

# Cytotoxic Anomoian B and Aplyzanzine B, New Bromotyrosine Alkaloids from Indonesian Sponges

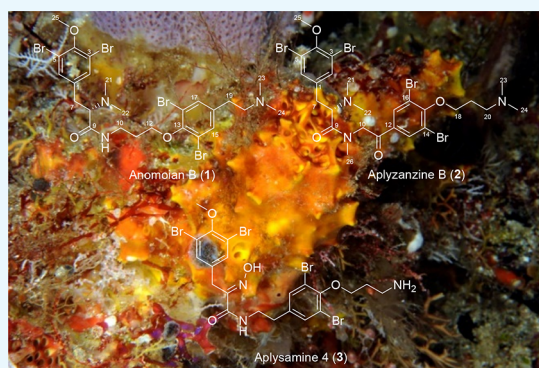
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## Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Two new bromotyrosine derivatives, anomoian B (1) and aplyzanzine B (2), were isolated, respectively, from the organic extracts of a *Verongida* sponge belonging to the *Hexadella* genus and from a two-sponge association (*Jaspis* sp. and *Bubaris* sp.), both collected off the coast of Indonesia. The planar structure of 1 and 2 was determined by 1D and 2D NMR experiments and by high-resolution mass spectrometry, while their absolute stereochemistry was assigned by comparison with optical rotation values of known bromotyrosines and by chemical degradation. Both compounds showed moderate anti-proliferative activity against a panel of different cancer cell lines. Their cytotoxic activity is facilitated through the induction of apoptosis, which is mediated neither by the generation of reactive oxygen species nor by the inhibition of histone deacetylases in these cell lines.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Marine sponges belonging to the order *Verongida* are devoid of spicules, and their characterization is a real challenge in terms of taxonomy.<sup>1</sup> However, the bromotyrosine derivatives that are distinctive of this type of sponges<sup>2</sup> have been used as chemotaxonomic markers and have been proved to be a useful tool to facilitate taxonomic identification.<sup>3</sup> Since the first report of (+)-aeropylsinin-1,<sup>3</sup> marine sponges of the order *Verongida* have been found to produce many bromotyrosine derivatives such as aerothionin,<sup>4</sup> purealidins,<sup>5,6</sup> purpurealidins,<sup>7</sup> purpuramines,<sup>6,8</sup> aplysamines,<sup>3</sup> pseudoceralidinone A,<sup>9</sup> and purealines.<sup>10</sup> Despite this, *Verongida* is not the only order of sponges where bromotyrosine derivatives have been found. Two-sponge associations, where at least one of the members belongs to the genus *Jaspis*, are also known to contain this kind of metabolites.<sup>11</sup>

From an ecological point of view, this type of compounds has evolved as a defense system against natural predators, with the exception of some nudibranchs and mollusks that can feed on these sponges.<sup>12</sup>

Some of these alkaloids have been described as antiproliferative, apolipoprotein E modulators or cytotoxic and antibacterial agents.<sup>2</sup> Previous studies of their molecular mechanism of action revealed that psammaplin<sup>13,14</sup> is an inhibitor of histone deacetylases (HDACs), whereas the small bromotyrosine derivatives<sup>15</sup> are potent apoptotic effectors.

## 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the course of our ongoing drug discovery program to find new antitumor agents from marine sponges,<sup>16,17</sup> extracts of two Indonesian samples were fractionated, guided by their cytotoxic activities, leading to the isolation of two new bromotyrosine derivatives. The first sample, an unknown species of the genus *Hexadella* (order *Verongida*) collected at Para Island in Indonesia, was extracted, and the soluble materials were subjected to reversed-phase chromatography to yield anomoian B (1, 0.037%, wet wt) as a colorless, amorphous solid together with the known bromotyrosine alkaloid aplysamine 4 (3) (Chart 1).<sup>14</sup> Previous chemical studies of marine sponges of the genus *Hexadella* reported the isolation of bromotyrosine derivatives related to aerothionin and bisindole alkaloids.<sup>19–21</sup>

