



Reaction intermediate analogues as bisubstrate inhibitors of pantothenate synthetase



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 18 October 2013

Revised 25 December 2013

Accepted 14 January 2014

Available online 23 January 2014

Keywords:

Pantothenate synthetase

Tuberculosis

Bisubstrate inhibitor

Adenylation

Coenzyme A

ABSTRACT

The biosynthesis of pantothenate, the core of coenzyme A (CoA), has been considered an attractive target for the development of antimicrobial agents since this pathway is essential in prokaryotes, but absent in mammals. Pantothenate synthetase, encoded by the gene *panC*, catalyzes the final condensation of pantoic acid with β -alanine to afford pantothenate via an intermediate pantoyl adenylate. We describe the synthesis and biochemical characterization of five PanC inhibitors that mimic the intermediate pantoyl adenylate. These inhibitors are competitive inhibitors with respect to pantoic acid and possess submicromolar to micromolar inhibition constants. The observed SAR is rationalized through molecular docking studies based on the reported co-crystal structure of **1a** with PanC. Finally, whole cell activity is assessed against wild-type *Mtb* as well as a PanC knockdown strain where PanC is depleted to less than 5% of wild-type levels.

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1. Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB) caused by members of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*Mtb*) complex is an ancient scourge that remains the leading source of morbidity and mortality today with an estimated nine million new cases and 1.4 million deaths in 2011, primarily in the developing world.¹ The recommended therapy by the World Health Organization (WHO) for drug sensitive TB is known as directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) and requires 6 months of treatment with isoniazid, rifampin, ethambutol, and pyrazinamide.² This extremely long duration of treatment is likely due to the ability of *Mtb* to switch its metabolism to a nonreplicating state,³ the heterogeneous nature of the bacterial subpopulations residing in different lesions types,³ and the lack of drug penetration into the site of infection.⁴ In order to combat this global health threat, new drugs are needed to shorten the treatment duration and for drug resistant strains including multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB and extensively drug resistant (XDR) TB.^{5,6}

Pantothenate, also known as vitamin B5 is a precursor to coenzyme A (CoA), an essential cofactor required in central and intermediary metabolism where it serves as an acyl group carrier and

carbonyl activating group.^{7,8} Bioinformatics analysis has identified the *de novo* biosynthetic pathway to pantothenate as an attractive target for the development of antimicrobial agents since this pathway is absent in mammals, but essential in prokaryotes.^{9–11} Biosynthesis of pantothenate is accomplished by four enzymes encoded by the genes *panB*, *panC*, *panD*, and *panE*. PanB and PanE are responsible for the synthesis of pantoic acid, while PanD, an aspartate α -decarboxylase, produces β -alanine. PanC (Rv3602c, pantothenate synthetase) then catalyzes the condensation of pantoic acid with β -alanine through a two-step adenylation–ligation reaction.¹² In the adenylation half-reaction, ATP and pantoic acid react to form a pantoyl-adenylate intermediate (Fig. 1A). Following the release of pyrophosphate, β -alanine binds and PanC catalyzes its ligation with the activated carbonyl of the pantoyl-adenylate to afford pantothenate. The detailed kinetic characterization of PanC from *Mtb* shows it uses a bi-uni-uni-bi ping pong kinetic mechanism with sequential ordered binding of ATP followed by pantoic acid and sequential ordered release of pantothenate followed by AMP (Fig. 1B).¹² The apparent K_M values for pantoic acid, ATP, and β -alanine are 0.13, 2.6, and 0.8 mM, respectively. PanC is a 33 kDa protein that exists as a homodimer in solution. The active site is located in the N-terminal domain (residues 1–186) while the C-terminal domain (residues 187–309) covers the active site.¹³ Substrates must diffuse through a gate comprising residues 75–88, which are flexible and disordered, but becomes ordered upon formation of the pantoyl adenylate. The structures PanC from

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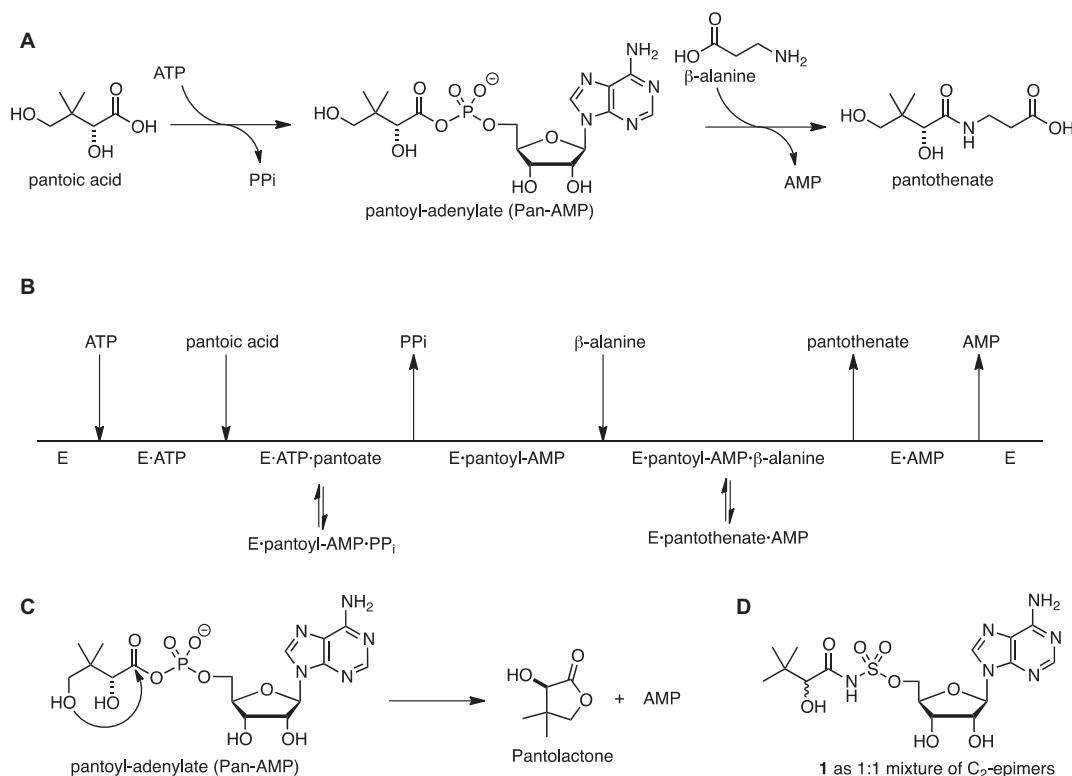


Figure 1. Pantothenate synthetase catalyzed reactions.

Mtb in complex with substrates, intermediates, and products have been solved providing a step-by-step view of the PanC reaction.^{13,14}

Inhibitors of PanC have been identified by high-throughput screening,^{15–17} fragment-based approaches,^{18–20} dynamic combinatorial chemistry,²¹ and through the rationale design of analogues of the pantoyl-adenylate intermediate.^{22,23} The pantoyl-adenylate intermediate mimic **1**, which is epimeric at the C-2 position of the pantoyl fragment, reported by Ciulli and co-workers is the most potent inhibitor yet reported with a K_i of 0.22 μ M with respect to ATP as the varied substrate at saturating concentrations of pantoic acid and β -alanine using a coupled biochemical assay that measures formation of AMP.²³ In this paper, we report the design, synthesis, and biochemical evaluation of five inhibitors with the C-2 stereocenter retaining the same configuration (i.e., *R*) as the reaction intermediate **1a** (Fig. 2). To prevent the intramolecular lactonization (Fig. 1C), the terminal C-4 hydroxyl of the pantoyl moiety was removed in **1a–4** while the pantoyl carbonyl group was deleted in **5**. All compounds were also evaluated against wild-type *Mtb* and a PanC depleted *Mtb* strain.

