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Part LIV¹)

Synthesis of Condensed N^1 -(2'-Deoxy- β -D-ribofuranosyl)lumazines, New Fluorescent Building Blocks in Oligonucleotide Synthesis

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Dedicated with best personal wishes to Prof. Dieter Seebach on the occasion of his 60th birthday

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Various condensed areno[g]lumazine derivatives 2, 3, and 5–7 were synthesized as new fluorescent aglycones for glycosylation reactions with 2-deoxy-3,5-di-O-(p-toluoyl)- α/β -D-erythro-pentofuranosyl chloride (10) to form, in a Hilbert-Johnson-Birkofer reaction, the corresponding N^1 -(2'-deoxyribonucleosides) 15–21. The β -D-anomers 15, 17, 19, and 21 were deblocked to 24–27 and, together with N^1 -(2'-deoxy- β -D-ribofuranosyl)lumazine (22) and its 6,7-diphenyl derivative 23, dimethoxytritylated in 5'-position to 28–33. These intermediates were then converted into the 3'-(2-cyanoethyl diisopropylphosphoramidites) 34–39 which function as monomeric building block in oligonucleotide syntheses as well as into the 3'-(hydrogen succinates) 40–45 which can be used for coupling with the solid-support material. A series of lumazine-modified oligonucleotides were synthesized and the influence of the new nucleobases on the stability of duplex formation studied by measuring the T_m values in comparison to model sequences. A substantial increase in the T_m is observed on introduction of areno[g]lumazine moieties in the oligonucleotide chain stabilizing obviously the helical structures by improved stacking effects. Stabilization is strongly dependent on the site of the modified nucleobase in the chain.

1. Introduction. – In recent years, the 'antisense' approach [2] as well as DNA-probe technology has stimulated the synthesis of various modified oligonucleotides. Modifications at the base moiety, the sugar part, and the phosphate backbone have been reported. We have focussed our attention on different lumazine N^1 -(2'-deoxyribonucleosides) (= 1-(2'-deoxyribofuranosyl)pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-diones) which can be regarded as structural analogoues of thymidine. These analogues have been of interest since 1973, when 6,7-dimethyl-, 6,7-diphenyl, and the unsubstituted lumazine (= pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione) were ribosylated for the first time [3-5]. Considering the well-known propensity for hydroxy- and amino-pteridines to form very strong intermolecular H-bonds, the interaction between a lumazine and a complementary base, *e.g.*, adenine, and the potential stacking effects could probably lead to the formation of relatively stable double strands. The variation of the substituents in the 6,7 position of the molecule allows a broad alteration of physical properties which enable this type of compounds to be a potential indicator for intermolecular interactions, expressed in terms of UV absorp-

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tion and fluorescence. Preliminary investigations to this approach were made by us already since 1979 [6-8] using first a modified phosphotriester method and later phosphoramidite chemistry [9] [10].

In this paper, we wish to report the synthesis of the N^1 -[2'-deoxy-5'-O-(dimethoxytrityl)- β -D-ribofuranosyl]nucleobase 3'-phosphoramidites starting from the formerly prepared 2'-deoxyribonucleosides derived from the nucleobases lumazine and 6,7-diphenyllumazine [5]. Furthermore, various new types of fluorescent monomeric building blocks were envisaged in the structural analogues derived from alloxazine (benzo[g]lumazine), naphtho[1,2-g]-, naphtho[2,3-g]-, and anthra[1,2-g]lumazines by glycosylation and subsequent transformation into the 5'-O-(dimethoxytrityl)protected 3'-phosphoramidites by conventional methods.

2. Synthesis. – The areno[g]lumazine derivatives 2, 3, and 5–7 were prepared either according to literature or by slightly modified procedures from alloxan (= pyrimidine-2,4,5,6(1H,3H)-tetrone; 1) or from violuric acid (= pyrimidine-2,4,5,6(1H,3H)-tetrone 5-oxime; 4) to give the anticipated nucleobases in high yields (*Scheme 1*). Alloxazine (= benzo[g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione; 2) resulted from the condensation of 1 with 1,2-phenylenediamine in acidic medium [11], and in a similar manner, 1 reacted with naphthalene-2,3-diamine in AcOH and in presence of boric acid to naphtho[2,3-g]-lumazine (3) [12] in 95% yield. The synthesis of naphtho[1,2-g]lumazine (5) according to the older literature is controversial regarding the structure since the condensations of either 1 and naphthalene-1,2-diamine or uracil-5,6-diamine and 1,2-naphthoquinone [13] [14] led actually to mixtures of the [1,2-g] and [2,1-g] isomers [15]. The approach of *Timmis* and coworkers [15] to 5 is a regioselective fusion reaction of 2 and naphthalen-2-amine which gave pure 5 in 57% isolated yield. A useful modification thereof was the condensation of 2 with naphthalen-1-amine or anthracen-2-amine in boiling AcOH to give naphtho[2,1-g]- (6) and anthra[1,2-g]lumazine (7), respectively.



In previous investigations, the chemical synthesis of 1-(2-deoxy- β -D-ribofuranosyl)lumazine (22) and of its 6,7-diphenyl derivative 23 was performed by applying the Hilbert-Johnson-Birkofer method in the ribosylation step of lumazine (8) and 6,7-diphenyllumazine (9) [3-5]. In an analogous manner, the condensed lumazine derivatives 2, 3, 5, and 7 were first silvlated by treatment with hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS) and then reacted with 2-deoxy-3,5-di-O-(p-toluoyl)- α/β -D-erythro-pentofuranosyl chloride (10) [16] at room temperature under various reaction conditions to improve the α -D/ β -D anomeric ratio in preference of the anticipated β -D-form by varying the solvent and adding metal salts as catalysts (Scheme 2, Table 1). Unfortunately, the successful stereoselective synthesis of 2'-deoxy- β -D-ribonucleosides in the pyrimidine [17] and quinazolinedione [18] series under catalysis with CuI did not influence the α -D/ β -D ratio of lumazine glycosylation reactions. Thus, lumazine (8) was treated in form of its O^2 , O^4 -bis(trimethylsilyl) derivative with the halogenose 10 in CH₂Cl₂ for 1 week at room temperature leading to a 1:1 anomeric mixture 11/12 in 75% yield (Table 1). Addition of CuI or change of the solvent to CHCl₃ made the reaction faster, but the formation of the α -D-anomer also increased. The best results regarding the β -D-anomer were achieved in CHCl₃ with ZnCl₂ as a catalyst yielding a 1:1.6 α -D/ β -D ratio after 20 h of treatment at room temperature. Silylated 6,7-diphenyllumazine (9) reacted best with 10 in CH₂Cl₂ to give a 1:1.75 α -D/ β -D mixture 13/14 from which the β -D-anomer 14 could be isolated in pure form in 49% yield. The corresponding ribosylations of alloxazine (2) and naphtho[2,3-g]lumazine (3) were to some extent surprising since a highly regio- and stereospecific reaction to the 2'-deoxy- β -D-ribofuranosides 15 and 17, respectively, was observed which could be isolated easily by fractional crystallization. Naphtho-[1,2-g]- (5) and anthra [1,2-g] lumazine (7) gave under quarternization conditions in CHCl₃ and benzene, respectively, experimentally acceptable yields with a preference for the β -D-anomers 19 and 21. Separation of the two anomers could be achieved either by column chromatography (silica gel) or by fractional crystallization due to the fact that the β -D-forms crystallize in most cases much more easily than the α-D-anomers.