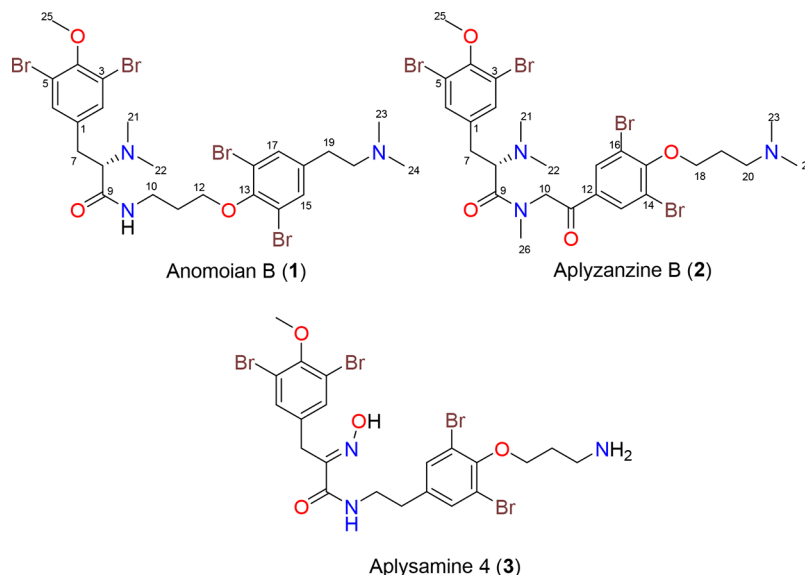
The second sample, a two-sponge association of *Jaspis* sp. and *Bubaris* sp. collected in Pulau Saujung in Indonesia, was extracted to give an organic extract, which after bioguided fractionation yielded aplyzanzine B (2, 0.057%, wet wt) as a brown amorphous solid. Although there are earlier reports of chemical studies of *Jaspis* genus sponges associated with another sponge genus,<sup>11</sup> this work constitutes the first study of a two-sponge association of *Jaspis* sp. and *Bubaris* sp. As far as we know, there is a just one chemical study of a sponge

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Chart 1



belonging to *Bubaris* genus that describes the isolation of a sesquiterpenoid isocyanide.<sup>22,23</sup>

The (+)-low-resolution electrospray ionization mass spectra (LRESIMS) data of **1** [ $[\alpha]_D + 10.5^\circ$  ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ )] showed the  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  ion as a cluster at  $m/z$  740, 742, 744, 746, and 748 in a 1:4:6:4:1 ratio, indicating the presence of four bromine atoms in the molecule. This was verified by subsequent (+)-high-resolution electrospray ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (HRESITOFMS) of the first isotopic peak at  $m/z$  739.9355  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{34}^{79}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ ,  $m/z$  739.9328), which in combination with its NMR data (Table 1) allowed us to propose the molecular formula of **1** as  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{33}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ .

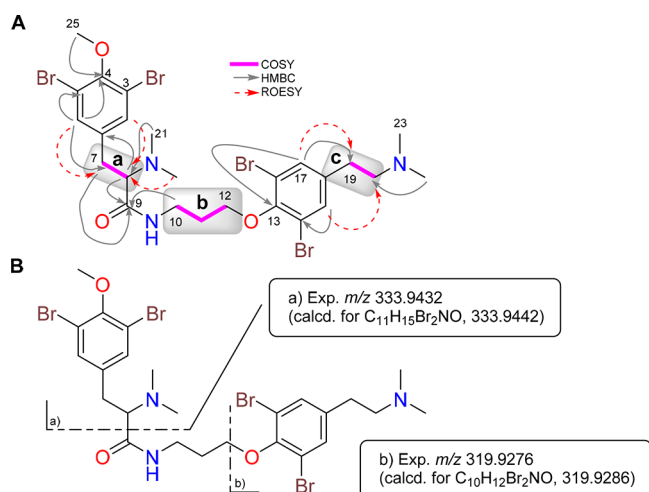
Maximum UV absorptions at 276 and 284 nm indicated a possible substituted benzoic system, whereas the diagnostic IR vibration at  $1673\text{ cm}^{-1}$  suggested the presence of an amide carbonyl group. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (see Table 1) disclosed signals owing to nine  $\text{sp}^2$  quaternary carbons including an amide ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  167.2), four  $\text{sp}^2$  methines, one  $\text{sp}^3$  methine, six  $\text{sp}^3$  methylenes, and five methyls.

