OPEN ACCESS **MOLECULES** ISSN 1420-3049

ISSN 1420-3049 www.mdpi.com/journal/molecules

Communication

Ring Cleavage Reactions of Methyl α-D-Allopyranoside Derivatives with Phenylboron Dichloride and Triethylsilane

Masaru Kojima *, Yutaka Nakamura, Yuusuke Ito and Seiji Takeuchi

Niigata University of Pharmacy and Applied Life Sciences, 265-1 Higashijima, Akiha-ku, Niigata 956-8603, Japan

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed; E-Mail: masaru@nupals.ac.jp; Tel.: +81-250-25-5165; Fax: +81-250-25-5021.

Received: 31 October 2011; in revised form: 25 November 2011 / Accepted: 5 December 2011 / Published: 13 December 2011

Abstract: In the course of our studies on the regioselective carbon-oxygen bond cleavage of the benzylidene acetal group of hexopyranosides with a reducing agent, we found that a combination of a Lewis acid and a reducing agent triggered a ring-opening reaction of the pyranose ring of methyl α -D-allopyranosides. The formation of an acyclic boronate ester by the attachment of a hydride ion at C-1 indicated that the unexpected endocyclic cleavage of the bond between the anomeric carbon atom and the pyranose ring oxygen atom proceeded via an oxacarbenium ion intermediate produced by the chelation between O5/O6 of the pyranoside and the Lewis acid, followed by nucleophile substitution with a hydride ion at C1.

Keywords: methyl α -D-allopyranoside; endocyclic cleavage; phenylboron dichloride; triethylsilane

1. Introduction

Lewis-acid-induced regioselective carbon-oxygen bond cleavage of the benzylidene acetal group of hexopyranosides with a reducing agent is an important reaction in carbohydrate chemistry for the syntheses of complex oligosaccharides and glycoconjugates. Until now, various reagent systems [1-12] and investigations of the detailed mechanistic pathway [13,14] have been reported for the regioselective reduction of 4,6-*O*-benzylidene acetal groups.

Recently, we reported the synthesis of a new fluorous benzylidene acetal group for the protection of 1,3-diol compounds [15]. Efficient and expeditious syntheses of natural products [16], oligosaccharides [15],

and modified monosaccharides have been accomplished by utilizing regioselective ring-opening reduction of fluorous benzylidene acetal groups and solid-phase extraction with a fluorous reversephase silica gel column. In the course of our studies on the expeditious synthesis of these products using fluorous benzylidene acetal groups, we isolated an interesting side product, the acyclic compound **3**, during the regioselective ring-opening reduction of methyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*- F benzylidene- α -D-allopyranoside **1** with PhBCl₂/Et₃SiH (Scheme 1, Eq. 1). This unexpected side reaction is caused by the reductive cleavage of the fluorous benzylidene acetal group and subsequent endocyclic cleavage of the pyranosides. When methyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*- F benzylidene- α -D-glucopyranoside **4** and phenyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*- F benzylidene β -D-allopyranoside **6** were reacted under the same reaction conditions, this unexpected side reaction was not observed (Scheme 1, Eqs. 2,3).

Only a few reports have been published so far on the anomerization [17-24] and attachment of nucleophiles at C1 [25-32] via the endocyclic cleavage of glycosides. To the best of our knowledge, the side reaction described here is the first example of the endocyclic cleavage of methyl α -D-allopyranoside derivatives with PhBCl₂/Et₃SiH. Here, we provide detailed results of the ring cleavage reaction of hexopyranosides bearing axial substituents at C1 and C3.



Scheme 1. Reductive cleavage of fluorous benzylidene acetal group using PhBCl₂/Et₃SiH.

