

# Scope and Limitations of 3-lodo-Kdo Fluoride-Based Glycosylation Chemistry using N-Acetyl Glucosamine Acceptors\*\*

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The ketosidic linkage of 3-deoxy-D-manno-octulosonic acid (Kdo) to lipid A constitutes a general structural feature of the bacterial lipopolysaccharide core. Glycosylation reactions of Kdo donors, however, are challenging due to the absence of a directing group at C-3 and elimination reactions resulting in low yields and anomeric selectivities of the glycosides. While 3-iodo-Kdo fluoride donors showed excellent glycosyl donor properties for the assembly of Kdo oligomers, glycosylation of *N*-acetyl-glucosamine derivatives was not straightforward. Specifically, oxazoline formation of a  $\beta$ -anomeric methyl glycoside,

## Introduction

The eight-carbon sugar 3-deoxy-D-manno-oct-2-ulosonic acid (Kdo) is a biomedically important constituent of bacterial polysaccharides occurring in capsular polysaccharides (CPS), O-antigens, and the core region of lipopolysaccharides (LPS). Whereas Kdo has been found in both anomeric configurations in CPS, the LPS of many Gram-negative bacteria harbors a structurally conserved  $\alpha$ -(2 $\rightarrow$ 4)-linked Kdo-disaccharide which connects the endotoxically active lipid A part to the core region and the O-antigenic polymer.<sup>[1]</sup> Lipid A is composed of a bisphosphorylated  $\beta$ -(1 $\rightarrow$ 6)-linked N-/O-acylated glucosamine disaccharide which plays a decisive role in the immune response of host cells when infected by Gram-negative bacteria.<sup>[2]</sup> Kdo is present in an acid-labile  $\alpha$ -ketosidic linkage to position 6 of the distal glucosamine unit. Whereas the acylated, bisphosphorylated diglucosamine unit provides the main interactions in the complex with Toll-like receptor 4/myelodifferentiation factor MD-2, the Kdo and adjacent heptose and outer core sugars provide additional binding epitopes for receptor interactions and recognition by antibodies and lectins.<sup>[3]</sup>

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as well as iodonium ion transfer to an allylic aglycon was found. In addition, dehalogenation of the directing group by hydrogen atom transfer proved to be incompatible with free hydroxyl groups next to benzyl groups. In contrast, glycosylation of a suitably protected methyl 2-acetamido-2-deoxy- $\alpha$ -Dglucopyranoside derivative and subsequent deiodination proceeded in excellent yields and  $\alpha$ -specificity, and allowed for subsequent 4-O-phosphorylation. This way, the disaccharides  $\alpha$ -Kdo-( $2 \rightarrow 6$ )- $\alpha$ -GlcNAcOMe and  $\alpha$ -Kdo-( $2 \rightarrow 6$ )- $\alpha$ -GlcNAcOMe-4-phosphate were obtained in good overall yields.

Thus, the chemical synthesis of relevant Kdo-lipid A fragments constitutes an important target and has successfully been pursued by several groups.<sup>[4]</sup> Coupling of Kdo donors, however, is far from trivial, and an elaborate optimization of protecting and anomeric leaving groups for each glycosylation step is often crucial for good results.<sup>[5,6]</sup> Inherent challenges in glycosidation reactions of 3-deoxy-2-ulosonic acid glycosyl donors pertain to the absence of a stereodirecting group at C-3, resulting in low anomeric selectivities. Furthermore, competing elimination reactions are common and are promoted by the deactivating C-1 ester group. In our previous work we have presented a convenient approach towards the  $\alpha$ -specific and regioselective synthesis of Chlamydia-related Kdo oligomers using 3-iodo-Kdo fluoride donor 1 for the coupling step followed by deiodination of the stereodirecting auxiliary group.<sup>[7]</sup> Gratifyingly, the elimination reaction could also be largely suppressed, and the protocol was successfully expanded to include the formation of the sterically demanding  $\alpha$ -(2 $\rightarrow$ 5)-linkage of Kdo units.<sup>[8]</sup> In continuation of these applications, we have set out to investigate the suitability of donor 1 for the glycosylation of glucosamine acceptors, specifically addressing regioselective glycosylation at position 6 with the option for subsequent phosphorylation at position 4 in order to generate the common phosphoester substitution at the distal glucosamine unit of lipid A.<sup>[2,9]</sup>

#### **Results and Discussion**

As glycosyl acceptors, *N*-acetyl-protected monosaccharide derivatives were selected, since glycosylation of the primary alcohol of *N*-acetyl-, *N*-acyl-, *N*-Cbz-, and *N*-Troc-protected glucosamine derivatives with various Kdo donors gave comparable

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yields and anomeric selectivities.<sup>[10]</sup> In a first trial experiment, the easily accessible *N*-acetyl- $\beta$ -D-glucosamine methyl glycoside derivative 2<sup>[11]</sup> was coupled with the previously described peracetylated 3-iodo-Kdo fluoride donor 1<sup>[7]</sup> under BF<sub>3</sub>:Et<sub>2</sub>Opromotion in dichloromethane (Scheme 1). Provided, that a re-

We expected that a transfer of iodonium ion generated from the activated donor to the allyl aglycon could be rationalized by the distinct difference in electron density of the allyl aglycon when compared to the rather electron-deficient  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ester 6. To investigate this hypothesis, the competitive



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: a) BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 Å molecular sieves, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C→rt, 1.5 h, 3: 32 %, 4: 11 %, 5:3%.

gioselective reaction at position 6 would be achieved, the 4-OH group should remain accessible for subsequent phosphate introduction, thus minimizing protecting group manipulations.

