Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect



Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bmcl

Discovery of 3,4-dihydropyrimidin-2(1*H*)-ones with inhibitory activity against HIV-1 replication

Junwon Kim^a, Changmin Park^a, Taedong Ok^a, Wonyoung So^a, Mina Jo^a, Minjung Seo^a, Youngmi Kim^a, Jeong-Hun Sohn^a, Youngsam Park^b, Moon Kyeong Ju^b, Junghwan Kim^b, Sung-Jun Han^b, Tae-Hee Kim^c, Jonathan Cechetto^c, Jiyoun Nam^c, Peter Sommer^d, Zaesung No^{a,*}

^a Medicinal Chemistry Group, Institut Pasteur Korea (IP-K), Sampyeong-dong 696, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463-400, Republic of Korea ^b Drug Biology Group, Institut Pasteur Korea (IP-K), Sampyeong-dong 696, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463-400, Republic of Korea ^c Screening Technology Platforms Group, Institut Pasteur Korea (IP-K), Sampyeong-dong 696, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463-400, Republic of Korea ^d Cell Biology of Retroviruses Group, Institut Pasteur Korea (IP-K), Sampyeong-dong 696, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463-400, Republic of Korea

ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 25 August 2011 Revised 5 December 2011 Accepted 20 December 2011 Available online 12 January 2012

Keywords: HIV 3,4-Dihydropyrimidin-2(1*H*)-one Biginelli reaction Fractional crystallization Enantiomers

ABSTRACT

3,4-Dihydropyrimidin-2(1H)-ones (DHPMs) were selected and derivatized through a HIV-1 replication assay based on GFP reporter cells. Compounds **14**, **25**, **31**, and **36** exhibited significant inhibition of HIV-1 replication with a good safety profile. Chiral separation of each enantiomer by fractional crystallization showed that only the *S* enantiomer retained anti-HIV activity. Compound (*S*)-**40**, a novel and potent DHPM analog, could serve as an advanced lead for further development and the determination of the mechanism of action.

© 2012 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

In 2009 more than 33 million people were infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the causative agent of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), which currently accounts for the highest number of deaths by any single infectious agent.¹ There are currently 25 drugs belonging to 6 different inhibitor classes approved for the treatment of HIV infection, including nucleoside or non-nucleosides reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs/NNRTIs), protease inhibitors (PIs), integrase inhibitors, entry and fusion inhibitors.² The introduction of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART)-a regimen combining 3-4 antiretrovirals from different inhibitor classes-has considerably improved the life quality of infected people by delaying the progression of the disease and reducing disabilities, making HIV/AIDS a chronic disease, not a death sentence. However, there are serious drawbacks of HAART due to the tendency of HIV-1 to rapidly mutate. Prolonged HAART treatment leads to the emergence of drug-resistant strains of the virus.³ Also, the side effects of combination therapy have limited their clinical effectiveness.⁴ Therefore, the continued development of novel anti-HIV drugs with acceptable toxicity and resistance profiles is clearly needed.

In a high-throughput screening campaign for the discovery of novel antiretrovirals employing a HIV full replication assay based on reporter cells harboring an EGFP expression cassette under the control of the HIV promoter, we identified a series of compounds containing a dihydropyrimidinone scaffold (Fig 1) that exhibited inhibitory activities against HIV replication at low micromolar concentrations. Dihydropyrimidinone derivatives have been reported to exhibit diverse biological activities, such as, anti-bacterial,⁵ anti-fungal,⁶ anti-cancer,⁷ and anti-oxidant activities,⁸ whereas an anti-HIV activity has not been previously documented.⁹ Here, we report the preliminary SAR of dihydropyrimidinones as novel inhibitors of HIV-1 replication and a scale-up procedure for the preparation of enantiomerically pure forms using a fractional crystallization method.



Figure 1. Hit compounds from cell-based HIV-1 replication assay.

^{*} Corresponding author. Tel.: +82 31 8018 8160; fax: +82 31 8018 8015. *E-mail address:* noxide@ip-korea.org (Z. No).