	Solvent/catalyst	Reaction time		α -D/ β -D Ratio	Yield [%]	
		h	d		total	β-D
Lumazine (8)	CH,Cl,	·	6	1:1	75	29
	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /CuI	2		1.6:1	58	
	CHCl ₃ /CuI	15		1.2:1	74	
	CHCl ₃ /ZnCl ₂	20		1:1.6	55	
6,7-Diphenyllumazine (9)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	18		1:1.7	80	49
	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /CuI		3	2:1	74	
	toluene		4	1.6:1	73	
Alloxazine (2)	CHCl ₃	18		1:23	93	77
Naphtho[2,3-g]lumazine (3)	CHCl ₃	18		1:6	78	58
Naphtho[1,2-g]lumazine (5)	CHCI	18		1:3.8	75	47
	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /CuI	4		1:1.4	75	
Anthra[1,2-g]lumazine (7)	CHCl ₃	3		1:1	93	
	benzene		3	1:2	84	48

Table 1. Glycosylations of Lumazine Derivatives



An easy way to assign the anomeric configuration of the (2'-deoxy-D-ribofuranosyl)lumazines consists in the analysis of the chemical-shift differences of the H_{α} -C(2') and H_{β} -C(2') signals [5]. The ¹H-NMR of the α -D-anomers **11**, **13**, **16**, **18**, and **20** are characterized by the appearance of the two H-C(2') protons close together in the region of 3.1 ppm, whereas, in the β -D-anomers **12**, **14**, **15**, **17**, **19**, and **21**, two separated *m* for H_{β} -C(2') and H_{α} -C(2') are placed at 3.5 and 2.6 ppm, respectively. The β -D-anomers were deprotected by treatment with dilute sodium methoxide solution according to Zemplen et al. [19] and gave the free β -D-nucleosides 22–27 in good yields. Besides their characterizations by UV and ¹H-NMR spectra, first informations about their fluorescence properties were derived from the excitation and emission maxima which were measured in $5 \cdot 10^{-1}$ M DMF solutions and which were also compared with the corresponding free nucleobases (*Table 2*).

Lumazine	λ_{\max} of		1-(2'-Deoxy- β -D-ribofuranoside)	λ_{max} of		
	excitation	emission	_	excitation	emission	
9	360	431	23	360	450	
2	373	430	24	360	455	
3	480	570	25	480	580	
5	400	423	26	400	424	
7	440	516	27	443	464	
6	412	509				

Table 2. Excitation and Emission Maxima of Areno[g]lumazines and of Their Corresponding $1-(2^{2}-Deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosides)$ in DMF

Subsequent reactions of 22–27 with 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride in dry pyridine at room temperature afforded high yields of the 5'-O-(dimethoxytrityl) derivatives 28–33 which were used as intermediates for the synthesis of the 3'-phosphoramidites 34–39 and the 3'-(hydrogen succinates) 40–45. Phosphitylation was achieved by (2-cyanoethoxy) bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine [20] under 1*H*-tetrazole catalysis in CH₂Cl₂/MeCN mixtures, and functionalization of the 3'-OH group by succinic anhydride worked best in presence of 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP). The 3'-(hydrogen succinates) 40–45 were then coupled onto the solid-support material LCMAACPG (long-chain(methylamino)alkyl-controlled-pore glass) [21] [22] using as condensing agent O-{{[(2-cyanoethoxy)carbonyl]methylidene}amino}-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate (TOTU) [23] and N-methylmorpholine in MeCN followed by a capping procedure with Ac₂O/DMAP/I₂ in pyridine.



A loading of $25-35 \mu mol/g$ was achieved with a 500 Å-CPG material to give the solid supports 46-51 for oligonucleotide syntheses.

The oligonucleotide syntheses were performed with an *ABI 380 b* DNA synthesizer applying the standard cycle. With the support **46** and **47**, corresponding decamers $d(L_{10})$ and $d[ph_2^{6,7}L)_{10}](dL = 1-(2'-deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)lumazine)$ were prepared with an optimal coupling yield, and the resulting oligomers were very pure according to the HPLC. The syntheses of mixed oligomers carrying a lumazine moiety (dL or $d(ph_2^{6,7}L)$) at either the 3'- or 5'-end worked in a similar manner, and the resulting

nonadecamers were then hybridized with a complementary strand showing only a relatively small decrease in the melting temperature in comparison to the unmodified duplex (*Table 3*).

Sequence ^b)	T _m [°C]		
	Lumazine ^c)	6,7-Diphenyllumazine ^c)	
5'-d(T-T ₁₆ -T-T)-3'	30.4		
3'-d(A-A ₁₆ -A-A)-5'			
5'-d(T-T ₁₆ -T-Lu)-3'	28.5	28	
3'-d(A-A ₁₆ -A-Lu)-5'			
5'-d(Lu-T-T ₁₆ -T)-3'	27.9	28.6	
3'-d(Lu-A-A ₁₆ -A)-3'			
5'-d(T-T ₁₆ -T-Lu)-3'	29	28.7	
3'-d(A-A16-A-A)-5'			
5'-d(A-A16-A-Lu)-3'	29.7	28.6	
3'-d(T-T, -T-T)-5'			

Table 3. Melting Temperatures of Lumazine-Modified Oligonucleotides (0.5 OD)^a)

^a) The T_m were measured at 260 nm in Na₂HPO₄/NaH₂PO₄ buffer pH 7; [Na⁺] = 0.03M.

^b) For convenience, d(Lu) is used as a general abbreviation for $dL (1-(2'-deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl))$ lumazine) and $d(ph_2^{-6.7}LK) (1-(2'-deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)-6,7-diphenyllumazine).$

^c) Nucleobase in d(Lu).

More extended studies were performed with the self-complementary sequence d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC) which was modified again with various lumazine nucleobases at the 3'- and 5'-end as well as by substitution of T units in the chain. The syntheses of the mixed oligomers were based on the npe/npeoc strategy [22]

Sequence ^b)	<i>T</i> _m [°C]					
	8ª)	9 ^a)	2 ^a)	3 ^a)	5 ^a)	7 ^a)
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'				60.4		
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC-Lu)-3'	59	60.2	61.2	62.5	62.3	61.2
5'-d(Lu-GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'	59.7	60.3	61.2	62.3	61.9	61.5
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'	57	59.3	61.5	66.4	66.4	65.5
5'-D(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)-3'	57	59.4	61.4	65.5	65.4	66.4
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)-3'	55.3	63.2	60.3	> 70	74	> 70
5'-d(GG-LuT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'				55.4		
5'-d(GG-TLu-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'				56.3		
5'-d(GG-LuLu-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'				45.4		
5'-d(GG-TLu-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)-3'				61.6		
5'-d(GG-TLu-CC-ALu-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)-3'				60.7		
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-ALu-CC)-3'				59.1		
5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-At-GG-ALu-CC)-3'					66.8	

Table 4. Melting temperatures of Lumazine-Modified Oligonucleotides (0.5 OD)

^a) The $T_{\rm m}$ were measured at 260 nm in Na₂HPO₄/NaH₂PO₄ buffer pH 7; [Na⁺] = 0.03 M.

b) For convenience, d(Lu) is used as a general abbreviation for all lumazine-derived nucleobases.

