TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF X HAPTEN, III³ Fucα-nLc₄ Cer*

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ABSTRACT

Total synthesis of $O-\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl- $(1\rightarrow 4)-O-[\alpha$ -L-fucopyranosyl- $(1\rightarrow 3)]-O-(2$ -acetamido-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 3)-O-\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl- $(1\rightarrow 4)-O-\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl- $(1\rightarrow 1)-2$ -N-tetracosanoyl-(2S,3R,4E)-sphing-enine was achieved by use of the key glycosyl donors O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-<math>\alpha$ -L-fucopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 3)]-O-(2$ -acetamido-6-O-acetyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 3)$ -O- $(2,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 4)-2,3,6$ -tri-O-acetyl- α -D-glucopyranosyl trichloroacet-imidate and fluoride, as well as key glycosyl acceptor 3-O-benzoyl-2-N-tetracosanoyl-(2S,3R,4E)-sphingenine, in an unambiguous manner.

INTRODUCTION

X-Antigen (Le^X), III³ Fuc α -nLc₄ Cer, a glycosphingolipid containing the carbohydrate sequence occurring in lacto-*N*-fucopentaose III (ref. 2) was first isolated from human adenocarcinoma³ and the structure was proposed to be **1** from methylation and mass-spectrometric studies⁴. Glycolipid **1** has also been shown to occur in hog stomach⁵, dog small-intestine⁶, human brain⁷, human erythrocytes⁸, human granulocytes⁹, and human plasma¹⁰. The proposed structure **1** was further supported by ¹H-n.m.r. data both for permethylated⁶ and peracetylated¹⁰ derivatives.

Owing to the biological significance of X-antigen, two approaches to the synthesis of antigenic trisaccharide have been reported¹¹. Synthetic approaches to the type 2 hexotetraose back-bone structure, β -Gal-(1 \rightarrow 4)- β -GlcNAc-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -Gal-(1 \rightarrow 4)-Glc, have also been reported by using either the N,N-phthaloyl¹² or oxazoline derivative¹³ of lactosamine as the key glycosyl donor. However, an approach to the total synthesis of X-antigen **1** has remained to be developed. As

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part of our project on the synthesis of glycosphingolipids, we describe here the first total synthesis of X-antigen 1 in a stereocontrolled manner.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Retrosynthetic analysis of Le^x antigen 1 led to the glycopentaosyl donor equivalent 2 and protected ceramide 3. Synthetic precursors for compound 2 may be designed as the glycotriosyl imidate 4 and the glycosyl acceptor 5. Among these key intermediates, ceramide derivatives 3 (ref. 14) and hexa-O-benzyllactose derivative 5 (ref. 15) have already been reported. Therefore, we first describe a synthesis of hexotriosyl imidate 4, and then the use of compound 4 as a key intermediate for the synthesis of the target glycolipid 1 via glycopentaosyl donor 2.



Regioselective benzylation of allyl glycoside **6** (ref. 16) at the primary hydroxyl group was achieved in one flask, in 71% yield, by the stannyl method¹⁷, to give monobenzyl ether **7**. An alternative approach via the benzylidene derivative of **6** and subsequent reductive ring opening by use of the borane-trimethylamine complex in the presence of aluminium chloride¹⁸ also afforded **7** (in 61% overall yield). Glycosylation of the diol system **7** with the imidate **8** (ref. 19) afforded a mixture of disaccharides **9**, **10**, and **11** in 33, 2.0, and 29% yield, respectively. The regiochemistry of **9** and **10** was assigned by ¹H-n.m.r. data, which contained the signals CH_2 Ph-6a as two doublets at $\delta 4.762$ and 4.539 with ²J_{HH} 12.2 Hz for compound **9**, and at $\delta 4.664$ and 4.620, with ²J_{HH} 12.5 Hz, for compound **10**, indicating the presence of more steric congestion around CH_2 Ph-6a in compound **9** compared

with compound 10. The ¹H-n.m.r. spectrum of the acetylation product of 9 showed a deshielded signal for H-3a at δ 5.684, which was also in agreement with the assigned regiochemistry of 9. The structure of 11 was assigned as $(1\rightarrow 3)$ by observing a similar signal pattern for CH₂Ph-6a in the spectrum of 10. The anomeric stereochemistry was evident from the ¹H- and ¹³C-n.m.r. data. A reasonable explanation for the formation of 11 as the major product from the glycosylation at OH-3 of 7 with the imidate 8 is not yet available.

The introduction of an L-fucosyl group at O-3a of **9** was performed according to $L\ddot{o}nn^{20}$ by using the methyl 1-thioglycoside **12**, which was readily available from L-fucose (see the Experimental section). Thus, treatment of **9** with **12** in the presence of methyl triflate in ether afforded stereoselectively a 77% yield of the desired trisaccharide **13**. Deallylation of **13** with palladium(II) chloride and sodium acetate in aq. acetic acid²¹ gave hemiacetal **14** in 66% yield. Treatment of **14** with trichloroacetonitrile²² in the presence of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) afforded the desired imidate **4** in 67% yield.

