

Total Syntheses of the Non-Peptide Bradykinin B1 Receptor Antagonist Velutinol A and Its Analogs, *seco*-Pregnanes with a Cage-Like Moiety

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Abstract

We describe here the syntheses of velutinol A (1) and the structurally similar compounds 2-4 sharing a highly oxygenated seco-pregnane cage-like structure. The synthesis of velutinol A (1, 15,16-seco-pregnane) features the highly regioselective construction of Δ^{14} silvl enol ether from 15keto-21,22-diol, followed by stereoselective introduction of a sterically hindered β -hydroxy group at the C14 position by Rubottom oxidation. Prolonged reaction time and the use of an excess amount of mCPBA at this step allowed double Rubottom oxidation, enabling us to introduce the requisite hydroxy groups at the C14 and C16 positions in one pot. Subsequent oxidative cleavage of the C15-16 bond, deprotection, and intramolecular acetalization allowed the concise total synthesis of velutinol A (1). Utilization of α, α -dihydroxyketone, the double Rubottom oxidation product, for formation of the ether F-ring by 5-exo-cyclization, and subsequent C14-21 oxidative cleavage, effectively achieved the synthesis of pentalinonside-aglycon (2). Construction of the 14,15-secostructures of two other analogs, argeloside aglycon (3) and illustrol (4), was achieved by Baeyer-Villiger oxidation of 15(21)-keto derivatives. Introduction of the 20-oxo group potentially embedded in argeloside aglycon was accomplished by Wacker oxidation of Δ^{20} , which was constructed by Grieco– Nishizawa *syn*- β -elimination of the C21-primary alcohol obtained by reduction of the Baeyer–Villiger product. Intramolecular double acetalization of the 15,16-dihydroxy-14,20oxo derivative to form the cage-like structure of the DEF-rings required a moderately weak acid. This step was the key to accessing argeloside aglycon (3), as otherwise the easily aromatized β , γ -dihydroxyketone moiety was transformed to furan. Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation of Δ^{20} to set the C20 stereocenter, followed by intramolecular double acetalization, achieved the stereoselective synthesis of illustrol With all synthesized compounds, structural requirements of steroidal bradykinine B1 receptor antagonist would be revealed.

Keywords: Bradykinin B1 receptor (B1R) | seco-Pregnane | Natural product syntheses

1. Introduction

G protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) are one of several superfamilies of proteins, consisting of an extracellular Nterminal domain, seven transmembrane helices domain, and

intracellular domains. GPCRs interact with G-proteins at the intracellular site and transduce a large number of signals across the cell membrane by binding signaling molecules such as ions, odorants, biogenic amines, lipids, peptides, and proteins at the extracellular side of the membrane. GPCRs have been proven to be promising drug targets, with more than 30% of drugs currently on the market being GPCR agonists or antagonists. The bradykinin receptor is a pharmacologically important receptor belonging to the GPCR family and plays important roles in the pathophysiological process of pain and inflammation.¹ The bradykinin receptor has two subtypes, referred to as bradykinin B1 receptor (B1R) and B2 receptor (B2R), and these subtypes differ in their level of expression and their binding to ligands. B2R is constitutively expressed in a number of tissues and evokes the acute pain response after activation by the nonapeptide bradykinin (H-Arg1-Pro2-Pro3-Gly4-Phe5-Ser6-Pro7-Phe8-Arg9-OH), whereas a corresponding metabolite, des-Arg9-bradykinin (DABK), serves as the agonist for B1R,² which is inductively expressed at high levels in injured tissues.³ Preclinical data accumulated to date suggest that B1R is involved in the propagation, potentiation, and maintenance of chronic pain.⁴ Therefore, the up-regulation of B1R in response to inflammation would be an attractive target for drug development. In this context, the development of B1R antagonists has proceeded based on the structure-activity relationship (SAR) with its agonist ligand, DABK. Consequently, B1R antagonists identified to date have tended to be peptides,⁵ which compromises their in vivo application.

Several non-peptide B1R selective antagonists have recently been identified.⁶ Velutinol A (1, Figure 1), consisting of a 15,16-seco-14 β ,17 α -pregn-5-ene core with a cage-like structure in the steroidal DEF-rings, is the first and only known non-peptide B1R antagonist natural product.⁷

Velutinol A (1) was isolated from the rhizomes of *Mandevilla velutina* (Apocynaceae), a plant native to the Brazilian savanna. Infusions or alcoholic extracts of these rhizomes are used as folk medicine for the treatment of venomous snake bites.⁸

We previously reported our preliminary construction of a complex structural model of velutinol A (1) and DABK bound to human B1R (hB1R) for comparison of binding site and mode of these antagonists. These models were generated with the homology module (Insight II) using a model of a meta-rhodopsin photointermediate in the bovine rhodopsin photocascade as the template (Figure 2A–C).⁹

Figure 2A and B show the complex model of velutinol A (1) bound to hB1R which suggested a characteristic receptorligand interaction in which three oxygen atoms in the cage-like structure of the DEF-rings of velutinol A (1) formed hydrogen bonds with Lys118 in the third transmembrane helix. Another hydrogen bond was observed between a hydrogen atom on the hemiacetal hydroxy group in the DEF-rings and Tyr266. It should be noted that electron density of the oxygen atom in the phenol moiety of Tyr266 was increased by hydrogen bond formation between the hydrogen atom of the phenolic hydroxy group and the carboxylate oxygen of Asp183, which strengthened hydrogen bonding between the hydroxy group of the hemiacetal moiety and Tyr266.

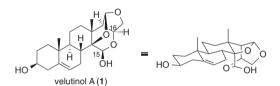


Figure 1. Structure of velutinol A.

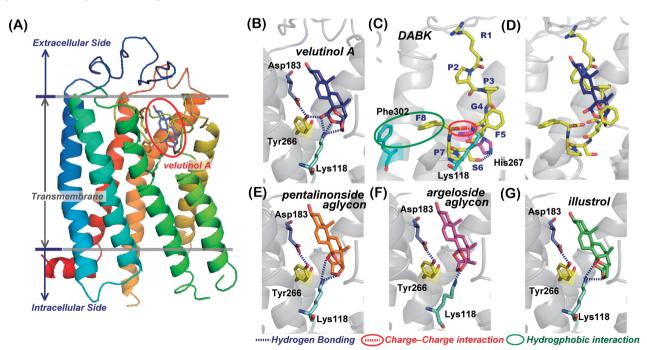


Figure 2. Complex structural models of (A and B) velutinol A (blue), (C) DABK (yellow), (E) pentalinonside aglycon (orange), (F) argeloside aglycon (magenta), and (G) illstrol (green) bound to hB1R. (D) Superposed structure of velutinol A and DABK bound to hB1R.

Table 1. Site-Directed Mutagenesis Data of DABK.^{10b}

Entry	hB1R	Ki (nM)
1	WT	100 ± 25
2	Lys118Ala	2600 ± 1400
3	Lys118Ser	2800 ± 1100
4	Phe302Ala	3000 ± 610
5	His267Gln	4.3 ± 0.3

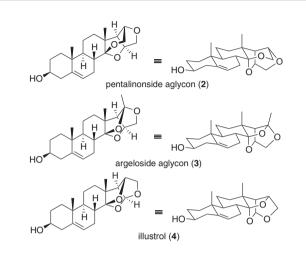


Figure 3. Highly oxygenated *seco*-pregnanes with cagelike structure.

Figure 2C shows a complex structural model of DABK bound to hB1R. Our docking model is consistent with the results of reported site-directed mutagenesis data (Table 1, reported by Ha *et al*).^{10a} Thus, Lys118, His267 and Phe302, whose mutations considerably affected the affinity of hB1R for DABK,¹⁰ interacted with DABK in our constructed hB1R–DABK complex model. The C-term (Phe8) of DABK bonded to Lys118 by charge–charge interaction in our model. A mutation of Lys118 to Ala or Ser led to approximately 27-fold decrease in affinity for DABK (Entries 2 and 3).^{10b}

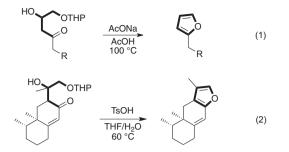
In addition, 30-fold loss of affinity for DABK in the case of a Phe302Ala mutant (Entry 5) supported plausibility of our model, since the mutation from Phe to Ala loses a hydrophobic interaction between Phe302 and the ligand (Phe8).^{10b} Furthermore, our model was consistent with the increase in the affinity of DABK for a His267Gln mutant strengthening a hydrogen bond with ligand (Ser6).

To compare the binding mode in the pocket, a superposed structure of the complex models of DABK and velutinol A (1) was constructed as shown in Figure 2D. A superposed structure revealed that DABK and velutinol A (1) were positioned in the same pocket and the cage-like structure in velutinol A plays a role as a bioisostere of the carboxylate.

We therefore hypothesized that the *seco*-pregnane derivatives pentalinonside aglycon (2),¹¹ argeloside aglycon (3),¹² and illustrol (4),¹³ which have similar cage-like structures, might have similar biological activities (Figure 3). To evaluate the binding mode of pentalinonside aglycon (2), argeloside aglycon (3), and illustrol (4), we constructed complex structural models of these three compounds bound to hB1R, respectively (Figure 2E–G). The cage-like moieties of these three compounds interacted with Lys118 as was observed in the case of velutinol A. However, Tyr266 interacted with none of these three molecules, whereas velutinol A formed a strong hydrogen bond. To investigate the mechanism of molecular recognition between the ligands and B1R, we developed a general synthetic route for the construction of cage-like seco-pregane derivatives 1-4.¹⁴⁻¹⁷ Among the natural *seco*-preganes, pentalinonside and argeloside form a glycosyl bond at C3-OH and the removal of the sugar moieties is difficult due to the presence of the acidsensitive tricyclic acetals at the seco-D-ring. Thus, the synthesis of these derivatives may not only contribute to the structureactivity studies of the non-peptide steroid derivatives, but also impact the field of drug design as a new approach of bioisoteric replacement of carboxylate with drug likeness. In addition to our previous results.^{14–17} this paper will detail our efforts and investigations towards the syntheses of seco-pregnane derivatives with the highly oxygenated cage-like structures. This synthetic strategy may be applicable to the syntheses of structural analogs of 1-4.

2. Results and Discussion

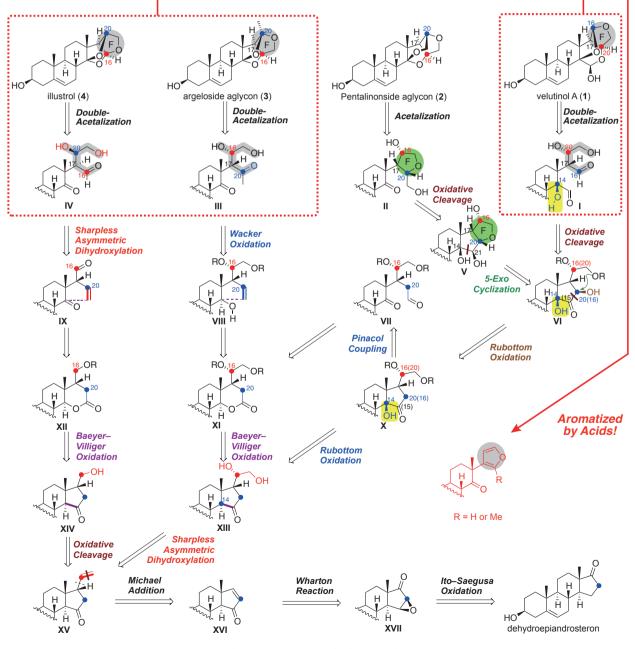
Synthetic Strategy. Scheme 2 outlines our retrosynthetic blueprint for compounds 1-4. We expected that the DEF-rings embedded in compounds 1, 3, and 4, and the DE-rings of compound 2, could be constructed by intramolecular acetalization, and thus we chose compounds I-IV as the precursors. Dialdehyde I would also be derived from α, α -dihydroxyketone VI by oxidative cleavage of the C15-C16 bond. Ketone I can presumably be obtained from diol V via oxidative cleavage of the C14-21 bond; 5-exo-cyclization for annulation of the F-ring would be accomplished by intramolecular S_N2 addition of a C15 hydroxy group to the C20 position in α,α -dihydroketone VI. The hydroxy group at C20 in VI could be stereoselectively installed via Rubottom oxidation of α -hydroxyketone XI.¹⁸ Stereoselective introduction of a tert-alcohol group at C14 in X could presumably be accomplished by two independent routes: 1) pinacol coupling¹⁹ of keto-aldehyde VII derived from lactone XI, 2) Rubottom oxidation of α -hydroxyketone XI. The 20-oxo-group of III could be introduced by Wacker oxidation²⁰ of olefin VIII, whose seco-structure was constructed by regioselective Baeyer-Villiger oxidation of XIV. The stereochemistry at the C20 position of IV could be controlled by Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation,²¹ and thus olefin IX was chosen as a precursor. As with compound VIII, Baeyer-Villiger oxidation would achieve construction of the seco-structure, and thus compound XIV was used as the precursor of IX. Both compounds XIV and XIII would be prepared via Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation or oxidative cleavage from olefin XV, which can be synthesized through stereospecific Michael addition of a soft vinyl anion derivative at the C17 position of enone XVI. Thus, olefin XV would be a common intermediate for compounds 1-4. Ito-Saegusa oxidation²² and Wharton reaction²³ would provide enone **XVI** from *epi*-andronsterone. Despite these rather simple strategies, the primary challenge for the synthesis of compounds 1, 3, and 4 was to escape the easy aromatization of the β , γ -dihydroxycarbonyl moiety in as well as the construction of the structurally equivalent F-ring moiety in 1, 3, and 4. Specifically, since acids may promote the aromatization of 1, 3, 4, I, III, and IV (Scheme 1, eq 1 and 2),²⁴



Scheme 1. Furan formation reaction from β , γ -dihydroxy ketone.

appropriate acidic conditions are required for the conversion of I, III, and IV into 1, 3, and 4.