Disappointingly, disaccharide 3 was isolated in poor yield (32%). As expected, only traces of elimination product  ${\bf 6}^{\scriptscriptstyle [12]}$ 

were found and formation of the corresponding  $\beta$ linked Kdo-GlcNAc disaccharide was not observed. As the main disaccharide side products, furanose 4 (11%) and pyranose 5 oxazolines (3%) were identified. The structure of the furanose ring form of 4 was proven by an heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) between H-1 and C-4. When donor 1 was reacted with allyl glycoside 7 (see Supporting Information) under similar glycosylation conditions, a complex mixture of degradation products was obtained. Interestingly, a pronounced elimination of donor 1 giving glycal ester 6 was observed on thinlayer chromatography (TLC).

In a preliminary experiment, the same behavior was also noted for the *N*-phthalimido-protected  $\beta$ allyl glycosyl acceptor 8 (see Supporting Info). This outcome prompted us to investigate the reaction mechanism in more detail, since this high propensity of 3-iodo fluoride donor 1 towards elimination had previously not been observed.<sup>[7]</sup> We hypothesized that fast and irreversible migration of an intermediary iodonium ion<sup>[13, 14]</sup> to the allylic double bond leads to formation of the glycal ester 6 and outcompetes glycoside formation (Scheme 2).

a coupling reaction of donor 1 with 2-propanol in dichloromethane under BF<sub>3</sub>:Et<sub>2</sub>O-promotion was screened (for experimental detail see Supporting Information). The reaction was performed and directly monitored in an NMR tube. The consumption of the respective olefin was determined by comparing representative <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals before and after donor activation in relation to the residual solvent peak. The decrease of olefin matched the amount of glycal 6 formed in the mixture. Immediate and intensive discoloration of the solutions upon activation indicated the instability of the resulting alkyl halide structures under the

applied conditions that prevented identification of the iodo species by NMR. In fact the unsubstituted olefins 1-octene and cyclohexene suppressed formation of the known 2-propyl glycoside 9<sup>[7]</sup> and donor 1 degraded completely to glycal 6 within a few seconds. Next we used allyl methyl ether resembling the aglycon of acceptors 7 and 8. Parallel formation of glycoside 9



Scheme 2. Crossover experiments of intermediary iodonium ion in the presence of different olefins and ratios of obtained product mixtures.





and glycal 6 (final composition of the mixture was based on relative <sup>1</sup>H NMR integral values: **9:6**=1:1.2) over a period of 1 h indicated that both pathways (Scheme 2) are operative. In contrast, in the presence of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated methyl crotonate, glycoside 9 was obtained without any formation of elimination product 6. The observation that this electrophilic double bond does not inhibit the glycosylation reaction was in agreement with our previous result that donor 1 readily glycosylates glycal ester acceptors.<sup>[7]</sup> In summary, electronic rather than steric effects seem to dictate the halonium migration-a trend that is conclusively reflected by the different results obtained for the two terminal olefins 1-octene and allyl methyl ether. This may further explain why 2-iodo-2-deoxy sugar donors, that-in comparison to ulosonic acids like Kdo-lack a deactivating C-1 ester group next to the anomeric center, are not affected by a competitive iodonium-ion migration in the presence of allyl groups.<sup>[15]</sup> Thus, the allyl group turned out to be an unsuitable protecting or aglyconic group for the 3-iodo-Kdo fluoride donor 1 under these conditions.

Next, the  $\alpha$ -anomeric methyl glycoside **10** (see Supporting Information) was subjected to glycosylation (Scheme 3). In con-



Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: a) 1, BF<sub>3</sub>:Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 Å molecular sieves, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C $\rightarrow$ rt, 1 h, 55%; b) Ac<sub>2</sub>O, 4-(*N*,*N*-dimethylamino)pyridine, pyridine, rt, 5 h, 59%; c) lauroyl peroxide, cyclohexane/1,2-dichloroethane (8:1), reflux, 2 h, 75%.

