

## Kadsutherins A–C: Three New Dibenzocyclooctane Lignans from the Stems of *Kadsura* Species

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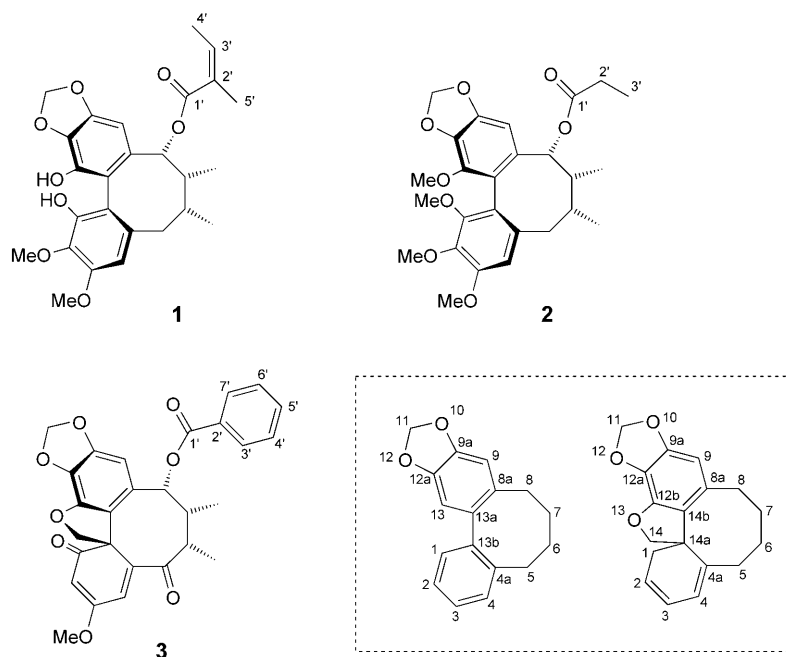
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Three new dibenzocyclooctane-type lignans, kadsutherins A–C (**1–3**), were isolated from the stems of two *Kadsura* species. Their structures and configurations were elucidated by spectroscopic methods including 2D-NMR and HR-MS techniques. Kadsutherin C (**3**) is the first dibenzocyclooctane lignan without an oxygen-containing substituent at C(2).

**Introduction.** – The stems of *Kadsura interior* A. C. SMITH and *K. heteroclita* (ROXB.) CRAIB. are used as ‘*Dian-Jixueteng*’, a herbal Chinese medicine, to produce a compound preparation called ‘*Fufang Jixueteng Gao*’ for the treatment of blood deficiency, numb hands and feet, painful aching of joints, and irregular menstruation [1][2]. Previous studies have indicated that lignans, especially those of the dibenzocyclooctane-type, are principal bioactive constituents of *K. interior* and *K. heteroclita*, with various biological activities such as antitumor-promoting effects, calcium antagonism, anti-lipid peroxidation, and anti-HIV effects [3–10]. No chemical study of ‘*Dian-Jixueteng*’ has been reported yet. Our investigation on the chemical constituents of this medicine now led to the isolation and characterization of three new dibenzocyclooctane-type lignans, kadsutherins A–C (**1–3**), which were obtained by repeated column-chromatographic purification of the AcOEt extract of ‘*Dian-Jixueteng*’.

**Results and Discussion.** – Kadsutherin A (**1**), obtained as a yellow powder, was shown to have the molecular formula  $C_{26}H_{30}O_8$  based on HR-ESI-MS ( $m/z$  493.1841 ( $[M+Na]^+$ )). The UV and NMR spectra of **1** indicated a dibenzocyclooctane-type lignan [4].

