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A SHORT APPROACH TO FUNCTIONALISED HOMOCHIRAL PIPERIDINONES

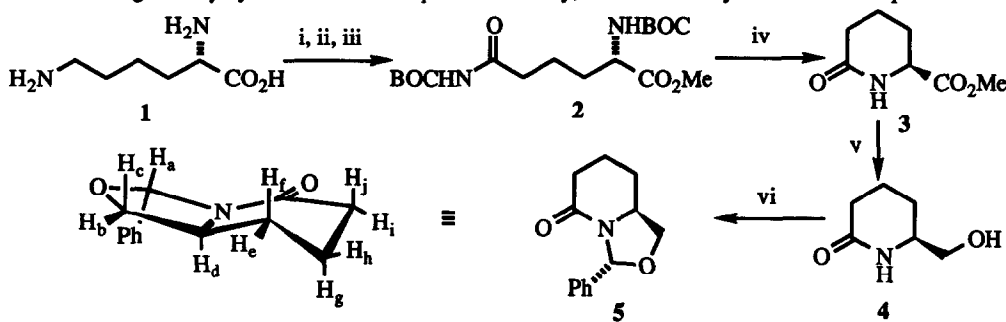
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Abstract: The preparation of homochiral lactam **4** in 5 steps from (*S*)-lysine is described. Conversion to bicyclic *O,N*-acetal **5** provides a useful template for further elaboration to highly substituted piperidinones with excellent diastereoselectivity.

Because of the widespread occurrence of the piperidine ring skeleton in naturally occurring compounds¹⁻³, and their importance in pharmacologically active compounds⁴⁻⁶, the preparation of such saturated heterocycles has attracted considerable attention⁷⁻¹⁶. However, more general methods for the preparation of substituted piperidines, which allow functionalisation at any or all positions of the heterocyclic ring with a wide variety of substituents, and in a stereocontrolled manner, are lacking¹⁷. We report here a method for the convenient preparation from *S*-lysine of homochiral methyl 6-oxopipercolate and its further conversion to more highly substituted bicyclic piperidinones *via* a chiral bicyclic template that permits diastereoselective functionalisation around the piperidine ring.

(*S*)-Lysine (e.e. 92%) **1** was readily converted¹⁸ to the protected (*S*)- α -amino adipic acid derivative **2** by esterification, *N*-protection, and oxidation of the ω -amino function with ruthenium dioxide/sodium periodate using literature procedures¹⁹ in 73% yield over the three steps (Scheme 1). The preparation of α -amino adipic acid and its derivatives has attracted considerable attention.^{20, 21} Adipamide **2** could be easily cyclised to the corresponding lactam in refluxing trifluoroacetic acid, to give methyl 6-oxopipercolate **3**. The α -ester function was reduced to the alcohol **4** with sodium borohydride (37% yield over the two steps). The optical purity of this compound, determined from the MTPA ester²² was 90%²³. This represents an efficient synthesis of protected homochiral 6-oxopipercolic acid, from a readily available and inexpensive starting material; previous syntheses have generally cyclised α -amino adipic acid directly, which is readily available but expensive.²⁴⁻²⁶

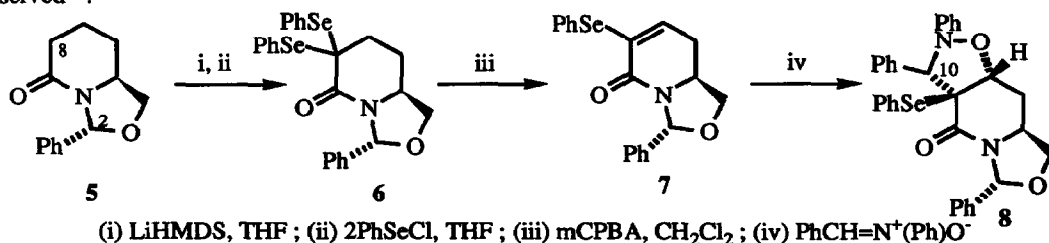


(i) (MeO)₂CMe₂, HCl, MeOH; (ii) BOC₂O, NaHCO₃, MeOH, sonicate; (iii) RuO₂, NaIO₄, EtOAc, H₂O; (iv) TFA; (v) NaBH₄, EtOH; (vi) PhCH(OMe)₂, TsOH, 80°C, 72h

Scheme 1

Treatment of lactam alcohol **4**, obtained directly from the reduction step, with benzaldehyde dimethyl acetal gave the bicyclic benzylidene *O,N* acetal **5** in 68% yield²⁷. ¹H NMR spectroscopic investigations of **5** suggest that the most stable solution conformation is as shown in Scheme 1, as evidenced by n.O.e. results, and a clear W-coupling in the 2D ¹H COSY spectrum between H_c and H_j.

Deprotonation of **5** with LiHMDS in THF, followed by phenylselenenyl chloride (2 equivalents) gave the selenoacetal **6**, which could be cleanly converted to the vinylselenide **7** in 26% over 2 steps using the standard oxidation and elimination conditions (mCPBA). No evidence for oxidation of both phenylselenenyl groups was observed. Related alkylations both in simple piperidinones²⁸⁻³⁰, and in a related homochiral bicyclic lactam³¹, have been described. Reaction of **7** with *N*, α -diphenyl nitron gave the cycloadduct **8** as a single diastereomer in 98% yield (based on recovered starting material), in which the nitron dipole had approached exclusively from the *exo*-face of the substrate with the expected regiochemistry; however, the stereochemistry at C-10 could not be established. Similar selectivity in simple lactones has been recently observed³².



Scheme 2

These results demonstrate the preparation and utility of the templates **5** and **7** for the construction of substituted piperidines, and further work in this area will be reported in due course.

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