

# Antiviral Butyrolactones from the Endophytic Fungus *Aspergillus versicolor*

## Authors

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## Key words

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## Abstract

▼  
Versicolactones A–D (1–4), four new butyrolactones, along with four known butyrolactones (5–8) were isolated from the fermentation products of the endophytic fungus *Aspergillus versicolor*. The structures of compounds 1–4, including absolute configuration, were elucidated by interpretation of the NMR and CD data. Compound 2 was further confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. In particular, compound 1 is the first naturally occurring butyrolactone possessing an

unusual 2-oxopropyl group. More importantly, compounds 1 and 8 displayed significant antitobacco mosaic virus activities with inhibition rates of 46.4% and 35.4%, even more potent than the positive control ningnanmycin (30.8%). Compound 1 also showed moderate cytotoxicity against A549 and MCF7 cells with IC<sub>50</sub> values of 3.2 and 2.5 μM, respectively.

Supporting information available online at <http://www.thieme-connect.de/products>

## Introduction

▼  
*Aspergillus* species (Trichocomaceae) from diverse origins (e.g., soil, plants, marine organisms, and even indoor air environments) are often regarded as a prolific source of structurally interesting secondary metabolites, such as alkaloids, polyketides, terpenes, peptides, and lignans, with intriguing biological properties [1–6].

Among them, butyrolactones, a subclass of lignans with a characteristic four-carbon heterocyclic ring, mainly produced by fungi and high plants [7–9], have attracted much attention for their pronounced pharmacological effects including antibacterial [10, 11], cytotoxic [12, 13], anti-inflammatory [14, 15], and antiviral [11, 16] activities.

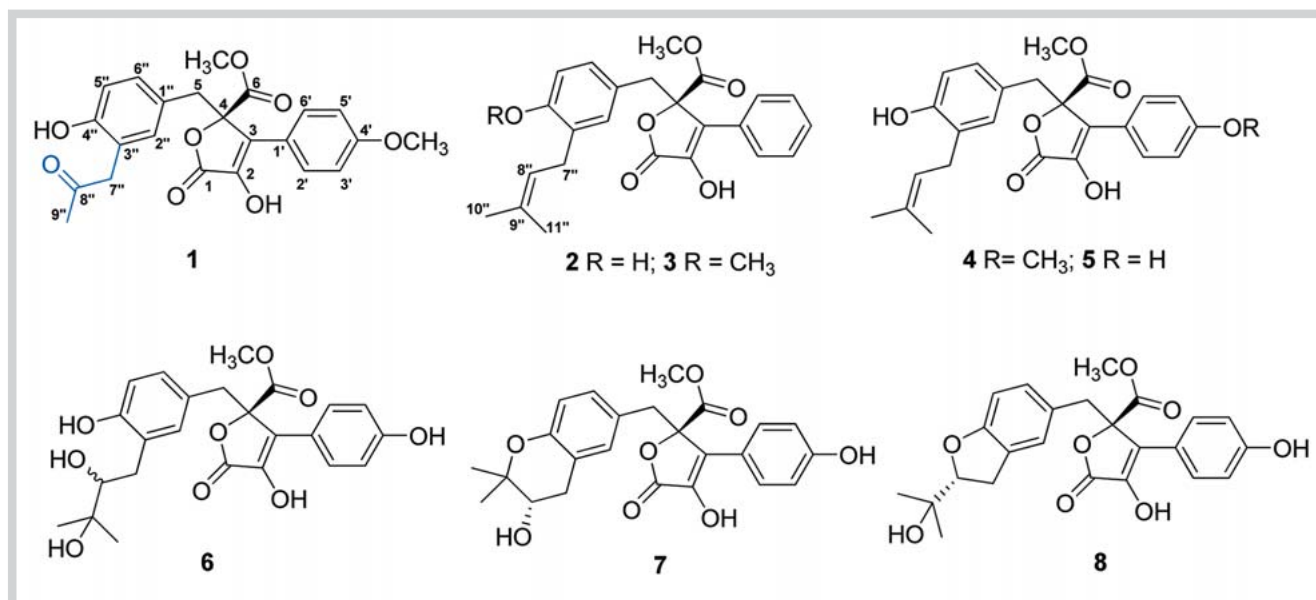
Herein, our efforts on the endophytic fungus *Aspergillus versicolor* (Vuillemin) Tiraboschi, isolated from the rhizome of *Paris polyphylla* var. *yunnanensis*, collected in Dali, Yunnan, P.R. China, led to the isolation and identification of four new (1–4) and four known (5–8) butyrolactones. In this paper, the structure elucidation of compounds 1–4, the antitobacco mosaic virus (anti-TMV) activities of the isolated compounds, and the cytotoxic properties of compounds 1–4

against five human tumor cell lines (NB4, A549, SHSY5Y, PC3, and MCF7) are reported.

