Synthesis of Double C-Glycoside Analogue of sTn

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A sTn double C-glycoside, sTn analogue 2, was synthesized using samarium chemistry developed in our laboratory. Complications in the oxidation reaction affording aldehyde acceptor were overcome by double protection of amide and the use of a room-temperature ionic liquid as solvent. Studies are underway to conjugate the sTn double C-glycoside hapten 2 to KLH carrier protein for biological evaluation as a vaccine.

Neuraminic acids are biologically important since they occupy the terminal position of the glycans on macromolecules outside cells and cell membranes and are involved in recognition, cell interactions, neuronal transmission, ion transport, reproduction, differentiation, epitope masking, and protection. Neuraminic acids are also involved in pathological processes including infection, inflammations, cancer, and neurological, cardiovascular, endocrinological, and autoimmune diseases.1,2 Cell surfaces containing these terminal neuraminic acids interact with receptors, hormones, enzymes, toxins, and viruses and other pathogenesis that use Neu5Ac to localize on the surface of cells they infect.3 The linkage of neuraminic acid to glycoconjugates is among the most labile glycosidic linkages and is cleaved in vitro under mildly acidic conditions. In vivo, neuraminic acid-containing glycoconjugates are catabolized through the removal of the terminal sialic acid residue by the action

of hydrolase-type enzymes called neuraminidases. A non-hydrolyzable glycosidic linkage to neuraminic acid represents an attractive approach to design reagents for glycobiology and immunology. The replacement of the interglycosidic oxygen atom with a hydroxymethylene group using SmI2 chemistry4 affords a class of hydrolytically and metabolically inert C-glycoside analogues of natural glycoconjugates.5 This stable linkage is being studied to improve our understanding of biological recognition and to enhance or suppress biological events at the molecular level.

The development of vaccines against carbohydrates is of crucial importance in the fields of therapeutic glycobiology and immunology.6 A significant portion of the antitumor response against cancers involves carbohydrate tumor antigens.7 Microorganisms often express carbohydrate antigens and the immune response of the host to these antigens is an important mechanism of defense.8 One approach for improving carbohydrate antigens that has not been thoroughly explored is vaccination over an extended length of time using a catalytically stable C-glycoside vaccine.9 These agents might be useful in preparing immunogens for active immunization against neuraminic acid containing glycoconjugates in the design and preparation of antiviral,10 antibacterial,11 and anticancer vaccines.12

Sialyl-Tn, [α-D-Neu5Ac-(2→6)α-D-GalNAc-(1→8)]Ser/Thr (sTn 1a, Figure 1) is found on the HIV envelope glycoprotein gp12013 and in tumor-associated antigens present in the glycoproteins on the surface of cancer cells, including those associated with carcinomas of the breast, prostate, pancreas, colon, ovary, lung, and stomach.14 The sTn antigen is well-known as a prognostic indicator and
SCHEME 1. Synthesis of 6-Formyl Galactoside 6 with Unexpected Product Hemiaminal 5

\[ \text{OH} \quad \text{OH} \quad \text{OH} \quad \text{OH} \quad \text{AcHN} \]
\[ \overset{a}{\text{3}} \quad \overset{b}{\text{4a R=H}} \quad \overset{c}{\text{4b R=Ac}} \quad \overset{d}{\text{5}} \]

Key: (a) (i) TBDPSCI, imidazole, DMF, rt, 5 h, 58%, (ii) \( \text{Me}_3\text{CO(OOMe)}_2 \), Amberlite IR-120 (H\(^+\)) (cat.), DMF, rt, 12 h, (iii) \( \text{NEt}_3 \cdot 3\text{HF}, \text{THF} \), rt, 7 h, 88%; (b) \( \text{Ac}_2\text{O}, \text{Pyr, rt, overnight; (c) oxalyl chloride, DMSO, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{NEt}_3 \), \(-78^\circ\text{C}, 65\%\); (d) Dess–Martin periodinane, CH\(_2\)Cl\(_2\), rt, 7 h.

has proven to be an effective target for therapy of cancers. Conjugate vaccines of sTn-KLH (keyhole limpet hemocyanin carrier protein\(^{15}\)) showed remarkable immunogenicity, resulting in the production of both IgM- and IgG-type antibodies.\(^{16}\) The sTn C-glycoside 1b has been synthesized in our laboratory in 15 steps,\(^{17}\) and its KLH-conjugate is currently under biological evaluation.

An sTn double C-glycoside analogue 2 (Figure 1) was designed to (1) reduce the number of synthetic steps required to synthesize 1b, (2) to facilitate its conjugation to KLH, and (3) to further increase biological half-life and enhance immunological response.

