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**^1H AND ^{13}C NMR SPECTROSCOPY OF STEREOISOMERIC
2'-DEOXY-C-NUCLEOSIDES**

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ABSTRACT

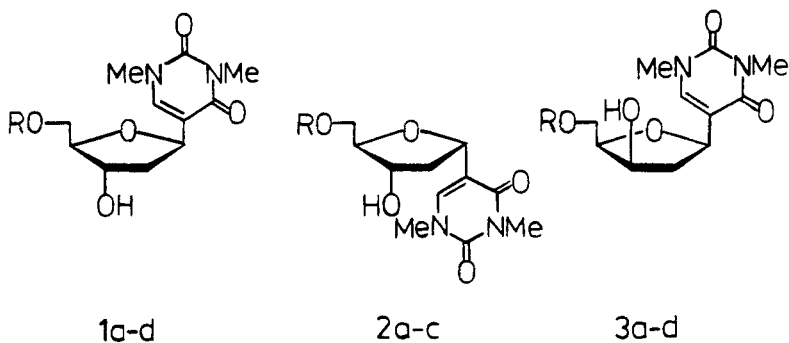
Eleven furanosyl 2'-deoxy-C-nucleosides with β -D-erythro, α -D-erythro and β -D-threo configurations have been studied by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy recorded in CDCl_3 and/or DMSO-d_6 . Results obtained indicate that each of the three stereoisomeric configurations studied are identifiable by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy using a combination of coupling constant and chemical shift criteria.

INTRODUCTION

C-Nucleosides are a growing class of substances which possess diverse biological effects and hold significant therapeutic

promise including use in treatment of cancer.¹ Several syntheses of 2'-deoxy C-nucleosides have been reported;²⁻¹⁰ however, to our knowledge, relatively little is known concerning the nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometric properties of these compounds. In contrast, numerous reports on ¹H NMR spectrometry of the corresponding N-nucleosides have appeared during the past two decades.¹¹

During exploration of palladium(II) chemistry for use in C-nucleoside and glycoside synthesis,¹²⁻²¹ compounds 1-3 were prepared.¹⁶⁻¹⁸



- a: R=H
 b: R=CH₂OCH₃
 c: R=Si(i-Pr)₃
 d: R=CH₂OCH₂CH₂OCH₃

These structures represent three of four possible stereoisomeric substituent arrangements of a furanosyl D-2'-deoxy-C-nucleoside, and thus, they offer the opportunity to correlate NMR spectrometric properties with 2'-deoxy-C-nucleoside stereochemistry. In the present study ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds 1-3 have been analyzed and implications for solution conformations of the 2'-deoxy-C-nucleosides considered.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The conformational flexibility of five membered rings in solution²² makes it difficult to deduce stereochemical relationships between vicinal hydrogens from observed $^3J_{H,H}$ coupling constants since these are weighted averages of the coupling constants for the respective hydrogens of various co-existing conformers present at equilibrium. Fortunately, however, the furanose ring in β -N and C-nucleosides assumes mainly two narrow pseudorotational ranges, defined by Altona and Sundaralingam²³⁻²⁵ as N and S forms.²⁶ This makes it possible to analyze 1H NMR spectra of nucleosides and nucleotides²⁷⁻²⁹ in terms of an equilibrium between N- and S-conformers.

Two different trial analyses of the 1H NMR spectrum of 1a (denoted A and B, Table 1) were made since it was unclear which of the two C2'-hydrogens (α or β) to assign to the multiplet at δ 1.73 ppm. Assuming that the 1H NMR-spectrum of 1a in DMSO reflects a time average of equilibrating N and S conformers, analyses A and B can be compared with theoretical coupling constants calculated for these pseudorotational ranges.²⁴ Whereas analysis A is consistent with the expected equilibrium of N and S conformers, analysis B does not accord with any such equilibrium, nor with either the N or S forms alone and can be rejected.

In accordance with analysis A (Table 1), the multiplets at δ 1.73 and δ 2.03 in the 1H NMR spectrum of 1a are assigned to $H_{2'\beta}$ and $H_{2'\alpha}$, respectively. This implies that the pyrimidinyl aglycone, through its diamagnetic anisotropy, deshields the trans positioned $H_{2'\alpha}$.³⁰ Interestingly, a similar effect was observed when the chemical shifts of $H_{2'}$ in α - and β -pseudouridine were compared.³¹ Similarly, $H_{2'\beta}$ is shifted upfield of $H_{2'\alpha}$ in 2'-deoxyuridine, 2'-deoxycytidine and 2'-deoxythymidine.^{32,33} The anisotropy of the pyrimidinyl substituent made assignments in spectra of compounds 1-3 straightforward (Tables 2 and 3).

