# 58. Glycosylidene Carbenes

Part 3

### Synthesis of Spirocyclopropanes<sup>1</sup>)

## by Andrea Vasella\* and Christian A. A. Waldraff

Organisch-chemisches Institut, Universität Zürich, Winterthurerstrasse 190, CH-8057 Zürich

### (22.11.91)

Thermolysis of the glycosylidene-derived O-benzylated diazirine 1 in the presence of N-phenylmaleimide (2), acrylonitrile (3), dimethyl fumarate (4), or dimethyl maleate (5) led in good yields to mixtures of the spirocyclopropanes 6/7, 8-11, 12/13, and 12/13/16/17. The diastereoselectivity depends upon the alkene. The cycloaddition of 1 to 5 is not diastereospecific, in keeping with previous results. Deprotection of 12, 13, 16, and 17 yielded the tetrols 14, 15, 18, and 19, respectively.

**1.** Introduction. – Glycosylidene-derived diazirines (1-aziglycoses) such as **1** [1] are precursors of glycosylidene carbenes [2] which form glycosides by insertion into O–H bonds of phenols and alcohols [3] [4]. Glycosylidene carbenes are expected to be ambiphilic/nucleophilic [5] and to form spirocyclopropanes by cycloaddition to acceptor substituted alkenes [6]. *Descotes* and coworkers have indeed shown that photolysis of O-acylated 1,1-diazides in the presence of acrylonitrile leads to a mixture of diastereoisomeric spirocyclopropanes [7]. The scope of this method appears to be restricted to O-acylated diazides and to alkenes which are resistant to the conditions of photolysis. The restriction to acylated diazides is presumably due to a stepwise formation of carbenes via azidonitrenes, which lead to side reactions with O-benzylated diazides [8]. We have examined the reaction of the benzyl-protected aziglucose **1** with N-phenylmaleimide (**2**), acrylonitrile (**3**), dimethyl fumarate (**4**), and dimethyl maleate (**5**)<sup>2</sup>.

**Results and Discussion.** – 2.1. Addition of 1 to N-Phenylmaleimide (2; see Scheme 1). Treatment of the diazirine 1 with excess N-phenylmaleimide (2) in 1,4-dioxane at room temperature for 12 h yielded the two cyclopropanes 6 and 7 (80%) in a ratio of 9:1. The diastereoselectivity leading to the preferred formation of 6 is probably due to an unfavourable steric interaction in the transition state of the rate-determining step between the C(1) and C(5) substituents and the BnO group at C(3').

Both 6 and 7 are pyrrolidine-2,5-diones, as evidenced by the typical C=O absorption at 1775 and 1710 cm<sup>-1</sup> in their IR spectra and by the C=O s's between 171.33 and 170.11 ppm in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra. In the IR spectra, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) Presented at the 'XVIth International Carbohydrate Symposium', Yokohama, Japan, 12th-17th August 1990, Abstr. PL-05.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>) Pyranoses with a spirocyclopropane unit at C(2) [9], C(4) [10], or C(5) [11] have been prepared before, also known is a furanose with a spirocyclopropane unit at C(4) [11]. Monosaccharides with annulated cyclopropyl groups are also known [11–15].



characteristic cyclopropane C–H bands are detected at 3030 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra show the cyclopropane protons as *d*'s between 2.69 and 3.04 ppm with <sup>3</sup>J(1,5) of 5.8 and 6.7 Hz, in agreement with known values for similar compounds [16]. In the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra, the cyclopropane C-atoms resonate between 32.68 and 29.36 ppm and the spiro C-atoms at 73.79 (6) and 73.67 ppm (7). The configuration of the minor product 7 was assigned on the basis of a NOE of H–C(6') on irradiation at H–C(5). The assignment is supported by a comparison of  $\delta$ (H–C(3')) and  $\delta$ (H–C(4')) of 6 and 7 (4.02 and 3.84 ppm for 6; 4.17 and 4.01 ppm for 7) showing the deshielding effect on H–C(3') and H–C(4') of 7 by the *cis*-oriented imide function. The conformation of the tetrahydropyran ring is not significantly affected by the spiro-annelation.

2.2. Addition of 1 to Acrylonitrile (3; see Scheme 2). The diazirine 1 reacted in excess 3 (room temperature, 12 h) to give a mixture of the four isomeric cyclopropanes 8, 9, 10, and 11 (70%, 9:5.5:2:1). In the two major products (58%), the CN group is located below the average plane of the tetrahydropyran ring and, in the major product 8, away from BnO-C(8). In the minor product 10 and 11, the CN group is located above the average plane of the tetrahydropyran ring and, in the more abundant 10, in the neighbourhood of BnO-C(8).



a) R.t., 12 h, 36% 8, 22% 9, 8% 10, 4% 11.

The CN function in 8–11 gives rise to a typical band at  $2250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectra and to s's in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra resonating between 118.96 and 117.94 ppm. The cyclopropane ring is evidenced by the IR band between 3030 and 3010 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra, 8, 10, and 11 show three typical signals for the cyclopropane protons

between 1.88 and 1.13 ppm; the coupling constants are 10.6 or 9.9 Hz for  ${}^{3}J_{cis}$ , 7.2 or 6.4 Hz for  ${}^{3}J_{trans}$ , and 6.2–5.5 Hz for  ${}^{2}J$ . Similar values for coupling constants in a cyclopropane ring have been reported [17]. In the  ${}^{13}$ C-NMR spectra, the cyclopropane C-atoms give rise to signals between 16.30 and 14.78 ppm for C(2) and between 8.12 and 4.65 ppm for C(1). The spiro C-atoms resonate between 65.28 and 63.11 ppm.

The configurations were mainly assigned on the basis of NOE experiments. Compound **8** shows NOE's between H--C(7) and H--C(1), and between H--C(8) and H<sub>pro-S</sub>--C(2). Both H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-S</sub>--C(2) show a <sup>3</sup>J<sub>cis</sub> of 9.9 Hz and a NOE between each other. The deshielding effect of the CN group on H--C(5) ( $\delta = 3.78$  ppm, as compared to 3.51, 3.43, and 3.52 ppm for **9**, **10**, and **11**, respectively) supports this assignment. The cyclopropane **10** shows NOE's between H--C(5) and H<sub>pro-S</sub>--C(2) and between H--C(7) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) evidencing that the CN group is attached to the cyclopropane C-atoms located above the average plane of the tetrahydropyran ring. The orientation of the CN group is deduced from <sup>3</sup>J<sub>cis</sub> = 10.6 Hz, as observed in the signals of H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-S</sub>--C(2), and between H--C(5) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2), and between H--C(5) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2). In this isomer, one finds <sup>3</sup>J<sub>cis</sub> for H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) and also a NOE between H--C(7) and NOE between H--C(7) and NOE between H--C(7) and So a NOE between H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) and also a NOE between H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) and also a NOE between H--C(5) and H<sub>pro-S</sub>--C(2). In this isomer, one finds <sup>3</sup>J<sub>cis</sub> for H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) and also a NOE between H--C(7) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2) and also a NOE between H--C(1) and H<sub>pro-R</sub>--C(2). The signal of H--C(7) is shifted to lower fields ( $\delta = 3.98$  ppm, as compared to 3.70, 3.75, and 3.67 ppm for **8**, **10**, and **11**, respectively).

