Synthesis of 2-C-Branched Oligo(glyco-amino acid)s (OGAAs) by Ring Opening of 1,2-Cyclopropanecarboxylated Sugar Donors

Perali Ramu Sridhar,* Patteti Venu Kumar, Kalapati Seshadri, and Rayala Satyavathi^[a]

Dedicated to Professor S. Chandrasekaran

Carbohydrates decorated with amino acids are becoming an important area of glyco-chemistry research.^[1] Possessing the architecture of a sugar and an amino acid in a single molecule, these glyco-amino acids (GAAs)^[2] are expected to exhibit the characteristics of both carbohydrates and amino acids, which are both biological polymer precursors. C-branched glyco-a-amino acid moieties are found in a variety of nucleoside antibiotics, such as polyoxins,^[3] miharamycins,^[4] nikkomycin^[5] and amipuramycin.^[6] Very few methods are available in the literature for the synthesis of monosaccharide-derived C-branched GAA derivatives.^[7] Linking an α -amino acid at C-2 or C-4 through a C-C bond has been found to be very difficult. For this reason, the biological importance of these GAAs is not yet fully understood. It has been shown that unnatural 2-C-acetonylsugars serve as metabolic substrates for cell surface engineering by mimicking 2-N-acetylsugars.^[8] Similarly, a 2-C-N-hydroxyacetamide mimic of GlcNAc was synthesised and shown to be an inhibitor of the biosynthesis of lipid A.^[9] Herein, we report the first stereoselective synthesis of 2-C-branched oligo(glycoamino acid)s (OGAAs) by ring opening of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar donors.

The high reactivity and regioselectivity of donor–acceptor cyclopropanes has been well documented in the literature.^[10] 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugars have been used as donor–acceptor cyclopropanes in the synthesis of 2-*C*-branched monosaccharides through electrophilic C1–C7 cyclopropane ring opening or by transition-metal-catalysed glycosylation.^[11] Recently, a four-component Pavarov reaction and a transition-metal-mediated radical reaction were

[a] Dr. P. R. Sridhar, P. V. Kumar, K. Seshadri, R. Satyavathi School of Chemistry University of Hyderabad Hyderabad, 500 046 (India) Fax: (+91)040-23012460 E-mail: prssc@uohyd.ernet.in

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developed for the direct synthesis of 2-C-branched carbohydrate derivatives from glucals.^[7a,12] These branched glycosides were further derivatised to bicyclic carbohydrate 1,2lactones.^[13] Glucal-derived donor–acceptor cyclopropanes have also been used as 1,3-dipoles under acidic conditions, which result in (3+2) cycloaddition reactions in presence of dipolarophiles.^[14] By using the ability of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugars to undergo electrophilic ring opening assisted by the adjacent oxygen in presence of an electrophile,^[15] we herein present the *N*-iodosuccinimide (NIS)mediated ring opening of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated glycosyl donors with carbohydrate *O*-nucleophilic glycosyl bond acceptors.

To achieve this novel glycosylation reaction, we began by using 1,5-anhydro-2,6-dideoxy-1,2-C-(*exo*-carbomethoxymethylene)-3,4-di-O-benzyl- α -L-rhamnal $\mathbf{1}^{[7b]}$ as the donor and 1,2-3,4-diisopropylidine- α -D-galactose $\mathbf{2}$ as the acceptor with NIS as the electrophile at 0 °C in acetonitrile. However, no expected disaccharide was observed under these reaction conditions, even with an excess of acceptor $\mathbf{2}$ (>3 equiv). Similar reaction conditions with dichloromethane as the



Scheme 1. Synthesis of 2-C-branched GAA disaccharides. i) NIS, TMSOTF, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C-RT, 74% yield; ii) NaN₃, DMF, 96% yield; iii) Ph₃P, THF; iv) H₂O, reflux, 91% yield.



