



Cistobislactones A-B, two sixteen-membered spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactones from marine octopus *Cistopus indicus*: new anti-inflammatory agents attenuate arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase

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Abstract

Biochemical analysis of secondary metabolites of marine old-woman octopus *Cistopus indicus* (family Octopodidae) led to the identification of two sixteen-membered spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactones, named as cistobislactone A and cistobislactone B with unprecedented feature of henicos framework, based on extensive spectroscopic analyses. Cistobislactone B exhibited potential inhibition property against arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase (IC_{50} 2.18 mM) than that demonstrated by cistobislactone A (IC_{50} 2.54 mM) and standard non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent ibuprofen (IC_{50} 4.50 mM) thus signifying the higher anti-inflammatory activity of the cistobislactone B analogue. The studied macrocyclic bislactones exhibited promising antioxidant potential, in which cistobislactone B exhibited potential radical quenching (IC_{50} 2.33 mM) and hydrogen peroxide scavenging (IC_{50} 1.81 mM) activities that were proximal to the commercial anti-oxidant α -tocopherol (IC_{50} ~ 1.60 mM). This further reinforced its attenuation property against arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase. Considerably greater electronic properties coupled with balanced hydrophobicity of cistobislactone B could ascribe the superior ligand-receptor interfaces leading to its anti-inflammatory activity. Molecular docking analysis of cistobislactone B with 5-lipoxygenase recorded lesser docking score (-12.24 kcal mol⁻¹) and binding energy (-11.24 kcal mol⁻¹), which further supported its anti-inflammatory activity. Cistobislactone B, with six fold lesser value of inhibition constant (K_i 5.76 nM) towards 5-lipoxygenase than that displayed by cistobislactone A, could describe the superior protein-ligand interactions of the former. The undescribed cistobislactone B might be a potential natural anti-inflammatory lead to moderate the odds of inflammatory pathologies.

Keywords *Cistopus indicus* · Octopodidae · spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactones · cistobislactones A-B · anti-inflammatory · arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase

Abbreviations

¹³C NMR Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance
¹H NMR Proton nuclear magnetic resonance

2D-NMR Two-dimensional nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
5-LO 5-lipoxygenase
ACN Acetonitrile
ACP Acyl carrier protein
CI *Cistopus indicus*
COSY Correlation spectroscopy
COX Cyclooxygenase
DEPT Distortionless enhancement by polarization transfer
DH Dehydratase
DPPH 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl
EtOAc Ethyl acetate
FTIR Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy
GC(EI) Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (electron ionization)
MS
HETE 5-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid

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HMBC	Heteronuclear multiple bond correlation
HR(ESI)	High resolution mass spectrometry (electrospray ionization)
MS	ionization)
HSQC	Heteronuclear single quantum coherence
Ile	Isoleucine
K _i	Inhibition constant
KS	Ketosynthase
Leu	Leucine
log P _{OW}	Hydrophobic parameter
LTB ₄	Leukotriene B ₄
LTs	Leukotrienes
MeOH	Methanol
MM2	Molecular mechanics 2
MT	Methyl transferase
NOEs	Nuclear overhauser effects
NOESY	Nuclear overhauser effect spectroscopy
NSAIDs	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
PGs	Prostaglandins
Phe	Phenylalanine
PI	Polarizability
Q-TOF	Quadruple Time of Flight Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
LC/MS	graphy Mass Spectrometry
RP-HPLC	Reverse-phase high pressure liquid chromatography
TLC	Thin layer chromatography
tPSA	Topological polar surface area
UV-VIS	Ultraviolet Visible

Introduction

Biochemistry of the arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO) encompasses the biosynthesis of leukotrienes, and catalyzes the primary steps in the biotransformation of arachidonic acid to the mediators of inflammation [1]. Pro-inflammatory profile of leukotrienes suggested that 5-LO antagonists could encompass pharmacological potential in the treatment of various inflammatory disorders [2]. Other pro-inflammatory enzyme cyclooxygenase (COX) exists as two isoforms, an inducible kind (COX-2) and a constitutive type (COX-1), exhibiting important roles to cause inflammation by biosynthesizing inflammatory prostaglandins (PGs) from arachidonic acid [3]. Widely used anti-inflammatory drugs comprise of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) that were found to have gastrointestinal ulcerogenic side-effects [4]. In this context, the therapeutic approach to develop dual inhibitors of 5-LO and COX in an attempt to augment their characteristic anti-inflammatory effects with reduced undesirable side-effects is significant.

Macrocyclic lactones comprise a major class in natural products owing to their noticeable role in the chemistry of antibiotics and various bioactive potentials [5]. These structurally diverse and complex organic molecules

fascinated medicinal chemistry researchers across the globe over the past six decades on account of their significant role in modern drug discovery and development [6]. Natural macrocycles of marine origin are common of fourteen to sixteen skeletal ring systems with different structure motifs, in which fourteen-membered macrocyclic frameworks are by far the most abundant [7, 8]. As accounted earlier, oxygenated macrocyclic compounds possessing greater than sixteen-membered ring size could possess a lactone moiety, whereas thirteen and fourteen-membered analogous contain ether linkages. Conspicuously, a fourteen-membered bislactone, cordy-bislactone has been reported from the fungus *Cordyceps* sp. with anticancer activity along with anti-mycobacterial property [9]. A new class of 25-membered ring marine macrocyclic lactones with tetrahydropyran moieties, named lituarines with antifungal, cytotoxic and anti-neoplastic activities were reported from the sea pen *Lituarina australasiae* [10]. An unusual tetraquinaneoxa-built bislactone carrying linear *R*-alkylbutenolide paracaseolide A, displaying anti-tumor activity, was characterized from *Sonneratia paracaseolaris* [11]. Earlier literature reported the isolation of a tetrahydrofuran attached sixteen-membered macrocyclic bislactone from *Amphioctopus neglectus* belonging to the family Octopodidae [12].

Cephalopods are being a part of various world cuisines for centuries. In India, benthic octopuses form the basis of economically important fisheries [13]. It was reported that old-woman octopus *Cistopus indicus* forms greater than 90 percent of total octopus landings in the southwest coast of the Indian peninsular region [14, 15]. The marine octopuses belonging to the class Cephalopoda were proved to be the productive sources of various pharamacoactive secondary metabolites and nutritionally rich functional food ingredients. Organic extract from *C. indicus* was reported to exhibit potent antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties particularly 5-LO attenuation activity [16, 17]. Although several chemical studies were carried out on bivalve and gastropod mollusks, the order Octopoda has been less investigated so far. The present work describes the isolation and structural characterization of two new sixteen-membered spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactones (cisto-bislactones A and B) (Fig. 1) from the ethyl acetate-methanol (EtOAc-MeOH, 1:1 v/v) extract of *C. indicus* (family Octopodidae) harvested from the southwest coast of Indian peninsular expanse. The purified compounds were analyzed for their potential to attenuate 5-LO and inducible form of COX-2, and compared the activities with regard to their potential to attenuate the constitutive form of COX-1. The isolated compounds were characterized by detailed spectroscopic experiments. The targeted bioactivities of the cistobislactones A-B were structurally correlated with

