New Polyketides Isolated from Botryosphaeria australis Strain ZJ12-1A

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Four new polyketides, botryosphaerones A-D (1–4, resp.), were obtained from the fermentation culture of *Botryosphaeria australis* strain ZJ12-1A, together with four known compounds, *O*-methylasparvenone (5), 6-ethyl-2,7-dimethoxyjuglon (6) and its monoacetyl derivative 7, and *O*-methylaspmenone (8). Their structures were elucidated by spectroscopic analyses, including 1D- and 2D-NMR experiments, and HR-Q-TOF mass spectrometry, and by comparison with reported data. All compounds were evaluated for their cytotoxic and antimicrobial activities *in vitro*. Only compounds 6 and 7 showed cytotoxic and antimicrobial activities, as already reported.

Introduction. - Plant-associated fungi, including endophytic and epiphytic fungi, are important sources of bioactive compounds. Previously, we mainly focused on the bioactive metabolites from endophytic fungi [1-5]. In our search for antitumor compounds from epiphytic fungi, we observed that the fermentation extracts of strain ZJ12-1 exhibited strong cytotoxic activity. This strain ZJ12-1A was originally obtained from the plant epidermis of Sonneratia apetala BUCH. HAM (a kind of mangroves), and it was identified as Botryosphaeria sp. based on its complete ITS4-5.8S-ITS5 gene sequences. Various compounds were isolated from the genus Botryosphaeria. Some of them showed interesting biological activities; *i.e.*, antifungal and cytotoxic depsidones [6], antimicrobe diterpenoids [7] and antiseptic mellein [8], antimicrobial lasiodiplodin [9], dihydronaphthalenones [10], and dihydrobenzofuran, and antibacterial primin [11]. The current study on the chemical constituents of strain ZJ12-1A resulted in the isolation of four new naphthalenones, named botryosphaerones A-D (1-4, resp.), together with four known compounds 5-8 (Fig. 1). Here, we report the isolation and structure elucidation of compounds 1-4. The *in vitro* antimicrobial and cytotoxic testing of compounds 1-8 are also described.

Results and Discussion. – 1. *Structure Elucidation. Botryosphaeria australis* strain ZJ12-1A was cultivated for 14 d in *Petri* dishes with PDA (potato dextrose agar) medium and a total of 10 l at 28°. The fermentation culture was extracted with AcOEt/MeOH/AcOH 80 : 15 : 5 (v/v/v). The crude extract was partitioned between AcOEt and H₂O. The AcOEt-soluble fraction was dried over Na₂SO₄ (anh.) and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford 12.6 g of a crude org. extract (brown solid). The extract was purified by

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Fig. 1. The structures of compounds 1-8

repeated column chromatography (*RP-18*, *Sephadex LH-20*, and SiO_2) to afford four new and four known polyketides.

Compound **1** was obtained as a white solid. The molecular formula of **1** was determined as $C_{13}H_{16}O_6$ on the basis of HR-Q-TOF-MS and NMR data. The IR absorption at 3369 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of OH groups. The ¹³C-NMR (DEPT) spectrum of **1** (*Table 1*) exhibited 13 signals corresponding to two Me, one CH₂, four CH (three of them O-bearing), groups and six quaternary C-atoms (three of them O-bearing, including one C=O group at $\delta(C)$ 202.3 (C(1)). Analysis of the ¹H-NMR spectrum of **1** (*Table 2*) indicated the presence of one Me ($\delta(H)$ 1.83) and one MeO group ($\delta(H)$ 3.74). The connectivity of the H- and C-atoms was established by a HSQC spectrum. HMBCs from Me(2') to C(1') and C(7), from H–C(1') to C(6), C(7), and C(8), and from MeO–C(6) to C(6), together with the analysis of ¹H,¹H-COSY crosspeaks, afforded fragment **1a** (*Fig.* 2). Three OH groups were assigned to C(3) ($\delta(C)$ 71.5), C(4) ($\delta(C)$ 73.8), and C(1') ($\delta(C)$ 62.3), according to the resonance of those C-

Table 1. ¹³C-NMR Data of 1–4. Recorded at 150 MHz in C₅D₅N (for 1, 2, and 3) or in (D₆)acetone (for 4); δ in ppm, J in Hz.

