

## Tannins and Related Polyphenols of Melastomataceous Plants. V.<sup>1)</sup> Three New Complex Tannins from *Melastoma malabathricum* L.

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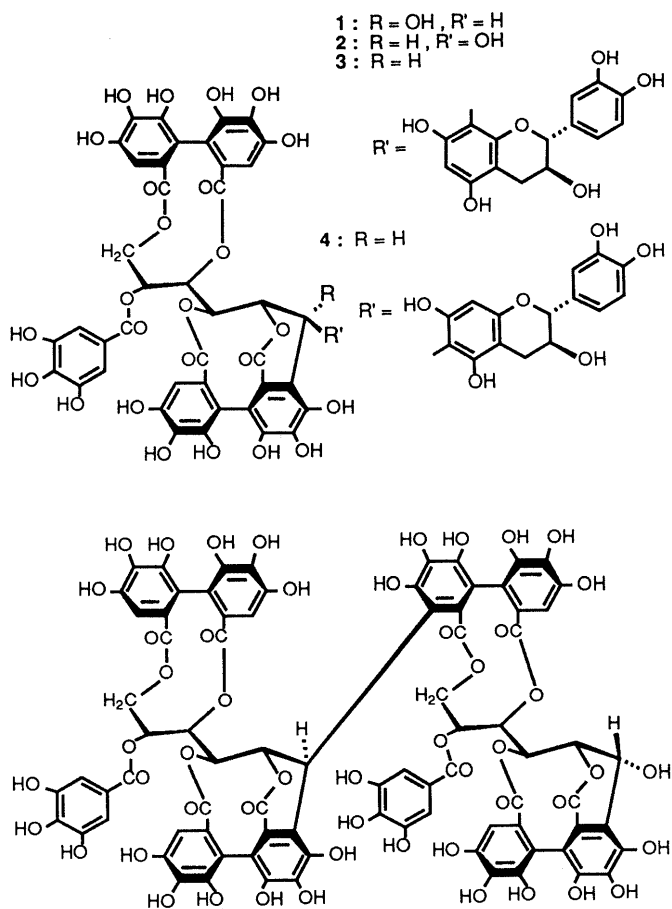
**Malabathrins A (6), E (11) and F (14), new complex tannins consisting of a C-glucosidic ellagitannin and a flavan 3-ol, have been isolated from the leaves of *Melastoma malabathricum* L., and their structures were determined by chemical and spectroscopic methods including two-dimensional nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.**

**Keywords** *Melastoma malabathricum*: Melastomataceae; tannin; C-glucosidic tannin; complex tannin; malabathrin A; malabathrin E; malabathrin F

The dried leaves of *Melastoma malabathricum* L. are used as a popular crude drug called "daun halendong" in Indonesia, for the treatment of diarrhea, dysentery and leucorrhea.<sup>2)</sup> We recently reported the isolation of dimeric hydrolyzable tannins, malabathrins B, C, D, and eleven known tannins (nobotanins B, D, G, H, J, pterocaridin C, casuarictin, strictinin, pedunculagin and two galloylglucoses), from this plant.<sup>1)</sup> Further investigation of the leaf extract of this plant led to the isolation of seven C-glucosidic ellagitannins including three new complex tannins, named malabathrins A (6), E (11) and F (14), which are composed of a C-glucosidic ellagitannin and a flavan-3-ol linked through a C-C bond.<sup>3)</sup>

These tannins were isolated from the 70% aqueous acetone homogenate of the dried leaves of *M. malabathricum* by repeated column chromatography over Diaion HP-20, Toyopearl HW-40 and MCI gel CHP-20P (see Experimental). Among them, three were identified as casuarinin (1),<sup>4)</sup> and stenophyllanins A (3) and B (4), based on comparisons of their physico-chemical properties with those of an authentic sample (casuarinin) or with the data reported for stenophyllanins A and B.<sup>5)</sup> The fourth tannin (5), showed the pseudo-molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  1855 ( $M+H$ )<sup>+</sup> in the fast-atom bombardment mass spectrum (FAB-MS). It was characterized by examination of the proton and carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) spectra as a C-glucosidic ellagitannin dimer composed of casuarinin (1) and stachyurin (2)<sup>4)</sup> moieties, connected with each other through a C-C bond, and was found to be identical with alienanin B (5) from *Quercus aliena* BL.<sup>6)</sup>

