

## Two New Triterpene Lactones from the Stems of *Kadsura polysperma*

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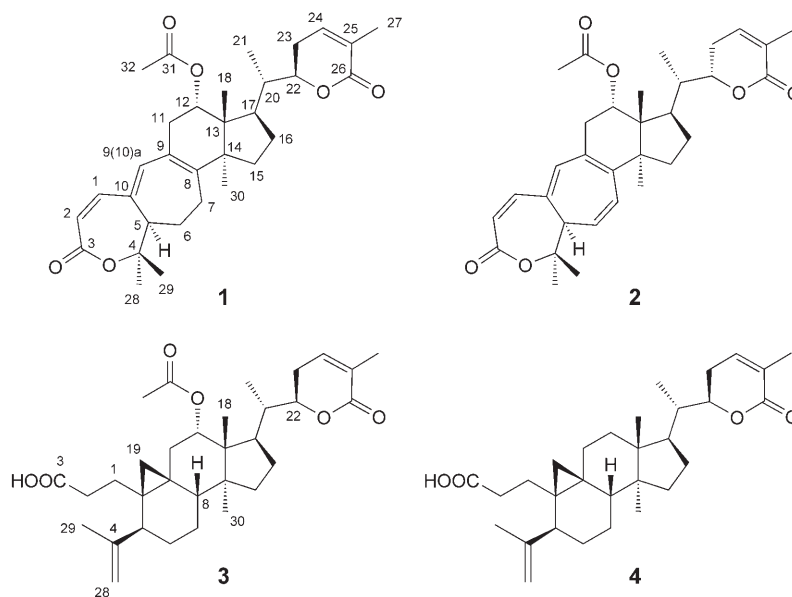
Two new triterpene lactones, polysperlactones A (**2**) and B (**3**), were isolated from the stems of *Kadsura polysperma*, together with the known compounds heteroclitalactone D (**1**) and schisanlactone E (**4**). Their structures were elucidated by spectroscopic methods, including 2D-NMR and HR-MS techniques. The configuration of **1** was confirmed by X-ray analysis. Compounds **2** and **3** are members of a rare class of 3,4-secolanostane metabolites with ring-expanded or cyclized structures, respectively.

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**Introduction.** – The stems or roots of *Kadsura* plants (Schisandraceae) are commonly used in China as folk medicines. For example, the stems of *K. interior* and *K. heteroclita* are used in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) to produce ‘*fufang-jixueteng-gao*’ for the treatment of blood deficiency, numb hands and feet, painful aching of the joints, and irregular menstruation [1]. In our previous studies, some biologically active lignans and triterpenoids with novel structures were isolated from *Kadsura* medicinal plants [2–6], including three novel triterpene lactones from *K. lancilimba*, of which lancilactone C was identified as an anti-HIV principle [2]. An alcoholic extract of the stems of *K. polysperma*, a species indigenous to South China, was found to exhibit an inhibitory effect on the lipid peroxidation induced by Fe<sup>2+</sup>/vitamine C [7].

So far, no detailed study on the constituents of *Kadsura polysperma* has been reported. A phytochemical investigation on the stems of this species was, thus, carried out, which led to the isolation of the known compound heteroclitalactone D (**1**), the novel triterpenoidal lactones polysperlactone A (**2**) and polysperlactone B (**3**), as well as the known compound schisanlactone E (**4**). This paper reports the isolation and structure elucidation of the new compounds.

**Results and Discussion.** – Repeated column chromatography of the Et<sub>2</sub>O-soluble EtOH extract of the stems of *K. polysperma* yielded compounds **1–4**. Compound **1**, obtained as colorless needles, had the molecular formula C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>42</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, as determined by HR-ESI-MS (*m/z* 545.2874 ([*M* + Na]<sup>+</sup>)). The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data of **1** (Tables 1 and 2, resp.) indicated a highly oxidized triterpene lactone, two extra C-atoms probably being assignable to an AcO group. The EI-MS fragment at *m/z* 111 suggested the presence of a six-membered α,β-unsaturated lactone moiety [2]. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (Table 1) showed special signals at δ(H) 6.68, 5.83 (2*d*, *J* = 12.1 Hz each) due to the olefinic H-atoms at C(1) and C(2), which suggested the presence of a seven-



membered lactone ring [8]. In the HMBC spectrum, the signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.17 (s) correlated with the C-atoms at  $\delta(\text{C})$  151.0 (C(8)), 143.4 (C(1)), 140.4 (C(10)), 49.2 (C(5)), and 35.1 (C(11)), revealing that this H-atom corresponded to H–C(9(10)a). Thus, **1** had no cyclopropane ring in the structure.