The  $^1H$ -NMR spectrum of **1** (Table 1) showed signals due to two Me groups at  $\delta(H)$  0.96 ( $d, J=7.1$ ) and 1.11 ( $d, J=6.7$  Hz), assignable to 6-Me and 7-Me [4], respectively, as well as two MeO groups at  $\delta(H)$  3.89 ( $s, 3$  H) and 3.90 ( $s, 3$  H), and a methylenedioxy (O–CH<sub>2</sub>–O) moiety at  $\delta(H)$  6.00 ( $s, 1$  H) and 6.01 ( $s, 1$  H) on two aromatic rings. The signal at  $\delta(H)$  2.13–2.15 ( $m, 2$  H), which exhibited HMBC correlations (Fig. 1) with 6-Me at  $\delta(C)$  14.8 and 7-Me at  $\delta(C)$  19.7, was assigned to both H–C(6) and H–C(7). HMBC correlations observed between the signals at  $\delta(H)$  2.62–2.63 ( $m, 2$  H) and  $\delta(C)$  34.4 (C(6)), 41.6 (C(7)), and 14.8 (6-Me) suggested a CH<sub>2</sub> group in position 5, as further confirmed by the HMBC cross-peak from H–C(4) at  $\delta(H)$  6.47 ( $s$ ) to C(5) at  $\delta(C)$  38.5, and by a ROESY correlation between H–C(4) and H–C(5). The H-atom at  $\delta(H)$  5.61 ( $s, 1$  H), correlating with C(6), C(7), and 7-Me in the HMBC spectrum, was in benzylic position, carrying an acyloxy group at C(8) ( $\delta(C)$  82.7) [4].



The two signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.74 (s, 1 H) and 5.03 (s, 1 H), lacking any HSQC correlations, suggested the presence of two additional OH groups on the aromatic rings, as confirmed by an IR band at  $3442\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The methylenedioxy moiety was attached to C(9a) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  148.6) and C(12a) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  133.9) on the basis of the HMBC correlations of H–C(9) with C(9a) and C(12a), and between the methylenedioxy resonances ( $\delta(\text{H})$  6.00, 6.01) with C(9a) and C(12a). Similarly, the 2- and 3-MeO groups at  $\delta(\text{H})$  3.89 and 3.90, respectively, were established by the HMBC correlations of 2-MeO with C(2) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  133.5), of 3-MeO with C(3) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  150.8), and of H–C(4) with C(2) and C(3). Based on the above considerations, the two OH groups could only be located at C(1) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  145.6) and C(13) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  137.0). HMBC cross-peaks observed between  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.74 (1-OH) and  $\delta(\text{C})$  145.6 (C(1)), 133.5 (C(2)), and 114.2 (C(13b)), and between  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.03 (13-OH) and  $\delta(\text{C})$  137.0 (C(13)), 133.9 (C(12a)), and 115.4 (C(13a)), respectively, further supported the above assignment.

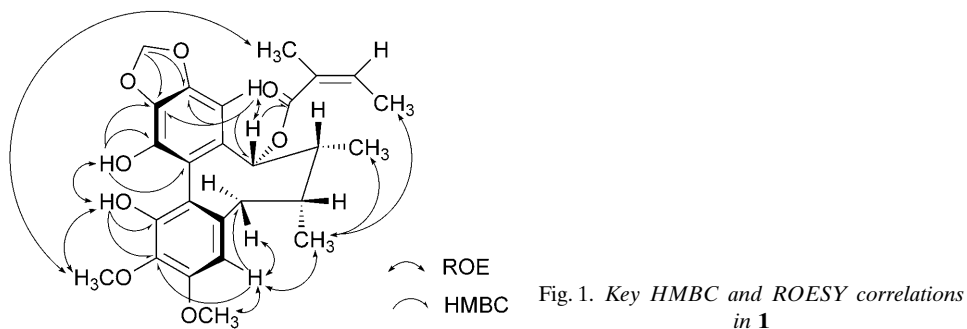


Table 1.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  Data of **1**–**3**. At 400 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $T=27^\circ$ ;  $\delta$  in ppm,  $J$  in Hz.

