# **THE STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS OF HISTONE DEACETYLASE (HDAC) INHIBITORS: SUBEROLYANILIDE HYDROXAMIC ACID (SAHA) ANALOGUES MODIFIED AT C3, C6, AND C7 POSITIONS ENHANCE SELECTIVITY**

by

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#### **DEDICATION**

I would like to dedicate this dissertation to some people who have made me who I am today: my advisor Dr. Mary Kay H. Pflum, committee members (Dr. Jin K. Cha, Dr. David Crich, and Dr. Aloke Dutta), Dr. Zhongwu Guo, previous and current group members (Dr. Anton Bieliauskas, Dr. Sujith Weerashinghe, Geetha Padige, Satish Garre etc), room mates (Charlie Johnson, Derek Averill, and John Pompei), friends (Dr. Ivan Lysenka, Dr. Woo, Jun Hee Lee, Sung Jun Park, Yu Chen, Nitin Jabre etc), the oldest sister Moon Ea Choi and her family (Cheul Young Lee and Ha Jin), other sisters (Jung Ea Choi, Young Ea Choi, and Myong Ea Choi), brother Jin Young Choi, mother Hyang Joo Park, and specially, father Chang Soon Choi. I miss you so much, Dad.

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#### **CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Gene expression by Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) proteins**

The nucleosome is a unit of DNA packaged around a histone protein core (Figure 1.1).<sup>1</sup> The four core histone proteins (histone octomers, pink) are wrapped by the DNA double helix (gray), which form chromosomes (violet) through highly condensed nucleosomes. The nucleosomes carry epigenetically inherited information in the covalent modifications of the core histones. Covalent modifications of lysine residues located on histone N-terminal tails alter gene expression.



**Figure 1.1** Epigenetic mechanisms.<sup>1</sup> Histone octomers (pink), DNA double stand (gray), and chromosomes (violet). *Reused with permission*

Among the covalent modifications, the acetylation status of histone lysines is governed by histone deacetylase (HDAC) proteins and histone acetyltransferase (HAT) proteins and is in equilibrium (Figure 1.2). HDAC and HAT proteins are two key enzymes that regulate gene transcription. The neutral, acetylated lysine allows DNA to interact with transcription factors to promote gene expression. Deacetylated positively charged lysine residues interact with the negatively charged phosphate backbone of DNA. The tight electrostatic interaction between the additional lysine residues and the negatively charged DNA backbone prevents activation with gene transcription. The overexpression of HDAC proteins shifts the equilibrium to the unmodified state and results in aberrant transcription in some cancer cells. $<sup>2</sup>$  More specifically, overexpression of</sup> HDAC proteins induces repression of transcription and alteration in the accessibility of genes to transcriptional proteins causes reduced gene expression. Since decreasing gene expression can cause a variety of diseases, including cancers, the family of HDAC proteins has been studied.



**Figure 1.2** The equilibrium activities of histone acetyltransferase (HAT) and deacetylase (HDAC)

#### **1.2 HDAC protein family**

The HDAC protein family consists of 18 members and is divided into four classes based on size, cellular localization, number of catalytic active site, and homology to yeast HDAC protein (Table 1.1). $3$  Class I includes HDAC1, HDAC2, HDAC3, and HDAC8. Class II includes HDAC4, HDAC5, HDAC6, HDAC7, HDAC9, and HDAC10. Class IV includes HDAC11 as the sole member because it displays similarities to both class I and II. Class III are NAD<sup>+</sup>-dependent proteins, referred to as sirtuins (SIRT 1-7).<sup>4</sup> Class I, II, and IV are metal iondependant proteins and are sensitive to the inhibitors in this dissertation.





Class I HDAC proteins (HDACs) are found in cancers, including ovarian (HDAC1, 2, and 3),<sup>5</sup> gastric (HDAC2),<sup>6</sup> and lung cancers (HDAC1 and HDAC3).<sup>7</sup> Class I HDACs are produced at higher levels in ovarian cancers compared to normal ovarian tissues, as assessed using small interfering RNA methodology.<sup>5</sup> Strong expression of HDAC2 was found in 44 out of a total of 71 gastric tumors.<sup>6</sup> HDAC3 is elevated in 92% of squamous cell lung carcinomas, as assessed using

immunoblot analysis.<sup>7</sup> HDAC8 is involved in acute myeloid leukemia (AML).<sup>8</sup> A common form of AML results from an abnormal fusion protein, Inv1, that binds HDAC 8. Overexpression of class II HDAC6 is observed in breast and ovarian cancer tissues.<sup>9</sup> Cell motility was increased by transfecting at HDAC6 expression plasmid into the breast cancer MCF-7 cells. Class II HDAC 10 protein is involved in the formation of tumors of skeletal muscle.<sup>10</sup> HDAC10 was detected at the highest level in the skeletal muscle tumor SJRH30 rhabdomyosarcoma cell line. The different activities that connect each HDAC isoform with cancer formation have been given significant attention on the pharmaceutical and carcinoma studies.<sup>5, 9</sup>

Even though each individual HDAC protein is involved in the formation of cancers, the role of each isoform in carcinogenesis is not clear yet. Therefore, elucidating the molecular mechanism connecting the HDAC activity of each isoform to cancer formation would facilitate studies that lead to treatment of diseases. To comprehensively understand the role of individual HDAC proteins in the growth and progression of cancer, development of selective HDAC inhibitors is required.

#### **1.3 HDAC inhibitors**

New approaches towards studying the causes and treatments of cancer have been rigorously studied since cancers are one of major causes of death in the United States. With a role in cancer, several HDAC inhibitor drugs are in clinical trials for treatment of cancer.<sup>11</sup> Specifically, suberoyl anilide hydroxamic acid (SAHA, Vorinostat) was the first HDAC inhibitor approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL).<sup>12</sup> Another recent FDA-approved HDAC inhibitor is depsipeptide (romidepsin, FK228), also for treatment for CTCL.<sup>13</sup> Currently, most HDAC inhibitors are paninhibitors, which similarly inhibit all HDAC proteins. Therefore, developing selective inhibitors would aid studies connecting HDAC activity to cancer formation.

Most metal ion-dependent HDAC inhibitors, including SAHA, have a similar structure construction consisting of a capping group that is solventexposed, a carbon linker that is surrounded by a hydrophobic tunnel, and a metal binding moiety that is buried in the protein active site (Figure 1.3).





The crystal structure of SAHA bound in the active site of a bacterial homologue support that the SAHA anilide capping group is solvent-exposed near amino acids at the entrance of the active site, the linker positions in the hydrophobic channel, and the hydroxamic acid is located near the zinc atom at bottom of the active site (Figure 1.4). However, slight differences in the active sites of the human HDAC isoforms are not known in detail because limited crystallographic analysis is only available for HDAC2,<sup>14</sup> HDAC3,<sup>15</sup> HDAC4,<sup>16</sup>

HDAC7 and HDAC8.<sup>17</sup> Therefore, design of isoform-selective HDAC inhibitors that inhibit only related HDAC proteins is challenging.



**Figure 1.4.** Structure of SAHA bound to an HDAC-like protein.<sup>18</sup> *Reused with permission.* 

### **1.4 Inhibitor selectivity**

Currently, most HDAC inhibitors, including SAHA, nonspecifically inhibit all eleven metal ion-dependent HDAC proteins. As a promising hypothesis, the nonselective HDAC inhibitors might cause cancer patients in the clinic to suffer from the side effects, such as fatigue, anorexia, diarrhea, and cardiac arrhythmia.<sup>19</sup> The clinical toxicity of selective inhibitors is unknown because there is no HDAC isoform selective inhibitor at present. In addition, the similarity in the active sites of the isoforms has challenged inhibitor design.<sup>20</sup> Elucidating the relationship between inhibitor selectivity and clinical toxicity might not only help understand

the role of the HDAC isoform function, but also contribute to the development of chemotherapies with fewer side effects for cancer patients.

### **1.5 Rationale for the synthesis of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the carbon linker**

Towards creating isoform selective inhibitors, the structural regions of HDAC inhibitors have been studied. Particularly, the capping region and metal binding moiety have been extensively modified.<sup>21</sup> The influence of substituents on the linker region is relatively less studied, although the hydrocarbon linker has been investigated, such as varying chain length, producing points of unsaturated chain, and adding an aryl or cyclohexyl ring.<sup>22</sup> However, MS-275, which displays selectivity for class  $I^{23}$ , contains an aryl ring in the linker region (Figure 1.3). The intra-chain aryl group structure of MS-275 suggests that selectivity may be influenced by the structure of the linker region. We designed structure activity relationship (SAR) studies of SAHA to investigate the role of the linker on inhibitory activity and selectivity. Moreover, synthesis of a library of SAHA analogs would be simple through only several steps since SAHA can be synthesized in three steps.<sup>21c</sup> With these advantages, SAHA analogue libraries and SAR studies led us to explore the impact of substituents in the linker region.

#### **1.6 Specific aims**

Our goal is syntheses of SAHA analogues with substituents on the linker region. First of all, small molecule libraries of SAHA analogues would elucidate the structural requirements of potent HDAC inhibitors. Second, developing novel isoform or class selective inhibitors would be explored by testing the selectivity of the SAHA analogues. Third, screening small molecule analogues by using Fluor de Lys™ activity assay (Enzo) would allow analyzing potency and selectivity, and exploiting veiled interaction between specific cancer formation and selectivity. The evaluation of these analogues will be helpful to improve chemotherapeutic drug design.

SAHA achieved the first FDA approval among HDAC inhibitors for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (section 1.3). Cancer patients, however, are still suffering from side effects.<sup>19</sup> Because side effects may be caused by the fact that SAHA is a pan inhibitor, the development of isoform or class-selective inhibitors would be critical to understand the relationship between toxicity and individual HDAC activity associated with cancer formation. Therefore, the development of selective inhibitors has been a significant aim for biological and pharmacological studies. Likewise, structure activity relationship (SAR) studies of small molecule HDAC inhibitors are required because only limited numbers of the selective inhibitors are reported. Therefore, our SAHA analogue syntheses and biological activity studies are a fitting starting point to design selective HDAC inhibitor and develop better chemotherapy with fewer side effects compared to current pan inhibitors.

#### **1.7Development of isoform or class-selective inhibitors**

Presently, a minority of examples of SAHA analogues containing modifications on the carbon linker are reported, in spite of the promising area. For example, a few studies of the impact of substituents on the linker have

explored hydrophobic substituents (Figure 1.5). $^{24}$  No potency improvement was observed in ω-Alkoxy analogues **Aa**-**Ad**. 24a In contrast to the ω-Alkoxy analogues of SAHA, aminosuberoyl hydroxamic acid analogue **A<sup>e</sup>** is slightly more potent than SAHA.<sup>24b</sup> Furthermore, studies modifying the chain, such as alternating chain length and creating an unsaturated chain, were performed as HDAC inhibitors.<sup>22c, 25</sup> None of the sulfonamides  $B_{ad}$  (HDAC1 IC<sub>50</sub> 0.1-1 µM) having different chain length and unsaturated chain displayed potency compared to highly potent HDAC inhibitors, such as trichostatin A (TSA,  $IC_{50}$  0.005  $µ$ M) and SAHA (HDAC1 IC<sub>50</sub> 0.096  $\mu$ M).<sup>25a</sup> However, when polyaminohydroxamic acid derivatives **Ca**, **C<sup>b</sup>** were altered in the polyamine chain and terminal group, these analogues promoted increased level of acetylated histones H3, H4 and acetylated  $\alpha$ -tubulin.<sup>25b</sup> In case of  $C_a$ , the increased level of acetylated  $\alpha$ -tubulin was significant while **C<sup>b</sup>** had no effect on the acetylation status of α-tubulin. Despite the modest change in chain length, distinct differences compared to SAHA were observed. As examples of various aryl or cycloalkyl groups in the linker, *N*-hydroxycarboxamides possessing the 1,4-cylohexylene group **D<sup>a</sup>** and 1.4-phenylene group **D<sup>b</sup>** were synthesized and showed only modest activities (WST-1 IC<sub>50</sub> 77.9, 38.8  $\mu$ M).<sup>20c</sup> In summary, SAR series of SAHA with substituents have been modestly explored. As a result, in our exploratory studies of the impact of substituents on the linker, several libraries of SAHA analogues were synthesized on the 2, 3, 6, and 7 positions to explore potency and selectivity (Figure 1.6).



**Figure 1.5**. Structure Activity Relationship (SAR) Studies: HDAC inhibitors modified at the linker. The examples of substituents on the linker (left). The modification of chain length, creation of unsaturated chain, and alternation of aryl and cycloalkyl groups (right).



**Figure 1.6**. SAHA analogues containing substituents on the C2, C3, C6, and C7 positions

### **1.8 Preparation of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the linker near the hydroxamic acid**

Since the metal binding site may be partially responsible for the potency of inhibitors, substituents on the SAHA linker area near hydroxamic acid were introduced. Our research group initially reported the synthesis and biological activity of C2-SAHA analogues to explore the impact of substituents near

hydroxamic acid.<sup>26</sup> HDAC inhibitory activities of C2-SAHA analogues were measured using in vitro fluorescence activity assay kit (Table 1.2).

**Table 1.2.** HDAC inhibition by SAHA, MS-275, and the C2-SAHA analogues using HeLa cell lysates



a b and the mean of three experiments with standard error given.

The smallest compound, the methyl variant ( $IC_{50}$  134  $\mu$ M), displayed 1500 and 50-fold decreased inhibition compared to SAHA (IC $_{50}$  0.09  $\mu$ M) and MS-275  $(IC_{50}$  134  $µ$ M). Even the most potent pentyl variant showed 439 and 12-fold decreased activity compared to SAHA and MS-275. Regardless of the substituent size, SAHA analogues modified on the C2 position displayed inhibition in the  $\mu$ M range. The high  $IC_{50}$  values of the C2-SAHA analogues indicate that only limited steric size is tolerated in the HDAC active site near the hydroxamic acid. In other words, bulky substituents near the solvent exposed capping group might be more tolerated in the HDAC active site.

The tendency for significantly decreased inhibition due to substituents near the hydroxamic acid proposed designing potent inhibitors. Specifically, the poor inhibition of C2-SAHA analogues suggests that analogues with substituents positioned closer to the capping group on the C3 position might be more tolerated in the HDAC active site. However, we hypothesized that the inhibitory activity could be unpredictable because substituents on each linker position would have different impact in the HDAC active site channel. Besides, the substituents on the C3 position could favorably interact with HDAC active site since the 14 Å internal channel near the hydroxamic acid is nearer to C3 carbon linker than C2 carbon (Figure 1.4). Therefore, a library of C3-SAHA analogues would explore the interaction of the inhibitor with the HDAC active site for potent and selective inhibition. The detailed synthesis and biological activity of the library of C3-SAHA analogues are described in Chapter 2.

#### **1.9 Preparation of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the linker near the capping group**

Small molecules with substituents on the capping group or on the linker region near the capping group have shown great potency (nM range) and moderate selectivity (class-selectivity) (Figure 1.7).<sup>27</sup> Specifically, FK-228 (depsipeptide), which gained FDA approval for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma in 2009.<sup>28</sup> displayed about 300-fold greater potency for HDAC1 and HDAC2 over HDAC6.<sup>29</sup> Apicidin also displayed 17-230-fold greater potency for HDAC2, 3, and 8 over HDAC1, 4, 6, 7, and  $9^{30}$  Trapoxin B showed HDAC1 selectivity over HDAC6.<sup>27c</sup> The large capping groups in these HDAC inhibitors suggest that selectivity is influenced by the capping group substituents.



As an example of HDAC selective inhibitor SAR studies with bulky groups on the linker near the capping group, compound  $E_a$  (IC<sub>50</sub> 730 nM) containing the unusual *L*-Aoda amino acid was selected and modified (Table 1.3).<sup>31</sup> The compounds contain a ketone motif, pentyl chain, and indole group instead of macrocycle. Although most of compounds lost 2-10 fold activity in the antiproliferation assay, the 3-piperid-1-ylpropanamide variant **E<sup>h</sup>** demonstrated improved enzyme and cellular activities. As a result, this SAR study altering the substituents near the capping group demonstrates the structural requirement between inhibitor structures and HDAC functions and directs the design of specific cancer drugs.

**Table 1.3.** HDAC1 and PRO (HeLa) inhibition by SAHA, MS-275, Apicidin, the compound **Ea**, and derivatives





Since selective inhibition could be influenced by bulky capping groups, SAHA analogues with large substituents on the capping group or on the linker

area near the capping group have been frequently designed, synthesized, and evaluated (Figure  $1.8$ ).<sup>24a, 32</sup> 33 Based on a docking analysis in the crystal structures of HDAC7 and HDAC8<sup>34</sup> of the  $\omega$ -alkoxy analogue  $A_b$ , a T-shape arrangement between substituents near the SAHA capping group and the lipophilic pockets surrounded by phenylalanine (Phe) residues was found. A π-π interaction between the p-methoxybenzyl moieties and Phe208 and Phe152 residues in the HDAC active site might influence isoform selectivity. Although selective inhibition of the ω-alkoxy analogue was not improved, it had superior antiproliferative activity. On the other hand, <sup>1</sup>-hydroxy- $\mathcal{N}^8$ ferrocenlyoctanediamide, JAHA, displayed picomolar inhibition against class IIa HDAC6 (IC $_{50}$  8 pM) and anticancer action in intact cells (MCF7 cell line). Cytotoxicity against a breast cancer cell line indicated that SAHA is the most cytotoxic compound ( $IC_{50}$  730nM in MCF7 breast cancer cell lines) compared to the JAHA series (IC $_{50}$  2-5µM in MCF7 breast cancer cell lines). The data suggest that the modification of SAHA with bulky groups improves selectivity with potency, but displays similar cytotoxicity against the cancer cell line to the parent compound *in vivo*.



**Figure 1.8**. Examples of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the linker area near the capping group (left) and on the capping group (right)

#### **1.10 Novel HDAC6-selective inhibitors**

We have discussed potential isoform or class-selective inhibitors, and common efficacious compounds targeting class I-selectivity.<sup>23a, 27c, 29-30</sup> Fewer studies have focused on development of class II HDAC selective inhibitors. A recent cardiac study reported that stressed myocardium showed catalytic activity from the class IIb HDAC, HDAC $6^{35}$  Also, overexpression of HDAC6 was detected in ovarian and breast cancer tissues.<sup>9</sup> Since HDAC6 contains two catalytic sites, development and design of HDAC6 selective inhibitor would elucidate the function and mechanism of HDAC6. Tubacin is a well-known HDAC6 selective inhibitor and displayed 4-fold greater potency for HDAC6 over HDAC1 (Figure 1.9).<sup>36</sup> Interestingly, the structure of tubacin has similarity with class I selective SAHA analogues with bulky substituents at the capping group. Slightly different modification on the capping group critically effects selectivity. The recent SAR studies of Tubastatin A showed improved selectivity (Figure 1.9).<sup>37</sup> Tubastatin A displayed greater than 1000-fold selectivity against HDAC6 ( $IC_{50}$  15 nM) compared to HDAC1 (16 µM). An extensive library of tubastatin A indicated that tricyclic compounds displayed highly selective inhibition compared to other compounds. The structure of Tubastatin A motivates designing new isoform selective inhibitors. A detailed discussion of tricyclic compounds will be discussed in Chapter 4.



**Figure 1.9**. Structures of HDAC6-selective inhibitors

### **1.11 Evaluation of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the linker near the hydroxamic acid and capping group**

Our initial syntheses of libraries of SAHA analogues on the C2 and C3 position was achieved with substituents containing hydrophobic groups since the carbon linker region of SAHA is surrounded by hydrophobic channel (Figure 1.4). The data showed that only limited tolerance exists in the HDAC active site near the metal binding moiety. In contrast, small molecules with large bulky groups have been synthesized near or on the capping group, leading to potent inhibitors.<sup>21b, 37-38</sup> The outcome suggests that the area near the capping group of HDAC inhibitors has great tolerance of steric bulky group in the HDAC active sites, confirming our hypothesis. Therefore, our syntheses of libraries of C6 and C7-SAHA analogues have introduced bulky substituents near the capping group (Chapter 3 and 4). Moreover, the substituents of the SAHA analogues on the C7 position, which is located closest to the capping group, might allow monitoring the interactions between hydrophilic substituents and the HDAC active sites since the substituents would be placed on the entrance of the solvent exposed area.

