

**SYNTHESIS AND NOE AND 2D-NOESY SPECTROSCOPIC STUDIES  
OF TWO *N*-PROPIONYL DERIVATIVES OF TERPENE-DERIVED  
CHIRAL AUXILIARIES**

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تحضير مشتقين *N*-برويوناييل من المركبات الكيرالية المساعدة المشتقة من التربينات (أحدهما مشتق من (-)-3-بينانول، والآخر مشتق من أيزومنتول) تم إنجازها بواسطة استعمال بيوتاييل ليثيوم عادي كقاعدة و برويوناييل كلورايد ككاشف للأسيلة. من أجل زيادة محصلة الناتج لكل من مشتقي *N*-برويوناييل خاصة المشتق من أيزومنتول، تم استخدام كاشف أسيلة آخر لهذا الغرض. استخدام كاشف الأسيلة (الرخيص والمتوفر تجارياً) برويونيك أهدريد أعطى تقريباً نفس المحصلة لمشتق *N*-برويوناييل المشتق من (-)-3-بينانول، لكن لسوء الحظ هذه الطريقة لم ترفع المحصلة لمشتق *N*-برويوناييل المشتق من أيزومنتول كثيراً على الرغم من ارتفاعها قليلاً. المحاولات للتمييز بين بروتوني البروكيرال ميثيلين في مجموعة *N*-برويوناييل وجميع البروتونات ومجموعات الميثائل الدياستيريوميرية الأخرى في مشتقي *N*-برويوناييل للمركبات الكيرالية المساعدة قد تم أداؤها باستخدام أطياف nOe المطروحة لرنين البروتون النووي المغناطيسي وكذلك باستخدام دراسات 2D-NOESY الطيفية.

The synthesis of two *N*-propionyl derivatives of terpene-derived chiral auxiliaries (one is derived from (-)-3-pinanol, and the other from isomenthol) has been achieved *via* the use of *n*-butyllithium as a base and propionyl chloride as an acylation reagent. In order to increase the yield of both *N*-propionyl derivatives, particularly *N*-propionyl derivative of chiral auxiliary derived from isomenthol, the alternative acylation reagent was employed for this purpose. Using, cheap and readily available acylation reagent, propionic anhydride gave almost the same yield of *N*-propionyl derivative of chiral auxiliary derived from (-)-3-pinanol, but unfortunately, this procedure did not increase the yield of the *N*-propionyl derivative of chiral auxiliary derived from isomenthol much, although it was slightly better. Attempts to distinguish between the prochiral methylene protons in the *N*-propionyl group, and all other diastereotopic protons and methyl groups in these two *N*-propionyl derivatives of chiral auxiliaries were carried out by using <sup>1</sup>H NMR nOe difference spectra and 2D-NOESY spectroscopic studies.

## INTRODUCTION

The synthetic route chosen for the synthesis of the chiral oxazolidinone auxiliaries used as starting materials, cheap readily available chiral alcohol and involved a stereospecific intramolecular nitrene insertion process [1]. This nitrene insertion route to chiral oxazolidinones has been used previously by Paryzek [2] and Alewood [3] in the field of steroid chemistry. The chiral substrates selected for investigation were terpene alcohols which are available from the chiral pool. The first one to be investigated was (-)-3-pinanol

**1** which was chosen and used by Cadogan *et al* [4,5] as the starting material for the synthesis of the chiral oxazolidinone auxiliary **4** (Scheme 1). Azidoformate **3** was synthesized from **1** according to the sequence shown in Scheme 1. This azidoformate **3**, which was an oil, was thermally decomposed using flash vacuum pyrolysis (300°C, 0.02mmHg). This produced a mixture consisting of the oxazolidinones **4** and **5** in the ratio of 3:1 respectively. The major product **4** was easily isolated by flash column chromatography in a yield of 65% [4,5].

## EXPERIMENTAL

**Preparation of (2*R*,6*S*)-3-aza-2,9,9-trimethyl-5-oxatricyclo[6.1.1.0<sup>2,6</sup>]decan-4-one (4) and (1*S*,4*R*,6*S*)-9-aza-1-isopropyl-4-methyl-7-oxabicyclo[4.3.0]nonane-8-one (9).**

Literature methods were used to prepare (2*R*,6*S*)-3-aza-2,9,9-trimethyl-5-oxatricyclo[6.1.1.0<sup>2,6</sup>]decan-4-one (4) [4,5] and (1*S*,4*R*,6*S*)-9-aza-1-isopropyl-4-methyl-7-oxabicyclo[4.3.0]nonane-8-one (9) [4,5].