^c) Nucleobase in d(Lu).

which guarantees easy isolation, excellent yields, and high purity even of the crude material. The melting temperatures of the various hybrids revealed interesting effects since introduction of the nucleobase lumazine (8) showed only small depressions depending on the number of substituents and their site in the chain, whereas 6,7-diphenyl-lumazine (9) did not alter the T_m much but also raised the basic value by 3 degrees when two T substitutions were performed. (*Table 4*).

On the other hand, incorporation of the nucleobases 2, 3, 5, and 7 increased in principle the T_m quite substantially; especially the condensed lumazine systems 3, 5, and 7 seem to stabilize the duplexes with an increment of 5°, most likely due to an enforced stacking effect. Two nucleobases in distant positions in the middle of the chain caused so far the highest T_m s of > 70° of this series, whereas adjacent locations and exchange positions towards the 3'- and 5'-ends destabilized the duplex structure. It is also noteworthy that a mismatch by substitution of an A unit by the nucleobase 5 or 7, respectively, does not affect the stability of the duplexes very much. More studies will be performed in the future to unravel the stabilizing and destabilizing effects of new nucleobases as substitutes of the natural pyrimidine and purine bases.

Experimental Part

General. Products were dried in an oven at 100° or under high vacuum. TLC: Precoated silica gel thin-layer sheets F1500 LS 254 from Schleicher & Schuell. Flash chromatography (FC): silica gel (Baker, 30-60 mm); 0.2-0.3 bar. M.p.: Gallenkamp or Büchi melting point apparatus; no corrections. UV/VIS: Perkin-Elmer, Lambda 15; λ_{max} in nm (log z). Fluorescence spectra: Aminco SPF 500. Melting curves: Perkin-Elmer Lambda 2; temp. control by Peltier element 0.2°/min; programmer PTP-6. ¹H-NMR: Bruker AC 250; in ppm rel. to SiMe₄ as internal standard. ³¹P-NMR: Joel 400 MHz; in ppm rel. to H₃PO₄.

1. Naphthalen-2-amine [24]. 2-Nitronaphthalene (80% pure; from Fluka; 15 g, 87 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH (300 ml) and then reduced with H₂ catalytically over PtO₂ (300 mg) in a shaking apparatus. The mixture was filtered, the filtrate evaporated, and the solid residue crystallized from petroleum ether: 9.8 g (79%). M.p. $109-110^{\circ}$ ([24]: 110°). UV (MeOH): 331 (3.34), 288 (sh, 3.68), 279 (3.80), 271 (sh, 3.74), 236 (3.63). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 7.49 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.48 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.21 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.06 (m, 2 arom. H); 6.95, 6.91 (dd, 2 arom. H); 6.81 (d, 2 arom. H); 5.35 (s, NH₂).

2. Naphtho[2,3-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (3) [12]. To a suspension of alloxan tetrahydrate $(1 \cdot 4H_2O; 3.21 \text{ g}, 15 \text{ mmol})$ and boric acid (0.186 g, 3 mmol) in AcOH (50 ml) was added naphthalene-2,3-diamine (2.37 g, 15 mmol). The mixture was stirred at r.t. for 3 h. After cooling, the red precipitate was collected, washed with H_2O and EtOH, and dried at 100°: 3.76 g (95%). M.p. > 350° ([12]: 385°). UV (MeOH): 442 (3.24), 389 (4.17), 371 (sh, 3.99), 281 (4.60), 243 (4.60). ¹H-NMR ((D_6)DMSO): 11.95 (s, NH); 11.76 (s, NH); 8.87 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.48 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.20 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.61 (m, 2 arom. H).

3. Naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (5) [15]. In an oil bath naphthalen-2-amine (2.2 g, 15 mmol) was heated to 130°. Then violuric acid monohydrate $4 \cdot H_2O(1.2 \text{ g}, 7.5 \text{ mmol})$ was added with stirring. The temp. was raised to 155° and kept for 45 min, the melt was allowed to cool and was then extracted with EtOH and hot 2N NaOH. The alkaline soln. was filtered and the filtrate acidified with 2N HCl to pH 2. The precipitated product (1.28 g, 65%) was recrystallized from 80% HCOOH soln. and dried at 100°: 1.2 g (57%). M.p. > 350°. UV (MeOH): 403 (4.13), 386 (4.07), 298 (4.36), 287 (4.30) 280 (4.27), 239 (4.79), 232 (sh, 4.74). ¹H-NMR (CF₃COOD): 9.41 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.54 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.96-8.16 (m, 4 arom. H). Anal. calc. for C₁₄H₈N₄O₂ (264.24): C 63.64, H 3.05, N 21.21; found: C 63.15, H 3.22, N 20.54.

4. Naphtho[2,1-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (6) [14]. Naphthalen-1-amine (0.716 g, 0.5 mmol) and $4 \cdot H_2O$ (0.876 g, 0.5 mmol) were heated in AcOH under reflux for 24 h. After cooling, the mixture was diluted with H_2O (20 ml), the precipitate, dissolved in hot 1N NaOH, the hot soln. treated with charcoal, filtered, and then, still hot, acidified with 2N HCl to pH 1. The solid was filtered, washed with H_2O and EtOH, and dried at 100°: 0.15 g (11%). M.p. > 350°. UV (MeOH): 412 (3.88), 399 (3.91), 323 (sh, 3.83), 299 (sh, 4.13), 283 (4.44), 275 (4.44), 264 (sh, 4.32), 228 (4.42). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.12 (s, NH); 11.79 (s, NH); 8.96 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.11 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.97 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.85 (m, 2 arom. H).

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5. Anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (7). Anthracen-2-amine (2.13 g, 1.1 mmol) and $4 \cdot H_2O$ (1.75 mg, 1 mmol) were suspended in AcOH (100 ml) and stirred for 3 h under reflux. After cooling to r.t., the mixture was evaporated, the dark residue dissolved in DMF (300 ml) and treated with charcoal, and then H_2O (175 ml) added to the hot soln. After cooling, the precipitate was filtered, recrystallized from DMF/acetone, and dried at 100°: 2.49 g (70%). M.p. > 350°. UV (MeOH): 443 (4.01), 424 (3.94), 336 (4.28), 323 (sh, 4.19), 275 (4.80), 267 (sh, 4.72), 256 (sh, 4.63), 229 (4.43). Emission spectrum (EtOH): λ_{exc} 440, λ_{em} 543 nm. ¹H-NMR ((D_6)DMSO): 9.54 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.67 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.38, 8.34 (2d, 2 arom. H); 8.19 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.68 (m, 3 arom. H). Anal. calc. for $C_{18}H_{10}N_4O_2 \cdot 0.5 H_2O$ (323.3): C 66.87, H 3.43, N 17.33; found: C 66.65, H 3.55, N 17.18.