2.3. Addition of 1 to Dimethyl Fumarate (4) and to Dimethyl Maleate (5; see Scheme 3). Some cases of non-stereospecific cycloadditions of ambiphilic carbenes to electrophilic alkenes have been reported [18]. Glycosylidene carbenes are less reactive towards MeOH than methoxymethyl carbene [2], and this presumably on account of the BnO groups.



*a*) 1,4-Dioxane, r.t., 12 h, 43% **12**, 29% **13**. *b*) 1.5 bar H<sub>2</sub>, Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C, MeOH, r.t., 45 min, quant. c) 1,4-Dioxane, r.t., 12 h, 20% **16**, 17% **12**, 12% **13**, 11% **17**. *d*) With mixture of **12/13/16/17**, 4 h (2 bar), 10 h (1.2 bar) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C, MeOH, r.t.; 98% **14/15/18/19**.

These electron-withdrawing substituents are expected to lower the nucleophilic properties of the carbene and to decrease the stability of the zwitterionic intermediate in a non-concerted cycloaddition (cf. [19] [20]) by interacting with the oxycarbenium center. This could lead to a stereospecific addition to acceptor-substituted alkenes. We examined this question by exposing 1 to dimethyl fumarate (4) and to dimethyl maleate  $(5)^3$ ).

The reaction of 1 with excess 4 in 1,4-dioxane at room temperature for 12 h gave two crystalline cyclopropanes 12 and 13 (72%) in a ratio of 3:2 which were separated by HPLC<sup>4</sup>). The analogous reaction with 5<sup>5</sup>) provided the four cyclopropanes 16/12/13/17 (60%; 1.8:1.5:1.1:1). HPLC gave pure 16 and a mixture of the other three compounds. The *cis*-configuration of the cyclopropane protons of 16 and 17 were assigned on the basis of large vicinal coupling constants (> 10 Hz).

To obtain the unprotected cyclopropanes, each of the benzyl ethers 12, 13, and 16 was hydrogenated in MeOH at room temperature for 45 min in the presence of  $Pd(OH)_2/C$  at 1.5 bar H<sub>2</sub> pressure to give, in quantitative yield, the tetrols 14, 15, and 18, respectively (*Scheme 3*), which were purified by flash chromatography. To assign the configuration of 19 and hence of 17, the mixture 12/13/16/17 obtained from the addition to dimethyl maleate (5) was hydrogenated under similar conditions to give the cyclopropanes 14/15/18/19. The desired compound 19 was isolated by flash chromatography.

The presence of the COOMe groups in the cyclopropanes 12–19 is readily detected in the IR, <sup>1</sup>H-, and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra. The constitution of 12, 13, and 16, the constitutional changes in the formation of 14, 15, 18, and 19, and particularly the presence of the cyclopropane ring are evident from the IR and NMR spectra. The cyclopropane protons of 12, 13, 14, and 15 give rise to d's between 3.26 and 2.55 ppm with  ${}^{3}J(1,2) = 7.7$  Hz, in keeping with a *trans*-configuration. The compounds 16, 18, and 19 show d's between 2.53 and 2.43 ppm with a  ${}^{3}J(1,2)$  of 10.4 to 11.6 Hz, typical for *cis*-configurated cyclopropane protons<sup>6</sup>). This assignment is confirmed by NOE's between these protons (absent in the *trans*-configurated cyclopropanes). The orientation of the COOMe groups was determined by NOE's between H–C(8) and H–C(1) and between H–C(5) and H–C(2) of 12 and 14. The cyclopropanes 13 and 15 show a NOE between H–C(7) and H–C(2). The same NOE was observed for 16 and 18. A NOE between H–C(8) and H–C(7) of 12 ( $\delta = 4.21$  ppm; for 13 and 16, 3.36 and 3.73 ppm, respectively) and of 14 and 19 ( $\delta = 3.60$  ppm, as compared to 3.36 and 3.32 ppm of 15 and 18, respectively) support the assignments, and so does the downfield shift of H–C(8) of 19 ( $\delta = 4.05$  ppm, in comparison with 3.82, 3.79, and 3.67 ppm of 15, 16, and 18, respectively) and of H–C(5) of 16 ( $\delta = 4.14$  ppm, as compared to 3.80 and 3.57 ppm for 12 and 13, respectively).

The MS of 14, 15, 18, and 19 show a peak at m/z 275, corresponding to  $[M + 1 - MeOH]^+$ , but  $M^+$  was only found in the MS of 15 and 18. The greater ease with which 14 and 19 lose MeOH may be rationalized by a facile lactonization involving OH-C(8). This constitutes an additional, albeit weak evidence for the proposed configurations and hints at a way to differentiate the ester functions in 14 and 19.

Thus, O-benzyl-protected glycosylidene-derived diazirines form spiro[cyclopropanetetrahydropyrans] under very mild thermal conditions. While the addition to N-phenylmaleimide (2) shows a satisfactory degree of diastereoselectivity, this is not so for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>) Conceivably, the diazirine 1 may undergo isomerization to a diazo compound [3]. A 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition [22] of this diazo compound to 4 and to 5 could form 4,5-dihydro-3*H*-pyrazoles [23], which might yield cyclopropanes by extrusion of N<sub>2</sub>. Both cases are known, *i.e.* reactions, where 4,5-dihydro-3*H*-pyrazoles were isolated or observed [12b] [16a] [23] and reactions, where these intermediates evaded detection [25]. We found no evidence for the formation of diazo ethers or 4,5-dihydro-3*H*-pyrazoles in the reactions of 1 with 2, 3, 4, or 5 (but *cf.* [4]).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>) Both photolysis (-15°, *HPK125 Philips* high-pressure Hg lamp with a *Solidex* filter) and thermal decomposition (room temperature) of 1 in the presence of 4 in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> yielded 12 and 13 in a ratio of 2.5:1, besides several by-products, in markedly lower yields as compared to the thermal reaction in 1,4-dioxane.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>) The dimethyl maleate (5) contained less than 1% of dimethyl fumarate (4; GLC: SE-25, 80°).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>) The cyclopropane protons of 17 (spectrum of a mixture 12/13/17 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>) appear as two d's at 2.47 and 2.34 ppm with  ${}^{3}J(1,2) = 11.1$  Hz.

additions to the other alkenes we examined. It remains to be seen if this lack of selectivity is restricted to glycosylidene-derived diazirines with an equatorial substituent at C(2).