Having both the hexotriosyl donor 4 and the glycosyl acceptor 5 in hand, crucial glycosylation was examined in the presence of boron trifluoride etherate in dichloroethane. To our surprise, complete regioselectivity was observed in this case²³, and the $(1\rightarrow3)$ -linked pentasaccharide 15 was isolated in 67% yield. The regiochemistry of 15 was readily assigned from the ¹H-n.m.r. data for pentaacetate 16, obtained from 15 by acetylation, which revealed a deshielded signal for H-4b at δ 5.445.

Conventional protective-group modulation of **15** was performed to give the designed pentasaccharide donors, either **20** (38%) or **21** (19%), in 7 steps: (*i*) sodium methoxide in methanol, (*ii*) hydrazine hydrate and ethanol²⁴, (*iii*) acetic anhydride-pyridine-4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP), (*iv*) 10% palladium-on-







Fig. 1. 400-MHz, ¹H-n.m.r. spectrum of synthetic Le^X antigen (1). The spectrum was recorded for the sample in 49:1 Me₂SO- d_6 -D₂O after exchanging several times with Me₂SO-D₂O at 60°.

carbon and hydrogen, (v) Ac₂O-pyridine-DMAP. (vi) hydrazinium acetate in *N*, *N*-dimethylformamide²⁵, and (vii) trichloroacetonitrile-DBU (for 20), or diethyl-aminosulfur trifluoride²⁶ (for 21).

Finally, glycosylation of benzoyl ceramide 3, prepared from D-glucosc¹³, with either the glycosyl donor 20 in the presence of boron trifluoride etherate or the glycosyl donor 21 in the presence of silver triflate and stannous chloride²⁴ afforded protected Le^N glycolipid 22 in 7.3 or 21% yield, respectively; this was deacylated with sodium methoxide in 1:1 methanol-THF, to afford Le^N antigen 1 quantitatively. The ⁴H-n.m.r. data recently reported²⁵ for natural Le^N glycopentaosylsphingolipid 1 were in good agreement with those of synthetic 1 in Me₃SO-d₄-D₃O (see Fig. 1).

In conclusion, a total synthesis of Le^{X} hexopentaosylceramide 1 was achieved with stereo- and regio-control by use of hexotriaosyltrichloroacetimidate 4. hexopentaosyl donors 20 and 21 as the key glycosyl donors, and optically active benzoyl ceramide 3 as the key glycosyl acceptor.

EXPERIMENTAL

General. — Melting points were determined with a Yanagimoto micro melting-point apparatus and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured with a Perkin-Elmer Model 241 MC polarimeter, for solutions in CHCl, at 25⁺, unless noted otherwise. Column chromatography was performed on columns of Silica Gel (Merck, 70–230 mesh). Flash chromatography was performed on columns of Wako gel C-300 (200-300 mesh). T.I.c. and high-performance t.I.c. were performed on Silica Gel 60 F254 (Merck. Darmstadt). Molecular sieves were purchased from Nakarai Chemicals, Ltd. Lr. spectra were recorded with an EPI-G2 Hitachi spectrophotometer, using KBr pellets for the crystalline samples, and films for the liquid samples. ¹H-N.m.r. spectra were recorded with either a JNM-GX400 or a JNM-FX90Q n.m.r. spectrometer. 13C-N.m.r. spectra were recorded with a JNM-FX 100FT n.m.r. spectrometer operated at 25.05 MHz. The values of δ_{c} and δ_{H} are expressed in p.p.m. downward from the signal for internal Me₁Si, for solutions in **CDCl**₃, unless noted otherwise. Values of δ_{11} (D₅O) and δ_{C} (D₅O) are expressed in p.p.m. downward from the signal for Me₄Si, by reference to internal standards of Me₂CO (8 2.225) or Me₃COH (8 1.230), and 1.4-dioxane (8 67 4) or MeOH (8 49.8), respectively.

Allyl 6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido- β -D-glucopyranoside (7). — (A) A mixture of compound 6 (25.0 g, 71.6 mmol) and (Bu₃Sn)₂O (29.0 g, 50 mmol) in toluene (300 mL) was stirred for 4 h under reflux, with continuous azeotropic removal of water, cooled, and concentrated to ~150 mL. α -Bromotoluene (36.0 g, 210 mmol) and Bu₄NBr (11.3 g, 35 mmol) were added, and the mixture was stirred for 16 h at 90–100°, cooled, and evaporated. A solution of the residue in EtOAc (500 mL) was washed with aq. KF, and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was successively washed with aq. NaHCO₃ and satd. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated

rated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 1:1 toluene–EtOAc afforded crystalline **7** (22.3 g, 71%); m.p. 116–117°, $[\alpha]_D -27^\circ$ (*c* 0.8); R_F 0.36 in 3:2 EtOAc-toluene; n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.222 (d, 1 H, J 8.5 Hz, H-1), 4.638 (d, 1 H, J 12.2 Hz, CH₂Ph), and 4.581 (d, 1 H, J 12.2 Hz, CH₂Ph); δ_C 97.5 (C-1) and 56.5 (C-2).

