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Effect of Phenolic Glycolipids From *Mycobacterium kansasii* on Proinflammatory Cytokine Release. A Structure–Activity Relationship Study.

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The cell wall of pathogenic mycobacteria is abundant with virulence factors, among which phenolic glycolipids (PGLs) are prominent examples. *Mycobacterium kansasii*, an important opportunistic pathogen, produces seven PGLs and their effect on the release of important proinflammatory cytokines that mediate disease progression has not been investigated. We previously showed that proinflammatory cytokines are modulated by PGLs from *M. tuberculosis*, *M. leprae* and *M. bovis*. In this paper we describe the synthesis of a series of 17 analogs of *M. kansasii* PGLs containing a truncated aglycone. Subsequently, the effect of these compounds on the release of proinflammatory cytokines (TNF- α , IL-6, IL-1 β , MCP-1) and nitric oxide (NO) was evaluated. These compounds exerted an immunoinhibitory effect on the release of the tested cytokines. The concentration–dependent inhibitory profile of the tested molecules was also found to be dependent on the methylation pattern of the molecule and was mediated via Toll-like Receptor (TLR)-2. This study led to the discovery of a glycolipid (**18**) that shows promising potent anti-inflammatory properties making it a potential candidate for further optimization of its anti-inflammatory profile.

Introduction

Emerging as an important non-tuberculous mycobacterium (NTM), *Mycobacterium kansasii* is the second most pathogenic NTM infecting humans after *M. avium*.^{1,2} Infections by *M. kansasii* cause chronic pulmonary illness that are indistinguishable from tuberculosis and have been suggested to have similar pathogenesis to *M. tuberculosis*.^{3–5} Phenolic glycolipids (PGLs) are important virulence factors expressed on the cell wall of *M. kansasii*. The structures of seven *M. kansasii* PGLs (**1**–**7**, Figure 1) have been isolated and characterized to date.⁶

Despite the work done by Puzo⁷ and Minnikin⁸ on structural elucidation of *M. kansasii* PGLs, the impact of these molecules on proinflammatory cytokine release has not been studied. In a previous investigation,⁹ Barry and coworkers showed that disrupting PGL synthesis resulted in the loss of the hyperlethality of W-Beijing *M. tuberculosis*, which also correlated to increased release of proinflammatory cytokines tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α), interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-12 (IL-12). Moreover, overproduction of PGLs by *M. tuberculosis* resulted in a dose-dependent inhibition of these proinflammatory cytokines.⁹ Recently, Gambier *et al*¹⁰ showed that *M. tuberculosis* and *M. marinum* are capable of recruiting and infecting permissive macrophages and evading microbicidal ones through the use of phthiocerol dimycocerosate (PDIM) and structurally related PGL cell wall components. It was shown that PDIM evades the host immune response through masking the underlying pathogen-associated molecular pattern (PAMPs)

thus altering the recruitment of microbicidal macrophages. On the other hand, PGLs increase infectivity through recruiting the permissive macrophages via chemokine receptor 2 (CCR2). Furthermore, Arbues *et al*¹¹ have recently reviewed the immunomodulatory properties of both PDIM and PGLs and proposed that PGLs might act as a ligand for carbohydrate-recognizing receptors on the surface of macrophages. It was also proposed that new strategies are needed for further assessment of the role of these biomolecules in virulence and immunomodulation.

Our previous work with truncated synthetic PGL analogs from *M. leprae*, *M. bovis* and *M. tuberculosis*^{12,13} established that these PGLs inhibit the release of nitric oxide (NO) as well as the proinflammatory cytokines TNF- α , IL-6, interleukin-1 beta (IL-1 β) and chemokine monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (MCP-1) in a concentration-dependent manner through Toll-like receptor 2 (TLR-2). Understanding the effect of PGLs from *M. kansasii* on the release of proinflammatory cytokines would lead to better understanding of their role in the progression of these infections. Moreover, the tested cytokines are also implicated in some inflammatory conditions^{14–20} such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA).^{21,2} Therefore, this study might lead to the discovery of compounds with potential use for treatment of these inflammatory conditions.

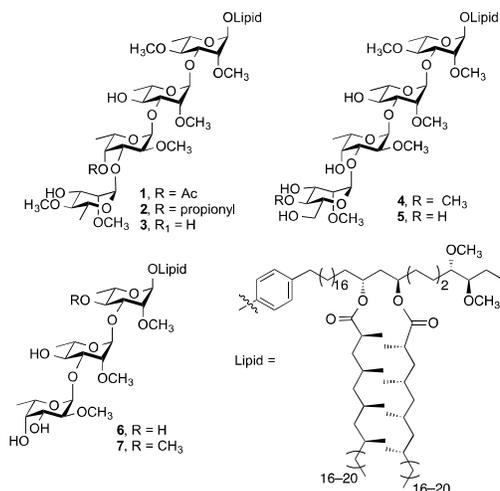


Figure 1. Structures of PGLs from *M. kansasii*.

We report here the synthesis of a 17-member library of *M. kansasii* PGL analogs (**8–24**, Figure 2). Seven of the targets (**8**, **9**, **14**, **15**, **17**, **20** and **23**) are direct analogs of the native PGLs while the remaining ten have different methylation and substitution patterns to allow structure–activity relationships to be probed. Following the synthesis of the target compounds, their effect on proinflammatory cytokine release was assessed and the receptor that mediates the immunodulatory activity of these compounds was determined. All of the targets were prepared with a simplified lipid core in which the complex phthiocerol dimycoserate domain was replaced with a *p*-methoxyphenyl group. This modification simplifies the synthesis of the target compounds considerably and improves aqueous solubility, a key consideration in the use of these compounds in biological assays. Previous work with similar derivatives of *M. leprae*-derived PGLs suggested that this modification did not substantially alter the cytokine modulating activity compared to the parent compound present in nature.¹² Hence these analogs are effective surrogates for the more complex natural products.

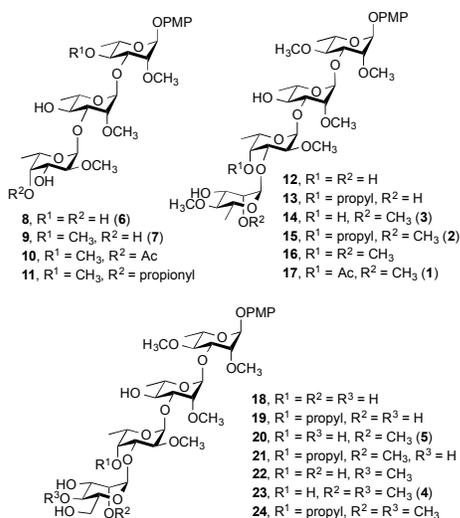
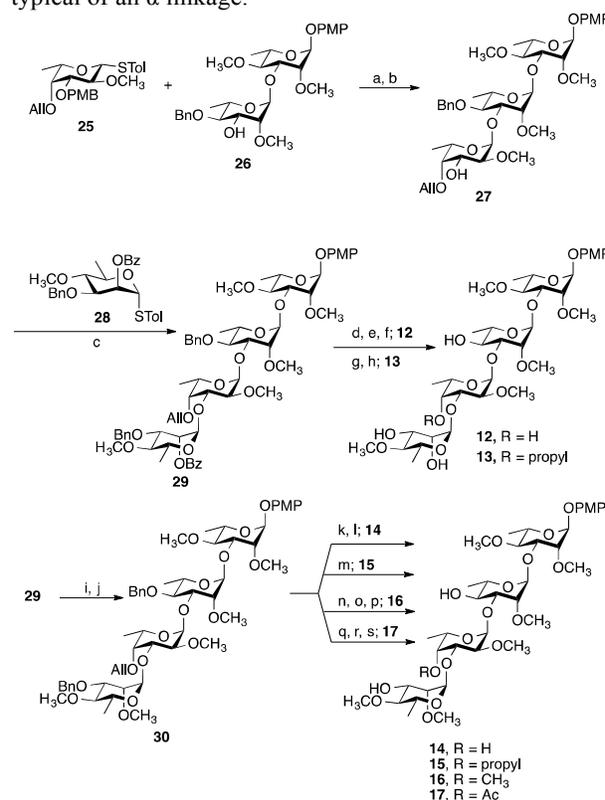


Figure 2. *M. kansasii* PGL analogs synthesized (**8–24**). The numbers in parentheses correspond to the natural compounds in Figure 1.

