Mass Spectrometric Studies of Carotenoids

4.* In-chain Elimination Reactions

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In-chain elimination reactions leading to the formation of M-92, M-106, and M-158 ions, which give rise to significant peaks in most carotenoid spectra, have been studied with the aid of acyclic and bicyclic carotenoids labelled with deuterium in the 7,7'-positions. The origin of the toluene, xylene, and dimethylcyclodecapentaene species eliminated is discussed. The results are compatible with the mechanism presented by Edmunds and Johnstone for the corresponding thermal reactions.

Initial mass spectrometric studies by Schwieter et al.¹ of carotenes have shown that these compounds give rise to prominent M-92 and M-106 ions, which were assigned to the loss of toluene and xylene from the central chain of the molecule. The mechanism first suggested for these eliminations involved cleavage of single bonds.¹ It has been demonstrated in earlier papers of this series ²,³ that these reactions are characteristic of carotenoids and also that M-158 ions, associated with the loss of $C_{10}H_8(CH_3)_2$ from the central chain of the molecular ion, are frequently encountered. Moreover, the intensity ratio of the M-92 versus the M-106 peaks has been correlated with the number of conjugated double bonds in the central chain.²

In view of the above findings it was of interest to study these reactions in further detail, and the present paper deals with the examination of acyclic and bicyclic carotenoids, labelled with deuterium in the 7,7'-positions. A preliminary account of some of these results has been given elsewhere.⁴ Coincidently with these studies Schwieter *et al.*⁵ investigated the in-chain elimination reactions by means of carotenes labelled with deuterium in the 15,15'-positions.

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SYNTHESIS AND PROPERTIES OF LABELLED COMPOUNDS

The bicyclic aryl carotenes $7.7'-d_2$ -renierapurpurin (7) and $7.7'-d_2$ -isorenieratene (13) were synthesized according to Scheme 1. The 2,3,4-trimethylbenzoic acid (1), obtained from the corresponding benzyl alcohol 6 ,7 by chromic acid oxidation, 8 was reduced to the alcohol 2 with lithium aluminium deuteride. The labelled alcohol (2) was converted to the bromide (3) by means of phosphorus tribromide, and subsequent treatment with triphenylphosphine gave the corresponding Wittig salt (4). The phosphorane (5) obtained on treatment of 4 with butyl lithium was condensed with crocetindial (6) to $7.7'-d_2$ -renierapurpurin (7). The 2,3,6-trimethylbenzoic acid (8), prepared from 1-bromo-2,3,6-trimethylbenzene via the Grignard reagent, was subjected to the same sequence of reactions to give $7.7'-d_2$ -isorenieratene (13).

Scheme 1

The total synthesis of unlabelled isorenieratene has previously been effected via three different routes by Yamaguchi, ¹⁰ Khosla and Karrer, ¹¹ and Cooper et al., ⁷ Unlabelled renierapurpurin has been synthesized by Yamaguchi ¹² and Cooper et al., ⁷ and our synthesis followed in principle that of the latter authors.

The deuterium incorporation into the benzylic alcohols 4 and 9 and the bromides 5 and 10 was quantitative. However, the incorporation in the final products (7 and 13) was lower and decreased during the isolation and chromatographic purification, suggesting that the benzylic hydrogens can undergo exchange.

The synthesis of the acyclic compounds $7.7'-d_2$ -lycopene (20), 1-methoxy-1,2-dihydro-7,7'- d_2 -lycopene (21), and $7.7'-d_2$ -3,4,3',4'-tetrahydrospirilloxanthin

(22) was accomplished as depicted in Scheme 2. $1,1-d_2$ -Geraniol (17) was produced from geraniol (14) by stepwise oxidation with manganese dioxide and silver oxide via citral (15) to geranic acid (16), followed by reduction with lithium aluminium deuteride. The latter alcohol (17), when reacted with triphenyl phosphonium bromide in methanol, gave the corresponding Wittig salts (18 and 19) in about equal amounts. The mixed phosphoranes, obtained on treatment with butyl lithium, were condensed with crocetin dial (6), and furnished a mixture of the products 20, 21, and 22, which were separated by chromatography.

