

Note

Four known triterpenoids isolated from three Brazilian plants: ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shift assignments

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ABSTRACT: An NMR study of 3-*O*-acetybelin lactone, $3\beta,19\alpha,23$ -trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid, 3-oxoolean-18-en-28-oic acid and 7-oxofriedelin is described. In addition to conventional 1D NMR methods, 2D shift-correlated NMR experiments [$^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -COSY, $^1\text{H} \times ^{13}\text{C}$ -COSY- $^1J_{\text{CH}}$ (HETCOR and HMQC), $^1\text{H} \times ^{13}\text{C}$ -COSY- $^nJ_{\text{CH}}$ ($n = 2$ and 3 , COLOC and HMBC)] and 2D $^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY were used for ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shift assignments of these triterpenoids. © 1998 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

KEYWORDS: triterpenoids; NMR; 1D NMR; 2D NMR; ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shift assignments

INTRODUCTION

This paper reports the ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shift assignments of 3-*O*-acetybelin lactone (**1a/1b**), $3\beta,19\alpha,23$ -trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (**2**), 3-oxoolean-18-en-28-oic acid (**3**) and 7-oxofriedelin (**4**).

The results of the application of 1D and 2D spectral techniques were used to identify the structures and to establish the ^1H and ^{13}C resonance assignments of these triterpenes, which were also utilized to confirm ^{13}C NMR data already published for **1**, **2a**, **3a** and **4**.^{1,2}

To the best of our knowledge, ^{13}C NMR spectral data of **1a/1b** and **3** are hitherto unreported. These data can be utilized in further investigations of natural products.

These triterpenes were isolated during a phytochemical investigation of specimens of the plants *Zizyphus joazeiro* (**1**), *Guettarda platypoda* (**2** and **4**) and *Waltheria viscosissima* (**3**).

EXPERIMENTAL

Plant material and isolation of the constituents

Zizyphus joazeiro Mart. was collected in April 1996 in Piripirituba, *Guettarda platypoda* D.C. in Santa Rita and *Waltheria viscosissima* St. Hil in April 1996 in the Campus of UFPb, Paraíba State, and identified by botanist Maria de Fátima Agra, Universidade Federal da Paraíba (UFPb), João Pessoa, Paraíba, Brazil. Voucher

specimens (Agra 3270, Agra 68 and Agra 3446, respectively) are deposited at the Herbarium of UFPb.

The dried and powdered bark (2.6 kg) from *Zizyphus joazeiro* was extracted in a Soxhlet apparatus using CHCl_3 followed by MeOH. The residue (230 g) of the MeOH extract, after removal of the solvent under vacuum, was hydrolysed with 10% HCl in H_2O under reflux for 2 h. The precipitate was filtered (28 g) and chromatographed on a silica gel column. The fraction eluted with benzene yielded belin lactone (**1**, 30 mg), previously isolated from *Emmenospermum alphononoides* and *Zizyphus* spp.,³ *Zizyphus joazeiro* after acid hydrolysis of saponin fraction⁴ and permethylated saponin derivative⁵ and acid hydrolysis of saponins of *Hovenia dulcis*.¹ The aglycone moiety of these saponins was also characterized in the triterpene glycoside $3\beta\text{-O-}[\alpha\text{-L-rhamnopyranosyl}(1 \rightarrow 2)\text{-}\beta\text{-D-xylopyranosyl}(1 \rightarrow 2)\text{-}\beta\text{-D-xylopyranosyl}]\text{-16}\beta,23(\text{R}):16\alpha,18\alpha\text{-diepoxy-20(S)-hydroxydammar-24-ene}$ isolated from the roots of *Centrosema bracteosum*, Leguminosae-Faboideae.⁶ The triterpene **1** was acetylated with acetic anhydride in the presence of pyridine to furnish 3-*O*-acetybelin lactone (**1a**).

The dried and powdered roots (3.0 kg) from *Guettarda platypoda* were extracted in a Soxhlet apparatus using EtOH. The solvent was removed under vacuum to afford 45 g of residue. This residue was subjected to partitioning with EtOH–hexane (7:3) followed by EtOH– CHCl_3 (7:3). The CHCl_3 fraction (20 g) was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluted with CHCl_3 (fractions 18–27) and CHCl_3 –MeOH (93:7, fractions 82–101) to give **4** (136 mg) and **2** (75 mg), respectively.