The new tannin, malabathrin A (6), showed the pseudo-molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  1383 ( $M+Na$ )<sup>+</sup> in the FAB-MS. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 6 exhibited a 1H singlet ( $\delta$  6.19), ABX-type signals [ $\delta$  6.43 (d,  $J=2$  Hz), 6.76 (d,  $J=8$  Hz), 6.26 (dd,  $J=2, 8$  Hz)], and methylene proton signals [ $\delta$  2.80 (d,  $J=16$  Hz) and 2.94 (dd,  $J=3.5, 16$  Hz)], which are characteristic of a C-6 (or C-8) substituted flavan 3-ol moiety. A pair of protons with a *cis* relationship on the heterocyclic C-ring of the flavan 3-ol moiety, H-2 and H-3, appeared as a broad singlet at  $\delta$  5.10 (H-2) and a broad doublet ( $J=3.5$  Hz) at  $\delta$  5.19 (H-3). A remarkable downfield shift of H-3 from that of (–)-epicatechin (EC) ( $\delta$  4.23) and the galloyl proton signal at  $\delta$  6.97 (2H, s) imply the presence of an EC 3-O-gallate portion in the molecule. The presence of a stachyurin moiety in 6 was indicated by an extra galloyl proton signal [ $\delta$  7.09 (2H, s)], three 1H singlets due to hexahydroxydiphenoyl (HHDP) groups [ $\delta$  6.91, 6.60, 6.55 (each 1H, s)], and the aliphatic proton signals characteristic of an open-chain glucose core.<sup>4)</sup> The upfield shift of the H-1 signal [ $\delta$  4.57 (s)] of the glucose core, relative to that ( $\delta$  4.91) of 2, is accounted for by the presence of a C-C bond between C-1 of the glucose core and C-6 (or C-8) of the (–)-epicatechin gallate moiety. The substitution mode at C-6 or C-8 of the EC [or catechin] moiety in the procyanidins (or complex tannins) is generally known to be distinguishable on the basis of the chemical shift of the H-2 signal of the C-ring.<sup>5,7)</sup> For example, H-2 in procyanidin B-5 (7), which is spatially far from the C-6 substituent, resonates at almost the same position as that of EC, while the corresponding signal in an 8-substituted isomer,



