# Abietane Diterpenes from Illicium angustisepalum 

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Twelve novel (1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14) and two known (3, 6) abietane diterpenes and have been isolated from the aerial parts of Illicium angustisepalum. These diterpenes are unusual in that they are oxygenated at the axial $\mathrm{C}-19$ position of the gem-dimethyl group rather than the equatorial C -18 position.

Illicium angustisepalum A. C. Smith (Illiciaceae) is a medium-sized tree found in southern regions of the People's Republic of China. ${ }^{1,2}$ In Hong K ong, its distribution is restricted to Lantau Island. It is used in traditional medicine for treating rheumatism and skin inflammation. ${ }^{3}$ There have been no previous reports concerning the phytochemistry of I. angustisepalum or the biological activity of the extract.

## Results and Discussion

Extraction of the aerial parts of I. angustisepalum with $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ followed by column chromatography and HPLC has yielded 14 abietane-type diterpenes, of which 12 (1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14) are novel. Angustanoic acid A (1) was one of the most abundant constituents of the extract. HREIMS confirmed the molecular formula of 1 as $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{2}$. Inspection of its 1D NMR spectra demonstrated the presence of a carboxylic acid group ( $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 183.9$ ) and three double bonds ( $\delta_{\mathrm{c}} 142.5 \mathrm{C}, 140.2 \mathrm{C}$, $134.6 \mathrm{C}, 126.0 \mathrm{C}, 125.1 \mathrm{CH}$, and $111.0 \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), one of which was terminal $\left[\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 5.07\right.$ (s), 4.93 (s)]. These structural features were incorporated into the abietane skeleton of 1 by means of correlations observed in HSQC (Tables 1 and 2), HMBC (Figure 1) and ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ COSY (not shown) 2D NMR experiments. Rigorous NMR assignments for all other compounds reported in this paper were established in the same manner. Precise knowledge of ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shifts for each position in 1, coupled with the expected comformational rigidity of the trans decalin system in 1, allowed determination of relative stereochemistry at C-4, C-5, and C-10 by NOESY (Figure 2), which showed that the methyl group at C-4 was on the $\alpha$-face of the molecule, that is, equatorial (C-18), and that the carboxylic acid was thereforeaxial (C-19). Although more than 20 abietanes incorporating a carboxylic acid substituent at the C-4 position ${ }^{4}$ are known as natural products, only a handful contain an axial carboxylic acid ${ }^{5-11}$ rather than the more common equatorial group.

Angustanal (2) is the C-19 aldehyde analogue of 1, while compound $\mathbf{3}$ is the $\mathrm{C}-15, \mathrm{C}-16$ dihydro analogue of 1. Both C-4 epimers of compound $\mathbf{3}$ are known from nature: in palustric acid ${ }^{12}$ the carboxylic acid group is equatorial (C-18), while for epipalustric acid the carboxylic acid group is axial (C-19). ${ }^{13}$ Although no NMR

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Figure 1. HMBC correlations used in establishing the abietane skeleton of $\mathbf{1}$ indicated by arrows from ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ to ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$.


Figure 2. NOESY correlations used to establish the relative stereochemistry of $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{4}$ indi cated by double headed arrows.
data are available for epi palustric acid in the literature to confirm the proposed stereochemistry at C-4 in compound 3, close similarities in the NMR assignments for $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ established by 2D NMR (Tables 1 and 2) would seem to necessitate that $\mathbf{3}$ have the same relative stereochemistry as $\mathbf{1 .}$

Angustanoic acids B (4) and C (5) were determined to be diastereoisomers of the 9,13-epidioxy derivative of compound $\mathbf{1}$ from spectroscopic evidence. The relative stereochemistry at the epoxide for C-9 and C-13 in 4 was established as $\alpha, \alpha$ by NOESY correlations (Figure 2); compound 5 was confirmed as the $9 \beta, 13 \beta$ isomer by the same method. By analogy, compound 6 seems to be the 9,13-epidioxy derivative of epipalustric acid (3). Optical rotation and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data for 6 gave a good match with 4-epi-palustric acid-9 $\alpha, 13 \alpha$-endoperoxide, previously isolated fromJ uniperus sabina ${ }^{14}$ (erroneous literature assignments for $\mathrm{C}-6 / \mathrm{C}-11$ and $\mathrm{C}-17 / \mathrm{C}-20$ are corrected in Table 1). Full ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data have also been reported for both the $9 \alpha, 13 \alpha$ - and $9 \beta, 13 \beta$-endoperoxides of palustric acid. ${ }^{15}$ As expected, the largest chemical shift differences reported between endoperoxides of palustric and epipalustric acid occurred in the vicinity of the C-4 position: ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR shifts for the C-4 methyl group were ca. 28 ppm when equatorial and ca. 17 ppm when axial, which is consistent with the equatorial (C18)/axial (C-19) assignments of the methyl/carboxylic acid groups for all abietanes reported in this paper.

