

Hydroboration–Oxidation of Ricinoleic Acid Ester Derivatives

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Abstract—The chiral center in ricinoleic acid methyl ester (*ee* ~100%) strongly affects the regioselectivity of its hydroboration–oxidation, so that the resulting 1,3-diol dominates by 74% over the 1,4-isomer. Furthermore, new asymmetric centers are formed preferentially with (*S*)-configuration, up to 87% for 1,3-diols and up to 100% for 1,4-diols.

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We previously showed [1] that the chiral center in unsaturated alcohols **I** and **II** (which may be regarded as ricinoleic acid derivatives) insignificantly affects the regioselectivity of their hydroboration–oxidation. Among isomeric 1,3- and 1,4-diols **III**, **IV** and **V**, **VI** thus obtained, the former prevail by 6 and 10%, respectively (Scheme 1). On the other hand, the new asymmetric center is formed preferentially with (*S*)-configuration, which was proved by subsequent cyclization of 1,3-diols **III** and **IV** (*de* 32 and 50%, respectively) into the corresponding stereoisomeric 1,3-dioxanes, and of 1,4-diols **V** and **VI** (*de* 40 and 22%, respectively) into 2,5-dialkyltetrahydrofurans.

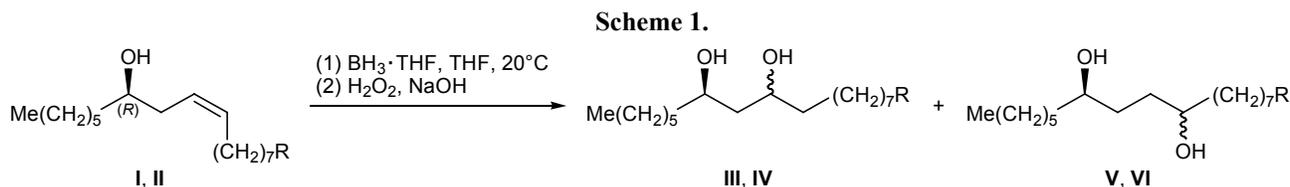
In continuation of our studies on the effect of the chiral center in (12*R*)-ricinoleic acid on the regio- and stereoselectivity of hydroboration–oxidation of the double bond, in the present work we examined the behavior of its esters, castor oil (containing ~90% of ricinoleic acid glyceride **VII**) and methyl ester **VIII**.

In the reaction of castor oil (**VII**) even with a double excess of $\text{BH}_3 \cdot \text{THF}$ (THF, 20°C) the double bond remained intact, whereas hydride reduction of the carboxy group gave unsaturated diol **II**. The low reac-

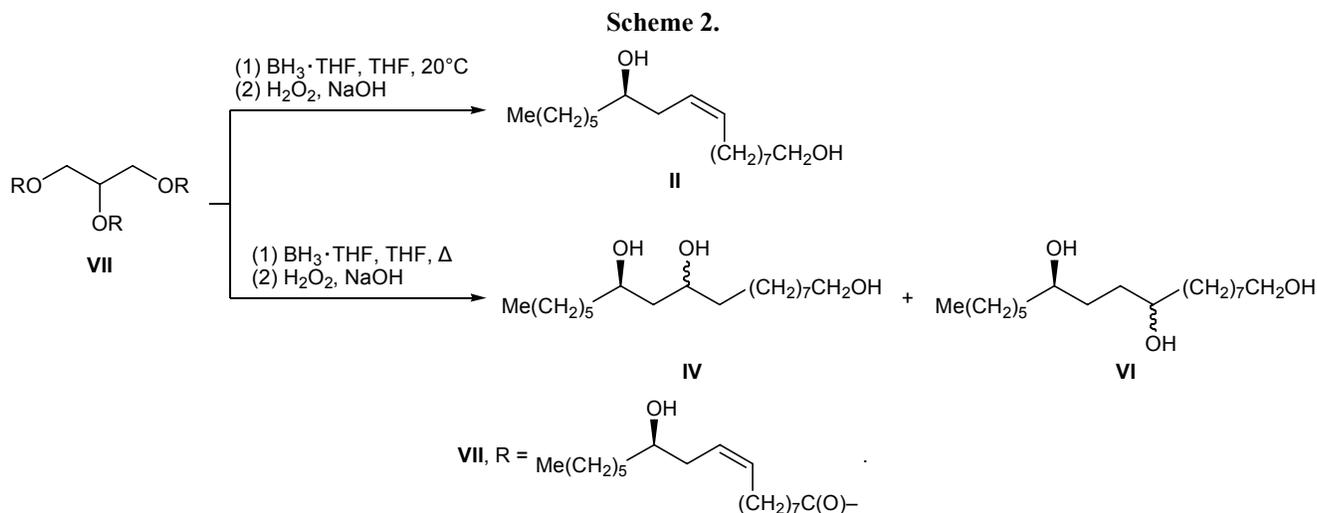
tivity of triglyceride **VII** toward the complex $\text{BH}_3 \cdot \text{THF}$ may be rationalized by steric factors. Under more severe conditions (heating under reflux), triglyceride **VII** was converted in 85% yield into a mixture of regioisomeric 1,3- and 1,4-diols **IV** and **VI** at a ratio of 57:43 (according to the HPLC and ^1H NMR data), which are products of the reduction of the ester group and oxidation of the double bond (see table; Scheme 2).

