An Efficient Synthesis of Trihydroxy Quinolizidine Alkaloids Using Ring-Closing Metathesis

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Abstract: The sequential C- and N-allylation of D-glucose-derived nitrone **2** provides the required diene functionality with nitrogen linker that was used in ring-closing metathesis pathway in the synthesis of quinolizidine alkaloids **1a** and **1b**.

Key words: alkaloids, azasugars, carbohydrates, glycosidase, metathesis

The ring-closing metathesis (RCM) of diene-substrate containing nitrogen functionality has found wide applicability in the synthesis of nitrogen heterocycles, alkaloids, peptides and peptidomimetics.¹ The utility of this approach with sugar substrates wherein the presence of a hydroxylated carbon framework and feasibility to manipulate the functional groups into the required dienefunctionality, containing a nitrogen atom, give an easy access towards the synthesis of a variety of aza-sugars.² This class of compounds, especially the polyhydroxylated indolizidine and quinolizidine alkaloids are promising glycosidase inhibitors with potential antibacterial, antiviral, antimetastatic, and antidiabetes activity.³ Most naturally occurring quinolizidine alkaloids⁴ are devoid of polyhydroxylated functionalities and in the search for structureactivity relationship, the hydroxylated unnatural analogues are interesting targets for obtaining the better understanding of mechanisms of action and in design of even more potent inhibitors. As a part of our continuing efforts in the synthesis of aza-sugars,⁵ we have developed a new methodology for the synthesis of trihydroxy quinolizidine alkaloids 1a and 1b using ring closing metathesis of D-glucose derived dienes with nitrogen linkage as a key step. A few reports are available for the synthesis of polyhydroxylated quinolizidine alkaloids.^{2e,h,o,6} However, only a single report describes the synthesis of 1b while the synthesis of **1a** has been reported so far.^{2e}

Recently, we have described the preparation and reaction of D-glucose nitrone **2** in the synthesis of 6-deoxynojirimycin.^{5a} Similarly, the reaction of nitrone **2** with allylmagnesium bromide in the presence of TMSOTf (1 equiv) at -78 °C in dry THF afforded a mixture of D-gluco- and L-*ido*-diastereomers **3a** and **3b** in the ratio of 86:14 (Scheme 1). The absolute configuration at the newly

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Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: (i) See Ref. 5a; (ii) allylmagnesium bromide (2.5 equiv), TMSOTf (1.0 equiv), dry THF, -78 °C, 2 h, 93%; (iii) Zn (2.0 equiv), Cu(OAc)₂, HOAc, 70 °C, 1 h, 80%; (iv) allyl bromide (1.5 equiv), K₂CO₃, (5 equiv), dry DMF, 25 °C, 18 h, 71%; (v) Grubb's catalyst (5% mol), dry benzene, reflux, 18 h, 81%; (vi) a) H₂, 10% Pd/C, MeOH, 25 °C, 12 h; b) Cbz-Cl (1.5 equiv), NaHCO₃, aq EtOH, 0 °C to r.t., 2 h, 78%; (vii) a) TFA–H₂O (3:2), 0 °C to r.t., 2.5 h; b) H₂, 10% Pd/C, MeOH, 25 °C, 12 h, 85%.

generated C5 in **3a** and **3b** was established by comparing the ¹H NMR data.⁷ The appreciable difference in R_f values allowed us to separate **3a** and **3b** by flash chromatography. Subsequently, the *N*-benzylhydroxylamine (**3a**) was treated with zinc in acetic acid–water and N–O bond reductive cleavage afforded the *N*-benzylamino sugar **4a** in good yield. The reaction of **4a** with allyl bromide, in the presence of potassium carbonate in dry DMF, afforded N-allylated product **5a**. The ruthenium-catalyzed ring-closing metathesis successfully converted 5a into the desired dihydropiperidine 6a in high yield.⁸ The analytical and spectroscopic data was found to be in agreement with the proposed structure **6a**.⁹ One-pot reduction of the double bond and removal of Nand O-benzyl groups in **6a**, by hydrogenation using 10% Pd/C, was followed by selective N-protection with benzyl chloroformate to afford 7a. In the next step, compound 7a reacted with TFA-water to give the corresponding hemiacetal that was subjected to hydrogenation to give (1R,2R,3S,9aR)-octahydro-2H-quinolizine-1,2,3-triol

