ORGANIC LETTERS 2001 Vol. 3, No. 3 401–404

Synthesis of D- and L-Deoxymannojirimycin via an Asymmetric Aminohydroxylation of Vinylfuran

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Received November 21, 2000

ABSTRACT



The Sharpless catalytic asymmetric aminohydroxylation has been applied to 2-vinylfuran, producing β -hydroxyfurfurylamine 5a with enantioexcess of >86% and 21% yield from furfural. The Cbz and TBS protected amino alcohol 5a was converted into both the D- and L-isomers of deoxymannojirimycin (DMJ) and deoxygulonojirimycin in five to seven steps and 48% and 66% overall yields. The key steps include the use of an aza-Achmatowicz reaction, a diastereoselective Luche reduction, diastereoselective dihydroxylation, and a tandem Cbz deprotection/ reductive amination.

In an effort to find new glycosidation inhibitor-based antifungal agents, we are interested in a short and flexible route to the 1-deoxy iminosugar natural product deoxymannojirmycin (DMJ).^{1,2} Deoxymannojirimycin has been shown to be a potent inhibitor of the mammalian Golgi α -mannosidase-1 activity, blocking the conversion of high-mannose oligosaccharides to complex oligosaccharides³ without inhibiting the biosynthesis of lipid-linked oligosaccharides.⁴

Iminosugars (azasugars) are compounds that result from the replacement of a sugar ring O-atom with an NH-group and typically are excellent glycosidase inhibitors.⁵ Some

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10.1021/ol006907j CCC: \$20.00 © 2001 American Chemical Society Published on Web 01/16/2001

examples of these iminosugars are deoxymannojirimycin (**1**, DMJ, mannosidase inhibitor),^{1,2} deoxynojirimycin (**2**, DNJ, glucosidase inhibitor),^{6,7} and deoxygulonojirimycin (**3**, DGJ, fucosidase inhibitor)⁸ (Figure 1). The enzymatic recognition



of differences in charge and shape of these inhibitors determines the inhibition selectivity.⁹

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There have been several successful approaches to DMJ (1), most of which obtain their asymmetry from carbohydrates, chiral auxiliaries, or resolution methods.^{2,10} Because of the flexibility it offered in terms of diastereo- and enantiocontrol through ligand selection, we were interested in the synthesis of iminosugars via an asymmetric aminohydroxylation/aza-Achmatowicz approach (Scheme 1).11



By employing the aza-Achmatowicz reaction, β -hydroxyfurfurylamine 5^{12} can be converted into various piperidines, including iminosugar 1 (DMJ).^{100,p,13} In his studies of the aza-Achmatowicz reaction, Ciufolini observed that carbam-

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ates similar to 5a and 5c were unstable and hydrolyzed to 3-hydroxypyridines under aza-Achmatowicz conditions (Scheme 1).¹¹ In contrast, Zhou^{13b} and Altenbach¹⁴ found that a sulfonamide protecting group was compatible with the aza-Achmatowicz reaction (mCPBA). Nevertheless, we choose to carry forward a N-Cbz protecting group because of the potential for step reduction and ease of purification. In addition, we found that the preparation of furyl sulfonamide **5b** via the Sharpless asymmetric aminohydroxylation (AA)¹⁵ reaction of vinylfuran proved problematic.¹⁶

Drawing from our successful experience with the Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation of vinylfuran and subsequent diastereoselective conversion to D- and L-sugars,¹⁷ we envisioned the synthesis of the manno-iminosugar 1 being synthesized via an analogous route (Scheme 1). Herein we report our application of the asymmetric aminohydroxylation to vinylfuran and the subsequent highly diastereoselective conversion into two iminosugars, deoxymannojirmycin (DMJ) 1 and deoxygulonojirimycin (DGJ) 3.

Enantiomerically enriched N-Cbz-protected amino alcohols 6 and 9 were obtained by application of the Sharpless asymmetric aminohydroxylation (AA) chemistry to vinylfuran 7 (Scheme 2).¹⁸ Key to this approach is a simple in



situ preparation of vinylfuran. Treatment of an ether solution of vinylfuran with the sodium salt of N-chlorobenzylcarbamate and a 4% OsO₄/5% (DHQ)₂PHAL admixture leads to a good yield of regioisomers (84%). The regioisomers 6 and 9 (1:2 ratio) were easily purified by selective TBS protection of the primary alcohol followed by silica gel chromatography. The highest enantiomeric excess of 6 was obtained with the (DHQ)₂PHAL ligand system, which gives 5a in a $\sim 21\%$ yield from furfural 8 (>86\% ee). The enantiomer of 5a was also prepared by this sequence (24%, >86% ee) with the use of (DHQD)₂PHAL ligand.¹⁹ This

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⁽¹⁸⁾ This constitutes an improved procedure as to our previously published procedure (ref 16).

route compares well with the resolution procedures of Zhou and Wong/Ciufolini.¹²

With access to either enantiomer of furan **5a**, we decided to investigate the aza-Achmatowicz rearrangement of **5a** (Scheme 3). Treatment of a buffered aqueous THF solution



of furan **5a** with 1 equiv of NBS afforded moderate yields of **4a** as a mixture of hemiaminal diastereomers (55%) along with **12** and more polar products (such as **10a**, **10b**, and **11**). Consistent with Ciufolini's observation, we found small amounts of 3-hydroxypyridine **11** under these NBS bromonium ion conditions. Initially we were concerned about the instability of the hemiaminal **4a**; however, **4a** was stable to chromatographic purification (SiO₂) and benchtop storage (white solid, mp 72–74 °C). In addition, **4a** was compatible with the strongly acidic conditions of the Jones oxidation, forming ketolactam **12** in good yields (80%).

