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COMMUNICATION

AGLYCON-DISACCHARIDE COUPLING IN MITHRAMYCIN ANALOG SYNTHESIS

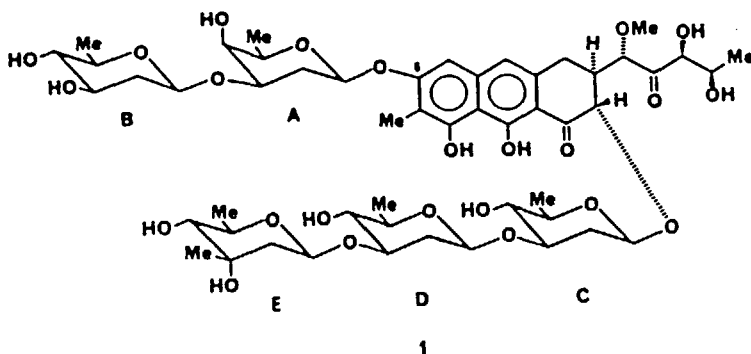
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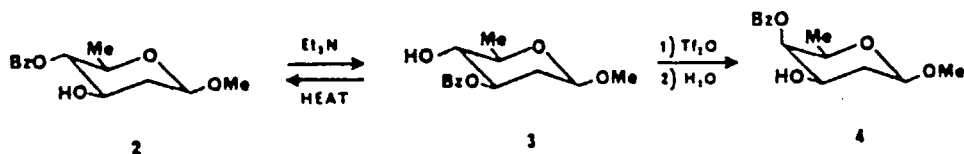
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Mithramycin (1), chromomycin A₃, and olivomycin A are structurally related, antitumor agents which belong to the aureolic acid family of antibiotics.¹ Considerable research on the synthesis of both the aglycon²⁻⁴ and carbohydrate⁷⁻⁹ portions of these molecules naturally has led to interest in methods for joining carbohydrate and aglycon units together.¹⁰ One type of coupling which is required for aureolic acid synthesis is that of the A-B disaccharide to the phenolic hydroxyl group at C-6.¹¹ In this communication such a process is described along with a flexible procedure for the formation of the protected A-B disaccharide used in the coupling process.

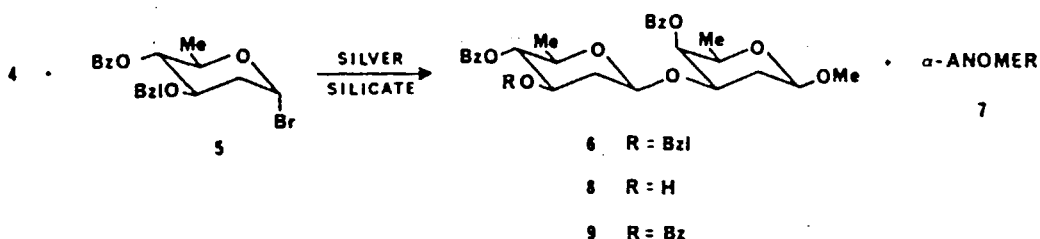
Synthesis of methyl 4-O-benzoyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-lyxo-hexopyranoside (4) from methyl 4-O-benzoyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-arabino-hexopyranoside (2)¹² was accomplished by migration of the benzoyl group from O-4



Scheme I

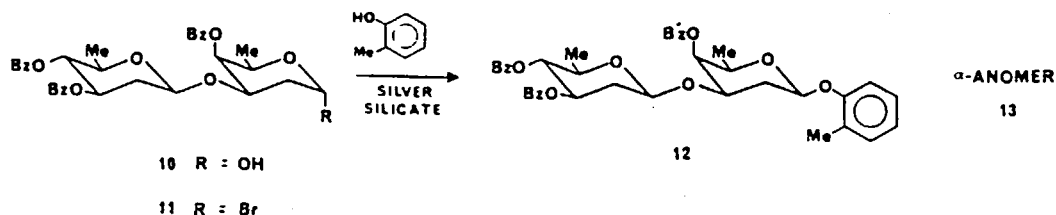


to O-3 (to give 3) followed by a triflate rearrangement which included an inversion of configuration at C-4 and a reverse migration of the benzoyl group in a highly stereo- and regioselective reaction.¹² The glycosyl acceptor 4 then was coupled with 4-O-benzoyl-3-O-benzyl-2,6-dideoxy- α -D-arabino-hexopyranosyl bromide (5),^{9f} using the silver-silicate method developed by Paulsen,¹³ to give the β -disaccharide 6 in 72% yield along with a 13% yield of the α -anomer 7 ($\beta/\alpha = 5.4/1$). Light-initiated debenzoylation of 6 (NBS, CaCO₃, and water) gave an 88% yield of 8,^{9g} a compound which then was benzoylated to produce the disaccharide 9 containing the mithramycin A-B ring system fully protected by groups which could be removed under mildly basic conditions. These deprotection conditions were significant since the aureolic acids are hydrolyzed under weakly acidic conditions (acetic acid in water), are unstable in the presence of strong bases, but are de-esterified under mildly basic conditions (potassium carbonate in methanol).¹⁴



Hydrolysis of 9 in acetic acid - water (2/1) at 100 °C for 3 h gave an 80% yield of 10, which was converted into the corresponding glycosyl bromide (11) in quantitative yield using bromotrimethylsilane in benzene at room temperature, and then reacted with *o*-methylphenol in the presence of silver silicate in toluene at 25 °C to give the β -glycoside 12¹⁵ in 65% yield along with a 21% yield of the α -anomer 13 ($\beta/\alpha = 3/1$).

Since reaction occurs without difficulty between the phenolic hydroxyl group in the model aglycon (*o*-cresol) and the glycosyl bromide 11, effective conditions now have been established for the essential aglycon-disaccharide coupling step in mithramycin synthesis.



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15. Characterizing data for compound 12: $R_f = 0.38$ (50/1 toluene-ethyl acetate); ¹³C NMR: δ 16.33 (ArCH₃), 1697 (C₄), 17.67 (C₆), 32.40 (C₂), 36.63 (C_{2'}), 70.34, 70.47, 70.60 (C₄, C₅, C_{5'}), 71.38 (C_{3'}), 72.88 (C₃), 74.28 (C_{4'}), 96.76 (C_{1'}), 98.38 (C₁), 114.58, 122.25, 126.80, 127.68, 128.32, 129.46, 129.98, 132.95 (aromatic carbons), 165.68, 166.10 (C=O); ¹H NMR: δ 1.30 (H_{4'}, $J_{3',4'} = 6.4$ Hz), 1.32 (H₆, $J_{5,6} = 6.6$ Hz), 1.83 (H_{2a'}, $J_{1',2a'} = 9.9$ Hz, $J_{2a',2b'} = 11.7$ Hz, $J_{2a',3'} = 11.4$ Hz), 2.32-2.39 (H_{2a}, H_{2b}), 3.68 (H_{3'}, $J_{4',3'} = 9.2$ Hz), 3.90 (H_{4,5} < 1 Hz), 4.21 (H₃, $J_{3,4} = 3.2$ Hz), 4.87 (H_{1'}), 5.16 (H₁, $J_{1,2a} = 5.0$ Hz, $J_{1,2a} = 10$ Hz), 5.17 (H_{4'}, $J_{3',4'} = 9.7$ Hz, 5.29 (H_{3'}), 5.51 (H₄), 6.90-7.62, 7.83-8.16 (aromatic protons). Anal. Calcd for C₄₀H₄₀O₁₀: C, 70.57; H, 5.92. Found: C, 70.79; H, 5.80.