# Cycloartane Triterpene Glycosides from the Roots of Astragalus brachypterus and Astragalus microcephalus 

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#### Abstract

Three new cycloartane-type triterpene glycosides, brachyosides A (1), B (3), and C (2), from the roots of Astragalus brachypterus and one new glycoside, cyclocephaloside II (4), from the roots of Astragalus microcephalus have been isolated together with five known saponins, astragalosides I, II, and IV, cyclocanthoside E, and cycloastragenol. The structures of the new compounds were established as 3-O[ $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl ( $1 \rightarrow 3$ )- $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 24(\mathrm{~S}), 25$-pentahydroxycycloartane (1), 3-O- $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-24-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 24(\mathrm{~S}), 25-$ pentahydroxycydoartane (2), 20(R),24(S)-epoxy-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 25$-tetrahydroxycydoartane (3), and 20(R),24(S)-epoxy-3-O-(4'-O-acetyl)- $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 25$-tetrahydroxycycloartane (4). For the structure elucidations, 1D- and 2D-NMR experiments and FABMS were used.


In the course of a systematic investigation of Astragalus spp., we examined EtOH extracts of the roots of A. brachypterus Fischer and A. microcephalus Willd. (Fabaceae). The genus Astragalus is represented by 380 species in the flora of Turkey. ${ }^{1}$ Roots of these plants are used in Turkish folkloric medicine as an antiperspirant, diuretic, and tonic drug and for treatment of diabetes mellitus, nephritis, leukemia, and uterine cancer. Earlier investigations performed on Astragalus species resulted in the isolation of a number of cycloartane-type triterpenic saponins. ${ }^{2-4}$ In this paper, we describe the isolation and structure elucidation of four new cycloartane triterpene glycosides named as brachyosides A (1), B (3), and C (2) from A. brachypterus and cyclocephaloside II (4) from A. microcephalus (Chart 1). The related known glycosides, astragal osides $I,{ }^{6} I I,{ }^{6}$ and IV ${ }^{6}$ and cyclocanthoside $E^{5}$ from A. brachypterus as well as cycloastragenol ${ }^{6}$ from both A. brachypterus and A. microcephalus were also isolated.

## Results and Discussion

Nine saponins were isolated and purified by a combination of chromatographic methods from the EtOH extracts of A. brachypterus and A. microcephalus. The most polar compounds, brachyosides A (1) and C (2), showed [M - H] peaks at $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 917$ and 947 in their negative $F A B M S$ spectra corresponding to $\mathrm{C}_{46} \mathrm{H}_{78} \mathrm{O}_{18}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{47} \mathrm{H}_{80} \mathrm{O}_{19}$ molecular formulas, respectively. The NMR spectra of compounds 1 and 2 (Table 1) were characteristic of cycloartane glycosides. The ${ }^{1} H$ NMR spectrum of brachyoside A (1) showed signals characteristic of cyclopropane-methylene protons at $\delta 0.27$ and 0.61 (each $\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}_{2}-19$ ), six tertiary methyl groups at $\delta 1.02,1.04,1.16,1.17,1.20$, and 1.32 , and a secondary methyl group at $\delta 1.00(\mathrm{~J}=6 \mathrm{~Hz})$ in the aglycon moiety. Furthermore, the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ dearly showed three anomeric proton doublets at $\delta 4.37(\mathrm{~J}=7.5$ $\mathrm{Hz}), 4.50(\mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz})$, and $4.51(\mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz})$ in the downfield region, indicative of three $\beta$-linked sugar units. These correlated to carbons at $\delta 105.5,106.1$, and 106.8,

