

Two New Octulosonic Acid Derivatives and a New Cyclohexanecarboxylic Acid Derivative from *Erigeron bonariensis* L.

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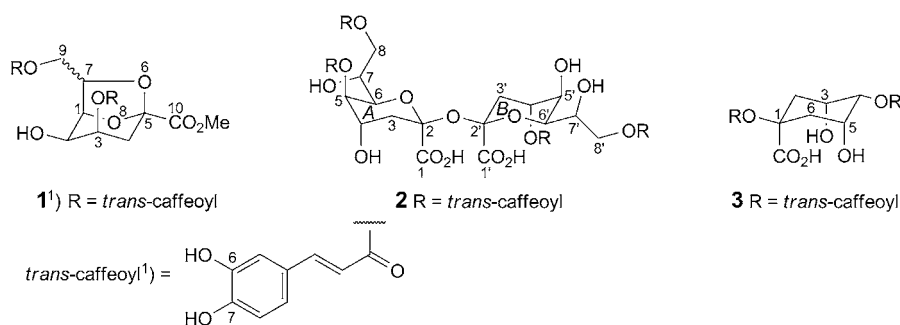
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The AcOEt-soluble part of a MeOH extract from the whole plant of *Erigeron bonariensis* yielded two new rare-class octulosonic acid derivatives, *rel*-methyl (1*R*,2*S*,3*S*,5*R*)-3-(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)-7-[(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)methyl]-2-hydroxy-6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate (**1**) and 5,8-di[*O-trans*-caffeoyl]-3-deoxy- β -D-*gluco*-oct-2-ulopyranosonosyl 4,8-di[*O-trans*-caffeoyl]-3-deoxy- β -D-*gluco*-oct-2-ulopyranosidonic acid (**2**) along with a cyclohexanecarboxylic acid derivative, (1 α ,3 β ,4 β ,5 β)-1,4-di-3,5-dihydroxy-bis(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (**3**). The structures of these compounds were elucidated through ESI-MS, and 1D- and 2D-NMR spectroscopic techniques including ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR, HMQC or HSQC, and HMBC experiments.

Introduction. – Asteraceae is one of the largest plant families of Pakistan, containing *ca.* 650 species distributed in 15 tribes [1]. The genus *Erigeron* (Asteraceae) comprises *ca.* 50 species [2]. *Erigeron bonariensis* L. (syn. *Conyza bonariensis* (L.) CRONQUIST), locally called ‘gulava’ or ‘mirch booti’ and traditionally used in urine problems, is a common weed distributed from plains to *ca.* 1800 m height in Pakistan [3][4]. The plant causes skin-contact dermatitis and asthma. Our previous investigation led to the isolation of aromatic glycosides from *E. bonariensis* [5]. Here we report the isolation and structure elucidation of the two rare-class octulosonic acid derivatives **1** and **2** along with the cyclohexanecarboxylic acid derivative **3** from the same plant.

Results and Discussion. – Compound **1** was isolated as a yellowish green gum. Its molecular formula was deduced to be C₂₇H₂₆O₁₃ from its high-resolution electrospray-ionization quadrupole time-of-flight mass spectrum (HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS) (pos. mode) which gave a quasimolecular-ion peak at *m/z* 559.1426 ([*M*+H]⁺). The molecular formula was also supported by the IR, UV, and NMR data. Compound **1** gave IR absorption bands for OH groups (3425 cm⁻¹), an α,β -unsaturated C=O moiety (1686 cm⁻¹), and olefinic (1603 cm⁻¹), aromatic C=C (1443 cm⁻¹), and C–O bonds (1114 cm⁻¹). The UV spectrum of **1** in MeOH showed the characteristic maxima at 217.6, 244.4, and 328 nm [6][7]. The ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra (Table I) as well as comparison with literature revealed data that the basic skeleton of compound **1** was



