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# Conversion of the Iridoid Glucoside Antirrhinoside into 3-Azabicyclo[3.3.0]octane Building Blocks

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The iridoid glucoside antirrhinoside (1) was transformed into polysubstituted 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0] octanes **3.** 12, and 13 in 4 to 5 steps. Ozonolysis of the diacetonide of 1 and of its 7-deoxy-derivative 8 afforded cyclopentanoids 2 and 10, respectively. Conditions for the selective conversion of 2 and 10 into the corresponding ditosylates 4 and 11 were investigated. Cyclization of 4 and 11 was achieved with benzylamine and 2-methoxybenzylamine to yield bicyclic pyrrolidines 3, 12, and 13. Additional building blocks 14 and 15 were obtained by selective deprotection of the N-benzyl and isopropylidene moieties in 12 and 13, respectively.

The 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0]octane framework is only known from a few synthetic analogues of biologically active compounds. For example, it is found in analogues of prostacyclin (PGI<sub>2</sub>), 1,2 a potential non-peptide substance P antagonist,<sup>3</sup> and in the antidiabetic gliclazide.<sup>4</sup> Usually, 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0]octanes are obtained by desymmetrization of a meso-intermediate, and three different approaches have been developed by Flynn  $\it et al. ^{5-7}$ 

Previously, the iridoid glucoside antirrhinoside (1) has been converted into a monoterpene pyridine alkaloid,8 bicyclic piperidine building blocks,9 chiral cyclopentane building blocks<sup>10</sup> for the preparation of carbocyclic nucleoside analogues, 11 and a natural bicyclic lactone. 12 In the present work, we wish to report on the synthesis of 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0]octane building blocks from 1.

## **Results and Discussion**

In previous papers<sup>9,10</sup> it was shown that antirrhinoside (1) readily could be converted into the corresponding 5,6: 4',6'-diacetonide, which, upon ozonolysis with a reductive workup procedure, was transformed into the partially protected cyclopentane 2. Here, we intended first to employ 2 for the preparation of the derived pyrrolidine 3 via its ditosylate, but unexpectedly, the tosylation of diol 2 proved sluggish even with a large excess of tosyl chloride at room temperature. The desired ditosylate 4 was obtained only in low yield, together with monotosylate 5 and tetrahydrofuran 6. To diminish the apparent competing cyclization of 5 to 6, tosylation at low temperature (-10 °C) with a prolonged reaction time was attempted; however, after 3 days only monotosylate **5** had formed. Therefore, the excess of tosyl chloride was increased, and the reaction temperature was kept at 4 °C for an additional 3 days. The mixture was then allowed to reach room temperature, and ditosylate 4 prevailed in the reaction mixture, although with smaller amounts of 5 and 6.

Benzylamines were chosen for the cyclization of ditosylates into 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0] octanes to facilitate purification and to allow subsequent modification into pyrrolidines with an unprotected nitrogen. Conversion of ditosylate 4 into N-benzylpyrrolidine 3 went smoothly with an excess of benzylamine in hot tetrahydrofuran. Because it was anticipated that the low reactivity of 2 might be due to the

presence of the 7,8-epoxy functionality, its removal prior to ditosylation was considered a feasible alternative approach. Nevertheless, reduction of 2 with LiAlH4 afforded only an undesired product (triol 7) corresponding to a hydride attack at the most hindered position. This unusual regioselectivity may be caused by coordination of the aluminum reagent with the hydroxyl group at C-1 in 2. Consequently, a strategy with epoxide reduction before the ozonolysis step seemed more promising. Hence, the 5,6: 4',6'-diacetonide of 1 was subjected to LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction, and this led to an approximately 10:1 mixture of ringopened products 8 and 9. This mixture was inseparable on normal-phase chromatography, but analytical samples of each product were obtained by reversed phase chromatography. In large-scale work it proved most facile to carry out the ozonolysis on the mixture of 8 and 9, and this afforded the separable triols 10 and 7 in an approximately  $\sim$ 10:1 ratio. In the case of **10**, tosylation at low temperature (-10 °C) gave exclusively ditosylate **11** in almost quantitative yield. Cyclization of 11 was performed with both benzylamine and 2-methoxybenzylamine, and this provided pyrrolidines 12 and 13, respectively, in good to moderate yield. The reactivity of ditosylate 11 was markedly lower

