

Development of a New Keto Acid Precursor for Lambda-Carrageenan Oxidation via Alkaline Permanganate

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Abstract

The present study aimed at developing a new keto acid precursor for the oxidation of lambda-carrageenan via alkaline permanganate. A new class of keto-acid derivatives of lambda-carrageenan (LCAR), in the form of sulfated polysaccharides, was synthesized by oxidizing LCAR with permanganate ions in an alkaline environment at pH levels greater than 12. The reactants MnO₄⁻, LCAR, and NaF were combined in precise stoichiometric ratios in alkaline solutions with pH values above 12. The mixture was stirred for approximately 48 hours to complete the reaction. The resulting colloidal precipitate of MnF₄ was separated via filtration. The filtrate was then concentrated to approximately one-fifth of its initial volume using a rotary evaporator, followed by acidification with acetic acid to a pH range of 5-6. Vacuum evaporation was used to remove excess moisture, and the product was stored aside for future use. The oxidation product was confirmed using hydroxyl amine and 2,4-dinitrophenyl hydrazine, leading to the construction of the corresponding 2,4-dinitrophenyl hydrazone and dioxime derivatives. These results indicate the successful synthesis of ketoacid-LCAR as the final oxidation product. This innovative oxidation product shows great potential for applications in pharmaceuticals, medicine, biomedicine, and the food industry.

Keywords: Synthesis, Ketoacid LCAR, Pharmaceuticals, Biomedicine

Introduction

Carrageenans (CAR) are linear, sulfated, water-soluble polysaccharides obtained from particular species of red algae. These molecules are made up of repeating disaccharide units, which are composed of galactose and 3,6-anhydrogalactose. The carrageenan family includes various types, such as kappa (KCAR), iota (ICAR), and lambda (LCAR), all of which are typically connected by glycosidic bonds [1, 2]. The structural arrangement of LCAR is shown in **Figure 1**.

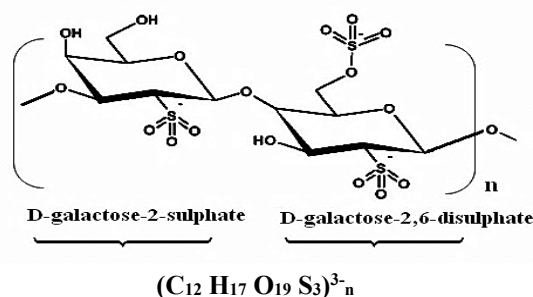


Figure 1. Configuration structure of LCAR

Lambda-carrageenan (LCAR), a polysaccharide, is gaining attention as a promising candidate for use in the pharmaceutical, medical, biotechnological, and food industries. Its diverse applications include pharmaceutical products like toothpaste, air fresheners, firefighting foams, shampoos, and cosmetic creams, as well as tissue engineering, food processing, and drug delivery systems [3-5]. This is largely due to LCAR's remarkable bioactive properties, including anticoagulant, antioxidant, antiviral, antibacterial, antitumor, and

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immune-modulating effects [4, 6, 7]. These characteristics are supported by its favorable physical traits such as biodegradability, biocompatibility, non-toxicity, hydrophilicity, environmental friendliness, and cost-effectiveness.

The macromolecular structure of LCAR contains functional groups like hydroxyl, carboxylate, and sulfate within its backbone, contributing to its high solubility in water and its ability to form gels. Additionally, polysaccharides are recognized as strong reducing agents, which allows LCAR to decrease the permanganate ion (VII), a powerful oxidizing agent, in both acidic and alkaline environments. This reduction results in the formation of Mn(II) or Mn(IV) species, alongside the oxidation of LCAR, to produce either ketoacid or ketoaldehyde derivatives, depending on the experimental conditions, like solvent type, oxidant, and pH [8-23]. The present study aimed to develop a new keto acid precursor for the oxidation of lambda-carrageenan via alkaline permanganate.

Materials and Methods

Materials

The lambda-carrageenan (L-CAR) used in this study was sourced from Fluka Reagents and was used without additional purification.

Preparation of LCAR solution

The preparation of the LCAR solution followed the procedure outlined in previous studies [24, 25]. All other materials used in the experiments were of analytical grade. Distilled water was used for all preparations.