trast to the outcome of the reaction with  $\beta$ -anomeric glycoside 2, the resulting disaccharide 11 was not susceptible to oxazoline formation under the applied conditions. The coupling reaction with sparingly soluble acceptor 10 provided disaccharide 11 in moderate yield (~55%) together with an inseparable impurity (~5% based on the <sup>1</sup>H NMR data). First, we believed in the presence of the 4-O-regioisomer as only one m/z value was observed for the mixture. However, the expected lowfield-shifted <sup>13</sup>C NMR signal of C-4 and high-field-shifted signal of C-6, respectively, were not detected. Instead, signals of C-3 and the benzylic carbon were shifted to lower field (see Supporting Information) in comparison to the major compound. For further analysis, 11 was submitted to the previously optimized dehalogenation procedure capitalizing on a hydrogen atom transfer reaction using lauroyl peroxide in cyclohexane (Scheme 3).<sup>[16]</sup> Free hydroxyl groups were usually tolerated by this method in previous experiments, although decreased solubility of only partially protected substrates required prolonged reaction times.<sup>[7]</sup> Notably, the free 4-hydroxyl group vicinal to the benzyl group led to a significantly decreased yield. Among different side products, an acid labile 3,4-O-benzylidene protected disaccharide could be identified. Similar observations have been described by the Bols group, who later capitalized on this benzylidene formation and its ensuing cleavage as a regioselective deprotection method for benzyl groups vicinal to free OH groups.<sup>[17]</sup> In agreement with their observation that free hydroxyl groups were essential for this reaction type<sup>[17a]</sup>involving a radical process<sup>[17b]</sup>—benzyl groups did not interfere with the hydrogen atom transfer reaction when using fully protected carbohydrate moieties. Further on, the disaccharide 11 containing the unknown entity was O-acetylated (12) prior to dehalogenation that provided disaccharide 13 in 75% yield. Neither of these steps allowed separation of the minor unit by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). Again, the only significant differences were seen for the low-field NMR shifts of C-3 and the benzylic carbon of the minor species. Thus, we surmised the presence of two stable rotamers in the disaccharide product.

This was eventually proven by a method proposed by Ley's group wherein 1D-nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE)-difference spectra are used to distinguish between equilibrating rotamers and nonequilibrating isomers.<sup>[18]</sup> By selective excitation of the NH signal of the minor entity, a parallel attenuation of the distant and heavily overlapped NH of the major species was observed (Figure 1). This phenomenon only occurs for the equilibrating rotamers but not for chemically distinct isomers.



**Figure 1.** Evidence for the presence of two rotamers in disaccharide **13**; top: 1D NOE-difference spectrum after selective pulse at 5.64 ppm (N*H* signal of minor compound); bottom: expansion plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **13** showing the NH signals.

To increase the limited solubility of the acceptor and to avoid problems at the dehalogenation step, the protecting group pattern of the GlcNAc acceptor was revised and the 3-O-benzoyl-4-O-benzyl-protected acceptor **14** (see Supporting Information) was coupled with 3-iodo fluoride donor **1** following the general protocol (Scheme 4). This way, disaccharide **15** was obtained in a high yield (89%) as the  $\alpha$ -anomer only,<sup>[19]</sup>



Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: a) 1, BF<sub>3</sub>:Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 Å molecular sieves, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C $\rightarrow$ rt, 1 h, 89%; b) lauroyl peroxide, cyclohexane/1,2-dichloroethane (8:1), reflux, 2 h, 87%; c) Pd/C (10%), H<sub>2</sub>, MeOH, rt., 3 h, 96%; d) dibenzyl *N*,*N*-diisopropylphosphoramidite, 1*H*-tetrazole, 4 Å molecular sieves, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 70 min, then *m*CPBA, 0 °C, 1 h, 70%; e) NaOMe, MeOH, 3 h, then aq. NaOH, 0 °C, 5 h, 97%; f) Pd/C (10%), H<sub>2</sub>, MeOH, rt, 30 min, then NaOMe, MeOH, rt, 17 h, then aq NaOH, 0 °C, 5 h, 99%.

and was dehalogenated (87% of **16**) by hydrogen atom transfer.<sup>[20]</sup> Debenzylation by catalytic hydrogenation (Pd/C, H<sub>2</sub>) afforded 4-OH disaccharide **17** (96%). Subsequent phosphorylation capitalizing on the two-step procedure using dibenzyl *N*,*N*-diisopropylphosphoramidite/1*H*-tetrazole followed by oxidation with *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (*m*CPBA) yielded 4-*O*-phosphotriester **18** (70%).<sup>[21]</sup>

Compound 17 was subjected to transesterification with methanol under Zemplén conditions (the formed methyl benzoate had to be removed by repeated extraction between water and *n*-hexane), followed by saponification of the methyl ester to give disaccharide **19** in 97% yield. For global deprotection of **18**, the phosphotriester was first debenzylated affording the free phosphate, which was no longer prone to migration/hydrolysis under basic conditions. Deprotection of the acyl groups and ester hydrolysis furnished the deblocked disaccharide **20** as sodium salt in near theoretical yield.

