

Nucleotides

Part LXXIX¹⁾

New Building Blocks for Photolithographic Syntheses of Oligoribonucleotides

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Two series of new ribonucleoside 3'-phosphoramidites (see **36–42**) carrying the photolabile [2-(2-nitrophenyl)propoxy]carbonyl group at the 5'-*O*-position were synthesized and characterized as monomeric building blocks for photolithographic syntheses of RNA chips. Base protection was achieved in the well-known manner by the 2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl (npe) and the [2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl (npeoc) group. The carbohydrate moiety carried in addition the 2'-*O*-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2*H*-pyran-4-yl) group for blocking the 2'-OH function.

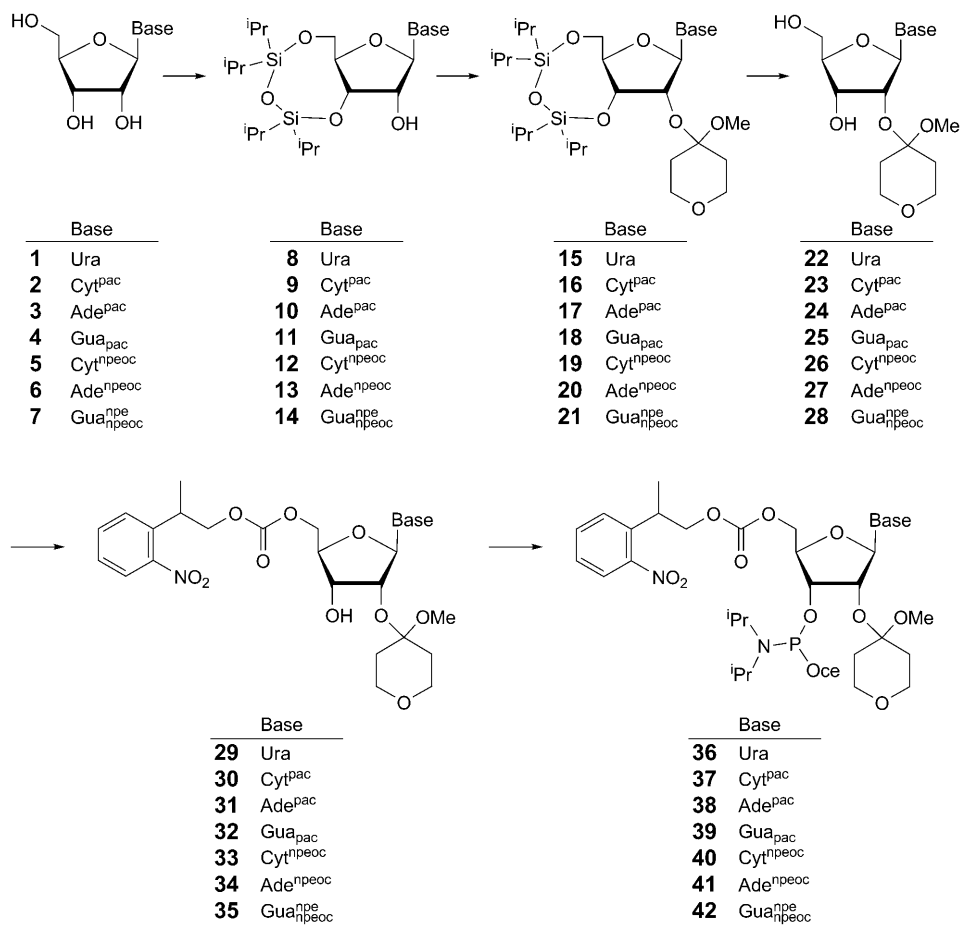
1. Introduction. – Based upon the photolability of the 2-nitrobenzyl group [2] and its derivatives, their use in nucleic acid [3–10], carbohydrate [11], and peptide [12–14] chemistry is common practise. More recently, photolabile 5'-protection of 2'-deoxyribonucleoside 3'-phosphoramidites have also successfully been employed in the solid-phase synthesis of DNA probe arrays [15–18]. There are numerous publications describing the photolabile protection of OH, COOH, NH₂, SH, and C=O functions [19]. Since the quantum yield of photodeprotection is highly influenced by substitutions at the benzene ring or the CH₂ C-atom [20] of the 2-nitrobenzyl group, a large variety of structural modifications is known.

The reported photochemical reactions of the *o*-NO₂ groups with C(β) atoms [21][22] suggested that the homologous 2-(2-nitrophenyl)ethyl group [23] might also be useful as a photocleavable protecting function. We developed new types of very efficient photolabile protecting groups based upon the [2-(2-nitrophenyl)propoxy]carbonyl [nppoc] moiety [24], determined the mechanism of cleavage [25], and could improve the cleavage rate by intramolecular sensitization [26–28]. Caged nucleosides [29] have also been applied, and the use of new building blocks for photolithographic oligonucleotide array formation was very successful [29][30].

