## Supplementary data

## Synthesis and biological evaluation of caulibugulones A-E

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General Methods. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was dried by distillation over CaH<sub>2</sub>. Unless otherwise stated, all commercially available materials were used without purification. IR spectra were recorded neat by adding a drop of a solution of the sample onto the surface of a NaCl cell, followed by drying in air. NMR spectra were obtained at 300MHz/75MHz (<sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C NMR). High and low resolution masses were determined by introduction with a direct insertion probe into a VG- 70-70 HF spectrometer operating in the electron ionization (EI) mode.

**Caulibugulone A (1).** To a solution of 5-hydroxyisoquinoline (90%, 0.80 g, 5.0 mmol) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL/2 mL) was added PIFA (4.28 g, 12.0 mmol) at room temperature. The

reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h, treated with CeCl<sub>3</sub> (2.4 g, 10 mmol) and methylamine (2.0 M in MeOH, 20 mL, 40 mmol) at room temperature, stirred for 20 h and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was diluted with EtOAc (250 mL) and washed with brine (100 mL). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (Hexanes/EtOAc = 1:1) to give a mixture of caulibugulone A and its regioisomer (0.48 g, 51%, ~4:1 ratio by  $^{1}$ H NMR). Further separation by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 200:1  $^{\circ}$  100:1) gave 1 as a red solid: Mp. 228-230  $^{\circ}$ C (dec.); IR (neat) 3263, 1685, 1598, 1501, 1419, 1173, 1075, 830 cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD = 1:1)  $^{\circ}$  9.14 (s, 1 H), 8.92 (d, 1 H, J = 4.5 Hz), 7.91 (d, 1 H, J = 4.5 Hz), 5.76 (s, 1 H), 2.92 (s, 3 H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD = 1:1)  $^{\circ}$  181.4 (2C), 156.1, 150.7, 147.8, 140.7, 125.6, 120.0, 100.6, 29.3; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 188 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 173 (30), 159 (14), 131 (20), 105 (21), 82 (64); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 188.0586, found 188.0583.

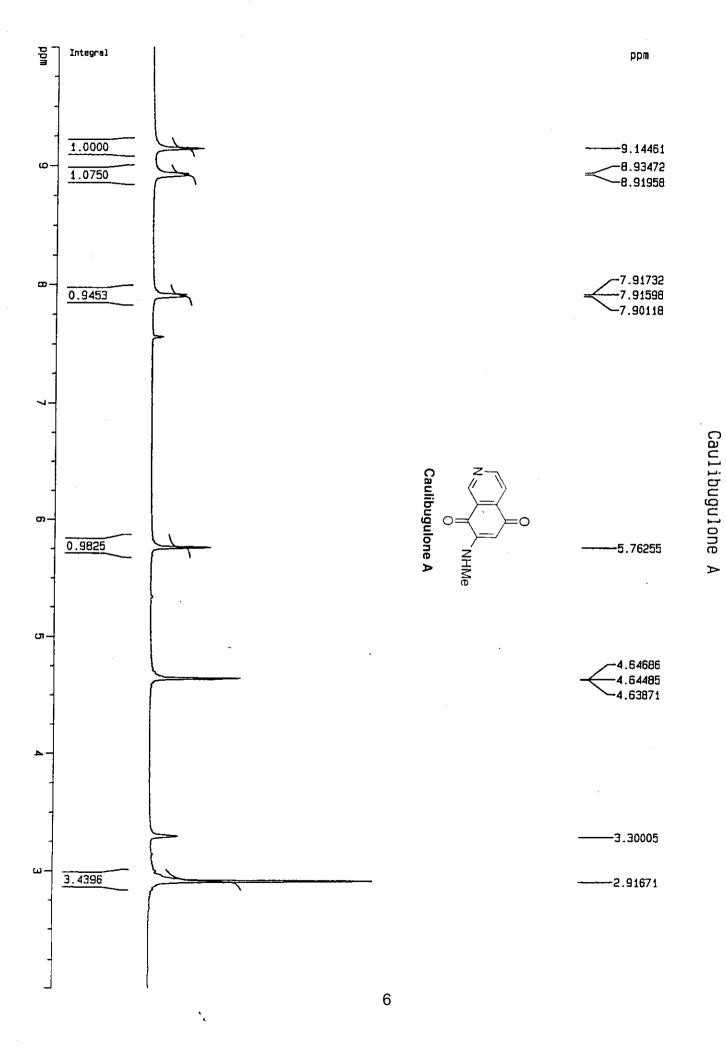
**Caulibugulone B (2).** To a solution of **1** (30 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dioxane (4 mL) was added NBS (29 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dioxane (1 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was directly purified by chromatography on  $SiO_2$  ( $CH_2Cl_2$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 50:1) to give **2** (32 mg, 74%) as a dark red solid: Mp. 182-184 °C (dec.); IR (neat) 3278, 1690,

