

PART - IV

CHEMICAL INVESTIGATION ON  
INDIAN PLANTS

PART - IV

Chemical investigation on some Indian Plants :

Chemical investigation on the following Plants was undertaken and the results are shown in the attached REPRINT NO.1 and REPRINT NO.2.

REPRINT NO. 1 :

1. *Cyathea spinulosa* Wall (Filices)
2. *Antidesma diandrum* Roth (Euphorbiaceae)
3. *Euphorbia jacquemontii* Boiss (Euphorbiaceae)
4. *Gelonium bifarium* Roxb (Euphorbiaceae)
5. *Soyamida febrifuga* A. Juss (Meliaceae)

REPRINT NO. 2 :

1. *Fluggea microcarpa* Blume (Euphorbiaceae)
2. *Sapium baccatum* Roxb (Euphorbiaceae)
3. *Skimmia wallichii* (Rutaceae)

REPRINT NO. 1

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***PHYTOCHEMISTRY***



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identity in absolute configuration was established by CD comparison— $\Delta\epsilon_{196} +7.2$  from either source. The NMR spectrum of the isolated calamenene showed it to be the *cis*-isomer<sup>8</sup> essentially free of diastereomeric material. The negative  $^1L_b$  band ( $\Delta\epsilon_{278} = -0.25$ ) suggests structure II.<sup>8</sup>

*Acknowledgement*—The work at U.W. was supported by NIH Grant GM-18143.

<sup>8</sup> ANDERSEN, N. H., SYRDAL, D. D. and GRAHAM, C. (1972) *Tetrahedron Letters* 905.

Phytochemistry, 1973, Vol. 12, pp. 1819 to 1820. Pergamon Press. Printed in England.

## FILICES, etc.

### PHYTOSTEROLS IN PLANTS

D. R. MISRA, D. B. NASKAR, T. K. RAY and H. N. KHASTGIR

Chemistry Department, North Bengal University, Darjeeling, India

(Received 17 February 1973. Accepted 5 March 1973)

**Key Word Index**—*Cyathea spinulosa*; Filices; Fern; lupeol; *Antidesma diandra*; *Euphorbia jacquemontii*; *Gelonium bifarium*; Euphorbiaceae; Angiospermae taraxerone; sitosterol; epimultiflorenol; multiflorenol; bauerenol; *Soymida febrifuga*; Meliaceae; methyl angolensate; sitosterol.

*Plant. Cyathea spinulosa* Wall<sup>1</sup> (Syn. *Hemitelia decipines* J. Scott). Filices. *Occurrence*. Middle and upper hill forest, rarely found near Kalimpong and Darjeeling, India. *Previous work*. None.

*Isolation and identification*. The powdered whole plant was extracted with  $C_6H_6$  and the neutral fraction gave *lupeol*,<sup>2</sup> m.p. 214–215°,  $[\alpha]_D +26.4^\circ$ , its acetate m.p. 216–217°,  $[\alpha]_D +47.5^\circ$  confirmed by m.m.p., IR and co-TLC with an authentic sample. The second solid has been identified as *sitosterol*.

*Plant. Antidesma diandrum* Roth.<sup>3</sup> Euphorbiaceae. *Occurrence*. Tropical Himalaya, from Garwhal eastwards and southwards to Travancore, India.

*Isolation and identification*. The powdered trunk was extracted with benzene and the neutral part afforded *sitosterol*.

*Plant. Euphorbia jacquemontii* Boiss; Euphorbiaceae.<sup>4</sup> *Occurrence*. Throughout the Western Himalayan region of India. *Previous work*. None.

*Isolation and identification*. The powdered trunk bark was extracted with  $C_6H_6$  and the neutral part on chromatography first gave *taraxerone*,  $C_{30}H_{50}O$ ,\* m.p. 238–240°,  $[\alpha]_D 10.8^{05}$  confirmed by IR, NMR and co-TLC with authentic specimen and by conversion to

\* Satisfactory analysis,  $[\alpha]_D$  in  $CHCl_3$ , 60 Mc NMR in  $CDCl_3$  with TMS as internal standard.

<sup>1</sup> COWAN, A. M. and COWAN, J. M. (1929) *The Trees of Northern Bengal*, p. 143, Bengal Secretariat Book Depot, Calcutta.

