



Palladium-catalyzed C–C coupling: efficient preparation of new 5-thio- β -D-xylopyranosides as oral venous antithrombotic drugs

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 12 January 2009

Revised 8 April 2009

Accepted 14 April 2009

Available online 17 April 2009

Keywords:

5-Thioxylopyranosides

Antithrombotic

Glycosaminoglycan

Suzuki

Stille

Coupling reactions

ABSTRACT

First examples of a Suzuki and Stille cross-coupling reaction to prepare derivatives of pyridinyl 5-thio- β -D-xylopyranosides are described. Some of these compounds are orally active in an animal model of venous thrombosis.

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Thromboembolic disorders are a major cause of morbidity and mortality in industrialized countries. The prophylaxis of these disorders is largely managed by intravenous heparin therapy or by oral warfarin therapy. The drawbacks of heparin therapy are the mode of administration and the high hemorrhagic risk. The drawbacks of warfarin therapy are the delay of their action, the risk in bleeding and the interactions with numerous drugs representing serious problems.

In our search for new orally active antithrombotic drugs without such serious side effects, we developed a lead-finding program based on the hypothesis that β -D-xylopyranosides might be effective antithrombotic drugs^{1–4} since they induce the biosynthesis of glycosaminoglycans in cell culture, as demonstrated by Oka-yama,⁵ Schwarz,⁶ and others. We previously reported^{2–4} that 5-thio- β -D-xylopyranosides were more potent than their 5-oxo analogs and therefore we focused on the former. Within these series, Odiparcil (Chart 1) was evaluated in clinical trials in patients⁷ for the prevention of venous thromboembolism (VTE), particularly following orthopedic surgery (e.g., knee or hip arthroplasty) with some preliminary proof of principle.

Our plans focused on the elucidation of structural analogs of Odiparcil. Previously^{1–4} we investigated aromatic aglycons and studied heteroaromatic moieties. Particularly, pyridine derivatives were assessed since these new chemical entities could induce (i) improved pharmacokinetic profiles, with much better solubility

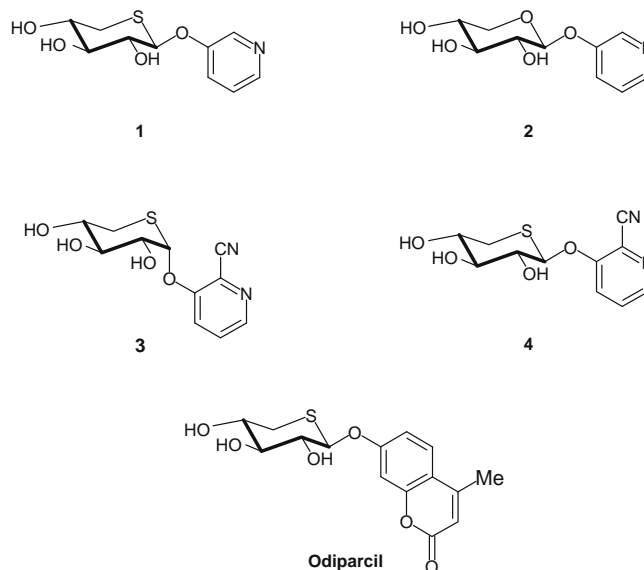


Chart 1.

properties and (ii) improved activity with novel interactions between the target and the nitrogen atom. This led us to prepare 5-thio- β -D-xylopyranosides containing pyridine moieties and led to the discovery of lead compound **1** (Chart 1) which shows prom-