TABLE 1

Analysis of Coupling Constants (3J) in the ^1H NMR Spectrum of
1,3-Dimethyl-2'-deoxypseudouridine (1a)

	Experimental ^a (Hz)		Calculated ^c (Hz)
	A ^b	B ^b	
$J_{1',2'\alpha}$	5.8	9.8	6.0
$J_{1',2'\beta}$	9.8	5.8	8.1
$J_{2'\alpha,3'}$	2.1	5.5	2.8
$J_{2'\beta,3'}$	5.5	2.1	5.6
$J_{3',4'}$	2.3	2.3	2.4

a. Recorded in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$.

b. Analysis confirmed by spin-spin simulation. Coupling constants based on assignment of the multiplet at δ 1.73 ppm to $\text{H}_{2'\beta}$ (A) or to $\text{H}_{2'\alpha}$ (B).

c. Coupling constants derived by assuming a 78%S - 22%N conformational equilibrium; theoretical coupling constants for the pure N- and S-forms were taken from reference 24.

TABLE 2
¹H NMR Chemical Shifts δ (ppm) of 2'-Deoxy-C-Nucleosides

Comp.	Solvent	H _{1'}	H _{2'α}	H _{2'β}	H _{3'}	H _{4'}	H _{5',H5''}	H ₆	Other
1a	DMSO-d ₆	4.81	2.03	1.73	4.08	3.66	3.40	7.64	NMe's, 3.29, 3.14
1b	DMSO-d ₆	4.85	2.09	1.78	4.09	3.79	3.48	7.55	NMe's, OMe, 3.30, 3.27, 3.15; OCH ₂ O, 4.58
	CDCl ₃	5.05	2.45	1.87	4.31	4.05	3.65	7.36	NMe's, OMe, 3.36 (6H), 3.31; OCH ₂ O, 4.65
1c	CDCl ₃	5.01	2.45	1.87	4.45		4.03-3.70	7.32	NMe's, 3.36, 3.34; SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 1.06
1d	CDCl ₃	5.09	2.42	1.99	4.36	4.02	3.85-3.50	7.32	NMe's, Me, 3.377, 3.383, 3.32; OCH ₂ O, 4.75; OCH ₂ CH ₂ O, 3.82-3.50
2a	DMSO-d ₆	4.73	1.72	2.42 ^a	4.13	3.82	3.44	7.60	NMe's, 3.31, 3.15
2b	DMSO-d ₆	4.77	1.75	2.42 ^a		4.26-3.80	3.50	7.60	NMe's, OMe, 3.32, 3.25, 3.15; OCH ₂ O, 4.57
	CDCl ₃	4.85	1.98	2.68		4.45-4.12	3.59	7.33	NMe's, OMe, 3.41, 3.37, 3.34; OCH ₂ O, 4.68
2c	CDCl ₃	4.84	1.87	2.66		4.53-3.91	3.70	7.24	NMe's, 3.32, 3.25; SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 1.00
3a	DMSO-d ₆	4.63	2.46 ^a	1.66	4.21		3.83-3.46	7.62	NMe's, 3.31, 3.16
3b	DMSO-d ₆	4.60 ^a	2.46 ^a	1.68	4.20		3.92-3.52	7.58	NMe's, OMe, 3.31, 3.26, 3.16; OCH ₂ O, 4.58
	CDCl ₃	4.65 ^a	2.58	2.05	4.35		4.03-3.75	7.33	NMe's, OMe, 3.41, 3.38, 3.34; OCH ₂ O, 4.68
3c	CDCl ₃	4.72	2.54	1.90	4.30	3.78	4.05	7.32	NMe's, 3.47, 3.30
3d	CDCl ₃	4.68	2.61	2.04	4.35		4.06-3.51	7.27	SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 1.04 NMe's, OMe, 3.41, 3.39, 3.35; OCH ₂ O, 4.77; OCH ₂ CH ₂ O, 4.06-3.51