Synthesis of Velutinol A.¹⁴ The major challenge in the synthesis of velutinol A (1) was the selective introduction of the hydroxy group at the C14 β position. For installing the hydroxy group stereoselectively, two methods were investigated: 1) pinacol coupling, and 2) Rubottom oxidation. There are pros and cons of both methods in terms of stereoselectivity and reaction steps. Figure 4 shows two plausible transition states of metal mediated pinacol coupling. As shown in Figure 4, **TS2**, leading to undesired *cis*-diol, would be energetically unfavorable compared to **TS1** because of steric hinderance between the C18-Me group and aldehyde in the case of metal mediated pinacol coupling. Thus, stereochemistry at C14 seems to be easy to control by the pinacol coupling route. However,



Scheme 2. Retrosynthetic Analysis.

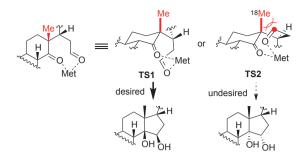
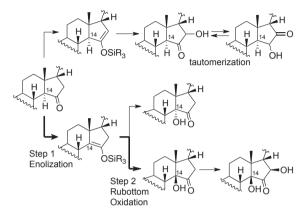


Figure 4. Plausible transition states of pinacol coupling.

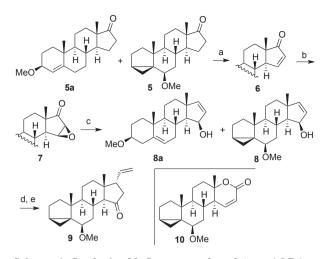


Scheme 3. Synthetic issue for the introduction of 14β -OH.

synthesis of keto-aldehyde needs more reaction steps compared to Rubottom methods as shown in Scheme 2 (XIII \rightarrow XI \rightarrow VII \rightarrow X).

On the other hand, the Rubottom oxidation route has potential stereo- and regio-selectivity problems, even though it has an advantage in terms of reaction steps. To highlight the essence of the problems of the Rubottom oxidation route, Scheme 3 shows a hypothetical route based on silylenolization (step 1) followed by Rubottom oxidation (step 2).¹⁸ In particular, step 1 would not be straightforward since enolization of the 15-keto derivative under basic conditions might occur at the undesired side to generate Δ^{15} due to steric hindrance, and the 16- α -hydroxy ketone derivative generated in the following Rubottom oxidation step would easily tautomerize. Even if Step 1 occurred with high regioselectivity, Step 2 must occur with high diastereofacial selectivity. With these issues in mind, we embarked on the synthesis of **1**.

Scheme 4 shows the synthesis of the key intermediate ketone 9 in five steps, starting from known compound 5.^{25,26} Ito–Saegusa oxidation of a mixture of 5 and 5a was accomplished by using a catalytic amount of palladium acetate with 2 equiv. of *p*-benzoquinone as a re-oxidant of palladium (0) to afford enone 6 in 86% yield.^{22b} When oxygen was used instead of *p*-benzoquinone,^{22a,27} α , β -unsaturated lactone 10 was generated in 6% yield as a side product via Baeyer–Villiger-type rearrangement triggered by the palladium peroxide generated in the reaction.²⁸ This side reaction led to a low yield of enone 6 (73%). After treatment of enone 6 with NaClO (93%), the resulting epoxide 7 was converted to allyl alcohol 8 by hydrazine monohydrate in the presence of Et₃N and AcOH in 74% yield (8: 63%, 8a: 11%). It should be noted that 3-MeO



Scheme 4. Synthesis of 9. *Reagents and conditions*: a) LDA, TMSCl, THF, -78 °C; then Pd(OAc)₂, *p*-benzoquinone, DMSO, 60 °C, 2 h, 86% from 5; b) NaClO, pyridine, EtOH, -10 °C, 20 min, 93%; c) NH₂NH₂·H₂O, Et₃N, AcOH, CH₃CN, 30 min, rt, 74% (8: 63%, 8a: 10%); d) TPAP, NMO, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 92%; e) vinylmagnesium bromide, CuI, THF, -30 °C, 30 min, quant. LDA = lithium diisopropylamide, TMS = trimethylsilyl, THF = tetrahydrofuran, DMSO = dimethyl sulfoxide, rt = room temperature, TPAP = tetrapropylammonium perruthenate, NMO = *N*-methylmorpholine-*N*-oxide.

Table 2. Dihydroxylation of olefin 9.

	H H H H H H H O TBL	ral Ligand tt. OsO_4 $Fe(CN)_6]_{3}SO_2NH_2$ \swarrow_2CO_3 IOH/H_2O_1 , 0 °C	HO ₂₀ HO ₂₀ H H OH H H OH
Entry	Chiral Ligand	Time [h]	Yield [%] (20S:20R)
1	(DHQD) ₂ PHAL	4	82 (1:1.7)
2	(DHQ) ₂ PHAL	3	97 (5.5:1)
3	(DHQ) ₂ AQN	2.5	76 (2.5:1)
4	(DHQ) ₂ PYR	2.0	87 (7.7:1)

DHQ = dihydroquinoline, DHQD = dihydroquinidine. PHAL = phthalazine derivative. AQN = anthraquinone derivative. PYR = diphenylpyrimidine derivative.

derivative contaminated from compound **5** was separable at this stage to give pure **8**. Oxidation of the alcohol group in **8** by tetrapropylammonium perruthenate (TPAP, 92%)²⁹ followed by substrate-controlled Michael addition of a vinyl copper reagent to the resulting enone, provided olefin **9**.

Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation was applied to olefin **9** for stereoselective introduction of the C20-hydroxy group (Table 2).²¹ First, the use of (DHQD)₂PHAL as a chiral ligand gave the desired 20*S*-**11** and its diastereomer 20*R*-**11** in 30% and 52% yield, respectively (Entry 1). It is worth noting that 20*R*-**11** and 20*S*-**11** were easily separable by silica-gel column chromatography. As we expected, 20*S*-**11** was obtained as the major diastereomer (82%) concomitant with 20*R*-**11** (15%) when a catalytic amount of (DHQD)₂PHAL was used instead of its diastereomer (DHQD)₂PHAL (Entries 1 and 2). To gain

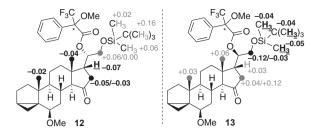


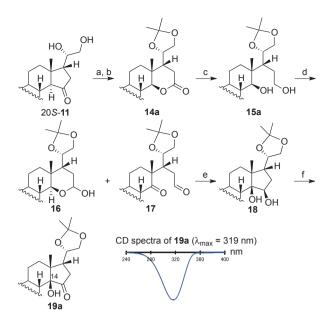
Figure 5. $\Delta \delta^{SR}$ values for the MTPA esters of compound 12 and 13.

higher diastereoselectivity, another chiral ligand, $(DHQ)_2AQN$, was also examined, but unfortunately it gave lower selectivity compared to $(DHQ)_2PHAL$ (Entry 3). Although higher selectivity was obtained when $(DHQ)_2PYR$ was employed (Entry 4), the yield of 20*R*-11 (77%) was lower than that of Entry 2. We also tested the diastereomers of the catalysts (Entries 3, 4) and similarly observed lower selectivity.

The absolute stereochemistry at C20 was determined by the Mosher method (Figure 5).³⁰ Thus, after protection of each primary alcohol at the C21 position in diol 20*S*-11 and 20*R*-11 as TBS, each secondary alcohol at C21 was derivatized with the two enantiomers of (*R*)- and (*S*)- α -methoxy- α -trifluoro-methyl- α -phenylacetic acid (MTPA), respectively, to afford (*R*)- and (*S*)-MTPA-12 and (*R*)- and (*S*)-MTPA-13. The ¹HNMR spectra of the four derivatives were recorded and each $\Delta\delta^{SR}$ value [= $\delta(S)$ -MTPA-12 – $\delta(R)$ -MTPA-12 or $\delta(S)$ -MTPA-13 – $\delta(R)$ -MTPA-13] was calculated. As a result, the absolute stereochemistry of C20 in 12 and 13 was determined as shown in Figure 5, which indicates the stereochemistry of C20 in 20*S*-11 and 20*R*-11.

With the requisite ketones 20S-11 in hand, we investigated the pinacol route (Scheme 5). After protection of diol moiety of 20S-11 as an acetonide (91%), the resulting ketone was converted to lactone 14a by Beaver-Villiger reaction using mCPBA (69%), whose lactone moiety was reduced by LiAlH₄ to afford diol 15a in a quantitative yield. Contrary to our expectation, subsequent Swern oxidation gave lactol 16 as a major product in addition to keto-aldehyde 17 as a minor product. The requisite keto-aldehyde 17 was then converted into diol 18 by intramolecular pinacol coupling. Thus, SmI₂ in THF (1.0 M) was added to a solution of keto-aldehyde 17 in degassed THF/MeOH at 0 °C until the reaction mixture turned dark blue (~2.5 equiv. of SmI₂). Stirring at 0 °C for 10 min afforded diol 18 in 65% yield. Stereochemistry at C14 was determined after conversion of diol 18 to a-ketal 19a by TPAP oxidation. Thus, a negative Cotton effect at 319 nm observed in the circular dichroism (CD) spectrum of 19a suggested that 19a would possess cis-fused CD rings according to the octant rule.31

For the other synthetic route, the Rubottom oxidation route was conducted. First of all, we transformed ketones 20*S*-11 to ketones 20, 22, and 25a and investigated the regio-selective construction of Δ^{14} enol, one of the key reactions of this synthesis (Table 3). We first applied the enolization reaction to ketone 20 by treatment with 2,6-lutidine and TBSOTf in CH₂Cl₂ at 0 °C and obtained Δ^{14} -silyl enol ether 21, the desired regio-isomer, as a major product (Entry 1). The same result



Scheme 5. Investigation of pinacol route. *Reagents and conditions*: a) 2-methoxypropene, cat. TsOH·H₂O, DMF, rt, 30 min, 91%; b) *m*CPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 1 d, 69%; c) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C, 5 min, quant.; d) (COCl)₂, DMSO, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, -78 °C (1 h) to rt, 46% for 16, 25% for 17; e) SmI₂, THF/MeOH (10/1), 0 °C, 10 min, 65%; f) TPAP, NMO, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h, 85%.

was obtained when 20S-11 was used as the starting material (Entry 2). Furthermore, the reaction proceeded in a fully regioselective manner when Et₃N was used instead of 2,6-lutidine to produce 21 (92% yield, Entry 3). According to the results shown in Entries 1 and 2, the sterically more hindered H14 reacted rather than H16. On the other hand, when compound 22 was treated under the same conditions, ketal 23 was obtained in 30% yield concomitant with 15-keto-20,21-di-TBS ether in 54% yield (Entry 4). In other words, the first step was enolization to form Δ^{15} enol, which reacted with the carbonyl of the C20 acetate group to afford cyclized compound 23. When the epimer at C20,20R-11 was employed, lower regioselectivity and a lower yield were obtained (Entry 5). These results indicated the participation of the hydroxy group at C20, as shown in Figure 6, to form the Δ^{14} enol in the case of **20** and 20S-**11**, as otherwise nucleophilic attack on the less hindered H16 took place to afford Δ^{15} enol. To conform this prediction, ketones 25a and 9 were treated under the same conditions as 20S-11. resulting in the formation of Δ^{15} isomers as the sole products (Entries 6 and 7).