	1	2	3	4
C(1)	202.3(s)	202.2(s)	202.5(s)	201.2 (s)
C(2)	45.2(t)	45.3(t)	45.4(t)	43.7 (<i>t</i>)
C(3)	71.5(d)	71.7(d)	71.7(d)	70.8(d)
C(4)	73.8(d)	74.1(d)	74.1(d)	72.9(d)
C(4a)	147.9(s)	147.2(s)	148.9(s)	145.1 (s)
C(5)	102.2(d)	102.0(d)	102.5(d)	101.2(d)
C(6)	163.8(s)	164.8(s)	165.5(s)	163.7(s)
MeO-C(6)	55.6(q)	55.7(q)	55.9(q)	55.3(q)
C(7)	119.1(s)	113.0(s)	115.2(s)	117.2(s)
C(8)	161.7(s)	162.6(s)	163.2(s)	161.2(s)
C(8a)	111.1(s)	111.2(s)	111.2(s)	110.1(s)
C(1')	62.3(d)	27.4(t)	70.6(d)	15.1(t)
MeO-C(1')			56.2(q)	. ,
C(2')	22.9 (q)	61.0 (<i>t</i>)	19.7(q)	12.6 (q)

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	1	2	3	4	
CH ₂ (2)	3.45 (dt, J = 3.3, 17.0),	3.45 (dd, J = 4.3, 17.0),	3.49 (dt, J = 4.5, 17.0),	2.98 (dd, J = 4.4, 17.0),	
	3.11 (dd, J = 10.0, 17.0)	3.13 (dd, J = 9.9, 17.0)	3.14 (dd, J = 9.8, 17.0)	2.70 (dd, J = 9.5, 17.0)	
H–C(3)	4.48-4.53 (<i>m</i>)	4.52-4.56 (<i>m</i>)	4.52-4.57 (<i>m</i>)	4.01 - 4.06 (m)	
H–C(4)	5.12 (d, J = 8.0)	5.15 (d, J = 7.9)	5.16 (d, J = 7.7)	4.61 (<i>d</i> , overlap)	
H-C(5)	7.30 (s)	7.30 (s)	7.34 (s)	6.88(s)	
MeO-C(6)	3.74 (s)	3.74 (s)	3.78 (s)	3.94(s)	
H–C(1′)	5.86 (dq, J = 2.8, 6.7)	3.44 (t, J = 7.6)	5.37 (dq, J = 2.3, 6.7)	2.63 (q, J = 7.4)	
MeO-C(1')			3.33 (s)		
Me(2') or	1.83 $(d, J = 6.7)$	4.23 (t, J = 7.6)	1.80 (d, J = 6.7)	1.06 (t, J = 7.4)	
$CH_{2}(2')$					

Table 2. ^{*I*}*H-NMR Data of* **1**-**4**. Recorded at 600 MHz in C_5D_5N (for **1**, **2**, and **3**) or in (D_6) acetone (for **4**); δ in ppm, *J* in Hz.



Fig. 2. Structure fragments of 1, and selected HMBC $(H \rightarrow C)$ and ¹H,¹H-COSY (-) correlations

atoms at low field. The ¹H,¹H-COSY cross-peaks H–C(2)/H–C(3) and H–C(3)/ H–C(4), and HMBCs from H–C(2) to C(1), C(3), and C(4), and from H–C(4) to C(4a), C(5), and C(8a) led to the fragment **1b** (*Fig.* 2). The HMBC experiments also showed ¹H,¹³C long-range correlations from H–C(5) to C(4), C(4a), and C(8a) in fragment **1b**, and to C(6) and C(7) in fragment **1a**, indicating the connection of fragments **1a** and **1b** via C(5). The presence of an aromatic ring implied the linkage between C(8) and C(8a), providing the full planar structure of **1**.

The relative configuration of **1** was determined by the analysis of the NOESY spectrum. The NOESY correlation between $H_a-C(2)$ and H-C(4) indicated that $H_a-C(2)$ and H-C(4) were α -oriented, while the NOE correlation between $H_b-C(2)$ and H-C(3) indicated β -orientations of these H-atoms (*Fig. 3*). However, the configuration at C(1') remains undetermined. Thus, from the data above, the structure of compound **1** was determined as $(3S^*, 4S^*)$ -3,4-dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-7-(1-hydroxy-ethyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-1(2H)-one, named botryosphaerone A.



Fig. 3. Selected NOESY correlations of compound $1 (H \leftrightarrow H)$

Compound **2** was obtained as a white solid. The molecular formula was determined as $C_{13}H_{16}O_6$ on the basis of HR-Q-TOF-MS and NMR data. The IR absorption at 3312 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of OH groups. The NMR data of **2** were similar to those of **1** (*Tables 1* and 2), except that the resonances of C(1') and C(2') were shifted from δ (C) 62.3 to 27.4, and from δ (C) 22.9 to 61.0, respectively, revealing that the OH group at C(1') in **1** was located at C(2') in **2**. The relative configuration of **2** was determined on the basis of the same NOESY correlations as in **1**. Thus, compound **2** was determined to be ($3S^*, 4S^*$)-3,4-dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-6-methoxy-7-(2-hydroxyethyl)naphthalen-1(2*H*)-one, named botryosphaerone B.

