#### **Supplementary Information**

#### Probing the penetration of antimicrobial polymyxin lipopeptides into Gram-negative bacteria

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## **Supplementary Figures**

Figure S1.



Figure S1.Scheme for the synthesis of dasnyl-polymyxin probe (1).





**Figure S2.**Static time-kill kinetics of (1) and colistin against *K. pneumoniae* ATCC 13883. At the indicated times, cultures were plated and the cfu per mL were enumerated. (**A**) Initial inoculum  $10^{6}$ cfu/mL. (**B**) Initial inoculum  $10^{8}$ cfu/mL.Control (•); colistin 0.5× MIC (•); colistin 5× MIC (•); probe (1) 0.5× MIC (•) and probe (1) 5× MIC (•).

Figure S3.



**Figure S3.** (A) Fingerprint region of the 400 ms 2D NOESY spectrum of 2 mM probe (1) in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% D<sub>2</sub>O at pH 4.5 and 25°C. Positive and negative peaks (with respect to the positive diagonal) are shown in black and red respectively. (B) Fingerprint and (C) Amide region of the 150 ms 2D NOESY spectrum of 1.4 mM FADDI-043 in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% D<sub>2</sub>O / 150 mM DPC. The amide proton assignments are given as vertical lines in F2. Assignments of the napthalene protons of the dansyl group are also shown. (D) Structure of the dansylGly and OctGly residues.

### Figure S4.



**Figure S4.**Laser scanning confocal microscopy imaging of *K. pneumoniae* ATCC 13883 cells following treatment with (1) at 0.5× MIC (top panels) and 5× MIC (bottom panels). The different channels for (1) (i&v), SYTOX green (ii&vi), FM4-64 (iii&vii) or all channels overlaid (iv&viii) are shown.

# Figure S5





**Figure S5.** (**A**) Lysis of a *K. pneumoniae* ATCC 13883 spheroplast suspension following treatment with probe (**1**). Spheroplast lysis was followed as the decrease in the absorbance at 500 nm; the red arrow designates the addition of (**1**). The experiment was performed in triplicate, the error bars indicate the standard deviation. Taurocholic acid treatment was used as a control lytic agent. Untreated spheroplast (•); taurocholic treated spheroplast (•); peptide (**1**) treated spheroplast at  $0.5 \times \text{MIC}$  (**A**) and peptide (**1**) treated spheroplast at  $5 \times \text{MIC}$  (**V**). (**B**) Laser scanning confocal microscopy time-lapse imaging of *K. pneumoniae* ATCC 13883 spheroplasts following treatment with (**1**) at  $5 \times \text{MIC}$ .

Dansyl <sup>1</sup>	H1	H2	Н3	H4	Н5	H6	HA	NMe	
	7.51	7.79	8.36	8.56	7.74	8.30	3.77	2.96	
	119.19	132.88	122.05	133.17	126.97	132.73	47.54	47.85	
OctyGly <sup>1</sup>	НА	HB	HC	HD	HE	HF	HG	HH	HI
	3.89	1.45 1.26	1.04	1.19	1.23	1.24	1.24	1.28	0.87
	56.72	33.35	27.46	30.85	31.09	33.42	33.91	24.82	16.31
	HN	aCH	bCH	gCH	dCH	eCH	Other		
1 LDab	8.53	4.51	2.20 2.07	3.06					
		53.95	31.21	39.331					
2 Thr	8.07	4.35	4.23	1.19					
		61.722	69.962	21.536					
3 LDab	8.63	4.50	2.24 2.12	3.12					
		54.05	31.53	39.40					
4 LDab	8.48	4.29	1.97 1.88	3.35 3.17			<b>dNH</b> 7.77		
		54.54	33.40	39.08					
5 LDab	8.45	4.52	2.05 1.95	2.91 2.82					
		53.32	32.65	38.90					
6 DPhe	8.73	4.60	3.10		7.27	7.40	<b>zCH</b> 7.36		
		58.53	39.37		131.76	131.75	130.18		
7 Leu	8.56	4.22	1.50 1.41	0.84			<b>d1CH</b> 0.77	<b>d2CH</b> 0.70	
		54.62	41.88	26.23			25.08	23.08	
8 LDab	8.25	4.30	2.25	3.16					
		54.78	30.77	39.40					

**Table S1.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C observed chemical shifts for probe (1) in 50 mM acetate, pH 4.5, 25°C.

