



Polystachynes A–E, five *cis*-neo-clerodane diterpenoids from *Salvia polystachya*[☆]

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Abstract

From the aerial parts of *Salvia polystachya* five new neo-clerodane diterpenoids, polystachynes A–E, have been isolated. The structures were established by spectroscopic methods, including the X-ray analysis of polystachynes C and D. The known clerodanes salvifaricin, linearolactone and dehydrokerlin were also isolated. © 2000 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: *Salvia polystachya*; Labiatae; Neo-clerodanes; Diterpenes; Polystachynes A–E; X-ray diffraction analysis

1. Introduction

As continuation of our search for new natural compounds from the genus *Salvia* (Labiatae) (Maldonado & Ortega, 1997a, 1997b; Maldonado, Ortega, Díaz & Reynolds, 1998), we have analyzed the aerial parts of *Salvia polystachya* Ort. (section *Polystachyae*, subgenus *Calosphace*), which is used in Mexican folk medicine as anti-gastralgic, anti-dysenteric, purgative and emollient (Instituto Nacional Indigenista, 1994). As a result, we have isolated eight clerodane diterpenoids whose structural elucidation is described in this paper.

2. Results and discussion

The aerial parts of *S. polystachya* gave the known neo-clerodane diterpenes, salvifaricin (**2**) (Savona, Raffa, Bruno & Rodríguez, 1983; Eguren, Fayos, Perales, Savona & Rodríguez, 1984), linearolactone (**5**) (Esquivel, Cárdenas, Ramamoorthy & Rodríguez-Hahn, 1986; Soriano-García, Esquivel, Toscano & Rodríguez-Hahn, 1987) and dehydrokerlin (**9**)

(Fernández, Esquivel, Cárdenas, Sánchez, Toscano & Rodríguez-Hahn, 1991). In addition, five new neo-clerodane diterpenes designated as polystachynes A–E were isolated.

Polystachyne A (**1**) was determined as C₂₀H₂₂O₅ on the basis of its EI-mass spectrum. The IR spectrum exhibited a band at 1774 cm^{−1} due to a saturated γ -lactone and the characteristic absorptions at 1502 and 876 cm^{−1} due to a β -substituted furan ring. Its ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) were quite similar to those of salvifaricin (**2**) (Savona et al., 1983) except for the signals attributable to ring A, which in the case of compound **1**, indicated the presence of only one double bond in that ring. The cross-peaks in the ¹H–¹H-COSY spectrum led to the sequence \blacklozenge –CH–CH₂–CH=CH–CH– \blacklozenge , establishing that polystachyne A is a dihydro derivative of salvifaricin (**2**) with either 1,2- or 2,3-double bond. The C–H correlations observed in the long-range HETCOR spectrum between C-4/H-19 β , H-6 β ; C-9/H-20, H-10, H-17; C-5/H-1, H-4, H-6 β , H-7, H-19 β ; C-18/H-4, H-19 β and H-1/C-3, C-5, C-10 lead us to put aside the possibility of a 2,3-double bond, thus establishing the structure of polystachyne A as depicted in **1**. Its stereochemistry will be discussed afterward.

Polystachyne B (**3**) and C (**4**), showed molecular ions at *m/z* 358 (EIMS) in agreement with the molecu-

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Table 1

¹H-NMR spectral data of compounds **1**, **3**, **4**, **6** and **8** (CDCl₃, 300 MHz, TMS as internal standard)

