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Manuscript title: van der Waals Interactions for Controlling Amide *cis-trans* Isomerism

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#### S1. Materials

All the reactions were performed in oven dried apparatus and were stirred using magnetic stir-bars. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (100-200 mess) (Acme's) purchased from Sd-fine chemicals. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Merck DC Kieselgel 60 F254 aluminium sheets. Compounds were visualized by one of the (or all of the) following methods: (1) fluorescence quenching, (2) spray with a 0.2% (w/v) ninhydrin solution in absolute ethanol, (3) spray with 1% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:5 v/v), (4) charring on hot plate. Ethylacetate and hexanes (or low boiling fractions of petroleum ether) were obtained from Sd-fine chemicals and were fractionally distilled at their respective boiling points, before use. Dichloromethane was dried by distillation over phosphorus pentoxide (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>). N-methyl Morpholine (NMM) was distilled over calcium hydride (CaH<sub>2</sub>). NMR spectra were recorded on BRUKER-AV400 (400 MHz) spectrometer (Bruker Co., Faellanden, Switzerland). Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm) from the residual non-deuterated chloroform in CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  = 7.26 ppm,  $\delta_{\rm C}$  = 77.00 ppm). J values are expressed in Hertz (Hz). Multiplicities are indicated using the following abbreviations: s (singlet), d (doublet), dd (doublet of doublets), dt (doublet of triplet), t (triplet), q (quartet), quin (quintet), sext (sextet), hept (heptet), m (multiplet), bs (broad singlet). 2D NMR spectra were recorded in phase sensitive mode using time-proportional phase incrementation for quadrature detection in the  $t_1$  dimension. Mass spectra were obtained with Micromass Q-Tof (ESI-HRMS). Melting points analyses were performed in VEEGO melting point apparatus (VEEGO Inst. Co., Mumbai, India).

#### S2. Methods

#### S2.1. HSQC Experiment:

The HSQC spectra were recorded at 300 K with a mixing time of 200 ms using the hsqctgpsi2 pulse sequence. An HSQC continuous wave spin-lock of 1.5 KHz was used to collect 2K points in the *f2* domain and 512 points in the *f1* domain. The data were processed using Bruker TOPSPIN 3.0 version software.

#### S2.2. TOCSY Experiment:

The TOCSY spectra were recorded at 300 K with mixing time of 200 ms using the MLEVPH pulse sequence. A TOCSY continuous wave spin-lock of 1.5 KHz was used to collect 2K points

in the f2 domain and 512 points in the f1 domain. The data were processed using Bruker TOPSPIN 3.0 version software. A 90° sine-squared window function was applied in both directions.

#### S2.3. ROESY Experiment:

The ROESY spectra were recorded at 300 K with mixing time of 300 ms using ROESYPH pulse sequence. A ROESY continuous wave spin-lock of 1.5 KHz was used to collect 2K points in the *f*2 domain and 512 points in the *f*1 domain. The data were processed using Bruker TOPSPIN 3.0 version software. A 90° sine-squared window function was applied in both directions.

#### S2.4 Crystal Structure Determination

Single crystals of the peptide **2** was obtained by slow evaporation of solvent from a solution in a mixture of ethylacetate : hexane (1:2). X-ray diffraction data were collected at -173 °C on a Brucker KAPPA APEX2 diffractometer using Mo K<sub> $\alpha$ </sub> radiation. The data were collected using multi-scan mode. The structure was obtained by using direct methods in SHELXD<sup>1</sup> and was refined against F<sub>2</sub> by the full matrix least squares method using SHELXL-97.<sup>2</sup> Hydrogen atoms were fixed geometrically in idealized positions and were refined as riding over the heavy atoms to which they are bonded. The crystal and diffraction parameters are provided separately. **CCDC 994103** contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. This data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam. ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html (or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

2. Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXL-97, A Program for Crystal Structure Refinement; University of Gottingen: Gottingen, 1997.

<sup>1.</sup> Schneider, T. R.; Sheldrick, G. M., Substructure solution with SHELXD. *Acta Crystallographica Section D* **2002**, *58* (10 Part 2), 1772-1779.

#### S3. NMR markers for C-H... $\pi$ interactions at Pro-Pro-Xaa motifs when Xaa = aromatic



Figure 1.

# $\Delta \delta_{ppm} = \Delta \delta(trans-cis) \ ppm = \delta \ (H^{\alpha}_{Pro(i-1)} \ in \ transPro \ rotamer) - \delta \ (H^{\alpha}_{Pro(i-1)} \ in \ cisPro \ rotamer)$ Neither ROESY nor $\Delta \delta$ is observed when i+1 = Alp

Reference: Ganguly, H. K.; Majumder, B.; Chattopadhyay, S.; Chakrabarti, P.; Basu, G., Direct Evidence for CH··· $\pi$ Interaction Mediated Stabilization of Pro-cisPro Bond in Peptides with Pro-Pro-Aromatic motifs. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134* (10), 4661-4669.



