

Concise Synthesis of *N,N*-Dimethyltryptamine and 5-Methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine Starting with Bufotenine from Brazilian *Anadenanthera* spp.

Leandro A. Moreira^a, Maria M. Murta^a, Claudia C. Gatto^a, Christopher W. Fagg^b and Maria L. dos Santos^{a,*}

^aInstituto de Química, Universidade de Brasília, Brasília-DF, Brazil, 70919-970

^bFaculdade UnB Ceilândia, Universidade de Brasília, Ceilândia-DF, Brazil, 72220-140

mlsantos@unb.br

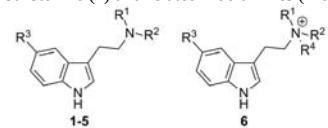
Received: September 9th, 2014; Accepted: February 17th, 2015

Bufotenine (**1**, 5-hydroxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine) was isolated from seeds of *Anadenanthera* spp., a tree widespread in the Brazilian cerrado, using an efficient acid-base shakeout protocol. The conversion of bufotenine into *N,N*-dimethyltryptamine (**4**) and 5-methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine (**5**) was accomplished through an innovative and short approach featuring the use of novel bufotenine-aminoborane complex (**7**). Furthermore, an easy methodology for conversion of bufotenine into 5-hydroxy-*N,N,N*-trimethyltryptamine (**6**) was well-established. This is the first study that highlights bufotenine as a resource for the production of *N,N*-dimethyltryptamines for either pharmacological and toxicological investigations or for synthetic purposes.

Keywords: *Anadenanthera*, Bufotenine, Bufotenine-aminoborane complex, Bufotenidine, *N,N*-Dimethyltryptamine, 5-Methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine.

The narcotic snuff (*cohoba*) of *Piptadenia* spp. has been used in syncretic religious ceremonies in Central and South America since ancient times [1], even though bufotenine (**1**, HDMT) was first isolated in 1954 from seeds of *P. peregrina* Benth (*Anadenanthera peregrina* L. Speg.) by Stromberg [2]. HDMT together with some related indoleamines and corresponding *N*-oxides were isolated from *P. peregrina* and related species [3]. Fellows and Bell [4] studying indole metabolism in *P. peregrina* showed an unusual direct enzymatic hydroxylation of tryptamine (**2**) to serotonin (**3**), suggesting the latter as the biosynthetic precursor of HDMT instead of DMT (**4**) (Table 1). The occurrence and quantitative detection of **1** in other vegetal sources, such as hardinggrass (*Phalaris* spp.) [5], *takini*, a shamanic potion from latex of *Brosimum acutifolium* [6], and *Citrus* species [7] were also reported. Furthermore, HDMT has been found in three arboreal amphibian species of the *Osteocephalus* (*O. taurinus*, *O. oophagus*, and *O. langsdorffii*), as well as in the marine invertebrate *Paramuricea clavata* [8].

Table 1: Structure of bufotenine (**1**) and related indolamines (**2-6**).



Compds	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	Name(s)
1	Me	Me	OH	-	5-Hydroxy- <i>N,N</i> -dimethyltryptamine, bufotenine, HDMT
2	H	H	H	-	Tryptamine
3	H	H	OH	-	Serotonin, 5-HT
4	Me	Me	H	-	<i>N,N</i> -Dimethyltryptamine, DMT
5	Me	Me	OMe	-	5-Methoxy- <i>N,N</i> -dimethyltryptamine, MDMT
6	Me	Me	OH	Me	5-Hydroxy- <i>N,N,N</i> -trimethyltryptamine, bufotenidine, cinobufotenine

