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COMMUNICATION

Synthesis and properties of cyclo- α -1,4-manno-2,3-epoxides

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Treatment of per-2-*O*-tosyl-cyclodextrins with K_2CO_3 allows the synthesis of cyclomannoepoxides **2a**, **2b**, **2c** in high yields (>90%). The glucopyranose structure of **2a**, **2b**, **2c**, is assigned from the ¹H coupling pattern ($J_{1,2} = 0$ Hz, $J_{2,3} = 3.5$ Hz, $J_{3,4} = 0$ Hz), as a half chair conformation. **2b** shows surfactant properties in water. Full analysis of the NMR spectra of **2a**, **2b**, **2c** has been carried out. The inclusion and hydrolytic properties of **2** differ from those of the parent cyclodextrins as a result of a lack of secondary hydroxyl groups capable of forming hydrogen-bonded dimers.

The cyclodextrins, products of the enzymatic degradation of starch by the CGTase enzyme,¹ are composed of 6, 7 or 8 (α , β or γ) α -1,4-glucopyranose units. Their structure, a truncated cone with two hydrophilic faces surrounding a less-polar cavity, leads to a capacity to include a wide variety of guest molecules.² They have been widely employed in chiral separations, via classical crystallization methods,³ GPC,⁴ and HPLC.⁵ Routes to cyclodextrins involving different conformations of the saccharide residue have involved, either total synthesis⁶ or the formation of 3,6-anhydro derivatives.^{7–8} Several authors have reported the synthesis of β -CD derivatives in which one glucopyranose is converted to a 2,3-mannoepoxide.^{9–11} We wish to report the synthesis and properties of the cyclomanno-2,3-epoxides, derived from α -, β - and γ -CDs, involving clean total derivatisation at the secondary hydroxyl face. In such novel host molecules both the chirality and hydrophilic-hydrophobic balance are significantly modified. These molecules should be key intermediates in the modification of the pyranose geometry of the cyclodextrins.

Following the work of Defaye⁸ (per-halogenation), and Fügedi¹² (per-silylation), we have recently reported

the use of a protection-deprotection route¹³ in the high yield synthesis of per-2-*O*-tosyl- β -cyclodextrin (**1b**). Extension of this route yields the corresponding α - and γ -CD compounds (**1a** and **1c**). Treatment of **1a**, **1b** or **1c** with K_2CO_3 in methanol at 40 °C for 6 hours give the title compounds (**2a–2c**) in >90% yield (Fig. 1).

The physical properties of **2a–2c** are considerably modified with respect to the starting cyclodextrins,¹⁴ with reduced aqueous solubility (~ 1 g.l⁻¹) and increased solubility in polar organic solvents, such as acetone and methanol. Removal of the cyclodextrin “head to head” pseudo-symmetry leads to an amphiphilic molecule possessing a hydrophilic primary hydroxyl face and a hydrophobic secondary ether face. Thus, it is not surprising that **2b** shows surfactant behaviour in water (Fig. 2) with a critical micellar concentration of 2×10^{-6} M.¹⁵

The 400 MHz ¹H nmr spectra of **2b** in pyridine-d₅, dmsO-d₆ and acetone-d₆ are given in Fig. 3, and peak assignments and coupling constants are given in Table 1.

The H-2 and H-3 resonances for **2a–2c** are relatively solvent invariant AB patterns with ³J_{1,2} and ³J_{3,4} effectively zero, and ³J_{2,3} = 3.5 Hz, values typical for mannoepoxides.¹⁶ Application of the Karplus equation to these coupling constants gives values for the H₁-H₂ and H₃-H₄ dihedral angles¹⁷ consistent with the existence of **2a–2c** in essentially the half chair conformation, in which H-2 and H-3 are oriented towards the cavity interior. For all compounds, chemical shifts for the OH-6, H-5, H-6 and H-6' protons are highly solvent dependent. In pyridine-d₅, the OH-6 resonance shows temperature dependence (-2.59 Hz · °C⁻¹) typical of a proton accessible to the solvent. ¹³C-¹H correlation spectroscopy for **2b** in pyridine-d₅ allows a full assignment of the ¹³C NMR

