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A Versatile Route to 2,3-Unsaturated Sugar Derivatives via Corresponding 3-Acetoxy-1-Nitro-1-Alkenes

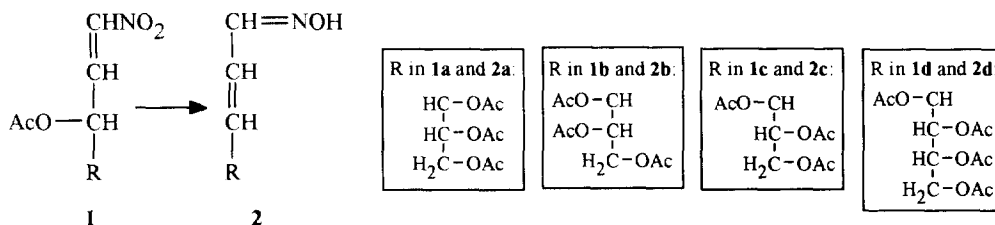
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Abstract: Reduction of 3-*O*-acetylated sugar 1-nitro-1-alkenes with zinc and acetic acid afforded corresponding 2,3-unsaturated sugar oximes in high yields from which either free deprotected sugars or further useful 2,3-unsaturated sugar derivatives can be prepared.

Zinc in acetic acid has proven to be a very effective reducing agent for converting nitroalkenes into oximinoalkanes. This reducing agent was successfully applied to aliphatic nitroalkenes, to produce saturated ketoximes¹. When 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-nitro-hex-2-enopyranosides were used as a starting material, corresponding 2,3-dideoxy-3-oximino-hexopyranosides resulted, exclusively². Similar reactions were utilised in the synthesis of sinefungin³. However, the described syntheses involving carbohydrate substrates do not deal with *O*-acetyl protected sugars or with the preparation of aldioximes.

We now wish to report that when this reducing agent is applied to *O*-acetylated sugar 1-nitro-1-alkenes **1**, corresponding 2,3-unsaturated sugar oximes **2** (Scheme 1) are formed directly in high yields. The presence of an acetyl group at 3-*O*-position in starting compounds **1** is essential. If it is not present, corresponding 2-deoxy sugar oximes are produced, as expected.



Scheme 1

Preparation of 2,3-dideoxy-4,5,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-*D*-erythro-hex-2-enose oxime **2a** from *D*-arabino-3,4,5,6-tetraacetoxy-1-nitro-1-hexene⁴ **1a** is representative. Analogous *L*-erythro- and *D*-threo-hex-2-enose oximes (**2b** and **2c**) and *D*-arabino-hept-2-enose oxime (**2d**) were obtained in about 90 % yields under essentially the same reaction conditions starting from peracetoxy-1-nitro-1-alkenes prepared from *L*-arabinose⁴, *D*-xylose⁴, and *D*-mannose⁵. Deacetylation and deoximation⁶ of **2a** gave known 2,3-dideoxy-*D*-erythro-hex-2-enopyranose^{7,8}.

Similarly, deprotection of **2c** afforded 2,3-dideoxy-D-*threo*-hex-2-enopyranose characterized as 1,4,6-tri-*O*-acetate^{7,9}.

Synthesis of 2a : To a magnetically well-stirred mixture of **1a** (1.59 g, 4.4 mmol) and zinc dust (freshly activated with 2N HCl) (1.0 g, 17.6 mmol) in ether (40 mL), 4N acetic acid (2.5 mL) was added dropwise at such a rate that ether refluxed gently. After addition had been completed, the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for an additional 4 h, then cooled to room temperature. The zinc acetate which separated was filtered off, washed thoroughly with ether and ethyl acetate, and the combined filtrates were dried (Na₂SO₄) and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel using hexane-ethyl acetate (50 : 20) as an eluent to give the less polar isomer^{7,10} (530 mg, 42 % yield) followed by the more polar isomer^{7,11} (573 mg, 46 % yield), identified¹² as *anti*- and *syn*-oxime **2a**.

Since the oxime group and double bond in the products **2** may be modified through a variety of reactions, our synthesis may be of use for preparing further interesting and not so readily available sugar derivatives. The limiting factor is, of course, the availability of starting 3-*O*-acetylated sugar 1-nitroalkenes **1**.

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10. Data of **2a** (less polar isomer): colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D +18^\circ$ (c 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.75 (dd, 1H, H-1, $J_{1,2} = 9.7$ Hz, $J_{1,3} = 0.5$ Hz), 6.41 (ddd, 1H, H-2, $J_{2,3} = 15.8$ Hz, $J_{2,4} = 1.3$ Hz), 5.96 (ddd, 1H, H-3, $J_{3,4} = 6.6$ Hz), 5.60 (ddd, 1H, H-4, $J_{4,5} = 4.7$ Hz), 5.25 (ddd, 1H, H-5, $J_{5,6} = 3.8$ Hz, $J_{5,6'} = 6.6$ Hz), 4.27 (dd, 1H, H-6, $J_{6,6'} = 12.2$ Hz), 4.18 (dd, 1H, H-6'), 2.11, 2.08 and 2.06 (3s, 3OAc); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 149.5 (C-1), 131.9 (C-3), 127.8 (C-2), 71.3 (C-4), 71.0 (C-5), 61.4 (C-6), 170.5, 170.0 and 169.4 (3C=O), 20.5 (2CH₃) and 20.4 (CH₃).
11. Data of **2a** (more polar isomer): colourless oil $[\alpha]_D +18^\circ$ (c 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.09 (d, 1H, H-1, $J_{1,2} = 9.5$ Hz), 6.99 (ddd, 1H, H-2, $J_{2,3} = 15.6$ Hz, $J_{2,4} = 1.3$ Hz), 6.02 (dd, 1H, H-3, $J_{3,4} = 6.4$ Hz), 5.63 (ddd, 1H, H-4, $J_{4,5} = 4.8$ Hz), 5.26 (ddd, 1H, H-5, $J_{5,6} = 3.8$ Hz, $J_{5,6'} = 6.6$ Hz), 4.26 (dd, 1H, H-6, $J_{6,6'} = 12.2$ Hz), 4.19 (dd, 1H, H-6'), 2.12, 2.10 and 2.07 (3s, 3OAc); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 146.8 (C-1), 134.0 (C-3), 121.4 (C-2), 71.4 (C-4), 71.2 (C-5), 61.6 (C-6), 170.6, 170.0 and 169.5 (3C=O), 20.7 (2CH₃) and 20.6 (CH₃).
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