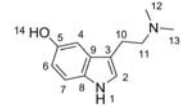
Since the discovery of HDMT and its relatives in the skin of Bufo toads (e.g. *B. alvarius*, *B. marinus*, *B. vulgaris*, *B. gargarizans*), writings have been controversial over the psychedelic effects of toads and bufotenine [9]. Likewise, **1** has become the center of scientific debate since its detection in human urine, and extensive literature surrounding *N,N*-dimethyltryptamines in humans fluids

has been reviewed [10]. It is noteworthy that patients with mental illnesses such as autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and schizophrenia have exhibited significant urinary levels of HDMT, suggesting that this alkaloid plays a role in ASD and schizophrenia and may be correlated with hyperactivity scores in autism [11]. Interest in the metabolism and pharmacokinetics, plus understanding the mechanism of action, of tryptamine derivatives has been growing in recent years, mostly for antipsychotic drugs that act directly on the serotonin 2A receptor (5-HT_{2A}). Studies for mapping the binding site pocket of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor revealed its high affinity for serotonergic ligands HDMT and LSD [12]. Investigations using recombinant cytochrome P₄₅₀ isoenzymes showed that MDMT acts as a nonselective 5-HT agonist and causes many physiological and behavioral changes. Besides, it is O-demethylated by polymorphic CYP2D6 to generate HDMT, a metabolite more potent than DMT [13]. Latterly, it was demonstrated that coadministration of the monoamine oxidase A (MAO-A) inhibitor, harmaline, increases systemic exposure to MDMT and HDMT. These data provided a fused model including the inhibition of MAO-A- and CYP2D6-catalyzed MDMT metabolism by harmaline to describe blood harmaline, DMT, and HDMT PK profiles [14]. The synergistic action of these alkaloids is considered to be the basis of the psychotropic action of ayahuasca [15], a beverage that has been officially incorporated in rituals of religious groups in Brazil to facilitate self-knowledge and introspection, deserving the attention of researchers [16]. Up-to-date, the hallucinogen DMT was identified as a potent endogenous agonist for the sigma-1 receptor [17] and more recently it was shown to inhibit the indolethylamine-*N*-methyltransferase (INMT) responsible for the transfer of one or more methyl groups to small molecules such as endogenous indole-containing compounds, through a mixed competitive and noncompetitive mechanism [18].

This work describes a different protocol for the isolation of bufotenine (**1**) from seeds of *Anadenanthera* spp., a widespread tree of the Brazilian cerrado, and focuses on the synthesis of DMT (**4**) and MDMT (**5**) starting with **1**.

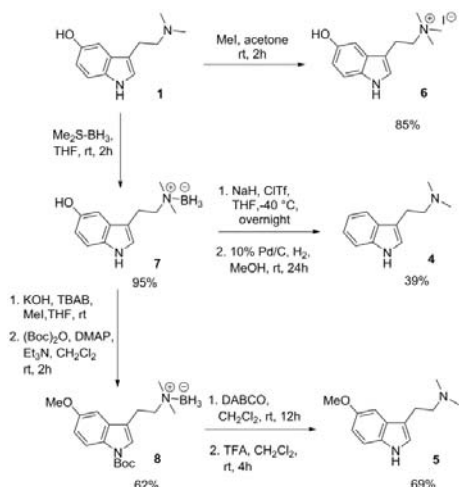
Preliminary extractions of bufotenine from seeds of *Anadenanthera* were carried out in full accordance with the literature [2], which yielded the alkaloid in about 1%. The requirement to collect **1** in sufficient quantity for pharmacological studies, as well as to access synthetic routes designed for *N,N*-dimethyltryptamines, encouraged us to improve the extraction methodology. As pointed out in the experimental section, using a modified version of the classic acid-base shakeout method and avoiding chlorinated organic solvents, bufotenine was selectively extracted in 2.4% from *A. colubrina* and 4% from *A. peregrina* (greater than the above described). The HR-ESIMS of **1** showed a quasi-molecular ion peak at m/z 205.1335 $[M + H]^+$ corresponding to the formula $C_{12}H_{17}N_2O$. 1H - and ^{13}C - and two-dimensional (COSY, HMQC and HMBC) NMR experiments were also used to accomplish bufotenine identification. The 1H and ^{13}C NMR assignments are given in Table 2, in accordance with the numbered structure.