## Results and Discussion

▼  
The fermented substrate was extracted with 70% aqueous acetone. The extract was subjected repeatedly to column chromatography on silica gel, MCI, RP-18, and preparative HPLC to afford compounds 1–8, including four new butyrolactones, versicolactones A–D (1–4), together with four known butyrolactones, butyrolactone I (5) [11, 14], butyrolactone VI (6) [11, 17], butyrolactone V (7) [11, 18], and butyrolactone IV (8) [14]. The structures of the compounds 1–8 are shown in ● Fig. 1, and the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data of 1–4 are listed in ● Table 1.

Compound 1 was obtained as a white powder. Its molecular formula C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>8</sub> was determined by positive HRESIMS at *m/z* 449.1208 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>, requiring 13 degrees of unsaturation. The IR spectrum showed broad and intense absorption bands for hydroxy (3447 cm<sup>-1</sup>), ester/lactone carbonyl (1735, 1727 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and aromatic rings (1607, 1542, 1468 cm<sup>-1</sup>). In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, the signals of a 1,4-disubstituted benzene moiety (δ<sub>H</sub> 7.63, 2H, d, *J* = 8.6 Hz; 6.85, 2H, d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), a



**Fig. 1** Chemical structures of compounds 1–8. The absolute stereochemistry of compound 2 was determined by X-ray analysis. The configurations of compounds 1, 3, and 4 were based on a similarity of Cotton effects compared to compound 2. The configurations of compounds 5–8 are concluded

based on previous studies [11, 14, 17, 19]. The wavy bond in the structure of compound 6 indicates an unclear configuration. (Color figure available online only.)

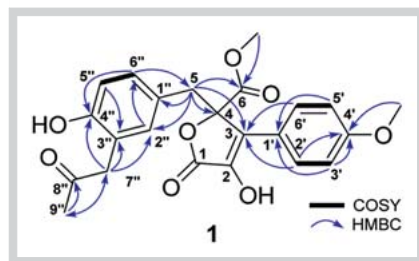
**Table 1** <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data for versicolactones A–D (1–4) ( $\delta$  in ppm and  $J$  in Hz).

No.	Compound 1 <sup>a</sup>		Compound 2 <sup>b</sup>		Compound 3 <sup>c</sup>		Compound 4 <sup>d</sup>	
	$\delta_C$ (m)	$\delta_H$ (m, $J$ , Hz)	$\delta_C$ (m)	$\delta_H$ (m, $J$ , Hz)	$\delta_C$ (m)	$\delta_H$ (m, $J$ , Hz)	$\delta_C$ (m)	$\delta_H$ (m, $J$ , Hz)
1	168.9 s		169.1 s		168.9 s		169.6 s	
2	140.8 s		140.1 s		140.0 s		139.0 s	
3	127.4 s		127.4 s		127.2 s		127.9 s	
4	85.9 s		85.9 s		85.7 s		86.3 s	
5	38.9 t	3.38, 3.43 d (14.6)	38.4 t	3.43, 3.47 d (14.6)	38.2 t	3.32, 3.36 d (14.6)	38.8 t	3.49, 3.55 d (14.6)
6	170.3 s		170.1 s		169.9 s		170.0 s	
1'	122.8 s		130.1 s		130.0 s		122.4 s	
2',6'	130.1 d	7.63 d (8.6)	127.7 d	7.63 d (7.6)	127.3 d	7.52 d (7.6)	129.8 d	7.62 d (8.7)
3',5'	116.5 d	6.85 d (8.6)	129.0 d	7.38 m	129.0 d	7.28 m	116.2 d	6.91 d (8.7)
4'	160.9 s		128.7 d	7.31 d (7.4)	128.7 d	7.18 d (7.4)	160.1 s	
1''	124.5 s		123.8 s		123.6 s		124.8 s	
2''	132.3 d	6.33 d (1.8)	131.5 d	6.37 d (1.6)	130.2 d	6.26 s	131.1 d	6.48 d (1.9)
3''	125.0 s		127.2 s		126.5 s		126.7 s	
4''	152.5 s		153.4 s		156.4 s		153.3 s	
5''	114.9 d	6.51 d (8.2)	114.4 d	6.49 d (8.2)	114.2 d	6.41 d (8.2)	115.3 d	6.53 d (8.2)
6''	128.9 d	6.61 d (1.8, 8.2)	128.9 d	6.53 dd (1.6, 8.2)	128.1 d	6.43 d (8.2)	129.4 d	6.60 d (1.9, 8.2)
7''	48.4 t	4.11 s	28.0 t	3.05 d (7.2)	27.7 t	2.94 d (6.8)	29.2 t	3.14 d (7.2)
8''	206.4 s		121.9 d	5.00 m	121.8 d	4.88 m	121.6 d	5.10 m
9''	29.8 q	1.68 s	132.7 s		132.5 s		132.0 s	
10''			17.5 q	1.51 s	17.3 q	1.40 s	17.9 q	1.63 s
11''			25.6 q	1.59 s	25.4 q	1.48 s	25.8 q	1.68 s
-OMe-6	53.3 q	3.71 s	53.4 q	3.71 s	53.2 q	3.62 s	53.5 q	3.78 s
-OMe-4'	56.0 q	3.78 s					56.1 q	3.80 s
-OMe-4''					56.0 q	3.64 s		