[^0]respectively, in the HSQC spectrum. The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum contained 46 resonances; 30 of them, attributed to the sapogenol moiety, were in good agreement with cyclocanthogenin. ${ }^{5}$ Full assignment of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ signals of the aglycon part of $\mathbf{1}$, secured by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DQF -COSY and HSQC spectra, showed marked glycosylation shifts for C-3 ( $\delta$ 90.1) and C-6 ( $\delta 0.4$ ). All connectivities within 1 were also confirmed by a HMBC experiment. These results suggested that 1 was a bisdesmosidic saponin in which the sugar residues were linked to C-3 and C-6 of cyclocanthogenin. A combination of DQF-COSY and 1D TOCSY and 2D HOHAHA experiments allowed unambiguous assignment of all proton sugar signals and identified the sugar moiety as consisting of one $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl and two $\beta$-Dxylopyranosyl units, respectively. The HSQC experiments correlated each proton sugar signal to the corresponding carbon resonances and showed the absence of glycosylation shifts for the carbon resonances of the glucopyranosyl and one xylopyranosil unit; a glycosylation shift (ca. 6.6 ppm) was observed for C-3 ( $\delta 83.6$ ) of the second xylopyranosyl unit. All connectivities, including the sites of attachment of sugar moieties on the aglycon of $\mathbf{1}$ as well as the position of the interglycosidic linkage, were determined by an HM BC experiment. In the HMBC spectrum, the anomeric proton signal at relatively high field ( $\delta 4.37, \mathrm{H}-1^{\prime \prime}$ ), assigned to the $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl, showed long-range correlation with the carbon at $\delta 80.4$ (C-6). The second anomeric proton signal at $\delta 4.50\left(\mathrm{H}-1^{\prime}\right)$, assigned to the 3 -substitued $\beta$-d-xyl opyranosyl, showed long-range correlation with the carbon resonance at $\delta 90.1$ (C-3). Thus, glucose must be linked to C-6 and the bridging xylose residue should be attached to C-3. The third anomeric proton signal at $\delta 4.51$ (H-1"'), assigned to the terminal $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl unit, showed long-range correlation with the carbon resonance at $\delta 83.6$ ( $\mathrm{C}-3^{\prime}$ of the bridging xylose unit attached to the aglycon), revealing the presence of a disaccharide unit at $\mathrm{C}-3$. Thus, the structure of 1 was elucidated as 3-O-[ $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow 3$ )- $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl ]-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyra-nosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 24(\mathrm{~S}), 25-p e n t a h y d r o x y c y c l o a r t a n e$.
The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 2 showed three anomeric proton resonances at $\delta 4.32(\mathrm{~J}=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.37(\mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz})$, and $4.45(\mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz})$ correlated by HSQC to the resonances

## Chart 1



1

R

AcO

at $\delta 107.1$ and $104.6(\times 2)$ (Table 1). The three sugar units were identified using a combination of 1D TOCSY and 2D HOHAHA, DQF -COSY, and HSQC as a terminal $\beta$-Dxylopyranose and two $\beta$-D-glucopyranoses, respectively. The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR resonances arising from the sapogenol moiety were very dose to those of $\mathbf{1}$, except for the signals assigned to C-24 ( $\delta 89.7$ ) exhibiting a significant glycosidation shift and small upfield shifts (Table 1) for carbons neighboring $\mathrm{C}-24$. These results suggested a tridesmosidic structure for $\mathbf{2}$ in which the three sugar units were attached to the hydroxyl groups at C-3, C-6, and C-24. An HMBC experiment performed on $\mathbf{2}$ established the glycosidation sites showing significant cross-peaks, dueto ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}$ с-н correlations, between $\mathrm{C}-1^{\prime}$ ( $\delta$ 107.1) of the $\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl unit and $\mathrm{H}-3$ ( $\delta$ 3.23), between $\mathrm{C}-1^{\prime \prime}(\delta 104.6$ ) of the first $\beta$-dglucopyranosyl and H-6 ( $\delta$ 3.58), and between C-24 ( $\delta 89.7$ ) and $\mathrm{H}-1^{\prime \prime \prime}(\delta 4.45)$ of the second $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl. Consequently, the structure of $\mathbf{2}$ was established as $3-\mathrm{O}-\beta$-D-xylopyranosyl-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-24-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyr-anosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 24(\mathrm{~S}), 25-$ pentahydroxycycloartane.

