



# Synthesis and epimerization of 10-*N*-(6-deoxy-1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranos-6-yl)-(11a*S*)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-dione

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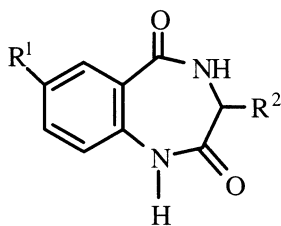
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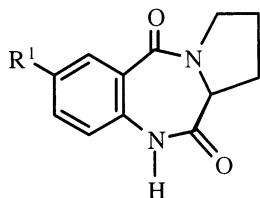
**Abstract**—The reaction of the 1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene-6-*O*-tosyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranose **2** with (11a*S*)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-dione **1**, prepared from L-proline and isatoic anhydride, gave two products which were previously reported as conformational isomers. In this work, an X-ray crystallographic study showed these to be the diastereomeric pair (11a*S*)- and (11a*R*)-10-*N*-(6-deoxy-1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranos-6-yl)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-diones as a consequence of C(11a) epimerization in the benzodiazepine moiety during glycosylation under basic reaction conditions. The hydrosolubility of the deprotected products were compared with those of the analogous benzodiazepine derivatives. © 2001 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

## 1. Introduction

The effects of both 1,4-benzodiazepin-2,5-diones (**A**) and pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-diones (**B**) on the nervous system are abundantly described in the literature;<sup>1–4</sup> moreover CpIIbIIIa antagonist,<sup>5</sup> antitumoral and antibiotic activities<sup>6–12</sup> are observed with these compounds but their very low hydrosolubility can restrict their applications.



**A**



**B**

In a recent work,<sup>13</sup> we attached glucopyranosyl and xylityl groups to N(1) of benzodiazepine systems of type **A** to increase the water solubility and to confer amphiphilic properties. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the

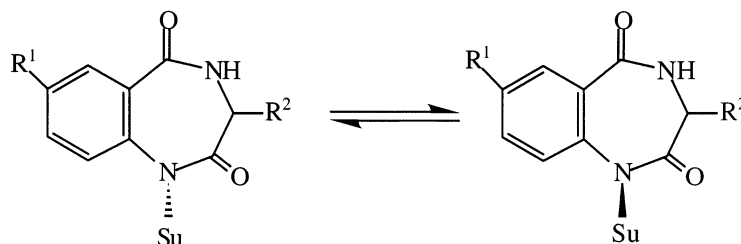
acetal protected glycoderivatives and corresponding deacetalized compounds showed split signals, whereas related unsubstituted benzodiazepines showed single signals. This phenomenon was interpreted as the consequence of a low N(1) conformer interconversion for the glycoderivatives (Fig. 1, Su=acetal protected and deprotected polyhydroxylated groups), while benzodiazepines (**A**) show coalescence to form a single resonance.

A similar interpretation was applied to the analogous glycobenzodiazepines of type **B**. The interpretations previously reported<sup>14</sup> have now been superseded following the isolation and full characterization, including NMR and X-ray analysis, of the diastereoisomers obtained from condensation of the chiral (11a*S*)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-dione **1** with the diacetonegalactose tosylate **2**.<sup>15</sup> In addition, we compared the hydrosolubility of deprotected glycosylated products to those of analogous benzodiazepine **1** derivatives.

## 2. Results and discussion

The (11a*S*)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-dione **1**, obtained from reaction of L-proline and isatoic anhy-

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**Figure 1.** Conformational isomerism in benzodiazepine derivatives.