2. Results and Discussion

Initially, methyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-allopyranoside **8** was reacted with PhBCl₂ (5.0 equiv.) and Et₃SiH (4.5 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ at -78 °C. The purification of the crude product by silica gel column chromatography unexpectedly gave an acyclic derivative bearing a boronate ester as the main product [33]. Thus, to remove the phenylboronate group from the acyclic alditol derivative, an octadecyl silica gel (ODS) column was used instead of a fluorous reverse-phase silica gel column. The crude product was loaded onto the ODS column, after which the column was eluted successively with 40% aq. MeOH and then with MeOH. The methanol fraction subsequently was evaporated, and the residue was treated with Ac₂O and pyridine to give acyclic derivative **19** in 78% yield. In the case of methyl β -D-allopyranoside **11**, the acyclic derivative **19** and 4-*O*-benzyl derivative **23** were obtained

in 17% and 46% yields, respectively. However, the endocyclic cleavage of methyl α -D-glucopyranoside **12** and methyl α -D-galactopyranoside **13** was not observed. These results suggest that the hexopyranoside bearing axial substituents at C1 and C3 preferentially undergo endocyclic cleavage. To test the generality of this new finding, we examined the ring opening of various hexopyranosides bearing axial substituents at C1 and C3 under the same reaction conditions. The results are summarized in Table 1. When the reactions were carried out using methyl α -D-allopyranoside derivatives **9** and **10** bearing methoxymethyl ethers and benzoyl esters at C2 and C3, the number of spots observed by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was so large that the spots could not be identified. In the cases of methyl α -D-gluopyranoside **14**, allyl α -D-allopyranoside **15**, and methyl α -D-*ribo*-hexopyranoside **16**, the reactions proceeded smoothly to give the desired acyclic compounds **26**, **27**, and **28** in high yields. Additionally, the reaction involving hexopyranosides **17** and **18** bearing an axial substituent at C2 gave the acyclic compound **29** and the 4-*O*-benzylated compound **30** in 27% and 83% yields, respectively.

Table 1. Synthesis of acyclic derivatives from alkyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-α-D-hexopyranosides.





^a When 3.4 equiv. of PhBCl₂ and 3.0 equiv. of Et₃SiH were used, acyclic compound **19** and 4-*O*-benzylated compound **20** were obtained in 59% and 19% yields, respectively; ^b Many spots were observed by TLC; ^c An inseparable mixture was obtained as a main product.

We expected the hydroxyl group at C6 of the hexopyranosides to play an important role in cleavage of the bond between the anomeric carbon C1 and the pyranose ring oxygen atom O5 during endocyclic cleavage of hexopyranosides bearing axial substituents at C1 and C3 with PhBCl₂/Et₃SiH because a 1,2-boronate ester derivative was isolated as an intermediate. Therefore, methyl 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-benzyl- α -D-allopyranoside **31** and methyl 2,3,4-tri-*O*-benzyl- α -D-allopyranoside **32** were reacted with PhBCl₂ and Et₃SiH. As shown in Table 2, compound **31** gave methyl 3,4,6-tri-*O*-benzyl- α -D-allopyranoside **33** and the starting material **31** in 28% and 52% yields, respectively. Although the reaction of 6-hydroxy-derivative **32** at -78 °C gave the desired acyclic derivative **34** with only a 10% yield, the yield reached 92% when the reaction was carried out at -19 °C.

On the basis of these experimental data, the pathway for PhBCl₂-induced endocyclic cleavage of hexopyranosides with 1,3-diaxial substituents is speculated to be that shown in Scheme 2. The endocyclic cleavage is initiated by bond formation between the boron atom and oxygen atom O6 followed by chelation of the boron atom at ring oxygen atom O5. This interaction promotes cleavage of the endocyclic C1-O5 bond and formation of acyclic oxacarbenium ion V. Before or after rotation around the C1-C2 bond, the addition of chloride ion from PhBCl₂ to cation V followed by nucleophilic substitution with hydride ion (Path A) or direct addition of hydride ion to cation V (Path B) gives boronate ester VII. The major factor in the endocyclic cleavage of methyl α -D-allopyranoside 8 is due to steric strain of pyranosidic ring caused by steric repulsions between the substituents at C1 and C-3. Hexopyranosides 12 and 13 in which the pyranosidic rings are stabilized by the equatorial substituent at C-3 do not produce the corresponding acyclic derivatives. In the case of the reaction of hexopyranoside 11, the equatorial methoxy group at C-1 sterically hinders bond formation between the boron atom and O5/O6 to give alditol derivative 19 in low yield. Since the ⁴C₁ conformation of altropyranoside 17 or 18 bearing axial substituents at C1, C2, and C3 is rapidly converted into the more stable ${}^{1}C_{4}$ conformation in which all the substituents are equatorial after the benzylidene acetal group is cleaved, the altropyranosides give alditol derivative 29 in low yield and 4-O-benzylated compound **30** in high yield. The endocyclic cleavage of 6-hydroxy-derivative **32** at -78 °C results in the lower yield because the formation of IV is inhibited at the lower temperature, although the reaction from III to IV proceeds smoothly at the higher temperature.

