Studies toward bivalent κ opioids derived from salvinorin A:

heteromethylation of the furan ring reduces affinity.

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Supporting Information

| | | Page |
|--------------|----------------------|------|
| NMR spectra: | Experimental methods | 2 |
| | References | 7 |
| | Table S1 | 8 |
| | Figure S1 | 9 |
| | | |
| | 2 | 10 |
| | 3 | 15 |
| | 4 | 19 |
| | 5 | 24 |
| | 6 | 26 |

Table of contents

Bioassays

Bioassays have been described in detail [1] and summarized [2] previously. Briefly, binding affinities at μ, δ, and κ opioid receptors were determined by competitive inhibition of [³H]diprenorphine binding to membranes prepared from Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells stably transfected with human κ, rat μ, or mouse δ opioid receptors. Compounds were initially screened at 3 μM; those compounds causing >50% displacement of [³H]diprenorphine (equivalent under the assay conditions to *K*_i < 1 μM) were tested further for determination of binding affinity (*K*_i), potency (EC₅₀) and efficacy (*E*_{max}). Positive controls were U50,488H (κ), DAMGO (μ), SNC80 (δ), and etorphine (μ/δ), which all caused > 90% displacement of [³H]diprenorphine at 3 μM. Potencies and efficacies were determined by [³⁵S]GTPγS binding to membranes of CHO-hκ-OR cells, as described in detail elsewhere [1]. Testing was blinded: neither identity nor molecular mass were known to the testers.

General Synthetic Methods

Commercial reagents and solvents were used without further purification unless otherwise noted. Salvinorin A (**1**) was isolated from dried *Salvia divinorum* leaves as described previously [3]. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel using vanillin/H₂SO₄ in EtOH or Hanessian's stain [ammonium molybdate (NH₄)₆Mo₇O₂₄·4H₂O), cerium sulfate (Ce(SO₄)₂), and H₂SO₄ in H₂O], developed with a heat gun. Products were purified using automated flash chromatography with gradient elution on 35 µm silica gel. Melting points were determined at 2 °C/min. ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are referenced to residual **CDCl₃** (7.26 and 77 ppm).

Synthesis

(Dimethylamino)methylation of 1: *N*,*N*-dimethylmethyleneiminium chloride (35.8 mg, 382.6 µmol) and 1 (54.2 mg, 125.3 µmol) were sealed under Ar. DMF (2 mL) was added, and the solution stirred at 70 °C for 24 h, when TLC showed no 1. After cooling to rt, sat. NaHCO₃/H₂O was added dropwise with stirring, giving a thick precipitate. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with sat. NaHCO₃/H₂O (×3) followed by brine, then dried (K₂CO₃), filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography (35 µm silica gel × 4 g) in 5–10% CH₃OH/CH₂Cl₂ and 0–30% CH₃OH/EtOAc gave 2 (31.4 mg, 64.1 µmol, 51%) and 3 (11.3 mg, 23 µmol, 18%). Crystals of an ethanol solvate of 2 were grown by dissolving in minimal hot ethanol. The solution was diluted to approximately 10% in hexanes, warmed until clear, then left to evaporate in a fumehood. TLC (30% CH₃OH/EtOAc, Hanessian's stain) $hR_f = 83$ (1), 49 (2), 26 (3).



16-((dimethylamino)methyl)salvinorin A (2): colorless crystals, mp 156–158 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32–7.31 (m, 1H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 1.9, 1H), 5.55 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 5.1, 1H), 5.11 (t, *J* = 10.0, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.42 (br s, 2H), 2.79–2.70 (m, 1H), 2.38–2.20 (m, 4H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 2.18–2.08 (m, 2H), 2.17 (br s, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.80–1.73 (m, 1H), 1.69–1.53 (m, 4H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.1, 171.6, 171.3, 169.8, 146.5, 142.8, 123.4, 109.0, 75.0, 71.9, 63.6, 53.5, 53.4, 51.9, 51.1, 44.5, 43.2, 42.0, 38.0, 35.6, 35.4, 30.7, 20.6, 18.1, 16.4, 15.1; HRMS(ESI): [M+H]⁺ *m/z* 490.2442 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅NO₈, 490.2435).

