## Supporting information

# Synthesis of Phosphatidic Acids via Cobalt(salen) Catalyzed Epoxide Ring-opening with Dibenzyl Phosphate 

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## General Information

All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere using oven-dried glassware and using standard Schlenk techniques unless otherwise mentioned. Reaction temperature refers to the temperature of the oil bath. All reagents and catalysts were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Acros, J\&K Scientific and TCI Europe and used without further purification unless otherwise mentioned. Any purification of reagents was performed following the methods described in; Armarego, W. L., \& Chai, C. L. L. (2013) Purification of laboratory chemicals. Butterworth-Heinemann. TLC analysis was performed on Merck silica gel 60/Kieselguhr F254, 0.25 mm . Compounds were visualized using either Seebach's reagent (a mixture of phosphomolybdic acid ( 25 g ), cerium (IV) sulfate $(7.5 \mathrm{~g}), \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(500 \mathrm{~mL})$ and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}(25 \mathrm{~mL})$ ), 2,4-DNP stain (2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine (12 g), conc. sulfuric acid ( 60 ml ), water ( 80 ml ), ethanol ( 200 ml )), bromocresol green (a mixture of bromocresol green ( 0.04 g ) in EtOH ( 100 mL ), 0.1 M NaOH added until mixture turns blue), Phosphomolybdic acid (PMA) stain (a mixture of phosphomolybdic acid ( 10 g ) in EtOH ( 100 mL )) or elemental iodine. Flash chromatography was performed using SiliCycle silica gel type SiliaFlash P60 (230-400 mesh).GC-MS measurements were performed with an HP 6890 series gas chromatography system equipped with an HP1 or HP5 column (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA), and equipped with an HP 5973 mass sensitive detector. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Varian AMX400 ( $400,100.6$ and 162 MHz , respectively) using $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ as solvent unless stated otherwise. Chemical shift values are reported in ppm with the solvent resonance as the internal standard $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}: \delta 7.26\right.$ for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, \delta 77.16$ for $\left.{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\right)$. Data are reported as follows: chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ), multiplicity ( $\mathrm{s}=$ singlet, $\mathrm{d}=$ doublet, $\mathrm{dd}=$ double doublet, ddd = double double doublet, $\mathrm{td}=$ triple doublet, $\mathrm{t}=$ triplet, $\mathrm{q}=$ quartet, $\mathrm{b}=$ broad, $\mathrm{m}=$ multiplet), coupling constants $\mathrm{J}(\mathrm{Hz})$, and integration. Optical rotations were measured on a Schmidt+Haensch polarimeter (Polartronic MH8) with a 10 cm cell (c given in $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ) at ambient temperature ( $\pm 20$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ).

## Screening tables



Table 1. Base screening with epoxide 15 and cat $\mathbf{I}^{\text {a }}$

| Entry | base | Yield |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(1.1 \mathrm{eq})$ | $0 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | 2,6 -lutidine (1.1 eq) | $55 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 2,6 -lutidine (0.05 eq) | $18 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | 2,6 -di-tert-butylpyridine | $15 \%$ |
|  | $(1.1 \mathrm{eq})$ |  |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | DIPEA (0.05 eq) | $53 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | DIPEA (0.05 eq) | $26 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | DIPEA $(1.1 \mathrm{eq})$b | $78 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{8}$ | DIPEA $^{c}(1 \mathrm{eq})$ | $84 \%$ |

a conditions: $10 \%$ of cat $\mathbf{I}$, 1 equiv of dibenzylphosphoric acid, 16 h reaction time, yield determined after purification by column chromatography b2 equiv of dibenzylphosphoric acid was used, ca 1:1 mixture of DIPEA and dibenzylphosphoric acid was stirred in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$, the resulting Hünig's salt was purified (silica column, $5 \% \mathrm{MeOH}$ in EtOAc ), and then used in the reaction.

