Supporting Information

for

Biocatalytic Hydrogen-Transfer To Access Enantiomerically Pure Proxyphylline, Xanthinol, and Diprophylline

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1. Synthesis of the Prochiral Starting Materials 2a-b



Prior to developing the bioreduction step, the syntheses of both racemic alcohols rac-1a-b and the corresponding ketones 2a-b were performed following the methods already reported in the literature. Firstly, to obtain racemic proxyphylline (rac-1a), the triethylamine-mediated regioselective ring-opening of racemic propylene oxide with commercially available theophylline in methanol was performed furnishing the product in 74% yield [1]. In turn, the synthesis of racemic 7-(3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyl)theophylline (rac-1b) was accomplished in a 2-step reaction sequence by the K₂CO₃-mediated regioselective ring-opening of racemic epichlorohydrin with theophylline dissolved in dimethylformamide, followed by the treatment of the obtained epoxide with 36% HCl in chloroform [2]. In this case, the desired chlorohydrin rac-1b was synthesized in 41% total yield after two steps.

The resulting alcohols rac-1a-b were then chemically oxidized using a suspension of pyridinium chlorochromate (PCC) in dichloromethane, thus furnishing prochiral ketones: 2a in 64% yield and 2b in 33% yield, respectively. In the case of PCC-mediated oxidation of rac-1a, the oxidizing agent was used in 1.5 equiv, and the reaction was stopped after 12 h. In contrast, the oxidation of rac-1b required 3 equiv of PCC and additional elongation of the reaction time up to 72 h to reach only half of the yield achieved for 2a.

2. Synthesis of the Sillylated Derivatives rac-3a-b for GC analysis



Subsequently, GC analytical methods to separate the corresponding alcohol-ketone pair requested for reliable measurement of the enzymatic reaction conversion values (% conv.) have been undertaken. However, it turned out that the baseline resolution for the alcohol-ketone mixtures using a semi-polar GC-column could not be reached in both cases. Therefore, silylation of the polar hydroxyl groups in alcohols *rac*-**1a**–**b** using standard derivatization protocol employing *N*,*O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (BSA) in dichloromethane had to be applied to obtain more volatile compounds characterized by much lower values of the retention times (t_R) than ketones. As we needed trimethylsilyl ethers *rac*-**3a**–**b** in more significant amounts to proceed with calibration curves for GC analyses, the preparative scale for the silylation reaction was also performed, furnishing both derivatives in the range of 81–94% yield (after column chromatography), respectively.

Table S1. Analytical-scale studies on stereoselective reduction of ketones 2a-b (10 mM final conc.) with different biocatalysts.



		2a		2b	
Entry	Biocatalyst/Cofactor ^a	Conv. ^b [%]	ee _p ^c [%] (Config. ^d)	Conv. ^b [%]	ee _p ^c [%] (Config. ^d)
1	Pichia pastoris ATCC 76273/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f
2	Pseudomonas sp. DSM 6978 / NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f
3	Arthrobacter sp. DSM 7325/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	>99 ^g	98 (S)
4	Actinomyces sp. SRB-AN040 FCC025/NADH	30	99 (<i>S</i>)	>99 ^g	80 (<i>R</i>)
5	Actinomyces sp. SRB-AN053 FCC027/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f
6	Actinomyces sp. ARG-AN024 FCC014/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	23 ^g	85 (<i>S</i>)
7	ARG-AN025 FCC015/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	9 ^g	76 (<i>S</i>)
8	USA-AN012 FCC021/NADH	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	16 ^g	59 (S)
9	<i>E. coli/</i> TeSADH/NADH [#]	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f
10	E. coli/TeSADH/NADPH [#]	-	-	>99	36 (<i>S</i>)
11	<i>E. coli</i> /ADH-T/NADH [*]	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A.
12	<i>E. coli</i> /ADH-T/NADPH ^h	-	-	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{<i>f</i>,<i>g</i>}
13	<i>E. coli</i> /ReADH/NADH ^h	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f
14	<i>E. coli</i> /ReADH/NADPH ^h	-	-	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{f,g}
15	E. coli/RasADH/NADH ^h	18	60 (<i>S</i>)	>99	12 (<i>R</i>)
16	E. coli/RasADH/NADPH ^h	-	-	>99	20(R)
17	<i>E. coli</i> /SyADH/NADH [*]	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{f,g}
18	<i>E. coli</i> /SyADH/NADPH [#]	-	-	>99	94 (<i>R</i>)
19	E. coli/ADH-A/NADH ^h	>99	>99 (S)	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{<i>f</i>,<i>g</i>}
20	<i>E. coli</i> /LB-ADH/NADH ^h	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^f	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{f,g}
21	<i>E. coli</i> /LB-ADH/NADPH [#]	-	-	>99	61 (<i>S</i>)
22	<i>E. coli</i> /Lk-ADH-Lica/NADH ^h	>99	>99 (R)	>99	99 (S)
23	E. coli/Lk-ADH/NADH ^h	N.D. ^e	N.A.	N.D. ^e	N.A. ^{f,g}
24	<i>E. coli</i> /Lk-ADH/NADPH [#]	-	-	>99	61 (<i>S</i>)
25	E. coli/Lk-ADH Prince/NADH ^h	88	>99 (R)	>99	98 (S)