However, the above-mentioned mechanism is highly speculative because of the lack of enough experimental data for supporting it. Therefore, we are now making efforts to get essential data for clarifying the mechanism by several experiments. We will report the results in the near future.







Scheme 2. Proposed reaction mechanism.

3. Experimental

3.1. General

¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra were measured using a Bruker Avance DPX-250 spectrometer. *J* values were recorded in Hertz, and the abbreviations used were s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), m (multiplet), and br (broad). Chemical shifts are expressed in δ values relative to the internal standard TMS. Octadecyl silica gel column chromatography was carried out using COSMOSIL 75C₁₈-OPN (75 µm, Nacalai Tesque) column. TLC was carried out on Merck silica gel 60 F254 plates. PhBCl₂ and Et₃SiH were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich and Acros Organics, respectively.

3.2. General Procedure for Endocyclic Cleavage with PhBCl₂ and Et₃SiH

A suspension of methyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-allopyranoside **8** (50 mg, 0.108 mmol) and MS-4Å (250 mg) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (5.4 mL) was stirred for 1 h at room temperature under argon. Next, Et₃SiH (77 µL, 0.486mmol, 4.5 equiv.) was added to the suspension at -78 °C, after which a solution of PhBCl₂ (70 µL, 0.541 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) was added over 1 h via a syringe pump. After stirring for 1 h at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was quenched with Et₃N (0.5 mL) and MeOH (0.5 mL) and then filtered through Celite. The filtrate was subsequently washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (5 mL) and brine (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was then loaded onto an octadecyl silica gel column, which was eluted successively with 40% aq. MeOH and MeOH. Next, the MeOH fraction was concentrated to give the

residue containing the acyclic diol. The residue was then redissolved in pyridine (0.5 mL), after which acetic anhydride (0.5 mL) was added. After stirring for 3 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into MeOH at 0 °C and stirred for 10 min. The mixture was evaporated and co-evaporated with toluene. Finally, the residue was subjected to preparative thin-layer chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v) to give allitol derivative **19** (46.7 mg, 78% yield).

(2S, 3R, 4R, 5S)-1,2-Bis(acetoxy)-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)-6-methoxyhexane (**19**). Colorless syrup; $R_f = 0.59$ (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1745 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.33–7.25 (15H, m, Ar*H*), 5.48 (1H, ddd, $J_{2,3} = 4.0$ Hz, $J_{2,1} = 2.7$ Hz, $J_{2,1'} = 7.3$ Hz, H-2), 4.73, 4.68 (2H, each d, J = 11.3 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.71, 4.58 (2H, each d, J = 11.6 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.60 (2H, s, PhC H_2), 4.43 (1H, dd, $J_{1,2} = 2.7$ Hz, $J_{1,1'} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1), 4.24 (1H, dd, $J_{1',2} = 7.3$ Hz, $J_{1,1'} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1'), 3.93 (1H, dd t-like, $J_{3,2} = 4.0$ Hz, $J_{3,4} = 4.4$ Hz, H-3), 3.84 (2H, m, H-4, 5), 3.61 (1H, dd, $J_{6,5} = 3.0$ Hz, $J_{6,6'} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6), 3.54 (1H, dd, $J_{6',5} = 4.7$ Hz, $J_{6',6} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6'), 3.30 (3H, s, OCH₃), 1.99, 1.97 (6H, each s, CH₃ × 2); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.7, 169.8, 138.4, 137.9, 137.7, 128.3, 128.24, 128.22, 128.17, 128.08, 128.03, 127.97, 127.7, 127.63, 127.57, 127.4, 78.4, 78.2, 78.1, 73.8, 72.8, 72.3, 71.85, 71.79, 63.3, 58.9, 21.0, 20.7.