Table 1. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Assignments for Compounds 1-12 and 14

| carbon | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 14 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 36.0 | 35.4 | 36.1 | 31.6 | 34.7 | 31.7 | 31.8 | 39.3 | 39.3 | 39.0 | 39.1 | 31.5 | 39.4 |
| 2 | 19.4 | 18.7 | 19.5 | 19.1 | 19.1 | 19.2 | 19.1 | 19.9 | 19.9 | 19.0 | 19.9 | 19.2 | 19.7 |
| 3 | 37.5 | 34.0 | 37.6 | 37.8 | 38.1 | 38.0 | 38.0 | 37.4 | 37.5 | 35.3 | 37.3 | 37.4 | 38.1 |
| 4 | 43.8 | 48.6 | 43.8 | 45.2 | 44.5 | 45.2 | 45.2 | 43.9 | 43.9 | 38.7 | 44.1 | 44.2 | 44.0 |
| 5 | 53.3 | 52.7 | 53.5 | 44.0 | 47.9 | 44.0 | 44.1 | 52.9 | 52.8 | 51.3 | 52.5 | 47.3 | 56.2 |
| 6 | 20.7 | 18.8 | 20.7 | 19.6 | 20.3 | 19.7 | 19.6 | 20.9 | 20.9 | 19.3 | 20.8 | 23.8 | 24.3 |
| 7 | 31.3 | 30.9 | 31.3 | 24.7 | 26.5 | 24.8 | 24.7 | 32.1 | 32.2 | 31.2 | 32.0 | 33.1 | 36.7 |
| 8 | 126.0 | 125.6 | 125.6 | 145.0 | 143.3 | 144.9 | 145.0 | 135.1 | 135.1 | 134.6 | 135.8 | 150.0 | 136.7 |
| 9 | 140.2 | 139.9 | 136.8 | 81.0 | 81.9 | 80.7 | 81.0 | 147.4 | 146.5 | 148.3 | 153.6 | 74.7 | 49.6 |
| 10 | 38.7 | 38.2 | 38.5 | 40.0 | 39.7 | 39.9 | 39.9 | 38.5 | 38.4 | 37.6 | 38.0 | 42.9 | 39.3 |
| 11 | 22.9 | 22.8 | 23.0 | 22.0 | 23.6 | 21.9 | 21.9 | 125.4 | 125.5 | 124.5 | 125.9 | 29.4 | 18.9 |
| 12 | 24.9 | 24.8 | 26.3 | 28.2 | 29.8 | 25.2 | 23.7 | 123.1 | 122.1 | 122.0 | 125.8 | 20.9 | 34.6 |
| 13 | 134.6 | 134.8 | 143.6 | 78.3 | 78.6 | 79.5 | 81.8 | 138.3 | 146.0 | 146.0 | 134.6 | 150.2 | 37.4 |
| 14 | 125.1 | 124.8 | 120.4 | 127.3 | 127.3 | 126.4 | 125.7 | 126.1 | 124.9 | 124.9 | 129.4 | 124.4 | 128.6 |
| 15 | 142.5 | 142.5 | 34.3 | 143.3 | 144.7 | 32.2 | 72.5 | 143.0 | 72.3 | 72.3 | 198.1 | 129.8 | 148.8 |
| 16 | 111.0 | 111.2 | $21.1{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 112.9 | 113.2 | $17.4{ }^{\text {a }}$ | $25.3{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 111.7 | $31.64{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 31.6 |  | 191.1 | 110.3 |
| 17 | 20.3 | 20.3 | $21.3{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 19.3 | 19.4 | $17.2^{\text {a }}$ | $24.8{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 21.7 | $31.62^{\text {a }}$ | 31.6 | 26.5 | 10.2 | 26.3 |
| 18 | 28.6 | 24.0 | 28.6 | 28.3 | 29.1 | 28.3 | 28.3 | 28.7 | 28.7 | 26.8 | 28.7 | 29.2 | 29.1 |
| 19 | 183.9 | 205.7 | 183.6 | 183.7 | 182.9 | 183.0 | 183.4 | 184.1 | 183.8 | 65.4 | 183.0 | 182.9 | 183.4 |
| 20 | 18.2 | 19.5 | 18.3 | 18.5 | 16.9 | 18.5 | 18.6 | 23.1 | 23.2 | 25.7 | 23.0 | 17.0 | 14.1 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Interchangeable within column.