## Conclusions

3-lodo-Kdo fluoride donor 1 was suitable for stereo- and regioselective glycosylation of a 6-OH GlcNAc acceptor, but high yields relied on an appropriate protecting group pattern. The acceptor had to be designed as the  $\alpha$ -OMe glycoside to avoid oxazoline formation. Ensuing dehalogenation by hydrogen atom transfer reaction did not tolerate free hydroxyl groups in close proximity to the benzyl protecting group. Furthermore, the 3-iodo group was incompatible with the presence of nucleophilic olefins due to putative iodonium ion migration resulting in glycal ester **6**. Within these boundary conditions, however, the  $\alpha$ -specific glycosylation, dehalogenation, and global deprotection proceeded in high overall yields.

## **Experimental Section**

#### Chemistry

**General:** All purchased chemicals were used without further purification unless stated otherwise. Solvents (CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, cyclohexane, 1,2-dichloroethane, *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide) were dried over activated 4 Å molecular sieves. Dry MeOH (secco solv) was purchased from Merck. Cation exchange resin DOWEX 50 H<sup>+</sup> was re-



generated by consecutive washing with HCl (3 M), water, and dry MeOH. The promoter BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O was used as a solution in diethyl ether  $(\geq 46\%$  according to the manufacturer). Concentration of organic solutions was performed under reduced pressure < 40 °C. Optical rowere measured with tations a PerkinElmer 243 B Polarimeter (Waltham, USA).  $\left[\alpha\right]_{\text{D}}{}^{\text{20}}$  values are given in units of  $10^{-1} \text{ deg cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$ . Thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck precoated plates: generally on 5×10 cm, layer thickness 0.25 mm, Silica Gel 60F<sub>254</sub>; alternatively on HP-TLC plates with 2.5 cm concentration

zone (Merck). Spots were detected by dipping reagent (anisaldehyde-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). For column chromatography, silica gel (0.040-0.063 mm) was used. HP-column chromatography was performed on a prepacked column (YMC-Pack SIL-06, 0.005 mm, 250× 10 mm). Size exclusion chromatography for desalting was performed on prepacked PD-10 columns (GE Healthcare, Sephadex G-25 м). NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance III 600 instrument (600.22 MHz for  $^1\text{H},~150.93$  MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$  and 242.97 MHz for <sup>31</sup>P) using standard Bruker NMR software (Rheinstetten, Germany). <sup>1</sup>H spectra were referenced to 7.26 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and 0.00 (D<sub>2</sub>O, external calibration to 2,2-dimethyl-2-silapentane-5-sulfonic acid) ppm unless stated otherwise. <sup>13</sup>C spectra were referenced to 77.00 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and 67.40 (D<sub>2</sub>O, external calibration to 1,4-dioxane) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P spectra in D<sub>2</sub>O were referenced to external ortho-phosphoric acid (0.00 ppm). Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS) data were obtained on a Waters Micromass Q-TOF Ultima Global instrument (Santa Clara, USA) or on a Thermo Scientific Exactive Plus Orbitrap instrument (Waltham, USA).

Methyl (4,5,7,8-tetra-O-acetyl-3-deoxy-3-iodo-D-glycero- $\alpha$ -D-talooct-2-ulopyranosyl)onate-(2→6)-methyl 2-acetamido-3-O-benzoyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-α-D-glucopyranoside (15): A suspension of 3-iodo-Kdo donor 1 (76.6 mg, 0.140 mmol) and acceptor 14 (50.0 mg, 0.116 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.0 mL) containing ground 3 Å molecular sieves (200 mg) was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature. The cooled mixture (0 °C) was treated with BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (44  $\mu$ L, 0.349 mmol) and kept at ambient temperature for 1 h. After dilution with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the organic phase was washed successively with satd. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1×5 mL), sodium thiosulfate (5 w%) (1×5 mL), and brine (1 $\times$ 5 mL). The solution was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated, and the crude product was purified by chromatography (toluene/EtOAc 1:2) affording disaccharide 15 as a colorless oil (99.2 mg, 89%):  $R_{\rm f} = 0.31$  (toluene/EtOAc 1:2, HP-TLC);  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20} =$ +68.2 (c = 1.28 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.03-8.00$  (m, 2H, Ar), 7.58-7.55 (m, 1 H, Ar), 7.46-7.42 (m, 2 H, Ar), 7.25-7.08 (m, 5 H, Ar), 5.82 (d, 1 H,  $J_{\rm NH,2}$  9.5 Hz, NH), 5.55 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{3,2}$  10.8,  $J_{3,4}$  9.1 Hz, H-3), 5.38–5.36 (m, 1 H, H-5'), 5.34 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{7',6'}$  9.5,  $J_{7',8'b}$  4.1,  $J_{7',8'a}$ 2.6 Hz, H-7'), 5.05 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>4',3'</sub> 4.7, J<sub>4',5'</sub> 3.7 Hz, H-4'), 4.72 (d, 1 H, J<sub>1,2</sub> 3.5 Hz, H-1), 4.67 (dd, 1H, J<sub>8'a,8'b</sub> 12.3 Hz, H-8'a), 4.64 (d, 1H, J 11.2 Hz, CHHPh), 4.51 (d, 1 H, H-3'), 4.44 (d, 1 H, J 11.2 Hz, CHHPh), 4.36 (ddd, 1 H, H-2), 4.32 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>6',5'</sub> 1.8 Hz, H-6'), 4.16 (dd, 1 H, H-8'b), 3.93-3.89 (m, 1H, H-5), 3.74 (s, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.61-3.52 (m, 3H, H-4, H-6a, H-6b), 3.42 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.11, 2.05, 2.03, 1.99, and 1.83 ppm (5 s, each 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 170.3, 170.1, 170.0, 169.5, and 169.3 (5 s, 5C, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 166.8 (s, 1C, COPh), 165.6 (s, C-1'), 137.0 (s, 1C, Ar), 133.4 (d, 1C, Ar), 129.7 (d, 2C, Ar), 129.3 (s,