Results and discussion

Representative examples of how target compounds were synthesized are shown in Scheme 1, which illustrates the synthesis of **12–17**. Details of the routes used for the synthesis of the other targets and all building blocks are provided in the Supporting Information. The synthesis commenced with an NIS–AgOTf-mediated glycosylation of disaccharide acceptor **26** with monosaccharide donor **25**, followed by removal of the *p*-methoxybenzyl group furnishing trisaccharide **27** in 76% yield over two steps. Subsequent construction of tetrasaccharide **29** was achieved in 61% yield via glycosylation of trisaccharide **27** with the 6-deoxy-D-mannose thioglycoside **28**. With **29** in hand, accessing targets **12** and **13** was possible via different deprotection sequences. Base-catalysed hydrolysis of C-3''' benzoate followed by removal of allyl group using $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}^{23}$ and finally hydrogenolysis were employed to obtain compound **12**. On the other hand, base-catalysed hydrolysis of the C-3''' benzoate followed by hydrogenolysis afforded compound **13**. Accessing targets **14** to **17** required a methyl group to be added at O-2''' of **29**. This was achieved via deacylation and then treatment with methyl iodide and sodium hydride to give tetrasaccharide **30** in 81% yield. With **30** in hand, different deprotection protocols were employed to provide **14–17**. Removal of the allyl group catalysed by $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$ followed by hydrogenolysis gave compound **14**, whereas direct hydrogenolysis afforded compound **15**. Methylation of O-4'' after removal of allyl group using $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$ and finally removal of all benzyl groups via hydrogenolysis gave compound **16**. Finally, compound **17** was obtained after acylation of O-4'' following the removal of allyl group and then debenzoylation using Pd-C under hydrogen atmosphere. The stereochemistry of all the newly synthesized glycosidic linkages were α , as confirmed by measuring the $^1J_{\text{C}-1,\text{H}-1}$ for each monosaccharide residue using a coupled HSQC NMR experiment. The values, 170–171.5 Hz, agree with values typical of an α linkage.²⁴



Scheme 1. Synthesis of **12–17**. Reagents and conditions: a) NIS, AgOTf, $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, 30 min; b) 5% TFA, CH_2Cl_2 , $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, 20 min, 76% over two steps from **26**; c) NIS, AgOTf, CH_2Cl_2 , $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, 30 min, 61%; d) NaOCH_3 , CH_3OH , CH_2Cl_2 , 3 h; e) $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$, HOAc, overnight; f) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 68% over three steps from **29**; g) NaOCH_3 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, 3 h; h) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 87% over two steps from **29**; i) NaOCH_3 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, 5 h; j) CH_3I , NaH, DMF, 1 h, 81% over two steps from **29**; k) $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$, HOAc, overnight; l) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 79% over two steps from **30**; m) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 78%; n) $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$, HOAc, overnight; o) CH_3I , NaH, DMF, 1 h; p) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 71% over three steps from **30**; q) $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$, HOAc, overnight; r) Ac_2O , pyridine, 2 h; s) Pd-C, H_2 , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, overnight, 73% over three steps from **30**.

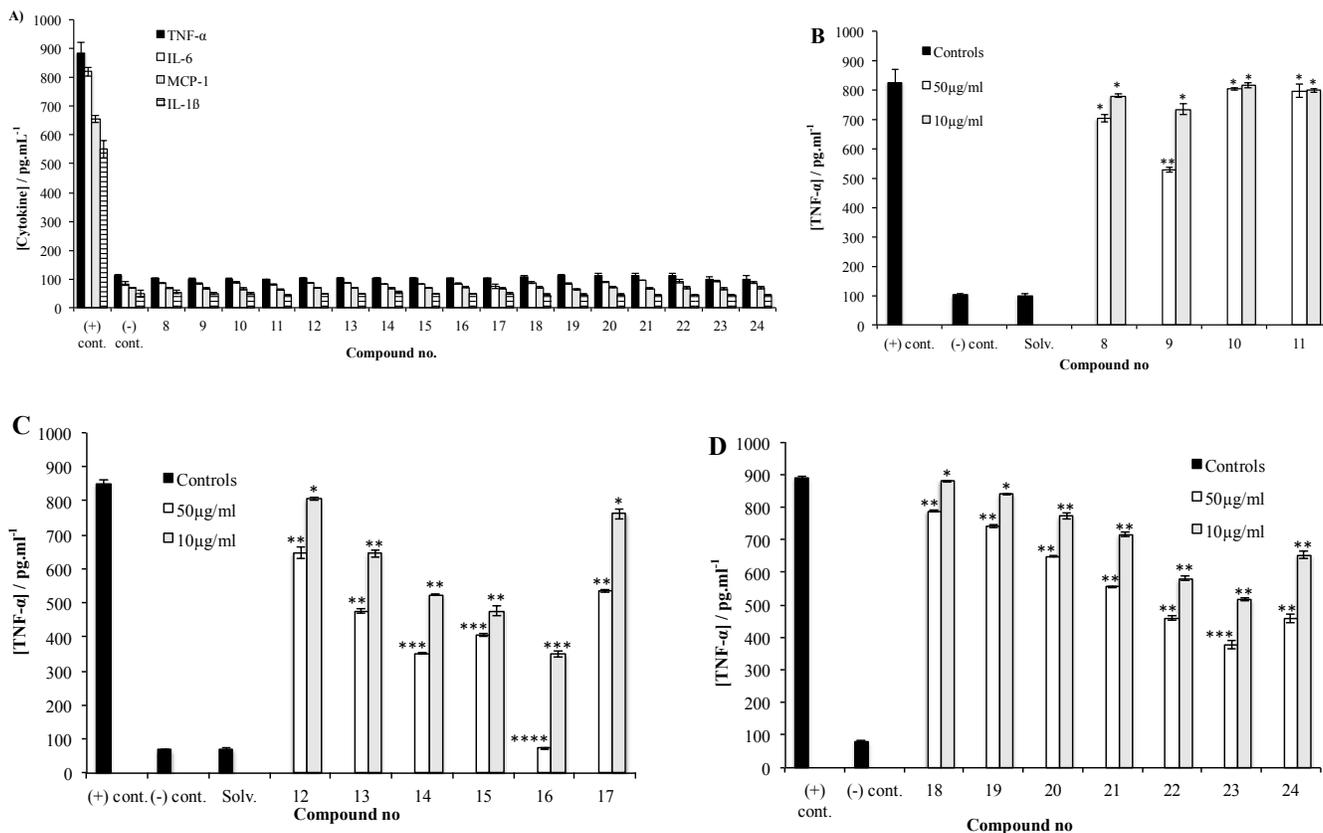


Figure 3. A) Cytokine stimulation assay. THP-1 cells were differentiated (activated) into mature macrophages (A-THP-1) via treatment with 5 ng/mL of Phorbol Myristate Acetate (PMA) for 18 h, treated with each synthetic compound at a concentration of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ (dissolved in 0.1% DMSO in RPMI), and then incubated for 24 h. Culture supernatants were then collected and tested for cytokine levels using ELISA. B) TNF- α inhibition assay using Pam3CSK4, a TLR2 agonist, as the stimulant for compounds **8–11**. Test compounds were added at concentrations of 10 or 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ to A-THP-1 cells in presence of the stimulant. After 24 h incubation, supernatants were collected and analyzed for TNF- α using ELISA (See experimental section for additional details). Each experiment was repeated twice and the concentration from each experiment was determined as triplicate using ELISA. The concentrations represented are the average of the six readings (\pm S.D.). C) TNF- α inhibition assay of compounds **12–17**. D) TNF- α inhibition assay of compounds **18–24**. * $P > 0.05$, ** $P < 0.05$, *** $P < 0.01$, **** $P < 0.0001$.

After accessing **8–24**, each was tested for their effect on the release of NO and proinflammatory cytokines that have been shown to play an important role in the progression of mycobacterial infections: TNF- α , IL-6, IL-1 β and MCP-1.^{9,25} To this end, the activated THP-1 (human acute leukemic monocyte/macrophage, A-THP-1) cell line was employed as it was widely used as model for macrophages.²⁶ Upon challenge of A-THP-1 with the test compounds, the levels of the cytokines produced were comparable to the negative control (Figure 3A), thus demonstrating the inability of these analogs to stimulate the release of TNF- α , IL-6, IL-1 β and MCP-1 and NO.

The potential of **8–24** to inhibit the release of these species was then evaluated by challenging A-THP-1 cells with the test compounds in the presence of a stimulant and measuring the concentrations of cytokines produced compared to a positive control. Trisaccharides **8–11** were evaluated first, using Pam3CSK4, a synthetic Toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2) agonist²⁷ as the stimulant. Figure 3B shows the data obtained for TNF- α .

