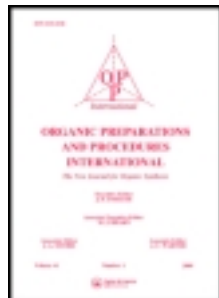


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(±)-SEDAMINE AND (±)-ALLOSEDAMINE BY REDUTION OF N-METHYL-2-PHENACYLIDENEPIPER1DINE

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**(±)-SEDAMINE AND (±)-ALLOSEDAMINE BY REDUCTION OF
N-METHYL-2-PHENACYLIDENEPERIDINE**

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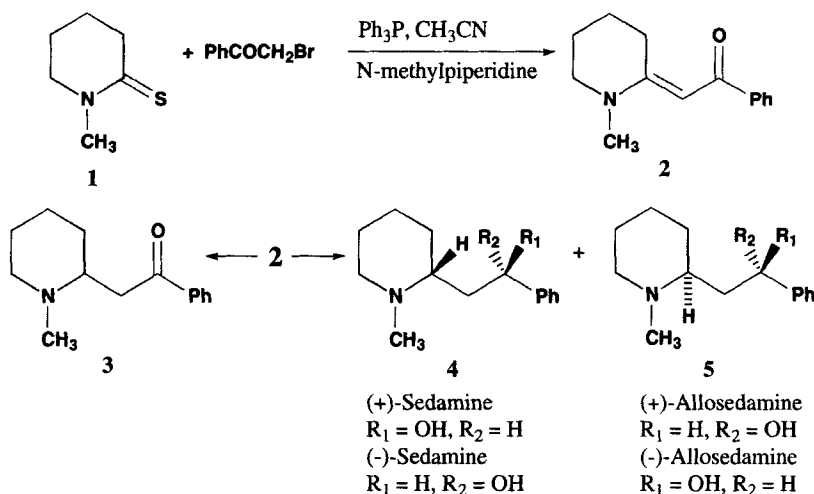
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Sedamine (**4**) is one of a series of α - and α,α' -substituted piperidine derivatives found in various *sedum* species.¹ Sedamine was the first of these alkaloids to be characterized and elucidated structurally.² Pyne and coworkers³ have used the strategy of addition of nucleophiles to chiral vinyl sulfoxides for the asymmetric synthesis of chiral molecules and natural products such as sedamine. Vaultier and coworkers⁴ have reported a stereoselective one-pot synthesis of γ -aminoalcohols and applied it in the synthesis of (±)-norsedamine and its pyrrolidino analogue. Stereoselective nucleophilic substitution of 6-methoxy-1-methoxycarbonylpipecolate also leads to an enantioselective route to (+)-sedamine.⁵ We now report a novel approach for the synthesis of (±)-sedamine (**4**) and (±)-allosedamine (**5**) by reduction of N-methyl-2-phenacylideneperidone (**2**).

Thiolactam (**1**), readily prepared in 85% yield from the corresponding lactam and P_4S_{10} , was subjected to alkylative coupling *via* sulfide condensation⁶ with phenacyl bromide to give (**2**) in 75% yield.

Reduction of **2** with LAH, $i\text{-Bu}_2\text{AlH}$ and NaCNBH_3 gave **3** while hydrogenation in acidic medium or reduction by NaBH_4 in protic solvent ($\text{EtOH-H}_2\text{O}$) gave a 1:1 mixture of (±)-sedamine (**4**) and (±)-allosedamine (**5**) easily distinguished by ^1H nmr and separated by column chromatography. On the other hand, reduction of **3** with LAH and $i\text{-Bu}_2\text{AlH}$ gave a mixture of **4** and **5** with the ratio of 70:30 and 0:100, respectively (Table 1).

**TABLE 1.** Reduction of **2** and **3** under Different Conditions.

Entry	Reducing Agent	Reducing agent to substrate	Solvent	Temp (°C)	Time (hrs)	Yield (%)	Product ^d 3	Ratio of products 4:5 ^d
1	NaBH ₃ CN ^a	1:1	MeOH-HCl	25	16	96	100	—
2	DIBAL ^a	1:1	toluene	0	12	85	100	—
3	DIBAL ^a	1:1	toluene	-64	12	85	100	—
4	LiAlH ₄ ^a	0.25:1	Et ₂ O	0	7	80	100	—
5	H ₂ (PH ₂ =50 psi) ^a 10% Pt-C, CF ₃ CO ₂ H	—	EtOAc	25	2	95	—	50:50
6	NaBH ₄ ^a	1:2	EtOH-H ₂ O	25	2	88	—	50:50
7	NaBH ₄ ^b	1:2	EtOH-H ₂ O	25	2	97	—	50:50
8	DIBAL ^b	3:1	toluene	0	12	90	—	0:100
9	LiAlH ₄ ^b		Et ₂ O	0	10	87	—	70:30

a) Reduction of **2**. b) reduction of **3**. c) isolated yield. d) determined by ¹H NMR.

