



## Bioactive compounds in seaweeds: An overview of their biological properties and safety



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### ABSTRACT

Seaweeds are among the significant currently exploited marine plant resources which are gaining full applications in culinary, cosmetic, pharmaceutical, and biotechnological processes. Much attention has been devoted to seaweeds based on their proven health benefits and is considered as a rich source of structurally different bioactive metabolites for the discovery of novel functional food-based pharmacophores/drugs. Nonetheless, there is still a dearth of updated compilation and analysis of the in-depth pharmacological activities of these compounds. This review, therefore, aims to provide a piece of up-to-date detailed information on the major compounds isolated from various seaweed species together with their in-vitro and in-vivo biological properties. These compounds were found to possess broad pharmacological properties and inhibitory enzyme activities against critical enzymes involved in the aetiology of noncommunicable diseases. However, their toxicity, clinical efficacy, mechanisms of action, and interaction with conventional foods, are still less explored and require more attention in future studies.

### 1. Introduction

The importance of dietary food habits was already mentioned in the earlier quote by Hippocrates in 460 BC that "*Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food*". The improper dietary habits or unhealthy diet is a critical concern for the currently alarming health disorders including diabetes, obesity, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases. The intake of unhealthy foods and the low intake of fruits and vegetables causes about 2.7 million deaths including 14% of gastrointestinal cancer deaths (14%), ischaemic heart disease deaths (11%) and nearly stroke deaths (9%) (WHO Fact Sheet, accessed on June 19, 2018, <http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/fruit/en/index2.html>). It is well known that vegetables and fruits are important sources of phytochemicals which perform a key role in the prevention of a panoply of diseases. The global phytonutrients/nutraceutical market value, regarding value, is projected to reach \$4.63 Billion in 2020, at a CAGR of 7.2% from 2015 to 2020 (Markets and Markets, 2015). Likewise, the global market for the botanical and plant-derived drug was estimated \$29.4 billion in 2017 and is projected to escalate to 39.6 billion in 2022 with a

compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.1% (Research, 2017). For the past decades, researchers have shown great interest towards the isolation of health-promoting substances from these fruits and vegetables. Both the Natural Health Products (NHP) and Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods (NFF) focused much research on bioactive foods from natural resources to develop healthy foods (Goldberg, 2012; Nice, 1997).

Marine life offers 70% of earth's surface with the vast diversity of life and biodiversity in the seas is only partially explored although marine represents a rich source of novel metabolites with various applications includes cosmeceutical, nutraceuticals, agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and other industrially relevant chemicals (Faulkner, 2012). Recent research emphasises that drug discovery from marine resources is increasing alarmingly and various biomolecules are in the clinical pipeline.

### 2. Global trends in marine biodiscovery

In 2018, the world market for drugs derived from marine sources

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**Table 1**  
Seaweed polysaccharides and their biological properties.

Polysaccharide	Source	Biological properties	Model used	Findings	Reference
Fucoidan (1)	Ascochyllum nodosum, Cladosiphon okamuranus, Fucus spiralis, <i>F. distichus</i> , <i>F. evanescens</i> , <i>F. vesiculosus</i> , <i>F. serratus</i> , Laminaria digitata, <i>L. saccharina</i>	Anticoagulant, anti-inflammatory, antiahesive and antiangiogenic	In-vitro and in-vivo	Inhibits the leucocyte recruitment in an inflammation model in rats. In vitro, P-selectin-mediated neutrophil adhesion to platelets showed that only fucoidans from <i>A. nodosum</i> , <i>F. distichus</i> , <i>F. evanescens</i> , <i>F. serratus</i> , <i>F. spiralis</i> , <i>L. digitata</i> and <i>L. saccharina</i> could serve as P-selectin inhibitors. Besides, all fucoidans, except that from <i>C. okamuranus</i> , displayed anticoagulant activity by APTT while fucoidans from <i>F. distichus</i> , <i>F. evanescens</i> , <i>F. serratus</i> , <i>L. digitata</i> and <i>L. saccharina</i> , showed strong antithrombin action in the platelet aggregation assay. These fucoidans also inhibited HUVEC tubulogenesis. Lastly, fucoidans from <i>F. distichus</i> , and <i>F. vesiculosus</i> , <i>F. serratus</i> , <i>L. digitata</i> and <i>L. saccharina</i> , blocked MDA-MB-231 breast carcinoma cell adhesion to platelets.	Cumashi et al. (2007)
Kelp		Tyrosinase inhibition	In-vitro	Showed competitive inhibition of tyrosinase toward L-tyrosine ( $IC_{50} = 0.82$ mg/mL), and the inhibitory constant $K_i$ obtained from double-reciprocal plots was 0.99 mg/mL.	Yu and Sun (2014)
<i>Fucus vesiculosus</i>		Anti-atopic dermatitis	In-vivo	Ameliorated atopic dermatitis, accompanied by the decreased inflammatory cell infiltration, splenocytes proliferation, and CD4 <sup>+</sup> T cell response	Tian et al. (2019)
<i>F. evanescens</i>		Antitumor	In-vivo	Administration of fucoidan at 10 mg/kg, displayed moderate antimetastatic and antitumor activities. It also potentiates the antimetastatic effects of cyclophosphamide in C57BL/6 mice with transplanted Lewis lung adenocarcinoma.	Alekseyenko et al. (2007)
<i>Sargassum fusiforme</i>		Anti-angiogenic	In-vitro	Inhibits the migration of HMEC-1 and tube formation dose-dependently.	Cong et al. (2016)
<i>S. fusiforme</i>		Anti-cancer	In-vitro and In-vivo	Inhibited lung cancer cell growth through the disruption of angiogenesis via blocking VEGFR2/Erk/VEGF signalling and targeting VEGFR2/VEGF.	Chen et al. (2016)
<i>Sargassum horneri</i> , <i>Ectonia cava</i> , <i>Costaria costata</i>		Anti-cancer	In-vivo	Blocks colony formation in colon cancer cells cell line and human melanoma.	Ermakova et al. (2011)
Cladosiphon okamuranus		Anti-cancer	In-vitro and In-vivo	In ATL patients, fucoidan inhibits the growth of HTLV-1-infected T-cell lines and peripheral blood mononuclear cells.	Haneji et al. (2005)
Adenocystis utricularis		Antiretroviral	In-vitro	Inhibitor of anti-HIV-1 activity against both drug-resistant and wild-type HIV-1 strains by blocking of viral entry and revealed no viral activity.	Trinchero et al. (2009)
<i>A. utricularis</i>		Antiviral	In-vitro	Galactofucans potentially inhibited HSV 1 and 2, without any cytoxic effect, while the uronofucoids displayed no antiviral activity.	Ponce et al. (2003)
<i>C. okamuranus</i>		Cardioprotective	In-vivo	Cardioprotective effect was noticed with Fucoidan against isoproterenol-induced myocardial infarction in rats. Fucoidan also improved lactate dehydrogenase, creatinine phosphokinase, aspartate transaminase and alanine transaminase. Also, fucoidan enhanced the antioxidant defence system in treated rats by reducing oxidative stress induced by isoproterenol. Moreover, fucoidan treatment reverses the effects of isoproterenol by decreasing total cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL cholesterol and increasing HDL cholesterol.	Thomas et al. (2010)
<i>C. okamuranus</i>		Anti-proliferative	In-vitro	Oversulfated fucoidan dose-dependently reduced the U937 cell proliferation, induces the apoptosis by an activation-dependent pathway of caspase-3 and -7. On the other hand, the weak activity of native fucoidan suggests that the sulfate group substitution and sulfate content influence the anti-proliferative activity in U937 cells.	Teruya et al. (2007)
<i>F. evanescens</i>		Gastric protection	In-vitro	Protect the gastric mucus layer and stimulate ulcer healing power owing to its anti-peptic and basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF) stabilising activity.	Shibata et al. (2000)
<i>F. vesiculosus</i>		Antiprion	In-vivo	Dietary fucoidan, administered orally for six days after infection, delays the disease onset thoroughly in infected mice with scrapie, but not when given before the infection.	Doh-ura et al. (2007)
		Anticoagulant	In-vitro & In-vivo	Showed anticoagulant activity through plasma antithrombin III mediated. Thrombin inhibition.	Kuznetsova et al. (2003)
		Anti-inflammatory	In-vitro	Fucoidan inhibits the excess PG E2 and NO production in LPS-stimulated BV2 microglia. Also diminished the iNOS, MCP-1, COX-2, MCP-1, TNF- $\alpha$ and L-1 $\beta$	Park et al. (2011a)

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**Table 1** (continued)

Polysaccharide	Source	Biological properties	Model used	Findings	Reference
<i>F. vesiculosus</i>		Anti-obesity	In-vitro	expression. Besides, fucoidan suppresses the NF- $\kappa$ B activation and down-regulation of an extracellular JNK, MAPK, ERK and AKT pathways. Fucoidan reduced lipid accumulation by stimulating lipolysis via increasing HSL and by expression of phosphorylated HSL and reduction of glucose uptake into adipocytes.	Park et al. (2011b)
<i>Undaria piaantifida</i>		Immunostimulatory	In-vitro	Fucoidan enhanced the probiotic properties of lactic acid bacteria on immune functions by enhancing the production of IL-12 in response to a strain of LAB, <i>Tetragenococcus halophilus</i> KK221, disseminating production of IFN- $\gamma$ . In in-vivo study with ovalbumin immunized mice, the enhanced immunobalance of T helper type 1/type 2 (Th1/Th2) was observed.	Kawashima et al. (2012)
<i>L. japonica</i>		Antioxidant	In-vitro	Exhibited scavenging effects on hypochlorous acid and superoxide radical and inhibition of LDL oxidation induced by Cu $^{2+}$ .	(Zhao et al., 2005)
<i>L. japonica</i>		Anti-inflammatory	In-vitro & In-vivo	In an In-vivo air pouch inflammation model, coadministration of fucoidan or <i>Cistanche tubulosa</i> extract synergistically suppressed nitric oxide production, carrageenan-induced vascular exudation, prostaglandin E2 concentrations.	Kyung et al. (2012)
<i>Lessonia vadosa</i>		Anticoagulant and elicitor	In-vitro	Native fucoidan showed good anticoagulant activity and activation of defence enzyme activities of PAL, LOX and GST in tobacco plants.	Chandía and Matsuhiro (2008)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>		Antiplasmoidal	In-vitro & In-vivo	Fucoidan fractions inhibited the <i>P. falciparum</i> merozoites mediated erythrocytes invasion and IC $_{50}$ values against chloroquine sensitive <i>P. falciparum</i> 3D7 stain for the three fucoidan fractions were 9.17, 7.28, and 1.95 $\mu$ g/ml and 7.03, 4.74, and 2.21 $\mu$ g/ml in chloroquine resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> K1 strain. About 37% suppressive effect against the control group and a delay in death associated with anemia was observed in <i>P. berghei</i> -infected mice with fucoidan.	Chen et al. (2009)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>		Anti-allergy	In-vivo	The suppressive effect of Th2 cytokines production in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid was noticed, and IFN- $\gamma$ amount was not increased in fucoidan treated mice.	Maruyama et al. (2005)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>		Antitumor	In-vitro & In-vivo	Fucoidan mediated tumor destruction via the response of Th1 and NK cells.	Maruyama et al. (2006)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>		Antitumor	In-vitro	Displayed antitumor activity against PC-3, HeLa, A549, and HepG2 cells.	Synytsha et al. (2010)
Alginate (2)	Commercial sodium alginate	Inhibition of putrefactive compound	In-vitro & In-vivo	In human fecal culture and rat cecum, inhibited the putrefactive compound formation.	Kuda et al. (2005)
	<i>Eucheuma cottonii</i> and <i>Sargassum polycystum</i>	Antidiabetic	In-vitro	IC $_{50}$ of (0.075–0.103) mg/ml, also a mixed-type inhibition.	Zaharudin et al. (2018)
	Commercial sodium alginate	Antibacterial	In-vitro & In-vivo	Approximately 70–90% inhibition against <i>L. monocytogenes</i> V, <i>parahaemolyticus</i> and <i>S. typhimurium</i> to human enterocyte-like HT-29-Luc cells was observed with sodium alginate (0.1%). In addition, sodium alginate potentially inhibited 70% of <i>S. typhimurium</i> invasion. Incubation with sodium alginate for 18 h also increased transepithelial electrical resistance of HT-29-Luc monolayer cells was also observed with 18 h incubation of sodium alginate. Moreover, decreased liver pathogen count was noticed in alginate fed mice.	Kuda et al. (2015)
	Commercial sodium alginate	Antibacterial	In-vivo	Alginate-based coating containing lactate and diacetate was effective in controlling The controlled growth of <i>L. monocytogenes</i> and enhanced microbial safety of sliced and filleted smoked salmon was reported with alginate coated lactate and diacetate.	Neetoo et al. (2010)
	Commercial sodium alginate	Antibacterial	In-vivo	Alginate-based antimicrobial coatings enhanced the microbiological safety of poached and deli turkey products by controlling <i>L. monocytogenes</i> growth.	Juck et al. (2010)
–		Gastroesophageal reflux disease treatment	Systematic review & meta-analysis	Effective in the treatment of symptomatic gastroesophageal reflux disease and were superior to placebo and antacids. Compared to proton pump inhibitors or histamine-2 receptor antagonists, alginates appear less effective.	Leiman et al. (2017)
	Commercial sodium alginate	Anticancer	In-vitro		Markeb et al. (2016)

