Bicyclic Analogues of D-*myo***-Inositol 1,4,5-Trisphosphate Related to Adenophostin A: Synthesis and Biological Activity**

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The high affinity of adenophostin A for 1D-*myo*-inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate $[Ins(1,4,5)P_3]$ receptors may be related to an alteration in the position of its 2'-phosphate group relative to the corresponding 1-phosphate group in Ins(1,4,5)P₃. To investigate this possibility, two bicyclic trisphosphates **9** and **10**, designed to explore the effect of relocating the 1-phosphate group of Ins(1,4,5)P₃ using a novel fused-ring system, were synthesized from *myo*-inositol. Biological evaluation of **9** and **10** at the Ins(1,4,5)P₃ receptors of hepatocytes showed that both were recognized by hepatic Ins(1,4,5)P₃ receptors and both stimulated release of Ca²⁺ from intracellular stores, but they had lower affinity than Ins(1,4,5)P₃. This finding may be explained by considering the three-dimensional structures of **9** and **10** in light of recent studies on the conformation of adenophostin A.

Introduction

Many extracellular stimuli activate the hydrolysis of a phospholipid component of the plasma membrane, phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate [PtdIns(4,5)P₂], generate 1D-myo-inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate to $[Ins(1,4,5)P_3, 1, Figure 1]$.¹ $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ acts as a second messenger in most cells, where it binds to intracellular $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ receptors $[IP_3R]$ to cause the opening of an intrinsic Ca^{2+} channel through which Ca^{2+} leaks from the lumen of the endoplasmic reticulum to the cytosol. Each of the four subunits of each IP₃R binds $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ at a site formed by two distinct domains. The site includes several positively charged Arg and Lys residues which interact with the three phosphate groups of Ins(1,4,5)P₃.² Structure–activity studies³ have shown that all high-affinity agonists of IP₃R contain groups equivalent to the vicinal 4R,5R-trans-diequatorial bisphosphate and adjacent 6-hydroxyl group of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, together with an appropriately positioned nonvicinal phosphate group. Some variation in the positioning of this third phosphate group is tolerated, so that $Ins(2,4,5)P_3$ (2), for example, is also recognized by IP₃Rs, although typically with some 25-fold lower affinity than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$.⁴

In 1993, two new ligands of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ receptors, adenophostins A and B (**3** and **4**, Figure 1) were isolated from culture broths of *Penicillium brevicompactum* and found to be up to 100 times more potent than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ itself.⁵ In the adenophostins, the 3",4"-bisphosphate and 2"-hydroxyl group of the glucopyranosyl ring are thought to mimic the inositol 4,5-bisphosphate and adjacent hydroxyl group of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$. Intriguingly, the third phosphate group (analogous to the 1-phosphate of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$) is located on a separate

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(ribofuranosyl) ring. Removal of the adenine from **3** to give **5** reduces affinity to about that of $Ins(1,4,5)P_{3,6}$



Figure 1. Structures of 1D-*myo*-inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (1), 1D-*myo*-inositol 2,4,5-trisphosphate (2), adenophostins A (3) and B (4), adenophostin analogues (5–8), and epimeric bicyclic $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ analogues (9 and 10).

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Synthesis of Bicyclic Analogues of Ins(1,4,5)P₃

although further simplification by removal of the 4'hydroxymethyl group (6) has little further effect.^{6,7} However, opening of the five-membered ring, with a consequent increase in the conformational mobility of the nonvicinal phosphate, causes a greater reduction in affinity. Thus, analogue $7^{8,9}$ and its xylose-based equivalent 8^{10} were found to be 10 or more times weaker than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$.

It has been suggested^{5,8} that, at the binding site of the IP₃R, the nonvicinal phosphate group in the adenophostins may be held further away from the vicinal pair than is the corresponding 1-phosphate of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, and that this modification may underlie the greater affinity of the adenophostins for the IP₃R. With this explanation, the adenosine motif of 3 and 4 functions simply to present the 2'-phosphate in a position that modifies its interaction with one or more residues at the receptor binding site. An alternative explanation for the enhanced potency of the adenophostins is that the adenine itself interacts with a region of the $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ receptor close to the $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ -binding site.^{11,12} The two alternative explanations for adenophostin activity (modified positioning of a phosphate group versus a specific interaction of the adenine with the receptor) are not necessarily mutually exclusive, and an interplay between the two may be involved.

We sought to explore the consequences for biological activity of relocating the 1-phosphate group of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ to a region of space further away from the inositol ring by synthesising bicyclic analogues of Ins(1,4,5)P₃. Here we describe the synthesis and biological evaluation of the first two such analogues 9 and 10. These epimeric molecules, based on myo-inositol fused to a seven-membered (1,4-dioxepane) ring, place their nonvicinal phosphate groups in regions of space more distant from the inositol ring than are normally accessible to the 1-phosphate group of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$. They retain the three-atom (O-C-C) linkage between the sixmembered ring and the nonvicinal phosphate characteristic of the adenophostins and analogues 5-8, but they lack the conformational freedom allowed by the presence of the glycosidic linkage in these carbohydratebased compounds. A preliminary report of the synthesis of 9 and 10 has appeared.¹³

Results and Discussion

The synthetic route to **9** and **10** begins with the known DL-1,4-di-*O*-benzyl-*myo*-inositol [(\pm)-**11**, Scheme 1], readily accessible on a 20 g scale without chromatography from *myo*-inositol.¹⁴ This tetrol contains two pairs of vicinal hydroxyl groups, one cis and one trans, and it was found that the trans pair could be protected selectively by using the butane diacetal (BDA) protecting group. Thus, acid-catalyzed reaction of (\pm)-**11** with tetramethoxybutane¹⁵ in refluxing methanol, in the presence of trimethyl orthoformate, gave the crystalline racemic diacetal (\pm)-**12**. It was later found that identical results could be achieved more cheaply and conveniently using a modified procedure¹⁶ in which tetramethoxybutane is replaced with commercially available butanedione.

An optical resolution step was now used to isolate the required enantiomer of diol **12**. Following a report of the optical resolution of (\pm) -1,4,5,6-tetra-*O*-benzyl-*myo*-inositol by regioselective esterification of the equatorial

Scheme 1^a



^a Reagents and conditions: (i) butanedione, MeOH, CH(OMe)₃, (\pm) -10-camphorsulfonic acid, reflux, 80%; (ii) (*S*)-(+)-acetylmandelic acid, DCC, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, -20 °C to room temperature, 34% (**13**), 36% (**14**); (iii) NaOH, MeOH, reflux, 95%; (iv) CH₂Cl₂/CF₃COOH/H₂O 25:24:1, 98%. Compounds (\pm)-**11** and (\pm)-**12** are racemic

OH-group with (*S*)-(+)-acetylmandelic acid,¹⁷ we have found that this method generally works well for *myo*inositols with this pattern of protection, giving diastereoisomeric esters that are easily separated by flash chromatography.¹⁸ An additional advantage of acetylmandelic acid as a resolving agent is that both enantiomers are commercially available at similar cost and in high optical purity. The resolution can initially be carried out on a small scale, and once the absolute configurations of the products are determined, the appropriate enantiomer of acetylmandelic acid can be chosen so as to optimize isolation of the required product on scale-up.

Applying this method to (\pm) -**11**, it was found that regioselective esterification of (\pm) -11 with (S)-(+)-acetylmandelic acid gave diastereoisomeric acetylmandelate esters which were readily separated by flash chromatography followed by crystallization. The less polar ester was particularly easy to isolate and was highly crystalline, while the more polar ester required more careful chromatography and gave waxy, less satisfactory crystals. Saponification of 13 and 14 gave the enantiomeric diols (-)-12 and (+)-12, respectively. To determine the absolute configurations, (-)-12 was converted into the di-O-benzyl ether (-)-11 by treatment with TFA. The tetrol (–)-**11** had an optical rotation in agreement with that reported for the known 1D-1,4-di-O-benzyl-myoinositol,^{18b} identifying the more polar ester as 13 and the more crystalline, less polar ester as the required 14. Accordingly, (S)-(+)-acetylmandelic acid was used as resolving agent in the full-scale route.