<sup>5:</sup> R = Ts, R' = H

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than that of ditosylate 4; that is, the former required both a higher reaction temperature and an extended reaction time to ensure complete cyclization. The rate-limiting factor in the cyclization of 4 as well as of 11 appears to be the initial monosubstitution inasmuch as no intermediary N-benzylamino-substituted tosylates could be detected by analytical TLC during the progress of the reaction.

To enable its possible further elaboration into N-acylated derivatives, pyrrolidine 12 was subjected to hydrogenation in the presence of palladium on carbon catalyst, which gave the pure crystalline unprotected pyrrolidine 14 in high yield. Also, the isopropylidene-protecting group in N-(2methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidine 13 was removed by treatment with p-toluenesulfonic acid in CHCl3-MeOH to yield trihydroxy-pyrrolidine 15 in good yield.

In conclusion, the inherent chirality of antirrhinoside (1) was utilized (4-5 steps) to prepare enantiopure 3-azabicyclo[3.3.0]octane building blocks **3** and **12–15**. The present protocol is devoid of expensive chiral catalysts or reagents, and no resolution of racemates is required.

### **Experimental Section**

General Experimental Procedures. THF was freshly distilled from sodium. All concentrations were performed in vacuo. Elemental analyses were performed by the Microanalytical Department at the H. C. Ørsted Institute (University of Copenhagen) or by Microanalytical Laboratory, Institute of Physical Chemistry, Vienna. Optical rotations (10<sup>-1</sup> deg cm<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>) were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. Melting points are uncorrected. TLC was performed on Merck Si gel 60  $F_{254}$  aluminum sheets with detection by charring with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, or by UV light when applicable. MPLC was performed on a Merck Lobar Lichroprep RP<sub>18</sub> C-column. VLC was performed on predried (120 °C; >24 h) Merck Si gel 60H; the column size is given as height  $\times$  diameter. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker HX-250 and Varian Inova 500 or Mercury 300 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are given in parts per million, using the solvent peaks as internal standards (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta_H = 7.27$ ,  $\delta_C = 77.0$ , CD<sub>3</sub>OD:  $\delta_H = 3.31$ ,  $\delta_C = 49.0$ ). Coupling constants (J values) are given in hertz. The subscripts a and b indicate the low field and high field protons,

respectively, in methylene groups. <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals were assigned by COSY experiments, while <sup>13</sup>C NMR signals were assigned from HSQC spectra. Primes denote signals arising from the sugar moiety.

Tosylation of Diol 2 at Room Temperature. Diol 2 (100 mg, 0.435 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL), and pyridine (0.28 mL,  $8 \times 0.435$  mmol) and TsCl (332 mg,  $4 \times 0.435$  mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h, and then excess reagent was quenched with ice. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) and washed successively with 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O (each 15 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was purified on a VLC column (3 × 3 cm). Elution with hexane and then hexane-EtOAc (10:1 to 3:1) yielded successively 6 (20 mg, 22%), 4 (44 mg, 19%), and 5 (45 mg, 27%).

**Tetrahydrofuran 6:** mp 39–40 °C (hexane–EtOAc);  $[\alpha]^{22}$ <sub>D</sub>  $+21.7^{\circ}$  (c 0.42, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz)  $\delta$  4.60 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-6), 3.90 (2H, m, H-1a and H-4a), 3.78 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 4.5$  Hz, H-1b), 3.63 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 9.5$ Hz, H-4b), 3.42 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-7), 2.79 (1H, dd,  $J_{1a,9}$ HZ, H-4D), 5.42 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7}$  = 1.5 1L, 1F-7), L.73 (1H, dd,  $J_{18,9}$  = 8.5 Hz,  $J_{1b,9}$  = 4.5 Hz, H-9), 1.52, 1.27 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.40 (3H, s, H-10);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  113.9 (isopropylidene), 97.5 (C-5), 86.7 (C-6), 76.9 (C-4), 69.0 (C-1), 67.5 (C-8), 65.0 (C-7), 53.5 (C-9), 28.1, 26.7 (isopropylidene), 16.5 (C-10); anal. C 62.01%, H 7.90%, calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, C 62.25%, H 7.60%.