a. Partially obscured

TABLE 3
 Selected ³J_{H,H} Coupling Constants (Hz) in 2-Deoxy-C-Nucleosides

Compd.	Solvent	J _{1',2'α}	J _{1',2'β}	J _{2'α,2'β}	J _{2'α,3'}	J _{2'β,3'}	J _{3',4'}
1b	DMSO-d ₆	5.9	9.3	12.7	2.4	5.6	2.7
	CDCl ₃	6.0	8.7	13.3	2.9	6.3	3.5
1c	CDCl ₃	6.0	9.6	13.2	2.4	6.0	b
1d	CDCl ₃	6.3	8.8	13.1	3.2	6.2	3.0
2a	DMSO-d ₆	6.9	6.8	12.5	5.7	7.0 ^c	4.6
2b	DMSO-d ₆	7.4	6.8 ^d	12.5	6.2	6.7	b
	CDCl ₃	5.8	8.7	13.8	3.2	6.5	b
2c	CDCl ₃	5.4	8.7	13.6	2.5	6.2	b
3a	DMSO-d ₆	8.3	6.1	13.4	6.0	2.7	b
3b	DMSO-d ₆	8.7	5.9	13.5	6.1	2.4	b
	CDCl ₃	9.8	5.3	13.9	6.0	e	b
3c	CDCl ₃	8.9	5.5	13.9	5.5	1.7	b
3d	CDCl ₃	9.7	5.0	14.2	5.9	0.6	b

a. Coupling constants for compound 1a are reported in Table 1.

b. Not analyzed.

c. Based on width (26.3 Hz) of the partially obscured H_{2' β} -multiplet.

d. Based on width (26.0 Hz) of the partially obscured H_{2' β} -multiplet.

e. Not observed.

Coupling constants between furanosyl hydrogens in compounds 1b, 1c, and 1d in CDCl_3 are similar to those observed for 1a and 1b in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ (Tables 1 and 3). This indicates that β -D-erythro derivatives 1 preferentially assume S-type conformations, regardless of solvent and $\text{O}5'$ -substitution.^{34,35}

^1H NMR spectra of the α -D-erythro derivative 2b were recorded in CDCl_3 and $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ (Tables 2 and 3). In both solvents the chemical shift difference ($\Delta\delta$) between the $\text{C}2'$ -hydrogens (0.70 and 0.67 ppm) is considerably larger than that observed for the β -D-erythro isomer 1b (0.58 and 0.31 ppm). This is consistent with the known shielding exerted by a $\text{C}3'$ -hydroxyl on the cis- $\text{C}2'$ hydrogen;³⁶ in a β -D-erythro derivative, this effect opposes the deshielding of $\text{H}2'_\alpha$ by the pyrimidinyl group.

The coupling constants observed for 2b and 2c in CDCl_3 (Table 3) are in fair agreement with those reported for α -2'-deoxy-thymidine in D_2O .³⁷ However, changing solvent to $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ apparently leads to a significant change in preferred conformation(s) of 2; $J_{1',2'_\alpha}$ is larger than $J_{1',2'_\beta}$ in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ for 2a and 2b, whereas the opposite trend is observed in CDCl_3 for 2b and 2c. Also the $\text{H}2'$, $\text{H}3'$ coupling constants seem to change considerably with solvent (Table 3).

The β -D-threo derivatives 3 do not show the same sensitivity of conformation to solvent as the α -D-erythro isomers 2; observed furanose-ring coupling constants for 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d are similar regardless of solvent. Surprisingly, in spectra of 3b and 3c recorded in CDCl_3 $\Delta\delta$ for the $\text{C}2'$ hydrogens is of the same magnitude as observed for the β -D-erythro isomers 2b and 2c. However, when using $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ as solvent $\Delta\delta$ for the $\text{C}2'$ hydrogens of 3b is 0.78 ppm which is considerably larger than the $\Delta\delta$ (0.31 ppm) observed for 1b in the same solvent. It is apparent that the preferred conformation of the aglycone of 3b and the associated effects of pyrimidinyl anisotropy changes with solvent.