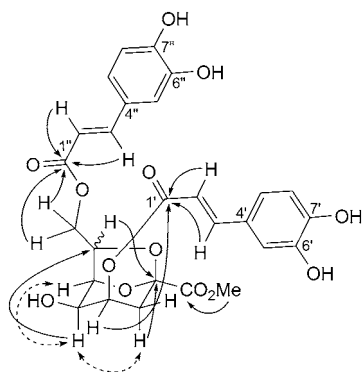
that of a methyl 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate containing two *trans*-caffeoyl (= (2*E*)-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl) moieties [8]. The presence of a *trans*-caffeoyl moiety in the molecule was also supported by the MS/MS of the $[M + H]^+$ peak at m/z 559 which gave a product ion peak at m/z 163 (*trans*-caffeoyl⁺, base peak). The MS/MS experiment also yielded a peak at m/z 397 showing the loss of a *trans*-caffeoyl moiety from the molecule. The direct attachments between H- and C-atoms were revealed by a HSQC experiment. The constitution of the 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate moiety was determined from the $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -COSY plot. For this purpose, the H-atoms of $\text{CH}_2(4)$ were selected as starting point. The H-atom at $\delta(\text{H})$ 4.55 (H–C(1) and H–C(7)) showed HMBC cross-peaks with the anomeric C-atom ($\delta(\text{C})$ 104.5 (C(5)); Fig. 1) indicating the presence of a ketal group at C(5); this was supported by the downfield shift of the anomeric C-atom signal and two tertiary C-atom signals at $\delta(\text{C})$ 81.0 (C(7)) and 78.0 (C(1)) in the ^{13}C -NMR spectrum [7]. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra also indicated the presence of two *trans*-caffeoyl moieties in the molecule. The ^1H -NMR signals of one *trans*-caffeoyl moiety were observed at $\delta(\text{H})$ 6.42 and 7.56 (each *d*, $J = 15.8$ Hz) showing the presence of a *trans* C=C bond, and the aromatic signals at $\delta(\text{H})$ 6.98 (br. *d*, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 6.77 (*d*, $J = 8.1$ Hz), and 7.13 (*d*, $J = 1.6$ Hz). These observations indicated the presence of OH groups at the C(6') and C(7') positions¹⁾ of the benzene ring (*i.e.*, of a *trans*-caffeoyl moiety). The other acyl moiety was also a *trans*-caffeoyl group as observed from its NMR data (*cf.* Table 1). The points of attachment of these *trans*-caffeoyl moieties to the sugar unit were suggested by the downfield shift of the C(3) and C(9) signals at $\delta(\text{C})$ 67.8 and 64.1, respectively, and confirmed by the HMBC interactions of $\text{CH}_2(3)$ ($\delta(\text{H})$ 5.46) with $\delta(\text{C})$ 168.7, and H–C(9) ($\delta(\text{H})$ 4.59 and 5.29) with $\delta(\text{C})$ 169.1. The MeO group ($\delta(\text{H})$ 3.79) showed a HMBC with a C=O group at $\delta(\text{C})$ 169.3 indicating that the COOH group of 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylic acid moiety was esterified with a Me group.

The relative configuration of the 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate unit of compound **1** was assigned on the basis of coupling constants and the NOESY data (Fig. 1). The *trans*-caffeoyl group at C(3) was preferentially oriented axially because of the coupling constants of H–C(3) (br. *dd*, $J = 5.38$ and 5.4 Hz) and H_β –C(4) (*dd*, $J = 5.39$ and 15.5 Hz). Both $J_{\text{ax,eq}}$ and $J_{\text{eq,eq}}$ values fall in the same range, therefore, the

¹⁾ Arbitrary atom numbering; for systematic names, see *Exper. Part*.

Table 1. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (CD_3OD ; 500 and 125 MHz, resp.) of **1**. δ in ppm, J in Hz.