<sup>2</sup> HALSALL, T. G., JONES, E. R. H. and MEAKINS, G. D. (1952) *J. Chem. Soc.* 2862.

<sup>3</sup> HOOKER, J. D. (1954) *Flora of British India*, Vol. 5, p. 361, Reeve, London.

<sup>4</sup> HOOKER, J. D. (1954) *Flora of British India*, p. 238, Reeve, London.

<sup>5</sup> POLLOCK, J. R. A. and STEVENS, R. (1965) *Dictionary of Organic Compounds*, 4th Ed., Vol. 5, p. 2943, Eyre & Spottiswoode, London and references cited therein.

taraxerol, m.p. 278–280°,  $[\alpha]_D + 3.7^\circ$ , acetate, m.p. 295–297°,  $[\alpha]_D + 9.16^\circ$ . The second solid was an alcohol,  $C_{23}H_{48}O$ , m.p. 87–88°,  $[\alpha]_D - 22.42^\circ$  (IR: 3275  $cm^{-1}$ ); acetate,  $C_{25}H_{50}O_2$ , m.p. 70–71° (IR: 1725 and 1245  $cm^{-1}$ ) but could not be identified for want of sufficient material. The last solid *sitosterol*,  $C_{29}H_{50}O$ , m.p. 137–138°,  $[\alpha]_D - 36^\circ$  confirmed by m.m.p., IR and co-TLC with authentic specimen. Acetate, m.p. 127°,  $[\alpha]_D - 4^\circ$ .

*Plant. Gelonium bifarium* Roxb;<sup>6</sup> Euphorbiaceae. *Occurrence.* Andaman islands, Malay islands. *Previous work.* Other sister species.<sup>7,8</sup>

*Isolation and identification.* The powdered trunk bark was extracted with  $C_6H_6$ . The neutral part gave a complex mixture of crystalline substances which on acetylation afforded a mixture of at least 3 acetates (TLC). On fractional crystallization it first afforded *bauerenol* acetate,  $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$ , m.p. 282–284°,  $[\alpha]_D 0^\circ$ , hydrolysis of which gave *bauerenol*,  $C_{30}H_{50}O$ , m.p. 208–209°,  $[\alpha]_D - 20^\circ$  confirmed by m.m.p., IR and co-TLC with authentic specimen. From the mother liquor two other solids were separated by fractional crystallization. The first solid multiflorenol acetate  $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$ , m.p. 220–222°,  $[\alpha]_D 0^\circ$  and its corresponding alcohol, *multiflorenol*,  $C_{30}H_{50}O$ , m.p. 188–190°,  $[\alpha]_D - 30^\circ$  confirmed by m.m.p. and IR comparison with authentic specimen. The third solid isolated from the mother liquor has been identified as epimultiflorenol acetate,  $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$ , m.p. 220–222°,  $[\alpha]_D 0^\circ$  and its corresponding alcohol *epimultiflorenol*, m.p. 206–208°,  $[\alpha]_D 0^\circ$  and its identity has been confirmed by preparing the alcohol from multiflorenone by the method of Paton *et al.*<sup>9</sup> The last solid m.p. 135–137° has been identified as *sitosterol*.

*Plant. Soyimida febrifuga* A. Juss.<sup>10</sup> Meliaceae. *Occurrence.* Dry forests of Western Peninsula, extending northwards to Marwara, the Mirzapur Hill and Chot Nagpur of India. *Medicinal use.* Bark, astringent, bitter tonic, febrifuge, used in general debility, intermittent fevers, diarrhoea and dysentery. *Previous work.* bitter substances from bark.<sup>11</sup>

*Isolation and identification.* The powdered trunk bark was extracted with  $C_6H_6$  and the chromatography of the neutral part over alumina first afforded *sitosterol*, m.p. 137–138°,  $[\alpha]_D - 36^\circ$  confirmed by m.m.p. and IR comparison with authentic specimen. The second solid, m.p. 202–204°,  $[\alpha]_D - 42^\circ$  coming out in  $C_6H_6$ -petrol. (4:1) showed in the NMR spectrum the presence of two  $\alpha$  ( $\delta$  7.37) and one  $\beta$ -furanic protons ( $\delta$  6.35), the H-17 proton ( $\delta$  5.62)  $\alpha$ -to the furan ring, two vinyl proton singlet  $\sim$   $\delta$  5.00, characteristic of the vinylidene group exocyclic to a cyclohexane ring, two doublets ( $J$  14 Hz) each one proton, assignable to the isolated geminal protons at C-15 and five three proton singlet assignable to one methyl ester and for quaternary methyls. All the above spectral data are in accord with *methyl angolensate*<sup>12</sup> and the compound has been found to be identical with the same confirmed by m.m.p. IR, co-TLC and NMR spectra with an authentic specimen.