**Ditosylate 4:** mp 154–156 °C (hexane–EtOAc);  $[\alpha]^{22}D$ -12.5° (c 0.56, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz)  $\delta$  7.84-7.30 (8H, 2  $\times$  Ts), 4.38 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-6), 4.26 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz,  $J_{1a,9} = 3$  Hz, H-1a), 4.16 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} =$ 10.5 Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 3$  Hz, H-1b), 4.09 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz, H-4a), 3.98 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz, H-4b), 3.34 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-7), 2.61 (1H, t,  $J_{1a,9}=J_{1b,9}=3$  Hz, H-9), 2.48, 2.45 (each 3H, s, 2 × Ts), 1.50, 1.02 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.36 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 145.7, 145.1, 132.3, 131.6, 130.3, 129.9, 128.1, 127.9 (2  $\times$  CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>), 114.7 (isopropylidene), 90.2 (C-5), 82.7 (C-6), 70.2 (C-4), 67.1 (C-1), 66.0 (C-8), 63.4 (C-7), 49.0 (C-9), 29.3, 27.8 (isopropylidene), 21.7, 21.6 (2 × CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>), 16.0 (C-10); anal. C 55.46%, H 5.84%, calcd for  $C_{25}H_{30}O_9S_2$ , C 55.75%, H 5.61%.

**Monotosylate 5:** mp 105–106 °C (hexane–EtOAc);  $[\alpha]^{22}$ <sub>D</sub>  $-4.0^{\circ}$  (c 0.60, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz)  $\delta$  7.94–7.34 (4H, m, Ts), 4.58 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz, H-4a), 4.44 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-6), 4.06 (2H, m, H-1a and H-4b), 3.87 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b}=11$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9}=3.5$  Hz, H-1b), 3.37 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7}=1.5$  Hz, H-7), 2.50 (4H, m, H-9 and Ts), 1.59, 1.12 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.52 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  145.1, 132.4, 129.8, 128.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>), 114.1 (isopropylidene), 90.6 (C-5), 83.2 (C-6), 70.9 (C-4), 66.9 (C-8), 63.6 (C-7), 59.2 (C-1), 50.8 (C-9), 29.6, 28.0 (isopropylidene), 21.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>), 16.5 (C-10); anal. C 56.11%, H 6.26%, calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S, C 56.24%, H 6.29%.

Tosylation of Diol 2 at Low Temperature. To diol 2 (343 mg, 1.49 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-pyridine (2:1, 6 mL) was added TsCl (1.28 g,  $4.5 \times 1.49$  mmol). The mixture was kept at -10°C for 3 days, at which point only 4-monotosylate **5** had formed. More TsCl (427 mg, 1.5  $\times$  1.49 mmol) was added, and the mixture was kept at 4 °C for an additional 3 days, followed by 3 h at room temperature. Workup and purification, as described above, afforded 6 (15 mg, 4%), 4 (400 mg, 50%), and 5 (88 mg, 15%).

**N-Benzylpyrrolidine 3.** Ditosylate **4** (363 mg, 0.674 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (5 mL), and BnNH<sub>2</sub> (0.44 mL, 6  $\times$ 0.674 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated to 55-60 °C for 24 h. After the reaction mixture had cooled to room temperature, saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (30 mL) was added. Then the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3  $\times$  50 mL). The organic layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to yield a residue that was purified on a VLC column (4  $\times$  2 cm). Elution with hexane and then hexane-EtOAc (10:1 to 5:1) yielded pure **3** as an oil: (183 mg, 90%),  $[\alpha]^{22}$ <sub>D</sub>  $-4.5^{\circ}$  (*c* 0.60, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  7.34–7.22 (5H, m, *Ph*– CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.57 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 1.5$  Hz, H-6), 3.59, 3.54 (each 1H, d,

