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Abbreviations

APS		Ammonium persulfate
ТВА	:	Tetrabutylammonium
CyNH⁺	:	Cyclohexylammonium
EŤT	:	5-(Ethylthio)-1 <i>H</i> -tetrazole
<i>m</i> CPBA	:	meta-Chloroperbenzoic acid
FAA		Ethyl acetate
Et ₂ O		Diethyl ether
		Triethylamine
	•	Diisopropylethylamine
	:	
		Dimethyl formamide
	:	
PPI Taia ali iD	•	Pyrophosphale
		I ripolypnosphate
PCPI	:	Metnylene dipnosphate
APS	:	Ammonium persulfate
calcd	•	calculated
d	:	diameter
DBU	:	1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
DEACM	:	7-(diethylamino)-4-(hydroxymethyl)-coumarine
DMF	:	Dimethylformamide
DMSO		Dimethyl sulfoxide
EDTA	:	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
Et ₂ O	:	Diethyl ether
EtOAc	:	Ethyl acetate
ETT		5-(Ethylthio)-1 <i>H</i> -tetrazole
ea		equivalents
EmOH		Fluorenylmethanol
RP-HPI C		Reverse phase bigh-pressure liquid chromatography
		High resolution mass spectrometry
		Hortz
	:	Kilovelt
K V	•	Microempere
	:	microampere
MeCN	:	Acetonitrile
MeOH		Methanol
MHz	:	Megahertz
min	:	minutes
NEt ₃	•	Triethylamine
OGD		Orange G dye
PAGE		Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
pGp	:	Guanosine-3',5'-bisphosphate
pGpp	:	Guanosine-3'-diphosphate-5'-phosphate
ppGp	:	Guanosine-3'-phohsphate-5'-diphosphate
	:	Guanosine-3'.5'-bis(diphosphate)
qqDqqq	:	Guanosine-3'-diphosphate-5'-triphosphate
Rnase	:	Ribonuclease
RP-MPI C		Reverse phase – medium pressure liquid chromatography
S		seconds
TRA		Tetrahutylammonium
	•	Triethylammonium acetate
	:	Tetramethylethylenediamine
		ultra violot
	:	
vac.	•	vacuum

Synthetic methods & analyses

General remarks

Reactions were carried out using flame-dried glassware under an atmosphere of dry N₂ and magnetically stirred, unless noted otherwise. Air- and moisture-sensitive liquids and solutions were transferred via syringe or stainless steel cannula.

Reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers (Acros, Aldrich, Fluka, TCI) and used without further purification, unless noted otherwise.

DBU (1-8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-en) was distilled under high vacuum and stored over molecular sieves before usage.

Solvents were obtained in analytical grade and used as received for extractions, precipitation and solid washing.

Dry DMF, DMSO and MeCN for reactions were purchased in a dry form from Sigma and stored over molecular sieves as well as under an atmosphere of dry N₂.

Dry Et₂O for reactions was purified by filtration and dried by passage over activated anhydrous neutral A-2 alumina (MBraun solvent purification system) under an atmosphere of dry N_2 .

Ribonuclease T2 from *Aspergillus oryzae* (50 ku) was purchased from Worthington Biochemical Corporation as lyophilized powder and dissolved in a storage buffer [glycerol / NaH₂PO₄ (10 mM, pH 6.8), 1 / 1]. The stock solution was stored at -20 °C.

Deuterated solvents for NMR and reactions were obtained from Armar Chemicals, Switzerland and euriso-top, Germany, in the indicated purity grade and used as received for NMR spectroscopy.

Strong ion-exchange chromatography was performed using an automated Åkta® – system. Q-Sepharose was purchased from Aldrich. Buffer solutions were produced manually using milliQ H₂O.

Preparative RP-MPLC was performed using an automated Interchim® - system. The AQ- solid phase was purchased from Interchim.

Lyophilizations were done with Christ Freeze Dryer Alpha 1-4 LDplus and Christ Freeze Dryer Alpha 1-2 LDplus.

UV irradiation was performed using a Rayonet RPR-100 photochemical reactor.

¹**H-NMR spectra** were recorded on Bruker 300 MHz spectrometers, Bruker 400 MHz (with cryoprobe) and Bruker 500 MHz spectrometers in the indicated deuterated solvent. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (δ , ppm), multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br. s, broad signal), coupling constant(s) (*J*, Hz), integration. All signals were referenced to the internal solvent signal as standard (D₂O, δ 4.70; DMF-d7, δ 2.94).

¹³C{¹H}-NMR spectra were recorded with ¹H-decoupling on Bruker 126 MHz, Bruker 101 MHz (with cryoprobe) spectrometers at 298 K in the indicated deuterated solvent.

³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectra and ³¹P-NMR spectra were recorded with ¹H-decoupling or ¹H coupling, respectively, on Bruker 202 MHz, 162 MHz (with cryoprobe) and Bruker 122 MHz spectrometers in the indicated deuterated solvent. All signals were referenced to an internal standard (PPP). **Mass spectra** were recorded by C. Warth (Mass spectrometry service of the University of Freiburg) on a Thermo LCQ Advantage [spray voltage: 2.5 - 4.0 kV, spray current: 5μ A, ion transfer tube: 250 (150) °C, evaporation temperature: 50 - 400 °C.

Synthesis of (FmO)₂P-N(iPr)₂(11)



The compound was synthesized in two steps starting from PCI_3 as reported previously. Analytical data were identical to literature.^[1] The compound was stored at -20 °C.

Synthesis of (FmO)P-[N(*i*Pr)₂]₂(16)



The compound was synthesized as reported previously. Crystallization from pentane increased the purity and delivered single crystals. Analytical data were identical to literature.^[2] The compound was stored at -20 °C under light exclusion.

