

Synthesis of protected (2*R*,3*R*,4*S*)-4,7-diamino-2,3-dihydroxyheptanoic acid, a constituent of callipeltins A and D[☆]

S. Chandrasekhar,* M. Srinivasa Reddy, G. S. Kiranbabu and A. Sai Krishna Murthy

Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad 500 007, India

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Abstract—An efficient synthesis of protected (2*R*,3*R*,4*S*)-4,7-diamino-2,3-dihydroxy heptanoic acid, a constituent of the depsipeptides, callipeltins A and D from L-ascorbic acid is described.

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Cyclic depsipeptides have emerged as an important class of biologically active molecules.¹ The novel depsipeptide callipeltin A was first isolated from the marine sponge *Callipelta* sp. by Zempella et al.² and later isolated from *Latrunacula* sp. along with the truncated open chain derivative callipeltin D.³ Callipeltin A has shown potent antifungal and anti HIV activities, as well as cytotoxicity against several human carcinoma cell lines.⁴ Recently, it was also found to be a selective and powerful inhibitor of the Na/Ca cardiac exchanger and a positive inotropic agent in the atria of guinea pig.⁵

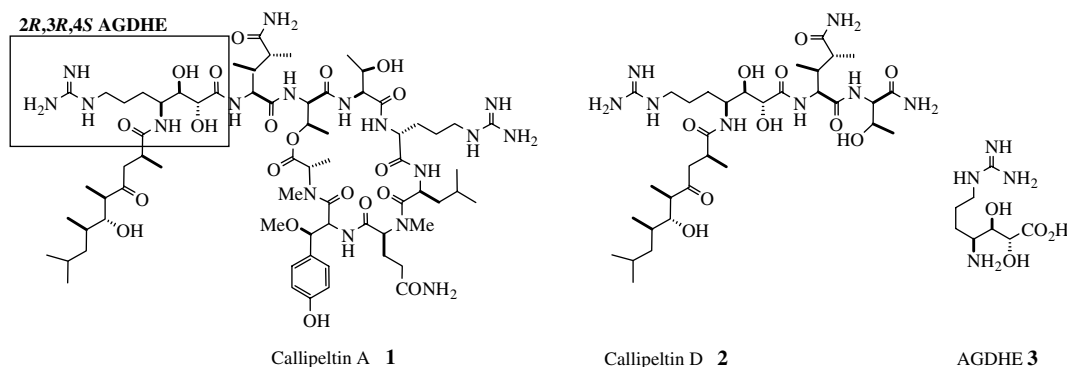
The (2*R*,3*R*,4*S*)-4-amido-7-guanidino-2,3-dihydroxy heptanoic acid (AGDHE) chain is a key fragment in callipeltin A and is found to be responsible for the anti-HIV activity. Recently, a few reports have appeared

on the synthesis of this fragment.^{6,7} Herein, we report the synthesis of the AGDHE fragment starting from L-ascorbic acid in a more efficient manner with less synthetic steps.

The retrosynthetic analysis of the AGDHE fragment of callipeltin A is described in Scheme 1.

The synthesis of the protected unusual amino acid **19** began from the known optically pure aldehyde **5**, which can be obtained from the readily available L-ascorbic acid **4**⁸ (Scheme 2).

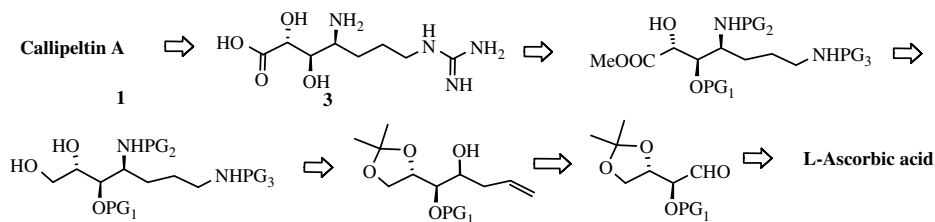
Aldehyde **5** was treated with allylbromide and zinc powder⁹ to furnish homoallylic alcohol **6** as an inseparable diastereomeric mixture with 1:5 *syn:anti*



