

## 1,6-Anhydro- $\beta$ -L-hexopyranoses as Potent Synthons in the Synthesis of the Disaccharide Units of Bleomycin A<sub>2</sub> and Heparin

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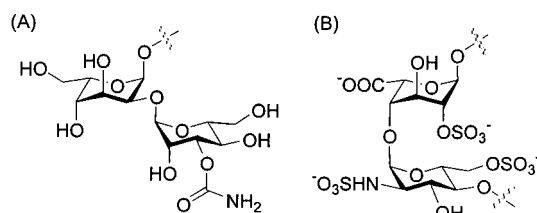
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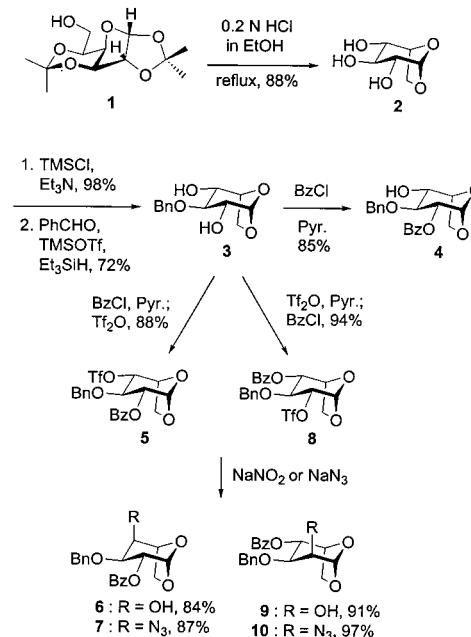
L-Hexoses are key components of numerous biologically potent oligosaccharides and glycopeptides. For example, bleomycin A<sub>2</sub>,<sup>1</sup> a glycopeptide antibiotic with significant antitumor activity, contains a carbohydrate moiety consisting of a  $\alpha$ 1  $\rightarrow$  2 linked 3-*O*-carbamoyl-D-mannopyranose with L-gulopyranose (Figure 1). Glycosaminoglycans, for example, heparin, heparan sulfate, and dermatan sulfate, play important roles in a diverse set of biological processes<sup>2</sup> and have L-idopyranosiduronic acids as typical constituents. Finally, L-altrose is a key structural element of the extracellular polysaccharides from *Butyrivibrio fibrisolvens* strain CF3.<sup>3</sup> Given the importance of L-hexoses<sup>4</sup> in the field of glycobiology, and that these rare sugars are not readily accessible from natural sources, we have explored herein a novel and efficient route toward the synthesis of 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-gulo-, -ido and -altropyranosyl sugars. Finally, we show how these valuable building blocks can be used to prepare the disaccharide units of bleomycin A<sub>2</sub> as well as heparin.

Synthesis of the desired 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-hexopyranoses was carried out employing regioselective benzylation, benzoylation, triflation, and nucleophilic substitution of 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-idopyranose **2** as key steps (Scheme 1). First, 1,2:3,5-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -L-idofuranose **1** was prepared in three steps from diacetone  $\alpha$ -D-glucose.<sup>5</sup> Hydrolysis in acidic media at refluxing



**Figure 1.** (A) The carbohydrate moiety of bleomycin A<sub>2</sub>. (B) The disaccharide repeating unit of heparin.

### Scheme 1



temperature provided **2** (88%), which was selectively benzylated<sup>6</sup> to give the 3-OBn **3** (72%) due to the steric hindrance of C2- and C4-trimethylsilyloxy groups adjacent to the bridge-head atoms. Owing to the inductive effect of the two oxygen atoms at C1, the C2-oxide formed in basic solution reacts predominantly with various electrophiles. Selective benzoylation of **3** at 0 °C led to the 2-OBz **4** as a single isomer (85%). This result allowed the one-pot synthesis of **5** (88%), which was subjected to S<sub>N</sub>2 substitutions with sodium nitrite and sodium azide to afford the L-altro sugar **6** (84%) and its 4-azido derivative **7** (87%), respectively. A similar strategy was applied to synthesize 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-gulopyranosyl sugars and the adducts **8**, **9**, and **10** were respectively isolated in excellent yields. The absolute configurations of **3** (L-ido), **7** (L-altro), and **10** (L-gulo) were determined through their single-crystal X-ray analyses, respectively (see Supporting Information).