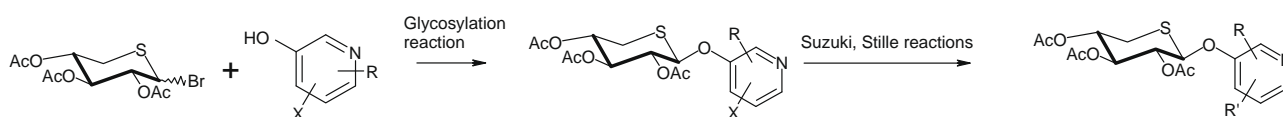
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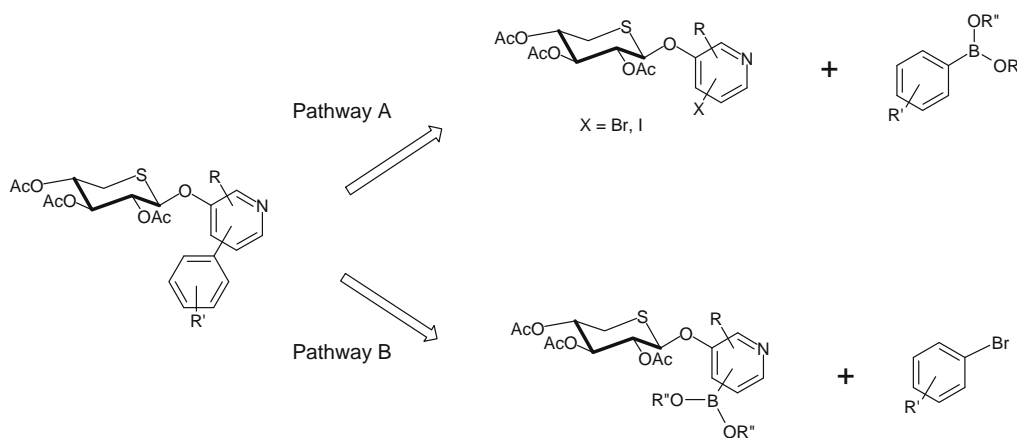
ising pharmacological profile.⁸ We first determined the influence of the heteroatom of the osidic ring and the influence of the anomeric configuration by synthesizing the 5-oxo analog of compound **1** (**2**) and the α -analog **3** of another active compound (**4**⁸). As previously observed with other aglycon series^{2–4}, compounds **2**⁹ and **3**¹⁰ are inactive. Therefore we focused our syntheses on 5-thio- β -D-xylopyranosides.

We first investigated compounds with small substituents such as halogens, cyano, nitro, alkyl, or trifluoromethyl groups⁸ on the pyridine ring. The preparation of such derivatives was relatively straightforward using several commercially available aglycons but biological results were rather disappointing. We therefore decided to switch our synthetic efforts to bicyclic aglycons or to acylated pyridines in order to explore the targeted binding site. Therefore, a robust synthetic protocol was needed in order to prepare numerous xylopyranosides for the structure–activity relationship studies.

In this type of chemistry the critical step is the glycosylation step between the glycosyl donor and the pyridinol. As a strict β -configuration of the glycosidic bond is required for the biological activity², the chromatographic separation of both the α and β epimers, generated during the reaction, represents a serious limitation to the method. Thus, we developed chemical synthetic routes based on Suzuki and Stille coupling reactions (Scheme 1) which had never been reported for 5-thiosugars. As illustrated below, this chemistry allowed for parallel synthesis, thereby resulting in increased efficiency. Using the Suzuki and Stille coupling reactions, we have prepared a large number of novel compounds that avoid the glycosylation reaction for each compound (Scheme 1). This type of strategy has been utilized to prepare several nucleosides^{11–13} and pyranosides.^{14,15} Because of the high affinity of palladium for sulfur and of the vulnerability of acetate-protecting groups for basic conditions, it was not clear whether the Suzuki and Stille cross-coupling reactions could be applied to these protected thioglycosides.

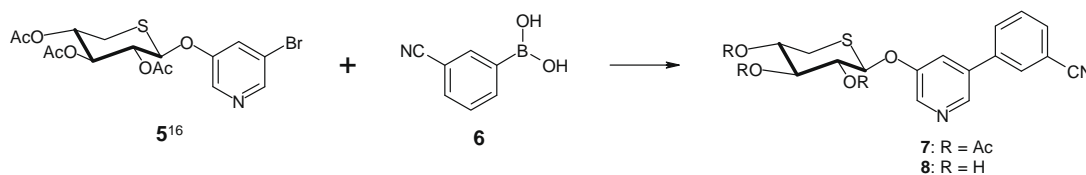


Scheme 1. General pathway.



Scheme 2. Suzuki cross-coupling reactions.