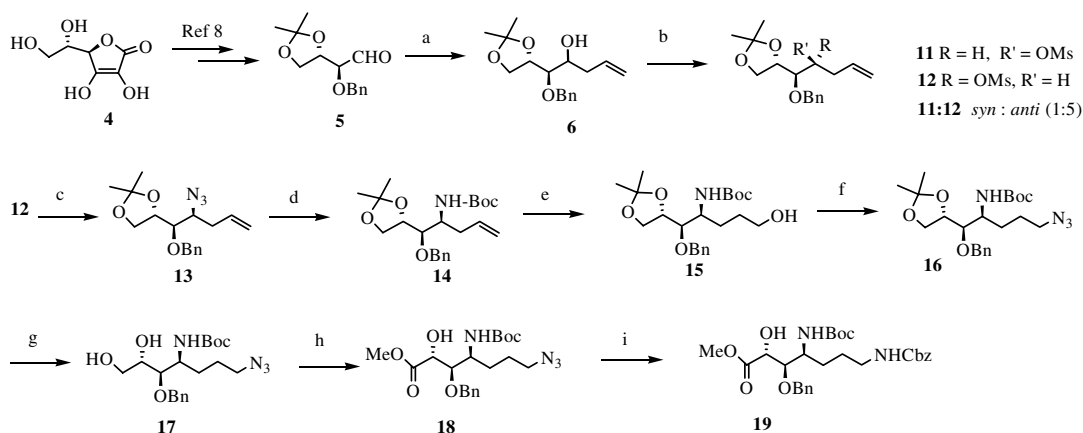
Keywords: Callipeltin A; Ascorbic acid; Unusual amino acid.

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* Corresponding author. Tel.: +91 40 27193434; fax: +91 40 27160512; e-mail: srivaric@iict.res.in



Scheme 1. Retrosynthesis of the AGDHE fragment of callipeltins A and D.



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (a) Zn, allyl bromide, aq NH_4Cl , THF, 0 °C, 85%; (b) MsCl , TEA, CH_2Cl_2 , 92%; (c) NaN_3 , DMF, 80 °C, 85%; (d) (i) LiAlH_4 , THF, 0 °C, (ii) $(\text{Boc})_2\text{O}$, NaOH, THF, 0 °C, 90%; (e) $\text{BH}_3\text{-DMS}$, NaOH, H_2O_2 , THF, 0 °C, 80%; (f) (i) TsCl , TEA, CH_2Cl_2 , (ii) NaN_3 , DMF, 80 °C, 85%; (g) 0.8% H_2SO_4 , MeOH, 90%; (h) (i) TEMPO, NCS, TBACl, pH = 8.6 CH_2Cl_2 , (ii) NaClO_2 , NaH_2PO_4 , H_2O_2 , CH_3CN , (iii) CH_2N_2 , dry ether, 60%; (i) (i) Pd-CaCO_3 , H_2 , EtOAc, (ii) Cbz-Cl , DIPEA, CH_2Cl_2 , 90%.

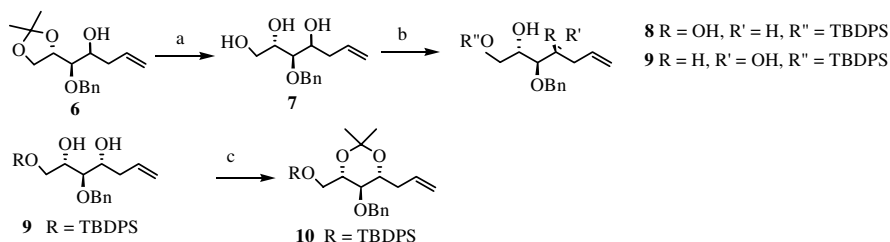
diastereoselectivity (determined by ^1H NMR). The relative stereochemistry of the new stereogenic center in the major isomer was determined by a short deprotection–protection protocol (Scheme 3).

