

De Novo Enantioselective Synthesis of “Hexafluorinated D-Glucose”

Sébastien Depienne,^a Clément Fontenelle,^b Mark E. Light,^b Kristof Van Hecke,^c and Bruno Linclau^{a,b*}

^a Department of Organic and Macromolecular Chemistry, Ghent University, Campus Sterre, Krijgslaan 281-S4, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

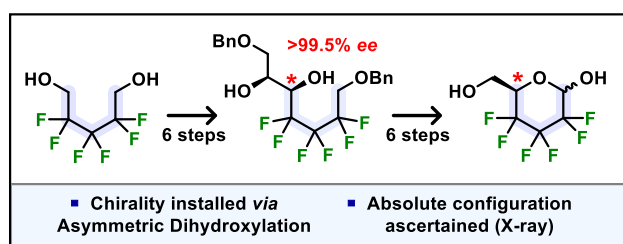
^b School of Chemistry, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ, UK

^c Department of Chemistry, Ghent University, Campus Sterre, Krijgslaan 281-S3, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

bruno.linclau@ugent.be

ABSTRACT: We report a *de novo* enantioselective synthesis of 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-D-glycero-hexopyranose (“hexafluorinated D-glucose”), an iconic polar hydrophobic glycomimetic. The 12-step synthesis features robust and reproducible chemistry and was achieved by incorporating an asymmetric dihydroxylation step to install the stereogenic center with excellent enantioselectivity (95:5 *er*). Virtual enantiopurity (> 99.5% *ee*) was further reached using a simple crystallisation procedure and the absolute confirmation was ascertained by X-ray analysis. The synthetic route also allowed the access to the novel hexafluorinated heptose derivative 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-L-*threo*-heptopyranose.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

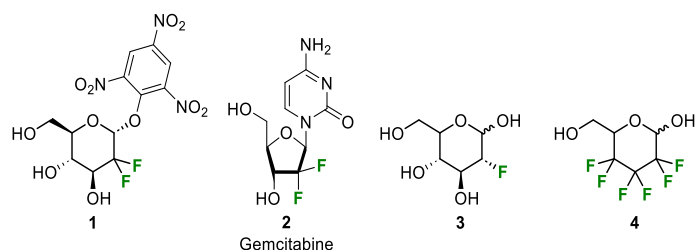


INTRODUCTION

Carbohydrates are ubiquitous biomolecules widely involved in complex biological and pathogenic events (*e.g.* immunity, inflammation, host-pathogen interactions).^{1,2} Consequently, both a deeper understanding and a precise control over these processes are of particular interest in chemical biology and in the pharmaceutical industry.³ However, the development of carbohydrate-based probes or therapeutics have been hampered by the inherent poor enzymatic stability and limited pharmacokinetics of native sugars, as well as low binding affinities which mainly originates from their highly hydrophilic character.^{4,5} To overcome these limitations, deoxyfluorination is a prevalent

structural modification strategically employed to improve their metabolic and hydrolytic stability, and their physico-chemical properties.^{6–9} Fluorosugars such as the glycosidase inhibitor **1** and the approved drug gemcitabine **2** (**Chart 1**) are relevant examples of successful mechanism-based inhibitors and anti-cancer therapeutics respectively. Additionally, introducing a fluorine atom in carbohydrates has been used to investigate biomolecular interactions (*e.g.* lectin-carbohydrate recognition, transport across cell membrane, epitope mapping) *via* ¹⁹F-NMR techniques,^{10–12} and to detect and diagnose pathological events *in vivo* using ¹⁸F glycoprobes such as the well-known tracer 2-[¹⁸F]fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose **3** visualized by positron emission tomography (PET).^{13,14} Interestingly, sugar fluorination has also been central in the recent successful preparation of a fluorodisialoside glycomimetic, validated as a vaccine lead against *meningitis* B and C when conjugated to protein carriers (fluoroglycovaccines).¹⁵

Chart 1. Examples of fluorinated carbohydrates used as drugs or probes.

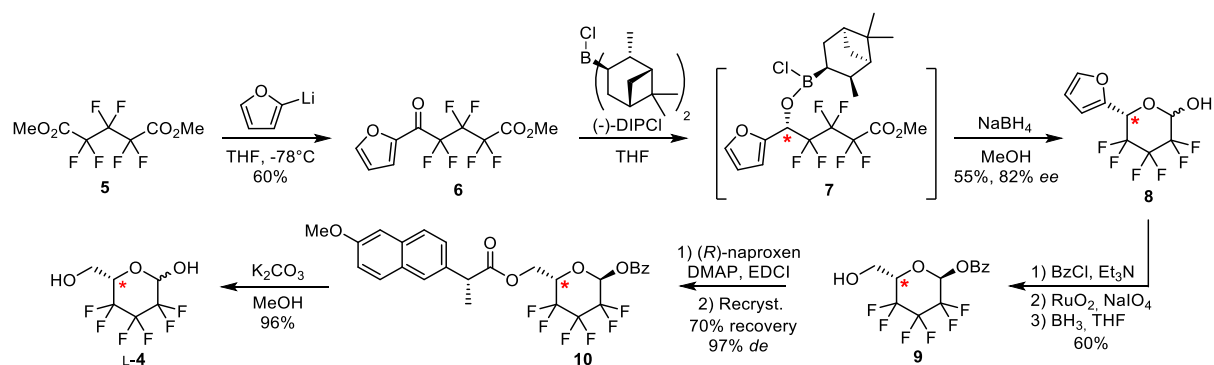


Pioneering work from DiMugno and co-workers proposed that extensive fluorination of carbohydrates could substantially enhance binding affinities based on the “polar hydrophobicity” principle.^{11,16} This principle posits that the strongly polarized C-F bonds are able to interact favorably with cationic/dipolar sites in receptors, while the fluorine atoms collectively provide a large hydrophobic surface area leading to a significant enthalpic aqueous desolvation benefit. To this extent, racemic 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-*glycero*-hexopyranose **4** (**Chart 1**)¹¹ was shown to cross erythrocyte membranes with a 10-fold higher rate as compared to D-glucose. Transmembrane transport of glucose is known to be mediated by membrane proteins transporters such as GLUT1,^{17,18} and the increased rate observed with **4** was attributed to an enhanced affinity to GLUT1. Sugars in which the C2–C4 hydroxyl groups were changed by single fluorine atoms have also been synthesized,^{10,19,20} with 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,3,4-trifluoro-D-glucose shown to also cross erythrocyte membranes, at a slightly lower rate as 3-deoxy-3-fluoro-D-glucose.¹⁰ Given the ubiquity of carbohydrate-mediated biological processes, (poly)fluorinated polar-hydrophobic glycomimetics such as **4** hold great potential as substrates or inhibitors of carbohydrate-processing/binding proteins, enabling unique avenues to the design and optimization of bioactive probes and pharmaceutically relevant compounds.²¹

Our group has a particular interest in developing syntheses of polyfluorinated carbohydrates, as well as in the evaluation of their physical and biological properties,^{22–26} and we required access to the hexafluorinated carbohydrate derivative **4** as its D-enantiomer. The only reported enantioselective synthesis of **4**, as its L-enantiomer, is shown in **Scheme 1**.¹⁶ The commercially available dimethyl hexafluoroglutarate **5** was converted to the furyl ketone **6**, which upon enantioselective reduction provides the L-pyranose ring **8** in 82% *ee*. After anomeric protection, the furan moiety was oxidized to the carboxylic acid, followed by reduction to the hydroxymethyl group to give **9**. Enantiomeric enrichment was achieved by a resolution process based on crystallization of the naproxen ester **10**, leading to an enantiomeric excess of 97%. Final transesterification then gave the reducing hexafluorinated sugar derivative L-**4**. The report mentioned that D-**4** could be accessed with the same strategy using (+)-DIPCl for the reduction of **6**, and by performing the resolution process with (S)-naproxen. Experimental details are unfortunately not described, and during attempts to prepare the D-sugar, the enantioselective reduction of **6** proved particularly challenging. Additionally, the naproxen derivative required for enantiomeric enrichment is expensive, and its recycling is hampered by potential enantiopurity erosion during final deprotection of the diester **10** in basic conditions, and is rather laborious due to its required separation from methyl benzoate.

Here we present an alternative *de novo* enantioselective synthesis of D-**4**. Installation of the chiral center was based on Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation (SAD) methodology, which has previously been reliably used in *de novo* sugar synthesis.^{27–29} The obtained absolute configuration was confirmed by X-ray analysis. Additionally, the synthesis allowed to access a novel hexafluorinated heptose derivative.

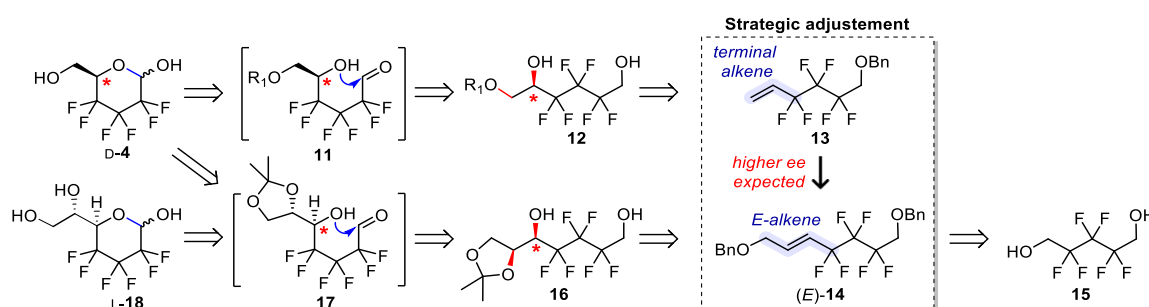
Scheme 1. Reported enantioselective synthesis of 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-L-hexose (L-**4**).¹⁶



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Retrosynthetically (**Scheme 2**), the pyranose scaffold of **D-4** was envisioned to arise from spontaneous cyclisation of the open-chain δ -hydroxyaldehyde **11**, in turn formed upon primary alcohol oxidation of the key monoprotected chiral triol **12**. The vicinal diol group was planned to be installed by dihydroxylation, leading to the terminal alkene **13** as substrate. Asymmetric dihydroxylation of perfluoroalkyl-substituted deactivated alkenes has previously been studied by our group, and were shown to proceed in excellent yields when enhanced levels of OsO_4 are used. However only moderate enantioselectivities ($\sim 80\%$ *ee*) were achievable when working with terminal alkene derivatives similar as **13**, and resolving agents such as naproxen would then have to be also considered here to enhance the enantiopurity level.³⁰ Hence, an approach involving an *E*-configured disubstituted alkene such as (*E*)-**14** was envisaged. At a small cost of atom-economy, asymmetric dihydroxylation of (*E*)-**14** is expected to result in much higher enantioselectivity, as previously demonstrated on related tetrafluorinated substrates.^{31,32} The disubstituted alkene would be obtained from the commercially available hexafluorodiol **15** using a Wittig olefination strategy. This approach thus requires C–C bond cleavage to eventually eliminate the extra carbon atom, for which a one-pot diol cleavage/aldehyde reduction sequence was envisioned. Hence, the acetonide **16** would be the substrate for the oxidation/pyranose ring formation sequence. Additionally, this synthetic strategy allows access to the corresponding novel hexafluorinated heptose analogue **L-18**. Heptose sugars are essential components in gram-negative bacteria, with interruption of their biosynthesis being regarded as an attractive avenue in the development of antibiotics.^{33,34}

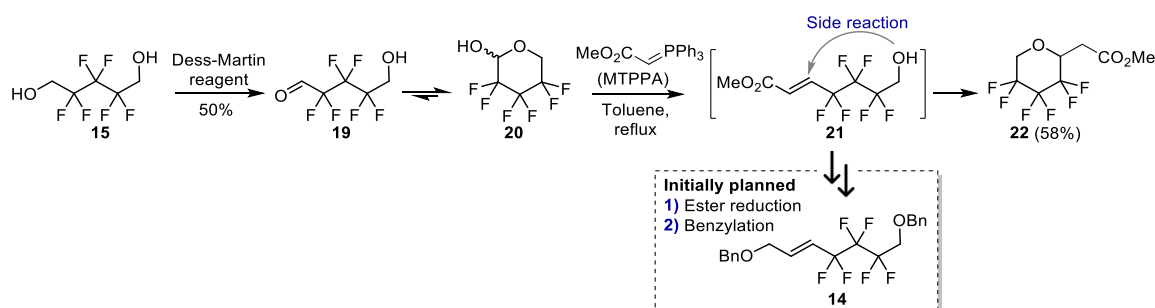
Scheme 2. Retrosynthetic considerations to access **D-4**, based on asymmetric dihydroxylation of a disubstituted alkene. The heptose **L-18** would also be accessible from **17**.



Our efforts started with the synthesis of the olefin **14** (**Scheme 3**). Firstly, oxidative desymmetrization was performed on diol **15**, expecting that the intermediate aldehyde **19** would spontaneously cyclize to afford the more stable lactol **20**, thereby preventing oxidation of the second hydroxyl group. Dess-Martin periodinane (DMP) reagent proved efficient to form the hemiacetal **20** as observed by ^1H NMR

(^1H at 5.14 ppm instead of the typical 10-11 ppm formyl signal, $1x\text{OH}$ visible in $\text{DMSO-}d^6$) and ^{13}C NMR analysis (1C at 90.9 ppm instead of the deshielded carbonyl signal at 190-200 ppm). Nonetheless, the hemiacetal was found to be volatile which resulted in moderate isolated yields (~50% average yield over six experiments). Subsequent olefination of **20** with methyl triphenylphosphoranyliden acetate (MTPPA) was successful, although the formed **21** underwent spontaneous cyclization with the liberated primary alcohol group. The reaction thus irreversibly afforded the Michael adduct **22** (efforts toward retro-Michael ring opening were unsuccessful, not shown), precluding to access (*E*)-**14** in this way.

