

Usnic Acid. VIII.¹⁾ The Dienone-Phenol Rearrangement of 9-O-Acetyltetrahydrodesoxyusnic and Dihydrousnic Acids

MASAKO TAKANI and KŌTARO TAKAHASHI

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Kanazawa²⁾

(Received March 15, 1971)

The Dienone-Phenol rearrangement of 9-O-acetyl-tetrahydrodesoxyusnic- (IV), 9-O-acetyldihydrousnic- (VI) and dihydrousnic acids (V) were studied.

It was reported in previous papers of this series that methyl-dihydrousnic acid (I) gave, on acetylation with acetic anhydride and conc. H_2SO_4 , the acetates of anhydromethyl-dihydrousnic- (II)³⁾ and isoanhydromethyl-dihydrousnic acids (III)⁴⁾ as the products followed by the Dienone-Phenol rearrangement. This paper deals with the Dienone-Phenol rearrangement of 9-O-acetyltetrahydrodesoxyusnic- (IV), dihydrousnic- (V) and 9-O-acetyldihydrousnic acids (VI). Asahina, Maeda and Yanagita⁵⁾ reported that *d*-diacetylusnic acid was hydrogenated to *l*-diacetyldihydrousnic acid and a compound $C_{22}H_{24}O_8$, mp 194°, $[\alpha]^{30} = 27.7^\circ$, which they assumed to be *d*-diacetyltetrahydrodesoxyusnic acid (VII). The present authors prepared the same compound of mp 196°, $[\alpha]^{26.5} = 33.8^\circ$ and concluded that it is 9-O-acetyltetrahydrodesoxyusnic acid $C_{20}H_{22}O_7$ (IV) by the following spectral and chemical evidence. A precise molecular weight determination of the compound, mp 196° by the mass spectrometry gave a value (M^+ , m/e 374.137) in excellent agreement with the formula $C_{20}H_{22}O_7$ (Calcd. m/e 374.137). IV was acetylated to diacetate $C_{22}H_{24}O_8$ (VII) of mp 134° and deacetylated to $C_{18}H_{20}O_6$ (VIII) of mp 154°. VIII gave the diacetate $C_{22}H_{24}O_8$ (VII') of mp 118°, which was deacetylated to VIII. The deacetylated compound of mp 154° could be formulated as either VIII (isotype) or VIII' (normal type), but it is plausible to assume that IV and VII (normal type), on treatment with conc. H_2SO_4 , are deacetylated and isomerized to give VIII (isotype), which yields VII' (isotype) by acetylation and VII' (isotype) yields VIII (isotype) by deacetylation with conc. H_2SO_4 . VII exhibits the infrared (IR) bands (cm^{-1}) at 1765 (OAc), 1680 ($\alpha\beta$ -unsatd. C=O), 1575—1520 (broad, triketone), 1110, 1010 (-C-O-C-) and VII' at 1765 (OAc), 1675 ($\alpha\beta$ -unsatd. C=O), 1575—1520 (broad, triketone), 1105, 1010 (-C-O-C-). IV exhibits IR bands at 3400 (OH), 1740 (OAc), 1670 ($\alpha\beta$ -unsatd. C=O), 1632 (chelated C=O), 1550—1535 (broad, triketone), 1115, 1020 (-C-O-C-) and VIII at 3540—3880 (OH), 1670 ($\alpha\beta$ -unsatd. C=O), 1632 (chelated C=O), 1550—1520 (broad, triketone), 1110, 1023 (-C-O-C-). The nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) signals (δ -value) of IV, VII, VII' and VIII could be assigned as shown in Table I. VII shows OH signals at 18.32 and 18.75 (1H, chelated enol OH), VII' at 18.24 and 18.70 (1H, chelated enol OH), and IV at 5.34 (s, broad, non-chelated OH), 18.05 and 18.40 (1H, chelated enol OH) and VIII at 4.92 (1H, broad, non-chelated OH), 18.10 (s, 1H, chelated enol OH) and furthermore at 8.58 (s, 1H), which could be assigned to the OH group at C_9 . The rather low δ -value (8.58) is probably due to the chelation of the OH group at C_9 with the C=O group at C_1 . The NMR spectrum of IV and VII in CF_3COOD shows the signals of the angular- CH_3 and Ar- CH_3 groups as singlets, respectively, suggesting that IV and VII might be present in two types of enol forms in respect of the location of hydrogen

1) Part VII: K. Takahashi and M. Takani, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **18**, 1831 (1970).