Scheme 1: Ring-opening phosphorylation with cat II


Table 2. Catalyst screening for the ring opening of epoxide 15

| Entry | Catalyst | Phosphate | Yield |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | I (5\%) | Hünig's salt | $70 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | II (5\%) | Hünig's salt | $55 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | I (7.5\%) | Hünig's salt | $80 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | II (7.5\%) | Hünig's salt | $62 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | I (10\%) | Hünig's salt | $84 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | II (10\%) | Hünig's salt | $65 \%$ |

Table 3. Base screening for the ring opening of epoxide 15

| Entry | Base | Yield | Remarks |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(1.1 \mathrm{eq})$ | $0 \%$ | - |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | 2,6-Lutidine (1 eq) | $55 \%$ | - |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 2,6-Lutidine $(0.05 \mathrm{eq})$ | $18 \%$ | - |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | 2,6-di-tert-butylpyridine (1 eq) | $15 \%$ | - |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | DIPEA $(0.05 \mathrm{eq})$ | $53 \%$ | - |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | DIPEA $(0.05 \mathrm{eq})$ | $26 \%$ | 2 eq of phosphate was used |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | DIPEA $(1 \mathrm{eq})$ | $45 \%$ | 2 eq of epoxide was used |

## Experimental procedures

General procedure for the epoxide ring-opening with a Co-salen catalyst and dibenzyl phosphate as the nucleophile:

To a vial containing a stirrer egg was added dibenzylphosphate DIPEA salt ${ }^{i}(1.54 \mathrm{~g}, 4.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 1$ equiv) and the oxirane ( 4.26 mmol , 1 equiv) in dry THF ( 2 mL ) under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere. Co-salen catalyst I ( $0.426 \mathrm{mmol}, 10 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ ) was added and the green mixture was allowed to stir for 16 h under an oxygen atmosphere. The viscous mixture was purified by column chromatography (50\% EtOAc in pentane) which yielded the desired phosphate as a viscous oil.ii

(S)-Dibenzyl (3-(benzyloxy)-2-hydroxypropyl) phosphate 16 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 15 ( $1.6 \mathrm{~g}, 3.61 \mathrm{mmol}, 84 \%$ ).

Spectral data matched with those previously reported of the racemic compound. ${ }^{1}$

(S)-Dibenzyl (2-hydroxy-3-(geranylgeranyl-oxy)propyl) phosphate 24 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 17 ( $60 \mathrm{mg} 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}, 64 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , Chloroform-d) $\delta 7.34$ (s, 10H), 5.31 (t, J = $6.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$ ), $5.17-5.01$ (m, 7H), $4.14-4.01(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.99(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.93(\mathrm{p}, J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.42(\mathrm{~d}, J=5.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $2.99(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.17-1.92(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.65(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.60(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $101 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{cdcl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 140.6,135.8,135.7,135.4,135.0,131.3,128.7,128.1,124.5$,
$124.3,123.9,120.4,70.0,69.6,69.6,69.5,69.5,69.5,69.4,69.2,69.2,67.9,39.8,39.8,39.7$, 26.8, 26.7, 26.4, 25.8, 17.8, 16.6, 16.1, 16.1.
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( 162 MHz , Chloroform- $d$ ) $\delta-0.15$.
$[\alpha]_{D}^{20}=+2.0\left(\mathrm{c}=1 \mathrm{in} \mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$.
HRMS-ESI ${ }^{+}(\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z})$ : $[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{37} \mathrm{H}_{53} \mathrm{PO}_{6} \mathrm{Na}^{+}$, 647.347; found, 647.345

[^0]
(S)-Dibenzyl (3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyl) phosphate 25 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 19 ( $270 \mathrm{mg}, 0.73 \mathrm{mmol}, 61 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.34$ (d, J = $\left.2.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 10 \mathrm{H}\right), 5.14-4.97(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.16-4.02(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, 3.94 (p, J = $5.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$ ), 3.50 (d, J = $5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$ ), 2.03 (s, 1H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) ס 135.53, 135.47, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.1, 70.0, 69.9, 69.84, 69.81, 69.78, 69.76, 68.4, 68.3, 44.7.

HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{O}_{5} \mathrm{CIPNa}$, 393.063; found, 393.063.


Dibenzyl (3-((tert-butyldiphenylsilyl)oxy)-2-hydroxypropyl) phosphate 27 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 20 ( $350 \mathrm{mg}, 0.59 \mathrm{mmol}, 85 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\overline{2} 7.71$ - 7.48 (m, 4H), $7.49-7.29$ (m, 16H), $5.10-4.99$ (m, 4H), $4.21-4.05(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.89(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=5.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.73-3.61(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.76$ (s-br, 1H), 1.06 (s, 9H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 135.7,135.5,135.5,132.9,129.9,128.61,128.59,128.0,127.8$, 77.3, 70.6, 70.6, 69.6, 69.5, 68.8, 68.8, 63.9, 26.8, 19.2.
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) ס 0.03.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{33} \mathrm{H}_{39} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{PSiNa}, 613.215$; found, 613.216 .