We thank the Swiss National Science Foundation and F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG, Basel, for generous support.

#### **Experimental Part**

General. See [2]. Solvents and liquid reagents were destilled, solid reagents were recrystallized; 1,4-dioxane was dried over Na and MeOH over Mg, both were kept under N<sub>2</sub>. Powdered 4-Å molecular sieves (*Union Carbide*) were activated for 6 h at 280° and kept under N<sub>2</sub>. Qual. TLC: detection by treating with a soln. of 5% (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>6</sub>Mo<sub>7</sub>O<sub>24</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.1% Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O in 10% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> or with a soln. of 5% vanillin in conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

Cyclopropanation of 1 with N-Phenylmaleimide (2). Under N<sub>2</sub>, a soln. of 471 mg (2.7 mmol) of 2 in 1 ml of 1,4-dioxane was stirred in the presence of 0.1 g of 4-Å molecular sieves for 30 min at r.t. Then, 150 mg (0.27 mmol) of 1 were added quickly, the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 12 h, diluted with 5 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through Celite. The Celite was washed several times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined filtrates were evaporated. FC (hexane/AcOEt 9:1) of the residue gave 137 mg (72%) of 6 and 15 mg (8%) of 7.

 $(1 \text{ R}, 3' \text{ R}, 4' \text{ S}, 5 \text{ S}, 5' \text{ R}, 6' \text{ R}) - 3', 4', 5' - Tris(benzyloxy) - 6' - [(benzyloxy)methyl] - 3', 4', 5', 6' - tetrahydro - 3 - phenyl-spiro[3-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-6, 2' - [2H]pyran] - 2, 4-dione (6): Rf (hexane/AcOEt 1:1) 0.82. [<math>\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +67.8 (c = 1.05, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3030w, 3010w, 2910w, 2870w, 1775w, 1710s, 1600w, 1495w, 1450w, 1385m, 1360m (sh), 1175m (sh), 1145m, 1120m, 1085s, 1025m, 1005m (sh), 690m. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.37-7.16 (m, 25 arom. H); 4.93 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.92 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.87 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.86 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.61 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.87 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.86 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.61 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.46 (s, PhCH<sub>2</sub>); 4.02 (m, H-C(3')); 3.84 (m, H-C(5'), H-C(4')); 3.66-3.60 (m, H-C(6')); 3.48 (m, CH-C(6')); 3.04 (d, J = 5.8, H-C(5 or 1)); irrad. at 2.81: NOE (weak)); 2.81 (d, J = 5.8, H-C(1 or 5); irrad. at 3.04: NOE (weak)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 71.13 (s, C=0); 170.92 (s, C=0); 138.07 (s); 137.92 (s); 137.63 (s); 137.16 (s); 131.84 (s); 129.11-126.70 (m); 29.36 (d), CI-MS: 698 (15), 697 (51), 696 (100, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 604 (10), 516 (12), 498 (11), 480 (19), 181 (13), 107 (16), 91 (30). Anal. calc. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> (695.82): C 75.95, H 5.94, N 2.01; found: C 76.05, H 6.04, N 2.19.

 $(15,3' \text{R},4' \text{S},5 \text{R},5' \text{R},6' \text{R}) - 3',4',5' - Tris(benzyloxy) - 6' - [(benzyloxy)methyl] - 3',4',5',6' - tetrahydro - 3 - phenyl-spiro[3-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-6,2' - [2H]pyran] - 2,4-dione (7): R<sub>f</sub> (hexane/AcOEt 1:1) 0.70. [<math>\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +3.0 (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3030w, 3010w, 2920w, 2860w, 1775w, 1710s, 1600w, 1490w, 1450w, 1380m, 1360m (sh), 1170m, 1130m (sh), 1100s (sh), 1085s, 1060m (sh), 1025m, 690m. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.38-7.28 (m, 13 arom. H); 7.26-7.10 (m, 6 arom. H); 7.04-6.97 (m, 6 arom. H); 4.88 (d, J = 11.5, PhCH); 4.85 (d, J = 11.6, PhCH); 4.80 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.64 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.59 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.52 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.51 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.17 (d, J = 8.5, H-C(3')); 4.01 (t, J = 8.3, H-C(4')); 3.89 (d, J = 8.3, 9.4, H-C(5')); 3.72 (m, H-C(6'); irrad. at 2.69: NOE (weak)); 3.69 (m, CH-C(6')); 3.01 (d, J = 6.7, H-C(1); irrad. at 2.69: NOE (weak)); 3.69 (m, CH-C(5')); 3.71 (m; R4.52 (d); 170.11 (s, C=O); 170.07 (s, C=O); 137.94 (s); 137.85 (s); 137.69 (s); 135.89 (s); 131.60 (s); 132.08 (d); 30.83 (d). CI-MS: 696 (2, (H + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 181 (5), 147 (4), 108 (8), 107 (37), 105 (6), 92 (16), 91 (100). Anal. calc. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> (695.82): C 75.95, H 5.94, N 2.01; found: C 75.67, H 6.07, N 2.12.

Cyclopropanation of 1 with Acrylonitrile (3). Under N<sub>2</sub>, 3 ml (78.5 mmol) of 3 were stirred in the presence of 0.5 g 4-Å molecular sieves for 30 min at r.t. Then, 690 mg (1.25 mmol) of 1 were added quickly, the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 12 h, diluted with 5 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through *Celite*. The *Celite* was washed several times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined filtrates were evaporated. FC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1) of the residue yielded 506 mg (70%) of a mixture of products, which, upon a second FC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 10:1 $\rightarrow$ 4:1), gave 8 (36%), 9 (22%), 10 (8%), and 11 (4%) as colourless oils.