2) Location: *Takaramachi, Kanazawa*.

3) K. Takahashi and S. Miyashita, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **11**, 209 (1963).

4) K. Takahashi, S. Miyashita and Y. Ueda, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **11**, 473 (1963).

5) Y. Asahina, S. Maeda and M. Yanagita, *Yakugaku Zasshi*, **58**, 219 (1938); *idem, Ber.*, **70**, 1500 (1937).

TABLE I. The NMR Data (δ -Value, 60 Mc)

	$\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2$	Ang- CH_3	Ar- CH_3	OAc	COCH_3	$\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2^a$	CH-CH_2	OH		Solvent
								non-chelated	chelated enol chelated	
IV	0.85—1.12 (m) 3H	1.63, 1.75 (d) 3H	1.83, 1.89 (d) 3H	2.38, 2.43, 2.56 6H	2.20— (m) 2H	2.87—3.04 (m) 2H	4.54—4.79 (m) 1H	5.34 (s) 1H	18.05, 18.40 (d) 1H	CDCl_3
VII	0.93, 1.05, 1.18 (t) 3H	1.66, 1.80, 1.82 6H	2.23(s)3H 2.38(s)3H	2.42, 2.58 (d) 3H	2.22— (m) 2H	2.90—3.10 (m) 2H	4.66—4.85 (m) 1H		18.32, 18.75 (d) 1H	
VII'	0.92, 1.05, 1.18 (t) 3H	1.65, 1.79, 1.82, 1.92 6H	2.30(s)3H 2.36(s)3H	2.41, 2.57 (d) 3H	2.20— (m) 2H	2.87—3.05 (m) 2H	4.60—4.84 (m) 1H		18.24, 18.70 (d) 1H	
VIII	1.01, 1.13, 1.26 (t) 3H	1.70, 1.82 (d) 3H	2.13 (s) 3H	2.62 (s) 3H	2.37—2.74 (q) 2H	3.06, 3.14 (d) 2H	4.68, 4.76, 4.84 (t) 1H	4.92 ^{b)} (s)(broad)1H	8.58 (s) 1H	CF_3COOD
IV	1.00, 1.13, 1.26 (t) 3H	1.90 (s) 3H	2.07 (s) 3H	2.62 (s) 3H	2.48— (m) 2H	3.22—3.33 (m) 2H	4.80—4.90 (m) 1H			
VII	0.99, 1.12, 1.24 (t) 3H	1.93 (s) 3H	1.96 (s) 3H	2.53(s)3H 2.61(s)3H	2.69 (s) 3H	3.30 (m) 2H	4.90 (m) 1H			
VII'	1.00, 1.12, 1.25 (t) 3H	1.91, 1.95, 2.03 6H	2.52(s)3H 2.60(s)3H	2.68 (s) 3H	2.35— (m) 2H	3.29 (m) 2H	4.90 (m) 1H			
VIII	1.02, 1.15, 1.27 (t) 3H	1.88 (s) 3H	2.21 (s) 3H	2.75 (s) 3H	2.46, 2.58— (m) 2H	3.25, 3.33 (d) 2H	4.86, 4.93, 5.00 (t) 1H			
Diacetyl dihydro usnic acid	1.73, 1.84 (d) 3H	1.82, 1.90 (d) 3H	2.32, 2.42, 2.45, 2.51, 2.63 12H			3.04—3.13 (m) 2H	4.86—5.02 (m) 1H		18.60, 19.02 (d) 1H	CDCl_3
VI	1.68, 1.80 (d) 3H	1.91, 1.93 (d) 3H	2.39, 2.42, 2.44, 2.60 9H			2.96—3.13 (m) 2H	4.75—5.02 (m) 1H	13.30, 13.35 (d) 1H	17.75, 18.21 (d) 1H	CF_3COOD
	1.95 (s) 3H	2.04 (s) 3H	2.65 (s) 3H	2.69(s)3H 2.84(s)3H		3.33—3.44 (m) 2H	5.02—5.14 (m) 1H			

a) The signal was overlapped with the signals of the OAc and COCH_3 groups.