Compound **9** corresponding directly to the natural product **6** showed a low level of inhibitory activity on the release of TNF- α when tested at 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$, $p < 0.01$. Trisaccharide **8**, which, compared to **9**, lacks the methyl group at O-4 showed very

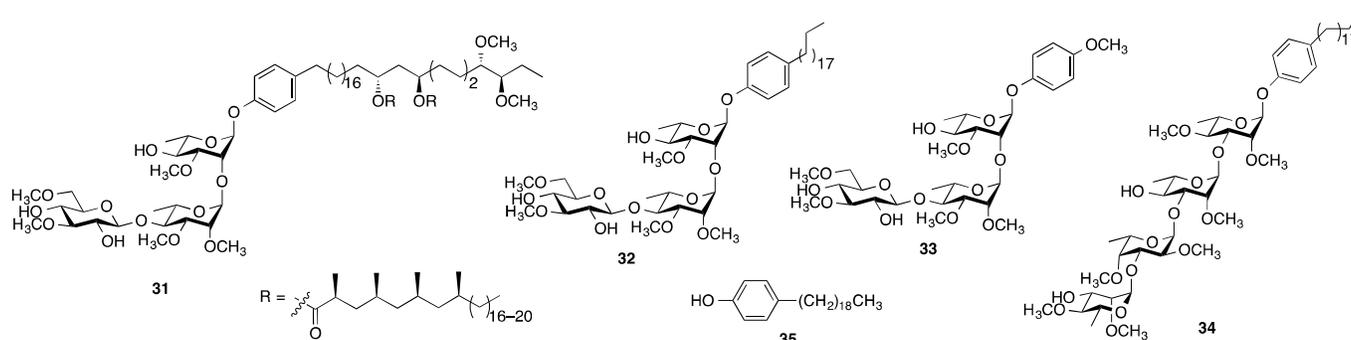
weak inhibition of TNF- α production, $p < 0.05$. On the other hand, trisaccharide **9** showed a weak to moderate inhibition of TNF- α release. This result underscores the relative importance of the O-4 methyl group on the activity. Compounds **10** and **11** differ from **9** by the presence of an ester group at O-4". The relative lack of activity of these compounds could be due to the size of the acyl group, which prohibits the binding of the molecule to TLR2. Similar trends were observed for **8–11** with regard to the other cytokines (data provided in the Supporting Information, Figures S1, S4, S7 and S10).

Tetrasaccharides **12–17** were then evaluated using the same assay (Figure 3C). Compounds **14** and **17** are analogs of the naturally occurring compounds **3** and **1**, respectively. Unnatural analogs **13**, **15** (contain a propyl group at O-4") and **12**, **16** (have different methylation pattern at both O-4" and O-2") were also evaluated. These tetrasaccharides could be conveniently synthesized and were prepared to evaluate the importance of different substituents at these positions. As illustrated in Figure 3C, a concentration-dependent, structure-dependent inhibitory pattern was obtained. Tetrasaccharide **16** showed the highest activity. At a concentration of 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, **16** inhibited the release of TNF- α from the stimulated A-THP-1 cells to a level equivalent to the negative control. This molecule has all hydroxyl groups methylated except O-4" and O-3". Removal of the O-4" methyl group in **16** (compound **14**), resulted in a significant loss of inhibitory activity. Replacing the methyl group at this position with a propyl group (compound **15**) also led to a loss of activity. This latter result suggests that the observed differences between **14** and **16** are structure-dependent and not a non-specific effect resulting from the enhanced hydrophobicity of **16** compared to **14**. Analogs **13** and **17**, which differ in the substituents at O-4" and O-2", exhibited similar inhibitory potency. Compound **13** has a propyl group at O-4 and analog **17** has an acetyl group compared to methyl group in compound **16**. The lower inhibitory activity of both **13** and **17** illustrate the importance of methyl group at O-4 for binding to TLR2 and that any change in this group to a bigger alkyl group or an ester group greatly reduces the immunomodulatory activity. Finally, compound **12**, which, compared to **16** lacks methyl groups at O-4" and O-2", has the lowest level of activity amongst this series of compounds indicating the importance of these two hydrophobic groups on the inhibitory activity and underscoring the structure-dependent nature of the effect. As was observed for **8–11**, the trends observed in TNF- α inhibition of **12–17** were also seen with the other cytokines evaluated, as well as NO (Supporting Information, Figures S2, S5, S8 and S11).

Finally, tetrasaccharides **18–24** were evaluated (Figure 3D). These compounds differ from **12–17** in that the 6-deoxy- α -D-mannopyranose capping residue is replaced with an α -D-mannopyranose motif. Evaluation of these compounds using Pam3CSK4 stimulation revealed that **23** showed the highest level of inhibition of TNF- α production. This compound lacks the O-4" methyl group, but is methylated at both O-2" and O-4". Replacing the methyl group at O-4" with a propyl group (compound **24**), resulted in a significant loss of activity. Compound **18**, which is not methylated at O-4", O-2" or O-4" showed only weak inhibition activity. Both **19** and **20** have a propyl group at O-4" and they showed weak activity, which agrees with the results obtained previously with compounds **13** and **15**. Moreover, the absence of O-4" methyl and O-2" or O-4" methyl groups resulted in the same effect of lowering the activity as shown for compounds **21** and **22**. Finally, the weak-to-moderate activity of this series indicates that dimethylated 6-deoxy- α -D-mannopyranose residue leads to enhanced cytokine inhibition compared to those possessing a dimethylated mannose (**12–17**). Analogous patterns were observed for other tested cytokines, (IL-6, IL-1 β , MCP-1 and NO; Supporting Information, Figures S3, S6, S9 and S12).

Previous reports have shown that mycobacterial components such as lipomannan and lipoarabinomannan mediate their macrophage activation effects via TLR2.²⁸ Previously, we showed that the immunoinhibitory activity of PGLs from *M. tuberculosis*, *M. leprae* and *bovis* is mediated via TLR2.^{12,13} To confirm that **8–24** exert their effect on cytokine and NO release through a similar pathway, they were tested using ultra-pure *E. coli* LPS, a TLR4 agonist,²⁹ as the stimulant. As detailed in the Supporting Information (Figures S13–S24), none of the compounds possessed any inhibitory activity thus confirming TLR2 mediates the immunomodulatory activity of **8–24**.

When evaluated in the assay described above, the lipid core of native PGLs – phenolphthiocerol dimycocerosate (PDIM) – is a weak inhibitor of cytokine/NO release.¹² However, *M. leprae* PGL-1 (**31**, Scheme 2), which contains PDIM glycosylated with a highly methylated trisaccharide, is a potent inhibitor.¹⁰ In previous work, we demonstrated that adding a simple lipid core to the glycan structure of PGL-1 resulted in a compound (**32**) with significantly more inhibitor activity than the carbohydrate domain (**33**) alone.¹² We therefore pursued an analogous approach for the *M. kansasii* PGL structures and selected **34**, which consists of the glycan portion of **16** conjugated to alkylphenol **35**. Compound **16** was selected for this study as it possessed the most potent activity in the assays described above.



Scheme 2. Structures of compounds **31–35**.

The synthesis of **34** is described in the Supporting Information. Its immunoinhibitory activity was tested at three concentrations, 10, 25 and 50 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$, using Pam3CSK4 as the agonist and the results were compared to glycan **16**. As illustrated in Figure 4, both **16** and **34** showed a concentration-dependent inhibitory pattern on the release of TNF- α and similar patterns were also obtained for the other cytokines and NO (Supporting Information, Figures S25–S28). As we previously established for an *M. leprae* PGL analog,¹² addition of a simple lipid domain (**35**) to carbohydrate analogs resulted in an increase of the inhibitory activity. Glycolipid **34** showed higher activity as well compared to **16**. Moreover, glycolipid **34** was shown to be a potent inhibitor of the release of cytokines, causing inhibition of ~67% of the induced TNF- α at a concentration of 10 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$.

