Supporting Information

Piperic acid derivative as a molecular modulator to accelerate IAPP aggregation process and alter its antimicrobial activity

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Figure S1. The structures of piperine and PA derivatives.



Figure S2. ThT monitored IAPP aggregation kinetics with **PA** derivatives including **MD**, **CNA**, **FA**, **AA**, **PAD-2**, **PAD-3**, **EE PAD-4**, and **EE PAD-4**-Et. The concentration of IAPP and all small molecules was fixed at 25 μM and 500 μM, respectively.



Figure S3. ThT monitored IAPP aggregation kinetics with **PA** derivatives including **EE PAD-4~PAD-7** and **ZE PAD-4~PAD-7**. The concentration of IAPP and all small molecules was fixed at 25 μM and 500 μM, respectively.



Figure S4. ThT monitored IAPP aggregation kinetics with **PA** derivatives including **PA**, **EE PAD-4**, **PAD-8**, **PAD-9**, and **PAD 11~13**. The concentration of IAPP and all small molecules was fixed at 25 μM and 500 μM, respectively.



Figure S5. The conformational change of IAPP during aggregation. The CD spectra of (a) IAPP alone, (b) IAPP with 1-fold **PAD-13**, (c) IAPP with 2-fold excess **PAD-13**, and (d) IAPP with 5-fold excess **PAD-13** recorded after 0, 6, 12, 18, 24 h incubation. (e) The β-sheet component was estimated from each spectrum by the online software BeStSel.



Figure S6. (a) The absorbance spectra of ThT and **PAD-13**. (b) The emission spectra of ThT and PAD-13 w/wo IAPP fibrils. (c) The ThT fluorescence intensity of IAPP fibrils was measured immediately right after the addition of **PAD-13**. (d) The time course of ThT monitoring for IAPP fibrils with the presence of **PAD-13**. IAPP fibrils were prepared in advance by incubating IAPP solution in microtubes for 2 days with continuous shaking at 500 rpm.



Figure S7. The mass spectra of IAPP with **PAD-13**. (a) Samples were incubated for 2 h before they were subjected to ESI-MS. (b) Samples were incubated for 4 h before they were subjected to ESI-MS.

K1NIe IAPP H_2 N-NIeCNTATCATQRLANFLVHSSNNFGAILSSTNVGSNTY-CONH2R11Cit IAPP H_2 N-KCNTATCATQCitLANFLVHSSNNFGAILSSTNVGSNTY-CONH2(-,-,-,-)(-

Figure S8. The primary sequence of K1Nle-IAPP and R11Cit-IAPP. The chemical structure of norleucine and citrulline.



Figure S9. (a) The ThT kinetic studies for K1Nle-IAPP (brown) with 1-fold **PAD-13** (red), with 2-fold excess **PAD-13** (blue), and with 5-fold excess **PAD-13** (green). (b) The ThT kinetic studies for R11Cit-IAPP (purple) with 1-fold **PAD-13** (red), with 2-fold excess **PAD-13** (blue), and with 5-fold excess **PAD-13** (green). (c) The chemical structure of **PAD-13a** and **PAD-13b**. (d) The ThT kinetic studies for IAPP (black), with 5-fold excess **PAD-13** (green), **PAD-13a** (red), and **PAD-13b** (blue). IAPP and IAPP mutants were prepared at 30 μM in 10 mM, pH 7.4, Tris buffer.



Figure S10. Time course of ThT fluorescence assay upon incubation of 64 μ M hCT in the absence (black curve) and presence of 5-fold excess PAD-13 (green curve), PAD-13a (red curve), and PAD-13b (blue curve).



Figure S11. Cytocompatibility tests of PAD-13 prepared at 25, 50, 100, and 150 μ M toward mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs). All MEF cultures contain 1% DMSO. C represents a controlled study without PAD-13 and DMSO. The metabolic activity of MEFs was determined using the alamarBlue assay after 24 h and 48 h incubation.



Figure S12. Representative images of colony formation assay.

Experimental methods

Peptide synthesis and purification. The synthesis of IAPP and its analogs was carried out using 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc) chemistry at a scale of 0.05 mmole with the assistance of the Liberty Lite microwave peptide synthesizer (CEM Corporation, USA). A low loading Rink Amide ProTide Resin (CEM Corporation, 0.18 mmole/g) was utilized to provide an amidated C-terminus after peptide cleavage. In each synthesis cycle, the carboxylic group of the Fmoc-protected amino acid was activated using diisopropylcarbodiimide. The Fmoc group was removed using a solution of 10% piperazine (w/v) in a mixture of ethanol and N-methyl pyrrolidone (10:90). To facilitate the synthesis, Fmoc-protected pseudoproline dipeptide derivatives were incorporated at positions 8-9 and 27-28. Double coupling was employed for β -branched residues, the following residue, Arg, and all pseudoproline dipeptide derivatives to enhance the yield of synthesis. Histidine coupling was carried out at 50°C by default to minimize racemization. For the synthesis of K1Nle-IAPP, the Lys residue was replaced by the unnatural amino acid, Fmoc-L-Nle-OH (CAS. 77284-32-3). Another unnatural amino acid, Fmoc-Cit-OH (CAS.133174-15-9), was substituted for Arg to generate R11Cit-IAPP. Upon completion of the synthesis, the peptides were cleaved from the resin using standard trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) methods. Scavengers, including water, triisopropylsilane (TIS), and 3,6-dioxa-1,8-octanedithiol (DODT), were employed during the cleavage step (TFA/H₂O/TIS/DODT= 92.5: 2.5: 2.5). To increase peptide solubility, crude peptides were partially treated with 20% acetic acid (v/v) and subjected to freeze-drying in multiple cycles. Subsequently, the crude peptides were dissolved in a 50% acetic acid solution (1 mg/mL) and mixed with I_2 in methanol to form the disulfide bond between Cys-2 and Cys-7. To remove residual scavengers, the crude peptides were initially treated with hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP) and lyophilized. Purification was then performed using reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography with a Proto 300 C18 semi-preparative column and a two-solution gradient. Solution A consisted of 100% H₂O and 0.045% HCl (v/v), while solution B comprised 80% acetonitrile, 20% H2O, and 0.045% HCl. The collected fractions were pooled and subsequently lyophilized.