The EI-MS peak at  $m/z$  464 ( $[M - 58]^+$ ) suggested the presence of an AcO group in **1**, which was confirmed by the  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  2.08 (s, Me), along with the corresponding  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  signals at  $\delta(\text{C})$  169.9 and 21.4. By comparison of the  $^1\text{H-}$  and  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectra, the circular-dichroism (CD) and optical-rotation (ORD) data with those reported in the literature [9], as well as by single-crystal X-ray-diffraction analysis (Fig. 1), compound **1** was identified as heteroclitalactone D, which corresponds to '(12*S*,22*R*)-12-acetoxy-9(10)a-homo-19-nor-3,4-secolanosta-1,8,9(10)a,24-tetraene-3,4-lactone-26,22-lactone'<sup>1)</sup>, and has been previously isolated from *K. heteroclita* [9]. The typical feature of its skeleton are two unsaturated seven-membered lactone rings, linked through three conjugated C=C bonds. Only a few triterpene derivatives with this type of carbon skeleton have been reported so far [2][9][10].

Polysperlactone A (**2**), obtained as colorless needles, was assigned the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{40}\text{O}_6$  on the basis of HR-ESI-MS ( $m/z$  521.2899 ( $[M + \text{H}]^+$ )). The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of **2** (Table 1) showed signals for one Me doublet at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.94 and six Me singlets at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.87, 1.07, 1.51, 1.61, 1.93, and 2.06, respectively. The  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (DEPT) data (Table 2) indicated 16 low-field signals, corresponding to three C=O groups at  $\delta(\text{C})$  169.9, 166.6, and 166.3, ten olefinic C-atoms at  $\delta(\text{C})$  149.5, 141.3, 139.0, 134.7, 131.0, 128.5, 127.5, 124.6, 123.5, and 119.2, and three oxygenated C-atoms at  $\delta(\text{C})$  80.0, 78.7, and 73.8, respectively, together with seven Me, four  $\text{CH}_2$ , and three CH

<sup>1)</sup> For systematic names, see *Exper. Part*.