(1 R, 3 R, 5 R, 6 R, 7 S, 8 R)-6,7,8-Tris (benzyloxy)-5-[ (benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5] octane-1-carbonitrile (8):  $R_{\text{f}}$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.86. [x]<sub>D</sub><sup>55</sup> = +108.7 (c = 2.4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3120w, 3100w, 3070w, 3040w, 3010w, 2920w, 2880w, 2800w, 2250m, 1500w, 1455m, 1365m, 1265m, 1250-1200w (br.), 1150m (sh), 1130m (sh), 1090s, 1060s (sh), 1030s, 1010m (sh), 990m (sh), 870w, 810w, 715m (sh), 700s, 665m. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.36-7.26 (m, 16 arom. H); 7.20-7.14 (m, 4 arom. H); 4.92 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.85 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.85 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.68 (d, J = 12.1, PhCH); 4.59 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.53 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.47 (d, J = 12.1, PhCH); 3.93 (t, J = 9.4, H-C(6)); 3.91 (d, J = 9.1, H-C(8); irrad. at 1.29: NOE (weak)); 3.84 (dd, dd) = 12.1, PhCH); 3.93 (t, J = 9.4, H-C(6)); 3.91 (d, J = 9.1, H-C(8); irrad. at 1.29: NOE (weak)); 3.84 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.85 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.84 (dd) = 1.21 PhCH); 4.84 (dd) = 9.4, H-C(6)); 3.91 (dd) = 9.4, H-C(8); irrad. at 1.29: NOE (weak)); 3.84 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.85 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.84 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.85 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.84 (dd) = 10.8 PhCH); 4.85 (d  $J = 2.5, 10.8, CH-C(5)); 3.78 (td, J = 2.2, 9.8, H-C(5)); 3.73 (dd, J = 2.0, 10.8, CH-C(5)); 3.70 (t, J = 9.1, H-C(7); irrad. at 1.79: NOE (weak)); 1.79 (dd, J = 6.4, 9.9, H-C(1); irrad. at 1.29: NOE (weak)); 1.48 (t, J = 6.4, H_{pro-R}-C(2); irrad. at 1.29: NOE (strong)); 1.29 (dd, J = 6.2, 9.9, H_{pro-S}-C(2); irrad. at 1.79: NOE (strong), irrad. at 1.48: NOE (weak)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50, MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 138.16 (s); 137.96 (s); 137.64 (s); 137.18 (s); 128.52-127.64 (m); 118.96 (s, CN); 86.34 (d); 77.78 (d); 77.38 (d); 76.10 (d); 75.69 (t); 75.37 (t); 74.99 (t); 73.54 (t); 67.85 (t); 64.36 (s, C(3)); 16.30 (t, C(2)); 4.65 (d, C(1)). CI-MS: 577 (41), 576 (100, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 486 (14), 484 (14), 181 (50), 107 (34), 91 (63). Anal. calc. for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (575.71): C 77.19, H 6.48, N 2.43; found: C 77.44, H 6.37, N 2.46.$ 

(1S, 3R, 5R, 6R, 7S, 8R) - 6, 7, 8-Tris(benzyloxy) - 5-[(benzyloxy)methyl] - 4-oxaspiro[2.5] octane-1-carbonitrile and the second sec(9):  $R_{\rm f}$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.65.  $[\alpha]_{25}^{25} = -2.5$  (c = 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3120w, 3090w, 3070w, 3040w, 3010m, 2910m, 2880m, 2820w, 2250w, 1500w, 1455m, 1360m, 1320w, 1260m, 1150m (sh), 1130s (sh), 1090s, 1050s (sh), 1030s, 1010m (sh), 695m, 670m (sh). 'H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.39-7.27 (m, 18 arom. H); 7.17-7.15 (m, 2 arom. H); 4.96 (d, J = 12.0, PhCH); 4.94 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.89 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.49 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.72 (d, J = 10.J = 12.1, PhCH); 4.57 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.52 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.03 (d, J = 9.4, H-C(8); 3.98 (t, J = 8.9, H-C(7)); 3.81 (dd, J = 8.5, 9.7, H-C(6)); 3.67 (dd, J = 3.9, 10.8, CH-C(5)); 3.58 (dd, J = 3.9); 10.8, CH-C(5); 10.8, J = 1.9, 10.8, CH-C(5); 3.51 (*ddd*, J = 1.9, 3.9, 9.8, H-C(5)); 1.50–1.42 (*m*, 3 H). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 7.35-7.15 (m, 20 arom. H); 4.84 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.84 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.81 (d, J = 12.8, PhCH); 4.80 (d, J = 10.7, PhCH); 4.73 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.55 (d, J = 11.1, PhCH); 4.48 (d, J = 12.0, PhCH); 4.42 (d, J = 12.0; 4.42 (d, J = 12.0); 4.42 (d, J = 12.0); 4.42 ( PhCH); 3.98 (d, J = 9.5, H-C(8); irrad. at 1.50-1.44: NOE (weak)); 3.84 (t, J = 9.1, H-C(7)); 3.69 (t, J = 9.3, H-C(7)); 3.69 (H-C(6); 3.61 (dd, J = 4.5, 11.0, CH-C(5)); 3.56 (dd, J = 1.9, 11.0, CH-C(5)); 3.51 (ddd, J = 1.9, 4.4, 9.8, H-C(5); irrad. at 1.75: NOE (strong)); 1.75 (dd, J = 7.7, 10.1, H-C(1)); 1.50–1.44 (m, 2 H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 138.07 (s); 137.87 (s); 137.60 (s); 137.50 (s); 128.84-127.14 (m); 117.94 (s, CN); 85.16 (d); 78.91 (d); 77.79 (d); 77.16 (d); 75.78 (t); 75.41 (t); 75.13 (t); 73.47 (t); 68.12 (t); 65.28 (s, C(3)); 16.04 (t, C(2)); 6.32 (d, C(1)). CI-MS: 577 (41), 576 (100,  $[M + 1]^+$ ), 486 (13), 419 (12), 391 (11), 338 (39), 181 (23), 147 (15), 108 (16), 107 (77), 92 (13), 91 (90). Anal. calc. for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (575.71): C 77.19, H 6.48, N 2.43; found: C 76.99, H 6.57, N 2.73.

(1R,3S,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6.7,8-Tris(benzyloxy)-5-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1-carbonitrile (10): R<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.76. [a]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +50.2 (c = 0.77, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 1R: 3120w, 3090w, 3070w, 3030w, 3010w, 2910m, 2870m, 2800w, 2250w, 1495w, 1450w, 1360m, 1260m, 1145m (sh), 1120s (sh), 1090s, 1025s, 1010s (sh), 690m. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.37-7.24 (m, 18 arom. H); 7.16-7.12 (m, 2 arom. H); 4.95 (d, J = 10.1, PhCH); 4.93 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.88 (d, J = 10.1, PhCH); 4.87 (d, J = 11.1, PhCH); 4.83 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.60 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.55 (d, J = 10.8, PhCH); 4.49 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.07 (d, J = 8.6, H-C(8)); 3.82 (t, J = 9.4, H-C(6)); 3.75 (t, J = 8.9, H-C(7); irrad. at 1.65: NOE (weak)); 3.68 (dd, J = 3.9, 10.9, CH-C(5)); 3.43 (ddd, J = 1.9, 3.9, 9.5, H-C(5); irrad. at 1.21: NOE (weak)); 1.88 (dd, J = 7.2, 10.6, H-C(1); irrad. at 1.65: NOE (strong), irrad. at 1.21: NOE (weak)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 138.15 (s); 137.81 (s); 137.68 (s); 137.64 (s); 128.42-127.42 (m); 118.27 (s, CN); 87.53 (d); 77.83 (d); 77.70 (d); 7.545 (t); 75.03 (t); 74.55 (t); 73.57 (t); 68.20 (t); 65.14 (s, C(3)); 14.57 (t, C(2)); 8.12 (d, C(1)). CI-MS: 577 (28), 567 (70, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 486 (10), 419 (13), 181 (16), 108 (10), 107 (100), 97 (10), 93 (14), 91 (38). Anal. calc. for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (57.71): C 77.19, H 6.48, N 2.43; found: C 77.14, H 6.42, N 2.60.

