

## Stereoselective $\alpha$ -Glycosylation with 3-O-Acetylated D-Glucosyl Donors

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**Abstract:** The effect of a 3-*O*-acetyl group on the stereoselectivity of  $\alpha$ -glycosylation with 2-*O*-benzylated D-glucosyl donors was studied. It was shown that 3-*O*-acetylated donors gave  $\alpha$ -anomers predominantly or exclusively, whereas glycosylation with the corresponding per-*O*-benzylated donors afforded mixtures of comparable amounts of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -anomers. The higher  $\alpha$ -stereoselectivity in the first case was accounted for by the remote anchimeric assistance of the 3-*O*-acetyl group, which was confirmed by theoretical calculations.

**Key words:** carbohydrates, glycosylations, remote participation, stereoselectivity,  $\alpha$ -glycosylation

Although the glycosylation reaction has been known for more than a century, the stereoselective formation of the 1,2-*cis* glycoside bond is still considered a challenging problem in synthetic chemistry.<sup>1</sup> The major principle of the strategy is the use of a non-participating substituent on C-2 to avoid formation of the acyloxonium intermediate.<sup>2</sup> A number of factors should be taken into account, for instance, the nature of leaving and protecting groups, solvent, promoting system, the structure of the glycosyl acceptor, and temperature.<sup>3,4</sup> There are a few communications where the anchimeric assistance of remote substituents was used to improve the stereoselectivity of 1,2-*cis* glycosylation. Noteworthy are the examples with 6-*O*-acetylated D-glucosyl and D-galactosyl donors,<sup>5,6</sup> 4-*O*-acetylated D-galactosyl,<sup>7</sup> L-fucosyl,<sup>8,9</sup> D-mannosyl,<sup>10</sup> and L-rhamnosyl<sup>11</sup> donors, and fully benzylated glucuronyl donors bearing a participating COOalk group at C-5.<sup>12,13</sup> The anchimeric participation of a remote 3-*O*-acyl substituent was also reported for the glycosylation with 2-deoxy-ribo-hexopyranosyl donors.<sup>14–16</sup> Recently we have shown that glycosylation with 3-*O*-benzoyl-2,4-di-*O*-benzyl-fucosyl bromide proceeded with high  $\alpha$ -stereoselectivity.<sup>17</sup> Moreover, the stereoselectivity of the glycosylation with the latter donor was higher than that with the 4-*O*-benzoylated isomer, indicating that the anchimeric assistance of the 3-*O*-benzoyl group is more efficient than that of 4-*O*-benzoyl. These results were in good correlation with theoretical calculations on the ‘stabilization energy’ of the glycosyl cations formed due to the participation of a benzoyl group.

