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Yosuke Demizu^a, Kaichi Sano^{a b}, Naoki Terayama^a, Wataru Hakamata^a, Yukiko Sato^a, Hideshi Inoue^b, Haruhiro Okuda^a & Masaaki Kurihara^a

^a Division of Organic Chemistry, National Institute of Health Sciences, Tokyo, Japan

^b Laboratory of Molecular Biochemistry, School of Life Sciences, Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Sciences, Tokyo, Japan Accepted author version posted online: 17 Oct 2011.Published online: 27 Feb 2012.

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SOLID-PHASE NUCLEOPHILIC FLUORINATION

Yosuke Demizu,¹ Kaichi Sano,^{1,2} Naoki Terayama,¹ Wataru Hakamata,¹ Yukiko Sato,¹ Hideshi Inoue,² Haruhiro Okuda,¹ and Masaaki Kurihara¹

¹Division of Organic Chemistry, National Institute of Health Sciences, Tokyo, Japan

²Laboratory of Molecular Biochemistry, School of Life Sciences, Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Sciences, Tokyo, Japan

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Abstract This study demonstrates solid-phase nucleophilic fluorination. Polymer-bound 1-phenoxy-2-sulfonyloxyethane, as a model compound, is converted to a fluorinated compound in a short time. Furthermore, this method is applied to synthesize a precursor of 2-deoxy-2-fluoro-D-glucose by solid-phase synthesis using a microwave oven.

Keywords FDG; fluorination; microwave; solid-phase synthesis

INTRODUCTION

Organofluorine compounds are important building blocks in medicinal, pharmaceutical, and agrochemical industries. In particular, ¹⁸F compounds are useful for positron emission tomography (PET), which is an advanced biofunctional imaging method for clinical diagnosis and uses very short half-life radioisotopes.^[1] 2-Deoxy-2-fluoro-D-glucose ([¹⁸F]FDG) is the best clinically known and the most successful commercial PET radiopharmaceutical developed so far.^[2] Several drugs

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Address correspondence to Masaaki Kurihara, Division of Organic Chemistry, National Institute of Health Sciences, 1-18-1 Kamiyoga, Setagaya, Tokyo 158-8501, Japan. E-mail: masaaki@nihs.go.jp



[¹⁸F]BF-227

Figure 1. Examples of PET drugs.

have been developed for PET imaging of cancer cells and β -amyloid plaques in Alzheimer's disease. Some examples of labeled drugs for PET are shown in Fig. 1.^[3] The synthesis of labeled drugs for PET involves various difficult issues. First, a very rapid process of synthesis and purification is required to allow for the 110-min half-life of ¹⁸F. Second, synthesis must be performed using an automated device to avoid radiation exposure.

The recent solid-state synthesis of FDG by Brown et al.^[4] prompted us to describe a rapid solid-phase nucleophilic fluorination (Fig. 2).^[5,6] Solid-phase synthesis has various advantages: Unreacted compounds are bound to the resin and only fluorinated compounds are released from the resin, purification is straightforward, and solid-phase reagents are handled and stored easily. Furthermore, solid-phase synthesis is a suitable for an automated device.

Polymer-bound 1-phenoxy-2-sulfonyloxyethane **2**, which contains part of the structure of FET and BF-227, was synthesized as follows (Scheme 1): Polymerbound sulfonyl chloride (70–90 mesh, loading 2.5 mmol/g, 1% cross-linked with divinylbenzene, **1**) was packed in a MacroKan reactor and treated with Et_3N and 2-phenoxyethanol in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature for 4 days. The MacroKan reactor was washed with MeOH and CH_2Cl_2 to afford compound **2**.



Figure 2. Solid-phase fluorination.



Scheme 1. Loading 2-phenoxyethanol on resin 1.

