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Keywords

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Synthesis of (+)-(1*R*, 2*S*, 9*S*, 9*aR*)-Octahydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[1,2-*a*]azepine-1,2,9-triol: A Potential Glycosidase Inhibitor

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Abstract: The title compound was prepared as a potential glycosidase inhibitor. Key steps in the synthesis are vinyl epoxide aminolysis, ring-closing metathesis, *cis*-dihydroxylation and then ring closure.

Key words: 2,5-dihydropyrroles, vinyl epoxide, aminolysis, ring-closing metathesis, dihydroxylation, polyhydroxylated alkaloids, azepine.

Introduction

Polyhydroxylated pyrrolizidine [e.g. (+)-alexine (**1**)] and indolizidine [e.g. (-)-swainsonine (**2**)] alkaloids are potent glycosidase inhibitors,^{1,2} making these compounds good lead compounds for the development of new drugs for the treatment of viral infections, cancer and diabetes.^{3,4} Consequently a substantial volume of research has been conducted, aimed at the synthesis of these alkaloids and their analogues.^{1,2,4,5} While compounds with the 5,5- and 5,6-heterocyclic ring system found in these natural products have been extensively studied, we were surprised to discover that analogues with the corresponding 5,7-heterocyclic ring system (i.e. 1H-pyrrolo[1,2-*a*]azepines) remain relatively unexplored. Recently we reported an asymmetric total synthesis of (-)-swainsonine (**2**) and two of its diastereomers, 1,2-*diepi*-swainsonine and 1,2,8a-*triepi*-swainsonine.⁶ The non-chiral pool route used in that synthesis was very flexible, and we envisaged that it could be readily applied to polyhydroxylated systems of other ring size combinations, such as the 5,7-heterocyclic ring system of (+)-**11**, reported here (Scheme 1).

Results and Discussion

The starting vinyl epoxide (-)-(2*S*, 3*R*)-**3** was prepared from the corresponding Sharpless epoxy alcohol (92 % ee) *via* Swern oxidation followed by a Wittig-olefination reaction.⁶⁻⁹

A solution of the vinyl epoxide (-)-**3** and allylamine (3 equiv) in acetonitrile was heated at 120 °C in a closed teflon vessel in a microwave reactor (Milestone, ETHOS SEL), using LiOTf (1 equiv) as a catalyst.⁸ This gave only amino alcohol (-)-**4**^{6,8} via an S_N2 ring opening, with no evidence of any other regio/stereoisomers. After protection of (-)-**4** as its *N*-Boc derivative, ring-closing metathesis using 5 mol % benzyldiene-bis-(tricyclohexylphosphine)dichlororuthenium (Grubbs' catalyst) in refluxing CH₂Cl₂ at high dilution (~4 mM)^{6,8} for 20 h, gave the 2,5-dihydropyrrole (-)-**5** in excellent yield (85% overall for the 2 steps). Compound (-)-**5** was treated with 5 mol % K₂OsO₄·2H₂O and NMO (2.1 equiv), to effect *cis*-dihydroxylation of the double bond, giving triol (-)-**6** also in excellent yield (96%). Only one diastereomeric product was isolated, which was expected to arise from delivery of the two hydroxyl groups to the least hindered face of the 3,4-double bond in (-)-**5**.⁶ Triol (-)-**6** was then reacted with NaH and benzyl bromide, together with a catalytic amount of *n*Bu₄NI.¹⁰ This gave the desired tri-*O*-benzyl derivative (-)-**7** in 55 % yield. The low yield was due primarily to the formation of an unwanted oxazolidinone (+)-**8**, which was isolated in 21 % yield. No attempt was made to optimise the conditions of this reaction to lower the amount of (+)-**8** being formed, but it is likely that a higher concentration of *n*BuNI and/or benzyl bromide would improve the ratio of compounds (-)-**7** and (+)-**8** in the reaction. Compound (-)-**7** was then reacted with trifluoroacetic acid to accomplish *N*-deprotection. By using anisole as a cation trap, the *p*-methoxybenzyl (PMB) protecting group was also removed, resulting in the formation of amino alcohol (+)-**9** in high yield (96%).⁶ Formation of the 7-membered azepine ring, was achieved by treating (+)-**9** with carbon tetrabromide and triphenylphosphine in the presence of triethylamine at 4 °C for 20 h. This gave a moderate yield (51 %) of the protected bicyclic compound (+)-**10**, but it should be

