

## New Dimeric Monoterpenes and Dimeric Diterpenes from the Heartwood of *Chamaecyparis obtusa* var. *formosana*

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Two dimeric monoterpenes obtusal A and B, and two dimeric diterpenes obtusanol A and B, along with (–)-(S)-citronellol, (–)-(S)-citronellic acid, (+)-borneol, (+)-sugiol, and (–)-6,12-dihydroxyabieta-5,8,11,13-tetraen-7-one, have been isolated from the heartwood of *Chamaecyparis obtusa* var. *formosana* and were characterized by spectroscopic means, including 2D-NMR techniques and chemical methods. Synthesis of (–)-obtusal A and (+)-obtusal B were carried out.

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**1. Introduction.** – Among seven species, only two species of *Chamaecyparis* (Cupressaceae) are indigenous to Taiwan. *C. formosensis* and *C. obtusa* var. *formosana* (Taiwan hinoki) are important building materials and found in the central mountains of Taiwan at 1300–2800 m above sea level. The *C. obtusa* var. *formosana* possesses a high resistance against termites and can live over 1000 years. Its timber is yellow-red with a distinguished purple-pink streak together with a huge body. Based on the above features, the value of *C. obtusa* var. *formosana* is higher than *C. formosensis*. In previous papers on chemical studies of the heartwood of *C. obtusa* var. *formosana*, we reported the structural elucidation of novel diterpenes and lignans [1–4]. Further detailed re-investigation of the same extract from the heartwood of this plant yielded two new dimeric monoterpenes, obtusal A (**1**) and B (**2**), and two new dimeric diterpenes, obtusanol A (**3**) and B (**4**), together with (–)-citronellol (**5**) [5], (–)-citronellic acid (**6**) [6], (+)-borneol (**7**) [7], (+)-sugiol (**8**) [8], and (–)-6,12-dihydroxyabieta-5,8,11,13-tetraen-7-one (**9**) [8]. The structures of these new dimeric compounds were elucidated on the basis of the spectral evidence and chemical methods. Optically pure (–)-obtusal A (**1**) and (+)-obtusal B (**2**) were synthesized from (–)-citronellol (**5**), (–)-citronellic acid (**6**), and (+)-borneol (**7**).

**2. Results and Discussion.** – Compound **1**, called obtusal A, has been isolated as a liquid. HR-EI-MS Experiments revealed **1** to have the formula C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of ester (1734, 1248, and 1073 cm<sup>-1</sup>), conjugated aldehyde (2716 and 1690 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and olefinic (1674 cm<sup>-1</sup>) groups. The UV absorption band at λ<sub>Max</sub><sup>MeOH</sup> 229 nm confirmed the presence of the conjugated system. By means of <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (*Table 1*) analysis and 2D techniques (including HMQC, HMBC, COSY, and NOESY methods), the structure of obtusal A (**1**) was judged to be a dimeric monoterpene with an ester linkage and not as a diterpene.

The alcohol moiety exhibited two Me signals at δ 0.94 (*d*, *J* = 6.7 Hz) and 1.72 (*s*, attached on C=C bond), on olefinic H-atom at δ 6.44 (*t*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), and an aldehyde

