Selective Deprotection of Strategy for TBS Ether Under Mild Condition

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A selective, high yielding and convenient method for deprotection of *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl ether (TBS) using catalytic amount of $ZnBr_{2n}$ and *N*-chlorosuccinimide in methanol/DCM as solvent at room temperature is described. The methodology iseconomical, robust, clean, rapid, high yielding and highly selective in for deprotection of TBS ether. Methodology is applicable for deprotection of acetonide also.

Keywords: TBS deprotection; Acetonide deprotection; Selective deprotection; Protection group chemistry

1. Introduction

Synthesis of diverse organic compounds still cannot be realised without using protecting groups. En route of synthesis of natural products, in a multi-functional molecule under the similar reaction conditions some functional groups also react and give un wanted side products. Thus, required to protect some of the functional groups in order to get required products. Since several decades many such protecting groups have been devised, developed and used by synthetic organic chemists (**Figure 1**).Consequently, even enabled them with solutions of various classical problems by making use of synthetic mutation and even evolution. Most of the organic compounds have more than one functional groups, and almost all of the functional groups can react in more than one way. Then it becomes considerable to predict that how, which and where a specific functional group will react. Till date numerous such groups have been developed and are still being tailored to meet the challenging and ever-growing requirements of modern synthetic chemistry^[1-4].

In a multifunctional compound, reaction at one site keeping other intact known as chemoselectivity. Contemporarily, the art of organic synthesis has to go a long way for being sovereign of protective group. This is exemplified by the widespread and ever-growing usage of protective groups during the creation of multifunctional molecules. Many natural products have hydroxy or polyol functional groups. Protection and deprotection of alcoholic functional group is essential and plays a pivotal role in total synthesis of natural products. A glut of methods and reagents devised emphasizes the strength underlying with protection of hydroxyl group. The same can be observed very well in synthesis of biologically active molecules in particular. On the other hand, silyl ethers are the most widely used protecting groups due to several advantages like

easy to protect and purifying methods. However, selective deprotection of such protecting groups is still remains challenging task^[5-7].

Owing to ease of selective deprotection of tert-butyldimethylsilyl (TBS)^[8] in presence various acid sensitive groups still remains challenging for hydroxyl group^[8-11]. Stability to a plethora of reaction conditions and strength to resist basic and considerably acidic reagents further strengthens up popularity of TBS ether. Although numerous methods exists^[13-22] for removal of TBS group in non-selective approach but still there are ample of challenges associated while using them like harsh chemical environment, inert reaction conditions, costly reagents or usage of strong reducing^[16], oxidizing^[17,18], hazardous reagents, acidic or basic^[13] medium, cumbersome workup, a large excess of phase transfer reagents and long reaction times which are usually avoided by organic chemists.



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In literature there exist a few methods for cleavage of alkylsilyl ethers which can uninstall TBS ethers while differentiating TBDMS and TBDPS ethers. Majority of the existing methods involve elevated temperature, basic reagents with harsh reaction conditions and leave behind an ample void for a method utilizing milder reagents^[24-26]. Chemoselectivity between TBS and TBDPS and efficiency towards ejection of alcohol is another key aspect which point towards development of a protocol which would be useful for multi-step synthetic sequences demanding for selective removal of either of TBDMS or TBDPS at a specific stage^[27].

2. Results and Discussion

An 84-year-old Japanese man was diagnosed with left renal mass on a computed tomography (CT) scan during follow-up for ulcerative colitis. The CT scan revealed an enhancing mass in the left kidney measuring $56.4 \times 48.9 \times 51.0$ mm. The patient underwent a left radical nephrectomy with pathological evaluation identifying T3N0M0 renal cell carcinoma (RCC) (clear cell carcinoma, grade 2, Fuhrman grade 2, INFb, ly0, v0) (**Figure1**). Three months after nephrectomy, a surveillance CT scan identified extensive presumed metastases in the iliopsoas at the height of the renal artery from the aortic bifurcation and single lung legions (16×11 mm) (**Figure 2**). Echo-guided percutaneous needle biopsy of a presumed metastatic lesion was consistent with metastatic RCC.

Herein we are reporting a method for selective cleavage of TBDMS ether by N-chlorosuccinimide (NCS) in presence of catalytic amount of ZnBr₂ under mild condition, **Scheme 1**, (**Table 1**). TBS ether **1a** was prepared by following the known method^[28,29]. For standardisation of the reaction condition initially, the reaction was carried out using TBS ether **1a** in MeOH, 10 mol% of ZnBr₂ and 0.1 eq of NCS afforded the product **2a** in 10% yield.



Scheme 1. Deprotection of TBS ether.

