

Regioselectivity of Rhodium Nitrene Insertion. Syntheses of Protected Glycals of L-Daunosamine, D-Saccharosamine, and L-Ristosamine

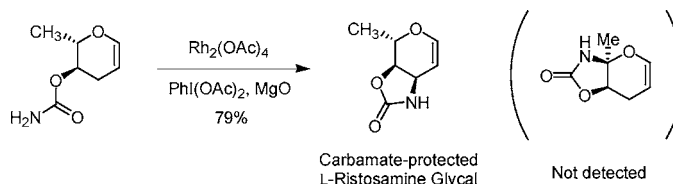
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ABSTRACT



The carbamate-protected glycals of naturally occurring 3,4-*cis*-3-amino-2,3,6-trideoxyhexoses (L-daunosamine, D-saccharosamine, and L-ristosamine) were prepared from noncarbohydrate starting materials. The short, high-yield syntheses are based on the chemoselective insertion of a rhodium nitrene in an allylic C-H bond rather than in a C-H bond that is α to an oxygen substituent.

Protected 3-amino glycals are versatile synthetic intermediates that may serve as precursors for amino glycal reagents,¹ for 2-deoxy sugars² and 2-oxygenated sugars,³ and for glycosylated antibiotics⁴ and peptides.⁵ Historically, the

preparation of 3-amino glycal synthons has relied on the modification of simple glycosides.^{6,7}

In a break with this tradition, we have explored a strategy in which a 3-deoxy glycal available from the cycloisomerization of a chiral homopropargyl alcohol undergoes an intramolecular nitrogen insertion at C3, completing the functionalization pattern of the 3-amino glycal. This approach is inherently a convergent one that enables the development of efficient asymmetric syntheses from noncarbohydrate precursors. Proof of principle for this approach was demonstrated in the vancosamine system (Scheme 1).^{1a}

In the synthesis of the protected L-vancosamine derivative **2**, the site and stereochemistry of nitrogen insertion were predicted with confidence. In the vancosamine precursor **3**, both the C3-H and the C5-H bonds are activated, the former because it is tertiary and allylic (vinylogously α to the pyranoside oxygen) and the latter because it is tertiary

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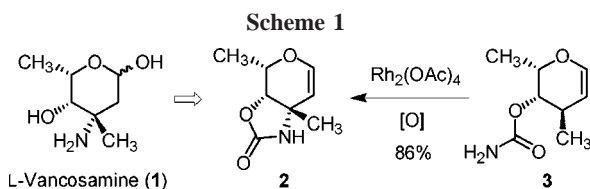
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and α to the pyranoside oxygen. However, only the C3–H bond is sterically accessible to the reactive species. The clean conversion of substrate **3** to the protected amino glycal **2** under the catalytic conditions of Du Bois was a gratifying but not unexpected result.

In this communication, we disclose the extension of the cycloisomerization/nitrene insertion approach to derivatives of the unbranched amino sugar daunosamine. Furthermore, we report that the Du Bois intramolecular rhodium carbamate nitrene insertion⁸ is selective for allylic C–H bonds over C–H bonds that are α to ether substituents. This selectivity endows our approach to 3,4-*cis*-3-amino-3-deoxy glycols with broad scope, permitting its application in the preparation of protected glycols of ristosamine and saccharosamine as well as to daunosamine. Of the 2,3,6-trideoxy-3-amino sugars,

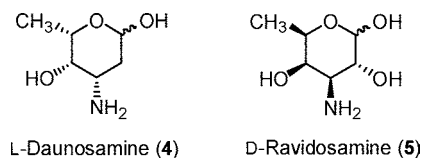


Figure 1.

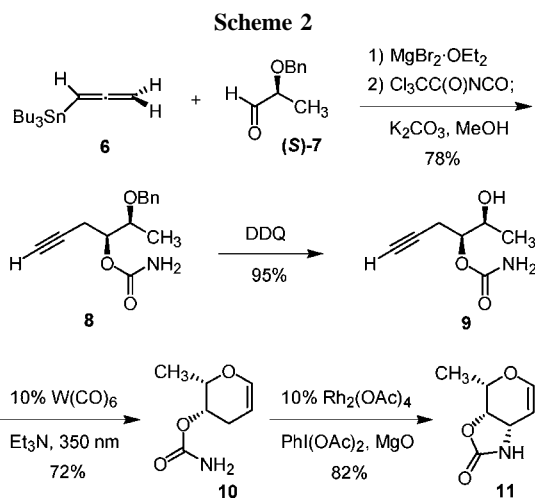
branched and unbranched, daunosamine has received the most attention from medicinal and synthetic chemists. L-Daunosamine (**4**) is the glycosidic constituent of the important anthracycline antitumor antibiotics daunorubicin and doxorubicin.⁹