LiAlH<sub>4</sub>-Reduction of Diol 2. To diol 2 (212 mg, 0.923 mmol) in THF (4 mL) was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (97 mg,  $2.8 \times 0.923$ mmol), and the mixture was heated to reflux for 9 h. Excess reagent was quenched with EtOAc (2 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) was added, and then the mixture was neutralized using CO2. Again, H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was extracted with EtOAc (3  $\times$  20 mL). The organic layers were dried (Na2SO4) and concentrated. The crude product was crystallized (Me<sub>2</sub>CO-hexane) to give triol 7 (102 mg, 48%); mp 118–120 °C;  $[\alpha]^{23}$ <sub>D</sub> +31° (c 0.57, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 250 MHz)  $\delta$  4.42 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7} = 5$  Hz, H-6), 3.94 (1H, t,  $J_{6,7} = J_{7,8} = 5$  Hz, H-7), 3.76 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 11.5$ Hz,  $J_{1a,9}=4$  Hz, H-1a), 3.76 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b}=12$  Hz, H-4a), 3.69 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b}=12$  Hz, H-4b), 3.68 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b}=11.5$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6.5$  Hz, H-1b), 2.11 (1H, ddd,  $J_{8,9} = 12$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6.5$ Hz,  $J_{1a,9} = 4$  Hz, H-9), 1.94 (1H, ddq,  $J_{8,9} = 12$  Hz,  $J_{8,10} = 6.5$ Hz,  $J_{7,8} = 5$  Hz, H-8), 1.51, 1.40 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.06 (3H, d,  $J_{8,10} = 6.5$  Hz, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz) δ 115.9 (isopropylidene), 93.3 (C-5), 85.7 (C-6), 72.8 (C-7), 64.8 (C-1), 60.1 (C-4), 55.7 (C-9), 41.0 (C-8), 28.8, 28.6 (isopropylidene), 13.1 (C-10); anal. C 56.62%, H 8.51%, calcd for  $C_{11}H_{20}O_5$ , C 56.88%, H 8.68%.

LiAlH<sub>4</sub>-Reduction of 5,6:4',6'-Di-O-isopropylidene-antirrhinoside. To a stirred suspension of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (2.62 g, 69.0 mmol) in THF (50 mL) under Ar, was added a solution of antirrhinoside diacetonide9 (9.38 g, 21.2 mmol) in THF (50 mL). The mixture was heated to reflux for 4 h. After the reaction mixture had cooled to room temperature, excess reagent was slowly quenched with EtOAc (50 mL). The mixture was neutralized with CO<sub>2</sub> (pH 7-8). Then pH was adjusted to 9 by adding saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL). Then, H<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) was added, and the resulting solution was extracted with EtOAc (6  $\times$  250 mL). The EtOAc layers were washed with brine (25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na2SO4) and concentrated to yield a foam that was purified on a VLC column (5.5  $\times$  5 cm). Gradient elution with hexane to hexane-Me<sub>2</sub>CO (2:1) yielded a 10:1 mixture of 8 and 9 (8.12 g, 87%). Analytical samples of each compound were obtained after rechromatography by MPLC.

