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# Food and Beverage Chemistry/Biochemistry

# Enzymatic Preparation of an Homologous Series of Long-chain 6-O-Acylglucose Esters and their Evaluation as Emulsifiers

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4 5 6 7	Min-Yi Liang <sup>†,‡</sup> , Yongsheng Chen <sup>†</sup> , Martin G. Banwell <sup>§,#</sup> , Yong Wang <sup>*†,‡</sup> , and Ping Lan <sup>*†</sup>									
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#### 18 ABSTRACT

32

structure-function profiles

19 Sugar fatty acid esters are non-ionic surfactants that are widely exploited in the food 20 and cosmetics industries, as well as in the oral care and medical supply fields. 21 Accordingly, new methods for their selective synthesis and the "tuning" of their 22 emulsifying properties are of considerable interest. Herein we report simple and 23 irreversible enzymatic esterifications of D-glucose with seven fatty acid vinyl esters. 24 The foaming and emulsifying effects of the resulting 6-O-acylglucose esters were then 25 evaluated. In accord with expectations, when the length of alkyl side chain associated 26 with the 6-O-acylglucose esters increases then their HLB values decrease while the 27 stabilities of the derived emulsions improve. In order to maintain good foaming 28 properties alkyl side chains of at least 9 to 11 carbons in length are required. In the 29 first such assays on 6-O-acylglucose esters, most of those described herein are shown 30 to be non-toxic to the HepG2, MCF-7, LNacp, SW549, and LO-2 cell lines. 6-O-acylglucose esters, foaming properties, emulsion stability, 31 **KEYWORDS:** 

#### **33 INTRODUCTION**

Those sugar fatty acid esters used in industry are normally obtained by 34 35 combining sustainably produced and inexpensive carbohydrates such as sucrose or 36 glucose with lauric, palmitic or stearic acids or their corresponding low molecular 37 weight esters via esterification or trans-esterification reactions, respectively. 38 Long-chain fatty acid esters of sucrose, in particular, are high volume commodity 39 chemicals and act as non-ionic surfactants with the sucrose moiety serving as a 40 hydrophilic head group and the long-chain fatty acid residue as the lipophilic tail. The 41 ensuing amphipathic properties mean such esters are especially important in the food 42 and cosmetics industries as well as in the oral care and medical supply fields, not least 43 because they exhibit good emulsifying properties while also being readily biodegradable and non-toxic.<sup>1-3</sup> Moreover, their functional characteristics can be 44 45 "dialed up" over a wide range through the attachment of varying numbers and types of fatty acyl moieties to the sucrose core.<sup>4</sup> 46

Most of the sucrose esters on the market are currently manufactured by very traditional chemical techniques.<sup>5</sup> Given that there are eight non-equivalent hydroxyl groups associated with the sucrose molecule, the fundamental challenge associated with the required derivatization process arises from the often concurrent formation of mono-, di-, tri- and even higher-order esters.<sup>6,7</sup> None of the current industrial processes is particularly selective for the formation of any given sucrose ester, thus dramatically reducing the yield of the target compound(s) as well requiring the application of purification regimes. Of course, the formation of by-products also
creates waste steams and so further increasing the cost-of-goods.<sup>8</sup>

56 The deficiencies associated with the current methods for manufacturing sucrose 57 esters have attracted considerable attention, particularly from academic laboratories. Manifold efforts have been made to improve the current methods of manufacture by 58 focusing on, for example, alternate acvl donors<sup>7</sup> and reaction solvents,<sup>9,10</sup> new modes 59 of promoting reaction (including through ultrasonic irradiation),<sup>11</sup> and the use of 60 biological catalysts (enzymes).<sup>12-16</sup> The main difficulties encountered in attempts to 61 improve the yields of enzymatic couplings arises from the low activity of the 62 63 biological catalysts in polar solvents such as DMSO and DMF that are required to dissolve the carbohydrates.<sup>13</sup> To prevent enzyme deactivation it has been suggested 64 that these highly polar solvents are doped with alcoholic ones such as 2-butanol<sup>12</sup> or 65 *t*-amyl alcohol<sup>1,14</sup> that serve as adjuvants. Increasing the concentration of sucrose in 66 67 the reaction medium so as to improve throughput whilst retaining the activity of the enzyme represents another challenge. The highest sucrose loading successfully 68 69 deployed to date is 0.7 M (in DMSO) although a "pre-treated" lipase was required to 70 establish an effective process but thereby delivering sucrose mono-caprate at useful scale and rate.<sup>13</sup> The reaction times required for the enzymatic generation of sucrose 71 72 esters has reportedly ranged from 6 h to several days, with the longer periods representing a major drawback for industrial development.<sup>15,16</sup> 73

74 While there have been extensive studies on the enzyme-mediated synthesis of75 sucrose monoesters, the corresponding glucose-derived systems are much less studied.