^{*a*} Reagents and conditions: (i) NaH, 3-chloro-2-chloromethyl-1-propene, DMF, 84%; (ii) RuCl₃, NaIO₄, EtOAc/CH₃CN/H₂O, 82%; (iii) NaBH₄, MeOH, 0 °C to room temperature, 21% (**17**), 67% (**18**); (iv) CH₂Cl₂/CF₃COOH/H₂O 25:24:1, 83–84%; (v) (a) (BnO)₂PNPr^{*i*}₂, 1*H*-tetrazole, CH₂Cl₂; (b) *m*-CPBA, -78 °C to room temperature, 82–90%; (vi) H₂, 50 psi, Pd–C, MeOH, 89–90%.

Reaction of (+)-12 with sodium hydride and 3-chloro-2-chloromethyl-1-propene in DMF (Scheme 2) gave the alkene 15 in 84% yield. Flash dihydroxylation¹⁹ of the alkene employing RuCl₃/NaIO₄ gave an inseparable 3:1 mixture of epimeric diols within 4 min. Prolongation of the reaction time to 1.5 h gave the ketone 16, which was isolated as a crystalline solid. Sodium borohydride was chosen to reduce ketone 16, in the hope that both epimeric alcohols 17 and 18 might be obtained. This proved to be the case, and the reaction gave two alcohols in a ratio of approximately 1:3. These alcohols were separated by flash chromatography and isolated as crystalline solids. A single-crystal X-ray study of the more polar alcohol (major product) identified it as 18, and thus the minor product was the epimer, 17. The X-ray structure of 18 (Figure 2a) shows the relative configuration at the C-2' position, and the 1,4-dioxepane ring is seen to take on a slightly twisted chair conformation. The supramolecular structure is consolidated by intermolecular hydrogen bonding, as shown in Figure 2b.

The BDA protecting groups were removed from **17** and **18** by treatment of each with TFA, giving the two triols **19** and **20**. Phosphitylation of **19** and of **20** using bis(benzyloxy)(N,N-diisopropylamino)phosphine activated by 1H-tetrazole, followed by in situ oxidation of phosphites with m-CPBA, gave the trisphosphate triesters **21** and **22**. While **22** was an oil, **21** was a crystalline solid. Finally, deprotection of each epimer by hydrogenolysis over Pd-C and purification of the products by ion-exchange chromatography on Q-Sepharose Fast Flow resin gave the pure epimeric trisphosphates **9** and **10** as their triethylammonium salts, which were quantified by a modification of the Briggs total phosphate assay.²⁰

In equilibrium competition binding experiments using $[{}^{3}H]$ -Ins $(1,4,5)P_{3}$ and membranes prepared from rat liver, adenophostin A, Ins $(1,4,5)P_{3}$, and each of analogues **9** and **10** completely displaced the specific $[{}^{3}H]$ -Ins $(1,4,5)P_{3}$ binding in a concentration-dependent manner (Figure 3a). The affinity of adenophostin A for

Table 1. Binding of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ (1), Adenophostin A (3), and	t
the Bicyclic Analogues 9 and 10 to Hepatic Ins(1,4,5)P ₃	
Receptors	

	$K_{\rm d}$ (nM) ^a	ratio ^b to Ins $(1,4,5)P_3$	h^a	n
Ins(1,4,5)P ₃ (1) adenophostin A (3) 9 10	$\begin{array}{c} 4.56 \pm 0.48 \\ 0.55 \pm 0.12 \\ 98 \pm 28 \\ 62 \pm 4 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 8.3 \pm 2.0 \\ -21 \pm 6 \\ -14 \pm 2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 1.16 \pm 0.19 \\ 1.17 \pm 0.11 \\ 1.01 \pm 0.07 \\ 1.12 \pm 0.08 \end{array}$	4 3 5 3

^{*a*} K_{ds} and Hill coefficients (*h*) were determined using equilibrium competition binding with [³H]-Ins(1,4,5)P₃. Results are shown as means \pm SEM for *n* independent experiments. ^{*b*} Ratios greater than 1 denote ligands with greater affinity than Ins(1,4,5)P₃, and ratios less than -1 denote ligands with lesser affinity than Ins(1,4,5)P₃.

hepatic Ins(1,4,5)P₃ receptors was 8-fold greater than that of Ins(1,4,5)P₃, in line with previous results.¹¹ However, analogues 9 and 10 had affinities 21- and 14fold lower than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, respectively (Table 1). These results were reflected in functional studies of ⁴⁵Ca²⁺ release (Figure 3b). Maximal concentrations of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ adenophostin A and analogues 9 and 10 each released the same fraction (50-60%) of the intracellular stores, but whereas adenophostin A was about 10-fold more potent than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, analogues 9 and **10** were about 18- and 14-fold less potent, respectively (Table 2). The rank order of potency of the ligands $[adenophostin > Ins(1,4,5)P_3 > 10 > 9]$ was therefore the same as that found with radioligand binding. In summary, both bicyclic analogues had lower affinity for hepatic IP_3Rs than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, and they appeared closer to $Ins(2,4,5)P_3$ in activity.

The simplest interpretation of these results is that the 2'-phosphate groups in **9** and in **10** are unable to interact effectively with the appropriate region of the $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ receptor as a result of their three-dimensional location and orientation at the receptor binding site. This location will be influenced by the conformation of the dioxepane rings in **9** and **10**. In general, sevenmembered rings are flexible systems for which there exist complex conformational equilibria between several



Figure 2. (a) ORTEX³¹ plot of **18**. Ellipsoids are represented at the 30% probability level. (b) Hydrogen-bonding interactions in the supramolecular structure of **18**.

conformations of similar energies,²¹ although in the bicyclic structures 9 and 10, the fusion of the 1,4dioxepane ring with myo-inositol greatly restricts the number of possible conformations. Measurement of vicinal coupling constants in the ¹H NMR spectrum of the marginally more potent analogue 10, taken in D_2O buffered to physiological pH, confirmed that the conformation of the *myo*-inositol ring was close to a chair. A ¹H NMR-NOESY spectrum of **10** showed NOEs between H-2 of the myo-inositol ring and one proton in each pair of methylene protons at C-1' and C-3'. This supports the existence in solution of conformations of type **10a** (Figure 4a) in which the dioxepane ring adopts a twist-chair conformation similar to that seen in the X-ray structure of intermediate 18. The measured vicinal coupling constants between H-2' and the methylene protons on C-1' and C-3' in the dioxepane ring were not wholly consistent with theoretical values calculated²² for **10a** alone, however, which suggested that other conformations may be present in equilibrium with **10a**, leading to an averaging of measured *J* values in the NMR spectrum. Molecular mechanics simulations



Figure 3. Effects of **9** and **10** on equilibrium competition binding of ³H-Ins(1,4,5)P₃ to liver membranes (a) and ⁴⁵Ca²⁺ release from the intracellular stores of permeabilized hepatocytes (b). (a) Specific ³H-Ins(1,4,5)P₃ binding (%) is shown in the presence of the indicated concentrations of adenophostin A (filled squares), Ins(1,4,5)P₃ (filled circles), **9** (filled triangles), and **10** (open squares). (b) The amounts of ⁴⁵Ca²⁺ released [% of the Ins(1,4,5)P₃-sensitive stores] by Ins(1,4,5)P₃, **9**, and **10** are shown [the symbols are the same as used in panel a]. For both panels, results are means \pm SEM of three to five independent determinations.

