



Transformation of quercitols into 4-methylenecyclohex-5-ene-1,2,3-triol derivatives, precursors for the chemical chaperones *N*-octyl-4-*epi*- β -valienamine (NOEV) and *N*-octyl- β -valienamine (NOV)

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ABSTRACT

(+)-*proto*-Quercitol (**1**) and (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**), both of which could be readily prepared by the bioconversion of *myo*-inositol, were successfully converted into the corresponding 4-methylenecyclohex-5-ene-1,2,3-triol derivatives. These compounds were demonstrated to be suitable precursors, preserving their configurations, for bioactive carba-aminosugars such as the potent chemical chaperone drug candidates, *N*-octyl-4-*epi*- β -valienamine (NOEV, **3**) and *N*-octyl- β -valienamine (NOV, **4**).

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Deoxyinositols, namely quercitols, are naturally occurring cyclohexanepentaols. There are 10 possible diastereoisomers (four meso and six optically active) for a quercitol. Recent extensive studies on the bioconversion of *myo*-inositol have provided us with (+)-*proto*-quercitol (**1**), (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**) and (+)-*epi*-quercitol (Fig. 1).¹ They have been employed as useful chiral starting materials for syntheses of various bioactive compounds.² However, the major synthetic strategies for valienamine-type carbasugars reported so far have not started from quercitols.³ For instance, one of the authors synthesized valienamine derivatives via conjugated dienes starting from Diels–Alder adducts of furan and acrylic acid.⁴ These routes have been reliably accepted for the synthesis of carbasugars but required optical resolution when chiral compounds were desired.⁵ Thus, a novel synthetic correlation between quercitols and chiral diene intermediates would provide a short, concise route to chiral unsaturated valienamine-type carbasugars while eliminating the cumbersome optical resolution.

Among some biologically interesting carbasugar derivatives, much attention has recently focused on *N*-octyl-4-*epi*- β -valienamine (NOEV, **3**) and *N*-octyl- β -valienamine (NOV, **4**) because they show curative activities toward lysosomal storage disorders that are categorized as rare interactive diseases.⁶ In the present communication,

the conversion of quercitols to the diene intermediates could be accomplished with minimum chemical conversion, and they were shown to be transformed into the valienamine analogs **3** and **4**, which are drug candidates. First, (+)-*proto*-quercitol (**1**) obtained by the bioconversion of *myo*-inositol was converted to the corresponding *arabino*-type 4-methylenecyclohex-5-ene-1,2,3-triol derivative (**7**). Next, the diene **7** was transformed into the valienamine derivative **3**. On the other hand, (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**), similarly derived from *myo*-inositol, was employed as a chiral starting material for the synthesis of **4** via the *xylo*-type intermediate (**12**).

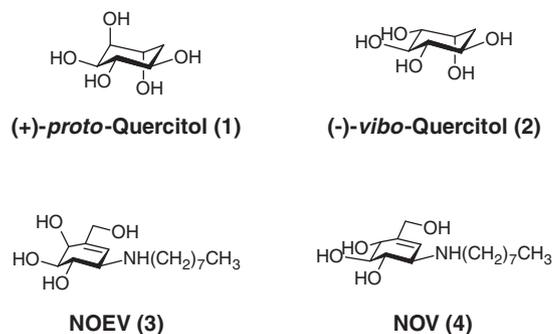


Figure 1. (+)-*proto*-Quercitol (**1**), (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**), *N*-octyl-4-*epi*- β -valienamine (NOEV, **3**) and *N*-octyl- β -valienamine (NOV, **4**).

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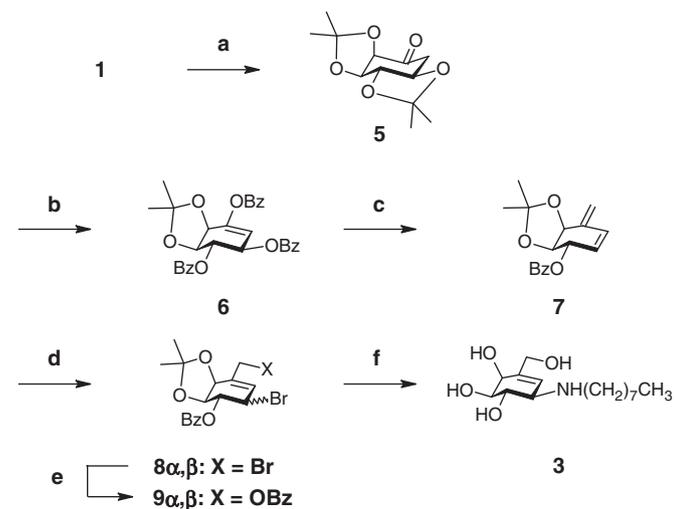
E-mail address: kuno-s@hokkochem.co.jp (S. Kuno).