Synthesis of Keto-Acid Oxidation Derivative of Sulfated Lambda-Carrageenan (LCAR)

Five grams of LCAR powder were dissolved in 350 cm³ of deionized water, and the pH was adjusted to ≥ 12 using NaOH. The powder was added gradually to the solution when constantly stirring to prevent clumping and ensure uniform dissolution [24, 25]. A stepwise addition of 150 cm³ of a solution containing 5.43 g of NaF and 5.17 g of MnO₄⁻ was introduced over 2 hours. The mixture was then stirred at 25 degrees for approximately 48 hours to allow the reaction to complete. The resulting colloidal MnF₄ solution was filtered to separate the solid. The filtrate was concentrated to one-fifth of its original volume using a rotary evaporator. The concentrated solution was acidified to a pH of approximately 5-6 using dilute acetic acid. The final was dried under vacuum and subjected to elemental analysis and IR spectroscopy. The detailed mechanism and kinetics of LCAR oxidation by alkaline permanganate are discussed in earlier works [25, 26].

Polymerization Test

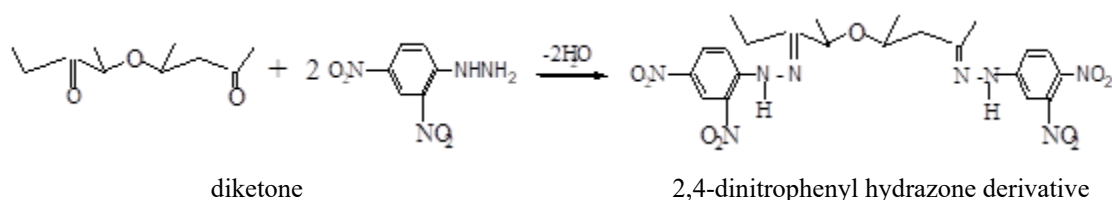
To assess the involvement of free radicals in the process of oxidation, acrylonitrile was introduced into the partially oxidized mixture. The absence of polymerization confirmed that free radicals did not participate in the reaction.

Identifying the Oxidation Product

The oxidation products were detected using 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine and hydroxylamine based on previously established methods [20-27].

Usage of 2,4-Dinitrophenylhydrazine

A diketone solution was mixed with a 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine solution and heated in a water bath. This led to the formation of a yellow precipitate, confirming the presence of the hydrazone derivative of LCAR.

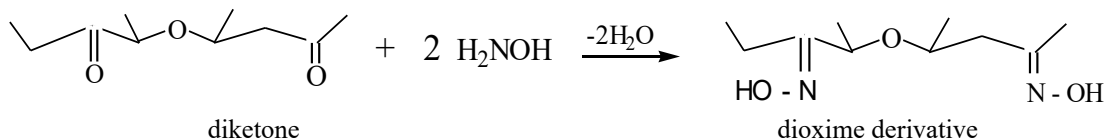


Analytical data

The 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone derivative of lambda-carrageenan (C₂₄H₁₉O₂₆N₈S₃) showed the following analytical results:

Calculated: C, 30.93 (30.96); H, 2.05 (2.01); N, 12.03 (12.12).

IR Peaks: 3320 cm^{-1} (NH of hydrazone), 3415 cm^{-1} (OH of COOH group), 1262 cm^{-1} (C—O—C of LCAR), and 1660 cm^{-1} (C=N of hydrazone).



Dioxime derivative: C₁₂H₁₃O₂₀N₂S₃

Calculated: C, 23.96 (23.75); H, 2.16 (2.18); N, 4.66 (4.33).

IR Peaks: 1670 cm^{-1} (C=N), 3325-3355 cm^{-1} (OH of COOH and oxime), 1240 cm^{-1} (C—O—C of LCAR), and 1685 cm^{-1} (C=O of COOH).

Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR):

FTIR spectra were obtained with the Pye-Unicam Sp 3100, with KBr serving as a background. The resolution was set to 4.0 cm^{-1} , and spectra were recorded within the wavenumber range of 4000-200 cm^{-1} , as shown in **Figure 2**.

Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR):

The FTIR spectra were collected with the Pye-Unicam Sp 3100, as outlined in previous studies [18-22]. KBr was utilized as a background reference, with a resolution of 4.0 cm^{-1} and a wavenumber range of 4000-200 cm^{-1} , as shown in **Figure 2**.

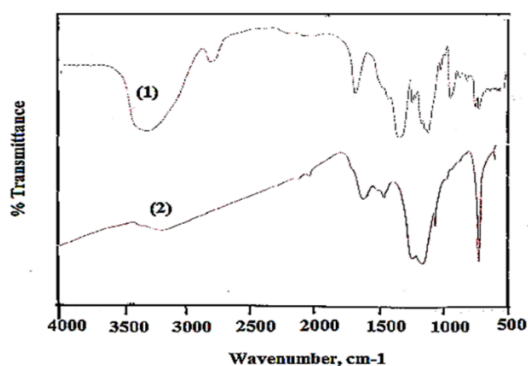


Figure 2. FTIR spectra of: (1): λ -CAR and (2): Keto-Acid- λ -CAR sulfated polysaccharide

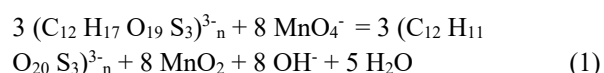
Results and Discussion

Hydroxylamine reaction

Upon heating the diketone solution with hydroxylamine in a water bath, a white precipitate formed, which was identified as the dioxime derivative of lambda-carrageenan.