Hydroboration of ricinoleic acid methyl ester (**VIII**) with excess $\text{BH}_3 \cdot \text{THF}$ at room temperature, followed by oxidation with hydrogen peroxide in alkaline solution, afforded a 87:13 mixture of triols **IV** and **VI** (see table). The same reaction carried out at elevated temperature was characterized by slightly lower regioselectivity, and the ratio of compounds **IV** and **VI** was 72:28 (Scheme 3).

Comparison of the NMR spectra of triols **IV** and **VI** with those of compounds **III**–**VI** obtained by hydroboration–oxidation of unsaturated alcohols **I** and **II** [2] showed that in all cases the major stereoisomer had (*S*)-configuration of the new chiral center. The data on the regio- and stereoselectivity of hydroboration–



I, III, V, R = Me; II, IV, VI, R = HOCH₂.



oxidation of ricinoleic acid derivatives **VII** and **VIII** are given in table.

Thus ricinoleic acid methyl ester demonstrated the highest regio- and stereoselectivity in hydroboration–oxidation: the resulting 1,3-diol dominated over its 1,4-isomer by 74%, and the new asymmetric center had preferentially (*S*)-configuration (up to 87% for 1,3-diol and up to 100% for 1,4-diol).

EXPERIMENTAL

The IR spectra were recorded from films on a Specord M-82 instrument. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AMX-300 spectrometer at 300.13 and 75.47 MHz, respectively, using tetramethylsilane as internal reference. Signals in the NMR spectra were assigned using COSY H–H and COSY C–H two-dimensional correlation techniques.

The ratios of diastereoisomers were determined from the NMR spectra recorded with a 10-s pulse delay. HPLC analyses were performed on a Du Pont liquid chromatograph (USA) equipped with a refractive index detector and a 300×3.9 -mm stainless steel column packed with μ -Porasil Waters (5 μm); eluent hexane–propan-2-ol (92:8), room temperature. Silica gel (Sorbfil, Russia) was used for thin-layer chromatography. Column chromatography was performed on Macherey-Nagel silica gel (70–230 μm , Germany). The elemental compositions of all the isolated compounds were consistent with the calculated values.

(9*Z*,12*R*)-Octadec-9-ene-1,12-diol (II). A solution of 2.4 ml (15.0 mmol) of $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ in 8 ml of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran was added dropwise to a suspension of 2.0 g (2.1 mmol) of triglyceride **VII** and 0.55 g (14.4 mmol) of NaBH_4 in 45 ml of anhydrous THF (argon, 20°C). The mixture was kept for 24 h at room

Composition of the hydroboration–oxidation products of ricinoleic acid derivatives **VII** and **VIII**

Initial compound no.	Temperature, °C	Compound IV		Compound VI	
		fraction in the reaction mixture, %	isomer ratio (10 <i>S</i> ,12 <i>R</i>)/(10 <i>R</i> ,12 <i>R</i>)	fraction in the reaction mixture, %	isomer ratio (9 <i>S</i> ,12 <i>R</i>)/(9 <i>R</i> ,12 <i>R</i>)
VII	Δ	57	1.8:1.0	43	1.0:1.0
VIII	20	87	5.0:1.0	13	1.0:0
VIII	Δ	72	1.3:1.0	28	5.0:1.0

temperature and treated with 2.0 ml of water; after 10 min, 4.8 ml of 3 N NaOH and 4.8 ml of 30% H₂O₂ were added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was then diluted with 200 ml of *tert*-butyl methyl ether, washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated, and the residue was subjected to flash chromatography to isolate 1.52 g (86%) of diol **II** whose ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were identical to those reported in [2].