Table 2. Effects of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ (1), Adenophostin A (3), and the Bicyclic Analogues **9** and **10** on Ca^{2+} Release from the Intracellular Stores of Permeabilized Hepatocytes

	EC ₅₀ (nM) ^a	ratio ^b to Ins(1,4,5)P ₃	h ^a	maximal response (%) ^a
Ins(1,4,5)P ₃ (1)	90 ± 7	1	1.48 ± 0.21	59 ± 2
adenophostin A (3)	9.2 ± 1.7	9.8 ± 2.0	2.99 ± 0.32	49 ± 3
9	1650 ± 90	-18 ± 2	2.61 ± 0.57	59 ± 1
10	1230 ± 50	-14 ± 1	2.9 ± 0.55	59 ± 1

^{*a*} Concentration causing half the maximal effect (EC₅₀), Hill coefficient (*h*), and the fraction of the total Ca²⁺ stores released by a maximal concentration of each agonist are shown (means \pm SEM) for Ca²⁺ mobilization evoked by each of the ligands for three independent experiments. ^{*b*} Ratios greater than 1 denote ligands with greater potency than Ins(1,4,5)P₃ and ratios less than -1 denote ligands with lesser potency than Ins(1,4,5)P₃.

of **10** (see Experimental Section) supported this interpretation; conformations of type **10a** were predicted to be the most stable, but variants with different puckers of the dioexepane ring (Figure 4b) were also identified with only slightly higher (1 to 2 kcal/mol) calculated energies. Unfortunately, severe overlapping of signals in the ¹H NMR spectrum of **9** precluded detailed analysis, but molecular modeling (not shown) as for **10** suggested that the 2'-phosphate group in **9** would be constrained to a similar region of space as in **10** as a result of the interplay between 2'-phosphate orientation



Figure 4. (a) NOESY spectrum of 10 in D_2O at pH 7.2 shows NOEs between H-2 and two methylene protons in the 1,4-dioxepane ring, indicating the presence of conformations of type 10a. (b) Superimposed low-energy conformations of 10 as determined by molecular mechanics calculations (see Experimental Section). For clarity, hydrogen atoms are not shown.

and dioxepane ring-pucker. This finding would account for the similar potencies of the two epimers.

While this work was in progress, a detailed conformational study of adenophostin A using a combination of NMR and molecular mechanics calculations was reported.¹² The authors proposed an active conformation of adenophostin A in which the 2'-phosphate group is held by the adenosine in a position close to the glucopyranosyl ring in a slightly more extended position than that of the 1-phosphate group in Ins(1,4,5)P₃. Independent evidence for this type of conformation of adenophostin A in solution has recently emerged from a combined NMR and potentiometric study by some of us,²³ which showed that, in solution, the protonation state of the 2'-phosphate group in adenophostin A influences the chemical shift of H-1", presumably via an influence on the local electric field. There also appears to be some pH-dependent interaction between the 2'- and 3"-phosphates of adenophostin A, analogous to that between the 1- and 4-phosphates of $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$. (Indeed this study also found that, at physiological pH, the ionization states of the three phosphate groups in adenophostin A are remarkably similar to the corresponding phosphates in $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, suggesting that differences in phosphate ionization are unlikely to account for the greater potency of adenophostin A).²³ Thus, molecular mechanics simulations (in vacuo) and studies of adenophostin A in solution favor conformations for adenophostin A in which the 2'-phosphate is held close to the glucopyranosyl ring. If this proximity is retained in the receptorbound conformation of adenophostin A, the much lower potency of 9 and 10 would be a result of their 2'phosphate groups being constrained to an overextended position in either possible orientation of these molecules at the IP₃R binding site (Figure 5).

During the preparation of this manuscript, a report was published on the synthesis and evaluation of two glucose-based bicyclic analogues ("spirophostins" **23** and **24**, Figure 6a) designed as conformationally restricted analogues of adenophostin A.²⁴ These molecules constrain the nonvicinal phosphate group to a significantly different region of space than in **9** and **10**. However, the spirophostins also bind to $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ receptors with affinities lower than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ (28-fold and 17-fold, respectively, in bovine adrenal cortex membranes) similar to those of **9** and **10** (21-fold and 14-fold lower than $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$, respectively, in hepatocytes).



Figure 5. Comparison of Ins(1,4,5)P₃, adenophostin A and bicyclic analogues. The shaded cones indicate regions of space accessible to the nonvicinal phosphate group in each molecule. Adenophostin A is shown in the conformation proposed by a recent study.¹² Analogues **9** and **10** are represented by a single structure, shown in two binding orientations; dashed lines indicate alternative dioxepane ring conformations.



Figure 6. (a) Recently reported²⁴ glucose-based bicyclic analogues, spirophostins **23** and **24**. (b) Acyclophostin²⁵ (**25**) and its xylose-based equivalent **26**.²⁶

These results do not necessarily imply that the goal of constructing potent Ins(1,4,5)P₃ analogues by conformational restriction alone is unattainable, although it is conceivable that adenophostin-like activity requires exquisite precision in the location and orientation of the 2'-phosphate group at the receptor binding site. It has been suggested, for example, that in the adenophostins the adenine may finely tune this positioning by a subtle effect on ribose conformation,¹² hence the merely Ins- $(1,4,5)P_3$ -like activity of analogues such as 5 and 6. However, if the adenine itself is directly responsible for the novel properties of the adenophostins, then conformationally restricted analogues lacking the adenine (or similar structure) may never exceed $Ins(1,4,5)P_3$ in potency. In support of a specific role for the adenine, two recent reports^{25,26} have shown that its introduction into analogues 7 and 8, to give 25 ("acyclophostin") and **26**, respectively (Figure 6b), can increase affinity for the $IP_{3}R$ to $Ins(1,4,5)P_{3}$ -like levels, demonstrating that the adenine can enhance binding to the IP₃R, even in combination with a flexible linkage to the nonvicinal phosphate. The accumulating evidence therefore favors the existence of a binding pocket for adenine, or for similar aromatic/hydrophobic structures, close to the Ins(1,4,5)P₃ binding site. We are currently exploring this possibility by investigating the effects of base-modified analogues of adenophostin A, prepared by total synthesis from D-xylose and D-glucose.²⁷

Experimental Section

Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated plates (Merck TLC aluminum sheets silica 60F₂₅₄) with detection by UV light or with phosphomolybdic acid in methanol followed by heating. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel (particle size $40-63 \mu m$). NMR spectra were recorded with a JEOL EX-270 or 400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ), and signals are expressed as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), or br (broad). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR shifts are measured in ppm relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS). In the case of ¹H NMR spectra taken in D_2O , acetone (δ 2.225 relative to TMS) was used as an internal reference. ³¹P NMR shifts were measured in ppm relative to external 85% phosphoric acid and are positive when downfield from this reference. Coupling constants (*J*) are given in Hz. FAB mass spectra were recorded at the University of Bath using *m*-nitrobenzyl alcohol as the matrix. Melting points (uncorrected) were determined using a Reichert-Jung hot stage microscope apparatus. Ion-exchange chromatography was performed on an LKB-Pharmacia medium-pressure ion exchange chromatograph using Q-Sepharose Fast Flow and gradients of triethylammonium bicarbonate (TEAB) as eluent. Quantitative analysis of phosphate was performed using a modification of the Briggs phosphate assay.²⁰ Adenophostin A was synthesized as previously reported.28

X-ray Crystallography. A crystal of 18 having approximate dimensions $0.5 \times 0.4 \times 0.15$ mm was used for data collection. Crystal data: $C_{29}H_{38}O_{9}$, M = 530.59, orthorhombic, a = 10.163(3) Å, b = 10.216(2) Å, c = 26.818(8) Å, $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, β $= 90^{\circ}, \gamma = 90^{\circ}, U = 2784.4(13) \text{ Å}^3$, space group $P2_12_12_1, Z = 4$, $D_c = 1.266 \text{ g cm}^{-3}, \mu(\text{Mo-}K\alpha) = 0.093 \text{ mm}^{-1}, F(000) = 1136.$ Crystallographic measurements were made at 293(2) K on a CAD4 automatic four-circle diffractometer in the range 2.13 $< \theta < 22.93^{\circ}$. Data (2255 reflections) were corrected for Lorentz and polarization but not for absorption. Early searches for diffraction spots indicated that the sample chosen for this determination (largest in batch) was not a strong diffractor, possibly due to the smaller than desirable thickness of the crystal. In an effort to counteract this, the scan parameters for data collection were adjusted to increase the reliability of the weaker data and thus maximize structural solution ability using direct methods. In practice, the whole molecule was evident in the first electron density map produced. Anisotropic refinement of all atoms proceeded without any correlation problems, although isotropic restraints were placed on carbons 1, 11, 14, and 20. The absolute configuration of the molecule could not be determined reliably from a refined Flack parameter. This is probably due, in part, to the high proportion of weak data present, reflected in an $R(\sigma)$ value of 0.2796. In the final least squares cycles, all atoms were allowed to vibrate anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were included at calculated positions where relevant. Examination of the gross structure revealed the presence of a hydrogen bonding feature along *b*. Typically, the hydroxyl proton (H3) has possible contacts to O2 and O4 of the molecule generated via the -x, $-1/_2 + y$, $1/_2$ - z operation. The H3····O4 distance is tenuous, but as the hydrogens are included at calculated positions, this contact is also illustrated on the packing diagram (Figure 2b) [O3…O4, 3.23(1) Å; O3···O2, 2.81(1) Å; H3···O4, 2.5(1) Å; H3···O2, 2.1-(1) Å; O3-H3-O4, 144(9)°; O3-H3-O2, 147(9)°]. The solution of the structure (SHELX-90)²⁹ and refinement (SHELXL-97)³⁰ converged to a conventional [i.e., based on 805 F² data with $F_0 > 4\sigma(F_0)$] R1 = 0.0824 and wR2 = 0.1589. Goodness of fit = 0.785. The maximum and minimum residual densities were 0.257 and -0.221 e Å⁻³, respectively. The asymmetric unit (shown in Figure 2a), along with the labeling scheme used, was produced using ORTEX.³¹