Table 2: 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectral data for isolated bufotenine (**1**).^a



Position	δ_H	δ_C	APT	1H - ^{13}C COSY	HMBC
1	-	-	-	-	-
2	6.64 (s)	122.6	CH	-	H-10
3	-	111.4	C	-	H-2, H-4, H-10, H-11
4	6.87 (d, 2.4)	102.2	CH	-	H-6
5	-	159.7	C	-	H-6, H-7
6	6.86 (dd, 8.5; 2.4)	111.1	CH	H-7	H-4, H-7
7	6.89 (dd, 8.5; 0.64)	111.4	CH	H-6	H-6
8	-	131.6	C	-	H-4, H-6
9	-	127.9	C	-	H-2, H-7
10	2.54 - 2.51 (m)	22.9	CH ₂	H-11	H-11
11	2.30 - 2.26 (m)	59.8	CH ₂	H-10	H-10, H-12/H-13
12, 13	1.93 (s)	43.9	CH ₃	-	H-11, H-12/C-13
14	9.63 (s)	-	-	-	-

^a 1H NMR (300 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz) were performed in methanol- d_4 .



Scheme 1: Synthetic path for DMT (**4**), MDMT (**5**), bufotenidine (**6**) from HDMT (**1**).

Scheme 1 outlines our approach to the synthesis of the title compounds. After several attempts, **1** was first over *N*-methylated in mild conditions (without basic catalysis) furnishing 5-hydroxy-*N,N,N*-trimethyltryptamine (**6**) in 85%, after crystallization from acetone. However our efforts to convert this ammonium salt into DMT (**4**) failed in the final step, which was selective mono *N*-demethylation. To overcome this limitation, **1** was converted into an aminoborane complex (**7**) with borane-dimethyl sulfide. Then, DMT (**4**) was prepared in 39% overall yield from **7** by transforming the 5-OH group into an *O*-Tf moiety, which was removed by catalytic hydrogenation. The aminoborane complex (**7**) was treated with iodomethane under PTC (KOH powder, TBAB in dried THF),

followed by protection of the indole amine group with Boc to afford **8**. The latter was subsequently treated with DABCO and TFA for removal of both protecting groups, furnishing MDMT (**5**) in 69% overall yield (Scheme 1). All intermediates and targets covered in the synthetic path were characterized by HR-ESIMS, IR-FT and 1H and ^{13}C plus two-dimensional (COSY, HMQC, HMBC) NMR experiments. Table 3 shows the ^{13}C NMR assignments for **4** to **8**.

The HR-ESIMS of **6** showed an ion peak at m/z 219.1493 $[M + H]^+$, corresponding to the formula $C_{13}H_{20}N_2O$. The structure of **6** could be determined based on characteristic signals at δ_H 3.16 (9H, s) and δ_C 52.6 (3C) relative to the methyl group by comparison with those of **1** at δ_H 2.27 (6H, s) and δ_C 45.2 (2C). The aminoborane complex (**7**) was established from the ion peak at m/z 241.1495 corresponding to the $[M + Na]^+$ ion. Its IR spectrum exhibited bands at 2388, 2313 and 2279 cm^{-1} (borane group). The 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compound **7** were rather similar to those of **1**, except for chemical shifts related to methylene and methyl groups. The structure of the novel derivative was further confirmed by X-ray crystallographic methods (Figure 1).

Table 3: ^{13}C NMR data for **4**, **5**, **7** (75 MHz, methanol- d_4), **6** (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) and **8** (75 MHz, CDCl₃).

Position	4	5	6	7	8
1-NH	-	-	-	-	-
2-CH	123.7	122.6	124.3	121.6	123.2
3-C	112.0	99.7	107.8	108.8	118.5
4-CH	118.7	99.8	102.7	100.7	101.8
5-CO or 5-CH	118.9	153.5	150.8	148.5	149.7
6-CH	121.7	111.5	112.3	110.2	112.6
7-CH	109.5	111.1	112.1	109.9	115.9
8-C	136.7	132.0	131.2	130.4	130.1
9-C	127.1	127.4	127.8	126.5	131.4
10-CH ₂	20.9	22.6	19.2	18.7	23.4
11-CH ₂	57.6	59.7	52.6	63.4	59.1
12, 13-NCH ₃	43.0	43.8	65.7	49.3	43.4
14-CH ₃	-	55.0	-	-	55.7
15-COO (Boc group)	-	-	-	-	155.7

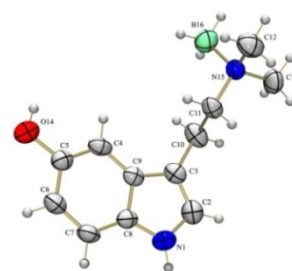


Figure 1: An ORTEP-3 representation (50% probability displacement ellipsoids) of the asymmetric unit of the aminoborane complex (**7**).

