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Dichotocejpins A–C: New Diketopiperazines from a Deep-Sea-Derived Fungus *Dichotomomyces cejpui* FS110

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Abstract: Three new diketopiperazines, dichotocejpins A–C (1–3), together with eight known analogues (4–11), were isolated from the culture of the deep-sea sediment derived fungus *Dichotomomyces cejpui* FS110. Their structures, including absolute configurations, were elucidated by a combination of HRESIMS, NMR, X-ray crystallography, and ECD calculations. Compounds 4–6, 10–11 showed significant cytotoxic activities against MCF-7, NCI-H460, HepG-2, and SF-268 tumor cell lines. Compound 1 exhibited excellent inhibitory activity against α -glucosidase with an IC_{50} of 138 μ M.

Keywords: diketopiperazines; *Dichotomomyces cejpui*; deep-sea-derived fungus; cytotoxicity; α -glucosidase

1. Introduction

Marine microorganisms are a rich source of structurally unique and bioactive metabolites. Even considering the trend of recent years that many marine natural products research efforts are directed towards microorganisms, there has been a sharp upward swing in the number of new metabolites reported from marine microorganisms [1,2]. Deep-sea organisms survive under extreme conditions such as an absence of light, low levels of oxygen, and intensely high pressures. These factors may result in the production of structurally unique secondary metabolites. Although thousands of natural products with diverse structural types have been reported from marine flora and fauna, the secondary metabolites derived from the deep-sea fungi at depths of over 1000 m below the surface are limited [3,4]. In our ongoing effort to search for structurally diverse and biologically significant metabolites from deep-sea fungi [5–8], we found that a culture broth of *Dichotomomyces cejpui* FS110, which was isolated from deep-sea sediment, showed strong growth inhibitory effects against four human tumor cell lines [9]. Bioassay-guided separation of the EtOAc extract of culture broth yielded three new diketopiperazines (1–3), along with eight known analogues. All of the isolated compounds (1–11) were evaluated for their cytotoxic activities against the SF-268, MCF-7, NCI-H460, and HepG-2 tumor cell lines and inhibitory activity against α -glucosidase. Herein, the isolation, structural elucidation, cytotoxic activities, and α -glucosidase inhibitory activities of all these isolates are described.

2. Results and Discussion

The fermentation broth of the deep-sea-derived fungus *D. cejpui* FS110 was extracted with EtOAc and then concentrated under reduced pressure to give an extract. The EtOAc extract was subjected to various column chromatography to afford compounds 1–11 (Figure 1). Three new structures were identified by combination of spectroscopic analysis, single crystal X-ray diffraction, and ECD calculation, while eight known analogues were identified as 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin (4) [10], gliotoxin (5) [11,12], acetylgliotoxin (6) [13], bis-*N*-norgliovictin (7) [14], 3-benzyl-6-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(methylthio)piperazine-2,5-dione (8) [15], bisdethiobis(methylthio)gliotoxin (9) [16], 6-acetylbis(methylthio)gliotoxin (10) [17], and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-methyl-3-methylene-1,4-dioxypyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole (11) [18] by the comparison of their spectroscopic data (Figures S26–S47) with those in the literature.