Synthesis of (DEACMO)(FmO)P-N(*i*Pr)₂(15)



The compound was synthesized as reported previously. Analytical data were identical to literature.^[3] The compound was stored at -20 °C.



P-Diamidite **16** (1.00 g, 2.44 mmol) was coevaporated with dry MeCN (5 ml), dissolved in dry THF (10 ml) and cooled to 0 °C. ETT stock solution (100 mg/ml in MeCN, 3.18 ml, 2.44 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added slowly, followed by pent-4-ynol stock solution (1 M in MeCN, 2.44 ml, 2.44 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction was allowed to reach room temperature after 10 min. Dry Et₂O (10 ml) was added and the formed precipitate was filtered off. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (pent./EtOAc, 95:5, SiO₂ was treated with 10% NEt₃). After drying under high vac. for several hours, the product was obtained as sticky, colorless oil (580 mg, 1.41 µmol, 61%). The compound was stored at -20 °C.

¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃, δ/ppm): 7.80 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30 (dddd, J = 7.4, 7.4, 3.1, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (dd, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (ddd, J = 9.9, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 – 3.54 (m, 5H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 7.1, 2.6, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 1.94 (dd, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (dddd, J = 7.1, 2H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz CDCl₃, δ/ppm): 145.1, 144.8, 141.5, 141.4, 127.5, 127.4, 126.9, 126.9, 125.6, 125.3, 119.9, 119.8, 77.3, 68.54, 66.2 (d, J = 17.6 Hz), 62.0 (d, J = 17.4 Hz), 49.3 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 43.1 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 30.3 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 24.8 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 24.7 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 15.3. ³¹P{¹H}-NMR (122 MHz, CDCl₃, δ/ppm): 146.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₅H₃₃NO₂P [M+H]⁺: calcd 410.2243, found 4410.2243. R_f (SiO₂, pent/EtOAc, 95:5): 0.78.

Synthesis of guanosine-3',5'-bisphosphate (pGp, 9)



Guanosine dihydrate (**14**, 1.00 g, 3.13 mmol) was coevaporated using dry MeCN (3 x 15 ml). Afterwards, freshly distilled P₂Cl₄O₂ (4.77 mL, 34.5 mmol, 8.68 g, 11 eq.) was added in one portion at -35 °C. The solution was warmed to 0 °C and stirred for 3 h at 0 °C. Afterwards, overstoichiometric P₂Cl₄O₂ was removed by washing with Et₂O (-40 °C, 3 x 15 ml), using a syringe under N₂ atmosphere. The resulting solid was quenched by fast addition of NaHCO₃-buffer (-2 °C, 1.0 M, 60 ml) at -40 °C under vigorous stirring (additional stirring with a spatula is recommended). The mixture was warmed to room temperature and H₂O (500 ml) was added. Afterwards, ribonuclease T2 (1.0 ku) was added and the resulting solution was stirred for 12 h at 37 °C. H₂O (2.0 l) was added and the mixture was applied to an ion-exchange column (Q-Sepharose[®], h = 17 cm, d = 3 cm). The column was rinsed using H₂O (1.0 l) and NH₄HCO₃ – buffer (150 mM, 1.0 l) before eluting pGp (**9**) with NH₄HCO₃ – buffer

(250 – 300 mM). Product containing fractions were combined and lyophilized. The product (1.39 g, 2.72 mmol, 87%) was isolated as white solid.

Tetraammonium pGp was converted into its TBA – salt (1.5 - 2.0 eq.) by ion exchange on Dowex 50WX8 (H⁺) followed by the addition of TBA(OH) and lyophilization.

¹**H-NMR** (500 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.05 (s, 1H), 5.90 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.80 – 4.73 (m, 2H), 4.51 – 4.40 (m, 1H), 4.11 – 4.01 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (126 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 159.0, 154.0, 151.9, 137.7, 116.3, 86.6, 83.3 (dd, J = 8.5, 4.1 Hz), 73.7 (d, J = 4.8 Hz), 73.2 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 64.3 (d, J = 4.9 Hz). ³¹P{¹H}NMR (202 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 0.83 (s, 1P), 0.54 (s, 1P). HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₀H₁₄N₅O₁₁P₂ [M-H]⁻ calcd 442.0171, found 442.0172.

Synthesis of adenosine-3',5'-bisphosphate (pAp, 10)



Adenosine (209 mg, 784 µmol) was coevaporated using dry MeCN (3 x 15 ml). Afterwards freshly distilled P₂Cl₄O₂ (1.25 mL, 2.28 g, 9.04 mmol, 11.5 eq., -20 °C) was added in one portion at -35 °C. The solution was warmed to 0 °C and stirred for 3 h at 0 °C. Afterwards, overstoichiometric P₂Cl₄O₂ was removed by washing with Et₂O (3 x 10 mL, -40 °C), using a syringe under N₂ atmosphere. The resulting solid was quenched by fast addition of NaHCO₃-buffer (-2 °C, 620 mM, 30 mL) at -40 °C under vigorous stirring (additional stirring with a spatula is recommended). The mixture was warmed to room temperature and H₂O (270 ml) was added. Afterwards, ribonuclease T2 (300 ku) was added and the resulting solution was stirred for 19 h at 37 °C. H₂O (740 ml) was added and the mixture was applied to an ion-exchange column (Q-Sepharose[®], h = 17 cm, d = 3 cm). The column was rinsed using H₂O (500 ml) and NH₄HCO₃ – buffer (150 mM, 500 ml) before eluting pAp (**10**) with NH₄HCO₃ – buffer (250 – 300 mM). Product containing fractions were combined and lyophilized. The product (178 mg, 359 µmol, 46%) was isolated as white solid.