76	Compared to sucrose, glucose displays higher regioselectivity in the
77	trans-esterification process since there is only one primary hydroxyl group present,
78	whereas there are three in sucrose. <sup>17</sup> Most efforts to prepare glucose fatty acid esters
79	have focused on enzymatic approaches, since these offer the possibility of employing
80	mild reaction conditions and could, in principle at least, proceed at high volume and
81	with excellent regioselectivities. A range of commercially available and immobilized
82	lipases, most notably Novozym435, Lipozyme RMIM and Lipozyme LIM, has been
83	used to catalyze the regioselective acylation of glucose with various series of
84	long-chain fatty acids. <sup>15-20</sup> Most of these delivered the 6-O-acylglucose ester as the
85	major product. For instance, Ren et al reported <sup>17</sup> enzymatic syntheses of the
86	6-O-palmitoyl-, 6-O-lauroyl- and 6-O-hexanoyl-glucose esters in DMSO and t-amyl
87	alcohol media using the corresponding fatty acids as the acyl donor. Significantly, a
88	stand-alone but highly efficient Novozym435-catalyzed synthesis of
89	6-O-myristoylglucopyranose was achieved by Davis et $al^{20}$ using the relevant enol
90	ester as the acyl donor and a mixture of THF/pyridine as the solvent system.
91	Surprisingly, this attractive process does not appear to have been deployed more
92	extensively even though it should be capable of delivering a series of such glucose
93	mono-esters and so allowing for the systematic study of the impacts of varying the
94	fatty acid chain on the emulsification properties of this monosaccharide. Accordingly,
95	the aims of the current study were to undertake an in-depth investigation of the
96	structure-function profiles of an homologous series 6-O-acylglucose esters and

97 thereby gain insights into their potential utility in the food industry as, for example,98 emulsifiers.

99 MATERIALS AND METHODS

100 Materials. D-glucose (anhydrous, 99.0%), pyridine, tetrahydrofuran (THF), 101 N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF), benzene, t-amyl alcohol, t-BuOH, Span 20, Span 40, 102 Span 60, Span 80, Tween 20 and Tween 80 were purchased from the Energy 103 Chemical Co., Ltd (Shanghai, China). Vinyl hexanoate (>99.0%), vinyl n-octanoate 104 (>99.0%), vinyl decanoate (>99.0%), vinyl laurate (>99.0%), vinyl myristate 105 (>99.0%), vinyl palmitate (>96.0%) and vinyl stearate (>95.0%) were purchased from 106 the Tokyo Chemical Industry Co. Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan) while Novozym435 was 107 supplied by Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Pure canola oil was purchased from a 108 local grocery store while commercial sucrose stearic esters S-570 and S-770 were 109 obtained from the Mitsubishi-Chemical Foods Corporation (Tokyo, Japan). Cell 110 culture media were purchased from the Gibco U.S. Biotechnology Co. (Waltham, MA) 111 while foetal bovine serum (FBS) was obtained from the Tianhang Biotech Co. Inc. 112 (Zhejiang, China).

General Protocols. Proton (<sup>1</sup>H) and carbon (<sup>13</sup>C) NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Bruker spectrometer (Billerica, MA) operating at 500 MHz for proton and 125 MHz for carbon nuclei. For <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra, the residual protio-solvent signals were used as internal standards. Low-resolution ESI mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent single-quadrupole liquid chromatograph-mass spectrometer (Santa Clara, CA).

119	Synthesis of the 6-O-Acylglucose Esters. Enzymatic syntheses of the seven
120	6-O-acylglucose esters were conducted (Figure 1) using modifications of a previously
121	reported method. <sup>20</sup> In brief, commercially available Novozym435 was used as the
122	catalyst while seven long alkyl chain (5 to 17 carbons) fatty acid vinyl esters, namely
123	vinyl hexanoate, vinyl octanoate, vinyl decanoate, vinyl laurate, vinyl myristate, vinyl
124	palmitate and vinyl stearate, were selected as the acyl donors. The use of vinyl esters
125	has proven advantageous since, in each instance, the trans-esterification reactions are
126	irreversible and the by-product is acetaldehyde that acts as an internal water scavenger,
127	and so thus promoting the desired transformation. <sup>20</sup> THF/pyridine (4:1 v/v) served as
128	the reaction solvent and allowed for effective solubilization of the free glucose
129	without adversely impacting on the activity of the enzyme. Under such conditions,
130	complete reaction was achieved within 48 h on multi-gram scales and delivered each
131	6-O-acylglucose ester in a completely regioselective manner. The products were
132	isolated by trituration with diethyl ether, affording the target compounds in high purity,
133	as determined by NMR spectroscopic analysis. A typical protocol was as follows:
134	A mixture of anhydrous D-glucose (1.00 g, 5.6 mmol) and THF/pyridine (40 mL,
135	4:1 v/v) contained in a 100 mL round-bottom flask was subject to sonication and once
136	dissolution had taken place (ca. 5 min), Novozym435 (50 to 200 mg) was added along
137	with the relevant fatty acid vinyl ester (3.0 equiv., 16.8 mmol). The ensuing mixture
138	was stirred magnetically at 40 °C until all the glucose had been consumed (normally
139	24 to 48 h) as determined by TLC analysis. The ensuing solution was decanted from