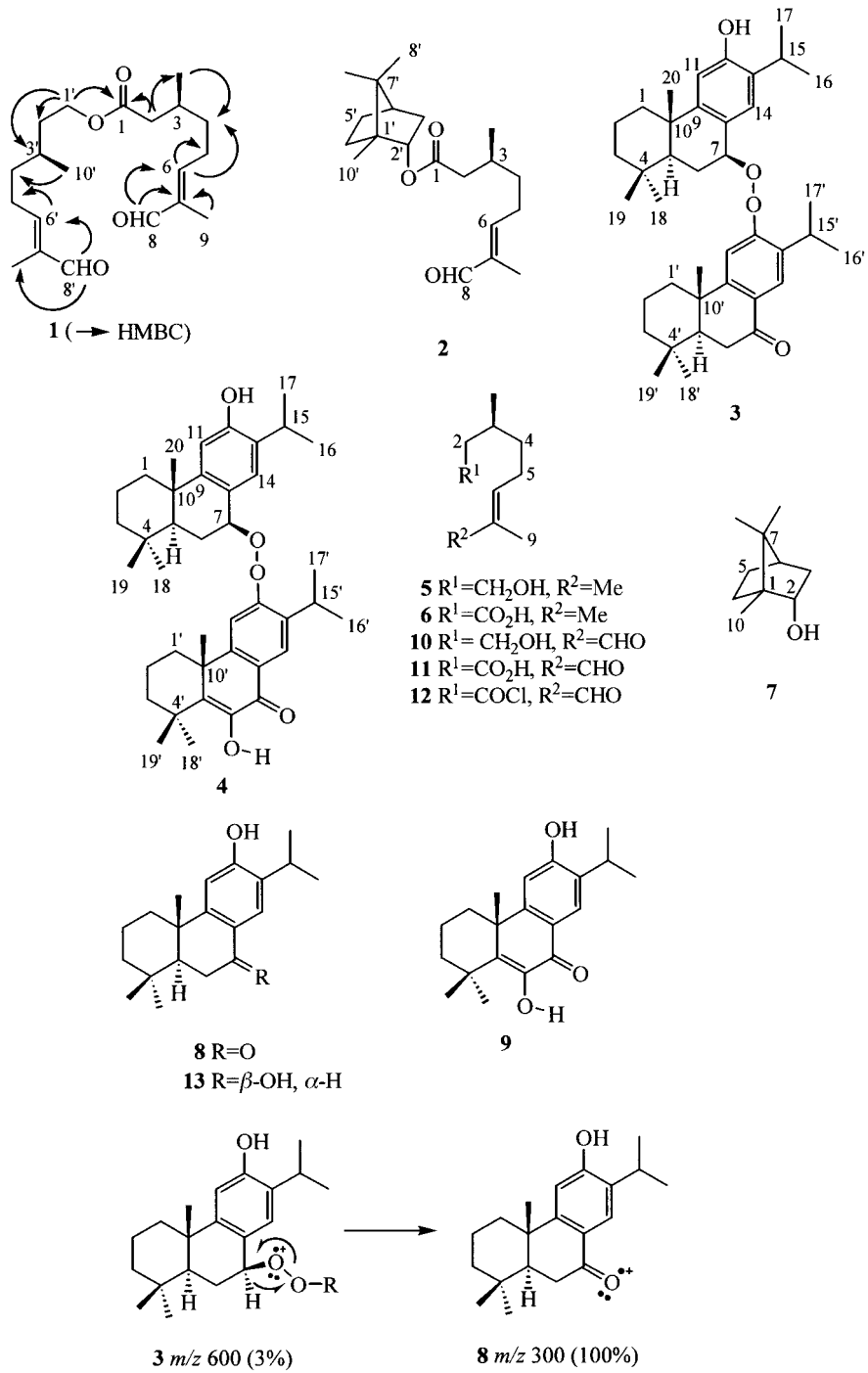


Table 1.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  Data ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) of Compounds **1–4**.  $\delta$  in ppm,  $J$  in Hz.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(2)$	2.15 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=14.8, 7.7$ )	2.18 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=14.7, 7.5$ )	$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1)$	2.22 ( <i>br. d</i> , $J=13.6$ )	2.24 ( <i>br. d</i> , $J=13.4$ )
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(2)$	2.29 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=14.8, 6.3$ )	2.30 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=14.7, 6.5$ )	$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(7)$	5.38 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=9.1, 2.6$ )	5.41 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=9.0, 2.5$ )
$\text{H-C}(3)$	1.98 ( <i>m</i> )	2.01 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H-C}(11)$	6.68 ( <i>s</i> )	6.68 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(4)$	1.57 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.61 ( <i>m</i> )	1.38 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.53 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H-C}(14)$	7.03 ( <i>s</i> )	7.18 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(5)$	2.36 ( <i>m</i> )	2.36 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H-C}(15)$	3.01 ( <i>sept.</i> , $J=6.9$ )	3.00 ( <i>sept.</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{H-C}(6)$	6.44 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.3$ )	6.44 ( <i>tq</i> , $J=7.3, 1.1$ )	$\text{Me}(16)$	1.10 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )	1.11 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{H-C}(8)$	9.37 ( <i>s</i> )	9.37 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{Me}(17)$	1.12 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )	1.16 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{Me}(9)$	1.72 ( <i>s</i> )	1.72 ( <i>d</i> , $J=1.1$ )	$\text{Me}(18)$	0.96 ( <i>s</i> )	1.02 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{Me}(10)$	0.96 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.7$ )	0.98 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.6$ )	$\text{Me}(19)$	0.93 ( <i>s</i> )	0.98 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(1')$	4.10 ( <i>m</i> )		$\text{Me}(20)$	1.21 ( <i>s</i> )	1.27 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(2')$	1.38 ( <i>m</i> )	4.87 ( <i>ddd</i> , $J=10.0, 3.4, 2.2$ )	$\text{HO-C}(12)$	4.58 ( <i>br. s</i> )	4.60 ( <i>br. s</i> )