*Acknowledgements*—The authors thanks are due to Professor T. G. Halsall, Dyson Perrins Laboratory, U.K. for an authentic sample of methyl angolensate. T.K.R. and D.B.N. are thankful to East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., Calcutta and University of North Bengal respectively for grant of research fellowships.

<sup>6</sup> HOOKER, J. D. (1954) *Flora of British India*, p. 461, Reeve, London.

<sup>7</sup> KHASTGIR, H. N. and SENGUPTA, P. (1963) *Tetrahedron* **19**, 123.

<sup>8</sup> RAMCHANDRA ROW, L. and SANKAR RAO, C. (1969) *Indian J. Chem.* **7**, 207.

<sup>9</sup> PATON, A. C., SPRING, F. S. and STEVENSON, R. (1958) *J. Chem. Soc.* 2640.

<sup>10</sup> CHOPRA, R. N., NAYAR, S. L. and CHOPRA, I. C. (1956) *Glossary of Indian Medicinal Plants*, CSTR, p. 232, Calcutta.

<sup>11</sup> ANON (1851) *Arch Pharm. (Berl.)* 271.

<sup>12</sup> BEVAN, C. W. L., POWELL, J. W., TAYLOR, D. A. H., TOFT, P., WELFORD, M., CHAN, W. R., MOOTOO, B. S. and HALSALL, T. G. (1964) *Chem. Ind. (London)* 1751.

Phytochemistry, 1975, Vol.14, 000-000. Pergamon Press.  
Printed in England.

## PHYTOCHEMICAL REPORTS

## PHYTOSTEROLS IN EUPHORBIACEAE AND RUTACEAE\*

T. K. Ray, D. R. Misra and H. N. Khastgir  
Chemistry Department, North Bengal University,  
Darjeeling, India.

( Received 19 March 1974 )

Key Word Index - *Flueggea microcarpa*; Euphorbiaceae; hexacosane; friedelin; friedelanol; sitosterol; *Sapium baccatum*; Euphorbiaceae; acetoxy aleuritic acid; *Skimmdia wallichii*; Rutaceae; taraxerone; 3-epitaraxerol; taraxerol; sitosterol.

Plant. *Flueggea microcarpa* Blume [2, 3] (Syn *Flueggea microcarpa* Blume); Euphorbiaceae. Occurrence. Throughout India; from Kashmir ascending the Himalaya to 5000 ft, to Bhutan, and Assam and southwards to Malacca and Travancore. Uses. Medicinal [4]. Previous work [5]. Bergenin and isocoumarin in leaves.

Isolation and identification. The powdered trunk bark was extracted with  $C_6H_6$  and the neutral fraction on chromatography over deactivated alumina afforded several crystalline solids; hexacosane, mp 58-59°, friedelin mp 259-261°,  $[\alpha]_D - 32^\circ$ ,  $\nu_{max}$  1708  $cm^{-1}$  (six-membered ring ketone), oxime, mp 293-295°,  $[\alpha]_D + 54.6^\circ$ , friedelanol, mp 296-298°,  $[\alpha]_D + 15.5^\circ$ , acetate, mp 314-316°, and sitosterol, mp 136-137°,  $[\alpha]_D - 34^\circ$ , acetate, mp 127-129°,  $[\alpha]_D - 39^\circ$ . The identity of the above compounds was confirmed by mp IR and co - TLC with authentic samples.

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\* Part II of a series on Plant Phytosterols; for Part I see Ref. / 1 /.

Plant. *Sapium-baceatum* Roxb; [6] Euphorbiaceae. Occurrence. Assam, Sylhet and Khasia Mountains, India. Previous work. [7-10] Isolation and characterization of taraxerone, taraxerol, sitosterol, 1-hexacosanol, 3-3'-di-O-methyl ellagic acid [11].