To form the hydrochloride, fresh HCl in Et_2O (1M, 350 µL, 1.3 eq) was added to **2** (132 mg, 270 µmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL). No precipitate was observed; evaporation (rotavap) gave a clear resin, freely soluble in CH_2Cl_2 and $CDCl_3$. Trituration in Et_2O gave **2**•HCl as colorless crystals (143 mg).

2•HCI: colorless crystals, mp 240–243 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.53 (br s, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 1.7, 1H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 5.62 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 4.9, 1H), 5.16 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 8.3, 1H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 14.3, 1H), 3.99 (d, *J* = 14.2, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 1.9, 1H), 2.87 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 4.8, 1H), 2.82 (s, 6H), 2.49 (br s, 1H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 4.9, 1H), 2.32–2.23 (m, 2H), 2.19–2.14 (m, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.75–1.70 (m, 2H), 1.66–1.55 (m, 3H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 3H).



15-((dimethylamino)methyl)salvinorin A (3): amber resin; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, **CDCI₃)** δ 7.34 (t, *J* = 0.8, 1H), 6.20 (d, *J* = 0.5, 1H), 5.48 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 5.1, 1H), 5.18–5.11 (m, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.79–2.69 (m, 1H), 2.49 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 5.2, 1H), 2.33–2.28 (m, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.19–2.13 (m, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.15 (br s, 1H), 2.08–2.03 (m, 2H), 1.81–1.76 (m, 1H), 1.71–1.52 (m, 3H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCI₃) δ 202.0, 171.5, 171.1, 169.9, 153.1, 139.0, 125.6, 107.4, 74.9, 72.0, 63.9, 55.5, 53.5, 51.9, 51.3, 44.8, 43.2, 42.0, 38.1, 35.4, 30.7, 20.5, 18.1, 16.3, 15.1; HRMS(ESI): [M+H]⁺ *m/z* 490.2442 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅NO₈, 490.2435).

Hydroxymethylation of 1: Glacial acetic acid (5 mL) was added to **1** (305 mg, 705 μ mol) and paraformaldehyde (115 mg, 3.8 mmol, 5.4 eq) and stirred at 75 °C for 20 h; the initial suspension cleared within 3 h. Starting material was still present by TLC (EtOAc) at 20 h. The solution was evaporated under reduced pressure, water (10 mL) was added, and the suspension stirred at 95 °C for 1 h to remove excess formaldehyde. The supernatant was immediately decanted while hot. The solid was dried under reduced pressure to give a brown foam (283 mg). Flash chromatography (35 µm silica gel × 8 g, 20–100% EtOAc/hexanes gradient) gave recovered **1** (102 mg) along with **4** (70.1 mg, 151.6 µmol, 21% [32% b.r.s.m.]) and **5** (29.4 mg, 59.6 µmol, 8% [13% b.r.s.m.]). **TLC** (EtOAc) $hR_f = 77$ (**1**), 63 (**4**), 27 (**5**).



16-(hydroxymethyl)salvinorin A (4): colorless crystals, mp 215–217 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃) δ 7.34 (d, J = 1.9, 1H), 6.30 (d, J = 1.9, 1H), 5.61 (dd, J = 11.8, 5.1, 1H), 5.16–5.09 (m, 1H), 4.69–4.57 (m, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.74 (dd, J = 15.7, 7.5, 1H), 2.43 (dd, J = 13.5, 5.2, 1H), 2.33–2.26 (m, 2H), 2.19 (br s, 1H), 2.22–2.15 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.11 (dd, J = 11.0, 3.0, 1H), 1.95–1.91 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.68–1.58 (m, 7H), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCI₃) δ 202.0, 171.5, 171.2, 170.0, 150.9, 142.2, 121.3, 109.1, 75.0, 71.8, 63.7, 55.7, 53.4, 51.9, 51.3, 43.5, 42.0, 38.0, 35.5, 30.7, 20.5, 18.1, 16.4, 15.1; HRMS(ESI): [M+NH₄]⁺ *m/z* 480.2238 (calcd for C₂₄H₃₀O₉, 480.2228).