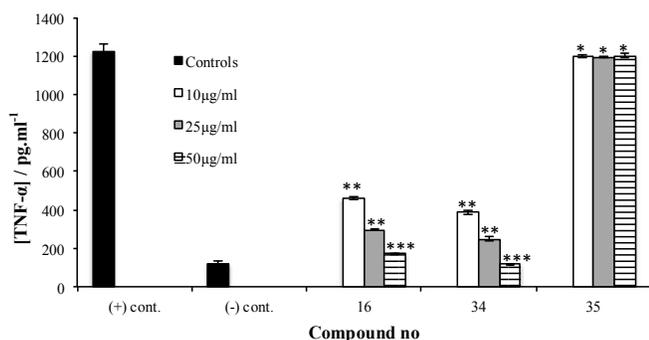


Figure 4. Cytokine inhibition assay of compound **16**, glycolipid **34** and phenol **35** using Pam3CSK4, a TLR2 agonist, as stimulant. Test compounds were added at concentrations of 10, 25 or 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ to the A-THP-1 in presence of the stimulant. After 24 h incubation, supernatants were collected and analyzed for TNF- α using ELISA. Each experiment was repeated twice and the concentration from each experiment was determined as triplicate using ELISA. The concentrations represented are the average of the six readings (\pm S.D.). * $P > 0.05$, ** $P < 0.001$, *** $P < 0.0001$.

Conclusion

We report here the synthesis of a panel of 17 synthetic analogs of PGLs from *M. kansasii*. This work represents the first synthetic investigations of *M. kansasii* PGLs. With these compounds in hand, we probed structure–activity relationships on the ability of these compounds to modulate cytokine and NO release. The investigations lead to the discovery of an active anti-inflammatory compound, **34**, which targets proinflammatory cytokines implicated in many inflammatory and autoimmune conditions. The cytokine inhibition assays revealed that **8–24** inhibited the release of TNF- α , IL-6, MCP-1, IL-1 β and NO to varying degrees in a concentration-dependent pattern. The methylation pattern of the carbohydrate domain was found to be a crucial structural feature that determines potency. Furthermore, the methyl group was found to be the only tolerated substituent; ester and larger alkyl groups resulted in significant

loss of activity. In addition, the 6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methylmannopyranoside capping motif was found to be crucial for the highest activity.

The current study, as well as our previous studies,^{12,13} suggest that PGLs from *M. tuberculosis*, *M. leprae*, *M. bovis*, and *M. kansasii* attenuate the host immunity by inhibiting the release of important proinflammatory cytokines. The glycone part of PGLs was found to be the structural determinant for this activity and different methylation patterns of the glucan determines the potency of PGL. TLR2 was also shown to be the receptor mediating this activity and adding a simple lipid core to the most active glycans resulted in significant enhancement of the potency. Figure 5 summarizes all the findings from our studies and provides a general pharmacophore for this class of compounds.

As depicted in Figure 5A, PGLs from *M. leprae* and *M. bovis* are based upon a core structure of α -(1 \rightarrow 2)-linked-L-rhamnopyranose (Rhap) residues. Trisaccharide PGLs showed higher cytokine inhibition activity than the disaccharide PGLs. The 3,6-di-*O*-methylated glucopyranose capping motif present in *M. leprae* PGLs, possess the greatest inhibitory potential. *M. bovis* produces three PGLs with a single Rhap residue, but those possess essentially no ability to inhibit cytokine release.¹² On the other hand, PGLs from *M. tuberculosis* and *M. kansasii* (Figure 5B) consist of an α -Rhap-(1 \rightarrow 3)- α -Rhap-(1 \rightarrow 3)- α -Rhap structure, which in the case of some *M. kansasii* is further functionalized by either a D-mannopyranose or 6-deoxy-D-mannopyranose residue. Comparison of the trisaccharides and tetrasaccharides from *M. tuberculosis* and *M. kansasii* PGLs, revealed that the highest activity is obtained from the tetrasaccharides, particularly when a 6-deoxy-D-mannopyranose residue is present as a capping motif. Regardless of the size of the PGL, methylation of the glycan structure was found to be an important determinant for the activity, with higher levels of methylation generally leading to more potent compounds. However, the activity is dependent upon a distinct methylation pattern and, moreover, appears not to be a generally hydrophobic effect. For example, compounds containing a propyl group in place of a methyl group have significantly lower levels of activity. Finally, addition of a simple lipid structure such as long chain alkylated phenyl group significantly enhanced the immunoinhibitory activity.

Compounds such as **34** represent a potential novel class of anti-inflammatory agents that could be used to treat diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA), a chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease.^{21,22} A growing body of evidence has shown that proinflammatory cytokines, including those evaluated here (TNF- α , IL-1 β , IL-6, MCP-1), are directly implicated in RA pathogenesis.^{14–20} Accordingly, species that inhibit the release of these cytokines are potential RA therapeutics. To date, five anti-TNF- α , one anti-IL-6 and two anti-IL-1 β drugs are in development for the treatment of RA, all of which are antibodies or soluble proteins.^{14,16,19} Only a single orally active small molecule inhibitor of IL-12/IL-23 is being evaluated in phase 2 clinical trials in patients with Crohn's disease and RA.³⁰ Further investigations on the anti-inflammatory potential of this class of compounds are on going.

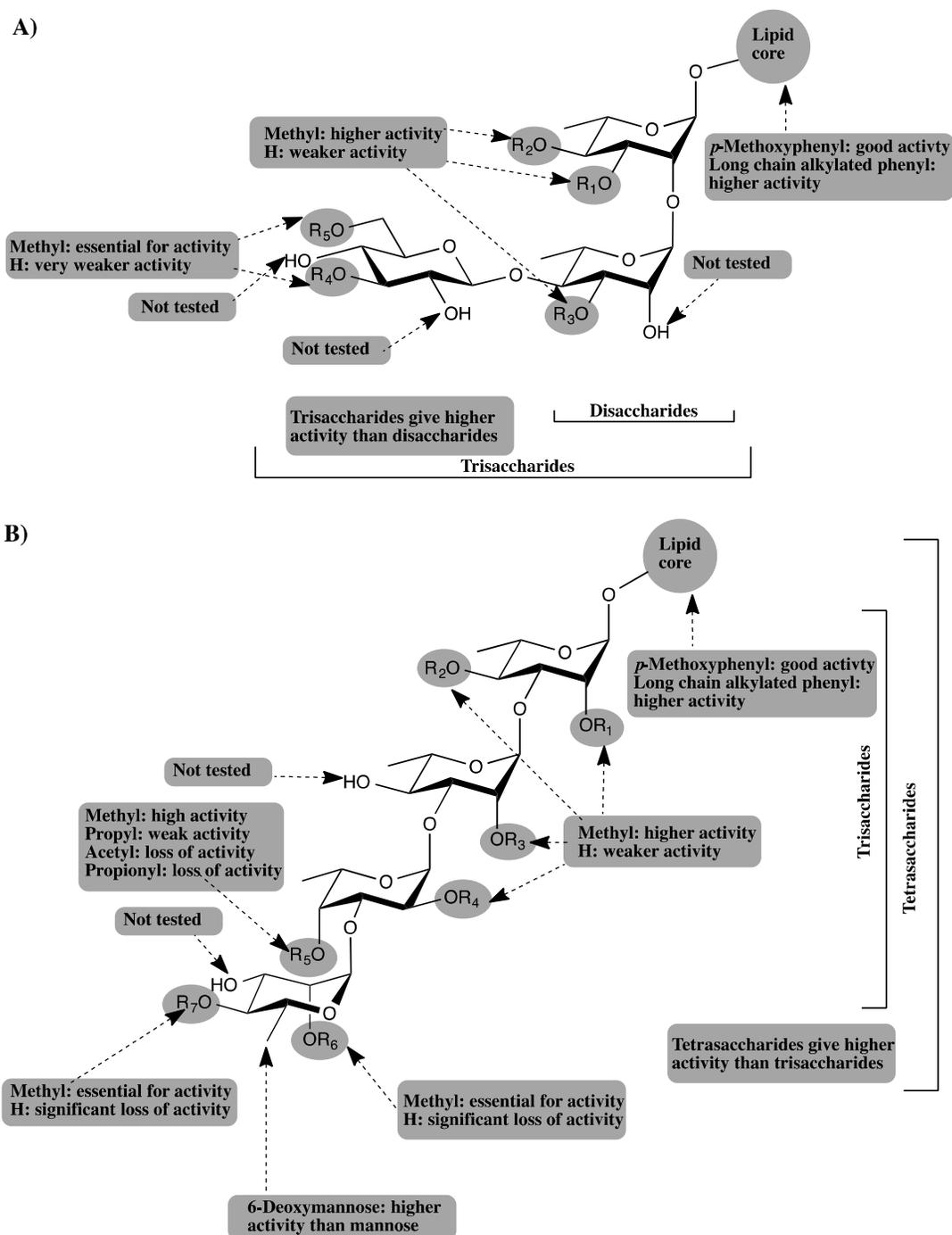


Figure 5. Schematic representation of the generic pharmacophore for PGLs from: A) *M. leprae*, and *M. bovis*. B) *M. tuberculosis* and *M. kansasii*.