<sup>a</sup>500 and 125 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; <sup>b</sup>500 and 125 MHz, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD; <sup>c</sup>400 and 100 MHz, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD; <sup>d</sup>400 and 100 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

1,3,4-trisubstituted benzene moiety ( $\delta_H$  6.33, 1H, d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz; 6.61, 1H,  $J$  = 8.2 and 1.8 Hz; 6.51, 1H, d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz), a pair of methylene protons ( $\delta_H$  3.38, 1H, d,  $J$  = 14.6 Hz; 3.43, 1H, d,  $J$  = 14.6 Hz), and two methoxy protons ( $\delta_H$  3.71, 3H, s; 3.78, 3H, s) were clearly apparent. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR and DEPT data disclosed the existence of

three methyls (including two oxygenated ones), two methylenes, seven methines, and eleven quaternary carbons (including seven sp<sup>2</sup> ones, one oxygenated quaternary carbon, and three carbonyl groups). Among them, three carbonyls and fourteen olefinic carbons occupied twelve degrees of unsaturation. These data sug-



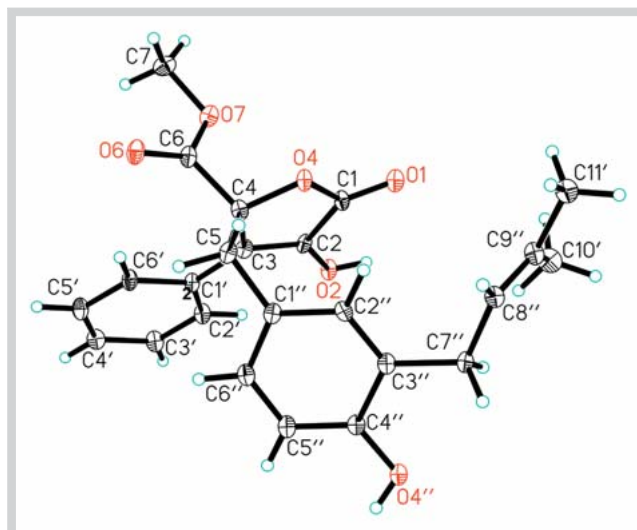
**Fig. 2**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY and selected HMBC correlations of compound **1**. (Color figure available online only.)

gested that compound **1** must possess one aliphatic ring in addition to two aromatic rings. The characteristic carbon signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  168.9, 140.8, 127.4, 85.9, 38.9, and 170.3 indicated that **1** should be a butyrolactone [14]. A direct comparison of the NMR data of **1** and the known compound butyrolactone I (**5**) suggested that both compounds were similar and had the same basic skeleton. The main difference was that the prenyl group at the C-3'' position in **5** was replaced by an unusual 2-oxopropyl group in **1**. This assignment was supported by the HMBC corrections from  $\text{H}_3$ -9'' ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.68) to C-7'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  48.4) and C-8'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  206.4), and from  $\text{H}_2$ -7'' ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.11) to C-9'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  29.8), C-2'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  132.3), and C-4'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  152.5) (● Fig. 2). Furthermore, the HMBC correlation of the methoxy group ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.78) with C-4' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  160.9) indicated that the methoxy group was located at the C-4' position. Thus, the structure of **1** was established as shown in ● Fig. 1, and the compound was named versicolactone A. Interestingly, compound **1** is the first described naturally occurring butyrolactone possessing a novel 2-oxopropyl moiety.

