

ACETOPHENONE GLYCOSIDES FROM THE NEEDLES OF

Picea obovata

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From the butanol fraction [1] of a methanolic extract of the needles of *Picea obovata* Ledeb. (Siberian spruce) collected in August, 1973, by chromatography on polyamide and silica gel impregnated with sodium metabisulfite (2%) with elution by chloroform containing increasing proportions of methanol, we have isolated three compounds:

(I) - p-hydroxyacetophenone glucoside, mp 183-185°C, $[\alpha]_D^{22} - 55.0^\circ$ (c 1.0; pyridine), λ_{\max} (CH₃OH) 265 nm (log ϵ 3.97); (II) - 3,4-dihydroxyacetophenone 3-glycoside, mp 200-202°C, $[\alpha]_D^{22} - 65.0^\circ$ (c 1.0; pyridine), λ_{\max} (CH₃OH) 272 nm (log ϵ 4.09); and (III) - 4-hydroxy-3-methoxyacetophenone glucoside, mp 206-208°C, $[\alpha]_D^{22} - 86.03^\circ$ (c 0.84; pyridine), λ_{\max} 268, 300 nm (log ϵ 3.95, 3.8).

The PMR spectra of the TMS ethers of these compounds each showed a singlet at δ 2.45 cm (3H) of a CH₃ group. The aromatic protons H-3, H-5 and H-2, H-6 of compound (I) appeared in the form of doublets at δ 6.93 ppm (2H) and 7.83 ppm (2H), with $J = 8$ Hz. The signal of the H-5 proton in compounds (II) and (III) appeared at δ 6.77 ppm (1H) in the form of a doublet with $J_{5,6} = 8$ Hz, and the H-6 and H-2 protons gave an unsymmetrical doublet with its center at δ 7.41 ppm (2H), $J_{6,5} = 8$ Hz. The protons of the methoxy group in compound (III) appeared in the form of a singlet at δ 3.71 ppm (3H).

The PMR spectra were taken on a BS 487B spectrometer in CCl₄ as solvent with HMDS as internal standard.

The aglycones obtained by the acid hydrolysis of the glycosides were identified by GLC in the form of their PMS ethers on the basis of the results of a comparison with authentic samples of p-hydroxyacetophenone (RT 5.25 min, taken as 1.0), 4-hydroxy-3-methoxyacetophenone (RRT 1.84), and 3,4-dihydroxyacetophenone (RRT 2.38).

GLC analysis was performed on a "Tsvet-4" instrument with a flame-ionization detector; column 300 × 0.3 cm filled with 5% of SE-30 on Chromaton N-AW-HMDS with helium as the carrier gas. The column temperature was 176°C.

Glucose was identified in hydrolyzates neutralized on AV-17 ion-exchange resin. According to their PMR spectra, the compounds isolated were monosides. Positive hydrolysis with the enzyme of *Aspergillus oridasa* and the presence of doublets at δ 4.87 ppm ($J = 6$ Hz) in the PMR spectrum of compounds (I) and (III) and at δ 5.37 ppm ($J = 6$ Hz) for (II) showed the β -D-pyranose form of the glucose substituent.

We also isolated 3,4-dihydroxyacetophenone in the free form by preliminary extraction with diethyl ether of a methanolic extract of the needles of *Picea obovata* and identified it from its physicochemical constants: mp 116-117°C, λ_{\max} (CH₃OH) 275, 305 nm (log ϵ 3.78, 3.63); mol. wt. 152 (mass spectrometry), and the characteristics of its PMR spectrum.

3,4-Dihydroxyacetophenone and its glucoside, and also p-hydroxyacetophenone glucoside, have been found previously in the needles of some other species of spruce [2-6]. This is the first time that 4-hydroxy-3-methoxyacetophenone glucoside has been found in the needles of the genus *Picea*.

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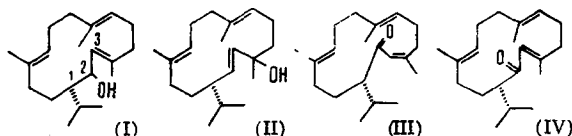
CONFIGURATION OF THE DOUBLE BOND AND PARTIAL SYNTHESIS OF ALLYLCEMBROL

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From the epigeal part of *Commiphora mukul*, Ruker [1] isolated a new cembrane alcohol, which he called allylcembrol. This compound has been isolated by Patil [2] from the resin of the same plant under the name of "mukulol." The structure of allylcembrol (I) was shown by the production of cembrene from it on mild dehydration and on the basis of spectral characteristics. The configurations of the C₃ double bond and of the C₂ asymmetric center remained unknown. We have synthesized allylcembrol and its C₂ epimer from isocembrol (II).

The treatment of isocembrol with the Jones reagent in aqueous acetone (0°C, 30 min) gave a complex mixture the chromatography of which on SiO₂ (petroleum ether containing increasing concentrations of diethyl ether as eluent) gave successively fractions of hydrocarbons (yield 24%), ketones (20%), epoxyketones (21% - mixture of three stereoisomeric 3,4-epoxycembra-7,11-dien-2-ones), and 2,3-epoxycembra-7,11-dien-4-ol (30%) with mp 94-95°C (from ethanol), $[\alpha]_D^{20} +44.4^\circ$ (c 5.43; chloroform). The ketone fraction was rechromatographed on SiO₂. The first ketone isolated from the column was (III) with $n_D^{22} 1.5166$, $[\alpha]_D^{22} +110.1^\circ$ (c 5.43; chloroform); IR spectrum (in CCl₄) 1690, 1625, 1385 cm⁻¹; $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{CH}}$ 242 nm (log ϵ 3.97); NMR spectrum (here and below, in CCl₄, 100 MHz, TMS, ppm): 1.53 (6H, C₈-CH₃ and C₁₂-CH₃), 1.81 (3H, C₄-CH₃), 4.6-5.1 (2H, multiplet, H₇ and H₁₁), and 5.95 (1H, narrow multiplet, H₃).



The second ketone (IV) with $n_D^{22} 1.5040$, $[\alpha]_D^{23} +106.9^\circ$ (c 8.84; chloroform) was identical, according to its NMR spectrum, with a ketone isolated by Patil from mukulol. The absence of an intramolecular nuclear Overhauser effect between H₃ and C₄-CH₃ in the ketone (IV) shows [3, 4] the trans configuration of the C₃ double bond and, consequently, the trans configuration of the same bond in allylcembrol (mukulol). Thus, the second ketone has a cis configuration of the C₃ double bond. This could not be shown by means of the Overhauser effect, since when the oxygen was eliminated by Kaiser's method [5] from a solution of the ketone (III) in CCl₄ it isomerized completely into the trans ketone (IV). A mixture of equal amounts of these ketones was obtained after a 5% solution of the ketone in CCl₄ had been kept at 20°C for a week. A similar instability of a macrocyclic cis-2-enone system has also been observed by Nozaki [6] for cis-dodecen-2-one.

The reduction of the ketone (IV) with LiAlH₄ in diethyl ether (20°C, 5 min) gave a mixture of secondary alcohols which was chromatographed on SiO₂ + 5% AgNO₃. Petroleum ether containing 10% of diethyl ether

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