1C, Ar), 128.5 (d, 2C, Ar), 128.4 (d, 2C, Ar), 128.0 (d, 1C, Ar), 127.9 (d, 2C, Ar), 101.4 (s, C-2'), 98.0 (d, C-1), 76.3 (d, C-4), 74.9 (t,  $CH_2Ph$ ), 74.2 (d, C-3), 69.8 (d, C-5), 68.3 (d, C-6'), 67.7 (d, C-7'), 65.2 (d, C-4'), 65.1 (t, C-6), 63.4 (d, C-5'), 61.8 (t, C-8'), 55.1 (q, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.8 (q, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.3 (d, C-2), 23.1 (q, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 21.8, 20.9, 20.8, 20.7, and 20.6 ppm (4 q, 1 d, 5C,  $4 \times COCH_3$ , C-3'); HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* [*M*+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>48</sub>INO<sub>18</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 980.1808, found: 980.1808.

Methyl (4,5,7,8-tetra-O-acetyl-3-deoxy-α-D-manno-oct-2-ulopyra-zyl-2-deoxy-α-D-glucopyranoside (16): Disaccharide 15 (99.0 mg, 0.103 mmol) was dissolved in dry cyclohexane (4.0 mL) and dry 1,2-dichloroethane (0.5 mL) and the solution was degassed with argon. After heating to reflux for 15 min, lauroyl peroxide (14.4 mg, 0.036 mmol) was added and the solution was held at reflux for 2 h. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and the residue was subjected to chromatography (n-hexane/EtOAc 1:9), yielding dehalogenated compound 16 as a colorless oil (75.0 mg, 87%);  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.36 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc 1:1, HP-TLC);  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +82.2$  (c = 0.66 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.02 - 8.00$  (m, 2H, Ar), 7.58–7.54 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.46-7.42 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.22-7.12 (m, 5H, Ar), 5.81 (d, 1H, J<sub>NH2</sub> 9.5 Hz, NH), 5.55 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>3,2</sub> 10.8, J<sub>3,4</sub> 9.0 Hz, H-3), 5.37-5.33 (m, 2 H, H-4', H-5'), 5.21 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{7',6'}$  9.6,  $J_{7',8'b}$  4.6,  $J_{7',8'a}$  2.5 Hz, H-7'), 4.72 (d, 1 H, J<sub>1,2</sub> 3.6 Hz, H-1), 4.65 (d, 1 H, J 11.0 Hz, CHHPh), 4.59 (dd, 1H, J<sub>8'a,8'b</sub> 12.3 Hz, H-8'a), 4.49 (d, 1H, J 11.0 Hz, CHHPh), 4.37 (ddd, 1H, H-2), 4.18 (dd, 1H, J<sub>6'5'</sub> 1.1 Hz, H-6'), 4.10 (dd, 1H, H-8'b), 3.92–3.88 (m, 1 H, H-5), 3.76 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>6a,6b</sub> 10.6, J<sub>6a,5</sub> 1.7 Hz, H-6a), 3.72 (s, 3 H,  $\rm CO_2CH_3),$  3.61 (app t, 1 H,  $J_{\rm 4,5}$  ~9.7 Hz, H-4), 3.57 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6b,5}$  7.2 Hz, H-6b), 3.43 (s, 3 H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.24–2.20 (m, 1 H, H-3'eq), 2.10 (app t, 1 H,  $J_{3'ax,3'eq} \sim J_{3'ax,4'}$  12.3 Hz, H-3'ax), 2.08, 2.023, 2.020, 1.98, and 1.83 ppm (5 s, each 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>);  $^{13}$ C NMR:  $\delta = 170.5$ , 170.4, 170.0, 169.9, 169.7, 167.2 and 166.9 (7 s, 7C, 5×COCH<sub>3</sub>, COPh, C-1'), 137.2 (s, 1C, Ar), 133.4 (d, 1C, Ar), 129.8 (d, 2C, Ar), 129.4 (s, 1C, Ar), 128.5 (d, 2C, Ar), 128.4 (d, 2C, Ar), 127.91 (d, 1C, Ar), 127.87 (d, 2C, Ar), 98.5 (s, C-2'), 98.1 (d, C-1), 76.6 (d, C-4), 74.9 (t,  $CH_2Ph$ ), 74.3 (d, C-3), 69.9 (d, C-5), 68.6 (d, C-6'), 67.7 (d, C-7'), 66.3 (d, C-4'), 64.5 (d, C-5'), 63.2 (t, C-6), 62.2 (t, C-8'), 55.2 (q, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.6 (q, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.4 (d, C-2), 31.8 (t, C-3'), 23.1, 20.8, 20.73, 20.69, and 20.6 ppm (5 q, 5C, COCH\_3); HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $\ensuremath{\textit{m/z}}$  [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{40}H_{49}NO_{18}Na^+$ : 854.2842, found: 854.2847.