Experimental

General methods

Solvents used in reactions were purified by successive passage through columns of alumina and copper under an argon atmosphere. All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and were used without further purification unless noted other-

wise. All reactions were carried out under a positive pressure of argon atmosphere and monitored by TLC on Silica Gel G-25 UV254 (0.25 mm) plates unless stated otherwise. Spots were detected under UV light and/or by charring with a solution of anisaldehyde in ethanol, acetic acid, and H_2SO_4 . Column chromatography was performed on Silica Gel 60 (40–60 mm; silica gel-sample, 100:1–20:1, w/w). Organic solutions were concentrated under vacuum below 50 °C. 1H NMR spectra were rec-

orded at 400 or 500 MHz, and ^1H NMR chemical shifts are referenced to TMS (0.0, CDCl_3). ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 125.7 MHz, and chemical shifts are referenced to CDCl_3 (77.23, CDCl_3). ^1H NMR data are reported as though they are first order, and the peak assignments were made on the basis of 2D NMR (^1H , ^1H COSY and HMQC) experiments. In reporting ^{13}C chemical shifts, when two signals were so closely spaced that rounding to one decimal place would have led to identical values, the second decimal place is included in parentheses, e.g., 78.9(1) and 78.8(8). Optical rotations were measured at $(21 \pm 2)^\circ\text{C}$ at the sodium D line (589 nm), and are in $\text{deg}\cdot\text{mL}(\text{dm}\cdot\text{g})^{-1}$. ESI-MS spectra were carried out on samples suspended in THF or CH_3OH and added NaCl.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-4-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (12)**

To a solution of **29** (20 mg, 0.02 mmol) in 1:1 $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (10 mL), 1M NaOCH_3 (0.1 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at rt. The reaction mixture was then neutralized by the addition of Amberlite IR-120 H^+ resin, filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was dissolved in AcOH (3 mL) and then $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$ (4 mg) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight and then filtered and water (5 mL) was added. The solution was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL), washed with water (2 x 8 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried (NaSO_4), concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (2:1 hexane-EtOAc) to give a colorless oil. To the solution of the oil in 1:1 $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (15 mL), Pd-C (5 mg) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight under a hydrogen atmosphere before it was filtered and concentrated. The resulting crude product was purified by chromatography (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$) to give **12** (9.6 mg, 62%) as a colorless oil: R_f 0.30 (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} -36.4$ (c 1.0, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ_{H}) 6.99–6.96 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.83–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.38 (d, 1H, $J_{1,2} = 1.6$ Hz, H-1), 5.17 (br s, 1H, H-1'), 5.08 (d, 1H, $J_{1'',2''} = 3.3$ Hz, H-1''), 5.05 (d, 1H, $J_{1''',2'''} = 1.6$ Hz, H-1'''), 4.19 (dq, 1H, $J_{4',5'} = 3.0$ Hz, $J_{5'',6''} = 6.3$ Hz, H-5'), 4.08 (dd, 1H, $J_{2',3'} = 3.1$ Hz, $J_{3',4'} = 9.4$ Hz, H-3'), 4.05 (dd, 1H, $J_{2,3} = 3.3$ Hz, $J_{3,4} = 9.5$ Hz, H-3), 3.99–3.98 (m, 1H, H-3''), 3.87–3.84 (m, 1H, H-5', H-5'''), 3.79–3.78 (m, 1H, H-5), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.73–3.65 (m, 3H, H-2, H-2', H-2''), 3.66–3.62 (m, 2H, H-2'', H-3'''), 3.61–3.57 (m, 2H, H-4', H-4''), 3.57 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.54 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.51 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.49 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.46 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.22 (app t, 1H, $J_{3,4} = J_{4,5} = 9.5$ Hz, H-4), 3.11 (app t, 1H, $J_{3''',4'''} = J_{4''',5'''} = 9.6$ Hz, H-4'''), 2.90 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.30 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.77 (br s, 2H, OH x 2), 1.37–1.32 (m, 6H, H-6', H-6''), 1.27–1.24 (m, 6H, H-6, H-6'''), ^{13}C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ_{C}) 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 101.2, 100.2, 99.3, 95.6, 83.4, 83.0, 82.2, 80.8, 80.4, 80.3, 80.0, 79.4, 76.4, 75.8 (CH_2O), 71.4, 71.3(3), 71.3(0), 69.0, 68.7, 68.2, 67.5, 61.1 (OCH_3), 60.9 (OCH_3), 59.4 (OCH_3), 58.9 (OCH_3), 58.4 (OCH_3), 55.7 (OCH_3), 23.5 (CH_2CH_3), 18.0, 17.9, 17.8, 16.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for $(\text{M} + \text{Na})^+ \text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{58}\text{NaO}_{18}$: 801.3515. Found 801.3505.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-4-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl-4-*O*-propyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (13)**

To a solution of **29** (12 mg, 0.011 mmol) in 1:1 $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (10 mL), 1M NaOCH_3 (0.1 mL) was added and the

reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at rt. The reaction mixture was neutralized by the addition of Amberlite IR-120 H^+ resin, filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (1:1 hexane-EtOAc) to give oil. This oil was dissolved in 1:1 $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (15 mL), Pd-C (3 mg) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight under hydrogen before it was filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$) to give **13** (7.8 mg, 87%) as a colorless oil: R_f 0.38 (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} -28.2$ (c 0.4, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ_{H}) 6.99–6.96 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.83–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.39 (br s, 1H, H-1), 5.16 (br s, 1H, H-1'), 5.07 (d, 1H, $J_{1'',2''} = 3.5$ Hz, H-1''), 5.03 (br s, 1H, H-1'''), 4.14 (dd, 1H, $J_{2',3'} = 3.2$ Hz, $J_{3',4'} = 9.5$ Hz, H-3'), 4.10 (dd, 1H, $J_{2,3} = 3.1$ Hz, $J_{3,4} = 9.4$ Hz, H-3), 4.07 (dq, 1H, $J_{4',5'} = 2.9$ Hz, $J_{5'',6''} = 6.5$ Hz, H-5''), 4.00–3.98 (m, 1H, H-3''), 3.86 (dq, 1H, $J_{4',5'} = 9.4$ Hz, $J_{5'',6''} = 6.3$ Hz, H-5'), 3.82–3.78 (m, 2H, H-5, H-5'''), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.70–3.65 (m, 5H, H-2, H-2', H-2'', CH_2O x 2), 3.64–3.60 (m, 3H, H-2'', H-3''', H-4'), 3.57 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.53 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.49 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.46 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.40–3.37 (m, 1H, H-4'''), 3.21 (app t, 1H, $J_{3,4} = J_{4,5} = 9.5$ Hz, H-4), 3.10–2.98 (m, 1H, H-4''), 1.65–1.58 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_3), 1.33 (d, 3H, $J_{5'',6''} = 6.5$ Hz, H-6''), 1.27–1.24 (m, 6H, H-6, H-6'), 1.21 (d, 3H, $J_{5''',6'''} = 6.5$ Hz, H-6'''), 0.93 (t, 3H, $J = 7.5$ Hz, CH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ_{C}) 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 101.2, 100.2, 99.3, 95.6, 83.4, 83.0, 82.2, 80.8, 80.4, 80.3, 80.0, 79.4, 76.4, 75.8 (CH_2O), 71.4, 71.3(3), 71.3(0), 69.0, 68.7, 68.2, 67.5, 61.1 (OCH_3), 60.9 (OCH_3), 59.4 (OCH_3), 58.9 (OCH_3), 58.4 (OCH_3), 55.7 (OCH_3), 23.5 (CH_2CH_3), 18.0, 17.9, 17.8, 16.6, 10.8 (CH_2CH_3). HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for $(\text{M} + \text{Na})^+ \text{C}_{39}\text{H}_{64}\text{NaO}_{18}$: 843.3985. Found 843.3978.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (14)**

