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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

ON SOME METABOLITES OF MEDICINAL PLANTS

BY

(C)

GERTRUDE CHISOSWA KASITU

A THESIS

**SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN
PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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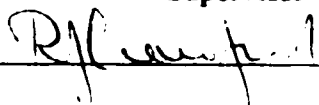
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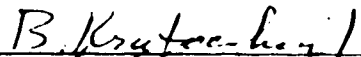
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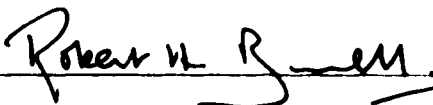
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ABSTRACT

Chemical studies on four medicinally important plants, *Lycopodium obscurum* L., *Mentha arvensis* L., *Geranium viscosissimum* Fisch. and Meg., and *Eriogonum umbellatum* Torr. have been carried out.

The minor alkaloids of the basic extract of *L. obscurum* have been investigated. Twenty alkaloids have been isolated. These include the previously reported bases, lycopodine (6a), clavolonine (6b), flabelliformine (6c), dihydrolycopodine (7a), acetyldihydrolycopodine (7b), β -lofoline (7c), lycofoline (8), lycodine (10), flabellidine (11), and des-N-methyl- α -obscurine (12c), as well as an unidentified alkaloid 53. The first part of this thesis describes the chemical and physical methods employed in the structural elucidation of nine new bases: des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (12d), obscurinine (13), iso-obscurinine (14), lobscurinol (27), epilobscurinol (29), acetyllobscurinol (30), hydroxypropyllycodine (36), lyconnotinol (38), and acrifolinol (43). The structural elucidation of an unidentified base designated L17 (47) previously isolated from *L. obscurum* is also discussed.

It is proposed that obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14) are artefacts derived by addition of ammonia to appropriate precursors. Evidence in support of this hypothesis is presented. Hydroxypropyllycodine (36) is the first encountered *Lycopodium* alkaloid with a nineteen carbon skeleton and is biogenetically interesting. A possible biogenesis of hydroxypropyllycodine is discussed.

In Canadian native medicine, *M. arvensis* is used to treat various illnesses including heart diseases and *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* are used in the treatment of infectious diseases. The chemical investigation of these plants including biological screening studies of the latter two species are presented in the second part of this thesis.

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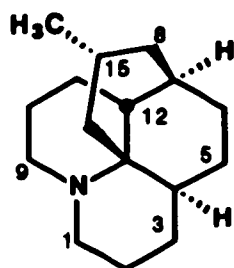
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I. Introduction.

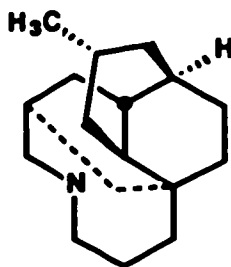
Lycopodium alkaloids have a long history dating back to 1881 when the first alkaloid, presumably lycopodine, was isolated from *Lycopodium complanatum*¹. The presence of alkaloids in the order Lycopodiales is quite general. Alkaloids have been detected and isolated in all *Lycopodium* species studied to the present time. These alkaloids have been well reviewed^{2,3}. The most recent review covers literature to the beginning of 1985^{3c}. It has been noted that about 10% of the *Lycopodium* species have been studied and over 100 alkaloids distributed among approximately 22 skeletal types are known. Since 1985 a few new alkaloids have been added to the previous list. The *Lycopodium* alkaloid skeleton types may be categorized into four groups: the C₁₆N group, the C₁₆N₂ group, the C₂₇N₃ group, and a group of alkaloids with other than 16 or 27 carbon atoms. These groups are shown in table 1. Early work in these laboratories contributed to the structure elucidation of many of the known alkaloids. Our renewed interest in the *Lycopodium* alkaloids was stimulated by a recent report on the use of *Lycopodium* alkaloids in treating Alzheimer's disease (AD).

Alzheimer's disease is a neurological disorder which affects cholinergic neurons^{6,7}. The major symptoms of the disease are memory loss, disorientation, and deterioration of intellectual ability. The disease is common among the elderly, but the symptoms are not limited to the aged. There is no positive clinical test for Alzheimer's disease and, to date, diagnosis has relied upon direct comparison at autopsy of brain tissue from normal individuals with that of patients with Alzheimer's disease. It has been observed that the activities of two enzymes, cholineacetyltransferase (ChAT) and acetylcholinesterase (AChE) are greatly reduced in an Alzheimer's brain. ChAT catalyses the synthesis of acetylcholine and is found only within neurons which use acetylcholine

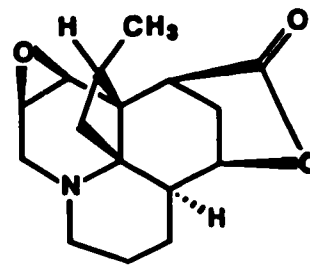
Table 1 $C_{15}N$ Skeletons :



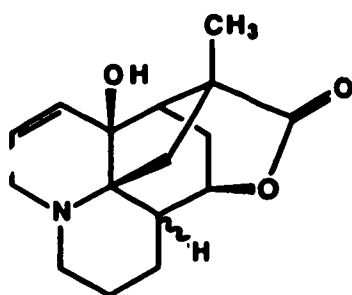
Lycopodane



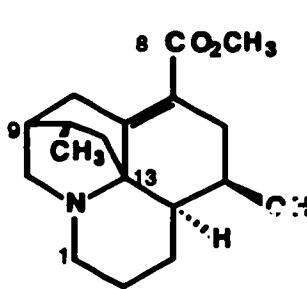
Alopecurane



Annotinine



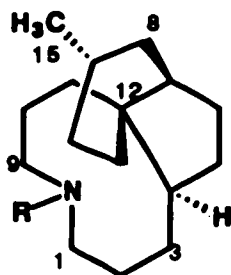
Annotine



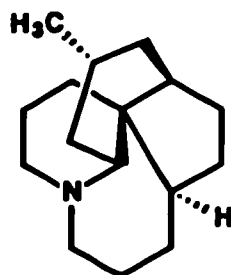
Annopodine



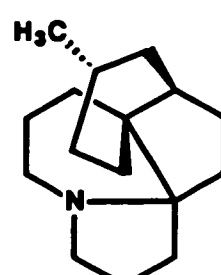
Lyconnotene



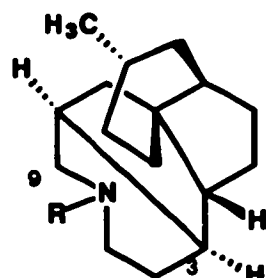
Fawcettimane



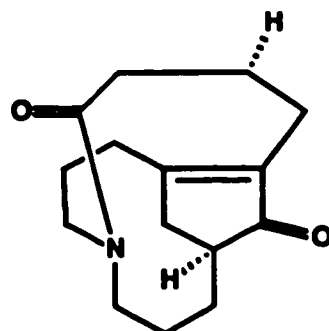
Fawcettidane



Serratinane

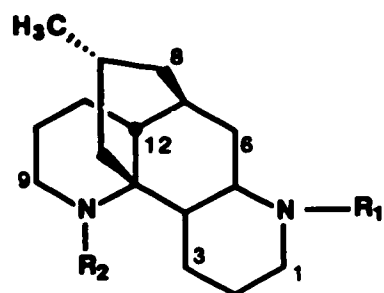


Magellanane

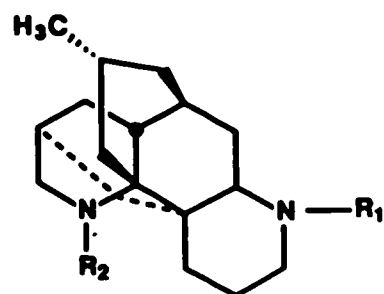
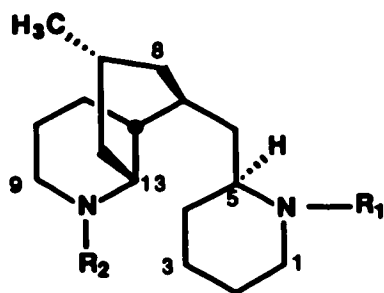


Phlegmariurine⁴

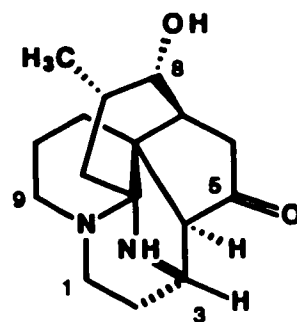
Table 1 cont.

 $C_{16}N_2$ Skeletons :

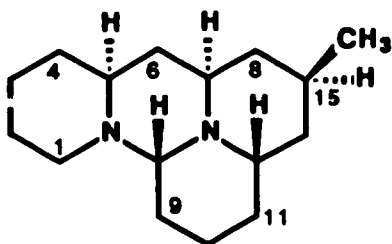
Flabellidane

Fastigatane⁵

Phlegmarane

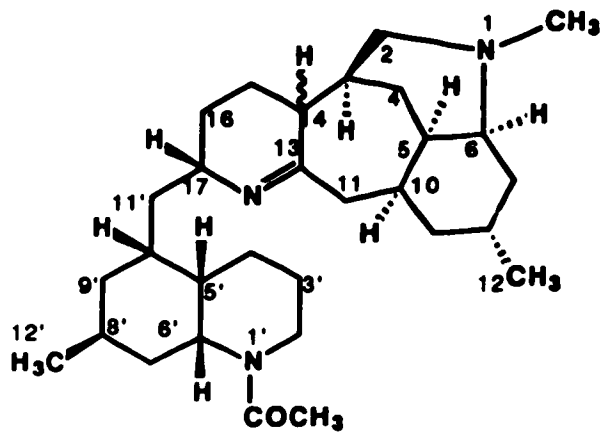


Base R

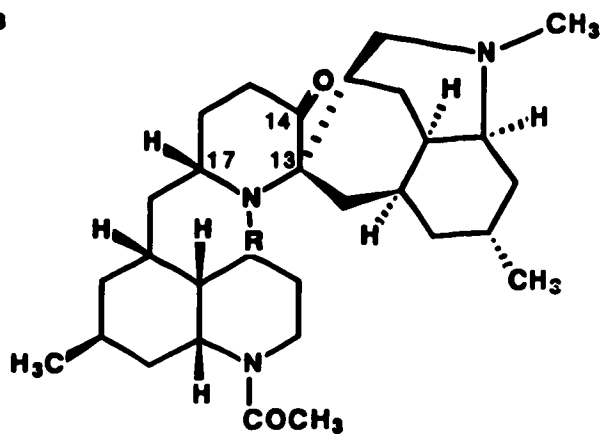


Cernuane

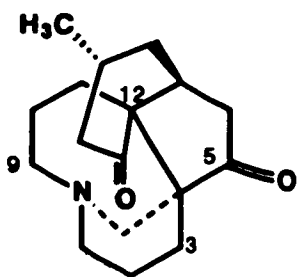
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 $C_{27}N$ Skeletons :

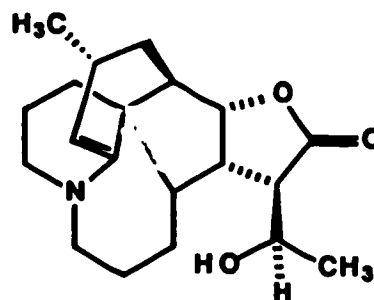
Lucidine



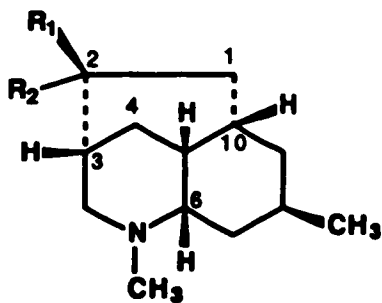
Spirolucidine, R = H

Skeletons other than C_{16} or C_{27} :

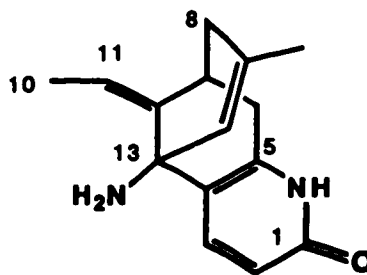
Lycoflexine



Magastachine



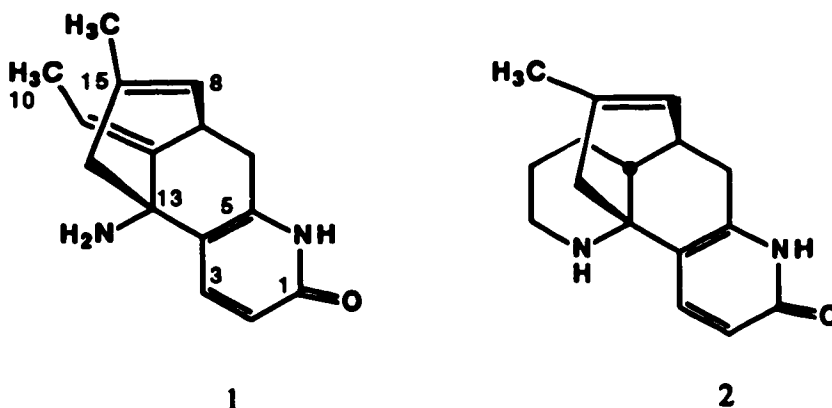
Lucidulane



Selagine

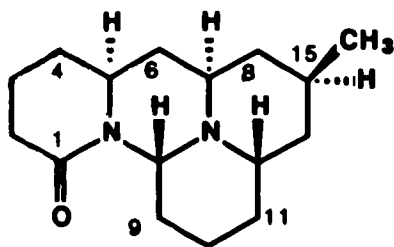
as their neurotransmitter. AChE is heavily concentrated in neurons using acetylcholine but it is also found in some other cells. Although the pathogenesis of AD is not known, it is now well documented that acetylcholine is markedly deficient in brains of patients with AD.

To date, there is no cure for AD. A possible therapy is to restore acetylcholine levels. Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors such as physostigmane (eserine), tranquilizers, and vasodilators are used for symptomatic relief. On the other hand Chinese traditional medicine uses *Lycopodium serratum* Thunb to treat AD. Recently, a chemical investigation of *L. serratum* led to the isolation of the alkaloids huperzine A (1) and B (2)⁸. Huperzine A and B exhibit anticholinesterase activity in pharmacologic studies⁹. The use of huperzine A in the treatment of myasthenia gravis, Alzheimer's dementia and for the improvement of senile memory loss is currently under clinical investigation. Another report of the use of a *Lycopodium* plant in AD-related disorder dates back to the late 1940's, when the powdered plant of *L. selago* was used as a substitute for pilocarpine and eserine in glaucoma¹⁰.

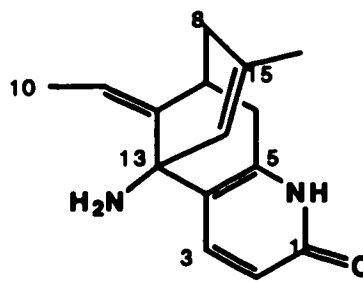


The activities of huperzine A and B in treating AD prompted us to conduct *in vitro* bioassays using samples from the large collection of *Lycopodium* alkaloids available to

us. At the present time *in vitro* bioassays to correlate Lycopodium alkaloid skeletal type to cholinergic activity are in progress in our laboratories. Of the several alkaloids tested, cernuine (3) (*L. cernuum*) and selagine (4) (*L. selago*), present in the crude base extract of *L. selago*, represent two of the more active cholinesterase inhibitors *in vitro*. *In vivo* bioassays with these alkaloids are currently under investigation. These findings have stimulated our interest in the minor alkaloids of *L. obscurum*, since this plant contains alkaloids with a skeleton (flabellidane) similar to that of the huperzines. Early studies by Manske and Marion¹¹ and in these laboratories¹² had revealed *L. obscurum* to be a rich source of Lycopodium alkaloids of the flabellidane class. Previous studies on *L. obscurum* were not extensive. Only 8 alkaloids were reported. These include: lycopodine (6a), annotinine (9), lycodine (10), a molecular complex of α - and β -obscurine (12a and 12b), and three alkaloids designated L13, L16, and L17. The first part of this thesis discusses results of the chemical investigation of the minor alkaloids of *L. obscurum*.



3

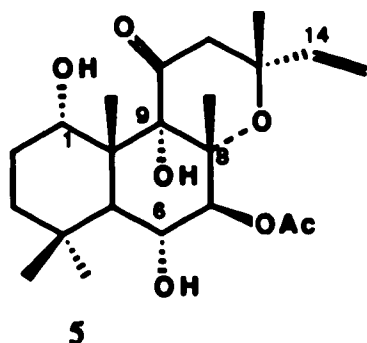


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In the second part of this thesis, results of the chemical investigation of three plants, *Mentha arvensis var* (Labiatae), *Geranium viscosissimum*, and *Eriogonum umbellatum* (Polygonaceae) are discussed. These plants are indigenous to Canada and

have been used in traditional medicine by Canadian native indians to treat various ailments. We were interested in studying the active principles of these plants.

In the first study, *M. arvensis*, a plant used to treat various ailments including heart diseases¹³ was investigated. Our interest in this plant was stimulated by its use in treating heart diseases coupled with the observation that *Coleus forskohlii* Briq (Labiatae), which belongs to the same family as *M. arvensis*, is a rich source of diterpenes including forskolin (5)¹⁴. Forskolin is a novel ionotropic and blood pressure lowering agent¹⁵. Extracts of *M. arvensis* were initially screened for the presence of forskolin.



In another study several plants which are used by native indians to treat infected sores, swelling, coughs, colds, etc., were extracted and the extracts were tested for antibacterial properties. Extracts which showed significant activities were investigated chemically to identify the active principles. *Geranium viscosissimum*, used for treating colds and headaches^{13a}, and *Eriogonum umbellatum*, used for treating sores and inflammation^{13a}, are two such plants which showed significant activities against a variety of bacteria. In this thesis we report the isolation and identification of several metabolites of these plants including the biologically active components.

II. *Lycopodium obscurum*.

Recent indications that *Lycopodium* alkaloids may be useful in treating Alzheimer's disease(AD) have led us to reexamine the minor alkaloids of *L. obscurum*.

In 1944 Marion and Manske examined the basic extract of *L. obscurum* var *dedroideum* (Michx)¹¹ and reported the isolation of lycopodine (6a), a molecular complex of α - and β -obscurine (12a and 12b), and three unidentified alkaloids designated L13, L16, and L17. The structures of α - and β -obscurine were determined during the 1960's in these laboratories¹⁶, while L13 has been shown to be identical with lycopodine (6a)¹⁷. We have recently undertaken studies of L16 and L17 obtained from Marion and Manske's collection. Preliminary examination of alkaloid L16 revealed it to be a mixture of three alkaloids of molecular formulas* $C_{16}H_{25}N$ (231), $C_{16}H_{23}NO$ (245), and $C_{16}H_{25}NO$ (247). Due to the limited sample no attempt was made to isolate the component bases of L16. The structure of L17 is discussed later in this thesis. In 1960 the basic extract of *L. obscurum* L. was examined in these laboratories¹². Lycopodine (6a), lycodine (10), annotinine (9), and several other carbonyl containing compounds were isolated and reported.

We began the reexamination of the alkaloids present in *L. obscurum* by comparing samples of *L. obscurum* from eastern (New Brunswick) and western (Alberta) Canada using gas-chromatography / mass-spectrometry (gc / ms) according to the method of MacLean¹⁸. This method provides a quick means of identifying alkaloids by molecular ion and fragmentation patterns, since much of the necessary information is available in the literature. Table 2 shows the gc / ms retention indices, which are directly proportional to the retention times over a 20 minute period for a standard solution of

* Data from gc / ms.

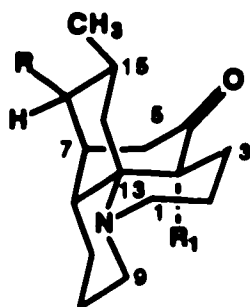
by molecular ion and fragmentation patterns, since much of the necessary information is available in the literature. Table 2 shows the gc / ms retention indices, which are directly proportional to the retention times over a 20 minute period for a standard solution of known Lycopodium alkaloids. The gc / ms traces for the crude alkaloid mixture from *L. obscurum* are shown in figures 1 (New Brunswick) and 2 (Alberta). The gc / ms traces show that the alkaloid content of *L. obscurum* from eastern and western Canada is very similar: lycopodine (6a) is the major alkaloid followed by clavolonine (6b) in each sample. There is a slight variation in composition and quantity of the minor alkaloids. Since the sample of crude bases for *L. obscurum* from eastern Canada was small, no attempt was made to isolate and identify the minor bases from this sample. The chemical investigation on the sample of *L. obscurum* from western Canada is described below.

Preliminary chromatography of the crude basic extract of *L. obscurum* from Alberta partitioned the bases into least polar (highest Rf), medium polar, and more polar fractions. Examination of these fractions led to the isolation of twenty bases. Ten of the bases isolated from the medium polar fractions are known compounds. These include: lycopodine (6a), clavolonine (6b), flabelliformine (6c), dihydrolycopodine (7a), acetyldihydrolycopodine (7b), β -lofoline (7c), lycofoline (8), lycodine (10), flabellidine (11), and des-N-methyl- α -obscurine (12a). The structures of these alkaloids were assigned on the basis of physical and spectral data, which was compared with literature data and data for authentic samples (see Experimental for the isolation procedure and spectral data).

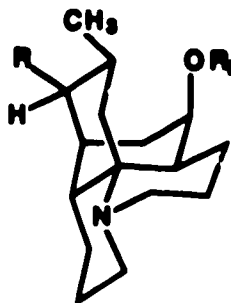
Chromatographic separation of the least polar fractions afforded four new alkaloids (13, 14, 30, and 36), while the more polar fractions afforded six new bases (12d, 27, 29, 38, 43, and 53). The structure of each new compound has been determined except for base 53, which is currently under investigation in this laboratory.

Table 2 GC/MS for authentic samples of Lycopodium alkaloids.

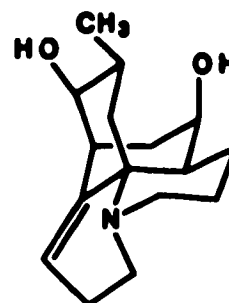
	Relative retention index	M⁺	Alkaloid identity
1	68	242	lycodine
2	124	249	dihydrolycopodine
3	134	247	lycopodine
4	160	261	acrifoline
5	178	263	flabelliformine
6	186	261	serratidine
7	276	303	O-acetylacrifoline
8	313	260	des-N-methyl- α -obscurine
9	330	307	α -lofoline
10	354	274	α -obscurine



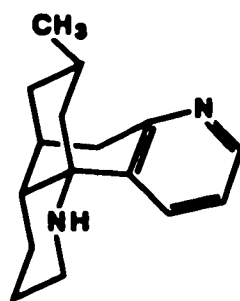
6a $R = R_1 = H$
 6b $R = OH, R_1 = H$
 6c $R = H, R_1 = OH$



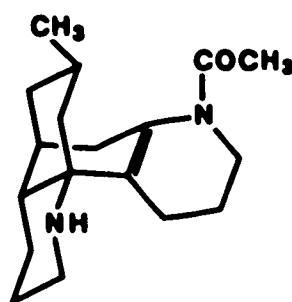
7a $R = R_1 = H$
 7b $R = H, R_1 = Ac$
 7c $R = OH, R_1 = Ac$



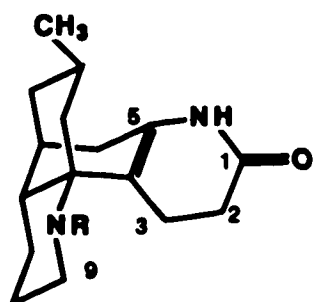
8



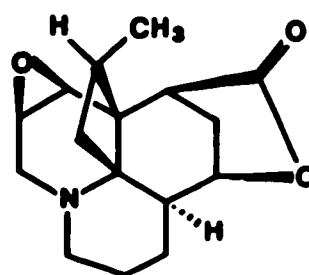
10



11



12a $R = CH_3$
 12b $R = CH_3, \Delta^{2,3}$
 12c $R = H$
 12d $R = H, \Delta^{2,3}$



9

Bases 13 and 14, identified as obscurinine* and iso-obscurinine, respectively are isomeric. The molecular formula for each base ($C_{17}H_{24}N_2$, 272) was determined by high resolution electron impact mass spectrometry (hreims). Chemical ionization mass spectrometry (cims) confirmed the molecular weight.

The major isomer, obscurinine (13), on tlc has a higher R_f than lycopodine (6a). Base 13 crystallizes by evaporation from acetone / Skellysolve B as off white plates, mp 128-130°C, which are optically active. The Fourier transform infrared (ftir)²⁰ and ^{13}C nuclear magnetic resonance (nmr)²¹ indicate a cyclopentanone (ftir: 1731 cm^{-1} ; nmr: $\delta 220.3$ (s)). In addition to the ketone group ($\delta 220.3$), the ^{13}C nmr spectrum shows three other sp^2 hybridised carbons ($\delta 175.6$ (s), 146.7 (s), and 119.1 (d)). Since there is only one oxygen in the molecular formula, the carbon-13 signal ($\delta 175.6$) is assigned to an imine group. The ultraviolet (uv) absorption spectrum of base 13, λ_{max} nm (log ϵ): 233 (4.04) suggests the presence of an α , β -unsaturated imine²². Its ftir (1645 and 1601 cm^{-1}) supports the presence of this chromophore. Since the molecular formula shows seven sites of unsaturation, this indicates that obscurinine possesses a tetracyclic skeleton.

Data obtained from one dimensional (1D) and two dimensional (2D) 1H and ^{13}C nmr experiments with 13 was sufficient to complete the structural assignment for obscurinine.

In the 1D 1H nmr spectrum (table 3), the signal at $\delta 6.26$ is assigned to an olefinic hydrogen. There are two methyl groups in the molecule as evidenced by absorption at $\delta 2.29$ (3H, s) and 1.85 (3H, s) consistent with a methyl group attached to a nitrogen

* While our studies were underway Chandler *et al*¹⁹ published the isolation of base 13, which they named obscurinine. We retain the name obscurinine.

Table 3 ^1H nmr spectra of obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14)
(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.			
H	13	H	14
14	6.26, brs, $W_{1/2}=5$	8	5.54, brs, $W_{1/2}=10$
3 β	4.19, brs, $W_{1/2}=8$	3 β	4.21, brs, $W_{1/2}=7$
4 α	3.32, brs, $W_{1/2}=3$	4 α	3.81, brt, 3
8 α	2.66, brddq, 20, 7.5, 1	14a	3.00, brd, 19
1a	2.54, ddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3	14b	2.92, brd, 19
7 α	2.43, ddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3	7 α	2.67, brsext, 6
9a	2.29, ddd, 12, 4, 2	1	2.59, brddd, 14, 14, 3.5
6 α	2.25, ddd, 16.5, 7.5, 2	6 α	2.44, ddd, 18, 8, 2
17(3H)	2.20, s	9a	2.31, brddd, 12, 3, 3
11a	2.18, m	9b & 11a	2.27-2.11, m
9b	2.13, m	17(3H)	2.21, s
8 β	2.12, brd, 20	1b & 2a/b	2.04-1.82, m
2a	1.99, dddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3, 3		
6 β	1.97, dd, 16.5, 13.5	6 β	1.87, dd, 18, 12
2b	1.96, m		
1b	1.90, ddd, 13.5, 3, 3		
16(3H)	1.85, brs,	16(3H)	1.78, brs,
10a/b	1.55-1.40, m	10a/b	1.66-1.49
&11b		&11	

Table 4 ^{13}C nmr spectra of obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14) (CDCl_3 , 100.6 MHz).

C	Chemical shift in δ.	
	13	14
5	220.3 (s)	220.6 (s)
13	175.6 (s)	178.5 (s)
15	146.7 (s)	131.9 (s)
14	119.1 (d)	36.1 (t)
3	76.8 (d)	75.9 (d)
4	61.1 (d)	61.2 (d)
12	60.9 (s)	61.8 (s)
9	58.8 (t)	58.4 (t)
1	48.2 (t)	47.0 (t)
17	44.3 (q)	44.2 (q)
6	43.4 (t)	44.9 (t)
7	39.8 (d)	46.3 (d)
11	34.5 (t)	34.7 (t)
8	31.1 (t)	122.8 (d)
2	30.3 (t)	30.0 (t)
10	24.0 (t)	24.2 (t)
16	23.8 (q)	23.2 (q)

atom and an alkenic methyl group, respectively. There are no D₂O exchangeable hydrogens, thus the signal at δ 4.19 must be due to a hydrogen *geminal* to a nitrogen atom. The remainder of the hydrogen signals (table 3) account for all the remaining hydrogens in the molecular formula.

The 1D ¹³C attached proton test (APT) experiment (table 4) shows all the seventeen carbons and their multiplicities (11 quaternary / CH₂ signals and 6 inverted CH₃/ CH signals). A modified* ¹³C APT experiment, in which only quaternary carbons absorb, indicates that only four of the eleven quaternary / CH₂ signals are quaternary (δ 220.3, 175.6, 146.7, and 60.9). An unambiguous assignment was thus made for the signals at δ 60.9 (quaternary) and δ 58.8 (methylene). Since two methyl groups are observed in the ¹H nmr spectrum of obscurinine, four of the six CH₃ / CH signals must be due to methines (δ 119.1, 76.8, 61.1, and 39.8).

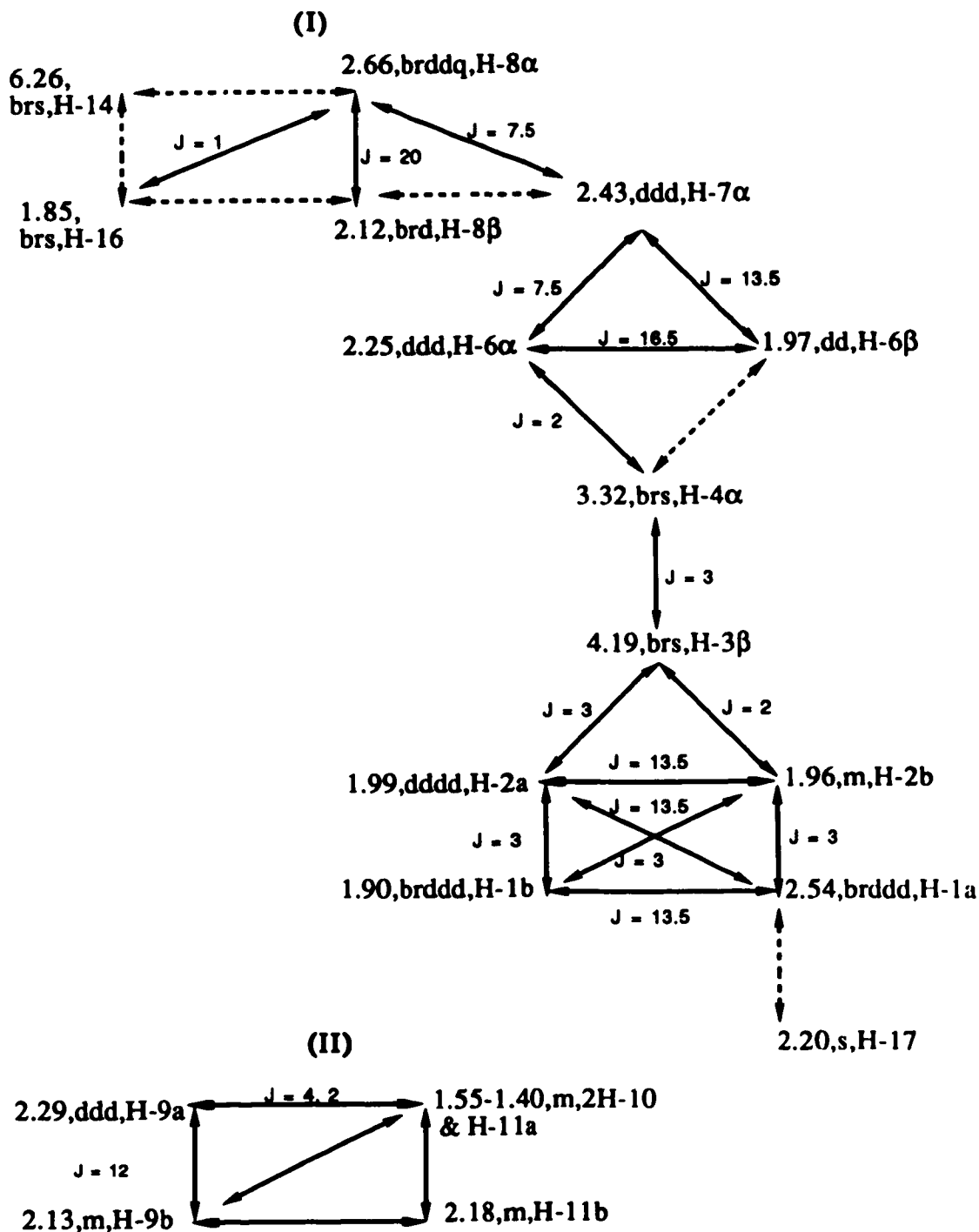
The 2D hydrogen homonuclear correlation experiment is very informative. Two isolated spin systems I and II (scheme 1) were discerned from analysis of the COSY 90 spectrum (figure 3). Scalar couplings between hydrogens is indicated by double headed arrows (broken arrows indicate small couplings not readily observed at the instrumental conditions). The olefinic hydrogen (δ 6.26) is coupled to the alkenic methyl (δ 1.85) and an allylic methylene (δ 2.66 and 2.12) groups. The methylene hydrogens are also coupled to the methyl group (δ 1.85) and to a methine hydrogen (δ 2.43), which is in turn coupled to a second methylene group (δ 2.25 and 1.97). The large magnitude of the *geminal* couplings ($J = 20$ and 16.5 Hz) observed for the former (δ 2.66 and 2.12) and latter (2.25 and 1.97) methylene group reflects their proximity to an sp² hybridised center²³: α to the carbon-carbon double bond and α to the carbonyl group, respectively. The methylene hydrogens (δ 2.25 and 1.97) are further coupled to a methine hydrogen

* The APT experiment was performed with variable delay of 0.007, half of the normal value.

(δ 3.32) by a W pathway through the ketone group. This is consistent with the small magnitude of couplings observed ($J = 2$ Hz for the hydrogen resonating at δ 2.25 and a smaller coupling, unobserved at the instrumental conditions, for its *geminal* partner (δ 1.97)). The methine hydrogen (δ 3.32) is also coupled to the methine hydrogen (δ 4.19), which is in turn coupled to a methylene group (δ 1.99 and 1.96), and so forth as summarized in spin system I. Partial structure A is consistent with this analysis.

The correlations outlined in spin system II are complicated somewhat by second order couplings. The hydrogen (δ 2.29, ddd, $J = 12, 4, 2$ Hz) is coupled to two hydrogens resonating in a multiplet (δ 1.55-1.40, 3H) and to a hydrogen whose signal is centered at *ca* δ 2.13 (see slice in the COSY 90 spectrum centered at δ 2.29, figure 4). Spin decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr spectrum of base 13 (table 4) indicate that the *geminal* partner to the hydrogen (δ 2.29) is the hydrogen which resonates at δ 2.13. Upon irradiation of the three hydrogen multiplet (δ 1.55-1.40), the hydrogen (δ 2.29, ddd, $J = 12, 4, 2$ Hz) collapses to a doublet ($J = 12$ Hz). Thus the three hydrogen multiplet is assigned to a *vicinal* methylene group and to a methylene hydrogen β to the methylene group (δ 2.29 and 2.13). The *geminal* partner to the β hydrogen resonates at *ca* δ 2.18. The analysis of spin system II suggests the presence of partial structure B. This partial structure is verified by a nuclear Overhauser exchange spectroscopy (NOESY) experiment (figure 5). The solid lines show through space dipolar couplings between the hydrogens. Couplings are observed between all the *geminal* pairs as shown in the expanded NOESY contour plot, figure 6.

The ^1H - ^{13}C heteronuclear correlation experiment (figure 7) reveals the carbon-hydrogen connectivities and confirms the ^{13}C APT experiment (table 4). Structure 13 was thus formulated for obscurinine.



Scheme 1. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of obscurinine (13).

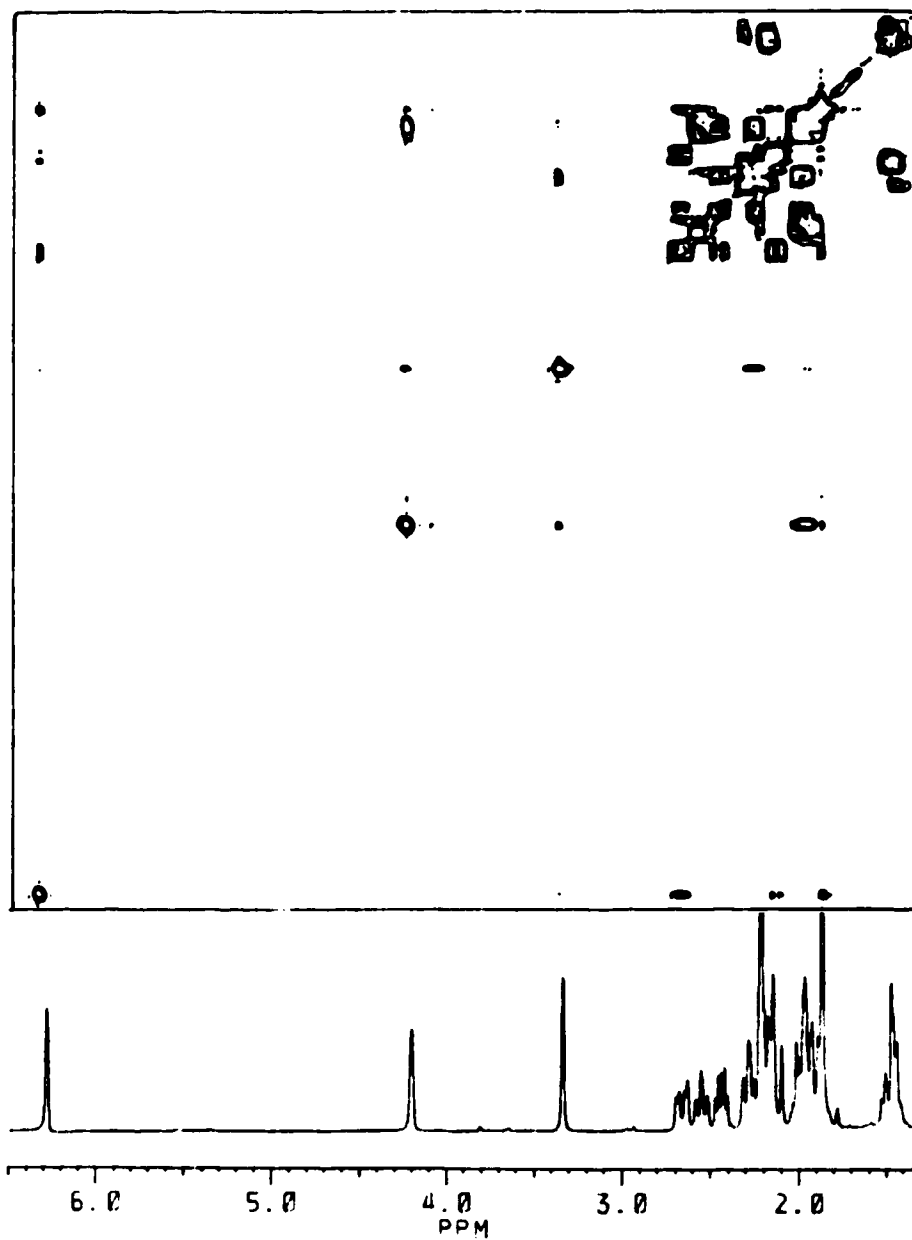
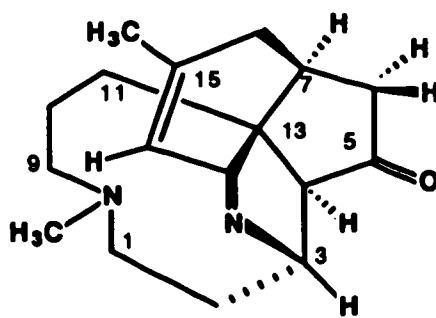
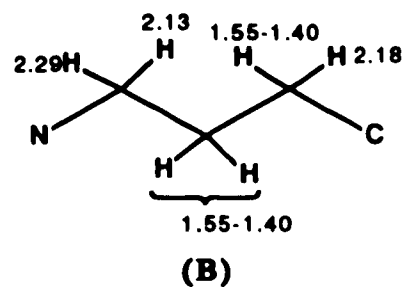
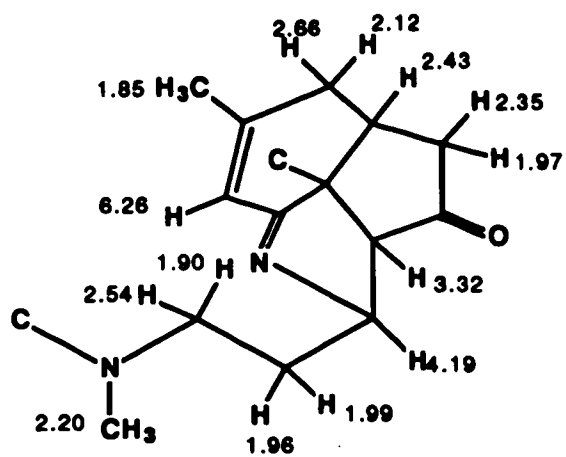


Figure 3. COSY 90 spectrum of obscurinine (13) (CDCl₃, 360 MHz).



13

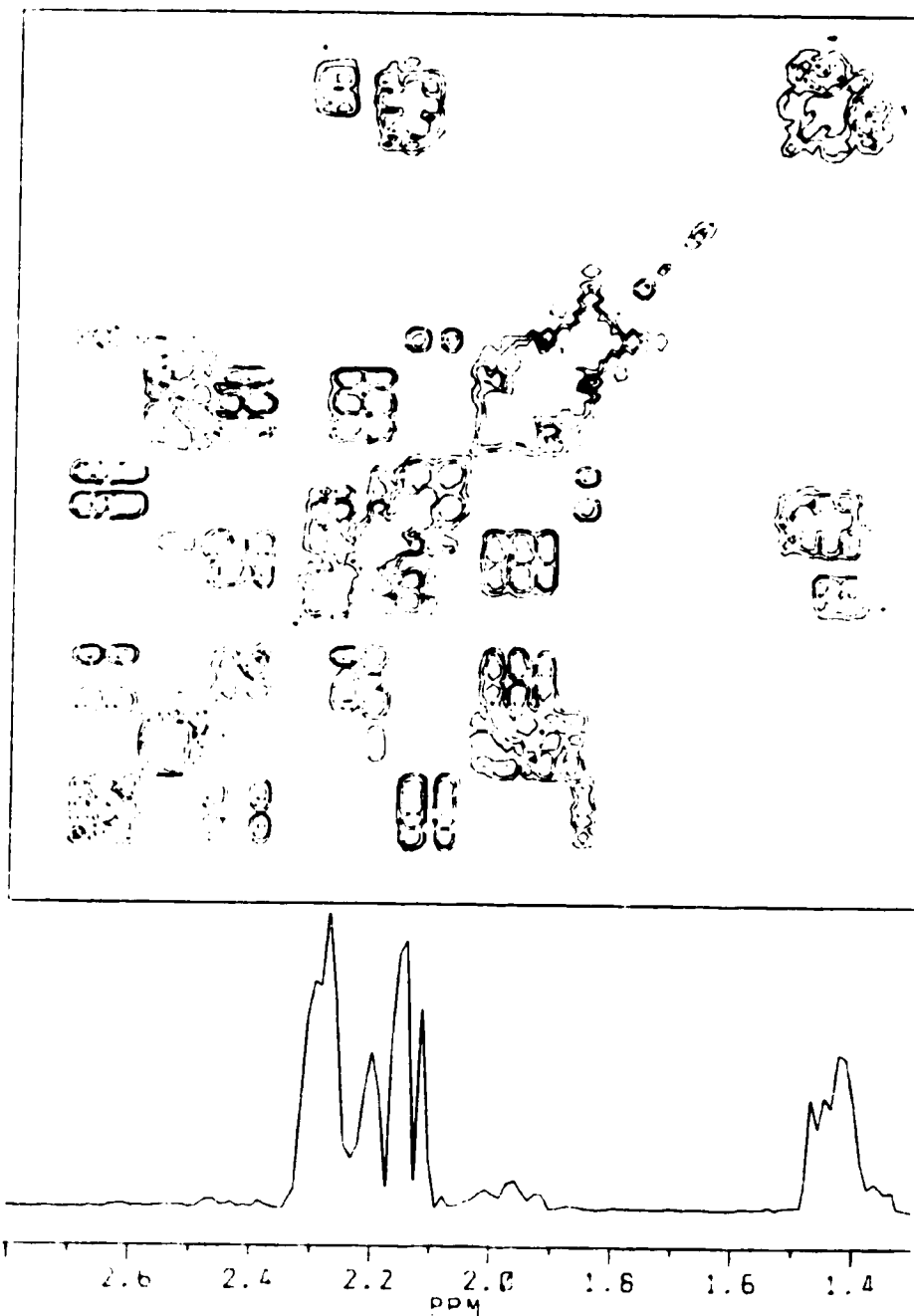


Figure 4. A slice centered at δ 2.29 from the COSY 90 spectrum of obscurinine (13) (CDCl₃, 360 MHz).

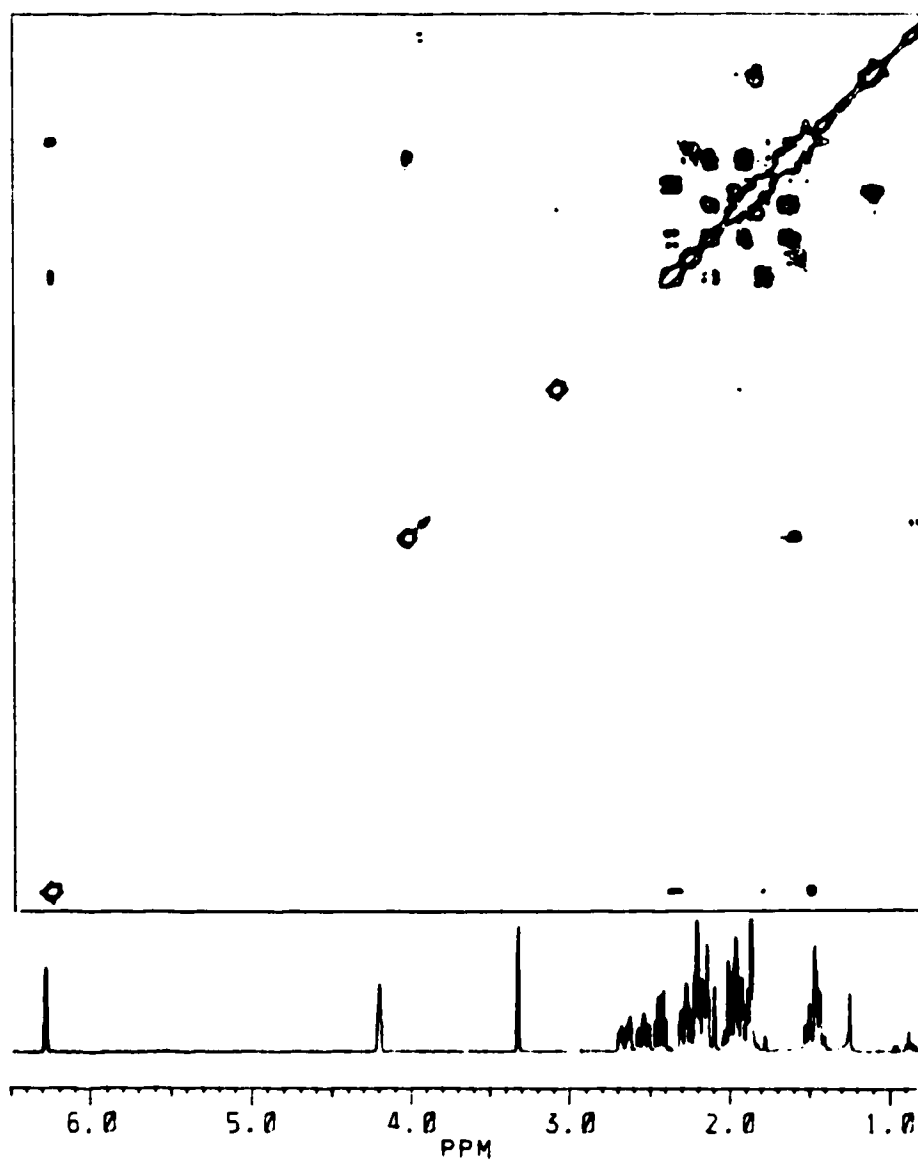


Figure 5. NOESY 45 spectrum of obscurinine (13) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

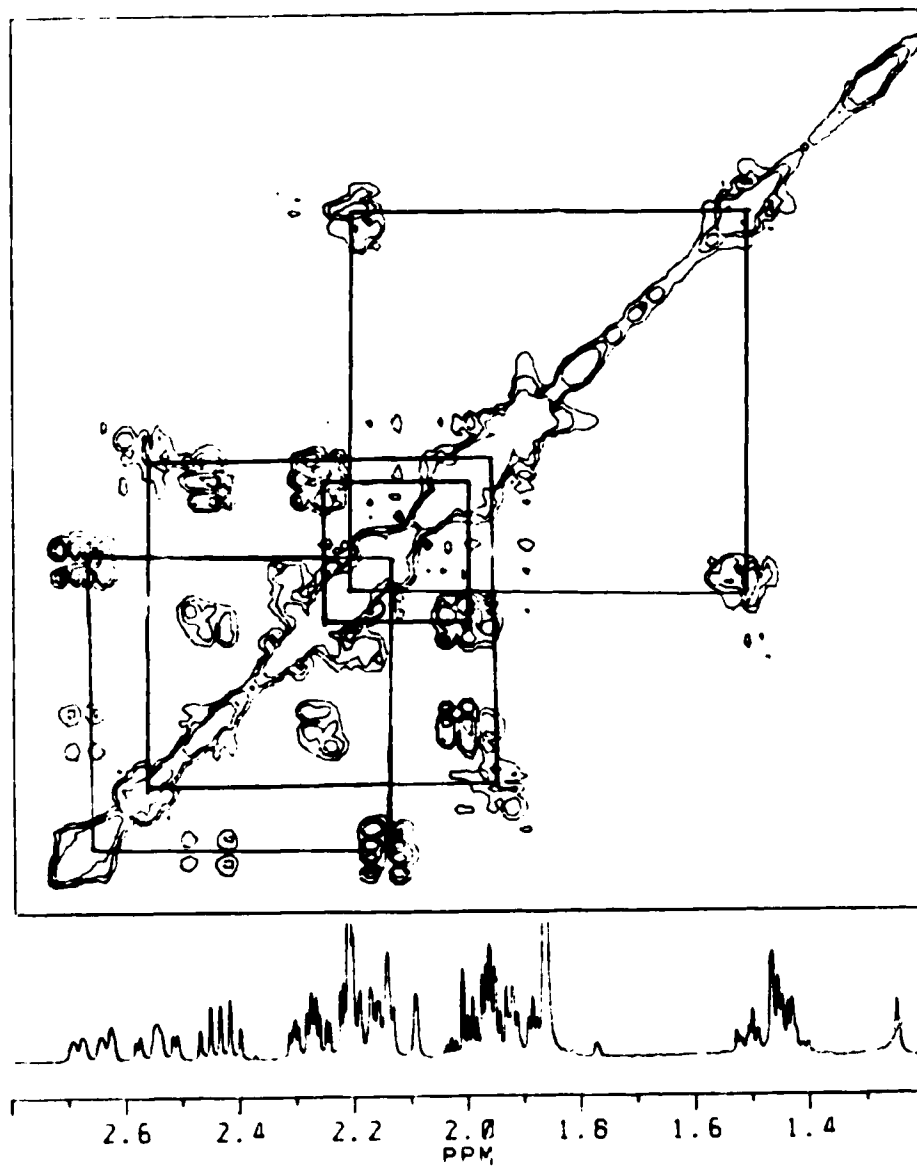


Figure 6. NOESY 45 expansion spectrum of obscurinine (13).