Position ¹⁾	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$
6,8-Dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate moiety:		
H–C(1)	4.55 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 2.6, 4.9$)	78.0
H–C(2)	4.24 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 4.8, 5.0$)	67.9
H–C(3)	5.46 (<i>br. dd</i> , $J = 5.38, 5.4$)	67.8
$\text{CH}_2(4)$	2.26 (<i>br. d</i> , $J = 15.4$), 2.40 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 5.39, 15.5$)	38.8
C(5)		104.5
H–C(7)	4.55 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 2.6, 4.9$)	81.0
$\text{CH}_2(9)$	4.59 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 2.6, 11.6$), 5.29 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 8.6, 11.9$)	64.1
C(10)		169.3
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety I:		
C(1')		168.7
H–C(2')	6.42 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	115.6
H–C(3')	7.56 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.1
C(4')		127.9
H–C(5')	7.13 (<i>d</i> , $J = 1.6$)	115.3
C(6')		146.7
C(7')		149.5
H–C(8')	6.77 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.1$)	116.5
H–C(9')	6.98 (<i>br. d</i> , $J = 8.0$)	123.3
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety II:		
C(1'')		169.1
H–C(2'')	6.32 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	114.9
H–C(3'')	7.62 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.3
C(4'')		127.8
H–C(5'')	7.0 (<i>d</i> , $J = 1.6$)	115.2
C(6'')		146.7
C(7'')		149.5
H–C(8'')	6.72 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.1$)	116.4
H–C(9'')	6.98 (<i>br. d</i> , $J = 8.0$)	123.0
MeO	3.79 (<i>s</i>)	53.3

Fig. 1. Important HMBC ($\text{H} \rightarrow \text{C}$) and NOESY ($\text{H} \leftrightarrow \text{H}$) correlations of **1**

orientation of the OH group at C(2) could not be determined on the basis of the coupling constant of H–C(2) (*dd*, $J = 4.8$ and 5.0 Hz). However, OH–C(2) was oriented equatorially because of the correlations of H–C(2) with H_b–C(4) in the NOESY plot. The H–C(1) was oriented equatorially due to its correlations with H–C(2) in the NOESY plot as well as the smaller coupling constant of H–C(1) ($J_{1,2} = 4.9$ Hz). The chemical shifts of H–C(1) and H–C(7) were the same; therefore, their correlations could not be observed in the NOESY plot. Hence the configuration at C(7) could not be determined by spectroscopy. The configurations at all the positions in the 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate moiety of compound **1** were similar to those of phenylpropanoyl 2,7-anhydro-3-deoxy-2-octulosonic acid derivatives except for C(7), which could not be defined [8]. Thus the structure of compound **1** was deduced to be methyl *rel*-(1*R*,2*S*,3*S*,5*R*)-3-(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)-7-[(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)methyl]-2-hydroxy-6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylate. Compound **1** and erigoster A [7] have the same planar structure but differ in the configuration at C(2). In compound **1**, OH–C(2) is oriented equatorially, while in erigoster A it is oriented axially. Thus compound **1** is a diastereoisomer of erigoster A and is unprecedented.

