

Isonucleosides by Michael Addition of Pyrimidine Bases on 2,6-Disubstituted 2*H*-Pyran-3(6*H*)-ones

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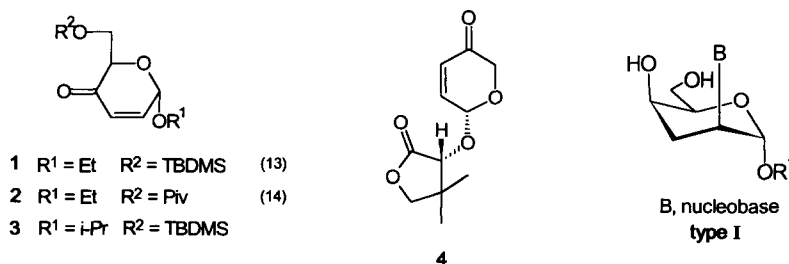
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Abstract : A short, stereocontrolled convergent synthesis of pyranosyl isonucleosides, based on a Michael type addition between a silylated pyrimidine base and an unsaturated pyran-3(6*H*)-one is described. Diastereomeric ratio are of 90/10 up to 100/0, providing a straightforward way to prepare new nucleosides analogues.

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In recent years, there has been a growing interest in 2'3'-dideoxynucleosides (*e.g.* AZT, ddI, ddC, D4T) as reverse transcriptase inhibitors of HIV-1 infections. These compounds are prepared by structural modification of naturally occurring nucleosides (linear route) or through glycosylation reactions¹ (convergent synthesis), the last strategy allowing structural variations in the nucleobase moiety and in the carbohydrate part, to be achieved. In order to control the stereoselectivity to obtain the more biologically active β -anomers, authors have investigated different routes as, for instance, fixation at position 2' of a group able to provide the well known anchimeric assistance, and could be eliminated or reductively removed.²

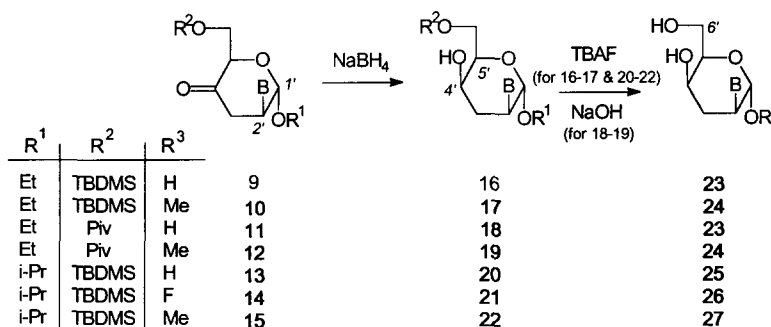
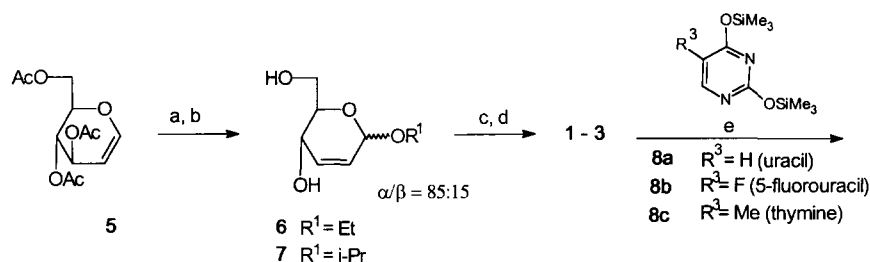
As part of our continuing work on the synthesis of optically active furyl-alkylcarbinols³, we were interested in the behaviour of pyran-3-(6*H*)-ones, from which they are suitable precursors.⁴ Pyranones 1-3 seemed to us key intermediates for synthesis of *iso*-deoxynucleosides of type I, a rather rare class of nucleosides showing significant and selective anti-HIV activity⁵ as well as appearing upstream precursors of interesting related nucleotides⁶. Feringa *et al.*⁷ have particularly shown that for pyran-3-one 4, the 6-alkoxy substituent exerts complete stereocontrol in π face selective additions of butadiene (Diels-Alder) or nitroethane (Michael) to this enone. Also of interest in this area, Horton's⁸ and Herradon's⁹ groups have discussed the total facial stereoselectivity induced by γ substituents present on neighbouring unsaturated lactones.