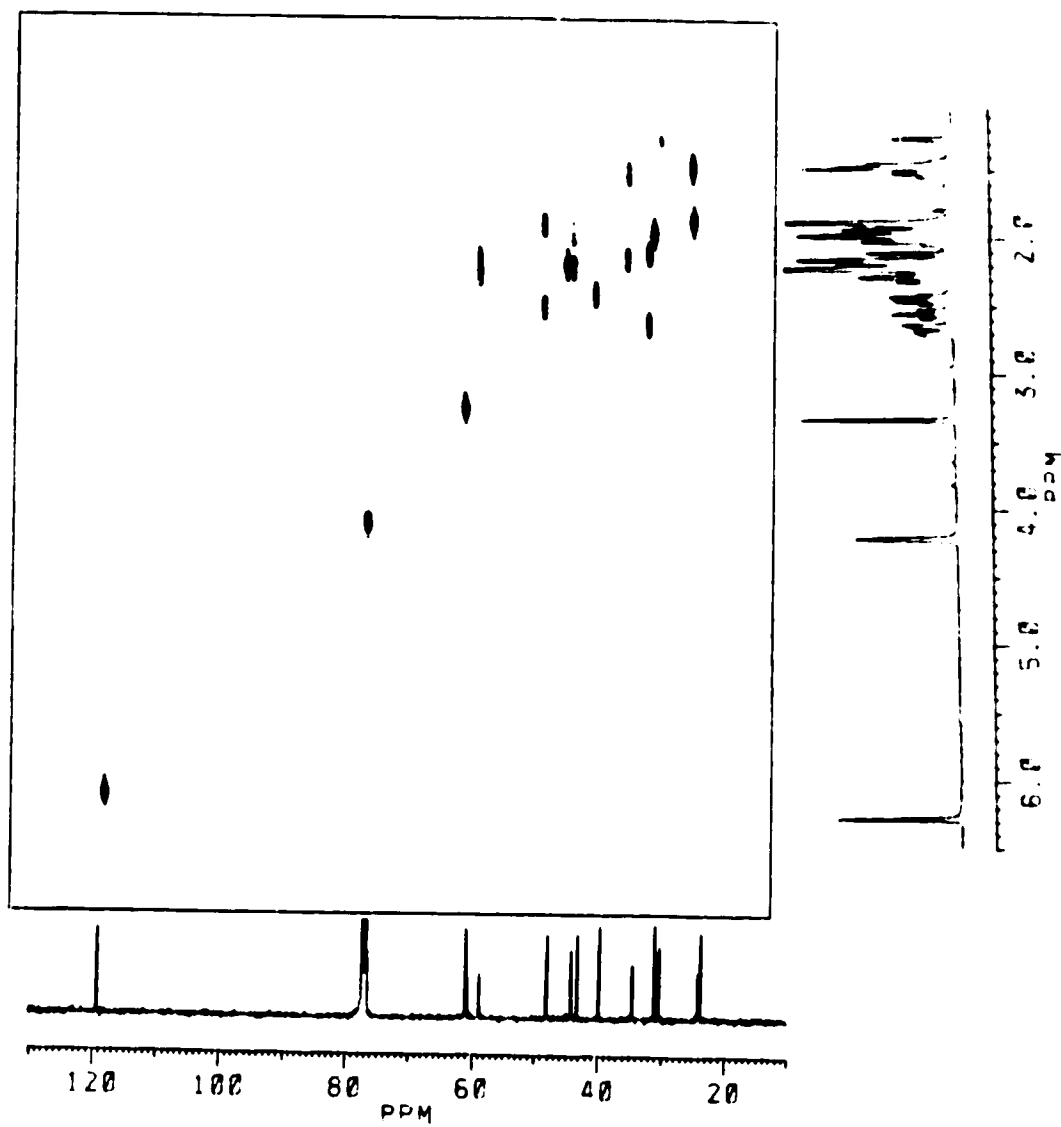
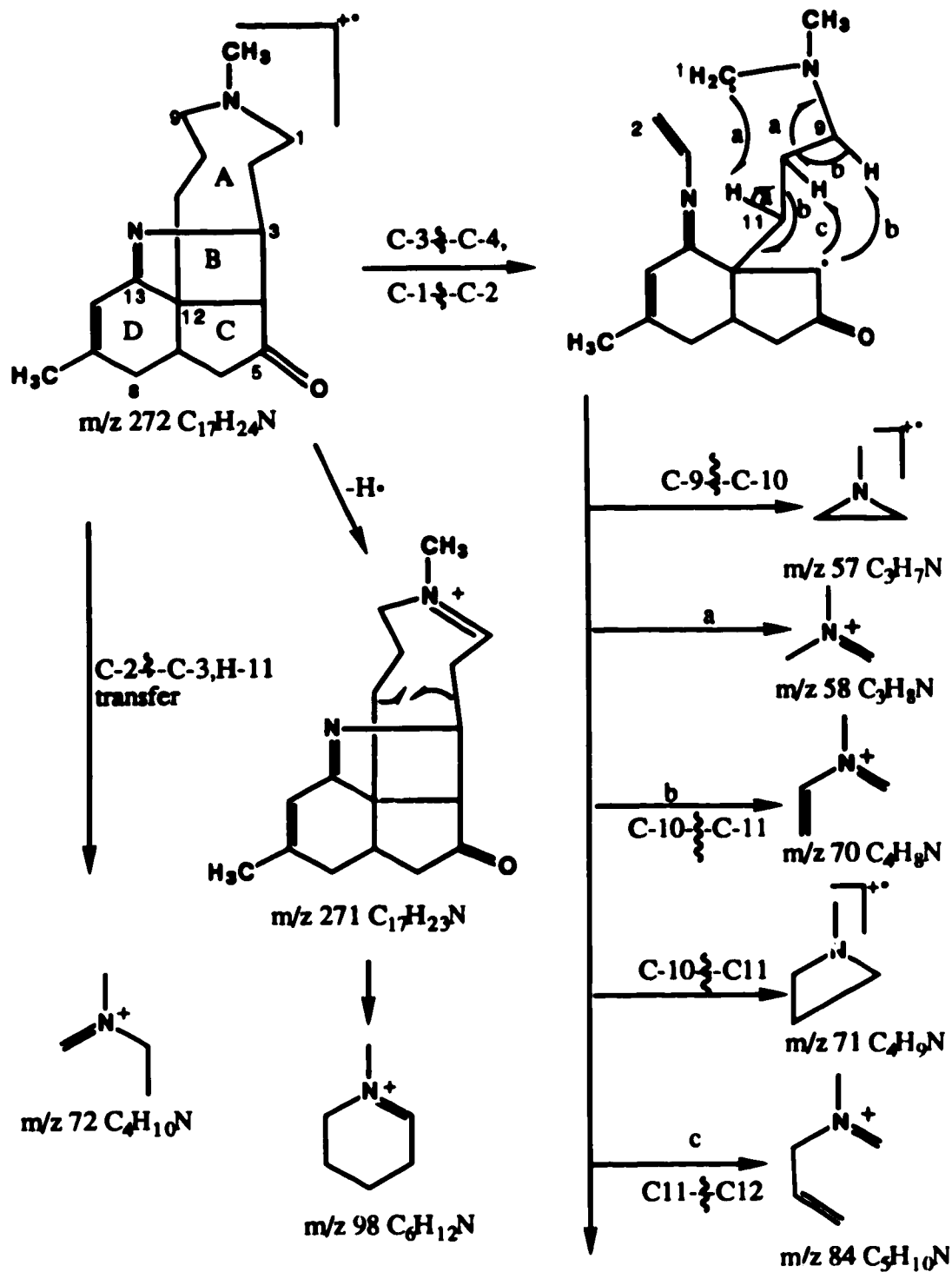


Figure 7. ^1H - ^{13}C COSY spectrum of obscurinine (13) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

The fragmentation pattern in the hreims of base 13 is consistent with the structure assigned to obscurinine. The parent ion (m/z 272) is the base peak. Most of the fragment ions contain one or both nitrogen atoms in the molecular formula. The high molecular weight ions in the hreims of base 13 arise from loss of: a methyl, a carbonyl, ketene, ring A nitrogen containing ions, as well as ions from a combination of the above fragments (see Experimental). The low molecular weight ions are consistent with the fragmentation pattern as shown in scheme 2.

The relative stereostructure for obscurinine was proposed on the basis of spin decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr (table 5) and in part by nuclear Overhauser (nOe) (table 6). The hydrogen at C-7 is α , *periplanar* to H-8 α , and *antiperiplanar* to H-6 β . Upon irradiation of H-7 α (δ 2.43, ddd, $J = 13.5, 7.5, 7.5$ Hz), H-8 α (δ 2.66, brddq, $J = 20, 7.5, 1$ Hz) collapses to a broad doublet ($J = 20$ Hz), H-6 α (δ 2.25, ddd, $J = 16.5, 7.5, 2$ Hz) is perturbed*, while H-6 β (δ 1.97, dd, $J = 16.5, 13.5$ Hz) collapses to a doublet ($J = 16.5$ Hz). The magnitude of the coupling constant between H-7 α and H-6 β , $J_{7\alpha,6\beta} = 13.5$ Hz, is consistent with a *diaxial* coupling²⁴. The hydrogen at C-4 is α . Upon irradiation of H-4 α (δ 3.32, brs, $W_{1/2} = 3$ Hz), H-3 (δ 4.19, brs, $W_{1/2} = 8$ Hz) collapses to a broad doublet ($J = 3, 3$ Hz), while H-6 α (δ 2.25, ddd, $J = 16.5, 7.5, 2$ Hz) collapses to doublet ($J = 16.5, 7.5$ Hz) indicating that $J_{4\alpha,6\alpha}$ through the C-5 carbonyl group = 2 Hz. Such coupling would not be observed if H-4 was β -oriented. Steric considerations dictate that H-3 be α -oriented. The relative stereochemistry of obscurinine (13) was verified by an X-ray crystal structure obtained by Chandler and coworkers¹⁹.

* Signal partially obscured by overlapping signals.



Scheme 2. Low molecular weight ions in the hreims of obscurinine (13).

Table 5 Decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr spectrum of obscurinine (13)
(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.	
Signal irradiated.	Observed change.
6.25, brs, $W_{1/2}=5$ (H-14)	2.66, brddd, 20, 7.5, 1(H-8 α) dd, 20, 7.5
4.19, brs, $W_{1/2}=8$ (H-3)	3.32, brs, $W_{1/2}=3$ (H-4)..... brd, 2 1.99, dddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3, 3(H-2a) ddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3 1.96, m(H-2b)..... pert.
3.32, brs, $W_{1/2}=3$ (H-4)	4.19, brs, $W_{1/2}=8$ (H-3)..... brdd, 3, 3 2.25, ddd, 16.5, 7.5, 2(H-6 α) dd, 16.5, 7.5
2.66, brddq, 20, 7.5, 1(H-8 α)	6.26, brs, $W_{1/2}=5$ (H-3)..... sharpened 2.43, ddd, 13.5, 13.5, 7.5(H-7) dd, 13.5, 7.5 2.12, brd, 20(H-8 β)..... brs
2.54, brddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3(H-1 a)	1.99, dddd, 13.5, 13.5, 3, 3(H-2a)..... pert. 1.96, m(H-2b)..... " 1.90, ddd, 13.5, 3, 3(H-1b) "
2.43, ddd, 13.5, 7.5, 7.5(H-7)	2.66, brddq, 20, 7.5, 1(H-8 α) brd, 20 2.25, ddd, 16.5, 7.5, 2(H-6 α) pert. 1.97, dd, 16.5, 13.5(H-6 β)..... d, 16.5
1.55-1.40, m(H-11b & H-10a /b)	2.29, ddd, 12, 4, 2(H-9a)..... d, 12 2.18-2.13, m(H-9b & H-11b)..... pert.

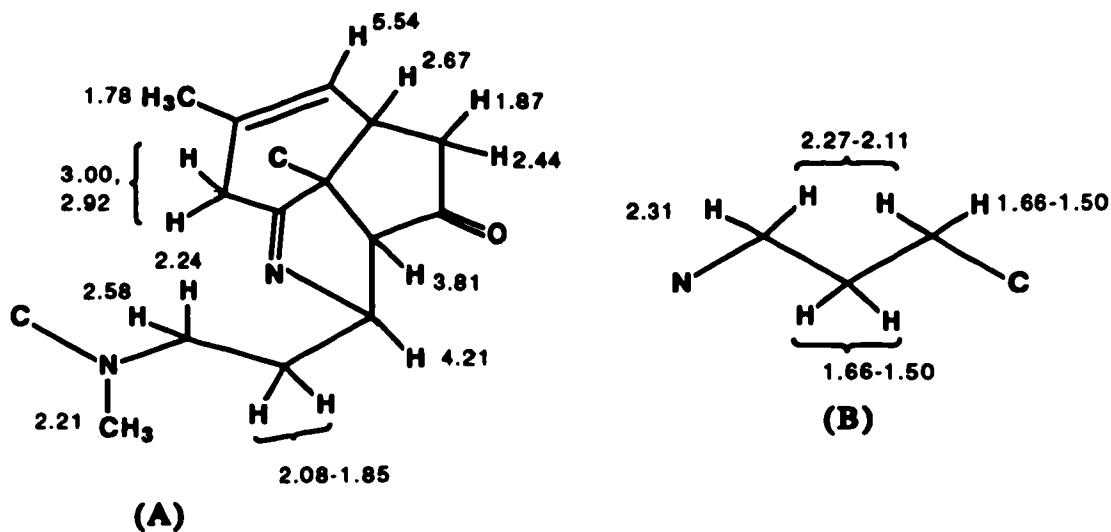
Table 6 ^1H nmr nOe experiments with obscurinine (13) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

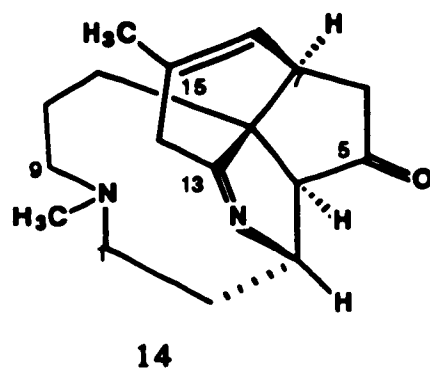
Chemical shift in δ .	
Signal saturated	Signal enhanced(%nOe)
6.26(H-14)	1.85(H-16)(1.2)
4.19(H-3)	3.32(H-4)(4.3)
3.32(H-4)	4.19(H-3)(4.3)
1.85(H16)	6.26(H-14)(9.5)

Iso-obscurinine (14) has a higher R_f (R_f 0.49, Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 4:1) than obscurinine (13). Iso-obscurinine crystallizes as colourless plates by evaporation from acetone / Skellysolve B, mp 106-107°C, and is optically active. Spectral analysis on iso-obscurinine revealed that the skeleton of obscurinine (13) is retained in iso-obscurinine (14) : the ^{13}C nmr spectrum indicates a cyclopentanone ring (δ 220.6), a C=N (δ 178.5), and a C=C (δ 131.9, s and 122.8, d) group and the ftir spectrum supports the presence of these groups (1734, 1649, and 1605 cm^{-1} , respectively) The seven sites of unsaturation indicated by the molecular formula (a carbonyl, an imine, and a C=C double bond) suggest that iso-obscurinine is tetracyclic. However, the imine and C=C functionalities in iso-obscurinine are isolated in accord with its inability to absorb uv light at 254 nm.

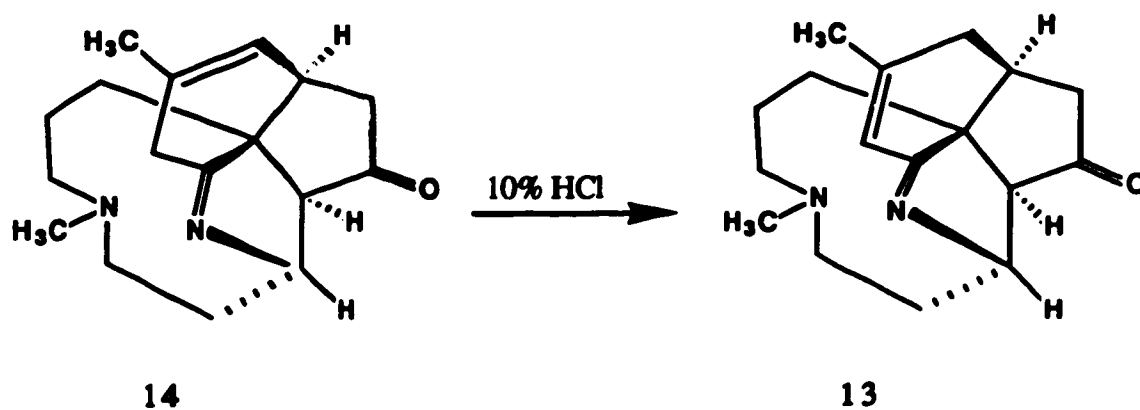
Analysis of 1D and 2D ^1H nmr spectra shows that the α , β -unsaturated imine in obscurinine (13) is replaced by a β , γ -unsaturated imine in iso-obscurinine (14). The

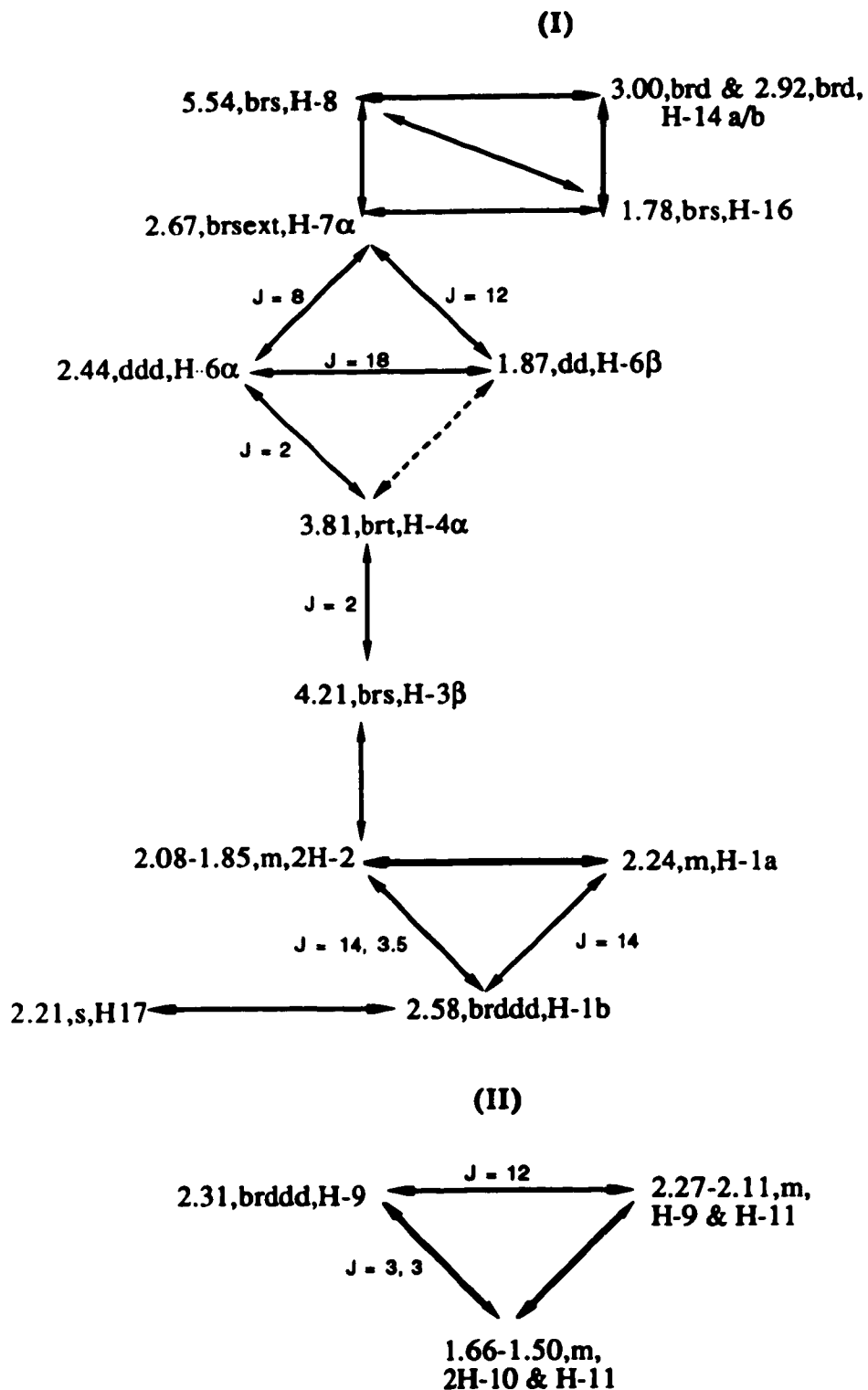
olefinic hydrogen ($\delta 6.26$) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of obscurinine (13) is replaced by a methylene group, which appears as an AB quartet ($\delta 3.00$ and 2.92) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of iso-obscurinine (14) (see table 3). The 2D COSY 90 spectrum of iso-obscurinine (14) (figure 8) reveals two spin systems I and II (scheme 3). Spin system II is consistent with partial structure B, which is also present in obscurinine (13). The correlations of spin system I indicate that the AB quartet ($\delta 3.00$ and 2.92) is coupled to an olefinic hydrogen ($\delta 5.54$) as well as to an alkenic methyl group ($\delta 1.78$). The olefinic hydrogen is also coupled to a methine hydrogen ($\delta 2.67$), which is in turn coupled to methylene hydrogens ($\delta 2.44$ and 1.87). The methylene hydrogens are also coupled to a methine hydrogen ($\delta 4.21$) and so forth as summarized in spin system I, partial structure A. Partial structures A and B allow structure 14 to be formulated for iso-obscurinine.





The ^{13}C APT experiment (table 4) with iso-obscurinine is consistent with structure 14. The carbon-13 signals are similar to those of obscurinine (13) (see table 4). The major chemical shift differences between obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14) are at carbons 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15. In the hreims iso-obscurinine (14) shows a fragmentation pattern which resembles that of obscurinine (13). In particular, the low molecular weight ions involving ring A are identical (see experimental). Iso-obscurinine isomerizes to obscurinine when treated with 10% hydrochloric acid, providing further proof for structure of iso-obscurinine (14).





Scheme 3. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of iso-obscurinine (14).

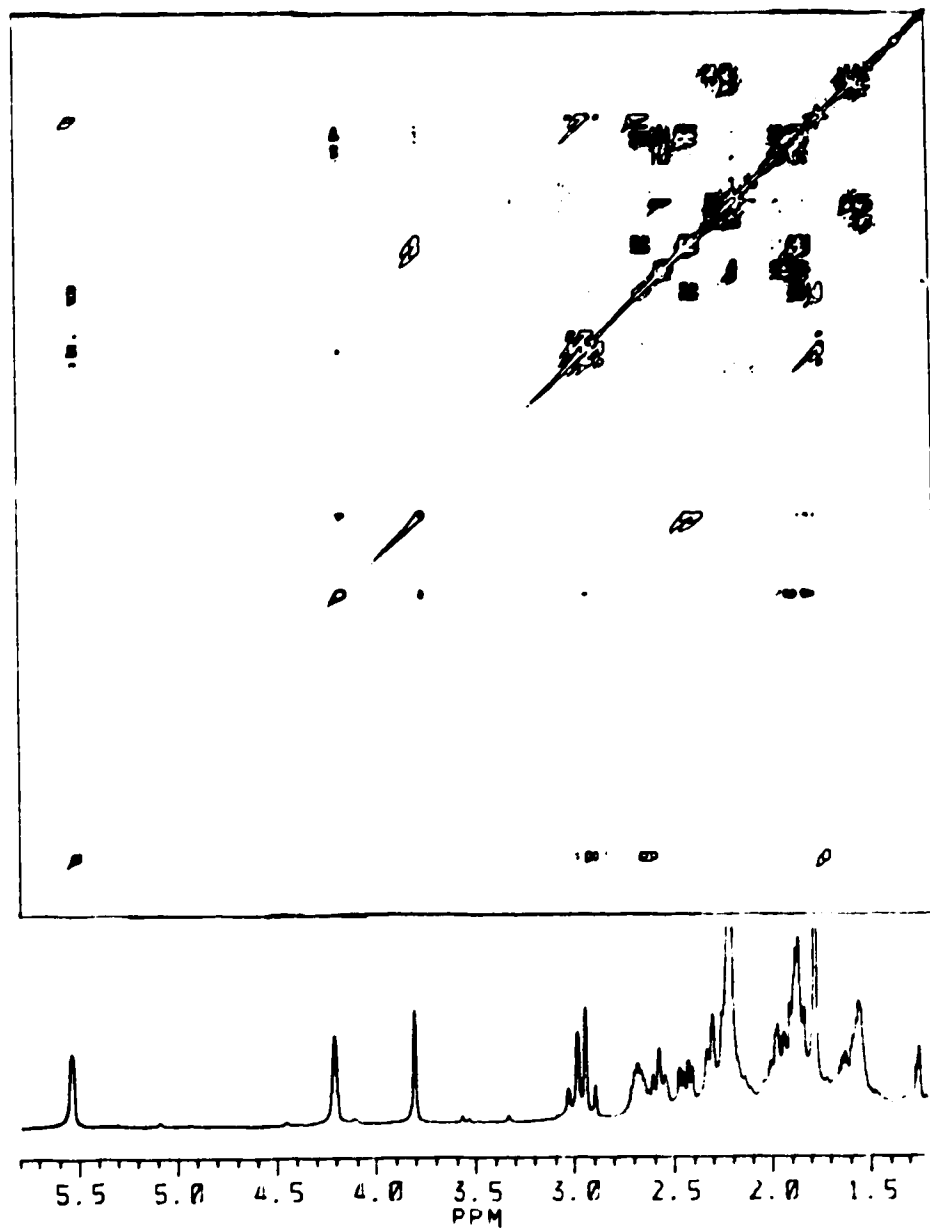
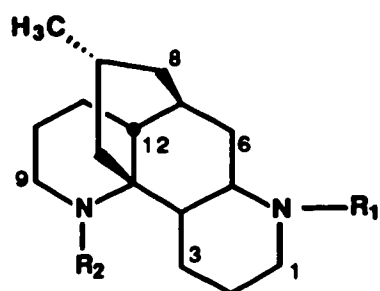
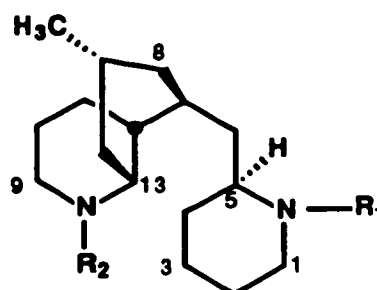


Figure 8. COSY 90 spectrum of iso-obscurinine (14) (CDCl_3 , 360 MHz).

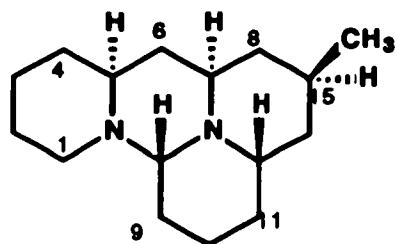
To date, the known dinitrogen Lycopodium alkaloids are of four structural types: flabellidane (15), phlegmarane (16), cernuane (17), and base R (18). Base R is the only member of its class. A summary of the proposed biogenesis of the first three skeletons is as shown in scheme 4^{3c}. Lysine (19) and acetate (20) are the fundamental building blocks, which give rise to pelletierine (21) and intermediate 22, from which the



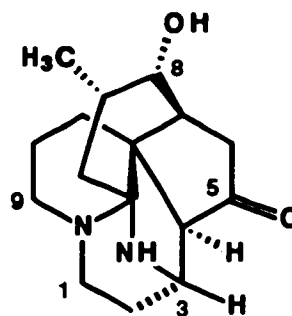
15



16

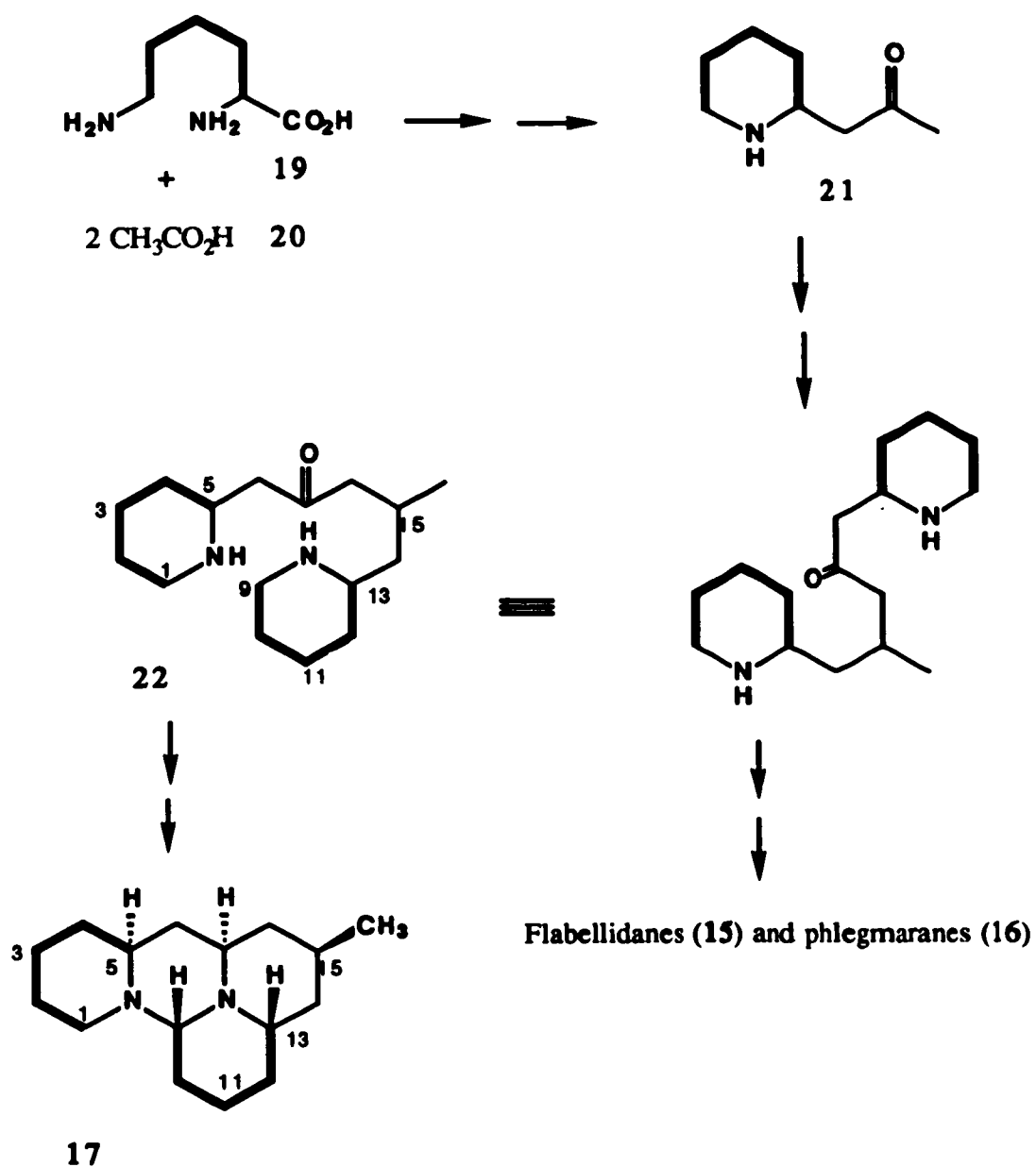


17

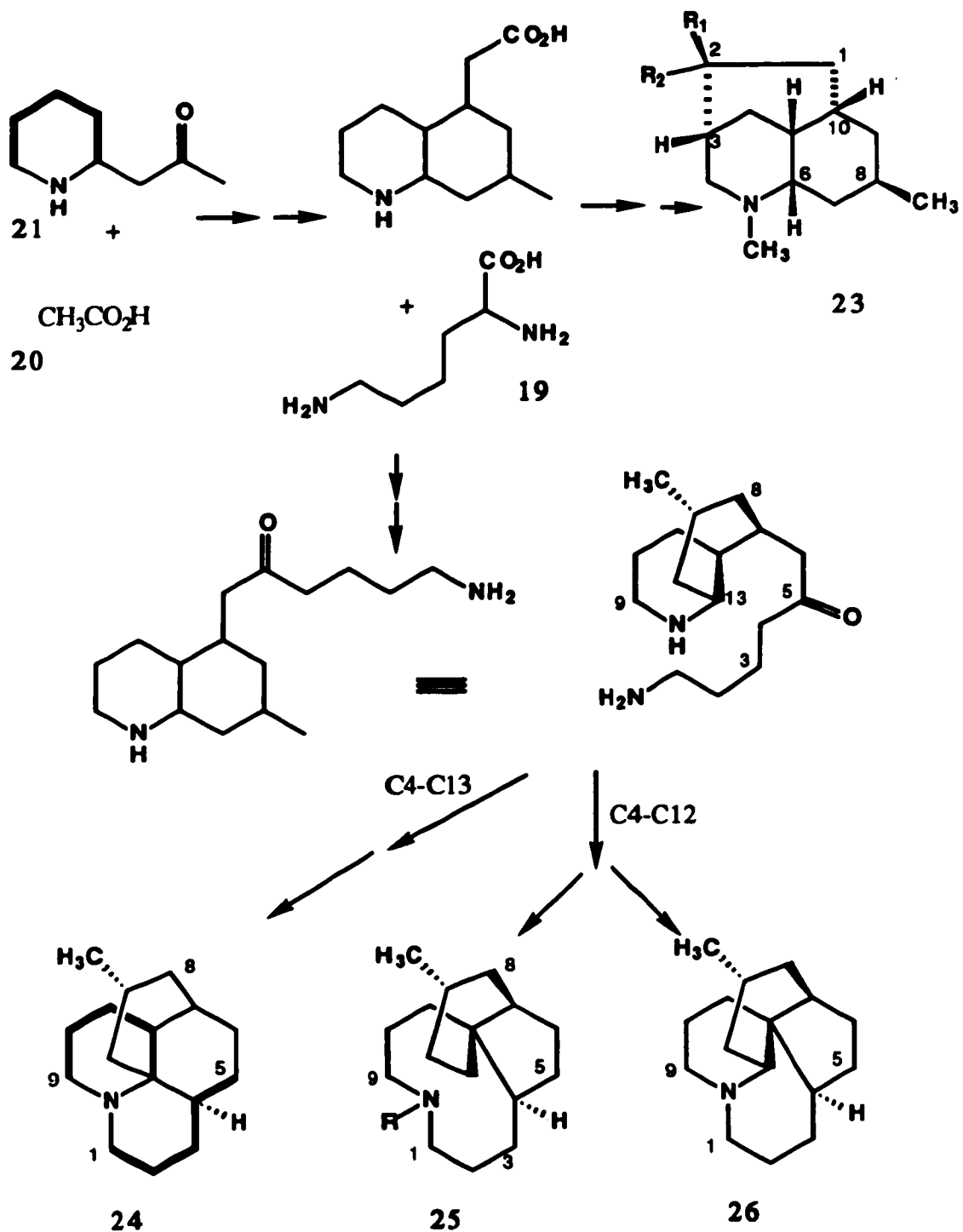


18

flabellidane, phlegmarane and cernuane Lycopodium alkaloids may be formed. A possible biogenetic route to other Lycopodium ring systems, including lucidulane (23), lycopodane (24), fawcettimane (25), fawcettidane (26), and related skeletons is shown in scheme 5^{3c}.



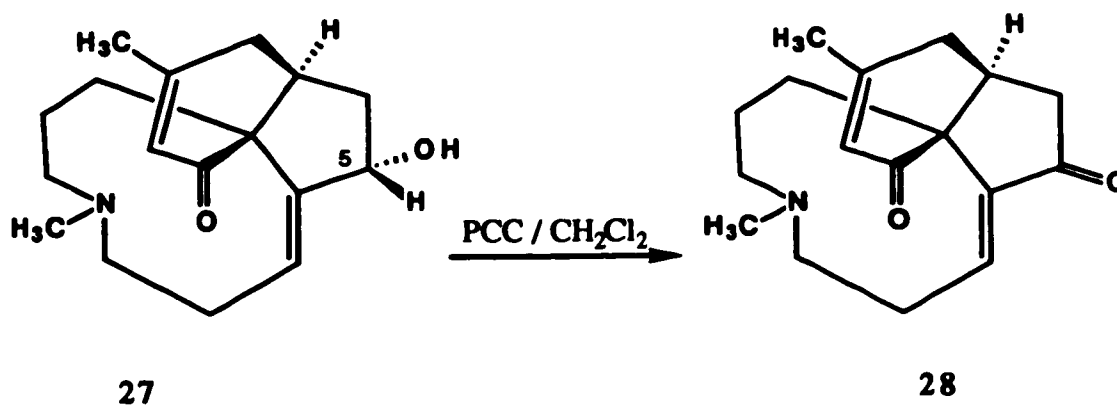
Scheme 4. Summary of the biogenesis of flabellidane (15), phlegmarane (16), and cernuane (17) Lycopodium alkaloid skeletons.

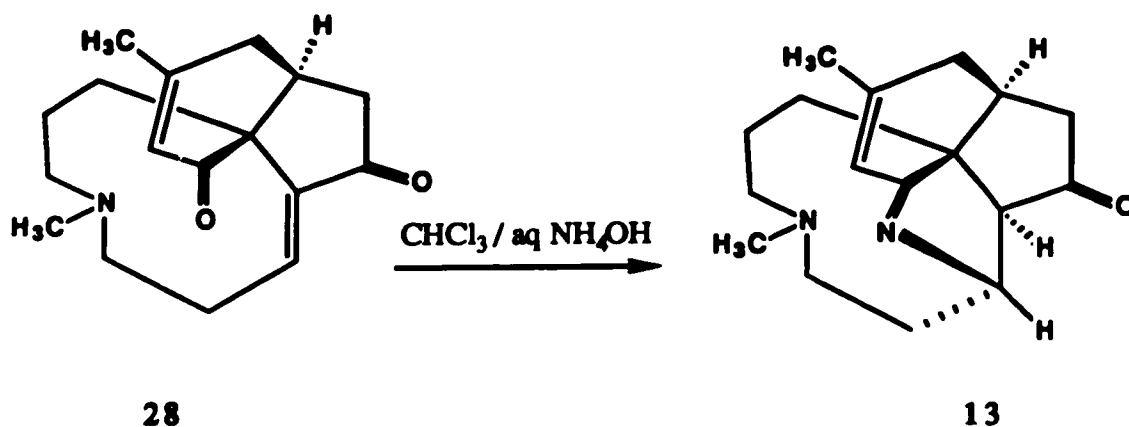


Scheme 5. Summary of the biogenesis of lucidulane (23), lycopodane (24), fawcettimane (25), fawcettidane (26), and related *Lycopodium* alkaloid skeletons.

None of these pathways account for the presence of a nitrogen atom between carbons 3 and 13 as observed in obscurinine (13), iso-obscurinine (14), and base R (18). We felt that obscurinine and iso-obscurinine might be artefacts derived by addition of ammonia to an appropriate fawcettimane (25) class precursor during the isolation process (ammonia was used to neutralize the aqueous acid used in the isolation). A similar biogenetic pathway was envisioned for the formation of base R by MacLean^{3c}.

As proof for this hypothesis, lobscurinol (27) (structure *vide infra*) was oxidised to lobscurinine (28). Upon overnight exposure to aqueous ammonia at room temperature, lobscurinine (28) afforded obscurinine (13). Obscurinine prepared from lobscurinine is indistinguishable from that isolated earlier (tlc behavior, hreims, and ¹H nmr spectrum). At the present time we are awaiting additional plant material in order that we may repeat the extraction avoiding use of ammonia. We anticipate that lobscurinine (28) will be obtained from the plant.





Lobscurinol (27) epilobscurinol (29) and acetyllobscurinol (30).

The isolation of three closely related bases which we have named lobscurinol (27), epilobscurinol (29) and acetyllobscurinol (30), provide support for the hypothesis that obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14) are artefacts. As the names suggest, lobscurinol (27) and epilobscurinol (29) are epimers, while acetyllobscurinol (30) is the acetyl derivative of lobscurinol (27). Bases 27 and 29 were isolated from the more polar fractions, whereas base 30 was isolated from the least polar fractions. Bases 27, 29, and 30 are readily detected on chromatograms of crude mixtures by their uv absorption at 254 nm.

The isolation of lobscurinol (27), the most abundant of the three bases, was complicated by the co-occurrence of large amounts of β -lofoline (7c) and other minor bases of similar polarity. Relatively pure lobscurinol was obtained as an opaque solid after several column and preparative thin-layer chromatograms. More pure lobscurinol was obtained in the form of its acetyl derivative 30.

The hreims of lobscurinol (27) indicates a molecular formula of $C_{17}H_{25}NO_2$ (275.1881). The oxygen atoms in the formula are present as a ketone carbonyl (ftr:

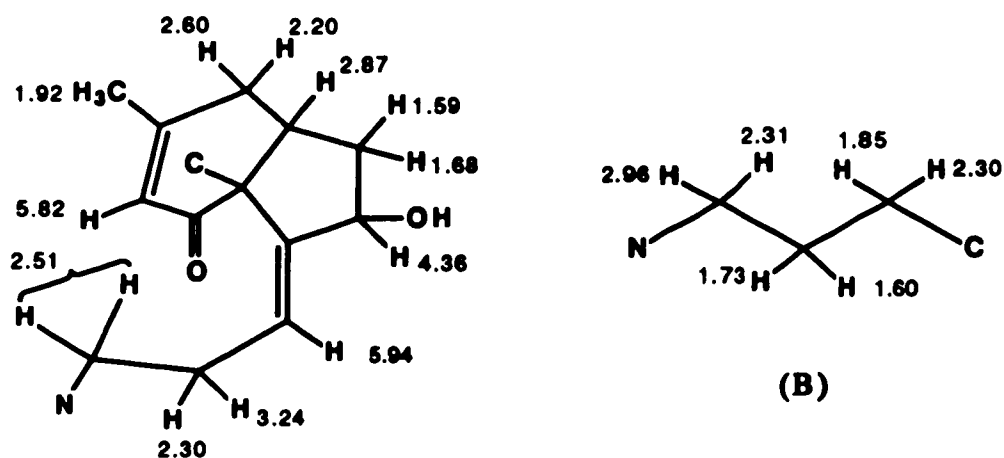
1658 cm^{-1} ; ^{13}C nmr: δ 200.2 (s) and hydroxyl (ftir: 3600-3200 cm^{-1} ; ^{13}C nmr: δ 72.2(d)) groups. In addition to the carbonyl group, four other sp^2 hybridized carbons are present in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum: δ 156.4 (s), 141.7 (s), 135.5 (d), and 124.8 (d). The uv spectrum of acetyllobscurinol (30) λ_{max} (log ϵ): 234 (3.3) nm suggests the presence of an α , β - unsaturated cyclohexanone. This information and the fact that the molecular formula of lobscurinol indicates six sites of unsaturation (a carbonyl group and two double bonds) allows us to conclude that lobscurinol (27) is tricyclic.

The 1D ^1H nmr spectrum of lobscurinol (table 7) shows two olefinic hydrogens (δ 5.95 and 5.82), a carbinyl hydrogen (δ 4.36), and two methyl groups (δ 2.33 and 1.92, for a methyl group attached to nitrogen and a methyl group on an sp^2 hybridized carbon, respectively).

Analysis of the COSY 90 ^1H nmr spectrum of lobscurinol (figure 9) reveals two isolated spin systems I and II (scheme 6). Spin system II is consistent with three contiguous methylenes as shown in partial structure B. This partial structure is also found in obscurinine (13) and iso-obscurinine (14). Correlations in spin system I show that the olefinic hydrogen (δ 5.82) is coupled to an alkenic methyl (δ 1.92) and methylene group (δ 2.60 and 2.20). The methylene group is also coupled to a methine hydrogen (δ 2.87), which is further coupled to a methylene group (δ 1.68 and 1.59). The methylene hydrogen (δ 1.59) is coupled to a carbinyl hydrogen (δ 4.36), which is in turn coupled to the olefinic hydrogen (δ 5.94). The olefinic hydrogen (δ 5.49) is further coupled to an allylic methylene group (ca δ 2.56-2.51). Partial structure A is consistent with this analysis.

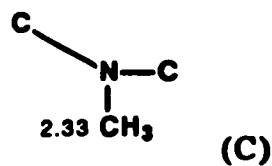
The APT experiment (table 8) shows the seventeen carbons in the formula (11 quaternary / CH_2 signals and 6 CH_3 / CH signals). Five of the six CH_3 / CH signals are due to olefinic CH's (δ 132.0 (d) and 124.8 (d)), one carbinyl CH (δ 74.2), and two methyl groups (δ 48.3 (q) and 24.3 (q)). The remaining CH signal (δ 38.4) is correlated to the only methine hydrogen resonating at δ 2.87 in the ^1H nmr spectrum of lobscurinol.

An APT experiment, in which the variable delay is half the delay of a normal APT experiment, reveals that four of the eleven quaternary / CH₂ signals are due to quaternary carbons (δ 200.2, 157.1, 146.9, and 58.3). Therefore, there are seven methylene groups in the molecule. Partial structures A, B, C are consistent with the results to this point and allow structure **27** to be formulated for lobscurinol.



(A)

(B)



(C)

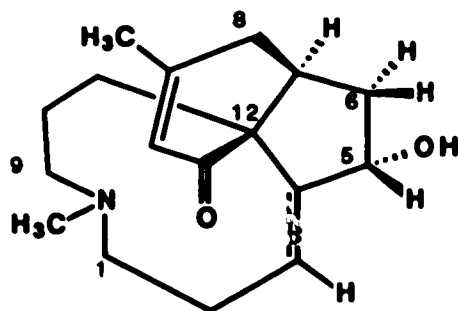
**27**

Table 7 ^1H nmr spectra of lobscurinol (27), acetyllobscurinol (30), and acetylepilobscurinol (31) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

H	Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.		
	27	30	31
3	5.94,ddd,11.5,6.5,1	6.02,brddd,11.5,6.5,1	5.85,brs, W $_{1/2}$ =5
14	5.82,brs, W $_{1/2}$ =5	5.82,brs, W $_{1/2}$ =5	5.79,ddd,11.5,7.0,2.0
5 β	4.36,dd,5,1	5.40,brd,s	5.45,dddd,7.7,3,2
2a	3.24,dddd,19,11.5,11.5,4	3.37,ddd,s,11.5,11.5,2	3.25,dddd,17,11.5,11.5,2
9a	2.96,ddd,14,11.5,3	3.09,brddd,14,11.5,4	2.98,brdd,13.5,13.5
7 α	2.87,brddd,13,6,6	2.87,brddd,11.5,7,7	
8 α	2.60,brdd,19,6	2.68-2.56,m	
2a/b	2.56-2.51,m		
17(3H)	2.33,s		
2a,9b & 11a	2.31-2.25,m		17(3H) 2.34,s
8 β	2.20,brd,19		
16(3H)	1.92,brs		
11a	1.85,ddd,15,8,2		
10a	1.73,m		
6 α	1.68,dd,13,6		
10b	1.60,m		
6 β	1.59,ddd,13,13,5		
		COCH ₃ 2.02,s	COCH ₃ 2.02,s

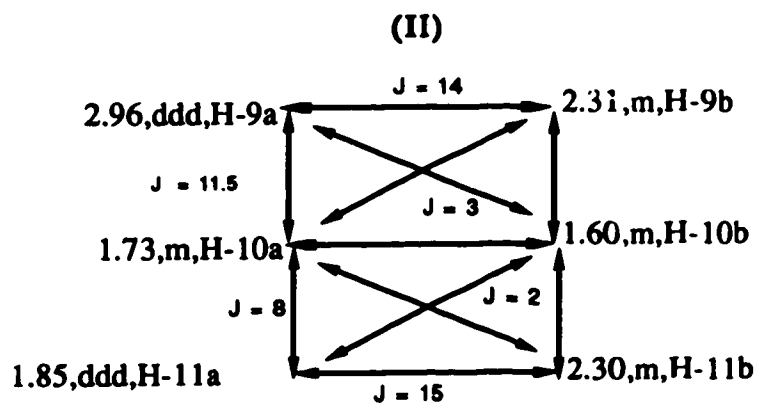
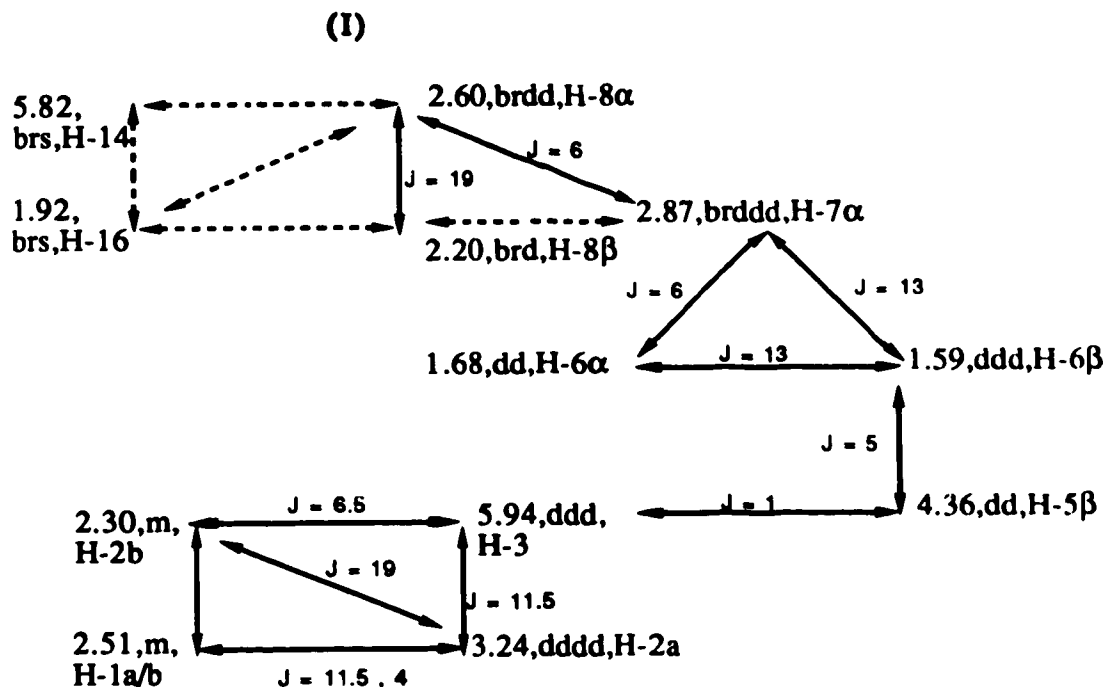
Table 8 ^{13}C nmr spectra of lobscurinol (27), acetyllobscurinol (30), and lobscurinine (28) (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz).

C	mult.	Chemical shift in δ .		
		27	30	28 ^c
13	s	200.2	199.8	198.7
15	s	157.1	156.4	156.9
4	s	146.9	141.7	139.7
3	d	132.0	135.5	142.0
14	d	124.8	124.8	125.0
5	d	74.2	77.1	202.9(s)
12	s	58.3	57.5	57.1
9	t	57.0 ^a	56.1	54.4 ^a
1	t	56.3 ^a	53.9	54.7 ^a
17	q	48.3	47.7	47.6
7	d	38.4	38.1	35.2
6	t	37.3	35.5	41.3
8	t	30.3 ^b	30.5 ^a	29.8 ^b
11	t	30.0 ^b	29.8 ^a	28.9 ^b
2	t	29.9 ^b	28.5 ^a	28.9 ^b
10	t	25.6	25.5	25.5
16	q	24.3	24.2	24.5
			170.6(s, COCH_3)	
			21.5(q, COCH_3)	

a, signals may be reversed.

b, " " " "

c, spectrum obtained at 70.5 MHz



Scheme 6. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of lobscurinol (27).

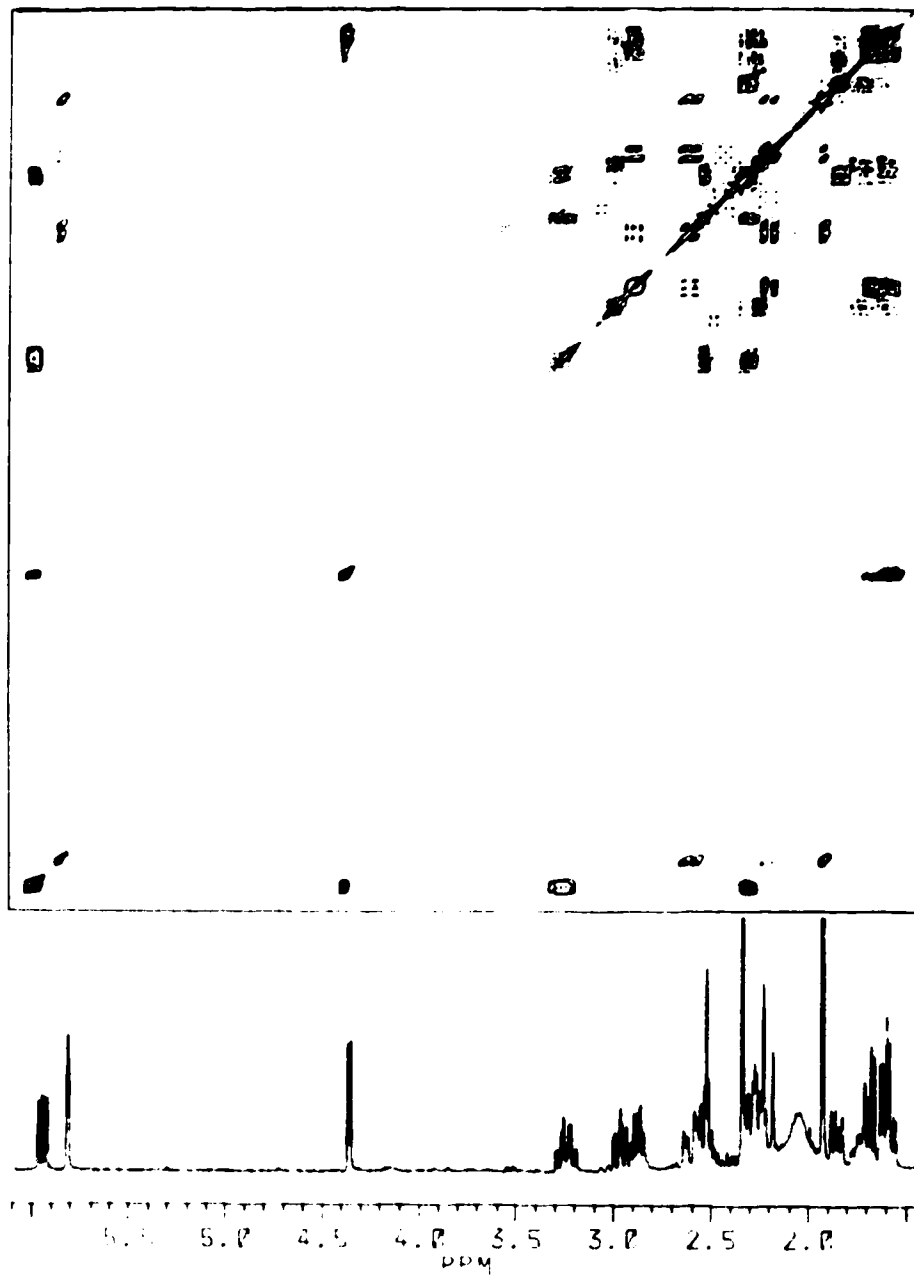


Figure 9. COSY 90 spectrum of lobscurinol (27) (CDCl_3 , 360 MHz).

The relative stereochemistry at C-5 and C-7 of lobscurinol (27) is established on the basis of extensive decoupling of ^1H nmr spectra (table 9) and by nOe difference spectroscopy (table 10). The magnitude of $J_{7,8\beta}$ (ca 0 Hz) and $J_{7,8\alpha}$ (6 Hz) indicates that H-7 is pseudo *axial* and α -oriented. Upon irradiation of H-7 (δ 2.87, ddd, $J = 13,6,6$ Hz), one H-6 (δ 1.68, dd, $J = 13,6$ Hz) collapses to doublet ($J = 13$ Hz), while its *geminal* partner (δ 1.59, ddd, $J = 13,13,5$ Hz) is perturbed*. Since H-7 is pseudo *axial* and α -oriented, then the hydrogen at δ 1.59 must be β -oriented, and *antiperiplanar* to H-7 ($J_{7\alpha,6\beta} = 13$ Hz). The carbinyl hydrogen (δ 4.36, dd, $J = 5,1$ Hz) is β -oriented and *cis* to H-6 β (δ 1.59). Upon irradiation of H-5 (δ 4.36, dd, $J = 5,1$ Hz), H-3 (δ 5.94, ddd, $J = 11.5,6.5,1$ Hz) collapses to double doublet ($J = 11.5,6.5$ Hz) and H-6 β (δ 1.59, ddd, $J = 13,13,5$ Hz) collapses to double doublet ($J = 13,13$ Hz). Furthermore, both H-3 and H-6 β are enhanced upon irradiation of H-5 in the nOe experiment. As well, the signal for the hydrogen at C-11 (δ 1.85) is enhanced on irradiation of H-7 indicating that H-7 is *cis* to the C-11 to C-12 bond, providing further proof that H-7 is α -oriented.

In the reims of lobscurinol (27) there is a base peak at m/z 84, $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, which may arise from fragmentation of ring A. A fragmentation scheme for this ion as well as other abundant fragment ions is shown in scheme 7. A similar fragmentation pattern has been proposed to account for the fragment ions observed in the mass spectra of magellanine (32)²⁵ and paniculatine (33)²⁶.