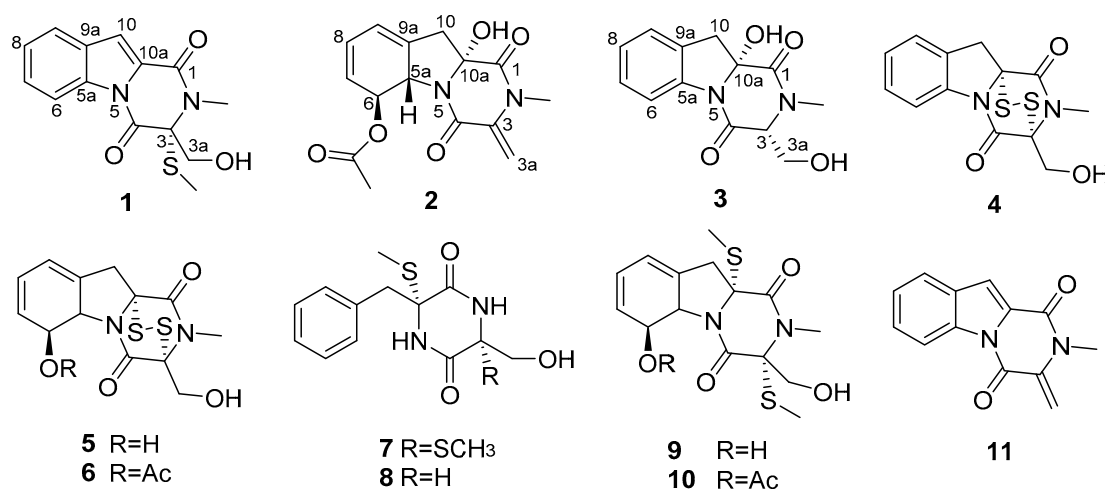


Figure 1. Structures of compounds 1–11 isolated from *Dichotomomyces cejpui* FS110.

2.1. Identification of New Compounds

Compound 1, a pale yellow solid, had the molecular formula of C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₃S, as determined by HRESIMS (m/z 291.0798 [M + H]⁺, C₁₄H₁₅N₂O₃S, calcd. for 291.0803, Figure S6), corresponding to nine degrees of unsaturation. The ¹H NMR spectrum (Figure S1) revealed the presence of two singlet methyls [δ_{H} 1.90 (3H, s) and 3.32 (3H, s)], one *O*-substituted sp³ methylene [δ_{H} 4.08 (1H, dd, $J = 12.0, 7.8$ Hz) and δ_{H} 4.46 (1H, dd, $J = 12.0, 4.8$ Hz)], an aromatic proton [δ_{H} 7.30 (1H, d, $J = 1.0$ Hz)], and a 1,2-disubstituted benzene ring [δ_{H} 7.26 (1H, ddd, $J = 8.0, 7.2, 1.0$ Hz), δ_{H} 7.42 (1H, dt, $J = 8.0, 1.0$ Hz), δ_{H} 7.47 (1H, ddd, $J = 8.3, 7.2, 1.0$ Hz) and δ_{H} 8.44 (1H, dt, $J = 8.3, 1.0$ Hz)]. The ¹³C NMR, in combination with DEPT experiments (Figure S2), resolved 14 carbon resonances attributed to two amide carbonyls (δ_{C} 158.0, 163.5), three sp² quaternary carbons, five sp² methines, one sp³ quaternary carbon, one sp³ methylene, and two methyls (Table 1). The 1D NMR data of 1 showed resonances characteristic of a diketopiperazine framework similar to that of neosartin B [19], with the exception of a thiomethyl at δ_{C} 12.2 replacing a methoxyl of the latter, and this assignment was supported by the HMBC correlations (Figure 2) from the thiomethyl (δ_{H} 1.90) to the severely upfield-shifted C-3 (δ_{C} 76.7 in 1 and 93.6 in neosartin B). Detailed 2D analyses (HSQC, ¹H–¹H COSY, and HMBC, Figures S3–S5) supported the planar structure of 1 as depicted (Figure 2). HMBC correlations from the *N*-methyl (δ_{H} 3.32) to an amide carbonyl (δ_{C} 158.0, C-1) and a sp³ quaternary carbon (δ_{C} 76.7, C-3) and from the *O*-substituted sp³ methylene (δ_{H} 4.46 and 4.08, H₂-3a) to another amide carbonyl (δ_{C} 163.5, C-4), and the sp³ quaternary carbon revealed the diketopiperazine framework. COSY correlations of H-6/H-7/H-8/H-9 and HMBC correlations from H-10 (δ_{H} 7.30) to C-9 (δ_{C} 122.8), C-9a (δ_{C} 134.9), C-5a (δ_{C} 129.1), C-10a (δ_{C} 127.4), and C-1 (δ_{C} 158.0) and from H-6 (δ_{H} 8.44) to C-9a (δ_{C} 134.9) suggested the remaining fragments. The absolute structure of 1 was deduced by comparison of the experimental

and simulated electronic circular dichroism (ECD) spectra generated by time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) calculations (B3LYP/6-31G (d)) with Gaussian 09 [20]. The experimental ECD spectrum of **1** showed an ECD curve with Cotton effects around 300 (+), 256 (−) and 237 (+) nm, respectively (Figure 3a), which was in good accordance with the calculated ECD spectrum for (3*R*)-**1**, indicating that **1** had a 3*R*-configuration. Compound **1** was given the trivial name dichotocepin A.