Stoichiometric analysis

The oxidation of lambda-carrageenan using alkaline MnO_4^- followed the stoichiometric equation as shown below:



In this equation, $(\text{C}_{12} \text{H}_{17} \text{O}_{19} \text{S}_3)^{3-}_n$ represents LCAR, while $(\text{C}_{12} \text{H}_{11} \text{O}_{20} \text{S}_3)^{3-}_n$ is the keto-acid derivative formed as a result of the oxidation process. The formation of this derivative was confirmed by reactions with hydroxylamine and 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine, which produced the corresponding dioxime and bis-2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone derivatives. The yield of this oxidation process was found to be 96.2%.

Oxidation reaction dynamics

The oxidation of LCAR by alkaline permanganate in basic media occurred in two distinct phases. The initial stage was relatively fast and involved the detectable formation of biopolymer complexes, including transient species such as the green manganate (VI) complex $[\text{LCAR-MnVIO}_4^{2-}]$ and the blue hypomanganate (V) complex $[\text{LCAR-MnVO}_4^{3-}]$ [25-28]. This phase indicated that the oxidation followed a base-catalyzed mechanism.

As the reaction progressed, these intermediate complexes slowly decomposed, leading to the final products. **Figure 3** illustrates the spectral changes throughout the reaction, while **Figure 4** demonstrates the detection of the blue hypomanganate (V) intermediate using a conventional spectrophotometer. The formation and eventual decomposition of the intermediate complexes during the oxidation process are further depicted in **Figure 5**.

Oxidation Reaction Progression

The oxidation of the LCAR substrate by alkaline permanganate in basic media was observed to proceed in two distinct stages. The initial stage occurred rapidly and was accompanied by the forming of intermediate complexes detected, including transient species such as the green manganate (VI) complex [LCAR-MnVIO₄²⁻] and the blue hypomanganate (V) complex [LCAR-MnVO₄³⁻] [25-28]. This indicated that the reaction followed a base-catalyzed oxidation mechanism.

As the reaction continued, these intermediate complexes gradually decomposed, leading to the formation of the final oxidation products. The changes in spectra during the reaction can be seen in **Figure 3**, which tracks the progression. A conventional spectrophotometer was employed to detect the blue hypomanganate (V) intermediate, a first-time observation as shown in **Figure 4**. **Figure 5** illustrates the formation and subsequent decay of the intermediate complex throughout the oxidation process.

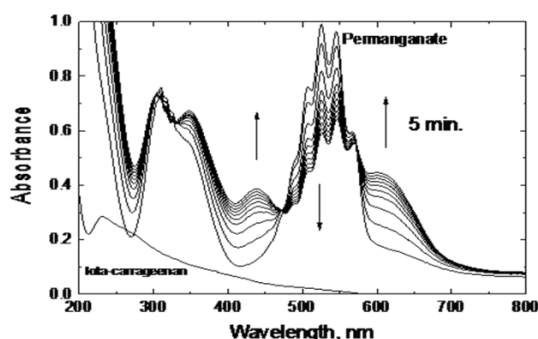


Figure 3. Spectral changes during the formation of intermediate complexes in the oxidation of lambda-carrageenan by alkaline permanganate. $[\text{MnO}_4^-] = 4 \times 10^{-4}$, $[\text{LCAR}] = 4 \times 10^{-3}$ and $I = 0.1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ at 25°C .

