SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Chemical interrogation of LuxR-type proteins reveals new insights into quorum sensing receptor selectivity and the potential for interspecies bacterial signaling

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EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

General methods

All chemical reagents were purchased from commercial sources (Alfa-Aesar, Sigma-Aldrich, and Acros) and used without further purification. Solvents were purchased from commercial sources (Sigma-Aldrich and J.T. Baker) and used as obtained, with the exception of dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2), which was distilled over calcium hydride immediately prior to use. Water was purified using a Millipore Analyzer Feed System.

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded in deuterated solvents on a Varian MercuryPlus 300 MHz spectrometer or Bruker Avance III 500 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm, δ) using corresponding solvents or tetramethylsilane (TMS) as a reference. Couplings are reported in hertz (Hz). Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (MS) measurements were performed on a Waters LCT instrument. Samples were dissolved in acetonitrile and sprayed with a sample cone voltage of 20.

Reversed-phase high performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) was performed using a Shimadzu system equipped with an SCL-10Avp controller, an LC-10AT pump, an FCV-10ALvp solvent mixer, and an SPD-10MAvp UV/vis diode array detector. A Restek Premier C18 column (5 μ m, 4.6 mm x 250 mm) was used for all analytical RP-HPLC work. An Agilent Zorbax prepHT 300SB-C18 column (7 μ m, 21.2 mm x 250 mm) was used for all preparative RP-HPLC work. Standard RP-HPLC conditions were as follows: flow rates were 1 mL min⁻¹ for analytical separations and 9 mL min⁻¹ for preparative separations; mobile phase A = water; mobile phase B = acetonitrile.

Compound synthesis

AHLs 9, 11–15, 20, 22, 23, and 26 were synthesized and purified by RP-HPLC for this study according to our previously reported protocols (purities >95%).¹⁻⁵ AHLs that have been reported previously (1–8, 10, 16–19, 21, 24, and 25) are listed in Table S1 with original compound names and original citations. AHLs 9, 11–14, and 20 are all commercially available (Cayman Chemical #10011200; Sigma Aldrich #61698, #68873, #53727, #51481; Chemodex #O0061), and our

samples synthesized in-house yielded characterization data that matched those of commercial samples. Compound characterization data for the new AHLs in this study (**15**, **22**, **23**, and **26**) are provided at the end of this document.

Biological reagents and strain information

All biological reagents were purchased from Fisher Scientific and used according to enclosed instructions. Luria-Bertani (LB) medium was prepared as instructed with pH = 7.0. Buffers and solutions (Z buffer, 0.1% (m/v) aqueous SDS, and phosphate buffer) for Miller absorbance assays were prepared as described.⁶ The *A. baumannii* M2 *abaI::lacZ* ($\Delta abaI$ reporter) strain was used for the AbaR bacteriological assay in this study.⁷ The *E. coli* DH5 α [F⁻ φ 80d*lacZ* Δ *M15* Δ (*lacZYA-argF*)*U169 deoR recA1 endA1 hsdR17*(r_K⁻ m_K⁺) *phoA supE44* λ^- *thi-1 gyrA96 relA1*] strain harbouring a LasR expression vector (pJN105L) and a plasmid-born *lasI–lacZ* fusion (pSC11) was used for the LasR bacteriological assay in this study.⁸ Bacterial cultures were grown in a standard laboratory incubator at 37 °C with shaking (200 rpm) unless noted otherwise. Absorbance measurements were obtained using a Biotek Synergy 2 microplate reader using Gen5 data analysis software. All bacteriological reporter assays were performed in triplicate. No AHL was found to inhibit growth over the time course of the assays in this study.

Compound handling

Stock solutions of synthetic compounds (10 mM and 1 mM) were prepared in DMSO and stored at 4 °C in sealed vials. The amount of DMSO used in small molecule screens did not exceed 2% (v/v). Solvent resistant polypropylene or polystyrene 96-well multititer plates were used when appropriate for small molecule screening. The concentrations of synthetic AHL ligand used in the primary antagonism and agonism assays and the relative ratios of synthetic ligand to **1** (10 μ M : 10 nM) and **2** (100 μ M: 0.70 μ M) in the LasR and AbaR antagonism assays, respectively, were chosen to provide the greatest dynamic range between inhibitors and activators for each bacterial reporter strain. The concentration of **1** was twice its EC₅₀ value in the *E. coli* reporter strain. The concentration of **2** was equal to its EC₅₀ value in the *A. baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain.⁹

AbaR reporter gene assay (β-galactosidase)

For primary agonism assays, 2 µL of concentrated control or AHL stock solution (to give a final concentration of 100 µM) was added to wells in a 96-well multititer plate. An overnight culture of the A. baumannii ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain (OD₆₀₀ = 1.2) was diluted 1:100 with fresh LB medium. A 198-µL portion of the diluted culture was added to each well of the multititer plate containing AHLs. Plates were incubated statically at 37 °C for 18-24 h. The cultures were then assayed for β-galactosidase activity following the standard Miller assay method that we previously reported for this strain.^{6,9} Briefly, the OD₆₀₀ of each well of the 96-well multititer plate was recorded. Next, 50 µL aliquots from each well were transferred to a solvent resistant 96-well multititer plate containing 200 µL Z buffer, 8 µL CHCl₃, and 4 µL 0.1%(w/v) aqueous SDS. This suspension was mixed via repetitive pipetting (30x), after which the CHCl₃ was allowed to settle. A 150-µL aliquot from each well was transferred to a fresh 96-well multititer plate, 20 μL of *ortho*-nitrophenyl-β-galactoside substrate (ONPG, 4 μg mL⁻¹ in phosphate buffer) was added to each well at time zero, and the plate was incubated at 55 °C for 20 min. Thereafter, the enzymatic reaction was terminated by the addition of 50 μ L of 1 M Na₂CO₃. Absorbance at 420 and 550 nm were measured for each well using a plate reader, and Miller units were calculated according to standard methods.⁸ Primary AbaR antagonism assays were performed in a similar manner except that the synthetic AHL was screened at 100 µM against 0.70 µM 2. Dose-response assays were performed identically to primary screens, but used a range of AHL concentrations (200 pM - 200 μ M for agonism and 10 nM - 100 μ M for antagonism).