Analysis of the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  correlation spectroscopy (COSY) along with the Distortionless Enhancement by Polarization Transfer (DEPT)-135-edited heteronuclear single-quantum correlation (HSQC) spectra of **1** revealed the presence of three spin systems: (a) 2-aminoethyl ( $\delta_{\text{C}7}$  34.3/ $\delta_{\text{H}7}$  3.36/3.00 and  $\delta_{\text{C}8}$  70.5/ $\delta_{\text{H}8}$  3.91), (b) 3-aminopropanol ( $\delta_{\text{C}10}$  38.0/ $\delta_{\text{H}10}$  3.51/3.28,  $\delta_{\text{C}11}$  30.6/ $\delta_{\text{H}11}$  1.84/1.70, and  $\delta_{\text{C}12}$  71.6/ $\delta_{\text{H}12}$  3.87/3.75), and (c) 2-aminoethyl ( $\delta_{\text{C}19}$  30.3/ $\delta_{\text{H}22}$  2.99 and  $\delta_{\text{C}20}$  59.1/ $\delta_{\text{H}23}$  3.33) (Figure 1A). Additionally, singlets observed in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** were assigned to a methoxy group ( $\delta_{\text{OMe}}$  61.1/ $\delta_{\text{OMe}}$  3.77), two dimethylamino groups ( $\delta_{\text{C}21,22}$  42.5/ $\delta_{\text{H}21,22}$  2.99 and  $\delta_{\text{C}23,24}$  43.6/ $\delta_{\text{H}23,24}$  2.93), and four aromatic protons ( $\delta_{\text{C}2,6}$  135.2/ $\delta_{\text{H}2,6}$  7.51 and  $\delta_{\text{C}15,17}$  134.4/ $\delta_{\text{H}15,17}$  7.57, 2H each), characteristic of two symmetrically dibromine-substituted aromatic rings. The three spin systems and the other groups were connected by the aid of a heteronuclear multiple-bond correlation (HMBC) experiment (see Figure 1A): (a) The methoxy group was located at C4 of one of the dibromine aromatic rings by the HMBC correlation between the Me25 protons at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.77 and the quaternary aromatic carbon C4 at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  155.1. Furthermore, the HMBC

**Table 1.** NMR Data of Anomoian B (1) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  and Aplyzanzine B (2) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

1			2		
pos.	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ type	$\delta_{\text{H}}^m$ (J in Hz)	pos.	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ type	$\delta_{\text{H}}^m$ (J in Hz)
1	134.5 C		1	133.4 C	
2	135.2 CH	7.51s	2	133.6 CH	7.40s
3	119.3 C		3	118.5 C	
4	155.1 C		4	153.9 C	
5	119.3 C		5	118.5 C	
6	135.2 CH	7.51s	6	133.6 CH	7.40s
7	34.3 $\text{CH}_2$	3.36m 3.00m	7	34.1 $\text{CH}_2$	3.22dd (12.4, 3.6) 3.09dd (12.4, 11.3)
8	70.5 CH	3.91dd (11.2, 4.6)	8	60.4 CH	4.97dd (11.3, 3.6)
9	167.2 C		9	166.8 C	
10	38.0 $\text{CH}_2$	3.51m 3.28m	10	54.9 $\text{CH}_2$	5.06d (17.5) 4.19d (17.5)
11	30.6 $\text{CH}_2$	1.84m 1.70m	11	189.3 C	
12	71.6 $\text{CH}_2$	3.87m 3.75m	12	132.5 C	
13	153.4 C		13	132.7 CH	8.03s
14	119.4 C		14	118.9 C	
15	134.4 CH	7.57s	15	157.0 C	
16	135.1 C		16	118.9 C	
17	134.4 CH	7.57s	17	132.7 CH	8.03s
18	119.4 C		18	69.9 $\text{CH}_2$	4.13t (5.5)
19	30.3 $\text{CH}_2$	2.99m	19	25.3 $\text{CH}_2$	2.32dq (11.2, 5.5)
20	59.1 $\text{CH}_2$	3.33m	20	55.5 $\text{CH}_2$	3.42m
21	42.5 $\text{CH}_3$	2.99s	21	40.0 $\text{CH}_3$	2.97s
22	42.5 $\text{CH}_3$	2.99s	22	40.0 $\text{CH}_3$	2.97s
23	43.6 $\text{CH}_3$	2.93s	23	42.9 $\text{CH}_3$	2.88s
24	43.6 $\text{CH}_3$	2.93s	24	42.9 $\text{CH}_3$	2.88s
25	61.1 $\text{CH}_3$	3.77s	25	60.7 $\text{CH}_3$	3.85s
			26	37.6 $\text{CH}_3$	2.75s

correlations between the aromatic protons H-2/6 and the C4 and C7 carbons connected the aromatic ring to the spin system a; correlations between the dimethylamino protons H21/H22 at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.99 and C8 at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  70.5 and between the proton H8 at



**Figure 1.** A) Selected two-dimensional (2D) NMR correlations of compound **1**. (B) (+)-HRESIMS of the fragments detected in a MS/MS experiment of **1**.

