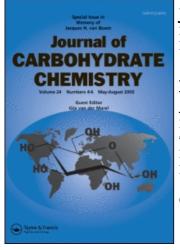
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# ENZYMATIC O-GALACTOSYLATION OF SELECTED FREE AS WELL AS PARTIALLY PROTECTED KETOHEXOSES

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Dedicated to Prof. Dr. Joachim Thiem on the happy occasion of his 60th birthday.

### ABSTRACT

A range of partially protected ketoses was *O*-galactosylated with  $\beta$ -galactosidase from *Aspergillus oryzae* employing (4-nitro)phenyl  $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside as the donor. This enzyme also accepted free D-tagatose as a substrate.

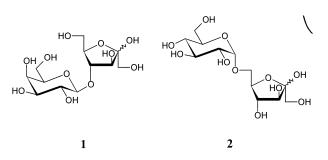
### **INTRODUCTION**

Despite all efforts ketose chemistry, including synthetic applications, is by far not as advanced as the chemistry of aldoses. Even in the area of the most common ketohexoses including D-fructose, L-sorbose or D-tagatose, synthetically useful transformations are relatively scarce as compared to those for the corresponding aldohexose counterparts, for example, D-glucose or D-galactose. In particular, little is known about the synthesis and synthetic applications of open-chain ketoses<sup>1,2</sup> as well as the chemistry of di- and oligosaccharides containing D-fructose or other ketoses at the reducing end.<sup>1</sup>

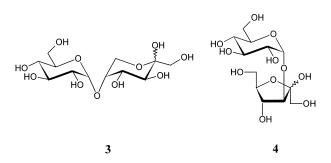
Nevertheless, several disaccharides with D-fructose at the reducing end are the subject of commercial interest and exhibit a wide range of useful properties.

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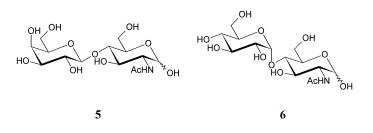


For example, lactulose (4-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl-D-fructose **1**) is employed as a mild agent for gastrointestinal protection and ulcer prevention.<sup>3</sup> Palatinose or isomaltulose (6-O- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl-D-fructofuranose **2**) is a biocatalytically obtained bulk product as a precursor to low calorie sweeteners.<sup>1</sup>



Other representative fructo disaccharides are leucrose (5-O- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl-D-fructopyranose **3**),<sup>4</sup> as well as turanose (3-O- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl-D-fructose **4**), the latter being a constituent of melezitose, a highly crystalline non-reducing trisaccharide found in certain types of honey.<sup>5</sup>

In context with our interest in preparatively useful applications of the Heyns rearrangement, we recently reported a very short and efficient synthesis of *N*-acetyl-D-lactosamine (5) from lactulose (1).<sup>7</sup>



A range of other *O*-glycosylated D-glucosamine derivatives such as *N*-acetyl-D-maltosamine (**6**) could also be obtained from the corresponding *O*-aldopyranosylketoses by this approach, thereby demonstrating its fairly general applicability to disaccharides with D-fructose at the reducing end.

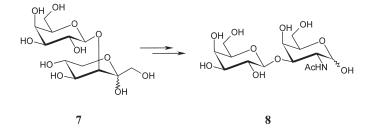
In order to extend our knowledge on this preparatively interesting reaction sequence additional examples of *O*-glycosylated ketoses were deemed to be interest-

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galactopyranosyl substituents.

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ing targets, in particular D-fructose as well as D-tagatose derivatives with  $\beta$ -D-

For example, 3-*O*- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl-D-tagatose (**7**), if made easily available, could be considered a valuable starting material for the preparation of *N*-acetyl-3-*O*- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl-D-galactosamine (**8**), a constituent of the tumor marker Thomsen-Friedenreich (TF-) antigen.<sup>8</sup>