(1a) as a thick liquid.⁸ The same reaction sequence was repeated for the N-benzylhydroxylamine (3b, Scheme 1). The corresponding C5-epimeric compounds 4b, 5b, 6b and 7b were isolated and characterized by spectral and analytical data.⁹ Finally, compound **7b** reacted with TFAwater and the hemiacetal was subjected to hydrogenation to give (1R,2R,3S,9aS)-octahydro-2H-quinolizine-1,2,3triol (**1b**) as a thick liquid.⁸

The ¹H NMR spectra of **1a** and **1b** were found to be completely different. Therefore, it was thought that 1a and 1b could exist in different conformations. For this, we did decoupling experiments and coupling constant values obtained are shown in Table 1. The initial geometry in the precursors 7a and 7b ensures, that in the product 1a and 1b the substituents at C-1, C-2 and C-2, C-3 should be trans. In the ¹H NMR spectra of **1a** the doublet of triplet $(J_{3,4e} = 4.4 \text{ and } J_{3,4a} = J_{3,2} = 9.5 \text{ Hz})$, corresponding to H-3 proton, indicated the axial orientation of this proton. The triplet $(J_{2,3} = J_{2,1} = 9.5 \text{ Hz})$, corresponding to H-2, requires trans-diaxial relationship with H-3 and H-1. This suggests the trans-fused rigid chair-chair conformation (A) with equatorial orientation of the OH substituents, for compound **1a** (Figure 1). The comparison of ¹H NMR spectra of **1a** and **1b** revealed the downfield shift of H-1/ H-2/H-3 in 1b as compared to the respective protons in 1a. This is indicative of equatorial orientation of these protons in 1b as against axial as noted for 1a. In the case of **1b**, H-1 appeared as a broad singlet at $\delta = 3.65$ ppm while H-2 and H-3 were found to be accidentally equivalent and showed a broad singlet at $\delta = 3.87$ ppm. This indicates that $J_{1,2}$ and $J_{2,3}$ are relatively small ($J_{\rm H} = 6$ Hz), and is consistent with the equatorial positions of these protons. The small value of $J_{1,9a}$, along with the axial orientation of C-1-OH, suggests that the C-9a substituent is equatorial. This is suggestive of a trans-fused conformation (B) with axial orientation of the OH substituents for compound **1b** (Figure 1).



Figure 1

In conclusion, we have successfully synthesized the required diene from D-glucose and used ring-closing metathesis to obtained Δ^3 -piperideine, which was used for the synthesis of trihydroxy quinolizidine alkaloids **1a** and **1b**. The easy availability of the chiral starting materials, mild reaction conditions and good yields make the route attractive and indicate that it could operate on a gram scale.

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	Н-3	H-2	H-1	H-9a	
1 a	δ = 3.69 ppm (dt) $J_{2,3} = J_{4a,3} = 9.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{4e,3} = 4.5 \text{ Hz}$	δ = 3.41 ppm (t) $J_{1,2} = J_{2,3} = 9.5$ Hz	$\delta = 3.22 - 3.36 \text{ ppm (m)}$	$\delta = 3.22 - 3.36 \text{ ppm (m)}$	
1b	$\delta = 3.87$ ppm (br s) $J_{\rm H} = 6$ Hz	$\delta = 3.87$ (br s) $J_{\rm H} = 6$ Hz	$\delta = 3.65$ ppm (br s) $J_{\rm H} = 6$ Hz	$\delta = 3.15 - 3.38 \text{ ppm} (m)$	

