

Synthesis of O-Glycosides 1,3-Diynes

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INTRODUCTION

The unique properties of polyynes and acetylenic arrays continue to receive attention and increased research interest.¹ In addition to their unusual electrical and optical properties, they are encountered in numerous natural products and display a wide range of potential applications in both biology and material sciences. Consequently, research into the synthesis of well-defined polyynes continues to expand.

The most common synthetic method for the assembly of polyynes involves bond formation between two acetylenes via oxidative coupling. The major challenge in the preparation of this class of compounds is the tolerance to sensitive functional groups. Consequently, the development of alternative methods for the preparation of highly functionalized polyynes is of the great interest.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tellurium tetrachloride was used as the Lewis acid choice to promote the O-glycosylation of glycal **1** to yield 2,3-unsaturated-O-glycosides **2**.² The results are depicted in Table 1.

Table 1. Synthesis of 2,3-unsaturated O-glycosides, 2^a

	ROH	Time (min.)	Ratio α/β	Yield(%) ^a
1	HO-CH ₂ -C≡CH	5	90:10	92
2	HO-C(CH ₃) ₂ -C≡CH	5	88:12	93
3	HO-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -C≡CH	10	89:11	91

^a isolated yield

In all cases the reaction proceeded smoothly leading to the complete conversion of **1** into the corresponding 2,3-unsaturated O-glycoside **2** in high yield and with good α-selectivity.

Next, we tested the homocoupling of alkynes **2** promoted by NiCl₂•6H₂O and CuI under aerobic conditions.³ The results are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. NiCl₂•6H₂O and CuI promoted synthesis of diynes 4a-c

Table 2. Diynes 4a-c and 5a promoted synthesis of glycosides 4a-c				
	Product	Time (h)	Yield (%) ^a	
1	 4a	9	75	
2	 4b	11	76	
3	 4c	10	72	

^a isolated yield

The obtained compounds could be used in the synthesis of aromatic residues circumscribed by pendant sugar haptens. Although these oligomers afford only weak biological activity relative to their native glucan counterparts, nevertheless, such sugar cluster provides unique environments for host-guest chemistry of amphipathic molecules.

CONCLUSION

In summary, we have demonstrated the use of a catalytic amount NiCl₂•6H₂O and CuI under aerobic conditions to promote the synthesis of diynes. The functionalized glycosides were synthesized under mild conditions, excellent yields and good α-anomeric selectivity.

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