N,N-Dimethyltryptamine (**4**), $C_{12}H_{17}N_2$, showed a $[M + H]^+$ ion in its HR-ESIMS at m/z 189.1482. The 1H NMR, aromatic region was observed at δ_H 7.03-7.16 (2H, m); 7.19 (1H, s); 7.39 (1H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz); 7.59 (1H, d, $J = 7.69$ Hz) corresponding to 5-H, 6-H, 2-H, 7-H, and 6-H, respectively. In comparing with the precursor **7**, the signal for C-5 moves from δ_C 148.5 to 118.7. The 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the intermediate **8** showed additional signals correlated with 5-methoxyl (δ_H 3.86, 3H, s; δ_C 55.7), *tert*-butyl (δ_H 1.65, 9H, s; δ_C 83.1, 28.1) and carboxyl (δ_C 155.7) groups in comparison with **7**. Its IR spectrum exhibited absorption at 2365, 2314 and 2267 cm^{-1} (borane group) and at 1754 cm^{-1} (Boc group). The HR-ESIMS of MDMT (**5**), in the positive mode, revealed a peak at m/z 219.1493 $[M + H]^+$, indicating $C_{13}H_{18}N_2O$ as the molecular formula. The 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of **5** showed a methoxyl group (δ_H 3.82, 3H, s; δ_C 55.0) but lacked a Boc group. The IR spectra of **4** and **5** did not exhibit absorptions related to the borane group.

Herein bufotenine was efficiently isolated from seeds of *Anadenanthera* and employed for a partial synthesis of DMT (**4**)

and MDMT (5). Furthermore, bufotenine was effortlessly converted into an aminoborane complex (7) and trimethyl ammonium salt (6). As far as we know, this is the first time that such protocols are reported, including the description of the aminoborane complex (7). The synthesized dimethyltryptamines will serve as analytical standards for future pharmacological studies.

Experimental

General: Chemicals and absorbents were purchased from commercial sources. Commercial aluminum sheets (silica gel 60, F₂₅₄/0.2 mm) were used for analytical TLC and compounds were visualized with UV light, sulfuric acid/vanillin, or Dragendorff's reagent. CC was carried out on silica gel 60. NMR spectra were recorded at 25°C on a Varian Mercury Plus spectrometer (7.05 T) operating at 300 MHz for ¹H and 75.46 MHz for ¹³C. Chemical shifts (δ) were reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) for ¹H NMR and deuterated solvent (methanol-*d*₄ and DMSO-*d*₆) for ¹³C NMR. Coupling constants were reported as *J* (Hz). IR (KBr) spectra were measured on a Varian FT 640-IR. HR-ESIMS were obtained on a Micro TOF Bruker Daltonics Inc.

Plant material: Seeds of *Anadenanthera* were collected during August-September of 2009 and 2011 around the University of Brasilia, in cerrado *sensu strito* vegetation at an altitude of 1030 m. Voucher specimens were authenticated by Fagg CW and deposited in the Herbarium (UB), UnB, CEP 70919970, Brasilia DF, Brazil, under codes Fagg CW 1739, *Anadenanthera peregrina* (L.) Speg. var. *peregrina*, and Fagg CW 1737, *Anadenanthera colubrina* (Vell.) Brenan var. *cebil* (Griseb.) Altschul.