(1S,3S,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Tris(benzyloxy)-5-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1-carbonitrile (11):  $R_f$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.84. IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3030w, 3010w, 2960m, 2920m, 2870m, 2250w, 1730w, 1495w, 1455m, 1360m, 1260s, 1260–1200m (br.), 1150m (sh), 1090s, 1050s (sh), 1030s (sh), 1010s, 910w, 865w, 810–700m (br.), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.37–7.25 (m, 16 arom. H); 7.21–7.14 (m, 4 arom. H); 4.91 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.86 (d, J = 11.5, PhCH); 4.85 (d, J = 10.7, PhCH); 4.84 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.65 (d, J = 12.2, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 10.7, PhCH); 4.55 (d, J = 10.7, PhCH); 4.55 (d, J = 11.5, PhCH); 3.91 (d, J = 9.1, H–C(8); irrad. at 1.60: NOE (weak)); 3.86 (t, J = 9.4, H–C(5); irrad. at 1.13: NOE (strong)); 1.60 (dd, J = 6.4, 9.9, H–C(1); irrad. at 1.43: NOE (weak)); 3.52 (td, J = 2.8, 9.8, H–C(5); irrad. at 1.13: NOE (strong)); 1.60 (dd, J = 6.4, 9.9, H–C(1); irrad. at 1.43: NOE (strong)); 1.43 (dd, J = 5.5, 9.9, H<sub>pro-R</sub>–C(2); irrad. at 1.60: NOE (strong), irad. at 1.13: NOE (strong)); 1.13 (t, J = 5.9, H<sub>pro-S</sub>–C(2); irrad. at 1.43: NOE (strong)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 138.14 (s); 137.97 (s); 137.89 (s); 137.29 (s); 128.67–127.64 (m); 118.09 (s, CN); 86.62 (d); 79.21 (d); 78.12 (d); 76.20 (d); 75.73 (t); 75.27 (t); 75.18 (t); 73.55 (t); 67.97 (t); 63.11 (s, C(3)); 14.78 (t, C(2)); 6.81 (d, C(1)).

Cyclopropanation of 1 with Dimethyl Fumarate (4). Under  $N_2$ , a soln. of 1 g (7 mmol) of 4 in 5 ml of 1,4-dioxane was stirred in the presence of 1.5 g of 4-Å molecular sieves for 30 min at r.t. Then, 400 mg (0.7 mmol) of 1 were added quickly, the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 12 h, diluted with 5 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through Celite. The Celite was washed several times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined filtrates were evaporated. FC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 3:1) of the residue yielded 338 mg (72%) of 12/13 3:2. In contact with MeOH, some 12 crystallized. The isomers were

separated completely by prep. HPLC (pentane/ $Et_2O$  7:3, 16 ml/min). Crystallization of pure 13 from  $Et_2O$ /hexane at  $-25^{\circ}$  afforded colourless needles; 12 was recrystallized in MeOH to give a white powder.

Dimethyl (1R,2R,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Tris(benzyloxy)-5-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (12): Prep. HPLC:  $t_R$  13.4 min.  $R_f$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.44. M.p. 92°. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +14.7 (c = 1.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3040w, 3010w, 2960w, 2910w, 2870w, 1735s, 1450m, 1440m 1306m, 1320–1190m (br.), 1290m, 1150m, 1120m (sh), 1090s, 1030m, 1010m (sh). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>): 7.30–7.01 (m, 20 arom. H); 4.86 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.81 (m, PhCH<sub>2</sub>); 4.64 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.55 (d, J = 10.9, PhCH); 4.37 (d, J = 11.0, PhCH); 4.36 (d, J = 12.1, PhCH); 4.29 (d, J = 12.1, PhCH); 4.21 (t, J = 8.8, H–C(7)); 3.96 (dd, J = 8.8, 9.8, H–C(6)); 3.91 (d, J = 8.8, H–C(8); irrad. at 2.92: NOE (weak)); 3.80 (ddd, J = 1.9, 3.5, 9.9, H–C(5); irrad. at 2.84: NOE (weak)); 3.63 (dd, J = 3.6, 11.2, CH–C(2)); 3.58 (dd, J = 1.9, 11.2, CH–C(5)); 3.35 (s, MeO); 3.15 (s, MeO); 2.92 (d, J = 7.5, H–C(1)); 2.84 (d, J = 7.5, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 167.63 (s, C=O); 167.49 (s, C=O); 138.29 (s); 138.08 (s); 138.01 (s); 137.24 (s); 128.33–127.56 (m); 84.63 (d); 78.87 (d); 78.18 (d); 78.08 (d); 75.56 (d). CI-MS: 666 (25), 667 (57, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 635 (5), 575 (13), 559 (18), 451 (13), 437 (13), 361 (11), 307 (16), 271 (19), 239 (19), 181 (45), 179 (13), 167 (55), 92 (15), 91 (100). Anal. calc. for C4<sub>0</sub>H<sub>42</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (666.78): C 72.06, H 6.35; found: C 72.09, H 6.57.

Dimethyl (1S,2S,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Tris(benzyloxy)-5-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (13): Prep. HPLC:  $t_R$  11 min.  $R_f$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.49. M.p. 80°. [ $\alpha$ ] $_D^{25}$  = +73.3 (c = 1.05, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3040w, 3010w, 2960w, 2910w, 2870w, 1730s, 1455m, 1440m, 1360w, 1320m, 1300–1180m (br.), 1150m, 1120m (sh), 1090s, 1050s (sh), 1030m (sh). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ ): 7.31–7.30 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.19–7.00 (m, 18 arom. H); 4.89 (d, J = 11.7, PhCH); 4.81 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.66 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.51 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.46 (d, J = 11.7, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.31 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 1.10, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.61 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.61 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.61 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.51 (d, J = 1.1, J, PhCH); 4.46 (d, J = 11.7, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.31 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.41 (d, J = 1.17, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.41 (d, J = 11.9, PhCH); 4.45 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.41 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.62 (d, J = 1.19, PhCH); 4.40 (d, J = 8.5, H–C(5)); 3.57 (d, J = 2.7, 9.8, H–C(5)); 3.39 (t, J = 8.5, H–C(7); irrad. at 3.07: NOE (weak)); 3.69 (m, 2 CH–C(5)); 3.57 (d, J = 2.7, 9.8, H–C(5)); 3.34 (s, MeO); 3.26 (d, J = 7.6, H–C(1)); 3.07 (d, J = 7.6, H–C(2)); 2.99 (s, MeO). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.72 (s, C=O); 167.26 (s, C=O); 137.95 (s); 137.87 (s, 2 C); 137.80 (s); 128.38–126.26 (m); 86.75 (d); 77.42 (d); 75.44 (d); 75.55 (t); 75.00 (t); 73.51 (t); 73.43 (t); 68.65 (s, C(3)); 68.08 (t); 52.17 (q, MeO); 51.82 (q, MeO); 31.45 (d); 25.67 (d). CI-MS: 668 (15), 667 (40, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 635 (3), 181 (16), 107 (19), 92 (12), 91 (100). Anal. cale. for C $_{40}H_{42}O_9$  (666.78): C 72.06, H 6.35; found: C 71.86, H 6.24.