2. Syntheses. – Two new types of building blocks for photolithographic oligoribonucleotide synthesis were obtained based on two series of nucleobase-protected starting materials carrying either the phenoxyacetyl (pac) (see **2–4** [30][31]) or the [2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl (npeoc) group (see **5–7** [32]) at the amino functions

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of the ribonucleosides. Guanosine was further protected at the O^6 -position by the 2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl group (see **7**) for solubility reasons (*Scheme*).

Scheme

The next steps included the 3',5'-protection by Markiewicz's 1,1,3,3-tetraisopropyl-disiloxane-1,3-diyl group (see **8–14** [33–36]) and was followed by the introduction of the tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl residue at the 2'-OH position leading to **15–21**. Deprotection of the silyl group by fluoride ion proceeded well and led to the modified ribonucleosides **22–28**. Several compounds of these two series have been described before [32][33][36], and the new types have been prepared by similar procedures.

The interconversion of compounds **22–28** into the 5'-O-[[2-(2-nitrophenyl)propoxy]-carbonyl] (=5'-[2-(2-nitrophenyl)propyl carbonate]) derivatives **29–35** proceeded well on acylation with [2-(2-nitrophenyl)propoxy]carbonyl chloride (=2-(2-nitrophenyl)propyl carbonochloridate) in pyridine. The final phosphitylation to **36–42** was

achieved by 2-cyanoethyl *N,N,N',N'*-tetraisopropylphosphordiamidite in good to excellent yields. The newly synthesized compounds were characterized by UV and ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR spectra as well as elemental analyses.

Experimental Part

General. Products were dried under high vacuum. All solvents used were of anh. grade. TLC: precoated silica gel (SiO_2) thin-layer sheets 60 F_{254} from Merck. Flash Chromatography (FC): SiO_2 (30–60 μm , Baker); 0.2–0.3 bar. M.p.: Büchi melting-point apparatus B-545; uncorrected. UV/VIS: Perkin-Elmer Lambda 5; λ_{max} (log ϵ) in nm. ^1H -NMR: Bruker AC 250; δ in ppm rel. to Me_4Si or CDCl_3 ((D_6) DMSO) as internal standard, J in Hz. ^{31}P -NMR: Jeol JMN-GX400.

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)cytidine (2) [31]. A mixture of cytidine (30.0 g, 0.12 mol) and hexamethyldisilazane (300 ml) was refluxed for 4 h and then evaporated, and the residue was dissolved in pyridine (200 ml). A suspension of 3-methyl-1-(phenoxyacetyl)-1*H*-imidazol-3-ium chloride (MPIC), prepared from phenoxyacetyl chloride (pac-Cl; 30.7 g, 0.18 mol) and 1-methyl-1*H*-imidazole (MeIm; 16.4 g, 0.2 mol), in CH_2Cl_2 (400 ml) was added at 4° by portions within 30 min. The mixture was stirred at r.t. for 20 h, the CH_2Cl_2 distilled off, and ice (15 g) added. The soln. was cooled with ice, then conc. $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (15 ml) was added dropwise, and after stirring for 4 h at r.t., the precipitate was washed with pyridine (2×100 ml) and CH_2Cl_2 (2×100 ml). The combined filtrates were concentrated and then treated with CH_2Cl_2 (200 ml) in an ultrasonic bath for 5 min. The precipitate was collected by suction and washed with CH_2Cl_2 , and the solid treated with H_2O (200 ml) in an ultrasonic bath again. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with H_2O (3×100 ml), and dried (P_4O_{10}) in a vacuum desiccator: 28.3 g (61%) of **2**. Colorless solid. M.p. 180–182°. ^1H -NMR ((D_6) DMSO): 10.99 (s, NH); 8.45 (d, H–C(6)); 7.28 (d, 2 arom. H); 7.10 (d, H–C(5)); 6.92 (m, 3 arom. H); 5.77 (d, H–C(1')); 5.49 (d, HO–C(2')); 5.16 (t, HO–C(5')); 5.05 (d, HO–C(3')); 4.81 (s, CH_2O); 3.95 (m, H–C(2',3',4')); 3.71 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.60 (m, 1 H–C(5')).

N^6 -(Phenoxyacetyl)adenosine (3) [31]. As described for **2**, with adenosine (32.0 g, 0.12 mol) in pyridine (200 ml) and chlorotrimethylsilane ($\text{Me}_3\text{Si-Cl}$) (98.0 g, 0.9 mol) and stirring at r.t. for 2 h. After cooling to 4°, a suspension of MPIC (from pac-Cl (30.7 g, 0.18 mol) and MeIm (16.4 g, 0.2 mol)) in CH_2Cl_2 (400 ml) was added within 30 min. After stirring for 18 h at r.t., analog workup gave 39.0 g (81%) of **3**. Colorless solid. M.p. 110–112° (from EtOH/ H_2O 1:1). ^1H -NMR ((D_6) DMSO): 10.96 (s, NH); 8.73 (s, H–C(2)); 8.68 (s, H–C(8)); 7.37–6.90 (m, 5 arom. H); 6.01 (d, H–C(1')); 5.55 (d, HO–C(2')); 5.25 (d, HO–C(3')); 5.13 (t, HO–C(5')); 5.03 (s, CH_2O); 4.61 (m, H–C(2')); 4.17 (m, H–C(3')); 3.97 (m, H–C(4')); 3.66 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.58 (m, 1 H–C(5')).