LasR reporter gene assay (β-galactosidase)

An overnight culture of the *E. coli* LasR reporter was diluted 1:10 with fresh LB medium containing 100 μ g mL⁻¹ ampicillin and 15 μ g mL⁻¹ gentamicin. The subculture was incubated with shaking at 37 °C until the optical density of 200 μ L reached 0.27 (approximately 90 min). Arabinose (4 mg mL⁻¹) was then added to the culture to induce production of LasR. A 198- μ L portion of the diluted culture was added to each well of a multititer plate containing AHLs prepared in the same way outlined above. Plates were incubated statically at 37 °C until the

optical density of the wells reach 0.45 (approximately 2 h). The cultures were then assayed for β -galactosidase activity according to the method described above for AbaR.

Sequence alignment

The ClustalW sequence alignment displayed in **Fig. 3D** and **Table S2** was performed with the BLOSUM cost matrix in Geneious software (Biomatters Ltd, New Zealand). Species names and GenBank Accession numbers for the aligned sequences are as follows: AbaR, *A. baumannii*, EGJ67179.1; TraR, *A. tumefaciens*, AAC28121.1; LasR, *P. aeruginosa*, AAG04819.1; QscR, *P. aeruginosa*, NP_250589.1.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

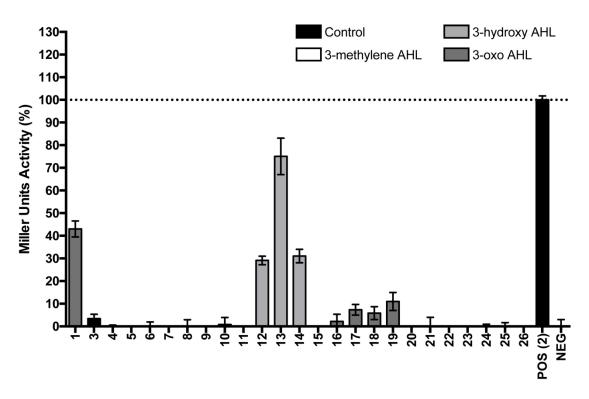


Fig. S1 Primary AbaR agonism screening data for the control compounds and non-native AHLs in the *A*. *baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain. Ligands were screened at 100 µM. Positive control (POS) = 100 µM (*R*)-OH-dDHL (**2**). Negative control (NEG) = DMSO without compound. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars in each plot indicate standard error of the mean of nine values.

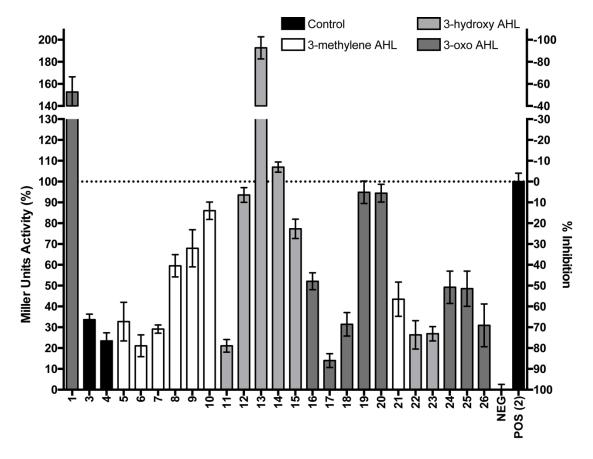


Fig. S2 Primary AbaR antagonism screening data for the control compounds and non-native AHLs in the *A. baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain. Compounds were screened at 100 µM against 700 nM **2**. Positive control (POS) = 700 nM **2**. Negative control (NEG) = DMSO without compound. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars in each plot indicate standard error of the mean of nine values.

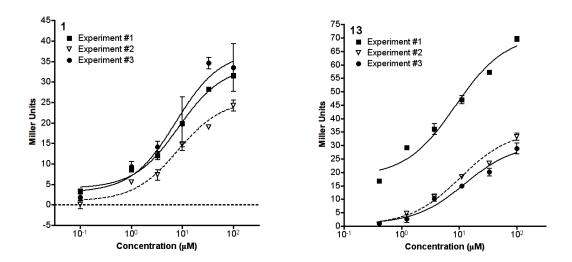


Fig. S3 AbaR agonism dose response curves for AHLs 1 and 13 in the *A. baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain. Compounds screened over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