Table 1
Suzuki cross-coupling reactions: search for optimal base and catalyst



Entry	Boronic acid derivative (equiv)	Base	Catalyst	Solvent	Time ^a (min)	Yield ^b (%)
1	1.2	CsF (2 equiv)	PS-PPh ₃ -Pd ^c (0.05 equiv)	DME ^d /CH ₃ OH	30	48
2	1.2	MP-Carbonate ^c (2 equiv)	PS-PPh ₃ -Pd (0.05 equiv)	DME/CH ₃ OH	30	39
3	1.2	PL-HCO ₃ MR-Resin ^e (2 equiv)	PS-PPh ₃ -Pd (0.05 equiv)	DME/CH ₃ OH	30	14
4	2	Na ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv)	Pd(dppf)Cl ₂ ·CH ₂ Cl ₂ (0.1 equiv)	DME/H ₂ O	20	65
5	2	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2 equiv)	PS-PPh ₃ -Pd (0.05 equiv)	DME/CH ₃ OH	30	57 ^f

^a All the experiments have been performed under microwave heating at 120 °C.

^b Yield in isolated **7**.

^c Commercially available at Argonaut Technologies.

^d Dimethoxyethane.

^e Commercially available at Polymer Laboratories.

^f Yield in isolated **8**.

Our first target was to obtain xylopyranosides with pyridine rings substituted by aryl¹⁶ and heteroaryl groups.¹⁷ Glycosylations were performed according to classical methods.^{8,16,17} Two synthetic pathways were studied (Scheme 2), the boronic moiety being attached to the phenyl ring (pathway A) or to the pyridinyl xylopyranoside (pathway B).

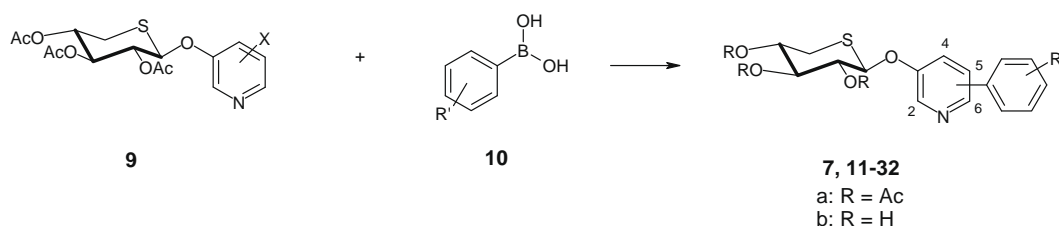
In a first series of reactions (pathway A), we used a pyridinyl xylopyranoside bearing a halide substituent which was combined with a series of phenyl boronic acid derivatives. Various conditions were studied using different catalysts and different bases (Table 1) and microwave heating. The best results were obtained with Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂ as a catalyst and Na₂CO₃ as a base.¹⁸ Using

Cs₂CO₃ as a base, DME/MeOH as solvents (Table 1, entry 5), we surprisingly obtained the unprotected xylopyranosides directly. Having demonstrated the synthetic utility of the Suzuki coupling to provide different substituents on the pyridine ring, we turned our attention to the preparation of various xylopyranosides¹⁶ (Table 2). This led us to study numerous xylopyranosides in biological assays and structure–activity relationship studies.

In order to increase the diversity of our library of 5-thio-xylopyranosides we also explored pathway B, starting from aryl halides (Scheme 3). The new challenge was to synthesize boron derivatives from 5-thio-xylopyranosides. To our knowledge, these types of compounds have never been reported. All the experiments were

Table 2

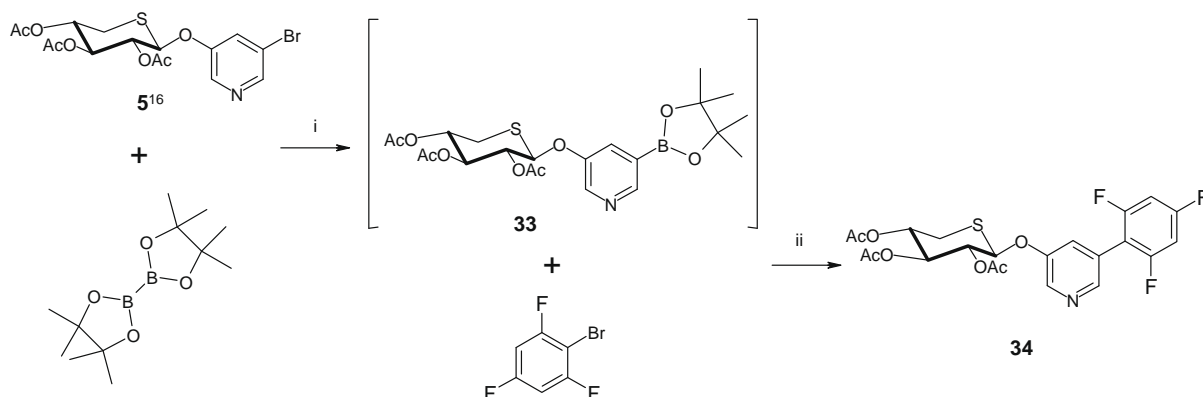
Examples of Suzuki cross-coupling reactions of thioxylosides (pathway A)