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(2')$	1.53 ( <i>m</i> )		$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1')$	2.32 ( <i>br. d</i> , $J=13.8$ )	2.40 ( <i>br. d</i> , $J=13.6$ )
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(3')$	1.57 ( <i>m</i> )	0.92 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=13.7, 10.0$ )	$\text{H-C}(5')$	1.92 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=13.2, 4.3$ )	
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(3')$		2.34 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(6')$	2.58 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=18.1, 4.3$ )	
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(4')$	1.51 ( <i>m</i> )	1.65 ( <i>br. t</i> , $J=4.5$ )	$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(6')$	2.67 ( <i>dd</i> , $J=18.1, 4.3$ )	
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(4')$	1.67 ( <i>m</i> )		$\text{H-C}(11')$	6.76 ( <i>s</i> )	6.77 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(5')$	2.36 ( <i>m</i> )	1.20 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H-C}(14')$	7.93 ( <i>s</i> )	8.03 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(5')$	2.36 ( <i>m</i> )	1.72 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{H-C}(15')$	3.29 ( <i>sept.</i> , $J=6.8$ )	3.33 ( <i>sept.</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(6')$	6.44 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.3$ )	1.29 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{Me}(16')$	1.19 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.8$ )	1.20 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(6')$		1.89 ( <i>m</i> )	$\text{Me}(17')$	1.21 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.8$ )	1.25 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.9$ )
$\text{H-C}(8')$	9.37 ( <i>s</i> )		$\text{Me}(18')$	0.98 ( <i>s</i> )	1.46 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{Me}(8')$		0.88 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{Me}(19')$	1.02 ( <i>s</i> )	1.42 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{Me}(9')$	1.72 ( <i>s</i> )	0.84 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{Me}(20')$	1.37 ( <i>s</i> )	1.48 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{Me}(10')$	0.94 ( <i>d</i> , $J=6.7$ )	0.80 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{HO-C}(6')$		7.15 ( <i>s</i> )