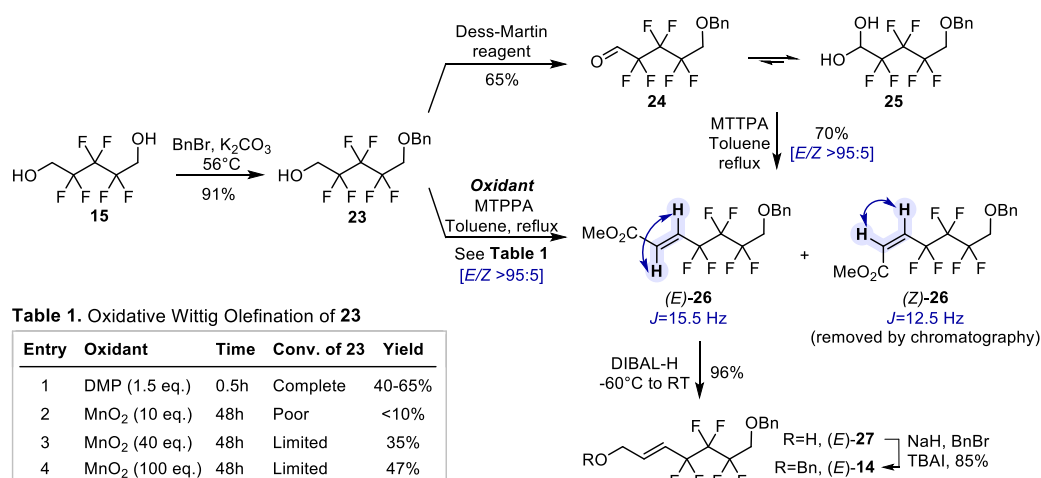
Scheme 3. Unsuccessful synthesis of the olefin (*E*)-**14** by initial oxidative desymmetrization of **15**.



To prevent the undesired intramolecular side reaction observed with **21**, desymmetrization of the diol **15** by mono-benzylation was required prior to the oxidation-olefination sequence (**Scheme 4**). Mild *O*-alkylation conditions using potassium carbonate in refluxing acetone reliably provided the benzyl ether **23** at decagram scale with limited dibenzylation. With **23** in hand, the oxidation-olefination sequence was first attempted in a stepwise manner where the intermediate aldehyde was isolated after action of DMP. The pure oxidized compound could be obtained in up to 65% yield, even though the enhanced electrophilicity of the perfluoroalkyl substituted aldehyde **24** resulted in an unavoidable equilibrium with its hydrate **25**, as observed by ^1H NMR (1H at 5.12 ppm instead of 10-11 ppm for formyl signal, $2x\text{OH}$ visible in $\text{DMSO-}d^6$) and ^{13}C NMR (1C at 86.3 ppm instead of 190-200 ppm). The hydrate was then reacted with MTPPA to successfully afford the disubstituted alkene **26** in good yield and with excellent selectivity (*E/Z*>95:5, easily separable by normal phase silica gel chromatography). ^1H NMR analysis unambiguously confirmed each configuration, with clearly identified ethylenic vicinal H-H coupling constants of $J=15.5$ Hz for (*E*)-**26** and $J=12.5$ Hz for (*Z*)-**26**. As the efficiency of the sequence may be hampered by intermediate aldehyde equilibration to the hydrate when isolated, we evaluated the possibility to access (*E*)-**26** in a one-pot procedure from the alcohol **23**. Once TLC-analysis indicated completion of oxidation with DMP, MTPPA was directly added to the mixture followed by thermal

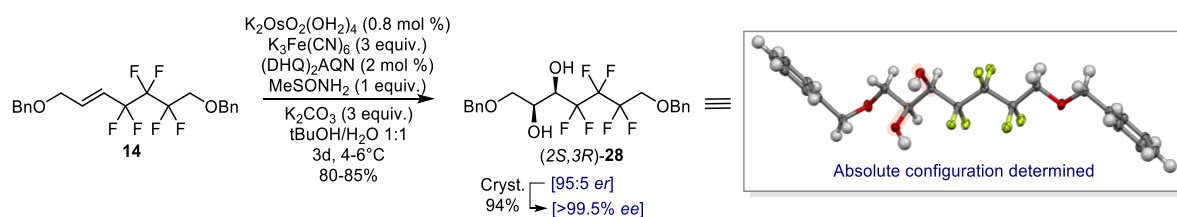
activation (see inset **Table 1**, entry 1). This enabled olefination in suitable isolated yields ranging from 40 to 65%, but this reaction was limited by the notoriously tedious removal of byproducts from DMP and of phosphorous derivatives when performed on multigram scale. In this regard, manganese dioxide is a potentially more convenient oxidant for this oxidation-olefination sequence, as it is far easier to remove from the mixture by simple filtration. Even though MnO_2 is classically used to oxidize activated alcohols (*e.g.* allylic, benzylic), Taylor *et al* reported its efficient usage on non-activated alcohols when *in situ* thermally displaced by a tandem Wittig olefination.³⁵ Nonetheless, when **23** was reacted in refluxing toluene during more than two days, the primary alcohol could only be partially oxidized despite increasing the amount of MnO_2 (TLC and NMR monitoring indicated large remaining of **23** in each cases), as seen in inset **Table 1** entries 2, 3 and 4 (**Scheme 4**). The strong electron-withdrawing effect of the geminal perfluoroalkyl is arguably too deactivating for the alcohol to be efficiently oxidized by BnBr by the mild manganese dioxide. That being said, a reasonable 47% yield could be achieved using a large excess (100 equiv.) of MnO_2 . Considering the cheapness of the latter, the experimental simplicity and the fact that unreacted **23** can easily be recovered and recycled, the manganese dioxide-mediated oxidative olefination offers a convenient alternative to access (*E*)-**26**, especially on larger scale experiments. Asymmetric dihydroxylation attempts of (*E*)-**26** –which is typically performed in basic aqueous conditions– led to a large amount of saponification (not shown). Hence, (*E*)-**26** was efficiently reduced to the corresponding allylic alcohol (*E*)-**27** using an excess of DIBAL-H. The resulting free hydroxyl group was further protected by conventional Williamson ether synthesis using sodium hydride as base and tetrabutylammonium iodide (TBAI) as catalyst to give the key *O*-benzylated (*E*)-**14** as suitable substrate for the asymmetric dihydroxylation.

Scheme 4. Efforts toward the synthesis of the olefin (*E*)-**14** by initial desymmetric *O*-protection of **15**



The required facial selection for the asymmetric dihydroxylation necessitated the use of a dihydroquinine-based (DHQ) chiral ligand (**Scheme 5**). As previously established with perfluoroalkyl-substituted deactivated alkenes, the anthraquinone spacer (AHQ) was chosen for best enantioselectivity results, and moderately higher amounts (0.8 mol %) of potassium osmate and dihydroquinine ligand (DHQ)₂AQN (2 mol %) were used to promote conversion.^{36,37} Potassium ferricyanide was introduced as stoichiometric regenerative co-oxidant, with methanesulfonamide as additive to increase the rate of the reaction by accelerating the basic hydrolysis step of the ester osmylate intermediate.³⁸ The dihydroxylation of (*E*)-**14** required three days at 4–6 °C to give an 80-85% isolated yield of **28**. The chiral diol could be reproducibly accessed (n=3, including multigram scale experiments) with high enantioselectivity (95:5 *er*). Crystallisation of **28** (2 g scale, 94% recovery) was further achieved by slow evaporation of a hexane/Et₂O solution, which allowed to reach virtual enantiopurity (>99.5% *ee*) (**Figure S2**). The expected absolute configuration of the stereogenic centers in (*2S,3R*)-**28** could be unambiguously confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

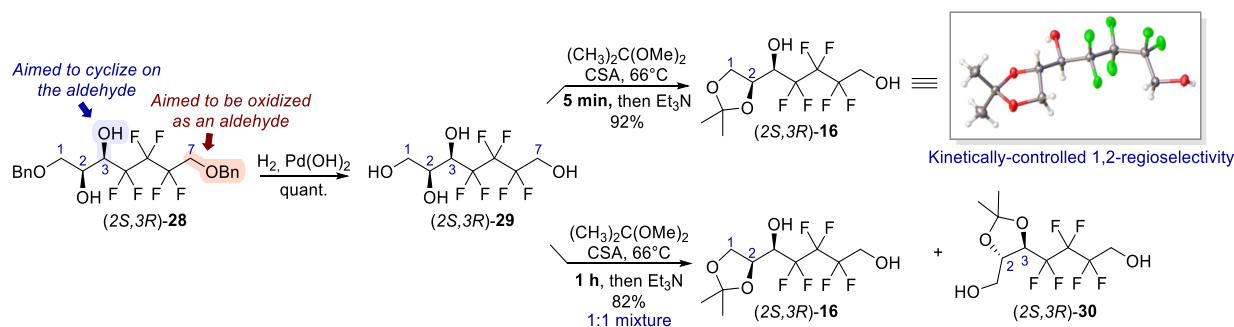
Scheme 5. The Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation reaction of olefin **14**



Next, we elected to only have the 3,7-diol available to ensure the selective oxidation of the primary alcohol and the formation of the heptopyranose ring with limited side reactions. To achieve this, a strategy to selectively protect the more reactive terminal 1,2-diol unit was required (**Scheme 6**). Hence, hydrogenolysis of (*2S,3R*)-**28** was first conducted to release both primary alcohols, which quantitatively afforded the 1,2,3,7-tetraol (*2S,3R*)-**29**. Then, the latter was subjected to a kinetically-controlled regioselective protection of the terminal diol unit using a procedure developed by our group.³⁹ Camphor sulfonic acid was added to a refluxing mixture of dimethoxypropane and substrate, followed by rapid quenching with triethylamine. Virtually complete conversion of (*2S,3R*)-**29** could be achieved in less than 5 min—up to 10 min at multigram scale—with unique formation of the terminal acetonide (*2S,3R*)-**16** in excellent yield (92%). The 1,2-acetalization was unambiguously confirmed by NMR (**Figure S3-S5**) as well as X-ray single crystal analysis. The regioselectivity is remarkable, given the acetonide of an internal *trans* disubstituted diol is expected to have a higher thermodynamic

stability.^{40,41} Indeed, when the tetraol (2*S*,3*R*)-**29** was reacted for a longer time (1 h) in otherwise identical conditions, an inseparable mixture of (2*S*,3*R*)-**16** and of the internal 2,3-acetonide (2*S*,3*R*)-**30** was obtained in a ~1:1 ratio (as determined by NMR analysis, **Figure S6-S9**). The reduced nucleophilicity of the difluorocarbon group in position 3 (due to the electron-depleting effect of fluorine atoms) may contribute to the excellent regioselectivity of the kinetic conditions.

Scheme 6. Kinetically-controlled regioselective protection of the terminal diol



The final steps to access **D-4** are shown in **Scheme 7**. The oxidative cyclisation of (2*S*,3*R*)-**16** was first performed and Dess-Martin reagent was yet again employed. The latter was added in 4 portions onto (2*S*,3*R*)-**16** to favor progressive primary alcohol oxidation and concomitant cyclization. This gave the aldoheptose **L-31** in 72% yield, as a mixture of both α and β anomers. Addition of molecular sieves was found to be crucial, presumably to prevent partial hydration of the intermediate aldehyde and thus promote the desired ring-closure reaction. Interestingly, formation of ketoheptose **D-32**, resulting from oxidation of secondary alcohol of (2*S*,3*R*)-**16** followed by cyclisation with the primary alcohol, was sometimes observed (0-13%, depending on batch), but it could be easily removed by chromatography. This compound was isolated as a single enantiomer, but the anomeric configuration could not be determined. To undertake the last steps of the synthesis toward cleavage of the additional carbon introduced during olefination, the anomeric alcohol of **L-31** was protected as a benzyl ether in basic anomeric *O*-alkylation conditions. Both anomers β -**L-33** (axial substituent) and α -**L-33** (equatorial substituent) were formed and could be readily separated by chromatography, albeit the formation of the β -benzylated pyranose was markedly preferred (β/α 5:1) (see **Figure S1** for a detailed explanation regarding nomenclature and anomeric assignments of these atypical carbohydrate derivatives). The anomeric configuration of β -**L-33** and α -**L-33** was ascertained based on several key NMR observations such as the typical coupling constants of the anomeric carbon with the adjacent fluorine atoms depending on the orientation of the anomeric substituent. The observed values for the major ($^2J_{\text{C1-F2}} = 37.4$ and 25.7 Hz) and minor ($^2J_{\text{F2-C1}} = 27.1$ and 18.3 Hz) glycosides **L-33** were consistent with the respective β (axial substituent) and α (equatorial substituent) configurations (**Figure 1**). These

conclusions were also supported by the equatorial H1 proton of the β anomer being more deshielded ($\delta_{H1\beta} = 5.1$ ppm, in acetone- d_6) than the axial α anomer proton ($\delta_{H1\alpha} = 4.7$ ppm, in acetone- d_6). Moving forward, it was deemed useful to work with a pure anomer as a safeguard, as it would allow facile detection of potential C-5 epimerization at the intermediate aldehyde stage during diol cleavage. The synthesis was then continued with the major β -anomer of L-**33** by hydrolysis of the acetonide in acidic conditions which reliably provided β -L-**34** and set the stage for diol cleavage. The latter reaction was conducted with (diacetoxyiodo)benzene followed by rapid aldehyde reduction in a one-pot procedure. A reasonable 50% yield of the hydroxymethyl derivative α -D-**35** was obtained and up to 40% of the starting sugar β -L-**34** could be easily recovered. The pure diastereoisomer α -D-**35** was detected by ^1H NMR analysis, which confirmed that C-5 epimerization did not occur during the oxidative diol cleavage step. Finally, hydrogenolysis was performed to deprotect the anomeric position, which afforded the desired 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-D-*glycero*-hexopyranose D-**4** in an excellent 91% isolated yield (7:3 α/β in acetone- d_6). Crystallisation of D-**4** was further achieved by slow evaporation of a 2:1 hexane/Et $_2$ O solution and X-ray crystallographic analysis confirmed the expected C-5 configuration.