Anal. Calc. for C₂₄H₂₅NO₇: C, 65.59; H, 5.73; N, 3.19. Found: C, 65.97; H, 5.84; N, 3.09.

(B) A mixture of compound 6 (20.3 g, 58 mmol), α , α -dimethoxytoluene (13.2 g, 87 mmol), and TsOH \cdot H₂O (1 g) in DMF (100 mL) was stirred for 6 h at 60° at a pressure of 2.7-5.3 kPa. Et₃N (1 mL) was added, the mixture was evaporated in vacuo, and a solution of the residue in EtOAc was washed successively with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo* to give crystalline 4,6-O-benzylidene-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranoside allyl (22.6 g, 88.5%); $[\alpha]_D = -36^\circ (c \ 0.7)$, m.p. 184–186° (*i*Pr₂O); $R_F \ 0.58$ in 2:3 EtOAc-hexane; n.m.r. data: δ_{H} 5.57 (s, 1 H, CHPh) and 5.16 (d, 1 H, J 9.2 Hz, H-1). To a stirred mixture of the benzylidene derivative (19.7 g, 45 mmol) and $BH_3 \cdot NMe_3$ (19.7 g, 270 mmol) in THF (400 mL) was added, portionwise, powdered AlCl₃ (35.9 g, 270 mmol) at 20°. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at 20°, poured into ice-water, and extracted with EtOAc. The extract was successively washed with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 2:3 EtOAc-toluene afforded 7 (13.7 g, 69.3%).

Allyl O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-6-O-benzyl-2deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranoside (9), allyl O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-Dgalactopyranosyl-(1→3)-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranoside (10), and allyl O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-α-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→3)-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranoside (11). — To a stirred mixture of compound 7 (1.310 g, 3 mmol), imidate 8 (1.770 g, 3.6 mmol), and powdered molecular sieves 4A (3 g) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (30 mL) was added dropwise BF₃ · etherate (0.36 mL) under Ar, with cooling by a CCl₄-Dry Ice bath (-23°). The mixture was stirred for 4 h at -23°, and filtered. The filtrate was successively washed with aq. NaHCO₃ and satd. saline, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 1:1 EtOAc-hexane afforded 9 (760 mg, 33%), 10 (50 mg, 2.2%), and 11 (680 mg, 29%).

Compound **9** had $[\alpha]_D$ +15.1° (*c* 1.1); R_F 0.60 in 3:2 EtOAc–hexane; n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.80–5.68 (m, 1 H, –*CH*=*C*H₂), 5.331 (d, 1 H, *J* 2.4 Hz, H-4b), 5.249 (d, 1 H, *J* 8.5 Hz, H-1a), 5.190 (dd, 1 H, *J* 7.9 and 10.4 Hz, H-2b), 5.141 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 17.4 Hz, =*C*H₂), 5.064 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 10.4 Hz, =*C*H₂), 4.932 (dd, 1 H, *J* 3.7 and 10.5 Hz, H-3b), 4.762 (d, 1 H, *J* 12.2 Hz, *C*H₂Ph), 4.539 (d, 1 H, *J* 12.2 Hz, *C*H₂Ph), 4.484 (d, 1 H, *J* 7.9 Hz, H-1b), 4.411 (ddd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 8.2, and 10.7 Hz, H-3a), 4.286 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 4.9 and 13.3 Hz, OCH₂CH=), 4.207 (dd, 1 H, *J* 8.6 and 10.7 Hz, H-2a), 3.972 (d, 1 H, *J* 1.5 Hz, H-3a), 3.907 (t, 1 H, *J* 7.0 Hz, H-5b), 2.124 (s, 3 H, Ac), 2.008 (s, 3 H, Ac), 1.981 (s, 3 H, Ac), and 1.923 (s, 3 H, Ac); δ_C 101.6 (C-1b), 97.5 (C-1a), 82.2 (C-4a), 61.5 (C-6b), and 56.1 (C-2a).

Anal. Calc. for $C_{38}H_{43}NO_{16} \cdot 0.5 H_2O$: C, 58.60; H, 5.69; N, 1.80. Found: C, 58.40; H, 5.56; N, 1.80.

Acetylation of **9** with Ac₂O-C₅H₅N–DMAP afforded the penta-*O*-acetyl derivative of **9**; $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.8–5.67 (m, 1 H, CH=CH₂), 5.684 (dd, 1 H. J 8.8 and 10.7 Hz, H-3a), 5.372 (d, 1 H, J 8.3 Hz, H-1a), 5.269 (d, 1 H, J 2.7 Hz, H-4b), 5.131 (tdd, 1 H, J 1.5, 2.2, and 17.3 Hz, =CH₂), 5.059 (dd, 1 H, J 1.2 and 10.3 Hz, =CH₂), 5.019 (dd, 1 H, J 8.1 and 10.5 Hz, H-2b), 4.820 (d, 1 H, J 12.2 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.814 (dd, 1 H, J 3.2 and 10.5 Hz, H-3b), 4.515 (d, 1 H, J 12.2 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.475 (d, 1 H, J 8.1 Hz, H-1b), 4.270 (dd, 1 H, J 8.3 and 10.5 Hz, H-2a). 2.114, 2.068, 1.974, 1.962, and 1.878 (5 s, 15 H, 5 Ac).

