

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Simamycin (5'-*O*-geranyluridine): a new prenylated nucleoside from *Streptomyces* sp.

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**A new nucleoside modified by prenylation, simamycin (1), was isolated from the culture broth of a soil-derived *Streptomyces* sp. Its structure was determined by spectroscopic analysis and chemical synthesis as 5'-*O*-geranyluridine. Compound 1 induced differentiation of preadipocytes into matured adipocytes.**

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## INTRODUCTION

Despite the substantial amounts of studies on its secondary metabolites, *Streptomyces* is still believed to be the most prolific source of novel bioactive compounds. In fact, up to 40% of known microbial metabolites are derived from this group.<sup>1</sup> However, it is noteworthy that the number of metabolites isolated is far below the number of gene clusters for secondary metabolite biosynthesis present in the genome of *Streptomyces* species.<sup>2,3</sup> In our screening for structurally unique or rare secondary metabolites from *Streptomyces*, we isolated plant hormone-like spiroacetals of polyketide origin,<sup>4</sup> a linear polyketide  $\delta$ -lactone with antimetastatic property,<sup>5</sup> macrocyclic polyketides with a biosynthetically unprecedented heterocyclic ring structure<sup>6</sup> and methylphenylalanine derivatives with adipocyte differentiation promoting activity.<sup>7</sup> Further attempts to obtain new bioactive compounds from *Streptomyces*, a soil-derived strain TP-A0872, was chosen for chemical investigation, which led to the isolation of a new geranylated nucleoside, simamycin (1; Figure 1).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The producing strain TP-A0872 was isolated from a soil sample collected in Kochi, Japan, and identified as a member of the genus *Streptomyces* on the basis of 16S rRNA gene sequence analysis. The whole culture broth of strain TP-A0872 cultured in A-3M liquid medium was extracted with 1-butanol. HPLC/UV analysis of the extract and dereplication using our in-house metabolite database suggested the presence of an unknown peak showing a UV absorption band at 263 nm. HPLC/UV-guided purification from the extract led to the isolation of a new geranylated nucleoside, 1. Subsequent biological evaluation elucidated that 1 induces the differentiation of preadipocytes into matured adipocytes. We herein describe the isolation, structure determination and biological activity of 1.

Compound 1 was obtained as optically active colorless needles that gave an [M+H]<sup>+</sup> pseudomolecular ion at *m/z* 381.2027 appropriate for the molecular formula of C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (7 degrees of unsaturation). This molecular formula was corroborated by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data (Table 1). The IR absorptions at 1694 and 1664 cm<sup>-1</sup> suggested the presence of carbonyl functionalities. One- and 2D NMR data of 1 revealed the presence of 19 carbons, which were assigned to four quaternary *sp*<sup>2</sup> carbons including two oxygenated carbons, four proton-bearing *sp*<sup>2</sup> carbons, six oxygenated *sp*<sup>3</sup> carbons, two aliphatic methylenes and three methyls.

From the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum, five proton-bearing fragments were established: H-15/H-16/H-17, H-12/H-13, H-10/H-11, H-7/H-8 and H-5/H-6. The first and the second fragments were joined at C-14 on the basis of HMBC correlations from the methyl protons H-20 to C-13, C-14 and C-15. This fragment was expanded to include a three-carbon fragment C-19/C-18/C-21 on the basis of HMBC correlations from H-19 and H-21 to C-17 and C-18, and to one another, providing a geranyl moiety. The third and the fourth fragments were connected at C-9 by HMBC correlations from H-8 to C-9 and C-10, H-9 to C-8 and C-11, and H-10 and H-11 to C-9, establishing connectivity from C-7 to C-11. Furthermore, HMBC correlations from H-7 to C-10 and H-10 to C-7 connected C-7 and C-10 via an ether linkage, to confirm a pentofuranosyl residue. The last fragment H-5/H-6 was extended to include two carbonyl carbons C-2 and C-4, and the latter carbon was connected to C-5 by HMBC correlations from H-5 and H-6 to C-4. As the molecular formula suggested the presence of two nitrogen atoms in 1, analysis of <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>15</sup>N long-range correlations became necessary to locate their positions. In the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>15</sup>N HMBC spectrum, both H-5 and H-6 showed a cross-peak to a nitrogen at 156.3 p.p.m. and H-5 to a nitrogen at 155.7 p.p.m. These correlation data, together with <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>15</sup>N chemical shifts, established this chromophore as pyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-dione, namely uracil. Finally, three

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This paper is dedicated to Professor Dr Satoshi Ōmura for his Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2015.

