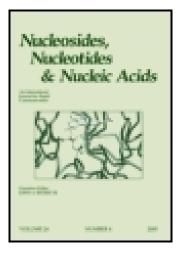
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Nucleosides and Nucleotides

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/lncn19

Synthesis of Base-Modified Oligonucleotides Containing 6- and 7-Aryl Lumazines

Yuris Maurinsh ^a & Wolfgang Pfleiderer ^a

^a Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, 21 Aizkraukles Str., LV-1006 Riga, Latvia; FakultäUt füUr Chemie, UniversitaUt Konstaz, UniversitaUtsstrasse 1, D-75434, Konstanz, Germany Published online: 16 Feb 2007.

To cite this article: Yuris Maurinsh & Wolfgang Pfleiderer (1995) Synthesis of Base-Modified Oligonucleotides Containing 6- and 7-Aryl Lumazines, Nucleosides and Nucleotides, 14:3-5, 795-798

To link to this article: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15257779508012473</u>

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CHEMISTRY

SYNTHESIS OF BASE-MODIFIED OLIGONUCLEOTIDES CONTAINING 6- AND 7-ARYL LUMAZINES

Yuris Maurinsh^{*} and Wolfgang Pfleiderer

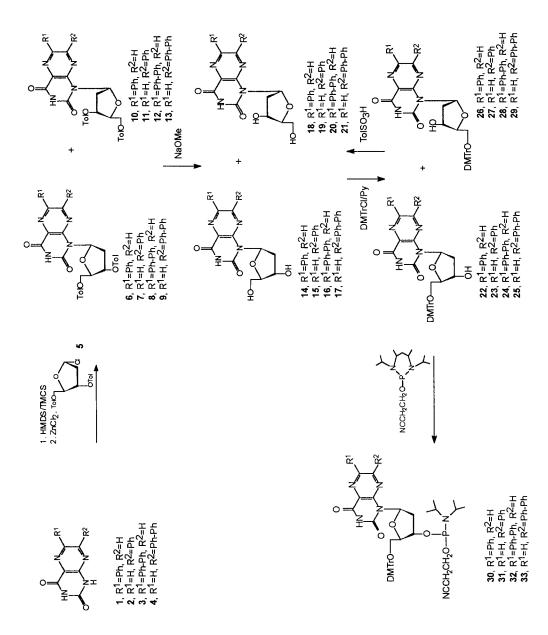
^{*}Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, 21 Aizkraukles Str., LV-1006 Riga, Latvia; Fakultät für Chemie, Universität Konstaz, Universitätsstrasse 1, D-75434 Konstanz, Germany

Abstract. 6-Phenyl, 7-phenyl, 6-(4-biphenyl)-, 7-(4-biphenyl)lumazine N^1 -(2'-deoxy-D-ribofuranosides) were synthesized and incorporated in the different positions of self-complementary oligodeoxyribonucleotides, and the influence of modifications on the melting points of duplexes was studied.

Lumazine N^{1} -(2'-deoxy-D-ribofuranosides), which can be regarded as structural analogs of thymidine, bearing substituents both at 6- and 7-position of the lumazine moiety or unsubstituted, were synthesized and incorporated into oligonucleotides, ¹⁻⁴ to study the influence of lumazine moiety on hybridization and fluorescence properties of oligonucleotides. Now we are reporting the synthesis of monosubstituted 6- or 7-phenyl and 6- or 7-(biphenyl)lumazine N¹-(2'-deoxy-D-ribofuranosides).

Synthesis of nucleotides 6-13 was accomplished by the reaction of lumazine derivatives 1-4 with 2-deoxy-3,5-di-O-p-toluoyl-D-erythropentofuranosyl chloride 5 (Scheme). Lumazines 1-4 (1.4 eq.) were silylated with hexamethyldisilazane and trimethylchlorosilane in acetonitrile, $ZnCl_2$ (0.5 eq.), and a solution of 5 (1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ during 3 h at -25°C was dropped into the reaction mixture. An anomeric mixture of nucleosides 6-13 was obtained after flash chromatography. Increasing the reaction temperature, amount of $ZnCl_2$, sugar 5, decreasing the addition time of 5, or changing the solvents (chloroform, 1,2-dichloroethane) led to the increasing amounts of α -anomers 10-13 or to the mixtures of N¹, N³-diribosides (up to 30%).

