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# Structure-Based Development of Isoform Selective Inhibitors of Casein Kinase 1 $\epsilon$ vs. Casein Kinase 1 $\delta$

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# Abstract

Specific inhibition of a single kinase isoform is a challenging task due to the highly conserved nature of ATP binding sites. Casein kinase 1 (CK1)  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$  share 97% sequence identity in their catalytic domains. From a comparison of the X-ray crystal structures of CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$ , we developed a potent and highly CK1 $\epsilon$ -isoform selective inhibitor (SR-4133). The X-ray co-crystal structure of the CK1 $\delta$  - SR-4133 complex reveals that the electrostatic surface between the naphthyl unit of SR-4133 and CK1 $\delta$  is mismatched, destabilizing the interaction of SR-4133 with CK1 $\delta$ . Conversely, the hydrophobic surface area resulting from the DFG-out conformation of CK1 $\epsilon$  stabilizes the binding of SR-4133 in the ATP binding pocket of CK1 $\epsilon$ , leading to

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The manuscript was written through the contributions of all authors. J.Y.C. and E.C. designed molecules and performed structure analysis and MD simulations. Y.N. and J.M.A. synthesized inhibitors. S.B. conducted cell studies. W.G. performed biochemical assays. A.C. and S.K. obtained the X-ray crystallographic structures. J.Y.C., D.R.D., and W.R.R. designed the overall study. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

**Supporting Information**. Experimental procedures, spectroscopic data, dose-response curves in biochemical and cell-based assays, x-ray data collection and refinement statistics, sequence alignment, and Molecular Formula Strings are included in the electronic supplement. The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website.

The atomic coordinates and structure factors of CK18 - SR-3029 (PDB code: 6RCG) and CK18 - SR-4133 (PDB code: 6RCH) have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank, Research Collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (http://www.rcsb.org/).

the selective inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$ . The potent CK1 $\epsilon$ -selective agents display nanomolar growth inhibition of bladder cancer cells and inhibit the phosphorylation of 4E-BP1 in T24 cells, which is a direct downstream effector of CK1 $\epsilon$ .

# **Graphical Abstract**



#### **Keywords**

Casein kinase 1e; DFG-in/-out conformation; isoform specific inhibitor; structure-based design

# INTRODUCTION

Protein kinases are essential regulatory components of cellular function and development. Deregulation of kinases can cause inappropriate cellular responses, which can ultimately result in disease. In many instances, constitutively activated kinases are involved in the development of human cancer, and inhibition of hyperactive protein kinases is an important approach for the development of cancer-targeted therapies.<sup>1</sup> Specific inhibition of an individual kinase is a demanding task due to the highly conserved ATP binding sites found across the kinome (>500 kinases in humans). In addition, achieving selectivity within families of kinase isoforms is challenging due to their remarkably similar three-dimensional structures and highly conserved ATP binding sites. In some cases, isoform-selective kinase inhibitors have been discovered by screening large chemical libraries followed by extensive medicinal chemistry efforts. However, a clear understanding of the differential inhibition mechanism(s) within groups of kinase isoforms is still lacking. Many attempts have been made to rationalize selective inhibition of kinase isoforms by assessing gatekeeper threonine/methionine residues,<sup>2–3</sup> active DFG-in/inactive DFG-out conformations,<sup>4</sup> P-loop,<sup>5</sup> and activation loop<sup>6</sup> differences, just to name a few.

Casein kinase 1 (CK1) belongs to a family of serine/threonine protein kinases and regulates various cellular signal transduction pathways.<sup>7–9</sup> CK1 comprises seven members in mammals, known as the  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ 1,  $\gamma$ 2,  $\gamma$ 3,  $\delta$ , and  $\epsilon$  isoforms. Most of the CK1 isoforms are ubiquitous in tissues and cell lines, and hundreds of CK1 substrates are known.<sup>10–11</sup>

CK1 isoforms regulate various cellular signal transduction pathways, including Wnt/βcatenin signaling, circadian rhythm regulation, DNA damage-induced signal transduction, centrosome-associated functions, Hedgehog signaling, and Hippo signaling pathways.<sup>12</sup> Among the CK1 isoforms, CK18 and CK1e have the highest sequence identity in their catalytic domains and have been reported to possess redundant roles in regulating the circadian clock.<sup>13</sup> In addition, CK18/e are known to behave as vital regulators in tumor formation, diabetes, neuro-degenerative diseases, and pain.<sup>13–14</sup> However, due to the nonselective nature of known CK1 inhibitors within closely related isoforms, uncertainty remains regarding which isoform regulates specific pathophysiological functions in different cell signaling pathways. For example, nearly all CK1 isoforms are associated with Wnt signaling, and it is difficult to clearly understand the specific function of individual CK1 isoforms within this pathway. Several highly potent and CK1-selective inhibitors have been developed,<sup>15–16</sup> and some have been used to characterize the pharmacological effects of CK1 inhibition in animal models.<sup>7, 17–18</sup> However, most of these agents are ATP-competitive type I inhibitors, and most lack specificity for individual CK1 isoforms. Recently, a sphingosine analog, GSD0054, was identified as a highly selective CK1e inhibitor with antiproliferative activity from the phenotypic screening of small library of enantiopure anti- $\beta$ -amino alcohols and KINOME profiling assay.<sup>19–20</sup> However, its IC<sub>50</sub> values and modes of inhibition in the target enzyme were not reported. In addition, the high selectivity of GSD0054 to CK1e has not been clearly understood.

All known CK18-inhibiting agents also inhibit CK1 $\epsilon$  (Fig 1A) presumably due to the extremely high sequence identity in the inhibitor binding sites. Notably, we have shown that SR-3029 is highly selective among the kinome with high affinity to CK18/ $\epsilon$  versus other CK1 isoforms. Furthermore, we have demonstrated that SR-3029 has potent cell-based activity and provokes tumor regression in pre-clinical efficacy models of triple negative breast cancer.<sup>17</sup> Herein, we report the development of potent and highly isoform-selective CK1 $\epsilon$  inhibitors developed by using structure-based design with the CK1 $\delta$  - SR-3029 co-crystal structure and known CK1 $\epsilon$  structures. Most of these new inhibitors show low inhibition potency against CK1 $\delta$  with >10 µM IC<sub>50</sub>'s, while they show moderate to high inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$  with ca. 1 µM or lower IC<sub>50</sub>'s. The absolute binding free energy calculation<sup>21–22</sup> shows that SR-4133 has a lower binding affinity to CK1 $\delta$  than SR-3029, resulting in its high selectivity for CK1 $\epsilon$  is highly expressed, and inhibits the phosphorylation of 4E-BP1, which is a downstream target of CK1 $\epsilon$ .<sup>23</sup>

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### The X-ray co-crystal Structure of CK18 - SR-3029 and Design of Selective CK1e inhibitors.

The X-ray co-crystal structure of CK18 - SR-3029 has been solved and is used here for structure-based molecular design (PDB code: 6RCG). This co-crystal structure verified the binding orientation of SR-3029 in the ATP binding site predicted from docking studies using the published CK18 - PF670462 co-crystal structure.<sup>24</sup> The NH at the 6-position of the purine ring as well as N7 form hydrogen bond interactions with the amide backbone of L85 in the hinge region, and the 3-fluorophenyl unit at N9 of the purine occupies a

hydrophobic area near the gatekeeper residue M82 (Fig. 1C). The morpholine ring and the benzimidazole unit are oriented to the solvent accessible area close to the P-loop, and I15 forms hydrophobic interactions with the surfaces of the morpholine and benzimidazole groups (Fig. 1C).

CK18 and CK1e share 97% sequence identity, with only 7 different amino acids in their catalytic domains: T27, D28, A31, I55, T67, R69, and A249 in CK18 vs. A27, N28, S31, F55, S67, K69, and S249 in CK1e (Fig. S1, sequence alignment of CK18 and CK1e). Furthermore, these seven amino acids (depicted as magenta sticks in Fig. 1B) are positioned far from the ATP binding site (depicted as green sticks). Therefore, most  $CK1\delta$  inhibitors possess relatively similar (20 fold) inhibition potency against  $CK1\epsilon$ , and vice versa, as represented by SR-3029, PF670462, PF4800567, Peifer 17, Bischof 6, Mente 6, and numerous other CK18 inhibitors, some of which also have additional off-target activities (Fig. 1A and Table 3 in ref. 25).7 At present, 24 CK18 X-ray co-crystal structures are available in the Protein Database Bank (PDB), while there are only two CK1e structures, specifically of apo-CK1e and CK1e with bound PF4800567. Interestingly, the CK1e structure in complex with PF4800567 revealed a 'DFG-out' conformation, while the apo-CK1e structure has a 'DFG-in' conformation (Fig. 2A).<sup>26</sup> The 3-chlorophenyl unit of PF4800567 forms hydrophobic contacts with M82 and the carbon chain of K38 on opposite faces of the chlorophenyl ring, but its interaction with F150 of the DFG unit is not likely significant due to the absence of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  or  $\pi$ -edge interactions. Overlay of SR-3029 (docked) and PF4800567 displays that two structures, particularly the morpholine and 3-fluorophenyl units of SR-3029 and the 4-chlorophenyl ring of PF4800567, are well aligned. This analysis further suggested that the 3-fluorophenyl unit of SR-3029 could be extended to generate hydrophobic interactions with F150 of CK1e (Fig. 2B).

#### Synthesis and Biochemical Study of CK1<sub>e</sub>-selective Inhibitors.

As rationalized from the structure analysis and overlaid structures, several larger groups such as naphthyl rings, arylmethyls, and arylethyls (see Table 1), were attached to the N9-position of the purine scaffold of SR-3029 in an attempt to improve binding affinity to CK1e by targeting its DFG-out conformation, particularly by enhancing hydrophobic contacts with F150. These inhibitors were synthesized by following Schemes 1 and 2 shown below.<sup>24, 27</sup> Briefly, diaryliodonium tetrafluoroborate salts (2) were prepared with 2-iodo-1,3,5-triisopropylbenzene diacetate and the corresponding aryl boronic acids (1). Copper (I) mediated coupling of dichloropurine with the diaryliodonium salts produced N9-aryl dichloropurine (4), which was subject to the one-pot reaction with 2-(difluorobenzimidazole) methylamine followed by morpholine via microwave irradiation to produce SR-4133. Other N9-substituted purine analogs were synthesized from arylbromides and arylethyl alcohols to produce the corresponding benzylpurine (5) and phenethylpurine (6), respectively. For the synthesis of other N9-aryl derivatives, several compounds such as SR-4931, SR-4932, and SR-4933 were not accessible using the methods described in Scheme 1. This was due either to low yields (< 10%) in the initial Chan-Lam coupling step, or the inability to make the aryl iodide (2). For such cases, an alternative synthetic route was pursued, as shown in Scheme 2. First, 2,6-dichloropurine (3) was protected as a THP derivative, then two SNAr reactions led to amide 8, which was subsequently

Boc protected. Selective THP deprotection with *p*-TSA gave key intermediate **9**. Copper mediated coupling<sup>28</sup> of **9** with an aryl bromide resulted in **10**. Saponification of the ester and subsequent amide coupling with aniline derivatives gave **11**. A final two-step sequence involving Boc-deprotection using 4 M HCl, followed by cyclization via heating the intermediate in acetic acid yielded the benzimidazole substituent in the desired product.

