

SYNTHESIS OF α - AND β -GLYCOPYRANOSIDES via 1-O-ALKYLATION

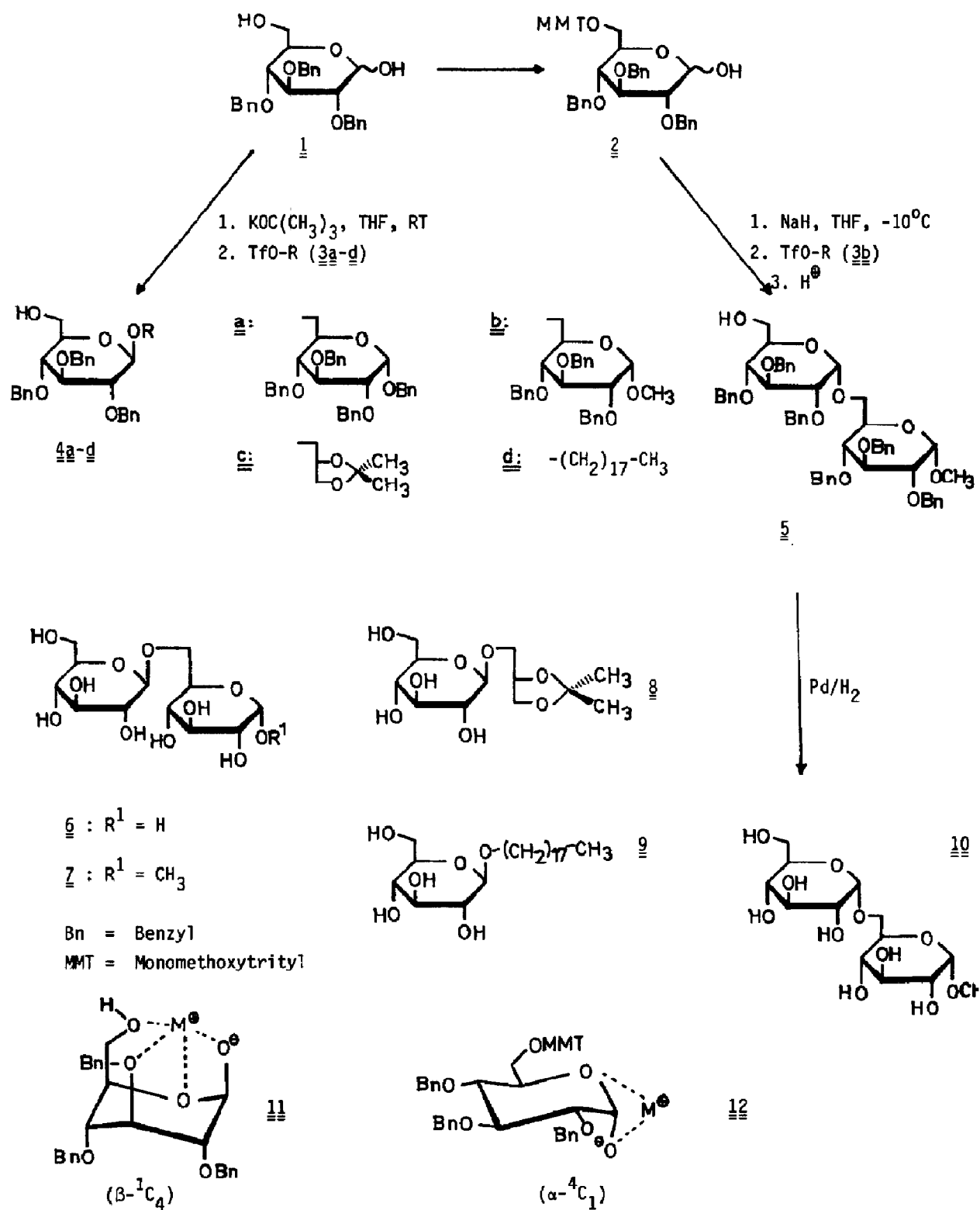
R.R. Schmidt ⁺, U. Moering ²⁾, and M. Reichrath ³⁾
Fakultät für Chemie, Universität Konstanz, Postfach 5560
D-7750 Konstanz, Germany

Abstract: 1-O-Alkylation of partly protected glucopyranose 1 and galactopyranose 13 led to a convenient, short term synthesis of β -glycosides and β -disaccharides 4a-d and 14. Glucopyranose 2 with a bulky protective group at O-6 yielded exclusively the α -anomer (isomaltoside derivative) 5.