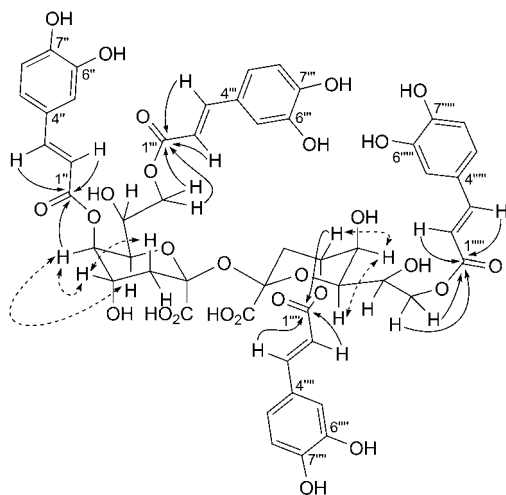
Compound **2** was isolated as a yellowish green gum. The HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS (pos. mode) showed an unusual molecular-ion peak at m/z 1106.2620 (M^+) instead of $[M + H]^+$ peak indicating the molecular formula $C_{52}H_{50}O_{27}$. This formula was also supported by the IR and NMR spectra. Compound **2** gave IR-absorption bands typical for OH groups (3440 cm^{-1}) and olefinic bonds (1643 cm^{-1}), while its UV-absorption maxima were observed at 202 and 283 nm. The ESI-MS/MS of the M^+ peak at m/z 1106 resulted in the fragment ion peaks at m/z 562 (loss of one di(*O-trans*-caffeoyl)glycosyl moiety along with the bridging O-atom), 545 (loss of the other di(*O-trans*-caffeoyl)glycosyl moiety without the bridging O-atom), and 163 (*trans*-caffeoyl moiety). The ^{13}C -NMR spectra suggested the presence of six C=O groups ($\delta(\text{C})$ 169.3, 169.0, 169.0, 168.9, 167.9, and 167.9), and the ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra (Table 2) established the presence of four *trans*-caffeoyl moieties and two octulosonic acid moieties in the molecule. A HMQC experiment revealed the direct attachments between H- and C-atoms. The constitutions of the octulosonic acid moieties were determined from the $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -COSY and HMBC experiments. For the assignment of the $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -COSY data, the H-atoms of CH₂(3) and CH₂(3') of each sugar moiety were, respectively, selected as starting points. The two octulosonic acid moieties were linked to each other at the anomeric C-atoms *via* a bridging O-atom. This linkage was established on the basis of the downfield shift of the anomeric C-atoms of both sugar moieties. Each octulosonic acid moiety was esterified with two *trans*-caffeic acid moieties. The subunit *A* was esterified at C(5) and C(8), while the subunit *B* was esterified at C(4') and C(8'). The points of attachment of the *trans*-caffeoyl moieties at these positions were established on the basis of the downfield shifts of the esterified C-atoms of both sugar moieties as by well as the HMBC interactions of the sugars H-atoms at esterified C-atoms with those of the C=O C-atoms of the *trans*-caffeoyl moieties. Thus the signals of C(5) and C(8) of subunit *A* were shifted downfield to $\delta(\text{C})$ 72.1 and 64.4, respectively, while the signals of C(4') and C(8') of subunit *B* were shifted downfield to $\delta(\text{C})$ 68.4 and 64.7, respectively. The H–C(5) ($\delta(\text{H})$ 5.18) showed HMBC interactions with C(1'')¹ ($\delta(\text{C})$ 167.9), while CH₂(8) ($\delta(\text{H})$ 4.86 and 5.01) showed interactions with C(1''')¹ ($\delta(\text{C})$ 169.0) (Fig. 2). Similarly, H–C(4') ($\delta(\text{H})$ 4.44–4.45) showed HMBC interactions with C(1''''')¹ ($\delta(\text{C})$

Table 2. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (CD_3OD ; 600 and 150 MHz, resp.) of **2**. δ in ppm, J in Hz.