Position	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
H–C(2)	–	–	5.96 (s)
H–C(4)	6.47 (s)	6.56 (s)	6.72 (s)
H $_{\alpha}$ –C(5)	2.62–2.63 (m)	2.64 (s)	–
H $_{\beta}$ –C(5)	–	2.65 (d, $J=1.5$ )	–
H–C(6)	2.13–2.15 (m)	1.99–2.10 (m)	3.06–3.15 (m)
H–C(7)	2.13–2.15 (m)	1.99–2.10 (m)	1.96–1.99 (m)
H–C(8)	5.61 (s)	5.65 (s)	5.98 (d, $J=4.9$ )
H–C(9)	6.49 (s)	6.47 (s)	6.58 (s)
CH $_2$ (11)	6.00, 6.01 (2s)	5.95, 5.98 (AB, $J=1.6$ )	6.00, 6.04 (AB, $J=1.6$ )
CH $_2$ (14)	–	–	4.81, 4.39 (AB, $J=9.4$ )
6-Me	0.96 (d, $J=7.1$ )	0.92 (d, $J=7.0$ )	1.08 (d, $J=6.7$ )
7-Me	1.11 (d, $J=6.7$ )	1.06 (d, $J=7.0$ )	1.12 (d, $J=7.0$ )
1-MeO	–	3.62 (s)	–
2-MeO	3.89 (s)	3.86 (s)	–
3-MeO	3.90 (s)	3.89 (s)	3.83 (s)
13-MeO	–	3.79 (s)	–
1-OH	5.74 (s)	–	–
13-OH	5.03 (s)	–	–
Angeloyl <sup>1</sup> ):			
2'-Me	1.30 (s)	–	–
H–C(3')	5.85–5.89 (m)	–	–
3'-Me	1.89 (dd, $J=7.4, 1.6$ )	–	–
Propanoyl:			
CH $_2$ (2')	–	1.73–1.88 (m)	–
Me(3')	–	0.85 (t, $J=7.4$ )	–
Benzoyl:			
H–C(3',7')	–	–	7.73 (d, $J=7.4$ )
H–C(4',6')	–	–	7.22 (t, $J=7.4$ )
H–C(5')	–	–	7.45 (t, $J=7.4$ )

In the EI mass spectrum of **1**, the signals at  $m/z$  370 ( $[M - \text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{COOH}]^+$ ), 83 ( $\text{C}_4\text{H}_7\text{CO}^+$ ), and 55 ( $\text{C}_4\text{H}_7^+$ ) suggested the presence of an angeloyl<sup>1</sup>) group, as confirmed by the  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  1.30 (s, 3 H), 1.89 (dd,  $J=7.4, 1.6$  Hz, 3 H), and 5.85–5.89 (m, 1 H), along with the corresponding  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  signals (Table 2) at  $\delta(\text{C})$  166.6 (C=O), 140.0, 127.0, 20.5, and 15.7. The HMBC correlations of H–C(8) at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.61 with the C=O group at  $\delta(\text{C})$  166.6, and the ROESY cross-peak for H–C(8) and H–C(9) revealed that the angeloyl group was  $\alpha$ -oriented and located at C(8).

The circular dichroism (CD) spectrum of **1** showed a negative Cotton effect at 243 nm, and a positive one at 213 nm, indicating that **1** contained an axially chiral (a*S*)-1,1'-biphenyl unit ((*P*)-helicity) [11]. The ROESY cross-peaks (Fig. 1) between 6-Me and H–C(4), 6-Me and H–C(5), 7-Me and H–C(8), 6-Me and 7-Me, and between 2-MeO and 2'-Me indicated a twist-boat-chair (TBC) conformation for the cyclooctane ring [12]. Thus, from the above data, the structure of **1** was elucidated as (a*S*,6*R*,7*R*,8*R*)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-1,13-dihydroxy-2,3-dimethoxy-6,7-dimethylbenzo[3',4']cycloocta-[1',2':4,5]benzo[1,2-*d*][1,3]dioxol-8-yl (2*Z*)-2-methylbut-2-enoate.