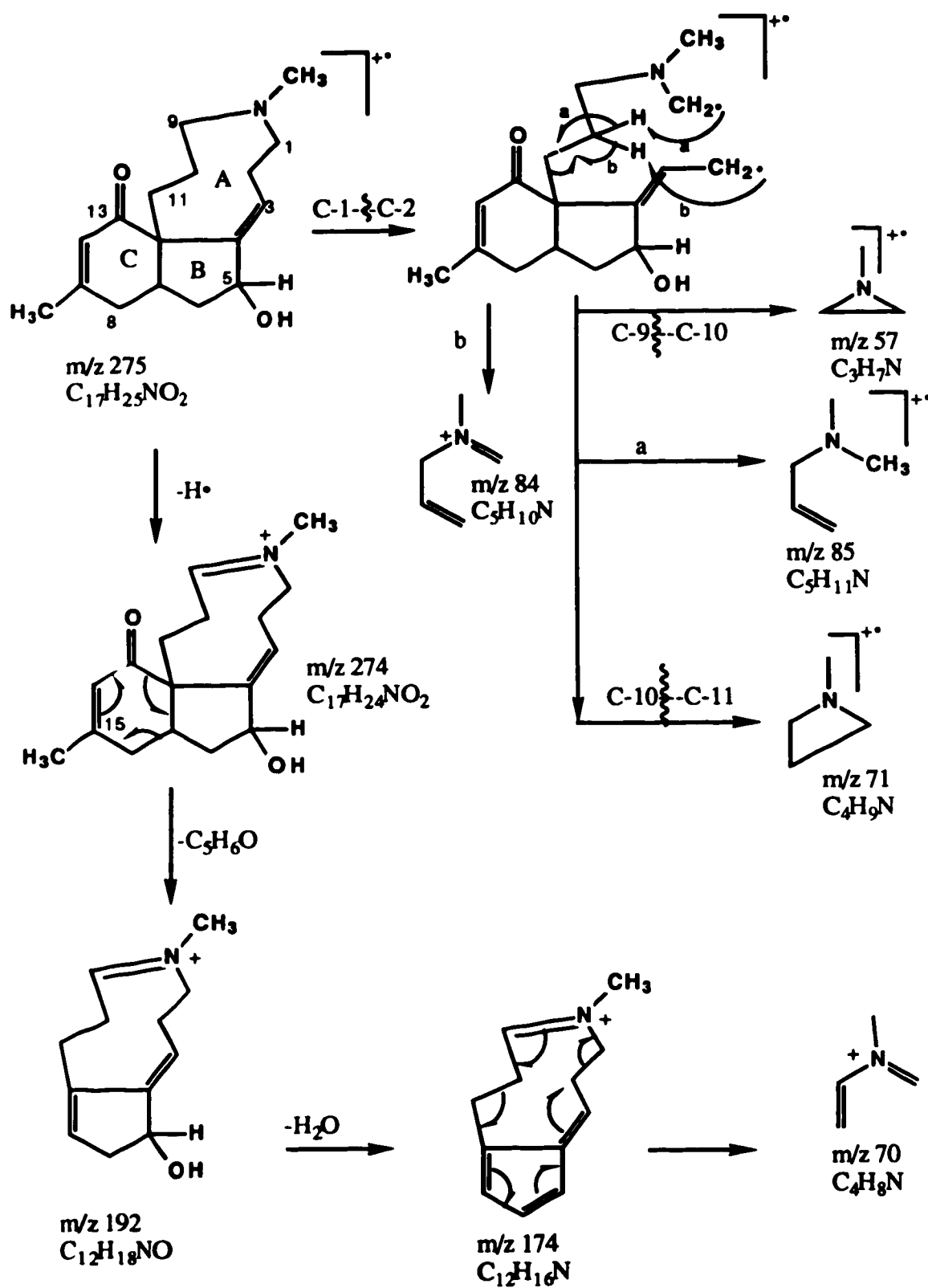
* Signal partially obscured by overlapping signals.

Table 9 Decoupling experiments in the ^1H NMR spectrum of lobscurninol (27) (CDC13, 400 MHz).

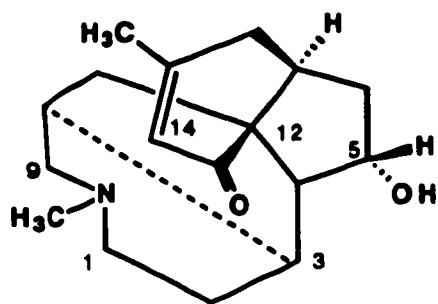
Signal irradiated	Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.	Observed change
5.94,ddd,11.5,6.5,1(H-3)	4.36,ddd,13,13,5(H-5 β).....	d,5
	3.24,dddd,19,11.5,11.5,4(H-2).....	ddd,19,11.5,4
	2.31-2.25,m(H-2).....	perurbed(per.)
5.82,brs,W1/2=2(H-14))	2.60,brdd,19,6(H-8 α).....	sharper,brdd,19,6
	2.20,brd,19(H-8 β).....	sharper,brd,19
4.36,ddd,5,1(H-5 β)	5.94,ddd,11.5,6.5,1(H-3).....	dd,11.5,6.5
	1.59,ddd,13,13,5(H-6 β).....	dd,13,13
3.24,dddd,19,11.5,11.5,4(H-2)	5.94,ddd,11.5,1(H-3).....	$J=11.5$, vanished
	2.56-2.51,m(H-1a/b).....	per.
	2.31-2.23,m(H-2a/b).....	per.
	2.31-2.25,m(H-9b).....	per.
2.96,ddd,14,11.5,3(H-9a)	1.73,m(H-10a).....	per.
	1.63,m(H-10b).....	per.
	2.60,brdd,19,6(H-8 α).....	brd,19
2.87,brdd,13,6,6(H-7 α)	1.68,dd,13,6(H-6 α).....	d,13
	1.59,ddd,13,13,5(H-6 β).....	per.
1.85,ddd,15,8,2(H-11a)	2.31-2.25,m(H-11b).....	per.
	1.73-1.60,m(H-10a/b).....	per.
	2.96,ddd,14,11.5,3(H-9a).....	per.
1.73,m(H-10a & 6 α)	2.87,brdd,13,6,6(H-7 α).....	per.
	2.31-2.25,m(H-9b).....	per.
	1.85,ddd,15,8,2(H-11a).....	per.
	1.59,ddd,13,13,5(H-6 β).....	per.
1.59,m(H-10b & 6 β)	2.96,ddd,14,11.5,3(H-9a).....	$J=3$, vanished
	2.87,brdd,13,6,6(H-7 α).....	per.
	2.31-2.25,m.....	per.
	1.85,ddd,15,8,2(H-11a).....	dd,15,8
	1.73,m(H-10a & 6 α).....	per.

Table 10 ^1H nmr nOe experiments with lobscurinol (27)
(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

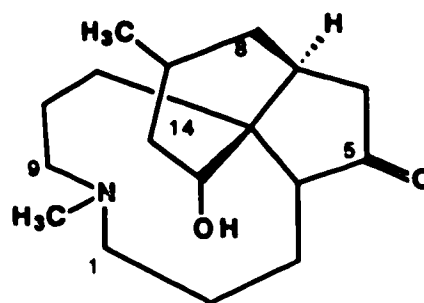
Chemical shift in δ .	
Signal saturated	Signal enhanced (% nOe)
5.49(H-3)	4.36(H-5)(6.7)
	3.24(H-2a)(3.4)
	2.30(H-2b)(6.7)
5.82(H-14)	1.92(H-16)(1.2)
4.36(H-5)	5.94(H-3)(8.2)
	1.59(H-6 β)(9.2)
3.24(H-2a)	5.94(H-3)(1.2)
	2.30(H-2b)(16.7)
2.96(H-9a)	2.30(H-9b)(16.0)
2.87(H-7 α)	1.85(H-11a)(6.2)
1.92(H-16)	5.82(H-14)(10.0)
1.85(H-11a)	2.31(H-11b)(17.6)



Scheme 7. Fragmentation in the heims of lobscurinol (27).



32



33

Acetyllobscurinol (**30**), was isolated as a colourless opaque solid, $[\alpha]_D +110^\circ$. A molecular weight of 317.1985 ($C_{19}H_{27}NO_3$) was indicated by its hreims and confirmed by cims. In the ftir, base **30** shows the absence of hydroxyl group(s), but indicates the presence of an acetoxy group (1735 and 1240 cm^{-1}) and an α , β -unsaturated carbonyl (1659 cm^{-1}). The uv spectrum supports the presence of an α , β -unsaturated ketone, λ_{max} ($\log \epsilon$): 234 (3.3) nm.

The ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra (tables 7 and 8, respectively) are very similar to those of lobscurinol (**27**). In the ^1H nmr spectrum, the absorption at $\delta 5.40$ (brd, $J = 3$ Hz) is due to a carbinyl hydrogen *geminal* to an acetoxy group. The presence of an acetoxy group is confirmed by signals in the ^1H nmr ($\delta 2.02$, s, 3H) and ^{13}C nmr ($\delta 170.6$ (s) and 21.5 (q)) spectra.

The relative stereochemistry for acetyllobscurinol (**30**) is shown to be the same as that for lobscurinol (**27**). Upon acetylation (Ac_2O , Et_3N) lobscurinol (**27**) afforded a monoacetyl derivative (**30**), which is identical with the naturally occurring compound in all respects including the optical rotation. The relative and absolute stereochemistry can be correlated with that of lycoplegmarine (**34**)²⁷. In the ^1H nmr, lycoplegmarine (**34**) and acetyllycoplegmarine (**35**) show signals which are the same as those of lobscurinol (**27**) and acetyllobscurinol (**30**) (see table 11 for comparison). The relative and absolute

stereochemistry of lycoplegmarine (34) was established by X-ray crystallography and application of the Brewster's benzoate rule to a suitable derivative²⁸.

Table 11 Comparison of some ¹H nmr spectral data of lobscurinol (27) and acetyllobscurinol (30) with that of lycoplegmarine (34) and acetyllycoplegmarine (35).

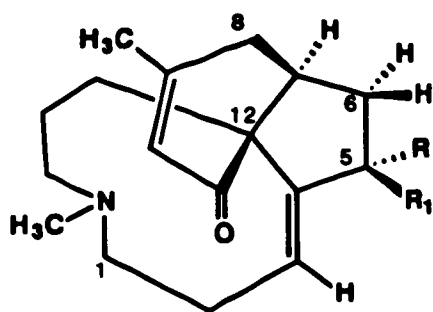
H	Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.			
	27 ^a	34 ^b	30 ^a	35 ^b
H-16	1.92, s	1.88, s		
NCH ₃	2.33, s	2.32, s		
H-5	4.36, dd, 5.0,1.0	4.36, brs, W _{1/2} = 7	5.40, brd,3	5.40, brs, 7
H-3	5.94, ddd, 11.5,6.5,1.0	5.94, dd, 12.0,6.0		

a, spectra obtained at 400 MHz.

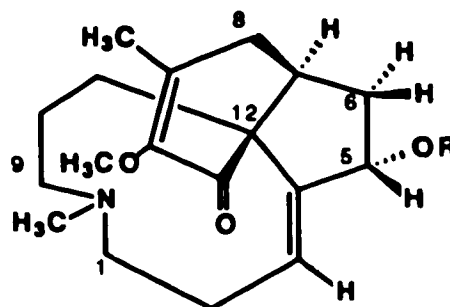
b, spectra obtained at 100 MHz.

Base 29 was identified as the C-5 epimer of lobscurinol (27) by comparison of spectral data (hreims and ¹H nmr) with that of lobscurinol (27) and acetyllobscurinol (30). The name epilobscurinol was therefore assigned to base 29. Epilobscurinol (29) occurs in *L. obscurum* in much smaller quantity than lobscurinol (27). It has a lower R_f value than lobscurinol (27) and is eluted after lobscurinol when the bases are separated

by column chromatography. Epilobscurinol (29) was purified and identified as its acetyl derivative 31.



27 R = OH, R₁ = H
 29 R = H, R₁ = OH
 30 R = OAc, R₁ = H
 31 R = H, R₁ = OAc



34 R = H
 35 R = AC

In its hreims acetylepilobscurinol (31) shows a molecular formula of C₁₉H₂₇NO₃ (317.1985) and a fragmentation pattern which resembles that of lobscurinol (27) and acetyllobscurinol (30). The base peak at m/z 84 (C₅H₁₀N) is also the base peak in the hreims of lobscurinol (27).

The ¹H nmr spectra of acetylepilobscurinol (31) and acetyllobscurinol (30) (see table 7) are remarkably similar, except for slight chemical shift differences at C-5 and in the vicinity of C-5. The hydrogen at C-5 in acetylepilobscurinol (31) absorbs at δ 5.45 (dddd, J = 7, 7, 3, 2 Hz) more downfield than the hydrogen at C-5 in acetyllobscurinol (30) (δ 5.4, brd, J = 3 Hz). This is consistent with an α-oriented hydrogen at C-5. A hydrogen α-oriented at C-5 is in accord with the coupling pattern observed. H-5α shows *vicinal* coupling to C-6 (J = 7 Hz) methylene hydrogens, allylic coupling to a C-3 (J = 2 Hz) olefinic hydrogen, as well as coupling to a C-7 (J = 3 Hz) hydrogen. In acetyllobscurinol (30) H-5β (δ 5.40, brd, J = 3 Hz) couples only with H-3. No other

spectral data was obtained for acetylepilobscurinol (31) due to the limited availability of the sample.

Hydroxypropyllycodine (36).

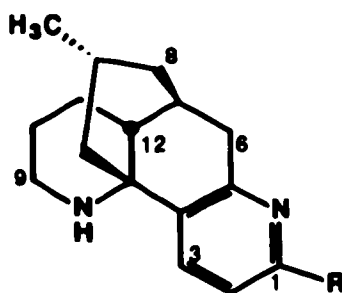
Base 36, $C_{19}H_{28}N_2O$ (300.2199) was isolated as a colourless oil. It is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = +11^\circ$) and absorbs uv light (λ_{max} 272 (3.7) and ca 280 (shoulder) nm). The molecular formula was obtained by hreims and cims confirmed the molecular weight.

In the ftir spectrum, a broad peak centered at 3320cm^{-1} denotes the presence of an NH and / or OH group. The presence of a pyridine ring is suggested by the uv spectrum and by absorption at 1650 (weak), 1590, and 1570cm^{-1} in the infrared. The ^{13}C nmr spectrum shows that the pyridine ring is trisubstituted (δ 157.6 (s), 157.3 (s), 134.0 (d), 133.7 (s), and 121.4 (d)).

The ^1H nmr spectrum of 36 shows two aromatic *ortho* hydrogens (δ 7.71 and 6.96, d, $J = 8$ Hz), a low field signal at δ 4.21 indicative of a hydrogen *geminal* to an oxygen atom, and two secondary methyl groups (δ 1.27 and 0.78). These data and seven sites of unsaturation in the molecular formula indicate that base 36 possesses a tetracyclic ring skeleton. The fragmentation pattern in the hreims of 36 shows that the majority of fragment ions retain both nitrogens. This suggests that the nitrogens are present as part of the ring skeleton and not as substituent (s).

Careful inspection in the ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra (tables 12 and 13, respectively) reveals that base 36 resembles lycodine (10) in many respects. Base 36 differs from lycodine by a C_3H_6O unit. This information together with the ^1H and ^{13}C nmr data suggest that the C_3H_6O unit is incorporated in base 36 as an isolated 2-hydroxypropyl group. The presence of a 2-hydroxypropyl group was confirmed by ^1H nmr decoupling experiments. Upon irradiation of the hydrogen signal at δ 4.21 (ddq, $J = 9,3,6$ Hz), the *geminal* methylene hydrogens at δ 2.89 (dd, $J = 15,3$ Hz) and 2.71 (dd, $J = 15,9$ Hz)

each collapse to a doublet ($J = 15$ Hz), while the methyl group at δ 1.27 (d, $J = 6$ Hz) collapses to singlet.



10 R = -H
36 R = -CH₂CH(OH)CH₃

Comparison of the ¹³C nmr spectrum of base **36** with that of lycodine reveals that the hydroxypropyl group is substituted at C-1. In the ¹³C nmr spectrum, C-1 in lycodine appears as a doublet (δ 147), while in base **36** it appears as a singlet (δ 157.6). This is consistent with the observed coupling ($J = 8$ Hz) of the aromatic hydrogens, since in pyridines $J_{\alpha\beta}$ is normally *ca* 5 Hz, while $J_{\beta\gamma}$ is 7-9 Hz²⁹.

The correlations shown in scheme 8, derived from analysis of the COSY 90 spectrum (figure 10), provide proof that the hydroxypropyl substituent is at C-1 in base **36**. The methyl group at C-19 (δ 1.27) is coupled to the carbinyl hydrogen (δ 4.21), which is in turn coupled to an AB quartet (δ 2.83 and 2.71). The AB quartet shows long range coupling to H-2 (δ 6.96), which is *ortho* to H-3 (δ 7.71). Long range coupling is observed from both H-2 and H-3 to the methylene hydrogens at C-6 (δ 3.09 and 2.66) and these hydrogens are further coupled to H-7 (2.06). The remainder of the correlations, from H-7 through to the methylene groups at C-14 (δ 1.43 and 1.13) and C-9 (δ 2.43 and 2.27), are summarized in scheme 8.

Table 12 ¹H nmr spectra of lycodine (10), hydroxypropyllycodine (36), and diacetylhydroxylycodine (37) (CDCl₃, 400 MHz).

H	Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.		
	10	36	37
1	8.31,dd,4.7,1.6		
2	7.07,dd,7.8,4.7	6.96,d,8	7.00,d,7.9
3	7.73,dd,7.8,1.6	7.71,d,8	7.49,d,7.9
6ax	3.10,dd,18.7,7.2	3.09,dd,19.7	3.17,brdd,18.8,7
9eq	2.72,dm,13.0	2.77,dm,12	3.60,brdq,14.5,2
6eq	2.65,d,18.7	2.66,d,19	2.65,d,18.8
9ax	2.37,ddd,13,11.6,3.5	2.43,dddd,12,12,3,1	2.63,ddd,14.5,11.4
7eq	2.03,brsext,3.4	2.06,brsext,3	2.13,m
8eq	1.72,brdm,12.5	1.77,brdm,12	1.71,brdm,12.8
10a/b	1.60-1.45,m	1.60-1.46,m	1.65-1.55,m(H-10a/b)
&12			
14eq	1.40,dm,12		3.17,brdm,12
8ax	1.28,dddd,12,12,3,1	1.43,ddd,12,3,5,2	1.38-1.25,m(H-8ax, 11a,12)
11a/b	1.23-1.10,m	1.28-1.17,m	1.18,m(H-15ax)
&15ax			
14ax	1.09,dd,11.4,11.4		1.79,dd,13,12
16	0.72,d,6	1.13,dd,11,11	0.82,d,6.4
17a		0.78,d,6	3.03,dd,13.7,8.7
17b		2.89,dd,15.3	2.91,dd,13.7,5.7
18		2.71,dd,15.9	5.27,ddq,7.8,5.7,6.4
19		4.21,ddq,9,3,6	1.27,d,6.3
		1.27,d,6	

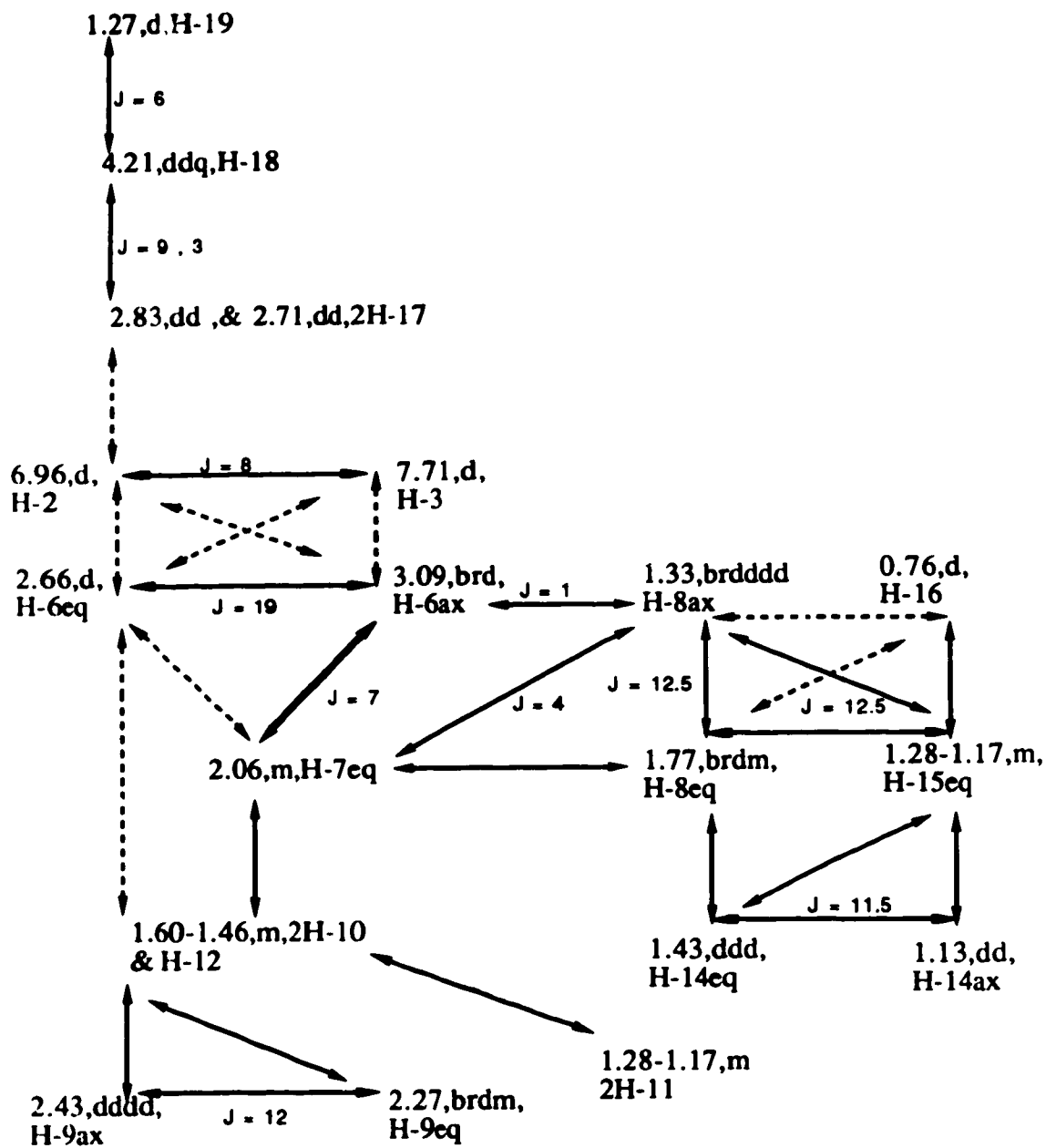
Table 13 ^{13}C nmr spectra of lycodine (10), hydroxypropyllycodine (36) and diacetylhydroxypropyllycodine (37) (CDCl_3 , 100.6 MHz).

C	mult.	Chemical shift in δ .		
		10	36	37
1	d	147.0	157.6(s) ^a	155.8(s)
2	d	121.6	121.4	121.8
3	d	133.4	134.0	134.8
4	s	136.2	133.7	132.6
5	s	158.9	157.3 ^a	157.3
6	t	35.5	35.2	35.0
7	d	34.1	33.8	34.5
8	t	44.0	44.2	44.4
9	t	41.5	41.4	45.6 ^a
10	t	26.4	26.2	25.8
11	t	28.2	28.0	27.4
12	d	45.0	44.7	43.9 ^b
13	s	56.1	55.9	65.7
14	t	51.7	51.4	47.7 ^a
15	d	26.0	25.9	26.5 ^c
16	q	22.1	22.1	22.3
17	t		43.7	43.0 ^b
18	d		67.1	70.8
19	q		23.1	26.4 ^c
CO	s			172.6
CO	s			170.4
CH ₃ CO	q			21.2
CH ₃ CO	q			20.0

a, signals may be reversed.

b, " " " "

c, " " " "



Scheme 8. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of hydroxypropylcodine (36).

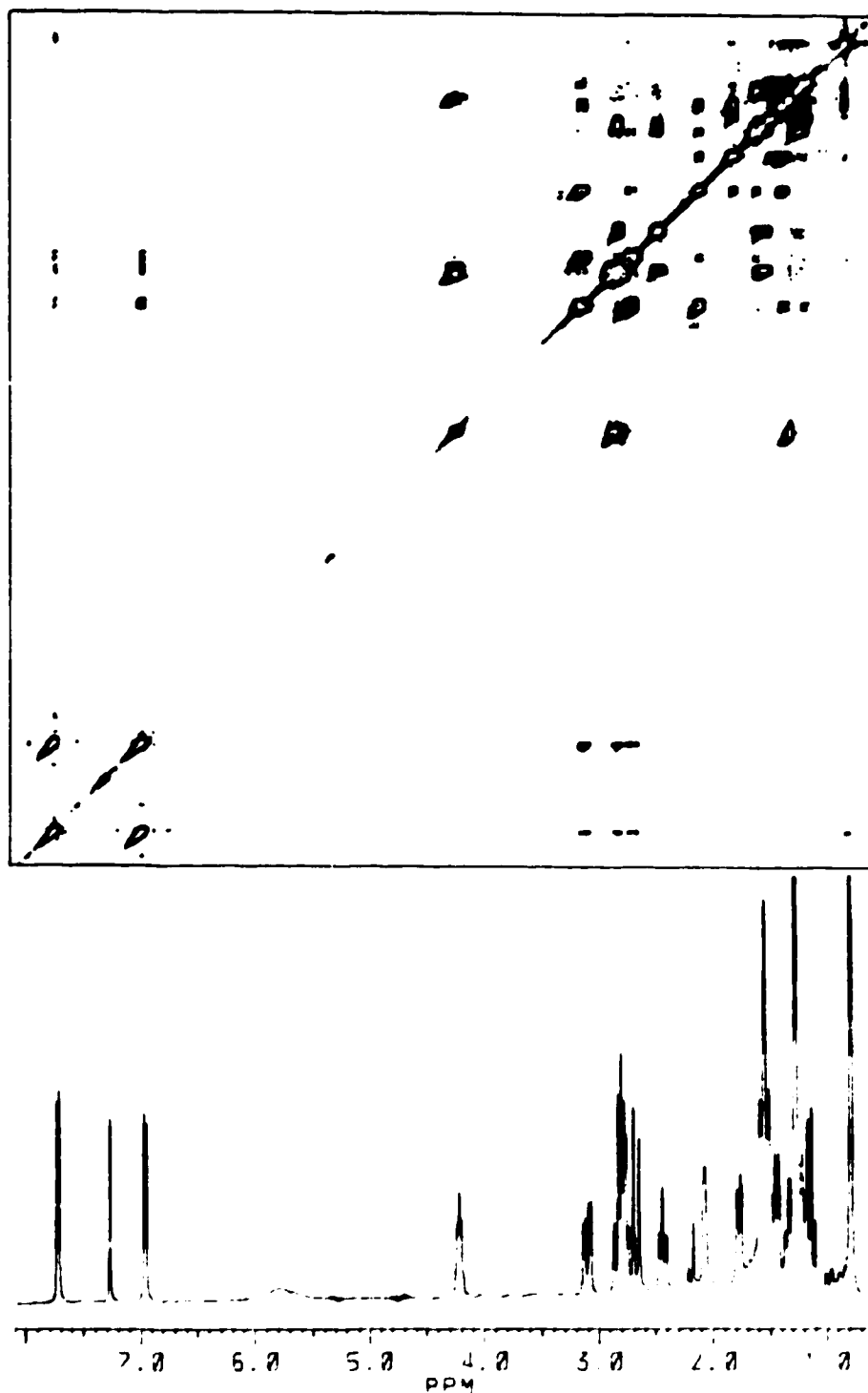
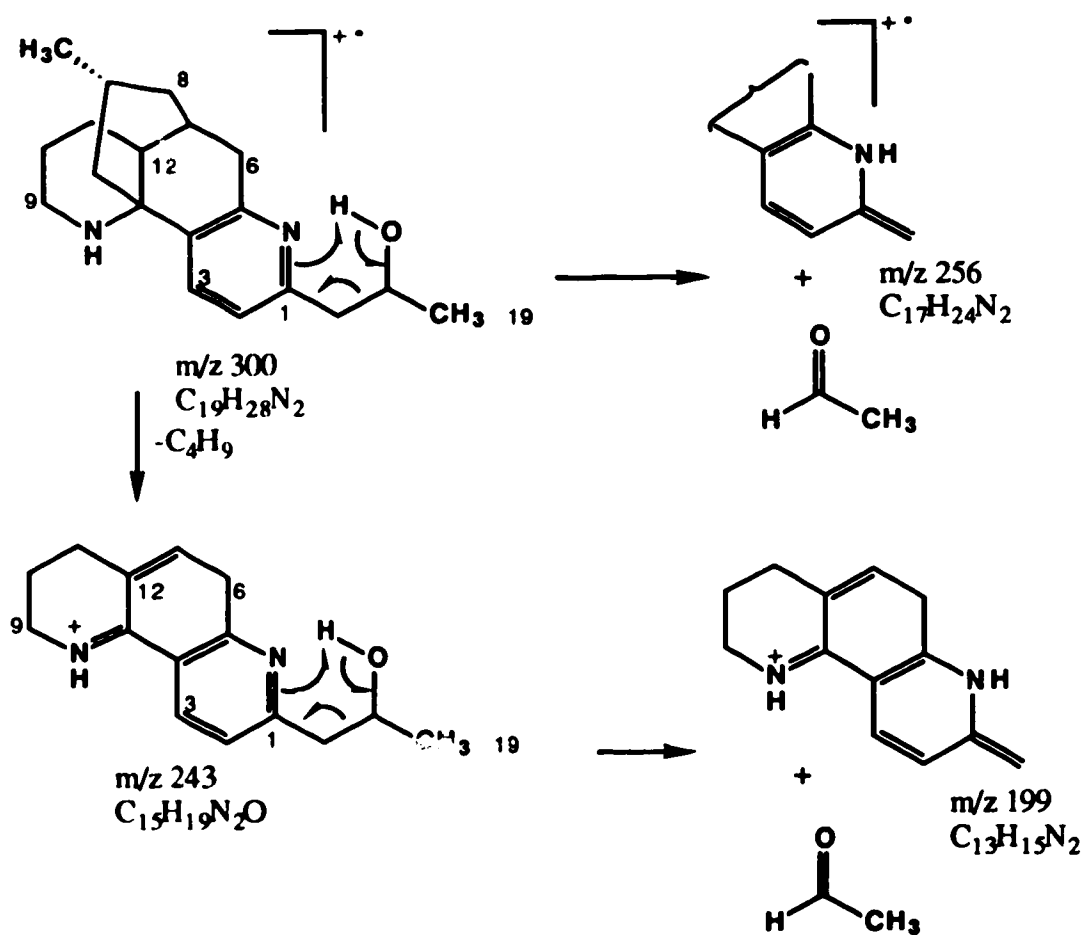


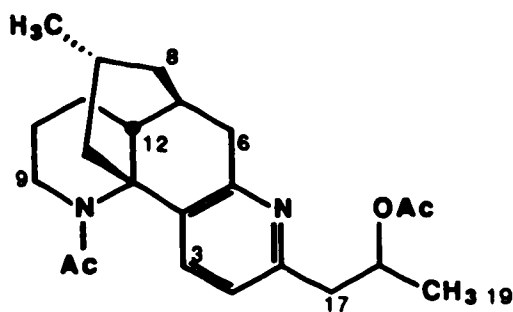
Figure 10. COSY 90 spectrum of hydroxypropyllycodine (3c) (CDCl_3 , 360 MHz).

In its hreims hydroxypropyllycodine (36) shows a base peak at m/z 243 ($C_{15}H_{19}N_2O$) which arises from loss of 57 (C_4H_9) units, as is commonly observed in the mass spectrum of some Lycopodium alkaloids³⁰. The ion at m/z 256 ($C_{17}H_{24}N_2$) is due to loss of acetaldehyde from the parent ion, while the ion at m/z 199 ($C_{13}H_{15}N_2$) arises from loss of acetaldehyde from the base peak as shown in scheme 9.



Scheme 9. Fragmentation in the hreims of hydroxypropyllycodine (36).

Upon acetylation, hydroxypropyllycodine (**36**) gave diacetate **37** ($C_{23}H_{32}N_2O_3$, 384.2305 from hreims). The fir spectrum of the diacetate shows the absence of NH and OH, but reveals presence of an acetoxy (1737 cm^{-1}) and N-acetyl (1656 cm^{-1}) groups.



37

In the ^1H nmr spectrum of diacetate **37** downfield shifts are observed for the carbonyl hydrogens at C-18 ($\delta 5.27$) and the methylene hydrogens at C-9 ($\delta 3.60$ and 2.63), C-17 ($\delta 3.03$ and 2.91), and C-14 ($\delta 3.17$ and 1.79). These hydrogens have shifted from the signals at $\delta 4.21$, 2.77 and 2.43 , 2.89 and 2.71 , and 1.43 and 1.13 , respectively, in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **36**. The chemical shift assignments are based on an analysis of the COSY 90 spectrum of diacetylhydroxypropyllycodine (**37**) (figure 11). The signal at $\delta 3.17$ (brdm, $J = 12\text{ Hz}$) is unambiguously assigned to the *equatorial* hydrogen at C-14. It is not possible to assign this signal from 1D ^1H nmr. However, bold lines in the expanded spectrum (figure 12) show that the methyl group at C-16 ($\delta 0.81$) is coupled to the methine hydrogen at C-15 ($\delta 1.18$), which is further coupled to the methylene hydrogens at C-14 ($\delta 3.17$ and 1.17). The *equatorial* hydrogen ($\delta 3.17$) is shifted downfield ($\Delta 1.74$) due to the deshielding effect of the N-acetyl carbonyl group.

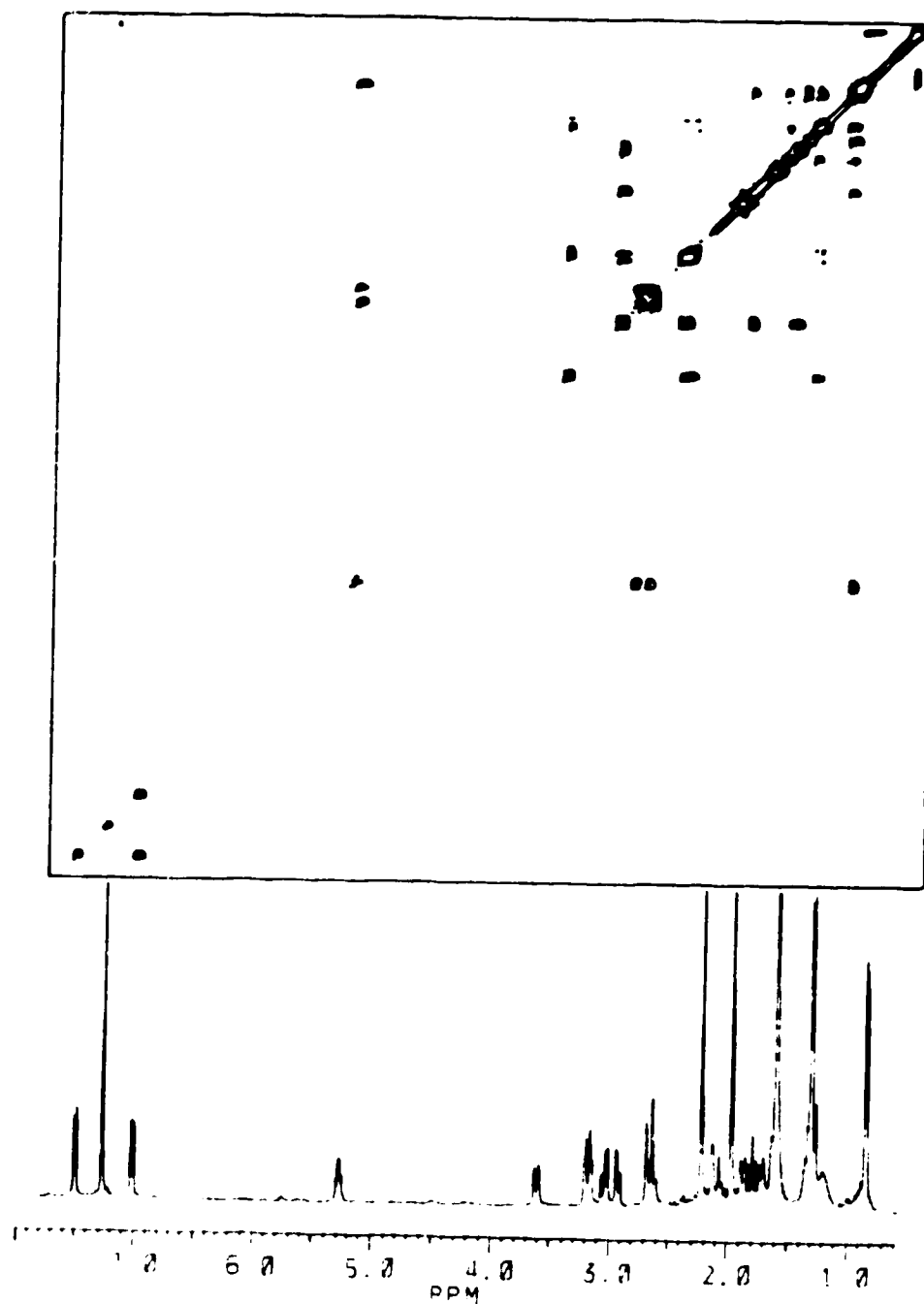


Figure 11. COSY 90 spectrum of diacetylmethylpropylpyridine (37)
(CDCl₃, 360 MHz).

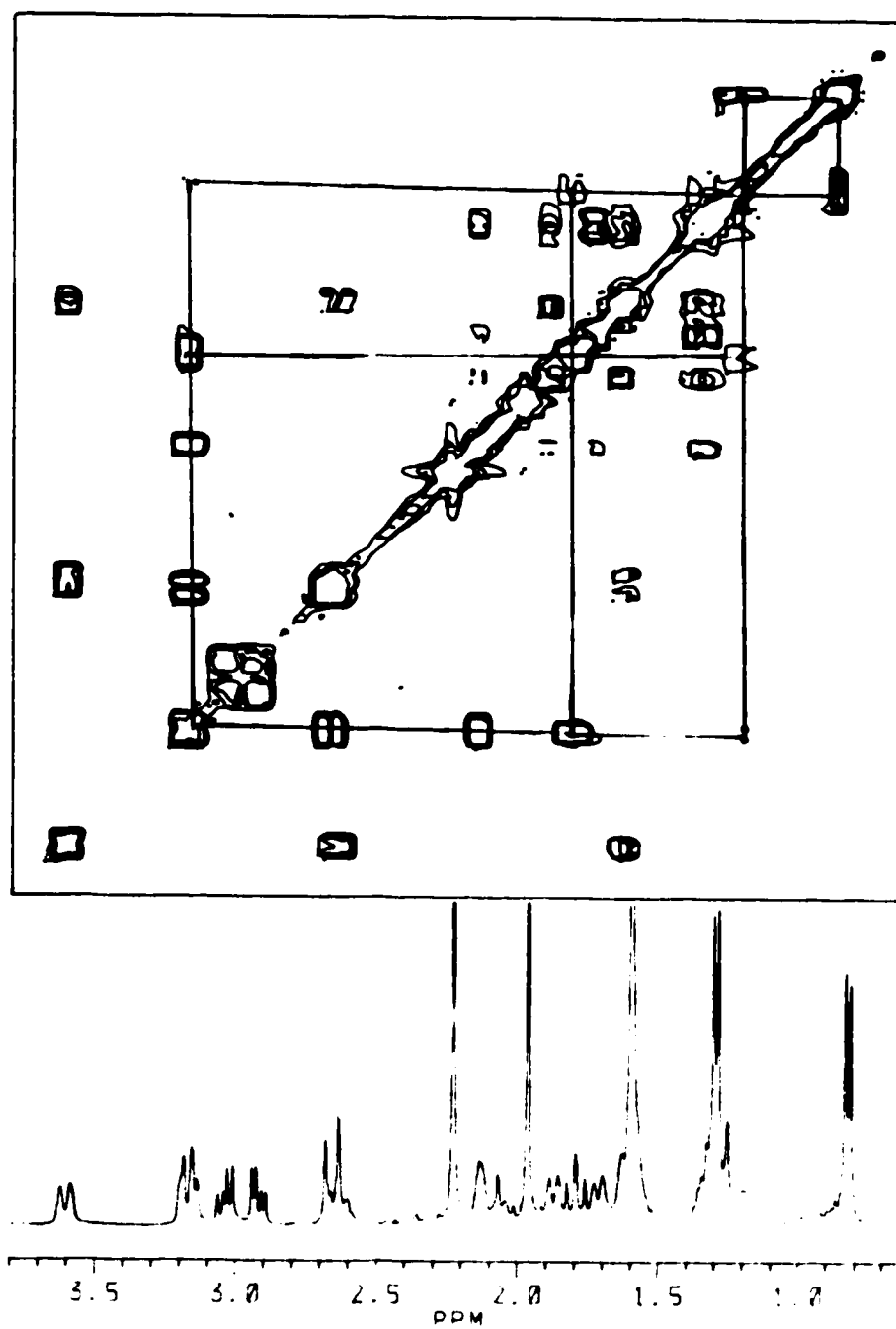
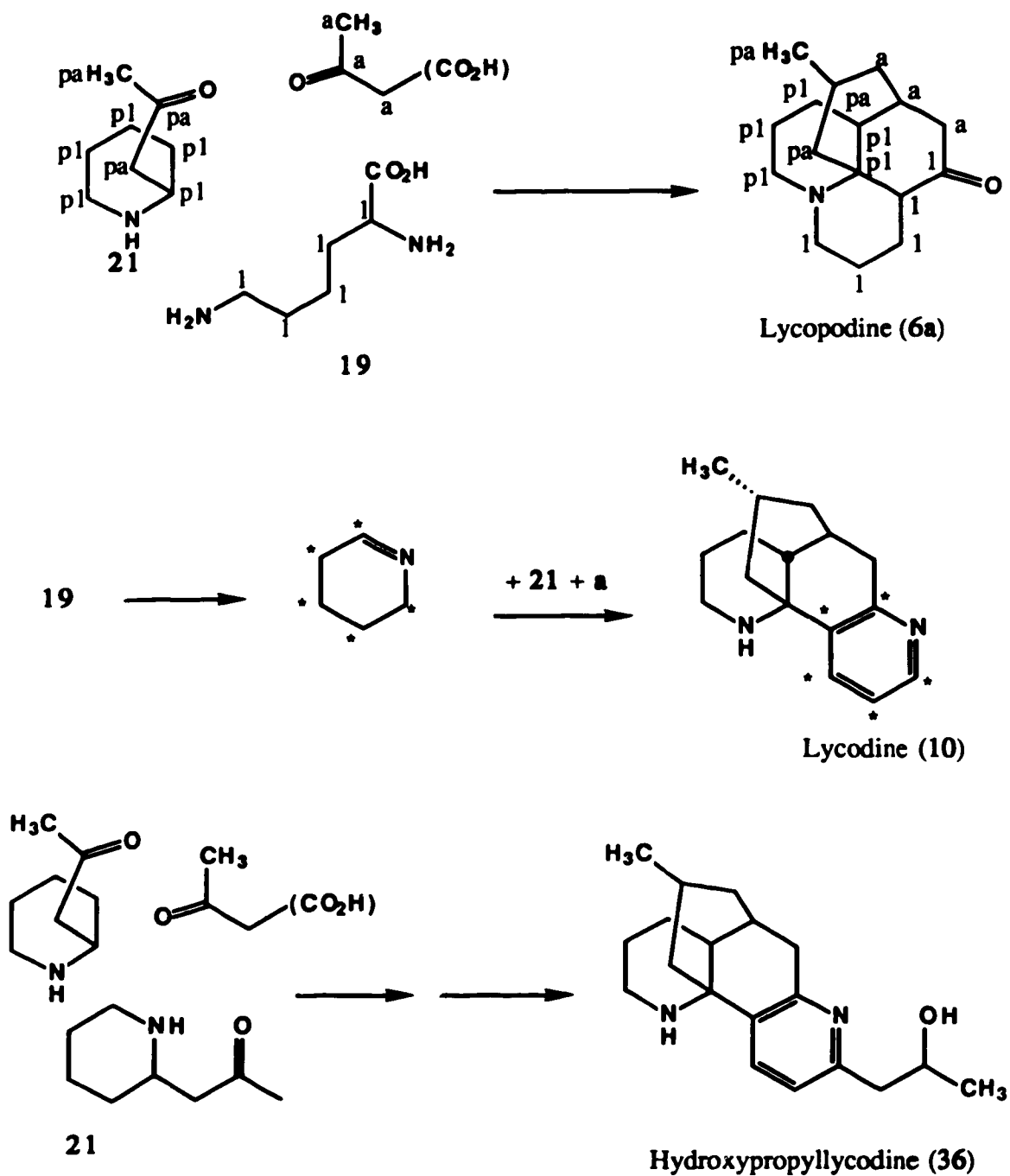


Figure 12. COSY 90 expansion spectrum of diacetylhydroxypropyllycodine (37).



Scheme 10. Summary of the biogenesis of some Lycopodium alkaloids.

Hydroxyprotrycolidine is the first encountered Lycopodium alkaloid with a nineteen carbon skeleton and thus is biogenetically very interesting. As indicated in scheme 10, the skeleton can be constructed from two pelletierine units and one (decarboxylated) acetoacetate unit.

Des-N-methyl β -obscurine (12d).

The more polar fraction of crude *L. obscurum* precipitates base 12d as white granules upon trituration with cold acetone. Base 12d crystallizes from acetone-methanol as colourless needles mp 290-292.5°C, and is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = -34^\circ$).

In its mass spectrum base 12d shows a molecular ion, m/z 258.1733 ($C_{16}H_{22}N_2O$). The base peak is at m/z 201 ($C_{12}H_{13}N_2O$) arising from loss of a C_4H_9 unit, the characteristic fragmentation observed in many Lycopodium alkaloids³⁰. None of the nitrogen atoms in the molecule are lost, suggesting that both nitrogens are present as part of a ring system. The presence of ions at m/z 215 ($C_{13}H_{15}N_2O$) and m/z 173 ($C_{10}H_9N_2O$) arising from loss of a C_3H_7 unit from the parent ion and a C_2H_4 unit from the base peak, respectively is also typical of certain Lycopodium alkaloid series.

In the IR spectrum of 12d, sharp medium intensity absorptions at 3302 and 3021 cm^{-1} are consistent with the presence of an NH and an olefinic CH group, respectively. Sharp and strong absorptions at 1659, 1623, and 1554 cm^{-1} are consistent with the presence of an α -pyridone ring³¹. Absorptions in the UV spectrum (λ_{max} 230(3.8) and 314(3.7) nm) and ^{13}C NMR spectrum (δ 164.7(s), 145.5(s), 134.9(d), 117.9(s) and 117.5(d)) support the presence of an α -pyridone ring. The presence of two *ortho* related hydrogens (δ 7.57 and 6.44, $J = 9$ Hz) in the 1H NMR spectrum reveals that the pyridone ring is disubstituted. Huperzine A (1) and B (2) which also possess an α -pyridone ring show similar UV and IR data⁸.

The ^1H nmr spectrum accounts for twenty of the twenty two hydrogens in the formula. Since the ^1H nmr of base **12d** is apparently unchanged on D_2O exchange, the missing two hydrogens are too broad to be observed. This information is consistent with the presence of NH hydrogens. The large magnitude of *geminal* coupling ($J = 19$ Hz) between the methylene hydrogens ($\delta 2.91$ and 2.40) is consistent with a methylene group at C-6, α to an sp^2 hybridized center at C-5 of the α -pyridone ring. The C-6 methylene hydrogen ($\delta 2.91$) is coupled to a methine hydrogen ($\delta 2.01$ br sextet, $J = 3$ Hz). Irradiation of H-6 ($\delta 2.91$) simplifies the signal at $\delta 2.40$ (d, $J = 19$ Hz) to a singlet, while the methine hydrogen ($\delta 2.01$) collapses to a broad quintet. Careful inspection of the remaining signals in the ^1H nmr spectrum (see experimental) indicates similarity to the ^1H nmr spectrum of lycodine (**10**) and hydroxypropyllycodine (**36**).

The ^{13}C APT spectrum of base **12d** shows signals for the sixteen carbons present in its formula (11 quaternary / CH_2 signals and 5 CH_3 / CH signals). The carbon chemical shifts are similar to those reported for huperzine B (**2**)⁸ (table 14). Base **12d** differs from huperzine B at C-14 and C-15, which are sp^2 hybridized in huperzine B and sp^3 hybridized in **12d**. These data suggest that base **12d** is des-N-methyl- β -obscurine. Des-N-methyl- β -obscurine has previously been prepared in these laboratories^{16b}. The natural product is identical with the sample prepared from β -obscurine (ir, uv, and ^1H nmr). To our knowledge this is the first report of its occurrence in nature.

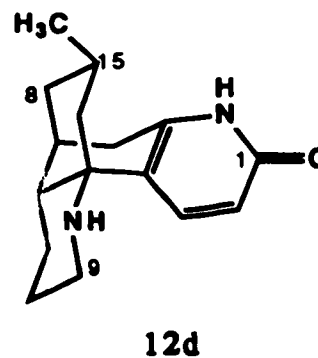
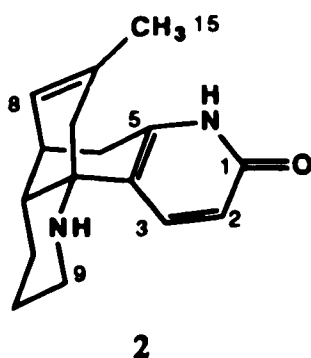


Table 14 Comparison of the carbon 13 nmr spectra of des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (12d) and huperzine B (2).

Chemical shift in δ .			
C	mult.	2 (25.18 MHz)	12d (100.6 MHz)
1	s	165.4	164.7
2	d	117.9	117.5
3	d	140.4	139.9
4	s	117.9	117.9
5	s	143.3	144.5
6	t	29.45	30.1
7	d	34.59	33.4
8	d	126.1	43.2(t) ^a
9	t	48.03	49.6
10	t	25.3	25.8
11	t	28.1	27.9
12	d	40.7	44.7
13	s	53.2	54.5
14	t	41.7	41.3 ^a
15	s	132.2	29.5(d)
16	q	22.7	21.9

a, signals may be reversed.

Lyconnotinol (38).

Preparative tlc of the more polar (lower Rf) chromatography fractions afforded a minor base, compound 38, isolated as the major component of a mixture containing some other minor alkaloids. Base 38 decomposes on standing exposed to air to a more polar reddish brown material. This may be separated from base 38 by filtration through alumina (methanol-dichloromethane). A pure sample of the alkaloid was obtained as its monoacetyl derivative 39.

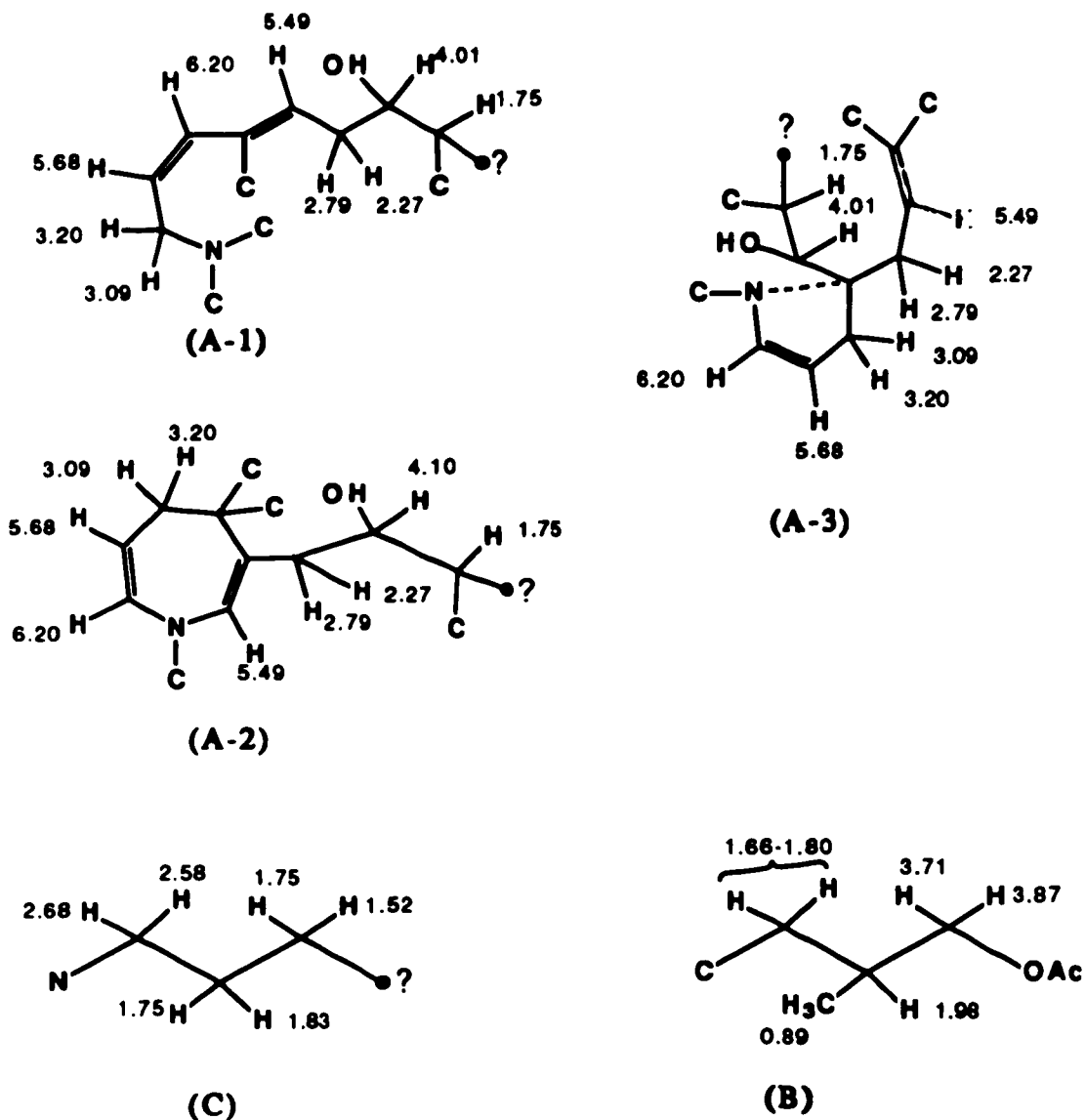
The molecular weight 263 ($C_{16}H_{25}NO_2$) for base 38 was deduced by a combination of gc / ms, hreims, and cims. The peak at m/z 264 (100%) in cims corresponds to a protonated form of base 38. The parent ion was not evident in the gc/ms or in the hreims. The monoacetyl derivative 39, however, indicates a parent ion at m/z 305 ($C_{18}H_{27}NO_3$). The gc / ms of base 38 displays peaks arising from loss of a molecule of water (m/z 245) and loss of hydroxyl group plus a molecule of water (m/z 288). This indicates that the oxygens in the molecular formula of 38 exist as two hydroxyl functionalities. The primary nature of one of the hydroxyl groups is evident from the 1H nmr spectrum of 38. An AB pattern observed at δ 3.42 and 3.28 is consistent with the presence of a methylene group *geminal* to a primary hydroxyl group. The AB pattern in the 1H nmr spectrum of monoacetate 39 is shifted downfield by ca Δ 0.41 as expected for a primary alcohol³².

In the 1H nmr spectrum of monoacetate 39 absorptions at δ 6.20, 5.68, and 5.49 are attributed to olefinic hydrogens, while absorptions at δ 4.10 and 1.38 are due to a carbonyl and hydroxyl hydrogen, respectively. On addition of D_2O , the signal at δ 4.10 (m) simplifies to a double doublet ($J = 7.5, 3.4$ Hz) and the signal at δ 1.38 (brd, $J = 3.3$ Hz) disappears.