Tetraammonium pAp was converted into its TBA – salt (1.5 - 2.0 eq.) by ion exchange on Dowex 50WX8 (H+) followed by the addition of TBA(OH) and lyophilization.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.45 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 6.11 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.79 – 4.75 (m, 2H), 4.50 (br. s, 1H), 4.11 – 4.07 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 155.4, 152.6, 149.1, 139.9, 118.6, 86.7, 83.4 (dd, J = 8.6, 4.1 Hz), 73.9 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 73.6 (d, J = 4.8 Hz), 64.2 (d, J = 5.0 Hz). ³¹P{¹H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 0.89, 0.60. HRMS (ESI) for C₁₀H₁₄O₁₀N₅P₂: calcd 426.0221, found 426.0223.

Synthesis of guanosine-3',5'-bis(diphosphate) (ppGpp, 1)



To a solution of pGp x 1.78 TBA (57.0 mg, 65.4 µmol) in dry DMF (1.0 ml) was added ETT (42.5 mg, 327 µmol, 5.0 eq.). Afterwards a solution of **11** (114 mg, 196 µmol, 3.0 eq.) in dry DMF (2.0 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (53.2 mg, 216 µmol, 3.3 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards distilled DBU (300 µl) was added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by the addition of Et₂O (40 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (100 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using an 8-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 500 mM in acetone). The resulting solid was washed with acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac. for 2 h. The product (37.5 mg, 51.0 µmol, 78%) was isolated as white solid.

Gram-scale: To a solution of pGp x 1.88 TBA (2.07 g, 2.32 mmol) in dry DMF (30 ml) was added ETT (1.51 g, 11.6 mmol, 5.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of (FmO)₂P-(NiPr₂) (93%, 2.66 g, 5.11 mmol, 2.2 eq.) in dry DMF (30 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and mCPBA (77%, 1.14 g, 5.11 mmol, 2.2 eq.) was added in four portions. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards distilled DBU (300 µl) was added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by addition of Et₂O (250 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 50 ml) and dried over high vac. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (100 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using the 6-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 500 mM in acetone). The resulting precipitate was redissolved in water (7 ml) and precipitated again using acetone (-20 °C, 40 ml). The resulting solid was washed with acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 20 ml) and dried over high vac. for 2 h. The product (1.15 g, 1.56 mmol, 67 %) was isolated as white solid. ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.06 (s, 1H), 5.92 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (ddd, J = 8.5, 5.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (dd, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.48 - 4.44 (m, 1H), 4.20 - 4.09 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ /ppm): 159.1, 154.0, 151.9, 137.9, 116.3, 86.8, 83.4 (dd, J = 9.2, 4.3 Hz), 74.8 (d, J = 5.2 Hz), 73.1 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 65.1 (d, J = 5.4 Hz). ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): -5.81 (d, J = 22.3 Hz), -6.55 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), -10.63 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), -10.83 (d, J = 22.3 Hz). HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₀H₁₅N₅O₁₇P₄ [M-H₂]²⁻: calcd 300.4712, found 300.4711.



To a solution of pAp x 2.33 TBA (39.9 mg, 40.3 µmol) in dry DMF (500 µl) was added ETT (19.1 mg, 164 µmol, 4.1 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of **11** (95%, 54.9 mg, 100 µmol, 2.5 eq.) in dry DMF (500 µl) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 19.6mg, 87.6 µmol, 2.2 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0°C. Afterwards, dry DMF (3.0 mL) and distilled DBU (225 µL µl) were added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by addition of Et₂O (25 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 20 ml) and dried over high vac. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (100 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using an 8-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 500 mM in acetone). The resulting solid was washed with acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac for 2 h. The product (16.6 mg, 23.1 µmol, 57%)) was isolated as white solid.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 6.12 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (ddd, J = 8.4, 4.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (ddd, J = 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.55 – 4.52 (m, 1H), 4.19 – 4.13 (m, 2H). ³¹**P**{¹**H**}-**NMR** (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): -6.16 (d, J = 22.2 Hz, 1P), -7.32 (br. s, 1P), -10.79 (d, J = 20.2 Hz, 1P), -10.92 (d, J = 21.8 Hz, 1P). ¹³**C**{¹**H**}-**NMR** (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 155.7, 152.9, 149.3, 140.1, 118.7, 86.6, 83.6 (ddd, J = 9.2, 4.2, 0.0 Hz), 74.9 (d, J = 5.3 Hz), 73.7 (d, J = 4.7 Hz), 65.0 (d, J = 5.2 Hz). **HRMS (ESI)** for C₁₀H₁₅O₁₆N₅P₄: calcd 292.4738, found 292.4738.

Synthesis of guanosine-3'-phosphate-5'-diphosphate (ppGp, 4)



To a solution of pGp x 1.78 TBA (70.0 mg, 80.3 μ mol) in dry DMF (1.0 ml) was added ETT (52.2 mg, 402 μ mol, 5.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of **11** (140 mg, 241 μ mol, 3.0 eq.) in DMF (2.0 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 65.3 mg, 265 μ mol, 3.3 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards, distilled DBU (300 μ l) was added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by the addition of Et₂O (40 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 15 ml) and dried over high vac.

The intermediate product was dissolved in H₂O (20 ml) and the solution was acidified to pH 5.5 using HCI-solution. Subsequently ribonuclease *T2* (500 u) was added and the solution was stirred for 24 h at 37 °C. Afterwards the solution was directly applied to a strong ion-exchange column (Q-Sepharose). The product **4** was eluted using NH₄HCO₃ – buffer (350 mM). Lyophilization of the product containing fractions afforded the desired product (41.0 mg, 67.4 µmol, 84 %) as white solid.