$\delta_{\text{H}8}$  3.91 and the carbonyl amide C9 allowed us to identify an  $N,N'$ -dimethylamino 4-methoxy-3,5-dibrominetyrosine unit, or “tyrosine” fragment, in **1**. (b) 3-Aminopropanol (spin **b**) was linked on one side to the former tyrosine fragment by an HMBC correlation between the methylene  $\text{H}_{210}$  protons at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.51/3.28 and the carbonyl amide C9 and on the other side to the second dibromine-substituted aromatic ring by the key long-range correlation between the methylene  $\text{H}_{212}$  at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.87/3.75 and the aromatic oxygenated carbon C13 at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  153.4. (c) Finally, the second 2-aminoethyl group (spin **c**) was connected on one side to the second dibromine-substituted aromatic ring by HMBC correlations between the aromatic protons H15/H17 at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.57 and the methylene carbon C19 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  30.3) and on the other side to the dimethylamino moiety through the HMBC correlation between methyl protons H23/24 at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.93 and the methylene carbon C20. These correlations allowed us to identify an  $N,N'$ -dimethylamino-3,5-dibrominetyramine unit (the “tyramine” fragment).

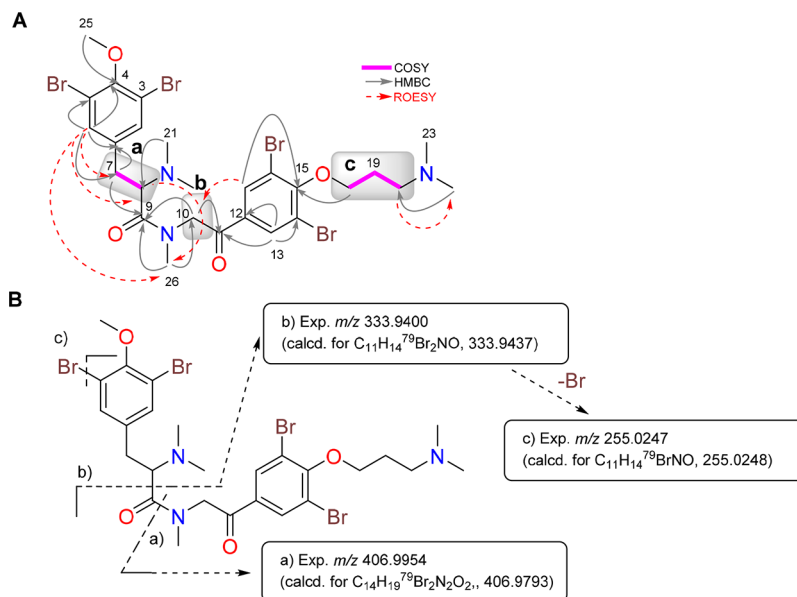
Nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) correlations between protons H2/6 and H7/8, H21/22 and H8, and H15/17 and H19/20 observed in a rotating-frame Overhauser effect spectroscopy (ROESY) experiment of **1** were consistent with the proposed structure (Figure 1A). Moreover, the proposed planar structure of **1** was further confirmed by the presence of diagnostically important peaks at  $m/z$  333.9432 and 319.9276 detected in the (+)-HRESIMS/MS experiment of **1** (Figure 1B), corresponding to selective fragmentation arising from the loss of both the tyrosine and tyramine fragments. All of this information allowed us to establish the structure of **1**, named anomoian B, as having a framework (tyrosine)–(“3-amino-propanol”)–(tyramine), similar to that found in the purpuramines.<sup>6,8</sup>

A similar approximation was chosen for the structure elucidation of **2**, namely, as aplyzanzine B. The molecular formula of aplyzanzine B (**2**) was determined as  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_3\text{O}_4$  based on the  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  ion peak observed at  $m/z$  767.9285 in its (+)-HRESITOF mass spectrum and on the NMR data (Table 1).

The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data (Table 1) of **2** showed the presence of the same  $N,N'$ -dimethylamino-4-methoxy-3,5-dibrominetyrosine unit (spin **a**), a 3-aminopropanol entity ( $\delta_{\text{C}18}$  69.9/ $\delta_{\text{H}18}$  4.13,  $\delta_{\text{C}19}$  25.3/ $\delta_{\text{H}19}$  2.32, and  $\delta_{\text{C}20}$  55.5/ $\delta_{\text{H}20}$  3.42) (spin **c**), a second dimethylamino group, and another symmetrically dibromine-substituted aromatic ring as in **1**. Furthermore, the NMR spectra of **2** showed the presence of additional diastereotopic methylene protons ( $\delta_{\text{C}10}$  54.9/ $\delta_{\text{H}10}$  5.06 and 4.19) (spin **b**), an  $N$ -methylamide group ( $\delta_{\text{C}26}$  37.6/ $\delta_{\text{H}26}$  2.75), and a ketone carbonyl group ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  189.3) instead of the second 2-aminoethyl group present in **1**.