15,16-bis(hydroxymethyl)salvinorin A (5): amber resin; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 5.2, 1H), 5.18–5.03 (m, 1H), 4.61 (t, *J* = 4.2, 2H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 5.1, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.76 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 7.7, 1H), 2.41 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 5.2, 1H), 2.33–2.26 (m, 2H), 2.21–2.08 (m, 5H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.95–1.88 (m, 1H), 1.80 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 2.9, 1H), 1.71–1.54 (m, 6H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.0, 171.5, 171.1, 170.0, 153.8, 150.6, 122.2, 107.1, 75.1, 71.8, 63.9, 57.4, 55.9, 53.5, 52.0, 51.3, 43.5, 42.1, 38.1, 35.5, 30.7, 20.6, 18.1, 16.4, 15.2; HRMS(ESI): [M+NH₄]⁺ *m*/z 510.2330 (calcd for C₂₅H₃₂O₁₀, 510.2334).

Salvinorin B (2-hydroxyethoxy)methyl ether (6): *N*-iodosuccinimide (NIS) was recrystallized from hot dioxane/CCl₄; 1,2-ethanediol was stored over 4 Å molecular sieves. Salvinorin B methylthiomethyl ether **7** [2] (985 mg, 2.19 mmol) and powdered 4 Å sieves (4.1 g) were heated (60 °C) under vacuum overnight and allowed to cool under Ar. Dry CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) and 1,2-ethanediol (3 mL) were added, and the flask cooled to 0 °C. AgOTf (741 mg, 2.6 mmol) and recrystallized NIS (630 mg, 2.6 mmol) were added in one portion and the flask purged with Ar. The resulting deep amber suspension was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min, then diluted with EtOAc (200 mL), filtered through Celite filter aid, and washed with aqueous Na₂S₂O₃. Brine was added to break the resulting emulsion. The organic layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃/H₂O followed by brine, then dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated under reduced

pressure. Flash chromatography (35 μ m silica gel × 8 g) in 66-100% EtOAc/hexanes gave **6** (311 mg, 0.67 mmol, 30%) as a white powder; **TLC** (EtOAc) *hR_f* = 38;



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (dt, J = 1.6, 0.9, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 1.7, 1H), 6.38 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9, 1H), 5.54 (dd, J = 11.7, 5.1, 1H), 4.81 (ABq, J = 7.3, 2H), 4.18 (dd, J = 11.8, 7.1, 1H), 3.80–3.68 (m, 4H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.69 (dd, J = 13.3, 3.3, 1H), 2.54 (dd, J = 13.3, 5.1, 1H), 2.40–2.29 (m, 2H), 2.26–2.13 (m, 2H), 2.07 (br s, 1H), 2.07-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.72–1.49 (m, 3H), 1.47 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 205.9, 171.7, 171.1, 143.7, 139.4, 125.3, 108.3, 95.1, 78.4, 71.9, 71.0, 64.3, 62.0, 53.8, 51.9, 51.5, 43.5, 42.0, 38.2, 35.5, 32.4, 18.1, 16.4, 15.2; HRMS(ESI): [M+NH₄]⁺ *m*/z 482.2391 (calcd for C₂₄H₃₂O₉, 482.2384).

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| Antagonist | R | [³⁵ S]GTPγS binding | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------|--|
| (3 µM) | N. | (% inc | (% increase over basal) | | |
| | | | | Mean | |
| None | | 130 | 296 | 213 | |
| JDTic | | -15 | 15 | 0 | |
| | N 16 2 | 182 | 319 | 251 | |
| | 3 | 146 | 270 | 208 | |
| | HO | 249 | 415 | 332 | |
| | | 175 | 278 | 226 | |
| | o ↓ N N | 153 | 300 | 226 | |
| | o ↓ N N N N N N N N N N N N N | 140 | 296 | 218 | |
| | | 165 | 336 | 250 | |
| | | 223 | 262 | 243 | |
| | | 143 | 289 | 216 | |
| | | 129 | 265 | 197 | |
| | OH | 122 | 291 | 207 | |
| | | 173 | 366 | 270 | |
| | OH | 337 | 293 | 315 | |
| | O N H | 229 | 355 | 292 | |
| | | 151 | 281 | 216 | |
| 0 0 | | | | | |

Table S1. Antagonism of dynorphin A (10 nM) at κ -OR in the [³⁵S]GTP γ S assay.

^cEnhancement of [³⁵S]GTP γ S binding to CHO-h κ -OR.



Figure S1. Crystal structure of the ethanol solvate of **2** with 50% probability thermal displacement ellipsoids (cross-eyed stereoview). The second of two orientations for the disordered dimethylamino group is shown, with an H bond to ethanol (partial occupancy).









f1 (ppm)



f1 (ppm)









(mqq) [1

