When scaling up the reaction to >400 μ mol the yield decreased to 73%.

Pentaammonium ppGp was converted into its TBA – salt (1.5 - 2.0 eq.) by ion exchange on Dowex 50WX8 (H+) followed by the addition of TBA(OH) and lyophilization.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.07 (s, 1H), 5.91 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.89 – 4.74 (m, 2H), 4.54 – 4.43 (m, 1H), 4.22 – 4.11 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 176.3, 159.0, 154.0, 137.8, 116.3, 86.5, 83.5 (dd, J = 9.4, 4.2 Hz), 73.7 (d, J = 4.9 Hz), 73.1 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 65.1 (d, J = 5.3 Hz). ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 1.35, -9.97 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -11.18 (d, J = 20.8 Hz). **HRMS** (ESI) m/z for C₁₀H₁₅N₅O₁₄P₃ [M-H]⁻: calcd 521.9834, found 521.9832.

Synthesis of guanosine-3'-diphosphate-5'-triphosphate (pppGpp, 2)



To a solution of ppGp x 3.0 TBA (137 mg, 110 µmol) in dry DMF (1.0 ml) was added ETT (85.9 mg, 661 µmol, 6.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of **11** (215 mg, 330 µmol, 3.0 eq.) in DMF (2.0 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 89.5 mg, 363 µmol, 3.3 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards, distilled DBU (300 µl) was added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by addition of Et₂O (40 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (100 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using an 8-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 500 mM in acetone). The resulting solid was washed with acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac for 2 h. The product (**2**) (59.3 mg, 70.8 µmol, 64%) was isolated as white solid.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.06 (s, 1H), 5.92 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (ddd, J = 8.4, 5.0, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.82 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 4.51 – 4.44 (m, 1H), 4.24 – 4.14 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 159.1, 154.0, 152.0, 138.0, 116.3, 86.9, 83.3 (dd, J = 9.1, 4.3 Hz), 74.9 (d, J = 5.1 Hz), 73.1 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 65.5 (d, J = 5.2 Hz). ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): -6.21 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), -7.37 (d, J = 16.0 Hz), -10.85 (d, J = 13.9 Hz), -10.97 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), -21.77 (dd, J = 18.9 Hz). HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₀H₁₆N₅O₂₀P₅ [M-H₂]²⁻: calcd 340.4544, found 340.4545.

Synthesis of 5'-DEACM-pGp (19)



Guanosine dihydrate (**14**, 100 mg, 313 µmol), ETT (172 mg, 1.25 mmol, 4.0 eq.) and **15** (296 mg, 532 µmol, 1.7 eq.) were coevaporated separately with dry MeCN (each 3 x 3 ml). Afterwards, a solution of ETT in DMSO (600 µl) was added to guanosine and the resulting solution was cooled to 3 °C. A solution of **15** in DMF (1.3 ml) was cooled to 0 °C and added. The resulting solution was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. Afterwards, **16** (174 mg, 408 µmol, 1.3 eq.) was added and the solution was stirred for 45 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and TBHP (6 M in decanes, 172 µl, 1.03 mmol, 3.3 eq.) was added dropwise. The solution was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. Afterwards, piperidine (200 µl) was added and the solution was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. Precipitation was induced by the addition of Et₂O (10 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation and washed with Et₂O (3 x 5 ml) and dried over high vac. The solid was dissolved in H₂O (10 ml) and ribonuclease T2 (500 u) was added. The solution was incubated for 12 h at 37 °C. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography using an Äkta – system (NH₄HCO₃ – buffer, VIS detection at 700 nm). The product containing fractions were identified by HPLC, combined and lyophilized. The product (118 mg, 163 µmol, 52%) was isolated as yellow solid.

Ammonium DEACM-pGp (**19**) was converted into its TBA – salt (2.2 eq.) by dissolution in H₂O and addition of defined amounts of TBA(OH) followed by lyophilization.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 7.70 (s, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 5.68 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.45 – 4.36 (m, 1H), 4.22 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 3.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H).* ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 165.4, 158.0, 154.8, 153.8, 153.7, 153.3, 151.1, 151.0, 137.3, 123.6, 116.2, 109.5, 104.8, 102.4, 96.7, 87.1, 82.7 (dd, J = 8.5, 7.8 Hz), 73.0 (d, J = 4.9 Hz), 72.5 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 65.8 – 65.6 (m), 62.6 – 62.4 (m), 44.4, 11.8. ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 0.22, -0.32. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₄H₃₀N₆O₁₃P₂ [M+Na]⁺: calcd 695.1238, found 695.1245. *three multiplets are hidden underneath the DHO-peak.

