Building Multivalent Iminosugar-Based Ligands on Calixarene Cores via Nitrone Cycloadditions

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: A novel and challenging approach for the construction of multivalent iminosugar architectures directly on calixarene scaffolds is presented, which exploits multiple cycloaddition reactions of a carbohydrate-derived nitrone on diversely functionalized calix[4] arenes. Regardless of the 4-fold reiteration on a single calixarene, the reactions take place with high regio- and stereoselectivity, demonstrating this method as an appealing one for the synthesis of calixarene-based neoglycoconjugates.



Carbohydrate-lectin interactions are intensively investigated as they play a pivotal role in a host of biological events. Monovalent carbohydrates typically bind to their lectin receptors with low affinity.1 Nature has circumvented this tight binding limitation by exposing sugar residues in a multivalent fashion at the surface of cells. This multivalent or cluster glycoside effect is the affinity enhancement obtained with multivalent ligands compared to their monovalent counterparts, which is greater than predicted from the sum of every single saccharide-receptor recognition event.² On this basis, hundreds of multivalent glycomimetics have been synthesized for studying carbohydrate-lectin interactions.^{3,4} Conversely, the concept of multivalency has remained essentially unexplored concerning specific glycosidase inhibition using iminosugars as glycomimetics. The different nature of the enzyme receptors involved, which usually have a single and deep active site and therefore do not appear prone to accept multivalent substrates, reasonably accounts for the paucity of studies on this subject. However, although a strong multivalent or cluster effect is generally associated with the interaction of receptors bearing multiple recognition sites with multivalent sugar ligands, significant affinity enhancements have also been observed for systems where the receptors possess a single binding site. In this case, an "intrinsic" multivalent effect associated with local concentration effects may be productive.^{2c,5}

Early attempts to use multivalent iminosugar inhibitors were not encouraging,⁶ apart from the results reported with a trivalent derivative of 1-deoxynojirimycin, which showed a 6fold affinity enhancement toward jack bean- α -mannosidase.⁷ Conversely, dramatic enhancement effects were reported more



recently for a fullerene decorated with 12 iminosugar residues (up to 2150-fold)⁸ and for a series of cyclodextrins conjugated with 7 and 14 iminosugars (up to 4 orders of magnitude).^{9,10} These results demonstrated that the use of multivalent ligands can be applied, beyond carbohydrate–lectin recognition processes, to glycomimetic-enzyme inhibition for modulating the activity as well as the selectivity in the design of more potent glycosidase inhibitors from iminosugars, a class of compounds with several therapeutic applications.¹¹

Following these findings, we wish to report here our results on the synthesis of novel enantiopure iminosugars linked to calix[4]arenes via highly selective 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of enantiopure cyclic nitrones to calix[4]arenes functionalized at the upper or the lower rim.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Multiple glycosylations of calix[4]arene platforms to give glycoclusters have been extensively investigated in recent years.^{12,13} Concerning the synthetic strategies adopted, they usually involve conjugation of a preformed sugar moiety to the calixarene scaffold through suitable linkers. In contrast, our approach to iminosugar decorated calixarenes is particularly innovative and challenging, regarding the direct construction of nascent iminosugars on the calixarene skeleton. Thus, an intriguing selectivity issue arises: several novel stereogenic centers are created in the same key step when the iminosugar moieties are generated on the calixarene. For the success of this strategy, availability of a highly selective reaction for formation of the iminosugars was essential in order to avoid complex

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mixtures of products. We demonstrate the feasibility of this approach through highly regio- and diasterostereoselective multiple cycloaddition reactions of nitrone 2 to calix[4]arenes 3,5 and 4,6 (Scheme 1) functionalized, respectively, at the lower and the upper rim with terminal double bonds.

Dipolarophiles 7 and 8 were chosen as model substrates of calixarenes 3,5 and 4,6, respectively, in order to investigate the optimal reaction conditions for the cycloaddition reaction. Compound 8 was synthesized from 7, obtained in turn by allylation of xylenol, through a Claisen–Cope rearrangement followed by methylation of the phenolic hydroxy group with CH_3I in THF (Scheme 2).¹⁴

Scheme 2

Scheme 1



Cycloaddition of nitrone 1¹⁵ to lower rim model allyl ether 7 in toluene as solvent went to completion in 3 days at room temperature. Among various diastereoisomers visible in the crude mixture, one major adduct 9 was collected after flash column chromatography (FCC) in 48% yield (Scheme 3).¹⁶ The structure of 9 was assigned as derived from an exo/anti approach of the dipole to the dipolarophile, on the basis of the analogy of its ¹H NMR spectrum to those of similar adducts from the same nitrone.¹⁷ Cycloaddition of nitrone 2^{18} to the same model compound 7 required heating at 60 °C in toluene.¹⁹ After 24 h, a single regio- and stereoisomer 10 was detected and isolated in 52% yield (Scheme 3), which was also assigned a structure deriving from an exo/anti approach on the basis of a correlation peak between H-2 and H-6 observed in the 1D NOESY spectrum (see Supporting Information, Figure S6). This stereochemical outcome was in agreement to those reported for other cycloaddition reactions of the same nitrone.^{17c,20} Thus, nitrone 2 appeared to be, at least with model compound 7, less reactive but more selective.²¹ The upper rim calixarene model dipolarophile 8 was less reactive than 7. Indeed, cycloaddition with nitrone 2 required 3 days at 60 °C for completion.²² A single regio- and stereoisomeric adduct 11 was isolated in 65% yield (Scheme 3), again resulting from an exo/anti approach of the reacting partners. In both adducts 10 and 11, a small vicinal coupling constant J = 4.0-4.6