The dried powdered roots (2.5 kg) from *Waltheria viscosissima* were extracted in a Soxhlet apparatus using EtOH and the residue (30 g) obtained after removal of the solvent was submitted to partition with EtOH–hexane (8:2) and EtOH– CHCl_3 (8:2). Removal of the

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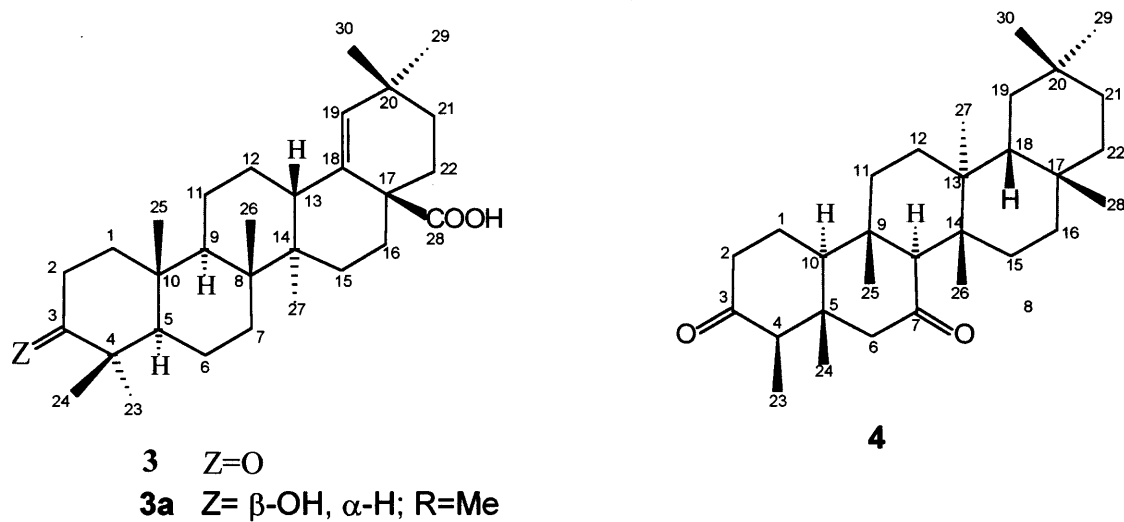
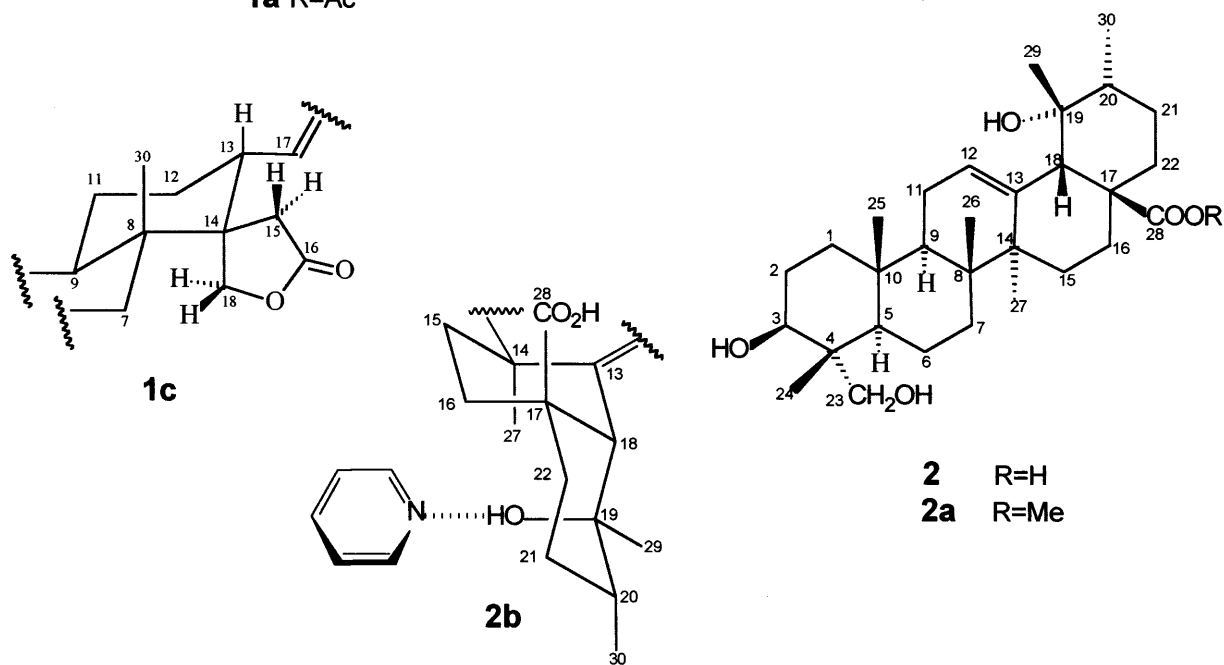
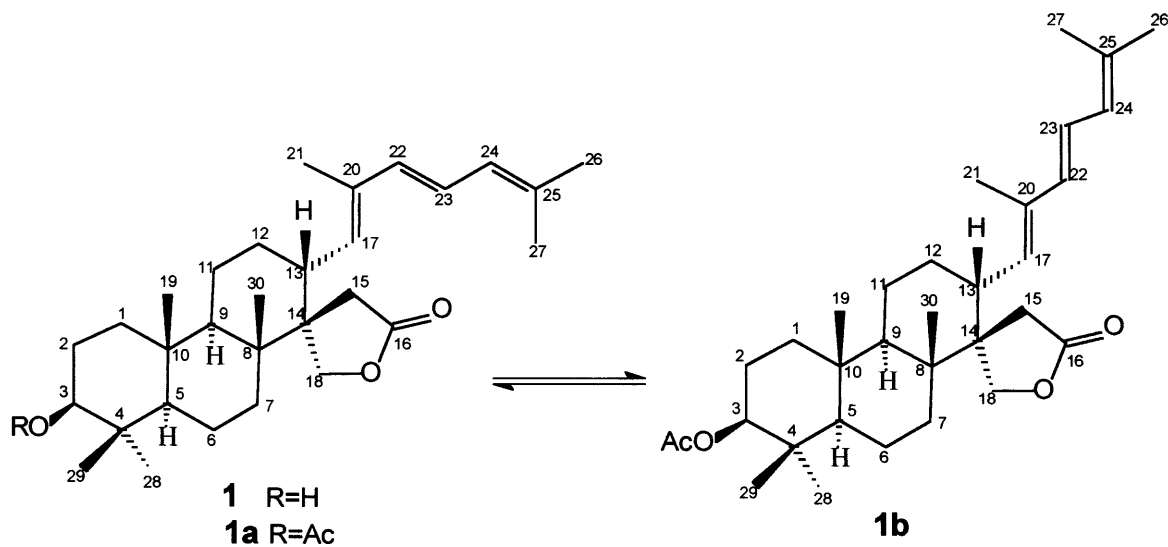