Scheme 7. Access to the pyranose scaffold and final steps toward synthesis of D-**4**. See **Figure S1** for anomeric assignments.

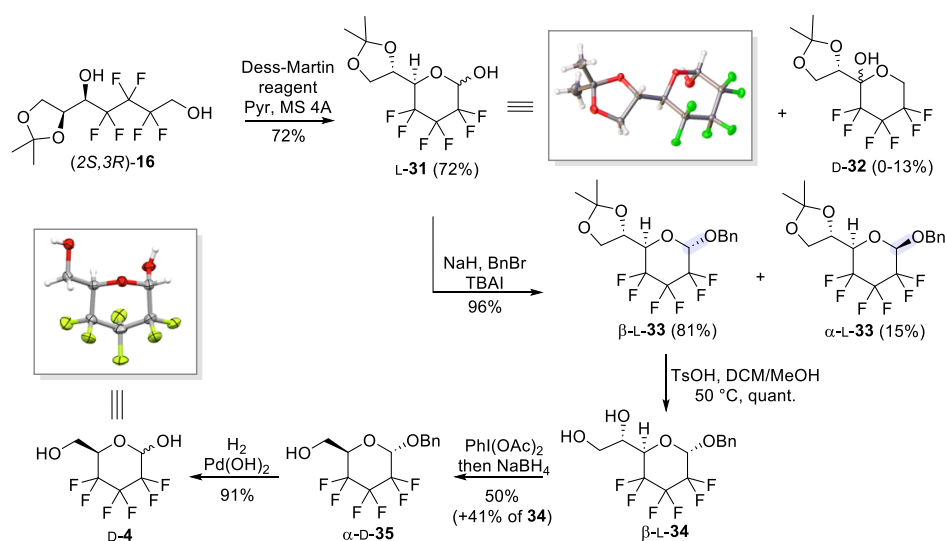
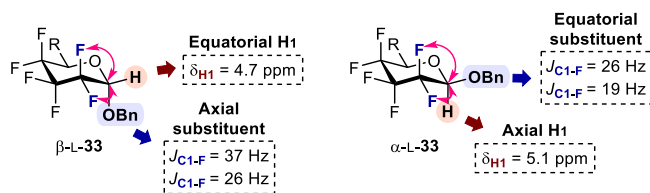
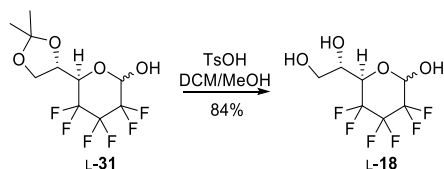


Figure 1. Key NMR observations to determine the anomeric configuration of β -L-**33** and α -L-**33** (for clarity, the C5 substituent was abbreviated as R).



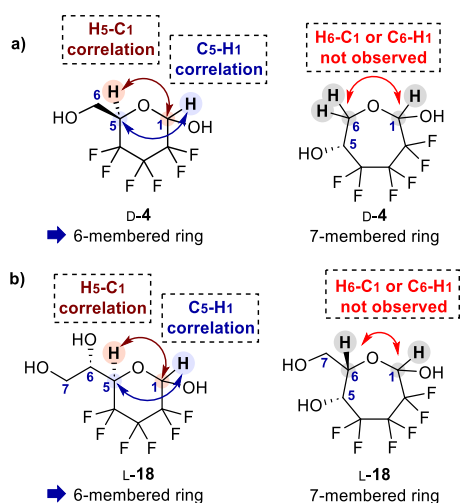
As discussed during the retrosynthetic analysis, the novel hexafluorinated heptose is also accessible from the pyranose intermediate **L-31**, by removing the acetonide protecting group. Thereby, the acetonide of **L-31** was cleaved in similar conditions as for β -**L-33**, efficiently affording 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-L-*threo*-heptopyranose (**L-18**) (**Scheme 8**).

Scheme 8. Access to the hexafluorinated heptose **L-18**.



Vicinal fluorination renders alcohol groups less nucleophilic, which may affect the ring-tautomer composition. Nevertheless, both **D-4** and **L-18** were unambiguously shown to possess the pyranose ring structure in solution, as proven by HMBC correlation (acetone- d_6), **Figures 2, S11-S12**).

Figure 2. Key NMR correlations observed in HMBC analysis to determine the size of the heterocyclic ring in solution (acetone- d_6) of **a)** the hexose **D-4** and **b)** the heptose **L-18**, after ten hours of equilibration.



▪ CONCLUSION

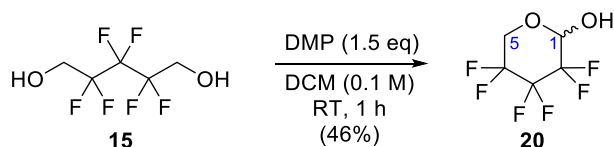
A *de novo* 12-step synthesis of **D-4** was successfully achieved. The proposed approach features good to high yielding steps that are experimentally convenient and reproducible. Our strategy is based on a Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation of a hexafluorinated *trans*-disubstituted alkene, allowing to reliably install chirality with high enantioselectivity (95:5 *er*) without the need for extra derivatization or resolution steps. The expected major enantiomer could readily be crystallized to further reach enantiopurity and ultimately afford the pure 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-D-*glycero*-hexopyranose (**D-4**), after an oxidative ring-closing and diol cleavage sequence to remove the extra carbon atom. The envisioned synthesis additionally allowed to access the novel 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-L-*threo*-heptopyranose (**L-18**). We hope that this contribution facilitates access to this polar hydrophobic sugar, which will stimulate their use in molecular recognition studies in glycobiology as well as in the design of bioactive compounds.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Methods. All chemical reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Anhydrous solvents were purchased from commercial sources. When appropriate, glassware was flame-dried under vacuum and cooled under Ar prior to use. Water or air sensitive reactions were performed under inert atmosphere, using dry solvents. Reactions were monitored by TLC (Merck Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄, aluminium sheet). TLC plates were visualized under UV light (254 nm) and/or by staining with cerium molybdate (for intermediates with benzyl substituent) or KMnO₄ (for intermediates without benzyl substituent), followed by brief heating. Column chromatography were performed on silica gel (Merck silica gel 60, particle size 40–63 μm). Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded using either a Bruker Ultrashield 400 MHz or 500 MHz spectrometer. The chemical shift (δ) is given in ppm using the residual solvent peak as an internal standard. “dm” refers to a doublet of multiplet. Atom numbering used for NMR attribution is different from the numbers used in nomenclature of compounds. Structural assignments were made with additional information from DEPT, COSY, HSQC and HMBC experiments. The signals corresponding to the CF₂ atoms are poorly visible in the ¹³C NMR spectrum and a range of chemical shifts is described for each compound. This range was determined using HMBC analysis where the nearby hydrogens correlate to the CF₂ atoms (see Supporting Information Section 4 and **Fig. S10**). HRMS profiles were measured on a Bruker Daltonics MaXis time of flight (TOF) mass spectrometer. A tolerance of 5 ppm was applied between calculated and experimental values. Melting points ±1 °C were measured on a Kofler heating bar apparatus (Heizbank, Reichert) calibrated with acetanilide (mp = 114.5 °C). Optical rotations were

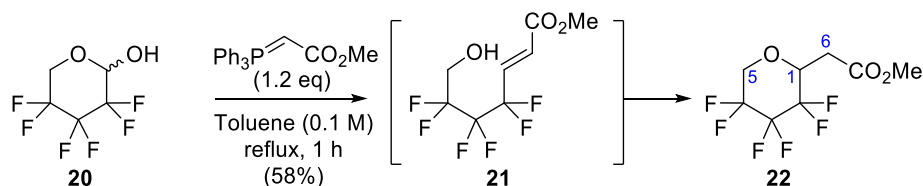
measured at 589 nm on a Perkin Elmer Polarimeter Model 241, and values reported are the average of 5 measurements.

3,3,4,4,5,5-Hexafluorooxane-2-ol (**20**)



To a stirred solution of commercially available 2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoropentane-1,5-diol **15** (500 mg, 2.35 mmol, 1 equiv.) in DCM (25 mL) were added 4A molecular sieves (1 spatula) and DMP (1.5 g, 3.54 mmol, 1.5 equiv.). After 1 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (6:4 Hex/Et₂O, R_f (**15**) = 0.25, R_f (**20**) = 0.40) and mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. Then, 10 mL of a 6:4 Hex/Et₂O solution were added in the flask and the thick white foam was directly loaded and purified by silica gel chromatography (60:40 Hex/Et₂O). Solvents were carefully removed at 500 mbar/35 °C and the desired compound was not concentrated until complete dryness because of its volatility. Pure **20** was obtained (230 mg, 46%, corrected for remaining solvents as quantified by ¹H NMR analysis) as a colourless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 8.47 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 1H, *O*H), 5.40 (m, 1H, H-1), 4.45-4.15 (m, 2H, H-5a + H-5b) ppm; ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 8.47 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 1H, *O*H), 5.40 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.35 (d, *J*=13.6 Hz, 1H, H-5a), 4.24 (d, *J*=13.6 Hz, 1H, H-5b) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -121.2 to -128.2 (m, 4F), -134.2 (m, 2F) ppm; ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (471 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -121.2 to -128.2 (m, 4F), -134.2 (m, 2F) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 120.5-110.5 (3x CF₂), 90.8 (dd, *J*=32.5, 23.1 Hz, C-1), 59.1 (t, *J*=27.6 Hz, C-5) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) *m/z*: [M-H]⁻ Calcd. for C₅H₃F₆O₂ 209.0043, found 209.0043

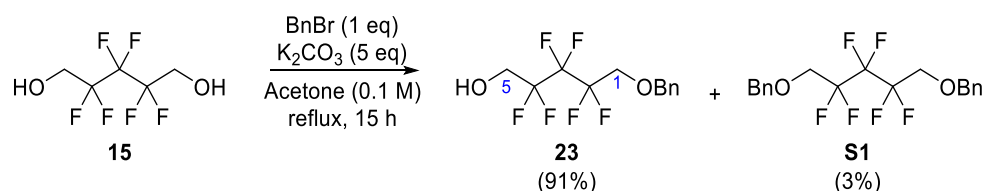
(*rac*)-Methyl 2-(3,3,4,4,5,5-hexafluorooxan-2-yl)acetate (**22**)



To a stirred solution of **20** (350 mg, 1.66 mmol, 1 equiv.) in toluene (15 mL) was added methyl triphenylphosphoranylidenacetate (670 mg, 2.00 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. After 1 h, near completion was confirmed by TLC (8:2 Hex/Et₂O, R_f (**20**) = 0.20 R_f (**22**) = 0.5) and the solution was cooled to RT. Solids were filtered off and mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (80:20 Hex/Et₂O) to afford **22** (255 mg, 58%) as a white solid. *m*p = 57 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation);

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 4.57-4.44 (m, 2H, H-5a, H-1), 4.25 (ddd, *J*=32.3, 13.5, 3.7 Hz, 1H, H-5b), 3.67 (s, 3H, -CO₂CH₃), 2.97 (dd, *J*=16.4, 3.4 Hz, 1H, H-6a), 2.67 (dd, *J*=16.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H, H-6b) ppm; **¹H{¹⁹F} NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 4.51 (d, *J*=13.6 Hz, 1H, H-5a), 4.49 (dd, *J*=9.1, 3.3 Hz, H-1), 4.25 (d, *J*=13.6 Hz, 1H, H-5b), 3.67 (s, 3H, -CO₂CH₃), 2.97 (dd, *J*=16.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H, H-6a), 2.67 (dd, *J*=16.4, 9.1 Hz, 1H, H-6b) ppm; **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -121.3 (dm, *J*=263.3 Hz, 1F), -126.5 (br d, *J*=263.1 Hz, 1F), -129.9 (br d, *J*=261.9 Hz, 1F), -130.2 (dm, *J*=265.3 Hz, 1F), -131.8 (dm, *J*=261.9 Hz, 1F), -148.3 (br d, *J*=263.0 Hz, 1F) ppm; **¹⁹F{¹H} NMR** (471 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -121.3 (dm, *J*=263.3 Hz, 1F), -126.5 (br d, *J*=263.1 Hz, 1F), -129.9 (br d, *J*=261.9 Hz, 1F), -130.2 (dm, *J*=265.3 Hz, 1F), -131.8 (dm, *J*=261.9 Hz, 1F), -148.3 (br d, *J*=263.0 Hz, 1F) ppm; **¹³C{¹H} NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 168.9 (s, C=O), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF₂), 72.7 (dd, *J*=26.3, 21.2 Hz, C-1), 65.9 (dd, *J*=31.1, 24.9 Hz, C-5), 52.2 (s, -CO₂CH₃), 31.5 (s, C-6) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI+) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd. for C₈H₈F₆O₃ 267.0450, found 267.0449

5-(Benzyloxy)-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoropentan-1-ol (23)

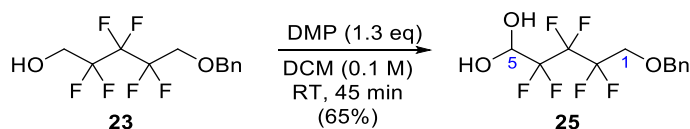


To a stirred solution of commercially available 2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoropentane-1,5-diol **15** (5 g, 23.57 mmol, 1 equiv.) in acetone (200 mL) were added potassium carbonate (16.3 g, 117.85 mmol, 5 equiv.) and benzyl bromide (2.82 mL, 23.57 mmol, 1 equiv.), and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. After 15 h, near completion was confirmed by TLC (7:3 Hex/AcOEt, *R_f* (**15**) = 0.1, *R_f* (**23**) = 0.3, *R_f* (**S1**) = 0.6) and the solution was cooled to RT. Solids were filtered off and mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (75:25 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **23** (6.5 g, 91%) and **S1** (250 mg, 3%), both as colourless oils.

