### Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## Marked Difference in Self-assembly, Morphology, and Cell Viability

## of Positional Isomeric Dipeptides Generated by Reversal of

### Sequence

Sudeshna Kar and Yian Tai\*

Department of Chemical Engineering, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, 43 Keelung Road, Taipei 10607, Taiwan.

\*Corresponding Author:

Prof. Yian Tai

Phone: +886-2-2737-6620, Fax: +886-2-2737-6644

E-mail: ytai@mail.ntust.edu.tw

### **Table of Conents**

Details of synthesis and characterization of peptides	Page S3-S6
FE-SEM images of methanolic solutions of peptide 1 at different concentrations	Fig S1
Different types of microscopic analysis showing the formation of tubular structures of peptide 2	Fig. <i>S2</i>
Size distribution profile in DLS study of peptide 2	Fig. <i>S3</i>
FE-SEM images of peptides 1 and 2, obtained after thermal treatment	Fig. <i>S4</i>
In case of peptide 1 formation of different nano-morphologies from different solvents	Fig. <i>S5</i>
Self-assembly pattern of peptide 1	Fig. <i>S6</i>
ORTEP diagram of peptide 2 backbone	Fig. <i>S7</i>
Selected backbone torsion angles (°) for peptides 1 and 2	Table S1
Intermolecular hydrogen bonds parameters for peptides 1 and 2	Table S2
Crystallographic refinement details for peptide 2	Table S3
X-ray crystallographic structure of peptide 2	Fig. <i>S8</i>
Schematic representation of formation of different nano-structures	Fig. <i>S9</i>
Solid state FT-IR spectral analysis of as synthesized peptide 2 and its tubular form	Table S4

#### Detail synthesis of Boc-Aib-mABA-OMe (Peptide 2)

#### Synthesis of Boc-Aib-OH

The amino acid  $\alpha$ -aminoisobutyric acid (5 g, 48.54 mmol) was suspended in a 1:1 tetrahydrofuran (THF) water mixture. Solid NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (12.23 g, 145.62mmol) was added and Boc-anhydride (11.63 mL, 53.39 mmol) was added to it. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature over night. After 24 h, the THF layer should be driven out with the help of vaccum pump. The aqueous layer was cooled in an icebath, acidified with 2M HCl and extracted with ethylacetate. The organic layer was washed with excess of water and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in *vacuo* producing a white solid. Yield: 8.0 g (81.21%).

#### Synthesis of the peptide Boc-Aib-mABA-OMe (Peptide 2)

Boc-Aib-OH (0.65 g, 3.25 mmol) was dissolved in dimethylformamide (DMF; 10 mL). *m*-ABA-OMe (1.40 g, 6.5 mmol) obtained from its hydrochloride was added followed by DC DCC (0.97 g, 4.87 mmol) and HOBT (0.42 g, 3.25 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 day. The precipitated dicyclohexylurea (DCU) was filtered and diluted with ethyl acetate (80 mL). The organic layer was washed with excess of water, 1M HCl (3 X 30 mL), 1M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution (3 X 30 mL) and again with water. The solvent was then dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in *vacuo*, giving a light yellow gum. Purification was done using silica gel as stationary phase and an ethyl acetate-petroleum ether mixture as the eluent. Yield: 0.95 g (88.78%). M.p = 138<sup>o</sup>C.

#### Single Crystal X-Ray Diffraction

Diffraction data for peptide **2** grown by slow evaporation of methanol was collected with MoK $\alpha$  radiation at 100 K using the Bruker SMART CCD diffractometer System. Data analyses were carried out with the Bruker SAINT program. The structures were solved using direct methods with the SHELXL-2013 program (Sheldrick, 2013). For peptide **1** and **2** the structures were refined on  $F^2$  using SHELXL-2013 (Sheldrick, 2013) to R1=0.039; wR2 =0.103 for 4367 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  for peptide **1** (*Chem. Commun.*, **2014**, *50*, 2638-2641), and to R1=0.052; wR2 =0.097 for 2530 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  for peptide **1** and **2** have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre; reference CCDC no of peptide **1** is 949965 (*Chem. Commun.*, **2014**, *50*, 2638-2641) and that of peptide **2** is 992075. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html (or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre; reference CB21EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; or e-mail: deposit@cced.cam.ac.uk).

# Detail characterization of Boc-Aib-mABA-OMe (Peptide 2)



Mass spectrum of peptide 2



DEPT-135 spectrum of peptide 2 in DMSO-D6 (75MHz)



Fig. *S1* FE-SEM images of methanolic solutions of peptide at concentrations of: (a) 10 mM; (b)5 mM, arrows indicate the fused spherical structures and (c) 1 mM solutions. In the insets of (a),(b) and (c) the TEM images show the hollow nature of the spherical structures



**Fig.** *S2* Different types of microscopic analysis showing the formation of tubular structures selfassembled from methanolic solutions. SEM images of peptide at concentrations of: (a) 1 mM, (b) 5 mM, and (c) 10 mM solutions. In the insets of (a), (b) and (c) the TEM images show the hollow nature of the nanotubes



**Fig.** *S3* Size distribution profile in DLS study of peptide **2** showing hydrodynamic diameter, 122.58 nm, with polydispersity index, 1.00



**Fig.** *S4* FE-SEM images of peptides **1** and **2**, obtained after thermal treatment for 1hr in a convection oven at a constant temperature of 50°C [(a) peptide **1** and (d) peptide **2**], 170°C [(b) peptide **1** and (e) peptide **2**] and 200°C [(c) peptide **1** and (f) peptide **2**]



Fig. S5 TEM images of peptide 2 forming nano tubes from (a) chloroform-methanol (1:1 v/v), (b) toluene, (c) from ethyl-acetate, (d) CHCl<sub>3</sub>-Petroleum ether (1:1 v/v), (e) acetone and (f) dimethylformamide solvent.