All newly synthesized SR-3029 analogs were tested in a time-resolved fluorescence resonance energy transfer (TR-FRET) assay. Inhibitors having bulkier or extended hydrophobic aryl rings such as SR-4133, SR-19841, SR-3449, and SR-4152 displayed >10  $\mu$ M IC<sub>50</sub> values against CK18, while having nanomolar inhibition of CK1e. In particular, SR-4133 has a 58 nM IC<sub>50</sub> against CK1e and >10 µM IC<sub>50</sub> against CK18. SR-4132 and SR-4310, which possess R groups such as 1-naphthyl and p-methoxyphenyl, respectively, show dual inhibition of CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$ , as does SR-3029 with a *m*-fluorophenyl group at this position. SR-4471 and SR-4931 have quinoline and isoquinoline groups at the purine N9-position, and interestingly, these compounds show increased inhibition of  $CK1\delta$ , compared to SR-4133, although their molecular sizes and shapes are very similar. Inhibitors with arylmethyl units at the N9-position such as SR-3448 and SR-3449, and SR-3450 show >10 µM IC<sub>50</sub> values against CK18, and their inhibition activities vs CK1e are decreased compared to SR-4133. Arylethyl moieties (Ar = phenyl derivatives) at the purine N9-position negatively affect inhibitor binding to CK18, resulting in >10  $\mu$ M IC<sub>50</sub>, but compounds with such moieties inhibit CK1e with good to moderate inhibition potency (30 - 1400 nM IC<sub>50</sub>'s). Interestingly, SR-4051 and SR-4055 which possess 4-fluorophenylethyl and 4-hydroxyphenylethyl units retain inhibition potency vs CK1 $\delta$  and are non-selective CK18/CK1e dual inhibitors. In addition, SR-4053 and SR-4054 with 3-furanylethyl and 3-thiophenylethyl groups show similar high nanomolar inhibition to CK18 and CK12.

SR-4133 and SR-4310 were further studied for specificity among CK1 isoforms, and they do not inhibit other CK1 isoforms as expected due to the high specificity of the reference inhibitor SR-3029 against other human kinases (Fig. S2). KINOMEscan profiling of SR-4133 shows that it has a weak binding affinity only to CK18, PDGFRB, and TRKA out of 97 kinases examined (Fig. S3).<sup>29</sup> Thus, from the analysis of X-ray co-crystal structures of CK18 – SR-3029, apo-CK1e, and CK1e – PF4800567, we developed SR-4133 as a potent and highly isoform selective inhibitor of CK1e. Specifically, based on our modeling, the bulky hydrophobic aryl rings extending from the N9-position of the purine ring negatively affect binding to CK18, leading to enhanced selectivity for CK1e inhibition.

#### Cellular Activities of SR-4133 and SR-4310.

With potent and isoform selective CK1e inhibitors in hand, we assessed their effects on cancer cells. According to the Cancer Atlas database (proteinatlas.org), CK1e is highly expressed in most colorectal, breast, prostate, and urothelial cancer tissues, while lymphoma melanoma and testis cancer show less expression of CK1e.10 Compared to bladder cancer extracts, CK1e is overexpressed in several human bladder cancer cell lines (Fig. S4). Furthermore, knockdown of CK1e alone impairs the growth of J82 cells in a clonogenicity assay (Fig. S5). Thus, we assessed the antiproliferative potency of SR-4133 and SR-4310 in three bladder cancer cell lines and found that both CK1e-specific agents block the growth

of bladder cancer cells with nanomolar  $EC_{50}$  values (Fig. 3A). Furthermore, CK1 $\epsilon$  was also reported to play a critical role in mRNA translation and cell proliferation by blocking the phosphorylation of 4E-BP1, a negative regulator of protein synthesis.<sup>23</sup> Our CK1 $\epsilon$ -selective inhibitor, SR-4133, blocks the phosphorylation of T37/46, S65, and T70 of 4E-BP1 in T24 cells, as shown in Fig. 3B. The CK1 $\delta$ /CK1 $\epsilon$  dual inhibitor, SR-4310, which is 2.5-times less potent against CK1 $\epsilon$  than SR-4133 in the enzyme assay, shows similar inhibition for the phosphorylation of 4E-BP1 in T24 cells. Thus, CK1 $\delta$  also appears to play a role in the phosphorylation of T37/46 and T70 of 4E-BP1 in T24 cells, although its effect on S65 of 4E-BP1 is negligible, as shown in the previous report.<sup>23</sup>

# The binding orientation of SR-4133 in the ATP-binding site of CK1 $\epsilon$ determined by MD simulations is similar to that in the X-ray co-crystal structure of CK1 $\delta$ – SR-4133.

Because the X-ray co-crystal structure of CK1e - SR-4133 was not available, molecular docking and molecular dynamics simulations were conducted to determine the binding orientation of SR-4133 in the ATP-binding site of CK1e. AutoDock-GPU was used for docking of SR-4133 to CK1e (PDB code: 4HNI),<sup>30</sup> and 11 unique conformations (or poses in Fig. S6) were selected for MD simulations. The 11 SR-4133 conformers were merged into CK1e to create enzyme - ligand complex systems, which were solvated in solvent boxes and simulated for 100 ns each. The last 1000 snapshots of each conformation, corresponding to 80 - 100 ns simulations, were extracted and used for the calculation of the binding affinity by MM/GBSA (Table S3). The pose 2 and 11 showed the highest binding affinities of SR-4133 to CK1e with Gbinding of -45.24 kcal/mol and -47.02 kcal/mol, respectively, and they have similar binding orientations to that in the X-ray co-crystal structure of CK18 -SR-4133 (PDB code: 6RCH; Fig. S7A, S7B, and S7C). The binding orientations of SR-4133 in pose 9 and 10 were flipped, compared to that in the X-ray co-crystal structure (Fig. S7D and S7E), and they had the lowest binding affinities to CK1 $\epsilon$  with G<sub>binding</sub> of -35.60 kcal/mol and -26.89 kcal/mol, respectively (Table S3). Therefore, due to the high binding affinities of pose 2 and 11, SR-4133 is expected to bind to the ATP-binding site of CK1e in a similar way as to CK18. The systems for the pose 2 and 11 were further simulated up to 1  $\mu$ s each, and the structure of the CK1 $\epsilon$  - SR-4133 complex having the lowest energy was extracted from trajectories (200,000 snapshots), which was overlayed to the CK18 - SR-4133 co-crystal structure (Fig. 4A). The binding orientations of SR-4133 in the ATP-binding sites of CK1e and CK18 are similar, but SR-4133 of CK1e is further moved to the pocket of the enzyme than that of CK1 $\delta$ . The average structure of 20,000 snapshots from the 800 ns  $-1 \mu$ s time period was also obtained, and it showed that there were no significant conformational changes of SR-4133 and residues in its binding site in this time period (Fig. S8A). Only the morpholine ring of SR-4133, the phenyl rings of F20 and F150, and side chain residues of L135, I148, R13, and E52 were often rotated, as presented as physically unmeaningful geometries (Fig. S8A), implying the system of the CK1e - SR-4133 complex was well sustained in the 1 µs simulations. The averaged structure was overlayed with the structure having the lowest energy in the 1 µs simulations without significant difference, particularly residues in the naphthyl ring binding site (Fig. S8B). Thus, we employed the structure with the lowest energy as a representative model for analysis.

#### Rationale for the low binding affinity of SR-4133 to CK18, compared with SR-3029.

We solved the X-ray co-crystal structure of CK18 in complex with SR-4133 (Fig. 4B, PDB code: 6RCH), and it was compared with the CK18 - SR-3029 structure (Fig. 1B) and structures from MD simulations<sup>31-32</sup> (Fig. 4C, 4D, and 4E). The CK18 - SR-4133 cocrystal structure possesses the DFG-in conformation, with the polar D149 residue occupying the inhibitor or ATP binding site. As a result, S19, K38, D149, and E52 of CK18 are in a position to form a salt bridge and hydrogen bond (H-bond) interactions (Fig. 4B). The hydrophobic naphthyl ring of SR-4133 is oriented into and it is mismatched with the negative electrostatic surface area composed by S19, K38, D149, and E52 of CK18, obtained by Adaptive Poisson-Boltzmann Solver (APBS) electrostatics calculations (Fig. 4F).<sup>33</sup> The hydrogen bond analysis of the MD simulation of CK1δ without the inhibitor showed that S19, K38, Q48, E52, Y56, and D149 formed a strong salt bridge/H-bond network throughout the simulation (Table 2): Fraction 0.5687 implies 5687 out of 10000 frames possess the salt bridge interaction between D149 and K38 during the simulation.<sup>34–35</sup> Particularly, D149 interacted with K38 and S19 more significantly in CK18 than in CK1e. Thus, the negative electrostatic potentials are sustained in the pocket. Due to the incongruous electrostatic surface, bound SR-4133 with the 2-naphthyl ring at the purine N9-position becomes unstable in the active site of CK1 $\delta$  and can be easily released. In the  $CK1\delta - SR-4133$  co-crystal structure, the distance between C7 of the naphthyl ring and N of K38, O of E54, or O of D149 is 4.2 Å, 4.2 Å, or 3.9 Å, respectively. However, during the MD simulation of apo-CK1 $\delta$ , these residues moved into the space where the naphthyl ring of SR-4133 was positioned in the X-ray co-crystal structure (pink carbon (from MD) vs. gray carbon residues in Fig. 4D). Thus, the apo-CK18 structure appears to have a relatively smaller pocket with negative electrostatic surface potentials, which might hinder the binding of SR-4133, leading to diminished inhibition to CK18 when compared to SR-3029: the 3-fluorophenyl ring of SR-3029 could not reach the area with the negative electrostatic potential (Fig. 4D. yellow carbon of SR-3029). However, in the case of CK1e, due to the DFG-out conformation, the salt bridge interaction between only K38 and E52 can be formed and located away from the naphthyl binding site (Fig. 4C and 4E). Furthermore, since F150 of CK1 $\epsilon$  has the out-conformation (DFG-out), F20 in the p-loop could form  $\pi$  -  $\pi$  stacking interaction with F150, making the pocket more hydrophobic (Fig. 4C). However, F20 of CK18 has moved away from and S19 is moved into the pocket due to the H-bond and salt bridge interactions (Fig 4B).