5  
Chart 1

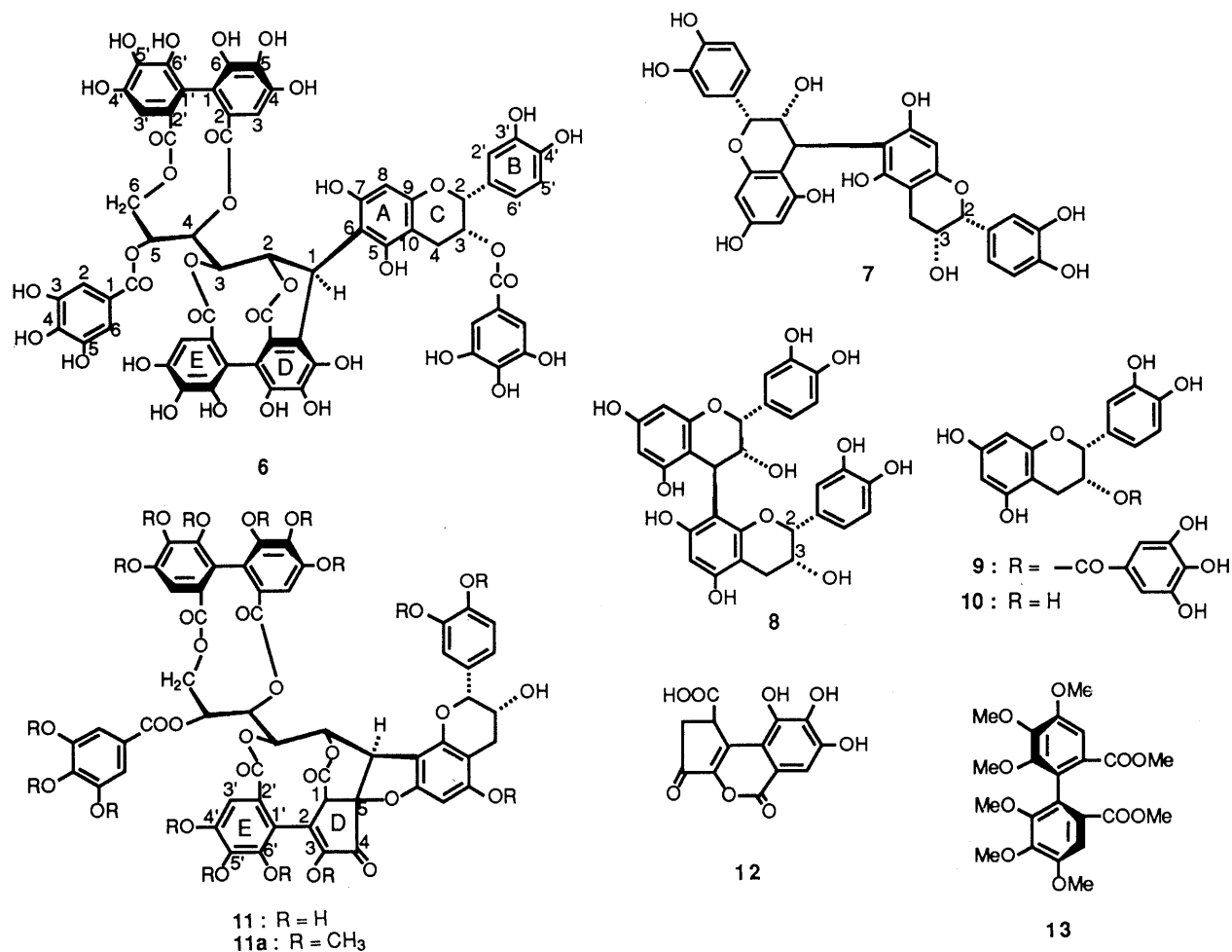


Chart 2

procyanidin B-2 (**8**), shows a significant downfield shift from that of EC. The H-2 signal of **6** appears at  $\delta$  5.10, similar to that ( $\delta$  5.14) of (–)-epicatechin gallate (**9**), indicating the C-6 substitution on the flavan 3-*O*-gallate moiety in **6**. The configuration at C-1 of the glucose core as illustrated in the formula **6** is evidenced by the small coupling constant ( $J < 1$ ) of the H-1 signal, which is analogous to that ( $J = 2$  Hz) of **2**,<sup>4b</sup>) and also by a significant nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) between the H-1 and H-3 signals in the frame-rotating Overhauser enhancement spectroscopy (ROESY) of **6**.

The circular dichroism (CD) spectrum of **6** exhibited positive ( $[\theta] + 8.4 \times 10^4$ ) and negative ( $[\theta] - 3.3 \times 10^4$ ) Cotton effects at 233 and 262 nm, indicating the *S* chirality for both HHDP groups, though the amplitude at shorter wavelength was about half of that expected for two (*S*)-HHDP groups.<sup>8</sup> This small amplitude is attributable to overlapping of the positive Cotton effect with a strong negative Cotton effect of (–)-epicatechin gallate (**9**) at 207 nm ( $[\theta] - 9.8 \times 10^4$ ).<sup>9</sup>

These structural features of **6**, including the absolute configuration of the HHDP groups, were confirmed by acid-catalyzed condensation of casuarinin (**1**) and (–)-epicatechin gallate (**9**) in boiling dioxane, yielding **6** as the major product.<sup>10</sup> The inversion ( $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ ) of the configuration at C-1 of the glucose moiety in **1**, upon this condensation, may be due to steric hindrance at the  $\alpha$ -site, which is induced

by the steric proximity between glucosyl C-1 and the HHDP group at O-4/O-6.<sup>4b</sup>) The structure of malabathrin A is represented by the formula **6**, based on these findings.