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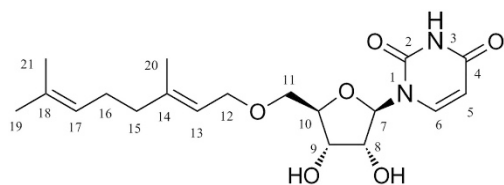


Figure 1 Structure of simamycin (1).

Table 1  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data for 1 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

| Position | $\delta_{\text{H}}$ mult ( $J$ in $\text{Hz}^{\text{a}}$ ) | $\delta_{\text{C}}^{\text{b}}$ | HMBC <sup>c</sup>      |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2        |                                                            | 151.6                          |                        |
| 4        |                                                            | 164.2                          |                        |
| 5        | 5.66 d (8.0)                                               | 102.2                          | 4, 6                   |
| 6        | 8.00 d (8.0)                                               | 141.0                          | 2, 4, 5, 7             |
| 7        | 5.92 d (3.0)                                               | 90.5                           | 2, 6, 8, 10            |
| 8        | 4.23                                                       | 75.8                           | 9, 10                  |
| 9        | 4.21                                                       | 84.4                           | 8, 11                  |
| 10       | 4.22                                                       | 70.7                           | 7                      |
| 11       | 3.76 d (10.5)<br>3.60 d (10.5)                             | 68.7                           | 9, 10, 12<br>9, 10, 12 |
| 12       | 4.04                                                       | 67.9                           | 11, 13, 14             |
| 13       | 5.29 t (6.5)                                               | 120.2                          | 12, 15, 20             |
| 14       |                                                            | 141.3                          |                        |
| 15       | 2.05                                                       | 39.8                           | 13, 14, 17             |
| 16       | 2.10                                                       | 26.6                           | 17                     |
| 17       | 5.08 t (6.5)                                               | 123.9                          | 16, 19, 21             |
| 18       |                                                            | 131.5                          |                        |
| 19       | 1.73 s                                                     | 25.9                           | 17, 18, 21             |
| 20       | 1.68 s                                                     | 16.6                           | 13, 14, 15             |
| 21       | 1.60 s                                                     | 17.9                           | 17, 18, 19             |

<sup>a</sup>Recorded at 500 MHz.

<sup>b</sup>Recorded at 125 MHz.

<sup>c</sup>HMBC correlations are from proton(s) stated to the indicated carbon.

substructures were joined by analysis of HMBC data. HMBC correlations from H-11 and H-12 to one another connected the geranyl group at C-11 of the pentose unit via an ether linkage, whereas the uracil moiety was connected N-1 to the anomeric carbon (C-7) of the pentose unit by HMBC correlations from H-7 to C-2 and C-6, and H-6 to C-7. Thus, the gross structure of 1 was determined as shown in Figure 2.

As the signal overlapping of H-8, H-9 and H-10 in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum did not allow the stereochemical assignment of the pentose unit by NOE and  $J$ -based analysis, 1 was derivatized to bis-*p*-bromobenzoate (2) by the treatment with *p*-bromobenzoyl chloride in pyridine. The above mentioned proton signals were separated each other in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 2. NOESY correlations were detected for H-8/H-9, H-7/H-10, H-2/H-8 and H-9/H-11 (Figure 3). These correlation data allowed the assignment of the pentose unit to possess a ribose configuration, thereby establishing 1 as 5'-*O*-geranyluridine.

To determine the absolute configuration of the ribose unit, 1 was synthesized starting from commercially available natural (+)-enantiomer of uridine in three steps. The *cis*-diol of uridine was protected as dimethylacetonide,<sup>8</sup> which was then *O*-alkylated using geranyl bromide in the presence of NaH to give 4.<sup>9</sup> Geranylation at the 5-position of ribose was confirmed by an HMBC correlation from H-12 to C-11. Additional evidence for the alkylation site was the HMBC correlations from 3-NH ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  9.58) to C-4 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  163.6) and C-5 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  102.0). The acetonide protective group was removed by treating 4

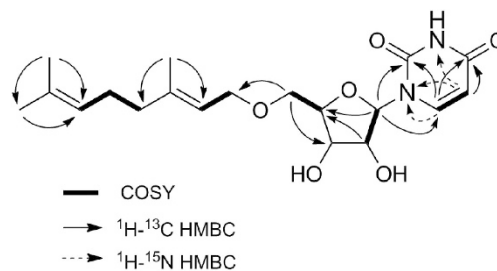


Figure 2 COSY and key HMBC correlations for 1.