The deprotection of the 1,2-acetonide in homoallylic alcohol **6** and protection of the primary hydroxy group as its TBDPS ether was achieved very easily. At this stage, the two diastereomers **8** and **9** were separated by column chromatography. The major isomer **9** was then protected as its isopropylidene derivative using 2,2-DMP to yield compound **10**.

The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of the acetonide derivative **10** showed that the gem dimethyls resonate at 19.4 and 29.3 ppm and the ketal carbon at 98.2 ppm proving the *syn* relationship between C1–OH and C3–OH with the chair conformation.¹⁰ These values are in accordance with the literature.

The diastereomeric mixture of the homoallylic alcohols **6** was then esterified with methanesulfonyl chloride to give crude mesylates **11** and **12** in 92% yield. The major **12** and minor **11** diastereomers were easily separated by standard silica gel column chromatography and mesylate **12** was then converted to its azide derivative **13** by treatment with NaN_3 in DMF for 12 h. The reduction of azide **13** using LiAlH_4 and in situ protection with $(\text{Boc})_2\text{O}$ yielded *N*-Boc derivative **14**.

The hydroboration of the *N*-Boc derivative **14** with $\text{BH}_3\text{-DMS}$ furnished the primary alcohol **15**, which was then converted to azide **16** via the tosylate derivative. The acetonide group of **16** was then cleaved to yield diol **17** and the primary alcohol in diol **17** was selectively oxidized^{11a} using TEMPO/NCS in the presence of TBACl to furnish the hydroxy-aldehyde derivative, which was immediately treated with NaClO_2 , NaH_2PO_4 , H_2O_2 in acetonitrile to give the corresponding acid,^{11b}



Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: (a) 0.8% H_2SO_4 , MeOH, 90%; (b) TBDPSCl, imidazole, CH_2Cl_2 , 92%; (c) 2,2-DMP, CSA, CH_2Cl_2 , 95%.

which was esterified as its methyl ester **18** using ethereal diazomethane.

Finally, the azide in **18** was reduced using Pd–CaCO₃/H₂ to give the amine, which was protected as its Cbz derivative using CbzCl in the presence of DIPEA to furnish the protected (2*R*,3*R*,4*S*)-4,7-diamino-2,3-dihydroxyheptanoic acid **19** in acceptable yield, which was confirmed by routine spectral analyses.¹²

In conclusion, we have developed an efficient synthetic approach for the preparation of a protected form of the unusual amino acid fragment **19** of callipeltins A and D. It is to be noted that the protected amino acid fragment of callipeltin A was achieved in fewer steps in the current approach, when compared to our earlier approach.^{6a}

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- The spectral data for selected compounds: compound **13** [α]_D²⁵ –15.8 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃). IR (KBr): 3414, 2986, 2111, 1618, 1375, 1217, 1073, and 769 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.38–7.23 (m, 5H), 5.83–5.68 (m, 1H), 5.18–5.10 (m, 2H), 4.74 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 6.04, 1H), 4.04 (dd, *J* = 8.30, 6.04 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (dd, *J* = 8.30, 6.04 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 5.28, 2.28 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (dt, *J* = 6.79, 3.02 Hz, 1H), 2.57–2.36 (m, 2H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 137.7, 133.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 118.5, 108.8, 80.5, 74.9, 66.2, 61.7, 34.8, 23.5, and 24.2. ESI-MS: *m/z* 340 (M+Na)⁺. Compound **19**: [α]_D²⁵ –31.2 (*c* 0.4 CHCl₃). IR (KBr): 3418, 2928, 1704, 1364, 1248, 1165, 788 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.42–7.26 (m, 10H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 4.82–4.70 (m, 2H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, *J* = 8.30 Hz, 1H), 3.96–3.85 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 8.30 Hz, 1H), 3.24–3.09 (m, 3H), 1.56–1.37 (m, 13H). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.0, 156.9, 156.4, 137.4, 136.5, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 81.6, 80.2, 74.5, 71.0, 66.6, 52.4, 50.7, 40.6, 30.3, 29.5, 28.3, and 26.8. ESI-MS: *m/z* 553 (M+Na)⁺, 530 (M)⁺.