Synthesis of guanosine-3'-diphosphate-5'-phosphate (pGpp, 3)



To a solution of 5'-DEACM-pGp x 2.25 TBA (120 mg, 98.6 µmol) in dry DMF (750 µl) was added ETT (51.2 mg, 394 µmol, 4.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of **11** (121 mg, 197 µmol, 2.0 eq.) in DMF (750 µl) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 51.0 mg, 207 µmol, 2.1 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards, distilled DBU (200 µl) was added at 0 °C. The solution was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and 25 min at room temperature before precipitation was induced by addition of Et₂O (10 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac. The solid was dissolved in H₂O/MeCN (4/1, 220 ml) and irradiated for 90 min in total using an UV-reactor. Each 10 min the sample was cooled to 10 °C. Afterwards, the solution was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 50 ml) and the aqueous layer was lyophilized. The resulting crude product was purified by automated preparative HPLC (Interchim) using an AQ-column (20% TEAA buffer (100 mM), 4 % MeCN). The product containing fractions were combined and 80% of the solvent was lyophilized. The residue was washed with acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 10 ml) and dried over high vac for 3 h. The product (**3**, 34.0 mg, 53.7 µmol, 55%) was isolated as white solid.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.13 (s, 1H), 5.91 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.89 – 4.82 (m, 1H), 4.81 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 4.44 – 4.39 (m, 1H), 3.98 – 3.87 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 159.3, 154.1, 151.9, 138.0, 116.2, 86.8, 84.1 (dd, J = 9.3 Hz), 75.1 (d, J = 5.3 Hz), 73.4 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 63.8 (d, J = 4.3 Hz). ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 3.7, -5.7 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), -10.8 (d, J = 22.1 Hz). HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₀H₁₅N₅O₁₄P₃ [M-H]⁻: calcd 521.9834, found 521.9835.

Synthesis of 5'-pentynyl-ppGp (22)



To a solution of pGp x 1.77 TBA (106 mg, 122 μ mol) in dry DMF (500 μ l) was added ETT (79.3 mg, 610 μ mol, 5.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of mixed P-Amidite **21** (92%, 119 mg, 268 μ mol, 2.2 eq.) in DMF (1.0 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 59.8 mg, 268 μ mol, 2.2 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Afterwards, precipitation was induced by addition of Et₂O (10 ml). The precipitate

was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 5 ml) and dried over high vac. The solid was dissolved in MeOH (3.0 ml) and the solution was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was dissolved in DMF (1.0 ml) before piperidine (100 μ l) was added. The solution was stirred for 30 min at room temperature and precipitation was induced by the addition of Et₂O (10 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 5 ml) and dried over high vac. The solid was dissolved in H₂O (5.0 ml) and ribonuclease T2 (300 u) was added. The resulting solution was stirred for 12 h at 37 °C and afterwards applied to an automated strong ion-exchange (Q-Sepharose) column. The product was eluted using NH₄HCO₃ – buffer (600 mM). Product containing fractions were combined and lyophilized. The product (**23**, 49.0 mg, 74.6 μ mol, 61%) was isolated as white solid.

Ammonium pentynyl-ppGp (23) was converted into its TBA – salt (2.1 eq.) by dissolution in H₂O and addition of defined amounts of TBA(OH) followed by lyophilization.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.08 (s, 1H), 5.91 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (ddd, J = 6.6, 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (ddd, J = 8.0, 5.2, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.46 (m, 1H), 4.24 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 3.87 (ddd, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (dd, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.66 (dddd, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 159.0, 154.0, 152.0, 137.8, 116.3, 86.4, 84.9, 83.3 (dd, J = 9.3, 3.4 Hz), 74.2 (d, J = 5.1 Hz), 72.8 (d, J = 5.1 Hz), 69.2, 65.3 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 65.2 (d, J = 6.1 Hz), 28.8 (d, J = 7.3 Hz), 14.1. ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): -0.09 (s, 1P), -10.95 (d, J = 21.2 Hz, 1P), -11.56 (d, J = 21.3 Hz, 1P).HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₅H₂₃N₅O₁₄P₃ [M+H]⁺: calcd 590.0449, found 590.0448.

Synthesis of 5'-pentynyl-ppGpp (23)



To a solution of pentynyl-ppGp x 2.1 TBA (54.0 mg, 49.4 µmol) in dry DMF (500 µl) was added ETT (19.3 mg, 148 µmol, 3.0 eq.). Afterwards, a solution of **11** (94%, 35.6 mg, 64.2 µmol, 1.3 eq.) in DMF (1.0 ml) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Afterwards, the solution was cooled to -20 °C and *m*CPBA (77%, 14.3 mg, 64.2 µmol, 1.3 eq.) was added. The solution was stirred for 5 min at -20 °C and for 10 min at 0 °C. Subsequently, DBU (100 µl) was added at 0 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C and for 25 min at rt. Precipitation was induced by the addition of Et₂O (10 ml). The precipitate was separated by centrifugation, washed with Et₂O (3 x 5 ml) and dried over high vac. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (120 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using an 8-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 3×10 ml) and dried over high vac for 2 h. The product (**23**, 22.1 mg, 28.4 µmol, 57%) was isolated as white solid.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.07 (s, 1H), 5.93 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (ddd, J = 8.7, 5.2, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.86 – 4.80 (m, 0H), 4.45 (br. s, J = 4.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 3.82 (ddd, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (dd, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.13 – 2.04 (m, 2H), 1.61 (dddd, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (101 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 159.2, 154.0, 152.0, 152.0, 154.0, 152.0, 154.0, 155.0, 1

138.0, 116.4, 87.0, 84.9, 83.2 (t, J = 9.3, 8.8 Hz), 74.7 (d, J = 5.3 Hz), 72.9 (d, J = 3.9 Hz), 69.1, 65.6 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 65.1 (d, J = 6.0 Hz), 28.8 (d, J = 7.3 Hz), 14.1 (d, J = 3.1 Hz). ³¹P{1H}-NMR (162 MHz, D₂O, δ /ppm): -5.67 (d, J = 22.7 Hz, 1P), -10.88 (d, J = 21.5 Hz 2P), -11.51 (d, J = 20.4 Hz, 1P). HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₅H₂₄N₅O₁₇P₄ [M+H]⁺: calcd 670.0112, found 670.0110.