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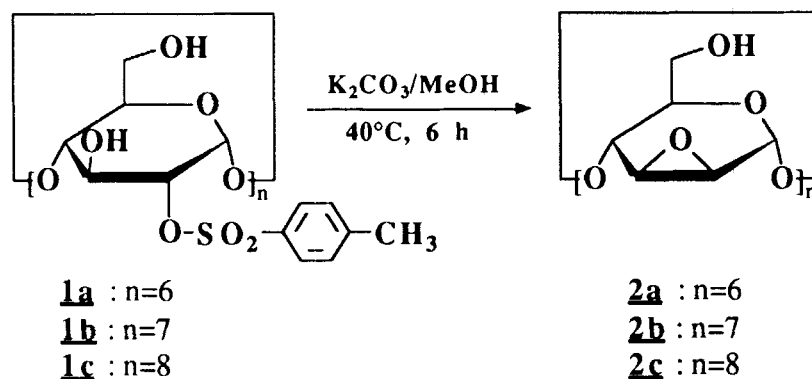


Figure 1

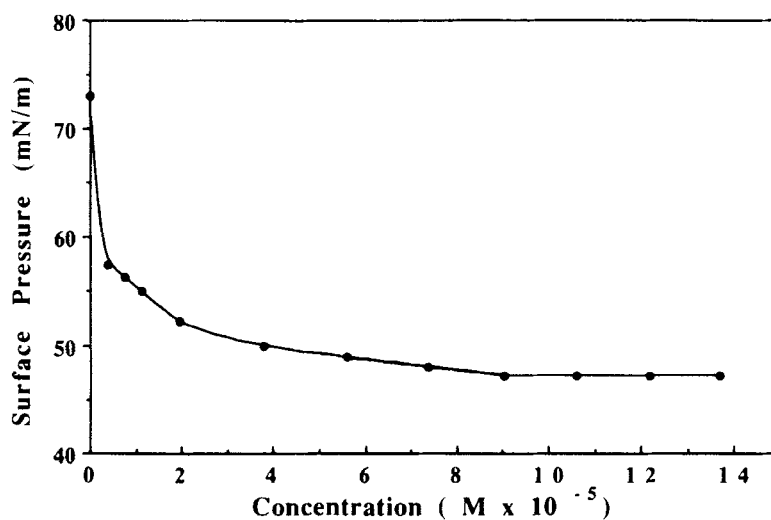
Figure 2 Concentration dependence of the surface tension of **2b** in water.

Table 1 Chemical shifts and coupling constants for protons H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 and HO-6 in different solvents

	H-1	H-2	H-3	H-4	HO-6
2b Pyridine-d ₅	5.56 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.62 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$	3.34 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.39 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 9.0 \text{ Hz}$	6.41 (broad)
2b Acetone-d ₆	5.42 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.57 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$	3.34 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.03 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 9.2 \text{ Hz}$	4.71 $J_{6\text{-OH}} = 5.9 \text{ Hz}$ 4.65
2b DMSO-d ₆	5.23 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.21 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$	3.44 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.90 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 9.2 \text{ Hz}$	4.65 (broad)
2b D ₂ O*	5.92 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.17 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$	3.99 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.60 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 8.2 \text{ Hz}$	4.65 (broad)
2b Methanol-d ₄	5.34 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.53 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$	3.31 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.03 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 8.3 \text{ Hz}$	4.65 (broad)
2a Acetone-d ₆	5.39 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.53 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$	3.33 $J_{23} = 3.5 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.91 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 8.7 \text{ Hz}$	4.91 $J_{6\text{-OH}} = 5.9 \text{ Hz}$ 4.66
2c Acetone-d ₆	5.46 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	3.61 $J_{12} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{23} = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$	3.33 $J_{23} = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$	4.09 $J_{34} = 0 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{45} = 9.2 \text{ Hz}$	4.66 $J_{6\text{-OH}} = 5.9 \text{ Hz}$

* Spectra recorded at 80 °C with reference of HDO at 4.8 ppm.

