

# Construction of Interglycosidic N–O Linkage via Direct Glycosylation of Sugar Oximes

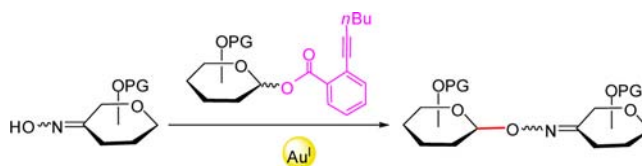
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Received July 6, 2012

## ABSTRACT



Direct glycosylation of sugar oximes and HONHFmoc has been realized for the first time by using glycosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoates as donors under the catalysis of PPh<sub>3</sub>AuOTf, providing an effective approach to the synthesis of N–O linked saccharides, which are of great biological interest.

The peculiar three-bond glycosidic –N–O– linkage is a prominent structural feature of calicheamicin-esperamicin antibiotics,<sup>1,2</sup> providing a conformational control element that allows selective binding of the antibiotics to specific DNA sequences.<sup>3,4</sup> Heroic efforts toward the synthesis of

this type of saccharide and the intact antibiotics have led to three alternatives for the construction of this important glycosidic linkage (Scheme 1).<sup>5–7</sup> The first approach employs condensation of glycosyloxamine **A** with sugar ketone **B** to provide oxime disaccharide **C** which is then subjected to reduction to afford the target disaccharide **F**.<sup>5</sup> The second one applies S<sub>N</sub>2 displacement of a sugar trifluoromethanesulfonate **E** with the sodium salt of glycosyl urethane **D**, and a removal of the *N*-COOEt group, to furnish disaccharide **F**.<sup>6</sup> The third alternative employs glycosylation of sugar nitrone **H** with a glycosyl bromide or trichloroacetimidate **G** and subsequent removal of the resulting *N,O*-benzylidene group to provide disaccharide **F**.<sup>7</sup> However, an obvious approach to the construction of the interglycosidic N–O linkage would be via the direct glycosylation of sugar oximes (i.e., **2a**).

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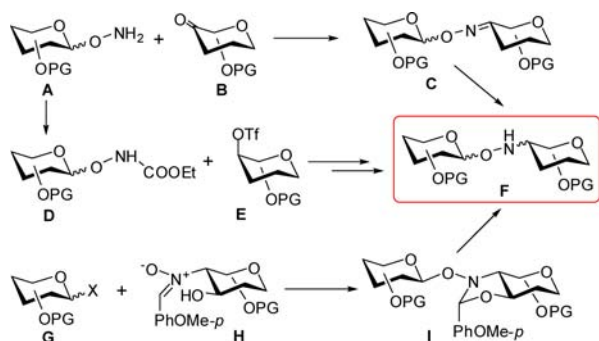
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**Scheme 1.** Known Approaches to the Synthesis of the N–O Linked Saccharides