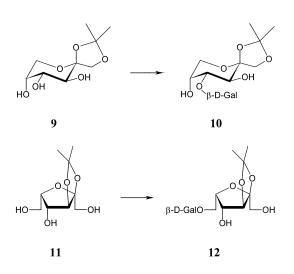
For short and efficient approaches to the desired disaccharides, reasonably well-established β-galactosidase mediated glycosylation appeared to be an interesting method of choice.<sup>9</sup> Despite the fact that enzymatic O-glycosylation was one of the early synthetic applications of sugar-related biocatalysis and has remained one of the most frequently employed, ketoses have rarely been used as substrates.<sup>10</sup> However, in one example,  $1-O-\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl-D-tagatose was prepared by O-glucosylation of free tagatose employing the Protaminobacter *rubrum* enzyme with 4-nitrophenyl  $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside as the donor.<sup>11</sup> Wildtype Kluyveromyces lactis β-galactosidase was found to transfer galactosyl units from lactose. Products identified included fructose derivatives β-galactosylated at positions 1 or 6.<sup>12</sup> A further example is the synthesis of a 1 $\rightarrow$ 6 connected  $\beta$ -D-galactosyl-D-fructose with immobilised E. coli B-galactosidase as well as with the A. oryzae enzyme.<sup>13</sup> O-Galactosylations at other positions were also found to be occurring under the conditions employed in this study. The same workers exploited a Saccharomyces  $\alpha$ -glucosidase to obtain O- $\alpha$ -D-glucosylated fructoses.<sup>14</sup> Interestingly, fructose was also found to be an acceptor for the endo- $\beta$ -N-acetylglucosaminidase mediated transfer of a Man<sub>9</sub>GlcNAc decasaccharide.<sup>15</sup>

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In order to have positions 1 and 2 of a suitable ketose available for subsequent reactions such as the Heyns rearrangement, 1,2-*O*-protected ketoses were our substrates of choice. For initial feasibility experiments, 1,2-*O*-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-fructopyranose (**9**),<sup>16</sup> obtained from controlled hydrolysis of 1,2:4,5di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-fructopyranose<sup>17</sup>, as well as 2,3-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -Lsorbofuranose (**11**), obtained from partial hydrolysis of 2,3:4,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -L-sorbofuranose,<sup>18,19</sup> were chosen due to their easy availability.

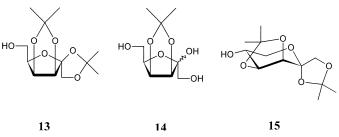
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Upon reaction with 4-nitrophenyl β-D-galactopyranoside in the presence of β-galactosidase from Aspergillus oryzae, galactosyl transfer occurred to O-4 of the partially protected fructopyranose 9 to afford 1,2-O-isopropylidene protected lactulose derivative 10 in 63% yield based on the donor. By the same protocol, sorbofuranose derivative 12 was obtained from compound 11 in 50% yield.

These encouraging results prompted our attempts to prepare 1,2-O-protected tagatose as a precursor to (eventually O-galactosylated) D-galactosamine derivatives.

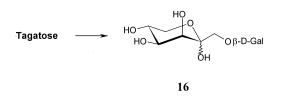


Despite intense efforts, we were not able to obtain the desired compound from controlled hydrolysis of 1,2:3,4-di-O-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -D-tagatofuranose (13)<sup>20</sup> the main product of acid catalysed reactions of D-tagatose with acetone. In all cases, the 3,4-O-isopropylidene group proved to be equally stable as the 1,2-Oprotecting group leading to mixtures of products. 1,2:3,4-Di-O-isopropylidene-Dtagatopyranose (15) was only obtained in preparatively insignificant amounts as a side product from the *O*-isopropylidenation reaction.

Subsequent attempts of O-galactosylation of free D-tagatose were met by, albeit limited, success as per-O-acetylation of the product mixture containing the disaccharide 16 gave, after chromatography, a 10% yield of the 1-O-galactosylated octa-O-acetyl derivative 16a (see Experimental).



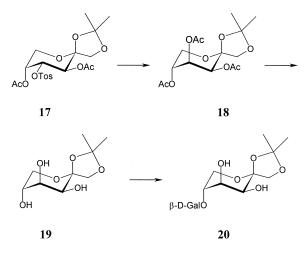




However, although this is an interesting finding, this product is unsuitable for the Heyns rearrangement.

As an alternative to a controlled hydrolysis procedure, we envisaged a simple synthesis of 1,2-O-protected D-tagatose from the corresponding D-fructose or Lsorbose derivatives.

Following work reported by Buchanan and co-workers,<sup>21</sup> 3,5-di-O-acetyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene-4-O-tosyl- $\beta$ -D-fructopyranose (17) was prepared from compound 9 in good yield.

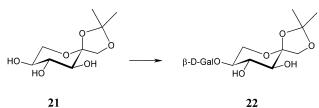


Treatment of 17 with sodium acetate in DMF at 140 °C furnished the corresponding 3,4,5-tri-O-acetyl-D-tagatose derivative 18 in 60% yield. This was subsequently deprotected employing Zemplen conditions to give 1,2-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-tagatopyranose (19).