H	1	3	4	6 ^a	8
1	5.48 <i>br d</i> 9.9	3.09 <i>br d</i> 3.5, 3	3.14 <i>br d</i> 4.5	3.02 <i>dd</i> 3.8, 2.2	3.41 <i>dd</i> 3.6, 2.7
2	5.94 <i>ddd</i> 9.9, 5.4, 2.7	3.25 <i>dd</i> 5.7, 3.5	3.31 <i>m</i> ^b 4.5, 3	2.91 <i>ddd</i> 3.8, 2.4, 1.2	3.51 <i>dd</i> 3.6, 2.4
3 α	2.4 <i>m</i> ^b	2.28 <i>ddd</i> 14.5, 5.7, 5.1	2.4 <i>m</i> ^b	2.1–2.3 <i>m</i> ^b	6.98 <i>dd</i> 2.4
3 β	2.1 <i>m</i> ^b	1.81 <i>dd</i> 14.5, 12.9	2.01 <i>m</i> ^b	2.1–2.3 <i>m</i> ^b	–
4	2.33 <i>dd</i> 14.4, 5	2.18 <i>dd</i> 12.9, 5.1	2.4 <i>m</i> ^b	2.06–2.2 <i>m</i> ^b	–
6 α	1.79 <i>dd</i> 14.2, 4.4	1.71 <i>br dd</i> 13.6, 4.2	2.16 <i>dd</i> 14.1, 3.9	1.6–1.8 <i>m</i> ^b	1.5–1.7 <i>m</i> ^b
6 β	1.30 ^b	1.4.7 <i>br d</i> 13.6	1.51 <i>br d</i> 14.1	2.06–2.2 <i>m</i> ^b	1.5–1.7 <i>m</i> ^b
7 α	–	–	–	1.6–1.8 <i>m</i> ^b	2.27 ^b
7 β	4.45 <i>d</i> 4.4	4.48 <i>br d</i> 4.2	4.42 <i>dd</i> 3.9, 1.2	1.6–1.8 <i>m</i> ^b	1.5–1.7 <i>m</i> ^b
8	1.97 <i>q</i> 7.2	2.95 <i>q</i> 7	2.42 <i>q</i> ^b 7	2.25–2.4 <i>m</i> ^b	2.57 <i>d</i> 3.3
10	2.68 <i>br s</i> ^b	2.12 <i>br s</i> <i>w</i> /2 = 5	2.24 <i>s</i>	1.71 <i>br d</i> 2.2	1.86 <i>br s</i>
11 α	1.88 <i>dd</i> 13.2, 7.5	1.90 <i>dd</i> 13.2, 7.5	1.89 <i>dd</i> 13, 7.6	2.17 <i>dd</i> 14.4, 7.5	2.29 <i>d</i> 16
11 β	2.66 <i>dd</i> ^b 13.2, 7.5	2.79 <i>dd</i> 13.2, 7.5	2.81 <i>dd</i> 13, 7.6	1.73 <i>dd</i> 14.4, 7.5	2.90 <i>dd</i> 16, 7.5
12	5.28 <i>t</i> 7.5	5.30 <i>t</i> 7.5	5.29 <i>t</i> 7.6	5.47 <i>t</i> 7.5	5.76 <i>br d</i> 7.5
14	6.33 <i>dd</i> 1.7, 0.8	6.29 <i>br s</i>	6.32 <i>dd</i> 1.8, 0.9	6.37 <i>dd</i> 1.8, 0.9	6.41 <i>dd</i> 1.6, 1
15	7.41 <i>t</i> 1.7	7.37 <i>t</i> 1.5	7.41 <i>t</i> 1.7	7.32 <i>t</i> 1.8	7.49 <i>t</i> 1.6
16	7.37 <i>m</i>	7.37 <i>br s</i>	7.37 <i>m</i>	7.45 <i>m</i>	7.42 <i>m</i>
17	1.28 <i>d</i> ^b 7.2	1.29 <i>d</i> 7	1.36 <i>d</i> 7	–	–
19 α	4.04 <i>dd</i> 8, 2	3.87 <i>dd</i> 7.8, 2.4	4.20 <i>dd</i> 9, 1	4.22 <i>d</i> 8.4	3.36 <i>dd</i> 9, 1
19 β	4.85 <i>d</i> 8	4.83 <i>d</i> 7.8	4.53 <i>d</i> 9	3.52 <i>d</i> 8.4	4.42 <i>d</i> 9
20	5.24 <i>s</i>	5.15 <i>s</i>	5.33 <i>s</i>	1.06 <i>s</i>	1.28 <i>s</i>

^a Determined in (CD₃)₂CO–C₆D₆ 1:1.^b Superimposed signal.

lar formula C₂₀H₂₂O₆. Both compounds exhibited IR absorptions for a saturated γ -lactone and β -substituted furan ring (see Section 3). Their ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR signals (Tables 1 and 2) were assigned by COSY, HETCOR and long-range HETCOR spectra. They were quite similar to those of polystachyne A (**1**) except for those concerning to C-1 and C-2, since in polystachyenes B and C, an epoxy group is present instead of the $\Delta^{1,2}$ of **1**. This was indicated by the signals for H-1 (δ 3.09, *dd*, *J* = 3.5, 3 Hz in **3** and 3.31 *m* in **4**) and supported by the signals at δ 55.3 (*d*, C-1) and 50.8 (*d*, C-2) exhibited by **3** and the corresponding signals at δ 52.9 (*d*, C-1) and 48.9 (*d*, C-2) of compound **4**, observed in their respective ¹³C-NMR spec-

tra. These facts allowed to formulate the structures of both compounds with the planar structure **3**. Evidently, this also established a stereoisomeric relationship between them.