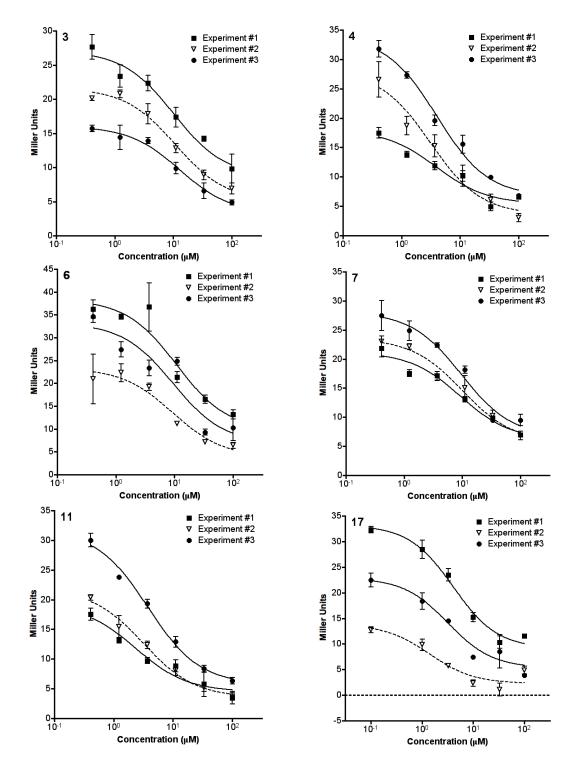


Fig. S4 AbaR antagonism dose response curves for AHLs 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, and 17 in the *A. baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain. Compounds screened against 700 nM 2 over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

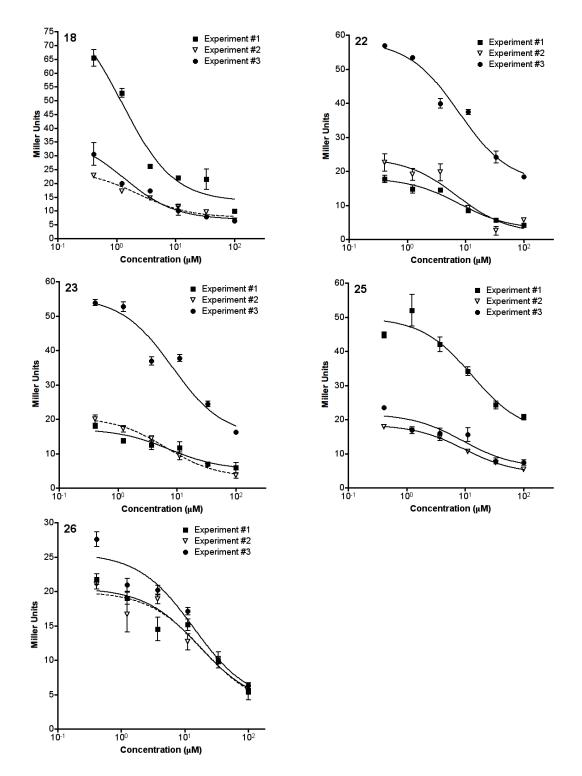


Fig. S5 AbaR antagonism dose response curves for AHLs 18, 22, 23, 25, and 26 in the *A. baumannii* ($\Delta abaI$) reporter strain. Compounds screened against 700 nM 2 over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

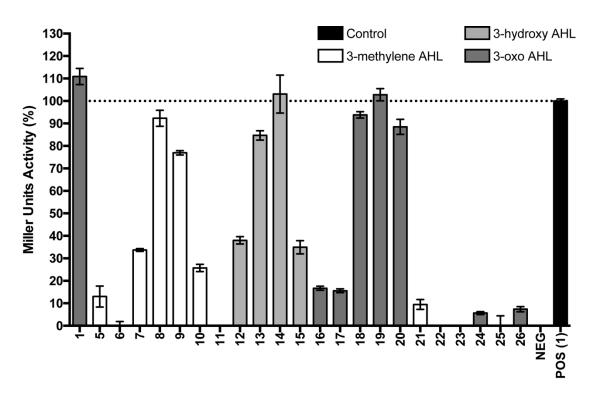


Fig. S6 Primary LasR agonism screening data for the control compounds and non-native AHLs in the *E*. *coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds screened at 10 μ M. Positive control (POS) = 10 μ M OdDHL (1). Negative control (NEG) = DMSO without compound. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars in each plot indicate standard error of the mean of nine values.

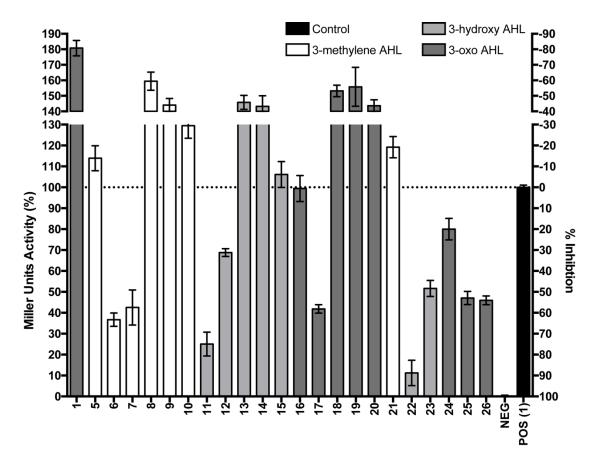


Fig. S7 Primary LasR antagonism screening data for the control compounds and non-native AHLs in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds tested at 10 μ M against 10 nM **1**. Positive control (POS) = 10 nM **1**. Negative control (NEG) = DMSO without compound. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars in each plot indicate standard error of the mean of nine values.