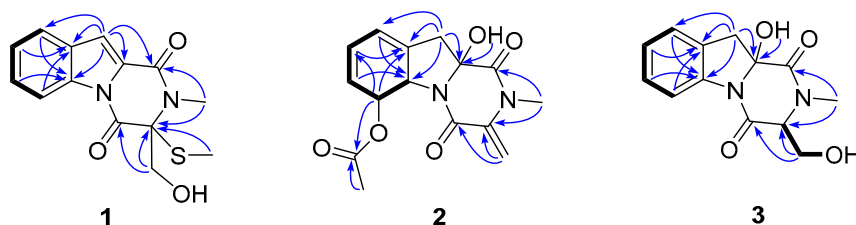


Figure 2. Key COSY (---) and HMBC (→) correlations for compounds 1–3.

Table 1. ¹H (500 MHz) and ¹³C (125 MHz) NMR data for compounds 1–3 (δ in ppm, *J* in Hz).

Position	1 ^a		2 ^b		3 ^b	
	δ _H , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)	δ _C , Type	δ _H , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)	δ _C , Type	δ _H , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)	δ _C , Type
1		158.0, C		164.2, C		165.2, C
3		76.7, C		138.4, C	4.29, t (3.6)	66.1, CH
3a	4.46, dd (12.0, 7.8) 4.08, dd (12.0, 4.8)	64.2, CH ₂	5.48, d (1.1) 5.02, d (1.1)	102.1, CH ₂	3.96, m	60.5, CH ₂
4		163.5, C		157.0, C		164.6, C
5a		129.1, C	4.98, d (14.0)	63.0, CH		128.8, C
6	8.44, dt (8.3, 1.0)	116.9, CH	5.75, d (14.0)	75.3, CH	7.97, d (7.7)	115.5, CH
7	7.47, ddd (8.3, 7.2, 1.0)	128.3, CH	5.54, d (9.6)	127.4, CH	7.26, t (7.7)	127.3, CH
8	7.26, ddd (8.0, 7.2, 1.0)	125.9, CH	5.99, m	125.4, CH	7.13, td (7.7, 1.1)	124.7, CH
9	7.42, dt (8.0, 1.0)	122.8, CH	5.94, m	118.5, CH	7.35, d (7.7)	125.2, CH
9a		134.9, C		135.9, C		140.0, C
10	7.30, d (1.0)	115.1, CH	2.88, d (15.3) 2.75, d (15.3)	41.7, CH ₂	3.53, d (17.2) 3.14, d (17.2)	39.7, CH ₂
10a		127.4, C		88.7, C		88.0, C
N-CH ₃	3.32, s	28.2, CH ₃	3.11, s	29.6, CH ₃	2.98, s	32.2, CH ₃
S-CH ₃	1.90, s	12.2, CH ₃				
OH-3a	3.39, t (7.1)				6.53, brs	
OH-10a			7.14, s		6.88, brs	
OAc			2.02, s	169.9, C 21.3, CH ₃		

^a Recorded in CDCl₃; ^b Recorded in DMSO-*d*₆.