b) The signal was overlapped with the signals of the $-\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2$ groups.
 abbreviation: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet

bonds in the ring B in chloroform solution, as VI and diacetyldihydrousnic acid. These spectral and chemical evidences indicate that IV has an acetoxy group at C₉ and the monoacetate of mp 196° and diacetate of mp 134° could be formulated as IV and VII (usnic acid type⁶⁾), respectively, because the NMR data indicate that these two compounds could not be formulated as any other two iso-type of compounds,⁶⁾ respectively. Both VII and VII' exhibit almost the same ultraviolet (UV), IR and mass spectrum (MS) spectra, but the NMR signals of VII' are slightly different from those of VII, probably indicating that the diacetate of mp 118° could be formulated as VII' (isousnic acid type).⁶⁾ The MS spectrum of IV could be analysed as follows: IV gave on electron impact, M⁺ (*m/e* 374.137, relative intensity 13, formula C₂₀H₂₂O₇) and M⁺ - C₂H₂O (332.126, 8, C₁₈H₂₀O₆), which in turn gave rise to species A (248.105, 27, C₁₄H₁₆O₄) and species B (206.096, 100, C₁₂H₁₄O₃), respectively, by the retro-Diels-Alder fragmentation of the ring B. Species A and B, which could be considered to be benzofuran structure, gave rise to species (219.103, 16, C₁₃H₁₅O₅) and species (177.091, 1, C₁₁H₁₃O₂) by the loss of a CHO group, respectively, by the characteristic fragmentation of benzofuran derivatives.⁷⁾ Species M⁺ - C₂H₂O gave rise to species (289.108, 1, C₁₆H₁₇O₅) by the loss of a COCH₃ and then species (261.113, 3, C₁₅H₁₇O₄) by the loss of a C=O group. Species B gave rise to species (191.068, 22, C₁₁H₁₁O₃) by the loss of a CH₃ group. Similarly, V gave rise to species (220.074, 100, C₁₂H₁₂O₄) by the retro-Diels-Alder fragmentation of the ring B, which gave rise to species (191.071, 3, C₁₁H₁₁O₃) by the loss of a CHO group. These evidences indicate that IV, VII, VII' and VIII could be formulated as shown in Chart 1. But