This trend was also observed with SR-3448, SR-3449, and SR-3450, which possess hydrophobic aryl groups with a methylene spacer unit such as 3-fluorobenzyl, 1naphthalenylmethyl, and 2-naphthalenylmethyl respectively. In addition, inhibitors with two methylene spacer units such as SR-3451, SR-4290, SR-3454, SR-4114, SR-4116, SR-4134, and SR-4152 showed similar tendencies toward SR-4133, having low inhibition to CK18. However, SR-3029, SR-4132, or SR-4310 with 3-fluorophenyl, 1-naphthyl, or 4methoxyphenyl group showed nanomolar IC<sub>50</sub> to CK18 since these shorter/smaller moieties were unable to interact and clash with the negative electrostatic surface of CK18. In addition, the 4-methoxy of SR-4310 formed a hydrogen bond interaction with Y56 and D149, leading to its improved binding to CK18.

The absolute binding free energies (ABFE) of SR-3029 and SR-4133 were calculated to examine the decreased binding affinity of SR-4133 (vs. SR-3029) to CK18.22, 36-38 The Binding Affinity Tool (BAT.py), designed to automate ABFE calculation procedures, was used to build the MD simulation boxes, set up parameters and simulation windows, and analyze ABFE calculation results.<sup>21</sup> The simultaneous decoupling and recoupling (SDR) method,<sup>39</sup> which extracts the ligand from the binding site in nonphysical alchemical pathways, was used to calculate ABFE's of SR-3029 and SR-4133 to CK18. Each ligand was located 40 Å away from its binding site of the enzyme, which was far enough for negligible interactions. The ABFE's (–  $\Delta G_{bind}^{*}$ ) of SR-3029 and SR-4133 to CK18 are 14.97 kcal/mol and 11.15 kcal/mol, respectively, and SR-4133 has a decreased binding affinity to CK18 in the ABFE calculation with the SDR method (Table 3). In addition, the difference in electrostatic interaction energy term (  $\Delta\Delta$  G<sub>elec</sub> = 2.30 kcal/mol) between SR-3029 and SR-4133 is more significant than Lennard-Jones potential energy term  $(\Delta\Delta G_{LI} = 0.29 \text{ kcal/mol})$ . Therefore, the MD-based ABFE calculation also shows the lower binding affinity of SR-4133 to CK18 when compared to SR-3029, leading to the decreased inhibition to CK18. The energy component analysis also shows that the mismatched electrostatic interactions between SR-4133 and CK18 could be a major contributor to the decreased binding affinity and inhibition of SR-4133, compared to SR-3029.

# The CK1e structure adopts the DFG-out conformation when complexed with type-II inhibitors, while CK18 - SR-4133 complex has the DFG-in conformation.

Currently, only two X-ray crystal structures of CK1e, specifically apo-CK1e and CK1e - PF-4800567 complex, are publicly available,<sup>26</sup> while there are 24 structures of CK18 complexed with various inhibitors.<sup>26, 40–50</sup> Interestingly, the apo-CK1e structure possesses the DFG-in conformation (Fig. 5B), and the CK1e - PF-4800567 complex structure has the DFG-out conformation (Fig. 5C), while all CK18 structures have the DFG-in conformation (a representative structure shown in Fig. 5A). Further analysis of these structures indicates that I55 and F55 are located close to the DFG units of CK18 and CK1e, respectively (Fig. 5), and that this unique pair of residues could affect the propensity of these proteins to adopt DFG conformations differently. Specifically, CK18 may only be able to form a stable DFG-in conformation due to I55, while CK1e can form stable DFG-in and DFG-out conformations due to F55, as witnessed with the current sets of CK18 and CK1e structures.<sup>26</sup> In the DFG-in conformation of CK18 and CK1e, F150 occupies the hydrophobic area surrounded by M59, I65, I119, and I147, and D149 is oriented towards the solvent accessible area. The conversion of DFG-in to DFG-out conformations requires the loss of hydrophobic contacts between F150 and the aforementioned hydrophobic amino acids since F150 needs to swing out from the hydrophobic area in the DFG-out conformation. Interestingly, in the DFG-out conformation of CK1<sub>ε</sub>, the hydrophobic area where F150 was originally located is occupied by F55, which compensates for the loss of hydrophobic interactions caused by the conversion of DFG-in to DFG-out conformations (Fig. 5C). However, CK18 has I55 at the equivalent position (Fig. 5A), and in the DFGout conformation of CK18, I55 cannot swing into the area where F150 was originally located due to the smaller size of the Isoleucine residue, resulting in the unstable DFG-out conformation of CK18. This analysis confirms the distinct tendency of DFG conformations in CK18 and CK1e caused by the unique I55 and F55, which is supported by the current

pool of CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$  X-ray crystal structures, and this uniqueness could be applied to the design of selective CK1 $\delta$  or CK1 $\epsilon$  inhibitors.

# The 'in' to 'out' conversion of the DFG unit in CK1<sup>e</sup> forms the F150-mediated hydrophobic area near the p-loop where the 2-naphthyl ring of SR-4133 could occupy.

In the DFG-out of CK1<sub>e</sub>, the hydrophobic residue F150 is in a position to form hydrophobic contacts with F20 (Fig. 4C). Due to the repositioning of F150, the salt bridge/H-bond network in the back pocket almost disappeared, and only a small fraction of salt bridge interactions remained between the conserved residues K38 and E52 in the MD simulation of apo-CK1e (Fig 4C and 4E, and Table 2). Furthermore, this salt bridge interaction was oriented away from the binding site of the naphthyl unit, and the hydrophobic methylene unit of K38 was facing this site (Fig. 4C and 4E). Thus, the 2-naphthyl ring of SR-4133 most likely maximizes the hydrophobic contacts with I148, F150, and K38 (methylene units) in the ATP binding site of CK1e (Fig. 4C). Two methionine residues (M80 and M82) can form a hydrophobic surface from the top face of the naphthyl ring (Fig. 4C). Thus, the inhibitor and enzyme complex can be mutually stabilized to block the enzyme activity of CK1e. In the same way, SR-3029 analogs with the extended hydrophobic rings at the N9 position, such as SR-3451, SR-4290, and SR-3454, have higher inhibition potency versus CK1e than CK18. Due to the absence of an X-ray co-crystal structure, we do not have definitive evidence that SR-4133 is a type-II inhibitor and binds to the DFG-out conformation of CK1e. However, its potent inhibition of CK1e with high selectivity against CK18 supports the hypothesis that SR-4133 binds to different modes of DFG conformation in these two enzymes. In addition, maximized hydrophobic contacts, mediated by F150 (DFG-out), the 2-naphthyl ring (inhibitor), and F20 (p-loop), could be a major contributor to the potent inhibition of CK1e.

We also conducted molecular docking studies of SR-4133 to CK1e with the DFG-in conformation (PDB code: 4HOK), and 8 binding orientations were generated, of which complex forms with CK1e (DFG-in) were subjected to 100 ns MD simulations and MM/ GBSA calculations. The binding affinities of SR-4133 to CK1e (DFG-in) were in the range of -41.96 kcal/mol to -21.92 kcal/mol, which is much less than that of pose 11 with SR-4133 bound to CK1e (DFG-out, -47.02 kcal/mol). Therefore, these computational studies support our conclusion that SR-4133 is a type-II inhibitor of CK1e.

#### Rationale for decreased selectivity of other SR-4133 and SR-3451 analogs.

SR-4471 and SR-4931 possess 3-quinoline and 3-isoquinoline in the N9-position of purine, respectively. Although these inhibitors were expected to show potent inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$  due to the similar size and shape of these substituents to the naphthyl group of SR-4133, they displayed low micromolar IC<sub>50</sub> inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$  (improved relative to SR-4133) but also decreased (high nanomolar IC<sub>50</sub>) inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$ , resulting in only around 10-fold selectivity. Density Functional Theory (DFT) calculations using Gaussian 09<sup>51</sup> and analysis of electrostatic potentials of SR-4133, SR-3451, and SR-4471 show that more positive electrostatic potentials are developed in the outer ring of the quinoline/isoquinoline substituents due to the high electronegativity of the nitrogen atom (Fig. S9). Therefore, the increased positive electrostatic potential may provide favorable interactions with the salt

bridge/H-bond network of CK18, but unfavorable interactions with the hydrophobic area of CK1e, resulting in increased or decreased inhibition to CK18 or CK1e, respectively.

SR-3451 displays weak inhibition (>10  $\mu$ M IC<sub>50</sub>) of CK18, but its analogs, such as SR-4051 and SR-4055 with 4-fluorophenylethyl and 4-hydroxyphenylethyl in the purine N9-position, respectively, show enhanced inhibition potency of CK18. Specifically, SR-4055 shows 18 nM IC<sub>50</sub> vs. CK1 $\delta$  and 30 nM IC<sub>50</sub> against CK1 $\epsilon$ . This elevated inhibition potency vs. CK18 can be explained by the -F or -OH unit's participation at the salt bridge/H-bond network in CK18. Although CK1e has a hydrophobic area at the equivalent position, K38 and E52, or D149 are still present and can participate in hydrogen bond interactions with the -F or -OH unit, leading to significant inhibition of SR-4133 (Fig. 4C). SR-4052 has a 4-methylthiophenylethyl in the purine N9-position, of which sulfur has a weak ability to participate in hydrogen bond interactions, and SR-4052 has 4-fold less inhibition potency for CK18 compared to SR-4051. Lastly, SR-4053 and SR-4054, having 3-furanyl and 3-thiophenyl units at the N9 position, have 200 and 420 nM IC<sub>50</sub>'s against CK18 and 88 and 110 nM IC<sub>50</sub>'s vs. CK1e, respectively. The heterocyclic ring's involvement in the salt bridge/H-bond network of CK18 in addition to their hydrophobic contacts with F150 and F20 of CK1e could explain their ability to display significant inhibition of both CK18 and CK1e.

# CONCLUSION

From the analysis of CK18 - SR-3029, apo-CK1e, and CK1e – PF4800567 crystal structures, we developed potent and highly isoform selective CK1e inhibitors, SR-4133 and its analogs, starting from the dual CK1 $\delta$ /CK1 $\epsilon$  inhibitor (SR-3029). The electrostatic discrepancy between the naphthyl unit of SR-4133 and the polar surface area of CK18 resulted in dramatically decreased inhibition of  $CK1\delta$ , as supported by the X-ray co-crystal structure of the CK18 - SR-4133 complex. In addition, MD simulations of apo-CK18 displayed a strong salt bridge/H-bond interaction network and a reduced pocket area where the naphthyl unit was placed in the CK18 - SR-4133 co-crystal structure. However, the inhibition potency of SR-4133 to CK1e was elevated due to the favorable van der Waals binding interaction of the naphthyl unit of SR-4133 with the hydrophobic surface area generated from the DFG-out conformation. ABFE calculations of SR-3029 and SR-4133 bound to CK18 clearly showed less binding affinity of SR-4133 to CK18 than SR-3029 mainly due to the less favorable electrostatic energy term. The analysis of all available X-ray structures of CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$  suggests that CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$ , although they share 97% sequence identity in their kinase domains, have different propensities for adopting DFG conformations due to their unique I55 and F55 residues. This dissimilar tendency leads to the salt bridge/H-bond network of CK18 or a hydrophobic pocket in CK1e, which can be utilized for the design of selective inhibitors.