Our efforts to synthesize glycosides and disaccharides without the use of halogenoses and heavy metal salt catalysis resulted in directed syntheses of α - or, alternatively, β -glycosides and -disaccharides of D-ribofuranose and D-mannofuranose via 1-O-alkylation ²⁻⁵). Alkylating agents were primary triflates of carbohydrates and of polyhydroxy compounds. We report here on the development of similar methods for the synthesis of α - or β -glycopyranosides. This directed synthesis of β -glycopyranosides was especially successful with partially protected carbohydrate derivatives. With simple alkylating agents preferential formation of α - or β -anomers was already observed under different conditions ^{6,7}).

Previous studies of solvent, temperature and base variation with 2,3,4,6-tetra-O-protected glucopyranose did show ^{2,3}) that there are good chances for highly β -selective alkylation with 6-unprotected glucopyranose at room temperature or at higher temperatures. Accordingly 2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl glucose 1 was deprotonated with equimolar amounts of potassium tertiary butoxide in THF at room temperature. Addition of the triflates 3a-d ^{2,3}) resulted exclusively in the formation of β -disaccharides 4a,b and the β -glycosides 4c,d in good yields (Table 1) thus demonstrating the efficiency and convenience of this β -glycopyranoside synthesis. Alkylation at O-6 or at O-2 was not observed due to the higher acidity of OH-1. Hydrogenolysis produced gentiobiose (6), methyl- α -gentiobioside (7) and the glucopyranosides 8 and 9, which were synthesized already by a different method ^{8,9}).

Temperature dependent investigations indicated, that α -glucosidation is favored by low temperatures and also by bulky protective groups at O-6 ^{2,10}). Therefore 1 was monomethoxytritylated to 2 and treated with sodium hydride in THF at -10°C . Addition of triflate 3b and subsequent r



removal of the monomethoxytrityl group led exclusively to isomaltoside derivative 5; hydrogenolysis produced methyl-isomaltoside 10 ¹¹⁾.

The observed higher reactivity of axial hydroxylic groups in alkylation reactions ¹²⁾ demonstrates that the α -selectivity is due to α -anion 12 being in its 4C_1 -conformation ¹³⁾. However, the corresponding 4C_1 -conformer of the β -anion is present in an equilibrium of about 1:1 with 12 at room temperature ^{2,10)}. Therefore the β -selectivity of the anion of 1 with no protective group at 0-6, observed at room temperature or at higher temperatures, is interpreted by partial formation of the more reactive β -anion 11 in its 1C_4 -conformation. Intramolecular complexation of the metal ion certainly contributes to the conformational stabilization. This explanation is also in accordance with observations made for the directed syntheses of α - or β -glycofuranoside via 1-O-alkylation ^{4,5)}.

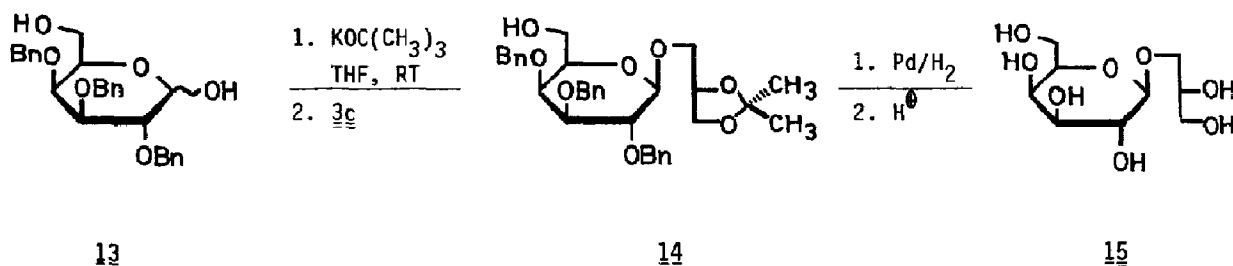
Table: Yields and optical rotations ^{a)}