**Diacetonide 8:** mp 114–116  $^{\circ}$ C (MeOH); [α]<sup>23</sup><sub>D</sub> –160 $^{\circ}$  (c 0.44, MeOH);  $^{1}$ H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  6.39 (1H, d,  $J_{3,4} = 6.5$  Hz, H-3), 5.55 (1H, br s, H-1), 5.08 (1H, dd,  $J_{3,4} = 6.5$  Hz,  $J_{4,9} = 1.5$  Hz, H-4), 4.67 (1H, d,  $J_{1',2'} = 8$  Hz, H-1'), 4.31 (1H, dd,  $J_{6,7a} = 7$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 5$  Hz, H-6), 3.89 (1H, dd,  $J_{a',b'} = 10.5$  Hz,  $J_{5',6a'} = 5.3$  Hz, H-6a'), 3.77 (1H, t,  $J_{a',b'} = J_{5',6b'} = 10.5$  Hz, H-6b'), 3.52, 3.49 (each 1H, br t, J = 9 Hz, H-3' and H-4'), 3.29 (2H, m, H-2' and H-5'), 2.63 (1H, br s, H-9), 2.19 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 14$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 5$  Hz, H-7b), 1.54, 1.51, 1.42, 1.39 (each 3H, s, 2 × isopropylidene), 1.22 (3H, s, H-10);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  144.0 (C-3), 113.7 (isopropylidene), 106.2 (C-4), 100.8 (isopropylidene), 100.3 (C-1'), 92.9 (C-1), 84.7 (C-6), 81.4 (C-5), 79.5 (C-8), 75.3 (C-2'), 74.9 (C-4'), 74.4 (C-3'), 68.8 (C-5'), 63.1 (C-6'), 59.1 (C-9), 48.3 (C-7), 29.4, 28.8, 27.6, 19.3 (2 × isopropylidene), 25.2 (C-10); anal. C 56.48%, H 7.06%, calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, C 56.75%, H 7.26%.

**Diacetonide 9:** [α] $^{25}$ <sub>D</sub> -136° (c 0.58, MeOH);  $^{1}$ H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  6.33 (1H, d,  $J_{3,4}$  = 6.5 Hz, H-3), 5.36 (1H, br s, H-1), 5.08 (1H, dd,  $J_{3,4}$  = 6.5 Hz,  $J_{4,9}$  = 1.5 Hz, H-4), 4.64 (1H, d,  $J_{1',2'}$  = 8 Hz, H-1'), 4.31 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7}$  = 5 Hz, H-6), 3.98 (1H, br t,  $J_{6,7}$  =  $J_{7,8}$  = 5 Hz, H-7), 3.90 (1H, dd,  $J_{4',b'}$  = 10.5 Hz,  $J_{5',6a'}$  = 5.5 Hz, H-6a'), 3.79 (1H, t,  $J_{4',b'}$  =  $J_{5',6b'}$  = 10.5 Hz, H-6b'), 3.53, 3.48 (each 1H, br t, J = 9 Hz, H-3' and H-4'), 3.30–3.25 (2H, m, H-2' and H-5'), 2.30 (1H, br d,  $J_{8,9}$  = 12.5

Hz, H-9), 1.87 (1H, ddq,  $J_{8,9}=12.5$  Hz,  $J_{8,10}=7$  Hz,  $J_{7,8}=5$  Hz, H-8), 1.56, 1.51, 1.48, 1.39 (each 3H, s, 2 × isopropylidene), 1.10 (3H, d,  $J_{8,10}=7$  Hz, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz) δ 142.7 (C-3), 115.9 (isopropylidene), 107.2 (C-4), 100.7 (isopropylidene), 100.4 (C-1′), 93.8 (C-1), 87.9 (C-6), 83.0 (C-5), 75.2 (C-2′), 74.9 (C-4′), 74.4 (C-3′), 72.1 (C-7), 68.8 (C-5′), 63.1 (C-6′), 52.8 (C-9), 41.6 (C-8), 29.4, 28.3, 28.0, 19.3 (2 × isopropylidene), 12.4 (C-10); anal. C 55.29%, H 7.21%, calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>10\*</sub>1/<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O, C 55.61%, H 7.13%.

Ozonolysis of Diacetonides 8 and 9. A 10:1 mixture of 8 and 9 (2.89 g, 6.51 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH (3: 1, 80 mL). Upon cooling to -78 °C, the mixture was treated with ozone for 30 min. Then Ar was passed through the solution for 30 min, at which point EtOH (40 mL) and NaBH<sub>4</sub>  $(0.74 \text{ g}, 3 \times 6.51 \text{ mmol})$  were added. The mixture was stirred below -65 °C for an additional 2 h, when another portion of NaBH<sub>4</sub> (0.74 g) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for the next 12 h and was then neutralized with HOAc (2 mL) and concentrated. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc (250 mL) and brine-saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2:1, 150 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with more EtOAc (5  $\times$  250 mL). The EtOAc phases were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) and concentrated. The crude product (1.40 g) was purified on a VLC column (4  $\times$  4.5 cm). Elution with hexane and then hexane-Me<sub>2</sub>CO (5:1 to 2:1) afforded successively 7 (89 mg, 6%) and 10 (1.02 g, 67.5%).

