

Metal-Catalyzed Organic Photoreactions. Titanium(IV) Chloride-Catalyzed Photoreactions of Aldohexoses

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Under UV irradiation in the presence of titanium(IV) chloride in methanol, D-glucose, D-mannose, and D-galactose underwent a selective bond cleavage at the C5–C6 position, producing the corresponding pentodialdose derivatives. The reaction was interpreted in terms of the photoinduced electron transfer within a chelate of titanium ion with the carbohydrate molecule. The synthetic utilities of the photoproducts were discussed.

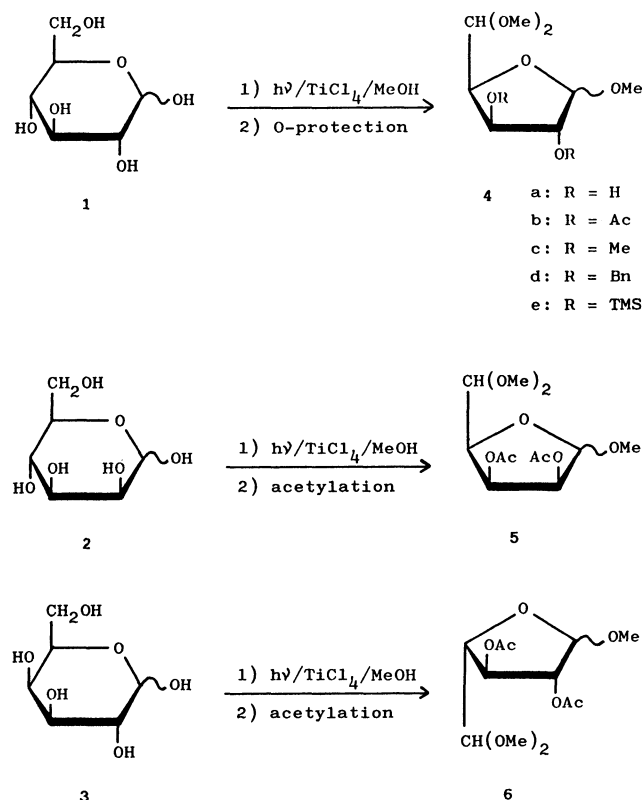
Although carbohydrate molecules are regarded as having either aldehyde or ketone group, the carbonyl groups are in a latent form, and they do not function as an effective chromophore to induce photoreaction. The photochemistry of the parent carbohydrate molecules has been performed either with conventional UV light (>200 nm) in the presence of molecular oxygen or sensitizers, or with shorter wavelength light (185 nm).¹⁾ Under these conditions the reaction has been assumed to be initiated by hydroxyl radical produced from water molecule, and gives product as a mixture of various compounds. Most of the photoreactions of the carbohydrates have been carried out on derivatives having a chromophore at an appropriate position, and therefore they are regarded as the photochemistry of the chromophores, rather than that of carbohydrates themselves. Although these reactions usually proceed with high selectivity at the particular position, several steps are required to introduce the chromophore into the desired position, thus making the carbohydrate photochemistry discouraging in the synthetic chemistry field.

For some time, we have been investigating the effects of metal compounds on the photoreaction of organic molecules, and found that many photoreactions were remarkably affected by the presence of some metal compounds. One of the most unique types of reaction is the titanium(IV) chloride-catalyzed photocoupling reaction of carbonyl compounds with alcohols involving a C–C bond formation, and the reaction was applied successfully to the synthetic purpose.²⁾ In our previous papers,³⁾ we reported that D-glucose (**1**) and D-galactose (**3**), when irradiated with UV light in the presence of titanium(IV) chloride in methanol, underwent a selective cleavage of C5–C6 bond, producing pentodialdose derivatives **4** and **6**, respectively. We have schemed the reaction as involving formation of a five-membered titanium chelate with the C5, C6-diol system of the furanose form of the aldohexoses, followed by an electron transfer within the chelate.

In the present study, we irradiated D-mannose (**2**), another aldohexose, under the same conditions, and obtained the corresponding pentodialdose derivative **5** in 50% yield. The starting carbohydrate was recovered as the corresponding methyl glycoside tetraacetate in 18% yield. Under these conditions, D-galactose was less

soluble in the reacting solution, and much amount of the starting material remained unsolved even after 24 h irradiation. Although the reaction proceeded much faster when five-fold excess of titanium(IV) chloride was used, the yield of **6** was 30%, and 46% of the starting material **3** was recovered as methyl glycoside tetraacetate. The amounts of smaller fragments, which might have been derived from the carbohydrate, but of unknown structures, were also larger as compared with the other cases.