Starting from N-acetylglucosamine, the α-C-glycoside derivative 3 was prepared by a literature method.\(^{18}\) Compound 3 was protected as the 6-TBDPS silyl ether and 3,4-isopropylidinylated, and then the TBDPS protection at 6-position was removed to afford 4a in good yield. Swern oxidation of the 6-hydroxy group, unexpectedly failed to afford the desired 6-formyl galactoside 6. \(^{19}\) \( \text{H} \) NMR spectroscopy instead revealed the formation of the bicyclic compound 5 (Scheme 1).

The formation of lactol ring in 5 would require a change in the configuration at either C-2 or C-5 of the galacto ring. Extensive 2D-\( \text{H} \) NMR studies suggested that the stereochemistry at C-2 had been altered giving the tallo form of the sugar. Thus, the prior synthesis of 3 and its characterization\(^{15}\) was brought into question. X-ray crystallography analysis had been performed to establish the absolute stereochemistry of 4b and provide an unambiguous assignment of its stereogenic centers. The resulting crystal structure that the configuration of C-5 had instead been inverted. We rationalized that under slightly basic conditions in the presence of triethylamine aldehyde 6 undergoes enolization and the enolate intermediate epimerizes at C-5. A change in ring conformation from \( ^4\text{C} \) to \( ^1\text{B} \) would place the weakly nucleophilic N-acetamido functional group in close proximity to the 5-formyl electrophile. Intramolecular attack of the nitrogen ion pair on the adjacent aldehyde leads to the bicyclic zwitterionic hemiaminal that on proton transfer affords the cyclic hemiaminal product 5. Various oxidants such as PCC and TPAP also failed to give the desired 6-formyl derivative 6. Hypervalent iodine reagents are known to accomplish chemoselective oxidations under neutral conditions. 6-Hydroxy analogue 4a was treated with 1.5 equiv of the Dess–Martin periodinane reagent in the presence of molecular sieves in CH\(_2\)Cl\(_2\). A number of different workup procedures were examined, but in the best case, the desired compound 6 was isolated in less than 10% yield. Exposure to even the most mildly basic conditions appears to catalyze C-5 epimerization leading to the cyclic hemiaminal product 6. We theorized that derivatizing the N-acetamido group as a diamide would deter the cyclization. In addition, to sterically hindering attack of the aldehyde by the N-acetamide, a second acyl protecting group would further reduce the nucleophilicity of the nitrogen, preventing epimerization and subsequent cyclization. One concern about the approach was whether it would be possible to selectively remove the benzoyl substituent while leaving the N-acetyl group in place. Wong and co-workers, however, had successfully demonstrated \( \beta \)-halobenzoyl ester as suitable protecting group in carbohydrate synthesis.\(^{19}\)

The 6-hydroxyl group in compound 3 was protected as the TBDPS silyl ether 7 and 3,4-isopropylidinylated to afford 8 in good yield. Treatment of 8 with \( p \)-chlorobenzoyl chloride in a 1:1 mixture of pyridine and CH\(_2\)Cl\(_2\) giving 9 in good yield (92%). Chemoselective removal of TBDPS using tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF) in the presence of an excess or equimolar amount of acetic acid resulted in decomposition. When the milder trihydrofluoride triethylamine was used, the corresponding alcohol 10 was formed quantitatively. After desilylation, we decided to explore very mild options for Dess–Martin oxidation to completely prevent C-5 epimerization. Hypervalent iodine reagent in ionic liquids reportedly leads to mild chemoselective and in some cases regioselective oxidative transformations.\(^{20}\) Our laboratory had previously used ionic liquids in synthetic carbohydrate chemistry.\(^{21}\) Compound 10 was dissolved in 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate ([bmim]BF\(_4\)) and treated with 1.5 equiv of Dess–Martin periodinane for 3 h to afford the corresponding aldehyde 11. Extraction of the product from the ionic liquid with diethyl ether resulted in the isolation of a single product as a solid.


which was identified with MS and $^1$H NMR as the desired aldehyde 11. Because of its propensity for epimerization, 11 was used directly in the C-glycosylation reaction without further analysis or purification. C-Glycosylation of 11 used Neu5Ac sulfone donor 12 (1.25 equiv) in the presence of SmI$_2$ (6 equiv) in THF (Scheme 2). A modest 25% yield of the desired C-glycoside product 13 was obtained.