Methyl (4,5,7,8-tetra-O-acetyl-3-deoxy-α-D-manno-oct-2-ulopyranosyl)onate-(2 $\rightarrow$ 6)-methyl 2-acetamido-3-O-benzoyl-2-deoxy- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (17): Compound 16 (70.0 mg, 0.084 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeOH (3.0 mL). The atmosphere was exchanged to argon by alternating evacuation and flushing with argon. Pd/C (10%, 3 mg) was added followed by successive exchange of atmosphere to argon and hydrogen. After hydrogenation for 3 h, the mixture was filtered via a syringe filter, rinsed with MeOH (3 $\times$ 2 mL), and the filtrate was concentrated providing compound 17 as a colorless oil (60.0 mg, 96%), which was used without purification:  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.43 (EtOAc);  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ =+99.3 (c=0.78 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.05 - 8.03$  (m, 2H, Ar), 7.60–7.56 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.47–7.43 (m, 2 H, Ar), 5.78 (d, 1 H,  $J_{\rm NH,2}$  9.8 Hz, NH), 5.37–5.32 (m, 2 H, H-4', H-5'), 5.24 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{3,2}$  10.7,  $J_{3,4}$  9.2 Hz, H-3), 5.23 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{7',6'}$  9.3,  $J_{7',8'b}$  4.8,  $J_{7',8'a}$  2.6 Hz, H-7'), 4.75 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  3.5 Hz, H-1), 4.59 (dd, 1H, J<sub>8'a,8'b</sub> 12.1 Hz, H-8'a), 4.45 (ddd, 1H, H-2), 4.28 (dd, 1H, J<sub>6',5'</sub> 1.3 Hz, H-6'), 4.15 (dd, 1 H, H-8'b), 3.89-3.84 (m, 1 H, H-5), 3.82 (s, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.79-3.73 (m, 3H, H-4, H-6a, H-6b), 3.45 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.10 (d, 1H, J 3.8 Hz, OH), 2.21-2.17 (m, 1H, H-3'eq), 2.12 (app t, 1 H,  $J_{3'ax,3'eq} \sim J_{3'ax,4'}$  12.5 Hz, H-3'ax), 2.085, 2.077, 2.00, 1.97, and 1.86 ppm (5 s, each 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 170.6, 170.4, 169.91, 169.89, 169.8, 168.2, and 167.6 (7 s, 7C, 5×COCH<sub>3</sub>, COPh, C-1'), 133.6 (d, 1C, Ar), 130.1 (d, 2C, Ar), 129.1 (s, 1C, Ar), 128.5 (d, 2C, Ar), 98.7 (s, C-2'), 98.3 (d, C-1), 75.5 (d, C-3), 70.4 (d, C-5), 70.0 (d, C-4), 68.7 (d, C-6'), 67.8 (d, C-7'), 66.3 (d, C-4'), 64.5 (d, C-5'), 63.5 (t, C-6), 62.3 (t, C-8'), 55.3 (q, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.9 (q, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 51.4 (d, C-2), 31.9 (t, C-3'), 23.2, 20.8, 20.73, 20.68, and 20.6 ppm (5 q, 5C, COCH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>43</sub>NO<sub>18</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 764.2372, found: 764.2372.