To a solution of **30** (15 mg, 0.015 mmol) in HOAc (3 mL), $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4\text{Pd}$ (3 mg) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at rt. The reaction mixture was then filtered, water (8 mL) was added and then it was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL), washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (1:1 hexane-EtOAc) to give a colorless oil. The oil was dissolved in 1:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ (20 mL) and Pd-C (4 mg) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight under hydrogen before it was filtered, concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$) to give **14** (9.3 mg, 79%) as a thick syrup: R_f 0.44 (20:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} -23.5$ (c 0.7, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ_{H}) 7.00–6.97 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.83–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.39 (d, 1H, $J_{1,2} = 1.8$ Hz, H-1), 5.17–5.16 (m, 2H, H-1', H-1''), 5.07 (d, 1H, $J_{1'',2''} = 3.1$ Hz, H-1''), 4.20 (dq, 1H, $J_{4',5'} = 2.7$ Hz, $J_{5'',6''} = 6.5$ Hz, H-5''), 4.11–4.06 (m, 2H, H-3, H-3'), 3.89–3.81 (m, 2H, H-3'', H-5'), 3.80–3.78 (m, 1H, H-5'''), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.71–3.67 (m, 4H, H-2, H-2', H-2'', H-5), 3.66–3.63 (m, 3H, H-3''', H-4', H-4''), 3.60 (dd, 1H, $J_{1'',2''} = 1.8$ Hz, $J_{2'',3''} = 3.3$ Hz, H-2'''), 3.58 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.54 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.52 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.49 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.47 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.22 (app t, 1H, $J_{3,4} = J_{4,5} = 9.5$ Hz, H-4), 3.00 (app t, 1H, $J_{3''',4'''} = J_{4''',5'''} = 9.7$ Hz, H-4'''), 2.43 (d, 1H, $J = 9.0$ Hz, OH), 2.12 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.65 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.35 (d, 3H, $J_{5',6'} = 6.2$ Hz, H-6'), 1.30 (d, 3H, $J_{5,6} = 6.3$ Hz, H-6), 1.27–

1.25 (m, 6H, H-6'', H-6'''), ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 100.6, 99.4, 97.9, 95.6, 83.6, 83.3, 82.3, 80.7, 80.6, 80.3, 78.9(3), 78.8(7), 78.6, 71.6(3), 71.5(9), 71.2, 68.9, 68.7, 68.2, 66.3, 61.1 (OCH₃), 61.0 (OCH₃), 59.7 (OCH₃), 59.0 (OCH₃), 58.8 (OCH₃), 58.6 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 17.9(6), 17.9(4), 17.9, 16.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₃₇H₆₀NaO₁₈: 815.3672. Found 815.3663.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (15)**

To a solution of **30** (10 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 1:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH (10 mL), Pd–C (4 mg) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight under hydrogen at rt before it was filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH) to give **15** (6.4 mg, 78%) as a colorless oil: *R*_f 0.51 (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH); [α]_D –25.0 (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 6.99–6.95 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.82–6.79 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.38 (d, 1H, *J*_{1,2} = 1.7 Hz, H-1), 5.16–5.14 (m, 2H, H-1', H-1''), 5.05 (d, 1H, *J*_{1'',2''} = 3.5 Hz, H-1'''), 4.15–4.06 (m, 3H, H-3, H-3', H-3''), 3.86 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4,5'} = 9.6, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-5'), 3.87–3.77 (m, 2H, H-5, H-5''), 3.75 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.73–3.59 (m, 8H, H-2, H-2', H-2'', H-4', H-3'', H-3''', CH₂O x 2), 3.57 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.52 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.52–3.51 (m, 1H, H-2'''), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.47 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.46 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.45 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.38–3.36 (m, 1H, H-4), 3.20 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3'',4''} = *J*_{4'',5''} 9.5 Hz, H-4'''), 3.10–2.96 (m, 1H, H-4''), 1.63–1.56 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₃), 1.34 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-6'), 1.31 (d, 3H, *J*_{5,6} = 6.2 Hz, H-6), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J*_{5'',6''} = 6.5 Hz, H-6''), 1.20 (d, 3H, *J*_{5''',6''} = 6.3 Hz, H-6'''), 0.92 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 100.5, 99.5, 97.5, 95.6, 83.8, 83.2, 82.2, 80.8, 80.7, 80.5, 80.3, 80.3, 79.3, 76.2, 75.8 (CH₂O), 71.5, 71.2, 69.0, 68.7, 68.0, 67.6, 61.1 (OCH₃), 61.0 (OCH₃), 59.3 (OCH₃), 58.9 (OCH₃), 58.7 (OCH₃), 58.5 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 23.5 (CH₂CH₃), 18.0, 17.8(9), 17.8(4), 16.6, 10.80 (CH₃CH₂). HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₄₀H₆₆NaO₁₈: 857.4141. Found 857.4134.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-*O*-dimethyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (16)**

To a solution of **30** (15 mg, 0.015 mmol) in AcOH (5 mL), (Ph₃P)₄Pd (4 mg, 20% w/w) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at rt. The reaction mixture was filtered and water (10 mL) was added. The solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL), washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried (NaSO₄), concentrated and the resulting residue was dissolved in DMF (2 mL) and CH₃I (0.1 mL) was added. To this solution, NaH (5 mg) was added at 0 °C and it was stirred for 1 h at rt and then chilled water (5 mL) was added before being diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and washed with water (2 x 10 mL). The organic layer was concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (2:1 hexane–EtOAc) to give a colorless oil. To a solution of the oil in 1:1 CH₃OH–CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL), Pd–C (4 mg, 20% w/w) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight under hydrogen before it was filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH) to **16** (8.5 mg, 71%) as a thick syrup: *R*_f 0.56 (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH); [α]_D –41.9 (*c* 0.8,

CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 6.98–6.97 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.82–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.38 (d, 1H, *J*_{1,2} = 1.8 Hz, H-1), 5.15–5.13 (m, 2H, H-1', H-1''), 5.05 (d, 1H, *J*_{1'',2''} = 1.6 Hz, H-1'''), 4.19–4.10 (m, 3H, H-3, H-3', H-3''), 3.93–3.84 (m, 3H, H-3'', H-5, H-5'), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.77–3.63 (m, 6H, H-2, H-2', H-2'', H-3''', H-4', H-5'''), 3.58 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.57 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.53 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.21–5.10 (m, 1H, H-2'''), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.49 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.42 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.46 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.32–3.31 (m, 1H, H-4''), 3.21 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3,4} = *J*_{4,5} = 9.6 Hz, H-4), 2.98 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3'',4''} = *J*_{4'',5''} = 9.5 Hz, H-4'''), 1.37 (d, 3H, *J*_{6',5'} = 6.2 Hz, H-6'), 1.35 (d, 3H, *J*_{6,5} = 6.2 Hz, H-6), 1.29 (d, 3H, *J*_{6'',5''} = 6.2 Hz, H-6''), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J*_{6''',5''} = 6.5 Hz, H-6'''); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 100.5, 99.6, 97.7, 95.5, 83.8, 83.2, 82.3, 82.2, 80.8, 80.5, 80.3, 80.1, 79.2, 76.4, 71.5, 71.2, 69.0, 68.7, 68.0, 67.3, 62.0 (OCH₃), 61.0(7) (OCH₃), 61.0(6) (OCH₃), 59.4 (OCH₃), 58.9 (OCH₃), 58.6 (OCH₃), 58.6 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 18.0, 17.8(7), 17.8(4), 16.4. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₃₈H₆₂NaO₁₈: 829.3828. Found 829.3828.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-acetyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (17)**

To a solution of **30** (10 mg, 0.01 mmol) in AcOH (5 mL), (Ph₃P)₄Pd (2 mg, 10% w/w) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at rt before it was filtered water (10 mL) was added. The solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried (NaSO₄) and concentrated. The resulting residue was dissolved in pyridine (2 mL), Ac₂O (0.25 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at rt. Water (5 mL) was added, the solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and washed with water (2 x 10 mL). The organic layer was concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (2:1 hexane–EtOAc) to give a syrup (39 mg). To the solution of the syrup in 1:1 CH₃OH–CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL), Pd–C (3 mg) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight under hydrogen before it was filtered, concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH) to **17** (6.5 mg, 79%) as a colorless oil: *R*_f 0.48 (20:1 CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH); [α]_D –27.1 (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 7.00–6.98 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.83–6.81 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 5.40 (br s, 1H, H-1), 5.22–5.21 (d, 1H, *J*_{1'',2''} = 3.1 Hz, H-1''), 5.18 (br s, 1H, H-1'), 5.12–5.09 (m, 2H, H-1''', H-4''), 4.29 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4',5'} = 2.9 Hz, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.5 Hz, H-5'), 4.18 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2',3'} = 3.3 Hz, *J*_{3',4'} = 9.6 Hz, H-3'), 4.10 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2,3} = 3.1 Hz, *J*_{3,4} = 9.5 Hz, H-3), 3.89–3.84 (m, 1H, H-3''), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.74–3.56 (m, 8H, H-2, H-2', H-2'', H-3''', H-4', H-5, H-5', H-5''), 3.54 (s, 6H, OCH₃ x 2), 3.52 (s, 6H, OCH₃ x 2), 3.46–3.44 (m, 7H, OCH₃ x 2, H-2''), 3.22 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3,4} = *J*_{4,5} = 9.6 Hz, H-4), 2.97 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3'',4''} = *J*_{4'',5''} = 9.5 Hz, H-4'''), 1.80 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.66 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.14 (s, 3H, CH₃CO), 1.34 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.5 Hz, H-6'), 1.30 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-6'), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J*_{5,6} = 6.6 Hz, H-6), 1.10 (d, 3H, *J*_{5'',6''} = 6.4 Hz, H-6''); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 170.3 (C=O), 154.9 (Ar), 150.4 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 100.5, 99.3, 98.1, 95.6, 83.4, 83.3, 82.3, 80.8, 80.5, 80.4, 79.7, 79.0, 74.2, 73.1, 71.6, 70.7, 68.9, 68.7, 67.9, 65.9, 61.0 (OCH₃), 60.3 (OCH₃), 59.7 (OCH₃), 59.0 (OCH₃), 58.7 (OCH₃), 58.6 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 20.8 (CH₃CO), 17.9 (C x 3), 16.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₃₉H₆₂NaO₁₉: 857.3783. Found 857.3782.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 4-*O*-allyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-benzyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (27)**