	Yield [%]	$[\alpha]_{578}^{20}$
<u>4a</u>	54	26.5° (c=1.0, CHCl ₃)
<u>4b</u>	51	9.4° (c=1.0, CHCl ₃)
<u>4c</u>	79	15.1° (c=1.03, CHCl ₃)
<u>4d</u>	43	2.4° (c=1.0, CHCl ₃)
<u>5</u>	80	59.0° (c=1.0, CHCl ₃); Lit. ^{b)} : 62.9° (c=1.0, CHCl ₃)
<u>6</u>	87	14.0° (c=1.0, H ₂ O after 4 h); Lit. ^{c)} : 10.0° (c=3.0, H ₂ O).
<u>7</u>	97	63.5° (c=1.0, H ₂ O)
<u>8</u>	63	-10.0° ^{d)} (c=0.85, CHCl ₃); Lit. ^{d,e)} -10.5° (c=0.51, CHCl ₃).
<u>9</u>	64	-19.7° (c=0.81, CH ₃ OH); Lit. ^{f)} : -21.8°.
<u>10</u>	84	50° (c=1.0, H ₂ O); Lit. ^{g)} : 50°C (c=5.8, H ₂ O)
<u>14</u>	80	-14.8° (c=0.9, CHCl ₃)
<u>15</u>	84	-3.5° (c=1.45, H ₂ O); Lit. ^{h)} : -7° (c=2.0, H ₂ O).

a) All new compounds gave correct elemental analyses. b) R. Eby and C. Schuerch, Carbohydr. Res. 50, 203 (1976). c) V. Stefanovic, Chem. Ber. 94, 2359 (1961). d) Comparison with 2,3-O-Isopropylidene-D-glyceryl 2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-glucopyranoside. e) see ref. 8; f) see ref. 9; g) M.L. Wolfram, L.W. Georges, and I.L. Miller, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 71, 125 (1949) h) see ref. 15.

Analogous β -selectivity was observed with 2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl galactose 13 ¹⁴⁾. From -30°C to

room temperature β -galacto-pyranoside 14 was obtained exclusively with 3c as alkylating agent. The easier formation of the β - 1C_4 conformer with galactopyranose may be responsible for this extended β -selectivity. For structural analysis purposes 14 was completely deprotected to yield 1 which was synthesized already independently ¹⁵⁾.



References and Footnotes

- 1) O-Alkylation at the anomeric center, part 3. - Part 2 see preceding communication. — This work was supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie.
- 2) U. Moering, Diplomarbeit, Universität Konstanz, 1980.
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- 5) R.R. Schmidt, M. Reichrath, and U. Moering, accompanying paper.
- 6) W. Roth and W. Pigman, *J.Am.Chem.Soc.* **82**, 4608 (1960); D.M. Hall and O.A. Stamm, *Carbohydr. Res.* **12**, 421 (1970); A. Zamojski and H. Bazymaska, *Rocz.Chem.* **49**, 2113 (1975)
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- 10) P.E. Pfeffer, G.G. Moore, P.D. Hoagland, and E.S. Rothman in *Synthetic Methods for Carbohydrates*, ed. H.S. Elkhadem, ACS Symposium Series 39, American Chemical Society, Washington D.C., 1976, p. 155-178.
- 11) Similar investigations with 3c indicated that the stereochemical result is dependent on the alkylating agent used ²⁾.
- 12) See ref. 7, p. 57-58.
- 13) The metal ion may be intramolecularly complexed to O-1, O-5, and O-6 according to model considerations.
- 14) 13 was obtained according to a procedure by R. Gigg and C.D. Warren, *J.Chem.Soc.* **1965**, 2205
- 15) B. Wickberg, *Acta Chem.Scand.* **12**, 1187 (1958).

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