The ^{13}C APT spectrum of the monoacetate **39** shows eighteen carbons (10 quaternary / CH_2 signals and 8 CH_3 / CH signals). There are five sp^2 hybridized carbons including the acetoxyl carbonyl (δ 171.2 (s), 137.6 (s), 128.3 (d), 124.6 (d), and 122.9 (d)). The signals at δ 69.2 (d) and 69.0 (t) in ^{13}C nmr spectrum are due to carbons bearing a secondary and primary hydroxyl group, respectively. Three olefinic hydrogens plus four sp^2 hybridized carbons are consistent with two carbon-carbon double bonds in the molecule. Five sites of unsaturation are suggested by the molecular formula. Since there are two double bonds base **38** must have a tricyclic structure. Absorption in the uv spectrum at λ_{max} 235 (3.7) nm indicates either that the double bonds exist as a *transoid* conjugated diene³³ or that one of the double bonds is α to a nitrogen atom²².

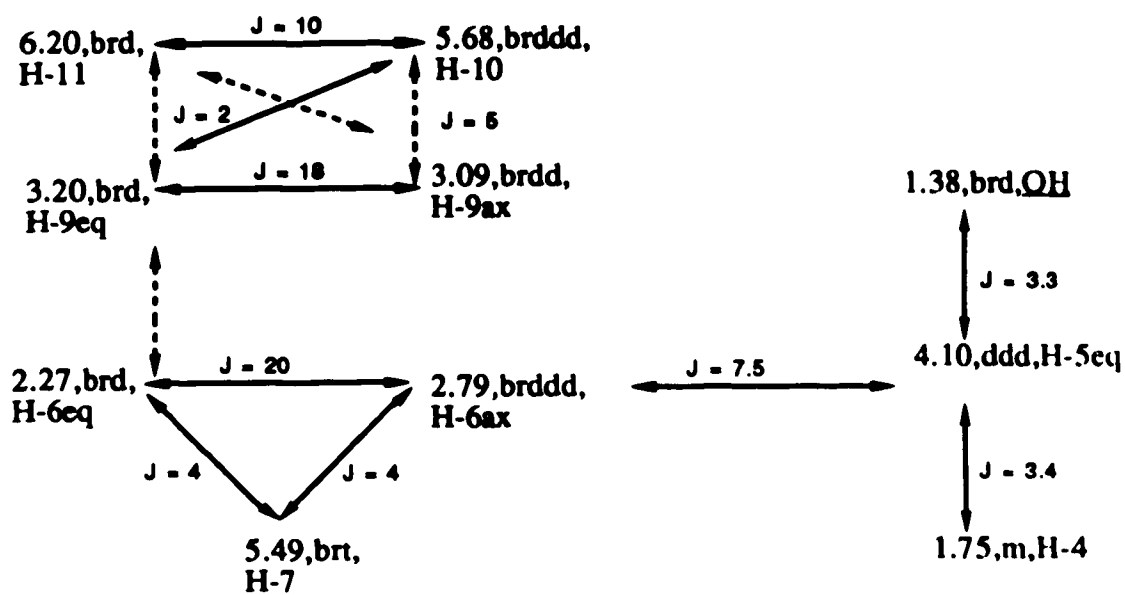
^1H nmr studies with monoacetate **39** (figure 13) revealed the ^1H - ^1H connectivities. The three spin systems I, II, and III (scheme 11) were derived by analysis of the COSY 90 spectrum.

Consideration of the uv and nmr data led to the three possible partial structures A-1, A-2, and A-3. The *cis* related olefinic hydrogens (δ 6.20 and 5.68) each show coupling to an AB quartet (δ 3.20 and 3.09). The hydrogen resonating at δ 3.20 shows long range coupling to a methylene hydrogen (δ 2.27), whose *geminal* partner resonates at δ 2.79. Each of the methylene hydrogens (δ 2.27 and 2.79) show coupling to the olefinic hydrogen (δ 5.49). The hydrogen resonating at δ 2.79 is further coupled to the carbonyl hydrogen (δ 4.10), which is in turn coupled to the hydroxyl hydrogen (δ 1.38) and to a signal centered at ca δ 1.75 (see slice from the COSY 90 spectrum centered at δ 4.10, figure 14). Partial structure A-3 was discarded on the basis of the coupling constant between the carbonyl hydrogen (δ 4.10) and the hydrogen resonating at δ 2.79, $J = 7.5$ Hz. Partial structure A-3 requires a four bond coupling of 7.5 Hz, which is unlikely³⁴.

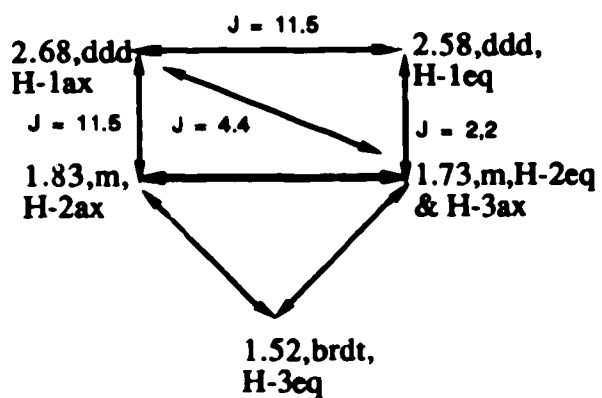


Partial structure B was evident from correlations of spin system II. The hydrogens of an AB quartet (δ 3.87 and 3.71) are coupled to a methine hydrogen (δ 1.98), which is further coupled to a methyl (δ 0.89) and a methylene group resonating in the multiplet (δ 1.66-1.80) (see slice from the COSY 90 spectrum centered at δ 1.98, figure 14). The hreims of 38 and 39 provides support for partial structure B. The base peak at m/z 190 arises from loss of partial structure B as C_4H_9O in 38 and as $C_6H_{11}O_2$ in 39.

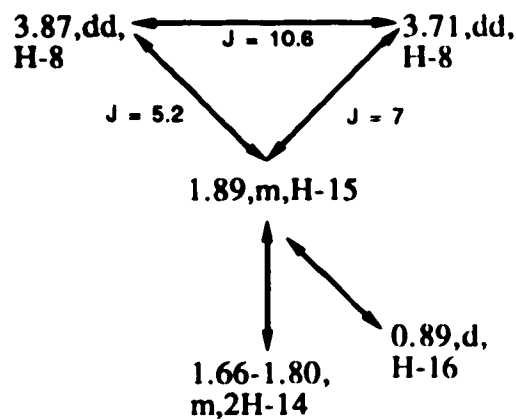
(I)



(III)



(II)



Scheme 11. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of monoacetylycconotinol (39).

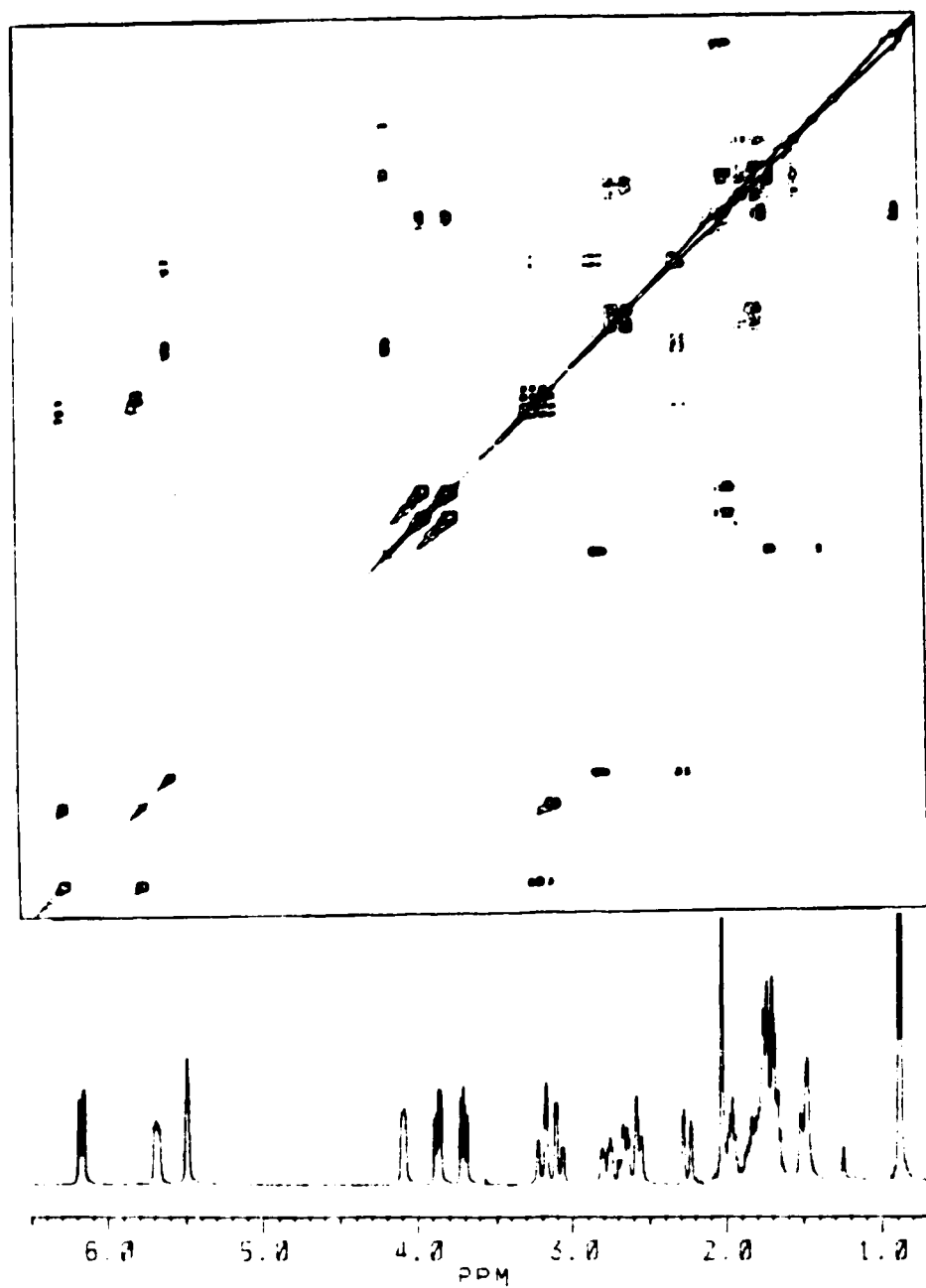


Figure 13 COSY 90 spectrum of monoacetyllyconnotinol (39) (CDCl_3 , 360 MHz).

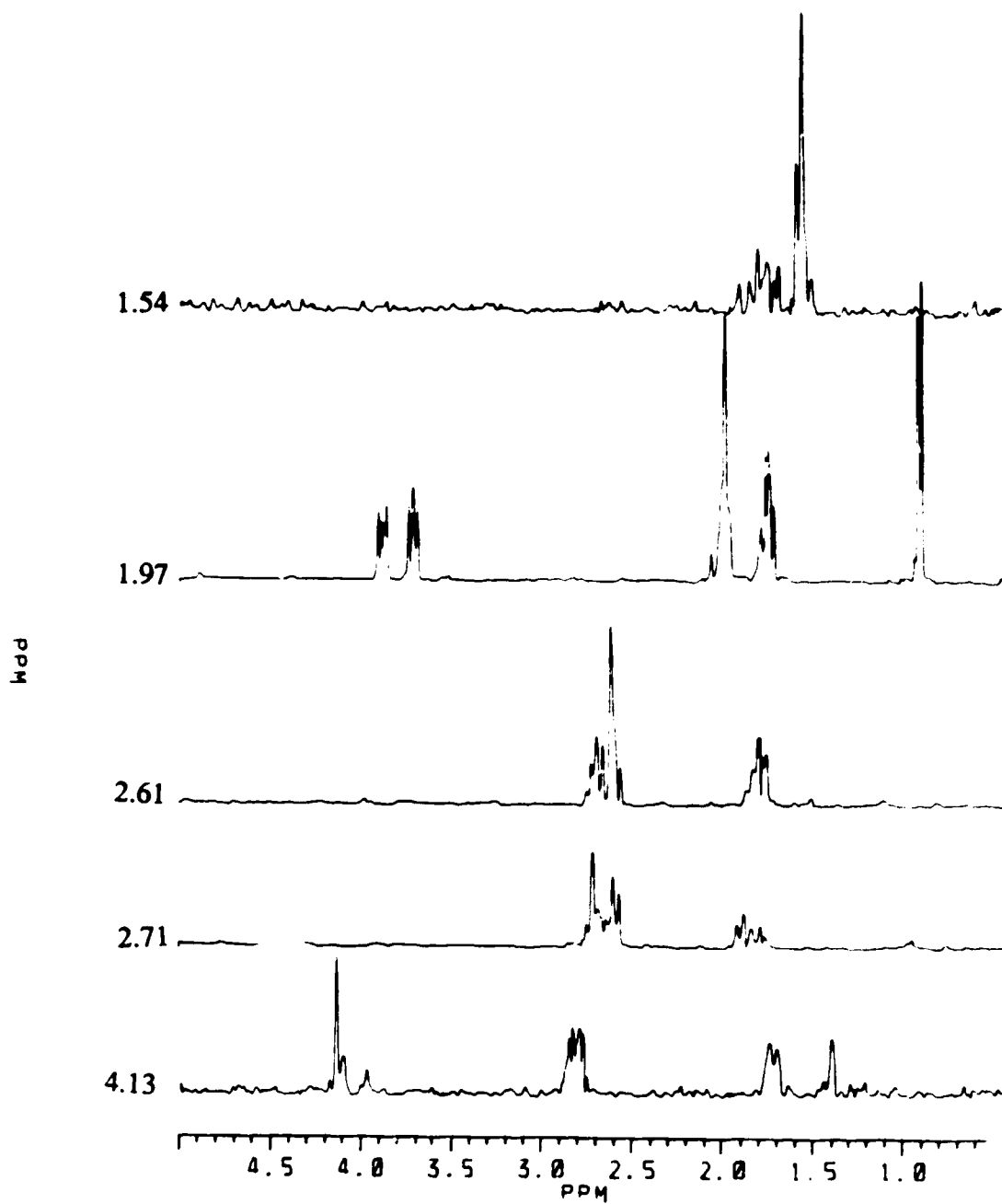
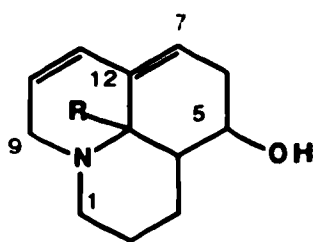


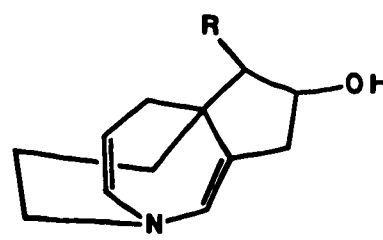
Figure 14 Slices from the COSY 90 spectrum of monoacetyllyconnotinol (39).

Partial structures A-1 or A-2 and B account for fourteen of the eighteen carbons in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum (2 quaternary, 2 CH_3 , 4 CH_2 , and 6 CH signals). With the exception of one signal at $\delta 55.9$ (quaternary carbon), the remaining three CH_2 signals are accounted for in correlations of spin system III, which gives rise to partial structure C.

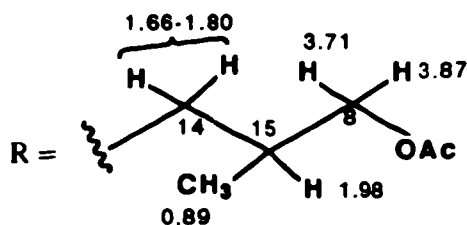
Structure 39 was formulated from partial structures A-1, B, and C and structure 40 was formulated from partial structures A-2, B, and C. Structure 40 was disfavored since in 40 the lone pair on the nitrogen atom is not orthogonal to any of the carbon-carbon double bonds and thus could not account for the uv spectrum. Also, structure 40 does not account for an easy loss of the hydroxyisobutyl group (partial structure B) to afford a base peak at m/z 190 in the hreims.



39



40



Support for structure 39 was provided by NOESY and nOe experiments. The NOESY spectrum (figure 15) verified the *geminal* partners for methylene groups. Stronger dipolar couplings (indicated by solid lines) are observed between *geminal*

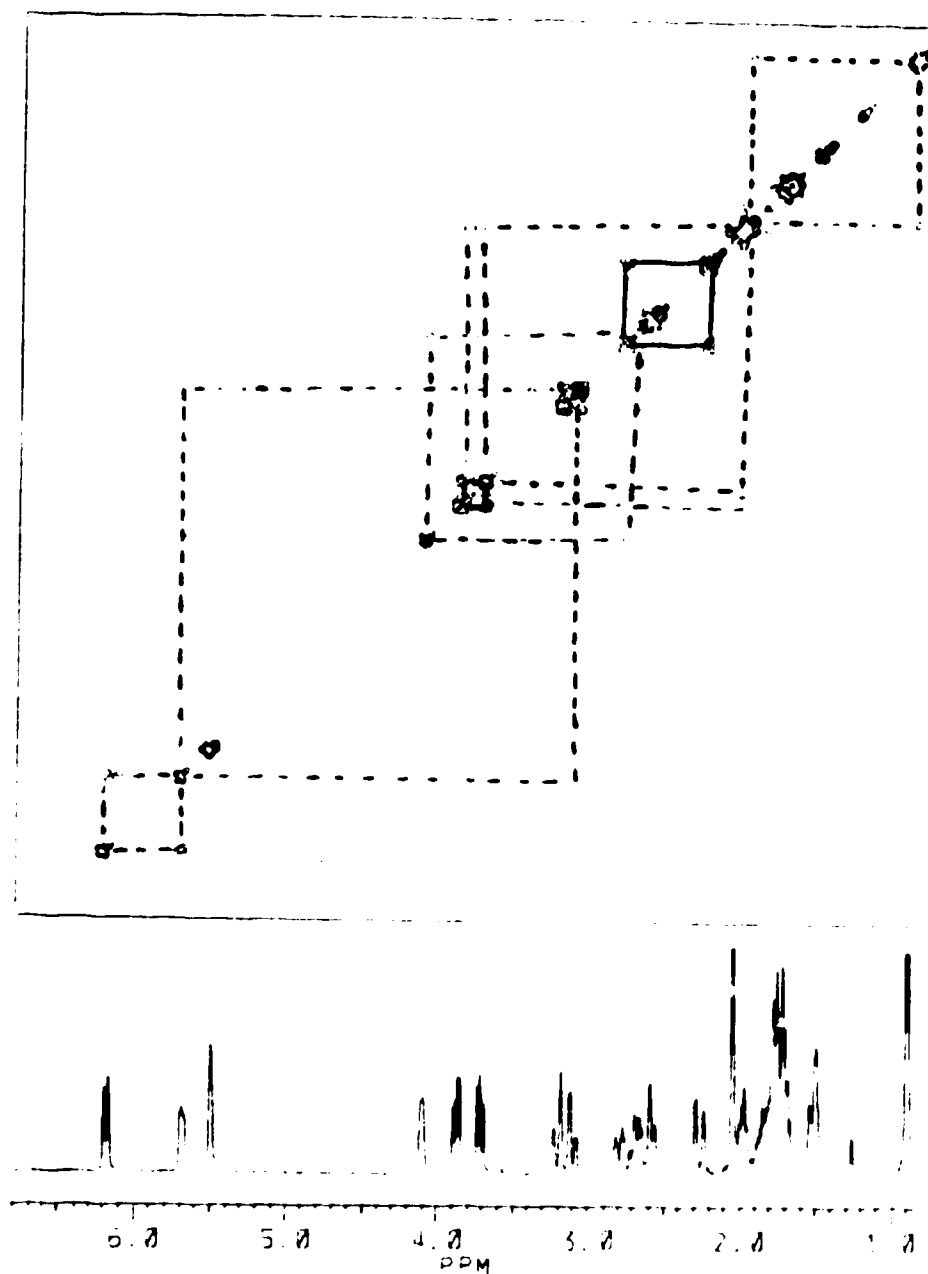


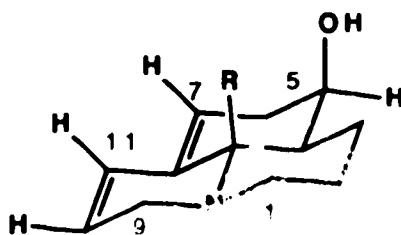
Figure 15 NOESY 45 spectrum of monoacetyllyconnotinol (39)
(CDCl₃, 400 MHz).

partners than between any other pair (indicated by dashed lines). In the ^1H nOe experiments signal enhancements upon irradiation of various hydrogens are as shown in table 15.

Table 15 ^1H nmr nOe experiments with monoacetyllyconnotinol (39)
(CDCl_3 , 360 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ .	
Signal saturated	Observed change(%nOe)
6.2(H-11)	5.68(H-10)(6.5) 5.49(H-7)(6.5)
5.68(H-10)	6.20(H-11)(7.6) 3.20/3.03(2H-9)(3.4)
5.49(H-7)	6.20(H-11)(7.6) 2.79(H-6ax)(2.5) 2.27(H-6eq)(2.5)
4.10(H-5eq)	2.79(H-6ax)(3.7) 1.80-1.66(H-4ax)(12.9) 1.38(OH)(8.6)
3.87(H-8a)	3.71(H-8b)(20.6) 1.98(H-15)(7.4)
3.71(H-8b)	3.87(H-8a)(17.3) 1.98(H-15)(4.7)
2.79(H-6ax)	5.49(H-7)(3.4) 4.01(H-5eq)(3.4) 2.27(H-6eq)(17.4)
2.27(H-6eq)	2.79(H-6ax)(12.3)
1.38(-OH)	4.01(H-5eq)(7.6)
0.89(H-16)	1.98(H-15)(13.0) 1.80(H-14)(8.0)

The hydroxyl group at C-5 is *axial* and hindered as required by the acetylation experiment where treatment of base **38** with acetic anhydride at room temperature effected acetylation almost exclusively at the primary hydroxyl group. Acetylation at C-5 occurred only to a very small extent.

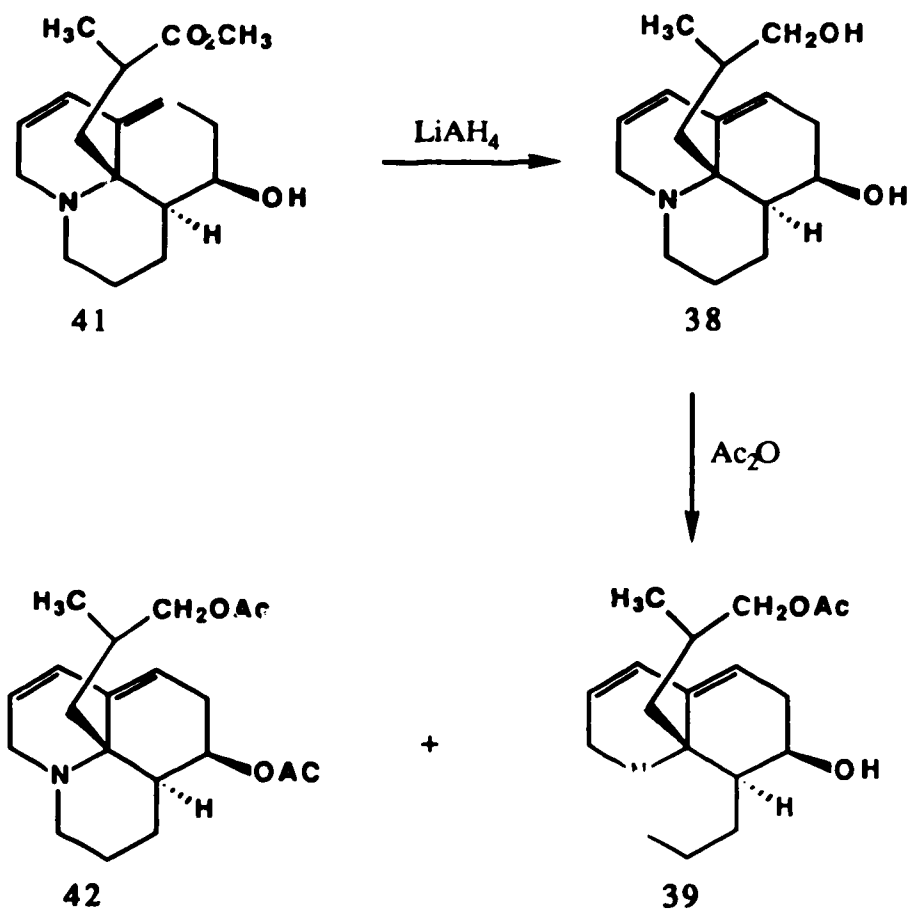


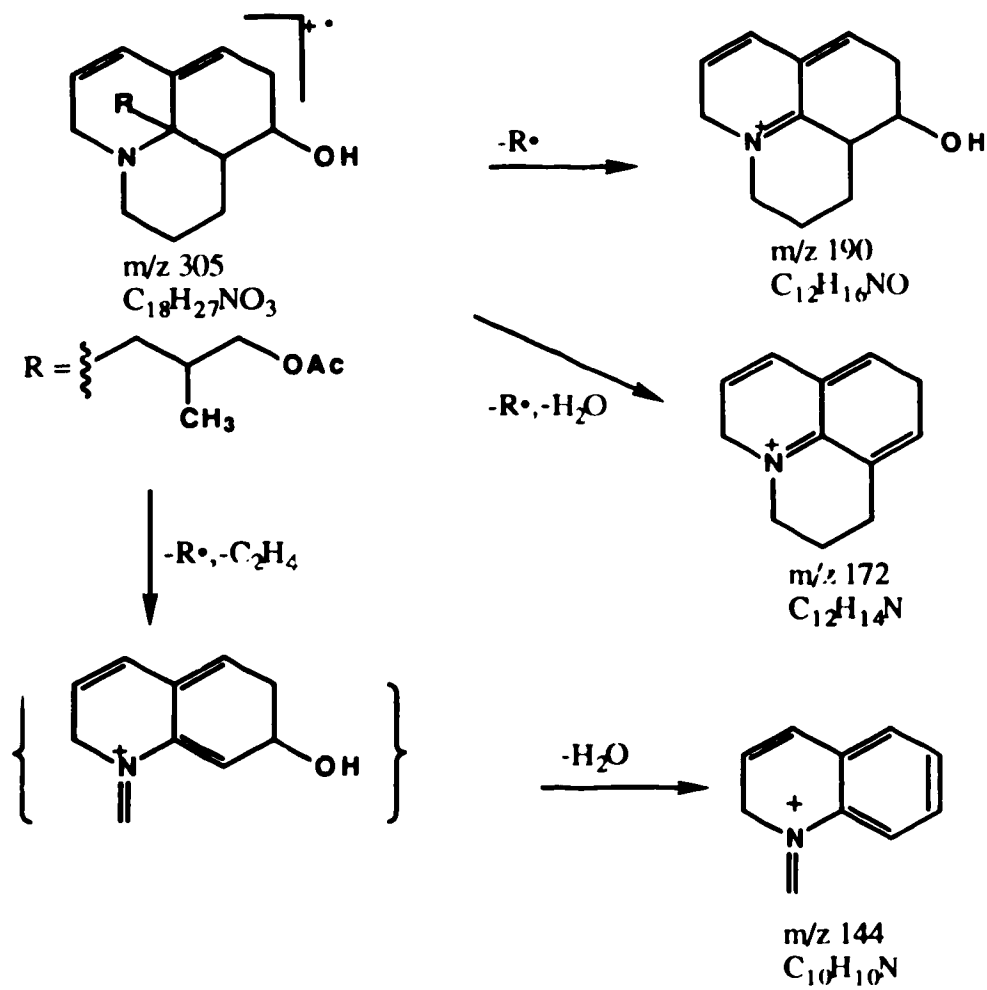
29

A fragmentary pattern in the NMRs consistent with structure **39** is as shown in scheme 12. Compound **39** is related to a known alkaloid, lyconnotine (**41**)³⁵. To verify structure **39** lyconnotine (**41**) was reduced with lithium aluminium hydride to give a diol. The diol **38** obtained was identical with the naturally occurring base **38** (¹H and ¹³C nmr spectra). Acetylation of synthetic **38** afforded the mono and diacetyl derivatives **39** and **42**, respectively. The derived monoacetate **39** was also identical with that from the natural product (¹H and ¹³C nmr spectra). We therefore suggest the name lyconnotinol for base **38**.

The carbon-chemical shift assignments for lyconnotine (**41**), lyconnotinol (**38**), monoacetyllyconnotinol (**39**), and diacetyllyconnotinol (**42**) based on ¹³C APT experiments are shown in table 16. It is not possible to unambiguously distinguish C-7 from C-10 and C-2 from C-3. A ¹H-¹³C correlation experiment was carried out on

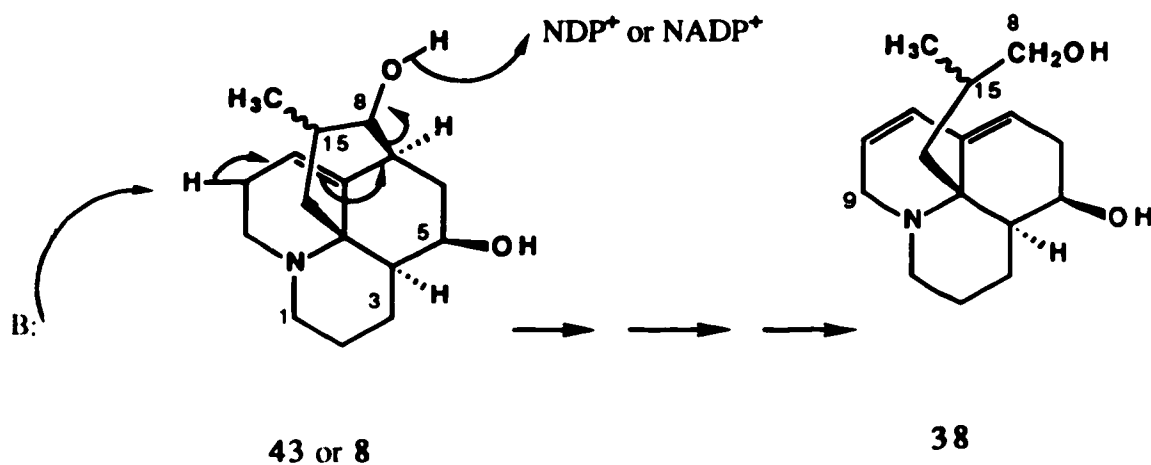
monoacetyllyconnotinol (**39**) (figure 16). There is a cross peak between H-10 (δ 5.68) and C-10 (δ 124.6) and between H-3 (δ 1.52) and C-3 (δ 22.7).





Scheme 12. Fragmentation in the hreims of monoacetylylconnotinol (39).

A possible biogenesis for lyconnotinol (**38**) or lyconnotine (**41**) from lycofoline (**8**) or acrifolinol (**43**) (structures *vide infra*) is shown in scheme 13 (lycfoline (**8**) and acrifolinol (**43**) are C-15 epimers). The absolute configuration at C-15 of lyconnotinol or lyconnotine still remains unsolved. Knowledge of the absolute configuration at C-15 of lyconnotinol or lyconnotine would provide a clue as to whether **8** or **43** is a precursor in the biogenesis of **38** and **41**. This is the second report of this particular skeleton among the Lycopodium alkaloids. Lyconnotine is the other example.



Scheme 13. A possible biogenesis of lyconnotinol (**38**) from acrifolinol (**43**) or lycofoline (**8**).

Table 16 ^{13}C nmr spectra of lyconnotine (41), lyconnotinol (38), monoacetyllyconnotinol (39), and diacetyllyconnotinol (42). (CDCL₃, 100.6 MHz).

C	mult.	Chemical shift in δ .			
		41	38	39	42
1	t	48.2	47.7	48.0	47.7
2	t	25.8	25.6	26.0	25.7
3	t	23.4	22.8	22.7	22.6
4	d	47.5	48.0	48.3	46.7
5	d	69.4	69.2	69.3	71.2
6	t	35.4	34.6	34.8	32.0
7	d	123.0	122.7	122.9	122.2
8	t	178.3(s)	69.0	70.5	70.3
9	t	49.3	49.7	49.8	49.8
10	d	124.7	124.3	124.6	124.7
11	d	127.1	128.4	128.3	128.1
12	s	136.8	138.0	137.6	137.6
13	s	56.1	56.2	55.9	55.6
14	t	27.6	27.1	26.8	26.6
15	d	37.2	32.6	29.5	29.4
16	q	21.0	19.7	20.0	20.1
17	q	51.2			
COCH ₃	s			171.2	170.7/171.2
COCH ₃	q			21.0	21.0/21.4

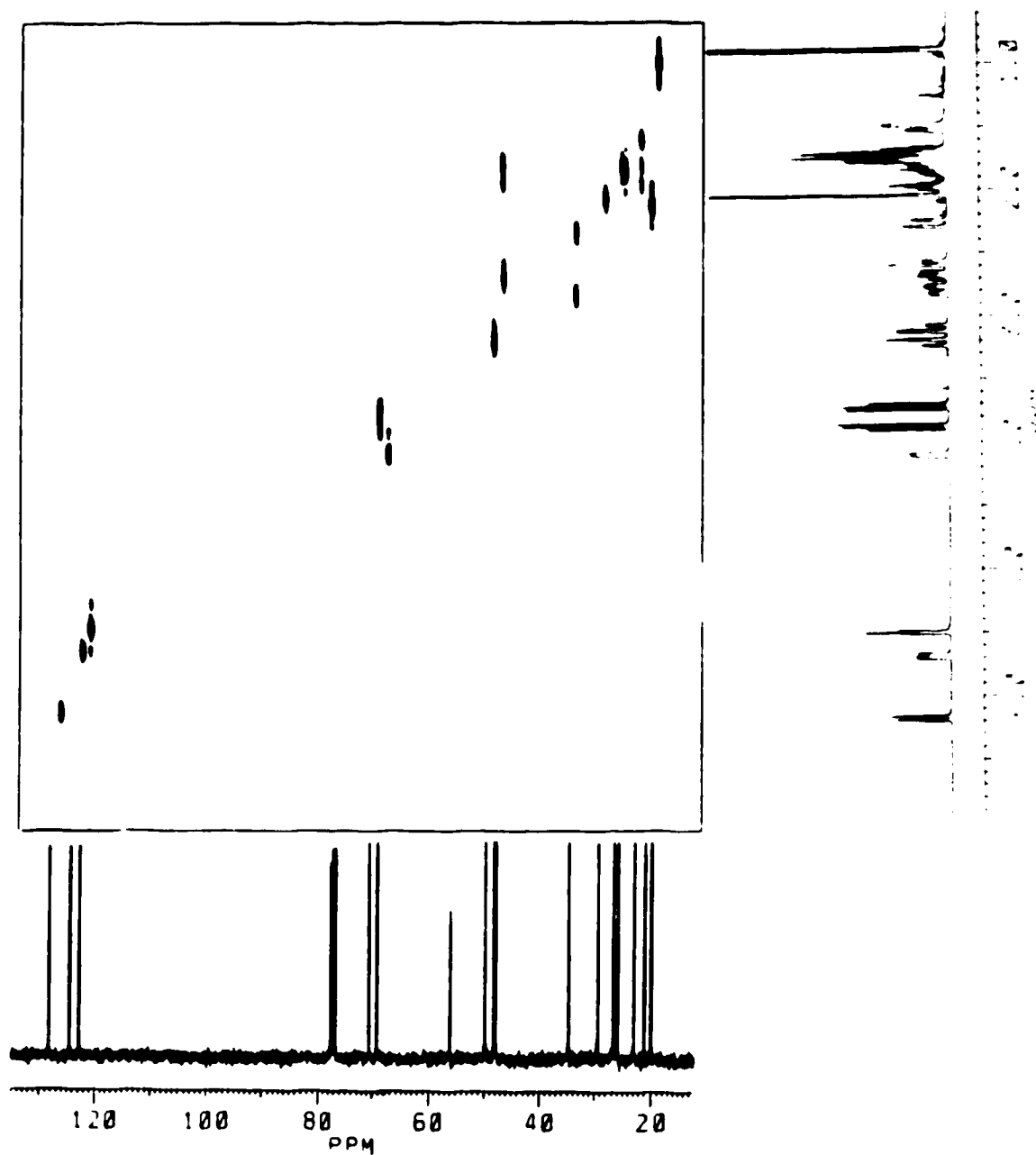


Figure 16 ^1H - ^{13}C COSY spectrum of monoacetyllyconnotinol (39)
(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

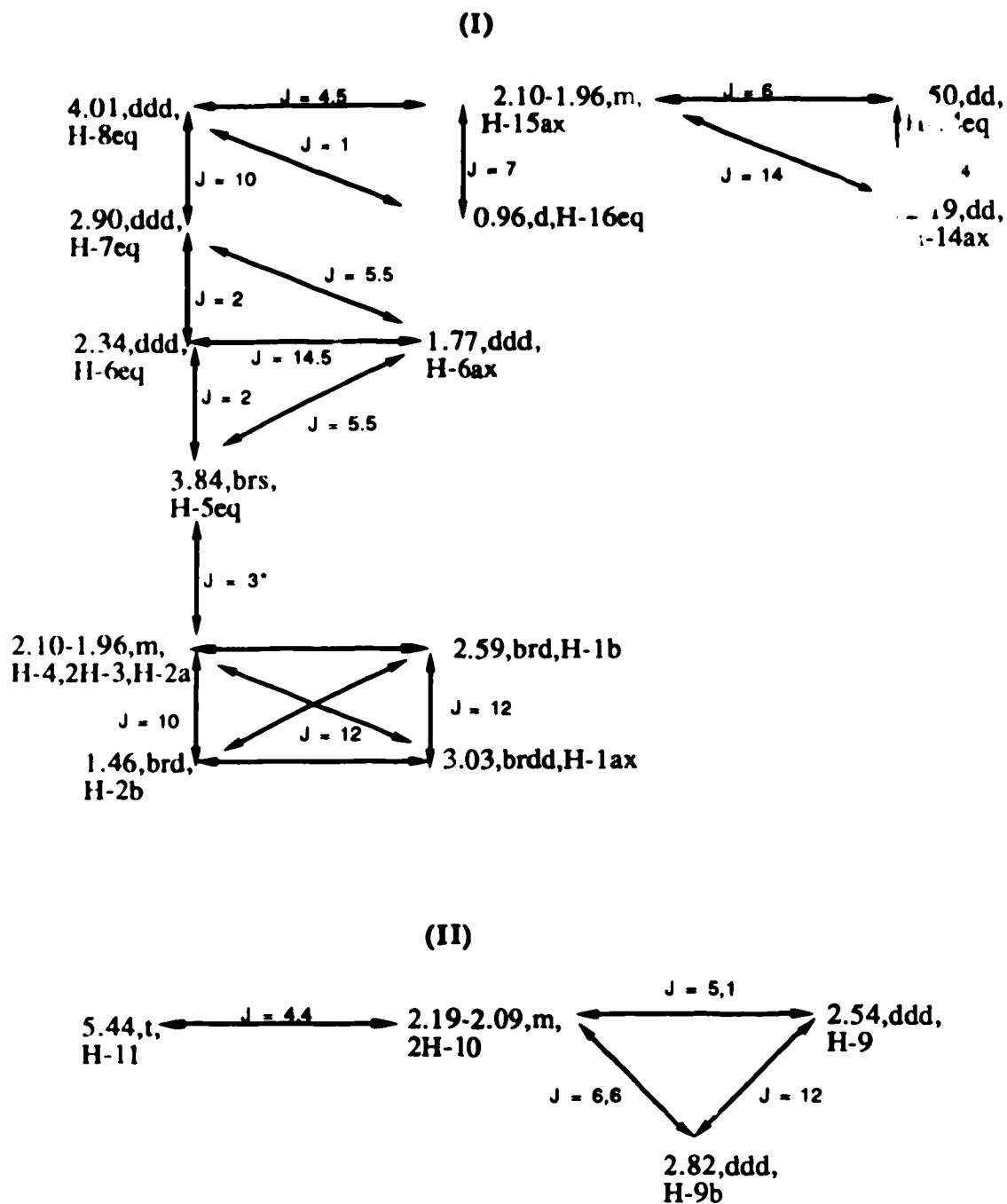
Acrifolinol (43) and Lycofoline (8)

Fractions containing lyconnotinol (38) also afforded two minor, closely related, isomeric alkaloids 43 and 8. The hreims spectra of both 43 and 8 indicate a molecular formula, $C_{16}H_{25}NO_2$ (263) and cims spectra confirm the molecular weight of each. The hreims of both compounds display identical fragmentation patterns consistent with a lycopodane skeleton.

The 1H nmr spectrum of base 43 shows signals characteristic of an olefinic hydrogen (δ 5.44), two carbonyl hydrogens (δ 4.01 and 3.84), and a secondary methyl group (δ 0.96). The ^{13}C APT experiment with base 43 indicates the presence of two sp^2 hybridized carbons (δ 146.3, s and 116.4, d) and two carbons bearing secondary hydroxyl groups (δ 73.5, d and 69.6, d). The absorption bands at 3200 and 1052 cm^{-1} in the ftir spectrum of 43 confirm the presence of hydroxyl groups. Five sites of unsaturation in the molecular formula are consistent with a tetracyclic skeleton.

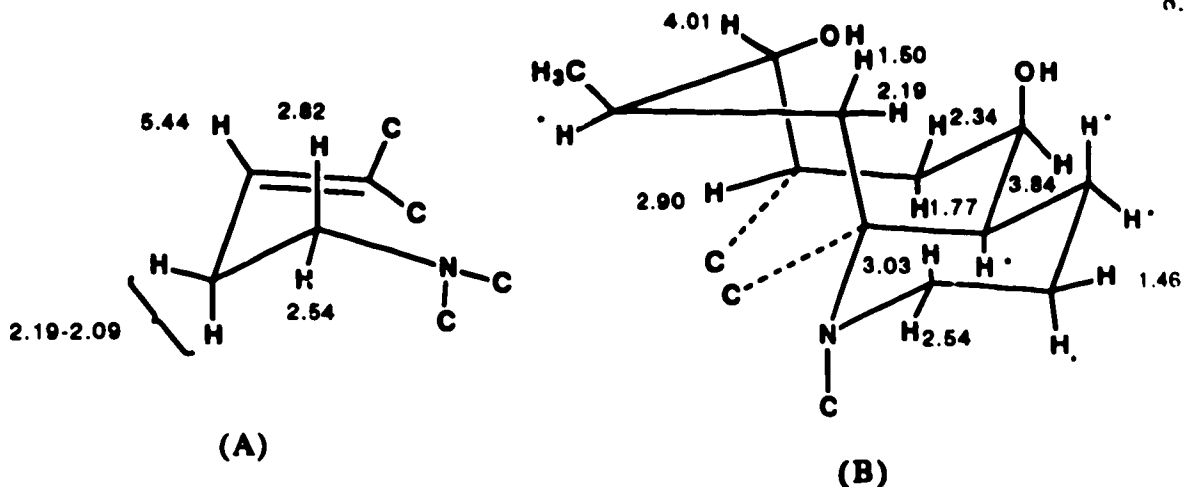
A 2D 1H - 1H COSY experiment with base 43 indicates the presence of spin systems I and II (scheme 14). These spin systems as well as ^{13}C nmr spectral data (table 18) allow derivation of partial structures A and B. Combining these partial structures gives rise to structure 43.

The relative stereochemistry and conformation of compound 43 is revealed from decoupling experiments and from the coupling pattern of the hydrogens as shown in scheme 14. Beginning with the methylene hydrogens at C-14 the correlation is extended to C-1 through the carbonyl hydrogen at C-8 and C-5. The signal at δ 2.19 (dd, $J = 14, 14$ Hz) is due to H-14 with an *axial* orientation. Since $J_{14,15} = 14$ Hz, H-15 must necessarily be *axially* oriented (i.e., the dihedral angle approaches 180°).

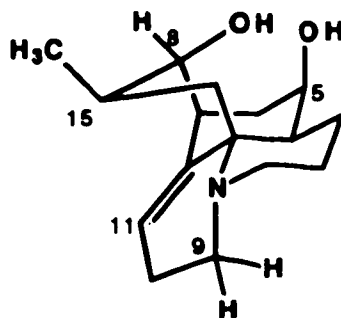


Scheme 14. ^1H - ^1H chemical shift correlations obtained from the COSY 90 spectrum of acrifol'noi (**43**).

* coupling constant J was deduced by decoupling experiment



Hydrogens marked with an asterisk appear in the multiplet at δ 2.10-1.96



43

The carbinyl hydrogen at C-8 (δ 4.10, ddd, $J = 10, 4.5, 1$ Hz) collapses to a broad doublet ($J = 4.5$ Hz), when H-7 (δ 2.90 ddd, $J = 10, 5.5, 2$ Hz) is irradiated indicating that $J_{7,8} = 10$ Hz and $J_{8,15} = 4.5$ Hz. In accordance with the Karplus rule²⁴ H-8 must have an *equatorial* orientation, and the dihedral angle between H-7 and H-8 must approach ($^\circ$). This is possible if ring D is in a boat conformation as shown in structure 43. The coupling pattern of H-6eq (δ 2.34 ddd, $J = 15, 2, 2$ Hz) and H-6ax (1.77, ddd, $J = 15, 5.5, 5.5$ Hz) indicate that H-5 and H-7 are *equatorial*. That H-5 is *equatorial* was confirmed by decoupling experiments. Upon irradiation of H-6eq (δ 2.34, ddd, $J = 15, 2, 2$ Hz), H-7 (δ 2.90, ddd, $J = 10, 5.5, 2$ Hz) collapses to a double doublet ($J = 10, 5.5$

Hz), H-6ax (δ 1.77, ddd, $J = 15, 5.5, 5.5$ Hz) collapses to a double doublet ($J = 5.5, 5.5$ Hz), and H-5 (δ 3.84, brs, $W_{1/2} = 10$ Hz) simplifies to double doublet (*ca* $J = 5.3$ Hz). The magnitude of the coupling ($J_{5,4} = 3$ Hz) precludes an *axial* orientation for H-5 since H-4 is α and *axial* (to the best of our knowledge there is no case where H-4 in a lycopodane type alkaloid is reported otherwise). The magnitude of the coupling of the methylene hydrogens at C-9 (δ 2.82, ddd, $J = 12, 6, 6$ Hz and 2.54, ddd, $J = 12, 5, 1$ Hz) and the lack of pronounced *Bohlmann* bands in the ftir spectrum of **43** indicate that ring A largely adopts a half boat conformation as shown in structure **43**.

Support for structure **43** was provided by irradiation experiments in the nOe (see table 17). Irradiation of H-11 produced enhancement at H-7 and H-10 β ; H-7 to H-11, H-8, 2H-6, and H-5 and so forth as summarized in table 17. Compound **43** is identical with the known compound acrifolinol, the product of reduction of acrifoline³⁶. To the best of our knowledge this is the first report of the occurrence of acrifolinol in nature.

Base **8**, is similar to acrifolinol in ftir, hreims, ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra. A 2D COSY 90 experiment with base **8** reveals two spin systems I and II as shown in scheme 15. Except for a very slight difference in chemical shift and coupling pattern for the hydrogens, the ^1H - ^1H correlations are similar to those of base **43**. Partial structures A and B are also apparent from spin systems I and II, respectively. Structure **8** was proposed from partial structures A and B.

In the ^1H nmr of base **8** H-14 is *axially* oriented (δ 1.06, dd, $J = 13, 13$ Hz) and this indicates that H-15 is also *axial*. Upon irradiation of the signal due to H-7 and H-1eq (δ 2.53, m), H-6eq (δ 2.11, brd, $J = 15.5$ Hz) sharpens, H-6ax (δ 1.89, ddd, $J = 15.5, 6, 6$ Hz) collapses to a double doublet ($J = 15.5, 6$ Hz), and H-8 (δ 3.23, dd, $J = 10, 5.5$ Hz) collapses to a doublet ($J = 10$ Hz) indicating that $J_{8,15} = 10$ Hz. In accordance with the Karplus rule, H-8 is *axial* and thus ring D is in a chair conformation as shown in structure **8**.

Table 17 nOe experiments with acrifolinol (43) (CDCl₃, 360 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ .	
Signal saturated	Signal enhanced(%nOe)
5.44(H-11)	2.90(H-7eq)(7.4)
	2.10(H-10eq)(5.9)
4.01(H-8eq)	2.90(H-7eq)(6.8)
	1.9(H-15ax)(1.1)
3.84(H-5eq)	2.34(H-6eq)(3.7)
	1.77(H-6ax)(3.7)
3.03(H-1ax)	4.01(H-8eq)(-6.8)
	3.84(H-5eq)(-6.8)
	2.59(H-1eq)(17.1)
	1.96-2.0(H-2a/H-3)(-19.9)
	1.46,(H-2b)(2.7)
2.90(H-7eq)	5.44(H-11)(9.3)
	4.01(H-8eq)(-0.7)
	3.84(H-5eq)(-2.9)
	2.34(H-6eq)(2.4)
	1.72(H-6ax)(2.4)
0.96(H-16eq)	1.96(H-15ax)(9.9)

In the ^{13}C APT experiment, base **8** shows similar carbon-13 signals to those of base **43** except for the carbons of ring D (see table 18). Compound **8** is identical with the known lycofoline³⁷⁻⁴⁰, but the previously reported ^1H nmr data for lycofoline differs somewhat from ours.

To verify our assignments, acrifolinol and lycofoline were prepared from acrifoline (**44**). Acrifoline when reduced with NaBH_4 in the presence of NaOH afforded acrifolinol (**43**) and lycofoline (**8**). In the presence of base, acrifoline is partially isomerised at C-15, and is reduced to give the two C-15 epimers, not the C-8 epimers.³⁸ Synthetic acrifolinol and lycofoline are identical with the bases isolated from natural sources (tlc, ir, ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra).

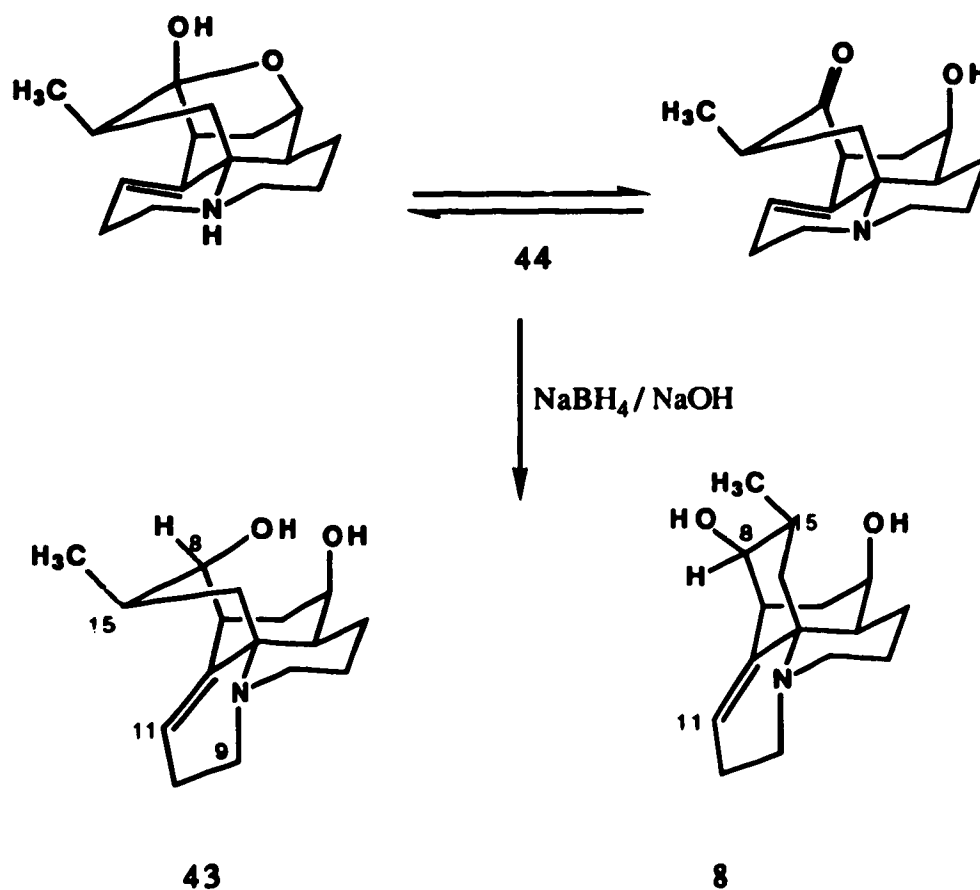


Table 18 ^{13}C APT nmr spectra of acrifolinol (43) and lycofoline (8)
(CDCl_3 , 100.6 MHz).

C	mult.	Chemical shift.in δ .	
		43	8
12	s	143.3	143.5
11	d	116.4	116.4
8	d	73.5	79.9
5	d	69.6	68.0
13	s	57.0	56.4
9	t	48.7	48.6
7	d	45.7	47.6
1	t	45.0	45.1
4	d	43.4	45.9
10	t	32.9 ^a	32.7 ^a
15	d	33.8	31.5
14	t	34.8 ^a	32.5 ^a
6	t	26.2	26.3
3	t	23.9 ^b	24.9 ^b
2	t	23.0 ^b	23.2 ^b
16	q	16.7	20.4

a, signals may be reversed.

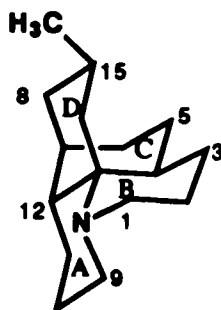
b, " " " "

O-acetylannofoline, L17 (47).

(9)

The sample of alkaloid L17, isolated from *L. obscurum* by Marion and Manske¹¹ and obtained from the collection of Marion and Manske's samples, contains a small amount of lycopodine (6a), which was easily separated by column chromatography on alumina (see experimental).

The molecular formula $C_{18}H_{27}NO_3$ (305) for L17 as deduced by elemental analysis was reported by Manske and Marion¹¹. We confirmed this molecular formula by IR. An ester (1739 and 1232 cm^{-1}) and a ketone (1712 cm^{-1}) carbonyl group are evident from the IR spectrum of L17. The fragmentation pattern of L17 in the mass spectrum conforms to the lycopodane pattern³⁰. The base peak at m/z 234, arising from loss of a C_4H_7O unit, indicates that the ketone group is in ring D of a lycopodane (24) skeleton. The ester group is present as an acetoxyl group as revealed by a peak at m/z 174 (loss of a molecule of acetic acid) and a peak at m/z 146 (loss of acetic acid plus a C_2H_4 unit) from the base peak. The presence of an acetoxyl group is supported by the ^1H NMR spectrum (δ 1.92, 3H, s).