Compound 2 in a MacroKan reactor was treated with a fluorination reagent under several conditions. The results are summarized in Table 1. The reaction was stopped for 30 min, and after the usual workup, only the desired product $3^{[7]}$ was obtained in 17% yield (entry 1). The yield of 3 from NH_4F was somewhat reduced as compared with nBu_4NF (entry 2). Although the use of KF gave 3 in a yield similar to that of nBu_4NF , it was required for the addition of cryptand (Kryptfix 222) to dissolve in dimethylforamide (DMF) (entry 3). A higher temperature gave a better yield (entries 4 and 5), and sufficient reaction time gave a good yield (entry 6).

Next, we attempted to synthesize the precursor 10 of FDG by solid-phase synthesis. Mannose derivative $4^{[8]}$ bound to polymer-bound sulfort chloride 1 did not react with fluorination reagents under any conditions. Therefore, compound 9 was synthesized with a long linker as a new solid-bound mannose derivative (Scheme 2). The synthesis of 9 from mannose derivative 4 was as follows: Compound 4 was treated with 4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride to afford sulfonylated 5 followed by reduction of the aromatic nitro group, and compound $\mathbf{6}$ was obtained. Linker was introduced by coupling $\mathbf{6}$ with monomethyl adipate followed by alkaline hydrolysis, and polymer-supported sugar 9 was finally obtained by the reaction of 8 with Nova-Syn TG hydroxyl resin by the Mitsunobu reaction. The rapid solid-phase fluorination of 9 was performed with nBu_4NF assisted with a microwave oven at 200 °C for 5 min, and a fluorinated product 10 was obtained with 6% yield (estimated based on the amount of nBu_4NF). The yield of solid-phase fluorination seemed to be somewhat low; however, this method gave only the desired product 10 without the need

		source of F ⁻ (0.017 mmol)		F C C	`	
	2 400 mg	DMF		3	Yield (%) ^a	
Entry	Source of F ⁻		Time (h)	Temp. (°C)		
1	<i>n</i> Bu ₄ NF		0.5	100	17	
2	NH_4F		0.5	100	12	
3	\mathbf{KF}^{b}		0.5	100	18	
4	nBu ₄ NF		0.5	50	7	
5	<i>n</i> Bu ₄ NF		0.5	150	79	
6	nBu ₄ NF		6	100	>99	

Table	1.	Solid-phase	fluorination	of model	compound	2
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source of F⁻ (0.017 mmol)

^aEstimated based on the amount of fluorination reagent using HPLC analysis.

^bCryptand (Kryptfix 222) was added.



Scheme 2. Solid-phase fluorination of FDG precursor.

for further purification^[8] and was suitable for practical applications. Nucleophilic fluorination of 2-sulfonlyoxy mannose derivative leads to an undesired product; see Ref. 8. Treatment of **10** with acid gave FDG.^[8]

The results show this is a practical method for solid-phase nucleophilic fluorination. 1-Phenoxy-2-sulfonyloxyethane bound to a polymer was efficiently fluorinated to compound **3**. The solid-phase fluorination of mannose derivative **9** afforded FDG precursor **10** with high purity without further purification. Development of an automatic synthesis system for solid-phase fluorination and the use of an $[^{18}F]$ -fluoride source are under way.

EXPERIMENTAL

Typical Procedure for Fluorination of Compound 2

Under an inert atmosphere, compound **2** (400 mg) was added to a solution of nBu_4NF (9.0 mg, 0.034 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) and then stirred for 30 min at 150 °C.

The solution was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 , and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford 3 (3.8 mg, 79% yield) without the need for further purification.

Methyl-3-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-*O*-*p*-nitrobenzenesulfonyl-β-Dmannopyranoside (5). *p*-Nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (0.47 g, 2.12 mmol) was added to a solution of alcohol 4 (0.4 g, 1.06 mmol) in dry pyridine (10 ml), and stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was neutralized with 1 M aqueous HCl and then extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase was washed with brine solution, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, hex/EtOAc = 2/1) to afford the sulfonate 5 (0.57 g, 96%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDC1₃) δ 3.37 (dd, J = 4.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.77 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (m, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 4.8, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.69–4.77(m, 2H), 5.25 (dd, J = 1.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 7.29–7.47 (m, 10H), 8.05–8.15 (m, 4H); ESI-MS: m/z: 580 [M + Na]⁺.