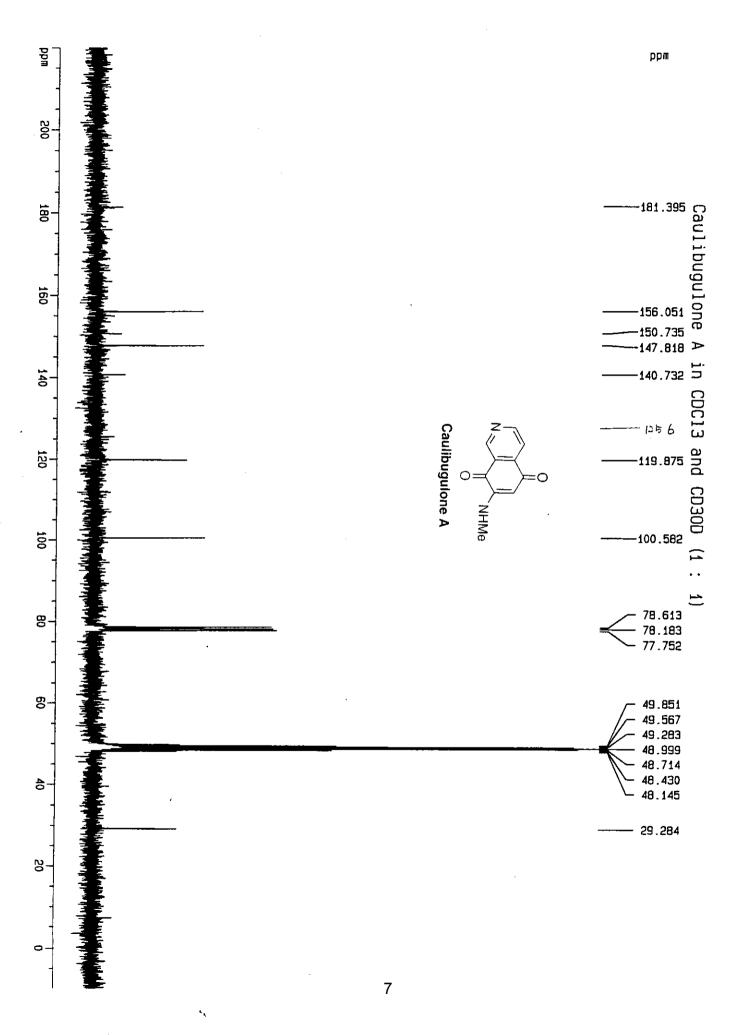
1583, 1542, 1419, 1291 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (pyridine-d<sub>5</sub>)  $\square$  9.36 (s, 1 H), 9.00 (d, 1 H, J = 5.0 Hz), 8.20 (bs, 1 H, -NH), 7.98 (d, 1 H, J = 4.9 Hz), 3.39 (d, 3 H, J = 5.7 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (pyridine-d<sub>5</sub>)  $\square$  180.1 (2C), 156.1, 148.4 (2C), 138.2, 119.2, 33.0 (2 carbons are buried in solvent peaks); MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 266 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 187 (49), 160 (39), 82 (23); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for  $C_{10}H_7BrN_2O_2$  265.9691, found 265.9695.