(2*S*, 3*S*, 4*R*, 5*S*)-1,2-*Bis*(acetoxy)-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)-6-methoxyhexane (**26**). Colorless syrup; $R_f = 0.63$ (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1744 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.39–7.20 (15H, m, Ar*H*), 5.38 (1H, ddd, $J_{2,3} = 5.1$ Hz, $J_{2,1} = 3.6$ Hz, $J_{2,1'} = 7.1$ Hz, H-2), 4.77 (2H, each d, J = 11.4 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.66, 4.44 (2H, each s, J = 11.8 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.64 (2H, s, PhC H_2), 4.30 (1H, dd, $J_{1,2} = 3.6$ Hz, $J_{1,1'} = 12.0$ Hz, H-1), 4.05 (1H, dd, $J_{1',2} = 7.1$ Hz, $J_{1',1} = 12.0$ Hz, H-1), 3.92–3.77 (3H, m, H-3, 4, 5), 3.74 (1H, dd, $J_{6,5} = 3.6$ Hz, $J_{6,6'} = 10.1$ Hz, H-6), 3.59 (1H, dd, $J_{6',5} = 4.0$ Hz, $J_{6',6} = 10.1$ Hz, H-1'), 3.35 (3H, s, OC H_3), 2.01, 1.97 (6H, each s, C $H_3 \times 2$); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.5, 170.2, 138.4, 138.3, 138.0, 128.31, 128.29, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 127.60, 127.58, 127.52, 78.5, 78.3, 77.0 (overlapped with CDCl₃), 74.5, 73.9, 72.0, 71.3, 71.2, 63.0, 58.9, 20.9, 20.7.

(2*S*,3*R*,4*R*,5*S*)-6-(*Allyloxy*)-1,2-*bis*(*acetoxy*)-3,4,5-*tris*(*benzyloxy*)*hexane* (**27**). Colorless syrup; $R_f = 0.50$ (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1744 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.34–7.24 (15H, m, Ar*H*), 5.87 (1H, ddt, *J* = 5.5 Hz, *J* = 10.4 Hz, *J* = 17.2 Hz, CH₂CH=CH₂), 5.49 (1H, ddd, $J_{2,3} = 3.8$ Hz, $J_{2,1} = 2.7$ Hz, $J_{2,1'} = 7.3$ Hz, H-2), 5.23 (1H, dq, *J* = 1.6 Hz, *J* = 17.2 Hz, CH₂CH=CH₂), 5.14 (1H, dq, *J* = 1.3 Hz, *J* = 10.4 Hz, CH₂CH=CH₂), 4.72, 4.60 (2H, each d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, PhCH₂), 4.70, 4.60 (4H, each s, PhCH₂ × 2), 4.42 (1H, dd, $J_{1,2} = 2.7$ Hz, $J_{1,1'} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1), 4.24 (1H, dd, $J_{1',2} = 7.3$ Hz, $J_{1',1} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1'), 3.95–3.82 (5H, m, H-3, 4, 5, CH₂CH=CH₂), 3.68 (1H, dd, $J_{6,5} = 3.0$ Hz, $J_{6,6'} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6), 3.59 (1H, dd, $J_{6',5} = 5.2$ Hz, $J_{6',6} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6), 1.99, 1.97 (6H, each s, CH₃ × 2); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.7, 169.8, 138.6, 138.0, 137.8, 134.8, 128.29, 128.26, 128.21, 128.12, 128.05, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4, 116.7, 78.6, 78.4, 78.3, 73.8, 72.9, 72.5, 72.2, 71.9, 69.7, 63.3, 21.0, 20.8.