A dual phosphatidylinositol 3 kinase (PI3K) $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$  inhibitor, umbralisib, is in clinical studies for lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and non-Hodgkin lymphomas (NHL) patients.<sup>52</sup> In addition, the dual inhibition of CK1 $\epsilon$  and CDK4/6 is known to arrest cell cycle progression in vitro and suppress breast tumor growth in vivo.<sup>53</sup> Due to its cellular activity and high isoform selectivity, we envisage that SR-4133 and its analogs can be used as selective

chemical probes to investigate the function(s) of CK1 $\epsilon$  compared to CK1 $\delta$  in cells and, potentially, to assess the role of CK1 $\epsilon$  in cancer and other diseases in which CK1 $\epsilon$  has been implicated.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

#### **Biochemical assays.**

CK18 inhibitor IC<sub>50</sub> values were measured by using a time-resolved fluorescence resonance energy transfer (TR-FRET) assay. Briefly, final assay concentrations for CK18 (Signal Chem), Ulight peptide substrate (ULight-Topo-IIa(Thr1342) peptide, Perkin Elmer) and ATP were 2 nM, 200 nM and 50  $\mu$ M respectively. The reaction was performed at room temperature in a 10  $\mu$ L final volume (384-well low volume plate, Greiner) containing: 50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 5 mM MgCl2, 0.1 mg/ml bovine serum albumin, 1 mM dldithiothreitol, 0.01% Triton X-100 and 5% DMSO (Sigma-Aldrich). After 10 min, the reaction was terminated by addition of 10  $\mu$ L of 4 nM Eu-anti-p-Topo-IIa (Cat:TRF-0218, PerkinElmer) in Lance Detection Buffer (Cat: CR97–100, PerkinElmer). The fluorescent signal was detected using an EnVision plate reader (PerkinElmer). Ten-point dose–response curves with 3–10-fold dilutions starting from 10  $\mu$ M for each compound was generated in duplicate and data fit to a four parameter logistic (GraphPad Prism 5).

#### Cell culture.

HT-1376, J82, TCCSUP, 5637, T24 and UM-UC-3 bladder cancer cell lines, U2OS osteosarcoma epithelial cells, MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells, as well as immortal MCF10A breast epithelial cells, were purchased from the American Type Culture Collection and culture in DMEM (Life Technologies) with 10% Fetal bovine Serum and 1% penicillin/ streptomycin in an incubator at 37 °C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> except MCF10 which was cultured in the medium MEGM (Lonza). Normal bladder protein extracts were purchased from Novus Biologicals Incorporation.

#### Immunoblotting.

SDS-PAGE gel electrophoresis was performed using NuPAGE 4–12% Bis-Tris gels (Invitrogen) and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes by semi-dry transfer using transblot transfer medium (Biorad). Membranes were blocked in Odyssey blocking buffer (LI-COR Biosciences) and incubated overnight at 4 °C with primary antibodies. After repeated washes with TBST (20 mM Tris, pH 7.6, 140 mM NaCl and 0.1% Tween-20) blots were incubated with the appropriate IRDye-conjugated secondary antibody (LI-COR Biosciences) and imaged using the LI-COR Odyssey. Bands were quantified using the Odyssey software (LI-COR Biosciences). The following antibodies from cell signaling were used in this study: CK18, CK1ε, GAPDH, p4EBP1 (T37/46), p4EBP1 (T65), p4EBP1 (T70) and 4EBP1 total.

#### Lentiviral transduction.

For CK1e knockdown, J82 cell lines were established to stably express specific shRNA against CK1e. shRNA oligonucleotides as described below were first cloned into the TetpLKO-Puro vector using the recommended protocol,3 and lentiviruses were generated using the MISSION Packaging System (Sigma). J82 cells were transduced with optimized titers of

lentiviruses, and infected cells were selected in puromycin (1  $\mu$ g/mL) containing medium to expand stably infected pools. Knockdown of CK1e by immunoblot was ensured after 2 days treatment of 1  $\mu$ g/mL doxycycline compare to DMSO treatment and a scrambled sequence of the shRNA (Sc).

shRNA sequences:

Sh Scramble

CCGGCAACAAGATGAAGAGCACCAACTCGAGTTGGTGCTCTTCATCTTGTTGTTT TT

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Sh CK1e #1
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CCGGGGCTCTGAGTTATAAATTACTCTCGAGAGTAATTTATAACTCAGAGCCTTTTT

Sh CK1e #2

#### Cell proliferation and clonogenicity assays.

To evaluate the anti-proliferative activity of newly synthesized CK1e inhibitors against T24, 5637, UM-UC-3, and U2-OS, cells were plated into a 384-well plate at a density of 500 cells per well. 10-point dose-response curves with 3-fold dilutions starting from 10  $\mu$ M for each compound was generated in triplicate including DMSO control. Cell proliferation was measured 72 hours after SR-4133 or SR-4310 or vehicle treatment using CellTiter-Glo (Promega) according to the manufacturer's instructions. EC<sub>50</sub> values were determined by nonlinear regression and a four-parameter algorithm (GraphPad Prism 5). For clonogenic assays of CK1e knockdown J82, cells were plated in six-wells dishes in triplicate at a density of 1000 cells per well. After overnight incubation, 1  $\mu$ g/mL doxycycline or vehicle (DMSO) was added to the medium for 72 hours, and cells were allowed to grow out for 7 to 10 days, during which medium was changed every 2 to 3 days without adding compound. Colonies were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde/phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), stained with water. Colonies with more than 50 cells were counted using a low-magnification light microscope.

#### Structural biology.

Recombinant N-terminally-His-tagged CK18 kinase domain co-expressed with lambda phosphatase in *E. coli* was initially purified by Ni<sup>2+</sup>-affinity chromatography and was treated with Tobacco Etch Virus (TEV). The cleaved protein was further purified by size exclusion chromatography in buffer 20 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 200 mM NaCl and 0.5 mM Tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP), and was concentrated to 6–8 mg/mL. The protein was mixed with the inhibitor at 1 mM, and the complexes were subjected to crystallization using sitting drop vapor diffusion method at 4 °C using either conditions containing 20% PEG3350, 0.1 M succinic acid for SR-3029 or 25% PEG3350, 0.2 M sodium sulfate, 0.1 M citrate pH 5.9 for SR-4133. Diffraction data collected at Diamond Light Source were processed and scaled using XDS<sup>54</sup> and SCALA<sup>55</sup>, respectively. Structures were solved by

molecular replacement using Phaser<sup>56</sup> and the coordinate of CK18 (PDB code: 4HNF)<sup>26</sup>. Model rebuilding alternated with refinement were performed in COOT<sup>57</sup> and REFMAC5<sup>58</sup>, respectively.

#### Molecular modeling and MD simulations; Protein preparation.

The X-ray co-crystal structures of CK18 - SR-3029, CK18 - SR-4133, and CK1e -PF4800567 were retrieved from the Protein Data Bank (PDB codes: 6RCG, 6RCH, and 4HNI, respectively), and they were refined with Protein Preparation Wizard implemented in Maestro 12. The protein structure was imported into workspace and preprocessed to assign bond orders, add hydrogen atoms, create zero-order bonds to metals, create disulfide bonds, and delete water molecules beyond 5 Å from hetero groups. In addition, missing atoms in residues and missing loops were added using Prime to generate a complete protein structure. The protein structure was further refined via automated H-bond assignment and restrained minimization with OPLS 2005 force field by converging heavy atoms to 0.3 Å RMSD. For the MD simulations of apo-CK1δ and apo-CK1ε, 6RCG and 4HNI structures (chain A) were used by removing ligand structures. The Ser-1 residue in the 6RCG was deleted, and its C-terminus was capped with NME. Met-1 and Glu-2 were added to the N-terminus of 4HNI, and its C-terminus was capped with NME. Based on the protein preparation of the 6RCG structure in Maestro 12, His46, 162, 164, and 278 were protonated at the delta position, and His50, 12, 126, and 185 were protonated at the epsilon position. In the same way, 4HNI structure had His50, 162, 164, and 278 as delta protonated forms and His46, 120, 126, and 185 as epsilon protonated forms. Both 6RCG and 4HNI structures including Lys232 had a neutral form due to a neighboring His185. Glu52 had a neutral form in the 4HNI structure due to the presence of an inhibitor, while it is a charged form in the 6RCG structure. Thus, the charged form for Glu52 was used in both 4HNI and 6RCG structures. No disulfide bond or selenomethionine residue was identified in both 4HNI and 6RCG structures. The 6RCG and 4HNI structures were cleaned according to the protonation states and prepared for building protein systems in explicit solvent.

### System buildup and MD simulations of apo-CK18 and apo-CK1e using Amber 20.

The cleaned apo-CK18 and apo-CK1e structures were solvated with the Amber ff14SB force filed and TIP3P explicit water model in a periodic box using a buffer distance of 12.0 Å containing 150 mM NaCl in 14,064 and 14,248 water molecules, respectively. The solvated protein structures were treated to 5,000 steps of steepest descent and 5,000 steps of conjugate minimizations. After the minimization, the systems were heated from 0 K to 303.15 K for 400 ps and equilibrated at 303.15 K for 100 ps under constant volume, with a timestep of 2 fs, and with SHAKE algorithm employed to restrain the calculation of forces of bonds containing hydrogen atoms. The system was further equilibrated at 303.15 K for 100 ns under the same conditions.

#### Analysis of MD simulation results.

The simulation data of apo-CK1 $\delta$  and apo-CK1 $\epsilon$  were analyzed with CPPTRAJ by reading and combining multiple trajectory files obtained from the MD simulations.<sup>34–35</sup> The protein

structures in the trajectories were re-oriented by using the autoimage command, and water molecules, Na, and Cl ions were striped. RMS fit of all residues were performed, and a new NetCDF trajectory was saved for further analysis. For the rmsd analysis, the rms command was used, and the amide backbones, Ca, and C\beta without hydrogen of CK18 and CK1e amino acids were selected for the analyses of rmsd to the first frame during the simulations. The potential energies of the system were recorded at every 10 ps and plotted for analysis. The representative conformations of apo-CK1 $\delta$  and apo-CK1 $\epsilon$  structures during the 100 ns simulations were extracted from clustering 10,000 snapshots obtained from MD simulations. Hierarchical agglomerative (bottom-up) approach was used with the options of "epsilon 2.0 clusters 10 averagelinkage" to finish clustering when a minimum distance between clusters is greater than 2 or when 10 clusters remain. The average-linkage option that uses the average distance between members of two clusters was selected. The representative structures from 100 ns MD simulations and the 6RCH structure (CK18 - SR-4133 complex) were aligned to the 6RCG structure (CK18 - SR-3029 complex) for the analysis of the binding pockets (Fig. 4D and 4E). Residues within 4 Å from the outer ring of the SR-4133 naphthyl unit were selected and nonpolar hydrogen atoms were removed for the calculation of APBS electrostatics implemented in Pymol. A range of +/- 4.0 was used for the projection of the electrostatic potential onto the molecular surface (Fig. 4F). Hydrogen bond analysis was performed with 10,000 frames (or structures) generated from 100 ns MD simulations. CPPTRAJ trajectory analysis software, particularly hbond command, was used to analyze hydrogen bonds in 10,000 frames. The number of hydrogen bonds within solute (solute – solute), between solute and solvent (solute – solvent), and in bridges (solute – solvent - solute) was identified and counted (Table 2).