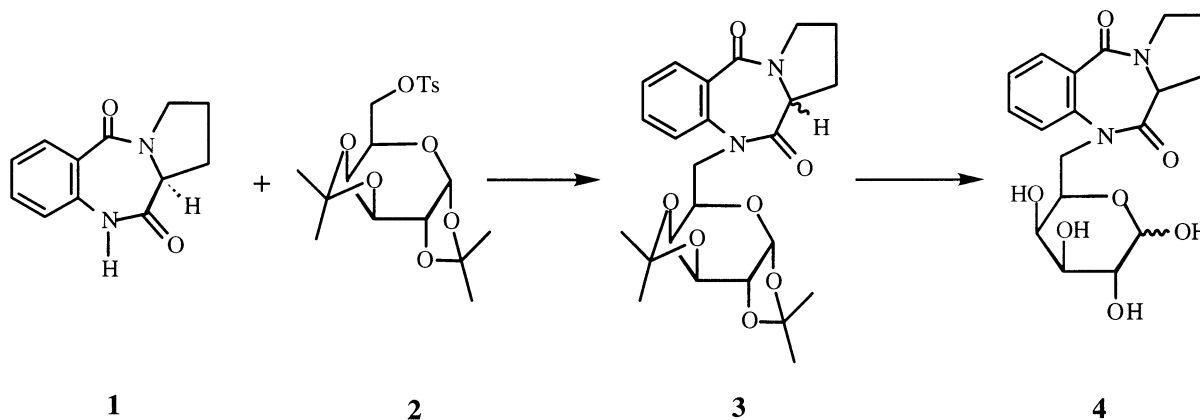
dride according to the method of Kamal,<sup>9</sup> was condensed with 6-*O*-tosyl-1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranose **2** in DMF at 130°C, in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$  and  $Bu_4NBr$ , as previously described<sup>14</sup> (Scheme 1), to obtain 10-*N*-(6-deoxy-1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranos-6-yl)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*]-[1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-diones **3** in 60% yield after flash silica gel chromatography, which appeared at first to be a pure product by TLC. However, the  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum in  $Me_2SO-d_6$  at room temperature shows split signals for the product **3** but no splitting is seen for the benzodiazepine **1**. Also, no coalescence was observed in the  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum of **3** when the temperature increased from 25 to 80°C; this indicates either very slow interconversion of the N(10) isomer or the presence of an alternative isomer in the mixture. Careful silica gel chromatography of **3** allowed the separation of the isomers **3a** and **3b**. Therefore, the split signals observed for **3** were in fact the result of a single signal observed for each of the diastereoisomers **3a** and **3b** spectra. Moreover, **3a** and **3b** have different optical rotations, and an X-ray crystallographic study (Table 1) indicates that **3a** forms orthorhombic crystal with absolute (*R*) configuration at C(11a) (Fig. 2), whereas **3b** forms monoclinic crystal with (*S*) absolute configuration (Fig. 3).

These results suggest that during the condensation step, the chiral benzodiazepine **1** and/or the condensed product undergoes racemization at C(11a) catalysed by  $K_2CO_3$ . This was verified by submitting both compounds **1** and **3a** to the same conditions as used in the condensation step; then optical rotation values for the recovered products were much lower (Table 2) than

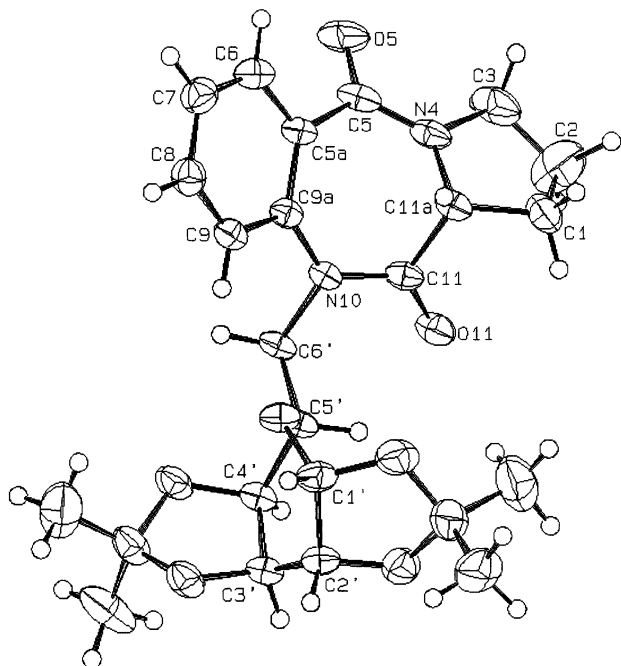
**Table 1.** Crystallographic data for compounds **3a** and **3b** at room temperature