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)guanosine (4) [31]. As described for **3**, with guanosine (28.3 g, 0.1 mol) and $\text{Me}_3\text{Si-Cl}$ (81.6 g, 0.95 mol, 0.74 mol) in pyridine (300 ml), MPIC (from pac-Cl (25.6 g, 0.15 mol) and MeIm (13.9 g, 0.17 mol)) in CH_2Cl_2 (400 ml): 35.0 g (84%) of **4**. Colorless solid. M.p. 128–133° (dec.). ^1H -NMR ((D_6) DMSO): 11.85, 11.78 (2s, 2 NH); 7.33–6.92 (m, 5 arom. H); 5.81 (d, H–C(1')); 5.49 (d, HO–C(2')); 5.18 (d, HO–C(3')); 5.03 (t, HO–C(5')); 4.86 (s, CH_2O); 4.44 (m, H–C(2')); 4.12 (m, H–C(3')); 3.90 (m, H–C(4')); 3.59 (m, 2 H–C(5')).

N^4 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]cytidine (5) [32].

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]adenosine (6) [32].

N^2 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]- O^6 -[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]guanosine (7) [32].

3',5'- O -(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)uridine (8) [33]. A soln. of uridine (9.8 g, 40 mmol) in pyridine (100 ml) was treated with 1,3-dichloro-1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane (tipds Cl_2) (14.0 g, 44 mmol) for 18 h at r.t. Then, MeOH (2 ml) was added with stirring, and after 10 min, the soln. diluted with CHCl_3 (200 ml) and washed with NaHCO_3 soln. (2×150 ml). The org. layer was dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated and the residue co-concentrated with toluene (2×100 ml) and CHCl_3 (2×150 ml): 19.0 g (97%) of **8**. Amorphous solid foam which was used for the next step to **15** without further purification. ^1H -NMR ((D_6) DMSO): 11.36 (s, NH); 7.68 (d, H–C(6)); 5.59 (d, HO–C(2')); 5.52 (d, H–C(1')); 5.50 (d, H–C(5)); 4.20–3.85 (m, H–C(2',3',4'), $\text{CH}_2(5')$); 1.03–0.95 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-3',5'- O -(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)cytidine (9). As described for **8**, with **2** (20.0 g, 53 mmol) and tipds Cl_2 (18.3 g, 58 mmol) in pyridine (150 ml): 32.1 g (97%) of **9**.

Amorphous foam, pure enough for the next step. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 11.01 (s, NH); 8.14 (d, H-C(6)); 7.28–6.92 (m, 5 arom. H); 7.13 (d, H-C(5)); 5.79 (d, HO-C(2')); 5.60 (d, H-C(1')); 4.81 (s, CH_2O); 4.40 (s, H-C(3')); 4.06 (m, H-C(2',4')), $\text{CH}_2(5')$; 1.04–0.94 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)adenosine (**10**) [34]. As described for **9**, with **3** (20.0 g, 50 mmol) and tipdsCl_2 (17.3 g, 55 mmol) in pyridine (150 ml): 30.9 g (98%) of **10**. Amorphous solid. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 10.98 (s, NH); 8.59 (s, H-C(2)); 8.54 (s, H-C(8)); 7.32–6.93 (m, 5 arom. H); 5.98 (d, H-C(1')); 5.71 (d, HO-C(2')); 5.02 (s, CH_2O); 4.77 (s, H-C(3')); 4.59 (m, H-C(2')); 4.04 (m, H-C(4')), $\text{CH}_2(5')$; 1.03–0.94 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)guanosine (**11**) [35]. As described for **9**, with **4** (20.8 g, 50 mmol) and tipdsCl_2 (17.3 g, 55 mmol) in pyridine (150 ml): crude **11** which was purified by CC (SiO_2 (8 $\times$ 15 cm), hexane/AcOEt 4:1 and hexane/AcOEt/acetone 4:1:1): 27.6 g (84%) of **11**. Amorphous foam. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 11.90, 11.80 (2s, 2 NH); 8.06 (s, H-C(8)); 7.35–6.90 (m, 5 arom. H); 5.79 (d, H-C(1')); 5.73 (d, HO-C(2')); 4.86 (s, CH_2O); 4.33 (m, H-C(2',3')); 4.00 (m, H-C(4')), $\text{CH}_2(5')$; 1.04–0.94 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^4 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)cytidine (**12**) [36].

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)adenosine (**13**) [36].