Table 1. ^1H (400 MHz) and ^{13}C (100 MHz) NMR for 3-O-acetybelbin lactone (**1a**) (CDCl_3), including results obtained by heteronuclear 2D shift-correlated HMQC ($^1J_{\text{CH}}$) and HMBC ($^nJ_{\text{CH}}$, $n = 2$ and 3), in CDCl_3 as solvent and residual CHCl_3 used as internal reference (δ_{H} 7.24 and δ_{C} 77.00), chemical shifts (δ ppm) and coupling constants (J , Hz, in parentheses)^a

Atom	HMQC		HMBC		$^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY
	$\delta_{\text{C}}^{\text{b}}$	δ_{H}	$^2J_{\text{CH}}$	$^3J_{\text{CH}}$	
C					
4	37.1 (39.4)	—	H-3, 3H-28 or 3H-29	—	—
8	40.2 (40.2)	—	3H-30	2H-15, 2H-18	—
10	37.9 (37.3)	—	3H-19	—	—
14	51.9 (52.0)	—	H-13, 2H-18, 2H-15	3H-30	—
16	77.1 (176.7)	—	2H-15	2H-18	—
20	137.2 (137.0)	—	3H-21, H-22	H-23, H-13	—
25	135.6 (135.2)	—	3H-26, 3H-27	H-23	—
AcO	171.0 (—)	—	CH ₃ -CO ₂	H-3	—
CH					
3	80.6 (77.8)	4.45 (dd, 11.6, 4.8)	—	3H-28 or 3H-29	H-1 α , H-5 α , 3H-28
5	55.3 (55.2)	0.80 (m)	—	3H-28 or 3H-29, H-7	H-3 α
9	52.9 (52.7)	0.78 (m)	—	3H-19, 3H-30	H-18 β
13	39.0 (39.5)	2.78 (m)	—	2H-18, 2H-15	3H-21, 3H-30
17	130.4 (131.6)	5.19 (d, 10.1)	H-13	H-22, 3H-21	H-18 α , H-22, H-23
22	134.5 (134.9)	6.07 (d, 15.3)	—	H-17, H-24, 3H-21	H-17, H-24, 3H-21
23	124.7 (124.7)	6.34 (dd, 10.8, 15.3)	H-22	—	H-17, H-27
24	125.6 (126.3)	5.82 (d, 10.8)	H-23	H-22, 3H-26 or 3H-27	H-22, 3H-26
CH ₂					
1	38.2 (38.7)	1.00, H-1 β 1.67, H-1 α	—	3H-19	H-3 α
2	23.7 (28.0)	1.60	H-3	—	—
6	17.8 (18.1)	1.7–1.4	H-5	—	—
7	34.6 (34.5)	1.49, H-7 β 1.35, H-7 α	—	3H-30	H-18 β
11	20.1 (20.1)	1.6–1.4	—	—	—
12	29.3 (28.6)	1.14, 1.58	—	—	—
15	34.3 (35.0)	2.44 (dd, 18.2), H-15 β 2.08 (d, 18.2), H-15 α	—	2H-18	3H-30
18	69.8 (69.6)	4.37 (d, 10.3), H-18 β 4.28 (d, 10.3), H-18 α	—	H-13, 2H-15	H-7 α , H-9 α H-17
CH ₃					
19	16.1 (16.2)	0.87 (s)	—	H-5	3H-30
21	13.4 (13.3)	1.79 (d, 0.9)	—	H-17, H-22	H-13 β , H-22
26	26.3 (26.1)	1.77 (br s)	—	H-24, 3H-27	H-24
27	18.6 (18.3)	1.76 (br s)	—	H-24, 3H-26	H-23
28	28.1 (28.6)	0.86 (s)	—	H-3, 3H-29	—
29	16.6 (16.2)	0.85 (s)	—	H-3, 3H-28	—
30	18.0 (18.3)	1.03 (s)	—	—	H-15 β , H-13 β , 3H-19
AcO	21.4 (—)	2.03 (s)	—	—	—

^a Homonuclear $^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -COSY spectrum was also used for these assignments. Chemical shifts and coupling constants of hydrogen atoms obtained from 1D ^1H NMR spectrum. Superimposed ^1H signals are described without multiplicity.

^b Values (in parentheses) reported in the literature for **1** (pyridine- d_5).⁵

solvent of the CHCl_3 solution and column chromatography with a silica gel column eluted with CHCl_3 –MeOH (92:8, fractions 102–169) afforded **3** (89 mg).

NMR spectra

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AMX 400 (**1a**, **2** and **3**) or AC 200 (**4**) spectrometer

operating at 400/200 and 100/50 MHz, respectively, using CDCl_3 as solvent [approximately 10–15 mg of sample were dissolved in 0.5 ml of CDCl_3 (**1a**, **3** and **4**) or pyridine- d_5 (**2**) and transferred into a 5 mm NMR tube], internal lock and residual CHCl_3 (δ_{H} 7.24) and $^{13}\text{CDCl}_3$ (δ_{C} 77.00) signals used as references for **1a**, **3** and **4** and residual hydrogens [δ_{H} 8.60 (2H-2,6), 7.00 (2H-3,5) and 7.60 (H-4)] in pyridine- d_5 [δ_{C} 149.80 (2C-2,6), 123.60 (2C-3,5) and 135.70 (C-4)] for **2**. One-dimensional ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were acquired

