### **Supporting Information**

#### for

## Changed reactivity of secondary hydroxyl groups in C8modified adenosine – lessons learned from silylation

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Experimental procedures, RNA synthesis, characterization data (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P NMR, and MALDI-TOF MS), copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra

#### **Experimental Section**

#### General

Triethylamine (TEA) was stored over calcium hydride, pyridine over KOH; both solvents were freshly distilled before use. All other reagents, chemicals and solvents were obtained as the highest commercially available grade and used without further purification. All reactions were carried out in dry solvents under argon atmosphere. For the Sonogashira reactions the solvents were additionally degassed using an argon stream. Silica gel for column chromatography (0.063–0.2 mm) was obtained from Merck. TLC chromatography was performed on pre-coated aluminium silica gel 60 F254 plates (Merck). NMR spectra (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P, HMBC, HSQC) were acquired on a Bruker Avance 600 MHz spectrometer, assignment of the NMR signals was carried out by 2D NMR measurements (HMBC, HSQC). Mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker microflex MALDI-TOF MS. Standard PAC-phosphoramidites as well as CPG supports were obtained from ChemGenes or Link Technologies. The oligoribonucleotide was synthesized on a Pharmacia LKB Gene Assembler 4 Primers DNA/RNA Synthesizer following our standard protocol for oligoribonucleotide chain assembly,<sup>1</sup> with the exception that the coupling step of the modified phosphoramidite 9 was executed in a double coupling cycle. For removal of base and phosphate protecting groups and cleavage from the support the synthesized RNAs were incubated with aqueous ammonia (32%)/ethanolic methylamine (8 M) (1:1, v/v) at 65 °C for 40 min. Afterwards all RNAs were incubated with TEA·3HF for 1.5 h at 55 °C for removal of the 2'-O-protecting groups.

**Caution**, the here described syntheses were carried out under the usage of Triethylamine trihydrofluoride TEA·3HF (H300 + H310 + H330 - H314 and 70% HF pyridine solution (H225-H300 + H310 + H330-H314). Both HF solutions should be handled with care and the right Personal Protective Equipment should be provided.

#### Table S 1 Mass data of the synthesized RNA sequence

	X = 8LA		
	sequence	m/z [M+Na]+	calc. [M+Na]+
RNA1	5' GGC GUG UAG G <b>X</b> U AUG CCC 3'	5980	5978



Figure S 1 MALDI TOF spectra of the synthesized RNA1.

#### 2',3',5'-Tris-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-adenosine (2)

Adenosine (5 g, 18.7 mmol) was dried by evaporation with dry DCM three times, purged with argon and dissolved in 50 ml dry DMF, followed by the addition of imidazole (6.4, 94 mmol) and *t*BDMS-Cl (11.3 g, 75 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 60 °C and afterwards the DMF was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was resolved in DCM, the resulting solution was washed twice with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and the combined aq. phase was extracted with DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography (DCM/MeOH 99:1 to 95:5) compound **2** was obtained as a colourless solid (9.4 g, 15.4 mmol, 82%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.50 ('DCM/MeOH 95:5), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.33, 8.12 (2H, s, s, H2/H8) 7.31 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>) 5.93 (1H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, H1') 4.91 (1H, dd, *J* 4.4 Hz and 6.4 Hz, H2') 4.32 (1H, m, H3') 4.00 (2H, m, *J* 5.6 Hz, H4'/H5'(a)) 3.73 (1H, dd, *J* 7.1 Hz and 14.3 Hz, H5'(b)) 0.92 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.89 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.71 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.13 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.11 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.07 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.11 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.36 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 1<sup>3</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  156.10 (q, C4) 152.56 (CH, C2) 149.41 (q, C6) 139.47 (CH, C8) 119.17 (q, C5) 86.81 (CH, C1') 85.23 (CH, C4') 74.21 (CH, C2') 72.34 (CH, C3') 62.46 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 25.79 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.71 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.45 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 18.01 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.78 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.49 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.69 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.84 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.88 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.48 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.49 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.56 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 610.76 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>55</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 610.36)

