

PII: S0040-4020(97)00366-9

# Synthesis of Pyranose Glycals via Tungsten and Molybdenum Pentacarbonyl-Induced Alkynol Cyclizations‡

# Frank E. McDonald\* and Hugh Y. H. Zhu

Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208-3113

Abstract: The tungsten pentacarbonyl-induced cyclization of an acyclic alkynol substrate bearing protected oxygen and nitrogen functional groups provides the cyclic tungsten oxacarbene, which is readily converted into a pyranose glycal structurally related to the carbohydrate moieties of the pluramycin and vancomycin families of antitumor antibiotics. In addition a molybdenum-catalyzed cycloisomerization procedure provides an alternative route to this pyranose glycal.

© 1997 Elsevier Science Ltd.

The nature of carbohydrate substituents found in the structures of many pharmacologically important organic compounds often play critical roles in the molecular recognition between antibiotic agents and the desired biological targets, with medical implications regarding *in vivo* toxicity as well as drug potency. In many cases these carbohydrates are deoxygenated at a number of centers, and may even bear unusual amine or alkyl substituents. For instance, the observed sequence selectivity for DNA strand cleavage exhibited by the pluramycin family of *C*-arylglycoside antitumor natural products (Scheme 1) is explained by cooperativity of hydrogen bond interactions between the protonated *N*, *N*-dimethylamino groups of each aminosugar with pyrimidine carbonyls on the DNA strands. In the vancomycin-type antibiotics, the presence of the aminosugar moieties apparently facilitates dimerization of two vancomycin units which is cooperative with binding of the peptide target of bacterial cell walls.<sup>3</sup>

## Scheme 1. Representative aminoglycoside antibiotics

$$\begin{array}{c} \textit{N,N-dimethyl-D-angolosamine} \\ \textit{N,N-dimethyl-D-angolosamine} \\ \textit{N,N-dimethyl-L-vancosamine} \\ \textit{N,N-dimethyl-L-vanc$$

<sup>‡</sup> Dedicated to Prof. Samuel J. Danishefsky in honor of his receiving the 1996 Wolf Prize in Chemistry.

Our laboratory has been engaged in the development of new methodology for the synthesis of bioactive carbohydrates from non-carbohydrate precursors. Several years ago we discovered that triethylamine-molybdenum pentacarbonyl catalyzed the cycloisomerization of homopropargylic alcohols 1 (n = 1) to furanoid glycals 2 (Scheme 2),<sup>4</sup> and we have since reported applications to the efficient synthesis of several nucleoside glycoconjugates, including the anti-AIDS drug d4T as well as several nucleoside analogs based on the puromycin aminonucleosides.<sup>5</sup> More recently we have observed that tungsten pentacarbonyl induces cyclization of alkynyl alcohols 1 (n = 2) to six-membered ring tungsten oxacarbenes 3, which can be subsequently converted to  $\alpha$ -stannyl dihydropyrans 4.6 In a related vein we have found that 1-alkynyl-1,2-D-glucal derivatives 6 (prepared from the parent D-glucal) undergo rhodium-catalyzed alkyne cyclotrimerization with *ortho*-bis-propynoylarenes 7 to give C-anthracyclinone glycosides 8.7

## Scheme 2.

Herein we describe the compatibility of nitrogen and oxygen substituents in the tungsten-mediated alkynol cyclization reaction, and demonstrate that a six-membered tungsten oxacarbene product can be formed and converted into a pyranose glycal analogous to vancosamine carbohydrates of the pluramycin and vancomycin glycoconjugates. In addition we present the first example of single-step molybdenum-catalyzed alkynol cycloisomerization to a pyranose glycal.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The synthesis plan for the preparation of an aminosugar compound corresponding to vancosamine features the vancosamine glycal 10 as the initial target (Scheme 3). We perceived that this glycal might serve as an effective glycosyl donor for preparation of O- and/or C-glycoside structures, and that the glycal might be synthesized from the acyclic isomeric alkynyl alcohol 11. A further simplification in the retrosynthesis plan featured stereoselective addition of carbon (R'), oxygen, and nitrogen substituents of 11 from the acyclic achiral enynol 12 (each of the E and E-alkene isomers is commercially available).