The confirmation of peptide molecular weights was conducted using matrix-assisted laser

desorption ionization-time of flight mass spectrometry with an ultrafleXtremeTM device (Bruker, USA). The expected and actual [M+H] ⁺ values for IAPP were 3904.3 and 3904.0, respectively. For K1Nle-IAPP, the respective [M+H] ⁺ values were 3889.3 and 3889.2. For R11Cit-IAPP, the respective [M+H] ⁺ values were 3905.3 and 3905.3.

Thioflavin-T (ThT) assays. To prepare the protein solution, approximately 100 µg of protein powder was treated with 100 µL of hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP) for 5-6 hours at room temperature and then lyophilized. The resulting peptide powder was dissolved in 300 µL of 10 mM Tris buffer pH 7.4 and subjected to centrifugation at 15,000 rpm for 10 minutes to remove any preformed aggregates. The supernatant was carefully transferred to another microtube, and a 10 µL aliquot was taken to determine the peptide concentration using a BCA protein assay kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA) with bovine serum albumin as the standard. The remaining supernatant was adjusted to a concentration of 30 µM and 15 µM of ThT was added. PAD-13 prepared in DMSO was added according to experimental need. The concentration of DMSO was fixed at 1%. For seeding experiments, preformed IAPP amyloid fibrils were generated by incubating the IAPP solution in microtubes for three days with shaking at 500 rpm. ThT assays were conducted at 25°C using a sealed 384-well nonbinding surface microplate (Corning 3575, USA) without any additional agitation. The measurements were performed using a SpectraMax M2 multimode microplate reader (Molecular Devices, USA) or a Hidex Sense multimode microplate reader (Hidex, Finland) with excitation at 430 nm and emission at 485 nm. Data points were collected every hour, and the average fluorescence with standard error of the mean was plotted against time using triplicate wells.

Transmission electron microscope (TEM). TEM images were recorded at the instrumentation center of the National Taiwan University utilizing a Hitachi model H-7100 transmission electron microscope (Japan) operating at an accelerating voltage of 120 kV. Five microliters of the peptide solution recovered following the ThT assay, were deposited onto a carbon-coated Formvar 300 mesh copper grid and allowed to sit for 1 minute. Subsequently, the sample was negatively stained by incubating it with 2% uranyl acetate for an additional 1 minute.

Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). Infrared spectra were obtained using FTIR with attenuated total reflectance (ATR, Bruker Tensor 27) technique at a resolution of 1 cm⁻¹. Germanium was used as the internal reflection element (IRE). To prepare the samples, each solution, prepared at a concentration of 30 μ M in 10 mM Tris buffer pH 7.4 with and without **PAD-13**, was incubated in microtubes with continuous shaking to allow the formation of amyloid fibrils. The fibril solutions were then subjected to centrifugation at 15,000 rpm for 30 minutes to remove the buffer. The resulting fibril pellets were washed twice with distilled deionized water and dissolved in 20 μ L DDI water. For FTIR-ATR analysis, 5 μ L of the washed fibril sample was spotted onto the IRE crystal and allowed to evaporate under a gentle flow of nitrogen gas (N₂) to remove excess water. Spectra were recorded by accumulating 64 scans, and a background spectrum was subtracted to account for any instrumental noise or interference.

Congo Red (CR) binding study. A stock solution (1 mM) of CR in ethanol was prepared. The working CR solution of 1% was applied with the protein solution. UV absorbance was measured in the spectral range of 450–650 nm using a SpectraMax M2 multimode microplate reader.

Gel electrophoresis. To analyze the remaining soluble peptide components obtained from the ThT assay, gel electrophoresis was performed, and the peptides were visualized using silver staining. The samples were first filtered through a 0.22-µm syringe filter to remove any large aggregates. Subsequently, the filtered samples were mixed with 4X SDS sample dye. The peptide samples were then loaded onto a 13.5% Tris-tricine SDSpolyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) gel.

Circular dichroism (CD). CD experiments were performed using a J-715 circular dichroism spectrometer (JASCO, USA). The protein preparation for CD experiments followed the same protocol as the ThT assays, but PAD-13 was prepared in acetonitrile to avoid interference. Aliquots of 600 μ L of peptide solutions were incubated in microtubes within a ThermoMixer, with 60 seconds of agitation at 500 rpm every 45 minutes at 25 °C. At defined time points, samples were individually transferred to a 1 mm path-length quartz cell for spectral measurements. CD spectra were recorded in the wavelength range of 200-250 nm with 1 nm intervals at 25 °C. The data were obtained by averaging ten scans and corrected based on the background spectrum. To estimate the β -sheet component of the peptides, the online software BeStSel was employed.

Electrospray ionization-mass spectrometry (ESI-MS). The experiments were

conducted on a Waters Synapt G2 HDMS instrument with a LockSpray ESI source. IAPP (30 μ M) and **PAD-13** (150 μ M) were prepared in 10 mM Tris buffer at pH 7.4 and first incubated for 2 and 4 h before they were infused into the ESI source at a flow rate of 6 μ L/min by a syringe pump (KDS-100, KD Scientific). Data were collected and analyzed by using MassLynx 4.1.

