

CARBON-13 NMR STUDIES OF PEPTIDE ANTIBIOTICS, THIOSTREPTON AND
SIOMYCIN A: THE STRUCTURE RELATIONSHIP

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The structure of thiostrepton (1), a peptide antibiotic isolated from *Streptomyces azureus*,¹ has been investigated by chemical degradation for a long time.² Many degradation products have hitherto been revealed, e.g., thiostreptonic acid, thiostreptoic acid, thiostreptine, many other thiazole-4-carboxylic acid derivatives, several quinaldic acid derivatives, and several amino acids: two Ala's, Ile, Thr, Cys, butyrine (But) including two moles of pyruvic acid from dehydroalanines (Deala).² Thereafter, a tentative structure of 1 has been proposed by an X-ray crystallographic analysis⁴ as shown in FIG. 1 (except for the Deala residue in a parenthesis). However, it is not a final one because the presence of one or two additional alanine precursors were suggested in the molecule;³ it has been postulated⁴ that the residue(s), if they occur, should be an extension of the long side chain.

Siomycin A (2),⁵ another peptide antibiotic isolated from *Streptomyces siyoaensis*,^{5a} having a structure quite similar to that of 1,⁶ has also been studied by degradative methods;⁶ 2 has a Val residue instead of Ile and lacks one Ala residue as compared with 1.⁶ A tentative structure of 2 has been proposed as a result.^{6b}

We wish to report here ¹³C NMR spectroscopic studies of these two antibiotics to elucidate their structure relationship.

The natural-abundance ¹H-noise-decoupled 15-MHz ¹³C FT NMR spectra of 1 and 2 in DMSO-d₆ and CDCl₃-CD₃OD (a 8 : 2 mixture) at ambient temperatures exhibited very broad CH₂- and CH-signals for an

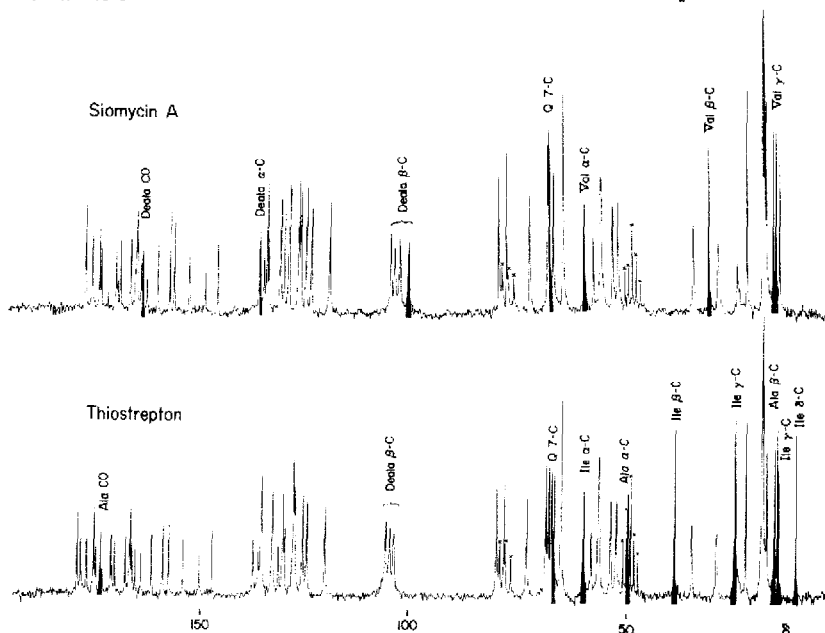
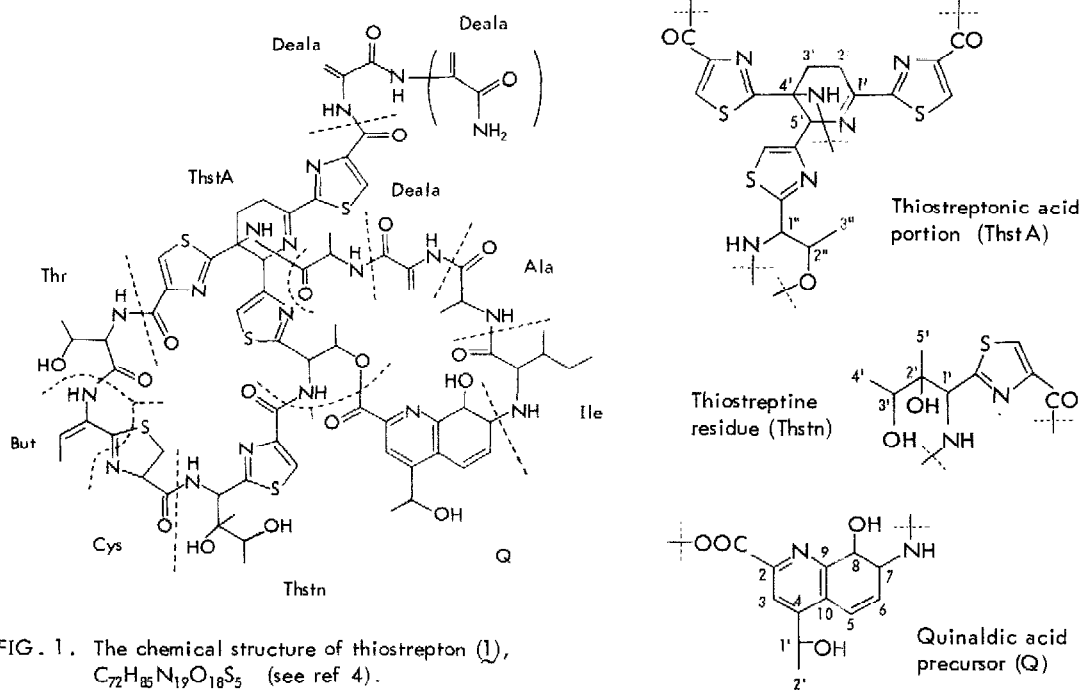