This simple approach represents a new access to 1,2-O-isopropylidene-Dtagatopyranose.

This substrate was accepted by the  $\beta$ -galactosidase furnishing a low yield of 8–10% of the corresponding 5-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosylketose 20.

In order to gain insight into the reactivities of the more common 1,2-O-isopropylidene protected ketohexoses, the respective L-sorbopyranose  $(21)^{22}$  was also examined as a substrate.





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Gratifyingly, this compound was accepted by the enzyme to give the 5-*O*-galactosylated ketodisaccharide **22** in 15% yield.

In conclusion, it was found that a range of partially protected ketohexopyranoses as well as an example of a free ketose and a selected 2,3-*O*-protected furanoid system were accepted by the  $\beta$ -galactosidase from *Aspergillus oryzae*. Isolated yields of *O*-galactosyl ketoses ranged from "preparatively unacceptable" to "fair" but unfortunately the desired 1 $\rightarrow$ 3 connections could not be achieved with the substrates reported here and the enzyme employed in this study. At this point, it is interesting to note that analogous experiments employing two different batches of  $\beta$ -glucosidase from almonds and 4-nitrophenyl  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside as the donor did not lead to any detectable disaccharide formation with the ketoses probed in this study.

#### EXPERIMENTAL

**General Methods.** TLC was performed on precoated aluminum plates (Merck 5554) employing 5% vanillin/sulfuric acid as well as ceric ammonium molybdate as staining agents. For column chromatography, silica gel 60, 230–400 mesh (Merck 9385), was used. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian IN-OVA 500 operating at 499.925 MHz. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 75.47 or 50.29 MHz. Residual non-deuterated solvent was used as internal standard for determination of chemical shifts. Signals of protecting groups (*O*-isopropylidene, *O*-acetyl) were found in the expected regions and are not listed explicitly. MS was conducted on a HP 1100 series MSD, Hewlett Packard with methanol as the solvent. Samples were dissolved in acetonitrile or acetonitrile/water mixtures. The scan mode for positive ions (mass range 100–1000 D) was employed varying the fragmentation voltage from 50 to 250 V with best molecular peaks observed at 150 V.

**3,4,5-Tri**-O-acetyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-tagatopyranose (18). To a 6% solution of 3,5-di-O-acetyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene-4-O-tosyl-D-fructopyranose  $(17,^{21} 6.20 \text{ g}, 13.5 \text{ mmol})$  in DMF, sodium acetate (43.2 g, 40 equiv) was added and the mixture was stirred at 140 °C for 10-14 d (TLC: cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v). Solids were removed by filtration, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the remaining oily residue was treated with pyridine (80 mL) and acetic anhydride (40 mL). Methanol was added after 3 h and the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. After addition of dichloromethane to the residue, the organic layer was consecutively washed with 5% aqueous HCl and satd aqueous sodium bicarbonate and dried ( $Na_2SO_4$ ). After filtration, the solvent was removed and the residue was subjected to chromatography to yield compound **18** (3.90 g, 83%):  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} - 105.2^{\circ}$  (c 1.5, dichloromethane); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 103.1 (C-2), 72.7 (C-1), 69.6, 67.1, 66.1 (C-3, C-4, C-5), 60.5 (C-6). <sup>1</sup>H NMR & 5.27 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>4.5</sub> 3.5 Hz, H-4), 5.15 (d, 1 H, J<sub>3.4</sub> 3.5 Hz, H-3), 4.85 (m, 1 H, H-5), 4.28 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>5.6a</sub> 1.3 Hz, J<sub>6a.6b</sub> 13.2 Hz, H-6a), 3.96 (d, 1H, J<sub>1a.1b</sub> 9 Hz, H-1a), 3.88 (d, 1 H, J 9 Hz, H-1b) 3.69 (d, 1 H, H-6b).





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Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (346.37): C, 52.02; H, 6.41. Found: C, 51.89; H, 6.45.