Entry	Solvent	NCS	ZnBr ₂ (Mole %)	Temp °C	Time	Yield
					(mins)	(%)
1	DCM	0.1	0.1	RT	180	10
2	DCM	0.5	0.1	RT	150	45
3	DCM	0.5	0.2	RT	120	50
4	DCM	1.0	0.1	RT	90	99
5	DCM	1.0	0.1	Reflux	90	92
6	THF	1.0	0.1	RT	Nr	Na
7	Et ₂ O	1.0	0.1	RT	Nr	Na
8	CHCl ₃	1.0	0.1	RT	Nr	Na
9	EtOH	1.0	0.1	RT	200	95
10	IPA	1.0	0.1	RT	250	85
11	MeOH	1.0	0.1	RT	25	99

All experiments were performed at 0.5 mmol scale. To a solution of ether (0.5 mmol) insolvent (0.25 M), *N*-chlorosuccinimide (0.5 mmol), ZnBr₂(0.1 mol %)were added and stirred for 30 mins at RT. Nr: No reaction,Na: Not applicable.

 Table 1. Optimization of reaction condition.

In anticipation to increase the yield of the product, keeping other parameters constant the amount of NCS is increased to 0.5 equivalent which afforded the required product in 45% yield. Further reaction was planned with 20-30 mol % of the ZnBr₂ gave slight increase in the product yield (entry **3**, **Table 1**). Finally, we found the best optimised condition for the deprotection of TBS is 10 mol% of ZnBr₂ and stoichiometric amount of NCS afforded 99% yield. Reaction in DCM also shown similar results (entry **11**, **Table 1**). However, under the reflux condition decreased the yield of the product (entry **5**, **Table 1**). A range of TBDMS ether was subjected to this procedure and the result is summarized in **Table 2**.

Entry	Substrate	Solvent	Temp °C	Time(mins)	Product	Yield %
	o-si-	МеОН	RT	25	о-<ОН 23	99
	O-Contraction of the second se	DCM	RT	90		99
		МеОН	RT	40	HO Zb	99
	4 1b	МеОН	Reflux	30	HOTBS 2b	99
		DCM	Reflux	90	HOTBS	15
		МеОН	RT	30	но () ОН 8 2с	99
	TBSO THE OTBS	МеОН	Reflux	25	НО ́ (-) ́ ОН 8 2с	95
	1c	DCM	Reflux	90	но Аран	30
	OTBS OTBDPS	МеОН	RT	70	OH OTBS 2d	95
	10	MeOH	Reflux	50	OH OTBS 2d	90
		DCM	Reflux	90	OH OTBS 2d	20
		МеОН	RT	40	OTBDPS OH 2e	95
	OTBDPS OTBS	МеОН	Reflux	30	OTBDPS OH 2e	87
	1e	DCM	Reflux	90	OTBDPS OH	37

All experiments were performed at 0.5 mmol scale. To a solution of TBS ether (0.5 mmol.) in 0.25M solvent, N-chlorosuccinimide (0.5 mmol), ZnBr₂(0.1 mol %)were added and stirred at the temperature till completion of the reaction.

Table 2. Selective deprotection of TBS ether.

To test the chemoselectivity the reaction was performed on mono TBS, TBDPS ether **1b-c** under the standardised condition yielded the mono TBDPS ether **2b-c** in excellent yield (entry **2-3**, **Table 2**). Further the reaction was performed using primary TBDPS and secondary TBS ether **1d**, under this protocol only TBS deprotected keeping TBDPS intact in excellent yield (entry **4**, **Table 2**). Similarly, the reaction on primary TBS and secondary TBDPS ether **1e** high chemoselectivity was observed (entry **5**, **Table 2**). Thus, the methodology proves that its highly selective towards deprotection of TBS ether and can be employed for selective deprotection of TBS ethers.

To increase the scope of the methodology, under the above-mentioned conditions were applied on the acetonide substrate **1f** afforded diol **2f** in quantitative yield. **Scheme 2**, **Table 3**.



Scheme 2. Deprotection of acetonide.

Entry	Substrate	Solvent	Temp	Time (mins)	Product	Yield%
1		MeOH	RT	70	ОН	90
					ОН	
	1f				2f	
2		MeOH	Reflux	30	ŎН	95
					ОН	
					2f	
3		DCM	Reflux	90	No reaction	n. a

All experiments were performed at 0.5 mmol scale. To a solution of acetonide (0.5 mmol.) in 2 mL of solvent, N-chlorosuccinimide (0.5 mmol), $ZnBr_2(0.1 \text{ mol }\%)$ were added and stirred at the temperature till completion of the reaction.