Synthesis of 5'-Amino-PEG-ppGpp (24) by click reaction

The sodium salt of pentynyl-ppGpp (**23**, 10.0 mg, 12.8 µmol) and 1-Amino-11-azido-3,6,9-trioxaundecane (3.80 µl, 4.19 mg, 19.2 µmol, 1.5 eq.) were dissolved in TEAA – buffer (1.20 ml, 200 mM). The solution was degassed for 10 min using argon. Afterwards sodium ascorbate (4.57 mg, 23.1 µmol, 1.8 eq.) and CuSO₄ x 5 H₂O (1.12 mg, 4.49 µmol, 0.35 eq.) were added and the resulting solution was stirred for 3 h under argon atmosphere. The crude product was precipitated by addition of NaClO4 – solution (20 ml, -20 °C, 500 mM in acetone) and isolated by centrifugation. Complete turnover was observed according to NMR-analysis. The crude product was purified by strong ion-exchange chromatography (Q-Sepharose) using an Äkta-system and NaClO₄ – buffer (120 mM). The product containing fractions were precipitated using an 8-fold volume of NaClO₄ – solution (-20 °C, 500 mM in acetone (-20 °C, 3 x 3 ml) and dried over high vac for 2 h. The product (**24**, 6.70 mg, 6.72 µmol, 53%) was isolated as white solid.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H), 4.46 (s, 3H), 4.28 – 4.07 (m, 2H), 3.95 – 3.74 (m, 4H), 3.72 – 3.34 (m, 10H), 3.10 (s, 2H), 2.51 (s, 2H), 1.71 (s, 2H). ³¹**P{1H}-NMR** (162 MHz, D₂O, δ/ppm): -5.81 (br. s, 1P), -10.96 (br. s, 2P), -11.54 (br. s, 1P). **HRMS** (ESI) m/z for C₂₃H₃₉N₉O₂₀P₄ [M-H₂]²⁻ : calcd 442.5636, found 442.5634.

The product purity of compound **24** was determined by HPLC-UV (Dionex Ultimate 3000, C18_AQ-column, TEAA – buffer/MeCN gradient, WVL: 254 nm):



PAGE Analysis of Magic Spot Nucleotides

Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) was carried out on a Hoefer SE660 Tall Standard Dual Cooled Vertical Unit. The PAGE procedure was conducted based on the general procedure as described by Losito *et al.*^[4] Buffers and solutions for gel electrophoresis were prepared as follows:

Table 1: Description of buffers and solutions for PAGE.

10 × Tris/Borate/EDTA (TBE) buffer, pH 8.3	0.89 м Tris-HCl, 0.89 м boric acid, 20 mм EDTA
1 × Orange G dye (OGD), pH 7.0	10 mм Tris-HCl, 1 mм EDTA, 30% (w/v) glycerol, 0.1% (w/v) Orange G
Staining solution	0.1% (w/v) toluidine blue, 20% (w/v) MeOH, 2% (w/v) glycerol
De-staining solution	20% (w/v) MeOH, 2% (w/v) glycerol

During pre-run and run, the lower buffer chamber was filled with 6 L of pre-chilled $1 \times \text{TBE}$ buffer (4 °C) and the buffer was stirred. A recirculating cooler was used for chilling the buffer. Sample loading was performed with gelloading pipet tips. Samples were prepared by diluting stock solutions of ppGpp (1), pppGpp (2), ppApp (13), pGpp (3) and ppGp (4) with milli-Q H₂O to the desired concentration (all stock solutions were prepared in milli-Q H₂O).

Electrophoretic separation of MSN

- 1. The gel sandwich was assembled using glass plates (24 × 18 cm) and spacers (1 cm wide, 1.0 mm thick).
- 2. Gel preparation (~ 40 mL/gel): 35.8 % (w/v) acrylamide:bis-acrylamide 19:1 (33.9 mL, 3030 Roth), 10.0 % (v/v) 10 × TBE buffer (3.8 mL) and 0.05 % (w/v) ammonium persulfate (APS; 200 µL of 10 % APS in milli-Q H₂O) were stirred for 2 min at 0 °C. 0.05 % (v/v) tetramethylethylenediamine (TEMED; 20 µL) was added and the solution was stirred for 1 min. The mixture was poured between the pre-casted glass-plates and a 15 lane comb was inserted. The solution was allowed to polymerize for 25-30 min at room temperature.
- 3. After polymerization, gels were pre-run at 4 °C in 1 × TBE buffer for 30 min at 300 V.
- 4. Samples (22 μL volume per sample) were prepared and 1 × Orange G dye (7 μL) was added to all samples prior to loading onto the gel.
- 5. Wells were washed with 1 × TBE buffer by using a syringe and needle to remove any precipitates and nonpolymerized gel debris. The gel was then loaded leaving 2-3 wells empty on each side.
- 6. Gels were run at 4 °C in 1 × TBE buffer for 20 h at 500 V.
- 7. After the run, the gel apparatus was disassembled. One glass plate was removed leaving the gel on the other glass plate.
- 8. Workup: Gels were stained for 30 min with staining solution and then de-stained for 1.5 h with de-staining solution. The de-staining solution was replaced once during the entire procedure.
- 9. The gels were scanned with a photo scanner (Canon CanoScan 8800F).

10. Finally, the image manipulation program Gimp 2.8.22 was used to convert the images to greyscale and to adjust contrast and brightness.

