## Synthesis and Structure of the Marine Ascidian 8-Oxoadenine Aplidiamine

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Alkylation of 8-oxoadenosine (13) with 4-benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl bromide (20), followed by Dimroth rearrangement and acid hydrolysis, provided N-(3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxybenzyl)-8-oxoadenosine (15). The 2'-deoxy version of this reaction sequence accomplished the first synthesis of N-(3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxybenzyl)-8-oxoadenine (16), which is the correct expression for marine ascidian purine aplidiamine.

Key words aplidiamine synthesis; marine metabolite; 8-oxoadenosine alkylation; Dimroth rearrangement; nucleoside hydrolysis; heteronuclear multiple bond connectivity

Although 8-oxoadenine (type 12: R=H)<sup>1)</sup> and 8-oxoadenosine  $(13)^{2}$  have long been known, the natural occurrence of neither of them has been reported. 1,9-Dimethyl-8-oxoadenine  $(1)^{3}$  (isolated from the English Channel sponge Hymeniacidon sanguinea GRANT only in the form of the  $N^6$ acetyl derivative<sup>4</sup>) was the first instance of naturally occurring 8-oxoadenine derivatives. Later on, biologically active caissarone hydrochloride (2) was isolated from the sea anemone Bunodosoma caissarum CORREA,5) and the zwitterionic structure 3 was assigned to its free base.<sup>6)</sup> Antibiotic nucleotides phosmidosines (4-6) were then isolated from the fermentation broth of *Streptomyces* sp. strain RK-16.<sup>7</sup>) In 1997, Kang and Fenical reported the isolation of aplidiamine from the marine ascidian Aplidiopsis sp., and they assigned the unique zwitterionic structure 7 to this newest member of a small family of naturally occurring 8-oxoadenine derivatives rather than the usual undissociated structure 16 on the basis of its heteronuclear multiple bond connectivity (HMBC) spectrum.<sup>8)</sup> The zwitterionic structure 7 seemed to us unlikely because the acidity of the phenol moiety of 16 might be too weak to protonate the weakly basic 2-oxoimidazole moiety. We herein report the first synthesis of aplidiamine and propose adopting 16 as its correct structure.<sup>9</sup>

The synthesis of **16** followed the reaction sequence (Chart 1) established in this laboratory for the synthesis of *N*-methyl-8-oxoadenine (**12a**).<sup>10</sup> It has been reported that 1-methyl-8-oxoadenosine (**8a**), which is obtainable by methyla-



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tion of 8-oxoadenosine (13) in excellent yield, undergoes Dimroth rearrangement to produce N-methyl-8-oxoadenosine (10a) in good yield.<sup>10a)</sup> A parallel reaction sequence starting from the reaction of 13 with 4-benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl bromide (20) would produce 10b, which might be a good precursor for the synthesis of the target purine 16. The requisite benzyl bromide 20 was prepared from 3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (17). The latter compound had been prepared in 93% yield by bromination of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde with Br<sub>2</sub> in toluene containing BuNH<sub>2</sub> at  $-78 \,^{\circ}\text{C}^{.11}$  We prepared the same compound 17 more conveniently in 96% yield by treating 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde with an excess of Br<sub>2</sub> in AcOH at room temperature in the presence of AcONa. Benzylation of 17 with PhCH<sub>2</sub>Br in the presence of NaH, followed by sequential treatment with NaBH<sub>4</sub> and PBr<sub>3</sub>, afforded the bromide 20 (Chart 2). Thus, 8-oxoadenosine (13) was treated with 20 in AcNMe<sub>2</sub> at 50 °C for 111 h, and the crude product was heated in boiling 1 N aqueous NaOH for 1 h to afford the rearranged nucleoside 10b in 58% overall yield. Hydrolysis of N-methyl-8-oxoadenosine (10a) takes place so slowly in aqueous HCl to yield N-methyl-8-oxoadenine (12a)<sup>10b)</sup> that 10b would produce the purine 16 through the nucleoside 15 under similar conditions. Indeed,  $15 \cdot H_2O$ was obtained in 52% yield by heating 10b in 1 N aqueous HCl for 1 h. More drastic conditions were necessary for removal of the sugar moiety of 15. However, hydrolysis of the glycosyl bond of 15 was accompanied by N-debenzylation to provide mainly 8-oxoadenine (type 12: R=H), when 10b was heated in boiling 2 N aqueous HCl for 48 h according to the procedure employed for hydrolysis of **10a**.<sup>10b)</sup>