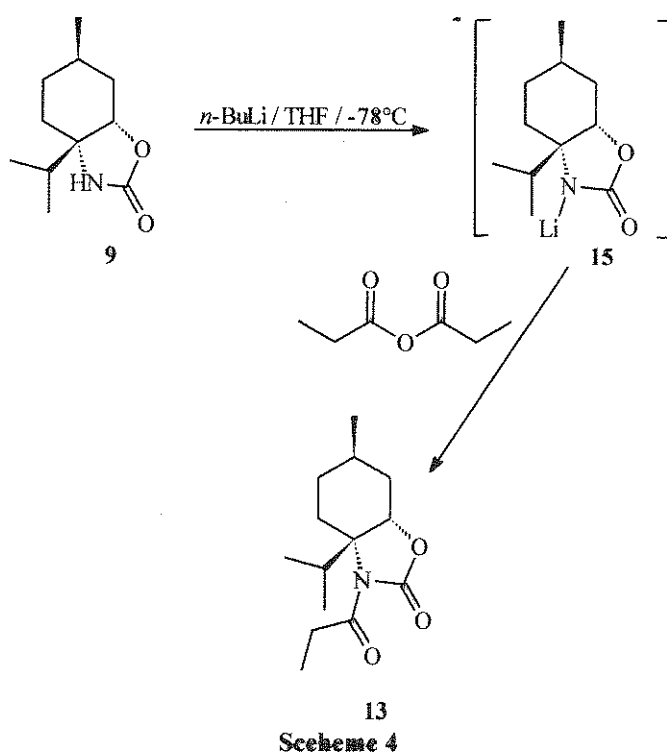
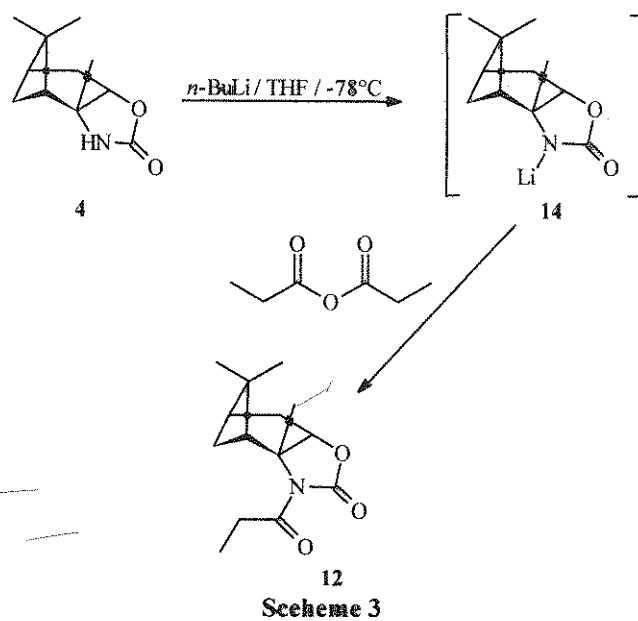
**Preparation of (2*R*,6*S*)-*N*-propionyl-3-aza-2,9,9-trimethyl-5-oxatricyclo[6.1.1.0<sup>2,6</sup>]decan-4-one (12).**

To a solution of *auxiliary* 4 (0.50 g, 2.56 mmol) in dry THF (20ml), at -78 °C under argon, was added *n*-butyllithium (1.76ml of 1.6M solution, 2.82 mmol, 1.1 eq) *via* syringe. After stirring for 30 minutes a solution of freshly distilled propionic anhydride (0.521g, 4.00mmol, 1.56 eq) in THF (5ml) was added dropwise *via* syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 5 minutes before being allowed to warm to room temperature and then stirred at this temperature for 30 minutes. TLC analysis revealed that the reaction was complete and quenching was effected with sodium carbonate solution. After stirring for 10 minutes at room temperature, the layers were separated and the aqueous layer extracted with dichloromethane (3x20ml). The combined organic extracts were washed successively with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution, dried over (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated to yield a pale yellow oil which was purified by flash chromatography (50g silica) using *n*-hexane:ether (4:1) as elution solvent to give (12) as a colourless solid which was recrystallised from hexane to give