noted that this reaction was only performed once, and higher yields may be achieved with further optimisation (e.g. longer reaction time). Finally, *O*-benzyl removal by catalytic hydrogenolysis, using PdCl₂ under an atmosphere of H₂ (1 atm), gave (+)-**11**.HCl in excellent yield, which was purified by ion-exchange chromatography to give the free amine (+)-**11** as a white solid (m. p. 100-104 °C, [α]_D²⁵: +60.3 (c 0.46, MeOH)) in 98% yield.

Conclusions

In summary, the synthesis of a potential glycosidase inhibitor, based on a novel 1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine structure has been achieved. We believe the method is flexible enough to allow the synthesis of many analogues, including those with different stereochemistries and/or larger ring systems simply by varying the vinyl epoxide stereochemistry, and/or epoxide side-chain length. Furthermore, this method could potentially be extended to the synthesis of the key 1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine core of the stemona alkaloids.⁸

Scheme 1. *Reagents and conditions:* (a) allylamine (3 equiv), LiOTf (1 equiv), CH₃CN, 120 °C, microwave, 1 h; (b) (Boc)₂O (2 equiv), Et₃N (2 equiv), Et₂O, rt, 18 h; (c) Cl₂(Cy₃P)₂Ru=CHPh (5 mol%), CH₂Cl₂ reflux, 20 h; (d) K₂OsO₄·2H₂O (5 mol%), NMO (2.2 equiv), acetone, water, rt, 20 h; (e) NaH (6 equiv), BnBr (5.5 equiv), *n*Bu₄NI (0.3 equiv), THF, rt, 3 d; (f) TFA (10 equiv), anisole (10 equiv), CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h; (g) PPh₃ (2.5 equiv), CBr₄ (2.5 equiv), NEt₃ (40 equiv) CH₂Cl₂ 4 °C, 20 h; (h) PdCl₂ (0.9 equiv), H₂ (1 atm), MeOH, rt, 1 h; ion-exchange.

Experimental

(3S,4S)-8-[(4-Methoxyphenyl)methoxy]-3-(2-propenylamino)-1-octen-4-ol (4).

The vinyl epoxide **3**⁶⁻⁹ (500 mg, 1.90 mmol) was dissolved in CH₃CN (3 mL) then allylamine (328 mg, 5.718 mmol) and LiOTf (297 mg, 1.90 mmol) were added. The mixture was placed in a teflon tube with a 100 bar pressure cap, then heated in a microwave reactor at 120 °C for 1h. After cooling all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give an oil. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography on flash silica gel (increasing polarity from 5 % to 15 % MeOH in DCM as eluant), which gave the title compound (591 mg, 1.85 mmol, 97 %) as a pale yellow oil.