(2S,3S,4R)-1,2-Bis(acetoxy)-3,4-bis(benzyloxy)-6-methoxyhexane (28). Colorless syrup; $R_f = 0.55$ (hexane/EtOAc = 1:1 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1745 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38–7.25 (10H, m, Ar*H*), 5.28 (1H, ddd, $J_{2,3} = 4.8$ Hz, $J_{2,1} = 2.6$ Hz, $J_{2,1'} = 6.9$ Hz, H-2), 4.72, 4.55 (2H, each d, J = 11.5 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.68, 4.63 (2H, each d, J = 10.5 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.48 (1H, dd, $J_{1,2} = 2.6$ Hz,

 $J_{1,1'}$ = 12.2 Hz, H-1), 4.25 (1H, dd, $J_{1',2}$ = 6.9 Hz, $J_{1',1}$ = 12.2 Hz, H-1'), 3.80–3.73 (2H, m, H-3, 4), 3.54–3.35 (2H, m, H-6, 6'), 3.26 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.04, 2.01 (6H, each s, CH₃ × 2), 1.92–1.84 (2H, m, H-5); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.6, 169.9, 138.2, 137.9, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 79.3, 75.9, 73.3, 72.5, 71.4, 68.8, 63.2, 58.4, 30.6, 20.9, 20.7.

(2S,3R,4R,5R)-1,2-Bis(acetoxy)-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)-6-methoxyhexane (**29**). Colorless syrup; $R_{\rm f} = 0.46$ (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1744 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.67–7.20 (15H, m, Ar*H*), 5.40 (1H, ddd, $J_{2,3} = 3.4$ Hz, $J_{2,1} = 2.8$ Hz, $J_{2,1'} = 7.3$ Hz, H-2), 4.79, 4.70 (2H, each d, J = 11.3 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.66, 4.58 (2H, each d, J = 11.7 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.62, 4.51 (2H, each d, J = 11.6 Hz, PhC H_2), 4.54 (1H, dd, $J_{1,2} = 2.8$ Hz, $J_{1,1'} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1), 4.27 (1H, dd, $J_{1',2} = 7.3$ Hz, $J_{1',1} = 12.2$ Hz, H-1'), 3.93–3.85 (2H, m, H-3, 4), 3.79 (1H, ddd q-like, $J_{5,4} = 4.8$ Hz, $J_{5,6} = 4.8$ Hz, $J_{5,6'} = 4.8$ Hz, H-5), 3.57 (1H, dd, $J_{6,5} = 4.7$ Hz, $J_{6,6'} = 10.2$ Hz, H-6), 3.51 (1H, dd, $J_{6',5} = 4.8$ Hz, $J_{6',6} = 10.2$ Hz, H-6'), 3.30 (3H, s, OC H_3), 1.98 (6H, s, C $H_3 \times 2$); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.7, 169.9, 138.6, 138.3, 137.9, 128.31, 128.28, 128.26, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 78.8, 78.2, 74.6, 73.0, 72.7, 72.0, 71.9, 63.3, 59.1, 21.0, 20.8.

(2S, 3R, 4R, 5S)-1,2-Dihydroxy-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)-6-methoxyhexane (**34**). Colorless syrup; $R_f = 0.24$ (hexane/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 3444 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38–7.25 (15H, m, Ar*H*), 4.73, 4.61 (2H, each d, J = 11.6Hz, PhC H_2), 4.71 (2H, s, PhC H_2), 4.68, 4.55 (2H, each d, J = 11.4 Hz, PhC H_2), 3.97 (1H, 1H, dd, $J_{4,3} = 3.5$ Hz, $J_{4,5} = 6.1$ Hz, H-4), 3.90 (1H, ddd, $J_{5,4} = 6.1$ Hz, $J_{5,6} = 3.5$ Hz, $J_{5,6'} = 4.6$ Hz, H-5), 3.93–3.84 (1H, m, H-2, overlapped with H-5), 3.76 (1H, dd, $J_{3,4} = 3.5$ Hz, $J_{3,2} = 7.0$ Hz, H-3), 3.71–3.60 (2H, m, H-1, 1', overlapped with H-6, 6'), 3.66 (1H, dd, $J_{6,5} = 3.5$ Hz, $J_{6,6'} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6), 3.59 (1H, dd, $J_{6',5} = 4.6$ Hz, $J_{6',6} = 10.4$ Hz, H-6'), 3.35 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.22 (1H, br d, J = 3.7 Hz, OH), 2.17 (1H, br s, OH); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 138.02, 137.95, 137.90, 128.43, 128.41, 128.08, 128.06, 128.01, 127.9, 127.8, 79.4, 79.3, 78.1, 73.9, 73.2, 72.7, 71.81, 71.78, 63.9, 59.2.

