



The sulfinyl moiety as an internal nucleophile. Part 8: Efficient, stereospecific synthesis of (+)-polyoxamic acid[☆]

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Received 30 May 2003; revised 23 June 2003; accepted 27 June 2003

Abstract—A straightforward and stereospecific synthesis of (+)-polyoxamic acid is disclosed. The key step of the synthesis involves the regio- and stereospecific bromohydration of an olefin via intramolecular participation by the sulfinyl group.
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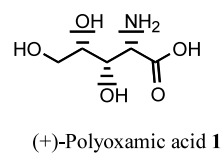
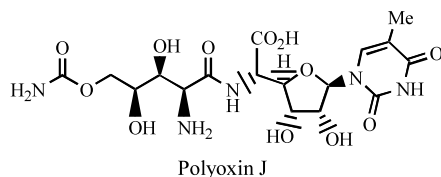
Polyoxins,¹ isolated from *Streptomyces cacaoi* var. *asoensis*, are peptidonucleosides comprising a nucleosidic amino acid and a hydroxylated amino acid, 5-*O*-carbamoyl polyoxamic acid, linked by an amide bond. The polyoxins are important agricultural antibiotics that exhibit marked and selective activity against phytopathogenic fungi by inhibiting chitin synthase.² They are also therapeutically useful against *Candida albicans*, a fungal pathogen that affects humans.³ Polyoxamic acid has been the subject of many synthetic studies⁴ which have employed carbohydrates or amino acids as building blocks except for that reported by Kim et al.,^{4b} Baltas et al.,^{4c} and Trost et al.⁴ⁱ There however remains the need for a more general, efficient and a stereoselective approach to polyoxamic acid. By way of demonstrating the potential of our methodology, of taking advantage of the sulfinyl moiety as an intramolecular nucleophile to functionalize olefins complexed to electrophiles,⁵ we report herein a novel, concise and a highly stereoselective synthesis of polyoxamic acid (**1**).

The synthesis commenced from the β -hydroxy sulfoxide (**3**) obtained by diastereoselective reduction (>95% d.e.) of β -keto sulfoxide (**2**)⁶ with DIBAL/ ZnCl_2 .⁷ Treatment of **3** with NBS in toluene in the presence of water afforded the bromohydrin (**4**) regio- and stereospecifically. The orientation as indicated for the hydroxy

group and bromine at C_3 and C_4 respectively is expected from an overall *anti* addition across the double bond. The bromodiol (**4**) was transformed into acetone (**5**) by reaction with 2,2-dimethoxypropane catalyzed by CSA. The ^{13}C spectrum of **5** revealed signals for the methyl groups of the acetone at δ 27.0, 27.4 and for the quaternary carbon at δ 110.5 proving beyond doubt the *syn* disposition⁸ of the hydroxy groups in bromodiol (**4**). The observed stereo- and regioselectivity can be rationalized through the intermediacy of a sulfoxonium salt (**1**) (Scheme 1). The 5-*exo* nucleophilic attack by the sulfinyl group onto the olefin π -complexed⁹ to the bromonium ion would result in the formation of the sulfoxonium salt (**1**), which upon hydrolysis by attack of water on sulfur in a $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ fashion,¹⁰ would yield the bromohydrin (**4**), with inversion of sulfur configuration.

Subjecting acetone (**5**) to treatment with excess sodium azide in DMF afforded cleanly the azido acetone (**6**), which has all the three stereogenic centers disposed as in (+)-polyoxamic acid, both in a relative and absolute sense.

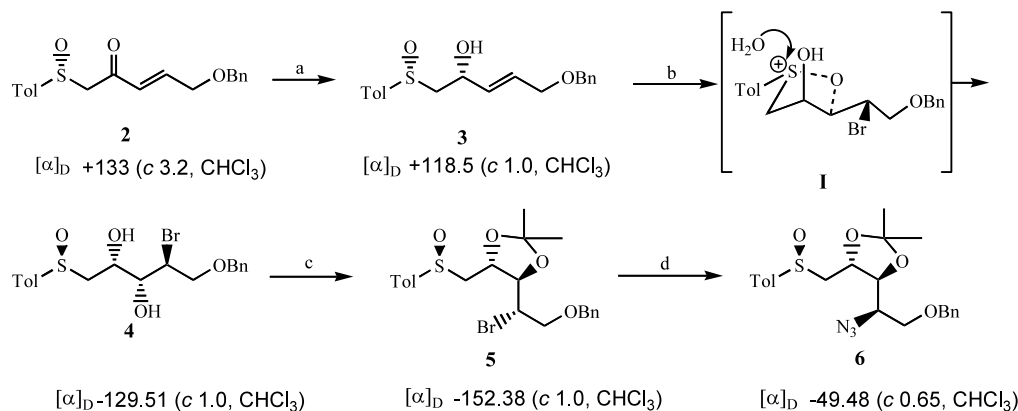
The acetone (**6**) was transformed to the alcohol (**8**) in a one pot operation by subjecting it to Pummerer rearrangement¹¹ to yield the intermediate (**7**) which was