Key HMBC correlations allowed us to identify the presence of a  $-\text{N}(\text{Me})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}-$  unit linked to the  $N,N'$ -dimethylamino-4-methoxy-3,5-dibrominetyrosine unit (tyrosine fragment) as follows:

- (1) HMBC cross peaks from the methylamide protons at  $\delta_{\text{H}26}$  2.75 to the carbonyl amide carbon C9 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  166.8) and the methylene carbon C10 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  54.9) and



**Figure 2.** A) Selected 2D NMR correlations of compound **2**. (B) (+)-HRESIMS of the fragments detected in a MS/MS experiment of **2**.

- (2) HMBC correlations from the diastereotopic methylene protons H<sub>2</sub>10 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.06 and 4.19) (spin **b**) to the carbon C9 and the ketone carbonyl carbon C11 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  189.3).

Moreover, long-range correlations from the aromatic protons H13/17 to the ketone carbonyl carbon C11 allowed us to link the  $-\text{N}(\text{Me})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}-$  unit to the second dibromine aromatic ring on the other side. Thus, an *N*-methylamino-3,5-dibrominetyramine unit (tyramine fragment) was identified as a substructure of **2**.

The second *N,N'*-dimethylamino group was linked to the 3-aminopropanol unit (spin **c**) by the HMBC correlations from methyl protons H23/24 at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.88 to the methylene carbon C20 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  55.5). Finally, spin **c** was in turn connected to the second dibromine aromatic ring by the long-range correlations from the methylene protons H<sub>2</sub>18 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.13) and from the aromatic protons H17/18 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  8.03) to the same aromatic carbon C15 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  157.0), completing the planar structure of compound **2** (Figure 2A).

Again, NOE correlations between aromatic protons H2/6 and H7/8, the methylamide protons H26 and H8, the diastereotopic methylene protons H<sub>2</sub>10 and aromatic protons H13/17, and the methylene protons H<sub>2</sub>20 and methyl protons H23/24 observed in a ROESY experiment of **2** agreed with the proposed structure (Figure 2A). Furthermore, the fragmentation pathway detected in the (+)-HRESIMS/MS experiment of **2**, displayed in Figure 2B, confirmed the proposed planar structure for **2**. In this way, the structure of compound **2** was shown to have a framework (tyrosine)–(tyramine)–(3-aminopropanol) similar to that present in aplysamine **4** (**3**). This compound was also isolated in this study and was identified by comparison of its spectral data with those reported by Scheuer and co-workers for aplysamine **4** (**3**)<sup>18</sup> isolated from the Verongida sponge *Psammaphysilla purpurea*.

The *S* absolute stereochemistry at C8 in both compounds was determined by comparing their  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  values (+10.5° for **1** and +47.5° for **2**) to those of similar compounds reported previously in the bibliography such as *iso*-anomoian ( $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  + 4.5°)<sup>12</sup> and suberedamine A ( $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  + 19.5°),<sup>10</sup> all containing an *L*-tyrosine residue. Bromotyrosines bearing a *D*-tyrosine moiety, such as ianthesine A ( $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  – 118°) and its degradation tyrosine derivative *N,N*-dimethyl-*D*-tyrosine ( $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  – 73°),<sup>25</sup> have been reported to have a negative sign  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  value.<sup>15</sup> It is important to notice that both compounds were subjected to high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) chiral analysis and just one peak was observed for each compound, ruling out a possible racemization at C8 position during the isolation and purification processes.

