DEVELOPING CYCLIC OPIOID ANALOGUES: FLUORESCENTLY LABELED BIOCONJUGATES OF BIPHALIN

Azzurra Stefanucci,¹ Marilisa Pia Dimmito,¹ Gabriela Molnar,² John M. Streicher,² Ettore Novellino,³ Gokhan Zengin,⁴ Adriano Mollica^{1,*}

¹ Dipartimento di Farmacia, Università di Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio", Via dei Vestini 31, 66100 Chieti, Italy.

² Department of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ USA.

³ Dipartimento di Farmacia, Università di Napoli "Federico II", Via D. Montesano 49, 80131 Naples, Italy.

⁴ Department of Biology, Science Faculty, Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey.

Corresponding author: a.mollica; a.mollica@unich.it

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Synthesis of unknown key intermediates and final	S2,S3
compounds characterization	
ESI-LRMS of compounds 1C, 2C and 1D	S4-S6
RP-HPLC analytical traces of compounds 1C, 2C and	S7
1D	
References	S8

Synthesis of unknown key intermediates and final compounds characterization

N-(2-(3,4-dibromo-2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)ethyl)-5-

(dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide (1): Commercially available dansylchloride was functionalized with tert-Butyl N-(2-aminoethyl)carbamate following the procedure described by Youziel et al.¹ The N-Boc protected compound has been already reported in literature and characterized. This intermediate was deprotected with TFA:DCM = 1:1 at r.t. for 1h, then the solvent was removed in rotary evaporator washing with DCM repetitively and dried in high vacuum. The crude peptide was used as such for the following reaction without further purification. 3,4-dibromofuran-2,5-dione was dissolved in AcOH at r.t. then the intermediate TFA salt was added and the system was allowed to reflux at around 110°C for 9h. At r.t. a green-yellow solid precipitate was formed; the liquid was decanted and the solid was dried in high vacuum to yield the desired product 1 in 98% yield after precipitation, pure on TLC (AcOEt:*n*-hexane = 1:1; Rf = 0.6). ESI-LRMS calc. for $C_{18}H_{17}Br_2N_3O_4S$: 528.9 [M]; found: 529.2 $[M+H]^+$; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ : 8.42 (d, 1H, J = 8.7 Hz, H-4 aromatic dansyl mojety), 8.16-8.13 (m, 2H, NH and H-6 aromatic dansyl mojety), 8.02 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz, H-3 aromatic dansyl mojety), 7.61-7.51 (m, 2H, H-5 and H-2 aromatic dansyl mojety), 7.24 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz, H-1 aromatic dansyl mojety), 3.43 (t, 2H, CH₂ aliphatic chain), 3.01 (q, 2H, J = 6 Hz, NH-CH₂ aliphatic chain), 2.82 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz) δ : 164.3, 150.6, 142.8, 133.7, 128.4, 127.3, 125.8, 124.9, 123.4, 119.2, 117.3, 47.3, 46.8, 37.1.

3-(3,4-dibromo-2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)-N-(4-methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-7yl)propanamide (2): Commercially available 7-Amino-4-methylcoumarin was reacted with Boc- β -Ala-OH following the procedure reported by Heltweg *et al.*² to obtain an intermediate compound pure on silica gel TLC plate (AcOEt 100%, Rf = 0.8), in 63% yield after reaction work-up. This intermediate was deprotected with TFA:DCM = 1:1 at r.t. for 1h, then the solvent was removed in rotary evaporator washing with DCM repetitively and dried in high vacuum. The intermediate was used as such for the following reaction without further purification. 3,4-dibromofuran-2,5-dione was dissolved in AcOH at r.t. then the intermediate TFA salt was added and the system was allowed to reflux at around 110°C for 9h. At r.t. a yellow solid precipitate was formed; the liquid was decanted and the solid was dried in high vacuum to yield a crude intermediate product, which was purified on silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 100% AcOEt) to give compound 2 in 40% yield after isolation. TLC: AcOEt 100%; Rf = 0.6. ESI-LRMS calc. for $C_{17}H_{12}Br_2N_2O_5$: 481.9 [M]; found: 482.5 $[M+H]^+$; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ : 7.89 (d, 1H, J = 8.7 Hz, H-4 aromatic coumarin mojety), 7.72 (d, 1H, H-2 aromatic coumarin mojety), 7.44-7.40 (m, 2H, H-3 + NH), 6.45 (s, 1H, H-1 aromatic coumarin mojety), 3.40,3.26 (t, 4H, 2*CH₂ aliphatic chain under DMSO), 2.44 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz) δ: 173.3, 164.1, 160.3, 154.6, 152.5, 138.9, 126.5, 124.7, 118.1, 115.4, 112.9, 111.1, 40.8, 32.1, 19.6.

