## **Supporting Information**

### for

## Total synthesis of (+)-grandiamide D, dasyclamide and gigantamide A from a Baylis–Hillman adduct: A unified biomimetic approach

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## Detailed experimental procedures, copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra for the new compounds and chiral HPLC reports

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#### **General information**

Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on AVANCE-300 MHz and 400 MHz (Bruker) spectrometers using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity [singlet (s), doublet (d), doublet of doublet (dd), triplet (t), quartet (q), pentet (p), multiplet (m), broad singlet (brs)], coupling constants [Hz], integration). All the carbon NMR spectra were recorded on (75 & 100 MHz) spectrometers with complete proton decoupling. Carbon chemical shifts were reported in ppm with the respective solvent resonance as the internal standard. Melting points were recorded (uncorrected) on a Büchi Melting Point B-545 instrument. Chiral HPLC was performed with Chiralpak ADH, Chiralpak IC and ChiralCel ODH columns of 250 x 4.6 mm and a Hitachi L-7455 photodiode array detector at 25 °C. The elemental analysis was performed on a Thermo Finnigan EA 1112 CHN analyzer. The mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent LC/MSD SL 1100 instrument. Optical rotations were determined with a Jasco P-200 polarimeter and reported as follows:  $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{20}$ (c g/100 mL, in solvent). Reactions that required inert atmosphere and moisture control were carried out in a nitrogen atmosphere employing oven-dried glassware. All the solvents were used as purchased. All the chemicals were purchased from commercial sources.

#### **Experimental procedures**

#### Synthesis of ethyl 2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)acetate (13) [1]

To a dispersion of NaH (60% in mineral oil, 16.00 g, 0.3986 mol) in dry THF (500 mL), 4-methoxybenzylalcohol (50.00 g, 0.3624 mol) was added slowly, at 20–25 °C, over 1 h. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The resulting yellow solution was cooled to 0 °C and ethyl bromoacetate (66.60 g, 0.3624 mol) was added dropwise for 1 h. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 20 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with ice water and the product was extracted into EtOAc (3 x 200 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with water (3 x 200 mL), brine (100 mL), dried (anhyd. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated under vacuum to provide the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography over silica (230–400) using EtOAc/hexane (0–20%) as eluent to provide the title compound **13** as colorless oil.

Yield: 48.00 g (59%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.93 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.15 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>Ar</u>), 4.35 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub></u>), 6.81 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.19 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  14.3, 55.0, 60.4, 66.9, 73.1, 114.0, 129.2, 129.9, 159.8, 171.5.

Spectral data for compound **13** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [1].

#### Synthesis of 2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)acetaldehyde (14) [2]

To a solution of ethyl 2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)acetate (**13**, 48.00 g, 0.2143 mol) in dry toluene (450 mL) at -78 °C, under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, was added DIBAL-H (1.5 M in toluene, 33.60 g, 157 mL, 0.2357 mol) for 1 h, keeping the temperature below -60 °C.

The clear solution was warmed to 0 °C slowly over a period of 1 h after stirring for an additional hour at that temperature. The mixture was quenched by slow addition of MeOH at 0 °C. Water was added and the toluene layer was separated. The organic layer was washed with water (3 x 200 mL), brine (100 mL), dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporated under vacuum to provide the crude aldehyde **14** as pale brown oil which was directly used for the next step.

Yield: 38.00 g (99%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.74 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.12 (s, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.59 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>Ar</u>), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH) 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 10.43 (s, 1H, CHO); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  55.4, 73.4, 75.1, 114.1, 128.9, 129.8, 159.7, 200.5. Spectral data for compound **14** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [2].

## Synthesis of (±)-ethyl 3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoate ((±)-16)

A mixture of 2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)acetaldehyde (14, 30.00 g, 0.1667 mol), ethyl acrylate (50.00 g, 0.5000 mol) and DABCO (18.60 g, 0.1607 mol) in dioxane (300 mL) and water (300 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 40 h. The reaction mixture was bifurcated between EtOAc (500 mL) and water (1 L). The organic layer was separated, washed with water (3 x 200 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography over silica (230–400) using EtOAc-hexane (0–15%) as eluent to provide the title compound (±)-16 as colorless oil.