The FABMS of brachyoside B (3) $\left(\mathrm{C}_{36} \mathrm{H}_{60} \mathrm{O}_{10}\right)$ displayed a quasimolecular ion peak at $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 651$. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 3 showed signals due to a cyclopropane methylene at $\delta 0.31$ and 0.63 (each $\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ) and seven tertiary methyls at $\delta 0.98,1.05,1.16,1.24,1.29(\times 2)$, and 1.32. Furthermore, the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$ showed only one anomeric doublet signal at $\delta 4.36(J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz})$, indicative of one $\beta$-linked sugar unit. The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$ displayed 36 carbon signals. On the basis of DQF -COSY, DEPT, HSQC, and HMBC spectra and by comparison with data of related compounds, ${ }^{6}$ all signals were assigned (see the Experimental Section). Thus, the aglycon of compound $\mathbf{3}$ was identified as a cycl oastragenol. ${ }^{6}$ From 1D- and 2D-NMR experiments, the presence of a $\beta$-Dglucopyranosyl moiety was recognized. The attachment of the glucose moiety at C-6 ( $\delta$ 80.0) of the aglycon was determined by means of the diagnostic glycosidation shift of this carbon atom and confirmed by the results of the HMBC spectrum. The resonances of $\mathrm{C}-3\left(\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 79.0\right)$ and $\mathrm{H}_{3}{ }^{-}$ 29 ( $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.98$ ) were indicative of an unsubstitued -OH group at C-3. Brachyoside B (3) is, therefore, 20(R),24(S)-epoxy-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 25$-tetrahydroxycycloartane and has been isolated here for the first time as a genuine saponin.
The FABMS spectrum of $4\left(\mathrm{C}_{43} \mathrm{H}_{70} \mathrm{O}_{15}\right)$ exhibited the [M $-\mathrm{H}]^{-}$at $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 825$. Detailed examination of the 1D- and 2D-NMR spectra of 4 and comparison with those of $\mathbf{3}$
indicated the presence of cycloastragenol, glycosylated at C-3 ( $\delta$ 89.8) and C-6 ( $\delta$ 79.8) as well as a terminal glucopyranosyl unit. Moreover, the presence of an extra sugar moiety ( $\mathrm{C}-1^{\prime}: \delta 107.1, \mathrm{H}-1^{\prime}: \delta 4.31, \mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ) and an acetyl function $\left(\mathrm{COCH}_{3} ; \delta 20.6, \mathrm{COCH}_{3} ; \delta\right.$ 171.9, $\mathrm{COCH}_{3} ; \delta 2.09$ ) was verified. Location of the acetoxy group in the xylopyranosyl moiety was ascertained using a combination of HSQC and 1D- and 2D-HOHAHA measure ments which showed that the second sugar moiety was 4'-O-acetyl- $\beta$-D-xylopyranose. A downfield acetylation shift was observed for the signal due $\mathrm{H}-4^{\prime}(\delta 4.70$, ddd, $\mathrm{J}=4.5$, $8.5,10.5 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ) of the xylose moiety. The HMBC spectrum established that 4'-O-acetyl- $\beta$-D-xylopyranose was linked to C-3 and $\beta$-D-glucopyranose to $\mathrm{C}-6$. On the basis of above results, the structure of cyclocephaloside II (4) was elucidated as 20(R),24(S)-epoxy-3-O-(4'-O-acetyl)- $\beta$-D-xylopyra-nosyl-6-O- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-3 $\beta, 6 \alpha, 16 \beta, 25$-tetrahydroxycycloartane.

