Efficient and Rapid Regioselective Deprotection of Isopropylidene Ketals

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A simple and efficient protocol is described for the regioselective hydrolysis of terminal isopropylidene ketal protection in carbohydrate derivatives **1a** – **11a**. It uses either $CoCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ in acetonitrile or $InCl_3$ in methanol at temperatures ranging from 50 to 60 °C. The low cost of $CoCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ along with its requirement in catalytic quantities offers a great advantage for the multi-gram scale reaction.

Key words: Isopropylidene Ketals, Regioselectivity, Carbohydrates, Deprotection, Hydrolysis