



Fragmentation of carbohydrate anomeric alkoxy radicals: a new synthesis of chiral 1-halo-1-bromo compounds

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Abstract—The reaction of 1,2-halohydrins derived from easily available carbohydrates with (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (DIB) in the presence of bromine is a mild procedure for the synthesis of 1-deoxy-1-halo-1-bromo-alditols with one carbon less than the original carbohydrate. The reaction goes through β -fragmentation of the intermediate anomeric alkoxy radicals. These 1-halo-1-bromo polyhydroxy compounds may be valuable synthetic intermediates in organic synthesis.

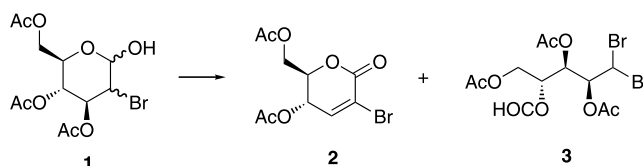
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1,1-Dihaloalkanes are valuable intermediates in organic synthesis for a variety of processes, including carbon–carbon bond formation and synthesis of carbocycles.¹ Notwithstanding, the synthetic applicability of these dihalides is severely restricted in natural products synthesis because their preparation requires reagents and/or conditions that are generally not compatible with complex or sensitive molecules. Thus, for instance, several procedures for the synthesis of 1,1-dibromo compounds have been developed: the reaction of aldehydes with boron tribromide,^{2a} phosphorus pentabromide,^{2b} and triphenyl phosphite/bromine,^{2c} the treatment of hydrazones with copper(II) bromide,^{2d} and the addition of hydrogen bromide to alkynes or vinyl halides.^{2e}

Other interesting methods are the alkylation of dibromomethyl lithium^{2f} and the reaction of 1,1-bis(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyloxy-alkanes with magnesium bromide.^{2g} Moreover, several products possessing this 1,1-dibromo grouping have been isolated from marine natural sources.³ Hence, there is still a need to develop general routes to this functionality under milder conditions.

In a previous paper from this laboratory we described the easy β -fragmentation of glycopyran-1-*O*-yl and glycofuran-1-*O*-yl radicals, generated by reaction of carbohydrate anomeric alcohols with the (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (DIB) /iodine system, under

Table 1. Synthesis of 2,3,5-tri-*O*-acetyl-1-deoxy-4-*O*-formyl-1,1-dibromo-D-arabinitol (**3**)^a



| Entry | DIB (mmol) | Br ₂ (mmol) | T (°C) | Time (h) | 1 (%) | 2 (%) | 3 (%) |
|----------------|------------|------------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 1.1 | 3 | 40 | 24 | 6 | 40 | 18 |
| 2 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 0–5 | 14 | 5 | 21 | 56 |
| 3 ^b | 2.2 | 3 | 0–5 | 5 | – | 8 | 70 |

^a All reactions were performed in dry CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL/mmol) under irradiation with two 80W tungsten-filament lamps.

^b Powdered molecular sieves 4 Å (4 w/w) were added.

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mild neutral conditions.⁴ The presence of an electron-withdrawing group at C2 inhibits the oxidation of the intermediate C-radical and allows the possibility of radical-trapping by iodine atoms from the reaction medium.⁵ The application of this methodology to 1,2-halohydrin derivatives from carbohydrates gave a simple method to prepare chiral 1-halo-1-iodo-compounds.⁶

The success of this strategy led us to consider whether it might be possible to generate 1-halo-1-bromo compounds using bromine instead of iodine to trap the C2-radical. This may be not a simple task, considering that the role of the halogen is not only to be the final radical trap but also to form the hypohalogenite intermediate.⁷ Nevertheless, the major drawback could come from the differences of oxidation potential between both halogens. Indeed, it has long been known that under neutral conditions, bromine oxidizes an aldose almost quantitatively into the lactone of the aldonic acid.⁸