⁰⁹⁶⁰⁻⁸⁹⁴X/\$ - see front matter \odot 2012 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved. doi:10.1016/j.bmcl.2011.12.090



Scheme 1. Synthesis of dihydropyrimidinones 4–37. Reagents and conditions: (a) cat. I₂, R¹OH, toluene, reflux 12 h; (b) NaOH, H₂O, 25 °C, 12 h; then EDC, DMAP, R¹OH, CH₂Cl₂, 25 °C, overnight; (c) cat. Yb(OTf)₃, THF, reflux, overnight; (d) NaOH, MeOH/H₂O, 25 °C, 48 h; (e) EDC, HOBt, cyclohexylmethylamine, DMF, 25 °C, 4 h.

A simple and direct method for the synthesis of dihydropyrimidinones (DHPMs), first reported by Biginelli in 1893,¹⁰ involves a reaction in which three reactants come together in a one-pot to form a new product that contains all the components. The classical Biginelli reaction is a one-pot condensation reaction of an aryl aldehyde, β -keto ester, and urea or thiourea with catalytic acid in a protic solvent, which often suffer from low yields especially in the case of substituted aromatic and aliphatic aldehydes.¹¹ Since then numerous improved synthetic methods have been reported.¹² To explore the SAR of DHPMs, we prepared a series of dihydropyrimidone derivatives using Yb(OTf)₃ as a catalyst under refluxing condition in THF (Scheme 1).¹³ Various β -keto esters **1** were



Scheme 2. Synthesis of dihydropyrimidinones 10–12. Reagents and conditions: (a) cat. BF₃·OEt₂, CuCl, AcOH, THF, reflux, 12 h; (b) HCl, H₂O, reflux, overnight; (c) 1a, 3-methoxybenzaldehyde, cat. BF₃·OEt₂, CuCl, AcOH, THF, 65 °C, 12 h; (d), NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF), THF, -78 °C, then (CH₃O)₂SO₂, -78 °C to 25 °C, 2 h; (e) BBr₃ (1.0 M in CH₂Cl₂), CH₂Cl₂, -78 °C, 1 h to 25 °C, 10 min; (f) CAN, NaHCO₃, acetone/H₂O, 0–25 °C, overnight.



Scheme 3. Synthesis of dihydropyrimidinones 26–35. Reagents and conditions: (a) 10% Pd/C, H₂ (1 atm), MeOH, 25 °C, 2 h; (b) MeI, DIPEA, CH₂Cl₂/DMF (1:1), 25 °C, overnight; (c) EDC·HCl, DMAP, Ac₂O, THF, 25 °C, 12 h (d) 10% Pd/C, H₂ (1 atm), MeOH, 25 °C, 2 h.

synthesized by the methods known in the literatures.¹⁴ Hydrolysis of the ester **5** in sodium hydroxide gave the corresponding carboxylic acid **4**, which was converted into amide analog **9** using EDC

coupling reaction. In order to synthesize N-methyl substituted analogs (**10, 11**), substituted ureas (**3a, 3b**) were used in $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ catalyzed Biginelli reaction (Scheme 2). For compound **11**,

 Table 1

 Cell-based antiviral activity of 4–37 against HIV-1

compound	Z	R ¹	R ²	R ³	\mathbb{R}^4	R ⁵	$EC_{50}^{a}(\mu M)$	CC_{50}^{b} (μM)
4	0	Н	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
5	0	Et	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	ND ^d
6	0	Bn	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
7	0	c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
8	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	0.529	>10
9	0	NHCH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	ND
10	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Me	Н	>10	>10
11	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Me	>10	>10
12	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
13	S	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
14	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	3-0H	Н	Н	0.087	>10
15	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Pr	3-0H	Н	Н	0.286	>10
16	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	<i>i</i> -Pr	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	ND
17	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Cyclopropyl	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
18	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	-CH ₂ Cl	3-0H	Н	Н	0.359	>3
19	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	-C≡CH	3-0H	Н	Н	2.20	>1
20	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Ph	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
21	S	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	3-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
22	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	2-0H	Н	Н	>10	>10
23	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	3-OMe	Н	Н	1.27	>10
24	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Me	4-0H	Н	Н	0.431	>10
25	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-0H	Н	Н	0.031	>10
26	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	3-N02	Н	Н	0.335	>10
27	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	3-NH2	Н	Н	0.159	>10
28	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-NO2	Н	Н	0.141	>10
29	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-NH2	Н	Н	0.151	>10
30	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-NHMe	Н	Н	0.108	>10
31	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-NHAc	Н	Н	0.063	>10
32	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-NMe2	Н	Н	0.177	>10
33	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-CN	Н	Н	0.061	>10
34	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-C02Me	Н	Н	0.122	>10
35	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-C02H	Н	Н	>10	>10
36	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-F	Н	Н	0.024	>10
37	0	CH ₂ -c-Hex	Et	4-CI	Н	Н	0.088	>10
NVP ^c							0.150	>10

