

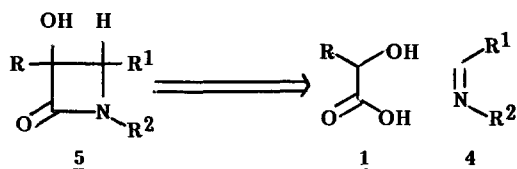
STEREOSELECTIVE ANNELETION OF TRIMETHYLSILOXYACETIC ACIDS AND IMINES INTO 3-HYDROXY- β -LACTAMS¹

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Abstract: Stereoselective synthesis of variously substituted 3-hydroxy- β -lactams can be achieved by the annelation of Schiff bases with trimethylsiloxyacetic acids promoted by phenyl dichlorophosphate reagent. A potential synthesis of N-unsubstituted β -lactams is made.

In recent years monocyclic β -lactams have become a center of attention in many laboratories. Suitable substituted monocyclic β -lactams can be converted to bicyclic or polycyclic β -lactams including naturally occurring 6-hydroxypenam, 7-hydroxycephems, cephamicins and their analogs². The first naturally occurring member of this series to be reported in the literature^{3a} was Wildfire toxin, Tabtoxin 5a, for which the first total synthesis was recently developed^{3b}. As part of a program devoted to the synthesis of 3-substituted β -lactam derivatives⁴ we report here on a general method for the synthesis of 3-hydroxy- β -lactams of type 5. The disconnection approach of these β -lactams 5 leads to suitable starting materials, the hydroxyacetic acids 1. From



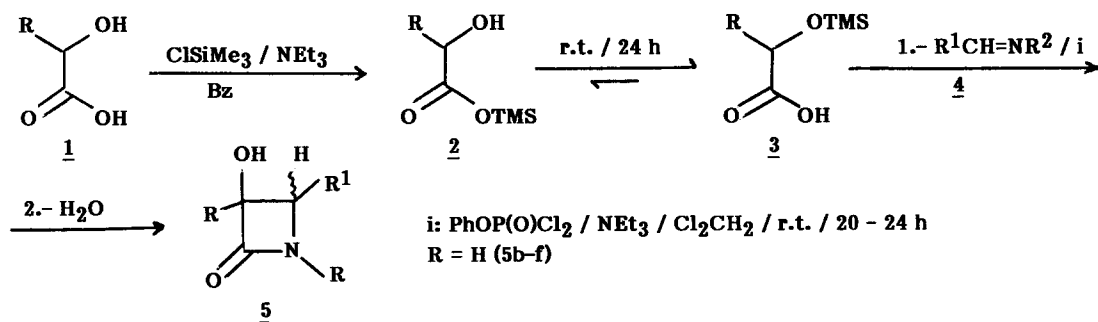
a R: CH₂CH₂CH(NH₂)CONHCH(COOH)CH(CH₃)OH
R¹=R²: H

this approach the acid chloride-imine method is not applicable because hydroxyacetyl chloride is not commercially available and not simple to prepare. An alternative pathway includes the use of reagents for activating the carboxyl group in the starting acetic acid, but however this method is not applicable when active bifunctional compounds are involved⁵. To avoid these drawbacks, protection of the hydroxyl group is required and several alkoxyacetic acids^{6a} and acyloxyacetic acids^{6b} have been used to form after acid-cleavage the corresponding 3-hydroxy- β -lactams. From this acid hydrolysis, epimerization, opening of the β -lactam ring^{6b} and side reactions can be expected. Also, Bose and co-workers^{6c} indicated that the scope of these procedures

for hydrolysis appears to be limited. Within recent years, silylation as a protective method in the synthesis of organic compounds has been increasing in use⁷. The easy removal of the trimethylsilyl group under very mild conditions has prompted us to investigate the synthetic potential of this protecting group as source of the hydroxyl function. Two papers⁸ have revealed that trimethylsiloxyacetates 2 underwent easy silatropic rearrangement into the corresponding trimethylsiloxyacetic acids 3. However, synthetic applications of them have not been yet investigated.