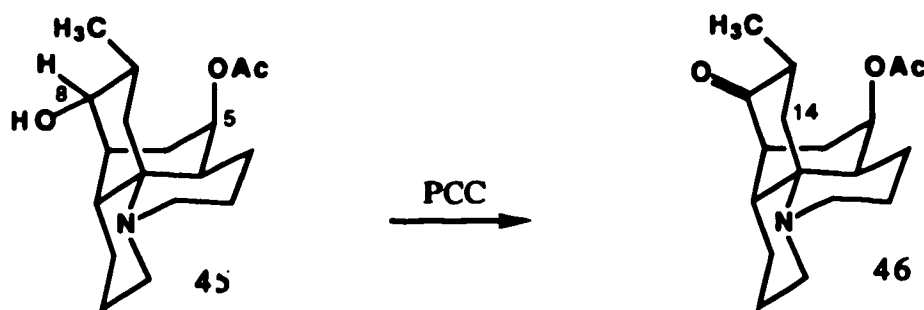


24

In the ^1H NMR spectrum L17 shows a signal at δ 4.83 (apparent quartet, $J = 3\text{ Hz}$) attributed to a hydrogen *geminal* to the acetoxyl group. The coupling pattern for this

hydrogen indicates that it is *equatorial*. A secondary methyl group is indicated by a signal at δ 1.12 (d, 3H).

That the ketone and acetoxy group in L17 are substituted at C-8 and C-5, respectively, in a lycopodane skeleton was proved in the following way: α -lofoline 45 was oxidized to dehydro- α -lofoline (46) with pyridinium chlorochromate⁴¹. Dehydro- α -lofoline (46) differs from L17 in tlc behavior but their fur spectra and more especially hreims are very similar. Thus the constitution 46 was assumed for L17 and it remained to determine the stereochemistry. The ¹H and ¹³C nmr spectra of L17 are particularly informative.



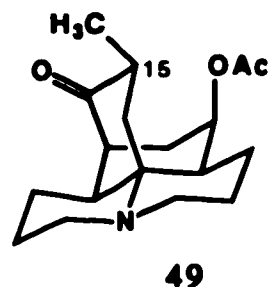
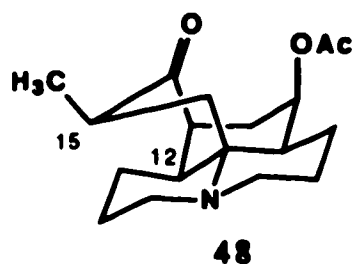
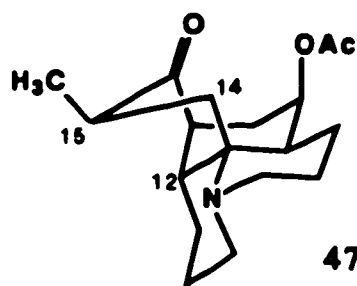
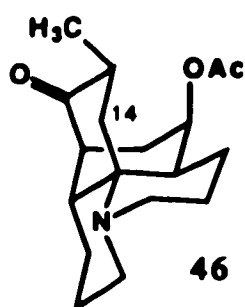
The ¹H nmr spectrum of L17 shows the hydrogen connectivities in rings C and D which are similar to those in the ¹H nmr spectrum of dehydro- α -lofoline (46). Signals at δ 2.81 (ddq, J = 10,10 Hz) and 2.23 (dd, J = 14,10 Hz) are attributed to *vicinal axial* hydrogens, H-15 and H-14, respectively. The chemical shift and coupling pattern of H-15 deduced from decoupling experiments (table 19) shows that it is α to the C-8 ketone group. Decoupling experiments show that H-7 (δ 2.26) is coupled to the methylene hydrogens at C-6 (δ 2.09 and ca 1.85), which are further coupled to the carbonyl hydrogen (δ 4.84).

Table 19 Decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr spectrum of acetylannofoline (47) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

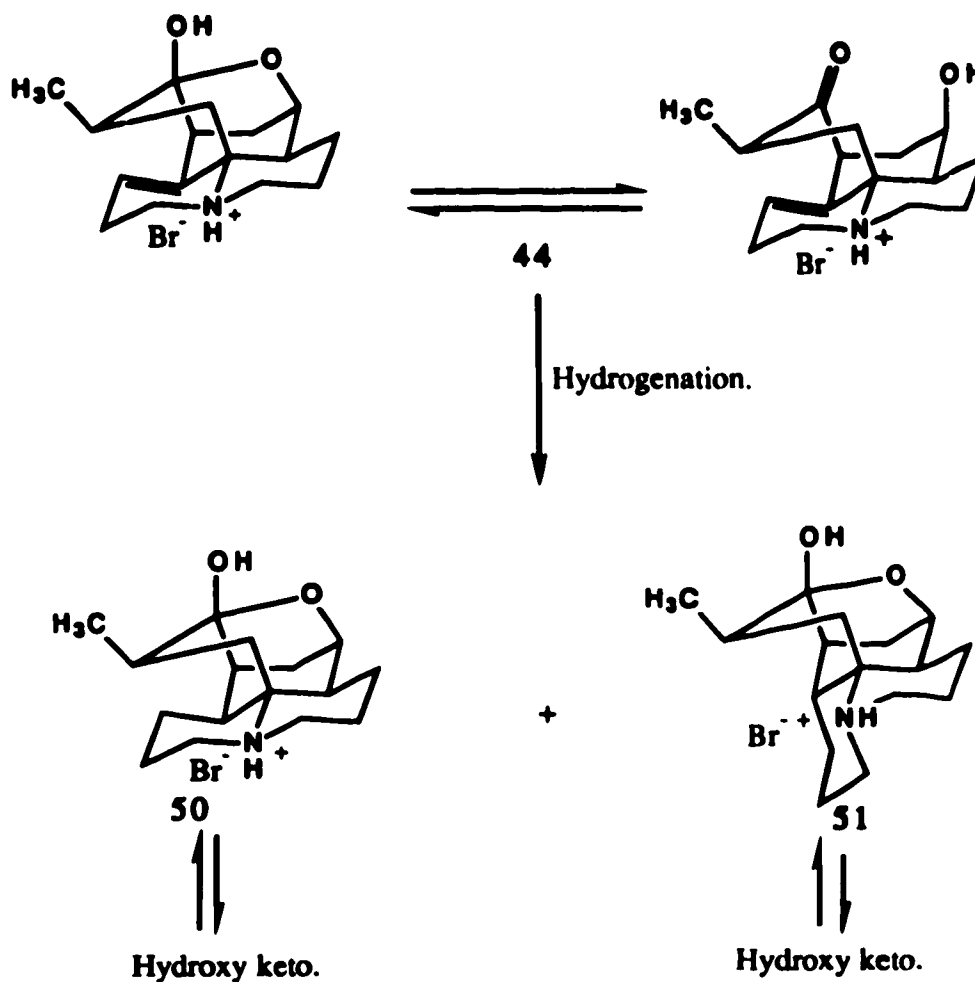
Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.	
Signal irradiated	Observed change
4.84,app.q,3(H-5eq)	2.34,dt,12.5,3(H-4ax)..... dd,12.5,3
	2.09,dt,15,3(H-6eq) dd,15,3
	1.85,m(H-6ax)..... pert.
2.81,ddq,10,10,6(H-15ax)	2.23,dd,14,10(H-14ax) d,14
	1.27,m(H-14eq) pert.
2.26,ddd,5,3,3(H-7eq)	2.09,dt,15,3(H-6eq) dd,15,3
	2.26,ddd,5,3,3(H-7eq)..... pert.
	1.85,m(H-6ax)..... pert.
2.09,dt,15,3(H-6eq)	4.84,app.q,3(H-5eq)..... t,3
	1.85,m(H-6ax)..... pert.
1.12,d,6(H-16)	2.81,ddq,10,10,6 dd,10,10

In the ^1H nmr spectrum of dehydro- α -lofoline H-14ax resonates at δ 3.07 (dd, J = 14,10 Hz), downfield from the signal attributed to H-14ax (δ 2.23) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of L17. Comparison of the ^{13}C nmr spectra of L17 and compound 46 show their structure similarities (table 20). The carbon signals of L17 are similar to those of dehydro- α -lofoline (46) (within Δ 0.1-0.4) except for the carbons of ring D and vicinity (carbon 8, 13, 14, 16 and 18). C-14 (δ 31.5) is particularly further upfield in L17 than in 46 (δ 39.9).

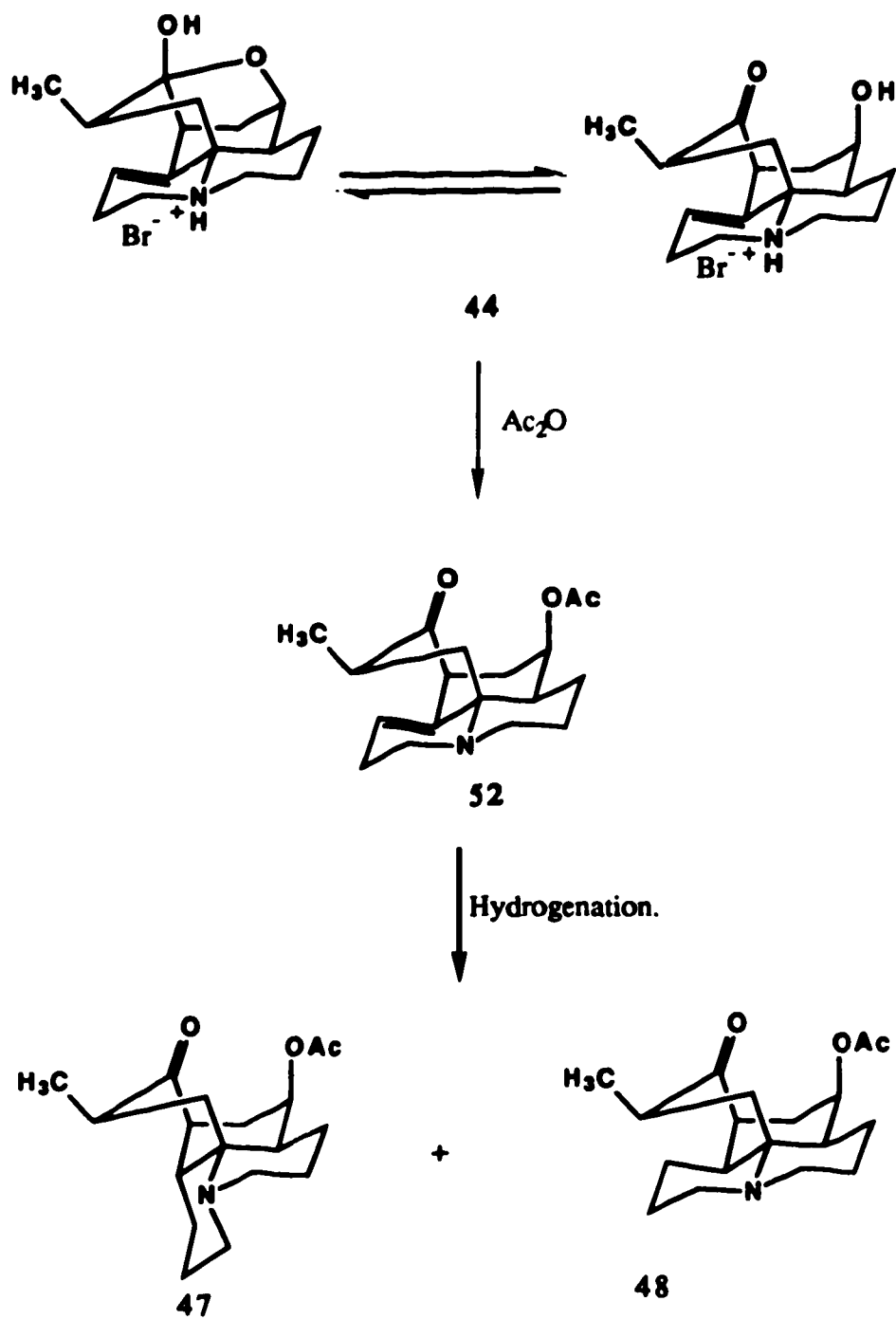
At this stage it is clear that alkaloid L17 is isomeric with dehydro- α -lofoline (46) at either, or both of, C-12 and C-15. Structure 47 is epimer at C-15 and H-15 has the required *vicinal antiperiplanar* hydrogens. Structure 48 is isomeric with 46 at both C-12 and C-15, but requires an unfavorable boat conformation of ring D to maintain the required H-14, H-15 coupling. Structure 49 differs from 46 only at C-12.



It is known that catalytic hydrogenation of acrifoline hydrobromide (44) affords dihydroacrifoline (50) along with small amounts of annofoline (51)⁴². Dihydroacrifoline and annofoline are diastereomeric with the configuration at C-15 opposite to that of dehydro- α -lofoline (46). Thus acrifoline was acetylated to give O-acetylacrifoline (52)³⁶, which was subjected to catalytic hydrogenation with Adams' catalyst. Dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline (48) was obtained along with small amount of acetylannofoline (47). Dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline shows a fragmentation pattern in its mass spectrum similar to that of



L17 and dehydro- α -lofoline (46) but differs a great deal in tlc behavior, ftir, ^1H and ^{13}C nmr (see table 20). Acetylannofoline (47) on the other hand shows similar tlc behavior, hreims and a ^1H nmr spectrum identical with that of L17. The sample of acetylannofoline was not large enough to obtain additional spectral data. A larger sample was prepared in the following way: dehydro- α -lofoline (46) was epimerized in dilute base to annofoline (51). Upon acetylation annofoline afforded O-acetylannofoline (47) almost quantitatively. Alkaloid L17 is identical with acetylannofoline in all respects (tlc, ftir, hreims, ^1H and ^{13}C nmr).



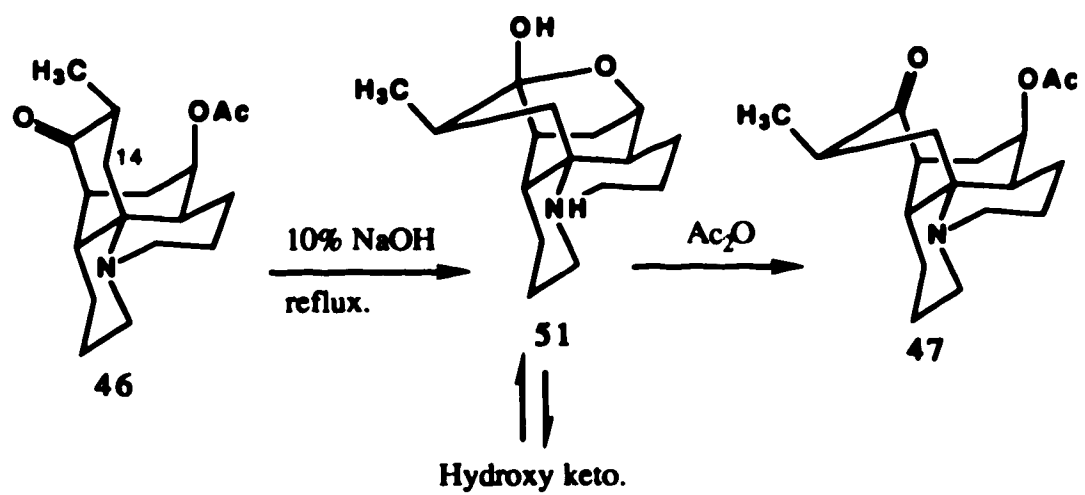


Table 20 ^{13}C nmr spectra of α -lofoline (45), dehydro- α -lofoline (46), O-acetylannofoline (47) and dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline (48) (CDCl_3 , 100.6 MHz).

C	mult.	Chemical shift in δ .			
		45 ⁷⁶	46	47	48
1	t	46.9	46.9	46.6	49.0
2	t	18.1	19.4	19.0	23.0
3	t	20.3	23.5	23.3	24.4
4	d	31.1	31.3	38.4 ^a	40.3
5	d	70.2	72.1	73.0	72.6
6	t	29.3	30.1	29.8	37.9
7	d	42.8	47.9	46.5	46.4
8	d	75.2	218.0(s)	216.8(s)	216.1(s)
9	t	47.2	47.8	48.1	49.0
10	t	26.4	26.0 ^b	26.0 ^a	25.5 ^a
11	t	24.2	23.5 ^b	23.4 ^a	25.3 ^a
12	d	37.4	40.3 ^a	40.1	47.3
13	s	54.6	54.0	54.7	55.6
14	t	38.3	39.9	31.5	28.0
15	d	27.5	39.3 ^a	39.2 ^a	50.0
16	q	23.0	22.6	21.2	21.3
CO	s	170.2	169.8	170.0	170.1
CH_3CO	q	21.4	20.9	14.6	16.2

III *Mentha arvensis*.

Mentha arvensis (Labiatae), commonly called wild mint, is an indigenous Canadian plant used in Canadian folk-medicine to treat a variety of illnesses including heart diseases¹³. Another Labiatae plant, *Coleus forskohlii* Briq, a member of the same phylogenic family as mint, has been reported to contain forskolin (5)¹⁴. Forskolin lowers blood pressure¹⁵ and this property has stimulated interest in its potential use as a therapeutic agent. The close relationship between *C. forskohlii* and *M. arvensis* and the several reports that wild mint had been used to treat heart disease prompted us to undertake a chemical investigation of the metabolites of *M. arvensis*.

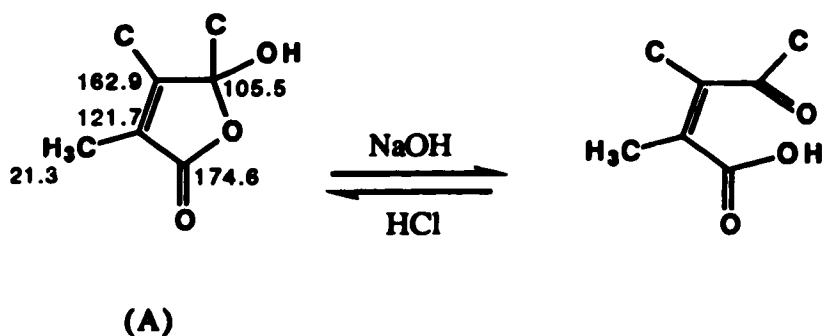
In our early studies, *M. arvensis* was extracted using a procedure developed by Inamdar and coworkers for assay of forskolin in *C. forskohlii*¹⁵ (see scheme 25, Experimental). The *M. arvensis* extracts were screened for the presence of forskolin using thin-layer chromatography as the method of analysis. The thin-layer chromatograms of the crude extracts were obtained and compared with that of an authentic sample of forskolin. No isolable nor tlc detectable forskolin was present in the extracts. Further chemical investigation of the *M. arvensis* extracts led to the separation and isolation of the metabolites described below.

Lactone (54).

Concentration of the Skellysolve B extract gave a precipitate, which was separated from the mother liquors and recrystallized from Skellysolve B - ethyl acetate to afford compound 54 as colourless needles, mp 190-191°C .

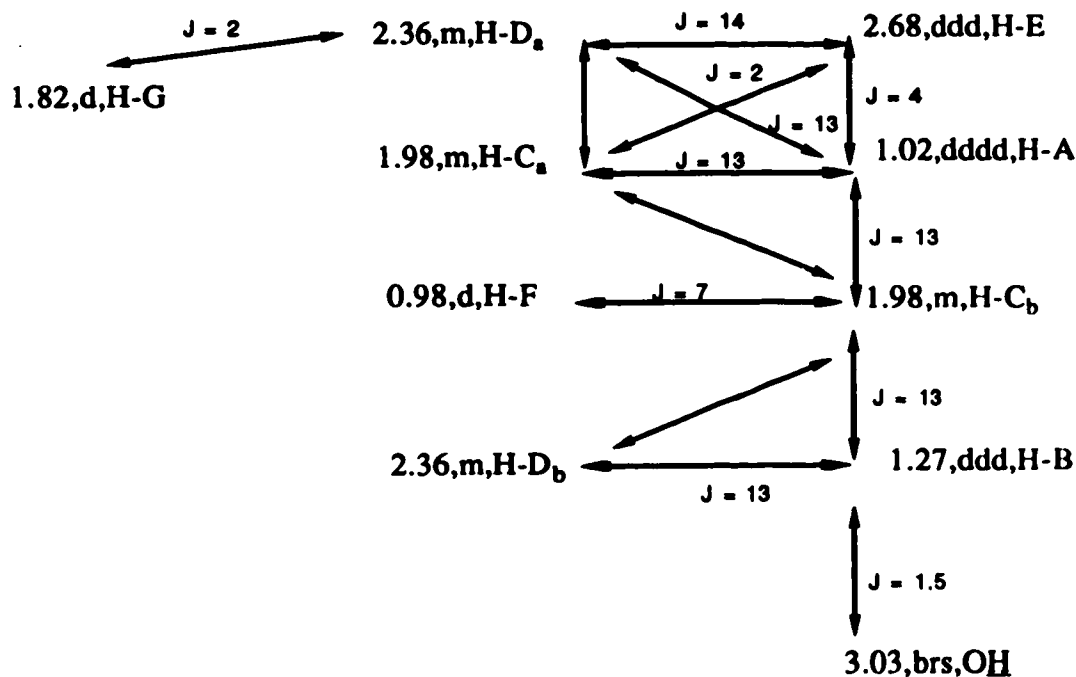
Compound 54 is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = -60.7$) and has a molecular formula, C₁₀H₁₄O₃ (182.0946) as indicated by hreims. Its fur spectrum displays strong, sharp

absorption bands indicative of hydroxyl (ν) (3345 cm^{-1}) and carbonyl (1745 cm^{-1}) groups. The ^{13}C nmr spectrum reveals that the carbonyl (δ 174.6) group in **54** is present as a lactone or ester. The ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra of **54** also reveal the presence of secondary (^1H nmr : δ 0.98, d, $J = 7\text{ Hz}$; ^{13}C nmr : δ 7.9) and alkenic (^1H nmr : δ 1.8, d, $J = 2\text{ Hz}$; ^{13}C nmr : δ 21.3) methyl groups. Compound **54** displays a uv absorption, λ_{max} 215 (4.39) nm. Addition of NaOH causes a reversible (upon addition of HCl) bathochromic shift to λ_{max} 260 (3.7) nm. This information together with the ftr data suggest the presence of an α, β -unsaturated γ lactol, partial structure A. The failure of compound **54** to undergo methylation with diazomethane indicates that partial structure A exists entirely in the lactol form A. Support for this partial structure is available from the ^{13}C nmr spectrum, which displays signals at δ 174.6 (s), 162.9 (s), 121.7 (s), 105.5 (s), and 21.3 (q), each assigned as shown in the partial structure A.



Partial structure A accounts for three of the four unsaturation equivalents indicated by the molecular formula, thus, the monoterpene **54** is bicyclic. The unassigned carbon-13 signals, three methylene (δ 47.1, 36.1, 25.2) groups and one methine (δ 30.5) group, allow us to conclude that the second ring is a cyclohexane.

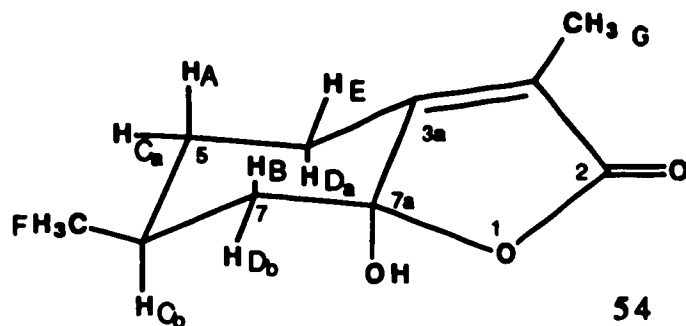
Extensive spin decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr (table 21) revealed the constitution (scheme 16) of the cyclohexane ring. The alkenic methyl group (δ 1.82) is homoallylically coupled to hydrogen D_a (δ 2.36). Upon irradiation of the multiplet (δ 2.36) due to the hydrogens D_a and D_b , the alkenic methyl signal collapses to a singlet, while this multiplet (δ 2.36) is perturbed when the alkenic methyl signal is irradiated. The *geminal* partner to H-D_a is H-E (δ 2.68, ddd, $J = 14, 4, 2$ Hz). The coupling pattern of H-E indicates that it is oriented *equatorially*. Both H-E and H-D_a are coupled to methylene hydrogens A (δ 1.02) and C_a (δ 1.98), which are in turn coupled to a methine hydrogen C_b (δ 1.98). The methine hydrogen C_b is also coupled to the methyl group (δ 0.98) and to methylene hydrogens B (δ 1.27) and D_b (δ 2.36). The Hydrogen B (δ 1.27) is further coupled to the hydroxyl hydrogen (δ 3.03). Structure 54, in which the cyclohexane ring adopts a chair conformation, is consistent with these data.



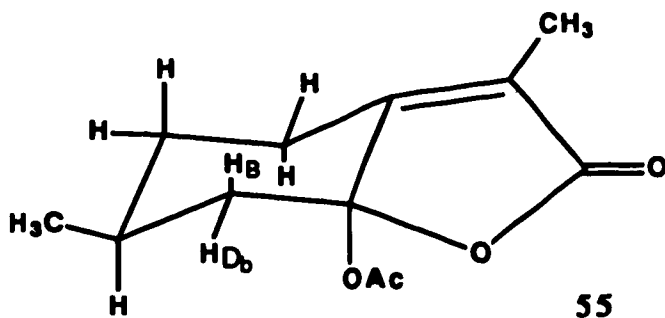
Scheme 16. ^1H nmr coupling pattern of lactone (54) (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz)

Table 21 Decoupling experiments in the ^1H nmr spectrum of lactose (54) (CDC13, 400 MHz).

Signal irradiated	Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.	Observed change
0.98,d,7 (H-9) &		1.98,m (H-5eq,H-6ax)pert.
1.02,dddd,13,13,13,4 (H-5ax)		2.36,m (H-4ax)pert.
1.02,dddd,13,13,13,4 (H-5ax)		2.68,ddd,14,4,2 (H-4eq)dd,14,2
1.27,ddd,13,13,1.5 (H-7ax)		1.98,m (H-5eq,H-6ax)pert.
		2.36,m (H-4ax)pert.
		2.68,ddd,14,4,2 (H-4eq)dd,14,2
		1.98,m (H-6ax)pert.
		2.36,m (H-7eq)pert.
		2.36,m (H-4ax)pert.
1.82,d,2 (H-8)		0.98,d (H-9)s
1.98,m (H-Seq,H-6ax)		1.02,dddd,13,13,13,4 (H-5ax)dd,13,4
		1.27,ddd,13,13,1.5 (H-7ax)brdd,13,13
		2.36,m (H-7eq)pert.
		2.68,ddd,14,4,2 (H-4eq)dd,14,4
2.36,m (H-4ax,H-7eq)		1.02,dddd,13,13,13,4 (H-5ax)pert.
		1.27,brddd,13,13,1.5 (H-7ax)brd,13
		1.82,d,2 (H-8)s
		1.98,m (H-Seq,H-6ax)pert.
		2.68,ddd,14,4,2 (H-4eq)dd,4,2
2.68,ddd,14,4,2 (H-4eq)		1.02,dddd,13,13,13,4 (H-5ax)ddd,13,13,13
		1.98,m (H-5eq)pert.
		2.36,m (H-4ax)pert.
3.03,brs,OH		1.27,brddd,13,13,1.5 (H-7ax)brd,13,13



Upon acetylation, lactone **54** afforded a monoacetate **55**, $C_{12}H_{16}O_4$ (224.1048), as shown by reims. The fir spectrum of the monoacetate **55** shows the absence of a hydroxyl group, and presence of a carbonyl (1700 cm^{-1}) group.



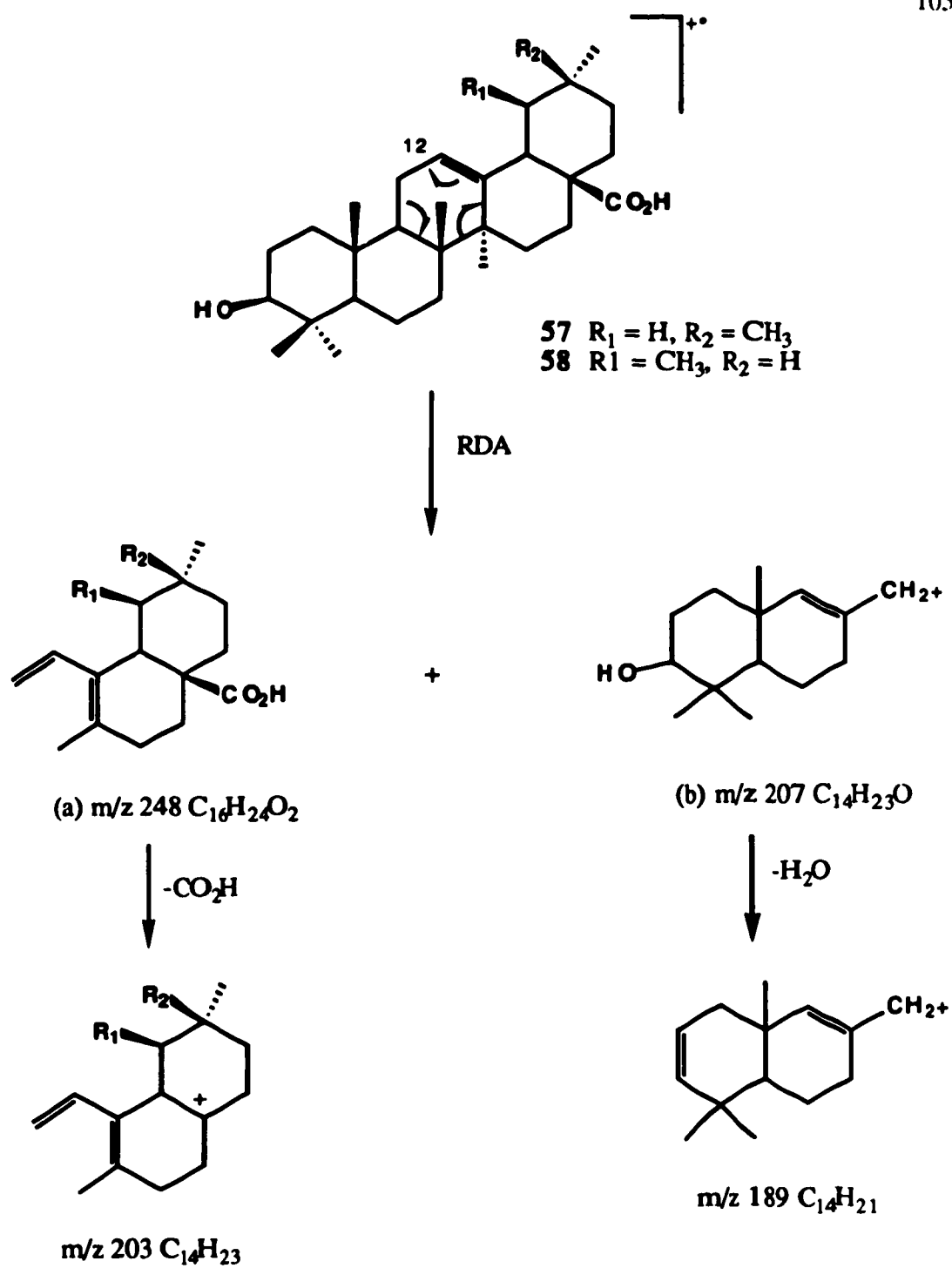
In the ^1H nmr spectrum of monoacetate **55**, the methylene hydrogens B ($\delta 1.14$) and D_b ($\delta 2.69$), previously observed at $\delta 1.27$ and 2.36 , respectively, in the ^1H nmr spectrum of lactone **54** are consistent with an *axially* oriented acetoxy group. The hydrogen H-B is in the shielding zone, while H- D_b is in the deshielding zone of the acetoxy group. The hydroxyl and methyl group in lactone **54** are, therefore, *trans* to one another.

Lactone **54** is identical with the compound previously isolated from peppermint oil, or synthesised from methofuran (by autoxidation)⁴³, and from d-pulegone⁴⁴ (mp, ir,

The molecular formula, $C_{30}H_{48}O_3$ (456), of the mixture **A** was deduced by hreims and cims. The ftir spectrum of the mixture **A** displays a weak hydroxyl (3400 cm^{-1}) and a strong carbonyl (1685 cm^{-1}) absorption. The presence of these functionalities was confirmed in the hreims of **A**, since peaks at m/z 438 and 411 arise from loss of a molecule of water and a CO_2H unit, respectively, from the parent ion. The absence of a broad hydroxyl absorption at about $3600\text{--}2500\text{ cm}^{-1}$ in the ftir spectrum, generally observed in the ir of carboxylic acids, and the failure of the corresponding methyl esters to undergo saponification or reduction with $LiAlH_4$ indicates that the carbonyl moiety in each triterpene is hindered.

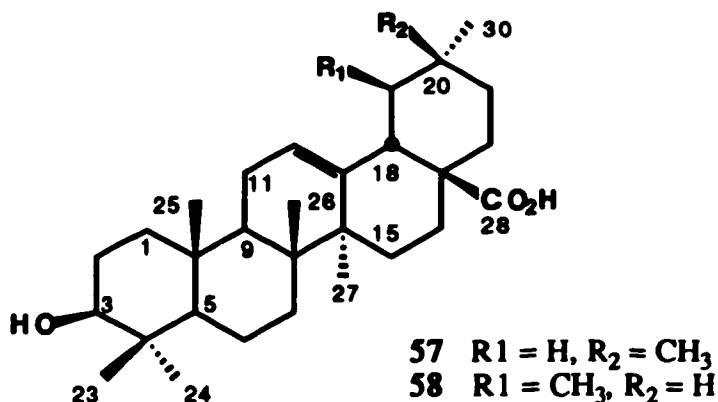
The base peak in the hreims of the mixture **A** appears at m/z 248, $C_{16}H_{24}O_2$, an ion commonly observed in the mass spectra of Δ^{12} oleanene and ursene triterpene acids⁴⁹. This ion is consistent with fragment (a) arising from a retro Diels-Alder (RDA) fragmentation as shown in scheme 17. The peaks at m/z 203 and 189 arise from loss of a CO_2H unit from fragment (a) and loss of RH from fragment (b), respectively.

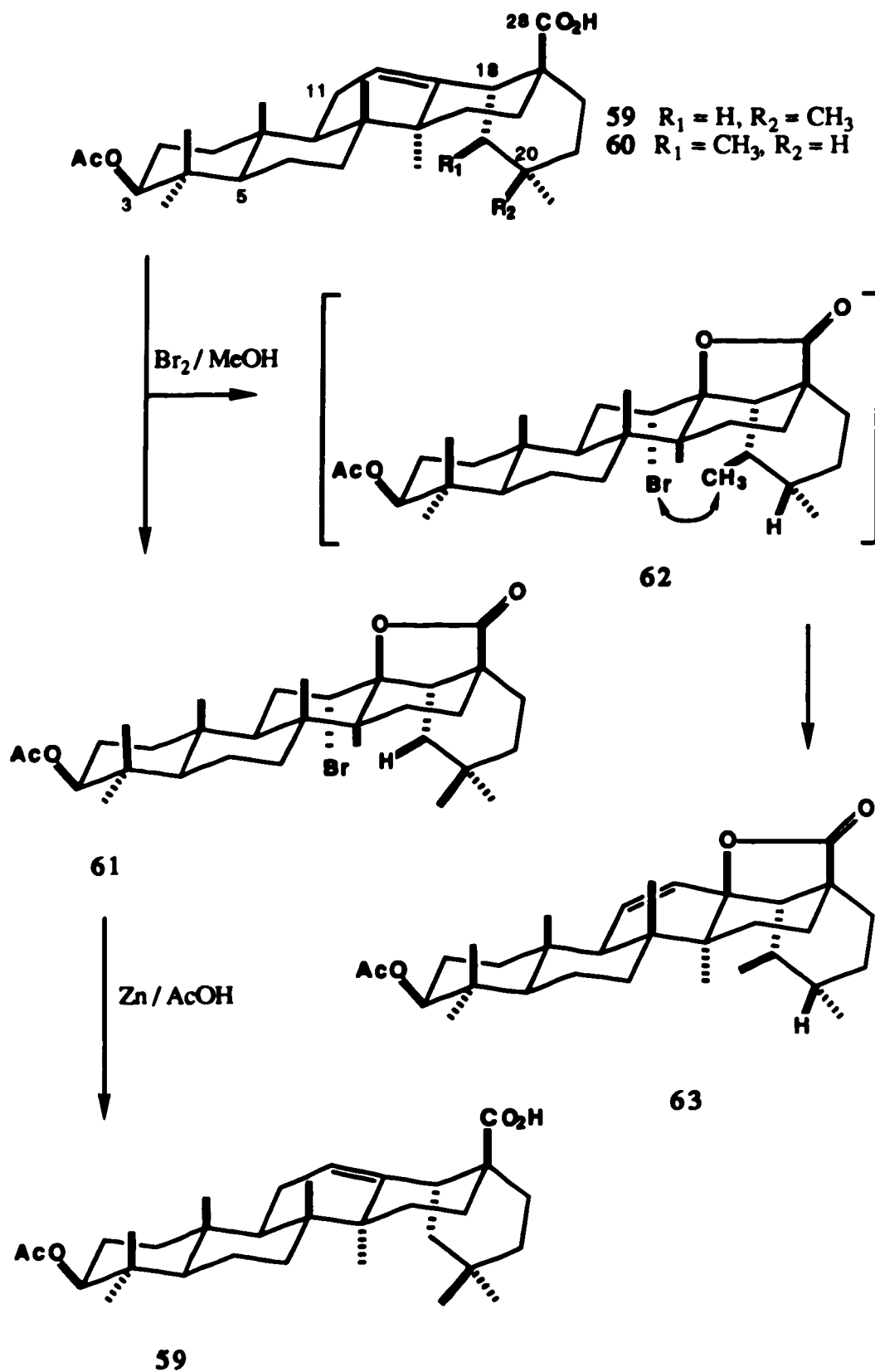
The 1H nmr spectrum of the mixture **A** displays a pair of olefinic (δ 5.29 and 5.25, each a t, $J = 3.5$ Hz) and carbinylic (δ 3.23 and δ 3.20, each a brs, $W_{1/2} = 18$ Hz) hydrogens. As well, there are two well resolved signals at *ca* δ 2.82 (brdd, $J = 14, 4.5$ Hz) and 2.20 (brd, $J = 12$ Hz), each is assigned to an $H-18\beta$ of Δ^{12} oleanene and ursene triterpenes, respectively. This hydrogen is reported to resonate at a similar chemical shift in the 1H nmr of these compounds⁵⁰.



Scheme 17. Fragmentation in the hrcims of Δ^{12} oleanene and ursene triterpene acids.)

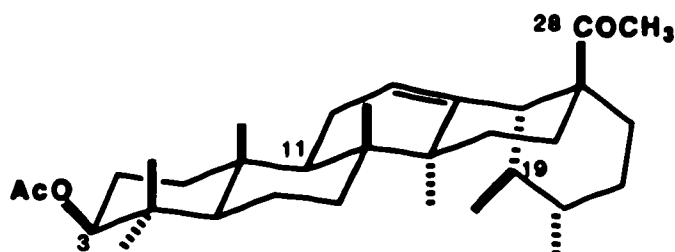
The triterpenes of the mixture **A** were separated and identified as oleanolic (**57**) and ursolic (**58**) acid in the following way: the mixture **A** was converted to a mixture of acetates, compounds **59** and **60**. The mixture of acetates was treated with a solution of bromine at room temperature⁵¹. The high R_f component was identified as bromolactone **61**, C₃₂H₄₉O₄Br (577 as shown by cims and hreims). The signal at δ 4.28 (dd, J = 4,1.5 Hz, 1H) in the ¹H nmr spectrum of lactone **61** is assigned to an *equatorial* hydrogen, *geminal* to an *axial* bromine atom. The ftr spectrum of **61** shows a carbonyl absorption at 1774 cm⁻¹, which is characteristic of a γ lactone²⁰. Lactone **61** afforded acetate acid **59** upon exposure to zinc dust in acetic acid. The ¹H nmr spectrum of **59** displays the H-18β allylic hydrogen at δ 2.78 (ddd, J = 14,4.5,1 Hz) and seven angular methyl groups. These data are consistent with that reported for 3β-acetyloleanolic acid (**60**)⁵² (see table 22 for comparison of methyl group signals in the ¹H nmr spectrum).





The second least polar component from the bromolactonisation reaction mixture was tentatively identified as lactone **63**, $C_{32}H_{48}O_4$ (496.3557, as shown by hreims). The ftir spectrum of **63** displays γ lactone (1755 cm^{-1}) and acetoxy (1734 cm^{-1}) carbonyl groups. Its ^1H nmr spectrum shows two *vicinal, cis* olefinic hydrogens (δ 5.94, dd, $J = 10,1\text{ Hz}$ and 5.56, dd, $J = 10,2^* \text{ Hz}$). The presence of five angular methyl (δ 1.16, 1.06, 0.94, 0.87, 0.86) and two secondary methyl (δ 1.0, d, $J = 6\text{ Hz}$ and 0.94, perturbed* d, $J = 6\text{ Hz}$) groups in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **63** suggest that it is derived from acetyl ursolic acid (**60**). In acetyl ursolic acid, bromolactonisation is accompanied by debromination, presumably to relieve steric crowding in intermediate **62** between the C-12, *axial* bromine atom and the C-19 β *equatorial* methyl group.

Mixture **A** was esterified (CH_2N_2) and acetylated (Ac_2O , pyr). Repeated fractional crystallization (methanol) of the acetate ester mixture led to the isolation of a single ester acetate, compound **64**. The ^1H nmr spectrum of the ester acetate **64** shows signals assigned to H-18 β (δ 2.23, d, $J = 11\text{ Hz}$), five angular methyl (δ 1.08, 0.95, 0.87, 0.86, 0.75), and two secondary methyl (δ 1.00, d, $J = 6\text{ Hz}$ and 0.94, Perturbed d, $J = 6\text{ Hz}$) groups. These ^1H nmr data allowed us to identify compound **64** as methyl 3β -acetylursolate⁵³ (see table 22 for comparison of methyl group signals in the ^1H nmr spectrum).



64

* Second order perturbation effect on secondary methyl groups in the ursene series has been discussed by Cheung⁵⁰.

Table 22 Comparison of methyl group signals in the ^1H nmr spectra of 3β -acetyloleanolic acid (60) and methyl 3β -acetylursolate (64) with literature data.

H	Chemical shift in δ .	
	60(lit) ⁵²	64(lit) ⁵³
23(s)	0.86 ^a (0.87)	0.86 ^a (0.86)
24(s)	0.87 ^a (0.87)	0.87 ^a (0.86)
25(s)	0.91 ^b (0.88-0.98)	0.95 ^b (0.95)
26(s)	0.76(0.76)	0.75(0.75)
27(s)	1.14(1.15)	1.08(1.08)
29(s)	0.93 ^b (0.88-0.98)	0.87(d)(m)
30(s)	0.94 ^b (0.88-0.98)	0.94 ^b (d)(m)

a, signals may be reversed.

b, " " " "

A third triterpene acid was isolated from the crude chloroform fraction and characterised as its methyl ester derivative compound 65. The ftir spectrum of 65 displays absorptions attributable to hydroxyl(s) ($3610, 3540, 3420\text{cm}^{-1}$) and methyl ester carbonyl (1718cm^{-1}).

Triterpene 65 resembles oleanolic (57) and ursolic acid (58) in the ^1H nmr and hreims : the ^1H nmr spectrum of compound 65 indicates an olefinic hydrogen ($\delta 5.36$), a

carbonyl hydrogen (δ 3.22), as well as an allylic hydrogen (δ 2.60, brs, $W_{1/2} = 4$ Hz), which is assigned to H-18 β in the oleanene or ursene class of triterpenes. The molecular formula, $C_{31}H_{50}O_4$ (486.3701) of triterpene 65 as shown by hreims and cims differs from that of methyl oleanolate and methyl ursolate by one oxygen. However, the fragmentation pattern of each ester is similar. Chemical derivatisation and detailed examination of 1H nmr spectrum of triterpene 65 revealed that the fourth oxygen in the molecular formula is present as a tertiary hydroxyl group. Upon acetylation (pyr, Ac_2O , room temperature), 65 afforded a monoacetate methyl ester 66. Its ftir spectrum displays hydroxyl (3530 cm^{-1}) as well as methyl ester acetoxy carbonyl (1723 cm^{-1}). When 65 is oxidised (PCC), a ketoester 67 is obtained. The ftir spectrum of 67 displays hydroxyl (3530 cm^{-1}), as well as methyl ester (1721 cm^{-1}), and ketone (1704 cm^{-1}) carbonyls. Furthermore, in the 1H nmr spectra of each of 65 and its derivatives 66 and 67 there is an allylic methine hydrogen appearing as a singlet which may be attributed to H-18 β , as well as six angular methyl groups and a secondary methyl group. This information is consistent with substituted methyl ursolate, where C-19 is fully substituted and bears the tertiary hydroxyl group. The presence of a hydroxyl group at C-19 is consistent with the downfield shift of H-18 β and the angular C-29 methyl group in the 1H nmr spectra of 65, 66, and 67 compared with the 1H nmr spectra of ursolic acid 57 and its acetyl ester derivative 64 (see table 21 for comparison). In addition, the C-27 angular methyl group is shifted downfield, while the C-26 angular methyl group is shifted upfield in the 1H nmr spectrum of triterpene 66 when compared with the 1H nmr spectrum of triterpene 64. This indicates that the C-27 and the C-26 methyl groups are in the deshielding and shielding zones of the hydroxyl group, respectively. The hydroxyl group is thus α oriented. The spectral data obtained for triterpene 65 is identical with that reported for methyl pomolate (3 β , 19 α -dihydroxy-urs-12-en-28-oate) (ftir, hreims, and 1H nmr spectrum). Pomolic acid has previously been isolated from Japanese *M. arvensis* var⁵⁴ and from *Micromeris benthani* Webb et Berth (Labiatae)⁵⁵.

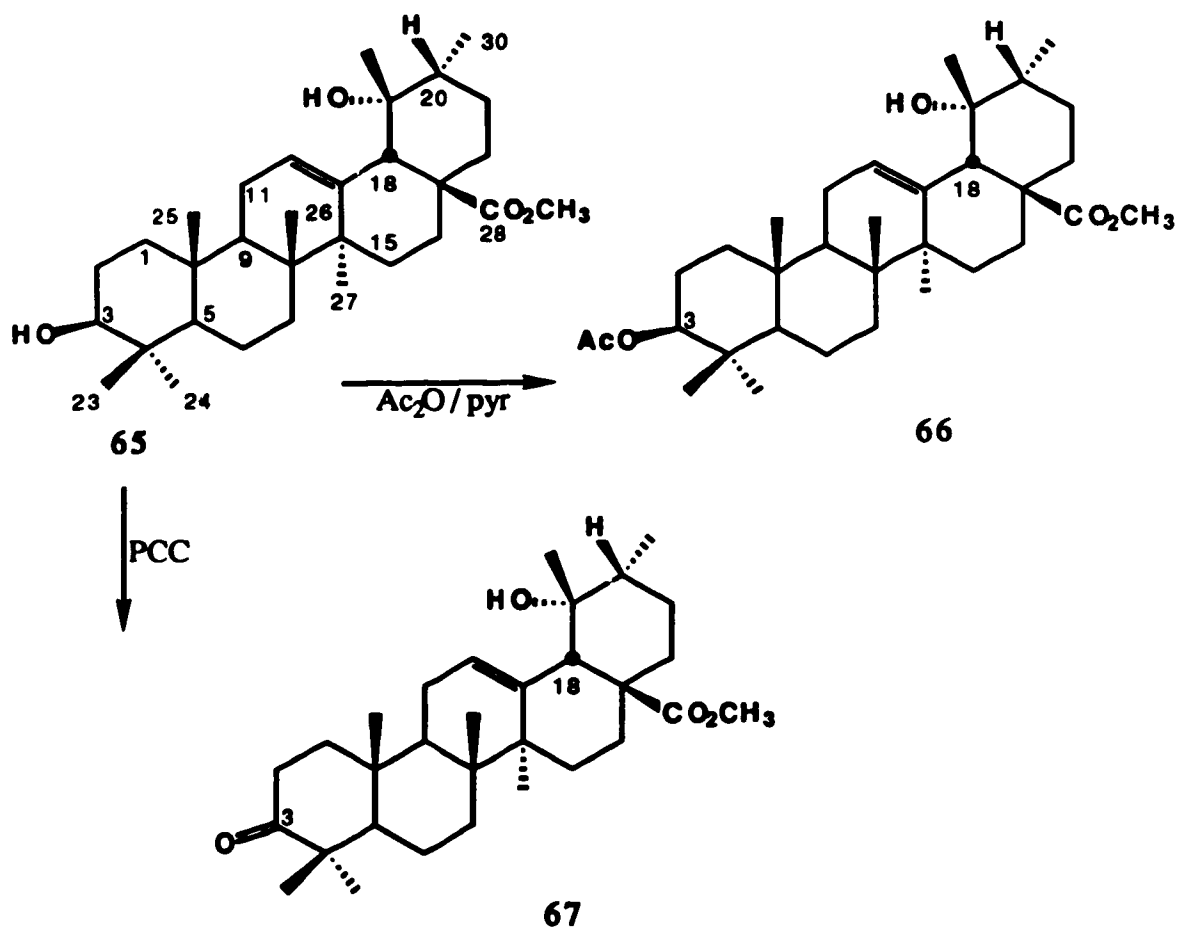


Table 23 ^1H nmr spectra of methyl 3 β -acetylsorsolate (64) and methyl 3 β -acetylpomolate (66).

H	Chemical shift in δ , mult. J in Hz.	
	64	66
3	4.50,brdd,10,5	4.50,brdd,9,7
12	5.25,t,4	5.36,t,3
18	2.23,brd,11	2.60,brs,W $_{1/2}$ = 4
23	0.86,s	0.86,s
24	0.87,s	0.87,s
25	0.95,s	0.95,s
26	0.75,s	0.68,s
27	1.08,s	1.22,s
29	0.87,d,6	0.95,d,7
30	0.98,d,6	0.95,d,7
CH ₃ CO ₂ -	2.05	2.05
CH ₃ O ₂ -	3.60	3.60

IV. *Geranium viscosissimum* and *Eriogonum umbellatum*

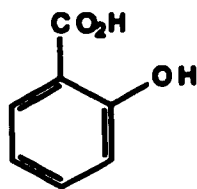
The use of plants as herbal remedies is a popular traditional practice in many parts of the world, especially in the under developed countries. In North America, the native Indians use indigenous plants to treat a wide variety of illnesses^{13b}. A number of these indigenous plants have been used for treatment of infectious diseases such as inflammation, sores, colds, coughs etc. A chemical investigation of the metabolites of two of these plants is described in this section.

In our preliminary studies, dry, ground plant was extracted with methanol using a Soxhlet apparatus. The crude methanol extract was partitioned into Skellysolve B, ether, and ethyl acetate solubles as shown in scheme 27 (Section D1, Experimental). The various extracts were screened for antibacterial activity using the modified Kirby-Bauer test as described in Section D2 of the Experimental. The results of the biological tests with the extracts of *Geranium viscosissimum* and *Eriogonum umbellatum* are shown in table 24. The crude ether extract of *G. viscosissimum* and the crude ether and ethyl acetate extracts of *E. umbellatum* exhibit significant antibacterial activities against a variety of bacteria. These extracts were separated, the active fractions purified, and the active principles isolated and characterized.

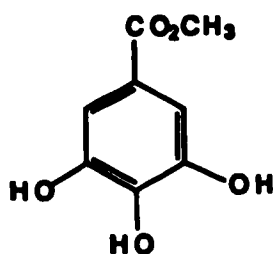
Chromatographic separation of the crude ether extract of *G. viscosissimum* led to the isolation and characterization of salicylic acid (68), methyl gallate (69), and gallic acid (71). Similar chromatographic separation of the crude ether and ethyl acetate extracts of *E. umbellatum* resulted in the separation and characterization of fatty acids, methyl gallate, gallic acid, β -sitosterol (56), β -sitosteryl- β -D-glucopyranoside (72), 3-galloylquinic acid (74), and the flavonoids: 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, and 87. Salicylic acid, methyl gallate, gallic acid, and β -sitosterol were identified by comparison with authentic

samples. The structure elucidation of β -sitosteryl- β -D-glucopyranoside, 3-galloylquinic acid, and the flavonoids is discussed below.

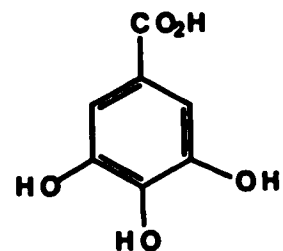
The antibacterial activities of the extracts of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* have been attributed to the presence of methyl gallate. Pure natural methyl gallate demonstrated antibacterial activities against almost all bacteria shown in table 24.



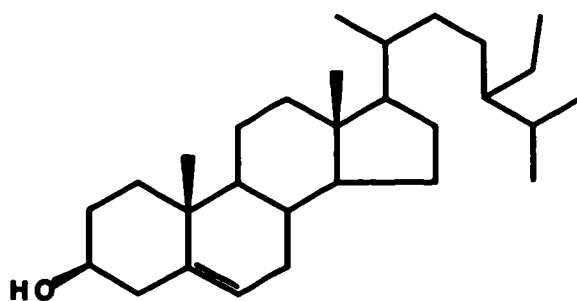
68



69



71



56

Table 24. Antibacterial screening of crude extracts of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* and of 69 and 81.

Organism	<i>G. viscosissimum</i> extracts				<i>E. umbellatum</i> extracts				69	81
	SkB	Ether	EtOAc	EtOAc (bases)	SkB	Ether	EtOAc	EtOAc (bases)		
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	-	20*	-	-	-	12	-	-	20	-
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	16	-
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	-	10	8	-	-	8	16	8	12	-
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	8	10	-
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	-
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	-
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	8	10	-
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	8	20	8	10	-	-	-	11	20	-
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	-	12	8	12	-	-	-	12	14	-
<i>Staphylococcus pyogenes</i>	8	12	10	-	-	-	10	10	-	-
<i>Candida albicans</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Δ	-

* Zone diameter in mm using a 6 mm paper disc.

- No activity.

Δ, not tested.

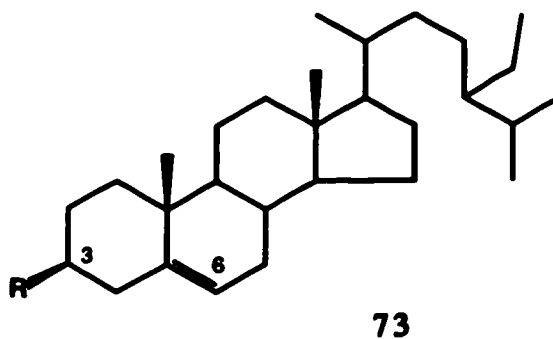
β -Sitosteryl- β -D-glucopyranoside (72).

The crude ether extract of *E. umbellatum* was separated by flash column chromatography (chloroform / ethyl acetate / acetic acid mixtures) and gave methyl gallate and compound 72. Compound 72 was characterized as its tetraacetyl derivative 73. Analyses of the spectral properties of compound 73 enabled us to identify it as β -sitosteryl- β -D-tetraacetylglucopyranoside.