#### 2´,3´,5´-Tris-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-8-iodoadenosine (3)

2',3',5'-Tris-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-adenosine 2 (8 g, 13.1 mmol) was dried by evaporation with dry DCM three times, purged with argon and then dissolved in 74 ml dry THF in a threeneck flask. The solution was cooled down at -80 °C in an isopropanol bath. A 2 M LDA solution (33 ml, 66 mmol, solution in THF, heptane and ethylbenzene) was diluted under argon in 60 ml dry THF and added to the nucleoside solution via a dropping funnel. The temperature of the reaction mixture was monitored and did not exceed a temperature of -70 °C. Afterwards the reaction mixture was stirred for 5.5 h at -75°C. In the meantime, iodine (6 g, 23.6 mmol) was dissolved in 50 ml dry THF under argon and added to the reaction mixture with a dropping funnel, whereas the temperature did not exceed a temperature of -70 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for additional 3 h at -75 °C before the isopropanol bath was removed and the reaction mixture was allowed to reach room temperature. The reaction was stopped by addition of acetic acid (3.75 ml, 66 mmol), followed by dilution in 1 l ethyl acetate. The resulting solution was washed with water until the water phase remained clear and colourless. The organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate 3:1 to 1:1) compound **3** was obtained as a white solid (7.6 g, 10.3 mmol, 79%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.45 (hexane/ethyl acetate 1:1), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.04 (1H, s, H2) 7.43 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>) 5.81 (1H, d, *J* 6,1 Hz, H1') 5.59 (1H, dd, *J* 4.5 Hz and 5.9 Hz, H2') 4.54 (1H, m, H3') 4.08 (1H, dd, *J* 7.4 Hz and 10.9 Hz, H4') 3.95 (1H, m, H5'(a)) 3.67 (1H, dd, *J* 4.9 Hz and 11.03 Hz,

H5'(b)) 0.94 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.81 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.76 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.15 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.14 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.01 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.05 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.11 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.40 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  155.03 (q, C4) 151.86 (CH, C2) 149.40 (q, C6) 122.45 (CH, C5) 104.07 (q, C8) 91.33 (CH, C1') 87.67 (CH, C4') 73.07 (CH, C2') 71.79 (CH, C3') 61.68 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 25.81 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.72 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.56 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.80 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.75 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.48 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -3.19 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.60 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.85 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.95 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.78 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.82 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 735.95 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>54</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 736.25)

#### 2´,3´,5´-Tris-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-N-isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine (4)

2',3',5'-Tris-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-8-iodoadenosine **3** (2.5 g, 3.4 mmol) was dried by evaporation with dry pyridine three times, purged with argon and was dissolved in 17 ml dry DMF, followed by the addition of iso-butyric anhydride (3.3 ml, 20.4 mmol) under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at 50 °C. Afterwards the pyridine was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was twice coevaporated with toluene and three times with ethanol. The residue was resolved in ethyl acetate and the resulting solution was washed twice with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The combined aq. phase was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 to 8:2) compound **4** was obtained as a white solid (1.9 g, 2.4 mmol, 70%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.45 (hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.76 (1H, s, NH) 8.55 (1H, s, H2) 5.89 (1H, d, *J* 5.8 Hz, H1') 5.55 (1H, dd, *J* 5.3 Hz, H2') 4.59 (1H, m, H3') 4.03 (1H, m, H4') 3.98 (1H, m, H5'(a)) 3.71 (1H, m, *J* 4.4 Hz Hz and 10.9 Hz, H5'(b)) 2.94 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 0.95 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.79 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.76 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.16 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.15 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.01 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.08 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.09 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.41 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 1<sup>3</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  175.21 (q, C=O) 151.99 (q, C4) 151.11 (CH, C2) 148.73 (q, C6) 126.55 (q, C5) 110.43 (q, C8) 91.69 (CH, C1') 84.90 (CH, C4') 71.66 (CH, C2') 71.08 (CH, C3') 61.69 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 34.39 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 25.73 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.59 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.49 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.24 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.19 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 17.89 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 17.51 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.71 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.73 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -4.81 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) - 5.41 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.49 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.66 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 805.89 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>60</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 806.29)