Methyl (4,5,7,8-tetra-O-acetyl-3-deoxy-α-D-manno-oct-2-ulopyra-O-(di-benzylphosphoryl)-α-D-glucopyranoside (18): A solution of compound 17 (19.5 mg, 0.026 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) was degassed with argon. Under argon atmosphere 1 H-tetrazole (5.5 mg, 0.079 mmol) was added followed by ground 4 Å molecular sieves (50 mg). After 30 min the suspension was cooled to 0 °C and treated dropwise with dibenzyl N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite (17.3 µL, 0.053 mmol, in 3 portions within 70 min). mCPBA (70 w %, 9.7 mg, 0.039 mmol) was added at 0  $^\circ$ C, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. The mixture was diluted with  $CH_2CI_2$  and satd. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, the aqueous phase was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3×5mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration, concentration of the organic phase, and chromatography of the residue (toluene/EtOAc 1:4) provided phosphorylated compound 18 with a minor impurity which was separated by HPcolumn chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc  $1:2 \rightarrow 1:4$ ) affording **18** as a colorless oil (18.3 mg, 70%):  $R_f = 0.41$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 1:4);  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +64.8$  (c = 0.78 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ref. to 0.00, TMS):  $\delta = 8.03 - 8.01$  (m, 2H, Ar), 7.54 -7.51 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.39-7.35 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.29–7.13 (m, 8H, Ar), 6.91–6.89 (m, 2H, Ar), 5.79 (d, 1H, J<sub>NH2</sub> 9.4 Hz, NH), 5.56 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>3,2</sub> 10.9, J<sub>3,4</sub> 9.1 Hz, H-3), 5.41 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{4',3'ax}$  12.2,  $J_{4',3'eq}$  5.1,  $J_{4',5'}$  3.1 Hz, H-4'), 5.37–5.35 (m, 1H, H-5'), 5.21 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{7',6'}$  9.2,  $J_{7',8'b}$  5.0,  $J_{7',8'a}$  2.4 Hz, H-7'), 4.89 (dd, 1 H, <sup>2</sup>J 11.8, J<sub>H,P</sub> 7.2 Hz, CHHPh), 4.78 (dd, 1 H, <sup>2</sup>J 12.2, J<sub>H,P</sub> 7.9 Hz, CHHPh), 4.77 (d, 1 H, J<sub>1.2</sub> 3.8 Hz, H-1), 4.74 (dd, 1 H, <sup>2</sup>J 11.7, J<sub>H.P</sub> 7.5 Hz, CH*H*Ph), 4.67 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>8'a,8'b</sub> 12.2 Hz, H-8'a), 4.56 (dd, 1 H, <sup>2</sup>J 11.8, J<sub>H,P</sub> 10.0 Hz, CHHPh), 4.51 (app q, 1H, J<sub>4,5</sub> ~J<sub>4,P</sub> 9.3 Hz, H-4), 4.41 (ddd, 1H, H-2), 4.34 (dd, 1H, J<sub>6',5'</sub> 1.4 Hz, H-6'), 4.09 (dd, 1H, H-8'b), 4.05-4.00 (m, 2 H, H-5, H-6a), 3.74 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>6b,6a</sub> 11.1, J<sub>6b,5</sub> 7.9 Hz, H-6b), 3.68 (s, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.48 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.22-2.18 (m, 1H, H-3'eq), 2.12 (app t, 1 H,  $J_{3'ax,3'eq} \sim 12.5$  Hz, H-3'ax), 2.091, 2.086, 2.01, 1.96, and 1.84 ppm (5 s, each 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCI<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 170.5$ , 170.4, 169.9, 169.83, 169.80, 167.2, and 166.9 (7 s, 7C, 5×COCH<sub>3</sub>, COPh, C-1'), 135.5 (ds, 1C, J 7.2 Hz, Ar), 135.2 (ds, 1C, J 6.5 Hz, Ar), 133.4 and 130.0 (2 d, 3C, Ar), 129.1 (s, 1C, Ar), 128.44, 128.39, 128.32, 128.30, 127.69, and 127.66 (6 d, 12C, Ar), 98.5 (s, C-2'), 97.8 (d, C-1), 73.8 (dd, J 5.9 Hz, C-4), 72.1 (dd, J 2.0 Hz, C-3), 69.53 (d, C-5), 69.47 (dt, J 5.8 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 69.4 (dt, J 5.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 68.8 (d, C-6'), 68.1 (d, C-7'), 66.3 (d, C-4'), 64.7 (d, C-5'), 62.7 (t, C-6), 62.1 (t, C-8'), 55.4 (q, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.6 (q, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.2 (d, C-2), 31.9 (t, C-3'), 23.1, 20.8, 20.73, and 20.66 ppm (4 s, 5C, COCH\_3);  $^{31}\mathrm{P}\,\mathrm{NMR}$  (CDCl\_3):  $\delta\!=\!-2.01$  ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>47</sub>H<sub>56</sub>NO<sub>21</sub>PNa<sup>+</sup>: 1024.2975, found: 1024.2976.

**Sodium** (3-deoxy- $\alpha$ -D-*manno*-oct-2-ulopyranosyl)onate-(2 $\rightarrow$ 6)methyl 2-acetamido-2-deoxy- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (19): A solution of 17 (8.2 mg, 0.011 mmol) in dry MeOH (1 mL) was treated with sodium methoxide (0.1 m in MeOH, 22 µL, 2.2 µmol) at ambient temperature for 3 h. lon-exchange resin DOWEX 50 (H<sup>+</sup>-form) was added until the mixture reacted neutral. The resin was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. To remove methyl benzoate, water (3 mL) and *n*-hexane (3 mL) were added to the residual solid, the mixture was ultrasonicated for 10 s, and the organic layer was repeated. After two more extractions, the aqueous phase was concentrated in vacuo, and the residue was stirred in