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**Table 1 (continued)**

Polysaccharide	Source	Biological properties	Model used	Findings	Reference
Commercial sodium alginate		The novel paclitaxel-loaded alginate nanoparticle promoted decreased viability, cell-cycle arrest and induced apoptosis in patient's breast cancer cells superior to those of paclitaxel alone.	In-vivo		Horige et al. (2016)
Commercial sodium alginate		Anti-inflammatory	In-vivo		
Commercial sodium alginate		Anti-inflammatory	In-vivo	Prevention of methotrexate-induced small intestinal mucositis and decreased hemoglobin, hematocrit levels and red blood cell counts in rats.	Yamamoto et al. (2013)
Commercial sodium alginate		Anti-inflammatory	In-vivo	Sodium alginate expression in mRNA expression in inflammation-related molecules and protected indomethacin-induced mucin depletion in the small intestine was reported in mice pretreated with sodium alginate prior to the administration of indomethacin.	Yamamoto et al. (2014)
L. hyperboreum	Commercial	Antioxidant	In-vitro	Low molecular weight alginates produced by thermal treatment of alginate polymer showed scavenging activity against ABTS and superoxide radicals.	Kelishomi et al. (2016)
L. hyperboreum	Commercial	Wound healing	In-vivo	Calcium alginate enhanced skin collagen I expression from day 3 to day 14 with higher collagen I/III in alginate group ratio than vaseoline (control)-group at day 7 and 14. In addition, higher level of hydroxyproline in skin homogenate of alginate-group than the vaseoline (control)-group from day 3 to day 14.	Wang et al. (2015)
Laminarin (3)	Laminaria spp.	Anti-inflammatory	In-vivo	Combined laminarin and fucoidan treatment enhanced diarrhoeal scores, body-weight loss, and clinical variables linked with a dextran sodium sulfate experiment in pigs, together with s decrease in colonic IL-6 mRNA abundance.	O'Shea et al. (2016)
Eisenia bicyclis		Antibacterial	In-vitro	Laminarin (0.1%) inhibited the adhesion About 70–90% inhibition of L. monocytogenes, S. typhimurium and V. parahaemolyticus adhesion to human enterocyte-like HT-29-Luc cells with laminarin (0.1%).	Kuda et al. (2015)
Commercial		Hepatoprotective	In-vivo	The increase in serum ALT, AST and LDH activities - reflecting hepatic alterations - was reduced after lipopolysaccharides injection in laminarin-treated rats than control groups. Laminarin also decreased serum monocytes number, TNF- $\alpha$ and nitrite.	Neyrinck et al. (2007)
NI		Immunostimulatory	In-vitro	Showed immunostimulatory effect through the transcription factor pathway in macrophages by increasing the release of H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> , NO, calcium, MCP-1, ILIF, VEGF, and G-CSF with enhancing expression of STAT1, STAT3, c-Fos, c-Jun, and COX-2 mRNA in RAW 264.7 cells.	Lee et al. (2012a)
Commercial		Anticancer	In-vitro	Through mitochondrial pathway, induces the apoptosis of human colon cancer LoVo cells.	Ji et al. (2012)
Commercial		Anticancer	In-vitro	Induce apoptosis of LoVo cells. The TRAIL, DR4, DR5, Bid, tBid, FADD and Bax expression levels were upregulated, while the Bel-2, pro-caspase-3 and 8, expression levels were downregulated. Moreover, the caspase-8, -3, -6 and -7 activities were increased.	Ji and Ji (2014)
E. bicyclis		Anticancer	In-vitro	The colony formation of human melanoma SK-MEL-28 and colon cancer DLD-1 cells were inhibited by laminarin and its enzymatic hydrolysed products.	Menshova et al. (2014)
Laminaria digitata		Anticancer	In-vitro	In HT-29 colon cancer cells, laminarin induces apoptosis through Erbb signaling pathway.	Park et al. (2013)
Carrageenan (4)	Commercial	Anti-inflammatory	In-vitro	Carrageenan did not induce IL-6, IL-8, or MCP-1 (CCL2) in HT-29 and HCT-8 cell lines at 0.1, 1.0, and 10.0 mg/mL.	McKim et al. (2016)
Carrageenan (4)	Commercial	Anticancer	In-vitro & In-vivo	In B16-F10 and 4T1 bearing mice, carrageenan inhibited tumor growth in and enhanced immune response by increasing the number of tumor-infiltrating dendritic cells, M1 macrophages, and additional stimulated CD4 <sup>+</sup> CD8 <sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in spleen.	Luo et al. (2015)
Commercial		Anti-allergic	In-vivo	$\lambda$ -Carrageenan was identified as potentially new ligand for TLR4/MyD88 which triggers innate immunity, induced Th1-cytokines, PRRs recognised $\lambda$ -carrageenan, and suppression of IgE production via reduced histamine release.	Tsuji et al. (2003)

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Table 1 (continued)

Polysaccharide	Source	Biological properties	Model used	Findings	Reference
	<i>Chondrus ocellatus</i>	Antitumor	In-vitro & In-vivo	From the histopathological in $\lambda$ -carrageenan-treated mice indicated that $\lambda$ -carrageenan was the causative agent for tumor cell pycnosis and necrosis in different degree. In H22 and S180 tumor cells, $\lambda$ -carrageenan showed antitumor activity in-vitro.	(Zhou et al., 2004)
<i>C. ocellatus</i>	Gigartinaeae and Tichocarpaceae algae	Antitumor	In-vivo	$\lambda$ -carrageenan enhances antitumor activities of Fluorouracil (5-Fu) and progress the immunocompetence damaged by 5-Fu.	Zhou et al. (2006)
	<i>Gigartina skottsbergii</i>	Antioxidant	In-vitro & ex vivo	Exhibited reducing power and inhibition of hydroxyl radicals and superoxide anion radicals.	Sokolova et al. (2011)
	<i>Stenogramme interrupta</i>	Anti-viral	In-vitro	Reduced infectivity of the viruses BoHV-1 strain Cooper and SuHV-1 strain Bartha; this effect was more pronounced against BoHV-1.	Diogo et al. (2015)
		Anti-viral	In-vitro	Showed anti-viral activity against herpes simplex virus	Cáceres et al. (2000)

A549, alveolar carcinoma; AKZ; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; APTT, activated partial thromboplastin time; AST, Aspartate transaminase; ATL, Adult T-cell Leukemia; BoHV-1, bovine herpesvirus type 1; ERK, signal-regulated kinase; G-CSF, Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor; GPx, glutathione peroxidase; GST, glutathione-S-transferase; HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; HMEC-1, human microvascular endothelial cells; HSL, hormone sensitive lipase; HSV, herpes simplex virus; HTLV-1, human T-cell leukemia virus type 1; HUVEC, human umbilical vein endothelial cell; JNK, c-Jun N-terminal kinase; LDH, lactate dehydrogenase; LDL, low density lipoprotein; LIF, Leukemia Inhibitory Factor; LOX, lipoxygenase; MAPK, p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase; MCP-1, monocyte chemoattractant protein-1; NK cells, nature killer cells; PAL, phenylalanine-ammonia lyase; PC-3, prostate cancer 3; PRRs, pattern recognition receptors; STAT, Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription; SuHV-1, suis herpesvirus type 1; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor.

was around \$ 10,486.8 billion, which is forecasted to touch \$21,955.6 billion by 2025 at a CAGR of 11.25% for the five-year period of 2019–2025 (Infinium Global Research, 2019). Marine-based US FDA approved drugs mainly consist of marine metabolites or their synthetic analogues. Also, most of the marine-derived medicines isolated from various marine resources, but the contribution of marine algae is only about 30% (Blunt et al., 2007).

### 3. Recent developments in algal drug research

Seaweeds or marine macroalgae reside in the littoral zone and are now considered as primary resources of the oceans in terms of economic and ecological significance (Dhargalkar and Pereira, 2005). Taxonomically, seaweeds are grouped into three major phyla: (i) Phaeophyceae (brown algae), which are primarily brown in color due to its fucoxanthin content – xanthophyll pigment fucoxanthin (ii) Chlorophyceae (green algae) - primarily dominated by chlorophyll ‘a’ and ‘b’, and other specific xanthophyll pigments; and (iii) Rhodophyceae (red algae) primarily comprised of phycocyanin and phycoerythrin (O’Sullivan et al., 2010). Approximately more than 1500 brown, 900 green and 4000 red seaweeds are available worldwide (Dawes, 1998). The subtropical and tropical waters are entirely occupied by red and green seaweeds, while cold temperate waters are predominantly occupied by brown seaweeds (Khan and Satam, 2003).

The interest in the discovery of health-promoting substances of marine origin is increasing especially from marine plants such as seaweeds, seagrass and mangroves for the past decades (El Gamal, 2010; Rengasamy et al., 2014b). Among these, seaweeds or marine macroalgae have much attracted functional food researchers. Recent shreds of evidence suggest that seaweeds have been regularly consumed as food in East Asian countries including Korea, China, Japan, and this dietary habit as widespread throughout Europe, North America and, Southern American countries (McHugh, 2003). Noticeably, long-life expectancy and the lower rate of cardiovascular diseases among the Japanese people are likely to be associated with their dietary habits including their regular consumption of seaweeds (Shimazu et al., 2007).

The recent review by Rengasamy et al. (2014a) compiled various bioactive compounds isolated from seaweeds and their role as enzyme inhibitors to treat multiple diseases including cancer, diabetes, inflammation, dementia and others. Seaweeds are not only targeted for drug development to treat various human health illness, but also play a significant part as plant growth regulators, fungicides, pesticides, and in part in plant growth such as auxin, cytokinin, gibberellins, betains (Stirk et al., 2014), oligosaccharides, and phenolic compounds (Rengasamy et al., 2014b, 2015). The biological properties of various bioactive metabolites from marine algae have been recently extensively reviewed by many researchers including enzyme inhibitors (Rengasamy et al., 2014a), phlorotannins (Karadeniz and Kim, 2015; Sanjeeva et al., 2016) polysaccharides (Wang et al., 2014), protein hydrolysates and bioactive peptides (Harnedy and FitzGerald, 2013; Samarakoon and Jeon, 2012), alkaloids (Güven et al., 2010), halogenated terpenoids (Wang et al., 2013) and pigments (D’Orazio et al., 2012; Dumay et al., 2015; Kim and Pangestuti, 2011). In this context, this review mainly focuses on the bioactive compounds isolated from seaweeds and their in-depth biological properties (see detailed activities in Tables 1–6 and Fig. 5).

### 4. The primary bioactive compound in seaweeds

#### 4.1. Polysaccharides

Polysaccharides are carbohydrate biopolymers consisting of simple sugars linked by glycoside bonds and are classified into structural polysaccharides, mucopolysaccharides and storage polysaccharides. The study of the structure, biosynthesis and functions of sugar molecules including polysaccharides are known as glycobiology and has

**Table 2**  
Seaweed phlorotannins and their biological properties.

Phlorotannins	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	Reference
Phloroglucinol (5)	<i>E. cava</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed scavenging effects against free radicals: DPPH, HO• and O <sub>2</sub> • – and protect against H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -mediated DNA damage.	Ahn et al. (2007)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Potent DPPH radical scavenger at 0.13 μM	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Anti-Alzheimer's	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibits acetylcholinesterase (AChE) at 50% at a concentration of 579.32 μM.	Kannan et al. (2013)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Antidiabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited 50% of α-glucosidase at a concentration of 1991 μM.	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. kurome</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed an MBC (Minimum bactericidal concentration) value of 0.75 of μmol/ml. against <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i> .	Nagayama et al. (2002)
-		Anti-cancer	<i>In-vitro</i>	Phloroglucinol engineered Ag nanoparticles displayed cytotoxic effect and morphological features of apoptotic cell death in MCF-7 cell lines	Kumar et al. (2018)
Dibenzo [1,4] dioxine-2,4,7,9-tetraol (6)	<i>E. maxima</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed an EC <sub>50</sub> value of 0.01 μM against DPPH radical.	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Anti-Alzheimer's	<i>In-vitro</i>	Caused a 50% inhibition of AChE at a concentration of 84–48 μM.	Kannan et al. (2013)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Antidiabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited α-glucosidase inhibition with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 33.69 μM.	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-influenza	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed inhibitory effects on Influenza Virus NA (rH1N1) with IC50 value of 89.5 μM and A/Chicken/Korea/MS96/96 (H9N2), with IC50 value of 152.1 μM.	Ryu et al. (2011)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Skin protective	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibition of PM <sub>2.5</sub> -induced cell apoptosis by eckol was through MAPK signaling pathway	Zhen et al. (2019)
	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-tyrosinase	<i>In-vitro</i>	Reduced cellular melanin content and tyrosinase activity. Also downregulated melanogenesis enzymes expression such as tyrosinase, tyrosinase-related protein (TRP)-1, and TRP-2 in B16F10 melanoma cells	Manandhar et al. (2019)
	<i>E. bicolor</i> , <i>E. cava</i> and <i>E. kurome</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH and superoxide anion with EC <sub>50</sub> value of 26 μM and 107 μM, respectively.	Shibata et al. (2008)
	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted DPPH scavenging effect (EC <sub>50</sub> = 10.6 μM) and also inhibited ROS production in tacrine-treated HepG2 cells.	Lee et al. (2012b)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Potent DPPH radical scavenger at 0.01 μM EC <sub>50</sub> value.	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed antibacterial activity against <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> at MIC values varying from 125 to 250 μg/ml and against <i>Salmonella</i> strains at MIC values of 125–250 μg/ml. The combinations of eckol and ampicillin exhibited a synergistic or additive effect.	Choi et al. (2010)
	<i>E. kurome</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed bactericidal activity against <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Bacillus cereus</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>C. jejuni</i> , <i>S. typhimurium</i> , <i>S. enteritidis</i> , and <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> with MIC values in the range 0.08–1.08 μmol/ml.	Nagayama et al. (2002)
	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-hypertension	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited marked inhibitory activity against ACE with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 70.82 μM.	Jung et al. (2006)
	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Hepatoprotective	<i>In-vitro</i>	In tacrine-treated HepG2 cells, eckol potentially inhibits the Fas-mediated cell-death protein expression and also inhibit the cytochrome c release from the mitochondria to cytosol.	Lee et al. (2012b)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Anti-Alzheimer's	<i>In-vitro</i>	Caused a 50% inhibition of AChE at a concentration of 76.70 μM.	Kannan et al. (2013)
	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-photoaging	<i>In-vitro</i>	Caused a reduced expression of MMP-1 human dermal fibroblasts by inhibiting AP-1 dependent reporter gene activity and NF-κB.	Joe et al. (2006)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-photoaging	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed photoprotective effect against UV-B-induced cell damage.	Heo and Jeon (2009b)
	<i>E. bicolor</i>	Anti-diabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited α-amylase inhibition (87.5% inhibition) and antglycation activity (96.2% inhibition) at 1 mM.	Okada et al. (2004)
	<i>E. maxima</i>	Anti-diabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed α-glucosidase inhibition at 11.163 μM IC <sub>50</sub> value.	Rengasamy et al. (2013)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Immunomodulatory	<i>In-vitro</i>	The ionising radiation suppressed immune cell differentiation and proliferation was enhanced. Dieckol increased thymidine incorporation by splenocytes as much as 8.3-fold above that in irradiated mice without dieckol treatment. Also, the number of CD4 <sup>+</sup> helper T cells, CD8 <sup>+</sup> cytolytic T cells, CD45R/B220 <sup>+</sup> pan B cells, and CD11b <sup>+</sup> macrophages showed a marked increase in dieckol-treated irradiation group compared with irradiation-only control group at three days after irradiation.	Park et al. (2010)
Dieckol (8)	<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-photoaging	<i>In-vitro</i>	Caused a reduced expression of MMP-1 human dermal fibroblasts by inhibiting AP-1 dependent reporter gene activity and NF-κB.	Joe et al. (2006)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-photoaging	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed photoprotective effect against UV-B-induced cell damage.	Heo et al. (2009)
	<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-allergy	<i>In-vitro</i>		Le et al. (2009)