#### S4. Crystal structure of Ibu-*cis*Pro-Val-OMe (2) (Ibu = isobutyroyl)

**Figure 2.** Stereoview of the crystal structure of Ibu-*cis*Pro-Val-OMe (**2**). (Crystallized from EtOAc : Hexane (1:2))

Peptide Backbone	Α	В	Pyrrolidine Ring	Α	В
$\omega_1(C^{\alpha}_{Ibu}-C'_{Ibu}-N_{Pro}-C^{\alpha}_{Pro})$	-1.7(7)	-4.9(6)	$\theta (C^{\delta}_{Pro}-N_{Pro}-C^{\alpha}_{Pro}-C^{\beta}_{Pro})$	-11.2(8)	-11.1(1)
$\phi_1(C'_{Ibu}-N_{Pro}-C'_{Pro}-C'_{Pro})$	-77.5(4)	-73.1(6)	$\chi^{1}_{Pro}(N_{Pro}-C^{\alpha}_{Pro}-C^{\beta}_{Pro}-C^{\gamma}_{Pro})$	31.3(8)	30.4(8)
$\psi_1(N_{Pro}-C^{\alpha}_{Pro}-C'_{Pro}-N_{Val})$	158.4(7)	150.5(8)	$\chi^2_{\text{Pro}}(C^{\alpha}_{\text{Pro}}-C^{\beta}_{\text{Pro}}-C^{\gamma}_{\text{Pro}}-C^{\delta}_{\text{Pro}})$	-39.7(1)	-38.7(0)
$\omega_2(C^{\alpha}_{Pro}-C'_{Pro}-N_{Val}-C^{\alpha}_{Val})$	169.0(7)	163.8(0)	$\chi^{3}_{Pro}(C^{\beta}_{Pro}-C^{\gamma}_{Pro}-C^{\delta}_{Pro}-N_{Pro})$	32.5(0)	31.5(7)
$\phi_2(C'_{Pro}-N_{Val}-C'_{Val}-C'_{Val})$	-120.0(4)	-75.0(8)	$\chi^4_{\text{Pro}}(C^{\gamma}_{\text{Pro}}-C^{\delta}_{\text{Pro}}-N_{\text{Pro}}-C^{\alpha}_{\text{Pro}})$	-13.1(9)	-12.7(2)
$\chi^{1}_{Val}(N_{Val}-C^{\alpha}_{Val}-C^{\beta}_{Val}-C^{\gamma}_{Val})$	-59.7(5)	-59.8(6)			

**Table 1.** A list of selected dihedral angles obtained from the crystal structure of compound **2**.



Conformational Angles (deg)

**Figure 3.** Packing diagram of compound **2** indicating intermolecular hydrogen bonds with the assembly of molecules proceeding along the **c** axis. Hydrogen atoms are not shown for clarity.

	2
Empirical formula	$C_{15}H_{26}N_2O_4$
Crystal shape	Block
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.30 x 0.20 x 0.1
Crystal Colour	White
Crystallizing solvent	EtOAc-Hex
Space group	P 1
Space latice	Triclinic
Cell parameters	
a (Å)	8.900(2)
b (Å)	8.958(2)
c (Å)	10.397(2)
α (deg)	92.153(13)
β (deg)	96.035(13)
γ (deg)	94.714(12)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	820.6(3)
Z	1
Molecular weight	298.38
Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> ) (cal)	1.208
F (000)	324
Radiation (0.71073 Å)	Μο Κα
Temperature (K)	100
2 $ heta$ max (deg)	52.00
Scan type	ω scan
Measured reflections	12266
Independent reflections	s 5408
Unique reflections	5408
Observed reflections $[ F  > 4_{C}(F)]$	4030
$\operatorname{Einal} \mathbf{R} (\%)$	4 31
Final wR2 (%)	12.18
Goodness-of-fit (S)	0.845
$\Lambda \rho_{\rm max} (e{\rm Å}^{-3})$	0.192
$\Delta \rho_{\text{min}} (e \text{Å}^{-3})$	-0.194
No. of restraints / parameters	3/389

 Table 2. Crystal and diffraction parameters of 2.

#### **S5. Experimental Section**

#### S5.1. Synthesis of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Xaa<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (1-6):

The syntheses of the analogues **1-4**, **6** was accomplished using the standard solution phase mixed anhydride peptide coupling protocol in the presence of ethylchloroformate (ECF). The N-terminal of L-Pro (**a**, 0°C, 86.8 mmol) was protected with the acid labile t-butyloxycarbonyl (Boc) group in the presence of ditertiarybutyl dicarbonate (Boc)<sub>2</sub>O (91.2 mmol) and two equivalents of potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 173.6 mmol) in water (H<sub>2</sub>O) : tetrahydrofuran (THF) solvent mixture (1:1) to get N-Boc-Pro-OH (**b**) in excellent yields. N-Boc protected proline was coupled with the desired amino ester hydrochloride salt in the presence of ethyl chloroformate and N-methyl morpholine in THF : DMF solvent mixture to get the corresponding Boc-Pro-Xaa-OMe dipeptides (**c**<sub>1</sub>-**c**<sub>4</sub>, **c**<sub>6</sub>) in good yields. Boc deprotection of **c**<sub>1</sub>-**c**<sub>4</sub>, **c**<sub>6</sub> in the presence of 20% trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane followed by coupling of the resulting secondary ammonium salt with isobutyric acid in the presence of ethyl chloroformate and N-methyl morpholine yielded the desired dipeptide analogues (**1-4**, **6**) in good yields.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Xaa<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (1-4, 6).