Compound **2**, a colorless crystal, had the molecular formula of C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₅, as determined by HRESIMS (*m/z* 327.0953 [M + Na]⁺, C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₅Na; calcd. for 327.0957, Figure S15), corresponding to nine degrees of unsaturation. The ¹H NMR spectrum (Figure S9) revealed the presence of two singlet methyls [δ_H 2.02 (3H, s) and 3.11 (3H, s)], one sp³ methylene [δ_H 2.75 (1H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz) and 2.88 (1H, d, *J* = 15.3 Hz)], two *O*- or *N*-substituted sp³ methines [δ_H 4.98 (1H, d, *J* = 14.0 Hz) and 5.75 (1H, d, *J* = 14.0 Hz)], one terminal double bond methylene [δ_H 5.02 (1H, d, *J* = 1.1 Hz) and 5.48 (1H, d, *J* = 1.1 Hz)], three sp² methines [δ_H 5.54 (1H, d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 5.94 (1H, m) and 5.99 (1H, m)], and a deshielded hydroxyl group [δ_H 7.14 (1H, s)]. The ¹³C NMR, in combination with DEPT experiments (Figure S10), resolved 15 carbon resonances attributed to three ester or

peptide carbonyl carbons, two sp^2 quaternary carbons, three sp^2 methines, one sp^2 methylene, one sp^3 methylene, and two methyls. The above-mentioned information was quite similar to the diketopiperazine bis(dethio)-10a-methylthio-3a-deoxy-3,3a-didehydrogliotoxin [10], except for the presence of an acetoxy group and the absence of a single methyl in **2**, which was further confirmed by 1H - 1H COSY correlations of C-6/C-7/C-8/C-9 (Figure 2) and HMBC correlations from H-6 (δ_H 5.75) to the acetyl (δ_C 169.9) (Figures S11–S14).

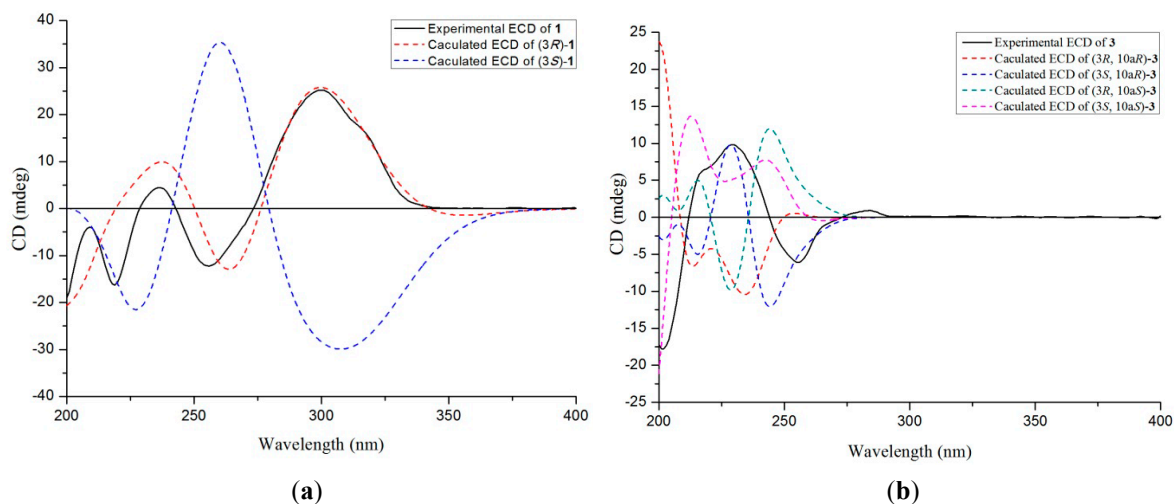


Figure 3. (a) Experimental ECD spectra of dichotocepin A (**1**) in MeOH and calculated ECD spectra of (3*R*)-**1** and (3*S*)-**1** (b) Experimental ECD spectra of dichotocepin C (**3**) in MeOH and calculated ECD spectra of (3*R*,10*aR*)-**3**, (3*S*,10*aR*)-**3**, (3*R*,10*aS*)-**3**, and (3*S*,10*aS*)-**3**. The calculated ECD spectra were computed at the B3LYP/6-31G (d) level.

