

## Synthesis of bicyclonucleosides by application of Pd(II)Cl-mediated oxidative cyclization protocol of vinylglucofuranosides<sup>†</sup>

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### Abstract

Synthesis of tetrahydrofuran nucleoside (**9**) and tetrahydrofuranolactone nucleoside (**10**) from D-glucose is described. Key steps involved oxidative cyclization of vinylglucofuranoside (**11**) and thymidine derivative (**14**) to derive the corresponding advanced intermediates **15** and **17**, respectively.

**Keywords** : Bicyclic nucleosides, oxidative cyclization, vinylglucofuranoside, antiviral, palladium (II) chloride.

### 1. Introduction

Current interest in the synthesis of bicyclic nucleoside analogues stems from the discovery of antiviral drug 3'-azido-3'-deoxythymidine (AZT) potent against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).<sup>1</sup> Oligonucleosides containing bicyclic nucleosides have great affinity for complementary RNA/DNA, since they stabilize duplex formation due to their restricted conformation.<sup>2</sup> It has also been suggested that a C-3' *exo*-conformation of the bicyclic nucleosides is predictive of antiHIV activity.<sup>2</sup> A series of efforts directed in this direction has earlier resulted in the preparation and bioevaluation of bicyclic nucleoside analogues containing a fused methylene group **1**,<sup>3</sup> oxirane **2**<sup>4</sup> or oxetane **3**<sup>5</sup> and tetrahydrofuran templates such as in **4–7**.<sup>6–11</sup>

The bicyclic framework in compounds **4** and **5** has been derived from isosorbide,<sup>12</sup> **6** from 3-*O*-mesyl glucofuranosyl derivative, **7** from the internal rearrangement of 3,5,6-*O*-orthoester glucose derivative and **8** from 5,6-*O*-cyclic sulphate sugar derivative.<sup>13</sup>

Due to our interest in the synthesis of nucleoside analogues with potent antiviral activity we wish to describe the synthesis of novel bicyclic tetrahydrofuran nucleosides by application of palladium(II) chloride-mediated oxidative cyclization of vinylglucofuranosides.<sup>14</sup> We report now the application of this methodology for the preparation of novel tetrahydrofuran nucleoside (**9**) and tetrahydrofuranolactone nucleoside (**10**) starting from D-glucose that can be considered analogous of compounds **4–8** (Fig.1).

D-Glucose was transformed to the vinylglucofuranoside derivative **11** by the procedure earlier reported by us.<sup>15</sup> Acid-catalysed hydrolysis of **11** with IR-120 H<sup>+</sup> resin in water at 80°C gave triol, that was converted to a diastereomeric mixture of triacetyl derivative **12** on reaction with Ac<sub>2</sub>O/py

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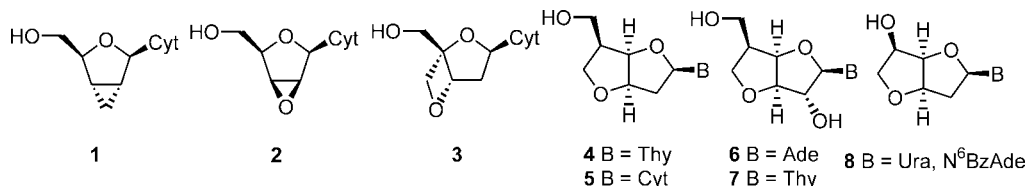
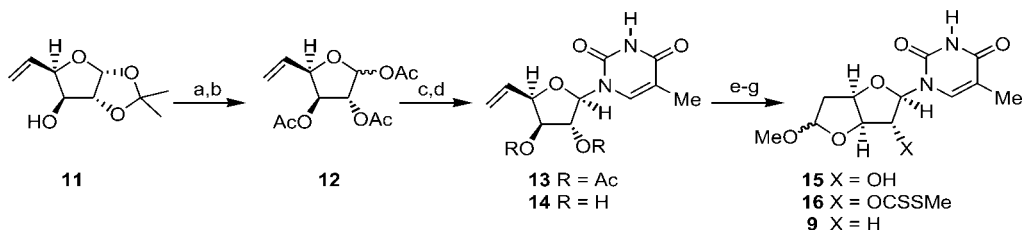


