Supporting Information

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Design and synthesis of novel fluoropeptidomimetics as potential mimics of the transition state during peptide hydrolysis

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Experimental Section.

Procedure to synthesize compounds 15-20 is described below.

N-Benzyl-2-bromo-2,2-difluoro-acetamide (15): A solution of BnNH₂ (0.05 g, 0.46 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.0 mL) was treated with ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (0.059 mL, 0.46 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min. and was purified as described for 2 to obtain compound 15 as a syrup (0.1 g, 82%): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.52 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 6.48 (brs, 1H), 7.26-7.39 (m, 5H); MS-EI *m/z* 265 (5), 263 (5), 184 (100), 141 (28), 91 (64).

N-Benzyl-2-bromo-2,2-difluoro-*N*-methyl acetamide (16): A solution of *N*-benzylmethyl amine (0.05 g, 0.41 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.0 mL) was treated with DMAP (0.05 g, 0.41 mmol) and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (0.052 mL, 0.41 mmol) at 0 °C and stirred for another 1 h at rt. The reaction mixture was extracted into ethyl acetate and was purified as described for **2** to obtain compound **16** as a syrup (0.021 g, 19%): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.10 (s, 3H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 7.20-7.46 (m, 5H).

Benzoic acid 2-bromo-2-fluoro-ethyl ester (17): A solution of ethyl bromofluoroacetate (0.1 g, 0.54 mmol) in anhydrous MeOH (1.0 mL) was treated with NaBH₄ (5 mg, 0.13 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for another 2 h at rt and treated with water. The reaction mixture was extracted into ether, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried (Na₂SO₄). Organic layer was concentrated to a volume of 5 mL, and Et₃N (0.075 mL, 0.54 mmol) and BzCl (0.062 mL, 0.54 mmol) were added at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for another 30 min at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was dissolved in ethyl acetate, washed with sat NaHCO₃ solution, water, brine and dried (Na₂SO₄). The concentrated organic layer was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:Hex, 3:97) to obtain compound **17** as an oil (0.12 g, 91%):

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.69-4.83 (m, 2H), 6.65 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 3.3, 6.6, 51.1 Hz), 7.44-7.62 (m, 3H), 8.05-8.09 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 67.08 (d, *J* = 22.5 Hz), 89.46 (d, *J* = 253.5 Hz), 128.55, 128.96, 129.90, 133.62, 165.53; MS-EI *m*/*z* 248 (6), 246 (6), 122 (75), 105 (100), 77 (51).

2-(2-Bromo-2-fluoro-ethoxy)-tetrahydro-pyran (18): A solution of ethyl bromofluoroacetate (0.1 g, 0.54 mmol) in anhydrous MeOH (1.0 mL) was treated with NaBH₄ (0.005 g, 0.13 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for another 2 h at rt, and worked-up as described for **17**. The resulting organic layer was further treated with catalytic PTSA and DHP (0.04 mL, 0.54 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt and was purified as described for **17** to obtain compound **18** as an oil (0.044 g, 36%): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.51-1.85 (m, 6H), 3.51-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.81-4.20 (m, 3H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 6.52 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 51.4 Hz); MS-EI *m/z* 228 (14), 226 (14), 127 (23), 125 (23), 85 (100), 56 (88).

Benzoic acid 2-azido-2-fluoro-ethyl ester (19): A solution of compound 17 (0.02 g, 0.08 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (1.0 mL) was treated with NaN₃ (0.026 g, 0.40 mmol) and stirred for 18 h at 50 °C. The reaction mixture was brought to rt, treated with water and extracted into ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with brine and dried (Na₂SO₄). The concentrated organic layer was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:Hex, 2:98) to obtain compound **19** as a syrup (0.016 g, qua): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.36-4.53 (m, 2H), 5.82 (dt, 1H, *J* = 4.8, 55.8 Hz), 7.44-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.62 (m, 1H), 8.05-8.08 (m, 2H); MS-EI *m/z* 209 (7), 167 (42), 161 (19), 122 (100).

2-(2-Azido-2-fluoro-ethoxy)-tetrahydro-pyran (20): A solution of compound **18** (0.4 g, 1.75 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (2.0 mL) was treated with NaN₃ (0.45 g, 7.01 mmol) and stirred for 18 h at 50 °C. The reaction mixture was purified as described for **19** to obtain compound **20** as a

syrup (0.198 g, 60%): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.51-1.84 (m, 6H), 3.50-3.69 (m, 2H), 3.75-3.92 (m, 2H), 4.67 (brs, 1H), 5.44-5.50, 5.62-5.69 (2m, 1H).





