#### Molecular Docking.

AutoDock-GPU was used to get the docked structures of SR-4133 to CK1ɛ.30 The cleaned CK1ɛ structure (pdb code: 4HNI) and the SR-4133 structure (pdb code: K0B) from CK1δ - SR-4133 complex (pdb code: 6RCH) were imported into AutoDockTools (ADT) to generate the coordinates (pdbqt files) of the receptor and ligand for docking studies. The grid box was centered on the binding pocket of the receptor, and it was resized by increasing the number of grid points in xyz (46/46/46) to generate a gpf file (grid parameter file). The affinity map files were generated by using autogrid4 with the gpf file. Then AutoDock-GPU was run with default options to perform docking of SR-4133, and only one unique binding pose was obtained after clustering 20 docking poses. The docking was repeated by increasing the number of runs to 50, and after clustering 50 docking poses, only two were selected as unique poses. Thus, additional 8 poses were selected manually, and 11 docking poses were used for MD simulations. In the case of docking of SR-4133 to CK1ɛ (DFG-in, pdb code: 4HOK), seven unique pose of SR-4133 from CK1δ) were used for MD simulations.

#### MD simulations and MM/GBSA calculations of CK1e - SR-4133 complexes.

The parameter modification (frcmod) files for the ligand (SR-4133) were generated by using antechamber (GAFF2 force field and AM1-BCC charges) and parmchk2 commands. The tleap command was used to form the receptor – ligand complex and solvate the system with the Amber ff14SB force field and TIP3P explicit water model in the periodic box using a

buffer distance of 12Å containing 150 mM NaCl in water molecules. After the topology and coordinate files were generated by tleap, the structure, particularly the binding orientation of SR-4133, was visually inspected in VMD.<sup>59</sup>

The minimization of the system was conducted by three consecutive steps such as 1000 steps of steepest descent and 1000 steps of conjugate gradient minimization of water molecules only, same minimization steps for solute only, and 2500 steps of steepest descent and 2500 steps of conjugate gradient minimization for the whole system, respectively. After the minimization, the system was heated from 0 K to 298.15 K for 150 ps and equilibrated at the same temperature for 50 ps under constant volume, with a timestep of 2 fs, and with SHAKE algorithm employed to restrain of the calculation of forces of bonds containing hydrogen atoms. The system was further equilibrated at 298.15 K for 50 ps (5 times of 10 ps run) under constant pressure with a Berendsen barostat and Langevin thermostat. After the equilibration, the system was simulated in the production step at 298.15 K for 100 ns (10 times of 10 ns run) under the NPT condition.

All of the MM/GBSA energies were calculated based on snapshots (frames) extracted from MD trajectories obtained from the 100 ns simulations. Around 1000 snapshots in the last 10 ns simulation of each ligand were used for calculations, and the saltcon (the concentration of mobile counterions in solution) was set to 0.150. The GTotal for each ligand was obtained from the result data file for the analysis.

After MM/GBSA energy calculations, two systems (pose 2 and pose 11) were subjected to extended MD runs up to 1  $\mu$ s each. The simulation data were analyzed with CPPTRAJ by reading and combining multiple trajectory files obtained from the MD simulations. The protein structures in the trajectories were re-oriented by using the autoimage command, and water molecules, Na, and Cl ions were striped. RMS fit of all residues were performed, and a new NetCDF trajectory was saved for further analysis. For the Root Mean Square Distance (rmsd) analysis, the rms command was used, and the amide backbones, Ca, and C $\beta$  without hydrogen of all CK1e amino acids were selected for the analyses of rmsd. The CK1e -SR-4133 complex structure with the lowest potential energy was selected from 200,000 snapshots for further analysis.

#### Absolute Binding Free Energy Calculations.

The BAT.py v2.1 script compatible with Amber20 was used to build the system for MD simulations and calculate the absolute binding free energies of SR-3029 and SR-4133 to CK18. The simultaneous decoupling/recoupling (SDR) method was applied to pull out the inhibitor from its binding site of CK18 via nonphysical alchemical pathways. System buildup for the MD simulations with the SDR method. X-ray co-crystal structures of SR-3029 (pdb code: 6RCG) and SR-4133 (pdb code: 6RCH) were used for MD simulations. and ligand structures were extracted and refined with Protein Preparation Wizard implemented in Maestro 12. These ligand structures with hydrogen atoms were used for system building to keep the ligand protonation by adding the *retain\_lig\_prot* option. The pdb files for target enzymes were cleaned by deleting all description text, ions, ligands, and water molecules, and the 6RCG was set as a reference structure after the alignment to its principal axes using VMD. The carbon atoms of the amide backbones of Lys38,

Ile51, and Met58 were assigned to the protein anchors, P1, P2, and P3, respectively, and C10 (the pdb atom type of the ligand) was assigned as L1 by setting up the ligand anchor search definitions:  $l1_x = 0.01$ ,  $l1_y = 7.15$ ,  $l1_z = 7.63$ , and  $l1_range = 2.50$ . L2 and L3 ligand anchor atoms were automatically assigned by the BAT.py software. Protein backbone dihedral restraints were applied between residues 37 and 59. Amber Force Field, ff14SB, was used to parametrize the protein atoms, and ligand parameters were assigned with the AM1-BCC charge model and General Amber Force Field (GAFF2). TIP3P water model was used to solvate the protein-ligand complex, and the system was neutralized with Na+ and Cl– ions with 0.15 M salt concentration. The z-distance between the last and the initial positions of the bound ligand in the SDR method was set to 40 Å, which is sufficient to provide negligible interactions between the ligand and the protein.

#### Simulation procedures for equilibration.

Each solvated protein – ligand complex was minimized with the protein restraints. The system was simulated at 10 K for 2 ps and then heated to 298.15 K over 100 ps using a Langevin thermostat with a collision frequency of  $1.0 \text{ ps}^{-1}$  at constant volume. The system was then pressurized to 1 bar with the Monte Carlo barostat by multiple short NPT simulations (5 X 14 ps). A series of molecular dynamics simulations (8 X 20 ns) was run with a sequential decrease of translational and rotational (TR) ligand restraints but without its conformational restraints. The final simulation for equilibration was conducted without any ligand restraints for 60 ns. During the above simulations for equilibration, the protein TR restraints and the distance restraints among the P1, P2, and P3 anchors remained. Once the equilibrated structure, and the simulation box was rebuilt for MD simulations for free energy calculation.

#### Simulation procedures for free energy calculation.

The new system obtained from the equilibration step was heated from 50 K to 298.15 K over 50 ps and equilibrated for 14 ps (5X), and the production simulation was performed for 4 ns to collect data for free energy calculation. The heating, equilibration, and production steps were simulated in 12 windows of each component to calculate the simultaneous dec/recoupling of ligand charge interactions (  $\Delta G_{elec}$ ) and simultaneous dec/recoupling of ligand Lennard-Jones (LJ) interactions (  $\Delta G_{LJ}$ ). Attachments of receptor conformational restraints (  $\Delta$  G<sub>p,att</sub>), ligand conformation restraints (  $\Delta$  G<sub>1,conf,att</sub>), and ligand TR restraints (  $\Delta$  G<sub>1,TR,att</sub>) were calculated from the 4 ns production simulations of the complex system in 10 windows for simultaneous decoupling and recoupling method. In addition, releases of ligand conformational restraint (  $\Delta G_{l,conf,rel}$ ) and receptor conformational restraints (  $\Delta G_{p,rel}$ ) were calculated from the 4 ns production simulations of the complex system in 10 windows. The final absolute binding free energy  $(-\Delta G_{bind})$  was calculated by the analysis of the simulations using the Thermodynamic Integration with Gaussian Quadrature (TI-GQ), which is defined as a sum of all  $components: - \Delta \ G_{\text{bind}}^{\circ} = \ \Delta \ G_{\text{elec}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{LJ}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{p,att}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{l,conf,att}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{l,TR,att}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{l,conf,rel}} + \ \Delta \ G_{\text{p,rel}} + \ \Delta$ The total simulation time for the production steps was 176 ns for each ligand, and it took 83.16 wall clock hours with a single Nvidia GTX 1080Ti GPU.

#### Chemistry, General Experimental Details.

Commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran and dichloromethane were purified by passing through a solvent column composed of activated A-1 alumina. Anhydrous acetone was purchased from Aldrich Chemical Company. Triethylamine and diisopropylethylamine were purified by distillation from calcium hydride. Unless indicated otherwise, all reactions were conducted under an atmosphere of argon using flame-dried or oven-dried (140 °C) glassware. The term "concentrated under reduced pressure" refers to the removal of solvents and other volatile materials using a rotary evaporator with the water bath temperature below 40 °C, followed by the removal of residual solvent at high vacuum (< 0.2 mbar). Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectra were recorded on a commercial instrument at 400 and 600 MHz. Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) spectra were recorded at 100 MHz, 150 MHz, and 175 MHz. The proton signal for residual non-deuterated solvent (§ 7.26 for CHCl3, 2.50 for dimethyl sulfoxide) was used as an internal reference for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. For <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, chemical shifts are reported relative to the  $\delta$  77.1 resonance of CHCl3 and δ 39.52 resonance of dimethyl sulfoxide. Coupling constants are reported in Hz. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded as films on a commercial FTIR instrument. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on a commercial high resolution mass spectrometer. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Kieselgel 60 F254 glass plates precoated with a 0.25 mm thickness of silica gel. The TLC plates were visualized with UV light and/or by staining with KMnO4. Column chromatography was generally performed using Kieselgel 60 (230–400 mesh) silica gel, typically using a 50–100:1 weight ratio of silica gel to crude product. All compounds are >95% pure by HPLC analysis.

#### General procedure A for Preparation of iodonium tetrafluoroborate—To a

solution of the 1-naphthalene boronic acid (6.28 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (100 mL) was added  $BF_3 \bullet OEt_2$  (6.93 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture stirred for 10 min before addition of a solution of 2-iodo-1,3,5-triisopropylbenzene diacetate (6.71 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) dropwise over 10 minutes. The reaction was allowed to warm to 25 °C over the course of 2 h and then 100 mL saturated aq. NaBF4 solution was added with rapid stirring and the stirring continued for 30 minutes. After this time the phases were separated, the aqueous layer extracted twice with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organics dried over NaSO<sub>4</sub> and passed through a short silica pad (30 g), eluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (300 mL) to remove byproduct, followed by  $CH_2Cl_2/MeOH$  (300 mL, 20:1), to elute the product. The iodonium tetrafluoroborate was precipitated from Et<sub>2</sub>O. The solid was filtered, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under vacuum.