# Scheme 3. Retrosynthesis plan

## Preparation of alkynyl alcohol substrates:

Epoxidation of the *E*-enynol 12 could be achieved with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid to give *rac*-13, or with the titanium/tartrate-catalyzed asymmetric epoxidation<sup>9</sup> to provide (-)-13 (Scheme 4). Initial experiments exploring titanium-induced nucleophilic opening<sup>10</sup> with diethylamine or azide resulted in a mixture of products resulting from the desired addition of amine at the hindered propargylic position (C-3) of epoxide 13 accompanied by the allylic alcohol resulting from base-induced epoxide opening by deprotonation at the methyl group. Although the literature reports on the titanium-assisted addition of primary amines to epoxyalcohols suggested that overalkylation would be a problem, <sup>10a</sup> we found that epoxide 13 reacted cleanly with benzylamine when the amine was used as solvent. In order to achieve high *anti*-stereospecificity for benzylamine addition, it is essential that tartrate impurities from the preceding asymmetric epoxidation step are completely removed from the epoxide substrates.

Reaction of the aminodiol 14 with triphosgene gave the undesired six-membered ring carbamate from reaction of the C5-alcohol and C3-amine, but selective protection of the primary C5 alcohol as the silyl ether 15 permitted subsequent protection of the secondary C4 alcohol and amine functional groups as the cyclic carbamate 16. Treatment of 16 with tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride afforded the primary alkynol substrate 17.11

# Scheme 4. Preparation of alkynyl alcohol 17

Reagents and Conditions: (a) m-CPBA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> / Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer (64% yield, rac-13a). (b) 10 mol% Ti(O-i-Pr)<sub>4</sub>, 14 mol% D-DIPT, PhCMe<sub>2</sub>OOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (70% yield, 78% ee). (c) PhCH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (excess), Ti(O-i-Pr)<sub>4</sub>, 20°C (72% yield). (d) TBDMSCI, imidazole, DMF (90% yield). (e) triphosgene, aq. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, toluene (99% yield). (f) TBAF, THF (96% yield)

## Tungsten and molybdenum carbonyl-induced cyclizations of alkynyl alcohols:

The cyclization of the alkynyl alcohol substrate 17 with (tetrahydrofuran)tungsten pentacarbonyl afforded the tungsten oxacarbene 18 in satisfactory yield (Scheme 5). The conversion of the metal carbene 18 into the organic pyranose glycal 19 proceeded cleanly and in high yield under mildly basic conditions. Surprisingly, we observed that the carbene 18 was also effectively converted into the glycal 19 during an eighthour NMR run while standing in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solvent which undoubtably contained traces of DCl. In general carbene 18 appears to be less stable than other tungsten dihydropyranylidene carbenes previously prepared in our laboratory.<sup>6</sup>

#### Scheme 5. Tungsten carbonyl-Induced cyclization of 17

The six-membered ring tungsten oxacarbene product 18 also exhibits anomalous behavior in a number of its functionalization reactions. Although we have shown that a wide variety of cyclic and acyclic group VI metal carbenes can be efficiently converted into  $\alpha$ -stannyl enol ethers upon reaction with triethylamine and tri-nbutyltin triflate, 6.12 the more highly functionalized carbene 18 only gives the glycal 19 under our standard stannylation conditions (Scheme 6).