The known saponins were identified as cycl oastragenol, ${ }^{6}$ astragaloside I, ${ }^{6}$ astragal oside II, ${ }^{6}$ astragal oside IV, ${ }^{6}$ and cyclocanthoside $5^{5}$ by spectral data and comparison of their physical properties with those reported previously for these compounds.5,6 Compounds 3, 4, and cycloastragenol were isolated from A. microcephalus, whereas compounds 1-3 and the other saponins, except 4, were isolated from A. brachypterus.

## Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. A Bruker DRX-600 spectrometer operating at 599.19 MHz for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and 150.858 MHz for ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ using the UXNMR software package was used for NMR measurements in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ solutions. 2D experiments: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DQF-COSY, ${ }^{7}$ inverse-detected ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{HSQC}^{8}$ and $\mathrm{HMBC},{ }^{9}$ and ROESY ${ }^{10}$ were obtained by employing the conventional pulse sequences as described previously. The selective excitation spectra, 1D TOCSY, ${ }^{11}$ were acquired using waveform generator-based GAUSS-shaped pulses, mixing time ranging from 100 to 120 ms , and a MLEV-17 spin-lock field of 10 kHz preceded by a 2.5 ms trim pulse. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-EImer 141 polarimeter using a sodium lamp operating at 589 nm in 1\% w/v solutions in MeOH . FABMS were recorded in a glycerol matrix in the negativeion mode on a VG ZAB instrument (XE atoms of energy of 2-6 KV).

Plant Material. The roots of A. microcephalus Willd. and A. brachypterus Fischer were collected from Central Anatolia, Nevsehir, Mucur-Avanos, Turkey, in J une 1995. Voucher specimens (95-016 and 95-017, respectively) have been depos-

Table 1. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of Brachyosides $\mathrm{A}(\mathbf{1})$ and C (2) ${ }^{\mathrm{a}}$