Compound **10** had $[\alpha]_D$ +4.5° (*c* 1.1); R_F 0.52 in 3:2 EtOAc–hexane; n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.70–5.60 (m, 1 H, –*CH*=CH₂), 5.294 (d, 1 H, *J* 2.8 Hz, H-4b), 5.141 (dd, 1 H, *J* 7.9 and 10.4 Hz, H-2b), 5.074 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 18.0 Hz, =CH₂), 5.047 (d, 1 H, *J* 8.2 Hz, H-1a), 5.001 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 10.4 Hz, =CH₂), 4.820 (dd, 1 H, *J* 3.4 and 10.7 Hz, H-3b), 4.664 (d, 1 H, *J* 12.5 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.620 (d, 1 H, *J* 12.5 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.503 (dd, 1 H, *J* 7.6 and 10.7 Hz, H-3a), 4.407 (d, 1 H, *J* 7.9 Hz, H-1b), 2.131 (s, 3 H, Ac), 2.036 (s, 3 H, Ac), 1.879 (s, 3 H, Ac), and 1.455 (s, 3 H, Ac); δ_C 101.2 (C-1b), 97.3 (C-1a), 82.2 (C-3a), 61.5 (C-6b), and 54.9 (C-2a).

Anal. Calc. for C₃₈H₄₃NO₁₆: C, 59.29; H, 5.63; N, 1.82. Found: C, 59.83; H, 5.68; N, 1.73.

Compound **11** had $[\alpha]_D$ +98.1° (*c* 0.7); *R*_F 0.40 in 3:2 EtOAc–hexane: n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.7–5.6 (m, 1 H, *CH*=CH₂), 5.181 (d, 1 H, *J* 8.3 Hz, H-1a), 5.175 (d, 1 H, *J* 3.4 Hz, H-4b), 5.134 (t, 1 H, *J* 9.5 Hz, H-4a), 5.074 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 17.1 Hz, =CH₂), 5.023 (d, 1 H, *J* 4.6 Hz, H-1b), 5.018 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 2.2, and 10.4 Hz, =CH₂), 4.943 (dd, 1 H, *J* 1.3 and 10.7 Hz, H-3b), 4.755 (dd, 1 H, *J* 9.2 and 10.7 Hz, H-3a), 4.560 (d, 1 H, *J* 11.9 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.526 (d, 1 H, *J* 11.9 Hz, CH₂Ph), 4.345 (dd, 1 H, *J* 8.5 and 10.7 Hz, H-2a). 4.267 (tdd, 1 H, *J* 1.5, 5.2, and 13.1 Hz, OCH₂CH=), 4.014 (dd, 1 H, *J* 6.1 and 12.8 Hz, OCH₂CH=), 1.996 (s. 3 H, Ac), 1.985 (s. 3 H, Ac), 1.967 (s. 3 H, Ac), and 1.827 (s. 3 H, Ac); δ_C 101.4 (C-1b, ${}^{1}J_{CH}$ 173.4 Hz), 97.2 (C-1a, ${}^{1}J_{CH}$ 163.5 Hz), 78.0 (C-3a), 59.9 (C-6b), and 55.7 (C-2a).

Anat. Calc. for $C_{38}H_{43}NO_{16} \cdot 0.5 H_2O$: C, 58.60; H, 5.69; N, 1.80. Found: C, 58.50; H, 5.59; N, 1.76.

Methyl 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-1-thio- β -L-fucopyranoside. — To a stirred solution of 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-L-fucopyranosyl acetate (3.3 g, 10 mmol) and Bu₃SnSMe (3.8 g, 10.5 mmol) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (40 mL) was added SnCl₄ (1.4 mL) at -5° . The mixture was stirred for 4 h at 20°, evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue diluted with EtOAc. The solution was successively washed with aq. KF and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated *in vacuo*, and chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 2:1 hexane–EtOAc afforded the α (1.1 g, 34%) and β anomer (1.8 g, 56%).

The α *anomer* had m.p. 80–81°, $[\alpha]_D = -222^\circ$ (c 1.2); $R_F = 0.5$ in 1:2 EtOAchexane; n.m.r. data: $\delta_H = 5.27$ (d, 1 H, J 3.3 Hz, H-1), 2.16, 2.07, 2.05, 1.99 (4 s, 12 H, 4 Ac), and 1.17 (d, 3 H, J 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃). Anal. Calc. for $C_{13}H_{20}O_7S$: C, 48.74; H, 6.29; S, 10.01. Found: C, 48.82; H, 6.28; S, 10.07.

