ADINA ALKALOIDS: 10- $\beta$ -D-GLUCOSYLOXYVINCOSIDE LACTAM .

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From fresh shoots of <u>Adina rubescens</u><sup>1</sup> we have obtained a new glycosidic alkaloid (1a), characterised as the acetate (1b)  $C_{48}H_{56}N_2O_{12}$  [ $\alpha$ ]\_D<sup>25</sup> -86<sup>0</sup> (CHCl<sub>3</sub>). On the basis of colour reactions and spectral data it was thought to be related to vincoside lactam (1c) which also occurs in the same Although the UV spectrum  $[\lambda_{max}, 231, 273 \text{ (inf.) } 294 \text{ (inf.) } 310 \text{ (inf.)]}$  was not immediately plant. informative, IR bands at 1655 and 1600 cm.<sup>-1</sup> suggested a  $\beta$ -alkoxyacrylamide chromophore<sup>2</sup>, and subtraction of its expected contribution [ $\lambda_{max}$  240 nm] from the UV absorption left a spectrum  $[\lambda_{max.} 287 \text{ nm}]$  very similar to that of 2, 3-dimethyl-5-methoxyindole  $[\lambda_{max.} 284 \text{ nm}]$ . The identity of the UV spectra of the acetate and the free glycoside, and the absence of any shift on addition of alkali indicated a phenolic ether. These conclusions were supported by the NMR spectrum with aromatic hydrogen signals at  $\tau$  2.55 (1H, d, J=2Hz), 2.81 (1H, d, J=9Hz) and 3.14 (1H, dd, J=1, 9Hz) attributable to H-9, 12 and 11 respectively; the acrylamide proton H-17 appeared at  $\tau$  2.90 as a doublet (J=2Hz) due to allylic coupling with H-15. Furthermore, the presence of two hexose functions was indicated by eight acetate peaks between  $\tau$  7.92 and 8.03, two protons at 6.24 (H-5, H-5), four at 5.80 (H<sub>2</sub>-6 and H<sub>2</sub>-6), and eight (H-1 - 4, H-1 - 4) between  $\tau 4.5$  and 5.4 in addition to H-21 and three olefinic hydrogens. This was confirmed by the mass spectrum where successive losses of two hexose tetraacetate fragments (330) from the molecular ion at m/e 1012 gave peaks at m/e 682 and 352 - transitions which were supported by mass measurement and the appropriate metastable peaks at 459.6 and 181.5.

The suspected presence of a vinyl group was substantiated by catalytic hydrogenation of the octaacetate to a dihydroderivative which was then deacetylated under Zemplen conditions to the free diglycoside (2a). Subsequent hydrolysis with  $\beta$ -glucosidase removed both sugar units, thereby establishing their identity, and gave a dihydroaglucone (2b),  $C_{20}H_{22}N_2O_4$ . In neutral solution this had a similar UV spectrum to the starting material, but on addition of alkali there was now a shift to  $\lambda_{max}$ . 326 nm.

At this point the evidence was consistent with the gross structure <u>la</u> but with undefined stereochemistry. Recently we reported<sup>4</sup> that the C-3 configuration in lactams of this type could be established as in simpler cases<sup>5</sup> from the sign of the Cotton effect between 250 and 300 nm in ORD and CD spectra. Since that of our compound was negative  $[[\Theta]_{273}$  -25,000] the configuration of H-3 was  $\beta$ , as in vincoside lactam. In order to complete the structure determination a correlation was necessary with material synthesised from known compounds.

Condensation of secologanin acetate and 5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin) in glacial acetic acid at  $100^{\circ}$ afforded the desired  $3\beta$  isomer, 10-hydroxyvincoside lactam (1d), directly; subsequent acetylation gave the 10-acetoxy derivative (1e) M<sup>+</sup>724,  $\lambda_{max}$ . 232, 273, 286, 294 nm. This variation of the usual procedure <sup>6</sup> was convenient since the  $3\alpha$  condensation product did not lactamise under these conditions and was readily separated. Catalytic hydrogenation followed by Zemplen deacetylation afforded a dihydroglucoside (2a) which was hydrolysed by  $\beta$ -glucosidase to the dihydroaglucone (2b). This compound was indistinguishable from that obtained from the natural diglucoside; furthermore both samples were converted to identical mixtures of epimeric acetates (TLC, NMR, UV, CD and mass spectra). Since the stereochemistry of secologanin is known<sup>7</sup> the complete structure of the diglucoside is consequently 1a.



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