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

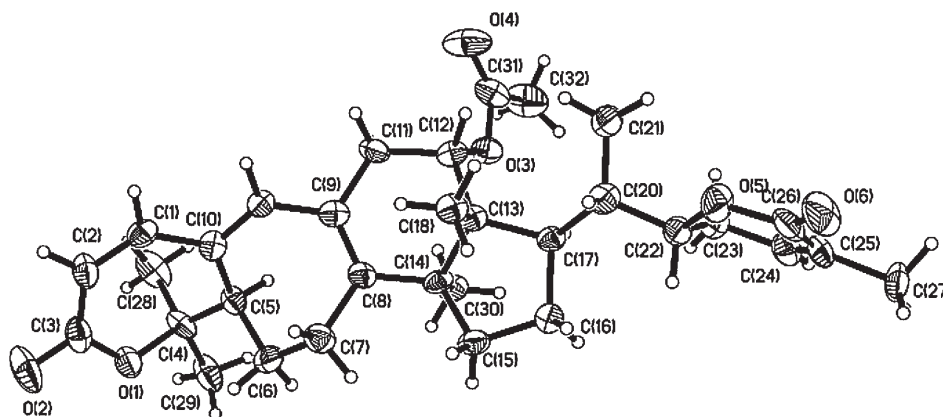
Atom	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
H–C(1) CH <sub>2</sub> (1)	6.68 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 12.1$ )	6.58 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 12.1$ )	1.32–1.38 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.07–2.15 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(2) CH <sub>2</sub> (2)	5.83 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 12.1$ )	5.82 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 12.5$ )	2.24–2.31 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.46–2.54 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(5) CH <sub>2</sub> (6)	2.44 ( <i>t</i> , $J = 11.2$ ) 1.50–1.57 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.87–1.97 ( <i>m</i> )	1.63 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.0$ )	2.40–2.46 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.04–1.15 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.24–1.33 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(6) CH <sub>2</sub> (7)	2.24–2.32 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.38–2.43 ( <i>m</i> )	5.83 ( <i>t</i> , $J = 8.2$ )	0.98–1.06 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.55–1.62 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(7) H–C(8)		6.19 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 9.8$ )	1.38–1.45 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(9(10)a) CH <sub>2</sub> (11)	6.17 ( <i>s</i> ) 2.81 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 19.6, 7.4$ ), 2.14 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 19.9$ )	6.12 ( <i>s</i> ) 3.22 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 19.6, 7.8$ ), 2.56 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 19.6$ )	1.93–1.98 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.98–2.04 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(12) CH <sub>2</sub> (15)	5.00 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.4$ ) 1.42–1.48 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.70–1.78 ( <i>m</i> )	5.00 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.4$ ) 1.52–1.57 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.00–2.08 ( <i>m</i> )	4.84 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.7$ ) 1.34–1.43 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.36–1.44 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (16)	1.90–1.98 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.06–2.14 ( <i>m</i> )	1.55–1.62 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.97–2.04 ( <i>m</i> )	1.44–1.50 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.80–1.88 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(17) Me(18) CH <sub>2</sub> (19)	2.12–2.20 ( <i>m</i> ) 0.75 ( <i>s</i> )	2.18–2.27 ( <i>m</i> ) 0.87 ( <i>s</i> )	2.18–2.26 ( <i>m</i> ) 1.04 ( <i>s</i> ) 0.60, 0.69 ( <i>2d</i> , $J = 4.7$ )
H–C(20) Me(21)	2.00–2.08 ( <i>m</i> ) 0.91 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.66$ )	2.03–2.09 ( <i>m</i> ) 0.94 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.7$ )	1.97–2.04 ( <i>m</i> ) 0.83 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.7$ )
H–C(22) CH <sub>2</sub> (23)	4.48 ( <i>dt</i> , $J = 13.3, 3.5$ ) 2.06–2.14 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.33–2.40 ( <i>m</i> )	4.51 ( <i>dt</i> , $J = 12.9, 3.5$ ) 2.08–2.17 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.34–2.44 ( <i>m</i> )	4.49 ( <i>dt</i> , $J = 12.9, 3.5$ ) 2.18–2.14 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.33–2.40 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(24) Me(27) Me(28) CH <sub>2</sub> (28)	6.61 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.3$ ) 1.92 ( <i>s</i> ) 1.40 ( <i>s</i> )	6.61 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.3$ ) 1.93 ( <i>s</i> ) 1.51 ( <i>s</i> )	6.62 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.3$ ) 1.92 ( <i>s</i> ) 4.81, 4.76 ( <i>2s</i> )
Me(29) Me(30) Me(32)	1.53 ( <i>s</i> ) 1.25 ( <i>s</i> ) 2.08 ( <i>s</i> )	1.61 ( <i>s</i> ) 1.07 ( <i>s</i> ) 2.06 ( <i>s</i> )	1.68 ( <i>s</i> ) 1.01 ( <i>s</i> ) 2.03 ( <i>s</i> )

groups, as well as two quaternary C-atoms in the high-field region. These data suggested that **2** was also a highly oxidized triterpene lactone closely related to **1**.

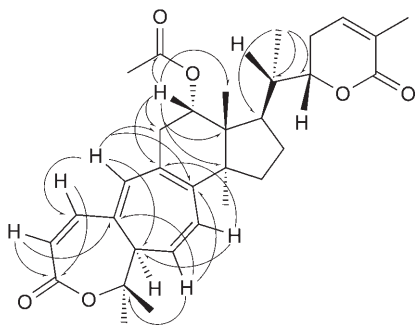
The EI-MS fragment at  $m/z$  111 suggested the presence of a six-membered  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone ring [2], which was assigned to the side chain of **2**. The signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.61 (*d*,  $J = 6.3$  Hz) and 1.93 (*s*, 3 H) in the  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum could be assigned to the olefinic H-atom and the Me group of the six-membered unsaturated lactone, respectively [11]. The cross-peaks between  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.94 (Me(21)) and  $\delta(\text{C})$  80.0 (C(22)), 39.0 (C(20)), and 39.2 (C(17)) in the HMBC spectrum (Fig. 2) indicated that this ring was connected to C(20).