Extraction and isolation of bufotenine (1): Air-dried seeds of *Anadenanthera* species (50 g) were powdered in a domestic blender and defatted with *n*-hexane (80 mL x 3) under magnetic stirring for 2 h at 25°C. After filtering, the residual solid was extracted with MeOH (80 mL x 4) with magnetic stirring for 2 h at 25°C. The filtered methanolic extract was concentrated in vacuum to 80 mL and diluted with H₂O (100 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h with aqueous 2 M HCl (40 mL), neutralized with solid Na₂CO₃ (7.0 g), and extracted with AcOEt (20 mL x 10). The combined extract was dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated in vacuum to afford a brown amorphous solid, which was recrystallized from AcOEt to yield **1** [yellowish pale solid, 2.0 g (1.2%) for *A. colubrina* and 2.0 g (4%) for *A. peregrina*].

R_f: 0.45 (MeOH-AcOEt-NH₄OH 1:1:0.1).

MP: 150-155°C (lit. [2] 146-147°C).

IR (KBr): 3409, 2945, 1623, 1468, 1245, 1056, 827, 796, 504 cm⁻¹.

¹H and ¹³C NMR (methanol-*d*₄): Table 2.

HR-ESIMS: *m/z* 205.1335 (calc. 205.1341 for C₁₂H₁₇N₂O, [M + H]⁺).

5-Hydroxy-*N,N,N*-trimethyltryptamine (6): A mixture of **1** (0.204 g, 1.0 mmol) and iodomethane (0.283 g, 2.0 mmol) in acetone (3.0 mL) was stirred at 25°C for 3 h, under N₂. Then the solvent was evaporated in vacuum and the residual solid was recrystallized from acetone to give **6** (amorphous yellowish solid, 0.186 g, 85%).

MP: 210-214°C (lit. [19] 211-215°C).

IR (KBr): 3347, 3413, 1617, 1456, 1201, 1096, 616 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 3.05-3.10 (2H, m), 2.18 (9H, s), 3.54-3.57 (2H, m), 6.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4; 2.31 Hz), 6.88 (1H, d, *J* = 2.14 Hz), 7.14 (d, *J* = 3.21 Hz), 7.16 (1H, s), 8.64 (1H, s), 10.64 (1H, sl).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): Table 3.

HR-ESIMS: *m/z* 219.1493 (calc. 219.1497 for C₁₃H₂₀N₂O, [M + H]⁺).

Bufotenine-aminoborane complex (7): To a solution of **1** (1.02 g, 5.0 mmol) in THF, dried prior to use, was added 10 M Me₂S-BH₃ in THF (0.75 mL, 7.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 2 h, under N₂. After concentration, the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL). The organic layer was washed with 10% aqueous NH₄OH (100 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated in vacuum. CC (*n*-hexane:AcOEt 2:1) of the residue afforded **7** (white crystals, 1.03 g, 95%).

R_f: 0.3 (*n*-hexane-AcOEt 2:1)

MP: 123-125°C.

IR (KBr): 3395, 3028, 2894, 1697, 1576, 1485, 1220, 927, 698 cm⁻¹

¹H NMR (300 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): 2.58 (6H, s), 2.91-2.96 (2H, m), 3.05-3.09 (2H, m), 6.68 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.7; 2.7 Hz), 6.95 (1H, d, *J* = 2.7 Hz), 6.17 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.7; 2.7 Hz).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): Table 3.

HR-ESIMS: *m/z* 241.1495 (calc. 241.1488 for C₁₂H₁₉BN₂ONa, [M + Na]⁺).

Crystal data for complex (7): Crystallographic measurements were collected on a Bruker CCD SMART APEX II single crystal diffractometer with Mo Kα radiation (0.71073 Å) at 296K, processed with SAINT and corrected for absorption using SADABS [20]. Experimental data can be found on file deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre with CCDC number 1022431. The structures were solved by Direct Methods using SHELXS-97 and subsequent Fourier-difference map analyses yielded the positions of the non-hydrogen atoms; the refinement was performed using SHELXL-97 [21]. Molecular graphics, ORTEP-3, software were used to prepare material for publication, WinGX-Routine. C₁₂H₁₉N₂O₂B; *M* = 218.10; monoclinic, space group P2₁; *a* = 5.849(3) Å, *b* = 7.671(4) Å, *c* = 13.763(6) Å; *α* = *γ* = 90°, *β* = 92.160(3)°; *V* = 617.17(5) Å³; *Z* = 2; *D*_c = 1.174 g.cm⁻³; *F*(000) = 236; colorless block, size 0.49 x 0.28 x 0.15 mm; 2423 independent measured reflections, refinement based on *F*² to give *R*₁ [*F*² > 4σ(*F*²)] = 0.048; *w*₂ = 0.106 for 5791 observed reflections, and 151 parameters.

