

A Convenient 3-Step Synthesis of 3-Acetamido-6-arylpyridazines Directed to Novel Y₅ Receptor Antagonist

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A 3-step synthesis of 3-acetamido-6-arylpyridazines as potential NPY₅ antagonists.

Key words NPY₅ receptor antagonist; obesity; palladium(0); Suzuki cross-coupling; 3-amino-6-chloropyridazine; coupling reaction

Obesity is a common disorder in the industrialized world. The major environmental factor associated with the rising prevalence of obesity is an increasingly sedentary lifestyle, compounded by greater levels of caloric intake. Recent studies^{1–12} have shown that in the central nervous system (CNS), neuropeptide Y (NPY) has been implicated in obesity and feeding, anxiety and depression, endocrine function and metabolism.¹ More particularly it was observed that food intake was inhibited by antisense oligodeoxynucleotides to the NPY₅ receptors.⁴

Therefore there is a great interest in the synthesis of NPY receptor antagonists acting as antagonists on NPY₅ receptors. Some potent and selective NPY₅ receptor antagonists have been described in the literature^{13–18} and their affinities were assessed through *in vitro* data over transfected CHO cells. However for most of them no *in vivo* data were published,¹⁹ this is the case for compound **1** (Fig. 1) which is active *in vitro* (IC₅₀=8.3 nM) but inactive *in vivo*. We hypothesized that the exchange of the pyrazole ring by a pyridazine ring, in abolishing an intramolecular hydrogen bond between oxygen from amide function and the heterocyclic nitrogen, could lead a better central bioavailability: in addition, pyridazines are known to have a good central bioavailability.²⁰ Hereafter we report the synthesis and biological evaluation of a series of pyridazine analogues of compound **1** (Fig. 1).

To access to these compounds, we propose a 3-step synthesis of a series of 3-acetamido-6-arylpyridazines **5a–k**.

The first strategy we envisaged for the synthesis of 3-*N*-(2-naphthylacetamido)-6-phenylpyridazine **5b** was based on a the

sequence shown in route a (Chart 1): treatment of commercially available 3,6-dichloropyridazine **2** with aqueous ammonia²¹ to yield the 3-amino-6-chloropyridazine **3**, coupling reaction between 3-amino-6-chloropyridazine **3** and 2-naphthylacetic acid in the presence of benzotriazol-1-yloxytris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (BOP)²² produced the 3-*N*-(2-naphthylacetamido)-3-chloropyridazine **4**. Finally we proceeded to a palladium-catalyzed Suzuki cross-coupling reaction between acetamidopyridazine derivative **4** and a commercially available arylboronic acid. However, none of the several literature conditions^{23,24} allowed us to obtain **5b** with satisfying yields (see Table 1).

The key difficulty in preparing compound **5b** lies in the cross-coupling reaction at last step. It can be explained by a stacking effect of the naphthyl ring with the pyridazine ring hindering the catalyst approach and by the electron withdrawing effect of amide function on pyridazine ring. To overcome this difficulty, the 3-*N*-(2-naphthylacetamido)-6-arylpyridazines **5a–k** (Table 2) were synthesized as outlined in route b of Chart 1. First a Suzuki cross-coupling reaction of available arylboronic acids with 3-amino-6-chloropyridazine **3** described previously²⁵ was used to prepare 3-amino-6-arylpyridazine **6** with 12–60% yields. The acetamidopyridazine derivatives **5a–k** were then prepared in 18–45% yields by coupling the activated 2-naphthylacetic acid with the 3-amino-6-arylpyridazine **6** using the diimidazolylcarbodiimide (DIC) procedure described by Honma *et al.*²⁶

The derivatives **5** obtained above were evaluated for their affinity for the NPY₅ as well as the NPY₁ receptors. None of