Versicolactone B (**2**) showed a similar pattern of  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR signals as butyrolactone I (**5**) [11, 14], but with 16 mass units less as indicated by HR-ESIMS. The main difference was that a 1,4-disubstituted benzene moiety in **5** at the C-3 position was replaced by a monosubstituted benzene moiety in **2**. The structure and absolute configuration of **2** as shown in ● Fig. 1 was further confirmed by an X-ray crystallographic study (● Fig. 3).

Versicolactone C (**3**) was assigned the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_6$  by HRESIMS at  $m/z$  445.1620 [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$ . The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **3** (● Table 1) were similar to those of **2**, the major difference being the replacement of an aromatic hydroxy proton signal in **2** by a methoxy signal ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  56.0,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.64) in **3**. The HMBC correlation of the methoxy proton ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.64) with C-4'' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  156.4) indicated that the methoxy group was located at C-4''. The structure of **3** was therefore determined.

A direct comparison of the NMR data of **4** and **5** suggested that both compounds were similar and had the same basic skeleton. Just like the difference between compounds **2** and **3**, the only difference between **4** and **5** also arose from the replacement of an aromatic hydroxy proton signal in **5** by a methoxy ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  56.1,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.80) signal in **4**. This assignment was supported by the HMBC corrections from the methoxy proton ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.80) to C-4' ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$



**Fig. 3** X-ray structure of compound **2**. (Color figure available online only.)

160.1). Compound **4** was thus defined as shown, and named versicolactone D.

Finally, the absolute configurations of compounds **1**, **3**, and **4** were identical to that of **2**, as determined by their similar Cotton effects in the CD spectra.

Since many butyrolactones have been reported to possess potential antiviral [9, 14] and antitumor properties [12, 13], compounds **1**–**8** (purities > 95%) were tested for anti-TMV, and compounds **1**–**4** (purities > 95%) were screened for cytotoxic activities.

The anti-TMV activities were tested using the half-leaf method [19]. Ningnanmycin (a commercial product for plant disease in China) was used as a positive control. The antiviral inhibition rates at the concentration of 20  $\mu\text{M}$  are listed in ● Table 2. Compounds **1** and **8** showed high anti-TMV activities with inhibition rates of 46.4% and 35.4%, which were even more potent than the positive control ningnanmycin (30.8%). Compounds **2**–**7** showed modest anti-TMV activities with inhibition rates of 18.6–25.4%, respectively.

The cytotoxicities of compounds **1**–**4** were also tested using a previously reported procedure [20]. The cytotoxic abilities against NB4, A549, SHSY5Y, PC3, and MCF7 tumor cell lines by the MTT assay (with taxol as the positive control) are shown in ● Table 3. Previously, the known compounds **5**–**8** have been reported to possess mild cytotoxicity [11, 14, 21]. In this study, the results revealed that compound **1** showed moderate cytotoxicity against A549 and MCF7 cells with  $\text{IC}_{50}$  values of 3.2 and 2.5  $\mu\text{M}$ . Compounds **2**–**4** also showed moderate cytotoxicity for some tested cell lines with  $\text{IC}_{50}$  values of less than 10  $\mu\text{M}$ .