140 the bulk of the solid residue and the residual enzyme removed by filtration and the

141	solid thus retained washed with methanol (2 x 10 mL) then dichloromethane (1 x 10
142	mL). The combined filtrates were dried (Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ), filtered then concentrated under
143	reduced pressure to afford a yellow solid, trituration of which (with 100 mL of diethyl
144	ether) followed by suction filtration gave the corresponding 6-O-acylglucose ester 2-8
145	as an amorphous white solid in high yield. The optimization of the reaction through
146	varying the enzyme loading, the solvent(s) and/or reaction times is detailed in Table 1.
147	6-O-Hexanoylglucopyranose, 2. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (500 MHz,
148	DMSO- $d_6$ ) $\delta$ 6.34 (d, $J$ = 4.7 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (d, $J$ = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.90
149	(app. t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H, H1), 4.75 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.53 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H,
150	2-OH), 4.27 (dd, J = 11.6 and 1.6 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, J = 11.6 and 6.3 Hz, 1H,
151	H6), 3.76 (ddd, $J = 9.9$ , 6.1 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H5), 3.43 (td, $J = 9.1$ and 4.8 Hz, 1H, H3).
152	3.12 (m, 1H, H2), 3.03 (m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (td, <i>J</i> = 7.3 and 2.2 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H),
153	1.26 (m, 4H), 0.86 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup> C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) $\delta$ 173.4, 92.8
154	(C1), 73.3 (C3), 72.6 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6 (C5), 64.3 (C6), 33.9, 31.1, 24.6, 22.3,
155	14.3. MS (ESI, +ve): <i>m/z</i> 279 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 20%), 296 ([M+H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> , 70), 301 ([M+Na] <sup>+</sup> ,
156	100).

6-*O*-Octanoylglucopyranose, 3. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz,
DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 6.33 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.90
(app. t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H, H1), 4.74 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.52 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H,
2-OH), 4.26 (dd, *J* = 11.7 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, *J* = 11.7 and 6.2 Hz, 1H,
H6), 3.76 (ddd, *J* = 10.1, 6.2 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H5), 3.42 (td, *J* = 9.1 and 4.9 Hz, 1H,
H3), 3.12 (m, 1H, H2), 3.03 (m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (td, *J* = 7.3 and 2.3 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (m,

163	2H), 1.26 (m, 8H), 0.86 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup> C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) $\delta$ 173.4,
164	92.8 (C1), 73.3 (C3), 72.7 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6 (C5), 64.3 (C6), 33.9, 31.6, 28.9, 28.8,
165	24.9, 22.5, 14.4. MS (ESI, +ve): <i>m/z</i> 307 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 10%), 324 ([M+H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> , 100), 329
166	$([M+Na]^+, 50).$
167	6-O-Decanoylglucopyranose, 4. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (500 MHz,
168	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) δ 6.34 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.2 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.90 (m,
169	1H, H1), 4.75 (d, <i>J</i> = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.52 (d, <i>J</i> = 6.7 Hz, 1H, 2-OH), 4.26 (dd, <i>J</i> =
170	11.7 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, <i>J</i> = 11.7 and 6.3 Hz, 1H, H6), 3.76 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 10.1,
171	6.3 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H5), 3.43 (td, <i>J</i> = 9.2 and 4.8 Hz, 1H, H3), 3.12 (m, 1H, H2), 3.04
172	(m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 12H), 0.86 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup> C
173	NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) δ 173.4, 92.8 (C1), 73.3 (C3), 72.7 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6
174	(C5), 64.3 (C6), 33.9, 31.7, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 24.9, 22.6, 14.4. MS (ESI, +ve):
175	<i>m/z</i> 335 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 10%), 352 ([M+H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> , 100), 357 ([M+Na] <sup>+</sup> , 50).
176	6-O-Lauroylglucopyranose, 5. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (500 MHz,
177	DMSO- $d_6$ ) $\delta$ 6.35 (d, $J$ = 4.3 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.05 (d, $J$ = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.95 (m,
178	<i>J</i> = 4.7 Hz, 1H, H1), 4.76 (d, <i>J</i> = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.54 (d, <i>J</i> = 6.7 Hz, 1H, 2-OH),
179	4.26 (m, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (m, 1H, H6), 3.76 (m, 1H, H5), 3.43 (m, 1H, H3), 3.16 (m, 1H,
180	H2), 3.04 (m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 16H), 0.86 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz,
181	3H). <sup>13</sup> C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) δ 173.4, 92.8 (C1), 73.9 (C3), 72.7 (C2), 71.0
182	(C4), 69.6 (C5), 64.4 (C6), 33.9, 31.8, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 24.9(4), 24.9(2),
183	22.6, 14.4. MS (ESI, +ve): $m/z$ 363 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 40%), 380 ([M+H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> , 50), 385