#### **1.12 Structure activity relationship (SAR) studies from matrix metalloproteinases (MMP), another hydroxamic acid binding protein**

Several series of hydrophilic substituents were attached to small molecule inhibitors for improving anti-cancer drugs. Natural or medicinal compounds containing nitrogen have been designed and used in clinical studies or treatments of various diseases because of their outstanding chemical and biological activities. For instance, the matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs), like HDACs, are relevant enzymes involved in physiologically important processes.  $39$ Both MMP and HDAC protein are zinc-including metalloproteinases, which favorably interact with the hydroxamic acid moiety. Structural information on MMPs is related to HDACs because of their relationship as metal-dependent proteases. Since proteolysis of the extracellular matrix is found in numerous arthritis and cancers<sup>40</sup>, several MMP inhibitors as therapeutics were discovered and modified. Even though HDAC and MMP proteins have similar proteases activities, SAR studies of MMP inhibitors with substituents containing nitrogen have been more explored than with HDAC inhibitors.

anarogado		$IC_{50}$ , nM				
	${\sf R}$	MMP1	MMP2	MMP3	MMP9	MMP13
Ş R <sub>.</sub> <b>NHOH</b> Ó $\overline{O}$ $0 \leq s$ $0'$ OMe	$F_a$	51	0.7	1.6	0.2	0.5
	$\frac{N}{H}$					
	$\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{b}}$	$20\,$	$1.2\,$	$2.2\,$	$0.2\,$	$1.1$
	N N H					
	$\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{c}}$	$\sf nt$	0.30	$\sf{nt}$	0.01	$\sf{nt}$
	`N H					
	$F_d$	nt	$2.3\,$	$3.7\,$	$0.5\,$	$4.5\,$
	`N´ H					
	$\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{e}}$	39	0.4	$1.1$	$0.2\,$	$0.4\,$
	$\frac{11}{N}$					
	N N H					
	$\mathsf{F}_\mathrm{f}$	$\sf{nt}$	8.82	nt	1.88	$\sf nt$
	N H					

**Table 1.4.** Collagenase 1 (MMP1), gelatinase-A (MMP2), stromelysin 1 (MMP3), gelatinase-B (MMP9), collagenase 3 (MMP13) inhibition by *N*-aryl sulfonyl homocysteine hydroxamate analogues

As one fruitful example, the design, synthesis, and evaluation of MMP inhibitors were studied with *N*-aryl sulfonyl homocysteine hydroxamate inhibitors (Table 1.4).<sup>41</sup>The data showed that hydrophobic aryl groups significantly influenced potency. The dipyridyl methyl amide analogue **F<sup>e</sup>** displayed similar potency to the monopyridyl analogue **F<sup>b</sup>** while the additional cyclohexyl analogue **Ff** lost potent activity compared to the single cyclohexyl analogue **Fc**. On the other hand, both monopyridyl **F<sup>b</sup>** and dipyridyl **F<sup>e</sup>** analogues displayed greater than 20-fold selectivity against MMP2, MMP3, MMP9, and MMP13 compared to MMP1. The polarity of the pyridyl derivatives containing nitrogen might be a significant factor for MMP selectivity.

As another representative example, MMP pyridyl derivatives enhanced biological inhibitory activity (Table 1.5). Compounds **Ha**, **Hb**, and **J<sup>b</sup>** displayed poor potency, while inactivity was observed in compounds **Hc**, **I**, and **Ja**. On the other hand, the pyridyl group on compound **Jb** lead to great potency with the selective inhibitory activity for MMP9 (IC $_{50}$  83 nM) against MMP1 (IC $_{50}$  15000 nM). The aliphatic substituents on compound **H<sup>a</sup>** and **H<sup>b</sup>** lead to greater inhibitory activity compared to analogues with the hydrophilic sustituents (**Hc**, **I**, and **J<sup>a</sup>** ). Despite the hydrophilicity of pyridyl group, the favorable interaction of the pyridyl derivative with MM9 specified that the nitrogen atom may impart selectivity.



**Table 1.5.** Collagenase 1 (MMP1), gelatinase-A (MMP2), stromelysin 1 (MMP3), gelatinase-B (MMP9), collagenase 3 (MMP13) inhibition by *N*-arylsulfonylaziridine hydroxamic acid analogues

#### **1.13 Evaluation of a pyridyl substituent on an HDAC inhibitor, Largazole**

As the most recent example of the enhanced biological activity of an HDAC inhibitor containing nitrogen, natural product largazole analogues were reported with significant bioactivity (Figure 1.10).<sup>42</sup> Largazole was isolated from a marine cyanobacterium of the genus *Symploca* and showed selective activity against transformed human mammary epithelial cells (MDA-MB-231,  $GI_{50}$  7.7 nM) over nontransformed murine mammary epithelial cells (NMuMG, GI<sub>50</sub> 122  $nM$ ).<sup>43</sup> Also, the selectivity was displayed against transformed fibroblastic

osteosarcoma cells (U2OS,  $GI_{50}$  55 nM) over nontransformed fibroblasts (NIH3T3, GI<sub>50</sub> 480 nM). Analogues K<sub>a</sub> and K<sub>b</sub> showed significantly increased inhibitory activities for HDAC1 over HDAC6 (80%) while the parent compound (largazole) and analogue **K<sup>c</sup>** displayed modest selective inhibition. Investigation of potential selective inhibitors has been an attractive target for chemists and biologists since specific isoforms might offer opportunities to develop selective anti-cancer drugs. With the biological activity trend, a compound containing a pyridyl group was synthesized, screened, and discussed in our research (Chapter 4).



**Figure 1.10**. Structures of largazole and analogues

Currently, SAHA and the other candidates inhibit multiple HDAC members. However, isoform-specific HDAC inhibitors are promising targets with respect to clinical efficacy due to the fact that broad-spectrum inhibitors have demonstrated toxicities in the clinic.<sup>44</sup> The mechanism of relative action between the selectivity and toxicity of HDAC inhibitors in the clinic is not well-defined, but might reveal new mechanism-based therapeutics for cancers. Therefore, several studies have reported a link among different HDAC family members, specific tumor characteristics, and reduced toxicity profiles.<sup>45</sup> Specifically, HDAC inhibitor cytotoxicities of pediatric acute myeloid leukemia (AML) cell lines were tested by using MTT (3-[4,5-dimethyl-thiazol-2-yl]-2,5-diphenylterazolium-bromide) assays.<sup>45e</sup> At clinically practicable concentrations, dual HDAC inhibitors that inhibited both HDAC1 and HDAC6 displayed the best anti-leukemic activities in the four pediatric AML cell lines (THP-1, CMS, Kasumi-1, and MV4-11). As mentioned earlier, pre-clinical evaluation of HDAC6-selective inhibitors was highlighted in cardiovascular disease.<sup>35</sup> Furthermore, investigating HDAC inhibitors with hydrophilic substituents including a pyridyl group might enhance selective inhibition compared to common pan inhibitors. Even though the function or regulation of individual HDAC proteins is still not clear, the development of the specific-isoform HDAC protein inhibitors will lead optimal drugs for a variety of specific diseases.

# **CHAPTER 2 – SYNTHESIS OF SAHA ANALOGUES MODIFIED AT THE C3 POSITION**

### **2.1 Rationale for design of the SAHA analogues containing substituents on the C3 position**

Inhibitor binding to a zinc atom at the bottom of the active site plays a critical role in potency. Therefore, introducing substituents near hydroxamic acid would help understand structural requirements of HDAC inhibitors. The SAR study of SAHA on the linker area is relatively unexplored, in spite of it is being a fruitful potential area (Chapter 1.5). Especially, there is the possibility to develop isoform selective inhibitors through designing a library of SAHA analogues on the linker. When SAHA is present in HDAC active site, it has been observed that the linker is tightly surrounded by a hydrophobic tunnel (Figure 1.4). We theorized that hydrophobic substituents attached at the linker would display better interaction with the HDAC active site than hydrophilic substituents.

To explore the impact of substituents in the liker area, we previously studied SAHA analogues with hydrophobic substituents attached on the C2 position (Figure 2.1).<sup>26</sup> In this case, inhibitor potency was significantly reduced regardless of substituent size. The lack of potency of the C2-SAHA analogues indicates that limited flexibility exists in the HDAC active site near the hydroxamic



**Figure 2.1**. Structures of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the

C2 and C3 position

acid group. In contrast, high potency (nM range) HDAC

24
inhibitors have been created with bulky substituent near the solvent-exposed region.<sup>27c, 31, 46</sup> Therefore, we proposed that HDAC proteins would be more tolerant of SAHA analogues containing substituents positioned closer to the solvent exposed surface.

To systematically probe the impact of substituents present in the linker, SAHA analogues with substituents on the C3 position were synthesized (Figure 2.1). $47$  We theorized that analogues with substituents attached at the C3 position would display more potent inhibition compared to analogues with C2 substituents due to their location closer to the solvent-exposed region.

## **2.2 Initial synthesis**

We initially synthesized the C3-SAHA *n*-butyl analogue **1a**, as shown Scheme 1. The ring of commercially available ε-caprolactone **2** was opened with aniline and trimethyl aluminum to give alcohol **3**, which was subjected to Swern oxidation to give aldehyde **4**. The Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction with trimethyl phosphonoacetate gave the corresponding α,β-unsturated ester **5**. The (E) and (Z)-isomers of ester **5** were separated by column chromatography and then individually treated with a copper (I) bromide dimethylsulfide complex to give the *n*-butyl ester **6a**. Saponification of **6a** gave carboxylic acid **7**, which was coupled with *O*-benzyl-protected hydroxamine. *O*-benzyl-protected hydroxamic acid **8** was deprotected by hydrogenolysis to give the C3-*n*-butyl SAHA **1a**.



**Scheme 2.1**. Initial synthesis of C3-SAHA analogue (*n*-butyl derivative **1a**)

## **2.3 Optimized synthesis**

To create the remaining C3-SAHA analogues, several aspects of the synthesis were improved (Scheme 2.2).



**Scheme 2.2**. Optimized synthesis of C3-SAHA analogues **1d** -**1e**

First, the 1,4-conjugate addition reaction (**5** to **6**) was performed using a mixture of (E) and (Z) isomers without the separation. Second, we found that when preparing compound **6e** from methyl lithium, no addition product was observed. However, addition of trimethylsilane chloride (TMSCl) to the reaction gave excellent yield.<sup>48</sup> With this success, TMSCI was included in the addition reaction with all remaining analogues. Finally, we used a direct, one-step conversion of ester **6** to the final product **1**. In the synthesis of C3-*n*-butyl SAHA **1a**, a benzyl-protected hydroxamic acid intermediate **8** was used en route to the hydroxamic acid final product, as previously reported (Scheme 1). $^{26}$  However, 40% yield after three steps (saponification, coupling *O*-benzyl hydroxylamine, and benzyl deprotection) was unsatisfying. The direct conversion using neutralized hydroxylamine in methanol was more efficient compared to the threestep conversion and was employed for all remaining analogues (**1b**-**1e**). Using theses modified conditions, the phenyl, ethyl, vinyl, and methyl analogues **1b**-**1e** were synthesized (Scheme 2.2).

### **2.4 Biological analysis**

The inhibitory activities of the C3-SAHA were measured using Fluor de Lys™ *in vitro* fluorescence activity assay kit (Biomol) using HeLA cell lysates as the source of HDAC activity by Dr. Sujith Weerasinghe (Table 2.1).  $^{26}$ 

The methyl variant **1e** was the most potent analogue, displaying an IC<sub>50</sub> of 350 nM, which is only 4-fold less potent than SAHA (90 nM). Theses results indicate that the active site of HDAC proteins can accommodate a small methyl

substituent at the C3 position. The potency of the remaining analogues decreased with increasing size of the C3 substituent. The *n*-butyl and phenyl analogues (**1a** and **1b**) displayed the weakest inhibitory activity (184 µM and 73 µM, respectively). Interestingly, the ethyl-substituted analogue **1c** displayed 91 fold decreased activity compared to the methyl analogue **1e**, despite containing only one additional methylene. Likewise, the vinyl analogue **1d** showed significantly reduce activity compared to the methyl analogue **1e**. In total, the data indicated that a C3-methyl substituted SAHA analogue maintains nM potency, but substituents larger than methyl result in a reduction in potency.

**Table 2.1**. HDAC inhibition by SAHA, MS-275, and the C3-SAHA analogues using HeLa cell lysates

Compounds	R	$IC_{50}$ , $µMa$
<b>SAHA</b>		$0.090 \pm 0.004$
<b>MS-275</b>		$3.2 \pm 0.1$
1a	n-Butyl	$184 \pm 14$
1b	Phenyl	$73 \pm 14$
1c	Ethyl	$32 \pm 4$
1d	Vinyl	$15 \pm 1$
1e	Methyl	$0.350 \pm 0.05$

<sup>a</sup>Values are the mean of three experiments with standard error given.

The inhibition results are consistent with the hypothesis that linker substituents are accommodated in the HDAC active site when positioned closer to the solvent exposed capping group of SAHA. While the C3-methyl analogue displayed potency comparable to SAHA (4-fold reduced), the previously reported

C2-methyl analogue (IC $_{50}$  of 134  $\mu$ M) displayed 1488-fold reduced activity versus SAHA.<sup>26</sup> Interestingly, the C3-n-butyl variant **1a** is less potent (184 µM IC<sub>50</sub>) than the previously reported C2-*n*-butyl analogue (72  $\mu$ M IC<sub>50</sub>),<sup>26</sup> suggesting that the area of the HDAC active site near the C2 and C3 linker position displays structural differences.

We next tested the isoform selectivity of the C3-SAHA analogues. Creating isoform selective HDAC inhibitors has been challenging.<sup>20</sup> However, the availability of selective inhibitors would provide powerful chemical tools to dissect the individual functions of the HDAC isoforms, in addition to providing lead antitumor drug candidates. To assess the isoform selectivity of the C3-SAHA analogues, HDAC1 and HDAC3 representing class I and HDAC6 representing class II were tested at a single concentration near to their  $IC_{50}$  values using the Fluor de Lys™ kit (Figure 2.2). As expected, SAHA almost equally inhibited HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6.<sup>30</sup> In contrast, the ethyl variant 1c showed greater potency for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC3 at 32 µM. The butyl, phenyl, and vinyl variants (**1a**, **1b**, and **1c**) also showed similar, although more modest, preference for HDAC6 over HDAC3.



**Figure 2.2**. Screen of C3-SAHA analogues against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 with 125 nM SAHA, 32 µM **1a-d**, and 375 nM **1e**.

To more rigorously assess the selectivity observed in the initial screen, we determined the IC<sup>50</sup> values of the C3-ethyl variant **1c** because it displayed the most promising results in the initial screen. The C3-ethyl analogue **1c** displayed 12-fold selectivity for HDAC6 over HDAC3 and 3-fold selectivity for HDAC6 over HDAC1 (Table 2.2). In addition, it displayed selectivity within class I, with 4-fold preference for HDAC1 over HDAC3. As a control, SAHA displayed similar inhibitor activity against the isoform, as expected (Table  $2.2$ ).<sup>30</sup> The isoform selectivity analysis shows that a substituent on the C3 position can transform SAHA from non-selective inhibitor to an HDAC6-selective one. As a comparison, the HDAC6-selective inhibitor tubacin displays 7-fold selectivity for HDAC6 over

HDAC1 $49$  and has been used widely in cell biology studies.<sup>50</sup> Therefore, the data indicate that isoform selective SAHA analogues can be generated by attaching a substituent to the linker chain.

Table 2.2. IC<sub>50</sub> values of SAHA and the C3-ethyl SAHA variant 1c for HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6

Compound	$IC_{50}/µM^a$				
	HDAC1	HDAC3	HDAC6		
<b>SAHA</b>	$0.096 \pm 0.016$	$0.146 \pm 0.012$	$0.074 \pm 0.009$		
1c	$22 + 2$	$97 \pm 6$	$8 \pm 1$		

SAHA analogues with substituents on the C3 position displayed HDAC6 selective inhibition, in contrast to the broad-spectrum inhibitor SAHA. These results reveal that small structural changes in the linker region of SAHA can significantly influence selectivity.

# **2.5 Experimentals**

## **2.5.1 General methods**

Starting materials, reagents, and solvents for reactions obtained from Acros, Sigma-Aldrich, and VWR were used as purchased. Moisture-sensitive reactions were performed under argon with dried glassware and dry solvent. Iron-sensitive reactions were performed with acid-washed glassware and were purified with silica gel that was washed with 6M aqueous hydrochloric acid through at least 3 times. Thin-layer chromatography with 60Å, 250µm Partisil® K6F fluorescent indicator plates was used to monitor reactions. Flash

chromatography was performed with 60 Å, 230-400 mesh silica gel (Whatman). Solvents were removed by rotary evaporation (Büchi Rotavapor R-114 and Büchi Waterbath B-480) and a vacuum pump (Welch Vaccum, Thomas Industries, Inc.). NMR spectra were recorded in CDCI $_3$  or CD $_3$ OD using a Varian Unity 300 MHz or Varian L900 400 MHz. Mass spectrometric analysis was performed at Wayne State University's Central Instrumentation facility using a Waters LCT Premier XE ESI-LC-MS TOF or a Waters GCT EI-TOF. IR spectra were recorded in Jasco FT/IR – 4100. HPLC analysis was performed with a Waters 1525 Binary HPLC pump, Waters 2998 Photodiode Array detector, and a Symmetry® Reverse Phase C<sub>18</sub> 5µm column (4.6x150 mm Diameter) using a gradient of 10% Buffer A to 90% Buffer B over 20 min (Buffer A = water with 0.1% TFA; Buffer B = HPLC grade acetonitrile) at 1.0 mL/min at room temperature.

### **2.5.2 Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterization**



**5-Hydroxy-***N***-phenylpentanamide (3).** Trimethyl aluminum (1.88 mL, 3.75 mmol) and aniline (0.34 mL, 3.75 mmol) were stepwise added to a solution of *ε*– caprolactone (0.28 mL, 2.5 mmol) in dry THF (25 mL) at 0ºC. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature over 3 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by a dropwise addition of 1.0 M aqueous hydrochloric acid until evolution of gas was not observed. The mixture was subsequently diluted with anhydrous diethyl ether (10 mL) and washed with distilled water (5 mL). The

aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (10 mL) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (20% acetone/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on silica gel to give **3** (469 mg, 91%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.71 (m, 2H), 2.39 (bs, 1H), 2.60 (m, 2H), 3.59 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.59 (d, 2H), 7.90 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.8, 25.9, 32.1, 39.1, 61.9, 120.2, 124.1, 128.9, 138.8, 173.5; IR: 3298, 3136, 3063, 2936, 2863, 1663, 1599, 1544, 1498, 1442, 1309, 908, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS ( EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M] 207.1259, calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>, 207.1259.



**6-Oxo-6-(phenylamino)hexanal (4).** To a solution of DMSO (1.75 mL, 24.62 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (75 mL) was added oxalyl chloride (5.60 mL, 11.19 mmol) dropwise and then 5-hydroxy-*N*-phenylpentanamide **3** (1.55 g, 7.46 mmol) stepwise at -78ºC. The reaction mixture was stirred for 45 min before triethylamine (TEA, 7.05 mL, 50.73 mmol) was added dropwise at -78 ºC. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for an additional 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding distilled water (75 mL). The mixture was diluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (25mL) and washed with 1.0 M aqueous hydrochloric acid (25 mL), an aqueous solution of saturated NaHCO $_3$  (100 mL), and brine (100 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether: petroleum ether 4:1) on silica gel to give 4  $(1.25$  g, 81%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  $(δ, ppm,$ 

CHLOROFORM-D): 1.67-1.72 (m, 4H), 2.36 (t, 2H), 2.47 (t, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H), 9.74 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 21.7, 25.1, 37.4, 43.8, 120.2, 124.5, 129.2, 138.2, 171.3, 202.7; IR: 3305, 3198, 3140, 3059, 2940, 2866, 2826, 2726, 1721, 1664, 1599, 1543, 1498, 1442, 1310, 909, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M] 205.1106, calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>, 205.1103.