Compound	<b>3a</b>	<b>3b</b>
Space group	$P2_12_12_1$	$P2_1$
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.35 \times 0.30 \times 0.25$	$0.30 \times 0.25 \times 0.20$
<i>a</i> (Å)	9.466(3)	9.157(2)
<i>b</i> (Å)	10.549(3)	9.840(2)
<i>c</i> (Å)	23.824(7)	13.489(3)
$\alpha$ (°)	90.0	90.0
$\beta$ (°)	90.0	101.91(1)
$\gamma$ (°)	90.0	90.0
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2379(1)	1189.3(4)
<i>Z</i>	4	2
Linear abs coeff ( $\mu\text{ mm}^{-1}$ )	0.094	0.094
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.30	1.28
$\theta$ limits (°)	2–23.4	2–23.3
<i>hkl</i> limits	–10, 10; –11, 11; –26, 26	–10, 10; –10, 10; –14, 14
Number of data collected	12623	7366
Number of intensities <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )	2343	2426
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub>	0.0430	0.0430
<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0826	0.1037
Goodness of fit	0.971	0.802
Number of variables	317	316

those initially observed for **1** and **3a**, respectively. Moreover the  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum of the recovered product from **3a** showed a split signal in accordance with the isomeric mixture **3**.



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of the 10-*N*-(6-deoxy-D-galactopyranos-6-yl)-pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-diones **4**.



**Table 2.** Optical rotation variation of **1** and **3a** (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 25°C) after treatment with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.5 equiv.) in DMF at 130°C

Compound	<b>1</b>	<b>3a</b>
$t_0$	500	−152
$t_0 + 72$ h	21	−16

benzodiazepin-5,11-diones **4a** and **4b** in 76 and 72% yield, respectively. During this reaction the configuration at C(11a) is preserved (no split signals were observed in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR).

### 3. Experimental

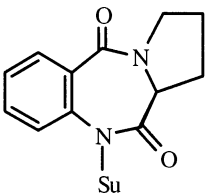
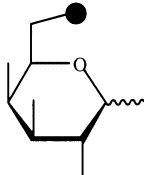
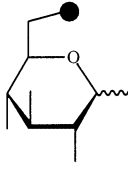
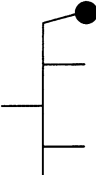
### 3.1. General methods

Melting points were determined on an electrothermal automatic apparatus, and are uncorrected. Optical rotations, for solutions in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  or MeOH, were measured with a digital polarimeter JASCO model DIP-370 using a sodium lamp at 25°C. For deprotected compounds, optical rotations were measured after 72 h at equilibrium in MeOH. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer 1750 IR Fourier Transform spectrophotometer using KBr pellets. NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker WB-300 instrument for solutions in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}-d_6$  and  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_5\text{N}$  (internal  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$ ). All compounds were characterized by acquisition of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ , DEPT,  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY and  $^1\text{H}$ – $^{13}\text{C}$  correlated experiments. Mass spectra were obtained by positive ESI-MS using a Micromass Q-TOF hybrid quadrupole/time-of-flight instrument (Micromass UK Ltd). Elemental analyses were performed by the Laboratoire de Chimie Organique de l'Université de Champagne (Reims, France). Analytical TLC was performed on Merck aluminium backed silica gel (Silica Gel F254). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60 mesh, Matrex) by gradient elution with hexane–acetone.