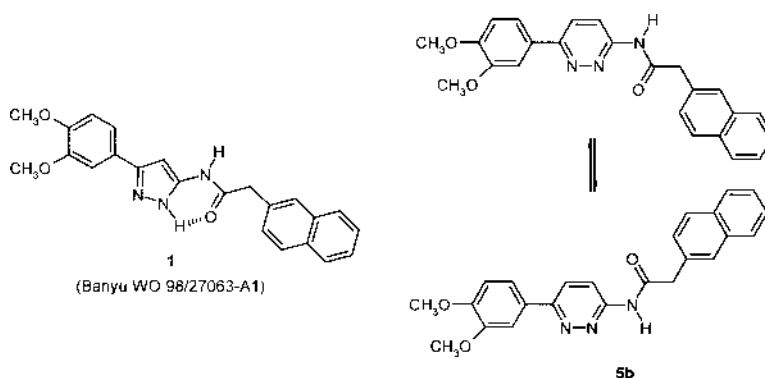
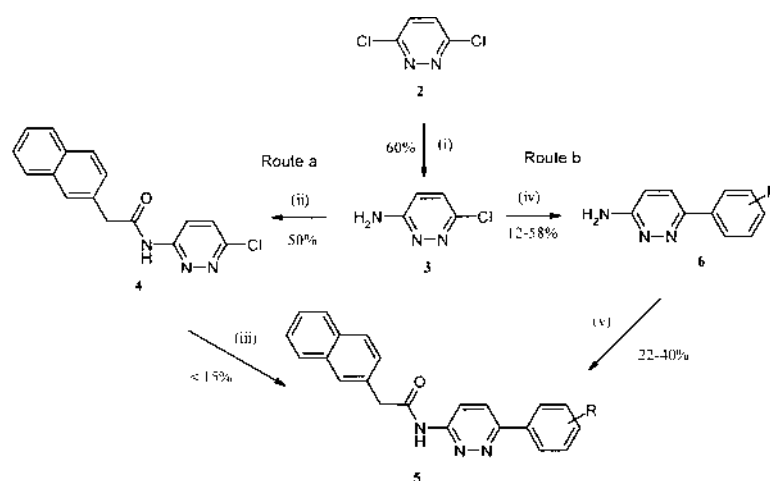


Fig. 1. Pyridazine Analogues of Compound **1**

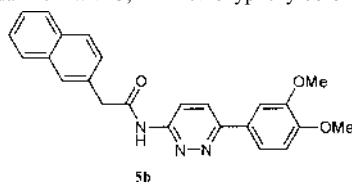
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(i): 28% NH_4OH , 16 h, 105 °C; (ii): 2-naphthylacetic acid, BOP, DMAP cat, TEA, CH_3CN , 4 h, rt; (iii): arylboronic acid, $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, 2 M, Na_2CO_3 , toluene/EtO; (iv): arylboronic acid, $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, 2 M Na_2CO_3 , toluene/EtO; (v): 2-naphthylacetic acid, DIC, anhydrous THF, anhydrous DMF.

Chart 1

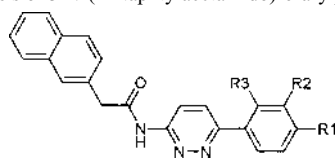
Table 1. Reaction Conditions for the Pd(0)-Catalyzed Cross-coupling of 3,6-Dichloropyridazine **2** with 3,4-Dimethoxyphenylboronic Acid



Catalyst	Reaction conditions	Temp (°C)	Yield ^{a)} (%)
	Base Solvent		
$\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	Na_2CO_3 Toluene/EtOH	110	<15
$\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	Cs_2CO_3 Toluene/EtOH	110	— ^{b)}
$\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	K_3PO_4 DME	85	0
$\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	$\text{Ba}(\text{OH})_2$ DME	85	—
$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/\text{Pt-Bu}_3$	Cs_2CO_3 Dioxane	80	—

a) Yield of isolated pure product. b) —, traces.

