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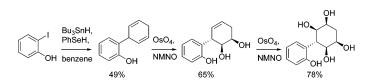
Expedient Two-Step Synthesis of Phenolic Cyclitols from Benzene

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The benzeneselenol-catalyzed, tributyltin hydride-mediated addition of phenolic iodides to benzene gives the 3-(hydroxyaryl)-1,4-cyclohexadienes, predominantly. Under conditions of controlled osmoylation, these are converted to the racemic 1,2-*syn*-2,3-*anti*-3-(hydroxyaryl)-4-cyclohexene-1,2-diols, whereas exhaustive osmoylation gives the 3-(hydroxyaryl)-3,5-dideoxymucoinositols, whose stereochemistry is established by X-ray crystallography.

Introduction

Polyhydroxylated cyclohexanes and their derivatives are widespread constituents of biologically important compounds, the most obvious instances being the cyclitols,¹ especially the inositols.² The carbasugars,³ carbacyclic analogues of sugars first synthesized by McCasland and co-workers,⁴ with their ability to function as glycosidase inhibitors, have potential in many therapeutic areas. Polyhydroxylated cyclohexane rings are also found in the amaryllidaceae family of natural products, most notably pancratistatin, lycoridine, and narciclasine and their relatives.⁵ A number of polyhydroxylated cyclohexanes and their arylated analogues have been prepared for use as intermediates

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in total synthesis by enzymatic oxidative dihydroxylation of arenes and biarenes,⁶ as well as by chemical oxidative functionalization of benzene.⁷ We report here on a concise alternative approach to the synthesis of a range of aryl-substituted cyclohexenediols and cyclohexanetetraols involving the reductive radical arylation of benzene and subsequent treatment with osmium tetroxide. The method is conceptually related to the work of Landais on the desymmetrization of cyclohexadienylsilanes generated by Birch reduction of arylsilanes, but differs significantly insofar as it employs benzene itself as substrate and incorporates an arylation reaction in the key reduction step.^{8,9}

Results and Discussion

In 1998 we reported the stannane-mediated reductive radical arylation of benzene via rapid addition of aryl radicals to

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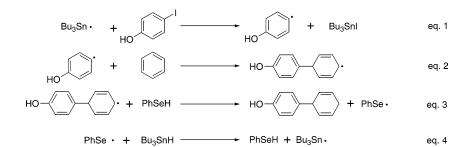
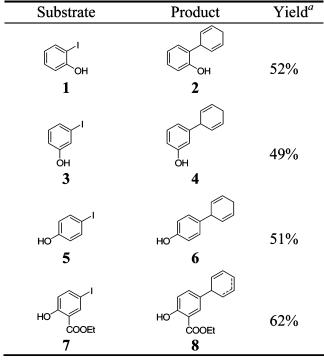


 TABLE 1. Aryl Radical Addition to Benzene



^{*a*} Isolated yields of regiosiomerically pure 1,4-dienes, with the exception of **8**, which was isolated as a 5:1 mixture of 1,4- and 1,3-dienes.

benzene in the presence of a catalytic amount of benzeneselenol.¹⁰ Although it is well-established that aryl radicals will rapidly add to arenes,¹¹ this reaction had been of limited use synthetically due to the failure of the resulting cyclohexadienyl radical to propagate a radical chain reaction.^{12,13} The radical chain chemistry developed in this laboratory makes use of the superior hydrogen atom donating ability of benzeneselenol,¹⁴ generated in situ from diphenyl diselenide and tributyltin hydride,¹⁵ to efficiently trap the adduct cyclohexadienyl radical

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TABLE 2. Dihydroxylation of Dienes		
Substrate ^a	Product	Yield
С	ОНОН ОН	65%
2	9	
OH	ОН ОН	68%
4	10	
HO 6		63%
HO COOEt 8	HO COOEt 12	75%

^{*a*} Reactions were conducted with approximately 5:1 mixtures of the 1,4and 1,3-dienes.

and propagate the radical chain reaction. Overall, the reaction involves a four-propagation-step radical chain reaction (eqs 1–4; Chart 1) and provides predominantly 3-aryl-1,4-cyclohexadienes, typically containing a minor amount of the regioisomeric 5-aryl-1,3-cyclohexadienes.

