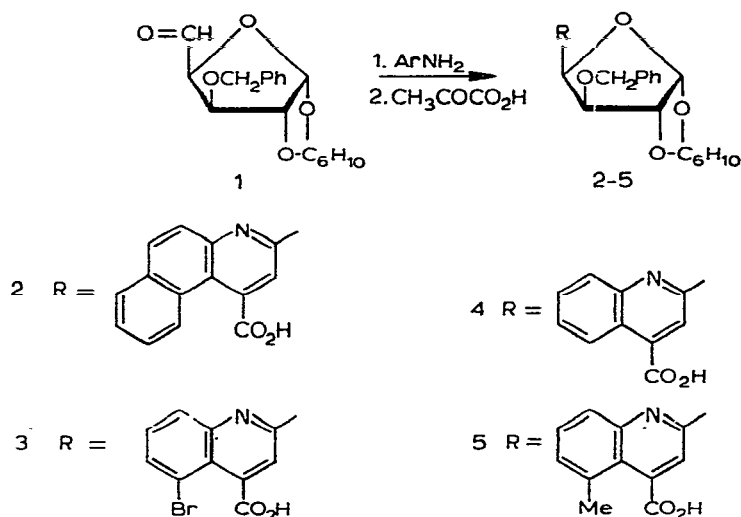


## Preliminary communication

## The Doebner synthesis in the carbohydrate series

We have examined the behaviour of 3-*O*-benzyl-1,2-*O*-cyclohexylidene- $\alpha$ -D-xylo-pentodialdo-1,4-furanose<sup>1</sup> (1) with various arylamines in the Doebner synthesis. The condensation proceeds in the usual way, giving the corresponding substituted cinchoninic acids (2-5).



This synthesis was accomplished by preliminary storage of a mixture of compound 1 and the arylamine in ether for 24 h to form the Schiff base, with subsequent addition of freshly distilled pyruvic acid and storage of this mixture for 10 days; all operations were performed at room temperature. Preparative fractionation of the final mixture on alumina gave the following products:

3-*O*-Benzyl-4-(4-carboxybenzo[*f*]quinol-2-yl)-1,2-*O*-cyclohexylidene- $\alpha$ -D-xylo-tetrofuranose (2) (27.5%), white needles from ethyl acetate, m.p. 198° (decomp.),  $[\alpha]_D^{15} -7^\circ$  (*c* 0.6, chloroform);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  243 (inflection) ( $\epsilon$  33,400) and 256 nm ( $\epsilon$  36,000);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1710 (medium), 1670 (weak), and 1599  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (medium) (Found: C, 72.45; H, 5.59; N, 2.40.  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_6$  calc.: C, 72.79; H, 5.67; N, 2.74%).

3-*O*-Benzyl-4-(5-bromo-4-carboxyquinol-2-yl)-1,2-*O*-cyclohexylidene- $\alpha$ -D-xylo-tetrofuranose (3) (10.9%), an amorphous powder,  $[\alpha]_D^{15} -125^\circ$  (*c* 1.2, chloroform);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  252 ( $\epsilon$  9900) and 304 nm ( $\epsilon$  3900);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1709 (medium) and 1592  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (medium) (Found: C, 59.85; H, 4.76; Br, 14.26.  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{BrNO}_6$  calc.: C, 60.0; H, 4.81; Br, 14.81%).

3-*O*-Benzyl-4-(4-carboxyquinol-2-yl)-1,2-*O*-cyclohexylidene- $\alpha$ -D-xylo-tetrofuranose (**4**) (13.9%), an amorphous powder,  $[\alpha]_D^{15} -102^\circ$  ( $c$  1, chloroform);  $\lambda_{\max}$  235 ( $\epsilon$  9700) and 308 nm ( $\epsilon$  3800);  $\nu_{\max}$  1710 (medium), 1594 (medium), and 1510  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (medium) (Found: C, 69.71; H, 6.18.  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_6$  calc.: C, 70.28; H, 5.85%).

3-*O*-Benzyl-4-(4-carboxy-5-methylquinol-2-yl)-1,2-*O*-cyclohexylidene- $\alpha$ -D-xylo-tetrofuranose (**5**) (24.4%), white needles from ethyl acetate, m.p. 158° (decomp.),  $[\alpha]_D^{15} -143^\circ$  ( $c$  1.4, chloroform);  $\lambda_{\max}$  236 ( $\epsilon$  13,000) and 322 nm ( $\epsilon$  5300);  $\nu_{\max}$  1709 (medium), 1601 (medium), and 1512  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (medium) (Found: C, 70.58; H, 6.14.  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_6$  calc.: C, 70.73; H, 6.10%).

Removal of the cyclohexylidene residue was accomplished by methanolysis of compound **2** in the presence of dry hydrogen chloride.

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