N^2 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl- O^6 -[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)guanosine (**14**) [36].

2'-O-(Tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)uridine (= 1-[Tetrahydro-2,2,4,4-tetraisopropyl-9-[(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)oxy]-6H-furo[3,2-f][1,3,5,2,4]trioxadisilicin-8-yl]uracil; **15**) [36].

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)cytidine (**16**). A mixture of **9** (16.6 g, 26.8 mmol), (–)-camphor-10-sulfonic acid (CSA; 2.0 g, 8.9 mmol), molecular sieves (MS; 4.5 g), and 3,6-dihydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran (5.0 g, 43.8 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (100 ml) was stirred at r.t. for 18 h and then neutralized by pyridine (2 ml). The molecular sieves were filtered off and washed with CHCl_3 (200 ml). The combined filtrate was washed with NaHCO_3 soln., the org. phase dried (Na_2SO_4), concentrated and co-concentrated with toluene (100 ml), and the residue purified by CC (SiO_2 (5 $\times$ 15 cm), hexane/acetone 9:1 and 6:1): 2.3 g of **9** and 10.7 g (60%) of **16**. Amorphous foam. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 11.05 (s, NH); 8.24 (d, H-C(6)); 7.28–6.92 (m, 5 arom. H); 7.13 (d, H-C(5)); 5.94 (d, H-C(1')); 4.81 (s, CH_2O); 4.44 (d, H-C(2')); 4.16 (m, H-C(3',4')), 1 H-C(5')); 3.95 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 3.65, 3.50 (2m, CH_2OCH_2); 3.23 (s, MeO); 1.98, 1.78 (2m, CH_2CCH_2); 1.04–0.95 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(4-tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)adenosine (**17**). As described for **16**, with **10** (10.0 g, 15.5 mmol), CSA (1.0 g, 4.3 mmol), MS (3.5 g), and 3,6-dihydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran (5.0 g, 43.8 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (70 ml). Neutralization by pyridine (1 ml), workup and CC gave 2.3 g of **10** and 6.5 g (76%) of **17**. Amorphous foam. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 10.97 (s, NH); 8.58 (s, H-C(2.8)); 7.32–6.93 (m, 5 arom. H); 6.11 (d, H-C(1')); 5.02 (s, CH_2O); 4.98 (d, H-C(2')); 4.90 (m, H-C(3')); 4.15–3.90 (m, H-C(4'), 1 H-C(5')); 3.95 (dd, 1 H-C(5')); 3.70, 3.42 (2m, CH_2OCH_2); 3.17 (s, MeO); 1.77 (m, CH_2CCH_2); 1.03–0.99 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)guanosine (**18**). As described for **16**, with **11** (6.0 g, 0.9 mmol), CSA (0.2 g, 0.9 mmol), MS (2.0 g), and 3,6-dihydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran (8.3 g, 72.7 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 ml) for 8 h. Neutralization by pyridine (1 ml), workup, and CC gave 5.5 g (78%) of **18**. Colorless solid. M.p. 173–174° (from EtOH). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ((D_6) DMSO): 11.84, 11.50 (2s, 2 NH); 8.18 (s, H-C(8)); 7.33–6.95 (m, 5 arom. H); 5.88 (d, H-C(1')); 4.85 (s, CH_2O); 4.71 (d, H-C(2')); 4.47 (m, H-C(3')); 4.05 (m, H-C(4')), 1 H-C(5')); 3.95 (m, 1 H-C(5')); 3.69, 3.40 (2m, CH_2OCH_2); 3.04 (s, MeO); 1.78 (m, CH_2CCH_2); 1.01–1.01 (m, 4 i-Pr).

N^4 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)cytidine (**19**) [36].

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)adenosine (**20**) [36].

N^2 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-O⁶-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)guanosine (**21**) [36].

2'-O-(Tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)uridine (**22**) [36].

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine (**23**). To a soln. of **16** (10.5 g, 14.3 mmol) in THF (80 ml) was added Bu₄NF · 3 H₂O (12.2 g, 38.6 mmol) in THF (50 ml) with stirring. After 10 min, the mixture was neutralized by AcOH (9.2 ml, 154.4 mmol) in THF (30 ml) and concentrated. The residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ (500 ml), the soln. washed with NaHCO₃ soln. (200 ml) and H₂O (100 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated, and the residue crystallized from EtOH: 6.2 g (88%) of **23**. Colorless crystals. M.p. 150–152°. ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 11.02 (s, NH); 8.40 (d, H–C(6)); 7.32–6.90 (m, 5 arom. H); 7.16 (d, H–C(5)); 6.09 (d, H–C(1')); 5.17 (m, HO–C(3')), HO–C(5')); 4.81 (s, CH₂O); 4.34 (d, H–C(2')); 3.96 (m, H–C(3',4')); 3.95 (dd, 1 H–C(5')); 3.70–3.30 (m, 1 H–C(5'), CH₂OCH₂); 2.90 (s, MeO); 1.67 (m, CH₂CCH₂).