Rubottom oxidation was applied to the silyl enol ether **21** to introduce a hydroxy group at the 14-position (Scheme 6).¹⁸ Thus, **21** was treated with *m*CPBA (1.05 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ at 0 °C for 20 min to afford α -ketol **19b** in 54% yield along with hydroxy enol **29** in 26% yield. An extended reaction (10 h) resulted in only enol **29** in 87% yield without α -ketol **19b**. The stereochemistry at the C14 position of α -ketol **19b** was determined by CD spectroscopic analysis. Observation of a negative Cotton effect at 318 nm in the CD spectrum suggested that **19b** possessed *cis*-fused CD rings, in accordance with the octant rule.³¹ Enol **29** was then treated with *m*CPBA, followed by

Table 3. Enolization of 15-keto derivatives TBSOT (1.7 equiv.) Base (1.75 equiv.) Ĥ. Ĥ CHaCla ∩ °C to rt Ĥ OTRS OTRS ÔMe в Δ Time Yield/% Entry Ketone Major product Base (A:B^[a]) /h OTBS OTBS но TRSO 73 1[b] 2,6-lutidine 6 (1:0)ÓTBS 21 20 OTBS нο TBSO 87 2^[c] 2.6-lutidine 0.3 (9:1)OTBS 205-11 21 O۲ OTBS TBSO, но 92 3[c] Et₃N 1.0 (1:0)OTRS 20S-11 21 OTBS OTBS AcO 17^[d] 4 2.6-lutidine 48 (0:1)22 23 OTBS OH но TBSO ъH 30^[e] 5[c] 2,6-lutidine 0.3 (3:1)OTBS 20R-11 24 81 6 2,6-lutidine 36 (0:1)OTRS 25a 26 95 2,6-lutidine 0.3 7 (0:1)OTBS 9 27

[a] The diastereomeric ratio was determined by ¹HNMR. [b] 3.4 equiv. of TBSOTf and 3.5 equiv. of 2,6-lutidine were used. [c] 4.9 equiv. of TBSOTf and 5.2 equiv. of base were used. [d] Recovery of starting material in 74% yield. [e] The 15-keto-20,21-di-TBS ether was obtained in 54% yield. TBS = *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl, Tf = trifluoromethanesulfonyl.

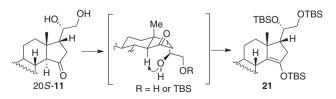
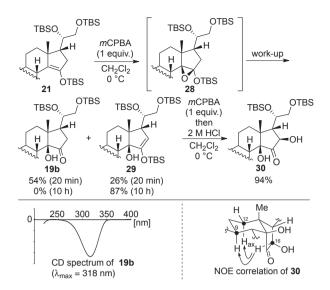
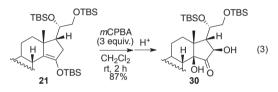


Figure 6. Plausible mechanism of regio-selective enolization of 20*S*-11.



Scheme 6. Synthesis of **30**. *m*CPBA = *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid.



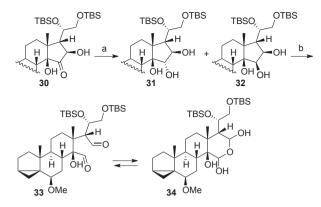
Scheme 7. Double Rubottom oxidation of enol 21.

exposure to 2 M HCl to give α,α -dihydroketone **30** in 94% yield. The stereochemical assignment of ketone **30** was established by nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) experiments. The NOE correlation between H-16 and H_{ax}-12 revealed the stereochemistry at C16 and C14 shown in Scheme 6.

According to these results, "double Rubottom oxidation" was achieved by treatment of enol **21** with 3 equiv. of *m*CPBA in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature for 2 hours to provide keto-diol **30** with a yield of 87% (Scheme 7, eq 3).³² Thus, the Rubottom oxidation route was highly stereoselective and has fewer steps than the pinacol route.

The reduction of keto-diol **25** by NaBH₄ in MeOH at 0 °C completed within 10 min, giving the desired 15,16-*cis*-triol **32** and undesired 15,16-*trans*-triol **31** in yields of 74% and 23%, respectively (Scheme 8). On the other hand, LiAlH₄ took longer reaction time (20 min) to reduce **30** in a less selective manner compared to NaBH₄ to give **32** in 40% and **31** in 45% yields.

To determine each stereochemistry at the C15 positions of **31** and **32**, the hydroxy groups at the C16 position of **31** and the C15/C16 positions of **32** were protected as MTPA and acetonide, respectively. The NOE correlation between H-16 and H_{ax}-12, H-15 and H-7/H-17 in **35** indicated the stereochemistry of C15 as shown in Figure 7. The stereochemistry of C15 in **36** was also determined by the NOE correlation between H-16 and H_{ax}-12, H-15 and H_{ax}-7/H-9. Therefore, the stereochemistry of C15 in triols **31** and **32** was confirmed as shown in Scheme 8. Oxidative cleavage of the C15–16 bond of **32** for construction of the 15,16-*seco*-structure was achieved by using NaIO₄ to afford a mixture of the dialdehyde **33** and the cyclic compound **34** (81%).



Scheme 8. Total synthesis of velutinol A. *Reagents and conditions*: a) NaBH₄, MeOH, 0 °C, 10 min, 32: 74%, 31: 23%; b) NaIO₄, THF/H₂O (1:1), 5 h, 81%.

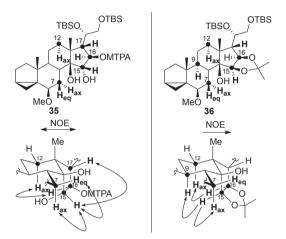
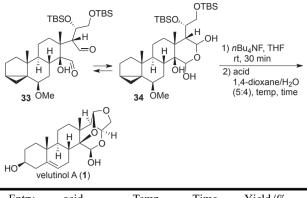


Figure 7. Stereochemical assignment of triol 35 and 36.

The final stage of synthesis required the deprotection of the AB ring moiety and detachment of the TBS groups, followed by an intramolecular double acetalization. To achieve total synthesis of velutinol A, we carefully investigated appropriate acids for the construction of the cage like moiety and conversion of the AB ring moiety (Table 4), since the β , γ -dihydroxycarbonyl moiety and its structural equivalents would be easily aromatized.²⁴ Thus, after removal of the TBS groups by nBu₄NF, the resulting crude diol was treated with AcOH (Entry 1) or 1 M HCl (Entry 2) at room temperature. However, these treatments resulted in no reaction. The final desired product was then obtained in 7% when TsOH was used at reflux condition (Entry 3). These results suggested that conversion to the AB ring moiety would need stronger acid, and the β , γ dihydroxycarbonyl moiety and its structural equivalents resist aromatization in these strong acidic condition. After some optimization of reaction conditions, the conversion of the AB ring moiety, detachment of the TBS groups, and the intramolecular double acetalization were achieved using a strong acid. Thus, exposure of the mixture of 33 and 34 to HClO₄ in 1,4-dioxane/H₂O provided velutinol A (1) in 88% yield (Entry 4).

The final product was identical to an authentic sample.⁸ It should be noted that addition of conc. HCl aq. was essential for obtaining the acetalized (cage-like) structure before purification

Table 4. Investigation of final stage.



Entry	acid	Temp.	Time	Yield/%
1	AcOH	rt	1 d	No reaction
2	1 M HCl	rt	1 d	No reaction
3	TsOH	Reflux	2 h	7
4 ^[a]	HClO ₄	rt	2 h	88 ^[b]

[a] HClO₄ was directly added to the mixture of **33** and **34** without using nBu_4NF . [b] conc. HCl aq. was needed to observe velutinol A in NMR measurement, also see below.

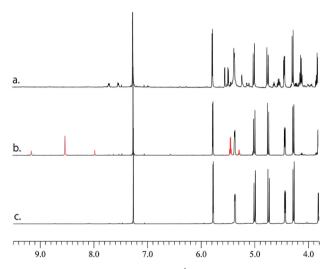


Figure 8. CDCl₃, 500 MHz for ¹H NMR spectra (9.5–3.8 ppm) of; a) reaction crude, b) products after the purification of reaction crude by silica gel, and c) product after addition of conc. HCl aq. to the purified products.

by silica gel, as shown in Figure 8. In the absence of this acid treatment, peaks assignable to *hemi*-acetal protons (the red peaks at \sim 5.25 ppm and \sim 5.45 ppm) and hydroxy proton of *hemi*-acetal shifted to low magnetic field by hydrogen bonding (\sim 9.18 ppm, \sim 8.55 ppm, and \sim 7.98 ppm) were detected as shown in Figure 8b.

Synthesis of the Pentalinonside Aglycon.¹⁵ Pentalinon andrieuxii Mueller-Itrgoviensis, a native Mexican plant growing in the Yucatan Peninsula, has been used as a Mayan folk medicine for the treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis lesions. As part of the discovery of naturally occurring anti-leishmania agents, pentalinonside (**37**, Figure 9), a novel polyoxygenated 14,15-seco-pregnane with a β -diginosyl group at C3 and cagelike DEF-rings, was isolated from the hexane-soluble extract of the roots of *P. andrieuxii* in 2012.¹¹ Although isolated from

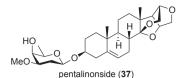
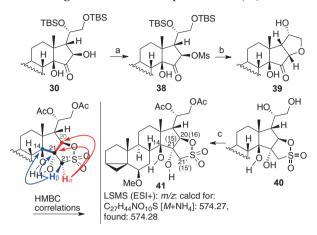
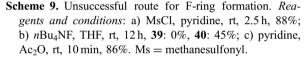


Figure 9. Structure of pentalinoside (37).

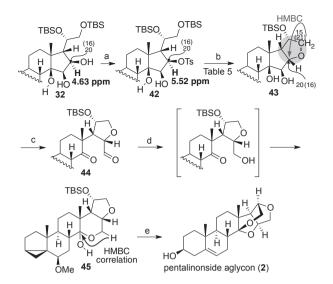




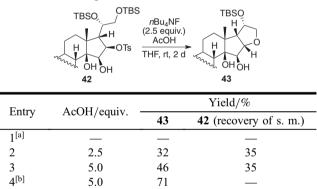
bioactive extracts, pentalinonside (37) does not exhibit antileishmania activity. However, due to its structural similarity to velutinol A (1), our main goal was the synthesis of the pentalinonside aglycon (2), even though the biological activities of pentalinonside (37) have not yet been specified.

As shown in our retrosynthetic analysis (vide ante, Scheme 2), the synthesis begins from α,α -dihydoxyketone **30** (Scheme 9). To construct the E-ring moiety via 5-*exo*-cyclization, the C20(16)-hydroxy group was mesylated. Unfortunately, removal of the TBS groups of ketone **38** by *n*Bu₄NF resulted in the formation of an oxatholanedioxide ring to afford **40** instead of **39** in 45% yield.³³ The structure of **40** was confirmed by heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) experiments of diacetate **41**, easily accessible from compound **40**. After protection of the 15(21), 16(20)-dihydroxy groups as acetyl groups (86%), the HMBCs of **41** were measured. HMBC from H21' α to C20(16)/C21(15) and from H21'(15') β to C14/ C21(15) indicated the formation of an oxatholanedioxide ring, and this was further supported by mass spectrometry.