(S)-Dibenzyl (2-hydroxy-3-(trityloxy)propyl) phosphate 21 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 28 ( $270 \mathrm{mg}, 0.45 \mathrm{mmol}, 85 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.63-7.10(\mathrm{~m}, 25 \mathrm{H}), 5.09-4.95(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.18-4.01(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $3.96-3.85(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.26-3.10(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $101 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 143.6,128.6,128.0,127.9,127.1,86.8,69.8,69.8,69.6,69.5$, 69.5, 63.7.
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta-0.03$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{36} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{PNa}$, 617.207; found, 617.207.


To a cooled ( $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, ice/water bath) solution of (R)-oxiran-2-ylmethanol ( $2 \mathrm{~g}, 27.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and triethylamine ( 4.5 mL , $32 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv) in THF ( 90 mL ) was added palmitoyl chloride ( 9.8 mL , $32.4 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv) in a drop-wise fashion. The mixture was stirred for 16 h , during which time it was allowed to warm up to rt. Water was added and the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel and was subsequently extracted with EtOAc (3x), the organic layers were combined, dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude was further purified by flash column chromatography ( $30 \%$ ether in pentane) which afforded the desired epoxide 18 in $97 \%$ yield as a white solid.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 4.40(\mathrm{dd}, J=12.3,3.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.91$ (dd, $\left.J=12.3,6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right)$, 3.20 (ddt, $J=6.1,4.1,2.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.84(\mathrm{dd}, J=4.9,4.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.64(\mathrm{dd}, J=4.9,2.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $2.34(\mathrm{t}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.63(\mathrm{t}, J=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.25(\mathrm{~s}, 16 \mathrm{H}), 0.87(\mathrm{t}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $101 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 173.5,64.7,49.4,44.6,34.1,31.9,29.67,29.66,29.65,29.63$, 29.62, 29.57, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 24.9, 22.7, 14.1.
$[\alpha]_{D}^{20}=-13.3$ ( $\mathrm{c}=1$ in $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ).
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{37} \mathrm{O}_{3}, 313.266$; found, 313.266.

(R)-3-((Bis(benzyloxy)phosphoryl)oxy)-2-hydroxypropyl palmitate 25 was synthesized via the general procedure starting from epoxide 18 ( $250 \mathrm{mg}, 0.43 \mathrm{mmol}, 68 \%$ ).iii
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.35(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.12-4.98(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.23-3.89(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H})$, $2.39-2.20(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.04(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.36-1.17(\mathrm{~m}, 24 \mathrm{H}), 0.88(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=6.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 3H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) ס 173.9, 135.7, 128.9, 128.8, 128.79, 128.77, 128.2, 69.88, 69.85, 68.92, 68.85, 64.4, 34.2, 32.1, 29.8, 29.8, 29.8, 29.74, 29.73, 29.60, 29.58, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 25.0, 22.8, 14.3.
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 0.05$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{33} \mathrm{H}_{51} \mathrm{O}_{7} \mathrm{PNa}$, 613.327; found, 613.327.

[^1]

Dibenzyl phosphate 25 ( $110 \mathrm{mg}, 0.19 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in a $1: 1$ mixture of THF/EtOH (3.8 $\mathrm{mL})$. The mixture was degassed via freeze pump thaw technique $(3 x)$ before $\mathrm{Pd}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ on carbon ( $53 \mathrm{mg}, 0.04 \mathrm{mmol}, 20 \mathrm{~mol} \%, 10 \% \mathrm{Pd}$ ) was added. Hydrogen atmosphere was established and the mixture was allowed to stir vigorously for 16 h before it was filtered over celite, the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo which yielded the desired free phosphatidic acid 32 ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.17 \mathrm{mmol}$, 86\%) as a pale-yellow solid.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} 4: 1$ ) $\delta 4.02(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.88(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.11-2.94(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 2.22$ $(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.57-1.45(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.37-1.22(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.21-1.04(\mathrm{~m}, 16 \mathrm{H}), 0.77(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 3H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-45 \mathrm{DEPT}$ NMR (151 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}+\mathrm{MeOD}\right) ~ \delta 77.4,70.3,64.91,45.90,34.1,31.9,29.62$, 29.59, 29.58, 29.56, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 24.8, 22.6, 13.4, 8.3. ${ }^{\text {iv }}$
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} 4: 1$ ) $\delta-1.16$
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{39} \mathrm{O}_{7} \mathrm{PNa}, 433.233$; found, 433.233.