<sup>1</sup>) Angeloyl = 2-methylbut-2-enoyl.

Table 2.  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  Data of **1–3**. At 100 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $T=27^\circ$ ;  $\delta$  in ppm.

Position	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	Position	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
C(1)	145.6 ( <i>s</i> )	150.9 ( <i>s</i> )	189.3 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{CH}_2(14)$	–	–	79.7 ( <i>t</i> )
C(2)	133.5 ( <i>s</i> )	139.4 ( <i>s</i> )	140.5 ( <i>s</i> )	1-MeO	–	60.3 ( <i>q</i> )	–
C(3)	150.8 ( <i>s</i> )	151.5 ( <i>s</i> )	151.0 ( <i>s</i> )	2-MeO	60.6 ( <i>q</i> )	60.6 ( <i>q</i> )	–
C(4)	108.5 ( <i>d</i> )	110.2 ( <i>d</i> )	125.6 ( <i>d</i> )	3-MeO	56.0 ( <i>q</i> )	55.9 ( <i>q</i> )	55.6 ( <i>q</i> )
C(4a)	135.4 ( <i>s</i> )	123.1 ( <i>s</i> )	150.6 ( <i>s</i> )	13-MeO	–	60.0 ( <i>q</i> )	–
C(5)	38.5 ( <i>t</i> )	38.7 ( <i>t</i> )	175.4 ( <i>s</i> )	Angeloyl:			
C(6)	34.5 ( <i>d</i> )	34.8 ( <i>d</i> )	30.6 ( <i>d</i> )	C(1')	166.6 ( <i>s</i> )	–	–
C(7)	41.6 ( <i>d</i> )	41.8 ( <i>d</i> )	44.1 ( <i>d</i> )	C(2')	127.0 ( <i>s</i> )	–	–
C(8)	82.7 ( <i>d</i> )	82.3 ( <i>d</i> )	79.7 ( <i>d</i> )	C(3')	140.0 ( <i>d</i> )	–	–
C(8a)	136.0 ( <i>s</i> )	120.5 ( <i>s</i> )	129.8 ( <i>s</i> )	2'-Me	20.5 ( <i>q</i> )	–	–
C(9)	101.5 ( <i>d</i> )	102.5 ( <i>d</i> )	102.0 ( <i>d</i> )	3'-Me	15.7 ( <i>q</i> )	–	–
C(9a)	148.6 ( <i>s</i> )	148.6 ( <i>s</i> )	130.8 ( <i>s</i> )	Propanoyl:			
C(12a)	133.9 ( <i>s</i> )	135.9 ( <i>s</i> )	118.6 ( <i>s</i> )	C(1')	–	173.6 ( <i>s</i> )	–
C(12b)	–	–	142.8 ( <i>s</i> )	$\text{CH}_2(2')$	–	27.1 ( <i>t</i> )	–
C(13)	137.0 ( <i>s</i> )	141.2 ( <i>s</i> )	–	Me(3')	–	8.6 ( <i>q</i> )	–
C(13a)	115.4 ( <i>s</i> )	135.0 ( <i>s</i> )	–	Benzoyl:			
C(13b)	114.2 ( <i>s</i> )	133.2 ( <i>s</i> )	–	C(1')	–	–	165.7 ( <i>s</i> )
C(14a)	–	–	67.1 ( <i>s</i> )	C(2')	–	–	132.8 ( <i>s</i> )
C(14b)	–	–	129.4 ( <i>s</i> )	C(3', 7')	–	–	129.1 ( <i>d</i> )
6-Me	14.8 ( <i>q</i> )	14.8 ( <i>q</i> )	19.6 ( <i>q</i> )	C(4',6')	–	–	128.2 ( <i>d</i> )
7-Me	19.7 ( <i>q</i> )	19.6 ( <i>q</i> )	10.8 ( <i>q</i> )	C(5')	–	–	133.2 ( <i>d</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(11)$	101.8 ( <i>t</i> )	101.1 ( <i>t</i> )	102.3 ( <i>t</i> )				

Kadsutherin B (**2**), obtained as a colorless powder, had the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_8$  according to HR-ESI-MS ( $m/z$  495.1992 ( $[M+\text{Na}]^+$ )). The corresponding UV and NMR spectra indicated that **2** was also a dibenzocyclooctane-type lignan.

