ 94–96° (7 mm)].

7-Dimethylaminocaprylonitrile (4, R = Me, *n* = 7). A mixture of 14.6 g (0.10 mole) of 7-chlorocaprylonitrile (K&K 3221), 100 g (0.55 mole) of 25% Me₂NH in H₂O, and 1.0 g of KI was stirred for

2.5 days at room temp. Excess Me₂NH was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the remaining yellow soln was acidified with concd HCl dropwise. After extn with 3 × 100 ml of Et₂O to remove unreacted starting material, the soln was made alk by dropwise addn of 10 *M* NaOH, satd with anhyd K₂CO₃, and extd with 3 × 100 ml of Et₂O. The exts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to give 13.02 g (84%) of 4 (R = Me, *n* = 7): bp 60–64° (0.3 mm) (vapor temp). *Anal.* (C₉H₁₈N₂).

4-Diethylaminobutyronitrile (4, R = Et, *n* = 4) was prepared from 4-chlorobutyronitrile (Aldrich C 3000-0) and Et₂NH at room temp: yield, 44%; bp 55° (1.2 mm) [lit.¹⁰ 91–100° (14 mm)].

4-Diisopropylaminobutyronitrile (4, R = *i*-Pr, *n* = 4) was obtained from 4-chlorobutyronitrile, *i*-Pr₂NH, and KI according to Shonle and Corse:¹¹ bp 80° (1.1 mm) [lit.¹¹ 124–127° (33 mm)].

Bis(5-dimethylaminopentyl)amine (5, R = Me, *n* = 5). A mixture of 6.3 g (0.05 mole) of 5-dimethylaminovaleronitrile and 0.25 g of 5% Rh–Al₂O₃ in 250 ml of MeOH was hydrogenated at 0.703 kg/cm² for 3 hr. The catalyst was removed by filtration, and the soln was evaporated to give 6.25 g of an oily residue. Tlc on silica gel showed the presence of primary, secondary, and tertiary amines. After sepn on a column of 240 g of neutral Al₂O₃ (Woelm), activity grade III, with 500 ml of C₆H₆ and 1500 ml of Et₂O as eluants, 2.9 g (47%) of the bis(5-dimethylaminopentyl)amine was obtained as a yellow oil: bp 61° (0.01 mm) [lit.³ 132–135° (2.0 mm)]. *Anal.* (C₁₄H₃₃N₃).

Bis(2-dimethylaminoethyl)amine (5, R = Me, *n* = 2). **A.** Dimethylaminoacetonitrile (10 g, 0.12 mole) was hydrogenated with 10% ratio of catalyst and at 70 kg/cm² for 2 days. Since the amine was very volatile and tended to distil together with the MeOH, HCl was bubbled through the mixture, and the MeOH was then evaporated *in vacuo* to give a partly solid residue. After making alk with 10 *M* NaOH, the mixture was extd with 2 × 150 ml of Et₂O. The exts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to give a colorless oil, which after sepn on neutral Al₂O₃, activity grade I, gave 0.46 g (5%) of bis(dimethylaminoethyl)amine.¹²

B. A mixture of 6.8 g (0.048 mole) of bis(2-chloroethyl)amine and 100 ml (0.49 mole) of 22% Me₂NH in H₂O was stirred for 24 hr at room temp. It was made alk with 5 *M* NaOH, satd with anhyd K₂CO₃, and extd with 3 × 150 ml of Et₂O. The exts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to give 4.36 g of a colorless oil. After sepn on a column of 180 g of neutral Al₂O₃, activity grade I, with 500 ml of C₆H₆, 500 ml of Et₂O, and 500 ml of 2% MeOH–Et₂O eluants, 1.58 g (21%) of the amine was obtained: bp 85° (15 mm) [lit.¹² 198° (760 mm)].

Bis(3-dimethylaminopropyl)amine (5, R = Me, *n* = 3) was prepared from 9.8 g (0.10 mole) of 3-dimethylaminopropionitrile, 4% ratio of catalyst, and at 0.99 kg/cm² of H₂ for 3 days. After work-up as for **5** (R = Me, *n* = 2) above, 0.77 g (8%) of a colorless oil was obtained: bp 55° (0.5 mm), 113–114° (15 mm) (vapor temp) [lit.¹³ 145–150° (20 mm)]. *Anal.* (C₁₀H₂₂N₃).

Bis(6-dimethylaminoethyl)amine (5, R = Me, *n* = 6) was prepared from 7.0 g (0.05 mole) of 6-dimethylaminocapronitrile, 4% ratio of catalyst, and at 0.7 kg/cm² of H₂ for 24 hr and 2.8 kg/cm² for an additional 20 hr: yield, 30% (based on unrecovered nitrile); 34% of nitrile was recovered; bp 135° (0.1 mm). *Anal.* (C₁₆H₃₇N₃).