Molecular Modeling. Modeling was carried out using the Sybyl software package (v6.3, Tripos Associates) on a Silicon Graphics workstation. The TRIPOS force field was used. Charges were calculated using a semiempirical method (AM1) for structures of **9** or **10** with fully-ionized phosphate groups, and the resulting charged structures were energy-minimized

using the TRIPOS force field and a distance-dependent dielectric function of $\epsilon = r$, terminating at a gradient of 0.05 kcal mol⁻¹ Å⁻¹. Different conformations of the 1,4-dioxepane ring in each structure were generated by 100 cycles of heating to 1000 K for 2000 fs followed by exponential cooling to 0 K over 10000 fs. During these cycles of simulated annealing, the 4,5-diequatorial bisphosphate conformation was retained by constraining this region of the molecule as an aggregate. Each cooled structure was then re-minimized as before. The protocol was repeated three times, using different starting conformations of the dioxepane ring, to ensure that all stable conformations were located. Low-energy conformations identified in this way were further investigated by systematically varying the H2'-C2'-O2'-P2' torsion in 10° steps, and re-minimizing after each step.

[³H]-Ins(1,4,5)P₃ Binding to Hepatic Membranes. Rat liver membranes were prepared from a liver perfused in situ with cold saline, which was then excised and homogenized in cold buffered sucrose (250 mM sucrose, 5 mM Hepes, 1 mM EGTA, pH 7.4) using a Dounce homgenizer with 10 strokes of a loose-fitting plunger and three with a tight plunger, before filtration through gauze. After centrifugation (2500g, 10 min), the pellet was resuspended and centrifuged (35000g, 30 min) through a Percoll gradient (11.8%, Pharmacia). The membranes were harvested, washed twice (48000g, 10 min) in hypotonic medium (1 mM EGTA, 5 mM Hepes, pH 7.4), and then resuspended in binding medium (50 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.3 at 4 °C) as previously described.¹¹ For binding experiments, membranes (0.1 mg protein/tube) in binding medium (500 μ L) were incubated with [³H]-Ins(1,4,5)P₃ (1.3-1.8 nM) and appropriate concentrations of competing ligand for 5 min at 4 °C, before separation of bound from free ligand by centrifugation (20000g, 5 min). After aspiration of the supernatant, the pellets were resuspended in Ecoscint A liquid scintillation cocktail (National Diagnostics, Atlanta, GA). Equilibrium competition binding curves were fitted to logistic equations using Kaleidagraph (Synergy Software), and the IC₅₀ values were then used to calculate equilibrium dissociation constants (K_d) .

⁴⁵Ca²⁺ Release from Permeabilized Rat Hepatocytes. The methods were similar to those reported previously.¹¹ Briefly, permeabilized hepatocytes were loaded to steady state (5 min at 37 °C) with ${}^{45}Ca^{2+}$ in a cytosol-like medium (CLM: 140 mM KCl, 20 mM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EGTA, 300 µM CaCl₂, 20 mM Pipes, pH 7.0) containing ATP (1.5 mM), creatine phosphate (5 mM), creatine phosphokinase (5 units/ mL), and FCCP (10 μ M). After 5 min, thapsigargin (1.25 μ M) was added to the cells to inhibit further Ca²⁺ uptake, 30 s later the cells were added to appropriate concentrations of the agonists, and after a further 60 s the Ca²⁺ contents of the stores were determined by rapid filtration. Concentrationresponse relationships were fitted to a four-parameter logistic equation using Kaleidegraph software (Synergy Software, PA) from which the maximal response, half-maximally effective agonist concentration (EC₅₀), and Hill slope (h) were determined. All results are expressed as means \pm SEM. Ins(1,4,5)P₃ was from American Radiolabeled Chemicals.

(2'RS,3'RS)-DL-1,4-Di-O-benzyl-5,6-O-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-myo-inositol [(±)-12]. To a suspension of DL-1,4-di-O-benzyl-myo-inositol¹⁴ [(±)-**11**, 15.5 g, 43.0 mmol] in MeOH (200 mL) and trimethyl orthoformate (20 mL) were added camphorsulfonic acid (500 mg, 2.15 mmol) and butanedione (4.0 mL, 46 mmol). The mixture was heated at reflux under N₂ for 18 h. The resulting pink solution was allowed to cool, and Et_3N (1 mL) was added. The solution was stirred at room temperature for a further 5 min, and the solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure to give a foam. The foam was taken up in the minimum volume of CH₂Cl₂, loaded onto a short column of silica gel, and eluted with EtOAc/ hexane (1:1) to give the racemic diol (\pm) -12 (16.3 g, 34.3 mmol, 80% yield) as a white crystalline solid: mp 141–143 °C (from EtOĂc/hexane); ¹H NMŘ (270 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.36 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.37 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.62 (2 H, br s, D₂O exch. OH-2 and OH-3), 3.30 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.33 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.43 (1 H, dd, J =

9.9, 2.7, H-3), 3.48 (1 H, dd, J = 9.2, 2.7, H-1), 3.64 (1 H, dd, J = 9.9, 9.7, H-5), 3.83 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.5, 9.5, H-4 or H-6), 4.15 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 2.9, 2.9, H-2), 4.16 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.9, 9.9, 9.9, H-4 or H-6), 4.70, 4.85 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} = 11.9$, OCH₂Ph), 4.71, 5.03 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} = 11.2$, OCH₂Ph), 7.24–7.38 (10 H, m, 2 × Ph); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 68 MHz) δ 17.74 (2 × CH₃), 47.87 (2 × OCH₃), 69.54, 70.40, 71.54, 71.81 (C-2, C-3, C-5, and C-6), 76.63, 78.26 (C-1 and C-4), 73.21, 75.30 (OCH₂Ph), 99.22 (2 × C_q BDA), 127.53, 127.68, 127.86, 128.31, 128.38 (Ph), 138.25, 138.64 (2 × C-1 of Ph); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB) 497 [(M + Na)⁺, 80%], 443 [(M - OCH₃)⁺, 60%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB) 947 [(2 M - H)⁻, 20%], 627 [(M + NBA)⁻, 80%], 473 [(M - H)⁻, 100%]. Anal. (C₂₆H₃₄O₈) C, H.

