Scheme I



Scheme II



(190 °C) pyrolysis of artemisinin,¹⁸ is offered to account for these room-temperature results. Iron(II)-induced cleavage of the peroxide bond in trioxane 5c leads to radical intermediates 10a and 10b in about a 2:1 ratio: C-C bond cleavage of 10a initially produces labile ring-contracted tetrahydrofuran acetal 11 (characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR) with ¹⁸O located in the acetoxy group as shown in Scheme II (mass spectrum, M - $CH_3CO^{18}O$) and then produces stable electrophilic tetrahydrofuran aldehyde 12 lacking ¹⁸O. 1,5-Hydrogen atom abstraction in radical intermediate 10b ultimately leads to stable dioxolane alcohol 14 as a mixture of two diastereomers with ¹⁸O not located in the methoxyl group (mass spectrum M - CH₃O). Subsequent oxidation of this isomeric mixture of alcohols 14 gave the corresponding dioxolane ketone 15 as a single product.¹³ The overall yields of isolated aldehyde 12 and hydroxy dioxolane 14 ranged from 60 to 70%.

In summary, these reactions of trioxane 5c for the first time (1) provide firm mechanistic evidence that deoxygenation of a 1,2,4-trioxane into the corresponding 1,3-dioxolane occurs via a tandem unzipping-zipping process and (2) show that trioxane cleavage by ferrous ions follows a different mechanistic course and leads to different products than trioxane cleavage by nonferrous reducing agents. These results may help the development of better antimalarial trioxanes.19.20

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5c, Professor Craig Townsend (Johns Hopkins) for a helpful discussion about ¹⁸O labeling, and Professor Steven Meshnick (City University of New York Medical School) for some helpful preprints and discussions about porphyrin adducts with trioxanes like artemisinin.

Supplementary Material Available: Listing of full experimental details and spectral data for compounds 3, 5a-c, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, and 15 (36 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Remarkable Regioselectivity in the Chemical Glycosylation of Glycal Acceptors: A Concise Solution to the Synthesis of Sialyl-Lewis X Glycal

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The cell-surface-bound polysaccharide sialyl-Lewis X antigen $(SLe^{x}, 1)^{2}$ has recently been identified as a ligand for binding to the cell-adhesion molecules ELAM-1 and CD-62.3 These proteins are expressed on cell membranes in response to tissue injury, and

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Scheme I



^aa. 2eq. AgClO₄. 2eq SnCl₂, 2eq di-*t*-butylpyridine 4Å mol sieves. ether: **3a** reflux (59%): **3b** rt (52%): **11** rt (30%). b. 0.1 eq BF₃·OEt₂. CH₂Cl₂, -78°C (75%). c. NaOMe/MeOH (88%). d. 2eq. AgOTf. 2eq di-*t*-butylpyridine, CaSO₄. THF. -78° to -10°C. e. Ac₂O, pyridine, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂: d and e combined yields **9a** (40%, isolated; 78% based on recovered starting material (BORSM)); **9b** (38%, isolated; 75% BORSM); **13** (28%. isolated; 88% BORSM). f. TBAF, THF. g. NaOMe/MeOH. h. Na/NH₃. i. Ac₂O, pyridine, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂. j. NaOMe/MeOH/H₂O: 9a → 10 (77%), 9b \rightarrow 10 (61%), 13 \rightarrow 14 (73%).

their expression results in binding to neutrophils and monocytes which bear the SLe^x antigen at the nonreducing terminus of membrane-bound polysaccharides. SLex was previously identified in a number of human tumor cell lines, and it is also found in the serum of cancer patients.⁴ The biosynthesis of SLe^x results from the action of sialyl- and fucosyltransferases on terminal lactosa-

mines of cell-surface polysaccharides.⁵ Thus, our interest in the sialyl-Lewis X antigen was fueled by the possibility that a small-molecule analog bearing the pertinent structural features of SLe^x might serve as an antagonist of ELAM-1 or as a sialylor fucosyltransferase inhibitor.

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 S. J.; Weston, B. W.; Lowe, J. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc., in press. A recombinant human α 1.3 fucosyltransferase and LacNAc acceptor were used in the inhibition analysis.

In this paper we report a highly concise chemical route to differentially functionalized congeners of the Lewis X antigen, including the critical sialyl-Lewis X series. The major finding herein is that both D-glucal and D-lactal derivatives, where only the primary alcohol functions are protected, undergo regiospecific fucosylation at the allylic alcohol. Furthermore, in the D-lactal series, sialylation occurs specifically at the C3' hydroxyl in the galactosyl domain. The sum of these findings illustrates the enormous potential to be gained from the use of glycals as glycosyl acceptors.