Isolation and identification. The acidic fraction from the  $C_6H_6$  extract of the stem and trunk bark of the plant on esterification with  $CH_2R_2$  followed by chromatography furnished a crystalline solid, mp 241-243°,  $[\alpha]_D + 21.8^\circ$ , no UV absorption above 220 nm,  $\nu_{max}^{CHCl_3}$  1738  $cm^{-1}$  (broad, -OCOMe and COOMe), 1245  $cm^{-1}$  (-OCOMe), NMR signals at  $\delta$  5.45 (1H, vinyl proton, trisubstituted double bond),  $\delta$  4.42 (1H, H-C-O-COMe),  $\delta$  2.05 (3H, -OCOMe),  $\delta$  3.54 (3H, -COOMe) and several sharp signals between  $\delta$  0.8 to 1.55 (21H, seven methyl groups). Hydrolysis of the ester with 5% methanolic KOH yielded an alcohol, mp 208-210°,  $[\alpha]_D + 15.6^\circ$ ,  $\nu_{max}^{CHCl_3}$  3490  $cm^{-1}$  (-OH), 1738  $cm^{-1}$  (-COOMe). Oxidation of alcohol by  $CrO_3-C_6H_5N$  complex furnished a ketone, mp 174-176°,  $[\alpha]_D + 14.2^\circ$ ,  $\nu_{max}^{KBr}$  1708  $cm^{-1}$  (C=O), 1738  $cm^{-1}$  (-COOMe). The acid obtained from the plant is therefore acetoxy aleuritolic acid, the physical data on the ester, alcohol and ketone being strikingly similar to those obtained for the known compound [12].

Plant. *Skimmia wallichii* Hk [13]; Rutaceae. Occurrence. A small procumbent shrub about 4ft. high, fairly common in Singalila Range, from 9000-11000 ft. Previous work. None. Isolation and identification. The powdered bark of the plant was extracted with  $C_6H_6$  and the neutral fraction on chromatography over deactivated alumina first gave four crystalline compounds; the first mp 238-239°,  $[\alpha]_D + 11^\circ$ ,  $\nu_{max}$  1710  $cm^{-1}$  (six membered ring ketone) was identical with taraxerone

(mp and IR); 3-epitaraxerol [14] mp 261-263°,  $[\alpha]_D - 25.6^\circ$ ,  $\nu_{\max} 3420 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (-OH) and  $825 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (trisubstituted double bond), acetate, mp 160-162°,  $[\alpha]_D - 43^\circ$ . Oxidation of the alcohol by  $\text{CrO}_3 - \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N}$  complex-furnished taraxerone. The alcohol, 3-epitaraxerol and its oxidised product, taraxerone were identified by mp, IR and co-TLC; taraxerol, mp 272-274°,  $[\alpha]_D + 5.5^\circ$ , acetate, mp 295-297°,  $[\alpha]_D + 10^\circ$  confirmed by mp, IR and co-TLC with an authentic sample; and sitosterol (mp and IR).

Acknowledgement - T.K.R. thanks the East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., Calcutta for grant of a research fellowship.

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For Convention of Chemists 1974 ; Section : Organic Chemistry.

TRITERPENES FROM POLYPODIUM JUGLANDIFOLIUM

D. R. Misra, T.K. Ray and H.N. Khastgir\*  
Chemistry Department, North Bengal University,  
Darjeeling, West Bengal, India.

ABSTRACT

The neutral portion of the benzene extract of the rhizomes of Polypodium juglandifolium on chromatography afforded, from the least polar-fraction, two hydrocarbons- Femenene,  $C_{30}H_{50}$ , m.p.  $169-70^{\circ}$ ,  $(\alpha)_D - 16.3^{\circ}$  and Filixicene,  $C_{30}H_{50}$ , m.p.  $231-32^{\circ}$  (lit.  $288.5-229.5^{\circ}$ , Ref : H. Ageta, K. Iwata and S. Natori, Tetrahedron Letters, No. 46, pp 3413-3418, 1964),  $(\alpha)_D + 49.6^{\circ}$  identical with the authentic specimens (m.m.p and IR). The next fraction obtained from the chromatography m.p.  $121-2^{\circ}$  has been found to be a mixture of cyclolaudenol,  $C_{31}H_{52}O$ , m.p.  $122-23^{\circ}$  and a new C-32 triterpene alcohol  $C_{32}H_{54}O$ . The new triterpene alcohol  $C_{32}H_{54}O$  has established as having cyclolaudenol nucleus with the extra carbon in the side chain from mass spectrometric studies of the original mixture, its acetate and the dihydroderivative and the acetate of the dihydro compound. The position of the double bond in the side chain has been tentatively assigned at 25 (26) also from mass spectrometric fragmentation pattern. Further work is in progress to locate the exact position of the extra carbon atom.