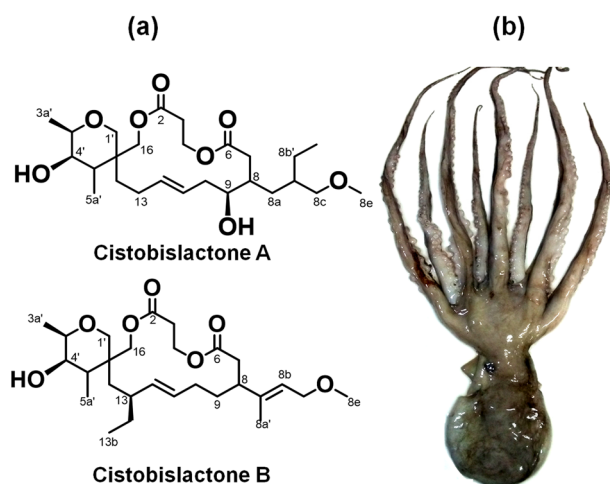


Fig. 1 (a) Structural representation of macrocyclic bislactone analogues, cistobis lactones A and B purified from the organic extract of (b) marine old-woman octopus *C. indicus*

various physicochemical parameters, whereas their binding efficiency with active site of 5-LO was evaluated using molecular docking analysis (Fig. S1).

Results and discussion

General

Macrocyclic lactones comprise an important chemical class, which are ubiquitously found in the marine organisms, and were demonstrated with potent anti-inflammatory activities [18, 19]. Herein, we have isolated two sixteen-membered spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactones, cistobis lactones A and B, from the organic extract of marine octopus *C. indicus* with potential 5-LO attenuation properties.


Bioassay-assisted chromatographic fractionation of cistobis lactones A-B from *C. indicus*

Bioactivity-directed size exclusion chromatography of EtOAc-MeOH extract of *C. indicus* over cross-linked dextran-based resin (lipophilic Sephadex® LH-20) followed by repeated chromatographic purification could result in four fractions (CI₁-CI₄) based on TLC and RP-HPLC. The fractions were evaluated for bioactivity analysis against the oxidants along with attenuation potential against 5-LO. The fraction CI₂ (8.56 g) showed greater antioxidant potential (IC₅₀ 1.23 mg mL⁻¹ DPPH scavenging) than the others, and therefore, it was shortlisted for downstream chromatographic purification on a pressurized liquid column (flash chromatography) using *n*-hexane/EtOAc/MeOH. This could result in the separation of 3 sub-fractions designated as CI_{2,1}-CI_{2,3} based on TLC and RP-HPLC. These fractions were

resubmitted for bioactivities, wherein CI_{2,2} registered superior bioactive potential, and hence, was purified using preparative RP-HPLC to yield two homogenous metabolites, which were characterized as cistobis lactone A and cistobis lactone B (R_t 6.35 and 6.76 min, respectively) (Table 1).

Cistobis lactone A

The empirical formula of the macrocyclic bislactone, cistobis lactone A, was deduced as C₂₆H₄₄O₈ {HR(ESI)MS *m/z* 485.3118 [M + H]⁺cal. for C₂₆H₄₅O₈ 485.3114}, and the structure of the compound was elucidated based on detailed NMR experiments (Table 1; Fig. S2–S11). The FTIR spectrum (Fig. S12) displayed strong absorption bands at 3432 and 1751 cm⁻¹ that confirmed the occurrence of hydroxyl and cyclic ester functional groups, respectively. The other prominent infrared stretching bands at 1058 and 2926, 2854 cm⁻¹ suggested the presence of ether bridges (C–O–C) and C–H alkyl stretch in the studied cistobis lactone A. Elemental composition of cistobis lactone A showed five degrees of unsaturation. ¹³C NMR spectrum along with ¹³⁵DEPT showed resonances for 26 carbons, which were classified into four methyls, eleven *sp*³ methylenes, six *sp*³ methines, two *sp*² methines along with three quaternary carbons. Typical ¹³C NMR signals recorded at δ_C 171.5 and 167.9 were assigned to the carbonyl carbons of ester functionality (Fig. S3). Highly deshielded carbon signals at δ_C 57.8, 74.3, 63.5, 70.2, 73.7, 83.4, and 76.5 were indicative for oxygenated carbons implying three methylenes, three methines, and one methyl carbon, as revealed by the ¹H-¹H COSY/HMBC data (Fig. S5, S7). Significantly deshielded proton signals at δ_H 3.31 and 3.28 suggested the attachment of interchangeable hydroxyl groups to the carbons at δ_C 74.3 and 76.5, respectively that were further ascertained by the disappearance of deuterated hydroxyl resonances in ¹H NMR. The absence of resonance peaks corresponding to δ_C 171.5, 167.9, and 30.2 in ¹³⁵DEPT depicted their quaternary nature. Previous literature identified a fourteen-membered macrodiolide, clonostachdiol [9] that confined two ester carbonyls, alkene, and hydroxyls, whereas the titled cistobis lactone A enclosed two ester functionalities at C-1 and C-5, one olefinic group (C-11/C-12), two hydroxyl groups (in pyran ring at C-4'), and macrocyclic framework (at C-9 position). Deshielded olefinic protons at δ_H 5.36 and 5.38 appeared as doublet of triplet, which was attached to the carbons at δ_C 126.3 and 127.9, respectively. Detailed interpretation of the ¹H-¹H COSY and HMBC spectra established the presence of three isolated spin systems (I, II, and III) as indicated by the bold-faced lines in Fig. 2. The macrocyclic bislactone core enclosed two spin systems of I and II, whereas ¹H-¹H COSY interactions in spin system III assigned the

Table 1 NMR spectroscopic data^a of cistobislactone A and B isolated from *C. indicus*