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Angustanoic acid $D(7)$ is the 15-hydroxy anal ogue of compound 6.
Angustanoic acid E(8) has undergone complete aromatization of the diene system present in compound $\mathbf{1}$ A 1,2,4 substitution pattern for the aromatic $C$ ring was easily recognized from inspection of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{8}\left(\delta^{1} \mathrm{H}-12: 7.25, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=8.4,1.7 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \delta^{\mathrm{H}} \mathrm{H}-\right.$ 11: 7.20, d, J = $8.4 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \delta^{1} \mathrm{H}-14: 7.14, \mathrm{brd}$ ) and of all other C ring aromatized compounds ( $9-11$ ). In an-
gustanoi c acid F (9), the terminal double bond in 8 has been replaced by a 15 -hydroxyl group (as for compound 7). The C-4 epimer of compound $\mathbf{9}, 15$-hydroxy-dehydroabietane, has been reported previously as a natural product; ${ }^{16-19}$ as discussed in the preceding paragraph, NMR data for this literature compound were in quite good agreement with our natural product for resonances in the $C$ ring, but large differences (up to 10 ppm in the ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum) were noted in the vicinity of the C-4 position. Angustanol (10) is the C-19 alcohol analogue of 7. The C-4 epimer of 10 ( $8,11,13$-abi-etatriene-15,18-diol) has been reported from Pinus spp. ${ }^{20}$ (as expected, the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shifts for the axial C-4 methyl group of this literature compound were significantly different from those of 10). Angustanoic acid $G(\mathbf{1 1})$ is a norabietane, which may be derived by oxidative cleavage of the terminal bond in angustanoic acid E (8).
Angustanoic acid H (12) contains an extended enal functional group as demonstrated by resonances observed in its NMR spectrum [ $\left(\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 191.2 \mathrm{CH}, 150.2 \mathrm{C}\right.$, 150.0 C, $124.4 \mathrm{CH}, 129.8 \mathrm{C} ; \delta_{H} 10.19$ (s), 6.42 (s)]. This functional group was located over the C ring and pendant C-15/C-17 substituent by means of 2D NMR spectroscopy. The stereochemistry about the C-13,C15 double bond was established from a NOESY correlation between the aldehyde ( $\mathrm{C}-16$ position) and $\mathrm{H}-12 \beta$; NOESY experiments also confirmed that the C-9 hydroxy group was $\alpha$, as expected if compound $\mathbf{1 2}$ were to be derived from one of the $\alpha$-endoperoxides (4, 6, 7), which predominate in I. angustisepalum.
Angustanoic acid I (13) is a tertiary hydroperoxide that is the first known example of a $9(8 \rightarrow 7)$-abeoabietane. The novel skeleton of $\mathbf{1 3}$, in which the $B$ ring has been contracted to a five-membered system and the C ring has expanded to a seven-membered system, was determined by correlations observed in HMBC and ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-$ ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ COSY, as for all other compounds (Table 3), and the relative stereochemistry establ ished by NOESY. As for compound 12, the structure of $\mathbf{1 3}$ suggests it may be the rearrangement product of an $\alpha$-endoperoxide.
Finally, compound 14 was shown to possess the closely related pimarane skeleton by 2D NMR, and its relative stereochemistry was established as being that
Table 2. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Assignments for Compounds $\mathbf{1 - 1 2}$ and $\mathbf{1 4}^{\text {a }}$