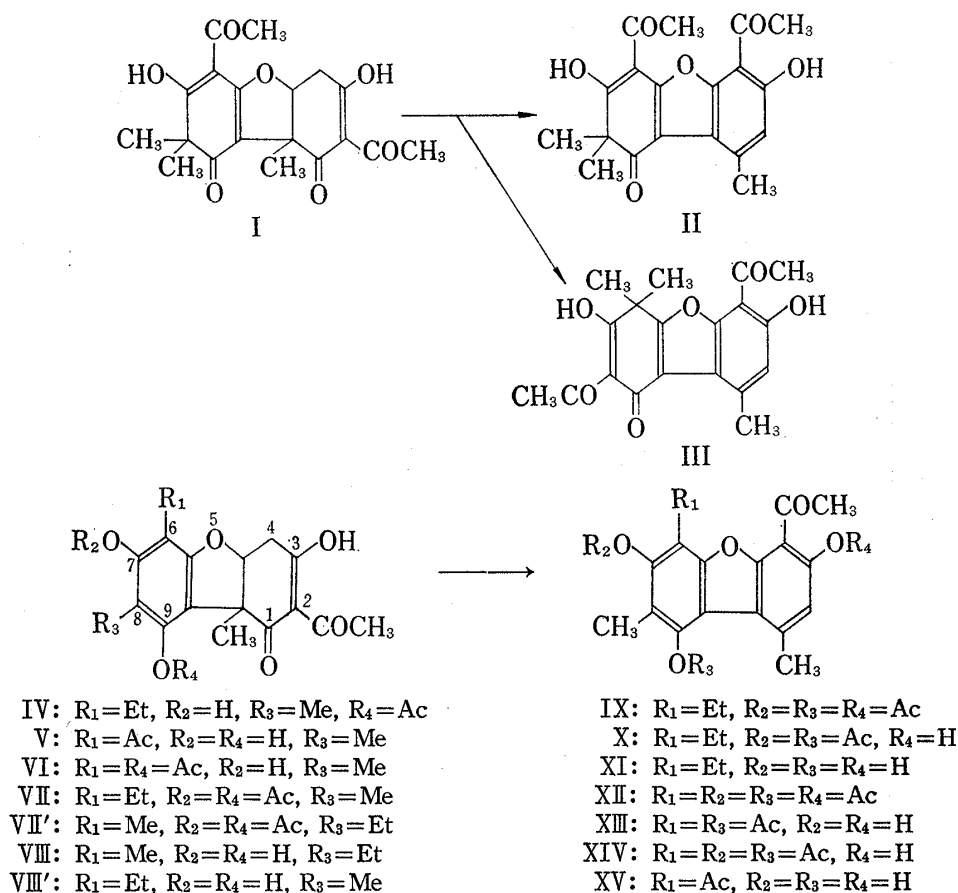


Chart 1

6) S. Shibata and H. Taguchi, *Tetrahedron Letters*, **48**, 4867 (1967).

7) H. Budzikiewics, C. Djerassi and D.H. Williams, "Interpretation of Mass Spectra of Organic Compounds," 1964, p. 231.

there still remain a possibility that the structure of the deacetylated compound of mp 154° might not be the iso-form (VIII) assigned, but its isomeric form (VIII'), because isodihydrous acid is readily converted into dihydrous acid even by the process of recrystallization.⁶⁾

IV was treated with acetic anhydride and conc. H₂SO₄ to give colorless needles C₂₄H₂₄O₈ (IX) of mp 194—195° and colorless needles C₂₂H₂₂O₇ (X) of mp 221—222°. Both IX and X were deacetylated to give yellow needles C₁₈H₁₈O₅ (XI) of mp 282—283°. IX gave no coloration but X and XI gave green coloration with FeCl₃. IX exhibits the IR bands at 1760 (OAc), 1692 (non-chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1110, 1055 (-C-O-C-) and 890 (isolated Ar-H) and X at 1770 (OAc), 1645 (chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1110, 1058 (-C-O-C-), 875 (isolated Ar-H) and XI at 1630 (chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1115, 1043 (-C-O-C-), 890 (isolated Ar-H). But IX, X and XI do not exhibit the characteristic broad band of the triketone group at about 1550—1500. The NMR signals of IX, X and XI could be assigned as shown in Table II.

TABLE II. The NMR Data (δ -Value, 60 Mc)

	CH ₃ -CH ₂	OAc	Ar-CH ₃	COCH ₃	CH ₃ -CH ₂ ^{a)}	Ar-H	OH	Solvent
IX	1.15, 1.28, 1.41 (t) 3H	2.34(s)3H 2.40(s)6H	2.02(s)3H 2.77(s)3H	2.81(s)3H	2.64—3.02 (q)2H	6.86(s)1H		CDCl ₃
X	1.17, 1.29, 1.41 (t) 3H	2.42(s)6H	2.03(s)3H 2.70(s)3H	2.94(s)3H	2.65—3.01 (q)2H	6.70(s)1H	13.02(s)1H	CDCl ₃
XI	1.37, 1.45, 1.57 (t) 3H		2.77(s)3H 3.17(s)3H	2.90(s)3H	3.05—3.44 (q)2H	6.82(s)1H	—	C ₅ D ₅ N
XII		2.36(s)3H 2.39(s)3H 2.46(s)3H	2.09(s)3H 2.78(s)3H	2.82(s)6H		6.89(s)1H		CDCl ₃
XIII		2.41(s)3H	2.07(s)3H 2.60(s)3H	2.83(s)3H 2.87(s)3H		6.68(s)1H	12.97(s)1H 13.54(s)1H	CDCl ₃
XIV		2.37(s)3H 2.42(s)3H	2.05(s)3H 2.64(s)3H	2.77(s)3H 2.85(s)3H		6.67(s)1H	13.07(s)1H	CDCl ₃

a) The signal was overlapped with the signals of the Ar-CH₃ and COCH₃ groups.