6. $1-[2^{\circ}-Deoxy-3^{\circ},5^{\circ}-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]benzo[g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (15). To a suspension of alloxazine (3; 2.14 g, 10 mmol) [11] in dry CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml), N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (10 ml) was added and the mixture stirred for 15 min at reflux temp. The resulting soln. was cooled to r.t. and evaporated, the sirup dissolved in abs. CHCl₃ (50 ml) and then 2-deoxy-3,5-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-<math>\alpha/\beta$ -D-erythro-pentofuranosyl chloride (10; 4.28 g, 11 mmol) [16] added. The soln. was stirred at r.t. overnight. The reaction was quenched with MeOH (10 ml) and the soln. diluted with CHCl₃ (100 ml). The org. layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln., the aq. phase extracted with CH₂Cl₂, the combined org. layer dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated, and the residue purified by crystallization from toluene: 4.25 g (75%). M.p. 238-239°. UV (MeOH): 370 (3.80), 321 (3.82), 240 (4.79), 213 (sh, 4.57), 203 (4.79). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.74 (s, NH); 8.36 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.33 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.95 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.83 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.45 (m, H-C(1')); 7.26 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.10 (d, 2 arom. H); 6.19 (m, H-C(3')); 4.80, 4.63 (2m, H-C(4'), 2 H-C(5')); 3.50 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.63 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.44 (s, Me); 2.34 (s, Me). Anal. calc. for C₃₁H₂₆N₄O₇ (566.6): C 65.72, H 4.63, N 9.89; found: C 65.19, H 4.66, N 9.70.

7. $1-[2^{\circ}-Deoxy-3^{\circ},5^{\circ}-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[2,3-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (17). As described in Exper. 6, with 3 (3.44 g, 13 mmol), N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (20 ml), and 10 (5.6 g, 14.3 mmol) [16]. After FC (SiO₂, 2 × 15 cm, toluene/AcOEt 4:1, 2:1, and 1:1), the <math>\beta$ -D-isomer 17 crystallized from the product fractions as orange plates: 4.65 g (58 %). Evaporation of the mother liquor gave more 17 as a mixture with the α -D-isomer 16 (20 %), which could not be separated. M.p. 261° (dec.). UV (MeOH): 404 (3.47), 389 (4.20), 374 (4.04), 242 (4.79), 284 (4.61). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.1 (s, NH); 8.94 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.68 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.29 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.15 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.78 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.67 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.35 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.30 (m, H-C(1')); 7.15 (d, 2 arom. H); 6.11 (m, H-C(3')); 4.80, 4.60 (2m, H-C(4'), 2H-C(5')); 3.29 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.58 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.40 (s, Me); 2.28 (s, Me). Anal. calc for C₃₅H₂₈N₄O₇ (616.6): C 68.17, H 4.58, N 9.09; found: C 68.27, H 4.84, N 9.02.

8. $1-[2'-Deoxy-3',5'-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\alpha-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (18) and <math>1-[2'-Deoxy-3',5'-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (19). As described in Exper. 6, with 5 (0.8 g, 3 mmol), N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (3 ml), and 10 (1.3 g, 3.33 mmol) [16]. FC (SiO₂, 2 × 15 cm, toluene/AcOEt 6:1, 4:1 and 2:1) gave 1.4 g (75%) of 18/19 1:3.8. The isomers were separated by fractional crystallization from MeOH to give 0.85 g (47%) of <math>\beta$ -D-isomer 19, and after evaporation and recrystallization of the residue from EtOH, 0.178 g (10%) of pure α -D-isomer 18.

19: M.p. 218–220°. UV (MeOH): 400 (4.18), 389 (sh, 4.11), 298 (4.34), 287 (4.33), 281 (sh, 4.33), 239 (4.94). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.30 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.83 (s, NH); 8.18 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.76–8.0 (m, 8 arom. H); 7.48 (dd, H–C(1')); 7.27 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.03 (d, 2 arom. H); 6.22 (m, H–C(3')); 4.61–4.86 (m, H–C(4'), 2 H–C(5')); 3.55 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.65 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.44 (s, Me); 2.26 (s, Me). Anal. calc. for $C_{35}H_{28}N_4O_7 \cdot H_2O$ (634.7): C 66.24, H 4.76, N 8.83; found: C 66.30, H 4.78, N 8.74.

18: M.p. 191–193°. UV (MeOH): 400 (4.15), 388 (sh, 4.08), 298 (4.30), 287 (sh, 4.31), 280 (4.31), 239 (4.92), 231 (sh, 4.60). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.29 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.91 (s, NH); 8.16 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.77–8.02 (m, 8 arom. H); 7.51 (m, H–C(1')); 7.26 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.18 (d, 2 arom. H); 5.66 (q, H–C(3')); 5.34 (m, H–C(4')); 4.73 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 4.54 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 3.20 (m, 2 H–C(2')); 2.43 (s, Me); 2.38 (s, Me). Anal. calc. for $C_{35}H_{28}N_4O_7$ (616.6): C 68.18, H 4.58, N 9.09; found: C 67.80, H 4.80, N 8.84.

9. $1-[2^{2}-Deoxy-3^{2},5^{2}-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\alpha-D-ribofuranosyl]anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (20) and <math>1-[2^{2}-Deoxy-3^{2},5^{2}-di-O-(p-toluoyl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (21). To a soln. of 7 (4.71 g, 15 mmol) in abs. dichloroethane (150 ml), N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (10 ml) was added and the mixture stirred for 30 min at reflux temp. The resulting soln. was evaporated, the residue dissolved in dry toluene (300 ml), and 10 (6.4 g, 16.5 mmol) [16] added to the soln. After stirring for 3 days at r.t., the reaction was stopped by addition of MeOH (20 ml) and the mixture evaporated. The residue was partitioned between CHCl₃ and sat. NaHCO₃ soln. and the org. layer washed twice with sat. NaHCO₃ soln., dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. Purification by FC (SiO₂, 3 × 13 cm, toluene/AcOEt 6:1, 4:1, and 2:1) gave 20/21 1:2 (84%). The isomers were separated by crystallization from toluene yielding first 4.8 g (48%) of <math>\beta$ -D-isomer 21. The mother liquor was

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evaporated and the residue crystallized again from toluene to give a mixture 20/21 which was not separated. Addition of petroleum ether to the mother liquor gave 1.8 g (18%) of pure α -D-isomer 20 as an amorphous powder.

21: M.p. 167–169°. UV (MeOH): 443 (4.09), 336 (4.31), 324 (sh, 4.19), 276 (4.85), 268 (sh, 7.77), 246 (4.71), 235 (sh, 4.68). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.73 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.86 (s, NH); 8.36 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.25 (m, 1 arom. H); 8.17 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.06 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.99 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.84 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.75 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.66 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.46 (dd, H–C(1')); 7.28 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.04 (d, 2 arom. H); 6.21 (g, H–C(3')); 4.60–4.88 (m, H–C(4'), 2 H–C(5')); 3.55 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.64 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.44 (s, Me); 2.23 (s, Me). Anal. calc. for $C_{39}H_{30}N_4O_7$ (666.7): C 68.41, H 4.71, N 8.18; found: C 68.79, H 4.74, N 8.15.

20: UV (MeOH): 443 (4.09), 336 (4.31), 324 (sh, 4.19), 276 (4.85), 267 (sh, 4.77), 246 (4.71), 235 (sh, 4.68). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.1 (s, NH); 9.71 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.35 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.22 (m, 1 arom. H); 8.14 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.99 (dd, 5 arom. H); 7.65 (m, 4 arom. H); 7.48 (m, H–C(1')); 7.28 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.19 (d, 2 arom. H); 5.65 (q, H–C(3')); 5.34 (m, H–C(4')); 4.73 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 4.56 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 3.19 (t, 2 H–C(2')); 2.43 (s, Me); 2.38 (s, Me). Anal. calc. for $C_{39}H_{30}N_4O_7 \cdot H_2O$ (684.7): C 68.41, H 4.71, N 8.18; found: C 68.98, H 4.84, N 7.81.

