2004
06 CARBOHYDRATE CHEMISTRY
SYNOPSIS AND KEY CONCEPTS
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(A) "Open Chain" Carbohydrate Chemistry

Nomenclature; pentose, hexose, etc. aldose, ketose; chemistry of the carbonyl group: *via* oxidation of aldoses to -onic acids and -aric acids; reduction; hydrazone and osazone formation; thioacetal formation; homologation (ascent) by the Kiliani method; degradation (descent) by the Weerman method; structural correlations by these methods

(B) Cyclisation of Carbohydrates - Hemiacetal Formation

(1) Mutarotation of D-glucose - α and β pyranose and furanose forms in equilibrium. Pyranose form is usually favoured with most hexoses. Anomeric Centre

(2) Glycoside Formation (Glycosidation) under kinetic control both α and β methyl furanosides are formed. Under thermodynamic control the α pyranoside is the major isomer. The anomeric effect is explained in terms of lone pair-lone pair repulsion, dipole-dipole interactions and by M.O. theory. Glycosides are stable in neutral or basic solution but readily hydrolysed to the free sugar with dilute aqueous acid. Modern methods of glycoside synthesis: trichloroacetimidate activation.

(3) Reactions of Carbohydrates - Selective hydroxyl protection and neighbouring group participation

(a) Acetylation to give the α and β pyranose forms of the penta- acetate; preparation of α-glycosyl halides and their conversion to glycosides and formation of glycals; reactions of glycals e.g. with dilute aqueous acid to give 2-deoxy-sugars and with peracids to give epoxides

(b) Etherification

(i) MeI/NaH methyl ethers - difficult to remove

(ii) Benzyl ethers - cleaved by H_2/Pd or Na/NH_3

(iii) Silyl ethers - volatile for mass spectral studies, very readily cleaved by H_3O^+/ or KF/H_2O, variable reactivity depending on bulk

(iv) Allyl ethers - acid stable, isomerisation with KO^tBu or $(Ph_3P)_3RhCl$ to give acid labile vinyl ethers

(v) Triphenylmethyl ethers, "trityl" ethers - selective for primary OH. Removed by dilute acid

(c) Acetal and ketal formation - ketones prefer to form 5 membered ring ketals-1,2 diol protection. Aldehydes prefer to form 6 membered ring acetals-1,3 diol protection.

(d) Sulfonate esters - preparation and selectivity for primary hydroxyl; intermolecular nucleophilic displacement reactions and their problems;

deoxygenation *via* free radical chain reaction of xanthate esters with tri-n-buylstannane; intramolecular nucleophilic displacement reactions give ethers and epoxides (anhydro sugars); ring opening of epoxides and glycoside synthesis

(e) Keto sugars - best prepared by oxidation of alcohol with DMSO/Ac_2O or DMSO/P_4O_{10}; nucleophilic attack from the least hindered side

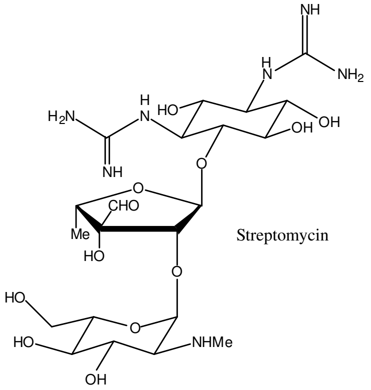
(f) Unsaturated sugars - the Corey-Winter Olefin synthesis (thiocarbonates + trimethyl phosphite); reduction of ditosylates with sodium iodide and zinc

(g) Amino sugars - tosylate displacement with azide followed by $LiAlH_4$ reduction; epoxide ring opening by ammonia; reduction of ketoximes with $LiAlH_4$

(4) Use of Carbohydrates

(a) Fermentation

(b) Aminoglycosides are important in antibiotics e.g. erythromycin, streptomycin.



Streptomycin

For a review of the preparation and reaction of aminoglycosides see: *Topics in Antibiotic Chemistry* Vol 1, p 1; Sammes, P.G., Ed.; John Wiley and Sons, **1977**.

(c) In non-carbohydrate natural product synthesis carbohydrates belong to the "Chiral Pool" i.e. they are a very cheap source of starting materials for organic synthesis which contain chiral functionality.

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