showed an intense ion at m/z 260.0901 deriving from the molecular ion by loss of CH_3COOH and $CH_3-N=C=O$. ^{13}C-NMR is fully consistent with structure **1**: [δ 161.00, (C-2), 175.64 (C-4), 151.76 (C-6), 149.27 (C-7), 154.24 (C-9), 125.20 (C-10), 29.10 (C-11), 76.53 (C-1′), 69.42 (C-2′), 18.86 (C-3′)][12]. Finally a gated decoupling experiment confirmed the proposed structure as being in complete agreement with the above assignments; particularly the multiplicity of the carbonyl signal at δ 175.64, which appeared as a quartet (J = 6.5 Hz), further supports the positioning of the CH_3 group at N-3.

Definitive proof for the structure **1** including the stereochemistry at C-1′ and C-2′ was obtained by the partial synthesis starting from L(−)-biopterin, which was treated with diazomethane in MeOH/Et_2O solution at room temperature for 30 min.

2-Amino-6-[(1′R,2′S)-1′,2′-dihydroxypropyl]-3-methyl-pterin-4-one exhibits a growth-inhibiting activity. A strong effect was observed when **1** was added (concentration 1×10^{-3} mM) to two bacterial cell cultures, as illustrated in the diagram of figure 1, where only controls grow to confluence. This result fully agrees with the behavior of many pteridine derivatives, whose effect on growth is clearly related to their structural relationship with folate derivatives which occupy key positions in cellular metabolism.

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10 High-resolution mass spectra fragments of **2**: m/z 317.119 (2%), M^+-AcOH; 302.0909 (4), M^+-AcOH-CH_3; 291.0953 (22), M^+-CH_2=CHOAc; 275.0999 (88), M^+-AcOH-CH_2=C=O; 260.0901 (20), M^+-AcOH-CH_3-N=C=O; 259.1066 (36), M^+-2AcOH; 249.0851 (100), M^+-CH_2=CHOAc-CH_2=C=O; 244.0846 (95), M^+-2AcOH-CH_3. Mass spectra were taken on AEI-902 instrument.

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Announcements

Friedrich Miescher-Award 1988

To commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the discovery of nucleic acids the Swiss Society for Biochemistry has created the Friedrich Miescher-Award. This prize is intended to honor young biochemists and is donated by the Friedrich Miescher-Institute of Ciba Geigy Inc. in Basel.

Excerpts from the statutes:

1. The Friedrich Miescher-Award will be awarded once every two years to a young scientist for outstanding achievements in biochemistry.
2. Preference will be given to candidates not older than 35 years. Eligibility extends only to candidates not exceeding their 40th year.
3. The scientific work must have been carried out in Switzerland or by Swiss scientists abroad.

Applications or nominations of candidates should be submitted by **November 1, 1987** to the secretary of the Swiss Society for Biochemistry:

Dr. L. Kühn, Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research, 155, ch. des Boveresses, CH-1066 Epalinges s. Lausanne, Switzerland.