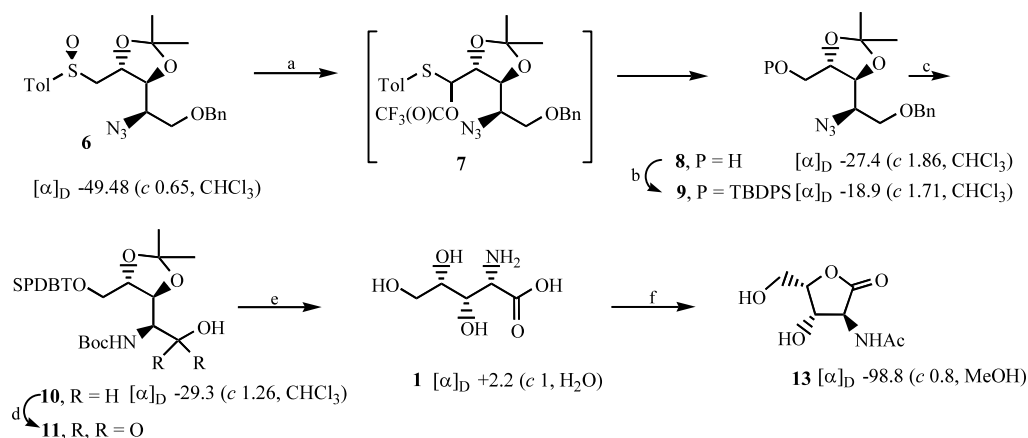
Keywords: (+)-polyoxamic acid; sulfinyl group; bromohydrin; stereospecific.

[☆] IICT Communication No. 030303.

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Scheme 1. Reaction conditions: (a) DIBALH, ZnCl₂, THF, -78°C, 30 min, 91%; (b) NBS, H₂O, toluene, rt, 15 min, 88%; (c) 2,2-DMP, cat. CSA, acetone, rt, 2 h, 86%; (d) NaN₃, DMF, 85°C, 5 h, 75%.



Scheme 2. Reaction conditions: (a) TFAA, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C, 15 min then aq. NaHCO₃, NaBH₄, 0°C, 20 min, 73%; (b) TBDPS-Cl, imidazole, DCM, rt, 2 h, 94%; (c) 10% Pd(OH)₂/C, H₂, (Boc)₂O, EtOAc, rt, 8 h, 76%; (d) TEMPO, PhI(OAc)₂, H₂O/CH₃CN (1:1), 6 h, rt, 82%; (e) TFA, H₂O (9:1), rt, 16 h, 93%; (f) Ac₂O, MeOH, rt, 16 h, 60%.

further hydrolyzed and reduced by treatment with aq. saturated NaHCO₃ and NaBH₄. Treatment of alcohol (**8**) with *t*-butyldiphenylsilyl chloride and imidazole afforded the silyl ether (**9**), which upon treatment with Pd(OH)₂ under an atmosphere of hydrogen in the presence of (Boc)₂O afforded the aminoalcohol derivative (**10**). Oxidation of the primary hydroxy group in **10** by treatment with PhI(OAc)₂ and Tempo¹² afforded the acid (**11**) which was characterized as its methyl ester (**12**) by treatment of a small portion with excess ethereal diazomethane. Removal of the protecting groups in **11** by treatment with aq. TFA yielded polyoxamic acid (**1**) after purification by passing through Dowex ion exchange resin (Scheme 2). The physical characteristics of **1** were in full agreement with the reported values in the literature.^{4s} (+)-Polyoxamic acid (**1**) was further transformed by treatment with Ac₂O to afford the known lactone **13**.^{4s}

In summary, we have disclosed a concise and a highly stereospecific synthesis of (+)-polyoxamic acid. The key step of the route include efficient transfer of chirality from sulfur to carbon in the transformation of β-keto-

sulfoxide (**2**) to the β-hydroxy sulfoxide (**3**), stereo- and regiospecific synthesis of the bromodiol (**4**) by sulfinyl group participation and one-pot multistep transformation of **9** to **10**. The route disclosed herein is to be contrasted with other approaches based on dihydroxylation of unsaturated substrates possessing the requisite carbon skeleton that afford products with poor stereo-control.^{4i,4t} Finally, it is worthwhile to note that starting from the diastereomer of hydroxy sulfoxide (**3**) that differs at the hydroxy center and following the same sequence of reactions, (-)-polyoxamic acid can be elaborated.

Acknowledgements

S.R. is thankful to Dr. J. S. Yadav, Head, Org. Div. I and Dr. K. V. Raghavan, Director, IICT for constant support and encouragement. S.C.J. is thankful to CSIR, New Delhi for a fellowship. Financial assistance from DST (New Delhi) is gratefully acknowledged. We thank Dr. A. C. Kunwar for the NMR spectra.

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