



# HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

*J Org Chem.* Author manuscript; available in PMC 2020 March 22.

Published in final edited form as:

*J Org Chem.* 2018 November 02; 83(21): 13256–13266. doi:10.1021/acs.joc.8b02070.

## Trichophycins B-F, chlorovinylidene-containing polyketides isolated from a cyanobacterial bloom

Matthew J. Bertin<sup>†,\*</sup>, Josep Sauri<sup>‡</sup>, Yizhou Liu<sup>§</sup>, Christopher W. Via<sup>†</sup>, Alexandre F. Roduit<sup>†</sup>, R. Thomas Williamson<sup>‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881, United States

<sup>‡</sup>Structure Elucidation Group, Analytical Research & Development, Merck and Co. Inc., Boston, MA 02115, United States

<sup>§</sup>Structure Elucidation Group, Analytical Research & Development, Merck and Co. Inc., Rahway, NJ 07065, United States

### Abstract

NMR-guided isolation (based on 1D <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR resonances consistent with a chlorovinylidene moiety) resulted in the characterization of five new highly functionalized polyketides, trichophycins B-F (**1-5**) and one non-chlorinated metabolite tricholactone (**6**) from a collection of *Trichodesmium* bloom material from the Gulf of Mexico. The planar structures of **1-6** were determined using 1D and 2D NMR spectroscopy, mass spectrometry and complementary spectroscopic procedures. Absolute configuration analysis of **1** and **2** were carried out by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of diastereomeric Mosher esters in addition to ECD spectroscopy, *J*-based configuration analysis and DFT calculations. The absolute configurations of **3-6** were proposed based on comparative analysis of <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts, relative configurations, and optical rotation values to compounds **1** and **2**. Compounds **1-5** represent new additions to the trichophycin family and are hallmarked by a chlorovinylidene moiety. These new trichophycins and tricholactone (**1-6**) feature intriguing variations with respect to putative biosynthetic starting units, halogenation, and terminations and trichophycin E (**4**) features a rare alkynyl bromide functionality. The phenyl-containing trichophycins showed low cytotoxicity to neuro-2A cells, while the alkyne-containing trichophycins showed no toxicity.

### Graphical Abstract

\*Corresponding Author. Tel: (401) 874-5016; fax: (401) 874-2181, mbertin@uri.edu. *Author Mailing Address:* Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy URI, University of Rhode Island, 7 Greenhouse Road, Avedisian Hall, Room 495M, Kingston, RI 02881.

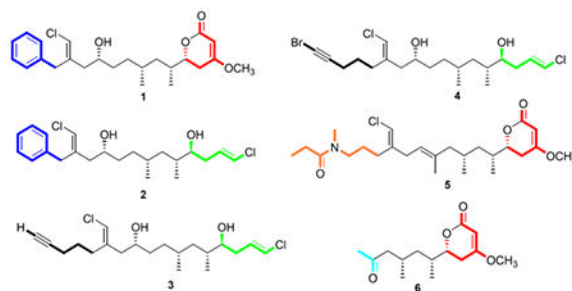
Author Contributions

The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

**Publisher's Disclaimer:** This document is the Accepted Manuscript version of a Published Work that appeared in final form in *The Journal of Organic Chemistry*, copyright © American Chemical Society after peer review and technical editing by the publisher. To access the final edited and published work see <https://pubs.acs.org/articlesonrequest/AOR-vRKxX4NKsdfyWkM93BEB>

Supporting Information

Tables of NMR spectroscopic data, DFT and *J*-coupling analysis, 1D and 2D NMR data, CD data, <sup>1</sup>H NMR of MTPA derivatives and dose-response curves for compounds **1-6** are available free of charge at <http://pubs.acs.org>.



## INTRODUCTION

Filamentous marine cyanobacteria continue to be an important source for the isolation of chemically diverse and biologically active secondary metabolites.<sup>1–4</sup> Many of these molecules recognizably derive from polyketide synthase (PKS) biosynthetic pathways, non-ribosomal peptide synthetase (NRPS) pathways, or mixed PKS-NRPS pathways.<sup>5</sup> Variations in the biosynthetic architecture that create these metabolites has led to remarkable chemical diversity and the evaluation of these cyanobacterial secondary metabolites in a broad range of biological assays has led to the identification of therapeutically-relevant biological activities including cytotoxicity,<sup>6,7</sup> neuromodulation,<sup>8,9</sup> anti-parasitism,<sup>10</sup> and anti-inflammation.<sup>11</sup> The availability of chloride, bromide and iodide in seawater and the action of halogenase enzymes in cyanobacterial biosynthetic pathways allows halide incorporation into marine natural products.<sup>12</sup> Prior examples isolated from cyanobacteria include the lipoamides jamaicamide A,<sup>13</sup> several vinyl chloride-containing malyngamides,<sup>14,15</sup> and the polyketide kimbelactone.<sup>16</sup>

The vinyl chloride containing trichotoxins<sup>17</sup> and the cytotoxic linear polyketide trichophycin A<sup>18</sup> have been isolated from an environmental bloom of *Trichodesmium* by our laboratory. In an effort to gain greater insight into the secondary metabolite profile of these ecologically relevant bloom events and the chemical speciation of the chlorovinylidene-containing trichophycins, we examined lipophilic extracts and fractions of bloom material remaining in our laboratory from an event in the Gulf of Mexico in 2014. Six structurally similar compounds, five of which were halogenated and all presumably derived from a PKS system, were isolated and evaluated for cytotoxicity against the neuro-2A mouse neuroblastoma cell line. These new trichophycins and tricholactone (**1-6**) feature intriguing variations with respect to putative biosynthetic starting units, halogenation and terminations with trichophycin B (**1**), trichophycin F (**5**) and tricholactone (**6**) terminating in a functionalized lactone moiety and trichophycins C-E (**2-4**) featuring a terminal vinyl chloride group (Figure 1). A structure-activity relationship (SAR) suggests that phenyl-containing trichophycins and those with greater polyol character possess more significant cytotoxicity.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Characterization of 1-6.

The extraction of *Trichodesmium* bloom material and fractionation of the crude extract guided by evaluation of 1D <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra led to the isolation of six

structurally similar compounds (**1-6**). Trichophycin B (**1**) was isolated as an optically active pale yellow oil. HRESIMS analysis of **1** gave an  $[M+H]^+$  of  $m/z$  421.2153, suggesting a molecular formula of  $C_{24}H_{33}ClO_4$  and a requirement of 8 degrees of unsaturation. Examination and comparison of the  $^{13}C$  NMR, and 2D NMR spectra aided by a multiplicity-edited HSQC experiment showed the presence of 3 methyls, one of which was a methoxy group, 6 methylenes, 11 methines and 2 moderately deshielded olefinic carbons ( $\delta_C$  138.7 and 138.2), 1 deshielded olefinic carbon ( $\delta_C$  173.3), and 1 carbonyl carbon with a chemical shift consistent with that of an ester group ( $\delta_C$  167.7) (Table 1). The  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra of **1** showed the characteristic signals of an aromatic ring for positions 15-20. Deshielded diastereotopic methylene protons ( $H_2$ -14,  $\delta_H$  3.75, 3.51) showed HMBC correlations to the quaternary carbon of the aromatic ring (C-15,  $\delta_C$  138.2) and to a moderately polarized olefin comprised of a quaternary carbon (C-13,  $\delta_C$  138.7) and a carbon (C-21,  $\delta_C$  115.4) bearing a singlet methine proton at  $\delta_H$  6.07. These chemical shifts were consistent with the presence of a vinyl chloride functionality, and considering the aromatic moiety, accounted for 5 of the 8 required degrees of unsaturation. NOE correlations between H-21 ( $\delta_H$  6.07) and  $H_2$ -12 ( $\delta_H$  2.17, 2.07) and H-11 ( $\delta_H$  3.60) supported a *E* geometry of the chlorovinylidene group. Moderately deshielded methylene protons  $H_2$ -12 (H-2a,  $\delta_H$  2.17; H-2b,  $\delta_H$  2.07) showed HMBC correlations to the vinyl chloride-containing olefin, and examination of the  $^1H$ - $^1H$  COSY spectrum showed an extended spin system from  $H_2$ -12 to  $H_2$ -4 (Figure 2) and protons were correlated by interpretation of COSY NMR data. The H-5 oxymethine was considerably deshielded ( $\delta_H$  4.25) and showed correlations to  $H_2$ -4 ( $\delta_H$  2.58, 2.17) and an HMBC correlation to C-1 ( $\delta_C$  167.7). The  $H_2$ -4 methylene group showed HMBC correlations to an extremely polarized olefin (C-3,  $\delta_C$  173.3; C-2,  $\delta_C$  90.3), and H-4a showed an HMBC correlation to C-1. An HMBC correlation from the  $H_3$ -24 methoxy group to C-3 completed the characterization of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated  $\delta$ -lactone with a methoxy group at the  $\beta$  position. This functionalized lactone satisfied the 3 remaining degrees of unsaturation and completed the planar structure of **1**.