| proton(s) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 14 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 \alpha$ | 1.08 | 1.11 | 1.09 | 1.48 | 1.57 | 1.46 | 1.48 | 1.38 | 1.39 | 1.43 | 1.41 | 1.45 | 1.08 |
| $1 \beta$ | 1.88 | 1.87 | 1.86 | 1.86 | 1.70 | 1.84 | 1.83 | 2.28 | 2.29 | 2.32 | 2.30 | 1.75 | 1.81 |
| $2 \alpha$ | 1.53 | 1.55 | 1.51 | 1.52 | 1.58 | 1.52 | 1.53 | 1.62 | 1.62 | 1.68 | 1.65 | 1.57 | 1.49 |
| $2 \beta$ | 1.90 | 1.82 | 1.88 | 1.85 | 1.78 | 1.84 | 1.84 | 2.03 | 2.03 | 1.63 | 2.04 | 1.84 | 1.83 |
| $3 \alpha$ | 1.06 | 1.04 | 1.03 | 1.09 | 1.08 | 1.09 | 1.09 | 1.09 | 1.08 | 1.02 | 1.11 | 1.10 | 1.06 |
| $3 \beta$ | 2.21 | 2.19 | 2.19 | 2.13 | 2.25 | 2.12 | 2.14 | 2.26 | 2.26 | 1.82 | 2.28 | 2.17 | 2.18 |
| 5 | 1.39 | 1.50 | 1.37 | 1.94 | 1.48 | 1.93 | 1.91 | 1.57 | 1.57 | 1.51 | 1.57 | 2.11 | 1.28 |
| $6 \alpha$ | 2.04 | 2.07 | 2.01 | 1.94 | 1.80 | 1.91 | 1.92 | 2.19 | 2.19 | 1.99 | 2.23 | 1.98 | 1.89 |
| ${ }_{6 \beta}$ | 1.87 | 1.65 | 1.84 | 2.38 | 2.23 | 2.35 | 2.38 | 2.06 | 2.05 | 1.72 | 2.07 | 1.90 | 1.75 |
| $7 \alpha$ | 2.05 | 2.19 | 2.08 | 2.47 | 2.29 | 2.40 | 2.50 | 2.80 | 2.81 | 2.83 | 2.83 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.56 \text { (td, } \\ & 13.9,5.5) \end{aligned}$ | 1.98 |
| $7 \beta$ | 2.13 | 2.21 | 2.08 | 2.62 | 2.85 | 2.60 | 2.63 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.92 \text { (dd, } \\ & 16.3,4.1) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.91 \text { (dd, } \\ & 16,5.6) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.93 \text { (dd, } \\ & 16.2,5.6) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.99 \text { (dd, } \\ & 14.1,7.0) \end{aligned}$ | 2.38 | 2.28 |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.70 |
| $11 \alpha$ | 2.02 | 2.12 | 1.99 | 2.18 | 2.37 | 1.96 | 2.17 | 7.20 (d, 8.4) | 7.22 (s) | 7.23 (s) | 7.35 (d, 8.4) | 1.78 | 1.54 |
| $11 \beta$ | 2.14 | 2.12 | 2.04 | 1.50 | 1.47 | 1.49 | 1.50 |  |  |  |  | 1.83 | 1.61 |
| $12 \alpha$ | 2.19 | 2.20 | 2.01 | 2.15 | 2.22 | 2.13 | 2.17 | $\begin{aligned} & 7.25 \text { (dd, } 8.4, \\ & 1.7) \end{aligned}$ | 7.22 (s) | 7.23 (s) | 7.70 (dd, 8.4, 1.9) | 2.38 | 1.37 |
| $12 \beta$ | 2.39 | 2.40 | 1.99 | 1.66 | 1.57 | 1.45 | 1.50 |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3.24 \text { (dt, } \\ & 14.8,2.0) \end{aligned}$ | 1.44 |
| 14 | 5.81 (s) | 5.80 (s) | 5.43 (s) | 6.18 (d, 2.3) | 6.17 (s) | 6.11 (d, 2.0) | 6.32 (d, 2.2) | 7.14 (br d) | 7.16 (s) | 7.15 (s) | 7.65 (br d) | 6.42 (s) | 5.23 (s) |
| 15 |  |  | 2.29 (sept, 6.8) |  |  | 1.91 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 5.77 \text { (dd, } \\ & 17.4,10.6) \end{aligned}$ |
| 16-ac | 5.07 (s) | 5.08 (s) | $\begin{aligned} & 1.02(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 6.8) \end{aligned}$ | 5.07 (s) | 5.07 (s) | $\begin{aligned} & 0.98(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 6.9) \end{aligned}$ | $1.29{ }^{\text {b }}$ (3H, s) | 5.32 (s) | 1.56 (3H, s) | 1.56 (3H, s) |  | 10.19 (s) | $\begin{aligned} & 4.90 \text { (dd, } \\ & 17.4,1.6) \end{aligned}$ |
| 16-bc | 4.93 (s) | 4.94 (s) |  | 5.00 (d, 1.4) | 5.00 (s) |  |  | 5.02 (t, 1.4) |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 4.88 \text { (dd, } \\ & 10.6,1.6) \end{aligned}$ |
| 17 | 1.94 (3H, s) | 1.94 (3H, s) | $\begin{aligned} & 1.02(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 6.8) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.83(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 0.9) \end{aligned}$ | 1.84 (3H, s) | $\begin{aligned} & 0.98(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 6.9) \end{aligned}$ | $1.30^{\circ}(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s})$ | 2.12 (3H, s) | 1.56 (3H, s) | 1.56 (3H, s) | 2.57 (3H, s) | $\begin{aligned} & 1.82(3 \mathrm{H}, \\ & \mathrm{d}, 1.3) \end{aligned}$ | 1.03 (3H, s) |
| $\begin{aligned} & 18 \\ & 19 \end{aligned}$ | 1.28 (3H, s) | 1.06 (3H, s) | 1.27 (3H, s) | 1.25 (3H, s) | 1.29 (3H, s) | 1.25 (3H, s) | 1.26 (3H, s) | 1.33 (3H, s) | 1.33 (3H, s) | $\begin{aligned} & 1.05(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{~s}) \\ & 3.86(\mathrm{~d}, 10.9) \end{aligned}$ | 1.35 (3H, s) | 1.31 (3H, s) | 1.25 (3H, s) |
| 20 | 0.97 (3H, s) | 0.92 (3H, s) | 0.94 (3H, s) | 1.09 (3H, s) | 1.07 (3H, s) | 1.06 (3H, s) | 1.08 (3H, s) | 1.12 (3H, s) | 1.11 (3H, s) | $\begin{aligned} & 3.56(\mathrm{dd}, 10.9,0.8) \\ & 1.18(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{~s}) \end{aligned}$ | 1.14 (3H, s) | 0.79 (3H, s) | 0.72 (3H, s) |