Table 3. Deprotection of acetonide.

Using MeOH as solvent, acetonide group of **1f** was deprotected.In DCM solvent, acetonide was completely unaffected and starting material was largely recovered.Therefore, NCS is an excellent, high yielding, safe, operationally simple, clean and no precaution is to be taken to exclude moisture or oxygen from reaction system. As no strongly acidic or basic conditions are used, hence it is more suitable for concrete organic synthesis^[30-40].

3. Material and Methods

Alcohols, silyl reagents, Zn dust, 1,2 dibromo ethane 2,2 DMP and solvents were acquired from Avra Synthesis and used without further purification. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed with the help of pre-coated silica gel plate (200 µm) which were acquired from Merk on Aluminium with fluores-cent indicator. Column chromatography was performed over silica gel of 60–120 mesh, both acquired from Rankem fine chemicals. NMR Spectral analysis was recorded in CDCl₃ with Bruker- Biospin Avance-III 500 MHz FT-NMR instrument.

3.1 Preparation of ZnBr₂

$$Br \longrightarrow Br$$
 + Zn $\xrightarrow{Dry THF, N_2}$ ZnBr₂

In a 500 mL 2 neck round bottom flask unactivated Zn dust (200 mmol) was weighed. The round bottom flask was fitted with reflux condenser and dry THF (100 mL) was added under inert condition. The mixture was stirred and heated up to 60 °C. 1,2 dibromo ethane (5 mmol) was added initially and stirred till generation of ZnBr₂ and another 95 mmol of dibromo ethane was added drop wise and further refluxed for 1h. After completion of the reaction unreacted Zn dust was settle down in flask and supernatant layer was syphoned in to dry bottle and stored under N₂ atmosphere and used for the reaction.

3.2 Preparation of tert-butyl ((4-methoxybenzyl) oxy) dimethylsilane1a



To a solution of alcohol **2a** (3.4 g, 25 mmol) in dry DCM (100 mL), cooled at 0 °C, imidazole (4.2 g, 62.5 mmol) and TBDMSCl (3.768 g, 25 mmol) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 hours under argon atmosphere. Upon complete conversion of alcohol into corresponding silyl ether, monitored by TLC, reaction was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and the aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3 × 30 mL), combined organic layer were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound which was further purified by column chromatography using hexanes to acquire pure product **1a** in 95% yield as viscous oil. TLC R_f = 0.5 (5% EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (d, *J*= 8.52 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.20 Hz, 2H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 0.85 (s, 9H), 0.00 (s, 6H).

3.3 Preparation of 2,2,3,3,11,11-hexamethyl-10,10-diphenyl-4,9-dioxa-3,10-disiladodecane 1b



1,4-butane diol **2b** (8.1g, 90 mmol) in dry DCM (120 mL) was cooled to 0 °C, imidazole (5.1 g, 75 mmol), TBSCl (4.5 g, 30 mmol) and DMAP (916 mg, 7.5 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred for 40 min. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding cold water the layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3 × 60 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (60 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford crude product, which was purified by column chromatography using 5% EtOAc/hexanes to afford pure compound in 35% yield as viscous oil. R_f = 0.35 (10% EtOAc/Hexanes). To a solution of above prepared TBS alcohol (3.6 g, 18 mmol) in dry DCM (72 mL), cooled at 0 °C triethylamine (7.5 mL, 54 mmol), TBDPSCl (16.2 mmol, 4.2 mL) and DMAP (0.549 g, 4.5mmol) were added and stirred under inert atmosphere for 4 h. The reaction was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3 × 50 mL), combined organic layer was extracted with DCM (3 × 50 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (50 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in hexanes to afford pure compound **1b** in 90% yield as oil. TLC R_f = 0.35 (5% EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (s, 4H), 7.29 (s, 6H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 1.24 (sc, 2H), 1.03 (s, 8H), 0.86 (s, 12H), 0.00(s, 6H).

3.4 Preparation of 2,2,3,3,16,16,17,17-octamethyl-4,15-dioxa-3,16-disilaoctadecane 1c



To a solution of diol **2c** (1.7 g, 10 mmol) in dry DCM (40 mL), cooled at 0 °C, imidazole (2.0 g, 30 mmol), TBDMSCl (3.0 g, 20 mmol) was added and stirred for 3 hours under argon atmosphere. The reaction was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3 × 30 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in hexanes to afford pure compound **1c** in 95% yield as oil. TLC $R_f = 0.60$ (5% EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.55 (t, *J*= 6.6 Hz, 4H), 1.48-1.42 (m, 4H), 1.27-1.21 (m, 12H), 0.86-0.84 (m, 18H), 0.01-0.00 (m, 12H).