Cistobislactone A					Cistobislactone B				
C. No.	¹³ C	¹ H (int., mult., <i>J</i> in Hz) ^b	¹ H- ¹ H COSY	HMBC	C. No.	¹³ C	¹ H (int., mult., <i>J</i> in Hz) ^b	¹ H- ¹ H COSY	HMBC
2	171.5	–	–	–	2	171.5	–	–	–
3	32.5	2.41 (2H, t, 6.8)	–	C-4	3	32.3	2.40 (2H, t, 7.0)	–	C-4
4	63.5	3.96 (2H, t, 7.0)	H-3	C-6,2	4	63.1	3.89 (2H, t, 7.3)	H-3	C-6,2
6	167.9	–	–	–	6	167.7	–	–	–
7	27.9	2.08 (2H, d, 6.4)	H-8	C-6,8	7	35.9	2.14 (2H, d, 6.6)	H-8	C-6
8	40.6	2.14 (1H, m)	H-9	–	8	36.3	2.74 (1H, m)	H-9	C-7,8a'
8a	24.6	1.30 (2H, dd, 7.2, 6.9)	H-8	C-7	8a	145.8	–	–	–
8b	38.9	1.77 (1H, m)	H-8a,8c	–	8a'	16.2	1.80 (3H, s)	–	–
8b'	22.2	1.56 (2H, m)	H-8b	–	8b	126.2	5.39 (1H, t, 5.5)	H-8c	–
8b''	12.6	0.91 (3H, t, 7.0)	H-8b'	C-8b	8c	66.0	3.96 (2H, d, 7.9)	–	C-8a,8b,8e
8c	75.3	3.45 (1H α , dd, 8.1, 3.2) 3.22 (1H β , dd, 7.9, 3.5)	H-8b''	C-8e,8a	8d	–	–	–	–
8d	–	–	–	–	8e	57.7	3.36 (3H, s)	–	C-8c
8e	57.8	3.35 (3H, s)	–	C-8c	9	29.1	1.38 (2H, td, 5.2, 6.9) 1.63 (2H, m)	H-10	C-8a
9	74.3	3.31 (1H, m)	H-10	C-10	10	25.4	1.99 (2H, m)	H-11	C-8
10	47.2	1.98 (2H, dd, 5.5, 6.1)	H-11	–	11	126.4	5.66 (1H, td, 11.9, 12.2)	H-12	C-13
11	126.3	5.36 (1H, td, 12.5, 12.5)	H-12	C-13	12	127.7	5.69 (1H, dd, 12.5, 12.6)	H-13	C-10
12	127.9	5.38 (1H, td, 12.4, 12.3)	H-13	–	13	34.0	2.01 (1H, m)	H-13a	–
13	26.6	1.87 (2H, m)	H-14	–	13a	23.9	1.33 (2H, m)	H-13b	C-14
14	27.3	1.12 (2H, t, 6.3)	–	C-15	13b	12.7	0.92 (3H, t, 6.0)	–	C-13a
15	30.2	–	–	–	14	32.9	1.52 (2H, d, 6.9) 1.11 (2H, d, 6.7)	H-13	–
16	70.2	4.55 (2H, d, 4.0)	–	C-14,2	15	27.4	–	–	–
1'	73.7	3.56 (2H, d, 4.2)	–	C-16,5'	16	70.1	4.50 (2H, d, 3.8)	–	C-15,14,1',2
2'	–	–	–	–	1'	75.3	3.61 (2H, d, 4.1)	–	–
3'	83.4	3.87 (1H, m)	H-4'	C-1'	2'	–	–	–	–
3a'	18.7	1.18 (3H, d, 4.3)	H-3'	–	3'	83.8	4.03 (1H, m)	H-4'	C-1'
4'	76.5	3.28 (1H, dd, 6.3, 6.1)	H-5'	C-5a',3'	3a'	20.2	1.18 (3H, d, 6.9)	H-3'	C-4'
5'	31.2	1.63 (1H, m)	H-5a'	–	4'	76.2	3.30 (1H, dd, 6.2, 6.3)	H-5'	C-5'
5a'	16.0	0.97 (3H, d, 6.2)	–	–	5'	30.3	1.58 (1H, m)	H-5a'	–
			–	–	5a'	17.0	1.00 (3H, d, 5.9)	–	C-4'

^aNMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker AVANCE III 500 MHz (AV 500) spectrometer (Bruker, Karlsruhe, Germany) in MeOD as NMR solvent at ambient temperature with TMS as the internal reference (δ_{H} 0 ppm)

^bValues in ppm, multiplicity and coupling constants (*J* = Hz) were indicated in parentheses

Multiplicities were allocated by ¹³⁵DEPT NMR spectrum. The assignments were made with the aid of ¹H-¹H COSY, HSQC, HMBC and NOESY experiments.

presence of spiro-fused pyran ring to the bislactone core. These attributions were further confirmed by the HMBC cross-peaks of H-1' to C-16, C-5', and H-16 to C-2 and C-14, and the results were corroborated with the previous

report of sixteen-membered macrolide with a pyran ring moiety [20]. Considerably deshielded methylene protons at δ_{H} 3.96 (H-4) and δ_{H} 4.55 (H-16) displayed three-bond HMBCs with lactone carbonyls C-2 (171.5), and C-6

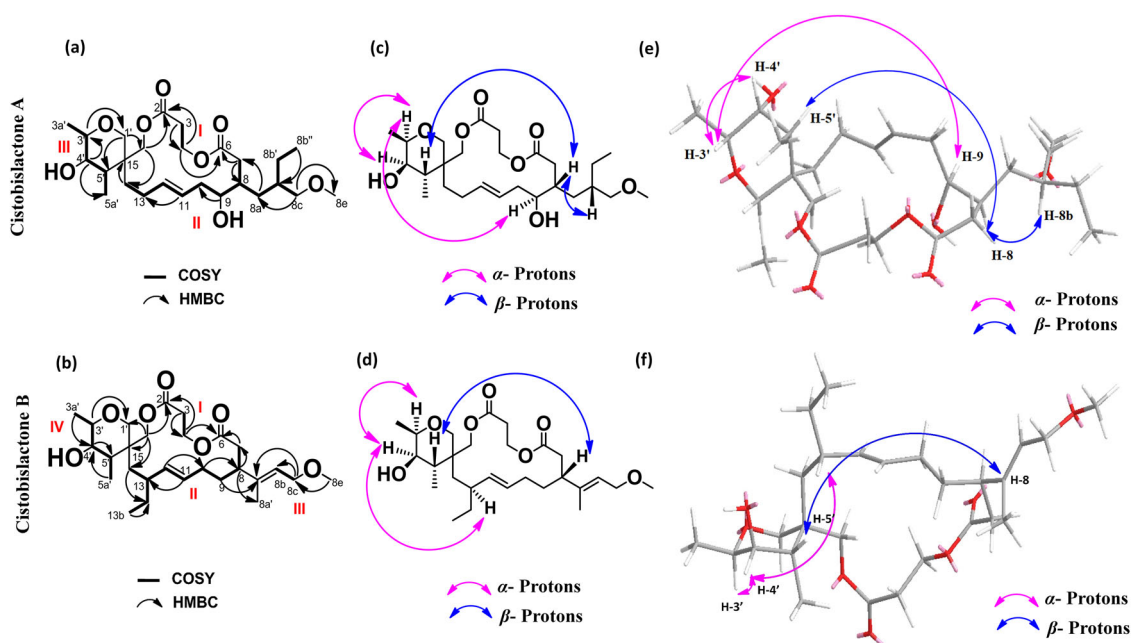


Fig. 2 (a, b) ^1H - ^1H COSY/HMBC relationships of cistobis lactones A-B, wherein the key ^1H - ^1H COSYs were characterized in bold-faced bonds, and HMBCs as double-barbed arrows; (c, d) NOESY relationships (double-sided arrows, pink and blue-colored arrows

designated alpha and beta protons, respectively) of cistobis lactones A-B, respectively. The NOESY relations were represented by (e, f) computer-generated models of cistobis lactone A and B using MM2 force-field calculations

(167.9) from H-4, which reinforced the presence of nearby electronegative oxygen atom of an ester group [18]. HMBC correlation between H-8c (δ_{H} 3.45/3.22) and C-8e (δ_{C} 57.8) and that between H-3' (δ_{H} 3.87) and C-1' (δ_{C} 73.7) supported the presence of an ether linkage in 2-methoxy methyl-butyl side chain and in the pyran moiety. HMBC cross-peaks at H-4/C-2, H-3/C-4, H-4/C-6, H-7/C-6, H-7/C-8, H-9/C-10, H-11/C-13, H-14/C-15, H-16/C-14, and H-16/C-2 (Fig. S7) along with ^1H - ^1H COSY relations from H-3 to H-4/H-7 through H-14 disclosed the presence of 16-membered macrocyclic bislactonic ring skeleton in the compound. Large coupling constants between H-11 and H-12 ($J=12.5$ and 12.3 Hz, respectively) attributed that these olefinic protons were aligned in *trans*-fashion with respect to each other, and thus, the geometrical configuration was assigned as *E*. NOEs between δ_{H} 3.87 (H-3') and 3.31 (H-9) showed their proximities, and these protons were lined up in the same plane of symmetry, and thus, assigned as α -oriented. The proton signal at H-3' showed a correlation with H-4' (δ_{H} 3.28) thus attributing the position in the same symmetry corresponding to α -orientation. Other NOE correlations between δ_{H} 1.77 (H-8b)/2.14 (H-8)/1.63 (H-5') designated their equal plane of symmetry, and were oriented towards the opposite face of the α -protons, and hence, their positions were deduced as β -oriented. In brief, the relative stereochemistry of six chiral centers at C-8, C-8b, C-9, C-3', C-4' and C-5' was assigned based on NOE correlation spectrum (Fig. S8) in which H-3', H-9' and H-4' were

aligned in α -orientation, and those at C-8, C-8b and C-5' were assigned as β -oriented.

