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## Note

Improved preparation of 1,6-anhydro-4-deoxy-2-*O-p*-toluenesulphonyl-β-D-xylo-hexopyranose and of its D-[4-<sup>2</sup>H]*gluco*-analogue from 1,6:3,4-dianhydro-2-*O-p*-toluenesulphonyl-β-D-galactopyranose

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The title compound 2, of interest for the preparation of 4-deoxyhexoses and derivatives [1-6], was previously prepared [1] by catalytic hydrogenation on Raney nickel of 1,6:3,4-dianhydro-2-O-p-toluenesulphonyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranose 1. Although the procedure usually gives  $\sim 80\%$  yields, its reproducibility in terms of yield and reaction time depends on the quality of the catalyst which must be used in a large excess. In several cases, partial detosylation was observed. An alternative method to obtain 2 involves the hydrogenolysis of 1,6-anhydro-4-deoxy-4-iodo-2-O-p-toluenesulphonyl- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranose [7,8]. In our hands, the most preferable method for a large-scale preparation of 2 is that based on a reduction of the tosylepoxide 1 with diborane generated in situ from sodium borohydride and boron trifluoride etherate in 1,2-dimethoxyethane [9,10], which gives yields > 95%. In comparison with the catalytic hydrogenation, the present method is very convenient for the preparation of deuteriated 3 using sodium borodeuteride.

The structure of 3 was confirmed by measurement of the  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra of 2 and 3 (see Table 1). Axial disposition of oxygenated substituents at C-2 and C-3, and the  $^1C_4(D)$  conformation of the pyranose ring followed from the small vicinal interproton coupling constants  $J_{2,3}$ ,  $J_{3,4}$ , and the observation of characteristic long-range couplings  $J_{1,3}$ ,  $J_{2,4}$ , and  $J_{3,5}$ . The presence of the hydroxyl group at C-3 was confirmed by in situ acylation by trichloroacetyl isocyanate (TAI) [11].  $^1H$  NMR spectra of trichloroacetyl carbamate (TAC)-derivatives of 2 and 3 showed a signal for one NH proton at  $\delta$  8.52, a characteristic downfield shift of H-3 (1.03)

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Table 1 Comparative <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data for 2 and 3

<sup>1</sup> H	Chemical shifts (ppm)				н,н	Coupling constants (Hz)		
	2		3	+ TAI a		2		3
H-1		5.28		[0.10]	1,2		2,0	
H-2		4.23		[0.14]	1,3		1.5	
H-3		3.94		[1.03]	2,3		1.5	
Η-4α	2.32			[0.14]	$2,4\beta$		1.5	
H-4β		1.71		[0.13]	$3,4\alpha$	5.8		
H-5		4.54		[0.03]	$3,4\beta$		3.0	
H-6en		4.14		[0.08]	3,OH		6.0	
H-6ex		3.68		[0.07]	3,5		1.5	
OH		2.68			$4\alpha,4\beta$	15.1		
OTs:					$4\alpha,5$	4.4		
H-2',6'		7.82		[0.01]	$4\alpha$ , 6ex	1.5		
H-3',5'		7.37		[0.00]	$4\beta,5$		1.9	
CH <sub>3</sub>		2.46		[0.00]	5,6en		0.8	
				. ,	5,6ex		5.0	
					6en,6ex		7.1	
<sup>13</sup> C	Chemical shifts (ppm)				С,Н	Coupling constants (Hz)		
	2		3			2		3
C-1		99.24			C-1,H-1		176	
C-2		76.76			C-2,H-2		151	
C-3	66.42		66.36		C-3,H-3		151	
C-4	32.50		32.18		$C-4,H-4\alpha$	128		ь
C-5	71.41		71.34		C-4,H-4β		128	
C-6		67.65			C-5,H-5		156	
					C-6,H-6en		151	
OTs:					C-6,H-6ex		151	
C-1'		133.13			C-2',H-2'		165	
C-2',6'		127.85			C-6',H-6'		165	
C-3',5'		130.06			C-3',H-3'		162	
C-4'		145.36			C-5',H-5'		162	
CH <sub>3</sub>		21.66			$CH_3$		126	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Trichloroacetyl isocyanate (TAI) - induced acylation shifts for 2 are given in square brackets.