Malabathrin E (**11**) showed the (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> ion peak at  $m/z$  1201 in the FAB-MS. Its <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum exhibited a 2H singlet ( $\delta$  7.00), four 1H singlets ( $\delta$  6.92, 6.65, 6.56, 6.01), and three proton signals of ABX-type [ $\delta$  7.20 (d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 6.86 (dd,  $J = 8, 2$  Hz), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz)], which are similar to those of **6**, except for the absence of a galloyl 2H singlet. The <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H shift correlation spectrum (COSY) revealed that **11** is composed of an open-chain glucose core and an EC moiety (Table I). The C-8 substitution at the EC moiety is evidenced by the downfield shifts of both H-2 and H-3 signals of the EC unit relative to the corresponding signals of (–)-epicatechin (**10**), in an analogous way to procyanidin B-2 (**8**).<sup>7</sup>

Upon comparison of the glucose proton signals of **11** with those of **6**, remarkable differences were observed in the chemical shifts of the H-1 signal (**6**,  $\delta$  4.57; **11**  $\delta$  3.98), and H-2 signal (**6**,  $\delta$  4.67; **11**  $\delta$  5.40), showing that the structural difference between **11** and **6** might be in the D-ring. An extra singlet which is absent in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **6** is observed at  $\delta$  4.31 in **11**. The <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of **11** exhibited the signals due to a ketone ( $\delta$  196.0), a tetrasubstituted double bond ( $\delta$  139.3, 149.9), a quaternary carbon ( $\delta$  90.3) and a methine carbon ( $\delta$  49.6), instead of the D-ring aromatic carbon signals in **6**. The

TABLE I. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Data for **10**, **11** and **14** [500 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O, *J* (Hz) in Parentheses]

	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>
Galloyl, HHDP and ring-D, E			
		7.00 s	7.12 s
		6.92 s	6.97 s
		6.65 s	6.74 s
		6.56 s	6.50 s
		4.31 s	4.32 s
EC moiety			
H-2	4.83 s	4.99 s	4.86 br s
H-3	4.16 m	4.32 m	4.17 m
H-4	2.81 dd (16, 4.5)	2.83 dd (16, 3.5)	2.83 dd (16, 3.5)
	2.68 dd (16, 3)	2.69 dd (16, 4.5)	2.67 (16, 3)
H-6	5.88 d (2)	6.01 s	
H-8	5.99 d (2)		6.07 s
H-2'	7.01 d (2)	7.20 d (2)	7.01 d (2)
H-5'	6.75 d (8)	6.89 d (8)	6.76 d (8)
H-6'	6.79 dd (2, 8)	6.86 dd (2, 8)	6.79 dd (2, 8)
Glucose			
H-1		3.98 s	4.14 s
H-2		5.40 m	5.62 s
H-3		5.17 d (4)	5.35 br d (3)
H-4		5.48 dd (4, 9)	5.76 dd (3, 9.5)
H-5		5.23 dd (3, 9)	5.52 dd (3, 9.5)
H-6		4.67 dd (3, 13)	4.80 dd (3, 13)
		4.01 d (13)	4.09 br d (13)

chemical shifts of the ketone and the tetrasubstituted olefinic carbon signals, are analogous to those of the substituted 1,2-diketone enolate system in brevifolincarboxylic acid (**12**).<sup>11)</sup>

In the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C long-range COSY ( $J_{CH}=7, 9$  Hz), the H-1 signal ( $\delta$  3.98, s) of the glucose core is correlated, through three-bond coupling, with the signal at  $\delta$  159.6 and the ketone carbonyl signal at  $\delta$  196.0. The former signal is also correlated with the H-6 signal of the EC moiety, thus being assigned to C-7 of EC. The connectivity between H-1 of the glucose core and C-8 of EC was also indicated by the correlation (two-bond coupling) of the H-1 signal with the C-8 resonance at  $\delta$  104.3. Similarly, the H-2 signal of the glucose core is correlated, through three-bond couplings, with the C-8 signal ( $\delta$  104.3) of EC, the quaternary carbon ( $\delta$  90.3, ring-D C-5), and the ester carbonyl carbon signal at  $\delta$  168.8. The other long-range couplings are shown in Fig. 1. These spectral features are analogous to those of mongolicain A, which has a cyclopentenone moiety linked to glucose C-1 through a C-C bond.<sup>12)</sup> The FAB-MS data are also consistent with the proposed structure (**11**) (C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>30</sub>).

