

STRUCTURE OF SALVIGENOLIDE, A NOVEL DITERPENOID WITH A REARRANGED  
NEO-CLERODANE SKELETON FROM *Salvia fulgens*

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**Abstract** - From the aerial parts of *Salvia fulgens* Cav (Labiatae) a new diterpenoid with a rearranged neo-clerodane skeleton was isolated. This novel compound named salvigenolide, showed a six - seven A/B ring system with a *trans* fusion. A probable biogenetic route is proposed. Its structure and relative stereochemistry as in 1, were established by spectroscopic means and X-ray diffraction analysis.

In recent years, plants of Labiatae family have been the subject of chemical and biological studies <sup>1</sup>. A variety of bi and tricyclic diterpenoids which show antifeedant, antitumor or antifungal properties, have been isolated from some plants of this family <sup>2</sup>. In Mexico, Labiatae family is well represented, mainly by genus *Salvia*, which is one of the largest in our country with over 257 species <sup>3</sup>. Some of these plants are used as folk medicine, <sup>4</sup> hallucinogens <sup>5</sup> or culinary herbs <sup>2</sup>. In a previous paper, we described the structure of melissodoric acid from *Salvia melissodora* Lag <sup>6</sup>. Recently *Salvia keerlu* Benth, a closely related species, was studied and two new neo-clerodane diterpenoids were isolated <sup>7</sup>.

In this paper we describe the structure and stereochemistry of salvigenolide (1), a new diterpenoid with a novel rearranged neo-clerodane skeleton, isolated from the aerial parts of *Salvia fulgens* Cav (*Salvia*, section Fulgentes, Epling) a shrub which grows in the valley of Mexico.

Salvigenolide (1) was isolated as a crystalline product, mp 218-220°C, and showed molecular formula C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>7</sub> by mass spectrometry. Its IR spectrum exhibited the characteristic absorption for a furan ring (3140, 1501, 871 cm<sup>-1</sup>), two γ-lactone functions (1771 and 1761 cm<sup>-1</sup>), an ester carbonyl (1743 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and the absence of hydroxyl groups.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (Table I) of salvigenolide (1), showed signals for a β-substituted furan ring and an α,β-unsaturated 18-19-olide, functions very common in clerodane type diterpenoids <sup>8,9</sup>. A singlet at δ 2.05 (3H) was ascribed to an acetate group whose geminal proton was observed as a triplet at δ 5.3. This multiplicity, and the fact that none of the C-19 protons (see Table I) showed a long-range coupling indicated <sup>11</sup> that the acetate group must be bound to C-6 and δ axial.

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TABLE I  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Data for Salvigenolide and Derivatives  $^{\dagger}$ 

Compound	H-3	H-6	H-7	H-8	H-10	H-14	H-12	H-15 16	H-19	H-20	$\text{CH}_2\text{COOH}$
1	7.05dd (8.4)	5.3t (3)	$\delta 2.45\text{dt}$ (14,3)	3.8bd (12)	3.45dd (14.4)	6.25t (2)	6.0bd (1)	7.45d 2H(2)	$\alpha 3.70\text{d}$ (10) $\beta 3.95$ (10)	1.6bs 3H	2.05s 3H
1*	6.8dd (8.4)	5.27t (3)	$\delta 2.25\text{dt}$ (14.3) $\alpha 1.35\text{m}$	3.2bd (12)	2.75dd (14.4)	5.95t (2)	5.45bs	7.15bs 2H	$\alpha 3.15\text{d}$ (10) $\beta 3.57\text{d}$ (10)	1.0bs 3H	1.6s 3H
2		5.05dd (3.4)		3.6bd (10)	3.1m	6.25t (2)	6.0bs	7.45d (2)	$\alpha 3.85\text{d}$ (10) $\beta 4.1\text{d}$ (10)	1.6bs 3H	2.15s 3H
3	7.05dd (8.3)	5.2t (4)		2.9s (12.4)		6.4t (2)	5.45s	7.5m	$\alpha 3.6\text{d}$ (8) $\beta 3.9\text{d}$ (8)	1.35s 3H	2.0s 3H
4	7t (4)	4.6dd (12.4)	$\delta 2.4\text{m}$  $\alpha 3.1\text{dd}$ (16,4)			6.15dd (2,1)	5.75d (2)	7.4t (2) 7.55bs	3.8bs 2H	1.20d 3H(7)	

$^{\dagger}$  Run at 80 MHz using  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent and TMS as internal standard. Coupling constant in Hz are in parenthesis.  
Chemical shifts are in  $\delta$  values.