The β *anomer* had $[\alpha]_D -0.7^\circ$ (c 1.0), m.p. 139–141°; $R_F 0.43$ in 1:2 EtOAchexane; n.m.r. data: $\delta_H 4.35$ (d, 1 H, J 9.4 Hz, H-1), 2.19, 2.17, 2.07, 1.99 (4 s, 12 H, 4 Ac), and 1.22 (d, 3 H, J 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃).

Anal. Calc. for $C_{13}H_{20}O_7S$: C, 48.74; H, 6.29; S, 10.01. Found: C, 48.75; H, 6.27; S, 9.87.

Methyl 2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl-1-thio- β -L-fucopyranoside (**12**). — A solution of methyl 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-1-thio- β -L-fucopyranoside (27.2 g, 85 mmol) in 0.01M NaOMe–MeOH (350 mL) was stirred for 4 h at 20°, made neutral with Amberlyst 15, and evaporated to a solid residue (17.4 g). To a suspension of NaH (60%, 16 g, 320 mmol) in DMF (200 mL) was added portionwise this solid (15.5 g, 80 mmol), the mixture was stirred for 30 min at 20°. To this mixture was added dropwise PhCH₂Br (38 mL, 320 mmol) at 0–5°, and the mixture was stirred for 16 h at 20°. The usual processing, and chromatography over SiO₂ in 10:1 hexane–EtOAc, afforded **12** (33.5 g, 90%); [α]_D = -0.2° (c 1.5); $R_{\rm F}$ 0.50 in 4:1 hexane–EtOAc; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.5–7.2 (m, 15 H, aromatic) and 1.20 (d, 3 H, J 6.4 Hz, CHCH₃).

Anal. Calc. for $C_{28}H_{32}O_4S$: C, 72.38; H, 6.94; S, 6.90. Found: C, 72.44; H, 6.91; S, 6.65.

Allyl O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-Obenzyl-α-L-fucopyranosyl)-(1→3)]-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranoside (13). — To a stirred mixture of compound 9 (154 mg, 0.2 mmol), compound 12 (139 mg, 0.3 mmol), and molecular sieves 4A (500 mg) in Et₂O (6 mL) was added MeOSO₂CF₃ (70 µL). The mixture was stirred for 16 h and filtered. The filtrate was washed with aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 6:1 toluene–EtOAc afforded 13 (182 mg, 76.8%); m.p. 164–165° (from MeOH), $[\alpha]_D$ +3.3° (*c* 0.9), R_F 0.56 in 1:1 hexane–EtOAc; n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.7–5.58 (m, 1 H, –*CH*=CH₂), 5.218 (d, 1 H, *J* 2.7 Hz, H-4b), 5.097 (d, 1 H, *J* 8.5 Hz, H-1a), 2.017, 2.008, 1.947, 1.816 (4 s, 12 H, 4 Ac), and 1.193 (d, 3 H, *J* 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃); δ_C 99.7 (C-1b, ¹J_{CH} 164 Hz), 97.6 (C-1a, ¹J_{CH} 161 Hz), 97.6 (C-1c, ¹J_{CH} 169 Hz), 60.5 (C-6b), 56.5 (C-2a), 20.7 (COCH₃), and 16.8 (CHCH₃).

Anal. Calc. for C₆₅H₇₁NO₂₀: C, 65.81; H, 6.03; N, 1.18. Found: C, 66.20; H, 6.16; N, 1.24.

O-(2,3,4,6-Tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-[(2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl-α-L-fucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)]-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-D-glucopyranose (14). — A mixture of compound 13 (443 mg, 373 µmol), PdCl₂ (318 mg, 1.8 mmol), and NaOAc (147 mg, 1.8 mmol) in 95% aq. AcOH (6 mL) was sonicated by an ultrasonic cleaner (Tocho) for 16 h, and filtered. The filtrate was diluted with CHCl₃, successively washed with water, aq. NaHCO₃, and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated *in vacuo*, and chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 3:2 toluene–EtOAc afforded 14 (280 mg, 65.7%); $R_{\rm F}$ 0.43 in 1:1 toluene–EtOAc; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.222 (d, 1 H, J 3.4 Hz, H-4b), 1.233

(d, 0.9 H, J 6.7 Hz, CHCH₃ β), and 1.200 (d, 2.1 H, J 6.7 Hz, CHCH₃ α): δ_{C} 99.6 (C-1b), 98.4 (C-1a β), 97.4 (C-1c), 93.0 (C-1a α), and 16.7 (CHCH₃).

Anal. Calc. for C₆₂H₆₇NO₂₀: C, 64.97; H, 5.89; N, 1.22. Found: C, 64.64; H, 5.89; N, 1.20.