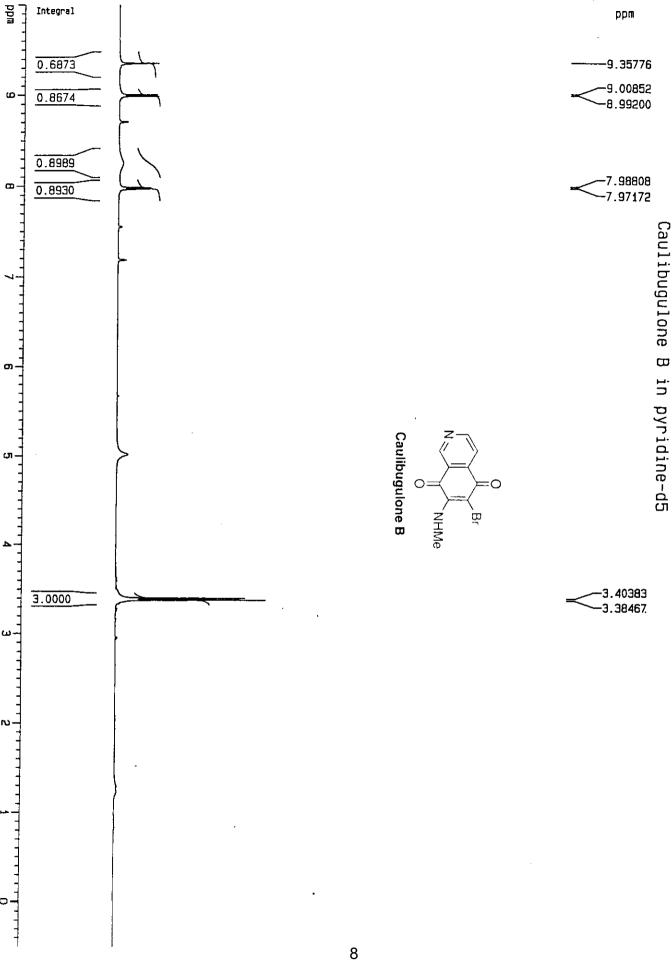
**Caulibugulone C** (**3**). To a solution of **1** (9.4 mg, 0.050 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was added NCS (6.7 mg, 0.050 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was directly purified by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (Hexanes/EtOAc = 1:1) to give **3** (9.1 mg, 82%) as a dark red solid: Mp. 219-221 °C (dec.); IR (neat) 3274, 1689, 1588, 1563, 1417, 1316 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (pyridine-d<sub>5</sub>)  $\Box$  9.35 (s, 1 H), 9.01 (d, 1 H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 8.35 (bs, 1 H, -N*H*), 7.98 (d, 1 H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 3.38 (d, 3 H, *J* = 5.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (pyridine-d<sub>5</sub>)  $\Box$  180.5 (2C), 156.3, 148.4 (2C), 146.6, 138.6, 119.2, 32.5 (1 carbon is buried in solvent peaks); MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 222 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 187 (51), 160 (35), 131 (25); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>CIN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 222.0196, found 222.0194.