 Table 1
 Comparison of ¹H NMR Spectra of 1a and 1b

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- (7) (a) It is known that for a given C5-epimeric pair, derived from the D-gluco-furanose, the $J_{4,5}$ in the L-ido isomer (threo-relationship) is consistently larger than that of the corresponding D-gluco isomer (erythro-relationship). In addition, the chemical shift of H-3 in L-ido isomer is upfield as compared to D-gluco isomer. The higher value of J_{45} observed in the diastereomer 3b (9.5 Hz) as compared to 3a (8.3 Hz) indicated the L-ido configuration for 3b and the Dgluco configuration for **3a**. This fact was further supported by comparison of the chemical shift of H-3 in both the isomers. In **3b** H-3 appeared upfield at $\delta = 3.84$ ppm as compared to **3a** at $\delta = 4.01$ ppm, further supporting the Dgluco- and L-ido configuration at C5 to 3a and 3b, respectively. Thus, the absolute configurations at C-5 in 3a and 3b were assigned as (5R) and (5S), respectively. (b) See: Cornia, M.; Casiraghi, G. Tetrahedron 1989, 45, 2869.
- (8) General Procedure for the Ring-Closing Metathesis: To a solution of 5a,b (0.180 g, 0.4 mmol) in dry benzene (15 mL) at 25 °C was added benzylidene-bis-tricyclohexylphosphine-dichlororuthenium (0.006 g, 5% mol) and the

reaction mixture was refluxed under nitrogen for 18 h. Removal of solvent under vacuum afforded a thick oil that on purification by column chromatography using EtOAc– *n*-hexane (5:95) afforded corresponding Δ^3 -piperidine **6a,b**. **General Procedure for the Reductive Aminocyclization**: A solution of **7a,7b** (0.100 g, 0.26 mmol) in TFA–H₂O (3:2, 2 mL) was stirred at 25 °C for 2 h. TFA was co-evaporated with benzene to furnish a thick liquid, which was directly used in the next reaction. To a solution of the above product in MeOH (5 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (0.01 g) and the solution was hydrogenated at 80 psi for 16 h. The solution was filtered through celite and the filtrate concentrated to get a sticky solid, which was purified by column chromatography (MeOH–CHCl₃ = 5:95) to give **1a,b**.

- All new compounds have been characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and elemental analysis. Selected procedures and data for 3-O-benzyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene-5,6,7,8-tetradeoxy-5-(N-benzyl-N-hydroxyamino)-a-D-gluco-7-enoocto-1,4-furanose (3a): thick liquid; 80%; $R_f = 0.52$ (EtOAc-hexane = 3:7); $[\alpha]_D = -30.0$ (*c* 2.40, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3510–3160 (br), 1639 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 1.26$ (s, 3 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 2.49–2.69 (m, 2 H), 3.41 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.8, 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.76 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.94 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.01 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.37 (dd, J = 8.3, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.40-4.45 (br s, exchanges with D₂O, 1 H), 4.50 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.54 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.63 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.98 (dd, J = 11.1, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.10 (dd, *J* = 17.0, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.92–6.10 (m, 1 H), 7.12–7.28 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 26.2, 26.7, 31.4, 60.8, 63.4, 72.0, 79.6, 81.9, 82.5, 104.5, 111.3, 115.6, 127.1, 127.5, 127.6, 128.2, 128.4, 129.1, 137.6, 137.7, 138.3. Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₃₁NO₅: C, 70.57; H, 7.34. Found: C, 70.51; H, 7.30. 3-O-Benzyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene-5,6,7,8-tetra-deoxy-5-(N-benzyl-N-hydroxyamino)-B-L-ido-7-eno-octo-1,4furanose (3b): thick liquid; 13%; $R_f = 0.44$ (EtOAchexane = 3:7); $[\alpha]_D = -48.0$ (*c* 0.25, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3530-3150 (br), 1639 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.27 (s, 3 H), 1.46 (s, 3 H), 1.91-2.09 (m, 1 H), 2.21-2.35$ (m, 1 H), 3.38 (ddd, J = 9.5, 8.1, 4.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.92 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.09 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.39 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.44 (dd, J = 9.5, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.57 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.61 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.84-4.92 (m, 2 H), 4.93-4.96 (br s, exchanges with D_2O , 1 H), 5.83–6.05 (m, 1 H), 5.93 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.10–7.38 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 26.5, 26.8, 34.3, 49.4, 57.3, 72.0, 81.3, 81.9, 83.5, 104.9, 111.3, 115.0, 126.2, 127.4, 127.5, 127.7, 128.2, 128.4, 137.9, 138.2, 141.5. Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₃₁NO₅: C, 70.57; H, 7.34. Found: C, 70.29; H, 7.59. 3-O-Benzyl-5,6-dideoxy-1,2-O-isopropylidene-5-(Nbenzyl-N-propenylamino)-a-D-gluco-7-eno-octo-1,4furanose (5a): thick liquid; 71%; $R_f = 0.65$ (EtOAc-hexane = 2:8); $[\alpha]_D$ = -36.4 (*c* 0.44, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 1639, 1605 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.30$ (s, 3 H), 1.46 (s, 3 H), 2.48 (br t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.12 (dd, J = 14.1, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.22 (dd, J = 14.1, 6.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.34 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.73 (ABq, J = 14.4 Hz, 2 H), 3.95 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz,
 - 1 H), 4.53 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.63 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.87–5.18 (m, 4 H), 5.63–5.80 (m, 1 H), 5.89 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.92–6.08 (m, 1 H), 7.16–7.22 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 26.2$, 26.8, 32.9, 54.5, 54.7, 57.3, 71.8, 79.9, 81.6, 82.7, 104.7, 111.4, 115.4, 116.6, 126.7, 127.6, 127.7, 128.1, 128.3, 128.5, 137.2, 137.6, 138.3, 140.5. Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₃₅NO₄: C, 74.80; H, 7.85. Found: C, 74.65; H, 7.70.