H-atom at  $\delta$  9.37 (*s*). The olefinic and aldehyde H-atom demonstrated a NOESY correlation, which establishes the (*E*)-form of the C=C bond. A *m*  $\text{CH}_2$  signal at  $\delta$  4.10 ( $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ) was considered to be attached on the O-terminal of the ester function. The C(3') is a stereogenic center causing the two H-atoms at C(1') to be nonequivalent. The COSY correlations ( $\text{H-C}(2')$  ( $\delta$  1.53, 1.38)/ $\text{H-C}(3')$  ( $\delta$  1.57);  $\text{H-C}(3')$ / $\text{H-C}(10')$ ,  $\text{H-C}(4')$  ( $\delta$  1.51, 1.67);  $\text{H-C}(5')$  ( $\delta$  2.36)/ $\text{H-C}(4'-6')$ ) confirmed the proton sequence.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data of this moiety are similar to those of (*E*)-2,6-dimethyl-8-hydroxyoct-2-enal (**10**) [5] except for the data of C(1') and  $\text{H-C}(1')$  ( $\delta(\text{H})$  4.10 (*m*), in **1** and 3.72 (*m*) in **10**;  $\delta(\text{C})$  62.5 in **1** and 60.8 in **10**). The acid moiety also showed signals of secondary Me ( $\delta$  0.96 (*d*,  $J=6.7$  Hz)), vinyl Me ( $\delta$  1.72 (*s*)], aldehyde ( $\delta$  9.37 (*s*)), and olefinic H-atoms ( $\delta$  6.44 (*t*,  $J=7.3$  Hz)). The signals of the two  $\text{CH}_2$  H-atoms vicinal to the C=O group of ester were observed at  $\delta$  2.29 (*dd*,  $J=14.8, 6.3$  Hz, 1 H) and 2.15 (*dd*,  $J=14.8, 7.7$  Hz, 1 H). COSY Correlations  $\delta$  2.29/ $\delta$  1.98;  $\delta$  1.98/ $\delta$  1.57, 1.61;  $\delta$  1.61/ $\delta$  2.36, and  $\delta$  2.36/ $\delta$  6.44 allowed identification of contiguous protons. The (*E*)-configuration of the C=C bond was revealed from the NOESY correlation between  $\delta$  6.44 and 9.37. The above evidence established the structure of obtusal **A** (**1**) as an ester condensed from **10** and **11**. HMBC (Structure **1**) and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (Table 2) also confirmed the structure. The specific rotation of **1** is  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.2$ . The biosynthetic pathway was proposed from the condensation of (–)-(*S*)-**10** and (–)-(*S*)-**11**, which were derived from (–)-(*S*)-**5** and (–)-(*S*)-**6**, respectively. The total synthesis of **1** was carried out as follows. The oxidation of (–)-citronellol (**5**) with  $\text{SeO}_2$  in EtOH under reflux yielded (–)-**10** [9]. Compound (–)-**11** was obtained from (–)-citronellic acid (**6**) under the same

Table 2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Data ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) of Compounds **1**–**4**.  $\delta$  in ppm.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>		
C(1)	172.8	173.1	C(1)	41.1	41.1	C(1')	38.2	33.7
C(2)	41.6	41.9	C(2)	18.7	18.8	C(2')	18.8	17.6
C(3)	30.0	30.2	C(3)	42.5	42.4	C(3')	41.3	37.7
C(4)	35.3	35.0	C(4)	33.3	37.7	C(4')	34.8	35.9
C(5)	26.4	26.5	C(5)	47.4	47.3	C(5')	49.7	141.1
C(6)	154.4	154.1	C(6)	34.3	34.2	C(6')	36.0	143.8
C(7)	139.4	139.5	C(7)	102.5	102.4	C(7')	198.8	179.8
C(8)	195.2	195.2	C(8)	142.7	142.6	C(8')	125.2	120.9
C(9)	9.2	9.2	C(9)	146.2	146.1	C(9')	156.0	154.2
C(10)	19.5	19.5	C(10)	41.2	41.4	C(10')	38.3	40.7
C(1')	62.5	48.7	C(11)	114.0	114.1	C(11')	108.4	109.8
C(2')	35.0	79.9	C(12)	149.4	149.4	C(12')	159.0	158.5
C(3')	29.6	36.9	C(13)	133.0	133.1	C(13')	136.3	137.2
C(4')	35.3	44.9	C(14)	120.9	120.8	C(14')	126.1	125.1
C(5')	26.4	28.0	C(15)	26.8	26.9	C(15')	27.5	27.4
C(6')	154.0	27.1	C(16)	21.7	21.7	C(16')	22.5	22.6
C(7')	139.5	47.8	C(17)	21.8	21.8	C(17')	22.5	22.6
C(8')	195.2	18.8	C(18)	33.7	33.7	C(18')	32.6	27.6
C(9')	9.2	19.7	C(19)	22.6	22.5	C(19')	21.4	28.0
C(10')	19.2	13.5	C(20)	23.4	23.2	C(20')	23.2	35.0

conditions. By means of *Mitsunobu* reaction [10], the condensed product from (–)-**10** and (–)-**11** could be identified as obtusal A (**1**) with a specific rotation  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -5.8$ .