4. Conclusions

The reaction of alkyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-allopyranoside, 4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-gulopyranoside, and 4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-altropyranoside derivatives carrying 1,3-diaxial substituents with PhBCl₂/Et₃SiH gave 4-*O*-benzyl ethers and alditol derivatives formed by C1/O5 bond cleavage. Because an acyclic boronate ester was isolated, the unexpected endocyclic cleavage is considered to proceed via an oxacarbenium ion intermediate produced by the chelation between O5/O6 of the pyranoside and PhBCl₂ followed by nucleophilic substitution with a hydride ion at C1. The oxacarbenium ion could be employed as a valuable and versatile intermediate for stereoselective carbon-carbon, carbon-nitrogen, carbon-sulfur, and carbon-oxygen bond formations with a variety of nucleophiles. Further reactivity studies of this endocyclic cleavage are underway in our laboratory. The results of these studies will be reported in the near future.

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Ken-ichi Sato and Shoji Akai, Kanagawa University, for their helpful discussions. We also thank N. Higaki and Y. Nakagawa for technical assistance.

References and Notes

- 1. DeNinno, M.P.; Etienne, J.B.; Duplantier, K.C. A method for the selective reduction of carbohydrate 4,6-*O*-benzylidene acetals. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1995**, *36*, 669-672.
- 2. Sakagami, M.; Hamana, H. A selective ring opening reaction of 4,6-*O*-benzylidene acetals in carbohydrates using trialkylsilane derivatives. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 5547-5551.
- 3. Shie, C.-R.; Toone, Z.-H.; Kulkarni, S.S.; Uang, B.-J.; Hsu, C.-Y.; Hung, S.-C. Cu(OTf)₂ as an efficient and dual-purpose catalyst in the regioselective reductive ring opening of benzylidene acetals. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 1665-1668.
- 4. Hernández-Torres, J.M.; Achkar, J.; Wei, A. Temperature-controlled regioselectivity in the reductive cleavage of *p*-methoxybenzylidene acetals. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 7206-7211.
- 5. Sherman, A.A.; Mironov, Y.V.; Yudina, O.N.; Nifantiev, N.E. The presence of water improves reductive openings of benzylidene acetals with trimethylaminoborane and aluminium chloride. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2003**, *338*, 697-703.
- 6. Wang, C.-C.; Luo, S.-Y.; Shie, C.-R.; Hung, S.-C. Metal trifluoromethanesulfonate-catalyzed regioselective borane-reductive ring opening of benzylidene acetals: A concise synthesis of 1,4-dideoxy-1,4-imino-L-xylitol. *Org. Lett.* **2002**, *4*, 847-849.
- 7. Debenham, A.D.; Toone, E.J. Regioselective reduction of 4,6-*O*-benzylidenes using triethylsilane and BF₃·Et₂O. *Tetrahedron:Asymmetry* **2000**, *11*, 385-387.
- 8. Rao, K.V.; Patil, P.R.; Atmakuri, S.; Kartha, K.P.R. Iodide-sodium cyanoborohydride-mediated reductive ring opening of 4,6-benzylidene acetals of hexopyranosides. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2010**, *345*, 2709-2713.
- 9. Panchadhayee, R.; Misra, A.K. Regioselective reductive ring opening of benzylidene acetals using triethylsilane and iodide. *Synlett* **2010**, *8*, 1193-1196.
- 10. Daragics, K.; Fügedi, P. Regio- and chemoselective reductive cleavage of 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-type acetals of hexopyranosides using BH₃·THF-TMSOTf. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, *50*, 2914-2916.
- 11. Saito, S.; Kuroda, A.; Tanaka, K.; Kimura, R. A novel reducing system for acetal cleavage: BH₃·S(CH₃)₂–BF₃·O(C₂H₅)₂ combination. *Synlett* **1996**, *3*, 231-233.
- Tani, S.; Sawadi, S.; Kojima, M.; Akai, S.; Sato, K. A novel method for regioselective ringopening reduction of 4,6-O-benzylidene hexopyranoside derivatives using CoCl₂ and BH₃·THF. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2007, 48, 3103-3104.
- 13. Ohlin, M.; Johnsson, R; Ellervik, U. Regioselective reductive openings of 4,6-benzylidene acetals: synthetic and mechanistic aspects. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2011**, *346*, 1358-1370.
- 14. Denmark, S.E.; Almstead, N.G. Studies on the mechanism and origin of stereoselective opening of chiral dioxane acetals. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 8089-8110.
- 15. Kojima, M.; Nakamura, Y; Takeuchi, S. A practical fluorous benzylidene acetal protecting group for a quick synthesis of disaccharides. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 4431-4436.