The total synthesis of unlabelled lycopene has previously been performed by several alternative routes. Two total syntheses of 3,4,3',4'-tetrahydrospirilloxanthin have also been published, 15,16 whereas the synthesis of 1-methoxy-1,2-dihydrolycopene is not yet reported. The deuterium incorporation in these carotenoids was far more satisfactory than in the aryl carotenes. The 220 Mc/sec PMR spectra of 20, 21, and 22, compared with the spectrum of unlabelled lycopene, 5 confirmed the location of the two deuterium atoms in 7,7'-position. Thus the olefinic protons at C-6, C-6' now give rise to a sharp singlet at 4.14 τ , while in unlabelled lycopene they exhibit a characteristic doublet at τ 4.1. Only one report has previously been published on infrared spectra of deuterated carotenoids, namely by Strain et al. 7 on fully deuterated a-carotene, β -carotene, and lutein. Except for weak C-D stretching vibrations, the 7,7'-d₂-derivatives studied here deviated mainly from those of the corresponding non-deuterated carotenoids by a weak absorption at 923 cm⁻¹, tentatively ascribed to a monodeuterated trans double bond.

According to expectation, other physical properties of the d_2 -derivatives, such as chromatographic properties and visible light absorption spectra, did not differ significantly from those of the non-deuterated carotenoids. The lower extinction coefficients and melting points observed were caused by a lipid impurity derived from the petroleum ether used. More marked differences in physical properties between fully deuterated and undeuterated carotenoids have been reported by Strain et al. 17

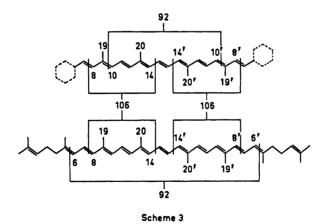
MASS SPECTROMETRIC RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Examination of the bicyclic aryl carotenes (7 and 13) shows that no deuterium was present in the toluene and xylene species eliminated. It follows, if the reasonable assumption is made, that both reactions involve loss of six consecutive, trigonally hybridised carbons, that toluene is derived exclusively from the 10-10' range, and xylene exclusively from the 8-8' range.

In the case of the acyclic compounds (20, 21, and 22) no deuterium was present in the xylene species eliminated, showing that elimination of xylene is restricted to the same range as in the bicyclic compounds. Of the toluene species, however, the d_1 -derivative represented about 35 %, while the non-deuterated species accounted for about 65 %.

Results obtained for $15,15'-d_2-\beta$ -carotene, $15,15'-d_2$ -lycopene and the corresponding unlabelled compounds by Schwieter et al. show that in the labelled bicyclic compound the loss of toluene involves partly the d_2 -species (40 %) and partly the d_1 -species (60 %). The xylene eliminated, however, contained no label, while the dimethylcyclodecapentaene contained both deuterium atoms. The labelled aliphatic derivative gave essentially the same results, with the exception that loss of unlabelled toluene is also observed.

It follows, when the results for the $7,7'-d_2$ -derivatives are taken in conjunction with those for the $15,15'-d_2$ -compounds, that the elimination of toluene and xylene is limited to the parts of the polyene chain indicated in Scheme 3. Loss of $C_{10}H_8(CH_3)_2$ seems to occur from the same parts of the polyene chain as toluene, but the corresponding peaks are less intense and the evaluation of the data is in this case less certain.



On the basis of the results obtained for the $15,15'-d_2$ -derivatives, Schwieter et al. have suggested that the common losses of 92, 106, and 158 mass units in carotenoid mass spectra occur by the same mechanism as that previously proposed by Edmunds and Johnstone 18 for the thermal elimination of toluene and xylene from carotenoids, and that the 158 fragment is 1,6-dimethyl-

cyclodecapentaene. The present results, summarised in Table 1, are fully consistent with this mechanism, which is depicted in Scheme 4 for the case of xylene elimination from β -carotene.

Scheme 4

Table 1. Calculated and observed ratios for deuterated and non-deuterated toluene and xylene, based on examination of ions derived from the molecular ion of $7.7'-d_2$ -carotenoids by loss of these fragments.

Carotenoids	Species lost	No. of possible sites of elimination	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Calculated} \\ d_{1} : d_{0} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Observed} \\ d_1 \!\!:\! d_0 \end{array}$
Bieyelie	Toluene Xylene	4 2	0:4 0:2	0:4 0:2
Acyclic (lycopene	Toluene	6	2:4	2:4
chromophore)	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{y}$ lene	2	0:2	0:2

It follows from the present findings (cf. Scheme 3), that it should be possible to differentiate between substitution in the 19(19') and 20(20') methyl groups in bicyclic carotenoids on the basis of the mass shifts observed for products formed in the in-chain elimination reactions, provided that these are not inhibited by the substitution. Such differentiation is obviously impossible in the acyclic series.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials and methods. Paper chromatography was made on Schleicher and Schüll Nos. 287 (kieselgur) and 288 (aluminium oxide), and Whatman AH81 (aluminium hydroxide) papers.