The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  data of **2** (Table 1) were quite similar to those of kadsurin [5], with signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.92 and 1.06 (*d*,  $J=7.0$  Hz each, 3 H each), assignable to the *cis*-oriented 6- and 7-Me groups, respectively [4]. Also observed were one methylenedioxy moiety at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.95, 5.98 (*AB*,  $J=1.6$  Hz, 1 H each) and MeO groups at  $\delta(\text{H})$  3.62, 3.79, 3.86, and 3.89 (*4s*, 3 H each) on two aromatic rings. Two aromatic resonances at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.56 and 6.47 (*2s*, 1 H each), which correlated with  $\delta(\text{C})$  38.7 (C(5)) and 82.3 (C(8)) in the HMBC spectrum, respectively, were assigned to H–C(4) at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.56 and H–C(9) at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.47. Based on the HMBC correlations of the two H-atoms at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.95 and 5.98 with  $\delta(\text{C})$  148.6 (C(9a)) and 135.9 (C(12a)), and of H–C(9) with C(9a) and C(12a), the O– $\text{CH}_2$ –O moiety was attached at C(9a) and C(12a).

EI-MS signals for **2** at  $m/z$  398 ( $[M-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{COOH}]^+$ ), 74 ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{COOH}^+$ ), and 57 ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CO}^+$ ) suggested the presence of a propanoyl group, which was supported by the signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.85 (*t*,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 3 H) and 1.73–1.88 (*m*, 2 H), and those at  $\delta(\text{C})$  173.6 (C=O), 27.1, and 8.6. The propanoyl group was located at C(8), as deduced from the HMBC correlations of  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.65 (*s*, H–C(8)) with the propanoyl C=O group, as well as with  $\delta(\text{C})$  135.0 (C(13a)), 120.5 (C(8a)), 102.5 (C(9)), 41.8 (C(7)), 34.8 (C(6)), and 19.6 (7-Me).

The CD spectrum showed negative and positive Cotton effects at 253 and 223 nm, respectively. Correlations of 6-Me with both H–C(4) and  $\text{H}_\alpha$ –C(5) at  $\delta(\text{H})$  2.64 (*s*), of H–C(8) at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.65 (*s*) with H–C(9), and of 7-Me with H–C(8) were observed in the ROESY spectrum. These data indicated that **2** was in the same conformation as **1**. Thus,

the structure of **2** was elucidated as (a*S*,6*R*,7*R*,8*R*)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-1,2,3,13-tetramethoxy-6,7-dimethylbenzo[3',4']cycloocta[1',2':4,5]benzo[1,2-*d*][1,3]dioxol-8-yl propionate.

Kadsutherin C (**3**) was assigned the molecular formula  $C_{28}H_{24}O_8$  by HR-ESI-MS ( $m/z$  511.1368 ( $[M+Na]^+$ )). The presence of characteristic *AB* signals at  $\delta(H)$  4.81 and 4.39 in the  $^1H$ -NMR spectrum (Table 1), and a quaternary C-atom at  $\delta(C)$  67.1 in the  $^{13}C$ -NMR spectrum (Table 2), indicated that **3** was a dibenzocyclooctane-type lignan with a spirobenzofuranoid skeleton [13].