It is well-known that 2-deoxyribofuranosides undergo hydrolysis much more easily than the corresponding ribofuranosides.<sup>12)</sup> Accordingly, selective cleavage of the glycosyl linkage would be possible for the 2'-deoxy analogue **11b**. This compound was obtained from 2'-deoxy-8-oxoadenosine  $(14)^{13}$  in 74% overall yield by repeating the reaction sequence similar to that described above for the synthesis of **10b**. Hydrolysis of **11b** indeed proceeded selectively at the glycosyl bond, producing *N*-(4-benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl)-8-oxoadenine (**12b**) as the hemihydrate in 90% yield after treatment of **11b** with boiling  $1 \times 1000$  after the duration of the reaction of **12b** was attained for the duration of the reaction for a further 50 min, providing the target compound **16** as the monohydrate in 78% yield.

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Chart 1



The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of this sample were identical with those<sup>8)</sup> reported for aplidiamine, confirming the correctness of the gross structure assigned to this marine metabolite. However, the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR pattern arising from the purine moiety of this compound ( $\delta$  8.05, 9.83, 11.34) presents an almost complete similarity to that of the *O*-benzyl derivative **12b** ( $\delta$  8.06, 9.86, 11.37), supporting the correctness of the undissociated structure **16** rather than the zwitterion **7**. The structure **16** was finally identified by our own HMBC experiment using an analytical sample of synthetic aplidiamine: marked <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C long-range connectivity was observed between C(3',5') at  $\delta$  111.8 and a hydrogen (OH) at  $\delta$ 9.87; another set observed was correlations between C(8) at  $\delta$  152.5 and two hydrogens [N(7)- and N(9)-H] at  $\delta$  9.83 and 11.34.

## Experimental

**General Notes** All melting points were determined using a Yamato MP-1 or Büchi model 530 capillary melting point apparatus and values are corrected. Spectra reported herein were recorded on a JEOL JMS-SX102A mass spectrometer, a Hitachi model 320 UV spectrophotometer [for solutions in 95% aqueous EtOH,  $0.1 \times 10^{10}$  (v/v) aqueous StOH,  $0.1 \times 10^{10}$  (v/v) aqueous at Kanazawa University. Flash chromatography was performed according to the reported proce-

dure.<sup>14)</sup> The following abbreviations are used: br=broad, d=doublet, dd=doublet-of-doublets, ddd=doublet-of-doublets-of-doublets-of-doublets, m=multiplet, s=singlet, sh=shoulder, t=triplet.

**3,5-Dibromo-4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (17)** A solution of Br<sub>2</sub> (30.2 g, 190 mmol) in AcOH (50 ml) was added dropwise to a stirred mixture of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (11.0 g, 90 mmol), AcONa (22.9 g, 279 mmol), and AcOH (150 ml) at room temperature over a period of 15 min. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for a further 1 h and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was triturated with H<sub>2</sub>O (200 ml), and the insoluble solid was collected by filtration, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O ( $(23 \times 30 \text{ ml})$ , and dried to give 17 (24.3 g, 96%), mp 181–183 °C. Recrystallization of this product from EtOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (7: 3, v/v) afforded an analytical sample of **17** as colorless needles, mp 182–184 °C. MS *m/z*: 277, 279, 281 (M<sup>+</sup>). IR  $v_{max}^{Nijol}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3153 (OH), 1673 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 6.43 (1H, br s, OH), 8.00 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 9.80 (1H, s, CHO). *Anal.* Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 30.04; H, 1.44. Found: C, 30.12; H, 1.32.

**4-Benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzaldehyde (18)** NaH (of 60% purity) (1.00 g, 25.1 mmol) was washed with hexane (2×50 ml) and suspended in HCONMe<sub>2</sub> (100 ml). Compound **17** (6.38 g, 22.8 mmol) was added to this suspension to give a slightly yellow solution. A solution of PhCH<sub>2</sub>Br (4.30 g, 25.1 mmol) in HCONMe<sub>2</sub> (30 ml) was then added to the solution, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The resulting solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was partitioned between 10% aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (80 ml) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (80 ml). The aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (80 ml). The CHCl<sub>3</sub> layers were combined, washed successively with 10% aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5×40 ml), 10% aqueous NaOH (2×40 ml), and saturated aqueous NaCl (40 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residual solid was recrystallized from EtOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (7:3, v/v) to give **18** (2.92 g), mp 73—75 °C. The mother liquor was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was participed for **18** (0.89 g), the total yield

