

ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESIS VIA HETEROCYCLIC INTERMEDIATES. ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESIS OF  
 (-)-(1S, 2R)-ALLOCORONAMIC ACID

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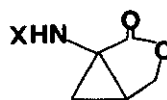
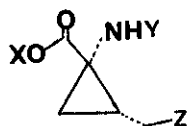
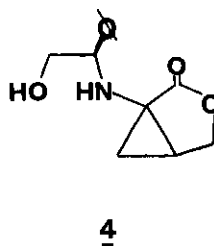
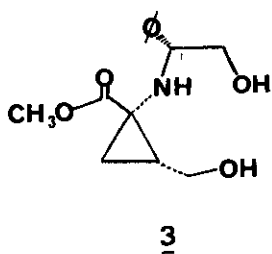
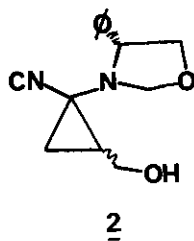
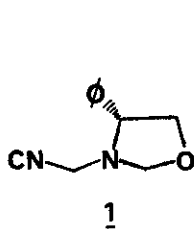
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Abstract- The first total asymmetric synthesis of (-)-(1S, 2R)-allocoronamic acid is described.

In connection with our current work on asymmetric synthesis via heterocyclic intermediates <sup>1</sup>, we report here the first total asymmetric synthesis of (-)-(1S, 2R)-allocoronamic acid <sup>2</sup>, (11), a simple member of the  $\alpha$ -aminocyclopropanecarboxylic acids <sup>3</sup>, an interesting group of substances which in some cases are or form part of natural products <sup>4</sup>.

Our synthetic plan started with the readily available heterocyclic chiron (1) <sup>5</sup>, as an useful "chiral glycine equivalent", by metallation [initiated by inverse addition of LDA/HMPA (1:1), (2.5 eq), in dry THF, at -78°C, under argon, to (1) (1 eq)] and double in situ dialkylation with epibromohydrin <sup>6</sup> (1.1 eq). Without isolation of intermediates (2), the crude reaction mixture was hydrolyzed (NaOH, 2.2 eq, H<sub>2</sub>O, reflux, 27 h), acidified (HCl 20%, overnight, r.t.), evaporated to dryness and submitted to reaction with thionyl chloride in dry methanol (reflux, 4 h). After conventional work-up and flash-chromatography, we obtained a mixture of (3) <sup>7</sup> and (4) that we could not unfortunately separate. Following with hydrogenolysis (Pd/C 10%, AcOEt, r.t., 1 atm, 48 h) and tosylation of (5) + (6) for 24 h at 6°C, we obtained finally a mixture cleanly resolvable by flash-chromatography of (7) <sup>8</sup> [mp 101-103°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 64.8^\circ$  (c 2.51, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)], (8) [mp 127-129°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 1.5^\circ$  (c 2.10, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)] and (9) [mp 184-187°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 15.7^\circ$  (c 0.91, pyridine)], in 4% overall yield respectively from (1). Reaction of (7) or (8) with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>LiCu (5 eq, THF, 5°C, 8 h) gave (10) [mp 110-112°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 2.0^\circ$  (c 0.49, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)], in 68% yield, which after Na/NH<sub>3</sub> reaction <sup>9</sup>, afforded (11) [amorphous,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -19.6^\circ$  (c 1.81, H<sub>2</sub>O); lit. <sup>2</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -65.8^\circ$  (c 1.83, H<sub>2</sub>O)] in 1% overall yield from (1) and 30% e.e. <sup>10</sup>

Efforts are now in progress to improve the stereochemical results, using the very well known chiral epibromohydrins <sup>11</sup>, and apply some of the intermediates here described to the synthesis of related natural products.



- 5, X = CH<sub>3</sub>, Y = H, Z = OH  
7, X = CH<sub>3</sub>, Y = Ts, Z = Cl  
8, X = CH<sub>3</sub>, Y = Ts, Z = OTs  
10, X = H, Y = Ts, Z = CH<sub>3</sub>  
11, X = Y = H, Z = CH<sub>3</sub>

- 6, X = H  
9; X = Ts

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## REFERENCES AND NOTES

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7. In this and subsequent figures only the major diastereomer or enantiomer is shown for simplicity. For ( 4 ), ( 6 ) and ( 9 ) the absolute configuration in the major one has not been resolved.
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10. Determined by chiroptical analysis. It is interesting to note that after crystallization ( 7 ), ( 8 ) and ( 10 ) were obtained as pure compounds showing sharp melting points, but in low optical yield; this is probably due to co-crystallization and to the moderate diastereoselectivity shown by ( 1 ) in its reaction with epibromohydrin yielding ( 3 ) and ( 4 ) in poor diastereomeric excess; in fact, in the case of ( 3 ) we could not separate the diastereomers.
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