[α]_D²⁹: -7 (c 1.3, CHCl₃). MS (CI+) *m/z* 320 (100 %) (M+1), HRMS (CI+) found 320.2238, calc for C₁₉H₃₀NO₃ 320.2226 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.20-1.70 (6H, m, H5, H6 and H7), 2.43 (2H, br.s, NH and OH), 2.77 (1H, t, *J*=8.7 Hz, H3), 3.07 (1H, ddt, *J*=13.8, 6.3, 1.2 Hz, H1'a), 3.20-3.50 (5H, m, H4, H8, H1'b), 3.80 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.42 (2H, s, OCH₂Ar), 5.05-5.30 (4H, m, H1 and H3'), 5.49 (1H, ddd, *J*=16.8, 10.2, 8.4 Hz, H2), 5.87 (1H, m, H2'), 6.87 (2H, dt, *J*=9.0, 2.7 Hz, 2 x ArCH), 7.25 (2H, dt, *J*=9.0, 2.7 Hz, 2 x ArCH). δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 22.3 (t, C6), 29.7, 33.4 (t, C5 and C7), 49.2 (t, C1'), 55.2 (q, OCH₃), 66.4 (d, C3), 70.0 (t, C8), 72.5 (t, OCH₂Ar), 72.6 (d, C4), 113.7 (d, 2 x ArCH), 116.2, 118.5 (t, C1 and C3'), 129.2 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.6 (s, ArC), 136.4, 136.8 (d, C2 and C2'), 159.0 (s, ArC).

***N*-Boc derivative of 4 (1,1-Dimethylethyl *N*-[(1S,2S)-1-ethenyl-2-hydroxy-6-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methoxy]hexyl]-*N*-(2-propenyl)-carbamate.**

The amine **4** (110 mg, 0.344 mmol) was dissolved in Et₂O (10 mL), then triethylamine (75 mg, 0.776 mmol) and di-*tert*-butyldicarbonate (161 mg, 0.776

mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at rt for under N₂ 18 h then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give an oil. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography (increasing polarity from 25 % to 50 % EtOAc in petroleum spirit (pet. sp.) as eluant), which gave the title compound (135 mg, 0.322 mmol, 94 %) as a clear oil. $[\alpha]_D^{29}$: -15 (c 1.0, CHCl₃). MS (CI+) m/z 420 (30 %) (M+1), HRMS (CI+) found 420.2745, calc for C₂₄H₃₈NO₅ 420.2750 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.10-1.65 (7H, m, H3, H4, H5 and OH), 1.42 (9H, s, (CH₃)₃C), 3.41 (2H, br. t, $J=6.0$ Hz, H6), 3.77 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.60-3.84 (3H, m, H2 and H1"), 3.94 (1H, br. t, $J=7.5$ Hz, H1), 4.40 (2H, s, OCH₂Ar), 5.02-5.22 (4H, m, H2' and H3"), 5.72-5.96 (2H, m, H1' and H2"), 6.84 (2H, d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 2 x ArCH), 7.23 (2H, d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 2 x ArCH). δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 22.4 (t, C4), 28.3 (q, (CH₃)₃C), 29.7, 34.2 (t, C3 and C5), 50.0 (br. t, C1"), 55.1 (q, OCH₃), 65.6 (d, C1), 69.9 (t, C6), 71.9 (br. d, C2), 72.4 (t, OCH₂Ar), 80.2 (s, (CH₃)₃C), 113.5 (d, 2 x ArCH), 116.6, 117.8 (t, C2' and C3"), 129.0 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.5 (s, ArCH), 134.2, 134.9 (d, C1' and C2"), 158.0 (s, ArCH), 171.0 (br. s, CO).

1,1-Dimethylethyl (2S)-2,5-dihydro-2-[(1S)-1-hydroxy-5-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methoxy]pentyl]-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5).

The *N*-Boc derivative of **4** (500 mg, 1.193 mmol) was dissolved in dry DCM (300 mL) then benzylidene-*bis*-(tricyclohexylphosphine)dichlororuthenium (Grubbs' cat.) (50 mg, 0.061 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated to reflux under N₂ for 20 h, then cooled, before all solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give an oil. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography (increasing polarity from 25 % to 50 % EtOAc in pet. sp. as eluant), which gave the title compound (426 mg, 1.088 mmol, 91.2 %) as a clear oil. $[\alpha]_D^{29}$: -79 (c 0.9, CHCl₃). MS (CI+) m/z 392 (37 %) (M+1), HRMS (CI+)