**Fig.** *S6* X-ray crystallographic structure of peptide 1; (a) peptide molecules self-assemble to form  $\beta$ -sheet like structure in *ab* plane; (b)  $\beta$ -sheet like structures are stacking layer by layer in *bc* plane (Taken from Chem. Commun. 2014, 50, 2638-2641)



Fig. S7 ORTEP diagram of peptide 2. Percentage probability of the ellipsoids is 50 %

 Table S1
 Selected backbone torsion angles (°) for peptides 1 and 2



Selected backbone torsion angles (°) for peptide 2

N1-C14-O6-C15	178.2(3)	C2-C1-N2-C10 ( $\phi_2$ )	-2.4(6)	
C11-N1-C14-O6 ( <i>w</i> <sub>0</sub> )	-164.3(3)	C3-C2-C1-N2 $(\theta_l)$	-179.9(4)	
C10-C11-N1-C14( $\phi_l$ )	-61.2(4)	С7-С3-С2-С1 ( <i>θ</i> <sub>2</sub> )	178.9(3)	
N2-C10-C11-N1 ( $\psi_1$ )	-42.2(4)	O1-C7-C3-C2 $(\psi_2)$	-10.3(5)	
C1-N2-C10-C11 $(w_l)$	176.2(3)			



Selected backbone torsion angles (°) for peptide1 (Taken from Chem. Commun. 2014, 50, 2638-

\_\_\_\_\_

2641)

N1-C5-O1-C4	-179.25(10)	N2-C12-C8-C7 ( $\psi_1$ )	22.87(13)
C6-N1-C5-O1 ( <i>w</i> <sub>0</sub> )	-177.19(9)	C13-N2-C12-C8 ( <i>w</i> <sub>1</sub> )	-178.94(8)
C7-C6-N1-C5( $\phi_l$ )	24.31(15)	C14-C13-N2-C12 ( $\phi_2$ )	-55.80(11)
C8-C7-C6-N1 ( $\theta_l$ )	177.31(8)	O5-C14-C13-N2 ( $\psi_2$ )	145.55(8)
С12-С8-С7-С6 (θ <sub>2</sub> )	177.78(8)		



Table S2 Intermolecular hydrogen bonds parameters for peptides 1 and 2

Crystallographic refinement details	Peptide 2	
Crystal Colour	Colourless	
Chemical Formula	$C_{17}H_{24}N_2O_5$	
Formula Weight (g)	336.37	
Crystal System	orthorhombic	
Space group	P c a 2 <sub>1</sub>	
Z	4	
a (Å)	16.161(2)	
b (Å)	12.5161(16)	
c (Å)	9.3110(12)	
α(°)	90.00	
β (°)	90.00	
γ(°)	90.00	
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1883.3(4)	
density (gcm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.186	
Temperature (K)	100	
Unique reflections	3973	
reflections I>2o(I)	2530	
№ Parameters	228	
GoF	0.977	
$R_1$ [I>2 $\sigma$ (I)], all	0.0526, 0.1044	
$wR_2[I>2\sigma(I)]$ , all	0.0985, 0.1172	
residual electron density ( $e/Å^3$ )	0.264 and -0.232	

**Table** S3 Crystallographic refinement details for peptide 2



**Fig.** *S8* X-ray crystallographic structure of peptide **2**; (a) peptide molecules self-assemble in *bc* plane to form a  $\beta$ -sheet structure. The closest  $\pi$ -stacking distance between two aromatic rings is 4.587 Å (b) Peptide molecules again self-assemble in *ab* plane to form another zipper like structure; and (c) the closest  $\pi$ -stacking distance between two diagonally situated aromatic rings is 5.527 Å

In case of peptide **1** the formation of nanovesicles by peptide **1** may be envisaged by considering the wrapping of the  $\beta$ -sheet-like layers in two different directions simultaneously (Fig. *S9*). We assumed in our previous study, that thermal treatment or interaction with -CH<sub>3</sub> functional group on different SAM surfaces or in presence of different solvents, like acetone, ethyl acetate, DMF and chloroform-petroleum ether (1:1 v/v), the two-ways wrapping of  $\beta$ -sheet layers opens up and they are arranged side by side to form the fibrils/ribbons (Fig. *S9*). Again in chloroform-methanol solvent mixture (1:1 v/v) and aromatic solvent like toluene  $\beta$ -sheet-like layers may fold in only one direction to form the nano-tubes (Fig. *S9*). But under all the variable conditions peptide **2** maintains the one way wrapping of the sheet-like structures.



Fig. S9 Schematic representation of formation of different nano-structures

	N–H stretching vibration &overtone of the N–H bending vibration (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	C=O stretching vibration in ester group (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	C=O stretching vibrations of the peptide urethane,amide I, and bending peaks of amide II (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
As-synthesized peptide	3319.54, 3210.78	1724.44	1679.82, 1594.81, 1549.03, 1523.79
Tube formation from methanol solvent	3324.88, 3211.46	1724.29	1684.81, 1595.23, 1552.57, 1524.63

 Table S4 Solid state FT-IR spectral analysis of as synthesized peptide 2 and its tubular form