Characterization of 23: **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 7.41-7.27 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.93 (t, *J*=6.6 Hz, 1H, OH), 4.65 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.07 (t, *J*=15.2 Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.91 (dt, *J*=15.5 Hz, *J*=6.6 Hz, 2H, H-5) ppm; **¹H{¹⁹F} NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): 7.41-7.27 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.93 (t, *J*=6.6 Hz, 1H, OH), 4.65 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.07 (s, 2H, H-1), 3.91 (d, *J*=6.6 Hz, 2H, H-5) ppm; **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -119.2 (m, 2F), -121.2 (tt, *J*=16.4, 8.6, 2F), -125.4 (m, 2F) ppm; **¹⁹F{¹H} NMR** (471 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -119.2 (br t, *J*=9.3 Hz, 2F), -121.2 (br t, *J*=9.3 Hz, 2F), -125.4 (br s, 2F) ppm; **¹³C{¹H} NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 137.1 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF₂), 73.3 (s, -CH₂Ph), 66.3 (t, *J*=24.2 Hz, C-1), 58.8 (t, *J*=24.5 Hz, C-5) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI+) *m/z*: [M+Na]⁺ Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂F₆O₂Na 325.0634, found 325.0629

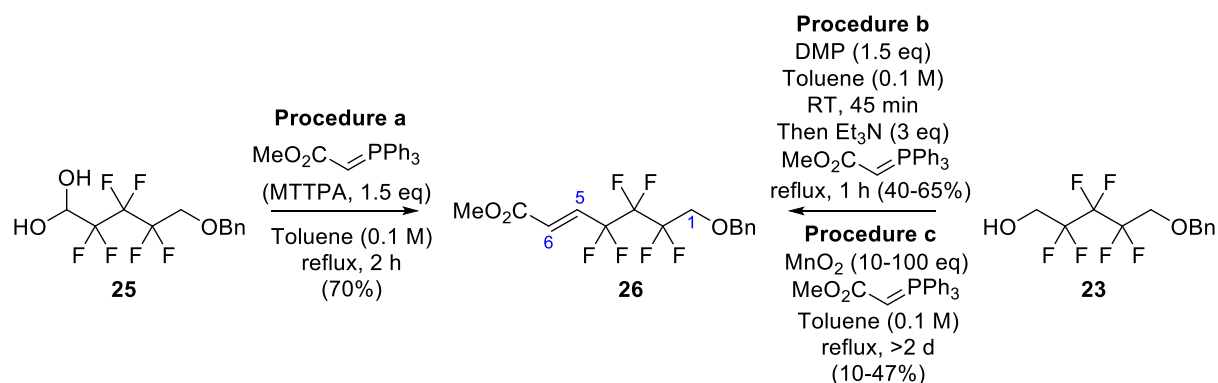
Characterization of **S1**: $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ 7.41-7.29 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 4.64 (s, 4H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.09 (t, $J=15.0$ Hz, 4H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2$) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): 7.41-7.29 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 4.64 (s, 4H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.09 (s, 4H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2$) ppm; $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ -119.2 (m, 4F), -125.4 (s, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ -119.2 (s, 4F), -125.3 (s, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ 137.0 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 73.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 66.3 (t, $J=25.4$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2$) ppm; HRMS (ESI+) m/z : $[\text{M}+\text{NH}_4]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_6\text{NO}_2$ 410.1555, found 410.1540

5-(Benzyloxy)-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoropentane-1,1-diol (**25**)



To a stirred solution of **23** (6 g, 19.85 mmol, 1 equiv.) in DCM (150 mL) was added Dess-Martin periodinane (10.95 g, 25.81 mmol, 1.3 equiv.). After 45 min at room temperature, completion was confirmed by TLC (60:40 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**23**) = 0.45, R_f (**25**) = 0.30) and the solution was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was rediluted in AcOEt (100 mL) and a 1:1 $\text{NaHCO}_3/\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ saturated solution (80 mL) was added. Mixture was stirred during 30 min and the aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with 1:1 $\text{NaHCO}_3/\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ saturated solution (2x 80 mL), dried over MgSO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (75:25 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **25** (3.9 g, 65%) as a colorless oil that becomes a white solid. **Note 1**: switching from DCM to AcOEt for liquid-liquid extraction avoids excessive foam formation. **Note 2**: the NMR sample after purification needs to equilibrate overnight in deuterated DMSO (contains traces of water) to obtain pure NMR profile of the hydrate **25**. mp = 69 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ 7.41-7.28 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 7.13 (d, $J=6.8$ Hz, 2H, OH), 5.12 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.64 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.05 (t, $J=15.1$ Hz, 2H, H-1) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): 7.41-7.28 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 7.13 (d, $J=6.8$ Hz, 2H, OH), 5.12 (t, $J=6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.64 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.05 (s, 2H, H-1) ppm; $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ -119.2 (m, 2F), -124.3 (br s, 2F), -127.2 (q, $J=9.5$ Hz, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ -119.2 (br t, $J=9.6$ Hz, 2F), -124.3 (s, 2F), -127.2 (br t, $J=9.6$ Hz, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d^6$): δ 137.2 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 85.9 (t, $J=25.5$ Hz, C-5), 73.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 66.4 (t, $J=23.8$ Hz, C-1) ppm; HRMS (ESI+) m/z : $[\text{M}+\text{NH}_4]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NF}_6\text{O}_3$ 336.1028, found 336.1025

Methyl (E)-7-(benzyloxy)-4,4,5,5,6,6-hexafluorohept-2-enoate (**26**)



Procedure a: To a stirred solution of **25** (6.3 g, 20.98 mmol, 1 equiv.) in toluene (200 mL) were added MS 4A (2 spatula) and MTTPA (10.5 g, 31.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. After 2h, completion was confirmed by TLC (80:20 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**25**) = 0.15, R_f (**26**) = 0.5). Mixture was cooled down to room temperature, solids were filtered off and rinsed with DCM, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (95:5 to 90:10 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **26** (5.1 g, 70%) as a colourless oil.

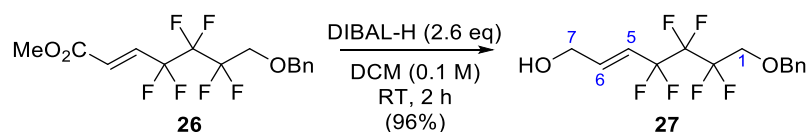
Procedure b: To a stirred solution of **23** (0.5 g, 1.65 mmol, 1 equiv.) in toluene (15 mL) were added MS 4A (1 spatula) and Dess-Martin reagent (1.1 g, 2.48 mmol, 1.5 equiv.). After 45 min at room temperature, completion of oxidation was confirmed by TLC (60:40 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**23**) = 0.45, R_f (**25**) = 0.30). Et₃N (0.7 mL, 4.95 mmol, 3 equiv.) and MTTPA (830 mg, 2.48 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were then added into the reaction and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. After 1 h, completion of olefination was confirmed by TLC (80:20 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**25**) = 0.15, R_f (**26**) = 0.5). Mixture was cooled down to room temperature, solids were filtered off and rinsed with DCM, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (95:5 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **26** (395 mg, 65%) as a colourless oil. **Note:** a 12 g scale experiment resulted in 40% yield. Synthesis of **25** followed by **Procedure a** is a more convenient choice on large scale.

Procedure c: To a stirred solution of **23** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv.) in toluene (4 mL) were added MS 4A (1 spatula), MTTPA (165 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and MnO₂ (2.8 g, 33.33 mmol, 100 equiv.), and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. After 30 h, conversion was incomplete and the mixture was cooled down to room temperature, filtered through a celite pad, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (9:1 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **26** (55 mg, 47%) as a colourless oil.

Characterisation of 26: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 7.42-7.28 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 6.95 (dt, *J*=15.5, 12.6 Hz, 1H, H-5), 6.70 (dt, *J*=15.8, 2.1 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.65 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.12 (t, *J*=14.9 Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.76 (s,

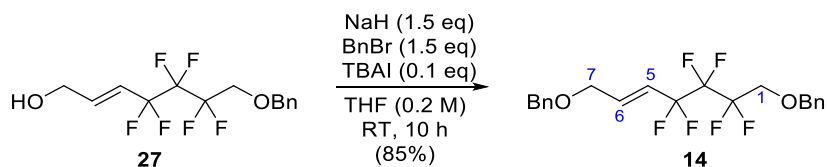
3H, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 7.40-7.28 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 6.94 (d, $J=15.8$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 6.68 (d, $J=15.8$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.65 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.12 (s, 2H, H-1), 3.76 (s, 3H, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -112.6 (m, 2F), -118.2 (m, 2F), -125.2 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -112.6 (m, 2F), -118.2 (br t, $J=8.9$ Hz, 2F), -125.2 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 163.9 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 137.0 (s, C-Ar), 130.8 (t, $J=23.4$ Hz, C-5), 130.2 (t, $J=8.7$ Hz, C-6), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 73.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 66.2 (t, $J=24.7$ Hz, C-1), 52.5 (s, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$) ppm; HRMS (ESI+) m/z : $[\text{M}+\text{NH}_4]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{NF}_6\text{O}_3$ 374.1185, found 374.1185

(E)-7-(Benzyloxy)-4,4,5,5,6,6-hexafluorohept-2-en-1-ol (**27**)



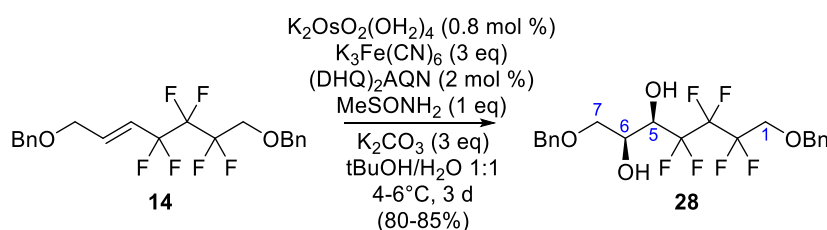
Under inert conditions, a stirred solution of **26** (4.5 g, 12.63 mmol, 1 equiv.) in anhydrous DCM (100 mL) was cooled down to -60 °C. Then, a 1M solution of DIBAL-H in hexane (33 mL, 33 mmol, 2.6 equiv.) was added dropwise, over 5 min. Mixture was stirred during 1 h and the cooling bath was then removed. After 2 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (8:2 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**26**) = 0.4, R_f (**27**) = 0.15) and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. Reaction was carefully quenched by dropwise addition of MeOH (30 mL) and stirring during 10 min. Mixture was washed with 1M HCl (100 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2×75 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (75:25 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **27** (4.0 g, 96%) as a colourless oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 7.44-7.25 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 6.55 (m, 1H, H-6), 5.94 (m, 1H, H-5), 5.21 (t, $J=5.3$ Hz, 1H, OH), 4.66 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.13 (m, 2H, H-7), 4.07 (t, $J=15.2$ Hz, 2H, H-1) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): 7.44-7.25 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 6.55 (dt, $J=15.7$, 3.5 Hz, 1H, H-6), 5.92 (dt, $J=15.7$, 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-5), 5.20 (t, $J=5.3$ Hz, 1H, OH), 4.66 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.12 (ddd, $J=5.3$, 3.2, 2.3 Hz, 2H, H-7), 4.07 (s, 2H, H-1) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -109.9 (br s, 2F), -118.4 (m, 2F), -125.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -109.9 (br t, $J=9.3$ Hz, 2F), -118.4 (t, $J=9.3$ Hz, 2F), -125.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 143.3 (t, $J=8.3$ Hz, C-6), 137.1 (s, C-Ar), 137.1 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 114.6 (t, $J=22.7$ Hz, C-5), 73.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 66.4 (t, $J=24.2$ Hz, C-1), 59.7 (s, C-7) ppm; HRMS (ESI+) m/z : $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_6\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ 351.0790, found 351.0786

(E)-1,7-bis(benzyloxy)-4,4,5,5,6,6-hexafluorohept-2-ene (**14**)



Under inert conditions, a stirred solution of **27** (4.0 g, 12.15 mmol, 1 equiv.) in anhydrous THF (60 mL) was cooled down to 0 °C. Then, sodium hydride (730 mg of 60% mineral oil, 18.25 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added and gas formation was observed during 15 min. Ice bath was removed, followed by addition of tetrabutylammonium iodide (450 mg, 1.22 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) and benzyl bromide (2.2 mL, 18.28 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and reaction was allowed to stir at RT. After 10 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (8:2 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**27**) = 0.15, R_f (**14**) = 0.55) and the solution (**27**) was diluted with Et₂O (50 mL) and cooled down to 0 °C. Reaction was carefully quenched by dropwise addition of water (30 mL) and stirring 10 min. Organic layer was washed with water (1× 50 mL) and brine (1× 50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (95:5 to 85:15 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **14** (4.3 g, 85%) as a colourless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 7.40-7.25 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 6.54 (m, 1H, H-6), 6.02 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.65 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.53 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.14 (m, 2H, H-7), 4.07 (t, *J*=15.2 Hz, 2H, H-1) ppm; ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 7.40-7.25 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 6.54 (dd, *J*=15.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.02 (dd, *J*=15.8, 2.1 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.65 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.53 (s, 2H, -CH₂Ph), 4.14 (dd, *J*=4.0, 2.1 Hz, 2H, H-7), 4.07 (s, 2H, H-1) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -110.5 (br s, 2F), -118.4 (m, 2F), -125.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (471 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ -110.5 (br t, *J*=8.9 Hz, 2F), -118.4 (t, *J*=8.9 Hz, 2F), -125.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶): δ 139.3 (t, *J*=8.8 Hz, C-6), 137.9 (s, C-Ar), 137.1 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 128.3 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 127.6 (s, C-Ar), 127.5 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF₂), 16.5 (t, *J*=22.7 Hz, C-5), 73.3 (s, -CH₂Ph), 71.9 (s, -CH₂Ph), 67.7 (s, C-7), 66.4 (t, *J*=24.2 Hz, C-1), ppm; HRMS (ESI+) *m/z*: [M+Na]⁺ Calcd. for C₂₁H₂₀F₆O₂Na 441.1260, found 441.1266