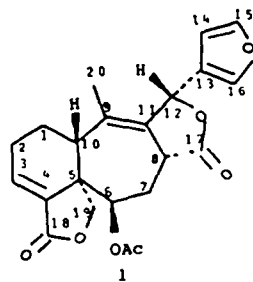
\* Run in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  solution.

A broad singlet at  $\delta 6.0$  was attributed to an allylic proton bound to a carbon bearing oxygen. These requirements are satisfied by H-12 if we assume that it is the geminal proton of a  $\gamma$ -lactone function ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1760  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ). The fragments at  $m/e$  81 and 95 in ratios 25 and 49% in the mass spectra of **1** (see experimental) support<sup>12</sup> the existence of the lactone group with the alcoholic oxygen at C-12. The absence of a secondary methyl group doublet, frequently observed in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of clerodane type diterpenoids,<sup>1</sup> suggested that C-17 was responsible for the carbonyl group of the  $\gamma$ -lactone function. A broad singlet (3H) observed at  $\delta 1.6$  in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** (Table I) was ascribed to the C-20 vinylic methyl group. The absence of vinylic protons coupled to it, showed that it is bound to a fully substituted double bond. Two  $\text{sp}^2$  singlets at  $\delta 133.5$  and  $133.2$  observed in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1** (Table II) were assigned to this double bond.

The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of clerodane type diterpenoids described in the literature,<sup>7-11</sup> show two  $\text{sp}^3$  singlets due to C-5 and C-9, salvigenolide showed only one at  $\delta 48.3$  which was assigned to C-5. This fact and the analysis of the data presented, suggested that salvigenolide (**1**) possesses a rearranged clerodane skeleton.

TABLE II  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Data for Compounds **1**, **2** and **4**<sup>†</sup>

	<b>1</b> <sup>†</sup>	<b>1</b> *	<b>2</b> <sup>†</sup>	<b>4</b> *
C-1	24.94(t)	25.1 t*	23 t	23.2 t
C-2	25.48(t)	25.5 t**	24.93 t	26.1 t
C-3	140.8 (d)	141.89 d	21.04 t	142.8 d
C-4	133.20(s)	133.64 s	44.98 d	133.8 s
C-5	48.33(s)	48.75 s	46.08 s	49.62 s
C-6	71.42(d)	71.83 d	75.5 d	75.9 d
C-7	30.02(t)	30.39 t	30.69 t	38.97 t
C-8	39.32(d)	39.6 d	37.83 d	121.16 s
C-9	133.5 (s)**	134.6 s**	135.22 s**	23.3 d
C-10	39.32(d)	39.4 d	38.31 d	38.30 d
C-11	133.2 (s)**	133.8 s**	133.87 s**	169.3 s
C-12	75.11(d)	75.21 d	75.03 d	82.75 d
C-13	124.15(s)	124.9 s	124.10 s	121.08 s
C-14	108.44(d)	109.16 d	108.54 d	108.63 d
C-15	144.76(d)	145.13 d	144.69 d	145.04 d
C-16	140.94(d)	140.7 d	141.10 d	137.46 d
C-17	176.69(s)	177.0 s	176.8 s	173.29 s
C-18	168.44(s)	169 s	177.8 s	168.18 s
C-19	68.99(t)	69.23 t	69.09 t	66.8 t
C-20	15.7 (q)	15.40 q	16.67 q	14.28 q
C-21	169 (s)	169.3 s	169.4 s	
C-22	20.8(q)	20.58 q	20.7 q	



$^{\dagger}$  Recorded at 20 MHz. Chemical shifts in  $\delta$  values from TMS.  
SFORD multiplicity in parenthesis.

\* Run in  $\text{Py-d}_5$  as solvent.

† Run in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent.

\*\* Values in any vertical column may be interchanged.