The  $^1H$ -NMR spectrum of **3** showed the presence of two Me groups at  $\delta(H)$  1.08 (*d*,  $J=6.7$ , 3 H) and 1.12 (*d*,  $J=7.0$  Hz, 3 H), assignable to 6-Me and 7-Me, respectively, one methylenedioxy moiety at  $\delta(H)$  6.00 and 6.04 (*AB*,  $J=1.6$  Hz, 1 H each), and one MeO group at  $\delta(H)$  3.83 (*s*, 3 H). Signals at  $\delta(H)$  3.06–3.15 (*m*, 1 H) and 1.96–1.99 (*m*, 1 H), which exhibited  $^1H, ^1H$  correlations with the two Me groups at  $\delta(H)$  1.08 and 1.12, were assigned to H–C(6) and H–C(7), respectively. The H-atom at  $\delta(H)$  5.98 (*d*,  $J=4.9$  Hz), which correlated with  $\delta(C)$  44.1 (C(7)), 10.8 (7-Me), and 102.0 (C(9)) in the HMBC spectrum (Fig. 2), was in benzylic position carrying an acyloxy group at C(8) ( $\delta(C)$  79.7). The HMBC correlations of the methylenedioxy signals with  $\delta(C)$  130.8 (C(9a)) and 118.6 (C(12a)), and of H–C(9) at  $\delta(H)$  6.58 (*s*) with C(8), C(9a), and C(12a) indicated that the O–CH<sub>2</sub>–O moiety was attached to C(9a) and C(12a).

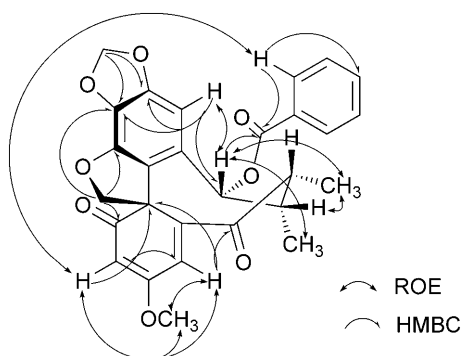


Fig. 2. Key HMBC and ROESY correlations in **3**

The IR absorptions at 1721, 1681, and 1650  $cm^{-1}$  revealed the presence of three C=O groups, as confirmed by the  $^{13}C$ -NMR signals at  $\delta(C)$  189.3, 175.4, and 165.7. EI-MS Signals at  $m/z$  366 ( $[M-C_6H_5COOH]^+$ ), 383 ( $[M-C_6H_5CO]^+$ ), 105 ( $[C_6H_5CO]^+$ ), and 77 ( $[C_6H_5]^+$ ) suggested the presence of a benzoyl (Bz) group, as support by the  $^1H$ -NMR signals at  $\delta(H)$  7.22 (*t*,  $J=7.4$ , 2 H), 7.45 (*t*,  $J=7.4$ , 1 H), and 7.73 (*d*,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2 H), and by the  $^{13}C$ -NMR signals at  $\delta(C)$  165.7 (C=O), 132.8, 129.1, 128.2, and 133.2, which were quite similar to those of schiarisanrin C [14]. The C(1')=O function of the Bz group at  $\delta(C)$  165.7 was deduced from the HMBC correlations of  $\delta(H)$  7.73 (H–C(3',7')) with  $\delta(C)$  165.7 (C=O). The HMBC correlation of  $\delta(H)$  4.39 and 4.81 (CH<sub>2</sub>(14)) with  $\delta(C)$  189.3 (C=O) revealed the presence of a 2,4-dien-1-one, the C=O moiety resonating at  $\delta(C)$  189.3 [13]. The HMBC correlations of  $\delta(H)$  6.72 (*s*, 1 H) with  $\delta(C)$  175.4 (C=O), 140.5, 151.0, 150.6 (C(4a)), and 67.1 (C(14a)) revealed that the third C=O group at  $\delta(C)$  175.4 had to be assigned to C(5).

