

Figure 1. Crystal structures of dicarboxylic acids derived from **8a** and **8b**. In **9a**, a water molecule (●) is hydrogen bonded to two imide carbonyls and helps maintain the convergent conformation. All hydrogens have been omitted.

molecular hydrogen bonding can enforce the convergent conformation as evident in **9a** (the diacid derived from **8a**).

Several lines of evidence bear on the affinity of the new chelating agents for alkaline earth ions. First, the ΔpK_a observed¹² for the benzene derivative **4** ($pK_{a1} = pK_{a2} = 11.1$) suggests that dianions of the new structures provide an exquisite microenvironment for divalent ions. The diacid **9a** was sufficiently soluble in water to permit its evaluation as chelate under homogeneous conditions. With use of Ca^{2+} selective electrodes or pH titrations $K_a = 2.1 \times 10^5 M^{-1}$ was measured for the diacid derivative **9a** with Ca^{2+} , assuming a 1:1 stoichiometry. This value might be compared to imidodiacetic acid,¹³ for which $K_a = 7 \times 10^3 M^{-1}$.

The high lipophilicity of these systems permitted extraction of Ca^{2+} or Mg^{2+} from aqueous phases. For example, 0.1 M solutions of **4** in $CHCl_3$ were used to extract a solution of Ca^{2+} (59 ppm) and Mg^{2+} (24 ppm); >99% of the Ca^{2+} and 73% of the Mg^{2+} were removed from the aqueous phase. Parallel experiments with **9b** resulted in 97% removal of Ca^{2+} and 94% removal of Mg^{2+} .

Transport experiments using $CHCl_3$ between two aqueous solutions in a U-tube were also performed (Figure 2). The new carriers were comparable to A-23187 in their ability to transport Ca^{2+} across these model liquid membranes from a tris-buffered phase (pH = 9) to an acidic phase (pH = 1).

Finally, an ion exchange resin was prepared and tested. The dibenzyl pyridine derivative **9b** was adsorbed on unfunctionalized 4% cross-linked polystyrene by mere rotary evaporation of its $CHCl_3$ solutions in which the resin beads were suspended. About 0.4 mmol **9b** per gram could be attached in this fashion. The resin was capable of extracting calcium and magnesium ions from brine

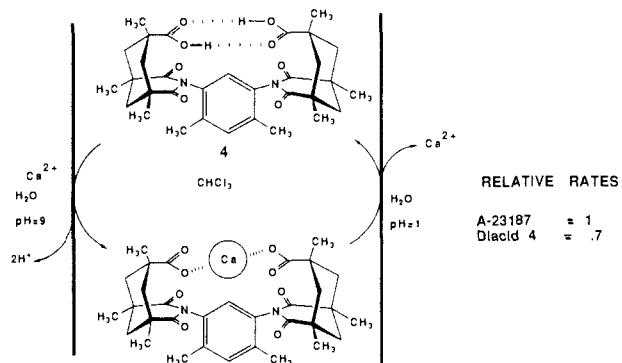


Figure 2.

solutions. At pH 12, with 1 equiv of Ca^{2+} in 0.1 M brine, about 20% of the sites bind Ca^{2+} , suggesting that stoichiometries other than 1:1 may be involved. Under conditions of 10-fold excess resin, the Ca^{2+} concentration in brine could be reduced from 2 ppm to <0.1 ppm. In these experiments, the polymer could be freed from metal ions by acid backwash.

In summary, a surprisingly effective, new class of chelating agents has been discovered. Their unique shapes enforce a trans relationship of the ligands in contact with the metal centers. It is likely that the catalytic behavior of metal ions bound by these new chelates will differ from ions in more conventional settings. We are exploring these possibilities and will report on them in due course.

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Oxygenation of Hexafluorobenzene by Superoxide Ion

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The propensity of superoxide ion ($O_2^{\cdot-}$) in aprotic solvents to attack aliphatic and olefinic halocarbons via nucleophilic substitution is well documented,^{1,2} and a recent report³ establishes that this chemistry includes perchloroaromatic molecules. However, to date the C-F bond of fluorocarbons has been inert to $O_2^{\cdot-}$ (e.g., only the chlorine atoms of F_3CCl_3 are displaced).⁴ Here we report that perfluoroaromatic molecules [hexafluorobenzene

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(13) Nancollas, G. H.; Park, A. C. *Inorg. Chem.* **1968**, *7*, 58-62. Suitable candidates for comparisons are hard to find. For example, the imidodiacetate probably features $N \rightarrow Ca$ binding, whereas the diacid **9a** probably does not. However, the latter has greater structural rigidity (fewer accessible conformations) than does imidodiacetate. Therefore the differences in Ca^{2+} affinity are not due to stereoelectronic effects alone.