the pure compound as a colourless crystals (0.527g, 82%); mp 101-102°C (from hexane); FTIR (nujol)  $\nu_{\max}$  1770(oxazolidinone C=O), 1700(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.45 (1H, dd, *J*=8.9, 2.6 Hz, CH<sub>N</sub>O), 2.95 (1H, dq, *J*=17.9, 7.23 Hz, CH<sub>M</sub>H<sub>K</sub>C=O), 2.90 (1H, dq, *J*=17.9, 7.23 Hz, CH<sub>M</sub>H<sub>K</sub>C=O), 2.92 (1H, dd, *J*=4.7 Hz, H<sub>I</sub>), 2.52-2.40 (1H, m, CH<sub>J</sub>), 2.33-2.23 (1H, m, H<sub>H</sub>), 2.01-1.99 (1H, m, CH<sub>G</sub>), 1.98-1.92 (1H, m, H<sub>F</sub>), 1.66 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>(E)), 1.31 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>(D)), 1.11 (3H, t, *J*=7.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(C)CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.02 (1H, d, *J*=11.2 Hz, H<sub>B</sub>), 0.93 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>(A)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.2 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.69 (C=O), 153.90 (C=O), 76.46(CHO), 67.56(quatC), 46.16(CH<sub>L</sub>), 38.84 (CH<sub>G</sub>), 37.97(quatC), 34.79(CH<sub>J</sub>H<sub>F</sub>), 30.61 (CH<sub>M</sub>H<sub>K</sub>), 27.35(CH<sub>H</sub>H<sub>B</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>(D)), 25.58 (CH<sub>3</sub>(E)), 24.26(CH<sub>3</sub>(A)), 8.43(CH<sub>3</sub>(C)) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 32(63%), 41(34), 57(base), 109(38), 251(71, M<sup>+</sup>); Accurate mass (EI); Found: 251.15213 (85%); C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) requires 251.15213.

**Preparation of (1*S*,4*R*,6*S*)-*N*-propionyl-9-aza-1-isopropyl-4-methyl-7-oxabicyclo[4.3.0] nonane-8-one 13.**

A similar procedure to that for the preparation of 12 was adopted for the *N*-propionyl derivative of *auxiliary* 9 although the combined organic extracts were washed with water (20ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated to yield a slightly pale yellow viscous oil. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography (50g silica) using hexane:ether (1:1) elution to give 13 as clear oil which crystallized on standing (0.322g, 50%); mp 51.9-53.2 °C; FTIR (nujol)  $\nu_{\max}$  1762(oxazolidinone C=O), 1712(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.44 (1H, t, *J*=2.8 Hz, CH<sub>O</sub>O), 2.98 (1H, dq, *J*=17.7, 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>P</sub>H<sub>N</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.92 (1H, dq, *J*=17.7, 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>P</sub>H<sub>N</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.72 (1H, septet, *J*=6.9 Hz, CH<sub>M</sub>),

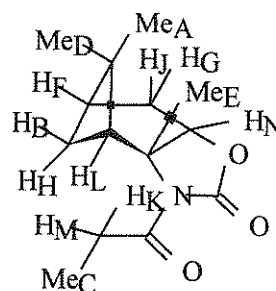


13.6% and 8.3 % enhancement of signal, respectively, due to  $H_K$ , but did not cause enhancement of signal for  $H_M$ . All of these results prove that discrimination between the diastereotopic protons  $H_K$  and  $H_M$  was achieved by irradiation of  $H_J$ ,  $H_D$  and  $H_E$ , individually.

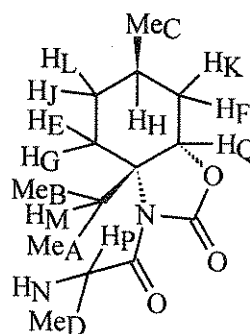
Fig. 1 illustrates a portion of the 2D-NOESY spectrum of the *N*-propionyl derivative 12. The one-dimensional spectrum, as with COSY, is found along the diagonal, and cross peaks occur when two protons are close in space. Thus, methyl D protons and methyl E protons show two cross peaks with proton  $H_K$  at  $\delta$  2.90 and 1.31 and at 2.90 and 1.66 ppm, respectively. That proves  $H_K$  is in close in space to two methyl protons  $H_D$  and  $H_E$ . There is another cross peak at  $\delta$  2.92 and 2.29 ppm, confirming that  $H_K$  and the bridgehead proton  $H_L$  are both close in space to  $H_H$ . All of these results determined by NOESY spectrum confirm all results determined by nOe difference spectra and all of them confirm that  $H_K$  and  $H_M$  are distinguishable.