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Table 2 (continued)

Phlorotannins	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	Reference
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>		Histamine release was inhibited dose-dependently from both KU812 and RBL2H3 cell lines.	
<i>E. bicyclis</i>	Anti-diabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exhibited antibacterial activity against MSSA and MSRA <i>S. aureus</i> with MIC values ranged from 32 to 128 $\mu$ M. The combination of dieckol with ampicillin or penicillin displayed a synergistic activity against MSRA.	Lee et al. (2008)
<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-diabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exhibited inhibitory activity on glycation (86.7% inhibition) and $\alpha$ -amylase (97.5% inhibition) at 1 mM.	Otakada et al. (2004)
<i>E. cava</i>	Matrix metalloproteinases inhibition	<i>In-vitro</i>		Showed inhibitory activity against $\alpha$ -glucosidase ( $IC_{50} = 10.8 \mu$ mol/L) and $\alpha$ -amylase ( $IC_{50} = 124.9 \mu$ mol/L). It also displayed a non-competitive type of inhibition against $\alpha$ -glucosidase.	Lee et al. (2009)
<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-inflammatory	<i>In-vivo</i>		In human osteosarcoma cell, dieckol inhibits the mRNA gene and protein levels of iNOS, COX-2, MMP-1, MMP-3, and MMP-13. Dieckol also inhibits the JNK and p38 MAPK phosphorylation.	Ryu et al. (2009)
<i>E. cava</i>	Cytoprotective	<i>Ex vivo</i>		The PGF <sub>2</sub> $\alpha$ , NO, and tMGB-1 production significantly inhibited in the serum of mice with LPS-induced septic shock.	Yang et al. (2016)
<i>E. bicyclis</i> , <i>E. cava</i> and <i>E. kurume</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>		In neonatal mouse cochlea, dieckol showed a dose dependent partial protective effect against gentamicin-induced hair cell.	Chang et al. (2016)
<i>E. stolonifera</i> (9)	Hepatoprotective	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH and superoxide anion with $EC_{50}$ value of 13 $\mu$ M and 7.6 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Shibata et al. (2008)
2-Phloroeckol (9)				In tracrine-treated HepG2 cells, eckol potentially inhibits the Fas-mediated cell-death protein expression and also inhibit the cytochrome c release from the mitochondria to cytosol.	Lee et al. (2012b)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exerted DPPH scavenging effect ( $EC_{50} = 35.2 \mu$ M) and also inhibited ROS production in tracrine-treated HepG2 cells.	Lee et al. (2012b)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory	<i>In-vitro</i>		Showed inhibition of NO production ( $EC_{50} = 85.3 \mu$ mol/L) in LPS-stimulated RAW 264.7 cells.	Wei et al. (2016)
<i>E. Cava</i>	Anti-cancer	<i>In-vitro</i>		In MCF-7 human breast cancer cells, Dioxinodehydroeckol significantly induced proliferative inhibition and apoptosis.	Kong et al. (2009)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>		Showed DPPH scavenging activity ( $EC_{50} = 8.8 \mu$ M) which is more effective than L-ascorbic acid ( $EC_{50} = 10.3 \mu$ M).	Kim et al. (2009)
<i>E. cava</i>	UV protective	<i>In-vitro</i>		Protects the human keratinocyte cells from UVB-induced apoptosis.	Ryu et al. (2015)
<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-HIV	<i>In-vitro</i>		Displayed inhibition against lytic effects, HIV-1 induced syncytia formation and viral p24 antigen production at $EC_{50}$ values of 1.23, 1.72 and 1.26 $\mu$ M respectively. Also, selective inhibition against HIV-1 RT enzyme ( $EC_{50} = 1.07 \mu$ M).	Artan et al. (2008)
Dioxinodehydroeckol (10)				Through negative regulation of the NF- $\kappa$ B pathway, 6,6'-Bieckol down-regulated COX-2, iNOS, and pro inflammatory cytokines in LPS-stimulated macrophages.	Yang et al. (2012)
8,8'-Bieckol (11)				Showed inhibition of NO production ( $EC_{50} = 63.9 \mu$ mol/L) in LPS-stimulated RAW 264.7 cells.	Wei et al. (2016)
8,8'-Bieckol (12)				Down-regulated NF- $\kappa$ B activation in LPS-stimulated microglial cells through JNK, p38 MAPK and Akt.	Kim et al. (2016)
<i>E. cava</i>	Anti-inflammatory	<i>In-vitro</i>		Histamine release was inhibited dose-dependently from both KU812 and RBL2H3 cell lines.	Le et al. (2009)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory	<i>In-vitro</i>		Displayed HIV-1 RT and protease inhibition at $IC_{50} = 0.51$ and 81.5 $\mu$ M respectively.	Ahn et al. (2004)
<i>E. kurume</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>		Showed bactericidal activity against <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Bacillus cereus</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>C. jejuni</i> , <i>S. typhimurium</i> , <i>S. enteritidis</i> , and <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> with MBC values in the range 0.03–0.54 $\mu$ mol/ml.	Nagayama et al. (2002)
<i>E. bicyclis</i> , <i>E. cava</i> and <i>E. kurume</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH and superoxide anion with $EC_{50}$ value of 15 $\mu$ M and 6.5 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Ryu et al. (2011)
7-Phloroeckol (13)	Anti-influenza	<i>In-vitro</i>		Exhibited inhibitory effects on Influenza Virus NA (rvH1N1), A/Hong Kong/8/68 (H3N2), A/Chicken/Korea/MS96/96 (H9N2) and, A/PR/8/34 (H1N1), with $IC_{50}$ values of 44.2 $\mu$ M, 37.4 $\mu$ M, 32.2 $\mu$ M and 41.2 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Ryu et al. (2008)
Phlorofufuroeckol-A (14)	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>			Nagayama et al. (2002)

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Table 2 (continued)

Phlorotannins	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	Reference
<i>E. karome</i>	Algicidal		<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed bactericidal activity against <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Bacillus cereus</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>C. jejuni</i> , <i>S. typhimurium</i> , <i>S. enteritidis</i> , and <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> with MBC values in the range 0.08–0.66 μmol/ml.	Nagayama et al. (2003)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-hypertension		<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed anti-algicidal activity against red tide dinoflagellates such as <i>K. mikimotoi</i> and <i>C. polykratikoides</i> .	Jung et al. (2006)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-diabetic		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited ACE inhibition with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 12.74 μM.	Jung et al. (2008)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted inhibition against AGE (IC <sub>50</sub> = 165.20 μM) and aldose reductase (IC <sub>50</sub> = 125.45 μM).	Kim et al. (2009)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory		<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited LPS-induced NO and PGE <sub>2</sub> production and by down-regulating inducible NO synthase and COX-2 protein expressions.	Kim et al. (2016)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory		<i>In-vitro</i>	In LPS-stimulated RAW 264.7 cells, Phlorofucofuroeckol-A inhibits the production of NO (EC <sub>50</sub> = 6.95 μmol/L).	Wei et al. (2016)
<i>E. bicyclis</i> , <i>E. cava</i> and <i>E. kurume</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH and superoxide anion with EC <sub>50</sub> value of 15 μM and 6.5 μM, respectively. Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH and superoxide anion with EC <sub>50</sub> value of 12 μM and 8.4 μM, respectively.	Shibata et al. (2008)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed radical scavenging activities against DPPH (EC <sub>50</sub> = 4.7 μM). Also suppressed the intracellular ROS concentration in LPS-induced RAW 264.7 cells.	Kim et al. (2009)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted DPPH scavenging effect (EC <sub>50</sub> = 4.9 μM) and also inhibited the intracellular ROS in tunicin-treated HepG2 cells.	Lee et al. (2012b)
<i>E. stolonifera</i>	Anti-inflammatory		<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed anti-inflammatory activity based on the inhibition of NO production (EC <sub>50</sub> = 12.1 μmol/L) in LPS-stimulated RAW 264.7 cells.	Wei et al. (2016)
<i>E. arborea</i>	Anti-allergy		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited dose-dependent inhibition of histamine release from rat basophilic leukemia-2H3 cells (IC <sub>50</sub> = 7.8 μM).	Sugiyra et al. (2006)
<i>E. cava</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed scavenging effect against intracellular ROS and DPPH radical and prevented lipid peroxidation.	Kang et al. (2005)
<i>E. cava</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Increased cellular antioxidant defense by inducing HO-1 via ERK–NF-E2 related factor 2(Nrf2)-ARE signalling pathway, thereby protecting cells from oxidative stress.	Kang et al. (2007)
<i>E. cava</i>	Sedative		<i>In vivo</i>	50 mg/kg dose decreased sleep latency in C57BL/6N mice and increased the amount of non-rapid eye movement sleep (NREMS), without affecting rapid eye movement sleep.	Yoon and Cho (2018)
<i>F. vesiculosus</i> L.	Chopreventive		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH (IC <sub>50</sub> = 14.4 μg/ml) and peroxyl radicals (IC <sub>50</sub> = 3.5 μg/ml). Also inhibited cytochrome P450 1A (IC <sub>50</sub> = 20.0 μg/ml) and aromatase (Cyp19) activity (IC <sub>50</sub> = 3.3 μg/ml).	Parys et al. (2010)
<i>F. vesiculosus</i> L.	Chopreventive		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH (IC <sub>50</sub> = 13.8 μg/ml) and peroxyl radicals (IC <sub>50</sub> = 3.2 μg/ml). Also inhibited aromatase (Cyp19) activity (IC <sub>50</sub> = 5.6 μg/ml) and cytochrome P450 1A (IC <sub>50</sub> = 17.9 μg/ml).	Parys et al. (2010)
<i>Ishige okamurae</i>	Anti-diabetic		<i>In-vitro</i>	Exerted scavenging effect against DPPH (IC <sub>50</sub> = 10.0 μg/ml) and peroxyl radicals (IC <sub>50</sub> = 3.3 μg/ml). Also inhibited cytochrome P450 1A (IC <sub>50</sub> = 33.7 μg/ml) and aromatase (Cyp19) activity (IC <sub>50</sub> = 1.2 μg/ml).	Parys et al. (2010)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Anticancer		<i>In-vitro</i>	Diphloretethyldihydroxycarmalol inhibits the high glucose-induced glucotoxicity and apoptosis at 10 or 50 μg/ml. Diphloretethyldihydroxycarmalol also decreases NO level, intracellular ROS generation and thiobarbituric acid reactive substances increased by high glucose.	Lee et al. (2012c)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Radio protective		<i>In-vitro</i> & <i>In-vivo</i>	In human promyelocytic leukemia (HL60) cells, Diphloretethyldihydroxycarmalol induces the apoptosis in via a reduction in the Bcl-2 levels and simultaneous mitochondrial signalling through Bax, ultimately leading to mitochondrial dysfunction.	Kang et al. (2012)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Antioxidant		<i>In-vitro</i>	Protected cells from apoptosis through ROS scavenging effect and also protects bone marrow cells and intestinal progenitor cells.	Ahn et al. (2011)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Photoprotective		<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed scavenging effect on ABTS radical and intracellular ROS, and also prevents H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -induced cell damage.	Heo and Jeon (2009a)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Antiyrosinase		<i>In-vitro</i>	Prevents UV-B radiation-induced cell damage in human fibroblast cell line.	Heo et al. (2010a)
<i>I. okamurae</i>	Antimelanogenic		<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed potent inhibitory effect against tyrosinase with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 14.2–20 μM compared to the positive control arbutin (IC <sub>50</sub> = 384.82 μM).	Heo et al. (2010a)

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**Table 2 (continued)**

Phlorotannins	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	Reference
2-(4-(3,5-dihydroxyphenoxy)-3,5-dihydroxyphenoxy)benzene-1,3,5-triol (DDBT) (21)	<i>I. okamurae</i> <i>S. patens</i>	Neuroprotective Anti-diabetic	In-vitro In-vitro	Exerted a melanin inhibition with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 37.73 μM and the inhibition was potent than retinol, a positive control (IC <sub>50</sub> = 50.25 μM). Prevents H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -induced damage in neuronal cells and reduces the Bax expression. Suppressed the hydrolysis of amylopectin by human salivary and pancreatic α-amylases. Displayed inhibitory effects against α-amylase (IC <sub>50</sub> = 3.21 μg/mL), α-glucosidase from rat intestinal (IC <sub>50</sub> = 25.4 μg/mL) and sucrase and maltase (IC <sub>50</sub> = 114 μg/mL).	Heo et al. (2012) Kawamura-Konishi et al. (2012)
Octoporethol A (22)	<i>I. foliacea</i>	Anti-diabetic	In-vivo	In type 2 diabetic db/db mice, Octoporethol A significantly improves hyperinsulinemia and impaired glucose.	Lee et al. (2016)