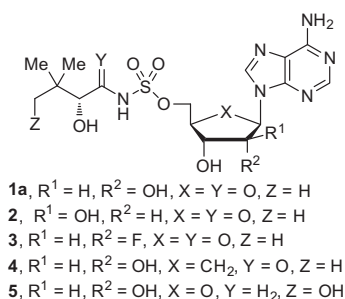
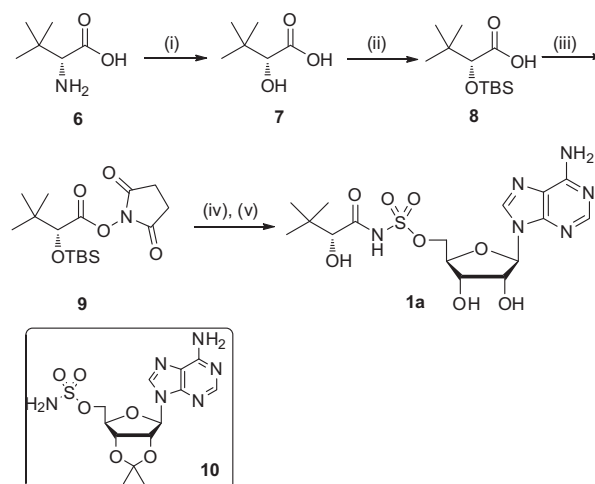


Figure 2. Reaction intermediate analogues of pantoyl-adenylate.

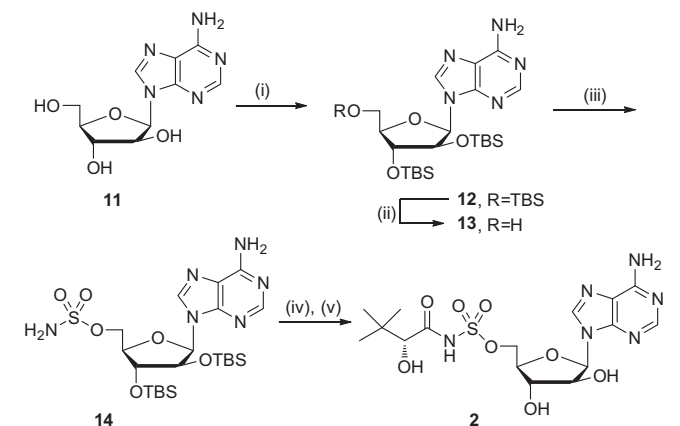
2. Results and discussion

2.1. Chemistry

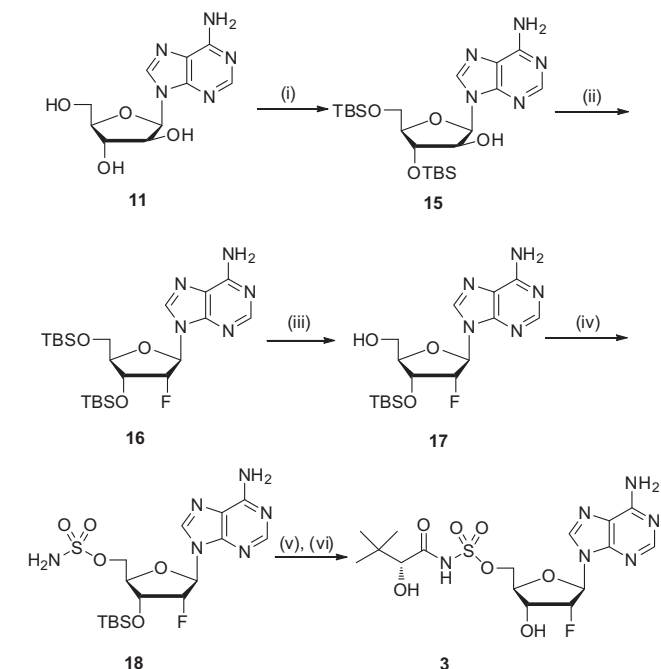
Synthesis of diastereomerically pure **1a** was achieved starting from commercially available (*R*)-2-amino-3,3-dimethylbutanoic acid **6** that was first converted to the corresponding α -hydroxy acid **7** with retention of configuration via an intermediate α -lactone (Scheme 1).²⁴ Protection of the resultant hydroxyl group as a TBS ether provided **8**, which was coupled with *N*-hydroxy-succinimide (NHS) using DCC to afford the common reaction intermediate **9**. The pantoyl-adenylate analogue **1a** was then prepared



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (i) H_2SO_4 , $NaNO_2$, H_2O , $0^\circ C \rightarrow rt$, 16 h, 81%; (ii) TBSCl, imidazole, DMF, 16 h, 81%; (iii) NHS, DCC, DME, 16 h, 60%; (iv) **10**, Cs_2CO_3 , DMF, 24 h; (v) 4:1 TFA- H_2O , $8^\circ C$, 48 h, 7% from **10**.



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (i) TBSCl (6.0 equiv), imidazole, DMF, 16 h, 70%; (ii) 2:1:1 H₂O–THF–TFA, 2 h, 81%; (iii) NaH, H₂NSO₂Cl, dioxane, 24 h, 60%; (iv) 9, Cs₂CO₃, DMF, 24 h; (v) 4:1 TFA–H₂O, 20 °C, 60 h, 3% from 14.

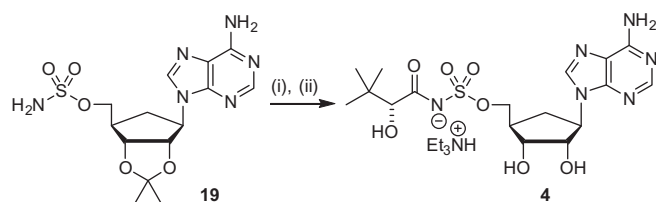


Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: (i) TBSCl, Et₃N, DMF, 16 h, 65%; (ii) DAST, pyridine, CH₂Cl₂, 6 h, 31%; (iii) 2:1:1 H₂O–THF–TFA, 20 min, 92%; (iv) NaH, H₂NSO₂Cl, dioxane, 16 h, 60%; (v) 9, Cs₂CO₃, DMF, 20 h; (vi) 4:1 TFA–H₂O, 20 °C, 72 h, 4% from 18.

