

Supporting Information for

Immunomodulation and the quorum sensing molecule 3-oxo-C₁₂-homoserine lactone: The importance of chemical scaffolding for probe development

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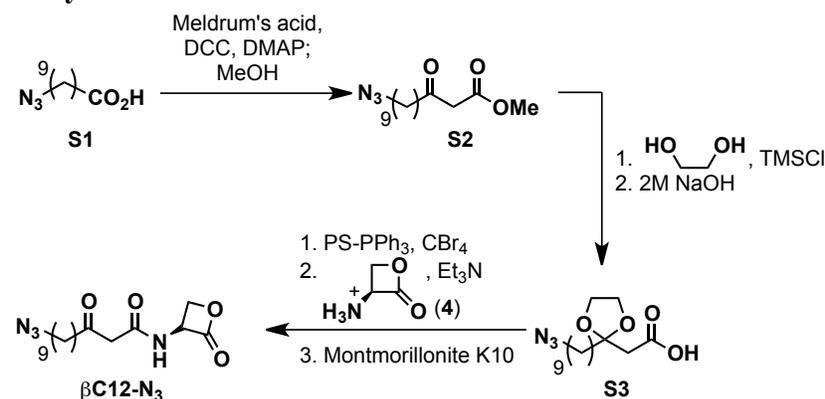
A. General Methods and Materials

General chemistry methods: Reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere with dry, freshly distilled solvents under anhydrous conditions, unless otherwise noted. Methylene chloride (CH₂Cl₂) was distilled from calcium hydride. Yields refer to chromatographically and spectroscopically homogenous materials, unless otherwise stated. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on 0.25-mm EMD silica gel plates (60F-254) using permanganate or ninhydrin staining. Flash chromatography separations were performed on Silicycle silica gel (40-63 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 400 MHz spectrometer instruments and calibrated using a solvent peak as an internal reference. The following abbreviations are used to indicate the multiplicities: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br, broad.

General biology methods: All mammalian cell experiments were performed as previously described.¹ Reporter assay experiments using *P. aeruginosa* strain PAO-JP2 were performed as previously described with minor changes as described below.^{2,3} All luminescence and absorbance readings were measured on a SpectraMax M2e Microplate Reader (Molecular Devices).

Materials: L-Serine-β-lactone tetrafluoroborate salt was purchased from Sigma Aldrich and used as received. Azidodecanoic acid was prepared according to literature precedent.^{4,5}

B. Synthetic Procedures and Characterization Data



General synthetic protocol: A round-bottom flask was charged with carboxylic acid (decanoic acid **1** or azidodecanoic acid **S1**) (7.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) at 25 °C. Meldrum's acid (7.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCC (7.7 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and DMAP (7.7 mmol, 1.1 equiv) were then added, and the solution was stirred at 25 °C overnight. The insoluble DCC by-product was then filtered off and the remaining solution was concentrated. The crude extract was then

dissolved in MeOH (50 mL) and refluxed overnight. Following concentration *in vacuo*, the crude material was purified via flash column chromatography (1:9 EtOAc in hexanes) to yield the coupled methyl ester (**2** or **S2**) (85–93% yield). The 3-oxo-substituent was then protected with ethylene glycol under standard conditions. The resulting crude protected methyl ester was hydrolyzed in 2N NaOH in MeOH. Extraction with EtOAc and concentration *in vacuo* yielded the protected acid as a white solid (**3** or **S3**) (60% yield). A fritted polypropylene tube was charged with protected acid (**3** or **S3**) (0.116 mmol, 1.0 equiv), polystyrene-supported PPh₃ (3 mmol/g, 0.255 mmol, 2.2 equiv), CBr₄ (0.127 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at 25 °C. After shaking overnight at 25 °C, the resin was filtered off. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*, and fresh CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was added followed by **4** (0.116 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Et₃N (0.174 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred overnight at 25 °C and the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography (1:1 EtOAc in hexanes). Deprotection was afforded by stirring with Montmorillonite K10 (350 mg). **βC12** and **βC12-N₃** were obtained via preparative TLC (2:1 EtOAc in hexanes).

Data for βC12: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 8.09 (br s, 1H), 5.21 (ddd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4.0 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.47–4.49 (m, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 2.54 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.58–1.63 (m, 4H), 1.26–1.31 (m, 11H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 207.4, 168.3, 166.5, 65.9, 58.5, 47.5, 44.3, 32.0, 29.6, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 23.6, 22.9, 24.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₆NO₄ [M+H]⁺ 284.3633, found 284.2819.

Data for βC12-N₃: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 8.05 (br s, 1H), 5.20 (ddd, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6.0 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.45–4.47 (m, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.52 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.55–1.61 (m, 7H), 1.25–1.38 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 207.0, 168.2, 166.3, 65.7, 58.3, 51.5, 47.3, 44.0, 29.2, 28.9, 28.8, 26.7, 23.3, 21.1, 14.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₅N₄O₄ [M+H]⁺ 325.3758, found 325.4001.