^a EC₅₀ is the concentration of compound that inhibits HIV-1 replication by 50%. For compound **4–37**, *n* = 2 and the values are the geometric mean of two determinations; all individual values are within 25% of the mean.

^b CC₅₀ is the cytotoxic concentration of compound that reduces viability of uninfected cells by 50%.

^c Nevirapine (NVP) was used as a positive control.

^d Not determined.

Table 2
Cell-based antiviral activity of separated enantiomers against HIV-1

Compound	R ²	Stereochemistry	EC_{50}^{a} (µM)	$CC_{50}^{b}(\mu M)$
8	Me	Racemic	0.529	>10
(S)-38		(S)-	0.233	>10
(R)-39		(R)-	>10	>10
14	Et	Racemic	0.087	>10
(S)-40		(S)-	0.038	>10
(<i>R</i>)-41		(<i>R</i>)-	>10	>10

^a EC_{50} is the concentration of compound that inhibits HIV-1 replication by 50%. For compound, *n* = 2 and the values are the geometric mean of two determinations; all individual values are within 25% of the mean.

 $^{\rm b}$ CC_{50} is the cytotoxic concentration of compound that reduces viability of uninfected cells by 50%.

2,4-dimethoxybenzyl protected urea was prepared in acidic condition and subjected into following cyclization reaction. Treatment of Biginelli adduct **11a** with NaHMDS and trapping with dimethyl sulfate afforded *N*-methylated compound **11b**. Subsequent deprotection of methoxy and DMB group with BBr₃ gave the desired analog **11**. To evaluate the effect of chiral center in DHPM analogs, compound **12** was synthesized via CAN-mediated oxidation from compound **8**. For the synthesis of amine analogs (**27–31**), nitro group was reduced to the corresponding amine, which was subjected to alkylation and acylation to give compound **30** and **31**, respectively. Carboxylic acid analog **35** was synthesized from ester analog **35a** by reductive removal of the benzyl group in the presence of 10% Pd/C under H₂ (Scheme 3).