| position | 1 |  | 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\delta_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{J}, \mathrm{Hz})$ | $\delta_{\text {c }}$ | $\delta_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{J}, \mathrm{Hz})$ | $\delta_{\text {c }}$ |
| 1 | 1.30, m | 33.4 | 1.29, m | 32.7 |
|  | 1.57, m |  | 1.58, m |  |
| 2 | 1.72, m | 30.9 | 1.71, m | 30.1 |
|  | 1.96, m |  | 1.97, m |  |
| 3 | 3.23 , dd (4.5, 11.2) | 90.1 | 3.23 , dd (4.5, 11.1) | 89.8 |
| 4 |  | 43.0 |  | 42.7 |
| 5 | 1.64, d (9.5) | 53.7 | 1.65, d (9.5) | 52.9 |
| 6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3.57, ddd (4.5, } \\ & 9.5,9.5) \end{aligned}$ | 80.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.58 \text { ddd (4.5, } \\ & 10.0,10.0) \end{aligned}$ | 79.9 |
| 7 | 1.63, m | 35.3 | 1.63, m | 34.8 |
|  | 1.92, m |  | 1.93, m |  |
| 8 | 1.89, m | 46.1 | 1.90, m | 46.6 |
| 9 |  | 22.0 |  | 21.9 |
| 10 |  | 30.0 |  | 29.8 |
| 11 | 1.38, m | 27.4 | 1.37, m | 26.8 |
|  | 1.89, m |  | 1.93, m |  |
| 12 | 1.60, m | 34.2 | 1.62, m | 33.7 |
|  | 1.67, m |  | 1.67, m |  |
| 13 |  | 46.6 |  | 46.3 |
| 14 |  | 47.6 |  | 47.1 |
| 15 | 1.43, dd (5.2, 12.0) | 48.0 | 1.44, (5.2, 12.0) | 48.1 |
|  | 2.13, dd (8.2, 12.0) |  | 2.13, dd (8.0, 12.0) |  |
| 16 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4.47, ddd (5.2, } \\ & 8.0,8.2 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | 73.8 | $\begin{gathered} \text { 4.44, ddd ( } 5.2 \text {, } \\ 8.0,8.0 \text { ) } \end{gathered}$ | 72.5 |
| 17 | 1.74, m | 58.3 | 1.75, m | 57.6 |
| 18 | 1.16, s | 18.8 | 1.18, s | 18.0 |
| 19 | 0.27, d (4.5) | 29.3 | 0.27, d (4.5) | 28.9 |
|  | 0.61, d (4.5) |  | 0.61, d (4.5) |  |
| 20 | 1.85, m | 32.6 | 1.88, m | 30.9 |
| 21 | 1.00, d (6.0) | 19.2 | 0.97, d (6.0) | 17.5 |
| 22 | 1.03, m | 35.8 | 1.91, m | 33.0 |
| 23 | 1.21, m | 30.0 | 1.62, m | 29.4 |
|  | 1.82, m |  | 1.65, m |  |
| 24 | 3.27 , dd (4.5, 12.0) | 81.2 | 3.54 , dd (4.5, 12.0) | 89.7 |
| 25 |  | 74.0 |  | 73.5 |
| 26 | 1.17, s | 25.7 | 1.19, s | 26.5 |
| 27 | 1.20, s | 26.4 | 1.21, s | 24.0 |
| 28 | 1.32, s | 28.7 | 1.32, s | 28.1 |
| 29 | 1.04, s | 16.8 | 1.05, s | 16.2 |
| 30 | 1.02, s | 20.8 | 1.01, s | 19.8 |
| $1 '$ | 4.50, d (7.8) | 106.1 | 4.32, d (7.6) | 107.1 |
| 2 | 3.60, dd (7.8, 8.5) | 74.5 | 3.23, dd (7.6, 8.5) | 75.2 |
| 3 | 3.47, t (8.5) | 83.6 | 3.33, t (8.5) | 77.7 |
| $4^{\prime}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3.83, \text { ddd (4.0, } \\ 8.5,11.0) \end{gathered}$ | 69.9 | $\begin{gathered} 3.50, \text { ddd (4.0, } \\ 8.5,11.0) \end{gathered}$ | 71.0 |
| 5 | 3.56, t (11.0) | 67.8 | 3.21, t (11.0) | 66.4 |
|  | 3.93 , dd (4.0, 11.0) |  | 3.86 , dd (4.5, 11.0) |  |
| 1 " | 4.37, d (7.5) | 105.5 | 4.37, d (7.8) | 104.6 |
| 2" | 3.23, dd (7.5, 9.0) | 75.8 | $3.21, \mathrm{dd}(7.8,9.0)$ | 75.2 |
| 3" | 3.37, t (9.0) | 78.7 | 3.38, t (9.0) | 78.2 |
| $4 \prime$ | $3.31, \mathrm{t}$ (9.0) | 72.2 | 3.32, t (9.0) | 71.3 |
| 5" | $\begin{gathered} 3.29, \text { ddd ( } 3.5 \text {, } \\ 4.5,9.0 \text { ) } \end{gathered}$ | 77.8 | $\begin{gathered} 3.28 \text {, ddd (3.0, } \\ 4.5,9.0) \end{gathered}$ | 77.6 |
| $6{ }^{\prime \prime}$ | 3.70 , dd (4.5, 12.0) | 63.5 | 3.69 , dd (4.5, 12.0) | 62.7 |
|  | 3.84 , dd (3.5, 12.0) |  | 3.89 , dd (3.0, 12.0) |  |
| $1^{\prime \prime \prime}$ | 4.51, d (7.8) | 106.8 | 4.45, d (7.8) | 104.6 |
| $2^{\prime \prime \prime}$ | 3.69, dd (7.8, 8.5) | 74.1 | 3.28, dd (7.8, 9.0) | 75.2 |
| $3 \prime \prime$ | 3.56, t (8.6) | 77.0 | 3.41, t (9.0) | 77.8 |
| $4^{\prime \prime \prime}$ | 3.55 , ddd (4.5, 8.6, 11.0) | 71.3 | $3.35, \mathrm{t}$ (9.0) | 71.3 |
| 5"' | $3.23, \mathrm{t}(11.0)$ | 66.5 | 3.36, t (3.0, 4.5, 9.0) | 78.2 |
| $6{ }^{\prime \prime \prime}$ | 3.90, (4.5, 11.0) |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3.69(4.5,12.0) \\ & 3.89, \mathrm{dd}(3.0,12.0) \end{aligned}$ | 62.2 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Assignments confirmed by 1D-TOCSY and 2D-DQF-COSY, HSQC, and HMBC experiments.
ited at the Herbarium of the Department of Pharmacognosy, F aculty of Pharmacy, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.