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3-O-Benzyl-5,6-dideoxy-1,2-O-isopropylidene-5-(Nbenzyl-N-propenylamino)-\beta-L-ido-7-eno-octo-1,4furanose (5b): thick liquid; 71%; $R_f = 0.53$ (EtOAchexane = 2:8). $[\alpha]_D = -38.2 (c \, 0.33, \text{CHCl}_3)$. IR (neat): 1641, 1601 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.41$ (s, 3 H), 1.59 (s, 3 H), 1.80-1.93 (m, 1 H), 2.11-2.23 (m, 1 H), 3.30-3.47 (m, 3 H), 3.81 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.83 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.94 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.30 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.45 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.64 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.70 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.90–5.24 (m, 4 H), 5.79–5.96 (m, 2 H), 6.02 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.20–7.46 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR $(75 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3): \delta = 26.2, 26.8, 34.5, 53.3, 54.9, 56.8,$ 71.3, 81.1, 81.9, 82.4, 104.8, 111.2, 115.1, 115.9, 126.3, 127.5, 127.8, 127.9, 128.4, 128.9, 137.2, 137.3, 138.3, 141.3. Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₃₅NO₄: C, 74.80; H, 7.85. Found: C, 74.75; H, 7.66.

1,2-*O*-**Isopropylidine-5,6,7,8,9-penta-deoxy-5,9-**(*N*-**benzyl-imino**)-*a*-**D**-*gluco*-7-eno-nona-1,4-furanose (6a): thick liquid; 81%; $R_f = 0.50$ (EtOAc-hexane = 2:8); $[\alpha]_D = -21.8 (c \ 0.55, CHCl_3)$. IR (neat): 1640, 1605 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.34$ (s, 3 H), 1.46 (s, 3 H), 2.32–2.48 (m, 2 H), 3.10–3.20 (m, 2 H), 3.51 (dt, J = 9.3, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.70 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.85 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.11 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.35 (dd, J = 9.3, 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.62 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.75 (ABq, J = 11.7 Hz, 2 H), 5.56–5.64 (m, 1 H), 5.87–5.92 (m, 1 H), 5.95 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.20–7.38 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 22.4, 26.2, 26.8, 47.2, 54.1, 55.3, 72.4, 79.6, 81.8, 82.4, 104.5, 111.4, 124.0, 125.3, 126.7, 127.6, 127.7, 128.2, 128.4, 128.5, 137.9, 139.9. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₃₁NO₄: C, 74.08; H, 7.41. Found: C, 73.99; H, 7.46.$