ppm) and smaller induced shifts of protons in neighbouring positions. The presence of deuterium at C-4 in 3 was evidenced in the proton decoupled  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum by the characteristic splitting of the C-4 signal by deuterium (triplet with one-bond coupling  $J_{\rm C,D}$  20 Hz) and the isotopic upfield shifts of carbon signals in the  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -positions [12] (0.32, 0.06, and 0.07 ppm for C-4, C-3, and C-5, respectively). The axial orientation of deuterium at C-4 followed from the comparison of the  $^{1}$ H NMR spectra of 2 and 3, where the latter one showed the absence of signal H-4ax as well as corresponding coupling constants. Proton-coupled,  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra of 3 differed from 2 in the shape of the C-4 signal [basic splitting to doublet of triplets due to one-bond coupling  $J_{\rm C-4,H-4}$  128 and  $J_{\rm C-4,^2H-4}$  20 Hz] and in the simplification of the fine splitting of signals C-2, C-3, C-5, and C-6 by

 $<sup>^{</sup>b}J_{\text{C-4.}}{}^{2}\text{H-4}\alpha$ .

the absence of two- and/or three-bond couplings with H-4 $\beta$ . The observed values of  $J_{\rm C,H}$  reflect the known effects of the hybridization and substitution of individual carbon atoms. The rate of deuterium incorporation in 3 was estimated as  $\sim 92\%$  from comparison of the relative intensities of signals for C-4 in <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and H-4 in <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy for 2 and 3, as well as of ions at m/z 145/146 in EIMS.

## 1. Experimental

General.—Melting points were determined on a Boëtius micro melting-point apparatus and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at 20°C with a Bendix–Ericsson ETL 143 A polarimeter. TLC was performed on Silica Gel sheets (Alufolien E. Merck, Art. 5554) in 10:1 benzene–acetone and detection by charring with 10%  $\rm H_2SO_4$ . NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian Unity 500 spectrometer ( $^1\rm H$  at 500 MHz and  $^{13}\rm C$  at 125.7 MHz frequency) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; internal references (Me)<sub>4</sub>Si and CDCl<sub>3</sub>, for  $^1\rm H$  and  $^{13}\rm C$ , respectively. Mass spectra (EI) were measured with a Jeol MS D 100 spectrometer (70 eV, direct inlet t 100–120°C). NaB $^2\rm H_4$  (98.1%) was purchased from the Institute of Nuclear Research, Řež, Czech Republic.

1,6-Anhydro-4-deoxy-2-O-p-toluenesulphonyl-β-D-xylo-hexopyranose (2).—To a suspension of finely ground tosylepoxide 1 (110 g, 0.37 mol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (55 g, 1.45 mol) in 1.1 L of 1,2-dimethoxyethane was added dropwise (under a hood) BF<sub>3</sub> etherate (110 mL) during 1 h. The mixture was stirred and cooled with water; the temperature should not exceed 30°C. After addition of BF<sub>3</sub> etherate, the solution was left standing overnight for ~ 20 h at room temperature. TLC revealed a spot identified as 2 ( $R_f$  0.2) and traces of 1 ( $R_f$  0.5). Then the mixture was adjusted to pH 7 with 5% HCl, concentrated under diminished pressure (water pump) at < 40°C, and poured into 3 L of ice-water. Several extractions with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (total volume 2 L), drying of the organic phase with anhyd CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and evaporation gave syrupy 2 which crystallized on addition of a small amount of ether yielding practically pure 2 (106.6 g, 96%); mp 89-91°C, [α]<sub>D</sub> -40° (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Recrystallization from EtOH-H<sub>2</sub>O or CHCl<sub>3</sub>-Et<sub>2</sub>O-petroleum ether gave 2; mp

92–93°C,  $[\alpha_{\rm D}]$  – 40° (*c* 1.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); Lit. [1], mp 93–95°C,  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$  – 42° (*c* 1.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); Lit. [8], mp 92–94°C,  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$  – 40° (*c* 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); EIMS: m/z 300 (0.5, M <sup>+</sup>?), 172 (11.5), 155 (17.5,  $[{\rm C_7H_7O_2S}]^+$ ), 145 (19.7,  $[{\rm C_6H_9O_4}]^+$ , 99 (100,  $[{\rm C_5H_7O_2}]^+$ ), 91 (71), 71 (36), 70 (6.5), 69 (70.6). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) in Table 1.

1,6-Anhydro-4-deoxy-2-O-p-toluenesulphonyl-β-D-[4- $^2$ H]glucopyranose (3).—A similar procedure as described above was used for the preparation of 1.0 g of 3. 1,2-Dimethoxyethane was dried with NaH and distilled before use. Air humidity was excluded. Yield 95%, mp 89–91°C, [α]<sub>D</sub> – 38° (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $^1$ H and  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) in Table 1. EIMS: m/z 172 (9.5), 155 (17, [C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S]<sup>+</sup>), 146 (18.5, [C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>8</sub> $^2$ HO<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 99 (100, [C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 91 (75), 72 (30), 71 (16), 70 (51), 69 (29).

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