Isopropylideneation of (+)-*proto*-quercitol (**1**) with 2,2-dimethoxypropane and a catalytic amount of (\pm)-10-camphorsulfonic acid and then successive Parikh–Doering oxidation ($\text{SO}_3\cdot\text{py}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{DMSO}$) gave ketone **5** (53%) (Scheme 1). Treatment of **5** with a catalytic amount of pyridinium-*p*-toluenesulfonate in methanol selectively removed the acetal attached to the *trans*-diol to afford a dihydroxy ketone. The ketone could be isolated in pure form as enol-benzoate **6** (60%) by treatment with benzoyl chloride in pyridine. Under Wittig reaction conditions with an excess of methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide and *n*-BuLi, elimination of the benzoyloxy group and methylenation of **6** successively occurred to give the diene **7** (66%).⁷ Thus, (+)-*proto*-quercitol (**1**) was readily converted to the intermediate **7** in five steps.

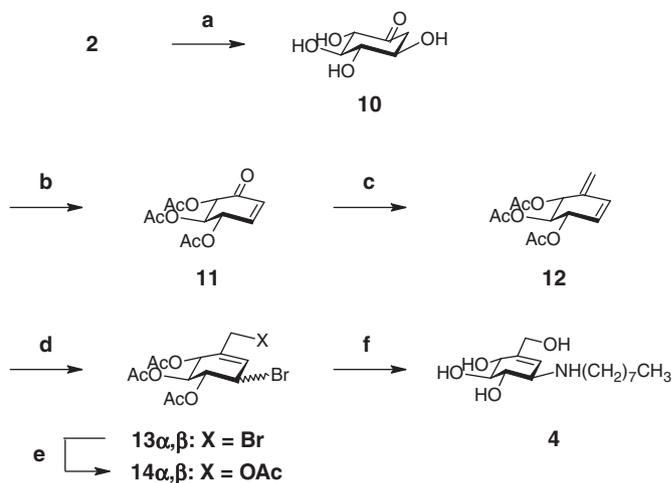
The 1,4-addition of a slight excess of bromine to compound **7** gave an 85% yield of ca. 1:1 diastereomeric mixture of the dibromo compounds **8 α** and **8 β** . The mixture was easily converted to the mono- α,β -bromo compounds **9 α** and **9 β** (91%) with sodium benzoate in DMF. Debenzoylation of **9 α** and **9 β** under Zemplén conditions afforded an α -bromo⁸ diol (47%) and an epoxide (26%).⁹ The two products were first considered to be diastereomeric α - and β -bromo diols, but the β -bromo compound was likely to undergo a neighboring attack of the hydroxyl under basic conditions to afford an epoxide. Both the α -bromo and epoxy compounds that were obtained were expected to generate a single β -diastereomer through a front-side $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ nucleophilic substitution.

The mixture containing α -bromo and epoxy compounds was treated with *n*-octylamine in acetonitrile, followed by deprotection of the acetal group using aqueous acetic acid. Purification of a crude amine salt on a silica gel column (10:86:4 \rightarrow 1:6:3 acetic acid/ CHCl_3 /methanol) and a Duolite 20 (H^+) resin column (80% aqueous methanol \rightarrow 4:1 methanol/25% ammonia) resulted in the isolation of a single *N*-octyl β -amine **NOEV** (**3**)¹⁰ (47% based on the mixture of the two compounds obtained from **9 α** and **9 β**).

The synthesis of **NOV** (**4**) was accomplished starting from (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**) following a similar strategy to the synthesis of **NOEV** (Scheme 2). First, **2** was transformed quantitatively to (–)-2-deoxy-*scyllo*-inosose (**10**) by bio-oxidation according to the