#### 6-N-Isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine (5)

2',3',5'-Tris-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-*N*-isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine **4** (5 g, 18.7 mmol) was dissolved in 19 ml dry DMF, followed by the addition of Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF (1.35 ml, 8.25 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred over night at room temperature and afterwards the DMF was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was resolved in DCM and the product precipitated. The precipitate was separated from the solvent via a Büchner funnel, and compound **5** was obtained as a white solid (0.9 g, 2 mmol, 85%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.28 ('DCM/MeOH 95:5), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.76 (1H, s, NH) 8.58 (1H, s, H2) 5.85 (1H, d, *J* 6.3 Hz, H1') 5.48 (1H, d, *J* 6.2 Hz, 2'OH) 5.29 (1H, d *J* 4.8 Hz, 3'OH) 5.23 (1H, dd, *J* 6.1 Hz and 11.8 Hz, H2') 5.07 (1H, dd, *J* 4.9 Hz and 7.4 Hz, 5'OH) 4.26 (1H, dd, *J* 4.9 Hz and 7.9 Hz, H3') 3.96 (1H, dd, *J* 4.7 Hz and 7.9 Hz, H4') 3.69 (1H, m, H5'(a)) 3.53 (1H, m, H5'(b)) 2.94 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  175.26 (q, C=O) 152.07 (q, C4) 151.12 (CH, C2) 148.69 (q, C6) 126.77 (q, C5) 110.08 (q, C8) 92.43 (CH, C1') 86.28 (CH, C4') 70.68 (CH, C2') 70.63 (CH, C3') 61.89 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 34.39 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.24 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.21 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 463.93 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 464.04)

#### 5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine (6)

6-*N*-IsobutyryI-8-iodoadenosine **5** (0.8 g, 1.8 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (15 ml, freshly distilled), followed by addition of DMT-Cl (0.7 g, 2.2 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h, and the reaction was stopped by addition of MeOH (5 ml). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was coevaporated three times with toluene before resolving it in 'DCM. The solution was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> twice and the combined aq. phase was extracted with 'DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography ('DCM/MeOH 99:1 to 97:3) compound **6** was obtained as a white solid (1.1 g, 1.5 mmol, 83%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.45 ('DCM/MeOH 96:4), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.73 (1H, s, NH) 8.41 (1H, s, H2) 7.27 (2H, d, *J* 7.7 Hz, DMT) 7.17 (7H, m, DMT) 6.79 (2H, d, *J* 9 Hz, DMT) 6.75 (2H, d, *J* 9 Hz, DMT) 5.86 (1H, d, *J* 4.5 Hz, H1') 5.54 (1H, d, *J* 5.7 Hz, 2'OH) 5.32 (1H, dd, *J* 5.1 Hz and 10 Hz, H2') 5.28 (1H, d, *J* 5.9 Hz, 3'OH) 4.55 (1H, dd, *J* 5.5 Hz and 10.9 Hz, H3') 4.08 (1H, dd, *J* 4.8 Hz and 9.4 Hz, H4') 3.71 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.70 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.24 (1H, m, H5'(a)) 3.12 (1H, m, H5'(b)) 2.94 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 175.24 (q, C=O) 157.96 (q, DMT) 157.92 (q, DMT) 152.02 (q, C4) 151.14 (CH, C2) 148.51 (q, C6) 144.91 (q, DMT) 135.64 (q, DMT) 135.56 (q, DMT) 129.66 (CH, DMT) 129.55 (CH, DMT) 127.65 (CH, DMT) 127.59 (CH, DMT) 126.51 (CH, DMT 126.38 (q, C5) 113.03 (CH, DMT) 112.98 (CH, DMT) 110.27 (q, C8) 92.73 (CH, C1') 85.19 (q, DMT) 83.25 (CH, C4') 70.65 (CH, C2') 70.17 (CH, C3') 63.14 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 54.97 (OCH<sub>3</sub>) 54.96 (OCH<sub>3</sub>) 34.39 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.24 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.21 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m*/*z* 765.89 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>36</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O7H<sup>+</sup> calc. 766.17)