Cyclopropanation of 1 with Dimethyl Maleate (5). Under N<sub>2</sub>, a soln. of 5 ml (40 mmol) of 5 (containing < 1% 4) in 5 ml of 1,4-dioxane was stirred in the presence of 1.2 g of 4-Å molecular sieves for 30 min at r.t. Then, 1.0 g (1.82 mmol) of 1 was added quickly, the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 12 h, diluted with 5 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through *Celite*. The *Celite* was washed several times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined filtrates were evaporated. FC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 3:1) of the residue afforded 725 mg of 16/12/13/17 (60%, 1.8:1.5:1.1:1, according to HPLC). Prep. HPLC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 7:3, 16 ml/min) gave pure 16 and a mixture 12/13/17.

Dimethyl (1R,2S,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Tris(benzyloxy)-5-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (16): Prep. HPLC:  $t_R$  8.0 min.  $R_f$  (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1) 0.30. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +47.2 (c = 1.18, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR: 3090w, 3070w, 3030w, 3010w, 2950m, 2910w, 2870w, 1740s, 1450m, 1440m, 1350s, 1270–1190m (br.), 1155s, 1125s, 1090s, 1070s (sh), 1030m, 1010m, 690w. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>): 7.36–6.98 (m, 20 arom. H); 4.87 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.81 (d, J = 11.3, PhCH); 4.71 (d, J = 11.2, PhCH); 4.69 (d, J = 11.4, PhCH); 4.65 (d, J = 11.4, PhCH); 4.53 (d, J = 12.1, PhCH); 4.39 (d, J = 12.0, PhCH); 4.18 (d, J = 11.4, PhCH); 4.14 (ddd, J = 1.8, 3.1, 10.1, H-C(5)); 3.92 (dd, J = 1.8, 11.4, CH-C(5)); 3.84 (dd, J = 3.1, 11.4, CH-C(5)); 3.73 (m, H-C(7), H-C(8); irrad. at 2.52: NOE (weak), irrad. at 2.34: NOE (weak)); 3.46 (s, MeO); 3.40 (s, MeO); 2.52 (d, J = 10.6, H-C(1 or 2); irrad. at 2.34: NOE (strong)); 2.34 (d, J = 10.6, H-C(2 or 1); irrad. at 2.52: NOE (strong)); 1<sup>3</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 167.66 (s, C=O); 166.53 (s, C=O); 138.31 (s); 138.28 (s); 138.01 (s); 137.38 (s); 128.51-127.50 (m); 86.28 (d); 79.45 (d); 77.35 (d); 77.39 (d); 75.58 (t); 75.53 (t); 75.07 (t); 73.50 (t); 68.00 (t); 66.18 (s, C(3)); 52.02 (q, MeO); 2.57 (19), 451 (24), 437 (13), 361 (12), 271 (12), 181 (23), 91 (16). Anal. calc. for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>42</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (666.78): C 72.06, H 6.35; found: C 71.78, H 6.28.

General Procedure for the Debenzylations. Hydrogenation at 1.5 bar H<sub>2</sub> pressure of a soln. of the benzyl ether in MeOH in the presence of Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C (20% Pd) at r.t. for 45 min, followed by filtration through *Celite* and evaporation of the solvent yielded the crude product, which was purified by FC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 7:1).

Dimethyl (1R, 2R, 5R, 6R, 7S, 8R) - 6, 7, 8-Trihydroxy-5-(hydroxymethyl)-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (14). Hydrogenation of 32 mg (0.048 mmol) of 12 in 2 ml of MeOH in the presence of 52 mg of Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C gave 15 mg (100%) of 14.  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 4:1) 0.42.  $[\alpha]_{25}^{25} = +13.1$  (c = 1, MeOH). IR (KBr): 3490s (br.), 3340s (br.), 3040w, 2960w, 2930m, 2880w, 1735s, 1450m, 1440m, 1385m, 1330s, 1290m, 1270m, 1215s, 1190m (sh), 1160s, 1130*m*, 1110*m*, 1080*s*, 1070*m*, 1060*m*, 1035*s*, 1020*m* (sh), 1000*w*, 960*w*, 950*m*, 930*w*, 910*w*, 890*w*, 860*w*. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, (D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 5.44 (*d*, J = 4.4, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 5.06 (br. *s*, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, 2 OH); 4.27 (*t*, J = 5.4, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 3.62 (*s*, MeO); 3.54 (*s*, MeO); 3.59–3.24 (*m*, 6 H); 2.58 (*d*, J = 7.7, H–C(1 or 2)); 2.35 (*d*, J = 7.7, H–C(2 or 1)). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 3.79 (*d*, J = 9.2, H–C(8); irrad. at 2.73: NOE (3%)); 3.76 (*dd*, J = 1.3, 12.0, CH–C(5)); 3.71 (*s*, MeO); 3.66 (*s*, MeO); 3.65 (*dd*, J = 4.5, 11.9, CH–C(5)); 3.60 (*t*, J = 8.7, H–C(7)); 3.44 (*m*, H–C(6), H–C(5); irrad. at 2.55: NOE (7.5%)); 2.73 (*d*, J = 7.7, H–C(1); irrad. at 3.79: NOE (3%)); 2.55 (*d*, J = 7.7, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 170.11 (*s*, C=O); 170.06 (*s*, C=O); (*d*); 2.38 (*d*). CI-MS: 275 (21), 257 (26), 244 (18), 243 (100), 225 (14), 217 (16), 215 (13), 197 (10), 181 (10), 139 (14), 137 (11). Anal. calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (306.27): C 47.06, H 5.92; found: C 46.81, H 5.71.