HRESIMS analysis of **2** gave an  $[M+H]^+$  of  $m/z$  399.1853, suggesting the molecular formula of  $C_{22}H_{32}Cl_2O_2$  and a requirement of 6 degrees of unsaturation for this molecule. Using correlative information from 1D and 2D NMR experiments for **2**, a polyketide chain was constructed from position 3 to position 22 in **2** nearly identical to that of position 4 to position 23 in trichophycin B (**1**) (cf. Tables 2 and 3). However, in **2** the oxygen-bearing carbon (C-4) is not part of a lactone ring functionality as it is in **1** as the more shielded oxymethine proton in **2** (H-4,  $\delta_H$  3.45) compared to that of **1** (H-5,  $\delta_H$  4.25) supported the free secondary alcohol. Whereas **1** is hallmarked by an extended polyketide chain which ultimately terminates in a lactone ring, the allylic methylene protons at position 3 in **2** ( $H_2$ -3,  $\delta_H$  2.24, 2.13) showed HMBC correlations to a polarized olefin with chemical shifts consistent with that of a terminal vinyl chloride functionality. The C-1/C-2 olefin in **2** was determined to be *E* by virtue of a large vicinal  $^1H$ - $^1H$  coupling constant (13.2 Hz). NOE correlations established the chlorovinylidene group adjacent to the phenyl moiety as *E* in trichophycin C (**2**), identical to that of **1**.

HRESIMS analysis of **3** gave an  $[M+H]^+$  of  $m/z$  375.1855, suggesting a molecular formula of  $C_{20}H_{32}Cl_2O_2$  and a requirement of 4 degrees of unsaturation. Examination of the  $^{13}C$

NMR spectrum of **3** showed nearly identical signals to trichophycin C (**2**), with the exception of aromatic carbon signals, which were absent in **3** (Table 3).  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  correlations were made following interpretation of HMBC and COSY spectra, respectively, and established a partial structure of **3** identical to that of **2** from position 1 to position 12. Correlation analysis showed that the allylic methylene group H<sub>2</sub>-13 was coupled to a more shielded methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-14,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.69). Additionally, correlations showed that the H<sub>2</sub>-14 methylene group was coupled to a second deshielded methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-15,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.24). This methylene group showed HMBC correlations to the C-16 quaternary carbon ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  83.9) and a carbon (C-17,  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  68.8) with an attached proton at  $\delta$ 1.99 establishing an alkyne functionality and completing the planar structure of trichophycin D (**3**). The NOE correlations and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  vicinal coupling constants showed that the chlorovinylidene and terminal vinyl chloride groups in **3** and had identical geometry to those in **2**.

HRESIMS analysis of **4** gave an  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  of  $m/z$  453.0961, suggesting a molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{32}\text{BrCl}_2\text{O}_2$  and a requirement of 4 degrees of unsaturation. Examination of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR signals showed that **4** was nearly identical in structure to **3** with the exception of the alkyne functionality (cf. Tables 2 and 3). The C-17 signal in **4** ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  38.4) showed no proton attachment and was tremendously shifted upfield from that in **3** ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  68.8). The upfield shift of C-16 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  83.9 in **3**,  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  79.9 in **4**) and the information gained from mass spectrometric analysis strongly supported an alkynyl bromide functionality in trichophycin E (**4**). The relative configurations of **4** were identical to that of **3**. An alkynyl bromide functionality is also found in the mixed polyketide-peptide jamaicamide A and the alkyne signals in trichophycin E ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  79.9 and 38.4) matched those of jamaicamide A quite well ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  79.9 and 38.2).<sup>13</sup>

HRESIMS analysis of **5** gave an  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  of  $m/z$  454.2739, suggesting a molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{40}\text{ClNO}_4$ , and a requirement of 6 degrees of unsaturation. Examination of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **5** showed certain resonances with split signals in a 1:1 ratio. This phenomenon has been observed in several cyanobacteria metabolites with methylated tertiary amides such as smenamides A and B and kalkitoxin.<sup>19,20</sup> After examining NOE correlations, these split signal effects were determined to be the result of conformers in the *E* and *Z* configuration at a tertiary amide functionality in **5**. 1D and 2D NMR analysis of **5**, led to the assignment of a partial structure that was identical to that of trichophycin B (**1**) from C-1 to C-9 including the methyl branches at C-6 and C-8 (Table 4). In a second partial structure, a moderately deshielded diastereotopic methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-14,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.19) was correlated by interpretation of COSY spectra to a second methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-15,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.63) which itself was correlated to a third methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-16,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.34). This deshielded methylene was correlated by examination of HMBC spectra to C-20 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  34.4) and the C-17 carbonyl ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  173.4). A methylene (H<sub>2</sub>-18,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.33) and methyl triplet (H<sub>3</sub>-19,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.06) showed an HMBC correlation to C-17 and characterized the western half of **5** with an *N*-methyl propanamide functionality. H<sub>2</sub>-14 showed HMBC correlations to C-13 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  142.2) and C-21 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  112.6) establishing the chlorovinylidene moiety of the trichophycins. NOE correlations from H-21 to H-11 supported the chlorovinylidene configuration as *E*. The chemical shift value at C-22 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  15.0) and NOE correlations from H-11 to H<sub>2</sub>-9 and H<sub>3</sub>-22 to H<sub>2</sub>-12 supported an *E* configuration of C10/C11 olefin. H<sub>2</sub>-12 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.85) showed HMBC

correlations to C-13 and C-21 as well as C-11 ( $\delta_C$  121.9) and the C-10 quaternary carbon ( $\delta_C$  136.8). A methyl correlated to C-10 by HMBC (H<sub>3</sub>-22 ( $\delta_H$  1.63) and an HMBC correlation from H<sub>2</sub>-9 to C-10 connected to two partial structures and completed the planar structure of **5**.

HRESIMS analysis of **6** gave an [M+H]<sup>+</sup> of  $m/z$  255.1595, suggesting a molecular formula of C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and a requirement of 4 degrees of unsaturation. NMR analysis determined that **6** contained the functionalized lactone moiety present in **1** and supported an identical planar structure from C-1 to C-8 in **6** as that from C-1 to C-8 in **1** including the position of the methyl groups (Table S2). However, in **6**, a deshielded methylene group (H<sub>2</sub>-9,  $\delta_H$  2.44 and 2.18) showed HMBC correlations to C-8 and a carbonyl at C-10 ( $\delta_C$  208.9). A considerably deshielded methyl group at H<sub>3</sub>-11 ( $\delta_H$  2.08) showed HMBC correlations to C-10 and C-9 and completed the planar structure of tricholactone (**6**).

### Stereochemical assignment of **1**.

The absolute configuration assignment of the trichophycins was challenging due to the occurrence of non-adjacent secondary alcohol groups in compounds **2-4**, the presence of multiple stereocenters, and highly overlapped methylene regions in the 1D <sup>1</sup>H NMR data.

Initial work to address this challenge began with assignment of the absolute configuration for the C-11 center of **1**. This was determined by a modified Mosher's esterification procedure<sup>21</sup> using two equal portions of **1** that were acylated with *R*-(-)- and *S*-(+)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride ( $\alpha$ -MTPA-Cl). These reactions yielded the C-11 *R* ester from (*S*)-MTPA-Cl and the C-11 *S* ester from (*R*)-MTPA-Cl. Examination of the 1D <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H TOCSY spectra of the individual esters allowed calculation of ( $\delta_H S - \delta_H R$ ) values. These results showed negative ( $\delta_H S - \delta_H R$ ) values for H-21, H-14a, H-14b, H-12a and H-12b and positive ( $\delta_H S - \delta_H R$ ) values for H-10a, H-10b, H-9a, H-9b, H-8, H-7a, H-7b, H-4a, H-4b, and H-22 thus supporting an 11*R* configuration. The configuration of C-5 in **1**, **5** and **6** was assigned as *R* following determination of the axial orientation of H-5 (large vicinal coupling constant between H-5 and H-4a,  $J = 13.0$  Hz) and examination of ECD spectra of each compound which showed a positive  $n \rightarrow \pi$  Cotton effect at 244 nm (Figures S43–S45). The stereochemistry at C-5 in these compounds was determined using the rules of Sneath and Beecham<sup>22,23</sup> coupled with a comparison of ECD curves of previously characterized similar molecules.<sup>24,25</sup>

The absolute configurations at C-6 and C-8 in **1** were addressed by application of the *J*-based configuration analysis method and supported by DFT calculations, which were performed for the four possible stereo-configurations, i.e. C11*RC*8*SC*6*SC*5*R*, C11*RC*8*SC*6*RC*5*R*, C11*RC*8*RC*6*SC*5*R* and C11*RC*8*RC*6*RC*5*R*. The configurations at C-11 and C-5 were kept fixed in each case. Briefly, 200 conformers generated through a previously described procedure<sup>26</sup> were submitted to *Gaussian 09* for geometry optimization at the B3LYP/6-31g(d,p) level of theory. Vibrational frequencies were calculated with the "freq" *Gaussian* keyword. After discarding redundant structures and structures with imaginary frequencies, the remaining conformers were ranked based on the sum of electronic and thermal free energies. For those conformers whose energies were within the

2.2 kcal/mol window of the lowest energy conformer,  $J$ -couplings were calculated in *Gaussian 09* at the B3LYP/6-311+g(d,p) level of theory; the “mixed” Gaussian keyword was used to request a two-step coupling calculation.<sup>27</sup> Finally, the  $J$ -couplings were averaged across the lowest energy conformers based on their calculated Boltzmann populations. The number of conformers used for  $J$ -coupling averaging and their respective Boltzmann distributions for each diastereomer are listed in Table 5.

Key calculated coupling constants obtained from the DFT calculations were compared to experimental  $J$ -coupling values measured using a variety of NMR experiments such as PSYCHEDELIC<sup>28</sup> for the determination of  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  coupling constants and HSQC-TOCSY IPAP,<sup>29</sup> sel-HSQMBC IPAP,<sup>30</sup> and HMBC IPAP<sup>31</sup> for the measurement of long-range  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  coupling constants. Unfortunately, the number of relevant experimental couplings that could be measured from all these techniques was still somewhat limited. Nonetheless, as shown in Table 6, a unique and optimal fit appeared for the C11*RC8RC6RC5R* configuration. This assignment was strengthened based on the key  $^2J_{\text{H6-C5}}$  coupling, which was measured to be a “small” value (< 2 Hz) that was only compatible with the proposed configuration (Table 6, shaded line).