In reactions, analytical grade and, for chromatography, distilled technical grade solvents were used.

Visible light absorption spectra were recorded on a Coleman Hitachi 124 spectrometer, IR spectra on a Perkin Elmer 257 spectrometer, and NMR spectra on a Varian A60-A spectrometer in $\mathrm{CDCl_3}$, if not stated otherwise. Spectra of 20, 21, and 22 were also recorded on a Varian HR-220 spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained on an AEI MS902 spectrometer (70 eV, ion source temperature $230-260^\circ$), except for 13, where an LKB 9000 spectrometer (70 eV, ion source $290-310^\circ$, probe $100-200^\circ$) was used. For the reaction intermediates, only diagnostically significant spectral properties are quoted. Melting points were determined with an Electrothermal melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

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$7.7'-d_2$ -Renierapurpurin (7)

2,3,6-Trimethylbenzoic acid (1). 2,3,6-Trimethylbenzyl alcohol (4 g), prepared from hemimellitene as previously described, 16 was oxidized to I by means of Jones reagent; 8 was oxidized to by income as previously described, was oxidized to by income of contents, yield 4.3 g (98 %) 1 on recrystallization from CHCl₃; m.p. 165° (reported ¹⁰ 167.5°); ν_{max} (KBr) 3500-2500 (OH, CH), 1670 (C=O); m/e 164 (100 %, M).

2,3,4-Trimethyl-d₃-benzyl alcohol (2). I (2.5 g) in dry ether was reduced with LiAlD₄.

for 5 h at room temperature. The product was isolated in the usual manner, acidic components being removed by extraction with aqueous alkali; yield 1.56 g (68 %) 2; m.p. 44° (reported 7 48.5 – 49.5° for the nondeuterated derivative); $v_{\rm max}$ (liq.) 3320 (OH), 2200, 2090 (CD) cm⁻¹; τ 2.95 s (2H, aromatic), 7.71 s (2 CH₃), 7.79 s (CH₃), 8.43 s (CD₂OH) and no CH₂OH resonance.

2.3.4-Trimethyl-d₂-benzyl bromide (3) was prepared from 2 (1.5 g) by the procedure of Cooper et al. for the non-deuterated derivative; yield 1.99 g (93 %) 3; colourless needles m.p. 28° (non-deuterated compound isolated as a crude oil ?); $v_{\rm max}$ (liq.) no OH freq. τ 2.94 d, 3.10 d (J=8 cps, 2H, aromatic), 7.70 s, 7.73 s, 7.82 s (3 CH₃) and no

CH₂ resonance.

2,3,4-Trimethyl-d₂-benzyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (4) was prepared from 3 (1.99 g) by the procedure of Cooper et al.'; yield 3.94 g (89 %) 4; m.p. 215-220° (reported '222-223° for the non-deuterated compound).

7,7'-d₂-renierapurpurin (7) was prepared from 4 (1.4 g) and crocetindial (6, 148 mg) by the procedure of Cooper et al. The reaction mixture was partitioned between CS₂ and 90 % aqueous CH₃OH, and the CS₂ concentrate chromatographed on Spence type H alumina activity grade 2 ²⁶ (required eluent 10 % ether in petroleum ether for 7) and rechromatographed on magnesium oxide (benzene). Crystallization from CH₂Cl₂ gave 80 mg 7; m.p. 233.5 – 233.6° undepressed on admixture with undeuterated renierapurpurin 7 (m.p. 237 – 238°). No chromatographic separation was achieved of trans – 7 and undeuterated trans-renierapurpurin on kieselgur paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), aluminium oxide paper, or aluminium hydroxide paper (5 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (0.5 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (0.5 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (0.5 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (0.5 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide paper (1 % acetone in petroleum ether), TLC or kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium ether). TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (0.5%) acetone in petroleum ether). 7 had $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (petroleum ether) at (447), 468 [E(1%), 1 cm) = 2500] and 497 nm, % III/II $^{21} = 26$, $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (CS₂) at (477), 504 [E(1%), 1 cm) = 2065] and 544 nm; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (KBr) 3040 – 2800 (CH), 1510 (arom C=C), 1440, 1395, and 1370 (CH₃), 1245, 1070, 1025, 1009, 971 (trans-CH=CH-), 911 (-CH=CD-?), 886, 838, 825 (-CH=C-) and 813 (2 adjacent aromatic H) cm⁻¹; τ (CS₃, low solubility) 7.75 s (4 aromatic CH₃), 7.82 s (2 aromatic CH₃), 7.98 s (2 in-chain CH₃), 8.03 s (2 in-chain CH₃); m/e 530, 529, 528 (M), 438, 437 (M-92), 424, 423, 422 (M-106), 396, 395 (M-134), 134 (90%), 133 (100%), 119, 105, 91. d.d.d.d.d.d.d.d.=15.44.33.5.3 (100 %), 119, 105, 91; $d_0:d_1:d_2:d_3:d_4=15:44:33:5:3$.

