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## **Nucleosides, Nucleotides and Nucleic Acids**

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### **Solid Phase Synthesis of Nucleobase and Ribose Modified Inosine Nucleoside Analogues**

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## SOLID PHASE SYNTHESIS OF NUCLEOBASE AND RIBOSE MODIFIED INOSINE NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES

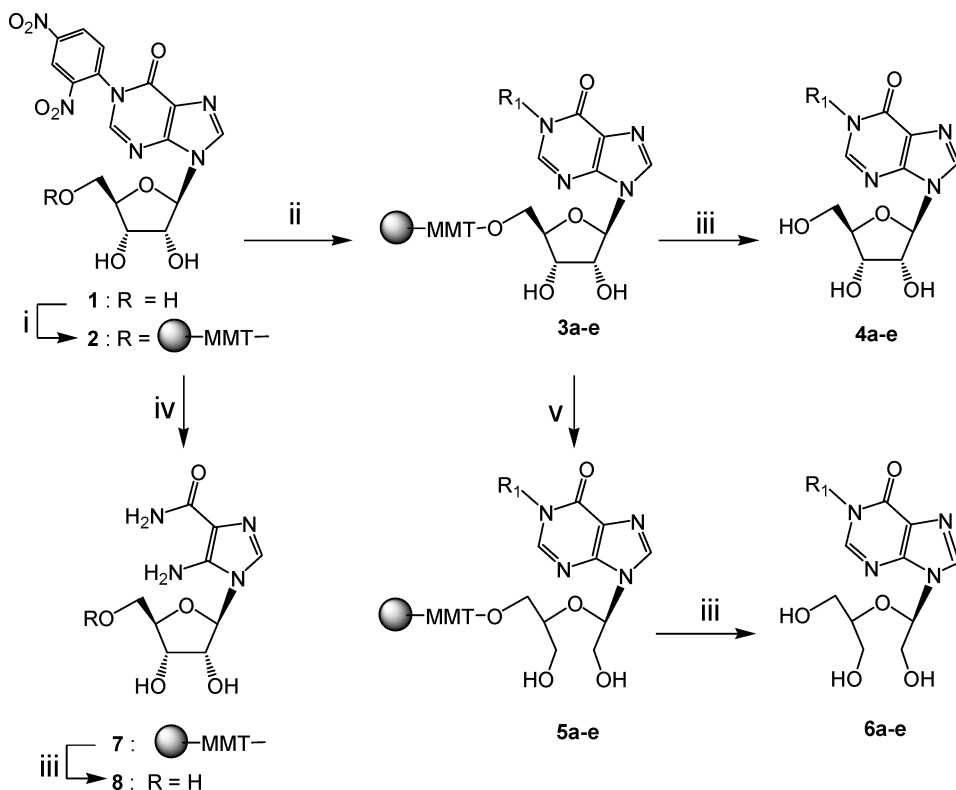
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□ *The synthesis and the use of new N-1-dinitrophenyl-inosine based solid support is reported. The support, which binds the nucleoside by a 5'-O-monomethoxytrityl function, reacting with N-nucleophiles allowed the synthesis of a small library of N-1 alkylated inosine and AICAR derivatives. Moreover, the obtained supports, after the cleavage of the 2'-3' ribose bond, furnished a set of new N-1 alkylated-2'-3'-secoinosine derivatives in high yields.*

**Keywords** N-1-Dinitrophenyl-inosine based solid support; N-nucleophiles; 2'-3'-seconucleosides

Nucleosides are biomolecules possessing a pivotal role in the metabolism. In fact, they are involved, as tri-phosphate derivatives, in the nucleic acid replications and in a very wide number of interactions with enzymes, structural proteins, and nucleic acids. Furthermore, nucleosides are involved with a broad array of biological targets of therapeutic importance and a number of their derivatives exhibit antineoplastic,<sup>[1]</sup> antibiotic,<sup>[2]</sup> and antiviral properties.<sup>[3]</sup> A variety of solid phase combinatorial strategies have been reported for the preparation of nucleoside and small oligonucleotide analogues libraries.<sup>[4]</sup> In an effort to enlarge the nucleoside chemical reactivity on the solid phase, and, thus, the number of accessible structurally diverse analogues, we report here the new acid labile nucleoside functionalized support **2**, which binds the N-1-dinitrophenyl-inosine derivative **1** through the 5'-O-ribose position. These support has been employed in the solid phase synthesis of N-1 substituted inosine **4a–e**, the related 2'-,3'-seconucleoside derivatives **6a–e** and the 5-aminoimidazole-4-carboxamide riboside (AICAR) **8**. The solid phase strategy is based on our previous studies on the C-2 reactivity of N-1-dinitrophenyl-2'-deoxyinosine towards N-nucleophiles<sup>[5,6]</sup> to obtain N-1 substituted inosine and AICAR derivatives.