Bis(7-dimethylaminoheptyl)amine (5, R = Me, *n* = 7). Hydrogenation of 7.7 g (0.05 mole) of 7-dimethylaminocaprylonitrile, 5% ratio of catalyst, and at 1.005 kg/cm² of H₂ for 16 hr gave a 59% yield of the secondary amine: bp 143–148° (0.6 mm) (vapor temp). *Anal.* (C₁₈H₄₁N₃).

Bis(4-diethylaminobutyl)amine (5, R = Et, *n* = 4) was obtained from 4-diethylaminobutyronitrile, 6% catalyst ratio, 0.7 kg/cm² of H₂ for 2 days, 1.4 kg/cm² for 1 day, and at 2.8 kg/cm² for an additional 2.5 days. The yield was 25.5%: bp 102° (0.1 mm) [lit.¹⁴ 125–126° (2 mm)]. *Anal.* (C₁₆H₃₇N₃).

Bis(4-diisopropylaminobutyl)amine (5, R = *i*-Pr, *n* = 4) was prepared from 7.0 g (0.042 mole) of 4-diisopropylaminobutyronitrile, 4% ratio of catalyst, and at 3.02 kg/cm² of H₂ for 6 days: yield, 21.6% of the secondary amine (based on unrecovered nitrile); 67% of the nitrile was recovered; bp 127° (0.3 mm). *Anal.* (C₂₀H₄₅N₃).

Amides, General Procedure. *N,N*-Bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)dodecanamide (**19**). A solution of 2.40 g (0.011 mole) of dodecanoyl chloride in 50 ml of anhyd Et₂O was added dropwise to a mixture of 2.16 g (0.010 mole) of bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)amine, and 10.1 g (0.10 mole) of Et₂NH in 400 ml of Et₂O, cooled in an ice bath. After stirring for 1 hr at 0° and 3 hr at room temp, Et₂NH·HCl was filtered, and the solution was evaporated to give 4.10 g of a colorless oil. Purification on a column of 160 g of basic Al₂O₃ (Woelm, activity grade III) and elution with 400 ml of C₆H₆, 400 ml of C₆H₆–Et₂O (1:1), and 1 l. of Et₂O gave 3.75 g (94%) of colorless **19**.

LAH Reduction of the Amides, General Procedure. *N,N*-Bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)dodecanamide (**44**). A solution of 1.98 g (0.005 mole) of *N,N*-bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)dodecanamide in 50 ml of

[§] Melting points were determined on a Thomas-Hoover (Uni-Melt) apparatus and are uncorrected. Distillation temperatures are block temperatures, unless otherwise stated. Infrared absorption spectra were recorded on a Beckmann Model 5A infrared recording spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were determined on a Hitachi RMU-6A mass spectrograph. Tlc was conducted on silica gel F-254 (Merck) using the solvent system: MeOH–Me₂CO–Et₂NH (5:4:1 or 20:16:1), unless otherwise stated. Iodoplatinate and/or Dragendorff reagents were used as visualizing sprays; the plates were dried at 110° prior to spraying. Microanalyses were performed by Spang Microanalytical Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Mich., and satisfactory results for C, H, N were obtained.

anhyd Et₂O was added dropwise to a mixt of 0.3 g (0.008 mole) of LAH and 150 ml of anhyd Et₂O. The mixt was refluxed for 3 hr. After cooling, 2 ml of H₂O, 4 ml of 5 M NaOH, and 6 ml of H₂O were added, and the mixt was stirred vigorously for 20 min. The Et₂O was decanted from the solid Al(OH)₃, which was washed with 2 × 100 ml of Et₂O. The Et₂O solns were dried (MgSO₄) and evapd to give 1.90 g of a colorless oil. Purification on a column of 80 g of neutral Al₂O₃ (Woelm), activity grade III, and elution with 500 ml of C₆H₆, 500 ml of C₆H₆-Et₂O (1:1), and 250 ml of Et₂O afforded 1.75 g (91%) of a colorless oil: bp 144° (0.7 mm).

Bis(3-cyanopropyl)amine was prep'd by a modification of the procedure of Iorio, *et al.*¹⁵ 4-Chlorobutyronitrile and liq NH₃ were kept in an autoclave for 3.5 days. After work-up including fractional distn and sepn on a neutral Al₂O₃ column, 2.74 g of a colorless oil was obt'd (bp 120–128° (0.3 mm) (vapor temp)). Tlc showed 1 major and 2 minor spots. Prepn of the hydrochloride in Et₂O and recrystn from abs EtOH gave 2.78 g of white needles: mp 172–173°. *Anal.* (C₈H₁₄ClN₃).

The base was liberated by addn of 10 M NaOH, the mixt was sat'd with anhyd K₂CO₃, ext'd with 3 × 50 ml of CHCl₃, dried (MgSO₄), and evap'd to give 2.19 g (15%) of a colorless oil: homogeneous on tlc; bp 121–124° (0.2 mm) (vapor temp) [lit.¹⁵ 119–122° (0.12 mm)].

N,N-Bis(3-cyanopropyl)hexadecanamide was prep'd from bis(3-cyanopropyl)amine and palmitoyl chloride (99% yield) following the general procedure. The colorless crystals were recryst'd from EtOH-H₂O: mp 66–68°; bp 250° (0.1 mm). *Anal.* (C₂₄H₄₃N₃O).