Cistobis lactone B

The empirical formula of the second macrocyclic bislactone, cistobis lactone B, was deduced as $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_7$ {HR (ESI)MS m/z 481.3168 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ cal. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{45}\text{O}_7$ 481.3165}, and the structure of the compound was elucidated by FTIR/NMR experiments (Table 1; Fig. S13–S23). The IR spectrum of cistobis lactone B showed the stretching absorptions peaks at 3431, 2924–2856, 1745, 1050 cm^{-1} that suggested the presence of hydroxyl, alkylic, lactone carbonyl, and ether (C-O-C stretch) functional groups, respectively (Fig. S23). Elemental composition of cistobis lactone B showed six degrees of unsaturation. ^{13}C NMR spectrum along with $^{135}\text{DEPT}$ showed resonances for 27 carbons were classified into two carbonyls, four sp^2 carbons being for two olefinic bonds of [1,2-disubstituted] and [1,2,2-trisubstituted] nature, respectively, carbons along with five sp^3 methines, ten methylenes, four methyls and one sp^3 quaternary carbon. ^1H - ^1H COSY spectrum of the compound (Fig. S16) revealed four isolated spin systems, assigning the partial skeletal structure: H-3/H-4 (I), H-7/H-8/H-9/H-10/H-11/H-12/H-13/H-13a/H-13b/H-14 (II), H-8b/H-8c (III), and H-3a'/H-3'/H-4'/H-5'/H-5a' (IV). HMBC correlations from δ_{H} 3.89 (H-4)/ δ_{C} 171.5 (C-2), δ_{H} 2.40 (H-3)/ δ_{C} 63.1 (C-4), δ_{H} 3.89 (H-4)/ δ_{C} 167.7 (C-6), δ_{H}

2.14 (H-7)/ δ_C 167.7 (C-6), δ_H 2.74 (H-8)/ δ_C 35.9 (C-7), δ_H 1.99 (H-10)/ δ_C 36.3 (C-8), δ_H 5.69 (H-12)/ δ_C 25.4 (C-10), δ_H 5.66 (H-11)/ δ_C 34.0 (C-13), δ_H 4.50 (H-16)/ δ_C 32.9 (C-14), δ_H 4.50 (H-16)/ δ_C 27.4 (C-15), and δ_H 4.50 (H-16)/ δ_C 171.5 (C-2) established the closed 16-membered macrocyclic loop in cistobislactone B. Attachment of a pyran moiety through a spiro linkage to the basic macrocyclic lactone skeleton was assigned by the HMBC correlation between H-16 (δ_H 4.50) and C-1' (δ_C 75.3) and HMBC cross-peak between H-16 (δ_H 4.50) and C-15 (δ_C 27.4). Likewise, the side chain of 4-methoxy-but-2-ene-2-yl at C-8 position of the basic lactonic framework was inferred by the HMBC of H-8 (δ_H 2.74) with C-8a' (δ_C 16.2). Similar to cistobislactone A, the olefinic protons positioned at H-11 and H-12 were found to possess larger J values ($J = 12.2$ and 12.6 Hz, respectively), which attributed that these olefinic protons were aligned in *trans*-fashion with respect to each other, and thus, the geometrical configuration was assigned as *E*. Relative stereochemistry of the chiral centers positioned at C-8, C-13, C-3', C-4' and C-5' were inferred from the NOESY experiments, and further corroborated with MM2 force-field calculations. NOEs between the chiral protons at H-3' (δ_H 4.03) and H-4' (δ_H 3.30) showed their proximities, and were disposed in the same plane of symmetry, and thus, assigned as α -oriented. Likewise, the proton positioned at C-4' showed NOE correlation with C-13 proton (δ_H 2.01, H-13'), and was deduced to be α -oriented. NOE coupling between H-8 (δ_H 2.74) and H-5' (δ_H 1.58) designated their equal plane of symmetry, and were oppositely inclined compared to the α -protons, and hence, their positions were deduced as β -oriented.

Bioactive properties of cistobislactones and structure-activity correlation analysis

Organic extract of *C. indicus* exhibited potential inhibitory activity against 5-LO (IC₅₀ 1.14 mg mL⁻¹) and COX-2 (IC₅₀ 1.35 mg mL⁻¹). Cistobislactone B demonstrated greater attenuation property against COX-2 (IC₅₀ 2.75 mM) than that showed by its cistobislactone A analogue. Greater anti-inflammatory selectivity index (anti-COX-1/anti-COX-2) of cistobislactone B (1.06) compared to the standard anti-inflammatory drug, ibuprofen (selectivity index, 0.43) inferred the higher COX-2 selectivity of the former. It is of note that between the COX isoforms, COX-1 is considered to be a constitutive isoform, which was found to express in most tissues under normal conditions, whereas COX-2 isoenzyme was induced in response to several pro-inflammatory factors [21]. Therefore, the assessment of attenuation potential of bioactive compounds against COX-2 was considered to be an essential tool to encumber inflammatory conditions. Similarly, arachidonate 5-LO inhibitory activity of

cistobislactone B (IC₅₀ 2.18 mM) was considerably greater than that displayed by cistobislactone A (IC₅₀ 2.54 mM) and standard anti-inflammatory drug ibuprofen (IC₅₀ 4.50 mM). Arachidonate 5-LO effectively contributes towards the advancement of inflammatory reactions, such as atherosclerosis [22], rheumatoid arthritis [23], and autoimmune diseases [24] owing to its capacity to biosynthesize inflammatory leukotrienes (such as LTB₄) and 5-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid (HETE). Therefore, 5-LO is a promising target for pharmaceutical applications in several diseases, including inflammation [25]. The selectivity indices (anti-COX-1/anti-COX-2) of cistobislactones towards pro-inflammatory COX isoforms were significantly superior (~1.0) than ibuprofen (0.43). Cistobislactone B exhibited higher antioxidant potentials (DPPH IC₅₀ 2.33 mM) and hydrogen peroxide inhibition properties (IC₅₀ 1.81 mM) compared to those displayed by cistobislactone A (DPPH IC₅₀ 2.80 and H₂O₂ IC₅₀ 2.10 mM) (Table 2).