ACE, angiotensin-converting enzyme; AGE, advanced glycation endproducts; ARE, antioxidant response element; DPPH, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl; FRAP, ferric reducing antioxidant power; HO<sup>•</sup>, hydroxyl; KU812, human basophilic leukemia; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; MIC, minimum inhibitory concentration; MSSA, methicillin resistant; MRSA, methicillin-susceptible; O<sub>2</sub>•-, superoxide anion radical; ORAC, oxygen radical absorbance capacity; RBL2H3, rat basophilic leukemia; ROS, reactive oxygen species.

offered enormous untapped potential in the discovery of new drug targets. The high molecular weight polysaccharides and their degradation products of low molecular weight oligosaccharides are economically very important owing to the numerous biological properties with minimal toxicity. Most polysaccharides are used as stabilisers, thickeners, and emulsifiers in food industries (Tseng, 2001). Seaweeds or marine macroalgae contain a wide range of polysaccharides which are described to possess a plethora of pharmacological activities including anticancer, antiinflammatory, and excellent antioxidant activities. The significant polysaccharides found in marine algae are alginates, agarans, carrageenan, fucoidan, laminarin, and ulvans (Rengasamy et al., 2014b). Although polysaccharides have potential biological properties, their viscosity and poor solubility make them inefficient for pharmaceutical applications. This problem has been overcome with the discovery of oligosaccharides which are derived from hydrolysis of polysaccharides either by using acid hydrolysis or enzyme hydrolysis method. Recent research emphasises the importance of oligosaccharides such as alginic oligosaccharides (derived from alginic), fucoidan oligosaccharides (derived from fucoidan), laminarin oligosaccharides (derived from Laminarin) and carrageenan oligosaccharides (derived from carrageenan). The polysaccharides and oligosaccharides prepared from seaweeds or marine macroalgae and their biological properties are summarised in Table 1 and the chemical structures of important polysaccharides are shown in Fig. 1.

#### 4.2. Phlorotannins

Phlorotannins, more commonly known as algal polyphenols, are polymers of phloroglucinols which comprise up to 15% of dry weight of brown algae. Laminariaceae have been documented to be the most abundant source of phlorotannins in marine algae. The molecular weight of phlorotannins ranges from 126 kDa to 650 kDa. In the past two decades, there have been a considerable literature on the isolation and pharmacological properties of phlorotannins from brown algal species such as *Eisienia bycycles*, *Ecklonia cava*, *E. stolonifera* and *E. maxima* (Kannan et al., 2013; Rengasamy et al., 2013; Rengasamy et al., 2014a, b). Phlorotannins have also been found to possess numerous biological/pharmacological properties such as antimicrobial (Nagayama et al., 2002), antioxidant (Kim et al., 2009), anti-HIV (Artan et al., 2008), antiproliferative (Kong et al., 2009), anticancer (Parys et al., 2010), anti-inflammatory (Kim et al., 2009), antidiabetes (Kannan et al., 2013; Rengasamy et al., 2013, 2014a), anti-Alzheimer disease (Kannan et al., 2013), antihypersensitive (Jung et al., 2006), anticoagulant (Li et al., 2007), and radioprotective (Moon et al., 2008). Further comprehensive evidence on the isolation and pharmacological properties of brown algal phlorotannins are listed in Table 2 and the chemical structures of important phlorotannins are shown in Fig. 2A and B.

#### 4.3. Protein hydrolysates

Protein hydrolysates are mixtures of amino acids generally recognised as peptides or peptones, which are made from purified protein by acid hydrolysis or using proteolytic enzymes and further subjected to purification. To date, various protein hydrolysates have been reported from seaweeds with potent pharmacological properties. Lately much consideration has been diverted to the seaweed proteins and protein hydrolysates. Seaweed protein hydrolysates have been presented to possess many biological potential such as antibacterial activity (Beaulieu et al., 2016), anti-hypertension (Pan et al., 2016; Qu et al., 2010; Sai-kun et al., 2012; Sheih et al., 2009; Suetsuna et al., 2004), anticoagulant (Indumathi and Mehta, 2016), antiplatelet aggregation (Cian et al., 2012), antioxidant (Beaulieu et al., 2016; Cian et al., 2012, 2013) and chelating properties (Cian et al., 2016). Wakame jelly peptide and Peptide Nori S are the commercially available anti-hypersensitive peptides from the Japanese seaweed *Undaria pinnatifida*

**Table 3**  
Biological properties of seaweed protein hydrolysates.

Source	Biological properties	Model	Findings	Reference
<i>Palmaria palmata</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Hydrolysed fractions post-treatment with either chymotrypsin or trypsin, showed DPPH scavenging, FRAP, and ORAC.	Bondu et al. (2015)
	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed antioxidant effect with ORAC value of 45.17–467.54 and FRAP value of 1.06–21.59 µmol trolox equivalents/g.	Harrney and FitzGerald (2013b)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	< 10-kDa fraction hydrolysed with chymotrypsin showed ACE inhibition with an IC <sub>50</sub> of 460.05 mg/mL.	Bondu et al. (2015)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vivo</i>	The tridecapeptide IFLIIVLMPILMA derived from papain hydrolysate of <i>P. palmata</i> exhibited renin inhibitory activity. In spontaneously hypertensive rats, seaweed protein hydrolysates showed a drop-in blood pressure.	Fitzgerald et al. (2014)
	Cardioprotective and antidiabetic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed inhibition against ACE (IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.19–0.78 mg/mL) and DPP-IV (IC <sub>50</sub> = 1.65–4.60 mg/mL).	Harrney and FitzGerald (2013a)
<i>Undaria pinnatifida</i>	Renin inhibitory	<i>In-vitro</i>	Fraction obtained from <i>P. palmata</i> protein hydrolysate exhibited 58.97% renin inhibition at 1 mg/mL.	Fitzgerald et al. (2012)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro &amp; In-vivo</i>	Showed inhibition against ACE <i>In-vitro</i> . Four tetrapeptides administrated orally into spontaneously hypertensive rats displayed antihypertensive activity.	Suetsuma and Nakano (2000)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro &amp; In-vivo</i>	Decreased blood pressure was observed with synthetic Phe-Tyr, and Ile-Tyr Tyr-His, Lys-Tyr, Ile-Tyr and Phe-Tyr in spontaneously hypertensive rats when administered orally.	Suetsuma et al. (2004)
<i>Porphyra yezoensis</i>	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	About 55% of ACE inhibition was noticed with an IC <sub>50</sub> value of 1.6 g/L.	Qu et al. (2010)
	Anticoagulant	<i>In-vitro</i>	The purified peptide derived from pepsin hydrolysate displayed prolonged APTT 135 s–320 s with an IC <sub>50</sub> of 0.3 mM.	Indumathi and Mehta (2016)
<i>Porphyra columbina</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	The residual cake hydrolysate exhibited ABTS and DPPH radical scavenging activity with IC <sub>50</sub> value of 1.01 and 0.91 g/L, respectively. High copper chelating activity (~97.5%) was also noticed.	Cian et al. (2013)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	Residual cake hydrolysate showed 45.65% inhibition against.	Cian et al. (2013)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	Hydrolysates showed ACE inhibition by uncompetitive mechanism, the highest activity being IC <sub>50</sub> %, 1.2 g/L.	Cian et al. (2015)
	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed ABTS and DPPH scavenging, β-carotene bleaching, and copper-chelating activity	Cian et al. (2015)
	Antiplatelet aggregation	<i>In-vitro</i>	The peptides showed antiplatelet aggregation activity, and the activity of peptides produced from alkaline protease was increased after simulated digestion process.	Cian et al. (2015)
	Chelating agent and anticariogenic	<i>In-vitro</i>	<i>P. columbina</i> hydrolysate showed high iron-chelating activity (33%), copper-chelating activity ( $\beta$ -carotene oxidation rate: R <sub>0</sub> : 0.7 min <sup>-1</sup> ), and inhibition of phosphorus and Ca <sup>2+</sup> release (87 and 81%, respectively).	Cian et al. (2016)
	Immunomodulation, Antihypertensive, Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro and ex vivo</i>	Both cold-water protein extract (PF) and PF hydrolysates (PHF) displayed immunosuppressive properties on rat splenocytes by enhancing IL-10 production and inhibiting the production of TNF- $\alpha$ and IFN- $\gamma$ . PHF also showed > 35% of ACE inhibition and antioxidant effect (DPPH, TEAC, ORAC, and copper-chelating activity).	Cian et al. (2012)
<i>Enteromorpha clathrata</i>	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	Alcalase was found to be more suitable for the preparation of ACE inhibitory peptides from <i>E. clathrata</i> proteins than alkaline protease and trypsin. Under optimum condition, a hydrolysate with ACE inhibition (IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.66 mg/mL) was obtained.	Sai-kun et al. (2012)
	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	Fractions less than ~10 kDa exhibited higher ACE inhibition than > 10 kDa fraction. The identified active peptide namely Pro-Ala-Phe-Gly showed ACE inhibition (IC <sub>50</sub> = 35.9 µM).	Pan et al. (2016)
<i>Uva rigida</i>	Antihypertensive	<i>In-vitro</i>	The hydrolysate produced under optimal proteolysis with pepsin plus bromelain, showed ACE inhibition (IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.483 mg/mL). Fraction < 1 kDa fraction exhibited the highest ACE inhibition (IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.095 mg/mL). Purification by chromatographic techniques followed by Edman degradation yielded Ile-Pro (IP) and Ala-Phe-Leu (AFL) and these two peptides potentially inhibited ACE, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 0.020 and 0.023 mg/mL, respectively.	Paiva et al. (2016)

**Table 4**  
Biological properties of seaweed terpenoids.

Terpenoids	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	References
Udoteafuran (23)	<i>Udotea flabellum</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Growth inhibition of <i>S. aureus</i> .	Fenical and Paul (1984)
Udoteatranil (24)	<i>U. flabellum</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Growth inhibition of <i>S. aureus</i> .	
Flexitin (25)	<i>U. conglutinata</i>	Antimicrobial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Vibrio splendidus</i> , <i>Dreschleria haloides</i> , and <i>Candida albicans</i> .	
	<i>U. conglutinata</i>	Cytotoxic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibition of cell division in the sea urchin egg first cleavage ( $ED_{50} = 16 \text{ }\mu\text{g/ml}$ ).	
Halimedatriol (26)	<i>Halimeda</i> spp.	Antimicrobial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> , <i>Serratia marinonitaba</i> , <i>Vibrio splendidus</i> , <i>V. harveyi</i> , <i>V. leignathii</i> , <i>Lutwortsia</i> sp., <i>Alternaria</i> sp., <i>D. haloides</i> , <i>C. albicans</i> .	
	<i>Halimeda</i> spp...	Cytotoxic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibition of cell division in the sea urchin egg first cleavage ( $ED_{50} = 1 \text{ }\mu\text{g/ml}$ ).	
Elatol (27)	<i>Laurencia dendroidea</i>	Acaricidal and repellent activity		Exhibited strong repellent activity against <i>T. urticae</i> with moderate toxicity.	Born and Bianco (2012)
	<i>L. dendroidea</i>	Larvicultural	<i>In-vitro</i>	Potent larvalicidal effect with an $IC_{50}$ value of $10.7 \text{ ppm}$ .	Bianco et al. (2013)
	<i>L. dendroidea</i>	Antileishmanial activity		In <i>Leishmania amazonensis</i> , elatol inhibits promastigote and intracellular amastigote forms with an $IC_{50}$ of $4.0 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ and $0.45 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ , respectively.	Santos et al. (2010)
	<i>L. microcladina</i>	Anti-tumor	<i>In-vitro</i> and <i>In-vivo</i>	Prompted cell cycle arrest in the G1 and the sub-G1 phases, leading cells to apoptosis. Elatol also decreased the expression of cyclin-D1, cyclin-E, cyclin-dependent kinase (cdk)2 and cdk4. A decrease in bcl-xL and an increase in bak, caspase-9, and p53 expression was also observed.	Campos et al. (2012)
				Treatment <i>in-vivo</i> with elatol also decreased tumor growth in CS7B16 mice.	
				Exhibited moderate toxicity, but a high degree of repellent activity against <i>T. urticae</i> .	
	<i>C. cervicornis</i>	Acaricidal and repellent activity		Toxicity of violaceen to <i>Schizaphis graminum</i> aphids was higher than other compounds, causing 92% mortality of aphid after 48 h. It was similar to insecticides used as aphicides. Violaceen, dibromomentene, and dihydromentene decreased the reproduction index of aphids. Also, dibromomentene and violaceen protected tomato plants against the tomato moth Tuta absoluta.	Argandoña et al. (2000)
	<i>Plocamium cartilagineum</i>	Insecticidal activity		Mertensene induced G2/M cell cycle arrest and caspase dependent apoptosis of Human Colon Adenocarcinoma HT29 cell line via the modulation of ERK-1/-2, AKT and NF-kB signaling.	Tarhouni-Jabberi et al. (2017)
	<i>Pterocladiella capillacea</i>	Anti-cancer	<i>In vitro</i>	Exhibited 100% larvicidal activity against <i>Culex pipiens pallens</i> at $10 \text{ ppm}$ in solution.	Watanabe et al. (1989)
		Insecticidal activity		The isolated compounds inhibited viability of Ehrlich carcinoma tumor cells (90, 90, 100, 80, 90, 70, 80% inhibition, respectively). Isoparguelol derivatives displayed slightly greater efficacy than parguerol derivatives.	Awad (2004)
	<i>P. tefariae</i>			Anthelmintic activities (against earthworms <i>Allolobophora caliginosa</i> ). Isoparguelol and parguerol derivatives were more effective than deoxyparguerol series. These compounds displayed high anthelmintic activity when compared with the same concentration (10%) of the reference anthelmintic drug mebendazole.	Awad (2004)
Tefariae (33)				(continued on next page)	