For the synthesis of **5**, to a cold (0  $^{\circ}$ C) solution of Ibu-Pro-OH (1.08 mmol), 1-Ethyl-3-(3dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC.HCl) (1.40 mmol) and HOBt (1.40 mmol) in acetonitrile (MeCN) H-Cha-OMe.HCl (1.19 mmol) was added followed by Diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA) (4.32 mmol) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere and vigorously stirred. After 20 min the mixture was warmed to 25 °C and stirred further until TLC indicated complete consumption of the starting material acid.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (5).

#### **S6.** Purification and Spectral Details

#### S6.1. ((tert-butoxycarbonyl)-L-proline 2 (b):



THF was removed and extracted with diethyl ether (2 X 5 mL) to remove the unreacted  $(Boc)_2O$ . The aqueous layer was acidified to pH = 2, followed by extraction of the product with copious volumes of ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product as white solid (18.1 gm, 84.2 mmol, 97 %), which was used further without any purification.

S6.2. tert-butyl (S)-2-(((S)-1-methoxy-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1carboxylate c<sub>1</sub>:



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (20 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and

concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 8) yielded the desired product as a white solid (1291 mg, 4.30 mmol, 93% yield); (mp 71-73 °C); (TLC- EtOAc –  $R_f$  = 0.56); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3419, 3323, 2984, 1743, 1682, 1516, 1455, 1394, 1256 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 323.1583 (M+Na), Found 323.1583.

S6.3. tert-butyl (S)-2-(((S)-1-methoxy-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1carboxylate (c<sub>2</sub>):



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (20 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 15) yielded the desired product as a white solid (1388 mg, 4.23 mmol, 91% yield); (mp 64-66 °C); (TLC- EtOAc –  $R_f$  = 0.63); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3417, 3318, 2972, 1741, 1682, 1603, 1517, 1438, 1394, 1265 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 351.1896 (M+Na), Found 351.1892.

S6.4. tert-butyl (S)-2-(((2S,3R)-1-methoxy-3-methyl-1-oxopentan-2-yl) carbamoyl) pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (c<sub>3</sub>):



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and

concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 9) yielded the desired product as a viscous liquid (683 mg, 2.00 mmol, 86% yield); (TLC- EtOAc –  $R_f$  = 0.63); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3422, 3315, 2960, 1743, 1682, 1602, 1518, 1438, 1394, 1262 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 365.2052 (M+Na), Found 365.2054.

S6.5. tert-butyl (S)-2-(((S)-1-methoxy-4-methyl-1-oxopentan-2-yl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1carboxylate (c<sub>4</sub>):



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 9) yielded the desired product as a white solid (883 mg, 2.58 mmol, 92% yield); (mp 89-91 °C); (TLC- EtOAc –  $R_f$  = 0.63); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3422, 3313, 2960, 1743, 1682, 1624, 1518, 1438, 1395, 1291 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 365.2052 (M+Na), Found 365.2052.

S6.6. tert-butyl (S)-2-(((S)-1-methoxy-1-oxo-3-phenylpropan-2-yl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1carboxylate (c<sub>6</sub>) :



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (20 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 9) yielded the desired product as a white solid (1594 mg, 4.24 mmol, 91% yield); (mp 72 – 74 °C); (TLC- EtOAc –  $R_f$  = 0.63); **FTIR** (NaCl, 10 mM in

CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3420, 3311, 2983, 1745, 1681, 1516, 1438, 1394, 1258 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 399.1896 (M+Na), Found 399.1893.

#### S6.7. Methyl-N-isobutyroyl-L-prolyl-L-alaninate (1)



After Boc-deprotection, solvent was removed under vacuum connected to KOH trap to obtain the desired TFA salt product as viscous oil (314 mg, 1.00 mmol, 100% yield), which was directly used for further reactions.

Removal of solvent after coupling reaction resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 3 : 7) yielded the desired product as a viscous liquid (211 mg, 0.78 mmol, 78% yield); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f$  = 0.34); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3447, 3422, 3291, 2983, 1743, 1677, 1624, 1522, 1436, 1321, 1241 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 293.1477 (M+Na), Found 293.1478.

#### S6.8. Methyl-N-isobutyroyl-L-prolyl-L-valinate (2):



After Boc-deprotection, solvent was removed under vacuum connected to KOH trap to obtain the desired TFA salt product as viscous oil (313 mg, 0.91 mmol, 100% yield), which was directly used for further reactions.

Removal of solvent after coupling reaction resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium

sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 4) yielded the desired product as a white solid (207 mg, 0.69 mmol, 76% yield); (mp 91-93 °C); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f$  = 0.50); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3426, 3297, 2971, 1742, 1678, 1620, 1537, 1431, 1322, 1210 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 321.1790 (M+Na), Found 321.1793.

#### S6.9. Methyl-N-isobutyroyl-L-prolyl-L-alloisoleucinate (3):



After Boc-deprotection, solvent was removed under vacuum connected to KOH trap to obtain the desired TFA salt product as viscous oil (312 mg, 0.88 mmol, 100% yield), which was directly used for further reactions.

Removal of solvent after coupling reaction resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 4) yielded the desired product as a viscous liquid (212 mg, 0.68 mmol, 77% yield); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f$  = 0.50); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3423, 3298, 2962, 1743, 1678, 1621, 1532, 1431, 1322, 1259 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 335.1947 (M+Na), Found 335.1947.