Position	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$
Octulosonic acid I:		
C(1)		167.9
C(2)		107.0
$\text{CH}_2(3)$	2.30–2.35 (<i>m</i>), 2.38–2.41 (<i>m</i>)	38.1
H–C(4)	4.32 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 5.1, 4.9$)	64.6
H–C(5)	5.18 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 4.9, 4.9$)	72.1
H–C(6)	4.66 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 4.0, 4.0$)	76.1
H–C(7)	4.44–4.45 (<i>m</i> , overlap)	79.3
$\text{CH}_2(8)$	4.86 (masked), 5.01 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 6.8, 11.2$)	64.4
Octulosonic acid II:		
C(1')		168.9
C(2')		106.3
$\text{CH}_2(3')$	2.30–2.35 (<i>m</i>), 2.38–2.41 (<i>m</i>)	39.5
H–C(4')	4.44–4.45 (<i>m</i> , overlap)	68.4
H–C(5')	4.24 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 5.0, 5.0$)	68.6
H–C(6')	5.44 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 5.0, 5.1$)	78.1
H–C(7')	4.53 (<i>ddd</i> , $J = 4.2, 4.5, 8.7$)	80.0
$\text{CH}_2(8')$	4.62 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 3.1, 12.1$), 5.27 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 8.8, 12.0$)	64.7
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety I ¹ :		
C(1'')		167.9
H–C(2'')	6.41 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	116.3
H–C(3'')	7.58 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.2
C(4'')		127.8
H–C(5'')	7.12 (<i>d</i> , $J = 1.9$)	115.2
C(6'')		146.72
C(7'')		149.53
H–C(8'')	6.77 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.2$)	116.5
H–C(9'')	6.95 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 1.9, 8.2$)	123.3
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety II ¹ :		
C(1''')		169.0
H–C(2''')	6.21 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	114.7
H–C(3''')	7.56 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.9$)	147.1
C(4''')		127.68
H–C(5''')	7.00 (<i>d</i> , $J = 2.0$)	115.12
C(6''')		146.6
C(7''')		149.6
H–C(8''')	6.68 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.2$)	116.40
H–C(9''')	6.76 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 2.0, 8.4$)	123.0
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety III ¹ :		
C(1''''')		169.0
H–C(2''''')	6.15 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	114.6
H–C(3''''')	7.46 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	146.9
C(4''''')		127.64
H–C(5''''')	6.92 (<i>d</i> , $J = 1.9$)	114.9
C(6''''')		146.79
C(7''''')		149.56
H–C(8''''')	6.70 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.1$)	116.42
H–C(9''''')	6.76 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 2.0, 8.4$)	123.0

Table 2 (cont.)

Position	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety IV ¹ :		
C(1''''')		169.3
H-C(2''''')	6.30 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.9$)	115.9
H-C(3''''')	7.62 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.6
C(4''''')		127.9
H-C(5''''')	7.06 (<i>d</i> , $J = 1.9$)	115.17
C(6''''')		146.79
C(7''''')		149.4
H-C(8''''')	6.72 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.2$)	116.47
H-C(9''''')	6.88 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 1.9, 8.2$)	123.2

Fig. 2. Important HMBC (H \rightarrow C) and NOESY (H \leftrightarrow H) correlations of **2**

169.0), while the CH₂(8'') ($\delta(\text{H})$ 4.62 and 5.27) showed interactions with C(1''''')¹ ($\delta(\text{C})$ 169.3). The relative configuration of the sugar moieties was established on the basis of NOESY experiments as well as the coupling constants of the sugars H-atoms. The coupling constants of H-C(4) (*dd*, $J = 4.9$ and 5.1 Hz), H-C(5) (*dd*, $J = 4.9$ and 4.9 Hz), and H-C(6) (*dd*, $J = 4.0$ and 4.0 Hz) as well as the NOESY interactions H-C(4) H_b-C(3) and H-C(5), and H-C(5) with H-C(6) indicated that OH-C(4) and the *trans*-caffeoyl group at C(5) were oriented axially in subunit *A* (Fig. 2). Similarly, the coupling constants of H-C(5') (*dd*, $J = 5.0$ and 5.0 Hz) and H-C(6') (*dd*, $J = 5.0$ and 5.1 Hz) in subunit *B* as well as the NOESY interactions H-C(4')/H-C(5'), and H-C(5')/H-C(6') indicated that the *trans*-caffeoyl group at C(4') and the OH group at C(5') were oriented axially in subunit *B*. On the basis of these observations, the structure of **2** was proposed to be 5,8-di[*O-trans*-caffeoyl]-3-deoxy- β -D-gluco-oct-2-ulopyranosonosyl 4,8-di[*O-trans*-caffeoyl]-3-deoxy- β -D-gluco-oct-2-ulopyranosidonic acid (2 \leftrightarrow 2 linkage) which is unprecedented.