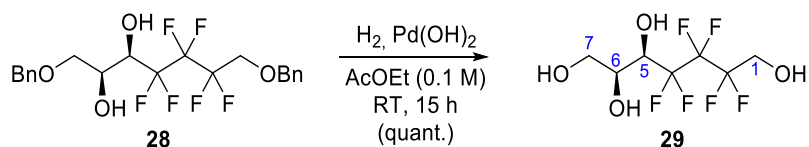
(2S,3R)-1,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-4,4,5,5,6,6-hexafluoroheptane-2,3-diol (**28**)



To a stirred solution of (DHQ)₂AQN (156 mg, 0.18 mmol, 0.02 equiv.) in 1:1 tBuOH/H₂O (80 mL) were sequentially added K₃Fe(CN)₆ (8.97 g, 27.2 mmol, 3 equiv.), K₂CO₃ (3.8 g, 27.2 mmol, 3 equiv.), K₂OsO₂(H₂O)₂ (26 mg, 0.073 mmol, 0.008 equiv.) and methanesulfonamide (865 mg, 9.08 mmol, 1 equiv.). Mixture was cooled down 0 °C, a solution of prepared **14** (3.8 g, 9.08 mmol, 1 equiv.) in 5 mL

tBuOH was added, and the reaction was left stirred with the cold bath (4-6 °C). After 3 d, near completion was confirmed by TLC (7:3 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**14**) = 0.65, R_f (**28**) = 0.35) and $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ (7 g) was added to the mixture which was further stirred during 1 h. Then, water (30 mL) was added, and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et_2O (3× 100 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (80:20 to 65:35 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **28** (3.3 g, 82%) as a white solid. Enantiomeric ratio of 95:5 was determined by chiral HPLC-MS: Chiralcel OD-H column, Hex/EtOH 9:1, 1 mL/min, 35 °C, UV(254 nm) detection, $r_t(\text{A}) = 9.3$ min (4.6%), $r_t(\text{B}) = 10.2$ min (95.4%). **28** (1.95 g) was then suspended in hexane (40 mL) and heated to 40 °C, followed by addition of Et_2O (5 mL). Slow evaporation at room temperature over 5 days afforded crystalline solids (1.83 g, 94% recovery) that were analysed by X-ray. Enantiopurity (>99.5% ee) of the obtained crystals was confirmed by chiral HPLC-MS analysis. mp = <50 °C (obtained after crystallization); $[\alpha]_D^{23} +1.2$ (c 0.5, CHCl_3); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 7.40-7.25 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 5.76 (d, $J=8.9$ Hz, 1H, OH), 5.02 (d, $J=7.0$ Hz, 1H, OH), 4.65 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.50 (AB system, $J=12.1$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.15-4.00 (m, 3H, H-1, H-5), 3.96 (m, 1H, H-6), 3.50 (d, $J=9.2$, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.38 (dd, $J=9.4$, 5.8 Hz, 1H, H-7b) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 7.40-7.25 (m, 10H, H-Ar), 5.76 (d, $J=9.0$ Hz, 1H, OH), 5.02 (d, $J=7.1$ Hz, 1H, OH), 4.65 (s, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.50 (AB system, $J=12.1$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 4.09 (dd, $J=9.0$, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.06 (AB system, $J=12.6$ Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.96 (m, 1H, H-6), 3.50 (d, $J=9.2$, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.38 (dd, $J=9.4$, 5.8 Hz, 1H, H-7b) ppm; $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -118.8 (dm, $J=271.8$ Hz, 1F), -119.1 (dm, $J=278.1$ Hz, 1F), -119.5 (dm, $J=272.4$ Hz, 1F), -123.4 (dm, $J=279.5$, 10.7, 8.6 Hz, 1F), -124.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ -118.8 (ddd, $J=272.5$ Hz, 1F), -119.0 (d of br t, $J=279.6$, 11.4 Hz Hz, 1F), -119.5 (d of br t, $J=272.4$, 10.0 Hz, 1F), -123.2 (d of br t, $J=279.5$, 6.4 Hz, 1F), -124.2 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d^6$): δ 138.3 (s, C-Ar), 137.2 (s, C-Ar), 128.4 (s, C-Ar), 128.3 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 127.7 (s, C-Ar), 127.5 (s, C-Ar), 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 73.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 72.2 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 70.1 (s, C-7), 66.9 (dd, $J=25.3$, 19.4 Hz, C-5), 66.6 (s, C-6), 66.5 (t, $J=23.1$ Hz, C-1) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{F}_6\text{O}_4$ 451.1349, found 451.1356

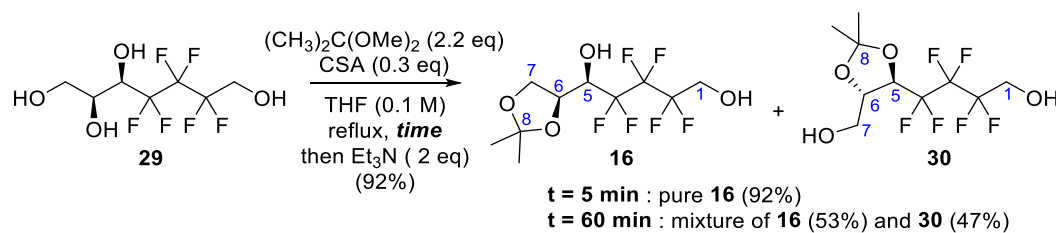
(2*S*,3*R*)-4,4,5,5,6,6-Hexafluoroheptane-1,2,3,7-tetraol (**29**)



To a stirred and argon-flushed solution of **28** (3 g, 7.05 mmol, 1 equiv.) in AcOEt (70 mL) was added Pd(OH)_2 (600 mg, 20%_{w/w}) and three vacuum/argon cycles were performed, followed by three vacuum/ H_2 cycles. Mixture was left stirred at RT under positive H_2 atmosphere. After 15 h, completion

was confirmed by TLC (9:1 DCM/MeOH, R_f (**28**) = 0.85, R_f (**29**) = 0.3), mixture was filtrated over a celite pad, and the latter was washed with MeOH. The obtained filtrate was concentrated under reduced to afford pure **29** (1.9 g, quant.) as a white solid. $mp = 84\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (obtained after solvent evaporation); $[\alpha]_D^{23} +21.8$ (c 0.5, MeOH); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ 5.84 (br s, OH), 5.62 (br s, OH), 4.83 (br s, OH), 4.10 (dd, $J=22.4, 5.7$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.89 (br t, $J=16.6$ Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.74 (br t, $J=6.1$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 3.34 (m, 2H, H-7) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ 5.84 (br s, OH), 5.51 (br s, OH), 4.79 (br s, OH), 4.10 (br s, 1H, H-5), 3.89 (AB system, $J=13.5$ Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.74 (br t, $J=6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 3.34 (m, 2H, H-7) ppm; $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ -118.9 (dm, $J=282.4$ Hz, 1F), -120.7 (dm, $J=266.5$ Hz, 1F), -121.6 (dm, $J=267.6$ Hz, 1F), -123.5 (dm, $J=277.8$ Hz, 1F), -124.3 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ -119.5 (dt, $J=278., 12.1$ Hz, 1F), -120.6 (ddd, $J=266.8, 10.7, 8.6$ Hz, 1F), -121.6 (ddd, $J=267.5, 12.1, 10.0$ Hz, 1F), -123.5 (d of br t, $J=278.2, 7.8$ Hz, 1F), -124.2 (br s, 2F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ 120.5-110.5 (3x CF_2), 68.9 (s, C-6), 66.3 (dd, $J=26.1, 20.6$ Hz, C-5), 61.4 (s, C-7), 59.0 (t, $J=23.5$ Hz, C-1) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{F}_6\text{O}_4$ 271.0410, found 271.0419

(2*S*,3*R*)-4,4,5,5,6,6-Hexafluoro-1,2-*O*-isopropylideneheptane-3,7-diol (**16**)

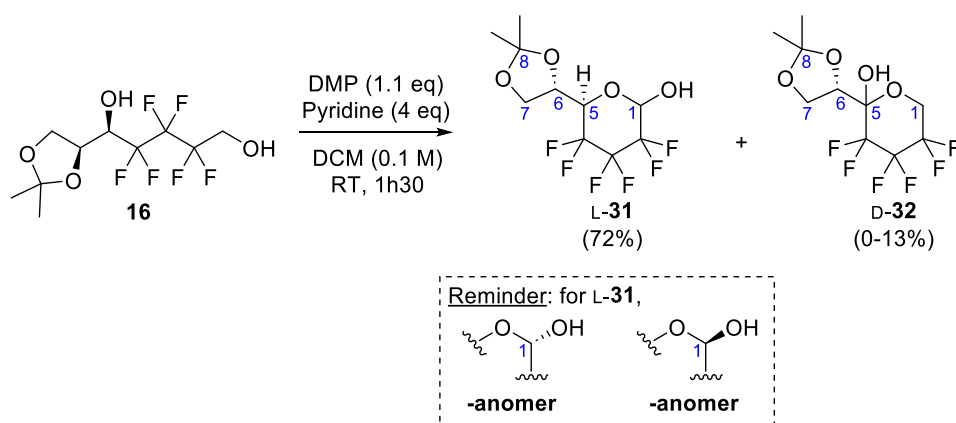


To a stirred solution of **29** (250 mg, 0.91 mmol, 1 equiv.) in THF (9 mL) was added 2,2-dimethoxypropane (0.25 mL, 2.00 mmol, 2.2 equiv.) and the mixture was refluxed using a heating mantle. Then, camphor sulfonic acid (64 mg, 0.27 mmol, 0.3 equiv.) was added. After 5 min stirring at reflux, completion was confirmed by TLC (9:1 DCM/MeOH, R_f (**29**) = 0.3, R_f (**16**) = 0.9; 6:4 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**29**) = 0, R_f (**16**) = 0.35) which took one more minute, then Et_3N (0.25 mL, 1.82 mmol, 2 equiv.) was added. The reflux was stopped, mixture was cooled down to 30-40 $^\circ\text{C}$ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (60:40 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **16** as a white solid (262 mg, 92%). $mp = 79\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (obtained after solvent evaporation); $[\alpha]_D^{23} +6.6$ (c 0.5, CHCl_3); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d^6): 6.05 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H, CHOH), 5.86 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H, CH_2OH), 4.26 (m, 1H, H-6), 4.08 (dm, $J=22.1$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.02 (dd, $J=8.0, 6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.90 (td, $J=15.9, 6.6$ Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.74 (br t, $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H, H-7b), 1.35 (s, 3H, CCH_3), 1.29 (s, 3H, CCH_3) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d^6): 6.04 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H, CHOH), 5.85 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H, CH_2OH), 4.26 (td, $J=7.0, 4.0$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.08 (dd, $J=8.4$ Hz, 4.0 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.02 (dd, $J=8.0, 6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.90 (AB system, $J=7.0$ Hz, 2H, H-1), 3.74 (br t, $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 1.35 (s, 3H, CCH_3), 1.29 (s, 3H, CCH_3) ppm; $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ -117.8 (dm, $J=279.2$ Hz, 1F), -120.3 to -122.0 (m, 2F), -123.4 (dm, $J=290.1$ Hz, 1F), -123.9

(dm, $J=278.9$ Hz, 1F), -124.5 (dm, $J=290.1$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ -117.8 (dm, $J=279.2$ Hz, 1F), -120.8 (ddd, $J=268.2, 12.1, 7.8$ Hz, 1F), -121.5 (ddd, $J=268.2, 12.8, 9.3$, 1F), -123.5 (dm, $J=291.1$ Hz, 1F), -123.8 (dm, $J=278.9$ Hz, 1F), -124.4 (dm, $J=290.1$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ 120.5 - 110.5 (3x CF_2), 109.3 (s, C-8), 73.8 (s, C-6), 68.2 (dd, $J=26.2, 21.1$ Hz, C-5), 65.8 (d, $J=5.1$ Hz, C-7), 59.4 (t, $J=24.7$ Hz, C-1), 26.5 (s, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$), 26.0 (s, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_6\text{O}_4$ 311.0723, found 311.0735

When performed during one hour, two distinguishable (but mostly overlapping) spots are visible on TLC (**30** is slightly more polar than **16**). Silica gel chromatography was performed to isolate the two compounds as a mixture (colourless oil, 82%). NMR spectra comparison with pure **16** confirmed that one of the compounds of the mixture is the terminal acetonide **16** (53%). Observation of the rest of the signals unambiguously led to the conclusion that the second compound is the internal acetonide **30** (47%). Details of these observations are provided in SI section 3 "Regioselectivity determination for diol isopropylidene protection". *Characterization of 30 (selected signals in the 1:1 mixture with 16):* ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d^6): 5.92 (t, $J=6.4$ Hz, 1H, CH_2OH), 5.11 (t, $J=5.7$ Hz, 1H, CH_2OH), 4.49 (doublet of multiplet, $J=20.9$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.33 (m, 1H, H-6), 3.90 (m, 2H, H-1), 3.64 (ddd, $J=12.2, 5.3, 3.8$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.48 (m, 1H, H-7b), 1.40 (s, 3H, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$), 1.34 (s, 3H, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d^6): δ 120.5 - 110.5 (3x CF_2), 112.2 (s, C-8), 77.6 (s, C-6), 73.45 (dd, $J=32.7, 21.4$ Hz, C-5), 61.4 (s, C-7), 59.4 (t, $J=25.4$ Hz, C-1), 27.8 (s, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$), 26.5 (s, $\text{C}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$) ppm.