The stereochemistry of polystachyne A (**1**), B (**3**) and C (**4**) was established as follows. The three compounds exhibited NOEs between H-20/ H-10, H19 α , H-19 β , which indicated a *cis* A/B ring fusion and an α -orientation of H-10 and the acetalic proton, H-20. This was supported, in the case of polystachyne B, by the presence of a W-coupling between H-6 α and H-10 α .

Compounds **1**, **3** and **4** also showed NOEs between H-12/H-17; H-8/H-6 β , H-17 and H-7/H-6 α , H-6 β , H-17. This was indicative of a β -orientation of H-7, H-8 and H-12 and let to establish that the three compounds possesses the same configuration at the chiral centers C-5, C-7–C-10, C-12 and C-20, as depicted in **1**, **3** and **4**. At this point only the configuration at C-4 for **1** and C-1, C-2 and C-4 for **3** and **4** remained unassigned.

The H-4 coupling constants of **1** (*J* = 14.4, 5 Hz) and **3** (*J* = 12.9, 5.1 Hz) are in accordance with the dihedral angles: H-4 α –H-3 β = 180° and H-4 α –H-3 α = 55°. These angles were observed only when the C-18–C-19-lactone ring is *trans*-fused, and therefore, H-4 is α -oriented. In the case of polystachyne B (**3**), this was confirmed by the NOEs cross-peaks of H-19 α with H-4, H-10 and H-20. The NOE between H-4 and H-19 α was not observed in compound **1**, nevertheless, the

Table 2

¹³C-NMR spectral data of compounds **1**, **3**, **4**, **6** and **8** (CDCl₃, 75 MHz)

C	1	3	4	6	6 ^a	8
1	128.7 <i>d</i>	55.3 <i>d</i>	52.9 <i>d</i>	51.5 <i>d</i>	52.2 <i>d</i>	53.2 <i>d</i>
2	127.4 <i>d</i>	50.8 <i>d</i>	48.9 <i>d</i>	49.9 <i>d</i>	50.5 <i>d</i>	49.0 <i>d</i>
3	20.5 <i>t</i>	19.4 <i>t</i>	22.3 <i>t</i>	23.8 <i>t</i>	24.3 <i>t</i>	130.2 <i>d</i>
4	45.3 <i>d</i>	46.2 <i>d</i>	44.6 <i>d</i>	40.1 <i>d</i>	40.0 <i>d</i>	142.5 <i>s</i>
5	42.0 <i>s</i>	43.7 <i>s</i>	40.5 <i>s</i>	38.2 <i>s</i>	38.5 <i>s</i>	42.9 <i>s</i>
6	30.3 <i>t</i>	31.0 <i>t</i>	43.7 <i>t</i>	35.9 <i>t</i>	36.3 <i>t</i>	29.3 <i>t</i>
7	86.7 <i>d</i>	88.0 <i>d</i>	86.5 <i>d</i>	21.0 <i>t</i>	21.7 <i>t</i>	17.6 <i>t</i>
8	39.9 <i>d</i>	38.7 <i>d</i>	39.8 <i>d</i>	47.8 <i>d</i>	48.9 <i>d</i>	40.7 <i>d</i>
9	58.6 <i>s</i>	59.5 <i>s</i>	58.8 <i>s</i>	35.4 <i>s</i>	36.0 <i>s</i>	36.7 <i>s</i>
10	50.3 <i>d</i>	47.9 <i>d</i>	46.5 <i>d</i>	44.7 <i>d</i>	44.6 <i>d</i>	52.8 <i>d</i>
11	38.3 <i>t</i>	38.1 <i>t</i>	38.5 <i>t</i>	34.3 <i>t</i>	34.7 <i>t</i>	37.6 <i>t</i>
12	75.8 <i>d</i>	76.1 <i>d</i>	75.2 <i>d</i>	70.8 <i>d</i>	71.3 <i>d</i>	71.7 <i>d</i>
13	128.7 <i>s</i>	129.0 <i>s</i>	128.6 <i>s</i>	125.8 <i>s</i>	127.5 <i>s</i>	126.2 <i>s</i>
14	108.3 <i>d</i>	108.3 <i>d</i>	108.2 <i>d</i>	108.2 <i>d</i>	109.7 <i>d</i>	108.5 <i>d</i>
15	143.8 <i>d</i>	143.8 <i>d</i>	143.8 <i>d</i>	144.0 <i>d</i>	144.7 <i>d</i>	144.5 <i>d</i>
16	138.5 <i>d</i>	138.5 <i>d</i>	138.5 <i>d</i>	139.3 <i>d</i>	140.6 <i>d</i>	138.6 <i>d</i>
17	14.6 <i>q</i>	14.7 <i>q</i>	14.7 <i>q</i>	172.5 <i>s</i>	174.0 <i>s</i>	168.0 <i>s</i>
18	175.3 <i>s</i>	174.1 <i>s</i>	178.3 <i>s</i>	178.3 <i>s</i>	179.4 <i>s</i>	173.2 <i>s</i>
19	79.5 <i>t</i>	80.1 <i>t</i>	80.7 <i>t</i>	74.9 <i>t</i>	80.6 <i>t</i>	75.1 <i>t</i>
20	110.1 <i>d</i>	110.4 <i>d</i>	110.2 <i>d</i>	31.6 <i>q</i>	31.8 <i>q</i>	31.5 <i>q</i>