Extraction and Isolation. The air-dried powdered roots of A. microcephalus ( 260 g ) were extracted with $80 \% \mathrm{EtOH}$ under reflux. The water-soluble part of the ethanolic extract ( 19 g ) was subjected to VLC using reversed-phase material (Sepralyte $40 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ), employing $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{MeOH}$ (95:5, 90:10, 85:15), and MeOH as the eluents. Fractions rich in saponins eluted with $\mathrm{MeOH}(2.48 \mathrm{~g}$ ) were further subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, 100 g ) to give six main fractions (fractions A-F). Fraction A ( 23 mg ) was subjected to a silica
gel column ( 10 g ) using $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}$ (95:5) to yield $5(10 \mathrm{mg})$. Fraction $\mathrm{C}(73 \mathrm{mg})$ was applied to the silica gel column ( 20 g ) using a mixture of $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}$ (9:1) and $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (85:15:1) to give 4 ( 35 mg ). Fraction E ( 225 mg ) was chromatographed on a silica gel column ( 35 g ) eluted with $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(80: 20: 2)$ to yield $3(52 \mathrm{mg})$.

The air-dried powdered roots of A. brachypterus ( 250 g ) were extracted with $80 \%$ EtOH under reflux. The water-soluble part of the ethanolic extract ( 20 g ) was extracted with $\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{BuOH}$. The n-BuOH extract ( 12.5 g ) was subjected to VLC using silica gel $(250 \mathrm{~g})$ as the stationary phase el uting with $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}$ (9:1) and $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (80:20:1, 80:20:2, 70:30:3, and 61:32:7) to give 14 fractions (fractions $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}$ ). Further chromatography on silica gel yielded cycloastragenol $(24 \mathrm{mg})$ from fraction A, astragalosidel ( 57 mg ) from fraction B, 3 ( 20 mg ) from fraction D, astragol oside II ( 40 mg ) from fraction E, astragaloside IV ( 455 mg ) from fraction G, cyclocanthoside E ( 124 mg ) from fraction I, and finally $\mathbf{1}(20 \mathrm{mg})$ and $\mathbf{2}(7.5 \mathrm{mg})$ from fraction J.

Brachyoside A (1): $[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+15.5^{\circ}$ (c 0.1, MeOH ); NMR data are reported in Table 1; FABMS m/z 917 [M - H ] ${ }^{-}, 755$ [(M H) - 162] ${ }^{-}, 775[(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H})-132]^{-}, 491[(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H})-(162+132$ $\times 2)]^{-}$.