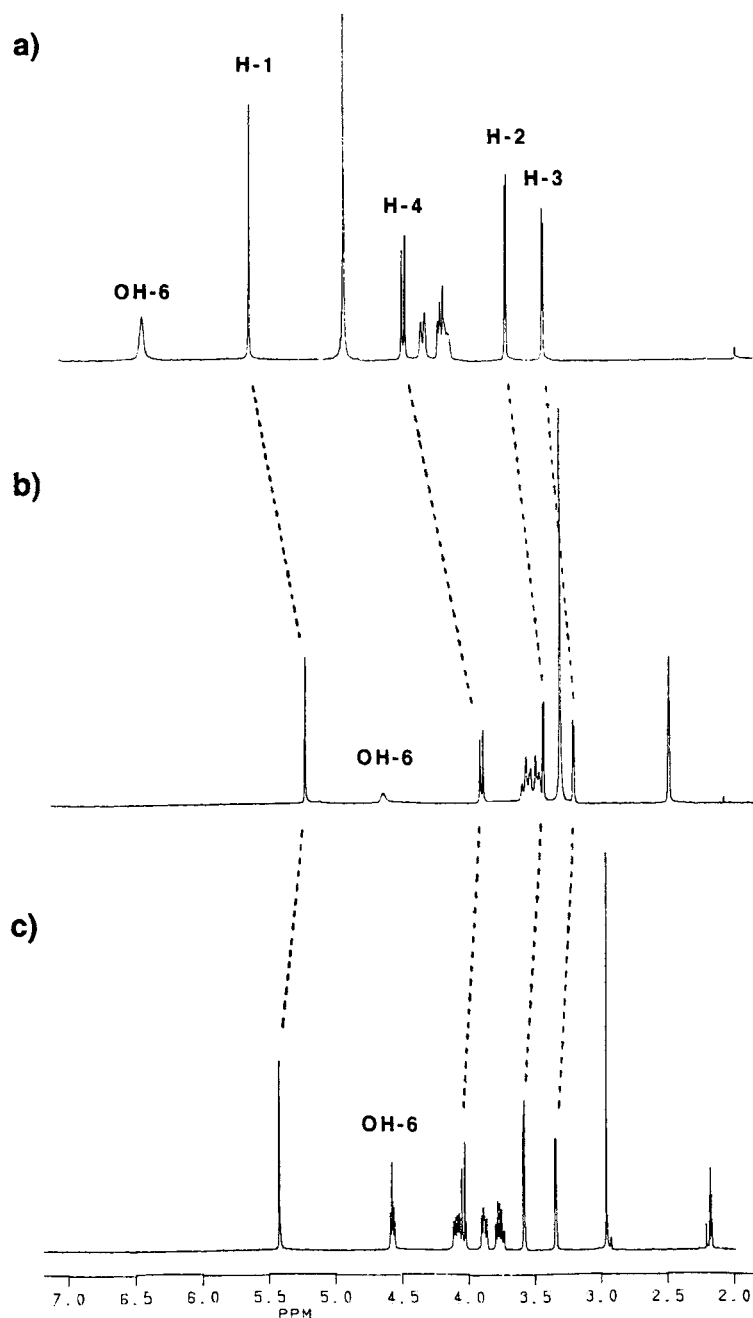


Figure 3 ^1H NMR Spectra (400 MHz) of **2** in: (a) pyridine- d_5 , (b) dms0- d_6 , and (c) acetone- d_6 .

spectrum [95.9 (C-1); 70.5 (C-5); 61.1 (C-4); 61.9 (C-6); 54.2 (C-2); 49.6 (C-3), ppm].

The extremely low aqueous solubility limits investigation of the complexation properties of **2b** in solution. However, it is possible to isolate in the solid state 1:1 complexes of anethole, vanilin and *N*-acetylphenylalanine. For larger molecules such as bornyl acetate which form 2:1 complexes with β -CD, no complexation is observed with **2b**. This absence of complexation probably arises from a lack of the secondary hydroxyl groups needed for hydrogen-

bonded dimer formation. ^1H nmr studies of **2a** with *p*-nitrophenol in D_2O show complexation-derived shifts of the aromatic protons of 0.4 ppm (meta) and 0.1 ppm (ortho), arising from a geometry in which the nitro group is oriented towards the primary hydroxyl face. The observed inclusion induced displacements are larger than those observed for α -CD and mono-6-glu- α -CD.¹⁸

The thioester hydrolysis of spiranolactone by β -cyclodextrin has been proposed to arise from a geometry in which the $-\text{S}-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_3$ group is in close

proximity to the secondary hydroxyl groups of the two β -CD molecules forming the dimeric inclusion complex.¹⁹ Interaction of **2b** with spiranolactone in methanol at 50 °C during 5 days lead to zero hydrolysis, this lack of catalytic activity arising from the absence of the necessary secondary hydroxyl groups in the cyclomannoepoxide.

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- Physical data for **2a**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +128^\circ$; $R_f = 0.52$ (2-Butanone/n-Butanol/H₂O, 9:1:1); mp. 268–269.5 °C. *Anal. Calc.*: C, 50.00; H, 5.59. Found: C, 49.71; H, 5.69. **2b**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +147^\circ$; $R_f = 0.51$ (2-Butanone/n-Butanol/H₂O, 9:1:1); mp. 270–282 °C. *Anal. Calc.*: C, 50.00; H, 5.59. Found: C, 49.82; H, 5.55. **2c**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 169^\circ$; $R_f = 0.53$ (2-Butanone/n-Butanol/H₂O, 9:1:1); mp. 290–291 °C. *Anal. Calc.*: C, 50.00; H, 5.59. Found: C, 49.65; H, 5.50.
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