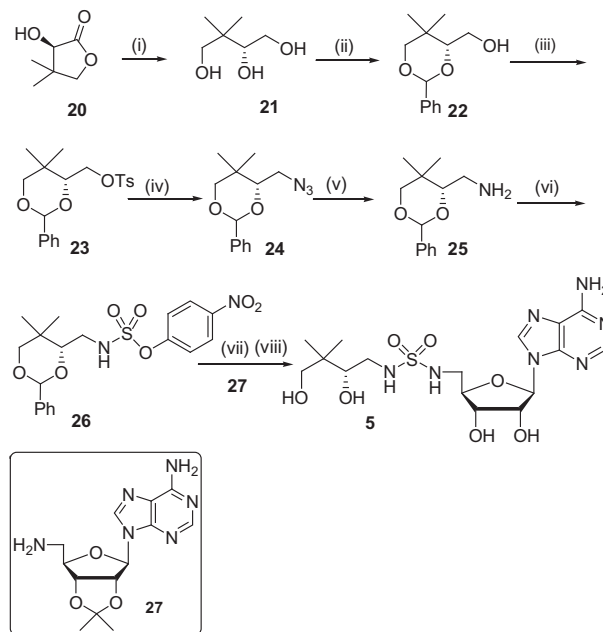
by acylation of 2',3'-isopropylidene-5'-O-(sulfamoyl)adenosine **10**²⁵ with **9** employing Cs₂CO₃ in DMF followed by concomitant deprotection of the TBS and acetone groups using aqueous trifluoroacetic acid (TFA).²⁶

Analogue **2** that is epimeric at the C-2' position was synthesized in five steps from vidarabine **11** (Scheme 2). Persilylation with excess TBSCl afforded **12** and regioselective deprotection of the primary 5'-OTBS was accomplished under carefully controlled conditions with TFA in 2:1 H₂O–THF to furnish **13**. Sulfamylation with freshly prepared sulfamoyl chloride²⁷ in dioxane yielded **14**, which was coupled to **9** and deprotected with 80% aqueous TFA to provide the arabinosyl nucleoside derivative **2**.

The 2'-fluoroadenosine analogue **3**²⁸ was also prepared starting from vidarabine **11** through regioselective protection of the less sterically encumbered 3' and 5'-hydroxyl groups to yield **15**



Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: (i) 9, Cs₂CO₃, DMF, 20 h; (ii) 4:1 TFA–H₂O, 8 °C, 48 h, 7% from **19**.



Scheme 5. Reagents and conditions: (i) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C, 2 h, 58%; (ii) PhCH(OEt)₂, CSA, CH₂Cl₂, reflux, 24 h, 85%; (iii) TsCl, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 16 h, 83%; (iv) NaN₃, DMF, reflux, 16 h, 93%; (v) H₂, Pd/C, MeOH, 2 h, 75%; (vi) 4-nitrophenyl chlorosulfate, CH₂Cl₂, –78 °C, 2 h, 50%; (vii) **27**, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 4 Å molecular sieves; (viii) 4:1 TFA–H₂O, –35 °C, 4 h, 4% from **26**.

(Scheme 3). Fluorination of **15** with diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST) afforded **16**.²⁹ After selective removal of the 5'-OTBS employing TFA in 2:1 H₂O–THF, intermediate **17** was converted to sulfamate **18**. The ¹H NMR data of **17** and **18** agreed with reported analytical data,³⁰ indicating that the C-2' configuration of **16** was *R*. Acylation of **18** with **9** followed by deprotection of the TBS with 80% aqueous TFA provided **3**.

Carbocyclic analogue **4** was prepared from the reported aristeromycin nucleoside analogue **19**³¹ by acylation with **9** followed by deprotection with 80% aqueous TFA (Scheme 4).

The synthesis of sulfamide **5** began from commercially available (D)-(–)-pantolactone **20** that was first reduced to triol **21** with LiAlH₄ as described by Burkart et al., then protected as the 1,3-benzylidene acetal **22** (Scheme 5).³² Functional group interconversion of primary alcohol **22** to amine **25** was performed by sequential tosylation, azide displacement, and catalytic reduction. Sulfamylation of **25** with 4-nitrophenyl chlorosulfate afforded **26**, which was coupled to nucleoside **27**³³ followed by global deprotection of the acetone and benzylidene acetal with 80% aqueous TFA to furnish **5**.³⁴

2.2. PanC inhibition studies

Pantothenate synthetase (PanC) from *Mtb* was subcloned from BAC-Rv222 (kindly provided by the Institut Pasteur) into pET28b

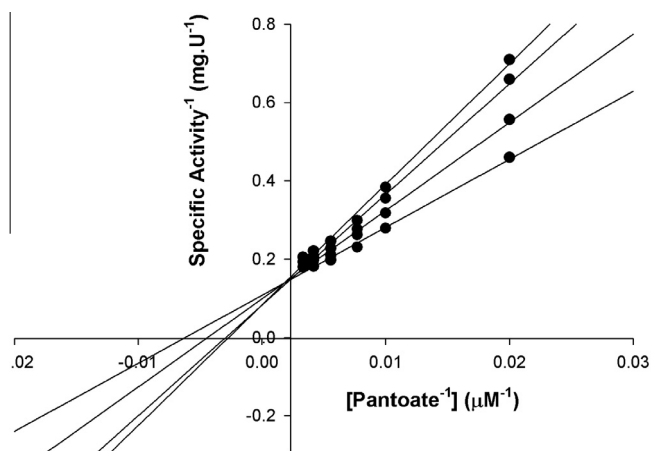


Figure 3. Inhibition of PanC with inhibitor **1a**. Assays were performed at varying concentrations of inhibitor **1a** (0–0.8 μM) and pantoic acid, fixed concentrations of ATP (2.6 mM) and β -alanine (2.4 mM).

Table 1
Inhibition constants for **1a–5**

Inhibitor	K_i (μM)
1a	0.27 ± 0.04
2	1.73 ± 0.24
3	0.99 ± 0.30
4	0.87 ± 0.12
5	3.47 ± 0.48

and expressed in *Escherichia coli* BL21 (DE3) as described in Section 4 to provide an N-terminal His-tagged protein with kinetic parameters commensurate with the native enzyme.¹² Kinetic studies to evaluate enzyme inhibition of each compound toward PanC were performed under initial velocity conditions using a continuous coupled assay that measures production of pyrophosphate (see Section 4).^{35,36}

Since compounds **1a–5** are bisubstrate inhibitors, designed to bind both the pantoic acid and ATP binding pockets, we evaluated inhibition with respect to pantoic acid at fixed non-saturating concentrations of ATP and saturating concentrations of the third substrate β -alanine. Representative inhibition data for compound **1a** are shown in Figure 3. The double-reciprocal plots of initial velocity versus pantoic acid concentration at different inhibitor concentrations of **1a** display a pattern of intersecting lines that converge at the y-axis, indicating that the molecule act as a competitive inhibitor towards pantoic acid, in which K_m values are increased, but there is no effect on V_{max} .³⁷ The data were fitted to Eq. 1 for competitive inhibition yielding a K_i value of 0.27 ± 0.04 μM .

Inhibitors **2–5** were similarly evaluated and shown to possess identical modalities of inhibition with respect to pantoic acid (see Table 1 for inhibition constants). Inhibitor **1a** containing an acyl-sulfamate linkage and the natural ribosyl subunit is the most potent ($K_i = 0.27$ μM) in the series while inhibitor **5** containing a sulfamide linkage is the least potent ($K_i = 3.47$ μM), an approximately 13-fold difference in affinity, demonstrating that the linker carbonyl is more important than the terminal hydroxyl group of the pantoic fragment. Replacement of the ribofuranosyl ring oxygen with a methylene in carbocyclic analogue **3** and substitution of the 2'-hydroxyl with a fluoro group in analogue **4** are reasonably well tolerated resulting in a modest 2–3 fold loss in affinities. Inversion of the 2'-alcohol in analogue **2** results in more pronounced 4–6 fold loss in potency.