(2'R,3'R)-1D-3-O-[(S)-(+)-O-Acetylmandelyl]-1,4-di-Obenzyl-5,6-O-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-myo-inositol (13) and (2'S,3'S)-1D-1-O-[(S)-(+)-O-Acetylmandelyl]-3,6-di-O-benzyl-4,5-O-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)*myo*-inositol (14). To a stirred solution of (\pm) -12 (11.0 g, 23.2 mmol), DCC (5.00 g, 24.2 mmol), and DMAP (50 mg) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL) at -20 °C was added a solution of (S)-(+)acetylmandelic acid (5.00 g, 25.7 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) dropwise over 1 h. The cooling bath was removed, and stirring was continued for 1 h, after which the suspension was filtered through Celite to remove dicyclohexylurea. The filtrate was concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure, and the residue was fractionated by flash chromatography (CHCl₃/ acetone 30:1, then 10:1) on silica gel. The first fraction was obtained as a white solid (7.22 g), and crystallization from EtOAc/hexane gave pure 14 (5.39 g, 8.28 mmol, 36%, 72% of this diastereoisomer). Further elution gave a second fraction as an oil (6.63 g) slightly contaminated with 14. Crystallization from EtOAc/hexane at -20 °C gave pure **13** as waxy crystals (5.18 g, 7.96 mmol, 34%, 68% of this diastereoisomer).

Data for **13**: mp 75–78 °C; *R_f* 0.24 (CHCl₃/acetone 30:1); $[\alpha]_{D}^{26} = -9.5$ (c = 2, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.31 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.34 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.18 [3 H, s, CH₃C(O)], 2.67 (1 H, br s, D₂O exch, OH-2), 3.15 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.31 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.54 (1 H, dd, J = 10.3, 2.4, H-1), 3.62 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 10.3, 9.8, H-5), 3.99 (1 H, t-like dd J = 9.8, 9.8, H-4), 4.07 (1 H, d, J = 11.2, OCH₂Ar), 4.16 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 10.3, 9.8, H-6), 4.36 (1 H, br s, D_2O exch gives t-like dd, J = 2.4, 2.4, H-2), 4.55 (1 H, d, J = 11.2, OCH₂Ph), 4.69, 4.82 (2 H, AB_q, J = 11.7, OCH₂Ph), 5.99 [1 H, s, O₂CCH(OAc)Ph], 6.94-6.96 (2 H, m, Ph), 7.18-7.37 (11 H, m, Ph), 7.48-7.50 (2 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) 17.67, 17.76 ($2 \times CH_3$), 20.67 [CH₃C(O)], 47.82, 47.97 (2 × CH₃O), 68.80, 69.13, 71.03 (C-2, C-5 and C-6), 73.39 (OCH2Ph), 74.87 (OCH2Ph), 74.82, 75.10 75.55, 76.52 [C-1, C-3, C-6 and O₂CCH(OAc)Ph], 99.34 $(2 \times C_q \text{ of BDA})$, 127.21, 127.47, 127.69, 127.80, 127.96, 128.38, 128.84, 129.42 ($15 \times CH$ of Ph), 133.12 (C-1 of acetylmandelate Ph), 138.06, 138.50 (2 \times C-1 of Ph), 168.45 (s, C=O), 170.61 (s, C=O); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB); 673 [(M + Na)⁺, 50%], 619 $[(M - CH_3O)^+, 70\%], 91 [(C_7H_7)^+, 100\%]; MS m/z (-ve ion)$ FAB); 803 [(M + NBA)⁻, 70%], 649 [(M - H)⁻, 100%]. Anal. $(C_{36}H_{42}O_{11})$ C, H.

Data for 14: mp 132.5-134.5 °C; R_f 0.36 (CHCl₃/acetone 30:1); $[\alpha]_D^{26} = +72$ (c = 2, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.34 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.35 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.19 [4 H, s, D₂O exch. gives 3 H, s, CH₃C(O) and OH-2], 3.25 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.30 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.49 (1 H, dd, J = 10.1, 2.7, H-3), 3.66 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 10.1, 9.8, H-5), 4.03 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.8, 9.8, H-4 or H-6), 4.12-4.17 [2 H, m, H-2 and (H-4 or H-6)], 4.63-4.70 $(2 \text{ H}, \text{ m}, 2 \times 0.5 \text{ AB systems of OC}H_2\text{Ph}), 4.78 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J =$ 10.1, 2.7, H-1), 4.78–4.87 (2 H, m, 2×0.5 AB systems of OCH₂-Ph), 5.95 [1 H, s, O₂CCH(OAc)Ph], 7.24-7.32 (13 H, m, Ph), 7.43-7.45 (2 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) 17.72, 17.76 (2 \times CH₃), 20.68 [*C*H₃C(O)], 47.88, 47.92 (2 \times CH₃O), 68.65, 69.07, 71.20 (C-2, C-4, and C-5), 73.41 (OCH2Ph), 74.78, 74.85, 75.43, 76.32 [C-1, C-3, C-6, and O₂CCH(OAc)Ph], 75.16 (O CH₂Ph), 99.34 (2 \times BDA C_q), 127.39, 127.47, 127.61, 127.74, 127.94, 128.18, 128.35, 128.77, 129.22 (15 × CH of Ph), 133.37 (s, C-1 of acetylmandelate Ph), 138.11, 138.61 (2 × C-1 Ph), 168.09 (C=O), 170.79 (C=O); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB); 673 [(M + Na)⁺, 20%], 619 [(M - CH₃O)⁺, 90%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 803 [(M + NBA)⁻, 80%], 649 [(M - H)⁻, 100%]. Anal. (C₃₆H₄₂O₁₁) C, H.

(2'*S*,3'*S*)-1D-3,6-Di-*O*-benzyl-4,5-*O*-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-*myo*-inositol [(+)-12]. A solution of 14 (5.69 g, 8.74 mmol) in MeOH (150 mL) containing NaOH pellets (2.0 g, 50 mmol) was heated at reflux for 1 h. The solution was allowed to cool and then neutralized by addition of solid CO₂. The solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, and the residue was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and water (100 mL of each). The organic layer was separated, washed with water (2 × 100 mL), and dried (MgSO₄). Evaporation under reduced pressure gave the diol as a white hygroscopic foam (3.94 g, 8.30 mmol, 95%); waxy crystals of monohydrate (with difficulty) from Et₂O/hexane at -20 °C: $[\alpha]_D^{24} = + 69 (c = 1, CHCl_3)$; spectroscopic data were identical to those obtained for (±)-12. Anal. (C₂₆H₃₄O₈·H₂O) C, H.

(2'*R*,3'*R*)-1D-1,4-Di-*O*-benzyl-5,6-*O*-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-*myo*-inositol [(-)-12]. Saponification of 13 (5.0 g, 7.68 mmol) as described for 14 gave (-)-12 as a white hygroscopic foam (3.46 g, 7.29 mmol, 95%); waxy crystals of monohydrate (with difficulty) from Et₂O/hexane at -20 °C: $[\alpha]_D^{26} = -68$ (c = 1, CHCl₃); spectroscopic data were identical to those obtained for (+)-12. Anal. (C₂₆H₃₄O₈·H₂O) C, H.

1D-1,4-Di-*O*-benzyl-*myo*-inositol [(–)-11]. To a solution of [(–)-12] (420 mg, 0.885 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added 95% aqueous TFA (5 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and then concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure to give (–)-11 as a white solid (312 mg, 0.866 mmol, 98%); crystals from EtOH: mp 172–173 °C, Lit.^{18b} mp 172–173 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -14$ (c = 1, MeOH), Lit.^{18b} $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -16$ (c = 1, MeOH); NMR data were identical to those previously reported.^{18b}