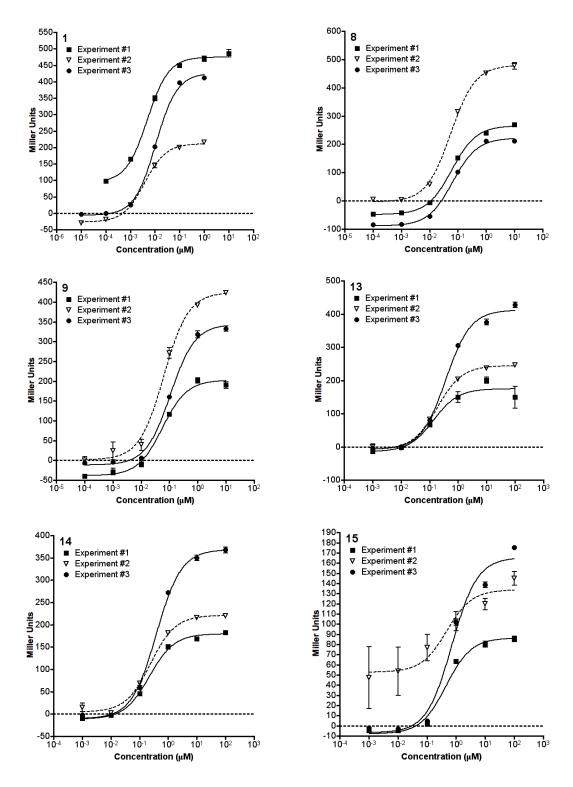


Fig. S8 LasR agonism dose response curves for AHLs **1**, **8**, **9**, and **13–15** in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds screened over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

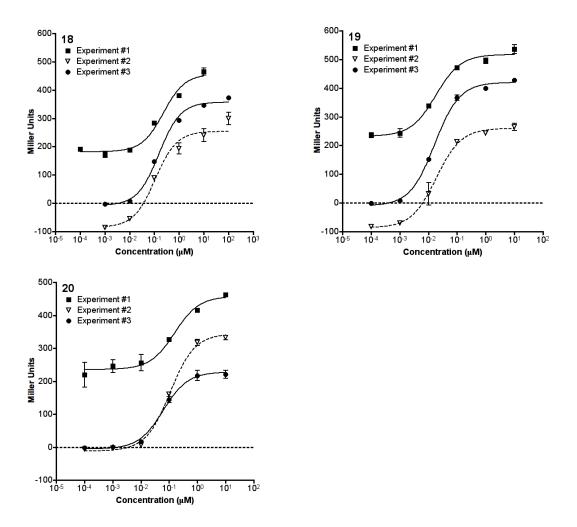


Fig. S9 LasR agonism dose response curves for AHLs **18–20** in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds screened over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

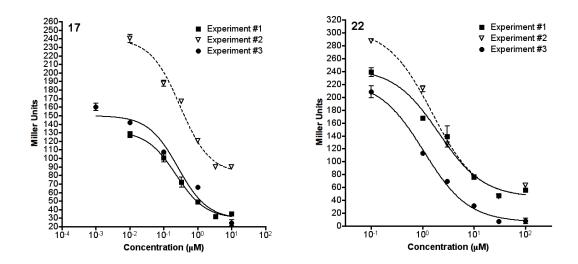


Fig. S10 LasR antagonism dose response curves for AHLs **17** and **22** in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds screened against 10 nM **1** over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

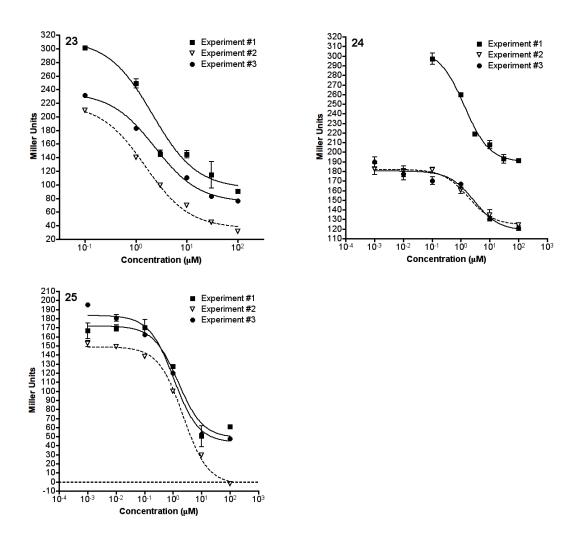


Fig. S11 LasR antagonism dose response curves for AHLs **23–25** in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Compounds screened against 10 nM **1** over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

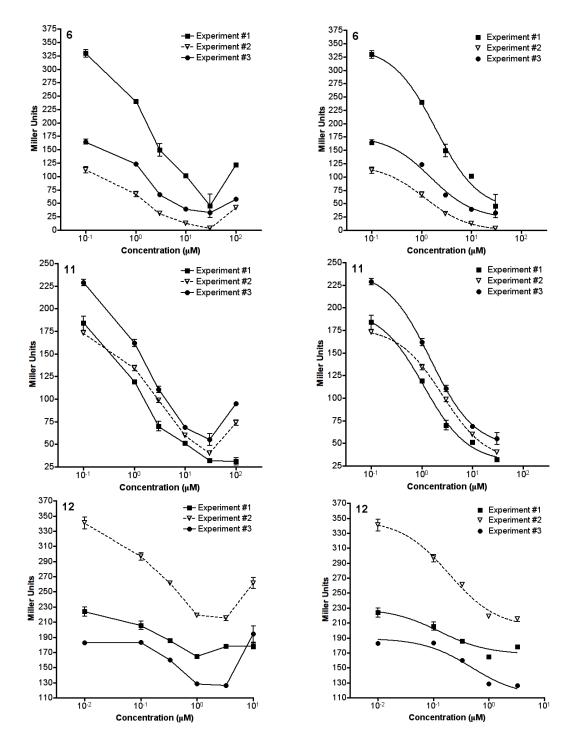


Fig. S12 LasR antagonism dose response curves for AHLs 6, 11, and 12 in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Full antagonism dose response curves (left) and portions of curves used to calculate IC_{50} values (right). Compounds screened against 10 nM 1 over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