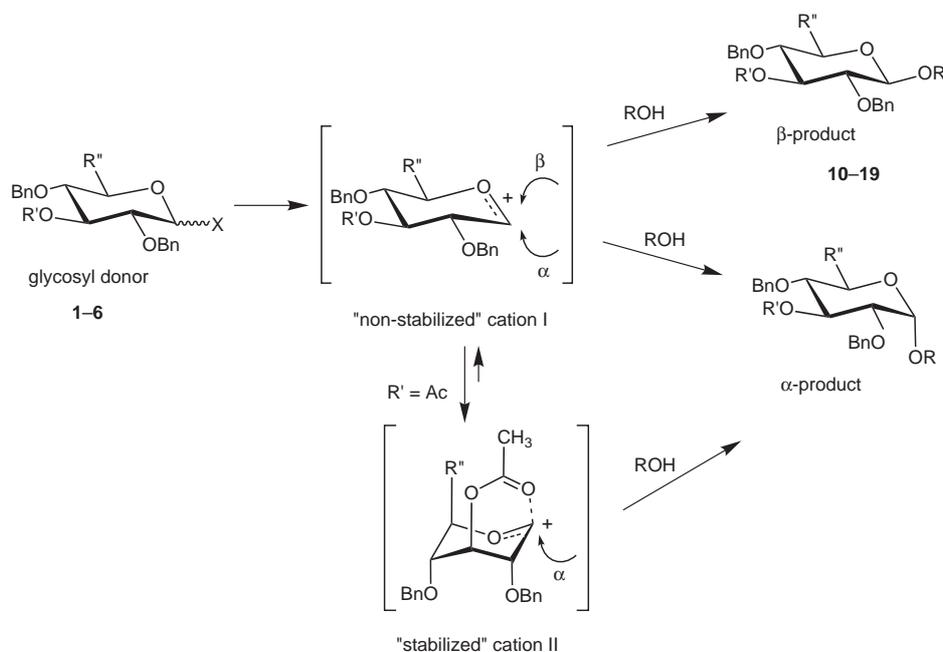
To investigate the scope of this stereochemical effect, we studied the influence of a 3-*O*-acetyl group on the stereoselectivity of glycosylation with D-glucosyl donors, such as fully benzylated and 3-*O*-acetylated D-glucosyl *N*-phenyl trifluoroacetimidates **1**<sup>18</sup> and **2**,<sup>18</sup> D-glucuronyl bromides **3**<sup>14</sup> and **4**, and D-xylosyl trichloroacetimidates **5** and **6**. All these compounds have the same configuration at C-2, C-3, and C-4 (for this reason the xylosyl donors were included in the D-glucosyl series) but vary in the C-5 substituent and the leaving group at the anomeric center. Glycosylations of acceptors **7–9** with donors **1–6** were performed as steps within the syntheses of several substances: glycoforms of the outer core of the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* lipopolysaccharide,<sup>18</sup> heterosaccharide fragments of fucoidans, and probes for the elucidation of xylosyltransferase activity. The synthesis of compounds **4**, **5**, and **6** will be reported elsewhere.

Methyl 2-azido-2-deoxy-D-galactoside **7**<sup>18</sup> was used as a glycosyl acceptor in reactions with glucosyl donors **1** and **2**. AgOTf-promoted glycosylation with fully benzylated *N*-phenyltrifluoroacetimidate **1** (Table 1, entry 1) afforded a 2:1 mixture of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -isomers **10** and **11** in 95% yield.<sup>19</sup> The reaction of 3-*O*-acetylated donor **2** (Table 1, entry 2) demonstrated a notably higher  $\alpha$ -stereoselectivity (**12/13**,  $\alpha/\beta$  ratio, 4:1).<sup>20</sup>

A more pronounced stereochemical effect was observed in the case of glucuronyl donors **3** and **4**. The reaction of per-*O*-benzylated bromide **3** with acetone **8**<sup>21</sup> in the presence of AgOTf (Table 1, entry 3) led to a 2:1 mixture of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -anomers **14** and **15** (89%), whereas the use of 3-*O*-acetylated bromide **4** (Table 1, entry 4) strongly enhanced the stereoselectivity of the reaction and gave the  $\alpha$ -isomer **16** exclusively (90%).<sup>22</sup>

Xylosyl donors **5** and **6** also provided evidence for the stereocontrolling effect of the 3-*O*-acetyl group. Glycosylation of allyl xyloside **9**<sup>23</sup> with 2,3,4-tri-*O*-benzylated trichloroacetimidate **5** (Table 1, entry 5) proceeded with relatively low stereoselectivity (**17/18**, 2.5:1), while the coupling of compounds **6** and **9** (Table 1, entry 6) afforded only  $\alpha$ -linked disaccharide **19** in 80% yield.<sup>24</sup>

We assumed that the higher stereoselectivity of reactions with D-glucosyl donors **2**, **4**, and **6** is regulated by the remote stereocontrolling effect of the 3-*O*-acetyl group resulting in the formation of stabilized cation **II** (Scheme 1). Nucleophilic attack on cation **II** is favored from the  $\alpha$ -side. To evaluate this possibility we calculated the energy



Scheme 1

difference between the stabilized and non-stabilized forms **I** and **II**, which is referred to as the 'stabilization energy' (Table 1).