(2'S,3'S)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-4,5-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-1,2-O-[(2"-methylene)propane-1",3"-diyl]-myoinositol (15). To a solution of (+)-12 (3.94 g, 8.30 mmol) in dry DMF (40 mL) was added NaH (1.30 g of a 60% dispersion in oil, 32.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, and then 3-chloro-2-chloromethyl-1-propene (2.0 mL, 2.16 g, 17.3 mmol) was added. After 1 h, TLC (ether) showed that all the starting material (R_f 0.36) had been consumed, with conversion into a major product at R_f 0.66. Excess NaH was destroyed by cautious addition of MeOH, and the solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and water (100 mL of each). The organic layer was washed with water (2 \times 100 mL), dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated to give an oil. Purification by flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexane 1:4) gave the alkene **15** as a colorless oil, later solidifying to a brittle glass, which could not be recrystallized (3.67 g, 6.97 mmol, 84%): $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +24$ (c = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.36 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.38 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.29 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.34 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.43 (1 H, dd, J = 10.1, 3.1, H-1 or H-3), 3.59 (1 H, dd, J = 10.1, 2.1, H-1 or H-3), 3.66 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.5, 9.5, H-5), 3.85 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 3.1, 2.1, H-2); 3.99 (1 H, br d, J = 13.4, H-1"a or H-3"a), 4.09–4.17 (3 H, m, H-4, H-6 and H-3"a or H-1"a), 4.18 (1 H, br d, J = 13.4, H-1"b or H-3"b), 4.47 (1 H, br d, J = 14.3, H-3"b or H-1"b), 4.69, 4.82 (2 H, AB_q , $J_{AB} = 12.4$, OCH_2Ph), 4.78 (1 H, 0.5 of AB_q , $J_{AB} = 11.6$, OCH₂Ph), 4.96-4.99 (2 H, m, C=CH_aHb and OCH₂Ph), 5.06 (1 H, br s, C=CHaHb), 7.24-7.42 (10 H, m, Ph); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 17.81 (2 \times CH₃), 47.88, 48.10 $(2 \times \text{OCH}_3)$, 66.53 (C-1" or C-3"), 69.17, 72.46 (2 × inositol ring CH), 73.15, 73.57, 74.69 [2 × OCH₂Ph and (C-1" or C-3")], 73.26, 75.88, 77.63, 80.39 (4 × inositol ring CH), 99.25, 99.41 $(2 \times C_q \text{ of BDA})$, 113.97 (=CH₂), 127.58, 127.93, 128.25, 128.31 (10 \times CH of Ph), 138.63, 138.93 (2 \times C-1 of Ph), 146.96 (C-2"); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB) 495 [(M - CH₃O)⁺, 70%], 266(90), 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]. Anal. (C₃₀H₃₈O₈) C, H.

(2'S,3'S)-1D-3,6-Di-*O*-benzyl-4,5-*O*-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-1,2-*O*-[(2''-oxo)propane-1'',3''-diyl]-*myo*inositol (16). To a vigorously stirred solution of alkene 15 (3.67 g, 6.97 mmol) in EtOAc (20 mL) and CH₃CN (20 mL) was added NaIO₄ (7.00 g, 32.7 mmol) followed by a solution of RuCl₃·3H₂O (40 mg in 20 mL of distilled water). The suspension was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h, after which time TLC (EtOAc/hexane 1:2) showed complete conversion of the alkene ($R_f 0.40$) into a slightly more polar product ($R_f 0.34$). Water (200 mL) and Et₂O (200 mL) were then added. The organic layer was separated and washed with water (200 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (100 mL). The organic layer, which was now almost colorless, was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated in vacuo to give the crude ketone 16 as a foam (3.02 g, 5.71 mmol, 82%) which was used in the next step without further purification. For analytical purposes, a small portion of this was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexane 1:2) to give 16 as a white crystalline solid: mp 128–129 °C (from EtOAc/hexane); $[\alpha]_D^{24} = -9$ (*c* = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.37 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.40 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.31 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.34 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.49 (1 H, dd, J = 10.5, 3.1, H-1 or H-3), 3.74 (1 H, t-like dd, <math>J = 9.8, 9.4, J=10.5, 3.1, H-1 or H-3)H-5), 3.78 (1 H, dd, J = 9.8, 2.7, H-1or H-3), 3.85 (1 H, d, J = 16.2, H-1"a or H-3"a), 3.86 (1 H, t-like dd, *J* = 3.1, 2.7, H-2), 3.99 (1 H, d, J = 17.4, H-3"a or H-1"a), 4.08 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 10.2, 10.2, H-4 or H-6), 4.16 (1 H, d, J = 16.2, H-1"b or H-3"b), 4.17 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.8, 9.4, H-4 or H-6), 4.38 (1 H. d, J = 17.4, H-3"b or H-1"b), 4.67, 4.88 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} =$ 12.5, OCH₂Ph), 4.74, 5.04 (2 H, AB_a, $J_{AB} = 11.7$, OCH₂Ph), 7.27-7.38 (10 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl₃) 17.78 (2 \times CH₃), 47.97, 48.12 (2 \times OCH₃), 68.76 (inositol ring CH), 70.27 (C-1" or C-3"), 71.88, 72.40 (2 × inositol ring CH), 73.56, 74.67 (OCH₂Ph), 75.43 (inositol ring CH), 78.19 (C-1" or C-3"), 78.35, 84.30 (2 \times inositol ring CH), 99.27, 99.45 (2 \times Cq of BDA), 127.65, 127.83, 127.88, 128.01 (10 × CH of Ph), 138.34, 138.37 (2 × C-1 of Ph), 210.52 (C-2"); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB); $551[(M + Na)^+, 20\%], 527(20), 497[(M - CH_3O)^+, 75\%],$ 266(40), 91 [(C_7H_7)⁺, 100%]; MS *m*/*z* (-ve ion FAB); 681 $[(M + NBA)^{-}, 100\%], 527 [(M - H)^{-}, 40\%].$ Anal. $(C_{29}H_{36}O_{9})$ C: H.

(2'S,3'S,2"R)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-4,5-O-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-1,2-O-[(2"-hydroxy)propane-1",3"-diyl]-myoinositol (17) and (2'S,3'S,2"S)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-4,5-O-(2',3'-dimethoxybutane-2',3'-diyl)-1,2-O-[(2"-hydroxy)propane-1",3"-diyl]-myo-inositol (18). To a stirred solution of ketone 16 (2.38 g, 4.50 mmol) in methanol (100 mL) at 0 °C was added NaBH₄ (800 mg, 21.1 mmol). The solution was stirred at 0 °C for a further 5 min and then allowed to warm to room temperature. TLC (CHCl₃/acetone 10:1) showed total conversion of the ketone (R_f 0.48) into a major product at R_f 0.12 and a minor product at R_f 0.20. Water (10 mL) was added, and stirring was continued for a further 1 h. The solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure to give a solid residue which was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and water (100 mL of each). The organic layer was removed, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a white foam which was fractionated by flash chromatography (CHCl₃/ acetone 10:1) to give first the alcohol 17 (495 mg, 0.933 mmol, 21%). Second to elute was the epimeric alcohol 18 (1.60 g, 3.02 mmol, 67%).

Data for 17: mp 126–127 °C (from hexane); *R*_f 0.20 (CHCl₃/ acetone 10:1); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = +33$ (*c* = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.356 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.362 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.72 (1 H, d, J = 10.7, OH-2"), 3.29 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.32 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.37 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 2.0, H-1"a or H-3"a), 3.45 (1 H, dd, J =10.1, 3.4, H-1 or H-3), 3.57-3.64 [3 H, m, H-5, H-2" and (H-1 or H-3)], 3.73 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.8, 9.8, H-4 or H-6), 3.78 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 3.4, 3.4, H-2), 3.81-3.89 [2 H, m, (H-1"a and H-1"b) or (H-3"a and H-3"b)], 4.07 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 10.3, H-4 or H-6), 4.07 (1 H, br d, J = 12.7, H-1"b or H-3"b) 4.68, 4.89 (2 H, AB_q , J = 12.2, OCH_2Ph), 4.83, 4.91 (2 H, AB_q , J =11.2 Hz, OC H_2 Ar), 7.25–7.42 (10 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 17.76, 17.81 (2 × CH₃), 47.88, 48.08 (2 × OCH₃), 67.14 (OCH₂), 68.54, 70.39, 71.14 (3 \times CH), 73.59, 75.26 (2 \times OCH₂), 75.51 (CH), 78.09 (OCH₂), 78.47, 78.51, 79.44 (3 × CH), 99.21, 99.32 (2 \times Cq of BDA), 127.56, 127.63, 127.69, 128.13, 128.20, 128.36 (10 \times CH of Ph), 138.82, 138.62 (2 \times C-1 of Ph); MS *m*/*z* (+ve ion FAB); 553 [(M + Na)⁺, 60%], 529(50), 499 [(M - CH₃O)⁺, 20%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 683 [(M + NBA)⁻, 100%]. Anal. (C₂₉H₃₈O₉) C, H.

