Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/09574166)

Tetrahedron: Asymmetry

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/tetasy

Asymmetric syntheses of (—)- \boldsymbol{e} pi-pseudoconhydrine and (—)-5-hydroxysedamine based on a cis-diastereoselective 1,4-asymmetric induction

Gang Liu, Jie Meng, Chen-Guo Feng, Pei-Qiang Huang *

Department of Chemistry and Key Laboratory for Chemical Biology of Fujian Province, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University, Xiamen, Fujian 361005, PR China

article info

Article history: Received 3 January 2008 Accepted 2 May 2008 Available online 9 June 2008

ABSTRACT

The asymmetric syntheses of $(-)$ -epi-pseudoconhydrine and $(-)$ -5-hydroxysedamine are reported. The key to these syntheses is an unusual highly cis-diastereoselective 1,4-asymmetric induction in the α -amidoallylation of the new chiral building block 15.

- 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

1. Introduction

Due to the presence of the 6-substituted 3-piperidinol (A in Scheme 1) as a salient structural feature in a number of bioactive natural products and medicinal agents, $1,2$ the asymmetric synthesis of 6-substituted 3-piperidinol containing natural and unnatural bioactive molecules has attracted considerable attention, which has culminated in a number of valuable synthetic strategies.³ Previously, we had demonstrated that the protected 3-hydroxyglutarimides 2, easily available from enantiomeric glutamic acid via amido-lactone 1, can serve as a valuable 3-piperidiol synthon via the C-2 regio- and diastereoselective reductive alkylation of 2 (Scheme 1).^{[4](#page-6-0)} Using this method, the asymmetric syntheses of several alkaloids and interesting medicinal agents have been accomplished.^{[5](#page-6-0)}

As a continuation of these studies, we sought to explore compound 4 as a new 3-piperidinol building block, which would allow the regioselective introduction of substituents at the C-6 position to provide 6-substituted 3-hydroxypiperidin-2-ones 5 and the corresponding piperidines A. The latter is a framework of a number of natural products, such as (+)-pseudoconhydrine 6,7 6, (–)-5hydroxysedamine 8,9 8,9 8,9 7, 5-hydroxypipecolic acid 10 10 10 8, (–)-cassine 11 11 11 **9**, (–)-spectaline¹² **10**, and (–)-prosopinine¹³ **11** [\(Fig. 1](#page-1-0)). In addition, cis-2-carboxymethyl-5-hydroxypiperidine¹⁴ 12 has been considered as a key intermediate for the synthesis of antibiotic 593A, a natural product possessing strong antiviral and antitumor activities.[15](#page-6-0) Although a number of 2,5-trans-diastereoselective methods have been reported for the synthesis^{[7](#page-6-0)} of $(+)$ -pseudoconhydrine 6, establishment of the 2,5-cis-stereochemistry^{7a,8,11-13,16} by α -amidoalkylation¹⁷ with high 1,4-asymmetric induction remains a challenging task. For example, in the only asymmetric synthesis of $(-)$ -5-hydroxysedamine 7, the desired cis-diastereomer was formed as the minor diastereomer in 1:9 ratio.^{7m} The α -amidoallylation-

Corresponding author. E-mail address: pqhuang@xmu.edu.cn (P.-Q. Huang).

based approaches to pseudoconhydrine always proceed with trans-diastereoselectivity.7d,l,m trans-Diastereoselection has also been observed in related radical reactions.^{7p} Herein we report the synthesis of 15, its cis-diastereoselective α -amidoalkylation with 1,4-asymmetric induction, as well as the asymmetric synthe-sis of epi-pseudoconhydrine^{[16](#page-6-0)} 18 and (–)-5-hydroxysedamine^{[8,9](#page-6-0)} 7.

2. Results and discussion

As outlined in [Scheme 2](#page-1-0), we sought to take advantage of the higher reactivity of the lactone carbonyl group of amido-lactone 1 by chemoselective partial reduction with DIBAL-H. The amidolactol 13 was envisioned to be elaborated further into 6-substituted 3-piperidinol or 6-substituted 3-hydroxypiperidin-2-one 5. However when lactone-amide 1 was treated with DIBAL-H at -78 °C, 13 was obtained in only 9% yield. A stepwise approach to 4 was then explored.

^{0957-4166/\$ -} see front matter © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved. doi:10.1016/j.tetasy.2008.05.002

The synthesis started from the reduction^{[18](#page-6-0)} of the amido-ester 1 by sodium borohydride (Scheme 3). Chemoselective oxidation of the primary hydroxyl group of diol 14 under Bandgar's conditions¹⁹ directly provided the tautomer 4 as a 1:1 diastereomeric mixture in 70% yield. As the acetyl group has been shown to be an excellent neighboring participating group in inducing trans-diastereoselective α -amidoallylation,^{7d,20} N,O-acetal 15 was selected as the substrate for investigating α -amidoalkylation.^{[17](#page-6-0)} Thus, compound 4 was bis-acetylated (Ac_2O , NEt₃, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 24 h) to provide a diastereomeric mixture of 2-piperidinone N,O-acetal 15. Due to the lability of 15 and more importantly, on the basis of the consideration that the α -amidoalkylation^{[17](#page-6-0)} generally occurs via an N-acyliminium intermediate that can be generated from either diastereomer, the diastereomeric mixture of N,O-acetal 15 was subjected to α -amidoallylation conditions (allyltrimethylsilane, THF, TMSOTf, -78 °C). Indeed, the desired product ${\bf 16}$ was obtained as the only isolable diastereomer in 70% yield. The stereochemistry of 16 was determined by ultimate conversion of [16](#page-6-0) into the known epi-pseudoconhydrine¹⁶ 18 (Scheme 3). Lithium aluminum hydride reduction of 16 (LiAlH₄, THF, reflux, 5 h) furnished the corresponding piperidine 17 in 66% yield. Concurrent hydrogenation and N-deprotection $[Pd(OH)_2, 1$ atm H_2 , EtOH, rt] gave (–)-*epi*-pseudoconhydrine **18**, which was isolated as its hydrochloride salt^{[16](#page-6-0)} in 74% yield. The melting point [mp 148.0–

148.5 °C (MeOH/Et₂O); lit.^{7m} mp 148 °C], specific rotation value $\{[\alpha]_D^{20} = -10.2$ (c 1.0, EtOH); lit.^{7m} $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -9.1$ (c 1.0, EtOH)}, and the spectral data of our synthetic material are identical with those reported.7m

The stereochemical outcome of the α -amidoallylation may be due to, on one hand, the difficulty in forming a bicyclic oxonium intermediate of the more rigid piperidin-2-one ring system, 21 and, on the other hand, the preferential formation of half-chair conformer C over conformer B (Scheme 4). The allylation of con-former C proceeds with stereoelectronic control^{[22](#page-6-0)} to give the more favorable chair conformation E over twist-boat one D.