N^6 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine (**24**). As described for **23**, with **17** (8.0 g, 10.5 mmol) in THF (70 ml) and Bu₄NF (8.0 g, 25.4 mmol) in THF (80 ml) and stirring at r.t. for 10 min. Neutralization with AcOH (5.7 ml) in THF (10 ml), evaporation, and purification of the residue by CC (SiO₂ (5 × 25 cm), CHCl₃ and CHCl₃/MeOH 20:1) gave 4.7 g (87%) of **24**. Amorphous foam. ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 10.97 (s, NH); 8.79 (s, H–C(2)); 8.70 (s, H–C(8)); 7.32–6.94 (m, 5 arom. H); 6.16 (d, H–C(1')); 5.32 (d, HO–C(3')); 5.26 (t, HO–C(5')); 5.03 (s, CH₂O); 4.96 (d, H–C(2')); 4.16 (m, H–C(3')); 4.03 (m, H–C(4')); 3.68–3.19 (m, CH₂(5'), CH₂OCH₂); 2.57 (s, MeO); 1.72, 1.51 (2m, CH₂CCH₂).

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine (**25**). As described for **24**, with **18** (7.9 g, 9.4 mmol), THF (50 ml), and Bu₄NF (8.3 g, 26 mmol) in THF (35 ml): 4.4 g (87%) of **25**. Amorphous foam. ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 11.84, 11.79 (2s, 2 NH); 8.32 (s, H–C(8)); 7.34–6.95 (m, 5 arom. H); 5.79 (d, H–C(1')); 5.21 (d, HO–C(3')); 5.15 (t, HO–C(5')); 4.85 (s, CH₂O); 4.72 (dd, H–C(2')); 4.10 (m, H–C(3')); 3.97 (m, H–C(4')); 3.95 (m, 1 H–C(5')); 3.70–3.40 (m, 1 H–C(5'), CH₂OCH₂); 2.60 (s, MeO); 1.70, 1.52 (2m, CH₂CCH₂).

N^4 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine (**26**) [36].

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine (**27**) [36].

N^2 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-O⁶-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine (**28**) [36].

2'-O-(Tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)uridine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**29**). To a soln. of **22** (4.9 g, 13.7 mmol) in abs. pyridine (60 ml) was added slowly, at –30° under Ar and stirring, 2-(2-nitrophenyl)propyl carbonochloridate [24] (nppoc-Cl; 5.0 g, 20.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). After 5 h, the temp. was raised to –10°, then MeOH (1 ml) added, and the mixture stirred at r.t. for 1 h. The mixture was diluted with CHCl₃ (20 ml), the soln. washed with NaHCO₃ soln. (100 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and co-concentrated with toluene (2 × 50 ml), and the residue purified by CC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 10 cm), CHCl₃ and CHCl₃/MeOH 50:1): first 3.96 g (37%) of the 3',5'-di-O-acylated derivative and then 4.1 g (53%) of **29**. Amorphous foam. UV (MeOH): 206 (4.29), 257 (4.08). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 11.41 (s, NH); 7.81–7.44 (m, H–C(6), 4 arom. H); 5.93 (d, H–C(1')); 5.62 (d, H–C(5)); 5.34 (d, HO–C(3')); 4.28 (m, H–C(4'), CH₂(5'), CH₂O); 3.99 (d, H–C(2')); 3.91 (m, H–C(3')); 3.47 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 2.96 (s, MeO); 1.66 (m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.27 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₂₅H₃₁N₃O₁₂ (565.5): C 53.09, H 5.52, N 7.43; found: C 52.80, H 5.53, N 7.27.

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**30**). As described for **29**, with **23** (6.9 g, 14 mmol), pyridine (100 ml), and nppoc-Cl (4.14 g, 17 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (40 ml). Purification by CC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 12 cm), CHCl₃, CHCl₃/MeOH 50:1) gave 5.3 g (60%) of **30**. Amorphous foam and 2.0 g (18%) of the di-O-acylated derivative. UV (MeOH): 208 (4.56), 248 (4.30), 300 (3.91). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 11.06 (s, NH); 8.09–6.90 (m, H–C(6), H–C(5), 9 arom. H); 6.02 (d, H–C(1')); 5.37 (d, HO–C(3')); 4.83 (s, CH₂OCO); 4.38 (d, H–C(2')); 4.27 (m, CH₂(5'), CH₂O); 4.05 (m, H–C(3')); 3.96 (m, H–C(4')); 3.46 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 2.91 (s, MeO); 1.65 (m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.26 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₃₃H₃₈N₄O₁₃ · H₂O (716.7): C 55.30, H 5.62, N 7.81; found: C 55.33, H 5.41, N 7.56.