2,3,4-Trideoxy-6,7-O-isopropylidene-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-l-threo-heptopyranose (L-31) and 4,5,6-trideoxy-1,2-O-isopropylidene-4,4,5,5,6,6-hexafluoro-d-glycero-hept-3-ulopyranose (D-32)



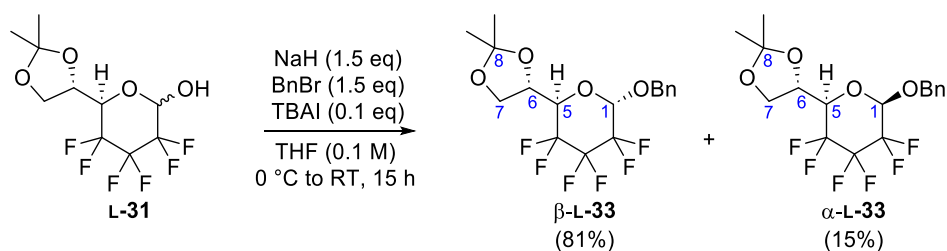
To a stirred solution of **16** (0.98 g, 3.12 mmol, 1 equiv.) in dry DCM (30 mL) was added dry pyridine (1 mL, 12.49 mmol, 4 equiv.). DMP (292 mg, 0.69 mmol, 0.22 equiv.) was added, followed by 1 more portion (0.22 equiv.) every 15 min, up to 1.1 equiv. After 1 h 30 in total, completion was confirmed by TLC (6: Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**16**) = 0.35, R_f (L-**31**) = 0.45), mixture was diluted with DCM (25 mL) and a 1:1

NaHCO₃/Na₂S₂O₃ saturated solution (25 mL) was added. Mixture was stirred during 10 min and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2× 25 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (75:25 Hex/AcOEt) to afford L-**31** (700 mg, 72%, 75:25 β/α) as a white solid, and D-**32** (126 mg, 13%) as a colorless oil. *Note: D-32 is not always observed, depending on batch.*

Characterisation of L-31 (75:25 β/α mixture): mp = 158 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation); [α]_D²³ +18.6 (c 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*⁶): 7.46 (br s, 0.75H, OHβ), 5.61 (br t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 0.75 H, H-1β), 5.36 (dd, *J*=15.8, 3.8 Hz, 0.25H, H-1α), 4.55-4.40 (m, 1.75H, H5β + H6β/α), 4.32-4.19 (m, 0.25H, H-5α), 4.19-4.13 (m, 1H, H-7a-β/α), 3.92 (m, 1H, H-7b-β/α), 1.35 (br s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.33 (br s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*⁶): 7.49 (br d, *J*=3.9 Hz, 0.75H, OH), 5.61 (d, *J*=3.8 Hz, 0.75 H, H-1β), 5.36 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 0.25H, H-1α), 4.52-4.40 (m, 1.75H, H5β + H6β/α), 4.23 (d, *J*=5.4 Hz, 0.25H, H-5α), 4.19-4.13 (m, 1H, H-7a-β/α), 3.92 (m, 1H, H-7b-β/α), 1.35 (br s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.33 (br s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, acetone-*d*⁶): δ -121.8 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -124.5 (dm, *J*=262.7 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -126.3 (dm, *J*=270.5 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -128.6 to -130.6 (m, 2F) -131.6 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -133.8 (dm, *J*=260.9 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -140.5 (dm, *J*=261.4 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -145.0 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -146.8 (dm, *J*=270.5 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα) ppm; ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (471 MHz, acetone-*d*⁶): δ -121.8 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -124.5 (dm, *J*=262.7 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -126.3 (dm, *J*=270.5 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -128.6 to -130.6 (m, 2F) -131.6 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -133.8 (dm, *J*=260.9 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -140.5 (dm, *J*=261.4 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα), -145.0 (dm, *J*=268.8 Hz, 0.75F, 1Fβ), -146.8 (dm, *J*=270.5 Hz, 0.25F, 1Fα); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, acetone-*d*⁶): δ 115.5-105.5 (3x CF₂), 110.6 (2× s, C-8), 92.8 (ddd, *J*=27.3, 18.9, 3.7 Hz, C-1α), 92.1 (ddd, *J*=36.7, 25.7, 1.5 Hz, C-1β), 72.9 (br t, *J*=24.2 Hz, C-5α), 72.7 (d, *J*=1.5 Hz, C-6α), 72.5 (br s, C-6β), 67.6 (br t, *J*=22.2 Hz, C-5β), 66.3 (m, C-7β), 66.2 (m, C-7α), 26.5 (2× s, CCH₃), 26.0 (s, CCH₃) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) *m/z*: [M-H]⁻ Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁F₆O₄ 309.0567, found 309.0573

Characterisation of D-32: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.43 (m, 1H, H-6), 4.39 (m, 1H, H-1a), 4.25 (ddd, *J*=9.2, 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 4.20 (t, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H, OH), 4.11 (dd, *J*=9.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H, H-7b), 4.00 (br td, *J*=12.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H, H-1b), 1.48 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.42 (s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -122.9 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=268.5 Hz, 1F), -124.8 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=268.8 Hz, 1F), -126.9 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=270.5 Hz, 1F), -130.9 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=267.1 Hz, 1F), -132.1 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=270.5 Hz, 1F), -145.9 (doublet of multiplet, *J*=270.5 Hz, 1F) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 115.5-105.5 (3x CF₂), 110.7 (s, C-8), 95.3 (ddd, *J*=30.0, 22.8, 2.2 Hz, C-5) 73.7 (s, C-6), 64.85 (s, C-7), 60.1 (ddd, *J*=32.3, 24.2, 2.2 Hz, C-1), 26.0 (-CCH₃), 24.9 (-CCH₃) ppm.

Benzyl-2,3,4-trideoxy-6,7-O-isopropylidene-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-β-L-threo-heptopyranoside (β-L-33)
and benzyl-2,3,4-trideoxy-6,7-O-isopropylidene-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-α-L-threo-heptopyranoside (α-L-33)



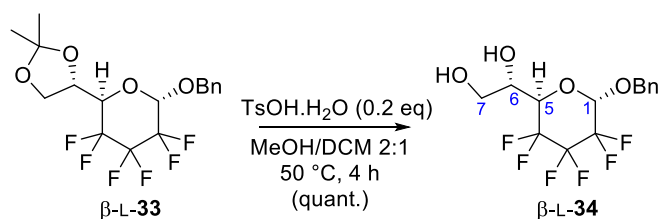
Under inert conditions, a stirred solution of **L-31** (350 mg, 1.13 mmol, 1 equiv.) in anhydrous THF (12 mL) was cooled down to 0 °C. Then, sodium hydride (68 mg of 60% mineral oil, 1.70 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added and gas formation was observed during 5 min. Then, ice bath was removed, tetrabutylammonium iodide (41 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) and benzyl bromide (0.2 mL, 1.70 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were added, and reaction was allowed to stir at RT. After 15 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (8:2 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (**L-31**) = 0.2, R_f (**β-L-33**) = 0.5, R_f (**α-L-33**) = 0.45) and the solution was cooled down to 0 °C. Reaction was carefully quenched by dropwise addition of MeOH (5 mL), and the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (95:5 Hex/AcOEt) to afford **β-L-33** (365 mg, 81%) and **α-L-33** (71 mg, 15%) as white solids.

Characterization of β-L-33: mp = 62 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +67.1 (c 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.14 (ddt, $J=7.9, 6.0, 1.3$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.91 (d, $J=12.0$ Hz, -CH₂H_bPh), 4.71 (d, $J=11.9$ Hz, 1H, -CH_aH_bPh), 4.45 (apparent br q, $J=6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.22 (d of br d, $J=22.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.18 (ddd, $J=9.0, 6.1, 1.0$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.90 (ddd, $J=9.0, 7.3, 2.0$ Hz, 1H, H-7b), 1.46 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.45 (s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.14 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.91 (d, $J=12.0$ Hz, -CH₂H_bPh), 4.71 (d, $J=11.9$ Hz, 1H, -CH_aH_bPh), 4.45 (apparent q, $J=6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.22 (d, $J=7.7$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.18 (dd, $J=8.9, 6.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.90 (dd, $J=8.9, 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-7b), 1.46 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.45 (s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -120.8 (dm, $J=273.9$ Hz, 1F), -125.4 (dm, $J=272.2$ Hz, 1F), -129.1 (dm, $J=263.6$ Hz, 1F), -130.4 (dm, $J=263.6$ Hz, 1F), -132.1 (dm, $J=273.9$ Hz, 1F), -145.5 (dm, $J=270.5$ Hz, 1F) ppm; ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -120.5 (dtdd, $J=273.2, 15.0, 5.7, 1.4$ Hz, 1F), -125.1 (dm, $J=271.1$ Hz, 1F), -128.8 (dm, $J=263.6$ Hz, 1F), -130.1 (dm, $J=263.6$ Hz, 1F), -131.9 (ddtd, $J=273.9, 15.7, 10.0, 1.4$ Hz, 1F), -145.2 (dm, $J=270.5$ Hz, 1F) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 134.9 (s, C-Ar), 128.8 (s, C-Ar), 128.6 (s, C-Ar), 127.9 (s, C-Ar), 115.5-105.5 (3x CF₂), 109.9 (s, C-8), 95.4 (ddd, $J=37.4, 25.7, 2.2$ Hz, C-1), 71.9 (s, C-6), 70.4 (s, -CH₂Ph), 69.0 (dd, $J=25.7,$

21.2, 1.5, C-5), 65.5 (s, C-7), 26.4 (-C $\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$), 25.5 (-C $\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI+) m/z : [M+H]⁺ Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉F₆O₄ 401.1182 found 401.1183

Characterization of α -L-33: mp = 69 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation); [α]_D²³ -58.2 (c 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.45-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.05 (d, J =12.0 Hz, -CH_gH_bPh), 4.83 (d, J =12.0 Hz, 1H, -CH_aH_bPh), 4.72 (dd, J =13.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.45 (apparent q, J =6.8 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.15 (dd, J =8.9, 6.3 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.89 (ddd, J =8.9, 6.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H, H-7b), 3.69 (m, 1H, H-5), 1.49 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.43 (s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.45-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.05 (d, J =11.9 Hz, -CH_gH_bPh), 4.83 (d, J =11.9 Hz, 1H, -CH_aH_bPh), 4.72 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.46 (apparent q, J =6.8 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.15 (dd, J =8.9, 6.3 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.89 (dd, J =8.9, 6.8 Hz, 1H, H-7b), 3.69 (d, J =7.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 1.49 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.43 (s, 3H, CCH₃) ppm; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -127.1 (br d, J =274.0 Hz, 1F), -129.5 (dm, J =265.3 Hz, 1F), -130.8 (dm, J =265.3 Hz, 1F), -134.2 (dm, J =261.8 Hz, 1F), -138.7 (dm, J =261.8 Hz, 1F), -146.4 (dm, J =274.0 Hz, 1F) ppm; ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃): -126.9 (apparent d of septuplet, J =274.0, 7.15 Hz, 1F), -129.2 (dm, J =265.3 Hz, 1F), -130.6 (dtd, J =265.3, 14.3, 7.9 Hz, 1F), -134.0 (ddt, J =261.8, 15.0, 9.3 Hz, 1F), -138.5 (ddt, J =261.8, 15.0, 7.1 Hz, 1F), -146.4 (dm, J =274.0 Hz, 1F) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 134.8 (s, C-Ar), 128.7 (s, C-Ar), 128.6 (s, C-Ar), 115.5-105.5 (3x CF₂), 110.0 (s, C-8), 94.9 (ddd, J =27.1, 18.3, 3.7 Hz, C-1), 73.6 (br dd, J =26.0, 22.4, C-5), 72.1 (s, C-6), 71.5 (s, -CH₂Ph), 65.5 (2x s, C-7), 26.5 (-C $\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$), 25.6 (-C $\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3$) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI+) m/z : [M+H]⁺ Calcd. for C₁₇H₂₉F₆O₄ 401.1182 found 401.1176

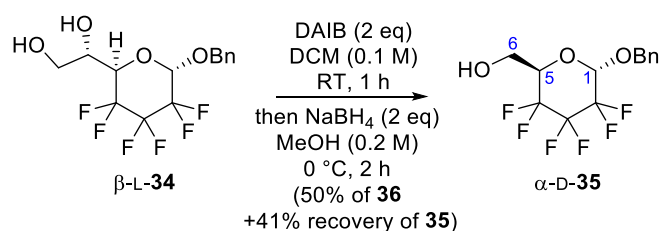
Benzyl-2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro- β -L-threo-heptopyranoside (β -L-34)



To a stirred solution of β -L-**33** (370 mg, 0.92 mmol, 1 equiv.) in 2:1 MeOH/DCM (20 mL) was added PTSA.H₂O (35 mg, 0.18 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) and the reaction was heated to 50 °C using a heating mantle. After 4 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (6:4 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (β -L-**33**) = 0.9, R_f (β -L-**34**) = 0.2), mixture was diluted with 20 mL of DCM and a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ (30 mL) was added. Phases were separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (3x 30 mL) and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford β -L-**34** as a white solid (69 mg, quant.). mp = 74 °C (obtained after solvent evaporation); [α]_D²³ +76.8 (c 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.14 (ddt, J =7.9, 6.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.87 (d, J =11.9 Hz, -CH_gH_bPh), 4.70 (d, J =11.9 Hz, 1H, -CH_aH_bPh), 4.35 (dd, J =24.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.19