found 392.2409, calc for $C_{22}H_{34}NO_5$ 392.2437 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 1.48 (9H, s, $(CH_3)_3C$), 1.20-1.73 (6H, m, H2', H3' and H4'), 3.44 (2H, t, $J=6.3$ Hz, H5'), 3.56-3.66 (1H, m, H2), 3.79 (3H, s, OCH_3), 3.99 (1H, br. d, $J=15.7$ Hz, H5a), 4.18 (1H, br. d, $J=15.6$ Hz, H5b), 4.41 (2H, s, OCH_2Ar), 4.54 (1H, m, H1'), 4.96 (1H, br. s, OH), 5.60-5.90 (2H, m, H3 and H4), 6.86 (2H, dt, $J=8.4, 3.0$ Hz, 2 x ArCH), 7.24 (2H, dt, $J=8.4, 3.0$ Hz, 2 x ArCH). δ_C (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 21.7 (t, C3'), 28.4 (q, $(CH_3)_3C$), 29.7, 33.3 (C2' and C4'), 53.9 (t, C5), 55.2 (q, OCH_3), 70.0 (t, C5'), 70.0 (d, C2), 72.4 (t, OCH_2Ar), 75.4 (d, C1'), 80.4 (s, $(CH_3)_3C$), 113.5 (d, 2 x ArCH), 126.4, 126.7 (d, C3 and C4), 129.0 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.5 (s, ArC), 156.6 (CO), 158.8 (s, ArC).

1,1-Dimethylethyl (2R,3R,4S)-2-[(1S)-1-hydroxypentyl-5-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methoxy]]-3,4-dihydroxy-1-pyrrolidinecarboxylate (6).

The 2,5-dihydropyrrole **5** (426 mg, 1.088 mmol) was dissolved in acetone (6 mL), then water (4 mL), *N*-methyl-morpholine-*N*-oxide (269 mg, 2.32 mmol) and $K_2OsO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ (20 mg, 0.0544 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at rt for 20 h, then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give a brown oil. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography (increasing polarity from 2.5 % to 10 % MeOH in DCM as eluant), which gave the title compound (442 mg, 1.039 mmol, 95.5 %) as a clear oil. $[\alpha]_D^{27}$: -28 (c 1.0, $CHCl_3$). MS (CI+) m/z 426 (100 %) (M+1), HRMS (CI+) found 426.2482, calc for $C_{22}H_{36}NO_7$ 426.2492 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 1.40 (9H, s, $(CH_3)_3C$), 1.30-1.70 (8H, m, H2', H3', H4' and 2 x OH), 3.30-4.30 (9H, m, H2, H3, H4, H5, H1', H5' and OH), 3.78 (3H, s, OCH_3), 4.40 (2H, s, OCH_2Ar), 6.84 (2H, d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 2 x ArCH), 7.23 (2H, d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 2 x ArCH). δ_C (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 22.0 (br. t, C3'), 28.1 (q, $(CH_3)_3C$), 29.2, 32.7 (t, C2' and C4'), 51.3 (br. t,

C5), 54.9 (q, OCH₃), 67.0 (br. d, C2), 69.5 (br. d, C4), 69.7 (t, C5'), 72.2 (t, OCH₂ArCH), 72.9 (br. d, C3), 76.4 (d, C1'), 80.3 (s, (CH₃)₃C), 113.5 (d, 2 x ArCH), 129.0 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.1 (s, ArC), 156.8 (br. s, CO), 158.8 (s, ArC).

1,1-Dimethylethyl (2R,3R,4S)-2-[(1S)-5-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methoxyoxy]-1-(phenylmethoxy)pentyl]-3,4-bis(phenylmethoxy)-1-pyrrolidinecarboxylate (7)
and (1S,6S,7R,7aR)-tetrahydro-1-[4-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methoxy]butyl]-6,7-bis(phenylmethoxy)-1H,3H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]oxazol-3-one (8).