Compound **3** was obtained as a pale yellow gummy solid. Its molecular formula was deduced to be $C_{25}H_{24}O_{12}$ on the basis of HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS (pos. mode) which gave a quasi-molecular-ion peak at m/z 517.1392 ($[M + H]^+$). The HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS also revealed a peak at m/z 499.1167 ($[M + H - H_2O]^+$). The MS/MS of m/z 499 ($[M + H - H_2O]^+$) gave diagnostic fragment-ion peaks at m/z 319 ($[M - (18 + 179)]$) (loss of $H_2O + trans$ -caffeoyl) and 163 ($[trans$ -caffeoyl] $^+$). The formula deduced by HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS (pos. mode) was also supported by the UV, IR, and NMR spectra. Compound **3** showed UV-absorption maxima at 220 and 330 nm, while it gave IR absorption bands typical for OH groups (3435 cm^{-1}), CH stretching vibrations (2924 cm^{-1}), acid CO (1740 cm^{-1}), olefinic bonds (1692 cm^{-1}), and aromatic C=C bonds (1518 and 1450 cm^{-1}). The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra (Table 3) and their comparison with literature data indicated the presence of two *trans*-caffeoyl moieties and a cyclohexanecarboxylic acid skeleton in the molecule [9][10]. The direct attachments between H- and C-atoms were revealed by the HSQC experiment. The constitution of the cyclohexane moiety was established on the basis of the ^1H , ^1H -COSY experiment. A H-atom at $\delta(\text{H})$ 5.11 (H–C(4)) showed HMBC interactions with a

Table 3. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (CD_3OD ; 500 and 125 MHz, resp.) of **3**. δ in ppm, J in Hz.

Position	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$
Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid:		
C(1)		79.4
CH ₂ (2)	2.11 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 12.4$), 2.29 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 9.5$)	38.4
H–C(3)	4.37 (br. <i>s</i>)	69.6
H–C(4)	5.11 (<i>d</i> , $J = 7.1$)	76.0
H–C(5)	5.63 (br. <i>s</i>)	69.0
CH ₂ (6)	2.23 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 10.2$), 2.29 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 9.5$)	39.6
COOH		176.9
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety I ¹):		
C(1')		168.3
H–C(2')	6.17 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	114.8
H–C(3')	7.50 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.5
C(4')		127.8
H–C(5')	6.98 (<i>s</i>)	115.2
C(6')		146.7
C(7')		149.6
H–C(8')	6.72 (<i>d</i> , $J = 7.7$)	116.5
H–C(9')	6.89 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 8.9$)	123.1
<i>trans</i> -Caffeoyl moiety II ¹):		
C(1'')		168.5
H–C(2'')	6.27 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	114.8
H–C(3'')	7.58 (<i>d</i> , $J = 15.8$)	147.6
C(4'')		127.7
H–C(5'')	7.00 (<i>s</i>)	115.2
C(6'')		146.7
C(7'')		149.6
H–C(8'')	6.73 (<i>d</i> , $J = 7.9$)	116.5
H–C(9'')	6.89 (br. <i>d</i> , $J = 11.5$)	123.1

C-atom at $\delta(\text{C})$ 168.5 (Fig. 3) indicating that a *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety was attached at C(4). The point of attachment of the *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety at C(4) was also supported by the downfield shift of the C(4) signal $\delta(\text{C})$ 76. A second *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety was assumed to be attached with to C(1) as there were no HMBC interactions of the C=O C-atom of this *trans*-caffeoyl moiety ($\delta(\text{C})$ 168.3) with any H-atom of the cyclohexane ring; this was confirmed by comparison with the literature data of cyclohexanecarboxylic acids substituted at C(1) by a *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety [10][11]. The H–C(5) signal was shifted downfield as compared to the H–C(3) signal, probably due to H-bonding between OH–C(5) and the C=O group of COOH [9]. The COOH signal was also shifted downfield to $\delta(\text{C})$ 176.9 due to the same H-atom bonding. The analysis of the NOESY plot and coupling constants helped in the assignment of the relative configuration of the cyclohexane ring of **3**. The H–C(3) showed NOESY interactions with H–C(4) which in turn showed interactions with H–C(5) indicating that these H-atoms are in the same plane (Fig. 3). The coupling constant between H–C(3) (br. *s*, equatorial) and H–C(4) ($J_{\text{ax,eq}} = 7.1$ Hz), and between H–C(4) and H–C(5) (br. *s*, equatorial) revealed that in the cyclohexane moiety, the H-atoms were $\text{H}_{\beta}\text{-C}(3)$, $\text{H}_{\beta}\text{-C}(4)$, and $\text{H}_{\beta}\text{-C}(5)$. On the basis of the described spectral evidences and comparison with the literature data, the basic skeleton of **3** was proposed to be *neo*-quinic acid (= (1 α ,3 β ,4 β ,5 β)-1,3,4,5-tetrahydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic acid) [12] having a conformation in which the COOH group is axial, and containing a *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety at C(1) and another *trans*-caffeoyloxy moiety at C(4). Thus the structure of compound **3** was assigned to be (1 α ,3 β ,4 β ,5 β)-1,4-bis(*trans*-caffeoyloxy)-3,5-dihydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic acid. Compound **3** is a diastereoisomer of 1,4-di[*O-trans*-caffeoyl]quinic acid [13] and is unprecedented.