a Multiplicity and coupling constant(s) in Hz for resonances clearly resolved in the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum indicated in parentheses. ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Interchangeable within column. ${ }^{\mathrm{c}}$ 16-a trans to $\mathbf{1 7 - M e ; ~ 1 6 - b}$
cis to 17 -Me.

Table 3. NMR Data Used in Determining the Novel $9(8 \rightarrow 7)$-abeo-Abietane Skeleton of Compound $\mathbf{1 3}$

| position | $\delta_{C}{ }^{\text {b }}$ | $\delta H^{\text {a }}$ | HMBC correlation from ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ to ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ | COSY correlation from <br> ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ to ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ | NOESY correlation from ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ to ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $29.6\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 1.30 ( $\alpha$ ) | 0.86 | 1.84, 1.61, 1.53 | 1.53 |
|  |  | 1.53 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 1.84, 1.61, 1.30 | 1.30 |
| 2 | $19.8\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 1.61 ( $\alpha$ ) |  | 2.14, 1.84, 1.53, 1.30, 1.08 | 1.84 |
|  |  | 1.84 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 2.14, 1.61, 1.53, 1.30, 1.08 | 1.61, 0.86 |
| 3 | $37.2\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 1.08 ( $\alpha$ ) | 1.30 | 2.14, 1.84, 1.61 | 2.14 |
|  |  | 2.14 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 1.84, 1.61, 1.08 | 1.08 |
| 4 | 43.8 (C) |  | 1.30 |  |  |
| 5 | $51.4(\mathrm{CH})$ | 2.08 | 0.86, 1.30 | 2.64, 2.35 | 2.64, 1.30 |
| 6 | $21.36\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 2.64 ( $\alpha$ ) | 3.32 | 3.32, 2.35, 2.08 | 3.32, 2.35, 2.08 |
|  |  | 2.35 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 3.32, 2.64, 2.08 | 3.32, 2.64, 0.86 |
| 7 | 57.5 (CH) | 3.32 (dd, 11.0, 4.9) | 6.26, 1.65 | 2.64, 2.35 | 2.64, 2.35, 0.86 |
| 8 | 200.6 (C) |  | 3.32 |  |  |
| 9 | 83.7 (C) |  | 0.86 |  |  |
| 10 | 49.8 (C) |  | 0.86 |  |  |
| 11 | $33.3\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | $2.34(\alpha)$ |  | 2.83, 2.58, 1.65 |  |
|  |  | 1.65 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 2.83, 2.58, 2.34 |  |
| 12 | $27.9\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 2.58 ( $\alpha$ ) | 6.26 | 2.83, 2.34, 1.65 | 2.83 |
|  |  | 2.83 ( $\beta$ ) |  | 2.58, 2.34, 1.65 | 5.36, 2.58 |
| 13 | 154.5 (C) |  | $6.26,5.36,5.20,1.97,1.65$ |  |  |
| 14 | 129.6 (CH) | 6.26 (s) | 2.83 |  | 1.97 |
| 15 | 145.3 (C) |  | 6.26, 5.36, 1.97 |  |  |
| $16-\mathrm{a}^{\text {c }}$ | $117.0\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$ | 5.36 (s) | 1.97 | 5.20, 1.97 | 5.20, 2.83 |
| $16-\mathrm{b}^{\text {c }}$ |  | 5.20 (s) |  | 5.36, 1.97 | 5.36, 1.97 |
| 17 | $21.39\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$ | 1.97 (3H s) | 5.36, 5.20 |  | 6.26, 5.20 |
| 18 | $28.4\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$ | 1.30 (3H s) |  |  | 2.08 |
| 19 | 182.9 (C) |  | 2.08, 1.30 |  |  |
| 20 | $15.5\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$ | 0.86 (3H s) |  |  | $3.32,2.35,1.84$ |