2.3. Computational modeling

The key interactions between the intermediate analogue (Pan-AMP, Fig. 1A) and PanC involve the secondary hydroxyl and the carbonyl groups of the pantoic fragment, which form hydrogen bonds with protein residues Gln72 and Thr39, respectively. In the adenylate moiety, the two hydroxyls of ribose form hydrogen bonds with Asp161, Gly158 and Gln 164, while the two nitrogen atoms at the adenine moiety interact with Val187 and Met195. To understand the binding selectivity of our designed PanC inhibitors, we modeled **2–5** into PanC binding site using the reported X-ray structure of the complex of **1** with PanC (Fig. 4A and B).¹⁷ The removal of the carbonyl group in **5** results in a loss of critical hydrogen bond interaction with Gln72 and explains the nearly 13-fold loss of affinity relative to **1a**. For inhibitor **3**, the 2'-fluorine atom maintained hydrogen bond with Asp161. Replacement of the oxygen atom by carbon in inhibitor **4** does not change the compound overall binding mode with the protein and **4** displayed only a slight loss in binding affinity ($K_i = 287$ nM) compared to **1a**.

2.4. Evaluation against whole cell *M. tuberculosis*

Pantoic-adenylate analogues **1a–5** were evaluated against whole cell *Mtb* H37RvMA in 7H9 liquid medium; however, none of the compounds displayed any growth inhibition up to 250 μM . Notably, no whole cell activity against wild-type *Mtb* has yet been observed or disclosed for any previously described PanC inhibitor.^{15–23} Mizrahi and co-workers recently reported on the preparation of a *Mtb* panC conditional mutant that expresses less than 5% wild-type PanC levels.³⁸ Depletion of PanC renders this mutant hypersensitive to target-specific inhibitors. In order to provide evidence that **1a–5** possess some target-based activity, the compounds were screened against this PanC-depleted strain, but no activity was observed with up to 2 mM **1a–5**. Although discouraging, it is important to note that the enzyme potency of these bisubstrate inhibitors is relatively modest compared to related bisubstrate inhibitors for other adenylating enzymes in *Mtb*.³⁹

3. Conclusion

We have reported the synthesis as well as the biochemical and biological characterization of five PanC inhibitors as potential anti-tubercular agents. These compounds structurally mimic the pantoic-adenylate reaction intermediate by bioisosteric replacement of the labile acyl-phosphate moiety with either acyl-sulfamate or sulfamide functional groups. We demonstrated that structural variation of the glycosyl domain of these inhibitors is well tolerated and the hydrogen bond interactions between the inhibitors and the active site residues Gln72 and Gln164 are critical for high binding affinity. Surprisingly, despite their close mimicry of the pantoic-adenylate, none of the compounds were exceptionally potent inhibitors with K_i ranging from ~ 0.3 to 3 μM . By contrast, related adenylate inhibitors of the enzymes MbtA and BirA in *Mtb* possess picomolar dissociation constants.^{40,41} Ciulli reported the binding of **1** (as a mixture of C-2 epimers) to PanC by isothermal titration calorimetry is accompanied by a large unfavorable entropic term ($-T\Delta S = +8.8$ kcal/mol),²³ which may reflect the energetic penalty associated with the disorder-to-order transition of the gate residues (amino acids 75–88) that occurs upon ligand binding.¹³ Thus, despite an impressive favorable enthalpy of binding PanC ($\Delta H = -18.2$ kcal/mol),²³ the overall potency of **1a** is limited by the large unfavorable entropy that is likely to restrict the potency of all active-site directed inhibitors of this enzyme. Since the inhibitors have limited potency, we used an *Mtb* strain wherein the levels of PanC are depleted relative to wild-type, thereby

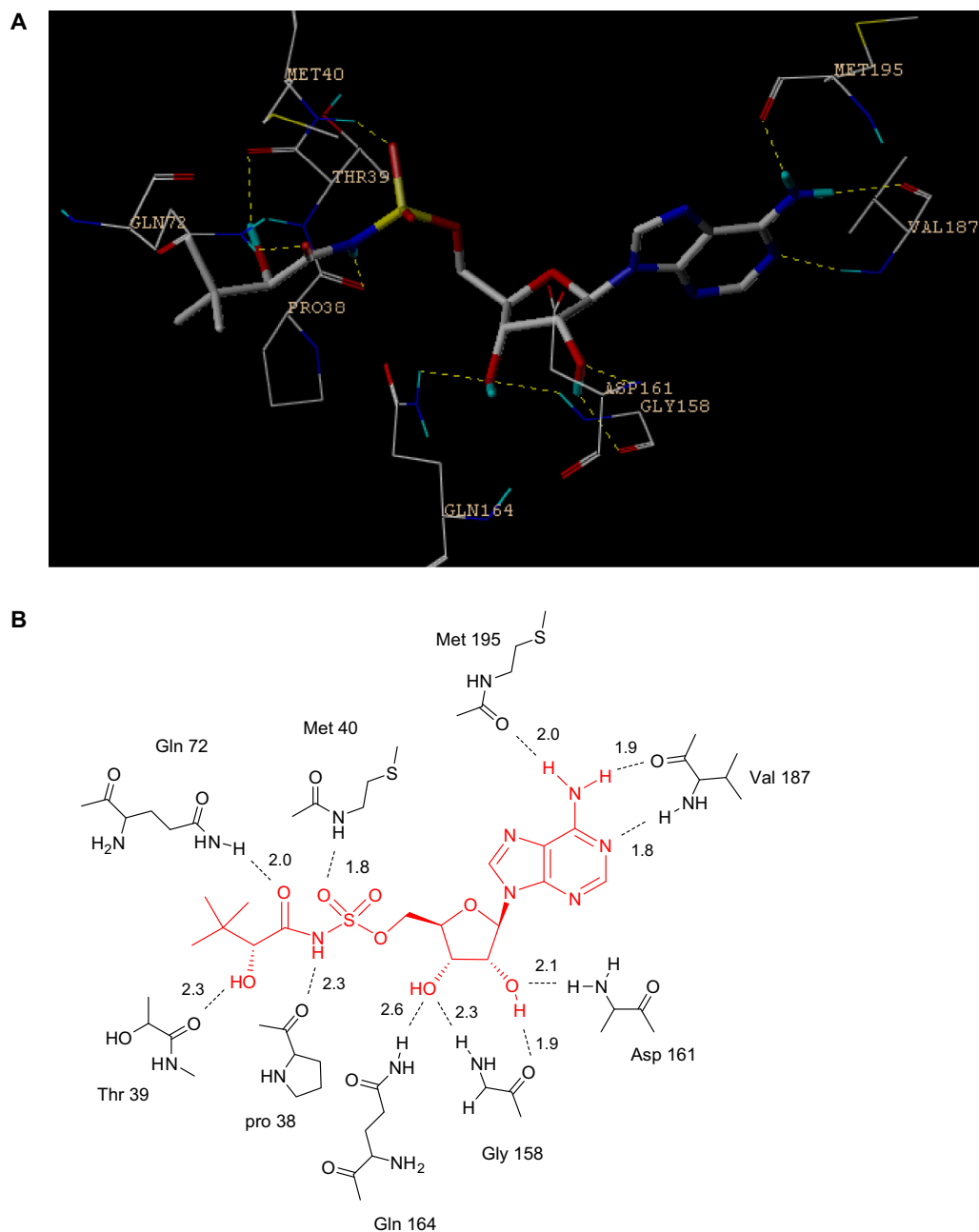


Figure 4. Docking results of the inhibitors in the active site of the closed model of *E. coli* pantothenate synthetase. (A) The detailed binding interactions of inhibitor **1** in the active site of the protein. The inhibitor is shown as sticks with grey carbons. (B) The detailed hydrogen bonds are indicated with dashed lines and H-bond distances are given.

hypersensitizing the organism to inhibitors of PanC, in order to provide evidence of target specificity. However, none of the compounds demonstrated any activity against this knock-down strain suggesting the compounds failed to accumulate intracellularly. This could be caused by poor cell penetration or active efflux. Alternatively, PanC may not be particularly vulnerable to inhibition and thus may not represent an ideal target for development of new antitubercular agents.