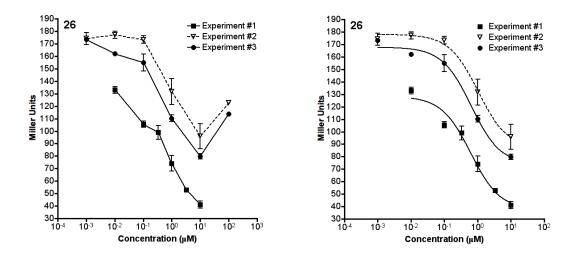


Fig. S13 LasR antagonism dose response curves for AHL **26** in the *E. coli* pJN105L reporter strain. Full antagonism dose response curves (left) and portions of curves used to calculate IC_{50} value (right). Compound screened against 10 nM **1** over varying concentrations. Each plot labeled with compound number at top left. Miller units report relative absorbance. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean of triplicate values.

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

AHL name (as described here)	AHL name (as previously reported)	Original citation		
1	$2 (OdDHL)^a$			
2	(R)-OH-dDHL	3		
3	C6	1,2		
4	C11	1,2		
5	$\mathbf{A2}^{a}$	1,2		
6	$\mathbf{A3}^{a}$	1,2 1,2		
7	$\mathbf{A4}^{a}$			
8	$\mathbf{A5}^{a}$	1,2		
9	_a	This study		
10	$\mathbf{A6}^{a}$	1,2		
11	_a	This study		
12	_a	This study		
13	_a	This study		
14	_a	This study		
15	-	This study		
16	3^{a}	1,2		
17	1^{a}	1,2		
18	$\mathbf{A7}^{a}$	1,2		
19	$\mathbf{A8}^{a}$	1,2		
20	_a	This study		
21	6	1,2		
22	-	This study		
23	-	This study		
24	5			
25	15	10		
26	_	This study		

Table S1 Listing of AHLs in this study with original compound names and citations.

^{*a*} Commercially available AHLs. Our samples synthesized in-house yielded characterization data that matched those of commercial samples.

Acyl Chain	AHL	Producing bacterial species	Reference	
3-methylene				
C_6^{\prime}	5	Chromobacterium violaceum, Ralstonia solanacearum, and Pseudomonas fluorescens	11-13	
C_8	6	Burkholderia cepacia and R. solanacearum	12, 14	
C ₁₀	7	Sinorhizobium meliloti and P. fluorescens	13, 15	
C_{12}^{10}	8	Aeromonas hydrophila, Aeromonas salmonicida, Pseusomonas aeruginosa, Yersinia enterocolitica, P. fluorescens, and Serratia liquefaciens	16	
C ₁₄	9	S. meliloti, A. hydrophila, A. salmonicida, Y. enterocolitica, and Rhodobacter capsulatus	15-17	
C ₁₆	10	R. capsulatus, Paracoccus denitrificans, Agrobacterium vitis, and S. meliloti	15, 17-19	
3-hydroxyl				
C_8	11	Aeromonas culicicola 3249T, Burkholderia thailandensis, and Burkholderia mallei	20,21	
C ₁₀	12	Phaeobacter gallaeciensis T5 and B. thailandensis	20, 22, 23	
C ₁₂	13	Acinetobacter baumannii	7	
C_{14}	14	Pseudomonas cedrina	24	
C_{16}	15	None reported		
3-oxo				
C ₆	16	Vibrio fischeri, Pectobacterium carotovora, Serratia proteamaculans B5a, Pseudomonas putida, and Rahnella aquatilis	25,26	
C ₈	17	Agrobacterium tumefaciens, P. putidia, R. aquatilis, and Pseudonomas syringae	24, 26, 27	
C ₁₀	18	Vibrio anguillarum, Pantoea agglomerans, P. fluorescens PF7, and P. putida	24, 26, 28	
C ₁₂	1	P. aeruginosa	29	
C_{14}^{12}	19	P. aeruginosa strain MW3A, R. aquatilis, P. fluorescens, and S. meliloti	18, 24, 30	
C ₁₆	20	A. vitis, Pseudomonas sp., and S. meliloti	18, 19 31	

 Table S2
 Tested AHLs and a selection of their known cognate bacteria.