X-ray diffraction analysis of a single crystal of salvigenolide revealed the correct structure and relative stereochemistry as shown in 1

The molecular structure with numbering scheme is illustrated in Fig 1. The salvigenolide molecule comprises an unusual system of six-seven-five *trans*-fused rings with *trans* angles of  $-19.0^\circ$  (5),  $84.6^\circ$  (4) and  $62.6^\circ$  (6),  $-1.8^\circ$  (5), respectively. The cyclohexene ring takes a distorted sofa conformation and the C(2)-C(3)-C(4)-C(5) part is nearly planar with a torsion angle of  $3.5^\circ$  (7). The cycloheptene ring adopts a conformation of the chair type with an approximate mirror plane through the C-6 atom and their torsion angles in this ring are close to those of the cycloheptene ring in the triterpene  $3\beta$ -methoxy-21-keto- $\Delta^{13}$ -serratene<sup>13</sup> and deacetyl dihydro gaillardin *p*-bromobenzoate<sup>14</sup>. Both  $\gamma$ -lactone rings have the envelope conformation with flaps at C(5) and C(17), respectively. The furan ring is planar, within the limit of experimental error. The  $\gamma$ -lactone ring containing the O (5) atom and the acetate group at C(6) are oriented to minimize transannular repulsions between their oxygen atoms. The angle between normals to the planes of the ring and the group is  $102.5^\circ$ . The acetate group at C(6) lies almost perpendicular to the cycloheptene ring (torsion angle, C(21)-O(1)-C(6)-C(5) =  $107.4^\circ$ ) serving to bring this group well clear off the ring system. The molecules are held in the crystal by van der Waals forces.

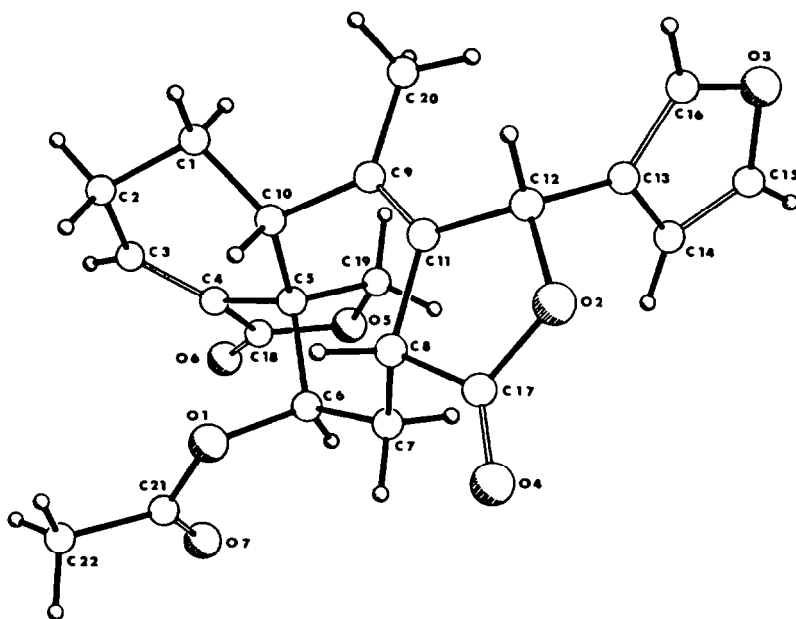
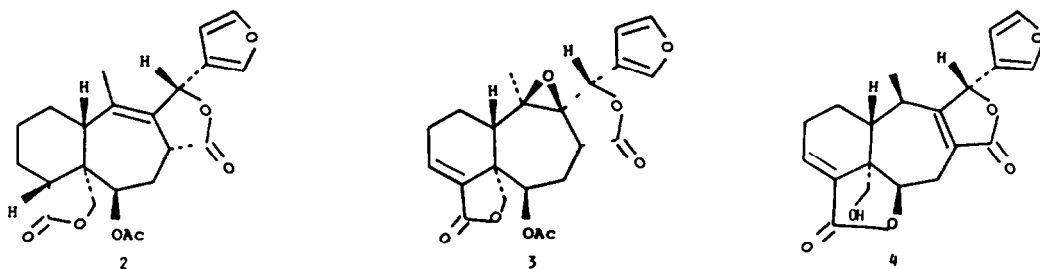