**Table 4 (continued)**

Terpenoids	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	References
Neorictetraol (41)	<i>Laurencia yonggiensis</i> <i>L. yonggiensis</i>	Toxicity	<i>In-vivo</i>	Displayed toxicity to the <i>Artemia salina</i> (brine shrimp) with an LC <sub>50</sub> of 40.1 $\mu$ M.	Takahashi et al. (1998)
	<i>Syzygium zonale</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed least antibacterial activities against <i>Alcaligenes aquamarinus</i> and <i>Escherichia coli</i> .	Takahashi et al. (2002)
	<i>S. zonale</i>	Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed inhibitory effect on tyrosine kinase (IC <sub>50</sub> = 79.7 $\mu$ g/mL).	Wessels et al. (1999)
Dehydrothrysiferol (43)	<i>Laurencia viridis</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited the growth of <i>Bacillus megaterium</i> and <i>E. coli</i> .	Wessels et al. (1999)
	<i>S. zonale</i>	Antitumor	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited human breast cancer cell lines, viz. ZR-75-1, Hs78T and T47D with IC <sub>50</sub> of 16.0, 18.9 and 13.5 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Pec et al. (1999)
Styrolactone (44)			<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed weak cytotoxic property against A-549 (human lung carcinoma) and HT-29 and H-116 (human colon carcinoma) cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of > 25.0 $\mu$ g/ml, in each case.	Dorta et al. (2002)
Aplysiaterpenoid A (45)	<i>Placonium telfairae</i>	Insecticidal		Displayed strong insecticidal activities against the mosquito larvae ( <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> ) and German cockroach ( <i>Blattella germanica</i> ).	Watanabe et al. (1990)
Telfairine (46)	<i>P. telfairae</i>	Insecticidal		Displayed strong insecticidal activities against the mosquito larvae ( <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> ) and German cockroach ( <i>Blattella germanica</i> ).	Watanabe et al. (1990)
Dictyterpenoid A (47) and B (48)	<i>Dilophus okamurae</i>	Feeding-deterrant		Displayed feeding-deterrant activity against abalone <i>Haliotis discus hannai</i> .	Suzuki et al. (2002)
Scopariol (49), isorigidol (50), (+)-3-(Z)-bromomethylidene-10 $\beta$ -bromo- $\beta$ -chamigrene (51)	<i>Laurencia scoparia</i>	Anthelmintic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed antihelmintic effect against <i>Nippostrongylus brasiliensis</i>	Davyt et al. (2001)
2 $\beta$ ,3 $\alpha$ -epitaondiol (52), flabellinol (53), flabellinone (54), styptriolaldehyde (55), stypolydoperoxide (56)	<i>Syzygium flabelliforme</i>	Neurotoxic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Moderate toxicity to murine neuro-2a cells (IC <sub>50</sub> = 2–25 $\mu$ M) was observed for all the compounds. 2 $\beta$ ,3 $\alpha$ -epitaondiol, flabellinol, and flabellinone possessed potent sodium channel blocking activity. In addition, styptriolaldehyde displayed a biphasic effect on the concentration of intracellular Ca <sup>2+</sup> in rat cerebellar granule neurons.	Sabry et al. (2005)
2 $\beta$ ,3 $\alpha$ -epitaondiol (52), flabellinol (53), flabellinone (54) (6R)-6-hydroxydichotoma-3,14-diene-1,17-dial (57)	<i>S. flabelliforme</i>	Antitumor	<i>In-vitro</i>	Exhibited moderate cytotoxic effect with NaCl-H460 human lung cancer cell line.	Sabry et al. (2005)
3,7-dihydroxy-dihydrolaurene (58)	<i>Dictyota menstrualis</i>	Feeding-deterrence		Displayed feeding-deterrent properties against the amphipod <i>Pantylea hawaiiensis</i> Dana.	Pereira et al. (2000)
Perforenol B (59)	<i>Laurencia obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of > 300, 201.7, 182.3, 121.3, 176.4, 234.7 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
(1S*, 2R*, 6R*, 8S*, 9R*)-8-bromo2,5,6,9-tetramethyltricyclo-[7.2.0.0]undec-4-en-3-one (60)	<i>L. obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of > 300, 54.8, 50.9, 73.2, 80.2 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
7-hydroxylaurene (61)	<i>L. obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 64.2, 15.8, 18.1, 40.5, 23.9, 78.2 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)

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Table 4 (continued)

Terpenoids	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	References
Isolaureniol (62)	<i>L. obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 127.4, 95.5, 103.2, 88.6, 122.0, 165.5 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
(E)-2-tridecyl-2-heptadecenal (63)	<i>L. obtusa</i> and <i>L. microcladia</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 52.7, 51.4, 71.6, 51.8, 45.8, 107.6 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
Perforenone A (64)	<i>L. obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of > 300, > 300, 138.3, 117.7, 105.1, > 300 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
3-epi-perforenone A (65)	<i>L. obtusa</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of > 300, > 300, 144.4, 154.2, 151.9, > 300 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
Laurinterol (66)	<i>L. microcladia</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 128.3, 67.2, 76.6, 83.9, 74.6, 165.8 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Kladi et al. (2006)
Bromolaureniol (67)	<i>L. microcladia</i>	Cytotoxicity	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed cytotoxic effect on K562, MCF7, PC3, HeLa, A431, and CHO cell lines, with IC <sub>50</sub> values of 112.7, 78.3, 92.4, 105.8, 81.6, > 200 $\mu$ M, respectively.	Ayyad et al. (2011)
Amijiol (68)Amijiol acetate (69) Dolabellatrienol (70), Dolastane mijiol-7,10-diacetate (71), Pachydictyol A (72), Isopachydictyol A (73), 8β-hydroxypachydictyol A (74),Isodictyohemiacetal (75), and Dictyol C (76)	<i>Dietcyota dichotoma</i>	DNA protective, cytotoxicity, antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed DNA protective effect, and cytotoxicity against HepG2, WI-38 and MCF-7 cell lines. Also displayed antioxidant effect by means of ABTS and erythrocytes hemolysis.	Puglisi et al. (2004)
Capisterone A (77) and B (78)	<i>Penicillius capitatus</i>	Antifungal	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed effective antifungal activity against the marine fungi ( <i>Lindra thallastiae</i> ).	König et al. (1999)
(1S,2S,4R,5R,1'E)-2-bromo-1-bromomethyl-1,4-diehloro-5-(2'-chloroethenyl)-5-methylcyclohexane (79)	<i>Placonium hamatum</i>	Antifungal, antibacterial and antialgal	<i>In-vitro</i>	Showed potent antialgal activity towards <i>Chlorella fusca</i> , antifungal effect on <i>Ustilago violacea</i> and <i>Mycoctypha microspora</i> , and antibacterial effect against <i>Bacillus megaterium</i> .	Chakraborty et al. (2010)
Labda-14-ene-8-ol (80), Labda-14-ene3 $\alpha$ ,8 $\alpha$ -diol (81), ent-Labda-13 (16),14-diene-3-one (82),Labda-14-ene-8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -diol (83), ent-Labda-13 (16),14-diene-3 $\alpha$ -ol (84), ent-Labda-13 (16),14-diene (85)	<i>Ulva fasciata</i>	Antibacterial	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited the growth of <i>Vibrio alginolyticus</i> , V. parahaemolyticus and V. vulnificus and with MIC values ranging from 30 to 250 $\mu$ g/ml.	Lane et al. (2010)
Peyssonoic acid A (86)	<i>Peyssonnelia</i> sp.	Antimicrobial and antineoplastic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited the growth of the bacterial pathogen of marine algae, <i>Pseudodalteromonas bacteriolytica</i> (IC <sub>50</sub> = 799 $\mu$ M), and <i>Lindra thallastiae</i> (IC <sub>50</sub> = 5.06 $\mu$ M), and also showed least antineoplastic activity against ovarian cancer cells (IC <sub>50</sub> = 34.5 $\mu$ M).	Chakraborty et al. (2010)
Peyssonoic acid B (87)	<i>Peyssonnelia</i> sp.	Antimicrobial and antineoplastic	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibited the growth of <i>P. bacteriolytica</i> (IC <sub>50</sub> = 377 $\mu$ M), and <i>L. thallastiae</i> (IC <sub>50</sub> = 331 $\mu$ M), and also showed least antineoplastic activity against ovarian cancer cells (IC <sub>50</sub> = 13.5 $\mu$ M).	Lane et al. (2010)
2,5,5-Trimethyl-4-(4-methylpent-3-enyl)-2-cyclohexen-1-ol (88)	<i>Ulva fasciata</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed DPPH and ABTS scavenging effect (IC <sub>50</sub> = 23.60–20.83 mM).	Chakraborty and Paulraj (2010)
4-Isopentyl-3,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-cyclohexen-1-ol (89)	<i>U. fasciata</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed DPPH and ABTS scavenging effect (IC <sub>50</sub> = 13.74 mM and 66.8% inhibition at 50 $\mu$ M, respectively).	Chakraborty and Paulraj (2010)
6-Isopentyl-1,5,5-tetramethyl-1-cyclohexene (90)	<i>U. fasciata</i>	Antioxidant	<i>In-vitro</i>	Displayed DPPH and ABTS scavenging effect (IC <sub>50</sub> = 80.56 mM and 12.8% inhibition at 50 $\mu$ M, respectively).	Chakraborty and Paulraj (2010)
3,4,5-Tetramethyl-4-(3-oxopentyl)-2-cyclohexene-1-one (91)				Displayed DPPH and ABTS scavenging effect (IC <sub>50</sub> = 10.24 mM and 78% inhibition at 50 $\mu$ M, respectively).	Chakraborty and Paulraj (2010)

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**Table 4 (continued)**

Terpenoids	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	References
Crinitol (92)	<i>Sargassum tortile</i>	Antibacterial	In-vitro	Showed inhibition against <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> (MIC = 50 µg/ml), <i>Brevibacterium ananii</i> (MIC = 100 µg/ml), <i>Streptococcus mutans</i> (MIC = 50 µg/ml), <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (MIC = 400 µg/ml), <i>Propionibacterium acnes</i> (MIC = 25 µg/ml), <i>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</i> (MIC = 25 µg/ml).	Kubo and Smith (1998)
Racemobutenolid A (93) and B (94)	<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i>	Cytotoxicity	In-vitro	Exhibited moderate cytotoxic effect on HL-60 (IC <sub>50</sub> = 49.3 nM).	Yang et al. (2015)
4,5'-dehydriodictyone A (95)	<i>C. racemosa</i>	Enzyme inhibitory activities	In-vitro	Showed inhibitory effects against protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B (PTP1B), T-cell PTPase (TC-PTP) and cell division cycle 25 homolog B (CDC25B) with IC <sub>50</sub> values 2.30, 12.56, and 42.92 µM, respectively.	Yang et al. (2015)

and *Porphyra yasoensis*, respectively (Harnedy and Fitzgerald, 2013). Although protein hydrolysates possess various biological properties, isolation of anti-hypertension inhibitory peptides from seaweed is now getting much momentum among researchers worldwide. The detailed information on the proteins, peptides, and other protein hydrolysates isolated from seaweeds are given in Table 3.

#### 4.4. Terpenoids

Terpenoids, sometimes referred to as terpenes, are a huge group of natural products commonly found in plants. They are a unique class of hydrocarbon moiety comprising of terpenes attached to an oxygen-containing group. In the current market, more than 60–75% drugs are employed for the treatment/management of infectious diseases and cancer, among these more than 23000 molecules belong to the class of terpenoid (Wang et al., 2005). For instance, the currently available commercial antimalarial drug Artemisinin and the anticancer drug paclitaxel (Taxol®) are terpenoid biomolecules, and many terpenoid molecules are in the clinical pipeline. Terpenoids are commonly classified as monoterpenoids, sesquiterpenes, diterpenes, sesterterpenes based on their chemical structure. Marine organisms are well-known to be a reservoir of these four categories of terpenes which have been documented to have numerous pharmacological properties. Seaweeds or marine macroalgae are a vast source of structurally diverse terpenoids especially red seaweeds, which are reported to have high amount of terpenoids. Among the seaweeds, the family Rhodomelaceae is considered as a terpenoid pool due to its vast chemical diversity and structurally different terpenoids. More than 1058 molecules harnessed naturally have been identified and characterised from this family which accounts to 20% of the total halogenated compounds characterised from all marine organisms (Wang et al., 2013). The comprehensive information on the pharmacological properties of terpenoids from seaweeds are shown in Table 4 and the chemical structures of important terpenoids are shown in Fig. 3A–C.

#### 4.5. Alkaloids

In 1819 Meissner proposed the term “alkaloid” which originated from the Arabic words “al kaly” and the Greek “eidos”, meaning alkali-like. Alkaloids are heterocyclic nitrogenous compounds having Br-, I-, Cl-, and S- in their structure (Güven et al., 2010, 2013). Alkaloids are well known diverse group of natural biomolecules reported to have enormous health benefits and biological potential. The well-known example is Galanthamine; a commercially available anticholinesterase inhibitor used to treat dementia over the years. A more recent book written by Aniszewski (2015) described the applications of alkaloids in pharmaceutical and agricultural industries. Although alkaloids are extensively studied, research on marine algal-based alkaloids is still under-explored. The first alkaloid molecule was isolated from marine red algae *Phyllophora nervosa* in 1969 (Güven et al., 1969, 1970). The alkaloids isolated from various marine algae and its pharmacological properties are listed in Table 5 and the chemical structures of important alkaloids are shown in Fig. 4.

