

One Step Synthesis of Sulfur and Nitrogen Linked Aza-disaccharide Precursors from D-Mannitol Derived Bis-aziridines

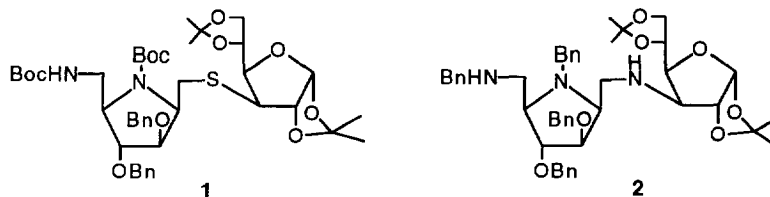
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Abstract : Carbon-nitrogen and carbon-sulfur linked pseudodisaccharides incorporating an hydroxylated pyrrolidine type glucosidase inhibitor have been prepared. These new azasugar-containing disaccharides result from the nucleophilic opening of D-mannitol derived bis-aziridines either by 3-deoxy-3-amino-D-glucose or by 3-deoxy-3-thio-D-glucose. Copyright © 1996 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd

Polyhydroxylated pyrrolidines and piperidines are a class of potent inhibitors of glycosidases¹, though simple azasugars that mimic a monosaccharide often act as broad spectrum inhibitors. Different natural products and synthetic analogs that contain an aglycon moiety attached to a glycosyl cation mimetics act as selective inhibitors². Dideoxy-iminoalditols linked to other sugars by non-hydrolysable links have potential of much specificity, and different approaches towards such complex glycosides have already been reported³.

We report here the synthesis of pseudodisaccharides in which a five-membered azasugar of D-glucose configuration is bonded at C-3 of D-glucose. In these new azadisaccharides, the interglycosidic oxygen atom that is present in natural glucans has been replaced either by a sulfur atom (1) or by an amino group (2).

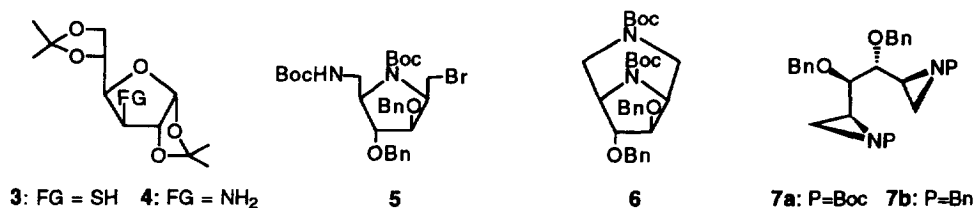


Scheme 1

2,5,6-trideoxy-6-amino-2,5-imino-D-glucitol, the 6-amino analog of a potent inhibitor of α - and β -glucosidases⁴ is the unnatural glycosyl moiety of 1 and 2. The synthesis of these pseudodisaccharides can be achieved by coupling activated hydroxypyrrolidines with glucose derivatives. Still more effective is the

preparation of the bisubstrates **1** and **2** through nucleophilic opening followed by intramolecular aminocyclization of D-mannitol derived bis-aziridines⁵, either by 3-deoxy-3-thio-D-glucose **3** or by 3-deoxy-3-amino-D-glucose **4**.

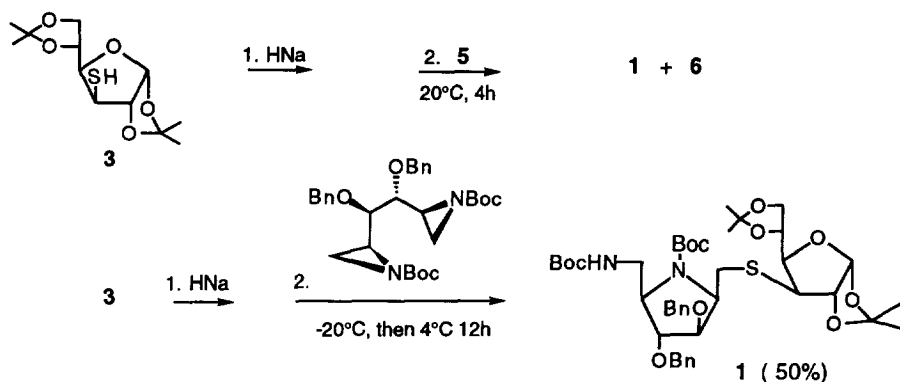
3⁶ and **4**⁷ were prepared as described, in three steps starting from diacetone-D-allose. The synthesis of the five-membered deoxyzasugar of D-gluco configuration **5**, substituted by a bromo group at the pseudo anomeric position, was achieved following our recently reported strategy⁸ (scheme 2).



Scheme 2

Coupling of the bromosubstituted pyrrolidine **5** with the sodium salt of 3-thio glucose **3** leads to thioether **1** in about 40% yield, together with variable amounts of the *N*-Boc diazabicyclo (3.2.1) octane **6**. **6** results from intramolecular conversion of **5** in basic medium⁸.