Fig 1 A molecule of salvigenolide showing the atom labelling

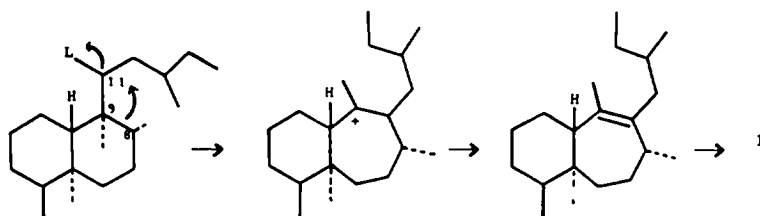
Catalytic hydrogenation of salvigenolide 1, gave the dihydroderivative 2. The configuration shown for C-4, was deduced by comparison of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of 2 (Table II) with literature data for similar structures<sup>10</sup>.



Treatment of 1 with MCPBA produced the epoxy-derivative 3. Its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (Table I) exhibited a sharp singlet (3H) at  $\delta$  1.35, showing that epoxydation had occurred on the 9,11 double bond. The upfield shifts observed for H-12 and H-8 suggested that epoxydation had taken place from the less hindered  $\beta$  face of the molecule.

Saponification of 1 yielded the hydroxyderivative 4. Its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (Table I) revealed that the 9,11 double bond of 1 has been moved to 8,11, showing the C-20 methyl as a doublet at  $\delta$  1.20. The multiplicity and chemical shifts exhibited by H-3 and H-6 indicated that a relactonization has taken place giving rise to an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated  $\delta^5$  lactone and an hydroxymethylene group at C-5, as has been found in plaunol B.<sup>17</sup> The relative stereochemistry proposed for 4, was deduced from a study of the changes produced in its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum on addition of  $\text{Eu}(\text{fod})_3$  (experimental).

The structure 1 can be derived biogenetically by the migration of the C8-C9 bond of a normal clerodane skeleton to C-11 with a concomitant loss of an adequate leaving group (L) as outlined in scheme 1. To our knowledge, salvigenolide is the first natural product<sup>15</sup> described with an A/B six-seven ring system derived from a *neo*-clerodane<sup>16</sup> skeleton.



Scheme 1

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Melting points were determined in a Fisher Jones apparatus and are uncorrected. Column chromatography was carried out by using Merck silica Gel 60 (0.063-0.2 mm). UV and IR spectra were determined on Nicolet FT 5X and Perkin Elmer 552 spectrometers, respectively. Optical rotations were measured with a Perkin Elmer 241 polarimeter with a 1 dm cell.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were determined at 80 and 200 MHz respectively in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  or pyridine- $d_5$  solutions with  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  as internal standard. Mass spectra were obtained at 70 eV on a Hewlett-Packard 5985-B spectrometer. Plant material was collected in November 1983, 7.5 Km west of Huitzilac, state of Morelos, México. Voucher specimen (MEXU-379095) was deposited at the Herbarium of the Instituto de Biología, UNAM.

**Isolation of Salvigenolide (1)** Dried and powdered aerial parts (2300 g) of *Salvia fulgens* Cav. were extracted with acetone (20 l) at room temperature for one week. Evaporation of the solvent yielded a gum (50 g) which was subjected to dry-column chromatography over silica gel (1250 g) deactivated with 5% water. Elution with petroleum ether-EtOAc (1:3) gave 1 (500 mg, 0.021% dry weight). mp 218-220°C from MeOH,  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -191.6 (c 0.21, MeOH), IR (Nujol) 3140, 1771, 1761, 1743, 1665, 1501, 887, 871  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  208 nm (log  $\epsilon$  4.5), for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR see table I and II respectively, MS (direct inlet)  $m/z$  (rel. intensity) 398 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 4.3), 357 (15), 356 (44.9), 338 (20), 95 (49.5), 91 (29), 81 (25), 43 (100 base peak).  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_7$  requires  $\text{M}^+$  at  $m/z$  398.