Next, we turned our attention to the synthesis of $(-)$ -5hydroxysedamine 7. Thus, in the presence of TMSOTf, treatment of 1-phenyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy) ethene **19** with **15** at -78 °C furnished the desired product $20a,b$ with a 2.4:1 (cis/trans) diastereo-selectivity ([Scheme 5](#page-2-0)). The two inseparable diastereomers 20a and 20b were converted, via 21a,b, into the corresponding THP derivatives 22 and 23, which were easily separated by flash chromatography. Treatment of the major diastereomer 22 with p-TsOH in methanol at 45 \degree C regenerated the alcohol 21a in 93% yield.

One-pot reduction of the ketone and amide carbonyl groups in 21a was achieved by successive treatment of 21a with LiAl(O-t- $Bu)$ ₃H^{7m} and lithium aluminum hydride, which gave 5-hydroxysedamine derivative 25 as the only isolable diastereomer in 86% overall yield [\(Scheme 6](#page-2-0)). The stereochemistry of compound 25

Scheme 4.

was determined by single crystal crystallographic analysis (Fig. 2). The results imply that the major product in the α -amidoalkylation of N,O-acetal 15 is the cis-diastereomer, and the reduction of the ketone 21a with LiAl(O-t-Bu)₃H^{7m} is highly diastereoselective with the approach of hydride from the less hindered Re-face of the carbonyl group.7m

To introduce the N-methyl group, piperidine 25 was first converted to its N-tert-Boc derivative 26 by one-pot debenzylation– carbamation $[H_2, I atm, 20% Pd(OH)_2/C, (Boc)_2O, EtOH]$, which led directly to 26 in 64% yield. Then the N-Boc group was converted into a N-Me group by reducing with lithium aluminum hydride to afford (–)-5-hydroxysedamine **7** { $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -53.4$ (c 0.5, MeOH); ${\rm lit.}^8[\alpha]^{22}_\text{D}=-40$ ${\rm lit.}^8[\alpha]^{22}_\text{D}=-40$ ${\rm lit.}^8[\alpha]^{22}_\text{D}=-40$ (c 0.3, MeOH), ${\rm lit.}^{7f}[\alpha]^{20}_\text{D}=-53$ (c 0.3, MeOH); ${\rm lit.}^{7\text{m}}$ $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -51.0$ (c 2.5, MeOH)} in 80% yield. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data of our synthetic material are identical with those reported.⁸

To overcome the problem of low stereoselectivity in the formation of compound 20a, a three-step procedure was developed

Figure 2. X-ray crystallographic structure of compound 25 (CCDC 673124).

starting from the allylation products 16 (Scheme 7). Thus Yang's procedure^{[23](#page-6-0)} was adopted for the oxidative cleavage of the $C-C$ double bond in compound 16, which gave the aldehyde 27 in 69% yield. Treatment of the aldehyde 27 with phenyl magnesium bromide produced the alcohol 28 as a diastereomeric mixture in 2.5:1 ratio (combined yield: 74%), which, without separation, was oxidized with o-iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX) in DMSO.^{[24](#page-6-0)} In this way, compound 20a was obtained in 73% yield. Treatment of 20a with a solution of acetyl chloride-containing methanol at room temperature overnight furnished alcohol 21a in 90% yield, which thus established a highly diastereoselective synthesis of (–)-5-hydroxysedamine 7 via 16.

3. Conclusions

In summary, we have shown that, in contrast with the generally observed trans-diastereoselection in the α -amidoalkylation of N,Oacetal of piperidine carbamate derivatives, the α -amidoallylation of 2-piperidinone N,O-acetal 15 is highly cis-diastereoselective, affording cis-16 as the only isolable diastereomer; and the similar reaction of 15 with 19 proceeded with a 2.4:1 cis/trans diastereoselectivity, which is also different from the literature precedents. The observed cis-diastereoselective 1,4-asymmetric induction provides an entry into cis-6-substituted 3-piperidinol A, a skeleton found in several natural products and medicinal agents. The utility of the cis-diastereoselective allylation method was demonstrated by the synthesis of $(-)$ -epi-pseudoconhydrine **18** and $(-)$ -5hydroxysedamine 7. Compound 16 may also be useful for the synthesis of B-amino acid 12, a key intermediate for the synthesis of antiviral and antineoplastic antibiotic 593A.

4. Experimental

4.1. General

Melting points were determined (uncorrected) on a Yanaco MP-500 micro-melting point apparatus. Infrared spectra were measured with a Nicolet Avatar 360 FT-IR spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ or in CD₃CN, or in CD₃OD (¹H at 400 or 500 MHz and 13C at 100 or 125 MHz) at room temperature. Mass spectra were recorded on Bruker Dalton Esquire 3000 plus LC–MS (ESI direct injection). Optical rotations were measured with Perkin–Elmer 341 automatic polarimeter. THF used in the reactions was dried by distilling over metallic sodium; dichloromethane was distilled over P_2O_5 . Silica gel (Zhifu, 300– 400 mesh) was used for column chromatography, eluting (unless otherwise stated) with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (60-90 \degree C) mixtures.