#### S6.10. Methyl-N-isobutyroyl-L-prolyl-L-leucinate (4):



After Boc-deprotection, solvent was removed under vacuum connected to KOH trap to obtain the desired TFA salt product as viscous oil (312 mg, 0.88 mmol, 100% yield), which was directly used for further reactions.

Removal of solvent after the coupling reaction resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 4) yielded the desired product as a viscous liquid (215 mg, 0.69 mmol, 78% yield); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f$  = 0.50); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3422, 3293, 2962, 1743, 1679, 1619, 1540, 1436, 1321, 1279 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 335.1947 (M+Na), Found 335.1943.

#### S6.11. Methyl-N-isobutyroyl-prolyl-phenylalaninyl-ester (6):



After Boc-deprotection, solvent was removed under vacuum connected to KOH trap to obtain the desired TFA salt product as viscous oil (311 mg, 0.80 mmol, 100% yield), which was directly used for further reactions.

Removal of solvent after the coupling reaction resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 4) which yielded the desired product as a white solid (218 mg, 0.63 mmol, 79% yield); (mp 53-55 °C); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f = 0.5$ ); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3422, 3287, 2960, 1745, 1676, 1623, 1520, 1438, 1217 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 369.1790 (M+Na), Found 369.1785.

# S6.12. methyl (S)-3-cyclohexyl-2-((S)-1-isobutyroylpyrrolidine-2-carboxamido)propanoate (5):



Removal of solvent resulted in a residue which was dissolved in ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (15 mL), washed with 10 mL water (2 X 5 mL) and 1N HCl solution (2 X 5 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 X 5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to get a residue which was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) flash column chromatography (EtOAc : Hexane – 1 : 4) yielded the desired product as a viscous liquid (27 mg, 0.08 mmol, 79% yield); (TLC- EtOAc) –  $R_f$  = 0.50); IR (NaCl, 10 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3427, 3294, 2928, 1743, 1676, 1621, 1526, 1436, 1322, 1217 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 375.2260 (M+Na), Found 375.2259.

### S7. Conformational analyses from 2D-NMR spectra

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals sets corresponding to the cis/trans rotamers were assigned based on analyses of their 2D TOCSY, HSQC and ROESY spectra (20 mM, 300K). Homonuclear H,H 2D TOCSY spectra revealed the <sup>1</sup>H signals corresponding to each of the individual spin systems in every single rotamer as they exhibit  ${}^{n}J_{H,H}$  scalar coupling with each other through bonds.



S7.1. 2D NMR spectra of Ibu<sub>-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Xaa<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (1-6) analogues

**Figure 4.** Relevant portions of the 2D TOCSY spectrum of iBu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**6**) in DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 20 mM, 300 K.



**Figure 5.** Relevant portions of the 2D HSQC spectrum of iBu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**6**) in DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 20 mM, 300 K.



**Figure 6.** Relevant portions of the 2D ROESY spectrum of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**6**) in DMSOd6, 20 mM, 300 K, highlighting the cross peaks characteristic for *cis*Pro and *trans*Pro rotamers.

The ROESY spectrum showed a  $C^{\alpha}_{lbu(i-1)}$ -H $^{\alpha}$ ····H $^{\delta}$ -Phe<sub>i+1</sub> (i-1...i+1) cross peak exclusively in the *cis*Pro conformer. No such cross peaks were observed in the *trans*Pro isomer of **6**.



**Figure 7.** Relevant portions of the 2D ROESY spectrum of  $Ibu_{i-1}$ -Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**6**) in DMSOd6, 20 mM, 300 K, highlighting the cross peaks characterizing the  $C^{\alpha}_{Ibu(i-1)}$ -H···Phe<sub>i+1</sub> interaction in the *cis*Pro rotamer.

Note that these  $H^{\alpha}_{lbu(i-1)}$ ...S.C.<sub>i+1</sub> cross peaks (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) are either too weak to observe or are absent in the Ala analogue **1**.



**Figure 8:** Partial 2D ROESY spectrum of  $Ibu_{i-1}$ -Pro<sub>i</sub>-Ala<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**1**), showing no cross peaks between the Ala side chain and the  $H^{\alpha}_{Ibu}$  signals.

Remarkably the 2D ROESY spectrum of Leu analogue (4) (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), containing the longer aliphatic side chain, reveals the presence of the crucial  $H^{\alpha}_{lbu(i-1)}\cdots H^{\delta 2}_{Leu(i+1)}$  NOE weak cross peak.



**Figure 9:** Partial 2D ROESY spectrum of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Leu<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (4) highlighting the  $H^{\alpha}_{Ibu(i-1)}$ ... $H^{\delta 2}_{Leu(i+1)}$  cross peak, signifying the proximity between isopropyl groups of the Ibu group and the Leu residue.

The aliphatic region of 2D ROESY spectrum of Cha analogue (**5**) is complicated due to presence of a number of overlapping groups and hence cannot be interpreted without sufficient ambiguity.



**Figure 10a,b.** Partial 2D TOCSY spectra of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**5**) and Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Leu<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**4**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (Cha is cyclohexylalanine).





**Figure 11a,b.** Partial 2D HSQC spectra of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**5**) and Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Leu<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**4**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Figure 12. Relevant ROESY spectrum of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (5), DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 10mM.