Hz was detected between protons H-3a and H-4, indicative of their *trans* relationship.^{17a,b}

Calixarenes 3-6 were synthesized following literature procedures.²³ When performing the cycloaddition reaction on these multifuctionalized calixarenes, the stereoselectivity issue becomes crucial. Indeed, in the case of difunctionalized calixarenes 3 and 4, formation of a diadduct will generate four novel stereocenters on the same molecule. Thus, assuming a complete regioselectivity and taking into account symmetry considerations, the reaction may afford up to 10 stereoisomers, besides the 4 possible monoadducts. The number of possible stereoisomers increases dramatically on going to the tetrafunctionalized calixarenes 5 and 6. In this case, eight novel stereocenters are generated in a single synthetic step, in principle giving rise to 70 tetraadducts (strongly reduced from the theoretical $2^8 = 256$ for symmetry reasons), besides the 64 possible trisubstituted adducts, 26 diadducts (16 vicinal + 10 distal) and 4 monoadducts, for a total of 164 possible products. In this quite complex scenario, it is essential that all the dipolarophiles react and the stereoselectivity of each cycloaddition reaction has to be virtually complete. This may happen if highly stereoselective reactions are chosen and the dipolarophilic moieties in the calixarene behave independently of each other; that is, each subsequent cycloaddition is not influenced by the already installed stereocenters in terms of stereoselectivity. On the basis of the results obtained with model compounds 7 and 8, nitrone 2 appeared more suited than 1 for this study. Indeed, nitrone 1 reacted with calixarene 3^{23b} slightly faster than 2 but considerably less selectively. The

Scheme 4







Scheme 6



reaction was complete after two days at 60 °C, but several TLC spots were detected on the crude; luckily, the major *exo/anti* diadduct **12** could be isolated by FCC, albeit with a moderate 29% yield (Scheme 4).²⁴

Conversely, calixarene 3 reacted with 2 equiv of nitrone 2 in toluene at 60 °C to give, after 3 days,²⁵ the only detectable compound 13, obtained in a satisfactory 52% yield after purification by FCC (Scheme 4). It is worth noting that the recovered yields of diadducts 12 and 13 are in line with those obtained with the model dipolarophiles, considering the different selectivities of nitrones 1 and 2. These results confirmed that nitrone 1 is unsuitable for synthesizing multiple cycloadducts and justified continuing this study with the nitrone 2 exclusively. The structure of 13 was confirmed by 1D and 2D ¹H NMR experiments, and derived from an *exo/anti* approach of both allylic moieties of calixarene 3 to nitrone 2, as demonstrated by the presence of NOESY correlation peaks

between H-2 and H-6 of the pyrroloisoxazole nucleus (see Supporting Information, Figure S18), in analogy with the model system. As shown in the Supporting Information (Figure S14), the ¹H NMR spectrum of 13 showed a high symmetry, according to the anticipation that both cycloadditions proceeded with the same type of approach, thus providing a C_2 symmetric molecule. At least other two adducts were detected in the crude mixture by TLC, but they could be isolated only in traces, and they were not further characterized.

In order to obtain calixarenes functionalized at the upper rim, calixarene 4^{23a} was reacted with 2 equiv of nitrone 2 in toluene at 60 °C, affording a single adduct 14 isolated in 59% yield after FCC (Scheme 5). Again, the ¹H NMR spectrum was highly symmetric (see Supporting Information, Figure S19). The structure of 14 was confirmed to derive from an *exo/anti* approach of both 1,3-dipole molecules on the basis of 1D and 2D NMR spectra. In particular, the 2D NOESY spectrum



Figure 1. Spin systems for methylene protons in calixarenes 13 and 14 (relative positions within the couples A, B and X, Y have been indicated arbitrarily) and a section of 1 H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 13 (a) and 14 (b).

showed correlation peaks of H-2 with H-6 and H-4 and of H-3a with H-5 (see Supporting Information, Figure S21).

Tetrafunctionalization at lower and upper rim of calixarenes 5^{23c} and 6, 23a respectively, has been also achieved (Scheme 6). Four equivalents of nitrone 2 were reacted either with calixarene 5 or 6 in toluene at 60 °C, affording complete conversions after 3 days in both cases. However, isolation and purification of these tetrafunctionalized calixarenes was not a trivial task, mainly due to instability of the products on silica gel. Calixarene 15 was obtained in 49% yield after purification on alumina. Compound **15** showed a more complex ¹H NMR spectrum with some broadened signals (see Supporting Information, Figure S22), presumably as a consequence of higher energy barriers for the conformational mobility of the pyrroloisoxazole nuclei crowding at the lower rim of the macrocycle calixarene. However, the simplicity of NMR spectra with a limited number of signals show again that the newly formed stereocenters in each cycloaddition reaction did not influence the stereoselectivity of the subsequent cycloadditions, and each cycloaddition was established to proceed with an *exo/*

anti approach, thus affording a C_4 symmetric compound. Purification of **16**, obtained by addition of **2** to the upper rim functionalized calixarene **6** was even more difficult, and the adduct **16** could be isolated in a poor 14% yield (Scheme 6) via FCC on silica, while purification on alumina did not give any improvement.