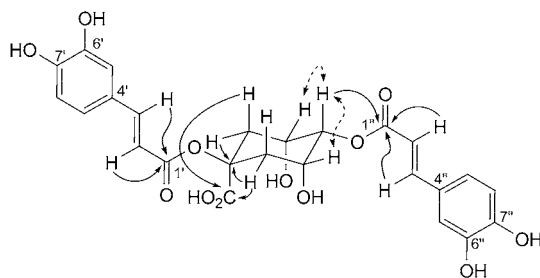


Fig. 3. Important HMBC (H→C) and NOESY (H↔H) correlations of **3**

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Experimental Part

General. Column chromatography (CC): silica gel 60 (SiO_2 , 230–400 mesh; *Macherey–Nagel*), *Sephadex LH-20* (25–100 μm ; *Sigma–Aldrich*). MPLC: *Eyela VSP-3050* instrument with a 25 \times 200 mm column (*Eyela*) filled with *Polygroprep C-18* (25–40 μm , 10 nm; *Macherey–Nagel*). Recycling Prep. HPLC: *LC-908W* instrument (*Japan Analytical Industries (JAI) Co., Ltd.*), equipped with a *Jsphere ODS-M80* column (S-4 μm , 8 nm, 20 \times 250 mm; *YMC*) a *JAI RI-5* refractive index detector and a *JAI UV-310* detector (254 nm); t_{R} in min. TLC: *RP-18-F_{254s}* plates (*Merck*); detection first under UV light

(254/366 nm), and then with cerium(IV) sulfate spray reagent in 10% H₂SO₄ soln. followed by and heating. UV Spectra: *Hitachi-U-3200* spectrophotometer; λ_{\max} (log ϵ) in nm. IR Spectra: *Bruker Vector 22 FT-IR* spectrometer; KBr pellets; $\bar{\nu}$ in cm⁻¹. Optical rotations: *Jasco-DIP-360* digital polarimeter or *Polartronic-D* polarimeter. 1D- and 2D-NMR Spectra: *Bruker-Avance 500* or *600 MHz* instrument; δ in ppm with ref. to the residual non-deuterated solvent peaks (δ (H) 3.31 and δ (C) 49.0 from CD₃OD), J in Hz. ESI-MS (pos.): *QStar XL Hybrid LC/MS/MS* spectrometer (*Applied Biosystems*); in m/z . Collision-induced-dissociation (CID) MS: collision energy of 20 or 40 eV with N₂ as collision gas.

Plant Material. The whole plants of *Erigeron bonariensis* (Asteraceae) were collected from Oghi, Mansehra, Pakistan, in November 2002, and identified by Mr. *Jan Alam* (taxonomist) at the Botany Department, University of Karachi, Pakistan. A voucher specimen (KUH G. H. No. 68220) has been deposited with the herbarium of the above department.