Two solutions were prepared. Solution A was prepared by dissolving donor **25** (0.29 g, 0.65 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL); containing crushed 4 Å molecular sieves (50 mg). Solution B was prepared by dissolving acceptor **26** (300 mg, 0.55 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL); containing crushed 4 Å molecular sieves (100 mg). Both solutions were then stirred for 30 min at rt before solution B solution was cooled to -40 °C, NIS (144 mg, 0.64 mmol) and AgOTf (39 mg, 0.15 mmol) were added. Solution A was then added to solution B dropwise over 5 min while stirring. Then, the reaction mixture was stirred for additional 30 min at -40 °C before it was neutralized by the addition of Et₃N (1 mL). The solution was filtered, concentrated and the resulting residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL). To this solution, TFA (0.75 mL, 5% v/v) was added dropwise over 1 min at 0 °C and reaction mixture was then stirred for additional 30 min at 0 °C before it was neutralized by the addition of Et₃N (2 mL). The solution was concentrated and the resulting crude product was purified by chromatography (1:1 hexanes–EtOAc) to give **27** (311 mg, 76%) as a colorless oil: *R*_f 0.54 (1:1 hexanes–EtOAc); [α]_D +25.0 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 7.37–7.23 (m, 5H, Ar), 7.00–6.96 (m, 2H, Ar-2,6), 6.83–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar-3,5), 6.01–5.93 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.39 (d, 1H, *J*_{1,2} = 1.9 Hz, H-1), 5.31–5.27 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.23 (d, 1H, *J*_{1',2'} = 3.4 Hz, H-1'), 5.20–5.18 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.16 (d, 1H, *J*_{1',2'} = 1.7 Hz, H-1') 5.13, 4.58 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 11.5 Hz, ArCH₂), 4.35–4.31 (m, 1H, CH₂O), 4.22–4.17 (m, 2H, CH₂O, H-5''), 4.14–4.08 (m, 2H, H-4'', H-3''), 4.06 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2,3} = 3.3 Hz, *J*_{3,4} = 9.6 Hz, H-3), 4.02 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2,3'} = 3.2 Hz, *J*_{3',4'} = 9.5 Hz, H-3') 3.95 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4,5} = 9.4 Hz, *J*_{5,6} = 6.2 Hz, H-5), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.74–3.72 (m, 2H, H-2, H-2'), 3.68 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4',5'} = 9.5 Hz, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-5'), 3.59–3.58 (m, 1H, H-2''), 3.54 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.48 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.49–3.46 (m, 1H, H-4'), 3.29 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.21 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3,4} = *J*_{4,5} = 9.6 Hz, H-4), 2.34 (d, 1H, *J*_{3'',OH-3''} = 2.5 Hz, OH-3''), 1.30 (d, 3H, *J*_{5'',6''} = 6.5 Hz, H-6''), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-6'), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J*_{5,6} = 6.2 Hz, H-6); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 154.9 (Ar), 150.5 (Ar), 139.1 (Ar), 135.0 (=CH), 128.2 (Ar x 2), 127.4 (Ar x 2), 127.3 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 117.4 (CH₂=CH), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 99.1, 98.6, 95.5, 81.9, 80.7, 80.2, 80.1, 79.5, 79.4, 78.8, 74.9, 74.8, 70.2, 68.7(0), 68.6(8), 66.4, 61.2, 58.8 (OCH₃), 58.1 (OCH₃), 57.7(1) (OCH₃), 55.6(5) (OCH₃ x 2), 18.3, 17.9, 16.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₃₉H₅₆NaO₁₄: 771.3562. Found 771.3560.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 2-*O*-benzoyl-3-benzyl-6-deoxy-4-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-allyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-benzyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (29)**

To a solution of donor **28** (131 mg, 0.27 mmol) and acceptor **27** (120 mg, 0.16 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), crushed 4 Å molecular sieves (200 mg) were added. After the mixture was stirred at rt for 30 min, it was cooled to -20 °C, NIS (67.4 mg, 0.3 mmol) and AgOTf (15.4 mg, 0.06 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for additional 30 min at -20 °C before the addition of Et₃N (1 mL). The solution was concentrated to a crude residue that was purified by chromatography (2:1 hexane–EtOAc) to give **29** (122 mg, 69%) as an amorphous solid: *R*_f 0.38 (2:1 hexane–EtOAc); [α]_D +28.5 (*c* 1.2, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 8.09–8.07 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.58–7.55

(m, 1H, Ar), 7.47–7.44 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.30–7.09 (m, 10H, Ar), 7.01–6.95 (m, 2H, Ar), 6.85–6.80 (m, 2H, Ar), 5.94–5.86 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.67 (dd, 1H, *J*_{1'',2''} = 1.8 Hz, *J*_{2'',3''} = 3.1 Hz, H-2''), 5.39 (d, 1H, *J*_{1,2} = 1.8 Hz, H-1), 5.28–5.27 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.25–5.24 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.17–5.14 (m, 3H, H-1', H-1'', H-1'''), 5.13, 4.52 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 11.3 Hz, ArCH₂), 4.78.459 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 11.5 Hz, ArCH₂), 4.34–4.30 (m, 1H, -CH₂O), 4.23–4.20 (m, 2H, H-3'', H-5''), 4.10–4.06 (m, 2H, H-3', CH₂O), 4.00 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2,3} = 3.2 Hz, *J*_{3,4} = 9.5 Hz, H-3), 3.94 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4',5'} = 9.5 Hz, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-5'), 3.90 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2'',3''} = 3.1 Hz, *J*_{3'',4''} = 9.6 Hz, H-3''), 3.84–3.78 (m, 1H, H-2), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.75–3.68 (m, 4H, H-2'', H-2'', H-5, H-5''), 3.59 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.54 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.59 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.54 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.53–3.46 (m, 2H, H-4', H-4''), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.48 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.31 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.26 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3'',4''} = *J*_{4'',5''} = 9.6 Hz, H-4''), 3.22 (app t, 1H, *J*_{3,4} = *J*_{4,5} = 9.5 Hz, H-4), 1.38 (d, 3H, *J*_{5'',6''} = 6.3 Hz, H-6''), 1.33 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.5 Hz, H-6''), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-6'), 1.24 (d, 3H, *J*_{5,6} = 6.2 Hz, H-6); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 165.6 (C=O), 154.9 (Ar), 150.5 (Ar), 139.1 (Ar), 138.1 (Ar), 135.1 (=CH), 133.1 (Ar), 130.1 (Ar x 2), 129.9 (Ar x 2), 128.4 (Ar x 2), 128.3 (Ar x 2), 128.1 (Ar x 2), 127.9 (Ar x 2), 127.6 (Ar), 127.5 (Ar), 127.1 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 117.3 (CH₂=), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 99.7, 99.1, 98.5, 95.6, 82.4, 82.0, 81.5, 80.7, 80.2, 80.0, 79.5, 79.4, 79.0, 75.5, 75.1, 74.4, 71.3, 69.3, 68.7, 68.6(5), 68.5, 66.9, 61.3, 61.2 (OCH₃), 58.9 (OCH₃), 58.6 (OCH₃), 57.8 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃), 18.2, 18.2, 17.9, 16.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₆₀H₇₈NaO₁₉: 1125.5030. Found 1125.5020.

