

Photoreactive linkers - Photocleavable linkers and Photocrosslinkers

The specific release of a molecule as well as the coupling of two biomolecules at particular time is an extremely desirable feature in many applications (e.g. bioconjugation). An external, non-invasive pulse (here light) provides a simple, well-regulated "switch function" in conjugations that can be used for controlled cleavage (Photocleavable linker) or coupling (Photocrosslinker) so that the biomolecules can be released or linked at particular time.

Generally, photolabile linkers are considered as a connection between two molecules (oligonucleotide sequences, peptides, etc.) via a short linker which can be activated and subsequently cleaved after irradiation with light of a specific wavelength (UV light at 300-400 nm).

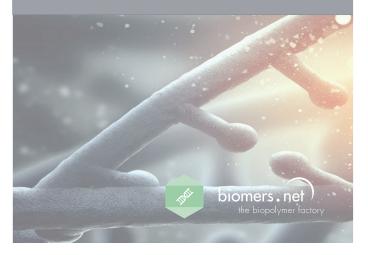
Photoreactive linkers are highly selective and show high stability in different chemical conditions.

biomers.net offers different UV-light-sensitive linker structures:

- PC Linker
- PC Spacer
- PC Biotin
- PC Aminolink C6

For effective cross-linking different photo-reactive groups are available that can be attached to the 5'-end of the oligonucleotide:

- Benzophenone C5
- Diazirine C5
- Psoralen
- Azidobenzoate C5



Using **photocleavable linkers (PC linkers)**, organic substrates can be coupled to solid phases or other biomolecules and specifically released by a light pulse.

By binding the **photocrosslinker** to one end of an oligonucleotide, a complementary DNA section can be controlled with utmost precision. After photoinduction, a covalent bond is formed to the complementary strand.

Photocrosslinkers are also widely used to covalently link proteins and DNA.