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(S)-6-Isopropyl-5-Phenyl-1,2,3,6-Tetrahydro-2-Pyrazinone: A New Chiral Glycine Equivalent for the Synthesis of (Z)- α,β -Didehydro- α -Amino Acid Derivatives

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With [biographical summary](#)

Abstract: The preparation of *N*-Boc-protected (*S*)-6-isopropyl-5-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-2-pyrazinone from (*S*)-valine and glycine in seven steps and its reactivity with carbonyl compounds affording stereoselectively (*Z*)-didehydroamino acids derivatives is reported in this communication.

Keywords: Amino acids-didehydro, phase-transfer catalysis, carbonyl compounds, tetrahydro-2-pyrazinone.

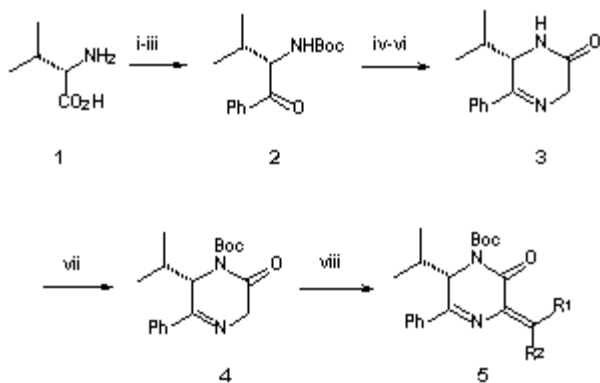
Introduction

α,β -Didehydro- α -amino acids (DDAAs) derivatives are important components of peptides and direct precursors of α -amino acids owing to the recent achievements in the asymmetric hydrogenation as well as in Michael type additions, cyclopropanation and Diels-Alder reactions [1-4]. Naturally occurring molecules such as azinomycins and phytotoxic proteins contain this atomic array in their structures, and it is well known that *N*-acyl DDAAs derivatives increase the activity of β -lactamic antibiotics. In this communication we report the preparation of a new chiral glycine equivalent with pyrazinone structure and its use for the stereoselective synthesis of chiral DDAAs derivatives [5].

Discussion

The glycine iminolactam **4** was prepared from (*S*)-valine **1** in a seven-step route in 58% overall yield. Amino acid **1** was transformed into the β -amino ketone **2** (78% yield) which, after deprotection, was acylated with glycine and cyclized to the pyrazinone **3** (85% yield). Finally, the amido group of compound **3** was protected with di-*tert*-butyldicarbonate and a catalytic amount of 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) obtaining the pyrazinone **4** (87% yield).

The reaction of pyrazinone **4** with aldehydes and acetone under solid-liquid phase-transfer catalysis, using tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (TBAB) and potassium carbonate in dry acetonitrile at room temperature, afforded DDAAs derivatives **5** in good yields. The proposed (*Z*)-configuration of **5** was assigned according to the reported C-H coupling constants between the carbonyl group and the methyne group[2b]. By other hand, the methylene derivative was generated upon reaction of **4** with Eschenmosher's salt at room temperature (Table, entry 1).



Reagents: i) Boc_2O , dioxane/water. ii) TBTU, $\text{Me}_2\text{NH}\cdot\text{HCl}$, Et_3N , MeCN. iii) PhMgBr , THF. iv) $\text{ButCOOCOCH}_2\text{NHBoc}$, THF. v) HCl , AcOEt . vi) K_2CO_3 . vii) Boc_2O , DMAP, THF. viii) $\text{R}^1\text{R}^2\text{CO}$, TBAB, K_2CO_3 , MeCN.

Table. Synthesis of DDAAS Derivatives 5.

Entry	$\text{R}^1\text{R}^2\text{CO}$	R^1	R^2	Yield(%) ^a	$[\alpha]_D^{25}$ ^b
1	— ^c	H	H	88	-118.9
2	MeCHO	H	Me	88	-101.3
3	EtCHO	H	Et	86	-179.3
4	<i>i</i> -PrCHO	H	<i>i</i> -Pr	83	-129.3
5	<i>t</i> -BuCHO	H	<i>t</i> -Bu	47	-90.8
6	PhCHO ^d	H	Ph	85	-156.8
7	Me_2CO	Me	Me	51	+59.5

^aIsolated yield based on compound 4. ^bIn CH_2Cl_2 . ^cEschenmosher salt was used. ^dA 1:1 mixture of Na_2CO_3 and K_2CO_3 was used.

The application of these chiral pyrazinones to the asymmetric synthesis of several types of amino acids are being pursued in our laboratory.

Conclusion

We have prepared a new chiral glycine equivalent (*S*)-6-isopropyl-5-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-2-pyrazinone which reacts with aldehydes under phase-transfer catalysis conditions at room temperature affording (*Z*)- α,β -didehydro- α -amino acids derivatives stereoselectively.

Experimental Part

The full experimental section of precursors will be described elsewhere. General Procedure for the Synthesis of Compounds 5 (e.g. when $\text{R}^1=\text{H}$, $\text{R}^2=\text{Et}$): A suspension of pyrazinone 4 (1mmol), K_2CO_3 (3mmol), Bu_4NBr (0.1mmol) and propionaldehyde (3mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5ml) was stirred for 20 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) affording product 5 ($\text{R}^1=\text{H}$, $\text{R}^2=\text{Et}$) in 86% yield.

TLC (Hexane/EtOAc 3:2): R_f 0.83.

IR (neat): 3061, 1772-1716, 1625 and 823.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, acetone- d_6): 0.83, 0.87 (2d, 6H), 1.11 (t, 3H), 1.54 (s, 9H), 2.13 (m, 1H), 2.60, 2.73

(2m, 2H), 5.61 (d, 1H), 6.73 (t, 1H) and 7.50-8.08 (m, 5H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, acetone-d₆): 13.35, 19.08, 19.87, 21.03, 27.96, 35.43, 59.65, 83.38, 128.12, 129.53, 131.87, 137.82, 137.84, 140.20, 161.55 and 163.92.

MS (ESI): 357 (M⁺ +1, 17%).

References and Notes

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Comments

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