A protected daunosamine glycal is a valuable synthon. Functionalized L-daunosamine glycols have been used to glycosylate anthracyclones in the synthesis of anthracyclines and their analogues.⁴ Furthermore, protected D-daunosamine glycols are potentially useful³ for the preparation of derivatives of D-ravidosamine (**5**), the sugar component of ravidomycin.¹⁰

In light of the accessibility of the vancosamine synthon **2** by the nitrogen insertion approach, we initiated the synthesis of the protected L-daunosamine glycal **11** by a similar strategy. The Du Bois substrate **10** was prepared by a six-step sequence from ethyl (*S*)-lactate in which the key step was the diastereoselective addition of allenyl stannane **6**¹¹ to aldehyde (*S*)-**7**.^{1a} The crude reaction product was washed

with aqueous sodium bisulfite and subjected to Roush's KF/Celite protocol¹² for removing residual tin. The resulting semipurified material was subjected to carbamoylation¹³ to afford the diastereomerically pure carbamate **8** in 78% yield after recrystallization (two steps). Oxidative cleavage of the benzyl ether protecting group gave hexynol **9** in 95% yield. The tungsten-catalyzed cycloisomerization was slow relative to the previously studied branched system;^{1a} however, glycal **10**¹⁴ was obtained in 72% yield after 6 h. Rhodium nitrene insertion completed the synthesis, providing protected L-daunosamine glycal **11** in five steps and 44% yield overall from the lactic acid derivative (*S*)-**7**.

Similar schemes directed toward other 3,4-*cis*-3-amino glycols would be successful only if the key functionalization steps were regioselective, leading to insertion at the C3–H bond. As there were no examples of the competition between two activated but functionally different C–H bonds in carbamate nitrogen insertion reactions,¹⁵ we examined the regiochemistry in systems that would be informative and suited to practical applications.



D-Saccharosamine (**12**) is an element of the recently isolated saccharomicin, an oligosaccharide antibiotic active against multiply resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* and vancomycin-resistant enterococci.¹⁶ A synthesis of its

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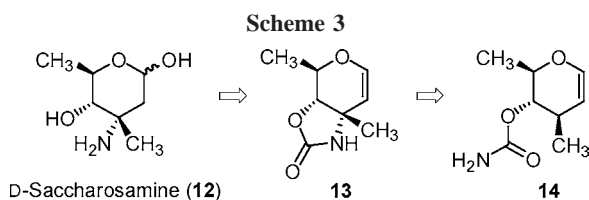
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(8) Espino, C. G.; Du Bois, J. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2001**, 40, 598.

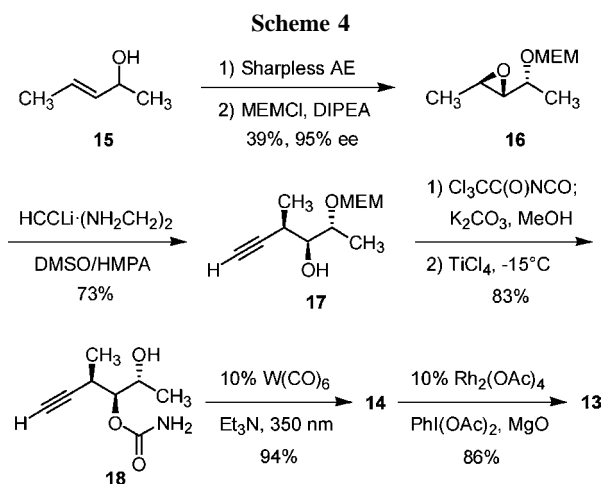
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glycol by application of the Du Bois reaction to the 3-deoxy glycol provides an opportunity to test the preference of the rhodium nitrene for insertion at a tertiary allylic position (vinylogously α to an oxygen) versus a position α to an oxygen (Scheme 3).



The preparation of substrate **18** (Scheme 4) began with the kinetic resolution¹⁷ of racemic pentenol **15**. The resulting

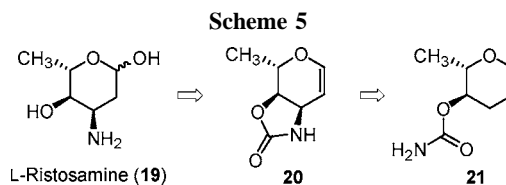


epoxy alcohol underwent MEM protection,¹⁸ providing epoxide **16**.¹⁹ Treatment with lithium acetylide·ethylenediamine complex gave hexynol **17**, characterized as its Mosher ester (95% ee). Urethane functionalization¹³ followed by Lewis acid-promoted deprotection with TiCl_4 ¹⁸ provided carbamate **18**.

Cycloisomerization of substrate **18** with a workup modified to minimize decomposition gave glycol **14** in 94% yield. Protected D-saccharosamine glycol **13** was obtained from the rhodium nitrene insertion reaction of urethane **14** in 79% yield. No *N,O*-acetal product (C5–H inserted) could be detected in the 600 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction product mixture.

