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#### Note

# The $\beta$ -D-Gal pNAc- $(1 \rightarrow 3)$ -D-Gal p linkage through the oxazoline glycosylation method

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The disaccharide  $\beta$ -D-Gal pNAc- $(1 \rightarrow 3)$ - $\alpha$ -D-Gal p is a component of some important naturally occurring oligosaccharides such as the Forssman pentasaccharide [1], the stage-specific embryonic antigen 3 (SSEA 3) pentasaccharide [2], and the tumor associated antigen Globo-H hexasaccharide [3].

Synthetic work has been performed [1,2,4] aimed towards the synthesis of such a disaccharide moiety, which requires as glycosyl donors, 2-amino-2-deoxy-galactose derivatives properly protected on their amino group. In these cases a 2-phthalimido or a 2-azido derivative was used, implying further synthetic steps after the formation of the  $\beta$ -glycosyl linkage, in order to restore the required 2-acetamido functionality.

Among the methods used in the synthesis of the related disaccharide  $\beta$ -D-Glc pNAc- $(1 \rightarrow 3)$ - $\alpha$ -D-Gal p is the oxazoline procedure [4], which results directly in the desired product. This methodology is now applied to obtain the  $\beta$ -D-Gal pNAc- $(1 \rightarrow 3)$ -D-Gal p linkage.

As we are currently engaged in the conformational analysis [5,6] of fragments of the Globo-H hexasaccharide, we planned to use the oxazoline method to obtain one such fragment, the disaccharide  $\beta$ -D-Gal pNAc-(1  $\rightarrow$  3)- $\alpha$ -D-Gal p-1-O-Pr (8).

The glycosyl donor 4 was obtained (Scheme 1) starting from allyl 2-acetamido-2-de-oxy-4,6-di-O-pivaloyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (1) [7] through acetylation followed by catalytic isomerization [8] of the allyl group and treatment with iodine and 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) [9], in an overall yield of about 50%. The oxazoline 4

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was then allowed to react with allyl 2,4,6-tri-O-benzyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside 5 [10] in dichloromethane at room temperature using trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (Me<sub>3</sub>SiOTf) as the promoter [11].

In this way, a satisfactory 79% yield of the disaccharide **6** was obtained, so demonstrating the efficiency of the oxazoline procedure for the formation of this linkage.

Compound 6 was then conventionally deprotected by Zemplén deacylation and catalytic hydrogenolysis to give, through 7, the disaccharide  $\beta$ -D-Gal pNAc- $(1 \rightarrow 3)$ - $\alpha$ -D-Gal p as the propyl glycoside 8 suitable for conformational studies.

### 1. Experimental

General methods.—All reagents, except (cycloocta-1,5-diene)bis(methyl diphenylphosphine)iridium hexafluorophosphate (Alfa), were purchased from Aldrich. Reagents and dried solvents were added via oven-dried syringes through septa. All reactions were monitored by TLC on Silica Gel 60 F-254 plates (E. Merck) with detection by spraying with 50%  $\rm H_2SO_4$  solution. Flash column chromatography was performed on Silica Gel 60 (230–400 mesh, E. Merck). Uncorrected melting points were determined on a Büchi apparatus. Optical rotations were determined on a Perkin–Elmer 241 polarimeter in a 1-dm cell at 20°C.  $^1\rm H$  NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AM-500 instrument. Chemical shifts are referenced to HDO ( $\delta$  4.55) for compound 8 in 0.04 M D<sub>2</sub>O solution at 303 K. All evaporations were carried out under reduced pressure at 40°C.

Allyl 2-acetamido-3-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-4,6-di-O-pivaloyl-β-D-galactopyranoside (2). —Compound 1 [7] (600 mg, 1.40 mmol) was conventionally acetylated to afford, after flash chromatography (1:1 hexane–EtOAc), 2 (640 mg, 97%); mp 129–130°C (from hexane); [α]<sub>D</sub> –13.3° (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 5.84 (m, 1 H, -CH=), 5.57 (d, 1 H,  $J_{2,NH}$  8.5 Hz, NH), 5.33 (d, 1 H,  $J_{3,4}$  3.5 Hz, H-4), 5.28 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  11.0 Hz, H-3), 5.24, 5.16 (2 m, 2 H, = $CH_2$ ), 4.73 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  8.5 Hz, H-1), 4.31 (m, 1 H, OC $H_a$ H-), 4.13 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  11.0,  $J_{5,6a}$  7.0 Hz, H-6a), 4.06 (m, 1 H, OC $H_b$ H-), 4.04 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5,6b}$  7.0 Hz, H-6b), 3.94 (dd, 1 H, H-5), 3.91 (ddd, 1 H, H-2), 1.93, 1.92 (2 s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.22 and 1.14 (2 s, 18 H, 2 tert-BuCO). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{37}O_9N$ : C, 58.58; H, 7.91; N, 2.97. Found: C, 58.32; H, 8.02; N, 3.07.