10. $1-(2'-Deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)benzo[g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (24).$ To a suspension of 15 (3.4 g, 6 mmol) in dry MeOH (50 ml) 2N NaOMe (6.6 ml, 13.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at r.t. overnight and the reaction stopped by addition of H₂O (80 ml). The soln. was neutralized with 10% AcOH/H₂O and the resulting precipitate filtered and washed with Et₂O. The solid was suspended in MeOH (250 ml), heated a few minutes, filtered after cooling, and dried: 1.55 g (78%). M.p. > 350°. UV (MeOH): 371 (3.82), 322 (3.84), 250 (sh, 4.42), 241 (4.53), 213 (4.51). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.06 (s, NH); 8.20 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.00 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.85 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.12 (m, H-C(1')); 5.17 (d, OH-C(3')); 4.59 (m, OH-C(5'), 1 H-C(3')); 3.73 (m, H-C(4'), H-C(5')); 3.57 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 2.93 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.08 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₁₅H₁₄N₄O₅ (330.3): C 54.55, H 4.27, N 16.96; found: C 54.38, H 4.33, N 16.87.

11. $1-(2^{\circ}-Deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)naphtho[2,3-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (25). As described in Exper. 10, with 17 (3.8 g, 5 mmol), MeOH (100 ml), 2N NaOMe (6 ml; 18 h at r.t.), and H₂O (17 ml; <math>\rightarrow$ clear soln.). The orange precipitate was washed with H₂O, EtOH, and Et₂O, and dried: 1.8 g (95%). M.p. > 360°. UV (MeOH): 442 (3.28), 389 (4.23), 374 (4.05), 382 (sh, 4.68), 244 (4.63), 222 (sh, 4.33). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.03 (s, NH); 8.91 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.60 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.24 (dd, 2 arom. H); 8.66 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.15 (dd, H-C(1')); 5.21 (d, OH--C(3')); 4.64 (m, OH--C(5'), H-C(3')); 3.80, 3.61 (2m, H--C(4'), 2H--C(5')); 2.98 (m, 1 H--C(2')); 2.11 (m, 1 H--C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₁₉H₁₆N₄O₅ (380.4): C 59.99, H 4.24, N 14.73; found: C 59.47, H 4.35, N 14.56.

12. $1-(2'-Deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)$ naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (26). As described in Exper. 10, with 19 (0.616 g, 1 mmol), MeOH (14 ml), 2N NaOMe (1.2 ml, 2.4 mmol; 18 h at r.t.), and H₂O (5 ml). The precipitate was washed with Et₂O and dried: 0.363 g (96%) of yellow crystals. M.p. > 310°. UV (MeOH): 400 (4.17), 388 (4.15), 298 (4.33), 288 (sh, 4.33), 280 (sh, 4.31), 239 (4.75), 232 (sh, 4.63). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.01 (br. s, NH); 9.02 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.36 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.13 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.18–7.90 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.14 (m, H-C(1')); 5.21 (s, OH-C(3')); 4.59 (s, OH-C(5'), H-C(3')); 3.74–3.81 (m, H-C(4'), 1 H-C(5')); 3.58 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 2.97 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.13 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₁₉H₁₆N₄O₅ · 0.5 H₂O (389.4): C 58.6, H 4.40, N 14.39; found: C 58.38, H 4.32, N 14.38.

13. $1-(2'-Deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (27). As described in Exper. 10, with 21 (2 g, 3 mmol), MeOH (55 ml), 2N NaOMe (3.3 ml, 6.6 mmol; at r.t. overnight), and H₂O (30 ml). The precipitate was heated for a few minutes in MeOH (100 ml), filtered, and dried: 1.15 g (89%) yellow powder. M.p. > 350°. UV (MeOH): 443 (4.11), 426 (sh, 4.05), 361 (sh, 3.75), 336 (4.37), 324 (sh, 4.26), 276 (4.91), 268 (sh, 4.81), 257 (sh, 4.71), 230 (4.48). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.03 (s, NH); 9.40 (s, arom. H); 8.56 (s, arom. H); 8.30 (d, 2 arom. H); 8.13 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.66 (dd, 3 arom. H); 7.12 (m, H-C(1')); 5.22 (d, OH-C(3')); 4.58-4.67 (m, H-C(4'), 1 H-C(5')); 3.58 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 3.00 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.16 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₂₃H₁₃N₄O₅ · 1/2 H₂O (430.4): C 62.86, H 4.36, N 12.75; found: C 63.11, H 4.45, N 12.80.$

14. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4.4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (28). To a soln. of 1-(2'-deoxy-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl)pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (22; 0.981 g, 3.5 mmol) [3-5] in dry pyridine (85 ml), 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.5 g, 4.4 mmol) was added and stirred at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was evaporated and the residue partitioned between <math>CH_2Cl_2$ (100 ml) and sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (100 ml). The org. layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (2 × 50 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. Purification by FC (SiO₂, 2 × 10 cm, toluene/AcOEt 2:1, 1:1, 1:2, and 1:4) gave a colourless foam: 1.9 g (92%). UV (MeOH): 317 (3.86), 274 (sh, 3.60), 232 (4.54). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.28 (s, NH); 8.56, 8.37 (2s, H-C(7), H-C(8)); 7.43 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.15-7.39 (m, 7 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.75-6.84 (m, H_o to MeO); 4.78 (m, H-C(3')); 4.01 (m, H-C(4')); 3.75 (s,

2 MeO); 3.52 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 3.34 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 2.95 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.36 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.29 (s, OH-C(3')). Anal. calc. for $C_{32}H_{30}N_4O_7$ (582.6): C 65.97, H 5.19, N 9.62; found: C 65.79, H 5.19, N 9.51.

15. 1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-β-D-ribofuranosyl]-6,7-diphenylpteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (29).As described in *Exper. 14*, with 1-(2'-deoxy-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-6,7-diphenylpteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (23; 1.87 g, 4.33 mmol) [3-5], 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.84 g, 5.43 mmol) and dry pyridine (10 ml). FC (SiO₂, 3.5 × 10 cm, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH/Et₃N 100:1:1, 98:1:1 and 95:4:1) and evaporation of the main fraction gave a solid foam: 2.9 g (91 %). UV (MeOH): 358 (4.10), 273 (4.24), 226 (4.60). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 7.12-7.45 (*m*, 19 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.73 (*m*, 4 H₀ to MeO); 4.71 (*m*, H-C(3')); 3.94 (*q*, H-C(4')); 3.75 (*s*, 2 MeO); 3.42 (*dd*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.19 (*dd*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.06 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')); 2.39 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₄₄H₃₈N₄O₇ (734.8): C 71.92, H 5.21, N 7.62; found: C 71.67, H 5.42, N 7.66.

