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### Novel Route to 4-Thiofuranosides. Synthesis of Methyl 4-Thio- $\alpha$ -D-Talofuranoside

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NOVEL ROUTE TO 4-THIOFURANOSIDES. SYNTHESIS OF METHYL 4-THIO-  
 $\alpha$ -D-TALOFURANOSIDE

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**ABSTRACT**

Treatment with triiodoimidazole and triphenylphosphine of 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-D-mannose diethyl dithioacetal, obtained in three standard reaction steps from methyl  $\alpha$ -D-mannofuranoside, gave ring closure to ethyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-1,4-dithio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside, with sulfur in the furanose ring.

**INTRODUCTION**

Carbohydrates with sulfur in the furanose ring are of potential biological interest, e.g. as glycoside inhibitors. Their synthesis has been reviewed.<sup>1,2</sup>

In general, these syntheses have involved displacement of a leaving group at C-4 of a suitably protected carbohydrate using a nucleophilic reagent, e.g. thiocyanate, thiolacetate or thiolbenzoate. We now report on a synthesis of methyl 4-thio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside, illustrating a novel use of the triphenylphosphine-triiodoimidazole reagent system, previously used, *inter alia*, for converting hydroxy into deoxyiodo compounds.<sup>3</sup>

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

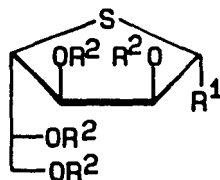
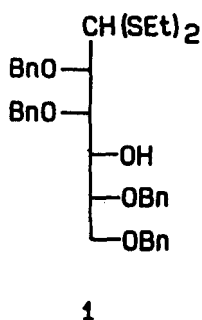
Methyl  $\alpha$ -D-mannofuranoside<sup>4</sup> was benzylated and the product was hydrolysed to give 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-D-mannopyranose, which was converted into the diethyl dithioacetal **1**. Treatment of **1** with triphenylphosphine and triiodoimidazole afforded ethyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-1,4-dithio- $\alpha$ -D-talopyranoside (**2**) in 86% yield. The corresponding  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -D-mannopyranoside were not observed.

The tal configuration of **5** was deduced from coupling constants. Thus, an analogous D-manno compound, 1,2,3,5,6-tetra-O-acetyl-4-thio- $\alpha$ -D-mannofuranose<sup>5</sup> has  $J_{3,4} = 3.9$  Hz and  $J_{4,5} = 10.0$  Hz whereas the corresponding coupling constant for **5** are 8.9 and 4.5 Hz respectively.

The thioglycoside **2** was converted into the methyl  $\alpha$ -D-glycoside **3** by treatment with bromine in methanol, followed by catalytic hydrogenolysis to yield the compound **4**.

Replacement of a hydroxyl group by a deoxyiodo is known to proceed with inversion of configuration. Since **2** has the tal-configuration it seems probable, according to previous mechanistic proposals,<sup>6</sup> recently corroborated by <sup>31</sup>P NMR studies,<sup>7</sup> that one of the sulfur atoms in the dithioacetal **1** has intervened before nucleophilic attack of iodide anion can occur upon the presumed 4-phosphonium intermediate of **1**.

Dialkyl dithioacetals of aldoses with a free 4-OH and benzyl groups in the other positions are readily obtained from glycofuranosides. The above formation of a 4-thiofuranoside, probably proceeding via an intermediate 4-phosphonium derivative represents a novel entry into the 4-thio-glycofuranoside series.



- |   |                     |                     |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2 | R <sup>1</sup> =SEt | R <sup>2</sup> =Bn  |
| 3 | R <sup>1</sup> =OMe | R <sup>2</sup> =Bn  |
| 4 | R <sup>1</sup> =OMe | R <sup>2</sup> =OH  |
| 5 | R <sup>1</sup> =OMe | R <sup>2</sup> =OAc |

EXPERIMENTAL

General methods. These were the same as those described before.<sup>8</sup>

2,3,5,6-Tetra-O-benzyl-D-mannose diethyl dithioacetal (1). Methyl  $\alpha$ -D-mannofuranoside<sup>4</sup> (8.0 g) was benzylated at room temperature with benzyl bromide (63.2 g) and sodium hydride (8.9 g) in *N,N*-dimethyl formamide (250 mL). The product was worked up and purified by silica gel column chromatography (isooctane - ethyl acetate 10:3) to yield methyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl- $\alpha$ -D-mannofuranoside (19.1 g, 83%):  $\alpha_D +18^\circ$  ( $c$  3.6,  $CHCl_3$ );  $\delta_C$  (25 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) 55.8 ( $OCH_3$ ), 70.5 (C-6), 76.2 (C-5), 78.1 (C-3), 78.2 (C-2), 85.0 (C-4), 107.2 (C-1).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{35}H_{38}O_6$ : C, 75.8; H, 6.9. Found: C, 75.8; H, 6.8.