1-Propenyl 2-acetamido-3-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-4,6-di-O-pivaloyl-β-D-galactopyranoside

(3).—To a solution of 2 (620 mg, 1.32 mmol) in dry THF (40 mL), a catalytic amount of (cycloocta-1,5-diene)bis(methyldiphenylphosphine)iridium hexafluorophosphate was added. The solution was degassed and left for ca. 1 min under H<sub>2</sub> until the orange colour turned yellow. The solution was degassed again and left under N2 for 1 h (TLC 1:1 hexane-EtOAc). After evaporation of the solvent the residue was dissolved in CH2Cl2, washed with a saturated aq solution of NaHCO3 and with water, and dried under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography (2:3 hexane-EtOAc) of the crude product afforded the propenyl derivative 3 (572 mg, 92%); mp 149-150°C (from hexane);  $[\alpha]_D + 3.3^\circ$  (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.17 (m, 1 H, OCH=), 5.39-5.32 (m, 3 H, H-3, H-4 and NH), 5.11 (m, 1 H, =CH-), 4.96 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  8.5 Hz, H-1), 4.15 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  11.0,  $J_{5,6a}$  7.0 Hz, H-6a), 4.06 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5,6b}$  7.0 Hz, H-6b), 4.01 (dd, 1 H, H-5), 3.92 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  11.0,  $J_{2,NH}$  8.5 Hz, H-2), 1.95, 1.93 (2 s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.51 (m, 3 H, =CH-C $H_3$ ), 1.23 and 1.15 (2 s, 18 H, 2 tert-BuCO). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>37</sub>O<sub>9</sub>N: C, 58.58; H, 7.91; N, 2.97. Found: C, 58.61; H, 7.85; N, 2.90. 2-Methyl-(3-O-acetyl-1,2-dideoxy-4,6-di-O-pivaloyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyrano)-[2,1-d]-2oxazoline (4).—Compound 3 (556 mg, 1.18 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (16 mL) under  $N_2$ ;  $I_2$  (594 mg, 2.34 mmol) and 5.2 mL of a 10% (v/v) solution of DBU (3.34 mmol) in THF were added. After 15 min at room temperature (TLC 85:15 toluene-MeOH), the mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with 5% K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution, water, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and the solvent evaporated. Flash chromatography (85:15 toluene-MeOH) of the residue afforded 4 (264 mg, 54%); mp 112-113°C (from hexane);  $[\alpha]_D + 84.1^\circ$  (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  5.94 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  6.5 Hz, H-1), 5.46 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{3,4}$  3.0,  $J_{4,5}$  3.0 Hz, H-4), 4.88 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  7.0 Hz, H-3), 4.26 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{5,6a}$  7.0,  $J_{5,6b}$  7.0 Hz, H-5), 4.18 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  11.0 Hz, H-6a), 4.02 (dd, 1 H, H-6b), 3.95 (ddq, 1 H,  $J_{2,CH}$ , 1.5 Hz, H-2), 2.02 (d, 3 H, -C $H_3$ ), 2.01 (s, 3 H, Ac),

Allyl 3-O-(2-acetamido-3-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-4,6-di-O-pivaloyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)-2,4,6-tri-O-benzyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside (6).—To a mixture of 5 [10] (294 mg, 0.60 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) and powdered molecular sieves 4 Å, 5.2 mL of a 2.4% (v/v) solution of Me<sub>3</sub>SiOTf (0.64 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and a solution of 4 (248 mg, 0.60 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) were added. After 18 h at room temperature (TLC 1:1 toluene–EtOAc), the reaction was filtered and the filtrate was washed with a saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, H<sub>2</sub>O, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and the solvent evaporated. Flash

1.22 and 1.16 (2 s, 18 H, 2 tert-BuCO). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>8</sub>N: C, 58.10; H, 7.56;

N, 3.39. Found: C, 58.81; H, 7.49; N, 3.23.

chromatography (1:1 toluene–EtOAc) of the residue afforded **6** (430 mg, 79%); mp 182–183°C (from hexane–CH $_2$ Cl $_2$ ); [ $\alpha$ ] $_0$  + 5.4° (c 0.9, CHCl $_3$ );  $^1$ H NMR (CDCl $_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.37–7.20 (m, 15 H, Ph-H), 5.87 (m, 1 H,–CH=), 5.32 (d, 1 H,  $J_{3',4'}$  3.5 Hz, H-4'), 5.25, 5.15 (2 m, 2 H, =C $H_2$ ), 5.11 (d, 1 H,  $J_{\text{NH},2'}$  10.0 Hz, NH), 4.98 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{3',2'}$  11.0 Hz, H-3'), 4.96–4.34 (m, 6 H, Ph-C $H_2$  – ), 4.81 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1',2'}$  8.5 Hz, H-1'), 4.79 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  3.5 Hz, H-1), 4.32 (ddd, 1 H, H-2'), 4.16–3.91 (m, 8 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5', H-6'a, H6'b and OC $H_2$  – ), 3.89 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5.6a}$  6.5 Hz,  $J_{5.6b}$  6.5 Hz, H-5), 3.48 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  10.0 Hz, H-6a), 3.34 (dd, 1 H, H-6b), 1.93, 1.69 (2 s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.21 and 1.14 (2 s, 18 H, 2 tert-BuCO). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{50}H_{65}O_{14}N$ : C, 66.43; H, 7.25; N, 1.55. Found: C, 66.19; H, 7.05; N, 1.42.