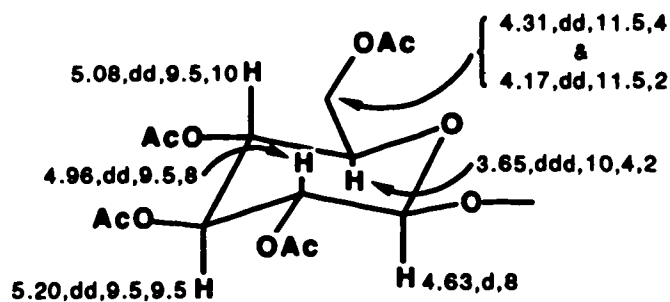
The hreims of each of 72 and 73 displays a fragment ion at m/z 414 ($C_{29}H_{50}O$), suggestive of the molecular ion of β -sitosterol (56). Other fragment ions such as m/z 396 ($C_{29}H_{48}$, $M^+ - H_2O$), 381 ($C_{28}H_{45}$, $M^+ - CH_3, -H_2O$), 255 ($C_{28}H_{45}$, $M^+ -$ side chain), and 119 (C_9H_{11} , retro Diels-Alder ring B, $-H_2O$)⁴⁷, observed in the hreims of β -sitosterol are also present in the hreims of 72 and 73. However, both 72 and 73 differ from β -sitosterol in the 1H nmr spectra. The 1H nmr spectrum of each of 72 and 73 displays all the 1H nmr absorption signals of β -sitosterol, as well as absorption signals in the absorption region of carbinyl hydrogens. The signals at δ 5.36 (1H, brs, olefinic H-6) and 3.54 (1H, m, carbinyl H-3) in the 1H nmr spectrum of β -sitosterol resonate at δ 5.34 and 3.48, respectively in the 1H nmr spectrum of 73. In the 1H nmr spectrum of 72, H-6 resonates at δ 5.35 and H-3 absorbs at δ 3.1-3.6. These 1H nmr spectral data as well as hreims allow us to conclude that compound 73 is an ether derivative of β -sitosterol, structure 73.

The R group in 73 was shown to be a β -D-tetra-O-acetylglucopyranoside in the following way. In the 1H nmr spectrum of tetraacetate 73, the signal at δ 4.63 (1H, d, $J = 8$ Hz) is assigned to the anomeric hydrogen of β -D-glucose. The anomeric hydrogen in β -D-glucopyranosides absorbs in the same region⁵⁶. The remaining low field hydrogens in the 1H nmr spectrum of 73 are observed at δ 5.20 (1H, dd, $J = 9.5, 9.5$ Hz), 5.08 (1H, dd, $J = 10, 9.5$ Hz), 4.96 (1H, dd, $J = 9.5, 8$ Hz), 4.31 (1H, dd, $J = 11.5, 4$ Hz),

4.17 (1H, dd, $J = 11.5, 2$ Hz), and 3.65 (1H, ddd, $J = 10, 4, 2$ Hz). These signals are of the same spin system and are assigned to hydrogens *geminal* to four acetoxy groups



(δ 2.07, 2.04, 2.02, and 2.00, each s, 3H). These hydrogens are assigned as shown in partial structure A. In the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of 73 the signal at δ 99.8 is assigned to the anomeric carbon, since in β -D-glucopyranosides the anomeric carbon absorbs in this region^{57,58}. The remaining 42 carbons observed in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of 73 are accounted for by the assigned structure (see Experimental). β -Sitosteryl- β -D-glucopyranoside has been isolated previously in these laboratories from the fungus, *Alternaria brassicae*⁵⁹. The hreims and ^1H nmr spectra of the samples of β -sitosteryl- β -D-glucopyranoside isolated from *E. umbellatum* is identical with that previously isolated⁵⁹.



(A)

3-Galloylquinic acid (74).

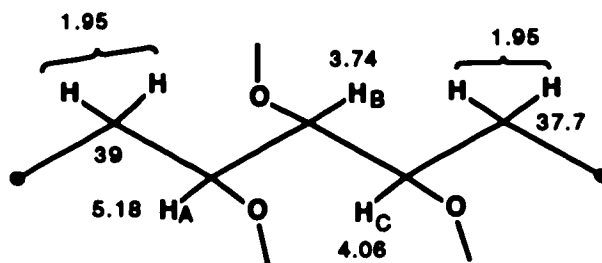
Compound **74** was isolated from the crude ethyl acetate extract of *E. umbellatum* by gel filtration chromatography on Sephadex LH20, using methanol as eluent. Compound **74** is eluted in the earlier fractions from the Sephadex column and on tlc has lower R_f than the flavonoids. The bluish purple colour of **74**, the lack of solubility in almost all organic solvents, as well as the inability to ionize in reims, presumably due to low volatility indicate that **74** is isolated as a salt and / or a complex of iron. Compound **74** readily dissolves in water. A brown precipitate is formed upon acidification to pH of about 1 and slowly concentrating the aqueous solution at room temperature over several days. The precipitate is separated by filtration through Whatman filter paper. Concentration of the filtrate under reduced pressure affords **74** as an off white solid, which is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = -37^\circ$) with a mp 235°C (dec.).

The ftir spectrum of compound **74** displays strong hydroxyl(s) (3680-2400 cm⁻¹), carbonyl (1695 cm⁻¹), and carbon-carbon double bond(s) (1595 cm⁻¹). The broad hydroxyl(s) signal is attributed to the presence of a carboxylic acid and / or hydrogen bonded phenolic groups. The signal at δ 180.1 in the ¹³C nmr spectrum of **74** supports the presence of a carboxylic acid and the presence of phenolic groups is confirmed by the blue complex formed between **74** and FeCl₃.

In the ¹H nmr spectrum of **74** the signal at δ 6.99 (s, 2H) is assigned to aromatic hydrogens and these hydrogens indicate the presence of a symmetrically substituted benzene ring. The ¹H nmr spectrum of **74** also displays signals at δ 5.18, 4.06, and 3.74, (each 1H) assigned to carbinylic hydrogens, as well as a multiplet signal at δ 1.95 (4H). Decoupling experiments in the ¹H nmr with **74** indicate that H-A (δ 5.18) and H-B (δ 3.74) are *vicinal* and *axially* coupled, H-C (δ 4.06) is *cis* and *axially* coupled and that both H-A and H-C are coupled to the hydrogen(s) of the multiplet at δ 1.95. Upon irradiation of the signal at δ 5.18 (brddd, J = 10,10,4.5 Hz), the signal at

δ 3.74 (brdd, $J = 10,3$ Hz) collapses to a broad singlet ($W_{1/2} = 7$ Hz) and the multiplet signal at δ 1.95 is perturbed. When the signal at δ 3.74 is irradiated, the signal at δ 5.18 collapses to a double doublet ($J = 10, 4.5$ Hz), while H-C at δ 4.06 (brd, $J = 3$ Hz) collapses to a broad singlet ($W_{1/2} = 7$ Hz). As well, irradiating H-C (δ 4.06) perturbs the multiplet signal at δ 1.95, while H-B at δ 3.74 (brdd, $J = 10,3$ Hz) collapses to a doublet ($J = 10$ Hz).

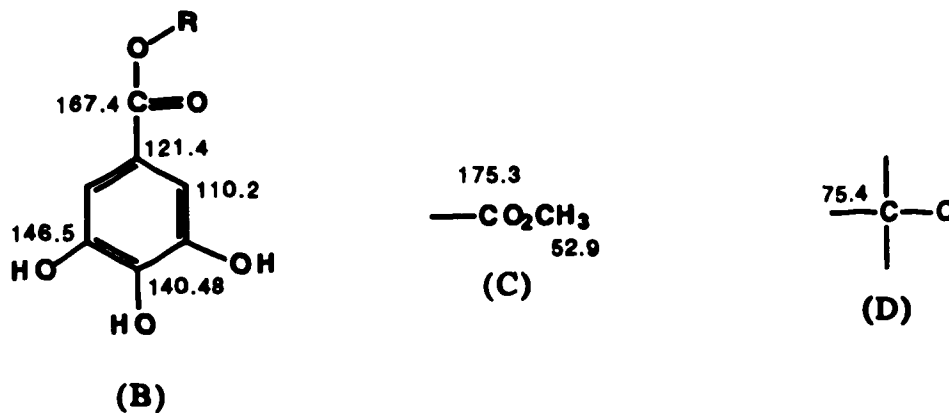
The signals at δ 37.7 (t) and 39.0 (t) in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of **74**, indicate that the four hydrogen multiplet centered at δ 1.95 in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **74** is due to two methylene groups. These ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectral data allow derivation of partial structure A.



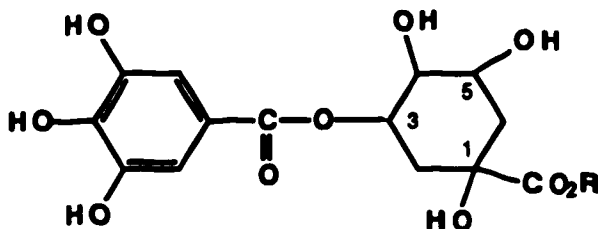
(A)

Compound **74** was treated with acidic methanol to afford a methyl ester **75** $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}$ (358.0870, as shown by cims and hreims). The ftir spectrum of **75** displays hydroxyl(s) ($3600\text{-}3100\text{ cm}^{-1}$), methyl ester carbonyl (1727 cm^{-1}), keto or conjugated ester carbonyl (1705 cm^{-1}), and carbon-carbon double (1608 cm^{-1}) bond(s). The signal at δ 175.3 in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of **75** is attributed to the methyl ester carbonyl. The signal at δ 167.4 (s) in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of **75** indicates that the carbonyl signal (1705 cm^{-1}) in the ftir spectrum of **75** is due to an α , β -unsaturated benzoyl group, partial structure B. The absorption at λ_{max} 278 nm in the uv spectrum of **74** supports the

presence of partial structure B and this is confirmed by the hreims of 75. The base peak at m/z 153 ($C_7H_5O_4$) arises from cleavage of the C-O bond of the benzoyl group with concurrent abstraction of a hydrogen atom.



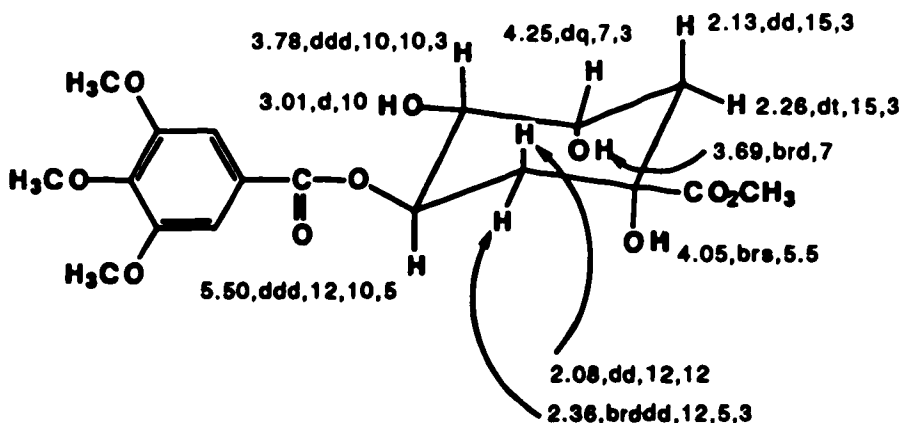
The methyl ester, partial structure C, together with partial structure A and B account for eleven of the twelve signals in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of 75. The unassigned signal at δ 75.4 (s) is due to a carbon bearing at least one oxygen atom as shown in partial structure D. Partial structure B and the methyl ester carbonyl account for six of the seven sites of unsaturation indicated by the molecular formula of 75, thus partial structure A must be cyclic. Partial structures A, B, C, and D allow derivation of structure 75.

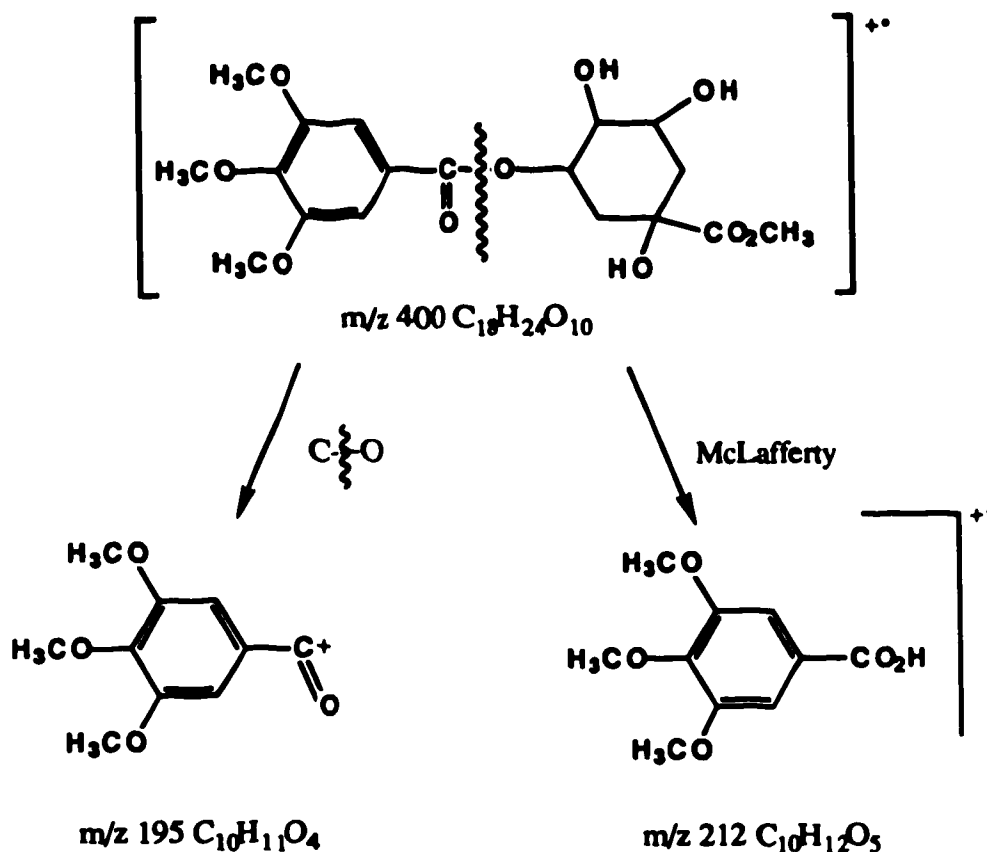


74 R = H
75 R = CH_3

Compound 74 was dissolved in acidic ethanol and treated with diazomethane. A tetramethoxyl derivative 76, $C_{18}H_{24}O_{10}$ (400.1369, as shown by cims and hreims) was isolated from the reaction mixture. The ftir spectrum of 76 displays hydroxyl(s) (3450 cm^{-1}), methyl ester carbonyl (1730 cm^{-1}), and benzoyl carbonyl (1707 cm^{-1}) groups. The ^1H nmr spectrum of 76 indicates the presence of four methoxyl (δ 3.88, 9H, s and 3.80, 3H, s) groups and three D_2O exchangeable hydroxyl hydrogens at δ 4.05 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 5.5\text{ Hz}$), 3.69 (1H, brd, $J = 7\text{ Hz}$), and 3.01 (1H, brd, $J = 9\text{ Hz}$). As well, the signals for the cyclohexane ring in the ^1H nmr spectrum of 76 are well resolved compared with those in the ^1H nmr spectra of 74 and 75. The complete assignment of the hydrogens of the cyclohexane ring is shown in structure 76. Support for structure 76 arises from its hreims. The peak at m/z 212 ($C_{10}H_{12}O_5$), arising from a McLafferty fragmentation, and the base peak at m/z 195 ($C_{10}H_{11}O_4$), arising from cleavage of the benzoyl C-O bond (scheme 18) are diagnostic.

The spectral data for the parent compound 74 (optical rotation, ^1H and ^{13}C nmr) are identical with those reported for 3-O-galloylquinic acid^{60,61}.





Scheme 18. Fragmentation in the hreims of compound 76

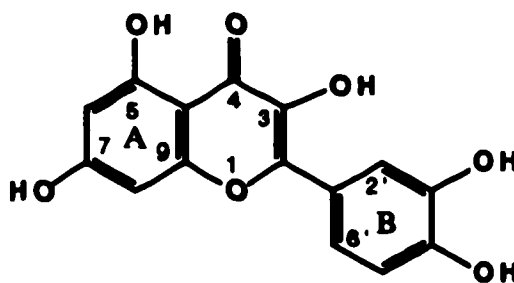
The flavonols 77 and 78.

Compounds 77 and 78 were isolated from the crude basic extract of *E. umbellatum*. The crude basic extract was redissolved in ethyl acetate and the bases were re-extracted from the ethyl acetate solution with 5% HCl (scheme 28, Experimental). The residue ethyl acetate solution was concentrated in *vacuo* to afford an acid / neutral fraction. The acid / neutral fraction afforded a major component A, when separated by flash column chromatography.

The FTIR spectrum of component **A** displays hydroxyl(s) (strong, broad, ca 3500-3100 cm^{-1}), carbonyl(s) (medium, ca 1700 cm^{-1}), and aromatic carbon-carbon double bonds (1660, 1603, 1500 cm^{-1}). Component **A** forms an intense blue complex with FeCl_3 indicating that the hydroxyl groups are phenolic. Analyses by HREIMS and ^1H NMR, indicates that component **A** is a mixture of three phenolic compounds in ca 2:2:1 ratio (as shown by ^1H NMR).

Component one in the mixture **A** is methyl gallate (**69**): HREIMS: m/z 184 ($\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_5$); ^1H NMR: δ 7.10 (2H, s) and 3.92 (3H, s). These HREIMS and ^1H NMR spectral data are identical with those reported for methyl gallate (see Section D3.1, Experimental).

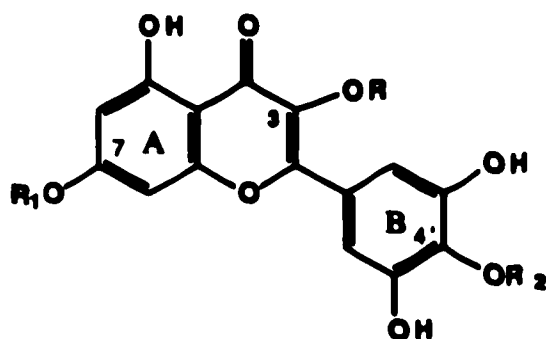
The second component in the mixture **A** is assigned to the known flavonol, quercetin (**77**): HREIMS and CIMS: m/z 302 ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$); ^1H NMR: δ 12.18 (1H, brs), 7.84 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.70 (1H, dd, $J = 8.5, 2.2$ Hz), 6.98 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 6.57 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), and 6.27 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz)⁶².



77

The third component in the mixture **A** is monomethylated myricetin (**79**): HREIMS and CIMS: m/z 332 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_8$); ^1H NMR: δ 12.13 (1H, brs), 7.43 (2H, s), 6.68 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz), 6.32 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz), and 4.06 (3H, s). The signal at δ 7.43 indicates that ring **B** in **79** is symmetrically substituted and this together with the signal at δ 12.12, which is assigned to the hydroxyl hydrogen at C-5, allow three possible positions (3, 4'

or 7) for methyl group substitution. 3-Methylmyricetin, 4'-methylmyricetin, and 7-methylmyricetin have been reported previously^{63-67a}.



79 R or R₁ or R₂ = CH₃
 81 R = rha, R₁ or R₂ = CH₃
 83 R = rha, R₁ = R₂ = H

The mixture A was acetylated (pyr, Ac₂O) and the acetates were separated by flash column chromatography and preparative tlc. The ¹H nmr of the pentaacetylated methylmyricetin (80) differs from that reported for the pentaacetylated 4'-methylmyricetin^{63a}, thus the methoxyl group in 79 is not attached to C-4'. At this stage the data available does not allow us to distinguish unambiguously between methylation at the 3 or 7 position.

The flavonol glycosides 81, 83, 85, and 87.

The ethyl acetate extract of *E. umbellatum* was separated by gel filtration chromatography on Sephadex LH20. Elution with methanol afforded polar metabolites which make up more than 70% of total crude ethyl acetate extract. The characteristic green to blue complexes formed by these metabolites with FeCl₃ indicate their phenolic nature. The purification and identification of these metabolites was complicated by their

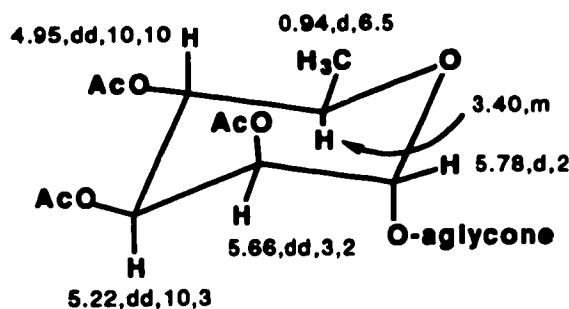
lack of solubility in most organic solvents. To simplify purification, impure fractions obtained by column chromatography were acetylated and the component acetates were separated and characterized as the acetyl derivatives. Compound 81 was identified as the free alcohol as well as its acetyl derivative 82, whereas compounds 83, 85, and 87 were separated and characterized as the acetyl derivatives, 84, 86, and 88, respectively.

The FTIR spectrum of compound 81 displays strong and broad intensity bands attributed to hydroxyl(s) ($3431\text{-}3217\text{ cm}^{-1}$) and medium intensity bands assigned to carbonyl or carbon-carbon double bond(s) (1661 and 1559 cm^{-1}). The base peak at m/z 332 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_8$) in the fragments of 81 is similar to the parent ion in the fragments of methylmyricetin, compound 79. However, compound 81 is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = -154^\circ$) and this suggests that 81 is composed of an optically active group attached to methylmyricetin (79) or its isomer.

The ^1H NMR spectrum of compound 81 displays absorption signals at δ 12.8 (1H, s), 6.87 (2H, s), 6.65 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz), 6.40 (1H, d, $J = 1$ Hz), and 3.94 (3H, s), similar to those observed in the ^1H NMR spectrum of 79. In addition, the ^1H NMR spectrum of 81 has signals at δ 5.21 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 3$ Hz), 4.12 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 6.5$ Hz), 3.65 (1H, brdd, $J = 9, 3$ Hz), 3.47 (1H, m), 3.25 (1H, dd, $J = 9, 9$ Hz), and 0.99 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz). These signals are assigned to the hydrogens of the monosaccharide rhamnose. The signal at δ 5.21 is assigned to the anomeric hydrogen and its coupling pattern ($W_{1/2} = 3$ Hz) indicates that it is the α -L anomer of rhamnose⁶⁸. This assignment is confirmed by the ^1H NMR spectrum of the hexaacetyl derivative of 81, compound 82. The signals due to the rhamnosyl group are well resolved and are assigned as shown in partial structure A.

In the ^1H NMR spectra of 81 and 82, the signals at δ 6.87 (81) and 7.70 (82) (each 2H, s) are assigned to H-2' and H-6' and this indicates that ring B is symmetrically substituted. This allows us to conclude that in compound 81, the rhamnose is attached to the flavonol at position 3 or 7 and the methoxyl group is at position 3, or 4', or 7. The

coupling constant ($\tau = 2 \text{ Hz}$) for the anomeric hydrogen (H-1'') in **82** and the coupling constant ($J \cong 6 \text{ Hz}$) for the rhamnosyl methyl group (H-6'') in **81** and **82** indicate that the sugar is attached to C-3. The hydrogens, H-1'' and H-6'' in

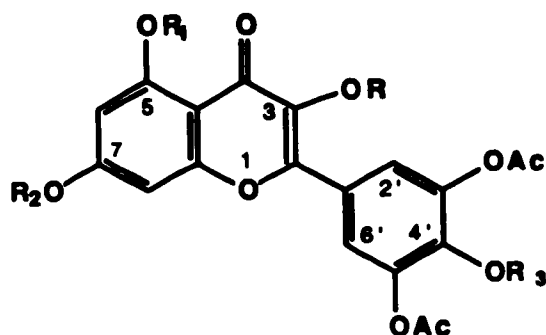


(A)

flavonol 7-O-rhamnosides appear as complex multiplets due to free rotation about the O-C-1'' bond and these hydrogens are sharper in flavonol 3-O-rhamnosides due to more restricted rotation⁶⁸. The ¹³C nmr spectrum of **81** provides support for this assignment. The signal at δ 134.5 assigned to C-3 in the ¹H nmr spectrum of **81** is identical with that reported for myricetin 3-O-rhamnoside, compound **83** (see table 25)^{67b}. Since the sugar is attached to C-3, the methoxyl group is attached to C-4' or C-7. The ¹³C nmr spectral data for compound **81** when compared to the ¹³C nmr data reported for myricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (**83**) (table 25) appear to favour methoxyl substitution at C-7. The chemical shifts for C-1' to C-6' in **81** and **83** are identical and this indicates that compounds **81** and **83** have an identical ring B. However, the shieldings (Δ) observed for ring A carbons C-5 to C-8 in **81** (with the methoxyl group attached to C-7) when compared to **83** are small. Such shieldings are of the order +2-3 ppm⁶⁹. 4'-Methylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside and 7-methylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside are known compounds. To our knowledge no ¹H or ¹³C nmr spectral data have been reported⁷⁰⁻⁷², thus unambiguous distinction between methylation at position 4' or 7 still remains unresolved.

Table 25 ^{13}C nmr spectra of 81 and 83 (DMSO- d_6).

C	Chemical shift in δ		
	83 (25.15 MHz)	81 (100.6 MHz)	Δ
4	177.7	177.7	0
7	164.1	165.0	+0.9
5	161.3	160.9	-0.4
2	157.4	157.7	+0.3
9	156.4	156.2	-0.2
3'&5'	145.8	145.6	-0.2
4'	136.5	136.4	-0.1
3	134.5	134.4	-0.1
1'	119.9	119.0	-0.9
2'&6'	108.2	108.0	-0.2
10	104.2	104.9	+0.7
1''	102.0	101.8	-0.2
6	98.7	97.6	-1.1
8	93.5	92.0	-1.5
4''	71.5	71.2	
2''	70.5	70.3	
3''	70.6	70.3	
5''	70.1	69.8	
6''	17.8	17.2	
OCH_3		55.8	



82 R = rha, R₁ = H, R₂ or R₃ = CH₃ or Ac

84 R = rha, R₁ = R₂ = R₃ = Ac

86 R = β-D-pyranoside, R₁ = R₂ = R₃ = Ac

An octaacetyl derivative, compound **84**, is an optically active compound ($[\alpha]_D = -167^\circ$). The ftir spectrum of **84** displays aromatic acetoxy carbonyl(s) (1780 cm^{-1}), aliphatic acetoxy carbonyl(s) (1750 cm^{-1}), and carbon-carbon double bond(s) (1647 and 1628 cm^{-1}). The presence of aromatic and aliphatic acetoxy groups is confirmed in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **84** by the signals at $\delta 2.43$ (3H, s), 2.32 (6H, s), and 2.30 (3H, s) (aromatic acetoxy methyls) and $\delta 2.00$ (3H, s), 2.14 (3H, s), and 1.98 (3H, s) (aliphatic acetoxy methyls). Except for the absence of a methoxy group, the remaining signals in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **84** are similar to those observed in the ^1H nmr spectrum of compound **82** (see table 26). These ^1H nmr spectral data indicate that **84** is 2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5',7-octaacetylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside. The ^{13}C nmr spectrum of **84** shows the 34 signals of the carbon skeleton of structure **84**. The spectral data (optical rotation and ^1H nmr) for compound **84** are identical with those reported for 2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5',7-octaacetylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside **84**⁷⁰.

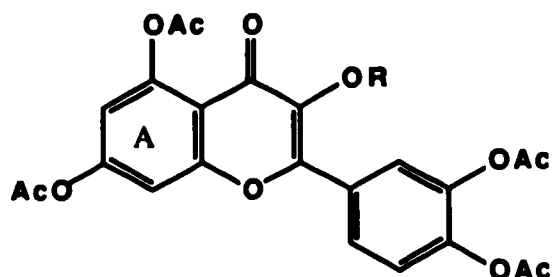
Table 26. ^1H nmr spectra of 82 and 84 (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ , mult., J in Hz.		
H	82	84
5-HO-	11.37, s	
2'&6'	7.70, s	7.69, s
8	6.44, d, 2	7.30, d, 2
6	6.38, d, 2	6.85, d, 2
1"	5.78, d, 2	5.74, d, 2
2"	5.66, dd, 3,2	5.67, dd, 3,2
3"	5.22, dd, 10,3	5.18, dd, 10,3
4"	4.95, dd, 10,10	4.92, dd, 10,10
5"	3.40, m	3.32, m
OCH_3	3.87, s	
CH_3CO_2-		2.43, s
"		2.34, s
2 x CH_3CO_2-	2.32, s	2.32, s
CH_3CO_2-	2.30, s	2.30, s
"	2.14, s	2.14, s
"	2.01, s	2.00, s
"	1.98, s	1.99, s
6"	0.94, d, 6	0.93, d, 7

A nonaacetyl derivative, compound **86** is an optically active compound ($[\alpha]_D = -72^\circ$) and shows similar f_{tir} spectral data to that of octaacetate **84**: aromatic acetoxy carbonyl(s) (1779 cm^{-1}), aliphatic acetoxy carbonyl(s) (1752 cm^{-1}), and carbon-carbon double bond(s) (1645 and 1628 cm^{-1}). The signals at $\delta 7.87$ (2H, s), 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 12\text{ Hz}$), and 6.85 (1H, d, $J = 2\text{ Hz}$) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **86**, indicate that the flavonol part of **86** is similar to that of **82** and **84**, thus, **86** is a glycoside of myricetin. The presence of four aliphatic acetoxy groups at $\delta 2.16$ (3H, s), 2.14 (3H, s), 2.00 (3H, s), and 1.91 (3H, s) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **86** suggests that the saccharide is a hexose. The anomeric hydrogen ($\delta 5.56$, d) and its coupling constant of $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ indicates that the aglycone is bonded through a β -linkage⁶⁸. The signal at $\delta 99.5$ (d) in the ^{13}C nmr spectrum of **86** is assigned to the anomeric carbon, since the chemical shift of the anomeric carbon in flavonol β -D-glycosides appear in the same region^{67c}.

A fourth peracetyl glycoside, octaacetate **88** is optically active ($[\alpha]_D = -88^\circ$) and has f_{tir} spectral data similar to that of compound **84** and **86**: aromatic acetoxy carbonyl (1777 cm^{-1}), aliphatic acetoxy carbonyl (1753 cm^{-1}), and carbon-carbon double bond(s) (1764 and 1628 cm^{-1}). The signals at $\delta 7.98$ (1H, dd, $J = 9,2\text{ Hz}$), 7.92 (1H, d, $J = 2\text{ Hz}$), 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 9\text{ Hz}$), 7.32 (1H, d, $J = 2\text{ Hz}$), and 6.84 (1H, d, $J = 2\text{ Hz}$) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of compound **88** suggest that the aglycone is quercetin (**77**). The signals for the sugar in the ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra of **88** are similar to those of the sugar in **86** (see Experimental). The signals for the anomeric hydrogen ($\delta 5.48$, 1H, d, $J = 8\text{ Hz}$) and the anomeric carbon ($\delta 99.6$) in the ^1H nmr spectrum of **88** are identical to those observed in the ^1H and ^{13}C nmr spectra of **86**: $\delta 5.56$ (1H, d, $J = 8\text{ Hz}$) and 99.5 , respectively, indicating that the saccharide and glycosidic linkage in **86** and **88** are the same i.e., β -D-glycosidic linkage. The position of attachment to the flavonol in **88** is probably at C-3. This is supported by ^1H nmr spectral data of **88** and pentaacetylquercetin **78** (table 27). The signals for the ring A hydrogens in **78** and **88** are identical. This would not be the case if the glycoside was attached to ring A.

Furthermore, the shieldings, (Δ) for H-2' and H-6' between **78** and **88** are nearly the same, thus disfavoring sugar attachment to ring B. Therefore, **86** is 2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5',6'',7-nonaacetylmyricetin 3-O- β -D-glycoside and **88** is 2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,6'',7-nonaacetylquercetin 3-O- β -D-glycoside. The identity of the saccharide in both **86** and **88** is still unresolved.



88 R = β -D-pyranoside

Table 27. Comparison of some ^1H nmr spectral data of **78** and **88** (CDCl_3 , 200 MHz).

Chemical shift in δ mult. J in Hz.			
H	78	88	Δ
2'	7.69, d, 2.5	7.92, d, 2	+0.23
6'	7.72, dd, 8,2.5	7.98, dd, 9,2	+0.26
5'	7.36, d, 8	7.33, d, 9	-0.03
8	7.34, d, 2.5	7.32, d, 2	-0.02
6	6.89, d, 2.5	6.84, d, 2	-0.05

V. Experimental.

A. General.

High resolution electron impact mass spectra (hreims) were recorded on an AEI MS-50 mass spectrometer coupled to a DS-50 computer. Data is reported as m/z (formula, relative intensity, fragment). Unless diagnostically significant, peaks with intensities less than 20% of the base peak are omitted. Chemical ionization mass spectra (cims) were recorded on an AEI MS-12 mass spectrometer with ammonia as the reagent gas. Gas-chromatography / mass-spectra (gc / ms) were recorded on a Varian vista 600 equipped with a mass spectrometry detector 7070E. Fourier transform infrared (ftir) spectra were recorded (as CHCl₃ cast unless otherwise noted) on a Nicolet FT 7199 interferometer. Ultraviolet (uv) spectra were recorded on a Hewlett Packard 8450A diode array or a Unicam sp 1700 spectrophotometer. Optical rotations were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 141 polarimeter. ¹H and ¹³C Nuclear magnetic resonance (nmr) spectra were measured (in CDCl₃ unless otherwise noted) on Bruker WH-200, WH-300, WH-360 or WH-400 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ value from tetramethylsilane (TMS)). Chloroform (unless otherwise noted) was employed as internal standard, ¹H: δ7.26, ¹³C: 77.00 relative to TMS. Coupling constants, J, are expressed in cycles per second (Hertz, Hz) and the following abbreviations are used: m = multiplet, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, br = broad. Melting points are uncorrected and were measured on a Zeitz-Wetzlar or a Thomas Model 40 melting point apparatus.

Reagent grade solvents were distilled prior to use. Skellysolve B refers to Skelly oil company light petroleum, bp 62-70°C. Analytical grade diethyl ether (ACS 288) was

used without further purification. Pyridine was distilled from NaOH and stored over NaOH. Acetic anhydride was dried over P₂O₅ and distilled over sodium acetate.

Woelm (activity III/20 mm) and Brockman (activity I and II) neutral alumina was used for column chromatography. Fractions were collected with an ISCO model 1200 or model 820 fraction collector. E. Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh) was used for flash column chromatography⁷³. Pharmacia Sephadex LH20 and G10 was used for gel filtration chromatography. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (tlc) was carried out on silica gel precoated tlc plates (E. Merck DC-Alufolien, Kieselgel 60 F-254 0.2 mm thickness) and on alumina precoated tlc plates (E. Merck DC-Alufolien, Aluminumoxide 60 F254 neutral type E 0.2 mm thickness). The chromatograms were examined under ultraviolet light (254 or 350 nm). Visualization was completed by spraying with Dragendorff's reagent (solution A: 1.7 g of basic Bi(NO₃)₃·5H₂O in 100 mL of water; acetic acid; 4:1; solution B: 40 g of KI in 100 mL of water; spray solution: 20 mL of solution A, 5 mL of solution B, and 70 mL of water) or by dipping in a 3% phosphomolybdic acid solution (3 g of 20MoO₃·2H₃PO₄·48H₂O, 0.5 g of H₄Ce(SO₄)₄ in 100 mL of 3% (v/v) sulphuric acid).

B. *Lycopodium obscurum*.

B1. Plant collection and extraction.

L. obscurum was collected in eastern Canada during early September 1986 from York County, New Brunswick by Dr. H. Hinds. The sample from western Canada was collected from Alberta in two batches by our group. The first batch was collected during late October 1986 from Fox Creek at Pine Tree campgrounds and the second batch was collected during early September 1987 from Fox Creek at Pine Tree campgrounds and

125 km south of Grand Prairie on Forestry road 734. Specimens* are deposited in the herbarium, Department of Botany, University of Alberta.

The whole plant of *L. obscurum* was air dried for several weeks (7 weeks to 1 year) before pulverization and extraction. In a second extraction, whole plant collected in western Canada was air dried for 3 weeks, ground, and extracted immediately. The less stable Lycopodium alkaloids were isolated only from the second crude extract.

Ground plant was extracted as described below by Soxhlet extraction with methanol⁷⁴ or by percolation with 2% tartaric acid³⁹. The latter extraction procedure afforded cleaner and better yields of crude alkaloid mixture than the former (0.12% and 0.10% by percolation with tartaric acid and by Soxhlet extraction, respectively).

Dry ground plant (340 g) of *L. obscurum* from eastern Canada was extracted by percolation with tartaric acid to afford 420mg of crude bases. This crude base mixture was analysed by gc / ms.

B1.1. Soxhlet extraction .

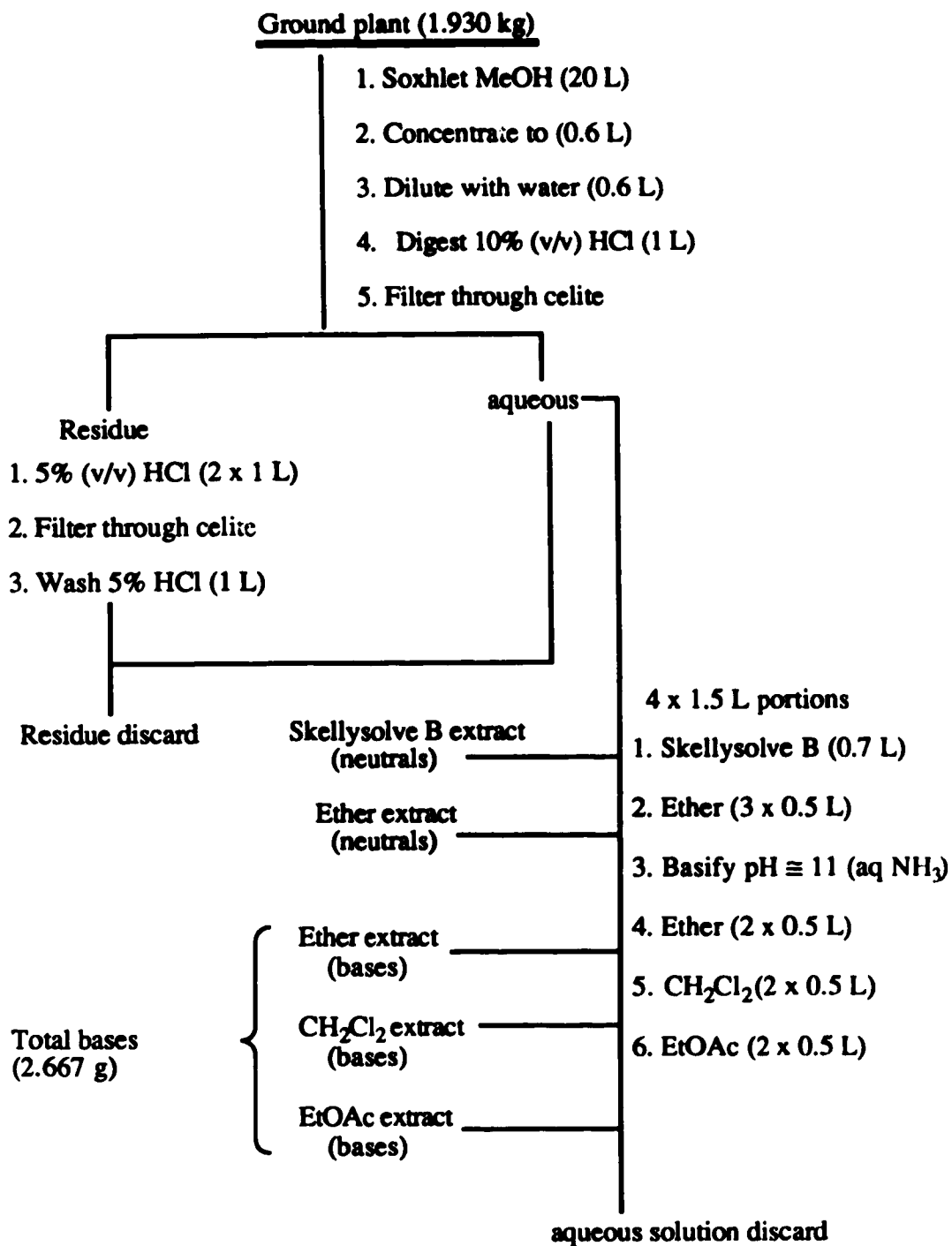
Pulverized plant (ca 1.9 kg) was extracted with methanol for 48 hrs according to scheme 19. The methanol extract was concentrated under reduced pressure at 40°C. The concentrate was transferred to a large beaker, diluted onefold with water, and the remainder of the methanol removed by evaporation on a steam bath. The mixture was digested (diluted with 10% (v/v) HCl and heated to boiling on a steam bath) and then cooled to room temperature. The solution was filtered through celite and the celite was washed thoroughly with 5% (v/v) HCl. The aqueous extract was extracted successively with Skellysolve B and ether to remove neutral and acidic compounds. The aqueous

* Accession numbers : 91187 (York County), 91186 (Fox Creek, 1986), 92370 (Fox Creek, 1987), and 92371 (Grand Prairie, 1987).

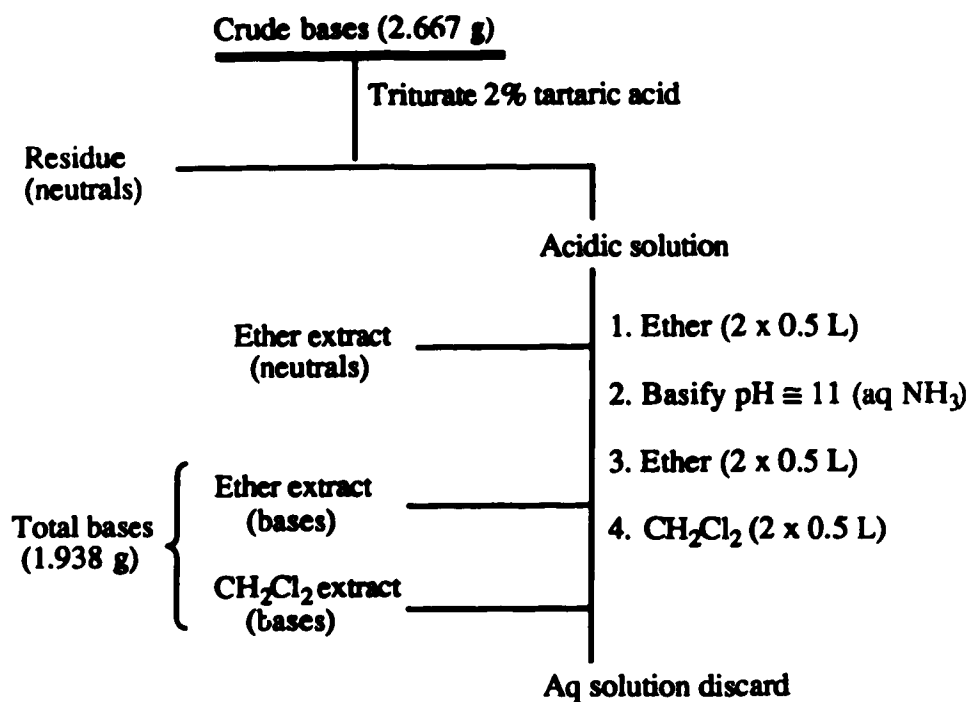
residue was basified to pH of approximately 11 (aq NH₃) and the bases were extracted successively with ether, dichloromethane, and ethyl acetate. The total crude bases (ca 2.7 g) were redissolved in 2% (w/v) tartaric acid and re-extracted according to scheme 20. The ether and dichloromethane layers were washed with water, dried (anhydrous MgSO₄ or Na₂SO₄), and evaporated to dryness (in *vacuo*) to afford crude bases (ca 1.9 g) in 0.1% yield.

B1.2. Extraction with tartaric acid.

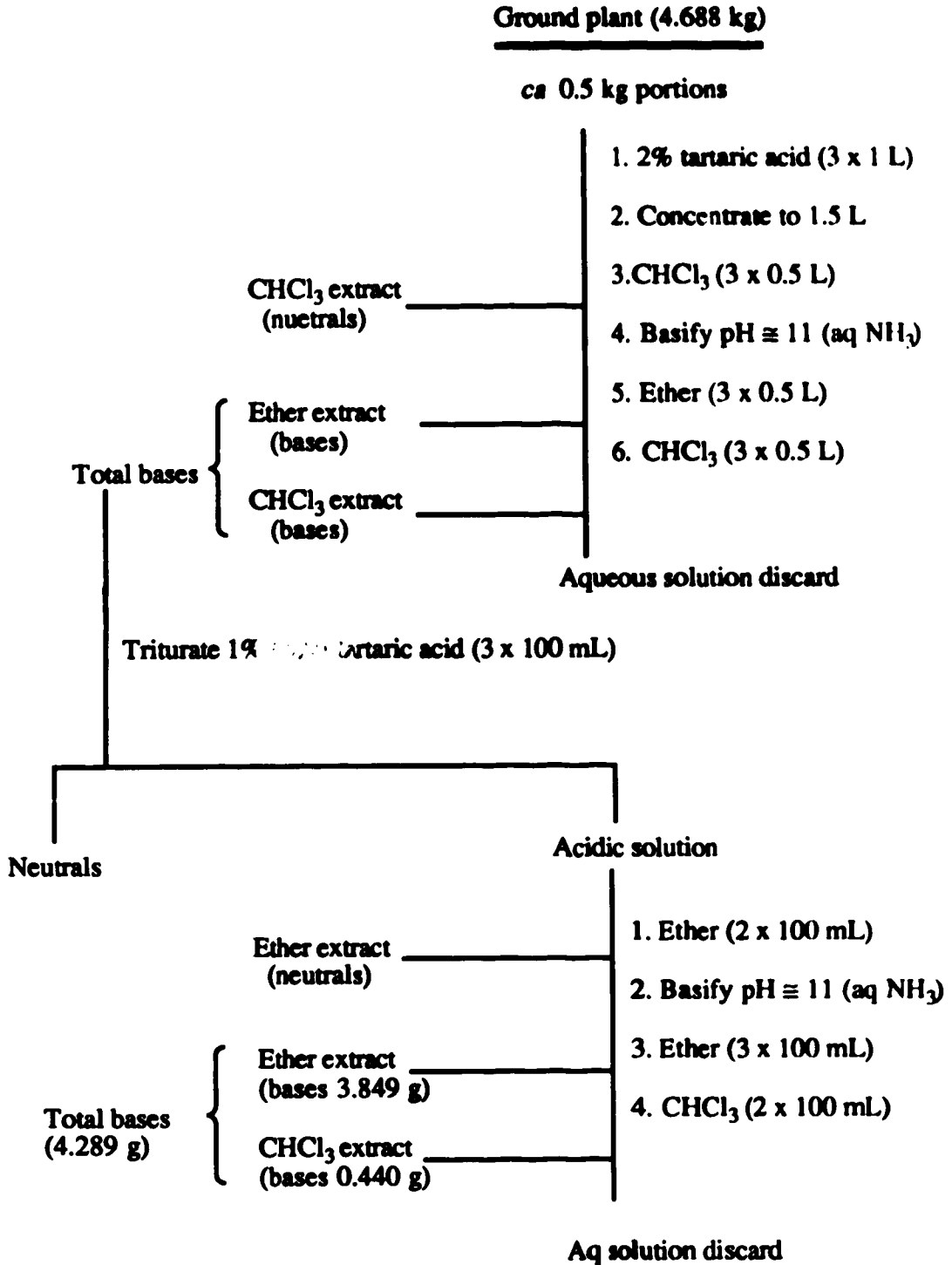
L. obscurum was extracted with 2% tartaric acid according to scheme 21. Dry ground plant was suspended in 2% aqueous tartaric acid in a 4L Erlenmeyer flask fitted with a stopcock at the bottom. The mixture was constantly agitated with a motor driven mechanical stirrer at room temperature for 24 hrs. The suspension was allowed to settle, the solution drained, and filtered. The extraction with tartaric acid was repeated 3 times. The extracts were combined and concentrated in *vacuo* at 50°C during which time a white tartarate salt precipitated. The salt was removed and the tartaric acid solution (6L) was divided into 4 equal portions. Each portion was extracted with chloroform (X 3) to remove neutral and acidic compounds and basified to pH 11 (aq. NH₃). The basic solution was extracted successively with ether and chloroform. Each of the ether and chloroform layers was washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated to yield the crude bases (4.2887 g) in 0.1% yield.



Scheme 19. Extraction of *L. obscurum* with methanol in a Soxhlet apparatus.



Scheme 20. Re-extraction of the crude bases of *L. obscurum* with 2% (w/v) tartaric acid.



Scheme 21. Extraction of *L. obscurum* by percolation with 2% (w/v) tartaric acid.

B2. Gas-chromatography/mass-spectrometry.

A silica capillary column (30 m x 0.25 mm) DB-5 or DB-1 (J & W) was used for gas chromatographic analysis. The conditions were: carrier gas: He at a pressure of 12 lb/square inch and a flow rate of 1.5 mL / minute; temperature program: 150-250°C at 5° / minute and 250-300°C at 20° / minute. A standard solution containing 0.1 mg in each of ten authentic Lycopodium alkaloids shown in table 2 in methanol (0.1 mL) was used to standardize the conditions. The concentration was 1mg / mL methanol in each sample of *L. obscurum* from eastern and western Canada. The standard mixture and each sample of *L. obscurum* was introduced in the inlet chamber at 2 µL injections. The gc / ms results with the authentic samples of Lycopodium alkaloids are shown in table 2.

B3. Isolation.

The crude alkaloid mixture (5.0647 g) was partitioned into fractions A-G (table 28) by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (Woelm, 400g, 40mm id column, methanol / dichloromethane). Eluent volumes of 20 to 25 mL were collected. Each of the fractions A-G was purified further by gradient elution over alumina, or by flash column chromatography over silica gel, or by preparative tlc. Preparative tlc was performed on silica gel (unless otherwise noted) and the bases were extracted from silica gel with methanol in dichloromethane presaturated with ammonia. The purity of the chromatography fractions was monitored by tlc using alumina plates.

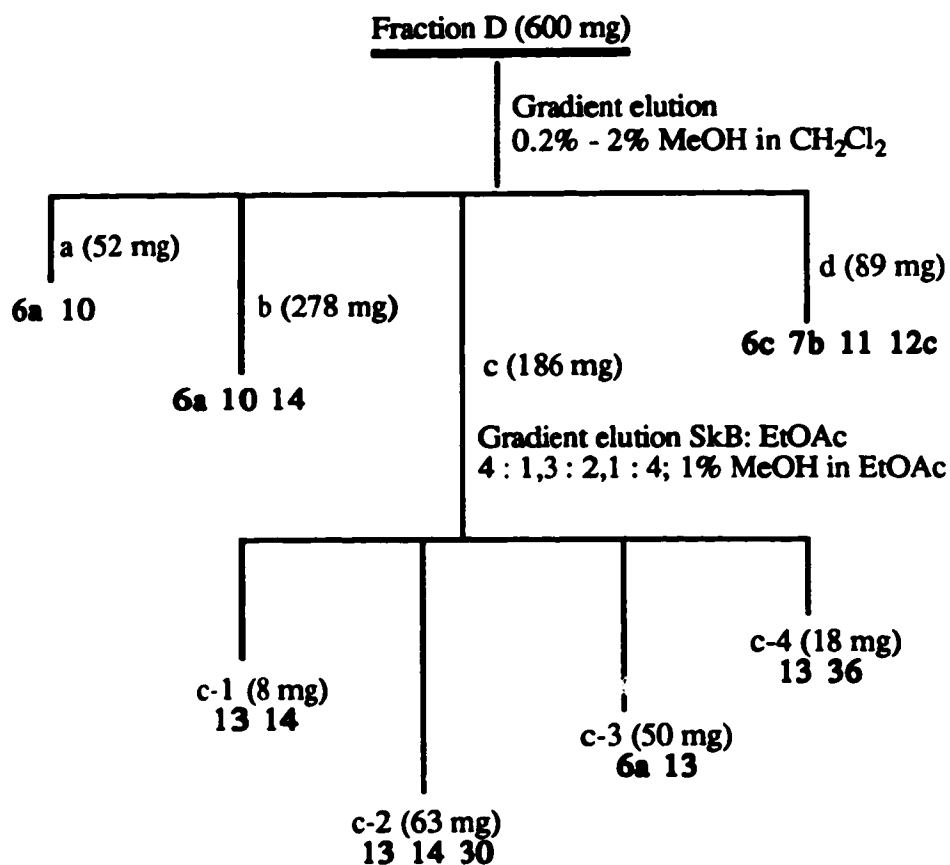
Table 28. Preliminary separation of the crude base extract of *L. obscurum*.

Solvent(volume,L)	Fraction	Yield (g)	Observation
0.3% MeOH/CH ₂ Cl ₂ (0.5)	A	2.242	6a
0.5% " "	B	0.776	6a
1.0% " (1.0)	C	0.172	6a,10
	D	0.755	6a,6c,7b,10,11, 12c,13,14,30,36
2.0% " (1.0)	E	0.204	6b,7c,12c,27,29
3.0% " (0.5)	F	0.239	6b,7c,7d,8,27, 29,38,43
5.0% " (0.5)	G	0.213	7a,12d,27,29,53
20.0% " (0.5)		"	"

B3.1. Isolation of lycopodine (6a) and lycodine (10).

Fraction A (2.243 g) contains mainly lycopodine (6a) and two unidentified alkaloids of molecular weight 244 and 245 (gc / ms). Lycopodine was identified by comparison with an authentic sample (mp, hreims, ¹H and ¹³C nmr spectra)^{3a,30,75}. Fraction B (0.776g) contains lycopodine. Fraction C (0.172 g) contains lycopodine and lycodine (10). Fraction C was separated by flash column chromatography (acetone:dichloromethane; 1:4, 1:1, and 1% methanol in dichloromethane presaturated with ammonia) to afford lycodine (ca 100 mg) and lycopodine (ca 60 mg). Lycodine was

recrystallized from hexane as colourless plates, mp: 112°C (118°C lit^{3a}); tlc: R_f 0.51 (2% methanol in dichloromethane); ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3280 (weak, NH), 1571; uv (ϵ = 0.82, ethanol) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 268 (3.8) 276 (3.7); [α]_D = -8° (ϵ = 0.79, methanol); ¹H and ¹³C nmr: see tables 12 and 13; hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₂₂N₂: 242.1785, found: 242.1783 (17, M⁺), 185 (C₁₂H₁₃N₂, 100, M⁺-C₄H₉), 157 (C₁₀H₉N₂, 10, M⁺-C₄H₉, -C₂H₄).



Scheme 22. Isolation of obscurinine (13), iso-obscurinine (14), acetyllobscurininol (30), hydroxypropyllycodine (36), flabellidine (11), and flabelliformine (6c).

B3.2. Isolation of compounds 6c, 11, 13, 14, 30, and 36.

A portion of fraction D (600 mg) was separated by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (100 g) using methanol in dichloromethane (0.2 to 2%) into 4 fractions a to d as shown in scheme 22. Each of fractions b, c, and d was purified further.

Iso-obscurinine (14) and obscurinine (13).

Iso-obscurinine (4 mg) and obscurinine (85 mg) were obtained from a portion of fraction b (169 mg) by flash column chromatography using acetone:dichloromethane; 1:1.

Iso-obscurinine (14).