Unfortunately, as outlined in Table 1 (entry 1) this seemed to be the case for bromohydrin **1**, which under the normal conditions for the fragmentation reaction gave the dihydro-2*H*-pyran-2-one derivative **2**,⁹ as the major product; the intended 1,1-dibromo compound **3**¹⁰ was isolated in only 18% yield. Despite this discouraging initial observation, we chose to pursue the discovery of conditions to diminish this competitive oxidation process, and in this communication we describe the results obtained. After a variety of reaction conditions were attempted, we found that it was possible to diminish byproduct **2** by lowering the reaction temperature (entry 2). Eventually, the amount of the dibromo compound **3** could be further increased to 70% by adding powdered molecular sieves 4 Å to the reaction mixture (entry 3). Water is necessary for the oxidation to take place and consequently, the radical fragmentation reaction is substantially favored under strictly anhydrous conditions. Under these last conditions all the starting material was consumed and the yield of the undesired pyrone **2** could be kept at an acceptable level (8%).

We next sought to explore the generality of this reaction with other halohydrins (Table 2). The 1,2-halohydrins¹¹ of carbohydrates were prepared from the corresponding 2-deoxy-hex-1-enitol by reaction with SelectfluorTM,¹² *N*-chlorosuccinimide,¹³ *N*-bromoacetamide,¹⁴ *N*-iodosuccinimide,¹⁵ respectively, in the presence of water. The alkoxy radical fragmentation (ARF) reactions were performed under the conditions shown in Table 2.¹⁶ In entries 1–4 we describe the reaction of several halohydrins **1** and **4**–**6** prepared from 3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-1,5-anhydro-2-deoxy-D-*arabino*-hex-1-enitol (3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-D-glucal).¹⁷ The reaction occurred with little, if any, diastereoselectivity to give 2,3,5-tri-*O*-acetyl-1-deoxy-4-*O*-formyl-1-halo-1-bromo-D-arabinitol derivatives **3** and **7**–**9** in moderate to good yields. In entry 5 we describe another synthesis of 1-bromo-1-iodo compound **9** by reaction of bromohydrin **1** with the DIB/iodine system.⁶ This alternative procedure provides a better yield (compare entries 4 and 5) and

Table 2. Synthesis of 1-halo-1-bromo compounds^a

| Entry | Substrate | Time h | Product | Yield % (dr) |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | |
| 1 | 4 R = F | 4 | 7 R = F | 74 (1:1) |
| 2 | 5 R = Cl | 5 | 8 R = Cl | 68 (1:1) |
| 3 | 1 R = Br | 5 | 3 R = Br | 70 |
| 4 ^b | 6 R = I | 2.5 | 9 R = I | 53 (3:2) |
| 5 ^c | 1 R = Br | 1.5 | 9 R = I | 99 (1:1) |
| | | | | |
| 6 ^b | 10 R = F | 3.5 | 13 R = F | 65 (3:2) |
| 7 | 11 R = Cl | 4.5 | 14 R = Cl | 54 (2:1) |
| 8 | 12 R = Br | 5 | 15 R = Br | 59 |
| 9 ^c | 12 R = Br | 2 | 16 R = I | 84 (1:1) |
| | | | | |
| 10 | 17 R = F | 4 | 20 R = F | 70 (4:3) |
| 11 | 18 R = Cl | 3 | 21 R = Cl | 65 (1:1) |
| 12 | 19 R = Br | 3.5 | 22 R = Br | 64 |
| 13 ^c | 19 R = Br | 2 | 23 R = I | 82 (1:1) |
| | | | | |
| 14 ^d | 24 | 12 | 25 | 59 (1:1) |

^a All reactions were performed in dry CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL/mmol) under irradiation with two 80W tungsten-filament lamps at 0–5 °C containing (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (DIB) (2.2 mmol), bromine (3 mmol) per mmol of substrate, and powdered molecular sieves 4 Å (4 w/w).

^b DIB (1.1 mmol) and bromine (1.5 mmol) were used.

^c The bromohydrin was treated with DIB and iodine as described in ref. 6.