***p*-Methoxyphenyl 3-benzyl-6-deoxy-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -D-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-allyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-fucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-4-*O*-benzyl-2-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-2,4-di-*O*-methyl- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (30)**

To a solution of **29** (100 mg, 0.09 mmol) in 1:1 CH₃OH–CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), 1M NaOCH₃ (0.2 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h at rt. The reaction mixture was then neutralized by the addition of Amberlite IR-120 H⁺ resin, filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was dissolved in DMF (3 mL), and then CH₃I (0.1 mL) and NaH (60% in mineral oil, 10 mg) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt before chilled water (8 mL) was added. The solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL), washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and finally brine (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by chromatography (3:1 hexane–EtOAc) to give **30** (83.6 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil: *R*_f 0.45 (3:1 hexane–EtOAc); [α]_D -28.1 (*c* 1.1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_H) 7.40–7.22 (m, 10H, Ar), 7.00–6.96 (m, 2H, Ar), 6.83–6.81 (m, 2H, Ar), 5.92–5.84 (m, 1H, =CH), 5.39 (d, 1H, *J*_{1,2} = 1.8 Hz, H-1), 5.26–5.22 (m, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.17–5.14 (m, 5H, H-1', H-1'', H-1''', CH₂=CH, ArCH₂), 4.72, 4.68 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.5 Hz, ArCH₂), 4.56 (d, 1H, *J* = 11.5 Hz, ArCH₂), 4.31–4.27 (m, 1H, CH₂O), 4.21–4.14 (m, 2H, H-3'', H-5''), 4.07–4.02 (m, 2H, H-3', CH₂O), 3.99 (dd, 1H, *J*_{2,3} = 3.3 Hz, *J*_{3,4} = 9.6 Hz, H-3), 3.94 (dq, 1H, *J*_{4',5'} = 9.5 Hz, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.2 Hz, H-5'), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.75–3.72 (m, 2H, H-3'', H-2), 3.70–3.67 (m, 2H, H-2', H-2''), 3.66–3.60 (m, 2H, H-5, H-5''), 3.58 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.53 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.50 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.48–3.46 (m, 3H, H-2''', H-4', H-4''), 3.47 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.40 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.22–3.18 (m, 2H, H-4, H-4''), 3.17 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.33–1.31 (m, 6H, H-6, H-6'), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J*_{5'',6''} = 6.2 Hz, H-6''), 1.21 (d, 3H, *J*_{5',6'} = 6.7 Hz, H-6''); ¹³C NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃, δ_C) 154.9 (Ar),

150.5 (Ar), 139.3 (Ar), 138.5 (Ar), 135.1 (=CH), 128.3 (Ar x 2), 128.1 (Ar x 2), 127.9 (Ar x 2), 127.6 (Ar), 127.3 (Ar x 2), 127.2 (Ar), 117.5 (Ar x 2), 117.3 (CH₂=), 114.6 (Ar x 2), 99.6, 98.5, 98.4, 95.5, 82.2, 82.0, 80.7, 80.2, 80.1, 79.6, 79.2, 79.0, 78.9, 78.4, 75.9, 75.0, 74.3, 72.2, 68.7(0), 68.6(5), 66.9, 61.2, 61.1, 58.8 (OCH₃), 58.7 (OCH₃), 58.1 (OCH₃), 57.6 (OCH₃), 57.6 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃), 18.2, 17.9, 17.8, 16.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for (M + Na)⁺ C₅₄H₇₆NaO₁₈: 1035.4924. Found 1035.4920.

General methods for immunoassays

Chemicals, reagents and culture medium: Ultrapure LPS from *E. coli* 0111:B4, a TLR4 agonist, and the synthetic bacterial lipoprotein (Pam3CSK4), a TLR2/TLR1 agonist, were purchased from Invivogen (San Diego, USA). BD OptEIA human IL-1 β , IL-6, MCP-1, TNF- α and IL-10 assay kits were purchased from BD Biosciences (Mississauga, Canada). The FLICA polycaspases kit for measuring apoptosis was purchased from ImmunoChemistry Technologies, LLC (Bloomington, USA). The Griess Reagent System was purchased from Promega (Madison, USA). The human myeloid THP-1 monocyte/macrophage human cell line was maintained in continuous culture with RPMI 1640 with 10 mM L-glutamine (Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) US source (Gibco), 100 units/mL penicillin and 100 μ g/mL streptomycin Pen Strep (Gibco) in an atmosphere of 5% CO₂ at 37 °C, as a suspension of cells.

Cell inhibition assays: Cells were first activated into mature macrophages via treatment with PMA (Sigma) at a concentration of 5 ng/mL for 24 h and then washed three times with phosphate buffered saline (PBS). Cells were then rested for two days after the chemical differentiation to ensure that they came back to a resting phenotype before any treatment. Cells were then trypsinised, washed with and resuspended in serum-free culture medium at 5.4 x 10⁵ cells/mL. After 2 h, 1 mL was transferred to a 24 well plate (BD Falcon), stimulators (Pam3CSK4, Ultra Pure LPS) and the test compounds were added in triplicate followed by incubation for 24 h at an atmosphere of 5% CO₂ at 37 °C. Unstimulated cells as well as the solvent used to dissolve the test compounds were used as negative controls while stimulated cells without the test compounds served as the positive controls. Stimulators were added at a concentration of 25 ng/mL and the test compounds were added at different concentrations of 10 or 50 μ g/mL. Culture supernatants were harvested after 24 h and stored at -80 °C for cytokine measurements using ELISA while the remaining cells were washed twice with PBS and then tested for apoptosis.

Cell stimulation assay: The assay was carried as described for the cell inhibition assay, except that cell stimulators were not added. Only the test compounds were added to the differentiated cells.

Cytokine production assay using ELISA: Cytokine concentrations in the culture supernatants were determined using ELISA according to the following procedure. First, microwells of the 96-well plate (BD) were coating of with 100 μ L/well of the capture antibody diluted in the coating buffer (0.1 M Na₂CO₃, pH 9.5). After coating, the solution in the wells was aspirated and the wells were washed three times with \geq 300 μ L/well of the washing buffer (PBS with 0.05% Tween-20). Next, the wells were blocked using \geq 200 μ L/well of the assay diluent (PBS with 10 FBS (BD Pharmingen) pH 7.0.) and then incubated for 1 h at rt. After aspiration and washing three times as described for the coating step, samples and standard dilutions were prepared in the assay diluent. 100 μ L of each sample,

standard and control were then added to the appropriate well in triplicate, the plate was sealed and incubated for 2 h at rt. After samples were aspirated, wells were washed five times as described for the coating step. Then, 100 μ L of the detector solution (detecting antibody conjugated to streptavidin-horseradish peroxidase reagent) was added to each well, the plate was sealed and incubated for 1 h at rt. All wells were then aspirated and washed as described for the coating step with seven total washes. Following the washing, a 100 μ L of the substrate solution (tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) and hydrogen peroxide) was added to each well, the plate was sealed and incubated for 30 min at rt in the dark. To stop the reaction after 30 min, 50 μ L of the stop solution (1M H₃PO₄ or 2N H₂SO₄) was added to each well and a yellow color was produced whose intensity is dependent on the concentration. The absorbance of the resulting color was measured at 450 nm. To determine the concentrations of the samples, a standard curve was generated using the data from the standards and then the concentration of each sample was determined from the curve using the measured absorbance.

Nitric oxide (NO) assay: Nitric oxide concentration was determined in each sample via measuring the nitrite concentration in each sample using Griess reagent system. In this assay, a 50 μ L of each sample as well as the nitrite standard solution was added to microwells of a 96-well plate (BD). Concentrations of 100, 50, 25, 12.5, 6.25, 3.13 and 1.56 μ M of the nitrite standard solution were used to generate the standard curve. A 50 μ L of sulfanilamide solution was added to each sample and standard well and the plate was incubated for 10 min at room temperature and protected from the light. After 10 min, another 50 μ L of *N*-1-naphthylethylenediamine dihydrochloride (NED) was added to each well and the plate was incubated for another 10 min at room temperature and protected from the light. A purple/magenta color was developed and the absorbance was measured at a filter between 520 and 550 nm. A standard curve was generated from the data of the standard solutions and then this curve was used to calculate the nitrite concentrations of the samples.

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Notes and references

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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available: [details of any supplementary information available should be included here]. See DOI: 10.1039/b000000x/

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