**General procedure B – Chan-Lam Boronic Acid Coupling**—To a solution of 2,6-dichloropurine (**3**, 1 eq.) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.25 M) was added arylboronic acid (2 eq.), triethylamine (3 eq.), and copper acetate (2 eq.). The reaction mixture was refluxed at 50 °C for 1 h, then cooled to 25 °C and filtered over celite washing 3 times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The filtrate was dry-loaded onto a silica column and purified by flash chromatography to give the coupled product.

#### General procedure C for the Preparation of final compounds.

A 2–5 mL Biotage microwave vial was charged with 2,6-dichloropurine analogs (1.0 mmol), 2-(methylamino)-4,5-difluorobenzimidazole • HCl (1.1 mmol), *N*,*N*-diisopropylethylamine (5.0 mmol,), and isopropanol (2.5 mL). The vial was resealed and the reaction was heated to 90 °C for 30 minutes in the microwave unit. The cooled vial was then placed on a rotary evaporator and the reaction mixture was concentrated. Morpholine (2.5 mL) was added to the vial containing the concentrated crude mixture. The vial was resealed and the reaction was heated to 130 °C for 30 minutes in the microwave unit. The cooled reaction mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator and the reaction mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator and then the crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the desired compound. Then, 0.1 M TFA aq. (1.0 mmol) was added to the product (1.0 mmol) and sonicated for 30 min. Followed by freeze under -78 °C, dried using a lyophilizer.

#### General procedure D for Preparation of the final compounds—A Biotage

microwave vial was charged with N9 substituted 2,6-dichloropurine (1 eq.), 2-(methylamino)-4,5-difluorobenzimidazole • HCl (1.1 eq.), *N*,*N*-diisopropylethylamine (5 eq), and isopropanol (0.4 M). The vial was sealed and the reaction was heated at 90 °C for 30 minutes in the microwave unit. The cooled vial was then placed on a rotary evaporator and the reaction mixture was concentrated. Morpholine (0.4 M) was added to a microwave vial containing the concentrated crude mixture. The vial was sealed and the reaction mixture was concentrated or a rotary evaporator and the reaction mixture was concentrated crude mixture. The vial was sealed and the reaction was heated at 130 °C for 30 min in the microwave unit. The cooled reaction mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator and then the crude product was purified by flash chromatography or HPLC to give the final product.

**N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(naphthalen-1-yl)-9Hpurin-6-amine (SR-4132).:** Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(naphthlen-1-yl)-*9H*-purine in 53% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.37 (brs, 1H), 8.13 (s, 1H), 8.11 (dd, J= 14.0, 8.2 Hz), 7.69 (app t, J= 7.6 Hz), 7.64–7.60 (m, 2H), 7.57–7.53 m, 1H), 7.39 (d, J= 8.4 Hz), 7.31–7.20 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 3.34 (s, 4H), 3.29 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.6, 158.3, (q, J= 36.4 Hz), 156.1, 154.1, 152.5. 146.0 (d, J= 9.5 Hz), 144.6 (q, J= 9.3 Hz), 139.6 (d, J= 15.2 Hz), 139.2, 138.2 (d, J= 15.2 Hz), 133.8, 133.5, 131.2, 129.3 (d, J= 7.4 Hz), 128.3, 127.2, 126.8, 125.7, 125.4, 122.7, 115.7 (q, J= 289.6 Hz), 112.9, 111.5 (d, J= 20.8 Hz), 108.4, 65.7 (x2), 44.3 (x2).

N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(naphthalen-2-yl)-9Hpurin-6-amine (SR-4133).: Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(naphthlen-2-yl)-9H-purine in 74% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{66}$  δ): 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.33 (brs,1H), 8.13–8.06 (m, 2H), 8.00–7.99 (m, 2H), 7.62–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.19 (m, 2H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 3.52 (s, 4H), 3.49 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_{66}$  δ): 158.6, 158.3 (q, J= 35.2 Hz), 156.0, 154.1, 150.9, 146.0 (d, J= 9.5 Hz), 144.6 (d, J= 9.3 Hz), 139.5 (d, J= 14.4 Hz), 138.1 (d, J= 14.4 Hz), 137.2, 133.4, 133.1, 133.0, 131.4, 129.2, 127.9, 127.7, 127.0, 126.4, 121.1, 119.8, 115.6 (q, J= 289.4 Hz), 113.9, 111.7 (d, J= 21.0 Hz), 108.4, 65.9, 44.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 513.1963, found 513.1971.

**N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4310).:** Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-9*H*purine in 72% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$  δ) 8.28 (s, 1H), 7.84–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13–7.05 (m, 2H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 3.46 (m, 8H). HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 493.1912, found 493.1930.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-2-

morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-19839) .: Synthesized according

to the general procedure B followed by the

general procedure D (100 °C, oil bath heating, for 18 h in step 2). The product was isolated as a white solid (45 mg, 70% yield from **4c**, 12% yield from **3** to **4c**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{65}$   $\delta$ ): 8.25 (s, 2H), 7.85 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 8H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_{65}$   $\delta$ ): 158.56, 157.32, 156.01, 154.07, 150.76, 144.16, 143.93, 137.20, 133.72, 128.31, 123.94, 115.03, 113.57, 111.41, 111.20, 65.88, 63.40, 44.51, 14.64; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 507.2069, found 507.2091.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)-2-

**morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-19840).:** Synthesized according to the general procedure B followed by the general procedure D (100 °C, oil bath heating, for 18 h in step 2). The product was isolated as a white solid (63 mg, 77% yield from **4d**, 11% yield from **3** to **4d**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.28 (d, J = 14.3 Hz, 2H), 7.76 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 4.66 (hept, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (s, 8H), 1.28 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.55, 156.27, 156.00, 154.06, 150.68, 145.18 (dd, J = 234.8, 9.3 Hz), 139.00 (dd, J = 250.4, 14.9 Hz), 137.19, 133.74, 129.47, 128.15, 123.98, 116.12, 113.54, 111.28 (d, J = 21.2 Hz), 108.19, 69.54, 65.87, 44.48, 38.41, 21.77; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 521.2225, found 521.2206.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(2,3-dihydrobenzo[b]

**[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-2-morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-19841).:** Synthesized according to the general procedure B followed by the general procedure D (100 °C, oil bath heating, for 18 h in step 2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 8.29 (s, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 4.29 (s, 4H), 3.46 (s, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  δ): 170.04, 158.98, 156.47, 154.49, 151.05, 150.19, 146.83 – 144.78 (m), 144.01, 143.78, 143.14, 142.78, 137.61, 133.63, 131.01, 130.11, 129.35, 127.75, 127.26, 124.31, 123.40, 117.98, 115.69, 114.08, 111.84, 108.77, 66.32, 64.70, 64.55, 44.95, 38.84; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 521.1861, found 521.1852.

**9-(benzo[d]thiazol-6-yl)-N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4932).:** Synthesized according to the general procedure E with 6-bromobenzo[*d*]thiazole. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{6}}$  δ): 9.51 (s, 1H), 8.64 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.32 – 8.24 (m, 1H), 8.06 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 8.9,

3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 11.4, 8.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.95 – 4.79 (m, 2H), 3.50 (d, J = 26.7 Hz, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 174.27, 159.13, 158.78, 156.43, 155.14, 154.79, 154.01, 151.27, 145.50 (dd, J = 234.2, 9.8 Hz), 137.69, 134.57, 132.31, 130.08, 123.81, 120.51, 116.73, 114.57, 111.35 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 108.29 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 66.35, 44.99, 39.06; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>9</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 520.1480, found 520.1479.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(quinolin-3-yl)-9H-

**purin-6-amine** (SR-4471).: Synthesized according to general procedure C from 3-(2,6-dichloro-9H-purin-9-yl)quinoline (white solid, 120 mg, 67% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 9.49 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.87 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.09 (td, J = 7.4, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 3.50 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 8H); 1<sub>3</sub>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d,  $\delta$ ): 159.25, 159.14, 159.01, 158.77, 156.43, 154.65, 151.33, 146.53 (d, J = 9.5 Hz), 146.10, 145.73, 139.36 (d, J = 251.3 Hz), 137.25, 133.89, 130.32, 129.13, 128.75, 128.17, 127.89, 117.19, 115.26, 114.27, 112.07 (d, J = 20.3 Hz), 108.83, 66.32, 44.92, 38.81; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>9</sub>OF<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 514.1915, found 514.1898.

#### N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-

**morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4931).:** Synthesized according to the general procedure E with 3-bromoisoquinoline. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 9.35 (s, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.75 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.20 (d, J= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.18 – 8.09 (m, 1H), 7.88 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J= 8.2, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J= 8.8, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (ddd, J= 11.1, 8.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.98 – 4.75 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 159.17, 158.95, 158.72, 158.48, 156.39, 154.72, 152.60, 152.16, 150.78, 145.56 (dd, J= 234.0, 9.6 Hz), 144.16, 137.35, 136.05, 132.05, 131.51, 128.42, 127.69, 127.47, 126.52, 115.10, 111.44, 109.45, 108.43, 107.01, 66.46, 45.11, 39.02; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>9</sub>OF<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 514.1915, found 514.1916.

**9-(benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4933).:** Synthesized according to the general procedure E with 2-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophene. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.53 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (dt, J = 23.7, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (ddt, J = 20.0, 11.3, 6.2 Hz, 2H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 3.55 (d, J = 32.1 Hz, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 159.10, 156.32, 154.69, 150.58, 145.61 (dd, J = 234.3, 9.8 Hz), 139.57 (dd, J = 249.1, 13.9 Hz), 137.66, 136.60, 136.40, 136.31, 134.38, 130.27, 125.54, 124.86 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 123.77, 122.87, 117.28, 115.34, 113.69 (d, J = 22.6 Hz), 112.24, 111.65 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 108.60, 66.36, 45.01, 38.99; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 519.1527, found 519.1526.

# N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(3-fluorobenzyl)-2morpholino-9Hpurin-6-amine trifluoroacetate salt (SR-3448).: Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(3fluorobenzyl)-9H-purine in 49% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ δ): 8.37 (d, J= 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (brs, 1H), 8.20 (brs, 1H), 7.97

(m, 1H), 7.91 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.49 (app t, J= 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J= 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.21 (m, 2H), 5.76 (s, 2H), 4.86 (brs, 2H), 3.51 (brs, 4H), 3.46 (brs, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$   $\delta$ ): 162.1 (d, J= 242.2 Hz), 158.5, 158.4 (q, J= 36.9 Hz), 155.7, 153.0, 150.7, 146.1 (d, J= 8.8 Hz), 144.8 (d, J= 9.3 Hz), 139.3, 138.0, 133.1, 130.7 (d, J= 8.6 Hz), 128.1, 124.1 (d, J= 2.1 Hz), 115.9 (q, J= 288.7 Hz), 114.9 (d, J= 21.7 Hz), 114.7 (d, J= 21.0 Hz), 112.1 (d, J= 21.0 Hz), 110.4, 108.7, 65.8 (x2), 45.8, 44.5 (x2), 38.3.