was 69%) (mp 73—75 °C) was obtained by treatment of the mother liquor of the second recrystallization in a manner similar to that described for obtaining the second crop of **18**. Further recrystallization of crude **18** from EtOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (7:3, v/v) provided an analytical sample of **18** as colorless needles, mp 78—79 °C. MS *m/z*: 368, 370, 372 (M<sup>+</sup>). IR  $v_{\text{max}}^{\text{Nujol}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1694 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 5.12 (2H, s, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.35—7.70 (5H, m, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 8.06 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 9.88 (1H, s, CHO). *Anal.* Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 45.44; H, 2.72. Found: C, 45.57; H, 2.81.

**4-Benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl Alcohol (19)** NaBH<sub>4</sub> (115 mg, 3.04 mmol) was added to a solution of **18** (746 mg, 2.02 mmol) in MeOH (10 ml), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. It was concentrated *in vacuo* after addition of acetone (1 ml). The residue was mixed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml), and the mixture was neutralized with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (4×20 ml). The CHCl<sub>3</sub> layers were combined, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated *in vacuo* to leave **19** (736 mg, 98%), mp 95.5—96 °C. Recrystallization of this product from hexane afforded an analytical sample of **19** as colorless needles, mp 96—97 °C. MS *m/z*: 370, 372, 374 (M<sup>+</sup>). IR v<sub>max</sub><sup>Nujol</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3293 (OH). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 1.76 (1H, brt, *J*=5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 4.65 (2H, d, *J*=5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 5.03 (2H, s, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.35—7.63 (5H, m, <u>Ph</u>CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.56 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>). *Anal.* Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 45.20; H, 3.25. Found: C, 45.07; H, 3.27.

*N*-(4-Benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl)-8-oxoadenosine (10b) A solution of PBr<sub>3</sub> (870 mg, 3.21 mmol) in anhydrous  $Et_2O$  (3 ml) was added dropwise to a solution of **19** (2.00 g, 5.38 mmol) in  $Et_2O$  (25 ml) at 0 °C over a period of 5 min, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for a further 1 h. The resulting solution was diluted with  $Et_2O$  (25 ml), washed successively with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2×30 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) with stirring at room temperature for 1 h, and concentrated *in vacuo* to leave crude **20** (1.75 g) as a colorless oil.

A mixture of 13<sup>10a)</sup> (205 mg, 0.724 mmol), 20 (410 mg, 0.943 mmol), and AcNMe<sub>2</sub> (6 ml) was stirred at 50 °C for 111 h and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 ml) and heated in 1 N aqueous NaOH (5 ml) under reflux for 1 h. The solution was neutralized with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, extracted with AcOEt (20 ml and then  $3 \times 10$  ml). The organic layers were combined, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated *in vacuo* to leave a colorless glass (368 mg). This was subjected to flash chromatography [AcOEt-EtOH (10:1, v/v)] to afford 10b (267 mg, 58%) as a colorless glass. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO]  $\delta$ : 3.46 (m), 3.61 (ddd, *J*=12, 4, 4Hz) [1H each, C(5')-H<sub>2</sub>], 3.87 [1H, m, C(4')-H], 4.14 [1H, m, C(3')-H], 4.67 (2H, d, *J*=5.6Hz, NHCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.88 [1H, ddd, *J*=6 Hz each, C(2')-H], 4.96 (2H, s, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.05 [1H, d, *J*=5 Hz, C(3')-OH], 5.09 [1H, d, *J*=6.5 Hz, C(1')-H], 7.12 (1H, br t, *J*=5.6 Hz, NHCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.24—7.51 (5H, m, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.69 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 8.14 [1H, s, C(2)-H], 10.32 [1H, br s, N(7)-H].

