Azastilbenes: A cut off to p38 MAPK inhibitors

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General and Materials.

All reagents and chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without further purification. ¹H NMR (399.97 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (100.58 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity 400 spectrometer, using solvent residual peaks (1H: CDCl₃: ∂ 7.26 ppm, DMSO-*d*₆: ∂ 2.50 ppm; 13C: CDCl₃: ∂ 77.0 ppm, DMSO-*d*₆: ∂ 39.52 ppm) as an indirect reference to TMS. Chemical shifts and literature NMR shifts were used as references in identification and characterization of the synthesized compounds. Flash column chromatography was performed using Merck silica gel (0.04-0.06 mm). Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed on ALUGRAM® SIL G/UV254 plates (0.2 mm), using UV-light (254 nm) for visualization. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum One (ATR Technique). HPLC analysis was performed using a Young Lin (YL-9100) system equipped with a Kromasil 5-CellCoat column and using hexane and isopropanol as an eluent (detection: 220 nm and 254 nm). The protein preparation was prepared according to the standard procedure in the Schrödinger package. Docking of compounds was done in Glide (Schrödinger) with extraprecision (XP) settings and standard parameters for ligand docking.

Docking of compounds 6a-b, 7, 9, 14a-b, 15a-b, 16a-c



SB203580 Docking score (XP): -7.38



Compound 7 Docking score (XP): -7.33



Compound 16c Docking score (XP): -7.27



Compound 16a Docking score (XP): -7.11



Compound 16b Docking score (XP): -7.06



Compound 15a Docking score (XP): -6.68



Compound 14a Docking score (XP): -6.62



Compound 15b Docking score (XP): -6.35



Compound 14b Docking score (XP): -6.25



Confirmation of E/Z stereochemistry for compounds 6a-b, 7, 9

The stereochemistry was determined by comparison of coupling constants and chemical shifts (see Table below). Vinylic protons with a *trans*-configuration is known to have a larger coupling constant (around 16 Hz) compared the vinylic protons with a *cis*-configuration (around 10-12 Hz).¹ All the synthesized compounds with *cis*-configuration **6a-b**, **7**, **9** have coupling constants lower than the compounds from the *trans*-configuration (formed as a by-product in the synthesis).

| | Coupling constant / Hz | Chemical shift (ppm) |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 6a | 12.2 | 6.82, 6.53 |
| 6b | 12.4 | 6.67, 6.43 |
| 7 | 12.5 | 6.62 |
| 8 | 12.2 | 6.71, 6.49 |



Confirmation of E/Z stereochemistry for compounds 14a-d, 15a-b, 16a-c

¹H NMR signals were assigned with a relayh-COSY experiment (¹H NMR spectrum available later in the supporting information) of compound **14b**. Cross-peaks were observed between the aromatic protons H1 and H2 on the pyridine ring and between H4 and H5 on the *p*-fluorophenyl ring. Protons H6 and H7 (-CH₂ and -CH₃) were assigned by chemical shift (¹H NMR spectrum available later in the supporting information).



The stereochemistry of compound **14b** was assign with a NOESY experiment. In the NOESY spectrum, NOE were observed between H1-H2, H4-H5, and H2-H3 (negative compared to the positive diagonal). More importantly, NOE was also observed between H2-H4 (negative compared to the positive diagonal) in the two different aromatic rings, which suggest that the two aromatic rings are placed on the same side of the double bond.



The main difference in the ¹H NMR of the (Z)- and (E)-compounds is in the absorption of the olefinic proton. The stereochemistry was determined by comparison of chemical shifts of the vinylic proton with a (E)-configuration and a (Z)-configuration. Previously, it has been observed that in the (Z)-isomer, the vinylic proton resonates at 6.9 ppm, while in the (E)-isomer, the absorption of this proton moves downfield for about 1 ppm to occur at 7.9 ppm due to the deshielding effect of the nearby carbonyl and the aromatic ring in similar compounds.^{1,2} In compounds **14a-14d**, one clearly can see the difference in chemical shift between the (E)- and the (Z)-isomer and the same trend is observed for compounds **15a-b**, **16a-c** (see Table below).

