

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Vitamin B₁₂-catalyzed synthesis of some peracetylated alkyl β-D-xylopyranosides

ZORICA D. PETROVIĆ*, DEJAN ANĐELKOVIĆ and LJILJANA STEVANOVIĆ

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac, Radoja Domanovića 12, P. O. Box 60, 34000 Kragujevac, Serbia and Montenegro

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Abstract: The vitamin B₁₂-catalyzed glycosylation reaction of brominated β-D-xylose peracetate with alkanols ROH (C₁–C₈) has been studied. The catalytically active species in this reaction was cob(I)alamin, obtained by chemical reduction of Vitamin B₁₂ with NaBH₄ (Co(III) to Co(I)). The reaction was carried out with 2 mol% of vitamin B₁₂, with respect to xylosyl bromide **1**, under argon at room temperature. Under these conditions, peracetylated C₁–C₈-alkyl β-D-xylopyranosides (**3a–3f**) were obtained in moderate yield (55–70 %). In all cases 3,4-di-*O*-acetyl-D-xylal (**4**) was obtained, as the product of reductive elimination of peracetylated xylosyl bromide (15–25 %).

Keywords: alkyl β-D-xylopyranosides; brominated β-D-xylose peracetate; glycosylation; vitamin B₁₂.

INTRODUCTION

Vitamin B₁₂ is a “pigment of life” and coenzyme which promotes a series of biochemical transformations *in vivo*.¹ It is also a chiral and nontoxic reagent in organic chemistry which has been applied as catalyst for various types of reactions.² The catalytically active species in these reactions is cob(I)alamin obtained by electrochemical or chemical reduction (with activated Zn dust or with NaBH₄) of vitamin B₁₂ (cyanocob(III)alamin) in two consecutive one-electron reductions:

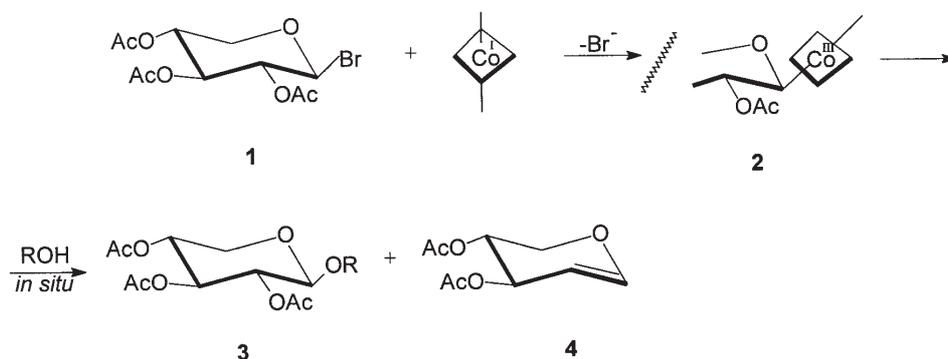


The cob(I)alamin, obtained in this way, is a very powerful nucleophile³ and reacts rapidly with alkyl halides to form organocob(III)alamins (from kinetic studies Schrauzer *et al.*⁴ concluded that the rate law corresponds to an S_N2 type substitution at the carbon). Finally, cleavage of the Co–C bond of this intermediate affords the products of the reactions: reductive C–C bond formation, reductive elimination, hydrogenation, oxidation, substitution⁵ depending on the structure of the substrates and the reaction conditions.

* Author for correspondence

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In recent years we have studied the reactions of organic halides catalyzed by vitamin B₁₂⁶⁻⁸ and glycosylation reactions of xylose peracetate.⁹ In continuation of these investigations, the behavior of brominated β-D-xylose peracetate in the B₁₂-catalyzed glycosylation reaction** has been examined. The reaction was started with 2 mol% of vitamin B₁₂, with respect to xylosyl bromide **1**, and with NaBH₄, as the reducing agent. Then xylosyl bromide, dissolved in the corresponding alkanol ROH, was added *in situ* to the reaction mixture under argon at room temperature. The obtained xylosecob(III)alamin **2**



Scheme 1.

gave with C₁-C₈ alkanols ROH (**a-f**) the peracetylated alkyl β-D-xylopyranosides **3a-3f** which were isolated by flash chromatography (yield 55–70 %) and characterized by spectroscopic methods (Scheme 1, Table I). Their ¹H and ¹³C-NMR data are in agreement with their assigned structures.⁹ In all cases 3,4-di-O-acetyl-D-xylal (**4**) was obtained (15–25 %), as the product of reductive elimination of peracetylated xylosyl bromide.

TABLE I. Vitamin B₁₂-catalyzed reaction of brominated β-D-xylose peracetate with alkanols ROH

	ROH (CH ₃ (CH ₂) _n OH)		Products ^a	Yield/% ^b
		<i>n</i>		
a		0	3a	70
b		1	3b	66
c		2	3c	62
d		3	3d	60
e		6	3e	58
f		7	3f	55

^aStructures were determined on the basis of ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectral data.

^bIsolated yields

** Glycosylation reactions of mono- or disaccharides are particularly interesting in the synthesis of biodegradable surfactants, detergents and emulsifiers; mainly alkylpolyglucosides have been prepared.¹⁰

EXPERIMENTAL

General methods

Column chromatography was carried out on Merck silica gel (particle size 0.04–0.06 mm) using toluene and ethyl acetate as eluents. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck TLC silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ aluminium sheets. The spots were visualized by spraying with 10 % sulfuric acid in ethanol and subsequent heating. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 200 (200 MHz) or Bruker AC 250 (250 MHz) in CDCl₃ with TMS as the internal standard.