C. Reporter Assay for Autoinducer Activity in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

PAO-JP2 (*lasI/rhlI*-deleted) strain, harboring plasmid pKD201 containing a *LasI* reporter coupled to the *luxCDABE* luminescence system, was incubated overnight in LB medium containing 300 μg/mL trimethoprim. 500 μL of overnight culture was diluted in 50 mL fresh LB/trimethoprim. The diluted culture was then allowed to grow at 37 °C (250 rpm) until the culture reached an optical density (OD₆₀₀) of 0.4–0.6. Aliquots (99 μL) of this culture were then plated into black, clear-bottom 96-well assay plates, and treated with compounds (1.0 μL of 100 μM DMSO stock, 1.0 μM final concentration). DMSO (1.0 μL) was used as a negative control. All samples were examined in triplicate. The plates were then incubated for 4 h at 37 °C (150 rpm) after which both luminescence and absorbance were measured. Relative luminescence units were normalized with respect to cell viability ([luminescence read-out]/[absorbance read-out]).

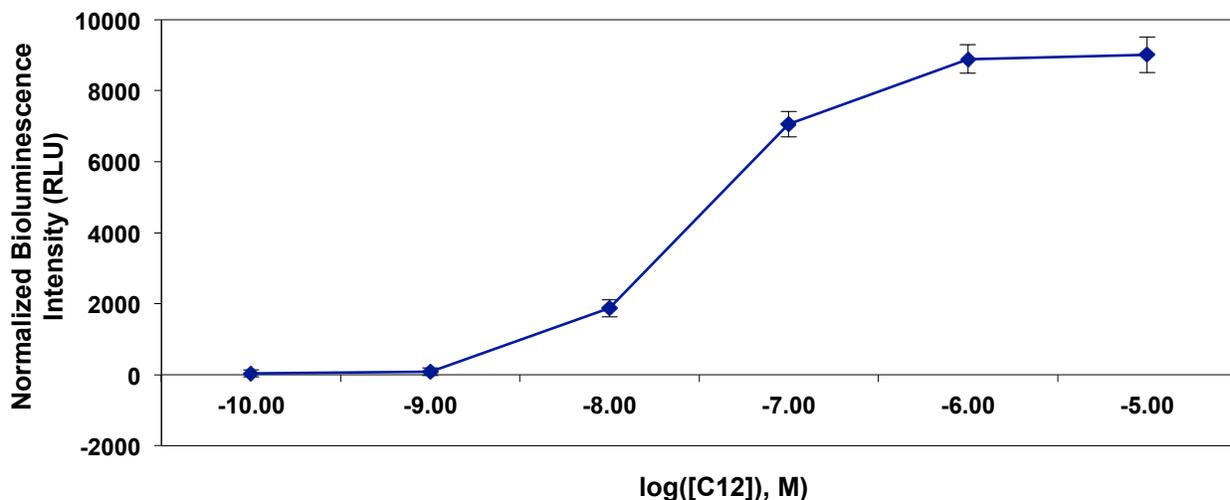


Figure S1. Dose-dependent autoinducer activity of C12.

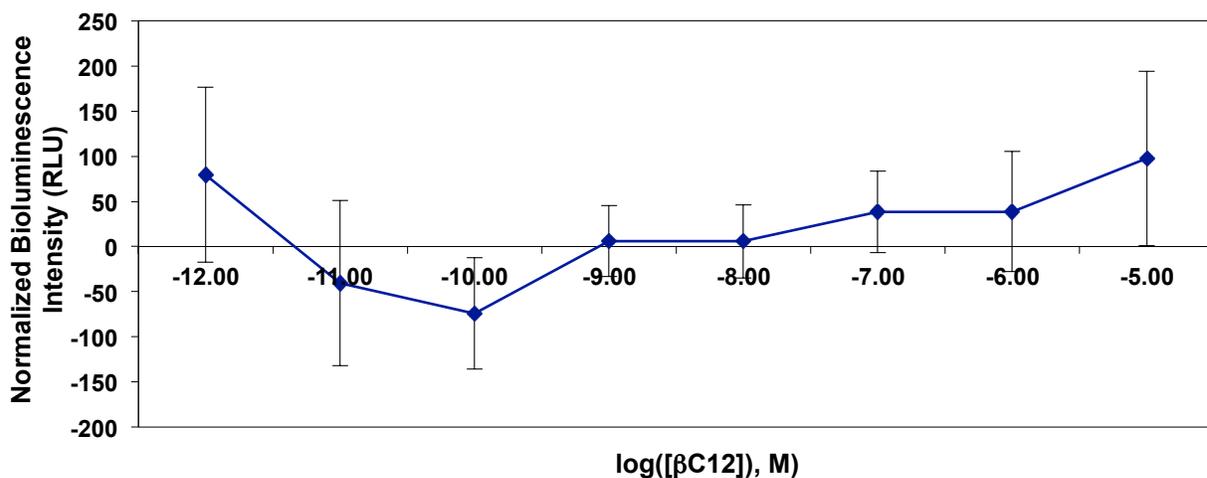


Figure S2. Dose-dependent autoinducer activity of β C12.

D. References

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