***N,N*-Dimethyltryptamine (4):** A mixture of NaH (0.06 g, 2.4 mmol, 60% in mineral oil) and **7** (0.436 g, 2.0 mmol) in THF was stirred at -40°C for 20 min, under N₂. CIT_f (0.6 mL, 8.0 mmol) was added dropwise and stirring was continued for an additional 12 h. The mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL), the organic phase washed with 10% aqueous NH₄OH (10 mL x 3) and brine (10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was diluted in MeOH and Pd-C (10% Pd, 0.235 g, 0.22 mmol) was added; the reaction flask was degassed and fitted with a balloon filled with H₂. Stirring was maintained at 25°C for 24 h. Afterwards, the mixture was filtered through Celite® with MeOH, the filtrate concentrated in vacuum, and CC (AcOEt-Et₃N 1:1.0 x 10⁻³) of the residue afforded **4** (yellow solid, 0.147 g, 39%).

R_f: 0.40 (MeOH-AcOEt-NH₄OH, 1:1:0.1).

MP: 37-40°C (lit. [22] 38-40°C).

IR (KBr): 3416, 2928, 1639, 1550, 1460, 1262, 1044, 740 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): 2.81 (6H, s), 3.10-3.15 (2H, m), 3.28-3.32 (2H, m), 7.03-7.16 (2H, m), 7.19 (1H, s), 7.39 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.59 (1H, d, *J* = 7.69 Hz), 10.37 (1H, sl).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): Table 3.

HR-ESIMS: *m/z* 189.1482 (calc. 189.1392 for C₁₂H₁₇N₂, [M + H]⁺).

5-Methoxy-*N*-Boc bufotenine-aminoborane complex (8): A mixture of KOH powder (0.05 g, 0.75 mmol), TBAB (0.05 g, 0.13 mmol), and **7** (0.109 g, 0.50 mmol) in dried THF was stirred at 25°C for 20 min, under N₂. Then, iodomethane (0.05 mL, 0.75 mmol) was added and stirring was continued for 12 h. Then, the solvent was evaporated in vacuum, the residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂

(10 mL), washed with H₂O (3 mL x 3), the organic layer dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. The residue was treated with catalytic DMAP, (Boc)₂O (0.109 g, 0.50 mmol), and Et₃N (0.2 mL, 1.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂. After 2 h of stirring at 25°C, H₂O (3 mL) was added, the organic layer removed, the aqueous phase extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (7 mL x 3) and the combined extracts dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. CC (*n*-hexane: AcOEt 2:1) of the residue afforded **8** (white solid, 102 mg, 62%).

R_f: 0.45 (*n*-hexane-AcOEt 2:1)

MP: 134–136°C.

IR (KBr): 3406, 2945, 2387, 2278, 1584, 1489, 1214, 1169, 801 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.65 (9H, s), 2.34 (6H, s), 2.60–2.66 (2H, m), 2.81–2.86 (2H, m), 3.86 (3H, s), 6.92 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.84, 2.46 Hz), 6.95 (1H, d, *J* = 2.46 Hz), 7.38 (1H, s), 7.90 (1H, sl).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): Table 3.

5-Methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine (5): A mixture of **8** (90 mg, 0.3 mmol) and DABCO (0.07 g, 0.6 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 mL) was

stirred at 25°C for 2 h, under N₂. The mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL), washed with H₂O and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated in vacuum. The residue was stirred with TFA in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5:1 mL) at 25°C. The solvent was removed in vacuum at 25°C and the residue was submitted to CC (AcOEt-Et₃N 1:1.0x10⁻³) to give **5** (yellow oil, 41 mg, 69%).