With the key synthon **9** in hand, the synthesis of the disaccharide moiety of bleomycin A<sub>2</sub> was carried out (Scheme 2). Carbonylation of **11**<sup>7</sup> furnished the carbonate **12** (68%) which, upon acetolysis<sup>8</sup> with Ac<sub>2</sub>O and TFA, provided the diacetate **13** (88%). Treatment with 30% HBr in acetic acid produced the corresponding glycosyl bromide **14** in 94% yield. Silver triflate-activated coupling with the glycosyl acceptor **9** yielded the

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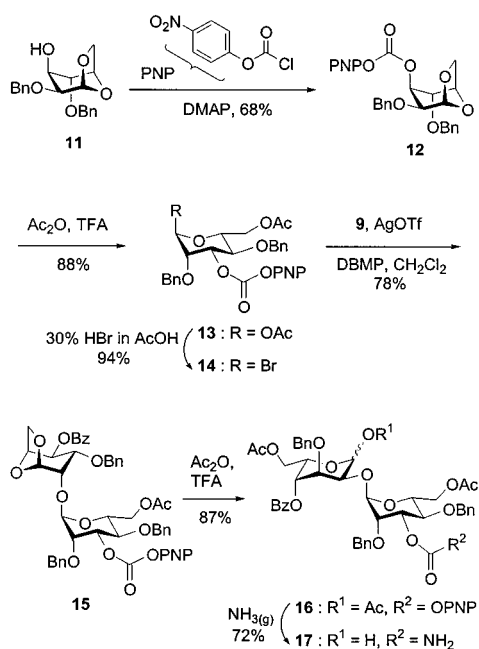
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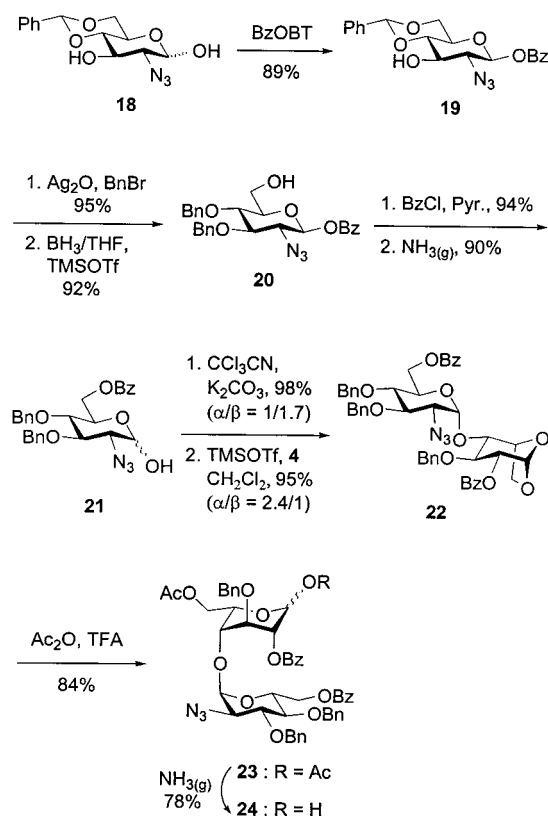
## Scheme 2



disaccharide **15** (78%) with  $\alpha$ -configuration as determined by the nuclear Overhauser enhancement between the anomeric proton with the benzyl protons at O2 in D-mannopyranosyl unit. Ring opening under acetolysis condition gave the triacetate **16** in 87% yield. One-pot substitution of carbonate and selective anomeric deacetylation with ammonia gas<sup>9</sup> afforded the desired alcohol **17** (72%), which is believed to be a suitable intermediate for the total synthesis of bleomycin A<sub>2</sub>, according to the elegant work reported by Hecht and co-workers.<sup>1j</sup>

Application of the synthon **4** in the construction of heparin's disaccharide skeleton is summarized in Scheme 3. Regioselective benzylation of the diol **18**<sup>10</sup> with benzyloxybenzotriazole (BzOBT)<sup>11</sup> in Et<sub>3</sub>N and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature led to the 1- $\beta$ -OBz **19** in 89% yield. Due to the kinetic stereoelectronic effect and 1,3-diaxial repulsion,<sup>12</sup> the anomeric oxide was selectively formed and oriented toward the equatorial position, yielding the  $\beta$ -benzoate as a single anomer. Benzylation<sup>13</sup> and regioselective opening of benzyldiene<sup>14</sup> furnished the alcohol **20** in two steps in 87% overall yield. The absolute structures of **19** and **20** were firmly secured by their single-crystal X-ray analyses, respectively (see Supporting Information). Benzylation (94%) followed by removal of the anomeric benzoyl group (90%) gave the alcohol **21**, which was transformed into the corresponding

## Scheme 3



trichloroacetimidate ( $\alpha/\beta = 1/1.7$ , 98%) and further coupled with **4** in the presence of TMSOTf to provide the  $\alpha$ -linked disaccharide **22** ( $J_{1,2} = 3.6$  Hz, 60%) and its  $\beta$ -isomer (25%), respectively. The 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-idopyranosyl ring of **22** was opened under acetolysis condition, and the diacetate **23** was obtained in 84% yield. Regioselective removal of anomeric acetate afforded the expected alcohol **24** (78%). Its application in the synthesis of heparin-like oligosaccharides is currently under investigation, and the detail results will be published elsewhere.

In conclusion, we have successfully developed a convenient route to prepare the 1,6-anhydro- $\beta$ -L-hexopyranoses and demonstrated that these L-form sugars offer potent synthons toward the construction of the disaccharide moieties of bleomycin A<sub>2</sub> and heparin.

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**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental procedures and characterization data for all new compounds and X-ray structural information for compounds **3**, **7**, **10**, **19**, and **20** (PDF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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