The triol **6** (440 mg, 1.034 mmol) was dissolved in THF (60 mL) then NaH (302 mg, 6.024 mmol, 50 % dispersion in wax), benzylbromide (0.64 mL, 5.50 mmol) and *n*Bu₄NI (112 mg, 0.30 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at rt under N₂ for 3d then poured into water (50 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic portions were dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil. Pure products were obtained by column chromatography (increasing polarity from 20 % to 100 % EtOAc in pet. sp. as eluant), which gave the title compound (396 mg, 0.569 mmol, 55 %), and the oxazolidinone (116 mg, 0.218 mmol, 21 %) as clear oils.

7: [α]_D³⁰: -29 (c 3.96, CHCl₃). MS (ES+) *m/z* 696.4 (100 %) (M+1), HRMS (ES+) found 696.3895, calc for C₄₃H₅₄NO₇ 696.3900 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.45 (9H, s, (CH₃)₃C), 1.20-1.70 (6H, m, H2', H3' and H4'), 3.28-3.43 (3H, m, H5a and H5'), 3.52 (1H, br. d, *J*=6.3 Hz, H5b), 3.78 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.75-3.87 (1H, m, H1'), 3.87-4.06 (2H, m, H3 and H4), 4.17-4.74 (7H, m, H2 and 3 x OCH₂Ph), 4.40 (2H, s, OCH₂Ar), 6.86 (2H, d, *J*=9.0 Hz 2 x ArCH), 7.21-7.36 (17 H, m, 2 x ArCH and 3 x OCH₂Ph). δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): two rotamers were evident in equal intensity 22.9/23.2 (t, C3'), 28.4 (q, (CH₃)₃C), 29.6 (t, C4'), 30.0/30.4 (t, C2'), 48.8/49.5 (t, C5),

55.2 (q, OCH₃), 62.5/63.6 (d, C2), 69.9 (t, C5'), 71.2, 71.3/71.8, 72.4, 72.3/72.6 (t, OCH₂Ar and 3 x OCH₂Ph), 75.3/76.3, 76.5/77.8, 78.4/78.6 (d, C3, C4 and C1'), 79.7/80.0 (s, (CH₃)₃C), 113.7 (d, ArCH), 127.6, 127.7, 127.7, 128.0, 128.0, 128.2, 128.2, 128.3, 128.3 (d, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 129.1 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.6 (s, ArCH), 137.6, 138.0, 138.4 (s, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 159.0 (s, 2 x ArCH), 164.0 (s, CO).

8: [α]_D³⁰: +28 (c 1.03, CHCl₃). MS (ES+) *m/z* 532.3 (47 %) (M+1), HRMS (ES+) found 532.2698, calc for C₃₂H₃₇NO₆ 532.2699 (M+1). δ _H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.40-1.86 (6H, m, H1', H2' and H3'), 3.37 (1H, dd, *J*=12.9, 1.5 Hz, H5a), 3.42 (2H, t, *J*=6.3 Hz, H4'), 3.53 (1H, dd, 9.0, 4.8 Hz, H7), 3.70-3.80 (2H, m, H5b and H7a), 3.77 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.09 (1H, td, *J*=5.1, 1.5 Hz, H6), 4.22 (1H, ddd, *J*=7.2, 5.4, 3.6 Hz, H1), 4.39 (1H, d, *J*=12.0 Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.41 (2H, s, OCH₂Ar), 4.59 (2H, AB system, *J*=12.0 Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.65 (1H, d, *J*=12.0 Hz, OCH₂Ph), 6.86 (2H, dt, *J*=8.4, 3.0 Hz, 2 x ArCH), 7.22-7.38 (12H, m, 2 x ArCH and 2 x OCH₂Ph). δ _C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 21.1 (t, C2'), 29.2 (C3'), 35.0 (t, C1'), 50.8 (t, C5), 55.1 (q, OCH₃), 65.0 (d, C7a), 69.4 (t, C4'), 71.9, 72.2, 72.4 (t, OCH₂Ar and 2 x OCH₂Ph), 75.8, 79.0 (C6 and C7), 81.5 (d, C1), 113.6 (d, 2 x ArCH), 127.7, 127.9, 127.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5 (d, 2 x OCH₂Ph), 129.1 (d, 2 x ArCH), 130.4 (s, ArC), 137.0, 137.2 (s, 2 x OCH₂Ph), 159.0 (s, ArC), 160.9 (s, C3).