Yield: 30.00 g (65%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.36 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H, OCH<sub>2</sub><u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>), 3.37 (dd, J = 9.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.70 (dd, J = 9.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.21 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.49 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>Ar), 4.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, OH), 4.71-4.72 (m, 1H, CHOH), 6.01 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H,C =<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.35 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.89-7-6.91 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.25-7.32 (m, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 51.8, 55.2, 69.4, 72.9, 73.2, 113.8, 126.6, 128.6, 129.6, 139.0, 159.2, 166.3; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 64.27; H, 7.19, Found: C, 64.23; H, 7.21.

## Synthesis of (±)-3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoic acid (±)-(17)

To a solution of ( $\pm$ )-ethyl 3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoate (( $\pm$ ) **16**, 35.00 g, 0.1250 mol) in THF (400 mL), a solution of LiOH (10.00 g, 0.2450 mol) in water (100 mL) was added slowly for 30 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h. THF was removed under vacuum and water was added. The aqueous layer was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 100 mL), acidified with 1 N HCl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 200 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with water (3 x 200 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to provide the title compound ( $\pm$ )-**17** as colorless oil.

Yield: 30.00 g (95%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  3.22-3.24 (m, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.42-3.43 (m, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.72 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.39 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>Ar</u>), 4.50-4.52 (m, 1H, <u>CH</u>OH), 5.81 (s, 1H, C =<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.11 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  55.5, 68.7, 72.2, 74.3, 114.0, 124.7, 129.6, 130.9, 143.1, 159.1, 167.9. LCMS (ESI): m/z 253.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 61.90; H, 6.39, Found: C, 61.93; H, 6.41.

#### Synthesis of tert-Butyl 4-cinnamamidobutylcarbamate (10) [3]

To a solution of cinnamic acid (10.00 g, 0.0676 mol) and *tert*-butyl 4aminobutylcarbamate (12.70 g, 0.0676 mol) in THF (100 mL), a solution of EDCI·HCl (14.30 g, 0.0743 mol) and TEA (7.30 g, 0.0743 mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (100 mL) was added slowly for 30 minutes at 0 °C. The mixture was warmed slowly to room temperature and stirred for 19 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was diluted with EtOAc (500 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with 10% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (100 mL), 1 N HCl (100 mL), water (2 x 100 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get the title compound **10** as white solid.

Yield: 18.00 g (82%)

mp: 92.6-96.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.45 (s, 9H, *t*-butyl), 1.45-1.59 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.17-3.44 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.65 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.13 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.43 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 7.36-7.38 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.50-7.52 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  26.3, 27.2, 28.7, 39.3, 40.1, 79.3, 120.5, 127.4, 128.6, 129.9, 135.2, 140.8, 156.6, 166.5.

Spectral data for compound **10** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [3].

#### Synthesis of *N*-(4-aminobutyl)cinnamamide (11) [3]

A solution of *tert*-butyl 4-cinnamamidobutylcarbamate (**10**, 18.00 g) in EtOH (180 mL) was treated with 6 N HCl (90 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 3 h. The EtOH

was distilled off and the residue was basified 2 N NaOH solution to pH 14 and extracted with DCM (4 x 100 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide the title compound **11** as pale brown solid.

Yield: 11.00 g (89%)

mp: 79.3-81.7 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.45 (s, 9H, *t*-butyl), 1.41-1.65 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.85-3.45 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.31 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.41 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 7.31 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.49 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.66 (d, *J* = 15.4 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  26.3, 27.2, 28.7, 39.3, 40.1, 79.3, 120.5, 127.4, 128.6, 129.9, 135.2, 140.8, 156.6, 166.5.

Spectral data for compound **11** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [3].

## Synthesis of (±)-(*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2 methylenebutanamide (±)-(18)

To a solution of  $(\pm)$ -3-hydroxy-4-(4-methoxybenzyloxy)-2-methylenebutanoic acid (( $\pm$ )-**17**, 5.00 g, 0.0199 mol) *N*-(4-aminobutyl)cinnamamide (**11**, 4.35 g, 0.0199 mol) in THF (50 mL), a solution of EDCI·HCl (4.58 g, 0.0238 mol) and TEA (4.82 g, 0.0288 mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (50 mL) was added slowly for 30 minutes at 0 °C. The mixture was warmed slowly to room temperature and stirred for 19 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with 10% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL), 1 N HCl (50 mL), water (2 x 50 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum. The crude product was crystallized with DCM/Et<sub>2</sub>O to get the title compound  $(\pm)$ -18 as an off-white solid.