Table 2. ¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C (100 MHz) NMR for 3 β ,19 α ,23-trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (2), including results obtained by heteronuclear 2D shift-correlated HMQC (¹J_{CH}) and HMBC (ⁿJ_{CH}, *n* = 2 and 3), in pyridine-*d*₅ as solvent, chemical shifts (δ , ppm) and coupling constants (*J*, Hz, in parentheses)^a

Atom	HMQC		HMBC		¹ H × ¹ H-NOESY
	δ _C ^b	δ _H	² J _{CH}	³ J _{CH}	
C					
4	43.3 (42.9)	—	H-3, H-5, 2H-23, 3H-24	—	—
8	40.9 (40.4)	—	3H-26	3H-27, H-15	—
10	37.7 (37.3)	—	H-5, H-9, 3H-25	—	—
13	140.4 (140.4)	—	3H-27	—	—
14	42.6 (42.2)	—	3H-27, H-15	H-12, H-18, 3H-26	—
17	48.8 (48.3)	—	H-18, H16	—	—
19	73.2 (72.7)	—	H-18, 3H-30, HO-19	3H-29	—
28	181.1 (180.7)	—	—	H-16, H-18	—
CH					
3	74.1 (73.7)	4.22 (dd,	—	3H-23, 3H-24	—
5	49.2 (48.8)	1.53	—	H-23, 3H-25, H-3, 3H-24	2H-23 α
9	48.3 (47.9)	1.95 (br t, 8.8)	2H-11	H-5, 3H-26, H-12, 3H-25)	—
12	128.5 (128.1)	5.64 (br s)	—	H-18	H-18 β
18	55.1 (54.7)	3.08 (s)	—	H-12, H-22, 3H-30, HO-19	H-12
20	42.8 (42.4)	1.55	3H-29	3H-30	—
CH ₂					
1	39.8 (38.9)	1.62, 1.10	H-2	3H-25	—
2	28.2 (27.7)	2.05–1.85, 1.45	H-1	—	—
6	19.2 (18.9)	1.70 (H-6 β)	H-5	—	3H-25
		1.45 (H-6 α)	—	—	—
7	33.8 (33.4)	1.70, 1.45	2H-6	H-5, 3H-26	—
11	24.5 (24.1)	2.05 (H-11 α , H-11 β)	H-12, H-9	—	—
15	29.8 (29.4)	2.35 (dt, 13.6, 4.1, H-15 β)	H-16	3H-27	3H-26
		1.30 (H-15 α)	—	—	—
16	26.9 (26.5)	3.12 (dt, 13.6, 4.9, H-16 α)	H-15	H-18	3H-27
		2.03 (H-16 β)	—	—	—
21	27.4 (27.0)	2.05, 1.40	—	3H-29	—
22	38.8 (38.5)	2.16 (H-22 α)	—	—	—
		1.40 (H-22 β)	—	—	—
23	68.6 (68.2)	4.19 (d, 10.3, H-23a)	—	H-3, 3H-24	H-5 α , 3H-24
		3.74 (d, 10.3, H-23b)	—	—	H-5 α , 3H-24
CH ₃					
24	13.5 (13.1)	1.08 (s)	—	H-3, H-5, 2H-23	—
25	16.5 (17.3°)	1.02 (s)	—	H-1, H-5, H-9	—
26	17.8 (16.8°)	1.16 (s)	—	H-9	—
27	25.2 (24.9)	1.71 (s)	—	H-7, H-15	—
29	27.6 (27.2)	1.14 (d, 6.6)	—	H-21	—
30	17.2 (16.0°)	1.46 (s)	—	—	—
HO-19	—	5.00 (s)	—	—	—

^a Superimposed ¹H signals are described without multiplicity.^b Values (in parentheses) described in the literature² for the methyl ester derivative (2a).^c Chemical shifts marked with the same letter can be interchanged.