To further bolster the preliminary stereochemical assignment, we carefully examined the most stable conformers for each of the four possible configurations obtained from the DFT output and carefully analyzed the 2D NOESY data. According to DFT, a strong NOE between H-5 and H-8 should be expected for the C8*RC6R* stereo-configuration, but not for the other three diastereomers.

The  $\langle R^{-6} \rangle$  averaged distance of H-5—H-8 for C8*RC6R* among the lowest energy conformers within a 2.2 kcal/mol cut-off window was 2.2, 4.2, 3.5 and 4.6 Å for C8*RC6R*, C8*RC6S*, C8*SC6R*, and C8*SC6S*, respectively. Acquisition of a high-resolution 2D NOESY spectrum was required to overcome some overlapping issues, which in combination with a 1D selective NOE experiment, shown in Figure 3, provided clear evidence of an NOE correlation between H-5 and H-8, thus further supporting the C8*RC6RC5R* stereochemistry.

### Stereochemical assignment of **2**.

In analogy to the work done to assign the absolute configuration of **1**, we were able to generate and analyze bis-MTPA esters of **2**. Examination of the 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectra of the individual bis-esters allowed calculation of  $(\delta_{\text{H}S}-\delta_{\text{H}R})$  values. These results revealed negative  $(\delta_{\text{H}S}-\delta_{\text{H}R})$  values for H-19, H-15, H-13a, H-20 and H-11 and positive  $(\delta_{\text{H}S}-\delta_{\text{H}R})$  values for H-9, H-8, H-7, H-6a, H-6b, H-5, H-4, H-21 and H-22. Additional negative  $(\delta_{\text{H}S}-\delta_{\text{H}R})$  values for H-3, H-2 and H-1 supported configurations of 10*R* and 4*S*.

Initial analysis of  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  couplings indicated the **2** was quite flexible so the stereochemical assignment of C-7 and C-5 was carried out by  $J$ -based configuration analysis supplemented with computational modeling by DFT, similarly adopted from the work done for **1**. Four different stereo-configurations were considered, including C7*RC5R*, C7*RC5S*, C7*SC5R*, and C7*SC5S*, with C-10 and C-4 fixed to *R* and *S*, respectively. To better account for the flexibility of the molecule, geometry optimization was conducted at two different levels of

theory in *Gaussian* 09, namely B3LYP/6-31g(d,p) and M062X/6-31g(d,p). These results are summarized in Table S3.

Calculation of *J*-couplings was performed as described previously for **1**, and the averaged *J*-couplings are listed in Table 7 along with experimentally measured values. As is clearly shown in Table 7, the RMSD between theoretically calculated and experimentally measured *J*-couplings is the lowest for *C7RC5R*, using both B3LYP and MO62X functionals. The RMSDs of the other diastereomers are 2-3 fold larger. In Table S4 we compared the average *J*-couplings obtained from conformational distributions calculated at the B3LYP/6-31g(d,p) and MO62X/6-31g(d,p) levels of theory, in order to estimate the “error-bars” on the theoretical values. The relatively small RMSD between the theoretical couplings from B3LYP and MO62X, ranging from 0.7 to 1 Hz for the different stereoisomers, indicate good consistency between these two levels of theory. These results clearly favor *C7RC5R* as the correct stereoisomer for **2** and when taken together with the analysis of the Mosher esters support a *10R,7R,5R,4S* absolute configuration assignment for **2** (Figure 4).

The absolute configuration of **3** and **4** was proposed by analogy to **2** based on <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts of the stereogenic carbons (Table 3,  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  **2-3**; **2-4** values) and comparison of the relative configuration. The absolute configuration of C-5 in **5** and **6** was determined using ECD and remaining absolute configurations are proposed by relative configuration comparison to **1**.

### Cytotoxic Activity.

Trichophycin B (**1**) had an EC<sub>50</sub> value against neuro-2A cells of  $14.8 \pm 2.4 \mu\text{M}$ . Trichophycin C (**2**) (EC<sub>50</sub>:  $23.8 \pm 4.2 \mu\text{M}$ ) was less potent. The alkyne-containing trichophycins showed less potent activity than those containing phenyl groups. Trichophycin D (**3**) had an EC<sub>50</sub> value of  $39.8 \pm 3.8 \mu\text{M}$ , while trichophycin E (**4**) showed low toxicity even at 100  $\mu\text{M}$  and was essentially non-toxic. Trichophycin F (**5**) showed moderate toxicity against neuro-2A cells (EC<sub>50</sub>:  $14.3 \pm 2.3 \mu\text{M}$ ) similar to that of **1**. Tricholactone (**6**) degraded before it could be assessed for biological activity. Comparing the cytotoxicity of trichophycin C (**2**) in this study (EC<sub>50</sub>: neuro-2A =  $23.8 \pm 4.2 \mu\text{M}$ ) to that previously reported for trichophycin A (EC<sub>50</sub>: neuro-2A =  $6.5 \pm 1.4 \mu\text{M}$ ) and to that of trichotoxin A (EC<sub>50</sub>: neuro-2A =  $50 \mu\text{M}$ )<sup>18</sup> provides increasing evidence of an association of increasing cytotoxicity with increasing polyol character. However, the trichophycins displaying greater polyol character have longer carbon chains. Determining the cytotoxicity of dehydrated trichophycin analogs would provide greater insight into this relationship.

### Predicted Biosynthesis.

Trichophycins B-F (**1-5**) represent new analogs of trichophycin A and additions to the collection of structurally interesting halogenated cyanobacterial metabolites. The trichophycins recognizably derive from a standard PKS biosynthetic pathway(s). The most apparent structural differences among the trichophycins relate to the putative biosynthetic starter unit, the number of vinyl or alkynyl halide groups, and the mode of biosynthetic termination. While *Trichodesmium theibautii* was identified as the dominant species in the bloom from field characters, the bloom likely comprises multiple species of *Trichodesmium*.

<sup>32</sup> Thus, we cannot ascribe a single pathway to the origin of these metabolites. These metabolites may be generated by multiple pathways. This may explain the configuration differences at C-5 in **1** and C-4 in **2**. Potential flexibility in the loading module in the putative biosynthetic pathway of trichophycins C, D, and E (**2-4**) may confer the ability to incorporate a probable phenylacetate unit (**1** and **2**) and a 5-hexynoate unit (**3** and **4**). The 5-hexynoate unit is the proposed starter group in the biosynthesis of jamaicamide A<sup>13</sup> and terminal alkynes are present in a number of cyanobacterial lipopeptides.<sup>33-35</sup> In jamaicamide A, the alkyne is proposed to arise from a 5-hexanoic acid precursor by the action of a fatty acid desaturase.<sup>13</sup> Alkynyl bromide formation in jamaicamide A is proposed to occur through electrophilic addition by a haloperoxidase,<sup>36</sup> which may also be the case with trichophycin E (**4**). The pendant vinyl group adjacent to the starter unit in the trichophycins would likely be generated by the action of an HMG-CoA synthase cassette, which has been shown to perform alkylation at the  $\beta$  position in a growing polyketide chain.<sup>5,37</sup> Subsequent chlorination would give rise to the chlorovinylidene. The terminal vinyl chloride present in **2-4** could arise from the action of an FAD-dependent halogenase as is proposed in the formation of a terminal vinyl bromide functionality in the macrocyclic polyketide phormidolide.<sup>38</sup> The formation of the terminal alkene in **2-4** is likely similar to that of curacin A, in which a conserved tridomain of an ACP, sulfotransferase and decarboxylating thioesterase participate to form a terminal double bond resulting from sulfate elimination from the beta position and decarboxylation.<sup>39,40</sup>

Trichophycin F (**5**) adds to the biosynthetic questions surrounding this group of molecules as the biosynthesis of **5** may incorporate a glycine unit or 4-aminobutyric acid. Tricholactone **6** may be an oxidative degradation product of **5**, and is the only molecule in the group isolated that does not feature at least one vinyl chloride group. The trichophycins and tricholactone were stored neat. While trichophycins B-F have remained stable, tricholactone degraded.

Without information on the gene cluster or clusters encoding the trichophycins, we are limited in our ability to understand the biosynthetic processes involved. Genomic studies are planned to address these questions surrounding biosynthesis.

## Experimental methods

### General Experimental Procedures.

Optical rotations were measured using a Jasco P-2000 polarimeter. UV spectra were measured using a Beckman Coulter DU-800 spectrophotometer. CD spectra were recorded using a Jasco J-1100 CD spectrometer. NMR spectra were collected using Bruker 600 or 800 MHz NMR instruments equipped with a cryoprobe and a Varian 500 MHz instrument. HRESIMS analysis was performed using an AB SCIEX TripleTOF 4600 mass spectrometer with Analyst TF software. Semi-preparative HPLC was carried out using an Agilent 1100 series HPLC or a Dionex UltiMate 3000 HPLC system each equipped with a micro vacuum degasser, an autosampler and a photodiode-array detector.