IX, X and XI do not exhibit NMR signals of angular-CH₃, -CH-CH₂-, and chelated enol OH groups which are observed on the NMR spectrum of IV, but they exhibit signals of two Ar-CH₃ groups and an Ar-H. The rather low δ -value of the aromatic protons of IX (6.86) and X (6.70) and the difference (0.16 ppm) between them might indicate⁸⁾ that the ortho position of the aromatic proton of IX and X is substituted by a OAc and a OH groups, respectively. These spectral evidences indicate that IX, X and XI are dibenzofuran derivatives and could be formulated as shown in Chart 1. IX was kept in a mixture of benzene and ethylacetate (15:1, V/V) and Kiesel gel for a few days at room temperature to give X, suggesting that IX was partly deacetylated to give X during the column chromatography for the purification. The reaction mechanism of the formation of IX from IV might be the same as that of the acetylation of I,^{3,4)} which involves the Dienone-Phenol rearrangement.

Dihydrousnic- (V) and 9-O-acetyldihydrousnic acids (VI) gave, by the acetylation with acetic anhydride and conc. H₂SO₄, colorless needles C₂₄H₂₂O₉ (XII) of mp 201—202°, faint yellow needles C₂₀H₁₈O₇ (XIII) of mp 211—212° and colorless needles C₂₂H₂₀O₈ (XIV) of mp 199—200°. XII, XIII and XIV were deacetylated to C₁₈H₁₆O₆ (XV) of mp 291—293°, indicating that XII, XIII and XIV are acetyl derivatives of XV. XII exhibits IR bands at 1760 (OAc), 1685 (non-chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1168, 1082 (-C-O-C-), 895 (isolated Ar-H) and XIII at 1770 (OAc), 1645 and 1630 (two chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1170, 1080 (-C-O-C-), 890 (isolated Ar-H) and XIV at 1775 (OAc), 1700 (non-chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1645 (chelated Ar-COCH₃), 1175, 1085 (-C-O-C-), 895 (isolated Ar-H) and XV at 1645 and 1635 (two chelated

8) J.A. Ballantine and C.T. Pillinger, *Tetrahedron*, **23**, 1691 (1967).

Ar-COCH₃), 1187, 1077 (-C-O-C-), 872 (isolated Ar-H). XII, XIII and XIV do not exhibit the characteristic broad band of triketone group at about 1550—1500. The NMR signals of XII, XIII and XIV could be analyzed as shown in Table II. XII, XIII and XIV do not exhibit the NMR signals of angular-CH₃ and -CH-CH₂-, but exhibit an Ar-H, two Ar-CH₃ groups. The chemical shifts of the aromatic protons of XII (6.89), XIII (6.68) and XIV (6.67) are in rather low δ -values and the difference (0.21 ppm) between the δ -values of the aromatic protons of XII and XIII and that (0.22 ppm) between those of the aromatic protons of XII and XIV are almost equal to the value (0.25 ppm) of the difference between the shielding effects of OAc and OH groups⁸⁾ to the protons at their *ortho* position, respectively. The δ -value of the chemical shift (12.97) of one of the two chelated OH groups of XIII is nearly equal to those of the OH signals at C₃ of II, III and X, and the value (13.54) of the chemical shift of the other is also nearly equal to those of the OH signals at C₇ of usnic acid, V and VI. The value (13.07) of the chemical shift of the OH group of XIV is nearly equal to that (12.97) of the OH signal at C₃ of XIII and to that (13.02) of the OH signal at C₃ of X, as shown in Table III. These spectral evidence indicates that XII, XIII, XIV and XV could be for-

TABLE III. The NMR Data (δ -Value, 60 Mc) of the OH Groups

	Usnic acid	9-O-Acetyl usnic acid	II	III	V	VI	X	XIII	XIV
C ₃	18.8	18.61	12.78	12.73	18.44	17.75 18.21	13.02	12.97	13.07
C ₇	13.3	13.21	17.60	18.56 18.88	13.49	13.30 13.35		13.54	
C ₉	11.0				9.51				

mulated as shown in Chart 1. V and VI gave the same compounds XII, XIII and XIV, disproving the formation of isousnic acid type of compound.⁶⁾ XII was deacetylated to give XIII and XIV by keeping XII in a mixture of benzene and ethylacetate and Kiesel gel for a few days at room temperature. The reaction mechanism of the formation of XII from dihydrousnic- (V) and 9-O-acetyldihydrousnic acids (VI) might involve the Dienone-Phenol rearrangement. The Dienone-Phenol rearrangement products of IV, V and VI and of I^{3,4)} were all *m*-cresol type of compounds, but not *p*-cresol type of compounds, probably due to the difficulty of the formation of the highly strained four-membered spiran intermediate.⁹⁾