#### Yield: 6.00 g (67%)

mp: 238.4-241.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.44-1.48 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.10-3.28 (m, 1H, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 3.39-3.42 (m, 1H, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 3.71 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.38 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>Ar), 4.57-4.52 (m, 1H, <u>CH</u>OH), 5.22-5.23 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, CH<u>OH</u>), 5.53 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 5.69 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>) 6.61 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.35 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH), 7.36-7.37 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.53-7.54 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.02 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.10 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  27.1, 27.1, 38.7, 38.9, 55.5, 69.3, 72.2, 74.1, 113.9, 117.9, 122.8, 127.9, 129.4, 129.6, 130.8, 135.4, 138.9, 146.23, 159.1, 165.3, 167.5; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 69.01; H, 7.13; N, 6.19, Found: C, 69.05; 7.09; N, 6.21.

#### Synthesis of (±)-grandiamide D (5) [4]

To a solution of  $(\pm)$ -(*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2 methylenebutanamide (( $\pm$ )-18, 2.00 g) in DCM (50 mL), TFA (2 mL) was added slowly for 10 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with 10% NaOH solution (10 mL), the DCM layer was separated, washed with water (2 x 50 mL), brine and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (230–400) using CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (0–5%) as eluent to get ( $\pm$ )-grandiamide D (**5**) as white solid.

Yield: 1.10 g (75%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  1.58-1.60 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.27-3.32 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.48 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>OH</u>), 3.63 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>OH</u>), 4.51 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>OH), 5.61 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 5.78 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.59 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 7.34-7.37 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.39 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH), 7.52-7.55 (m, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$ : 27.7, 27.8, 39.9, 40.1, 66.6, 73.2, 119.8, 121.8, 128.7, 129.8, 130.7, 136.2, 141.5, 146.3, 168.5, 170.4; LCMS (ESI): m/z 333.3 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

Spectral data for compound **5** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [4].

# Synthesis of (S)-ethyl 3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoate (+)-16

To a solution of acryloyl sultam **19** (478 mg, 1.780 mmol) and DABCO (19.80 mg, 0.1800 mmol) in DMF (5 mL), at 0 °C, was added 2-(4-methoxybenzyloxy)acetaldehyde (**14**, 4.67 g, 25.9 mmol) and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 120 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (100 mL), washed with water (3 x 100 mL) brine and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was dissolved in ethanol (100 mL) containing TEA (5 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h, evaporated the solvent under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by purified by flash chromatography over silica (230-400) using EtOAc-hexane (0–15%) as eluent to provide the title compound (+)-**16** as colorless oil.

Yield: 353 mg (71%)

 $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +14.1$  (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); Chiralpak AD-H, 0.1% TFA in hexane/ethanol (80:20), 1.0 mL\min,  $\lambda = 206$  nm, tR = 8.2 minor, tR = 10.6 major

## Synthesis of (S)-3-hydroxy-4-(4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoic acid (+)-

The ester (+)-16 was hydrolyzed with LiOH as described earlier in the synthesis of compound  $(\pm)$ -17 to afford the title compound (+)-17 as pale yellow oil.

 $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +16.97$  (c 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); Chiralpak AD-H, 0.1% TFA in hexane/ethanol (80:20),

1.0 mL\min,  $\lambda = 206$  nm, tR = 10.7 minor, tR = 14.5 major.

## Synthesis of (*S*,*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2methylenebutanamide (+)-18

The acid (+)-17 was coupled with *N*-(4-aminobutyl)cinnamamide (11) as decribed earlier in the synthesis of compound ( $\pm$ )-18 to obtain the title compound (+)-18.

 $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +10.45$  (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); Chiralpak IC, hexane/ethanol (70:30), 1.0 mL\min,  $\lambda = 206$  nm, tR = 10.7 minor, tR = 14.5 major.

#### Synthesis of (+)-grandiamide D (5) [4]

Compound (+)-18 was deprotected with TFA as described earlier in the synthesis of  $(\pm)$ -grandiamide D (5) to afford (+)-grandiamide D (5).

 $[\alpha]_D^{26} = +4.76$  (*c* 0.5, MeOH); Chiralpak IC, hexane/ethanol (70:30), 1.0 mL\min,  $\lambda = 206$  nm, tR = 5.8 minor, tR = 7.1 major.

