

## The Molecular Structure of Trichodermin

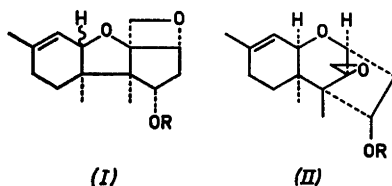
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The structure of the antibiotic trichodermin has been determined by X-ray single crystal analysis of trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate. A new type of ring system was discovered which has later been found to be present in several other natural products. The previously assumed structures of these compounds, which include verrucarol and trichotecin have therefore had to be revised.

Trichodermin ( $C_{17}H_{24}O_4$ ) is a new type of sesquiterpene antibiotic isolated from a soil sample from New Guinea. Godtfredsen and Vangedal have performed extensive chemical studies<sup>1,2</sup> on the antibiotic. They showed that the compound was related to trichotecin,<sup>3,4</sup> and trichodermin was therefore thought to have structure (I) with a four-membered oxygen containing ring suggested to be present in trichotecin.

Some reactions were, however, in conflict with such a structure. At the suggestion of Dr. Godtfredsen we have performed a single crystal analysis in order to establish definitely the molecular structure of the compound. We have earlier published a preliminary paper on the X-ray analysis.<sup>5</sup>



Trichodermin: R = acetyl  
Trichodermol: R = H

### EXPERIMENTAL

Good single crystals of the trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate ( $C_{22}H_{26}O_4Br$ ) were kindly provided by Dr Godtfredsen. They are orthorhombic with

$$a = 10.69 \text{ \AA}, b = 9.24 \text{ \AA}, \text{ and } c = 20.70 \text{ \AA}$$

(CuK $\alpha$ -radiation). The space group is  $P2_12_12_1$  and there are four molecules per unit cell. Weissenberg photographs were taken for layers 0–4 about the  $a$ -axis and for layers 0–2 about [110]. The intensities were estimated visually and corrected for the Lorentz and polarization factors. No absorption correction was made.

## STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The structure was solved by the heavy-atom method. All atoms except hydrogens had been found after 5 cycles of Fourier refinement. The  $R$ -value was then 0.22. All Fourier series (including the Patterson synthesis) were scanned for peaks in the computer making possible a short cycle time. The oxygen atoms could be easily differentiated from the carbon atoms from the Fourier maps.

The structure was refined by full matrix least-squares techniques. The hydrogen atoms were included in the structure factor calculations with their expected coordinates and with isotropic temperature factors corresponding to those of the hydrogen carrying heavier atoms. The refinement was continued until the shifts were smaller than one fifth of the standard deviations. The final  $R$ -value for the 888 independent reflexions is 0.102.

All calculations were performed on the Datasaab D21 computer with the integrated crystallographic programme system developed at this institute.<sup>6</sup> The formfactors given in the *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography*,

Table 1. Fractional coordinates (with standard deviations)  $\times 10^4$  for the heavier atoms of the molecule.

	$x$	$\sigma(x)$	$y$	$\sigma(y)$	$z$	$\sigma(z)$
Br1	1008	(3)	4871	(2)	1585	(1)
O1	1991	(15)	4200	(11)	4871	(5)
O2	2417	(14)	1878	(10)	4546	(4)
O3	3267	(21)	1792	(14)	9802	(5)
O4	1835	(14)	0560	(12)	1373	(4)
C1	1446	(23)	4319	(18)	2455	(6)
C2	1599	(22)	2956	(18)	2611	(6)
C3	1903	(28)	2584	(21)	3265	(7)
C4	1838	(20)	3612	(17)	3702	(6)
C5	1603	(23)	5086	(16)	3557	(7)
C6	3657	(25)	4547	(21)	7912	(7)
C7	2001	(22)	3307	(16)	4428	(6)
C8	2574	(19)	1489	(15)	5208	(6)
C9	1372	(22)	0537	(16)	5475	(6)
C10	3073	(24)	1017	(19)	0414	(6)
C11	1737	(26)	0850	(18)	0684	(6)
C12	3717	(22)	0432	(18)	5267	(8)
C13	0252	(23)	0805	(24)	5101	(8)
C14	3935	(35)	2394	(17)	0398	(8)
C15	1353	(17)	0996	(14)	6199	(6)
C16	2556	(22)	0791	(15)	6540	(7)
C17	0838	(26)	2489	(20)	6287	(7)
C18	0382	(24)	-0140	(18)	6551	(7)
C19	0339	(26)	0424	(20)	7328	(10)
C20	1539	(22)	0627	(20)	7620	(6)
C21	2491	(20)	0821	(15)	7259	(7)
C22	1417	(28)	1001	(25)	8344	(7)