^d The reaction containing DIB (3.3 mmol) and bromine (4.5 mmol) at 0 °C was allowed to heat to rt for 12 h.

therefore this method seems to be the best choice for the synthesis of 1-bromo-1-iodo compounds.

The 2,3-di-*O*-acetyl-1,5-dideoxy-4-*O*-formyl-1-halo-1-bromo-L-arabinitol derivatives **13**–**15**¹⁸ were efficiently originated from the *L-rhamno* halohydrins **10**–**12** (entries 6–8). The disaccharide halohydrins **17**–**19** were obtained from lactosan, in order to study the compatibility of our method with the glycosidic linkage (entries 10–12). The ARF reaction cleanly proceeded to furnish 1-halo-1-bromo compounds **20**–**22**¹⁹ in yields that are comparable to those observed in the monosaccharide runs. As previously commented, 1-bromo-1-iodo-com-

pounds **16** and **23** were obtained more efficiently using the DIB/iodine methodology (entries 9 and 13).

It was also observed that the reaction worked equally well for the D-galacto chlorohydrin **24** that has a sensitive 3,5-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxa-1,3-diyl) as protecting group (entry 12). The 5-bromo-5-chloro-D-arabinitol derivative **25** was obtained in comparable yield to the other bromo-chloro derivatives **8**, **14** and **21** (compare entry 14 with 2, 7, and 11).

Using this ARF methodology, with bromine or iodine as radical trap, we are able to prepare seven out of ten possible 1,1-dihaloalkanes, with the exceptions of 1,1-difluoro, 1,1-dichloro, and 1-fluoro-1-chloroalkanes. These dihalo-alditols can be useful multifunctional chiral synthons for the preparation of more complex molecules.

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- 2,3,5-tri-O-Acetyl-1-deoxy-4-O-formyl-1,1-dibromo-D-arabinitol (**3**). Crystalline solid: mp 121–121.6°C (from *n*-hexane–EtOAc); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +40$ (CHCl₃, *c* = 1.03); IR 1757, 1032 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) 2.07 (3H, s), 2.15 (6H, s), 4.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 12.5, 5.6 Hz), 4.30 (1H, dd, *J* = 12.5, 3.1 Hz), 5.24 (1H, ddd, *J* = 7.9, 5.6, 3.1 Hz), 5.56 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.6, 2.4 Hz), 5.60 (1H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 5.79 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.4 Hz), 8.01 (1H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 50.3 MHz) 20.6 (3×CH₃), 40.4 (CH), 61.5 (CH₂), 68.2 (CH), 68.4 (CH), 73.0 (CH), 159.4 (CH), 169.2 (C), 169.4 (C), 170.4 (C); MS (rel. intensity) 449 (M⁺–H, <1), 434 (<1), 367 (4), 317 (12), 281 (6), 219 (17), 203 (100), 173 (44), 115 (72); HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₅⁸¹Br₂O₈ 448.9093, found 448.9116. Anal. calcd for C₁₂H₁₆Br₂O₈: C, 32.17; H, 3.60. Found: C, 32.51; H, 3.31.
- As determined by NMR spectroscopy the halohydrins were diastereoisomeric mixtures in most cases (see: Ref. 14). Chromatographically homogeneous products with correct elemental analyses were used in the fragmentation reactions.
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- Typical procedure: A mixture of the halohydrin (1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) containing (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (2.2 mmol) and powdered molecular sieves 4 Å (4 w/w) in a 100 mL round-bottom flask was immersed in a water bath at 0–5°C, cooled externally by a water-circulated double wall jacketed beaker (convenient refrigeration system in order to prevent local heating from the lamps over the long reaction times). To this solution was added bromine in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 M, 3 mmol) and the mixture

irradiated, under nitrogen, with two 80 W tungsten-filament lamps at this temperature for the specified period of time (see Tables). The reaction mixture was then poured into water and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with 10% aqueous sodium thiosulfate, dried and concentrated in vacuo. Chromatotron chromatography of the residue (*n*-hexane–EtOAc mixtures) afforded the required halo-bromine compound. Under these conditions formation of the pyranone byproducts apparently does not appear to occur to an appreciable extent. The reaction was performed under dilute conditions to avoid a high concentration of bromine but this aspect has not been optimized.