Compound **2**, obtusal B, has been isolated as an oil and has the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_3$  based on its exact mass and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum (Table 2). As compound **1**, obtusal B (**2**) contained ester and conjugated aldehyde groups attributed to the IR absorption bands at 2710, 1735, 1695, and 1630  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and UV absorption band at  $\lambda_{\text{Max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$  229 nm. By analysis of  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra, **2** was not identified as a diterpene but as a dimeric monoterpene linked by ester group as in **1**. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR data ( $\delta$  0.98 (3 H, d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz), 1.72 (3 H, d,  $J = 1.1$  Hz), 2.18 (1 H, dd,  $J = 14.7, 7.5$  Hz, H–C(2a)), 2.30 (1 H, dd,  $J = 14.7, 6.5$  Hz, H–C(2b)), 6.44 (1 H, tq,  $J = 7.3, 1.1$  Hz), 9.37 (1 H, s) are almost the same as in the acid moiety of compound **1**. The alcohol moiety exhibited three Me *singlets* at  $\delta$  0.80, 0.84, and 0.88, and the signal of CH H-atom attached to the ester at  $\delta$  4.87 (*ddd*,  $J = 10.0, 3.4, 2.2$  Hz). Comparison of  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR data of alcohol moiety of **2** with those of (+)-borneol (**7**) showed only a difference for the signal of H–C(2') in **2** located at lower field than in **7**. The coupling constant of H–C(2') of **2** with 10 Hz revealed the *endo*-orientation of the 2'-ester group. Compound **2** exhibited a specific rotation  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = +26.5$ . Compound **2** was proposed to form by condensation of (+)-borneol (**7**) (1*R*,2*S*) and (–)-**11**. To confirm this proposal, the following reaction was carried out. Oxidation of (–)-citronellic acid (**6**) with  $\text{SeO}_2$  yielded compound **11**. Acid chloride **12**, prepared from **11** by treatment with  $\text{SOCl}_2$ , reacted with (+)-borneol (**7**) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  to give a product that was identified as **2** by comparison of its physical and spectroscopic data. The specific rotation of the synthesized compound **2** ( $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = +27.3$ ) was in good agreement with that of the natural product.

Obtusanol A (**3**) had the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{56}\text{O}_4$  on the basis of exact mass (HR-EI-MS) at  $m/z$  600.4178. It showed OH ( $3373 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), aromatic ( $3051, 1598$ ,

1490  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), and conjugated C=O (1654  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) absorptions in its IR spectrum. The UV spectrum indicated a PhCO functionality ( $\lambda_{\text{Max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$  224 and 278 nm). The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum showed two sets of dehydroabietane signals as follows: one set of signals are  $\delta$  1.10, 1.12 (each 3 H, *d*,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, Me(16), Me(17)), 2.22 (1 H, br. *d*,  $J = 13.6$  Hz,  $\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1)$ , characteristic signal for dehydroabietane) [10][11]), 3.01 (1 H, *sept.*,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, H-C(15)), 4.58 (1 H, br. *s*, exchangeable, HO-C(12)), 5.38 (1 H, *dd*,  $J = 9.1$ , 2.6 Hz,  $\text{H}_\alpha\text{-C}(7)$ ), 6.68, 7.03 (each 1 H, *s*, H-C(11, 14)); the second set of signals are  $\delta$  0.98, 1.02, 1.37 (each 3 H, *s*, Me(18'), Me(19'), Me(20')), 1.19, 1.21 (each 3 H, *d*,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, Me(16'), Me(17')), 2.32 (1 H, br. *d*,  $J = 13.8$  Hz,  $\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1')$ ), 3.29 (1 H, *sept.*,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, H-C(15')), 6.76, 7.93 (each 1 H, *s*, H-C(11'), H-C(14')). The signal at  $\delta$  5.38 was assigned to H-C(7) due to HMBC correlations to C(6), C(8), and C(14). The second set of signals of **3** are like those of sugiol (**8**), the signal of H-C(14') of **3** also appears at lower field due to deshielding from the C(7')=O group. On account of the O-atom number from formula  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{56}\text{O}_4$ , the remaining two O-atoms were present as a peroxide, which links C(7) with C(12') to form compound **3**. The signals of H-C(7) and C(7) of **3** at lower field in comparison with **13** are in agreement with the peroxide influence of **3**. The base peak at  $m/z$  300 from the mass-fragmentation pattern of **3** is consistent with a peroxide structure. Catalytic hydrogenolysis of **3** with 10% Pd/C in MeOH yielded two products, (+)-sugiol (**8**) and (+)-7 $\beta$ -hydroxyferrugiol (**13**)<sup>1</sup>).