Experimental

The IR spectra were measured in KBr pellet with a Nippon Bunko DS-402G spectrometer, the UV spectra in EtOH with a Hitachi EPS-2U recording spectrometer, the NMR spectra in CDCl₃ with a JNM-C-60-H high resolution NMR instrument at 60 Mc with (CH₃)₄Si as internal reference and the MS spectra with JMS-OISG mass spectrometer, the ionizing current kept at 200 μ A, while the ionizing energy being maintained at 75 eV and the source temperature at 170° (IV), 80° (VII), and 90° (VII'), and the optical rotation at 589 m μ with a Nippon Bunko automatic polarimeter DIP-SL, not otherwise stated.

Hydrogenation of *d*-Diacetylusnic Acid⁵⁾—One gram of *d*-diacetylusnic acid, dissolved in acetic acid (50 ml), was hydrogenated with Pd-black (0.3 g). After six hours shaking, when 200 ml of H₂ was absorbed, the solvent was filtered and the filtrate was poured into water to give precipitate, which was crystallized from methanol to give colorless prisms (IV) of mp 196°. Yield: 0.4 g. $[\alpha]^{26.5} = 33.8^\circ$ ($c = 1.185$, CHCl₃). FeCl₃: red brown. UV λ_{\max} (m μ , log ϵ): 210 (4.46, an end absorption), 226 (4.23, sh), 277 (4.12). *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₀H₂₂O₇: C, 64.16; H, 5.92. Found: C, 64.23; H, 5.94. M⁺ = 374.137 (Calcd. for C₂₀H₂₂O₇: 374.137, Mass spectrometry).

Acetylation of IV—(i) A mixture of 1 g of IV, sodium acetate (1.0 g) and acetic anhydride (10 ml) was warmed at 110° for 3 hr and was treated as usual to give faint yellow needles (VII) of mp 134° from 80%

9) S.M. Bloom, *J.A.C.S.*, **81**, 4728 (1959).

methanol, after purification by chromatography with silicic acid and benzene-ethylacetate (4:1, v/v). Yield: 270 mg. $[\alpha]_D^{18} = 53.4^\circ$ ($c = 1.012$, CHCl_3). UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 210 (4.45, an end absorption), 226 (4.24, sh), 279 (4.15). Mass Spectrum (m/e , intensity): 416 (19), 374 (24), 332 (16), 290 (30), 248 (90), 219 (10), 206 (100), 191 (13). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_8$: C, 63.45; H, 5.81. Found: C, 63.49; H, 5.90.

(ii) A mixture of 2 g of IV, acetic anhydride (10 ml) and pyridine (10 ml) was kept at room temperature for 14 hr and was treated as usual to give faint yellow needles (VII) of mp 134° from 80% methanol, after purification by chromatography mentioned above. Yield: 138 mg. *Anal.* Found: C, 63.60; H, 5.96.

Deacetylation of VII, followed by Acetylation—(i) VII (350 mg) was dissolved in ice cold conc. H_2SO_4 (1 ml) and the solution was kept in cold for 20 min and poured into water to give yellow plates (VIII) of mp 154° from 80% methanol. Yield: 150 mg. *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_6$: C, 65.05; H, 6.07. Found: C, 64.80; H, 6.07.

(ii) A mixture of VIII (185 mg), obtained above, acetic anhydride (1.8 ml) and sodium acetate (185 mg) was warmed at 110° for 3 hr and treated as usual to give yellow needles (VII') of mp 118° from methanol, after purification by chromatography mentioned above. Yield: 20 mg. Mass Spectrum: 416 (21), 374 (24), 332 (15), 290 (30), 248 (96), 219 (9), 206 (100), 191 (9). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_8$: C, 63.45; H, 5.81. Found: C, 63.41; H, 5.86.