Acyl Chain	AHL	Activation $(\%)^b$	EC_{50} value $(\mu M)^c$	Inhibition $(\%)^d$	IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
AbaR					
(R)-OH-dDHL	2	100	0.699		
3-methylene					
C_6	5	0		67	
C_8	6	0		79	9.87 (8.28-11.8)
C_{10}	7	0		71	9.64 (8.94–10.4)
C_{12}^{10}	8	0		40	
C_{14}^{12}	9	0		32	
C_{16}^{14}	10	1		14	
3-hydroxyl					
C ₈	11	0		79	3.06 (1.91-4.90)
C_{10}	12	29		6	
C_{12}	13	75	10.3 (7.18–14.7) ^f	-93	
C_{14}	14	31		-7	
C_{16}	15	0		23	
3-oxo	10	Ū		25	
C ₆	16	2		48	
C_6 C_8	10	7		86	2.65 (0.892-7.90)
	18	6		69	1.60 (0.826–3.09)
C_{10}		43	7.53 (5.92–9.59) ^f	-53	1.00 (0.820-3.09)
C_{12}	1 19		1.55 (5.92-9.59)		
C ₁₄	19	11		5	
C				6	
C ₁₆	20	0		6	
C ₁₆ Acyl Chain			EC_{50} value $(nM)^c$	6 Inhibition (%) ^d	IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
Acyl Chain	20	0	EC_{50} value $(nM)^c$		IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
Acyl Chain	20	0	EC ₅₀ value (nM) ^c 5.79 (2.04–16.4)		IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
Acyl Chain LasR	20 AHL	0 Activation (%) ^b			IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL	20 AHL	0 Activation (%) ^b			IC_{50} value $(\mu M)^e$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C ₆	20 AHL 1	0 Activation (%) ^b 100		Inhibition (%) ^d	IC ₅₀ value $(\mu M)^e$ 1.29 $(0.961-1.74)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8	20 AHL 1 5	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13		Inhibition (%) ^d	
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10}	20 AHL 1 5 6	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0		Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63	
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0)	Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63 57	
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77	5.79 (2.04–16.4)	-14 63 57 -59 -44	
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0)	-14 63 57 -59	
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0)	Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29	1.29 (0.961–1.74) ^g
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0)	Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10} C_8 C_{10} C_{12}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f	Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46	1.29 (0.961–1.74) ^g
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10} C_1 C_2 C_1 C_1 C_2 C_1 C_1 C_2 C_1 C_1 C_2 C_1 C_1 C_2 C_2 C_1 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_1 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_2 C_1 C_2	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487)	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10} C_12 C_{14} C_12 C_{14} C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_12 C_14 C_16 C_12 C_12 C_14 C_16 C_12 C_14 C_{16} C	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f	Inhibition (%) ^d -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{13} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{13} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{12} C_{13} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{12} C_{12} C_{13} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-oxo	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103 35	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487)	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43 -6	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-hydroxyl C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₆ C ₆ C ₆	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103 35 17	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487)	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43 -6 1	1.29 (0.961–1.74) ^g 1.60 (0.686–3.73) ^g 0.112 (0.0748–0.168)
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-hydroxyl C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₉ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₈ C ₁₉ C ₁₈ C ₁₆ S-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₈	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103 35 17 16	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487) 511 (294–889) ^f	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43 -6 1 58	$1.29 (0.961 - 1.74)^g$ $1.60 (0.686 - 3.73)^g$
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C_6 C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-hydroxyl C_8 C_{10} C_{12} C_{14} C_{16} 3-oxo C_6 C_8 C_{16}	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103 35 17 16 94	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487) 511 (294–889) ^f 154 (73.4–323)	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43 -6 1 58 -53	1.29 (0.961–1.74) ^g 1.60 (0.686–3.73) ^g 0.112 (0.0748–0.168)
Acyl Chain LasR OdDHL 3-methylene C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-hydroxyl C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ 3-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₈ C ₁₉ C ₁₈ C ₁₀ C ₁₂ C ₁₄ C ₁₆ C ₁₆ C ₁₇ C ₁₈ C ₁₉ C ₁₈ C ₁₆ S-oxo C ₆ C ₈ C ₈	20 AHL 1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	0 Activation (%) ^b 100 13 0 34 92 77 26 0 38 85 103 35 17 16	5.79 (2.04–16.4) 59.6 (51.4–69.0) 72.2 (36.7–142) ^f 248 (124–495) ^f 270 (149–487) 511 (294–889) ^f	Inhibition $(\%)^d$ -14 63 57 -59 -44 -29 75 31 -46 -43 -6 1 58	1.29 (0.961–1.74) ^g 1.60 (0.686–3.73) ^g 0.112 (0.0748–0.168)

Table S3 AbaR and LasR primary agonism and antagonism assay data and EC_{50} and IC_{50} values with confidence intervals for the aliphatic-tail AHLs $(1, 2, and 5-20)^a$

^{*a*} All assays performed in biological triplicate. ^{*b*} AHLs evaluated at 100 μ M and normalized to **2** at 100 μ M for AbaR, and evaluated at 10 μ M and normalized to **1** at 10 μ M for LasR. Errors displayed in **Fig. 2**. ^{*c*} EC₅₀ values determined by testing AHLs over a range of concentrations. 95% confidence intervals displayed. ^{*d*} AHLs evaluated at 100 μ M against **2** at 700 nM for AbaR and evaluated at 10 μ M against **1** at 10 nM for LasR. Errors displayed in **Fig. 2**. Negative values indicate agonistic activity. ^{*e*} IC₅₀ values determined by testing AHLs over a range of concentrations tested, yet the level of the maximal induction was lower than that for **2** for AbaR or **1** for LasR. ^{*g*} Dose response curve upturned at higher concentrations and did not reach 100% inhibition over concentrations tested (prior to upturn); IC₅₀ value calculated from partial antagonism dose response curve reported in **Fig. S12** and **Fig. S13**.