'Stabilization energy' calculations (Table 1) were performed with an MM+Molecular mechanics force field (HyperChem, Version 7.0). Electrostatic interactions were considered in charge-charge approximation, the values of partial atomic charges were obtained from AM1 single point calculations. Calculated energy data were in good agreement with experimental results. Thus, the 'stabilization energy' of  $-11.3$  kcal/mol for the donor **2**

corresponds to the  $\alpha/\beta$  ratio of 4:1. 'Stabilization energies'  $-15.3$  kcal/mol for xylosyl donor **6** and  $-21.6$  kcal/mol in the case of glucuronyl donor **4** are in accordance with the increase in  $\alpha$ -stereoselectivity.

In conclusion, a series of D-*gluco* donors was studied as  $\alpha$ -glycosylating agents. It was found that the reactions with donors bearing an acetyl group at O-3 provided remarkably higher stereoselectivity than those with per-O-benzylated analogues. This finding can be applied to the efficient synthesis of  $\alpha$ -glucosides.

Table 1 Glycosylation and the 'Stabilization Energy' of the Cationic Intermediates II

Glycosyl donor				Glycosyl acceptor	$\alpha$ -Product	$\beta$ -Product	Yield	Ratio $\alpha/\beta$	Stabilization energy (kcal/mol)
X	R'	R''							
<b>1</b>	$\alpha/\beta$ -OC(=NPh)CF <sub>3</sub>	Bn	CH <sub>2</sub> OBn		<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	95%	2:1	–
<b>2</b>	$\alpha/\beta$ -OC(=NPh)CF <sub>3</sub>	Ac	CH <sub>2</sub> OBn	<b>7</b>		<b>13</b>	90%	4:1	$-11.3$
<b>3</b>	$\alpha$ -Br	Bn	COOMe		<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> not observed	89%	2:1	–
<b>4</b>	$\alpha$ -Br	Ac	COOMe	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>		90%	–	$-21.6$
<b>5</b>	$\alpha/\beta$ -OC(=NH)CCl <sub>3</sub>	Bn	H		<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> not observed	85%	2.5:1	–
<b>6</b>	$\alpha/\beta$ -OC(=NH)CCl <sub>3</sub>	Ac	H	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>		80%	–	$-15.3$