Synthesized compounds **4**–**37** were evaluated for their inhibitory activity against HIV-1 replication in CEM cells and Nevirapine was used as a positive control.¹⁵ Assay results of compound **4**–**37** are summarized in Table 1. It was apparent that the anti-HIV activities of the DHPMs are sensitive to structural perturbations. Compounds **4**–**8** have the common DHPM core but with varying R¹ groups. Results showed that a hydrophobic alicyclic R¹ is preferred and **8** exhibited EC₅₀ of 0.529 μ M. Typical alkyl ester (**5**), benzyl ester (**6**) or polar carboxylic acid (**4**) itself resulted in the loss of cellular activities. Also the distance of alicyclic group R¹ from the carbonyl group of carboxyl ester is a critical factor and analog 7 without methylene group showed reduced potency. Replacement of ester moiety with amide **9** did not show any inhibitory activity. Methyl substitutions on nitrogen (10, 11) resulted in complete loss of activity. Oxygen atom at position 2 in dihydropyrimidinones was a mandatory requirement for activity as was shown in compounds (8, 14) compared with sulfur analogs (13, 21), respectively. The spatial arrangement of phenyl group at C-4 of DHPMs plays a pivotal role and an oxidized, achiral analog 12 was inactive up to 10 μ M. We next investigated the effect of R² moiety in DHPM analogs 14–20 and their results displayed clear SAR. Increasing the size of R^2 from methyl, ethyl, and propyl showed cellular activities from 529, 87, and 286 nM, respectively. Other analogs similar to two carbon unit (iso-Pr 16, cyclopropyl 17, chloromethyl 18 and ethynyl **19**) and phenyl analog **20** exhibited reduced or complete loss of activities. From these results, it is clear that the R² position is sensitive to steric and electronic nature of substituents. The optimal substitution at this position is an ethyl group (14, $EC_{50} = 87$ nM). The same effect was also shown again by 13-fold activity difference between **24** and **25**. After examining the R¹ and R² regions, we evaluated the substituent effect on phenyl ring with compounds 22-37. Both *para*-OH analog **8** and *meta*-OH analog **24** showed comparable activities of 529 and 431 nM, respectively. However, ortho-OH analog 22 suffered the loss of antiviral activity. Methoxy analog 23 was twofold less active than hydroxyl analog 8. Generally, amino analogs (27, 29) displayed slightly reduced potency compared to corresponding hydroxyl analogs (14, 25). Mono-substituted amine analogs (NH-Me 30, NH-acetyl 31) exhibited slightly improved activity than corresponding di-substituted amine analog 32. Analogs with electron-withdrawing group at *para*-position on phenyl ring (4-NO₂ 28, 4-CN 33, 4-CO₂Me 34, 4-F 36, 4-Cl 37) maintained significant inhibitory activities except carboxylic acid analog 35, which was presumably due to its low cell membrane permeability in our cell-based assav system.

The resolution of **8** and **14** into their enantiomers was performed to evaluate the impact of stereochemistry at C-4.¹⁶ The



Scheme 4. Synthetic route of enantiomer (*S*)-**40** using fractional crystallization method. Reagents and conditions: (a) cat. Yb(OTf)₃, THF, reflux, 24 h, 77%; (b) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, 25 °C, overnight, 100%; (c) Pd/C, H₂ (3 bars), MeOH/Et₃N, 25 °C, 3 h; then 1 N HCl, H₂O, 91%; (d) fractional crystallization with chiral amines; (e) 1 N HCl, H₂O; (f) EDC, DMAP, cyclohexylmethanol, 50 °C, overnight; (g) TBAF, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C, 30 min, 86% over 2 steps.



Scheme 5. Conditions for fractional crystallization of a racemic mixture (44).

absolute stereochemistry of separated enantiomers was confirmed by circular dichroism (CD) spectroscopy.¹⁷ Interestingly, test results against HIV-1 revealed that only (*S*)-enantiomers (**38, 40**) exhibited antiviral activity, whereas (*R*)-enantiomers (**39, 41**) were completely inactive up to 10 μ M (Table 2).

Encouraged by these results, we developed a new synthetic route to access enantiomers for further evaluation and optimization. The most potent enantiomer (S)-40 could be scaled up using a fractional crystallization method as outlined in Scheme 4. Compound 42 is readily accessible via Biginelli reaction and the resulting hydroxyl group was protected with TBSCl. Subsequent conversion of **43** to carboxylic acid **44** was achieved by reductive removal of the benzyl group in the presence of 10% Pd/C under H_2 (3 bars). Racemic carboxylic acid **44** was then co-crystallized with various chiral amines. Enantiomeric excess was determined after the conversion of resolved carboxylic acid into esters via EDC coupling and subsequent deprotection of TBS group. After examining the various chiral amines, we found that cinchonine/ cinchonidine series could separate each enantiomer selectively with 98% ee for (*S*)-**40** and 94% ee for (*R*)-**41** (Scheme 5).¹⁸ This combination could be applied to other dihydropyrimidinone compounds.