| | | | $X \xrightarrow{CO_2R^2} H \xrightarrow{K_1} CO_2R^2$ | X CO ₂ R ² H Chemical shift R ¹ |
|---|-----------------|-------|---|--|
| Χ | R ¹ | R^2 | Chemical shift (ppm) | Chemical shift (ppm) |
| Н | Н | Et | 7.67 (14a) | 6.92 |
| F | Н | Et | 7.69 (14b) | 6.87 |
| Н | NHBoc | Et | 7.93 (14c) | 6.93-6.96 |
| F | NHBoc | Et | 7.87 (14d) | 6.87 |
| Н | Н | Н | 7.70 (15a) | - |
| F | Н | Н | 7.73 (15b) | - |
| Н | NH_2 | Et | 7.63 (16a) | - |
| F | NH_2 | Et | 7.62 (16b) | - |
| F | <i>i</i> -Pr-NH | Et | 7.64 (16c) | - |

Table. Chemical shift of the vinylic proton for (Z)- and (E)-compounds.

Biological evaluation

Biochemical inhibition. The IC_{50} -values were determined using Millipore's IC50-profiler services (www.millipore.com/life_sciences/flx4/ld_kinases). The technical details of the assay protocal is available at: http://www.millipore.com/techpublications/tech1/pf3036.

General Assay Protocols: SAPK2a (h) is incubated with 25 mM Tris pH 7.5, 0.02 mM EGTA, 0.33 mg/mL myelin basic protein, 10 mM MgAcetate and [γ -³³P-ATP] (specific activity approx. 500 cpm/pmol, concentration as required). The reaction is initiated by the addition of the MgATP mix. After incubation for 40 minutes at room temperature, the reaction is stopped by the addition of 3% phosphoric acid solution. 10 µL of the reaction is then spotted onto a P30 filtermat and washed three times for 5 minutes in 75 mM phosphoric acid and once in methanol prior to drying and scintillation counting.

Compound Preparation and Assay Controls: All compounds are prepared to 50x final assay concentration in 100% DMSO. This working stock of the compound is added to the assay well as the first component in the reaction, followed by the remaining components as detailed in the general assay protocols below. In the standard KinaseProfiler service, there is no pre-incubation step between the compound and the kinase prior to initiation of the reaction. Our positive control wells contain all components of the reaction, except the compound of interest; however, DMSO (at a final concentration of 2%) is included in these wells to control for solvent effects. Our blank wells contain all components of the reacting the compound of interest. This abolishes kinase activity and establishes the baseline (0% kinase activity remaining).

References

1. Tian, J.; Zhang, Z; Yang, X.; Fun, H.; Xu, J.; J.Org. Chem 2001, 66,8230-8235. 2. Boros, L.; Felföldi, K.; Pálinkó, I. *Molecules* **2004**, *9*, 256-263.



¹³C NMR











Compound 6a







Compound 6b

¹H NMR







HPLC



| Result Table (Uncal - | 6B 95HEX-STPROH | 0.5MLMIN | STILBENES - | Channel 1) |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Result Table (Unical - | OD_SSHEA-SIFKON | _0.5PhEPhIN_3 | STILDENLS - | Channer 1) |

| | Reten. Time [min] | Area [mV.s] | Height [mV] | Area [%] | Height [%] | W05 [min] | Compound Name |
|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 | 9,623 | 31,855 | 0,804 | 0,1 | 0,1 | 0,65 | |
| 2 | 11,207 | 8,355 | 0,474 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,29 | |
| 3 | 12,623 | 8,204 | 0,231 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,27 | |
| 4 | 14,057 | 84,476 | 2,907 | 0,3 | 0,3 | 0,45 | |
| 5 | 15,357 | 28797,292 | 946,426 | 99,5 | 99,5 | 0,45 | |
| | Total | 28930,181 | 950,842 | 100,0 | 100,0 | | |

Compound 6c ¹H NMR NBoc Н -9.943 _ 0.93 0.91 13 10 12 7 , , , ,,,, 1.012.31 2.00 0.45.08 3 2 11 9 6 5 4 1 -0 ppm ب 8.33





IR 98,4 95 3193,47 90 85 80 75 29 70 %T ⁶⁵ 60 53 55 12 50. 45 857 7,68 1055,19 1506,75 ,22 1716,31 40. 830 1565,53 1233 35-31,8 4000,0 650,0 3600 3200 2800 2400 2000 1800 cm-1 1600 1400 1200 1000 800