Table 2. Synthesis of 3-*N*-(2-Naphthylacetamido)-6-arylpyridazines **5a–k**



Entry No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	Yield (%)	Y ₅ IC ₅₀ (M)	Y ₁ IC ₅₀ (M)
5a	H	H	H	32	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5b	OMe	OMe	H	33	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5c	—O—CH ₂ —O—		H	18	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5d	OMe	H	H	38	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5e	H	OMe	H	40	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5f	H	H	OMe	22	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5g	H	Cl	H	31	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5h	H	H	Cl	25	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5i	CH ₃	H	H	45	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5j	H	CH ₃	H	40	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵
5k	H	H	CH ₃	38	>10 ⁻⁵	>10 ⁻⁵

the prepared compounds exhibited significant affinity (Table 2). This finding suggests that the intramolecular hydrogen bond of compound **1** stabilizes a locked conformation in

which the orientation of the carbonyl function locates the oxygen atom close to the N1 nitrogen of the pyrazole ring whereas an opposite situation is preferred for compound **5b** and its analogues, the C=N and the C=O dipoles being located in a trans antiparallel arrangement.

In summary, a 3-step synthesis of 3-*N*-(2-naphthylacetamido)-6-arylpyridazines has been described as analogues of the pyrazole derivative **1** but behind the dramatically poor biological results, the working hypotheses must not be confirmed.

Experimental

All experiments were carried out under an argon atmosphere. Toluene, 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME), tetrahydrofuran (THF) were distilled from benzophenone ketyl. Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0), 3,6-dichloropyridazine and arylboronic acids were purchased from Lancaster Synthesis. Melting points were determined with a Mettler FP62 apparatus and are uncorrected. All ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 200 (200 MHz) or on a Bruker AC 300 (300 MHz) instruments, and chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ) relative to Me_4Si for CDCl_3 and $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}-d_6$ solutions ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$). Signals are quoted as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), or m (multiplet). Flash chromatography was carried out on silica gel (70–230 mesh ASTM). Elemental analyses were performed by CNRS (Vernaison) and are indicated only by the symbols of the elements; analytical results were within $\pm 0.4\%$ of the theoretical values.

Organic extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 .

Preparation of 3-Amino-6-arylpyridazines (6a–k) The 3-amino-6-arylpyridazines **6a–k** necessary for the synthesis of compounds **5a–k** were synthesized by using the Suzuki procedure described in our previous paper²⁵⁾ where the 3-amino-6-arylpyridazines were already prepared. Aryl boronic acids were commercially available.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3-*N*-(2-Naphthyl)acetamido-6-phenylpyridazine (5a–k) Diimidazolylcarbodiimide (DIC) (1.53 mmol; 248 mg; 1.05 eq) was added to a solution of 2-naphthylacetic acid (1.46 mmol; 272 mg; 1 eq.) in THF (3.52 ml) and *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) (1.75 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature over 2 h and then aminopyridazine (**3**) (1.46 mmol; 1 eq) was added. The solution was stirred and allowed to warm to 70 °C over 4 h.

The solvents were removed by evaporation under reduce pression and the residue was diluted with AcOEt. The organic layer was washed with 1 N HCl and then with 1 N NaOH and then dried over Na_2SO_4 . After removing the solvent by evaporation, the free base was purified by flash chromatography (AcOEt–Heptane, 2.5 : 7.5).

3-*N*-(2-Naphthyl)acetamido-6-phenylpyridazine (**5a**): White needles; mp 250 °C; *R*_f 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) ¹H-NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 200 MHz) δ : 4.03 (s, 2H), 7.54–7.58 (m, 5H), 7.89–7.94 (m, 5H), 8.10–8.26 (m, 3H), 8.40 (d, *J*=9.3 Hz, 1H), 11.54 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 300 MHz) δ :