3,4-dibromo-1-(4-methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-7-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2,5-dione (3): 3,4-dibromofuran-2,5-dione was dissolved in AcOH at r.t. then the 7-Amino-4-methylcoumarin was added and the system was allowed to reflux at around 110°C for 9h. At r.t. a yellow solid precipitate was formed; the liquid was decanted and the solid was dried in high vacuum to give a yellow powder product **3**, pure on TLC plate (100% AcOEt, Rf = 0.8), with 71% yield after reaction work-up. ESI-LRMS calc. for $C_{14}H_7Br_2NO_4$: 410.8 [M]; found: 411.5 [M+H]⁺;

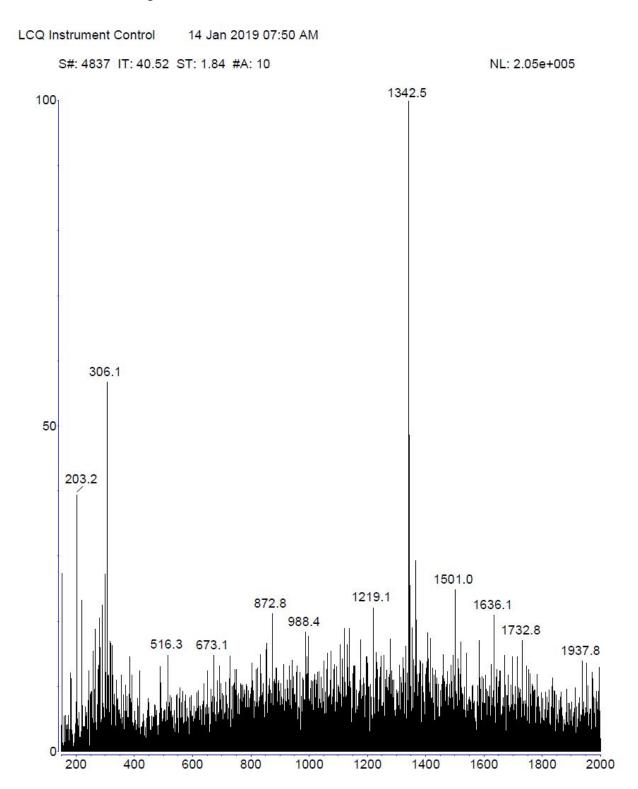
¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.71 (d, 1H, J = 9 Hz, H-2 aromatic coumarin mojety), 7.44-7.35 (m, 2H, H-3 + H-4 aromatic coumarin mojety), 6.34 (s, 1H, H-1 aromatic coumarin mojety), 2.46 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz) δ : 163.4, 159.8, 153.2, 153.1, 134.5, 130.3, 126.4, 122.9, 119.7, 115.3, 114.8, 110.1, 18.5.

Compound **1D**: The desired product has been obtained in good overall yield (71%) following the procedure previously reported by us;³ Rt (HPLC) = 15.60 min (284 nm). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ : 1.88 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃ aromatic dansyl mojety), 2.34-2.65 (4H, m, Tyr ^βCH₂; 4H, m, Phe ^βCH₂), 2.91 (4H, d, D-Cys ^βCH₂), 3.03 (4H, m, Gly ^αCH₂), 3.08 (q, 2H, *J* = 6 Hz, NH-CH₂ aliphatic chain), 3.48 (t, 2H, CH₂ aliphatic chain), 3.91-4.11 (2H, t, Tyr ^αCH; 2H, t, Phe ^αCH), 4.71-4.81 (2H, m, D-Cys ^αCH), 6.61 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.01 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.09-7.26 (10H, m, Phe Ar; 3H, m, H-5, H-2, H-1 aromatic dansyl mojety), 8.04-8.21 (6H, d, Tyr NH₃⁺; 2H, d, D-Cys; 3H, m, NH and H-6, H-3 aromatic dansyl mojety), 8.68-8.82 (2H, d, Phe NH; 2H, t, Gly NH; d, 1H, H-1 aromatic dansyl mojety), 9.33 (2H, s, OH), 10.31 (2H, s, NH-NH). ESI-LRMS: Calcd exact mass without TFA for C₆₄H₇₁N₁₃O₁₄S₃ m/z: 1341.4 [M]; found 1342.5 [M+H]⁺.