**Triol 10:** mp 116–118 °C (hexane-Me<sub>2</sub>CO);  $[\alpha]^{23}_{\rm D}$  +7.9° (c 0.63, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  4.39 (1H, dd,  $J_{6,7a}$  = 6.5 Hz,  $J_{6,7b}$  = 5.5 Hz, H-6), 3.79 (2H, d,  $J_{1,9}$  = 7 Hz, H-1), 3.75 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b}$  = 11.5 Hz, H-4a), 3.67 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b}$  = 11.5 Hz, H-4b), 2.48 (1H, t,  $J_{1,9}$  = 7 Hz, H-9), 2.11 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b}$  = 13.5 Hz,  $J_{6,7a}$  = 6.5 Hz, H-7a), 2.04 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b}$  = 13.5 Hz,  $J_{6,7a}$  = 6.5 Hz, H-7b), 1.53, 1.38, (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.16 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  113.6 (isopropylidene), 93.3 (C-5), 82.5 (C-6), 80.1 (C-8), 64.5 (C-4), 62.2 (C-9), 59.3 (C-1), 48.0 (C-7), 29.6, 28.4 (isopropylidene), 24.7 (C-10); anal. C 56.70%, H 8.50%, calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, C 56.88%, H 8.68%.

**Ditosylation of Triol 10.** Triol **10** (0.36 g, 1.55 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-pyridine (3:1, 8 mL), then the mixture was cooled to -78 °C, and TsCl (1.03 g, 3.5  $\times$  1.55 mmol) was added. The mixture was allowed slowly to warm to -10 °C, and was then kept at  $-10\,^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 days. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) and was then washed successively with 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O (each 50 mL). The organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified on a VLC column (4  $\times$  3 cm). Elution with hexane and then hexane-EtOAc (5:1 to 2:1) gave ditosylate 11 (0.83 g, 99%): mp 95–97 °C (hexane–EtOAc);  $[\alpha]^{22}_D + 2.3^\circ$  (c 0.43, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) δ 7.80-7.74 (4H, m, Ts), 7.39-7.35 (4H, m, Ts), 4.45 (1H, dd,  $J_{6,7b} = 5.5$  Hz,  $J_{6,7a} = 2$  Hz, H-6), 4.14 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz,  $J_{1a,9} = 5.5$  Hz, H-1a), 4.13 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 11$  Hz, H-4a), 4.10 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 5.5$  Hz, H-1b), 4.08 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 11$  Hz, H-4b), 2.54 (1H, dt,  $J_{1a,9} = J_{1b,9} = 5.5$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 1.5$  Hz, H-9), 2.46 (6H, s, 2  $\times$  Ts), 2.10 (1H, ddd,  $J_{a,b}=$  15 Hz,  $J_{6,7a}=$  2 Hz,  $J_{7a,9}=$  1.5 Hz, H-7a), 1.97 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 5.5$  Hz, H-7b), 1.45, 1.21 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.15 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  145.3, 145.2, 132.3, 132.1, 130.1, 130.0, 128.0, 127.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>), 112.3 (isopropylidene), 90.4 (C-5), 82.5 (C-6), 80.4 (C-8), 69.1 (C-4), 66.5 (C-1), 58.9 (C-9), 45.5 (C-7), 28.2, 26.4 (isopropylidene), 23.9 (C-10), 21.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph-SO<sub>3</sub>); anal. C 55.55%, H 6.05%, calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>9</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, C 55.54%, H 5.97%.