under standard conditions. Standard pulse sequences were used for 2D ¹H \times ¹H-COSY (PO = 45 or 90°). For ¹H \times ¹H-NOESY the mixing time varied between 0.5 and 1.2 s. Two-dimensional inverse hydrogen detected heteronuclear shift correlation spectra were obtained by the HMQC pulse sequence (*J*_{CH} = 150 MHz). Two-dimensional inverse hydrogen detected heteronuclear long-range correlation experiments were carried out with HMBC pulse sequence (MJ = 70 ms for *J*_{CH} = 7 Hz). Data processing was carried out on an

Aspect X32 computer with UXNMR software using Bruker (AMX 400) microprograms.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Comparative analysis of the PND-¹³C NMR and DEPT-¹³C NMR spectra⁷ of each of the four triterpenoids (1a–4) was used to identify the signals corre-

Table 3. ^1H (400 MHz) and ^{13}C (100 MHz) NMR for 3-oxoolean-18-en-28-oic acid (**3**), including results obtained by heteronuclear 2D shift-correlated HMQC ($^1J_{\text{CH}}$) and HMBC ($^nJ_{\text{CH}}$, $n = 2$ and 3), in CDCl_3 as solvent and residual CHCl_3 used as internal reference (δ_{H} 7.24 and δ_{C} 77.00), chemical shifts (δ , ppm) and coupling constants (J , Hz, in parentheses)^a

Atom	HMQC		HMBC		$^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY
	$\delta_{\text{C}}^{\text{b}}$	δ_{H}	$^2J_{\text{CH}}$	$^3J_{\text{CH}}$	
C					
3	218.5 (—)	—	2H-2	H-1, 3H-23, 3H-24	—
4	47.5 (38.8)	—	H-5, 3H-24		—
8	40.7 (40.6)	—	3H-26	3H-27	—
10	37.1 (37.1)	—	H-5, H-9, 3H-25	2H-2	—
14	42.8 (42.5)	—	3H-27	3H-26	—
17	48.1 (48.1)	—			—
18	136.7 (136.9)	—	H-19		—
20	32.2 (32.0)	—	H-19, 3H-30		—
28	182.8 (176.8)	—			—
CH					
3	— (78.3)				
5	55.1 (55.4)	1.37		2H-1, 3H-23, 3H-24, 3H-25	
9	50.6 (51.1)	1.38		3H-25, 3H-26	3H-27
13	41.6 (41.2)	2.25 (br d, 11.6)		H-19, 3H-27	H-18 β , H-15 β , 3H-26
19	133.4 (132.3)	5.16 (s)			3H-27, 3H-29, 3H-30
CH ₂					
1	40.0 (38.8)	1.94 (H-1 α) 1.43 (H-1 β)	2H-2	3H-25	3H-25
2	34.2 (27.3)	2.6–2.4	H-1		
6	19.8 (18.2)	1.65 (H-6 α) 1.45 (H-6 β)	H-5		3H-24, 3H-25, 3H-26
7	33.6 (34.5)	1.50 (H-7 β) 1.42 (H-7 α)	2H-6	3H-26	3H-27
11	21.7 (20.9)	1.55 (H-11 α) 1.05 (H-11 β)			H-13 β , 3H-26
12	26.2 (25.9)	1.63 (H-12 α) 1.27 (H-12 β)			H-19
15	29.5 (29.3)	1.65 (H-15 β) 1.23 (H-15 α)		3H-27	H-13 β , 3H-26
16	33.5 (33.5)	2.01 (H-16 β) 1.40 (H-16 α)			3H-27
21	33.3 (33.5)	2.17 (br d, 13.4, H-21 α) 1.65 (H-21 β)		H-19, 3H-29, 3H-30	3H-30
22	33.8 (33.5)	2.01, 1.60			
CH ₃					
23	27.0 (27.9)	1.08 (s)		H-5, 3H-24	
24	21.1 (16.6)	1.02 (s)		3H-23	
25	16.7 (15.4°)	0.95 (s)		2H-1	H-1 β , H-2 β , H-11 β
26	16.0 (15.9°)	1.01 (s)		H-9	H-11 β , H-13 β , H-15 β
27	15.0 (14.9)	0.79 (s)		H-15	H-9 α , H-16 α , H-19
29	30.5 (30.3)	1.00 (s)		H-19, 3H-30	H-19
30	29.8 (29.4)	0.97 (s)		3H-29	H-19

^a Superimposed ^1H signals are described without multiplicity.