	1 10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130
				_									
AbaR	MESWQEDLLS	AFLVVKNEYQLF	DIVKSTASRLG	DYCAYGMQS	PLSIAEPKTIM	II.NNYPEAWQK	(RYVEGQYVK)	DPTVQHCMVS	LQPLVWSSQS	AKTQAE	KDFWEEARSYG	GLNVGWAQSSF	RDFIGTR
TraR	MQHWLDKLTD	LAAIEGDECILK	TGLADIADHFGI	TGYAY	-LHIQHRHITA	WTNYHRQWQ	STYFDKKFEAI	DPVVKRARSR	KHIFTWSGEH	ERPTLSKDE	RAFYDHASDFO	GIRSGITIPIK	TANGFM
LasR	-MALVDGFLE	LE-RSSGKLEWS	AILQKMASDLG	SKILFGLLP	KDSQDYENAFI	VGNYPAAWR	EHYDRAGYAR	DPTVSHCTQS	VLPIFWEPSI	YQTRKQ	HEFFEEASAAG	GLVYGLTMPLE	IGARGEL
QscR	MHDEREGYLE	ILSRITTEEEFF	SLVLEICGNYG	FEFFSFGARA	PFPLTAPKYHF	LSNYPGEWK	SRYISEDYTS	IDPIVRHGLLE	YTPLIWNGE-	DFQEN	RFFWEEALHHG	GIRHGWSIPVF	RGKYGLI
	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240		
	140	150	100	170	190	190	200	210	220	230	240		
	[_]		I			I							
AbaR	GMITLARSND	QLSEK-EQKAQY	TNMYWLTQTVH	SSIAKIVNDV	EFAKFNLYLTN	IREKEALRWTA	AEGKTSAEIAĢ	QILGVTERTVN	FHLSNSMQKI	NVNNKISAA	IRAVMLGLL	-	
TraR	SMETHASDKP	VIDLD-REIDAV	AAAATIGQIHAI	RISFLRTT	PTAEDAAWLDP	KEATYLRWIA	AVGKTMEEIAI	OVEGVKYNSVR	VKLREAMKRE	DVRSKAHLT	ALAIRRKLI	-	
LasR	GALSLSVEAE	NRAEANRFMESV	LPTLWMLKDYA	LOSGAGLAFE	HPVSKPVVLTS	REKEVLQWCA	AIGKTSWEISV	/ICNCSEANVN	FHMGNIRRKE	GVTSRRVAA	IMAVNLGLITI		
QscR	SMISLVRSSE	SIAAT-EILEKE	SFLLWITSMLQ	ATFGDLLAPR	IVPESNVRLTA	RETEMLKWTA	AVGKTYGEIGI	LILSIDQRTVK	FHIVNAMRKI	NSSNKAEATI	MKAYAIGLLN-	-	
	_												

Table S4 Full version of sequence alignment displayed in Fig. 3 in the main text. See Fig. 3 for details. Key residues are boxed.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMPOUND CHARACTERIZATION DATA

3-hydroxy-hexadecanoyl-L-homoserine lactone (15). *Mixture of diastereomers.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.49 (apparent dd, J = 30.7, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (ddt, J = 11.7, 8.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.51–4.45 (m, 1H), 4.29 (ddd, J = 11.3, 9.3, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (dtd, J = 9.6, 4.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.87–2.79 (m, 1H), 2.45 (ddd, J = 15.4, 11.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (ddd, J = 15.5, 10.7, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (qdd, J = 11.7, 8.8, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.92–1.10 (m, 27H, 3 protons high due to small grease contamination), 0.88 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.39, 175.38, 173.09, 173.04, 68.80, 68.74, 66.23, 66.21, 49.40, 49.34, 42.61, 37.15, 37.04, 32.08, 30.53, 30.50, 29.84, 29.83, 29.81, 29.73, 29.72, 29.64, 29.51, 25.62, 25.59, 22.85, 14.28; ESI-MS: expected m/z = 356.28, observed 356.28 [M+H]⁺.

3-hydroxy-4-(3-chloro-phenyl)butanoyl-L-homoserine lactone (22). *Mixture of diastereomers*. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.22 (m, 6H), 7.21–7.13 (m, 2H), 4.85 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 4.59 (dt, *J* = 10.9, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (dt, *J* = 10.6, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (td, *J* = 8.9, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (dddd, *J* = 11.1, 9.1, 6.4, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (p, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (dt, *J* = 13.6, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (ddd, *J* = 13.5, 7.4, 3.9 Hz, 2H), 2.42–2.33 (m, 2H), 2.28–2.07 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 175.82, 171.02, 142.22, 133.03, 130.26, 129.74, 128.70, 126.32, 68.71, 65.74, 48.42, 48.21, 43.37, 43.29, 42.76, 42.74, 28.74, 28.64; ESI-MS: expected m/z = 297.08, observed 320.2 [M+Na]⁺.

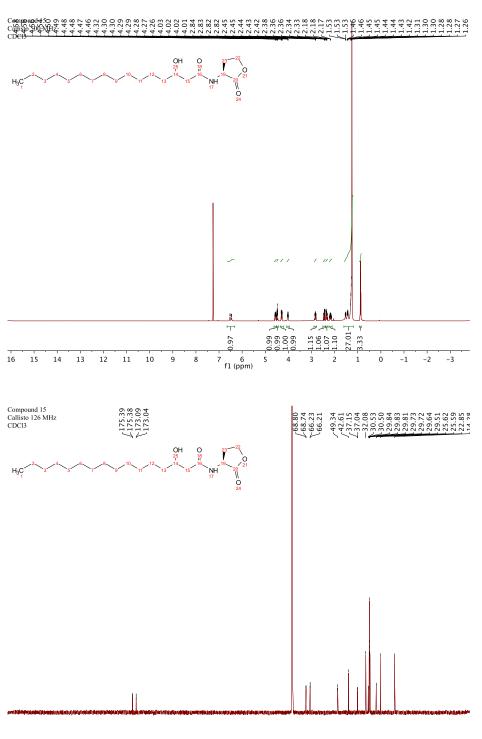
3-hydroxy-4-(3-iodo-phenyl)butanoyl-L-homoserine lactone (23). *Mixture of diastereomers.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.10 (m, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (apparent dd, *J* = 17.6, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (ddt, *J* = 11.5, 8.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (tt, *J* = 8.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.26–4.14 (m, 2H), 2.79–2.63 (m, 3H), 2.43–2.25 (m, 2H), 2.11 (qdd, *J* = 11.8, 8.8, 6.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.18, 175.17, 172.40, 172.36, 139.93, 139.92, 138.34, 135.88, 130.34, 128.78, 128.76, 94.66, 69.25, 69.18, 66.09, 66.07, 49.24, 49.21, 42.76, 42.59, 41.55, 41.53, 30.24, 30.21; ESI-MS: expected m/z = 389.01, observed 411.7 [M+Na]⁺.