## Scheme 6. Unsuccessful formation of $\alpha$ -stannylglycal 20

Given the facile formation of the glycal 19 from the corresponding tungsten carbene 18, we decided to explore the single-step conversion of alkynol 17 into the glycal 19.4.5 Although we were previously unsuccessful in forming six-membered ring products from a variety of simple 1-alkyn-5-ols with molybdenum or chromium carbonyl reagents,<sup>6</sup> we found that the slow cyclization of the alkynol substrate 17 was promoted by (triethylamine)molybdenum pentacarbonyl to give the cycloisomeric pyranose glycal 19 in 35% isolated yield (68% based on recovered alkynol 17, Scheme 7). The *cis*-ring fusion of the cyclic carbamate and/or the vicinal disubstitution at C3 apparently facilitates the cyclization of this specific substrate.

## Scheme 7. Molybdenum carbonyl-induced cycloisomerization of 17

We have briefly explored the acid-catalyzed glycosylation of the pyranose glycal 19. Triphenylphosphine-hydrogen bromide catalyzed<sup>13</sup> addition of isopropanol gives one major glycoside product, which we have assigned as the  $\beta$ -anomer 21 based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants (Scheme 8). Further studies on the glycosylation of this and more complex pyranose glycals are in progress.

# Scheme 8. Stereoselective preparation of isopropyl pyranoside 21

We encountered a number of enlightening observations in the course of this research. Our first explorations of tungsten pentacarbonyl-induced cyclizations of 4-pentyn-1-ol indicated that tungsten pentacarbonyl formed a strong complex with triethylamine which was subsequently inert to reaction with the alkynol substrate.<sup>6</sup> Attempts to cyclize the tertiary amine-containing alkynol substrate 22 indicated that reaction with the tetrahydrofuran complex of tungsten pentacarbonyl failed to undergo a clean cyclization, but instead gave the coordinated tungsten amine complex 23 (Scheme 9). Therefore, a carbamate protective group for the nitrogen substituent was chosen in the preparation of alkynol 17.

## Scheme 9.

In further exploring functional group compatibility of the alkynol cyclization reaction, we unexpectedly found that the C4 nitrogen-containing substrate 25 gave the pyrrole derivative 26 upon reaction with (THF)W(CO)<sub>5</sub> (Scheme 10).<sup>14</sup> In this case the secondary carbamate nitrogen is five atoms away from the central carbon atom of the tungsten vinylidene intermediate leading to a putative carbene intermediate 27. The aromatic pyrrole ring of 26 may arise from elimination of the C3-hydroxyl group from 27; vinylogous deprotonation of 28 and reprotonation at the tungsten-carbon bond then affords the organic pyrrole 26.

Scheme 10. "Asymmetric synthesis" of pyrrole derivative 26

# CONCLUSIONS

The application of tungsten carbonyl-mediated alkynol cyclizations to the preparation of highly functionalized pyranose glycals represents a significant advance in our program on the synthesis of carbohydrates from non-carbohydrate precursors, and holds promise for a new entry into the synthesis of bioactive O- and C-glycoconjugates. The inadvertent discovery of the novel azacyclization synthesis of pyrroles (Scheme  $10, 25 \rightarrow 26$ ) indicates that cyclic enamines might be produced upon reaction of simpler aminoalkyne substrates with appropriate organometallic catalysts.