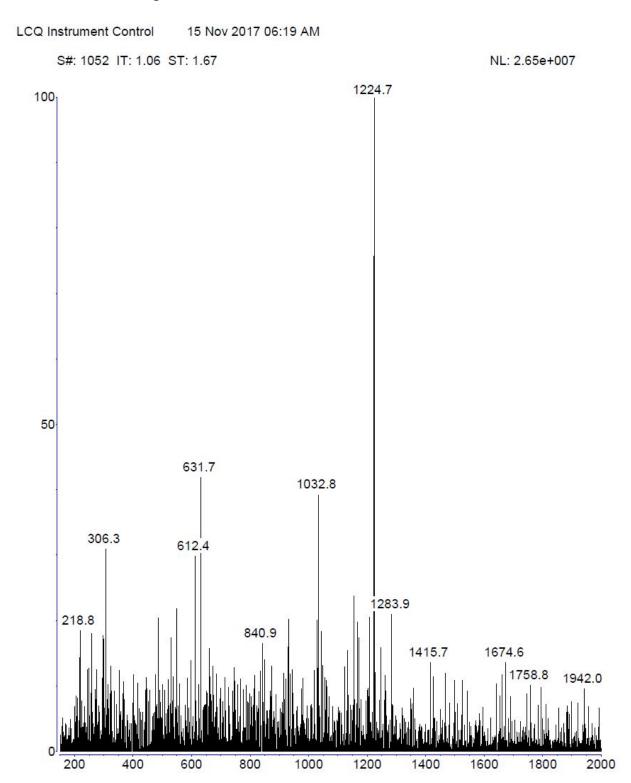
Compound **1C**: The desired product has been obtained in good overall yield (61%) following the procedure previously reported by us;³ Rt (HPLC) = 15.85 min (284 nm). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ : 1.21 (s, 3H, CH₃ coumarin mojety), 2.34-2.65 (4H, m, Tyr ^βCH₂; 4H, m, Phe ^βCH₂), 2.97 (4H, d, D-Cys ^βCH₂), 3.01 (4H, m, Gly ^αCH₂), 3.91-4.11 (2H, t, Tyr ^αCH; 2H, t, Phe ^αCH), 4.71-4.81 (2H, m, D-Cys ^αCH), 6.44 (s, 1H, H-1 aromatic coumarin mojety), 6.61 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.01 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.09-7.26 (10H, m, Phe Ar), 7.38-7.40 (m, 2H, H-3 + H-4 aromatic coumarin mojety), 7.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.9 Hz, H-2 aromatic coumarin mojety), 8.01-8.17 (6H, d, Tyr NH₃⁺; 2H, d, D-Cys NH), 8.68-8.82 (2H, d, Phe NH; 2H, t, Gly NH), 9.29 (2H, s, OH), 10.16 (2H, s, NH-NH). ESI-LRMS: Calcd exact mass without TFA for C₆₀H₆₁N₁₁O₁₄S₂ m/z: 1223.3 [M]; found 1224.7 [M+H]⁺.

Compound **2C**: The desired product has been obtained in good overall yield (58%) following the procedure previously reported by us;³ Rt (HPLC) = 15.90 min (284 nm). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ : 1.21 (s, 3H, CH₃ coumarin mojety), 2.34-2.65 (4H, m, Tyr ^βCH₂; 4H, m, Phe ^βCH₂), 2.42-2.75 (4H, m, ^βAla 2*^βCH₂), 2.97 (4H, d, D-Cys ^βCH₂), 3.01 (4H, m, Gly ^αCH₂), 3.91-4.11 (2H, t, Tyr ^αCH; 2H, t, Phe ^αCH), 4.71-4.81 (2H, m, D-Cys ^αCH), 6.44 (s, 1H, H-1 aromatic coumarin mojety), 6.61 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.01 (4H, dd, Tyr Ar), 7.09-7.26 (10H, m, Phe Ar), 7.38-7.40 (m, 2H, H-3 + H-4 aromatic coumarin mojety), 7.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.9 Hz, H-2 aromatic coumarin mojety), 8.01-8.17 (6H, d, Tyr NH₃⁺; 2H, d, D-Cys NH; 1H, s, NH aromatic coumarin mojety), 8.66-8.82 (2H, d, Phe NH; 2H, t, Gly NH), 9.35 (2H, s, OH), 10.21 (2H, s, NH-NH). ESI-LRMS: Calcd exact mass without TFA for C₆₃H₆₆N₁₂O₁₅S₂ m/z: 1294.4 [M]; found 1228.4, 1250.5 (fragmentation occurs).⁴