(1'S,2R,3R,4S)-1',3,4-Tris(phenylmethoxy)-2-pyrrolidinepentanol (9).

The carbamate **7** (396 mg, 0.569 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (5 mL), then TFA (5 mL) and anisole (0.60 mL, 5.44 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h, then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ then poured into sat. Na₂CO₃ solution (5 mL), and extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 25 mL). The combined organics were dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated *in vacuo* to give

an oil. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography (increasing polarity from 5 % to 15 % MeOH in DCM as eluant), which gave the title compound (260 mg, 0.547 mmol, 96 %) as a clear oil. $[\alpha]_D^{26}$: +81 (c 2.60, CHCl₃). MS (ES+) m/z 476.7 (100 %) (M+1), HRMS (ES+) found 476.2808, calc for C₃₀H₃₈NO₄ 476.2801 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.26-1.90 (6H, m, H2', H3' and H4'), 2.96-3.15 (4H, m, H5, NH and OH), 3.31 (1H, dd, $J=7.5, 2.4$ Hz, H2), 3.50 (1H, td, $J=7.2, 2.4$ Hz, H5'), 3.58 (2H, t, $J=6.3$ Hz, H1'), 3.70 (1H, dd, $J=7.5$ and 5.1 Hz, H3), 3.90 (1H, q, $J=4.5$ Hz, H4), 4.23 (1H, d, $J=11.1$ Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.32 (1H, d, $J=11.7$ Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.50 (1H, d, $J=12.0$ Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.55 (1H, d, $J=11.4$ Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.60 (1H, d, $J=12.0$ Hz, OCH₂Ph), 4.62 (1H, d, $J=12.0$ Hz, OCH₂Ph), 7.15-7.40 (15H, m, 3 x OCH₂Ph). δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 21.4 (t, C3'), 30.6, 32.5 (t, C2' and C4'), 49.3 (t, C5), 61.6 (t, C1'), 63.0 (d, C2), 71.2, 71.9, 72.0 (t, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 76.4, 77.5, 79.6 (C3, C4 and C5'), 127.5, 127.6, 127.6, 127.7, 127.9, 128.0, 128.2, 128.2, 128.2 (d, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 137.9, 138.0, 138.3 (s, 3 x OCH₂Ph).

(1R,2S,9S,9aR)-Octahydro-1,2,9-tris(phenylmethoxy)-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine (10).

The amino alcohol **9** (240 mg, 0.505 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (20 mL) then the solution was cooled to 0 °C. Carbontetrabromide (419 mg, 1.263 mmol), and triphenylphosphine (331 mg, 1.263 mmol) were added, then the mixture was stirred under N₂ for 5 min. Triethylamine (2.8 mL, 20.09 mmol) was added, then the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h, before being left to stand at 4 °C for 18 h. The mixture was poured into water (50 mL), then extracted with DCM (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic portions were dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a black semi solid. Pure product was obtained by column chromatography (increasing