Scheme 1. Synthesis of **NOEV** (**3**) from (+)-*proto*-quercitol (**1**) via a diene benzoate (**7**). Reagents and conditions: (a) 2,2-dimethoxypropane (10 mol equiv), CSA (0.2 mol equiv), acetone, 19 h, rt; $\text{SO}_3\cdot\text{py}$ (3 mol equiv), Et_3N (2 mol equiv), DMSO, 4.5 h, 0 °C to rt, 53% for two steps; (b) PPTS (0.2 mol equiv), MeOH, 23 h, 4 °C; BzCl (8 mol equiv), py, 21 h, 0 °C to rt, 60% for two steps; (c) $\text{Ph}_3\text{PCH}_2\text{Br}$ (6 mol equiv), *n*-BuLi (4 mol equiv), THF, 21 h, –78 °C to 4 °C, 66%; (d) Br_2 (1.1 mol equiv), NaHCO_3 (2 mol equiv), CCl_4 , 20 min, rt, 85%; (e) NaOBz (1.2 mol equiv), DMF, 47 h, rt, 91%; (f) NaOMe (1 mol equiv), MeOH, 2 h, rt, 47% for an α -bromo diol and 26% for an epoxide; *n*-octylamine (3.5 mol equiv), MeCN, 16 h, 60–70 °C, and 80% aqueous AcOH, 4 h, 80 °C, 47%.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of **NOV** (**4**) from (–)-*vibo*-quercitol (**2**) via a tri-*O*-acetylated diene (**12**). Reagents and conditions: (a) bacterial bioconversion; (b) BF_3 /diethyl ether complex (2.4 mol equiv), Ac_2O , 1.5 h, 0 °C to rt, and AcOH, 2.5 h, reflux, 83%; (c) Nysted reagent (3 mol equiv), TiCl_4 (2 mol equiv), THF, CH_2Cl_2 , 1 h, –15 °C to rt, 25%; (d) Br_2 (1 mol equiv), CCl_4 , 15 min, rt, 96%; (e) NaOAc (1.2 mol equiv), DMF, 19 h, rt, 53%; (f) *n*-octylamine (5 mol equiv), MeCN, 4 h, 50 °C, and NaOMe (1 mol equiv), MeOH, 2 h, rt, 31%.

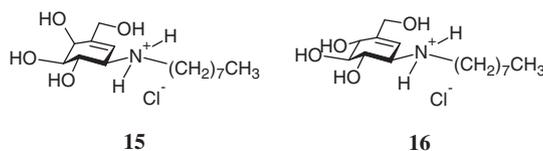
previously reported procedure.^{2b} Next, treatment of **10** with a Lewis acid, BF_3 /diethyl ether complex, in acetic anhydride gave the tetra-*O*-acetyl derivative of **10**. The reaction mixture was, without separation, diluted with EtOAc and quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 ; the organic layer was successively washed with water and brine and then dried and co-evaporated with toluene and ethanol. The residue was refluxed in acetic acid to give the α,β -unsaturated ketone **11** (83% from **10**). It was noteworthy that the attempted acylation of **10** under basic conditions with pyridine or triethylamine resulted in a facile elimination of acetoxy groups to give a complex mixture containing an aromatic compound.¹¹ Alternatively, the application of other Lewis acids instead of the BF_3 /diethyl ether complex gave different results. For example, treatment of **10** with trimethylsilyl triflate (4 mol equiv) in acetic anhydride for 19 h between 0 °C and room temperature afforded ca. a 10:3 mixture of the ketone **11** and the aromatic side-product¹¹ in 82% yield. Exomethylenation of **11** with Nysted reagent¹² afforded the triacetyl derivative **12** in 25% yield.¹³ In this methylenation reaction, a basic environment, such as Wittig reaction conditions, seemed to facilitate the undesirable elimination of the β -acetoxy group.

The diene intermediate **12** was similarly treated with bromine, as mentioned above, to give a mixture of the 1,4-addition products **13 α** and **13 β** (96%), which was converted to the isomeric mixture of bromo compounds **14 α** and **14 β** (53%) by treatment with sodium acetate. The reaction of **14 α** and **14 β** with an excess of *n*-octylamine gave a single protected *N*-octyl β -amine,¹⁴ which was then subjected to Zemplén conditions to remove the remaining acetyl groups. After purification on a silica gel column (10:86:4 \rightarrow 1:8:1 acetic acid/ CHCl_3 /methanol) and a column of a Duolite 20 (H^+) resin (80% aqueous methanol \rightarrow 4:1 methanol/25% ammonia), **NOV** (**4**) was obtained in 31% yield based on **14 α** and **14 β** .¹⁵

Using the appropriate quercitols as starting materials, valienamine-type unsaturated carba-amino sugars, such as the potent drug candidates **NOEV** and **NOV**, could be conveniently prepared as optically pure forms via 4-methylenecyclohex-5-ene-1,2,3-triol derivatives.