Separation of the anomers by the recrystallization from chloroform-acetone was successful only in the case of 7-substituted lumazines which allowed to obtain β -anomers 7 (39%) and 9 (58%) and α -anomers 11 (16%) and 13 (19%), which were deacylated with NaOMe in MeOH to give the deprotected nucleosides 15, 17, 19 and 21 (yield 86-93%). Inseparable anomeric mixtures (both by recrystallization and chromatography) of 6-substituted ribosides 6/10 and 8/12 were deprotected with NaOMe in MeOH, with treatment by DMTrCl to obtain 5'dimethoxytrityl derivatives 22/26 and 24/28, which could be easily separated by flash chromatography. Detritylation with 1% p-toluenesulphonic acid in CH₂Cl₂/MeOH (4:1) gave the individual nucleosides 14, 16, 18 and 20 (yield 66-89%). Treatment of 15, 17, 19 and 21 with DMTrCl in pyridine gave 5'-dimethoxytrityl derivatives 23, 25, 27 and 29.



No.	Oligonucleotide sequence	Lu	T _m (°C)
	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)	-	60.4
1.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph	60.0
2.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph	65.5
3.	5'-Lu-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph	60.8
4.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	7-Ph	61.5
5.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	7-Lu	63.4
6.	5'-Lu-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)	7-Lu	60.9
7.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph-Ph	57.3 _b
8.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph-Ph	_b
9.	5'-Lu-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)	6-Ph-Ph	59.4
10.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	7-Ph-Ph	64.3
11.	5'-d(GG-TT-CC-ALu-GC-ALu-GG-AA-CC)	7-Ph-Ph	70.2
12.	5'-Lu-d(GG-TT-CC-AT-GC-AT-GG-AA-CC)	7-Ph-Ph	60.4

TABLE The list of prepared oligonucleotides and their T_m values^a

^aThe transitions were measured at 260 nm in NaHPO₄/NaH₂PO₄ buffer pH 7; 0.03 M [Na⁺]. ^bNot determinable.

The phosphoramidites **30-33** were synthesized by the reaction of **22-25** with (2-cyanoethoxy)bis(diisopropylamino)phosphine) in the presence of tetrazole in CH_2Cl_2 with 60-91% yield.

A series of self-complementary oligonucleotides containing 6-phenyllumazine, 7-phenyllumazine, 6-(4-biphenyl)lumazine, and 7-(4-biphenyl)lumazine as modified bases in the different positions were synthesized (Table) using solid-phase phosphoramidite method on Applied Biosystems synthesizer 380B in 0.5 μ mol scale applying NPE/NPEOC strategy.⁵ The coupling yield of modified phosphoramidites was monitored by colorimetric assay of the released dimethoxy trityl kation, ranging between 95.5% and 99.5%. Purity of the synthesized oligonucleotides was controlled by reversed-phase HPLC and polyacryl gel electrophoresis.

As it follows from the Table, the presence of lumazine bases can influence the stability of self-complementary duplexes in different ways. Incorporation of phenyllumazines at the 5'-end of the strand did not change the stability of duplex, whereas presence of one or two 7-phenyllumazine moieties (sequence 4 and 5) in the middle of the strand increased the stability of duplex for 1.1°C and 1.9°C, respectively. 7-(4-Biphenyl)lumazine, similarly positioned (sequences 10 and 11), raised the melting point for 2.9°C and 9.8°C, respectively. Two 6-phenyllumazine nucleotides (sequence 2) increased the T_m of duplex for 5.1°C, in contrary to 6-(4-biphenyl)lumazine which, probably due to the orientation of bulky biphenyl group, caused the decrease of T_m by 3.1°C (sequence 7) in the first case or hindered the formation of duplex at all in the second case (sequence 8).

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