The ¹H NMR patterns originated by the protons of the methylene units connecting the aryl rings in the different calixarene adducts 13, 14, 15 and 16 deserve a further comment. In the starting calixarenes 3-6, the presence of bulky groups (and hydrogen-bonding for compounds 3 and 4) fixes the calixarene in the cone structure, inducing diastereotopicity in the four axial and four equatorial protons that give rise to an AX spin system.²⁶

When a homochiral moiety is introduced in two distal positions in a calixarene, as it happens in adducts **13** and **14**, the symmetry planes are lost, and this generates two different spin systems AX and BY for the methylene bridge protons, as is apparent from the ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **13** (Figure 1a), which shows two couples of doublets at around 4.4 and 3.4 ppm. This effect is not observed for **14**, probably due to the larger distance of the homochiral moieties, which are placed in the upper rim, from the methylene protons, resulting in an accidental isochronism for their signals, with only two doublets, respectively at 4.42 and 3.12 ppm (Figure 1b).

When the homochiral moiety is introduced in all of the arenes, as it happens for tetraadducts 15 and 16, the methylenebridge spin system does not change after the cycloaddition reaction with respect to the starting calixarenes 5 and 6: two doublets are observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum, which reflect the AX spin system of the methylene protons. In conclusion, apart from accidental isochronisms, the observed spin systems are a proof of the symmetry of compounds 13-16, thus confirming that each cycloaddition has occurred with the same stereoselective mode. With adducts in hand, we attempted at their further elaboration. Catalytic hydrogenation of model adducts 10 and 11 with Pd/C in MeOH as solvent and in presence of conc. HCl afforded the deprotected amino alcohols 17 and 18 after treatment with ion-exchange resin DOWEX 50WX8, by eluting with ammonia. However, while 17 was obtained pure and in high yield (97%) after the treatment with the resin, compound 18 required a further purification on silica gel in order to obtain an analytically pure sample in a moderate 36% yield (Scheme 7). Complete assignment of the relative configuration of compound 17 was possible on the basis of correlation peaks observed between H-3 and H-5, the protons at C_{α} and C_{β} of the side chain at C-2 and H-3 and H-5, and

Scheme 7



between H-2 and H-4 in its 2D NOESY spectrum (see Supporting Information, Figure S34) and furnished a confirmation of the previous structural assignment to the parent cycloadduct.

Unfortunately, catalytic hydrogenation of calixarene adducts 13 and 14 did not give any positive result. On reacting 13 with H_2 and Pd/C in the presence of conc. HCl in MeOH as solvent for 15 h, only decomposition products were obtained after treatment with ion-exchange resin. This may be ascribed to a sensitivity of the product to the acidic conditions, or to instability to the resin. Alternatively, catalytic hydrogenation performed without addition of HCl did not succeed in removing all the benzyl groups, even reacting for 4 days with 200% catalyst in weight, and thus confirming the difficulties observed, in some cases, in the debenzylation of calixarene derivatives.²⁷ We then turned to investigate the possibility to selectively cleave the N-O bond. A mixture of calixarene 13 and Zn in CH₃COOH/H₂O 9:1 was thus heated at 45 °C for 1.5 h as reported for similar cycloadducts to nitrone 2, 18,20,28 affording amino alcohol 19 in 66% yield. Analogously, isoxazolidine ring cleavage of adduct 14 under the same conditions afforded compound 20 in 86% yield after purification on silica gel (Scheme 8). Unfortunately, when this reaction was performed on tetra-adduct 15 under the same conditions, no product was recovered, due to instability of the amino alcohol on silica gel.





In conclusion, in this work we showed that iminosugars can be introduced on calix[4]arenes by exploiting a challenging synthetic strategy that uses a highly regio- and stereoselective cycloaddition reaction of nitrone 2 to properly di- and tetraallylated calixarenes 3-6. Novel enantiopure calix iminosugars 13-16 were synthesized in good yields, and their further synthetic elaboration to give novel multivalent iminosugars was studied.

We therefore think that the nitrone cycloaddition to polyallylated scaffolds can be used to efficiently and selectively prepare a rich collection of polyvalent iminosugar ligands potentially useful in the inhibition of glycosidases.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Commercial reagents were used as received. All reactions were magnetically stirred and monitored by TLC on 0.25 mm silica gel

plates, and column chromatography was carried out on Silica Gel 60 (32–63 μ m). Yields refer to spectroscopically and analytically pure compounds unless otherwise stated. All the peak assignments reported in ¹H NMR spectra were based on COSY, HMQC, and NOESY spectra.

Synthesis of 4-Allyl-2,6-dimethylphenyl Methyl Ether (8). Neat 7 (5 g) was heated at 200 $^\circ C$ for 15 h in a sand bath. TLC control showed complete conversion of the starting material. Then, a portion of the obtained red crude oil (512 mg, 3.14 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (10 mL), and NaH (150 mg, 6.25 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was left stirring at room temperature for 1 h, then CH₃I was added (2.2 mg, 15.8 mmol), and the mixture heated at 80 °C for 15 h. Water (20 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3×10) mL). The organic phase was washed with H_2O (3 × 10 mL) and dried over Na2SO4. Filtration and evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded 520 mg (2.95 mmol, 95% yield over two steps) of pure 8 as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ = 6.86 (s, 2H; Ar-H), 5.97 (m, 1H; ArCH₂CHCH₂), 5.20-5.01 (m, 2H; $ArCH_2CHCH_2$), 3.72 (s, 3H; OCH₃), 3.31 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂CHCH₂), 2.29 (s, 6H; ArCH₃).