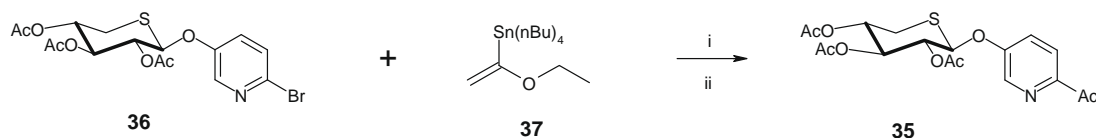
Entry	X	Aryl position	R'	Product	Yield (%)
1	Br	2	4-F	11a ¹⁹	64
2	Br	2	4-OMe	12b ²⁰	65
3	I	4	4-F	13a ²¹	47
4 ^a	Br	4	4-OMe	14a ²²	29
5	Br	5	4-F	15b ²³	41
6 ^a	Br	5	4-OMe	16a ²⁴	80
7	Br	5	2,4-diF	17a ²⁵	87
8	Br	5	2-Cl, 4-F	18a ²⁶	81
9	Br	5	3-CN, 4-F	19a ²⁷	66
10	Br	5	3-F, 4-CN	20a ²⁸	65
11	Br	5	3-CN	7a ²⁹	59
12	Br	5	3-OMe	21a ³⁰	77
13	Br	5	4-OiPr	22a ³¹	55
14	Br	5	3,4-diOMe	23a ³²	73
15	Br	5	3,5-diMe, 4-OMe	24a ³³	52
16	Br	5	3-Cl, 4-OMe	25a ³⁴	66
17	Br	5	4-F, 2-OMe	26a ³⁵	92
18	Br	5	3-F-4-OiPr	27a ³⁶	82
19	Br	5	2,6-diF, 4-OMe	28a ³⁷	30
20	Br	5	3-Me, 4-F	29a ³⁸	48
21	Br	5	2-Me, 4-F	30a ³⁹	72
22	Br	6	4-F	31b ⁴⁰	46
23 ^a	Br	6	4-OMe	32a ⁴¹	28

Experimental conditions: Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂, Na₂CO₃, DME/H₂O, under microwave heating at 120 °C for 20 min.

^a The used base is MP-carbonate.



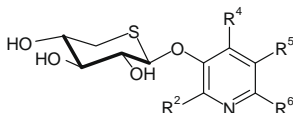
Scheme 3. Example of Suzuki cross-coupling reactions (Pathway B). Reagents and conditions: (i) Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂, KOAc, DME, 150 °C, 1 h, μ waves; (ii) Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂, Na₂CO₃, DME, 120 °C, 30 min, μ waves; Overall yield: 40%.



Scheme 4. Stille cross-coupling reaction. Reagents and conditions: (i) PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂/CuI/AcN/reflux, 1 h; (ii) HCl, 1 h; Overall yield: 68%.

Table 3

Some antithrombotic activities



Product	R ²	R ⁴	R ⁵	R ⁶	Activity ^a (%)
38 ⁴⁴	H	H	H	Ac	55
39 ⁴⁵	4-F Ph	H	H	H	40
40 ⁴⁶	H	4-F Ph	H	H	38
15b ²³	H	H	4-F Ph	H	99
31b ⁴⁰	H	H	H	4-F Ph	61
12b ²⁰	4-OMe Ph	H	H	H	28
41 ⁴⁷	H	4-OMe Ph	H	H	28
42 ⁴⁸	H	H	4-OMe Ph	H	100
43 ⁴⁹	H	H	H	4-OMe Ph	61

^a Dosage = 6 mg/kg.

performed under microwave heating. The best results were obtained with Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂ as a catalyst and KOAc as a base for the formation of the boron derivatives, and using Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂ as a catalyst, and Na₂CO₃ as a base, for the coupling step (Scheme 3).