Cytocompatibility study. Mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs), harvested from C57BL/6N mice embryos, were used for the cytocompatibility study of **PAD-13**. MEFs were cultured in the DMEM supplemented with 10% bovine serum (FBS), 1% penicillin/streptomycin, and 1% HEPES under a humidified atmosphere of 5% CO₂ and 37°C. MEFs (104 cells/well) were placed in the 96-well culture plate and cultured with DMSO or **PAD-13** at 37 °C under 5% CO₂. The metabolic activity of the MEFs was determined with alamarBlue assay according to the protocol. Briefly, alamarBlue solutions (10% in serum-contained DMEM) were added to the cell-seeding wells and reacted for 4 h at 37 °C. The alamarBlue solutions were transferred to another 96-well culture plate, and the emission intensity of the solutions at 590 nm was determined with an excitation of 530 nm using a microplate reader (Synergy H1) with subtracted background emission from as-prepared alamarBlue solutions.

Antimicrobial test. Fifty microliters of *Staphylococcus aureus* from an overnight culture were added to 950 μ L of Lysogeny broth (LB) and cultured for an additional 2.5 h. The bacterial concentration was calculated using the formula derived from the standard curve (y = 3×10^9 x - 2×10^8), and a bacterial solution with a concentration of 1×10^3 CFU/mL was prepared through serial dilution. Next, 360 μ L of the diluted bacterial solution was mixed with 40 μ L of test samples. The mixture was then incubated at 37 °C for 30 minutes. Subsequently, 100 μ L of the bacterial culture was spread onto a 10 cm LB Agar plate. After incubating for 19 h at 37°C, the colonies were recorded using the LAS-4000 imaging system and analyzed with ImageJ software. Each condition was repeated at least three times and normalized to the DMSO control group. The statistics was analyzed by one way-analysis of variance with Tukey's post test. * P<0.05

The preparation of piperine derivatives. Piperine (PP), caffeic acid (CA), ferulic acid (FA), 3,4-(Methylenedioxy)cinnamic acid (MD), (2E,4E)-5-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl) penta-2,4-dienoic acid (PAD-2), and all other reagents and chemicals for synthesis were

used as purchased without further purification. All nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV-300 spectrometer and Bruker Avance III HD-600 MHz operating at 300 MHz and 600 MHz for ¹H analysis and at 75 MHz and 150 MHz for ¹³C analysis, respectively. The chemical shifts are expressed in ppm and referenced to solvent peaks (CDCl₃: ¹H 7.26 ppm, ¹³C 77.16 ppm; CD₃OD: ¹H 3.31 ppm, ¹³C 49.00 ppm; d₆-DMSO: ¹H 2.50 ppm, ¹³C 39.52 ppm; D₂O: ¹H 4.79 ppm). Coupling constants (J) are reported in Hz. Splitting patterns are reported as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), and br (broad). IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 100 FTIR spectrometer and data are reported in cm⁻¹. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) was performed with a Thermo Finnigan LCQ Advantage (ESI-MS). Low-resolution mass spectrometry (LRMS) was performed with a Thermo Finnigan LCQ Advantage (ESI-MS) and a JEOL JMS- 700 spectrometer (EI-MS). Melting points were recorded with Melting Point Apparatus MP-2D and those are uncorrected. UV/Vis absorptions and fluorescent emissions were carried out on a SpectraMax M2 microplate readers.All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography analysis using Merck105554TLC Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ 25 aluminum sheets 20 x 20 cm. Column chromatography was performed in a Chromatorex MB 70-40/75 (Fuji Silysia Chemicals Ltd.). Any reactions that required anhydrous conditions were conducted under argon. Anhydrous dichloromethane (DCM) was distilled from calcium hydride under nitrogen. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) and N, N-dimethylformamide (DMF) were dried with 3Å molecular sieves and stood overnight before use.



Cinnamic acid (CNA)

Scheme S1. Synthesis of cinnamic acid.



Cinnamic acid (CNA)

A solution of cinnamaldehyde (1.1 g, 8.3 mmol) in water was pumped with air at room temperature overnight. A pale solid precipitate was formed during the reaction. After completion of the reaction, 2M NaOH_(aq) was added to the reaction mixture until the pH of the solution was basic, and the reaction mixture was subsequently washed with DCM. The water layer was separated and the pH value was adjusted to 1 with 1M HCl_(aq). Thereafter, the acidified aqueous layer was extracted with DCM twice. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give compound **CNA** as a pale-yellow solid. (160.0 mg, 13%). Mp: 130°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K): $\delta = 6.47$ (d, 1H, J = 15.9 Hz, H_a), 7.40-7.43 (m, 3H, H₂, H₃), 7.55-7.58 (m, 2H, H₁), 7.81 (d, 1H, J = 16.0 Hz, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 117.4$, 128.5 (2C), 129.1 (2C), 130.9, 134.2, 147.3, 172.7 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₉H₈O₂ [M]⁺: 148.1; Found 148.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with the reported literature¹.



Scheme S2. Synthesis of piperic acid (PA).



Piperic Acid (PA)

Piperine (900.0 mg, 3.2 mmol) was dissolved in 8.0 mL EtOH containing 10 w.t.% of KOH and the reaction mixture was refluxed overnight. After completion of the reaction, the remaining residue was filtered and that was washed with EtOH to yield compound **PA** as a brown solid (500.0 mg, 70%). Mp: > 400°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O, 295 K): $\delta = 5.94$ (s, 2H, H₄), 5.96 (d, 1H, $J_1 = 15.2$ Hz, H_a), 6.78-6.85 (m, 3H, H_{\gamma}, H_{\delta}, H₃), 6.95-6.98 (dd, 1H, $J_1 = 8.1$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, H₂), 7.05-7.13 (m, 2H, H₁, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d_6 -DMSO with 10% D₂O, 297 K): $\delta = 102.2$, 106.6, 109.7, 123.2,

127.4, 131.2, 132.2, 136.8, 139.8, 148.4, 148.9, 173.7 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}O_4[M+H]^+$: 219.0652; Found 219.0658. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with the reported literature^{2, 3}.