The synthetic utility of this reaction has been exploited in the case of aryl iodides bearing a nucleophile at the *o*-position when subsequent electrophilic activation of the cyclohexadiene moiety gives direct access to functionalized tetrahydrocarbazoles and tetrahydrodibenzofurans,¹⁶ as displayed in syntheses of carbazomycin¹⁷ and of a 4,6-substituted dibenzofuran β -sheet initiator.¹⁸

We now demonstrate how catalytic osmoylation of the 3-aryl-1,4-cyclohexadienes results in a facile two-step synthesis of *meso*-3-aryl-1,2,4,5-cyclohexanetetraols and, with careful control of stoichiometry, of 3-aryl-4-cyclohexene-1,2-diols. Thus, a

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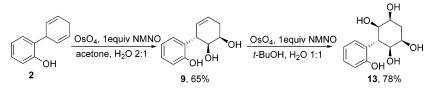
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SCHEME 1. Synthesis of Diol 9 and Tetraol 13



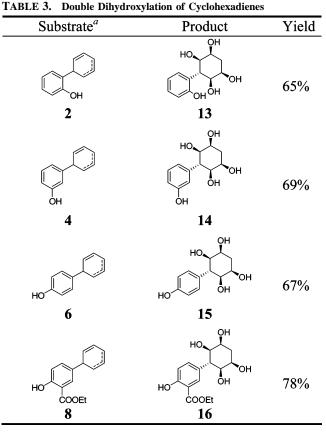
series of arylated cyclohexadienes were prepared in the standard manner by the dropwise addition of tributyltin hydride and AIBN to a solution of the appropriate iodophenol and a catalytic amount of diphenyl diselenide in benzene at reflux under argon, with the results presented in Table 1.

These dienes were then subjected to dihydroxylation with catalytic osmium tetroxide in the presence of a controlled amount of N-methyl morpholine N-oxide as the stoichiometric oxidant, under the conditions of van Rheenan and co-workers.¹⁹ As anticipated from the presumed envelope conformation of the cyclohexadienes in which the aromatic ring assumes a pseudoaxial position to minimize allylic strain, the reaction took place exclusively anti to the substituent leading to phenolic diols in good yield (Table 2). The observation of high anti selectivity in these reactions is in agreement with the work of Landais and co-workers on the dihydroxylation of 3-silyl-1,4-cyclohexadienes.8b The anti relationship between the phenol and the two hydroxyl groups, which was not readily apparent from the NMR spectra, was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis of 11, whose structure is presented in the Supporting Information. The X-ray structure of 11 reveals the expected half-chair conformation with the pseudoaxial aryl group, thereby lending weight to the presumed conformation of the starting 3-aryl-1,4cyclohexadiene and the rationale for stereoselectivity. Application of the Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation protocol to 2 gave 9 with yields and diastereoselectivities comparable to those from the van Rheenan protocol (Table 1), but little or no enantioselectivity was obtained. Again, this is comparable to the observations of Landais and co-workers in the 3-silyl-1,4cyclohexadiene series.8b Attempts at phenol-directed syn dihydroxylation of 2 under the Donohoe conditions were similarly unsuccessful, despite the positioning of the phenolic hydroxyl group directly over one face of the cyclohexadiene.²⁰

The subjection of 3-aryl cyclohexenediol **9** to a second dihydroxylation under catalytic $OsO_4/NMNO$ conditions gave a single phenolic tetraol whose spectra exhibited the simplicity anticipated for the *meso*-isomer, resulting from delivery of the second diol unit anti to the aromatic substituent (Scheme 1).

Osmoylation of the diene **2** with 2 equiv of NMNO gave the *meso*-tetraol **13** directly in excellent yield, and a series of tetraols were prepared in this manner (Table 3). The stereo-chemical assignment of these tetraols, with their pseudoasymmetric C3, as the 3-aryl-3,5-dideoxymucoinositols,^{1a} was confirmed unambiguously by X-ray crystallographic analysis of **13**, which exhibits a chair conformation with the phenyl group equatorial.

At least in the crystal, obtained from methanol, the phenolic tetraol **13** exhibits an interesting conformation about the cyclohexyl-aryl bond, which orients the phenolic hydroxyl group in the same direction as the four aliphatic hydroxyl groups.



^{*a*} Reactions were conducted with approximately 5:1 mixtures of the 1,4and 1,3-dienes.