184  $([M+Na]^+, 100).$ 

185	6-O-Myristoylglucopyranose, 6. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (500 MHz,
186	DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> ) δ. 6.34 (broad s, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (broad s, 1H, 4-OH), 4.89 (m, 1H, H1),
187	4.30 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 2-OH), 4.27 (d, <i>J</i> = 11.6 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, <i>J</i> = 11.6 and
188	6.3 Hz, 1H, H6), 3.76 (m, 1H, H5), 3.43 (t, <i>J</i> = 9.1, 1H, H3), 3.12 (m, 1H, H2), 3.04
189	(m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 2-OH), 0.86 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup> C
190	NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) δ 173.4, 92.8 (C1), 75.2 (C3), 73.3 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6
191	(C5), 64.3 (C6), 33.9, 31.8, 29.5(3), 29.5(0), 29.4(8), 29.4(7), 29.3(7), 29.2, 29.1, 28.9
192	24.9, 22.6, 14.4. MS (ESI, +ve): <i>m/z</i> 391 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 30%), 408 ([M+H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> , 50), 413
193	([M+Na] <sup>+</sup> , 70), 647 (100).

6-O-Palmitoylglucopyranose, 7. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, 194 195 DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  6.34 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.90 (t, J 196 = 4.3 Hz, 1H, H1), 4.75 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.53 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H, 2-OH), 197 4.27 (dd, J = 11.7 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, J = 11.7 and 6.2 Hz, 1H, H6), 3.76 198 (ddd, J = 10.0, 6.2 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H5), 3.43 (td, J = 9.2 and 4.6 Hz, 1H, H3), 3.13 199 (ddd, J = 9.9, 6.5 and 3.5 Hz, 1H, H2), 3.04 (m, 1H, H4), 2.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H),200 1.26 (m, 24H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  173.4, 92.8 201 (C1), 73.3 (C3), 72.7 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6 (C5), 64.3 (C6), 33.9, 31.8, 29.5 (x5), 29.4, 202 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 24.9, 22.6, 14.4. MS (ESI, +ve): *m/z* 419 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 70%), 436 203  $([M+H_2O]^+, 30), 441 ([M+Na]^+, 100).$ 

6-*O*-Stearoylglucopyranose, 8. Amorphous white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz,
DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 6.34 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, 1-OH), 5.03 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H, 4-OH), 4.90 (dd, *J* = 5.3 and 3.4 Hz, 1H, H1), 4.76 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, 3-OH), 4.53 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H,

207	2-OH), 4.27 (dd, J = 11.7 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H6'), 3.99 (dd, J = 11.7 and 6.2 Hz, 1H,
208	H6), 3.76 (ddd, $J = 10.0$ , 6.2 and 2.0 Hz, 1H, H5), 3.43 (td, $J = 9.2$ and 4.7 Hz, 1H,
209	H3), 3.13 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 9.9, 7.0 and 3.5 Hz, 1H, H2), 3.04 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 10.1, 8.7 and 5.5 Hz,
210	1H, H4), 2.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 28H), 0.86 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup> C
211	NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) δ 173.3, 92.7 (C1), 73.3 (C3), 72.7 (C2), 71.0 (C4), 69.6
212	(C5), 64.4 (C6), 33.9, 31.8, 29.5(3) (x7), 29.5(0), 29.4, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 24.9, 22.6,
213	14.4. MS (ESI, +ve): <i>m/z</i> 447 ([M+H] <sup>+</sup> , 10%), 469 ([M+Na] <sup>+</sup> , 70), 758 (100).