Various molecular descriptors comprising of electronic, steric and hydrophobic parameters of the isolated cistobislactones were determined and correlated with their bioactive potentials. Electronic parameters, such as topological polar surface area (tPSA 91.29) and molecular polarizability (PI 52.01) of cistobislactone B were comparable with those of cistobislactone A (tPSA 111.52; PI 50.90), and greater than ibuprofen (tPSA 37.3; PI 23.96). The hydrophobicity of cistobislactones (log P_{OW} 2.4–3.5) were found within the threshold permissible limit of hydrophobic-lipophilic balance [26], which could be responsible for their potential bioactive properties. An acceptable permeability in cellular network (through inter-membrane barrier) along with the radical scavenging properties of the studied compounds could contribute towards their greater anti-inflammatory activities.

Molecular docking of cistobislactones against inflammatory enzymes and drug-likeness

The attenuation properties of the spiro-linked macrocyclic bislactone derivatives were further corroborated by the *in silico* molecular docking analysis using arachidonate 5-LO enzyme (Fig. 3; Table 3). Cistobislactones A and B exhibited three hydrogen bonds each in the active site-5-LO complex, whereas ibuprofen displayed two hydrogen bonds in the ligand-enzyme composite (Fig. 3). Three hydrogen bonding interactions with the active site amino acyl residues (Phe³⁰⁴, Leu²⁸⁹, Ile³³⁰) (Fig. 3) along with the lesser docking parameters of cistobislactones with arachidonate 5-LO could further attribute their anti-inflammatory potential. Cistobislactone B exhibited lesser binding properties, such as binding energy (−11.24 kcal mol⁻¹), intermolecular energy (−12.42 kcal mol⁻¹), docking score (−12.24 kcal mol⁻¹),

Table 2 Bioactivities of cistobislactones A and B *vis-à-vis* commercially available references along with molecular descriptors

Bioactivities	Cistobislactone A	Cistobislactone B	Standards ^a	
Anti-inflammatory activity (IC ₅₀ , mM)				
COX-1 inhibition ^b	2.99 ^a ± 0.03	2.93 ^b ± 0.01	0.19 ^c ± 0.00 ^I	
COX-2 inhibition ^b	2.87 ^a ± 0.02	2.75 ^b ± 0.03	0.44 ^c ± 0.02 ^I	
Selectivity index ^c	1.04 ^a ± 0.03	1.06 ^a ± 0.03	0.43 ^c ± 0.03 ^I	
5-LO inhibition ^b	2.54 ^b ± 0.01	2.18 ^c ± 0.02	4.50 ^a ± 0.11 ^I	
Antioxidant activity (IC ₅₀ , mM)				
DPPH scavenging ^b	2.80 ^a ± 0.02	2.33 ^b ± 0.03	1.51 ^c ± 0.01 ^T	
H ₂ O ₂ scavenging ^b	2.10 ^a ± 0.02	1.81 ^b ± 0.02	1.70 ^c ± 0.03 ^T	
Molecular descriptors	Cistobislactone A	Cistobislactone B	α -tocopherol	Ibuprofen
Electronic				
tPSA	111.52	91.29	29.46	37.3
PI (X10 ⁻²⁴ cm ³)	50.90	52.01	53.54	23.96
Steric				
MR (cm ³ /mol)	128.77	132.91	135.06	60.44
MV (cm ³)	426.90	438.30	462.70	200.1
Pr (cm ³)	1110	1119	1123	499.3
Hydrophobic				
Log P _{ow}	2.42	3.50	9.98	3.75

tPSA topological polar surface area, PI polarizability, MR molar refractivity, MV molar volume, Pr parachor, Log Pow logarithm of octanol-water coefficient

^aStandards: I Ibuprofen, T α - tocopherol

^bBioactivities were expressed as IC₅₀ values (mM). Samples were analyzed in triplicate ($n = 3$) and expressed as mean \pm standard deviation. Means followed by different superscripts (a–c) within the same row indicated significant differences ($p < 0.05$)

^cSelectivity index was calculated as the ratio of anti-COX-1(IC₅₀)/anti-COX-2 (IC₅₀)

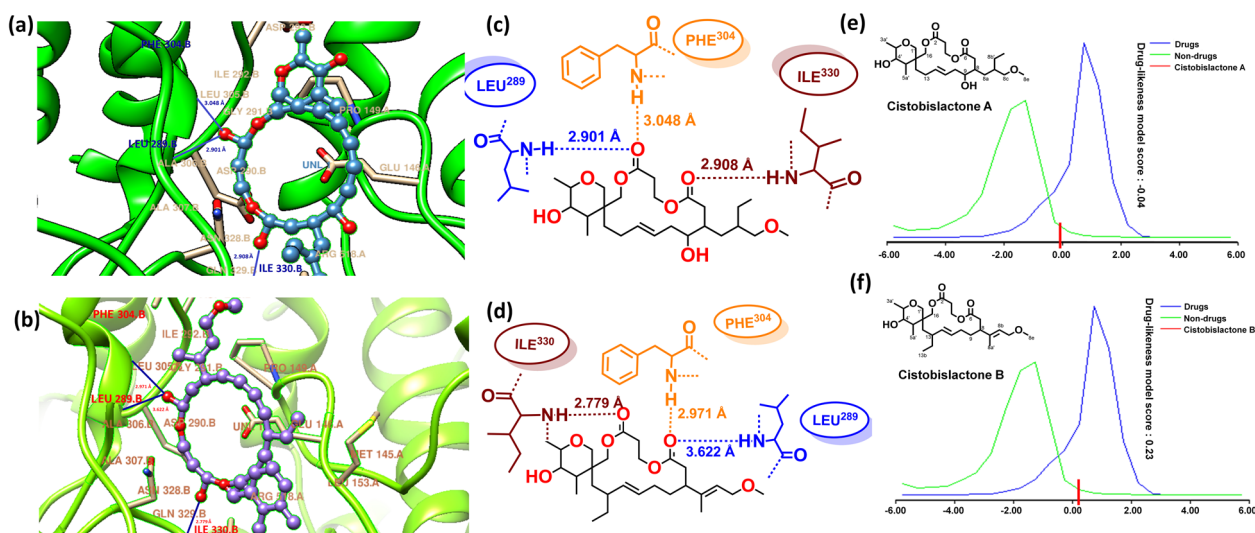


Fig. 3 Molecular docking of cistobislactones A and B with 5-LO. (a, b) Nearer view of molecular docking interactions of cistobislactone A and B and hydrogen-bonded amino acid residues in the active catalytic site of 5-LO enzyme; (c, d) Chemdraw representation of hydrogen

bond interaction of the amino acyl residues of 5-LO with cistobislactones A and B; (e, f) Drug-likeness score for the cistobislactones with molsoft software. Blue-colored lines illustrated the hydrogen bond interactions

Table 3 In silico docking parameters between the ligands (cistobislactones A-B and standard ibuprofen) and the active site of pro-inflammatory arachidonate 5-LO

Ligands	No. of H-bonds ^a	H-bonded amino acid residues ^b	Binding energy (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^c	Docking score (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^c	Inhibition constant, <i>K_i</i> (nM) ^c	Intermolecular energy (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^c	Torsional free energy (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^c
Cistobislactone A	3	PHE 304.B LEU 289.B ILE 330.B	-10.12	-11.02	38.37	-11.22	1.19
Cistobislactone B	3	PHE 304.B LEU 289.B ILE 330.B	-11.24	-12.24	5.76	-12.42	1.19
Ibuprofen	2	LYS 545.A VAL 144.A	-3.44	-3.51	989.89	-3.61	0.95

^aMolecular docking simulations were carried out using Autodock 4.0 software tool