Deacetylation of IV, followed by Acetylation and Deacetylation—(i) IV (5 g) was dissolved in ice cold conc. H_2SO_4 (20 ml) and after 20 min, the mixture was poured into water to give yellow plates (VIII) of mp 154° from 70% methanol. Yield: 2.0 g. $[\alpha]_D^{18} = 57^\circ$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 210 (4.64, an end absorption), 233 (4.21, sh), 274.5 (4.24). *Anal.* Found: C, 65.03; H, 6.02.

(ii) A mixture of VIII (1 g) obtained above, acetic anhydride (10 ml), sodium acetate (1 g) was warmed at 110° for 3 hr and treated as usual to give faint yellow needles (VII') of mp 118° from 80% methanol, after purification by chromatography mentioned above. Yield: 170 mg. $[\alpha]_D^{18} = 52.6^\circ$ ($c = 1.008$, CHCl_3). UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 210 (4.43, an end absorption), 226 (4.22, sh), 278.5 (4.12). *Anal.* Found: C, 63.46; H, 5.81.

(iii) VII' of mp 118° obtained above, was deacetylated to give VIII of mp 154° . *Anal.* Found: C, 65.40; H, 6.08.

Dienone-Phenol Rearrangement of IV—A mixture of IV (3 g), acetic anhydride (30 ml) and four drops of conc. H_2SO_4 was gently refluxed for 4 hr. After cooling, the mixture was poured into water to give resinous powder (3.4 g), which was chromatographed over 300 g of Kiesel gel (column diameter 5 cm) with benzene-ethylacetate (15:1, v/v). The eluate was separated into portions of 10 g each. The eluate collected from Nos 111 to 159 was evaporated to give colorless needles (X) of mp 221 – 222° from methanol-benzene. Yield: 67 mg. UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 228.5 (4.59), 258.0 (4.41, sh), 271.0 (4.51), 304.0 (3.94, sh), 352.0 (3.75). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_7$: C, 66.32; H, 5.57. Found: C, 66.43; H, 5.57. The eluate collected from Nos 270 to 320 was evaporated to give colorless needles (IX) of mp 194 – 195° . Yield: 362 mg. UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 216.5 (4.65), 227.5 (4.63), 252.5 (4.46), 261.5 (4.43), 295.5 (4.06), 326.0 (3.86, sh). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_8$: C, 65.44; H, 5.49. Found: C, 65.14; H, 5.40. The eluate collected from Nos 160 to 269 was rechromatographed over 100 g of Kiesel gel (column diameter 3.5 cm) with benzene-ethylacetate (20:1, v/v) to give X (87 mg) and IX (54 mg) and colorless needles of mp 272 – 274° (110 mg). The studies on the constitution of the compound are under way.

Deacetylation of X—X (50 mg) was treated with conc. H_2SO_4 (1 ml) to give yellow needles (XI) of mp 284 – 286° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 20 mg. FeCl_3 : green. UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 228.0 (4.54, sh), 232.6 (4.56), 268.0 (4.50), 282.0 (4.36, sh), 310 (3.74). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5$: C, 68.78; H, 5.77. Found: C, 68.93; H, 5.83.

Deacetylation of IX—IX (110 mg) was deacetylated with conc. H_2SO_4 to give yellow needles (XI) of mp 282 – 283° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 60 mg. *Anal.* Found: C, 68.80; H, 5.78.

Treatment of IX in Benzene-Ethylacetate with Kiesel Gel—IX (1 mg) ($R_f = 0.46$) was dissolved in 16 ml of benzene-ethylacetate (15:1, v/v) and 2 g of Kiesel gel was added and the mixture was kept at room temperature for 5 days. The solution showed two spots at $R_f = 0.46$ and at $R_f = 0.68$ on a thin-layer chromatogram (benzene-ethylacetate = 10:1, Kiesel gel), the latter of which was almost equal to that of X ($R_f = 0.70$).

The Dienone-Phenol Rearrangement of V—A mixture of V (3 g), acetic anhydride (30 ml) and 3 drops of conc. H_2SO_4 was gently refluxed for 3 hr and after cooling, the mixture was poured into water to give precipitate (3.5 g), which was chromatographed over 200 g of Kiesel gel (column diameter 5 cm) with benzene-ethylacetate (15:1, v/v). The eluate was separated into portions of 10 g each. The eluate from Nos 181 to 430 was evaporated to give 1.05 g of powder, which was rechromatographed over 100 g of Kiesel gel with benzene-ethylacetate (8:1, v/v). The eluate from Nos 24 to 34 gave faint yellow needles (XIII) of mp 211 – 212° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 38 mg. FeCl_3 : green. UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 218.0 (4.32, sh), 259.0 (4.69), 284.5 (4.37), 359.0 (4.05). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_7$: C, 64.86; H, 4.90. Found: C, 64.89; H, 4.95.