Data for **18**: mp 165–167 °C (from EtOAc/hexane); $R_f 0.12$ (CHCl₃/acetone 10:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +29$ (c = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.36 (3 H, s, CH₃), 1.38 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.58 (1 H, d, J = 7.1, OH-2"), 3.29 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.32 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.40 (1 H, dd, *J* = 10.3, 2.9, H-1 or H-3), 3.53 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 2.9, H-1''a or H-3''a), 3.59 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 5.9,H-3"a or H-1"a), 3.60-3.66 [2 H, m, H-5 and (H-1 or H-3)], 3.80 (1 H, br d, J = 12.7, H-3"b or H-1"b), 3.92–3.97 (1 H, br m, H-2"), 3.98-4.10 [4 H, m, H-2, H-4, H-6 and (H-1"b or H-3"b)], 4.69, 4.82 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} = 12.2$, CH₂Ph), 4.78, 4.93 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} = 11.7$, CH₂Ph), 7.24–7.42 (10 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl₃) 17.80 (2 \times CH₃), 47.89, 48.10 (2 \times OCH₃), 64.79 (OCH₂), 68.76, 71.29, 71.89 (3 \times CH), 73.24 (OCH₂), 73.95 (inositol ring CH), 74.88 (OCH₂), 75.74 (CH), 77.63, 80.05 (2 \times CH), 99.27, 99.34 (2 \times BDA C_q), 127.58, 127.63, 127.99, 128.25, 128.35 (10 × CH of Ph), 138.52, 138.89 $(2 \times C-1 \text{ of Ph}); MS m/z (+ve \text{ ion FAB}); 553 [(M + Na)^+, 40\%],$ 529(20), 499 [(M - CH₃O)⁺, 80%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 683 [(M + NBA)⁻, 100%]. Anal. (C₂₉H₃₈O₉) C, H.

(2'S)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-1,2-O-[(2'-hydroxy)propane-1',3'-diyl]-myo-inositol (19). To a solution of the alcohol 17 (530 mg, 1.00 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at room temperature was added 95% aqueous TFA (5 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. The solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexane 5:1) to give the triol **19** as a hygroscopic white foam (346 mg, 0.83 mmol, 83%): $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -3$ (c = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 2.96 (1 H, d, J = 10.7, OH-2'), 3.07 (1 H, br s, OH-4 or OH-5), 3.16 (1 H, br s, OH-4 or OH-5), 3.23-3.27 (2 H, m, H-3 and (H-1'a or H-3'a)], 3.43 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.3, 8.8, H-5), 3.59-3.64 (2 H, m, H-2' and H-6), 3.69 (1 H, dd, J = 8.8, 3.4, H-1), 3.77-3.81 [2 H, m, H-2 and (H-3'a or H-1'a)], 3.85-3.92 [2 H, m, H-4 and (H-3'b or H-1'b)], 4.04 (1 H, br d, J = 12.7, H-1'b or H-3'b), 4.62, 4.72 (2 H, AB_q , $J_{AB} = 11.7$, CH_2Ar), 4.78, 4.93 (2 H, AB_q, $J_{AB} = 11.2$, CH₂Ar), 7.25–7.39 (10 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl₃) 67.56 (C-1' or C-3'), 70.40, 71.15 (2 \times CH), 72.93 (OCH₂Ar), 73.86 (CH), 74.96, (OCH₂Ph), 77.55 (d, CH), 77.60 (C-1' or C-3'), 78.14, 78.74, 81.04 (3 × CH), 127.83, 128.02, 128.14, 128.25, 128.44, 128.62 (10 \times CH of Ph), 137.82 138.40 (2 \times C-1 of Ph); MS *m*/*z* (+ve ion FAB); 417 [(M + H)⁺, 15%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 569 [(M + NBA)⁻, 100%], 415 [(M - H)⁻, 60%]. Anal. (C₂₃H₂₈O₇•0.5H₂O) C, H.

(2'R)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-1,2-O-[(2'-hydroxy)propane-1',3'-diyl]-myo-inositol (20). The BDA group was removed from **18** as described for the epimer **17**. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate) gave the triol 20 as a hygroscopic white foam in 84% yield: $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -7$ (c = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 2.52 (1 H, d, J = 6.3 Hz, D₂O exch., OH-2'), 2.74 (1 H, br s, D₂O exch., OH-4 or OH-5), 2.80 (1 H, br s, D₂O exch., OH-4 or OH-5), 3.20 (1 H, dd, J = 9.8, 2.9, H-1 or H-3), 3.44 (1 H, dd, J = 12.6, 3.5, H-1'a or H-3'a) 3.45 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.2, 9.0, H-5), 3.66 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 6.4, H-3'a or H-1'a), 3.69 (1 H, dd, J = 9.9, 2.7, H-1or H-3), 3.82-3.89 (2 H, m, H-4 and H-6), 3.93 (1 H, br d, *J* = 12.7, H-3'b or H-1'b), 3.95-4.03 (1 H, m, C-2'-H), 4.08 (1 H, buried, H-2), 4.09 (1 H, dd, J = 12.6, 5.9, H-1'b or H-3'b), 4.63, 4.68 (2 H, AB_q , $J_{AB} = 11.7$, CH_2Ph), 4.79, 4.90 (2 H, AB_q , $J_{AB} = 11.2$, CH_2 -Ph), 7.26-7.41 (10 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl₃) 65.29 (C-1' or C-3'), 70.90, 71.41 (2 \times CH), 72.28 (OCH₂Ph), 74.41 (CH), 74.45, 76.37 (2 \times OCH₂), 77.24, 77.41, 77.73, 78.10 (4 \times CH), 127.75, 127.94, 128.07, 128.38, 128.57 (10 × CH of Ph), 137.61, 138.51 (2 × C-1 of Ph); MS m/z (+ve ion FAB); 838 [(2 M + H)⁺, 60%], 439 [(M + Na)⁺, 10%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 569 [(M + NBA)⁻, 100%], 415[(M - H)⁻, 50%]. Anal. (C23H28O7·0.5H2O) C, H.

(2'*R*)-1D-3,6-Di-*O*-benzyl-4,5-bis-*O*-[di(benzyloxy)phosphoryl]-1,2-*O*-{2'-[di(benzyloxy)phosphoryloxy]propane-1',3'-diyl}-*myo*-inositol (21). To a solution of bis(benzyloxy)diisopropylaminophosphine (870 mg, 2.52 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added 1*H*-tetrazole (350 mg, 5.00 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min, and then

the triol 19 (175 mg, 0.420 mmol, previously dried in vacuo at 30 °C) was added. After 1 h at room temperature, the mixture was cooled to -78 °C, *m*-CPBA (60%, 760 mg, 2.64 mmol) was added, and the cooling bath was removed. The mixture was allowed to reach room temperature and then diluted with CH2-Cl₂ (50 mL). The clear solution was washed with 10% Na₂-SO₃, saturated NaHCO₃, and brine (50 mL of each), dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (CHCl₃/acetone 3:1) afforded **21** (412 mg, 0.344 mmol, 82%) as a colorless oil which crystallized after a few days: mp 103-105 °C (from ethanol); $[\alpha]_{D^{19}} = -14$ (c = 1, CHČl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz CDCl₃) 3.31 (1 H, br d, J = 13.2, H-1'a or H-3'a), 3.50 (1 H, dd, J = 9.3, 2.5 Hz, H-3), 3.61-3.66 [2 H, m, H-2 and (H-3'a or H-1'a], 3.73 (1 H, dd, J = 9.2, 2.9 Hz, H-1), 3.94-4.02 [2 H, m, C-6-H and (H-3'b or H-1'b)], 4.07 (1 H, br d, J= 13.2, H-1'b or H-3'b), 4.37-4.42 (1 H, m, H-2'), 4.46-4.53 (2 H, m, H-5 and 0.5 AB system of CH₂Ph), 4.65-4.72 (3 H, m, 1.5 AB systems of CH₂Ph), 4.80–5.06 (13 H, m, 6 \times AB systems of CH₂Ph and H-4), 6.98-7.01 (2 H, m, Ph), 7.11-7.34 (38 H, m, Ph); 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 66.72 (broadened by J_{CP} coupling, C-1' or C-3'), 69.72-69.53 (overlapping signals with J_{CP} couplings, $6 \times POCH_2Ph$), 73.15, 74.07 ($2 \times OCH_2Ph$), 74.43 ($J_{CP} = 3.7$, C-1' or C-3'), 76.74 (CH), 76.85 (*J*_{CP} = 5.5, C-2'), 77.36 (CH), 77.63 (with poorly resolved $J_{\rm CP}$ couplings, CH), 78.44, 78.77 (2 × CH), 78.91 ($J_{\rm CP}$ = 7.4, 5.5, CH), 127.12-128.66 (40 × CH of Ph), 135.50-136.15 (6 \times C-1 of POCH₂*Ph* with J_{CP} couplings), 137.86, 138.68 (2 \times C-1 of Ph); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, ¹H-coupled, CDCl₃) -1.97 (1 P, apparent sextet, $J \sim$ 8), -1.65 (1 P, apparent sextet, $J \sim$ 8), -1.36 (1 P, apparent sextet, $J \sim 8$), MS m/z (+ve ion FAB); 1197 [(M + H)⁺, 90%], 91 [(C₇H₇)⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 1349 [(M + NBA)⁻, 70%], 1242(20), 1105(40), 277 $[(BnO)_2P(O)O^-, 100\%]$. Anal. $(C_{65}H_{67}O_{16}P_3)$ C, H.