### 3.2. X-Ray diffraction

The X-ray diffraction measurements were performed on an AXS Bruker diffractometer with a CCD detector ( $\lambda_{\text{Mo K}\alpha} = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$ , graphite monochromator,  $T = 294 \text{ K}$ ,  $\omega$  scans). Absorption correction was not necessary. Structure solution was obtained by direct methods (SHELXS-97). Refinement by SHELXL-97 program. Hydrogen atoms were refined in a constrained geometry and their thermal parameters were assigned 1.2 times the value of the atom they were bound to.

**Table 3.** Water solubility (Sw,  $10^{-3}$  mol L $^{-1}$ ) of benzodiazepine derivatives at 25°C

Su				
	H			
Sw	0.18 <sup>14</sup>	115	4a	180 <sup>14</sup>
		120	4b	31 <sup>14</sup>

### 3.3. Water solubility (Sw)

Water solubility (Sw) was determined by stirring excess compound in water for 3 h at 50°C and then leaving it for 2 days at 25°C. Solubility values were obtained from the difference between initial compound weight and the residue recovered on a glass filter. Using this process, none of the compounds were hydrolyzed.

### 3.4. Procedure for condensation step

To a solution of pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepin-5,11-dione **1** (1.5 g, 6.9 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.5 g, 3.6 mmol) and Bu<sub>4</sub>NBr (0.2 g, 0.6 mmol) in DMF (100 mL), at 130°C, was added 1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene-6-*O*-tosyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranose **2** (2.9 g, 6.9 mmol). When no more starting material was detected by TLC, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O–H<sub>2</sub>O. The organic phase was separated, washed with water (twice), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under diminished pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on 100 g of silica gel using 9:1 hexane–acetone to give the product **3** in 60% yield (1.9 g, 4.1 mmol), which appeared pure on TLC control; mp = 140°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +43.2$  (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). A larger chromatographic column (200 g of silica gel for 1.7 g of **3**) was used with a hexane–acetone gradient of 19:1–10:1 to initially give **3a** as a white crystalline solid (0.83 g, 39% overall), followed by **3b** as a white crystalline solid (0.80 g, 38% overall).

**3a**: mp 173°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -152.5$  (*c* 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 1677.5, 1640.0 cm $^{-1}$  (C=O);  $\delta_H$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) 7.88 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6,7} = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_{6,8} = 1.6$  Hz, H-6), 7.77 (dd, 1H,  $J_{8,9} = 8.3$  Hz,  $J_{7,9} = 0.9$  Hz, H-9), 7.50 (dd, 1H, H-8), 7.27 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7,8} = 8.1$  Hz, H-7), 5.58 (d, 1H,  $J_{1,2} = 5.0$  Hz, H-1), 4.62 (dd, 1H,  $J_{2,3} = 7.9$  Hz,  $J_{3,4} = 2.3$  Hz, H-3), 4.43 (dt, 1H,  $J_{5,6a} = 8.9$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = J_{5,6b} = 2.5$  Hz, H-5), 4.32 (dd, 1H, H-2), 4.26 (dd, 1H, H-4), 4.10 (dd, 1H,  $J_{11a,2a} = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_{11a,2b} = 1.6$  Hz, H-11a), 4.09 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6a,6b} = 14.6$  Hz,  $J_{5,6b} = 2.9$  Hz, H-6b), 3.82 (m, 1H, H-3b), 3.79 (dd, 1H, H-6a), 3.54 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.66 (m, 1H, H-1b), 2.12 (m, 1H, H-2b), 2.00 (m, 1H, H-2a),

1.96 (m, 1H, H-1a), 1.45–1.31 (4s, 12H, CMe<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75.5 MHz) 169.6 (C-11), 165.6 (C-5), 140.9 (C-9a), 132.5 (C-8), 130.6 (C-5a), 130.2 (C-6), 126.0 (C-7), 124.7 (C-9), 109.8, 109.3 (CMe<sub>2</sub>), 96.8 (C-1), 72.2 (C-4), 71.3 (C-3), 70.9 (C-2), 65.5 (C-5), 57.5 (C-11a), 52.2 (C-6), 47.0 (C-3a), 27.0 (C-1a), 26.4–24.7 (CMe<sub>2</sub>), 24.3 (C-2a). ESI-MS; [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* 459, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* 481. HR-MS; [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 459.2151, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> requires 459.2131. Anal. calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (458.50): C, 62.87; H, 6.59; N, 6.11; found: C, 62.60; H, 6.49; N, 6.02%.