4. Materials and methods

4.1. General procedures

All chemicals (reagent grade) used were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich (USA) and Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd (China). ^1H NMR spectra were measured on Varian Unity Inova 300

or 400 MHz NMR Spectrometers at 25 °C and referenced to TMS. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm using the residual solvent line as internal standard. Splitting patterns are designed as s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet. HRMS spectra were acquired on an Agilent Technologies 6220 Accurate-Mass TOF LC/MS. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on the glass-backed silica gel sheets (silica gel 60 Å GF254). All compounds were detected using UV light (254 or 365 nm). Analytical HPLC was conducted on SHIMADZU LC-20AD. Prior to K_i measurement, all compounds were determined to be >95% pure by HPLC based on the peak area percentage.

4.1.1. (*R*)-2-Hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoic acid (**7**)

To a solution of **6** (1.0 g, 7.62 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 at 0 °C was added a solution of NaNO_2 (3.15 g, 45.6 mmol, 6.0 equiv) in H_2O (10 mL) dropwise over 30 min. After addition was complete

the solution was warmed to 23 °C and stirred overnight (~16 h). The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (30 mL), extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 30 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated to afford **7** (806 mg, 81%) as a colorless oil, which was used directly in next reaction. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.90 (s, 1H), 1.02 (s, 9H); MS (ESI[−]) calcd for C₆H₁₁O₃ [M−H][−] 131.1, found 131.4.

4.1.2. (R)-2-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoic acid (**8**)

To a solution of **7** (2.06 g, 15.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (15 mL) were added imidazole (5.09 g, 74.8 mmol, 4.8 equiv) and *tert*-butylchlorodimethylsilane (5.64 g, 37.4 mmol, 2.4 equiv). The mixture was stirred overnight at 23 °C then extracted with 1:1 ethyl acetate–petroleum ether (3 × 30 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with a 10% aqueous citric acid solution, H₂O, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, then dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated. The residue was dissolved in methanol (100 mL), then an aqueous 0.8 M K₂CO₃ solution (50 mL) was added. After 4 h, 10% citric acid aqueous solution was added to adjust pH to 4. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 30 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (10:1 petroleum ether–ethyl acetate) to afford the title compound (3.1 g, 81%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.64 (br s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 1H), 0.97 (s, 9H), 0.93 (s, 9H), 0.08 (s, 3H), 0.06 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.6, 80.0, 35.4, 26.0, 25.8, 18.3, −5.2 (2C); MS (ESI[−]) calcd for C₁₂H₂₅O₃Si [M−H][−] 245.2, found 245.2.

4.1.3. (R)-2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoate (**9**)

To a solution of **8** (1.99 g, 8.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DME (50 mL) at 0 °C, *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (1.87 g, 16.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and DCC (2.34 g, 11.3 mmol, 1.4 equiv) were added and the mixture was stirred overnight at 23 °C. The mixture was filtered through a short pad of Celite washing with ethyl acetate and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 petroleum ether–CH₂Cl₂) to afford the title compound (1.60 g, 60%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.09 (s, 1H), 2.81 (br s, 4H), 1.05 (s, 9H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 3H), 0.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.1, 168.1, 78.5, 36.0, 25.7 (3C), 18.2, −5.2, −5.5; MS (ESI[−]) calcd for C₁₆H₂₉NO₅Si [M][−] 343.2, found 342.8.

4.1.4. 5'-O-[*N*-((R)-2-Hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]adenosine (**1a**)

To a solution of **10**²⁵ (100 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (1.0 mL) was added **9** (179 mg, 0.52 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and Cs₂CO₃ (169 mg, 0.52 mmol, 2.0 equiv) at 23 °C. After stirring 24 h at 23 °C, the solution was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (500:6:1.5 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH–Et₃N) afforded 5'-O-[*N*-((R)-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]-2',3'-O-isopropylideneadenosine triethylammonium salt (72 mg) as a yellow solid. This compound was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (2 mL). After stirring 48 h at 8 °C, the solution was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (8 mg, 7% yield from compound **10**) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.57 (s, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 5.05–5.00 (m, 1H), 4.79–4.77 (m, 1H), 4.74–4.70 (m, 1H), 4.40–4.37 (m, 1H), 4.14–4.10 (m, 1H), 3.62 (s, 1H), 0.99 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 179.0, 158.7, 150.3, 140.9, 140.6, 121.2, 95.3, 85.2, 80.3, 77.2, 71.7, 59.7, 36.1, 26.5; HRMS (ESI[−]) calcd for C₁₆H₂₃N₆O₈S [M−H][−] 459.1304, found 459.1310.

4.1.5. 2',3',5'-O-Tri(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)vidarabine (**12**)

To a solution of vidarabine **11** (200 mg, 0.748 mmol, 1 equiv) in DMF (1.5 mL) were added imidazole (306 mg, 4.49 mmol, 6.0 equiv) and TBSCl (677 mg, 4.49 mmol, 6.0 equiv) and the reaction was stirred overnight at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was partitioned between EtOAc and H₂O and the organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (80:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (319 mg, 70%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (s, 2H), 4.34–4.32 (m, 1H), 4.19–4.16 (m, 1H), 4.03–3.98 (m, 1H), 3.88–3.84 (m, 2H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.72 (s, 9H), 0.15 (s, 6H), 0.09 (s, 3H), 0.08 (s, 3H), −0.08 (s, 3H), −0.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.5, 153.0, 149.6, 140.8, 119.3, 86.5, 85.9, 78.3, 77.6, 63.0, 26.1, 25.9, 25.7, 18.5, 18.1, 17.9, −4.4, −5.2, −5.5; MS (ESI⁺) calcd for C₂₈H₅₆N₅O₄Si₃ [M+H]⁺ 610.4, found 610.0.

4.1.6. 2',3'-O-Di(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)vidarabine (**13**)

To a solution of **12** (50 mg, 0.082 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) was added 35% aqueous TFA (2 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 23 °C, then quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (80:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (33 mg, 81%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 2H), 4.38–4.34 (m, 1H), 4.31–4.27 (m, 1H), 4.13 (s, 1H), 4.08–4.04 (m, 1H), 3.92–3.88 (m, 2H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.67 (s, 9H), 0.16 (s, 6H), −0.06 (s, 3H), −0.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 156.8, 153.6, 149.7, 141.9, 119.5, 88.0, 87.1, 79.1, 78.4, 62.6, 26.2, 26.0, 18.6, 18.3, −4.2, −4.4, −4.8, −5.4; MS (ESI⁺) calcd for C₂₂H₄₂N₅O₄Si₂ [M+H]⁺ 496.3, found 496.0.