## 5´-O-(4,4´-Dimethoxytrityl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-(3-[6-trifluoroacetamidohexanamide]prop-2-ynyl)-adenosine (7)

5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine **6** (0.8 g, 1.1 mmol) was filled into a Schlenk flask together with Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.12 g, 0.11 mmol), Cul (0.04 g, 0.22 mmol) and *N*-(propyn-2-yl)-6-(trifluoroacetamido)hexanamide **L** (0.34 g, 1.3 mmol), purged with argon three times, and dissolved in 10 ml dry DMF. Afterwards, TEA (450  $\mu$ l, 3.2 mmol, freshly distilled) was added dropwise to the clear yellow solution to start the reaction. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 19 h. Reaction was stopped by addition of 5 ml ethyl acetate, and the solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was resolved in 'DCM and the resulting solution was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> twice. The combined aq. phase was extracted with 'DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography ('DCM/MeOH 99:1 to 97:3) compound **7** was obtained as a white solid (0.51 g, 0.6 mmol, 53%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.35 ('DCM/MeOH 96:4), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.77 (1H, s, NH) 9.40 (1H, t, J 5.3 Hz, NH) 8.52 (1H, t, J 5.5 Hz, NH) 8.48 (1H, s, H2) 7.30 (2H, d, J 8.1 Hz, DMT) 7.17 (7H, m, DMT) 6.79 (2H, d, J 8.9 Hz, DMT) 6.75 (2H, d, J 8.9 Hz, DMT) 6.02 (1H, d, J 4.8 Hz, H1') 5.52 (1H, d, J 5.6 Hz, 2'OH) 5.27 (1H, d, J 5.7 Hz, 3'OH) 5.15 (1H, dd, J 5.1 Hz and 10.2 Hz, H2') 4.51 (1H, dd, J 5.3 Hz and 10.6 Hz, H3') 4.24 (2H, d, J 5.5 Hz, NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-C=C) 4.09 (1H, dd, J 4.9 Hz and 9.7 Hz, H4') 3.71 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.69 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.21 (1H, m, H5'(a)) 3.17 (3H, m, H5'(b)/NH-**CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>**) 2.94 (1H, sept, J 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 2.15 (2H, t, J 7.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>-C=O) 1.53 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.48 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.25 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, J 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 175.23 (q, C=O) 172.14 (q, C=O) 157.97 (q, DMT) 157.93 (q, DMT) (156.47 156.24 155.99 155.76, q, J 37 Hz, (**C**=O)CF<sub>3</sub>) 152.36 (CH, C2) 150.81 (q, C4) 149.87 (q, C6) 144.93 (q, DMT) 136.55 (q, C8) 135.61 (q, DMT) 135.58 (q, DMT) 129.68 (CH, DMT) 129.59 (CH, DMT) 127.64 (CH, DMT) 127.61 (CH, DMT) 126.51 (CH, DMT) 123.60 (q, C5) (118.85 117.00 115.05 113.12, q, J 288 Hz, (C=O)**C**F<sub>3</sub>) 113.01 (CH, DMT) 112.96 (CH, DMT) 95.49 (q, C≡C) 89.77 (CH, C1') 85.24 (q, DMT) 83.56 (CH, C4') 71.13 (CH, C2') 70.42 (q, C=C) 70.28 (CH, C3') 63.48 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 54.96 (OCH<sub>3</sub>) 54.94 (OCH<sub>3</sub>) 39.03 (CH<sub>2</sub>,) 34.91 (CH<sub>2</sub>)34.43 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 28.51 (CH<sub>2</sub>, NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-C=C) 28.01 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 25.85 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 24.64 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 19.20 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.18 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 901.74 ( $[M + H]^+$ , C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>50</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 902.36)