Determination of Hydrophilic-Lipophilic Balance (HLB) Values. The HLB 214 215 values of the seven products obtained as detailed above, namely esters 2-8, were determined experimentally using the water number method.<sup>21</sup> Thus, 100 mg of each 216 217 compound was dissolved in DMF/benzene (40 mL, 100:5 v/v). The resulting solution 218 was titrated with distilled water while being maintained at  $20 \pm 1$  °C until a permanent 219 turbidity was obtained. All results were reproducible to within 0.5 units of HLB. A 220 plot of consumed water number vs HLB was then established using emulsifiers with 221 known HLB values, including Span 80 (HLB = 4.3), Span 60 (HLB = 4.8), Span 40 222 (HLB = 6.7), Span 20 (HLB = 8.6), Tween 80 (HLB = 15.6) and Tween 20 (HLB = 223 16.7), for calibration purposes. The HLB values of 6-O-acylglucose esters 2-8, as well 224 as the commercial sucrose stearic esters S-570 and S-770, were then read from this 225 plot. All the experiments were performed in triplicate.

Evaluation of Foamability and Foam Stability. Evaluation of the foamability and foam stability of esters 2-8 together with controls S-570, S-770, Span20 and Span80 were undertaken using a previously described method.<sup>22,23</sup> Specifically, 10 mL of 0.1%, 0.2% and 0.5% w/w aqueous dispersions of each sample were placed in a 50 mL, flat-bottomed measuring cylinder and the height of solution  $(H_1)$  was measured before being homogenized, using a blender, at 3000 rpm for 2 min. The initial foam height  $(H_2)$  was measured immediately. Following resting periods of 10, 20, and 30 min, the foam heights  $(H_3)$  were then recorded. All the experiments were performed in triplicate. The foamability and foaming stabilities of these compounds were calculated using the following equations:

- 236 Foamability (%) =  $H_2/H_1 \times 100\%$
- 237 Foam stability (%) =  $H_3/H_2 \times 100\%$

238 Determination of Emulsion Stability Index. The emulsifying stability indices 239 of esters 2-8 as well as the four controls were determined using minor modifications of literature protocols.<sup>17,24</sup> Specifically, 10.0 g of 0.1%, 0.2% and 0.5% w/w aqueous 240 241 solutions of the test compounds were each mixed with 1.0 g of canola oil while a 242 solution lacking a test material was used as the control. The ensuing mixtures were 243 homogenized for 2 min at 20,000 rpm using a blender and a 20  $\mu$ L sample of the 244 resulting emulsion was diluted with 2 mL deionized water before being drawn into a 245 clean spectrometric cuvette. The absorbance of the emulsion at 500 nm was measured 246 at 0 min and 20 min. All the experiments were performed in triplicate. The emulsion 247 stability indices (ESI) was calculated using the following equation:

248 ESI (%) = 
$$A_0 \times 20/[A_0 - A_{20}] \times 100\%$$

where  $A_0$  and  $A_{20}$  are the absorbances obtained at 0 min and 20 min.

250	Evaluation of Cytotoxicities. In order to determine the biosafety of the
251	6-O-acylglucose esters 2-8 at the cellular level, their cytotoxicities were measured.
252	The methylene blue method of analysis was employed with some modifications.
253	Specifically, cells were seeded at 4 $\times$ $10^4/well on a 96-well plate in 100 \mu L of$
254	complete medium (DMEM+ 5% FBS, 50 units/mL penicillin, 50 $\mu$ g /mL streptomycin,
255	100 $\mu g$ /mL gentamicin). After being incubated for 24 h at 37 °C, the medium was
256	removed and the cells were washed once with 100 $\mu L$ of sterile and cold phosphate
257	buffer solution (PBS, 0.01M, pH7.4). Free FBS medium containing the test material
258	was then added to the well while the same medium lacking any test compound served
259	as the control. After an additional 24 h of incubation, the medium was removed and
260	the wells were washed with PBS. 50 $\mu L$ of methylene blue (Hank's balanced salt
261	solution + 1.25% glutaraldehyde + 0.6% methylene blue) was added to each well,
262	then the cells were incubated for 1 h at 37 °C in 5% CO <sub>2</sub> . After incubation, the
263	staining agent was removed and the cells were washed six times with deionized water
264	then elution buffer (100 $\mu L)$ was added to each well. The plates were placed on a table
265	oscillator for 20 min, and absorbance was measured at 570 nm using a microplate
266	reader. Concentrations of samples that decrease the absorbance by $>10\%$ when
267	compared to the blank control were considered to be cytotoxic. All the experiments
268	were performed in triplicate.

Statistical Analysis. Each evaluation experiment was performed three times. The
results are presented as the mean values ± standard deviation (SD). Statistical analyses
were performed using SPSS software (SPSS, Inc., Chicago, IL) to identify any

272 significant differences. All values were assessed by one-way analysis of variance273 (ANOVA) in conjunction with Duncan's new multiple-range test (MRT).