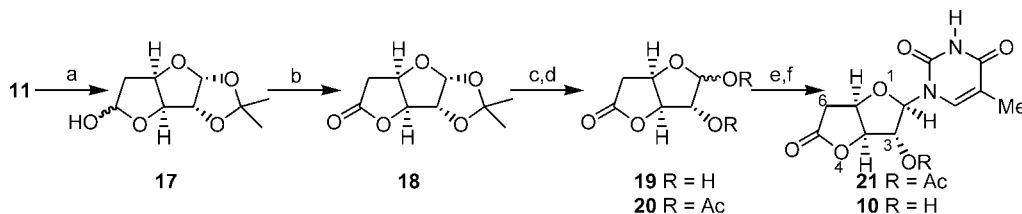
FIG. 1.

(Scheme 1). Compound **12** was characterized from  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum by the appearance of vinylic protons between  $\delta$  5.12 and 5.90 (3H), anomeric proton H-2 ( $\alpha/\beta$ ) at  $\delta$  6.06 (0.45H, s),  $\delta$  6.39 (0.55H, d,  $J = 3$  Hz) and acetyl protons appeared between  $\delta$  2.04 and 2.18 integrating for nine protons. Reaction of **12** with *bis*-trimethylsilylthymine and Sn(IV)Cl at room temperature gave the vinylic nucleoside **13**, m.p.  $135^\circ\text{C}$ , in 78% yield, which was characterized by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum from the appearance of H-1 at  $\delta$  6.02 (1H, d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz), H-6 at  $\delta$  7.28 (1H, s) and methyl group protons at  $\delta$  1.96 (3H, s). Compound **13** on reaction with a catalytic amount of sodium methoxide in methanol at room temperature gave the hydroxy derivative **14** that was characterized from  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum by the absence of acetyl protons and appearance of H-1 at  $\delta$  5.98 (1H, s). Oxidative cyclization of **14** with a catalytic amount of Pd(II)Cl/CuCl/RT in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  while bubbling oxygen gave a diastereomeric mixture of bicyclic nucleoside **15** as a crystalline solid, m.p.  $120^\circ\text{C}$ , which was characterized by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum from the appearance of H-5', 5'' protons between  $\delta$  1.64 and 2.14 (2H, m), methoxy protons at  $\delta$  2.98, 3.06 (3H, 2s), H-6 at  $\delta$  5.24 (0.7H, d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz) and 5.38 (0.3 H, d,  $J = 5.5$  Hz) and H-1 at  $\delta$  5.56 (0.3H, s) and  $\delta$  5.60 (0.7 H, s). Compound **15** on reaction with  $\text{CS}_2/\text{NaH}/\text{MeI}$  in dry THF at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  gave the methyl xanthate derivative **16** that on reduction with  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$  in toluene containing a catalytic amount of AIBN at reflux temperature gave the deoxy bicyclic nucleoside **9** in good yield, which was characterized by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum from the appearance of H-2 protons between  $\delta$  2.06 and 2.84 (2H, m). After establishing a new route for the synthesis of bicyclic nucleoside **9**, we investigated on the preparation of tetrahydrofuranolactone nucleoside (**10**) by Pd(II)Cl-mediated oxidative cyclization methodology. Accordingly, Pd(II)Cl-mediated oxidative cyclization of **11** was carried out in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF)/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:1), while bubbling oxygen to obtain a diastereomeric mixture of tetrahydrofurofuran derivative (**17**) in 77% yield (Scheme 2), which was characterized from the appearance of lactal protons between  $\delta$  5.40 and 5.62 (1H), and H-5,5' protons between  $\delta$  1.92 and 2.40 (m, 2H). Oxidation of lactol (**17**) with PDC in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at reflux temperature for 2 h gave the lactone **18**, m.p.  $73^\circ\text{C}$ , in 85% yield, which was characterized by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR from the appearance of H-5,5' protons between  $\delta$  2.60 and 2.80 (AB type doublet, 2H) and by the IR spec-



(a) IR  $120\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ , 4 h; (b)  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$ , py; (c)  $(\text{TMS})_2\text{thymine}$ , Sn(IV)Cl, rt, 16 h; (d) catalytic NaOH, MeOH; (e) Pd(II)Cl, CuCl, MeOH,  $\text{O}_2$ , rt, 10 h; (f) NaH,  $\text{CS}_2$ , MeI; (g)  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$ , AIBN, toluene, reflux, 4 h.