4.1.1. (S)-N-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2,5-dihydroxypentanamide 14

To a solution of amido-lactone 1 (2.978 g, 11.96 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was added NaBH₄ (1.363 g, 35.88 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 1 h. The reaction was quenched with 10 mL of saturated aqueous $NAHCO₃$ solution and 10 mL of brine at 0° C. MeOH was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/MeOH (10:1) to give 14 as a white solid (2.693 g, yield: 89%). Mp 103 °C (EtOAc/PE); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -23.8$ (c 1.0, CH₃OH); IR (film) 3377, 3302, 1610, 1515, 1315, 1108 cm $^{-1}$; 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 1.60-1.72 (m, 3H, CH₂CH₂), 1.78-1.93 (m, 1H, CH₂CH₂), 3.61 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂OH), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.08 (dd, J = 7.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H, COCH), 4.38 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 6.84–6.89 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.19–7.25 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; 13C NMR $(100 \text{ MHz}, \text{CD}_3 \text{ OD})$ δ 29.3, 32.5, 43.1, 55.6, 55.7, 62.7, 72.7, 114.9, 129.9, 131.9, 160.4, 177.0 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 276 (M+Na⁺, 100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{13}H_{19}NO_4$: C, 61.64; H, 7.56; N, 5.53. Found: C, 61.48; H, 7.50; N, 5.47.

4.1.2. (3S,6R/S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-3,6-dihydroxypiperidin-2 one 4

To a suspension of diol 14 (500 mg, 1.98 mmol) and NaNO₂ (410 mg, 5.94 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added Ac₂O (0.3 mL, 2.97 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 20 min, the mixture was extracted with ether $(2 \times 10 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layers were washed with 5 mL of saturated aqueous $NAHCO₃$ solution, dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (2:1) to afford 4 (colorless oil, 347 mg, yield: 70%) as a inseparable mixture of two diastereomers in a 1:1 ratio, which was used in the next step without further separation. IR (film) 3373, 1644, 1511, 1246, 1038 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) δ 1.48-2.21 (m, 8H, CH2CH2), 2.36 (s, 1H, OH), 3.78 (s, 6H, OCH3), 3.92 (s, 1H, OH), 3.94 (dd, $J = 10.2$, 7.2 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 4.03 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.05 (dd, J = 14.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 4.27 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.24-4.31 (m, 1H, NCH), 4.81 (d, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.75–4.87 (m, 1H, NCH), 5.03 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 6.83–6.90 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.18–7.24 (m, 4H, ArH) ppm; 13C NMR $(100 \text{ MHz}, \text{CD}_3\text{CN})$ δ 24.3, 26.5, 29.1, 29.4, 46.1, 47.0, 55.8 (2C), 68.3, 69.3, 79.3, 80.3, 114.6 (2C), 130.0 (2C), 130.6, 130.7, 159.7, 159.8, 173.6, 173.9 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z: 274 (M+Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_{13}H_{17}NO_4+H]^+$ 252.1230, found 252.1232.

4.1.3. (3S,6R/S)-3,6-Diacetoxy-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-2 piperidinone 15

To an ice-bath cooled solution of the diastereomeric mixture of 4 (2.075 g, 8.27 mmol) in $CH₂Cl₂$ were added successively DMAP (1.052 g, 8.62 mmol), Ac_2O (4.0 mL, 42.25 mmol), and Et_3N (5.9 mL, 42.25 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched with 10 mL of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution and 10 mL of water at 0 \degree C. The organic layer was seperated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc $(4 \times 20 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:1) to afford 15 (colorless oil, 2.022 g, yield: 73%) as an inseparable mixture of two diastereomers in a 2.5:1 ratio, which was used in the next step without further separation. IR (film) 1743, 1677, 1515, 1370, 1229, 1174 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN, two diastereomers, $15a/15b = 2.5:1$, data read from the spectrum of the diastereomeric mixture). Compound 15a: δ 1.76–2.22 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 1.84 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 2.02 $(s, 3H, COCH₃), 3.69$ $(s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.09$ $(d, J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH), 4.70 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H, ArCH), 5.26 (dd, J = 12.3, 6.2 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 5.88 (m, 1H, NCH), 6.77–6.85 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.07–7.15 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.0, 21.1, 23.4, 26.7, 48.4, 55.8, 69.7, 81.3, 114.7, 118.3, 130.4, 160.0, 169.2, 170.7, 170.9 ppm. Compound 15b: δ 1.76–2.22 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 1.86 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 2.01 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 3.69 (s, 3H, ArOCH₃), 4.16 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.68 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.28 (dd, J = 12.3, 6.2 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 5.94 (m, 1H, NCH), 6.77-6.85 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.07–7.15 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; 13C NMR $(100 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ δ 21.1, 21.2, 23.6, 25.3, 48.3, 55.8, 69.1, 81.2, 114.8, 118.3, 129.9, 130.3, 168.5, 170.6, 170.9 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 358 (M+Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_{17}H_{21}NO_6+H]^+$ 336.1442, found 336.1441.

4.1.4. (3S,6S)-6-Allyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl acetate 16

To a cooled $(-78 \degree C)$ diastereomeric mixture of **15** (1.030 g, 3.07 mmol) and allyltrimethylsilane (1.0 mL, 6.15 mmol) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) was added dropwise TMSOTf (0.7 mL, 4.61) mmol) over a period of 15 min. The mixture was stirred for 4 h at the same temperature and then quenched with 5 mL of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution. The mixture was warmed up and an additional 5 mL of water was added. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with $CH₂Cl₂$ $(3 \times 10 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layers were washed with brine (5 mL), dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether $(1:1)$ to afford 16 (682 mg, yield: 70%) as a pale yellow oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +44.0$ (c 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (film) 3075, 2953, 2837, 1744, 1656, 1613, 1513, 1457, 1373, 1303, 1241, 1211, 1176, 1085, 1034 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.65-1.70 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 1.83–2.05 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 2.08 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 2.20– 2.30 (m, 1H, $=CHCH₂$), 2.44–2.50 (m, 1H, $=CHCH₂$), 3.22–3.28 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.72 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.80 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.00–5.08 (m, 2H, $=CH_2$), 5.16 (dd, J = 7.0, 10.5 Hz, 1H, COCH), 5.24 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.50-5.60 (m, 1H, =CH), 6.76-7.11 (m, 4H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.0, 22.8, 23.3, 36.2, 47.3, 54.4, 55.2, 69.4, 114.0, 118.4, 129.0, 129.4, 134.0, 159.0, 167.2, 170.3 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 340 (M+Na⁺, 100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{23}NO_4$ C, 68.12; H, 7.30; N, 4.41. Found: C, 68.53; H, 7.24; N, 4.27.