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

Position	1	2	3	Position	1	2	3
C(1)	143.4 ( <i>d</i> )	141.3 ( <i>d</i> )	28.6 ( <i>t</i> )	C(17)	39.4 ( <i>d</i> )	39.2 ( <i>d</i> )	39.9 ( <i>d</i> )
C(2)	118.2 ( <i>d</i> )	119.2 ( <i>d</i> )	31.0 ( <i>t</i> )	C(18)	16.5 ( <i>q</i> )	16.6 ( <i>q</i> )	16.8 ( <i>q</i> )
C(3)	167.0 ( <i>s</i> )	166.6 ( <i>s</i> )	178.4 ( <i>s</i> )	C(19)			30.2 ( <i>t</i> )
C(4)	80.3 ( <i>s</i> )	78.7 ( <i>s</i> )	148.8 ( <i>s</i> )	C(20)	38.9 ( <i>d</i> )	39.0 ( <i>d</i> )	39.1 ( <i>d</i> )
C(5)	49.2 ( <i>d</i> )	51.5 ( <i>d</i> )	45.9 ( <i>d</i> )	C(21)	12.5 ( <i>q</i> )	12.4 ( <i>q</i> )	12.0 ( <i>q</i> )
C(6)	26.2 ( <i>t</i> )	123.5 ( <i>d</i> )	25.3 ( <i>t</i> )	C(22)	80.0 ( <i>d</i> )	80.0 ( <i>d</i> )	80.3 ( <i>d</i> )
C(7)	39.4 ( <i>t</i> )	124.6 ( <i>d</i> )	28.0 ( <i>t</i> )	C(23)	23.3 ( <i>t</i> )	23.3 ( <i>t</i> )	23.3 ( <i>t</i> )
C(8)	151.0 ( <i>s</i> )	149.5 ( <i>s</i> )	48.8 ( <i>d</i> )	C(24)	139.0 ( <i>d</i> )	139.0 ( <i>d</i> )	139.2 ( <i>d</i> )
C(9)	126.8 ( <i>s</i> )	131.0 ( <i>s</i> )	26.5 ( <i>s</i> )	C(25)	128.5 ( <i>s</i> )	128.5 ( <i>s</i> )	128.4 ( <i>s</i> )
C(9(10)a)	142.0 ( <i>d</i> )	134.7 ( <i>d</i> )		C(26)	166.3 ( <i>s</i> )	166.3 ( <i>s</i> )	166.4 ( <i>s</i> )
C(10)	140.4 ( <i>s</i> )	127.5 ( <i>s</i> )	20.6 ( <i>s</i> )	C(27)	17.0 ( <i>q</i> )	17.0 ( <i>q</i> )	17.0 ( <i>q</i> )
C(11)	35.1 ( <i>t</i> )	37.3 ( <i>t</i> )	36.0 ( <i>t</i> )	C(28)	29.2 ( <i>q</i> )	29.1 ( <i>q</i> )	112.0 ( <i>t</i> )
C(12)	73.8 ( <i>d</i> )	73.8 ( <i>d</i> )	75.4 ( <i>d</i> )	C(29)	26.2 ( <i>q</i> )	25.1 ( <i>q</i> )	25.1 ( <i>q</i> )
C(13)	51.4 ( <i>s</i> )	47.7 ( <i>s</i> )	48.6 ( <i>s</i> )	C(30)	27.6 ( <i>q</i> )	26.5 ( <i>q</i> )	26.5 ( <i>q</i> )
C(14)	48.0 ( <i>s</i> )	51.1 ( <i>s</i> )	48.5 ( <i>s</i> )	C(31)	169.9 ( <i>s</i> )	169.9 ( <i>s</i> )	169.7 ( <i>s</i> )
C(15)	31.9 ( <i>t</i> )	31.8 ( <i>t</i> )	36.5 ( <i>t</i> )	C(32)	21.4 ( <i>q</i> )	21.3 ( <i>q</i> )	21.5 ( <i>q</i> )
C(16)	27.8 ( <i>t</i> )	26.1 ( <i>t</i> )	27.0 ( <i>t</i> )				

Fig. 1. X-Ray crystal structure of **1**

The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **2** further showed signals at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.58 (*d*,  $J = 12.1$  Hz) and 5.82 (*d*,  $J = 12.5$  Hz) due to the olefinic H-atoms at C(1) and C(2), suggesting the presence of a seven-membered lactone ring [8]. The HMBC correlations of  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.58 (H–C(1)) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  51.5 (C(5)), 127.5 (C(10)), and 166.6 (C(3)), of  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.82 (H–C(2)) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  127.5 (C(10)) and 166.6 (C(3)), and of both  $\delta(\text{H})$  1.51 (Me(28)) and 1.61 (Me(29)) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  78.7 (C(4)) confirmed the structure of a seven-membered lactone ring. In the HMBC spectrum of **2** (Fig. 2), the signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.12 (*s*, 1 H) correlated with those at  $\delta(\text{C})$  149.5 (C(8)), 141.3 (C(1)), 127.5 (C(10)), 51.5 (C(5)), and 37.3 (C(11)), revealing that this olefinic H-atom was H–C(9(10)a). Thus, **2** was also devoid of a cyclopropane ring, just as **1**.