(2R, 3aR, 4R, 5R, 6R)-4, 5-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-2-[2,6-dimethylphenoxy)methyl]hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoxazole (10). A mixture of nitrone 2 (250 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 7 (194 mg, 1.2 mmol) in toluene (0.6 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h, and then a TLC control showed the disappearance of the starting material. Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography using an eluent with increasing polarity (petroleum ether/AcOEt 8:1 then 3:1) affording pure 10 (182 mg, 0.31 mmol, 52% yield) as a white solid (R_f = 0.6, petroleum ether/AcOEt 5:1): mp = 77-78 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -36.2$ $(c = 0.5, \text{ CHCl}_3)$; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) $\delta = 7.41-7.28$ (m, 15H; Ar-H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.95 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 4.68-4.55 (m, 7H, 2-H; OCH₂Ar), 4.14 (dd, J = 5.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H; 5-H), 4.04 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H; 4-H), 3.95 (dd, J = 10.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H; ArOCH₂); 3.87–3.82 (m, 2H; ArOCH₂, 3a-H), 3.80 (dd, J = 10.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H; CH₂OBn), 3.72 (dd, J = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H; CH₂OBn), 3.45 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H; 6-H), 2.38 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H; 3-H), 2.31 (s, 6H; ArCH₃); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.1 (s), 138.0 (s), 137.7 (s), 137.5 (s), 130.5 (s, 2C), 128.5-127.4 (d, 17C), 123.6 (d), 87.0 (d), 83.4 (d), 75.2 (d), 73.1 (t), 72.1 (t, 2C), 71.6 (t), 69.7 (t), 69.5 (d), 67.7 (d), 36.7 (t), 16.1 (q, 2C); MS (EI) m/z (%) = 579 (M⁺, 0.2), 458 (6), 400 (7), 105 (14), 91 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₃₇H₄₁NO₅ (579.73): C, 76.66; H, 7.13; N, 2.42. Found C, 76.37; H, 7.15; N, 2.24.

(2S, 3aR, 4R, 5R, 6R)-4, 5-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-2-(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzyl)-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoxazole (11). A mixture of nitrone 2 (250 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 8 (230 mg, 1.3 mmol) in toluene (0.6 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 3 days, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/AcOEt 1:4) showed the disappearance of the starting nitrone 2 ($R_f = 0.5$). Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography using an eluent with increasing polarity (petroleum ether/AcOEt 5:1 then 3:1) affording pure 11 (232 mg, 0.31 mmol, 65% yield) as a yellow oil ($R_f = 0.33$, petroleum ether/AcOEt 3:1): $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -29.8 (c = 0.5, CHCl_3)^{-1}H$ NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.36–7.25 (m, 15H; Ar–H), 6.86 (s, 2H; Ar-H), 4.67-4.54 (m, 6H; OCH₂Ar), 4.31 (quint, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H; 2-H), 4.07 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H; 5-H), 3.91 (t, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H; 4-H), 3.78-3.66 (m, 3H; 3a-H, CH2OBn), 3.73 (s, 3H; ArOCH3), 3.36-3.34 (m, 1H; 6-H), 2.94 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H; ArCH₂), 2.65 (dd, J= 14.0, 6.8 Hz, 1H; ArCH₂), 2.28 (s, 6H; ArCH₃), 2.10 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H; 3-H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (s), 138.4 (s), 138.1 (s), 137.9 (s), 133.3 (s) 130.6 (s, 2C), 129.5 (d, 2C), 128.4–127.5 (d, 15C, C-Ar), 87.6 (d,), 83.0 (d), 77.0 (d), 73.4 (t), 72.5 (t), 71.9 (t), 69.9 (t), 69.4 (d), 67.8 (d), 59.7 (q), 40.0 (t), 38.6 (t), 16.0 (q, 2C); MS (EI) m/z (%) = 593 (M⁺, 1), 562 (1), 472 (3), 400 (5), 219 (8), 149 (18), 91 (100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{38}H_{43}NO_5$ (593.75): C, 76.87; H, 7.30; N, 2.36. Found C, 76.52; H, 7.47; N, 2.15.