^a Reaction conditions: lyophilized biocatalyst (10 mg), 20 mM glucose (in the case of wild-type microorganisms), 0.5 mM NAD(P)H, 0.1 M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.5)/2-PrOH (500 μL, 90:10, v/v), DMSO (2.5% v/v), 48 h, 30 °C, 250 rpm (laboratory shaker).

^b Conversion values (%) (i.e., consumption of substrates **2a–b**) were determined by GC analyses after derivatization of crude mixture with BSA as a silylating reagent. ^c Determined for *non-rac*-**1a–b** by HPLC analyses using a Chiralcel AD-H column with a chiral stationary phase.

^d Absolute configuration of optically active products (*non-rac-***1a**–**b**) established by comparing HPLC picks elution order with enantiomeric standards. Major enantiomer is shown in parentheses.

^eNot detected.

^f Not applicable because of no detectable conversion.

^g Complex mixture of byproducts.

^h Reaction conducted without glucose.

Compound	Temperature program [°C]	Retention time [min]		
		3.95		
	260 (isothermal)	4.01		
		2.64		
		6.41		
OH N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	260 (isothermal)	6.56		
SI O V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V		4.39		

Table S2. Analytical separation conditions of studied compounds by GC column.

Compound	HPLC Column	Mobile Phase	Flow Rate [mL/min]	Detection [nm] /	Retention
Compound		<i>n</i> -Hexane/IPA/DEA [v/v/v] ^[b]	/ Pressure [MPa]	Temperature [°C]	[min]
OH N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	Chiralpak AD-H	78:22:0 ^[b]	1.0 / 4.7	273 / 25	7.384 (<i>S</i>) and 8.541 (<i>R</i>)
OH N N CI	Chiralpak AD-H	78:22:0 ^[b]	0.3 / 1.6	273 / 25	33.585 (<i>R</i>) and 35.954 (<i>S</i>)
o∱N [⊥] N <i>rac-</i> 1b	Chiralpak AD-H	78:22:0 ^[b]	0.3 / 1.6	273 / 25	35.903 (<i>R</i>) and 39.419 (<i>S</i>)
Compound	HPLC Column	Mobile Phase	Flow Rate [mL/min]	Detection [nm]	Retention
Compound		n-Hexane/EtOH/DEA [v/v/v] ^[b]			[min]
OH N N N N N N OH OH rac4	Lux i-Cellulose-5	70:30:0.1	1.0 / 7.4	273 / 25	24.449 (<i>S</i>) and 27.028 (<i>R</i>)
	Lux i-Cellulose-5	70:30:0	1.0 / 7.2	274 / 30	17.165 (<i>R</i>) and 19.342 (<i>S</i>)

Table S3. HPLC analytical separation conditions of purine derivatives by chiral columns – Chiralpak AD-H (Daicel[®]) or Lux i-Cellulose-5 (Phenomenex[®]).^[a]

^[a] Performed on a Shimadzu Nexera-*i* (LC-2040C 3D) equipped with a photodiode array detector (PAD).