3.5 Preparation of 5-butyl-2,2,3,3,9,9-hexamethyl-8,8-diphenyl-4,7-dioxa-3,8-disiladecane 1d



1,2-hexane diol 2d (8.1 g, 20 mmol), in dry DCM (80 mL) was cooled at 0 °C, and triethylamine (5.5 mL, 40 mmol) and TBDPSCI (5.2 mL, 20 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred for 3 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3×60 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (60 mL) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography by using 10% EtOAc/hexanes (v/v) to afford pure compound in 90% yield as viscous. TLC $R_f = 0.56$ (5% EtOAc/Hexanes). To a solution of above prepared alcohol (1.0 g, 3 mmol) in dry DCM (72 mL), cooled at 0 °C, imidazole (0.6 g, 9 mmol), TBSCl (2.7 mmol, 0.40 g) and DMAP (0.09 g, 0.75mmol) were added and stirred under inert atmosphere for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3×50 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (50 mL) and was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in hexanes to afford pure compound 1d in 40% yield as viscous oil. TLC $R_f = 0.42$ (3%) EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.44-7.31 (m, 6H), 3.76-3.66 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.53 (m, 1H) 3.50-3.39 (m, 1H), 1.49-1.13 (m, 6H), 1.05z-1.03 (m, 9H), 0.97-0.81 (m, 12H), 0.00 (m, 6H).

3.6 Preparation 5-butyl-2,2,8,8,9,9-hexamethyl-3,3-diphenyl-4,7-dioxa-3,8-disiladecane 1e



To a solution of diol **2e** (1.0 g, 3 mmol) in dry DCM (60 mL), cooled at 0 °C, imidazole (3.0 g, 45 mmol), TBSCl (13.5 mmol, 2.0 g) and DMAP (0.458 g, 3.75 mmol) were added and stirred under inert atmosphere for 4 hours. The reaction was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3×50 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in 5% EtOAc/Hexanes afford pure compound in 90% yield as viscous oil. TLC R_f = 0.35 (3% EtOAc/Hexanes). To a solution of above prepared alcohol (1.7 g, 7 mmol) in dry DCM (30 mL), cooled at 0 °C, triethylamine (9.7 mL, 70 mmol), TBDPSCl (0.9 mL, 3.6 mmol) and DMAP (7 mmol, 0.8 g) were added and stirred for 72 hours. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layers were extracted and with DCM (3×30 mL), combined organic layers was washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in Hexanes to afford pure compound **1e** in 30% yield as viscous oil. TLC R_f = 0.42 (3%EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.26 (m, 6H), 3.97-3.72 (m, 1H), 3.62-3.42 (m, 2H), 1.46-1.17 (m, 6H), 1.17-1.03 (m, 9H), 0.97-0.84 (m, 12H), 0.10-0 (s,6H).

3.7 Preparation of 4-butyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane 1f



A round bottom flask cooled at 0 °C was charged with 1,2-hexane diol **2f** (2.3 g, 20 mmol), 80 mL of dry DCM, 2,2-dimethoxy propane (3.64 mL, 30 mmol) and camphorsulfonic acid (464 mg, 0.1 mmol) under inert atmosphere. The mixture was allowed to stir for 1.5 h. The reaction was quenched by addition of cold water. The layers were separated and aq. layer was extracted with DCM (3×40 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine (40 mL), NaHCO₃ (5 mL) and was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude compound and was then purified by column chromatography in 10% EtOAc/hexanes (v/v) to afford pure compound **1f** as viscous oil. TLC R_f = 0.52 (15% EtOAc/Hexanes); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.05-3.87 (m, 2H), 3.43-3.34 (m, 1H), 1.60-1.50 (s, 1H), 1.45-1.36 (s, 1H), 1.36-1.13 (m, 10 H), 0.86-0.78 (t, *J*=6.5 Hz, 3H).

3.8 General Experimental Procedure for the deprotection of TBS ethers and Acetonide group

To a solution of TBS ether/acetonide (0.5 mmol.) in MeOH/DCM (2 mL), *N*-chlorosuccinimide (0.5 mmol) and $ZnBr_2$ (0.1 mol %)were added and stirred at room temperature till completion of the reaction. Solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography by using Hexanes/EtOAc.

3.9 NMR Spectra







4. Conclusion

In conclusion a mild, convenient, efficient, eco-friendly and chemoselective protocol for selective deprotection of TBS ether is developed. Primary and secondary TBS ethers also selectively deprotected under the standardised condition. Similarly, the methodology is successfully applicable on acetonide substrates.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare no potential conflicts of interest.

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