4.1.7. 2',3'-O-Di(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-5'-O-(sulfamoyl)vidarabine (**14**)

To a solution of **13** (100 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (5 mL) was added NaH (60% w/w in mineral oil, 60 mg, 1.5 mmol, 7.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 23 °C. Next, NH₂SO₂Cl²⁷ (58 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv) was added and the reaction was stirred for 24 h, then quenched by the slow addition of 5:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH (10 mL). The reaction mixture was filtered through silica gel and the filtrate was concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (30:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (70 mg, 60%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (s, 2H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.40–4.24 (m, 4H), 0.98 (s, 9H), 0.72 (s, 9H), 0.22 (s, 6H), −0.02 (s, 3H), −0.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 155.9, 152.7, 149.1, 139.8, 118.3, 84.2, 81.9, 77.3, 76.5, 68.1, 25.7, 25.4, 17.6, 17.3, −4.6, −4.7, −5.4, −5.8; MS (ESI⁺) calcd for C₂₂H₄₃N₆O₆SSi₂ [M+H]⁺ 575.2, found 574.8.

4.1.8. 5'-O-[*N*-((R)-2-Hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]vidarabine (**2**)

To a solution of **14** (420 mg, 0.70 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (10 mL) was added **9** (497 mg, 1.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and Cs₂CO₃ (476 mg, 1.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction was stirred for 24 h then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (500:6:1.5 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH–Et₃N) to afford 2',3'-O-di(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-5'-O-[*N*-((R)-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]vidarabine triethylammonium salt (80 mg) as a yellow solid. This intermediate was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (2 mL). After stirring 60 h at 23 °C, the solution was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (10 mg, 3% yield from compound **14**) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.58 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz,

1H), 5.01 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (dd, J = 16.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 1H), 1.00 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 179.6, 158.7, 150.1, 142.2, 141.5, 121.3, 91.8, 85.7, 81.3, 80.2, 76.9, 59.8, 36.2, 26.5; HRMS (ESI $^-$) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_6\text{O}_8\text{S}$ [$\text{M}-\text{H}$] $^-$ 459.1304, found 459.1318.

4.1.9. 3',5'-O-Di(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)vidarabine (15)

To a solution of vidarabine **11** (2.0 g, 7.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (40 mL) were added triethylamine (5.2 mL, 37 mmol, 5.0 equiv) and TBSCl (2.82 g, 18.7 mmol, 2.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at 23 °C then partitioned between EtOAc and H_2O . The organic layer was dried (NaSO_4), and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (80:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (2.4 g, 65%) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 2H), 4.88 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37–4.34 (m, 1H), 4.14 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 1H), 3.96 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 0.93 (s, 18H), 0.15 (s, 6H), 0.14 (s, 6H); MS (ESI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4\text{Si}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 496.3, found 496.4.

4.1.10. 3',5'-O-Di(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoroadenosine (16)

To a solution of **15** (100 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and pyridine (0.20 mL, 10 mmol, 10 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) at 23 °C was added diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST) (50.1 μL , 1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h at 23 °C then quenched with 5% aqueous NaHCO_3 (15 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 \times 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (NaSO_4) and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (50:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (20 mg, 31%) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 6.25 (dd, J = 15.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 2H), 5.32 (dd, J = 52.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.73–4.64 (m, 1H), 4.16–4.12 (m, 1H), 4.02 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 0.93 (s, 9H), 0.89 (s, 9H), 0.14 (s, 3H), 0.13 (s, 3H), 0.08 (s, 3H), 0.06 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.8, 153.3, 149.4, 139.3, 120.1, 93.0 (d, J = 191.3 Hz), 87.0 (d, J = 33.0 Hz), 84.0, 69.4 (d, J = 15.8 Hz), 61.3, 26.0, 25.8, 18.5, 18.2, –4.6, –4.9, –5.3, –5.4; MS (ESI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{41}\text{FN}_5\text{O}_3\text{Si}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 498.3, found 498.3.

4.1.11. 3'-O-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoroadenosine (17)

To a solution of **16** (100 mg, 0.20 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) was added 35% aqueous TFA (2 mL) at 23 °C. The solution was stirred for 20 min, then quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 solution. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 \times 10 mL) and the combined extracts were dried (NaSO_4), and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (50:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (71 mg, 92%) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 6.27 (dd, J = 15.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (dt, J = 52.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.79–4.72 (m, 1H), 4.15 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (dd, J = 12.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 0.96 (s, 9H), 0.18 (s, 3H), 0.17 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 156.2, 152.6, 148.8, 139.6, 119.2, 92.3 (d, J = 189.0 Hz), 85.7 (d, J = 32.3 Hz), 84.7, 70.0 (d, J = 15.0 Hz), 60.3, 25.6, 17.9, –4.9, –5.1; MS (ESI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{27}\text{FN}_5\text{O}_3\text{Si}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 384.2, found 384.2.

4.1.12. 3'-O-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-5'-O-(sulfamoyl)adenosine (18)

To a solution of **17** (100 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (5 mL) was added NaH (60 dispersion w/w in mineral oil, 32 mg, 0.78 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at 23 °C. After 1 h, $\text{NH}_2\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}^{27}$ (75 mg, 0.65 mmol, 2.5 equiv) was added and the solution was stirred for 16 h at 23 °C. The reaction was quenched by the slow addi-

tion of 5:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH (10 mL) then the mixture was filtered through silica gel and the filtrate was concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (30:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (72 mg, 60%) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 6.31 (dd, J = 17.1, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (ddd, J = 52.5, 4.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.94–4.91 (m, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 1H), 4.32–4.26 (m, 2H), 0.97 (s, 9H), 0.21 (s, 3H), 0.19 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 156.2, 152.8, 148.8, 139.7, 119.1, 92.2 (d, J = 187.5 Hz), 86.1 (d, J = 33.8 Hz), 80.3, 70.2 (d, J = 15.0 Hz), 67.7, 25.6, 17.8, –4.9, –5.1; MS (ESI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{28}\text{FN}_6\text{O}_5\text{Si}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 463.2, found 463.2.

4.1.13. 2'-Deoxy-2'-fluoro-5'-O-[*N*-((*R*)-2-hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]adenosine (3)

To a solution of **18** (140 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (8 mL) was added **9** (196 mg, 0.60 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and Cs_2CO_3 (206 mg, 0.60 mmol, 2.0 equiv) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at 23 °C, then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (500:6:1.5 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH– Et_3N) to afford 3'-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-5'-O-[*N*-((*R*)-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoroadenosine triethylammonium salt (80 mg) as a yellow solid. The compound was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (1 mL) and the solution was stirred at 20 °C for 72 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (5.0 mg, 4% yield from **18**) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.30 (s, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (dd, J = 51.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.86–4.82 (m, 2H), 4.76 (dd, J = 14.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (dt, J = 18.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 1H), 0.98 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 179.1, 158.7, 150.4, 141.0, 140.5, 121.3, 94.3 (d, J = 192.0 Hz), 92.4 (d, J = 31.0 Hz), 84.8, 80.2 (d, J = 7.0 Hz), 71.5 (d, J = 16.0 Hz), 59.5, 36.2, 26.5; HRMS (ESI $^-$) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{FN}_6\text{O}_7\text{S}$ [$\text{M}-\text{H}$] $^-$ 461.1260, found 461.1280.