26,28-Bis({(2R,3aR,4R,5R,6R)-4,5-bis(benzyloxy)-6-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoxazol-2-yl}- methoxy)-25,27-dihydroxy-calix[4]arene (13). A mixture of 3 (132 mg, 0.26 mmol) and nitrone 2 (217 mg, 0.52 mmol) in toluene (0.52 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 3 days, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/AcOEt 10:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calixarene ($R_f = 0.5$). Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography using an eluent with increasing polarity (petroleum ether/AcOEt 4:1 then 3:1) affording pure 13 (180 mg, 0.13 mmol, 52% yield) as a white solid ($R_f = 0.4$, petroleum ether/AcOEt 3:1): mp = 65–66 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ = -32.1 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_{2}$) $\delta = 7.55$ (s, 2H; OH), 7.37–7.29 (m, 30H; Ar–H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H; Ar-H), 6.88 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 6.74 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.72 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 4.72-4.66 (m, 2H; 2-H), 4.63-4.52 (m, 12H; OCH₂Ar), 4.46 (d, I = 13.2 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.42 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.18–4.06 (m, 8H; ArOCH₂, 4-H, 5-H), 3.89 (dt, J = 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 2H; 3a-H), 3.72 (dd, J = 9.8, 4.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂OBn), 3.65 (dd, I = 9.8, 5.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂OBn), 3.46 (q, I =5.3 Hz, 2H; 6-H), 3.38 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 3.36 (d, J =13.2 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 2.51–2.43 (m, 2H; 3-H), 2.37–2.31 (m, 2H; 3-H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₂) δ = 152.9 (s, 2C), 151.4 (s, 2C), 138.1 (s, 2C), 137.8 (s, 2C), 137.6 (s, 2C), 132.8 (s, 4C), 128.8 (d, 4C), 128.6 (d, 4C), 128.1-127.3 (d, 30C), 128.0 (s, 4C), 125.0 (d, 2C), 118.6 (d, 2C), 87.5 (d, 2C), 83.7 (d, 2C), 76.1 (t, 2C), 74.7 (d, 2C), 73.1 (t, 2C), 72.1 (t, 2C), 71.6 (t, 2C), 69.7 (t, 2C), 69.3 (d, 2C), 67.6 (d, 2C), 36.3 (t, 2C), 31.2 (t, 2C), 31.1 (t, 2C); IR (CDCl₃): 3369, 3028, 2918, 2863, 1465, 1452, 1089, 1026, 736, 697 cm⁻¹; ESI-MS calcd for $C_{86}H_{86}N_2NaO_{12}$ (M + Na⁺) m/z 1361.6. Found m/z1362.0. Anal. Calcd for C86H86N2O12 (1339.61): C, 77.11; H, 6.47; N, 2.09. Found C, 76.93; H, 6.48; N, 2.08.

5,17-Bis({(2S,3aR,4R,5R,6R)-4,5-bis(benzyloxy)-6-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoxazol-2-yl}methyl)-25,26,27,28-tetrapropoxy-calix[4]arene (14). A mixture of 4 (106 mg, 0.16 mmol) and nitrone 2 (158 mg, 0.38 mmol) in toluene (0.38 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 3 days, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/AcOEt 10:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calibarene 4 ($R_f = 0.8$). Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/AcOEt 3:1) affording pure 14 (143 mg, 0.09 mmol, 59% yield) as a white solid ($R_f = 0.3$, petroleum ether/ AcOEt 3:1): mp = 54–56 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -22.9$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.40–7.28 (m, 30H; Ar–H), 6.75 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 6.43-6.35 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 4.70-4.54 (m, 12H, OCH_2Ar), 4.42 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 4H; $ArCH_2Ar$), 4.34 (quint, J = 6.8Hz, 2H; 2-H), 4.10 (dd, J = 6.2, 4.6 Hz, 2H; 5-H), 3.99-3.93 (m, 6H; 4-H, ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 3.82-3.69 (m, 10H; 3a-H, CH₂OBn, $ArOCH_2CH_2CH_3$), 3.37 (dt, J = 6.3, 5.5 Hz, 2H; 6-H), 3.12 (d, J =13.6 Hz, 4H; ArCH₂Ar), 2.90 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.6 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂), 2.64 $(dd, J = 14.0, 6.8 Hz, 2H; ArCH_2), 2.17-2.12 (m, 4H; 3-H), 2.04-$ 1.90 (m, 8H; $ArOCH_2CH_2CH_3$), 1.11 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 0.99 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (s, 2C), 155.4 (s, 2C), 138.1 (s, 2C), 137.8 (s, 2C), 137.5 (s, 2C), 135.5 (s, 4C), 133.6 (s, 4C), 130.6 (s, 2C), 129.0 (d, 4C), 128.8 (d, 4C), 128.1-127.1 (d, 30C), 121.7 (d, 2C), 87.4 (d, 2C), 82.6 (d, 2C), 76.9, 76.5 (d, 2C and t, 4C), 73.1 (t, 2C), 72.2 (t, 2C), 71.5 (t, 2C), 69.6 (t, 2C), 68.9 (d, 2C), 67.4 (d, 2C), 39.7 (t, 2C), 38.5 (t, 2C), 30.7 (t, 4C), 23.1 (t, 2C), 22.8 (t, 2C), 10.4 (q, 2C), 9.8 (q, 2C); ESI-MS calcd for C₉₈H₁₁₀N₂NaO₁₂ (M + Na⁺) m/z 1529.8. Found m/z 1530.5. Anal. Calcd for C₉₈H₁₁₀N₂O₁₂ (1507.93): C, 78.06; H, 7.35; N, 1.86. Found C, 77.96; H, 7.64; N, 1.68