N⁶-(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)-propyl Carbonate] (31). As described for **29**, with **24** (4.9 g, 9.5 mmol), pyridine (50 ml), and nppoc-Cl (3.4 g, 14 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). Purification by CC (SiO₂ (5 × 15 cm), CHCl₃, CHCl₃/MeOH 50:1) gave 4.3 g (61%) of **31**. Amorphous foam. UV (MeOH): 206 (4.57), 269 (4.40). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 10.96 (s, NH); 8.70, 8.66 (2s, H-C(2), H-C(8)); 7.84–6.92 (m, 9 arom. H); 6.16 (d, H-C(1')); 5.52 (d, HO-C(3')); 5.03 (m, H-C(2'), CH₂OCO); 4.29 (m, H-C(3',4'), CH₂(5'), CH₂O); 3.60–3.20 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 2.57 (s, MeO); 1.72, 1.52 (2m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.25 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₃₄H₃₈N₆O₁₂·H₂O (740.7): C 55.13, H 5.44, N 11.34; found: C 55.33, H 5.38, N 11.21.

N²-(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)-propyl Carbonate] (32). As described for **29**, with **25** (4.6 g, 8.65 mmol) in pyridine (50 ml) and nppoc-Cl (2.95 g, 14 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). Purification by CC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 10 cm), CHCl₃, CHCl₃/MeOH 50:1) gave 4.85 g (76%) of **32**. Amorphous foam. UV (MeOH): 204 (4.61), 254 (4.26), 275 (sh, 4.14). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 11.79, 11.72 (2s, 2 NH); 8.22 (s, H-C(8)); 7.68–6.94 (m, 9 arom. H); 5.97 (d, H-C(1')); 5.41 (d, HO-C(3')); 4.85 (s, CH₂OCO); 4.79 (m, H-C(2')); 4.31 (m, H-C(3',4'), CH₂O); 4.12 (m, CH₂(5')); 3.60 (m, MeCHCH₂O); 3.40 (m, CH₂OCH₂); 2.68 (s, MeO); 1.72, 1.52 (2m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.27 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₃₄H₃₈N₆O₁₃·H₂O (756.7): C 55.96, H 5.32, N 11.10; found: C 56.26, H 5.30, N 10.99.

N⁴-[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (33). As described for **29**, with **26** (6.0 g, 10.6 mmol), pyridine (60 ml), and nppoc-Cl (3.08 g, 12.6 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). Isolation and purification by FC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 12 cm), CH₂Cl₂ (200 ml), CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 100:1 → 100:3) gave 4.21 g (53%) of **33**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 205 (4.57), 246 (4.34), 281 (sh, 4.19). ¹H-NMR ((D₆)DMSO): 10.86 (s, NH); 8.16 (d, 2 H *o* to NO₂); 8.00 (m, 1 H *o* to NO₂ (nppoc)); 7.81 (d, H-C(6)); 7.68 (m, 2 arom. H (nppoc)); 7.60 (d, 2 H *m* to NO₂); 7.48 (m, 1 arom. H (nppoc)); 7.00 (m, H-C(5)); 6.00 (d, H-C(1')); 5.35 (d, HO-C(3')); 4.39–4.26 (m, 7 H, CH₂OCO (npeoc), CH₂OCO (nppoc), H-C(2'), CH₂(5')); 4.03 (m, H-C(3')); 3.95 (m, H-C(4')); 3.67–3.41 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 3.08 (t, ArCH₂); 2.89 (s, MeO); 1.70 (m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.27 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₃₄H₃₉N₅O₁₅ (757.7): C 53.90, H 5.19, N 9.24; found: C 54.08, H 5.27, N 9.09.

N⁶-[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (34). As described for **29**, with **27** (6.0 g, 10.13 mmol), pyridine (60 ml), and nppoc-Cl (2.94 g, 12.15 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 ml), all at –30°. Isolation by FC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 12 cm), CH₂Cl₂ (300 ml), CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 100:1 → 100:3) gave 5.0 g (63%) of **34**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 206 (4.64), 266 (4.48). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.73 (s, H-C(2)); 8.34 (br. s, NH); 8.17 (m, H-C(8), 2 H *o* to NO₂); 8.00 (m, 1 H *o* to NO₂ (nppoc)); 7.61–7.34 (m, 3 arom. H of nppoc, 2 H *m* to NO₂); 6.18 (d, H-C(1')); 5.06 (m, H-C(2')); 4.54 (t, CH₂OCO (npeoc)); 4.49–4.23 (m, H-C(3',4'), CH₂(5'), CH₂OCO (nppoc)); 3.85–3.36 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 3.16 (t, ArCH₂); 2.95 (s, HO-C(3')); 2.81 (s, MeO); 1.80 (m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.38 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₃₅H₃₉N₇O₁₄·0.5 H₂O (790.7): C 53.16, H 4.97, N 12.40; found: C 53.08, H 5.02, N 12.09.