INDIAN JOURNAL OF CHEMISTRY

Partial Synthesis of Dimethyl Dihydroceanothate from  
Methyl Betulonate

T. K. Ray, D. R. Misra and H. N. Khastgir  
Chemistry Department, North Bengal University, Darjeeling.

Received 30 June 1975; accepted 10 July 1975

The diosphenol (2b) obtained by the autoxidation of methyl dihydrobetulonate, on  $H_2O_2$  oxidation followed by esterification affords the trimethyl ester (3b) of the seco-acid (3a). Dieckmann condensation of (3b) furnishes after purification methyl 2 $\alpha$ -methoxycarbonyl-3-oxo-A(1)-norlupan-28-oate (1e) which on  $NaBH_4$  reduction in methanol-dioxane gives the desired dimethyl dihydroceanothate (1d), identical with an authentic sample.

Ceanothic acid (1a)<sup>1, 2, 3</sup> was originally isolated by Julian et al from *Ceanothus americanus* and has since been isolated from a number of Australian Rhamnaceae species<sup>5, 6</sup>. Huneck<sup>7</sup> in an attempt towards the partial synthesis of ceanothic acid developed a method for the synthesis of both epimeric A(1)-norlup-20(29)-en-3-carboxylic acids (1b) and (1c) by photochemical Wolff rearrangement of the diazoketone (2a). Kundu et al<sup>8</sup> also reported the synthesis of (1b).