(10RS,12R)- and (9RS,12R)-Octadecane-1,10,12- and -1,9,12-triols IV and VI. *a.* A solution of 7.3 ml (45.7 mmol) of BF₃·Et₂O in 24 ml of anhydrous THF was added dropwise to a suspension of 2.0 g (6.4 mmol) of methyl ester **VIII** and 1.68 g (43.9 mmol) of NaBH₄ in 137 ml of anhydrous THF (argon, 20°C), and the mixture was kept for 24 h at room temperature. The mixture was treated with 6.0 ml of water; after 10 min, 14.6 ml of 3 N NaOH and 14.6 ml of 30% H₂O₂ were added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h, diluted with 200 ml of *tert*-butyl methyl ether, washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated. The residue was subjected to flash chromatography to isolate 1.90 g (98%) of a mixture of compounds **IV** and **VI** at a ratio of 87:13.

b. A solution of 7.3 ml (45.7 mmol) of BF₃·Et₂O in 24 ml of anhydrous THF was added dropwise to a suspension of 2.0 g (6.4 mmol) of methyl ester **VIII** and 1.68 g (43.9 mmol) of NaBH₄ in 137 ml of anhydrous THF (argon, 20°C), and the mixture was heated for 5 h under reflux. The mixture was cooled and treated as described above in *a* to isolate 1.87 g (97%) of a mixture of compounds **IV** and **VI** at a ratio of 72:28.

c. A solution of 2.4 ml (15.0 mmol) of BF₃·Et₂O in 8 ml of anhydrous THF was added dropwise to a suspension of 2.0 g (2.1 mmol) of triglyceride **VII** and 0.55 g (14.4 mmol) of NaBH₄ in 45 ml of anhydrous THF (argon, 20°C), and the mixture was heated for 5 h under reflux. The mixture was then treated with 2.0 ml of water and kept for 10 min, 4.8 ml of 3 N NaOH and 4.8 ml of 30% H₂O₂ were added, and the mixture was

stirred for 3 h, diluted with 200 ml of *tert*-butyl methyl ether, washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated. The residue was subjected to flash chromatography to isolate 1.56 g (85%) of a mixture of compounds **IV** and **VI** at a ratio of 57:43.

(10S,12R)- and (10R,12R)-Octadecane-1,10,12-triols (IV). IR spectrum, ν , cm⁻¹: 3340 (OH), 1110 (C–O), 1050. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ , ppm: 0.90 t (3H, CH₃, ³J = 7.0 Hz), 1.20–1.45 m (20H, CH₂), 1.45–1.65 m (8H, 2-H, 9-H, 11-H, 13-H), 2.25 br.s (3H, OH), 3.65 t (2H, 1-H, ³J = 6.5 Hz), 3.94 [4.05]* m (2H, 10-H, 12-H). ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ _C, ppm: 14.16 q (C¹⁸), 22.66 t (C¹⁷), 25.62 t (C⁸), 25.83 t (C³, C¹⁴), 29.39 t (C⁷), 29.44 t (C¹⁵), 29.55 t (C⁵, C⁶), 29.65 t (C⁴), 31.90 t (C²), 32.65 t (C¹⁶), 37.57 t (C⁹), 37.61 t (C¹³), 42.40 t (C¹¹), 63.13 t (C¹), 69.56 d [69.53 d] (C¹⁰, C¹²).

(9S,12R)- and (9R,12R)-Octadecane-1,9,12-triols (VI). IR spectrum, ν , cm⁻¹: 3340 (OH), 1110 (C–O), 1050. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ , ppm: 0.90 t (3H, CH₃, ³J = 7.2 Hz), 1.20–1.45 m (18H, CH₂), 1.46 m (2H, 2-H), 1.45–1.70 m (8H, 8-H, 10-H, 11-H, 13-H), 2.25 br.s (3H, OH), 3.42 [3.47] m (2H, 9-H, 12-H), 3.64 t (2H, 1-H, ³J = 6.6 Hz). ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ _C, ppm: 14.14 q (C¹⁸), 22.68 t (C¹⁷), 25.76 t (C⁷, C¹⁴), 29.42 t (C⁶, C¹⁵), 29.62 t (C³, C⁴, C⁵, C⁶), 31.90 t (C²), 32.84 t (C¹⁶), 33.35 t (C¹⁰), 34.08 t (C¹¹), 37.62 [37.57] t (C¹³), 37.87 [37.82] t (C⁸), 63.07 t (C¹), 72.38 d [72.02 d] (C⁹, C¹²).

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* The data for minor triol isomers (10R,12R)-**IV** and ((9R,12R)-**VI**) are given in brackets.