$7,7'-d_2$ -Isorenieratene (13)

2,3,6-Trimethylbenzoic acid (8) was prepared from 1-bromo-2,3,6-trimethylbenzene ²² (19.9 g) by the method of Gilman and Parker, ⁹ yield 8.8 g (54 %) 8 on crystallization from CHCl₃-petroleum ether; m.p. $101-103^\circ$ (reported ²³ $105-106^\circ$); $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (CH₃OH) 276 nm; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (KBr) 3390, 3300 – 2800 (OH, CH), 1690 (C=O), 808 (two adjacent aromatic H) cm⁻¹; τ – 0.62 (COOH), 2.90 d, 3.08 d (J=8 cps, 2H, aromatic), 7.64 s, 7.71 s,

7.75 s (3 CH_3); m/e 164 (100 %, M). 2,3,6-Trimethyl-d₂-benzyl alcohol (9). 8 (5.0 g) was treated in the same manner as 1 above; yield 1.64 g (35 %) 9 from petroleum ether; m.p. $74-75^{\circ}$ (reported 7 84.5-85.5° for the undeuterated compound); $\nu_{\rm max}$ (liq.) 3320 (OH), 2210, 2100 (CD) cm⁻¹; τ 3.01 s (2H, aromatic), 7.60 s, 7.66 s, 7.71 s (3 CH₃), 8.45 s (CD₂OH) and no CH₂ resonance. 2,3,6-Trimethyl-d₂-benzyl bromide (10). 9 (1.6 g) was subjected to the same procedure as 2; yield 1.81 g (80 %) 10 (oil); τ 2.99 d, 3.12 d (J = 8 cps, 2H, aromatic), 7.65 s, 7.72 s, 7.78 s (3 CH₃) and no CH₄ resonance.

2,3,6-Trimethyl-d2-benzyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (11) was prepared from 10 (1.81 g) by the same procedure as 4 above; yield 3.01 g (75 %) crude $1\overline{1}$; m.p. $183-186^{\circ}$ C (reported 7 $243-245^{\circ}$ C for the undeuterated analogue).

7,7'-d₂-Isorenieratene (13) was prepared by the same procedure as 7 from 11 (1 g) and crocetindial (6, 150 mg). Direct precipitation from the CS₂ extract and recrystallization from CH₂Cl₂ gave 13 (lot 1); m/e 530, 529, 528 (M); $d_0:d_1:d_2:d_3:d_4=20:45:28:5:2$.

The rest of the carotenoids present in the CS₂ extract (308 mg) were chromatographed on Spence type H alumina activity grade 2 (required eluent for 13 7 % ether in petroleum ether) and rechromatographed on magnesium oxide (developer: benzene). 13 (homogeneous by TLC on Al₂O₃, 0.5 % acetone in petroleum ether) was crystallized from CH₂Cl₂-CH₃OH; yield 43.2 mg 13 (lot 2); m.p. 175-178°, undepressed on admixture with undeuterated isorenieratene (reported 7 m.p. 191-192°). 13 could not be separated from the undeuterated englager in the crystal described for 7 the could not be separated. from the undeuterated analogue in any of the systems described for 7: $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (petroleum ether) at (426), 448 [E(1 %, 1 cm)=2080] and 475 nm, % $D_{\rm B}/D_{\rm H}$ =9, % $\Pi I/\Pi$ =17, $\nu_{\rm max}$ (CS₂) at (456), 479 and 507 nm; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (KBr) 3020 – 2800 (CH), 1625, 1520 (arom. C=C), 1440, 1380 (CH₃), 1170, 1075, 1030, 1003, 967 (trans-CH=CH-), 830 (-CH=C-), and 811 (2 adjacent aromatic H) cm⁻¹; τ (CS₂, low solubility) 3.21 s (4H, aromatic), 3.4-4.1 (ca. 13 H olefinic) 7.81 s (6 aromatic CH₃), 7.89 s (2 in-chain CH₃), 8.06 s (2 in-chain CH₃); m/e 530, 529, 528 (M), 436 (M-92), 422 (M-106), 133 (100 %), 105, 91; $d_0:d_1:d_2=80:18:2.$