Compounds	Inhibition rates at 20 $\mu\text{M}$ (%)	Compounds	Inhibition rates at 20 $\mu\text{M}$ (%)
<b>1</b>	46.4 $\pm$ 3.5	<b>6</b>	21.5 $\pm$ 2.6
<b>2</b>	22.6 $\pm$ 3.0	<b>7</b>	23.5 $\pm$ 2.3
<b>3</b>	25.4 $\pm$ 2.8	<b>8</b>	35.4 $\pm$ 3.3
<b>4</b>	18.6 $\pm$ 2.5	ningnanmycin	30.8 $\pm$ 3.0
<b>5</b>	20.7 $\pm$ 2.7		

**Table 2** Tobacco mosaic virus infection inhibition activities of compounds **1**–**8**.

All results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  SD;  $n = 3$  for all groups

Compounds	Cell lines and IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)				
	NB4	A549	SHSY5Y	PC3	MCF7
1	5.5	3.2	5.3	> 10	2.5
2	> 10	5.8	6.2	> 10	8.5
3	> 10	6.4	8.5	> 10	7.8
4	> 10	> 10	4.8	> 10	8.2
Taxol	0.03	0.02	0.2	0.2	0.1

NB4, human leukemia cell; A549, carcinomic human alveolar basal epithelial cell; SHSY5Y, human neuroblastoma cell; PC3, human prostate cancer cell; MCF7, human breast adenocarcinoma cell

**Table 3** Cytotoxic activity of compounds 1–4.

## Materials and Methods

### General

Optical rotations were measured in a Horiba SEPA-300 polarimeter. UV spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu UV-2401A spectrophotometer. ECD spectra were measured on a JASCO J-810 spectropolarimeter. IR spectra were obtained in KBr disc on a Bio-Rad Wininfrared spectrophotometer. ESI-MS was measured on a VG Auto Spec-3000 MS spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and 2D NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 or 500 instruments with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200–300 mesh) or on silica gel H (10–40 μm, Qingdao Marine Chemical, Inc.). Final purifications utilized an Agilent 1100 HPLC equipped with a Zorbax-C<sub>18</sub> (21.2 mm × 250 mm, 7.0 μm) column and DAD detector. Paclitaxel (purity > 95%) was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Co. Ningnanmycin (purity > 98%) was provided by the Chengdu Institute of Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

### Fungal material

*A. versicolor* was isolated from the rhizome of *P. polyphylla* var. *yunnanensis*, collected from Dali, Yunnan, People's Republic of China, in 2012. The strain was identified by one of authors (Gang Du) based on the analysis of the ITS sequence (Genbank Accession number KJ801852). It was cultivated at room temperature for seven days on potato dextrose agar at 28 °C. Agar plugs were inoculated into 250-mL Erlenmeyer flasks each containing 100 mL potato dextrose broth and cultured at 28 °C on a rotary shaker at 180 rpm for five days. Large-scale fermentation was carried out in 100 Fernbach flasks (500 mL) each containing 100 g of rice and 120 mL of distilled H<sub>2</sub>O. Each flask was inoculated with 5.0 mL of cultured broth and incubated at 25 °C for 45 days.

### Extraction and isolation

The fermentation products were extracted four times with 70% acetone (4 × 10 L) at room temperature and filtered. The crude extract (215 g) was applied to silica gel (200–300 mesh, 11 × 120 cm, 1.8 kg) column chromatography, eluting with a CHCl<sub>3</sub>–(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO gradient system (20:1, 9:1, 8:2, 7:3, 6:4, 5:5). Six fractions were obtained from the silica gel column and individually decolorized on MCI gel after which they were eluted with 90:10 MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O to yield fractions A–F.

The further separation of fraction B (9:1, 23.2 g) by silica gel column chromatography (200–300 mesh, 2.5 × 120 cm, 0.2 kg), eluted with petroleum ether–EtOAc (9:1, 8:2, 7:3, 6:4, 1:1), yielded mixtures B1–B5. Fraction B2 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone, 8:2; 6.27 g) was subjected to RP-18 column chromatography (8 × 50 cm, MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O 20:80 to 70:30 gradient) to provide three fractions, B2-1–B2-3. Fraction B2-1 (180 mg) was subjected to