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## References and Notes

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- A mixture of donor **1** (53 mg, 0.069 mmol), acceptor **7** (17 mg, 0.048 mmol), and MS AW-300 (76 mg) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.8 mL) was treated with a soln of AgOTf (9 mg, 0.034 mmol) in toluene (110  $\mu\text{L}$ ) overnight at r.t. under argon. The reaction mixture was filtered through celite, the filtrate was washed with 1 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ , a sat. soln of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , and concentrated. After purification by chromatography (silica gel, toluene–EtOAc, 12:1) a mixture of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -anomers **10** and **11** (40 mg, 0.045 mmol, 95%, 2:1) was obtained. The ratio of **10/11** was determined by the integration of the H-3 signal intensities ( $\alpha$ , 5.21 ppm;  $\beta$ , 5.32 ppm) in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra. Selected signals for **10**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.82 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 4.0 Hz, H-1'), 4.88 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1), 5.21 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  = 11.2 Hz,  $J_{3,4}$  = 2.7 Hz, H-3). Selected signals for **11**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.39 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 9.4 Hz, H-1'), 4.90 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.8 Hz, H-1), 5.32 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  = 11.0 Hz,  $J_{3,4}$  = 2.8 Hz, H-3).
- To a stirred mixture of acceptor **7** (33 mg, 0.095 mmol), donor **2** (50 mg, 0.075 mmol), and MS AW-300 (140 mg) in anhyd  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2 mL) a soln of AgOTf (10 mg, 0.039 mmol) in anhyd toluene (0.1 mL) was added. The reaction was monitored by TLC, when donor **2** was consumed, a further portion of the donor (29 mg, 0.044 mmol) in anhyd  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and AgOTf (6 mg, 0.023 mmol) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred at r.t. for 2 d and then filtered through celite. The filtrate was washed with 1 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ , a sat. soln of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , and concentrated. After purification by column chromatography (silica gel; toluene–EtOAc, 12:1) and gel-permeation chromatography (BioBeads SX-3, toluene) a mixture of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -isomers **12** and **13** (71 mg, 90%, 4:1) was obtained. The  $\alpha/\beta$  ratio was determined by the integration of the H-3' signals ( $\alpha$ , 5.58 ppm;  $\beta$ , 5.18 ppm) in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra. Selected signals for **12**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.83 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1), 4.87 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.3 Hz, H-1'), 5.18 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  = 11.3 Hz, H-3), 5.58 (t, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  = 9.8 Hz, H-3'). Selected signals for **13**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.90 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1), 5.18 (t, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  = 10.0 Hz, H-3').
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- Glycosylation with Glucuronyl Donors 3 and 4; General Procedure.** A mixture of glucuronyl bromide (0.052 mmol; 28 mg for **3**, 26 mg for **4**), acceptor **8** (12 mg, 0.05 mmol) and MS **4**  $\text{Å}$  (200 mg) in anhyd  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2 mL) was stirred at r.t. for 30 min. Then AgOTf (15 mg, 0.057 mmol) was added at  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was stirred for 15 min at  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ , then quenched with  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.1 mL), and filtered through celite. The filtrate was washed with 1 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated. Column chromatography (toluene–EtOAc, 15:1) of the residue afforded disaccharides. The  $\alpha/\beta$  ratios were determined by integration of the signals corresponding to H-1' in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra. Selected signals for **14**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.92 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.1 Hz, H-1), 5.25 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1'). Selected signals for **15**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.98 (s, 1 H, H-1), 5.56 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 8.5 Hz, H-1'). Selected signals for **16**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 1.35 (d, 3 H, 3  $\times$  H-6), 1.98 (s, 3 H,  $\text{COCH}_3$ ), 3.52 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.6 Hz,  $J_{2,3}$  = 10.0 Hz, H-2'), 3.73 (s, 3 H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.76 (m, 2 H, H-2, H-4'), 4.04–4.22 (m, 5 H, H-3, H-4, H-5,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.42–4.80 (m, 5 H, H-5', 2  $\times$   $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 4.88 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1), 5.20 and 5.35 (2 dd, 2 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.30 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.6 Hz, H-1'), 5.56 (t, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  =  $J_{3,4}$  = 9.6 Hz, H-3'), 5.92 (m, 1 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.24–7.35 (m, 10 H, 2  $\times$  Ph).
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- Glycosylation with Xylosyl Donors 5 and 6; General Procedure.** A mixture of xylosyl trichloroacetimidate (0.071 mmol; 40 mg for **5**; 36 mg for **6**), acceptor **9** (26 mg, 0.07 mmol) and MS **4**  $\text{Å}$  (200 mg) in anhyd  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2 mL) was stirred at r.t. for 30 min. Then a 0.1 M solution of TMSOTf in anhyd  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10  $\mu\text{L}$ ) was added at  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was stirred for 15 min at  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ , then quenched with  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.1 mL), and filtered through celite. The filtrate was washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated. Column chromatography (toluene–EtOAc, 10:1) of the residue afforded disaccharides. The  $\alpha/\beta$  ratios were determined by integration of the signals corresponding to H-1' in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra. Selected signals for **17**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 5.58 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.5 Hz, H-1'). Selected signals for **18**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 4.93 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 9.5 Hz, H-1').  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data for **19**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 3.36 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.3 Hz,  $J_{2,3}$  = 9.6 Hz, H-2'), 3.43–3.74 (m, 7 H, H-2, H-4, H-4', 2  $\times$  H-5, 2  $\times$  H-5'), 3.91–4.20 (m, 3 H, H-3,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.31–4.79 (m, 9 H, 4  $\times$   $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ , H-1), 5.20–5.35 (m, 2 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.54 (t, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  =  $J_{3,4}$  = 9.6 Hz, H-3'), 6.67 (d,  $J_{1,2}$  = 3.3 Hz, H-1'), 5.92 (m, 1 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.08–7.50 (m, 20 H, 4  $\times$  Ph).