**8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate (5).** To a solution of NaH (435 mg, 10.88 mmol) in THF (64 mL) was added trimethyl phosphonoacetate (1.6 mL, 10.88 mmol) dropwise at 0  $\degree$ C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. To the solution was added 6-oxo-6-(phenylamino)hexanal **4** (1.3 g, 6.40 mmol) at -78 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for an additional 1 h. The mixture was quenched by addition of an aqueous solution of saturated  $NH<sub>4</sub>Cl$  until evolution of gas was not observed. The mixture was washed with distilled  $H_2O$  (64 mL) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 2:3) on silica gel to give **5** (E-isomer; 1,136 mg, 68%, Z-isomer; 289mg, 17%). For preparation of butyl derivative **6a**, the E and Z isomers were used separately, as described below. For the other derivatives **6b**-**e**, the E isomer alone or a mixture of E/Z isomers was used. Synthesis of the mixture of E/Z isomers was similar that of each isomer, except the following reagents were used: trimethyl phosphonoacetate (391 mL, 2.57 mmol) in THF (15 mL), NaH (102 mg, 4.27 mmol) and 6-oxo-6-(phenylamino)hexanal **4** (310 mg, 1.51 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 2:3) on silica gel to give **5 (E+Z)** (391 mg, 99%). (Z)-isomer <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H), 2.38 (t, 2H), 2.68 (q, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.79 (d, 1H, J=180 Hz), 6.24 (m, 1H), 7.09 (t, 1H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.51 (d, 2H), 7.64 (s, 1H); (E)-isomer <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H), 2.21 (q, 2H), 2.38 (t, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.82 (d, 1H, J=448 Hz), 6.94 (m, 1H), 7.08 (t, 1H) 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.49 (d, 2H); (E+Z)-isomer <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.3, 27.8, 32.2, 37.5, 51.7, 120.1, 121.5, 124.3, 129.2, 138.2, 149.2, 150.4, 167.4, 171.3; IR: 3674, 3308, 2950, 1721, 1658, 1600, 1541, 1498, 1441, 1310, 910, 756, 693 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 261.1361, calc. for  $C_{15}H_{19}NO_3$ , 261.1365.



**8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-***n***-butyloctanoate (6a).** To a solution of Cu(I)Br·SMe<sub>2</sub> (880 mg, 4.28 mmol) in THF (14.3 mL) was added *n*-butyl lithium (5.35 mL, 8.56 mmol) dropwise at -15 °C and the mixture was stirred for 20 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 ºC before addition of (Z)-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2 enoate **5** (373 mg, 1.43 mmol, Z isomer only) at -78 ºC. The reaction was stirred for 3 h at -78 ºC to room temperature and then quenched by addition of 1.0 M

aqueous hydrochloric acid until a color of the mixture changed to blue (CuCl<sub>2(aq)</sub>). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 2:3) on silica gel to give **6a** (378 mg, 83% from the Z isomer). The synthesis starting from the E isomer of **5** was similar to that above except the following reagents were used: Cu(I)Br·SMe<sub>2</sub> (470 mg, 2.28 mmol) in THF (11 mL), *n*-butyl lithium (2.85 mL, 4.56 mmol), and (E)-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate **5** (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, E isomer only) at -78 ºC. Chromatography gave **6a** (117 mg, 48% from the E isomer). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.87 (t, 3H), 1.24-1.32 (m, 10H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.84 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.33 (t, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.51 (d, 2H), 7.62 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 14.3, 23.1, 25.9, 26.1, 29.0, 33.5, 33.7, 35.0, 37.7, 39.1, 51.7, 120.0, 124.3, 129.1, 138.3, 171.7, 174.4; IR: 3303, 3197, 3137, 3059, 2928, 2857, 1737, 1662, 1600, 1542, 1499, 1441, 1309, 903, 755, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF,  $m/z$ ): found [M] 319.2143, calc. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, 319.2147.



**8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-phenyloctanoate (6b).** To a solution of Cu(I)Br·SMe<sub>2</sub> (945 mg, 4.59 mmol) in THF (7.7 mL) was added phenyl lithium (4.59 mL, 9.19 mmol) dropwise at -15 °C and the mixture was stirred for 20 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 ºC. To the solution was added trimethylsilyl chloride (TMSCl, 1.76 mL, 13.78 mmol) dropwise and then 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-

enoate **5** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol, only E isomer) stepwise at -78 ºC. Only the E isomer of **5** was used because the presence of the Z isomer complicated purification. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at -78 ºC and then quenched by addition of an aqueous solution of  $NH_4Cl:NH_4OH$  (1:1) until a color of the mixture turned to blue  $((NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>CuCl<sub>2(aq)</sub>)$ . The mixture was washed with the aqueous solution of  $NH_4Cl:NH_4OH$  (1:1) (7.7 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 1:1) on silica gel to give **6b** (154 mg, 59%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.22 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.68 (m, 4H), 2.23 (m, 2H), 2.59 (m, 2H), 3.07 (m, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 7.06 (t, 1H), 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.47 (d, 2H), 7.53 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.6, 27.0, 35.8, 37.6, 41.8, 42.1, 51.8, 120.1, 124.4, 126.8, 127.6, 128.7, 129.1, 138.3, 144.0, 171.6, 173.2; IR: 3310, 3045, 2924, 2857, 1698, 1603, 1600, 1456, 1378, 1265, 910, 755, 735 cm-1 . HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+Na] 362.1732, calc. for  $C_{21}H_{25}NO_3$ Na, 362.1732;



**8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-ethyloctanoate (6c).** The synthesis was similar that of **6b** except the following reagents were used:  $Cu(I)Br\cdot SMe<sub>2</sub>$  (945 mg, 4.59) mmol) in THF (7.7 mL), ethyl lithium (5.41 mL, 9.19 mmol), TMSCl (1.76 mL, 13.78 mmol), and 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate **5** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol, E and Z mixture). The product was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 1:1) on silica gel to give **6c** (215 mg, 96%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ,

ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.85 (t, 3H), 1.23-1.38 (m, 6H), 1.9 (m, 2H), 1.78 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.32 (t, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.51 (d, 2H), 7.77 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 11.0, 25.9, 26.2, 26.5, 33.1, 36.5, 37.7, 38.7, 51.7, 120.1, 124.3, 129.1, 138.4, 171.8, 174.4; IR: 3675, 3308, 3198, 3139, 3061, 2960, 2934, 1734, 1665, 1601, 1543, 1499, 1442, 1309, 911, 756, 733 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 291.1830, calc. for  $C_{17}H_{25}NO_3$ , 291.1834.



**8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-vinyloctanoate (6d).** The synthesis was similar to that of **6b** except the following reagents were used: CuI (875 mg, 4.59 mmol) in THF (7.7 mL), vinyl magnesium bromide (6.56 mL, 4.59 mmol), TMSCl (1.76 mL, 13.78 mmol), and 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate **5** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol, only E isomer). Only the E isomer of **5** was used because the presence of the Z isomer complicated purification. The product was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 1:1) on silica gel to give **6d** (191 mg, 86%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.33 (m, 2H), 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 2.30-2.34 (m, 4H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 5.00 (m, 2H), 5.57 (m, 1H), 7.08 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.50 (d, 2H), 7.57 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.6, 26.7, 34.1, 37.7, 40.1, 40.4, 51.7, 115.6, 120.0, 124.4, 129.2, 138.3, 140.9, 171.7, 173.3; IR: 3315, 3199, 3138, 3076, 2939, 2859, 1737, 1601, 1543, 1499, 1442, 1308, 915, 755 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 312.1564, calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na, 312.1576.



**8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-methyloctanoate (6e).** The synthesis was similar that of **6b** except the following reagents were used:  $Cu(I)Br\cdot SMe<sub>2</sub>$  (945 mg, 4.59) mmol) in THF (7.7 mL), methyl lithium (5.74 mL, 9.19 mmol), TMSCl (1.76 mL, 13.78 mmol) and 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate **5** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol, E and Z mixture). The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 2:3) on silica gel to give **6e** (232 mg, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.92 (d, 3H), 1.21-1.40 (m, 4H), 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 2.11-2.36 (m, 4H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 7.09 (t, 1H), 7.31 (t, 2H), 7.51 (d, 2H), 7.68 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 19.9, 25.8, 26.6, 30.3, 36.3, 37.7, 41.7, 51.7, 120.0, 124.3, 129.2, 138.3, 171.7, 174.1; IR: 3305, 3197, 3137, 3060, 2931, 2859, 1738, 1662, 1600, 1539, 1499, 1442, 1309, 1008, 902, 756 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 277.1678, calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, 277.1678.



**3-***n***-Butyl-***N* **1 -hydroxyl-***N* **8 -phenyloctanoic acid (7).** To a solution of 8-oxo-8- (phenylamino)-3-*n*-butyloctanoate **6a** (492mg, 1.54mmol) was added NaOH (6.16 mL, 30.79 mmol) in MeOH (15 mL) and the mixture was refluxed overnight. The reaction was quenched by adding conc. aqueous hydrochloric acid (up to pH 6) and then extracting with  $H_2O$  (5 mL) and ethyl acetate (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue

was purified by column chromatography (20% acetone/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on silica gel to give **7** (189 mg, 40%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.87 (t, 3H), 1.27- 1.37 (m, 10H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.86 (m, 1H), 2.17-2.36 (m, 4H), 7.09 (t, 1H), 7.30 (t, 2H), 7.50 (d, 2H), 7.71 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 14.3, 23.1, 25.9, 26.1, 29.0, 33.5, 33.7, 35.0, 37.7, 39.1, 120.2, 124.5, 129.1, 138.2, 172.1, 179.5; IR: 3306, 3195, 3137, 3060, 2928, 2858, 1705, 1662, 1599, 1543, 1499, 1442, 1309, 907, 755, 692 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 305.1993, calc. for  $C_{18}H_{27}NO_3$ , 305.1991.



3-n-Butyl-N<sup>1</sup>-benzyloxy-N<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctanediamide (8). O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride salt (144g, 0.9mmol) and  $Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>$  (47g, 0.45mmol) were dissolved in distill  $H_2O$  (9 mL), extracted with diethyl ether (9 mL) and concentrated. TBTU (289g, 0.9 mmol) and 3-*n*-butyl-*N* 1 -hydroxyl-*N* 8 -phenyloctanoic acid **7** (189mg, 0.6mmol) were added to the neutralized O-benzylhydroxylamine residue in  $CH<sub>3</sub>CN$  (6mL). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature and then quenched by adding  $NafCO<sub>3</sub>$  (6 mL). The mixture was extracted with H<sub>2</sub>O and DCM (1:1). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (10% acetone/DCM) on silica gel to give **8** (121 mg, 49%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.86 (t, 3H), 1.22-1.35 (m, 12H), 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.94 (m, 2H), 2.30 (m, 2H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (m, 7H), 7.55 (d, 2H), 8.12 (bs, 1H);

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 14.3, 23.1, 25.3, 25.7, 29.1, 32.5, 33.7, 35.0, 37.2, 37.9, 78.4, 120.1, 124.3, 128.8, 129.1, 129.4, 138.5, 171.0, 172.3; IR: 3724, 3195, 3140, 3064, 2929, 2858, 1656, 1620, 1600, 1544, 1498, 1442, 1380, 1309, 1253, 1046, 1030, 975, 911, 734, 695 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 410.2566, calc. for  $C_{25}H_{34}N_2O_3$ , 410.2569.



**3-***n***-Butyl-***N* **1 -hydroxyl-***N* **8 -phenyloctandiamide (1a).** To a solution of 3-*n*-butyl-*N*<sup>1</sup>-benzyloxy-*N*<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctanediamide **8** (121 mg, 0.3 mmol) in methanol (3mL) was added 20% Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C (32 mg, 0.03 mmol) in an acid-washed 25mL roundbottom flask and the reaction mixture was purged with  $H_{2 (g)}$  for 30 s. The reaction solution was stirred under H<sub>2 (g)</sub> for 30 min and then filtered through a plug of Celite with MeOH (9 mL). The filtrate was concentrated to give **1a** (89 mg, 92%) as a clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.88 (t, 3H), 1.28-1.39 (m, 10H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.86 (m, 1H), 2.02 (d, 2H), 2.37 (t, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 13.2, 22.8, 25.9, 28.6, 33.1, 33.2, 35.0, 36.7, 37.6, 120.1, 123.9, 128.6, 138.7, 171.4, 173.5; IR: 3384,  $3044, 2929, 2858, 1640, 1600, 1546, 1499, 1468, 1309, 976, 903, 755, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>;$ HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 320.2108, calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 320.2100; HPLC analytical purity analysis: 92%.



**3-Phenyl-***N***<sup>1</sup>-hydroxyl-***N***<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctandiamide (1b). To a solution of** NH2OH∙HCl (315 mg, 4.54 mmol) in methanol (4.5 mL) was added KOH (509 mg, 9.08 mmol) at 0 ˚C in an acid-washed 25mL round-bottom flask. After stirring for 20 min, 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-phenyloctanoate **(6b)** (154 mg, 0.45 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 8 h at 0°C. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding 1mL of distilled water and adjusting to pH 6 by adding concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid. The mixture was diluted with 30 mL of ethyl acetate, and washed with distilled water. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (10% methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acid-washed silica gel to give **1b** (48 mg, 31%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 1.22 (m, 2H), 1.55- 1.73 (m, 4H), 2.25-2.43 (m, 4H), 3.09 (m, 1H), 7.06 (t, 1H), 7.12-7.29 (m, 7H), 7.47 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 25.6, 26.8, 35.4, 36.6, 40.2, 42.3, 120.1, 124.0, 126.4, 127.5, 128.3, 128.5, 138.6, 143.9, 170.1, 173.4; IR: 3256, 3030, 2932, 2860, 2559, 1646, 1600, 1545, 1499, 1468, 1442, 1420, 1372, 1310, 1253, 906, 758 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M] 340.1789, calc. for  $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_3$ , 340.1787; HPLC analytical purity analysis: 91%.



**3-Ethyl-N<sup>1</sup>-hydroxyl-N<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctandiamide (1c).** A similar procedure to that for **1b** was used, except for the following reagents: NH<sub>2</sub>OH⋅HCl (520 mg, 7.48 mmol) in methanol (7.4 mL), KOH (839 mg, 14.96 mmol), 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)- 3-ethyloctanoate **(6c)** (218 mg, 0.75 mmol) and stirring for 4 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (8 % methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acidwashed silica gel to give **1c** (130 mg, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.88 (t, 3H), 1.28-1.41 (m, 6H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.81 (m, 1H), 2.01 (m, 2H), 2.36 (t, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 9.8, 25.9, 32.6, 36.5, 36.7, 37.1, 120.1, 123.9, 128.6, 138.7, 171.4, 173.5; IR: 3857, 3404, 2935, 2862, 1649, 1600, 1544, 1501, 1469, 1311, 978, 904, 758, 691 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M-H] 292.1718, calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 292.1709; HPLC analytical purity analysis: 99%.



**3-Vinyl-***N* **1 -hydroxyl-***N* **8 -phenyloctandiamide (1d).** A similar procedure to that for **1b** was used, except for the following reagents: NH<sub>2</sub>OH⋅HCl (456 mg, 6.57 mmol) in methanol (6.6 mL), KOH (737 mg, 13.13 mmol), 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)- 3-vinyloctanoate **(6d)** (190 mg, 0.66 mmol), and stirring for 6 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (8 % methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acidwashed silica gel to give **1d** (83 mg, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 1.33-1.47 (m, 4H),1.70 (m, 2H), 2.08 (m, 2H), 2.35 (t, 2H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 5.00 (q, 2H), 5.58 (m, 1H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm,

METHANOL-D4): 25.6, 26.5, 33.9, 36.6, 38.3, 40.8, 115.0, 120.1, 124.0, 128.6, 138.7, 140.7, 170.3, 173.4; IR: 3299, 3079, 2931, 1647, 1600, 1542, 1500, 1442, 1312, 920, 758, 692 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+Na] 313.1533, calc. for  $C_{16}H_{22}N_2O_3$ Na, 313.1528; HPLC analytical purity analysis: 94%.



**3-Methyl-***N* **1 -hydroxyl-***N* **8 -phenyloctandiamide (1e).** A similar procedure to that for **1b** was used, except for the following reagents: NH<sub>2</sub>OH⋅HCl (533 mg, 7.67 mmol) in methanol (7.7 mL), KOH (860 mg, 15.33 mmol), 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)- 3-methyloctanoate **(6e)** (213 mg, 0.77 mmol), and stirring for 2 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (10 % methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acid-washed silica gel to give **1e** (160 mg, 75%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.93 (d, 3H), 1.28 (m, 2H), 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.89 (m, 2H), 2.07 (m, 1H), 2.36 (t, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.28 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 18.6, 25.8, 26.4, 30.4, 36.2, 36.7, 40.1, 120.1, 123.9, 128.6, 138.7, 171.1, 173.4; IR: 3198, 2927, 2855, 2359, 1657, 1598, 1544, 1499, 1443, 755, 691 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF,  $m/z$ ): found [M] 278.1635, calc. for  $C_{15}H_{22}N_2O_3$ , 278.1630; HPLC analytical purity analysis: 98%.

## **2.6 HDAC high-throughput assay**

### **2.6.1 Fluorescence activity assay for libraries of SAHA analogues**

A number of HDAC inhibitors have been attractive targets as chemotherapeutic drugs due to that the overexpression activity of HDAC, which leads malignant diseases, as discussed (Section 1.2). Our research is also focused on development of novel HDAC inhibitors based on SAHA. Therefore, SAHA analogues were screened compared to SAHA using a Fluorescence highthroughput assay. The deacetylase activity was measured using the Fluor de Lys® activity assay (Enzo) using the manufacturer's protocol(Figure 2.3).<sup>51</sup>



**Figure 2.3**. HDAC Fluorescent activity assay. Deacetylation of the substrate sensitizes to the developer.

To measure global HDAC inhibition, HeLa lysates, which contains a mixture of HDAC1-8 and HDAC10-11, were incubated with or without SAHA analogues in HDAC assay buffer solution. After the initial incubation, Fluor de Lys® substrate in HDAC assay buffer was added to the reaction. The peptidic substrates consisted of an ε-acetylated lysine residue and a 4-methylcoumarin-7 amide at the carboxy terminal unit. In the reaction catalyzed by HDACs, the acetylated lysine residue of the substrate was deacetylated, while acetylated lysine would remain in the reaction when inhibited by the SAHA analogues. To quench the reaction and allow color development, Fluor de Lys® developer was added to the reaction mixture. In this reaction, the only deacetylated peptidic lysine substrates containing the methylcoumarinamide were cleaved by trypsin to release the fluorescence molecule, methylcoumarin. In other word, the acetylated lysine substrate present when the reaction was inhibited by the SAHA analogues did not result in measurable cleavage by trypsin and did not release the fluorescence molecule (no fluorescence activity). As a result, the high level of deacetylated activity of the substrates indicated low inhibitory activity of the SAHA analogues. The fluorescence intensity was determined using a Geniosplus Fluorimeter (Tecan) with excitation at 360 nm and emission at 465 nm.

#### **2.6.2 HDAC assay procedure**

HDAC activity of the C3-SAHA analogues was measured using the Fluor de Lys™ activity assay (Biomol) using the manufacturer's protocol by Dr. Sujith Weerasinghe. To measure global HDAC inhibition, HeLa lysates (approximately 4µg of total protein) were incubated with small molecule inhibitor or without small molecule inhibitor (2% DMSO) in HDAC assay buffer (50 mM Tris/Cl, pH 8.0, 137

mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>) at a final volume of 25  $\mu$ L for 30 min at 30 ˚C with shaking. Concentrations of small molecule between 1 nM and 1 mM final concentration were used to determine  $IC_{50}$  values. Because the small molecules were stored in DMSO, dilution with HDAC buffer ensured that a maximum of 2% DMSO was present in the final reaction mixture. After the initial incubation, Fluor de Lys<sup>TM</sup> substrate in HDAC assay buffer (100  $\mu$ M final concentration) was added to make a total reaction volume of 50µL. The reaction mixture was incubated at 30˚C for 45 min with shaking. To quench the reaction and allow color development, Fluor de Lys™ developer (2.5 µL of 20X diluted up to 50 µL in HDAC assay buffer ) was added to give a final 100 µL volume and incubated with shaking for 5 min at room temperature. The fluorescence intensity was determined using a Geniosplus Fluorimeter (Tecan) with excitation at 360 nm and emission at 465 nm.

To perform the isoform selectivity studies, the procedure was similar except that the HeLa cell lysates were replaced with 0.2 µg HDAC1 (specific activity = 42.5 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g), 0.05  $\mu$ g HDAC3 (specific activity = 249 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g) or 0.25  $\mu$ g HDAC6 (specific activity = 257 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g), purchased from BPS Biosciences. In addition, the Fluor de Lys<sup>TM</sup> substrate was used at a final concentration of 50 µM for HDAC1 or 25µM for HDAC3 and HDAC6.

For each trial, a no enzyme control sample was used to assess the background. The background-corrected fluorescence units of small moleculetreated samples were then compared to that of untreated samples (set to 100%) to give a percentage deacetylase activity.  $IC_{50}$  values were obtained by plotting the percentage deacetylase activity versus the small molecule concentration and fitting the data to a sigmoidal dose-response curve (y=100/(1+(x/m3)<sup>m4</sup>) using KaleidaGraph software where m1 is the  $IC_{50}$  value in Molar units. All experiments were performed in triplicate with the mean and standard error reported in the tables and figures.