(apparent q, $J=4.9$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 3.75 (m, 2H, H-7), 2.48 (br s, 1H, CHOH), 1.98 (br s, 1H, CH_2OH) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.14 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.87 (d, $J=11.9$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.70 (d, $J=11.9$ Hz, 1H, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.35 (d, $J=5.0$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.19 (apparent q, $J=4.9$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 3.77 (m, 2H, H-7), 2.43 (br s, 1H, CHOH), 1.93 (br s, 1H, CH_2OH) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -120.8 (dm, $J=273.9$ Hz, 1F), -125.1 (dm, $J=272.1$ Hz, 1F), -128.7 (dm, $J=264.2$ Hz, 1F), -130.9 (dm, $J=260.8$ Hz, 1F), -131.8 (dm, $J=273.3$ Hz, 1F), -145.2 (dm, $J=271.0$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -120.7 (dtdd, $J=273.2, 16.5, 6.4, 1.4$ Hz, 1F), -125.2 (d of apparent br sept, $J=272.1, 7.15$ Hz, 1F), -128.8 (ddtd, $J=264.2, 13.6, 9.3, 1.4$ Hz, 1F), -130.9 (dm, $J=264.5$ Hz, 1F), -131.8 (ddtd, $J=273.2, 15.7, 10.0, 1.4$ Hz, 1F), -145.2 (dm, $J=270.3$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 134.8 (C-Ar), 128.8 (C-Ar), 128.7 (C-Ar), 128.0 (C-Ar), 115.5-105.5 (3x CF_2), 95.6 (ddd, $J=37.4, 25.4, 1.8$ Hz, C-1), 70.9 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 67.9 (s, C-6), 66.8 (dd, $J=27.8, 21.3$ Hz, C-5), 62.6 (s, C-7) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_6\text{O}_4$ 359.0723, found 359.0733

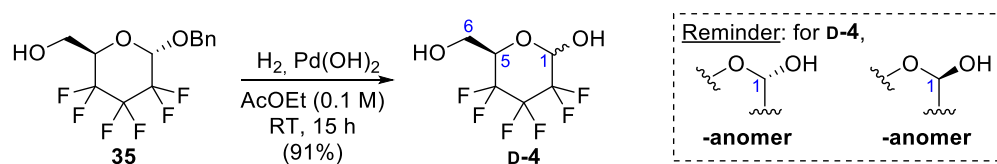
Benzyl 2,3,4-trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro- α -D-glycero-hexopyranoside (α -D-35)



To a stirred solution of β -L-**34** (120 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv.) in DCM (3.5 mL) was added (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (215 mg, 0.66 mmol, 2 equiv.). After 1 h at room temperature, the mixture was cooled to 0 °C and diluted with MeOH (1.8 mL) followed by careful addition of NaBH_4 (100 mg, 2.67 mmol, 8 equiv.). After 2 h stirring with the ice bath, product could be observed by TLC (4:6 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (β -L-**34**) = 0.25, R_f (α -D-**35**) = 0.75) and the reaction was quenched with a saturated aqueous solution of NH_4Cl (10 mL). The mixture was extracted with Et_2O (3 \times 15 mL) and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography (70:30 to 50:50 Hex/AcOEt) to afford α -D-**35** as a colourless oil (55 mg, 50%) and recover β -L-**34** (49 mg, 41%). $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +95.2 (c 0.5, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6): 7.46-7.33 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.45 (ddt, $J=7.9, 6.0, 1.3$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.95 (d, $J=11.8$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.79 (d, $J=11.8$ Hz, 1H, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.47 (dd, $J=6.6, 5.9$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$), 4.44 (m, 1H, H-5), 4.01 (dddd, $J=12.2, 6.7, 3.4, 1.1$ Hz, 1H, H-6a), 3.88 (br dt, $J=12.2, 6.6$, 1H, H-6b) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6): 7.46-7.33 (m, 5H, H-Ar), 5.45 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.95 (d, $J=11.8$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.79 (d, $J=11.8$ Hz, 1H, $-\text{CH}_a\text{H}_b\text{Ph}$), 4.44 (dd, $J=7.3, 3.6$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.40 (br t, $J=6.2$ Hz, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$), 4.01 (ddd, $J=12.2, 6.7, 3.4$ Hz, 1H, H-6a), 3.88 (ddd, $J=12.2, 7.3, 6.6$ Hz 1H, H-6b) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ -120.6 (dm, $J=272.5$ Hz, 1F), -124.9 (dm, $J=269.0$ Hz, 1F), -130.6 (dm, $J=263.7$

Hz, 1F), -132.0 (dm, $J=272.5$ Hz, 1F), -132.3 (dm, $J=263.7$ Hz, 1F), -145.5 (dm, $J=269.0$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ -120.6 (dtdd, $J=272.5, 15.5, 7.17, 1.7$ Hz, 1F), -124.9 (dddd, $J=269.0, 15.5, 12.9, 7.5, 6.9$ Hz, 1F), -130.6 (dm, $J=263.8$ Hz, 1F), -132.0 (ddtd, $J=272.5, 15.5, 7.8, 2.0$ Hz, 1F), -132.3 (dddd, $J=263.7, 16.0, 12.6, 7.5, 2.0$ Hz, 1F), -145.5 (dddd, $J=269.0, 15.5, 12.6, 9.8, 8.3$ Hz, 1F) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 136.9 (C-Ar), 129.5 (C-Ar), 129.3 (C-Ar), 129.1 (C-Ar), 115.5-105.5 (3x CF_2), 96.4 (ddd, $J=36.7, 24.9, 2.2$ Hz, C-1), 71.3 (s, $-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$), 70.1 (ddd, $J=25.7, 22.0, 1.5$ Hz, C-5), 58.4 (m, C-6) ppm; HRMS (ESI+) m/z : $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_6\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ 353.0583, found 353.0581

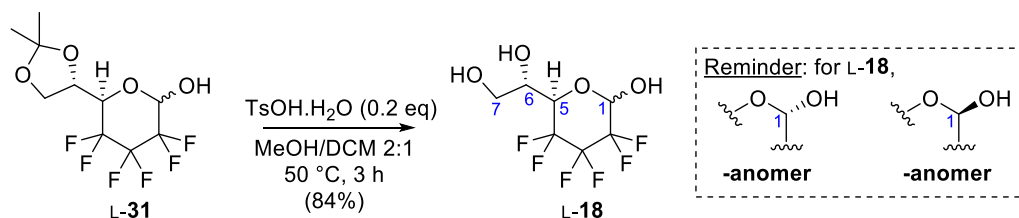
2,3,4-Trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-D-glycero-hexopyranose (D-4)



To a stirred and argon-flushed solution of prepared α -D-**35** (130 mg, 0.40 mmol, 1 equiv.) in AcOEt (4 mL) was added $\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_2$ (25 mg, 20%_{w/w}). Three vacuum-argon cycles were performed, followed by three vacuum- H_2 cycles. Mixture was left stirred at room temperature under positive H_2 atmosphere. After 15 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (5:5 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (α -D-**35**) = 0.85, R_f (D-**4**) = 0.45), mixture was filtrated over a celite pad, and the latter was washed with AcOEt and MeOH. The obtained filtrate was concentrated under reduced to afford almost pure D-**4** (94 mg, quant.). The latter can be purified by silica gel chromatography (50:50 Hex/AcOEt) to increase purity. This afforded D-**4** (84 mg, 91%) as colourless oil. 20 mg of the sugar were taken and 1.5 mL of Et_2O /3 mL of hexane were added. Slow evaporation (1 week) afforded crystalline solids that were analysed by X-ray. mp = 64 °C (obtained from crystalline compound); $[\alpha]_D^{23} +115.3$ (c 0.5, MeOH), ^1H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 7.47 (br s, 1H, $\text{OH}-1\alpha\beta$), 5.53 (br t, $J=7.2$ Hz, 0.7H, H-1 α), 5.30 (dd, $J=15.9, 3.8, 0.3$ H, H-1 β), 4.52 (dm, $J=24.7$ Hz, 0.7H, H-5 α), 4.45 (br s, 0.3H, $\text{OH}-6\beta$), 4.27 (br s, 0.7H, $\text{OH}-6\alpha$), 4.18 (dm, $J=23.5, 0.3$ H, H-5 β), 3.98 (m, 1H, H-6a- $\alpha\beta$), 3.81 (m, 1H, H-6b- $\alpha\beta$) ppm; $^1\text{H}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$ NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 7.46 (m, 1H, $\text{OH}-1\alpha\beta$), 5.53 (s, 0.7H, H-1 α), 5.30 (s, 0.3H, H-1 β), 4.52 (dd, $J=7.0, 3.6$ Hz, 0.7H, H-5 α), 4.44 (br s, 0.3H, $\text{OH}-6\beta$), 4.34 (br s, 0.7H, $\text{OH}-6\alpha$), 4.17 (dd, $J=7.0, 3.6$ Hz, 0.3H, H-5 β), 3.96 (m, 1H, H-6a- $\alpha\beta$), 3.81 (m, 1H, H-6b- $\alpha\beta$) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ -122.7 (dm, $J=268.6$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -125.4 (dm, $J=269.3$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -127.3 (dm, $J=270.7$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -131.3 (dm, $J=263.2$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -132.4 (dd br t, $J=264.6, 13.6, 9.3$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -132.7 (dd br t, $J=268.2, 16.1, 9.7$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -133.3 (dm, $J=263.0$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -133.9 (ddd br d, $J=264.2, 16.9, 12.9, 7.9$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -134.8 (ddtd, $J=260.9, 15.4, 9.3, 1.0$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -141.4 (dm, $J=261.9$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -145.9 (dddd, $J=269.3, 15.4, 12.5, 9.7, 8.3$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -147.6 (dddt, $J=271.0, 23.2, 13.9, 9.3$ Hz, 0.3F, F β) ppm; $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (471 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ -122.7 (dtdd,

$J=268.6, 16.4, 7.2, 1.4$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -125.4 (dddt, $J=269.3, 16.5, 13.2, 7.5$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -127.3 (dddt, $J=270.7, 15.7, 14.3, 7.9$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -131.3 (dm, $J=263.2$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -132.4 (ddtd, $J=264.6, 13.9, 9.3, 1.0$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -132.7 (ddtd, $J=268.2, 16.1, 9.7, 1.4$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -133.3 (dm, $J=263.0$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -133.9 (dddd, $J=264.2, 15.4, 8.2, 1.4$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -134.8 (ddtd, $J=260.9, 15.4, 9.3, 1.0$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -141.4 (dddd, $J=261.9, 14.9, 7.5, 1.4$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -145.9 (dddd, $J=269.3, 15.4, 12.5, 9.7, 8.3$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -147.6 (dddt, $J=271.0, 23.2, 13.9, 9.3$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$) ppm; $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (101 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 115-110 (3x CF_2), 92.5 (ddd, $J=28.9, 18.9, 4.0$ Hz, C-1 β), 91.9 (br dd, $J=35.9, 25.1$ Hz, C-1 α), 74.4 (dd, $J=26.2, 22.4$ Hz, C-5 β), 69.3 (ddd, $J=25.4, 21.4, 1.5$ Hz, C-5 α), 58.6 (dd, $J=4.7, 2.2$ Hz, C-6 β), 58.5 (dd, $J=4.7, 1.8$ Hz, C-6 α) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : $[M-H]^-$ Calcd. for $C_6H_5F_6O_3$ 239.0148, found 239.0154

2,3,4-Trideoxy-2,2,3,3,4,4-hexafluoro-L-threo-heptopyranose (L-18)



To a stirred solution of L-**31** (75 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1 equiv.) in 2:1 MeOH/DCM (5 mL) was added PTSA.H₂O (9 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) and the reaction was heated to 50 °C using a heating mantle. After 3 h, completion was confirmed by TLC (4:6 Hex/AcOEt, R_f (L-**31**) = 0.8, R_f (L-**18**) = 0.15) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ (10 mL) was added. The solution was extracted with DCM (2× 20 mL) and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford almost pure L-**18** (65 mg, quant.) as a colourless oil. The latter can be purified by silica gel chromatography (10:90 Hex/AcOEt) to increase purity. This afforded L-**18** (55 mg, 84%) as a colourless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{23} +105.7$ (c 0.5, MeOH); 1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d^6): 7.44 (br s, 1H, $OH-1\alpha\beta$), 5.57 (br t, $J=7.1$ Hz, 0.7H, H-1 β), 5.29 (dd, $J=15.9, 3.9$ Hz, 0.3H, H-1 α), 4.62 (br d, $J=25.6$ Hz, 0.7H, H-5 β), 4.26 (br s, 0.3H, $OH-6\alpha$), 4.22-3.95 (m, 3.3H, H-5 α (0.3H) + H-6 $\alpha\beta$ (1H) + $OH-6\beta$ (1H) + $OH-7\alpha\beta$ (1H)), 3.71-3.58 (m, 2H, H-7 α/β) ppm; $^1H\{^{19}F\}$ NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 7.43 (br s, 1H, $OH-1\alpha\beta$), 5.56 (s, 0.7H, H-1 β), 5.29 (s, 0.3H, H-1 α), 4.62 (d, $J=3.0$ Hz, 0.7H, H-5 β), 4.25 (br s, 0.3H, $OH-3\alpha$), 4.16 (d, $J=3.4$ Hz, 0.3H, H-5 α), 4.18-3.95 (m, 3H, H-6 $\alpha\beta$ + $OH-6\beta$ + $OH-7\alpha\beta$), 3.71-3.58 (m, 2H, H-7 α/β) ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ -122.7 (dtdd, $J=268.2, 16.1, 7.5, 2.1$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -125.4 (ddtd, $J=267.8, 15.4, 12.9, 7.5, 2.5$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -127.3 (dm, $J=269.7$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -130.3 (d of br q, $J=261.1, 10.0$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -131.4 (dm, $J=262.9$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -131.6 (dm, $J=268.2, 0.7F, F\alpha$), -132.2 (m, $0.3F, F\beta$), -132.3 (dd of br t, $J=268.2, 16.1, 9.7$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -134.6 (ddtd, $J=260.7, 15.4, 9.3, 2.1$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -141.2 (dm, $J=260.7$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$), -145.8 (dm, $J=267.5$ Hz, $0.7F, F\alpha$), -147.6 (dddt, $J=271.0, 14.7, 12.9, 9.7$ Hz, $0.3F, F\beta$) ppm; $^{19}F\{^1H\}$ NMR (471 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ -122.7 (dtdd, $J=268.2, 16.1,$

7.5, 2.1 Hz, 0.7F, F α), -125.4 (dddt, $J=267.8, 15.4, 12.9, 7.5$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -127.3 (dddd, $J=269.3, 15.8, 10.7, 7.5, 5.4$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -130.3 (ddtd, $J=261.1, 14.3, 9.6, 1.4$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -131.4 (dtdd, $J=262.9, 10.7, 8.6, 3.2$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -131.6 (dddd, $J=268.2, 16.5, 12.1, 7.5, 1.8$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -132.2 (m, 0.3F, F β), -132.3 (ddtd, $J=268.2, 16.1, 9.7, 1.8$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -134.6 (ddtd, $J=260.7, 15.4, 9.3, 2.1$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -141.2 (dtdd, $J=260.7, 14.7, 7.9, 3.6$ Hz, 0.3F, F β), -145.8 (dddd, $J=267.5, 15.4, 11.8, 9.6, 8.3$ Hz, 0.7F, F α), -147.6 (dddt, $J=271.0, 14.7, 12.9, 9.7$ Hz, 0.3F, F β) ppm; $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, acetone- d^6): δ 115.5-105.5 (3x CF $_2$), 92.9 (ddd, $J=27.3, 19.2, 3.6$ Hz, C-1 α), 92.1 (ddd, $J=36.5, 27.9, 2.2$ Hz, C-1 β), 71.6 (ddd, $J=25.8, 22.2, 1.5$ Hz, C-5 β), 69.0 (s, C-6 α), 68.9 (s, C-6 β), 66.2 (ddd, $J=26.8, 20.7, 1.8$ Hz, C-5 α), 62.9 (d, $J=1.5$ Hz, C-7 β), 62.8 (d, $J=1.8$ Hz, C-7 α) ppm; HRMS (ESI-) m/z : [M-H] $^-$ Calcd. for C $_7$ H $_7$ F $_6$ O $_4$ 269.0254, found 269.0256

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Data Availability Statement

The data underlying this study are available in the published article and its Supporting Information.