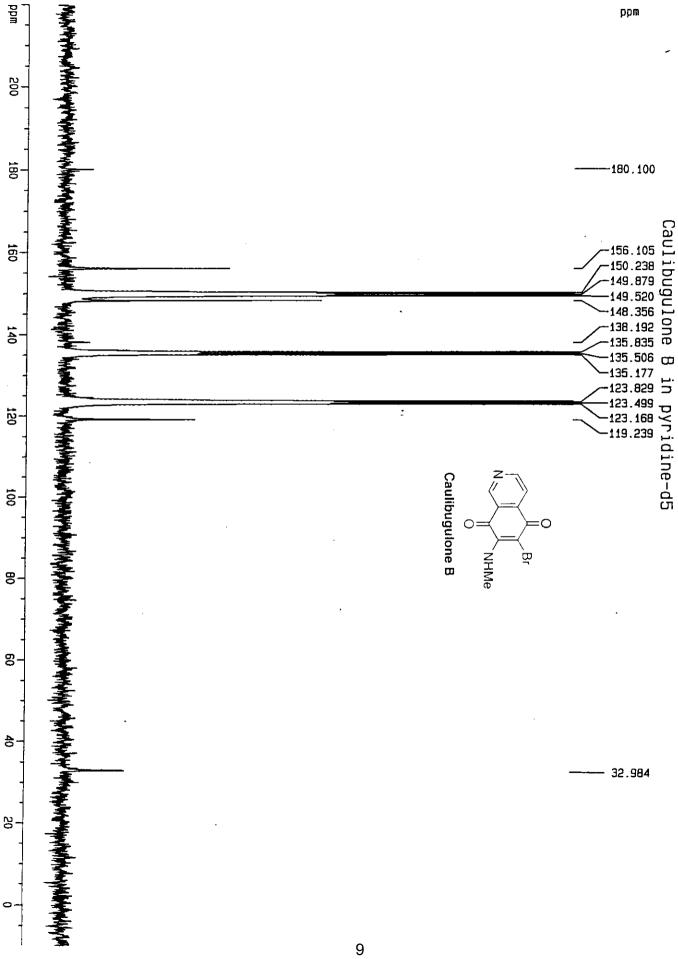
Caulibugulone D (4). To a solution of 5-hydroxyisoquinoline (90%, 200 mg, 1.25 mmol) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL/1 mL) was added PIFA (1.07 g, 2.50 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h, treated with CeCl<sub>3</sub>•7H<sub>2</sub>O (930 mg, 2.50 mmol) and ethanolamine (0.60 mL, 10 mmol) at room temperature, stirred for 20 h, diluted with EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with brine (50 mL). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (EtOAc  $\square$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 50:1 $\square$  10:1) to give a mixture of caulibugulone D and its regioisomer (68 mg, 25%, ~7:1 ratio by <sup>1</sup>H NMR). Further separation by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 100:1) gave 4 as a dark orange solid: Mp. 189-191 °C (dec.); IR (neat) 3335, 3168, 2921, 2846, 1680, 1633, 1593, 1562, 1301, 1059 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD = 1:1)  $\square$  9.17 (s, 1 H), 8.94 (bd, 1 H,  $J \approx 4.2$ Hz), 7.92 (d, 1 H, J = 5.0 Hz), 5.86 (s, 1 H), 3.78 (t, 2 H, J = 5.4 Hz), 3.35 (t, 2 H, J = 5.4Hz);  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD = 1:1)  $\prod$  181.0, 180.5, 155.4, 149.2, 147.2, 140.0, 125.0, 119.3, 100.5, 59.0, 44.7; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 218 (M<sup>+</sup>, 22), 200 (23), 187 (100); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for  $C_{11}H_{10}N_2O_3$  218.0691, found 218.0691.

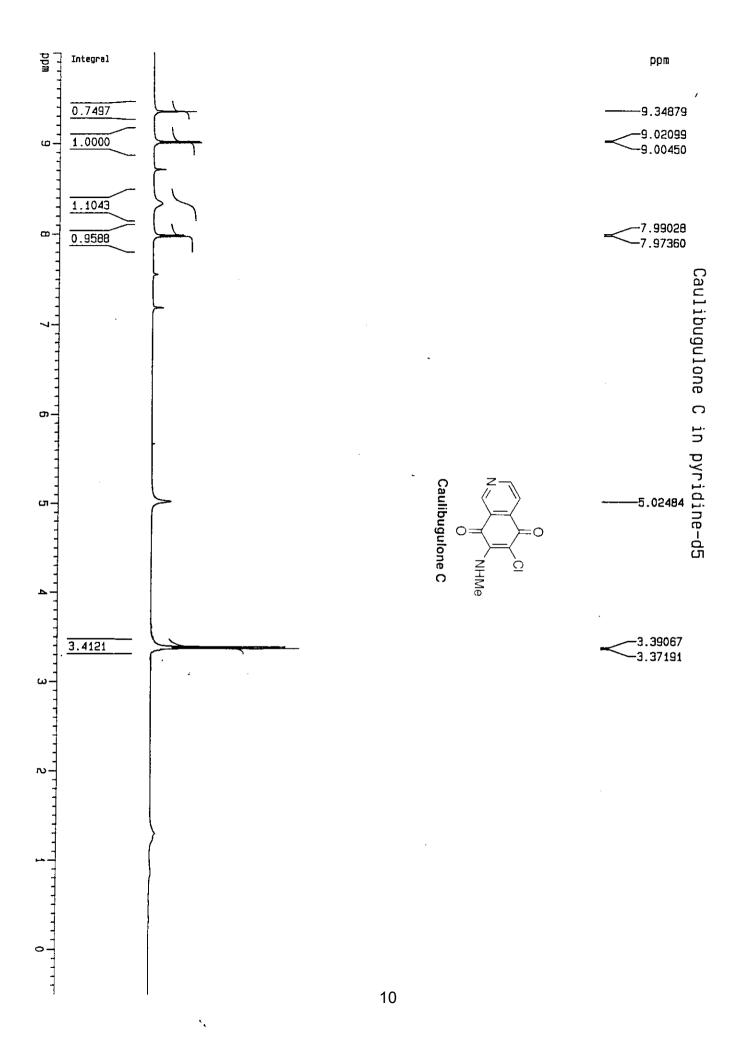
**Caulibugulone E (5).** To a solution of **1** (230 mg, 1.22 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 mL) was added Ti(O-*i*Pr)<sub>4</sub> (1.7 mL, 6.1 mmol) and ammonia (7N in MeOH, 3.6 mL, 25 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 7 d and directly purified by chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 50:1 ☐ 10:1) to give caulibugulone A (34 mg, 15%) and **5** (170 mg, 74%) as an orange solid: Mp. 228-230 °C (dec.); IR (neat) 3351, 3210, 1618, 1571, 1545, 1519, 1413, 1365, 1280, 1069 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) ☐ 11.1 (bs, 1 H, =N*H*) 9.06 (s, 1 H), 8.89 (d, 1 H, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 8.00 (d, 1 H, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 6.80 (bs, 1 H, -N*H*), 5.78 (s, 1 H), 3.00 (d, 3 H, *J* = 5.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) ☐ 179.5, 158.3, 153.5, 153.2, 147.1, 137.3, 123.8, 118.6, 98.4, 29.5; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 187 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 158 (29), 130 (57), 103 (28), 76 (29); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for  $C_{10}H_{0}N_{3}O$  187.0746, found 187.0744.

