## Note

## Synthesis of methyl 3-N-benzoyl-4-O-benzoyl- $\beta$ -L-daunosaminide\*

MUKUND K. GURJAR\*\*, VIJAY J. PATIL, JHILLU S. YADAV, AND A. V. RAMA RAO National Chemical Laboratory, Poona 411 008 (India) (Received September 14th, 1983; accepted for publication, January 7th, 1984)

Several syntheses of L-daunosamine (1), the sugar unit of anthracycline antibiotics<sup>1</sup>, have been reported, starting from both carbohydrate<sup>2</sup> and non-carbohydrate<sup>3</sup> precursors. We now report a new synthesis of the daunosamine derivative 11 from 2-amino-2-deoxy-D-glucose hydrochloride.

The strategy involved the migration of the 2-amino group of a 2-amino-2deoxy-D-glucose derivative *via* an epimine to position 3, and the subsequent generation of a C-methyl group at C-5 with change of chirality at C-5.

Methyl 3-benzamido-4,6-O-benzylidene-2-chloro-2,3-dideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-altropyranoside<sup>4</sup> (6) was chosen as the starting material and was prepared by the modified literature procedure<sup>4</sup>. Methyl 2-benzamido-4,6-O-benzylidene-2-deoxy- $\alpha$ -Dglucopyranoside (3) was obtained in excellent yield by treatment of 2 with  $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -dimethoxytoluene in acetonitrile in the presence of toluene-*p*-sulphonic acid. Conventional tosylation<sup>4</sup> ( $\rightarrow$ 4), followed by treatment with 1 molar equivalent of



\*NCL Communication No. 3363.

\*\*To whom correspondence should be addressed.

sodium hydride in dry tetrahydrofuran at room temperature, afforded the N-benzoylepimine 5. Ring opening with ammonium chloride then gave 6.

Dechlorination of **6** with 1 molar percentage of tri-*n*-butyltin chloride together with an excess of sodium borohydride in refluxing ethanol in the presence of light<sup>5,6</sup> gave 80% of the deoxy compound **7**, the structure of which was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H-n.m.r. data [ $\delta$  4.76 (bs, H-1), 2.0 (m, H-2,2')]. Compound **7** was also prepared by *N*-benzoylation of the known<sup>2g</sup> amine **8**.

Treatment of 7 with N-bromosuccinimide<sup>7</sup> in refluxing carbon tetrachloride opened the 1,3-dioxane ring and yielded methyl 3-benzamido-4-O-benzoyl-6bromo-2,3,6-trideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-*ribo*-hexopyranoside (9, 76%). Dehydrobromination of 9 was accomplished by treatment with 1,5-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-ene in hexamethylphosphoric triamide for 48 h under nitrogen at room temperature<sup>2g</sup> to afford the 5-hexenopyranoside 10 (97%). The <sup>1</sup>H-n.m.r. spectrum of 10 contained two narrow triplets for H-6,6'at  $\delta$  4.62 and 4.74, characteristic of the 5,6-ene group.

Hydrogenation of 10 and chromatography of the product gave 85% of methyl 3-*N*-benzoyl-4-*O*-benzoyl- $\beta$ -L-daunosaminide (11, methyl 3-benzamido-4-*O*-benzoyl-2,3,6-trideoxy- $\beta$ -L-*lyxo*-hexopyranoside). The L isomer was obtained as expected<sup>2b,2g</sup>, and further confirmed by its large negative optical rotation ( $[\alpha]_D - 84^\circ$ ) and its <sup>1</sup>H-n.m.r. spectrum. The coupling constants  $J_{1,2a}$  9.5 and  $J_{1,2e}$  3.0 Hz were indicative of the <sup>1</sup>C<sub>4</sub> conformation.

## EXPERIMENTAL

All evaporations were performed under diminished pressure with a rotary evaporator. Melting points were recorded with a Kofler hot-plate and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H-N.m.r. spectra were recorded for solutions in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (internal Me<sub>4</sub>Si) with a Varian FT 80A spectrometer. All solvents were purified and dried. Light petroleum refers to the fraction b.p. 60–80°. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60–120 mesh, Acme Synthetic Chemicals).

Methyl 2,3-N-benzoylepimino-4,6-O-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-allopyranoside (5). — To a stirred solution of 4 (10 g, 18.56 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (400 mL) under nitrogen was added sodium hydride (0.44 g, 18.56 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by t.l.c. (ethyl acetate–light petroleum, 1:2). After 15 min, the mixture was diluted with dichloromethane, washed with water, dried, and concentrated, to afford 5 (5.85 g, 95%), m.p. 190°; lit.<sup>8</sup> m.p. 190– 191°.