Quantification of ppGpp and pppGpp via electrophoretic densitometry

Standard solutions with different amounts of ppGpp (2.4 nmol, 1.2 nmol, 0.6 nmol, 0.3 nmol) and pppGpp (1.2 nmol, 0.6 nmol, 0.3 nmol, 0.15 nmol) were run on gel as described above.^[4] Every experiment was conducted in triplicate. For comparing the band densities of the standards, 8-bit copies of the gel images were analysed by using ImageJ. Peak areas were measured by generating lane profile plots followed by drawing lines to enclose peaks of interest. Supporting Figure 1 illustrates the gel analysis procedure with ImageJ.^[5]



Supporting Figure 1: (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated pppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: pppGpp (1.2 nmol), Lane 2: pppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 3: pppGpp (0.3 nmol). Lane 4: pppGpp (0.15 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ. This experiment is in the following referred to as Experiment 2 b).

Errors on loading volumes were avoided by dividing the peak area of interest by the corresponding area of the Orange G dye A_{OGD} (quotients are hereafter referred to as relative peak areas A_{rel}). A graphical summary was created using OriginPro (Version 2018b) and is shown in Supporting Figure 2 (ppGpp) and Supporting Figure 3 (pppGpp).



Supporting Figure 2: Plot of the mean Arel, m of ppGpp samples correlated to the corresponding loading amounts.



Supporting Figure 3: Plot of the mean Arel, m of pppGpp obtained via ImageJ versus the corresponding loading amounts.

The experimental data as well as the mathematical equations used for calculating mean and error values are listed below. All gels and corresponding densitometric gel image analyses are shown in the Supporting Figures 4-8.

$$A_{rel, m} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} A_{rel, i} \qquad (Equation 1)$$

 $A_{rel, i} = measured value$ $A_{rel, m} = mean value$ n = number of measurements

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 - n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (A_{rel, i} - A_{rel, m})^2} \qquad (Equation \ 2)$$

s = *standard deviation*

$$s_m = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$
 (Equation 3)

*s*_m= *standard deviation of the mean value*

Experimental data for ppGpp

Supporting Table 2: Peak areas (A) of different ppGpp standards and OGD on gel obtained via ImagJ analysis.

Experiment	A _{ppGpp} (2.4 nmol)	A _{ppGpp} (1.2 nmol)	A _{ppGpp} (0.6 nmol)	A _{ppGpp} (0.3 nmol)			
1 a)	8877	3458	1065	346			
2 a)	14891	7110	2621	1588			
3 a)	12177	4058	1245	526			
Experiment	A _{OGD} (2.4 nmol)	A _{OGD} (1.2 nmol)	A _{OGD} (0.6nmol)	A _{OGD} (0.3 nmol)			
1 a)	8313	7861	8798	7465			
2 a)	12301	12472	11157	11527			
3 a)	12016	12737	12564	12102			

Supporting Table 3: Relative peak areas Arel of different ppGpp standards on gel as quotient of AppGpp and AOGD.

Experiment	Arel, ppGpp (2.4 nmol)	Arel, ppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Arel, ppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Arel, ppGpp (0.3 nmol)
1 a)	1.06787	0.43995	0.12099	0.04641
2 a)	1.21060	0.57010	0.23493	0.13775
3 a)	1.01341	0.31862	0.09909	0.04344

Supporting Table 4: Mean values of the relative peak areas Arel, m of different ppGpp standards calculated according to Equation 1.

Arel, m, ppGpp (2.4 nmol)	Arel, m, ppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Arel, m, ppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Arel, m, ppGpp (0.3 nmol)			
1.09730	0.44289	0.15167	0.07586			

Supporting Table 5: Standard deviations of mean values s_{m, ppGpp} (calculated according to Equation 2 and Equation 3).

Sm, ppGpp (2.4 nmol)	Sm, ppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Sm, ppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Sm, ppGpp (0.3 nmol)		
0.05879	0.07261	0.04211	0.03095		

Experimental data for pppGpp:

Experiment	A _{pppGpp} (1.2 nmol)	A _{pppGpp} (0.6 nmol)	A _{pppGpp} (0.3 nmol)	A _{pppGpp} (0.15 nmol)		
1 b)	11501	4891	1752	694		
2 b)	8254	3483	1200	368		
3 b)	9733	4325	1981	792		
Experiment	A _{OGD} (1.2 nmol)	Aogd (0.6 nmol)	A _{OGD} (0.3 nmol)	Aogd (0.15 nmol)		
1 b)	12038	13450	12350	13440		
2 b)	8857	11744	10447	10419		
3 b)	12374	11369	12558	13356		

Supporting Table 5: Peak areas (A) of different ppGpp standards and OGD on gel obtained via ImagJ analysis.

Supporting Table 6: Relative peak areas A_{rel} of different pppGpp standards on gel as quotient of A_{pppGpp} and A_{OGD}.

Experiment	Arel, pppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Arel, pppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Arel, pppGpp (0.3 nmol)	Arel, pppGpp (0.15 nmol)
1 b)	0.95538	0.36368	0.14184	0.05165
2 b)	0.93195	0.29658	0.11483	0.03527
3 b)	0.78655	0.38040	0.15775	0.05929

Supporting Table 7: Mean values of the relative peak areas Arel, m of different pppGpp standards calculated according to Equation 1.

Arel, m, pppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Arel, m, pppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Arel, m, pppGpp (0.3 nmol)	Arel, m, pppGpp (0.15 nmol)			
0.89129	0.34689	0.13814	0.04874			

Supporting Table 8: Standard deviations of mean values s_{m, pppGpp} (calculated according to Equation 2 and Equation 3).

Sm, pppGpp (1.2 nmol)	Sm, pppGpp (0.6 nmol)	Sm, pppGpp (0.3 nmol)	Sm, pppGpp (0.15 nmol)			
0.05281	0.02562	0.01253	0.01508			

Gel images and corresponding densitometric analyses for ppGpp



Supporting Figure 4: Experiment 1 a). (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated ppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: ppGpp (2.4 nmol). Lane 2: ppGpp (1.2 nmol). Lane 3: ppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 4: ppGpp (0.3 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ.