Scheme S3. Synthesis of avenalumic acid (AA).

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 & \beta & 0 \\ 2 & & \alpha \\ HO \end{array} \xrightarrow{\alpha} 0 \xrightarrow{3} 4$$

(E)-ethyl 3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acrylate (S1)

To a solution of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (5.0 g, 40.9 mmol) in dry DCM (40.0 mL) was added ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate (21.4 g, 61.4 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude residue was dissolved in hexane containing 10 w.t.% of ether. The white precipitate was removed by filtration. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography to yield ester **S1** (6.20g, 79%, *E/Z* ratio = 6:1) as a white solid. $R_f = 0.55$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 1.34$ (t, 3H, J = 14.2 Hz, H₄), 4.24-4.31 (q, 2H, $J_I = 21.4$ Hz, H₃), 5.82 (d, 1H, J = 12.7 Hz, H_a), 6.29 (d, 1H, J = 16.0 Hz, H_a), 6.84-6.90 (m, 2H, H₂), 7.38-7.41 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz, H₁), 7.64 (d, 1H, J = 15.9 Hz, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 14.4$, 61.0, 115.2, 116.1 (2C), 126.7, 130.2 (2C), 145.4, 158.7, 168.7 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C

NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature⁴.

(*E*)-4-(3-hydroxyprop-1-en-1-yl)phenol (S2)

To a solution of lithium aluminum hydride (148.0 mg, 3.9 mmol) in dry THF (5.0 mL) was slowly added a dry THF (5.0 mL) solution containing BnCl (493.7 mg, 3.9 mmol) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min, and then a solution of compound **S1** (500.0 mg, 2.6 mmol) in dry THF (2.5 mL) was added dropwise to the reaction at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. After completion of the reaction, it was carefully quenched by the addition of water and the solution mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude product as a yellow oil (385 mg, 83%). $R_f = 0.29$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 1:1 v/v). The crude product was directly used in the next step without further purification.



(E)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acrylaldehyde (S3)

To a solution of crude **S2** (200.0 mg, 1.3 mmol) in dry THF (13.0 mL) was added DDQ (360.9 mg, 1.6 mmol) under an ice bath and then the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by column chromatography to yield aldehyde **S3** (153 mg, 78%, *E/Z* ratio = 10:1) as a light orange solid. $R_f = 0.41$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 1:1v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD, 297 K): $\delta = 5.91-6.99$ (dd, 1H, $J_I = 16.1$ Hz, $J_2 = 5.5$ Hz, H_{α}), 6.57-6.65 (dd, 1H, $J_I = 15.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.8$ Hz, H_{α}), 6.73-6.76 (m, 2H, H_2 ·), 6.82-6.87 (m, 2H, H_2), 7.25-7.28 (m, 2H, H_1 ·), 7.52-7.61 (m, 3H, H_1 , H_{β}), 9.55 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD, 297 K): $\delta = 117.0$ (2C), 126.4, 127.1, 132.0 (2C), 155.9, 162.3, 192.2 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature⁵.



Avenalumic acid (AA)

To a solution of compound S3 (100.0 mg, 0.7 mmol) in dry DCM (7.0 mL) was added ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate (352.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude residue was dissolved in hexane containing 10 w.t.% of ether. The white precipitate was removed by filtration. The filtrate was concentrated and then purified by column chromatography to yield ester S4 (140.0 mg, 95%) as a light-yellow solid. $R_f = 0.54$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 1:1v/v). Then, compound S4 (140.0 mg, 0.6 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH (30.0 mL) containing 10 w.t.% of KOH and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 14 hr. After cooling to room temperature, EtOH was removed under reduced pressure. Then, water was added to the crude residue and washed with DCM. The aqueous layer was separated and the pH value was adjusted to 1 by adding 1M HCl_(aq). After the addition of 1 M HCl_(aq), the remaining solution mixture was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO4, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to yield AA (93.0 mg, 76%) as a white solid. Mp: 223°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD, 297 K): $\delta = 5.92$ (d, 1H, J = 15.1 Hz, H_a), 6.75-6.92 (m, 4H, H_y, H_{\delta}, H₂), 7.37-7.46 (m, 3H, H₁, H_{β}) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD, 297 K): δ = 116.7 (2C), 120.4, 124.4, 129.2, 130.0 (2C), 142.2, 147.5, 159.9, 170.9 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀O₃ [M]⁺: 190.1; Found 190.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with the reported literature⁶.



Scheme S4. Synthesis of PAD-3.



(2E,4E)-ethyl 5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoate (S5)

To a solution of (*E*)-cinnamaldehyde (1.0 g, 7.5 mmol) in DCM (20.0 mL) was added ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate (2.8 g, 7.9 mmol) and then the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After the completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude residue was dissolved in hexane containing 10 w.t.% of ether. The white precipitate was removed and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography to yield ester **S1** (1.3 g, 87%) as a colorless oil. $R_f = 0.42$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 9:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 296 K): $\delta = 1.31$ (t, 3H, J = 14.3 Hz, H₅), 4.24 (q, 2H, $J_I = 21.4$ Hz, H₄), 6.00 (d, 1H, J = 15.3 Hz, H_a), 6.87-6.90 (m, 2H, H_{\gamma}, H_{\delta}), 7.30-7.49 (m, 6H, H_β, H₁, H₂, H₃) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 14.5$, 60.5, 121.5, 126.4, 127.3 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 129.2, 136.2, 140.5, 144.7, 167.2 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature⁷.