4.1.5. (2R,5S)-2-Allyl-5-hydroxyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl) piperidine 17

A suspension of 16 (678 mg, 2.14 mmol) and LiAlH₄ (406 mg, 10.69 mmol) in THF (12 mL) was refluxed for 5 h. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was diluted with $Et₂O$ (40 mL) and quenched by careful addition of solid $Na₂SO₄$.10H₂O. The mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether/aqueous $NH₃$ (1:2:0.01) to afford **17** (368 mg, yield: 66%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -73.9$ (c 1.1, CHCl3); IR (film) 3391, 3072, 2931, 2855, 2796, 1639, 1611, 1584, 1511, 1457, 1245, 1176, 1036 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.46-1.58 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂), 1.68-1.77 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂), 2.16 (dd, $J = 1.7$, 11.6 Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 2.35–2.44 (m, 3H, =CHCH₂, NCH₂), 2.40 (s br, 1H, OH, D2O exchangeable), 2.69–2.75 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.17 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 3.73-3.75 (m, 1H, CHOH), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.02 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.08–5.11 (m, 2H, $=CH₂$), 5.82–5.92 (m, 1H, $=CH$), 6.82–7.22 (m, 4H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 25.8, 30.4, 36.0, 55.2, 56.8, 57.0, 60.0, 65.4, 113.7 (2C), 116.9, 129.9 (2C), 130.8, 135.1, 158.6 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 262 (M+H⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_{16}H_{23}NO_2+H]^+$ 262.1802, found 262.1807.

4.1.6. (—)-(2R,5S)-*epi-*Pseudoconhydrine hydrochloride salt 18

A suspension of 17 (151 mg, 0.58 mmol) and 20% Pd(OH)₂/C (38 mg) in EtOH (6 mL) was stirred under an atmosphere of H_2 for 24 h. The catalyst was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was dissolved in water (5 mL) and the pH was adjusted to 1 with 1 M HCl. The mixture was washed with $Et₂O$ (3 mL). The pH was re-adjusted to 14 with a 2 M NaOH solution, and the mixture was extracted with CHCl₃ (5×4 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in 3 mL of MeOH/AcCl (10:1) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was crystallized from MeOH/Et₂O to afford hydrochloride salt of 18 (77 mg, yield: 74%) as white crystals. Mp 148–148.5 °C (MeOH/Et₂O) [lit.^{7m} Mp 148 °C]; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -10.2$ (c 1.0, EtOH) {lit.^{7m} $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -9.1$ (c 1.0, EtOH)}; IR (KBr) 3411, 2958, 2933, 2871, 2821, 2717, 2542, 2393, 1566, 1442, 1086, 1037 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 0.96 $(t, J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.30-1.90 (m, 8H, CH₂CH₂), 3.00-3.30 (m, 3H, NCH, NCH₂), 4.07 (s, 1H, CHOH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 14.1, 19.4, 24.3, 29.7, 36.8, 51.0, 57.9, 62.3 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 144 (M+H⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_8H_{17}NO+H]^+$ 144.1383, found 144.1385.

4.1.7. (3S,6R/S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)- 2-oxopiperidin-3-yl acetate 20

To a cooled (–78 °C) solution of 1-phenyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy)ethene 19 (1.3 mL, 6.10 mmol) and 15 (687 mg, 2.05 mmol) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL) was added dropwise TMSOTf (0.4 mL, 2.20 mmol). After being stirred for 4 h, the reaction was quenched with 4 mL of saturated aqueous $NaHCO₃$ solution. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 \times 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:2) to give 20 (colorless oil, 615 mg, yield: 76%) as an inseparable diastereomeric mixture in 2.4:1 ratio. IR (KBr) v_{max} : 2941, 1744, 1652, 1516, 1453, 1366, 1246, 1034 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, two diastereomers, $20a/20b = 2.4:1$, data read from the spectrum of the diastereomeric mixture). Compound 20a: δ 1.80– 2.04 (m, 4H, CH2CH2), 2.18 (s, 3H, COCH3) 3.30–3.36 (m, 2H, COCH₂), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.00 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.08– 4.20 (m, 1H, NCH), 5.09 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.13 (dd,

J = 7.3, 10.6 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 6.79–6.84 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.18–7.21 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42–7.50 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.52–7.61 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.85–7.92 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.8, 23.0, 25.0, 40.5, 47.9, 51.6, 55.0, 69.6, 113.9, 127.8, 128.8, 129.32, 133.43, 136.2, 158.9, 167.5, 170.1, 197.3 ppm. Compound 20b: δ 1.64–2.34 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 3.12 (dd, J = 8.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H, COCH₂), 3.29 (dd, J = 3.7, 17.2 Hz, 1H, COCH₂), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.08– 4.20 (m, 1H, NCH), 4.18 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.00 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.37 (dd, $J = 5.8$, 7.6 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 6.79–6.84 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.18–7.21 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.52–7.61(m, 1H, ArH), 7.79–7.83 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.8, 24.9, 41.9, 47.5, 51.9, 68.2, 127.7, 128.7, 129.1, 136.1, 158.8, 167.5, 169.9, 196.9 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 396 (M+H⁺). Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₅: C, 69.86; H, 6.37; N, 3.54. Found: C, 69.39; H, 6.78; N, 3.36.

4.1.8. (3S,6S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)-3- (tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yloxy)piperidin-2-one 22

To a solution of 20 (500 mg, 1.27 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was added AcCl (0.7 mL) at 0 \degree C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:2) to afford a colorless oil (431 mg, yield: 96%). To this material (402 mg, 1.1 mmol) and TsOH (cat.) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (DHP, 0.25 mL, 2.75 mmol) at 0 \degree C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h before quenching with 1 mL of saturated NaHCO₃ solution, the organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:2) to afford two main diastereomers 22 (323 mg, yield: 58%) and 23 (145 mg, yield: 26%) as colorless oils. **22**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -65.4$ (c 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) v_{max} : 2946, 1681, 1648, 1510, 1444, 1249, 1025 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.47-2.20 (m, 10H, CH₂CH₂), 3.25 (dd, J = 3.4, 15.4 Hz, 1H, COCH₂), 3.35 (dd, J = 9.0, 15.4 Hz, 1H, COCH₂), 3.50– 3.59 (m, 1H, OCH2), 3.87 (s, 3H, OCH3), 3.89 (m, 1H, OCH2), 3.94 $(d, J = 14.7 \text{ Hz}, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.10-4.18$ (m, 1H, NCH), 4.27 (dd, $J = 6.7$, 9.8 Hz, 1H, COCH), 5.12 (d, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.26 (dd, J = 2.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H, OCHO), 6.80 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.18 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.45 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.6 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.87 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.6, 25.3, 25.4, 30.5, 41.1, 47.6, 51.7, 55.1, 62.9, 71.7, 100.0, 114.0, 127.9, 128.6, 129.1, 129.3, 133.5, 136.4, 158.9, 170.7, 197.5 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 438 (M+H⁺). Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₃₁NO₅: C, 71.37; H, 7.14; N, 3.20. Found: C, 71.66; H, 7.47; N, 3.01.