Vol. III (pp. 202–207) were used. The weight assigned to each observation in the least-squares refinement was <sup>7</sup>

$$w = \frac{1}{1 + [(|F_o| - 4|F_{\min}|) / 3|F_{\min}|]^2}$$

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The positions for the heavier atoms used in the final calculations of the structure factors are given with standard deviations in Table 1. Allowance was made for anisotropic vibrations by a factor

$$\exp[-2\pi^2(h^2a^{*2}U_{11} + k^2b^{*2}U_{22} + l^2c^{*2}U_{33} + 2klb^*c^*U_{23} + 2lhc^*a^*U_{31} + 2hka^*b^*U_{12})]$$

(Table 2). Table 3 gives the parameters of the hydrogen atoms. Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 4.

A composite drawing of the three-dimensional electron density series based on the final phases is given in Fig. 1. Fig. 2 illustrates the stereochemistry of trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate. The numbering of atoms is given in Fig. 3.

Table 2.  $U_{ij:s} \times 10^4$  for the heavier atoms.

	$U_{11}$	$U_{22}$	$U_{33}$	$U_{23}$	$U_{31}$	$U_{12}$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )
Br1	3017	1016	0577	0195	-0167	0255
O1	1893	0528	0642	0055	-0163	0100
O2	2199	0522	0347	0117	0020	0181
O3	3537	0786	0546	0108	-0201	0174
O4	1921	0695	0543	-0123	0026	0183
C1	2356	0654	0364	0243	0048	0203
C2	1846	0751	0408	-0041	-0056	0162
C3	2375	0947	0534	0122	-0037	-0127
C4	1645	0724	0390	-0054	0114	0197
C5	1878	0557	0687	0122	0177	0083
C6	2411	0843	0550	-0187	0456	0255
C7	1934	0571	0471	-0026	0015	-0037
C8	1709	0438	0494	0173	-0137	0206
C9	2219	0435	0495	0035	0016	0135
C10	2108	0936	0308	0096	0150	-0214
C11	2794	0711	0359	-0134	-0180	0488
C12	1771	0603	0766	0218	0266	-0081
C13	1723	1098	0618	-0029	0241	-0090
C14	3846	0421	0888	-0169	0105	-0132
C15	1158	0545	0452	0109	0133	0249
C16	2232	0443	0672	-0159	-0176	0211
C17	2224	0979	0457	-0078	-0202	0260
C18	2070	0950	0585	0105	0214	-0523
C19	2000	0700	1111	0298	0613	0167
C20	1807	0897	0442	-0078	-0281	0157
C21	2073	0487	0456	-0223	-0126	0191
C22	2897	1284	0502	0229	0398	0857

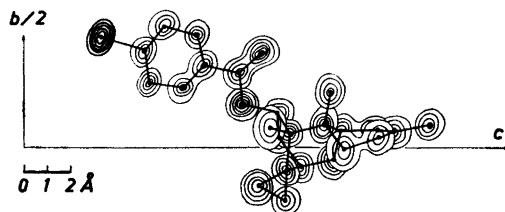


Fig. 1. Composite drawing of the three-dimensional electron density series of trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate. Contours are given at intervals of  $1 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$  starting at  $1 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$  except for the bromine atom which is contoured at intervals of  $5 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$ .