Supporting Figure 5: Experiment 2 a). (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated ppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: ppGpp (2.4 nmol). Lane 2: ppGpp (1.2 nmol). Lane 3: ppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 4: ppGpp (0.3 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ.



Supporting Figure 6: Experiment 3 a). (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated ppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: ppGpp (2.4 nmol). Lane 2: ppGpp (1.2 nmol). Lane 3: ppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 4: ppGpp (0.3 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ.

Gel images and corresponding densitometric analyses for pppGpp



Supporting Figure 7: Experiment 1 b). (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated pppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: pppGpp (1.2 nmol). Lane 2: pppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 3: pppGpp (0.3 nmol). Lane 4: pppGpp (0.15 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ.



Supporting Figure 8: Experiment 3 b). (A) 8-bit image of electrophoretically separated pppGpp after staining with toluidine blue. Lane 1: pppGpp (1.2 nmol). Lane 2: pppGpp (0.6 nmol). Lane 3: pppGpp (0.3 nmol). Lane 4: pppGpp (0.15 nmol). (B) Corresponding densitometric gel image analysis obtained via ImageJ.

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Compound 20 (pentynylO) (FmO) P-NiPr₂, ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz)



Compound 20 (pentynylO) (Fm) P-NiPr₂, ³¹P[¹H] - NMR (CDCI₃, 162 MHz)







Т 0 f1 (ppm) 180 140 120 100 80 20 -20 -120 -140 -20 00 160 60 40 -40 -60 -80 -100 -160 -180



Compound 9 (pGp), ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 121 MHz), detailed

















<u> </u>												<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>			<u> </u>				, , , , , ,	
200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	0	-20	-40	-60	-80	-100	-120	-140	-160	-180	-20(
										[ppm]										

B (s)

152.62

C (s) 149.11

A (s) 155.43 D (s)

139.89



NN

[ppm] -10 -20


Compound 10 (pAp - NH₄), ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 101 MHz), detailed









Reaction monitoring compound 9, ³¹P[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 121 MHz)









Compound 1 (ppGpp - Na), ³¹P - NMR (D₂O, 162 MHz)





0

Compound 1 (ppGpp - Na), ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 101 MHz), detailed





Compound 1 (ppGpp - Na), HSQC

















 NH_2

[ppm] -10 -20

Compound 13 (ppApp - Na), ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 101 MHz), detailed



 NH_2















Т Т 0 f1 (ppm) 180 160 140 120 80 60 20 -20 -120 -160 -20(200 100 40 -40 -60 -80 -100 -140 -180







2'-H 5'-H₂ 4'-H 3'-H 1'-H MM --12 Ò 8000 5'-P(a) 🚄 --11 5'-P(b) --10 --9 --8 0 -7 NH 0 --6 `NH2 N 0 --5 0 0 ÓН Δ --4 \cap NH_{4}^{+} NH_4^+ NH₄⁺ NH₄⁺ NH₄ --3 Ō --2 --1 -0 3'-P 60 0 -1 0000 -2 -3 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 f2 (ppm) 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5

Compound 4 (pGpp - NH₄), 31P - ¹H - HMBC (D₂O, water suppression)






























Compound 19 (DEACM-pGp - NH₄), ¹H - NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz, water suppression)





-1 -1	1 1 1 1	1 ' '			1 1 1 1								1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 ' 1 '	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1		
200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	0 [mnn]	-20	-40	-60	-80	-100	-120	-140	-160	-180	-20(
										[ppiii]										











Compound 19 (DEACM-pGp - TBA), ¹H - NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz, water suppression)











0 [ppm] 180 160 140 120 60 20 -20 -120 -20(200 100 80 40 -40 -60 -80 -100 -140 -160 -180

Compound 3 (pGpp - Na), ¹³C[¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 101 MHz)





















Compound 22 (5' - pentynyl - ppGp), ³¹P [¹H] - NMR (D₂O, 162 MHz)



0 [ppm] 180 160 140 120 80 60 20 -20 -120 200 100 40 -40 -60 -80 -100 -140 -160 -180

-20(












Synthesis of compound 22 (5' - pentynyl - ppGp), reaction monitoring by ³¹P-NMR (DMF and D₂O, 162 MHz)







Compound 23 (5' - pentynyl - ppGpp), ¹H [³¹P] - NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz)





0 [ppm] 180 160 140 120 80 60 20 -20 -120 -20(200 100 40 -40 -60 -80 -100 -140 -160 -180



[ppm] -10 -20















HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 20 (PentynO)(FmO)P-N(iPr)2



HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 9 (pGp)



hsjea61s_hr04 #1 RT: 0.00 AV: 1 NL: 3.10E5

m/z

HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 10 (pAp)



HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 1 (ppGpp)



HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 4 (ppGp)



hsbra63s_hr04 #1 RT: 0.01 AV: 1 NL: 2.50E6 T: FTMS - p ESI Full ms [60.00-800.00]

HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 2 (pppGpp)





HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 19 (DEACM – pGp)



hsjea78s_hr01 #1 RT: 0.02 AV: 1 NL: 1.89E6 T: FTMS + p ESI Full lock ms [100.00-900.00]

m/z

HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 3 (pGpp)



HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 22 (5'-pentynyl-ppGp)



1200

HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 23 (5'-pentynyl-ppGpp)



HRMS (ESI) Analysis of compound 24 (5'-Amino-PEG-ppGpp)