In accord with our previous observation that only the primary alcohol function was susceptible to the titanium(IV) chloride-catalyzed photoreaction,^{2e)} the bond cleavage at the other positions having secondary alcohol function occurred only to a minor extent, giving rise to the high selectivity of the bond cleavage at the C5–C6 position. The reaction is characteristic in that the metal compound imparts the photoreactivity to the carbohydrate molecules, which are otherwise



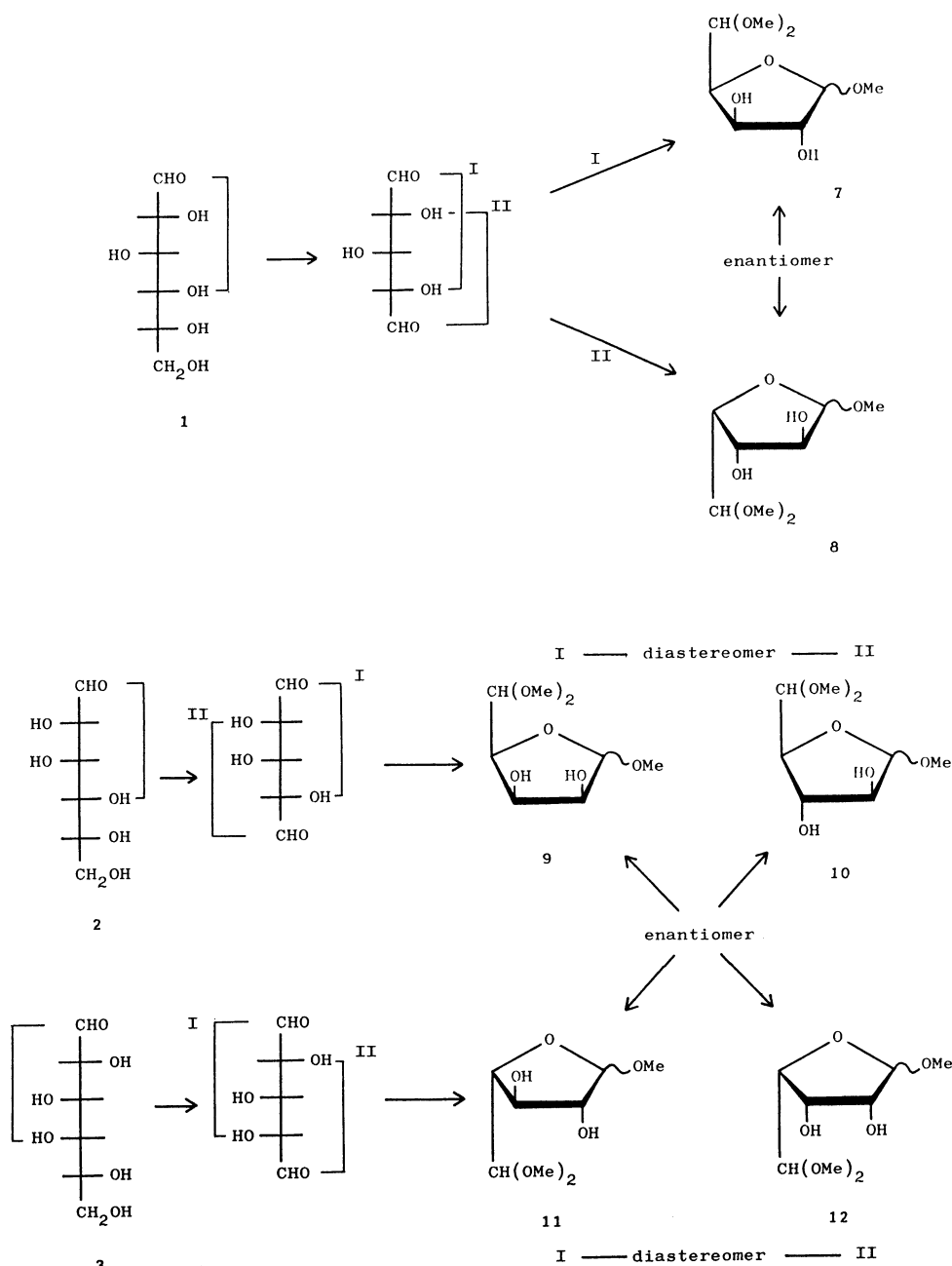
Scheme 1.

inactive towards the UV irradiation, and that the bond cleavage occurs at a specific position even without any prior protection on the carbohydrate molecules.