To prevent annulation, triol **32** was used as the starting material and the *p*-toluenesulfonyl (Ts) group was attached to the C20(16) hydroxy group (Scheme 10). The first step was regioselective installation of the tosyl group at C20(16). We anticipated that the nucleophilicity of the hydroxy group at C21(15) is weaker than that of C20(16) because of neighboring group participation from the C14 hydroxy group. Therefore, triol **32** was treated with TsCl in the presence of 4-dimethyl-aminopyridine (DMAP) in CH₂Cl₂, which gave tosylate **42** as a sole product in a 93% yield. The ¹H NMR value assigned to H20(16) was shifted from 4.63 ppm to 5.52 ppm after tosylation, confirming installation of the Ts group at the C20(16) hydroxy group.



- Scheme 10. Synthesis of pentalinonside aglycon (2). *Reagents and conditions*: a) TsCl, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h, 93%; b) nBu₄NF/AcOH (1:2), THF, reflux, 2 h, 71%, yields and conditions see Table 5; c) NaIO₄, THF/H₂O (1:1), rt, 5 h, 81%; d) NaBH₄, MeOH, 0 °C, 10 min, 71%; e) HClO₄, 1,4-dioxane/H₂O (5:4), rt, 2 h, 95%. Ts = toluenesulfonyl, DMAP = 4-dimethylaminopyridine.
- Table 5. Optimization of the exo-cyclization for the construction of F-ring.



[a] Triol **46** and tetrol **47** were obtained in 89% and 9%, respectively. [b] The reaction was performed under reflux conditions for 2 h.

Table 5 summarizes the optimization process of the key 5exo-cyclization reaction for construction of the F-ring. First, nBu_4NF was used not only for removal of the TBS groups but also as a weak base for the intramolecular S_N2 -type reaction (Entry 1). Despite quantitative conversion of **42**, E2elimination was the major reaction instead of F-ring annulation, affording triol **46** (89%) and tetrol **47** (9%, Figure 10). For triol **46**, the hydroxide at C16(20) generated by fluoride attack on the silyl-group assisted E2-elimination (path a.), and for tetrol **47**, protonation of the hydroxide at C16(20) prevented E2elimination (path b.). These results suggested that selective desilylation at C15(21), and not at C16(20), would prevent E2elimination and activation of the tosylate to induce S_N1 and provide desired product **43**. For this purpose, diol **11** was treated with nBu_4NF in the presence of AcOH (Entries 2–5).

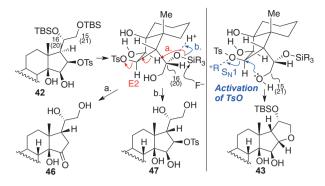


Figure 10. Reaction pathway to byproducts 46 and 47.

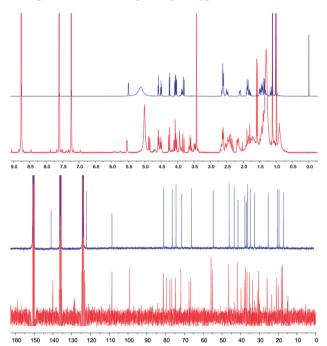


Figure 11. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra of synthetic aglycon (blue, 500 MHz for ¹H- and 125 MHz for ¹³C NMR, pyridine-*d*₅) and natural pentalinonside (red, 400 MHz for ¹H- and 100 MHz for ¹³C NMR, pyridine-*d*₅).

The desired product **43** was obtained in 32% yield, concomitant with the recovery of **42** in 35% yield when 2.5 equiv. of AcOH were used (Entry 2). Addition of 5.0 equiv. of AcOH raised the yield of **43** to 46% (Entry 3). Finally, refluxing for 2 h in the presence of 5.0 equiv. of AcOH gave **43** in 71% yield (Entry 4). The structural elucidation of compound **43** was established based on the HMBC between H15(21) and C20(16).

Oxidative cleavage of the C14–21(15) bond of compound **43** was achieved using NaIO₄ to afford keto–aldehyde **44** (81%, Scheme 10). The C20(16)-oxo group in **44** was selectively reduced using NaBH₄ at 0 °C to give hemi-ketal **45** [71%, confirmed by HMBC correlation between H21(15) and C14]. The final conversion was achieved with HClO₄ to give pentalinonside aglycon (**2**) in 95% yield. The structure of **2** was confirmed by comparing the ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra of the synthetic aglycon and authentic pentalinonside (Figure 11 and Table 6).¹¹ The NMR peaks of **2** were analogous to those of pentalinonside (**37**), except for those assigned as H2–H4 and C2–C4, which are the positions adjacent to the glycoside bond.

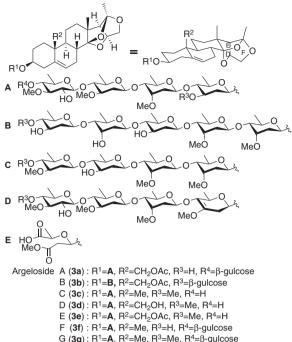
Table 6. ¹³C- and ¹H NMR spectroscopic data of the natural pentalinonside and synthetic aglycon (2).

penumionside und synancice ugijeon (=).					
	natural pentalinonside ^[a]		synthetic aglycon ^[b]		
Position	$\delta_{ m C}$	$\delta_{ m H}$ [ppm]	$\delta_{ m C}$	$\delta_{ m H}$ [ppm]	
	[ppm]	(J [Hz])	[ppm]	(J [Hz])	
1	37.5	α 1.05 m	37.7	α 1.18–1.10 m	
		β 1.75 m		β 1.90–1.83 m	
2	30.4	α 2.13 m	32.5	α 2.13–2.06 m	
		β 1.68 m		β 1.83–1.73 m	
3	77.3	3.90 m	71.2	3.89–3.81 m	
4	39.4	α 2.59 m	43.4	α and β	
		β 2.40 m		2.63–2.58 m	
5	139.7		140.4	_	
6	122.6	5.52 t (2.5)	121.8	5.49–5.45 m	
7	25.5	2.40 m	25.4	2.52–2.44 m	
		2.50 m		2.66–2.60 m	
8	36.2	1.85 m	36.2	1.89–1.84 m	
9	46.1	1.42 m	46.0	1.45-1.40 m	
10	41.4		41.3		
11	20.6	α and β	20.5	1.34–1.28 m	
		1.43 m		1.52–1.46 m	
12	34.9	α 1.38 m	34.8	α 1.38–1.32 m	
		β 1.67 m		β 1.49–1.43 m	
13	37.1	_	36.8		
14	108.2		108.1		
15	74.3	α 4.02 dd	74.2	α 4.03 dd	
		(10.0, 4.4)		(10.1, 4.6)	
		β 4.23 d		β 4.23 d	
		(10.0)		(10.1)	
16	80.9	4.56 t	80.7	4.57 t	
		(4.5)		(4.6)	
17	54.6	2.60 dd	54.5	2.61 dd	
		(7.6, 4.4)		(8.0, 4.6)	
18	17.3	1.08 s	17.2	1.10 s	
19	19.6	0.97 s	19.6	1.02 s	
20	76.3	4.49 ddd	76.2	4.49 ddd	
		(7.6, 6.0, 1.5)		(8.0, 5.8, 1.2)	
21	66.2	α 4.05 dd	66.1	α 4.06 dd	
		(12.4, 6.0)		(12.6, 5.8)	
		β 3.79 dd		β 3.80 dd	
		(12.4, 1.3)		(12.6, 1.2)	
[a] avaiding d 400 MHz for 11 and 100 MHz for 13C NMP					

[a] pyridine- d_5 , 400 MHz for ¹H- and 100 MHz for ¹³C NMR, see ref 10. [b] pyridine- d_5 , 500 MHz for ¹H- and 125 MHz for ¹³C NMR.

Synthesis of the Argeloside Aglycon.¹⁶ More than ten 14,15-*seco*-pregnane glycosides with a cage-like structure in the DEF-rings, generally referred to as "argelosides", were recently isolated from the alcoholic extracts of the leaves and hairy seeds of the Egyptian medicinal plant *Solenostemma argel* Hayne (Asclepiadaceae, Figure 12).^{12,34}

This plant grows in the eastern desert and along the Nile in southern Egypt.³⁵ Some argeloside congeners have potent antiinflammatory activities, as evaluated by their inhibition in LPSstimulated RAW 264.7 mouse cells of the release of TNF- α , a potent pro-inflammatory cytokine capable of inducing an inflammatory response.^{12b} On the other hand, the aglycon of the argeloside, which is structurally similar to velutinol A, has not been isolated from natural sources.^{12,36} Thus, we focused our attention on the aglycon of argeloside.



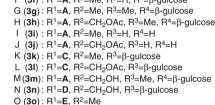
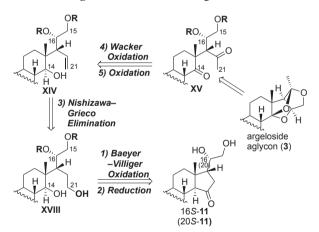
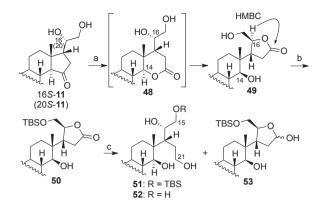


Figure 12. Structure of argelosides.

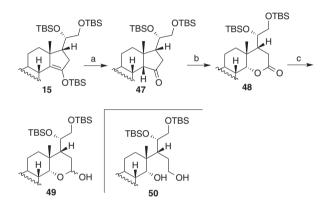


Scheme 11. Details of the synthetic strategy.

Scheme 11 details a synthetic strategy to the final structure **3** from diol 16*S*-**11** (20*S*-**11**). The oxo groups in compound **XV** at the C14 and 20 positions could respectively be constructed by the oxidation of C14-OH and Wacker oxidation²⁰ of Δ^{20} in olefin **XIV**, easily accessible from diprotected-tetrol **XVIII** through Nishizawa–Grieco elimination.³⁷ From this retrosynthetic analysis, it is obvious that the crucial point in accessing compound **XVIII** is the discrimination of *prim*-alcohols C15-OH, C21-OH/*sec*-alcohols C14-OH, and C16-OH before or after Baeyer–Villiger oxidation of diol 16*S*-**11**. In particular, the discrimination of C15-OH and C21-OH is more important because steric hindrance around the secondary alcohol at C14



Scheme 12. Investigation of the synthetic route to argeloside aglycon (3). *Reagents and conditions*: a) mCPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C to rt, 1 d, 77%; b) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, 0°C, 20 min, 97%; c) LiAlH₄, THF, 0°C, 1 min, 60% for 52, 28% for 53.

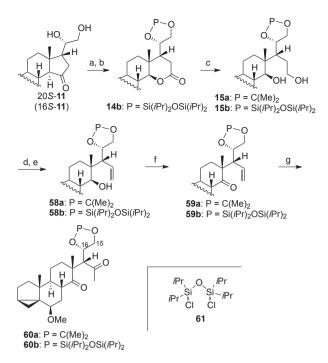


Scheme 13. Unsuccessful synthetic route to the argeloside aglycon (3). *Reagents and conditions*: a) 1 M HCl, THF, 0°C, 2 h, 80%; b) mCPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C to rt, 2 d, 55%; c) LiAlH₄, THF, 0°C to rt, 1 d, 96%.

is considerably different from that of C16, allowing these alcohols to be distinguished.

With these points in mind, we started the synthesis with the diol 16S-11 (Scheme 12). Treatment of diol 16S-11 with mCPBA gave lactone 49 equipped with the distinguished secondary alcohols at C14 and C16 in 77% yield via intermolecular lactone exchange of the Baeyer-Villiger oxidation product 48. The structure of lactone 49 was established from the 2D-NMR spectrum, with the HMBC between H15 and C21 indicating the formation of y-lactone, as illustrated in Scheme 12. After selective protection of the primary alcohol moiety at C15 as TBS, the resulting lactone 50 was reduced by LiAlH₄ to afford tetrol 52 in 60% yield and lactol 53 in 28% yield, instead of the desired triol 51 (with the primary alcohols at C15 and C21 distinguished). To obtain the triol 51, other reducing agents were examined but resulted in the formation of lactol 53 as the sole product (e.g., Dibal-H, 63%; Red-Al, 87%; LiBH₄, 99%). Thus, we decided to abandon this synthetic route.