a Multiplicity and coupling constants in Hz indicated in parentheses when resolved in 1D NMR. ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Multiplicity determined from DEPT. c $\mathbf{1 6}$-a trans to $\mathbf{1 7 - M e ; ~} \mathbf{1 6 - b}$ cis to $17-\mathrm{Me}$.
of the C-4 epimer of sandaracopimaric acid. NMR data has been published for all three other diastereoisomers at the C-4 and C-13 positions, namely, pimaric acid ( $4 \beta$ methyl; $13 \beta$-vinyl), ${ }^{21}$ sandaracopimaric acid ( $4 \beta$-methyl; $13 \alpha$-vinyl), , 21,22 and 4 -epi-pimaric acid ( $4 \alpha$-methyl; $13 \beta$ vinyl). ${ }^{23}$ In addition to the above-mentioned diterpenes, I. angustisepalum al so yiel ded the benzoyl ester of the linear sesquiterpene geraniol (15), which has not been reported previously as a natural product, as well as caryophyllene oxide, $\beta$-sitosterol, and methoxy eugenol.

The $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ extract of I. angustisepalum consists predominantly of $\mathrm{C}-19$ carboxy abietane diterpenes incorporating either a diene (1-3), an unsaturated endoperoxide (4-7), or a fully aromatized system (811) in the $C$ ring. We speculate that the first group may be converted into the latter two groups as a result of autoxidation by molecular oxygen. Thus, direct Diels-Alder-type addition of singlet oxygen to the C ring diene simply accounts for the formation of the 9,13-endoperoxide system, while ene-type reaction with one of the C ring double bonds would generate a doubly allylic hydroperoxide that may then undergo elimination of hydrogen peroxide to generate the aromatic series of compounds (Figure 3).

## Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million ( $\delta$ ) relative to TMS as internal standard. All NMR experiments were run on a Bruker DRX 500 instrument. HSQC, HMBC, and ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ COSY spectra were recorded with 1024 data points in $F_{2}$ and 256 data points in $F_{1}$. HRMS were recorded in EI mode at 70 eV on a Finnigan-MAT 95 MS spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded in $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ on a Bio-Rad FT S-7 IR spectrometer. Optical rotations were measured by a Perkin-Elmer 343 polarimeter


Figure 3. Possible biogenetic relationships among compounds 1-11.
with polarized light Na 589 nm , and $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ was used as the solvent. Column chromatography was performed using Si gel 60-200 $\mu \mathrm{m}$ (Merck). HPLC separations were performed using a Varaian chromatograph equipped with RI star 9040 and UV 9050 detectors and an Intersil PREP-SIL $20-\mathrm{mm} \times 25-\mathrm{cm}$ column with a flow rate of $8 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$.
Plant Material. Illicium angustisepalum was collected from North Lantau Country Park in Hong K ong while in flower in February 1997. A voucher specimen (GDB 97/4) is held at the University of Hong Kong herbarium.