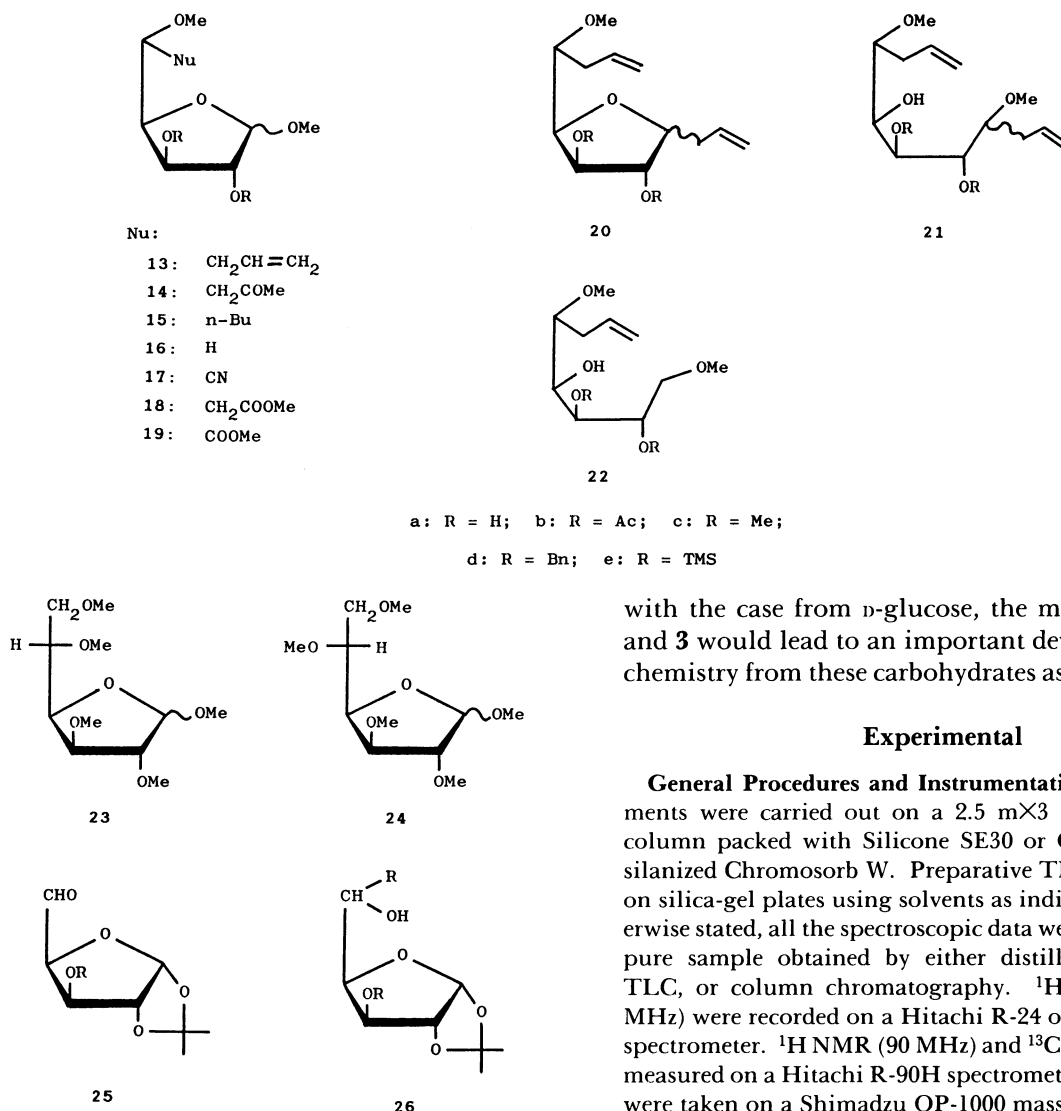
Since carbohydrate molecules have a series of asymmetric carbons of definite stereochemistry, they have been recognized as potential starting materials for the synthesis of chiral molecules.⁴⁾ The drawback in using the carbohydrates for this purpose is that the reactivity of each asymmetric center is quite similar, and hence it is not an easy task to carry out a specific reaction on a specific carbon. D-Glucose has been regarded as the carbohydrate that has the widest potential applicability for the synthetic purpose. It is not only because it is inexpensive, but also because it can be easily converted to some key intermediates, in which only specific posi-

tions could be brought into reaction. Therefore, in order to develop a chemistry of carbohydrates as chiral synthons, it is essential to supply with as many key intermediates as possible in which only particular positions could be reacted. We expected that the products of the present photoreaction, pentodialdose derivatives, could serve this purpose, and explored the reaction further into detail.