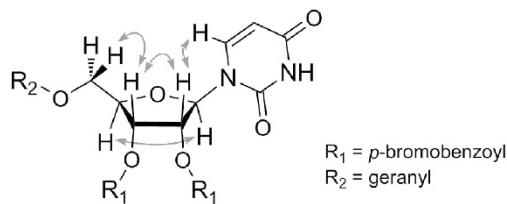


Figure 3 Key NOESY correlations for 2. A full color version of this figure is available at *The Journal of Antibiotics* journal online.

in HCl to afford 1 (Scheme 1). Optical rotation of the synthetic 1 was  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{24} +16$  ( $c$  0.1,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ), which was in good accordance with that of natural 1,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{24} +13$  ( $c$  0.1,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). The absolute configuration of 1 was thus determined as depicted in Figure 1.

Compound 1 was not active against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli* and *Candida albicans* in the antimicrobial assay ( $\text{MIC} > 50 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ ). It was also inactive in cytotoxicity assay ( $\text{IC}_{50} > 50 \mu\text{M}$  against MCF7 human breast cancer cells). However, 1 was found to induce differentiation of murine ST-13 preadipocyte cells into matured adipocyte cells.<sup>10</sup> Maturation of adipocytes leads to the secretion of adiponectin, which downregulates the blood glucose level.<sup>11</sup> About 50% of preadipocytes were differentiated to adipocytes with accumulation of lipid droplets by the treatment with  $40 \mu\text{M}$  of 1 for 11 days (Figure 4). JBIR-68 in which the double bond of uridine of 1 is hydrogenated was reported to inhibit influenza proliferation<sup>12</sup> but we had no access to this assay.

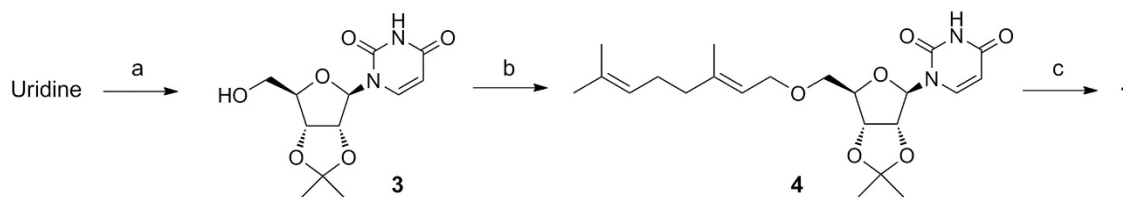
## CONCLUSION

In summary, we found 1, a new nucleoside modified by *O*-prenylation with a geranyl group from a soil-derived *Streptomyces* by UV-spectroscopic screening. Prenylation of nucleosides is very rare in nature. To date, JBIR-68 (Takagi *et al.*<sup>12</sup>) and farnesides A and B<sup>13</sup> are known as a secondary metabolite of *Streptomyces*. JBIR-68 is a dihydrouridine derivative in which the hydroxy group at five-position of ribose is modified with a geranyl group. Farnesides are also dihydrouridine derivatives but an oxygenated farnesyl group is connected to the hydroxy group at five-position of the ribose moiety.

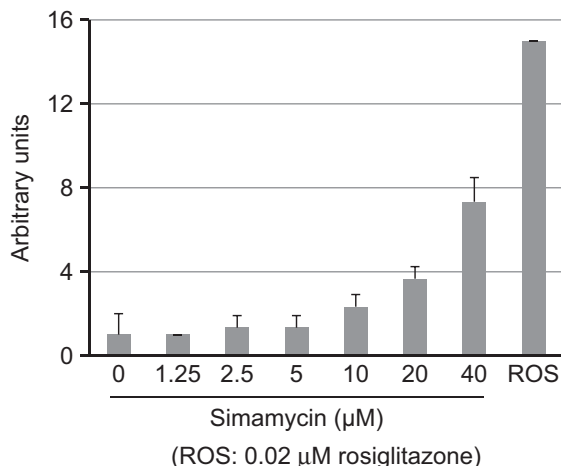
## EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

### General experimental procedures

Optical rotations were measured using a Jasco P-1030 polarimeter (JASCO Corporation, Tokyo, Japan). UV spectra were recorded on a Hitachi U-3210 spectrophotometer (Hitachi-High-Technologies Co., Tokyo, Japan). IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu FT-IR-300 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Corp., Kyoto, Japan). NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AVANCE II 500 spectrometer (Bruker Biospin K. K., Yokohama, Japan). HR-FAB-MS and HR-ESI-MS were measured on a JEOL JMS-HX110A spectrometer (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) and a Bruker micrOTOF (Bruker Daltonics K. K., Yokohama, Japan), respectively.