- Kojima, M.; Nakamura, Y.; Ito, S.; Takeuchi, S. Total synthesis of macrocyclic glycosides, clemochinenosides A and B, and berchemolide, by fluorous mixture synthesis. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2009, *50*, 6143-6149.
- 17. Lidberg, B. Action of strong acids on acetylated glucosides. Acta Chem. Scand. 1949, 3, 1153-1169.
- 18. Morishima, N.; Koto, S.; Zen, S. A rapid anomerization of alkyl per-*O*-benzyl-β-D-glucopyranosides by titanium tetrachloride. *Chem. Lett.* **1979**, *8*, 749-750.
- O'Brien, C.; Poláková, M.; Pitt, N.; Tosin, M.; Murphy, P.V. Glycosidation-anomerization reactions of 6,1-anhydroglucopyranuronic acid and anomerization of β-D-glucopyranosiduronic acids promoted by SnCl₄. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 902-909.
- Manabe, S.; Ishii, K.; Hashizume, D.; Koshino, H.; Ito, Y. Evidence for endocyclic cleavage of conformationally restricted glycopyranosides. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2009, 15, 6894-6901.
- Satoh, H.; Hutter, J.; Lüthi, H.P.; Manabe, S.; Ishii, K.; Ito, Y. Low-barrier pathway for *endo*cleavage induced anomerization of pyranosides with *N*-benzyl-2,3-*trans*-oxazolidinone groups. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2009, 1127-1131.
- 22. Manabe, S.; Ito, Y. Significant solvent effect in anomerization reaction of pyranosides with 2,3*trans* carbamate and carbonate. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, *50*, 4827-4829.
- Pilgrim, W.; Murphy, P. SnCl₄- and TiCl₄-catalyzed anomerization of acylated *O* and *S*-glycosides: Analysis of factors that lead to higher α:β anomer ratios and reaction rates. *J. Org. Chem.* 2010, 75, 6747-6755.
- 24. Satoh, H.; Manabe, S.; Ito, Y.; Lüthi, H.P.; Laino, T.; Hutter, J. Endocyclic cleavage in glycosides with 2,3-*trans* cyclic protecting groups. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 5610-5619.
- Köster, R.; Penadés-Ullate, S.; Dahlhoff, W.V. Catalyzed acetal reduction with >BH boranes-1-O-alkyl(aryl)alditols, anhydroalditols, and 1-O-alditylalditols from O-glycopyranosides. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 1985, *24*, 519-521.
- 26. Guindon, Y.; Anderson, P.C. Stereoelectronic effects in the ring cleavage of methyl glycopyranosides using dimethylboron bromide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1987**, *28*, 2485-2488.
- Inghardt, T.; Frejd, T. Organoaluminum-induced opening of the pyranosidic ring of benzyl 2deoxy-2-C-methylpentopyranosides. J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 5539-5543.
- Hashimoto, H.; Hayakawa, M. Synthesis of a new fucosidase inhibitor, 1,5-dideoxy-1,5-imino-L-talitol, via cyanotrimethylsilanolysis of a β-D-ribofuranoside and its inhibitory activities. *Chem. Lett.* 1989, *18*, 1881-1884.
- 29. Hashimoto, H.; Kawanishi, M.; Yuasa, H. New and facile synthetic routes to 5-thioaldohexopyranosides *via* aldose monothioacetal derivatives. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, *32*, 7087-7090.
- 30. Martin, O.R.; Rao, S.P.; Yang, T.-F.; Fotia, F. Chelation-controlled regio- and stereoselective *C*-allylation of glycosides and related cyclic hemiacetals. *Synlett* **1991**, 702-704.
- 31. Olsson, R.; Rundström, P.; Frejd, T. Chelation-controlled regioselective *endo* cleavage and stereoselective C-1 alkylation of pentofuranosides. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 1* **1998**, 785-790.
- 32. Olsson, R.; Berg, U.; Frejd, T. Endocyclic cleavage of glycosides. VI. Substituent effects of the alkylative endocyclic cleavage of glycosides *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 3935-3954.