## Synthesis of (±) ethyl 3-acetoxy-4-(4-methoxybenzyloxy)-2-methylenebutanoate (±)-23

To a solution of  $(\pm)$ -ethyl 3-hydroxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoate (13.00 g, 0.0466 mol) in dry DCM (150 mL), pyridine (7.36 g, 0.0932 mol) was added

and the clear solution was cooled to 0 °C. Acetyl chloride (7.36 g, 0.0932 mol) was added slowly for 20 minutes. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature slowly over a period of 30 minutes. The reaction mixture was washed with 1.5 N HCl (50 mL), water (2 x 50 mL), brine (50 mL), dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporated under vacuum to get the desired product (±)-**23** as pale yellow oil.

#### Yield: 14.60 g (95%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.28 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH<sub>2</sub><u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>), 2.12 (s, 3H, OC(O)<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>), 3.58-3.69 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.81 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.21 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.50 (q, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>Ar), 5.85 (m, 1H, OCH), 5.88 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.36 (s, 1H, C=<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 6.86-6.90 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  14.0, 21.0, 55.2, 60.9, 70.4, 70.7, 70.5, 113.7, 126.6, 129.2, 129.9, 137.0, 159.2, 164.9, 169.7; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C, 63.34; H, 6.88, Found: C, 63.38; H, 6.85.

#### Synthesis of (E)-ethyl 4-(4-methoxybenzyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoate (24) [2]

NaBH<sub>4</sub> (3.26 g, 0.0860 mol) was added in portions to a solution of (±)-ethyl 3-acetoxy-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylenebutanoate (**23**, 14.50 g, 0.0430 mol) in dry *tert*butanol (150 mL) over a period of 30 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 19 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with water and the product was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 150 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with water (3 x 200 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to provide the crude product **24** as colorless oil which was pure enough to take into the next step.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.82 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO<sub>2</sub>Et), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.17 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>, O<u>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub></u>), 4.48 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>Ar</u>), 6.85-6.92 (m, 3H, olefinic, ArH), 7.28 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.8, 14.2, 55.2, 60.6, 66.4, 72.4, 113.8, 129.2, 129.3, 129.8, 137.9, 159.3, 167.5.

Spectral data for compound **24** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [2].

#### Synthesis of (*E*)-4-(4-methoxybenzyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoic acid (25)

To a solution of (*E*)-ethyl 4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoate (**24**, 7.60 g, 0.0289 mol) in MeOH (100 mL), a solution of KOH (3.24 g, 0.0570 mol) in water (40 mL) was added slowly for 30 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h. Methanol was removed under vacuum and the residue was diluted with water. The aqueous layer was washed with  $Et_2O$  (2 x 50 mL), acidified with 1 N HCl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with water (3 x 50 mL), brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporated under vacuum to provide the crude product as colorless oil **25** which was directly taken for the next step.

Yield: 5.80 g (85%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.74 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO<sub>2</sub>H), 3.74 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.41 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>Ar), 6.67 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, olefinic), 6.89-6.92 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 12.37 (s, 1H, COOH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  13.1, 55.5, 66.5, 71.9, 114.1, 129.6, 129.7, 130.4, 138.1, 157.2, 168.8; LCMS (ESI): m/z 234.8 [M-H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C, 66.09; H, 6.83, Found: C, 66.13; H, 6.88.

## Synthesis of (*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylbut-2enamide (26)

To a solution of (*E*)-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoic acid (**25**, 4.00 g, 0.0170 mol) *N*-(4-aminobutyl)cinnamamide (3.72 g, 0.0170 mol) in THF (50 mL), a solution of EDCI·HCl (3.92 g, 0.0204 mol) and TEA (2.58 g, 0.0255 mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (50 mL) was added slowly for 30 minutes at 0 °C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 19 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined EtOAc layer was washed with 10% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL), 1 N HCl (50 mL), water (2 x 50 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was crystallized with Et<sub>2</sub>O to get the title compound **26** as pale brown solid.

Yield: 5.00 g (70%)

mp: 228.2-237.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.43-1.44 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.71 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO), 3.08-3.16 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.72 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.09 (d, J =5.9 Hz, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.39 (s, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub>Ar</u>), 6.27 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, olefinic), 6.60 (d, J =16.0 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 6.88 (dd, J = 8.0, 12.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.24 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.36 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH), 7.37-7.41 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.53-7.55 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.91 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.10 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  13.5, 27.1, 38.9, 55.5, 66.4, 71.7, 114.1, 122.8, 127.9, 129.4, 129.77, 129.81, 130.6, 131.1, 133.4, 135.4, 138.8, 159.2, 165.2, 168.3; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 71.53; H, 7.39; N, 6.42; Found: C, 71.58; H, 7.41; N, 6.49.