The HRMS of the compound 13 gave a clear m/z [M + Na]$^+$ base peak at 919.2883 corresponding to the chemical formula of C$_{41}$H$_{53}$ClN$_2$NaO$_{18}$ consistent with structure. The structural and conformational analysis of compound 13 was determined by NMR spectroscopy and molecular modeling (SYBYL 6.6 on a SGI interface using a TRIPPOS force field and a dielectric constant set to 4.8). $^1$H NMR showed a disaccharide product having identifiable resonances corresponding to -CO$_2$Me, -OAc, -NHAc, (CH$_3$)$_3$C-, and allyl. $^1$H-$^1$H COSY was used to make proton assignments. NOE spectroscopy showed strong through-space interaction between H-6 of galactosamine with H-4 and H-5 of galactosamine as well as H-3ax of Neu5Ac. The H-6 GalNAcBz--H-3ax Neu5Ac interaction was consistent with the expected $\alpha$-configuration of the anomeric center. The signal corresponding to the resonance of H-6 in GalNAcBz in the $^1$H NMR spectrum of 13 is a doublet. H-6 is coupled with the C6-OH hydroxyl proton, with a $J_{H,OH}$ of 6.4 Hz and no coupling is observed between H-6 and H-5 of GalNAcBz. According to the molecular models the value of the H6--C5--H5 torsion angle in the S and R isomers is $-59.1^\circ$ and $-177.0^\circ$, respectively. The absence of coupling between H-6 and H-5 is in agreement with the presence of the S isomer, where the torsion angle is closer to 90 degrees. In the $^1$H NMR spectrum of the R isomer the H-6 resonance signal would clearly show coupling with H-5 but no such coupling was observed. Thus, we conclude that the S isomer is formed with complete diasterecontrol in C-glycosylation was consistent with our previous results on the 2(23) C-glycosylation.

Fully protected sTn double C-glycoside 13 was next deprotected in three steps, deisopropyldenation with 60% acetic acid at 80 °C for 1 h, followed by deacetylation with NaOMe and MeOH and demethylation using 0.1 KOH affording 2 in quantitative yield.

Studies are underway to conjugate the sTn double C-glycoside hapten 2 to KLH carrier protein for biological evaluation as a vaccine.

**Experimental Section**

1-(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-3,4-diisopropylidene-6-((tert-butyl(diphenyl)silyl)-o-D-galactopyranosyl)prop-2-ene (7). tert-Butyldiphenyl silyl chloride (1.4 mL, 7.95 mmol) was added to a solution of 3 (1.3 g, 5.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) in the presence of imidazole (360 mg, 5.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h and evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 4:1) yielded 7 (1.48 g, 58%) $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 7.69--7.65 (m, 4H), 7.44--7.37 (m, 6H), 5.78--5.66 (m, 2H), 5.08--5.03 (m, 2H), 4.33--4.22 (m, 2H), 4.09 (bs, 1H), 3.94--3.83 (m, 2H), 3.70 (bs, 2H), 3.14 (d, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz), 2.89 (d, 1H, $J = 5.2$ Hz), 2.32--2.17 (m, 2H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.96 (s, 9H); ESI-MS 484 [M + H]$^+$, 482 [M -- H]$^-$. 1-(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-3,4-diisopropylidene-6-((tert-butyl(diphenyl)silyl)-o-D-galactopyranosyl)prop-2-ene (8). Dimethoxypropene (1.4 mL, 7.95 mmol) was added to a solution of 7 (1.0 g, 2.07 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) in the presence of catalytic amount Amberlite IR-120 (H$^+$). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 4:1) yielded 8 (1.07 g, quant.). $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 7.72--7.67 (m, 4H), 7.45--7.35 (m, 6H), 5.70--5.56 (m, 2H), 5.07--5.03 (m, 2H), 4.52--4.50 (m, 1H), 4.26--4.24
1-(2'-Acetyl-2'-p-chlorobenzoyl)amino-2'-deoxy-3,4-diisopropylidene-6-(1-p-t-butyl(diphenyl)silyl)-α-D-galactopyranosylprop-2-ene (9). Compound 8 (380 mg, 0.73 mmol) was dissolved in 2 mL of pyridine—dichloromethane (1:1) mixture at 0 °C, and p-chlorobenzoyl chloride (184 μL, 1 mmol) was added. After 10 min at 0 °C, reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, poured into ice—water, and extracted with CHCl3. The residue was purified with petroleum ether—ethanol acetate v/v 6:1 to afford 9 (456 mg, 95%). 