^[b] IPA states for 2-PrOH (propan-2-ol); EtOH states for ethanol; DEA states for diethylamine.

HPLC of 2a on Chiralpak AD-H at 25 °C





S6

The HPLC analysis of whole microbial cells and ADHs-catalyzed stereoselective reductions of 1,3-dimethyl-7-(2-oxopropyl)-3,7-dihydro-1*H*-purine-2,6-dione (2a) – *Screening of the whole-cell biocatalysts*











The HPLC analysis of ADHs-catalyzed stereoselective reductions of 1,3-dimethyl-7-(2-oxopropyl)-3,7-dihydro-1*H*-purine-2,6-dione (2a) – *Up-scaling*







HPLC of 2b on Chiralpak AD-H at 25 °C





HPLC analytical separation for enantiomers of *rac*-1b on Chiralpak AD-H at 25 °C (a few months later)



The HPLC analysis of whole microbial cells and ADHs-catalyzed bioreductions of 7-(3-chloro-2-oxopropyl)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1*H*-purine-2,6-dione (2b) – *Screening of the whole-cell biocatalysts*

















The HPLC analysis of ADHs-catalyzed bioreductions of 7-(3-chloro-2-oxopropyl)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1*H*-purine-2,6-dione (2b) in the presence of NADPH – *Screening of the whole-cell biocatalysts*











The HPLC analysis of ADHs-catalyzed bioreductions of 7-(3-chloro-2-oxopropyl)-1,3dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1*H*-purine-2,6-dione (2b) – *Up-scaling*











HPLC analytical separation for both enantiomers of xanthinol (*rac*-4) on Lux i-Cellulose-5 at 25 °C

HPLC conditions: *n*-hexane-EtOH-DEA (70:30:0.1, v/v/v); f=1.0 mL/min; λ =273 nm;







HPLC analytical separation for both enantiomers of diprophylline (*rac*-5) on Lux i-Cellulose-5 at 30 °C











¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-1a (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-1a (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of rac-1a (ESI-TOF)



¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-**1b** (500 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-1b (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of *rac-1b* (ESI-TOF)







¹³C NMR spectrum of **2a** (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of 2a (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of 2a (Mineral oil, Nujol)







¹³C NMR spectrum of **2b** (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of **2b** (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of **2b** (Mineral oil, Nujol)



1,3-Dimethyl-7-{2-[(trimethylsilyl)oxy]propyl}-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione (rac-3a)

¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-**3a** (500 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-3a (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of *rac-3a* (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of *rac-3a* (Mineral oil, Nujol)



7-{3-Chloro-2-[(trimethylsilyl)oxy]propyl}-1,3-dimethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-purine-2,6dione (rac-3b)

¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-**3b** (500 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-**3b** (126 MHz, CDCl₃)



FTMS spectrum of *rac-3b* (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of *rac-3b* (Mineral oil, Nujol)



7-{2-Hydroxy-3-[(2-hydroxyethyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1Hpurine-2,6-dione (xanthinol, rac-4) ¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-4 (500 MHz, D₂O)



¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-4 (126 MHz, D₂O)



FTMS spectrum of *rac*-4 (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of *rac*-4 (Mineral oil, Nujol)



 $\label{eq:constraint} 7-(2,3-Dihydroxypropyl)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione~(diprophylline,~rac-1)-1,3-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,~rac-1,7-dimethylline,$

5)

¹H NMR spectrum of *rac*-**5** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



¹³C NMR spectrum of *rac*-**5** (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



FTMS spectrum of *rac-5* (ESI-TOF)



IR spectrum of rac-5 (Mineral oil, Nujol)



References

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