# **CHAPTER 3 – SYNTHESIS OF SAHA ANALOGUES MODIFIED AT THE C6 POSITION**

### **3.1 Rationale for design of SAHA analogues modified at the C6 position**

A limited number of structure activity relationship (SAR) studies on the linker area of SAHA have been performed, even though the linker region might influence inhibitory activity and selectivity (Section 1.7). In fact, many number of inhibitors that have substituents on the linker have been discovered with great potency and selective inhibition when substituents were attached near or on the capping group (Section 1.9). Specifically, tubacin with a bulky substituent at the capping group has been used in pharmacokinetic and clinical studies (Figure 1.9). Also, based on data from previous C2 and C3-SAHA libraries<sup>26, 47</sup>, substituents on the C6 position might lead to potent inhibitory activities because C6-SAHA substituents would be located close to the solvent-exposed region of the active site. As discussed in the chapter 2, the C3-SAHA ethyl analogue showed selective inhibition for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC3.<sup>47</sup> To expand our understanding of the impact of substituents, synthesis of C6-SAHA analogues with hydrophobic substituents was achieved because the carbon linker is surrounded by a hydrophobic tunnel.

**NHOH** 

**Figure 3.1**. Structure of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the C6 position

The earlier results from the C2 and C3-SAHA libraries showed that the steric environment on the SAHA carbon linker caused reduced inhibitory activity, in addition to influencing selective inhibition.<sup>26, 52</sup> With the potential to improve selectivity, the C6-SAHA library (Figure 3.1) was synthesized. We proposed that the HDAC protein active site would not only be more tolerant of bulkier substituents on the C6 position near the solvent-exposed area but the C6-SAHA analogues would also display more selectivity compared to the C2 and C3-SAHA analogues based on the previous reports about several class-selective inhibitors with bulky substituents in the capping group region (Section 1.9). $^{20}$ 

# **3.2 Initial synthesis**

To elucidate the impact of substituents present near the solvent-exposed area, C6-SAHA analogues were synthesized. Like C2 and C3-SAHA analogues (Chapter 1 and 2), we selected hydrophobic substituents since the carbon linker is surrounded by a hydrophobic tunnel (Figure 1.4). Also, we theorized that bulky analogues on the C6 position would display more potent inhibition compared to C2 and C3-SAHA analogues due to their proximity to the solvent-exposed surface.



**Scheme 3.1**. Initial synthesis of C6-SAHA analogue (methyl derivative **14a**)

Initially, we synthesized the C6-SAHA methyl analogue **14a**, as outlined in Scheme 3.1. Due to symmetry compared to the C3-SAHA analogues, synthesis of the C6-SAHA analogues was straightforward and similar to that of the C3- SAHA library. The major differences between two syntheses are the following. Commercially available ε-caprolactone **2** was opened to give methyl 6 hydrohexanoate **9** under Fisher conditions instead of building the anilide derivative. The alcohol compound **9** was subjected to Swern oxidation to give aldehyde **10** similar to the C3-aldehyde formation. For the Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction, using benzyl dimethyl phosphonoacetate instead of using trimethyl phosphonoacetate gave the corresponding α,β-unsturated benzyl ester **11** that allowed incorporation of substituents, which provided the precursor for anilide derivative **13a**. A mixture of (E) and (Z)-isomers of ester **11** were treated with a copper (I) iodide to give the methyl substituted ester **12a**. Similar to the

previous optimized synthesis of the C3-methyl SAHA analogue (Scheme 2) where the 1,4-addition demonstrated quantitative yield, the C6-methyl ester **12a**  was synthesized and characterized without impurities according to thin layer chromatography (TLC) and  ${}^{1}H$  &  ${}^{13}C$  NMR spectra analysis. Therefore, the methyl ester **12a** without purification was deprotected by hydrogenolysis and coupled with aniline in 53% yield (over the three steps). In contrast to the C3- SAHA library where the anilide derivative was installed at the beginning stage, the anilide **13a** was created from benzyl ester **12a** at a late stage, which attached substituents near the capping group. The methyl ester derivative **13a** was directly converted to the methyl hydroxamic acid **14a**.



### **3.3 Modified synthesis**

**Scheme 3.2**. Modified synthesis of C6-SAHA analogue **14b** - **14d**

To create the remaining C6-SAHA analogues, first, purification by column chromatography was required after 1,4-addition since the mixture of  $(E)$  and  $(Z)$  isomers **11** were unable to completely react to produce phenyl ester **12b**, as was observed with the methyl derivative **12a** (Scheme 3.2). Using the additional purification step after the 1,4-addition, the *t*-butyl ester **12c**, 2-ethylhexyl ester **12d,** and isopropyl ester **12e** were synthesized. The rest of syntheses for hydrogenolysis, coupling, and conversion to hydroxamic acid were similar to the methyl analogue synthesis. However, despite the purification, there was still remaining unsaturated ester **11** after 1, 4-addition for obtaining phenyl ester **12b** due to the similar polarity. The mixture of unsaturated ester **11** and phenyl ester **12b** were subjected to hydrogenolysis and coupling to give anilide **13b** and unsaturated anilide compound **13b´**. Fortunately, **14b** was completely purified after conversion to hydroxamic acid in 60% yield (over the four steps).

## **3.4 Biological analysis**

The HDAC inhibitory activities of the C6-SAHA library were measured using the Fluor de Lys® in vitro fluorescence activity assay kit (Enzo). Unlike the C3-SAHA library, the C6-SAHA analogue biological activities were performed by Sun Ea Choi. The activities of the C6-SAHA compounds are summarized in Table 3.1. Interestingly, the planar phenyl variant **14b** was the most potent analogue displaying an  $IC_{50}$  of 344 nM similar to the C3-methyl variant **1e** ( $IC_{50}$  of 350 nM) and comparable to SAHA (4-fold reduced),  $IC_{50}$  of 86 nM. This is in contrast to the C3-phenyl variant **1b** (IC<sub>50</sub> of 73000 nM), which displayed 811-fold reduced activity versus SAHA. <sup>53</sup> In addition, the smallest C6-methyl variant **14a**  $(IC_{50}$  of 349 nM) displayed similar potency to the phenyl variant. These results indicate that the active site of HDAC proteins can accommodate a bulky substituent at the C6 position. Moreover, the longest analogues, the 2-ethylhexyl variant **14d**, still displayed potent inhibitory activity in the nM range. Likewise, the bulkiest substituent with three methyl groups at the α-carbon, the *t*-butyl variant **14c**, displayed only 20-fold reduced activity versus SAHA. In summary, the inhibition data show that most C6-SAHA analogues maintain nM potency, but substitution at the α-carbon decreases potent inhibitory activity.

	cell lysates	
Compounds	R	$IC_{50}$ , nM <sup>a</sup>
<b>SAHA</b>		$86 \pm 4$
MS-275		$3200 \pm 100$
14a	Methyl	$349 \pm 20$
14b	Phenyl	$344 + 40$
14c	t-Butyl	$1940 \pm 300$
14d	2-Ethylhexyl	$456 \pm 30$

**Table 3.1.** HDAC inhibition by SAHA, MS-275, and the C6-SAHA analogues using HeLa

ªValues are the mean of at least three experiments with standard error given.

These results are consistent with the hypothesis that the active site of HDAC proteins accommodates large substituents near the solvent exposed area. As expected, one trend for the C6-SAHA analogues is that the increasing size of substituents has less influence on inhibitory activity compared to the C2 and C3- SAHA analogues.

As mentioned earlier, the presence of methyl groups at the α-carbon decreased inhibitory activity. We speculate that the *t*-butyl variant **14c** might display specific selectivity since the C3-ethyl variant **1c**, which contains an αmethyl group, displayed selective inhibition for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC 3 and also showed significantly decreased inhibitory activity compared with the C3 methyl variant **1e**. To explore the role of an α-methyl group on selectivity, synthesis of the isopropyl derivative would reveal the effect of α-carbon substituents. Another possibility is that the hybridization at the α-carbon might influence selectivity. For example, the C6-SAHA phenyl **14b** and methyl variant **14a** have sp<sup>2</sup> and sp<sup>3</sup> orbital structures. The data might provide key structural information for binding site recognition. The long chain of the C6-SAHA 2-ethyl hexyl analogue **14d** might also affect isoform selectivity. To verify the influence of sterics on isoform selectivity, testing the isoform selectivity of C6-SAHA analogues is described. The results of the isoform selectivity of the C6-SAHA analogues are outlined in Figure 3.2.

The isoform selectivity of C6-SAHA analogues was tested with HDAC1 and HDAC3 representing class I and HDAC6 representing class II. To assess the isoform selectivity, all compounds were tested at a single concentration near to their  $IC_{50}$  values using the Fluor de Lys® kit (Figure 3.2). As observed from previous data, SAHA exhibited roughly equal inhibition against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6. The phenyl variant **14b**, which displayed the most potent inhibition among the C6-SAHA analogues with HeLa cell lysates, similarly inhibited HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 as well. In contrast, the methyl variant **14a** showed dual-preference for HDAC1 and HDAC3 over HDAC6 at 500 nM even though the methyl **14a** (IC<sub>50</sub> of 349 nM) and phenyl variant **14b** (IC<sub>50</sub> of 344 nM) displayed equal inhibition in the HeLa cell lysates. The difference between sp<sup>3</sup> and sp<sup>2</sup>

orbital structures might affect selectivity but not potency. The 2-ethylhexyl variant **14d** with an additional carbon chain displayed selectivity for HDAC3 over HDAC1 and HDAC6 compared to the methyl variant **14a**. Similar to the methyl variant **14a** (IC<sub>50</sub> of 349 nM), the 2-ethylhexyl variant **14d** (IC<sub>50</sub> of 456 nM) imparted selectivity but not potency. However, the bulkiest analogue at the α–carbon position, *t*-butyl variant **14c**, displayed the opposite selectivity with preference for HDAC1 and HDAC6 over HDAC3. In this case, the α-carbon substituent lead to different interactions with each isoform HDAC active sites. The *t*-butyl substituent encouraged dual-selectivity toward HDAC1 and HDAC6 over HDAC3, while the inhibitory activity of *t*-butyl variant **14c** ( $IC_{50}$  of 1.9  $µM$ ) showed 5-fold reduced activity compared to the 2-ethylhexyl variant 14d (IC<sub>50</sub> of 456 nM) and 20-fold less potent than SAHA (IC $_{50}$  of 86 nM). In summary, the data indicated that the methyl, *t*-butyl, and 2-ethylhexyl variants (**14a**, **14c**, and **14d**) showed dissimilar preference for each isoform HDAC proteins despite parallel potency. The deacetylase activity of individual trial is summarized in Table C.5 in Appendix C.



**Figure 3.2.** Initial screen of isoform selectivity of C6-SAHA analogues against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 with 125 nM SAHA, 500 nM **14a**, **b**, **d**, and 2 µM **14c**.

To more thoroughly assess the selectivity observed in the initial screen, we determined the HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 IC<sub>50</sub> values of the C6-t-butyl variant **14c** because it showed the most potential to create a dual-selective inhibitor. The C6-*t*-butyl analogue **14c** displayed 6-fold greater potency for HDAC1 over HDAC3 and 2-fold greater potency for HDAC6 over HDAC3 (Table 3.2). In addition, it displayed selectivity within class I for HDAC1 over HDAC3. As a control, SAHA displayed non-selective inhibitor activity against the isoform, as expected (Table 3.2).<sup>30</sup> The selectivity analysis shows that a substituent on the C6 position can influence the selectivity of SAHA from non-selective inhibitor to a dual-selective HDAC1 and HDAC6 inhibitor. Furthermore, the C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue displays an  $IC_{50}$  value of 1.9  $\mu$ M in the lowmicromolar range, while the C3-SAHA ethyl analogue (HDAC6-selective inhibitor) displayed 16-fold decreasing potency (IC<sub>50</sub> of 32  $\mu$ M).<sup>47</sup> Therefore, the data indicate that attaching the *t*-butyl substituent to the linker chain on the C6 position may promote dualselective inhibition as well as potency on SAHA.

<u>IUI IIUAU I, IIUAUU, aIIU IIUAUU</u>					
Compound	$IC_{50}/µM$				
	HDAC1	HDAC3	HDAC6		
<b>SAHA</b>	$0.096 \pm 0.016$	$0.136 \pm 11$	$0.074 \pm 0.009$		
14с	$0.993 \pm 0.061$	$5.4 \pm 0.7$	$2.4 \pm 0.5$		

Table 3.2. IC<sub>50</sub> values of SAHA and the C6-SAHA *t*-butyl variant 14c for HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6

Specific selective HDAC inhibitors support pathological cardiac remodeling studies. For example, a recent cardiac study reported that stressed myocardium increased the catalytic activity of the class IIb HDAC, HDAC6. $35$ Moreover, the best anti-leukemic activities in the four pediatric AML cell lines were observed by dual HDAC1 and HDAC6 inhibitors that inhibited both.<sup>45e</sup>. The function or regulation of dual-selective HDAC inhibitors is not well informed in present even though dual-selective HDAC inhibitors might guide development of prospective drugs of anti-diverse diseases.

From the initial isoform selectivity screen (Figure 3.2), SAHA analogues with substituents on the C6 position displayed diverse selective inhibitions, such as class I selectivity (methyl **14a**), dual-class I, II selectivity (*t*-butyl **14c**), and isoform selectivity for HDAC3 (2-ethylhexyl **14d**). Our results reveal that small structural changes in the C6 position linker region of SAHA can significantly influence selectivity with suitable potency.

### **3.5 Experimental**

### **3.5.1 General methods**

Additional details were shown in Section 2.5.1 of Chapter 2.

## **3.5.2 Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterization**



**Methyl 6-hydroxyhexanoate (9).** Concentrated aqueous sulfuric acid (adjusted to pH 6 using neutral pH meter paper (pH 1 to pH 14 range) as assessed with) was dropwise added to a solution of *ε*–caprolactone (5.54 mL, 50 mmol) in MeOH (50 mL). The mixture was stirred for 20 min. The mixture was subsequently diluted with anhydrous diethyl ether (25 mL) and washed with distilled water (equal volume to organic layer). The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (equal volume to organic layer) at least 3 times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (12% acetone/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on silica gel to give **9** (7.23 g, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.30 (m, 2H), 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.56 (m, 2H), 2.24 (m, 2H), 2.59 (bs, 1H), 3.52 (m, 2H), 3.58 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.8, 25.5, 32.4, 34.1, 51.8, 62.5, 174.5; IR: 3424, 2940, 2866, 1738, 1438, 1205, 857, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS ( EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M+Na] 169.0840, calc. for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 169.0841.



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate (11).** To a solution of DMSO (1.02 mL, 14.39 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (44 mL) was added 2 M oxalyl chloride in dichloromethane (3.27 mL, 6.54 mmol) dropwise and then methyl 6 hydroxyhexanoate **9** (0.638 g, 4.36 mmol) stepwise at -78ºC. The reaction mixture was stirred for 45 min before triethylamine (TEA, 4.12 mL, 29.66 mmol)



was added dropwise at -78 ºC. The mixture was warmed OMe to room temperature and stirred for an additional 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding distilled water

(44 mL). The mixture was washed with 1.0 M aqueous hydrochloric acid (44 mL), an aqueous solution of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (44 mL), and brine (44 mL). The organic layer **10** was dried over anhydrous Na2SO4, filtered, and concentrated.

To a solution of NaH (0.513 g, 12.8 mmol) in THF (85 mL) was added benzyl dimethyl phosphonoacetate (3.31 g, 12.8 mmol) dropwise at 0 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. To the solution was added crude methyl 6 oxohexanoate **10** (1.23 g, 8.55 mmol) at -78 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for an additional 1 h. The mixture was quenched by addition of an aqueous solution of saturated NH4Cl until evolution of gas was not observed. The mixture was washed with distilled H<sub>2</sub>O (85 mL). The organic layer was collected and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous
$Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:6) on silica gel to give **11** (2.17 g, 92%).  $(E+Z)$ -isomer <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 2.20 (q, 2H), 2.30 (t, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 5.84 (d, 1H, J=180 Hz), 6.98 (m, 1H), 7.35 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.6, 27.6, 32.1, 33.9, 51.7, 66.2, 121.6, 128.3, 128.4, 128.8, 136.3, 149.5, 166.6, 174.0; IR: 3671, 2974, 1735, 1455, 1258, 1066, 907, 748, 698 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M+Na] 299.1269, calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na, 299.1259.



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-methyloctanedioate (12a).** To a solution of Cu(I)I (1.06 g, 5.57 mmol) in THF (19 mL) was added 1.6M methyllithium in diethyl ether (6.97 mL, 11.15 mmol) dropwise at -15 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 20 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 ºC before addition of trimethylsilyl chloride (TMSCl, 4.25 mL, 33.48 mmol). To the reaction mixture was dropwise added 1 benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate **11** (513 mg, 1.86 mmol) at -78 ºC. The reaction was stirred for 3 h at -78 °C to room temperature and then quenched by addition of 1.0 M aqueous hydrochloric acid until a color of the mixture changed to blue  $(CuCl<sub>2(aq)</sub>)$ . The organic layer was collected and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.91 (d, 3H), 1.30 (m, 4H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.96

(m, 1H), 2.19 (q, 1H), 2.32 (m, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 19.9, 25.2, 26.6, 30.4, 34.2, 36.4, 42.0, 51.7, 66.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.8, 136.3, 173.2, 174.4; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+Na] 315.1569, calc. for  $C_{17}H_{24}O_4$ Na, 315.1572.



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-phenyloctanedioate (12b).** To a solution of Cu(I)I (827 mg, 4.34 mmol) in THF (14.5 mL) was added phenyl lithium 2.0M (4.34 mL, 8.69 mmol) dropwise at -15 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 20 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 ºC. To the solution was added trimethylsilyl chloride (TMSCl, 1.67 mL, 13.03 mmol) dropwise and then 1-benzyl 8-methyl oct-2 enedioate **11** (400 mg, 1.45 mmol) stepwise at -78 ºC. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at -78 ºC and then quenched by addition of an aqueous solution of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl: saturated NH<sub>4</sub>OH (1:1) until the color of the mixture turned to blue ( $(NH_3)_4CuCl_{2(aq)}$ ). The mixture was washed with the aqueous solution of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl: NH<sub>4</sub>OH (1:1) (14.5 mL). The organic layer was collected and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (equal volume to the aqueous layer). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:6) on silica gel to give **12b** + **11** (3:1).



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-(***tert***-butyl)octanedioate (12c).** The synthesis was similar that of **12b** except the following reagents were used: Cu(I)I (827 mg, 4.34 mmol) in THF (10.9 mL), *tert*-butyllithium 1.6M (5.43 mL, 8.69 mmol), TMSCl (1.67 mL, 13.03 mmol), and 1-benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate **11** (300 mg, 1.09 mmol). The product was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:6) on silica gel to give **12c** (313 mg, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.84 (s, 9H), 1.05 (m, 1H), 1.17-1.35 (m, 2H), 1.47-1.62 (m, 3H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 2.10 (q, 1H), 2.23 (t, 2H), 2.41 (q, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.5, 27.6, 28.5, 31.0, 33.8, 34.2, 36.3, 45.2, 51.6, 66.4, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 136.3, 174.3, 174.5; IR: 2952, 2869, 1737, 1457, 1367, 1151, 914, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI, *m/*z): found [M<sup>+</sup>  $+$ Li] 341.28, calc. for  $C_{20}H_{30}O_4Li$ , 341.23.



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-(2-ethylhexyl)octanedioate (12d).** The synthesis was similar to that of **12b** except the following reagents were used: Cu(I)Br⋅SMe<sub>2</sub> (1.89 g, 9.19 mmol) in THF (15.3 mL), 2-ethylhexyllithium (10.09 mL, 18.38 mmol), TMSCl (3.52 mL, 27.57 mmol), and 1-benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate **11**

(400 mg, 1.53 mmol). The product was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:8) on silica gel to give **12d** (485 mg, 81%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.79 (m, 3H), 0.88 (t, 3H), 1.23-1.31 (m, 15H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.91 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.30 (m, 4H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 7.35 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 10.7, 14.40, 23.4, 25.4, 26.1, 28.9, 32.8, 33.1, 34.2, 36.1, 38.5, 44.4, 66.3, 128.4, 128.6, 128.8, 129.2, 130.4, 173.2, 173.5; IR: 2956, 2858, 1739, 1457, 1167, 912, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI, *m*/z): found [M<sup>+</sup>+K] 429.29, [M<sup>+</sup>+Li] 397.36, [M<sup>+</sup>+Na] 413.31, calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>4</sub>K, 429.65, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Li, 397.50, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na, 413.55.