- 33. *1,2-Boronate ester*: Colorless syrup; *R*_f = 0.50 (hexane/EtOAc = 1:1 v/v); IR (NaCl, neat): 1602, 1441, 1397, 1327cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.81–7.77 (2H, m, BC₆*H*₅), 7.50–7.18 (18H, m, Ar*H*), 4.81 (ddd, *J*_{2,3} = 3.7 Hz, *J*_{2,1} = 7.3 Hz, *J*_{2,1'} = 8.3 Hz, H-2), 4.72, 4.57 (2H, each d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, PhC*H*₂), 4.69, 4.60 (2H, each d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, PhC*H*₂), 4.68, 4.63 (2H, each d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, PhC*H*₂), 4.51 (1H, dd, *J*_{1,2} = 7.3 Hz, *J*_{1,1'} = 9.1 Hz, H-1), 4.18 (1H, dd, *J*_{1,2} = 8.4 Hz, *J*_{1',1} = 9.0 Hz, H-1'), 4.08 (1H, dd t-like, *J*_{3,4} = 3.6 Hz, *J*_{3,2} = 3.7 Hz, H-3), 3.88 (1H, dd, *J*_{4,3} = 3.6 Hz, *J*_{4,5} = 6.2 Hz, H-4), 3.81 (1H, ddd, *J*_{5,4} = 6.2 Hz, *J*_{5,6} = 3.3 Hz, *J*_{5,6'} = 4.5 Hz, H-5), 3.66 (1H, dd, *J*_{6,5} = 3.3 Hz, *J*_{6,6'} = 10.4 Hz, H-1), 3.59 (1H, dd, *J*_{6',5} = 4.5 Hz, *J*_{6',6} = 10.4 Hz, H-1'), 3.35 (3H, s, OC*H*₃); ¹³C-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 138.2, 138.1, 138.0, 134.9(BC₆H₅), 131.3(BC₆H₅), 128.4, 128.3, 128.24, 128.17, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.61, 127.57, 80.2, 78.2, 78.0, 77.3, 74.0, 73.5, 72.4, 71.8, 67.5, 59.1. The structure of boronate ester was established by comparing ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR chemical shifts with those of similar compounds reported in the following literatures [34-37].
- 34. Crinch, D.; de la Mora, M.; Vinod, A.U. Influence of the 4,6-*O*-benzylidene, 4,6-*O*-phenylboronate, and 4,6-*O*-polystyrylboronate protecting groups on the stereochemical outcome of thioglycoside-based glycosylations mediated by 1-benzenesulfinyl piperidine/triflic anhydride and *N*-iodosuccinimide/trimethylsilyl triflate. *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 8142-8148.
- 35. Smith, J.M.; Borsenberger, V.; Raftery, J.; Sutherland, J.D. Exploratory studies to investigate a linked prebiotic origin of RNA and coded peptides. 2nd communication. *Chem. Biodiv.* **2004**, *1*, 1418-1451.
- 36. Bartoli, G.; Bosco, M.; Martino, E.D.; Marcantoni, E.; Sambri, L. Highly stereoselective and efficient addition of organocerium reagents to *syn*-β-alkyl-β-hydroxy-α-methyl ketones by way of their titanium alkoxides—Synthesis of complex 1,3-diol units with three streodefined centres. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2001, *15*, 2901-2909.
- 37. Meiland, M.; Heinze, T.; Guenther, W.; Liebert, T. Seven-membered ring boronates at trans-diol moieties of carbohydrates. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, *50*, 469-472.

SampleAvailability: Samples of the compounds 8, 11–20 and 23–34 are available from the authors.

 \bigcirc 2011 by the authors; licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/).