Scheme 1.



(a) Pd(II)Cl, CuCl, DMF, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>; (b) PDC, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, reflux, 2 h; (c) IR 120 H<sup>+</sup>, AcOH, H<sub>2</sub>O, 100°C, 4 h; (d) Ac<sub>2</sub>O, py; (e) (TMS)<sub>2</sub>thymine, Sn(IV)Cl, 0°C, 12 h; (f) NaOMe (catalytic), MeOH, rt.

Scheme 2.

trum the lactone absorption at 1780 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Acid-catalyzed hydrolysis of **18** with 50% aqueous acetic acid, IR-120 H<sup>+</sup> resin at 60°C for 4 h gave a diastereomeric mixture of diol **19**, that on reaction with Ac<sub>2</sub>O/pyridine gave the diacetate **20** in 87% yield. Coupling of **19** with bis-trimethylsilylthymine in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at rt by the use of Sn(IV)Cl as a catalyst gave the nucleoside **21** as a crystalline solid, m.p. 139°C in 60% yield, which was characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum from the appearance of methyl group of thymine at δ 1.92 (s, 3H), acetyl protons at δ 2.19 (s, 3H), anomeric proton (H-1') at δ 6.10 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz) and H-5,5' at δ 2.84–3.15 (dd, 2H, *J* = 6.5 and 3.5 Hz). Compound **21** on deacetylation with a catalytic amount of NaOMe in CH<sub>3</sub>OH gave the tetrahydrofuranolactone nucleoside (**10**) as a crystalline solid, m. p. 162°C.

In conclusion, a new family of bicyclic nucleoside analogues of dde and ddA have been prepared from D-glucose using Pd(II)Cl-mediated oxidative cyclization of vinylhydroxy furanoglycosides as a key step.

## 2. Experimental

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured with a Varian Gemini 200 MHz spectrometer with tetramethylsilane as internal standard for solutions in deuteriochloroform. *J* values are given in hertz. Optical rotations were measured with a JASCO DIP-370 instrument and [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> values are in units of 10<sup>-1</sup> deg cm<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>. All melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer 1310 spectrometer. All organic solvents were freshly distilled prior to use. Air sensitive reactions were generally performed under a positive pressure of nitrogen with the glassware flame-dried under vacuum.

### 2.1. Diastereomeric mixture of 5,6-dideoxy-5-eno-1,2,3-tri-O-acetyl-α and β-D-glucofuranosides (**12**)

To a heterogenous solution of **11** (2.95 g, 15.05 mmol) in HOAc-H<sub>2</sub>O [(1:1), 7 ml] was added IR-120 H<sup>+</sup> resin (1 ml) and heated to 100°C for 4 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was concentrated to a residue and treated with pyridine (6 ml) and Ac<sub>2</sub>O (3 ml) to obtain, after work up, the title compound **12** (1.85 g) in 90% yield as a syrup. [α]<sub>D</sub> 56.8° (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.04, 2.08, 2.11, 2.14, 2.18 (9H, 5s, 3 x OAc), 4.84 (1H, dd, *J*=6.0 Hz, and 4.0 Hz, H-4), 5.12–5.45 (4H, m, H-2, 3, 6, 6'), 5.55–5.90 (1H, m, H-5), 6.06 (0.45H, s, H-1β), 6.39 (0.55H, d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, H-1α). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>7</sub>: C, 52.94; H, 5.92. Found: C, 52.78; H, 5.79%.