In summary, a series of dihydropyrimidinone analogs (**4–37**) was synthesized and evaluated as HIV-1 replication inhibitors in vitro. Among the derivatives, compounds **14**, **25**, **31**, and **36** exhibited significant inhibitory activity against HIV-1 in a cell-based assay. Chiral separation of the enantiomers showed that the *S* configuration on the C-4 in dihydropyrimidinone ring is a crucial factor for antiviral activity. Each enantiomer could be scaled up and separated selectively via fractional crystallization. Mode of action and further optimization of this lead compound will be reported in due course.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the National Research foundation of Korea (NRF) grant funded by the Korea government (MEST) (No. 2011-00244), Gyeonggi-do and KISTI. We would like to thank Dr. Michel Liuzzi for his helpful comments in preparing this manuscript.

References and notes

- 1. Xu, H.; Lv, M. Curr. Pharm. Des. 2009, 15, 2120.
- 2. Mehellou, Y.; De Clercq, E. J. Med. Chem. 2010, 53, 521. and references therein.
- (a) Brenner, B.; Wainberg, M. A.; Salomon, H.; Rouleau, D.; Dascal, A.; Spira, B.; Sekaly, R. P.; Conway, B.; Routy, J. P. Int. J. Antimicrob. Agents 2000, 16, 429; (b) Si-Mohamed, A.; Kazatchkine, M.; Heard, I.; Goujon, C.; Prazuck, T.; Aymard, G.; Cessot, G.; Kuo, Y. H.; Bernard, M. C.; Diquet, B.; Malkin, J. E.; Gutmann, L.; Belec, L. J. Infect. Dis. 2000, 182, 112; (c) Kiertiburanakul, S.; Sungkanuparph, S. Curr. HIV Res. 2009, 7, 273; (d) Wensing, A. M. J.; van de Vijver, D. A.; Angarano, G. J. Infect. Dis. 2005, 192, 1501.
- 4. (a) Luque, F.; Oya, R.; Macias, D.; Saniger, L. *Cell. Mol. Biol.* **2005**, *51*, 93; (b) von Laer, D.; Hasselmann, S.; Hasselmann, K. J. Gene Med. **2006**, *8*, 658.
- 5. Shinde, D. B.; Nagawade, R. R. J. Heterocycl. Chem. 2010, 47, 33.
- 6. Pandiarajan, K.; Chitra, S.; Devanathan, D. Eur. J. Med. Chem. 2010, 45, 367.
- (a) Mayer, T. U.; Kapoor, T. M.; Haggarty, S. J.; King, R. W.; Schreiber, S. L.; Mitchison, T. J. *Science* **1999**, *286*, 971; (b) Haggarty, S. J.; Mayer, T. U.; Miyamoto, D. T.; Fathi, R.; King, R. W.; Mitchison, T. J.; Schreiber, S. L. *Chem. Biol.* **2000**, *7*, 275; (c) Russowsky, D.; Canto, R. F. S.; Sanches, S. A. A.; D'Oca, M. G. M.; de Fatima, A.; Pilli, R. A.; Kohn, L. K.; Antonio, M. A.; de Carvalho, J. E. *Bioorg. Chem.* **2006**, *3*, 173.
- Stefani, H. A.; Oliveira, C. B.; Almeida, R. B.; Pereira, C. M. P.; Braga, R. C.; Cella, R.; Borges, V. C.; Savegnago, L.; Nogueira, C. W. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2006**, *41*, 513.
- 9. One patent covering related dihydropyrimidinone compounds with anti-HIV activity was disclosed during our studies: Andrews, C. W.; Cao, P.; Freeman, G. A.; Qu, J. 2009, WO 2009020457.
- 10. Biginelli, P. Gazz. Chim. Ital. 1893, 23, 360.
- (a) Folkers, K.; Harwood, H. J.; Johnson, T. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1932, 54, 3751; For a review of the Biginelli reaction, see: (b) Kappe, C. O. Tetrahedron 1993, 49, 6937.
- (a) Sartori, G.; Bigi, F.; Carloni, S.; Frullanti, B.; Maggi, R. Tetrahedron Lett. **1999**, 40, 3465; (b) Lu, J.; Bai, Y. J.; Wang, Z. J.; Yang, B. Q.; Ma, H. R. Tetrahedron Lett. **2000**, 41, 9075; (c) Hu, E. H.; Sidler, D. R.; Dolling, U. H. J. Org. Chem. **1998**, 63, 3454; (d) Kappe, C. O.; Falsone, S. F. Synlett **1998**, 718; (e) Kappe, C. O.; Kumar, D.; Varma, R. S. Synthesis **1999**, 1799; (f) Ranu, B. C.; Hajra, A.; Jana, U. J. Org. Chem. **2000**, 65, 6270.
- 13. A mixture of Yb(OTf)₃ (0.05 mmol, 0.1 equiv), β -ketoester (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), aryl aldehyde (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and urea (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (2 mL) was refluxed 20–30 h under Ar. After adding H₂O (5 mL), the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, *n*-Hexanes/EtOAc/AcOH, 50:50:0.5) to afford the desired dihydropyrimidinone compound.
- (a) Mori, K.; Kisida, H. *Tetrahedron* **1986**, *42*, 5281; (b) Chavan, S. P.; Kale, R. R.; Shivasankar, K.; Chandake, S. I.; Benjamin, S. B. *Synthesis* **2003**, 2695; (c) Szemes, F.; Marchalin, T.; Pronayova, N.; Daich, A. *Heterocycles* **2003**, 59, 779.