FIG. 2. The ^1H -noise-decoupled ^{13}C FT NMR spectra of thiostrepton and siomycin A at 25 MHz in $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-CD}_3\text{OD}$ (8:2) at 70° (taken with a JEOL FX-100 spectrometer, 10-mm tubes; 120 mg cm^{-3} ; pulse flipping angle, 90° ; number of transients, 5,000); x, solvent peaks.

TABLE. ^{13}C Chemical Shifts^a and Tentative Assignments

	Thiostrepton (1)	Siomycin A (2)
C-CH ₃	11.6(Ile δ); 15.4, 15.9(Ile γ, Ala β); 16.5(Ala β); 23.0(Q 2'); 18.8, 19.0, 19.2 × 3	15.4(Ala β); 16.5, 17.1(Val γ × 2); 23.0(Q 2'); 19.0 × 2, 19.4 × 3
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{C(5)-CH}_2 \\ \text{C-CH} \end{array} \right.$	25.0(Thst A 2'); 25.3(Ile γ); 29.7(Thst A 3'); 35.2(Cys β) ^c ; 39.2(Ile β)	25.1(Thst A 2'); 29.6(Thst A 3'); 35.2(Cys β) ^c ; 31.8(Val β)
N(O)-CH	49.9(Ala α); 52.4, 53.7(Ala α, Thst A 1"); 56.2, 56.4(Thr α, Thstn 1'); 59.6(Ile α); 64.9(Thst A 5'); 66.2(Q 7) ^b ; 67.1(Thr β); 79.7(Cys α) ^c ; 64.9, 68.4, 68.6, 72.6 (Q 8, 1', Thstn 3', Thst A 2")	52.4, 53.7(Ala α, Thst A 1"); 56.2, 56.4 (Thr α, Thstn 1'); 59.9(Val α); 64.8(Thst A 5'); 67.1(Thr β); 68.0(Q 7); ^b 79.7(Cys α) ^c ; 64.8, 68.4, 68.8, 72.5 (Q 8, 1', Thstn 3', Thst A 2")
N(O)-C	58.2(Thst A 4'); 77.7(Thstn 2')	58.0(Thst A 4'); 77.7(Thstn 2')
C=CH ₂	103.0, 103.9, 104.8(Deala β)	100.5, 102.7, 104.0, 104.9(Deala β)
C=CH	118.8(But β); 122.9, 123.6, 125.4, 125.8 127.8, 130.6, 133.0	118.8(But β); 123.0, 124.1, 125.4, 125.8 128.0, 130.6, 132.7
C=C	127.8; 129.2(Q 4, 10)	128.0, 129.1(Q 4, 10)
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{C=C-N} \\ \text{N=C} \\ \text{CO} \\ \text{N=C-S} \end{array} \right.$	133.0, 133.9, 135.0(Deala α); 144.2(But α); 147.0, 150.6 × 2, 153.7, 155.3, 157.7, 160.0; 169.5(Ala CO); 161.5, 162.0, 162.4 × 2, 162.7, 163.5, 166.1, 166.6, 167.3, 169.0, 170.5 × 2, 170.7, 172.1, 173.7, 174.2	132.7, 133.8, 134.7 × 2(Deala α); 144.2(But α); 147.0, 150.6 × 2, 153.9, 155.1, 157.7, 160.0; 161.1(Deala CO); 161.5, 162.1, 162.4 × 2, 162.7, 163.7, 166.0, 166.6, 167.3, 168.9, 170.5 × 2, 170.7, 172.1, 173.7, 173.9