**1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-isopropyloctanedioate (12e).** The synthesis was similar that of **12b** except the following reagents were used: Cu(I)I (875 mg, 4.59 mmol) in THF (7.7 mL), isopropyl magnesium bromide 1.94M (2.37 mL, 4.59 mmol), TMSCl (1.76 mL, 13.78 mmol) and 1-benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate **11** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:6) on silica gel to give **12e** (109 mg, 45%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.80 (d, 3H), 0.84 (d, 3H), 1.16-1.33 (m, 4H), 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 1H), 1.78 (m, 1H), 2.18 (m, 1H), 2.27 (m, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 7.35 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 18.4, 19.4, 25.1, 26.8, 29.7, 30.7, 34.0, 36.0, 40.7, 51.5, 66.1, 128.2, 128.3, 128.5, 136.1, 173.9, 174.2; IR: 3033, 2954, 2873, 1737, 1458, 1332, 1261, 1008, 905, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M+Na] 343.1883, calc. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na, 343.1885.



**Methyl 6-methyl-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate (13a).** To a solution of crude 1-benzyl 8-methyl 3-methyloctanedioate **12a** (513 mg, 1.86 mmol) in ethyl acetate (19 mL) was added 20%  $Pd(OH)/C$  (261 mg, 0.372 mmol) and the reaction mixture was purged with  $H_2$  gas for 30 s. The reaction solution was stirred under  $H_2$  gas for 3 h and then filtered through a plug of Celite with ethyl acetate (57 mL). The filtrate was concentrated to give 8-methoxy-3-methyl-8 oxooctanoic acid as clear oil.The crude residue, 8-methoxy-3-methyl-8 oxooctanoic acid, was transferred to a flask and dissolved in 19 mL of acetonitrile. TBTU (895 mg, 2.79 mmol), diisopropylethylamine (647 mL, 3.72 mmol), and aniline (254 mL, 2.79 mmol) was added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was then quenched with 19 mL of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with ethyl acetate (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and evaporated to oil. Flash silica gel chromatography (1:6 diethyl ether: petroleum ether  $\rightarrow$  1:1 diethyl ether: petroleum ether) afforded 274 mg of the anilide **13a** as a clear oil (53% over 3 steps).  $1$ H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.91 (d, 3H), 1.13-1.34 (m, 4H), 1.56 (m, 2H), 2.09 (m, 2H), 2.27 (m, 3H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 7.02 (t, 1H), 7.24 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H), 8.27 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 19.9, 25.1, 26.6, 30.9, 34.2, 36.5, 45.6, 51.8, 120.0, 124.4, 129.2, 138.2, 171.1, 175.3;

IR: 3306, 2952, 2868, 1739, 1601, 1544, 1151, 913, 757 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF,  $m/z$ ): found [M+H] 278.1764, calc. for  $C_{16}H_{24}NO_3$ , 278.1756, found [M+Na]  $300.1584$ , calc. for  $C_{16}H_{24}NO_3Na$ ,  $300.1576$ .



**Methyl 6-(***tert***-butyl)-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate (13c).** A similar procedure to that for **13a** was used, except for the following reagents: 20% Pd(OH)2/C (210 mg, 0.299 mmol) and 1-benzyl 8-methyl 3-(*tert*butyl)octanedioate **12c** (414 mg, 0.748 mmol) in ethyl acetate (7.5 mL), TBTU (360 mg, 1.121 mmol) in acetonitrile (7.5 mL), diisopropyethylamine (521 mL, 2.99 mmol), aniline (102 mL, 0.748 mmol) and stirring for 4 h. The mixture was then quenched with 7.5 mL of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with ethyl acetate (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and evaporated to oil. In this case, flash silica gel chromatography (1:6 diethyl ether: petroleum ether  $\rightarrow$  1:1 diethyl ether: petroleum ether) afforded 185 mg of the anilide **13c** as a clear oil (58% over 2 steps). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.91 (s, 9H), 1.13 (m, 1H), 1.33 (m, 1H), 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.55 (m, 3H), 1.82 (m, 1H), 2.09 (q, 1H), 2.28 (t, 2H), 2.49 (q, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 7.09 (t, 1H), 7.21 (bs, 1H), 7.31 (t, 2H), 7.50 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.5, 27.8, 28.4, 31.2, 34.0, 34.1, 45.1, 56.1, 62.8, 119.2, 124.3, 129.2, 134.7, 168.5, 171.3; IR: 3055, 2952, 2865, 1732, 1600, 1265, 741,

706 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 320.2229, calc. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, 320.2226, found [M+Na] 342.2048, calc. for  $C_{19}H_{29}NO_3$ Na, 342.2045.



**Methyl 8-ethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)dodecanoate (13d).** A similar procedure to that for **13a** was used, except for the following reagents: 20%  $Pd(OH)/C$  (345 mg, 0.492 mmol) and 1-benzyl 8-methyl 3-(2ethylhexyl)octanedioate **12d** (463 mg, 1.229 mmol) in ethyl acetate (12.3 mL), TBTU (592 mg, 1.844 mmol) in acetonitrile (12.3 mL), diisopropyethylamine (856 mL, 4.916 mmol), aniline (168 mL, 1.844 mmol) and stirring for 3 h. In this case, the mixture was quenched with 12.3 mL of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and evaporated to oil. The product was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:8) on silica gel to give **13d** (349 mg, 76%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.81-0.87 (m, 6H),1.10-1.34 (m, 15H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 2.03 (m, 1H), 2.22-2.32 (m, 4H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 7.08 (t, 1H), 7.32 (t, 2H), 7.51 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 10.7, 14.4, 23.4, 25.3, 25.8, 26.0, 28.9, 33.1, 33.2, 33.6, 33.8, 36.2, 38.5, 43.2, 51.7, 120.0, 124.3, 129.2, 138.3, 171.4, 174.6; IR: 3322, 3066, 2956, 1740, 1661,

1171, 912, 746, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI, *m/z*): found [M<sup>+</sup>+Li] 382.41, [M<sup>+</sup>+Na] 398.35, [M<sup>+</sup>+K] 414.31, calc. for  $C_{23}H_{37}NO_3Li$ , 382.49,  $C_{23}H_{37}NO_3Na$ , 398.53,  $C_{23}H_{37}NO_3K$ , 414.64.



**Methyl 6-isopropyl-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate (13e).** A similar procedure to that for **13a** was used, except for the following reagents: 20% Pd(OH)2/C (88 mg, 0.125 mmol) and 1**-**benzyl 8-methyl 3-isopropyloctanedioate **12e** (0.312 mmol) in ethyl acetate (3 mL), TBTU (150 mg, 0.468 mmol) in acetonitrile (3 mL), diisopropyethylamine (218 mL, 1.248 mmol), aniline (43 mL, 0.468 mmol) and stirring for 3 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (1:6 diethyl ether: petroleum ether  $\rightarrow$  1:1 diethyl ether: petroleum ether) on silica gel to give **13e** (71 mg, 75%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 0.84 (d, 3H), 0.89 (d, 3H), 1.25-1.38 (m, 4H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.81 (m, 1H), 1.90 (m, 1H), 2.15 (q, 1H), 2.30 (t, 2H), 2.34 (q, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 7.09 (t, 1H), 7.31 (t, 2H), 7.41 (bs, 1H), 7.51 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 18.9, 19.5, 25.3, 26.9, 29.7, 30.6, 34.1, 39.6, 41.1, 51.8, 120.0, 124.4, 129.2, 138.3, 171.8, 174.6; IR: 3297, 3140, 2954, 2870, 1739, 1601, 1368, 906, 757, 693 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 306.2071, calc. for  $C_{18}H_{28}NO_3$ , 306.2069, found [M+Na] 328.1884, calc. for  $C_{18}H_{28}NO_3Na$ , 328.1889.



*N* **8 -Hydroxyl-3-methyl-***N* **1 -phenyloctanediamide (14a).** To a solution of NH2OH∙HCl (677 mg, 9.735 mmol) in methanol (10 mL) was added KOH (1.092 g, 19.469 mmol) at 0 ˚C in an acid-washed 25mL round-bottom flask. After stirring for 20 min, methyl 6-methyl-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate **13a** (270 mg, 0.974 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 8 h at 0°C. The reaction mixture was adjusting to pH 6 by adding concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid. The mixture was diluted with 30 mL of ethyl acetate, and washed with 30 mL of distilled water. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (9% methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acid-washed silica gel to give **14a** (159 mg, 58%) as a clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.98 (d, 3H), 1.24-1.44 (m, 4H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 2.02 (m, 1H), 2.09 (t, 2H), 2.16 (q, 1H), 2.34 (q, 1H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.52 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 18.7, 25.7, 26.3, 30.8, 32.5, 36.3, 44.4, 120.2, 124.0, 128.6, 138.6, 171.8, 172.9; IR: 3270, 2928, 2868, 1643, 1600, 1500, 1418, 1116, 977, 759, 693 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 279.1710, calc. for  $C_{15}H_{23}N_2O_3$ , 279.1709, found [M+Na] 301.1531, calc. for  $C_{15}H_{23}N_2O_3N$ a, 301.1528.



*N* **8 -Hydroxyl-***N* **8 , 3-diphenyloctanediamide (14b).** The synthesis of methyl 6 phenyl-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate **13b** was similar to that of **14a** except the following reagents were used:  $20\%$  Pd(OH) $_2$ /C (153 mg, 0.218 mmol) and 1benzyl 8-methyl 3-phenyloctanedioate **12b** (0.546 mmol) in ethyl acetate (5.5 mL), TBTU (263 mg, 0.818 mmol) in acetonitrile (5.5 mL), diisopropyethylamine (190 mL, 1.09 mmol), aniline (75 mL, 0.818 mmol) and stirring for 4 h. In this case, the reaction mixture was quenched with 5.5 mL of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and evaporated to oil. Flash silica gel chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:1) afforded the mixture of phenyl substituted anilide **13b** and α, β unsaturated anilide **13b´** as a clear oil.

To a solution of NH2OH∙HCl (696 mg, 10.721 mmol) in methanol (10.7 mL) was added KOH (1.203 g, 21.442 mmol) at 0 ˚C in an acid-washed 25mL roundbottom flask. After stirring for 20 min, the mixture of methyl 6-phenyl-8-oxo-8- (phenylamino)octanoate **13b** and α, β unsaturated anilide **13b´** (1.072 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 8 h at 0°C. The rest of the reaction procedure was similar to that for **14a**. The residue was purified by column chromatography (4% methanol/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ) on acid-washed silica gel to give 14b (221 mg, 60% over 4 steps). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (δ, ppm, DIMETHYLSULFOXIDE-

D6): 0.85-1.25 (m, 3H), 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.83 (t, bs, 2H), 2.57 (m, 2H), 3.07 (m, 1H), 6.97 (t, 1H), 7.14-7.27 (m, 7H), 7.47 (d, 2H), 8.61 (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 10.25 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 25.5, 26.9, 32.5, 35.5, 42.8, 44.5, 120.4, 124.1, 126.4, 127.5, 128.4, 128.5, 138.4, 144.1, 171.7, 171.9; IR: 3235, 3027, 2928, 2859, 1874, 1641, 1599, 1544, 1498, 1467, 1116, 977, 757,699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M+H] 341.1877, calc. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 341.1865, found [M+Na] 363.1697, calc. for  $C_{20}H_{25}N_2O_3N_4$ , 363.1685.



**3-(***tert***-Butyl)-***N* **8 -hydroxyl-***N* **1 -phenyloctanediamide (14c).** A similar procedure to that for **14a** was used, except for the following reagents: NH<sub>2</sub>OH⋅HCl (348 mg, 5.008 mmol) in methanol (7.4 mL), KOH (562 mg, 10.018 mmol), methyl 6-(*tert*butyl)-8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)octanoate **13c** (160 mg, 0.501 mmol) and stirring for 4 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (4 % methanol/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) on acid-washed silica gel to give 14c (158 mg, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.92 (s, 9H), 1.15 (m, 1H), 1.28 (m, 1H), 1.40 (m, 1H), 1.58 (m, 3H), 1.77 (m, 1H), 2.04 (t, 2H), 2.16 (q, 1H), 2.53 (q, 1H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.50 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 26.1, 26.7, 28.6, 30.8, 32.6, 33.3, 38.5, 45.0, 120.2, 123.9, 128.6, 138.8, 171.8, 173.9; IR: 3350, 2956, 2870, 1938, 1648, 1547, 1500, 1119, 976, 757, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF,  $m/z$ ): found [M+H] 321.2180, calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 321.2178, found [M+Na] 343.1998, calc. for  $C_{18}H_{29}N_2O_3N_4$ , 343.1988.



**3-(2-Ethylhexyl)-***N* **8 -hydroxyl-***N* **1 -phenyloctanediamide (14d).** A similar procedure to that for **14a** was used, except for the following reagents: NH2OH∙HCl (629 mg, 9.054 mmol) in methanol (9 mL), KOH (1.016 g, 18.108 mmol), methyl 8-ethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)dodecanoate **13d** (340 mg, 0.905 mmol), and stirring for 6 h. In this case, the product was purified by column chromatography (4 % methanol/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) on acid-washed silica gel to give **14d** (199 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 0.85 (m, 6H), 1.19-1.37 (m, 16H),1.61 (m, 2H), 2.02 (bs, 1H), 2.09 (t, 2H), 2.24 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 7.29 (t, 2H), 7.53 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D4): 9.7, 9.9, 13.4, 23.0, 26.0, 28.5, 28.8, 32.6, 32.8, 33.0, 34.0, 36.1, 38.4, 42.3, 120.1, 124.0, 128.6, 138.7, 171.8, 173.1; IR: 3391, 3256, 3065, 2956, 1643, 1600, 1539, 1500, 1308, 903, 756, 692 cm-1 ; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 377.2798, calc. for  $C_{22}H_{37}N_2O_3$ , 377.2804.

## **3.5 HDAC assay procedure**

HDAC activity was measured using the Fluor de Lys® activity assay (Enzo) using the manufacturer's protocol. To measure global HDAC inhibition, HeLa lysates (approximately 4µg of total protein) were incubated with small

molecule inhibitor or without small molecule inhibitor (2% DMSO) in HDAC assay buffer (50 mM Tris/Cl, pH 8.0, 137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 1 mM  $MgCl<sub>2</sub>$ ) in a final volume of 25 µL for 20 min at 23 ˚C with 600 rmp shaking. Concentrations of small molecule between 1 nM and 1 mM were used to determine  $IC_{50}$  values (Appendix C. Table C.1-C.6). Because the small molecules were stored in DMSO, dilution with HDAC buffer ensured that a maximum of 2% DMSO was present in the final reaction mixture. After the initial incubation, Fluor de Lys® substrate in HDAC assay buffer (100 µM final concentration) was added to make a total reaction volume of 50µL. The reaction mixture was incubated at 30˚C for 30 min with 600 rmp shaking. To quench the reaction and allow color development, Fluor de Lys® developer (2.5 µL of 20X diluted up to 50 µL in HDAC assay buffer ) was added to give a final 100 µL volume and incubated with shaking for 5 min at room temperature. The fluorescence intensity was determined using a Geniosplus Fluorimeter (Tecan) with excitation at 360 nm and emission at 465 nm.

To perform the isoform selectivity studies, the procedure was similar except that the HeLa cell lysates were replaced with 0.2 µg HDAC1 (specific activity = 42.5 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g), 0.05  $\mu$ g HDAC3 (specific activity = 249 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g) or 0.25  $\mu$ g HDAC6 (specific activity = 257 pmol/min/ $\mu$ g), purchased from Enzo Life Sciences. In addition, the Fluor de Lys® substrate was used at a final concentration of 50  $\mu$ M for HDAC1 and HDAC6 or 25 $\mu$ M for HDAC3.

For each trial, a no enzyme control sample was used to assess the background. The background-corrected fluorescence units of small moleculetreated samples were then compared to that of untreated samples (set to 100%) to give a percentage deacetylase activity.  $IC_{50}$  values were obtained by plotting the percentage deacetylase activity versus the small molecule concentration and fitting the data to a sigmoidal dose-response curve (y=100/(1+(x/m3)<sup>m4</sup>) using KaleidaGraph software where m1 is the  $IC_{50}$  value in Molar units. All experiments were performed in triplicate with the mean and standard error reported in the tables and figures.

# **CHAPTER 4 – SYNTHESIS OF SAHA ANALOGUES MODIFIED AT THE C7 POSITION**

## **4.1 Rationale for design of the SAHA analogues modified at the C7 position**

SAHA analogues with substituents on C2 and C3 position displayed decreasing inhibitory activity while C6-SAHA analogues displayed similar potency to the parent compound, SAHA. These results indicate that only limited steric environment exists near hydroxamic acid. For example, the C6-SAHA analogue with the phenyl substituent displayed only 4-fold decreased inhibition while the C3-SAHA analogue with the phenyl substituent displayed more 800-fold decreased inhibitory activity compared to SAHA. Based on an analysis of the HDAC crystal structure (Figure 1.4)<sup>54</sup>, more space near the capping group area is available to accommodate bulky groups compared to the area near the hydroxamic acid. Moreover, large capping groups have been synthesized and displayed nM range inhibition.<sup>21b, 38</sup> Several class-selective HDAC inhibitors have been synthesized that contain large groups in capping group region.<sup>20</sup> Therefore, design, synthesis, and evaluation of a C7-SAHA library (Figure 4.1) are necessary to elucidate the structural requirement of HDAC inhibitors, since C7- SAHA analogues are located closest to the solvent-exposed region through the

linker area.

**NHOH** 

**Figure 4.1**. Structure of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the C7 position

C7-SAHA analogues with hydrophobic substituents were generated. Synthesizing C7-SAHA analogues with only hydrophobic substituents might be sub-optimal since the C7 position is between the hydrophobic tunnel and the solvent exposed area. Therefore, we synthesized the methyl pyridyl variant to study the influence of polar groups. In addition, since medicinal and natural compounds containing nitrogen were involved in diverse therapeutic areas (Chapter 1), we chose the pyridyl derivative.<sup>41-42, 55</sup> Since hydrophobic substituents attached at the C6 position, a position that is close to the solvent-exposed location, displayed more potent inhibition compared to the C2 and C3-SAHA libraries, C7-SAHA analogues might also display potent inhibition compared to the C2, C3, and C6-SAHA analogues. Therefore, large aromatic groups should be incorporated on the C7 position. We designed a variety of substituents from the small methyl substituent to the large 4-methylnaphthyl, methylbiphenyl, methylanthracene, and methyltetrahydroanthracene substituents to address what effect large groups impart on potency. Due to the structural similarity to the previously reported C2- SAHA analogues, a straightforward synthetic approach was envisioned.

### **4.2 Initial synthesis of C7-SAHA analogues**

Initially, C7-SAHA analogues with methyl **22a**, benzyl **22b**, and 4 methylnaphthyl **22c** substituents were synthesized by Dr. A. Bieliauskas. The early synthetic route for C7-SAHA analogues is outlined in Scheme 4.1.



**Scheme 4.1**. Initial synthesis of C7-SAHA analogues **22a**-**22c**

Benzyl ester **16** was obtained by coupling conditions with benzyl alcohol and 6-bromohexanoic acid **15**. *t*-Butyl malonate derivatives **17** after nucleophilic substitution reaction provided the scaffold to create alkylated malonate derivatives **18a-c**. In acidic conditions, the *t*-butyl groups in **18a-c** were deprotected and decarboxylation was accomplished under reflux to give monocarboxylic acid **19a-c**, which was coupled with aniline. The benzyl group in **20a-c** was removed by Pd/C, and was coupled with *O*-benzyl-protected hydroxamine. *O*-benzyl-protected hydroxamic acid **21a-c** was deprotected by hydrogenolysis to give the C7- SAHA methyl, benzyl, and methylnaphthyl **22a-c**.

HDAC inhibitory activities of the C7-methyl, benzyl, and 4-methylnaphthyl SAHA analogues **22a-c** were measured using the Fluor de Lys™ *in vitro* fluorescence activity assay kit (Biomol) by Dr. S. V. W. Weerasinghe (Table 4.1).

,,,,,,,,,,,		
Compounds	R	$IC_{50}$ , nM <sup>a</sup>
SAHA		$86 \pm 4$
22a	Methyl	$105 \pm 6$
22b	Benzyl	$109 \pm 5$
22c	1-Naphthylmethyl	$16 \pm 1$

**Table 4.1.** HDAC inhibition by SAHA, C7-methyl, benzyl, and 4-naphthyl variants using HeLa cell lysates

ªValues are the mean of at least three experiments with standard error given.