274 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

275 Syntheses and Characterization of Products. The optimization of the 276 enzymatic acylation of glucose at C-6 was explored by varying the enzyme loading, 277 the solvent(s) and/or reaction times. In each instance, three equivalents of the relevant 278 fatty acid vinyl ester were used as the acyl donor. As shown in Table 1, when 5% w/w 279 of the enzyme was used in anhydrous THF/pyridine then good to excellent yields of 280 the target compound were obtained within 24 h. When DMSO/t-BuOH, was used as 281 the solvent system then yields ranging from 47-57% were observed and 48 h was 282 required for reactions to go to completion. Similar trends were observed in the 283 DMSO/t-amyl alcohol solvent system (entry 4). Higher enzyme loadings (entry 3) 284 only resulted in marginally higher yields. The reaction seemed to be particularly water 285 sensitive, as lower yields (entry 5) were obtained when undried/reagent-grade 286 THF/pyridine was used. Among the seven vinyl esters, the laurate and 287 myristate-based systems exhibited the best reactivity and productivity.

The structures of all products **2-8** were confirmed by undertaking MS spectrometric and NMR spectroscopic analyses, including those arising from the outcomes of <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY and HMBC experiments. In all instances, two sets of chemical shifts were observed in the NMR spectra, reflecting the presence of both the  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -anometric forms of the product monosaccharide.<sup>17</sup> With the exception of *6-O*-lauroylglucose, the former anomer predominated. Key elements of the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H

294 COSY and HMBC correlation spectra derived from 6-*O*-palmitoylglucopyranose are 295 shown in Figure 2. These are representative of the series as a whole. As revealed 296 through HMBC experiments, the protons at C-6 of the pyranose ring interact with the 297 carbonyl carbon of the ester moiety and thus establishing the site of esterification. The 298 <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY data allowed for the assignment of the resonances due to the 299 oxymethine protons as well as those arising from the side-chain protons.

The protocols defined here are robust and offer the capacity to generate a significant number of variants of the title 6-*O*-acylglucose esters in high yields. Furthermore, they are capable of producing such esters in a completely regioselective fashion and at multi-gram scale. Additionally, product purification is simple and efficient.

305 Hydrophile-Lipophile Balance (HLB) Values. The hydrophilic-lipophilic 306 balance (HLB) represents one of the standard means for emulsifier classification and selection.<sup>25</sup> This value is a measure of the degree to which a potential emulsifier is 307 308 hydrophilic (high HLB values are above 11) or lipophilic (low HLB values are below 309 9). Those in the range 9–11 are considered intermediate.<sup>26</sup> The HLB values of each 310 product derived by the water number method are shown in Figure 3 and reveal that as 311 the length of the hydrophobic side-chain increases from esters 2-8, the HLB values 312 decrease from 9.0 to 5.7. Since the potential utility of emulsifiers is often defined 313 using the HLB system, these values suggest that esters 2-8 could have practical applications. Based on the Griffin method<sup>26,27</sup> of predicting surfactant properties, 314 315 esters 2 and 3 have the potential to act as oil-in-water emulsifiers (HLB >8), while esters 4-8 might be used as water-in-oil emulsifiers (HLB <8). Compounds 2-5 could</li>
also be expected to serve as wetting and spreading agents.

318 Foaming Properties. Surfactants stabilize the foams by preventing bubble coalescence.<sup>28-30</sup> Given their significance, foams are generally described in terms of 319 320 their "foamability", which is defined as the capacity of the surfactants to form foams. 321 The stability of a foam, which tracks variations in foam height or volume over time, is first monitored immediately after foam generation.<sup>22</sup> The issues of foamability and 322 323 foam stability are vital for food emulsifiers since certain foods such as ice cream, 324 Chantilly cream, mousses and marshmallow need to possess good shelf-lives and maintain their appearance even when subject to variations in storage conditions.<sup>31,32</sup> 325 326 The foaming properties of each product, as well as the four controls, were evaluated 327 in terms of their "foamability" at different concentrations and the outcomes of such 328 studies are shown in Figure 4. Unsurprisingly, foamability is positively correlated 329 with sample concentration. At all three concentrations, ester 2 displayed the weakest 330 foamability even though it had the highest HLB value. Compound **3** showed superior 331 properties but these were no better than those of the four controls. When the length of 332 alkyl side chain increased to 9 carbons (as seen in 4), the highest foamability was 333 observed (39.1% at 0.5% w/w). Indeed, ester **4** had remarkably better foamability than 334 the controls at the same concentrations. Nevertheless, it is clear that foamability 335 begins to decrease when products with longer (>9 carbons) alkyl side chains are 336 involved. Although ester 5 exhibited a slightly higher foamability than those of 337 controls under all concentrations tested, ester 6 was only comparable to such controls