As an alternative synthetic route, we utilized the enol 21, the intermediate in velutinol A (1) synthesis (Scheme 13). The silvl enol ether moiety of 21 was selectively hydrolyzed with

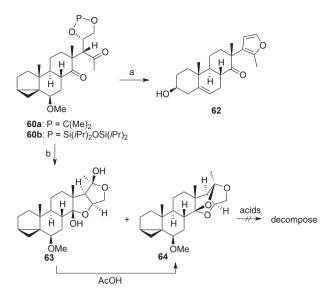


Scheme 14. Investigation of the protecting group for 20,21-diol moiety of 20*S*-11. *Reagents and conditions*: a) disilylether 61, imidazole, DMF, rt, 30 min, 82%; b) *m*CPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 3 d, 56% (19% recovery); c) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C, 2 h, 99%; d) 2-nitrophenylselenyl cyanide, *n*Bu₃P, THF, rt, a: 20 min, 96%; b: 3 h, quant.; e) 30% H₂O₂ aq. THF, rt, a: 3.5 h, 98%; b: 3 h, quant.; f) TPAP, NMO, CH₂Cl₂, rt, a: 1 d, 96%; b: 5 h, 90%; g) cat. PdCl₂, CuCl, O₂, DMF/THF/H₂O, rt, a: 20 min, 95%; b: 6 h, 55%.

1 M aq. HCl in THF to afford the 15-ketone **54** with *cis*-fused CD-rings in 80% yield. Baeyer–Villiger oxidation of ketone **54** was examined by treatment with *m*CPBA in the presence of NaHCO₃ to give lactone **55** in 55% yield. Unfortunately, the reduction of lactone **55** provided only lactol **56**, the *semi*-reduced product, which was resistant to further reduction to the desired 14,21-diol **57**.³⁸ These results suggest that *cis*-fused lactol moiety in compound **56** is extremely stable which might prevent equilibration with hydroxy-aldehyde derivatives. We therefore examined strategies for the preparation and reduction of the *trans*-fused lactone, appropriate conditions and a protecting group for 15,16-diol moiety to prevent enolization of the 15-ketone were required.

Actually, the acetonide was an option for protecting the diol moiety as shown in Scheme 5 (vide ante), which led to difficulty of deprotection in acidic conditions because of aromatization. Thus, towards the accomplishment of the synthesis, bis-silyl ether was also chosen for the protection of diol moiety (Scheme 14).

After the diol moiety of compound 20*S*-11 was protected as bis-silyl ether (82%) by using **61**, treatment with *m*CPBA of the resulting ketones possessing *trans*-fused CD-rings afforded the lactones **14b** (56%). With the requisite lactones **14b** with *trans*-fused CD-rings in hand, reduction of **14b** with LiAlH₄ cleanly gave diol **15b** (99%).

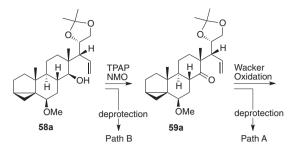


Scheme 15. Conversion of 60 towards the argeloside aglycon (3). *Reagents and conditions*: a) HClO₄, 1,4-dioxane/ H₂O, rt, 2 h, 68%; b) *n*Bu₄NF, AcOH, THF, rt, 6 h, then AcOH, 66%.

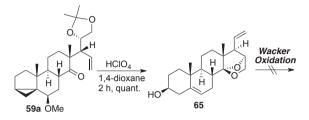
The next stage was the selective dehydration of the primary alcohol at C15 using the Nishizawa–Grieco method.³⁴ Thus, after treatment of the alcohols **15a** and **b** with 2-nitrophenyl-selenyl cyanide in the presence of nBu_3P , the resulting selenides were exposed to 30% hydrogen peroxide, providing olefins **58a** and **58b** in 84% and 100% yield, respectively (two steps). Ketones **59a** and **b**, resulting from TPAP oxidation of the C14-OH in olefins **58a** and **b**, were treated with catalytic amounts of PdCl₂ and CuCl in an O₂ atmosphere (Wacker oxidation²⁰ conditions) to introduce an oxo group at C20 to yield diketones **60a** (91%, two steps) and **60b** (50%, two steps). It should be noted that the reactivity of the reactants in the Baeyer–Villiger reaction, reduction, and Wacker oxidation were strongly influenced by the steric hindrance of the 15,16-diol protecting groups.

To remove the acetonide and restore the hydroxy group at C3 and Δ^5 from the 3,5-cyclo-6-methoxy protection, the diketone **60a** was treated with HClO₄ (Scheme 15). Unfortunately, this treatment only resulted in the undesirable formation of furan **62** instead of argeloside aglycon (**3**). Other acids, such as TsOH, HCl, pyridinium *para*-toluenesulfonate, and trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) were also examined in an effort to obtain the desired product **3**; however, all the acidic conditions only induced the decomposition of **60a**. Therefore, although a strong acid was needed for removal of the acetonide moiety, the β , γ -diol ketone moiety appeared to be unstable under the strongly acidic conditions.

In an alternative route, the bis-silyl ether moiety of compound **60b** was removed by using nBu_4NF in the presence of AcOH to afford two separable products, **63** and **64**. Because bishemiketal **63** was easily converted to **64** by exposure to AcOH, **60b** was directly converted to **64** in 66% yield by the addition of excess AcOH after treatment of **60b** with $nBu_4NF/$ AcOH. However, against our expectations, final conversion of the AB-ring moiety using acids such as TsOH, TFA, and HClO₄ led to a complex mixture, and furan **62** was the only



Scheme 16. Remaining choices for the final approach to argeloside aglycon.



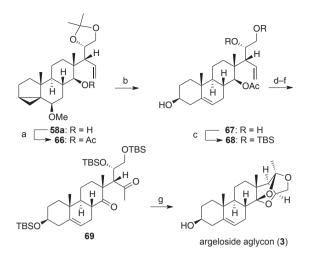
Scheme 17. Deprotection of 59a in advance of Wacker oxidation (Path A).

identifiable product. Further investigations revealed that the DEF-ring moiety in **64** was as unstable as the β , γ -diol ketone moiety in **60** under the acidic conditions required for recovery of the hydroxy group at C3 and Δ^5 from the 3,5-cyclo-6-methoxy moiety. Our results suggest that the oxo group at C20 causes decomposition or aromatization. Therefore, we concluded that reconsidering the synthetic route or another alternative deprotection process would be necessary to obtain the argeloside aglycon.

As described above, the γ -dihydroxyketone moiety in the seco-E ring did not tolerate the acidic conditions necessary for the recovery of the 3 β -hydroxy-5-ene moiety in the AB ring from the 6 β -methoxy-3,5-cyclopropane moiety, being converted to the furan moiety or a complex mixture. Thus, the AB ring moiety was deprotected in a step prior to Wacker oxidation (Path a) or TPAP oxidation (Path B) before the generation of the acid-sensitive tricyclic cage-like moiety (Scheme 16).

We first investigated removal of the acetonide and conversion of the AB-rings before constructing the oxo group at C20 (Scheme 17). Treatment of ketone **59a** with $HClO_4$ resulted in the formation of internally ketalized product **65** in quantitative yield. This result suggested that deprotection should be performed in advance of Wacker oxidation. However, subsequent Wacker oxidation led to decomposition of the product.

After several fruitful and thorough investigations, we were pleased to identify a successful synthetic route to access argeloside aglycon (**3**, Scheme 18). Following protection of the C14-hydroxy group of **58a** as acetyl (89%), removal of the diol protecting groups and restoration of the 3-hydroxy group and Δ^5 in the AB-ring moiety were achieved by using HClO₄ (90%). The resulting triol **67** was then reprotected with the TBS groups (80%), followed by removal of the acyl group using LiAlH₄ to give the corresponding alcohol (80%). The C14hydroxy group of this alcohol was oxidized via TPAP oxidation²⁹ to give the corresponding ketone in 81% yield. The subsequent Wacker oxidation of Δ^{20} ,³⁸ afforded diketone **69**.



Scheme 18. Successful route to aglycone (3, Path B). *Reagents and conditions*: a) Ac₂O, DMAP, pyridine, rt, 1 h, 89%; b) HClO₄, 1,4-dioxane/H₂O, rt, 2 h, 90%; c) TBSOTf, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 1 h, 80%; d) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C to rt, 8.5 h, 80%; e) TPAP, NMO, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h, 81%; f) cat. PdCl₂, CuCl, O₂, DMA/H₂O, rt, 5 h, 69%; g) *n*Bu₄NF, THF, rt, 1 d then AcOH, 74%. DMA = *N*,*N*dimethylacetoamide.

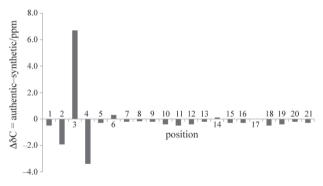


Figure 13. $\Delta\delta C$ value of authentic argeloside C aglycon and synthetic aglycon.

The final stage of the synthesis required removal of the three TBS groups and an intramolecular double ketalization. The reaction conditions used for the conversion of **63** to **64** (vide ante, Scheme 15) provided useful information for these present conversions. Thus, after confirming removal of all the TBS groups by nBu_4NF treatment by NMR, intramolecular double ketalization was achieved by treating the resulting polar products with AcOH to afford compound **3** in 86% yield in one pot.

The structure of **3** was elucidated through comparison of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic data with those of the aglycon portion of argeloside C (**3c**, vide ante, Figure 13).^{12c} As shown in Figure 13, the $\Delta\delta C$ (= ¹³C NMR δ of authentic argeloside C aglycon – ¹³C NMR δ of synthetic aglycon) value of each carbon indicated that the ¹³C NMR peaks of **3** were analogous to those of argeloside C (**3a**), except for those assigned as C2–C4, which are the positions adjacent to the glycoside bond.

Synthesis of Illustrol and Its Glycoside.¹⁷ In 1993, illustrol (4) was isolated from hydroalcoholic extracts of the rhizomes of *Mandevilla illustris* Vel. Woodson (Apocynaceae), a native Brazilian plant used in folk medicine to treat inflam-

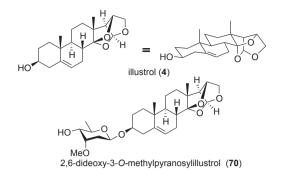
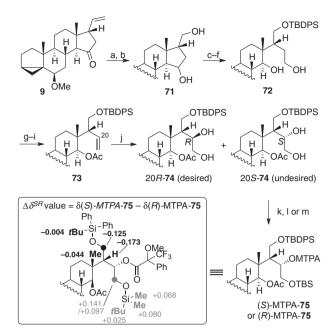


Figure 14. Structures of illustrol (4) and its glycoside 70.

mation and snake bites.³⁹ Illustrol (**4**, Figure 14), consisting of a 14,15-*seco*-15-*nor*-pregnane core with a cage-like framing of DEF-rings, is structurally related to the selective B1R antagonist velutinol A. However, although illustrol was isolated from extracts of the rhizomes of *M. illustris* and shows an antagonistic effect to bradykinin-induced responses,⁴⁰ and despite its structural similarity to the B1R antagonist velutinol A (**1**),¹³ illustrol does not exhibit significant biological activity. On the other hand, 2,6-dideoxy-3-*O*-methylpyranosylillustrol (**70**), isolated from ethyl acetate extracts of the rhizomes of *M. illustris*, was found to inhibit rat paw edema induced by carrageenan, dextran, and the B1R agonist des-Arg-9-bradykinin,⁷ without affecting edema caused by bradykinin B2R agonists.⁴¹ From these results, we believe that compound **70** is a B1Rselective non-peptide antagonist.

On the basis of our retrosynthetic analysis (vide ante, Scheme 2), we first synthesized olefin 73 and investigated the diastereoselectivity of its dihydroxylation (Scheme 19). Following oxidative cleavage and construction of the 15-norstructure of olefin 9 by using OsO_4 -NaIO₄ (71%), the resulting keto-aldehyde was reduced to diol 71 with NaBH₄ in 94% yield. The primary alcohol of 71 at C16 was protected as TBDPS (88%), and subsequent oxidation of the remaining secondary alcohol at C21 via TPAP²⁴ (92%) gave the corresponding 21-keto-derivative (92%). Baeyer-Villiger oxidation of the 21-keto-derivative using mCPBA achieved construction of the seco-structure to afford the corresponding lactone in 87% yield, followed by reduction to diol 72 using LiAlH₄ (86%). Diol 72 was easily converted to the olefin 73 via Nishizawa-Grieco elimination³⁷ (80% for 2 steps), followed by protection of C14-OH as Ac (91%).