7,7'- d_2 -Lycopene (20), 1-methoxy-1,2-dihydro-7,7'- d_2 -lycopene (21), and 7,7'- d_2 -3,4,3',4'-tetrahydro-spirilloxanthin (22).

cis-trans-Citral (15) was prepared from geraniol (14, 50 g) by MnO₂ oxidation according to Attenburrow et al.;²⁴ yield 48 g estimated by NMR spectroscopy to contain 15 (75%) and unreacted 14 (25%).

cis-trans-Geranic acid (16). The above mixture of 15 and 14 (27 g) was oxidized with Ag₂O by the procedure of Bernhauer and Forster. ²⁵ The acidic products were isolated with Ag₂O by the procedure of Bernhauer and Forster. The acidic products were isolated in the usual manner and distilled; yield 7 g (32 %) 16, b.p. $150-154^{\circ}$ at 16 mmHg; $v_{\rm max}$ (liq.) 3300-2800 (OH, CH), 1685 (C=O) cm⁻¹; τ -1.90 (COOH), 4.30 s broad (1H, olefinic), 4.91 m (1H, isopropylidene), 7.81, 7.83 (allylic CH₂ and trans CH₃), 8.08, 8.10 (allylic CH₂ and cis CH₃), 8.31 s, 8.38 s (isopropylidene CH₃). d₂-Geraniol (17) was prepared from 16 by the procedure used for 2 and 9; yield 3.04 g (66 %) 17 (oil); $v_{\rm max}$ (liq.) 3320 (OH), 2200, 2190, 2090 (CD) cm⁻¹; τ 4.57 (1H, olefinic), 4.87 m (1H, isopropylidene), 7.82, 7.88, 7.94 (5H, CD₂OH and 2 allylic CH₂), 8.24 and 8.26 (cis and trans CH₃), 8.31, 8.37 (2 isopropylidene CH₃) and no CH₂OH

resonance.

d₂-Geranyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (18) and (1,1-d₂-7-methoxy-3,7-dimethyl-oct-2-enyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (19) were prepared from 17 (3.0 g) by the procedure described elsewhere; ¹³ yield 4.89 g 18 and 19 (53 %) in a 1:1 ratio (NMR spec-

trum); m.p. 153-158°.
7,7'-d₂-Lycopene (20), 1-methoxy-1,2-dihydro-7,7'-d₂-lycopene (21) and 7,7'-d₂-3,4,3'4'tetrahydrospiritloxanthin (22) were prepared from 18 and 19 (1750 mg) and crocetindial (6, 150 mg) by the general procedure. Chromatography twice on Spence type H alumina activity grade 2 furnished 20 (75 mg) required eluent 0-5%, 21 (110 mg) required eluent 5-7%, and 22 (35 mg) required eluent 7.5-15% ether in petroleum ether.

7,7'-d₂-Lycopene (20) yield 32.1 mg from ether-CH₃OH; m.p. 140-160° (reported ²⁶)

171° for the undeuterated analogue), undepressed on admixture with undeuterated lycopene. No separation from the latter was achieved on kieselgur paper (petroleum lycopene. No separation from the latter was achieved on kieselgur paper (petroleum ether or 2 % acetone in petroleum ether), aluminium oxide or aluminium hydroxide paper (2 % acetone in petroleum ether), and TLC on kieselgel G (CHCl₃ or benzene) or aluminium oxide (1 % acetone in petroleum ether). 20 had λ_{max} (petroleum ether) at 444, 470 [E(1 %, 1 cm) = 2480] and 502 nm, % $D_{\text{B}}/D_{\text{H}} = 8$, % HI/H = 80; ν_{max} (KBr) 3000 – 2810 (CH), 1620 (C=C), 1458, 1377 (CH₃) 960 (trans-CH=CH-), 925 (trans-CH=CD-?), 835 (-CH=C-), and 727 (imp.) cm⁻¹; at 220 Mc/sec τ 3.3 – 4.0 (ca. 12H, olefinic), 4.14 s (2H, H-6, H-6'), 4.89 m (2H, isopropylidene), 7.88 (4 allylic CH_{2}), 8.01 s (4 in-chain CH_{3}), 8.15 s (2 end-of-chain CH_{3}), 8.30 s, 8.38 s (4 isopropylidene CH_{3}), 8.73 (imp.); m/e 538, 537, 536 (M), 469 (M - 69), 459 (M - 79), 446, 445 (M - 92), 432, 431 (M - 106), 119, 106, 105, 92, 91, 69 (100 %); $d_{1}:d_{2}:d_{3}:d_{4}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_{5}:d_$