Brachyoside B (3): $[\alpha]^{25} \mathrm{D}+40.1^{\circ}$ (c 0.1, MeOH); ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ) aglycon moiety $\delta 4.68$ ( 1 H , ddd, J $=8.5$, 8.5, 5.2 Hz, H-16), 3.78 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=8.0,5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-24$ ), 3.58 ( 1 H, ddd, J $=9.5,9.5,4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-6$ ), 3.24 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=11.2,4.5$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{H}-3), 2.64(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-22 \mathrm{a}), 2.40(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-17)$, 2.07 (1H, m, H-15a), 2.06 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}_{2}-23$ ), 1.95 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-11 \mathrm{a}$ ), 1.94 (1H, m, H-7a), 1.88 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-8$ ), 1.74 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-2 \mathrm{a}$ ), 1.71 (1H, m, H-12a), 1.67 (1H, m, H-22b), 1.65 (1H, m, H-2b), 1.62 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-5$ ), 1.60 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-7 \mathrm{~b}$ ), 1.59 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-12 \mathrm{~b}$ ), 1.57 (1H, m, H-1a), 1.42 (1H, m, H-15b), 1.36 (1H, m, H-11b), 1.32 (3H, s, H-28), 1.30 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-1 \mathrm{~b}$ ), 1.29 ( $6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{H}-18, \mathrm{H}-27$ ), 1.24 (3H, s, H-21), 1.16 (3H, s, H-26), 1.05 (3H, s, H-30), 0.98 ( $3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{H}-29$ ), 0.31 and 0.63 (each $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}$ AB $=4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-19 \mathrm{a}$ and $\mathrm{H}-19 \mathrm{~b}$, respectively); sugar moiety $\delta 4.36$ ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, J $=7.8$ Hz, H-1'), 3.86 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{H}-6^{\prime} \mathrm{a}$ ), 3.68 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{H}-6^{\prime} \mathrm{b}$ ), 3.36 ( 1 H , $\left.\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{H}-3^{\prime}\right), 3.30\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-4^{\prime}\right), 3.27$ ( 1 H , ddd, H-5'), 3.21 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}$, $\mathrm{H}-2^{\prime}$ ); ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ) aglycon moiety $\delta 88.1$ (s, C-20), 82.4 (d, C-24), 80.0 (d, C-6), 79.0 (d, C-3), 74.2 (d, C-16), 72.1 (s, C-25), 58.6 (d, C-17), 52.8 (d, C-5), 46.7 (s, C-14), 46.3 ( $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}-13$ ), 46.0 (d, C-8), 46.0 (t, C-15), 42.3 ( $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}-4$ ), 35.1 (t, C-22), 34.8 (t, C-7), 32.8 (t, C-1), 32.6 (t, C-12), 30.6 (t, C-2), 30.0 (s, C-10), 29.5 ( $t, C-19$ ), 28.1 ( $q, C-21$ ), 27.7 ( $q, C-28$ ), 27.1 ( $q, C-27$ ), 26.5 (t, C-23), 26.4 ( $q, C-26$ ), 26.0 (t, C-11), 22.0 (s, C-9), 21.1 (q, C-18), 20.0 (q, C-30), 15.6 (q, C-29); sugar moiety $\delta 104.5$ (d, C-1'), 78.3 (d, C-3'), 77.4 (d, C-5'), 75.3 (d, C-2'), 71.4 (d, C-4'), 62.6 (t, C-6'); FABMS m/z $651[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{-}, 489[(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H})$ - 162].

Compound $\mathbf{3}$ has been derived from astragaloside IV by enzymatic hydrolysis. ${ }^{6}$

Brachyoside C (2): $[\alpha]^{25} \mathrm{D}+12.5^{\circ}$ (c $0.1, \mathrm{MeOH}$ ); NMR data are reported in Table 1; FABMS m/z 947 [M - H ] ${ }^{-}, 785$ [(M H) - 162] ${ }^{-}, 623$ [(M - H) - ( $2 \times 162$ ) $]^{-}, 491[(M-H)-(162$ $\times 2+132)]^{-}$.