Aplyzanzine B (**2**) was hydrolyzed at 150 °C under acid conditions to afford bromotyrosines (*S*)-3,5-dibromo-*N,N*-dimethyltyrosine (**4**) and (*S*)-3-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(dimethylamino)propanoic acid (**5**) (Figure 3), whose

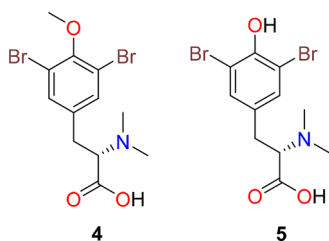


Figure 3. Compounds **4** and **5** obtained by hydrolysis of **2**.

structures were deduced by NMR spectral data and by (+)-HRESI mass spectra displaying molecular formulae of C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, respectively. The positive  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$  optical rotation values of +31° and +33° for **4** and **5**, respectively, confirmed the same absolute stereochemistry of C8 as established for **2**. (*R*)-3,5-Dibromo-*N,N*-dimethyltyrosine was obtained previously by acid hydrolysis of ianthesine A,<sup>25</sup> whereas compound **5** was reported as an intermediate in the synthesis of several bromotyrosine derivatives.<sup>26,27</sup>

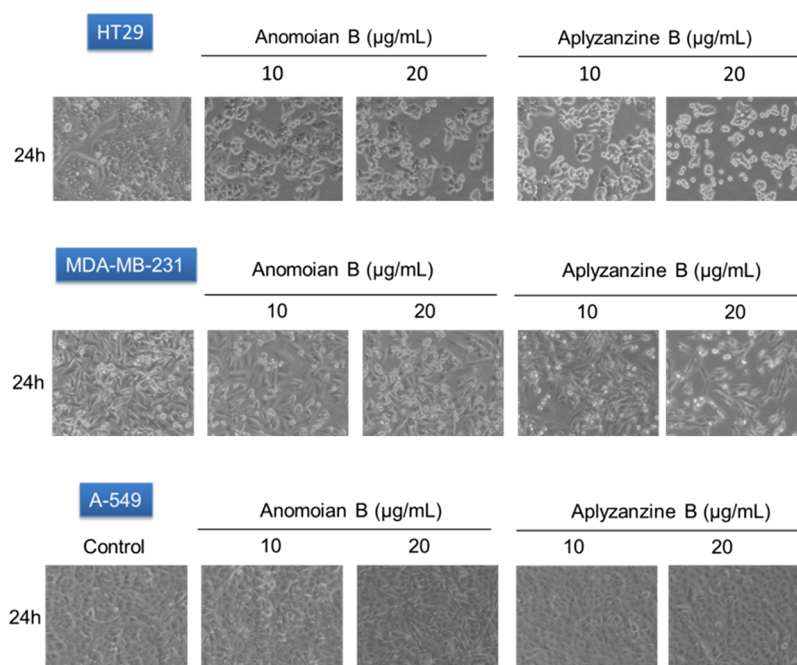
Aplyzanzine B (**1**) and anomoian B (**2**) exhibit significant cytotoxic activity against three human tumor cell lines from different tissues: A549 (lung carcinoma), HT-29 (colorectal adenocarcinoma), and MDA-MB-231 (breast adenocarcinoma). IC<sub>50</sub> values for anomoian B (**1**) in these cell lines are 5.1, 3.2, and 5.3 μM. IC<sub>50</sub> values for aplyzanzine B (**2**) are 6.1, 1.6, and 7.8 μM. The bromotyrosines **4** and **5** were also evaluated under the same conditions as **2** with the aim of determining a structure–activity relationship for this type of compounds. The lack of cytotoxic activity showed by compounds **4** and **5** seems to indicate that the rest of the molecule plays an important role in the cytotoxic activity of compounds **1** and **2**.

In order to get some insights into the mechanism of action of the cytotoxic activity of these compounds, a further study of cell death induction was performed.

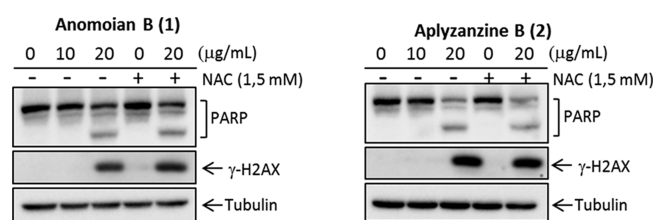
The data published by Su et al.<sup>15</sup> indicated that the cytotoxic activity of small bromotyrosine derivatives is mediated through the induction of apoptosis, also known as programmed cell death. During apoptosis, some proteins are cleaved by caspase-3 and they can be used as markers of cell death. Poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP-1) is a target of caspase-3, and its cleavage is considered to be a hallmark of apoptosis. PARP-1 cleavage can be easily detected by Western blot. In addition, the apoptotic program leads to DNA internucleosomal fragmentation; histone H2AX becomes rapidly phosphorylated when DNA is damaged (known as  $\gamma$ H2AX) and plays an important role in the execution of apoptosis. To investigate whether the antiproliferative effect of aplyzanzine B (**1**) and anomoian B (**2**) was due to the induction of apoptosis, three human tumor cell lines (the same ones in which cytotoxicity had been previously demonstrated, namely, A549, HT-29, and MDA-MB-231) were incubated with both compounds at 10 and 20 μg/mL for 24 h (also 48 h for A549).