aq NaOH (0.01 м, 3.0 mL) at 0°C for 3 h. Additional aq NaOH (0.1 м, 0.5 mL) was added, and after 2 h at 0 °C the mixture was neutralized with DOWEX 50 (H<sup>+</sup>-form). The resin was filtered off, washed with water (3×1 mL), and the filtrate was freeze-dried. The crude product was desalted on a PD10 SEC column (H<sub>2</sub>O). Freeze-drying of pooled fractions yielded sodium salt 19 as a colorless amorphous solid (5.1 mg, 97%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +102.8$  (c = 0.26 in H<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.4):  $\delta$  = 4.71 (d, 1 H, J<sub>1,2</sub> 3.7 Hz, H-1, overlapped by residual solvent peak), 4.04 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{4'\!,3'\!\mathrm{ax}}$  12.1,  $J_{4'\!,3'\!\mathrm{eq}}$  5.0,  $J_{4'\!,5'}$ 2.9 Hz, H-4'), 3.99-3.97 (m, 1 H, H-5'), 3.92-3.87 (m, 3 H, H-2, H-7', H-8'a), 3.74 (ddd, 1 H, J<sub>5.4</sub> 10.1, J<sub>5.6a</sub> 4.5, J<sub>5.6b</sub> 3.4 Hz, H-5), 3.68–3.54 (m, 5 H, H-3, H-6a, H-6b, H-6', H-8'b), 3.44 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>4.3</sub> 9.4 Hz, H-4), 3.34 (s, 3 H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.05 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{3'eq,3'ax}$  13.1 Hz, H-3'eq), 1.99 (s, 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), and 1.76 ppm (app t, 1H, H-3'ax); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.4):  $\delta =$  175.8 and 175.3 (2 s, 2C, C-1', COCH<sub>3</sub>), 100.7 (s, C-2'), 98.8 (d, C-1), 72.3 and 72.2 (2 d, 2C, C-3, C-6'), 71.2 (d, C-4), 71.0 (d, C-5), 70.3 (d, C-7'), 67.1 and 66.9 (2 d, 2C, C-4', C-5'), 64.2 (t, C-8'), 62.7 (t, C-6), 56.0 (q, OCH\_3), 54.4 (d, C-2), 34.9 (t, C-3'), and 22.7 ppm (q, COCH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z [M-H]<sup>-</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>13</sub><sup>-</sup>: 454.1555, found: 454.1564.

3-Deoxy- $\alpha$ -D-*manno*-oct-2-ulopyranosylonic acid-(2 $\rightarrow$ 6)-methyl 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-4-phosphono- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside sodium salt (20): Phosphotriester 18 (11.0 mg, 0.011 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeOH (2.0 mL). The atmosphere was exchanged to argon by alternating evacuation and flushing with argon. Pd/C (10%, 1 mg) was added followed by successive exchange of atmosphere to argon and hydrogen. After hydrogenation for 30 min the mixture was filtered via a syringe filter into a flask containing sodium methoxide (0.1 м in MeOH, 110 µL, 0.011 mmol) in dry MeOH (2.0 mL). After rinsing the filter with MeOH (3×1 mL), the filtrate was neutralized by further addition of sodium methoxide (0.1 M in MeOH). The solvent was removed until a volume of 3 mL of MeOH remained: The pH was adjusted to 8 with sodium methoxide, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at rt. After increasing the pH to 9, stirring was continued for 14 h. Excessive base was neutralized by adding DOWEX 50 (H+-form) resin. The resin was filtered off, rinsed with MeOH, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Removal of methyl benzoate, ester saponification, and desalting were performed as described for compound 19, providing phosphate 20 as a colorless amorphous solid (6.3 mg, 99%):  $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{_{20}} = +\,91.6$  (c = 0.63 in H<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.4):  $\delta = 4.71$  (d, 1 H, J<sub>1.2</sub> 3.5 Hz, H-1, overlapped by residual solvent peak), 4.06 (ddd, 1H, J<sub>4',3'ax</sub> 12.0,  $J_{4',3'eq}$  5.2,  $J_{4',5'}$  3.0 Hz, H-4'), 3.99–3.98 (m, 1 H, H-5'), 3.92–3.76 (m, 7 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6', H-7', H-8'a), 3.70-3.63 (m, 2 H, H-6a, H-8'b), 3.57-3.53 (m, 1H, H-6b), 3.34 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.03 (dd, 1H, J<sub>3'eq.3'ax</sub> 13.1 Hz, H-3'eq), 1.98 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), and 1.74 ppm (app t, 1 H, H-3'ax); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.4):  $\delta$  = 176.0 and 175.1 (2 s, 2C, C-1', COCH<sub>3</sub>), 100.6 (s, C-2'), 98.1 (d, C-1), 74.3 (dd, J 5.2 Hz, C-4), 72.2 (d, 2C, C-3, C-6'), 70.5 (d, C-7'), 70.3 (dd, J 8.7 Hz, C-5), 67.2 (d, C-5'), 66.9 (d, C-4'), 64.2 (t, C-8'), 63.2 (t, C-6), 55.9 (q, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (d, C-2), 35.0 (t, C-3'), and 22.7 ppm (q, COCH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.4):  $\delta =$ -3.30 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z [M-H]<sup>-</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>16</sub>P<sup>-</sup>: 534.1219, found: 534.1229.

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