As molecules possessing quaternary chiral center widely exist in nature, it has proven challenging via conventional spectroscopic methods to assign which antipodal series compound **2** belongs to. We thus resorted to a single-crystal X-ray diffraction experiment (Figure 4) using Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$). The structure including the absolute configuration of **2** was confirmed, and C-5*a*, C-6, and C-10*a* were assigned to *S*, *S*, *R* (absolute structure parameter: -0.12). Thus, the structure of **2** was established and given the trivial name dichotocepin B.

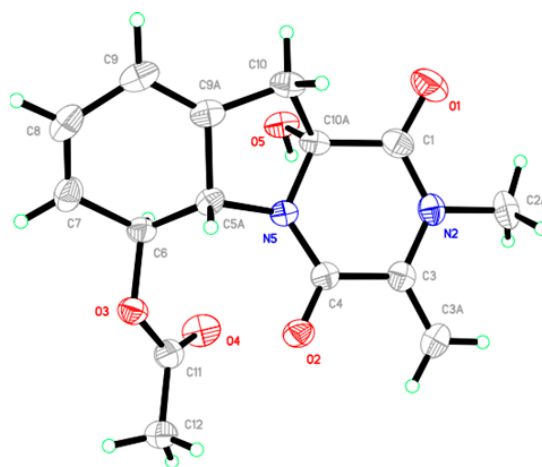


Figure 4. ORTEP diagram of compound **2**.

Compound **3**, a white solid, had the molecular formula of $C_{13}H_{14}N_2O_4$, as determined by HRESIMS (m/z 261.0888 [$M - H$] $^-$, $C_{13}H_{13}N_2O_4$, calcd. for 261.0875, Figure S23), corresponding to

eight degrees of unsaturation. The 1D NMR data of **3** (Figures S18 and S19) showed that it possessed the same diketopiperazine skeleton as **1**, and was quite similar to the known compound 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin [10]. The main differences between them were the presence of a triplet hydrogen and the downfield-shifted C-3 (δ_C 66.1 in **3** and δ_C 74.0 in 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin) and C-10a in **3** (δ_C 88.0 in **2** and δ_C 74.0 in 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin). The molecular weight of **3** was 46 amu, less than that of 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin, indicating the absence of the disulphide bond between C-3 and C-10a. HMBC correlations from OH-10a to C-10, C-10a, and C-1 revealed **3** was a 10a-OH derivative of 6-deoxy-5a,6-didehydrogliotoxin. This was supported by detailed 2D NMR spectra (Figure 2, Figure 2) analyses.

The absolute structure of **3** was also deduced by comparison of the experimental and calculated ECD spectra generated by TDDFT calculations. As illustrated in Figure 3b, the experimentally acquired CD spectrum for **3** agreed well with the ECD curve computed for (3*S*, 10a*R*)-**3**. Thus, the most likely absolute configuration of **3** was established as 3*S*, 10a*R*. Compound **3** was given the trivial name dichotocejpin C.

2.2. Cytotoxicity Assay

The *in vitro* cytotoxicities of compounds **1–11** were evaluated against the SF-268, MCF-7, NCI-H460, and HepG-2 tumor cell lines by the Sulforhodamine B (SRB) method. Compounds **4–6**, which have a disulfide bond, exhibited the most potent inhibitory activities against the four tumor cell lines with IC_{50} values in the range of 0.08–1.52 μ M (Table 2). Compounds **10** and **11** also showed significant inhibitory activities, whereas compounds **1**, **2**, **3**, and **7–9** were inactive or weak against these tumor cell lines.

Table 2. IC_{50} values of compounds **1–11** against four tumor cell lines and α -glucosidase.