**Scheme 1** Synthesis of **1**. Reagents: (a) 2,2-dimethoxypropane, TsOH; (b) geranyl bromide, NaH; (c) dil HCl.



**Figure 4** Adipocyte differentiation induced by **1**. A full color version of this figure is available at *The Journal of Antibiotics* journal online.

### Microorganism

The actinomycete, *Streptomyces* sp. TP-A0872, was isolated from a soil sample collected in Kochi, Japan. The isolated strain was identified as *Streptomyces* on the basis of 99.9% similarity in the 16S rRNA gene sequence (1463 nucleotides; DDBJ accession number LC192168) to *Streptomyces xanthophaeus* NRRL B-5414<sup>T</sup> (accession number JOFT01000080).

### Fermentation

Strain TP-A0872 cultured on a slant agar medium was inoculated into 500 ml K-1 flasks, each containing 100 ml of the seed medium consisting of soluble starch 1%, glucose 0.5%, NZ-case 0.3%, yeast extract (Kyokuto Pharmaceutical Industrial, Co., Ltd, Tokyo, Japan) 0.2%, Tryptone (Difco Laboratories, Sparks, MD, USA) 0.5%, K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 0.1%, MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O 0.05% and CaCO<sub>3</sub> 0.3% (pH 7.0). The flasks were cultivated on a rotary shaker (200 r.p.m.) at 30 °C for 4 days. The seed culture (3 ml) was transferred into 500 ml K-1 flasks each containing 100 ml of the production medium consisting of glucose 0.5%, glycerol 2%, soluble starch 2%, Pharmamedia (Traders Protein) 1.5%, yeast extract 0.3% and Diaion HP-20 (Mitsubishi Chemical Co., Yokohama, Japan) 1%. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 7.0 before sterilization. The inoculated flasks were cultured on a rotary shaker (200 r.p.m.) at 30 °C for 7 days.

### Extraction and isolation

The whole culture broth of strain TP-A0872 (3 l) was extracted with 1-butanol (100 ml per flasks) on a rotary shaker (200 r.p.m.) for 1 h. The mixture was centrifuged at 6000 r.p.m. for 10 min and the organic layer was separated from the aqueous layer containing the mycelium. Evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo* provided 5.23 g of extract, which was subjected to silica gel column chromatography with a step gradient of CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH (16:1, 8:1, 4:1, 2:1, 1:1 and 0:1 v/v). Concentration of fraction 2 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH=8:1) provided 1.1 g of brown powders, which was further purified by HPLC separation with a gradient of MeCN-0.15% KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> buffer (pH 3.5) (0–6 min: 40%; 6–20 min: 40–50%; 15 ml min<sup>-1</sup>). Compound **1** was eluted at 17.8 min. Fraction was pooled and concentrated under reduced pressure and the remaining aqueous

solution was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was concentrated to give **1** (8.8 mg) as a colorless solid.

*Simamycin* (5-*O*'-geranyluridine, **1**). Colorless needles; mp 95–96 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24</sup> +13 (c 0.10, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 263 nm (3.90); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$  3377, 1694, 1664 cm<sup>-1</sup>; For <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data, see Table 1. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.3 (N-1), 155.7 (N-3) (chemical shifts were indirectly determined from the projection of <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>15</sup>N HMBC spectrum); HR-FABMS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 381.2027 (calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 381.2025).

### Bis-*p*-bromobenzoate of **1** (**2**)

To a solution of **1** (3.0 mg, 7.9  $\mu$ mol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.2 ml) and dry pyridine (0.6 ml) were added *N,N*-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (a trace amount) and *p*-bromobenzoyl chloride (3.5 mg, 16  $\mu$ mol) at 0–5 °C. After stirring for 20 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with ice water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was successively washed with sat. CuSO<sub>4</sub> solution, sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane-EtOAc, 10:1 ~ 1:1) to give **2** (1.0 mg, 17% yield) as a light yellow solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.16 (1H, s), 5.76 (1H, d, *J*=8.2 Hz, H-5), 7.99 (1H, d, *J*=8.2 Hz, H-6), 6.53 (1H, d, *J*=7.7 Hz, H-7), 5.62 (1H, dd, *J*=7.7, 5.6 Hz, H-8), 5.73 (1H, m, H-9), 4.48 (1H, br.s, H-10), 3.81 (1H, dd, *J*=9.4, 1.7 Hz, H-11), 3.72 (1H, dd, *J*=9.4, 1.7 Hz, H-11), 4.18 (1H, dd, *J*=11.6, 6.8 Hz, H-12), 4.13 (1H, dd, *J*=11.6, 7.2 Hz, H-12), 5.37 (1H, t, *J*=6.5 Hz, H-13), 2.31 (2H, m, H-15), 2.09 (2H, m, H-16), 5.02 (1H, t, *J*=6.6 Hz, H-17), 1.67 (3H, s, H-19), 1.73 (3H, s, H-20), 1.57 (3H, s, H-21), 7.84 (2H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz), 7.46 (2H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz), 7.73 (2H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz), 7.58 (2H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.3 (C-2), 162.4 (C-4), 103.3 (C-5), 140.0 (C-6), 85.9 (C-7), 74.2 (C-8), 73.5 (C-9), 83.1 (C-10), 69.2 (C-11), 67.9 (C-12), 119.4 (C-13), 142.3 (C-14), 39.6 (C-15), 26.4 (C-16), 123.6 (C-17), 131.98 (C-18), 25.7 (C-19), 16.5 (C-20), 17.7 (C-21), 127.3, 127.7, 129.07, 129.13, 131.2, 131.3, 132.0, 132.1, 164.5, 164.8; HR-FABMS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 767.0580 (calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>Na, 756.0579).