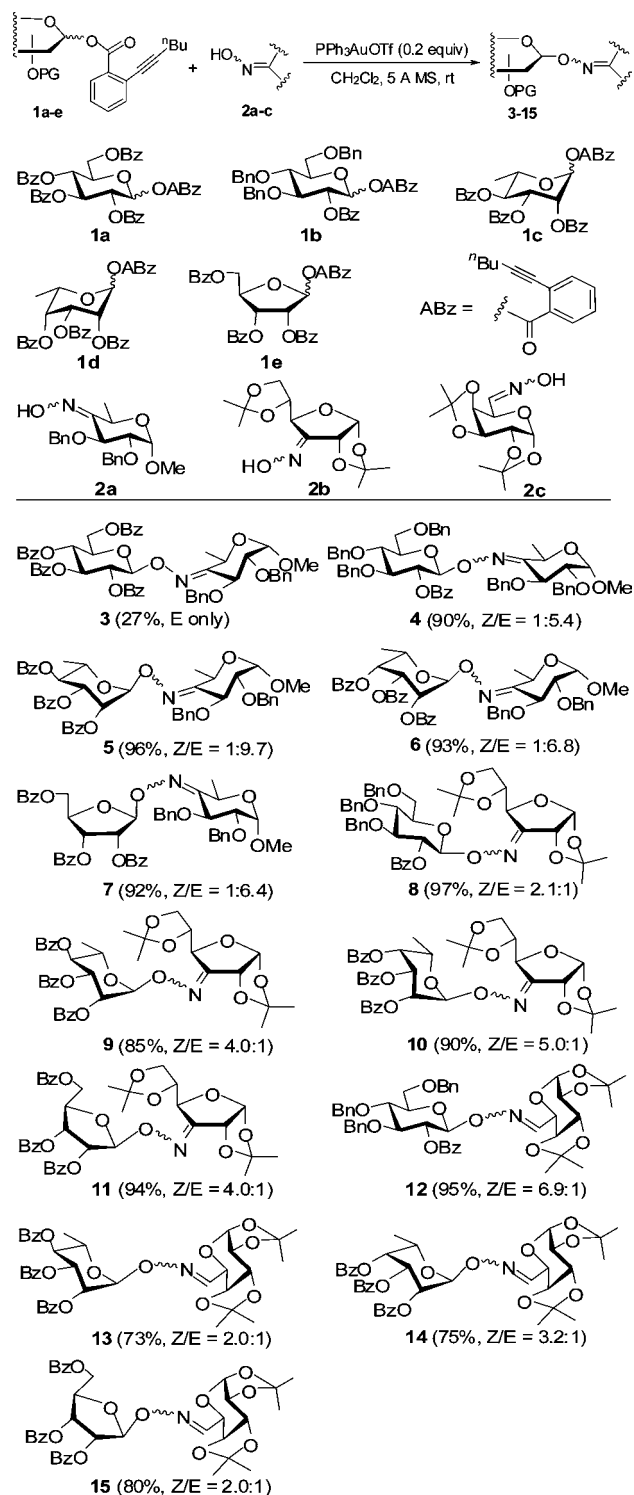


To date, this approach has never been accomplished,<sup>7a,8</sup> due to the lability of the oximes toward the Lewis acids required for the glycosylation reaction. In this regard, the newly developed glycosylation protocol with glycosyl *ortho*-alkynylbenzoates as donors, and a gold(I) complex as the catalyst, which performs under neutral conditions might solve this problem.<sup>9,10</sup>

The glycosylation of 6-deoxy-glycopyranoside 4-oxime **2a** was first examined, which failed to be glycosylated previously,<sup>7a</sup> with perbenzoyl glycopyranosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoate **1a**<sup>9</sup> (1.2 equiv) under standard conditions (0.2 equiv of PPh<sub>3</sub>AuOTf, 5 Å MS, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt) (Scheme 2). The reaction led to the desired disaccharide **3**(*E*) in 27% yield as a single isomer, with the major product being the corresponding orthoester. Thus, more reactive glycopyranosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoate **1b**, which is equipped with a super-armed protecting pattern,<sup>11</sup> was used as a glycosyl donor to couple with **2a**. Under identical conditions, disaccharide **4** was obtained in a high 90% yield as a pair of the *Z/E* isomers (*Z/E* = 1:5.4). Similarly, the 6-deoxy perbenzoyl pyranose donors, L-rhamnosyl and L-talosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoates **1c** and **1d**, coupled with **2a** to provide the corresponding disaccharides **5** (96%, *Z/E* = 1:9.7) and **6** (93%, *Z/E* = 1:6.8) in excellent yields in favor of the *E* isomers. In addition, perbenzoyl D-ribose *ortho*-hexynylbenzoate **1e**, a furanose donor, was also shown to be suitable for direct glycosylation of **2a**, providing disaccharide **7** cleanly (92%, *Z/E* = 1:6.4).

The reaction scope was further investigated with 1,2;5,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene glucofuranoside 3-oxime **2b**<sup>12</sup> and 1,2;3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene galactopyranoside **2c**<sup>13</sup> as

**Scheme 2.** Direct Glycosylation of Sugar Oximes (**2a–c**) with Glycosyl *ortho*-Hexynylbenzoates (**1a–e**)



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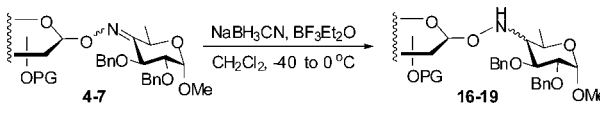
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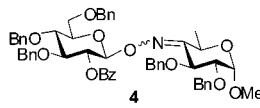
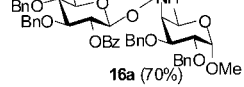
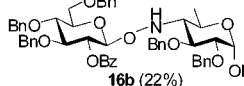
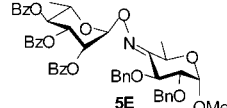
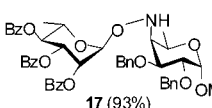
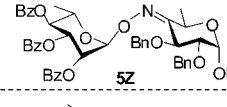

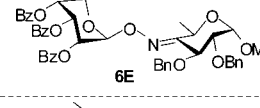
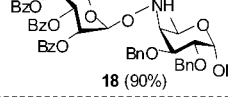
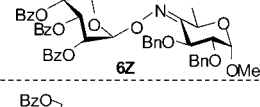