**3b**: mp 182°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +199.6$  (*c* 1.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 1677.7, 1641.4 cm $^{-1}$  (C=O);  $\delta_H$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) 7.88 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6,7} = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_{6,8} = 1.7$  Hz, H-6), 7.46 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7,8} = 7.6$  Hz,  $J_{8,9} = 8.0$  Hz, H-8), 7.25 (dd, 1H, H-7), 7.22 (d, 1H, H-9), 5.26 (d, 1H,  $J_{1,2} = 5.1$  Hz, H-1), 4.51 (dd, 1H,  $J_{2,3} = 2.4$  Hz,  $J_{3,4} = 7.9$  Hz, H-3), 4.48 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6a,6b} = 13.6$  Hz,  $J_{5,6b} = 3.4$  Hz, H-6b), 4.15 (dd, 1H, H-2), 4.11 (dd, 1H,  $J_{4,5} = 1.7$  Hz, H-4), 4.10 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.02 (dd, 1H,  $J_{11a,1a} = 6.1$  Hz,  $J_{11a,1b} = 2.1$  Hz, H-11a), 3.81 (m, 1H, H-3b), 3.72 (dd, 1H,  $J_{5,6a} = 9.0$  Hz, H-6a), 3.49 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.66 (m, 1H, H-1b), 2.04 (m, 1H, H-2b), 1.96 (m, 2H, H-1a, H-2a), 1.51–1.30 (4s, 12H, CMe<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75.5 MHz) 170.1 (C-11), 165.4 (C-5), 141.2 (C-9a), 132.1 (C-8), 131.5 (C-5a), 130.3 (C-6), 126.1 (C-7), 123.7 (C-9), 109.8, 108.8 (CMe<sub>2</sub>), 96.6 (C-1), 71.7 (C-4), 71.4 (C-3), 70.6 (C-2), 65.5 (C-5), 57.7 (C-11a), 50.2 (C-6), 46.6 (C-3a), 26.9 (C-1a), 26.2–4.9 (CMe<sub>2</sub>), 24.1 (C-2a). ESI-MS; [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* 459, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* 481. HR-MS; [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 459.2119, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> requires 459.2131. Anal. calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (458.50): C, 62.87; H, 6.59; N, 6.11; found: C, 62.71; H, 6.64; N, 6.20%.

### 3.5. General procedure for deprotection of **3a** and **3b**

Compounds **3a** and **3b** (0.5 g, 1.1 mmol) were each added to a stirred solution of 9:1 CF<sub>3</sub>COOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) at 20°C. After 1 h, the solution was concentrated to dryness under diminished pressure. The crude product, in each case, was purified by column chromatography using 1:7 hexane–acetone and the resulting

solid recrystallized in Et<sub>2</sub>O to give **4a** as a white crystalline solid (0.31 g, 0.84 mmol, 76%,  $\alpha/\beta=9:11$ ) and **4b** as a white crystalline solid (0.30 g, 0.80 mmol, in 74%,  $\alpha/\beta=2:3$ ).