#### 3',5'-O-(di-tert-butylsilylene)-2'-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-adenosine (10)

Adenosine (0.5 g, 1.9 mmol) was dried by evaporation with dry 'DCM three times, purged with argon and dissolved in 4 ml dry DMF. The reaction mixture was cooled down to 0 °C, followed by the dropwise addition of di-*tert*-butylsilandiyltriflat (0.73 ml, 2.2 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 45 min at 0 °C. Afterwards, imidazole (0.64 g, 9.3 mmol) and *t*BDMS-Cl (0.42 g, 2.8 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. DMF was removed under reduced pressure, the residue was resolved in 'DCM and the resulting solution was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> twice. The combined aq. phase was extracted with 'DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography ('DCM/MeOH 99:1 to 95:5) compound **10** was obtained as a colourless solid (0.8 g, 1.6 mmol, 83%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.70 ('DCM/MeOH 95:5), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.34, 8.13 (2H, s, s, H2/H8) 7.35 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>) 5.95 (1H, s, H1') 4.73 (1H, m, H2') 4.67 (1H, d, J 5.1 Hz, H3') 4.36 (1H, d, J 4.5 Hz, H4') 3.99 (2H, d, J 6.8 Hz, H5'(a)/H5'(b)) 1.08 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 1.01 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.86 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.09 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.07 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  156.08 (q, C4) 152.68 (CH, C2) 148.77 (q, C6) 139.78 (CH, C8) 119.07 (q, C5) 91.00 (CH, C1') 75.21 (CH, C4') 74.81 (CH, C2') 74.08 (CH, C3') 67.02 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 27.33 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 26.83 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.69 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 22.22 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.97 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 18.07 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.58 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.18 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m*/*z* 522.08 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 522.29)

#### 3',5'-O-(di-tert-butylsilylene)-2'-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-8-iodoadenosine (11)

As described for **3**, with **10** (5.6 g, 10.7 mmol), 2 M LDA (27 ml, 54 mmol), iodine (4.9 g, 19.3 mmol) and acetic acid (3 ml, 54 mmol). Purification was done via column chromatography (hexane/ ethyl acetate 3:1 to 1:1), and compound **11** was obtained as a white solid (5.8 g, 8.9 mmol, 83%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.50 (hexane/ethyl acetate 1:1), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.03 (1H, s, H2) 7.48 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>) 5.74 (1H, s, H1') 5.18 (1H, dd, *J* 5.4 Hz, H2') 4.90 (1H, d, *J* 5.4 Hz, H3') 4.34 (1H, dd, *J* 5 Hz and 9 Hz, H4') 3.95, 3.87 (2H, m/m, H5'(a)/H5'(b)) 1.08 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 1.01 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.86 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.073 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) 0.071 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  154.91 (q, C4) 152.66 (CH, C2) 149.70 (q, C6) 121.95 (q, C5) 103.53 (q, C8) 95.08 (CH, C1') 74.61 (CH, C4') 74.25 (CH, C2') 73.62 (CH, C3') 66.92 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 27.28 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 26.80 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.66 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 22.27 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.93 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 18.13 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.49 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.30 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m*/*z* 648.01 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>42</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 648.18)

# 3',5'-*O*-(di-*tert*-butylsilylene)-2'-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-*N*-isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine (12)

As described for **4**, with **11** (1.6 g, 2.5 mmol) and *iso*-buytric anhydride (2.5 ml, 15 mmol). Purification was done via column chromatography (hexane/ ethyl acetate 9:1 to 8:2), and compound **12** was obtained as a white solid (1 g, 1.4 mmol, 57%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.45 (hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.78 (1H, s, NH) 8.54 (1H, s, H2) 5.84 (1H, s, H1') 5.19 (1H, dd, *J* 5.4 Hz, H2') 4.94 (1H, d, *J* 5.3 Hz, H3') 4.37 (1H, dd, *J* 5.2 Hz and 9 Hz, H4') 4.01, 3.92 (2H, m/m, H5'(a)/H5'(b)) 2.93 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.11 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.09 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 1.02 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.87 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 0.08 (6H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  175.20 (q, C=O) 151.82 (q, C4) 151.56 (CH, C2) 148.72 (q, C6) 126.46 (q, C5) 109.38 (q, C8) 95.34 (CH, C1') 74.65 (CH, C4') 74.39 (CH, C2') 73.67 (CH, C3') 66.88 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 34.39 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 27.31 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 26.81 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 25.69 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 22.30 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.94 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.19 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 18.09 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.47 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.26 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 717.96 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>48</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 718.22)