^b Values (in parentheses) described in the literature² for methylmorolate (**3a**).

^c Chemical shifts marked with the same letter can be interchanged.

sponding to quaternary, methine, methylene and methyl carbon atoms.

^1H and ^{13}C NMR resonance assignments of the natural triterpenes (**2–4**) and the acetyl derivative of **1** (**1a**) were also carried out by 2D shift-correlated NMR techniques, $^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -COSY, $^1\text{H} \times ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY (**2** and **3**), HMQC [$^1\text{H} \times ^{13}\text{C}$ -COSY- $^1J_{\text{CH}}$ (^1H detected, reverse method), **2** and **3**], $^{13}\text{C} \times ^1\text{H}$ -COSY- $^1J_{\text{CH}}$ [^{13}C

detected, conventional method), **4**], HMBC [$^1\text{H} \times ^{13}\text{C}$ -COSY- $^nJ_{\text{CH}}$, $n = 2$ and 3 (^1H detected, reverse method), **2** and **3**] and $^{13}\text{C} \times ^1\text{H}$ -COSY- $^nJ_{\text{CH}}$ [$n = 2$ and 3 , COLOC (^{13}C detected, conventional method), **4**].^{7,8} The analysis of these spectra was facilitated by comparison with ^{13}C NMR literature data (in parentheses) for the corresponding triterpenoid (**1**, Table 1, and **4**, Table 4) or methyl ester derivative of **2** (**2a**, Table 2) or

methylmorolate (**3a**, Table 3). The data on the chemical shifts of hydrogen and carbon atoms, including 2D heteronuclear [¹J_{CH}; ²J_{CH} and ³J_{CH} (Tables 2–4)] and 2D homonuclear ¹H × ¹H-NOESY (Tables 2 and 3) correlations, are summarized in Tables 1–4. The results of this study were also used to confirm and eliminate some wrong assignments reported in the literature (Tables 2–4).

The ¹H × ¹H-NOESY spectrum of **1a** provided information about the spatial proximity (dipolar coupling) between the hydrogen atoms (Table 1), allowing us to define the configuration shown in the conformers **1a** and **1b**. The *E* configuration indicated for the double

bond localized between the carbon atoms CH-17 and C-20 was confirmed by the NOE observed between H-13 (δ_H 2.78) and 3H-21 (δ_H 1.79) together with that of H-17 (δ_H 5.19) and H-23 (δ_H 6.34), whereas the *E* configuration at C-22 and C-23, established by the coupling constant [*J* = 15.3 Hz, *trans* relationship between H-22 (δ_H 6.07) and H-23 (δ_H 6.34)], revealed, as expected, an NOE between H-22 (δ_H 6.07) and H-24 (δ_H 5.82). The difference between conformations **1a** (cisoid) and **1b** (transoid) involving the σ-bond at C-20 and CH-22 and the two double bonds at 17 (20) and 22 of the conjugated triene system of the side chain sustained by carbon C-17 is as follows: cisoid (**1a**) was deduced from

Table 4. ¹H (200 MHz) and ¹³C (50 MHz) NMR for 7-oxofriedelin (**4**), including results obtained by heteronuclear 2D shift-correlated ¹³C × ¹H-COSY-¹J_{CH} and ¹³C × ¹H-COSY-ⁿJ_{CH} (*n* = 2 and 3), in CDCl₃ as solvent and residual CHCl₃ used as internal reference (δ_H 7.24 and δ_C 77.00), chemical shifts (δ, ppm) and coupling constants (*J*, Hz, in parentheses)^a