Upon methylation with dimethyl sulfate and potassium carbonate, **11** afforded a hexadecamethylate (**11a**). The H-6 signal ( $\delta$  6.17) of the EC part in **11a** appeared in the ROESY spectrum, showing an NOE only with the methoxyl signal at  $\delta$  3.56,<sup>13)</sup> which supports the presence of an ether linkage at C-7 of the EC moiety. The specific optical rotation ( $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -27° (EtOH)) of dimethyl hexamethoxydiphenate (**13**), obtained by methanolysis of **11a**, showed the *S*-configuration of the HHDP group in **11**. The structure **11** of malabathrin E was thus established.

Malabathrin F (**14**) showed the (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> ion peak at  $m/z$  1201 in FAB-MS, which is the same as that of **11**. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **14** is similar to that of **11**, except for the chemical shifts of the H-2 and H-3 signals of the EC

TABLE II. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Data for the Glucose, Epicatechin and Cyclopentenone Moieties of **10**, **11** and **14** (126 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O)

	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>
Glucose			
C-1		46.8	47.8
C-2		81.3	80.5
C-3		75.8	75.2
C-4		72.7	72.2
C-5		71.8	71.8
C-6		64.1	64.5
Epicatechin			
C-2	79.2	79.6	79.7
C-3	66.7	65.8	66.0
C-4	28.8	29.6	28.4
C-5	157.4 <sup>a)</sup>	157.5	157.9
C-6	95.3	90.0	104.9
C-7	157.5 <sup>a)</sup>	159.6	160.0
C-8	96.0	104.3	97.4
C-9	156.9	152.6	153.1
C-10	99.5	102.1	95.8
C-1'	131.9	131.1	131.6
C-2'	115.3	115.4	115.1
C-3'	145.1	145.0	145.0
C-4'	145.2	145.1	145.2
C-5'	115.1	116.0	115.3
C-6'	119.1	121.0	119.1
Cyclopentenone ring (D-ring)			
C-1		49.6	50.4
C-2		139.3	139.2
C-3		149.9	149.6
C-4		196.0	196.3
C-5		90.3	89.6

a) Assignment is interchangeable.

moiety [ $\delta$  4.86 (br s), 4.17 (m)] (Table I). These signals are virtually the same as those [ $\delta$  4.83 (s), 4.16 (m)] of (-)-epicatechin (**10**), indicating the presence of the C-6 substituted EC moiety in **14**. Malabathrin F is therefore a regio-isomer of **11** concerning the A-ring substitution in the EC moiety. This conclusion is also supported by the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum, in which only the chemical shifts of the A-ring carbon signals differ from those of **11** (Table II). The C-6 signal of the EC moiety in **14** is shifted downfield ( $\delta$  104.9) from that of **10** ( $\delta$  95.3), while the C-8 signal ( $\delta$  97.4) is almost the same as that of **10** ( $\delta$  96.0). On the other hand, the C-10 signal of the EC moiety in **14** showed a remarkable upfield shift ( $\Delta\delta$  -3.7 ppm), relative to that of **10**. This upfield shift is comparable to the upfield shift ( $\Delta\delta$  -5.3 ppm) of the C-6 signal induced by formation of the ether linkage at C-7 in **11** (Table II), suggesting the presence of an ether bond at C-5 (EC moiety) in **14**. This assignment was substantiated by the ROESY spectrum of the hexadecamethyl derivative (**14a**), which showed an NOE between the H-8 signal ( $\delta$  6.04) of the EC moiety and one ( $\delta$  3.67) of the methoxyl signals.<sup>14)</sup>

The absolute configuration of the HHDP group in **14** is the same as that of **11**, since their CD spectra are almost superimposable. The structure of malabathrin F was consequently determined as **14**.