^a ^{13}C NMR spectra were mainly determined with a Varian NV-14 FT NMR spectrometer at 15.087 MHz at 90° using a 8:2 mixture of CDCl_3 - CD_3OD as a solvent in 8-mm tubes; concentrations were about 400 mg cm^{-3} ; errors of δ_{C} (from internal TMS) are within 0.2; FT measurement conditions were as follows: spectral width, 3170 Hz; pulse flipping angle, ca. 30°; acquisition time, 0.6 sec; number of data points, 3706; number of transients, 300,000-360,000.

^b This assignment is solely due to the proximity of the NCH to Ile or Val.

^c The thiazoline-ring carbon signals were assigned according to a recent study of althiomycin.⁹

accurate count of their carbon numbers to be made. The resonance broadening is probably due to the large globular molecular shape of these substances. However, at elevated temperatures (>70°), they become sharper in CDCl_3 - CD_3OD and the carbon numbers were found to be 72 for 1 and 71 for 2. FIGURE 2 shows the 25-MHz ^{13}C NMR spectra of 1 and 2.

The ^{13}C signal assignments were, though not fully accomplished, carried out tentatively by ^1H noise⁷ and single-frequency off-resonance⁸ decoupling techniques and using known chemical-shift rules,⁸ chemical shifts of the amino acids reported⁸ and those observed for thiostreptine and methyl 4-(α -hydroxyethyl)-8-methoxyquinaldate (see the TABLE). It is clearly demonstrated, as seen from the TABLE, that the spectra

of $\underline{1}$ and $\underline{2}$ are quite similar to each other except for the signals of the Ile and one of the Ala residues and a signal (probably due to 7-NCH in Q) at δ_C 66.2 in $\underline{1}$, and those of the Val and one of the Deala residues and a signal at δ_C 68.0 in $\underline{2}$ (see the filled signals in FIG. 2).

The number of alanine precursors in $\underline{1}$ has frequently been discussed.²⁻⁴ The ^{13}C spectra suggest that three and four Deala residues are present in $\underline{1}$ and $\underline{2}$, respectively. Our results from amino-acid analyses of $\underline{1}$, $\underline{2}$, and their NaBH_4 -reduction³ products were in agreement with the above spectral results. Signals due to $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}<$ of Deala and $-\text{CH}=\text{C}<$ of But almost disappeared from the ^{13}C spectra of the reduction products, each of which was a mixture consisting of several components.

As a result, it is concluded that thiostrepton has the structure $\underline{1}$ shown in FIG. 1 (including Deala in the parenthesis) if Hodgkin and coworkers' structure and suggestive comment proposed⁴ are accepted, and that the structure of siomycin A is different from that of thiostrepton only in one portion: Val-Deala residue of the former⁶ corresponds to Ile-Ala residue of the latter.²

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