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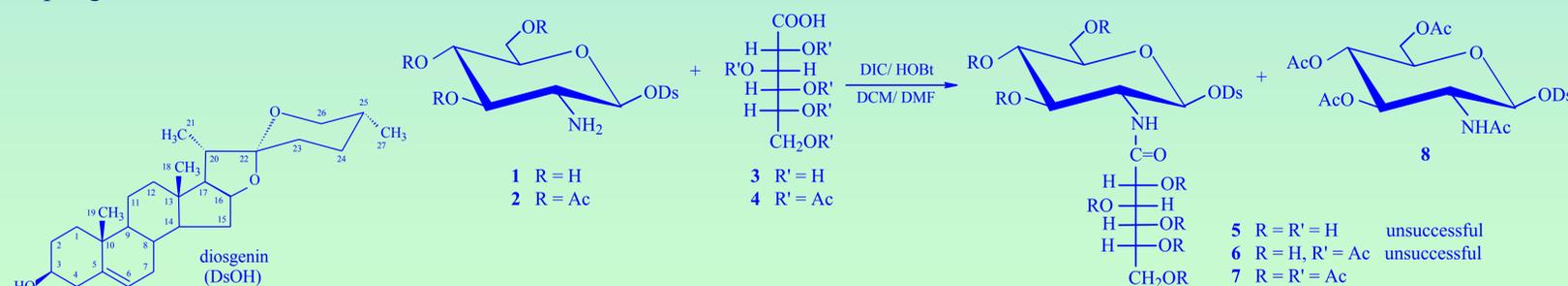
Dioscorea bulbifera

Naturally occurring diosgenyl glycosides belong to the group of saponins. These are steroid or triterpenoid glycosides, widely distributed in plants and in some marine organisms [1]. These glycosides display versatile biological activities, including anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antiparasitic, antifungal, and antitumor activities [2]. Previously, we reported the synthesis and apoptosis-inducing property in B cell chronic leukemia cells of diosgenyl 2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside hydrochloride [3]. This compound is also *in vitro* active and *in vivo* efficient against Gram-positive cocci [4]. In search of its *N*-acyl derivatives with a hydrophilic chain we tried to synthesize diosgenyl *N*-(D-gluconyl)-2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside.



Dioscorea batatas

To synthesize diosgenyl *N*-(D-gluconyl)-2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside three approaches were tested. The first one consists in condensation of diosgenyl 2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside (**1**) with D-gluconic acid (**3**) under typical for the liquid-phase peptide synthesis conditions (DIC/HOBT). Unfortunately, desired product **5** was not obtained. The second one consists in analogous reaction of diosgenyl glycoside **1** with 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl-D-gluconic acid (**4**). The latter was obtained according to Braun and Cook procedure [5]. Unfortunately, desired product **6** was also not obtained. The third one consists in condensation of diosgenyl 3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside (**2**) with acid **4**. This reaction gives diosgenyl 3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-*N*-(2',3',4',6'-tetra-*O*-acetyl-D-gluconyl)-2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside (**7**, 17% yield), diosgenyl *N*-acetyl-3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-2-amino-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranoside (**8**, 34% yield) and not identified minor byproducts. Such the result indicates that intermolecular acetyl *O*→*N* migration occurs more willingly than coupling of amine **2** with acid **4**.



Structures of the new compounds (**7** and **8**) were established on the basis of IR, ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. Additionally, crystal structure of the synthesized and used by us 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl-D-gluconic acid (**4**) is presented.

Table 1. Chemical shifts (ppm) and ¹H-¹H coupling constants (Hz) in the ¹H NMR spectra of **7** and **8** (CDCl₃).