# 5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-2'-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine (13)

3',5'-O-(di-*tert*-butylsilylene)-2'-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-*N*-isobutyryl-8-iodoadenosine **12** (1 g, 1.4 mmol) was dissolved in 6 mol dry DCM, followed by the addition of pyridine (1 ml, fresh distilled) and cooling of the solution to 0 °C. The addition of the 70% HF pyridine solution (100  $\mu$ l, 5.5 mmol) occurred dropwise, and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h. Reaction was stopped by addition of 10 ml saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. The addition of 30 ml ethyl acetate took place after 5 min, the organic phase was washed three times with a saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The intermediate product was coevaporated three times with dry pyridine and dissolved in 11.5 ml dry pyridine, followed by addition of DMT-Cl (0.6 g, 1.8 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h, and the reaction was stopped by addition of MeOH (5 ml). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was coevaporated three times with toluene before resolving it in 'DCM. The solution was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> twice and the combined aq. phase was extracted with 'DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate 3:1 to 2:1) compound **13** was obtained as a white solid (0.75 g, 0.86 mmol, 62% over two steps).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.36 (hexane/ethyl acetate 2:1), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  10.76 (1H, s, NH) 8.37 (1H, s, H2) 7.35 (2H, d, *J* 8.2 Hz, DMT) 7.19 (7H, m, DMT) 6.82 (2H, d, *J* 9 Hz, DMT) 6.79 (2H, d, *J* 9 Hz, DMT) 5.88 (1H, d, *J* 5.2 Hz, H1') 5.36 (1H, dd, *J* 5.2 Hz, H2') 5.24 (1H, d, *J* 6.1 Hz, 3'OH) 4.44 (1H, dd, *J* 5.4 Hz and 10.4 Hz, H3') 4.12 (1H, dd, *J* 4.6 Hz and 9.3 Hz, H4') 3.71 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.70 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.31, 3.18 (2H, m/m, H5'(a)/H5'(b)) 2.93 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 0.74 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -0.09 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.22 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  175.21 (q, C=O) 157.99 (q, DMT) 157.97 (q, DMT) 151.99 (q, C4) 151.14 (CH, C2) 148.59 (q, C6) 144.95 (q, DMT) 135.56 (q, DMT) 129.71 (CH, DMT) 129.64 (CH, DMT) 127.68 (CH, DMT) 127.62 (CH, DMT) 126.55 (CH, DMT) 126.39 (q, C5) 113.04 (CH, DMT) 113.03 (CH, DMT) 110.02 (q, C8) 92.49 (CH, C1') 85.28 (q, DMT) 83.77 (CH, C4') 72.30 (CH, C2') 70.07 (CH, C3') 62.88 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 54,99 (CH, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 54,97 (CH, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 34,41 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 25.55 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 19.24 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.19 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 17.81 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.47 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.26 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 880.28 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C4<sub>1</sub>H<sub>50</sub>IN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>7</sub>H<sup>+</sup> calc. 880.25)

## 5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-2'-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-(3-[6-trifluoroacetamidohexanamide]prop-2-ynyl)-adenosine (8)