(2E,4E)-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoic acid (PAD-3)

Compound **S5** (640.0 mg, 3.5 mmol) was dissolved in 30.0 mL EtOH containing 10 w.t.% of KOH and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 14 hr. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The concentrated residue was diluted with water and washed with DCM. The aqueous layer was separated and the pH value was adjusted to 1 by adding 1M HCl_(aq). After the addition of 1 M HCl_(aq), a white precipitate was formed and then it was isolated by filtration. The filter cake was air-dried to yield **PAD-3** (502.0 mg, 83%) as a white solid. Mp: 170°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 6.01$ (d, 1H, J = 15.2 Hz, H_a), 6.86-6.99 (m, 2H, H_{\gamma}, H_{\delta}), 7.30-7.40 (m, 3H, H₂, H₃), 7.47-7.60 (m, 3H, H₁, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 120.4$, 126.1, 127.5 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 129.5, 135.9, 141.8, 147.1, 172.5 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀O₂ [M]⁺: 174.1; Found 174.1. The ¹H and

¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with the reported literature⁸.



Scheme S6. Synthesis of (ZE)PAD-4-7 and (EE)PAD-4-7.

General procedure A for the synthesis of S6 to S9

To a solution of hydroxybenzaldehyde (1.0 eq) and potassium carbonate (3.0 eq) in dry DMF (15–20 mL) was added methyl iodide (2.0 eq; 3.0 eq for compound **S9**) under an ice bath. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After completion of the reaction, it was diluted with EtOAc and the reaction mixture was extracted with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residues were purified by column chromatography to yield the desired products.

MeC

4-methoxybenzaldehyde (S6)

Compound **S6** (1.1 g, 98%) as a colorless oil was prepared from 4hydroxybenzaldehyde (1.0 g, 8.2 mmol) according to the general procedure **A** described above. $R_f = 0.47$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 296 K): $\delta =$ 3.89 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.98-7.02 (m, 2H, H₂), 7.81-7.86 (m, 2H, H₁), 9.88 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.7$, 114.4 (2C), 130.1, 132.1 (2C), 164.7, 190.9 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature⁹.

3-methoxybenzaldehyde (S7)

Compound S7 (2.0 g, 90%) as a colorless oil was prepared from 3hydroxybenzaldehyde (2.0 g, 16.4 mmol) according to the general procedure A described above. $R_f = 0.55$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta =$ 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.16-7.20 (m, 1H, H₄),7.38-7.46 (m, 3H, H₁, H₂, H₃), 9.97 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta =$ 55.6, 112.2, 121.7, 123.7, 130.2, 137.9, 160.3, 192.3 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹⁰.



2-methoxybenzaldehyde (S8)

Compound **S8** (2.1 g, 95%) as a colorless oil was prepared from 2hydroxybenzaldehyde (2.0 g, 16.4 mmol) according to the general procedure **A** described above. $R_f = 0.50$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta =$ 3.93 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.97-7.05 (m, 2H, H₂, H₄), 7.52-7.58 (m, 1H, H₃), 7.81-7.84 (dd,1H, $J_1 = 7.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.7$ Hz, H₁), 10.47 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.7$, 111.7, 120.8, 124.9, 128.7, 136.1, 161.9, 189.9 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹¹.



3,4-dimethoxybenzaldehyde (S9)

Compound **S9** (800.0 mg, 33%) as a white solid was prepared from 3,4dihydroxybenzaldehyde (2.0 g, 14.5 mmol) according to the general procedure **A** described above. $R_f = 0.27$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.94$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.96 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.97 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz, H₃), 7.40-7.47 (m, 2H, H₁, H₂), 9.85 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 56.1$, 56.3, 109.1, 110.5, 127.0, 130.3, 149.8, 154.6, 191.0 ppm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹².

General procedure B for the synthesis of (ZE)PAD-4 to (ZE)PAD-7

To a solution of methoxybenzaldehyde (1 eq, compound **S6** to **S9**) and ethyl crotonate (1.3 eq) in NMP (5–10 mL) was added sodium *tert*-butoxide (1.2 eq) under an ice bath. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for overnight. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated NaHCO_{3 (aq)} and was extracted with DCM. The aqueous layer was separated and the pH value was adjusted to 1 with 1M HCl (aq). Thereafter, the solution mixture was extracted with EtOAc three times. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to yield desired products.



(2Z,4E)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((ZE)PAD-4)

To a solution of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (400.0 mg, 2.9 mmol) and *tert*-butoxide (396.0 mg, 3.5 mmol) in NMP (8 mL) was added ethyl crotonate (0.5 mL, 3.9 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The mixture was subsequently extracted with 1M HCl (aq.) and Et₂O, and the Et₂O layer was then washed with saturated NaHCO_{3 (aq.)}. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford (**ZE)PAD-4** (241.0 mg, 40%) as a pale-yellow solid. Mp:

126°C; $R_f = 0.30$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): δ = 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.70 (d, 1H, J = 11.07 Hz, H_α), 6.82 (d, 1H, J = 10.86 Hz, H_γ), 6.87 (d, 1H, J = 5.67 Hz, H_β), 6.90 (d, 2H, J = 8.79 Hz, H₂), 7.50 (d, 2H, J = 8.76 Hz, H₁), 7.99 (ddd, 1H, J = 0.66 Hz, 11.37 Hz, 15.36 Hz, H_δ) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): δ = 55.5, 114.4, 115.2, 123.0, 129.1, 129.3, 142.4, 147.7, 160.7 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2922, 2848, 1691, 1614, 1587, 1509, 1447, 1249, 1230, 1173; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃O₃ ([M+H]⁺): 205.0865; Found 205.0865.