The IR spectrum of obtusanol B (**4**) indicated the presence of OH (3382  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), aromatic (3062, 1598, 1493  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), and conjugated C=O (1646  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) groups. The molecular formula  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{54}\text{O}_5$  was established by HR-EI-MS. By the analysis of  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data together with two dimensional NMR technique, compound **4** was established as a dimer of two dehydroabietane diterpene with peroxide linkage and not as a tetraterpene. A semimoiety is a 7-oxygenated ferrugiol, which was revealed from its  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data (Tables 1 and 2). The 7 $\beta$ -hydroxyferrugiol moiety showed three Me *singlets*, and signals of an exchangeable phenolic H-atom, and *i*-Pr group attached to phenyl, two *p*-phenyl H-atom, a typical  $\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1)$  proton of dehydroabietane, and a CH H-atom ( $\delta(\text{H})$  5.41, *dd*,  $J = 9.0$ , 2.5 Hz) located at C(7) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  102.4), which is connected to a peroxide group. The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  data are similar to those of compound **3**. The other semimoiety also showed three Me *singlets* and signals of a typical  $\text{H}_\beta\text{-C}(1)$  of dehydroabietane, an *i*-Pr group attached to a phenyl group, two *p*-phenyl H-atoms (one at  $\delta$  8.03, which is deshielded from C(7) carbonyl), one exchangeable H-atom ( $\delta$  7.15, HO-C(6')) with a strong H-bond to C(7')=O group). This semimoiety is revealed as 6,12-dihydroxyabieta-5,8,11,13-tetraen-7-one by comparison of its  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data with those of **9**. Therefore, in obtusanol (**4**) C(7) of ferrugiol and C(12') of 6-hydroxyabieta-5,8,11,13-tetraen-7-one were connected with peroxide. The base peak of the mass spectrum of **4** is also found at  $m/z$  300, which confirmed the assigned structure. The hydrogenolysis of **4** under the above-mentioned conditions yielded (–)-**9** and (–)-**13**. The occurrence of hydroperoxide and endoperoxide compounds in nature is very high, but disubstituted peroxides occur very seldomly.

<sup>1</sup>) Compound **13** is a new compound, which was prepared from (+)-sugiol by reduction with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in MeOH solution (see *Exper. Part*).

### Experimental Part

*General.* Extracts were chromatographed on silica gel (*Merck* 70–230 mesh, 230–400 mesh, ASTM) and purified with a semi-prep. normal-phase HPLC column (250 × 10 nm, 7 μm, *LiChrosorb Si 60*) taken on *LDC Analytical-III*. M.p.: *Yanagimoto* micro-melting-point apparatus; uncorrected. Specific rotations: *Jasco DIP-180* digital polarimeter. IR Spectra: *Perkin-Elmer 983 G* spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra: *Bruker DMX-400* spectrophotometer. EI-MS: *JEOL JMS-HX 300* mass spectrometer.

*Plant Material.* The heartwood of *C. obtusa* var. *formosana* was collected from Taichung, Taiwan, in 1996. Mr. *Muh-Tsuen*, formerly of the Department of Botany, National Taiwan University, identified the plant. A voucher specimen has been deposited at the Herbarium of Department of Botany, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan.

*Extraction and Isolation.* The dried heartwood of *C. obtusa* var. *formosana* (11 kg) was extracted with Me<sub>2</sub>CO (120 l) at r.t. (7 d × 2). To the evaporated Me<sub>2</sub>CO extract, H<sub>2</sub>O was added to bring the total volume to 1 l. This phase was extracted with AcOEt (1 l × 3). The combined AcOEt layers afforded, after evaporation, a black syrup (680 g), which was purified by silica-gel chromatography and HPLC (normal phase on *LiChrosorb Si 60*), repeatedly, with hexane/AcOEt. Compounds **1** (13 mg), **2** (15 mg), **5** (25 mg), **8** (13 mg), **9** (15 mg), **3** (10 mg), **4** (9 mg), **7** (51 mg), and **6** (25 mg) were eluted with 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 25, 25, 25, and 25% AcOEt in hexane, respectively.