Fig. 2. Key HMBC correlations of **2**

The EI-MS peak at  $m/z$  462 ( $[M - 58]^+$ ) suggested the presence of an AcO group in **2**, as confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR. The signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.00 ( $d, J = 7.4$  Hz) in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum was assigned to H–C(12), the position to which the AcO group was attached, as corroborated by HMBC correlations of  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.00 ( $d, J = 7.4$  Hz) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  169.9 (C(31)), 131.0 (C(9)), 47.7 (C(13)), 51.1 (C(14)), 37.3 (C(11)), and 16.6 (C(18)).

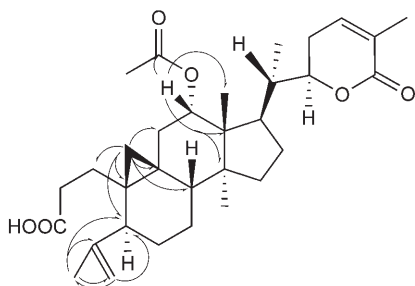
Based on the above data, compound **2** was identified as a triterpenoid, with the same basic skeleton as **1**, but an additional C=C bond. Thus, the most-prominent differences in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of **1** and **2** were the appearance of two olefinic resonances at  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.19 ( $d, J = 9.8$  Hz) and 5.83 ( $t, J = 8.2$  Hz) in **2**. Correspondingly, the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **2** showed two additional olefinic C-atom signals in the low-field region, compared to **1**. In the HMBC spectrum (Fig. 2), the correlation of  $\delta(\text{H})$  6.19 ( $d, J = 9.8$  Hz) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  131.0 (C(9)) and 51.5 (C(5)), and that of  $\delta(\text{H})$  5.83 ( $t, J = 8.2$  Hz) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  149.5 (C(8)), 127.5 (C(10)), 78.7 (C(4)), and 51.5 (C(5)) indicated that the additional C=C bond was between C(6) and C(7).

The CD spectrum of **2** showed a negative Cotton effect at 248 nm, thus, C(22) was assigned the absolute (*S*)-configuration [11]. Me(18) showed ROESY cross-peaks with H–C(20) and Me(29), indicating that Me(18), H–C(20), and Me(29) are in *syn*- and  $\beta$ -positions. The correlations of Me(30)/H–C(17) and Me(28)/H–C(5) indicated that Me(30) and H–C(5) were  $\alpha$ -configured. H–C(12) also showed ROESY cross-peaks with Me(18) and Me(21), confirming the  $\alpha$ -configuration for the 12-AcO group. From these data, the structure of the new compound **2** was, thus, elucidated as '(12*S*,22*S*)-12-acetoxy-9(10)*a*-homo-19-nor-3,4-secolanosta-1,6,8,9(10)*a*,24-pentaene-3,4-lactone-26,22-lactone<sup>1</sup>).

Polysperlactone B (**3**), obtained as colorless granules, had the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{46}\text{O}_6$ , as revealed by HR-ESI-MS ( $m/z$  549.3196 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ )). The presence of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone ring and an OH group was suggested by the IR absorption bands at 1731 and 3218  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum (Table 1) showed signals for one Me doublet at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.83 and five Me singlets  $\delta(\text{H})$  1.01, 1.04, 1.68, 1.92, and 2.03. The  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (DEPT) data of **3** (Table 2) indicated 32 C-atoms and 45 C-bonded H-atoms. The  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum showed three carboxylic C-atoms at  $\delta(\text{C})$  178.4, 169.7, and 166.4, four olefinic resonances at  $\delta(\text{C})$  148.8, 139.2, 128.4, and 112.0, and two oxygenated C-atoms at  $\delta(\text{C})$  80.3 and 75.3, respectively. The high-field region showed six Me, nine  $\text{CH}_2$ , and four CH groups, together with four quaternary C-atoms. These

data suggested that **3** was a triterpene lactone, the two additional carbons being assigned to an AcO substituent.