### Collection of Biological Material.

A localized bloom of *Trichodesmium* was collected from Padre Island, Corpus Christi, TX during 9-11 May 2014. Bloom material was collected from ca. 0.5-meter water depth by collecting surface bloom material in 5-gallon buckets. Approximately 300g wet weight cell mass was concentrated from this material by gentle filtration through 18  $\mu$ m mesh. In the laboratory, a subsample of the cell mass was examined microscopically and identified according to Komarek (2005)<sup>41</sup> by phycologist Paul V. Zimba at Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

### Extraction and Isolation of Compounds 1-6.

*Trichodesmium* bloom material (14.4 g, dry wt) was repeatedly extracted with 2:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>OH affording 3.95 g of crude lipophilic extract. The crude residue was reconstituted in hexanes and fractionated over silica gel using vacuum liquid chromatography (VLC) and a stepped gradient of hexanes, EtOAc and CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The VLC fraction eluting with 40% EtOAc in hexanes (Fraction D, 293.4 mg) was further fractionated over a 2 g Strata C18 SPE column eluting with 50% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O, 100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 100% CH<sub>3</sub>OH and 100% EtOAc. The fraction eluting with 100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (127.9 mg) was subjected to RP-HPLC using a YMC 5  $\mu$ m ODS column (250 x 10 mm) with an elution solvent of 85% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O with 0.1% formic acid added. Trichophycin D (**3**) (1.0 mg; t<sub>R</sub> 3.75 min) was isolated along with a second impure HPLC fraction. This fraction was separated using a YMC 5  $\mu$ m ODS column (250 x 10 mm) with an elution solvent of 80% CH<sub>3</sub>OH in H<sub>2</sub>O with 0.1% formic acid added. Trichophycin C (**2**) (3.9 mg; t<sub>R</sub> 11.50 min) and trichophycin E (**4**) (0.1 mg; t<sub>R</sub> 12.50 min) were isolated from this fraction. The fractions eluting with 60% EtOAc in hexanes and 80% EtOAc in hexanes (Fractions E and F) were combined based on similarities in <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals (306.4 mg) and subjected to RP-HPLC using a YMC 5  $\mu$ m ODS column (250 x 10 mm) with an elution solvent of 80% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O with 0.1% formic acid added and trichophycin B (**1**) (17 mg; t<sub>R</sub> 5.50 min) was isolated. The fractions eluting with 100% EtOAc and 25% CH<sub>3</sub>OH in EtOAc in hexanes (Fractions G and H) were combined based on similarities in <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals and similar LC-MS profiles and the combined material (390.9 mg) was fractionated over a 2 g Strata C18 SPE column following an identical fractionation pattern as that for fraction D. The fraction eluting with 100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (143.2 mg) was subjected to RP-HPLC using a YMC 5  $\mu$ m ODS column (250 x 10 mm) with an elution solvent of 70% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O with 0.1% formic acid and tricholactone (**6**) (0.5 mg; t<sub>R</sub> 16.00 min) was isolated along with a second impure fraction. A final purification of this impure material was carried out using a Kinetex 5  $\mu$ m C18 column (250 x 10 mm); mobile phase: 75% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in water with 0.05% formic acid added to each solvent, flow 3 mL/min and 2.0 mg of **5** were isolated (t<sub>R</sub>, 9.0 min).

**Trichophycin B (1):** Pale yellow oil; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>22</sup> +10.0 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 211 (4.1), 231 (3.8) nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 1; HRMS (ESI/QTOF) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>34</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub>, 421.2146; found 421.2153).

**Trichophycin C (2):** Colorless oil; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>22</sup> +26.8 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 204 (4.0) nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 2 and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 3; HRMS (ESI/QTOF)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>33</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 399.1858; found 399.1853).

**Trichophycin D (3):** Colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>22</sup> +11.3 (*c* 0.08, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ<sub>max</sub> (log ε) 202 (3.5) nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 2 and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 3; HRMS (ESI/QTOF)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>33</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 375.1858; found 375.1855).

**Trichophycin E (4):** Colorless oil; UV (from UV scan during LC-MS analysis) 210 nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 2 and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see Table 3; HRMS (ESI/QTOF)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>32</sub>BrCl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 453.0963; found 453.0961).

**Trichophycin F (5):** Colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>22</sup> +17.4 (*c* 0.2, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ<sub>max</sub> (log ε) 202 (3.8), 229 (3.5) nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN), see Table 4; HRMS (ESI/QTOF)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>41</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub>, 454.2724; found 454.2739).

**Tricholactone (6):** Colorless oil; UV (from UV scan during LC-MS analysis) 210, 228 nm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, DMSO) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (200 MHz, DMSO), see Table S2; HRMS (ESI/QTOF)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, 255.1596; found 255.1595).

#### Preparation and Analysis of MTPA esters.

1 mg of trichophycin B (**1**) was dissolved in dry CDCl<sub>3</sub> and separated into two equal portions in 4 mL vials. Dry pyridine (10 μL) and (*S*)-(+)-α-methoxy-α-(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride (15 μL) were added to the first vial. The vial was capped and the reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h. The identical procedure was repeated with an equal amount of **1** and (*R*)-(-)-α-methoxy-α-(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride. After 24 h, the contents of the vials were immediately transferred to NMR tubes for further analysis. **S-ester** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.28 (2H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, H-17, H-19), 7.22 (1H, d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, H-18), 7.19 (2H, d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, H-16, H-20), 5.89 (1H, s, H-21), 5.19 (1H, s, H-2), 5.17 (1H, m, H-11), 4.24 (1H, dt, *J* = 13.0, 3.7 Hz, H-5), 3.73 (3H, s, H-24), 3.72 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, H-14a), 3.46 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, H-14b), 2.57 (1H, m, H-4a), 2.26 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.6, 8.3 Hz, H-12a), 2.17 (1H, m, H-4b), 2.16 (1H, m, H-12b), 1.74 (1H, m, H-6), 1.63 (1H, m, H-8), 1.46, m, H-10a), 1.37 (1H, ovlp, H-7a), 1.36 (1H, ovlp, H-9a), 1.23 (1H, m, H-10b), 1.12 (1H, m, H-9b), 1.07 (1H, m, H-7b), 0.94 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, H-23), 0.81 (3H, d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-22); **R-ester** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.28 (2H, m, H-17, H-19), 7.22 (1H, m, H-18), 7.21 (2H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-16, H-20), 5.97 (1H, s, H-21), 5.19 (1H, s, H-2), 5.17 (1H, m, H-11), 4.24 (1H, dt, *J* = 13.0, 3.6 Hz, H-5), 3.73 (3H, s, H-24), 3.78 (1H, d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, H-14a), 3.47 (1H, d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, H-14b), 2.71 (1H, dd, *J* = 17.0, 12.8 Hz, H-4a), 2.55 (1H, dd, *J* = 17.0, 3.5 Hz, H-4b), 2.32 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.6, 8.5 Hz, H-12a), 2.20 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.5 Hz, H-12b), 1.74 (1H, m, H-6), 1.53 (1H, m, H-8), 1.41 (1H, m, H-10a), 1.33 (1H, m, H-7a), 1.29 (1H, m, H-9a), 1.15 (1H, m, H-10b), 1.06 (1H, m, H-7b), 0.90 (1H, m, H-9b), 0.94 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, H-23), 0.77 (3H, d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-22).

The procedure above was performed on 1.8 mg of trichophycin C (**2**).

Trichophycin C MTPA: **S-ester**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.27 (2H, t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, H-16, H-18), 7.22 (1H, d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, H-17), 7.17 (2H, d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, H-15, H-19), 5.89 (1H, s, H-20), 5.87 (1H, s, H-1), 5.68 (1H, m, H-2), 5.16 (1H, m, H-10), 4.99 (1H, m, H-4), 3.70 (1H, d,  $J=14.5$ , H-13a), 3.49 (1H, m, H-13b), 2.25 (2H, m, H-3), 2.15 (2H, dd,  $J=14.5, 4.5$  Hz, H-11), 1.83 (1H, m, H-5), 1.55 (2H, m, H-9), 1.42 (1H, m, H-7), 1.19 (2H, ovlp, H-8), 1.18 (1H, ovlp, H-6a), 0.95 (1H, m, H-6b), 0.86 (3H, d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, H-21), 0.82 (3H, d,  $J=6.4$  Hz, H-22); **R-ester**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.27 (2H, m, H-16, H-18), 7.22 (1H, m, H-17), 7.20 (2H, d,  $J=7.5$  Hz, H-15, H-19), 5.96 (1H, s, H-20), 5.99 (1H, s, H-1), 5.79 (1H, m, H-2), 5.16 (1H, m, H-10), 4.97 (1H, m, H-4), 3.77 (1H, d,  $J=14.5$ , H-13a), 3.49 (1H, m, H-13b), 2.31 (2H, m, H-3), 2.16 (2H, m, H-11), 1.78 (1H, m, H-5), 1.49 (2H, m, H-9), 1.31 (1H, m, H-7), 1.08 (2H, ovlp, H-8), 1.11 (1H, ovlp, H-6a), 0.84 (1H, m, H-6b), 0.75 (3H, d,  $J=6.7$  Hz, H-21), 0.73 (3H, d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, H-22).

### Cytotoxicity Assay.

Neuro-2A cells were added to assay plates in 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of Eagle's Minimum Essential Media (EMEM) supplemented with 10% FBS at a density of 5,000 cells/well. Cells were incubated overnight (37  $^\circ\text{C}$ , 5%  $\text{CO}_2$ ) and examined microscopically to confirm confluence and adherence. Test substances were dissolved in DMSO (1% v/v) and added to the cells in the range of 100, 10, 1, 0.1 and 0.01  $\mu\text{M}$  in order to construct a dose response curve. Three technical replicates were prepared for each concentration and each assay was performed in triplicate. Doxorubicin was used as a positive control ( $\text{EC}_{50}$ :  $0.112 \pm 0.021$   $\mu\text{M}$ ) and DMSO was used as a negative control. Plates were incubated for 72 h after which 15  $\mu\text{l}$  of MTT dye were added each assay well. The dye was allowed to incubate with the cells for 4 h after which media was aspirated and the remaining formazan crystals were solubilized in 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of DMSO. Absorbance at 540 nm was measured using a Molecular Devices SpectraMax plate reader and  $\text{EC}_{50}$  curves were generated and statistical procedures were performed using Graphpad Prism software.

### Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We thank Paul V. Zimba and I-Shuo Huang at Texas A&M Corpus Christi for field collection assistance and cyanobacteria identification. We thank Peter D. R. Moller of NOAA for assistance with NMR experiments. Research reported in this publication was made possible by the use of spectrometric and spectroscopic equipment and services available through the RI-INBRE Centralized Research Core Facility, which is supported by the Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Network for Biomedical Research Excellence from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number P20GM103430. Certain NMR experiments were conducted at a research facility at the University of Rhode Island supported in part by the National Science Foundation EPSCoR Cooperative Agreement #EPS-1004057. This work was supported in part by an American Society of Pharmacognosy Starter Grant awarded to M. Bertin.

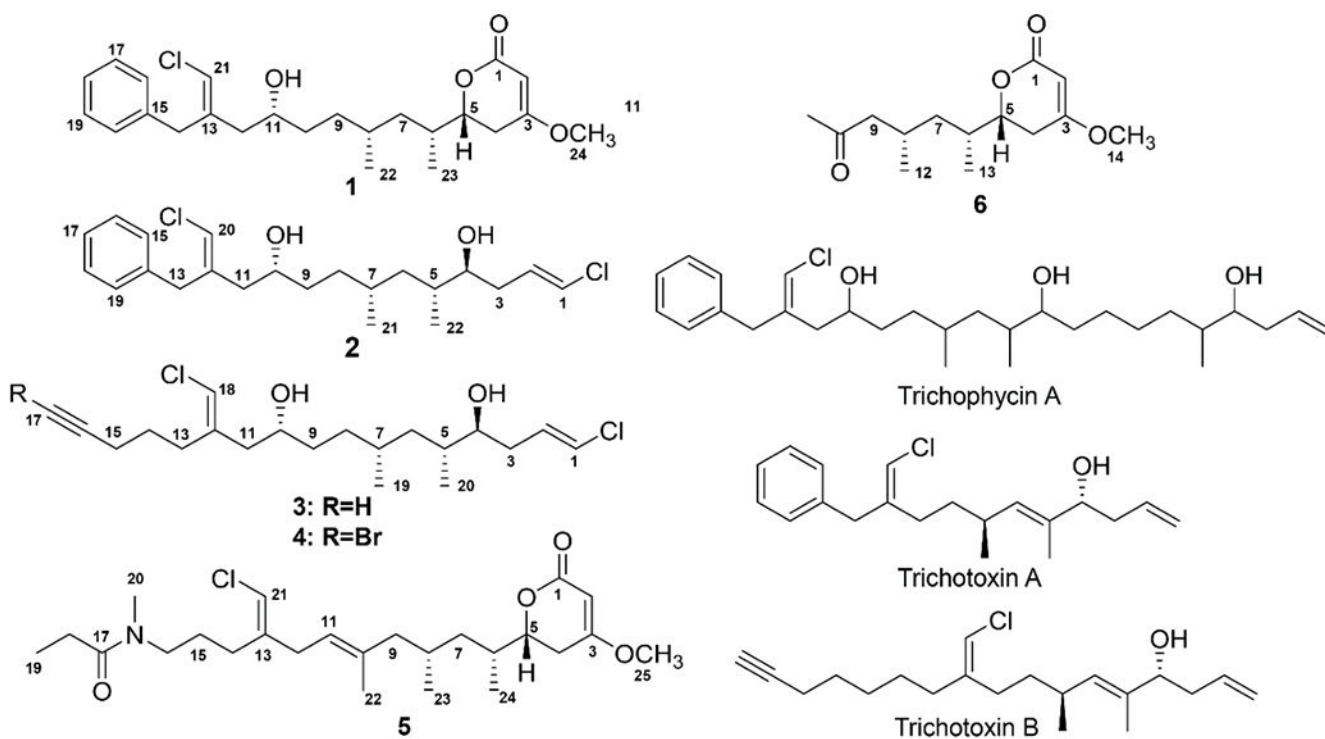
### References

- (1). Gerwick WH; Moore BS Lessons from the past and charting the future of marine natural products drug discovery and chemical biology. *Chem. Biol* 2012, 19, 85–98. [PubMed: 22284357]
- (2). Nunnery JK; Mevers E; Gerwick WG Biologically active secondary metabolites from marine cyanobacteria. *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol* 2010, 21, 787–793. [PubMed: 21030245]

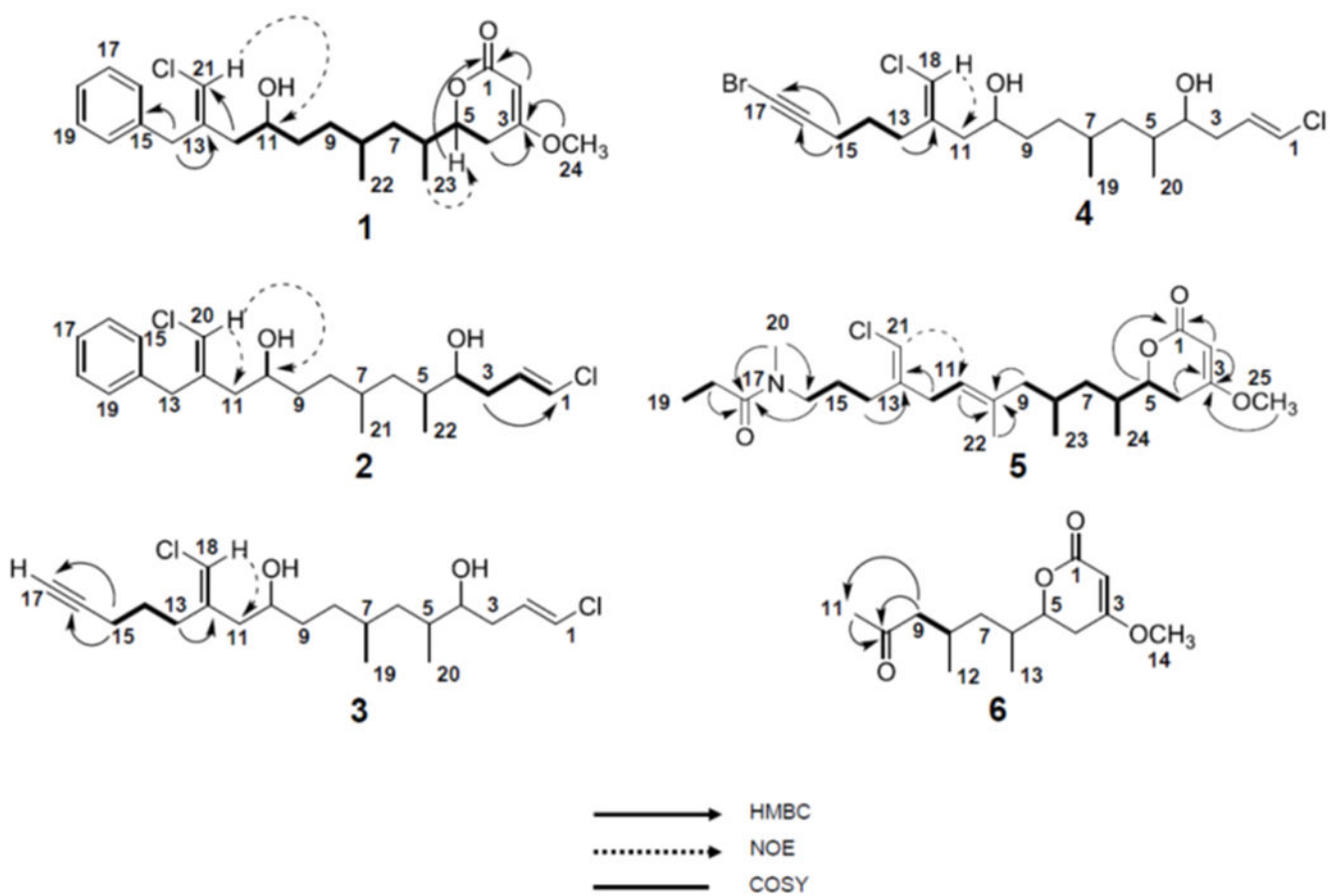
- (3). Tan LT Bioactive natural products from marine cyanobacteria for drug discovery. *Phytochemistry* 2007, 68, 954–979. [PubMed: 17336349]
- (4). Tan LT Pharmaceutical agents from filamentous marine cyanobacteria. *Drug. Discov. Today* 2013, 18, 863–871. [PubMed: 23711931]
- (5). Kehr JC; Picchi DG; Dittmann E Natural product biosyntheses in cyanobacteria: a treasure trove of unique enzymes. *Beilstein J. Org. Chem* 2011, 7, 1622–1635. [PubMed: 22238540]
- (6). Pereira AR; Kale AJ; Fenley AT; Byrum T; Deboni HM; Gilson MK; Valeriote FA; Moore BS; Gerwick WH The carmaphycins: new proteasome inhibitors exhibiting an  $\alpha,\beta$ -epoxyketone warhead from a marine cyanobacterium. *Chembiochem.* 2012, 13, 810–817. [PubMed: 22383253]
- (7). Luesch H; Yoshida WY; Moore RE; Paul VJ; Corbett TH Total structure determination of apratoxin A, a potent novel cytotoxin from the marine cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Am. Chem. Soc* 2001, 123, 5418–5423. [PubMed: 11389621]
- (8). Aráoz R; Molgó J; Tandeau de Marsac N Neurotoxic cyanobacterial toxins. *Toxicon.* 2010, 56, 813–828. [PubMed: 19660486]
- (9). Berman FW; Gerwick WH; Murray TF Antillatoxin and kalkitoxin, ichthyotoxins from the tropical cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*, induce distinct temporal patterns of NMDA receptor-mediated neurotoxicity. *Toxicon.* 1999, 37, 1645–1648. [PubMed: 10482399]
- (10). Vining OB; Medina RA; Mitchell EA; Videau P; Li D; Serrill D; Kelly JX; Gerwick WH; Proteau PJ; Ishmael JE; McPhail KL Depsipeptide companionamides from a Panamanian marine cyanobacterium associated with the coibamide producer. *J. Nat. Prod* 2015, 78, 413–420. [PubMed: 25562664]
- (11). Choi H; Mascuch SJ; Villa FA; Byrum T; Teasdale ME; Smith JE; Preskitt LB; Rowley DC; Gerwick L; Gerwick WH Honaucins A-C, potent inhibitors of inflammation and bacterial quorum sensing: synthetic derivatives and structure-activity relationships. *Chem. Biol* 2012, 19, 589–598. [PubMed: 22633410]
- (12). Neumann CS; Fujimori DG; Walsh CT Halogenation strategies in natural product biosynthesis. *Chem. Biol* 2008, 15, 99–109. [PubMed: 18291314]
- (13). Edwards DJ; Marquez BL; Nogle LM; McPhail K; Goeger DE; Roberts MA; Gerwick WH Structure and biosynthesis of the jamaicamides, new polyketide-peptide neurotoxins from the marine cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *Chem. Biol* 2004, 11, 817–833. [PubMed: 15217615]
- (14). Cardellina JH; Marner FJ; Moore RE Malynгамide A, a novel chlorinated metabolite of the marine cyanophyte *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Am. Chem. Soc* 1979, 101, 240–242.
- (15). Gerwick WH; Reyes S; Alvarado B Two malynгамides from the Caribbean cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *Phytochemistry* 1987, 26, 1701–1704.
- (16). Nunnery JK; Engene N; Byrum T; Cao Z; Jabba SV; Pereira AR; Teatulohi M; Murray TF; Gerwick WH Biosynthetically intriguing chlorinated lipophilic metabolites from geographically distant tropical marine cyanobacteria. *J. Org. Chem* 2012, 77, 4198–4208. [PubMed: 22489775]
- (17). Schock TB; Huncik K; Beauchesne KR; Villareal TA; Moeller PDR Identification of trichotoxin, a novel chlorinated compound associated with the bloom forming cyanobacterium, *Trichodesmium thiebautii*. *Environ. Sci. Technol* 2011, 45, 7503, 7509. [PubMed: 21740025]
- (18). Bertin MJ; Wahome PG; Zimba PV; He H; Moeller PDR Trichophycin A, a cytotoxic linear polyketide isolated from a *Trichodesmium thiebautii* bloom. *Mar. Drugs* 2017, 15, 10.
- (19). Teta R; Irollo E; Sala GD; Pirozzi G; Mangoni A; Costantino V Smenamides A and B, chlorinated peptide/polyketide hybrids containing a dolapyrrolidinone unit from the Caribbean sponge *Smenospongia aurea*. Evaluation of their role as leads in antitumor drug research. *Mar Drugs* 2013, 11, 4451–4463. [PubMed: 24217287]
- (20). Wu M; Okino T; Nogle LM; Marquez BL; Williamson RT; Sitachitta N; Berman FW; Murray TF; McGough K; Jacobs R; Colson K; Asano T; Yokokawa F; Shioiri T; Gerwick WH Structure, synthesis, and biological properties of kalkitoxin, a novel neurotoxin from the marine cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Am. Chem. Soc* 2000, 122, 12041–12042.