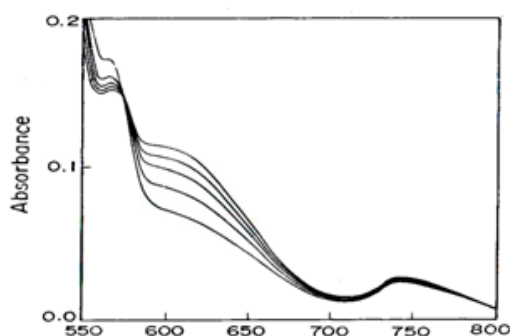
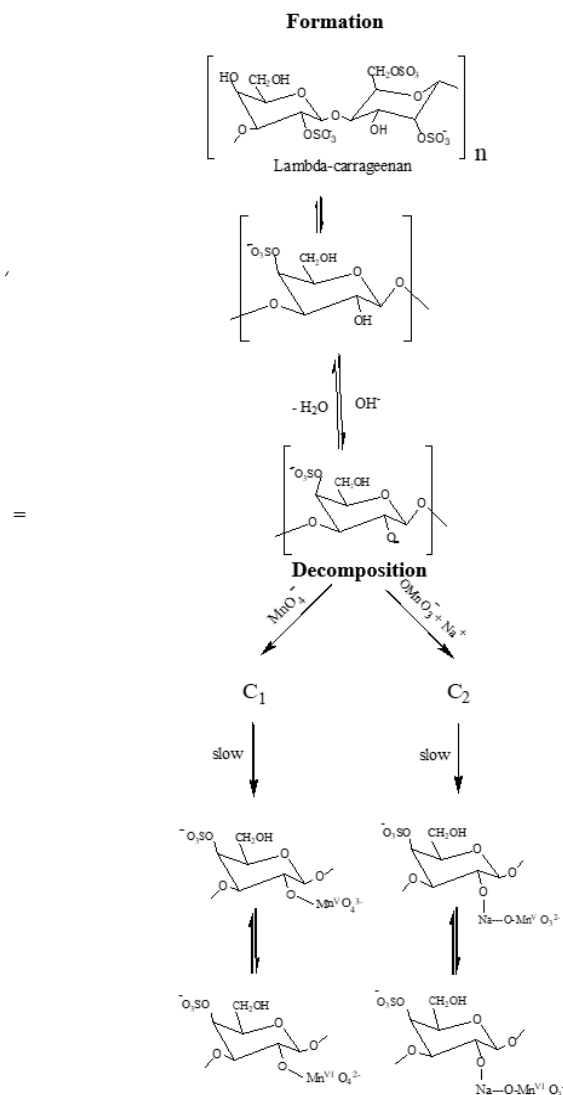


Figure 4. Formation of green manganate (VI) and blue hypomanganate (V) at wavelengths of ~ 610 and $\sim 750 \text{ nm}$, respectively, during the oxidation of lambda-carrageenan by permanganate ion at $[\text{MnO}_4^-] = 1 \times 10^{-4}$, $[\text{LCAR}] = 4 \times 10^{-3}$, $[\text{OH}^-] = 0.05$, $I = 0.1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} < 10^\circ\text{C}$.



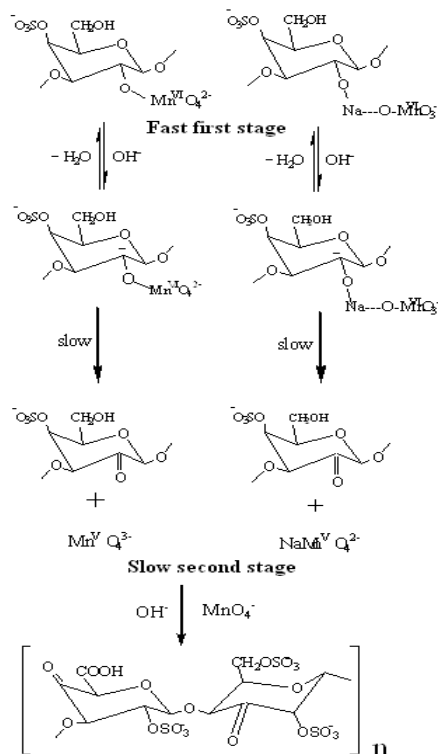


Figure 5. The formation and decomposition of the coordination biopolymer intermediate complex during the oxidation of LCAR by alkaline permanganate.

Conclusion

A new diketo-LCAR compound was successfully synthesized by oxidizing lambda-carrageenan, a sulfated polysaccharide, using permanganate ion in an alkaline environment with a pH exceeding 12. The oxidation product was confirmed through FTIR spectroscopy and analysis, with 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine and hydroxylamine proving the formation of its corresponding 2,4-dinitrophenyl hydrazone and dioxime derivatives. This innovative compound shows considerable promise for use in pharmaceuticals, medicine, biomedicine, and the food industry. It can be utilized in drug delivery systems, as a fiber component in pharmaceutical formulations, and as a stiffening agent in lipid-based materials for food production. Additionally, it has demonstrated beneficial effects in combating diabetes-related complications, managing hyperglycemia, improving insulin sensitivity, and offering antiviral, antibacterial, antioxidant,

anticoagulant, and anticancer activities. Its strong anti-diabetic properties, coupled with its ability to chelate divalent metal ions like Ca(II), make it a potential treatment for individuals with calcium deficiencies or fragile bones.

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Conflict of Interest: None

Financial Support: None

Ethics Statement: None

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