Dimethyl (1S,2S,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Trihydroxy-5-(hydroxymethyl)-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (15). Hydrogenation of 28 mg (0.042 mmol) of 13 in 2 ml of MeOH in the presence of 50 mg of Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C yielded 13 mg (100%) of 15.  $R_{\rm f}$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 4:1) 0.43. [ $\alpha$ ] $_{\rm D}^{25}$  = +96.4 (c = 0.7, MeOH). IR (KBr): 3480s (br.), 3440s (br.), 3350s (br.), 3030m, 2980m, 2930w, 2910m, 2860w (sh), 1710s, 1450w (sh), 1440s, 1410m, 1390m, 1355m, 1340s, 1300s, 1250s, 1200m, 1180m, 1170m (sh), 1155s (sh), 1105s, 1075s, 1060s, 1045s, 1020s, 1000s, 930m, 900w, 870w, 815w, 780w, 760w, 630m, 600m. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, ( $D_6$ )DMSO): 5.38 (br. d, J = 5.2, exchanged with  $D_2O_2$ , OH); 5.10 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 5.01 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 4.32 (br. s, exchanged with  $D_2O, OH$ ; 3.61 (s, MeO); 3.54 (s, MeO); 3.61–3.35 (m, 3 H); 3.26 (br. t, J = 9.4, 1 H); 3.15 (br. t, J = 8.9, 1 H); 2.74 (td, J = 3.2, 9.4, H-C(5)); 2.65 (d, J = 7.5, H-C(1 or 2)); 2.43 (d, J = 7.5, H-C(2 or 1)).<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_3OD$ : 3.82 (br. d, J = 8.5, H–C(8)); 3.71 (s, MeO); 3.67 (dd, J = 2.5, 12.1, CH–C(5)); 3.67 (s, MeO); 3.58 J = 5.2, 12.1, CH-C(5); 3.41 (t, J = 8.8, H-C(6)); 3.36 (t, J = 8.9, H-C(7)); 2.94 (ddd, J = 2.5, 5.2, 9.4, H-C(5); 2.79 (*d*, *J* = 7.5, H-C(1)); 2.65 (*dd*, *J* = 0.6, 7.7; irrad. at 3.82: *d*, *J* = 7.7, H-C(2); irrad. at 3.36: NOE (3%)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 170.76 (s, C=O); 170.13 (s, C=O); 81.47 (d); 79.29 (d); 70.85 (d); 70.60 (s, C(3)); 70.14 (d); 62.21 (t, C-C(5)); 52.87 (q, MeO); 52.81 (q, MeO); 32.18 (d); 26.52 (d). CI-MS: 307 (29,  $[M + 1]^+$ , 275 (31), 257 (28), 244 (12), 243 (100), 239 (11), 215 (10), 197 (11), 195 (16), 183 (14), 181 (10), 172 (10), 172 (10), 181 (10), 172 (10), 181 (10), 172 (10), 181 (10), 1 171(78), 157(29), 117(25), 107(53), 105(14), 103(61), 91(38), 85(14), 75(12). Anal. calc. for  $C_{12}H_{18}O_{9}(306.27)$ : C 47.06, H 5.92; found: C 46.78, H 5.78.

 $(1\,R,2\,S,5\,R,6\,R,7\,S,8\,R\,)-6,7,8-Trihydroxy-5-(hydroxymethyl)-4-oxaspiro[\,2.5\,]octane-1,2-dicar-1,2-dica$ Dimethyl boxylate (18). Hydrogenation of 30 mg (0.045 mmol) of 16 in 2 ml of MeOH in the presence of 50 mg of Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C afforded 14 mg (100%) of 18.  $R_{\rm f}$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 4:1) 0.38. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = +137.9 (c = 0.7, MeOH). IR (KBr): 3500-3300s (br.), 3020m (br.), 2950m, 2900m, 2880m, 1735s, 1450s, 1360s, 1270s, 1240s, 1200s, 1165s, 1105s, 1070s, 1055s (br.), 1030s, 955m, 945m (br.), 895w (sh), 880w, 800w. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, (D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 5.70 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 5.45 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 5.14 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 3.99 (t, J = 5.3, exchanged with  $D_2O$ , OH); 3.57 (br. s, 2 MeO); 3.51–3.45 (m, 3 H); 3.35 (m, 1 H); 3.13 (m, 2 H); 2.37 (d, J = 10.4, H-C(1 or 2)); 2.20 (d, J = 10.4, H-C(2 or 1)). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 3.71-3.63 (m, 2CH-C(5), H-C(8); 3.70 (s, MeO); 3.67 (s, MeO); 3.48 (t, J = 9.4, H-C(6)); 3.32 (t, J = 9.1, H-C(7); irrad. at 2.40: NOE (3%); 3.23 (*ddd*, J = 2.4, 4.5, 9.9, H-C(5)); 2.48 (*d*, J = 10.4, H-C(1)); 2.40 (*d*, J = 10.4, H-C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50) MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 169.80 (s, C=O); 169.36 (s, C=O); 82.31 (d); 78.48 (d); 70.88 (d); 70.69 (d); 68.78 (s, C(3)); 62.06 (t, C-C(5)); 52.63 (g, MeO); 52.50 (g, MeO); 27.41 (d); 24.94 (d). CI-MS: 308 (12), 307 (82, [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 276 (11)275 (85), 272 (11), 257 (46), 244 (13), 243 (100), 239 (28), 229 (14), 225 (13), 209 (32), 197 (12), 195 (13), 185 (10), 183 (10), 169 (10), 157 (31), 145 (11), 127 (10), 107 (11), 99 (10), 85 (45), 75 (19), 73 (15), 65 (17). Anal. calc. for  $C_{12}H_{18}O_9 \cdot H_2O$  (324.29): C 44.45, H 6.21; found: C 44.54, H 6.32.