Cyclocephaloside II (4): $[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+19.6^{\circ}$ (c 0.1, MeOH); ${ }^{1 \mathrm{H}}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ) aglycon moiety $\delta 4.69$ ( 1 H , ddd, J = $8.0,8.2,5.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-16), 3.79(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=8.0,5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-24)$, 3.57 (1H, ddd, J = 10.0, 10.0, $4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-6), 3.23(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=$ 11.2, $4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-3$ ), 2.65 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-22 \mathrm{a}$ ), 2.40 (1H, d, J $=8.0$ Hz, H-17), 2.07 (1H, m, H-15a), 2.06 (2H, m, H-23), 1.96 (1H, m, H-2a), 1.95 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-11 \mathrm{a}$ ), 1.93 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-7 \mathrm{a}$ ), 1.89 ( 1 H , $\mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-8), 1.71$ (1H, m, H-12a), 1.70 (1H, m, H-2b), 1.67 (1H, m, H-22b), 1.64 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-5$ ), $1.62(\times 2$ ) (each 1H, m, H-7b and H-12b), 1.57 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-1 \mathrm{a}$ ), 1.42 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-15 \mathrm{~b}$ ), 1.36 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, H-11b), 1.32 (3H, s, H-28), 1.29 ( $\times 2$ ) (each 3H, s, H-18, H-27), 1.28 (1H, m, H-1b), 1.24 (3H, s, H-21), 1.15 (3H, s, H-26), 1.05 (3H, s, H-30), 1.04 (3H, s, H-29), 0.30 and 0.62 (each 1H, d, $\mathrm{J}_{\mathrm{AB}}=4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-19 \mathrm{a}$ and $\mathrm{H}-19 \mathrm{~b}$, respectively); sugar moi ety $\delta$ $4.70\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ddd}, \mathrm{J}=4.5,8.5,10.5, \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-4{ }^{\prime}\right), 4.36(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=$ $\left.7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-1^{\prime \prime}\right), 4.31\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}^{\prime}\right), 3.95(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=$ $10.5,4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-5^{\prime} \mathrm{a}$ ), 3.87 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}$, J = 12.0, $3.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-6^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{a}$ ), $3.69\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=12.0,4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{b}^{\prime} \mathrm{b}\right), 3.56(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\left.\mathrm{H}-3^{\prime}\right), 3.35\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-3^{\prime \prime}\right), 3.30(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=7.8,8.5$
$\left.\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{H}-2^{\prime}\right), 3.30\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-4^{\prime \prime}\right), 3.26(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=10.5$, H-5'b), 3.26 ( 1 H , ddd, J = 9.0, 4.5, $3.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-5^{\prime \prime}$ ), 3.20 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}$, $\left.\mathrm{J}=9.0,7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-2^{\prime \prime}\right)$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ) aglycon moiety $\delta 89.8$ (d, C-3), 88.1 (s, C-20), 82.5 (d, C-24), 79.8 (d, C-6), 74.4 (d, C-16), 72.9 (s, C-25), 58.6 (d, C-17), 53.7 (d, C-5), 47.0 ( $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}-14$ ), 46.7 (t, C-8), 46.3 ( $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}-13$ ), 46.0 ( $\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{C}-15$ ), 42.8 ( $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}-4$ ), 35.4 (t, C-22), 35.0 (t, C-7), 33.8 (t, C-12), 32.7 (t, C-1), 30.3 (t, C-2), $30.0(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{C}-10), 29.3(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{C}-19), 29.0(\times 2)$ (each q, $\mathrm{C}-21$ and $\mathrm{C}-28$ ), 27.4 ( $\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{C}-27$ ), 26.8 ( $\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{C}-11$ ), 26.4 ( $\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{C}-23$ ), 26.4 (q, C-26), 22.0 (s, C-9), 21.1 ( $q, C-18$ ), 20.0 ( $q, C-30$ ), 16.2 ( $\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{C}-29$ ); sugar moiety $\delta 107.0$ (d, C-1'), 104.9 (d, C-1"), 78.4 (d, C-3"), 77.8 (d, C-5"), 75.3 (d, C-2"), 75.1 (d, C-2'), 74.7 (d, C-3'), 73.0 ( $d, C-4^{\prime}$ ), 71.5 ( $d, C-4^{\prime \prime}$ ), 63.1 (t, C-6'), 62.7 ( $\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{C}-6^{\prime \prime}$ ); FABMS m/z $825[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{-}, 663[(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H})-162]^{-}, 783$ [(M H) -42$]^{-}, 489[(M-H)-(162+42+132)]^{-}$.

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