1,2-*O*-**Isopropylidine-5,6,7,8,9-penta-deoxy-5,9-**(*N*-**benzyl-imino)-β-L***-ido*-**7-eno-nona-1,4-furanose (6b)**: thick liquid; 78%; $R_f = 0.46$ (EtOAc–hexane = 2:8); $[\alpha]_D = -19.4$ (*c* 0.22, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 1650, 1603 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.37 (s, 3 H), 1.52 (s, 3 H), 1.72–1.79 (m, 1 H), 2.29–2.43 (m, 1 H), 3.10–3.28 (m, 2 H), 3.53 (ddd, J = 9.6, 5.8, 3.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.82 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.87 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.01 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.46 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.54 (dd, J = 9.6, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.64 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.73 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 5.60–5.74 (m, 2 H), 6.05 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.19–7.45 (m, 10 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 26.3, 26.7, 26.8, 47.0, 54.4, 58.3, 71.5, 78.4, 81.1, 82.6, 105.1, 111.3, 123.6, 125.7, 126.5, 127.7, 127.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.8, 137.2, 140.5. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₃₁NO₄: C, 74.08; H, 7.41. Found: C, 74.15; H, 7.32.

 $\begin{array}{l} (\textbf{1R,2R,3S,9aR)-octahydro-2H-quinolizine-1,2,3-triol} \\ (\textbf{1a}): thick liquid; 85%; R_f = 0.29 (CHCl_3-MeOH = 7:3); \\ [\alpha]_D = -36.0 (c \ 0.2, MeOH). IR (neat): 3676-3250 \ cm^{-1}. \\ ^1H NMR (300 \ MHz, D_2O): \delta = 1.24-1.53 (m, 2 \ H), 1.55-1.72 (m, 1 \ H), 1.79-1.98 (m, 3 \ H), 2.26 (br \ d, J = 13.2 \ Hz, 1 \ H), 2.60-2.86 (m, 3 \ H), 3.22-3.36 (m, 2 \ H), 3.41 (t, J = 9.3 \ Hz, 1 \ H), 3.69 (dt, J = 9.3, 4.5 \ Hz, 1 \ H). \\ ^{13}C NMR (75 \ MHz, D_2O): \delta = 21.6, 23.4, 26.9, 55.3, 56.8, 65.0, 67.0, 72.7, 76.5. \ Anal. Calcd for C_9H_{17}NO_3\cdot3H_2O: C, 57.73; H, 9.15. \ Found: C, 57.61; H, 9.01. \end{array}$

(1*R*,2*R*,3*S*,9a*S*)-octahydro-2*H*-quinolizine-1,2,3-triol (1b): The reaction of 7b (0.13 g, 0.34 mmol) with TFA–H₂O (3 mL, 3:2) followed by hydrogenation with 10% Pd/C (0.02 g) as reported for 1a. Column chromatography (MeOH– CHCl₃ = 10:90) afforded 1b as a thick liquid (0.058 g, 91%); $R_f = 0.25$ (CHCl₃–MeOH = 7:3); $[\alpha]_D = -80.0$ (*c* 0.1, MeOH). IR (neat): 3640–3180 cm^{-1.} ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 1.42-1.80$ (m, 6 H), 2.79–2.91 (m, 1 H), 3.15–3.38 (m, 4 H), 3.65 (br s, $J_H = 6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.87 (br s, $J_H = 6$ Hz, 2 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 21.7$, 22.9, 25.7, 55.7, 61.6, 66.4, 67.2, 70.2 (strong). Anal. Calcd for $C_9H_{17}NO_3$ ·2H₂O: C, 57.73; H, 9.15. Found: C, 57.58; H, 8.97.