

## Enantiospecific Total Synthesis of a $\beta$ -Glucosidase Inhibitor, Cyclophellitol

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**Summary:** Cyclophellitol has been synthesized from L-glucose through an intramolecular cycloaddition of a nitrile oxide derived from an oxime.

Cyclophellitol (**1**)<sup>1</sup> is a novel  $\beta$ -glucosidase inhibitor isolated from a culture filtrate of a mushroom, *Phellinus sp.* and is expected to inhibit infection of human immunodeficiency virus. The absolute structure **1** was established by X-ray crystallographic analysis to disclose the fully oxygenated skeleton.

We report herein the enantiospecific synthesis of cyclophellitol (**1**) and record a general method of entry into the highly oxygenated cyclohexanes (e.g., pseudo-sugars<sup>2</sup>). The key step in this approach is an intramolecular cycloaddition of a nitrile oxide to an olefin. Very recently, the synthesis of five- and six-membered carbocycles has been independently reported by using an intramolecular nitron cycloaddition.<sup>3</sup>

Our synthesis began with the preparation of the *xylo*-hex-5-enopyranoside **2** from L-glucose according to the Sepulchre's procedure.<sup>4</sup> Stereoselective hydroboration of **2** with dicyclohexylborane (THF, 25°C, 1.5h, then H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/NaOH, 50°C, 20 min) gave the D-idopyranoside **3**<sup>5</sup> (85%; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -28°), which was oxidized [(COCl)<sub>2</sub>/DMSO/TEA/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 15 min] to an aldehyde, followed by a Wittig reaction (Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CH<sub>2</sub>/PhH, 25°C, 15 min) to afford the olefin **4**<sup>5</sup> (75%; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -6.5°). This was hydrolyzed (HCl/aq. dioxane, 80°C, 12h) to an idopyranose, which was treated with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (pyridine, 25°C, 1h) to give the oxime **5**<sup>5</sup> (80%). Intramolecular cycloaddition of **5** in question was realized by using NaOCl (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25°C, 1.5h) *via* the intermediary nitrile oxide<sup>6</sup> to afford the isoxazoline **6**<sup>5</sup> as a single product (70%; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -125°). The stereochemistry was confirmed by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR analyses of compounds **6** - **10** and, finally the completion of the synthesis presented below. The diastereoselectivity is rationalized by a *syn* periplanar steric interaction between the nitrile oxide and  $\alpha$ -benzyloxy group in its transition state.<sup>7</sup> This isoxazoline could be a key intermediate for syntheses of highly functionalized cyclohexanes. Hydrogenolysis (H<sub>2</sub>/Raney Ni-W4/AcOH/aq. dioxane, 25°C, 1.5h) of **6** gave the