### 2.2. 1-(5,6-Dideoxy-5-eno-2,3-di-O-acetyl- $\beta$ -D-glucofuranosyl)thymine (**13**)

To a solution of compound **12** (1 g, 3.6 mmol) and silylated thymine (1.19 g, 4.40 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (30 ml) under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  was added  $\text{Sn(IV)Cl}$  (1.14 g, 0.51 ml) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 16 h. When TLC showed the formation of a slower moving spot (hexane/MeOH, 1:1), the reaction mixture was diluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (20 ml), neutralized with sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution (5 ml) and filtered on a bed of celite. The filtrate was concentrated to obtain the title compound **13** (0.96 g) as a white crystalline solid in 80% yield. m.p.  $135^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$   $38.4^\circ$  (c 1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.95 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.52–2.21 (6H, 2s, 2 x OAc), 4.72 (1H, dd,  $J=2.5$  Hz,  $J=1.5$  Hz, H-4), 5.14 (1H, s, H-2), 5.30 (1H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, H-3), 5.34–5.58 (2H, m, H-6,6), 5.70–5.98 (1H, m, H-5'), 6.02 (1H, d,  $J=2.5$  Hz, H-1), 7.31 (1H, s, H-6), 8.95 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7$ : C, 52.12; H, 8.28; N, 5.28. Found: C, 52.01; H, 8.29; N, 5.22%.

### 2.3. 1-(5,6-Dideoxy-5-eno- $\beta$ -D-glucofuranosyl)thymine (**14**)

To a solution of **13** (2.0 g, 5.90 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10 ml) was added NaOMe (1 ml, 0.1M) and left at rt for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was neutralized with IR-120  $\text{H}^+$  resin and filtered to remove the resin. Filtrate was separated and concentrated to obtain the title compound **14** (1.29 g) as a thick syrup in 86% yield.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$   $9.8^\circ$  (c 1.0,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.02 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.34 (1H, d,  $J=4.4$  Hz, H-3'), 4.45 (1H, s, H-2'), 5.50–5.80 (3H, m, H-6', H-4'), 5.98 (1H, s, H-1'), 6.10–6.32 (1H, m, H-5'), 7.80 (1H, s, H-6); Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ : C, 52.24; H, 11.14; N, 4.72. Found: C, 51.99; H, 11.07; N, 4.69%.

### 2.4. Diastereomeric mixture of 1-(3,6-anhydro-5-deoxy-6R/S-methoxy- $\beta$ -D-glucofuranosyl)thymine (**15**)

To a solution of compound **14** (0.50 g, 1.96 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (7 ml) was added  $\text{Pd(II)Cl}$  (13 mg) and  $\text{Cu(I)Cl}$  (0.32 g, 2.3 mmol) and oxygen was bubbled for 10 h at rt. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was concentrated to a residue which was dissolved in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (10 ml) and filtered through a bed of silica gel ( $\text{SiO}_2$ , 60–120 mesh) to obtain the title compound **15** (0.27 g) as an amorphous solid in 51% yield. m.p.  $120^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$   $15.6^\circ$  (c 1.0,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.64–2.12 (2H, m, H-5'), 2.96–3.06 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.61–4.90 (3H, m, H-2', 3', 4'), 5.25 (0.7H, d,  $J=6.2$  Hz, H-6'), 5.35 (0.3H, d,  $J=5.5$  Hz, H-6'), 5.50, 5.60 (1H, 2s, H-1'), 7.2 (1H, s, H-6). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$ : C, 50.70; H, 5.67; N, 9.86. Found: C, 50.58; H, 5.69; N, 9.79%.

### 2.5. Diastereomeric mixture of 1-[3,6-anhydro-5-deoxy-2-O-methylthiocarbonyl]-6R/S-methoxy- $\beta$ -D-glucofuranosyl]thymine (**16**)

To a solution of compound **15** (0.40 g, 1.4 mmol) in THF (4 ml) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  was added NaH (0.09 g, 3.60 mmol), followed by  $\text{CS}_2$  (0.167 ml, 2.80 mmol) and iodomethane (0.4 g, 2.80 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to rt gradually and stirred for an additional 2 h. After completion of the reaction, it was diluted with chilled water (50 ml) and extracted into EtOAc (100 ml). The organic phase was separated, dried and concentrated to a syrupy residue that was filtered on silica gel [ $\text{SiO}_2$  60–120 mesh, eluted with hexane:EtOAc (3:7)] to obtain the title compound **16** (440 mg) as syrup in 86.4% yield.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$   $15.8^\circ$  (c 1.0,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.98 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.06–2.50 (2H, H-5'), 2.60 (3H, s,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 3.40, 3.52 (3H, 2s, OMe), 4.68

(1H, d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-4'), 4.88 (1H, d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, H-3'), 5.20, 5.28 (1H, 2 d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, H-6'), 5.92, 5.96 (1H, 2 d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-2'), 6.24 and 6.28 (1H, 2s, H-1'), 7.24, 7.59 (1H, 2s, H-6), 8.76, 8.82 (1H, 2s, NH). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 44.79; H, 4.72; N, 7.41. Found: C, 44.67; H, 4.69; N, 7.39%.