# S8. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Tables

# S8.1. Assignment of <sup>1</sup>H NMR peaks in DMSO-d6

	Ibu-Pro-A	la-OMe (1)	Ibu-Pro-Val-OMe (2)	
	(DMS	<b>O-d</b> <sub>6</sub> )	(DMS	<b>O-d</b> <sub>6</sub> )
	cis	trans	cis	trans
	δ (ppm)	δ (ppm)	δ (ppm)	δ (ppm)
Ibu–H <sup>a</sup>	2.36 (sept, J = $6.8$	2.67 (sept, $J = 6.8$	2.39 (sept, J =	2.68 (sept, J =
	Hz)	Hz)	6.4 Hz)	6.8 Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{m eta}$	0.98 (d, J = 6.4 Hz)	0.98 (d, J = 6.4 Hz)	0.86 (d, J = 6.8	0.99 (d, J = 6.4
			Hz)	Hz)
	0.92 (d, J = 6.4 Hz)	0.97 (d, J = 6.4 Hz)		-
<b>Pro-H</b> <sup>α</sup>	4.39 (dd, J = 8.4,	4.30 (dd, J = 8.8,	4.54 (d, J = 7.2	4.42 (dd, J =
	2.4 Hz)	3.6 Hz)	Hz)	9.2, 2.4 Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{m eta}$	2.19 (qu, J = 8.8	2.07-1.98 (m)	2.27-2.15 (m)	2.25-1.94 (m)
	Hz)			
	1.97 -1.90 (m)	1.88-1.79 (m)		1.87-1.82 (m)
$\mathbf{H}^{\gamma}$	1.80-1.71 (m)	1.95-1.80 (m)	1.81-1.71 (m)	1.91-1.83 (m)
$\mathbf{H}^{\delta}$	3.48-3.40 (m)	3.59-3.48 (m)	3.48-3.38 (m)	3.59-3.48 (m)
	3.33 (t, J = 8.0 Hz)		3.37-3.27 (m)	
Aro N-H	8.49 (d, J = 7.2 Hz)	8.20 (d, J = 7.2 Hz)	8.39 (d, J = 8.4	8.05 (d, J = 7.6
			Hz)	Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{\alpha}$	4.30 (qu, J = 7.2	4.22 (qu, J = 7.2	4.23 (dd, J =	4.12 (dd, J =
	Hz)	Hz)	8.0, 6.4 Hz)	7.6, 6.4 Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{m eta}$	1.28 (d, J = 7.2 Hz)	1.27 (d, J = 7.2 Hz)	2.14-2.07 (m)	2.06-1.94 (m)
$\mathbf{H}^{\beta}$			0.86 (d, J = 6.8)	0.88 (d, J = 6.4)
			Hz)	Hz)
OCH <sub>3</sub>	3.62 (s)	3.61 (s)	3.64 (s)	3.62 (s)

# Table 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu-Pro-Alp-OMe (1-5) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10 mM)