Experimental Section

General Procedure for Radical Addition to Benzene. A dry flask was charged with aryl iodide (2.0 mmol) and diphenyl diselenide (0.4 mmol), fitted with a reflux condenser, and flushed with argon. Dry, degassed benzene (50 mL) was added, and the resulting solution was heated to reflux. A solution of AIBN (0.2 mmol) and tributyltin hydride (3.0 mmol) in dry, degassed benzene (14.0 mL) was added via syringe pump at a rate of 1.0 mL/h. On completion of the addition, the reaction mixture was refluxed 1 h before the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography over silica gel gave the adducts.

2-(1,4-Cyclohexadien-3-yl)phenol (2). The spectral data for this compound match those reported in the literature.¹⁶

3-(1,4-Cyclohexadien-3-yl)phenol (4). Isolated as colorless oil by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 2% EtOAc in hexane). IR ν 3356 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.72–2.77 (m, 2H), 3.89–3.94 (m, 1H), 4.84 (s, 1H), 5.70–5.74 (m, 2H), 5.80–5.84 (m, 2H), 6.67 (dd, J = 7.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, J = 4.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 25.8, 41.8, 113.3, 114.9, 120.5, 123.9, 128.3, 129.7, 147.2, 155.8. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₂O, 172.0888 [M]⁺; found, 172.0878.

4-(1,4-Cyclohexadien-3-yl)phenol (6). Isolated as colorless oil by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 4% EtOAc in hexanes). IR

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ν 3454 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.71–2.76 (m, 2H), 3.87–3.92 (m, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 5.69–5.72 (m, 2H), 5.78–5.82 (m, 2H), 6.78 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 25.8, 41.1, 115.3, 125.5, 128.8, 129.1, 137.6, 154.0. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₂O, 172.0888 [M]⁺; found, 172.0881.

Ethyl 5-(1,4-Cyclohexadien-3-yl)salicylate (8). Isolated as colorless oil by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 1% EtOAc in hexane). IR ν 3409, 1673 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.42 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 2.72–2.80 (m, 2H), 3.89–3.95 (m, 1H), 4.41 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 5.66–5.71 (m, 2H), 5.81–5.86 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.3, 25.8, 41.1, 61.4, 117.8, 124.0, 128.4, 128.6, 135.6, 136.0, 160.3, 170.2. This mixture of isomers was carried forward to the next step without further characterization, owing to the relative instability toward aromatization in air.

General Procedure for Dihydroxylation of Dienes. OsO₄ (0.002 mmol) was added to a solution of the 1,4-diene containing \sim 17% of the minor 1,3-isomer (0.10 mmol) in water/acetone (1:1, 1.0 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. NMNO (0.10 mmol) dissolved in water/acetone solution (1/1, 1.0 mL) was added in four portions at 15 min intervals to the reaction mixture while stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred 0.5 h on completion of the NMNO addition and allowed to return to room temperature. Na₂SO₃ (1.0 mmol) was added, and the reaction was stirred an additional 1 h before it was diluted with water (20 mL). The product was extracted into EtOAc (3 × 20 mL), and the extracts were washed with brine (20 mL) and dried (Na₂SO₄). The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the product was isolated by silica gel chromatography.

(±)-(1*R**,2*S**,3*S**)-3-(2⁷-Hydroxyphenyl)-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2diol (9). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc in hexane). Mp 130–132 °C. IR ν 3360 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 2.30–2.34 (m, 2H), 3.83–3.88 (m, 2H), 4.00 (s, 1H), 5.52–5.55 (m, 1H), 5.78–5.82 (m, 1H), 6.78 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 30.2, 41.6, 66.9, 73.7, 114.8, 119.3, 125.0, 126.7, 127.2, 128.6, 128.7, 155.1. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₃, 206.0943 [M]⁺; found, 206.0948.

(±)-(1*R**,2*S**,3*S**)-3-(3'-Hydroxyphenyl)-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2diol (10). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc in hexane). Mp 129–130 °C. IR ν 3361 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 2.27–2.31 (m, 1H), 2.38–2.42 (m, 1H), 3.47–3.48 (m, 1H), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (td, *J* = 5.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.53–5.55 (m, 1H), 5.72–5.76 (m, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 8.0, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 31.0, 47.7, 67.0, 74.9, 113.0, 115.2, 119.6, 124.2, 127.4, 128.9, 144.4, 157.1. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₃, 206.0943 [M]⁺; found, 206.0941.