Compound **3** was obtained as a white solid. The molecular formula was determined as $C_{14}H_{18}O_6$ on the basis of HR-Q-TOF-MS and NMR data. The IR absorption at 3384 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of OH groups. The NMR data of **3** were similar to those of **1** (*Tables 1* and 2), except that the OH group at C(1') in **1** was replaced by a MeO group in **3**, which was confirmed by the ¹H,¹³C long-range correlations from the MeO H-atoms at $\delta(H)$ 3.33 to C(1') at $\delta(C)$ 70.6. The configuration of **3** was determined based on the same NOESY correlations as in **1**. Thus, compound **3** was determined to be ($3S^*, 4S^*$)-3,4-dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-6-methoxy-7-(1-methoxyethyl)naphthalen-1(2*H*)-one, named botryosphaerone C.

Compound 4 was obtained as a white solid. The molecular formula was determined as $C_{13}H_{16}O_5$ on the basis of HR-Q-TOF-MS and NMR data. The IR absorption at 3428 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of OH groups. The NMR data of 4 (*Table 3*) were similar to those of 1 (*Tables 1* and 2), except that the OH group at C(1') in 1 was absent in 4. The configuration of 4 was determined based on the same NOESY correlations as in 1. Thus, compound 4 was determined as $(3S^*, 4S^*)$ -3,4-dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-6methoxynaphthalen-1(2*H*)-one, named botryosphaerone D.

Compounds 5-8 were identified as *O*-methylasparvenone (5) [12], 6-ethyl-2,7dimethoxyjuglon (6) [13] and its monoacetyl derivative 7 [13], and *O*-methylaspmenone (8) [13-16] by comparison of the NMR data with those reported in literature [12-16].

2. Biological Properties. Compounds 1-8 were tested in cytotoxic and antimicrobial assays *in vitro*. The new compounds 1-4 exhibited no cytotoxic activities against HeLa, HepG-2, and A-549 cells at a concentration of 10 µg/ml, nor antimicrobial activities against pathogenic bacteria (*Escherichia coli, Bacillus subtilis, Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Bacillus pumilus*) or yeasts (*Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus niger*) at a concentration of 50 µg/ml. Compounds **6** and **7** showed cytotoxic and antimicrobial activities, as described in [17-19].

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Experimental Part

General. TLC: Precoated silica gel GF_{254} plates (0.2–0.25 mm, Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory, Qingdao, P. R. China). Column chromatography (CC): SiO₂ (200–300 and 80–100 mesh; Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory), SiO₂ GF_{254} (Merck), RP-18 gel (40–63 µm; Merck), and Sephadex LH-20 (Amersham Biosciences). Optical rotations: Perkin-Elmer 341 polarimeter with MeOH as solvent. UV Spectra: UniCO single-beam 210A spectral photometer; 190–1100 nm, in MeOH. IR: in KBr on a Nicolet Avatar 330; in cm⁻¹. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR Spectra: Bruker DRX 600 spectrometer, at 600 and 150 MHz, resp., in ppm rel. to Me₄Si, J in Hz. HR-Q-TOF-MS: BioTOFTM-Q mass spectrometer (Bruker); in m/z (rel. %).

Isolation and Fermentation. Botryosphaeria australis strain ZJ12-1A was isolated from the plant epidermis of *Sonneratia apetala*, which was collected in the Xiamen Haicang mangrove Conservation Area, Fujian Province, P. R. China, in July, 2006. Surface-sterilized samples from the fresh roots were cut into 1-cm fragments, with ten fragments per sample. The sterilized samples were placed onto the surface of melted potato dextrose agar (PDA; 15 ml) as medium in *Petri* dishes, and then cultured at 28°. During cultivation, the hyphal tips of the growing fungi were removed, inoculated onto fresh PDA medium, and incubated for at least 1 week. After being purified by the hyphal-tip method. The pure isolates were transferred to PDA slant tubes as deposit. This organism was identified as a *Botryosphaeria* species, based on its complete ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 gene sequences (Genbank registered No. FJ037758.1). A stock of *Botryosphaeria australis* strain ZJ12-1A was cultured in dishes with *ca*. 20 ml of PDA medium with a total volume of 101 for 14 d at 28°.