Many hydrolyzable tannins, including oligomers, nobotannins A, B, C and E-K, have been found in various plant species (*Tibouchina semidecandra*,<sup>4b)</sup> *Heterocentron rooseum*,<sup>15)</sup> *Medinilla magnifica*,<sup>16)</sup> *Schizocentron elegans*,<sup>17)</sup> *Melastoma candidum*<sup>17)</sup> etc.) of Melastomataceae, which had been little investigated chemically, before the in-

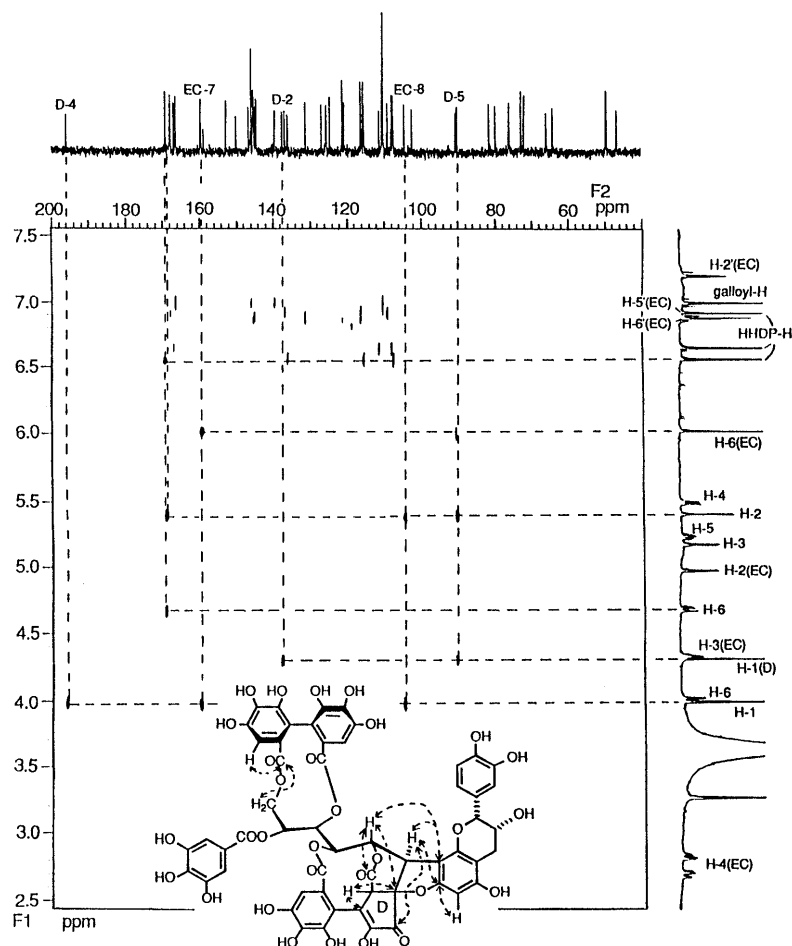
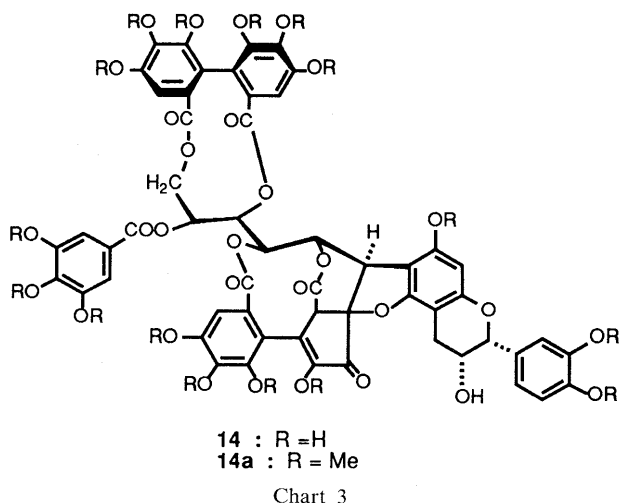


Fig. 1.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  Long-Range COSY of Malabathrin E (11)

Average  $J_{\text{CH}}$  value = 7 Hz for three- and two-bond coupling. D: D-ring. EC: (-)-epicatechin moiety.



vestigations of this series started. Malabathrins A, E and F, stenophyllanins A and B, and alienanin B, isolated from *M. malabathricum* in the present study, are the first examples of complex tannins and C-glucosidic tannin dimers from this family.