(2Z,4E)-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((ZE)PAD-5)

Compound **(ZE)PAD-5** (490.0 mg, 65%) as a yellow solid was prepared from compound **S12** (500.0 mg, 3.7 mmol) and ethyl crotonate (0.6 mL, 4.8 mmol) according to the general procedure **B** described above. Mp: 97°C; $R_f = 0.20$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.84$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.77 (d, 1H, J =11.3 Hz, H_a), 6.82-6.90 (m, 3H, H_β, H_δ, H₃), 7.04-7.06 (m, 1H, H₄), 7.13-7.16 (m, 1 H, H₂), 7.26-7.32 (m, 1H, H₁), 8.04-8.13 (ddd, 1H, J = 1.0 Hz, J = 11.6 Hz, J = 15.6 Hz, H_γ) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, 302 K): $\delta = 55.3$, 112.8, 115.0, 116.7, 120.3, 125.1, 129.7, 137.5, 142.3, 146.9, 159.9, 171.7 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2968, 2940, 2837, 2746, 2571, 1692, 1618, 1605, 1588, 1493, 1453, 1437, 1319, 1265, 1242, 1152, 1043, 1003, 962, 915, 824, 779, 770, 705, 678; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₃ [M]⁺: 204.1; Found 204.1.



(2Z,4E)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((ZE)PAD-6)

Compound (ZE)PAD-6 (260.0 mg, 51%) as a white solid was prepared from compound S13 (340.0 mg, 2.5 mmol) and ethyl crotonate (0.4 mL, 3.3 mmol) according

to the general procedure **B** described above. Mp: 143°C; $R_f = 0.23$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.88$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.72 (d, 1H, J = 11.3 Hz, H_a), 6.85-7.00 (m, 3H, H_{\gamma}, H_{\delta}, H₄), 7.25-7.33 (m, 2H, H₂, H₃), 7.63-7.66 (dd, 1H, $J_I = 7.7$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, H₁), 8.07-8.16 (ddd, 1H, $J_I = 15.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.4$ Hz, $J_3 = 1.0$ Hz, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.7$, 111.1, 115.9, 120.9 (2C), 125.3 (2C), 127.7, 130.6, 137.3, 148.1, 157.6 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2946, 2741, 2588, 1693, 1666, 1604, 1590, 1570, 1484, 1470, 1446, 1434, 1325, 1294, 1244, 1225, 1175, 1160, 1114, 1025, 1003, 957, 906, 824, 778, 757, 695; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₃ [M]⁺: 204.1; Found 204.1.



(2Z,4E)-5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((ZE)PAD-7)

Compound (**ZE**)**PAD-7** (257.0 mg, 61%) as a yellow solid was prepared from compound **S14** (300.0 mg, 1.8 mmol) and ethyl crotonate (0.3 mL, 2.3 mmol) according to the general procedure **B** described above. Mp: 151°C; $R_f = 0.08$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v).¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.91$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.93 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.70 (d, 1H, J = 11.2 Hz, H_{α}), 6.80-6.87 (m, 3H, H_{γ} , H_{δ} , H_3), 7.05-7.11 (m, 3H, H_1 , H_2), 7.91-8.00 (ddd, 1H, $J_I = J_2 = 15.9$ Hz, $J_3 = 1.1$ Hz, H_{β}) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.1$ (2C), 109.8, 111.2, 115.4, 121.8, 123.2, 129.4, 142.8, 147.7, 149.3, 150.5, 172.2 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2962, 2926, 2837, 2745, 2562, 1782, 1688, 1668, 1613, 1586, 1516, 1437, 1348, 1262, 1236, 1217, 998, 821, 798, 764, 739; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₃H₁₄O₄ [M]⁺: 234.1; Found 234.1.

General procedure C for the synthesis of (EE)PAD-4 to (EE)PAD-7

To a solution of **(EZ)PAD-4** to **(EZ)PAD-7** in MeOH (10.0 mL) was added iodine (0.01 eq). The reaction mixture was placed in a UV photosynthesizer with a 254 nm light source and stirred for 2 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography or recrystallized with hexane.



(2E,4E)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((EE)PAD-4)

Compound (EE)PAD-4 (100.0 mg, 83%) as a white solid was prepared from compound (ZE)PAD-4 (120.0 mg, 0.6 mmol) and iodine (1.5 mg) according to the general procedure C described above. $R_f = 0.13$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). Mp: 189°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 297 K): $\delta = 3.77$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.94 (d, 1H, J = 15.1Hz, H_a), 6.90-7.02 (m, 4H, H_γ, H_δ, H₂), 7.27-7.36 (ddd, 1H, $J_I = 15.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.3$ Hz, J_3 = 1.9 Hz, H_β), 7.49-7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.3$, 114.4 (2C), 120.9, 124.4, 128.7, 128.8 (2C), 139.8, 144.8, 160.0, 167.8 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₃ [M]⁺: 204.1; Found 204.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹³.



(2E,4E)-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((EE)PAD-5)

Compound **(EE)PAD-5** (30.0 mg, 60%) as a white solid was prepared from compound **(ZE)PAD-5** (50.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) and iodine (0.6 mg) according to the general procedure **C** described above. $R_f = 0.13$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). Mp: 133°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.84$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.01 (d, 1H, J = 15.2 Hz, H_a), 6.83-6.96 (m, 3H, H_γ, H_δ, H₄), 6.99-7.00 (m, 1H, H₃), 7.06-7.09 (m, 1 H, H₂), 7.28-7.31 (d, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz, H₁), 7.50-7.58 (ddd, 1H, $J_I = 15.3$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.3$ Hz, $J_3 = 2.2$ Hz, H_β) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, 302 K): $\delta = 55.3$, 112.4, 115.1, 120.1, 120.4, 126.3, 129.8, 137.2, 141.5, 146.8, 159.9, 172.2 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₃ [M]⁺: 204.1; Found 204.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹³.