1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.75–7.63 (m, 6H), 7.45–7.31 (m, 8H), 5.77 (m, 1H, H-2), 5.17–4.96 (m, 3H, H-3a, H-3b, H-3'), 4.74 (dd, 1H, J = 8, 14.5, H-2'), 4.44 (dd, 1H, J = 4, J = 9, H-4'), 4.14–3.93 (m, 3H, H-1, H-5', H-6a), 3.81 (dd, 1H, J = 10, 15.5, H-6b), 2.53 (m, 1H, H-1a), 2.52 (m, 1H, H-1b), 1.91 (s, 3H, NCOC6H5), 1.52 and 1.29 (s, 2 × 3H, 2 × CH3), 1.05 (s, 9H, tert-butyl). 13C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ 173.9, 173.2, 135.8, 135.9, 134.9, 134.5, 133.8, 133.7, 129.8, 129.6, 127.8, 127.8, 117.1, 109.3, 73.4, 73.3, 70.7, 69.1, 63.3, 60.4, 32.4, 28.5, 27.6, 26.9, 26.3, 19.4, 12.0. ESI-MS 662.2 [M + Na]+, 684.2 (M + Na)+; HRMS calcd for C30H32N2O2Si [M + Na]+; found m/z 684.2533 [M + Na]+.

5-Acetamido-2,6-anhydro-3,5-dideoxy-2-C-(11)-hydroxy-6-(2’-acetyl-2’-p-chlorobenzoyl)amino-2-deoxy-3,4-diisopropylidene-α-D-galactopyranosylprop-2-ene (11). Compound 10 (33 mg, 0.078 mmol) was placed into a 5 mL round-bottom flask along with 500 μL of butylimethylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate (bmimBF4) under high vacuum for 2 h. The residue was dissolved in water, dried over MgSO4, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was purified on a silica gel column (petroleum ether—ethyl acetate v/v 6:1) to afford 11 (27 mg, 88%). 

1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.67 (d, 2H), 7.42 (d, 2H), 5.81 (m, 1H), 5.20–4.98 (m, 3H, 4.72 (bs, 1H), 4.36 (bs, 1H), 4.20–3.62 (m, 4H), 2.51 (m, 1H), 2.36 (m, 1H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.52 and 1.29 (s, 2 × 3H); ESI-MS 424.1 [M + H]+, 446.1 [M + Na]+; HRMS calcd for C29H30N2O6 [M + H]+; 424.1527, found m/z 424.1521 [M + H]+.

Methyl 5-Acetamido-4,7,9-tetra-O-acetyl-2,6-anhydro-3,5-dideoxy-2-C-(11)-hydroxy-6-(2’-acetyl-2’-p-chlorobenzoyl)amino-2-deoxy-3,4-diisopropylidene-1-(1-prop-2-enyl)-α-D-galactopyranosyl)methyl-α-D-erythro-1-mannono-nanone (13). A solution of compounds 11 (22 mg, 0.05 mmol) and 12 (40 mg, 0.065 mmol) in CH2Cl2 (2 mL) was evaporated to dryness and the resulting residue dried overnight under high vacuum. To the dried residue placed under argon was added a solution of freshly prepared SmI2 (0.1 M, 5 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The reaction mixture was then diluted with ether, washed successively with 1 N HCl, saturated aqueous Na2SO4, and H2O, dried over anhydrous MgSO4, and filtered, and the solvents were evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether—ethyl acetate, v/v 4:1 to 1:1) to give 13 (12 mg, 25%). 

1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.69 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 5.81 (m, 1H, H-2'), 5.35 (dd, 1H, J = 2.6 Hz, J = 6.8 Hz, J = 7.4 Hz, H-8), 5.30 (dd, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz, J = 7.4 Hz, H-7), 5.11–5.00 (m, 3H, H-3'a, H-3'b, H-3'c), 4.81–4.70 (m, 2H, H-4, H-2'), 4.38 (3H, 1J = 31 Hz, H-4'), 4.35 (dd, 1H, J = 2.6 Hz, J = 12.6 Hz, H-9a), 4.15–4.00 (m, 5H, H-9b, H-1', H-6, H-5', H-3'a), 3.93 (d, 1H, J = 6.4 Hz, H-6'), 3.66 (s, 3H, COOC6H5), 3.18 (d, 1H, J = 6.4 Hz, C6H4-0H), 2.84 (dd, 1H, J = 4.4 Hz, J = 12.2 Hz, H-3eq), 2.48 (dd, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz, H-1-a', H-1-b'), 2.15, 1.22, 2.08, 2.03 (4s, 4 × 3H, OAc), 1.86 (m, 4H, NAc, H-3ax), 1.83 (s, 3H, NAc), 1.52 and 1.35 (s, 2 × 3H, 2 × CH3); ESI-MS 897.3 [M + H]+, 919.3 [M + Na]+; HRMS calcd for C41H38N2O24Na2 [M + Na]+; 919.2880, found m/z 919.2883 [M + Na]+.

Supporting Information Available: 1D and 2D H NMR spectra for compounds 2, 4a, 5–11, and 13; 13C NMR spectra for compound 13, and X-ray data for compound 4b. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.