#### Experimental

$^1\text{H}$ - (500 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (126 MHz) spectra were measured on a Varian VXR 500 instrument and chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  (ppm) values relative to acetone- $d_6$  (2.04 ppm for  $^1\text{H}$  and 29.8 ppm for  $^{13}\text{C}$ ).

FAB-MS were taken on a VG 70-SE high-resolution mass spectrometer using 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol containing NaCl as the matrix agent. High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was conducted on Superspher Si 60 (4 mm  $\times$  119 mm) and LiChrospher RP-18 (4 mm  $\times$  250 mm) columns, using the following solvent systems: (A) hexane-MeOH-tetrahydrofuran (THF)-HCOOH (60:45:15:1) and oxalic acid (500 mg/1.2 l), (B) 0.05 M phosphate buffer-EtOH-EtOAc (85:10:5), (C) 0.05 M phosphate buffer- $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (85:15), (D) 0.05 M phosphate buffer-EtOH-EtOAc (87:8:5), (E) 0.05 M phosphate buffer- $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (87:13), (F) 0.05 M phosphate buffer-EtOH-EtOAc (83:12:5). Column chromatography was carried out on Toyopearl HW-40 (coarse and fine grades) (Tosoh Corp.), Diaion HP-20 and MCI-gel CHP-20P (Mitsubishi Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was conducted on Kieselgel PF<sub>254</sub> (Merck) with benzene-acetone (10:1 or 5:1), and visualized under ultraviolet (UV) irradiation.

**Plant Materials** The crude drug (daun halendong; dried leaves of *Melastoma malabathricum* L.) was purchased at a market in Sukabumi, Cap Lonceng, Indonesia, in August 1988. A voucher specimen (AN-SKJ No. 283) is deposited in the Department of Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University.

**Isolation of Tannins** The dried leaves and stems (1.4 kg) of *M. malabathricum* were homogenized in 70% aqueous acetone and filtered. The concentrated filtrate was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , EtOAc and *n*-BuOH, successively, to give the  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  extract (1.9 g), EtOAc extract (20.7 g), *n*-BuOH extract (27.8 g) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  extract (37 g). A part (9.5 g) of the *n*-BuOH extract was chromatographed over Diaion HP-20 with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -MeOH (10% MeOH  $\rightarrow$  20%  $\rightarrow$  30%  $\rightarrow$  40%  $\rightarrow$  50%). The 30% MeOH eluate (1.4 g) was rechromatographed over Toyopearl HW 40 (fine) developing with 70% MeOH  $\rightarrow$  80%  $\rightarrow$  MeOH-acetone- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (7:2:1) in a stepwise gradient mode. The 80% MeOH eluate gave casuarinin (1) (201 mg), and the eluate with MeOH-acetone- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  afforded stenophyllanins A (3) (99 mg) and B (4) (21 mg). The  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  extract (37 g) was similarly fractionated by column chromatography over Diaion HP-20 with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$



(1H, diffused dd,  $J=3$ , 8 Hz, Glc H-5), 4.86 (1H, dd,  $J=3$ , 13 Hz, Glc H-6), 4.30 (1H, d,  $J=13$  Hz, Glc H-6), 4.36 (1H, s, ring-D H-1), 3.59, 3.60, 3.63, 3.67, 3.71, 3.78, 3.79, 3.80, 3.82, 3.84, 3.85, 3.87, 3.93, 4.00 (each 3H, s, OMe  $\times$  14), 3.86 (6H, s, OMe  $\times$  2).

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- 14) The NOE's observed among the other aromatic protons and methoxyl protons were as follows: HHDP protons with the methoxyl signals at  $\delta$  3.71, 3.82, 3.87; EC H-5' with the signal at  $\delta$  3.80; galloyl protons with the signal at  $\delta$  3.86 ( $2 \times$  OMe).
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