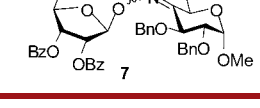
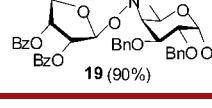
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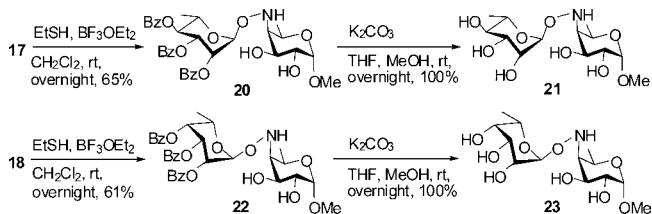
acceptors. The glycosylation of furanose oxime **2b** with donors **1b–1e** proceeded smoothly under standard conditions, affording the desired disaccharides **8–11** in excellent yields (85%–97%). In contrast to the previous reaction with oxime **2a** as the acceptor, the coupling with **2b** favored the formation of the *Z* isomer (*Z/E* = 2.1:1 to 5.0:1). Under

**Table 1.** Stereoselective Reduction of Oxime Disaccharides 4–7


entry	oxime disaccharide	product (isolated yield)
1		 
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

similar conditions, the glycosylation of aldehyde oxime **2c** led to disaccharides **12–15** in slightly lower yields (73%–95%) in favor of the *Z* isomer (*Z/E* = 2.0:1 to 6.9:1). Clearly, the *Z/E* outcome of the present reaction is mainly determined by the structure of the coupling oximes. Interconversion between the coupled disaccharide *Z/E* isomers was not found during purification, structure analysis, and storage.

The *Z/E* geometries of the oxime disaccharides (i.e., **3–7**) derived from **2a** were determined by the diagnostic quartet H5 signals of the acceptor residue.<sup>14</sup> The H5 signal in a *Z* isomer appears at  $\delta$  4.60–4.70 ppm (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>), while in the *E* counterpart it appears evidently downfield ( $\delta$  ~5.0 ppm) due to the shielding of the proximal donor residue. This conclusion is validated by the X-ray diffraction of **6Z**, whose H5 signal appears at  $\delta$  4.65–4.70 ppm. The *Z/E* geometries of the oxime disaccharides **8–11** were assigned according to the chemical shift of H4 in the acceptor (**2b**) residue. The H4 signal appeared at  $\delta$  4.7–4.9 ppm (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for the *Z* isomer, while it appears above  $\delta$  4.9 ppm for the *E* counterpart due to the shielding effect of the donor residue. This assignment is in good

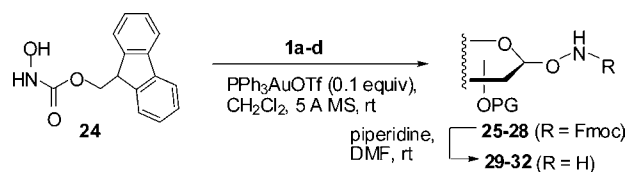
**Scheme 3.** Deprotection of the Benzyl and Benzoyl Groups in the Presence of the Interglycosidic N–O Linkage

accordance with the determination of the *Z/E* isomer of acceptor **2b** (*Z/E* = 4.5:1, H4 of the *Z* isomer:  $\delta$  4.70 ppm; H4 of the *E* isomer:  $\delta$  5.19 ppm, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)<sup>12b</sup> and is further corroborated by the X-ray diffraction of compound **8E**. The *Z/E* isomers of disaccharides **12–15** were discriminated by the imino H6 signals. The H6 signal in an *E* isomer appears at  $>$   $\delta$  7.0 ppm with a *J*-value  $>$  6.0 Hz, while the H6 in the *Z* counterpart is  $<$   $\delta$  7.0 ppm with *J*-value  $<$  5.0 Hz. Such an assignment has been applied in the determination of the *Z/E* isomer of acceptor **2c** (*Z/E* = 1.2:1).<sup>13</sup>