- (21). Hoye TR; Jeffrey CS; Shao F Mosher ester analysis for the determination of absolute configuration of stereogenic (chiral) carbinol carbons. *Nat. Protoc* 2007, 2, 2451–2458. [PubMed: 17947986]
- (22). Snatzke G Circular dichroism and optical rotary dispersion - principles and application to the investigation of the stereochemistry of natural products. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed* 1968, 7, 14–25.
- (23). Beecham AF The CD of  $\alpha\beta$ -unsaturated lactones. *Tetrahedron* 1972, 28, 5543–5554.
- (24). Ellestad GA; McGahren WJ; Kunstmann MP Structure of a new fungal lactone, LL-P880, from an unidentified *Penicillium sp.* *J. Org. Chem* 1972, 37, 2045–2047. [PubMed: 5037459]
- (25). Tian JF; Yu RJ; Li XX; Gao H; Guo LD; Tang JS; Yao XS  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral assignments of 2-pyrone derivatives from an endophytic fungus of sarcosotaceae. *Magn. Reson. Chem* 2015, 53, 866–871. [PubMed: 26255790]
- (26). Sherer EC; Lee CH; Shpungin J; Cuff JF; Da C; Ball R; Bach R; Crespo A; Gong X; Welch CJ Systematic approach to conformational sampling for assigning absolute configuration using vibrational circular dichroism. *J. Med. Chem* 2014, 57, 477–494. [PubMed: 24383452]
- (27). Deng W; Cheeseman JR; Frisch MJ Calculation of nuclear spin-spin coupling constants of molecules with first and second row atoms in study of basis set dependence. *J. Chem. Theory and Comput* 2006, 2, 1028–1037. [PubMed: 26633062]
- (28). Sinnaeve D; Foroozandeh M; Nilsson M; Morris GA A general method for extracting individual coupling constants from crowded (1)H NMR spectra. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl* 2016, 55, 1090–1093. [PubMed: 26636773]
- (29). Nolis P; Espinosa JF; Parella T Optimum spin-state selection for all multiplicities in the acquisition dimension of the HSQC experiment. *J. Magn. Reson* 2006, 180, 39–50. [PubMed: 16448830]
- (30). Gil S; Espinosa JF; Parella T Accurate measurement of small heteronuclear coupling constants from pure-phase  $\alpha/\beta$  HSQMBC cross-peaks. *J. Magn. Reson* 2011, 213, 145–150. [PubMed: 22005221]
- (31). Saurí J; Parella T On the interference of J(HH) modulation in HSQMBC-IPAP and HMBC-IPAP experiments. *Magn. Reson. Chem* 2013, 51, 509–516. [PubMed: 23780917]
- (32). Hynes AM; Webb EA; Doney SC; Waterbury. Comparison of cultured *Trichodesmium* (Cyanophyceae) with species characterized from the field. *J. Phycol* 2012, 48, 196–210. [PubMed: 27009664]
- (33). Mevers E; Liu WT; Engene N; Mohimani H; Byrum T; Pevzner PA; Dorrestein PC; Spadafora C; Gerwick WH Cytotoxic veraguamides, alkynyl bromide-containing cyclic depsipeptides from the marine cyanobacterium cf. *Oscillatoria margaritifera*. *J. Nat. Prod* 2011, 74, 928–936. [PubMed: 21488639]
- (34). Jiménez JJ; Scheuer PJ New lipopeptides from the Caribbean cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Nat. Prod* 2001, 64, 200–203. [PubMed: 11430000]
- (35). Hooper GJ; Orjala J; Schatzman RC; Gerwick WH Carmabins A and B, new lipopeptides from the Caribbean cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Nat. Prod* 1998 61, 529–533. [PubMed: 9584405]
- (36). Boudreau PD; Monroe EA; Mehrotra S; Desfor S; Korobeynikov A; Sherman DH; Murray TF; Gerwick L; Dorrestein PC; Gerwick WH Expanding the described metabolome of the marine cyanobacterium *Moorea producens* JHB through orthogonal natural products workflows. *PLoS One.* 2015, 10, e0133297. [PubMed: 26222584]
- (37). Buchholz TJ; Rath CM; Lopanik NB; Gardner NP; Håkansson K; Sherman DH Polyketide  $\beta$ -branching in bryostatin biosynthesis: identification of surrogate acetyl-ACP donors for BryR, and HMG-ACP synthase. *Chem. Biol* 2010, 17, 1092–1100. [PubMed: 21035732]
- (38). Bertin MJ; Vulpanovici A; Monroe EA; Korobeynikov A; Sherman DH; Gerwick L; Gerwick WH The phormidolide biosynthetic gene cluster: a *trans*-AT PKS pathway encoding a toxic macrocyclic polyketide. *ChemBioChem.* 2016, 17, 164–173. [PubMed: 26769357]
- (39). Chang Z; Sitachitta N; Rossi JV; Roberts MA; Flatt PM; Jia J; Sherman DH; Gerwick WH Biosynthetic pathway and gene cluster analysis of curacin A, an antitubulin natural product from the tropical marine cyanobacterium *Lyngbya majuscula*. *J. Nat. Prod* 2004, 67, 1356–1367. [PubMed: 15332855]

- (40). Gehret JJ; Gu L; Gerwick WH; Wipf P; Sherman DH; Smith JL Terminal alkene formation by the thioesterase of curacin A biosynthesis: structure of a decarboxylating thioesterase. *J. Biol. Chem* 2011, 286, 14445–14454. [PubMed: 21357626]
- (41). Komárek J; Anagnostidis K *Cyanoprokarota Part 2: Oscillatoriales*; Elsevier: München, Germany, 2005; pp. 1–759.