Allyl 3-O-(2-acetamido-2-deoxy- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)-2,4,6-tri-O-benzyl- $\alpha$ -Dgalactopyranoside (7).—To a solution of 6 (416 mg, 0.46 mmol) in MeOH (8 mL), 2.6 mL of 1.3 M MeONa in MeOH were added. After 3 h at reflux (TLC 95:5 EtOAc-MeOH) the reaction mixture was neutralized with Dowex-50 × 8 (H<sup>+</sup>), filtered and the solvent evaporated. Flash chromatography (95:5 EtOAc-MeOH) of the residue afforded 7 (294 mg, 92%); mp 87–88°C (from hexane–EtOAc;  $[\alpha]_D + 25.5^\circ$  (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.37–7.20 (m, 15 H, Ph–H), 6.16 (d, 1 H,  $J_{NH2'}$  3.0 Hz, NH), 5.88 (m, 1 H, -CH =), 5.27, 5.17 (2 m, 2 H,  $=CH_2$ ), 4.98 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  3.0 Hz, H-1), 4.92-4.34 (m, 6 H, Ph-C $H_2$ -), 4.54 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1'.2'}$  8.5 Hz, H-1'), 4.13 (m, 1 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>H<sub>-</sub>), 4.11 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>2,3</sub> 10.0 Hz, H-2), 4.08 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>3,4</sub> 2.0 Hz, H-3), 4.04 (br d, 1 H, H-4), 3.99 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5',6'a}$  5.5,  $J_{6'a,6'b}$  11.5 Hz, H-6'a), 3.95 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5,6a}$  6.0,  $J_{5,6b}$  6.0 Hz, H-5), 3.92 (m, 1 H, OC $H_b$ H-), 3.90 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5',6'b}$  4.5 Hz, H-6'b), 3.89 (d, 1 H,  $J_{3',4'}$  3.5 Hz, H-4'), 3.72 (ddd, 1 H,  $J_{2',3'}$  10.0 Hz, H-2'), 3.56 (dd, 1 H, H-3'), 3.56 (dd, 1 H, H-5'), 3.50 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  9.5 Hz, H-6a), 3.41 (dd, 1 H, H-6b) and 1.59 (s, 3 H, Ac). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>47</sub>O<sub>11</sub>N: C, 65.79; H, 6.83; N, 2.02. Found: C, 65.27; H, 6.97; N, 2.26.

*Propyl* 3-O-(2-acetamido-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-α-D-galactopyranoside (**8**). —To a solution of **7** (278 mg, 0.40 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL), 140 mg of 10% Pd/C were added and the mixture was stirred for 4 h under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (TLC 3:3:1 EtOAc-*i*PrOH-H<sub>2</sub>O). The mixture was filtered on Celite and the solvent evaporated. The residue was dissolved in water and then lyophilized to give **8** (138 mg, 81%); mp 215–218°C (dec) (from EtOAc); [α]<sub>D</sub> + 89.2° (c 0.9, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 4.73 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1,2}$  3.5 Hz, H-1), 4.46 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1',2'}$  8.5 Hz, H-1'), 4.01 (d, 1 H,  $J_{3,4}$  3.0 Hz, H-4), 3.79–3.71 (m, 4 H, H-5, H-4', H-2' and H-3), 3.69 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2,3}$  10.0 Hz, H-2), 3.61 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5',6'a}$  7.5,  $J_{6'a,6'b}$  11.5 Hz, H-6'a), 3.57 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5',6'b}$  4.5 Hz, H-6'b), 3.56 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{2',3'}$  10.0,  $J_{3',4'}$  3.5 Hz, H-3'), 3.54 (d, 2 H,  $J_{5,6}$  6.5 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-6), 3.51–3.45 (m, 2 H, OC $H_a$ H and H-5'), 3.31 (m, 1 H, OC $H_b$ H–) 1.86 (s, 3 H, Ac), 1.45 (m, 2 H,  $-CH_2$ –) and 0.74 (t, 3 H,  $-CH_3$ ). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>11</sub>N: C, 48.00; H, 7.34; N, 3.29. Found: C, 48.39; H, 7.90; N, 3.66.

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