^bHydrogen bonding interactions between the ligand and the protein complexes

^cValues were evaluated from the calculations based on the energy minimization

and inhibition constant (*K_i*, 5.76 nM) than those displayed by cistobislactone A (binding energy -10.12 kcal mol⁻¹, intermolecular energy -11.22 kcal mol⁻¹, docking score -11.02 kcal mol⁻¹, and inhibition constant *K_i*, 38.37 nM), which were accounted for the strong binding affinity of cistobislactone B towards 5-LO enzyme (Table 3). Interestingly, the inhibition constant *K_i* of cistobislactone B was found to be six-fold lesser than that displayed by cistobislactone A thus attributing the effective binding potential of the former to the enzyme in a non-competitive manner. The molecular docking factors implied that cistobislactone B displayed superior molecular interactions with 5-LO than that exhibited by the anti-inflammatory agent ibuprofen (docking score and binding energy of -3.51 and -3.44 kcal mol⁻¹, respectively). This was further confirmed by higher drug-like attribute of cistobislactone B (drug-likeness score of 0.24) (Fig. 3), and therefore, the compound could be a prospective anti-inflammatory lead attenuating arachidonate 5-LO. Furthermore, superior electronic properties (*PI* > 50) could connote its larger electronic rich centers, which could network with the active site of 5-LO resulting in stronger hydrogen bonds with aminoacyl residue as compared to ibuprofen (with lesser polarizability, ~24).

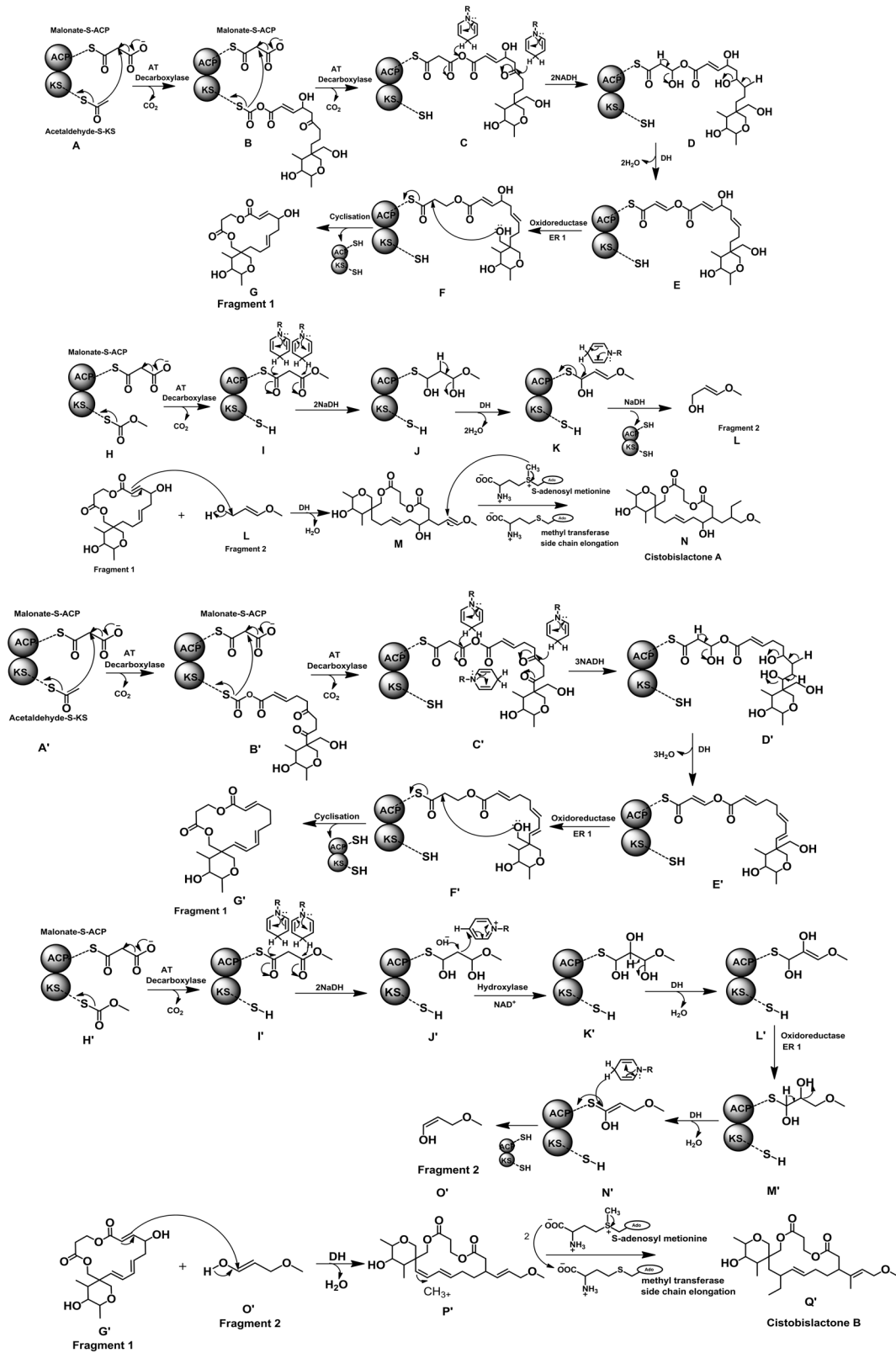
Biosynthetic origin of cistobislactones

Hypothetical biosynthetic pathway of cistobislactones could proceed through the building of intermediate groups and elongation on acyl carrier protein (ACP) and ketosynthase (KS) domain units (Fig. 4). Biosynthesis of cistobislactone A might include the steps involving malonylacetate-ACP intermediates that were decarboxylated followed by sequential removal of acetaldehyde from the S-KS unit. Dehydratase (DH) catalyzed the formation of 3-oxopropyl-1-enyl-4-hydroxy-9-(5-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-4,6-dimethyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyranyl)nonadienoate-S-ACP, which

on further cyclization formed macrocyclic bislactonic framework. Addition of 3-methoxypropenol to the olefinic carbon (C-8) facilitated through the nucleophilic attack followed by methyl transferase (MT)-catalyzed addition of methyl and subsequent elongation (at C-8b) could lead to the formation of cistobislactone A. Putative biosynthetic pathway to form cistobislactone B might consist of chain extension on both ACP and KS domain through corresponding decarboxylative ketoreduction of malonate S-ACP and sequential flipping of building units between two domains via acyltransferase. A fragment 2, 3-methoxypropenol could be added to the C-8 position of bislactonic macrocyclic skeleton (fragment 1) through a DH-catalyzed reaction. Side chain elongation at C-13 and C-8a could proceed by MT-catalyzed reaction to afford cistobislactone B (Fig. 4).

Conclusions

Bioassay-guided chromatographic fractionation of the organic extract of the old-woman octopus *C. indicus* led to the isolation of two unreported sixteen-membered macrocyclic bislactone analogues, named as cistobislactones A and B. Among the isolated analogues, cistobislactone B exhibited greater attenuation properties against arachidonate 5-LO (IC₅₀ 2.18 mM) than those displayed by cistobislactone A (IC₅₀ 2.54 mM) and standard non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent ibuprofen (IC₅₀ 4.50 mM). Structure-bioactivity correlation analysis established that higher electronic properties (tPSA 91.29 and *PI* 52.01) along with optimum hydrophobicity (log *P_{OW}* 3.50) of cistobislactone B could favor the interaction with active sites of 5-LO enzyme, and also predominantly contributed towards greater antioxidant properties, which were corroborated by lesser docking parameters (binding energy, -11.24 kcal mol⁻¹; docking score, -12.24 kcal mol⁻¹).



