

Synthesis of Lipid Linked Oligosaccharide Substrates and Inhibitors of a eukaryotic Oligosaccharyl transferase

J. Boilevin¹, A. Ramirez², T. Darbre¹, K. Locher², J. L. Reymond^{1*}

¹Bern University, ²ETH Zürich

Here we report the preparation of various synthetic lipid-linked oligosaccharides (LLOs) and their phosphonate analogs. These LLOs act as glycosyl donors in biochemical studies of enzymes involved in protein glycosylation, such as oligosaccharyl flippases (PglK)^[1] and oligosaccharyl transferases (OSTs),^[2,3] while their phosphonate analogs can be used as inhibitors of the same enzymes. The LLOs were obtained in 16 to 31 steps in a convergent synthesis involving the coupling of a lipid phosphate with a glycosyl phosphate or phosphonate. Inspired by known procedures,^[4] we designed an accelerated synthesis of novel α -saturated chiral C₂₀- and C₂₅-polyprenyl phosphates, essential to obtain LLOs reacting with eukaryotic OSTs, using a stereoselective olefination as the key step.^[5] Furthermore, we established the synthesis of chitobiose phosphonates from N-acetyl-D-glucosamine involving as key steps C₁-allylation, β -1,4 glycosylation, condensation with diethyl phosphite and deoxygenation.^[6] The final products were obtained in 20-50 mg scale in pure form suitable for biochemical and structural studies.

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