## **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

- (2R, 3R)-3-Ethynyl-2-hydroxymethyl-3-methyloxirane (13): E-12 (2.88 g, 30 mmol, dried over 3Å MS), D-(-)-diisopropyl tartrate (1.0 g, 4.3 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) were added to powdered 3Å molecular sieves (2.0 g, flame dried). The mixture was chilled to -20°C, Ti(O-i-Pr)4 (0.9 mL, 3.05 mmol) was added and stirred for 30 min at -20°C. Cumene hydroperoxide (7.37 g, 38.7 mmol, dried over 3Å MS) was added dropwise over 25 min. The mixture was stoppered and transferred to a freezer (-25°C) for 3 h. The mixture was then chilled to -30°C and P(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (2.3 mL, 19.5 mmol) was added dropwise over 10 min. Citric acid (576 mg, 3 mmol, dissolved in acetone / Et<sub>2</sub>O (1 / 1, 50 mL)) was added, the mixture was stirred for 45 min, and then allowed to warm to 20°C. The mixture was filtered through Celite, and the solvents were evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using pentane / ether (3/1) to yield a light yellow oil (3.20 g) as a mixture of epoxide and diisopropyl tartrate (epoxide / tartrate = 5.8 / 1 by  ${}^{1}H$ NMR). Homogenous epoxide 13 (2.4 g, 70%) was obtained by Kugelrohr distillation (100°C - 110°C, 2 mmHg).  $[\alpha]^{24}_{D} = -8.4^{\circ}$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 4.8), (lit. for (2S, 3S) enantiomer<sup>15</sup>  $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +11.36^{\circ}$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 4.4)); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3288, 2980, 2118, 1384, 1031 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.52 (3H, s), 2.31 (1H, s), 3.35 (1H, dd, J = 4.5, 6.2 Hz), 3.67 (1H, dd, J = 6.2, 12.4 Hz), 3.82 (1H, dd, J = 4.5, 12.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.1, 50.7, 60.0, 63.6, 70.6, 83.3; MS (EI) 111, 82, 81, 69, 53, 52, 43; HRMS: Calcd. for  $C_6H_7O_2$  (M-1): 111.0446, Found 111.0447. Mosher ester analysis reveals ee = 78%.
- (3S, 4S)-3-Benzylamino-3-methyl-1-pentyne-4,5 diol (14): Ti(O-i-Pr)<sub>4</sub> (0.9 mL, 3.0 mmol) was added dropwise into a solution of oxirane 13 (218 mg, 1.95 mmol) in benzylamine (10 mL) at 20 °C. After 2 h, the reaction mixture was distilled (80 °C, 1 mmHg, bath temp 110 °C). The residue was diluted with ethyl acetate (20 mL) followed by additon of 10% NaOH brine solution (7 mL). After 5 h, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> overnight and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica using pentane / ethyl acetate (1 / 1) as eluant to yield aminodiol 14 as a light yellow oil (309 mg, 72 %) which solidified upon standing: mp = 65.0 66.0 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>23</sup>D = -12.2 ° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 0.82); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3301, 2937, 2363, 2338, 1646, 1454, 1055 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8 1.48 (3H, s), 2.52 (1H, s), 3.63 (1H, t, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.77-3.84 (2H, m), 3.95-4.00 (2H, m), 7.24-7.37 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8 22.8, 47.5, 56.7, 63.3, 73.7, 75.8, 84.5, 126.9, 128.3, 139.5; MS (EI) 220, 204, 188, 158, 159, 106, 91, 65; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M+1): 220.1377, Found 220.1342.
- (3S, 4S)-3-Benzylamino-3-methyl-1-pentyne-4,5 diol, 5-t-butyldimethylsilyl ether (15): Diol 14 (446 mg, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (15 mL) at 0 °C. t-Butyldimethylsilyl chloride (330 mg, 2.2 mmol) and imidazole (300 mg, 4.4 mmol) was added sequentially. The reaction mixture was kept at 0°C for 2 h and then stirred at 20°C for 8 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with ether (150 mL) and washed with water (3 × 10 ml). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using pentane / ethyl acetate (10 / 1) to yield silyl ether 15 as a colorless oil (600 mg, 90 %) which solidified upon standing: mp = 53.0 53.5°C;  $[\alpha]^{23}_D$  = -12.0° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 7.2); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3276, 3227, 3150, 1455, 1250 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.04 (6H, d, J = 3.3 Hz), 0.81 (9H, s), 1.43 (3H, s), 2.46 (1H, s), 3.54 (1H, app t, J = 4.4 Hz), 3.77 (1H, d, J = 12.0 Hz), 3.83 (1H, dd, J = 3.3, 10.4 Hz), 3.94 (1H, d, J = 12.0 Hz), 4.02 (1H, dd, J = 5.4, 10.4 Hz), 7.21-7.37 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -5.6, 18.1, 23.7, 25.7, 47.6, 56.6, 64.5, 73.0, 76.2, 85.5, 126.8, 128.3, 140.3; MS (EI) 333, 318, 302, 276, 188, 158, 91; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si: 333.2124, Found 333.2122. Elemental Analysis: calcd 68.42% C, 9.37% H, 4.20% N; found 68.38% C, 9.02% H, 4.20% N.