Extraction and Isolation. After fermentation on PDA plates for 14 d at 28°, the mycelium together with culture medium was first extracted three times with 101 of a mixed solvent (80% AcOEt, 15% MeOH, and 5% AcOH). The crude extract was partitioned again with AcOEt (11) and H₂O (11). The org. layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford 12.6 g of a crude org. extract (brown solid). The crude extract was subjected to MPLC over *RP-18* SiO₂ (170 g), eluted with H₂O, then a stepwise gradient of 30, 50, 70, and 100% (v/v) MeOH in H₂O and to afford *Fr. 1* (621.2 mg) and *Fr. 2* (70.1 mg) obtained from 30% MeOH, *Fr. 3* (1.0433 g) obtained from 50% MeOH, and *Fr. 4* (1.073 g) and *Fr. 5* (858.2 mg) obtained from 70% MeOH. *Fr. 1* was further subjected to *Sephadex LH-20* eluted with acetone to afford *Fr. 1a* (17.8 mg), *Fr. 1b* (10.4 mg), and *Fr. 1c* (11.1 mg), which were subjected to SiO₂ chromatography using the same gradient of CHCl₃/MeOH (100:0, 100:1, 100:10) to yield **1** (12.5 mg), **2** (6.3 mg), and **3** (7.4 mg), resp. *Fr. 2* was subjected to CC (*Sephadex LH-20*; MeOH; and SiO₂; petroleum ether (PE)/CHCl₃ 8:1) to yield **8** (6.8 mg). *Fr. 3* was further purified by CC (SiO₂; PE/CHCl₃ 8:1) to yield **4** (347.2 mg). *Fr. 4* was purified by CC (SiO₂; PE/CHCl₃ 1:1) to yield **7** (42.0 mg); then it was further purified by CC (SiO₂; PE/CHCl₃ 10:1) to yield **6** (16.1 mg).

Biological Studies. Cytotoxicities of compounds 1-8 were investigated using the human cancer cell lines HeLa, HepG-2, and A-549, following the MTT (=3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl-2*H*tetrazolium bromide) standards [20], and cisplatin (DDP) was used as a positive control in this experiment. Further, the antibacterial activities of 1-8 were tested against four bacteria (*Bacillus* subtilis, *Bacillus Pumilus, Escherichia coli*, and *Staphylococcus aureus*) and two yeasts (*Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus niger*) by the minimal-inhibitory concentration (*MIC*) method [21] using 96-well microplates. Three replicates were performed for each compound.

Botryosphaerone A (= (3S*,4S*)-3,4-Dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-7-(1-hydroxyethyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-1(2H)-one; **1**). White solid. [a]_D² = +18.5 (c = 2.0, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 230 (3.46), 283 (3.93). IR (KBr): 3369, 1622, 1294, 1074. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 2* and *1*, resp. HR-Q-TOF-MS: 291.0840 ([M + Na]⁺, C₁₃H₁₆NaO⁺₆; calc. 291.0845).

Botryosphaerone B (=($3S^{*},4S^{*}$)-3,4-Dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-7-(2-hydroxyethyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-1(2H)-one; **2**). White solid. [a]²⁰_D = +7.5 (c = 2.0, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 230 (2.77), 287 (3.00). IR (KBr): 3312, 1623, 1298, 1288, 1013. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 2* and *1*, resp. HR-Q-TOF-MS: 291.0848 ($[M + Na]^+$, $C_{13}H_{16}NaO_6^+$; calc. 291.0845).

Botryosphaerone C (=($3S^{,4}S^{,})^{,3,4}$ -Dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-6-methoxy-7-(1-methoxyethyl)naphthalen-1(2H)-one; **3**). White solid. [a]_D²⁰ = +18.0 (c = 2.0, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 230 (2.47), 292 (2.87). IR (KBr): 3384, 1621, 1293, 1119, 1077. ¹H- and ¹³C- NMR: see *Tables 2* and *1*, resp. HR-Q-TOF-MS: 305.1005 ([M + Na]⁺, C₁₄H₁₈NaO₆⁺; calc. 305.1001).

Botryosphaerone $D (= (3S^*, 4S^*)^{-7}$ -Ethyl-3,4-dihydro-3,4,8-trihydroxy-6-methoxynaphthalen-1(2H)one; **4**). White solid. $[a]_D^{2D} = +13.0 \ (c = 2.0, \text{ MeOH})$. UV (MeOH): 230 (2.19), 297 (2.78). IR (KBr): 3428, 1626, 1311. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 2* and *1*, resp. HR-Q-TOF-MS: 275.0900 ($[M + \text{Na}]^+$, $C_{13}H_{16}\text{NaO}_5^+$; calc. 275.0895).

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