^a Determined in (CD₃)₂CO–C₆D₆ 1:1.

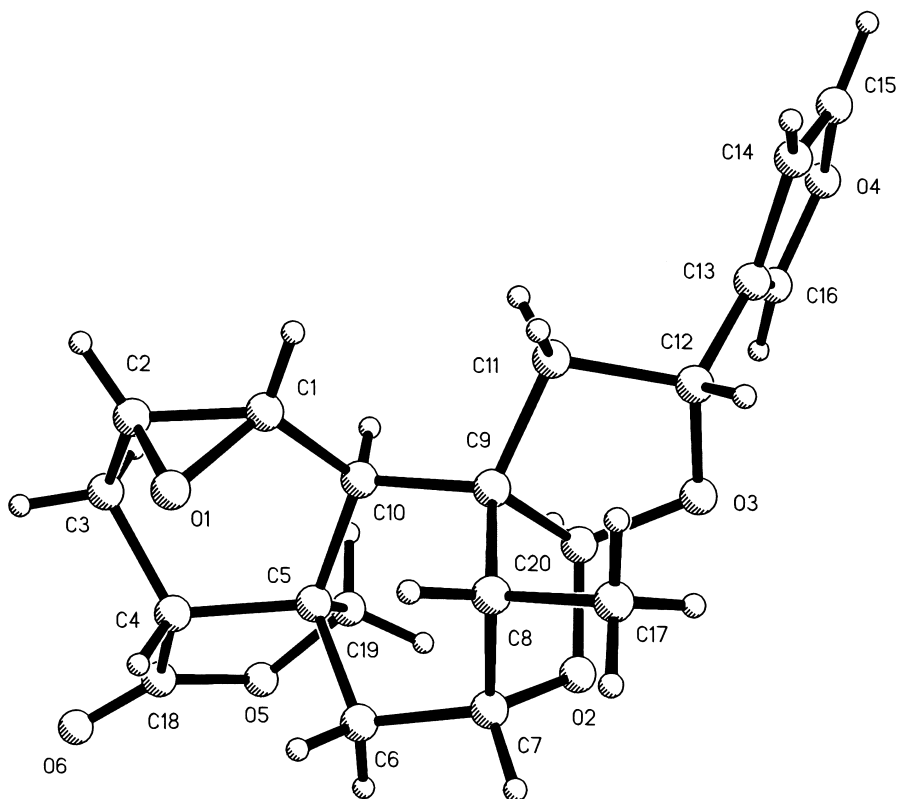


Fig. 1. Computer-generated perspective drawing of compound 4.

above mentioned and the similar chemical shift of carbons 3–6 and 18 of **1** and **3** allowed to postulate the same configuration at C-4 in both compounds, thus establishing the structure of polystachyne A as that represented in **1**.