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge and includes the additional discussions mentioned in text (nomenclature, determination of enantioselectivity, regioselectivity, ring-size), and NMR spectra of the described compounds (PDF).

■ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The work was funded by grants from the Leverhulme Trust (RPG-2015-211) and the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO, Odysseus Type I G0F5621N). We also thank the EPSRC (core capability EP/K039466/1) for funding, The FWO (G011015N and I006920N) and Ghent University (BOF.BAS.20200019.01) are thanked for equipment grants.

REFERENCES

- (1) Varki, A. Biological Roles of Oligosaccharides: All of the Theories Are Correct. *Glycobiology* **1993**, *3* (2), 97–130. <https://doi.org/10.1093/glycob/3.2.97>.
- (2) Rudd, P. M.; Elliott, T.; Cresswell, P.; Wilson, I. A.; Dwek, R. A. Glycosylation and the Immune System. *Science* **2001**, *291* (5512), 2370–2376. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.291.5512.2370>.
- (3) Werz, D. B.; Seeberger, P. H. Carbohydrates as the Next Frontier in Pharmaceutical Research. *Chem - Eur. J.* **2005**, *11* (11), 3194–3206. <https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.200500025>.
- (4) Toone, E. J. Structure and Energetics of Protein-Carbohydrate Complexes. *Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol.* **1994**, *4* (5), 719–728. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0959-440X\(94\)90170-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0959-440X(94)90170-8).
- (5) Ernst, B.; Magnani, J. L. From Carbohydrate Leads to Glycomimetic Drugs. *Nat. Rev. Drug. Discov.* **2009**, *8* (8), 661–677. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nrd2852>.

- (6) Gillis, E. P.; Eastman, K. J.; Hill, M. D.; Donnelly, D. J.; Meanwell, N. A. Applications of Fluorine in Medicinal Chemistry. *J. Med. Chem.* **2015**, *58* (21), 8315–8359. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.5b00258>.
- (7) Soueidan, O.-M.; Trayner, B. J.; Grant, T. N.; Henderson, J. R.; Wuest, F.; West, F. G.; Cheeseman, C. I. New Fluorinated Fructose Analogs as Selective Probes of the Hexose Transporter Protein GLUT5. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2015**, *13* (23), 6511–6521. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C5OB00314H>.
- (8) Johnson, B. M.; Shu, Y.-Z.; Zhuo, X.; Meanwell, N. A. Metabolic and Pharmaceutical Aspects of Fluorinated Compounds. *J. Med. Chem.* **2020**, *63* (12), 6315–6386. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.9b01877>.
- (9) Wei, X.; Wang, P.; Liu, F.; Ye, X.; Xiong, D. Drug Discovery Based on Fluorine-Containing Glycomimetics. *Molecules* **2023**, *28* (18), 6641. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules28186641>.
- (10) Bresciani, S.; Lebl, T.; Slawin, A. M. Z.; O'Hagan, D. Fluorosugars: Synthesis of the 2,3,4-Trideoxy-2,3,4-Trifluoro Hexose Analogues of D-Glucose and D-Altrose and Assessment of Their Erythrocyte Transmembrane Transport. *Chem. Commun.* **2010**, *46* (30), 5434–5436. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C0CC01128B>.
- (11) Kim, H. W.; Rossi, P.; Shoemaker, R. K.; DiMagno, S. G. Structure and Transport Properties of a Novel, Heavily Fluorinated Carbohydrate Analogue. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120* (35), 9082–9083. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ja9803714>.
- (12) Linclau, B.; Ardá, A.; Reichardt, N.-C.; Sollogoub, M.; Unione, L.; Vincent, S. P.; Jiménez-Barbero, J. Fluorinated Carbohydrates as Chemical Probes for Molecular Recognition Studies. Current Status and Perspectives. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2020**, *49* (12), 3863–3888. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C9CS00099B>.
- (13) Shinde, S. S.; Maschauer, S.; Prante, O. Sweetening Pharmaceutical Radiochemistry by 18F-Fluoroglycosylation: Recent Progress and Future Prospects. *Pharmaceuticals* **2021**, *14* (11), 1175. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ph14111175>.
- (14) Born, D. van der; Pees, A.; Poot, A. J.; Orru, R. V. A.; Windhorst, A. D.; Vugts, D. J. Fluorine-18 Labelled Building Blocks for PET Tracer Synthesis. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2017**, *46* (15), 4709–4773. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C6CS00492J>.
- (15) Jordan, C.; Siebold, K.; Priegue, P.; Seeberger, P. H.; Gilmour, R. A Fluorinated Sialic Acid Vaccine Lead Against Meningitis B and C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2024**, *146* (22), 15366–15375. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.4c03179>.
- (16) Biffinger, J. C.; Kim, H. W.; DiMagno, S. G. The Polar Hydrophobicity of Fluorinated Compounds. *ChemBioChem* **2004**, *5* (5), 622–627. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cbic.200300910>.
- (17) Mueckler, M.; Thorens, B. The SLC2 (GLUT) Family of Membrane Transporters. *Mol. Aspects Med.* **2013**, *34* (2–3), 121–138. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mam.2012.07.001>.
- (18) Thorens, B.; Mueckler, M. Glucose Transporters in the 21st Century. *Am. J. Physiol. Endocrinol. Metab.* **2010**, *298* (2), E141–145. <https://doi.org/10.1152/ajpendo.00712.2009>.
- (19) Denavit, V.; Lainé, D.; St-Gelais, J.; Johnson, P. A.; Giguère, D. A Chiron Approach towards the Stereoselective Synthesis of Polyfluorinated Carbohydrates. *Nat. Commun.* **2018**, *9* (1), 4721. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-06901-y>.
- (20) Quiquempoix, L.; Wang, Z.; Graton, J.; Latchem, P. G.; Light, M.; Le Questel, J.-Y.; Linclau, B. Synthesis of 2,3,4-Trideoxy-2,3,4-Trifluoroglucose. *J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *84* (9), 5899–5906. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.joc.9b00310>.
- (21) Gloster, T. M.; Vocadlo, D. J. Developing Inhibitors of Glycan Processing Enzymes as Tools for Enabling Glycobiology. *Nat. Chem. Biol.* **2012**, *8* (8), 683–694. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nchembio.1029>.
- (22) Linclau, B.; Golten, S.; Light, M.; Sebban, M.; Oulyadi, H. The Conformation of Tetrafluorinated Methyl Galactoside Anomers: Crystallographic and NMR Studies. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2011**, *346* (9), 1129–1139. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.carres.2011.04.007>.
- (23) Wheatley, D. E.; Fontenelle, C. Q.; Kuppala, R.; Szpera, R.; Briggs, E. L.; Vendeville, J.-B.; Wells, N. J.; Light, M. E.; Linclau, B. Synthesis and Structural Characteristics of All Mono- and Difluorinated

- 4,6-Dideoxy-D-Xylo-Hexopyranoses. *J. Org. Chem.* **2021**, *86* (11), 7725–7756. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.joc.1c00796>.
- (24) N'Go, I.; Golten, S.; Ardá, A.; Cañada, J.; Jiménez-Barbero, J.; Linclau, B.; Vincent, S. P. Tetrafluorination of Sugars as Strategy for Enhancing Protein–Carbohydrate Affinity: Application to UDP-Galp Mutase Inhibition. *Chem - Eur. J.* **2014**, *20* (1), 106–112. <https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.201303693>.
- (25) Wang, Z.; Felstead, H. R.; Troup, R. I.; Linclau, B.; Williamson, P. T. F. Lipophilicity Modulations by Fluorination Correlate with Membrane Partitioning. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2023**, *62* (21), e202301077. <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202301077>.
- (26) Keenan, T.; Parmeggiani, F.; Malassis, J.; Fontenelle, C. Q.; Vendeville, J.-B.; Offen, W.; Both, P.; Huang, K.; Marchesi, A.; Heyam, A.; Young, C.; Charnock, S. J.; Davies, G. J.; Linclau, B.; Flitsch, S. L.; Fascione, M. A. Profiling Substrate Promiscuity of Wild-Type Sugar Kinases for Multi-Fluorinated Monosaccharides. *Cell Chem. Biol.* **2020**, *27* (9), 1199–1206.e5. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chembiol.2020.06.005>.
- (27) Ahmed, Md. M.; O'Doherty, G. A. De Novo Asymmetric Syntheses of C-4-Substituted Sugars via an Iterative Dihydroxylation Strategy. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2006**, *341* (10), 1505–1521. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.carres.2006.03.024>.
- (28) Caravano, A.; Field, R. A.; Percy, J. M.; Rinaudo, G.; Roig, R.; Singh, K. Developing an Asymmetric, Stereodivergent Route to Selected 6-Deoxy-6-Fluoro-Hexoses. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2009**, *7* (5), 996–1008. <https://doi.org/10.1039/B815342F>.
- (29) Jenkinson, S. F.; Best, D.; Izumori, K.; Wilson, F. X.; Weymouth-Wilson, A. C.; Fleet, G. W. J.; Thompson, A. L. 6-De-oxy-6-Fluoro-D-Galactose. *Acta Cryst. E* **2010**, *66* (6), o1315–o1315. <https://doi.org/10.1107/S1600536810016612>.
- (30) Linclau, B.; Boydell, A. J.; Timofte, R. S.; Brown, K. J.; Vinader, V.; Weymouth-Wilson, A. C. Enantioselective Synthesis of Tetrafluorinated Ribose and Fructose. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2009**, *7* (4), 803–814. <https://doi.org/10.1039/B817260A>.
- (31) Timofte, R. S.; Linclau, B. Enantioselective Synthesis of Tetrafluorinated Glucose and Galactose. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10* (17), 3673–3676. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ol801272e>.
- (32) Golten, S.; Fontenelle, C. Q.; Timofte, R. S.; Bailac, L.; Light, M.; Sebban, M.; Oulyadi, H.; Linclau, B. Enantioselective Synthesis of Dideoxy-Tetrafluorinated Hexoses. *J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *81* (11), 4434–4453. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.joc.6b00302>.
- (33) Cote, J. M.; Taylor, E. A. The Glycosyltransferases of LPS Core: A Review of Four Heptosyltransferase Enzymes in Context. *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2017**, *18* (11), 2256. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms18112256>.
- (34) Raetz, C. R. H.; Whitfield, C. Lipopolysaccharide Endotoxins. *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* **2002**, *71* (Volume 71, 2002), 635–700. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.biochem.71.110601.135414>.
- (35) Blackburn, L.; Wei, X.; Taylor, R. J. K. Manganese Dioxide Can Oxidise Unactivated Alcohols under in Situ Oxidation–Wittig Conditions. *Chem. Commun.* **1999**, No. 14, 1337–1338. <https://doi.org/10.1039/A903980E>.
- (36) Kolb, H. C.; VanNieuwenhze, M. S.; Sharpless, K. B. Catalytic Asymmetric Dihydroxylation. *Chem. Rev.* **1994**, *94* (8), 2483–2547. <https://doi.org/10.1021/cr00032a009>.
- (37) Linclau, B. Enantioselective Dihydroxylation of Perfluoroalkyl-Substituted Alkenes. *Chim. Oggi* **2007**, *25*, 51–54.
- (38) Sharpless, K. B.; Amberg, W.; Bennani, Y. L.; Crispino, G. A.; Hartung, J.; Jeong, K. S.; Kwong, H. L.; Morikawa, K.; Wang, Z. M. The Osmium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Dihydroxylation: A New Ligand Class and a Process Improvement. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57* (10), 2768–2771. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jo00036a003>.
- (39) Linclau, B.; Boydell, A. J.; Clarke, P. J.; Horan, R.; Jacquet, C. Efficient Desymmetrization of “Pseudo”-C2-Symmetric Substrates: Illustration in the Synthesis of a Disubstituted Butenolide from Arabitol. *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68* (5), 1821–1826. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jo026696r>.
- (40) Clode, D. M. Carbohydrate Cyclic Acetal Formation and Migration. *Chem. Rev.* **1979**, *79* (6), 491–513. <https://doi.org/10.1021/cr60322a002>.

(41) Bruce Grindley, T.; Wickramage, C. The Rearrangement of Mono-O-Isopropylidene Derivatives of Aldose Diethyl Dithioacetals. *Carbohydr. Res.* **1987**, *167*, 105–121. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0008-6215\(87\)80272-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/0008-6215(87)80272-0).