338 at high concentrations (29.4% at 0.5%). When the alkyl side chains were increased to 339 15 carbons (as in 7) or 17 carbons (as in 8), their foamabilities were lower than most 340 of the other samples. These results are rather counterintuitive since there appears to be 341 no correlation between the HLB values and foamability. The inverted V-type profile 342 revealed in Figure 4 is also intriguing in that while esters 2, 3, S-570, S-770 and 343 Span20 are regarded as more hydrophilic than compounds 4 and 5, the last pair 344 exhibited the best foamability. Presumably these outcomes are due to the differing 345 surface tensions of the compounds. Those with higher surface tensions, such as 346 compounds 2, 3, 7, 8, are less able to increase surface area to facilitate foam generation and, thus, display poorer foamability.<sup>33</sup> 347

348 Foaming Stability. The foaming stability (FS) of esters 2-8 as well as the four 349 controls were measured over 10 min at 0.1%, 0.2%, and 0.5% w/w concentrations and 350 the outcomes of the relevant experiments are shown in Figure 5A. While ester 2 failed 351 to give any meaningful data, the FS of all the remaining esters increased with 352 concentration although the differences were very modest, if detectable, at the 0.2%353 and 0.5% concentration levels. As was the case with the studies described above, an 354 inverted V-shaped profile was observed in moving through the full series of glucose 355 esters. For esters 3-5, their FSs increased steadily from 30% through to 97.5% and 356 thus indicating the benefits of longer side chains in promoting foaming stability. In 357 contrast, with esters 6-8 the increasing length of the respective side-chains 358 significantly reduced the capacity to maintain foams. Since foaming stability is 359 influenced by standing time, these were determined for all samples at 0.2% w/w 360 concentration over 10, 20, 30 min. The outcomes of the relevant set of experiments 361 are shown in Figure 5B and reveal that the FSs for all esters decreased significantly 362 between the standing times of 10 and 30 min. At the 30 min mark the foams generated 363 using both esters **3** and **8** disappeared completely, indicating the poor stability of the 364 derived foaming systems. In contrast, the four commercial controls exhibited 365 excellent stability over time.

366 Emulsion Stability. Emulsion stability refers to the ability of an emulsion to resist change in its properties over time.<sup>34</sup> Such stability is highly dependent upon 367 liquid droplet size and distribution, emulsion processing conditions, the emulsifiers' 368 369 physical characteristics, solvents, the phase volume ratio and continuous phase viscosity.<sup>35</sup> The ability to form stable emulsions is a classic characteristic of good 370 surfactants.<sup>33</sup> The emulsifying stability index of an emulsifier provides a measure of 371 372 stability, over a defined period of time, for the emulsion. Accordingly, the emulsion 373 stability indices (ESIs) of each product, as well as the four controls, were determined 374 at 0.1%, 0.2%, and 0.5% w/w concentrations in an oil-in-water system. The data so 375 obtained are shown in Figure 6 and indicate that in each instance the test samples 376 displayed higher ESIs than the blank control and reveal that there is a good correlation 377 between the length of side chain and the ESI. In all instances, the ESIs were 378 proportional to concentration. Among the seven glucose esters, congener 2 showed the 379 lowest ESIs. A relatively high ESI ( $421.1 \pm 12.9$ ) was seen when ester 8 was tested at 380 low concentration (0.1% w/w) and this rose to 919.3  $\pm$  34.7 at 0.5% w/w, thus 381 representing the highest ESI value observed. This profile could be attributed to the

382 stronger hydrophobic interactions between the longer alkyl side chains in independent 383 molecules of this form and with the oil droplets thus assuming a more compact structure and so resulting in higher emulsion stability.<sup>17</sup> The ESIs of esters **2-8** are 384 385 significantly lower than those of the four controls at every concentration. This is consistent with a previous study<sup>17</sup> that revealed, after measuring the diameters of the oil 386 387 droplets in emulsions derived from two glucose esters, that unlike the sucrose esters, 388 the former delayed but did not ultimately prevent the coalescence of oil-in-water 389 emulsions.

390 Cytotoxicity. Food emulsifiers must not only possess suitable functional properties but, above all else, must be non-toxic.<sup>36</sup> Sugar fatty acid esters are 391 392 generally accepted as safe emulsifiers in the food and cosmetics industries because 393 they are converted into harmless carbohydrates and fatty acids in the human stomach. 394 However, the cellular toxicities (cytotoxicities) of the glucose fatty acid esters have 395 not yet been established. In the present study, the cytotoxicities of the title esters were 396 evaluated against four cancer cell lines, specifically HepG2 (a liver cancer cell line), 397 MCF-7 (a breast cancer cell line), LNacp (a prostate cancer cell line) and SW549 (a 398 thyroid cancer cell line) as well as LO-2 (a normal liver cell line). As shown in Table 399 2, all seven 6-O-acylglucose esters were devoid of significant cytotoxic effects. 400 Specifically, ester 4 showed weak cytotoxic activity towards all the cell lines 401 employed, the concentration required to inhibit cell proliferation at the 10% level 402 ranging from 210 to 600 µmol/L. Ester 8 displayed weak inhibitory activity toward 403 SW549 but was inactive against the other four cell lines. The remaining esters had no

404 notable cytotoxicity towards any of the five cell lines. Therefore, esters 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

405 can be regarded as non-toxic toward all of the cell lines screened in this study.