Cyclic carbamate (16): Aminoalcohol 15 (400 mg, 1.2 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (10 mL) and was chilled to 0°C.  $K_2CO_3$  (220 mg dissolved in  $H_2O$ , 5 mL) was added followed by triphosgene (140 mg, 0.47 mmol). The reaction was allowed to warm to 20°C and stirred overnight. The biphasic reaction mixture was then separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica using pentane / ethyl acetate (10 / 1) to yield carbamate 16 as a colorless oil (426 mg,

99%):  $[\alpha]^{23}_{D} = +20.4^{\circ}$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 4.7); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3273, 2926, 2857, 1761, 1387, 1097 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.09 (6H, s), 0.89 (9H, s), 1.36 (3H, s), 2.57 (1H, s), 3.99 (2H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 4.16 (1H, t, J = 5.9 Hz), 4.22 (1H, d, J = 15.8 Hz), 4.80 (1H, d, J = 15.8 Hz), 7.27-7.37 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -5.8, 17.7, 26.3, 26.8, 46.0, 59.2, 61.9, 76.4, 78.8, 81.2, 127.0, 127.4, 128.0, 137.2, 156.8; MS (EI) 360, 359, 344, 314, 302, 211, 169, 139, 91; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si (M+1): 360.1995, Found 360.1988. Elemental Analysis: calcd 66.81% C, 8.13% H, 3.90% N; found 66.59% C, 7.79% H, 3.90% N.

**Alkynol (17):** Tetrabutylammonium fluoride (1M in THF) (1.2 mL, 1.2 mmol) was added dropwise to **16** (415 mg, 1.16 mmol) dissolved in THF (5 mL) at 0°C. After 45 min at 0°C, the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (100 mL), washed with water and brine, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica using pentane / ethyl acetate (2 / 1 gradient to pure ethyl acetate) to yield alkynol **17** as a colorless oil (273 mg, 96%):  $[\alpha]^{24}_D = +36.1^\circ$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 3.3); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3436, 3296, 2361, 1753, 1399 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.34 (3H, s), 2.63 (1H, s), 3.49 (1H, br s), 3.91-4.01 (2H, m), 4.20-4.25 (2H, m), 4.72 (1H, J = 16 Hz), 7.22-7.33 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  27.2, 45.3, 58.6, 61.8, 77.0, 78.8, 82.1, 127.5, 127.8, 128.4, 137.2, 157.2; MS (EI) 246, 245, 230, 150, 106, 91; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 245.1052, Found 245.1044.

Tungsten oxacarbene (18): W(CO)<sub>6</sub> (540 mg, 1.53 mmol) was placed in a 100 mL airfree reaction tube (Pyrex) fitted with a reflux condenser and purged with N<sub>2</sub> for 1h. THF (40 mL) was added by syringe and the solid dissolved with stirring. The reaction mixture was then irradiated (350 nm, Rayonet photoreactor) for 3 h under N<sub>2</sub> with stirring. The reaction vessel was removed from the light source and allowed to cool to 20°C before the alkynol 17 (133 mg, 0.54 mmol) was added via cannula with a minimal amount of THF. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 20°C for 48 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* at 10°C and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica using pentane / ethyl acetate (10 / 1 to 1 / 1) to yield carbene 18 as brick red crystals (157 mg, 51%). mp = 163.0 - 164.0°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.12 (3H, s), 2.35 (1H, d, J = 15.0 Hz), 4.10 (1H, d, J = 15.0 Hz), 4.22 (1H, d, J = 15.0 Hz), 4.88 (1H, dd, J = 3.8, 13.5 Hz), 7.25-7.45 (5H, m).