(3*S*,6*E*)-8-Formyl-3,7-dimethyloct-6-en-1-yl (3*S*,6*E*)-8-Formyl-3,7-dimethyloct-6-en-1-oate (= *Obtusal A*; **1**). Liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.2$  ( $c = 0.48$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 229 (4.48). IR (film): 2716, 1734, 1690, 1674, 1248, 1073. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: *Tables 1* and 2, resp. EI-MS: 336 (7, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 165 (68), 152 (40), 139 (41), 121 (81), 109 (68), 95 (100), 81 (76), 69 (52). HR-EI-MS: 336.2303 (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>; calc. 336.2300).

(1*R*,2*S*)-1,7,7-Trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl (3*S*,6*E*)-8-Formyl-3,7-dimethyloct-6-en-1-oate (= *Obtusal B*; **2**). Liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +26.5$  ( $c = 0.79$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 229 (3.98). IR (film): 2710, 1735, 1695, 1630, 1195, 1158, 1115, 1025. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: *Tables 1* and 2, resp. EI-MS: 320 (7, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 167 (31), 136 (91), 121 (76), 109 (35), 93 (87), 81 (100), 71 (34). HR-EI-MS: 320.2356 (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>; calc. 320.2351).

12-Hydroxyabieta-8,11,13-trien-7β-yl 7-Oxoabieta-8,11,13-trien-12-yl Peroxide (= *Obtusanol A*; **3**). M.p. 158–159°.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -12.5$  ( $c = 0.37$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 224 (4.06), 278 (3.89). IR (film): 3373, 3051, 1654, 1598, 1490, 1303, 1263, 1175. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: *Tables 1* and 2, resp. EI-MS: 600 (3, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 318 (78), 300 (100), 217 (27). HR-EI-MS: 600.4187 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>56</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>; calc. 600.4179).

12-Hydroxyabieta-8,11,13-trien-7β-yl 6-Hydroxy-7-oxoabieta-5,8,11,13-tetraen-12-yl Peroxide (= *Obtusanol B*; **4**). Amorphous solid.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -26.4$  ( $c = 0.55$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 222 (4.01), 246 (3.73), 278 (3.74), 333 (3.51). IR (film): 3382, 3062, 1646, 1598, 1493, 1260, 1248, 1176. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: *Tables 1* and 2, resp. EI-MS: 614 (9, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 313 (20), 300 (100), 204 (27), 188 (23). HR-EI-MS: 614.3973 (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>54</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>; calc. 614.3971).

*Oxidation of (–)-Citronellol (5) with SeO<sub>2</sub>.* (–)-Citronellol (**5**) (455.3 mg) and SeO<sub>2</sub> (0.95 g) in 20 ml of 95% EtOH was refluxed for 20 h. The mixture was filtered through *Celite*, and the filtrate was purified by chromatography on silica gel to yield **10** (421.2 mg). Liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.2$  ( $c = 0.48$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 229 (4.48). IR (film): 2716, 1734, 1690, 1248, 1073. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: see [9].

*Oxidation of (–)-Citronellic acid (6) with SeO<sub>2</sub>.* The oxidation of (–)-citronellic acid (**6**) (485.3 mg) with SeO<sub>2</sub> (0.93 g) was performed in the same way as described above. The product **11** (446.4 mg) was isolated after purification by chromatography on silica gel. Liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -4.6$  ( $c = 0.48$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH): 228 (4.0). IR (film): 3200–2500, 2717, 1711, 1686, 1653. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.00 (*d*, *J* = 6.6, 3 H); 1.73 (*s*, 3 H); 1.44, 1.58 (*m*, each 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>(4)), 2.21 (*dd*, *J* = 15.1, 7.5, H<sub>a</sub>–C(2)); 2.38 (*dd*, *J* = 15.1, 6.6, H<sub>b</sub>–C(2)); 2.38 (*m*, CH<sub>2</sub>(5)); 6.46 (*t*, *J* = 7.2, H–C(6)); 9.37 (*s*, H–C(8)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 9.1 (C(9)); 19.4 (C(10)); 26.4 (C(4)); 29.8 (C(3)); 34.9 (C(5)); 41.2 (C(2)); 139.5 (C(7)); 154.1 (C(6)); 178.7 (C(1)); 195.3 (C(8)). EI-MS: 184 (5, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 166 (24), 122 (20), 109 (26), 97 (100), 85 (25), 69 (32). HR-EI-MS: 184.1091 (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>; calc. 184.1099).