406 The structure-function profile of the 6-O-acylglucose esters, as established 407 through this study, can be summarized as follows: when the length of alkyl side chain 408 of the 6-O-acylglucose esters increases, their HLB values decrease, while, contrarily, 409 the stabilities of the derived emulsions increase. To have good foaming properties, a 9 410 or 11 carbon alkyl side chain is required. The presence of a side chain with less or 411 more carbons than these decreases the foaming properties. The protocols and data 412 presented here should provide an important reference point for further studies on the 413 preparation and evaluation of fatty acid esters derived from di- and higher 414 order-saccharides.

#### 415 ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### 416 Supporting Information

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of compounds 2-8, HMBC, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectra of
compound 7. This material is available free of charge via the internet at
http://pubs.acs.org.

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#### 536 FIGURE CAPTIONS

- 537 Figure 1. Enzymatic syntheses of the 6-*O*-acylglucose esters 2-8.
- **Figure 2.** Key HMBC and <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlations for 6-*O*-palmitoylglucopyranose
- **5**39 **7**.
- 540 Figure 3. The HLB values of compounds 2-8 and the commercial sucrose stearic
- 541 esters S-570 and S-770 (mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 3).
- 542 Figure 4. The foamability of compounds 2-8 and the commercial sucrose stearic
- esters S-570 and S-770 as well as span20 and span80 at 0.1%, 0.2%, and 0.5% w/w
- 544 concentrations (mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 3).
- 545 Figure 5. (A) The foaming stability of compounds 2-8 and the commercial sucrose
- stearic esters S-570 and S-770 as well as span20 and span80 over 10 min at 0.1%,
- 547 0.2%, and 0.5% w/w concentrations; and (B) over 10, 20, 30 min at 0.2% w/w
- 548 concentration (mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 3).
- 549 Figure 6. The emulsion stability index of compounds 2-8 and the commercial sucrose
- stearic esters S-570 and S-770 as well as span20 and span80 over 20 min at 0.1%,
- 551 0.2%, and 0.5% w/w concentrations (mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 3).

	Enzyme			Yields (%)						
Entry	Loading (w/w %)	Solvents (v/v ratio)	Time (h)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	5	THF/pyridine <sup>b</sup> (4:1)	24	78	84	82	88	88	80	72
2	5	DMSO/ <i>t</i> -BuOH <sup>b</sup> (1:1)	48	47	54	56	57	57	51	52
3	10	THF/pyridine <sup>b</sup> (4:1)	24	82	89	87	90	92	90	75
4	10	DMSO/ <i>t</i> -amyl alcohol <sup>b</sup> (4:1)	48	41	48	56	55	52	47	43
5	20	THF/pyridine <sup>c</sup> (4:1)	48	44	51	57	60	58	52	29
6	20	THF/pyridine <sup>b</sup> (4:1)	48	89	94	95	95	95	87	82

<sup>a</sup>The reactions were carried out using glucose (1 mmol) and the relevant fatty acid vinyl ester (3 mmol) under the conditions shown above. The products were normally purified via trituration but in the cases involving incomplete reaction, column chromatographic separations were performed. <sup>b</sup>Strictly anhydrous solvents used. <sup>c</sup>Reagent-grade solvents used.

_	Cell Line				
-	HepG2	LNacp	MCF-7	SW549	LO2
Sample	(µM)	(µM)	(µM)	(µM)	(µM)
2	> 2300±3	>2300±70	> 2300±20	2260±9	>2300±10
3	1800±30	>2120±20	>2120±2	> 2120±6	1240±50
4	360±2	600±30	510±2	480±9	210±30
5	1240±10	1740±20	830±10	880±3	>1760±60
6	>1650±20	>1650±10	>1650±8	1640±10	>1650±50
7	>1220±10	<b>&gt;</b> 1220±6	>1220±10	>1220±20	>1220±90
8	1120±20	>1130±20	>1130±6	560±3	>1130±30

 Table 2. The Cytotoxic (> 10% Inhibition) Concentrations of Glucose Esters 2-8



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.





Figure 5.



Figure 6.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS GRAPHIC