4.1.14. 5'-O-[*N*-((*R*)-2-Hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]aristeromycin (4)

To a solution of **19**³¹ (89 mg, 0.19 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (5 mL) was added **9** (128 mg, 0.38 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and Cs_2CO_3 (122 mg, 0.38 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at 23 °C then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (500:8:1.5 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH– Et_3N) to afford 5'-O-[*N*-((*R*)-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy-3,3-dimethylbutanoyl)sulfamoyl]-2',3'-O-isopropylidene aristeromycin triethylammonium salt (50 mg) as a yellow solid. The compound was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (1.0 mL) and the solution was stirred at 8 °C for 48 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 CH_2Cl_2 –MeOH) afforded the title compound (6 mg, 7% yield from compound **19**) as a white solid: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (dd, J = 13.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dd, J = 13.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.11–4.07 (m, 1H), 4.02 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 1H), 3.05–2.96 (m, 1H), 2.80 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.00 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 179.1, 158.6, 150.5, 143.5, 141.2, 121.7, 80.3, 77.5, 74.4, 67.4, 60.6, 44.0, 36.1, 33.5, 26.5; HRMS (ESI $^-$) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_6\text{O}_7\text{S}$ [$\text{M}-\text{H}$] $^-$ 457.1511, found 457.1510.

4.1.15. (4*R*)-5,5-Dimethyl-4-hydroxymethyl-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane (22)

To a mixture of **21**³² (371 mg, 2.77 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzaldehyde dimethyl acetal (548 mg, 3.04 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (300 mL) was added camphorsulfonic acid (50 mg, 0.28 mmol, 0.1 equiv) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h, then saturated NaHCO_3 aqueous solution was added to adjust the pH to 7. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the combined

organic extracts were washed with saturated aqueous NaCl, dried (NaSO₄), and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (6:1 petroleum ether–EtOAc) afforded the title compound (500 mg, 85%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.33 (m, 3H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.69–3.60 (m, 5H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.4, 129.2, 128.4, 126.4, 102.2, 86.0, 79.0, 61.6, 31.7, 21.5, 19.3; MS (ESI+) calcd for C₁₃H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 223.1, found 223.0.

4.1.16. (4R)-5,5-Dimethyl-2-phenyl-4-[(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)oxy]methyl-1,3-dioxane (23)

To a solution of **22** (135 mg, 0.61 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Et₃N (0.2 mL) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added TsCl (173 mg, 0.91 mmol, 1.5 equiv) at 0 °C. The mixture was then warmed to 23 °C and stirred for 16 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (10:1 petroleum ether–EtOAc) to afford the title compound (190 mg, 83%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 4.28 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.11–4.03 (m, 1H), 3.91–3.85 (m, 1H), 3.65 (dd, *J* = 30.0, 11.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.8, 138.0, 132.9, 129.8, 129.0, 128.2, 128.0, 126.2, 101.6, 82.5, 78.5, 69.5, 31.8, 21.7, 21.4, 18.8; MS (ESI+) calcd for C₂₀H₂₄O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 399.1, found 399.0.

4.1.17. (4R)-4-Azidomethyl-5,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane (24)

To a solution of **23** (185 mg, 0.49 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (3 mL) was added NaN₃ (96 mg, 1.47 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and the mixture was refluxed at 100 °C for 16 h. The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether and the combined organic layers were dried (NaSO₄), and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 petroleum ether–EtOAc) afforded the title compound (113 mg, 93%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.32 (m, 3H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 0.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.1, 128.9, 128.3, 126.1, 101.7, 84.7, 78.8, 50.7, 32.3, 21.5, 18.9; MS (ESI+) calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₃O₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 270.1, found 270.0.

4.1.18. (4R)-4-Aminomethyl-5,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane (25)

To a solution of **24** (100 mg, 0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in MeOH (3 mL) under nitrogen was added 10% w/w Pd/C (20 mg). The nitrogen atmosphere was replaced with an atmosphere of H₂ and the mixture was stirred at 23 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was then filtered through Celite washing with MeOH and the filtrate was concentrated to afford the title compound (67 mg, 75%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 3.89 (br s, 2H), 3.60–3.52 (m, 3H), 2.88–2.67 (m, 2H), 1.08 (s, 3H), 0.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.6, 128.8, 128.2, 126.1, 101.9, 87.5, 78.8, 41.4, 32.0, 21.4, 19.0; MS (ESI+) calcd for C₁₃H₂₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 222.1, found 222.2.

4.1.19. 4-Nitrophenyl-[(4R)-5,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)methyl]sulfamate (26)

To a solution of **25** (60 mg, 0.27 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-nitrophenol (375 mg, 2.7 mmol, 10.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was added 4-nitrophenyl chlorosulfate (192 mg, 0.81 mmol, 3.0 equiv) dropwise in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) at –78 °C. The reaction was stirred 2 h at –78 °C, then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and warmed to 23 °C followed by consecutive washes with 1 M NaH₂PO₄ and H₂O. The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (50:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (60 mg, 50%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d,

J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.33 (m, 7H), 5.45 (s, 1H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 2H), 3.61 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.57–3.49 (m, 1H), 3.32–3.21 (m, 1H), 1.20 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.3, 145.8, 137.7, 129.5, 128.4, 126.4, 125.4, 122.6, 102.1, 82.8, 78.3, 44.1, 31.9, 21.1, 18.7; MS (ESI+) calcd for C₁₉H₂₂N₂O₇Na [M+Na]⁺ 445.1, found 444.8.

4.1.20. 5'-Amino-5'-deoxy-5'-N-[N-((R)-2,2-dimethylbutane-1,3-diol-4-yl)sulfamoyl]adenosine (5)

To a mixture of **26** (120 mg, 0.28 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **27**³³ (167 mg, 0.56 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at 23 °C was added 4 Å molecular sieves (80 mg) and Et₃N (0.40 mL, 2.80 mmol, 10 equiv). The reaction was stirred for 24 h, then filtered and the filtrate concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (40:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded 5'-amino-5'-deoxy-5'-N-[N-((R)-2,2-dimethylbutane-1,3-diol-4-yl)sulfamoyl]-2',3'-O-isopropylideneadenosine (100 mg) as a white solid. The compound was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (2 mL) at –35 °C. After stirring 4 h at –35 °C, the solution was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography (10:1 CH₂Cl₂–MeOH) afforded the title compound (5 mg, 4% yield from **26**) as a white solid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.91–4.89 (m, 1H), 4.36 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32–4.28 (m, 1H), 3.64–3.55 (m, 2H), 3.40–3.34 (m, 3H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 0.81 (s, 3H), 0.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 157.6, 153.9, 150.0, 142.5, 121.2, 91.6, 85.9, 76.3, 74.3, 73.0, 70.2, 46.1, 45.8, 39.6, 21.8, 20.1; HRMS (ESI–) calcd for C₁₆H₂₆N₇O₇S [M–H][–] 460.1620, found 460.1635.

4.2. Pantothenate synthetase assay

4.2.1. Materials

Pantoic acid was synthesized as described by Rychlik,⁴² 7-methyl-6-thioguanosine (MesG) was purchased from Berry and Associates (Dexter, MI, USA), *E. coli* TOPO and BL21 (DE3) cells are from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, CA, USA), restriction enzymes and Taq polymerase are from New England Biolabs (Ipswich, MA, USA), the vector pET28b is from EMD Biosciences (San Diego, CA, USA), the primers for PCR are from Integrated DNA Technologies (Coralville, IA, USA) and the PFU polymerase is from Agilent Technologies (Wilmington, DE, USA). All other chemicals, biological buffers, and the coupling enzymes inorganic pyrophosphatase (I1643) and purine nucleoside phosphorylase (N8264) were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich (St. Louis, MO).