3-oxo-4-(3-iodo-phenyl)butanoyl-L-homoserine lactone (26). Keto and enol tautomers present. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.29 (s, 0.14H, enol), 7.67–7.59 (m, 1H), 7.57 (d, J =

1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 0.83H, keto), 7.24–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.08 (dt, J = 12.5, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 0.12H, enol), 4.77 (s, 0.14H, enol), 4.56 (ddd, J = 11.6, 8.7, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (td, J = 9.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (ddd, J = 11.2, 9.3, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 1.67H, keto), 3.51 (s, 1.68H, keto), 3.42 (s, 0.27H, enol), 2.84 (ddd, J = 13.5, 8.5, 6.0 Hz, 0.16H, enol), 2.76 (dddd, J = 12.6, 8.7, 6.0, 1.3 Hz, 0.88H, keto), 2.27–2.14 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.03, 174.74, 165.95, 138.58, 136.85, 134.96, 130.71, 128.99, 94.87, 66.03, 50.04, 49.30, 47.81, 30.05; ESI-MS: expected m/z = 387.00, observed 409.7 [M+Na]⁺.

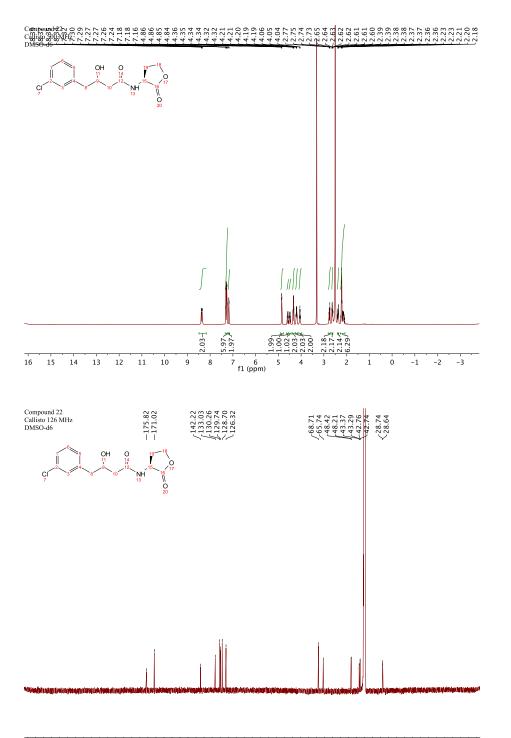
NMR spectra for compounds 15, 22, 23, and 26.

15:

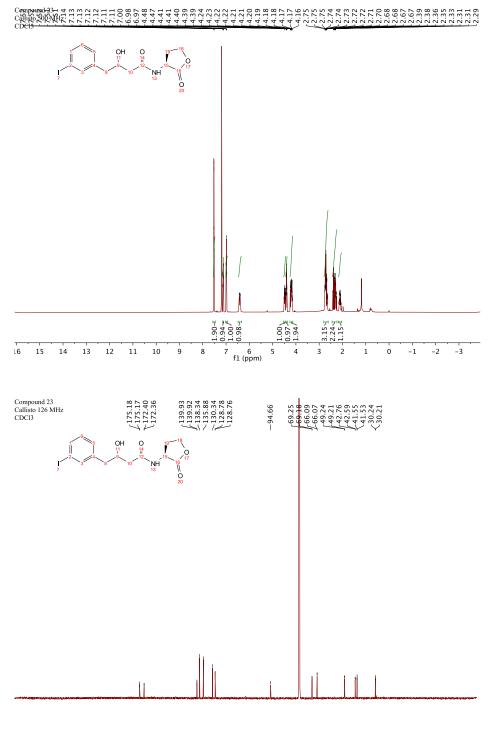


^{150 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -31} fl (ppm)

22:

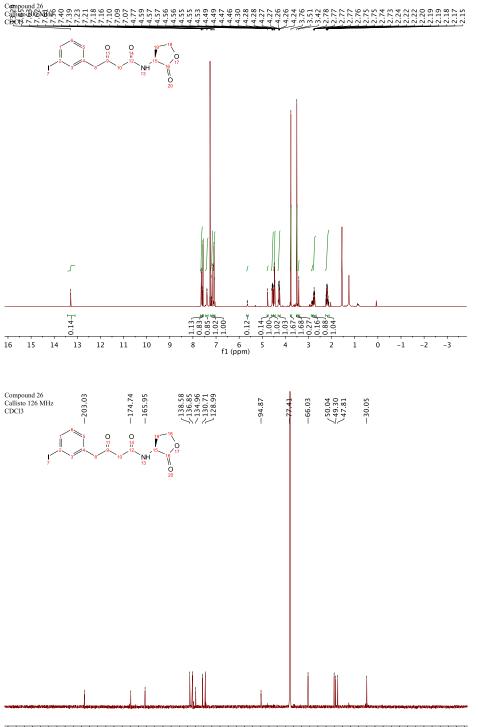


150 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -3(f1 (ppm) 23:



^{50 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -3(} f1 (ppm)

26:



^{150 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -31} f1 (ppm)

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