N-(3,5-Dibromo-4-hydroxybenzyl)-8-oxoadenosine Monohydrate (15·H<sub>2</sub>O) A suspension of 10b (100 mg, 0.157 mmol) in 1 N aqueous HCl (100 ml) was heated under reflux for 1 h. The resulting solution was neutralized with 8 N aqueous NaOH (12.5 ml), brought to pH 5 with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, and kept at 4 °C overnight. The precipitate that resulted was collected by filtration, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (3 ml), and dried to give crude 15 · H<sub>2</sub>O (46 mg, 52%), mp 164—168 °C (dec.). This was recrystallized from  $\rm H_2O$ after purification by preparative TLC [silica gel, CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH (6:1. v/v)], dried (P2O5) at 2 mmHg and 50 °C for 15 h, and exposed to air until a constant weight was reached to afford an analytical sample of 15 H<sub>2</sub>O as colorless needles, mp 167.5—169 °C (dec.).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} - 34^{\circ}$  (c=0.248, MeOH). UV  $\lambda_{max}^{95\% EIOH}$  279 nm ( $\varepsilon$  23000);  $\lambda_{max}^{H,O}$  (pH 1) 284 (18200);  $\lambda_{max}^{H,O}$  (pH 7) 211 (40000) 277 (22400) 204 ( $\lambda_{max}^{H,O}$  (pH 7) 211 (49900), 277 (22400), 304 (sh) (4400);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{H},0}$  (pH 13) 289 (24100). IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{Nujol}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1734, 1717 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO]  $\delta$ : 3.47 (ddd, *J*=12.2, 4.9, 8.3 Hz), 3.61 (ddd, J=12.2, 3.9, 3.9 Hz) [1H each, C(5')-H<sub>2</sub>], 3.86 [1H, ddd, J=4.9, 3.9, 2.9 Hz, C(4')-H], 4.14 [1H, ddd, J=2.9, 5.4, 4.9 Hz, C(3')-H], 4.58 (2H, d, J=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 4.87 [1H, ddd, J=5.4, 6.4, 6.4 Hz, C(2')-H], 5.06 [1H, d, J=4.9 Hz, C(3')-OH], 5.11 [1H, dd, J=8.3, 3.9 Hz, C(5')-OH], 5.23 [1H, d, J=6.4 Hz, C(2')-OH], 5.69 [1H, d, J=6.4 Hz, C(1')-H], 7.03 (1H, t, *J*=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>N<u>H</u>), 7.54 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 8.13 [1H, s, C(2)-H], 9.88 (1H, brs, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>OH), 10.31 [1H, brs, N(7)-H]. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 36.13; H, 3.39; N, 12.39. Found: C, 36.31; H, 3.17; N, 12.28.

*N*-(4-Benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl)-2'-deoxy-8-oxoadenosine (11b) A mixture of 2'-deoxy-8-oxoadenosine (14)<sup>13</sup> (338 mg, 1.26 mmol), 20 (704 mg, 1.62 mmol), and AcNMe<sub>2</sub> (8 ml) was stirred at 50 °C for 141 h. The resulting slightly yellow solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2×15 ml). Crude 9b thus obtained was heated under reflux in 1 N aqueous NaOH (10 ml) for 1 h. The solution was neutralized with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and extracted with AcOEt (20 ml). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated *in vacuo* to leave a slightly yellow foam (734 mg). This was subjected to flash chromatography [AcOEt-EtOH (10:1, v/v)] to afford **11b** (584 mg, 74%) as a colorless foam. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO]  $\delta$ : 2.01 (ddd, *J*=13, 2.4, 6.8 Hz), 2.99 (ddd, *J*=13, 5.8, 8.3 Hz) [1H each, C(2')-H<sub>2</sub>], 3.46 (ddd, *J*=12, 4.4, 7.8 Hz), 3.61 (ddd, *J*=12,

8.3 H2) [1H each, C(2)-H<sub>2</sub>], 5.46 (ddd, J = 12, 4.4, 7.8 H2), 5.01 (ddd, J = 12, 4.4, 4.4 Hz) [1H each, C(5')-H<sub>2</sub>], 3.81 [1H, ddd, J = 2.4, 4.4, 4.4 Hz, C(4')-H], 4.39 [1H, ddd, J = 2.4, 5.8, 2.4, 4.4 Hz, C(3')-H], 4.66 (2H, d, J = 5.9 Hz, NHC<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>), 4.96 (2H, s, PhC<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>), 5.07 [1H, dd, J = 7.8, 4.4 Hz, C(5')-OH], 5.20 [1H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, C(3')-OH], 6.16 [1H, dd, J = 6.8, 8.3 Hz, C(1')-H], 7.10 (1H, brt, J = 5.9 Hz, N<u>H</u>CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.37—7.46 (3H), 7.53—7.59 (2H) (m each, <u>Ph</u>CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.69 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 8.13 [1H, s, C(2)-H], 10.29 [1H, br s, N(7)-H].