Benzyl O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl-α-1-fucopyranosyl)-(1→3)]-O-(6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-Dglucopyranosyl)-(1→3)-O-(2,6-di-O-benzyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl-β-D-glucopyranoside (**15**). — Into a solution of compound **14** (458 mg, 0.4 mmol) and Cl₃CCN (720 mg, 5 mmol) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (5 mL) was injected a solution of DBU (61 mg, 0.4 mmol) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (2 mL) at -5° under Ar. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at 20° and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 2:3:1 EtOAc-hexane-CHCl₃ afforded O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-Oacetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl-α-1-fucopyranosyl)-(1→3)]-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido-β-D-glucopyranosyl trichloroacetimidate (**4**) (346 mg, 67.1%); $[\alpha]_D$ +16.7° (c 1.5); R_V 0.55 in 1:1 EtOAe-hexane: n.m.r. data: δ_H 6.366 (d, 1 H. J 8.6 Hz. H-1a), 5.226 (d, 1 H. J 3.1 Hz. H-4b), 5.015 (dd, 1 H, J 8.2 and 10.4 Hz. H-2b), 2.024 (s. 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.951 (s. 3 H, Ac), 1.826 (s. 3 H, Ac), and 1.206 (d, 3 H, J 6.4 Hz, CHCH₃): δ_C 160.9 (O-C=N), 99.5 (C-1b), 97.7 (C-1c), 94.3 (C-1a), 90.5 (CCl₃), 60.5 (C-6b), 55.2 (C-2a), and 16.7 (CHCH₃).

To a solution of compound 4 (291 mg, 225 μ mol) and compound 5 (199 mg, 225 μ mol) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (5 mL) was added dropwise a 0.5M solution of BF₃·Et₂O in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (0.5 mL) at 0°. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at 20°, and diluted with CHCl₃ (50 mL), successively washed with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 4:2:1 hexane–EtOAc–CHCl₃ gave **15** (303 mg, 67.0%); [α]_D +4.1° (c 0.5); R_F 0.36 in 3:2 hexane–EtOAc; n.m.r. data: δ_H 5.311 (d, 1 H, J 8.5 Hz, H-1c), 5.246 (d, 1 H, J 3.3 Hz, H-4d), 5.016 (dd, 1 H, J 8.5 and 10.2 Hz, H-2d), 1.992 (s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.954 (s, 3 H, Ac), 1.827 (s, 3 H, Ac), and 1.182 (d, 3 H, J 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃): δ_C 102.5 (C-1a), 102.0 (C-1b), 99.6 (C-1d), 99.0 (C-1c), 97.6 (C-1e), 83.5, 82.9, 81.9, 79.7 (C-4a, C-3b, C-3c, C-4c), 60.5 (C-6d), 56.3 (C-2c), and 16.7 (C-6e).

Anal. Calc. for C₁₁₆H₁₂₃NO₃₀: C, 69.27; H, 6.16; N, 0.70. Found: C, 69.20; H, 6.14; N, 0.82.

The usual acetylation of **15** with Ac₂O–pyridine afforded *benzyl* O-(2,3,4,6tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-benzyl- α -t-fucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)]-O-(6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-phthalimido- β -D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(4-O-acetyl-2,6-di-O-benzyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (**16**); n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.445 (d, 1 H, J 3.7 Hz, H-4b), 5.256 (d, 1 H, J 3.3 Hz, H-4d), 5.234 (d, 1 H, J 8.3 Hz, H-1c), 5.031 (dd, 1 H, J 8.1 and 10.5 Hz, H-2d), 2.074, 2.032, 2.000, 1.951, 1.812 (5 s, 15 H, 5 Ac), and 1.190 (d, 3 H, J 6.3 Hz, CHCH₃).

 $Benzyl = O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-\beta-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1\rightarrow 4)-O-[2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl-\alpha-L-fucopyranosyl)-(1\rightarrow 3)]-O-(2-acetamido-6-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-\beta-D-glu-copyranosyl)-(1\rightarrow 3)-O-(4-O-acetyl-2,6-di-O-benzyl-\beta-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1\rightarrow 4)-O-(1\rightarrow 4)-O$

2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl-β-D-glucopyranoside (17). — A solution of compound 15 (68.5 mg, 34 μmol) in 5mM NaOMe–MeOH (5.2 mL) was stirred for 16 h at 20°, made neutral with Amberlyst 15, the suspension filtered, and the filtrate evaporated *in vacuo*. A solution of the residual oil in 50:1 EtOH–H₂NNH₂·H₂O (5 mL) was stirred under reflux for 24 h and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in 1:1 Ac₂O–pyridine (2 mL) containing a trace of DMAP, and the solution was stirred for 16 h at 20°, diluted with EtOAc (100 mL), successively washed with M HCl, aq. NaHCO₃, and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by 1.c., using a P-G220 column (Hitachi Kasei) in CHCl₃, to give **17** (47.4 mg, 71%); $[\alpha]_D$ –25.5° (*c* 0.15); R_F 0.40 in 1:1 toluene–EtOAc; n.m.r. data: 5.282 (d, 1 H, *J* 2.9 Hz, H-4b), 5.187 (d, 1 H, *J* 3.7 Hz, H-4d), 5.142 (d, 1 H, *J* 5.6 Hz, H-1e), 2.031, 1.952, 1.945, 1.932, 1.851, 1.520 (6 s, 18 H, 6 Ac), and 1.154 (d, 3 H, *J* 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃); δ_C 102.5 (C-1a), 102.1 (C-1b), 99.7 (C-1c and C-1d), 96.3 (C-1e), 82.8, 81.8, 80.4, 79.8 (C-4a, C-3b, C-3c, C-4c), 60.2 (C-6d), 56.6 (C-2c), 22.9 (NHCOCH₃), 20.1, 20.5 (OAc), and 16.7 (C-6e).

