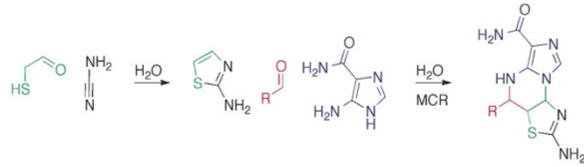


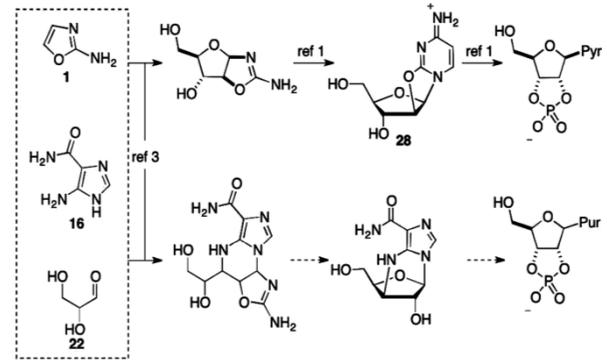


Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides



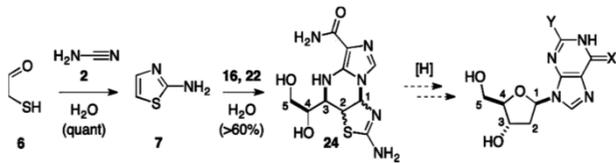
Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides

proposed multicomponent ribonucleotide syntheses

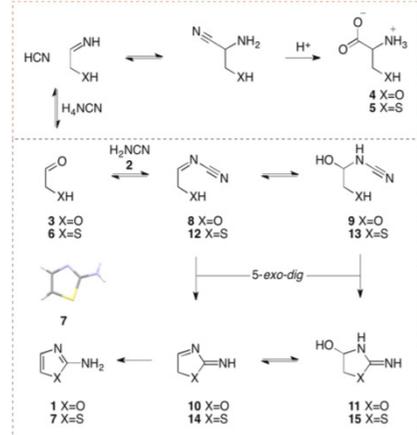


Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides

proposed multicomponent deoxyribonucleotide syntheses



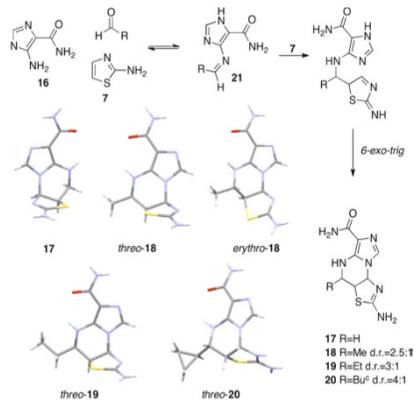
Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides



Strecker-Type Synthesis of Amino Acids (Red Box) and Azole Synthesis in Water (Blue Box)

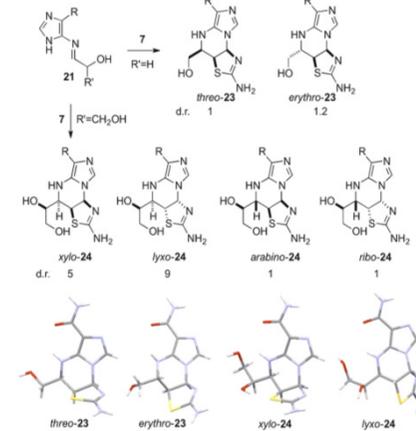
### Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides

Three-Comp. Reaction of 2-Aminothiazole **7**, 5-Amino-imidazole-4-carboxamide **16**, and Various Aliphatic Aldehydes



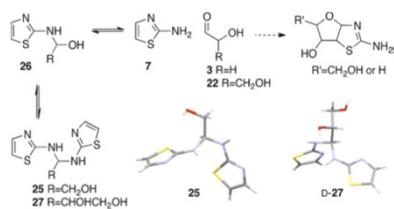
### Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides

Three-Component Reaction of 2-Aminothiazole **7**, 4-Aminoimidazole-5-carboxamide **16**, and Glyceraldehyde **22**



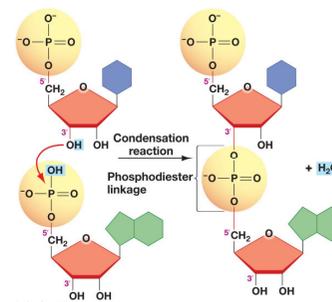
### Prebiotic synthesis of deoxyribonucleosides

Crystallization of Bis-(2-aminothiazole)-aminals of Glycolaldehyde **3** and *D*-Glyceraldehyde **22** from Water at pH 7