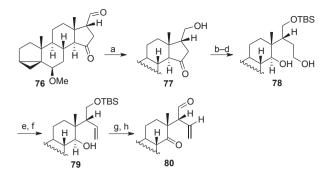
With the requisite olefin **73** in hand, we investigated its dihydroxylation. Thus, olefin **73** was treated with a catalytic amount of OsO₄ in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of NMO at room temperature for 10 h to give a mixture of undesired diol 20*S*-**74** and desired diol 20*R*-**74** in 60% yield with a diastereoselectivity of 5.9:1, along with 28% recovery of the starting material. Structural determination of the major diastereomer 20*S*-**74** was established as follows. After protection of the C20-OH in compound 20*S*-**74** as TBS, the resulting alcohol was treated with (*S*)-MTPAC1 or (*R*)-MTPAC1 in the presence of DMAP to give (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA-**75** in 80% and 72% yield, respectively, and the $\Delta \delta^{SR}$ value [= $\delta(S)$ -MTPA-**75** – $\delta(R)$ -MTPA-**75**] was calculated.³⁰ The $\Delta \delta^{SR}$ value shown in Scheme 19 determined the absolute configuration of C20 in the major diastereomer **74** to be *S*.



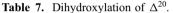
Scheme 19. Unsuccessful route toward illutsrol (4). *Reagents and conditions*: a) OsO₄, NaIO₄, 1,4-dioxane, H₂O, rt, 6h, 71%; b) NaBH₄, MeOH, rt, 70 min, 94%; c) TBDPSCl, imidazole, DMF, 0 °C, 3.3 h, 88%; d) cat. TPAP, NMO, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 1 h, 92%; e) mCPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 12 h, 87%; f) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C, 2.5 h, 62%; g) 2-nitrophenylselenyl cyanide, *n*Bu₃P, THF, rt, 70 min, 86%; h) H₂O₂, THF, rt, 1.7 h, 93%; i) Ac₂O, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 4.3 h, 91%; j) cat. OsO₄, NMO, acetone, rt, 10 h, 61% (20S-74:20*R*-74 = 5.9:1, recovery 28%); k) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, rt, 1 h, 69%; l) (S)-MTPACl, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 12 h, 80%; m) (*R*)-MTPACl, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 12 h, 72%.

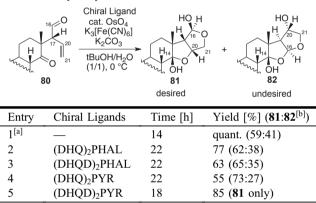
After the investigation of alternative promising routes, illustrol (4) was finally synthesized starting from ketoaldehyde 76 (Scheme 20). The formyl group of the ketoaldehyde was selectively reduced to alcohol with NaBH4 at low temperature (-40 °C) to afford alcohol 77 in 68% yield and recovery of 76 (28%). After protection of the primary alcohol of 77 as TBS (98%), Baeyer–Villiger oxidation using mCPBA gave the corresponding lactone (88%), which was reduced with LiAlH₄ to afford diol 78 in 87% yield. Diol 78 was converted to olefin **79** via the Nishizawa–Grieco protocol.³⁷ Thus, diol **79** was treated with 2-nitrophenylselenyl cyanide and nBu_3P to give the corresponding selenide (95%); the selenium moiety was then oxidized by using 30% H₂O₂ to afford olefin 79 with concomitant syn-elimination of the resulting selenoxide (94%). After detachment of the TBS protecting group with nBu_4NF , Swern oxidation of the resulting diol afforded the desired ketoaldehyde 80 without epimerization of the C17 position. Notably, careful and rapid silica-gel column chromatography was critical for obtaining a good isolation yield of ketoaldehyde 80, since otherwise the isolation yield of ketoaldehyde 80 was decreased due to decomposition.

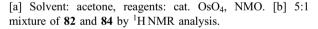
With the requisite olefin **80** in hand, we performed asymmetric dihydroxylation (Table 7). First, olefin **80** was treated with a catalytic amount of OsO_4 in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of NMO at 0 °C to afford the desired diol **83** and



Scheme 20. Synthesis of olefin 80. *Reagents and conditions*:
a) NaBH₄, MeOH, −40 °C, 30 min, 68% (recovery 28%);
b) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, 30 min, 95%; c) *m*CPBA, NaHCO₃, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 1 d, 88%; d) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C, 30 min, 87%; e) 2-nitrophenylselenyl cyanide, *n*Bu₃P, THF, 0 °C, 20 min, 95%; f) H₂O₂, THF, rt, 5 h, 94%;
g) *n*Bu₄NF, THF, rt, 10 min, quant.; h) DMSO, (COCl)₂, −78 °C, 8 h, 97%.







the undesired diol 84 (vide infra, Figure 15), which were spontaneously converted into compound 81 (59%) and 82 (41%), respectively, concomitant with double acetalization (Entry 1). Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation was also applied to olefin 80.21 Thus, treatment of olefin 80 with a stoichiometric amount of K₃[Fe(CN)₆] and K₂CO₃ and a catalytic amount of OsO4 in the presence of a catalytic amount of (DHQ)2PHAL at 0°C afforded compound 81 and 82 in 48% and 29% yield, respectively (Entry 2). Surprisingly, the same selectivity was obtained even though (DHQD)2PHAL, the diastereomer of (DHQD)₂PHAL, was used as the chiral ligand (Entry 3). The diastereomer ratio was raised to 73:27 when (DHQ)₂PYR was used (Entry 4). Finally, perfect selectivity and high yield were achieved by using (DHQD)₂PYR (Entry 5). Thus, treatment of olefin 80 with typical Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation conditions by using (DHQD)₂PYR as the chiral ligand gave compound 81 in 88% yield and no detectable 82.

The structures of **81** and **82** were confirmed by NOE and HMBC experiments For compound **81**, formation of a hexahydrofuro[3,4-*b*]furan skeleton was confirmed by HMBC correlation between H16 and C21 (${}^{3}J_{CH}$) and between H21 and C14 (${}^{4}J_{CH}$), and the stereochemistry at C14, C16, C17, and C20 was

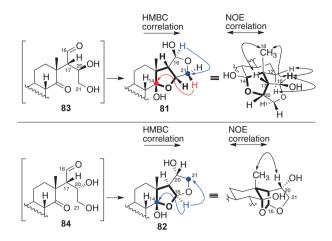
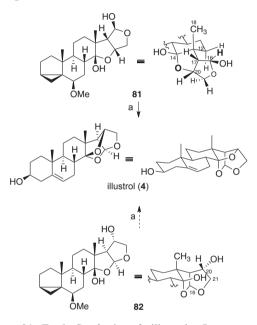


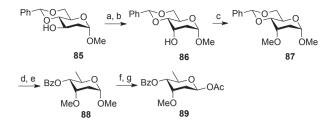
Figure 15. Structural determination of 81 and 82.



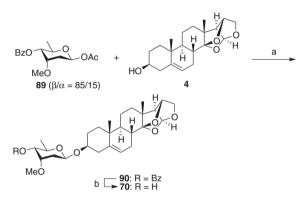
Scheme 21. Total Synthesis of illustrol. *Reagents and conditions*: a) HClO₄, 1,4-dioxane, H₂O, rt, 2 h, quant.

determined by NOE correlation between H16 and H12 α /H12 β . The structure of **81** was also supported with other evidence (i.e., NOE correlations between H16 and H18). For compound **82**, HMBC correlation between H16 and C14 and between H16 and C21 indicated the formation of a hexahydrofuro-[2,3-*b*]furan skeleton, and the NOE correlation between H18 and H20 established the stereochemistry at C20, as shown Figure 15.

The final step for the synthesis of illustrol (4), the construction of the DEF cage-like rings and concomitant conversion of the AB-rings, were achieved by the exposure of **81** to HClO₄, providing illustrol (4) in quantitative yield (Scheme 21). This synthetic product was identical to an authentic specimen.¹³ It should be noted that compound **82** is structurally more similar to illustrol (4) than is **81** (see also Figure 15). Compound **82** was thus subjected to the same conditions as used for the conversion of **81** to illustrol (4). However, contrary to our expectation, the reaction resulted in the production of a complex mixture instead of illustrol (4).



Scheme 22. Synthesis of Sugar Moiety 89. *Reagents and conditions*: a) TPAP, NMO, rt, 16 h, 70%; b) NaBH₄, MeOH, 0 °C, 20 min, 87%; c) MeI, NaH, DMF, 0 °C, 1 h, 99%; d) BaCO₃, NBS, CCl₄, 60 °C, 2 h, 83%; e) *n*Bu₃SnH, AIBN, benzene, reflux, 40 min, 93%; f) AcOH, H₂O, reflux, 2 h; g) Ac₂O, pyridine, 30 min, 77% (β : α = 85:15, 2 steps). NBS = *N*-bromosuccinimide, AIBN = azobisiso-butyronitrile.



Scheme 23. Total synthesis of glycoside of illustrol 70. *Reagents and conditions*: a) BF₃•OEt₂, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 20 min, 71%; b) MeONa, MeOH, rt, 12 h, quant.

Scheme 22 shows the synthesis of the sugar moiety of **70**. Inversion of the 3-OH moiety of the known compound **85** derived from 2-deoxy-D-glucose⁴² was established by a simple oxidation and reduction method using TPAP and NaBH₄ to afford compound **86** (61% yield for 2 steps). After protection of the 3-OH moiety as the methyl ether using MeI in the presence of NaH (99%), the 1,3-dioxane ring was cleaved by treatment with NBS (83%). The resulting bromobenzoate derivative was reductively debrominated with *n*Bu₃SnH in the presence of AIBN to afford **88** in 93% yield. Hydrolysis and acetylation of the anomeric position gave compound **89** in a moderate yield (77% for 2 steps).

With the requisite illustrol (4) and compound 89 in hand. we synthesized 2,6-dideoxy-3-O-methylpyranosylillustrol (Scheme 23). The β -selective glycosidation of illustrol (4) was achieved by using 2,6-dideoxypyranoside 89 as the glycosyl donor. Thus, compounds 4 and 89 were treated with a catalytic amount of BF3.OEt2 at 0 °C for 20 min to give βglycoside 90 as a sole product in 71% yield. The high stereoselectivity obtained may have resulted from hindrance of α -side attack at the C1' position by electronic repulsion between the axially oriented a-OMe group at the C3' position and the alcoholic oxygen. Removal of the benzovl group of β -anomer 90 was accomplished with MeONa to afford 2,6-dideoxy-3-Omethylpyranosylillustrol (70) in a quantitative yield, and 70 was shown to be identical to an authentic specimen.^{41,43}

3. Conclusion

Syntheses of the non-peptide bradykinin B1 receptor antagonist velutinol A and its derivatives, the *seco*-pregnanes with cage-like moiety, have been accomplished. Construction of highly oxygenated structures were established by the combination of three of five oxidative processes: 1) Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation, 2) Rubottom oxidation, 3) Baeyer– Villiger oxidation, 4) Wacker oxidation, 5) Oxidative cleavage via NaIO₅. The syntheses of these aglycon derivatives may be useful for the structure-activity studies of non-peptide ligands for the bradykinin B1 receptor (B1R). Now, construction of an appropriate in vitro assay system for **1–4** is under investigation.