4.1.9. (3S,6S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-3-hydroxy-6-(2-oxo-2 phenylethyl)piperidin-2-one 21a

From 22: To a solution of 22 (200 mg, 0.46 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was added p-TsOH (cat.). After stirring at 45 \degree C for 2 h, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:2) to give 21a (150 mg, yield: 93%) as a colorless oil.

From 20a: To a solution of 20a (77 mg, 0.19 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) were added three drops of AcCl at 0° C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:2) to give 21a (62 mg, yield: 90%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -10.6$ (c 1.1, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) v_{max}: 3423, 2951, 1677, 1628, 1520, 1449, 1242, 1109 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.22-1.79 (m, 4H, $CH₂CH₂$), 3.23 (dd, J = 3.0, 17.6 Hz, 1H, PhCOCH₂), 3.33 (dd, J = 9.0, 17.6 Hz, 1H, PhCOCH₂), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.84 (s, 1H, OH, D₂O exchangeable), 3.99 (d, $I = 14.7$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.09 (dd, $I = 10.7$, 6.5 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), $4.16-4.23$ (m, 1H, NCH), 5.04 (d, $I = 14.7$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 6.81 (d, $I = 8.6$ Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.19 (d, $I = 8.6$ Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.89 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.3. 24.9, 41.0, 48.1, 52.2, 55.2, 68.4, 114.1, 128.0, 128.8, 129.3, 133.7, 136.3, 159.1, 172.6, 197.3 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 354 (M+H⁺). Anal. Calcd for $C_{21}H_{23}NO_4$: C, 71.37; H, 6.56; N, 3.96. Found: C, 71.67; H, 7.01; N, 3.57.

4.1.10. (3S,6S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-((S)-2-hydroxy-2 phenylethyl)piperidin-3-ol 25

To a solution of 21a (120 mg, 0.34 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added LiAlH $(O-t-Bu)_3$ (260 mg, 1.02 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was refluxed for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, $LiAlH₄$ (129 mg, 3.4 mmol) was added and the mixture was refluxed for another 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched by careful addition of powdered $Na₂SO₄·10H₂O$, and the mixture was stirred until a white precipitate formed. The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (2:1) to give 25 as colorless crystals (100 mg, yield: 86%). Mp 144–145 °C (EtOAc/petroleum ether). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -59.3$ (c 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) v_{max} : 3394, 2942, 1611, 1515, 1445, 1242, 1065, 1034 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.33–1.55 (m, 3H, CH₂CH₂), 1.80–1.90 (m, 1H, CH₂CH₂), 1.95– 2.10 (m, 1H, PhCHCH₂), 2.19-2.30 (m, 1H, PhCHCH₂), 2.69-2.78 $(m, 1H, NCH₂)$, 2.82 $(m, 1H, NCH)$, 3.04-3.12 $(m, 1H, NCH₂)$, 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.80 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 3.86 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 3.87 (tt, J = 10.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H, CHOH), 4.75 (dd, J = 10.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H, PhCH), 6.85–6.91 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.18–7.38 (m, 7H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.1. 29.9, 38.4, 51.4, 55.2, 56.5, 57.7, 62.7, 75.03, 125.5, 127.0, 128.2, 130.0, 130.1, 144.96, 158.9 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 342 (M+H⁺). Anal. Calcd for C21H27NO3: C, 73.87; H, 7.97; N, 4.10. Found: C, 73.74; H, 8.02; N, 3.95.

4.1.11. (2S,5S)-tert-Butyl 5-hydroxy-2-((S)-2-hydroxy-2 phenylethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 26

A suspension of **25** (80 mg, 0.18 mmol), 20% Pd(OH)₂/C (30 mg), and $Boc₂O$ (0.16 mL, 0.70 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was stirred under an atmosphere of H_2 overnight. After filtration of the catalyst, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/ petroleum ether (1:1) to afford 26 (48 mg, yield: 64%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -62.4$ (c 0.8, CHCl₃). IR (KBr) v_{max} : 3390, 2929, 2863, 1656, 1415, 1361, 1253, 1150, 1058; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.44 (s, 9H, $(CH_3)_3$), 1.60–1.94 (m, 4H, CH_2CH_2), 1.98–2.32 (m, 2H, PhCHCH2), 2.57 (m, 1H, NCH2), 3.48–3.66 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.90–4.20 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 4.20–4.44 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 4.65–4.80 (m, 1H, PhCH), 7.20–7.40 (m, 5H, PhH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) d 27.3. 28.4, 29.7, 39.6, 45.9, 47.3, 67.1, 72.5, 80.3, 125.7, 127.4, 128.4, 144.4, 155.2 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 344 (M+Na⁺); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_{18}H_{27}NO_4+H]^+$ 322.2013, found 322.2016.