The eluate from Nos 58 to 87 gave colorless needles (XIV) of mp 199 – 200° . Yield: 198 mg. FeCl_3 : green. UV λ_{max} ($m\mu$, $\log \epsilon$): 251.5 (4.53), 282.0 (4.42), 317.0 (4.02). *Anal.* Calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_8$: C, 64.07; H, 4.89. Found: C, 63.84; H, 4.98.

The eluate from Nos 113 to 125 gave colorless needles (XII) of mp 201—202° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 29 mg. FeCl₃; negative. UV λ_{\max} (m μ , log e): 213.5 (4.59), 239.0 (4.48), 250.0 (4.41, sh), 262.5 (4.33), 306.0 (4.18). *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₄H₂₂O₉: C, 63.43; H, 4.88. Found: C, 63.57; H, 4.67.

Deacetylation of XII—XII (50 mg) was treated with conc. H₂SO₄ (1 ml) to give pale yellow needles (XV) of mp 291—293° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 20 mg. FeCl₃; green. UV λ_{\max} (m μ , log e): 264.0 (4.64), 295.5 (4.37, sh), 354.0 (4.21). *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₈H₁₆O₆: C, 65.85; H, 4.91. Found: C, 65.91; H, 4.86.

Deacetylation of XIII—XIII (20 mg) was deacetylated with conc. H₂SO₄ (0.5 ml) to give pale yellow needles (XV) of mp 291—293°. *Anal.* Found: C, 66.03; H, 4.91.

Deacetylation of XIV—XIV (70 mg) was deacetylated with conc. H₂SO₄ to give XV of mp 291—293°. *Anal.* Found: C, 65.51; H, 4.85.

The Dienone-Phenol Rearrangement of VI—A mixture of VI (2 g), acetic anhydride (20 ml) and 3 drops of conc. H₂SO₄ was refluxed gently for 2 hr and the mixture was poured into ice water to give resinous precipitate (2.2 g), which was chromatographed over 250 g of Kiesel gel with benzene-ethylacetate (15:1, v/v). The eluate was separated into portions of 10 g each. The eluate from Nos 121 to 460 gave 620 mg of powder, which was rechromatographed over 124 g of Kiesel gel with benzene-ethylacetate (8:1, V/V). The eluate was separated into portions of 8 g each and the eluate from Nos 28 to 32 gave pale yellow needles (XIII) of mp 211—212° from benzene-methanol. Yield: 30 mg. *Anal.* Found: C, 64.92; H, 4.91. The eluate from Nos 70 to 76 gave colorless needles (XIV) of mp 199—200°. Yield: 75 mg. *Anal.* Found: C, 64.04; H, 5.25. The eluate from Nos 156 to 160 gave colorless needles (XII) of mp 201—202°. Yield: 20 mg. *Anal.* Found: C, 63.23; H, 4.83.

Treatment of XII in Benzene-Ethylacetate with Kiesel gel—XII (1 mg, *Rf*=0.33) was dissolved in 16 ml of benzene-ethylacetate (15:1, v/v) and 2 g of Kiesel gel was added and the mixture was kept at room temperature for 5 days. The solution showed two spots on a thin-layer chromatogram at *Rf*=0.57 and *Rf*=0.82, which were almost equal to those of XIV (*Rf*=0.55) and VIII (*Rf*=0.82), respectively (benzene-ethylacetate=10:1, Kiesel gel).

Acknowledgement The authors express their gratitude to Dr. Y. Asahina, Emeritus Professor of University of Tokyo, for his encouragement throughout this work and to Mr. H. Ogata, Wako Junyaku Co. Ltd. for supply of usnic acid. Thanks are also due to Mr. Y. Itatani of this faculty for elemental analyses and NMR measurement and Miss M. Imai for elemental analyses and Miss S. Kitagawa for measuring Mass spectra.