4.2.2. Cloning, expression and purification of recombinant PanC from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

PanC (Rv3602c) was amplified from the H37Rv BAC Rv222 using PFU turbo and the primers GCGAGCAACCACATCGTCAC and CGACTTCAGCATCGTCCGTAAC. The PCR product was treated with Taq using standard procedures to add 3' overhanging adenosine residues and then cloned into pCR2.1-TOPO. The resulting plasmid (pCDD22) was used as a template to amplify the expression construct using the primers GGCATATGACGATTCTCGGTTCCATCCC and GCTCAAGCTTCAGTTTCTCAATGTGATTTCGAGGATTGCCCGG containing the restriction sites *Nde*I and *Hind*III respectively (underlined). The resulting PCR product was cloned into pCR2.1 giving plasmid pCDD23. The construct was digested using *Nde*I and *Hind*III and ligated into similarly digested pET28b yielding pCDD24. The recombinant plasmid pCDD24 was transformed into *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) electrocompetent cells and streaked-out on a Luria Bertani (LB) agar plate with 100 µg mL^{–1} of kanamycin and incubated overnight at 37 °C. A single colony was selected to inoculate 50 mL of LB with 100 µg mL^{–1} of kanamycin to be used as a starting culture.

Terrific Broth (TB) cultures (4 L) were supplemented with 100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ kanamycin, and 10 mL of an overnight starting culture added to the media. The cultures were grown at 37 °C until an OD_{600} of 0.5 and then induced with 0.5 mM of isopropyl β -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) for 4 h at 30 °C. The cells were centrifuged at 6000g for 30 min and the pellets were stored at –80 °C. The frozen pellets were thawed in lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES, 300 mM NaCl, 10 mM imidazole, pH 8.0) and the cells were disrupted by sonication on a Branson Sonifier (5 \times 2 min, 30% duty cycle, power 8) and centrifuged for 30 min at 50,000g to remove cell debris. To the supernatant was added 1 mL of 50% Ni-NTA agarose resin in 30% ethanol (Qiagen) and the final solution was incubated at 4 °C for 1 h. The sample was then loaded onto a gravity column and the resin was washed with 15 mL of wash buffer (50 mM HEPES, 300 mM NaCl, 20 mM imidazole, pH 8.0) and eluted with 2.5 mL of elution buffer (50 mM HEPES, 300 mM NaCl, 250 mM imidazole, pH 8.0). In order to remove the imidazole from the sample, a desalting column (PD-10, GE HealthCare, Piscataway NJ, USA) was used with the storage buffer (10 mM HEPES [pH 8.0], 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol). Protein concentrations were determined using $\epsilon_{280} = 15,930 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ for the native PanC with a hexa-histidine tag and the final yield of this protocol provided approximately 45 mg per liter of cell culture.

4.2.3. In vitro inhibition studies

Kinetic studies to evaluate PanC inhibition of each compound were performed under initial velocity conditions using the MesG coupled assay (EnzChek pyrophosphatase assay, Invitrogen) with 400 nM PanC, 100 mM HEPES (pH 8.0), 2.4 mM β -alanine, 10 mM MgCl_2 , 0.04 unit of pyrophosphatase, 0.1 unit of purine nucleoside phosphorylase, 0.2 mM 7-methyl-6-thioguanosine (MesG) and varying concentrations of inhibitor, pantoic acid, and ATP in a total volume of 100 μL containing up to 5% DMSO. Reactions were initiated by addition of PanC. In this coupled assay, pyrophosphate generated from the PanC reaction is converted to phosphate by pyrophosphatase. Purine nucleoside phosphorylase then catalyzes the phosphorylation of the substrate 7-methyl-6-thioguanosine (MesG) to the chromogenic product 7-methyl-6-thioguanine that is measured by an increase in absorbance at 360 nm. Experiments were performed in 96-well plates (UV Half Area plate with Transparent Bottom-Corning) and formation of 7-methyl-6-thioguanine was measured at 360 nm ($\epsilon_{360} = 11,000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) at 25 °C on a microplate reader.

For experiments to determine the apparent inhibition constants with respect to pantoic acid, the initial rates were measured at varying concentrations (50, 100, 130, 180, 240 and 300 μM) of pantoic acid with 2.6 mM ATP and 2.4 mM β -alanine at different fixed levels of the inhibitors [inhibitor **1a** (0, 0.4, 0.8 and 1 μM), inhibitor **2** (0, 0.08, 0.12 and 0.16 μM), inhibitor **3** (0, 0.2, 0.4 and 0.6 μM), inhibitor **4** (0, 0.2, 0.4 and 0.5 μM) and inhibitor **5** (0, 0.8, 1.6 and 2 μM)]. Inhibition data were fit to equation 1:

$$v = \frac{V_{\max}[S]}{[S] + K_m(1 + [I]/K_i)} \quad (1)$$

where I is the inhibitor concentration, S is the substrate concentration, K_m is the Michaelis–Menten constant, V_{\max} is the maximal velocity, K_i is the competitive inhibition constant.³⁷

4.3. Modeling studies

The three-dimensional structures of the aforementioned compounds were constructed using Chem. 3D ultra 12.0 software [Chemical Structure Drawing Standard; Cambridge Soft corporation, USA (2010)], which were then energetically minimized by using Tripos force field with 5000 iterations and minimum RMS

gradient of 0.05 prior to docking. The crystal structures of pantothenate synthetase (*M. tuberculosis*, and *E. coli*) (PDB code: 3IVG.pdb) complex were retrieved from the RCSB Protein Data Bank (<http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/home/home.do>). All bound waters were eliminated from the protein and hydrogens were added to the protein. Each ligand was docked into the active site of pantothenate synthetase using the Surflex-Dock suite of SYBYL 1.3.

4.4. Mtb whole-cell assays

Whole-cell screening of **1–5** was carried out against wildtype H37RvMA⁴³ and the PanC-depleted strain as previously described.³⁸ Briefly, cells were grown to an OD_{600} of ~0.2 in 7H9 medium prior to 500-fold dilution. In the case of the *panC* knock-down, the medium was supplemented with Hygromycin B (Hyg; 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$), Kanamycin (Km; 25 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and Gentamicin (Gm; 5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) in order to facilitate maintenance of the regulatory vectors. Using a starting concentration of 4 mM, 2-fold serial dilutions of each inhibitor were performed in 96-well microplates containing 50 μL 7H9 medium, supplemented with Hyg (25 $\mu\text{g/mL}$), Km (12.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and Gm (2.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) where appropriate, in both the presence and absence of an hydrotetracycline (ATc; 20 ng/mL) alone or ATc (20 ng/mL) together with pantothenate (50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). A volume of 50 μL of the diluted cell suspension was added to each well, yielding a final volume of 100 μL per well. Plates were incubated at 37 °C and growth was observed visually following 7, 10 and 14 days of incubation.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported by grants from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant Nos. 81072514, 21002067 to C.Q.), the Ministry of Education Scholarship Fund (The Jiangsu ‘333’ Project to C.Q.), the National Institutes of Health (Grant No. AI070219 to C.C.A.), and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (HIT-TB) Project; to V.M.) and the South African Medical Research Council (to V.M.).

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