Iso-obscurinine crystallizes on slow evaporation from Skellysolve B / acetone as off white plates, mp: 106-107°C; tlc: Rf 0.49 (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate, 4:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +107^\circ$ ($c = 1.1$, methanol); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 2964, 2924, 2853, 2838, 2786 (*Bohlmann bands*) 1734, 1649, 1605; ^1H and ^{13}C nmr: see tables 3 and 4; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 272.1890; found: 272.1888(100, M^+), 271 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}$, 5, M^+-H), 257 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}$, 15, M^+-CH_3), 243 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2$, 3, M^+-HCO), 189 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}$, 5, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_5\text{H}_9\text{N}$), 173 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}$, 20, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_5\text{H}_9\text{NO}$), 172 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$, 21, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}$), 160 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$, 14, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}$), 159 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}$, 14, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$), 158 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 13, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}$), 146 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 15, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_7\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}$), 98 ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 36), 84 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, 51), 72 ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, 66), 71 ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{N}$, 64), 70 ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{N}$, 30), 58 ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_8\text{N}$, 88), 57 ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{N}$, 30).

Obscurinine (13).

Obscurinine crystallizes on slow evaporation from Skellysolve B / acetone as off white plates, mp: 128-130°C (124-125.2°C, lit¹⁹); tlc: Rf 0.37 (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 4:1); $[\alpha]_D = +242^\circ$ (c = 0.5, methanol); uv ($\epsilon = 0.43$, ethanol) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 205 (3.9), 233 (4.0); ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3029, 3006 (CH, olefinic), 2963, 2944, 2936, 2912, 2838, 2809, 2801, 2792, 2765, 2719, 2708 (*Bohlmann bands*), 1733, 1646, 1627, 1603; ¹H and ¹³C nmr: see tables 3 and 4; cims: m/z 273 (100, M⁺+1); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₂₄N₂O: 272.1890, found: 272.1886 (100, M⁺), 271 (C₁₇H₂₃NO, 3, M⁺-H), 257 (C₁₆H₂₁N₂O, 15, M⁺-CH₃), 244 (C₁₆H₂₄N₂, 2, M⁺-CO), 189 (C₁₂H₁₅NO, 10, M⁺-C₅H₉N), 172 (C₁₂H₁₄N, 10, M⁺-C₅H₁₀NO), 160 (C₁₁H₁₄N, 16, M⁺-C₆H₁₀NO), 159 (C₁₁H₁₃N, 12, M⁺-C₆H₁₁NO), 158 (C₁₁H₁₂N, 12, M⁺-C₆H₁₂NO), 146 (C₁₀H₁₂N, 17, M⁺-C₇H₁₂NO), 98 (C₆H₁₂N, 18), 84 (C₅H₁₀N, 34), 72 (C₄H₁₀N, 61), 71 (C₆H₉N, 62), 70 (C₄H₈N, 22), 58 (C₃H₈N, 39), 57 (C₃H₇N, 18).

Acetyllobscurinol (30).

Acetyllobscurinol (30) (3.5 mg) was obtained as a colourless opaque solid from fraction c-2 (63 mg) (scheme 22) by flash column chromatography (acetone:dichloromethane; 1:4, 1:1, and 1% methanol in dichloromethane presaturated with ammonia) and by preparative tlc (3% methanol in ether under an atmosphere of ammonia), tlc: Rf 0.62 (2% methanol in ethyl acetate) or 0.90 (5% methanol in ether/ammonia vapours, silica gel); $[\alpha]_D = +110^\circ$ ($\epsilon = 0.16$, methanol); uv ($\epsilon = 0.015$, ethanol) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 202 (3.2) and 234 (3.3); ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 2956, 2925, 2854, 1735, 1659, 1240; ¹H and ¹³C nmr: see tables 7 and 8; cims: m/z 318 (100, M⁺+1); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₂₇NO₃: 317.1992, found: 317.1985 (18, M⁺), 274

(C₁₇H₂₄NO₂, 5, M⁺-CH₃,-CO), 258 (C₁₇H₂₄NO, 100, M⁺-CH₃CO₂), 257 (C₁₇H₂₃NO, 8, M⁺-CH₃CO₂H), 215 (C₁₅H₁₉O, 39), 187 (C₁₃H₁₅O, 7, M⁺-CH₃CO₂H,-C₄H₈N), 84 (C₅H₁₀N, 38), 83 (C₅H₉N, 10), 70 (C₄H₈N, 12), 58 (C₃H₈N, 39), 57 (C₃H₇N, 21).

Hydroxypropyllycodine (36).

Hydroxypropyllycodine (5.5 mg) was obtained as a colourless oil from fraction c-4 (18 mg) (scheme 22) by preparative tlc (3% methanol in ether / ammonia vapours); tlc: R_f 0.23 (ethyl acetate); [α]_D = +11° (c = 0.39, methanol); uv (c = 0.42, ethanol) λ_{max} nm (log ε): 272 (3.7), ca 280 (shoulder); ftir ν_{max} cm⁻¹: 3320 (br, NH and OH), 1650 (weak N=C), 1590, 1570; ¹H and ¹³C nmr: see tables 12 and 13; cims: m/z 301 (100, M⁺+1); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₂₈N₂O: 300.2203, found: 300.2199 (19, M⁺), 285 (C₁₈H₂₅N₂O, 2, M⁺-CH₃), 283 (C₁₉H₂₇N₂, 0.4, M⁺-H₂O), 256 (C₁₇H₂₄N₂, 3, M⁺-CH₃CHO), 243 (C₁₅H₁₉N₂, 100, M⁺-C₄H₉), 199 (C₁₃H₁₅N₂, 19, M⁺-C₄H₉,-CH₃CHO), 171 (C₁₁H₁₁N₂, 4, M⁺-C₄H₉,-CH₃CHO,-C₂H₄).

Acetylation of hydroxypropyllycodine (36).

An impure sample of hydroxypropyllycodine (36), Ac₂O (1 mL), and Et₃N (5 drops) were stirred at room temperature overnight. Excess Ac₂O was decomposed by dropwise addition of water, the solvent was evaporated azeotropically with benzene in *vacuo*, and the residue was purified by preparative tlc (silica gel: 1% methanol in ethyl acetate / ammonia vapours; alumina: ethyl acetate:Skellysolve B; 1:4) to afford the diacetate 37 (ca 2mg), tlc: R_f 0.84 (ethyl acetate); ftir ν_{max} cm⁻¹: 1737, 1656, 1242; ¹H and ¹³C: see tables 12 and 13; cims: m/z 385 (100 M⁺+1); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₂₃H₃₂N₂O₃: 384.2415, found: 384.2405 (71, M⁺), 341 (C₂₁H₂₉N₂O₂, 100, M⁺-

CH₃CHO), 327 (C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₃, 13, M⁺-C₄H₉), 325 (C₂₁H₂₉N₂O, 74, M⁺-CH₃CO₂), 324 (C₂₁H₂₈N₂O, 26, M⁺-CH₃CO₂H), 298 (C₁₉H₂₆N₂O, 21, M⁺-C₄H₆O), 285 (C₁₇H₂₁N₂O₂, 15, M⁺-C₄H₉, -C₂H₂O), 267 (C₁₇H₁₉N₂O, 58, M⁺-C₄H₉, -CH₃CO₂H), 225 (C₁₅H₁₇N₂, 35, M⁺-C₄H₉, -CH₃CO₂H, -C₂H₂O).

Flabellidine (11), flabelliformine (6c), and acetyldihydrolycopodine (7b).

Fraction d (89 mg) (scheme 22) afforded relatively pure flabellidine (11) (46 mg), flabelliformine (6c) (6 mg), and a mixture (7.9 mg) containing acetyldihydrolycopodine (7b) and flabelliformine after gradient elution chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 0.5 to 2%). Acetyldihydrolycopodine was identified in the mixture by gc / ms³⁰ and ¹H nmr.

Flabellidine (11).

Flabellidine was obtained as an opaque colourless solid, tlc: R_f 0.30 (1% methanol in ethyl acetate); ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3300 (weak, NH), 1660 (-NCOCH₃); ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 3.78 (1H, brs), 3.27-2.91 (2H, brm), 2.75 (1H, brd, J = 11 Hz), 2.43 (1H, brdd, J = 11,11, Hz), 2.09 (3H, s, -NCOCH₃), 1.17 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13,4 Hz), 0.82 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz, H-16); ¹³C nmr (100.6 MHz)*: 169.5 (s), 136.7 (s), 56.3 (s), 46.2 (t), 45.4 (t), 44.5 (d), 43.8 (t), 42.5 (t), 34.1 (d), 31.7 (t), 27.2 (t), 26.3 (t), 24.3 (t), 23.6 (q), 22.0 (q), 20.6 (t); hreims⁷⁶: m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₈N₂O: 288.2203, found: 288.2303 (11, M⁺); 231 (C₁₄H₁₉N₂O, 100, M⁺-C₄H₉), 203 (C₁₂H₁₅N₂O, 3, M⁺-C₄H₉, -C₂H₄), 189 (C₁₂H₁₇N₂, 9, M⁺-C₄H₉, -C₂H₂O), 161 (C₁₀H₁₃N₂, 4, M⁺-C₄H₉, -C₂H₂O, -C₂H₄). Flabellidine was purified further by conversion to its acetyl derivative.

* Missing one signal in the spectrum.

Acetylation of flabellidine (11).

Flabellidine (30mg), Ac₂O (2mL), and Et₃N (5 drops) in dichloromethane (2 mL) were stirred at room temperature overnight. Excess Ac₂O was decomposed with water, the reaction mixture was basified (aq NH₃), and extracted several times with dichloromethane. The dichloromethane extract was concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by column chromatography over alumina (3% methanol in dichloromethane) to afford acetylflabellidine (26.4 mg). Acetylflabellidine crystallizes from ether / acetone as colourless plates, mp: 155-156°C (150-152°C lit^{3a}); tlc: Rf 0.59 (ethyl acetate); ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 1651, 1395; uv (ϵ = 0.21, methanol) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 233 (3.36); ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 3.77 (1H, brs), 3.58 (1H, brd, J = 14 Hz), 3.23-3.11 (3H, m), 2.71 (1H, brddd, J = 14,14,2 Hz), 2.33 (1H, m, H-15), 2.12 (3H, s, -NCOCH₃), 2.10 (3H, s, -NCOCH₃), 1.18 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13,4 Hz), 0.90 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz, H-16); ¹³C nmr (100.6 MHz)* : 171.5 (s), 169.6 (s), 136.8 (s), 66.5 (s), 46.1 (t), 43.9 (d), 43.6 (t), 43.0 (2 x t), 34.6 (d), 31.3 (t), 27.4 (t), 27.1 (d), 26.2 (q), 25.6 (t), 24.2 (t), 23.7 (q), 22.4 (q), 22.2 (t); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₃₀N₂O₂: 330.2309, found: 330.2305 (33, M⁺), 273 (C₁₆H₂₁N₂O₂, 100, M⁺-C₄H₉), 231 (C₁₄H₁₉N₂O, 9, M⁺-C₄H₉,-C₂H₂O), 203 (C₁₂H₁₅N₂O, 3, M⁺-C₄H₉,-C₂H₂O,-C₂H₄), 189 (C₁₂H₁₇N₂, 5, M⁺-C₄H₉,-2C₂H₂O), 161 (C₁₀H₁₃N₂, 3, M⁺-C₄H₉,-2C₂H₂O,-C₂H₄).

Flabelliformine (6c).

Flabelliformine (6c) crystallizes from acetone as a white powder, mp: 204-206°C (210-211°C lit^{3a}); tlc: Rf 0.2 (2% methanol in dichloromethane); ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3400, 1709, 1074, ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 3.74 (1H, ddd, J = 11,11,4 Hz), 3.40 (1H, ddd, J =

* Missing one signal in the spectrum.

14,14,4 Hz), 3.26 (1H, ddd, $J = 14,4,2$ Hz), 2.46 (1H, ddd, $J = 14,14,5$ Hz); 1.28 (1H, dddd, $J = 13,13,4,2$ Hz), 0.93 (1H, dd, $J = 13,13$ Hz), 0.81 (3H, d, $J = 7$ Hz); ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz)⁷⁶: 211.0 (s, C-5), 80.0 (s, C-4), 59.1 (s, C-13), 49.2 (t, C-9), 46.3 (t, C-1), 46.0 (d, C-12), 44.8 (t, C-14), 42.8 (t, C-8), 39.5 (t, C-6), 36.7 (d, C-7), 27.5 (t, C-11)*, 25.8 (t, C-10)*, 25.5 (d, C-15), 23.2 (q, C-16), 17.0 (t, C-2); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 263.1887, found: 263.1878 (75, M^+), 246 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 10, $\text{M}^+\text{-OH}$), 206 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2$, 100, $\text{M}^+\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9$), 178 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 5, $\text{M}^+\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{-CO}$), 164 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$, 6, $\text{M}^+\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{-C}_2\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 160 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$, 6, $\text{M}^+\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{-CO}\text{-H}_2\text{O}$).

B3.3. Isolation of compounds 12c, 27, and 29.

Fraction E (203 mg) (table 28) was separated by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 0.5% to 3%) into 5 fractions a to e. The fractions d (62 mg) and e (39 mg) were further purified.

Lobscurinol (27).

Lobscurinol (27) (2 mg) was obtained as a colourless oil from fraction d (62 mg) by gradient elution chromatography (alumina, methanol in dichloromethane, 0.5% to 1%) and further purification by two successive preparative tlc (methanol in dichloromethane 3% and 5% under an atmosphere of ammonia), tlc: R_f 0.11 (3% methanol in ethyl acetate); ftir ν_{max} cm^{-1} : 3600-3200 (br, OH), 1658; ^1H and ^{13}C nmr: see tables 7 and 8; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 275.1887, found: 275.1881 (17, M^+), 274 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$, 3, $\text{M}^+\text{-H}$), 258 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 12, $\text{M}^+\text{-OH}$), 247 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}$, 4, $\text{M}^+\text{-CO}$), 232 ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}$, 4, $\text{M}^+\text{-CH}_3\text{-CO}$), 192 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$, 20, $\text{M}^+\text{-C}_5\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 174 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$,

* Signals may be reversed.

6, $M^+ - C_5H_7O, -H_2O$), 85 ($C_5H_{11}N$, 21), 84 ($C_5H_{10}N$, 100), 83 (C_5H_9N , 22), 71 (C_4H_9N , 6), 70 (C_4H_8N , 15), 58 (C_3H_8N , 28), 57 (C_3H_7N , 44).

Des-N-methyl- α -obscurine (12c).

A uv active material (1.3 mg), showing a single spot by tlc was obtained from chromatography of fraction d above and was identified as a mixture of lobscurinol and des-N-methyl α -obscurine (gc / ms). The mixture was acetylated (excess Ac_2O , 5 drops Et_3N , overnight). The reaction mixture was concentrated in *vacuo* and separated by preparative tlc (3% methanol in dichloromethane) to afford acetyllobscurinol (30) and acetyl des-N-methyl- α -obscurine (12c), tlc: Rf 0.49 (3% methanol in dichloromethane/ammonia vapours, silica gel); 1H nmr (400 MHz): 6.49 (1H, brs $W_{1/2} = 9$ Hz, NH), 3.64 (1H, brd, $J = 13.5$ Hz), 3.14 (1H, brd, $J = 10$ Hz), 2.70 (1H, brddd, $J = 13.5, 12, 3$ Hz), 2.13 (3H, s, $-NCOCH_3$), 2.08 (1H, m, H-15), 1.92 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 14$ Hz), 0.91 (3H, d, $J = 6.5$ Hz); hreims⁷⁶: m/z calcd. for $C_{18}H_{26}N_2O_2$: 302.1996, found 302.1997 (39, M^+), 259 ($C_{16}H_{23}N_2O$, 6, $M^+ - CH_3CO$), 245 ($C_{14}H_{17}N_2O_2$, 100, $M^+ - C_4H_9$), 203 ($C_{12}H_{15}N_2O$, 18, $M^+ - C_4H_9, -C_2H_2O$), 175 ($C_{10}H_{11}N_2O$, 4, $M^+ - C_4H_9, -C_2H_2O, -C_2H_4$).

Epilobscurinol (29).

Relatively pure epilobscurinol (29) (1 mg) was obtained from fraction e (30 mg) by gradient elution chromatography (alumina, methanol in dichloromethane, 0.5 to 2%) and three successive purifications by preparative tlc (5% methanol in dichloromethane / ammonia vapours). Epilobscurinol was purified further by conversion to its acetyl

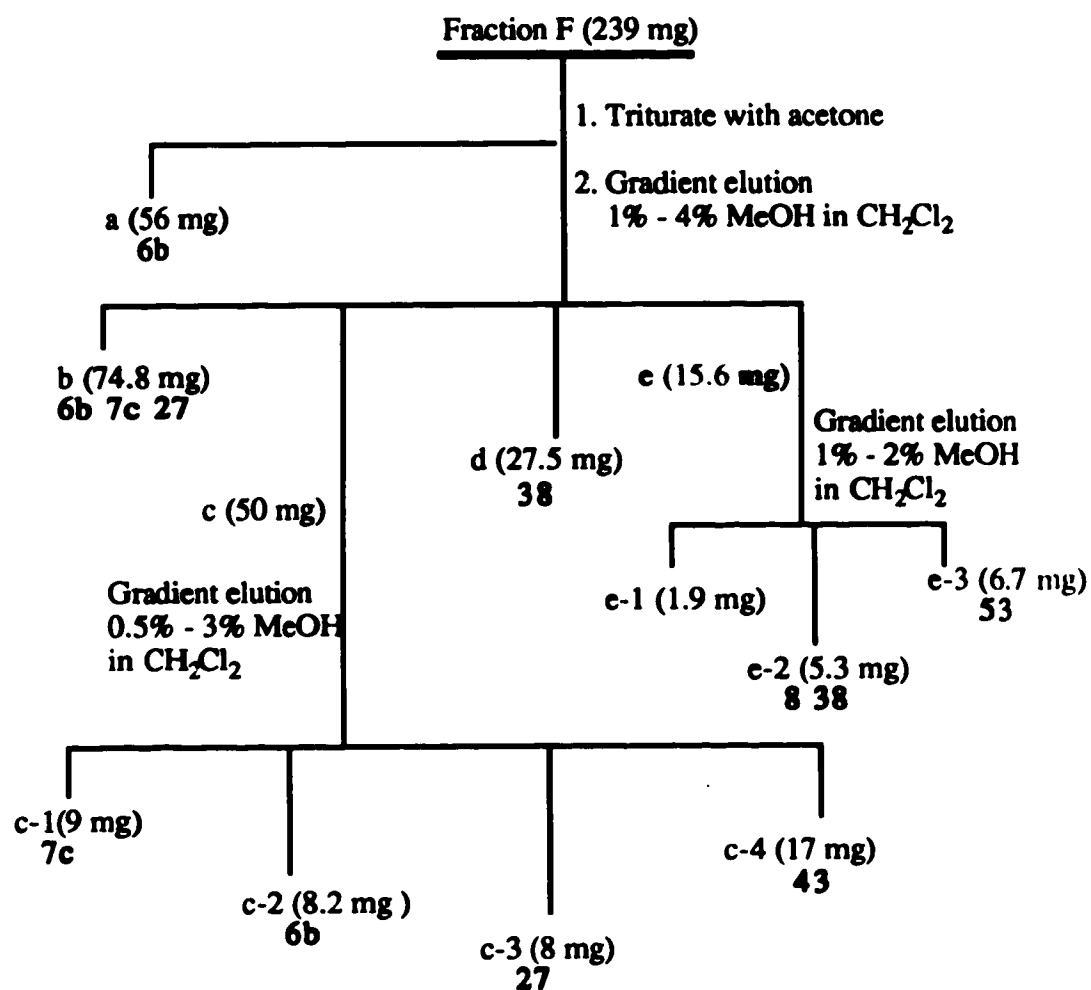
derivative 31*. The crude acetylation product was purified by preparative tlc (3% methanol in dichloromethane / ammonia vapours), tlc: Rf 0.29 (3% methanol in ethyl acetate) or 0.78 (5% methanol in ether / ammonia vapours, silica gel); ^1H nmr: see table 9; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3$: 317.1992, found: 317.1991 (47, M^+), 302 ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_3$, 5, M^+-CH_3), 274 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$, 13, M^+-CO , $-\text{CH}_3$), 258 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 68, $\text{M}^+-\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2$), 229 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}$, 2, $\text{M}^+-\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, $-\text{CO}$), 215 ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}$, 23, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{NO}_2$), 85 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_{11}\text{N}$, 20), 84 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, 100), 83 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_9\text{N}$, 21), 82 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{N}$, 6), 71 ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{N}$, 5), 70 ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{N}$, 25), 58 ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_8\text{N}$, 57), 57 ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_7\text{N}$, 37).

Oxidation of lobscurinol (27) to lobscurinine (28) and conversion of lobscurinine to obscurinine (13).

Lobscurinol (1.8 mg) dissolved in dichloromethane (0.2 mL) was added to a suspension of pyridinium chlorochromate (5 mg, 0.02 mmol) in dichloromethane (0.4 mL) at 0°C . The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes, then warmed to room temperature for 3 hrs. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pipette containing alumina and washed with chloroform. The organic solution was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford lobscurinine (28) (1 mg), tlc: Rf 0.65 (ethyl acetate); mp: unavailable; ftir $\nu_{\text{max}} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 1722, 1663, 1643; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 6.95 (1H, dd, $J = 11.7, 7.3$ Hz, H-3), 5.92 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 5.6$ Hz, H-14), 3.33 (1H, dddd; $J = 14, 11.7, 11.7, 2$ Hz, H-2), 2.35 (3H, s, $-\text{NCH}_3$), 2.23 (1H, d, $J = 17.3$ Hz, H-8 β), 1.98 (3H, s, H-16), 1.83 (1H, ddd, $J = 15.22, 6.6, 2.5$ Hz); ^{13}C nmr: see table 8; cims: m/z 274 (100, M^++1); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_2$: 273.1730, found: 273.1721 (13, M^+), 258 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$, 34, M^+-CH_3), 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 5, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_5\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 85 ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_{11}\text{N}$,

* Unless otherwise specified, all acetylations were performed in excess Ac_2O and pyridine (1 mL). The reaction mixture was concentrated azeotropically with benzene in *vacuo*.

20), 84 (C₅H₁₀N, 100), 70 (C₄H₈, 14), 57 (C₃H₇, 50). A few drops of aqueous NH₃ was added to lobscurinine (28) dissolved in a minimum amount of chloroform. The mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature overnight. Concentration under reduced pressure gave a single compound, identified as obscurinine (13), in quantitative yield.



Scheme 23. Isolation of clavolonine (6b), β -lofoline (7c), lycofoline (8), lyconnotinol (38), and acrifolinol (43).

B3.4. Isolation of compounds 6b, 7c, 8, 38, and 43 .

Clavolonine (6b) (56 mg) was precipitated upon addition of cold acetone to fraction F (239 mg) (table 28). The residue (183 mg) was separated by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 1 to 4%) into 4 fractions b to e as shown in scheme 23. Each of fractions c, d, and e was further fractionated.

Clavolonine (6b).

Clavolonine crystallizes from acetone-ether as colourless needles, mp: 202-204°C (238°C lit^{3a}); tlc: Rf 0.36 (2% methanol in dichloromethane); $[\alpha]_D = +13^\circ$ ($c = 0.31$ methanol); ftir $\nu_{\max} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 3220, 1692, 1060, 1040; $^1\text{H nmr}$ (400 MHz): 3.37 (1H, dd, $J = 10, 4.5$ Hz, H-8ax), 3.27 (1H, ddd, $J = 14, 14, 4$ Hz, H-1ax), 3.11 (1H, ddd, $J = 12.5, 12.5, 3$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.89 (1H, brdd, $J = 12, 3$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.60 (3H, m, H-6eq, H-9eq, H-14eq), 2.50 (1H, brdd, $J = 14, 5$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.30 (1H, brdd, $J = 15, 6$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.11 (1H, ddd, $J = 6, 4.5, 2$ Hz, H-7eq), 2.03 (1H, brd, $J = 14.5$ Hz, H-3), 1.89-1.63 (5H, m, 2H-10, H-2, H-11, OH), 1.62-1.51 (3H, m, H-2, H-3, H-11), 1.33 (1H, m, H-3), 1.26 (1H, m, H-15), 0.98 (1H, dd, $J = 13, 13$ Hz, H-14ax), 0.96 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz, H-16); $^{13}\text{C nmr}$ (100.6 MHz)⁷⁵: 213.0 (s, C-5), 79.0 (d, C-8), 59.6 (s, C-13), 47.2 (t, C-9), 47.1 (t, C-1), 43.9 (d, C-12), 42.9 (d, C-7)*, 42.8 (d, C-4)*, 41.9 (t, C-14), 36.4 (t, C-6), 32.9 (d, C-15), 26.1 (t, C-10), 25.0 (t, C-11), 19.3 (t, C-3), 19.4 (q, C-16), 18.7 (t, C-2); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 263.1887, found: 263.1883 (5, M^+), 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}$), 162 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$, 3, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O} - \text{CO}$), 134 ($\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 2, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O} - \text{CO} - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

* Signals may be reversed.

β -Lofoline (7c).

β -Lofoline (9 mg) (fraction c-1, scheme 23) was obtained as a colourless opaque solid, tlc: Rf 0.09 (2% methanol in dichloromethane); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3400, 3150, 1734, 1291, 1262, 1246, 1233, 1106, 1066, 1053, 1035; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 5.06 (1H, ddd, $J = 6,6,1.5$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.34 (1H, dd, $J = 9,5$ Hz, H-8ax), 3.33 (1H, ddd, $J = 14,14,5$ Hz, H-1ax), 3.13 (1H, ddd, $J = 12,12,3$ Hz, H-9ax); 2.64 (1H, dd, $J = 14,6$ Hz, H-14eq), 2.53-2.39 (4H, m), 2.02 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2 -), 1.98-1.59 (9H, m), 1.43-1.23 (4H, m), 1.04 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz, H-16), 0.91 (1H, dd, $J = 13,13$ Hz, H-14ax); ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz): 170.4 (s, CO) 78.9 (d, C-8), 69.7 (d, C-5), 54.4 (s, C-13), 47.5 (t, C-9), 46.7 (t, C-1), 43.6 (d, C-7), 41.6 (t, C-14), 41.3 (d, C-12), 32.0 (d, C-4), 31.0 (d, C-15), 26.3 (t), 24.4 (t, 2 x C), 22.7 (t), 21.5 (q), 20.8 (q), 20.0 (t); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$: 307.2149, found: 307.2146 (8, M^+), 248 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}$, 6, $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2$), 234 ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}$), 174 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$, 47, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$), 146 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 12, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H} - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$). β -lofoline was identified by comparison with an authentic sample (tlc, hreims, ^1H nmr).

Acrifolinol (43).

Acrifolinol (ca 3.8 mg) was obtained from fraction c-4 (17 mg) (scheme 23) by chromatography over alumina (2% methanol in ethyl acetate), tlc: Rf 0.46 (5% methanol in ether / ammonia vapours, silica gel); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -20^\circ$ ($c = 0.47$, methanol); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3240 (br, OH), 1052, 989, 752; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 5.44 (1H, t, $J = 4$ Hz, H-11), 4.01 (1H, ddd, $J = 10,4.5,1$ Hz, H-8eq), 3.84 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 10$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.42 (1H, brs, OH), 3.03 (1H, brdd, $J = 12,12$ Hz, H-1ax), 2.90 (1H, ddd, $J = 10,5.5,2$ Hz, H-7eq), 2.82 (1H, ddd, $J = 12,6,6$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.59 (1H, brd, $J = 12$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.54 (1H, ddd, $J = 12,5,1$ Hz, H-9eq), 2.34 (1H, ddd, $J = 15,2,2$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.19 (1H, dd,

$J = 14,14$ Hz, H-14ax), 2.19-2.09 (2H, m, 2H-10), 2.01-1.96 (5H, m, H-15,H-2,2H-3,1-4), 1.77 (1H, ddd, $J = 15,5.5,5.5$ Hz, H-6ax), 1.50 (1H, dd, $J = 14,6$ Hz, H-14eq), 1.46 (1H, brd, $J = 12$ Hz, H-2), 0.96 (3H, d, $J = 7$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 18; cims: m/z 264 (55, M^++1), 246 (100, $\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O} +1$); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 263.1887, found: 263.1884 (100, M^+), 262 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$, 30, M^+-H), 246 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 41, M^+-OH), 245 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}$, 5, $\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 204 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$, 30, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 192 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$, 84, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 191 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$, 36, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}$), 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 27, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}$).

Lyconnotinol (38).

A 1:1 mixture (by ^1H nmr, 3 mg) of lyconnotinol and an unidentified alkaloid was obtained from fraction d (27 mg) (scheme 23) by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (1% to 2% methanol in dichloromethane) followed by preparative tlc (3% methanol in dichloromethane / ammonia vapours). The mixture was acetylated (excess Ac_2O , room temperature, overnight), concentrated in *vacuo*, and purified by filtration over alumina (pipette) and washing with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate extract afforded monoacetyllyconnotinol (39) upon concentration in *vacuo*, tlc: R_f 0.60 (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 1:1); mp: 192-193°C (methiodide)*; $\text{ftir } \nu_{\text{max}} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 3200 (OH), 2810, 2720, 2660 (*Bohlmann bands*), 1736, 1247, 1214, 1162, 1097, 1060, 1033; uv ($\epsilon = .015$, ethanol, methiodide) $\lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ nm}$ ($\log \epsilon$): 234 (3.72); ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 6.20 (1H, brd, $J = 10$ Hz, H-11), 5.68 (1H, brddd, $J = 10,5,2$ Hz, H-10), 5.49 (1H, t, $J = 4$ Hz, H-7), 4.10 (1H, ddd, 7.5,3.4,3.3 Hz, H-5eq), 3.87 (1H, dd, $J = 10.6,5.2$ Hz, H-8a), 3.71 (1H, dd, $J = 10.5,7$ Hz, H-8b), 3.20 (1H, brd, $J = 18$ Hz, H-9eq), 3.09 (1H,

* An excess solution of methyl iodide was added to a solution of the base in minimum amount of acetone. The solvent was evaporated under the fume hood to afford a crystalline methiodide salt of the base, which was recrystallized from acetone.

brdd, $J = 18,5$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.79 (1H, brddd, $J = 20,7,5,4$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.68 (1H, ddd, $J = 11,5,11,5,4,4$ Hz, H-1ax), 2.58 (1H, dt, $J = 11,5,2,2$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.27 (1H, brd, $J = 20,4$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.04 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 1.98 (3H, m, H-15), 1.80-1.66 (6H, m), 1.52 (1H, brdm, $J = 15$ Hz, H-3a), 1.38 (1H, brd, 3.3, -OH), 0.89 (1H, d, $J = 7$ Hz): ^{13}C nmr: see table 16; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3$: 305.1992, found: 305.1988 (0.6, M^+), 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$), 172 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$, 3, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$, - H_2O), 144 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, 3, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2 - \text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

Reduction of lyconnotine (41) to lyconnotinol (38).

Lyconnotine (41), (119 mg) and LiAlH_4 (117 mg) in dry ether (10 mL) were heated under reflux for 4 hrs. Excess LiAlH_4 was decomposed with acetic acid, the mixture was diluted with ether and filtered through Whatman filter paper. The filtrate was diluted with water (5 mL), the ether and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with chloroform (3 x 10 mL). The combined ether and chloroform extracts were concentrated in *vacuo*, filtered through alumina, and washed with 2% methanol in chloroform to afford lyconnotinol (38) (100 mg, 93%). Lyconnotinol crystallizes from methanol / acetone as offwhite prisms, mp: 173-175°C; tlc: Rf 0.45 (1% methanol in ethyl acetate); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = +103^\circ$ ($c = 0.43$, methanol); uv ($c = 0.015$, ethanol) λ_{max} nm (log ϵ): 235 (3.72); für ν_{max} cm^{-1} : 3340 (br, OH), 3027, 3013, 3006 (olefinic CH), 2880, 2865, 2824, 2894, 2789, 2773, 2768, 2763, 2747, 2742 (*Bohlmann bands*), 1642, 1099, 1081, 1062, 1033; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 6.19 (1H, brd, $J = 10$ Hz, H-11), 5.71 (1H, brdd, $J = 10,5$ Hz, H-10), 5.49 (1H, t, $J = 4$ Hz, H-7), 4.09 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 16$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.42 (1H, dd, $J = 10,4,5$ Hz, H-8a), 3.28 (1H, dd, $J = 10,4,6,3$ Hz, H-8b), 3.23 (1H, brd, $J = 18$ Hz, H-9eq), 3.12 (1H, brdd, $J = 18,5$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.80 (1H, brdd, $J = 20,7,4$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.74 (1H, ddd, $J = 12,12,4,5$ Hz, H-1ax), 2.58 (1H, brd, $J = 12$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.27 (1H, brd, $J = 12$ Hz, H-6eq), 1.93-1.66

(7H, m), 1.52 (1H, brdm, $J = 15$ Hz, H-3a), 1.45 (1H, brs, OH), 0.90 (3H, d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 16; cims: m/z 264 (100, $\text{M}^+ + 1$); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 263.1887, 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}$), 172 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$, 3, $\text{M}^+ - \text{H}_2\text{O}$), 144 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}$, 3, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O} - \text{H}_2\text{O}$).

Acetylation of synthetic lyconnotinol (38).

Lyconnotinol (84 mg, 0.3194 mmol), Ac_2O (10 mL), and Et_3N (5 drops) were stirred at room temperature for 15 hrs. Excess Ac_2O was decomposed with water and most of the solvent was removed by azeotropic concentration with benzene in *vacuo*. The mixture was diluted with water (10 mL), made basic (10% NaOH), and extracted with chloroform (5 x 20 mL). The organic solution was concentrated in *vacuo* and separated by chromatography over alumina (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 1:1) into 3 fractions a to c containing diacetyllyconnotinol (40) (8.1 mg), a mixture of mono and diacetyllyconnotinol (57.7 mg) and monoacetyllyconnotinol (18 mg), respectively. Fraction b was separated by preparative tlc (3% methanol in ethyl acetate / ammonia vapours) to afford 39 and 42 (50 mg and 3.8 mg, respectively). Mono and diacetyllyconnotinol was each converted to the corresponding methiodide as described previously. Monoacetyllyconnotinol is identical with the sample from natural sources (see p.153 for spectral data).

Synthetic diacetyllyconnotinol (42).

tlc: R_f 0.78 (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 1:1); mp 176-177°C (methiodide, acetone-ether); $\text{ftir } \nu_{\text{max}} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 2800, 2720, 2660 (*Bohlmann bands*), 1737, 1248, 1238, 1086, 1061, 1034 ; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 6.17 (1H, brd, $J = 10$ Hz, H-11), 5.70 (1H, brdd, $J = 10,5$ Hz), 5.48 (1H, t, $J = 4$ Hz, H-7), 5.17 (1H, dd, $J = 7.9,4.2$ Hz, H-5eq),

3.87 (1H, dd, $J = 10.7, 5.2$ Hz, H-8a), 3.72 (1H, dd, $J = 10.7, 6.8$ Hz, H-8b), 3.19 (1H, brd, $J = 19$ Hz, H-9eq), 3.10 (1H, brdd, $J = 19, 5$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.86 (1H, ddd, $J = 21, 7.9, 5$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.64 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 12, 4$ Hz, H-1ax), 2.57 (1H, brd, $J = 12$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.21 (1H, brd, $J = 21$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.06 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 2.05 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 1.94-1.84 (2H, m), 1.79-1.63 (5H, m), 0.92 (3H, d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 16.

Lycofoline (8)

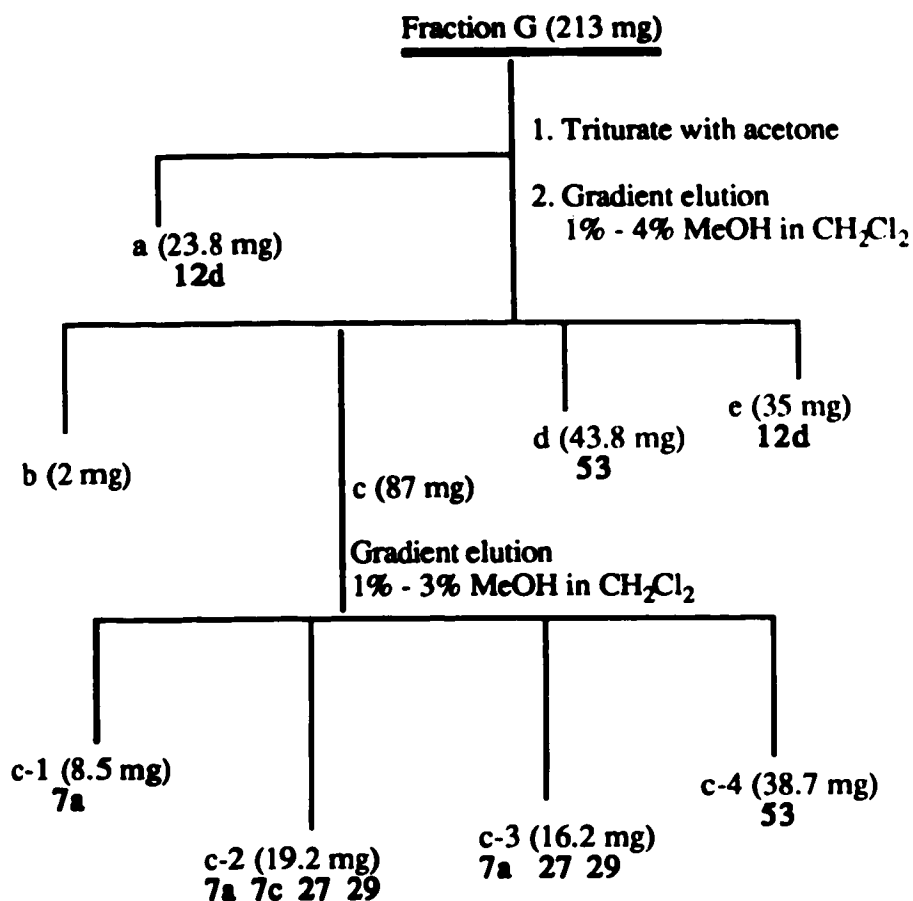
Lycofoline (1 mg) was obtained from fraction e-2 (15.6 mg) (scheme 23) by pipette column chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 0.5 to 2 %), tlc: R_f 0.36 (5% methanol in ether / ammonia vapours, silica gel); ftir ν_{max} cm^{-1} : 3380 (br, OH), 1665, 1089, 1060, 1055, 1043, 1024, 1007, 756; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 5.44 (1H, dd, $J = 5, 3.5$ Hz H-11), 3.95 (1H, brddd, $J = 6, 6, 1$ Hz, H-5 eq), 3.23 (1H, dd, $J = 10, 5.5$ Hz, H-8ax), 2.95 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 12, 4$ Hz, H-1ax), 2.7 (1H, m, H-15ax), 2.65 (2H, m, 2H-9), 2.53 (2H, m, H-7eq, H-1eq), 2.23 (1H, m, H-10eq), 2.21 (1H, dd, $J = 13, 6.5$ Hz, H-14eq), 2.11 (1H, brd, $J = 15.5$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.02 (1H, ddd, $J = 9, 9, 4$ Hz, H-10ax), 1.94 (1H, m, H-4), 1.89 (1H, ddd, $J = 15.5, 6, 6$ Hz, H-6 ax), 1.81-1.73 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 1.65-1.50 (m, H-2 and / or OH), 1.47 (1H, m, H-3), 1.06 (1H, dd, $J = 13, 13$ Hz, H-14 ax), 1.01 (3H, d, $J = 7$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 18; cims: m/z 264 (55, M^++1), 246 (100, $(\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O})+1$); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: 263.1887, found: 263.1881 (100, M^+), 262 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$, 32, M^+-H), 246 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 59, M^+-OH), 245 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}$, 6, $\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 230 ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}$, 8, $\text{M}^+-\text{CH}_3, -\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 219 ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$, 13, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$), 204 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$, 37, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 192 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$, 93, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 191 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$, 34, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}$), 190 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$, 33, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}$), 188 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$, 8, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_3\text{H}_5\text{O}, -\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 174 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$, 15, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}, -\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 146 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 8, $\text{M}^+-\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}_2, -\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

Preparation of acrifolinol (43) and lycofoline (8) from acrifoline (44).

NaOH (97%, 0.5042 g) dissolved in ethanol (98%):water, 10:2 (10 mL) was added to a mixture of acrifoline hydrobromide (56.5 mg) and NaBH₄ (123 mg). The mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature for 30 minutes then heated under reflux for 2 hrs. Excess NaBH₄ was decomposed by dropwise addition of acetic acid and most of the ethanol was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL), made basic (10% NaOH), and extracted several times with chloroform. The chloroform extract was washed twice with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford crude reaction product, two components of lower R_f than starting material, in quantitative yield. The crude reaction product afforded acrifoline (43) (19.1 mg) and a mixture containing mainly lycofoline (8) (6.2 mg) by preparative tlc (5% methanol in ether / ammonia vapours). Lycofoline (5 mg) was obtained from the mixture by further preparative tlc (same chromatographic condition as above).

B3.5. Isolation of compounds 7c, 12d, and 53.

Fraction a (23.8 mg) containing mainly des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (12d) was precipitated by addition of cold acetone to fraction G (213 mg) (table 28). The residue (ca 184 mg) was separated by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 1% to 4%) into 4 fractions b to e (scheme 24). Fraction b was separated further.



Scheme 24. Isolation of dihydrolycopodine (**7a**), des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (**12d**), and unidentified alkaloid (**53**).

Des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (12d**).**

Des-N-methyl- β -obscurine (ca 17 mg) was obtained from fraction **a** (23.8 mg) by flash column chromatography (3% methanol in dichloromethane presaturated with ammonia). Des-N-methyl- β -obscurine crystallizes from methanol-acetone as colourless needles, mp: 290-292.5°C (313°C lit^{16b}); tlc: R_f 0.42 (5% methanol in dichloromethane); ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3302, 3021, 1659, 1623, 1554; $[\alpha]_D = -34^\circ$ ($c = 0.21$, methanol); uv ($c =$

0.8, methanol) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 203 (3.9), 230 (3.8), 314 (3.7); ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 7.57 (1H, d, $J = 9$ Hz, H-3), 6.44 (1H, d, $J = 9$ Hz, H-2), 2.91 (1H, brdd, $J = 19,7$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.76 (1H, dm, $J = 13$ Hz, H-9eq), 2.43 (1H, brddd, $J = 13,13,2$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.40 (1H, brd, $J = 19$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.10 (1H, brsxt, $J = 3$ Hz, H-7eq), 1.70 (1H, brdm, $J = 12$ Hz, H-8eq), 1.60-1.35 (5H, m, H-12,H-14eq,2H-10,H-15), 1.30-1.20 (3H, m, H-8ax,2H-11), 1.03 (1H, dd, $J = 11,11$ Hz, H-14ax), 0.80 (3H, d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 13; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 258.1734, found: 258.1733 (14, M^+), 201 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9$), 173 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{O}$, 13, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_9 - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

Dihydrolycopodine (7a) and unidentified alkaloid 53.

Dihydrolycopodine (7a) (8.5 mg) and an unidentified alkaloid (53) (38.7 mg) were obtained from fraction c (87 mg) (scheme 24) by gradient elution chromatography over alumina (methanol in dichloromethane, 1 to 2 %).

Dihydrolycopodine (7a).

Tlc: Rf 0.24 (3% methanol in chloroform); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3160, 1114, 991, ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 3.95 (1H, ddd, $J = 6.5, 6.5, 2$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.45 (1H, ddd, $J = 14, 14, 4$ Hz, H-1ax), 3.16 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 12, 3$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.85 (1H, ddddq, $J = 13, 13, 6, 6, 6$ Hz, H-15ax), 2.62 (1H, dd, $J = 13, 6$ Hz, H-14eq), 2.56-2.47 (2H, m, H-1eq, H-9eq), 2.33 (1H, brddd, $J = 14, 5, 3$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.08 (1H, ddd, $J = 14, 6, 6$ Hz, H-6ax), 1.99 (1H, dddd, $J = 13, 13, 13, 4.5, 4.5$ Hz, H-2ax), 1.82 (1H, dddd, $J = 13, 13, 13, 5$ Hz, H-3ax), 1.21 (1H, brddd, $J = 12.5, 12.5, 5$ Hz, H-8ax), 0.87 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz, H-16), 0.77 (1H, dd, $J = 13, 13$ Hz, H-14ax); ^{13}C nmr (74.0 MHz)⁷⁵: 68.5 (d, C-5), 55.2 (s, C-13), 47.2 (t, C-9), 46.9 (t, C-1), 45.6 (d), 42.9 (t), 41.8 (t), 35.4 (d), 33.6 (t, C-10).

(d), 26.4 (t), 24.7 (t), 24.0 (d), 23.1 (s), C-16), 23.3 (t), 20.5 (t); hreims: m/z calcd. for $C_{16}H_{27}NO$: 249.2092, found: 249.2084 (7, M^+), 232 ($C_{16}H_{26}N$, 2, M^+-OH), 192 ($C_{12}H_{18}NO$, 100, $M^+-C_4H_9$), 174 ($C_{12}H_{16}N$, 3, $M^+-C_4H_9,-H_2O$), 148 ($C_{10}H_{14}N$, 2, $M^+-C_4H_9,-H_2O,-C_2H_4$).

Unidentified base (53).

Base 53 was obtained as an opaque solid, which was converted to its perchlorate (60 % aq $HClO_4$)*, mp: 195-223°C**; tlc: Rf 0.36 (3% methanol in chloroform); ftir $\nu_{max} cm^{-1}$: 1704; 1H nmr (400 MHz): 3.95 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13,3 Hz), 3.63 (1H, ddd, J = 14,14,5 Hz), 3.10 (1H, brd, J = 13 Hz), 3.03 (1H, brd, J = 13 Hz), 2.94 (1H, brdd, J = 12,3 Hz), 2.77 (1H, ddddd, J = 14,14,14,4,4 Hz), 2.69 (1H, brd, J = 13 Hz), 2.57 (1H, dd, J = 17,6 Hz), 2.33 (1H, dd, J = 13,13 Hz), 2.27 (1H, brd, J = 17 Hz), 2.06 (1H, brdd, J = 13.5,4.5 Hz), 1.50 (1H, m), 1.37 (1H, ddd, J = 12,12,3 Hz), 0.91 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz); ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz): 208.4 (s), 74.8 (s), 63.8 (t), 59.6 (t), 48.6 (d), 41.9 (t), 41.2 (t), 37.3 (d), 36.1 (d), 34.5 (t), 25.4 (d), 23.4 (t), 22.6 (q), 21.4 (t), 19.8 (t), 17.4 (t); hreims: m/z calcd. for $C_{16}H_{25}NO$: 247.1938 found: 247.1930 (11, M^+) 216 ($C_{15}H_{22}NO$, 3, M^+-CH_3), 190 ($C_{12}H_{16}NO$, 100, $M^+-C_4H_9$), 162 ($C_{11}H_{16}N$, 6, $M^+-C_4H_9,-CO$), 134 ($C_9H_{12}N$, 9, $M^+-C_4H_9,-CO,-C_2H_4$).

B3.6. Acetylannofoline, L17 (47).

* Dry organic perchlorates are explosive and therefore must be handled with extreme precaution.

** The gc / ms and hreims of base 53 indicate the presence of a minor component of molecular formula $C_{16}H_{23}NO$ (245).

The sample of base L17 obtained from Marion and Manske's samples contains a small amount of lycopodine (6a). Lycopodine was separated by pipette column chromatography (alumina, dichloromethane, 1% methanol in dichloromethane) to afford pure L17, tlc: Rf 0.23 (1% methanol in dichloromethane); $[\alpha]_D = -84.0^\circ$ ($c = 0.25$, methanol, perchlorate); ftir $\nu_{\max} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 1739, 1712, 1232; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 4.84 (1H, app.q, $J = 3$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.24 (1H, ddd, $J = 14, 14, 3$ Hz, H-1ax), 3.16 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 12, 3$ Hz, H-9ax), 2.81 (1H, ddq, $J = 10, 10, 6$ Hz, H-15ax), 2.65 (1H, dm, $J = 14$ Hz, H-1eq), 2.58 (1H, dm, $J = 12$ Hz, H-9eq), 2.34 (1H, dt, $J = 12.5, 3$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.26 (1H, ddd, $J = 5, 3, 3$ Hz, H-7eq), 2.23 (1H, dd, $J = 14, 10$ Hz, H-14ax), 2.09 (1H, dt, $J = 15, 2$ Hz, H-6eq), 1.92 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 1.12 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 20; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3$: 305.1992, found 305.1983 (3, M^+), 246 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 6, $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2$), 234 ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 174 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$, 78, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$), 146 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 23, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H} - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

Oxidation of α -lofoline (45) to dehydro- α -lofoline (46).

α -Lofoline (45) (30 mg) dissolved in dichloromethane (2 mL) was added to a suspension of pyridinium chlorochromate (51 mg) in dichloromethane (3 mL) at 0°C . The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes, warmed to room temperature, and stirred at room temperature for 6 hrs. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pipette column over alumina (chloroform, 1% methanol in chloroform). The chloroform fraction was concentrated in *vacuo* to afford 46 (23 mg, 77%) and the methanol-chloroform fraction afforded the starting alcohol (4.2 mg). Dehydro- α -lofoline (46) was converted to its perchlorate (60% HClO_4), which crystallizes from methanol / ethyl acetate as colourless prisms, mp: $248.5\text{--}249.5^\circ\text{C}$; tlc: Rf 0.30 (1% methanol in dichloromethane); $[\alpha]_D = -53^\circ$ ($c = 0.31$, methanol, perchlorate); ftir $\nu_{\max} \text{ cm}^{-1}$: 1739, 1707, 1235; ^1H nmr (400 MHz):

4.94 (1H, app.q, $J = 3$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.29 (1H, ddd, $J = 14, 14, 3$ Hz, H-1ax) 3.16 (1H, ddd, $J = 13, 13, 2$ Hz, H-9ax), 3.07 (1H, dd, $J = 14, 10$ Hz, H-14ax), 2.82 (1H, ddq, $J = 10, 5, 7$ Hz, H-15ax), 2.60 (2H, m, H-1eq, H-9eq), 2.41 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 3, 3$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.32 (1H, brs $W_{1/2} = 10$ Hz, H-7eq), 1.94 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2 -); 1.30 (3H, d, $J = 7$ Hz, H-16); ^{13}C nmr: see table 20; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3$: 305.1992, found: 305.1986 (7, M^+), 246 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}$, 5, $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2$), 234 ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$, 100, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O}$), 174 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$, 61, $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$), 146 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$, 20 $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{O} - \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H} - \text{C}_2\text{H}_4$).

Preparation of acetylannofoline (47) from dehydro- α -lofoline (46).

NaOH pellets (0.187 g) dissolved in ethanol (98%):water; 9:1 (10 mL) was added to dehydro- α -lofoline (46) (12 mg) and the mixture was heated under reflux for 2 hrs. Most of the ethanol was evaporated in *vacuo*, the residue was diluted with water, and the aqueous solution was extracted several times with chloroform. The chloroform extract was concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by filtration through a pipette column over alumina (Skellysolve B, chloroform) to afford annofoline (51) in quantitative yield (by ^1H nmr). Without further purification 51 was heated under reflux in Ac_2O (8 mL) for 1 hr, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, and the excess Ac_2O was decomposed by dropwise addition of water. The mixture was made basic (10% NaOH) and extracted several times with chloroform. The chloroform extract was concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by filtration through a pipette column over alumina (1% methanol in chloroform) to afford acetylannofoline (47) (11 mg, 92%). Acetylannofoline was purified by conversion to its perchlorate (60% HClO_4) and recrystallized from methanol / acetone as colourless needles, mp: 268°C (starts to discolour) 280-283°C (liquifies) (292°C lit¹¹).

Preparation of dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline (48).

O-acetylacrifoline (52) (13 mg), methanol (10 mL), and PtO₂ (3 mg) in a hydrogenation bottle were subjected to hydrogen at 40 psi for 2 hrs. The catalyst was filtered off and the methanol was concentrated in *vacuo* to afford crude product in quantitative yield. The crude reaction product afforded dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline (48), (10.7 mg, 82%) and acetylannofoline (47), (0.5 mg, 4%) after chromatography over alumina (0.6% methanol in dichloromethane). Dihydro-O-acetylacrifoline was converted to its perchlorate, which crystallizes from methanol / ethyl acetate as colourless prisms, mp: 237-237.5°C; tlc: Rf 0.41 (1% methanol in dichloromethane); [α]_D = -56° (c = 0.12, methanol); ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 2951, 2924, 2866, 2854, 2805 (*Bohlmann bands*), 1734, 1697, 1238, 1229; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 4.97 (1H, ddd, J = 4,3,3 Hz, H-5eq), 2.60 (1H, ddq, J = 10,10,6.5 Hz, H-15ax), 2.46 (2H, m), 2.37 (2H, m), 2.29 (1H, m, H-7eq), 2.19 (1H, ddd, J = 14.5,3,3 Hz, H-6eq), 2.11 (1H, dd, J = 14.5,10 Hz, H-14ax), 1.94 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 1.89 (1H, ddd, J = 14.5,5,4 Hz, H-6ax), 1.78-1.42 (10H, m), 1.36 (1H, brdm, J = 13 Hz), 1.17 (3H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, H-16); ¹³C nmr: see table 20; hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₇NO₃: 305.1992, found: 305.1987 (23, M⁺), 246 (C₁₆H₂₄NO, 15, M⁺-CH₃CO₂), 234 (C₁₄H₂₀NO₂, 100, M⁺-C₄H₇O), 174 (C₁₂H₁₆N, 24, M⁺-C₄H₇O,-CH₃CO₂H), 146 (C₁₆H₁₂N, 9, M⁺-C₄H₇O,-CH₃CO₂H,-C₂H₄).

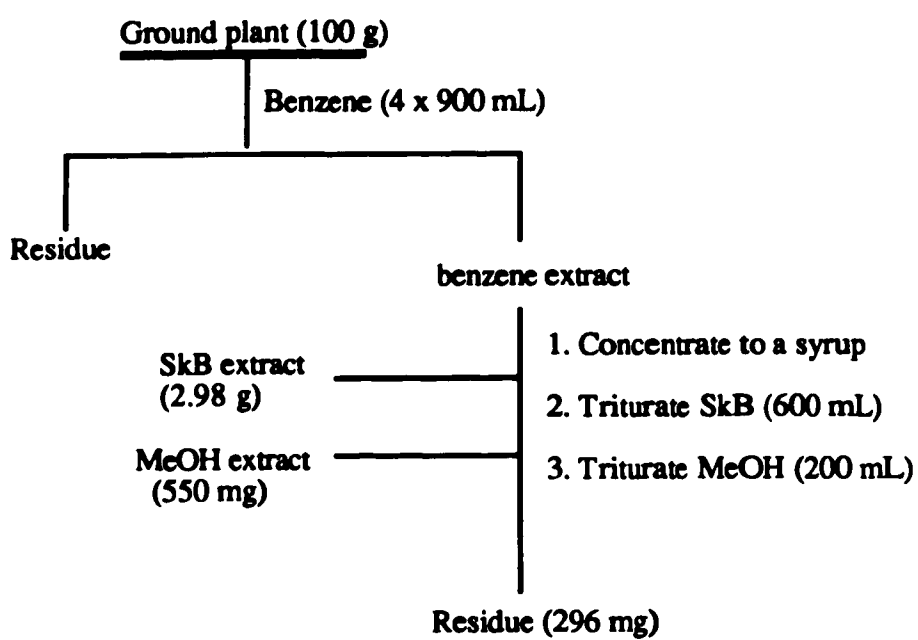
C *Mentha arvensis.*

C1. Plant collection and extraction.

