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The Synthesis of 1,5-Dideoxy-1,5-(Alkyl)imino-2-C-Methyl-D-Glucitols

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Abstract: The regio- and stereoselective synthesis of the title compounds **3** and **4** has been accomplished starting with deoxynojirimycin. The factors affecting the stereochemical outcome of Grignard addition to the key carbonyl intermediate are discussed.

Polyhydroxylated piperidines, pyrrolidines and octahydroindolizines such as castanospermine (1) and *N*-butyl-deoxynojirimycin (2) are α -glycosidase inhibitors and potentially useful antiviral agents.^{1,2} The role of OH groups in deoxynojirimycin (DNJ) as H- acceptors or donors to the active site of enzyme has been studied by their substitution with groups such as OMe , F, H or NHR.¹⁻⁴ This paper describes the regio- and stereoselective synthesis of deoxynojirimycin analogs 1,5-dideoxy-1,5-(alkyl)imino-2-C-methyl-D-glucitol (3 and 4) starting from deoxynojirimycin (Scheme 1). The targeted compounds in this communication retain the H-binding ability of OH group at C-2 while imparting potential stability to oxidative metabolism



The synthesis of the protected diol **6** has been reported previously from these laboratories.^{3,4} The selective protection of the C-3 hydroxyl in **6** was achieved by preferential *O*-acylation of the C-2 hydroxyl group followed by *O*-alkylation at C-3 (Scheme I). The selective benzoylation of the C-2 hydroxyl in **6** using stannylene chemistry (Bu₂SnO, NEt₃, PhCOCI, 25^oC, 24 h, 68%)¹⁰ or by treating a suspension of **6** and potassium carbonate in methylene chloride with tetrabutylammonium iodide and benzoyl chloride (25^oC, 26 h, 65%) gave **7**. The ether formation (**8 - 11**) was achieved easily (isolated yield >90%) by treating **7** with excess alkylating agent (6 molar eqvt) and Hunig's base (6 molar eqvt). The compounds **8** and **9** were synthesized from **7** using MEM-Cl and SEM-Cl respectively, whereas compound **10** was synthesized using *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate. The ester hydrolysis of **8** and **9** (Bu₄N⁺OH⁻, aq. dioxane, 25^oC) gave **12** and **13** in isolated yields of 93 and 91%, respectively. Depending upon the conditions used, the base hydrolysis of **10** also yielded varying amounts of the silicon scrambled product **16**. The oxidations of **12** - **15** to the key carbonyl derivatives **17 - 20** were achieved by using Swern conditions (DMSO - TFAA, -70^o to -30^oC in 3 h and at -30^oC for 1 h, NEt₃ at -70^oC for 1 h and 25^oC for 1 h) in yields ranging from 76 - 97%.





Studies on the addition of organometallic reagents to the 2-keto derivatives (17 - 20). The reaction of 17 with the Grignard reagent (MeMgBr, 3 molar eqvt, -70 to -30°C in 2 h and -30°C for 5 h) gave 21A and 21B in a combined yield of 64% (21A/21B = 33/67).⁵ The absolute stereochemistry of the addition products 21A and 21B at C-2 was established in an unambiguous manner using COSY, NOESY and H,H-decoupling NMR experiments.⁷

The studies on the reaction of methylmagnesium bromide with differently protected C-3 hydroxyl derivatives (Table 1) indicate that the stereochemical outcome of addition is greatly influenced by the substituent at C-3. The bulkier *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl group at C-3 in **19** sterically forces the incoming nucleophile to attack the carbonyl from the oppposite face, yielding the *manno*- derivative **22B** predominantly. It is hypothesized that with SEM-protected derivative **18**, the chelation of Grignard reagent to the oxygens at C-2 and C-3 predominates (Fig 1) and favors the addition of nucleophile, possibly by a second mole of Grignard reagent, from axial position¹¹. In case of the MEM-protected derivative **17**, the presence of an additional heteroatom may disturb the chelation hypothesized in Fig 1 yielding the coordination-stabilized organometallic (Fig 2). The loss of chelation control in the vicinity of reaction site may explain the lower stereoselectivity observed in this reaction. The excellent stereoselectivity observed with the 3-methoxy compound **20** further supports the hypothesis advocated in Fig 1.





Table 1: Nucleophilic Addition to 2-Keto Derivatives

Synthesis of 2-methyl carbinol derivative by opening of epoxide from olefin 28. The predominant formation of *manno*- analogs (22B and 23B) during Grignard addition to 19 prompted us to investigate the epoxidation and reduction of olefin 28 (Scheme II). The reaction of 19 with Me₃SiCH₂Li using modified Peterson's reaction (Me₃SiCH₂Li, CeCl₃, -78^o - 0^oC) gave 23B in 43% yield, mainly as a single isomer. Stirring of 23B with tetrabutylammonium fluoride (3 molar eqvt., 25^oC, 18 h) caused selective deprotection of the silvl ether to 26 (85%, isolated) and further reaction of 26 with tetrabutylammonium fluoride at reflux gave the olefin 27 (65%). Reprotection of the C-3 hydroxyl in 27 using *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate gave 28 in 95% yield. Epoxidation of 28 with 3-chloroperoxybenzoic acid gave a mixture of two isomers (29 and 30, 76: 24) in a combined yield of 75%. No attempts were made to assign the stereochemistry of epoxides 29 and 30 and the major isomer 29 was reduced with lithium aluminum hydride (4 molar eqvt, THF, reflux, 4 h) to give 31 in 21% yield.⁹ These results, which indicate that epoxidation of olefin 28 takes place from the same face as the *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl group at C-3 are unexpected and may involve hydrogen bonding of the peracid to the C-3 silvl ether. The differences in the geometries of the nucleophilic addition to the carbonyl 19 vs the electrophilic addition to the olefin 28 may also explain the variability in the diastereofacial selectivity of the two reactions.





The *gluco*- analog **24A**, obtained in a highly regio- and stereoselective fashion, was deprotected to provide target compounds **3** and **4**. The SEM group in **24A** was removed under modified conditions developed by Lipschutz and co-workers.⁸ The THF solution of **24A** was stirred with tetrabutylammonium fluoride for 30 min, the solvent removed and heated in DMPU at 80°C for 14 h to give **32** in 73% yield. The hydrogenolysis (10% Pd on C, 60 psi, 25°C, 1 h) of **32** gave the *N*-deprotected derivative **33** in 84% yield. Finally, removal of the benzylidine in **33** was accomplished using either transfer hydrogenation (20% Pd on C, cyclohexene, reflux, 73%) or sodium and ammonia reduction (45%). The *N*-butyl analog (4) was easily synthesized from **3** using a reductive amination procedure (PrCHO, 5% Pd on C, 5psi, 25°C, 70 h, 84%). The anti-viral activity of these and other n-butyl deoxynojirimycin analogs will be reported elsewhere.

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