4. Experimental

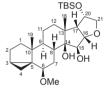
General Method. All the experiments involving air- and moisture-sensitive compounds were conducted under an atmosphere of dry argon. Dichloromethane and N,N-dimethylformamide were distilled from CaH₂ and stored over 4 Å molecular sieves. Anhydrous tetrahydrofuran from Kanto Chemicals (water: 0.002%max) was directly used as solvent. For TLC analysis, Marck precoated plates (silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, art 5715, 0.25 mm) were used. For flash column chromatography, silica gel 60N (Spherical, neutral, 23-210 µm) from Kanto Chemicals was used. Melting point (M.p.) determinations were performed using a Yanako P-J3 instrument. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using a JEOL ECA-500 (500 MHz), or a Bruker Avance-400 (400 MHz) spectrometer in the solvent indicated; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane and coupling constants (J) are reported in Hz. Multiplicities are described by the following abbreviations; s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad. Attenuated total reflectance Fourier-transform infrared (ATR-FTIR) spectra were recorded using a Shimadzu IRAffinity-1 equipped with a Shimadzu MIRacle single reflection ATR accessory, wavenumbers (\tilde{v}) in cm⁻¹. Optical rotations ($[\alpha]_D$) were measured using a JASCO P-2300 polarimeter. Highresolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained with a Bruker micrOTOF II spectrometer (ESI+).

Compound 42. TBSO, OTB TBSO, OTB 1^{12} 1^{12} 2^{27} H^1 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} H^1 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} H^1 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} 1^{12} H^1 H^1

TsCl (315.1 mg, 1.65 mmol) and DMAP (403.2 mg, 3.30 mmol) were added to a solution of compound **32** (103.3 mg, 0.165 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (×3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel hexane/EtOAc = 8:2) to afford compound **42** (120.0 mg, 93%) as a colorless oil whose ¹H NMR in CDCl₃ showed the contamination of ~6 mol% EtOAc. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +27.7$ (c = 0.200, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.86$ (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar<u>H</u>), 7.31 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar<u>H</u>), 5.52 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H, H-16), 3.68 (dd,

J = 5.6, 8,4 Hz, 1H, H-20), 3.30 (s, 3H, OCH₃-6), 4.39 (dd, J = 5.2, 7.9 Hz, 1H, H-15), 3.28 (dd, J = 5.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H, H-21), 3.24 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, OH-15), 3.10 (dd, J = 8.4, 9.6 Hz, 1H, H-21), 2.84 (t, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H, H-6), 2.81 (s, 1H, OH-14), 2.65 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H, H-17), 2.43 (s, 3H, Ts), 2.17 (td, J = 2.9. 13.6 Hz, 1H, H-7), 1.98 (dt, J = 2.9, 12.3 Hz, 1H, H-8), 1.88-1.78 (m, 1H, H-2), 1.57 (dd, J = 7.4, 12.5 Hz, 1H, H-2), 1.52-1.44 (m, 2H, H-1 and H-7), 1.44–1.33 (m, 2H, H-11 and H-12), 1.32-0.99 (m, 3H, H-12, H-11 and H-9), 1.02 (s, 3H, H-18), 1.00 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.98-0.85 (m, 2H, H-3 and H-1), 0.89 (s, 9H, OSiC(CH₃)₃), 0.81 (s, 9H, OSiC(CH₃)₃), 0.62 (dd, J = 3.7, 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.46 (dd, J = 5.0, 7.9 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.05 (s, 3H, OSiCH₃), 0.03 (s, 3H, OSiCH₃), -0.07 (s, 3H, OSiCH₃), -0.09 ppm (s, 3H, OSiCH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\overline{\delta} =$ 144.7 (Ar), 134.1 (Ar), 129.7 (2C, Ar), 127.9 (2C, Ar), 82.0 (C-6), 81.5 (C-14), 78.6 (C-16), 69.6 (C-15), 69.5 (C-20), 65.8 (C-21), 56.5 (OCH₃-6), 52.5 (C-17), 43.9 (C-13), 43.7 (C-10), 43.4 (C-9), 35.8 (C-8), 35.3 (C-5), 33.7 (C-1), 32.7 (C-11), 29.6 (C-7), 26.2 (3C, OSiC(CH₃)₃), 25.9 (3C, OSiC(CH₃)₃), 25.0 (C-2), 21.9 (C-3), 21.6 (2C, OSO₂Ph-4-CH₃-16 and C-12), 19.4 (C-19), 18.3 (OSiC(CH₃)₃), 18.2 (OSiC(CH₃)₃), 18.1 (C-18), 13.2 (C-4), -3.2 (OSiCH₃), -4.6 (OSiCH₃), -5.4 ppm (2C, OSi*C*H₃); IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 3527, 3494, 3357, 2953, 2929, 2884,$ 2855, 1728, 1600, 1471, 1463, 1360, 1252, 1174, 1098, 1079, 1007, 899, 832, 813, 776, 757, 675 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/zcalcd for $C_{41}H_{74}NO_8SSi_2$ [M + NH₄]⁺: 796.4668, found: 796.4672.

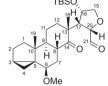
Compound 43.



Tetrabuthylammonium fluoride (1.0 mol/L in THF, 1.2 mL, 1.2 mmol) and AcOH (0.14 mL, 2.35 mmol) were added to a solution of compound 42 (365.4 mg, 0.469 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h at 60 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 9:1) to afford compound 43(163.5 mg, 71%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +26.1$ (c = 0.340, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.74$ (q, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-20), 4.40 (brs, 1H, H-15), 4.21 (dd, J = 1.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H, H-16), 3.96 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-21), 3.62 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-21), 3.34 (s, 3H, OCH₃-6), 2.85 (t, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H, H-6), 2.81 (br s, 1H, OH-15), 2.77 (dd, J = 7.2, 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-17), 2.25–2.20 (m, 1H, OH-14), 2.20 (td, J = 3.2, 13.6 Hz, 1H, H-12), 2.11 (td, J = 2.9, 13.5 Hz, 1H, H-7), 1.96–1.87 (m, 1H, H-8), 1.85–1.73 (m, 1H, H-2), 1.65 (dt, *J* = 4.0, 13.6 Hz, 1H, H-12), 1.59-1.40 (m, 4H, H-1, H-2, H-7 and H-11), 1.39-1.27 (m, 1H, H-11), 1.27-1.16 (m, 1H, H-9), 1.19 (s, 3H, H-18), 1.02 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.96-0.84 (m, 2H, H-3 and H-1), 0.89 (s, 9H, $OSiC(CH_3)_3$ -20), 0.65 (dd, J = 3.7, 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.48 (dd, J = 5.0, 7.9 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.07 (s, 3H, OSiCH₃-20), 0.03 ppm (s, 3H, OSiCH₃-20); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 92.6$ (C-16), 86.4 (C-14), 82.0 (C-6), 79.3 (C-15), 74.6 (C-21), 74.2 (C-

20), 56.6 (O<u>C</u>H₃-6), 54.3 (C-17), 47.6 (C-13), 43.7 (C-10), 43.6 (C-9), 36.2 (C-8), 34.6 (C-5), 33.7 (C-1), 30.8 (2C, C-7 and C-12), 25.9 (3C, OSiC(<u>C</u>H₃)₃-20), 24.9 (C-2), 22.2 (C-11), 21.5 (C-3), 19.6 (C-18), 19.3 (C-19), 18.0 (OSi<u>C</u>(CH₃)₃-20), 13.4 (C-4), -5.0 (OSi<u>C</u>H₃-20), -5.1 ppm (OSi<u>C</u>H₃-20); IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3510, 3392, 3004, 2953, 2927, 2876, 2815, 1472, 1461, 1375, 1253, 1139, 1100, 1037, 1017, 915, 859, 836, 776 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI):$ *m/z*calcd for C₂₈H₅₂NO₅Si [*M*+ NH₄]⁺: 510.3609, found: 510.3608.

Compound 44.



Sodium periodate (558.6 mg, 2.61 mmol) was added to a solution of compound 43 (128.7 mg, 0.261 mmol) in THF/H₂O (1:1) (3.0 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8:2) to give compound 44 (105.7 mg, 81%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +19.0$ (c = 0.270, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 9.74$ (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H, H-21), 4.82 (t, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H, H-16), 4.39 (dd, J = 4.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-20), 4.03 (dd, J = 2.9, 9.2 Hz, 1H, H-15), 3.94 $(d, J = 9.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, \text{H-15}), 3.33 (s, 3\text{H}, \text{OC}H_3-6), 2.94 (dt, J =$ 3.0, 12.3 Hz, 1H, H-8), 2.88 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-6), 2.64 (dd, J = 2.9, 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-17, 2.27–2.15 (m, 2H, H-12 and H-7), 1.83-1.64 (m, 2H, H-2 and H-11), 1.61-1.42 (m, 5H, H-2, H-11, H-12, H-1 and H-7), 1.33 (s, 3H, H-18), 1.31-1.18 (m, 1H, H-9), 1.10 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.98-0.82 (m, 2H, H-3 and H-1), 0.88 (s, 9H, $OSiC(CH_3)_3$ -16) 0.67 (dd, J = 3.9, 5.2 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.49 (dd, J = 5.2, 8.2 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.09 (s, 3H, OSiC H_3 -16), 0.05 ppm (s, 3H, OSiCH₃-16); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 216.4$ (C-14), 204.8 (C-21), 82.6 (C-20), 81.7 (C-6), 77.8 (C-15), 72.6 (C-16), 56.7 (OCH₃-6), 56.2 (C-17), 48.3 (C-13), 48.0 (C-9), 44.2 (C-10), 40.9 (C-8), 37.2 (C-12), 34.3 (C-5), 33.5 (C-1), 30.1 (C-7), 25.8 (3C, OSiC(CH₃)₃-16), 24.8 (C-2), 22.3 (C-18), 21.8 (C-11), 21.3 (C-3), 18.8 (C-19), 17.7 (OSiC(CH₃)₃-16), 13.2 (C-4), -4.3 (OSiCH₃-16), -4.6 ppm (OSi \overline{C} H₃-16); IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 2953$, 2928, 2859, 2821, 1723, 1698, 1460, 1378, 1255, 1092, 1019, 1002, 990, 938, 829, 811, 775, 754 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₄₇O₅Si $[M + H]^+$: 491.3187, found: 491.3216.

Compound 45.



NaBH₄ (0.9 mg, 0.0240 mmol) was added to a solution of compound 44 (9.8 mg, 0.0199 mmol) in MeOH (0.5 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 min at 0 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding 0.1 N AcOH, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine,

dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/ EtOAc = 9:1) to afford compound 45 (7.0 mg, 71%) as a colorless oil whose ¹HNMR in CDCl₃ showed the contamination of ~5 mol% of minor isomer and ~10 mol% of EtOAc. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} =$ $-2.9 (c = 0.140, CHCl_3); {}^{1}HNMR (400 Hz, CDCl_3): \delta = 4.76$ (ddd, J = 7.2, 8.0, 8.9 Hz, 1H, H-16), 4.05 (dd, J = 3.1, 13.1 Hz, 1H, H-21), 3.93 (dd, J = 8.0, 8.9 Hz, 1H, H-15), 3.85 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H, H-21), 3.71 (dd, J = 3.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H, H-20), 3.56 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H-15), 3.35 (s, 3H, OCH₃-6), 2.90 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H, H-6), 2.27 (dd, J = 4.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H, H-17),2.19-2.16 (m, 1H, H-8), 2.16-2.01 (m, 2H, H-12), 1.88-1.75 (m, 2H, H-2 and H-7), 1.63 (ddd, J = 3.0, 12.1, 13.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 1.54-1.45 (m, 2H, H-2 and H-1), 1.43-1.32 (m, 3H, H-9 and H-11), 1.23 (s, 3H, H-18), 1.01 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.95-0.79 (m, 2H, H-3 and H-1), 0.91 (s, 9H, OSiC(CH₃)₃-16), 0.65 (dd, J = 4.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-4), 0.46 (dd, J = 5.0, 8.1 Hz, 1H,H-4), 0.08 (s, 3H, OSiCH₃-16), 0.05 ppm (s, 3H, OSiCH₃-16); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 99.0$ (C-14), 82.2 (C-6), 76.1 (C-16), 74.9 (C-20), 72.4 (C-15), 61.0 (C-21), 56.7 (OCH₃-6), 45.3 (C-17), 43.5 (C-10), 41.7 (C-9), 38.5 (C-13), 36.0 (C-8), 34.5 (C-5), 33.5 (C-1), 30.0 (C-12), 28.3 (C-7), 25.9 (3C, OSiC(CH₃)₃-16), 24.9 (C-2), 21.6 (C-11), 21.4 (C-3), 21.1 (C-18), 19.1 (C-19), 18.0 (OSiC(CH3)3-16), 13.3 (C-4), -4.9 (OSiCH₃-16), -5.0 ppm (OSiCH₃-16); IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 3526$, 3473, 3342, 2955, 2929, 2859, 1728, 1471, 1463, 1442, 1388, 1377, 1259, 1252, 1131, 1088, 1059, 1037, 1013, 911, 870, 836, 776 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₄₈NaO₅Si $[M + Na]^+$: 515.3163, found: 515.3186.