- 15. HIV full replication assay. CEMx174-LTR-GFP cells (clone CG8) were seeded with a microplate dispenser (WellMate; Thermo Scientific Matrix; U.S.A.) at a density of 4000 cells/well into 384-well glass plates (Evotec. Hamburg, Germany) pre-dispensed with 10 µL of compound diluted in DMSO and incubated for 1 h at 37 °C, 5% CO₂. Then cells were infected with HIV-1_{LAI} at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 3 and incubated for 5 days at 37 °C, 5% CO₂. Fluorescence intensities were the determined using a multilabel plate reader (Victor3; PerkinElmer, Inc.; U.S.A.). And see Sommer, P.; Vartanian, J. P.; Wachsmuth, M.; Henry, M.; Guetard, D.; Wain-Hobson, S. J. Mol. Biol. 2004, 344, 11.
- 16. Enantiomerically pure forms were obtained by chiral HPLC (Daicel Chiralcel AD column).
- (a) Kontrec, D.; Vinkovic, V.; Sunjic, V.; Schuiki, B.; Fabian, W. M.; Kappe, C. O. *Chirality* **2003**, *15*, 550; (b) Uray, G.; Verdino, P.; Belaj, F.; Kappe, C. O.; Fabian, W. M. J. Org. Chem. **2001**, *66*, 6685; (c) Krenn, W.; Verdino, P.; Uray, G.; Faber, K.; Kappe, C. O. Chirality **1999**, *11*, 659.
- 18. The β -keto ester (1.0 g, 4.84 mmol), 3-hydroxybenzaldehyde (590 mg, 4.84 mmol), urea (290 mg, 4.84 mmol), and Yb(OTf)₃ (30 mg, 0.484 mmol) were dissolved in THF (9.6 mL) and stirred under Argon for 24 h at 90. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (4 \times 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na2SO4. After filtration and concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified via flash column chromatography (SiO₂, n-Hexanes/EtOAc/AcOH = 5:1:0.5) to give Biginelli adduct 42 (1.31 g, 77%) as a pale yellow solid. To a solution of Biginelli adduct 42 (1.30 g, 3.69 mmol) in DMF (19 mL) was added TBSCI (834 mg, 5.53 mmol) and imidazole (377 mg, 5.53 mmol) at 25 °C. After stirring for overnight at 25 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of H₂O (30 mL), extracted with EtOAc (3 \times 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified via flash column chromatography (SiO2, n-Hexanes/Et₂O = 5:1 \rightarrow n-Hexanes/EtOAc = 2:1 to 1:1 \rightarrow CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 20:1) to give a TBS protected product **43** with a quantitative yield as a white solid: ¹H ŇMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.14–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.01–6.98 (m, 3H), 6.70 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (bs, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (bs, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H),4.91 (s, 2H), 2.67–2.57 (m, 2H), 1.09–1.05 (m, 3H), 0.81 (s, 9H), 0.00 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.9, 156.1, 153.2, 152.5, 144.9, 136.0, 129.8, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 119.7, 119., 118.1, 99.9, 65.9, 55.4, 25.7, 25.3, 18.2, 12.5, -4.4; TLC $R_{\rm f}$ (CH₂Cl₂-MeOH 10:1) = 0.51. To a solution of TBS protected product 43 (721 mg, 1.545 mmol) in MeOH (16 mL) was added 10% Pd on carbon (72 mg) and Et₃N (215 µL, 1.545 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was hydrogenated with H₂ gas (3 bars) for 3 h at 25 °C. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was resuspended in water (20 mL) and acidified with 1 N HCl (~3 mL, pH <2). The resulting suspension was sonicated for 10 min and then filtered and washed with H_2O . After freeze drying in vacuo, the resulting acid 44 (white solid, 529 mg, 91%) was used in the following step without further purification. To a suspension of