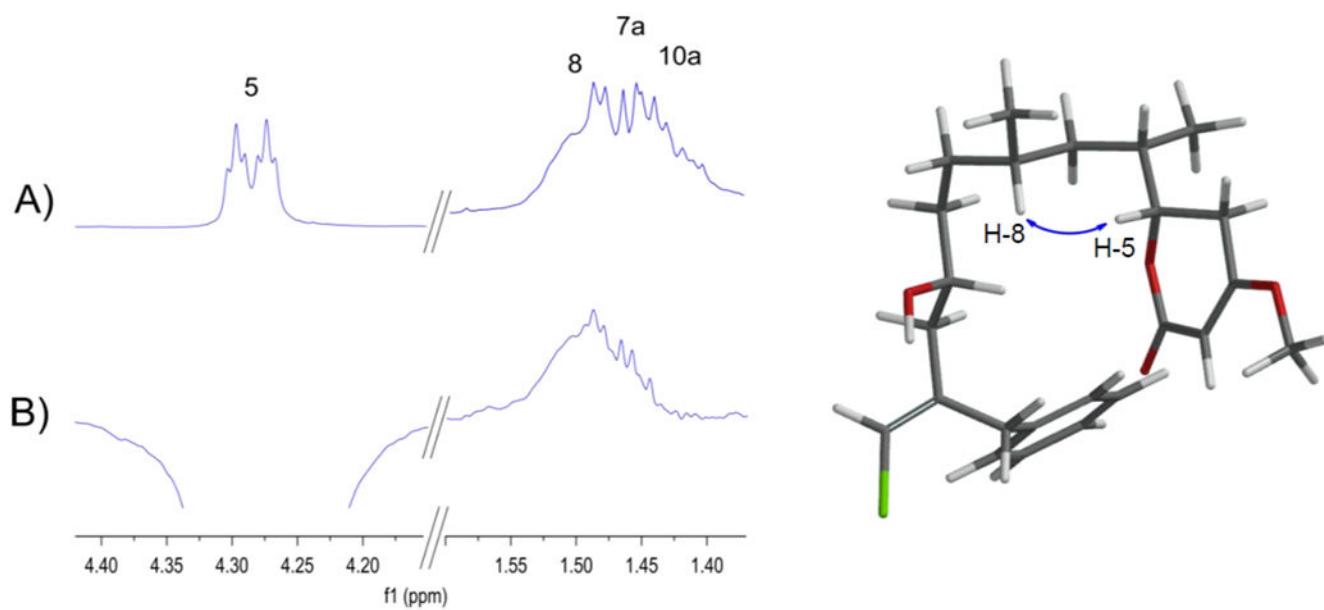


**Figure 1.** Structures of compound **1-6** and the previously reported trichophycin A<sup>18</sup> and trichotoxins A and B.<sup>17</sup>



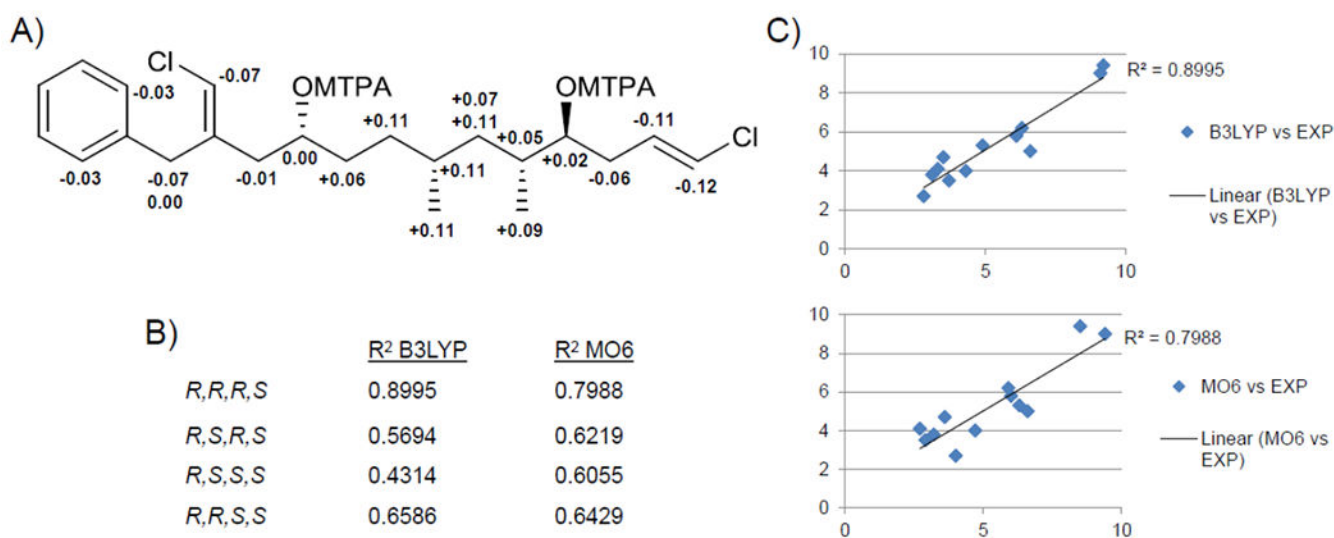
**Figure 2.**  
Selected 2D NMR correlations of **1-6**.





**Figure 3.**

A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1**. B) 1D sel-NOE after inversion of H-5.

**Figure 4.**

(A)  $\delta_{S-R}$  values of bis-Mosher esters of **2**. B)  $R^2$  values for correlations between theoretical and experimental  $J$ -couplings for stereoconfigurations at C-7 and C-5 implementing both the B3LYP and MO6 levels of theory (configurations at C-10 and C-4 were held fixed as *R* and *S*, respectively). C) Plots of theoretical vs. experimental  $J$ -coupling values for C-7*R* and C-5*R* at the two levels of theory for **2**.

Table 1.

NMR data for trichophycin B (**1**)<sup>a</sup>

position	$\delta_C$ , type	$\delta_H$ (J in Hz)	HMBC	COSY	NOESY
1	167.7, C				
2	90.3, CH	5.13, d (1.6)	1, 3, 4		24
3	173.3, C				
4a	30.3, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.58, ddd (17.0, 12.9, 1.7)	1, 2, 3, 5, 6	4b, 5	7a, 7b, 23
4b		2.17, ovlp <sup>b</sup>	2, 3, 5, 6	4a, 5	23
5	79.0, CH	4.25, dt (12.9, 3.9)	1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 23	4a, 4b, 6	7b, 8, 23
6	33.9, CH	1.83, m	5, 7, 23	5, 7a, 7b, 23	4a, 22
7a	39.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	1.46, ddd (13.5, 8.3, 5.7)	5, 6, 8, 9, 22, 23	6, 7b	4a
7b		1.08, ddd (13.5, 8.5, 5.5)	5, 6, 8, 9, 22, 23	6, 7a, 8	4a, 5
8	29.8, CH	1.49, m	7, 9, 10, 22	9b, 22	5, 11, 23
9a	31.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	1.30, ovlp	8, 10, 11, 22	9b, 10a	12a
9b		1.14, m	8, 10, 11, 22	8, 9a	11
10a	34.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	1.42, m	9, 11	10b, 11	12b
10b		1.30, ovlp	9, 11	10a, 11	
11	69.2, CH	3.60, m	9, 10, 12, 13	10a, 12b	8, 9b, 21
12a	42.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.17, ovlp	10, 11, 13, 14, 21	11	9a, 21
12b		2.07, dd (14.4, 9.0)	10, 11, 13, 14, 21	11	10a, 21
13	138.7, C				
14a	36.3, CH <sub>2</sub>	3.75, d (14.4)	12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21	14b	16, 20
14b		3.51, d (14.4)	12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21	14a	16, 20
15	138.2, C				
16	128.7, CH	7.22, ovlp	14, 18	17	14a, 14b
17	128.6, CH	7.29, t (7.6)	15		16
18	126.5, CH	7.22, ovlp	16, 20		
19	128.6, CH	7.29, t (7.6)	15		20
20	128.7, CH	7.22, ovlp	14, 18	19	14a, 14b
21	115.4, CH	6.07, s	12, 13, 14		11, 12a, 12b
22	20.3, CH <sub>3</sub>	0.85, d (6.4)	7, 8, 9	8	6, 7b, 9a
23	14.9, CH <sub>3</sub>	0.97, d (6.8)	5, 6, 7	6	4a, 4b, 5, 8
24	56.0, CH <sub>3</sub>	3.74, s	3		2

<sup>a</sup>800 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 200 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C NMR<sup>b</sup>overlapping signals