**N-Benzylpyrrolidine 12.** Ditosylate **11** (797 mg, 1.47 mmol) was dissolved in THF (20 mL), and BnNH<sub>2</sub> (1.28 mL, 8 × 1.47 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated to 60 °C for 24 h and then to reflux for 3 days. Workup, as described above for **3**, gave a residue, which was purified on a VLC column (3 × 3 cm). Elution with hexane, and then hexane—EtOAc (20:1 to 10:1) afforded **12** as a colorless syrup (371 mg, 83%): [α]<sup>22</sup><sub>D</sub> + 9.2° (c 0.60, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) δ 7.35–7.20 (5H, m, Ph–CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.40 (1H, d, J<sub>6,7b</sub> = 4 Hz, H-6), 3.56, 3.47 (each 1H, d, J = 13 Hz, Ph–CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.88 (1H, d,

 $J_{a,b} = 10 \text{ Hz}$ , H-4a), 2.71 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $J_{1a,9} = 8 \text{ Hz}$ , H-1a), 2.64 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz, H-4b), 2.54 (1H, ddd,  $J_{1a,9} =$ 8 Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 2$  Hz, H-9), 2.25 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$ Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6$  Hz, H-1b), 2.18 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 2$ Hz, H-7a), 2.02 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 4$  Hz, H-7b), 1.52, 1.30 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.20 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 138.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.0 (*Ph*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 110.3 (isopropylidene), 97.3 (C-5), 86.8 (C-6), 81.5 (C-8), 63.3 (C-4), 61.5 (C-9), 60.0 (Ph–*C*H<sub>2</sub>), 56.5 (C-1), 43.8 (C-7), 27.2, 24.7 (isopropylidene), 23.3 (C-10); *anal.* C 70.97%, H 8.06%, N 4.55%, calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, C 71.26%, H 8.31%, N 4.62%.

**Hydrogenation of N-Benzylpyrrolidine 12.** Compound 12 (371 mg) was hydrogenated for 4 days in MeOH (5 mL) in the presence of 5% Pd/C (40 mg). The catalyst was filtered off on activated C over Celite, which then was washed with more MeOH. Concentration of the filtrate yielded 14 (237 mg, 91%): mp 64-65 °C (MeOH);  $[\alpha]^{25}_D$  +27° (c 0.55, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  4.45 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7b}$  = 4.5 Hz, H-6), 3.20 (1H, br d,  $J_{a,b} = 12.5$  Hz, H-4a), 3.13 (1H, br dd,  $J_{a,b} =$ 10.5 Hz,  $J_{1a,9} = 8.5$  Hz, H-1a), 2.96 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 12.5$  Hz, H-4b), 2.45 (1H, dt,  $J_{1a,9} = J_{1b,9} = 8.5$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 1.5$  Hz, H-9), 2.37 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10.5$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 8.5$ , H-1b), 2.10 (1H, br d,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz, H-7a), 2.01 (1H, br dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 4.5$ Hz, H-7b), 1.46, 1.30 (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.19 (3H, s, H-10);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  111.8 (isopropylidene), 101.4 (C-5), 87.4 (C-6), 81.7 (C-8), 64.7 (C-9), 58.4 (C-4), 50.3 (C-1), 44.3 (C-7), 27.2, 25.1 (isopropylidene), 24.1 (C-10); anal. C 61.73%, H 9.17%, N 6.44%, calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, C 61.95%, H 8.98%, N 6.57%.