preparative HPLC (Zorbax-C<sub>18</sub>, 7.0 μm, 21.2 mm × 250 mm, flow rate 12 mL/min, UV detection at λ<sub>max</sub> = 210, 254, and 280 nm, eluted with CH<sub>3</sub>OH/H<sub>2</sub>O 68:32) to give **1** (9.2 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 17 min, purity > 98%), **2** (15.2 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 21 min, purity > 98%), **3** (11.8 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 23 min, purity > 95%), **4** (14.5 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 16 min, purity > 95%), and **5** (14.6 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 14 min, purity > 95%). Fraction B3 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone, 7:3; 2.86 g) was subjected to RP-18 column chromatography (8 × 50 cm, MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O 20:80 to 60:40 gradient) to provide five fractions, B3-1–B3-5. Fraction B3-2 (128 mg) was subjected to preparative HPLC (Zorbax-C<sub>18</sub>, 7.0 μm, 21.2 mm × 250 mm, flow rate 12 mL/min, UV detection at λ<sub>max</sub> = 210, 254, and 280 nm, eluted with CH<sub>3</sub>OH/H<sub>2</sub>O 60:40) to give **6** (14.5 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 12 min, purity > 95%), **7** (13.6 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 16 min, purity > 95%), and **8** (18.8 mg, t<sub>R</sub> = 17 min, purity > 95%).

### X-ray crystal structure analysis

The intensity data for versicolactone B (**2**) were collected at 100 K on a Bruker Apex Duo diffractometer equipped with an Apex II CCD using Cu Kα radiation. Cell refinement and data reduction were performed with Bruker SAINT. The structures were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97, expanded using difference Fourier techniques, and refined by the program and full-matrix least squares calculations. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, and hydrogen atoms were fixed at calculated positions.

**Crystallographic data for versicolactone B (2):** C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, *M* = 408.43, monoclinic, *a* = 9.7742(4) Å, *b* = 8.5413 (4) Å, *c* = 12.5143 (5) Å, α = 90.00°, β = 98.079 (2)°, γ = 90.00°, *V* = 1034.38 (8) Å<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 100 (2) K, space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>, *Z* = 2, μ (CuKα) = 0.773 mm<sup>-1</sup>, 8204 reflections measured, 3060 independent reflections (*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.1053). The final *R*<sub>1</sub> values were 0.1270 (*I* > 2σ (*I*)). The final *wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) values were 0.3007 (*I* > 2σ (*I*)). The final *R*<sub>1</sub> values were 0.1496 (all data). The final *wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) values were 0.3321 (all data). The goodness of fit on *F*<sup>2</sup> was 1.298; Flack parameter = 0.3 (7).

### Antitobacco mosaic virus assays

TMV (U1 strain) was obtained from the Key Laboratory of Tobacco Chemistry of Yunnan Province, Yunnan Academy of Tobacco Science, P.R. China. The virus was multiplied in *Nicotiana tabacum* cv. K326 and purified as described [18]. The concentration of TMV was determined as 20 mg/mL with a UV spectrophotometer [virus concentration = (A<sub>260</sub> × dilution ratio)/E<sub>1cm</sub><sup>0.1%, 260nm</sup>]. The purified virus was kept at –20 °C and diluted to 32 μg/mL with 0.01 M PBS before use.

*Nicotiana glutinosa* plants were cultivated in an insect-free greenhouse. *N. glutinosa* was used as a local lesion host. The experiments were conducted when the plants grew to the 5–6 leaf stage. The tested compounds were dissolved in DMSO and diluted with distilled H<sub>2</sub>O to the required concentrations. A solu-

tion of equal concentration of DMSO was used as a negative control. The commercial antiviral agent ningnanmycin (purity > 98%) was used as a positive control.

For the half-leaf method [19], the virus was inhibited by mixing it with the solution of the compound. After 30 min, the mixture was inoculated on the left side of the leaves of *N. glutinosa*, whereas the right side of the leaves was inoculated with the mixture of DMSO solution and the virus as the control. The local lesion numbers were recorded 3–4 days after inoculation. Three repetitions were conducted for each compound. The inhibition rates were calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{inhibition rate (\%)} = [(C-T)/C] \times 100\%$$

where C is the average number of local lesions of the control and T is the average number of local lesions of the treatment.

Ningnanmycin, a commercial virucide for plant disease in China, was used as a positive control.

Furthermore, we have designed a simple experiment to assure whether butyrolactone derivatives have a significant effect on *N. glutinosa*'s growth or not. The selected compound **2** (20  $\mu\text{M}$ ) was sprayed on one leaf of *N. glutinosa* once a day (seven days), respectively, whereas another leaf was sprayed with DMSO solution as a control. Three repetitions were conducted for each compound. No significant differences between the two conditions were observed after one week. This finding may suggest that pretreatment with the compounds may enhance the resistance of the host plant against TMV infection with low cytotoxicity.