TABLE 4
¹³C NMR Chemical Shifts δ (ppm) of 2'-Deoxy-C-Nucleosides

Comp.	Solvent	C1'	C2'	C3'	C4'	C5'	N1Me	C2	N3Me	C4	C5	C6	Other
1a	DMSO-d ₆	73.41	40.80	71.47	87.12	62.09	36.47	151.15	27.31	161.93	112.64	140.48	
1b	DMSO-d ₆	73.36 ^a	39.77	72.22 ^a	84.84	68.16	36.47	151.10	27.26	161.77	112.53	140.21	OMe, 54.61; OCH ₂ O, 95.90
	CDCl ₃	73.99 ^a	41.52	73.83 ^a	84.96	68.31	37.02	151.63	27.76	162.30	114.27	138.89	OMe, 55.36; OCH ₂ O, 96.69
1c	CDCl ₃	74.13 ^a	41.95	73.86 ^a	86.64	64.16	36.91	151.65	27.76	162.27	114.54	138.54	SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 17.95, 11.89
1d	CDCl ₃	73.86 ^a	40.98	73.15 ^a	84.96	68.44	36.97	151.60	27.70	162.22	114.38	138.92	OMe, 58.96; OCH ₂ O, 95.80; OCH ₂ CH ₂ O, 71.75, 66.98
2a	DMSO-d ₆	73.09	b	71.57	86.20	61.70	36.36	151.04	27.20	161.83	113.50	140.10	
2b	DMSO-d ₆	73.22 ^a	40.31	71.84 ^a	83.98	67.75	36.41	151.10	27.26	161.85	113.12	140.37	OMe, 54.59; OCH ₂ O, 95.89
	CDCl ₃	75.47 ^a	40.24	73.98 ^a	85.66	68.14	36.97	151.46	27.81	162.60	113.49	140.76	OMe, 55.22; OCH ₂ O, 96.56
2c	CDCl ₃	76.02	40.32	74.24	87.40	64.65	36.80	151.38	27.65	162.49	113.95	140.44	SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 17.79, 11.72
3a	DMSO-d ₆	72.55	40.96	70.81	83.49	60.03	36.52	151.05	27.31	162.10	113.12	140.91	
3b	DMSO-d ₆	72.87 ^a	40.85	70.92 ^a	81.59	66.42	36.68	151.05	27.31	162.10	112.85	141.02	OMe, 54.56; OCH ₂ O, 95.90
	CDCl ₃	75.59 ^a	40.05	72.72 ^a	82.47	66.65	37.02	151.38	27.97	162.70	112.27	142.06	OMe, 55.33; OCH ₂ O, 96.83
3c	CDCl ₃	74.05 ^a	40.87	73.05 ^a	82.61	62.40	36.89	151.46	27.76	162.54	113.70	140.44	SiCH(CH ₃) ₂ , 17.87, 11.75
3d	CDCl ₃	75.12 ^a	40.11	72.45 ^a	82.25	66.44	36.91	151.33	27.86	162.60	112.48	141.74	OMe, 58.85; OCH ₂ O, 95.69; OCH ₂ CH ₂ O, 71.64, 66.92

a. Assignments could be reversed.

b. Obscured by DMSO-d₆.

Comparison of the ^1H NMR spectra of compounds 1-3 reveals that $\text{H}_{1'}$ of the β -D-erythro derivatives 1 consistently absorb downfield of $\text{H}_{1'}$ in the corresponding diastereomers.

^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds 1-3 were recorded in CDCl_3 and/or $\text{DMSO-}d_6$. Assignments are based on analysis of undecoupled spectra recorded with gated decoupling, completely decoupled ^{13}C NMR spectra, and spectra obtained with selective ^{13}C - $[^1\text{H}]$ decoupling. Inspection of Table 4 reveals that absorptions due to $\text{C}_{4'}$ and $\text{C}_{5'}$ seem sensitive to changes in relative stereochemistry. Thus, $\text{C}_{4'}$ and $\text{C}_{5'}$ of β -D-erythro derivatives 1 absorb upfield of corresponding resonances of stereoisomeric derivatives 2 and 3, when measured in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ solution. This trend is not evident in spectra taken in CDCl_3 solutions.

In conclusion, each of the three stereoisomeric configurations discussed herein seems to be identifiable by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectrometry using a combination of characteristic coupling constant and chemical shift criteria. This should be helpful in the assignment of relative stereochemistries of new 2'-deoxy-C-nucleosides.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

The syntheses of compounds 1-3 have been reported^{16,17} or will be described elsewhere.¹⁹

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were obtained on a JEOL FX Q spectrometer at 90 MHz and 22.5 MHz, respectively, and were referenced to tetramethylsilane. Coupling constants were refined by use of a JEOL FASNO 5 NMR spectrum simulation program.

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