#### 4.6. Photosynthetic pigments

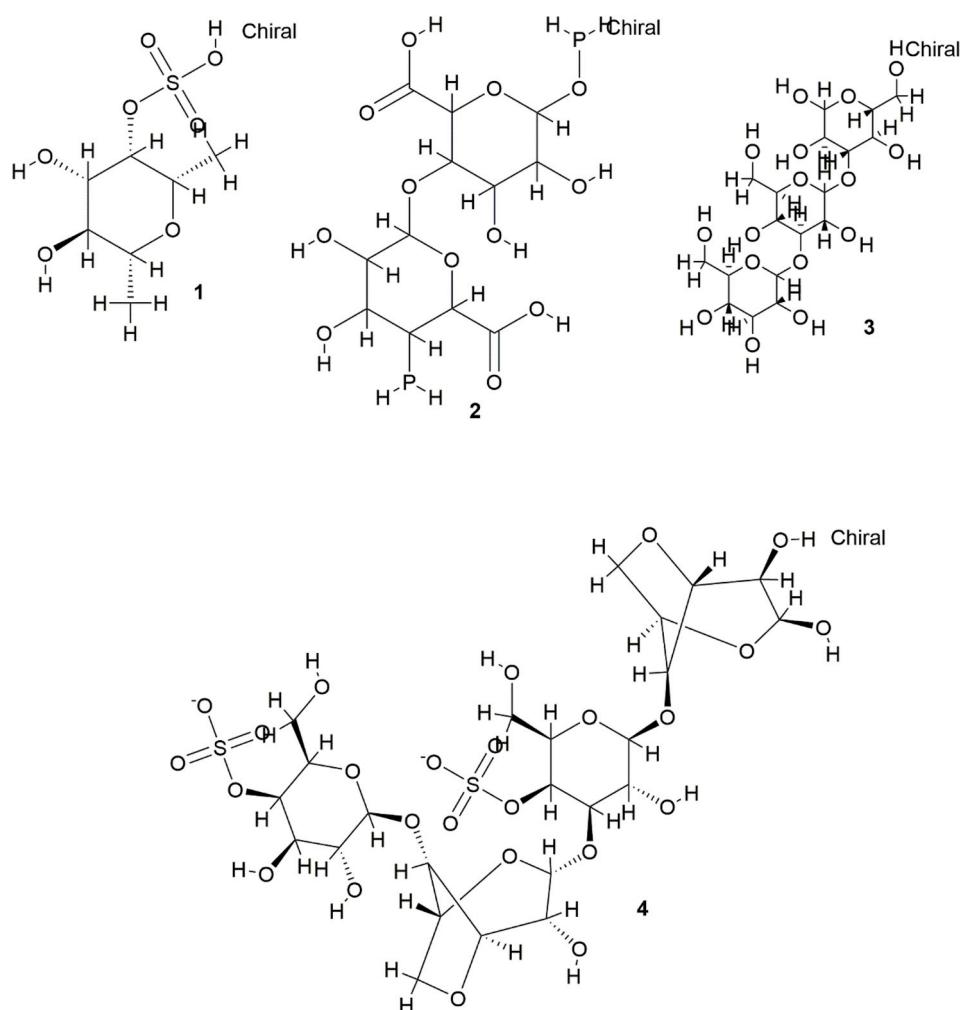
Plants possess various photosynthetic pigments such chlorophylls, carotenoids, anthocyanins, betains, and research on the biological properties of these colourful pigments is gaining much attention due to its health-promoting effects. Like other terrestrial plants seaweeds, marine macroalgae are listed as one of the primary resources of these beneficial health pigments including carotenoids, fucoxanthin (xanthophyll pigments found in brown seaweeds), phycocyanin and phycoerythrin (found in red seaweeds). The importance of carotenoids especially β-carotene, α-carotene, β-cryptoxanthin, lycopene, lutein and zeaxanthin has already been well documented (Rodriguez-Amaya,

**Table 5**  
Biological properties of seaweed alkaloids.

Alkaloid	Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	References
Caulerpin (96)	<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i>	Antinociceptive	In-vivo	In the abdominal constriction test, the alkaloid exerted a reduction in the acetic acid-induced nociception at 0.0945 μmol (0.0103–1.0984). Caulerpin also caused a favourable nociception inhibition in the hot plate test at 100 μmol/kg, p.o. 100 μmol/kg, p.o. caulerpin showed a high anti-inflammatory activity. This effect was further established on (i) capsaicin-induced ear edema model (% inhibition of 55.8) and (ii) the carrageenan-induced peritonitis (number of recruit cells decreased by 48.3%).	De Souza et al. (2009)
<i>C. racemosa</i>		Anti-inflammatory	In-vivo		
<i>C. racemosa</i>		Anti-viral	In-vitro	Showed antiviral activity against bovine viral diarrhea virus ( $EC_{50} = 2.0 \mu M$ ).	Pinto et al. (2012)
<i>Caulerpa sp.</i>		Spasmolytic	Ex vivo using guinea pig ileum	Repressed phasic contractions induced by carbachol, histamine, and serotonin in a non-selective manner. A dose-dependent inhibition against contracted ileum and carbachol in a dose-dependent manner.	Ayyad and Badria (1994)
<i>Caulerpa lentillifera</i> , <i>C. racemosa</i> , <i>Caulerpa microphysa</i> and <i>Caulerpa sertularoides</i>		Antibacterial	In-vitro	Presented moderate antibacterial action against 8 bacterial species isolated from algal surface.	Vairappan (2004)
Almazole C (97) Lophocladine A (98) and B (99)		Antibacterial Anticancer	In-vitro In-vitro	Showed antibacterial activity against Gram-negative pathogens. Exhibited cytotoxicity to MDAMB-435 breast cancer and NCI-H460 human lung tumor cell lines. The activity was correlated with microtubule inhibition.	Fresneda et al. (2007) Gross et al. (2006)
<i>Lophocladia sp.</i>		Neuroprotective	In-vitro	Showed affinity for NMDA receptors and found to be a δ-opioid receptor antagonist.	
<i>Martensia fragilis</i>		Antioxidant	Ex vivo	In rat liver microsomes, Martefragin A inhibited NADPH-dependent lipid peroxidation ( $IC_{50} = 2.8 \mu M$ ).	Takahashi et al. (1998)
<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i>		Neuroprotective	In-vitro	Reduced the $A\beta$ 25–35-induced SH-SY5Y cell damage with a 14.6% increase in cell viability at 10 μM compared to the positive control EGCG (16.57% increase at 10 μM).	Liu et al. (2013)
4. Martefragin A (100)				Exhibited significant PTP1B (human protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B) inhibitory activity with $IC_{50}$ values of 5.86 μM compared to the positive control oleanolic acid ( $IC_{50} = 3.03 \mu M$ ).	Yang et al. (2014)
5. Racemosin A (101)				Showed scavenging effect against DPPH radicals ( $IC_{50} = 0.086 \text{ mg/mL}$ ).	Malkar and Chakraborty (2018)
6. Racemosin C (102)				Inhibited COX-2 ( $IC_{50} = 0.84 \text{ mg/mL}$ ) and 5-lipoxygenase ( $IC_{50} = 0.85 \text{ mg/mL}$ ).	Malkar and Chakraborty (2018)
7. Azocinyl morpholinone (103) [3-(2-ethyl-6-(3Z,7Z)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydroazocin-5-yl)hexyl]morpholin-6-one] (104)	<i>Gracilaria opuntia</i> <i>G. opuntia</i>	Antioxidant Anti-inflammatory	In-vitro and In-vivo		

**Table 6**  
Biological properties of fucoxanthin from seaweeds.

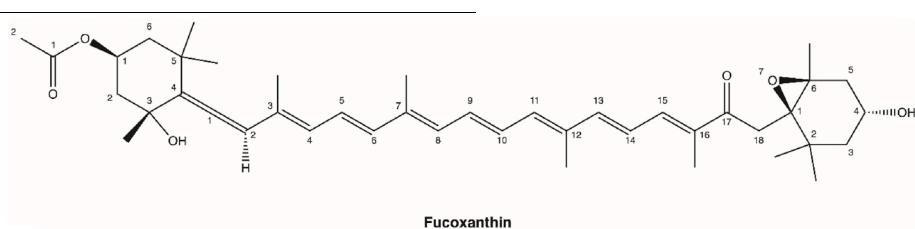
Source	Biological activity	Model used	Findings	Reference
<i>Eisenia bicyclis</i> and <i>Undaria pinnatifida</i>	Antidiabetic	In-vitro	Displayed inhibitory activity against AGE formation ( $IC_{50} = 86.48 \mu\text{M}$ ), HRAR ( $IC_{50} = 108.31 \mu\text{M}$ ), RLAR ( $IC_{50} = 264.67 \mu\text{M}$ ), and PTP1B activity ( $IC_{50} = 4.80 \mu\text{M}$ ).	Jung et al. (2012)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Antidiabetic	In-vivo	Fucoxanthin improved hyperglycemia in diabetic/obese KK-A <sup>y</sup> mice. It enhanced the insulin signaling pathway, with translocation of GLUT4, and by stimulating expression of GLUT4 in the soleus and extensor digitorum longus muscles, respectively.	Nishikawa et al. (2012)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i> <i>Halocynthia roretzi</i>	Antioxidant	In-vitro	Decreased TBARS values on day 1 and 6 in ground chicken breast meat during chilled storage after cooking.	Sasaki et al. (2008)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anticancer	In-vitro	Fucoxanthin significantly decreased viability of HL-60 human leukemia cells at 12.5 $\mu\text{M}$ .	Komishi et al. (2006)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anticancer	In-vitro	Fucoxanthin significantly decreased the viability of Caco-2 (human colorectal carcinoma), HCT116 (human colorectal adenocarcinoma) and PC-3 human prostate cancer cells at 10 $\mu\text{M}$ .	Kotake-Nara et al. (2005)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i> <i>Hijikia fusiforme</i>	Anticancer	In-vitro	Strong inhibitory effect was noticed 13-cis and 13'-cis fucoxanthin on Caco-2 cells and HL-60 cells.	Nakazawa et al. (2009)
<i>H. fusiforme</i>	Anticancer	In-vivo	In C3H/He male mice, fucoxanthin suppressed liver tumorigenesis. Besides, in the skin of ICR mice, antitumor-promoting effect was noticed with fucoxanthin in a two-stage carcinogenesis experiment.	Nishino (1998)
<i>Laminaria japonica</i>	Neuroprotective	In-vitro	In BeC3F <sub>1</sub> male mice, drinking water mixed with 0.01% fucoxanthin for 7 weeks significantly decreased the number of putative preneoplastic aberrant crypt foci (ACF)/mouse from 63.3 for the control group to 47.1 value.	Kim et al. (1998)
<i>L. japonica</i>	Anti-pigmentary	In-vitro and In-vivo	Inhibited melanogenesis in melanoma, UVB-induced skin pigmentation and tyrosinase. The application of 1% fucoxanthin topicaly also suppressed mRNA expression of COX-2, NTR, endothelin receptor A, EPL, MC1R and tyrosinase-related protein 1.	Zhao et al. (2015)
<i>L. japonica</i>	Anti-osteoporosis	In-vitro	Suppression of osteostrogenesis by inhibiting differentiation of osteoclast and apoptosis induction through caspase-3 activation in osteoclast-like cells.	Shimoda et al. (2010)
<i>Myagropsis myagroides</i>	Anti-inflammatory	In-vitro	Inhibited NO production, inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS), COX-2 protein expressions and slightly reduced the PGE <sub>2</sub> production. Fucoxanthin also dose-dependently reduced the release of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , and IL-6.	Das et al. (2010)
<i>Petalonia binghamiae</i>	Anti-obesity	In-vitro	Promotion of 3T3-L1 adipocyte differentiation was noticed with fucoxanthin treatment during the early stage of differentiation (D0-D2) and it was proved by the increased accumulation of triglycerides. Besides, fucoxanthin dose-dependently increased protein expression of PPAR $\gamma$ , C/EBP $\alpha$ , SREBP1c, ap2, and adiponectin mRNA expression. Fucoxanthin reduced the expression of PPAR $\gamma$ , C/EBP $\alpha$ , and SREBP1c during the intermediate (D2-D4) and late stages (D4-D7) of differentiation.	Heo et al. (2011b)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i> <i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anti-obesity	In-vivo	Lowered body weight and visceral fat-pads weights in diet-induced obesity mice fed a high-fat diet without altering food intake.	Woo et al. (2009)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anti-obesity	In-vivo	In diabetic/obese KK-A <sup>y</sup> mice, fucoxanthin effectively regulated the mRNA expression of inflammatory adipokines involved in iNOS, insulin resistance and COX-2 in white adipose tissue.	Hosokawa et al. (2010)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anti-obesity	In-vitro and In-vivo	Inhibited lipase enzyme in the gastrointestinal lumen and suppressed absorption of triglyceride in rats. Moreover, fucoxanthin was further converted to fucoxanthin in the intestine and finally released into the lymph.	Matsumoto et al. (2010)
<i>Sargassum heterophyllum</i>	Antiplasmnodial	In-vitro	Dietary fucoxanthin caused an increase in serum HDL, non-HDL-cholesterol levels, total cholesterol levels via the activation of SREBP signaling and by suppressing serum cholesterol uptake in the liver via decreasing LDLR and SR-B1 expression in KK-A <sup>y</sup> mice. Fucoxanthin also promoted LDL degradation through up-regulation of PCSK9 and leads to increased non-HDL-cholesterol levels.	Beppe et al. (2012)
<i>Sargassum siliquastrum</i> <i>S. siliquastrum</i>	Cytoprotective Photoprotective	In-vitro	Displayed excellent antiplasmnodial effect against chloroquine-sensitive strain (D10) of Plasmodium falciparum with an $IC_{50}$ value of 1.5 $\mu\text{M}$ .	Afolyan et al. (2008)
<i>U. pinnatifida</i>	Anti-angiogenic	In-vitro and ex vivo	Inhibited DNA damage, apoptosis induced by H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> and intracellular ROS formation, in NO <sub>x</sub> , inducible nitric oxide synthase; LDLR, low-density lipoprotein receptor; MCFR, melanocortin 1 receptor; NTR, p75 neurotrophin receptor; PCSK9, proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9; PGE2, prostaglandin E2; PPAR $\gamma$ , protein expression of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor $\gamma$ ; RLAR, rat lens aldose reductase; SR-B1, scavenger receptor class B type 1; SREBP, sterol regulatory element binding protein 1; TBARS, thiobarbituric acid reactive substances.	Heo et al. (2008)
			Inhibited generation of intracellular ROS by exposure to UV-B radiation. In addition, the protective effect of fucoxanthin was also confirmed through Hoechst 33342/PI staining.	Heo and Jeon (2009b)
			Suppressed proliferation and tive formation of HUVEC at more than 10 $\mu\text{M}$ , but showed no significant effect on HUVEC chemotaxis. Moreover, fucoxanthin suppressed microvessel outgrowth, using a rat aortic ring, in a dose-dependent manner.	Sugawara et al. (2006)