Dimethyl (1S,2R,5R,6R,7S,8R)-6,7,8-Trihydroxy-5-(hydroxymethyl)-4-oxaspiro[2.5]octane-1,2-dicarboxylate (19). Hydrogenation of 620 mg (0.9298 mmol) of the crude mixture, obtained from the reaction of 1 with 5, in 20 ml of MeOH in the presence of 800 mg of Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C yielded, after 4 h at 2 bar and 10 h at 1.2 bar H<sub>2</sub> pressure, 280 mg (98%) of 14/15/18/19. FC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 9:1) afforded pure 19 and a mixture 14/15/18. 19:  $R_{\rm f}$ (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 4:1) 0.48.  $[a]_{\rm D}^{25} = -3.3$  (c = 0.6, MeOH). IR (KBr): 3500–3300s (br.), 3030w, 2960w, 2920w, 1730s, 1445m, 1420m (br.), 1360m, 1320m (sh), 1290m, 1260m (sh), 1210m, 1170m, 1160m (sh), 1080s, 1020m (sh), 990m (sh), 955w (sh), 935w, 860w. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, (D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 5.08 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, 2 OH); 4.63 (d, J = 5.7, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 4.39 (br. s, exchanged with D<sub>2</sub>O, OH); 3.86 (dd, J = 5.6, 8.4; after addn. of D<sub>2</sub>O: d, J = 8.5, H–C(8)); 3.64 (s, MeO); 3.60 (s, MeO); 3.63–3.55 (m, 2 H); 3.42–3.36 (m, 3 H); 3.21 (m, 1 H); 2.48 (d, J = 11.6, H–C(1 or 2)); 2.38 (d, J = 11.6, H–C(2 or 1)). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 4.05 (d, J = 8.9, H–C(8)); 3.78 (dd, J = 1.8, 12.1, CH–C(5)); 3.75 (s, MeO); 3.64 (s, MeO); 3.64 (s, MeO); 3.64 (s, MeO); 3.57 (m, H–C(5); irrad. at 2.53–2.49: NOE (6%)); 2.53 (d, J = 6.0, 12.0, CH–C(5)); 3.39 (t, J = 9.1, H–C(6)); 3.37 (m, H–C(5); irrad. at 2.53–2.49: NOE (6%)); 2.53 (d, J = 11.6, H–C(1 or 2)); 2.49 (d, J = 11.7, H–C(2 or 1)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 171.93 (s, C=O); 170.01 (s, C=O); 81.13 (d); 77.77 (d); 71.50 (d); 70.90 (d); 69.02 (s, C(3)); 62.49 (t, C–C(5)); 53.26 (q, MeO); 52.92 (q, MeO); 32.18 (*d*); 31.25 (*d*). CI-MS: 275 (12), 258 (17), 257 (32), 245 (16), 244 (52), 243 (100), 225 (19), 218 (20), 217 (25), 215 (15), 200 (11), 199 (18), 197 (12), 182 (11), 181 (26), 171 (10), 157 (10), 156 (11), 155 (18), 153 (13), 140 (14), 139 (33), 138 (19), 83 (12). Anal. calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (306.27): C 47.06, H 5.92; found: C 47.17, H 6.04.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] K. Briner, A. Vasella, Helv. Chim. Acta 1989, 72, 1371.
- [2] A. Vasella, K. Briner, N. Soundararajan, M.S. Platz, submitted to J. Org. Chem.
- [3] K. Briner, A. Vasella, Helv. Chim. Acta 1990, 73, 1764.
- [4] A. Vasella, Pure Appl. Chem. 1991, 63, 507.
- [5] a) W. Kirmse, 'Carbene Chemistry', 2nd edn., Academic Press, New York, 1971; b) R. A. Moss, in 'Carbenes', Eds. M. Jones, Jr. and R. A. Moss, Wiley Interscience, New York-London, 1973, Vol. 1, p. 153.
- [6] a) R. W. Hoffmann, W. Lilienblum, B. Dittrich, Chem. Ber. 1974, 107, 3395; b) N. P. Smith, I. D. R. Stevens, Tetrahedron Lett. 1978, 22, 1931; c) R. A. Moss, Acc. Chem. Res. 1980, 13, 584; d) A. Wienand, H.-U. Reissig, Tetrahedron Lett. 1988, 29, 2315; e) R. A. Moss, Acc. Chem. Res. 1989, 22, 15.
- [7] J.-P. Praly, Z. El Kharraf, G. Descotes, Tetrahedron Lett. 1990, 31, 4441.
- [8] Z. El Kharraf, Ph. D. Thesis, Lyon, 1990.
- [9] a) R.C. Petter, D.G. Powers, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1989, 30, 659; b) R.C. Petter, G. Kumaravel, D.G. Powers, C.-T. Chang, *ibid.* 1991, 32, 449.
- [10] R. Dolle, K. C. Nicolaou, J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1985, 1016.
- [11] a) P. Duchaussoy, P. di Cesare, B. Gross, Synthesis 1979, 198; b) A. Aubry, J. Protas, P. Duchaussoy, P. di Cesare, B. Gross, Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B 1981, 37, 1477; c) R. Huber, L.-P. Molleyres, A. Vasella, Helv. Chim. Acta 1990, 73, 1329.
- [12] a) H. H. Baer, F. Linhart, H. R. Hanna, Can. J. Chem. 1978, 56, 3087; b) H. Jendralla, Chem. Ber. 1980, 113, 3570; c) H. H. Baer, U. Williams, B. Radatus, Carbohydr. Res. 1988, 174, 291.
- [13] a) P. Parziale, J. A. Berson, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1990, 112, 1650; b) B.J. Fitzsimmons, B. Fraser-Reid, ibid. 1979, 101, 6123, and ref. cit. therein.
- [14] a) M. Okabe, R.-C. Suri, Tetrahedron Lett. 1989, 30, 2203; b) P. Collins, J. R. Hurtfield, W.G. Overend, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1975, 2178.
- [15] a) R. Herges, I. Ugi, Chem. Ber. 1986, 119, 829; b) T. Adachi, T. Iwasaki, M. Miyoshi, I. Inowe, J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1977, 248.
- [16] a) W. Barbieri, L. Bernardi, P. Masi, A. Vigevani, L. Cagliati, G. Rosini, *Tetrahedron* 1971, 27, 5505; b) Y. Fujimoto, F. Irreverre, J. M. Karle, I. L. Karle, B. Witkop, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 3471.
- [17] a) D. G. Morris, in 'The Chemistry of the Cyclopropyl Group', Part 1, Ed. S. Patai, Wiley Interscience, New York-London, 1987, p. 101, and ref. cit. therein; b) N. P. Smith, I. D. R. Stevens, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2 1979, 1298; c) G. Kalaus, J. Galambos, M. Kajtár-Peredy, L. Radics, L. Szabó, C. Szántay, Heterocycles 1981, 15, 1109.
- [18] H. Kanai, Y. Nishiguchi, H. Matsuda, Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1983, 56, 1592.
- [19] M. P. Doyle, J. W. Terpstra, C. H. Winter, Tetrahedron Lett. 1984, 25, 901.
- [20] M.P. Doyle, K.-L. Loh, L.I. Nishioka, M.B. McVickar, M.T.H. Liu, Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 4395.
- [21] D. J. Patel, M. E. H. Howden, J. D. Roberts, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1963, 85, 3218.
- [22] R. Huisgen, J. Koszinowski, A. Ohta, R. Schiffer, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 1980, 19, 202.
- [23] C. H. Jarboe, in 'The Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds. Pyrazoles, Pyrazolines, Pyrazolidines, Indazoles and Condensed Rings', Ed. A. Weissberger, Interscience Publisher, New York, 1967, p. 209.
- [24] a) D.E. McGreer, I.M.E. Masters, M.T.H. Liu, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2, 1975, 15, 1791; b) R.L. Dreibelbis, H.N. Khatri, H.M. Walborsky, J. Org. Chem. 1975, 40, 2074; c) M. Schneider, H. Strohaecker, Tetrahedron 1976, 32, 619; d) M. Schneider, H. Bippi, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1980, 102, 7363; e) M. Franck-Neumann, M. Miesch, Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr. 1984, 9–10 (Pt.2), 362; f) T. Fuchikami, Y. Shibata, Y. Suzuki, Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 3173; g) Y. Nakano, M. Hamaguchi, T. Nagai, J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 1135.
- [25] L. Gagliati, G. Rosini, P. Masi, A. Vigevani, Gazz. Chim. Ital. 1972, 102, 631.