43.62, 119.24, 126.31, 126.58, 126.79, 126.97, 128.12, 128.38, 128.39, 129.58, 130.18, 132.55, 133.72, 136.46, 155.29, 156.0, 171.50; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{22}H_{17}N_3O$, 0.25 H_2O : C, 76.83; H, 5.13; N, 12.22. Found: C, 76.52; H, 4.92; N, 12.27.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)pyridazine (**5b**): White needles; mp 240 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ : 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 6.95 (d, $J=8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.43—7.54 (m, 4H), 7.74—7.92 (m, 6H), 8.54 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.90 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz) δ : 45.12, 55.90, 110.6, 115.47, 125.0, 125.40, 126.0, 127.5, 128.3, 128.6, 128.7, 130.1, 133.2, 135.1, 139.4, 156.7, 158.8, 161.4, 172.0; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{24}H_{21}N_3O_3$: C, 72.16; H, 5.30; N, 10.52. Found: C, 72.47; H, 5.16; N, 10.77.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)pyridazine (**5c**): White needles; mp 250 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ : 4.08 (s, 2H), 6.02 (s, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J=8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.43—7.57 (m, 5H), 7.76—7.92 (m, 5H), 8.53 (d, $J=8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.92 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 45.2, 101.6, 107.2, 108.9, 119.2, 121.0, 125.6, 126.4, 126.7, 127.3, 128.0, 128.7, 129.3, 131.2, 132.9, 148.7, 149.4, 153.7, 156.4, 170.6; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O_3$, 1.75 H_2O : C, 66.58; H, 4.98; N, 10.13. Found: C, 66.44; H, 4.69; N, 10.27.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridazine (**5d**): White needles; mp dec.; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ : 3.86 (s, 3H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 6.99 (d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.49—7.53 (m, 3H), 7.77—8.01 (m, 7H), 8.54 (d, $J=9.3$ Hz, 1H), 9.01 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 43.6, 55.8, 115.0, 119.3, 125.9, 126.3, 126.8, 128.1, 128.3, 128.4, 128.9, 132.5, 133.6, 133.7, 154.8, 155.7, 161.3, 171.4; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O_2$: C, 74.78; H, 5.18; N, 11.38. Found: C, 74.53; H, 5.16; N, 11.30.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(3-methoxyphenyl)pyridazine (**5e**): White needles; mp 225 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz) δ : 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 7.08 (dd, $J=8.56$ Hz, 1H), 7.43—7.70 (m, 6H), 7.89—7.94 (m, 4H), 8.24 (d, $J=9.54$ Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, $J=9.28$ Hz, 1H), 11.52 (s, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 43.6, 55.9, 112.1, 116.0, 119.2, 119.3, 126.3, 126.8, 128.1, 128.12, 128.3, 128.4, 130.7, 132.5, 133.6, 137.9, 155.4, 155.8, 160.0, 171.4; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O_2$: C, 72.14; H, 5.40; N, 10.98. Found: C, 71.95; H, 4.99; N, 11.00.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(2-methoxyphenyl)pyridazine (**5f**): White needles; mp 163 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ : 3.86 (s, 3H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 6.99—7.06 (m, 2H), 7.37—7.88 (m, 10H), 8.58 (d, $J=9.3$ Hz, 1H), 10.53 (s, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 45.1, 55.7, 110.5, 118.0, 121.5, 126.1, 126.7, 127.4, 127.8, 128.5, 129.2, 130.6, 130.9, 131.1, 131.6, 133.0, 133.7, 153.8, 156.1, 157.3, 170.9; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O_2$, 0.25 H_2O : C, 73.88; H, 5.26; N, 11.24. Found: C, 74.08; H, 5.24; N, 11.26.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(3-chlorophenyl)pyridazine (**5g**): Yellow needles; mp 238 °C; *Rf* 0.13 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz) δ : 4.03 (s, 2H), 7.49—7.60 (m, 5H), 7.89—8.17 (m, 6H), 8.30 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 1H), 11.50 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 43.7, 79.8, 119.2, 125.6, 126.3, 126.6, 126.8, 126.9, 128.08, 128.1, 128.3, 128.4, 130.0, 131.5, 132.5, 133.6, 134.5, 138.7, 154.5, 155.5, 171.6; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{22}H_{16}N_3OCl$, 0.75 H_2O : C, 68.22; H, 4.55; N, 10.85. Found: C, 68.50; H, 4.32; N, 11.02.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridazine (**5h**): Yellow needles; mp 179 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ : 4.15 (s, 2H), 7.34—7.92 (m, 13H), 8.63 (d, $J=9.3$ Hz, 1H), 9.81 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ : 44.9, 118.3, 126.2, 126.5, 127.4, 127.5, 127.9, 128.5, 129.0, 130.4, 130.5, 130.7, 131.7, 132.9, 133.8, 135.8, 154.6, 156.8, 171.0; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{22}H_{16}N_3OCl$, 0.75 H_2O : C, 68.22; H, 4.55; N, 10.85. Found: C, 68.51; H, 4.31; N, 10.91.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(4-methylphenyl)pyridazine (**5i**): Yellow needles; mp 256 °C; *Rf* 0.16 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ : 2.40 (s, 3H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 7.19—7.28 (m, 1H), 7.47—7.54 (m, 4H), 7.79—7.92 (m, 7H), 8.58 (d, $J=9.3$ Hz, 1H), 9.49 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz) δ : 15.7, 40.8, 119.15, 126.1, 126.6, 127.0, 128.3, 129.5, 130.4, 132.0, 133.5, 134.0, 141.2, 152.0, 170.1; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O$: C, 78.16; H, 5.42; N, 11.89. Found: C, 78.20; H, 5.33; N, 12.01.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(3-methylphenyl)pyridazine (**5j**): White needles; mp 255 °C; *Rf* 0.15 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz) δ : 2.43 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 7.31—7.58 (m, 5H), 7.90—7.94 (m, 6H), 8.21 (d, $J=10.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, $J=8.8$ Hz, 1H), 11.51 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 21.7, 43.7, 119.2, 124.2, 126.4, 126.6, 126.8, 127.5, 128.1, 128.4, 129.5, 130.9, 132.6, 133.7, 136.5, 138.8, 155.3, 156.0, 171.7; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O$: C, 78.16; H, 5.42; N, 11.89.