**Fig. 1.** Chemical structures of biological active polysaccharides from seaweeds.

2016). The global fucoxanthin production market was about 500 tons in 2015 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 5.3% from 2016 to 2021 (ResearchnReports, 2016). In seaweeds, fucoxanthin and astaxanthin are the two primary available carotenoid pigments. Fucoxanthin ( $C_{42}H_{58}O_6$ ) is contributing to 10% of the total carotenoid production globally (Dembitsky and Maoka, 2007). In recent years, scientific research on fucoxanthin have attracted considerable interest owing to their potential pharmacological properties including antimicrobial,

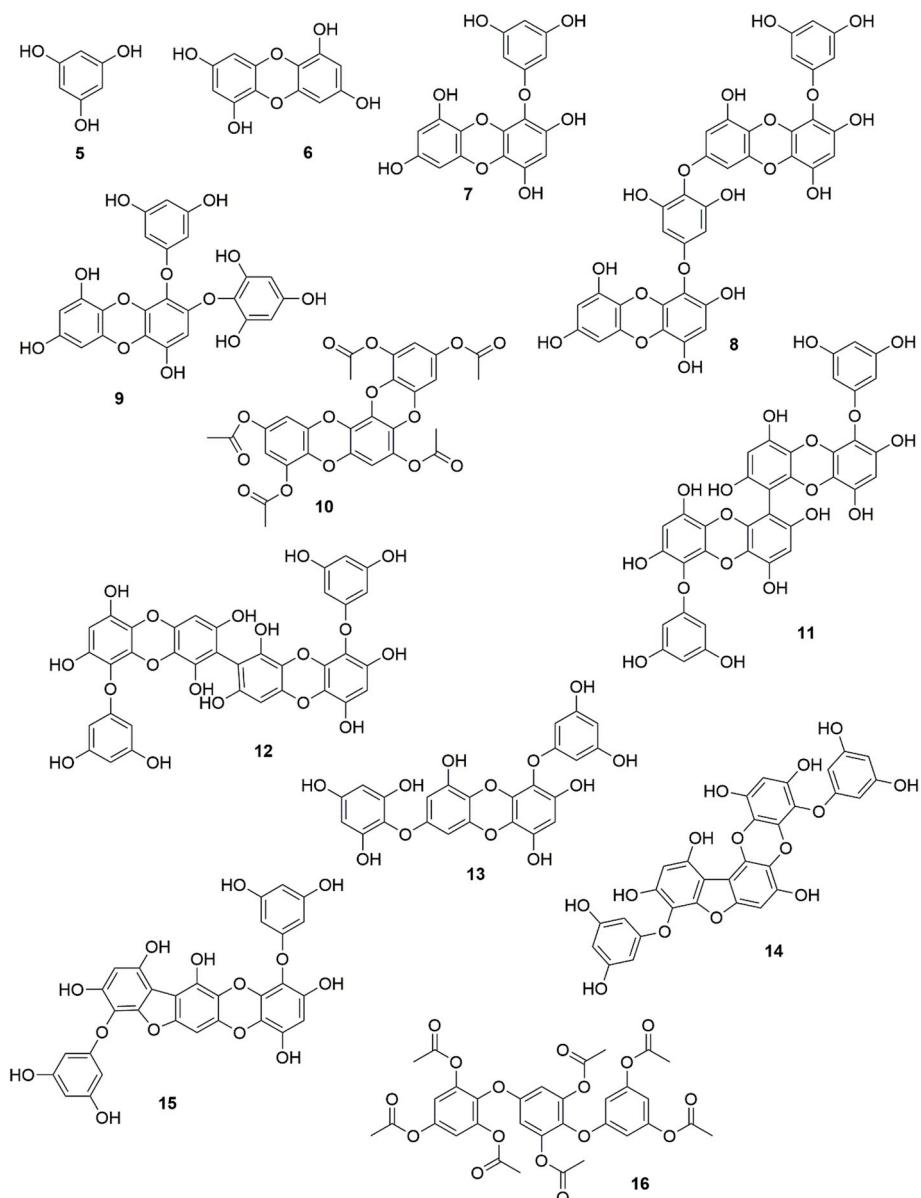
seaweeds. Phycocyanin comprises of two similar  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits of proteins with molecular weight of 17000 and 19500 Da, respectively. The importance of phycocyanin was critically reviewed by Romay et al. (2003) followed by many other researchers. Phycoerythrins are made up of two peptides such as  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits with 160–180 amino acids (Anwer et al., 2015; Sonani et al., 2017). The detailed information on the isolation and bioactivity of fucoxanthin, phycocyanin and phycoerythrin are listed in Table 6.



antimalarial activities, antioxidant, anti-obese, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, antiangiogenic, and its protective effects on the various organs (D'Orazio et al., 2012; Gammone and D'Orazio, 2015; Kim and Pangestuti, 2011; Peng et al., 2011; Rengasamy et al., 2014b). The other essential seaweed pigments are phycocyanin and phycoerythrin which are predominantly available in microalgae and red

#### 4.7. Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA)

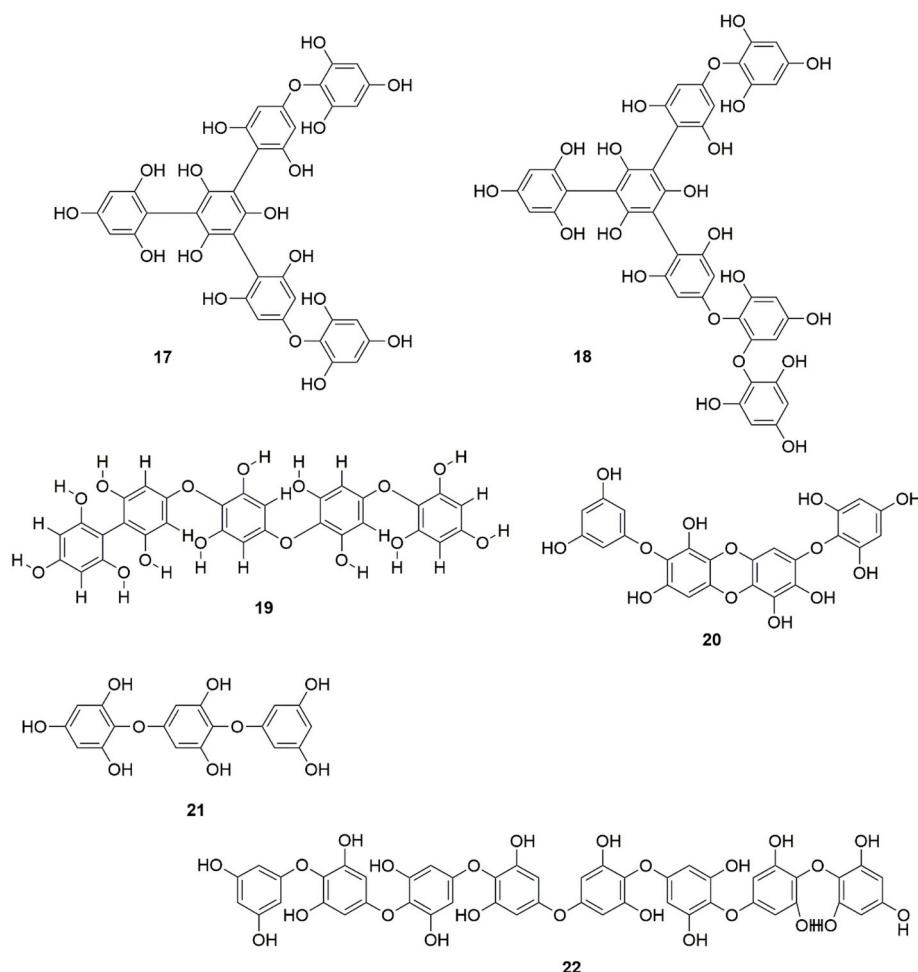
PUFA, consist of long hydrocarbon chains which terminate with hydroxyl groups. They are also commonly termed as long-chain PUFA (LC-PUFA). Depending on the position of the first carbon-carbon double bond ( $C=C$ ), it is classified into omega 3 or omega six fatty acids.



**Fig. 2A.** Chemical structures of biological active phlorotannins from seaweeds.

Alpha-linolenic acid (18 carbons and three double bonds), EPA (20 carbons and five double bonds) and DHA (22 carbons and six double bonds) are three main omega three fatty acids which play a crucial role in healthy human physiology (Rengasamy et al., 2014b). Among these, EPA and DHA are now gaining much attention from the marine functional food researchers due to their health beneficial effects including the reduction of the risk factors linked to fetal development, assisting visual and neurodevelopment, cardiovascular disorders, Alzheimer's disease hypertension, and improving conditions such as coronary artery

disease and arthritis (Swanson et al., 2012). Nearly half of the total fatty acid content in various seaweeds are comprised of EPA (C20:5, n-3) (Dawczynski et al., 2007; MURATA and Nakazoe, 2001). The other interesting point to note is that seaweeds are the only source for n-3 PUFA 18:4, n-3 (Rengasamy et al., 2014). Owing to the high concentrations of PUFA, especially omega three fatty acids, seaweeds are excellent candidates for the development of nutraceuticals/dietary supplements for human health.



**Fig. 2B.** Chemical structures of biological active phlorotannins from seaweeds.

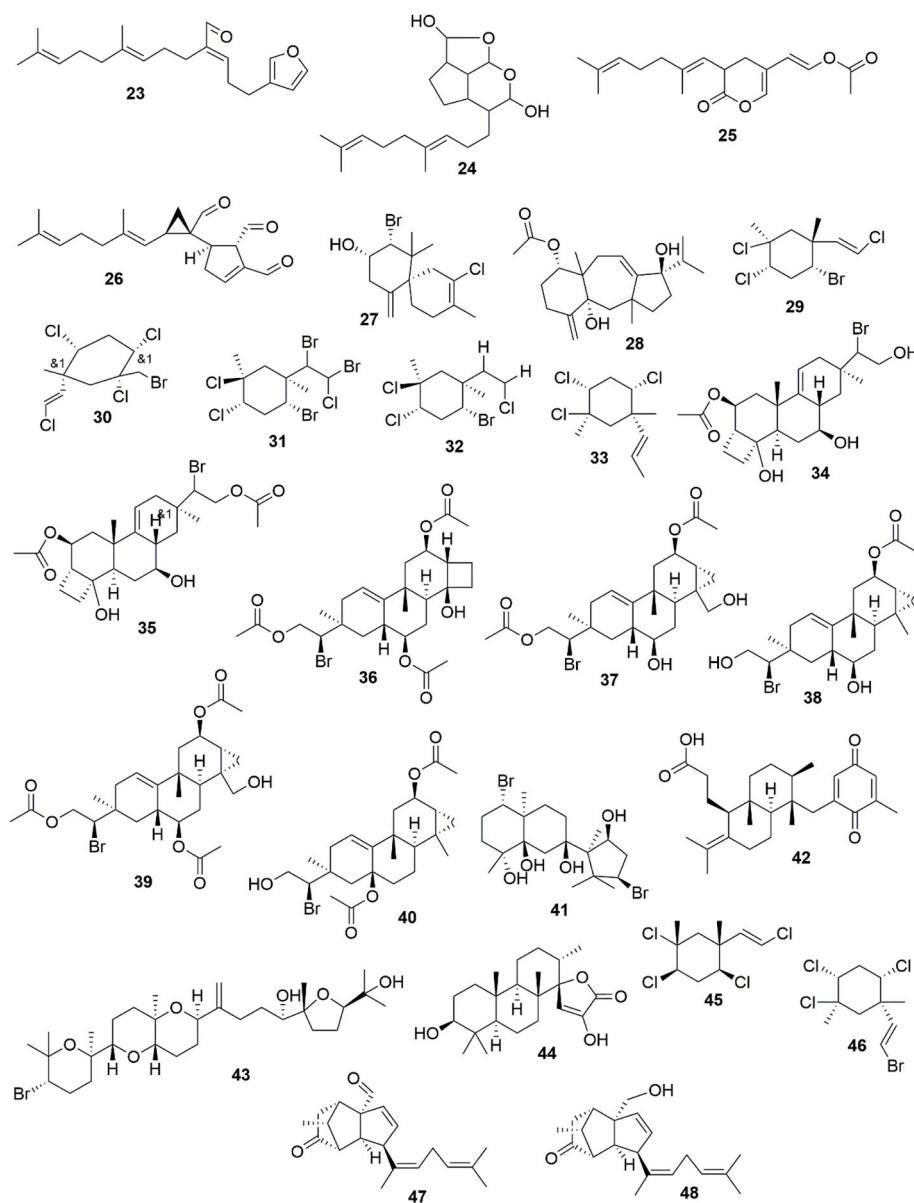
#### 4.8. Polyamines

Polyamines are low molecular weight water-soluble aliphatic compounds consists of two or more amino groups which are least studied bioactive natural compounds available in all the living organisms including bacteria, fungi, plants and mammalian cells. The first polyamine, spermine, was isolated from human semen in 1678. Three known vital polyamines were putrescine (1,4-butane diamine or tetramethylenediamine), spermidine ( $N$ -(3-aminopropyl)-1,4-butane diamine or aminopropyl-tetramethylenediamine), spermine ( $N$ ,  $N$ 0-bis(3-aminopropyl)-1,4-butane diamine or diaminopropyl-tetramethylenediamine) and agmatin, a polyamine derivative derived from arginine. Spermine and spermidine are reported to have anti-glycation effect, and it is well documented that glycation has an essential role in the genesis of diabetes complications (Gugliucci and Menini, 2003).