Atom	¹³ C × ¹ H-COSY- ¹ J _{CH}		¹³ C × ¹ H-COSY- ⁿ J _{CH}	
	δ _C ^b	δ _H	² J _{CH}	³ J _{CH}
C				
3	211.1 (210.6)	—	3H-23	
5	47.1 (47.0)	—	3H-24	3H-23
7	210.5 (210.7)	—		2H-6, H-8
9	42.5 (42.4)	—	3H-25	
13	41.0 (39.4)	—	3H-27	3H-26
14	37.5 (37.5)	—	3H-26	3H-27
17	34.7 (30.1)	—	3H-28	
20	28.2 (28.0)	—	3H-29, 3H-30	
CH				
4	57.9 (57.8)	2.50	3H-23	3H-24
8	63.6 (63.4)	2.83 (br s)		3H-25, 3H-26
10	59.0 (59.0)	2.05		3H-24, 3H-25
18	41.8 (41.8)	1.55		3H-27, 3H-28
CH₂				
1	21.7 (21.6)	2.10		
2	40.9 (40.8)	2.40		
6	56.9 (56.9)	2.21, 2.32		3H-24
11	36.4 (35.5)	1.50		3H-25
12	31.9 (29.8 ^c)	1.30		3H-27
15	30.2 (31.6 ^c)			3H-26
16	35.5 (36.3)			3H-28
19	35.0 (34.9)			3H-29, 3H-30
21	32.9 (32.8)			3H-29, 3H-30
22	39.5 (38.6)			3H-28
CH₃				
23	6.9 (6.8)	0.85 (d, 6.5)		
24	15.3 (15.1)	0.74 (s)		
25	19.6 (18.2 ^d)	0.87 (s)		
26	19.8 (19.2 ^d)	1.38 (s)		
27	18.3 (19.4 ^d)	1.02 (s)		
28	31.7 (32.1)	1.10 (s)		
29	32.2 (31.8)	0.95 (s)		3H-30
30	34.7 (34.6)	0.90 (s)		3H-29

^a Superimposed ¹H signals are described without multiplicity.

^b Values (in parentheses) described in the literature² for 7-oxofriedelin (**4**).

^{c,d} Chemical shifts marked with same letter can be interchanged.

the NOE shown by correlation of cross peaks corresponding to signals at δ_{H} 1.79 (3H-21) and δ_{H} 6.07 (H-22) together with δ_{H} 6.34 (H-23) and δ_{H} 5.19 (H-17); transoid (**1b**) is consistent with an NOE between 3H-21 (δ_{H} 1.79) and H-23 (δ_{H} 6.34). The stereochemistry of the δ -lactone (**1c**: CH₂-18 α and CH₂-15 β) moiety was also established by an NOE observed between H-18 β (*exo*, δ_{H} 4.37) and both H-9 (δ_{H} 0.78) and H-7 (δ_{H} 1.35) as well as H-15 β (δ_{H} 2.44) and H-13 β (δ_{H} 2.78) and 3H-30 (δ_{H} 1.03). Additional dipolar interactions are summarized in Table 1.

The stereochemistry of the chiral carbon C-13 of **3**, sustaining hydrogen atom H-13 (δ_{H} 2.25) in an axial orientation (H-13 β), was defined on the basis of the coupling constant value ($J = 11.6$ Hz, axial-axial interaction) observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum and the NOE with 3H-26 (δ_{H} 1.01) revealed by ¹H \times ¹H-NOESY spectrum (Table 3).

Finally, our attention was directed towards the deshielding revealed by the singlet signal of 3H-27 (δ_{H} 1.71) observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum of **2** in pyridine-*d*₅ as solvent. This significant deshielding may be attributed to an anisotropic effect produced by the heteroaromatic pyridine ring involved in a hydrogen bond with the hydroxy group (δ_{H} 5.00, s) sustained by carbon atom C-19 as shown in **2b**. In fact, the HMBC spectrum of **2** clearly showed connectivities of C-18 (δ_{C} 55.1, ³*J*_{CH}) and C-19 (δ_{C} 73.2, ²*J*_{CH}) with the HO-19 hydrogen (δ_{H} 5.00). These heteronuclear spin-spin interactions via two (²*J*_{CH}) and three (³*J*_{CH}) bonds were used

to confirm this hypothesis, in accordance with the absence of chemical exchange for the HO-19 hydrogen. The HO-3 hydrogen does not show analogous hydrogen bonding with the pyridine ring.

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