**Pyranose glycal (19):** Preparation from tungsten carbene **18**: Freshly distilled Et<sub>3</sub>N (1 mL) was added to carbene **18** (157 mg, 0.27 mmol) solution in THF / Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL / 10mL) at 20°C. After 1 h, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica using pentane / ethyl acetate (10 / 1 followed by 1 / 1) to yield glycal **19** as a white solid (56 mg, 85 %): mp = 107.0 - 108.0°C; [α]<sup>23</sup><sub>D</sub> = +60.4° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 0.81); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3063, 2974, 1745, 1645, 1396 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.28 (3H, s), 3.89 (1H, dd, J = 2.1, 12.6 Hz), 4.24 (2H, dd, J = 3.7, 12.6 Hz), 4.26 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz), 4.51 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz), 4.68 (1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz), 6.39 (1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz), 7.23-7.34 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.5, 44.5, 55.0, 62.6, 77.0, 102.5, 127.5, 127.8, 128.5, 137.6, 144.9, 156.9; MS (EI) 246, 245, 231, 230, 96, 95, 91, 71; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 245.1052, Found 245.1048.

Preparation from alkynyl alcohol 17:  $Mo(CO)_6$  (70 mg, 0.26 mmol) was placed in a  $18 \times 150$  mm borosilicate test tube. Freshly distilled  $Et_3N$  (3 mL) and  $Et_2O$  (7 mL) were added and the contents dissolved by stirring. The reaction mixture was then photolyzed (350 nm, Rayonet photoreactor) for 20 min under  $N_2$ . The reaction vessel was removed from the light source, and alkynol 17 (130 mg, 0.53 mmol) was added via cannula with  $Et_2O$  (7 mL). The reaction mixture was then stirred for 86 h at 20°C. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using pentane / ethyl acetate (10 / 1 gradient to 2 / 1) to yield the glycal 19 (45 mg, 35%) and recovered alkynol 17 (64 mg, 49%).

**Isopropyl pyranoside (21):** Glycal **19** (49 mg, 0.2 mmol), isopropanol (36 mg, 0.6 mmol), triphenylphosphine hydrogen bromide (34 mg, 0.1 mmol) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) were stirred together at 20°C. After 36 h, the mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 mL), washed with satd aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2×5 mL) and brine (5 mL). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using pentane / ethyl acetate (2 / 1) to yield pyranoside **21** as a colorless oil (30

mg, 49%):  $[\alpha]^{23}_{\rm D}$  = +7.2° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, c = 0.53); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 2971, 2932, 1736, 1405, 1112 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 0.88 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 1.09 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 1.33 (3H, s), 1.46 (1H, dd, J = 6.6, 15.1 Hz), 1.88 (1H, dd, J = 5.1, 15.1 Hz), 3.67-3.78 (2H, m), 3.87 (1H, dd, J = 2.3, 13.5 Hz), 4.09 (1H, t, J = 1.8 Hz), 4.19 (1H, d, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.27 (1H, dd, J = 5.4, 6.4 Hz), 4.58 (1H, d, J = 15.4 Hz), 7.25-7.40 (5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 21.1, 23.3, 25.7, 35.6, 44.2, 57.2, 59.2, 68.5, 77.7, 93.0, 127.8, 128.2, 128.6, 137.9, 157.8; MS (EI) 305, 262, 246, 189, 172, 150, 91; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: 305.1627, Found 305.1631.

*N*-(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)-2-pyrrolemethanol (26): Colorless oil. IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 3552, 3431, 2983, 1750, 1345, 1125 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.63 (9H, s), 3.62 (1H, t, J = 7.5 Hz), 4.65 (2H, d, J = 7.5 Hz), 6.10 (1H, m), 6.18 (1H, m), 7.17 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 28.0, 57.5, 84.4, 110.4, 113.9, 122.0, 134.5, 150.2; MS (EI) 197, 141, 124, 97, 80, 57, 41; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>3</sub>N: 197.1052, Found 197.1041.