Found: C, 78.27; H, 5.39; N, 11.99.

3-*N*-(2-Naphtyl)acetamido-6-(2-methylphenyl)pyridazine (**5k**): Yellow needles; mp 175 °C; *Rf* 0.12 (AcOEt 2.5/Heptane 7.5) 1H -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz) δ : 2.33 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 7.33—7.59 (m, 7H), 7.82—7.94 (m, 5H), 8.39 (d, $J=9.3$ Hz, 1H), 11.55 (m, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ : 43.7, 50.6, 118.6, 126.3, 126.7, 126.8, 128.1, 128.15, 128.3, 128.4, 129.5, 129.8, 130.2, 131.3, 132.5, 133.6, 133.7, 136.2, 137.6, 154.8, 158.7, 171.5; *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O$, 0.25 H_2O : C, 77.18; H, 5.49; N, 11.74. Found: C, 77.27; H, 5.39; N, 11.98.

Binding Assays Binding assays for both receptors NPY₁ and NPY₅ were done as described by Duhault *et al.*²⁷ In brief, for the human Y₁ receptor binding assay, using iodinated Peptide YY (NEN), incubations were performed at 30 °C for 90 min with various competitors concentrations in Buffer A (Hepes/NaOH 20 mM, pH 7.4, NaCl 10 mM, KH₂PO₄ 220 μ M, CaCl₂ 1.26 mM, MgSO₄ 0.81 mM and bovine serum albumin 0.1%) with SK-N-MC cell membranes (50 μ g of protein/ml of assay) in a total volume of 500 μ l. Non-specific binding was determined in the presence of 1 μ M NPY. The reaction was then stopped by filtration, the filters (GF/B, Whatman, pre-coated in 0.3% PEL) were extensively washed with buffer A, and counted in a gamma counter (Packard). For human Y₅ receptor binding assay, the binding was carried out with iodinated peptide YY (NEN) as follows: COS cells transfected with the human Y₅ NPY receptor were lysed and the membranes prepared by differential centrifugation. These membranes contained about 2 pmol per mg of protein of this receptor. Incubations were performed in 500 μ l comprising, 20 pmol final of [125I]PYY in 50 μ l, 400 μ l of membrane suspension (0.15 mg/ml) and competitor dilutions in 50 μ l, at 30 °C for 2 h. The reaction was stopped by filtration through GF/C filters (Whatman).

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