The C7-methyl and benzyl analogues **22a-b** were equipotent in 100 nM range similar to SAHA (86 nM). The inhibition results are consistent with the hypothesis that greater steric tolerance exists in HDAC active site at the entrance area of capping group than the metal binding moiety region. Moreover, the largest compound, C7-SAHA naphthylmethyl analogue **22c** among three analogues, displayed greater than 5-fold increasing inhibitory activity compared to SAHA. The addition of certain groups at the C7 position showed favourable interaction between the entrance area of HDAC active site and large bulky groups at the C7 position.

# **4.3 Synthesis of the C7-SAHA analogues with pyridyl and bulky substituents**

To thoroughly explore the impact of the large bulky groups at the C7 position, additional large groups should be investigated. For example, the 4 methylbiphenyl and 9-methylanthracene variants **22e-f** should be synthesized to verify how large groups at the C7 position could interact with the HDAC active site. In addition, the inclusion of polar groups should be included to validate interaction between HDAC active site and hydrophilic substituents at the C7 position, the end edge of the hydrophobic channel. However, the synthesis of C7-SAHA analogues containing bulkier and larger substituents than the methyl, benzyl, and 4-methylnaphthyl variants **22a-c** faced issue in the nucleophilic substitution reaction (**17**->**18**) (Scheme 4.1). Therefore, the synthesis methodology was redesigned (Scheme 4.2). First of all, we used commercially available methyl 6-bromohexanoate **23** as the starting material instead of using coupling reaction to obtain benzylester **16** (two-step) (Scheme 4.1). Second, the nucleophilic substitution reaction was accomplished with dibenzylmalonate, which has a planar structure compared to the bulky *t*-butylmalonate (Scheme 4.1) to give the dibenzylmalonate derivatives **24** (Scheme 4.2). Finally, direct conversion to hydroxamic acid **22** was accomplished in one step without saponification, coupling *O*-benzyl hydroxylamine, and benzyl deprotection.<sup>47</sup> The 4-(1,1'-Biphenyl)methyl variant **22e** was synthesized by Geetha Padige, the 9 anthracenylmethyl **22f** and 9-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroanthracenyl)methyl **22g** derivatives were synthesized by Satish Garre, and the 4-pyridylmethyl variant **22d** was synthesized under my responsibility.

The alternative synthetic route of the C7-SAHA library had been designed by the main concern for bulky subsitutuent attachment when the nucleophilic substitution (**24**->**25**) reaction was performed with large groups. Additionally, several steps were improved in Scheme 4.2.



**Scheme 4.2**. Redesigned synthesis of C7-SAHA library for bulky groups

After successful nucleophilic substitution reaction with the dibenzylmalonate derivatives **24** and remaining substituents (pyridylmethyl, biphenylmethyl, and anthracenylmethyl groups), alkylated malonate derivatives **25d-f** were deprotected by Pd/C under hydrogen gas. Interestingly, the pyridyl and anthracenylmethyl groups were reduced when the dibenzyl groups of compounds **25d-f** were deprotected. Zacharie and co-workers have proven the reduction from pyridine derivatives to piperidine derivatives in the mild condition.<sup>56</sup> After deprotection by Pd/C, decarboxylation under the reflux condition, and coupling with aniline (three-step), there were additional anilide products, the anthracenylmethyl anilide derivative **26f** and the tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl anilide derivative **26g**. In contrast, pyridyl and piperidylmethyl anilide derivatives **26d**, **26d´** were unable to be isolated. The anthracenylmethyl and tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl anilide derivatives **26f**, **26g** were directly convert to hydroxamic acid **22f**, **22g**.

### **4.4 Optimized synthesis for the C7-pyridyl analogue**

To synthesize the C7-pyridyl hydroxamic acid **22d**, the synthetic method was redesigned since the pyridyl and piperidylmethyl anilide derivatives were not isolated (Scheme 4.3). The initial synthesis performed by Dr. Bieliauskas was modified since the pyridylmethyl group is smaller than naphthylmethyl group. However, several reaction conditions were improved.

First of all, benzyl ester **16** was obtained under Fisher condition (95% yield) with benzyl alcohol and 6-bromohexanoic acid **15** instead of the coupling reaction (80% yield). The nucleophilic substitution reaction with *t*-butyl malonate generated derivative **17**, which was alkylated with bromomethyl pyridine to produce alkylated malonate derivatives **18d**. Compared to Dr. Bieliaskas' synthesis, the alkylation was performed under the kinetic condition in DMF at 0 ºC (**16** in 99% yield and **18d** in 55% yield) for shorter time (2-3h). Under acidic condition, the *t*-butyl groups on compound **18d** were deprotected and decarboxylation was observed under reflux to give the monocarboxylated derivative. Without purification, the coupling reaction was performed to give anilide **20d** (yield 99% over three steps). To obtain the final C7-SAHA pyridylmethyl hydroxamic acid **22d**, direct conversion was achieved in one step (43%).



**Scheme 4.3**. Redesigned and optimized synthesis for C7-SAHA pyridylmethyl analogue **22d**

## **4.5 Biological analysis**

HDAC inhibitory activities of the remaining C7-SAHA analogues were measured using the Fluor de Lys® *in vitro* fluorescence activity assay kit using Hela cell lysates (Table 4.2). HDAC inhibition of biphenylmethyl variant **22e** was tested by Geetha Padige.

Compounds	R	$IC_{50}$ , nM <sup>a</sup>
<b>SAHA</b>		
		$86 \pm 4$
22d	4-Pyridylmethyl	$450 \pm 35$
22e	4-(1,1'-Biphenyl)methyl	$4 \pm 0.3$
22f	9-Anthracenylmethyl	$20 \pm 1$
22g	9-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroanthracenyl)methyl	$102 \pm 30$

**Table 4.2**. HDAC inhibition by C7-SAHA analogues and SAHA using HeLa cell lysates

<sup>a</sup>Values are means of more than three experiments with standard error given.

One of the large compounds, C7-SAHA 4-(1,1´-biphenyl)methyl analogue **22e** displayed greater than 22-fold increase in inhibitory activity compared to SAHA (86 nM) or the smallest compound C7-SAHA methyl analogue **22a** (105 nM). Variants **22b**, **22e** with the large groups, such as naphthylmethyl and biphenylmethyl, were more potent than the smallest variant **22a** with methyl group for C7-SAHA inhibitory activities (Table 4.2). However, the bulky tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl subtituents displayed potency similar to SAHA. The data suggest that C7-SAHA analogues with planar aromatic groups interacted favourably in the binding area of HDAC active site. Moreover, the addition of certain groups at the C7 position likely promotes interaction between the entrance area of HDAC active site and the inhibitor.

Even though we found that greater steric tolerance exists in the HDAC active site in the entrance area of the capping group than the metal binding moiety region, the pyridylmethyl analogue displayed the weakest inhibitory activity (IC $_{50}$  450 nM). The polarity of the nitrogen atom might interact unfavorably the binding area of the HDAC active site. As a result, the potency was influenced not only by the size of subsitutuents, but also the polarity, as shown by the fact that the pyridylmethyl group of equal size to the benzyl group  $(IC_{50}$  109 nM).

To more thoroughly verify the structural requirements of SAHA analogues, the isoform selectivity of the C7-SAHA analogues was tested by using HDAC1 and HDAC3 representing class I and HDAC6 representing class II (Figure 4.2). To assess the isoform selectivity of the C7-SAHA analogues, all compounds were initially tested at a single concentration near to their  $IC_{50}$  values using the Fluor de Lys® kit (Enzo).



C7-SAHA Isoform Selectivity Screen

**Figure 4.2.** Screen of C7-SAHA analogues against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 with 100 nM methyl, benzyl, tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl, and biphenylmethyl (**22a**, **22b**, **22g**, and **22e**) variants, 500 nM pyridylmethyl and anthracenylmethyl variants (**22d** and **22f**), and 10 nM naphthylmethyl variant (**22c**).

The methyl **22a**, and benzyl **22b** variants showed similar inhibition for HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 at 100 nM, despite slight selectivity for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC3. The biphenyl variant **22e**, which displayed the most potent inhibition from using Hela cell lysates, showed a slightly preference for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC3 as well. In this case, however, two flexible perpendicular aromatic groups might enhance interaction with all of HDAC protein active sites to increase potency, not selectively. In addition, the biphenylmethyl variant **22e** did not show inhibition at 10 nM concentration near to the Hela cell lysate  $IC_{50}$  value (4 nM) for HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6. In contrast, the naphthylmethyl **22c** and tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl **22g** variants showed greater potency for HDAC3 over HDAC1 and HDAC6 at 10 nM and 100 nM. Interestingly, both compounds contain two planar aromatic groups. Moreover, the pyridylmethyl **22d** and anthracenylmethyl **22f** variants showed unique dual-selective inhibition at 500 nM for HDAC1 and HDAC6 over HDAC3. Surprisingly, the C7-SAHA anthracenylmethyl compound **22f** was unable to inhibit when tested at 10 nM concentration near to the Hela cell lysate  $IC_{50}$  value (20 nM). After several screening, we found that the anthracenylmethyl variant **22f** inhibited 50% at 500 nM against HDAC1 and HDAC6. The biphenylmethyl **22e** and anthracenylmethyl **22f** variants might display more selective inhibition for other HDAC proteins, such as HDAC2, HDAC4, HDAC5, HDAC7, HDAC8, and HDAC10 due to the fact that showed inhibition at 25-time higher concentration (100 nM and 500 nM) against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 than their Hela cell lysate  $IC_{50}$  values (4 nM and 20 nM).

With the potential of chemotherapeutic use of selective HDAC inhibitors, several class-selective and isoform-selective HDAC inhibitors have been studied. Most of selective HDAC inhibitors displayed preference for HDAC1 or HDAC8



against HDAC3.<sup>17b, 20, 38b, 57-58</sup> For example, compounds **27a** and **27b**, which have two-

aromatic group, showed

**Figure 4.3**. HDAC inhibitors modified at the linker regions with two parallel aligned aromatic groups

preference for HDAC8 (Figure 4.3).<sup>38b</sup> Nevertheless, the C7-SAHA naphthylmethyl analogue **22c** and tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl analogue **22g**  containing similar structures to the compounds **27a** and **27b** display unique HDAC3 selectivity. Two parallel aligned aromatic group subsitutuents on the linker region may influence selectivity due to the presence of favorable π-π interactions with particular HDAC active site. Additionally, a dual-selective HDAC1 and HDAC6 inhibitor (pyridyl **22d** and anthracene **22f**) might promote design of drugs. Therefore, studying the C7-SAHA analogues, which displayed HDAC3 selective inhibition (the naphthylmethyl **22c** and tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl **22g**) and dual-HDAC1 and HDAC6 selective inhibition (the pyridylmethyl **22d** and anthracenylmethyl **22f** variants), might be a great starting point to develop a variety of dual or isoform-selective HDAC inhibitors.

To more thoroughly assess the selectivity observed in the initial screen, we determined individual HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6  $IC_{50}$  values of the anthracene variant **22f**, and SAHA as a comparison. Pathological cardiac remodeling studies have been reported using selective HDAC inhibitors (Section

1.9). Specifically, development of dual-selective inhibitors has been an attractive target in pharmacokinetic study due to the hypothesis by that cancer formation is more complex than related to only single isoform HDAC protein. However, a lack of information on dual-selective HDAC inhibitors is a current challenge. For promising chemotherapeutic use, the anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** among C7-SAHA analogues, which displayed dual-selective inhibition for HDAC1 and HDAC6, was analyzed by using the Fluor de Lys® kit (Enzo). The C7 anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** displayed 4-fold selectivity for HDAC1 over HDAC3 and 3-fold class selectivity for HDAC6 over HDAC3 (Table 4.3). In addition, it displayed selectivity within class I, with 4-fold preference for HDAC1 over HDAC3. As a control, SAHA displayed non-selective inhibitor activity against the isoform, as expected (Table  $4.3$ ).<sup>30</sup> The selectivity analysis shows that substituents on the C7 position can influence selectivity. As a comparison, the C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue (dual-HDAC1 and HDAC6 selective inhibitor, IC<sub>50</sub> value of 1.9 µM) displayed 22-fold less potency compared to SAHA (86 nM) while the C7-SAHA anthracene analogue **22f** (20 nM) showed 4-fold better potency compared to SAHA. Therefore, the data indicate that attaching the anthracene substituent on the linker chain on the C7 position promotes selectivity with potency.

<b>HUAGS, AND HUAGO</b>				
Compound	$IC_{50}/nM$			
	HDAC1	HDAC3	HDAC6	
<b>SAHA</b>	$96 \pm 16$	$136 \pm 11$	$74 \pm 9$	
22f	$300 \pm 66$	$1200 \pm 50$	$443 \pm 73$	

**Table 4.3**. IC<sub>50</sub> values of SAHA and the C7-SAHA anthracene 22f for HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6

SAHA analogues with substituents on the C7 position displayed selective inhibition, including dual-class I, II selectivity (pyridyl **22d** and anthracene **22f** variants) and isoform selectivity for HDAC3 (naphthyl **22c** and tetrahydroanthracne **22g** variants) and HDAC6 (biphenyl variant **22e**). The results reveal that small structural changes in the C7 position linker region of SAHA will lead in designing drugs by improving selectivity and potency compared to the broad-spectrum inhibitor SAHA. Furthermore, studying selective inhibitor structures in detail will be able to be explored through our selective compound analysis in a variety of scope.

## **4.6 Future direction**

We have synthesized and analyzed SAHA analogues that placed a variety of substituents in the carbon linker. The results from the C3, C6, and C7 library suggest that SAHA analogues with substituents on the carbon linker are promising to develop new anti-cancer drugs. To more systematically assess the structural effect in HDAC active site, more analogues positioning subsituetns at the C4, and C5



**Figure 4.4**. Structures of SAHA analogues containing substituents on the

positions should be synthesized

(Figure 4.4). In addition, analysis of isoform selectivity of the C3-SAHA analogues suggests that substituents on the SAHA linker influence selectivity. We have shown that the C4 and C5

steric environment of the C6 position displays less influences on potency compared to SAHA analogues with substituents near the hydroxamic acid. However, substituents at α-carbon on C6 position still decreased inhibitory activity. Interestingly, despite the poor potency of the C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue, it displayed selectivity. Likewise, the C3-SAHA ethyl analogue with an additional methylene group at the α–carbon compared to the C3-SAHA methyl analogue displayed selective inhibition (HDAC6 selectivity). The effect of the  $\alpha$ -carbon on C6 substituents could be thoroughly investigated with the synthesis of isopropyl and adamantyl group analogues. Besides, the long chain of the 2-ethyl hexyl SAHA analogues on the C6 position also affected isoform selectivity (HDAC3 selectivity) with potency. Favourable interactions of the long aliphatic chain in HDAC active site could be verified through synthesis of C6-SAHA octyl to undecyl analogues. Furthermore, C7-SAHA analogues show potent inhibition with large and polar group substituents. The influence of the enantiomers with bulky or polar groups near the capping group would allow assessing the structural requirements of the compounds in detail. Therefore, screening the enantiomers of all SAHA analogues might show promising properties. Moreover, testing the inhibitory activities against all HDAC proteins, from HDAC1 to HDAC11, will provide the structures of selective inhibitors. Developing new costeffective, high through-put screening methods are needed to test selectivity against all HDAC1-11. Therefore, the biological evaluation of the current compound enantiomers, the additional synthesis of different structural compounds, and the development of easy-access high through-put assay will contribute to develop promising cancer drugs.

## **4.7 Experimental**

## **4.7.1 General methods**

Additional details were shown in Section 2.5.1 of Chapter 2.

## **4.7.2 Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterizations**



**1, 1-Dibenzyl 6-methyl hexane-1, 1, 6-tricarboxylate (24).** To a solution of NaH (144 mg, 6 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added dibenzylmalonate (1.14 mL, 6 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. To the solution was added methyl 6-bromohexanoate **23** (0.57 g, 2 mmol) and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was filtered through celite with ethyl acetate and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether: petroleum ether 1:19) on silica gel to give **24** (682 mg, 81%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.31 (m, 4H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.94 (q, 2H), 2.26 (t, 2H), 3.43 (t, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 5.14 (s, 4H), 7.31 (m, 10H);  $^{13}$ C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.8, 27.1, 28.8, 28.9, 34.1, 51.7, 52.1, 67.3, 128.4, 128.6, 128.8, 135.6, 169.4, 174.3; IR: 3033, 2949, 2862, 1734, 1498, 1456, 1333, 1214,

1156, 907, 741, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m*/z): found [M+Na] 435.1767, calc. for  $C_{24}H_{28}O_6$ , 435.1784.



**6, 6-Dibenzyl 1-methyl 7-(pyridine-4-yl)heptane-1, 6, 6-tricarboxylate (25).** To a solution of NaH (256 mg, 6.4 mmol) in DMF (53 mL) was added 1, 1-dibenzyl 6-methyl hexane-1, 1, 6-tricarboxylate **24** (2.20 g, 5.33 mmol) dropwise at 0 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. Separately, 1.5 equivalents of 4-bromomethylpyridine hydrobromide salt (2.02 g, 8.00 mmol) was dissolved in distilled water (8 mL) and added to a separatory funnel, followed by 0.7 equivalent of  $Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>$  (396 mg, 3.74 mmol). After the separatory funnel was shaken until gas evolution was not observed, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (8 mL) at least 4 times. The organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated by rotary evaporation. To the flask containing the activated dibenzyl malonate derivatives solution **24** was added the solution of the neutralized and concentrated 4-bromo-methylpyridine and the mixture was stirred for 4h at 0 ºC. The reaction was quenched with distilled water (26.5 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (equal volume to aqueous layer). The organic layer was pooled and extracted with distilled water (equal volume to organic layer) at least 4 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated to oil. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ethyl

acetate:hexanes 1:3) on silica gel to give **25** (1.61 g, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.21 (m, 4H), 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.75 (t, 2H), 2.20 (t, 2H), 3.19 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 5.08 (s, 4H), 6.82 (d, 1H), 6.91 (d, 1H), 7.24-7.31 (m, 7H), 8.35 (d, 1H), 8.36 (d, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.1, 24.8, 29.3, 32.3, 34.0, 37.8, 51.7, 58.7, 67.5, 125.3, 128.765, 128.787, 128.816, 135.3, 145.3, 149.9, 170.6, 174.1; IR: 3032, 2951, 1731, 1601, 1455, 1218, 1170, 912, 733, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 504.2387, calc. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>, 504.2386.



**Benzyl 6-bromohexanoate (16).** Benzyl alcohol (0.07 mL, 0.68 mmol) and concentrated aqueous sulfuric acid (3 µL, 0.056 mmol) were stepwise added to a solution of 6-bromohexanoic acid **15** (0.11 g, 0.56 mmol) in diethyl ether (5 mL) at 0ºC. The mixture was stirred for 30min and warmed to room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with distilled water (5 mL). The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (5 mL) at least 4 times. The organic layer was evaporated. The concentrated organic layer was extracted with distilled water (equal volume to the concentrated organic layer) at least 3 times. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether:petroleum ether 1:19) on silica gel to give **16** (153 mg, 95%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.47

(m, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.86 (m, 2H), 2.38 (t, 2H), 3.38 (t, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 7.36 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.3, 27.9, 32.6, 33.7, 34.3, 66.4, 128.5, 128.8, 136.3, 173.5; IR: 3033, 2939, 1733, 1455, 1254, 1165, 736, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/*z): found [M+Na] 307.0314, calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaBr, 307.0310.



**6-Benzyl 1,1-di-***tert***-butyl hexane-1,1,6-tricarboxylate (17).** To a solution of NaH (589 mg, 14.7 mmol) in DMF (49 mL) was added di-*t*-butylmalonate (3.30 mL, 14.7 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. To the solution was added benzyl 6-bromohexanoate **16** (1.4 g, 4.91 mmol) at 0 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The mixture was filtered through celite with ethyl acetate and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether:petroleum ether 1:19) on silica gel to give **17** (2.04 g, 99%).<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.34 (m, 4H), 1.45 (s, 18H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.79 (q, 2H), 2.34 (t, 2H), 3.10 (t, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 7.35 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.9, 27.1, 28.2, 28.6, 29.0, 34.4, 54.1, 66.3, 81.5, 128.4, 128.8, 135.6, 169.1, 173.7; IR: 3033, 2979, 2935, 2861, 1729, 1498, 1369, 1256, 1169, 1139, 748 cm<sup>-1</sup>; found MS(ESI): m/z = 427.30  $(M^+ + Li)$ , 443.30  $(M^+ + Na)$ , 459.27  $(M^+ + K)$ , calc. for  $C_{24}H_{36}LiO_6$ , 427.48,  $C_{24}H_{36}NaO_6$ , 443.53,  $C_{24}H_{36}KO_6$ , 459.64.