**Acknowledgment.** This research was supported by the National Institutes of Health (CA-59703). F. E. M. also acknowledges support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Lilly Research Laboratories.

## References and Notes:

- Reviews: (a) Hudlicky, T.; Entwistle, D. A.; Pitzer, K. K.; Thorpe, A. J. Chem. Rev. 1996, 96, 1195.
   (b) Hauser, F. M.; Ellenberger, S. R. Chem. Rev. 1986, 86, 35.
- (a) Hansen, M.; Yun, S.; Hurley, L. Chem. Biol. 1995, 2, 229. (b) Hansen, M.; Hurley, L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 2421. (c) Sun, D.; Hansen, M.; Hurley, L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 2430. For reviews see: (d) Hansen, M. R.; Hurley, L. H. Acc. Chem. Res. 1996, 29, 249. (e) Sequin, U. Prog. Chem. Org. Nat. Prod. 1986, 50, 57.
- U. Prog. Chem. Org. Nat. Prod. 1986, 50, 57.
   (a) Williams, D. H.; Westwell, M. S. Chemtech 1996, 26(3), 17. (b) Prowse, W. G.; Kline, A. D.; Skelton, M. A.; Loncharich, R. J. Biochemistry 1995, 34, 9632. (c) Gerhard, U.; Mackay, J. P.; Maplestone, R. A.; Williams, D. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1993, 115, 232. (d) Williams, D. H.; Waltho, J. P. Biochem. Pharmacol. 1988, 37, 133.
- 4. (a) McDonald, F. E.; Connolly, C. B.; Gleason, M. M.; Towne, T. B.; Treiber, K. D. J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 6952 (b) McDonald, F. E.; Schultz, C. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 9363
- 1993, 58, 6952. (b) McDonald, F. E.; Schultz, C. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 9363.
   (a) McDonald, F. E.; Gleason, M. M. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1995, 34, 350. (b) McDonald, F. E.; Gleason, M. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 6648.
- 6. McDonald, F. E.; Bowman, J. L. Tetrahedron Lett. 1996, 37, 4675.
- 7. McDonald, F. E., Zhu, H. Y. H.; Holmquist, C. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 6605.
- 8. For the preparation of a similar glycal from the antibiotic natural product vancomycin, see: Dushin, R. G.; Danishefsky, S. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 3471.
- Gao, Y.; Hanson, R. M.; Klunder, J. M.; Ko, S. Y.; Masamune, H.; Sharpless, K. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1987, 109, 5765.
- (a) Caron, M.; Sharpless, K. B. J. Org. Chem. 1985, 50, 1557.
   (b) Caron, M.; Carlier, P. R.; Sharpless, K. B. J. Org. Chem. 1988, 53, 5185.
- 11. A similar sequence of reactions was used to convert **Z-12** into alkynol i (the C4-diastereomer of 17). However, substrate i could not be cleanly converted into either the corresponding carbene ii or the pyranose glycal iii, and this route was not further pursued.

- 12. McDonald, F. E.; Schultz, C. C.; Chatterjee, A. K. Organometallics 1995, 14, 3628.
- 13. (a) Bolitt, V.; Mioskowski, C.; Lee, S.-G.; Falck, J. R. J. Org. Chem. 1990, 55, 5812. (b) Kaila, N.; Blumenstein, M.; Bielawska, H.; Franck, R. W. J. Org. Chem. 1992, 57, 4576.
- (a) Garner, P.; Park, J. M. Org. Synth. 1991, 70, 18. (b) Herold, P. Helv. Chim. Acta 1988, 71, 354.
   (c) Wagner, R.; Tilley, J. W. J. Org. Chem. 1990, 55, 6289.
- 15. Schmidt, U.; Respondek, M.; Lieberknecht, A.; Werner, J.; Fischer, P. Synthesis 1989, 256.