We report here a successful synthesis of dimethyl dihydroceanothate (1b). Autoxidation of methyl dihydrobetulonate by passing a stream of oxygen in presence of K-*tert*.butoxide in *tert*.butanol gave the diosphenol (2b), m.p. 131-33°, ( $\alpha$ )<sub>D</sub> - 1.96°. The diosphenol on oxidation with 30% hydrogen peroxide gave the seco-acid (3a), m.p. 175-77°,  $n_{D}^{20}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{25}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{30}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{35}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{40}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{45}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{50}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{55}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{60}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{65}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{70}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{75}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{80}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{85}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{90}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{95}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{100}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{105}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{110}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{115}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{120}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{125}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{130}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{135}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{140}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{145}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{150}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{155}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{160}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{165}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{170}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{175}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{180}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{185}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{190}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{195}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{200}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{205}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{210}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{215}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{220}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{225}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{230}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{235}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{240}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{245}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{250}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{255}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{260}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{265}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{270}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{275}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{280}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{285}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{290}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{295}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{300}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{305}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{310}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{315}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{320}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{325}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{330}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{335}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{340}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{345}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{350}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{355}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{360}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{365}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{370}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{375}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{380}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{385}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{390}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{395}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{400}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{405}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{410}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{415}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{420}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{425}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{430}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{435}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{440}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{445}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{450}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{455}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{460}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{465}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{470}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{475}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{480}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{485}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{490}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{495}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{500}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{505}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{510}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{515}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{520}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{525}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{530}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{535}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{540}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{545}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{550}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{555}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{560}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{565}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{570}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{575}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{580}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{585}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{590}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{595}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{600}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{605}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{610}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{615}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{620}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{625}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{630}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{635}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{640}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{645}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{650}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{655}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{660}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{665}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{670}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{675}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{680}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{685}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{690}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{695}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{700}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{705}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{710}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{715}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{720}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{725}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{730}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{735}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{740}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{745}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{750}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{755}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{760}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{765}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{770}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{775}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{780}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{785}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{790}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{795}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{800}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{805}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{810}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{815}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{820}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{825}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{830}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{835}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{840}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{845}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{850}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{855}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{860}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{865}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{870}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{875}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{880}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{885}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{890}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{895}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{900}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{905}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{910}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{915}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{920}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{925}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{930}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{935}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{940}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{945}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{950}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{955}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{960}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{965}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{970}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{975}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{980}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{985}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{990}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{995}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1000}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1005}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1010}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1015}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1020}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1025}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1030}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1035}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1040}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1045}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1050}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1055}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1060}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1065}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1070}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1075}$  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$n_{D}^{1285}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1290}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1295}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1300}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1305}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1310}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1315}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1320}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1325}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1330}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1335}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1340}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1345}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1350}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1355}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1360}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1365}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1370}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1375}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1380}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1385}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1390}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1395}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1400}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1405}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1410}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1415}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1420}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1425}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1430}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1435}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1440}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1445}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1450}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1455}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1460}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1465}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1470}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1475}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1480}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1485}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1490}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1495}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1500}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1505}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1510}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1515}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1520}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1525}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1530}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1535}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1540}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1545}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1550}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1555}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1560}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1565}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1570}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1575}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1580}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1585}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1590}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1595}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1600}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1605}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1610}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1615}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1620}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1625}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1630}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1635}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1640}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1645}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1650}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1655}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1660}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1665}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1670}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1675}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1680}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1685}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1690}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1695}$  1.690,  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1.690,  $n_{D}^{1910}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1915}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1920}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1925}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1930}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1935}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1940}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1945}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1950}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1955}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1960}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1965}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1970}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1975}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1980}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1985}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1990}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{1995}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2000}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2005}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2010}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2015}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2020}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2025}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2030}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2035}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2040}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2045}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2050}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2055}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2060}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2065}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2070}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2075}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2080}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2085}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2090}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2095}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2100}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2105}$  1.690,  $n_{D}^{2110}$  1.690,  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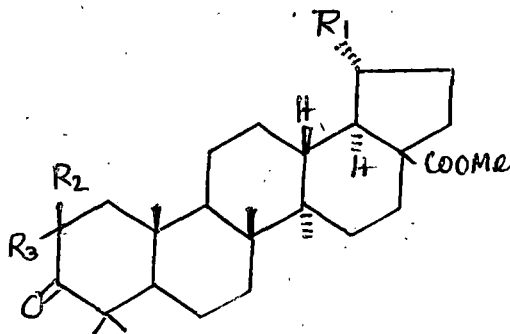
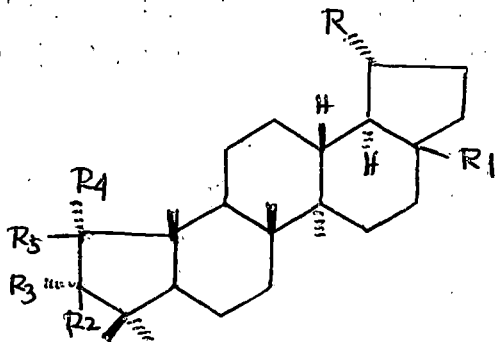
afforded the trimethyl ester (3b)<sup>1,6</sup>, M.P. 146-47°,  $\gamma$  <sub>max</sub> nujol  
1745, 1725  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$ ). Dieckmann condensation of (3b)  
in the presence of potassium tert-butoxide in benzene under  
nitrogen blanket<sup>9a,9b</sup> gave a gummy product which on chromato-  
graphy over alumina gave methyl 2 $\alpha$ -methoxycarbonyl-3-oxo-  
A(1)-norlupan-28-oate(1e) m.p. 191-93°,  $(\alpha)_D + 89^\circ$ ,  $\gamma$  <sub>max</sub> nujol  
1750, 1720  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and its epimer (1f) 175-77°,  $(\alpha)_D + 42^\circ$ ,  
 $\gamma$  <sub>max</sub> nujol 1750, 1730  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the ratio of 17 : 1. The high  
yield of the  $\beta$ -keto ester (1e) with the desired stereochemis-  
try in this reaction is significant and is at variance with  
the observation of Bada et al.<sup>3</sup> who stated that methyl 2 $\alpha$ -  
methoxycarbonyl-3-oxo-A(1)-norlup-20(29)-en-28-oate (dimethyl  
dehydrocanothate) was rapidly epimerized by alkali to an  
equilibrium mixture containing 40% of the starting material  
and 60% of the isomer epimeric at C-2.