Compounds	IC_{50} (μ M) ^a				
	SF-268	MCF-7	NCI-H460	HepG-2	α -glucosidase
1	35.7 \pm 2.1	29.5 \pm 2.3	>100	28.9 \pm 3.0	138 \pm 6.7
2	>100	>100	>100	>100	>500
3	>100	>100	>100	>100	>500
4	1.35 \pm 0.05	0.68 \pm 0.02	1.27 \pm 0.04	1.52 \pm 0.03	>500
5	0.24 \pm 0.10	0.08 \pm 0.0	0.24 \pm 0.01	0.21 \pm 0.01	>500
6	0.25 \pm 0.03	0.22 \pm 0.04	0.32 \pm 0.02	0.49 \pm 0.07	>500
7	>100	>100	>100	>100	>500
8	>100	>100	>100	>100	>500
9	>100	>100	>100	>100	>500
10	34.0 \pm 3.6	3.1 \pm 0.10	5.4 \pm 0.60	7.0 \pm 0.17	>500
11	3.3 \pm 0.28	4.67 \pm 1.4	12.3 \pm 0.24	2.29 \pm 0.30	>500
positive control	2.37 \pm 0.35 ^b	3.09 \pm 0.27 ^b	2.43 \pm 0.15 ^b	1.39 \pm 0.18 ^b	463 \pm 35 ^c

^a $\bar{x} \pm s$, $n = 3$; ^b Positive control was cisplatin; ^c Positive control was acarbose.

2.3. α -Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity Assay

All compounds were evaluated *in vitro* for α -glucosidase inhibitory activities. Compound **1** showed excellent inhibitory activity against α -glucosidase ($IC_{50} = 138 \mu$ M), being stronger than the positive control acarbose (an oral antidiabetic agent, $IC_{50} = 463 \mu$ M).

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. General Experimental Procedures

Optical rotations were measured using an Anton Paar MCP-500 (Anton Paar, Graz, Austria). Circular dichroism (CD) measurements were carried out under N_2 gas on a Jasco 820 spectropolarimeter (Jasco Corporation, Kyoto, Japan). IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu IR Affinity-1

spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan). UV spectra were measured on a Shimadzu UV-2600 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan). NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance-500 spectrometer (Bruker Corporation, Fremont, CA, USA) and referenced to the signals of tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. HRESIMS was measured on a Thermo MAT95XP high-resolution mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany) and ESIMS was measured on an Agilent Technologies 1290-6430A Triple Quad LC/MS (Agilent Technologies Inc., Santa Clara, CA, USA). A Shimadzu LC-20 AT (Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan) equipped with an SPD-M20A PDA detector (Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan) was used for HPLC, a YMC-pack ODS-A column (250 × 10 mm, 5 μm, 12 nm) was used for semi-preparative HPLC separation, and a YMC-pack SIL (250 × 20 mm, 5 μm, 12 nm, YMC CO., Ltd., Kyoto, Japan) and a YMC-pack ODS-A column (250 × 20 mm, 5 μm, 12 nm, YMC CO., Ltd., Kyoto, Japan) were used for preparative HPLC separation. Column chromatography: commercial silica gel (SiO₂; 200–300 mesh; Qingdao Marine Chemical Plant, Qingdao, China) and Sephadex LH-20 gel (Amersham Biosciences, Uppsala, Sweden). All solvents were of analytical grade (Guangzhou Chemical Regents Company, Ltd., Guangzhou, China).

3.2. Fungal Material and Identification

The fungal strain FS110 was isolated from a deep-sea sedimental sample in the South China Sea (19°0.368' N, 117°58.233' E; depth 3941 m). The isolate was identified as *Dichotomomyces cejpaii* FS110 based on ITS rDNA sequence analysis [9]. The sequence of the ITS region of the strain FS110 has been submitted to GenBank (Accession No. KF706672). By using BLAST (nucleotide sequence comparison program) to search the GenBank database, FS110 has 99.8% similarity with *Dichotomomyces cejpaii* NRRL 26980 (Accession No. EF669956). The strain was preserved at the Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Microbial Culture Collection and Application, Guangdong Institute of Microbiology. Working stocks were prepared on potato dextrose agar (PDA) slants and stored at 4 °C.