polarity from 1 % to 5 % MeOH in DCM as eluant), which gave the title compound (118 mg, 0.258 mmol, 51 %) as a clear oil. $[\alpha]_D^{27}$: +64 (c 1.15, CHCl₃). MS (ES+) m/z 458.5 (100 %) (M+1), HRMS (ES+) found 458.2694, calc for C₃₀H₃₆NO₃ 458.2695 (M+1). δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.30-1.46 (1H, m, H7a), 1.56-1.94 (5H, m, H6, H7b, H8), 2.51 (1H, ddd, J =11.7, 8.4, 4.8 Hz, H5a), 2.84 (1H, dd, J =9.3, 7.5 Hz, H3a), 2.90 (1H, dd, J =3.9, 2.4 Hz, H9a), 3.03 (1H, dt, J =11.7, 5.7 Hz, H5b), 3.22 (1H, dd, J =9.3, 5.1 Hz, H3b), 3.56 (1H, td, J =5.1, 2.4 Hz, H9), 3.85 (1H, t, J =4.5 Hz, H1), 4.02 (1H, dt, J =7.5, 5.1 Hz, H2), 4.22 (1H, d, J =12.0 Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.35 (1H, d, J =12.0 Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.53 (1H, d, J =12.3 Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.56 (1H, d, J =12.0 Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.58 (1H, d, J =12.3 Hz OCH₂Ph), 4.59 (1H, d, J =12.0 Hz OCH₂Ph), 7.17-7.42 (15H, m, 3 x OCH₂Ph). δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 21.7 (t, C7), 30.0, 31.9 (t, C6 and C8), 56.5, 57.9 (t, C3 and C5), 70.5, 71.6, 72.3 (t, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 72.3 (d, C9a), 75.9, 76.8 (d, C1 and C2), 80.4 (d, C9), 127.5, 127.5, 127.7, 127.9, 128.2, 128.2, 128.2, 128.3, 128.3 (d, 3 x OCH₂Ph), 138.5, 138.5, 138.5 (s, 3 x OCH₂Ph).

(1R,2S,9S,9aR)-Octahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine-1,2,9-triol (11).

The tri-*O*-benzyl compound **10** (115 mg, 0.251 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (4 mL) then PdCl₂ (40 mg, 0.226 mmol) was added and the flask flushed with H₂ (g). The mixture was stirred at rt under an atmosphere of H₂ for 1h, then the flask was flushed with N₂, before the mixture was filtered through celite. The solids were washed with MeOH (2 x 10 mL), and the combined filtrates were evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in water (2 mL) and applied to Dowex-1 basic ion exchange resin (OH⁻ form). Elution with water (50 mL), followed by evaporation of the eluant *in vacuo* gave the title compound (46 mg, 0.246 mmol, 97.9 %) as a white solid. mp. 100-104 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25}$: +60.3 (c 0.46, MeOH). MS (CI+) m/z 188 (100 %)

(M+1), HRMS (ES+) found 188.1301, calc for C₉H₁₈NO₃ 188.1287 (M+1). δ_{H} (300 MHz, D₂O): 1.22-1.38 (1H, m, H7a), 1.42-4.62 (4H, m, H6, H7b and H8a), 1.76-1.88 (1H, m, H8b), 2.34 (1H, dt, $J=12.0$, 6.3 Hz, H5a), 2.46 (1H, dd, $J=10.2$, 6.6 Hz, H3a), 2.63-2.70 (1H, m, H9a), 2.84 (1H, dt, $J=11.7$, 5.7 Hz, H5b), 3.00 (1H, dd, $J=10.5$, 5.4 Hz, H3b), 3.86-3.97 (3H, m, H1, H2 and H9). δ_{C} (75 MHz, D₂O ref CH₃CN): 21.4 (t, C7), 29.4, 36.1 (t, C6 and C8), 56.5, 59.7 (t, C3 and C5), 69.6 (d, C9a), 70.8 (d, C9), 73.6, 74.9 (d, C1 and C2).

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GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

Synthesis of (+)-(1*R*, 2*S*, 9*S*, 9*aR*)-Octahydro-1*H*- pyrrolo[1,2-*a*]azepine-1,2,9-triol: A Potential Glycosidase Inhibitor

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