Methyl-3-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-*O*-*p*-aminobenzenesulfonyl-β-D-mannopyranoside (6). Encapsulated palladium on carbon (0.23 g, 3.9% loading) was added to a solution of 5 (0.30 g, 0.54 mmol) in EtOH (30 ml) under an atmosphere of hydrogen gas. The mixture was stirred for 2 h before filtering through celite. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, hex/EtOAc = 2/3) to furnish the product 6 (0.28 g, 98%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDC1₃) δ 3.34 (ddd, J = 4.8, 10.0, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s 3H), 3.71 (dd, J = 3.2, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (dd, J = 10.0, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 2H), 4.28 (dd, J = 4.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.70–4.83 (m, 2H), 5.21 (dd, J = 0.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 6.56–6.59 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.48 (m, 10H) 7.72–7.74 (m, 2H); ESI-MS: m/z: 550 [M + Na]⁺.

Methyl-3-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-*O*-*p*-(6-methoxy-6-oxohexanamido)benzenesulfonyl-β-D-mannopyranoside (7). Methyl hydrogen adipate (210 µl, 1.47 mmol), diethylphosphoryl cyanide (240 µl, 1.49 mmol), and Et₃N (415 µl, 2.97 mmol) were added to a solution of alcohol 6 (0.26 g, 0.49 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (15 ml), and stirred at room temperature for 21 h before the addition of saturated aqueous NaCl (10 mL) to quench. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic extract was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified via column chromatography (SiO₂, hex/EtOAc = 2/3) to afford the product 7 (0.21 g, 65%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.68–1.81 (m, 4H), 2.40 (m, 4H), 3.33 (ddd, J = 5.2, 9.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.70 (dd, J = 3.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H) 3.84 (m, 1H), 3.94 (m, 1H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.70–4.80 (m, 2H), 5.21 (m, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.92 (m, 15H); ESI-MS m/z 692 [M + Na]⁺.

Methyl-3-*O*-benzyl-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-*O*-*p*-(5-carboxypentanamido)benzenesulfonyl- β -D-mannopyranoside (8). Aqueous NaOH 1 M, (12 ml) was added to a solution of 7 (0.43 g, 0.64 mmol) in MeOH and stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The mixture was neutralized with 1 M aqueous HCl (15 ml) and extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 , and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified via column chromatography (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 10/1) to afford the product **8** (0.33 g, 78%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDC1₃) δ 1.71–1.85 (m, 4H), 2.43 (m, 4H), 3.33 (ddd, J = 4.8, 9.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.71 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (m, 1H), 3.94 (m, 1H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.70–4.80 (m, 2H), 5.21 (m, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.91 (m, 15H), 9.02 (br s, 1H); ESI-MS m/z: 654 [M – H]⁻.

Coupling of Acid 8 to NovaSyn TG Hydroxy Resin

PPh₃ (0.18 g, 0.7 mmol) and diethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (DEAD, 1.26 ml, 2.8 mmol) were added to a hydroxy resin (NovaSyn TG hydroxy resin, 200-400 mesh, loading 0.64 mmol/g, 1.09 g) and acid **8** in THF (10 ml). The reaction was stirres gently under Ar gas at rt for 14 h. The resin was removed by filtration; washed with THF (3×10 ml), DMF (3×10 ml), EtOH (3×10 ml), Et₂O (3×10 ml); and dried in vacuo at rt for 24 h.

Methyl-3-O-benzyl-4,6-O-benzylidene-2-fluoro-\beta-D-glucopyranoside (10). Under an inert atmosphere, compound **9** (120 mg) and nBu_4NF (42.7 mg, 0.167 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) were put into a 2-ml reaction tube sealed by the rubber stopper, and then MW irradiation was carried out for 5 min at 200 °C. The solution was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford **10** (3.7 mg, 6% yield) without the need for further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDC1₃) δ 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.49–3.94 (m, 4H), 4.34 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, J = 4.6, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 7.27–7.55 (m, 10H); ESI-MS m/z: 375 [M + H]⁻.

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