To a Schlenk flask equipped with stirrer egg was added dibenzyl phosphate $25(90 \mathrm{mg}, 0.16$ mmol ), stearic acid ( $53 \mathrm{mg}, 0.19 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv) and DMAP ( $1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol}, 5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ ). The resulting mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice/water bath) and DCC ( $39 \mathrm{mg}, 0.19 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv) was added, the resulting mixture was stirred for 16 h during which time it was allowed to warm up to rt. All volatiles were evaporated and the crude was further purified by flash chromatography ( $10 \%$ ether in pentane) which yielded the desired mixed di-acylglycerol 33 ( $90 \mathrm{mg}, 0.11 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in $68 \%$ yield as a white solid.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) ס $7.34(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.15(\mathrm{p}, \mathrm{J}=5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 5.10-4.97$ (m, $4 \mathrm{H}), 4.34-3.94(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.36-2.20(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.57(\mathrm{dtq}, \mathrm{J}=11.7,7.5,4.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.24(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=$ $4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 52 \mathrm{H}), 0.87(\mathrm{t}, J=6.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $101 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 173.2,172.8,135.62,135.55,128.63,128.60,128.58,127.96$, 127.94, 127.9, 69.53, 69.47, 69.4, 69.33, 69.25, 65.8, 65.40, 65.35, 61.6, 34.1, 34.0, 31.9, 29.69, 29.65, 29.62, 29.60, 29.47, 29.46, 29.35, 29.27, 29.11, 29.06, 24.8, 24.8, 22.7, 14.1. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta-1.06,-1.66$. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}=-1.5\left(\mathrm{c}=1\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{51} \mathrm{H}_{85} \mathrm{O}_{8} \mathrm{P}_{1} \mathrm{Na}, 879.587$; found, 879.588.

[^2]

Mixed diacylglycerol phosphate 34 was prepared with the same synthetic procedure that was used for the synthesis of 32 ( $87 \%$ yield)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}+\mathrm{MeOD}$ ) $\delta 4.36(\mathrm{dd}, J=12.0,3.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.17(\mathrm{dd}, J=12.0,6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 4.08(\mathrm{t}, J=5.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.33(\mathrm{p}, J=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9 \mathrm{H}), 2.35-2.27(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.62-1.54(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H})$, 1.24 (s, 48H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-45 \mathrm{DEPT}$ NMR ( $151 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}+\mathrm{MeOD}$ ) $\delta 77.49,69.8,62.1,46.4,34.1,34.0,31.8,29.60$, 29.56, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.0, 24.8, 22.6, 13.8, 8.5. ${ }^{\text { }}$
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}+\mathrm{MeOD}$ ) $\delta-0.24$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{37} \mathrm{H}_{72} \mathrm{O}_{8} \mathrm{P}_{1} \mathrm{Na}, 699.494$; found, 699.494.


Photoswitchable mixed diacyl glycerol dibenzylphosphate 35 was prepared with the same synthetic procedure that was used for the synthesis of 33 (71\%).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.91-7.75(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.39-7.23(\mathrm{~m}, 14 \mathrm{H}), 5.18(\mathrm{p}, \mathrm{J}=5.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $5.10-4.94(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.77(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.35-4.22(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.22-4.02(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.69(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 4 H ), $2.38-2.18(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.02-1.90(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.84(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.70-1.61(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.60-1.49(\mathrm{~m}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 1.39(\mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{~J}=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.33-1.18(\mathrm{~m}, 25 \mathrm{H}), 0.95(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 0.88(\mathrm{t}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 3H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $101 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 173.3,172.8,172.5,151.4,151.1,146.43,146.42,144.4,135.70$, $135.69,135.6,129.22,129.17,128.77,128.73,128.71,128.08,128.07,127.97,123.0,122.9$, $77.4,69.72,69.67,69.64,69.62,69.55,65.52,65.46,61.7,35.7,34.9,34.1,34.0,33.6,33.4$, 33.3, 32.0, 29.80, 29.79, 29.8, 29.72, 29.58, 29.57, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 26.3, 26.2, 24.93, 24.86, 22.8, 22.4, 14.2, 14.0.
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta-0.99,-1.61$.
$[\alpha]_{D}^{20}=-4.5\left(\mathrm{c}=1\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{53} \mathrm{H}_{74} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{8} \mathrm{P}_{1} \mathrm{Na}$, 897.518; found, 897.519.