2.6. *Diastereomeric mixture of 1-(3,6-anhydro-2,5-dideoxy-6R/S-methoxy-β-D-glucofuranosyl) thymine (9)*

To a solution of compound **16** (0.46 g, 1.66 mmol) in toluene (4 ml), Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (0.70 g, 2.44 mmol) and a catalytic amount of AIBN were added and refluxed under N<sub>2</sub> atm. for 4 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC from the appearance of a slower moving spot [hexane:ethyl acetate (7:1)] to obtain the title compound **9** (230 mg) in 65% yield as a syrup.  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  6.2° (c 1.0, CH<sub>3</sub>OH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.92 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06–2.84 (4H, m, H-5', 2'), 3.36, 3.42 (3H, 2s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.64 (1H, d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, H-4'), 4.72–4.86 (1H, m, H-3'), 5.09, 5.19 (1H, d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, H-6'), 6.09–6.30 (1H, m, H-1'), 7.32 and 7.72 (1H, 2 s, H-6), 9.46 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 53.72; H, 6.01; N, 10.44. Found: C, 53.59; H, 6.22; N, 10.48%.

2.7. *Diastereomeric mixture of [3aR, 4aR, 7aS, 7bR]2,2-dimethyl perhydrofuro[2,3:4,5]furo[2,3-d][1,3]dioxol-6(R/S)-ol (17)*

To a solution of vinyl furanoside (**11**) (5.9 g, 31.6 mmol) in DMF-H<sub>2</sub>O [30 ml, (4:1)] was added Pd(II)Cl (50 mg), Cu(I)Cl (3.8 g, 39.5 mmol) and oxygen was bubbled for 12 h at rt. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was diluted with water and extracted into CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 ml × 2). The organic phase was separated, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to obtain the title compound **17** (4.90 g) in 76% yield as a syrup.  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  25.93° (c 1.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.30 & 1.48 (6H, 2s, 2 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.92–2.40 (2H, m, H-5), 4.72 (1H, d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz, H-7b), 4.90 (1H, m, H-7a), 5.40 (0.6H, d, H-3a), 5.62 (0.4H, t, H-3a), 5.98 (1H, d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-6). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 53.32; H, 6.85. Found: C, 53.19; H, 6.77%.

2.8. *[3aR, 4aR, 7aS, 7bR]-2,2-Dimethyl perhydrofuro[2,3:4,5]furo[2,3-d][1,3]dioxol-6-one (18)*

A solution of lactol **17** (3.50 g, 17.0 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 ml) containing pyridinium dichromate (9.71 g, 25.8 mmol) was heated to reflux for 2 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered, concentrated to a residue and chromatographed [SiO<sub>2</sub>, 60–120 mesh, by eluting with hexane/ethyl acetate (1:1)] to obtain the title compound **18** (2.94 g) in 85% yield as a glassy solid. m. p. 72–73° C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +36.7° C (c 1.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.32 and 1.50 (6H, 2 s, 2 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.60–2.80 (2H, AB-type coupling, H-5,5), 4.80 (2H, m, H-4a,7b), 4.96 (1H, m, H-7a), 5.92 (1H, m,  $J = 3.40$  Hz, H-3a). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 53.79; H, 5.82. Found: C, 53.68; H, 5.77%.

