Enantiospecific Total Synthesis of a β-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 $(1)^1$ is a novel β -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-sugars²). 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.³

Our synthesis began with the preparation of the *xylo*-hex-5-enopyranoside 2 from L-glucose according to the Sepulchre's procedure.⁴ Stereoselective hydroboration of 2 with dicyclohexylborane (THF, 25°C, 1.5h, then H₂O₂/NaOH, 50°C, 20 min) gave the D-idopyranoside 3^5 (85%; $[\alpha]_D$ -28°), which was oxidized [(COCl)₂/DMSO/TEA/CH₂Cl₂, -78°C, 15 min] to an aldehyde, followed by a Wittig reaction (Ph₃P=CH₂/PhH, 25°C, 15 min) to afford the olefin 4^5 (75%; $[\alpha]_D$ -6.5°). This was hydrolyzed (HCl/aq. dioxane, 80°C, 12h) to an idopyranose, which was treated with NH₂OH•HCl (pyridine, 25°C, 1h) to give the oxime 5^5 (80%). Intramolecular cycloaddition of 5 in question was realized by using NaOCl (CH₂Cl₂, 25°C, 1.5h) *via* the intermediary nitrile oxide⁶ to afford the isoxazoline 6^5 as a single product (70%; $[\alpha]_D$ -125°). The stereochemistry was confirmed by the ¹H 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 α -benzyloxy group in its transition state.⁷ This isoxazoline could be a key intermediate for syntheses of highly functionalized cyclohexanes. Hydrogenolysis (H₂/Raney Ni-W4/AcOH/aq. dioxane, 25°C, 1.5h) of 6 gave the





keto-diol 7⁵ (80%, $[\alpha]_D$ -55°). After silvlation (90%; DEIPS-OTf⁸/2,6-lutidine/CH₂Cl₂, 0°C, 0.5h), the resulting ketone was reduced (BH₃•Me₂S/THF, 25°C, 12h) to yield the desired α-alcohol 8⁵ (60%; $[\alpha]_D$ +24°). The undesired β-alcohol was obtained in 20% yield, and then recycled to the ketone 7 by oxidation [(COCl)₂/DMSO/TEA]. Mesylation (MsCl/Py, 25°C, 12h) of 8 provided the labile mesylate 9⁵ (75%), which was de-O-benzylated (H₂/Pd(OH)₂/MeOH) followed by epoxidation (MeONa/CHCl₃, 0°C, 10 min) to give the labile epoxide 10⁵ [[α]_D +49° (c 0.14, MeOH)]. Deprotection (*n*-Bu₄NF/THF, 25°C, 10 min) completed the synthesis, giving cyclophellitol (1) [40% from 9; plates (H₂O), mp 149-151°C, [α]_D +103° (c 0.5, H₂O)] identical with that obtained from natural sources by IR, ¹H NMR and biological activity (inhibition against almond-derived β-glucosidase with IC₅₀ of 0.8 µg/ml).¹

The application of this synthetic strategy using other carbohydrates for the construction of other related substances is an exciting prospect.

References and notes

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- 5. All compounds were purified by silica-gel column chromatography and were fully characterized by spectroscopic means and elemental analyses. Optical rotations were measured using a 0.5 dm tube, for solutions (c 0.5) in CHCl₃ at 25°C. Significant ¹H NMR

(270MHz, 400 MHz) spectral data [δ (CDCl₃, TMS), J (Hz)] are the following. 3: 2.71 (1H, dd, OH, J=8.0, 4.8), 3.63 (1H, dd, H-4, J=8.0, 5.6), 3.97 (1H, ddd, H-5, J=5.6, 5.6, 5.6). 4: 3.62 (1H, dd, H-4, J=8.2, 5.8), 4.29 (1H, dd, H-5, J=5.8, 9.8), 5.25-5.35 (2H, m, 2XH-7), 6.29 (1H, ddd, H-6, J=9.8, 9.8, 16.0). 5: 5.14 (1H, ddd, H-7Z, J=1.6, 1.6, 10.2), 5.23 (1H, ddd, H-7E, J=1.6, 1.6, 17.0), 5.81 (1H, ddd, H-6, J=5.0, 10.2, 17.0), 6.98 (0.25H, d, H-1Z, J=6.0), 7.48 (0.75H, d, H-1E, J=8.0). 6: 3.23 (1H, ddd, H-6, J=1.0, 8.4, 8.0, 10.0), 4.38 (1H, dd, H-2, J=1.0, 9.2). 7: 2.61 (1H, ddd, H-6, J=1.2, 11.8, 4.0, 5.0), 3.64 (1H, ddd, H-5, J=2.2, 9.0, 11.8), 4.19 (1H, dd, H-2, J=1.2, 9.0). 8: 0.55-0.70 [8H, m, 2XSi(CH₂Me)₂], 0.87-1.05 [26H, m, 2XSi(CH₂Me)₂, 2XSiⁱPr], 3.37 (1H, d, OH, J=0.9). 9: 2.84 (3H, s, OMs), 4.05 (1H, dd, H-2, J=9.0, 9.0), 4.64 (1H, dd, H-1, J=9.0, 8.6). 10 (CD₃OD): 0.60-0.75 [8H, m, 2XSi(CH₂Me)₂], 0.95-1.05 [26H, m, 2XSi(CH₂Me)₂, 2XSiⁱPr], 2.00 (1H, m, H-5), 3.08 (1H, d, H-1, J=0, 3.8), 3.17 (1H, dd, H-3, J=7.8, 8.6), 3.24 (1H, dd, H-4, J=8.6, 8.6), 3.46 (1H, br dd, H-6, J=3.8, 2.0), 3.61 (1H, d, H-2, J=0, 7.8), 3.70 (1H, dd, H-8, J=9.8, 9.8), 4.12 (1H, dd, H-8', J=4.0, 9.8).

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