Anal. Calc. for $C_{112}H_{125}NO_{30}$: C, 68.45; H, 6.41; N, 0.71. Found: C, 68.55; H, 6.34; N, 1.11.

O-(2,3,4,6-Tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 4)$ -O- $[(2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-<math>\alpha$ -L-fucopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 3)$]-O-(2-acetamido-6-O-acetyl-2-deoxy- β -D-gluco-pyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 3)$ -O-(2,4,6-tri-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 4)$ -2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-D-glucopyranosyl acetate (**18**). — A mixture of compound **17** (44.8 mg, 22.8 μ mol) and 10% Pd-C (40 mg) in EtOH (5 mL) was stirred for 16 h at 20° under H₂, filtered, and evaporated *in vacuo*; the residue was dissolved in 1:1 Ac₂O-pyridine (2 mL) containing a trace of DMAP, and the mixture was stirred for 6 h at 20°. The usual work-up, and chromatography over SiO₂ in 3:1 toluene–acetone, afforded **18** (26.8 mg, 79.3%); $R_{\rm F}$ 0.54 in 1:1 toluene–acetone; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.255 (d, 0.6 H, J 3.7 Hz, H-1a α), 5.661 (d, 0.4 H, J 8.3 Hz, H-1a β), and 1.203 (d, 3 H, J 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃).

Anal. Calc. for $C_{62}H_{85}NO_{40}$: C, 50.17; H, 5.77; N, 0.94. Found: C, 50.39; H, 5.82; N, 0.91.

Conversion of compound **18** into glycosyl donors **20** and **21**. — A mixture of compound **18** (23.1 mg, 15.5 mmol) and $H_2NNH_2 \cdot AcOH$ (1.8 mg, 20 μ mol) in DMF (1 mL) was stirred for 1 h at 20°, when conversion of **18** (R_F 0.51) into compound **19** (R_F 0.38 in 1:1 acetone–toluene) was complete. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (50 mL), successively washed with M HCl and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. To a mixture of the residue and Cl₃CCN (14.4 mg, 100 μ mol) in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (0.5 mL) was added a 0.06M solution of DBU in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (0.5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1.5 h at 20°, and then directly submitted to chromatography over SiO₂ in 3:1 toluene–EtOAc, to give O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)]-O-(2-acetamido-6-O-acetyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,4,6-tri-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl- α -D-glucopyranosyl trichloroacetimidate (**20**; 16.5 mg, 67.1%); [α]_D – 10.4° (c 0.66); R_F 0.47 in

1:1 toluene–acetone; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.485 (d, 1 H, J 3.7 Hz, H-1a), 5.528 (t, 1 H, J 9.7 Hz, H-3a), 4.614 (d, 1 H, J 8.0 Hz, H-1b or d), 2.193, 2.174, 2.149, 2.129 (4 s, 12 H, 4 Ac), 2.120 (s, 9 H, 3 Ac), 2.084 (s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 2.073, 2.046, 2.041, 2.009 (4 s, 12 H, 4 Ac), 1.982 (s, 6 H, 2 Ac), 1.951 (s, 3 H, Ac), and 1.203 (d, 3 H, J 6.6 Hz, CHCH₃).

 μ mol) in 91% yield as already described in THF (3 mL) was added diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST, 17 μ L, 136 μ mol) under Ar at 0°. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0° , poured into ice-aq. NaHCO₃₃ and extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed successively with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried ($MgSO_3$), and evaporated in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue over SiO. in 1:3 acetonetoluene afforded O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1\rightarrow 4)$ -O-[(2,3,4 $tri-O-acetyl-\alpha-1-fucopyranosyl)-(1\rightarrow 3)$ -O-(2-acetamido-6-O-acetyl-2-deoxy- β -Dglucopyranosyl)- $(1 \rightarrow 3$)-O-(2, 4, 6-tri-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)- $(1 \rightarrow 4$)-2, 3, 6tri-O-acetyl- α - and - β -D-glucopyranosyl fluoride (**21**: 18.5 mg, 38%), and **19** (25.0 mg. 51%) which was converted into 18 by Ac₃O and pyridine. Compound 21 was a mixture of the α and β anomers in the ratio of 1:10; $R_{\rm F}$ 0.43 in 1:1 acctone-toluene; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.675 (dd, 0.09 H, J 2.6 and 53 Hz, H-1a α). 5.362 (dd, 0.91 H, partly overlapped signals. H-1aB), 5.414 (d, 1 H, J 4.0 Hz, H-4*), 5.360 (d, 1 H, J 2.8 Hz, H-4b*), 4.613 (d, 1 H, J 7.9 Hz, H-1b*), 4.398 (d, 1 H, J 7.9 Hz, H-1d*). 2.192, 2.172, 2.149, 2.140, 2.124, 2.121, 2.113, 2.094, 2.082, 2.079, 2.069, 2.047, 1.982, 1.980, 1.939 (15 s, 45 H, 15 Ac), and 1.202 (d, 3 H, J 6.7 Hz, CHCH₃).