Pentalinonside Aglycon (2). HClO₄ (0.1 mL) was added to a solution of 45 (2.4 mg, 4.87 μ mol) in 1,4-dioxane/H₂O (5:4) (0.5 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/Et₂O/CH₃CN = 4:5:1) to afford pentalinonside aglycon (2, 1.6 mg, 95%) as a white solid. M.p. 206.2–206.4 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -37.19$ (c = 0.32, MeOH); ¹HNMR (500 MHz, pyridine- d_5): $\delta = 5.49-5.45$ (m, 1H, H-6), 4.57 (t, 1H, J = 4.6 Hz, H-16), 4.49 (ddd, 1H, J = 8.0, 5.8, 1.2 Hz, H-20), 4.23 (d, 1H, J = 10.1 Hz, H-15b), 4.06 (dd, 1H, J = 12.6, 5.8 Hz, H-21a), 4.03 (dd, 1H, J = 10.1, 4.6 Hz, H-15a), 3.89–3.81 (m, 1H, H-3), 3.80 (dd, 1H, J = 12.6, 1.2 Hz, H-21b), 2.66-2.60 (m, 1H, H-7), 2.63-2.58 (m, 2H, H-4), 2.61 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0, 4.6 Hz, H-17), 2.52-2.44 (m, 1H, H-7), 2.13-2.06 (m, 1H, H-2a), 1.90-1.83 (m, 1H, H-1b), 1.89-1.84 (m, 1H, H-8), 1.83–1.73 (m, 1H, H-2b), 1.52–1.46 (m, 1H, H-11), 1.49-1.43 (m, 1H, H-12b), 1.45-1.40 (m, 1H, H-9), 1.38-1.32 (m, 1H, H-12a), 1.34-1.28 (m, 1H, H-11), 1.18-1.10 (m, 1H, H-1a), 1.1 (s, 3H, H-18), 1.02 (s, 3H, H-19) ppm; ¹³C NMR $(125 \text{ MHz}, \text{ pyridine-}d_5): \delta = 140.4 \text{ (C-5)}, 121.8 \text{ (C-6)}, 108.1$ (C-14), 80.7 (C-16), 76.2 (C-20), 74.2 (C-15), 71.2 (C-3), 66.1 (C-21), 54.5 (C-17), 46.0 (C-9), 43.4 (C-4), 41.3 (C-10), 37.7 (C-1), 36.8 (C-13), 36.2 (C-8), 34.8 (C-12), 32.5 (C-2), 25.4 (C-7), 20.5 (C-11), 19.6 (C-19), 17.2 (C-18) ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 3309, 2927, 1439, 1381, 1364, 1269, 1202, 1169, 1133,$ 1101, 1052, 1019, 986, 972, 954 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for $C_{21}H_{31}O_4 [M + H]^+$: 347.2217, found: 347.2223.

(2*R*,4a*R*,6*S*,8a*R*)-6-Methoxy-2-phenyltetrahydropyrano-[3,2-*d*][1,3]dioxin-8(4*H*)-one.

Ph



Tetrapropylammonium perruthenate (420.3 mg, 1.20 mmol) and 4-methylmorpholine (18.2 g, 155.4 mmol) were added to a solution of compound 85 (6.37 g, 23.9 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (150 mL) at room temperature. After 1 h at room temperature, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 7:3) to afford (2R,4aR,6S,8aR)-6methoxy-2-phenyltetrahydropyrano [3,2-d][1,3]dioxin-8(4H)one (4.60 g, 73%) as a white solid. M.p. = 175.0-176.1 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +122.3$ (c = 0.575, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 7.53-7.47$ (m, 2H), 7.39–7.33 (m, 3H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 5.14 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (dd, J = 4.7, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, J = 1.1, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dt, J = 4.7, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 2.83 (ddd, J = 1.1, 4.7, 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.66 ppm (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 197.4$, 136.5, 129.3, 128.3, 126.4, 102.2, 100.6, 83.1, 69.5, 65.1, 55.0, 46.4 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 2940$, 1730 (C=O), 1451, 1403, 1379, 1273, 1131, 1090, 1017, 978, 908, 748, 696, 655 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₇O₅ $[M + H]^+$: 265.1071, found: 265.1097.

Compound 86. Ph-



NaBH₄ (790.2 mg, 20.9 mmol) was added to a solution of (2R,4aR,6S,8aR)-6-methoxy-2-phenyltetrahydropyrano[3,2-d]-[1,3]dioxin-8(4H)-one (4.60 g, 17.4 mmol) in MeOH (100 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 min at 0 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding 0.1 M AcOH, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 7:3) to afford compound 86 (4.60 g, quant.) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +108.29 \ (c = 0.525, \text{CHCl}_{3});$ ¹HNMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.54-7.48$ (m, 2H), 7.40–7.31 (m, 3H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 4.80 (dd, J = 0.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, J = 5.1, 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.24 (dt, J = 5.1, 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.19 (qd, J = 3.0, 6.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.78 (t, J = 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.61 (dd, J =3.0, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.01 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H, OH), 2.20 (ddd, J = 0.8, 3.0, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 2.01 ppm (ddd, J = 3.0, 4.0, 14.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 137.3$, 129.1, 128.3, 126.3, 102.1, 98.7, 79.7, 69.4, 65.0, 58.2, 55.5, 35.5 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 3503$ (OH), 2933, 1459, 1410, 1389, 1184, 1134, 1112, 1095, 1042, 993, 964, 927, 862, 772, 710 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₉O₅ $[M + H]^+$: 267.1227, found: 267.1234.

Compound 87. Ph TO MeO OMe

Sodium hydride (319.2 mg, 7.98 mmol) was added to a solution of compound **86** (1.76 g, 6.65 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) at 0 °C. After 1 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Iodomethane was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C.

After stirring for 20 min at 0 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc =7:3) to afford compound 87 (1.85 g, 99%) as a white solid. M.p. = 81.5-82.6 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +83.53$ (c = 0.230, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.53-7.46$ (m, 2H), 7.40–7.30 (m, 3H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 4.69 (dd, J = 0.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.38–4.27 (m, 2H), 3.81-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.74-3.66 (m, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 2.22 (ddd, J = 0.7, 2.8, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 1.93 ppm (ddd, J = 3.6, 4.6, 14.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 137.7, 129.0, 128.3, 126.2, 102.3, 97.9, 80.7, 73.7, 69.6,$ 59.6, 58.1, 55.6, 34.3 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 2932$, 1716 (C=O), 1385, 1123, 1098, 1042, 1001, 984, 962, 907, 771, 704 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₁O₅ $[M + H]^+$: 281.1384, found: 281.1393.

(2*S*,3*S*,4*S*,6*S*)-2-(Bromomethyl)-4,6-dimethoxytetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-3-yl Benzoate.

Barium carbonate (541.1 mg, 2.74 mmol) and N-bromosuccinimide (1.00 g, 5.94 mmol) were added to a solution of compound 87 (1.28 g, 4.57 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2h at 60 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na_2SO_4), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8:2) to afford (2S,3S,4S,6S)-2-(iodomethyl)-4,6-dimethoxytetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl benzoate (1.46 g, 89%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +119.49$ (c = 1.13, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.09-8.05$ (m, 2H), 7.62–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 2H), 5.06 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (dd, J = 1.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (ddd, J = 2.6, 6.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (dt, J = 3.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (dd, J = 2.6, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, J = 6.6, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.26 (ddd, J = 1.1, 3.5, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 2.00 ppm $(ddd, J = 3.5, 4.7, 14.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{NMR} (100 \text{ Hz}, \text{CDCl}_3):$ $\delta = 165.5, 133.4, 129.8, 129.5, 128.5, 98.1, 73.9, 72.6, 65.1,$ 58.6, 55.8, 33.4, 32.6 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{v} = 2932$, 2897, 2825, 1717 (C=O), 1280, 1260, 1096, 1052, 1025, 983, 712 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₀BrO₅ $[M + H]^+$: 359.0489, found: 359.0491.

Tributyltin hydride (1.7 mL, 6.22 mmol) and azobisisobutyronitrile (510.4 mg, 3.11 mmol) were added to a solution of (2*S*,3*S*,4*S*,6*S*)-2-(iodomethyl)-4,6-dimethoxy-tetrahydro-2*H*pyran-3-yl benzoate (1.86 g, 5.18 mmol) in benzene (50 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 40 min at 80 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (×3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8:2) to afford compound **88** (1.35 g, 93%) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +120.39$ (*c* = 0.905, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.12-8.05$ (m, 2H), 7.61–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.42 (m, 2H), 4.88 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (dd, J = 1.6, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (qd, J = 6.3, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (dt, J = 3.2, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.23 (ddd, J = 1.6, 3.8, 14.7 Hz, 1H), 1.96 (ddd, J =3.8, 4.5, 14.7 Hz, 1H), 1.25 ppm (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 165.9$, 133.2, 129.9, 129.8, 128.4, 97.7, 75.0, 74.2, 62.2, 58.6, 55.6, 33.0, 17.6 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 2978$, 2932, 2830, 1716 (C=O), 1451, 1344, 1263, 1200, 1106, 1053, 1018, 1026, 990, 711 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): m/zcalcd for C₁₅H₂₄NO₅ [M + NH₄]⁺: 298.1649, found: 298.1645. **Compound 89.**

H₂O (1.5 mL) were added to a solution of compound 88 (271.6 mg, 0.969 mmol) in acetic acid (5.0 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 2h at 80 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/Et₂O/ $CH_3CN = 6:3:1$) to afford crude containing with (2R, 3R, 4S)-6hydroxy-4-methoxy-2-methyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-ylbenzoate (251.8 mg) as a colorless oil which was used for the next reaction without further purification. Ac₂O (0.25 mL) were added to a solution of crude material containing with (2R.3R.4S)-6-hydroxy-4-methoxy-2-methyl tetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl benzoate (13.1 mg) in pyridine (0.5 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 30 min at room temperature, the reaction was stopped by adding water, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (\times 3). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 7:3) to afford compound 89 (14.0 mg, 77% for 2 steps, $\beta:\alpha = 85:15$) as a colorless oil. **89** $\beta: [\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +29.59$ $(c = 0.785, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H}\text{NMR}$ (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.09-8.05$ (m, 2H), 7.62-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 2H), 6.10 (dd, J = 2.4, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (dd, J = 2.8, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (qd, J = 6.4, 8.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.98 (td, J = 2.8, 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.27 (ddd, J = 2.4, 4.8, 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.86 (ddd, J = 2.8, 9.0, 13.6 Hz, 1H), 1.30 ppm (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H);¹³C NMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 169.2$, 165.9, 133.3, 129.8 (2C), 128.5, 91.1, 74.6, 74.1, 69.5, 58.1, 33.5, 21.2, 18.2 ppm; IR (ATR): v = 2978, 2943, 2897, 2841, 1753 (C=O), 1713 (C=O), 1451, 1354, 1270, 1218, 1121, 1094, 1056, 1010, 726 cm⁻¹: HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₀NaO₆ $[M + Na]^+$: 331.1152, found: 331.1179; **89**α: ¹HNMR (400 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.11 - 8.07$ (m, 2H), 7.61–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 2H), 6.10 (dd, J = 1.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (dd, J = 3.0, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (gd, J = 6.3, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (td, J = 3.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 2.36 (ddd, J = 1.6, 3.9, 15.2 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 2.00 (ddd, J = 3.0, 4.2, 15.2 Hz, 1H), 1.27 ppm (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³CNMR (100 Hz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 170.0$, 165.8, 133.3, 129.8 (2C), 128.5, 90.9, 74.5, 73.2, 64.7, 57.4, 30.8, 21.3, 17.6 ppm.

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Supporting Information

Experimental and copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of all the compounds on successful route, copy of CD spectra of compound **30**. This material is available on https://doi.org/ 10.1246/bcsj.20190048.

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