### Cytotoxicity assays

The cytotoxicity of compounds was tested using a previously reported procedure [20]. Colorimetric assays were performed to evaluate each compound's activity. NB4 (human acute promyelocytic leukemia), A549 (human lung adenocarcinoma epithelial), SHSY5Y (human neuroblastoma), PC3 (human prostate cancer), and MCF7 (human breast adenocarcinoma) tumor cells were purchased from ATCC. All cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 or DMEM medium (Hyclone) supplemented with 10% FBS (Hyclone) at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Cell viability was assessed by conducting colorimetric measurements of the amount of insoluble formazan formed in the living cells based on the reduction of MTT (Sigma). Briefly, 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of suspended adherent cells were seeded into each well of a 96-well cell culture plate and allowed to adhere for 12 h before drug addition. Furthermore, suspended cells were seeded just before drug addition, with an initial density of  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/mL in 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of medium. Each tumor cell line was exposed to each test compound at various concentrations in triplicate for 48 h; paclitaxel (purity > 95%) was used as a positive control. After the incubation, MTT (100  $\mu\text{g}$ ) was added to each well, and the incubation was continued for 4 h at 37 °C. The cells were lysed with 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of 20% SDS-50% dimethylformamid (DMF) after removal of 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of the medium. The optical density of the lysate was measured at 595 nm in a 96-well microtiter plate reader (Bio-Rad 680). The IC<sub>50</sub> value of each compound was calculated by Reed and Muench's method [22].

**Versicolactone A (1):** C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, obtained as a white amorphous powder; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24.8</sup> + 86.4 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 210 (4.48), 252 (3.69), 314 (3.82) nm; ECD (c 0.2, MeOH)  $\Delta\epsilon_{205} + 15.2$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{227} - 5.16$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{313} + 4.29$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3447, 3032, 2970, 2943, 1735, 1727, 1712, 1607, 1542, 1468, 1425, 1369, 1254, 1163, 1109, 1047, 886, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (500 and 125 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see **Table 1**; ESIMS (positive ion mode)

*m/z* 449 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 449.1208 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> (calcd. 449.1212 for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>8</sub>).

**Versicolactone B (2):** C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, obtained as a white amorphous powder; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24.5</sup> + 70.25 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 220 (4.18), 255 (3.52), 300 (2.26) nm; ECD (c 0.12 mg/mL, MeOH)  $\Delta\epsilon_{203} + 17.8$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{230} - 4.06$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{307} + 3.15$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3462, 3025, 2980, 2925, 1735, 1724, 1606, 1534, 1483, 1432, 1398, 1221, 1168, 1105, 1065, 945, 855, 765 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (500 and 125 MHz, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD), see **Table 1**; ESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 431 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 431.1475 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> (calcd. 431.1471 for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub>).

**Versicolactone C (3):** C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, obtained as a white amorphous powder; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24.6</sup> + 75.4 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 210 (4.29), 246 (3.52), 300 (3.72) nm; ECD (c 0.2, MeOH)  $\Delta\epsilon_{205} + 14.8$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{225} - 3.58$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{306} + 2.92$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3464, 3023, 2982, 2920, 1737, 1725, 1605, 1527, 1486, 1430, 1386, 1226, 1182, 1118, 1062, 938, 852, 746 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 and 100 MHz, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD), see **Table 1**; ESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 445 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 445.1620 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> (calcd. 445.1627 for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub>).

**Versicolactone D (4):** C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, obtained as a white amorphous powder; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24.5</sup> + 82.6 (c 0.20, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 210 (4.38), 244 (3.56), 305 (3.72) nm; ECD (c 0.2, MeOH)  $\Delta\epsilon_{203} + 16.2$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{228} - 5.47$ ,  $\Delta\epsilon_{308} + 3.54$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3460, 3018, 2977, 2934, 1735, 1727, 1605, 1528, 1485, 1434, 1388, 1223, 1178, 1124, 1039, 876, 758 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 and 100 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>), see **Table 1**; ESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 461 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRESIMS (positive ion mode) *m/z* 461.1581 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> (calcd. 461.1576 for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>7</sub>).

### Supporting information

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compounds **1**, **3**, and **4**, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT, HSQC, HMBC, COSY, NOESY, and ECD spectra of compound **2**, as well as X-ray data of compound **2** are available as Supporting Information.

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### Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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