### 5-*O*-Geranyl-2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-1-uracil- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranoside (**4**)

To a solution of uridine (700 mg, 2.87 mmol) in dry *N,N*-dimethylformamide (70 ml) were added 2,2-dimethoxypropane (7 ml, 57 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (70 mg, 0.37 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 18 h, the reaction was quenched by adding saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution to the reaction mixture until the pH became 7.0. The reaction mixture was diluted with distilled water and loaded onto an HP-20 column and the column was washed with distilled water. The column was then eluted with MeOH and the eluent was concentrated under reduced pressure to give 2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-1-uracil- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranoside (**3**, 500 mg, 61% yield). Spectroscopic data were in good agreement with reported values.<sup>9</sup>

To a suspension of **3** (120 mg, 0.42 mmol) in a mixture of dry benzene (1.45 ml) and dry 1,4-dioxane (0.45 ml) was added NaH (40% purity, 60 mg, 2.5 mmol) under argon atmosphere. The mixture was heated at 80–100 °C for 30 min with stirring. After cooling to the ambient temperature, geranyl bromide (0.17 ml, 0.89 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated at 90–95 °C for 3 h. The reaction was quenched by adding water at 0–5 °C and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was applied to silica gel column chromatography (*n*-hexane:EtOAc=16:1 ~ 1:1) to give **4** (39 mg, 22% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.58 (1H, s), 7.68 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 5.95 (1H, d, *J*=3.0 Hz), 5.67 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 5.29

(1H, t,  $J=5.5$  Hz), 5.06 (1H, t,  $J=5.5$  Hz), 4.79 (1H, dd,  $J=6.0, 3.0$  z), 4.78 (1H, dd,  $J=4.0, 2.5$  Hz), 4.39 (1H, dd,  $J=3.5, 3.0$  Hz), 4.03 (1H, d,  $J=7.0$  Hz), 3.69 (1H, dd,  $J=8.0, 2.5$  Hz), 3.60 (1H, dd,  $J=8.0, 3.5$  Hz), 2.09 (2H, m), 2.05 (2H, m), 1.68 (3H, s), 1.66 (3H, s), 1.06 (3H, s), 1.59 (3H, s), 1.36 (3H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  16.5, 17.7, 25.3, 25.7, 26.3, 27.2, 39.6, 67.8, 69.8, 81.8, 85.1, 85.6, 92.6, 102.0, 114.1, 119.9, 123.7, 131.8, 141.1, 141.3, 150.3, 163.6; HR-ESITOFMS  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  443.2153 (calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{Na}$ , 443.2153).

### Synthetic 1

A stirred solution of **4** (9.4 mg, 22  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in 95% EtOH (3 ml) and 0.1 M HCl (1 ml) was heated at 70–80 °C for 4 h. After cooling to the ambient temperature, 0.1 M NaOH solution was added to adjust the pH to 7.0. The reaction mixture was then extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by preparative HPLC in the same manner described for natural simamycin to yield 6.3 mg of **1** (74% yield): colorless solid;  $[\alpha]_D^{24} +16$  ( $c$  0.10,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data were in good agreement with those for natural **1**; HR-ESITOFMS  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  403.1840 (calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{Na}$ , 403.1839).

*Biological assays.* Adipocyte differentiation assay<sup>10</sup>, antimicrobial assay<sup>14</sup> and cytotoxic assay<sup>14</sup> were carried out according to the procedures previously described.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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