#### Synthesis of dasyclamide (6) [4]

To a solution of (*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-methylbut-2enamide (**26**, 4.00 g) in DCM (75 mL), TFA (4 mL) was added slowly for 10 minutes at room temperature. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. 10% NaOH solution (20 mL) was added, DCM layer was separated, washed with water (2 x 50 mL), brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum to get the crude product which was crystallized with Et<sub>2</sub>O to get the title compound as an off-white solid.

Yield: 1.80 g (60%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  1.59-1.62 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.83 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO), 3.28-3.31 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.24 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H, <u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>OH), 6.34 (t, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, olefinic), 6.62 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 7.36-7.41 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.51-7.57 (m, 3H, ArH, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  13.0, 27.9, 40.2, 59.5, 121.9, 128.8, 129.9, 130.8, 133.0, 135.8, 136.3, 141.6, 168.6, 172.0; LCMS (ESI): m/z 317.2 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectral data for compound **6** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [4].

#### Synthesis of gigantamide A (7) [4]

To a solution of dasyclamide (**6**, 100 mg, 0.0003345 mol) in a mixture of DMSO (1 mL) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL), at 0 °C, was added pyridinium chlorochromate (180 mg, 0.000836 mol) in one lot. The orange solution was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 20 h. The reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of 1 N HCl (5 mL) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with water (2 x 25 mL), brine (10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure to brown solid. Purification by preparative TLC, using CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (9/1) as solvent system, afforded three

compounds. Top spot, appeared in the TLC was *N*-(4-(3-methyl-2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)butyl)cinnamamide (**28**) obtained as white solid. Next spot, gigantamide A (**7**) was obtained (25 mg, 25%) as an off-white solid. Next lower spot was compound (*E*)-*N*-(4-cinnamamidobutyl)-2-methyl-4-oxobut-2-enamide (**27**), obtained as white solid. mp: 139.6-142.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  1.56-1.71 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.86 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO), 3.31-3.56 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.35-3.36 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.35 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>OH), 6.60 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 6.64 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H, olefinic), 7.37-7.39 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.50 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH), 7.54-7.57 (m, 2H, ArH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  10.8, 25.6, 26.8, 38.9, 39.3, 82.1, 120.5, 127.8, 128.8, 129.7, 134.7, 136.6, 138.4, 141.1, 166.7, 170.7; LCMS (ESI): m/z 317.3 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectral data for compound **7** was in agreement with the values reported in the literature [4].

#### (*E*)-*N*-(4-Cinnamamidobutyl)-2-methyl-4-oxobut-2-enamide (27)

mp: 101.4-104.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.47-1.48 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.26 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO), 3.13-3.18 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.28 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>-CHO), 6.62 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H, PhCH=<u>CH</u>), 7.34-7.43 (m, 4H, ArH, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH), 7.54-7.56 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.11 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.38 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, NH), 10.11 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, CHO); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  10.8, 27.0, 40.1, 40.5, 121.9, 128.9, 130.5, 130.8, 140.9, 141.6, 152.7, 168.6, 172.4, 193.6; LCMS (ESI): m/z 317.3 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### *N*-(4-(3-Methyl-2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)butyl)cinnamamide (28)

mp: 112.6-116.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.55-1.62 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.09 (s, 3H, C(<u>CH<sub>3</sub></u>)CO), 3.39-3.36 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.80 (s, 1H,NH), 6.32 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, olefinic), 6.39 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H, PhCH=CH), 7.35-7.41 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.49-7.52

(m, 2H, ArH), 7.62 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H, Ph<u>CH</u>=CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ 10.9, 26.1, 26.6, 39.1, 120.6, 127.2, 127.7, 128.7, 129.5, 134.8, 140.8, 145.6, 165.9, 170.9, 171.9; LCMS (ESI): m/z 315.3 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 69.21; H, 6.45; N, 8.97, Found: C, 69.28; H, 6.41; N, 8.89

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### <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra and other data















































#### **Chiral HPLC reports**















#### s43



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<b>S</b> 4	4







#### s46