Consequently we studied the diastereoselective conjugate addition of *bis*-silylated-uracil, -5-fluorouracil and -thymine to enantiomerically pure α -anomers of pyran-3-ones **1-3** as Michael acceptors, to yield isonucleosides of type **I** that have not been reported previously.

Optically pure pyran-3-ones **1-3** (alkyl (*6-O-protected*)-2,3-dideoxy- α -D-glycero-hex-2-enopyranosid-4-ulo-ses) were obtained from tri-*O*-acetyl-D-glucal **5** via the Ferrier rearrangement¹⁰ as the key reaction. Thus **5** was converted into ethyl (or isopropyl) pyranosides **1-3** in four steps involving : a) iodine-catalyzed glycosylation of ethyl (or *i*-propyl) alcohol by the method of Koreeda¹¹, b) hydrolysis¹² into **6** (or **7**), c) selective 6-OH protection with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl group (TBDMSCl, Et₃N/cat. DMAP)¹³ or as a pivalate (PivCl, py.)¹⁴ and d) pyridinium dichromate (PDC) oxidation¹⁴ of 4-OH (sugar nomenclature). α -Anomers of these pyran-3-ones **1-3** (overall yield a \rightarrow d 55-60%) were purified by silicagel column chromatography.¹⁵

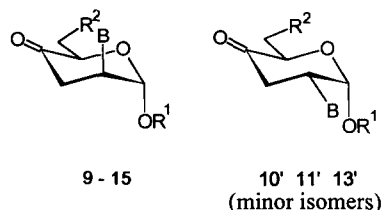
When pyranones **1-3** were allowed to react in the presence of trimethylsilyl triflate-catalysis as a Lewis acid with *bis*-silylated nucleobases **8a-c** (prepared *in situ* with an excess of *N,O*-bis(trimethylsilyl) acetamide in dry MeCN¹⁶ the Michael adducts **9-15** were formed (Table 1).



The results displayed in Table 1 show that the d.r.'s of the adducts **9-15** are within the range 89-100%. TMSOTf¹⁷ allows extremely mild nonbasic Vorbrüggen reaction conditions¹⁸ that gave in each case a very large excess of the diastereomer with the attached base *trans* with respect to the aglycon.¹⁹ An attack by the α side leading to the thermodynamically more stable *cis*-isomer cannot be ruled out as the cause of its appearance in variable proportions in the crude products. The separation of diastereomers (for **10/10'**, **11/11'** and **13/13'**) was complicated by the tendency to give sometimes extensive retro-Michael decomposition on chromatography supports (Merck silica gel 60).

Table 1 — Michael addition of silylated bases on pyran-3-ones 1–3.

Entry	Pyran-3-one	Silylated base	Adduct*	Yield	d.r. %**
1	1	8a	9	62	100/0
2	1	8c	10 (+10')	83	94/6
3	2	8a	11 (+11')	72	90/10
4	2	8c	12	64	100/0
5	3	8a	13 (+13')	94	89/11
6	3	8b	14	66	100/0
7	3	8c	15	58	100/0



* reactions were carried out under 1-3 mmol scale, sugar/base = 1:1 (see ref.20 for a typical procedure)

**diastereomeric ratio based on ¹H NMR analysis — see ref. 29 for selected data.

Crude **9-15** were therefore used as such in the subsequent step. Reduction of the carbonyl group with NaBH₄ of these adducts furnished a high d.e. in favour of the *cis*-C-4'/C-5' isomer, as revealed by nOe difference spectroscopy.²¹ This equatorial reduction to give the axial alcohol predominated in all cases (*cis/trans*-C-4'/C-5' ~ 85/15)²², thus leading to an inversion at C-4' when comparing to **5**, giving so alkyl 2'3'-dideoxy-2'-pyrimidyl- α -D-*lyxo*-hexopyranosides. Isolated yields of **16-22** after column chromatography range from 45 to 80 %. Cleavage of the silyl-group by tetrabutylammonium fluoride²³ or pivalate by hydroalcoholic sodium hydroxide²⁴ gave, *in fine*, almost quantitatively, **23-27**.