**Catalytic hydrogenation of 1** Salvigenolide (1) (100 mg) in methanol (5 ml) was hydrogenated using Pd/C (10%, 25 mg) as catalyst. After usual work up, product 2 (80 mg) was obtained. mp 110-112°C from acetone-*n*-propylether,  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -106 (c 0.25, MeOH), UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  206 nm (log  $\epsilon$  4.26), IR (Nujol) 1760, 1740, 1590, 1500, 900, 870  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR see tables I and II respectively, MS (direct inlet)  $m/z$  (rel. intensity) 400 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 2.5), 340 (46), 95 (35), 91 (30), 81 (20), 79 (21), 77 (20), 43 (base peak).  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_7$  requires  $\text{M}^+$  at  $m/z$  400.

**Epoxydation of 1** A solution of 1 (100 mg) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 ml) was treated with 90 mg of MCPBA. The mixture was stirred during 72 hr at room temperature. The solution was washed with 10%  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  aq. soln. and water, dried and the solvent removed under vacuum. The solid product obtained was recrystallized from EtOAc to yield 3 (60 mg). mp 222°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -132 (c 0.21,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ), UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  207 nm (log  $\epsilon$  4.5), IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 2948, 1778, 1678, 1600, 1502, 896, 876, 860  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR see Table I, MS (direct inlet)  $m/z$  (rel. intensity) 372 (1.8), 356 (1), 354 (2), 219 (5), 192 (8), 179 (6), 120 (5), 95 (10), 91 (15), 81 (5), 79 (7), 77 (10), 43 (100 base peak).  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_7$  requires  $\text{M}^+$  at  $m/z$  414 (not observed).

**Saponification of 1** A solution of 1 (100 mg) in methanol (10 ml) was treated with 50 mg of solid  $\text{KHCO}_3$  in an argon atm. The mixture was stirred during 12 hr at room temperature. The solution was neutralized with the stoichiometric amount of acetic acid (0.360 ml of a 10% aq. soln.). The solvent was removed at reduced pressure (2 mm Hg), and the residue extracted with EtOAc, washed with water, dried and the solvent removed under vacuum to yield 4 (60 mg) as a crystalline solid.

mp 248–250°C dec from EtOAc,  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -206 (c 0.21, MeOH), UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  210 nm (log  $\epsilon$  4.66), IR (Nujol) 3464, 1752, 1679, 1659, 1502, 874, 811, 781  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR see Tables I and II respectively. Addition of 4.2 mg of  $\text{Eu}(\text{fod})_3$  produced downfield shifts of the signals ascribed to H-6 ( $\Delta\delta=2.85$ ), 2H-19 ( $\Delta\delta=2.75$ ), H-7 $\alpha$  ( $\Delta\delta=1.5$ ), H-3 ( $\Delta\delta=1.4$ ), 3H-20 ( $\Delta\delta=0.5$ ), and H-12 ( $\Delta\delta=0.7$ ). MS (direct inlet)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 356 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 13.4), 327 (14), 326 (80), 95 (80), 91 (70), 81 (60), 79 (60), 77 (100 base peak).  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_6$  requires  $\text{M}^+$  at  $m/z$  356.

**X-ray structure determination of Salvigenolide (1)**  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_6$ , space group  $\text{P}2_12_12_1$  with  $Z=4$  and  $a=8.625(2)$ ,  $b=12.453(2)$ ,  $c=18.052(2)$  Å,  $V=1938.9(4)$  Å<sup>3</sup> and the calculated density is 1.364  $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ . Intensities of 1500 independent reflections were collected on a Nicolet R3 diffractometer using  $\text{MoK}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda=0.7107$  Å and  $2\theta_{\max}=45^\circ$ ) of which 1225 were considered to be observed [ $I>2.5\sigma(I)$ ]. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXTL programs.<sup>18</sup> The trial structure was refined by least-squares. In the final refinement, anisotropic thermal factors were used for the non-hydrogen atoms and for the hydrogen atoms riding on the bonded carbon atoms with a fixed isotropic temperature factor  $U=0.06$  Å<sup>2</sup>. The final R value is 0.050. The final difference map has no peaks greater than  $-0.2$  eÅ<sup>-3</sup> and the isotropic extinction parameter is  $X=0.0029$ .<sup>19</sup>

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