**1,2-O-Isopropylidene**-β-**D-tagatopyranose (19).** To a 5% methanolic solution of compound **18** (3.87 g, 10.9 mmol), methanolic sodium methoxide (1M, 0.3 mL) was added, and the mixture was kept at ambient temperature for 1 h. Ion exchange resin (IR 120, pre-washed with dry methanol) was added. After filtration, the solution was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 1:10, v/v) to furnish compound **19** (1.32 g, 55%):  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -83.0° (*c* 2.3, MeOH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 105.7 (C-2), 72.2, 71.3, 70.2, 64.4 (C-1, C-3, C-4, C-5), 61.1 (C-6). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 4,15 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>6a,6b</sub> 12,5 Hz, H-6a), 4,10 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>1a,1b</sub> 8.2 Hz, H-1a), 3.89 (d, 1 H, H-1b), 3.87 (m, 1 H, H-4), 3.77 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> 3.5 Hz, H-3), 3.72 (m, 1 H, H-5), 3.48 (d, 1 H, H-6b).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_9H_{16}O_6$  (220.25): C, 49.08; H, 7.34. Found: C, 49.01; H, 7.40.

General Procedure for the  $\beta$ -D-Galactosidase Catalysed Glycosylation Reaction. To an 8% solution of the respective acceptor (2.5 equiv) in phosphate buffer (50 mM; K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>/KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>),  $\beta$ -D-galactosidase (EC 3.2.1.23, *Aspergillus oryzae*; Sigma; Specific activity: 5.1 units/mg enzyme; 0.125 units/mg of donor) was added at pH 5. To this mixture, 4-nitrophenyl  $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (1 equiv) was added over a period of 2–4 h. After complete reaction of the donor, the solution was co-distilled with toluene several times and concentrated under reduced pressure. The remaining material was chromatographed in the respective solvent system given below.

4-O-(β-D-Galactopyranosyl)-1,2-O-isopropylidene-β-D-fructopyranose (10) and 3,5,2',3',4',6'-Hexa-O-acetyl-4-O-( $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)-1,2-O-iso**propylidene**-β-**D**-fructopyranose (10a). Following the General Procedure, from the reaction of 1,2-O-isopropylidene-β-D-fructopyranose (9, 5.0 g, 22.7 mmol), disaccharide 10 (307 mg, 63% by conversion of 9) was isolated (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 10:1 to 0:1, v/v). 4.72 g of starting monosaccaride 9 were recovered. For 10:  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 52.6^\circ$  (c 3.1, DMSO); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  106.1 (C-2), 100.9 (C-1'), 78.0 (C-4), 75.5 (C-5'), 73.1 (C-3'), 71.0 (C-2'), 70.6 (C-4'), 68.2 (C-5), 66.1 (C-3), 65.6 (C-1), 63.5 (C-6), 60.4 (C-6'). <sup>1</sup>H NMR & 5.20 (d, 1 H, J 2.7 Hz), 4.81 (d, 1 H, J 4.7 Hz), 4.70-4.61 (m, 2 H), 4.53-4.46 (m, 2 H), 4.30 (d, 1 H, J 6.8 Hz), 4.05 (d, 1 H, J 8.3 Hz), 3.82-3.34 (m, 6 H). Due to the poor resolution of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra, a sample of 10 was conventionally per-O-acetylated (**10a**):  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 70.1^\circ$  (*c* 2.1, acetone); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  104.7 (C-2), 100.3 (C-1'), 75.2 (C-4), 72.0 (C-1), 71.2 (C-3'), 70.7 (C-5'), 69.0 (C-2'), 68.9 (C-5), 67.6 (C-3), 67.0 (C-4'), 62.5 (C-6), 61.2 (C-6'). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 5.35 (d, 1 H, J<sub>3',4'</sub> 3.0 Hz, H-4'), 5.29 (d, 1 H, J<sub>3.4</sub> 10.2 Hz, H-3), 5.19 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.07 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>1'2'</sub> 7.4 Hz, J<sub>2',3'</sub> 10.4 Hz, H-2'), 4.95 (dd, 1 H, H-3'), 4.50 (d, 1 H, H-1'), 4.17 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>5',6'</sub> 6.5 Hz, J<sub>6'a,6'b</sub> 11.1 Hz, H-6'a), 4.11 (m, 1 H, H-4), 4.07 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>5'6'b</sub> 5.6



Hz, H-6'b), 3.95 (d, 1 H,  $J_{6a,6b}$  13.1 Hz, H-6a), 3.97–3.88 (m, 2 H, H-1a, H-5'), 3.92 (d, 1 H,  $J_{1a,1b}$  11.6 Hz, H-1b), 3.74 (dd, 1 H,  $J_{5,6}$  1.9 Hz, H-6b). MS: m/z 657.3 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{27}H_{38}O_{17}$  (634.67): C, 51.10; H, 6.05. Found: C, 51.02; H, 6.12.