N,N-Bis(4-aminobutyl)hexadecanamide (36). A soln of 0.60 g (0.0015 mole) of *N,N*-bis(3-cyanopropyl)hexadecanamide in 300 ml of AcOH was hydrogenated with 0.225 g of 30% Pd/C as catalyst. The H₂ pressure was kept at 4.2 kg/cm² for 2.5 days. Evapn of the solvent gave an oil, which was dissolved in 10 ml of H₂O and ext'd with 15 ml of CHCl₃ to remove unreacted starting material. The aq soln was made alk by dropwise addn of 10 M NaOH, sat'd with anhyd K₂CO₃, and ext'd with 3 × 40 ml of CHCl₃. After drying (MgSO₄) and evapn, 0.72 g of amorphous solid was obt'd. The solid was dissolved in Et₂O and treated with an Et₂O soln of oxalic acid, whereupon the dioxalate salt sep'd. Recrystn from abs EtOH-Et₂O yielded (16%) colorless crystals, mp 188–190° dec. *Anal.* (C₂₆H₅₃N₃O₆).

Bismethiodide Salt of *N,N*-Bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)dodecanamide (37). To 0.50 g (0.0013 mole) of *N,N*-bis(4-dimethylaminobutyl)dodecanamide in 50 ml of abs EtOH was added 3.55 g (0.025 mole) of MeI. The mixt was stirred for 24 hr at room temp. Anhyd Et₂O was added and a yellow-white ppt was formed. The ppt was washed thoroughly with anhyd Et₂O. After drying in a desiccator 0.65 g (76.5%) of yellow crystals was obt'd: mp 126–128°. Tlc on a silica plate in MeOH-Me₂CO-2 N HCl-AcOH (14:3:6:3) showed 1 spot. *Anal.* (C₂₆H₅₇I₂N₃O).

Bismethiodide Salt of Solapalmitine (38). Solapalmitine was quaternized as above and gave light yellow crystals in 67.4% yield:

mp 234–235°. Tlc as above showed one spot. *Anal.* (C₃₀H₆₅I₂N₃O).

N-(4-Dimethylaminobutyl)butyramide was prep'd from 1.16 g (0.01 mole) of 4-dimethylaminobutylamine (K&K 3044) and 1.17 g (0.011 mole) of PrCOCl in 100 ml of Et₂O in the presence of 10.1 g (0.10 mole) of Et₃N according to the general procedure described above. After purification on an Al₂O₃ column, 1.30 g (70%) of a colorless oil was obt'd: bp 115° (0.5 mm). The monooxalate salt was prep'd in Et₂O: mp 125–126°. *Anal.* (C₁₂H₂₄N₂O₅).

N-Butyl-*N*-4-dimethylaminobutylamine was obt'd by LAH reduction of *N*-(4-dimethylaminobutyl)butyramide according to the general procedure. After purification on neutral Al₂O₃, a colorless oil (49%) was obt'd: bp 75° (1.0 mm). The dioxalate salt was prep'd in Et₂O: mp 152–154° dec. *Anal.* (C₁₄H₂₈N₂O₈).

N-Butyl-*N*-(4-dimethylaminobutyl)hexadecanamide (39) was synthesized from *N*-butyl-*N*-4-dimethylaminobutylamine and palmitoyl chloride in 72% yield according to the general procedure. The colorless oil had bp 171° (0.4 mm). *Anal.* (C₂₆H₅₄N₂O).

N,N-Di-*n*-butylpalmitamide (40). Acylation of *n*-Bu₂NH (1.42 g) with palmitoyl chloride (1.38 g) in anhyd Et₂O (200 ml) by the usual procedure, and chromatography on Al₂O₃ (100 g, Woelm, grade III) gave a homogeneous colorless oil (1.86 g). The oil had bp 235° (1.5 mm). *Anal.* (C₂₄H₄₉NO).

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Mixed Bifunctionality. 4. Antitumor Activity of Alkylating Derivatives of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons as a Function of Structure and of Vehicle†

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The activity of this class of hydrophobic antitumor agent is dependent on its *in situ* availability as well as on the geometry of the aromatic moiety and to a lesser extent on the reactivity of the alkylating function. 9,10-Bis(chloromethyl)anthracene is curative for the Ehrlich ascites mouse tumor at a total dosage of less than two-thirds of a microgram when given in the colloidal state.

Simple chloromethyl derivatives of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons are extremely potent antitumor agents. We have previously shown marked increases in potency following administration of these solutions in sesame oil over

those given as fine saline dispersions.¹ Other vehicles were considered, partly with a view to finding a procedure adaptable to intravenous injection.

An emulsion in saline was found to be stabilized for hours (or longer, as a function of concentration) by a minimal amount of sesame oil. As a measure of agent availability *in situ* in such dispersions, testing of a representative group of previously tested chloromethyl hydrocarbons and of some

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