Commonly, dibenzocyclooctane lignans with  $\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta$ -unsaturated keto functions have MeO groups at C(2) and C(3), *e.g.*, heteroclitin D and E [5]. However, the  $^1H$ -NMR spectrum of **3** showed only *one* MeO signal at  $\delta(H)$  3.83, and a *singlet* at  $\delta(H)$  5.96 (1 H), suggesting the presence of another H-proton on the dienone ring, besides H–C(4). Based on the above considerations – in combination with HMBC correlations of  $\delta(H)$  5.96 (*s*, 1 H) with  $\delta(C)$  67.1 (C(14a)) and 125.6 (C(4)), of  $\delta(H)$  3.83 (MeO) with  $\delta(C)$

151.0, and of  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.72 (H–C(4)) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  140.5, 151.0, 150.6 (C(4a)), and 67.1 (C(14a)) – the signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.96 was assigned to H–C(2), and the MeO group was located at C(3) ( $\delta(\text{C})$  151.0), as supported by ROESY cross-peaks for the MeO group and both H–C(2) and H–C(4).

The CD spectrum of **3** was similar to that of benzoyl oxokadsurane [13], with negative Cotton effects at 213 and 245 nm, and positive ones at 229 and 264 nm. This, again, indicated an axially chiral (aS)-1,1'-biphenyl unit. The cyclooctane ring was deduced to be in a boat-like conformation, with (6*S*,7*R*,8*R*,14*aR*)-configuration, in accord with a coupling constant  $J(8,9)$  of 4.9 Hz, and ROESY correlations of H–C(8) with H–C(9), H–C(8) with both 7- and 6-Me, H–C(7) with 6-Me, and H–C(2) with H–C(3',7') (Fig. 2).

From the above data, the structure of **3** was elucidated as (6*S*,7*R*,8*R*,14*aR*)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3-methoxy-6,7-dimethyl-1,5-dioxo-1*H*-10,12,13-trioxabenz[1,8]cycloocta[1,2,3-*cd*]-*as*-indacen-8-yl benzoate. Note that compound **3** is the first example of a dibenzocyclooctane-type lignan lacking an oxygen-containing substituent at C(2).

This investigation was supported by grants from the *National Natural Science Foundation of China* (30271586), the *Foundation for the Doctoral Programs* (2000026519), the *Trans-Century Training Program Foundation for the Talents*, and the *Teaching and Research Award Program for Outstanding Young Teachers in Higher Education Institutions* (1999–71) from the *Ministry of Education*, R. P. China.

### Experimental Part

*General.* Anal. and prep. TLC: silica-gel plates  $GF_{254}$  (*Yan-tai Institute of Chemical Technology*). Column chromatography (CC): silica gel (200–300, or 300–400 mesh; *Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory*). Prep. HPLC: *Waters* system, with RP- $C_{18}$  column (250 × 10 mm). UV Spectra: *Shimadzu UV-260* spectrophotometer, in anh. MeOH;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  in nm (log  $\epsilon$ ). CD Spectra: *JASCO J-715* spectropolarimeter;  $\lambda$  in nm ( $\Delta\epsilon$  in mdeg). Optical rotation (ORD): *JASCO P-1020* spectropolarimeter. IR Spectra: *Avatar 360-ESP* spectrophotometer (*Thermo Nicolet*), as KBr pellets; in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra: *Bruker AV-500* or *DRX-400* spectrometers, in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  soln.;  $\delta$  in ppm rel. to  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$ ,  $J$  in Hz. EI-MS: *HP-5989A* mass spectrophotometers. HR-ESI-MS: *Micromass Q-ToF* mass spectrometer; in  $m/z$ .

*Plant Material.* The crude drug of '*Dian-Jixueteng*' was provided by *Guangfu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.* (Yunnan Province, P. R. China) in July 2004, and identified by Dr. *Daofeng Chen* (D. S.) as the stems of *K. interior* and *K. heteroclita*. A voucher specimen (JXT-GF-0401) was deposited at the Herbarium of *Materia Medica*, Department of Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, Fudan University, Shanghai, P. R. China.