4.1.12. (—)-Hydroxysedamine 7

To a solution of 26 (40 mg, 0.12 mmol) in anhydrous THF (3 mL) was added LiAlH₄ (45 mg, 1.20 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was refluxed for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched by careful addition of powdered $Na₂SO₄·10H₂O$, and the mixture was stirred until a white precipitate formed. The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the filtrate concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with $CH_2Cl_2/MeOH$ (10:1) to give 7 as a colorless oil (23 mg, yield:

80%). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -53.4$ (c 0.5, MeOH) $\{\text{lit.}^8 \ [\alpha]_D^{22} = -40$ (c 0.3, MeOH); lit.^{7f} $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -53$ (c 0.3, MeOH); lit.^{7m} $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -51.0$ (c 2.5, MeOH)}; IR (KBr) v_{max} : 3365, 2934, 2859, 2793, 1661, 1453, 1055 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.40–1.75 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 1.89 (ddd, $J = 14.3, 5.7, 2.8$ Hz, 1H, PhCHCH₂), 2.16 (ddd, $J = 14.3, 10.4$, 7.8 Hz, 1H, PhCHCH₂), 2.46 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.56 (dd, J = 12.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 2.68-2.76 (m, 1H, NCH), 2.85 (dd, J = 12.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 3.90 (tt, J = 7.3, 3.6 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH), 4.85 (dd, $J = 10.4$, 2.8 Hz, 1H, PhCH), 7.20–7.45 (m, 5H, PhH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.3, 128.3, 127.2, 125.5, 73.7, 63.7, 59.6, 57.4, 42.7, 39.7, 30.2, 24.3 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 236 (M+H⁺); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[C_{14}H_{21}NO_2+H]^+$ 236.1645, found 236.1648.

4.1.13. (3S,6S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-oxo-6-(2 oxoethyl)piperidin-3-yl acetate 27

To a stirring mixture of compound 16 (114 mg, 0.36 mmol) and an aqueous solution of RuCl₃ (0.25 mL, 0.0125 mmol, 3.5 mol %) in MeCN (6 mL) and distilled water (1 mL) was added portionwise $NaIO₄$ (154 mg, 0.72 mmol) over a period of 5 min at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous solution of $Na₂S₂O₃$, and the two layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 10 \text{ mL})$, and the combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether $(2:1)$ to afford 27 (79 mg, yield: 69%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +51.0$ (c 1.0, CHCl₃); IR (film) 2951, 1744, 1663, 1512, 1366, 1244, 1029 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.89-1.76 (m, 1H, CH₂CH₂), 2.01-1.90 (m, 1H, CH₂CH₂), 2.14-2.01 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 2.16 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 2.89-2.84 (m, 2H, CH₂CHO), 3.79 $(s, 3H, OCH₃)$, 3.94 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 4.03-3.97 (m, 1H, NCH), 5.08 (d, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 5.13 (dd, $J = 10.2$, 7.3 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 6.90–6.81 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.21–7.13 (m, 2H, ArH), 9.69 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.9, 22.9, 25.2, 46.3, 47.9, 49.6, 55.2, 69.5, 114.1, 128.6, 129.4, 159.1, 167.2, 170.2, 199.2 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 374 [(M+MeOH+Na)⁺, 100]. Anal. Calcd for $C_{17}H_{21}NO_5$: C, 63.94; H, 6.63; N, 4.39. Found: C, 63.50; H, 6.22; N, 4.10.

4.1.14. (3S,6S,2'R/S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-(2-hydroxy-2phenylethyl)-2-oxopiperidin-3-yl acetate 28a,b

To a cooled (-20 °C) solution of **27** (40 mg, 0.125 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added dropwise 0.3 mL of a 0.5 M solution of PhMgBr in THF (0.15 mmol). After stirring at $-20\,^{\circ}\textrm{C}$ for 1 h, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous $NH₄Cl$ (3 mL) and the mixture was extracted with Et_2O (3 \times 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/ petroleum ether (2:1) to afford 28 (colorless oil, 37 mg, yield: 74%) as a mixture of two diastereomers in 2.5:1 ratio, which was used in the next step without further separation. IR (film) 3382, 2952, 2855, 1731, 1636, 1461, 1378, 1237; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, two diastereomers, $28a/28b = 2.5:1$, data read from the spectrum of the diastereomeric mixture). Compound 28a: δ 1.79–2.20 (m, 6H, CH₂CH₂ and NCHCH₂), 2.12 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 3.66–3.74 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.77 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 3.79 (s, 3H, ArOCH₃), 4.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H, PhCH), 5.20 (dd, J = 10.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 5.26 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 6.78-6.87 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.15–7.21 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.28–7.43 (m, 5H, ArH) ppm. Compound 28b: δ 1.79–2.20 (m, 6H, CH₂CH₂ and NCHCH₂), 2.14 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 3.25-3.34 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.61 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H, ArCH₂), 3.77 (s, 3H, ArOCH₃), 4.64 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H, PhCH), 5.20 (dd, J = 10.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H, NCOCH), 5.24 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H, ArCH2), 6.71–6.78 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.88–6.93 (m, 2H, ArH),

7.28–7.41 (m, 5H, ArH) ppm; 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, diastereomeric mixture) 28: d 21.0, 23.0, 23.1, 23.9, 25.0, 40.0, 40.7, 41.1, 47.0, 47.3, 52.0, 52.3, 69.3, 71.5, 72.6, 113.9, 125.5, 125.9, 128.0, 128.2, 128.7, 128.9, 129.0, 129.3, 129.6, 129.7, 143.6, 144.0, 158.9 (2C), 161.5, 167.0, 167.1, 170.4 ppm; MS (ESI) m/z 420 (M+Na⁺, 100%). Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₇NO₅: C, 69.50; H, 6.85; N, 3.52. Found: C, 69.38; H, 7.09; N, 3.49.

4.1.15. (3S,6S)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)- 2-oxopiperidin-3-yl acetate 20a

To a solution of $28a,b$ (37 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMSO (3 mL) was added o-iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX, 52 mg, 0.19 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with Et₂O (5 mL) and quenched with H₂O (3 mL). The mixture was filtered, through a pad of Celite and washed with $Et₂O$. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine, dried over anhydrous $Na₂SO₄$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:1) to afford 20a (27 mg, yield: 73%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +6.9$ (c 1.4, CHCl₃); IR (film) 3386, 2929, 1735, 1652, 1507, 1454, 1364, 1233, 1029 cm $^{-1}$; 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.80-1.88 (m, 1H, CH₂CH₂), 1.89-2.00 (m, 1H, CH_2CH_2), 2.03–2.11 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 2.14 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 3.23– 3.38 (m, 2H, PhCOCH2), 3.73 (s, 3H, ArOCH3), 3.95 (d, 1H, $J = 14.7$ Hz, ArCH₂), 4.10-4.18 (m, 1H, NCH), 5.07 (d, 1H, $J = 14.7$ Hz, ArCH₂), 5.09 (dd, 1H, $J = 10.6$, 7.5 Hz, NCOCH), 6.76– 6.82 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.13–7.18 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.40–7.47 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.52–7.59 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.81–7.87 (m, 2H, ArH) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.0, 23.1, 25.2, 40.6, 48.1, 51.7, 55.2, 69.8, 114.1, 128.0, 128.8, 128.9, 129.5, 133.6, 136.4, 159.1, 167.4, 170.4, 197.5 ppm. MS (ESI) m/z 418 (M+Na⁺, 100%).