25,26,27,28-Tetrakis(**{**(**25,3a***R*,**4***R*,**5***R*,**6***R*)-**4,5-bis**(**benzyloxy**)-**6-**[(**benzyloxy**)**methyl**]**hexahydropyrrolo**[**1,2-b**]**isoxazol-2-yl**}-**methoxy**)-**calix**[**4**]**arene** (**15**). A mixture of **5** (145 mg, 0.25 mmol) and nitrone **2** (460 mg, 1.1 mmol) in toluene (1.1 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 3 days, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/AcOEt 10:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calixarene 5 (R_f = 0.6). Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography on alumina (petroleum ether/AcOEt 5:1) affording pure **15** (277 mg, 0.12 mmol, 49% yield) as a white waxy solid (R_f = 0.4, petroleum ether/AcOEt

3:1): $[\alpha] p^{27} = -14.9 (c = 0.5, CHCl_3); {}^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3)$ $<math>\delta = 7.30 - 7.23 (m, 60H; Ar-H), 6.67 - 6.44 (m, 12H; Ar-H), 4.59 - 4.42 (m, 32H; 2-H, OCH_2Ar, ArCH_2Ar), 4.15 (m, 4H; ArOCH_2),$ $4.06 - 4.03 (m, 8H; 5-H, ArOCH_2), 3.98 (m, 4H; 4-H), 3.73 - 3.71 (m, 8H; 3a-H, CH_2OBn), 3.63 - 3.59 (m, 4H; CH_2OBn), 3.35 (m, 4H; 6-H), 3.15 (d, J = 13.2, 4H; ArCH_2Ar), 2.26 - 2.24 (m, 4H; 3-H), 2.17 - 2.13 (m, 4H; 3-H); {}^{13}C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl_3) \delta 155.6 (s, 4C), 138.5 (s, 4C), 138.2 (s, 4C), 137.9 (s, 4C), 135.0 (s, 8C), 128.4 - 127.4 (d, 68C), 122.3 (d, 4C), 87.8 (d, 4C), 83.4 (d, 4C), 75.0, 74.8 (d, 4C and t, 4C), 67.5 (d, 4C), 37.5 (t, 4C), 31.3 (t, 4C); ESI-MS calcd for C₁₄₄H₁₄₈N₄NaO₂₀ (M + Na⁺) m/z 2276.1. Found m/z 2276.1. Anal. Calcd for C₁₄₄H₁₄₈N₄O₂₀ (2254.73): C, 76.71; H, 6.62; N, 2.48. Found C, 76.42; H, 6.90; N, 2.56.$

5,11,17,23-Tetrakis({(2S,3aR,4R,5R,6R)-4,5-bis(benzyloxy)-6-[(benzyloxy)methyl]-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoxazol-2-yl}methyl)-25,26,27,28-tetrapropoxy-calix[4]arene (16). A mixture of 6 (105 mg, 0.14 mmol) and nitrone 2 (257 mg, 0.62 mmol) in toluene (0.62 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 3 days, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/AcOEt 10:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calixarene 6 ($R_f = 0.6$). Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified by flash column chromatography using an eluent with increasing polarity (petroleum ether/AcOEt 3:1 then 1:1) affording pure 16 (48 mg, 0.02 mmol, 14% yield) as a white solid ($R_f = 0.3$, petroleum ether/AcOEt 2:1): mp = 68–70 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -30.7$ (c = 0.41, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) $\delta = 7.36-7.26$ (m, 60H; Ar-H), 6.44 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 4.66-4.50 (m, 24H; OCH₂Ar), 4.39 (d, J = 13.0, 4H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.17-4.14 (m, 4H; 2-H), 4.06-4.04 (m, 4H; 5-H), 3.89-3.83 (m, 12H, 4-H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₃), 3.72-3.65 (m, 12H; 3a-H, CH₂OBn), 3.32 (m, 4H; 6-H), 3.06 (d, J = 13.0, 4H; ArCH₂Ar), 2.72-2.68 (m, 4H; ArCH₂), 2.46–2.41 (m, 4H; ArCH₂), 2.03–1.91 (m, 16H, 3-H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.04–1.00 (m, 12H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.1 (s, 4C), 138.4 (s, 4C), 138.1 (s, 4C), 137.8 (s, 4C), 134.5 (s, 8C), 130.8 (s, 4C), 128.8 (d, 4C), 128.5 (d, 4C), 128.3-127.4 (d, 60C), 87.6 (d, 4C), 83.1 (d, 4C), 77.3 (d, 4C), 76.6 (t, 4C), 73.4 (t, 4C), 72.5 (t, 4C), 71.8 (t, 4C), 70.1 (t, 4C), 69.2 (d, 4C), 67.7 (d, 4C), 40.0 (t, 4C), 38.9 (t, 4C), 31.2 (t, 4C), 23.4 (t, 4C), 10.6 (q, 4C); ESI-MS calcd for C₁₅₆H₁₇₂N₄NaO₂₀ m/z 2444.3. Found *m/z* 2444.9. Anal. Calcd for C₁₅₆H₁₇₂N₄O₂₀ (2423.05): C, 77.33; H, 7.15; N, 2.31. Found C, 77.36; H, 7.25; N, 2.04.