**4a**:  $\alpha/\beta=9:11$ ; mp 89°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -175.6$  (*c* 0.9, 72 h, MeOH);  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3396 cm<sup>-1</sup> (O-H, large), 1676.6, 1620.3 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). ESI-MS;  $[M+H]^+$ : *m/z* 379,  $[M+Na]^+$ : *m/z* 401. HR-MS;  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 401.1292, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Na requires 401.1325. Anal. calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (378.38): C, 57.14; H, 5.86; N, 7.40; found: C, 57.21; H, 5.91; N, 7.51%. **4a**  $\beta$  anomer;  $\delta_H$  (C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N, 300 MHz) 8.19 (d, 1H,  $J_{8,9}=8.1$  Hz, H-9), 8.10 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6,7}=7.7$  Hz,  $J_{6,8}=1.7$  Hz, H-6), 7.35 (ddd, 1H,  $J_{7,8}=7.8$  Hz, H-8), 7.20 (masked by C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N), 5.04 (d, 1H,  $J_{1,2}=7.7$  Hz, H-1), 4.70 (m, 1H, H-6b), 4.48 (dd, 1H,  $J_{2,3}=9.4$  Hz, H-2), 4.38 (m, 1H,  $J_{6a,6b}=11.4$  Hz, H-6a), 4.35 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.31 (d, 1H,  $J_{3,4}=3.3$  Hz, H-4), 4.07 (dd, 1H, H-3), 3.94 (dd, 1H,  $J_{3a,11a}=6.9$  Hz,  $J_{3b,11a}=13.1$  Hz, H-11a), 3.78 (m, 1H, H-3b), 3.49 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.62 (m, 1H, H-1b), 2.00 (m, 1H, H-1a), 1.72 (m, 2H, H-2);  $\delta_C$  (C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N, 75.5 MHz) 170.0 (C-11), 165.8 (C-5), 141.0 (C-9a), 132.3 (C-8), 130.1 (C-6), 126.0 (C-7), 99.5 (C-1), 75.2 (C-3), 73.9 (C-2), 72.5 (C-5), 70.9 (C-4), 57.7 (C-11a), 52.4 (C-6), 46.8 (C-3), 26.9 (C-1), 24.0 (C-2).

**4b**:  $\alpha/\beta=2:3$ ; mp 75.2°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} 234.4$  (*c* 0.9, 72 h, MeOH);  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3392 cm<sup>-1</sup> (O-H, large), 1676.6, 1617.1 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). ESI-MS;  $[M+H]^+$ : *m/z* 379,  $[M+Na]^+$ : *m/z* 401. HR-MS;  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 401.1296, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Na requires 401.1325. Anal. calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (378.38): C, 57.14; H, 5.86; N, 7.40; found: C, 57.19; H, 5.83; N, 7.35%. **4b**  $\beta$  anomer;  $\delta_H$  (C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N, 300 MHz) 8.01 (dd, 1H,  $J_{6,7}=7.7$  Hz,  $J_{6,8}=1.6$  Hz, H-6), 7.45 (d, 1H,  $J_{8,9}=7.4$  Hz, H-9), 7.34 (ddd, 1H,  $J_{7,8}=7.5$  Hz, H-8), 7.20 (dd, masked by C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N, H-7), 5.04 (m, 1H, H-6b), 4.91 (d, 1H,  $J_{1,2}=7.7$  Hz, H-1), 4.29 (m, 1H, H-6a), 4.26 (t, 1H,  $J_{2,3}=8.0$  Hz, H-2), 4.22 (t, 1H,  $J_{3,4}=3.3$  Hz, H-4), 4.18 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.03 (m, 1H, H-11a), 3.95 (dd, 1H, H-3), 3.73 (m, 1H, H-3b), 3.50 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.68 (m, 1H, H-1b), 2.02 (m, 2H, H-2), 1.80 (m, 2H, H-1a);  $\delta_C$  (C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N, 75.5 MHz) 170.2 (C-11), 166.6 (C-5), 141.7 (C-9a), 132.2 (C-8), 129.8 (C-6), 125.8 (C-7), 99.5 (C-1), 75.1 (C-3), 73.8 (C-2),

73.6 (C-5), 70.6 (C-4), 58.0 (C-11a), 50.9 (C-6), 46.7 (C-3), 26.9 (C-1), 24.1 (C-2).

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