The X-ray analysis determines the molecular structure of trichodermol as (II). The ring system with the epoxy group is quite different from that of (I) based on the trichotecin structure. The chemical implications of this have been thoroughly discussed by Godtfredsen and Vangedal.<sup>2</sup> The trichodermin ring system seems to be fairly widespread in nature. Godtfredsen and Vangedal suggested a revision of the earlier proposed molecular structures of trichotecin<sup>3,4</sup> and verrucarol.<sup>8</sup> A recent X-ray analysis by McPhail and Sim<sup>9</sup> of the *p*-iodobenzenesulphonate of verrucarin A also confirms the presence of the trichodermin ring system.

Table 3. Fractional coordinates  $\times 10^4$  and isotropic temperature factors for the hydrogens of the molecule.

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i> (Å <sup>2</sup> )
H61	1079	6548	2771	8.1
H51	1622	5909	3934	7.0
H31	2179	1487	3395	8.4
H21	1497	2112	2247	6.5
H161	3433	0628	6282	6.8
H81	2361	2340	5555	5.6
H211	3369	1036	7509	6.0
H121	4001	0053	4790	7.3
H122	4502	0975	5499	7.3
H111	4129	-0934	5408	7.0
H191	-0170	-0381	7609	9.1
H192	-0160	1452	7344	9.1
H181	0730	-1247	6519	8.2
H182	-0544	-0080	6331	8.2
H141	0054	-2290	5448	8.9
H142	1371	-3404	5618	8.9
H221	1560	2159	8412	9.7
H222	2119	0404	8618	9.7
H223	0487	0704	8514	9.7
H171	0762	2728	6802	7.8
H172	-0086	2555	6066	7.8
H173	1460	3271	6059	7.8
H131	0417	0511	4599	8.3
H132	0009	1949	5130	8.3
H133	-0515	0158	5294	8.3

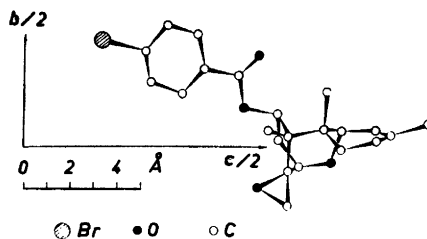


Fig. 2. Stereochemistry of trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate.

The distances and angles of trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate are given in Fig. 3 and in Table 5 with the estimated standard deviations. The latter were calculated from the diagonal elements of the inverse least-squares matrix.<sup>10,11</sup> The bond distances and angles show rather large deviations from the generally accepted values, but, considering the standard deviations, there are no anomalies in the structure. The average bond distance between single bonded carbons is 1.55 Å, 1.39 Å for the benzene ring carbons, and 1.46 Å for the C—O distance. The accuracy appears to be much the same as in other bromo derivatives of natural products investigated earlier at this institute, e.g. prostaglandin F<sub>2-1</sub> *p*-bromobenzoate.<sup>12</sup>

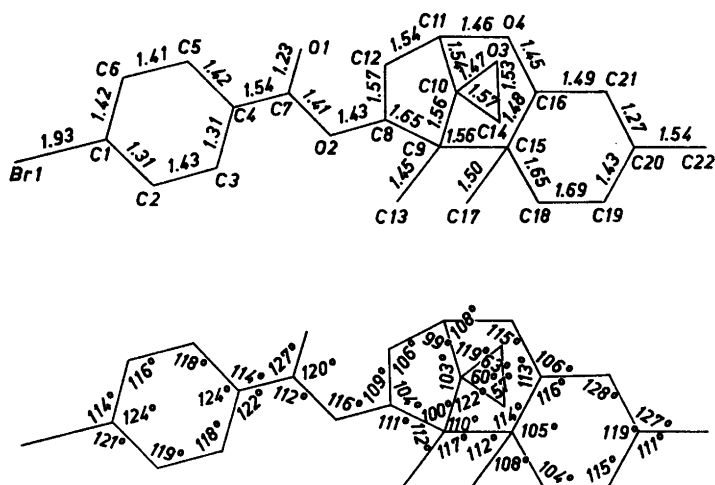


Fig. 3. Bond distances and bond angles for trichodermol *p*-bromobenzoate.