Extraction and Isolation. The sample ( 1.44 kg ) was extracted with $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ over several days. The organic extract was then dried and evaporated under reduced pressure to yield a pale yellow gum (40.8 g; $2.83 \% \mathrm{w} / \mathrm{w}$ ). Compounds $\mathbf{1 - 1 5}$ were isolated by column chromatography using hexane and EtOAc (TLC plates used to monitor the column were visualized using p-anisaldehyde). In most cases, further purification was
required by HPLC, using EtOAc-hexane. Compound $\mathbf{1}$ (267.3 mg) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 29.7 \mathrm{~min}$ in 1\% EtOAc-hexane); 2 (45.7 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 14.5 \mathrm{~min}$ in 3\% EtOAc-hexane); 3 ( 16.1 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}}$ 15.1 min in 11\% EtOAc-hexane); 4 ( 745.7 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 21.7$ min in $15 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 5 ( 34.7 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 12.6 \mathrm{~min}$ in 26\% EtOAc-hexane); 6 ( 66.3 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 14.1 \mathrm{~min}$ in $20 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 7 ( 184.2 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 47.6 \mathrm{~min}$ in $20 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 8 ( 373.5 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 13.6 \mathrm{~min}$ in $18 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 9 ( 71.3 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 40.0 \mathrm{~min}$ in $20 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); $10\left(9.6 \mathrm{mg}\right.$ ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 28.6 \mathrm{~min}$ in $35 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 11 ( 28.3 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 20.3 \mathrm{~min}$ in $25 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 12 ( 69.4 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 19.9 \mathrm{~min}$ in $43 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 13 ( 27.5 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 12.9 \mathrm{~min}$ in $43 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 14 ( 125.1 mg ) ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 14.3 \mathrm{~min}$ in $11 \%$ EtOAc-hexane); 15 (110.5 mg, $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}} 16.5 \mathrm{~min}$ in $1 \%$ EtOAc-hexane).

Angustanoic acid A (1): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+31.1^{\circ}$ (c 0.56, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 2951,2930$, 2841, 1695, 1603, 1464, $1211 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 300.2076 [M+, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{2}, 300.2089$ ] (58), 285 (100), 237 (85), 197 (40), 157 (35), 149 (50), 121 (62), 91 (60).

Angustanal (2): oil; $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}+6.3^{\circ}\left(\mathrm{c} 0.51, \mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) \nu_{\max }$ 3400-2600 (br), 2998, 2937, 2872, 1713, 1678, $1231 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.

Epipalustric acid (3): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+72.2^{\circ}$ (c 0.69, $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ); IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 2962,2936$, 2854, 1695, 1458, $1263 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 302.2253 [ ${ }^{+}$, calcd for $\left.\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{O}_{2}, 302.2246\right]$ (50), 287 (100), 241 (20), 185 (15), 149 (10), 121 (10).

Angustanoic acid B (4): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}-44.5^{\circ}$ (c 2.32, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) ;$ IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3028,2932$, 2856, 1693, 1460, $1232 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Table 1; HREIMS m/z $332.1989\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{4}$, 332.1988] (2), 300 (100), 285 (72), 239 (15), 148 (18), 99 (33).

Angustanoic acid C (5): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+20.3^{\circ}$ (c 1.58, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z $332.1996\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$, cal cd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{4}, 332.1988$ ] (5), 316 (10), 315 (30), 300 (100), 285 (80), 248 (40), 147 (45), 131 (45), 109 (50), 105 (60).

4-epi-Palustric acid-9 $\alpha, 13 \alpha$-endoperoxide (6): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}-23.2^{\circ}\left(\mathrm{c} 0.91, \mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3600-2400$ (br), 3028, 2934, 2858, $1697 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z $334.2142\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{O}_{4}, 334.2144$ ] (1), 316 (10), 302 (70), 287 (20), 272 (20), 245 (30), 239 (55), 197 (30), 185 (25), 159 (35), 109 (70), 91 (75).

Angustanoic acid D (7): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}-42.3^{\circ}$ (c 0.95, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) ;$ IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3576,3026$, 2984, 2943, 2876, 1695, 1464, $1231 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 350.2086 [M ${ }^{+}$, calcd for $\left.\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{O}_{5}, 350.2093\right]$ (2), 332 (20), 314 (30), 292 (20), 274 (25), 246 (80), 213 (25), 123 (100).