Enzyme inhibitory activity: Free amines **3** and **4** were quantitatively converted to the hydrochloride salts **15** and **16** with 1 M HCl (aq) in order to increase their water solubility for biological

Table 1
Enzyme inhibitory activity of the amine hydrochlorides **15** and **16** against four glycosidases



Compound	IC ₅₀ (μM)			
	β-Galactosidase (bovine liver)	β-Galactosidase (<i>Aspergillus oryzae</i>)	β-Glucosidase (almonds)	α-Galactosidase (green coffee beans)
15 ^a	4.5	85	8.1	4.5
16	2.9	NT	47	NI

NI, IC₅₀ >1 mM; NT, not tested.

^a This compound did not show any notable inhibitory activity against β-mannosidase (helix pomatia), α-fucosidase (human placenta), or α-mannosidase (jack beans).

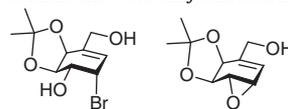
assay. **15** was first assayed¹⁶ for inhibitory activity against seven commercially available glycosidases: β-galactosidase (bovine liver and *aspergillus oryzae*), β-glucosidase (almonds), β-mannosidase (helix pomatia), α-fucosidase (human placenta), α-galactosidase (green coffee beans), and α-mannosidase (Jack beans). On the other hand, **16** was tested against β-galactosidase (bovine liver), β-glucosidase (almonds), and α-galactosidase (green coffee beans). As listed in Table 1 and **15** possessed inhibitory activities against two β-galactosidases, β-glucosidase, and α-galactosidase. Meanwhile, **16** was shown to have a cross-inhibitory activity toward β-galactosidase (bovine liver) and β-glucosidase. It is interesting to note that **15**, with a β-galacto configuration, inhibited both β-galactosidase and β-glucosidase,¹⁷ moreover, its activity against β-glucosidase was stronger than that exhibited by β-gluco-type **16**. Conversely, **16** inhibited β-galactosidase (bovine liver) more effectively than β-glucosidase. Although a design of new glycosidase inhibitors has been carried out on the basis of a simple assumption that potent inhibitors are likely to be good structural mimics of the related substrates, the present results allow us to give further consideration to a structure–inhibitory activity relationship.

Acknowledgments

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- Characterization data for compound **7**: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +220^\circ$ (c 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.42 and 1.50 (2s, each 3H, CMe₂), 4.37 (t, 1H, J_{1,2} = J_{2,3} = 5.3 Hz, H-2), 4.76 (d, 1H, J_{2,3} = 5.5 Hz, H-3), 5.42, 5.45 (2s, each 1H, CH₂), 5.67 (m, 1H, H-1), 5.78 (broad d, 1H, J_{5,6} = 10.1 Hz, H-5), 6.32 (dd, 1H, J_{1,6} = 1.8, J_{5,6} = 10.1 Hz, H-6), 7.40–7.42 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.52–7.54 (m, 1H, Ph), 8.03–8.05 (m, 2H, Ph); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 26.22, 27.89, 71.06, 73.30, 76.43, 109.25, 120.54, 125.23, 128.29, 129.71, 129.88, 130.15, 133.08, 138.31, 165.84; HR-ESI-MS: 309.1100 (C₁₇H₁₈O₄Na⁺, [M+Na]⁺; calcd 309.1097).
- To avoid ambiguity, this compound should be named as 3,4-O-isopropylidene-5a-carba-β-L-arabino-hex-5(5a)-enopyranosyl bromide according to the carbasugar nomenclature. Nevertheless, the authors use the term 'α-bromo diol' instead of 'β-bromo diol' in the text. The reason is why we regard this intermediate compound as an α-valienamine derivative, which is a versatile precursor to N-ocyl-4-*epi*-β-valienamine (NOEV). Additionally, the conformations of the β-arabino carbasugars are well coincident with the α-galacto configured compounds. For the nomenclature of carbasugars, see the IUPAC-IUBMB Nomenclature of Carbohydrates (Recommendation 1996: *Carbohydr. Res.* **1997**, *297*, 1).
- The structures of the α-bromo diol and the epoxide were assigned as shown below. The two compounds were completely separable using a silica gel column and were fully characterized.