3.3. Fermentation, Extraction, and Isolation

A well-grown slant culture of *D. cejpaii* FS110 was used for preparation of the seed culture. Three pieces (0.5 × 0.5 cm²) of mycelial agar plugs of this strain were inoculated into 250 mL of PD medium (potato 200 g/L, glucose 20 g/L, KH₂PO₄ 3 g/L, MgSO₄·7H₂O 1.5 g/L, vitamin B₁ 10 mg/L, sea salt 15 g/L) in a 500 mL Erlenmeyer flask, and incubated for 2 days in a rotary shaker (200 r/m) at 28 °C. The seed cultures (10%) were then aseptically transferred into 500 mL of PD medium in 1000 mL Erlenmeyer flasks and shaken (120 r/m) at 28 °C for 7 days. A total of 100 L of fermentation broth was filtered to give the broth and mycelia. The broth was partitioned sequentially with EtOAc (4 × 25 L) to yield a dark brown oily residue (40.0 g), which was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel eluted with petroleum ether/EtOAc in linear gradient (30:1→1:1) and followed by CHCl₃/MeOH in linear gradient (10:1→0:1) to give 26 fractions (F1–F26). F2 was washed with MeOH to get **4** (4.8 mg). F6 was separated on a preparative reversed-phase (RP) HPLC system equipped with a YMC column (MeOH/H₂O, 50:50, 10 mL/min) to yield **1** (1.4 mg, *t_R* = 17 min) and **6** (1.0 g, *t_R* = 25 min). F10 was separated by column chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 (CHCl₃/MeOH, 1:1, *v/v*) to yield **5** (2.0 mg). F11 was subjected to a Sephadex LH-20 column eluting with CHCl₃/MeOH (1:1), then further purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluted with petroleum ether/EtOAc (5:1) to yield **7** (4.8 mg). F12 was separated by column chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 (CHCl₃/MeOH, 1:1, *v/v*), then further separated by semi-preparative HPLC on a C-18 column (YMC*GEL ODS-A, 120A S-5 μm, 250 × 10 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 40:60, 2 mL/min) to yield **2** (5.0 mg, *t_R* = 16.0 min), **9** (75.0 mg, *t_R* = 25.0 min), and **10** (75.0 mg, *t_R* = 31.0 min). F13 was separated by column chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 (CHCl₃/MeOH, 1:1, *v/v*) and then further purified by semi-preparative HPLC on a C-18 column (YMC*GEL ODS-A, 120A S-5 μm, 250 × 10 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 40:60, 2 mL/min) to yield **11** (3.3 mg, *t_R* = 18 min). F17 was separated by preparative HPLC on a C-18 column (YMC*GEL ODS-A, 120A S-5 μm, 250 × 20 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 50:50, 10 mL/min) to give 5 fractions (F17.1–F17.5).

F17.2 was further purification by semi-preparative HPLC on a C-18 column (YMC*GEL ODS-A, 120A S-5 μm , 250 \times 10 mm, MeCN/H₂O, 30:70, 2 mL/min) to give **8** (50.2 mg, t_R = 34 min). F17.3 was further purification by semi-preparative HPLC on a C-18 column (YMC*GEL ODS-A, 120A S-5 μm , 250 \times 10 mm, MeCN/H₂O, 20:80, 2 mL/min) to give **3** (9.0 mg, t_R = 19 min).

Dichotocejpın A (**1**): pale yellow solid; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +126.2 (*c* 0.1, MeOH); CD (MeOH, *c* 0.25 mg/mL) 209, 219, 237, 256 and 300 nm ($\Delta\epsilon$ −1.19, −4.93, +1.35, −3.71 and +7.63); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 207 (4.37), 244 (4.34), 296 (4.15) nm (Figure S8); IR ν_{max} 3372, 2955, 2922, 2853, 1709, 1636, 1587, 1429, 1391, 1358, 1259, 1026 cm^{-1} (Figure S7); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 291.0798 ([M + H]⁺, calcd for 291.0803).

Dichotocejpın B (**2**): colorless crystal; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +93.5 (*c* 0.1, MeOH); CD (MeOH, *c* 0.25 mg/mL) 217, 233 and 268 nm ($\Delta\epsilon$ −1.91, +1.00 and −4.68); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 205 (4.55), 232 (4.59) nm (Figure S17); IR ν_{max} 3273, 2958, 2924, 2855, 1732, 1682, 1612, 1367, 1258, 1026 cm^{-1} (Figure S16); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 327.0953 ([M + Na]⁺, calcd for 327.0957).