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solvent did not improve the glycosylation reaction. We then looked for promoters and after several attempts found that trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TMSOTf; 15 mol%) is the best promoter for this glycosylation reaction.[16] Treatment of 1 and 2 with NIS/ TMSOTf in dichloromethane (0-28°C, 8 h) afforded 2'-Cbranched disaccharide 3 in 74% yield as a single diastereomer^[17] in which two new stereocenters were introduced at C1' and C7' in a single reaction. It is worth noting that only 1.1 equivalents of acceptor, with respect to the donor, were used for this glycosylation reaction. Substitution of α -iodocarboxylate 3 with NaN₃/DMF (28°C, 24 h; DMF = N,N-dimethylformamide) afforded azidocarboxylate 4 in 96% yield. Reduction of the azide under Staudinger reaction conditions (Ph₃P/THF/H₂O) produced disaccharide GAA derivative 5 in 91% isolated yield (Scheme 1).

The proposed mechanism of NIS-mediated ring opening involves a stereospecific "edge attack" of iodine on 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylate 1 to generate an oxocarbenium ion that is immediately trapped with triflate. The triflate is released by neighbouring-group participation of the C7-carboxylate to generate a second oxocarbenium ion intermediate, which is sufficiently long lived that it can be intercepted with a nucleophile. Nucleophilic attack by a glycosyl acceptor oxygen at the anomeric carbon gives disaccharide product **3** (Scheme 2).

The generality of this method has been proved by successfully applying it to a number of 1,2cyclopropanated glycosyl donors and differentially protected sugar acceptors. Thus, the reaction of cyclopropanecarboxylates 1, 10 and 14 with acceptors 6 and 2 gave the ring-



Scheme 2. Proposed mechanism for the NIS-mediated ring opening of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar derivatives.

Table 1. Ring opening of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated carbohydrate donors with sugar acceptors; synthesis of 2-C-branched GAA disaccharides.

Entry	Donor cyclopro- pane	Acceptor	Iodide ([%])	Azide ([%])	GAA derivative	Yield ^[a] [%]
1	H_COOMe BnO BnO 1		7 (75)	8 (95)	MeOOC BnO BnO NH ₂ 9	92
2	BnO OBn BnO COOMe		11 (72)	12 (96)	Bno OBn Bno OBn MeOOC NH ₂ 13	90
3	Bno 14 COOMe	2	15 (72)	16 (92)	Bno Bno MeOOC NH ₂	89
4	14	HO HO HO 18	19 (70)	20 (95) 21 ^[b] (98)	BnO BnO MeOOC 22	85
5	1	Ph OCO HO HO OMe 23	24 (67)	26 (92) 25 ^[c] (96)	Bno 27	94
6	10	23	28 (63)	29 (90)	Bno Ph O O O Bno OBn O O O Bno NH ₂ 30	92
7	1	HO OBn HO OBn OBn 31	32 (70)	33 (93) 34 ^[d] (97)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{MeOOC} & \text{HO} & \text{OBn} \\ \text{BnO} & \text{OP} & \text{OP} \\ \text{BnO} & \text{NH}_2 & \text{OBn} \\ \textbf{35} \end{array}$	97
8	10	31	36 (69)	37 (92)	BnO OBn HO OBn BnO O O O OMe MeOOC NH ₂ OBn 38	90
9	14	31	39 (65)	40 (88)	OBn HO OBn BnO O O OBn MeOOC NH ₂ OBn 41	88

[a] Yield of GAA derivative. Only β -glycosides were formed, and no trace of α product was observed. [b] The free hydroxyl group of azide 20 was acetylated. [c] The free hydroxyl group of iodide 24 was acetylated. [d] The free hydroxyl group of azide 33 was acetylated.

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opened 2-C-branched GAA disaccharide derivatives **9**, **13** and **17**, respectively, in good yields with very high diastereoselectivity at the newly formed C1' and C7' stereocenters (Table 1, entries 1, 2 and 3). The stereochemistry at C1' was confirmed by observing a large coupling constant ($J \approx 8.8$ Hz) for the C1' proton, which indicates a 1,2-trans configuration for all the ring-opened disaccharide derivatives. The stereochemistry at C2' was defined on the basis of the stereochemistry present in the 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar precursor. The stereochemistry at C7' was assigned BnObased on the proposed mechanism and on one of the GAA derivative crystal structures we reported previously.^[7b]