The assignment of the configuration at C-4 for polystachyne B (**3**) presented several difficulties: (i) the superposition of the signals for H-3 β , H-4 and H-8 made useless the observed NOEs of these protons and (ii) the signals for H-2, H-3 α , H-3 β and H-4 were more complex than expected. Thus, H-2 appeared as a broad asymmetric signal with six lines. This signal was transformed into a *dd* signal ($J = 4.5, 3$ Hz) by irradiation of H-3 α . In turn, the H-3 α signal, which should be a *ddd*, appeared as an asymmetric signal with ten lines. The irradiation of H-2 turned it into a symmetric six line multiplet with intensities 2:1:3:3:1:1.5. The additional multiplicity of these signals was attributed to a conformational equilibrium involving C-2–C-4. This assumption was supported by the partial collapsing of the H-2–H-4 signals when the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum was determined at 48°C. Nevertheless, the J values of H-4 could not be determined.

In spite of these facts, the different chemical shift of C-3, C-5 and mainly, of C-6 and C-18 in **4**, in relation with the corresponding signals of **1** and **3**, allowed to

propose that compound **4** possesses more probably a *cis*-C-18–C-19-lactone ring fusion. This arrangement could explain the difference in chemical shift of C-6 in the stereoisomers **3** (δ 31.0) and **4** (δ 43.7), because of the presence in **3** of the γ -gauche effects ($\Delta\delta = -12.7$ ppm) of C-3 and C-18 on C-6, which do not exist in **4**.

Finally, the orientation of the C-1–C-2-epoxy group in polystachyne B (**3**) was proposed to be β on the basis of the J values ($J_{1-10} = 3$ Hz; $J_{2-3\alpha} = 5.7$ Hz; $J_{2-3\beta} = 0$ Hz) which are in accordance with the dihedral angles H-1–H-10 = 60°; H-2–H-3 α = 35°; H-2–H-3 β = 90°. Further support was given by the NOE cross-peaks of H-1/H-10 and H-2/H-3 α , but the conclusive evidence was the remarkable deshielding effect that the oxirane induces to H-8, which appeared at an unusual low field (δ 2.95) for this kind of protons. From the above mentioned, structure **3** was formulated for polystachyne B.

Polystachyne C (**4**) showed $J_{1-10} = 0$ Hz; $J_{2-3\beta} = 3$ Hz ($J_{2-3\alpha}$ could not be determined). These J values are in agreement with a β -oriented epoxy group if the C-18–C-19-olide is *cis*-fused to ring A. On the other hand, the signal for H-8 appeared at higher field (δ 2.42) as compared with those of **3** (δ 2.95) and salvifaridin (δ 2.67) (the β -epoxy derivative of **2**, determined by X-ray analysis; Savona et al., 1983). This fact could be attributed to a longer distance between the ethereal

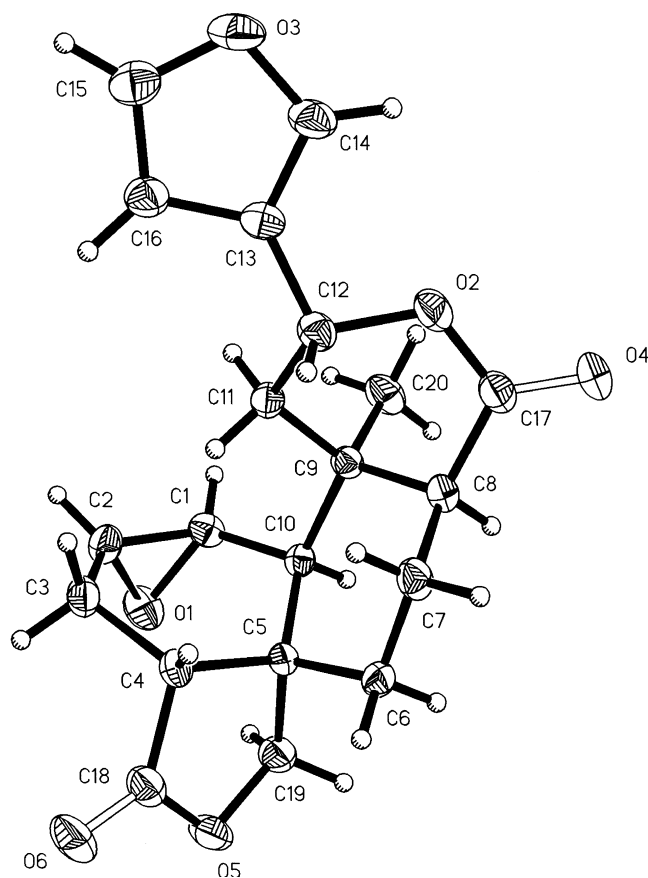


Fig. 2. Computer-generated perspective drawing of compound 6.

oxygen and H-8 or to an α -oriented oxirane ring. In order to solve these ambiguities a single crystal of polystachyne C was submitted to X-ray crystallographic analysis (Fig. 1). The results established the orientation of the oxirane as β and confirmed the C-18–C-19-lactone fusion as *cis*, thus establishing the structure 4 for this compound.