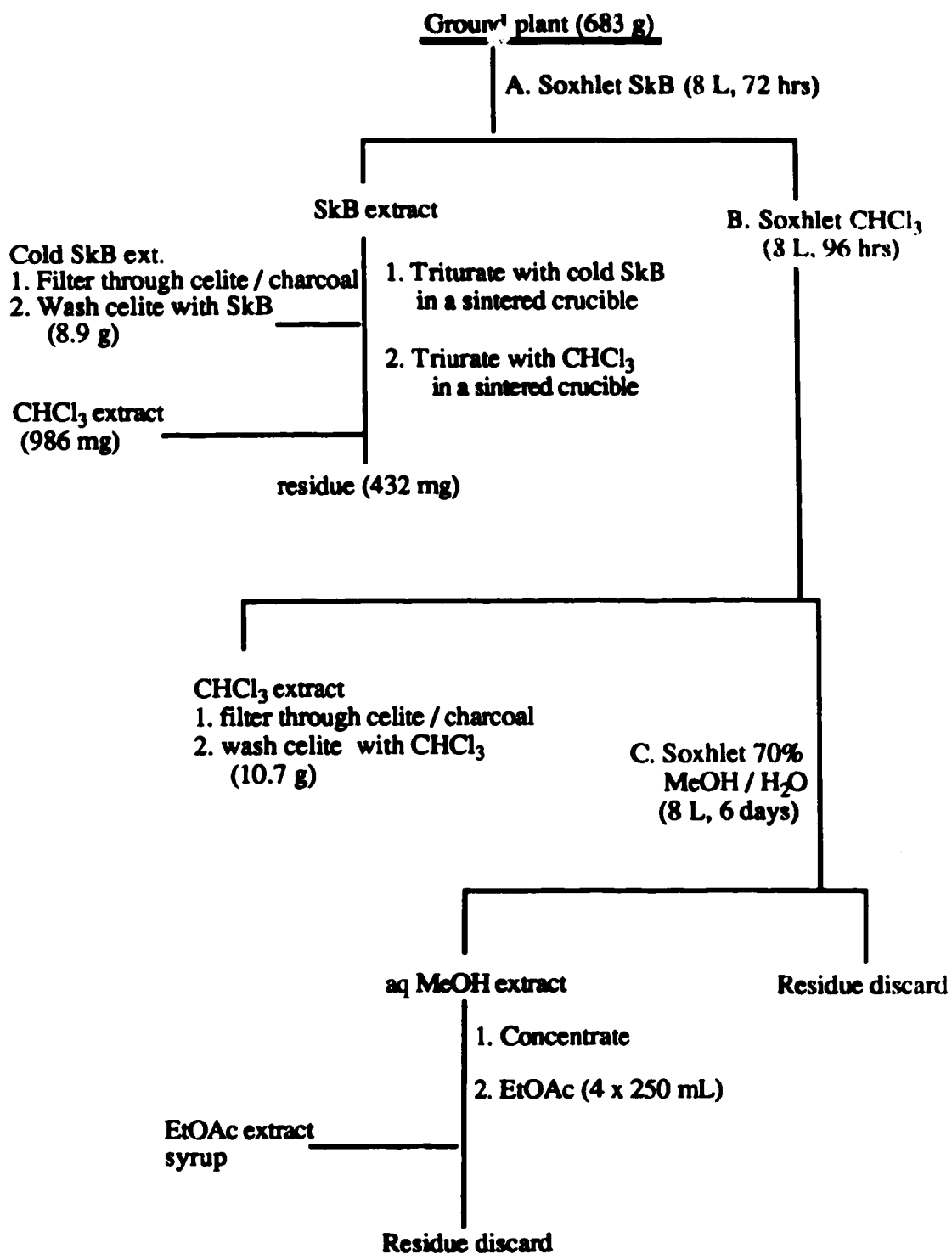
Mentha arvensis was collected at the Devonian Botanical Gardens, Devon, Alberta, during early September 1982. Whole plant was air dried for several weeks and ground. The ground material was extracted using two different procedures as described below.

In a first extraction, *M. arvensis* was extracted using a procedure developed by Inamdar and coworkers for assay of forskolin in *Coleus forskhlii*¹⁵ (scheme 25). The ground plant was suspended in benzene at *ca* 40°C in an Erlenmeyer flask. The suspension was constantly stirred by means of a mechanical stirrer for 6 hrs. The extraction with benzene was repeated 3 more times. The benzene solution was concentrated to a syrup in *vacuo* and the syrup was triturated in a sintered crucible successively with Skellysolve B and methanol. Each of the Skellysolve B and methanol extracts was concentrated under reduced pressure and then analysed for the presence of forskolin by tlc. The thin layer chromatograms of the crude extracts were compared with those of an authentic sample of forskolin using a variety of solvent systems for development.

In a second extraction, ground plant was extracted successively with Skellysolve B, chloroform, and 70% methanol in water in a Soxhlet apparatus (scheme 26). Most of the methanol was concentrated under reduced pressure and extracted 4 times with ethyl acetate. Chlorophylls in each of the Skellysolve B and chloroform extracts were removed by filtration through charcoal:celite; *ca* 1:1 and washing with Skellysolve B and chloroform, respectively.



Scheme 25. Extraction of *M. arvensis* by percolation with benzene.



Scheme 26. Extraction of *M. arvensis* in a Soxhlet apparatus.

C2. Isolation.

The crude *M. arvensis* extracts were fractionated by flash column chromatography. The chromatography fractions were monitored by tlc using glass or aluminium silica gel precoated commercial plates. Unless otherwise noted, Rf values refer to silica gel plates using Skellysol B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1 as developing solvent.

C2.1. Isolation of 2,4,6,7,7a-Hexahydro-7a-acetyl-3,6-dimethyl benzofuran-2-one (54).

Concentration of the Skellysolve B extract precipitates colourless plates, which were crystallized from Skellysolve B / ethyl acetate to afford lactone 54 as colourless needles, mp: 190-191°C (188°C, lit⁴³); tlc: Rf 0.10; $[\alpha]_D = -61^\circ$ ($c = 0.15$, methanol) (-61.6° , lit⁴³); uv ($c = 0.011$, methanol) λ_{max} nm (log ϵ): 215 (4.39), 260 (3.7) (methanol- NaOH); ftir ν_{max} cm⁻¹: 3345, 1748, 1693, 1119; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 3.03 (1H, brs, OH), 2.68 (1H, ddd, J = 14,4,2 Hz, H-4eq), 2.36 (2H, m, H-4ax,H-7eq), 1.98 (2H, m, H-5eq,H-6eq), 1.82 (3H, d, J = 2 Hz, H-8), 1.27 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13,1.5 Hz, H-7ax), 1.02 (1H, brdddd, J = 13,13,13, 4 Hz, H-5ax), 0.98 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz, H-9); ¹³C nmr (100.6 MHz): 174.6 (s, C-2), 162.9 (s, C-3a), 121.7 (s, C-3), 105.5 (s, C-7a), 47.1 (t, C-4)*, 36.1 (t, C-7)*, 30.5 (d, C-6), 25.2 (d, C-5), 21.3 (q, C-8), 7.9 (q, C-9); cims: m/z 200 (100, M⁺ + 18), 382 (6, 2M⁺ + 18); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₀H₁₄O₃: 182.0943, found: 182.0946 (10, M⁺), 164 (C₁₀H₁₂O₂, 2); 154 (C₉H₁₄O₂, 100), 139 (C₈H₁₁O₂, 48), 137 (C₉H₁₃O, 31), 109 (C₈H₁₃, 49), 81 (C₆H₉, 41), 67 (C₅H₇, 42), 53 (C₄H₅, 21).

* Signals may be reversed.

Preparation of 2,4,6,7,7a-Hexahydro-7a-acetyl-3,6-dimethylbenzofuran-2-one (55).

The lactone **54** (8 mg) and Ac₂O (0.8 mL) in pyridine (3 mL) were heated on a water bath for 2 1/2 hrs. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the solvent was concentrated in *vacuo*, and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1) to afford the acetate **55** (5 mg) as an oil, tlc: R_f 0.26; ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 1776, 1700, 1218, 1151, 1130, 975; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 2.75 (1H, ddd, J = 13.5, 5.2 Hz, H-4_{eq}), 2.69 (1H, brddd, J = 13.5, 3.3 Hz, H-7_{eq}), 2.17 (1H, m, H-4_{ax}), 2.05 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 1.97 (1H, m, H-5_{eq}), 1.88 (1H, m, H-6_{ax}), 1.84 (3H, d, J = 2 Hz, H-8), 1.14 (1H, dd, J = 13, 13 Hz, H-7_{ax}), 1.02 (1H, brddd, J = 13, 13, 13, 4 Hz, H-5_{ax}), 0.98 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz, H-9); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₆O₄: 224.1049, found: 224.1049 (8, M⁺), 182 (C₁₀H₄O₃, 34), 165 (C₁₀H₁₃O₂, 91), 164 (C₁₀H₁₂O₂, 100), 154 (C₉H₁₄O₂, 71), 149 (C₉H₉O₂, 20), 139 (C₈H₁₁O₂, 38), 137 (C₉H₁₃O, 21), 136 (C₉H₁₂O, 17), 111 (C₆H₇O₂, 21), 109 (C₈H₁₃, 16), 81 (C₆H₉, 28), 67 (C₄H₇, 31), 53 (C₄H₅, 34).

C2.2. Isolation of β -sitosterol (56).

The Skellysolve B extract (4.5 g) was separated by flash column chromatography (25% ethyl acetate in skellysolve B) into four fractions **a** to **d**. β -Sitosterol was obtained from a portion of fraction **b** (482 mg) by preparative tlc (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1). β -Sitosterol crystallizes from ethanol / ether as colourless plates, mp: 135-137°C (139°C, lit⁴⁷); tlc: R_f 0.22; ftir ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3429, ca 1668 (weak, C=C), 1060; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.36 (1H, brs, W_{1/2} = 10 Hz, H-6), 3.54 (1H, m, H-3); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₂₉H₅₀O: 414.3864, found: 414.3874 (100, M⁺), 412 (C₂₉H₄₈O, 20), 399 (C₂₈H₄₇O, 25), 396 (C₂₉H₄₈, 37), 381 (C₂₈H₄₅, 21), 329 (C₂₄H₄₁, 29), 303

(C₂₂H₃₉, 34), 273 (C₁₉H₂₉O, 20), 255 (C₁₉H₂₇, 28), 213 (C₁₆H₂₁, 25), 119 (C₉H₁₁, 22).

C2.3. Isolation of mixture A of oleanolic (57) and ursolic acid (58)

A portion of the chloroform extract (841 mg) was separated by flash column chromatography (2% methanol in chloroform) to afford a major component, as a white gum (324 mg). The white gum was triturated with dichloromethane and the dichloromethane extract was concentrated in *vacuo* to afford an off white mixture A (200 mg) containing the triterpenes 57 and 58.

Preparation of 3 β -acetyl-12 α -bromooleanan-28-13 β -olide (61) and 3 β -acetylursen-28-13 β -olide (63).

A portion of the mixture A above (70 mg) and Ac₂O (0.6 mL) in pyridine (6 mL) were stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was separated by flash column chromatography (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1) to afford a mixture of 3 β -acetyloleanolic (59) and 3 β -acetylursolic acid (60) (55 mg). Bromine solution (6 mL) was added to the acetate mixture (40 mg) dissolved in methanol (5 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature for 30 minutes, concentrated in *vacuo*, and the residue separated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate in Skellysolve B, 3%, 6%, 10%) to afford the lactones 61 (9 mg), 62 (5 mg), and recovered mixture (24 mg) containing 59, 60, and other unidentified reaction product(s).

Lactone 61

Lactone 61 crystallizes from Skellysolve B / dichloromethane as colourless needles, mp: 244-246°C (215-216°C, lit^{51b}); tlc: Rf 0.50; ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹ 1774, 1734, 1224 (1770, 1725, 1240, 1180, 1160 lit^{51b}), ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 4.54 (1H, brdd, J = 10,6 Hz, H-3 α), 4.28 (1H, brdd, J = 4,1.5 Hz, H-12), 2.06 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 1.45, 1.30, 1.01, 0.92, 0.90, 0.88, 0.87 (each 3H, s.); cims: m/z 596 (99, (M⁺ + 2) + 18), 595 (36, (M⁺ + 1) + 18), 594 (100, (M⁺) + 18); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₂H₄₉O₄Br: 578.2796, 497 (C₃₂H₄₉O₄, 5), 469 (C₃₁H₄₉O₃, 6), 451 (C₃₁H₄₇O₂, 10), 437 (C₃₀H₄₅O, 79), 391 (C₂₉H₄₃, 9), 249 (C₁₆H₂₅O₂, 35), 189 (C₁₄H₂₁, 100).

Lactone 63.

mp: 255-260°C; tlc: Rf 0.43; ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 1755, 1734, 1246; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.94 (1H, dd, J = 10,1 Hz, H-12); 5.56 (1H, dd, J = 10,2.5 Hz, H-11), 4.52 (1H, dd, J = 11,5 Hz, H-3 α), 2.08 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.14 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13, 6 Hz), 1.98 (1H, brs, W_{1/2} = 6 Hz), 1.16 (3H, s), 1.06 (3H, s), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz), 0.94 (3H, perturbed d, J = 6 Hz), 0.94 (3H, s), 0.86 (3H, s), ¹³C nmr (50.3 MHz): 179.8 (s), 170.9 (s), 133.2 (d), 128.9 (d), 89.6 (s), 80.6 (d), 60.6 (d), 54.9 (d), 53.0 (d), 45.1 (t), 42.0 (t), 40.3 (d), 38.0 (t), 37.9 (t), 36.3 (t), 31.4 (t), 31.2 (t), 30.8 (t), 27.7 (q), 25.6 (t), 23.3 (t), 22.8 (t), 21.2 (q), 19.1 (q), 18.9 (q), 18.0 (q), 17.8 (q), 17.7 (t), 17.6 (t), 16.1 (q), 16.0 (q); cims: m/z 514 (100, M⁺+18), 497 (63, M⁺+1) hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₂H₄₈O₄: 496.3554, found: 496.3557 (100, M⁺), 468 (C₃₁H₄₈O₃, 5), 452 (C₃₁H₄₈O₂, 43), 451 (C₃₁H₄₇O₂, 34), 436 (C₃₀H₄₄O₂, 26), 285 (C₁₉H₂₅, 21), 233 (C₁₅H₂₁O₂, 57), 201 (C₁₅H₂₁, 23), 189 (C₁₄H₂₁, 40), 187 (C₁₄H₁₉, 23), 145 (C₁₁H₁₃, 23), 133 (C₁₀H₁₃, 20), 119 (C₉H₁₁, 38), 107 (C₈H₁₁, 26).

Preparation of methyl 3 β -acetylursolate (64).

Excess ethereal diazomethane was added to a mixture of 3 β -acetyloleanolic (59) and 3 β -acetylursolic acid (60) (41 mg) dissolved in minimum ether. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5-10 minutes, the reaction mixture was concentrated in *vacuo*, and purified by flash column chromatography (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate; 9:1) to afford a mixture of methyl ester acetate in quantitative yield. Repeated fractional crystallization from methanol afforded pure ester acetate 64, mp: 226-229°C; tlc: Rf 0.54; ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 1733, 1244; ¹H nmr: 5.25 (1H, t, J = 4 Hz, H-12), 4.50 (1H, brdd, J = 10,5 Hz, H-3 α), 3.60 (3H, s, -CO₂CH₃), 2.10 (1H, d, J = 11 Hz, H-18 β), 2.05 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.00 (1H, ddd, J = 15,15,5 Hz), 1.91 (2H, dd, J = 9,4 Hz), 1.08 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, perturbed d, J = 6 Hz), 0.87 (3H, s), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz), 0.86 (3H, s), 0.74 (3H, s); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₃H₅₂O₄: 512.3868, found: 512.3870 (4, M⁺), 452 (C₃₁H₄₈O₂, 7), 262 (C₁₇H₂₆O₂, 100), 249 (C₁₆H₂₅O₂, 21), 203 (C₁₅H₂₃, 79), 202 (C₁₅H₂₂, 13), 189 (C₁₄H₂₁, 25), 133 (C₁₀H₁₃, 43).

Preparation of 3 β -acetyloleanolic acid (59).

Excess zinc dust was added in several portions over a period of 5 hrs to the bromolactone 61 (8.2 mg) dissolved in ether (2 mL) / acetic acid (5 drops). The suspension was stirred at room temperature and the excess zinc dust was destroyed by dropwise addition of water. The mixture was diluted with ether and the ether solution was decanted over celite. The ether solution was dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the acetate 59 (4.3 mg, 86%). Acetyloleanolic acid (59) was recrystallized from Skellysolve B-dichloromethane, mp: 250-253°C; tlc: Rf 0.50; [α]_D = +72° (c = 0.2, chloroform); ftr ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 1735, 1695, 1244; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.26 (1H, brt, J = 3.5 Hz, H-12), 4.44 (1H, brdd, J = 9,7

Hz, H-3 α), 2.78 (1H, brdd, J = 14,4.5 Hz, H-18 β), 2.05 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 1.99 (1H, brddd, J = 14,14,5 Hz), 1.14, 0.93, 0.94, 0.92, 0.88, 0.86, 0.77 (each 3H, s); cims: m/z 516 (100, M⁺+18), hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₂H₅₀O₄: 498.3711, found: 498.3712 (1, M⁺), 452 (C₃₁H₄₈O₂, 2), 438 (C₃₀H₄₆O₂, 4), 423 (C₂₉H₄₃O₂, 2), 248 (C₁₆H₂₅O₂, 100), 203 (C₁₅H₂₃, 69), 190 (C₁₄H₂₂, 23).

C2.4. Isolation of methyl 3 β ,19 α -dihydroxy-urs-12-en-28-oate (65).

The chloroform extract (796 mg) dissolved in minimum amount containing a few drops of methanol was treated with excess ethereal diazomethane at room temperature for 5-10 minutes. The reaction mixture was concentrated to dryness and the residue was separated by flash column chromatography (3%, 15%, ethyl acetate in Skellysolve B, 25% ethyl acetate in chloroform) to afford methyl palmitate (41.2 mg), an unidentified methyl ester (C₂₀H₃₄O₃, 1.5 mg), a mixture of methyl oleanolate and ursolate (425 mg), an oil containing methyl pomolate (65) (26 mg), and lactone (54) (197 mg). The oil containing methyl pomolate was crystallized from dichloromethane / Skellysolve B to afford crystalline methyl pomolate (9 mg), mp: 79-80°C (105-115°C, pet ether lit⁵⁵); *tlc*: R_f 0.10; *ftir* ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3610, 3540, 3420 (OH), 1718, 1456, 1207, 1153, 909, 734; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.36 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-12 γ); 3.60 (3H, s, -CO₂CH₃), 3.22 (1H, dd, J = 11,5 Hz, H-3 α), 2.60 (1H, brs, W_{1/2} = 4 Hz, H-18 β), 2.50 (1H, ddd, J = 13,13,5 Hz), 1.99-1.94 (2H, m, 2H-11), 1.25 (3H, s, H-29), 1.21 (3H, s, H-27), 0.99 (3H, s), 0.94 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz, H-30), 0.90 (3H, s), 0.78 (3H, s), 0.70 (3H, s); cims: m/z 504 (8, M⁺+1); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₁H₅₀O₄: 486.3711, found: 486.3701 (12, M⁺), 468 (C₃₁H₄₈O₃, 15), 426 (C₂₉H₄₆O₂, 29), 278 (C₁₇H₂₆O₃, 9), 260 (C₁₇H₂₄O₂, 17), 220 (C₁₅H₂₄O, 21), 207 (C₁₄H₂₃O, 32), 201 (C₁₅H₂₁, 31), 190 (C₁₄H₂₂, 35), 179 (C₁₁H₁₅O₂, 100), 146 (C₁₁H₁₄, 47), 99 (C₆H₁₁O, 12).

Acetylation of 65.

The mother liquors (11.3 mg) obtained from crystallization of 65 above and Ac₂O (10 drops) in pyridine (2 mL) were stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (3%, 10% ethyl acetate in Skellysolve B) to afford the acetate 66 (7.1 mg), which was crystallized from dichloromethane-Skellysolve B, mp: 236-237°C (235-238°C lit⁵⁵); tlc: Rf 0.35; ftir ν_{max} , cm⁻¹: 3530, 1723, 1246; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.36 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-12), 4.50 (1H, brdd, J = 9,7 Hz, H-3 β), 3.60(3H, s, -CO₂CH₃), 2.60 (1H, brs, W_{1/2} = 4 Hz, H-18 β), 2.50 (1H, ddd, J = 14,14,5 Hz), 2.05 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.00-1.94 (2H, m, 2H-11), 1.25 (3H, s, H-29 β), 1.22 (3H, s, H-27), 0.97 (1H, s, -OH), 0.95 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz, H-30 α), 0.93 (3H, s), 0.87 (3H, s), 0.86 (3H, s), 0.68 (3H, s); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₃₃H₅₂O₅: 528.3817, found: 528.3814 (2, M⁺), 510 (C₃₃H₅₀O₄, 2), 469 (C₃₁H₄₉O₃, 14), 468 (C₃₁H₄₈O₃, 39), 260 (C₁₇H₂₄O₂, 77), 249 (C₁₆H₂₅O₂, 5), 201 (C₁₅H₂₁, 29), 219 (C₁₅H₂₃O, 25), 179 (C₁₁H₁₅O₂, 100), 146 (C₁₁H₁₄, 60).

Oxidation of 65.

A fraction containing 65 (5 mg) dissolved in dichloromethane (1 mL) was added to a suspension of pyridinium chlorochromate (8.6 mg) in dichloromethane (1 mL) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes, warmed to room temperature, and stirred at room temperature for 5 hrs. The reaction mixture was filtered through florisil (dichloromethane), the dichloromethane extract concentrated in *vacuo*, and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (10% ethyl acetate in Skellysolve B) to afford the ketone 67 (3 mg), tlc: Rf 0.25; ftir ν_{max} cm⁻¹: 3530, 1721, 1704, 1457, 1167, 1151, 732; ¹H nmr (400 MHz): 5.38 (1H, t, J = 4 Hz, H-12), 2.62 (1H, brs, W_{1/2} = 4 Hz, H-

18 β), 2.51-2.50 (2H, m), 2.36 (1H, ddd, $J = 16,6.5,3.5$ Hz), 2.03 (2H, dd, $J = 9,4$ Hz, 2H-11), 1.81 (1H, ddd, $J = 13,7,3.5$ Hz), 1.27 (3H, s, H-29 β), 1.22 (3H, s, H-27), 1.09 (3H, s), 1.06 (3H, s), 1.05 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, d, $J = 7$ Hz, H-30 α), 0.75 (3H, s); cims: m/z 502 (100, M^{++18}); hreims: m/z calcd. for $C_{31}H_{48}O_4$: 484.3554, found: 484.3551 (10, M^+), 466 ($C_{31}H_{46}O_3$, 17), 424 ($C_{29}H_{44}O_2$, 61), 407 ($C_{29}H_{43}O$, 11), 352 ($C_{25}H_{36}O$, 34), 247 ($C_{16}H_{23}O_2$, 48), 219 ($C_{15}H_{23}O$, 25), 218 ($C_{15}H_{22}O$, 29), 205 ($C_{14}H_{21}O$, 48), 201 ($C_{15}H_{21}$, 54), 200 ($C_{15}H_{20}$, 23), 187 ($C_{14}H_{19}$, 49), 179 ($C_{11}H_{15}O_2$, 100), 147 ($C_{11}H_{15}$, 34), 146 ($C_{11}H_{14}$, 86), 145 ($C_{11}H_{13}$, 28), 144 ($C_{11}H_{12}$, 33), 99 ($C_6H_{11}O$, 27).

D. *Geranium viscosissimum* and *Eriogonum umbellatum*.

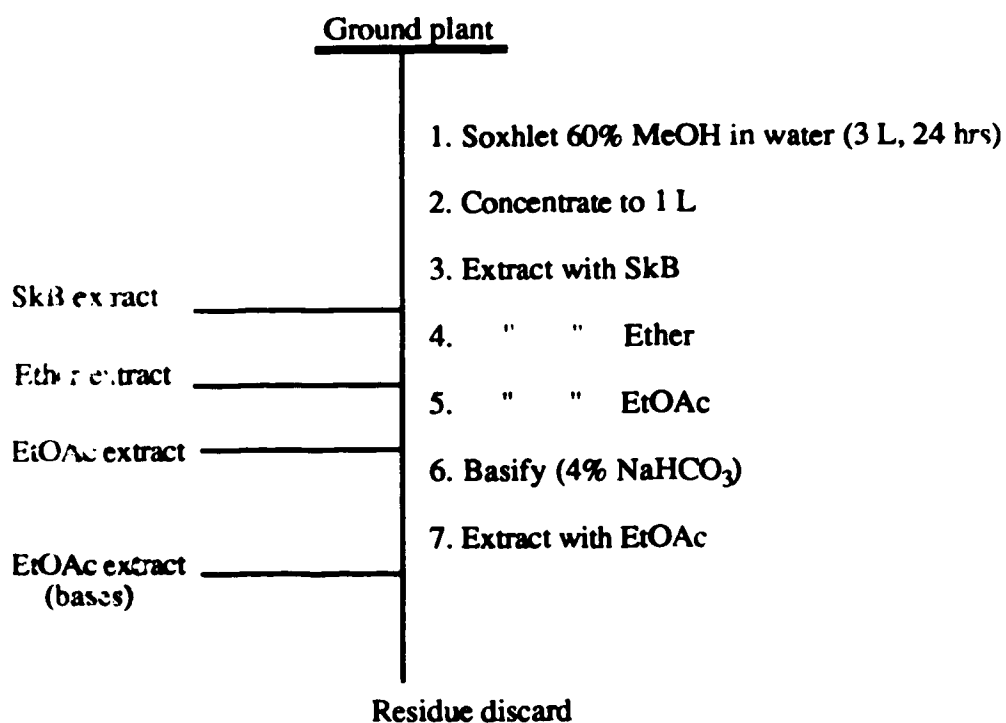
D1. Plant collection and extraction.

Geranium viscosissimum was collected in Alberta, at Beaver Mines, along the road side of Castle river during early July 1985. *Eriogonum umbellatum* was collected in Alberta along highway 12, 20 km north of Rimbey during late August 1985. Specimens* of both plants are deposited in the herbarium at the Devonian Botanic Gardens, Devon, Alberta.

Whole plant of each of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* was air dried for several weeks, ground, and extracted with 60% methanol in water for 24 hrs using a Soxhlet apparatus as shown in scheme 27. Most of the methanol was evaporated under reduced pressure at 40°C. The aqueous residue was treated to successive liquid-liquid extraction with Skellysolve B, ether, and ethyl acetate. The aqueous residue was basified

* Accession No's: 2105 (*E. umbellatum*), 2106 (*G. viscosissimum*).

to pH ca 9 (NaHCO_3) and extracted with ethyl acetate to afford crude bases. The crude extracts from *G. viscosissimum* (200 g) and *E. umbellatum* (150 g) are shown in table 29.



Scheme 27. Extraction of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* in a Soxhlet apparatus.

Table 29 Crude extracts of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum*.

	Extract	Quantity (g)	Observation
<i>G. viscosissimum</i>	SkB	1.6	Δ
	Ether	0.86	68 69 71
	EtOAc	4.09	Δ
	EtOAc (bases)	0.25	69 71
<i>E. umbellatum</i>	SkB	1.93	Δ
	Ether	2.07	56 69 72
	EtOAc	6.90	69 71 72 74 77 79 81 83 85 87
	EtOAc (bases)	0.089	69 77 79

Δ, Extract not investigated chemically.

D2. Biological assay of crude extracts and pure metabolites.

The crude plant extracts and pure metabolites were screened for antibacterial activities using the modified Kirby-Bauer test. In this test, an inoculum of the microorganism to be tested is prepared from commercial Bactrol disks (Difco) in the following way: a disk containing the microorganism is aseptically placed in 2 mL of Mueller-Hinton broth previously sterilized and cooled. The mixture is incubated at 35-37°C for 3 hrs. The inoculum is lightly brushed onto the surface of a Mueller-Hinton

agar plate (6 mm in depth) with a cotton swab. The test solution is prepared in a suitable solvent at concentrations of 5% / mL (crude extract) and 2% / mL (pure compound). With tweezers, a paper disk (6 mm in diameter) is soaked with the test solution and air dried. The paper disk is firmly placed onto the surface of the agar plate and the agar plate is incubated at 37°C for 24 hrs. The bioassay results with the extracts of *G. viscosissimum* and *E. umbellatum* are shown in table 24.

D3. Isolation.

The metabolites were separated by flash column chromatography or by gel filtration chromatography on Sephadex LH20 or G10 using methanol or methanol / water mixtures as eluants or by column chromatography on cellulose (Brickmann avicel microcrystalline cellulose particle size: 38 μ). The chromatography fractions were monitored by tlc using silica gel plates.

D3.1. Isolation of compounds 68, 69 and 71.

The ether extract of *G. viscosissimum* (642 mg) was separated by flash column chromatography (benzene:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 80:20:1, 75:25:1, and pure ethyl acetate) into 8 fractions a to h. The fractions a, e, and f were purified further.

Salicylic acid (68).

Salicylic acid (68) (6.3 mg) was obtained from fraction a (7 mg) by pipette column chromatography over silica gel (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1). Salicylic acid crystallizes from Skellysolve B / dichloromethane as colourless needles, mp: 134-136°C (134-137°C, authentic sample); tlc: Rf 0.20 (Skellysolve B:ethyl

acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1; ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3400-2500 (br, OH), 1662, 1612; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 10.4 (1H, brs), 7.94 (1H, dd, $J = 2$ Hz), 7.54 (1H, ddd, $J = 9,9,2$ Hz), 7.02 (1H, dd, $J = 9,2$ Hz), 6.95 (1H, ddd, $J = 9,9,2$ Hz); cims: m/z 156 (7, M^++18); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$: 138.0317, found: 138.0321 (59, M^+), 120 ($\text{C}_7\text{H}_4\text{O}_2$, 100), 92 ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{O}$, 67).

Methyl gallate (69).

Methyl gallate (69) (69 mg) was obtained from fraction e (96.4 mg) by flash column chromatography (methanol:chloroform:acetic acid; 5:94:1), mp: 157°C; tlc: Rf 0.51 (methanol:chloroform:acetic acid; 4:20:1); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} (acetone cast): 3100-3500 (br OH), 1693, 1619, 1440, 1253, 1199, 1004; cims: m/z 202 (100, M^++18); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_5$: 184.0371, found: 184.0372 (68, M^+), 153 ($\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{O}_4$, 100), 125 ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_3$, 20), ^1H nmr (acetone- d_6 , 400 MHz): 7.09 (2H, s), 3.77 (3H, s, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$).

Acetylation of methyl gallate (69).

Excess Ac_2O was added to a solution of methyl gallate (69) (53 mg) in pyridine (1 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hrs, concentrated in *vacuo*, and separated by flash column chromatography (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1) to afford quantitatively the triacetate 70. Compound 70 crystallizes from methanol as colourless plates, mp: 121-122°C (120-122°C⁷⁷); tlc: Rf 0.16 (Skellysolve B:ethyl acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 1781, 1726, 1329, 1201, 1154, 1054; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_8$: 310.0688, found: 310.0687 (4, M^+), 279 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_7$, 2), 268 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_7$, 10), 226 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_6$, 47), 184 ($\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_5$, 100); ^1H nmr (200 MHz): 7.80 (2H, s), 3.91 (3H, s, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$), 2.30 (9H, s, 3 x CH_3CO_2 -).

Gallic acid (71).

Fraction f (45.2 mg) was crystallized from methanol-chloroform to afford the compound 71 as off white needles, mp: 235°C (dec.); tlc: Rf 0.15 (methanol:chloroform:acetic acid, 10:89:1); ¹H nmr (acetone-d₆, 200 MHz): 7.12 (2H, s); cims: m/z 188 (100, M⁺); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₇H₆O₅: 170.0215, found: 170.0217 (100, M⁺), 153 (C₇H₅O₄, 77), 125 (C₆H₅O₃, 30).

D3.2. Isolation of β-sitosteryl-β-D-glucopyranoside (72).

A portion of the ether extract of *E. umbellatum* (green gum, 950 mg) was separated by flash column chromatography (1% acetic acid in chloroform:ethyl acetate, 4:1, 1:1) to afford six fractions a to f. The glycoside 72 (7.5 mg) was obtained from fraction f (27 mg) by preparative tlc (ethyl acetate:chloroform:acetic acid, 49:50:1), ¹H nmr (acetone-d₆, 200 MHz): 5.35 (1H, brs, H-6), 4.40 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 4.37 (1H, dd, J = 14.2 Hz), 4.18 (1H, dd, J = 12.7 Hz), 1.02 (3H, s), 0.97 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz), 0.72 (3H, s); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₂₉H₅₀O: 414.3864, found: 414.3876 (2, M⁺-sugar portion), 397 (C₂₉H₄₉, 66), 381 (C₂₈H₄₅, 7), 255 (C₁₉H₂₇, 8), 145 (C₁₁H₁₃, 9), 119 (C₉H₁₁, 6). Compound 72 was acetylated with excess Ac₂O containing catalytic amount of N,N-dimethylaminopyridine in pyridine (1 mL). The excess Ac₂O was decomposed with water and the reaction mixture was extracted several times with dichloromethane. The dichloromethane extract was washed successively with 5% HCl, 4% NaHCO₃, and water, and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The dichloromethane was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a white solid, which was purified further by pipette column chromatography over silica gel (chloroform). The chloroform was evaporated in vacuo, and the residue was crystallized from dichloromethane / Skellysolve B to afford the tetraacetate derivative 73, (1.9 mg), mp: 160-161°C; tlc: Rf 0.37 (Skellysolve B:ethyl

acetate:acetic acid; 75:25:1); ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 1746, 1377, 1368, 1262, 1233; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 5.34 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2}$ = 10 Hz, H-6), 5.20 (1H, dd, J = 9.5,9.5 Hz, H-3'), 5.08 (1H, dd, J = 9.5,10 Hz, H-4'), 4.96 (1H, dd, J = 9.5,8 Hz, H-2'), 4.63 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz, H-1'), 4.31 (1H, dd, J = 11.5, 4 Hz, H-6'), 4.17 (1H, dd, J = 11.5,2 Hz, H-6'), 3.65 (1H, dd, J = 10,4,2 Hz, H-5'), 3.48 (1H, m, H-3), 2.07 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 2.04 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 2.02 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 2.00 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2^-), 0.97 (3H, s), 0.91 (3H, d, J = 6 Hz), 0.84 (3H, t, J = 7, Hz), 0.83 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz), 0.81 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz), 0.68 (3H, s); ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz): 170.5 (s), 170.2 (s), 169.3 (s), 169.1 (s), 140.6 (s), 122.1 (d), 99.8, 80.1, 73.2, 71.9 71.88, 69.0, 62.4, 57.0, 56.3, 50.4, 46.1, 42.5, 39.9, 39.1, 37.3, 36.9, 36.2, 34.2, 32.1(2 x C), 29.6, 29.5, 28.3, 26.6, 24.4, 23.3, 21.2, 20.6 (2 x C), 20.5 (2 x C), 19.8, 19.4, 19.2, 18.9, 12.0, 11.9; hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{50}\text{O}_{10}$: 414.3876, found, 414.3857 (0.35, M^+ -sugar portion), 397 ($\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{49}$, 56), 396 ($\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{48}$, 100), 381 ($\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{45}$, 5), 255 ($\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{27}$, 6), 145 ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}$, 6), 119 (C_9H_{11} , 4).

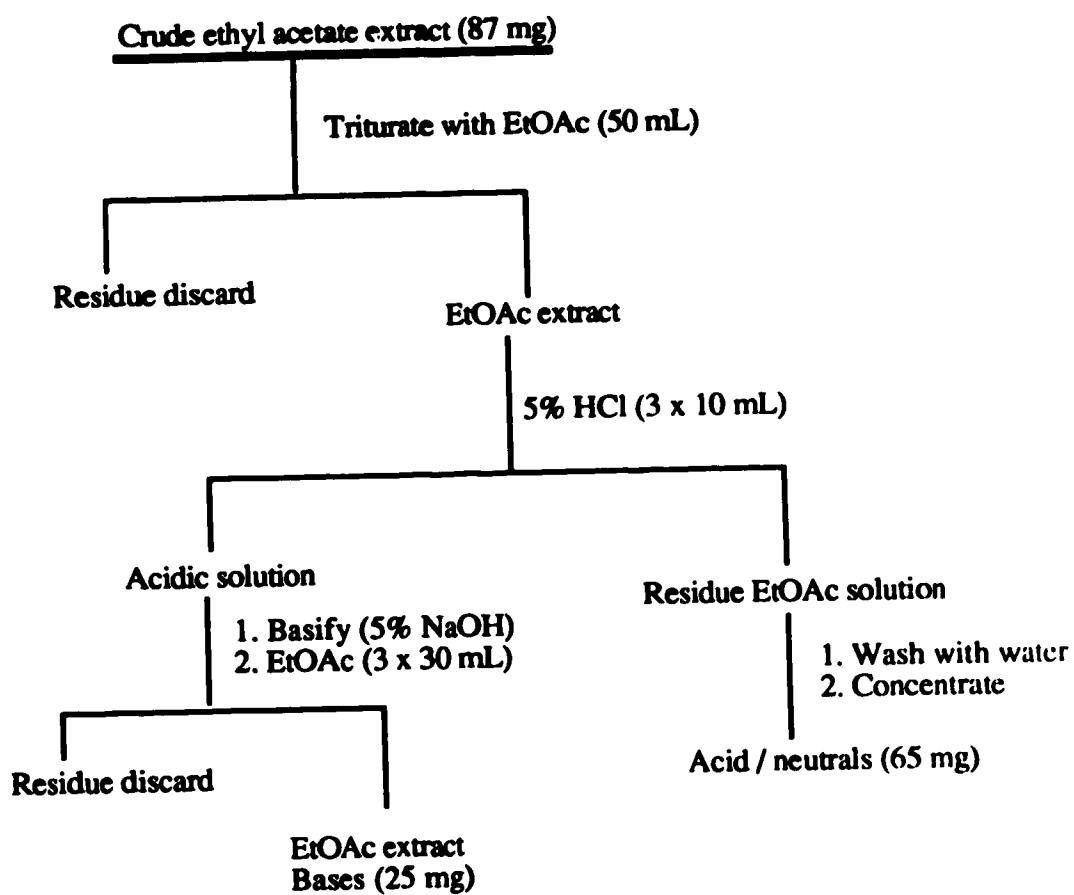
D3.3. Isolation of compounds 77 and 79.

The crude bases (87 mg) of *E. umbellatum* were dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and repartioned into an acid / neutral fraction and a basic fraction as shown in scheme 28.

The acid / neutral fraction (65 mg) was separated by flash column chromatography (10% methanol in chloroform containing 1% acetic acid). The major component (35 mg), one spot, by tlc was a mixture of three compounds identified as methyl gallate (69), 77, and 79 (hreims and ^1H nmr). A portion of the mixture (22 mg) was acetylated* and separated

* All acetylations of the flavonoids were performed with excess Ac_2O and pyridine (1 mL). The solvent was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography.

by flash column chromatography (10% methanol in chloroform) to afford methyl 3,4,5-triacetoxybenzoate (5 mg) and a mixture (2.8 mg) containing the pentaacetates 78 and 80. The acetates were separated by preparative tlc over silica gel (10% ethyl acetate in chloroform).



Scheme 28. Re-extraction of the crude bases of *E. umbellatum*.

Quercetin (77).

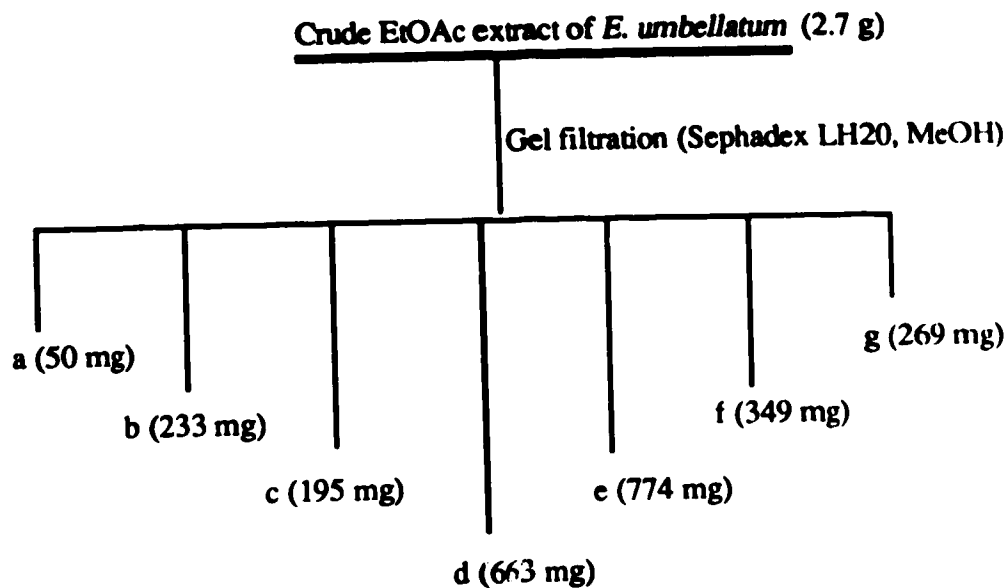
^1H nmr (200 MHz): 12.13 (1H, brs, OH-5), 8.0 (br, OH), 7.84 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, H-2), 7.70 (1H, dd, $J = 8.5, 2.2$ Hz, H-6'), 7.00 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, H-5'), 6.52 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-8), 6.27 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-6); cims: m/z 303 (70, $M^{+}+1$); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$: 302.0426, found, 302.0432 (36, M^{+}); pentaacetate (78), ftir ν_{max} cm^{-1} : 1771, 1650, 1621, 1191, 1174, 1145, 1124; ^1H nmr: see table 27.

Methylmyricetin (79).

^1H nmr (200 MHz): 12.18 (1H, brs, OH-5), 8.0 (br, OH), 7.45 (2H, s, H-2', H-6'), 6.68 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-8), 6.32 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-6); cims: m/z 333 (100, $M^{+}+1$); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_8$: 332.0516, found: 332.0538 (33, M^{+}), pentaacetate (80), ftir ν_{max} cm^{-1} : 1776, 1640, 1620, 1120, 1186, 1150; ^1H nmr (200 MHz): 7.58 (2H, s, H-2', H-6'), 6.84 (1H, d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, H-8), 6.65 (1H, d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, H-6), 3.91 (3H, s, $\text{CH}_3\text{O}-$), 2.43 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.36 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.34 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.33 (6H, s, 2 x CH_3CO_2-).

D3.4. Isolation of compounds 74, 81, 83, 85 and 87.

A portion of the ethyl acetate extract of *E. umbellatum* (2.7 g) was separated by gel filtration chromatography over Sephadex LH20 (70 cm x 20 mm column, methanol) into 7 fractions a to g (scheme 29). The fractions c, e, and f were further purified.



Scheme 29. Isolation of compounds **74**, **81**, **83**, **85**, and **87**.

Theogallin (3-O-galloylquinic acid) (74).

Theogallin (**74**) (76 mg) was obtained as a white solid from fraction **c** (184 mg) by flash column chromatography (chloroform:methanol:ethanol:water; 30:10:16:6), mp: 235°C (dec); tlc: R_f 0.16 (chloroform:methanol:ethanol:water; 30:16:16:6); ftir: ν_{\max} cm⁻¹: 3600-2400 (br, OH), 1695, 1595, 1451, 1228, 1035; $[\alpha]_D = -37^\circ$ (c = 0.19, water); uv ($\epsilon = 0.0048$, water) λ_{\max} nm (log ϵ): 278 (3.55); hreims: m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆O₁₀: 344.0742; ¹H nmr (D₂O, 200 MHz): 6.90 (2H, s, galloyl H), 5.18 (1H, brddd, J = 10,10,4.5 Hz, H-3), 4.06 (1H, brd, J = 3 Hz, H-5e^o) 3.74 (1H, brdd, J = 10, 3 Hz, H-4ax), 1.95 (4H, m, 2H-2,2H-6); ¹³C nmr (D₂O-acetone-d₆, 75.5 MHz): 180.1 (s, -CO₂H), 167.7 (s, -CO₂-), 145.2 (s, 2 x C), 138.7 (s), 121.0 (s), 109 (d, 2 x

C), 76.9 (s, C-1), 73.2 (d, C-3), 72.2 (d, C-4)*, 71.3 (d, C-5)*, 39.0 (t, C-2)**, 37.7 (t, C-6)**.

Methylation of theogallin (74) with acidic methanol.

Hydrochloric acid (5%) was added dropwise to a solution of 74 (16 mg) in minimum water until pH 1-2. The solution was concentrated in *vacuo*, the residue redissolved in minimum methanol, and the methanol was concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (chloroform : methanol : ethanol : water, 30:16:6:6) to afford 75 (7 mg), *tlc*: Rf 0.57 (ethyl acetate:methanol:water, 12:3:1); *ftir* ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3600-3100 (br, OH), 1727, 1705, 1608, 1230, 1031; ^1H nmr (MeOH- d_4 , 400 MHz): 6.99 (2H, s, galloyl H), 5.28 (1H, ddd, $J = 7,7,4$ Hz, H-3ax), 4.16 (1H, ddd, $J = 8,3,3$ Hz, H-5eq), 3.78 (1H, dd, $J = 7,3$ Hz, H-4ax), 3.53 (3H, s, $\text{CH}_3\text{O}_2\text{C}$ -), 2.28 (1H, dd, $J = 14,7$ Hz, H-2ax), 2.17 (1H, dd, $J = 13,3$ Hz, H-6a), 2.15 (1H, dd, $J = 14,4$ Hz, H-2eq), 1.97 (1H, dd, $J = 13,8$ Hz, H-6b); ^{13}C nmr (MeOH- d_4 , 75.5 MHz): 175.3 (s), 167.4 (s), 146.5 (s, \times C), 140.48 (s), 121.4 (s), 110.2 (d, 2 x C), 75.4 (s), 72.5 (d), 72.0 (d), 69.8 (d), 52.9 (q), 37.9 (t), 37.0 (t); *cims*: m/z 344 (8, $(\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{O}) + 1$), *hrcims*: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}$: 358.0899, found: 358.0870 (2, M^+), 340 ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_9$, 1), 326 ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_9$, 6), 170 ($\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_5$, 21), 153 ($\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{O}_4$, 100), 125 ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_3$, 10).

* Signals may be reversed.

** " " " "

Methylation of theogallin (74) with diazomethane.

A solution of theogallin (74) (9.5 mg) in 98% ethanol was made acidic by dropwise addition of 5% HCl. Excess ethereal diazomethane was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes. The ether layer was separated and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (5% methanol in chloroform) then pipette column chromatography (silica gel, 15% acetone in chloroform), to afford the tetramethoxyl derivative 76 (3.9 mg), tlc: Rf 0.28 (6% methanol in chloroform); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3450, 1730, 1707, 1580, 1225, 1125; ^1H nmr (400 MHz): 7.30 (2H, s, galloyl H), 5.50 (1H, ddd, $J = 12, 10, 5$ Hz, H-3ax), 4.25 (1H, dq, $J = 7, 3$ Hz, H-5eq), 4.05 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 5.5$ Hz, -OH-1), 3.88 (9H, s, 3 x CH_3O -), 3.80 (3H, s, CH_3O -), 3.78 (1H, brddd, $J = 10, 10, 3$ Hz, H-4ax), 3.69 (1H, brd, $J = 7$ Hz, -OH-5), 3.01 (1H, brd, $J = 10$ Hz, -OH-4), 2.36 (1H, brddd, $J = 12, 5, 3$ Hz, H-2eq), 2.26 (1H, dt, $J = 15, 3$ Hz, H-6eq), 2.13 (1H, dd, $J = 15, 3$ Hz, H-6ax), 2.08 (1H, dd, $J = 12, 12$ Hz, H-2ax); ^{13}C nmr (75.5 MHz): 174.5, 166.5, 153.0, 142.6, 124.8 (2 x C), 107.1 (2 x C), 75.7, 74.0, 71.6, 70.7, 61.00, 56.3 (2 x C), 53.4, 38.8, 37.0; cims: m/z 418 (17, $\text{M}^+ + 18$); 401 (45, $\text{M}^+ + 1$), 386 (100, ($\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{O}$) + 18); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_{10}$: 400.1369, found: 400.1368 (30, M^+), 369 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_9$, 5), 368 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_9$, 28), 212 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_5$, 59), 195 ($\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_4$, 100).

Methylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (81).

Fraction e (730 mg) (scheme 29) was separated into 9 fractions e-1 to e-9 by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate:butanone:water:formic:acid; 35:7:1:1). Relatively pure methylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (48 mg) was obtained from fraction e-5 (214.5 mg) by crystallization from methanol (a minor impurity was visible in the ^1H and ^{13}C nmr), ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 3431-3217 (br, OH), 1661, 1598; $[\alpha]_D = -154^\circ$ ($c = 0.11$,

methanol); uv ($c = 0.016$, methanol) λ_{\max} nm ($\log \epsilon$): 255 (3.66), ca 300 (shoulder), 353 (3.59); ^1H nmr (DMSO- d_6 , 200 MHz): 12.8 (1H, s), 6.87 (2H, s, H-2',H-6'), 6.65 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-8), 6.40 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-6), 5.21 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 3$ Hz, H-1"), 4.12 (1H, brs, $W_{1/2} = 6.5$ Hz, H-2"), 3.94 (3H, s, CH_3O -), 3.65 (1H, brdd, $J = 9,3$ Hz, H-3"), 3.47 (1H, m, H-5"), 3.25 (1H, dd, $J = 9,9$ Hz, H-4"), 0.99 (3H, d, $J = 6$ Hz); ^{13}C nmr: see table 26. Acetylation of **81** (5 mg) and purification* afforded the hexaacetate **82** (3.5 mg), ^1H nmr (400 MHz): see table 26; cims: m/z 748 (54, $\text{M}^+ + 18$), 476 (82, M^+ aglycone + 18), 290 (100, M^+ sugar + 18); hreims: m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_{18}$: 730.1744 (M^+), 458 ($\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{11}$, 10), 416 ($\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_{10}$, 24), 374 ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_9$, 19), 332 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_8$, 45), 273 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$, 29).

Myricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (83), myricetin 3-O-glycoside (85) and quercetin 3-O-glycoside (87).

Fraction f (323 mg) was separated into 7 fractions f-1 to f-7 by slow column chromatography over cellulose previously equilibrated with ethyl acetate and using benzene:ethyl formate:formic acid:water, 9:21:6:5 as eluant. Myricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (**83**) (37 mg) and quercetin 3-O-glycoside (**85**) (32 mg) was obtained from fraction f-4 (127 mg) by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate:butanone:formic acid:water; 20:4:1:1). Myricetin 3-O-glycoside (**87**) (38 mg) were obtained from fraction f-7 (97 mg) by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate:butanone:formic acid:water; 12:3:1:1). Compounds **83**, **85**, and **87** were acetylated and characterized as the acetates **84**, **86**, and **88**, respectively.

* All purifications of the acetylated mixtures of flavonol glycosides were performed by flash column chromatography using 30% ethyl acetate in chloroform as eluant.

2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5',7-Octaacetylmyricetin 3-O-rhamnoside (84).

tlc: Rf 0.25 (ethyl acetate:chloroform; 3:7); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 1780, 1750, 1647, 1628, 1434, 1371, 1216, 1185; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -167^{\circ}$ ($c = 0.15$, methanol); ^1H nmr: see table 26; ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz): 172.2, 170.1, 169.6, 169.4, 169.0, 167.7, 167.1(2 x C), 166.0, 156.7, 154.2, 153.3, 150.6, 144.1 (2 x C), 137.3, 137.2, 128.0, 121.2 (2 x C), 115.2, 113.7, 108.7, 98.2, 77.2, 70.5, 69.2, 68.8, 21.0, 20.9, 20.7, 20.5, 20.4 (3 x C), 20.0, 17.0.

2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5'',7-Octaacetylquercetin 3-O-glycoside (86).

tlc: Rf 0.25 (ethyl acetate:chloroform; 3:7); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 1777, 1664, 1628, 1435, 1371, 1264, 1215; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -18^{\circ}$ ($c = 0.22$, methanol); ^1H nmr (200 MHz): 7.98 (1H, dd, $J = 9,2$ Hz, H-6''), 7.92 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-2'), 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 9$ Hz, H-5'), 7.32 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-8), 6.84 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-6), 5.48 (1H, d, $J = 8$ Hz, H-1''), 5.39-5.30 (2H, m), 5.07(1H, dd, $J = 10,3$ Hz), 3.76-3.93 (3H, m), 2.45 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.35 (6H, s, 2 x CH_3CO_2-), 2.32 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.13 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-), 2.00 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-); 1.92 (3H, s, CH_3CO_2-); ^{13}C nmr (100.6 MHz): 172.0, 170.2, 169.9 (2 x C), 169.0, 167.8(2 x C), 156.7, 154.5, 154.1, 150.4, 142.1, 136.9, 128.8, 127.4, 124.5, 123.2, 113.5, 108.8, 99.6, 71.2, 70.9, 69.3, 67.0, 60.9, 21.0, 21.0, 20.8, 20.6, 20.5, 20.4 (2 x C).

2'',3',3'',4',4'',5,5',5'',7-nonaacetylmyricetin 3-O-glycoside (88).

tlc: Rf 0.2 (ethyl acetate:chloroform; 3:7); ftir ν_{\max} cm^{-1} : 1779, 1752, 1645, 1628, 1370, 1218, 1135; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -72^{\circ}$ ($c = 0.12$, methanol); ^1H nmr (200 MHz): 7.87 (2H, s, H-2',H-6'), 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-8), 6.85 (1H, d, $J = 2$ Hz, H-6), 5.56

(1H, d, J = 8 Hz, H-1"), 5.41-5.32 (1H, m), 5.09 (1H, dd, J = 10.3 Hz), 4.01-3.77 (3H, m), 2.44 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.34 (9H, s, 3 x CH₃CO₂-), 2.31 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.16 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.14 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 2.00 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-), 1.91 (3H, s, CH₃CO₂-); ¹³C nmr (100.6 MHz): 170.3 (s), 170.0 (s), 169.8 (s), 169.8 (s, 2 x C), 168.9 (s), 167.7 (s), 167.3 (s, 2 x C), 166.2 (s), 156.6 (s), 154.2 (s), 153.6 (s), 150.4 (s), 143.5 (s, 2 x C), 128.4 (s), 121.6 (d, 2 x C), 113.5 (d), 108.8 (d), 99.5 (d), 71.4 (d), 70.9 (d), 69.3 (d), 67.0 (d), 61.0 (t), 21.0 (q, 2 x C), 20.9 (q), 20.7 (q), 20.5 (q, 3 x C), 20.4 (q), 20.3 (q); cims: m/z 546 (100, M⁺ aglycone + 18), 331 (93, M⁺ sugar); Ireims: m/z 470 (9), 428 (5), 386 (14), 369 (7), 351 (12), 302 (10).

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