6-*O*-(β-D-Galactopyranosyl-2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-α-L-sorbofuranose (12) and 1,4,2',3',4',6'-hexa-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(β-D-galactopyranosyl-2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-α-L-sorbofuranose (12a). 2,3-*O*-Isopropylidene-α-L-sorbofuranose (11, 5.0 g, 22.7 mmol) was subjected to the General Procedure, furnishing disaccharide 12 (640 mg, 50%, calculated by conversion of 11). 4.27 g of sorbofuranose 11 were recovered. Due to difficulties with purification, compound 12 was characterised as the hexa-*O*-acetyl derivative 12a:  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 1.0^\circ$  (*c* 4.3, dichloromethane); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 112.3 (C-2), 101.2 (C-1'), 83.4 (C-3), 77.8 (C-5), 75.9 (C-4), 70.9 (C-3'), 70.8 (C-5'), 68.5 (C-2'), 67.0 (C-4'), 66.0 (C-6), 63.1 (C-1), 61.2 (C-6'). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 5.37 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>3',4'</sub> 3.2 Hz, H-4'), 5.22 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>4,5</sub> 2.4 Hz, H-4), 5.17 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>1',2'</sub> 8.3 Hz, *J*<sub>2',3'</sub> 10.3 Hz, H-2'), 4.99 (dd, 1 H, H-3'), 4.56 (m, 1 H, H-5), 4.44 (d, 1 H, H-1'), 4.39 (s, 1 H, H-3), 4.32 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>1a,1b</sub> 12.2 Hz, H-1a), 4.18 (d, 1 H, H-1b), 4.15-4.10 (m, 2 H, H-6'a, H-6'b), 4.04 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>6a,6b</sub> 10.2 Hz, H-6a), 3.88 (dd, *J*<sub>5'6'a</sub> 6.8 Hz, *J*<sub>5'6'b</sub> 6.8 Hz, H-5'), 3.62 (dd, 1 H, H-6b). MS: *m/z* 657.3 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>17</sub> (634.67): C, 51.10; H, 6.05. Found: C, 51.15; H, 6.11.

**2,3,4,5,2',3',4',6'-Octa-***O***-acetyl-1-***O***-**(β**-D-Galactopyranosyl)-D-tagatopyranose (16a).** Applying the General Procedure to free D-tagatose (2.5 g, 13.9 mmol) led to a mixture of compounds containing disaccharide **16**. Purification by per-*O*-acetylation and chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1, v/v) gave the octa-*O*-acetyl derivative **16a** (750 mg, 8.6%): main anomer:  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$  – 2.3° (*c* 1.6, dichloromethane); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 101.6 (C-1'), 95.8 (C-2), 71.8 (C-1), 71.2 (C-5'), 70.8 (C-3'), 70.3 (C-3), 69.4 (C-4), 68.8 (C-2'), 67.0 (C-4'), 66.6 (C-5), 61.5 (C-6'), 60.4 (C-6). ). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 5.36 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> 3.4 Hz, *J*<sub>4,5</sub> 10.3 Hz, H-4), 5.31 (m, 1 H, H-4'), 5.27 (d, 1 H, H-3), 5.17 – 5.09 (m, 2 H, H-5, H-2'), 4.94 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>2',3'</sub> 10.3 Hz, *J*<sub>3',4'</sub> 3.4 Hz, H-3'), 4.40 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>1',2'</sub> 7.8 Hz, H-1'), 4.10–4.03 (m, 2 H, H-6'a, H-6'b), 3.89–3.79 (m, 2 H, H-6a, H-5'), 3.75 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>1a,1b</sub> 10.7 Hz, H-1a), 3.70 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>6a,6b</sub> 10.7 Hz, H-6b), 3.50 (d, 1 H, H-1b). MS: *m/z* 701.2 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{28}H_{38}O_{19}$  (678.67): C, 49.55; H, 5.65. Found: C, 49.46; H, 5.70.