- The spectroscopic data of the synthetic NOEV as a free amine was identical to previously reported data^{6c,e}; $[\alpha]_D^{25} +3.0^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 0.89 (t, 3H, J_{7,8} = 6.9 Hz, H-8'), 1.30–1.37 (10H, H-3', 4', 5', 6', and 7'), 1.48–1.56 (m, 2H, H-2'), 2.54–2.58, 2.72–2.76 (each m, each 1H, H-1'a and H-1'b), 3.11 (dd, 1H, J_{1,5a} = 1.8, J_{1,2} = 8.2 Hz, H-1), 3.44 (dd, 1H, J_{3,4} = 4.1, J_{2,3} = 10.1 Hz, H-3), 3.70 (dd, 1H, J_{1,2} = 8.2, J_{2,3} = 10.1 Hz, H-2), 4.12 (broad s, 2H, CH₂), 4.15 (d, 1H, J_{3,4} = 4.1 Hz, H-4), 5.71 (d, 1H, J_{1,5a} = 2.3 Hz, H-5a); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 14.43, 23.71, 28.42, 30.38, 30.60, 30.88, 32.98, 46.87, 61.78, 63.89, 68.13, 70.78, 73.85, 125.13, 140.73. In addition, biological activities were found to be in accordance with the sample prepared by the reported procedure.^{6c}

- The structure of this compound could be assigned as 1,2,4-triacetoxybenzene on the basis of ^1H NMR analysis: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.21 (s, 9H, 3 Ac), 6.95–7.00, 7.13–7.16 (m, 3H, Ph).
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- Characterization data for compound **12**: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +110^\circ$ (c 2.0, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.01, 2.03 and 2.10 (3s, each 3H, 3 Ac), 5.02 (br s, 1H, CH_2), 5.15 (br d, 1H, $J_{3,\text{CH}_2} = 2.3$ Hz, CH_2), 5.25 (dd, 1H, $J_{1,2} = 7.8$, $J_{2,3} = 10.5$ Hz, H-2), 5.57–5.62 (2H, H-1 and H-5), 5.67 (dt, 1H, $J_{3,\text{CH}_2} = 2.1$, $J_{2,3} = 10.5$ Hz, H-3), 6.24–6.26 (m, 1H, H-6), assigned by H–H COSY; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 20.57, 20.66, 20.84, 70.35, 71.58, 72.28, 114.39, 125.71, 129.82, 138.37, 169.89, 170.25; HR-ESI-MS: 291.0833 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_6\text{Na}^+$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; calcd 291.0839). The ^1H NMR data corresponds well to that of racemic **12** (Ogawa, S.; Toyokuni, T.; Omata, M.; Chida, N.; Suami, T. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1980**, 53, 455).
- The formation of the single β -amine through direct amination of α - and β -bromo compounds was mechanistically explained by presuming a neighboring group participation (Ref. 6e, and also see: Toyokuni, T.; Ogawa, S.; Suami, T. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1983**, 56, 2999). In contrast, without neighboring group participation, the amination of the relevant bromo compounds resulted in the generation of the nonstereospecific products (Cumpstey, I.; Ramstadius, C.; Borbas, K. E. *Synlett*, **2011**, 12, 1701).
- The spectroscopic data of the synthetic **NOV** as a free amine were shown to be well similar to that of the acetic acid salt reported previously^{6a}; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -69^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 0.89 (t, 3H, $J_{7,8'} = 6.9$ Hz, H-8'), 1.30–1.33 (10H, H-3', 4', 5', 6', and 7'), 1.49–1.53 (m, 2H, H-2'), 2.52–2.57, 2.71–2.76 (each m, each 1H, H-1'a and H-1'b), 3.19–3.20 (m, 1H, H-1), 3.40 (t, 1H, $J_{1,2} = J_{2,3} = 9.2$ Hz, H-2), 3.48 (dd, 1H, $J_{3,4} = 7.6$, $J_{2,3} = 9.8$ Hz, H-3), 4.10–4.16 (3H, H-4, CH_2), 5.63 (s, 1H, H-5a), assigned by H–H COSY; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 14.41, 23.71, 28.41, 30.38, 30.61, 30.86, 32.98, 47.19, 61.33, 62.99, 73.92, 78.26, 122.82, 141.20. Biological activity was also in accordance with that of an authentic sample.^{6d}
- All glycosidases were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich. The glycosidase inhibitory activities were determined spectrometrically with the corresponding *p*-nitrophenyl glycosides (Sigma–Aldrich).
- Similar biochemical features were observed in the case of free amine **3** toward β -galactosidase (bovine liver) and β -glucosidase (almonds).^{6e}