N²-[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl-O⁶-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (35). As described for **29**, with **28** (6.0 g, 8.1 mmol), pyridine (60 ml), and nppoc-Cl (2.57 g, 10.56 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (60 ml). Isolation by FC (SiO₂ (6.5 × 12 cm), CH₂Cl₂ (300 ml), CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 100:1 → 100:3) gave 6.3 g (82%) of **35**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 204 (sh, 4.66), 214 (4.68), 268 (4.57). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.16 (m, 4 H *o* to NO₂); 7.92 (d, H-C(8)); 7.75 (d, 1 H *o* to NO₂ (nppoc)); 7.60–7.32 (m, 3 arom. H of nppoc, 4 H *m* to NO₂, NH); 6.00 (d, H-C(1')); 5.20 (m, H-C(2')); 4.80 (t, CH₂OCO (npe)); 4.47–4.20 (m, H-C(3',4'), CH₂(5'), CH₂OCO (nppoc), CH₂O); 3.77–3.37 (m, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OCH₂); 3.31 (t, ArCH₂ (npe)); 3.12 (t, ArCH₂ (npeoc)); 2.87 (s, MeO); 2.79 (s, OH-C(3')); 1.80 (m, CH₂CCH₂); 1.36 (d, MeCHCH₂O). Anal. calc. for C₄₃H₄₆N₈O₁₇ (946.9): C 54.54, H 4.90, N 11.83; found: C 54.45, H 4.95, N 11.43.

2'-O-Tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yluridine 3'-[2-(2-Cyanoethyl)N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite] 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (36). A mixture of **29** (6.1 g, 10.8 mmol), 2-cyanoethyl N,N,N',N'-tetraisopropylphosphorodiamidite (ceOP(NⁱPr)₂) (4.87 g, 16.18 mmol), and 1*H*-tetrazole (0.38 g, 5.4 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml) was stirred at r.t. for 20 h. After dilution with CHCl₃ (200 ml), the

mixture was washed with NaHCO_3 soln. (2×100 ml), the org. layer dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated, the residue dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (20 ml), and then the soln. dropwise added into hexane (800 ml). The precipitate was filtered off and dissolved again in CH_2Cl_2 (100 ml), and the soln. concentrated: 8.2 g (99%) of **36**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 204 (4.42), 258 (4.09). ^{31}P -NMR (CHCl_3): 152.2401; 152.1958; 150.0892; 150.0302. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{48}\text{N}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}$ (765.7): C 53.33, H 6.32, N 9.14; found: C 53.61, H 6.74, N 9.21.

N^4 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**37**). As described for **36**, with **30** (5.08 g, 7.27 mmol), $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (3.06 g, 10.17 mmol), and 1H-tetrazole (0.24 g, 3.4 mmol): 6.4 g (98%) of **37**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 217 (4.32), 249 (4.28), 300 (3.90). ^{31}P -NMR (CHCl_3): 152.0044, 151.9308, 150.2807, 150.1923. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{55}\text{N}_6\text{O}_{16}\text{P}$ (898.9): C 56.12, H 6.17, N 9.35; found: C 55.91, H 6.36, N 9.21.

N^6 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**38**). As described for **36**, with **31** (6.0 g, 8.3 mmol), $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (3.25 g, 10.8 mmol), and 1H-tetrazole (0.25 g, 3.6 mmol): 7.4 g (96%) of **38**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 215 (4.44), 258 (sh, 4.24), 270 (4.33). ^{31}P -NMR (CHCl_3): 152.4466, 150.2218, 150.1628. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{55}\text{N}_6\text{O}_{13}\text{P}$ (922.9): C 55.96, H 6.00, N 12.14; found: C 56.10, H 6.24, N 12.15.

N^2 -(Phenoxyacetyl)-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**39**). As described for **36**, with **32** (4.57 g, 6.18 mmol), $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (2.8 g, 9.2 mmol), and 1H-tetrazole (0.22 g, 3.1 mmol): 5.68 g (98%) of **39**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 207 (4.54), 254 (4.25), 275 (sh, 4.12). ^{31}P -NMR (CHCl_3): 152.4317; 152.3875; 150.2954; 150.2660. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{55}\text{N}_8\text{O}_{14}\text{P}$ (930.9): C 55.00, H 5.90, N 11.93; found: C 54.56, H 6.36, N 11.82.