16. $1-[2^{\circ}-Deoxy^{\circ}-5-O-(4,4^{\circ}-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]benzo[g]pteridine-2.4(1H,3H)-dione (30). To a soln. of 24 (0.826 g, 2.5 mmol) (24) in abs. pyridine (20 ml), 4,4^{\circ}-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.932 g, 2.75 mmol) was added and the mixture stirred at r.t. for 18 h. MeOH (10 ml) was added, the mixture evaporated, and the resulting residue partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ (60 ml) and sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (30 ml). The org. layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (30 ml) and H₂O (30 ml), then dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. FC (SiO₂, 1.5 × 20 cm, toluene/AcOEt 4:1, 2:1, and 1:1) gave a pale yellow foam: 1.4 g (89%). UV (MeOH): 372 (3.80), 321 (3.80), 256 (sh, 4.37), 237 (4.67), 212 (sh, 4.67). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.05 (s, NH); 8.31 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.74–7.86 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.15–7.43 (m, 9 arom. H, H–C(1')); 6.75 (m, 4 H₆ to MeO); 4.97 (m, H–C(3')); 4.09 (m, H–C(4')); 3.74, 3.73 (2s, 2 MeO); 3.59 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 3.42 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 3.06 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.43 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.17 (s, OH–C(3')). Anal. calc. for C₃₆H₃₂N₄O₇ · H₂O (650.7): C 66.45, H 5.23, N 8.61; found: C 66.70, H 5.23, N 8.40.$

17. 1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-β-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[2,3-g] pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione(31). As described in Exper. 16, with 25 (1.14 g, 3 mmol), 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.12 g, 3.3 mmol), and drypyridine (100 ml). Workup with CHCl₃ (80 ml), sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (2 × 50 ml) and purification by FC (SiO₂,1.5 × 15 cm), toluene/AcOEt 4:1, 2:1, and 1:1) gave a solid: 1.72 g (84%). M.p. 170–171°. UV (MeOH):446 (3.23), 390 (4.20), 373 (4.03), 291 (sh, 4.60), 282 (4.64), 239 (4.70), 203 (4.87). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO):12.05 (s, NH); 8.89 (s, arom. H); 8.29 (m, 1 arom. H); 8.12 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.67 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.29 (d, 1 arom.H); 7.04–7.17 (m, 7 arom. H, H–C(1')); 6.64 (m, H_o to MeO); 5.23 (d, OH–C(3')); 4.65 (m, H–C(3'));4.02 (m, H–C(4')); 3.63 (s, MeO); 3.57 (s, MeO); 3.49 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.30 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 2.92 (m, 1 H–C(2'));2.22 (m, 1 H–C(2')). Anal calc. for C₄₀H₃₄N₄O₇ (682.7): C 70.37, H 5.02, N 8.21; found: C 70.18, H 5.10, N 7.58.

18. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[1,2-g] pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione$ $(32). To a soln. of 26 (0.5 g, 1.3 mmol) in dry pyridine (35 ml), 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.542 g, 1.6 mmol) was added and stirred at r.t. for 18 h. The mixture was diluted with MeOH (5 ml) and evaporated. The residue was partitioned between <math>CH_2Cl_2$ (120 ml) and sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (75 ml). The org. layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (75 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. Purification by FC (SiO₂, 0.5 × 10 cm, toluene/AcOEt 6:1, 2:1, and 1:1) gave an amorphous solid: 0.84 g (94%). UV (MeOH): 400 (4.13), 389 (sh, 4.05), 299 (4.26), 288 (sh, 4.28), 280 (4.30), 238 (4.79), 232 (sh, 4.74). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.09 (s, NH); 9.05 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.28 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.13 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.80-7.91 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.53 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.31 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.02-7.27 (m, 7 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.65 (m, H_o to MeO); 5.23 (d, OH-C(3')); 4.61 (m, H-C(3')); 4.02 (m, H-C(4')); 3.61 (s, MeO); 3.51 (s, MeO); 3.47 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 3.24 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 2.94 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.22 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for $C_{40}H_{34}N_4O_7$ (682.7): C 70.37, H 5.02, N 8.21; found: C 70.72, H 5.26, N 7.60.

19. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione$ (33). As described in Exper. 18, with 27 (0.646 g, 1.5 mmol), dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.56 g, 1.65 mmol), and drypyridine (15 ml). Purification by FC (SiO₂, 1.5 × 15 cm, toluene/AcOEt 1:4, 2:1, and 1:1) gave an orange solid:0.960 g (87%). UV (MeOH): 443 (4.09), 336 (4.36), 324 (sh, 4.25), 276 (4.91), 268 (sh, 4.81), 258 (sh, 4.72),231 (4.72). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.51 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.18 (m, 2 arom. H); 8.02 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.86 (d, 1 arom. H);7.64 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.10-7.42 (m, 10 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.76 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 4.98 (g, H-C(3'));4.16 (g, H-C(4')); 3.65 (m, 2 MeO, 1 H-C(5')); 3.47 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 3.10 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.48 (m, 1 H-C(2'));2.27 (s, OH-C(3')). Anal. calc. for C₄₄H₃₆N₄O₇ · H₂O (750.8): C 70.39, H 5.10, N 7.46; found: C 70.44, H 5.24,N 7.21.

20. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (34). To a soln. of 28 (0.437 g, 0.75 mmol) and 1H-tetrazole (27 mg, 0.38 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂/MeCN 1:1 (10 ml) was added (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.452 g, 1.5 mmol) [20]. The mixture was stirred 4 h at r.t. under N₂ and then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml). The org. layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (2 × 50 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. Purification by FC (SiO₂, 2 × 14 cm;$

toluene/AcOEt 6:1, 4:1, 1:1, and 1:2) gave an amorphous solid: 0.44 g (76%). UV (CHCl₃): 316 (3.79), 274 (sh, 3.57), 233 (4.47). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.56, 8.41 (2*m*, H-C(6), H-C(7)); 7.41 (*q*, 2 arom. H); 7.16-7.33 (*m*, 8 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.74 (*m*, 4 H_a to MeO); 4.76 (*m*, H-C(3')); 4.21 (*m*, H-C(4')); 3.75 (*s*, 2 MeO); 3.36-3.63 (*m*, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 MeCH, 2H-C(5'), 1H-C(2')); 2.59 (*t*, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 2.49 (*m*, 2 H, CH₂CH₂CN, 1 H-C(2')); 1.17 (*m*, 8 H, Me); 1.07 (*d*, 4 H, Me). ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃): 149.08, 149.05. Anal. calc. for C₄₁H₄₇N₆O₈P (782.8): C 62.91, H 6.05, N 10.74; found: C 63.54, N 6.15, H 10.18.

21. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]-6,7-diphenylpteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (35). As described in Exper. 20, with 29 (0.515 g, 0.7 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (25 mg, 0.35 mmol), (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.422 g, 1.4 mmol) [20], and CH₂Cl₂/MeCN 1:1 (14 ml). FC (SiO₂, <math>2 \times 14$ cm, toluene/AcOEt 5:1 and 4:1) gave an amorphous solid: 0.52 g (81%). UV (MeOH): 356 (4.22), 331 (sh, 4.03), 273 (4.41), 224 (4.74). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 7.11-7.45 (m, 19 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.65 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 4.66 (m, H-C(3')); 4.16 (m, H-C(4')); 2.98-3.78 (m, 2 MeO, 2 MeCH, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 H-C(5'), 1 H-C(2')); 2.54 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 2.49 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.28 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 1.13 (m, 8 H, Me₂CH); 0.94 (d, 4 H, Me₂CH). ³¹P-NMR(CDCl₃): 149.96, 149.56. Anal. calc. for C₅₃H₅₅N₆O₈P (935.0): C 68.08, H 5.93, N 8.99; found: C 68.32, H 5.96, N 8.40.