Angustanoic acid E (8): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+104.3^{\circ}$ (c 2.74, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3033,2934$, 2874, 1697, 1418, 1456, $1267 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 298.1935 [M ${ }^{+}$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{O}_{2}$, 298.1933] (60), 283 (95), 237 (100), 181 (25).

Angustanoic acid F (9): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+113.7^{\circ}$ (c 0.02, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR ( $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ) $\nu_{\text {max }} 3412,3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3030$,

2966, 2936, 2874, 2854, 1697, 1468, 1217, $1148 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1 \mathrm{H}}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z $316.2036\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{3}, 316.2038$ ] (6), 301 (100), 298 (35), 283 (85), 255 (25), 237 (100), 197 (30), 181 (39), 141 (30).

Angustanol (10): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+37.0^{\circ}\left(\mathrm{c} 0.73, \mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right)$; IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) \nu_{\text {max }} 3427$ (br), 2966, 2937, 2862, 1711, 1458, 1238, $1015 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, seeTables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z $302.2245\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{O}_{2}$, 302.2246] (18), 287 (100), 269 (50), 175 (18), 141 (15).

Angustanoic acid G (11): oil; $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}+44.2^{\circ}$ (c 1.45, $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) ;$ IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600,3028,2937,2855$, 1695, 1605, 1468, 1273, 1213, $1042 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1 \mathrm{H} \text { and }{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} ~}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 300.1726 [ $\mathrm{M}^{+}$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{24} \mathrm{O}_{3}, 300.1725$ ] (40), 285 (100), 239 (90).

Angustanoic acid H (12): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+154.7^{\circ}$ (c 0.81 , $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ); IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3391$ (br), 3026, 2937, 2870, 1695, 1651, 1618, 1460, 1375, 1238, 1167 $\mathrm{cm}^{-1 ; 1 \mathrm{H}}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 332.1986 [M+, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{4}$, 332.1988] (13), 285 (50), 253 (15), 239 (20), 197 (10), 164 (100), 131 (30), 123 (59).

Angustanoic acid I (13): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+22.1^{\circ}$ (c 0.72 , $\left.\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) ;$ IR $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}\right) v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 3026,2930$, 2862, 1699, 1643, 1458, 1230, 1213, $1174 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, seeTable 3; HREIMS m/z 348.1932 [ $\mathrm{M}^{+}$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{5}, 348.1937$ ] (1), 330 (25), 316 (30), 315 (60), 301 (100), 283 (57), 269 (45), 237 (57), 213 (25), 181 (30), 167 (20), 123 (55), 91 (57).
4-epi-Sandaracopimaric acid (14): oil; $[\alpha]_{D}+1.9^{\circ}$ (c 1.03, $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ); IR ( $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ ) $v_{\max } 3400-2600(\mathrm{br}), 2931$, 2874, 1693, 1467, $1211 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1 ; 1}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data, see Tables 1 and 2; HREIMS m/z 302.2250 [M ${ }^{+}$, calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{O}_{2}, 302.2246$ ] (50), 287 (35), 257 (20), 167 (35), 123 (35), 121 (100).
Geraniol Benzoyl Ester (15). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data $\delta$ $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) 166.7$ (C, C-1'), 142.0 (C, C-3), 132.8 (CH, C-5'), 132.0 (C, C-2'), 131.7 (C, C-7), 129.6 ( $\left.\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{C}^{\prime} / 7^{\prime}\right)$, 128.3 ( $\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{C}-4^{\prime} / 6^{\prime}$ ), $123.8(\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{C}-6), 118.5(\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{C}-2), 61.9$ $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}, \mathrm{C}-1\right), 39.6\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}, \mathrm{C}-4\right), 26.4\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}, \mathrm{C}-5\right), 25.6\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$, $\mathrm{C}-9), 17.7\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}, \mathrm{C}-8\right) ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\delta\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 8.05(2 \mathrm{H}$, dd, J = 8.4, $\left.1.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-3^{\prime} / 7^{\prime}\right), 7.54\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-5^{\prime}\right)$, $7.43\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-4^{\prime} / 6^{\prime}\right), 5.47(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{td}, \mathrm{J}=7.0$, $1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-2), 5.09(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-6), 4.82(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{H}-1), 1.77(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{H}-10), 1.67(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=0.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-9)$, 1.61 (3H, s, H-8).

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