Our next investigations focused on regioselective glycosylation reactions based on the relative reactivity between two hydroxyls on a single sugar acceptor. Towards this goal, cyclopropanecarboxylate 14 was treated with methyl-2,3-di-O-benzyl- α -D-glucopyranoside 18 in the presence of NIS/ TMSOTf in dichloromethane at 0°C. The reaction produced a single product, 19, that was converted to azide 20. The regioselectivity at the 6-O position was assigned by acetylating the free hydroxyl group in 20 with Ac₂O/pyridine and observing a downfield shift in the signal of the C4 proton in acetylated disaccharide 21. Similarly, reactivity-based glycosylation of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylates 1 and 10 with methyl-4,6-O-benzylidine-α-D-glucopyranoside 23 produced the 2-C-branched disaccharide derivatives 24 and 28, respectively, in good vield. Interestingly, C3-OH was involved in the glycosylation step of these reactions.^[18]

The aforementioned acceptor-reactivity-based glycosylation of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar donors could also be extended to the other sugar derivatives. Thus, treatment of cyclopropanecarboxylated donors **1**, **10** and **14** with methyl-2,6-di-*O*-benzyl- β -D-galactopyranoside **31** gave disaccharide derivatives **32**, **36** and **39**, respectively, in good yields. All the disaccharide α -iodocarboxylates (**24**, **28**, **32**, **36** and **39**) were converted to the corresponding azides (**26**, **29**, **33**, **37** and **40**, respectively) by using NaN₃/DMF to give excellent yields (\approx 90%). All these azides were further converted to the corresponding 2-C-branched GAA derivatives **27**, **30**, **35**, **38** and **41**, respectively, under Staudinger reaction conditions (Table 1, entries 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9).

Keeping the above-mentioned acceptor-reactivity-based regio- and stereoselective glycosylation of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar donors in mind, we further planned to synthesise an OGAA derivative. Towards this goal, the benzylidine protecting group in α -iodocarboxylate **24** was deprotected by using *p*-TsOH·H₂O/MeOH to give disaccharide triol **42**. A second acceptor-reactivity-based glycosylation was performed by treating **1** with triol **42** in presence of NIS/TMSOTf to give trisaccharide **43** in good yield as the only isolated product. Treatment of **43** with NaN₃/DMF gave diazide **44**. The free hydroxyls were acetylated to give compound **45**, which gave OGAA derivative **46** under Staudinger reaction conditions (Scheme 3).

In summary, a new glycosylation method that uses carbohydrate-derived donor-acceptor cyclopropanes as glycosyl acceptors has been developed. To the best of our knowl-



Scheme 3. Synthesis of 2-C-branched OGAA derivatives. i) *p*-TsOH-H₂O, MeOH, 92% yield; ii) **1**, NIS, TMSOTf, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C–RT, 62% yield; iii) NaN₃, DMF, 85% yield; iv) Ac₂O, pyridine, 93% yield; v) Ph₃P, THF; vi) H₂O, reflux, 80% yield.

edge, this method is the first report of the use of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugars in traditional oligosaccharide synthesis. The novel glycosidation method was successfully applied to the synthesis of a number of 2-C-branched GAA disaccharides and to the preparation of an OGAA derivative. Mimicking natural glycosides with carbon-branched GAAs and determining the biological importance of these hybrid biomolecules are in progress.

Experimental Section

General procedure for the glycosylation of 1,2-cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar donors: *N*-iodosuccinimide (0.55 mmol) and trimethylsilyl trifluoromethane sulfonate (0.01 mmol) were added to a stirred suspension of 1,2cyclopropanecarboxylated sugar derivative (0.50 mmol), glycosyl acceptor (0.55 mmol), and a 4-Å molecular sieve in dichloromethane (5 mL) at 0°C under a nitrogen atmosphere. The temperature was slowly raised to 25°C and the mixture was stirred for 6 h (until reaction completion, as determined by using TLC). The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane, filtered and washed with aqueous sodium thiosulfate and concentrated under vacuum. Column chromatography of the crude product with ethyl acetate/hexane afforded the pure glycosidation product.

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