17. For the synthesis of 2-deoxy-hex-1-enitols (glycals), see: Shull, B. K.; Wu, Z.; Koreeda, M. *J. Carbohydr. Chem.* **1996**, *15*, 955–964.
18. 2,3-Di-*O*-acetyl-1,5-dideoxy-4-*O*-formyl-1,1-dibromo-L-arabinitol (**15**). Oil: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -65$ (CHCl_3 , $c = 0.6$); IR 1757, 1032 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (C_6D_6 , 500 MHz) 0.97 (3H, d, $J = 6.3$ Hz), 1.59 (3H, s), 1.71 (3H, s), 5.07 (1H, dddd, $J = 7.5, 6.3, 6.3, 6.3$ Hz), 5.36 (1H, d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 5.67 (1H, dd, $J = 7.0, 2.7$ Hz), 5.70 (1H, dd, $J = 7.4, 2.7$ Hz), 7.43 (1H, s); ^{13}C NMR (C_6D_6 , 125.7 MHz), 16.0 (CH_3), 20.1 ($2 \times \text{CH}_3$), 41.8 (CH), 67.5 (CH), 71.9 (CH), 73.3 (CH), 159.5 (CH), 168.9 (C), 169.0 (C); MS (rel. intensity) 345 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{HCO}_2$, 1), 330 (1), 317 (14), 275 (14), 258 (11), 145 (100); HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{13}^{79}\text{Br}^{81}\text{BrO}_4$ 344.9160, found 344.9201. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_6$: C, 30.80; H, 3.62. Found: C, 30.94; H, 3.66.
19. 2,5-Di-*O*-acetyl-1-deoxy-4-*O*-formyl-1,1-dibromo-3-*O*-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-D-arabinitol (**22**). Oil: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -26$ (CHCl_3 , $c = 0.96$); IR 1754, 1371 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) 1.97 (3H, s), 2.07 (6H, s), 2.09 (3H, s), 2.15 (3H, s), 2.18 (3H, s), 3.97 (1H, ddd, $J = 6.6, 6.6, 0$ Hz), 4.04 (1H, dd, $J = 12.5, 5.4$ Hz), 4.20 (1H, dd, $J = 11.4, 6.7$ Hz), 4.24 (1H, dd, $J = 11.3, 6.6$ Hz), 4.52 (1H, dd, $J = 8.0, 1.4$ Hz), 4.54 (1H, dd, $J = 12.1, 2.5$ Hz), 4.54 (1H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 4.99 (1H, dd, $J = 10.4, 3.5$ Hz), 5.07 (1H, ddd, $J = 7.6, 5.7, 2.5$ Hz), 5.22 (1H, dd, $J = 10.4, 8.0$ Hz), 5.38 (1H, dd, $J = 3.5, 0$ Hz), 5.50 (1H, dd, $J = 9.6, 1.4$ Hz), 5.99 (1H, d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 7.99 (1H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125.7 MHz) 20.5 (CH_3), 20.7 ($5 \times \text{CH}_3$), 43.5 (CH), 61.1 (CH_2), 61.3 (CH_2), 66.8 (CH), 68.8 (CH), 69.4 (CH), 70.9 (CH), 71.3 (CH), 73.5 (CH), 76.2 (CH), 101.8 (CH), 159.3 (CH), 169.2 (C), 169.6 (C), 170.0 (C), 170.1 (C), 170.2 (C), 170.4 (C); MS (rel. intensity) 676 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{AcOH}$, <1), 617 (<1), 572 (<1), 307 (78), 247 (80), 145 (100); HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{28}^{79}\text{Br}^{81}\text{BrO}_{14}$ 675.9817, found 675.9821. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_{16}$: C, 39.15; H, 4.38. Found: C, 39.14; H, 4.10.