HPLC



Result Table (Uncal - 6C__95HEX-5IPROH_0.5MLMIN_STILBENES - Channel 1)

| | Reten. Time [min] | Area [mV.s] | Height [mV] | Area [%] | Height [%] | W05 [min] | Compound Name |
|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 | 7,390 | 7,453 | 0,408 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,29 | |
| 2 | 8,123 | 27,041 | 0,768 | 0,1 | 0,0 | 0,57 | |
| 3 | 9,457 | 13,390 | 0,562 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,25 | |
| 4 | 10,557 | 130,334 | 6,813 | 0,3 | 0,3 | 0,29 | |
| 5 | 11,473 | 46094,064 | 1946,198 | 99,6 | 99,5 | 0,35 | |
| 6 | 15,573 | 14,357 | 0,452 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,47 | |
| | Total | 46286,640 | 1955,200 | 100,0 | 100,0 | | |

Compound 7





Compound 8

¹H NMR







Compound 9











¹³C NMR



Compound 11



¹³C NMR







Compound 13a

¹H NMR







Compound 13b







Compound 14a









NOESY

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, NCH), 7.67 (s, 1H, PyrCH), 7.15-7.67 (m, 3H, NCHC*H*, PyrCHCCCHCHC*H*), 7.13-7.15 (m, 2H, PyrCHCCCHC*H*), 6.81 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, PyrCHCCC*H*), 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃).



Compound 14b









Compound 14c



¹³C NMR





Compound 14d









Compound 15a









Compound 15b



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ppm





Compound 16a

¹H NMR





98,0 96 94 92 90 88. 86 3159,28 84 82 3428,20 80 13 78 %T 76 1633 74 1431,68 1028,34 867 926,82 90 543,62 72 70 1597,42 68 66 7 64 809.54 1702,67 62-60-58-57,0-



4000,0

3600

3200

2800

2400

2000

IR



1800 cm-1 1400

1600

1200

1000

800

. 650,0

Result Table (Uncal - 16A_90MIN_70HEX-30IPROH_0.5MLMIN_STILBENES - Channel 1)

| | Reten. Time [min] | Area [mV.s] | Height [mV] | Area [%] | Height [%] | W05 [min] | Compound Name |
|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 | 8,300 | 342,807 | 12,164 | 0,3 | 0,4 | 0,42 | |
| 2 | 9,400 | 167,578 | 6,593 | 0,1 | 0,2 | 0,39 | |
| 3 | 10,617 | 109712,482 | 3297,236 | 96,7 | 97,9 | 0,50 | |
| 4 | 13,050 | 1638,089 | 25,173 | 1,4 | 0,7 | 0,99 | |
| 5 | 16,000 | 422,007 | 7,466 | 0,4 | 0,2 | 0,67 | |
| 6 | 19,733 | 100,118 | 1,172 | 0,1 | 0,0 | 1,35 | |
| 7 | 22,100 | 977,327 | 16,961 | 0,9 | 0,5 | 0,87 | |
| 8 | 27,950 | 60,313 | 0,556 | 0,1 | 0,0 | 1,75 | |
| | Total | 113420,722 | 3367,322 | 100,0 | 100,0 | | |

S46

Compound 16b

¹H NMR











OH A SMIMIN STUDENES - Ch

11

| Result Table (Uncar - 100_00/LX-2017 KOh_0.5/LPIIN_5/ILBENES - Chaimer 1) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----------|--|--|
| | Reten. Time | Area | Height | Area | Height | W05 | Compound | | |
| | [min] | [mV.s] | [mV] | [%] | [%] | [min] | Name | | |
| 1 | 13,850 | 13172,390 | 377,838 | 95,8 | 97,6 | 0,52 | | | |
| 2 | 15,917 | 284,546 | 5,796 | 2,1 | 1,5 | 0,76 | | | |
| 3 | 17,917 | 286,729 | 3,685 | 2,1 | 1,0 | 0,94 | | | |
| | Total | 13743,666 | 387,318 | 100,0 | 100,0 | | | | |

Compound 16c

¹H NMR





IR

100,0 95 3395,18 3254,95 90 2981,70 85 2969,22 80 75 909.23 70 %Т 105 65 1442,03 60 1036,66 1710,15 840,07 55 174 56 730,99 1508,42 1598,42 1158,31 50 45 40 1231,75 37,0 1800 cm-1 3600 3200 2800 2400 2000 1600 1400 1200 1000 800 650,0

Compound 17

¹H NMR