$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	<sup>1</sup> H NMR of Ibu-Pro-Alp-OMe in DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10 mM, 300 K)						
	Ibu-Pro-Il	e-OMe (3)	Ibu-Pro-Le	eu-OMe (4)	Ibu-Pro-C	Cha-OMe (5)	
	(DMS	U-d <sub>6</sub> )	(DMS	U-d <sub>6</sub> )	(DM	50-a <sub>6</sub> )	
	$\delta$ (nnm)	<i>uuns</i> δ (nnm)	$\delta$ (nnm)	<i>uuns</i> δ (nnm)	τις δ (nnm)	<i>uuns</i> δ (nnm)	
Ibu–H <sup>α</sup>	2.38 (sept. 1	2.36 (sept.	2.67 (sept.	2.69 (sept. J	2.35 (sept. J	2.68 (sept. 1 =	
	= 6.8  Hz	6.4 Hz)	6.8 Hz)	= 6.8  Hz	= 6.8  Hz	6.8 Hz)	
				,			
$\mathbf{H}^{m eta}$	0.98 (d, J =	0.97 (d, J =	0.98 (d, J =	0.99 (d, J =	0.98 (d, J =	0.99 (d, J = 6.4	
	6.8 Hz)	6.8 Hz)	6.4 Hz)	6.8 Hz)	6.4 Hz)	Hz)	
	0.88 (d, J =	0.90 (d, J =	0.97 (d, J =	0.98 (d, J =	0.92 (d, J =		
	6.8 Hz)	6.8 Hz)	6.4 Hz)	6.8 Hz)	6.4 Hz)		
Pro-H <sup>α</sup>	4.53 (dd, J =	4.41 (dd,	4.32 (dd, J =	4.42 (dd, J =	4.42 (dd, J =	4.33 (dd, J =	
	8.8, 2.4 Hz)	8.4, 1.6 Hz)	9.2, 2.8 Hz)	7.2, 2.8 Hz)	8.8, 2.4 Hz)	8.4, 2.4 Hz)	
$\mathbf{H}^{m eta}$	1.91 —	2.21 (qu, J =	2.00 (qu, J =	1.90 – 1.82	1.93-	1.89-1.80(m)	
	1.85(m)	8.8 Hz)	8.0 Hz)	(m)	1.87(m)		
	2.24 – 2.18	1.93-1.87	1.87-1.80	2.01 – 1.93	2.25-	2.04-1.94(m)	
	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)	2.17(m)		
$\mathbf{H}^{\gamma}$	1.81 – 1.73	1.82-1.73	1.92-1.82	1.92 – 1.82	1.82-1.72	1.94-1.82 (m)	
TTÔ	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)	254240()	
H	3.46 - 3.41	3.48-3.44	3.57-3.48 -	3.58 - 3.48	3.49-	3.54-3.48(m)	
	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)	3.43(m)	2 5 9 2 5 2 (m)	
	3.30 - 3.30	3.30-3.28 (m)	3.53-4.48 (m)		3.30- 2.20(m)	3.58-3.52(m)	
Aro N-H	8 30 (d 1 –	8 47 (d. I	8 11 (d 7 2	8 03 (d 1 -	3.30(iii) 8.47 (d. I –	8 09 (d 1 - 7 2	
AIUII	8.39 (u, ) = 8.4 Hz)	8.47 (u, ) – 8.0 Hz)	8.11 (0, 7.2 Hz)	8.03 (0, 1 – 8.4 Hz)	8.47 (u, ) – 8.4 Hz)	8.09 (u, J – 7.2 Hz)	
Ηα	4.26 (dd. J =	4.38-4.33	4.23-4.17	4.17 (dd. J =	4.37 (dd. I =	4.26 (dd. J =	
	8.0 Hz. 6.8	(m)	(m)	8.0 Hz. 6.4	8.4. 5.2 Hz)	14.8. 7.6 Hz)	
	Hz)	()	(,	Hz)	<i>,,</i>	,	
$\mathbf{H}^{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$	1.88 - 1.80	1.66-1.59	1.58-1.44	1.80 – 1.72	1.60-1.54	1.53-1.49 (m)	
	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)		
$\mathbf{H}^{\gamma}$	1.24 - 1.14	1.55-1.44	1.55-1.44	1.24 - 1.14			
	(m)	(m)	(m)	(m)			
Ηγ	1.44 - 1.34			1.44 – 1.34			
	(m)			(m)			
$\mathbf{H}^{\gamma}$	0.86 - 0.82			0.86 - 0.82			
	(m)			(m)			
H <sup>δ</sup>	0.86 - 0.82	0.90-0.89	0.89 (d, J =	0.86 - 0.82			
	(m)	(merged)	6.0 Hz)	(m)			
Η <sup>δ</sup> ΄		0.82 (d, J =	0.84 (d, J =				
		6.0 Hz)	6.0 Hz)				
OCH <sub>3</sub>	3.64 (s, 3H)	3.62 (s)	3.60 (s)	3.62 (s, 3H)	3.62 (s)	3.60 (s)	
Others					1.71-1.59	1.71-1.59 (m)	
					(m)	1.22-1.06 (m)	
					1.22-1.06	(4 H)	
					(m) (4H)	1.03-0.87 (m)	
					1.03-0.87	4 H)	
					(111) 4 H)	0.83-0.75 (M) (2 ⊔\	
					0.85-0.75 (m) (2 H)	(2 1)	

	Ibu-Pro-Pl	ne-OMe (6)
	(DMS	<b>O-d</b> 6)
	cis	trans
	δ (ppm)	δ (ppm)
Ibu – $H^{\alpha}$	2.03 (sept,	2.64 (sept,
	J = 7.2 Hz)	6.8 Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{\beta}$	0.88 (d, J =	0.97 (d, J =
	6.8 Hz)	6.8 Hz)
	0.70 (d, J =	
	6.4 Hz)	
<b>Pro</b> – $\mathbf{H}^{\alpha}$	4.27 (dd, J	4.32 (dd, J
	= 8.4, 2.0	= 9.2, 2.8
	Hz)	Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{\beta}$	2.12 (qu, J	2.00-1.93
	= 6.8 Hz)	(m)
	1.80-1.72	1.85-1.80
	(m)	(m)
$\mathbf{H}^{\gamma}$	1.73-1.57	1.80-1.78
	(m)	(m)
$\mathbf{H}^{\delta}$	3.39 (ddd, J	3.56-3.44
	= 19.2, 7.6,	(m)
	3.6 Hz)	
	3.32-3.26	
	(m)	
Aro N-H	8.49 (d, J =	8.10 (d, J =
	7.2 Hz)	7.6 Hz)
На	4.57 (ddd, J	4.42 (q, J =
	= 19.2,	7.2 Hz)
	10.8, 4.4	
	Hz)	
$\mathbf{H}^{\beta}$	3.12 (dd, J	2.90 (dt, J
	= 13.6, 4.4	= 13.6, 6.0
	Hz)	Hz)
$\mathbf{H}^{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$	2.91 (dd, J	2.95 (d, J =
	= 13.2,	8.0 Hz)
	10.8 Hz)	
HAro	7.29-7.20	7.29-7.20
	(m)	(m)
OCH <sub>3</sub>	3.64 (s)	3.56 (s)

# Table 4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu-Pro-Phe-OMe (6) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10 mM)