5-O-( $\beta$ -D-Galactopyranosyl)-1,2-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-tagatopyranose (20) and 3,4,2',3',4',6'-Hexa-O-acetyl-5-O-( $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)-1,2-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-tagatopyranose (20a). Following the General Procedure, compound 19 (400 mg, 1.82 mmol) was O-galactosylated to yield, after chro-

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matography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 10:1 to 7:1, v/v), disaccharide 20 (13 mg, 7.7% by conversion). 303 mg of tagatose derivative **19** were recovered. For **20**:  $[\alpha]_{20}^{20}$  - 49.5° (c 0.5, MeOH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 105.7 (C-2), 103.5 (C-1'), 78.1, 75.7, 73.6, 72.2, 71.3, 70.0, 69.1, 64.5, 61.4, 59.0 (C-1, C-3, C-4, C-5, C-6, C-2', C-3', C-4', C-5', C-6'). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 4.35 (d, 1 H), 4.18–4.07 (m, 3 H), 3.90–3.27 (m, 10 H).

Due to the poor resolution of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the hexahydroxydisaccharide, compound **20** was per-O-acetylated to **20a**:  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20} - 50.7^{\circ}$  (c 1.6, dichloromethane); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 103.4 (C-2), 100.2 (C-1'), 74.9 (C-5), 72.7 (C-1), 71.1 (C-5'), 71.0 (C-3'), 68.9 (C-2'), 68.2 (C-4), 67.1 (C-4'), 65.6 (C-3), 61.5 (C-6'), 59.8 (C-6). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 5.44 (m, 1 H, H-4), 5.38 (d, 1 H, H-4'), 5.24 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>2',3'</sub> 10.3 Hz, *J*<sub>1',2'</sub> 7.9 Hz, H-2'), 5.16 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> 3.7 Hz, H-3), 5.02 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>3',4'</sub> 3.4 Hz, H-3'), 4.60 (d, 1 H, H-1'), 4.21–4.15 (m, 2 H, H-6a, H-6'a), 4.12 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>5',6'b</sub> 6.8 Hz, *J*<sub>6'a,6'b</sub> 11.2 Hz, H-6'b), 3.91 (d, 1 H, *J*<sub>1a,1b</sub> 9.1 Hz, H-1a), 3.91 (m, 1 H, H-5'), 3.87 (d, 1 H, H-1b), 3.81 (m, 1 H, H-5), 3.67 (d, 1 H, J<sub>6a.6b</sub> 12.0 Hz, H-6b).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>17</sub> (634.67): C, 51.10; H, 6.05. Found: C, 50.99; H, 6.11.

3,4,2',3',4',6'-Hexa-O-acetyl-5-O-( $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)-1,2-O-isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -L-sorbopyranose (22a). 1,2-O-Isopropylidene- $\alpha$ -L-sorbopyranose (21, 200 mg, 0.91 mmol) was reacted according to the General Procedure to give, after chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 10:1 to 7:1, v/v), disaccharide 22 (25 mg, 17.6% by recovery of 21) as a colourless syrup.

118 mg of starting material **21** were recovered.

To allow for better resolution of the NMR spectra, compound 22 was per-Oacetylated (22a):  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} - 35.7^{\circ}$  (c 1.4, dichloromethane);  ${}^{13}C$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  103.8 (C-1'), 101.9 (C-2), 75.9 (C-5), 73.2 (C-4), 71.8, 71.1, 71.0 (C-1, C-3', C-5'), 69.6 (C-3), 68.7 (C-2'), 67.2 (C-4'), 62.3 (C-6), 61.5 (C-6'). <sup>1</sup>H NMR & 5.39–5.36 (m, 2 H, H-4, H-4'), 5.15 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>1',2'</sub> 7.8 Hz, J<sub>2',3'</sub> 10.3 Hz, H-2'), 4.96 (dd, 1 H, J<sub>3',4'</sub> 3.4 Hz, H-3'), 4.94 (d, 1 H, J<sub>3,4</sub> 10.3 Hz, H-3), 4.55 (d, 1 H, H-1'), 4.17 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>5',6'a</sub> 6.3 Hz, *J*<sub>6'a,6'b</sub> 11.2 Hz, H-6'a), 4.11 (dd, 1 H, *J*<sub>5',6'b</sub> 6.3 Hz, H-6'b), 3.93 (d, 1 H, J<sub>1a,1b</sub> 9.3 Hz, H-1a), 3.93–3.82 (m, 4 H, H-5, H-6a, H-6b, H-5'), 3.82 (d, 1 H, H-1b). MS: m/z 657.3 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>17</sub> (634.67): C, 51.10; H, 6.05. Found: C, 50.98; H, 6.01.

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