(2E,4E)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((EE)PAD-6)

Compound (EE)PAD-6 (120.0 mg, 92%) as a white solid was prepared from compound (ZE)PAD-6 (130.0 mg, 0.6 mmol) and iodine (1.6 mg) according to the general procedure C described above. Mp: 181°C; $R_f = 0.18$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.89$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.97 (d, 1H, J = 15.3Hz, H_a), 6.89-7.01 (m, 3H, H_γ, H_δ, H₄), 7.27-7.31 (m, 2H, H₂, H₃), 7.49-7.61 (m, 2H, H_β, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 55.7$, 111.2, 119.6, 120.9, 125.0, 126.7, 127.7, 130.6, 137.0, 148.2, 157.8, 172.2 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3000, 2960, 2835, 2540, 1671, 1612, 1593, 1514, 1487, 1417, 1310, 1277, 1243, 1149, 1027, 1003, 748; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₃ [M]⁺: 204.1; Found 204.1.



(2E,4E)-5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoic acid ((EE)PAD-7)

Compound **(EE)PAD-7** (60.0 mg, 43%) as a yellow solid was prepared from compound **(ZE)PAD-7** (140.0 mg, 0.6 mmol) and iodine (1.7 mg) according to the general procedure **C** described above. Mp: 201°C; $R_f = 0.05$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v).¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 3.91$ (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.93 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.95 (d, 1H, J = 15.2 Hz, H_{α}), 6.74-6.92 (m, 3H, H_{γ} , H_{δ} , H_3), 7.01-7.06 (m, 2H, H_1 , H_2), 7.49-7.57 (dd, $J_I = 15.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 10.6$ Hz, H_{β}) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 56.1$, 56.1, 109.3, 111.3, 119.1, 121.7, 124.2, 129.1, 141.7, 147.4, 149.4, 150.5, 171.9 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2997, 2957, 2932, 2834, 2531, 1674, 1607, 1589, 1513, 1463, 1423, 1321, 1258, 1198, 1138, 1023, 1010, 872, 806, 760, 704; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₃H₁₄O₄ [M]⁺: 234.1; Found 234.1.



Scheme S6. Synthesis of (EE) DAO.



(2E,4E)-ethyl 5-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoate ((EE) DAO)

To a solution of (*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylaldehyde (200 mg, 1.2 mmol) in dry DCM (12.5 mL) was added carbethoxymethylene)triphenyphosphorane (644 mg, 1.9 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hr. After the completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography to give (**EE**) **DAO** (164 mg, 57%) as white solid. $R_f = 0.37$ (n-Hexane:EtOAc = 8:1 v/v). Mp: 65°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 1.31$ (t, 3H, J = 7.08 Hz, H₄), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.22 (q, 2H, J = 7.98 Hz, H₃), 5.93 (d, 1H, J = 15.21 Hz, H_α), 6.69-6.90 (m, 4H, H_γ, H_δ, H₂), 7.39-7.47 (m, 3H, H_β, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 14.5$, 55.5, 60.4, 114.4, 120.2, 124.3, 128.8, 129.0, 140.2, 145.1, 160.5, 167.4 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2923, 2848, 2334, 1704, 1623, 1600, 1311, 1260, 1232, 1135, 1026, 998; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₇O₃ ([M+H]⁺): 233.1178; Found 233.1178.



Scheme S7. Synthesis of PAD-8 and PAD-9

General procedure D for hydrogenation

To a solution of diene compound (1 eq) in THF/MeOH (10 mL, v/v 1:1) was added 10 w.t.% Pd/C. The reaction mixture was stirred under an atmosphere of hydrogen for

overnight. Pd/C was removed by vacuum filtration and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residues were purified by column chromatography.

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 & \delta & \beta \\ 2 \\ MeO \end{array} OH$$

5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pentanoic acid (PAD-8)

Compound **PAD-8** (47.0 mg, 46%) as a white solid was prepared from compound **(EE)PAD-4** (100.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) according to the general procedure **D** described above. Mp: 113°C; $R_f = 0.14$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): $\delta = 1.64-1.67$ (m, 4H, H_β, H_γ), 2.37 (t, 2H, J = 14.0 Hz, H_δ), 2.58 (t, 2H, J = 13.8 Hz, H_α), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.81-6.84 (m, 2H, H₂), 7.07-7.10 (m, 2H, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): $\delta = 24.4$, 31.1, 33.9, 34.7, 55.4, 113.9, 129.4, 134.2, 157.9, 179.5 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₆O₃ [M]⁺: 208.1; Found 208.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹⁴.



5-(benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)pentanoic acid (PAD-9)

Compound **PAD-9** (130.0 mg, 81%) as a white solid was prepared from compound **PA** (157.0 mg, 0.7 mmol) according to the general procedure **D** described above. $R_f = 0.26$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 2:1 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD, 297 K): $\delta = 1.59-1.62$ (m, 4H, H_β, H_γ), 2.17 (t, 2H, J = 14.4 Hz, H_δ), 2.54 (t, 2H, J = 14.2 Hz, H_α), 5.86 (s, 2H, H₄), 6.61-6.69 (m, 3H, H₁, H₂, H₃) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD, 298 K): $\delta = 27.3$, 33.1, 36.5, 39.1, 101.9, 108.8, 109.8, 122.2, 137.9, 146.9, 148.9, 182.9 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z: [M]⁺calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄O₄ 222.1; Found 222.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹⁵.