# S8.2. Assignment of <sup>13</sup>C NMR peaks in DMSO-d6

	Ibu-Pro-A (DMS	la-OMe (1) SO-d6)	Ibu-Pro-V (DMS	al-OMe (2) 6O-d6)
	<i>cis</i> δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)	cis δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)
Ibu – $C^{\alpha}$	31.5	31.2	31.4	31.3
Ibu – $C^{\beta}$	19.6, 19.1	19.0, 18.8	19.0, 19.6	18.7, 19.1
Ibu - C'	175.0	174.4	174.8	174.7
<b>Pro</b> – $C^{\alpha}$	59.2	58.6	58.9	58.6
C <sup>β</sup>	31.6	29.0	31.7	28.5
C <sup>γ</sup>	22.1	24.2	22.2	24.3
C <sup>δ</sup>	46.4	46.6	46.4	46.6
C'	172.1	171.9	172.6	171.96
$Alp - C^{\alpha}$	47.5	47.4	57.2	57.3
C <sup>β</sup>	16.83	16.85	29.7	29.96
C <sup>γ</sup>	-	-	18.0, 18.94	18.1, 18.9
C <sup>δ</sup>	-	-		
OMe –C′	172.7	173.1	171.8	171.96
OMe –CH <sub>3</sub>	51.9	51.8	51.8	51.6
Others	-	-		

# Table 5. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu-Pro-Alp-OMe (1-5) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60 mM)

	Ibu-Pro-Ile-OMe (3) (DMSO-de)		Ibu-Pro-L	eu-OMe (4)	Ibu-Pro-Cha-OMe (5)		
		<b>00-u</b> 6)		<b>50-u</b> 6)	(DNIS	<b>0-u</b> 6)	
	cis δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)	cis δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)	cis δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)	
Ibu – $C^{\alpha}$	31.4	31.6	31.3	31.3	31.5	31.2	
Ibu – $C^{\beta}$	19.6	19.6	19.0	19.04	19.0	18.7	
Ibu – $C^{\beta}$	19.0	19.01	18.8	18.7	19.5	18.9	
Ibu - C'	174.8	174.9	174.5	174.7	174.8	174.5	
$\mathbf{Pro} - \mathbf{C}^{\alpha}$	58.9	59.2	58.7	58.6	59.1	58.7	
C <sup>β</sup>	31.6	31.6	28.9	28.5	31.6	28.7	
Cγ	22.1	22.2	24.2	24.3	22.0	24.2	
$\mathrm{C}^{\delta}$	46.4	46.5	46.6	46.6	46.4	46.5	
C'	171.8	172.4	172.0	171.9	172.3	172.0	
$Alp - C^{\alpha}$	56.2	50.0	50.3	56.3	49.2	49.5	
C <sup>β</sup>	36.0	39.3	39.6	36.4	37.7	38.4	
Cγ	24.6	24.31	24.28	24.7			
C <sup>y</sup>	15.41			15.39			
$\mathbf{C}^{\delta}$	10.9	22.9	22.7	11.2			
$\mathbf{C}^{\delta}$		20.8	21.4				
OMe – C'	172.5	172.7	173.0	171.9	172.7	173.0	
OMe – CH3	51.7	51.9	51.7	51.6	51.9	51.7	
Others	-			-	33.6 33.0 31.1 25.88 25.79 25.5	33.2 33.1 31.6 25.94 25.7 25.4	

Table 0. C INVIR OF IDU-FTO-FHE-ONIE (0) III DIVISO-06 (100 MIRZ, 00 IIIIV	Table 6	<sup>13</sup> C NMR	of Ibu-Pro-Ph	e-OMe (6) in	DMSO-d <sub>6</sub>	(100 MHz,	60 mM)
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	Ibu-Pro-Pl (DMS	he-OMe (6) 6 <b>0-d</b> 6)
	cis δ (ppm)	<i>trans</i> δ (ppm)
Ibu – $\mathbf{C}^{\alpha}$	31.4	31.2
Ibu – $C^{\beta}$	19.4	18.8
Ibu – $C^{\beta}$	18.9	18.7
Ibu - C'	174.9	174.7
$\mathbf{Pro} - \mathbf{C}^{\alpha}$	59.2	58.8
C <sup>β</sup>	31.5	28.7
С <sup>γ</sup>	21.9	24.1
$\mathbf{C}^{\delta}$	46.3	46.5
C'	171.78	171.73
Aro – $C^{\alpha}$	53.0	53.5
C <sup>β</sup>	36.2	36.7
OMe –C′	171.84	172.0
OMe –CH <sub>3</sub>	52.0	51.7
Aromatic	137.4, 129.0, 128.15, 126.5	137.0 129.1, 128.07, 126.4

### S9. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra

Figure 13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Ala<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (1) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).



**Figure 14.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Ala<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (1) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).





**Figure 15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Val<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (2) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).

Figure 16. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of of  $Ibu_{i-1}$ -Pro<sub>i</sub>-Val<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (2) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).





**Figure 17.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Ile<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**3**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).

**Figure 18.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Ile<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**3**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).





**Figure 19.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Leu<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (4) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).

**Figure 20.**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Leu<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**4**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).





**Figure 21.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**5**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).

Figure 22.<sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Cha<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (5) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).





**Figure 23.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (**6**) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (400 MHz, 10mM).

Figure 24.<sup>13</sup>C NMR of Ibu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Phe<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe (6) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (100 MHz, 60mM).