Extraction and Isolation. The air dried whole plant of *Erigeron bonariensis* (24 kg) was ground into fine powder which was percolated with MeOH (50e × 7d) three times at rt and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to furnish a dark green residue (550 g) which was dissolved in H₂O and partitioned between hexane (190 g), CHCl₃ (70 g), AcOEt (120 g), BuOH (90 g), and H₂O (80 g). The AcOEt fraction was subjected to CC (SiO₂, hexane, hexane/AcOEt gradient, and AcOEt) to obtain six fractions. The fraction eluted with AcOEt/hexane 3 : 1 was further subjected to CC (*Sephadex LH-20*, MeOH/H₂O 1 : 1): *Fractions 1–3*. *Fr. 2* was subjected to MPLC (*Polygroprep C-18*, H₂O followed by a gradient 0 → 100% MeOH/H₂O) to give a semi-pure compound which was then purified by prep. recycling HPLC (*J'Sphere ODS-M80*, MeOH/H₂O 1 : 1, flow rate 3 ml/min): **1** (25 mg; t_R 45). *Fr. 3* was subjected to MPLC (*Polygroprep C-18*, H₂O followed by a gradient 0 → 100% MeOH/H₂O) to give a semi-pure compound which when subjected to prep. recycling HPLC (*J'Sphere ODS-M80*, MeOH/H₂O 1 : 1, flow rate 3 ml/min): **2** (4.0 mg; t_R 25). The fraction from the main column eluted with AcOEt/hexane 1 : 1 was subjected to CC (*Polygroprep C-18*, H₂O followed by a gradient 0 → 100% MeOH/H₂O) to give a semi-pure compound which was again subjected to MPLC (*Polygroprep C-18*) to get a more purified compound showing one major spot with impurities on reversed-phase TLC. That fraction was further purified by prep. recycling HPLC (*J'Sphere ODS-M80*, MeOH/H₂O 1 : 1, flow rate 3 ml/min): **3** (6.0 mg; t_R 34). The elution of **1–3** was simultaneously monitored by the refractive-index and UV detectors.

Methyl rel-(1R,2S,3S,5R)-3-[[[(2E)-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl]oxy]7-[[[(2E)-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl]oxy]-methyl]-2-hydroxy-6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-5-carboxylic acid (1): Yellowish green, gummy solid (25 mg). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -18$ ($c = 0.25$, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 328.0, 244.4, 217.6. IR (KBr): 3425, 1686, 1603, 1443, 1114. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: *Table 1*. HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS: 559.1426 ($[M + H]^+$, C₂₇H₂₇O₁₃⁺; calc. 559.1443). ESI-Q-TOF-MS/MS (pos.): 559 ($[M + H]^+$, 6), 541 (4), 397 (1.5), 379 (6), 163 (100), 145 (2).

3-Deoxy-5,8-bis[O-[(2E)-3-83,4-dihydroxyphenyl]-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl]]-β-D-glucopyranosyl 3-Deoxy-4,8-bis[O-[(2E)-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl]]-β-D-glucopyranosidonic Acid (2): Yellowish green, gummy solid (4 mg). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +33$ ($c = 0.41$, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 283, 202. IR (KBr): 3440, 1643. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: *Table 2*. HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS: 1106.2620 (M^+ , C₅₂H₅₀O₂₇⁺; calc. 1106.2523). ESI-Q-TOF-MS/MS (pos.): 1106 (M^+ , 13.5), 1089 (5.8), 562 (100), 545 (71), 163 (5.8).

(1α,3β,4β,5β)-1,4-Bis[[[(2E)-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-oxoprop-2-en-1-yl]oxy]-3,5-dihydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic Acid (3): Pale yellow, gummy solid (6 mg). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -22$ ($c = 0.30$, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 330, 220. IR (KBr): 3435, 2924, 1740, 1692, 1518, 1450. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: *Table 3*. HR-ESI-Q-TOF-MS: 517.1392 ($[M + H]^+$, C₂₅H₂₅O₁₂⁺; calc. 517.1338; 66.5), 499.1167 (100). ESI-Q-TOF-MS/MS (pos.): 499 ($[M + H - H_2O]^+$, 6), 319 (21.5), 163 (100).

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