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to the NSFC (20572088), Qiu Shi Science and Technologies Foundation, and the program for Innovative Research Team in Science and Technology (University) in Fujian Province for financial support. The project is partially supported by Fujian Provincial Training Foundation for 'Bai-Qian-Wan Talents Engineering'. We thank Professor Y. F. Zhao for the use of her Bruker Dalton Esquire 3000 plus LC–MS apparatus.

References

- 1. For reviews on the piperidine alkaloids, see: (a) Strunz, G. M.; Findlay, J. A. Pyridine and Piperidine Alkaloids. In The Alkaloids; Brossi, A., Ed.; Academic Press: New York, 1985; Vol. 26, pp 89–183; (b) Schneider, M. Pyridine and Piperidine Alkaloids: An Update. In Alkaloids: Chemical and Biochemical Perspectives; Pelletier, S. W., Ed.; Elsevier Science: Oxford, 1996; Vol. 10, pp 155–299.
- 2. (a) Pinder, A. R. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1986, 3, 171–180; (b) Pinder, A. R. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1989, 6, 67–78; (c) Pinder, A. R. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1992, 9, 17–23; (d) Pinder, A. R. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1992, 9, 491–504.
- 3. For recent reviews on the syntheses of 3-piperidinols and related compounds, see: (a) Ciufolini, M. A.; Hermann, C. Y. W.; Dong, Q.; Shimizu, T.; Swaminathan, S.; Xi, N. Synlett 1998, 105–114; (b) Bailey, P. D.; Millwood, P. A.; Smith, P. D. Chem. Commun. 1998, 633–640; (c) Zhou, W. S.; Lu, Z. H.; Xu, Y. M.; Liao, L. X.; Wang, Z. M. Tetrahedron 1999, 55, 11959–11983; (d) Laschat, S.; Dickner, T. Synthesis 2000, 1781–1812; (e) Toyooka, N.; Nemoto, H. Drugs Future 2002, 27, 143–158; (f) Weintraub, P. M.; Sabol, J. S.; Kane, J. M.; Borcherding, D. R. Tetrahedron 2003, 59, 2953–2989; (g) Felpin, F.-X.; Lebreton, J. Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2003, 3693–3712.
- 4. For accounts of methodologies, see: (a) Huang, P.-Q. Recent Advances on the Asymmetric Synthesis of Bioactive 2-Pyrrolidinone-related Compounds Starting from Enantiomeric Malic Acid. In New Methods for the Asymmetric Synthesis of Nitrogen Heterocycles; Vicario, J. L., Badia, D., Carrillo, L., Eds.; Research Signpost: Kerala, 2005; pp 197–222; (b) Huang, P.-Q. Synlett 2006, 1133–1149.
- 5. For recent example, see: (a) Wei, B. G.; Chen, J.; Huang, P.-Q. Tetrahedron 2006, 62, 190–198; (b) Huang, P.-Q.; Guo, Z.-Q.; Ruan, Y.-P. Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 1435– 1438.
- 6. For confirmation of the structure of pseudoconhydrine by synthesis, see: (a) Marion, L.; Cockburn, W. F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1949, 71, 3402–3404; (b) Hill, R. K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1958, 80, 1611-1613; For isolation of N-methyl pseudoconhydrine, see: (c) Roberts, M. F.; Brown, R. T. Phytochemistry 1981, 20, 447–449.
- 7. For recent syntheses of pseudoconhydrine, see: (a) Plehiers, M.; Hootelé, C. Tetrahedron Lett. 1993, 34, 7569–7570; (b) Takahata, H.; Inose, K.; Momose, T. Heterocycles 1994, 38, 269-272; (c) Oppolzer, W.; Bochet, C. G. Tetrahedron Lett. 1995, 36, 2959–2962; (d) Sakagami, H.; Kamikubo, T.; Ogasawara, K. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1996, 1433–1434; (e) Fry, D. F.; Brown, M.; McDonald, J. C.; Dieter, R. K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1996, 37, 6227–6230; (f) Plehiers, M.; Hootelé, C. Can. J. Chem. 1996, 74, 2444–2453; (g) Hirai, Y.; Shibuya, K.; Fukuda, Y.; Yokoyama, H.; Yamaguchi, S. Chem. Lett. 1997, 221–222; (h) Cossy, J.; Dumas, C.; Pardo, D. G. Synlett 1997, 905–906; (i) Dockner, M.; Sasaki, N. A.; Riche, C.; Potier, P. Lieb. Ann.-Recueil 1997, 1267–1272; (j) Moody, C. J.; Lightfoot, A. P.; Gallagher, P. T. J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 746–748; (k) Agami, C.; Couty, F.; Lam, H.; Mathieu, H. Tetrahedron 1998, 54, 8783–8796; (l) Löfstedt, J.; Pettersson-Fasth, H.; Bäckvall, J.-E. Tetrahedron 2000, 56, 2225–2230. and 5551–5552; For syntheses of N-methylpseudoconhydrine, see: (m) Shono, T.; Matsumura, M.; Onomura, O.; Sato, M. J. Org. Chem. 1988, 53, 4118–4121; (n) Herdeis, C.; Held, W. A.; Kirfel, A.; Schwabenlander, F. Liebigs Ann. 1995, 1295–1301; (o) Ref. 7d.; (p) Ref. 7f.; (q) Bartels, M.; Zapico, J.; Gallagher, T. Synlett 2004, 2636–2638.
- Ibebeke-Bomangwa, W.; Hootelé, C. Tetrahedron 1987, 43, 935-945.
- 9. For synthesis of 5-hydroxysedamine (7), see: (a) Ref. 8 (racemic synthesis followed by optical resolution); (b) Ref. 7a; (c) Ref. 7f; (d) Ref. 7m.