Table 2 shows that irradiation of methyl A protons, methyl B protons, methyl C protons, methyl D protons,  $H_E$ ,  $H_F$ ,  $H_G$  and  $H_H$ , individually, gave 21%, 20.7%, 21.1%, 20.7%, 18.2%, 17.8%, 12.0% and 21.1% enhancement of signal, respectively, for  $H_L$ , whereas, all of these irradiations did not affect  $H_J$ . Irradiation of  $H_Q$  only gave 2.9% enhancement of signal for  $H_J$ . These results confirm that  $H_L$  is close in space to  $H_A$ ,  $H_B$ ,  $H_C$ ,  $H_D$ ,  $H_E$ ,  $H_F$ ,  $H_G$  and  $H_H$ , whilst,  $H_J$  is close in space to  $H_Q$ . These results prove that discrimination between the diastereotopic protons  $H_J$  and  $H_L$  was achieved by irradiation of protons  $H_A$  to  $H_H$  or irradiation of  $H_Q$ .

Irradiation of  $H_G$  and  $H_H$ , individually caused 12.4% and 3.3% enhancement of the signal, respectively, due to  $H_F$ , whereas, irradiation of these protons did not affect  $H_K$ . That proves  $H_F$  is close in position to  $H_G$  and  $H_H$ . Irradiation of  $H_J$ ,  $H_P$  and  $H_Q$ , individually, caused 3.7%, 2.9% and 2.9% enhancement of the signal, respectively, due to  $H_K$ , but did not affect  $H_F$ . That proves  $H_K$  is close in position to  $H_J$ ,  $H_P$  and  $H_Q$ . These results confirm that diastereotopic methylene protons  $H_F$  and  $H_K$  are distinguishable.



12



13

Irradiation of methyl D protons,  $H_F$ ,  $H_J$ ,  $H_K$ ,  $H_L$ ,  $H_M$ ,  $H_N$ ,  $H_P$  and  $H_Q$ , individually, gave 6.6%, 5.4%, 20.7%, 13.2%, 20.7%, 20.7%, 18.2%, 20.7% and 24.8% of enhancement of signal, respectively, for  $H_G$ , whilst, did not affect on  $H_E$ . That proves  $H_G$  is close in space to all of these protons. Irradiation of  $H_H$  gave 2.1% enhancement of signal for  $H_E$ , but did not affect  $H_G$ . These results prove that discrimination between the diastereotopic protons  $H_E$  and  $H_G$  was achieved by irradiation of  $H_D$ ,  $H_F$ ,  $H_J$ ,  $H_K$ ,  $H_L$ ,  $H_M$ ,  $H_N$ ,  $H_P$  and  $H_Q$ , individually, or irradiation of  $H_H$ .

Discrimination between the two diastereotopic methyl groups A and B was achieved by irradiation of  $H_H$  which gave 4.6% enhancement of signal for  $H_B$ , but did not affect on  $H_A$ , whereas, irradiation of  $H_G$  and  $H_Q$  gave 4.5% and 3.7% enhancement of signal, respectively, for  $H_A$ , and 6.2% and 2.1% enhancement of signal, respectively, for  $H_B$ . These results prove that  $H_B$  is close in space to  $H_H$ , and it is closer to  $H_G$  than  $H_A$ , but  $H_A$  is closer in space to  $H_Q$  than  $H_B$ .

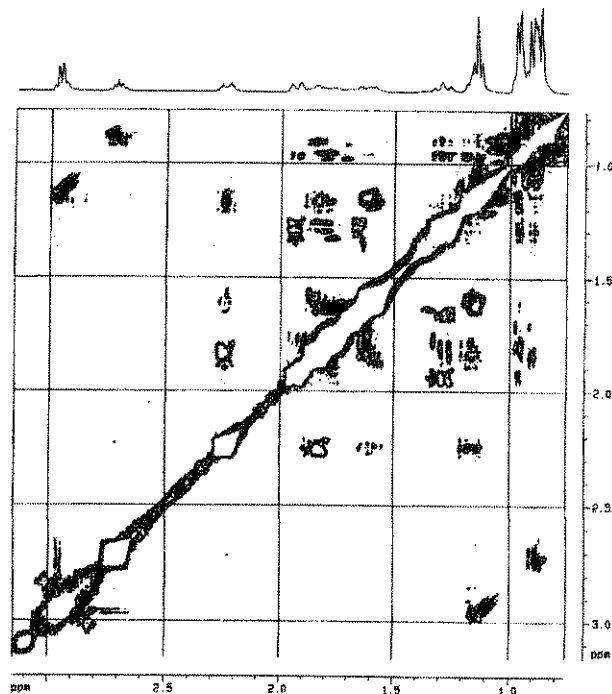


Fig. 2: A portion of the 2D-NOESY 400 MHz NMR spectrum of the *N*-propionyl derivative 13

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