R_f: 0.43 (MeOH-AcOEt-NH₄OH 1:1:0.1).

IR (KBr): 3297, 1582, 1457, 1360, 904, 848, 796 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): 2.39 (6H, s), 2.68–2.74 (2H, m), 2.90–2.95 (2H, m), 3.82 (3H, s), 6.75 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.84, 2.46 Hz), 7.01 (1H, d, *J* = 2.46 Hz), 7.03 (1H, s), 7.22 (1H, d, *J* = 8.82 Hz).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, methanol-*d*₄): Table 3.

HR-ESIMS: *m/z* 219.1493 (calc. 219.1497 for C₁₃H₁₈N₂O, [M + H]⁺).

Acknowledgments - Financial support from CNPq/FINEP, CAPES, and FAP-DF. CAPES provided scholarship for M.L.A.

References

- [1] Torres CM, Repke DB. (2006) *Anadenanthera visionary plant of ancient South America*. The Haworth Herbal Press, Inc., New York.
- [2] Stromberg VL. (1954) The isolation of bufotenine from *Piptadenia peregrina*. *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, **76**, 1707–1707.
- [3] (a) Fish MS, Johnson NM, Horning EC. (1955) *Piptadenia* alkaloids. Indole bases of *P. peregrina* (L.) Benth. and related species. *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, **77**, 5892–5895; (b) Pachter IJ, Zacharias DE, Ribeiro O. (1959) Indole alkaloids of *Acer saccharinum* (the Silver Maple), *Dictyoloma incanescens*, *Piptadenia colubrina*, and *Mimosa hostilis*. *Journal of Organic Chemistry*, **24**, 1285–1287.
- [4] Fellows LE, Bell EA. (1971) Indole metabolism in *Piptadenia peregrina*. *Phytochemistry*, **10**, 2083–2091.
- [5] Zhou L, Hopkins AA, Huhman DV, Sumner LW. (2006) Efficient and sensitive method for quantitative analysis of alkaloids in hardinggrass (*Phalaris aquatica* L.). *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, **54**, 9287–9291.
- [6] Moretti C, Gaillard Y, Grenand P, Bévalot F, Prévost JM. (2006) Identification of 5-hydroxy-tryptamine (bufotenine) in takini (*Brosimumacutifolium huber* subsp. *acutifolium* C.C. Berg, Moraceae), a shamanic potion used in the Guiana Plateau. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*, **106**, 198–202.
- [7] Servillo L, Alfonso G, Balestrieri ML, Casale R, Cautela D, Castaldo D. (2013) *Citrus* genus plants contain *N*-methylated tryptamine derivatives and their 5-hydroxylated forms. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, **61**, 5156–5162.
- [8] (a) Costa TO, Morales RA, Brito JP, Gordo M, Pinto AC, Bloch CJr. (2005) Occurrence of bufotenin in the *Osteocephalus* genus (Anura: Hylidae). *Toxicon*, **46**, 371–376; (b) Pérez N, Culiol G, Pérez T, Briand JF, Thomas OP, Blache Y. (2011) Antifouling properties of simple indole and purine alkaloids from the Mediterranean gorgonian *Paramuricea clavata*. *Journal of Natural Products*, **74**, 2304–2308.
- [9] (a) Lytle T, Goldstein D, Gartz J. (1996) Bufo toads and bufotenine: fact and fiction surrounding an alleged psychedelic. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, **28**, 267–290; (b) Shen HW, Jiang XL, Winter JC, Yu AM. (2010) Psychedelic 5-methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine: metabolism, pharmacokinetics, drug interactions, and pharmacological actions. *Current Drug Metabolism*, **11**, 659–666.
- [10] Barker SA, McIlhenny EH, Strassman R. (2012) A critical review of reports of endogenous psychedelic *N,N*-dimethyltryptamines in humans: 1955–2010. *Drug Testing and Analysis*, **4**, 617–635.
