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Peptides 2000. Jean Martinez and Jean-Alain Fehrentz (Eds.) EDK, Paris, France © 2001

# Chemo-Enzymatic Synthesis of α-Aminoacids by Acylases (Amidases) and Aminooxydases

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#### Introduction

Even if alkylations or diastereoselective reprotonations were tried in our laboratory with 2-hydroxypinan-3-one as chiral auxiliary, (S) 7-Azatryptophane, a fluorescent probe, was prepared only by enzymatic resolution [1]. In front of the success of this method most of our strategies were adapted with at the last step an hydrolysis by enzymatic resolution [2]. In this communication we describe the different ways to access to: (S) 1,2-pyrazolylalanine 3a, (S) 1,2,4-triazolylalanine 3b with hypoglycemiant properties, (S) 7-azaindolylalanine 3c, isostere of the fluorescent probe (S) 7-Azatryptophane, (S) quisqualic acid which is the preferential agonist of NMDA receptors (Figure 1) [3], and finally  $\gamma$ -hydroxyisoleucine isomers with potent antidiabetic properties (Figure 2).

The first efficient synthesis has been performed on solid support and can be applicable in combinatorial chemistry [4].

### Results and discution

For the synthesis of  $\beta$ -heterocyclic aminoacids, the commercially available starting material, N-Acetyl-dehydroalanine methyl ester, is convenient to obtain optically pure  $\alpha$ -aminoacids by enzymatic resolution by Aspergillus genus acylase in excellent yields (Figure 1):

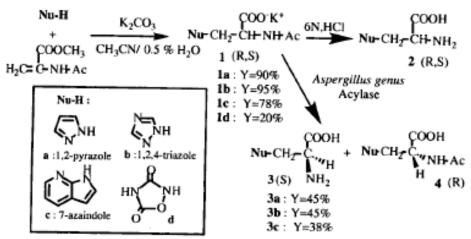


Figure 1. The strategy used to obtain  $\beta$ -hererocyclic aminoacids

At the first step 0.5% water in CH<sub>3</sub>CN are sufficient to carried out one pot Michael addition and esterolysis, giving directly the free carboxyl group of the N-acetylaminoacid, substrate of this acylase. The Quisqualic acid synthesis is in progress; the synthesis of the heterocycle oxadiazolidinedione d and the Michael addition gave low yields [6].

Because N-Ac-hydroxyaminoacids are not common acylase substrates, we investigated an other strategy for the synthesis of  $\gamma$ -hydroxyaminoacids (Figure 2) and we describe here only the final enzymatic step carried out by penicillin amidase G immobilized on Eupergit C called PAG C ((Y=35%)). The five steps before have been described for enantioselective synthesis of  $\gamma$ -hydroxynorvaline [5].

Figure 2. The enzymatic step for γ-hydroxyaminoacid synthesis

Aminooxydases being efficient biocatalysis in optically pure hydroxynorvaline preparation, commercially available (D) aminooxydase from hog kidney (DAAO) and (L) aminooxydase from Crotalus adamanteus (LAAO) have been used in γ-hydroxyisoleucine isomers synthesis, but without success.

The procedure using immobilized penicillin acylase is in progress and for the natural phydroxyisoleucine synthesis, it is the best result obtained at this day.

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