N^4 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)cytidine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**40**). To a mixture of **33** (5.66 g, 7.47 mmol) and 1H-tetrazole (0.24 g, 3.34 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (60 ml) was dropwise added $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (3.2 g, 10.6 mmol) under N_2 and then stirred at r.t. for 22 h. The mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (100 ml) and washed with NaHCO_3 soln. (2×100 ml), the org. layer dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated, and the residue purified by FC (SiO_2 (5×12 cm), toluene (100 ml), toluene/AcOEt 7:3 $\rightarrow$ 1:4). The product fractions were concentrated and finally co-concentrated with CH_2Cl_2 : 6.69 g (93%) of **40**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 205 (4.69), 246 (4.42), 281 (sh, 4.25). ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3): 8.18 (d, 2 H *o* to NO_2); 7.92–7.83 (*m*, NH, 1 H *o* to NO_2 (nppoc)); 7.77 (*d*, H–C(6)); 7.59 (*m*, 1 arom. H); 7.48 (*m*, 1 arom. H); 7.41 (*m*, 2 H *m* to NO_2 , 1 arom. H); 7.15 (*d*, H–C(5)); 6.25 (*m*, H–C(1')); 4.50–4.20 (*m*, CH_2O (npeoc), CH_2O , H–C(2',3',4'), CH_2 (5')); 4.00–3.40 (*m*, CH_2OCH_2 , MeCHCH_2O , CH_2OP , 2 Me_2CH); 3.12 (*t*, ArCH_2); 3.0 (*s*, MeO); 2.67–2.57 (*m*, CH_2CN); 1.9–1.70 (*m*, CH_2CCH_2); 1.39 (*d*, MeCHCH_2O); 1.30–1.10 (*m*, 2 Me_2CH). ^{31}P -NMR (CDCl_3): 151.89; 151.82; 150.18; 150.12. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{56}\text{N}_7\text{O}_{16}\text{P}$ (957.9): C 53.92, H 5.89, N 10.24; found: C 53.68, H 6.16, 10.28.

N^6 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)adenosine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**41**). As described for **40**, with **34** (2.13 g, 2.72 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (0.12 g, 1.71 mmol), and $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (1.6 g, 5.3 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 ml). FC (SiO_2 , toluene/AcOEt 7:3 $\rightarrow$ 4:3) gave 2.04 g (76%) of **41**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 206 (4.77), 266 (4.55). ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3): 8.75 (*s*, H–C(2)); 8.30–8.16 (*m*, H–C(8), NH, 2 H *o* to NO_2); 7.78 (*m*, 1 H *o* to NO_2 (nppoc)); 7.58 (*m*, 1 arom. H); 7.50–7.30 (*m*, 3 arom. H, 2 H *m* to NO_2); 6.16 (*t*, H–C(1')); 5.30–5.10 (*m*, H–C(2')); 4.56–4.30 (*m*, CH_2O (npeoc), CH_2O , H–C(3',4'), CH_2 (5')); 4.00–3.29 (*m*, CH_2OCH_2 , MeCHCH_2O , CH_2OP , 2 MeCH); 3.16 (*t*, ArCH_2); 2.69 (*m*, CH_2CN); 2.60 (*s*, MeO); 1.9–1.60 (*m*, CH_2CCH_2); 1.35 (*d*, MeCHCH_2O); 1.30–1.10 (*m*, 2 Me_2CH). ^{31}P -NMR (CDCl_3): 152.37; 152.34; 150.15; 150.10. Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{56}\text{N}_9\text{O}_{15}\text{P}$ (981.95): C 53.82, H 5.75, N 12.87; found: C 53.64, H 6.20, 12.38.

N^2 -[2-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl]-O⁶-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-2'-O-(tetrahydro-4-methoxy-2H-pyran-4-yl)guanosine 3'-(2-Cyanoethyl N,N-Diisopropylphosphoramidite) 5'-[2-(2-Nitrophenyl)propyl Carbonate] (**42**). As described for **40**, with **35** (2.84 g, 3.0 mmol), 1H-tetrazole (0.12 g, 1.71 mmol), and $\text{ceOP}(\text{N}^i\text{Pr}_2)_2$ (1.8 g, 5.7 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (40 ml). FC (SiO_2 , toluene (200 ml),

toluene/AcOEt 7:3 → 2:3) gave 2.53 g (74%) of **42**. Colorless foam. UV (MeOH): 204 (4.70), 268 (4.53). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.15 (*m*, 4 H *o* to NO₂); 7.94 (*s*, H–C(8)); 7.75 (*m*, 1 H *o* to NO₂(nppoc)); 7.60–7.40 (*m*, NH, 4 H *m* to NO₂, 3 arom. H); 6.00 (*d*, H–C(1')); 5.50 (*m*, H–C(2')); 4.82 (*t*, CH₂CH₂O(npe)); 4.50–4.27 (*m*, CH₂O(npeoc), CH₂O, H–C(3',4'), CH₂(5')); 4.10–3.29 (*m*, CH₂OCH₂, MeCHCH₂O, CH₂OP, 2 Me₂CH, ArCH₂(npe)); 3.13 (*t*, ArCH₂(npeoc)); 2.72 (*m*, CH₂CN); 2.60 (*s*, MeO); 1.9–1.60 (*m*, CH₂CCH₂); 1.35 (*d*, MeCHCH₂O); 1.28–1.10 (*m*, 2 Me₂CH). ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃): 152.56; 152.43; 150.38; 150.16. Anal. calc. for C₅₂H₆₃N₁₀O₁₈P (1147.1): C 54.44, H 5.54, N 12.21; found: C 54.72, H 5.74, N 11.87.

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