We speculated that the aqueous NBS conditions lead to a greater amount of the ring-opened form of **4a**, which in turn leads to double bond isomerization to form aldehyde **10a** and overoxidation to form carboxylic acid **10b**. This was evident in that use of anhydrous peracid conditions (*m*CPBA in CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C) reproducibly provided improved yields of **4a** (81%, along with 7% recovered starting material), whereas exposure of **4a** to excess *m*CPBA and 1.5 equiv of H₂O at room temperature led to variable yields of **10b** (31–53%). Additionally, this reaction was sensitive to the amount of peracid; for instance, use of 2.2 equiv of *m*CPBA led to a 30% yield of **4a** and 50% yield of **12**.

Hemiaminal **4a** was also stable to the acid-catalyzed conditions required for conversion to the ethylaminal **13** (HC-(OEt)₃, 5% TsOH, 93%). The ethylaminal **13** can be reduced under Luche²⁰ conditions to provide **14** in an 86% yield (CH₃-OH/CH₂Cl₂, -78 °C). The allylic alcohol functionality was introduced in **14** with complete stereocontrol with respect to the C-6 substituent. This stereoselection was proven by conversion of both diastereomers of **14** into a single diastereomer **15**. The stereoselectivity of this reduction was consistent with the results of Zhou^{13b} and others.^{10m,n} Subject-





ing **14** to hydrogenolysis conditions yields the tri-1,2,3-deoxy iminosugar **15** in a near quantitative yield (96%), which was isolated as a TsOH salt without chromatography. The gulostereochemistry of deoxygulonojirimycin was diastereoselectively introduced in **3** via OsO_4 -catalyzed dihydroxylation (CH₂Cl₂/H₂O, 0 °C) of **14** to form **16** in a 96% yield (Scheme 5). Neither epimer at C-1 adversely effected the



diastereoinduction during the dihydroxylation of **14**. A single diastereomer of the iminosugar deoxygulonojirimycin was produced by hydrogenolysis of **16** in 99% yield. The azasugar was easily purified by isolation as the TsOH salt and washing with chloroform. In an attempt to find any diastereomeric impurities, the crude reaction mixture of **17** was peracylated, affording **18** as a mixture of amide rotamers with no indication of diastereomeric impurities (74%). The spectral data for **17** and **18** were consistent with those from previously prepared deoxygulonojirimycin.⁸

An attempt to isomerize the mixture of epimers at C-1 into a single diastereomer resulted in cyclization of **16** into a bicycle **19** (5% TsOH/C₆H₆, 73%) as a single diastereomer (Scheme 6). Proton NMR analysis (C₆D₆) showed the



disappearance of one of the two amomeric protons (5.99 and 5.67 ppm) to a single signal at 5.43 ppm (3.0 Hz). Detailed analysis of the vicinal H–H coupling constants of this rigid bicyclic structure was also consistent with the gulose stereochemistry.

Finally, the manno-stereochemistry of DMJ was introduced by conversion of **14** into its C-4 epimer **20** by Mitsunobu inversion (Scheme 7). Treatment of a CH_2Cl_2 solution of



the allylic alcohol **14** with *p*-nitrobenzoic acid, PPh₃, and DEAD afforded a 84% yield of an ester, which was easily hydrolyzed with Et₃N in MeOH to give **20** (94%). As with allylic alcohol **14**, its C-4 epimer **20** was easily converted into the 1,2,3-trideoxy iminosugar **21**²¹ by treatment of **20** with a TBAF solution (for TBS removal, 86%), and then exposure to hydrogenolysis conditions (H₂, 5% Pd/C, 61%) afforded the aminodiol **21** in 52% overall yield. Similarly, exposure of the allylic alcohol **20** to OsO₄-catalyzed dihydroxylation conditions (CH₂Cl₂/H₂O, 0 °C) stereoselectively converts **20** into the mannose stereoisomer **22** in a 92% yield. As with **14**, both epimers of **20** react under the dihydroxylation conditions from the less hindered face to install the

mannose stereochemistry.²² After TBS deprotection of 22 (TBAF, 74%), a single diastereomer of the iminosugar 1 (DMJ) was produced by hydrogenolysis (95%). The azasugar was easily isolated as the TsOH salt 23 (99%). In fact, improved overall yields of 23 were achieved by skipping the TBS deprotection step. The TsOH salt 23 was produced in a near quantitative yield upon exposure of 22 to the same hydrogenation/TsOH conditions (95%). In these improved routes, the N-Cbz group along with the C-1 ethoxy substitution provided improved selectivity in the dihydroxylation of 14 and 20 over both Zhou's analogue $(N-Ts)^{100,p}$ and Mariano's C-1 deoxy analogue (N-Bz).¹⁰ⁿ Because of inconsistencies due to concentration effects on the ¹H NMR shifts the mannose isomer 23 was converted into the penta-acetate 24 (73%), which had spectral data identical to the literature values.23

In conclusion, we have demonstrated the completely diastereoselective conversion of amino alcohol **5a** into the iminosugar deoxymannojirmycin (**1**) in seven steps and 48% overall yield and deoxygulonojirimycin (**3**) in five steps and 66% overall yield. These synthetic studies have allowed us to further define the scope of the aza-Achmatowicz reaction and to optimize the diastereoselective introduction of the C-2/C-3 hydroxyl groups of DMJ. We feel these improvements have led to a significantly improved enantioselective synthesis of deoxymannojirmycin (DMJ) **1** and deoxygulonojirimycin (DGJ) **3**.

Acknowledgment. We thank the University of Minnesota (grant in aid program), the American Cancer Society for an Institutional Research Grant (IRG-58-001-40-IRG-19), the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund (ACS-PRF 33953-G1), and the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation for their generous support of our program.

Supporting Information Available: Complete experimental procedures and spectral data for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

OL006907J

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