As described for **7** with nucleoside derivate **13** (0.73 g, 0.83 mmol),  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (0.1 g, 0.08 mmol), CuI (0.03 g, 0.16 mmol) and *N*-(propyn-2-yl)-6-(trifluoroacetamido)hexanamide (0.26 g, 1 mmol) in 8 ml dry DMF and TEA (345 µl, 3 mmol, fresh distilled). The residue was resolved in ethyl acetate, the resulting solution was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> twice and the combined aq. phase was extracted with 'DCM. The combined organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. After column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate 1:1 to 1:3) compound **8** was obtained as a white solid (0.43 g, 0.42 mmol, 51%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.35 (hexane/ethyl acetate 1:3), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 10.79 (1H, s, NH) 9.40 (1H, t, J 5.6 Hz, NH) 8.49 (2H, m, NH/H2) 7.36 (2H, d, *J* 8 Hz, DMT) 7.21 (6H, m, DMT) 7.17 (1H, m, DMT) 6.81 (2H, d, *J* 8.9 Hz, DMT) 6.78 (2H, d, *J* 8.9 Hz, DMT) 6.03 (1H, d, *J* 5 Hz, H1') 5.17 (2H, m, H2'/3'OH) 4.46 (1H, dd, *J* 5.3 Hz, H3') 4.19 (2H, d, *J* 5.3 Hz, NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-C≡C) 4.12 (1H, dd, *J* 4.8 Hz, H4') 3.71 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.70 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>) 3.29, 3.23 (2H, m/m, H5'(a)/H5'(b)) 3.16 (2H, dd, *J* 6.8 Hz, NH-**CH<sub>2</sub>**-CH<sub>2</sub>) 2.93 (1H, sept, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 2.13 (2H, t, *J* 7.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>-C=O) 1.52 (2H, m, *J* 7.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.48 (2H, quint, *J* 7.5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.25 (2H, quint, *J* 7.5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>) 1.12 (6H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 0.73 (9H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -0.09 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -0.21 (3H, s, SiCH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 175.21 (q, C=O) 172.07 (q, C=O) 157.99 (q, DMT) 157.97 (q, DMT) (156.23

155.99, d, J 37 Hz, (**C**=O)CF<sub>3</sub>) 152.41 (CH, C2) 150.81 (q, C4) 149.93 (q, C6) 144.95 (q, DMT) 136.23 (q, C8) 135.56 (q, DMT) 135.55 (q, DMT) 129.71 (CH, DMT) 129.66 (CH, DMT) 127.67 (CH, DMT) 127.64 (CH, DMT) 126.55 (CH, DMT) 123.55 (q, C5) 113.03 (CH, DMT) 113.00 (CH, DMT) 95.71 (q, C=C) 89.53 (CH, C1') 85.29 (q, DMT) 83.79 (CH, C4') 72.99 (CH, C2') 70.16 (q, C=C) 70.09 (CH, C3') 63.19 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C5') 54.97 (CH, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 54.96 (CH, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 39.02 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 34.91 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 34.44 (CH, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 28.45 (CH<sub>2</sub>, NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-C=C) 28.01 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 25.85 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 25.50 (CH, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) 24.63 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 19.20 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 19.16 (CH<sub>3</sub>, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) 17.79 (q, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) -4.84 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>) -5.39 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>), MALDI-TOF *m/z* 1016.86 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>64</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub>SiH<sup>+</sup> calc. 1016.45)

# 5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-2'-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-(3-[6-trifluoroacetamidohexanamide]prop-2-ynyl)-adenosine-3'-O-(cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite) (9)

5'-O-(4,4'-Dimethoxytrityl)-2'-O-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-6-N-Isobutyryl-8-(3-[6-

trifluoroacetylaminohexanamido]prop-1-ynyl)-adenosine **8** (0.2 g, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in dry DCM (2.8 ml), followed by dropwise addition of TEA (111 µl, fresh distilled) and 2-cyanoethyl-*N*,*N*-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (54 µl). After stirring at room temperature for 1 h, progress of the reaction was controlled by TLC, showing that no starting material was left. Reaction was stopped by addition of 20 ml DCM (stored over NaHCO<sub>3</sub>), and the resulting solution was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to column chromatography (DCM/acetone/TEA 95:4:1) yielding the nucleoside phosphoramidite **9** as a colourless oil (0.13 g, 0.11 mmol, 52%). R<sub>f</sub> 0.2 (DCM/acetone/TEA 95:4:1); <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (240 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  151.29 (s), 148.29 (s).

#### References

1. Rublack, N.; Nguyen, H.; Appel, B.; Springstubbe, D.; Strohbach, D.; Müller, S., *Journal of nucleic acids*, **2011**, Article ID 805253, 19 pages















