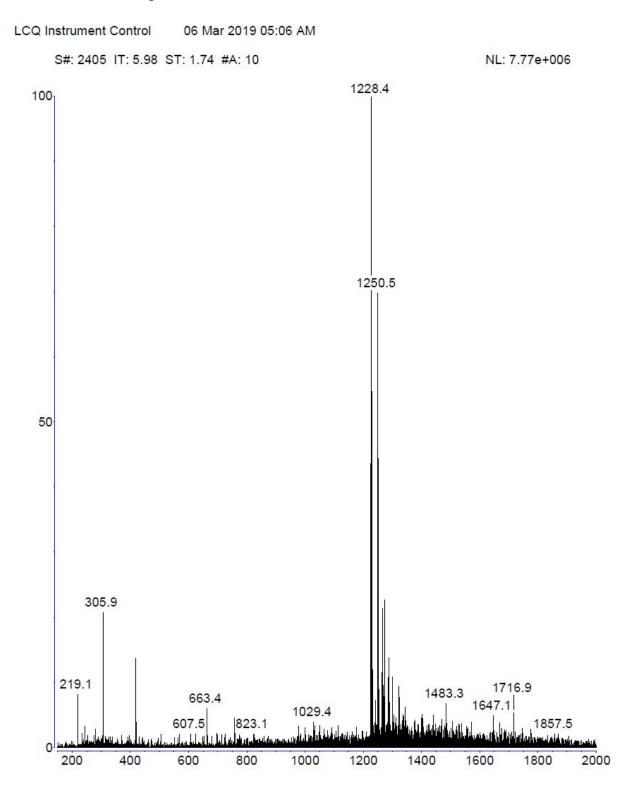
ESI-LRMS of compound 1D

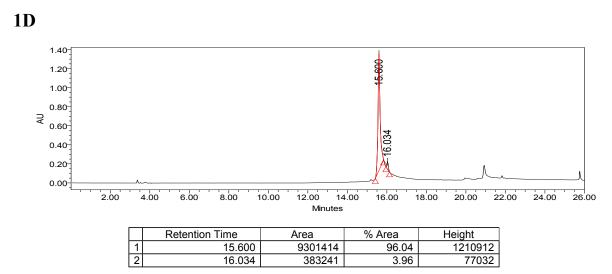


ESI-LRMS of compound 1C

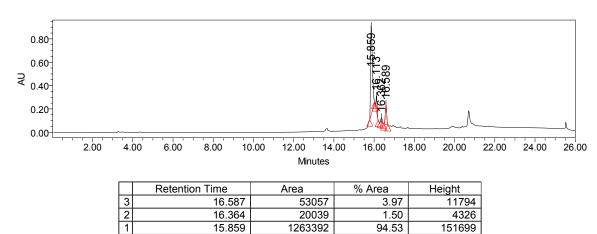


ESI-LRMS of compound 2C

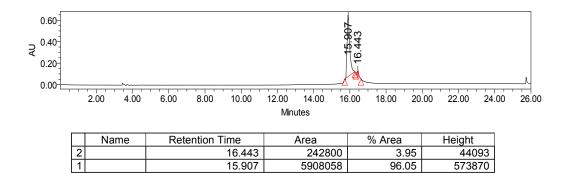




1**C**



2C



RP-HPLC analytical traces for compounds 1D, 1C, 2C at 284 nm

References

- Youziel, J.; Akhbar, A. R.; Aziz, Q.; Smith, M. E.; Caddick, S.; Tinker, A.; Baker, J. R. Bromo- and thiomaleimides as a new class of thiol-mediated fluorescence 'turn-on' reagents. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2014, *12*, 557-560.
- Heltweg, B.; Dequiedt, F.; Marshall, B. L.; Brauch, C.; Yoshida, M.; Nishino, N.; Verdin, E.; Jung, M. Subtype selective substrates for histone deacetylases. *J. Med. Chem.* 2004, 47, 5235-5243.
- Stefanucci, A.; Lei, W.; Hruby, V. J.; Macedonio, G.; Luisi, G.; Carradori, S.; Streicher, J. M.; Mollica, A. Fluorescent-labeled bioconjugates of the opioid peptides biphalin and DPDPE incorporating fluorescein-maleimide linkers. *Future Med. Chem.* 2017, 9, 859-869.
- 4. Cissé, L.; Tine, A.; Kaboré, L.; Saba, A. Mass Spectrometry study of coumarins: Correlation between charges of atoms and fragmentation processes. *Spectroscopy Letters* **2009**, *42*, 95-99.