**Table 2.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR for trichophycins C-E (**2-4**) (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>pos</b>	<b>δ<sub>H</sub> (J in Hz)</b>	<b>δ<sub>H</sub> (J in Hz)</b>	<b>δ<sub>H</sub> (J in Hz)</b>
1	6.04, d (13.2)	6.05, d (13.2)	6.05, d (13.2)
2	5.94, m	5.96, m	5.95, m
3a	2.24, m	2.25, m	2.25, ovlp
3b	2.13, m	2.14, m	2.14, ovlp
4	3.45, ddd (8.7, 5.3, 3.4)	3.47, ddd (8.8, 5.2, 3.4)	3.47, ddd (8.8, 5.2, 3.4)
5	1.63, m	1.68, ovlp	1.67, ovlp
6a	1.35, ddd (13.3, 9.0, 4.5)	1.40, ddd (13.3, 8.6, 4.5)	1.40, ovlp
6b	0.96, ddd (13.5, 9.4, 5.5)	1.00, ddd (13.5, 9.1, 5.4)	1.00, ddd (14.0, 9.2, 5.5)
7	1.46, m	1.53, m	1.53, m
8a	1.30, ovlp	1.40, ovlp	1.40, ovlp
8b	1.10, m	1.20, m	1.20, m
9a	1.41, m	1.49, m	1.50, m
9b	1.30, ovlp	1.40, ovlp	1.40, ovlp
10	3.60, m	3.68, m	3.68, m
11a	2.17, dd (14.3, 3.6)	2.27, m	2.26, ovlp
11b	2.07, dd (14.3, 8.9)	2.13, ovlp	2.12, ovlp
12			
13a	3.75, d (14.4)	2.44, m	2.42, m
13b	3.51, d (14.4)	2.25, ovlp	2.24, ovlp
14		1.69, ovlp	1.69, ovlp
15	7.21, ovlp	2.24, ovlp	2.25, ovlp
16	7.30, t (7.2)		
17	7.22, ovlp	1.99, t (2.6)	
18	7.30, t (7.2)	5.94, s	5.94, s
19	7.21, ovlp	0.91, ovlp	0.91, d (6.6)
20	6.07, s	0.90, ovlp	0.90, d (6.8)
21	0.87, d (6.6)		
22	0.86, d (6.4)		

<sup>a</sup> overlapping signals

**Table 3.**<sup>13</sup>C NMR for trichophycins C-E (2-4) (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

	2	3	4	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (2-3; 2-4)
pos	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ , type	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ , type	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ , type	
1	119.2, CH	119.2, CH	119.2, CH	0.0; 0.0
2	130.7, CH	130.7, CH	130.7, CH	0.0; 0.0
3	35.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	35.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	35.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	0.0; -0.1
4	74.8, CH	74.8, CH	74.8, CH	0.0; 0.0
5	35.8, CH	35.8, CH	35.8, CH	0.0; 0.0
6	39.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	39.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	39.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	0.1; 0.0
7	30.1, CH	30.2, CH	30.2, CH	-0.1; -0.1
8	31.5, CH <sub>2</sub>	31.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	31.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	-0.1; -0.1
9	34.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	34.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	34.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	-0.1; -0.1
10	69.2, CH	69.2, CH	69.3, CH	0.0; -0.1
11	42.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	43.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	43.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	-0.3; -0.3
12	138.6, C	138.9, C	138.8, C	-0.3; -0.2
13	36.3, CH <sub>2</sub>	29.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	29.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	
14	138.2, C	26.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	25.9, CH <sub>2</sub>	
15	128.7, CH	18.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	19.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	
16	128.6, CH	83.9, C	79.7, C	
17	126.6, CH	68.8, CH	38.4, C	
18	128.6, CH	115.4, CH	115.4, CH	
19	128.7, CH	20.7, CH <sub>3</sub>	20.7, CH <sub>3</sub>	
20	115.5, CH	15.7, CH <sub>3</sub>	15.8, CH <sub>3</sub>	
21	20.6, CH <sub>3</sub>			
22	15.7, CH <sub>3</sub>			

**Table 4.**NMR data for trichophycin F (**5**) *Z*-conformer (800 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR; 200 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C NMR, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)

position	$\delta_{\text{C}}$ , type	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ ( <i>J</i> in Hz)	HMBC	COSY	NOESY
1	167.0, C				
2	89.6, CH	5.11, s	1, 3, 4	4a	25
3	173.9, C				
4a	30.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.60, dd (17.0, 13.0)	2, 3, 5, 6	2, 4b, 5	4b, 24
4b		2.24, ddd (17.0, 3.6, 1.3)	2, 3, 5	4a, 5	4a
5	78.7, CH	4.30, dt (13.0, 3.9)	3, 4, 6, 7, 24	4a, 4b, 6	4a, 4b, 7a, 8, 24
6	33.7, CH	1.88, m	5, 7, 24	24	23, 24
7a	39.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	1.45, m	5, 6, 8, 9, 22, 23	6, 7b, 8	7b
7b		1.07, m	5, 6, 8, 9, 22, 23	6, 7a	7a
8	27.5, CH	1.75, m	7, 9	9a, 23	5, 7a, 23, 24
9a	46.9, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.10, m	7, 8, 10, 11, 23	9b	9a
9b		1.74, ovlp <sup>a</sup>	7, 8, 10, 11, 23	9a	9b
10	136.8, C				
11	121.9, CH	5.14, m	9, 12, 22	12, 22	9a, 9b, 12
12	33.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.85, m	10, 11, 13, 21	11, 21	22
13	142.2, C				
14	27.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.19, ovlp	12, 13, 15, 16	15	
15	24.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	1.63, m	13, 14, 16	14, 16	
16	47.5, CH <sub>2</sub>	3.34, td, (7.1, 1.7)	14, 15, 17, 20	15	15, 20
17	173.4, C				
18	26.2, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.33, m	17, 19	19	19, 20
19	9.0, CH <sub>3</sub>	1.06, t (7.4)	17, 18	18	18
20	34.4, CH <sub>3</sub>	2.97, s	16, 17		15, 16, 18
21	112.6, CH	5.92, s	12, 13, 14	12	11, 12
22	15.0, CH <sub>3</sub>	1.63, s	9, 10, 11	11	12
23	19.6, CH <sub>3</sub>	0.86, d (6.3)	7, 8, 9	8	6, 7a, 7b, 8
24	14.3, CH <sub>3</sub>	0.99, d (6.8)	5, 6, 7	6	4a, 5, 6, 8
25	56.0, CH <sub>3</sub>	3.75, s	3		2

<sup>a</sup> overlapping signals

**Table 5.**Conformational distribution of different diastereomers of **1**

Stereochemistry	Number of lowest energy conformers (Boltzmann Populations, %)
C8SC6S	12 (48.7, 15.3, 8.6, 5.9, 5.7, 3.8, 3.6, 2.1, 1.7, 1.7, 1.6, 1.4)
C8SC6R	9 (57.5, 30.5, 2.8, 1.9, 1.7, 1.5, 1.5, 1.4, 1.2)
C8RC6S	8 (43.3, 32.7, 7.1, 5.2, 4.2, 3.3, 2.7, 1.6)
C8RC6R	12 (53.9, 9.2, 7.6, 6.9, 5.6, 4.0, 3.4, 2.9, 1.8, 1.7, 1.5, 1.4)

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

**Table 6.**DFT [B3LYP/6-311+g(d,p)//B3LYP/6-31g(d,p)] analysis of **1**.

Coupling	C8SC6S	C8SC6R	C8RC6S	C8RC6R	Experimental
H5 – H4a/H4b	13.2/3.9	14.5/3.9	12.8/4.0	14.0/3.7	12.9/3.9
H5-H6	6.3	3.6	8.6	3.0	4.2
H6 – H7a/H7b	11.8/2.5	11.7/4.3	11.2/2.7	10.7/5.5	8.5/5.7
H8 – H7a/H7b	12.1/3.2	11.9/4.1	11.9/3.1	10.7/4.8	n.m. <sup>a</sup> /5.5
H6 – C5	-6.0	-6.1	-5.4	0.7	<2.0
H6 – C4	4.1	5.5	2.4	2.0	n.m.
H6 – C8	2.7	1.5	2.3	1.5	n.m.
H8 – C6	2.1	1.5	2.1	1.7	n.m.
H4a/H4b – C6	2.9/0.5	2.7/0.3	3.1/0.5	2.4/0.6	3.5/1.2
H7a/H7b – C5	4.2/1.4	8.2/2.4	3.2/2.2	6.2/2.2	4.2/4.0

<sup>a</sup> not measured



**Table 7.**Comparison of experimentally measured *J*-couplings with theoretically calculated values for **2**

Coupling	B3LYP/6-311+g(d,p)/B3LYP/6-31g(d,p)				B3LYP/6-311+g(d,p)/MO62X/6-31g(d,p)				Exp (Hz)
	C7SC5S	C7SC5R	C7RC5S	C7RC5R	C7SC5S	C7SC5R	C7RC5S	C7RC5R	
H6a – C8	2.4	2.4	7.1	6.1	1.8	1.8	8.2	6.0	5.8
H6b – C21	3.1	3	3.8	4.3	2.7	2.5	3.1	4.7	4.0
H6b – C22	2.7	6.1	2.6	6.3	2.5	6.7	1.4	5.9	6.2
H6a – H5	8.4	9.1	11.2	9.2	10.0	10.1	11.8	8.5	9.4
H6b – C8	5.1	5.1	2.2	3.1	3.7	4.6	2.1	3.2	3.8
H6a – H7	7.5	7.6	5.4	6.6	5.9	7.1	4.6	6.6	5.5
H6b – H7	8.0	8.4	10.9	9.1	10.3	9.8	12.5	9.4	9.0
H5 – H4	4.5	3.6	3.0	4.9	4.2	3.6	3.2	6.3	5.3
H5 – C3	2	3.6	1.5	3.3	1.8	2.9	1.2	2.7	4.1
H4 – C6	2.1	2.9	2.1	2.8	1.9	3.4	2.0	4.0	2.7
H4 – C22	4.6	4.3	5.3	3.7	4.8	3.9	5.5	2.9	3.5
H5 – C4	1.4 <sup>a</sup>	2.8 <sup>a</sup>	0.2	3.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.8 <sup>a</sup>	1.8 <sup>a</sup>	0.3	3.6 <sup>a</sup>	4.7
RMSD (Hz)	2.1	1.6	2.2	0.7	2.2	1.8	2.7	0.9	

<sup>a</sup>The actual calculated value is negative.