Scheme S8. Synthesis of PAD-11 to PAD-13

General procedure E for the synthesis of PAD-11 to PAD-13

A solution mixture of 1,4-dioxane and water (1:1) was degassed by using argon. Boronic acid (1 eq, 1.2 mmol), aryl bromide (1 eq, 1.2 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2 mol%) and sodium carbonate (7 eq) were dissolved in degassed solvent (12.0 mL) and then the reaction mixture was refluxed for overnight. After the completion of the reaction, it was cooled to room temperature, diluted with brine and washed with DCM. The aqueous layer was separated and the pH value was adjusted to 1 with 1M $HCl_{(aq)}$. The precipitate was removed by filtration and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to yield the crude product, or the acidified aqueous layer was extracted with additional EtOAc (the organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure). The crude product was purified by column chromatography or recrystallized with a water/EtOH solution mixture.



4-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)benzoic acid (PAD-11)

Compound **PAD-11** was obtained as a white solid (162.0 mg, 56%). Mp = 278°C; $R_f = 0.20$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc = 1:9 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 295 K): $\delta = 6.08$ (s, 2H, H₆), 7.03 (d, 1H, J = 8.1 Hz, H₅), 7.22-7.25 (dd, 1H, $J_I = 8.1$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.8$ Hz, H₄), 7.32 (d, 1H, J = 1.8 Hz, H₃), 7.72 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz, H₂), 7.96 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 295 K): $\delta = 101.5$, 107.4, 109.0, 121.1, 126.7, 129.4, 130.1, 133.4, 144.2, 147.7, 148.3, 167.5 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z: $[M]^+$ calcd. for $C_{14}H_{10}O_4$ 242.1; Found 242.1. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were with reported literature¹⁶.



5-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)furan-2-carboxylic acid (PAD-12)

Compound **PAD-12** was obtained as a beige solid (58.0 mg, 21%). Mp: 198–202°C; $R_f = 0.20$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc 1:9 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 295 K): $\delta = 6.09$ (s, 2H, H₆), 7.01-7.04 (m, 2H, H₅, H₂), 7.27 (d, 1H, J = 3.6 Hz, H₁), 7.31-7.34 (dd, 1H, J_I = 8.1 Hz, $J_2 = 1.7$ Hz, H₄), 7.36 (d, 1H, J = 1.7 Hz, H₃) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): $\delta = 101.5$, 104.8, 106.9, 108.9, 118.7, 119.9, 123.5, 143.6, 148.0 (2C), 156.2, 159.3 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3109, 3002, 2912, 2682, 1681, 1585, 1497, 1473, 1333, 1317, 1232, 1164, 1037, 1023, 934, 862, 810, 792, 756; LRMS (EI) m/z: [M]⁺calcd. for $C_{12}H_8O_5 232.0$; Found 232.0.



5-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (PAD-13)

Compound **PAD-13** was obtained as a light brown solid (238 mg, 80%). Mp = 243°C; $R_f = 0.20$ (n-Hexane: EtOAc 1:9 v/v). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 295 K): $\delta = 6.08$ (s, 2H, H₆), 6.99 (d, 1H, J = 8.1 Hz, H₅), 7.21-7.24 (dd, 1H, $J_I = 8.1$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.9$ Hz, H₄), 7.35 (d, 1H, J = 1.8 Hz, H₃), 7.46 (d, 1H, J = 4.0 Hz, H₂), 7.66 (d, 1H, J = 3.9 Hz, H₁) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 296 K): $\delta = 101.6$, 106.3, 108.9, 120.1, 123.9, 127.1, 132.3, 134.3, 147.9, 148.2, 149.8, 162.8 ppm; LRMS (EI) m/z: [M]⁺calcd. for C₁₂H₈O₄S 248.0; Found 248.0. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹⁶.



PAD-13b $R^1 = CO_2H; R^2 = H$ 96%

Scheme S9. Synthesis of PAD-13a and PAD-13b

General procedure F for synthesis of PAD-13a and PAD-13b

5-Bromothiophene-2-carboxylic acid (1.0 equiv.), carboxyphenylboronic acid (1.1 equiv.), Na₂CO₃ (4.5 equiv.) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (3 mol%) were mixed in degassed H₂O. The final concentration of the reaction is 0.08 M. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 6 h. After that, the mixture was cooled down to room temperature. The reaction mixture was washed with DCM until the color of aqueous layer became colorless. Thereafter, the pH value of aqueous layer was adjusted with concentrated HCl to 1 under an ice bath to form precipitate. The precipitate was filtered under reduced pressure to give desired PAD-13 derivatives.



5-(4-carboxyphenyl)thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (PAD-13a)

Compound **PAD-13a** was obtained as a white solid (238 mg, 99 %). Mp > 300 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 308 K): δ = 7.66 (d, 1H, J = 3.90 Hz, H₁), 7.73 (d, 1H, J = 3.93 Hz, H₂), 7.84 (d, 2H, J = 8.46 Hz, H₃), 7.98 (d, 2H, J = 6.27 Hz, H₄) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 308 K): δ = 126.3, 126.5, 127.6, 130.5, 130.7, 131.0, 134.9, 135.0, 137.1, 148.7, 163.2, 167.3 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3000 (br), 1683, 1600, 1510, 1289, 1113, 928; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₈O₄S ([M+H]⁺): 249.0222; Found: 249.0221. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were agreed with reported literature¹⁷.



5-(3-carboxyphenyl)thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (PAD-13b)

Compound **PAD-13b** was further purified by washing with methanol and was afforded as a white solid (229 mg, 96 %). Mp = 296 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 312 K): δ = 7.59 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.80 Hz, H₅), 7.64 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.93 Hz, H₁), 7.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.93 Hz, H₂), 7.93 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.83 Hz, H₄), 7.98 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.83 Hz, H₆), 8.18 (s, 1H, H₃) ppm; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 313 K): δ = 125.6, 126.4, 129.7, 130.0, 130.3, 132.0, 133.3, 134.0, 134.7, 148.7, 162.9, 167.0 ppm; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3000 (br), 1687, 1428, 1304, 1122, 931; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₈O₄S ([M-H]⁻): 247.0065; Found: 247.0066.

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