The furanoside (10.0 g) was treated with 80% trifluoroacetic acid (20 mL) at  $0^\circ C$  for 72 h. The solution was extracted with chloroform. The chloroform extract was washed with water, saturated aqueous sodium hydrogen carbonate and water, dried, filtered and concentrated. Silica gel column chromatography (toluene - ethyl acetate 85:15) gave 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-D-mannose (6.72 g, 69%):  $\alpha_D -35^\circ$  ( $c$  3.2,  $CHCl_3$ );  $\delta_C$  (25 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) 69.7 (C-6), 77.3 (C-5), 77.9 (C-3), 78.1 (C-2), 79.8 (C-4), 96.1 (C-1).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{34}H_{36}O_6$ : C, 75.5; H, 6.7. Found: C, 75.8; H, 6.7.

The tetrabenzyl mannose (6.5 g) was treated at room temperature with ethanethiol (2.99 g) in dichloromethane (80 ml) containing a catalytic amount of titanium(IV) chloride. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and the product was worked up as described above and then purified by silica gel column chromatography (isooctane - ethyl acetate 10:2) to yield 1 (6.8 g, 87%):  $\alpha_D -32^\circ$  ( $c$  1, ethanol);  $\delta_C$  14.6 ( $2 \times CH_3$ ), 25.2 and 26.2 ( $2 \times SCH_2$ ), 53.8 (C-4), 70.0 (C-5), 70.7 (C-6), 77.5 (C-3), 78.7 (C-2), 83.2 (C-1).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{38}H_{46}O_5S_2$ : C, 70.6; H, 7.2; S, 9.9. Found: C, 70.9; H, 7.3; S, 9.7.

Ethyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-1,4-dithio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside (2). Triphenyl phosphine (7.1 g) and triiodoimidazole (7.24 g) were added to a solution of 1 in toluene - acetonitrile (2:1, 60 ml) and the solution was kept at 90°C for 24 h. After the usual work-up,<sup>9</sup> the product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (toluene - ethyl acetate 9:1) to yield 2 (2.8 g, 86%):  $\alpha_D -15^\circ$  ( $\underline{c}$  4.4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_c$  (25 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (SCH<sub>2</sub>), 50.7 and 50.9 (C-1 and C-4), 72.1 (C-6), 77.5 (C-5), 80.6 (C-3), 83.5 (C-2).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>40</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.0; H, 6.7; S, 10.7. Found: C, 72.4; H, 6.7; S, 9.9.

Methyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzyl-4-thio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside (3). Compound 2 (2.5 g) was treated with a 3% (w/vol) solution of bromine in methanol (500 mL) at 0°C for 1 h, worked up and purified as described above and then purified by silica gel chromatography (isooctane - ethyl acetate 10:2) to give 3 (1.64 g, 69%):  $\alpha_D -16$  ( $\underline{c}$  1, ethanol);  $\delta_c$  (25 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 49.9 (C-4), 56.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 72.9 (C-6), 77.1 (C-5), 81.2 and 81.3 (C-2 and C-3), 89.3 (C-1).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: C, 73.7; H, 6.7; S, 5.6. Found: C, 73.4; H, 6.8; S, 5.5.

Methyl 4-thio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside (4). A solution of 3 (0.3 g) in 95% aqueous ethanol (50 mL) was hydrogenolysed with 10% palladium on carbon (1.01 g) at 400 KPa for 5 days, filtered and concentrated. Purification of the product by silica gel column chromatography (ethyl acetate - methanol - acetic acid - water 12:3:3:2) afforded 4 (56 mg, 51%):  $\alpha_D +55^\circ$  ( $\underline{c}$  1, H<sub>2</sub>O);  $\delta_c$  (25 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) 51.8 (C-4), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 65.6 (C-6), 71.1 (C-5), 74.3 (C-3), 78.1 (C-2), 91.3 (C-1). A satisfactory elemental analysis could not be obtained for this compound. Its purity was, however, demonstrated by TLC and the NMR was in agreement with the assigned structure. It was converted by conventional acetylation into methyl 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-acetyl-4-thio- $\alpha$ -D-talofuranoside (5) which had  $\alpha_D +122^\circ$  ( $\underline{c}$  0.13, CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta_c$  (25 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 20.7 and 20.9 (4xCH<sub>3</sub>CO), 47.2 (C-4), 56.6 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 64.2 (C-6), 69.8 (C-5), 73.7 (C-3), 76.7 (C-2) 89.2 (C-1);  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz,

$\text{CDCl}_3$ ). 5.48 (dd,  $J_{2,3} = 3.5$  Hz, H-2), 5.33 (dd,  $J_{3,4} = 8.9$  Hz, H-3), 5.26 (m, H-5), 4.85 (d,  $J_{1,2} = 1.7$  Hz, H-1), 4.28 and 4.15 (H-6 and H-6'), 3.83 (dd,  $J_{4,5} = 4.5$  Hz, H-4).

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_9\text{S}$ : C, 47.6; H, 5.9; O, 38.1; S, 8.5.  
Found: C, 47.1; H, 5.8; O, 38.0; S, 8.3.

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