- [11] (a) Takeda N, Ikeda R, Ohba K, Kondo M. (1995) Bufotenine reconsidered as a diagnostic indicator of psychiatric disorders. *Neuroreport*, **6**, 2378–2380; (b) Emanuele E, Colombo R, Martinelli V, Brondino N, Marini M, Bosio M, Barale F, Politi P. (2010). Elevated urine levels of bufotenine in patients with autistic spectrum disorders and schizophrenia. *Neuro Endocrinology Letters*, **31**, 117–121.
- [12] Almaula N, Ebersole BJ, Zhang D, Weinstein H, Sealfon SC. (1996). Mapping the binding site pocket of the serotonin 5-hydroxytryptamine 2A receptor. Ser3.36(159) provides a second interaction site for the protonated amine of serotonin but not of lysergic acid diethylamide or bufotenin. *Journal of Biological and Chemistry*, **271**, 14672–14675.
- [13] (a) Shen HW, Wu C, Jiang XL, Yu AM. (2010). Effects of monoamine oxidase inhibitor and cytochrome P450 2D6 status on 5-methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine metabolism and pharmacokinetics. *Biochemical Pharmacology*, **80**, 122–128; (b) Shen HW, Wu C, Jiang XL, Yu AL. (2010). Cytochrome P₄₅₀ 2D6 status on 5-methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine metabolism and pharmacokinetics. *Biochemical Pharmacology*, **80**, 122–128.
- [14] Jiang XL, Shen HW, Mager DE, Yu AM. (2013). Pharmacokinetic interactions between monoamine oxidase A inhibitor harmaline and 5-methoxy-*N,N*-dimethyltryptamine, and the impact of CYP2D6 status. *Drug Metabolism Disposition*, **41**, 975–986.
- [15] McKenna DJ, Towers GH, Abbott F. (1984) Monoamine oxidase inhibitors in South American hallucinogenic plants: tryptamine and beta-carboline constituents of ayahuasca. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*, **10**, 195–223.
- [16] (a) Andritzky W. (1989) Sociopsychotherapeutic functions of ayahuasca healing in Amazonia. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, **21**, 77–89; (b) Pires AP, de Oliveira CD, Moura S, Dörr FA, Silva WAE, Yonamine M. (2009) Gas chromatographic analysis of dimethyltryptamine and β-carboline alkaloids in ayahuasca, an Amazonian psychoactive plant beverage. *Phytochemical Analysis*, **20**, 149–153; (c) McIlhenny EH, Ribab J, Barbanoj MJ, Strassman R, Barker SA. (2012) Methodology for determining major constituents of ayahuasca and their metabolites in blood. *Biomedical Chromatography*, **26**, 301–313.
- [17] Fontanilla D, Johannessen M, Hajipour AR, Cozzi NV, Jackson MB, Ruoho AE. (2009) The hallucinogen *N,N*-dimethyltryptamine (DMT) is an endogenous sigma-1 receptor regulator. *Science*, **323**, 934–937.
- [18] Chu UB, Vorperian SK, Satyshur K, Eickstaedt K, Cozzi NV, Mavlyutov T, Hajipour AR, Ruoho AE. (2014) Noncompetitive inhibition of indolethylamine-*N*-methyltransferase by *N,N*-dimethyltryptamine and *N,N*-dimethylaminopropyltryptamine. *Biochemistry*, **53**, 2956–2965.
- [19] Stoll A, Troxler F, Peyer J, Hofmann A. (1955) Eine neue synthese von bufotenin und verwandten oxy-tryptaminen. 40. Mitteilung über mutterkornalkaloide. *Helvetica Chimica Acta*, **38**, 1452–1472.
- [20] Sheldrick GM. (1997) *SADABS, Program for Empirical Absorption Correction of Area Detector Data*. University of Göttingen, Germany.
- [21] Sheldrick GM. (2008) A short history of SHELX. *Journal of Applied Crystallography*, **A64**, 112–122.
- [22] Whitney S, Grigg R, Derrick A, Keep A. (2007) [Cp*IrCl₂]₂-Catalyzed indirect functionalization of alcohols: novel strategies for the synthesis of substituted indoles. *Organic Letters*, **9**, 3299–3302.