Methyl 3-benzamido-4,6-O-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-ribo-hexopyranoside (7). — (a) From the 2-chloride 6. A mixture of 6 (3 g, 7.43 mmol), tri-n-butyltin chloride (24 mg), and ethanol (50 mL) was heated under reflux and irradiated with a 100-W tungsten lamp, whilst solid sodium borohydride (0.56 g, 14.86 mmol) was added in small portions. The reaction was monitored by t.l.c. (ethyl acetatelight petroleum, 1:1) and, after 6 h, the mixture was concentrated and a solution of the residue in ether was washed with water, dried, and concentrated. The residue was eluted from a short column of silica gel with ethyl acetate–light petroleum (1:10) to remove tri-*n*-butyltin material, and then with ethyl acetate to afford 7 (2.2 g, 80%) as a syrup,  $[\alpha]_D$  +114° (c 0.9, chloroform). <sup>1</sup>H-n.m.r. data:  $\delta$  2.0 (m, 2 H, H-2,2'), 3.43 (s, 3 H, OMc), 3.4–4.5 (m, 4 H, H-4,5,6,6'), 4.76 (bs, 1 H, W<sub>1/2</sub> 6 Hz, H-1), 4.76 (m, 1 H, H-3), and 7.0–8.3 (m, 10 H, 2 Ph).

Anal. Calc. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 68.3; H, 6.2; N, 3.8. Found: C, 68.1; H, 6.2; N, 3.7.

(b) From the 3-amine<sup>2g</sup> 8. A mixture of 8 (0.2 g), pyridine (5 mL), and benzoyl chloride (0.2 mL) was stirred at 0° for 2 h and then left at room temperature overnight. Conventional work-up gave 7 (0.2 g), which was identical with the product in (a).

Methyl 3-benzamido-4-O-benzoyl-6-bromo-2,3,6-trideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-ribo-hexopyranoside (9). — A mixture of 7 (1.4 g, 3.79 mmol), dry carbon tetrachloride (40 mL), N-bromosuccinimide (1.1 g, 6.18 mmol), barium carbonate (1.5 g), and benzoyl peroxide (10 mg) was heated under reflux for 3 h. T.I.c. (ethyl acetate–light petroleum, 1:1) then indicated one major and one minor product, and no 7. The mixture was filtered, washed with aqueous 5% sodium hydrogensulfite, aqueous 5% sodium hydrogencarbonate, and water, dried, and concentrated. The syrupy residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel. Elution with ethyl acetate– light petroleum (1:4) afforded 9 (1.3 g, 76%), m.p. 149°,  $[\alpha]_D$  +147° (c 0.82, chloroform). <sup>1</sup>H-N.m.r. data:  $\delta$  2.0 (m, 2 H, H-2,2'), 3.52 (s, 5 H, OMe + H-6,6'), 4.12 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.0 (m, 3 H, H-1,3,4), and 7.0–8.0 (m, 10 H, 2 Ph).

*Anal.* Calc. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub>: C, 56.2; H, 4.9; Br, 17.85. Found: C, 55.5; H, 5.1; Br, 17.4.

Methyl 3-benzamido-4-O-benzoyl-2,3,6-trideoxy- $\alpha$ -D-erythro-hex-5-enopyranoside (10). — To a stirred solution of 9 (1 g, 2.23 mmol) in dry hexamethylphosphoric triamide (20 mL) under nitrogen was added 1,5-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5ene (0.6 mL, 4.34 mmol) at room temperature. After 48 h, the mixture was diluted with ether, washed with aqueous 10% sodium hydrogensulfate, aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate, and water, dried, and concentrated, to give 10 (0.80 g, 97%), m.p. 124°, [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> +162° (c 0.9, chloroform). <sup>1</sup>H-N.m.r. data:  $\delta$  2.0 (m, 2 H, H-2,2'), 3.52 (s, 3 H, OMe), 4.62 (t, 1 H, H-6), 4.74 (t, 1 H, H-6'), 4.8 (m, 2 H, H-1,3), 5.53 (m, 1 H, H-4), and 7.0–8.0 (m, 10 H, 2 Ph).

Anal. Calc. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 68.6; H, 5.7. Found: C, 68.8; H, 5.9.

Methyl 3-N-benzoyl-4-O-benzoyl- $\beta$ -L-daunosaminide (11). — A solution of 10 (0.7 g, 1.54 mmol) in ethyl acetate (25 mL) was hydrogenated in the presence of 10% Pd/C (0.2 g) at 40 p.s.i. for 8 h at room temperature, filtered through Celite, and concentrated. The residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel. Elution with ethyl acetate-light petroleum (1:4) yielded 11 (0.6 g, 85%), m.p. 154°,  $[\alpha]_D$  –84° (c 0.96, chloroform). <sup>1</sup>H-N.m.r. data:  $\delta$  1.19 (d, 3 H, J 6.5 Hz, H-6,6',6''), 2.0 (m, 2 H, H-2,2'), 3.49 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.66 (m, 1 H, H-5), 4.45 (m, 1 H, H-3), 4.45 (dd, 1 H, J 3 and 9.5 Hz, H-1), 5.20 (m, 1 H, H-4), 6.12 (d, 1 H, J 8.0 Hz, NH), and 7.0–8.2 (m, 10 H, 2 Ph).

*Anal.* Calc. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 68.3; H, 6.2; N, 3.8. Found: C, 68.1; H, 6.15; N, 3.5.

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