The interglycosidic oxime C=N bond has been reduced with borane complexes (e.g. BH<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>3</sub>N)<sup>5a,14</sup> or NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN,<sup>5b,c</sup> and the stereoselectivity of the reduction is largely dependent on the oxime sugar unit.<sup>5,14</sup> The reduction of disaccharides **4–7** bearing a methyl 2,3-di-*O*-benzyl-6-deoxy- $\alpha$ -D-gluco/galactopyranoside 4-oxime unit with NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN/BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, –40 to 0 °C) was examined, and the results are shown in Table 1. Thus, reduction of oxime disaccharide **4** led to the N–O linked galactose derivative **16a** (70%) and glucose derivative **16b** (22%) in an excellent overall yield (entry 1). The configurations of the resulting C4-amino group in **16a** and **16b** were easily identified by the H4 NMR signal (H4 in **16a**:  $\delta$  3.97 ppm, dd, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> = 5.2 Hz; H4 in **16b**:  $\delta$  4.12 ppm, dd, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> = 10.0 Hz; in CDCl<sub>3</sub>). Reduction of oximes **5E** and **5Z** afforded the galactose derivative **17** in 93% and 86% yield, respectively, without detection of the corresponding glucose diastereoisomer (entries 2 and 3). Similar results were attained with the pair **6E** and **6Z** as the substrates (entries 4 and 5); the galactose diastereoisomer **18** was isolated in high yield (90% and 85%, respectively). Treatment of oxime disaccharide **7** (*Z/E* = 1:6.4) under similar conditions also afforded only the galactose derivative **19** in 90% yield (entry 6). These results demonstrate clearly that the stereoselectivity of the present reduction is independent of the geometry of the oxime and its *O*-substituted sugar residue.

An additional concern was the feasibility of removal of the benzyl and benzoyl groups in the presence of the interglycosidic N–O linkage. Although there is a precedent,<sup>15</sup> subsection of **17** or **18** to hydrogenolysis (over Pd/C, Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C, or Raney Ni) led unavoidably to cleavage of the N–O linkage. Fortunately, the benzyl groups in **17/18** could be removed selectively with EtSH/BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub>

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**Table 2.** Efficient Preparation of Glycosyloxyamines

entry	donor	sugar-ONHFmoc	sugar-ONH <sub>2</sub>
1	<b>1a</b>	 <b>25</b> (62%)	 <b>29</b> (78%)
2	<b>1b</b>	 <b>26</b> (88%)	 <b>30</b> (88%)
3	<b>1c</b>	 <b>27</b> (80%)	 <b>31</b> (84%)
4	<b>1d</b>	 <b>28</b> (72%)	 <b>32</b> (80%)

(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, overnight, 61% and 65%; Scheme 3).<sup>16,17</sup> The remaining benzoyl groups were then cleaved cleanly with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in MeOH/THF (rt, 100%).

As mentioned, glycosyloxyamines (**A**) are key precursors in the previous syntheses of glycosidic N–O linkages (Scheme 1). In addition, glycosyloxyamines have been used effectively for attaching glycans onto proteins/lipids bearing a ketone/aldehyde group under bioorthogonal conditions.<sup>18</sup>

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The preparation of glycosyloxyamines has employed glycosylation of *N*-hydroxy-succinimide,<sup>19</sup> HONPhth,<sup>5,20</sup> and *N*-pentenoyl hydroxamate<sup>18c</sup> under a variety of the glycosylation reactions, followed by removal of the *N*-protecting groups. Considering the mild glycosylation conditions in the present oxime glycosylation, we envisioned the use of *N*-Fmoc-hydroxylamine **24**<sup>21</sup> as the coupling acceptor to ensure a mild and selective removal of the *N*-Fmoc group afterward to liberate the glycosyloxyamines. Expectedly, subjection of **24** to glycosylation with glycosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoates **1a–d** (1.2 equiv) (0.1 equiv of PPh<sub>3</sub>AuOTf, 5 Å MS, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt) led to the desired glycosides **25–28** in good 62–88% yields (Table 2).<sup>17</sup> Subsequent removal of the *N*-Fmoc group in **25–28** with piperidine (DMF, rt) met with no difficulty, affording the desired glycosyloxyamines **29–32** in high yield (78%–88%),<sup>17</sup> with the anomeric configuration unchanged.

In summary, direct glycosylation of sugar oximes has been realized for the first time by using glycosyl *ortho*-hexynylbenzoates as donors under catalysis by PPh<sub>3</sub>AuOTf. Reduction of the resulting oxime with NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN/BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O leads to the N–O linked saccharides stereoselectively. Glycosylation of HONHFmoc has also been achieved under similar conditions, providing glycosyloxyamines conveniently after an easy removal of the *N*-Fmoc group. These results shall facilitate greatly the synthesis of N–O linked saccharides, which are of considerable interest in biomedical studies.

**Acknowledgment.** This work was financially supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (2012ZX09502-002) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (20932009 and 20921091).

**Supporting Information Available.** Experimental details, characterization data, and NMR spectra for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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The authors declare no competing financial interest.