We first found that 6-O-(TBDPS)-D-glucal (2)8 was regio- and stereoselectively glycosylated with fluoride $3a^{9,10}$ to provide 6a. Under similar reaction conditions the corresponding tribenzyl donor $3b^{11}$ gave a 5:3 mixture of α and β anomers favoring 6b. The stereochemistry observed¹² in 6a,b was independent of the anomeric stereochemistry of fluorides 3a,b. The ratio of O3- to O4-fucosylated products was typically 8:1 independent of the fucosyl donor (Scheme I).12

Galactosyl trichloroacetimidate $4^{13,14}$ provided a single β -linked trisaccharide glycal 7a, which upon debenzoylation gave the required triol 8a. Coupling with sialyl donor 5¹⁵ and acetylation of the crude product mixture provided a single stereoisomer of the tetrasaccharide glycal 9a.^{13,16} The above protocol was also successfully demonstrated for the synthesis of 9b starting from 3b. By this concise route we synthesized multigram quantities of 9b. Global deprotection of both 9a and 9b provided ready access to sialyl-Lewis X glycal (10).

With a view to instituting additional synthetic economies, we explored regioselective glycosylations of D-lactal derivatives. Reaction of 6,6'-bis(O-TBS)lactal (11)17 with fucosyl donor 3a occurred at the allylic alcohol to afford trisaccharide glycal 12, with no other regio- or stereoisomers detected. In contrast, sialylation of 11 with sialyl donor 5 stereoselectively provided the O3'-sialylated lactal 13,¹⁸ which was completely deprotected to give sialyllactal 14.

Both sialyllactal (14) and sialyl-Lewis X glycal (10) were tested for fucosyltransferase inhibition. 14 was not an inhibitor, but 10 was a moderate inhibitor of α -1,3-fucosyltransferase (IC₅₀ = 41 mM). In conclusion, our synthetic approach to 10 provides ready access to a host of small-molecule analogs of sialyl-Lewis X antigen. Specifically, the glycal at the reducing terminus of 9a,b has been successfully utilized as a handle for introducing the SLe^x

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(12) The presence of the glycal as an inert reaction partner required avoiding strongly acidic or electrophilic conditions; fucosylation and sialylation were successful only when conducted in the presence of 2.6-di-tert-butylpyridine.

(13) 4 was synthesized in four steps from 6-benzyl-1.2:3,4-diisopropylidene-D-galactopyranose (23% overall yield): (1) 1 N HCl. dioxane, 100 °C; (2) benzoyl chloride. pyridine, CHCl₃. -10 °C; (3) saturated ammonia in THF/MeOH (7:3): (4) potassium carbonate, trichloroacetonitrile. CH_2Cl_2 .

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unit to other haptens as well as for completing the total synthesis of sialyl-Lewis X antigen (1).¹⁹

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Supplementary Material Available: Listings of complete experimental details and analytical and spectral data for all new compounds (3-10, 13, 14) (14 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Azaglycosylation of Complex Stannyl Alkoxides with Glycal-Derived Iodo Sulfonamides: A Straightforward Synthesis of Sialyl-Lewis X Antigen and Other **Oligosaccharide Domains**

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Our previous communication documented the synthesis of sialyl-Lewis X glycal (2).² In our initial attempts to synthesize sialyl-Lewis X antigen (1) from the fully protected tetrasaccharide glycal 2, we encountered difficulty in extending our sulfonamidoglycosylation methodology³ to the synthesis of SLe^x-containing glycoconjugates. More specifically, the glycosylation conditions (lithium or potassium alkoxides of a glycosyl acceptor) were not compatible with acetyl or benzoyl esters. In this communication we disclose the successful application of stannyl alkoxide addition to glycal-derived iodo sulfonamides, resulting in the total synthesis of sialyl-Lewis X antigen (1) and a synthesis of hexasaccharide 7 (Scheme I).

Reaction of 2 with iodonium di-sym-collidine perchlorate and either benzenesulfonamide² or 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethanesulfonamide⁴ provided iodo sulfonamides 3a and 3b in 91% and 82% yields, respectively. The formation of a simple β -benzyl glycoside 4 containing all of the necessary heteroatoms found in sialyl-Lewis X antigen was achieved under very mild conditions, by reaction of 3b with tributylstannyl O-benzyl alkoxide⁵ in the presence of silver triflate. Fluoride-mediated desilylation removed both the silyl ether and the 2-silylethanesulfonamido group; acetylation

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