**1-Benzyl 6,6-di-tert-butyl 7-(pyridine-4-yl)heptane-1,6,6-tricaboxylate (18d).** To NaH (171 mg, 4.28 mmol) and 4-bromo-methylpyridine hydrobromide salt (1.0 g, 4.28 mmol) was added DMF (16 mL) dropwise at 0  $^{\circ}$ C and the mixture was stirred for 20min. Separately, to NaH (171 mg, 4.28 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added 6**-**benzyl 1,1-di-*tert*-butyl hexane-1,1,6-tricarboxylate **17** (1.5 g, 3.57 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 20 min. To the solution of the activated 6**-**benzyl 1,1-di-*tert*-butyl hexane-1,1,6-tricarboxylate **17** was added the solution of the neutralized 4-bromo-methylpyridine dropwise at 0 ºC and the mixture was stirred for 3h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through celite with ethyl acetate and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (diethyl ether:petroleum ether 1:5) on silica gel to give **18d** (513 mg, 55%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.29 (m, 4H), 1.43 (s, 18H), 1.65 (m, 4H), 2.34 (t, 2H), 3.12 (s, 2H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 7.07 (d, 2H), 7.34 (m, 5H), 8.47 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 24.0, 24.9, 28.1, 29.5, 32.2, 34.4, 37.4, 59.1, 66.4, 82.0, 125.6, 128.4, 128.8, 136.2, 146.3, 149.7, 170.3, 173.6; IR: 3036, 2976, 2935, 2867, 1727, 1605, 1248, 1159, 846, 737, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 512.3016, calc. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>42</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>, 512.3012.



**Benzyl 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-7-(pyridine-4-ylmethyl)octanoate (20d).** To a flask equipped with a reflux condenser and containing 1-benzyl 6,6-di-tert-butyl 7-(pyridine-4-yl)heptane-1,6,6-tricaboxylate **18d** (510 mg, 997 mmol) was added 10 mL of 10% TFA in acetic acid. The reaction mixture was refluxed overnight and evaporated to oil. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (10 mL) and transferred to a separatory funnel. The solution was extracted with saturated NaHCO $_{3(40)}$  (equal volume to organic layer) at least 4 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and evaporated. The crude residue was dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL). To the solution of crude carboxylic acid derivative was added individually in order listed in a stepwise: TBTU (480 mg), diisopropylethylamine (695 mL), and aniline (136 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction was quenched by addition of an aqueous solution of saturated NaHCO $_3$  (10 mL). The mixture was extracted with  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  (equal volume to aqueous layer) at least 4 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated to an oil. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ether:petroleum ether 1:1) on silica gel to give **20d** (572 mg, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 1.34 (m, 4H), 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.79 (m, 1H), 2.33 (t, 2H), 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.69 (q, 1H), 3.02 (q, 1H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 7.09 (m, 3H), 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.38 (d, 2H), 7.89 (m, 1H), 8.40 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-
D): 24.8, 27.1, 29.0, 33.1, 34.3, 38.6, 49.9, 66.4, 120.4, 124.7, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.8, 129.2, 136.2, 137.9, 149.4, 149.8, 173.0, 173.9; IR: 3304, 3221, 3035, 2931, 2858, 1734, 1602, 1443, 1173, 912, 752, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (EI-TOF,  $m/z$ ): found [M+H] 431.2331, calc. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 431.2335.



*N* **8 -hydroxy-***N* **1 -phenyl-2-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)octanediamide (22d).** To a solution of NH<sub>2</sub>OH⋅HCl (536 mg, 7.67 mmol) in methanol (8 mL) was added KOH (860 mg, 15.3 mmol) at 0 ˚C in an acid-washed 25mL round-bottom flask. After stirring for 20 min, benzyl 8-oxo-8-(phenylamino)-7-(pyridine-4 ylmethyl)octanoate **20d** (330 mg, 0.767 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 8h at 0°C. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding 1mL of distilled water and adjusting to pH 6 by adding concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid. The mixture was diluted with 8 mL of ethyl acetate, and extracted with distilled water (equal volume to organic layer) at least 4 times. The organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (8% methanol/ $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  with 0.1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) on acid-washed silica gel to give **22d** (116 mg, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, ppm, METHANOL-D): 1.39 (m, 4H), 1.60 (m, 3H), 1.77 (m, 1H), 2.08 (t, 2H), 2.86 (m, 2H), 2.93-3.00 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t, 1H), 7.25 (t, 2H), 7.43 (d, 2H), 7.50 (d, 2H), 8.48 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, ppm, CHLOROFORM-D): 25.4, 26.9, 28.8, 32.4, 32.8, 38.4, 120.3, 124.3, 125.8, 128.6, 138.1, 146.7, 153.8, 171.7, 174.1; IR: 3440, 3335,

2866, 1720, 1641, 1528, 1442, 1133, 759, 660 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI-TOF, *m/z*): found [M+H] 356.1966, calc. for  $C_{20}H_{26}N_3O_3$ , 356.1974. HPLC analytical purity analysis: 90%.

# **4.8 HDAC assay procedure**

HDAC activity was measured using the Fluor de Lys® activity assay (Biomol & Enzo) using the manufacturer's protocol. Additional details were shown in Section 3.6 of Chapter 3.



## **APPENDIX A. DOSE RESPONSE GRAPHS AND DATA FOR C3-SAHA LIBRARY**

**Figure A.1.** Dose response curve of C3-SAHA analogue **1a**-**e** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 2.1.

Concentration (M)	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	S.E
$3.125 \times 10^{-5}$	83	85		83	
$6.25 \times 10^{-5}$	72	69	73		
$1.25 \times 10^{-4}$	54	54		53	
$2.50 \times 10^{-4}$	17	46	46	46	
$5.00 \times 10^{-4}$		35	34	33	
$1.00 \times 10^{-4}$	19	つつ			

**Table A.1 Inhibition of HDAC Activity of SAHA C3-Butyl with Hela Lysate**







# **Table A.3 Inhibition of HDAC Activity of C3-SAHA Ethyl with Hela Lysate**



# **Table A.4 Inhibition of HDAC Activity of SAHA C3-Vinyl with Hela Lysate**



# **Table A.5 Inhibition of HDAC Activity of C3-SAHA Methyl with Hela Lysate**





# **Table A.6 Isoform Selective HDAC Inhibition of SAHA C3 Analogues**

Deacetylase activity of HDAC1, HDAC3 and HDAC6 was determined with SAHA and with SAHA C3 analogs at given concentration using an in vitro fluorescence assay as described. The background fluorescence activity (No enzyme added) was subtracted and the percentage deacetylase activity was calculated with compared to the No small molecule treated (100%). Percentage deacetylase activity of each independent trial, mean percentage deacetylase activity and standard error (S.E) are shown.



**Figure A.2.** Dose response curves of SAHA tested against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some cases, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. The data is reported in the manuscript in Table 2.2.



**Figure A.3.** Dose response curves of the C3- SAHA ethyl analogue **1c** tested against HDAC1, HDAC3, and HDAC6 from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some cases, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. The data is reported in the manuscript in Table 2.2.

# **Table A.7 Inhibition of HDAC1 Activity by SAHA**



# **Table A.8 Inhibition of HDAC3 Activity by SAHA**





# **Table A.9 Inhibition of HDAC6 Activity by SAHA**

# **Table A.10 Inhibition of HDAC1 Activity by SAHA C3-Ethyl**



# **Table A.11 Inhibition of HDAC3 Activity by SAHA C3-Ethyl**



# **Table A.12 Inhibition of HDAC6 Activity by SAHA C3-Ethyl**



# **APPENDIX B. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR C3-SAHA LIBRARY**



**B.1** 5-Hydroxy-*N*-phenylpentanamide (**3**) **B.1.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR





 $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$ 



## **B.1.4** HRMS

**Elemental Composition Report** 

Single Mass Analysis (displaying only valid results)<br>Tolerance = 4.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>Sisotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons<br>72 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



### **B.2** 6-Oxo-6-(phenylamino)hexanal (**4**) **B.2.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



#### Page 1



Auto (2 mm/sec)<br>Auto (30000 Hz)

Filter

 $5e$ <br>B  $-67$ <br>B  $-67$ <br>B  $-67$ <br>B  $-67$ <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>

**B.2.3 IR** 



### **B.2.4** HRMS





**B.3** 8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-oct-2-enoate (**5**)

# **B.3.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (E)



**B.3.2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (**Z**)











# **B.4** 8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-*n*-butyloctanoate (**6a**)

# **B.4.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



113







Resolution

Zero Filling

Apodization<br>Gain Aperture Scanning Speed Filter

4 cm-1

Cosine<br>Auto (4)<br>Auto (7.1 mm)<br>Auto (2 mm/sec)<br>Auto (30000 Hz)

On

### **B.4.4** HRMS

### **Elemental Composition Report**

### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance =  $5.0$  mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max =  $50.0$ Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons<br>228 formula(e) evaluated with 5 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



**B.5** 8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-phenyloctanoate (**6b**) **B.5.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR





QC\_Compare-6889.jws



### **B.5.4** HRMS







Page 1

**B.6.2**<sup>13</sup>C NMR



QC\_Compare-926.jws



March 07/2008<br>Est la Come

### **B.6.4** HRMS

#### **Elemental Composition Report**

#### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance =  $5.0 \text{ mDa}$  / DBE: min = -1.5, max =  $50.0 \text{ m}$ Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons

238 formula(e) evaluated with 6 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)







Page 1

**B.7.2**<sup>13</sup>C NMR



3884.9

3970.71

103.791

104.282

38

3926.36

104.182

39

3950.46

104.797



QC\_Compare-4039.jws

### **B.7.4** HRMS

#### **Elemental Composition Report**

#### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0 Element prediction: Off Number of isotope peaks used for  $i$ -FIT = 3

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Page 1

N3 05 N 03 23Na

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons 266 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass) Elements Used: C: 0-500 H: 0-1000 N: 0-4 O: 0-6 23Na: 0-1 0. 0-300 TH. 0-1000 TV. 0-4 0. 0-6 231Va. 0-1<br>Phum-Sun Choi Sep0408-C3-vinylester mw289 LCT0133 1uL meoh<br>Shay 2008-07b.pro<br>2008\_0909\_0133\_01 14 (0.300) Cm (11:17-(1:8+22:33)x1.200) LCT Premier 09-Sep-2008 13:45:10 1: TOF MS ES+ 2.65e+004 312.1564  $M\mu^{0}$  $100 -$ % 313.1608 251.1263<sup>290.1779</sup> 223.0956 389.2791 407.1991 535.2779 601.3251 617.4836 172.0951 505.2515 0  $_\top$  m/z  $100$ 150 250 300 350 500 550 600 650 200 400 450 Minimum:  $-1.5$ Maximum:  $5.0$  $5.0$  $50.0$ Mass Calc. Mass mDa PPM DBE  $i$  –  ${\rm FIT}$ i-FIT (Norm) Formula



### **B.8** 8-Oxo-8-(phenylamino)-3-methyloctanoate (**6e**) **B.8.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



**B.8.2**<sup>13</sup>C NMR



# **B.8.1** HRMS

### **Elemental Composition Report**

### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance = 5.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons<br>225 formula(e) evaluated with 5 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



**B.9** 3-*n*-Butyl-*N* 1 -hydroxyl-*N* 8 -phenyloctanoic acid (**7**) **B.9.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR





**B.9.3** IR



### **B.9.4** HRMS

#### **Elemental Composition Report**

### Single Mass Analysis (displaying only valid results)

Tolerance = 4.0 mDa  $\int$  DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0 Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron Ions 52 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



Page 1



**B.10** 3-n-Butyl-N<sup>1</sup>-benzyloxy-N<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctanediamide (8) **B.10.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR




## **B.10.4** HRMS

#### **Elemental Composition Report**

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 5.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>Tolerance = 5.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons<br>329 formula(e) evaluated with 7 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



**B.11** 3-*n*-Butyl-*N* 1 -hydroxyl-*N* 8 -phenyloctandiamide (**1a**) **B.11.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



Page 1

**B.11.2**<sup>13</sup>C NMR





### **B.11.4** HRMS

#### Single Mass Analysis (displaying only valid results) Tolerance = 4.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max =  $50.0$ Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons 41 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)





**B.12** 3-Phenyl-N<sup>1</sup>-hydroxyl-N<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctandiamide (1b)

# **B.12.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR











## **B.12.4** HRMS

**Elemental Composition Report** 

#### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance =  $5.0 \text{ mDa}$  / DBE: min = -1.5, max =  $50.0 \text{ m}$ Isotope cluster parameters: Separation =  $1.0$  Abundance =  $1.0\%$ 

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron lons

330 formula(e) evaluated with 7 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)



## **B.12.5** HPLC



Page 1

**B.13** 3-Ethyl-*N* 1 -hydroxyl-*N* 8 -phenyloctandiamide (**1c**)













 $\sim$  1/

## **B.13.4** HRMS

#### **Single Mass Analysis**

Tolerance = 6.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0 Element prediction: Off Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons 348 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 closest results for each mass) Elements Used: C: 0-500 H: 0-1000 N: 0-4 O: 0-10 Na: 0-1 0. 0-300 H. 0-1000 H. 0-4 U. 0-10 Na. 0-1<br>pflum; sun choi Apr1808C3ethylhydroxylamine mw292 LCT0001 10pg/ul meoh 10ul full 150ul/min meoh<br>LCT Premier LeuEnk 100pg/ul<br>2008-0507-0001-31 21 (0.477) Cm (19:25-1:13x2.000)



2::0::5 07-May-2008<br>-1: TOF MS ES

## **B.13.5** HPLC



**B.14** 3-Vinyl-N<sup>1</sup>-hydroxyl-N<sup>8</sup>-phenyloctandiamide (1**d**)

**B.14.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



 $\bar{\beta}$ 



## **B.14.4** HRMS

**Single Mass Analysis**<br>Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>Element prediction: Off Number of isotope peaks used for  $i$ -FIT = 3



Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons 352 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass) Elements Used: Elements Used:<br>C: 0-50 H: 0-50 N: 0-5 O: 0-7 Na: 0-1<br>Sun Choi L: Jan 30 09-C3-vinylhydroxamic PG37 \*<br>Lew 2008-07b.pro<br>2009\_0202\_0297 15 (0.318) Cm (12:17-(1:9+29:36)x2.000)





### **B.14.5** HPLC

**B.15** 3-Methyl- $N^1$ -hydroxyl- $N^8$ -phenyloctandiamide (1e)

# **B.15.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



**B.15.3 IR** 



## **B.15.4** HRMS



## **B.15.5** HPLC



## **APPENDIX C. DOSE RESPONSE GRAPHS AND DATA FOR C6-SAHA LIBRARY**

Table G.T. Percentage HDAG activity arter incubation of SAHA With Held LySate								
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard			
(M)					Error $(S.E.)$			
$3.125 \times 10^{-8}$	75	75	<b>ND</b>	75				
6.25 $\times$ 10 <sup>-8</sup>	63	56	51	57				
$1.25 \times 10^{-7}$	44	35	40	40				
$2.5 \times 10^{-7}$	31	21	26	26				
$5.0 \times 10^{-7}$	20	16	15	17				

**Table C.1.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of SAHA with Hela Lysate





**Figure C.1.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.

Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	<b>Standard Error</b>
				'S.E.
58	59	58	58	0.3
44		49	47	
32	35	33	33	
27	27	26	27	0.3
	12			

**Table C.2.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of MS-275 with Hela Lysate



**Figure C.2.** Dose response curve of MS-275 tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. In some cases, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.

IC<sub>50</sub> Curve of MS-275





### IC50 Curve of C6-Methyl Analogue



**Figure C.3.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA methyl analogue **14a** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.







**Figure C.4.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA phenyl analogue **14b** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.

**Table C.5.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c** with Hela Lysate

Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
(M)					(S.E.)	
$1.11 \times 10^{-7}$	94	99	114	102		
$3.33 \times 10^{-7}$	65	87	103	85		
$1.0 \times 10^{-6}$	55	58		61		
$3.0 \times 10^{-6}$	40	37		39		
$9.0 \times 10^{-6}$	28			つつ		

### IC50 Curve of C6-t-Butyl Analogue



**Figure C.5.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.

**Table C.6.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of C6-SAHA 2-ethylhexyl analogue **14d** with Hela Lysate

Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard	
(M)					(S.E.	
$\sqrt{1.11} \times 10^{-7}$	93	69		80		
$3.33 \times 10^{-7}$	62	54	55	57		
$1.0 \times 10^{-6}$	42	22	38	34		
$3.0 \times 10^{-6}$	12		13			
$9.0 \times 10^{-6}$				27		



**Figure C.6.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA 2-ethylhexyl analogue **14d** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.1.

Compound	<b>HDAC</b> Isoform	Trial 1	Trial 2	Mean	S.E.
	HDAC1	30	35	32	$\overline{2}$
<b>SAHA</b> (125 nM)	HDAC3	44	45	44	1
	HDAC6	32	36	34	$\overline{2}$
	HDAC1	35	42	38	3
C6-Methyl (500 nM)	HDAC3	32	33	32	0.5
	HDAC6	61	58	59	1
	HDAC1	57	56	56	0.5
C6-Phenyl (500 nM)	HDAC3	68	67	67	0.5
	HDAC6	61	58	59	
	HDAC1	44	46	45	1
C6-t-Butyl	HDAC3	79	82	80	1
$(2 \mu M)$	HDAC6	56	55	55	0.5
	HDAC1	77	73	75	$\overline{2}$
C6-2-Ethylhexyl	HDAC3	51	54	52	1
(500 nM)	HDAC6	91	95	93	$\overline{2}$
	HDAC1	42	48	45	3
C6-Isopropyl	HDAC3	50	51	51	1
$(\mu M)$	HDAC6	24	27	26	$\overline{2}$

**Table C.7.** Deacetylase activity percentage remaining after incubation of HDAC1, HDAC3, or HDAC6 with SAHA or the C6-SAHA analogues **14a-e**.

Deacetylase activity of HDAC1, HDAC3 and HDAC6 was determined with SAHA and with C6-SAHA analogues at given concentration using an in vitro fluorescence assay as described (Section 3.6). The fluorescence activity of background (No enzyme added) was subtracted from the no small molecule treated (positive control) and the percentage of the deacetylase activity was set to 100%. Deacetylase activity percentage of each independent trial, mean percentage of deacetylase activity, and standard error (S.E.) are illustrated. The data are reported in the manuscript in Figure 3.2.

Trial 1	Trial - 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
				S.E.	
68		82	80		
55	62	57	58		
48	27	37	-37		
37		25	34		

**Table C.8.** HDAC1 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.



HDAC1 IC50 Curve of SAHA

**Figure C.7.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC1 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
'M)					(S.E.	
$3.125 \times 10^{-8}$	88	78	74	80		
6.25 $\times$ 10 <sup>-8</sup>	76	74		73		
$1.25 \times 10^{-7}$	63	45	44	56		
$2.50 \times 10^{-7}$	27	39	37	34		

**Table C.9.** HDAC3 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.



HDAC3 IC<sub>50</sub> Curve of SAHA

**Figure C.8.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC3 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

Trial 1	Trial - 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
				(S.E.	
66	76	73	79		
64	62	60	62		
37	28	32	32		
	ィつ				

**Table C.10.** HDAC6 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.



HDAC6 IC50 Curve of SAHA

**Figure C.9.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC6 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

$1.1010$ $1.000$ $1.000$						
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
(M)					(S.E.	
$2.50 \times 10^{-7}$	102		82	92		
$5.00 \times 10^{-7}$	86	85	80	84		
$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	68		35	49		
$3.125 \times 10^{-5}$						

**Table C.11.** HDAC1 activity percentage after incubation of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c**.



HDAC1 IC50 Curve of C64-Butyl Analogue

**Figure C.10.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c** tested using the HDAC1 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

andivyuu 170.					
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard
(M)					(S.E.
$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	87	85		84	
$4.00 \times 10^{-6}$	76	63	52	64	
$1.5625 \times 10^{-5}$	21	20	13	18	
$3.125 \times 10^{-5}$					

**Table C.12.** HDAC3 activity percentage after incubation of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c**.



HDAC3 IC50 Curve of C6-t-Butyl Analogue

**Figure C.11.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c** tested using the HDAC3 activity from three independent trials. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

$0.100990$ $170.$					
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard
(M)					(S.E.)
$5.00 \times 10^{-7}$	98	90	88	92	
$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	89	82	86	85	
$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$	48	35	48	44	
$4.00 \times 10^{-6}$	45	29	45	40	

**Table C.13.** HDAC6 activity percentage after incubation of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c**.



HDAC6 IC50 Curve of C6-t-BUtyl Analogue

**Figure C.12.** Dose response curve of C6-SAHA *t*-butyl analogue **14c** tested using the HDAC6 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 3.2.

