

# Approaches towards the synthesis of Pyrrolidine derived Aza-sugars

Anita Brar

Department of Chemistry, Govt. College of Engineering & Technology (GCET), Kotbalwal, Jammu, India.

## Introduction

Iminosugars or aza-sugars<sup>1</sup> are compounds in which the ring oxygen of a monosaccharide has been replaced by an imino group. Many polyhydroxylated pyrimidine alkaloids have attracted considerable attention due to their ability to inhibit glycosidases<sup>2</sup>. Because glycosidases are involved in several important biological processes, these polyhydroxylated alkaloids have stimulated interest in the development of specific glycosidase inhibitors such as diabetes<sup>3</sup> or as antiviral, antibacterial and anticancer agents<sup>4</sup>. In particular, glycosidase inhibitors have shown potential as therapeutic agent for type II diabetes<sup>5</sup> and HIV-I infection<sup>6</sup>. In this direction various glycosidase inhibitors have been synthesized such as amidines<sup>7</sup>, imidazoles<sup>8</sup>, triazoles<sup>9</sup> and tetrazoles<sup>10</sup>.

## Results and discussion

Due to the emerging importance of hybrid molecules<sup>11</sup> we tried to synthesize pyrrolidine analog of azaheterocycles, which could act as glycosidase inhibitors from tri-*O*-benzyl-D-glucal. Two approaches were followed using the chemistry of D-glycal.

### Approach-1

In this approach, 3,4,6-tri-*O*-benzyl-D-glucal was converted to tri-benzylated allylic alcohol **1** by the known literature procedure<sup>12</sup> via two steps viz., formylation followed by NaBH<sub>4</sub> reduction. Compound **1** on benzylation

with benzyl bromide in presence of NaH in DMSO forms benzylated compound **2** in 89% yield, which was characterized from its <sup>1</sup>H NMR data, <sup>13</sup>C NMR data and by mass spectral data. Compound **2** on dihydroxylation with OsO<sub>4</sub>-NMO formed a diol **3** in 94% yields, which in its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed a singlet for anomeric proton at  $\delta$  5.36-5.39. IR spectrum of the compound **3** showed the absorption peak for -OH group at 3408 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Compound **3** on oxidative cleavage with NaIO<sub>4</sub> in acetonitrile formed compound **4** in 83% yield. Compound **4** was directly obtained from compound **2** by ozonolysis process.

### Reagents and conditions

(a) BnBr, NaH, DMSO, rt, 5 h; (b) OsO<sub>4</sub>-NMO, Acetone:H<sub>2</sub>O :<sup>t</sup>BuOH (1:1:0.5), Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, rt, 2.5 h; (c) NaIO<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 0 °C to 10 °C, 2 h; (d) O<sub>3</sub>, DCM, 15 min; (e) LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, THF, rt, 1 h; (f) IBX, EtOAc, 80 °C, reflux, 4 h; (g) K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, rt, 1 h; (h) NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>/AcOH, 0 °C to rt; (i) MsCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, DCM, 2 h. (j) BnNH<sub>2</sub>, NaH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt.

### Scheme 1

Compound **4** in its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed a peak at  $\delta$  7.78 for -COOH group. A multiplet at  $\delta$  5.15-5.17 was seen for C-5 proton. IR spectrum of compound **4** showed a peak at 1726 cm<sup>-1</sup> for -CHO group. Compound **4** on hydrolysis with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>/MeOH<sup>13</sup> formed compound **6**, which on oxidation with IBX formed compound **7**. However, compound **4** on LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction formed a diol **5** in 70% yield, which was confirmed from its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum. IR spectrum of compound **5** showed a peak for the hydroxy group at 3437 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Scheme 1). Diol **5** was also confirmed from its corresponding diacetate, which in its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum

\*Corresponding author(s):