α -Hydroxy- β -lactams

Our finding is that trimethylsiloxyacetic acids 3 together with Schiff bases 4 and triethylamine in the presence of phenyl dichlorophosphate reagent leads to an efficient mild method for the synthesis of a wide range of 3-hydroxy- β -lactams 5. In a typical experiment, a mixture of hydroxyacetic acid (1.14 g, 15 mmol), triethylamine (2.8 ml, 20 mmol) and trimethylchlorosilane (2.1 ml, 18 mmol) in benzene (25 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 15-20 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (25 ml) and then diphenylimine (1.81 g, 10 mmol), triethylamine (6.3 ml, 45 mmol) and phenyl dichlorophosphate (2.25 ml, 15 mmol) were consecutively added at 0-5°C. The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, washed with water (2x30 ml) and the organic layer was dried with sodium sulfate. Evaporation of the solvent gave a red-brown oil which was purified by column chromatography (Silica gel 70-230 mesh, 25 cm. Eluent: AcOEt-hexane 1:5), affording firstly *trans*-3-hydroxy-1,4-diphenyl-2-azetidinone (0.24 g, 10%) m.p. 178-180°C (from ethanol-hexane Lit 180-181°C)⁹ and then *cis*-3-hydroxy-1,4-diphenyl-2-azetidinone (0.84 g, 35%) m.p. 202-203°C (from ethanol-hexane. Lit 206-207°C)⁹. Some examples are given in table 1 to illustrate this unusual approach. Examination of the table shows that *trans/cis* relation decreases when the size of the substituents at C-1 and C-4 increases. Thus, this reaction was stereospecific and a single isomer was obtained when bulky substituents were involved. These compounds were characterized by pmr spectroscopy and elemental analysis. The infrared absorption for the OH and CO groups was at 3340 and 1730 cm⁻¹ respectively.

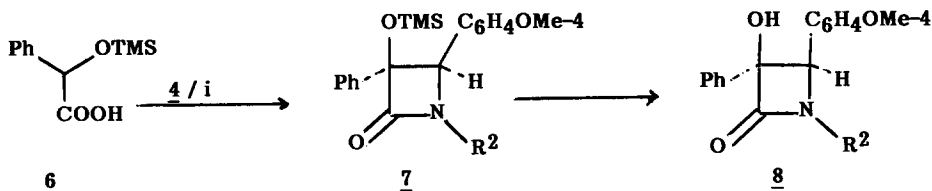
Table 1. Preparation of α -hydroxy- β -lactams 5

Compound ^d	R	R ¹	R ²	Yield (%) ^b		m.p. (°C)	
				cis ^a	trans ^a	cis	trans
5b	H	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	35	10	202-203 ^e	178-181 ^e
5c	H	C ₆ H ₅	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	41	8	210-212	155-156
5d	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	4-MeC ₆ H ₄	55	6.5	135-137	101-104
5e	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	65	—	136-138 ^e	—
5f ^c	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	CH ₂ CH(OH)C ₆ H ₅	50	—	126-130	—

a) Configuration determined by pmr spectroscopy. b) isolated by column chromatography (silica gel 70-230 mesh. Eluent: EtOAc-hexane 1:5). c) see note 11. d) all new compounds gave satisfactory spectroscopic data and elemental analyses. e) see ref. 9

α -Trimethylsilyloxy- β -lactams

We next examined the method from α -hydroxyphenylacetic acid (amigdalic acid) 6 and have found that the corresponding α -trimethylsilyloxy- β -lactams 7 were isolated instead the unprotected β -lactams 8. However, hydrolysis of these compounds was easily carried out under different conditions and without concomitant side reactions.

Table 2. β -lactams 7 and 8 prepared ¹²

R ²	Product ^a	Yield (%)	m.p. °C
C ₆ H ₅	<u>7a</u>	82	154-155
C ₆ H ₅	<u>8a</u>	100	198-199
4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	<u>7b</u>	71	134-135
4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	<u>8b</u>	80	167-168
CH(C ₆ H ₅) ₂	<u>7c</u>	55	144-145
CH(C ₆ H ₅) ₂	<u>8c</u>	100	170-171

a) A single isomer was formed, determined by tic and pmr analysis. The infrared absorption for the OH and CO groups was at 3500 and 1740-1750 cm⁻¹ respectively.

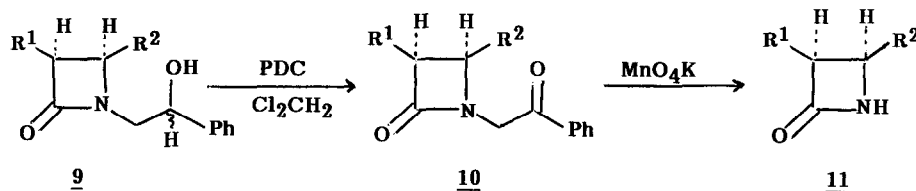
Table 3. Deprotection of 7a into 8a

Conditions	T ^o C	time(h)	Yield(%)
Acetone/water	25	48	— ^a
Acetone/water	70	4	— ^a
HF/MeOH/CH ₂ Cl ₂	25	2	100
HCl 1N/Acetone	25	2	100

a) No hydrolysis was produced.