HT-29 was the cell line with higher sensitivity to both compounds at 24 h. Morphological alteration characteristic of apoptosis, such as dense chromatin surrounded by a halo, was observed in the white-field microscopy images (Figure 4). Protein analysis by Western blot confirmed that, in HT-29 cells, both aplyzanzine B (**1**) and anomoian B (**2**) exerted their antiproliferative effect through the induction of apoptosis. Increasing concentrations of both compounds led to PARP cleavage and  $\gamma$ H2AX induction (Figure 5). It is important to notice that  $\gamma$ H2AX induction is not an effect of direct binding to DNA by these compounds. Band-shift assays have shown that, after incubation with these compounds, the electrophoretic migration of a 200 bp DNA fragment is not affected (data not shown).

We further investigated whether reactive oxygen species (ROS) were involved in the apoptosis induced by aplyzanzine B and anomoian B, as previously established for the dibromotyrosine derivative (1'*R*,5'*S*,6'*S*)-2-(3',5'-dibromo-1',6'-dihydroxy-4'-oxacyclohex-2'-enyl) acetonitrile (DT).<sup>15</sup> ROS play a critical role in cellular homeostasis, and their overproduction may induce apoptosis or other types of cell



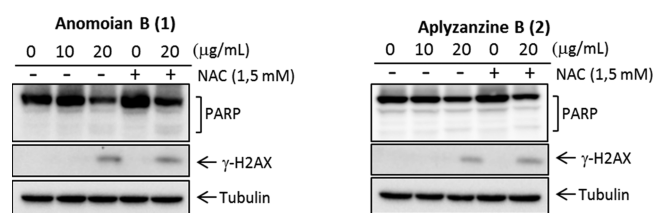
**Figure 4.** Images of human tumor cell lines HT-29, MDA-MB-231, and A-549 under different conditions assayed as indicated in the figure. Images were obtained at 20 $\times$  magnification with a white-field microscope.



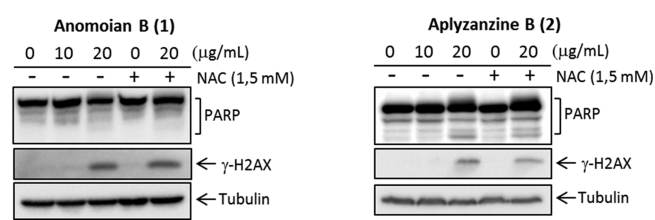
**Figure 5.** Detection of PARP and  $\gamma$ H2AX by Western blot in HT-29 at 24 h.

death. ROS scavenger NAC (*N*-acetylcysteine) was used to pretreat the cells in order to diminish the production of ROS. Pretreatment with 1.5 mM NAC did not avoid PARP cleavage and  $\gamma$ H2AX induction, indicating that ROS are not the main mediators of the apoptotic process triggered by these compounds in HT-29 cells.

MDA-MB-231 and A549 cells are more resistant to both compounds under the assay conditions used. In MDA-MB-231 cells, PARP processing is faintly detected at 24 h, as is also the case of  $\gamma$ H2AX induction (Figure 6). In A549 cells, incubation for 48 h with both compounds was necessary to detect PARP cleavage and  $\gamma$ H2AX induction (Figure 7). ROS scavenger NAC did not affect  $\gamma$ H2AX induction in these cell lines.

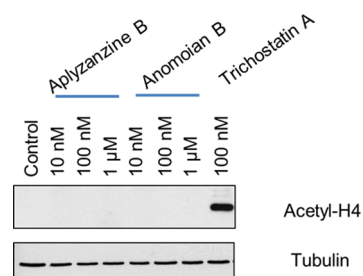


**Figure 6.** Detection of PARP and  $\gamma$ H2AX by Western blot in MDA-MB-231 at 24 h.



**Figure 7.** Detection of PARP and  $\gamma$ H2AX by Western blot in A549 at 48 h.

Previous studies have shown that the psammoplins, also bromotyrosine derivatives, inhibit HDACs.<sup>16</sup> HDAC inhibitors are a promising new class of anticancer agents that act by inhibiting cell proliferation and inducing cell cycle arrest in several cancer cell types. To analyze whether the antiproliferative effect of alyzanzine B (1) and anomoian B (2) was related to the HDAC inhibition, A549 cells were treated with both compounds at different concentrations. As a consequence of HDAC inhibition, acetylated histone 4 is accumulated in cells. The results, shown in Figure 8, indicated that neither of the compounds inhibited HDACs. Compounds 1 and 2 did not



**Figure 8.** Acetyl-H4 Western blot in A549 cells treated with different concentrations of alyzanzine B (1) and anomoian B (2). Trichostatin A was used as a positive control, and tubulin is shown as a loading control.