9 LDab	8.67 (10 °C)	4.28	2.19	3.10			
		54.67 <sup>2</sup>	31.3 <sup>2</sup>	39.64 <sup>2</sup>			
10 Thr	7.89	4.21	4.27	1.19			
		62.27	69.12	21.91			

<sup>1</sup>HN of Dansy and OctylGly were not observed.

<sup>2</sup>The assignments for 9LDab are based on experiments recorded at 10 °C. At 25 °C the amide was not observed.

Dansyl <sup>1</sup>	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	HA	NMe	
	7.28	7.68	8.39	8.51	7.53	8.19	3.69 3.80	2.87	
	118.23	131.50	122.11	133.85	126.90	132.36	47.98	47.89	
OctGly <sup>1</sup>	HA	HB	НС	HD	HE	HF	HG	HH	MeI
	3.95	1.47	1.07	1.16	1.28	1.28	1.20	1.31	0.90
	56.29	34.18	28.11	32.01	32.15	34.63	34.17	25.28	16.68
	HN	aCH	bCH	gCH	dCH	eCH	Others		
1 LDab	8.78	4.49	2.19 2.05	2.99					
		53.71	30.99	39.25					
2 Thr	8.11	4.38	4.31	1.17					
		61.63	69.92	21.75					
3 LDab	8.90	4.39	2.24 2.13	3.08					
		54.65	30.99	39.33					
4 LDab	8.47	4.09	1.95	3.49 3.04			<b>dNH</b> 7.72		
		54.39	33.22	38.69					
5 LDab	8.23	4.43	2.10 1.96	2.90					
		53.49	31.92	39.06					
6 DPhe	8.74	4.55	3.08 2.98		7.24	7.24	<b>zCH</b> 7.15		
		58.33	40.35		131.18	132.04	129.28		
7 Leu	8.66	4.187	1.48 1.35	0.84			<b>d1CH</b> 0.74	<b>d2CH</b> 0.66	
		53.86	41.28	26.25			25.79	23.71	
8 LDab	8.01	4.43	2.24 2.156	3.09					

**Table S2.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C observed chemical shifts for probe (1) in 50 mM acetate, pH 4.5, 100 mM DPC (d38), 25°C.

		53.84	31.88	39.40			
9 LDab	9.05	4.18	2.19	3.09			
		56.14	33.00 <sup>2</sup>	39.21			
10 Thr	7.843	4.14	4.27	1.18			
		62.21	68.91	22.18			

<sup>1</sup>HN of Dansyl and OctGly were not observed.

<sup>2</sup>Tentative

NOE distance restraints				
Number	253			
Intraresidual, $ i - j  = 0$	66			
Sequential, $ i - j  = 1$	118			
Medium range, $1 <  i - j  < 5$	33			
Long range <sup>a</sup> , $ i - j  \ge 5$	39			
Maximal violation	0.30			
Final CYANA target function value	0.55 +/- 0.038 Å <sup>2</sup>			
RMSD to mean coordinates				
Backbone atoms N, C <sup>a</sup> , C'	0.34 +/- 0.08 Å			
All heavy atoms	0.80 +/- 0.11 Å			

Table S3. NMR statistics for the solution structure of probe (1) in DPC micelles.

<sup>a</sup>4 upper and 3 lower distance restraints were implemented to maintain an amide bond bond with trans geometry between Dab4 and Thr10 during the calculation.