Anita Brar

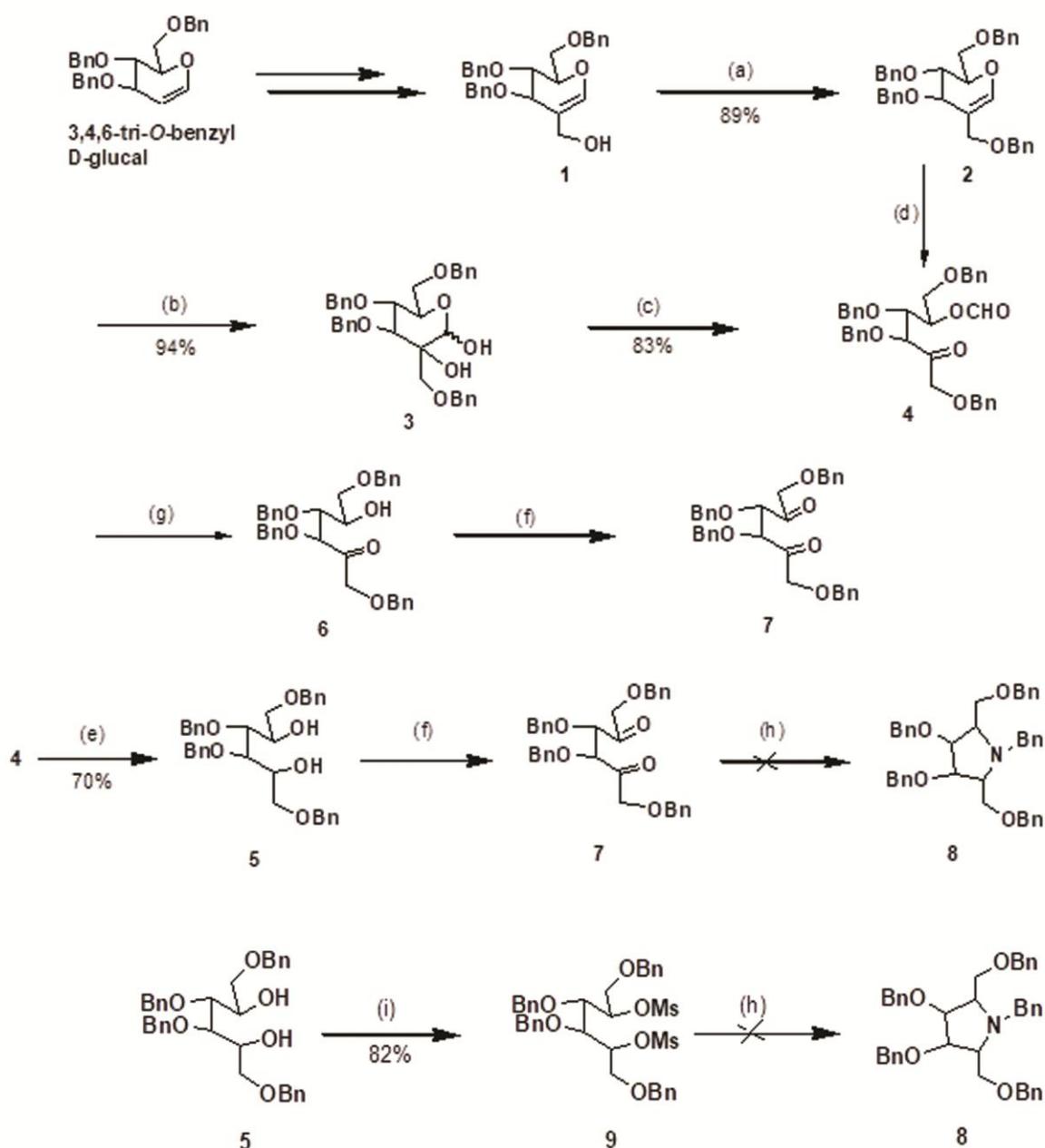
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showed two singlets at  $\delta$  1.92 and 1.98  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the two  $-\text{COCH}_3$  groups.

Diol **5** on oxidation with IBX in ethyl acetate forms a diketo derivative **7**. Diol **5** was also oxidized by  $\text{CrO}_3/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to form a diketo product **7**. Compound **7** on treatment with  $\text{BnNH}_2$  in presence of  $\text{NaCNBH}_3/\text{AcOH}$ <sup>14</sup> didn't form a cyclized aza product **8** (Scheme 1).

However, the diol **5** was mesylated with  $\text{MsCl}$  to form a dimesylated product **9** in 82 % yield, which in its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum showed a singlet at  $\delta$  2.96 for the mesyl group. Compound **9** on treatment with  $\text{BnNH}_2/\text{NaH}$  didn't form a cyclized product **8**.

The extension of this work to other six membered aza-sugars is under progress and soon will be published soon.



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