C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>34</sub><sup>79</sup>Br<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> *m/z* 739.9328). CD spectrum (MeOH) (see the Supporting Information).

**4.5. Aplyzanzine B (2).** Brown amorphous solid; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> + 47.5 (*c* 0.1, CH<sub>3</sub>OH); CD spectrum, see the Supporting Information; IR  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2972, 1684, 1544, 1474, 1424, 1261, 1200, and 1130 cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  259 nm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz) (see Table 1); HREITOFMS *m/z* 767.9285 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub><sup>79</sup>Br<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> *m/z* 767.9277). CD spectrum (MeOH) (see the Supporting Information).

**4.6. Acidic Hydrolysis of Aplyzanzine B.** Compound 2 was hydrolyzed in 6 N HCl at 150 °C for 72 h. The hydrolysate was dried under nitrogen and reconstituted in methanol. The residue was purified by HPLC {symmetry C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 4.6  $\times$  150 mm; linear gradient from 5 to 100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN [0.04% trifluoroacetyl (TFA)] in H<sub>2</sub>O [0.04% TFA] over 40 min, flow rate: 0.8 mL/min} to give compounds 4 and 5.

**4.7. (S)-3,5-Dibromo-N,N-Dimethyltyrosine (4).** Colorless amorphous solid; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> + 30 (*c* 0.1, CH<sub>3</sub>OH) HREITOFMS *m/z*: 378.9422 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub><sup>79</sup>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> *m/z*: 378.9419). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  7.53 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 6H).

**4.8. (S)-3-(3,5-Dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(dimethylamino)propanoic Acid (5).** Colorless amorphous solid; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> + 33 (*c* 0.1, CH<sub>3</sub>OH). HREITOFMS *m/z*: 365.9355 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub><sup>79</sup>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> *m/z*: 365.9355). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  7.37 (s, 2H), 3.74 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 6H).

**4.9. Evaluation of Cytotoxic Activity.** The cytotoxic activity of the isolated compounds was evaluated using a panel of three human tumor cell lines: A549 (lung), HT-29 (colon), and MDA-MB-231 (breast). Cells were maintained at 37 °C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 2 mM L-glutamine, and 100 units/mL penicillin–streptomycin. To determine the cell viability, cells were washed twice with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), fixed for 15 min in 1% glutaraldehyde solution, rinsed twice in PBS, and stained in 0.4% sulforhodamine B solution for 30 min at room temperature. Cells were then rinsed several times with 1% acetic acid solution and were air-dried. SRB was then extracted with a 10 mM Trizma base solution, and the absorbance was measured at 490 nm. GI<sub>50</sub> values (concentration of drug that produces a 50% inhibition of cell growth) were calculated using Prism v5.02 software (GraphPad, La Jolla, USA). Experiments were performed in triplicate.

**4.10. Western Blotting Analysis.** Cell protein extracts were prepared following standard procedures in a radioimmunoprecipitation assay buffer in the presence of protease inhibitors (Complete, Roche Diagnostics) and phosphatase inhibitors (PhosSTOP, Roche Diagnostics). After quantification with the BCA protein assay kit (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA), 20  $\mu$ g of protein was separated by sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and transferred onto poly(vinylidene difluoride) membranes (Immobilon-P, Millipore, Billerica, MA, USA). After hybridizing with the appropriated primary [PARP (Santa Cruz),  $\gamma$ H2AX and acetyl-histone H4 (Upstate, Millipore), and tubulin (Sigma)] and secondary antibodies (Santa Cruz), blots were developed by a peroxidase reaction using the electrochemical luminescence

detection system (Amersham-G.E. Healthcare, Little Chalfont, UK).

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acsomega.7b00417.

<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, gHSQC, gCOSY, gHMBC, TOCSY, ROESY NMR, and CD spectra of anomoian B (1) and aplyzanzine B (2) and LRESIMS and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 4 and 5 (PDF)

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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