acid 44 (1.00 g, 2.655 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was added cinchonine (782 mg, 2.655 mmol) at 76 °C. The resulting suspension was treated with the slow addition of MeOH (10 mL) at 76 °C. The resulting clear solution was slowly cooled to room temperature followed by overnight storage at -20 °C. The next day, the salt was filtered and rinsed with EtOH to give an acid/cinchonine salt (614 mg, 69%) as a white solid. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was re-subjected to fractional crystallization in MeOH (10 mL) to give an additional acid/cinchonine salt (125 mg, 14%). The salt above (80 mg) was resuspended in water (4 mL) and acidified with 1 N HCl (500 µL, pH <2). The resulting suspension was sonicated for 10 min and then centrifuged to remove the upper layer. After repeating the same procedure one more time, the resulting solid was washed with $H_2O\left(3\times 4\,mL\right)$ and freeze dried to give a saltfree acid **46** (43 mg, 97%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.90 (s, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.50–2.47 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.77 (s, 9H), 0.00 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 167.5, 155.8, 153.4, 147.1, 130.1, 120.1, 119.2, 118.1, 54.2, 26.2, 24.6, 18.6, 13.8, -3.8; TLC $R_f(CH_2Cl_2-MeOH 10:1) = 0.31$. To a solution of acid **46** (20 mg, 0.053 mmol) and alcohol (18 mg, 0.159 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) was added EDC (31 mg, 0.159 mmol) and DMAP (32 mg, 0.266 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was heated at 50 °C overnight under Argon. The reaction was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O $(2 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ and brine (5 mL) successively, and then dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified via preparative TLC (SiO₂, 0.5 mm, CH₂Cl₂-MeOH = 10:1) to give an ester **47** with a quantitative yield as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) & 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75–6.72 (m, 1H), 6.71 (dd, J = 6.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 5.31 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.85–3.76 (m, 2H), 2.81–2.68 (m, 2H), 1.65–0.78 (m, 11H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.14 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.9, 148.7, 145.8, 144.5, 137.6, 122.4, 112.3, 112.0, 110.7, 92.9, 62.0, 48.1, 29.8, 22.3, 18.9, 18.5, 18.3, 17.9, 10.8, 5.1; TLC R_f (CH₂Cl₂-MeOH 10:1) = 0.47. To a 0 °C solution of the above ester 47 (0.053 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was added dropwise TBAF (1 M in THF, 64 µL, 0.064 mmol). After 10 min at 0 °C, the reaction was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (2 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified via preparative TLC (SiO₂, 0.5 mm, CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH = 10:1) to give a desilvlated product (S)-40 (17 mg, 86% over 2 steps) as a white solid. The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 98% ee by chiral HPLC (Daicel Chiralcel AD column, 0.85 mL/min, n-Hexanes/i-PrOH = 75:25): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.36 (s, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.66–6.61 (m, 3H), 5.04 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, I = 10.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (dd, I = 10.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.68 (m, 1H), 2.66-2.57 (m, 1H), 1.61–1.41 (m, 6H), 1.40–1.00 (m, 6H), 0.87–0.75 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) & 165.7, 158.1, 154.7, 152.9, 146.7, 129.9, 117.6, 114.8, 113.8, 98.8, 68.8, 54.6, 37.4, 29.72, 29.65, 26.4, 24.7, 13.7.