Polyamines are also reported to have various biological importance in cancer prevention, inflammation, and their role as antioxidants, anti-aging effect, and their effect on gut maturation (Larqué et al., 2007). Apart from human health benefits, polyamines also have a beneficial impact on plant growth and development. However, research on the discovery of polyamines from various natural resources, including seaweeds or marine macroalgae, is still in infancy stage.

#### 5. Safety and toxicity of seaweed compounds

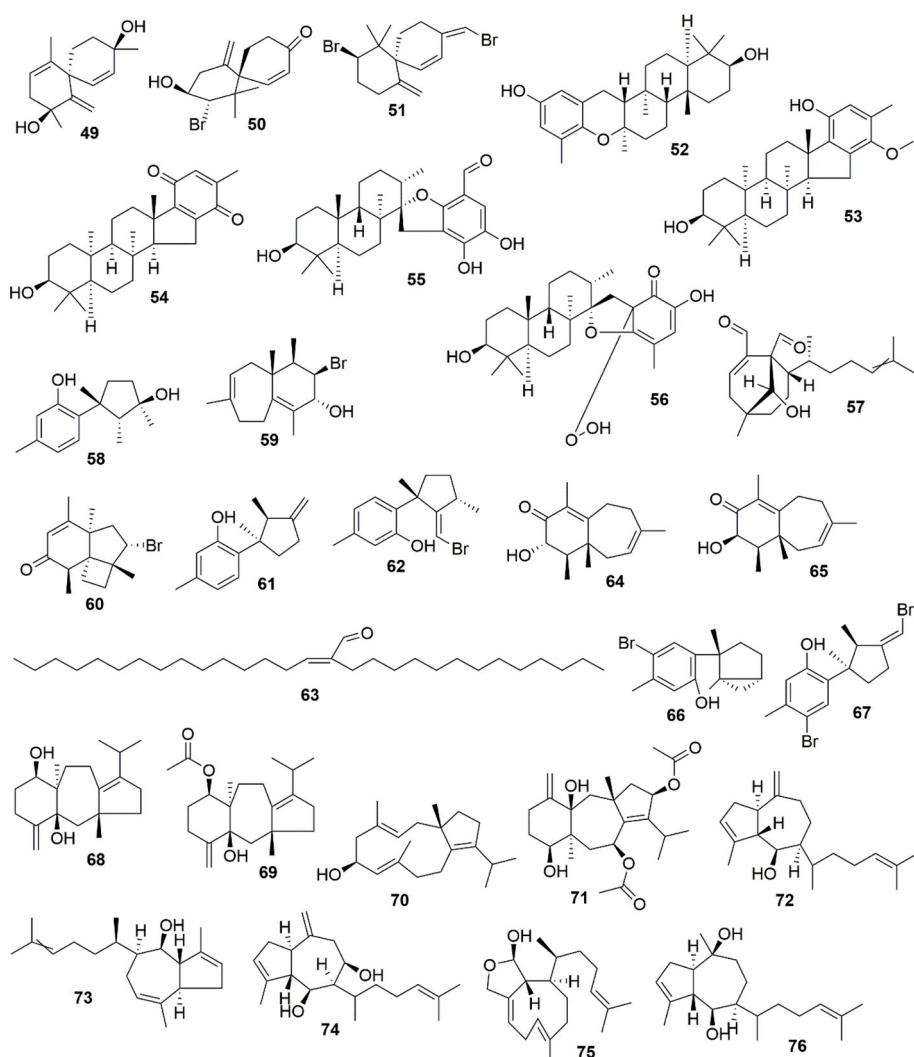
Although seaweeds have gained much interest in food industrial applications for their nutritive values, it is important to determine their toxicological profile for the safety of consumers. Few studies have probed into the safety profile of seaweeds compounds. For instance, the toxicity of fucoidan in Sprague-Dawley rats was tested by Kim et al.



**Fig. 3A.** Chemical structures of terpenoids from seaweeds.

(2010). Fucoidan (1350 mg/kg bw/day) for 4 weeks) did not cause significant differences in groups matched by gender with respect to body weight, ophthalmoscopy, urinalysis, hematology, and histopathology. Also, Fucoidan did not affect prothrombin time or activated partial thromboplastin time, which indicates an inability to change blood clotting. Moreover, Vidal et al. (1984) carried out toxicity studies on two metabolites present in *Caulerpa* species, caulerpin and caulerpicin, and demonstrated that these two substances are not toxic.

Food-grade carrageenan has also been shown to be relatively non-toxic by oral, dermal and inhalation routes of exposure in animal species, mutagenicity studies and reproductive toxicity studies (Weiner, 1991). It is also important to point out that many bioactive compounds, especially the terpenoids, have not been tested in toxicological studies. Considering the fact that some of these compounds are known to possess insecticidal properties such as mertensene, violaceine (Argandona et al., 2000), telfairine (Watanabe et al., 1989), aplysiaterpenoid A



**Fig. 3B.** Chemical structures of terpenoids from seaweeds.

(Watanabe et al., 1990), elatol (Bianco et al., 2013), it is necessary that future studies aim to determine their safety profile *in vitro* and on animal species.

## 6. Concluding remarks and future prospects

Marine macroalgae or seaweeds are considered as one among the economically important biological resources which offer an extensive assortment of phytonutrients and phytochemicals comprising of vitamins, proteins, micro and macro elements, poly- and oligosaccharides, polyunsaturated fatty acids, terpenoids, alkaloids, polyphenols especially phlorotannins and polyamines with potential pharmacological properties. Among these bioactive compounds, research on alkaloids

and polyamines still in infancy stage; it might be due to inadequate knowledge on isolation and structural chemistry with seaweed biologist. Recent evidences suggest that dietary polyamines not only possess health benefits but also possess significant role in plant growth and development, nonetheless, not much information is available on seaweed polyamines. Marine algae have been frequently reported for their potential as enzyme inhibitors against various health illness including cancer, diabetes, inflammation, gout, dementia, and others (Rengasamy et al., 2014). Therefore, it is necessary to initiate algal drug discovery research platform to focus on enzyme inhibitors which is now a hot topic of research among both the natural product chemists as well as commercial drug market.

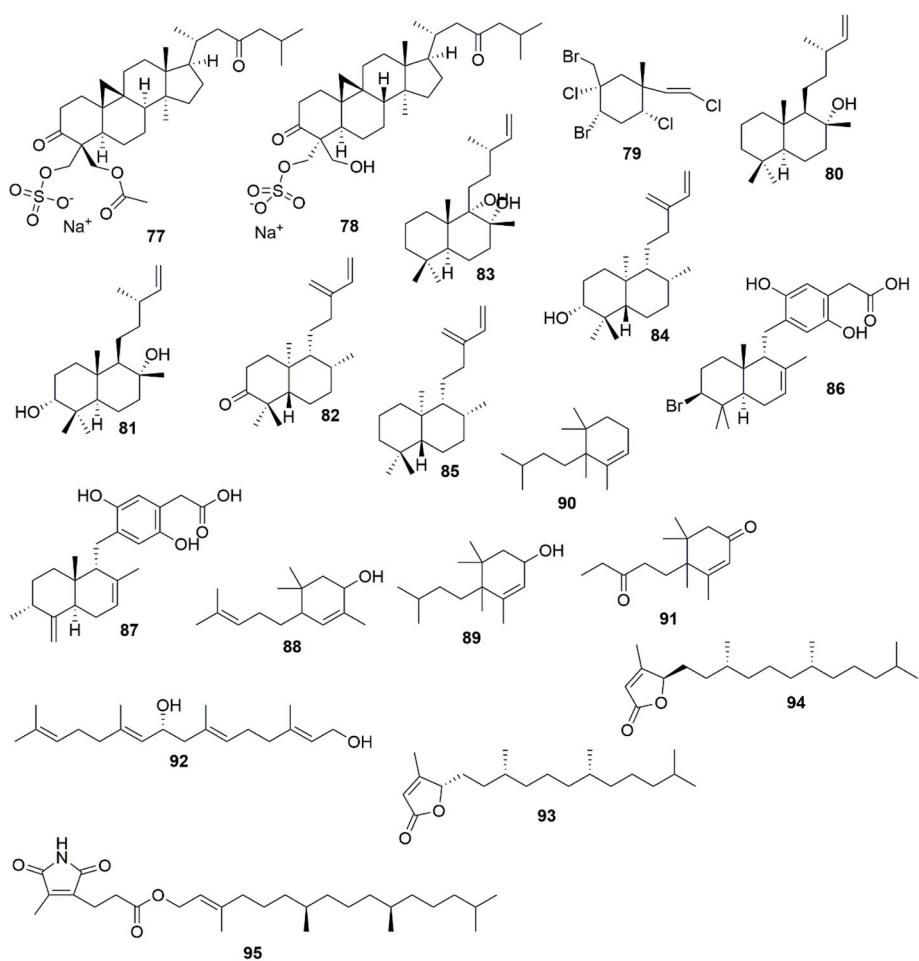


Fig. 3C. Chemical structures of terpenoids from seaweeds.

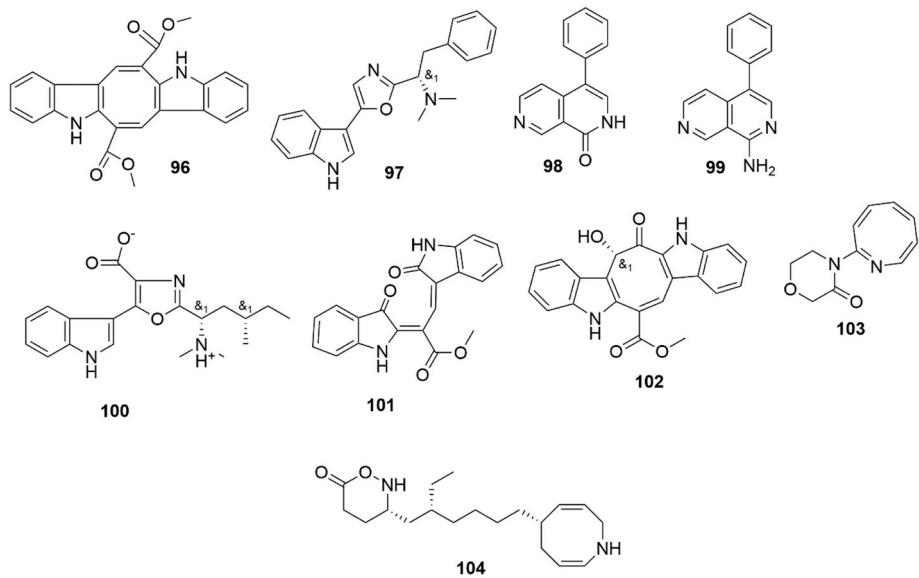
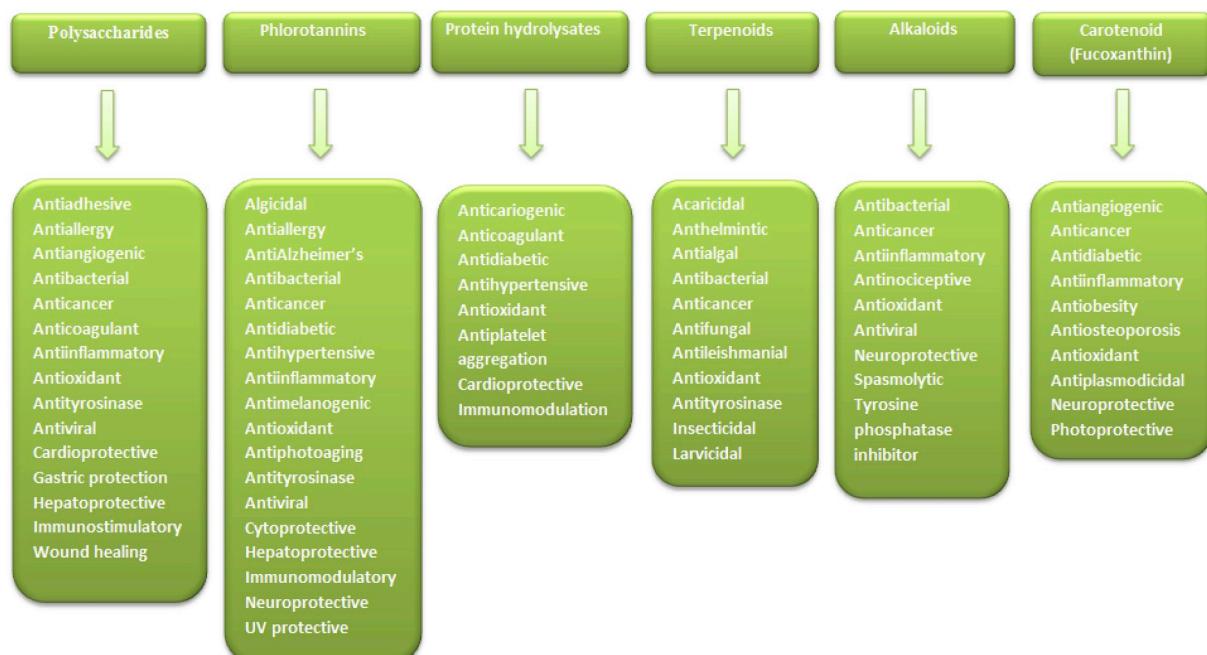


Fig. 4. Chemical structures of alkaloids from seaweeds.



**Fig. 5.** Biological properties of different classes of seaweed compounds.

## Author contributions

K.R.R.R and M.F conceptualized the study. K.R.R.R, M.F and MZA conducted the literature collection, and prepared the first draft. All authors were involved in improving and polishing the manuscript.

## Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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