The  $\beta$ -keto ester (1e) on reduction with sodium  
borohydride in methanol-dioxane gave a mixture (two spots in  
TLC) which on chromatography over alumina first eluted (benzene-  
pet ether, 3:2) a solid, m.p. 261-62°,  $(\alpha)_D + 22^\circ$ ,  $\gamma$  <sub>max</sub> nujol  
3540, 1730, 1710  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , identical with an authentic specimen of  
dimethyl dihydrocanothate (1d) supplied by Prof. de Mayo. Further  
elution with the same solvent gave another solid, m.p. 140-42°,  
 $\gamma$  <sub>max</sub> nujol 3560, 1745, 1705  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The yield of the material was  
not sufficient for NMR studies but by analogy with previous  
work<sup>3</sup> it is believed to be the C-3 epimer (1g). Further work is  
in progress to elucidate its stereochemistry.

Investigation was also initiated to prepare the  $\beta$ -keto  
ester (1e) by carbomethoxylation of the A-nor ketone (4b) at C-2.  
The diosphenol (2b) on treatment with 10% ethanolic sodium  
hydroxide solution underwent benzilic acid rearrangement to

furnish the  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid (4a), m.p. 255-56°,  $n_D^{20}$  1.440,  $n_D^{max}$  1.440,  $\nu_{max}$  3440, 1720  $cm^{-1}$ . The latter on treatment with lead dioxide<sup>10a, 10b</sup> in glacial acetic acid under mild refluxing conditions gave the nor-ketone (4b)<sup>1, 11</sup>, m.p. 179-80° ( $\alpha$ )<sub>D</sub> + 75.4°.

Attempts on carbomethoxylation of this ketone using dimethylcarbonate in the presence of sodium methoxide, potassium-tert butoxide or sodium hydride in various solvents proved unsuccessful.



1a,  $R_1=R_4=COOH$ ,  $R_2=OH$ ,  $R=CH_2/CH_3$ ,  $R_3=R_5=H$

1b,  $R_1=CH_3$ ,  $R_3=COOH$ ,  $R_2=R_4=R_5=H$ ,  $R=CH_2/CH_3$

1c,  $R_1=CH_3$ ,  $R_2=COOH$ ,  $R_3=R_4=R_5=H$ ,  $R=CH_2/CH_3$

1d,  $R_1=R_4=COOMe$ ,  $R_2=OH$ ,  $R_3=R_5=H$ ,  $R=CH_2/CH_3$

1e,  $R_1=R_4=COOMe$ ,  $R_2=O$ ,  $R_3=O$ ,  $R_5=H$ ,  $R=CH/CH_3$

1f,  $R_1=R_5=COOMe$ ,  $R_2=O$ ,  $R_3=O$ ,  $R_4=H$ ,  $R=CH/CH_3$

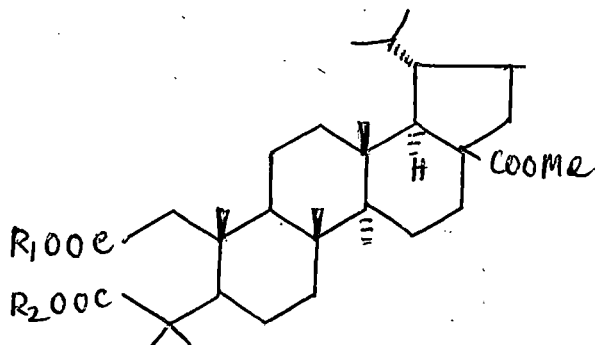
1g,  $R_1=R_4=COOMe$ ,  $R_3=OH$ ,  $R_2=R_5=H$ ,  $R=CH/CH_3$

2a,  $R_2=O$ ,  $R_3=O$

$R=CH_2/CH_3$

2b,  $R_2=O$ ,  $R_3=O$

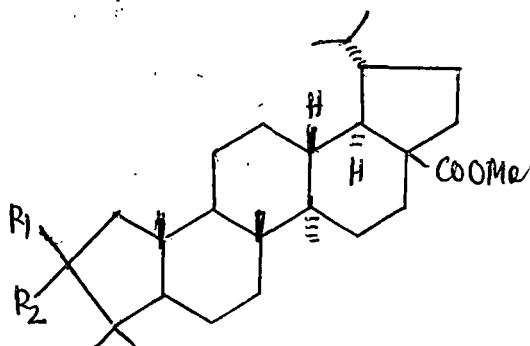
$R_1=CH/CH_3$



3a,  $R_1 = R_2 = H$

3b,  $R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$

References :



4a,  $R_1 = OH, R_2 = COOH$

4b,  $\begin{matrix} R_1 \\ R_2 \end{matrix} > = O$

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