The fourth new compound, polystachyne D (6), $C_{20}H_{22}O_5$ (EIMS) showed IR bands for a β -substituted furan ring ($1503, 875\text{ cm}^{-1}$) and saturated γ - and δ -lactone functions (1767 and 1739 cm^{-1}). Its ^1H , ^{13}C , COSY, HETCOR and long-range HETCOR spectra resemble those of 3 and 4, but instead of the signals indicating the bicyclic ketal, the corresponding signals for a δ -lactone function were present in compound 6. This came from the presence of the ABX system (C-11–2H–C-12–H, Table 1) observed in the COSY spectrum and from the ^{13}C signals for C-12 ($\delta\ 71.3, d$), C-8 ($\delta\ 48.9, d$) and C-17 ($\delta\ 174.0, s$). Therefore, structure 6 (without stereochemistry) was established for polystachyne D. A compound with the same structure has been isolated from *S. reptans* and its stereochemistry determined as 7 by X-ray analysis (Esquivel et al., 1991). Comparison of physical and spectroscopic data

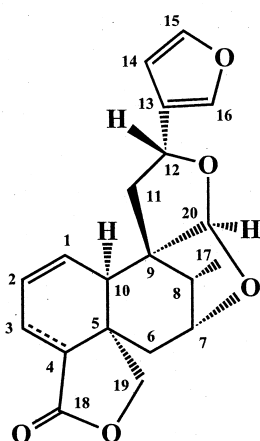
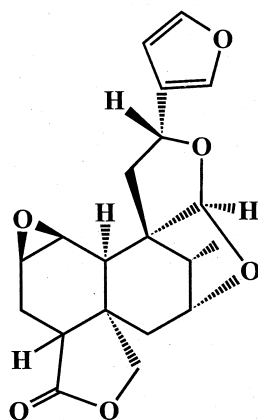
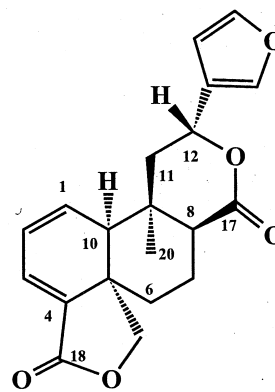
of 6 and 7 indicated a stereoisomeric relationship between them. The configuration of 6 could not be determined solely on the basis of the NMR spectral data, due to the overlapping of 10 proton signals (two multiplets, 5H each one) in the ^1H -spectrum. However, some relevant information was obtained from these data. First of all, the chemical shift of the C-20 methyl group at $\delta\ 31.8$ and the NOEs between H-10/H-19 α , H-20 indicated an A/B *cis* ring fusion as in compounds 1–4. The observed NOEs between H-19 α /H-10 and between H-19 β /H-6 β allowed to establish that in 6 the C-19 protons appeared in an opposite order to that observed in compounds 1–5 and 7. This and the absence in 6 of the 4J -coupling between H-19 α and H-6 β (observed in 1–5 and 7) let to suspect that 6 could be the C-4 epimer of 7. This was supported, as in the case of the C-4-epimers, 3 and 4, by the remarkable γ -gauche effect ($\Delta\delta = -16.6\text{ ppm}$) observed for C-6 when the ^{13}C -NMR data of 6 (*cis*-lactone) and 7 (*trans*-lactone) were compared.

Due to the before mentioned overlapping of proton signals, the stereochemistry at C-1, C-2, C-8 and C-12 of compound 6 remained uncertain; therefore, the X-ray analysis of this compound was undertaken. The results confirmed the A/B ring fusion as *cis* and established that the only difference between 6 and 7 is the 18,19-lactone fusion, which in 6 is *cis*-fused to ring A (Fig. 2). The configuration at C-12 is *R* and the orientation of the C-1–C-2-epoxy group, H-8, H-10, C-18, C-19 and C-20 was determined to be α .