S10. Calculation of dihedral angles from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR data

	Та	b	le	7	
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iBu-Pro-Xaa-OMe

Xaa cis	<sup>13</sup> C <sub>β</sub> i ppm	<sup>13</sup> C <sub>γ</sub> i ppm	Δδ <sub>βγ</sub> i ppm	Ψ <sub>Proi</sub> deg	<sup>3</sup> J <sub>Nα</sub> i+1 Hz	∳ <sub>Yaa</sub> deg	Xaa trans	<sup>13</sup> C <sub>β</sub> i ppm	<sup>13</sup> C <sub>γ</sub> i ppm	Δδ <sub>βγ</sub> i ppm	Ψ <sub>Proi</sub> deg	<sup>3</sup> J <sub>Nα</sub> i+1 Hz	∳ <sub>Yaa</sub> deg
1	31.6	22.1	9.5	146.8	7.2	-83.8	1	29.0	24.2	4.8	173.1	7.2	-83.8
2	31.7	22.2	9.5	146.8	8.4	-94.7	2	28.5	24.3	4.2	156.4	7.6	-87.2
3	31.6	22.1	9.5	146.8	8.4	-94.7	3	28.5	24.3	4.2	156.4	8.4	-94.7
4	31.6	22.2	9.6	148.0	8.0	-90.8	4	28.9	24.2	4.7	170.3	7.2	-83.8
5	31.6	22.0	9.4	145.6	8.4	-94.7	5	28.7	24.2	4.5	164.7	7.2	-83.8
6	31.5	21.9	9.6	148.0	7.2	-83.8	6	28.7	24.1	4.6	167.5	7.6	-87.2

 $\Delta \delta_{\beta\gamma} = {}^{13}C_{\beta} {}^{-13}C_{\gamma}; \quad \Delta \delta_{\beta\gamma} = a \ \text{I}\theta \text{I} + b; \quad \theta = (\Delta \delta_{\beta\gamma} - b) \ \text{/} \ a; \ \psi_{\text{Pro}} = \theta + 60^{\circ};$ 

 $\theta_{cis}: a = 0.081, b = 2.47; \ \theta_{trans}: a = 0.036, b = 0.73;$ 

# S11. Superimposed cis and trans conformations of 1-6

Figure 25.



Хаа	ω <sub>Pro</sub> (deg)	φ <sub>Pro</sub> (deg)	ψ <sub>Pro</sub> (deg)	ω <sub>xaa</sub> (deg)	φ <sub>xaa</sub> (deg)	χ1 <sub>xaa</sub> (deg)	χ2 <sub>xaa</sub> (deg)	r <sub>c</sub> or r <sub>t</sub> (Å)
<b>1</b> cis	0	-71	146.8	-180	-83.8	-	-	5.317
1 trans	-180	-71	173.1	-180	-83.8	-	-	5.494
<b>2</b> cis	0	-71	146.8	-180	-94.7	-62.9	-	5.317
2 trans	-180	-71	156.4	-180	-83.8	-62.9	-	5.392
<b>3</b> cis	0	-71	146.8	-180	-94.7	-60	177	5.317
3 trans	-180	-71	156.4	-180	-94.7	-60	177	5.392
<b>4</b> cis	0	-71	145.6	-180	-90.8	-60	-62.2	5.307
4 trans	180	-71	170.3	-180	-83.8	-60	-62.2	5.479
<b>5</b> cis	0	-71	145.6	-180	-94.7	-60	-120	5.327
5 trans	180	-71	164.7	-180	-83.8	-60	120	5.447
<b>6</b> cis	0	-74.9	148	-178.3	-83.8	-60	-60	5.250
6 trans	-180	-74.9	167.5	-178.3	-87.2	-60	-60	5.404

Table 8. Dihedral angles and distances in 1-6

**Table 9.** Length (d Å), surface area (A Å<sup>2</sup>) and vdW zone of residence (V Å<sup>3</sup>) of the Alp<sub>i+1</sub> side chains in **1-5**.

		d <sup>a</sup> Å	A <sup>b</sup> Å <sup>2</sup>	V <sup>c</sup> Å <sup>3</sup>		∆G <sup>e</sup> kcal
No.	Хаа	(×10 <sup>-10</sup> )	(×10 <sup>-20</sup> )	(×10 <sup>-30</sup> )	$K_{c/t}^{d}$	mol⁻¹
1	Ala	1.546	18.1	3.9	0.55	0.36
2	Val	2.582	50.6	18.0	0.58	0.32
3	lle	2.535	48.9	17.1	0.56	0.34
4	Leu	3.905	116.0	62.4	0.78	0.15
5	Cha	5.439	224.0	168.6	0.82	0.12

<sup>a</sup>  $C^{\alpha}_{Xaa(i+1)}...C^{x}_{Xaa(i+1)}$  distance where x =  $\beta$  for 1;  $\gamma$  for 2, 3;  $\delta$  for 4;  $\zeta$  for 5.

<sup>b</sup> Area of cone of radius d and height h:  $(\pi d \times (d + \sqrt{d^2 + h^2})))$  where d=h

<sup>c</sup> Quarter-sphere volume for fully extended side chain;

 $^{d}$  K\_{c/t} = [cis] / [trans];  $^{e}\!\Delta G$  = -RT In K\_{c/t} , 300 K.





**Figure 26.** (a) PDB trimeric (multicolored, left) and the monomeric (red) structures of urease accessory protein UreF (3CXN). The type *a* fold at Val197-Pro-Leu sequence in one of the monomers (red) is highlighted. (b) Superimposed Alp-Pro-Alp segments of 3CXN (green) and crystal structure of iBu<sub>i-1</sub>-Pro<sub>i</sub>-Val<sub>i+1</sub>-OMe **2** (orange) showing remarkably similar Type *a* folds. The key i-1…i+1 Alp<sub>i-1</sub>…Alp<sub>i+1</sub> distances and torsions are presented.