#### $\underline{N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(naphthalen-1-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl (d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl (d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl$

**ylmethyl)-9Hpurin-6-amine trifluoroacetate salt (SR-3449).:** Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(naphthalen-1-ylmethyl)-*9H*-purine in 57% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.30 (brs, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.10 (m, 7H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 3.49 (brs, 4H), 3.46 (brs, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.5, 158.4 (q, *J* = 36.9 Hz), 155.7, 153.8, 150.9, 146.1 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 144.7 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 139.5 (d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 138.3, 138.0 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz), 133.3, 132.1, 130.5, 128.6 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz), 128.5, 126.7 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 126.1, 125.5, 116.0 (q, *J* = 288.9 Hz), 111.9 (d, *J* = 20.8 Hz), 110.7, 108.6, 65.8 (x2), 44.5 (x2), 44.0, 38.3.

**N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-9Hpurin-6-amine trifluoroacetate salt (SR-3450).:** Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-*9H*-purine in 58% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.23 (brs, 2H), 7.90–7.85 (m, 4H), 7.53–7.48 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.18 (m, 2H), 5.43 (s, 2H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 3.52 (brs, 4H), 3.46 (brs, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.5, 158.4 (q, *J* = 36.9 Hz), 155.7, 153.2, 150.9, 145.9 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 144.6 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 139.6 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz), 138.2, 134.2, 133.5, 132.7, 132.4, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 126.8, 126.5, 126.3, 126.0, 115.7 (q, *J* = 289.6 Hz), 111.5 (d, *J* = 20.8 Hz), 111.1, 108.4, 65.8 (x2), 46.5, 44.5 (x2), 38.4.

# N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(3-fluorophenethyl)-2-

**morpholino-9Hpurin-6-amine trifluoroacetate salt (SR-3451).:** Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(3-fluorophenethyl)-*9H*-purine in 72% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{65}$  8): 8.26 (brs, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.32–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.08–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, J= 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 4.35 (t, J= 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.52 (s, 4H), 3.50 (s, 4H), 3.15 (t, J= 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO- $d_{65}$  8): 162.6 (d, J= 241.3 Hz), 158.9, 158.8 (q, J= 36.4 Hz), 156.0, 153.0, 151.1, 146.4 (d, J= 9.5 Hz), 145.1 (d, J= 9.3 Hz), 141.2 (d, J= 7.2 Hz), 140.0 (d, J= 15.2 Hz), 138.6 (d, J= 13.7 Hz), 138.4, 134.0, 130.7 (d, J= 8.6 Hz), 129.3, 125.3, 116.0 (q, J= 289.4 Hz), 115.9 (d, J= 20.8 Hz), 113.8 (d, J= 20.3 Hz), 112.1 (d, J= 20.1 Hz), 110.0, 109.0, 66.3 (x2), 44.9 (x2), 44.6, 38.8, 34.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>3</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 509.2025, found 509.2022.

# N-((4,5-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(3,5-difluorophenethyl)-2morpholino-9Hpurin-6-amine (SR-4290).: Synthesized according to general procedure from 2,6-dichloro-9-(3,5-difluorophenethyl)-9H-purine in 74% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , δ): 8.15 (brs, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.08–7.03 (m, 1H), 6.95–6.91 (m, 1H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.33 (t,

J= 7.0 Hz), 3.51 (brs, 8H), 3.15 (t, J= 7.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 162.3 (d, J= 244.3 Hz), 162.2 (t, J= 244.3 Hz), 158.5 (q, J= 35.4 Hz), 158.4, 155.7, 153.0, 150.8, 145.9 (d, J= 9.5 Hz), 144.5 (d, J= 9.5 Hz), 142.6 (t, J= 9.0 Hz), 139.7 (d, J= 15.2 Hz), 138.3 (d, J= 15.2 Hz), 138.1, 133.8, 129.4, 115.9 (d, J= 290.4 Hz), 112.0 (d, J= 4.4 Hz), 111.9 (d, J= 4.4 Hz), 110.8, 108.3, 102.0 (t, J= 25.3 Hz), 65.9 (x2), 44.5 (x2), 43.5, 38.4.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(3-methoxyphenethyl)-2-

**morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-3452).:** Synthesized according to general procedure D from **6b** (heating in oil bath for 60 min) in 70% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.32 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.80 – 6.67 (m, 3H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (m, 8H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$   $\delta$ ): 159.76, 158.84 (d, J = 36.0 Hz), 156.14, 152.29 (d, J = 327.7 Hz), 145.68 (d, J = 234.8 Hz), 140.38, 139.93, 138.55, 134.30, 129.95, 121.36, 117.27, 115.33, 114.71, 112.46, 111.83 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 108.80, 66.33, 55.33, 44.95, 44.67, 38.90, 35.17; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 521.2225, found 521.2244.

## <u>9-(3-bromophenethyl)-N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-</u> morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-3454).: Synthesized according

to general procedure D from **6c** (heating in oil bath for 60 min) in 63% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}} \delta$ ): 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (ddd, J = 7.9, 2.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.11 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.32 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.50 (s, 8H), 3.12 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}} \delta$ ): 159.76, 159.20, 158.96, 158.72, 156.14, 152.29 (d, J = 327.7 Hz), 145.68 (d, J = 234.8 Hz), 140.38, 139.93, 138.55, 134.30, 129.95, 121.36, 117.27, 115.33, 114.71, 112.46, 111.83 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 108.80, 66.33, 55.33, 44.95, 44.67, 38.90, 35.17; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>Br (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 569.1225, found 569.1239.

# <u>4-(2-(6-(((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)amino)-2-morpholino-9H-</u> purin-9-yl)ethyl)benzonitrile (SR-4114).: Synthesized according to general

procedure D from **6d** in 60% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.16 (s, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J= 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.34 (t, J= 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 8H), 3.21 (t, J= 6.9 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.74, 158.50, 158.30 (d, J= 9.9 Hz), 158.03, 155.76, 153.09, 150.85, 145.18 (dd, J= 234.4, 9.8 Hz), 144.18, 138.11, 133.84, 132.29, 129.90, 118.87, 116.86, 114.92, 111.32 (d, J= 20.8 Hz), 109.39, 108.28, 65.89, 44.46, 43.65, 38.42, 34.92; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>9</sub>OF<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 516.2072, found 516.2065.

# N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(4-

(trifluoromethyl)phenethyl)-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4116).: Synthesized according to general procedure D from

**6e** in 75% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J= 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.34 (t, J= 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 8H), 3.22 (t, J= 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 158.66, 158.43, 155.78, 153.10, 150.86, 145.18 (dd, J= 234.6, 9.4 Hz), 143.05, 138.15, 133.86, 129.61, 127.61 – 126.76 (m), 125.24 (d, J= 3.7 Hz), 123.45, 121.65,

117.03, 115.09, 114.30, 113.15, 111.29 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 108.27, 65.88, 44.48, 43.85, 38.45, 34.65; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 559.1993, found 559.2005.

# <u>N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(3-</u> (trifluoromethyl)phenethyl)-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4134).: Synthesized according to general procedure D from

**6f** in 72% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 8H), 3.22 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  δ): 158.41, 155.80, 153.08, 146.00, 145.93, 144.44, 144.38, 139.3, 139.54, 138.24, 133.85, 132.97, 129.46, 129.39, 129.25, 129.04, 128.84, 126.94, 125.36, 125.32, 125.13, 123.32, 123.28, 121.52, 111.40, 111.26, 108.31, 65.87, 63.32, 44.46, 43.85, 42.84, 40.03, 38.44, 34.59; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 559.1993, found 559.1992.

## <u>9-(3-chlorophenethyl)-N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-</u> morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4152).: Synthesized according

to general procedure D from **6g** in 63% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO  $d_{6}$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.13 (m, 5H), 7.13 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.32 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.50 (s, 8H), 3.13 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$   $\delta$ ): 158.96, 158.72, 158.49, 158.25, 155.72, 152.92, 150.77, 145.22 (dd, J = 234.8, 9.4 Hz), 140.57, 139.85 (d, J = 15.5 Hz), 138.07, 133.77, 133.05, 130.22, 129.46, 128.63, 128.49, 127.50, 126.56, 111.40 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 110.54, 108.33, 65.90, 44.48, 43.91, 38.43, 34.43; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>Cl (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 525.1730, found 525.1755.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(4-fluorophenethyl)-2-

**morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4051).:** Synthesized according to general procedure D from **6h** in 80% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  δ): 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.13 (m, 4H), 7.13 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.29 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (s, 9H), 3.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  δ): 162.30, 160.69, 159.40, 159.17, 158.93, 158.70, 156.13, 153.29, 151.17, 145.67 (dd, J = 234.8, 9.7 Hz), 139.43 (d, J = 274.6 Hz), 134.54, 134.20, 131.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz), 129.86, 117.38, 115.63 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 111.86 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), 110.73, 108.79, 66.33, 44.92, 38.88, 34.37; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>3</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 509.2025, found 509.2022.

# $\underline{N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl)-2-methyl)-9-(4-(methylthio)phenethyl-9-(methylthio)phenethyl -9-(methylthio)phenethyl -9-(methy$

**morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4052).:** Synthesized according to general procedure D from **6i** in 60% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , δ): 8.16 (s, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.28 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (s, 8H), 3.07 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C 13C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , δ): 159.42, 159.18, 158.94, 158.70, 156.08, 153.14, 151.11, 145.70 (dd, J = 235.2, 9.8 Hz), 138.48, 136.53, 134.93, 134.16, 129.78, 126.56, 117.33, 115.40, 111.94 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 110.27, 108.85, 66.32, 44.91, 38.87, 34.58, 15.20; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 537.1997, found 537.2012.

<u>N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-9-(2-(furan-3-yl)ethyl)-2-</u> morpholino-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4053).: Synthesized according to general

procedure D from **6j** in 80% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}} \delta$ ): 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 6.36 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.26 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (m, 8H), 2.94 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}} \delta$ ): 159.42, 159.18, 158.94, 158.70, 156.08, 153.14, 151.11, 145.70 (dd, J = 235.2, 9.8 Hz), 138.48, 136.53, 134.93, 134.16, 129.78, 126.56, 117.33, 115.40, 111.94 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 110.27, 108.85, 66.32, 44.91, 38.87, 34.58, 15.20; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 481.1912, found 481.1898.