Compounds **1–3** all possess the same side-chain moiety, as indicated by similar  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data. The common EI-MS fragment at  $m/z$  111 agrees with this conclusion. From the  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of **3**, it became clear that a COO group ( $\delta(\text{C})$  178.4) and an isopropenyl group [ $\delta(\text{H})$  4.81 (*s*, 1 H), 4.76 (*s*, 1 H), 1.63 (*s*, 3 H)] were present, as confirmed by the corresponding  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR signals at  $\delta(\text{C})$  112.0 and 148.8. Thus, it was concluded that cleavage of ring *A* had furnished a carboxylic acid at one terminus and an isopropenyl group at the other [12]. In the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum, two mutually coupled *doublets* at  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.69 and 0.60 ( $J = 4.7$  Hz) indicated the presence of a cyclopropane ring, whose position was revealed by the HMBC correlations (*Fig. 3*) of both  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.69 and 0.60 ( $J = 4.7$  Hz) with  $\delta(\text{C})$  48.8 (C(8)), 45.9 (C(5)), 36.0 (C(11)), 28.6 (C(1)), 26.5 (C(9)), and 20.6 (C(10)).



*Fig. 3. Key HMBC correlations of 3*

Based on the above spectroscopic data, compound **3** had the same skeleton as schisanlactone E [10]. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR signal at  $\delta(\text{H})$  2.03 (*s*, 3 H), along with the corresponding  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR signals at  $\delta(\text{C})$  169.7 and 21.5, suggested the presence of an AcO group located in 12-position, based on HMBC correlations of  $\delta(\text{H})$  4.84 with  $\delta(\text{C})$  169.7 (C(31)), 48.6 (C(13)), 48.5 (C(14)), and 16.8 (Me(18)), in accord with a *doublet* at  $\delta(\text{H})$  4.84 ( $J = 6.7$  Hz) due to an oxygenated H-atom at C(12).

Compound **3** showed a positive *Cotton* effect at 257 nm, similar to that of schisanlactone E, indicating the absolute (*R*)-configuration at C(22) [11]. The correlations between Me(18)/H–C(20), Me(18)/Me(29), Me(30)/H–C(17), Me(28)/H–C(5), H–C(12)/Me(18), and H–C(12)/Me(21) in the ROESY spectrum indicated that the configurations at C(12) and C(20) were the same as those in **1** and **2**. Thus, the structure of **3** was assigned as '(12*S*,22*R*)-12-acetoxy-3-hydroxy-3-oxo-9,19-cyclo-3,4-secolanosta-4(28),24-dien-26,22-lactone'.

Compound **4** was identified as schisanlactone E (= (22*R*)-3-hydroxy-3-oxo-9,19-cyclo-3,4-secolanosta-4(28),24-dien-26,22-lactone) by comparison of its spectroscopic data with those reported previously [12].

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### Experimental Part

*General.* Petroleum ether (PE) for chromatography was of b.p. 60–90°. Anal. TLC: silica gel  $F_{254}$  plates (0.15 mm; *Yantai*). Column chromatography (CC): silica gel (200–300 or 300–400 mesh; *Qingdao*). M.p.: *XT-4* micro-melting-point apparatus (*Tai-KE Instrument Co.*, Beijing); uncorrected. Optical rotations: *Jasco P-1020* spectropolarimeter. UV Spectra: *756 MC* spectrometer; in anh. MeOH;  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) in nm. CD Spectra: *Jasco J-715* spectropolarimeter;  $\lambda$  in nm ( $\Delta\epsilon$  in mdeg). IR Spectra: *Thermo-Nicolet Avatar 360-ESP* spectrophotometer, as KBr pellets; in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra: *Bruker DRX-400* apparatus, in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  soln.;  $\delta$  in ppm rel. to  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$ ,  $J$  in Hz. EI-MS: *Hewlett-Packard 5989A* mass spectrometer. HR-ESI-MS: *Micromass Q-ToF* mass spectrometer; in  $m/z$ .

*Plant Material.* Stems of *Kadsura polysperma* were collected in Chongqing, P. R. China, in November 1992, and identified by D. C. A voucher specimen (Chen-NC921101) was deposited at the Herbarium of Materia Medica, Department of Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, Fudan University, Shanghai, P. R. China.