(2'S)-1D-3,6-Di-O-benzyl-4,5-bis-O-[di(benzyloxy)phosphoryl]-1,2-O-{2'-[di(benzyloxy)phosphoryloxy]propane-1',3'-diyl}-myo-inositol (22). Triol 20 (175 mg, 0.420 mmol) was phosphorylated using the procedure described for 19. Purification by flash chromatography (CHCl₃/acetone 5:1) afforded **22** as a colorless oil (449 mg, 0.375 mmol, 89%): $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = -23 (c = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 3.24 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 5.9, H-1'a or H-3'a), 3.42 (1 H, dd, J = 9.8, 2.4 H-3), 3.58 (1 H, dd, J = 13.2, 7.3, H-3'a or H-1'a), 3.69 (1 H, dd, J = 9.3, 2.9, H-1), 3.80-3.84 [2 H, m, H-2 and (H-3'b or H-1'b)], 3.93 (1 H, t-like dd, J = 9.3, 9.3 H-6), 4.11 (1 H, dd, J = 12.7, 6.1, H-1'b or H-3'b), 4.42-4.53 (3 H, m, H-2', H-5 and 0.5 AB system of OCH₂Ph), 4.63 (1 H, d, J = 12.2, 0.5 AB system of OCH2Ph), 4.69-5.08 (15 H, m, AB systems of OCH2-Ph and C-4-H), 7.01-7.04 (2 H, m, Ph), 7.11-7.36 (38 H, m, Ph); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 65.40 (C-1' or C-3'), 69.13, 69.39, 69.55 (signals with J_{CP} couplings, $3 \times POCH_2Ph$), 72.73, 73.61 (2 × O CH_2 Ph), 73.85 (${}^{3}J_{CP}$ 5.5, C-1' or C-3'), 75.76 (J_{CP} = 5.6, C-2'), 76.41, 76.74, 77.25 (3 × CH), 77.38 (broadened by J_{CP} couplings CH), 77.61 (CH), 79.08 ($J_{CP} = 5.5, 5.5, CH$), 127.34 - 128.75 (40 × CH of Ph), 135.57, 135.97, 136.11 (6 × C-1 of POCH₂*Ph*, with J_{CP} couplings), 137.60, 138.42 (2 × C-1 of Ph); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, ¹H-decoupled, CDCl₃,) -1.65 (1 P), -1.79 (1 P), -2.01 (1 P) (overlapping sextets in ¹H-coupled spectrum); MS *m*/*z* (+ve ion FAB); 1197 [(M + H)⁺, 90%], 91 $[(C_7H_7)^+, 100\%];$ MS m/z (-ve ion FAB); 1349 $[(M + NBA)^-,$ 60%], 1242(30), 1105(50), 277 [(BnO)₂P(O)O⁻, 100%]. Anal. (C₆₅H₆₇O₁₆P₃) C, H.

(2'*R*)-1D-1,2-*O*-[(2'-Phosphoryloxy)propane-1',3'-diyl]*myo*-inositol 4,5-bisphosphate (9). To a solution of 21 (160 mg, 134 μ mol) in MeOH (40 mL) and water (10 mL) was added Pd-C (10%, 50% water, 400 mg). The mixture was shaken in a Parr hydrogenator under H₂ (50 psi) for 23 h. The catalyst was removed by filtration through a PTFE syringe filter, and 1.0 M triethylammonium bicarbonate buffer (TEAB, 1 mL) was added. The solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by ionexchange chromatography on Q-Sepharose Fast Flow resin eluting with a gradient of TEAB (0 to 1 M). The product eluted between 0.60 and 0.70 M TEAB. The combined fractions were concentrated by evaporation in vacuo, and MeOH was added and evaporated repeatedly, eventually leaving the pure triethylammonium salt of **9** as a colorless glass (121 μ mol, 90%): $[\alpha]_D^{21} = -28$ (c = 1, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 50 mM phosphate buffer in D₂O, pD 7.2) 3.76 (1 H, dd, J = 9.8, 3.5, H-1 or H-3), 3.77 (1 H, dd, J = 13.3, 3.1, H-1'a or H-3'a), 3.82 (1 H, dd, J = 9.4, 3.1 H-1 or H-3), 3.90-4.00 (2 H, m, H-5 and H-6), 4.04-4.17 [5 H, m, H-2, H-4, (H₂-3'b or H₂-1'b) and (H-1'b or H-3'b)], 4.27-4.33 (1 H, m, ³J_{HP} 9.8, H-2'); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, ¹H-coupled, D₂O) -0.29 (1 P, d, ³J_{HP} 9.4, P-2'), 0.44 (2 P, br m, P-4 and P-5); MS *m*/*z* (+ve ion FAB) 102 [Et₃NH⁺, 100%]; MS *m*/*z* (-ve ion FAB) 475 [M⁻, 100%]. Accurate FAB⁻ calcd for C₉H₁₈O₁₆P₃⁻: 474.9808. Found: 474.9814.

(2'S)-1D-1,2-O-[(2'-Phosphoryloxy)propane-1',3'-diyl]myo-inositol 4,5-bisphosphate (10). Compound 22 (150 mg, 125 μ mol) was deprotected as described for the epimer 22. Purification by ion-exchange chromatography as before gave the triethylammonium salt of **10** as a colorless glass (111 μ mol, 89%): $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = -24$ (c = 1.3, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 50 mM phosphate buffer in D_2O , pD 7.2) 3.53 (1 H, dd, J = 12.5, 6.2, \hat{H} -3'a), 3.75 (1 H, dd, $J = \hat{9}.8$, 3.1 Hz, H-3), 3.81 (1 H, dd, J = 9.8, 2.7 H-1), 3.91 (1 H, dd, J = 13.3, 7.0, H-1'a), 3.92-4.05 (2 H, m, H-5 and H-6), 4.10 (1 H, dd, *J* = 13.3, 2.0, H-1'b), 4.14 (1 H, q-like ddd, *J* ~ 9, H-4), 4.19 (1 H, t-like dd, *J* = 3.1, 2.7, H-2), 4.31 (1 H, dd, J = 12.5, 6.6, H-3'b), 4.35-4.43 (1 H, m H-2'); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, ¹H-coupled, D₂O) -0.37 (1 P, d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HP}}$ 9.5, P-2′), 0.47 (2 P, br m, P-4 and P-5); MS *m*/*z* (+ve ion FAB) 102 [Et₃NH⁺, 100%]; MS m/z (-ve ion FAB, relative intensity); 950.5 (90), 474.9 [M⁻, 100%]. Accurate FAB⁻ calcd for $C_9H_{18}O_{16}P_3$ ⁻: 474.9808. Found: 474.9823.

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Supporting Information Available: NOESY spectrum of **10** and X-ray structural data for **18**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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