- 10. (a) Jung, J.-C.; Avery, M. A. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 2006, 17, 2479–2486; (b) Hoarau, S.; Fauchere, J. L.; Pappalardo, L.; Roumestant, M. L.; Viallefont, P. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 1996, 7, 2585–2593; (c) Agami, C.; Couty, F.; Mathieu, H. Tetrahedron Lett. 1996, 37, 4001–4002; (d) Herdeis, C.; Heller, E. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 1993, 4, 2085–2094; (e) Herdeis, C.; Engel, W. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 1991, 2, 945–948; (f) Couty, F. Amino Acids 1999, 16, 297–320; (g) Botman, P. N. M.; Dommerholt, F. J.; de Gelder, R.; Broxterman, Q. B.; Schoemaker, H. E.; Rutjes, F. P. J. T.; Blaauw, R. H. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 4941–4944.
- 11. (a) Momose, T.; Toyooka, N.; Jin, M. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1997, 2005– 2013; (b) Oetting, J.; Holzkamp, J.; Meyer, H. H.; Pahl, A. *Tetrahedron:*
Asymmetry **1997**, 8, 477–484; (c) Toyooka, N.; Momose, T.; Nemoto, H. J. Synth. Org. Chem. Jpn. 1999, 57, 1073–1083; (d) Leverett, C. A.; Cassidy, M. P.; Padwa, A. J. Org. Chem. 2006, 71, 8591–8601; Makabe, H.; Kong, L. K.; Hirota, M. Org. Lett. 2003, 5, 27–29; (e) Herdeis, C.; Kupper, P.; Ple, S. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2006, 4, 524–529; (f) Kim, G.; Kim, N. Tetrahedron Lett. 2007, 48, 4481–4483.
- 12. (a) Momose, T.; Toyooka, N. Tetrahedron Lett. 1993, 34, 5785–5786; Momose, T.; Toyooka, N.; Jin, M. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1997, 2005–2013; (b) Toyooka, N.; Yoshida, Y.; Yotsui, Y.; Momose, T. J. Org. Chem. 1999, 64, 4914– 4919; (c) Lee, Y. S.; Shin, Y. H.; Kim, Y. H.; Lee, K. Y.; Oh, C. Y.; Pyun, S. J.; Park, H. J.; Jeong, J. H.; Ham, W. H. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry 2003, 14, 87–93; (d) Trost, B. M.; Ball, Z. T.; Laemmerhold, K. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 10028–10038.
- 13. (a) Hirar, Y.; Watanabe, J.; Nozaki, T.; Yokoyama, H.; Seiji, Y. J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 776–777; (b) Ojima, I.; Vidal, E. S. J. Org. Chem. 1998, 63, 7999–8003; (c) Ref. 12b.; (d) Comins, D. L.; Sandelier, M. J.; Grillo, T. A. J. Org. Chem. 2001, 66, 6829– 6832; (e) Andres, J. M.; Pedrosa, R.; Perez-Encabo, A. Tetrahedron Lett. 2006, 47, 5317–5320.
- 14. (a) Krow, G. R.; Johnson, C. Synthesis 1979, 50–51; (b) Fukuyama, T.; Frank, R. K., ; Jewell, C. F., Jr. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, 102, 2122–2123; (c) Herdeis, C.;
Held, W. A.; Kirfel, A.; Schwabenlander, E*. Tetrahedron* **1996**, 52, 6409–6420; (d) Chung, H. K.; Kim, H. W.; Chung, K. H. Bull. Korean Chem. Soc. 1999, 20, 325– 328.
- 15. (a) Gltterman, C. O.; Rlckes, E. L.; Wolf, D. E.; Madas, J.; Zimmerman, S. B.; Stoudt, T. H.; Demny, T. C. J. Antibiot. 1970, 23, 305–310; (b) Pettit, G. R.; Von Dreele, R. B.; Herald, D. L.; Edgar, M. T.; Wood, H. B., Jr. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 6742–6743.
- 16. For syntheses of 3-epi-pseudoconhydrine see: (a) Ref. 7b.; (b) Herdeis, C.; Schiffer, T. Synthesis 1997, 1405–1410; (c) Ref. 7g.; (d) Ref. 7k.
- 17. For reviews on α -amidoalkylation, see: (a) Zaugg, H. E. Synthesis 1984, 85-110. and 181–212; For reviews on N-acyliminium ions, see: (b) Speckamp, W. N.; Hiemstra, H. Tetrahedron 1985, 41, 4367–4416; (c) Speckamp, W. N.; Moolenaar, M. J. Tetrahedron 2000, 56, 3817–3856; (d) Bur, S. K.; Martin, S. F. Tetrahedron 2001, 57, 3221–3242; (e) Marson, C. M. Arkivoc 2001, part 1, 1–16, at [www.arkat-usa.org.](http://www.arkat-usa.org); (f) Maryanoff, B. E.; Zhang, H.-C.; Cohen, J. H.; Turchi, I. J.; Maryanoff, C. A. Chem. Rev. **2004**, 104, 1431–1628; (g) Royer, J. Chem. Rev. 2004, 104, 2311–2352.
- 18. Feng, C. G.; Chen, J.; Ye, J. L.; Ruan, Y. P.; Zheng, X.; Huang, P. Q. Tetrahedron 2006, 62, 7459–7465.
- 19. Bandgar, B. P.; Sadavarte, V. S.; Uppalla, L. S. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 2000, 3559–3560.
- 20. For a neighboring group participation effect in a pyrrolidine ring system, see: Renaud, P.; Seebach, D. Helv. Chim. Acta 1986, 69, 1704–1710.
- 21. Boudreault, N.; Ball, R. G.; Bayly, C.; Bernstein, M. A.; Leblanc, Y. Tetrahedron 1994, 50, 7947–7956.
- 22. Deslongchamps, P. Stereoelectronic Effetcs in Organic Chemistry; Pergamon: New York, 1983.
- 23. Yang, D.; Zhang, C. J. Org. Chem. 2001, 66, 4814–4818.
- (a) Frigerio, M.; Santagostino, M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1994, 35, 8019-8022; (b) Frigerio, M.; Santagostino, M.; Sputore, S.; Palmisano, G. J. Org. Chem. 1995, 60, 7272–7276.