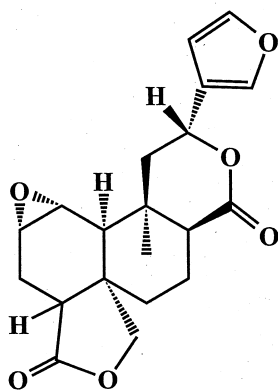
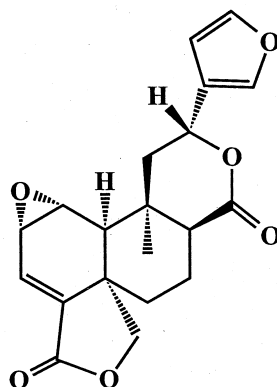
Polystachyne E (8), showed a molecular formula $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$ (EIMS). Its IR spectrum exhibited bands at 1766 and 1683 cm^{-1} assigned to an α,β -unsaturated- γ -lactone attached to ring A. It also showed a band at 1744 cm^{-1} attributed to a δ -lactone and the characteristics absorptions due to a β -substituted furan ring at 1500 and 876 cm^{-1} .

The homo and heteronuclear, mono and bidimensional NMR spectra indicated the presence of a C-1–C-2-epoxy group ($\delta\ 3.41\text{ dd}$, $J = 3.6, 2.7\text{ Hz}$, H-1) and ($\delta\ 3.51\text{ dd}$, $J = 3.6, 2.4\text{ Hz}$, H-2). The signal at $\delta\ 3.51$ was coupled with a doublet at $\delta\ 5.98$ ($J = 2.4\text{ Hz}$) which was assigned to the β -proton (H-3) of the α,β -unsaturated- γ -lactone. The remaining spectral data, which are similar to those of 7, are in agreement with structure 8 assigned to this compound.

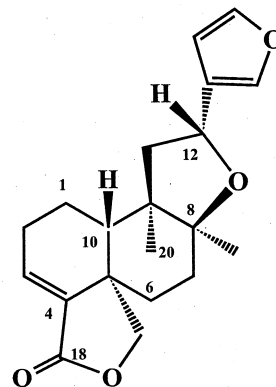
Its relative stereochemistry was based on the NOESY spectrum. An A/B *cis* ring fusion was revealed by the NOEs between H-10/H-11 β , H-19 α , H-20. The *R*-configuration of C-12 was substantiated by the NOEs between H-16/H-8, H-11 α , H-20, while the α -orientation of the oxirane was deduced from both, the J values of H-1 (which are similar to those of compound 6) and the NOEs between H-1/H-6 β (weak), H-10 (weak) and H-11 β .

1 H-4 β 2 $\Delta^{3,4}$ 3 H-4 α 4 H-4 β 

5

6 H-4 β 7 H-4 α 

8



9

3. Experimental

3.1. Plant material

Salvia polystachya Ort. was collected in Huitzilac (Morelos State, México), in October 1992. A voucher specimen was deposited at the Herbarium of the Instituto de Biología, UNAM (MEXU-573762).

3.2. Extraction and isolation

Dried and finely powdered aerial parts of the plant (956 g) were extracted with Me₂CO and MeOH to obtain, after solvent evaporation 77 and 29.8 g of extracts, respectively. Both extracts were combined and partitioned between MeOH–H₂O (4:1) and hexane

to give, after solvent evaporation 63.6 and 41 g of residues, respectively. The MeOH–H₂O residue was fractionated by CC (silica gel G; hexane with increasing amounts of EtOAc). Repeated CC (silica gel G; hexane–EtOAc, 17:3 or 4:1) of frs. eluted with hexane–EtOAc 4:1 and 7:3 afforded **1** (83.7 mg), **2** (23.9 mg) and **9** (23 mg). Frs. eluted with hexane–EtOAc 7:3 and 3:2 contained a very complex mixture, which was resolved after repeated CC separations (silica gel G; hexane–EtOAc, 4:1 or hexane–CHCl₃–Me₂CO 4:4:1 or hexane–*i*PrOH 9:1) and crystallizations. Compounds **3** (441.3 mg), **4** (96 mg), **5** (2.124 g), **6** (2.21 g) and **8** (61.4 mg) were obtained. The analysis of the hexane residue and of the more polar frs. of the MeOH–H₂O residue are actually in progress.

The known compounds **2**, **5** and **9** were identified by

comparison of their physical and spectroscopic data with those published in literature (Savona et al., 1983; Esquivel et al., 1986; Fernández et al., 1991).