(M-106), 119, 106, 105, 92, 91, 69 (100 %); $d_0:d_1:d_2:d_3:d_4=4:15:75:3:3$. $I\text{-Methoxy-1,2-dihydro-7,7'-d}_2\text{-lycopene}$ (21). After rechromatography on a kieselgel column (benzene), crystallization from ether-CH₃OH gave 33.8 mg 21, m.p. 143-148°; kieselgur paper $R_F=0.28$ (petroleum ether) and $R_F=0.66$ (2 % acetone in petroleum

ether), on aluminium oxide paper $R_F = 0.50$ (2 % acetone in petroleum ether), and by TLC on kieselgel G R_F =0.54 (CHCl₃) and R_F =0.65 (benzene). 2I had $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (petroleum ether) at 444, 470 [E(1 %, 1 cm) = 1965] and 502 nm, % III/II = 77; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (KBr) 3020 – 2800 (CH), 1730, 1620 (C=C), 1460 – 1440, 1378, 1367 (CH₃), 1083 (OCH₃), 959 (trans-CH=CH-), 923 (trans-CH=CD-?), 830 (-CH=C-) and 727 (imp.) cm⁻¹; at 220 Mc/sec τ 3.3 – 4.0 (ca. 12H, olefinic), 4.14 s (2H, H-6,H-6'), 4.89 m (1H, isopropylidene), 6.82 s (OCH₃), 7.88 (3 allylic CH₂), 8.01 s, (4 in-chain CH₃), 8.15 s (2 end-of-chain CH₃), 8.30 s, 8.38 s (2 isopropylidene CH₃), 8.52 m (ca. 4H, 2 CH₂), 8.73 (imp.), 8.84 s (-C(CH₃)₂OCH₂); m/e 570, 569, 568 (M), 538 (M-32), 478, 477 (M-92), 464, 463 (M-106), 412 (M-158), 395 (M-106-69), 241, 119, 106, 105, 92, 91, 73, 69 (100 %);

 $d_0:d_1:d_2:d_3=4:28:65:3.$ 7.7'- $d_2:3,4,3',4'$ -Tetrahy trospirilloxanthin (22). Rechromatography on a column of kieselgel (eluent 30 % CHCl₃ in benzene) gave 12.4 mg 22 m.p. 140-160° (reported 16 174° for the undeuterated analogue), undepressed on admixture with the undeuterated 174° for the undeuterated analogue), undepressed on admixture with the undeuterated compound. No separation was achieved in the systems listed for 20. 22 had $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (petroleum ether) at 443, 470 and 501 nm, % III/II = 75; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (KBr) 3020 – 2800 (CH), 1632, 1622 (C=C), 1460 – 1440, 1379, 1364 (CH₃), 1083 (OCH₃), 959 (trans-CH=CH-), 923 (trans-CH=CD-?), 833 (-CH=C-), and 728 (imp.) cm⁻¹; at 220 Mc/sec τ 3.3 – 4.0 (12H, olefinic), 4.14 s (2H, H-6, H-6'), 6.82 s 2 OCH₃), 7.88 m (2 allylic CH₂), 8.01 s (4 in-chain CH₃), 8.15 s (2 end-of-chain CH₃), 8.52 m (4 CH₂), 8.72 (imp.), 8.83 s (2 C(CH₃)₂-OCH₃); m/e 602, 601 (M), 587 (M – 15), 570 (M – 32), 538 (M – 32 – 32), 523 (M – 79), 510, 509 (M – 92), 496, 495 (M – 106), 478 (M – 92 – 32), 464 (M – 106 – 32), 444, 443 (M – 158), 190 119 106 105 92 91 73 (100 %) 693 d.d.d. 527.68

120, 119, 106, 105, 92, 91, 73 (100 %), 69; $d_0:d_1:d_2=5:27:68$.

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