#### N-((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)-2-morpholino-9-(2-(thiophen-3-

**yl)ethyl)-9H-purin-6-amine (SR-4054).:** Synthesized according to general procedure D from **6k** in 70% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 4.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.97 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (m, 8H), 3.14 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  δ): 158.97, 158.73, 158.49, 158.25, 155.65, 152.70, 150.65, 145.28 (dd, J = 235.1, 9.6 Hz), 138.08, 133.72, 129.26, 128.25, 126.37, 122.06, 118.80, 116.86, 114.93, 112.99, 111.54 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 109.73, 108.43, 65.89, 44.49, 43.79, 38.44, 29.38; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OF<sub>2</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 497.1684, found 497.1684.

**4-(2-(6-(((6,7-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)methyl)amino)-2-morpholino-9Hpurin-9-yl)ethyl)phenol (SR-4055).:** Synthesized according to general procedure D from **6I** in 55% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 9.22 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 6.69 – 6.60 (m, 2H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (m, 8H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6^{\circ}}$  \delta): 159.36, 159.12, 158.89, 158.66, 156.45, 156.06, 153.13, 151.06, 145.66 (dd, *J* = 234.7, 9.6 Hz), 140.57 – 137.50 (m), 134.27, 130.07, 128.22, 117.41, 115.72, 115.47, 111.84 (d, *J* = 20.7 Hz), 110.17, 108.79, 66.33, 45.29, 44.92, 38.91, 34.37; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calculated for C25H25N8O2F2 (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 507.2069, found 507.2067.

# **Supplementary Material**

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# **ABBREVIATIONS USED**

APBS	Adaptive Poisson-Boltzmann Solver
ATP	adenosine triphosphate
CK1	Casein kinase 1

MD

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molecular dynamics

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## Figure 1.

(A) Representative CK18/ $\epsilon$  dual inhibitors and IC<sub>50</sub>'s, (B) The X-ray co-crystal structure of CK18 – SR-3029 (PDB code: 6RCG). SR-3029 is shown as yellow spheres. Seven unique amino acids of CK18 vs. CK1 $\epsilon$  are shown as magenta sticks, and amino acids that have direct contacts with SR-3029 are shown as green sticks. (C) The binding pose of SR-3029 in the ATP pocket of CK18: view to the hinge region (top) and to the p-loop (bottom).



# Figure 2.

(A) The binding pose of PF-4800567 in the DFG-out conformation of CK1 $\epsilon$ . For clarity, only amino acids near to the 3-chlorophenyl unit are present. (B) Overlay of SR-3029 and PF-4800567 based on the binding poses to CK1 $\delta$  and CK1 $\epsilon$ , respectively. SR-3029 is yellow, and PF-4800567 is purple.



#### Figure 3. Cellular activity of SR-4310 and SR-4133.

(A) Antiproliferative potency of SR-4133 and SR-4310 in the indicated bladder cancer cell lines and U2-OS cells. Cellular proliferation after 72 hours of treatment with SR-4133 and SR-4310 was analyzed by CellTiter-Glo Assay on selected bladder cancer cell and compared to DMSO control. Data shown represent the average of three replicates  $\pm$  SD. (B) Inhibitory potency of SR-4133 and SR-4310 on the phosphorylation of 4E-BP1 in T24 cells. Phosphorylation of 4E-BP1 was quantified by western blot after 24h treatment with 1  $\mu$ M of compound. Ratio phosphorylation had been calculated depending on respective GAPDH and the DMSO control from 3 independent experiments (\* (N=3); statistical significance was calculated by two-tailed Student's t test (\* p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\* p < 0.001)



#### Figure 4. The binding poses of SR-4133 and SR-3029.

(A) The binding orientation of SR-4133 complexed with CK1e obtained from 3.1 µs MD simulations (yellow carbon) and its overlay to CK18 - SR-4133 X-ray co-crystal structure (green carbon, PDB code: 6RCH); view from the hinge region and same camera angle to Fig. 1C. (B) X-ray co-crystal structure of CK18 in complex with SR-4133. D149-mediated salt bridge and hydrogen bond interactions are labelled with a red circle. (C) The MD model structure of CK1e in complex with SR-4133. (D) Overlay of the CK18 – SR-3029 co-crystal structure (gray carbon) to a representative structure of CK18 (pink carbon) obtained from MD simulations without the inhibitor. SR-3029 (yellow carbon) is overlayed to SR-4133 (green carbon) based on their complex form with CK18 co-crystal structures (PDB codes: 6RCG and 6RCH, respectively). (E) A representative structure of CK1e obtained from MD simulation without the inhibitor (X-ray co-crystal structure of CK1e (PDB code: 4HNI) was used for the 100 ns MD simulation. (F) The electrostatic potential map of CK18 -SR-4133 co-crystal structure. Note: We attempted to produce crystals of CK1e in complex with SR-4133, 4132, or 3448, but these experiments were unsuccessful. The representative structures of apo-CK18 and apo-CK1e were obtained from 100 ns MD simulations followed by clustering 10000 snapshots.



#### Figure 5. The tendency of DFG conformation of CK18 and CK1e.

(A) DFG-in conformation of CK1 $\delta$  – SR-4133 (6RCH). (B) DFG-in conformation of apo-CK1 $\epsilon$  (4HOK) and imaginary SR-4133. (C) DFG-out conformation of CK1 $\epsilon$  (4HNI) and imaginary SR-4133. DFG units are purple, and the unique I55 and F55 are magenta. Amino acids in the hydrophobic pocket where F150 occupies in the DFG-in conformation are labeled and shown in light purple.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of representative CK1ɛ-selective inhibitors

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# Table 1.

Inhibition of CK18 and CK1e by SR-3029 analogs with bulky hydrophobic groups at the N9-position.

		IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)		Fold selectivity for CK1e
	R	CK18	CK1e	CK18/CK1e
SR-3029 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	F	0.044	0.260	0.17
SR-4132		1.1 ± 0.017	$\begin{array}{c} 0.18 \pm 0.073 \\ (n=2)^b \end{array}$	6.1
SR-4133		>10 (n = 4) <sup>b</sup>	$\begin{array}{c} 0.058 \pm 0.013 \\ (n=5)^b \end{array}$	>172
SR-4310	{\	$1.3 \pm 1.1$ (n = 3) <sup>b</sup>	$0.11 \pm 0.045$ (n = 6) <sup>b</sup>	12
SR-19839		>10	0.39 ± 0.04	>26

		IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)		Fold selectivity for CK1e
SR-19840		>10 (N.I.D.) <sup>C</sup>	0.91 ± 0.06	>11
SR-19841		>10	0.25 ± 0.03	>40
SR-4932	S	>10	0.23 ± 0.15	>43
SR-4471		1.2 ± 0.9	0.22 ± 0.14	5.4
SR-4931		3.2 ± 0.2	0.18 ± 0.17	18
SR-4933	<b>s</b>	0.40 ± 0.03	0.036 ±0.014	11

F			(μΜ)	Fold selectivity for CK1e
SR-3448		>10	$1.8\pm0.077$	>5.6
SR-3449		>10	0.69 ± 0.091	>14
SR-3450		>10	4.6 ± 1.1	>2.2
SR-3451	F	>10	$0.34 \pm 0.029$	>29
SR-4290	F-	>10	$0.74 \pm 0.044$	>14
SR-3452	o	-	1.4 ± 0.2	-
SR-3454	Br	>10	0.22 ± 0.13	>45
SR-4114	CN	>10	$0.46 \pm 0.005$	>22
SR-4116	CF3	>10 (N.I.D) <sup>c</sup>	1.2 ± 0.002	>8.3

		IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)		Fold selectivity for CK1e
SR-4134	CF3	>10	$0.57 \pm 0.04$	>18
SR-4152	CI	>10 (N.I.D) <sup>c</sup>	$0.20 \pm 0.02$	>50
SR-4051	F	0.44 ± 0.26	0.10 ± 0.01	4.4
SR-4052	S_	1.7 ± 0.4	$0.24 \pm 0.04$	7.1
SR-4053	- So	0.20 ± 0.02	$0.088 \pm 0.007$	2.3
SR-4054	S	0.42 ± 0.04	0.11 ± 0.001	3.8
SR-4055	ОН	0.018 ± 0.001	0.030 ± 0.001	0.33

 ${}^{a}$ IC50 values are obtained from references 24 and 27

 $b_{\text{Experiments were performed (n) times in duplicates.}}$ 

 $^{c}$ N.I.D. denotes compounds where no inhibition was detected at 10  $\mu$ M.

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#### Table 2.

Hydrogen bond analysis of the MD simulations of CK18 and CK1e

Acceptor <sup>a</sup>	DonorH <sup>b</sup>	Fraction <sup>c</sup>		
		CK18 (6RCG)	CK1e (4HOK)	CK1e (4HNI)
D149@OD	K38@HZ	0.5687	0.3357	0.0009
D149@OD	S19@H	0.6673	0.0304	N/A
D149@OD	S19@HG	0.4637	0.0046	N/A
S19@O	K38@HZ	0.8735	N/A	N/A
E52@OE	Q48@HE	0.8235	0.0778	0.3430
E52@O	Y56@H	0.4051	0.4204	0.0107
E52@OE1	K38@HZ	0.5395	0.4604	0.3734
E52@OE2	K38@HZ	0.4729	0.4948	0.4354
Q48@O	E52@H	0.5554	0.4463	0.5079
Y56@OH	D149@H	0.2868	0.1060	0.3584

<sup>a</sup>"OD", "OE", and "OH" stand for acceptor oxygen in the residue, and "O" for acceptor oxygen in the amide backbone. OD1 and OD2 are combined to OD for counting frames possessing hydrogen bonds.

<sup>b</sup>"HZ", "HG", and "HH" stand for donor hydrogen in the residue, and "H" for donor hydrogen in the amide backbone. HZ1, HZ2, and HZ3 are combined to HZ for counting frames possessing hydrogen bonds.

 $^{C}$ Fraction means the number of frames possessing hydrogen bond interactions divided by the total number of frames (10000 in this 100 ns MD simulation)

#### Table 3.

Comparison of ABFE's (–  $\Delta G_{\text{bind}}$ ) and the electrostatic (–  $\Delta G_{\text{elec}}$ ) and Lennard-Jones (–  $\Delta G_{\text{LJ}}$ ) components of the transfer free energy of SR-3029 and SR-4133 to CK18

	SR-3029	SR-4133	difference
$-\Delta G_{bind}$	$14.97^{a}(1.08)^{b}$	11.15 (1.71)	3.82
- G <sub>elec</sub>	2.23 (0.38)	-0.07 (0.51)	2.30
– G <sub>LJ</sub>	26.47 (0.58)	26.18 (1.18)	0.29

<sup>a</sup>Computed with the SDR method and integrated with the Thermodynamic Integration and the Gaussian Quadrature (TI-GQ) approach

 $b_{\rm Estimated \ standard \ errors \ of \ the \ mean \ are \ given \ in \ parentheses.}$