(2R,3R,4R,5R)-2-[(2R)-3-(2,6-Dimethylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-5-(hydroxymethyl)pyrrolidine-3,4-diol (17). To a solution of compound 10 (180 mg, 0.31 mmol) in MeOH (25 mL), Pd/ C (20 mg, 11% w) and 10 drops of concentrated HCl were added. The mixture was left under H₂ atmosphere at room temperature for 15 h, and then a TLC control showed disappearance of 10 ($R_f = 0.5$, petroleum ether/AcOEt 5:1). After filtration through Celite, the crude was passed through the ion-exchange resin DOWEX 50WX8, eluting with MeOH (15 mL), H₂O (10 mL) and a 10% aq solution of NH₃ (50 mL). Evaporation under reduced pressure afforded pure 17 (93 mg, 0.3 mmol, 97% yield) as a white solid: mp = 95–97 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ = +33.6 (c = 0.14, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O) $\delta = 7.04$ (d, J =7.0 Hz, 2H; Ar–H), 6.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H; Ar–H), 4.13 (ddt, J = 9.6, 6.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H; CH₂CHOHCH₂), 3.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 3.83 $(t, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, 3\text{-H}), 3.79-3.67 (m, 4\text{H}; CH_2-OH, ArOCH_2),$ 3.35 (td, J = 8.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H; 2-H), 3.27-3.22 (m, 1H; 5-H), 2.19 (s, 6H; ArCH₃), 1.97 (ddd, J = 14.8, 10.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H, ArOCH₂CHOHCH₂), 1.84 (ddd, J = 14.8, 8.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H, ArOCH₂CHOHCH₂); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, D₂O) $\delta = 153.5$ (s), 130.4 (s, 2C), 128.0 (d, 2C), 124.0 (d), 78.8 (d), 75.2 (d), 74.9 (t), 66.3 (d), 60.9 (d), 59.2 (t), 56.1 (d), 33.9 (t), 14.4 (q, 2C); MS (EI) $m/z = 311 (M^+, 2), 280 (60), 158 (28), 132 (100), 102 (31), 86 (84),$ 60 (10). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₅NO₅ (311.37): C, 61.72; H, 8.09; N, 4.50. Found C, 61.78; H, 7.86; N, 4.15.

(2R,3R,4R,5R)-2-[(2S)-2-Hydroxy-4-(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylphenyl)butyl]5-(hydroxymethyl)pyrrolidine-3,4-diol (18). To a solution of compound 11 (220 mg, 0.37 mmol) in MeOH (30 mL), Pd/C (25 mg, 11% w) and 10 drops of concentrated HCl were added. The mixture was left under H₂ atmosphere at room

temperature for 15 h, and then a TLC control showed disappearance of 11 ($R_f = 0.5$, petroleum ether/AcOEt 4:1). After filtration through Celite, the crude was passed through the ion-exchange resin DOWEX 50WX8, eluting with MeOH (15 mL), H₂O (10 mL) and a 10% aq solution of NH₂ (50 mL). Evaporation under reduced pressure afforded a product that was further purified by flash column chromatography (eluent CH₂Cl₂/MeOH/NH₄OH (33%) 8:1.5:0.1) to obtain pure 18 (42 mg, 0.13 mmol, 36% yield) as a white solid: mp = 110-112 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{24}$ = +29.4 (c = 0.58, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O) $\delta = 6.83$ (s, 2H; Ar-H), 3.86-3.85 (m, 1H; CH₂CHOHCH₂), 3.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 3.68-3.56 (m, 6H; 3-H, CH₂OH, ArOCH₃), 3.17-3.11 (m, 1H; 2-H), 3.07-3.03 (m, 1H, 5-H), 2.63–2.52 (m, 1H; ArCH₂), 2.14 (s, 6H; ArCH₃), 2.12 (m, 1H; ArCH₂), 1.73-1.66 (m, 2H; ArCH₂CHOHCH₂); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, D_2O) $\delta = 154.3$ (s), 134.3 (s), 131.0 (s, 2C), 129.8 (d, 2C), 80.1 (d), 76.4 (d), 69.5 (d), 61.6 (d), 60.8 (t), 59.7 (q), 57.5 (d), 42.4 (t), 38.3 (t), 15.1 (q, 2C); MS (EI) m/z = 325 (M⁺, 0.9), 276 (12), 176 (22), 149 (18), 132 (100), 86 (17), 60 (35). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₇NO₅ (325.40): C, 62.75; H, 8.36; N, 4.30. Found C, 62.85; H, 8.46; N, 4.15.