*Extraction and Isolation.* The air-dried stems (10 kg) of '*Dian-Jixueteng*' were ground and extracted exhaustively with 95% aq. EtOH at r.t. The EtOH extract was evaporated *in vacuo* to yield a semi-solid (620 g), which was suspended in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2 l), and extracted with AcOEt (10 × 2 l). The resulting AcOEt soln. was concentrated to yield a residue (260 g), which was subjected to CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$  (2 kg), petroleum ether (PE)/acetone gradient). *Fr. 16* (eluted with PE/acetone 8:2) was subjected to repeated CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/acetone 10:1) and prep. TLC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/ $\text{CHCl}_3$ /acetone 15:1:1) to yield **2** (13 mg). *Fr. 19* (eluted with PE/ $\text{Me}_2\text{CO}$  7:3) was subjected to repeated CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/ $\text{CHCl}_3$ /acetone 5:5:1) and prep. TLC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/ $\text{CHCl}_3$ /acetone 5:5:1) to afford **1** (15 mg). *Fr. 20* (eluted with PE/acetone 6:4) was subjected to repeated CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/ $\text{CHCl}_3$ /acetone 15:2:2) and prep. RP-HPLC (MeOH/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  7:3) to give **3** (4 mg).

*Kadsutherin A* (= (aS,6*R*,7*R*,8*R*)-5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-1,13-dihydroxy-2,3-dimethoxy-6,7-dimethylbenzo[3',4']cycloocta[1',2':4,5]benzo[1,2-*d*][1,3]dioxol-8-yl (2*Z*)-2-Methylbut-2-enoate; **1**). Yellow powder. UV (MeOH): 220 (4.67), 280 (sh, 3.50). CD ( $c=0.02$ , MeOH): 213 (+85), 243 (–37).  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = +236.7$  ( $c=0.02$ , MeOH). IR (KBr): 3442, 2966, 1709, 1615, 1507, 1425, 907, 732.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: see *Tables 1* and *2*, resp. EI-MS: 470 (88,  $M^+$ ), 370 (12), 83 (10), 55 (23). HR-ESI-MS: 493.1841 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{NaO}_8^+$ ; calc. 493.1838).

*Kadsutherin B* (= (aS,6R,7R,8R)-5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-1,2,3,13-tetramethoxy-6,7-dimethylbenzo[3',4']-cycloocta[1',2':4,5]benzo[1,2-d][1,3]dioxol-8-yl Propanoate; **2**). Colorless powder. UV (MeOH): 218 (4.46), 253 (sh, 3.88), 281 (sh, 3.30). CD ( $c=0.01$ , MeOH): 223 (+19), 253 (–17).  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = 239$  ( $c=0.01$ , MeOH). IR (KBr): 2924, 1734, 1621, 1596, 1407, 1107, 928, 732.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: see *Tables 1* and *2*, resp. EI-MS: 472 (81,  $M^+$ ), 398 (72), 74 (6), 57 (100). HR-ESI-MS: 495.1992 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{32}\text{NaO}_8^+$ ; calc. 495.1995).

*Kadsutherin C* (= (6S,7R,8R,14aR)-5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-3-methoxy-6,7-dimethyl-1,5-dioxo-1H-10,12,13-trioxabenzocycloocta[1,2,3-cd]-as-indacen-8-yl Benzoate; **3**). Yellow powder. UV (MeOH): 216 (4.28), 374 (2.88). CD ( $c=0.04$ , MeOH): 213 (–21), 229 (+5), 245 (–5), 264 (+4).  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -50.3$  ( $c=0.04$ , MeOH). IR (KBr): 1721, 1681, 1650, 1585, 1505, 1386, 1274, 1097, 912, 724.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: see *Tables 1* and *2*, resp. EI-MS: 488 (11,  $M^+$ ), 460 (36), 383 (1), 366 (3), 122 (9), 105 (100), 77 (11). HR-ESI-MS: 511.1368 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{NaO}_8^+$ ; calc. 511.1369).

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Received January 11, 2006