The use of DIBAL as the reducing agent, might lead to a chelated type structure in which the substituent groups are arranged on the aluminum in such a way that the hydride atom attacks the carbonyl group from one side and produces allosedamine selectively. In the case of LiAlH₄, the possibility of formation a chelated structure by lithium ion is also reasonable, due to the oxophilic character of the lithium ion. But in this case, because of the size of the hydride donor (AlH₄⁻), attack at the carbonyl group from the less hindered side would be favored, to some extent, thus producing sedamine and allosedamine in the ratio of 70:30.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker-300 MHz Fourier transform NMR spectrometer and the chemical shifts are reported in from δ TMS. Solvents were dried using standard methods. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (0.063-0.2mm, Merck). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on aluminum backed silica gel plates.

N-methyl-2-piperidinethione.- N-Methyl-2-piperidone (1.13 g, 0.01 mol) was dissolved in 70 mL THF in a 250ml Morton flask equipped with vigorous mechanical stirrer. The mixture was kept in an oil bath at 32° under N₂. Then P₄S₁₀ (1.34 g, 3 mmol) was added. Three additional portions of P₄S₁₀ (0.45 g, 1 mmol each) was added at intervals of 1 hr. After the last addition of P₄S₁₀, the mixture was stirred for another 10 hrs, and then filtered through a bed of Celite (1.5 cm x 4 cm). The filter cake was washed with eight 15 mL portions of CH₂Cl₂. The THF solution was taken to dryness *in vacuo* and the residue dissolved in the combined CH₂Cl₂ washes. The CH₂Cl₂ solution was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (2x30 mL), the aqueous phase was reextracted with 50 mL CH₂Cl₂ and the combined organic phase dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation gave 1.1 g (85%, yield) of crude product as a yellowish oil. The sample was distilled by bulb-to-bulb technique to give a white crystalline solid, mp. 31-32°. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.7- 2.0 (m, 4H), 2.95 (t, 2H, 6.4Hz), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.5 (t, 2H, 6.3Hz).

Anal. Calcd. for C₆H₁₁NS: C, 58.81; H, 8.53; N, 10.85. Found: C, 58.88; H, 8.61; N, 10.81

N-Methylpiperidine-2-ylideneacetophenone.- Phenacyl bromide (1.59 g, 8 mmol) was dissolved in CH₃CN (10 mL) and N-methyl-2-piperidinethione (0.55 g, 4.26 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature under Ar overnight. After dilution with dry CH₂Cl₂ (35 mL), the solution was cooled to -20°, triphenylphosphine (1.04 g, 4.2 mmol) was added, the mixture was stirred for 45 min, and then N-methylpiperidine (1.46 mL, 12 mmol) was added by means of a syringe at a rate of 0.39 mL min⁻¹. Stirring was continued for 6 hrs, and allowing the bath temperature finally to reach 0°. The solution was then washed with 1M KH₂PO₄ (2x15 mL) and saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL). Drying, filtering, and evaporation gave the crude product which was purified by chromatography on SiO₂ eluting with *n*-hexane and then 15% EtOAc in *n*-hexane. The separated product was recrystallized from hexane-EtOAc (78:22), to give 0.6 g. (65%) of a colorless solid, mp. 68-70°. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.82 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 3.32 (m, 4H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 7.3 (m, 3H), 7.84 (m, 2H).

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₇NO: C, 78.14; H, 7.91; N, 6.51. Found: C, 78.00; H, 8.20; N, 6.27

(±)-Sedamine and (±)-Allosedamine.- To a solution of N-methylpiperidine-2-ylideneacetophenone (50 mg, 0.23 mmol) in 10 mL EtOAc was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.8 g, or 20 drops). The solution was degassed (N₂) and 10% Pt/C was added (10 mg) and the mixture hydrogenated in a Parr shaker (pH₂ = 50 psi) at room temperature for 2 hrs. The TLC of the reaction mixture showed one spot and the nmr spectrum of the residue was consistent with a mixture of approximately 50:50 of sedamine and allosedamine. (±)-Sedamine and (±)-allosedamine were separated by column chromatography on SiO₂ (MeOH as eluent) to yield after chromatography 25 mg (49%) of (±)-sedamine, mp. 87-88°, lit.⁷ 88-89° and 23 mg (45%) of (±)-allosedamine, mp. 68-69°, lit.⁷ 67-68° as colorless solids.

(±)-Allosedamine.- A dry 100 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, septum inlet and mercury bubbler is flashed with nitrogen and then maintained under a static nitrogen pressure. The flask is charged with 50 mL of dry toluene and 30 mg (0.14 mmol) of the compound **3** and then cooled to 0 with an ice-water bath. Reduction is achieved by the addition of 0.7 mL (4.9 mmol) of 1.00M diisobutyl aluminum hydride in hexane. The solution is stirred for 1 hr at 0° and 5 hrs at 25°. Then 5 mL methanol is added to destroy traces of residual hydride. The reaction flask is then placed in a water bath at 20-25°, and the reaction mixture is treated with 20 mL diethyl ether, 5 mL water. The organic layer is separated from the aqueous layer. After drying the organic layer over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, the solvents are removed on a rotary evaporator, providing 27 mg, 90% of (±)-allosedamine, mp. 68-69° as a colorless solid.

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