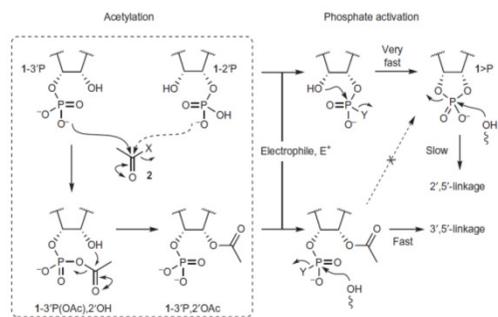


### Nucleotide polymerization

Regioselective formation of 3'-5' phosphodiester bonds between nucleotides

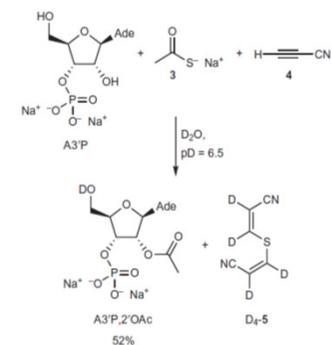


### Regioselective ribonucleotide ligation



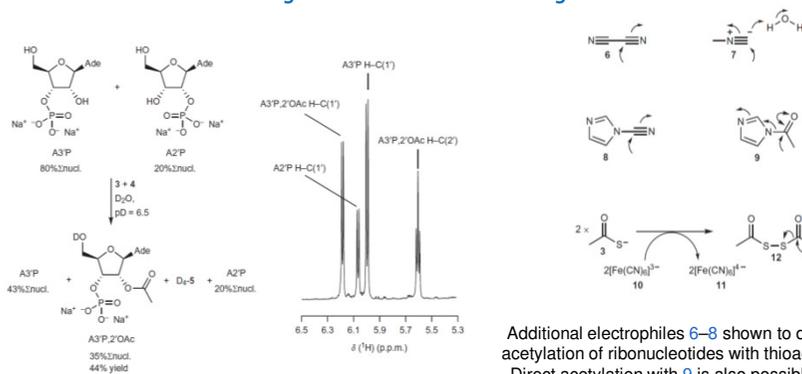
Protection of the 2'-OH group of 1-3'P facilitates rapid template-directed 3',5'-ligation after electrophilic phosphate activation. The 3'-OH group of 1-2'P is protected to a lesser extent, such that 1>P is the major product of phosphate activation and slow template-directed 2',5'-ligation follows. X = leaving group, Y = leaving group generated by electrophilic activation of phosphate oxygen with or without a subsequent nucleophilic displacement

### Regioselective ribonucleotide ligation



Treatment of A3P (100 mM) with sodium thioacetate 3 (100 mM) and cyanoacetylene 4 (200 mM) in D<sub>2</sub>O at neutral pD for 24 hours results in selective acetylation of the 2-OH group. Curly arrows indicate electrophilic activation/acetylation steps. Yields were judged by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration. Ade = N<sup>9</sup>-linked adenine.

### Regioselective ribonucleotide ligation

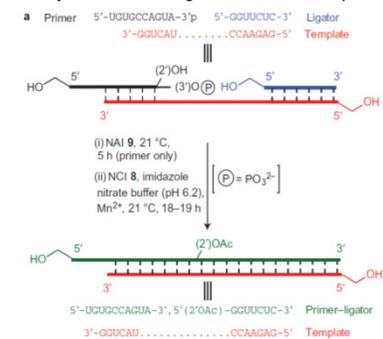


Treatment of A3P (80 mM) and A2P (20 mM) as given before results in the exclusive 2-acetylation of the former nucleotide. Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the reaction products.

Additional electrophiles 6–8 shown to drive the acetylation of ribonucleotides with thioacetate 3. Direct acetylation with 9 is also possible, as is oxidative activation of 3 with ferricyanide 10 to afford ferrocyanide 11 and a dimeric acetylating agent 12. Curly arrows indicate electrophilic activation/acetylation steps.

### Regioselective ribonucleotide ligation

Chemoselective acetylation of 39P-oligoribonucleotides expedites templated ligation



Sequences and reaction conditions employed for acetylation (i) and subsequent templated ligation (ii). The acetylation mixture contained 80 mM primer and 50 mM NAI 9; the ligation mixture contained 4 mM primer from the acetylation reaction, 25 mM template, 30 mM ligator, 200 mM imidazole nitrate buffer (pH 6.2), 10 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> and 100 mM NCI 8. Ligation conditions were based on those reported previously for the conversion of A3P into A>P (ref. 35) and for the ligation of oligomers with 5P and 2,3-diol termini.