In summary, this strategy (seven synthetic steps from a commercially available compound) compares well with the few other diastereoselective syntheses²⁵⁻²⁸ that give nucleosides mimics with a C-2'/N-1 bond.

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21. NOE's observed between H-6 and H-1', H-3'' and H-2', H-4', H-5', were also supported by 2D-NOESY and (¹H, ¹³C)-COSY spectra to establish the the relationship of H-atoms in compounds **23-27**. No racemization at C-5' occurs (Eu shift reagent, det. limit ca. 95 % e.e.).
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29. *selected data for one compound of each category*: **9**, oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.71 (br s, 3-H), 7.79 (d, J = 8; 2 Hz, 6-H), 5.74 (d, J = 8 Hz, 5-H), 5.11 (dd, J = 8.3, 3.8 Hz 2'-H), 4.95 (s, 1'-H), 4.17 (dd, J = 10.8, 2.9 Hz, 6'-H), 4.15 (m, 5-H), 3.93 (dd, J = 10.7, 1.9 Hz, 6''-H), 3.89 (dq, J = 11.7, 7.1 Hz, 7'-H), 3.62 (dq, J = 11.7, 7.1 Hz, 7''-H), 3.1 (dd, J = 17.9, 8.5 Hz, 3''-H), 2.56 (dd, J = 17.9, 3.9 Hz, 3'-H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, Me), 0.9 (s, SiCMe₃), 0.1 (s, SiMe₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 203.9, 162.8, 150.6, 141.9, 102.9, 97.2, 76.5, 63.9, 62.6, 53.5, 39.3, 25.6, 18.3, 14.5, -5.6. HRMS Found M⁺-CMe₃, 341.1167. C₁₄H₂₁O₆N₂Si requires 341.1169. **16** M.p. 170-172°C; [α]_D = + 101 (c = 0.8, acetone); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 9.31 (s, 3-H), 8.3 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 6-H), 5.56 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 5-H), 4.93 (s, 1'-H), 4.53 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 2'-H), 4.04 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 4'-H), 3.99 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.1 Hz, 6'-H), 3.94 (dd, J = 11.0, 3.9 Hz, 6''-H), 3.82 (m, 5'-H), 3.78 (dq, J = 9.6, 7 Hz, 7'-H), 3.53 (dq, J = 9.7, 7 Hz, 7''-H), 2.22 (m, 3'-H), 2.11 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 3'-H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 8'-Me), 0.93 (s, SiCMe₃), 0.1 (s, SiMe₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 163.8, 151.2, 144.6, 100.4, 97.6, 68.8, 65.1, 65, 63, 49.8, 29.8, 25.7, 18.1, 14.9, -5.6. HRMS Found M⁺-OEt, 355.1674. C₁₆H₂₇O₃N₂Si requires 355.1689. Analysis: Found: C, 53.96; H, 7.92; N, 7.08%. Calcd for C₁₈H₃₂N₂O₆Si: C, 53.98; H, 8.05; N, 6.99%. **27** M.p. 99-100°C; [α]_D = + 118 (c = 0.4, acetone); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ = 11.18 (s, 3-H), 7.97 (s), 5.02 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1'-H), 4.87 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, OH), 4.59 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, OH), 4.2 (m, 2'-H), 3.92 (sept, J = 6.2 Hz, 7'-H), 3.76 (m, 4'-H and 5'-H), 3.58 (m, 6'-H and 6''-H), 2.0 (m, 3''-H), 1.84 (dt, J = 14.6 and 4.2 Hz, 3'-H), 1.73 (s, Me). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ = 163.6 (C4), 150.7 (C2), 139.8 (C6), 106.6 (C5), 94.3 (C1'), 71.7 (C5'), 67.8 (CHMe₂), 62.1 (C4'), 59.9 (C6'), 50.6 (C2'), 30.3 (C3'), 22.8 & 20.9 (Me/Me), 12.0 (C7'). HRMS Found M⁺-Me₂CHOH, 254.0902. C₁₁H₁₄O₃N₂ requires 254.0903. Analysis: Found: C, 53.29; H, 7.06; N, 8.83%. Calcd for C₁₄H₂₂N₂O₆: C, 53.49; H, 7.05; N, 8.91%.

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