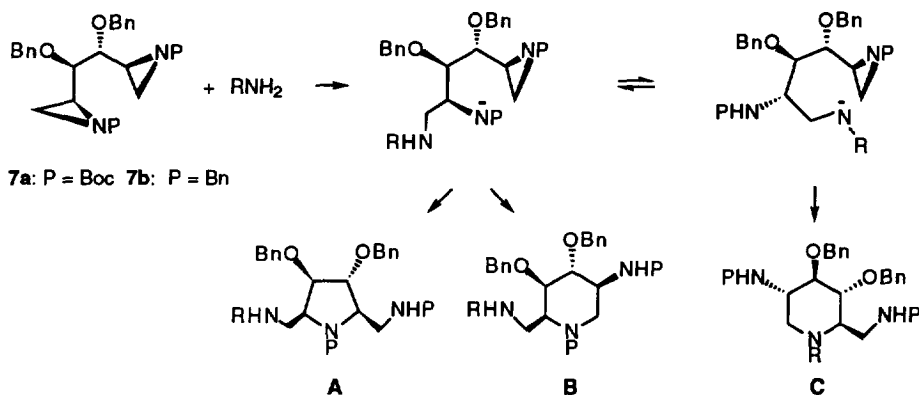
The direct nucleophilic ring opening of the *N*-Boc bis-aziridine **7a** with thiol **3** is a more efficient way towards **1**. Opening of the first aziridine ring takes place already at -20°C, followed by slow intramolecular cyclisation into the thioglucosyl substituted pyrrolidine **1**. Thioether **1** is thus obtained in 50% yield, together with about 30% of recovered **7a** and small amounts of the diamine resulting from **7a** bis-opening. Recovering of the starting material is due to the formation of some disulfide from **3** in the reaction conditions.



Scheme 3

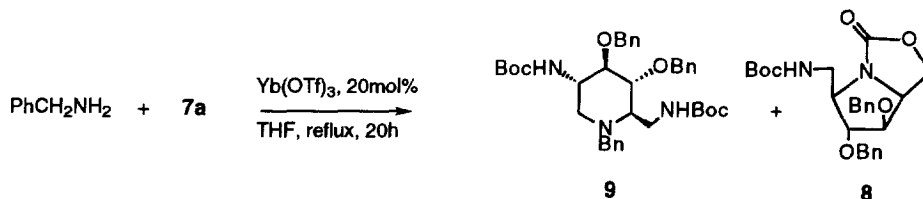
The ring opening of activated aziridines by amines requiring elevated temperatures, the introduction of the amino group is generally best realized by nucleophilic ring opening by sodium azide⁹. The ytterbium triflate catalyzed aminolysis of *N*-protected aziridines such as *tert*-butoxycarbonyl, tosyl, and benzyl aziridines has

been reported recently to proceed under smooth conditions with primary and secondary amines¹⁰. Actually both *N*-Boc and *N*-Bn bis-aziridines **7a** and **7b** react with primary amines in the presence of 10% or 20% of ytterbium triflate. Nucleophilic opening takes place regioselectively at the primary carbon leading to an α -diamino intermediate apt to cyclize from both nitrogen atoms (scheme 4) and give, either the pyrrolidine **A**⁸ (D-gluco), the piperidine **B**⁹ (L-ido), or the piperidine **C** (D-gluco).



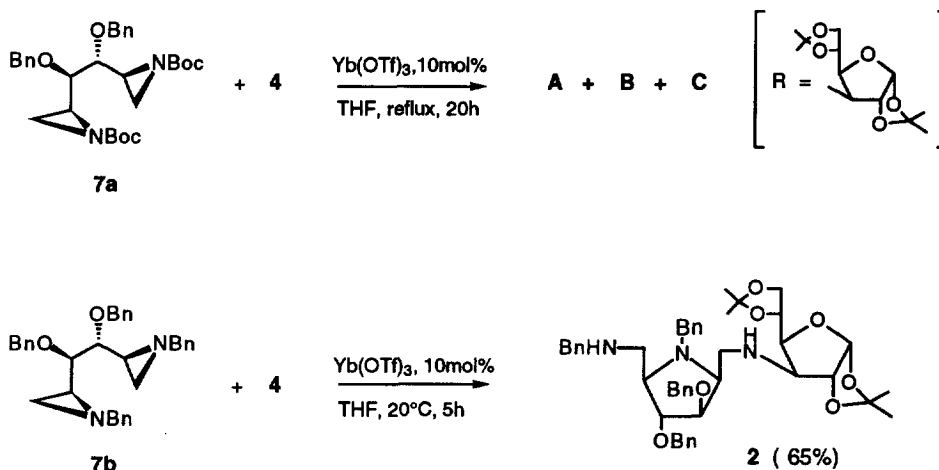
Scheme 4

When the *N*-Boc bis-aziridine **7a** is submitted to $\text{Yb}(\text{OTf})_3$ catalyzed opening by benzylamine the piperidine **9** of D-gluco configuration is formed exclusively in about 20% yield. The reaction is slow in refluxing THF, goes with degradation of the aziridine and leads besides **9**, to various amounts of oxazolidinone **8**. The piperidine **9** is formed via a δ -*exo-tet* aminocyclization process, while the formation of **8** results from the catalyzed rearrangement of **7a** with participation of the Boc substituent⁸.



Scheme 5

Nucleophilic opening of the *N*-Boc bis-aziridine **7a** by aminoglucose **4** in refluxing THF leads to a mixture of type **A** glucosyl substituted pyrrolidine and of both piperidines **B** and **C**. **A** is formed in about 25% yield together with small amounts of **B** and **C**, and with degradation products. With the *N*-benzyl aziridine **7b**, there is as expected no competitive formation of any of the *N*-glucosyl piperidines; the reaction is achieved at 20°C and gives the pseudo disaccharide **2** as a single product in 65% yield.



Scheme 6

Nucleophilic opening of bis-aziridines with thio or aminosugars is an efficient method for the synthesis of pseudodisaccharides. The scope of the reaction is being extended to various sugars.

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