As we had also planned to generate 5-thio-xylopyranosides of acyl-substituted pyridinols (e.g., **35**; Scheme 4)¹⁶ the possibility of obtaining them by using Koenigs–Knorr glycosidations was explored. Unfortunately, this was not successful (very low yields) in all but in a few cases (moderate yield). However, we found that **36**¹⁶ could undergo a Stille cross coupling with **37** producing the desired compound **35** and giving a 68% yield (Scheme 4).

In all cases the final step was a deacetylation reaction (using MeONa/MeOH or NH₃/MeOH) that generates the corresponding non-protected 5-thio-xylopyranosides which were evaluated for their biological properties.

The 5-thio-xylopyranosides novel chemical entities described were screened using an antithrombotic model (see Wessler^{42,43}) performed in the rat. Factor Xa is the thrombogenic agent. The activity is expressed as the percentage of decrease of the thrombus weight between control and treated animals. The compounds were administered orally 2 h prior to the induction of thrombosis with Factor Xa. Selected results are shown in Table 3.

Due to the fact that these results (Table 3) are obtained after oral administration, it is difficult to establish truly meaningful structure–activity relationships. At this moment, we can, however, conclude that (i) in the acetyl series, the 2-position seemed to be favorable, (ii) in phenyl-substituted derivatives, the substituents of the phenyl ring modulated the in vivo activity, (iii) in these latter series, the position of the phenyl ring on the pyridine moiety is important. Extensive biological experiments, in particular using the galactosyltransferase⁵⁰ (enzyme involved in the biosynthesis of glycosaminoglycans: β4Gal-T7; EC 2.4.1.133), are ongoing.

These data demonstrate for the first time that palladium-catalyzed reactions like Suzuki and Stille coupling reactions can be performed on 5-thiosugars. This divergent strategy allows us to generate large library of compounds in a short time. Many of the new compounds prepared could not be obtained through glycosyl-

ation of the substituted pyridinols. Preliminary bioassays showed that some of our new 5-thio-β-D-xylopyranosides possess anti-thrombotic efficacy and should be more fully investigated in pre-clinical studies.

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- Compound **2** was obtained in 93% yield by deacetylation (MeONa, MeOH) of the corresponding 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-xylopyranoside. The latter compound was obtained in 65% yield by glycosylation starting from 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl β-D-xylopyranosyl bromide and 3-pyridinol, using Ag₂O as promoter and acetonitrile as solvent. Compound **2**: Mp = 203–206 °C; [α]_D²³ –32 (c 0.5, DMSO); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 3.15–3.45 (m, 4H), 3.75 (dd, 1H), 4.96 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, 1H), 5.15 (d, 1H), 5.42 (d, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (m, 1H), 8.23 (dd, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H).
- Compound **3** was obtained in 52% yield by deacetylation (MeONa, MeOH) of the corresponding 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-xylopyranoside. The latter compound was obtained in 2% yield (after flash chromatography on silica gel) by glycosylation starting from 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl β-D-xylopyranosyl bromide and 2-cyano-3-pyridinol using zinc chloride and silver imidazolite as promoters and toluene and acetonitrile as solvents. Compound **3**: Mp = 180–181 °C; [α]_D²⁰ 310 (c 0.3, MeOH); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 2.46 (ddd, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 4.0 Hz, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.45–3.67 (m, 2H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 5.11 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (dd, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (dd, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 4.5 Hz, 1H).
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- General procedure*: To a solution of a halogeno derivative in DME were added 1.5 equiv of aqueous sodium carbonate, 0.1 equiv of Pd(dppf)Cl₂·CH₂Cl₂ and 2 equiv of boronic acid derivative. The mixture was heated for 20 min under microwave heating at 120 °C, then cooled, diluted with water, and extracted by ethyl acetate. The organic phase is washed with an aqueous solution of sodium carbonate and water until neutral pH, dried over magnesium sulfate, and concentrated under vacuum. The crude material is purified by chromatography.
- Mp = 147–151 °C; [α]_D²⁷ –91 (c 0.3, DMSO); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 2.91 (dd, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 13.5 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (ddd, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 9.5 Hz, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (t, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (dd, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73–7.86 (m, 3H), 8.37 (dd, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4.4 Hz, 1H).
- Mp = 137 °C; [α]_D³³ –79 (c 0.2, DMSO); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 2.52–2.70 (m, 2H), 3.14 (td, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (m, 1H), 3.62 (td, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31