◀ **Fig. 4** Scheme of putative biosynthesis of cistobis lactone A by consecutive elongation modules through adenylation and condensation. Abbreviations: AT acyltransferase, ACP acyl carrier protein, KR ketoreductase, C condensation, PCP peptidyl carrier protein, KS ketosynthase, DH dehydratase. (A) Condensation reaction between malonate (linked to ACP) and $\text{CH}_3(\text{C}=\text{O})$ - connected with KS; (B) formic-9-(dihydroxy-4,6-dimethyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl)-4-hydroxy-6-oxonon-2-enoic anhydride-S-KS; (C) 4-hydroxy-9-(5-hydroxymethyl)-dimethyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl)-6-oxonon-2-enoic 3-oxopropionic anhydride-S-ACP; (D) 1-hydroxy-3-oxopropyl-4,6-dihydroxy-9-(5-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-dimethyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl)-non-2-enoate-S-ASP; (E) 3-oxopropyl-1-enyl-4-hydroxy-9-(5-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-dimethyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl) nona-2,6-dienoate-S-ACP; (F) 3-oxopropyl-4-hydroxy-9-(5-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-dimethyltetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl) nona-2,6-dienoate-S-ACP; (G) 4,16-dihydroxy-dimethyl-2,8,12-trioxaspiro[5.15] hencosa-14,18-diene-9,13-dione; (H) methylformate-S-KS; (I) methyl-3-oxopropionate-S-ACP; (J) 1-methoxypropane-1,3-diol-S-ACP; (K) 3-methoxyprop-2-en-1-ol-S-ACP; (L) 3-methoxyprop-2-en-1-ol; (M) dihydroxy-15-(3-methoxypropyl-dimethyl-trioxaspiro[5.15] hencosa-18-diene-9,13-dione. Scheme of putative biosynthesis of cistobis lactone B (steps involving A'-Q')

The results illustrated that cistobis lactone B could be developed as a promising marine-originated macrocyclic bis lactone lead for use against oxidative stress and inflammation.

Materials and methods

Instrumentation and materials

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were obtained with Bruker Avance spectrometer (DPX 500; Bruker, Rheinstetten, Germany, 500 MHz) using deuterated methanol as solvent and a suitable internal reference (tetramethylsilane, δ_{H} 0 ppm). An ultraviolet-visible (UV-VIS) spectrophotometer (Orion™ AquaMate 8000, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA) was used to acquire UV spectral data. Gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer (GC-MS) operating with the electron-impact (EI) mode (7890 A GC; 5975 C MS, Agilent Technologies, Inc., Santa Clara, CA) was used for mass spectral analysis, wherein the compounds were fractionated over a medium polar partition-liquid stationary phase (HP-5MS 5% phenylmethyl silox; 30 m length x 0.25 μm film thickness x 250 μm internal diameter). High-resolution electrospray ionization mass spectral (HRESIMS) analysis was performed in ESI positive mode on Agilent 6520 accurate mass Q-TOF LC/MS (Agilent, Santa Clara, CA) coupled with a HPLC (Agilent LC 1200) equipped with a reverse-phase C_{18} column (Extend™, 1.8 μm film thickness, 2.1 x 50 mm). Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) absorption spectra and optical rotations of the isolated compounds were measured by using an FT-IR spectrophotometer

scanning from 4000 to 400 cm^{-1} (Perkin-Elmer-2000, Waltham, MA) and a polarimeter (ATAGO/AP-300, Atago USA, Inc., Bellevue, WA), respectively. Homogeneity of the purified compounds was analyzed with high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC, Shimadzu LC 20AD, Japan) coupled with Shimadzu LC 2535 binary gradient pump, C_{18} column (Phenomenex USA, Luna® C_{18} 100 Å, 250 mm x 4.6 mm, 5 μm), and photodiode array detector (SPD-M20A, Kyoto, Japan). Finer chromatographic fractionation was carried out with a preparative HPLC connected with a C_{18} -RP (reverse-phase) column (25 cm x 1 cm, 5 μm). Solvents and reagents were of chromatographic/analytical-grade, which were procured from Sigma Aldrich (MO, USA), E-Merck (Darmstadt, Germany), and Spectrochem (Mumbai, India). Cyclooxygenases (COX-1 and COX-2, human recombinant) were procured from Sigma-Aldrich (Missouri, USA) and arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO, soybean) was purchased from Sisco Research Laboratories (Mumbai, India). Sephadex LH-20 (lipophilic sephadex) procured from Sigma Aldrich Co. was used for initial purification (gel permeation chromatography) and silica gel plates (GF₂₅₄) were used for thin layer chromatography (TLC).

Sample collection, pre-treatment, and preparation of organic solvent extracts

Fresh specimens of *C. indicus* (~5.5 kg) were brought together from the landing centers at Cochin harbor of the Arabian sea (located at Lat 8°48' N; Long 78°9' E and Lat 9°14' N; Long 79°14'E), along the south-western coast of the Indian peninsular region, during the month of January to March, 2019. The octopus sample was unambiguously identified by Dr. K.K. Saji Kumar, Senior Technical Officer of the Molluscan Fisheries Division in Central for Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, India, based on detailed dorsal and ventral morphological examination of tentacles, suckers, ligula length and mucous pouches. The samples were cleaned with distilled water, and the parts other than the edible portion were carefully removed. The tissue part was further homogenated and lyophilized using a laboratory-scale freeze drier (alpha 1-4 LD plus, Martin Christ, Germany) yielding the freeze-dried powder (1710 g, yield 31.09%). The lyophilized powder (1710 g) was sonicated with EtOAc-MeOH (1:1, v/v; 1500 mL x 2) before being subjected to hot extraction at elevated temperature of about 45–50 °C under N_2 atmosphere for about 6 h to avoid the generation of undesired chemical products. The extract was filtered (through Whatman No. 1 filter paper) and passed over anhydrous sodium sulfate before being evaporated (50 °C) to dryness (5–6 h) using a rotary vacuum evaporator (Heidolph Instruments, Schwabach, Germany) under

reduced pressure to yield a dark yellow gummy residue of *C. indicus* crude extract. The extraction was repeated to yield an amount of 52.36 g of crude (extraction yield of dry weight basis $3.06 \pm 0.5\%$).