3.2.1. *Polystachyne A (1)*

Mp 204–206°C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ 8.5° (CHCl₃; *c* 0.155); IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1782, 1711, 1636, 1503, 873. EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* (rel. int.): 342 (M⁺, C₂₀H₂₂O₅) (10); 297 (5); 287 (3); 246 (8); 217 (3); 115 (33); 105 (25); 95 (60); 91 (100); 77 (50); 65 (45); 55 (24); 53 (28); 41 (32).

3.2.2. *Polystachyne B (3)*

Mp 217–219°C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ 0.0° (CHCl₃; *c* 0.159); IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1782, 1503, 1148, 1047, 1020, 997, 876. EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* (rel. int.): 358 (M⁺, C₂₀H₂₂O₆) (87); 340 (3); 329 (23); 312 (7); 302 (7); 295 (8); 262 (9); 211 (10); 197 (36); 122 (68); 94 (100); 81 (38); 55 (16).

3.2.3. *Polystachyne C (4)*

Mp 244–247°C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -15.09° (CHCl₃; *c* 0.159); IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1774, 1502, 1192, 1047, 1026, 876. EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* (rel. int.): 358 (M⁺, C₂₀H₂₂O₆) (100); 340 (4); 329 (10); 312 (9); 295 (8); 294 (8); 236 (14); 211 (14); 197 (17); 179 (37); 161 (13); 122 (22); 94 (56); 81 (28); 55 (12).

3.2.4. *Polystachyne D (6)*

Mp 180–182°C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -78.3° (CHCl₃; *c* 0.279); IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1767, 1739, 1598, 1503, 875. EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* (rel. int.): 358 (M⁺, C₂₀H₂₂O₆) (11); 343 (1); 340 (1); 329 (2); 220 (4); 203 (8); 189 (4); 177 (6); 145 (10); 95 (46); 94 (100); 91 (33); 81 (18); 77 (23); 65 (15); 55 (16).

3.2.5. *Polystachyne E (8)*

Mp 251–253°C; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1766, 1744, 1683, 1601, 1500, 876. EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* (rel. int.): 356 (M⁺, C₂₀H₂₂O₆) (6); 340 (6); 338 (2); 327 (2); 262 (7); 203 (10); 189 (13); 115 (19); 105 (18); 95 (100); 91 (40); 77 (37); 65 (22); 55 (26).

3.2.6. *X-ray structure determination of polystachyne C (4)*

Crystals of **4** are orthorhombic, space group P2₁2₁2₁, *Z* = 4 with *a* = 11.387 (1), *b* = 12.089 (1), *c* = 12.218 (1) Å, *V* = 1681.9 (2) Å³ and *D*_{calc} = 1.415 mg/m³. Unit cell and intensity data were recorded on a Siemens P4/PC diffractometer with MoK_α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å), μ = 0.104 mm⁻¹. Crystal size: 0.60 × 0.40 × 0.36 mm. Of the 1707 collected reflections with $2\theta \leq 50^\circ$, 1707 were unique and were used in the structure solution and refinement. The structure was solved by direct methods (Altomare, Cascarano, Giacovazzo, Guagliardi, Burla, Polidori & Camalli, 1994) and refined by full-matrix least-square on F²

method (Sheldrick, 1997). Hydrogen atoms were included at idealised positions with an isotropic temperature factor of 1.2 U_{eq} of the parent C-atom. Refinement converged to a *R* value of 0.043 in the final cycle. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-120563.

3.2.7. *X-ray structure determination of polystachyne D (6)*

Compound **6** crystallized in the monoclinic space group P2₁, with *a* = 7.857 (1), *b* = 12.654 (2), *c* = 8.588 (1) Å, β = 102.13(1)°, *V* = 834.8 (2) Å³, *Z* = 2 and *D*_{calc} = 1.426 Mg/m³. Unit cell and intensity data were recorded on a Siemens P4/PC diffractometer with MoK_α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å), μ = 0.105 mm⁻¹. Crystal size: 0.74 × 0.44 × 0.32 mm. Of the 1666 collected reflections with $2\theta \leq 50^\circ$, 1552 were unique and were used in the structure solution and refinement. The structure was solved by direct methods (Altomare et al., 1994) and refined by full-matrix least-square on F² method (Sheldrick, 1997). Hydrogen atoms were included at idealized positions with an isotropic temperature factor of 1.2 U_{eq} of the parent C-atom. Refinement converged to a *R* value of 0.037 in the final cycle. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-120564.

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