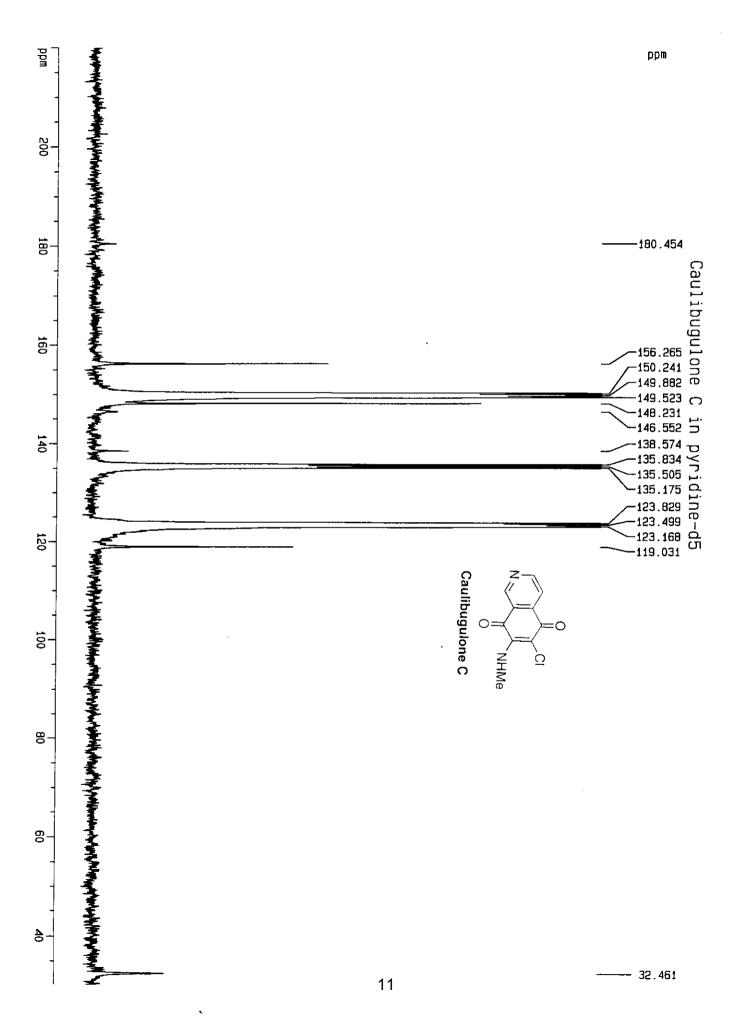












Integral