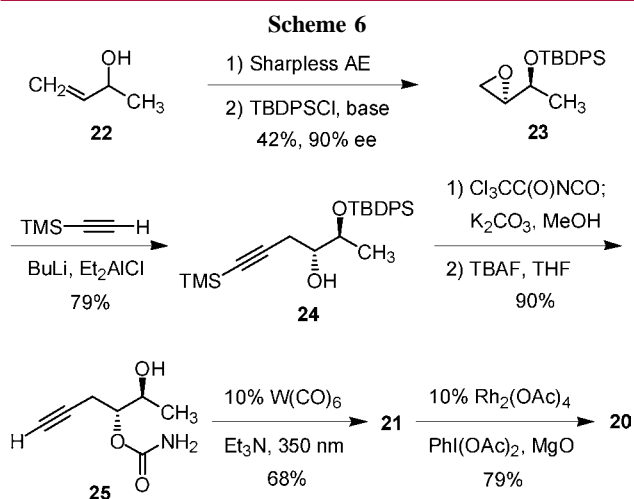
L-Ristosamine (**19**), the carbohydrate constituent of the glycopeptides ristocetin A²⁰ and the avoparcins²¹ (members

of the vancomycin antibiotic group), provides a more stringent test of the chemoselectivity of the nitrene insertion reaction. If the appropriate substrate **21** is to give the target **20** (Scheme 5), the active species must select the C–H bond



that is secondary and vinylogously α to an oxygen over the one that is tertiary and α to an oxygen.

The functionalized dihydropyran **21** was prepared in six steps from racemic 3-buten-2-ol (Scheme 6). Sharpless



kinetic resolution accompanied by silyl protection gave a mixture that was separated by column chromatography to give epoxide **23**.²² Treatment with 2 equiv of alkynylalane reagent²³ gave 2,3-*anti*-hexynol **24**. Then, carbamate functionalization¹³ and silyl deprotection with TBAF afforded the desired **25**. Again, the cycloisomerization of this C3-unbranched system was slow but not inconveniently so, and glycol **21**¹⁴ was obtained in 68% yield.

The Du Bois conditions effected the conversion of substrate **21** to the protected ristosamine glycol **20**. As in the case of the saccharosamine glycol synthesis, no trace of an *N,O*-acetal could be detected in the NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture. After chromatography, the clean product **20** was obtained in 79% yield.

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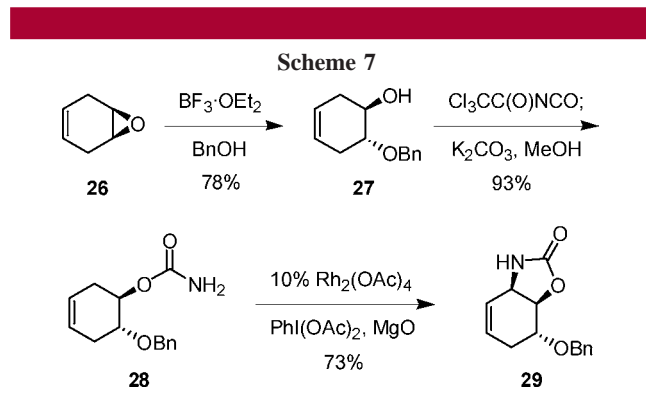
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In our protected amino glycal syntheses, the chemoselectivity of the rhodium nitrene insertion event involved competition between a C–H bond that was α to an oxygen and one that was vinylogously α to an oxygen. We wanted to determine the selectivity in a system in which the competition was between a C–H bond α to an oxygen and one that was simply allylic. Thus, we prepared substrate **28** from 1,4-cyclohexadiene (Scheme 7) and subjected it to the



Du Bois conditions. In this system, as in the glycal systems described above, the nitrogen insertion was chemospecific for the allylic position, affording oxazolidinone **29** as a single product.

In conclusion, we have developed an efficient synthetic pathway to prepare the carbamate-protected glycals of L-daunosamine, D-saccharosamine, and L-ristosamine, each in seven steps from noncarbohydrate starting materials. The

overall yields were 36%, 19% (38% if corrected for the kinetic resolution), and 16% (32% if corrected for the kinetic resolution), respectively. As a glycal is a valuable synthetic precursor for both *O*-²⁴ and *C*-glycosides,²⁵ we believe that our approach should find broad application in the synthesis of a variety of antibiotics and natural products that contain amino sugars.

Along our synthetic journey we discovered that the rhodium-coordinated carbamate nitrene chooses insertion in an allylic C–H over insertion in a C–H α to an oxygen. This chemoselective functionalization may find general application in the preparation of a variety of structures.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental details and full characterization for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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