22. 1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-β-D-ribofuranosyl]benzo[g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (36). As described in Exper. 20, with 30 (0.683 g, 1 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (35 mg, 0.5 mmol), (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.603 g, 2 mmol) [20], and CH₂Cl₂/MeCN 1:1 (10 ml). FC (SiO₂, 2 × 14 cm, petroleum ether/ACOEt 1:1, 2:1, and 2:3) gave an amorphous solid: 0.77 g (92%). UV (CHCl₃): 370 (3.80), 321 (3.79), 256 (sh, 4.39), 237 (4.65). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.32 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.39 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.40 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.23 (m, 3 arom. H, H--C(1')); 7.13 (m, 3 arom. H); 6.67 (m, 4H_o to MeO); 4.94 (m, H-C(3')); 4.32 (m, H-C(4')); 3.43-3.89 (m, 2 MeO, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 MeCH, 2 H-C(5')); 3.11 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.61 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 2.50 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.44 (m, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 1.05-1.29 (m, 2 Me₂CH). ³¹P-NMR(CDCl₃): 149.3, 149.5. Anal. calc. for C₄₅H₄₉N₆O₈P (832.9): C 64.89, H 5.93, N 10.09; found: C 64.07, H 6.05, N 9.84.

23. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[2,3-g] pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (37). As described in Exper. 20, with 31 (1.03 g, 1.5 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (53 mg, 0.75 mmol), (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.904 g, 3 mmol) [20], and CH₂Cl₂/MeCN 1:1 (30 ml). After stirring overnight, the mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (100 ml), the org. layer washed with sat. NaHCO₃ soln. (2 × 50 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. Purification by FC (SiO₂, 1.5 × 10 cm, petroleum ether/acetone 3:2, 1:1, and 2:3) gave an amorphous solid: 1.20 g (91 %). UV (CHCl₃): 442 (3.41), 395 (4.27), 375 (4.04), 295 (4.71), 289 (sh, 4.69), 243 (4.66). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 12.05 (s, NH); 8.91 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.28 (d, 2 arom. H); 8.05 (t, 1 arom. H); 7.59–7.78 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.05–7.37 (m, 9 arom. H), H-C(1)); 6.55–6.76 (m, 4 H₀ to MeO); 4.93 (m, H-C(3)); 4.20 (m, H-C(4')); 3.42–3.78 (m, 2 MeO, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 Me₂CH, 1 H-C(5')); 3.29 (m, with H₂O, 1 H-C(5)); 2.98 (m, H-C(2)); 2.65, 2.77 (2t, CH₂CH₂CN); 2.48 (m, with DMSO, 1 H-C(2')); 0.94–1.22 (m, 2 Me₂CH). ³¹P-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 149.18, 149.36. Anal. calc. for C₄₉H₅₁N₆O₈P (883.0): C 66.66, H 5.82, N 9.52; found: C 66.16, H 6.03, N 9.33.$

24. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (38). As described in Exper. 20, with 32 (0.1 g, 0.15 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (5.6 mg, 0.08 mmol), (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.12 g, 0.39 mmol) [20], and CH₂Cl₂/MeCN 3:1 (4 ml). FC (SiO₂, 1 × 14 cm, petroleum ether/acetone 4:1, 2:1, and 1:1) gave a yellow foam: 0.116 g (87%). UV (CHCl₃): 400 (4.16), 386 (4.08), 300 (4.33), 282 (4.38). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.51 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.09 (dd, 1 arom. H); 7.93 (dd, 1 arom. H); 7.81 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.58 (t, 1 arom. H); 7.41 (dd, 3 arom. H); 7.28 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.05-7.19 (m, 4 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.65 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 4.97 (m, H-C(3')); 4.31 (m, H-C(4')); 3.43-3.89 (m, 2 MeO, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 Me₂CH, 2 H-C(5')); 3.14 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.60 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 1.08-1.25 (m, 2 MeCH). ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃): 149.44, 149.22. Anal. calc. for C₄₉H₅₁N₆O₈P (887.0): C 66.36, H 5.79, N 9.48; found: C 66.37, H 5.92, N 9.22.$

25. $1 - [2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl) - \beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl]anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl Diisopropylphosphoramidite) (**39**). As described in Exper. 20, with **33** (0.513 g, 0.7 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (25 mg, 0.35 mmol), (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.422 g) [20], and MeCN/CH₂Cl₂ 1:1 (4 ml). FC (SiO₂, 1.5 × 14 cm, petroleum ether/AcOEt 1:1 and 2:3) gave an amorphous powder: 0.605 g (93%). UV (CHCl₃): 441 (4.10), 424 (sh, 4.04), 336 (4.36), 276 (4.94), 276 (4.94), 268 (sh, 4.82), 258 (sh, 4.70), 232 (4.69). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 9.77 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.39 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.27 (m, 1 arom. H); 8.11 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.67 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.43 (m, 4 arom. H); 7.30 (m, 4 arom. H); 7.12 (m, 2 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.68 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 4.94 (m, H-C(3')); 4.34 (m, H-C(4')); 3.45-3.88 (m, 2 MeO, CH₂CH₂CN, 2 Me₂CH, 2H-C(5')); 3.15 (m, 1 H-C2')); 2.42 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 2.50 (m, 1 H-C(2'); 2.45 (t, 1 H, CH₂CH₂CN); 1.10-1.23 (*m*, 2 Me_2 CH). ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃): 149.17, 149.48. Anal. calc. for $C_{53}H_{53}N_6O_8P$ (933.0): C 68.23, H 5.73, N 9.00; found: 68.04, H 5.77, N 8.77.

26. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl] pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate)$ (40). After co-evaporation of 28 (0.35 g, 0.6 mmol) with dry pyridine (2 × 10 ml), the residue was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml), and then DMAP (8 mg, 0.8 mmol) and succinic anhydride (80 mg, 0.8 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred for 2 days at r.t. and then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml), washed with H₂O (50 ml), 10% citric acid soln. (4 × 10 ml), and again with H₂O (2 × 10 ml). The org. phase was dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated to give a colourless foam: 0.384 g (93%). UV (MeOH): 317 (3.76), 233 (4.43). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.62 (*m*, NH), 8.52, 8.22 (2*d*, H-C(6), H-C(7)); 7.17-7.43 (*m*, 8 arom. H); 6.77 (*m*, 4 H_o to MeO); 5.48 (*m*, H-C(3')); 4.32 (*m*, H-C(4')); 3.77 (*s*, 2 MeO); 3.45 (*m*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.35 (*m*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.1 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')); 2.61-2.74 (*m*, CH₂CH₂); 2.37 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')).

27. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]-6,7-diphenylpteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate) (41). After co-evaporation of$ **29**(0.441 g, 0.6 mmol) with dry pyridine (3 × 10 ml), the residue was dissolved in dry pyridine (15 ml) and Et₃N (26 µl, 1.9 mmol), and then DMAP (87 mg, 0.7 mmol) and succinic anhydride (0.188 g, 1.9 mmol) were added and stirred at r.t. for 5 h. After evaporation and coevaporation with toluene (2 × 20 ml), the residue was purified by FC (SiO₂, 1 × 12 cm, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH/Et₃Nt₃). The main fraction was evaporated, the residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml), and the soln. extracted with 10% citric acid (2 × 20 ml) and H₂O (20 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and again evaporated to give a colourless solid: 0.443 g (78%). UV (MeOH): 357 (4.12), 273 (4.29), 224 (4.64). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 7.40 (*m*, 3 arom. H); 7.16–7.32 (*m*, 3 arom. H); 7.03–7.11 (*m*, 16 arom. H, H–C(1')); 6.63 (*m*, 4 H_o to MeO); 5.34 (*m*, 1H–C(2')); 4.24 (*m*, H–C(4')); 3.74 (*m*, 1H–C(2')); 3.15 (*m*, 1H–C(5')); 2.88 (*m*, 1H–C(2')); 2.57 (*d*, CH₂CH₂); 2.49 (*m*, 1H–C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₄₈H₄₂N₄O₁₀ · H₂O (852.89): C 67.59, H 5.20, N 6.56; found: C 67.87, H 5.17, N 6.52.

28. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrity])-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]benzo[g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate) (42). To a soln. of 30 (0.189 g, 0.3 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (7 ml), DMAP (49 mg, 0.4 mmol) and succinic anhydride (41 mg, 0.4 mmol) were added and stirred for 3 days at r.t. Then the mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (30 ml), washed with 10% citric acid soln. (3 × 50 ml) and H₂O (3 × 30 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated to give a colourless foam: 0.225 g (99%). UV (MeOH): 371 (3.82), 321 (3.85), 254 (sh, 4.49), 237 (4.69), 213 (4.81). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.27 ($ *d*, 1 arom. H); 7.78 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 7.62 (*d*, 1 arom. H); 7.37 (*d*, 2 arom. H); 7.08-7.29 (*m*, 7 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.69 (*m*, 4 H_a to MeO); 5.77 (*m*, H-C(3')); 4.42 (*q*, H-C(4')); 3.73 (*s*, MeO); 3.71 (*s*, MeO); 3.57 (*dd*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.45 (*dd*, 1 H-C(5')); 3.26 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')); 2.55-2.81 (*m*, CH₂CH₂); 2.48 (*m*, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₄₀H₃₈N₄O₁₀ · H₂O (752.8): C 63.82, H 5.36, N 7.44; found: C 63.71, H 5.13, N 7.05.

29. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[2,3-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate) (43). As described in Exper. 28, with 31 (0.205 g, 0.3 mmol), DMAP (49 mg, 0.4 mmol), succinic anhydride (41 mg, 0.4 mmol), and CH₂Cl₂ (25 ml). The product (quant.) was further purified by FC (SiO₂, <math>1.5 \times 14$ cm, toluene/AcOEt 6:1 to 1:2) to give an amorphous solid: 0.19 g (81%). UV (CHCl₃): 446 (3.23), 394 (4.23), 374 (4.04), 295 (4.67), 243 (4.62). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.84 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.62 (d, 1 arom. H); 8.25 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.07 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.92 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.57 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.02-7.34 (m, 8 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.60 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 5.83 (m, H-C(3')); 4.38 (m, H-C(4')); 3.65 (m, 2 MeO, 1 H-C(5')); 3.34 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.62-2.81 (m, CH₂CH₂); 2.47 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₄₄H₃₈N₄O₁₀ · H₂O (800.8): C 65.99, H 5.03, N 6.99; found: C 66.60, H 5.14, N 7.22.

30. $1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-ribofuranosyl]naphtho[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate) (44). As described in Exper. 28, with 32 (68 mg, 0.1 mmol), DMAP (16.4 mg, 0.13 mmol), succinic anhydride (13.4 mg, 0.13 mmol), and <math>CH_2Cl_2$ (5 ml): 77 mg (98%) of amorphous solid. UV (MeOH): 400 (4.14), 388 (sh, 4.19), 298 (4.32), 288 (sh, 4.33), 280 (4.34), 238 (4.83). ¹H-NMR (CDCl_3): 11.21 (br. s, NH); 9.18 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.98 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.86 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.77 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.06-7.42 (m, 10 arom. H, H-C(1')); 6.66 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 5.79 (m, H-C(3')); 4.40 (q, H-C(4')); 3.62 (s, MeO); 3.65 (s, MeO); 3.57 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 3.45 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 3.45 (m, 1 H-C(2')); 2.61-2.85 (m, CH_2CH_2); 2.49 (m, 1 H-C(2')). Anal. calc. for $C_{44}H_{33}N_4O_{10} \cdot H_2O$ (800.8): C 65.99, H 5.03, N 6.99; found: C 66.05, H 5.18, N 6.86.

31. 1-[2'-Deoxy-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-β-D-ribofuranosyl]anthra[1,2-g]pteridine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione 3'-(Hydrogen Butanedioate) (45). As described in Exper. 28, with 33 (0.205 g, 0.3 mmol), DMAP (49 mg, 0.4 mmol), succinic anhydride (41 mg, 0.4 mmol), and CH₂Cl₂ (7 ml). Workup led to an amorphous solid: 0.248 g (95%). UV (MeOH): 444 (4.08), 336 (4.34), 324 (sh, 4.23), 276 (4.90), 268 (sh, 4.80), 257 (sh, 4.70), 231 (4.69). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 10.02 (s, NH); 9.52 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.23 (s, 1 arom. H); 8.15 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.98 (m, 1 arom. H); 7.94 (d, 1 arom. H); 7.61 (m, 2 arom. H); 7.39 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.05–7.28 (m, 8 arom. H, H–C(1')); 6.66 (m, 4 H_o to MeO); 5.77 (m, H–C(3')); 4.39 (q, H–C(4')); 3.64 (s, MeO); 3.59 (s, MeO); 3.55 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.44 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.22 (m, 1 H–C(2')); 2.68–2.83 (m, CH₂CH₂); 2.49 (m, 1 H–C(2')). Anal. calc. for C₄₈H₄₀N₄O₁₀ · H₂O (851.0): C 67.76, H 4.97, N 6.58; found: C 67.46, H 5.17, N 6.14.

32. Solid-Support LCMAA-CPG 500-Å Material 46-51. To a mixture of LCMAA-CPG 500-Å (100 mg) [21] [22] and 16 µmol of 40 (11 mg), 41 (14 mg), 42 (12 mg), 43 (13 mg), 44 (13 mg), or 45 (14 mg), resp., in N-methylmorpholine (5 ml) and dry MeCN (3 ml) was added TOTU (6 mg, 18 µmol) [23] with gentle shaking. After reaction for 3 h at r.t., the CPG material was collected and washed with DMF, MeOH, acetone, and Et₂O. Then the nucleoside-functionalized CPG material was capped by gentle shaking with DMAP (25 mg, 0.2 mmol), in dry pyridine (5 ml) and Ac₂O (0.5 ml, 5.3 mmol) at r.t. for 20 min. Thereafter, 46-51 were collected and washed with DMF, H₂O, MeOH, acetone, and Et₂O. The loading L (in µmol/g support) was determined by UV (498 nm) of the cleaved (MeO)₂Tr group yielding L = 28 (46), 35 (47), 36 (48), 18 (49), 23 (50), and 36 (51).

33. Assembly of Oligonucleotides. Syntheses were carry out using an Applied Biosystems 392 DNA/RNA synthesizer according to the described procedure [25].

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