Dichotocejpın C (**3**): white solid; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +44.4 (*c* 0.1, MeOH); CD (MeOH, *c* 0.25 mg/mL) 230, 256 and 284 nm ($\Delta\epsilon$ +2.98, −1.85 and +0.29); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 206 (4.26), 246 (3.88), 277 (3.48), 284 (3.46) nm (Figure S25); IR ν_{max} 3294, 2941, 1672, 1643, 1603, 1487, 1431, 1400, 1078, 1056 cm^{-1} (Figure S24); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 261.0888 ([M − H][−], calcd for 261.0875).

3.4. Quantum-Chemical ECD Calculation

The quantum-chemical ECD calculation methods were used to establish the absolute configurations of compounds **1** and **3**. The compounds were charged using the Gasteiger–Hückel method and the preliminary random conformational search was performed with the SYBYL 8.0 software package using the MMFF94 molecular mechanics force field. The geometry optimizations were then performed by using DFT at the B3LYP/6-31G (d) level as implemented in the Gaussian 09 program package. The stable conformers obtained were subsequently submitted to ECD calculations by TDDFT calculations (B3LYP/6-31G (d)) with Gaussian 09.

3.5. Crystallographic Data for **2**

X-ray crystal data for dichotocejpın B (**2**). C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₅, M = 304.30 g/mol, orthorhombic, crystal size 0.400 \times 0.320 \times 0.230 mm³, space group P2₁2₁2₁, a = 8.58255(15) Å, b = 10.5549(2) Å, c = 16.0203(3) Å, $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$, V = 1451.24(5) Å³, Z = 4, D_{calcd} = 1.393 mg/m³, F(000) = 640. $\mu = 0.889 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, Cu K α radiation, $\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$, T = 150 (2) K, $5.018^\circ \leq 2\theta \leq 66.890^\circ$, 9943 reflections collected, 2531 unique (Rint = 0.0291). Final GooF = 1.123, R¹ = 0.0310, wR² = 0.0748 based on 2531 reflections with I > 2 σ (I) (refinement on F²), 424 parameters, 42 restraint. Lp and absorption corrections applied, m = 0.091 mm^{−1}. Flack parameter = −0.12 (9). Crystallographic data for **1** have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication No. CCDC 1491672. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax, +44-(0)-1223-336033; e-mail, deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

3.6. Cytotoxicity Assay

Cytotoxicities of compounds (**1–11**) were assayed against four tumor cell lines SF-268, MCF-7, NCI-H460, and HepG-2. Assays were performed by the SRB method [21].

3.7. α -Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity Assay

An assay of α -glucosidase inhibitory activity was performed as previously described [22].

4. Conclusions

In this study, eleven diketopiperazines, including three new ones, were isolated from the deep-sea-derived fungus *Dichotomomyces cejpui*. All the chemical structures, including absolute configurations, were established. Compounds 4–6, 10–11 exhibited significant cytotoxic activities against SF-268, MCF-7, NCI-H460, and HepG-2 tumor cell lines. By comparing the structures of these compounds, compounds 4–6, with a disulfide bridge, showed stronger cytotoxicities, which is accordance with the investigations reported in the literature [3,10,19]. Compound 1 is the first case of thio-diketopiperazines with excellent inhibitory activity against α -glucosidase, which might be useful for further developing α -glucosidase inhibitor and antidiabetic agents.

Supplementary Materials: The HRESIMS, IR, UV, and 1D and 2D-NMR spectra of compounds 1–3 (Figures S1–S25), ESIMS and 1D-NMR data of 4–11 (Figures S26–S47), can be accessed at: <http://www.mdpi.com/1660-3397/14/9/164/s1>.

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Author Contributions: Z.F. fractionated the extract, isolated the compounds, and elucidated structures; Z.-H.S. elucidated structures and wrote the paper; Z.L. performed the calculated ECD spectra experiment; Y.-C.C. and H.-H.L. performed the bioassays; H.-X.L. analyzed the data; W.-M.Z. designed and coordinated the study and reviewed the manuscript.

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