N-(2'-Methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidine 13. Ditosylate 11 (2.07 g, 3.83 mmol) was dissolved in THF (15 mL), and 2-methoxybenzylamine (1.50 mL,  $3.1 \times 3.83$  mmol) was added. The mixture was heated to reflux for 2 days. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was purified on a VLC column (4.5  $\times$  4 cm). Elution with hexane, and then hexane-EtOAc (6:1) yielded successive fractions of almost pure 13 (453 mg, 36%) and pure N-(2'-methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidine 13 (229) mg, 18%) as syrups:  $[\alpha]^{24}_D$  +9.0° (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(CDCl_3, 500 \text{ MHz}) \hat{\delta} 7.35 \text{ (1H, dd, } J_o = 8, J_m = 2 \text{ Hz, } Ar - CH_2),$ 7.23 (1H, dt,  $J_0 = 8$ ,  $J_m = 2$  Hz, Ar-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.94 (1H, br t,  $J_0 = 1$ 8 Hz, Ar-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.87 (1H, br d,  $J_o$  = 8 Hz, Ar-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.45 (1H, d,  $J_{6,7b} = 4.5$  Hz, H-6), 3.82 (3H, s, 2'-OMe), 3.64 (1H, s, 8-OH), 3.60, 3.56 (each 1H, d, J = 14 Hz, Ar-C $H_2$ ), 2.94 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz, H-4a), 2.77 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz  $J_{1a,9} = 8$  Hz, H-1a), 2.68 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz, H-4b), 2.54 (1H, ddd,  $J_{1a,9} =$ 8 Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 2$  Hz, H-9), 2.30 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$ Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 6$  Hz, H-1b), 2.17 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{7a,9} = 2$ Hz, H-7a), 2.03 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 15$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 4.5$  Hz, H-7b), 1.53, 1.32, (each 3H, s, isopropylidene), 1.22 (3H, s, H-10); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  157.3, 129.6, 127.8, 126.6, 120.4,

110.3 (2-MeO-Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>), 110.2 (isopropylidene), 97.5 (C-5), 86.9 (C-6), 81.5 (C-8), 63.3 (C-4), 61.6 (C-9), 56.5 (C-1), 55.3 (Ar-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.9 (2-MeO-Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.8 (C-7), 27.2, 24.8 (isopropylidene), 23.3 (C-10); anal. C 68.34%, H 8.05%, N 4.28%, calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>, C 68.43%, H 8.17%, N 4.20%.

Deprotection of N-(2'-Methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidine 13. Acetonide 13 (54 mg, 0.16 mmol) was dissolved in CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH (3:1, 6.5 mL), and then p-TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mg, 0.16 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated to reflux for 12 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and Et<sub>3</sub>N (10  $\mu$ L) was added to the residue, which was purified on a VLC column (4  $\times$  2 cm). Elution with hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and then CHCl<sub>3</sub>-EtOH (25:1) yielded deprotected pyrrolidine **15** (40 mg, 85%):  $[\alpha]^{25}_D$  +18° (c 0.48, MeOH);  $^{1}$ H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  7.28–7.18, 6.95-6.85 (each 2H, m, Ar-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.79 (3H, s, 2'-OMe), 3.77 (1H, dd,  $J_{6,7a} = 4.5$  Hz,  $J_{6,7b} = 3$  Hz, H-6), 3.59, 3.54 (each 1H, J = 13 Hz, Ph-C $H_2$ ), 2.71 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz,  $J_{1a,9} = 7.5$ Hz, H-1a), 2.55 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz, H-4a), 2.49 (1H, d,  $J_{a,b} = 10$ 10 Hz, H-4b), 2.44 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 10$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 5$  Hz, H-1b), 2.23 (1H, ddd,  $J_{1a,9} = 7.5$  Hz,  $J_{1b,9} = 5$  Hz,  $J_{7b,9} = 2$  Hz, H-9), 1.95 (1H, dd,  $J_{a,b} = 13.5$  Hz,  $J_{6,7a} = 4.5$  Hz, H-7a), 1.87 (1H, ddd,  $J_{a,b} = 13.5 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $J_{6,7b} = 3 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $J_{7b,9} = 2 \text{ Hz}$ , H-7b), 1.20 (3H, s, H-10);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  159.1, 131.5, 129.4, 127.4, 121.2, 111.6 (2-MeO-Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>), 89.9 (C-5), 80.9 (C-8), 78.1 (C-6), 66.8 (C-4), 62.7 (C-9), 57.4 (C-1), 55.8 (Ar-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (2-MeO-Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>), 46.6 (C-7), 23.7 (C-10); anal. C 65.49%, H 7.88%, N 4.70%, calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>, C 65.51%, H, 7.90%, N 4.77%.

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