Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2015

Supplementary Data

Elucidation of several neglected reactions in the GC-MS identification of sialic acids as heptafluorobutyrates calls for an urgent reassessment of previous claims Paola Rota*, Luigi Anastasia, Pietro Allevi

Department of Biomedical, Surgical and Dental Sciences, University of Milan, via Saldini 50, I-20133 Milan, Italy; corresponding

author: Paola Rota; Telephone: +39 02 50316047; Fax: +39 02 50316040; E-mail:paola.rota@unimi.it

Contents	Page Number
¹ H and ¹³ C NMR of Sias esters 1b and 1c	S2-S3
¹ H and ¹³ C NMR of 1,7 lactones 7b , 4b , 7c , 7d , 7e , 4c	S4-S9
¹ H and ¹³ C NMR of crude 1,7 lactones 8b , 8b	S10-S11
¹ H and ¹³ C NMR of crude 1,7 lactones 9a-c	S12-S14
GC profile of HFB derivatives of Sias esters 1a-c	S15
EI mass spectra of lactones 8a-c	S16-S17
EI mass spectra of methyl esters of sialic acids 1a-c	S18-S19
EI mass spectra of lactones 9a-c	S20-S21













S-7

















Fig. 1S.Total ion chromatograms of products obtained by HFBAA derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150°C, 5 min) of (A) methyl ester of acid **1a**, (B) methyl ester of acid **1b** and (C) methyl ester of acid **1c**.

S-15



EI mass spectrum of lactone **8a** obtained by derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the corresponding acid **1a** or of the lactone **4a**



EI mass spectrum of lactone **8b** obtained by derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the corresponding acid **1b** or of the lactone **4b**



EI mass spectrum of lactone **8c** obtained by derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the corresponding acid **1c** or of the lactone **4c**.



EI mass spectra obtained after derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the methyl ester of sialic acid **1a**. A and B represent the mass spectra of peaks at 7.85 and 8.86 min of derivative of methyl ester of **1a**



EI mass spectra obtained after derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the methyl ester of sialic acid **1b**. C represent the mass spectrum of peak at 9.00 min of derivative of methyl ester of **1b**.



EI mass spectra obtained after derivatization (HFBAA, MeCN, 150 °C, 5 min) of the methyl ester of sialic acid **1c**. D represent the mass spectrum of peak at 8.51 min of derivative of methyl ester of **1c**.



EI mass spectra of lactone 9a obtained by derivatization with HFBAA at 23°C the acids 1a and the lactones 4a.



EI mass spectra of lactone 9b obtained by derivatization with HFBAA at 23°C the acids 1b and the lactones 4b.



EI mass spectra of lactone 9c obtained by derivatization with HFBAA at 23°C the acids 1c and the lactones 4c.