Since the present reaction proceeds under Lewis acid-methanol system, there might be a possibility of ring opening, and subsequent ring closure at another aldehyde group of the dialdose derivatives, resulting in the establishment of a net equilibrium between I and II (Scheme 2). If this ring scrambling occurred, the product from D-glucose (I) should be a racemic mixture,



Scheme 2.



with the case from *D*-glucose, the manipulation of **2** and **3** would lead to an important development of the chemistry from these carbohydrates as chiral synthons.

Experimental

General Procedures and Instrumentation. GLC experiments were carried out on a 2.5 m×3 mm stainless steel column packed with Silicone SE30 or Carbowax 20M on silanized Chromosorb W. Preparative TLC was carried out on silica-gel plates using solvents as indicated. Unless otherwise stated, all the spectroscopic data were determined on a pure sample obtained by either distillation, preparative TLC, or column chromatography. ^1H NMR spectra (60 MHz) were recorded on a Hitachi R-24 or JEOL PMX 60SI spectrometer. ^1H NMR (90 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR spectra were measured on a Hitachi R-90H spectrometer. GC-MS spectra were taken on a Shimadzu QP-1000 mass spectrometer, and high-resolution mass spectra on a JEOL DX-300 mass spectrometer. UV spectra were measured on a Shimadzu UV-240 spectrometer.

All the irradiations were carried out using a high-pressure mercury lamp [Ushio UM 452 (450 W) or Sen HL-1000 (1 kW)] at the temperature of running water.

We tried several methods for the product isolation including column chromatography or HPLC, and found that distillation under the reduced pressure was the most convenient technique without appreciable difference in the product composition. Therefore we used the technique in most of the experiments.

Titanium(IV) Chloride-Catalyzed Photoreaction of *D*-Glucose (1). *D*-Glucose (2.0 g, 11.1 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (200 ml) containing TiCl_4 (1.5 ml, 13.8 mmol), and the solution was irradiated with a 1 kW lamp in a quartz vessel for 24 h. The solution was neutralized with 4 M NaOH(aq) ($1\text{M}=1\text{ mol dm}^{-3}$), and the precipitates of titanium hydroxide were filtered off. The filtrate was concentrated to dryness, and the residue was vigorously shaken with ethyl acetate several times. The solvent was removed in vacuo from the extract, and the residue was distilled under reduced pressure. After some amount of forerun (0.21 g), the main fraction was obtained as a viscous oil (1.4 g), bp 89–90°C (0.07 mmHg (1 mmHg=133.322 Pa)). Although the purity

that obtained by the direct acetonilylation of **4b**. Since we can prepare **4** from *D*-glucose in only two steps of photoreaction and methylation, the achievement of the higher selectivity could be very useful for setting up the configuration of *L*-idose system.

When the reduction product **16a** was methylated, it gave permethylated *D*-xylofuranoside **16c** in 85% yield, which was identical with the compound obtained in minor amount (12%) by the methylation of *D*-xylose. Since the methylation of *D*-xylose gave the permethylated product mostly in pyranoside form (85%), the present reaction could be a synthetic method for *D*-xylofuranoside derivatives. Lithium aluminum hydride reduction of **13c** gave an open chain compound **22c**. The products of the types of **21** and **22** are also promising as chiral synthons, because they have three different types of hydroxyl function of definite stereochemistry: One is unprotected, and the other two have two different protective groups from each other.

Since the preparation of the aldehydes corresponding to **25** from *D*-mannose and *D*-galactose in conventional manners are much more difficult as compared

solution for another 6 h. After 3 M HCl_{aq} (0.2 ml) was added, the solution was shaken with CH₂Cl₂. The extract was washed with Na₂CO₃_{aq} and then with NaCl_{aq}. After dried over Na₂SO₄, the solvent was removed in vacuo. The crude material (120 mg) was purified on a preparative TLC to give an oil which was identical with **14b** obtained from **4b**.

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 - 6) Due to the uncertainty concerning with the newly-created asymmetric center at C5, the anomeric nomenclature of α and β is ambiguous. Throughout the present paper, therefore, we termed α for all compounds having the same anomeric configuration as that of α -D-glucose.
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