Glycosylation of ceramide 3. — (A) To a mixture of compound 20 (15.9 mg, 10 μ mol), benzoyl ceramide 3 (8.0 mg, 10 μ mol), and powdered molecular sieves AW-300 (0.1 g) in ethanol-free CHCl₃ (1 mL) was added a 0.1M solution of BF₃·Et₂O in Cl(CH₂)₂Cl (100 μ L) at -5° under Ar. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at 20°, diluted with CHCl₃ (50 mL), successively washed with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO₂ in 99:1 CHCl₃-MeOH afforded O-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galacto-pyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-[(2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)]-O-(2-acetamido-6-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,6,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 3)-O-(2,3,6-tri-O-acetyl

(*B*) Into a mixture of powdered molecular sieves 4A (100 mg). AgOSO₂CF₃ (4 mg, 15 μ mol), and SnCl₂ (3 mg, 16 μ mol) was injected a solution of compound **21** (14.9 mg, 10 μ mol) and compound **3** (8 mg, 10 μ mol) in 2:1 CHCl₃-toluene (3 mL). The mixture was stirred for 3 h at 20°, and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was washed successively with aq. NaHCO₃ and aq. NaCl, dried (MgSO₄), and

^{*}Assignments with the asterisk may have to be interchanged.

evaporated *in vacuo*. Chromatography of the residue over SiO_2 in 1:2 acetone-toluene afforded **22** (4.5 mg, 21%) and **19** (7.2 mg, 48%).

Deprotection of compound 22. — A solution of compound 22 (3.1 mg, 1.42 μ mol) in 1:1 MeOH-THF (1 mL) containing 0.1M NaOMe-MeOH (140 μ L) was stirred for 16 h at 20°, made neutral with Amberlyst 15, the suspension filtered, and the filtrate evaporated in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue over Sephadex LH-20 in 60:40:4.6 CHCl₃-MeOH-H₂O afforded O- β -D-galactopyranosyl-($1 \rightarrow 4$)-O- $[\alpha - 1 - fucopyranosyl - (1 \rightarrow 3)] - O - (2 - acetamido - 2 - deoxy - \beta - D - glucopyranosyl) (1 \rightarrow 3)$ -O- β -D-galactopyranosyl- $(1 \rightarrow 4)$ -O- β -D-glucopyranosyl- $(1 \rightarrow 1)$ -2-N-tetracosanoyl-(2S,3R,4E)-sphingenine (1; 2.1 mg, quantitative); $[\alpha]_D = -23^\circ$ (c 0.1, MeOH); $R_{\rm F}$ 0.58 in 2:1:1 BuOH-EtOH-H₂C; n.m.r. data: $\delta_{\rm H}$ (49:1 Me₂SO- d_6 -D₂O, 60°) 5.545 (td, 1 H, J 6.9 and 15.0 Hz, H-5cer), 5.409 (dd, 1 H, J 7.6 and 15.0 Hz, H-4cer), 4.897 (d, 1 H, J 2.4 Hz, H-1e), 4.774 (d, 1 H, J 7.6 Hz, H-1c), 4.562 (m, 1 H, H-5e), 4.312 (d, 1 H, J 7.0 Hz, H-1b*), 4.294 (d, 1 H, J 7.0 Hz, H-1d*), 4.177 (d, 1 H, J 7.9 Hz, H-1a), 2.044 (t, 2 H, J 7.3 Hz, COCH₂CH₂), 1.951 (m, 2 H, H-6cer), 1.834 (s, 3 H, NAc), 1.044 (d, 3 H, J 6.4 Hz, H-6e), and 0.860 (t, 6 H, J 7.0 Hz, 2 CH₂CH₃); lit.²⁸: $\delta_{\rm H}$ (49:1 Me₂SO- d_6 -D₂O, 55°) 4.876 (d, 1 H, J 4.3 Hz, H-1e), 4.778 (d, 1 H, J 7.9 Hz, H-1c), 4.590 (q, 1 H, J 6.7 Hz and 1.5 Hz, H-5e), 4.295 and 4.280 (d, 1 H, J 7.3 Hz, H-1b and H-1d), and 4.206 (H-1a).

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