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## *trans*-Acetonide Controlled *endo*-Selective Intramolecular Nitrone–Alkene Cycloaddition of Hept-6-enoses: A Facile Entry to Calystegines, Tropanes, and Hydroxylated Aminocycloheptanes

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ABSTRACT



High-yielding *endo*-selective intramolecular nitrone–alkene cycloaddition (INAC) reactions of hept-6-enoses controlled by a *trans*-acetonide to give bridged bicyclo[4.2.1]isoxazolidines exclusively are realized for the first time. The cycloadducts were readily transformed into calystegine, tropane, and hydroxylated aminocycloheptane frameworks.

Intramolecular nitrone–alkene cycloaddition (INAC) is a versatile and important synthetic method for the preparation of polyhydroxylated carbocycles from sugars.<sup>1</sup> The *exo* or the *endo* mode of INAC cyclization leads to a fused or a bridged isoxazolidine, respectively (Scheme 1).<sup>2</sup>

There are only two examples<sup>3</sup> of the formation of a bridged bicyclo[4.2.1] system, i.e., a cycloheptane skeleton from branched sugars, but many examples<sup>1</sup> of unbranched hept-6-enose derivatives give a fused bicyclo[4.3.0] system, i.e., a cyclohexane skeleton. However, the regio- and diastereoselectivity of these INAC reactions have not been rationalized.

The bridged bicyclo[4.2.1]isoxazolidine 1 is a versatile synthetic intermediate because, upon hydrogenolysis of the N–O bond, it provides the skeleton of aminocycloheptanol



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2, proven to be a new class of glycosidase inhibitor.<sup>4</sup> Synthetic manipulation of 2 could lead to alkaloid tropane  $3^5$  and calystegine  $4^6$  that exhibits specific glycosidase inhibition<sup>7</sup> (Scheme 2). Optically active tropanes are still in



demand for neuroscience research<sup>8</sup> and the chemotherapeutic use of glycosidase inhibitors as antitumor, antiviral, and antidiabetic agents has been recognized.<sup>9</sup> Thus stereocontrolled *endo*-selective INAC reactions of hept-6-enoses to give bridged bicyclo[4.2.1]isoxazolidines are highly desirable. The present letter reports the use of *trans*-acetonide to effect such regioselectivity for the first time and the facile conversion of the cycloadducts into two calystegines **18** and **20**, one tropane **22**, and one hydroxylated aminocycloheptane **24**.

Recently, we reported<sup>10</sup> that *exo*-INAC cyclization was the preferred pathway for hept-6-enoses containing a cisacetonide to give fused isoxazolidine exclusively whereas hept-6-enoses with a 2,3-O-trans-diacetal gave a mixture of fused (cyclohexane) and bridged (cycloheptane) isoxazolidines. We reasoned that a more rigid diol blocking group such as a trans-acetonide would favor the endo mode of cyclization. Computational studies of INAC of debenzyl D-lyxo-hept-6-enose 6 containing a 3,4-trans-acetonide show that the endo-TS 5a (leading to a cycloheptane) is about 4.2 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> more stable than *exo*-TS **5b** (leading to a cisfused cyclohexane).<sup>11</sup> To our delight, treatment of 6, readily available from D-ribose (vide infra), with N-methylhydroxylamine in acetonitrile indeed afforded exclusively bridged bicyclo[4.2.1]isoxazolidine 7 in excellent yield (Table 1). The INAC should proceed through a chairlike TS with the 3,4-trans-diequatorial acetonide. We believed that efficient overlap of bonding orbitals could only be feasible with cycloheptane-endo-TS 5a that experiences less torsional

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Table 1. endo-Selective INAC Reactions of Hept-6-enoses



<sup>*a*</sup> For experimental details and X-ray crystallographic structures, see the Supporting Information. <sup>*b*</sup> With *N*-methylhydroxylamine. <sup>*c*</sup> With *N*-benzyl-hydroxylamine. <sup>*d*</sup> Not charaterized. <sup>*e*</sup> Overall isolated yield from the corresponding diol or alcohol.

strain than cyclohexane-*exo*-TS **5b**, leading to exclusive formation of **7**. Furthermore, INAC of D-*xylo*-**8**, L-*gluc*o-



**11**, and D-*ido*-**14** hept-6-enoses all gave cycloheptanes exclusively in excellent yields (Table 1). The stereochemistry of the only or major heterocycle appears to be controlled by the OR group at C-2. The new C–N bond is anti to the axial OR-2 (entry 1) and syn to the equatorial OR-2 (entries 2-4).

With [4.2.1] isoxazolidines readily in hand, transformation into the target molecules is straightforward (Scheme 3). For example, deacetonation of 7 gave diol 16 that underwent regioselective oxidation to give ketone 17. Hydrogenolysis of the N–O bond and the benzylic C–O bond in 17 produced a calystegine B analogue 18. Debenzoylation of 12 or 15 followed by oxidation afforded ketone 19 that yielded (S)-3-hydroxycalystegine B<sub>5</sub> 20 upon deprotection. Toward tropane synthesis, cycloadduct 13 was debenzoylated and then mesylated to give mesylate 21. Sequential acid

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hydrolysis, N–O bond cleavage with concomitant nucleophilic displacement, and debenzylation of **21** produced tropane **22**. Synthesis of a hydroxylated aminocycloheptane is also shown in Scheme 3 in which **13** was debenzoylated to alcohol **23** that was hydrolyzed and then hydrogenolyzed to give **24**.

Preparation of INAC precursors is shown in Scheme 4. Indium mediated aqueous allylation<sup>12</sup> of D-ribose and Darabinose gave alkenes **25** and **27** which were readily converted into aldehydes **6** and **8**, respectively. Acetonation of D-xylose afforded aldehyde **29**,<sup>13</sup> which immediately underwent vinylation to give epimeric alcohols **30** and **31** in 28% and 18% respective overall yields. Both alcohols **30** and **31** were transformed readily into aldehydes **11** or **14**, respectively.

In conclusion, high-yielding and exclusive *endo*-INAC reactions of hept-6-enoses controlled by a *trans*-acetonide

to give bridged bicyclo[4.2.1]isoxazolidines are realized for the first time. This opens a facile synthetic avenue to optically active calystegines, tropanes, and hydroxylated aminocycloheptanes for biological evaluation.

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**Supporting Information Available:** Additional information, experimental procedures, and product characterization. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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