(±)-(1*R**,2*S**,3*S**)-3-(4'-Hydroxyphenyl)-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2diol (11). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc in hexane). Mp 178–179 °C. IR ν 3366 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 2.29–2.31 (m, 1H), 2.37–2.41 (m, 1H), 3.46 (dt, *J* = 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.89–3.97 (m, 1H), 5.52–5.55 (m, 1H), 5.70–5.74 (m, 1H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 31.0, 47.0, 66.9, 75.2, 114.7, 124.0, 127.8, 129.2, 133.5, 155.7. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₃ (%): C, 69.88; H, 6.84. Found: C, 69.60; H, 6.70.

(±)-(1*R**,2*S**,3*S**)-3-(Ethyl 5-salicyclyl)-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2diol (12). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 25% hexanes in EtOAc). Mp 116–118 °C. IR ν 3410, 1674 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 2.25–2.35 (m, 1H), 2.40–2.50 (m, 1H), 3.49–3.55 (m, 1H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90–3.93 (m, 1H), 4.40 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 5.51–5.54 (m, 1H), 5.74–5.77 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 13.1, 31.5, 46.2, 61.2, 67.3, 74.9, 112.0, 116.9, 124.6, 127.4, 129.3, 133.9, 135.8, 160.2, 170.1. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₅, 278.1142 [M + Na]⁺; found, 278.1154.

General Procedure for the Double Dihydroxylation of Dienes. OsO₄ (0.002 mmol) was added to a solution of diene containing \sim 17% of the minor 1,3-isomer (0.10 mmol) in water/acetone (1:1, 1.0 mL), which was cooled to 0 °C before NMNO (0.25 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture while stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred an additional 0.5 h before being allowed to return to room temperature. Na₂SO₃ (1.0 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred 1 h before being diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with hot EtOAc (5 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (20 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated in vacuo, and purified by silica gel chromatography to give the tetraols.

(1*R*,2*S*,3*r*,4*R*,5*S*)-3-(2'-Hydroxyphenyl)-1,2,4,5-cyclohexanetetraol (13). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 75% EtOAc in MeOH). Mp 195–197 °C. IR ν 3368 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.75 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.40–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.99 (s, 4H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 32.0, 70.7, 72.8, 115.2, 119.4, 126.1, 126.9, 156.4. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₅, 263.08915 [M + Na]⁺; found, 263.08903.

(1*R*,2*S*,3*r*,4*R*,5*S*)-3(3'-Hydroxyphenyl)-1,2,4,5-cyclohexanetetraol (14). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 25% MeOH in EtOAc). Mp 184–186 °C. IR ν 3366 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.78 (td, *J* =15.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (td, *J* = 15.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (t, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 3.68 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 32.1, 70.6, 74.04, 113.1, 115.8, 120.1, 128.8, 142.0, 156.96. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₅, 240.0998 [M]⁺; found, 240.0982.

(1*R*,2*S*,3*r*,4*R*,5*S*)-3-(4'-Hydroxyphenyl)-1,2,4,5-cyclohexanetetraol (15). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 25% MeOH in EtOAc). Mp 187–189 °C. IR ν 3366 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.76 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.11 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (t, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.5, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 32.1, 48.5, 70.7, 74.1, 114.7, 129.7, 131.0, 155.6. EI-HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₅, 240.0998 [M]⁺; found, 240.1007.

(1*R*,2*S*,3*r*,4*R*,5*S*)-3-(Ethyl-5-salicyclyl)-1,2,4,5-cyclohexanetetraol (16). Isolated as a white solid by silica gel chromatography (eluent: 25% MeOH in EtOAc). Mp 103–105 °C. IR *ν* 3359, 1672 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.40 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.79 (td, *J* = 15.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (td, *J* = 15.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 1H), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (td, *J* = 5.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 13.2, 32.1, 61.1, 70.7, 73.9, 11.9, 116.7, 130.3, 131.4, 135.8, 160.1, 170.2. ESI-HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₂₀O₇, 313.1282 [M + H]⁺; found, 313.1283.

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Supporting Information Available: Copies of NMR spectra for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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