Table 4. Observed and calculated structure factors (x 100) with phase angles as fractions of one revolution.

Table with 24 columns: h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc, F1 (repeated 4 times). Each row represents a different set of Miller indices (h, k, l) and their corresponding observed, calculated, and phase-related structure factors.

Table 4. Continued.

Table with 18 columns: h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc, F1. It contains multiple rows of numerical data representing crystallographic parameters.

Table 5. Bond lengths and bond angles with standard deviations for the heavier atoms of the molecule.

	Bond length (Å)	$\sigma$ (Å)		Angle (°)	$\sigma$ (°)
Br1—C1	1.93	(0.02)	C7—O2—C8	116	(1)
O1—C7	1.23	(0.02)	C10—O3—C14	63	(2)
O2—C7	1.41	(0.02)	C11—O4—C16	115	(2)
O2—C8	1.43	(0.02)	Br1—C1—C2	121	(2)
O3—C10	1.47	(0.02)	Br1—C1—C6	114	(2)
O3—C14	1.53	(0.03)	C2—C1—C6	124	(2)
O4—C11	1.46	(0.02)	C1—C2—C3	119	(2)
O4—C16	1.45	(0.03)	C2—C3—C4	118	(2)
C1—C2	1.31	(0.03)	C3—C4—C5	124	(2)
C1—C6	1.42	(0.03)	C3—C4—C7	122	(2)
C2—C3	1.43	(0.03)	C5—C4—C7	114	(2)
C3—C4	1.31	(0.03)	C4—C5—C6	118	(2)
C4—C5	1.42	(0.03)	C1—C6—C5	116	(2)
C4—C7	1.54	(0.02)	O1—C7—O2	120	(2)
C5—C6	1.41	(0.03)	O1—C7—C4	127	(2)
C8—C9	1.65	(0.03)	O2—C7—C4	112	(2)
C8—C12	1.57	(0.03)	O2—C8—C9	111	(2)
C9—C10	1.56	(0.03)	O2—C8—C12	109	(2)
C9—C13	1.45	(0.04)	C9—C8—C12	104	(2)
C9—C15	1.56	(0.02)	C8—C9—C10	100	(2)
C10—C11	1.54	(0.04)	C8—C9—C13	112	(2)
C10—C14	1.57	(0.04)	C8—C9—C15	101	(2)
C11—C12	1.54	(0.03)	C10—C9—C13	115	(2)
C15—C16	1.48	(0.03)	C10—C9—C15	110	(2)
C15—C17	1.50	(0.03)	C13—C9—C15	117	(2)
C15—C18	1.65	(0.03)	O3—C10—C9	118	(2)
C16—C21	1.49	(0.03)	O3—C10—C11	119	(2)
C18—C19	1.69	(0.03)	O3—C10—C14	60	(2)
C19—C20	1.43	(0.04)	C9—C10—C11	103	(2)
C20—C21	1.27	(0.03)	C9—C10—C14	122	(3)
C20—C22	1.54	(0.03)	C11—C10—C14	129	(2)
			O4—C11—C10	108	(2)
			O4—C11—C12	115	(2)
			C10—C11—C12	99	(2)
			C8—C12—C11	106	(2)
			O3—C14—C10	57	(2)
			C9—C15—C16	114	(2)
			C9—C15—C17	112	(2)
			C9—C15—C18	105	(2)
			C16—C15—C17	112	(2)
			C16—C15—C18	105	(2)
			C17—C15—C18	108	(2)
			O4—C16—C15	113	(2)
			O4—C16—C21	106	(2)
			C15—C16—C21	116	(2)
			C15—C18—C19	104	(2)
			C18—C19—C20	115	(2)
			C19—C20—C21	119	(2)
			C19—C20—C22	111	(2)
			C21—C20—C22	127	(2)
			C16—C21—C20	128	(2)



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