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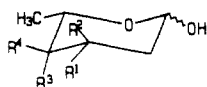
A Simple, Divergent, Asymmetric Synthesis of All Members of the 2,3,6-Trideoxy-3-aminohexose Family

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Several deoxyaminosugars constitute the glycosidic fragments of many anticancer antibiotics, such as anthracyclines,¹ glycopeptides,² and the recently reported esperamicin.³ Interest in synthesizing these compounds, especially the 2,3,6-trideoxy-3-aminohexoses, has been apparent in the last 2 decades. More than 200 synthetic references relating to this subject were comprehensively reviewed in 1986.¹ A recent structure-activity study of antibiotics revealed the importance of aminosugars, for example, replacement of daunosamine (1) by acosamine (2) in daunorubicin

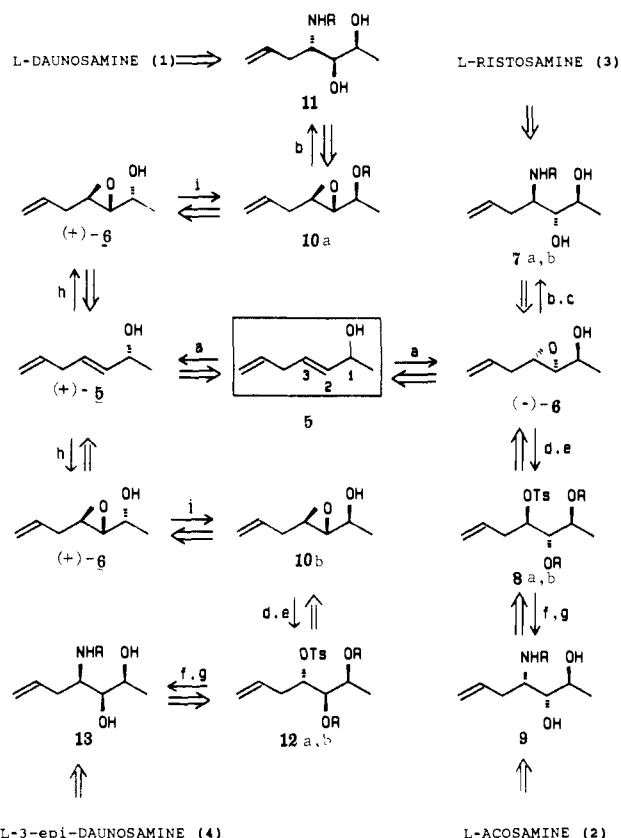


L-daunosamine (lyxo), R², R⁴ = H; R¹ = NH₂; R³ = OH, 1
L-acosamine (arabino), R², R³ = H; R¹ = NH₂; R⁴ = OH, 2
L-ristosamine (ribo), R¹, R³ = H; R² = NH₂; R⁴ = OH, 3
L-3-*epi*-daunosamine (xylo), R¹, R⁴ = H; R² = NH₂; R³ = OH, 4

and adriamycin produces analogues which are nearly devoid of cardiotoxicity but retain the anticancer activity.⁴ Most of the syntheses of these aminosugars have been initiated from carbohydrate based materials and other natural chiral pools, but substantial efforts also have focused on the asymmetric synthesis from achiral compounds.^{5,6}

We report here a simple, divergent synthesis of all four configurational isomers of 2,3,6-trideoxy-3-aminohexose (lyxo, arabino, ribo, and xylo) from the racemic 3,6-heptadien-2-ol. The synthetic strategy, depicted in Scheme I, relies mainly on the Sharpless epoxidation and a subsequent highly regioselective ring-opening reaction. This strategy has been adopted by Masamune and Sharpless⁷ as well as by Kishi⁸ and by Roush⁹ in the

Scheme I. Retrosynthetic Analysis and Synthesis of L-2,3,6-trideoxy-3-amino-hexoses



^a (a) Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄ (0.14 equiv), L-(+)-DIPT (0.21 equiv), *t*-BuOOH (0.42 equiv), CH₂Cl₂, -25 °C; (b) NH₃-MeOH, 100 °C, 10 h; (c) PhCOCl, K₂CO₃, water-acetone; (d) PTS-LPTS, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C; (e) cyclohexanone dimethyl ketal, CH₂Cl₂, PTS; (f) NaN₃/NH₄Cl, 100 °C, 15 h; (g) i, LAH, diethyl ether reflux, 1 h; ii, MeOH-H⁺, 100 °C, 1 h; iii, PhCOCl, K₂CO₃, water-acetone; (h) Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄ (1 equiv), D-(-)-DIPT (1.2 equiv), *t*-BuOOH (0.9 equiv), CH₂Cl₂, -25 °C; (i) PhCOOH, DEAD, Ph₃P, CH₂Cl₂; (j) i, *p*-NO₂-C₆H₄COOH, DEAD, Ph₃P, toluene, ii, MeOH/NaOMe, H⁺.

synthesis of monosaccharides. The crucial step here is installing the amino group with the right configuration to attain the three requisite contiguous chiral centers.

Scheme I also presents synthetic details. Thus, kinetic resolution of the racemic 5 by the Sharpless method,¹⁰ expeditiously afforded the epoxy alcohol (-)-6 in 43.5% yield with more than 90% ee and the dienol (+)-5 in 35% yield and 90% ee. Treatment of (-)-6 with methanolic ammonia at 100 °C in a sealed tube, gave the required aminodiol, 7a (R = H), which was converted to the known benzoylaminiol 7b (R = PhCO) [mp 137-138 °C, [α]_D²⁰ -3.9° (c 1, EtOH) (lit.^{5b,11} mp 137-138 °C [α]_D²⁰ +6.4° (c 1, EtOH))] in 61% yield (two steps).¹² The observation that the ammonia opening occurred only at C₃ was not our expectation. In general, the nucleophilic opening of primary epoxyalcohols usually gives mixtures of products resulting from C₂ and C₃ attack, and high regioselectivity at C₃ can only be achieved with the aid of Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄ or other chelating reagents.¹³ Exclusive C₃ opening of (-)-6 also occurred with NaN₃ to furnish the azido diol 14 (75% yield). 7b, obtained in 60% yield by successive reduction and benzoylation of 14, has been previously transformed to one of our targets, L-ristosamine (3).^{11,12}

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