2.9. *Diastereomeric mixture of [3aR, 5R/S, 6R, 6aS]-5,6-dihydroxy perhydrofuro[3,2-b]furan-2-one (19)*

To a heterogenous solution of lactone **18** (0.68 g, 3.40 mmol) in HOAc-H<sub>2</sub>O [(1:1), 7 ml] was added IR-120 H<sup>+</sup> resin (1 ml) and heated to 100° C for 4 h. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove the resin and the filtrate was neutralized with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted into ethyl acetate (50 ml × 2). The organic phase was separated, concentrated, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and chromatographed [SiO<sub>2</sub>, 60–120 mesh eluted with hexane–ethyl

acetate (1:1)] to obtain the title compound **19** (0.37 g) in 68% yield as a syrup.  $[\alpha]_D -0.22^\circ$  (c 0.9,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.40–2.88 (2H, m, H-3,3), 4.00–4.17 (1H, m, H-6), 4.74–5.00 (2H, m, H-3a, 6a), 5.20 (0.45H, s, H-5), 5.32 (0.55H, d, H-5,  $J = 3.3$  Hz). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_8\text{O}_5$ : C, 44.70; H, 4.94. Found: C, 44.67; H, 4.88%.

2.10. *Diastereomeric mixture of [3R,3aS,6aR]3-methylcarbonyloxy-5-oxo-perhydrofuro[3,2-b]furan-2-yl acetate (20)*

To a solution of diol **19** (1.20 g, 7.70 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 ml) was added pyridine (0.93 ml, 11.50 mmol) and acetic anhydride (0.72 ml, 9.25 mmol) and stirred at rt for 4 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (100 ml), washed and extracted into  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (50 ml). The organic phase was separated, concentrated to a residue and chromatographed [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , 60–120 mesh, hexane–ethyl acetate (1:1)] to obtain the title compound **20** (1.63 g) in 87% yield. m.p. 88–90°C;  $[\alpha]_D +0.6^\circ$  (c 1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.10–2.20 (6H, 2s, 2 x OAc), 2.75–2.95 (2H, m, H-5,5), 4.95–5.30 (3H, m, H-2,3 and 4), 6.50 (2H, d, H-1,  $J = 3.6$  Hz). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_7$ : C, 49.18; H, 4.95. Found: C, 49.01; H, 4.82%.

2.11. *[2R,3R,3aS,6aR]-2-[5-Methyl-1H,3H-2,4-dioxo-1-pyrimidinyl]-5-oxo-perhydrofuro[3,2-b]furan-3-yl acetate (21)*

To a solution of compound **20** (1.28 g, 5.27 mmol) and *bis*-trimethylsilylthymine (1.56 g, 5.8 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (15 ml) under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere at 0°C was added  $\text{Sn(IV)Cl}$  (0.74 ml, 6.30 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 ml) and stirred at rt for 12 h. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was neutralized with sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution, and filtered on a bed of celite. The filtrate was concentrated to a residue and chromatographed [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , 60–120 mesh, hexane–ethyl acetate (1:1)] to obtain the title compound **21** (1.10 g) in 67% yield. m. p. 140°C;  $[\alpha]_D 9.9^\circ$  (c 0.52,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ );  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.9 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.19 (s, 3H, OAc), 2.84–3.15 (2H, m, H-6,6), 4.90–5.14 (2H, m, H-3a, 6a), 5.35 (1H, dd,  $J = 3.75$  Hz,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, H-3), 6.10 (1H, d, H-2), 7.32 (1H, s, H-6'), 11.20 (s, NH). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7$ : C, 50.32; H, 4.55; N, 9.03. Found: C, 50.17; H, 4.49; N, 9.07%.

2.12. *1-[2R,3R,3aS,6aR]-3-Hydroxy-5-oxo-perhydrofuro[3,2-b]furan-2-yl)-5-methyl-1H,3H-pyrimidine-2,4-dione (10)*

To a solution of **21** (0.11 g, 0.35 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (2 ml) was added two drops of NaOMe (1 M solution) and stirred at rt for 4 h. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was neutralized with IR-120H<sup>+</sup> resin (20 mg) and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to obtain the title compound **10** (59 mg) in 63% yield as a white solid. m. p. 162°C;  $[\alpha]_D 5.5^\circ$  (c 0.47, DMSO);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.90 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.60–2.90 (2H, m, H-6'), 4.55–4.61 (1H, dd,  $J = 2.5$  and 1.5 Hz, H-3a), 4.80–4.90 (1H, m, H-6a), 4.94 (1H, d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, H-3), 6.10 (1H, d, H-2'), 7.34 (1H, s, H-6), 9.24 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$ : C, 49.25; H, 4.50; N, 10.45. Found: C, 49.12; H, 4.52; N, 10.47%.

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