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Isolation and Structures of New Peptide Antibiotics, Cirratimycin A and B†

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In the course of screening for antifolic metabolites using *Lactobacillus casei* as a test organism growing on a synthetic medium with a limiting amount of folic acid, two peptide antibiotic cirratimycin A (1) and B (2) have been isolated from the culture filtrate of *Streptomyces cirratus* 248.-Sq 2. In this paper, we describe the isolation and structural elucidation of these antibiotics.

Streptomyces cirratus 248-Sq 2 was cultivated in a medium consisting of 2.0% soybean meal, 2.5% dextrin, 0.5% NaCl and 0.4% CaCO₃ in jar fermenters at 27°C for 72 hr. The filtered broth (50 liters) was treated with activated carbon (1%) and the carbon cake was eluted with 70% aqueous acetone (pH 3.0). After concentration, the eluate was passed through a column of Dowex 50 W-X 2 (H⁺ form) and the column was developed with 5% pyridine. The active principles were separated by a series of column chromatographies using Dowex 50 W-X 2 (0.5 M pyridine-AcOH buffer, pH 6.4). Sephadex G-25 (partition, *n*-BuOH-AcOH-water 4 : 1 : 2) and Toyopearl HW 40 F to afford 50 mg of 1 and 30 mg of 2 in pure form.

1, an amorphous white powder (pK_a' 3.4, 6.7, 8.8), shows positive ninhydrin reaction (pale purple), $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ 225 nm (ϵ 14400) and $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ 1650 cm⁻¹ suggesting the presence of peptide bonds. In the FD mass spectrum, two ion peaks were found at m/z 728 (M+H)⁺ and 750 (M+Na)⁺ indicating the molecular weight of 727 for 1. Based on the elemental analysis and ¹³C-NMR spectrum which revealed seven CO, one C=C and one C=N bonds, the molecular formula of monohydrochloride of 1 was deduced to be C₃₁H₅₃N₉O₁₁·HCl (calcd. C 48.72, H 7.07, N 16.50, O 23.05, Cl 4.65, obs. C 48.39, H 7.20, N 16.98, O 24.11, Cl 4.16%, 10-degree of unsaturation), indicating the presence of a ring structure in 1.

1 (10 mg) was hydrolyzed with 6 N HCl at 120°C for 16 hr in a sealed tube. After removal of HCl *in vacuo*, the residue was charged on a column of Dowex 50 W-X 2 (pyridine-AcOH buffer, pH 6.4) to separate into a neutral amino acid mixture and one basic amino acid which was identified as a diastereomeric mixture of α,β -diaminobutyric acid (abbreviated as Dab) by ¹H-NMR.¹⁾ The neutral amino acid fraction was successfully separated into four amino acids by a Sephadex G-25 partition column chromatography (*n*-BuOH-AcOH-water 4 : 1 : 2). The first three were identified as L-Leu, L-Ala, L-Ser and the last unknown amino acid was determined as hydroxymethylserine (HMSer) by

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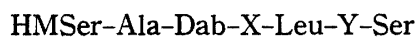
direct comparison (^1H -NMR, amino acid analysis) with an authentic sample.²⁾ The amino acid analysis and ^1H -NMR spectrum of **1** indicated the equimolar composition of these five amino acids, while its ^{13}C -NMR spectrum suggested further existence of two acid-labile amino acids, temporarily designated as X and Y. The 400 MHz ^1H -NMR spectrum of **1** ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$) afforded four doublet α -amide protons, due to Leu, Ala, Ser and Dab as well as a singlet.

Treatment of **1** with acetic anhydride in MeOH (0°C for 30 min) gave *N*-monoacetyl cirratiomycin A (**3**) and *N*-diacetyl cirratiomycin A (**4**), and re-acetylation of **3** under same condition gave **4**. In the ^1H -NMR spectrum of **3** (D_2O) the β -methine proton of Dab was observed at 4.4 ppm which was shifted down-field from 4.0 ppm of the parent antibiotic, indicating the β -amino group of Dab to be free. On the other hand, the ^1H -NMR spectrum of **4** resembled very closely to that of **3** suggesting that the second acylation should occur at a free amino group attached to a quaternary carbon. In agreement with this, a new singlet amide proton appeared in the spectrum of **4** in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, together with the doublet of β -amide proton of Dab. Treatment of **1** with dansyl chloride (DNS-Cl) at pH 9.5 only dansylated the β -amino group of Dab but not the other one.

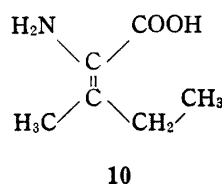
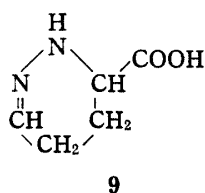
Mild acid hydrolysis of **1** (6 *N* HCl, 37°C , 7 days) and subsequent purification by column chromatography using Toyopearl HW 40 F and Dowex 50 W-X 2 (pyridine-AcOH buffer, pH 6.4) afforded four peptide fragments (**5**~**8**) containing X or Y in intact form. The N-terminal residues of these fragments were determined by DNS method.

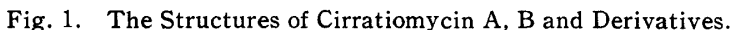
HMSer-Ala	5
Dab-X-Leu	6
Leu-Y	7
Leu-Y-Ser	8

Dansylated **5** could not be obtained due probably to steric hindrance around the amino group of HMSer. This result indicated that the α -amino group of Ala was acylated in this dipeptide. Isolation of these peptide fragments together with the fact that the α -amino group of Dab was protected in the parent antibiotic, established the amino acid sequence of **1** as



In addition to these fragments, Dab was isolated without any racemization and identified to take an *L-erythro* configuration by ORD and ^1H -NMR spectra.¹⁾ The FD mass of **6** exhibited $(\text{M}+\text{Na})^+$ ion peaks at M/z 342 and 364, respectively, indicating the molecular weight of 341, and further spectral data allowed to assign the molecular formula of X as





The EI mass spectrum of *N*-acetyl derivative of **7** (m/z 284) suggested the molecular formula of $C_6H_{11}NO_2$ for **Y** and the 1H -NMR spectral analysis of **7** revealed the structure of **Y** as 2,3-didehydroisoleucine (**Alle**, **10**). Hydrogenation of **8** over PtO_2 in 1 N AcOH (room temperature, 5 days) followed by acid hydrolysis gave Leu, Ser and Ile, confirming the above conclusion and the sequence of **8** as Leu-**Alle**-Ser.

Cirratomycin B (**2**) has closely related properties with **1** and the ^1H -NMR and ^{13}C -NMR spectra were essentially superimposable to **1**, except the presence of Ala moiety instead of Leu. Mild acid hydrolysis of **2** gave amino acid segments HMSer-Ala, Dab-X-Ala and Ala-Y-Ser, and confirmed its structure as shown in Fig. 1.

Reference

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