[^3]

Dibenzylphosphate 35 ( $40 \mathrm{mg}, 0.045 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in dry $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(0.9 \mathrm{~mL})$ under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere. The resulting solution was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice/water bath) before $\operatorname{TMSBr}(13 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.1$ $\mathrm{mmol}, 2.2$ equiv) was added in a dropwise fashion. The resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h before water ( 0.1 mL ) was added, subsequently all volatiles were evaporated in vacuo. The crude oil was purified by flash column chromatography $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3} / \mathrm{MeOH} / \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} 80 \% / 17 \% / 3 \%\right)$ to afford the desired free photoswitchable mixed diacyl phosphatidic acid 36 ( $20 \mathrm{mg}, 0.028 \mathrm{mmol}, 63 \%$ ) as an orange film.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} 4: 1$ ) $\delta 7.75-7.55(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.24-7.02(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.92(\mathrm{~s}, 0 \mathrm{H})$, $6.69-6.52(\mathrm{~m}, 0 \mathrm{H}), 5.13(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.49-4.13(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.01-2.87(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.66-2.43(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H})$, $2.33-1.98(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.89-1.68(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.57-1.28(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.29-0.88(\mathrm{~m}, 31 \mathrm{H}), 0.85-0.61$ ( $\mathrm{m}, 6 \mathrm{H}$ ).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-45 \mathrm{DEPT}$ NMR ( $151 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} 4: 1$ ) $\delta 133.04,133.00,132.96,132.6,132.2,131.2$, 126.7, 126.6, 124.7, 81.4, 71.3, 66.4, 39.4, 38.7, 38.0, 37.3, 35.8, 33.6, 33.5, 33.2, 33.1, 30.2, 28.7, 26.5, 26.2, 17.88, 17.86, 17.7, 12.3. ${ }^{\text {vi }}$
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} 4: 1$ ) $\delta 3.63$.
HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): [M] ${ }^{+}$calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{39} \mathrm{H}_{61} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{8} \mathrm{P}_{1} \mathrm{Na}$, 739.406; found, 739.406.

[^4]
## Spectral Data































## References

[^5]
[^0]:    ${ }^{i}$ The ammonium salt was made by addition of 1 equiv of dibenzylphosphoric acid with 1 equiv of DIPEA in a minimal amount of $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$, after stirring for 5 min the mixture was purified by flash column chromatography ( $\mathrm{EtOAc} / \mathrm{MeOH}$ 20:1). In situ generation of the salt is also possible, by stirring 5 minutes in dry THF.
    ${ }^{\text {ii }}$ Optical rotations of the phosphorylated products were not reliable as a minute amount of catalyst co-eluted with the products, this also resulted in green/brown coloured products. In subsequent steps the trace amounts could be separated out effortlessly.

[^1]:    iii Compound was isolated with a small amount of co-eluting impurities which could be removed in the subsequent step.

[^2]:    iv Due to poor solubility a DEPT-45 spectrum was obtained, this gives increased resolution but does not show signals of quaternary carbons.

[^3]:    ${ }^{\vee}$ Due to poor solubility a DEPT-45 spectrum was obtained, this gives increased resolution but does not show signals of quaternary carbons.

[^4]:    vi Due to poor solubility a DEPT-45 spectrum was obtained, this gives increased resolution but does not show signals of quaternary carbons.

[^5]:    ${ }^{1}$ Meyer, O.; Ponaire, S.; Rohmer, M.; Grosdemange-Billiard, C. Lewis Acid Mediated Regioselective Ring Opening of Benzylglycidol with Dibenzyl Phosphate: Short and Attractive Synthesis of Dihydroxyacetone Phosphate. Org. Lett. 2006, 8 (19), 4347-4350.