No.	Glucosamine									Gluconic acid and diosgenin residues	
	H-1	H-2	H-3	H-4	H-5	H-6 _a	H-6 _b	OAc	NH		
7	4.86 (d) <i>J</i> _{1,2} =8.4	3.70 (m)	5.01 (m) <i>J</i> _{3,4} =9.2	5.38 (dd) <i>J</i> _{4,5} =10.4	3.70 (m) <i>J</i> _{5,6a} =2.4 <i>J</i> _{5,6b} =4.8	4.09 (dd) <i>J</i> _{6a,6b} =12.4	4.25 (dd) <i>J</i> _{6a,6b} =12.4	2.00-2.11 (3s)	6.25 (d) <i>J</i> _{2,NH} =8.4	2.00-2.11 (4s, 4xOAc); 3.14 (d, OH); 3.83 (m, H-5'); 4.12 (m, 2xH-6'); 5.01 (m, H-4'); 5.15 (d, H-2'); 5.69 (dd, H-3'); 0.77 (s, H-18 _d); 0.78 (d, H-27 _d); 0.96 (d, H-21 _d); 1.00 (s, H-19 _d); 3.36 (t, H-26 _d); 3.46 (dd, H-26 _d); 3.49 (m, H-3 _d); 4.40 (q, H-16 _d); 5.28 (d, H-6 _d)	
8	4.84 (d) <i>J</i> _{1,2} =8.4	3.68 (m) <i>J</i> _{2,3} =9.6	5.03 (t) <i>J</i> _{3,4} =9.6	5.37 (dd) <i>J</i> _{4,5} =10.4	3.68 (m) <i>J</i> _{5,6a} =2.8 <i>J</i> _{5,6b} =5.2	4.10 (dd) <i>J</i> _{6a,6b} =12.0	4.25 (dd) <i>J</i> _{6a,6b} =12.0	2.01 (s) 2.02 (s) 2.06 (s)	5.46 (d) <i>J</i> _{2,NH} =8.4	1.95 (s, NAc); 0.78 (s, H-18 _d); 0.79 (d, H-27 _d); 0.96 (d, H-21 _d); 1.00 (s, H-19 _d); 3.37 (t, H-26 _d); 3.47 (dd, H-26 _d); 3.50 (m, H-3 _d); 4.40 (q, H-16 _d); 5.34 (d, H-6 _d)	

Table 2. Chemical shifts (ppm) in the ¹³C NMR spectra (CDCl₃) of **7**.

C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	C-5	C-6	CH ₃ (OAc)	C=O(OAc)	C=O (amide)
98.66	55.78	71.05	71.82	72.09	62.51	20.76-21.05 (3C)	169.66- 171.36 (3C)	166.70

Fig. 1. Structure of 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl-D-gluconic acid (**4**) showing 25% probability displacements for ellipsoids.

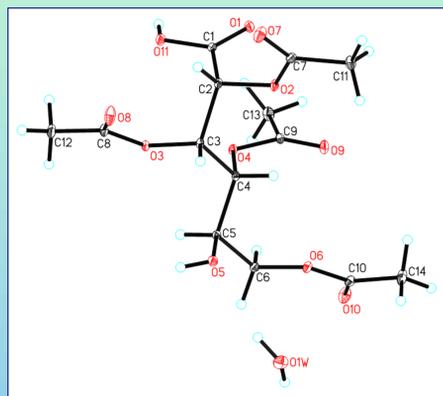


Fig. 2. Molecular packing of 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl-D-gluconic acid (**4**) (view along *c*-axis).

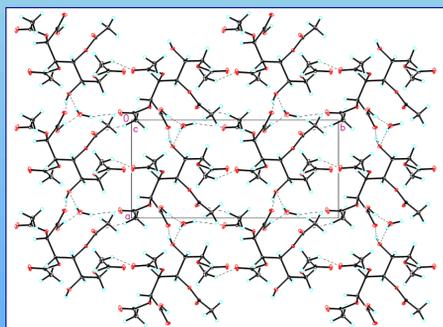


Table 3. Crystal data and structure refinement for **4**.

Empirical formula	C ₁₄ H ₂₂ O ₁₂
Formula weight	382.32
Temperature (K)	293(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁
Unit cell dimensions	a = 7.1732(4) Å b = 15.2991(8) Å c = 8.2095(4) Å α = 90°; β = 94.976(5)°; γ = 90°
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	897.54(8)
<i>Z</i>	2
<i>D</i> _{calcd} (Mg m ⁻³)	1.415
Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹)	0.126
<i>F</i> (000)	404
θ Range for data collection (°)	3.62 - 25.05
Limiting indices	-5 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 8; -17 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 18 -9 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 9
Reflections collected/unique	5721/3118 [R _{int} = 0.0269]
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> ²
Data/restraints/parameters	3118/4/249
Flack parameter	-0.1(12)
Final <i>R</i> indices [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	R ₁ = 0.0450; wR ₂ = 0.1075
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	R ₁ = 0.0515; wR ₂ = 0.1150
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> ²	1.039
Largest diff. peak and hole (e Å ⁻³)	0.275 and -0.268

References

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