## **APPENDIX D. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR C6-SAHA LIBRARY**

**D.1** Methyl 6-hydroxyhexanoate (**9**)

**D.1.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR







QC\_Compare-4860.jws



## **D.1.4 HRMS**

**Elemental Composition Report** Page 1 Single Mass Analysis<br>
NTolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>
Element prediction: Off<br>
TNumber of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3 سستسنيه  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>31 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)<br>Elements Used:<br> $C: 0.500, \pm 1.1$ <br> $C: 0.500, \pm 1.1$ <br> $C: 0.500, \pm 1.1$ <br> $C: 0.500, \pm 1.$ LCT Premier 18-Aug-2008 15:04:26<br>+TCF MS ES:<br>003+003 169.0840  $100 -$ % 170.0888 183.0798 187.0969 m/z 0 104.5694106.9278 123.8915 133.2541 140.9966 153.1449 164.9216  $120.0$ 110.0 130.0  $140.0$ 180.0  $190.0$ 150.0 160.0 170.0 Minimum:  $-1.5$ Maximum:  $5.0$  $5.0$  $50.0$ Mass Calc. Mass  $mDa$ PPM DBE  $i$ -FIT i-FIT (Norm) Formula 169,0840 169.0841  $-0.1$  $-0.6$  $0.5$  $52.3$ C7 H14 O3 23Na  $0.0$ 

**D.2** 1-Benzyl 8-methyl oct-2-enedioate (**11**)

# **D.2.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR







 $D.2.3$  IR

QC\_Compare-13597.jws



## **D.2.4** HRMS



**D.3** 1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-methyloctanedioate (**12a**)

# **D.3.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR




**D.4** 1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-(*tert*-butyl)octanedioate (**12c**)

**D.4.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR







# **D.4.4** LRMS [M+Li]



**D.5** 1-Benzyl 8-methyl 3-(2-ethylhexyl)octanedioate (**12d**) **D.5.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR





QC Compare-7568.jws









Var MR-400 NNMR spectro  $...$ 







**D.6.4 HRMS**<br>Single Mass Analysis<br>Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 150.0<br>Element prediction: Off<br>Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 6

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>845 formula(e) evaluated with 4 results within limits (up to 50 closest results for each mass) C: 0-100 H: 0-1000 N: 0-10 O: 0-10 23Na: 0-1

SUN CHOI<br>LCT2008-07b.pro 2010-clf.spl

2011\_0822\_2184 14 (0.283) Cm (11:19-1:8x2.000)

22-Aug-2011LCT Premier10:11:10<br>+TOF MS ES:<br>2.58e+004 343.1883 Minimum:<br>Maximum:  $\frac{-1.5}{150.0}$  $50.0$  $5.0$ **Mass** Calc. Mass  $\rm mDa$ PPM DBE  $i$ -FIT i-FIT (Norm) Formula  $9.5$ <br> $5.5$ <br> $4.5$ <br> $10.5$  $60.4$ <br> $60.4$ <br> $63.1$ <br> $58.5$  $0.3$ <br>-0.6<br>4.1<br>-4.7 C17 H23 N6 O2<br>C19 H28 O4 23Na<br>C16 H27 N2 O6<br>C20 H24 N4 23Na 343.1883 343.1882  $\mathbf{0.1}$  $2.1$  $-0.2$ <br>1.4<br>-1.6 343.1885<br>343.1869  $\frac{2 \cdot 2}{4 \cdot 8}$ 

















**D.8.2** <sup>13</sup>C NMR





**D.9** Methyl 8-ethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)dodecanoate (**13d**) **D.9.1**<sup>1</sup>H NMR

T0)





QC Compare-7572.jws











QC\_Compare-13464.jws



**D.10.4 HRMS**<br>
Single Mass Analysis<br>
Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 150.0<br>
Element prediction: Off<br>
Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 6

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>845 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (up to 50 closest results for each mass)<br>Elements Used:<br>0: 0-100 H: 0-1000 N: 0-10 O: 0-15 23Na: 0-1<br>5UN, CHOI Sept 27 11-C5-Isopr



## **D.11** *N* 8 -Hydroxyl-3-methyl-*N* 1 -phenyloctanediamide (**14a**) **D.11.1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR

V.

g,



27-Sep-2011LCT Premier14:56:56



spectro



QC\_Compare-4147.jws





Mercury 400 spectrometer



Mercury 400 spectrometer







### **D.12.4** HRMS

**Elemental Composition Report Single Mass Analysis** Single mass Analysis<br>Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 200.0<br>
Silement prediction: Off<br>
Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3 Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>289 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)<br>Elements Used: Elements Used:<br>C: 0-40 H: 0-60 N: 0-4 O: 0-6 23Na: 0-1<br>CHOI SUN April 28 09-C6-Phenyl H.A. PG 64<br>2008-07b.pro<br>2009\_0429\_0399 11 (0.229) Cm (9:12-(1:4+31:36)x2.000) LCT Premier 29-Apr-2009 10:54:10<br>++TCF MS ES 2.35e+004 363.1697  $100 -$ % 364.1739 344.1886 349.2506 354.9975 357.2166 362.1726 372.2312 374.2355 365.1759 331.0014 335.2361 341.1877  $-m/z$ π  $375.0$ 370.0 335.0 355.0 360.0 365.0 330.0 340.0 345.0 350.0 Minimum:<br>Maximum:  $-1.5$  $5.0$  $5.0$  $200.0$ i-FIT (Norm) Formula DBE  $i$  -  $\texttt{FIT}$  $Mass$ Calc. Mass  $mDa$ PPM C20 H25 N2 03  $\leftarrow$  May 341.1865<br>341.1891  $27.0$ <br> $27.5$  $\frac{0.5}{1.0}$  $1.2 - 0.4$  $3.5 - 1.2$  $\frac{9.5}{10.5}$ 341.1877





Mercury 400 spectrometer

Page 1











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### **APPENDIX E. DOSE RESPONSE GRAPHS AND DATA FOR C7-SAHA LIBRARY**

<b>TADIC E.T.</b> FUCULUAL TIDAC ACTIVITY ALLET INCODATION OF SAFTA WILL FIELD LYSALE								
Concentration   Trial 1   Trial 2			Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error		
(M)					(S.E.)			
$3.125 \times 10^{-8}$	75	75	76	75				
$6.25 \times 10^{-8}$	63	56	51	57				
$1.25 \times 10^{-7}$	44	35	40	40				
$2.5 \times 10^{-7}$	31	21	26	26				
$5.0 \times 10^{-4}$	20	16	15					

**Table E.1.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of SAHA with Hela Lysate





**Figure E.1.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.1.

analogue <b>zzu</b> with riela Lysate									
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard				
(M)					(S.E.)				
$1.11 \times 10^{-7}$	70	70	86	75					
$3.33 \times 10^{-7}$	63	66	49	59					
$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	45	24	31	33					
$3.00 \times 10^{-6}$	18		18	14					
$9.00 \times 10^{-6}$		-2	24						

**Table E.2.** Percentage HDAC activity after incubation of C7-SAHA pyridyl analogue **22d** with Hela Lysate





**Figure E.2.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA pyridyl analogue **22d** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets are the results of the data analysis. The data were reported in Table 4.2.







**Figure E.3.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials. In some case, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.2.





# IC50 Curve of C7-Tetrahydroanthracene



**Figure E.4.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA tetrahydroanthracenylmethyl analogue **22g** tested using the HDAC activity from HeLa cells lysates from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bars are smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.2.
Compound	<b>HDAC</b> Isoform	Trial 1	Trial 2	Mean	S.E.
	HDAC1	30	35	32	$\overline{2}$
<b>SAHA</b> (125 nM)	HDAC3	44	45	44	$\overline{1}$
	HDAC6	32	36	34	$\overline{2}$
	HDAC1	38	52	45	$\overline{7}$
C7-Methyl (100 nM)	HDAC3	27	57	42	10
	HDAC6	21 35 28 87 76 66 54 71 88 55 66 60 44 56 68 101 97 92 62 55 59	$\overline{7}$		
	HDAC1				10
C7-Benzyl (100 nM)	HDAC3				11
	HDAC6	64 66 65 47 53 60 76 84 80 91 114 102 91 93 96 71 82 76 103 121 112 57 55 60 82 104 93 42 47 44 89 90 89 50 56 53		5	
	HDAC1				10
C7-Pyridyl	HDAC3				$\overline{4}$
(500 nM)	HDAC6				3
	HDAC1				$\mathbf{1}$
C7-Tetrahydro- anthracene	HDAC3				6
(100 nM)	HDAC6				$\overline{4}$
	HDAC1				10
C7-Biphenyl	HDAC <sub>3</sub>				$\overline{2}$
(100 nM)	HDAC6				5
	HDAC1				9
C7-Naphthyl (10 nM)	HDAC3				$\overline{2}$
	HDAC6				10
	HDAC1				$\overline{2}$
C7-Anthracene (500 nM)	HDAC3				$\overline{0}$
	HDAC6				3

**Table E.5.** Deacetylase activity percentage remaining after incubation of HDAC1, HDAC3, or HDAC6 with SAHA and the C7-SAHA analogues **22a-g**.

Deacetylase activity of HDAC1, HDAC3 and HDAC6 was determined with SAHA and with C7-SAHA analogues at given concentration using an in vitro fluorescence assay as described (Section 3.6). The fluorescence activity of background (No enzyme added) was subtracted from the no small molecule treated (positive control) and the percentage of the deacetylase activity was set to 100%. Deacetylase activity percentage of each independent trial, mean percentage of deacetylase activity, and standard error (S.E.) are illustrated. The data are reported in the manuscript in Figure 4.2.



**Table E.6.** HDAC1 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.





**Figure E.5.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC1 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.3.

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Concentration	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard			
'M'					S.E.			
$3.125 \times 10^{-8}$	88	78		80				
$6.25 \times 10^{-8}$	76			73				
$1.25 \times 10^{-7}$	63	45	44	56				
$2.50 \times 10^{-7}$		39	37	34				

**Table E.7.** HDAC3 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.

HDAC3 IC50 Curve of SAHA



**Figure E.6.** Dose response curve of SAHA tested using the HDAC3 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.3.

$1.4919$ and $1.107100$ abuttly porportingly anton modification of $0.61$ in the								
Concentration	Trial 1	Trial $\mathcal{P}$	Trial 3	Mean	Error Standard			
'M)					S.E.			
$3.125 \times 10^{-8}$	66	76	73	72				
6.25 x $10^{-8}$	64	62	60	62				
$1.25 \times 10^{-7}$	37	28	32	32				
$2.50 \times 10^{-7}$	13	ィつ						

**Table E.8.** HDAC6 activity percentage after incubation of SAHA.



HDAC6 IC<sub>50</sub> Curve of SAHA









HDAC1 IC50 Curve of C7-Anthracene Analogue

**Figure E.8.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** tested using the HDAC1 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data are reported in Table 4.3.







HDAC3 IC50 Curve of C7-Anthracene Analogue

**Figure E.9.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** tested using the HDAC3 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets are the results of the data analysis. The data were reported in Table 4.3.



Concentration	Trial 1	Trial -2	Trial 3	Mean	Standard	Error
(M					'S.E.	
$1.00 \times 10^{-7}$	85	84	63			
$3.00 \times 10^{-7}$	52	53	56	54		
$9.00 \times 10^{-7}$		36	44	39		

100  $y = 100/(1+(x/m3)^{n}m4)$ Value Error 4.4284e-7 7.3436e-8  $m<sub>3</sub>$ 0.74014 0.14047  $m4$ 80 Chisq 20.73 **NA** 0.98605  $\overline{R}$ **NA** Deacetylase Activity Percentage (%) 60 40  $20$  $\circ$  $10<sup>8</sup>$  $10<sup>8</sup>$  $10<sup>7</sup>$  $10<sup>5</sup>$ Anthracene Analogue Concentration (M)

HDAC6 IC50 Curve of C7-Anthracene Analogue

**Figure E.10.** Dose response curve of C7-SAHA anthracenylmethyl analogue **22f** tested using the HDAC6 activity from three independent trials with error bars indicating standard error. In some case, the error bar is smaller than the marker size. Data were fit to the sigmoidal curve using Kaleidograph 4.0 (Synergy Software) to determine the  $IC_{50}$ . The insets were the results of the data analysis. The data were reported in Table 4.3.

## **APPENDIX F. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR C7-SAHA LIBRARY**

**F.1**. 1,1-Dibenzyl 6-methyl hexane-1, 1, 6-tricarboxylate (**24**). **F.1.1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR

















### **F.2.4**. HRMS

**Elemental Composition Report** Single Mass Analysis<br>Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>;lement prediction: Off -Number of isotope peaks used for  $i$ -FIT = 3 Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>426 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)<br>Elements Used:<br><u>C: 0-500 H:</u> 0-1000 N: 0-4 O: 0-6 23Na: 0-1<br>Renor-Stay 2008-07b: pr LCT Premier 20-Oct-2008 3::0::8<br>1: TOF MS ES+<br>1.45e+004 504.2387  $100 \%$ 505.2423 526,2208 542.1961 580.2759 329.0807 442.2268 ببريان 0  $m/z$ 420 440 520 540 560 580 320 340 360 380 400 460 480 500  $-1.5$ <br>50.0 Minimum:  $5.0$ Maximum:  $5.0$ PPM  $_{\rm{DBE}}$  $i$  –  $FIT$ i-FIT (Norm) Formula Mass Calc. Mass  $mDa$  $\frac{28.1}{35.3}$  $\frac{C30}{C28}$   $\frac{H34}{H35}$  N 06 23Na 504.2387 504.2386<br>504.2362  $\frac{0.1}{2.5}$  $\frac{14.5}{11.5}$  $0.0$ <br>7.1  $\frac{0.2}{5.0}$ 

**F.3**. Benzyl 6-bromohexanoate (16). **F.3.1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR



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 $8,2010$ 

**F.3.2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR



400 sp ectrometer





### **F.3.4**. HRMS









QC\_Compare-7570.jws









**F.5.2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR



 $F.5.3.IR$ 





225







**F.6.2**. <sup>13</sup>C NMR



## **F.6.4**. HRMS





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#### **F.7.4**. HRMS

**Elemental Composition Report** Single Mass Analysis<br>Tolerance = 5.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0<br>Jement prediction: Off The Please of Sotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3 Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron lons<br>930 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)<br>Elements Used:<br>C: 0-100 H: 0-1000 N: 0-8 O: 0-15 23Na: 0-1<br>SUN CHOI Sept 501-07-97i LCT Premier 16-Sep-2010 15:06:40<br>+ TCF MS ES+<br>1.51e+004 356.1966  $100 % -$ 357.1999 348.9265350.2449 352.1823<sup>354.1758</sup> 355.2005 358.2025 359.1007 361.2216<br>358.0 360.0 343.1460 346.0521  $0<sup>+</sup>$ 344.0  $354.0$ 356.0 346.0 348.0 350.0 352.0 Minimum:  $-1.5$ <br>50.0 Maximum:  $5.0$  $5.0$ Mass Calc. Mass  $mDa$ PPM DBE  $i$ -FIT i-FIT (Norm) Formula C20 H26 N3 03 - 1 356.1974<br>356.1950  $-0.8$ <br>1.6  $-2.2$ <br>4.5  $9.5$ <br>6.5  $120.1$ <br> $124.4$  $0.0$ <br>4.3 356.1966

# **F.7.4**. HPLC





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#### **ABSTRACT**

## **THE STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS OF HISTONE DEACETYLASE INHIBITORS: SUBEROYLANILIDE HYDROXAMIC ACID (SAHA) ANALOGUES MODIFIED AT C3, C6, AND C7 POSITIONS ENHANCE SELECTIVITY**

by

## **SUN EA CHOI**

May 2012

**Advisor**: Dr. Mary Kay H. Pflum

**Major**: Chemistry (Organic)

**Degree**: Doctor of Philosophy

Histone deacetylase (HDAC) proteins are targets for drug design towards the treatment of cancers since overexpression of HDAC proteins is linked to cancer. Several HDAC inhibitors, including the FDA approved drug suberoylanilide hydroxamic acid (SAHA, Vorinostat), have cleared clinical trials and emerged as anti-cancer drugs. However, SAHA inhibits all of the 11 metal iondependent HDAC proteins. Therefore, we synthesized several libraries of small molecule HDAC inhibitors based on SAHA to help understand the structural requirements of inhibitory potency and isoform selectivity.



acid displayed decreased inhibitory activity compared to the parent compound, SAHA. The lack of potency of the C2 library indicated that limited flexibility exists in the HDAC active site near the hydroxamic acid. Therefore, we theorized the substituents on the C3, C4, C5, C6, and C7 positions would display more potent inhibition compared to the C2-SAHA library due to the more solvent exposed location. Interestingly, while the C2-SAHA analogues containing any substituents were poor potent, the C3-SAHA analogue with a methyl substituent displayed potency. The potency of the remaining analogues decreased with increasing size of the C3 substituents. Moreover, the C6-SAHA phenyl analogue even displayed potency in the submicromolar range. Finally, most of the C7-SAHA analogues displayed equal or greater potency compared to SAHA. The results indicate that more flexibility in the HDAC active site exists closer to the capping group region near the C6 and C7 positions, while only modest flexibility exists in the bottom of the active site near the C2 and C3 positions.

After analyzing the potency of SAHA analogues, isoform selective inhibition of the individual compounds was evaluated. Seven of the SAHA



analogues demonstrated selectivity. The C3-SAHA ethyl-substituted analogue showed preference for HDAC6 over HDAC1 and HDAC3 even though it displayed decreased potency.

The C6-SAHA analogues displayed diverse selectivity; the C6-SAHA methyl variant displayed preference for class I, *t*-butyl variant showed a dual-HDAC1 and HDAC6 selectivity, and 2-ethylhexyl variant showed HDAC3-selectivity. The C7-SAHA analogues displayed selective inhibition as well; the C7-SAHA pyridylmethyl and anthracenylmethyl variants displayed a dual-HDAC1 and HDAC6 selectivity, and naphthylmethyl variant showed HDAC3-selectivity. The interesting potency and selectivity of linker-modified SAHA analogues suggest that linker region substituents can be exploited in the design of new anti-cancer drugs.

# **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT**

## SUN EA CHOI

## **Education**

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. (2006-2012) Ph.D., 2012

Cincinnati State College, Sung Kyun Kwan University, Tokyo Institute University A.D., B.A., R.A.

## **Research Experience**

## **Graduate Student Studies** September 2007-2012

Advisor: Prof. Mary Kay H. Pflum, Ph.D

Dissertation Title: 'Structural Requirements of Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) Inhibitors: Suberoylanilide Hydroxamic Acid (SAHA) Analogues Modified at the C3, C6, and C7 Positions Enhance Selectivity

Synthesis of SAHA analogues to elucidate the structural requirements of HDAC inhibitors

Determination IC<sub>50</sub> values of HDAC inhibitors using Fluor de Lys *in vitro* fluorescence activity assay kit (Enzo) using HeLa cell lysates as the source of HDAC activity

## **Research Student Studies** August 2004-2006

Advisor: Prof. Martha Brosz Research title: Synthesis of Vitamin D Analogues

## **Affiliations/Honors**

Member of American Chemical Society (**2010** to **present**) Member of Golden Key International Honor Society (**2007** to **present**) Member of Phi Lamda Upsilon-Honorary Chemical Society (**2007** to **present**) Honor Students Scholarship (**2005** to **2006**)

## **Publications**

Sun Ea Choi, Sujith V. W. Weerasinghe and Mary Kay H. Pflum. "The Structural Requirement of Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) Inhibitors: Suberoyl Anilide Hydroxamic Acid (SAHA) analogues at the C3 position display Class II Selectivity", *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letter* **2011**, 21, 6139-6142.

Sun Ea Choi, and Mary Kay Pflum, "The Structural Requirement of Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) Inhibitors: Suberoyl Anilide Hydroxamic Acid (SAHA) analogues at the C6 position Enhance Selectivity" in preparation.

Sun Ea Choi, Anton V. Bieliauskas, V. W. Weerashinghe, Geetha Padige, Satish Garre V. R. and Mary Kay Pflum, "The Structural Requirement of Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) Inhibitors: Suberoyl Anilide Hydroxamic Acid (SAHA) analogues at the C7 position display Dual-Selectivity" in preparation.