*Synthesis of 1 from 10 and 11 by Mitsunobu Reaction.* To a THF (20 ml) soln. of **10** (138.3 mg, 0.89 mmol), **11** (151.5 mg, 0.89 mmol), and Ph<sub>3</sub>P (280.0 mg, 1.068 mmol) was added dropwise diethyl azodicarboxylate (185.8 mg, 1.068 mmol) at –20°, and the mixture was allowed to warm slowly to r.t. After 8 h, the mixture was concentrated at reduced pressure, and the products were purified by silica-gel chromatography (10% AcOEt in hexane) to provide **1** (260.3 mg, 87%).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -5.8$  ( $c = 0.62$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

*Synthesis of 2 from (+)-Borneol (7) and (–)-11.* To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) soln. of (–)-**11** (80.0 mg, 0.44 mmol) was added SOCl<sub>2</sub> (104.7 mg, 0.88 mmol). After 1 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to obtain the acid chloride. To the acid chloride, a soln. of (+)-borneol (**7**) (68.0 mg, 0.44 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (50.2 mg,

0.53 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 ml) were added. The mixture was stirred for 1 h and then poured into 10 ml of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The aq. soln. was extracted with AcOEt to yield, after evaporation of the solvent, the crude product, which was purified by silica-gel chromatography (10% AcOEt in hexane) to provide **2** (107.1 mg, 76%).  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -27.3$  ( $c = 0.45$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).

*Reduction of Sugiol (8) with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in MeOH.* An excess of  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (85.3 mg) was added in small portions to a soln. of **8** (8.4 mg) in MeOH (1 ml), and the mixture was stirred for 6 h. After removing the solvent under reduced pressure, 10 ml of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was added, and the aq. soln. was extracted with AcOEt to yield the crude product. After purification by silica-gel chromatography, **13** (8.2 mg) was obtained.

*Data of 13.* M.p. 181–182°.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = +28.3$  ( $c = 0.21$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). UV (MeOH): 232 (4.03), 285 (2.25). IR (KBr): 3264, 2962, 2925, 1615, 1583, 1512, 1424, 1239, 1029.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ): 0.95 (s, Me(19)); 0.96 (s, Me(18)); 1.19 (d,  $J = 6.9$ , Me(16)); 1.20 (d,  $J = 6.9$ , Me(17)); 1.25 (s, Me(20)); 1.33 (d,  $J = 12.9$ , H–C(5)); 2.14 (dd,  $J = 13.4$ , 7.1,  $\text{H}_\alpha$ –C(6)); 2.21 (br. d,  $J = 12.9$ , 2 H–C(1)); 3.20 (sept.,  $J = 6.9$ , H–C(15)); 4.66 (dd,  $J = 10.2$ , 7.1, H–C(7)); 6.60 (s, H–C(11)); 7.26 (s, H–C(14)).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ): 18.3 (C(2)); 20.1 (C(19)); 21.1 (C(16)); 21.1 (C(17)); 23.6 (C(20)); 25.9 (C(15)); 29.0 (C(6)); 31.7 (C(18)); 32.1 (C(4)); 37.3 (C(10)); 38.2 (C(1)); 40.6 (C(3)); 48.8 (C(5)); 69.7 (C(7)); 109.1 (C(11)); 124.3 (C(14)); 128.2 (C(13)); 131.6 (C(9)); 147.5 (C(8)); 152.7 (C(12)). EI-MS: 302 (4,  $M^+$ ), 284 (86), 269 (26), 213 (54), 202 (100), 185 (26), 159 (28), 128 (8), 83 (11). HR-EI-MS: 320.4514 ( $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_2^+$ ; calc. 320.4510).

*Catalytic Hydrogenolysis of 3 and 4 with 10% Pd/C.* Compound **3** (10.2 mg) was hydrogenated in MeOH (5 ml) with 10% Pd–C (10.5 mg) as catalyst. After 5 h, **8** (4.1 mg) and **13** (4.1 mg) were obtained. By means of the same conditions, **9** (4.3 mg) and **13** (4.3 mg) were obtained from compound **4** (10.3 mg).

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