26,28-Bis({3-((2R,3R,4R,5R)-3,4-dibenzyloxy-2-benzyloxymethyl-pyrrolidin-5-)-(2R)-2-hydroxypropyl}-25,27dihydroxycalix[4]arene (19). A mixture of 13 (100 mg, 0.075 mmol) and Zn dust (245 mg) in CH₃COOH/H₂O 9:1 (0.9 mL) was heated at 45 °C for 1.5 h, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/ AcOEt 1.5:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calixarene 13 $(R_f = 0.4)$. After filtration through cotton, the solution was treated with a saturated Na₂CO₃ solution until basic pH was reached. The phase was extracted with AcOEt (3 \times 25 mL), and the combined organic phases dried over Na₂SO₄. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified through flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/AcOEt 1:1) to obtain pure 19 (67 mg, 0.05 mmol, 66% yield) as a white solid ($R_f = 0.1$): mp = 95–96 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -2.0$ (*c* = 1.22, CDCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.67 (s, 2H; OH), 7.33-7.19 (m, 30H; Ar-H), 7.08-7.06 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.03-6.98 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 6.96-6.94 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 6.80 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.65 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 4.58-4.42 (m, 16H; OCH₂Ar, CH₂CHOHCH₂, ArCH₂Ar), 4.23 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.13 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 2H; ArOCH₂), 3.95 (t, J =3.8 Hz, 2H; 4-H), 3.91-3.86 (m, 4H; 3-H, ArOCH₂), 3.68-3.58 (m, 2H; 2-H), 3.54-3.52 (m, 4H; CH₂OBn), 3.40-3.34 (m, 6H; 5-H, ArCH₂Ar), 2.10-2.00 (m, 2H; ArOCH₂CHOHCH₂), 1.92-1.85 (m, 2H; ArOCH₂CHOHCH₂); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 152.2 (s, 2C), 150.8 (s, 2C), 138.2 (s, 6C), 134.0 (s, 4C), 133.5 (s, 4C), 129.4 (d, 2C), 128.7 (d, 2C), 128.6 (d, 2C), 128.5 (d, 2C), 128.2-127.5 (d, 30C), 125.9 (d, 2C), 119.8 (d, 2C), 89.2 (d, 2C), 86.1 (d, 2C), 80.7 (d 2C), 73.1 (t, 2C), 71.9 (t, 4C), 70.4 (t, 2C), 68.6 (t, 2C), 61.6 (d, 2C), 58.9 (d, 2C), 35.3 (t, 2C), 32.0 (t, 2C), 31.3 (t, 2C); ESI-MS calcd for $C_{86}H_{90}N_2NaO_{12}$ (M + Na⁺) m/z 1365.6. Found m/z 1366.1. Anal. Calcd for C₈₆H₉₀N₂O₁₂ (1343.64): C, 76.87; H, 6.75; N, 2.08. Found C, 76.93; H, 7.18; N, 2.09

5,17-Bis({3-((2R,3R,4R,5R)-3,4-dibenzyloxy-2-benzyloxymethyl-pyrrolidin-5-)-(2R)-2-hydroxypropyl}-25,26,27,28-tetrapropoxy-calix[4]arene (20). A mixture of 14 (50 mg, 0.033 mmol) and Zn dust (108 mg) in CH₃COOH/H₂O 9:1 (0.4 mL) was heated at 45 °C for 2 h, and then a TLC control (petroleum ether/ AcOEt 3:1) showed the disappearance of the starting calixarene 14 ($R_{\rm f}$ = 0.4). After filtration through cotton, the solution was treated with a saturated Na2CO3 solution until basic pH was reached. The phase was extracted with AcOEt $(3 \times 20 \text{ mL})$, and the combined organic phases dried over Na2SO4. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure afforded a crude, which was purified through flash column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH/NEt₃ 30:1:0.1) to obtain pure 20 (42 mg, 0.028 mmol, 86% yield) as a white waxy solid: $[\alpha]D^{27} = +14.6$ $(c = 0.25, \text{CHCl}_3)$; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 7.39-7.28$ (m, 30H; Ar-H), 6.69 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 4H; Ar-H), 6.42 (m, 6H; Ar-H),4.60–4.48 (m, 12H; OCH₂Ar), 4.45 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.44 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂Ar), 4.00–3.95 (m, 4H; 4-H, CH₂CHOHCH₂), 3.90-3.85 (m, 6H; 3-H, ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.78 $(t, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 4\text{H}; \text{ArOCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3), 3.60-3.56 (m, 6\text{H}; 2-\text{H}, 10.5)$

 CH_2OBn), 3.40 (q, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H, 5-H), 3.12 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 2H; $ArCH_2Ar$), 3.10 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 2H; $ArCH_2Ar$), 2.71 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.0 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂CHOH), 2.58 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.0 Hz, 2H; ArCH₂CHOH), 1.98-1.89 (m, 8H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.88-1.81 (m, 2H; ArCH₂CHOHCH₂), 1.63–1.56 (m, 2H; ArCH₂CHOHCH₂), 1.06 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₃), 0.93 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H; ArOCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (s, 2C), 155.6 (s, 2C), 138.0 (s, 2C), 137.9 (s, 4C), 135.6 (s, 4C), 134.1 (s, 4C), 131.6 (s, 2C), 129.2 (d, 4C), 128.3-127.6 (d, 34C), 122 (d, 2C), 88.6 (d, 2C), 85.5 (d, 2C), 76.8 (t, 2C), 76.5 (t, 2C), 73.2 (t, 2C), 72.1 (t, 2C), 71.9 (t, 2C), 71.3 (d, 2C), 69.4 (t, 2C), 61.2 (d, 2C), 59.2 (d, 2C), 43.3 (t, 2C), 36.7 (t, 2C), 31.1 (t, 4C), 23.5 (t, 2C), 23.3 (t, 2C), 10.8 (q, 2C), 10.3 (q, 2C); ESI-MS calcd for $C_{98}H_{114}N_2NaO_{12}$ (M + Na⁺) m/z 1533.8. Found m/z 1534.6. Anal. Calcd for C₉₈H₁₁₄N₂O₁₂ (1511.96): C, 77.85; H, 7.60; N, 1.85. Found C, 77.73; H, 7.58; N, 2.11.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

¹H NMR spectra of compounds 10–20, ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds 9–20, COSY spectra of compounds 9–13 and 15–20, HMQC spectra of compounds 11, 13, and 15–20, 1D NOESY spectra of compounds 10 and 13, and 2D NOESY spectra of compounds 14 and 17. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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