Bioactivity-guided chromatographic purification of cistobis lactones from *C. indicus*

Organic extract of *C. indicus* (52.36 g) was fractionated by chromatography over various adsorbent systems. Initial separation was carried out using size-exclusion chromatographic technique. The crude was dissolved in methanol before being loaded onto a packed glass column (5 cm × 150 cm). The fractionation was carried out using MeOH to acquire seven fractions (150–500 mL each) that were pooled to four major fractions (CI₁–CI₄) based upon RP-C₁₈ HPLC (acetonitrile ACN-MeOH, 50:50 v/v) and TLC (dichloromethane-MeOH, 9:1 v/v, and *n*-hexane-EtOAc, 7:3) visualizations. The fraction CI₂ (8.56 g) exhibited considerably higher 5-LO enzyme inhibitory potential than other studied fractions, and thus, subjected to chromatographic purification on a pressurized liquid column (flash chromatography, 47 cm × 4 cm) filled with silica gel (230–400 mesh) and eluted with *n*-hexane/EtOAc/MeOH gradient (30, 70, and 100% EtOAc in *n*-hexane; and thereafter 30, 70, 100% MeOH in EtOAc) to obtain three sub-fractions (CI_{2.1}–CI_{2.3}) based on TLC/HPLC analyses. Sub-fraction CI_{2.2} exhibited comparatively greater bioactivities than those recorded with others, and was therefore, chosen for downstream fractionation by preparative HPLC on C₁₈ column (25 cm × 1 cm, 5 μm, flow rate 8 mL/min) fitted with a binary gradient pump (pressure of pump A, 24 Kgf; pressure of pump B 18 Kgf) and photodiode array detector (SPD-M20A, Kyoto, Japan). The solvent system of ACN-MeOH was used as a mobile phase (50:50 v/v) for the preparative HPLC fractionation to afford cistobis lactones A-B as yellow oils (98 and 112 mg, respectively).

Bioactivity assessment

Anti-inflammatory potential of cistobis lactones were studied by evaluating their inhibition capacities against COX isoforms (COX-1 and 2) [27] and 5-LO [28]. Briefly, the COX enzymes were diluted in Tris buffer (0.1 M, pH 8). Pre-mixed phenol (500 μM), arachidonic acid (50 μM), and dichlorofluorescein (1-DCF, 20 μM) were added to the enzyme mixtures containing cistobis lactones with suitable concentrations that were pre-incubated with the enzymes at an ambient temperature for 5 min in the presence of hematin. Absorbance of the reaction product was measured against the reagent blank at 502 nm. 5-LO inhibition assay was performed by adding an aliquot of the stock solution (50 μL, in dimethylsulfoxide and Tween 20 mixture; 29:1 w/w) of the sample with linoleic acid (48 μL) in pre-warmed

potassium phosphate buffer (0.1 M, 2.95 mL, pH 6.3). The enzyme 5-LO (100 U) was added to the reaction mixture before being recorded the absorbance at 534 nm.

Antioxidant activities of the cistobis lactones were analyzed by using *in vitro* hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) scavenging and 2, 2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical (DPPH) radical quenching experiments [29–31]. Briefly, the H₂O₂ scavenging assay was carried out by mixing the solution of H₂O₂ (40 mM) in phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) with the freshly prepared sample solutions. The absorbance of the solution was recorded at 230 nm after 10 min against a reagent blank. DPPH scavenging activity was evaluated by adding an equal amount of DPPH solution (in MeOH) to the samples of cistobis lactones before being incubated in the dark at room temperature for about 10 min. The decrease in absorbance of the reaction mixture was measured at 517 nm against a reagent blank. The plots of radical scavenging and enzyme inhibition properties were recorded, and the results were expressed as mean inhibitory concentration, IC₅₀ (mg mL⁻¹, mM). Steric bulkiness, hydrophobicity, and electronic parameters were determined by ACD/ChemSketch (version 12.0; Advanced Chemistry Development Inc., Toronto, CA) and ChemDraw Ultra (Cambridge Soft Corp., MA; version 12.0) softwares.

In silico molecular modeling

AutoDock 4 (AutoDock Tools, version 1.5.6) software tool was used for *in silico* molecular docking of cistobis lactones with 5-LO (PDB: 1N8Q; resolution 2.1 Å, downloaded from www.pdb.org) and energetically minimized (Swiss-PdbViewer, version 4.1.0) [32]. The cistobis lactones were drawn by using ACD/ChemSketch and converted into MDL Molfiles set-up, which was changed into the PDB format with open Babel software. The grid box values were selected as $x = 3.699$, $y = -55.637$, $z = -30.065$ (60 Å X 58 Å X 64 Å) for 5-LO by Auto Grid algorithm. Molecular docking analyses were visualized by USCF Chimera (University of California, San Francisco, version 1.11.2). After the autodocking, root-mean-square deviations of atomic positions were assessed, and the docked conformations were built on their docking scores and binding energies.

Spectral information

Cistobis lactone A

Yellowish oil; UV λ_{\max} MeOH (log ϵ): 284 nm (4.02) (Fig. S24); $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ -19.2° (MeOH, $c = 0.31$); $R_f = 0.51$ (silica gel GF₂₅₄; dichloromethane-MeOH, 8:2); $R_t = 2.653$ min (C₁₈-RP; MeOH-ACN, 1:1 v/v) (Fig. S25); FT-IR (stretching ν , bending δ , rocking ρ) (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 895.5 (alkene C-H_δ), 1058.3 (C-O-C_ν), 1457.2 (C-H_ρ), 1751.6 (C=O_ν), 2926.3, 2854.2 (C-H_ν), 3432.1 (OH_ν) (Fig. S12);

^1H NMR_{MeOD} (500 MHz, δ_H in ppm, J in Hz) (Fig. S2); ^{13}C NMR_{MeOD} (125 MHz) (Fig. S3); $^{135}\text{DEPT}$, ^1H - ^1H COSY, HSQC, HMBC, NOESY data (Fig. S4–S8, Table 1); HRMS (ESI): found m/z 485.3118 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, cal. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{45}\text{O}_8$ 485.3114 ($\Delta = 0.82$ ppm) (Fig. S9); GC-MS (EI): found m/z 484.3 $[\text{M}]^+$, cal. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_8$ (Fig. S10).

Cistobis lactone B

Yellowish oil; UV λ_{max} MeOH (log ϵ): 287 nm (3.82) (Fig. S26); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} -18.8^\circ$ (MeOH, $c = 0.21$); $R_f = 0.48$ (silica gel GF₂₅₄; dichloromethane-MeOH, 8:2); $R_t = 2.675$ min (C₁₈-RP; MeOH-ACN, 1:1 v/v) (Fig. S27); FT-IR (ν_{max} , cm^{-1}): 898.5 (alkene C-H _{δ}), 1050.3 (C-O-C _{ν}), 1457.6 (C-H _{ρ}), 1457.6 (C-H _{δ}), 1745.5 (C=O _{ν}), 2924.3, 2856.2 (C-H _{ν}), 3431.2 (OH _{ν}); ^1H NMR_{MeOD} (500 MHz, δ_H in ppm, J in Hz) (Fig. S13); ^{13}C NMR_{MeOD} (125 MHz) (Fig. S14); $^{135}\text{DEPT}$, ^1H - ^1H COSY, HSQC, HMBC, NOESY data (Fig. S15–S19, Table 1); HRMS (ESI): found m/z 481.3168 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, cal. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{45}\text{O}_7$ 481.3165 ($\Delta = 0.62$ ppm) (Fig. S20); GC-MS (EI): found m/z 480.3 $[\text{M}]^+$, cal. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_7$ (Fig. S21).

Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using the software tool, Statistical Program for Social Sciences 10.0 (SPSS Inc, CA). Triplicate analyses of the independent experiments were performed, and the means were calculated for significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$) using analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Data availability

The chromatographic and spectroscopic spectral data are included as supplementary information.

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Author contributions SKP and KC designed research, conducted experiments, and analyzed data. KC acquired funds and conceptualized the work. SKP drafted the manuscript. KC reviewed and edited the manuscript. All authors read and approved the manuscript.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The authors declare no competing interests.

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