*N*-(4-Benzyloxy-3,5-dibromobenzyl)-8-oxoadenine Hemihydrate (12b·1/2H<sub>2</sub>O) A suspension of 11b (228 mg, 0.367 mmol) in 1 N aqueous HCl (30 ml) was heated under reflux for 10 min. The resulting suspension was cooled and neutralized with 8 N aqueous NaOH (3.75 ml). The insoluble solid was collected by filtration, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (5 ml), and dried to give crude 12b·1/2H<sub>2</sub>O (170 mg, 90%), mp 234—235 °C (dec.). This was recrystallized from EtOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (9:1, v/v) and dried (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) at 2 mmHg and 80 °C for 20 h to afford an analytical sample of 12b·1/2H<sub>2</sub>O as colorless needles, mp 250—251 °C (dec.). MS *m/z*: 503, 505, 507 (M<sup>+</sup>). UV  $\lambda_{max}^{90\% EtOH}$  (0.1 N HCl) 282 nm ( $\epsilon$  17100);  $\lambda_{max}^{90\% EtOH}$  277 (22000);  $\lambda_{max}^{90\% EtOH}$  (0.1 N NaOH) 286 (*ca.* 21000).<sup>15</sup>) IR *v*<sub>max</sub><sup>Nujol</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1732, 1717 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO]  $\delta$ : 4.64 (2H, d, *J*=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 4.96 (2H, s, PhCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.94 (1H, t, *J*=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 7.36—7.59 (5H, m, <u>Ph</u>CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.69 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 8.06 [1H, s, C(2)-H], 9.86 [1H, br s, N(7)-H], 11.37 [1H, br s, N(9)-H]. *Anal.* Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·1/2H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 44.38; H, 3.14; N, 13.62. Found: C, 44.59; H, 3.06; N, 13.56.

N-(3,5-Dibromo-4-hydroxybenzyl)-8-oxoadenine (Aplidiamine) Monohydrate (16 · H<sub>2</sub>O) A solution of 11b (240 mg, 0.386 mmol) in 1 N aqueous HCl (600 ml) was heated under reflux for 1 h and cooled to 40 °C. A small amount of  $12b \cdot 1/2H_2O$  (5 mg), which remained undissolved, was filtered off at this temperature. The filtrate was neutralized by addition of 8 N aqueous NaOH (75 ml), and the mixture was adjusted to pH 5 with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. After cooling the mixture at 0 °C overnight, the precipitate that deposited was collected by filtration, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml), and dried to give 16 · H<sub>2</sub>O (130 mg, 78%), mp 231-232 °C (dec.). Recrystallization of this sample from EtOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (7:3, v/v), followed by drying (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) at 2 mmHg and 50 °C for 24 h and exposure to air at room temperature until a constant weight was reached, afforded an analytical sample of 16 · H<sub>2</sub>O, mp 239–239.5 °C (dec.). MS m/z: 413, 415, 417 (M<sup>+</sup>). UV  $\lambda_{max}^{90\% EtOH}$  (0.1 N HCl) 284 nm ( $\varepsilon$  19000);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{006 \text{ EIOH}}$  277 (22400);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{906 \text{ EIOH}}$  (0.1 N NaOH) 249 (sh) (ca. 13000),<sup>15</sup> 288 (ca. 27000),<sup>15</sup> 310 (sh) (ca. 7000).<sup>15</sup> IR  $v_{\text{max}}^{\text{Nujol}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1717 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO] δ: 4.55 (2H, d, J=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 6.84 (1H, t, *J*=5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>N<u>H</u>), 7.53 (2H, s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), 8.05 [1H, s, C(2)-H], 9.83 [1H, br s, N(7)-H], 9.87 (1H, br s, Br<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<u>H</u>), 11.34 [1H, br s, N(9)-H]. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR [(CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO] δ: 41.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 104.5 [C(5)], 111.8 [C(3',5')], 131.2 [C(2',6')], 134.0 [C(1')], 145.1 [C(6)], 147.4 [C(4)], 149.5 [C(4')], 150.7 [C(2)], 152.5 [C(8)]. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 33.28; H, 2.56; N, 16.17. Found: C, 33.36; H, 2.55; N, 16.29.

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