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**SCHEME 1** i) **2** or **3** (1.5 eq.) in pyridine (1.5 mL/250 mg of resin), DMAP (0.2 eq.), 24 hours r.t.; ii)  $\text{R}_1\text{-NH}_2/\text{DMF}$  (38.0 eq), 8 hours  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ; iii) TFA 2% solution in DCM; iv) EDA/DMF (1:1, w/w) 8 hours  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ; v)  $\text{NaIO}_4$  (10 eq.) in DMF/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1,v/v), 12 hours,  $60^\circ\text{C}$ ; resin washings and treatment with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (20 eq.) in EtOH, 2 hours, r.t.

The reported reaction mechanism indicates that when a strong electron-withdrawing group (such as the 2,4-dinitrophenyl or the nitro group<sup>[7]</sup>) is attached to the N-1 atom of the hypoxanthine ring, the C-2 carbon become electrophilic enough to react with amino nucleophiles ( $\text{R}_1\text{-NH}_2$ ) leading to  $\text{R}_1\text{-N-1}$  substituted inosine derivatives by a fast opening and re-closure of the six terms purine cycle.

Support **2** was obtained by reaction of the commercially available polystyrenemonomethoxytrityl chloride (MMTCl) with the 1-(2,4-dinitrophenyl)-inosine<sup>[8]</sup> **1** (Scheme 1). The structure and the loading of the support **2** (1.2–1.3 meq/g) was confirmed analyzing, by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and quantitative UV experiments, the released inosine **1** by treatment with 2% TFA in DCM. The reaction of support **2** (100 mg, 0.13 mmol) with N-nucleophiles (5.0 mmol,  $\text{R}_1\text{-NH}_2$ , Table 1 entry **a–e**) in DMF (8 hours, at  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ) gave supports **3a–e**. The reaction of **2** with ethylenediamine (Table 1, entry **f**) furnished, as expected,<sup>[9]</sup> the support **7** bearing AICAR in almost quantitative yields. The structures of the supports **3a–e** and **7** were ascertained by HPLC,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, and MS analyses of the corresponding detached

TABLE 1 Reactions of the support **2** products **4**, **6**, and **8**. N.T: not tested.

Entry	R <sub>1</sub> -NH <sub>2</sub>	4a-e and <b>8</b> Yield <sup>a</sup> (%)	<sup>1</sup> H NMR <sup>b</sup>			<sup>1</sup> H NMR <sup>b</sup>		
			H-2; H-9; H-1'	R <sub>1</sub> moiety	6a-e Yield <sup>c</sup> (%)	H-2; H-9; H-1'	R <sub>2</sub> moiety	
<b>a</b>		<b>4a</b> , (98)	8.41; 8.36; 6.02	4.12; 1.76; 1.40; 0.98	<b>6a</b> (85)	8.30; 8.26; 6.04	4.00; 1.75; 1.38; 0.96	
<b>b</b>		<b>4b</b> , (96)	8.42; 8.26; 6.01	4.19; 3.82	<b>6b</b> (85)	8.28; 8.24; 6.04	4.20; 3.83	
<b>c</b>		<b>4c</b> , (97)	8.41; 8.32; 6.02	4.20; 3.60; 1.98	<b>6c</b> (84)	8.31; 8.26; 6.03	4.21; 3.60; 1.98	
<b>d</b>		<b>4d</b> , (98)	8.40; 8.35; 6.02	4.12; 3.56 1.81; 1.59; 1.42	<b>6d</b> (82)	4.21; 3.60; 1.98	4.11; 3.55; 1.79; 1.58; 1.43	
<b>e</b>		<b>4e</b> , (90)	8.38; 8.32; 6.00	3.98 (2CH <sub>2</sub> OH); 3.92 (CH)	<b>6e</b> (75)	8.29; 8.04; 6.05	4.02 (2CH <sub>2</sub> OH) 3.95 (CH)	
<b>f</b>		<b>8</b> (98)	8.04; 5.66		N.T.	N.T.		

<sup>a</sup>Starting from resin **2**.  
<sup>b</sup>400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) significant protons at ppm.  
<sup>c</sup>Starting from resin **3**.

crude materials **4a–e** and **8**. The product yields and the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR selected data are reported in Table 1. The second goal of this work was aimed to combining the set of the N-1 alkylations of the supports **3a–e** with the 2'-3'-oxidative cleavage of the ribose to obtain the related 2'-3'-seconucleoside derivatives.<sup>[10]</sup> In a typical reaction the support **3a–e** (100 mg) was left in contact with a solution of  $\text{NaIO}_4$  (1.3 mmol) in DMF/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1,v/v) and shaken for 12 hours at 60°C. The resulting support was treated with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (2.6 mmol) in EtOH and shaken for 2.0 hours at room temperature. After washings, the resins **5a–e** were analyzed by detachment of the nucleosidic material by TFA treatment. HPLC analyses indicated that the 2'-3'-secoinosine derivatives **6a–e** were obtained in 75–85% yields. The structures of **6a–e** were confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (Table 1) and MS analyses.

In conclusion, we have reported the synthesis of the new N-1-dinitrophenyl-inosine based solid support **2**, which allowed the synthesis of small libraries of N-1 alkylated inosine derivatives **4a–e** and N-1 alkylated 2'-3'-secoinosine derivatives **6a–e** in good yields. Further studies are currently in progress in this direction to obtain new series of modified nucleoside analogues.

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