General procedure for the synthesis of alkyl β -D-xylopyranosides

A 100 cm³ flask under Ar, containing 30 cm³ of alkanol ROH (C1–C8; **a–f**), was charged with 0.16 g (0.12 mmol) of vitamin B₁₂ and 0.09 g (2.4 mmol) of NaBH₄, wrapped around a magnetic stirrer bar. After stirring for 30 min the color changed from red to dark green (which is a sign that the Co(III) from the vitamin B₁₂ had been reduced to Co(I)). Then, tri-*O*-acetyl-D-xylopyranosyl bromide (2.58 g, 8 mmol), previously prepared from peracetylated xylose by means of the classical HBr procedure, dissolved in alkanol ROH was added to this mixture. The color immediately changed to red (xylose-Co(III)). After stirring for 20 h at room temperature, the dark red mixture was washed with ice brine and extracted with dichloromethane (3 \times 25 cm³). The combined organic phases were washed twice with water (2 \times 25 cm³), filtered over Celite and evaporated *in vacuo*. The resulting syrup was purified by dry column chromatography (silica gel 60 (Merck), toluene/ethyl acetate) giving the products **3a–3f** (in yields ranging from 55 – 70 % based on peracetylated β -D-xylose) which were characterized by spectroscopic methods. In all cases 3,4-di-*O*-acetyl-D-xylal (**4**) was obtained in yields of 15–25 %.

Methyl 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl- β -D-xylopyranoside (3a β). This compound was obtained, according to the previous procedure, using methanol (30 cm³), vitamin B₁₂ (0.16 g; 0.12 mmol), NaBH₄ (0.09 g; 2.4 mmol) and tri-*O*-acetyl-D-xylopyranosyl bromide (2.58 g, 8 mmol). The reaction period was 20 h. The usual work-up followed by removal of excess MeOH and purification by dry-flash chromatography afforded 1.54 g of **3a β** (70 % with respect to the starting **1**), as a colourless viscous oil.

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃), 200 MHz: δ = 4.42 (*d*, H-1), 4.87–5.01 (*dd*, H-2), 5.12 (*dd*, H-3), 4.90 (X part of the ABX spectra, H-4), 3.31 (A part of the ABX spectra, H-5a), 4.07 (B part of the ABX spectra, H-5b), 3.47 (*s*, H-1a), 1.99, 1.99, 2.00, 2.00 (4*s*, OCOCH₃), 1.57 (*m*, H-2), 1.28 (*m*, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-$), 0.88 (*t*, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}_3$) ppm; ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 50 MHz): δ = 100.6 (C-1), 71.4 (C-2), 70.8 (C-3), 69.2 (C-4), 61.9 (C-5), 68.8 (C-1'), 31.3 (C-2'), 18.9 (C-3'), 13.6 (C-4') ppm.

1-Butyl 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl- β -D-xylopyranoside (3d β). This compound was obtained, according to the previous procedure, using 1-butanol (30 cm³), vitamin B₁₂ (0.16 g; 0.12 mmol), NaBH₄ (0.09 g; 2.4 mmol) and tri-*O*-acetyl-D-xylopyranosyl bromide (2.58 g, 8 mmol). The reaction period was 20 h. The usual work-up followed by removal of the excess BuOH and purification by dry-flash chromatography afforded 1.5 g of **3d β** (60 % with respect to the starting **1**), as a colourless viscous oil.

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃), 200 MHz: δ = 4.42 (*d*, H-1), 4.87–5.01 (*dd*, H-2), 5.12 (*dd*, H-3), 4.90 (X part of the ABX spectra, H-4), 3.31 (A part of the ABX spectra, H-5a), 4.07 (B part of the ABX spectra, H-5b), 3.40 (*dt*, A part of the ABX₂ spectra, H-1a), 3.77 (*dt*, B part of the ABX₂, H-1b), 1.99, 1.99, 2.00, 2.00 (4*s*, OCOCH₃), 1.57 (*m*, H-2'), 1.28 (*m*, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$), 0.88 (*t*, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}_3$) ppm; ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 50 MHz): δ = 100.6 (C-1), 71.4 (C-2), 70.8 (C-3), 69.2 (C-4), 61.9 (C-5), 68.8 (C-1'), 31.3 (C-2'), 18.9 (C-3'), 13.6 (C-4') ppm.

3,4-Di-O-acetyl-D-xylal (4). This compound was obtained, according to the previous procedure, as a side product (0.3 g; 20 % with respect to the starting **1**). NMR characteristics of this yellow oil was identical with those of a commercial sample.

ИЗВОД

СИНТЕЗА НЕКИХ ПЕРАЦЕТИЛОВАНИХ АЛКИЛ - β -D-КСИЛОПИРАНОЗИДА
КАТАЛИЗОВАНА ВИТАМИНОМ В₁₂

ЗОРИЦА Д. ПЕТРОВИЋ*, ДЕЈАН АНЂЕЛКОВИЋ и ЉИЉАНА СТЕВАНОВИЋ

*Институт за хемију, Природно-математички факултет, Универзитет у Крагујевцу, Радоја Домановића 12,
и. бр. 60, 34000 Крагујевац*

C₁-C₈-Алкил - β -D-ксилопиранозиди (**3a-3f**) су синтетизовани у реакцији гликозилације бромида перацетиловане D-ксилозе **1** и алканолa ROH (C₁-C₈) катализованој витамину В₁₂. Каталитички активна врста - Co(I) јон је добивен редукцијом витамина В₁₂ помоћу NaBH₄. Реакција је изведена са 2 mol% витамина В₁₂, у односу на полазни бромид, на собној температури и под аргоном. Споредни производ ове реакције, 3,4-ди-O-ацетил-D-ксилал, настао је редуктивном елиминацијом полазног бромида у приносу од 15–20 %.

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