*Extraction and Isolation.* The stems (3.3 kg) of *K. polysperma* were air-dried, ground, and extracted exhaustively with 95% EtOH at r.t. The alcoholic extract was evaporated *in vacuo* to yield a semisolid (166 g), which was suspended in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (500 ml) and extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (7 $\times$ ). The ethereal soln. was concentrated to yield 28 g of a residue, which was purified by CC (500 g  $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/AcOEt gradient) to afford several fractions (Fr.). Fr. 5 was subjected to repeated CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ;  $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}$  20:1) to yield **4** (1.10 g). Fr. 7 was subjected to repeated CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; PE/ $\text{CHCl}_3$ /acetone 4:4:1  $\rightarrow$  4:4:2) to afford **1** (29 mg), **2** (5 mg), and **3** (92 mg).

*Polysperlactone A* (= (3*R*,3*aR*,4*S*,11*aR*,13*bS*)-1,2,3,3*a*,4,5,9,11,11*a*,13*b*-Decahydro-3*a*,11,11,13*b*-tetramethyl-3-[(1*S*)-1-[(2*S*)-3,6-dihydro-5-methyl-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]ethyl]-9-oxoindeno[5',4':4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-*c*]oxepin-4-yl Acetate; **2**). Colorless needles (PE/AcOEt). M.p. 290–294°.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -77.0$  ( $c = 0.07$ , acetone). UV (MeOH): 209 (3.56), 327 (3.14). CD ( $c = 0.06$ , MeOH): 248 (–12). IR (KBr): 2966, 2868, 2243, 1689, 1596, 1429, 1377, 1362, 1290, 1267, 1197, 1126, 1029, 973, 724, 644, 589, 526.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: see *Tables 1* and *2*, resp. EI-MS: 462 (13), 402 (100), 361 (13), 305 (10), 261 (15), 247 (13), 209 (23), 192 (11), 111 (11), 83 (18), 55 (25), 44 (60). HR-ESI-MS: 521.2899 ( $[M + \text{H}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{41}\text{O}_6^+$ ; calc. 521.2903).

*Polysperlactone B* (= 3-[(1*R*,3*aS*,3*bS*,6*S*,6*aR*,7*aR*,9*S*,9*aR*)-9-Acetoxydecahydro-3*a*,9*a*-dimethyl-6-(1-methylethenyl)-1-[(1*S*)-1-[(2*R*)-3,6-dihydro-5-methyl-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]ethyl]-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]cyclopropa[*e*]naphthalen-6*a*(7*H*)-yl]propanoic Acid; **3**). Colorless granules (PE/AcOEt). M.p. 148–150°.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = 82.9$  ( $c = 0.09$ , acetone). UV (MeOH): 208 (3.45). CD ( $c = 0.07$ , MeOH): 257 (+4). IR (KBr): 3218, 2949, 1731, 1457, 1391, 1377, 1358, 1274, 1246, 1163, 1142, 1121, 1031, 987.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: see *Tables 1* and *2*, resp. EI-MS: 453 (4), 367 (5), 327 (8), 311 (5), 267 (4), 211 (6), 187 (6), 159 (11), 133 (15), 111 (21), 83 (25), 55 (35), 44 (100). HR-ESI-MS: 549.3196 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{46}\text{NaO}_6^+$ ; calc. 549.3192).

*Crystal Structure of Heteroclitallactone D (1)<sup>2</sup>*. Diffraction data for **1** were collected on an *Enraf-Nonius CAD4* diffractometer, using  $\text{MoK}_\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) and the  $\omega - 2\theta$  scan mode. The structure was solved with *SHELXTL-97*, and refined by means of full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$ . Crystals of **1** (0.30  $\times$  0.20  $\times$  0.15 mm) were orthorhombic (space group  $P 2_12_12$ ), with cell dimensions  $a = 11.9190(14)$ ,  $b = 33.080(6)$ ,  $c = 7.4390(14) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90.00^\circ$ ,  $V = 2933.1(9) \text{ \AA}^3$ ;  $Z = 4$ ,  $D_c = 1.184 \text{ Mg/m}^3$ ,  $F(000) = 1182$ ,  $T = 293(2) \text{ K}$ .

<sup>2</sup>) The crystallographic data of **1** have been deposited with the *Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre* as supplementary publication number CCDC-273570. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, at [http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

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