N-H Azetidiones

Another interesting finding of this preliminary investigation is that the use of Schiff bases derived from aldehydes and the commercially available 2-phenyl-ethanolamine leads to a stereospecific formation of precursors of N-unsubstituted β -lactams. Thus, under similar conditions to those used for the preparation of β -lactam 5f (Table 1), the β -lactam 9 was prepared in 91 % yield (m.p. 175–177 °C). PDC oxidation of 9 affords β -lactam 10 in 60 % yield (m.p. 99–100 °C). When this β -lactam 10 was subjected to permanganate oxidation in acetone-water the corresponding N-unsubstituted β -lactam 11 was obtained in moderate yield. Attempts to apply this method from 9 were unsuccessful and side reactions predominated.



R¹ : PhO , R² : C₆H₄OCH₃-4 , 11 m.p. 166–167 °C (60 %)

Related 3-substituted- β -lactams

Since a hydroxyl group can be easily transformed to acyloxy and alkyloxy groups, various β -lactam derivatives should be available from the method described above. Furthermore, the one step synthesis of α -hydroxy- β -lactams allows a readily access to azetidine-2,3-diones, known as useful intermediates for the synthesis of β -lactam antibiotics¹⁰.

Summary

Although this investigation is still in its preliminary stages, the results obtained from the readily available hydroxyacetic acids suggest that the procedure herein described constitutes a useful and convenient strategy for the direct synthesis of 3-hydroxy- β -lactams and related compounds of biological interest such 5a. We are continuing to study the scope of the method and we will report the results in due course.

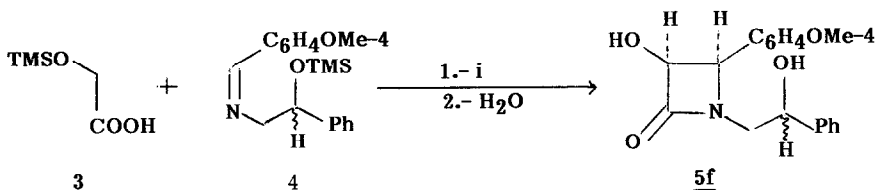
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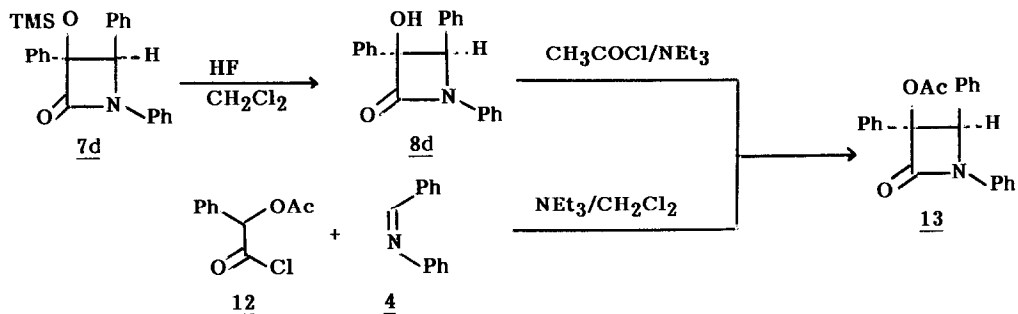
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11.- Formation of β -lactam **5f** was carried out by protection of both hydroxyl groups in the starting materials. Without protection of the Schiff base **4** the β -lactam **5f** could not be isolated.



5f.- IR (CHCl₃) ν cm⁻¹ : 3600-3100 (OH); 1730 (C=O). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.3-6.7 (m, 9 H, arom.); 4.9 (d, J=5 Hz, 1 H, CH); 5.0-4.7 (m, 1 H, CHPh); 4.6 (d, J=5 Hz, 1 H CH); 3.7 (s, 3 H, OCH₃); 4.0-2.8 (m, 4 H, CH₂, OH, OH).

12.- In order to obtain information about the configuration of β -lactams **7** and **8** we examined the method from the acid **6** and diphenylimine, and the resulting β -lactam **7** was hydrolyzed into **8** and then acylated to **13**. Since Bose and coworkers^{6b} have revealed that the reaction between O-acetyl-amigdaly chloride and Schiff bases was stereospecific and gives Z isomers, the stereochemistry of compounds **7** and **8** was deduced by direct comparison of physical and spectral properties of **13** obtained by means of both methods.



7d.- m.p.(°C): 153-154; IR (CHCl₃) ν cm⁻¹ : 1740 (C=O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.7-7.2(m,15H,arom.); 5.2(s,1H,CH); 0.0(s,9H,CH₃Si).

8d.- m.p.(°C): 190-191; IR (CHCl₃) ν cm⁻¹ : 3540 (OH), 1750 (C=O); ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃) δ ppm : 7.6-7.0(m,15H,arom.); 5.15(s,1H,CH); 3.05 (s,1H,OH).

13.- m.p.(°C): 220-221; IR (CHCl₃) ν cm⁻¹ : 1750 (C=O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.7-7.0 (m,15H,arom.); 5.65 (s,1H,CH); 1.55 (s,3H,CH₃CO).

(Received in UK 3 July 1985)