Mycaperoxide H, a New Cytotoxic Norsesterterpene Peroxide from a Thai Marine Sponge *Mycale* sp.¹

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Mycaperoxide H, a new cyclic norsesterterpene peroxide, was isolated from a Thai marine sponge Mycale sp. The structure of mycaperoxide H was deduced by spectroscopic and chemical analysis. Mycaperoxide H was cytotoxic against HeLa cells with an IC₅₀ value of 0.8 μ g/mL.

Two types of stable cyclic peroxides have been reported from marine sponges: fatty acid-derived peroxides from Chondrilla, Chondrosia (order Hadromerida), Callyspongia, Xestospongia (order Haplosclerida), Plakinastrella, and Plakortis (order Homosclerophorida), and norterpenoid peroxides from Latrunculia (order Hadromerida), Mycale (order Poecilosclerida), and Prianos (order Haplosclerida).² These peroxides show a variety of biological activities, including cytotoxicity,^{3a,b} antimalarial,^{3c} and antileishmania.^{3d} During our search for bioactive compounds from Thai sponges, we found considerable cytotoxicity in the lipophilic extract of a Mycale sponge collected in the Gulf of Thailand.

Bioassay-guided isolation afforded a new norsesterterpene peroxide, mycaperoxide H (1). This paper describes the isolation and structure elucidation of this new metabolite

The MeOH extract was partitioned between CHCl₃ and H₂O, and the organic layer was successively separated by ODS flash chromatography followed by ODS HPLC to furnish mycaperoxide H (1) in a yield of 0.00064% based on wet weight, together with the known metabolite mycaperoxide B (2).

The molecular formula of 1 was established as C24H40O4 by HRFABMS. The ¹H NMR spectrum indicated the presence of four singlet methyls (δ 0.85, 0.89, 0.98, and 1.25), two doublet methyls (δ 0.86 and 1.12), one oxymethine (δ 4.11), and one olefinic proton (δ 5.34), together with unfunctionalized methylenes and methines (δ 1.05–2.49). In addition to these functionalities, an oxygenated quaternary carbon (δ 81.4) and a carboxylic acid (δ 178.2) were observed in the ¹³C NMR spectrum. Interpretation of COSY, HMQC, and HMBC data led to the gross structure of 1, which had a bicyclic framework found in the halimane diterpenoids to which was attached a C_{10} side chain encompassing a 1,2-dioxane ring.

The relative stereochemistry of the cyclic peroxide moiety was established by application of Capon's empirical rule;⁴ H-3 was axial on the basis of a coupling constant of 8.4 Hz, while the ¹H chemical shift of CH₃-2 at 1.12 ppm indicated an erythro relationship for C-2 and C-3. CH₃-6 was axially disposed as judged from the ¹³C chemical shift



Figure 1. Conversion of mycaperoxide H (1) to diol 3 and its MTPA derivatives



Figure 2. Key NOESY correlations observed for the bicyclic moiety of 1.

of 21.0 ppm for CH₃-6. To assign the absolute stereochemistry, compound 1 was converted to the methyl ester, followed by reductive cleavage of the peroxide ring to afford diol **3** (Figure 1). Mosher analysis⁵ of **3** resulted in the determination of a 3S configuration. Therefore, the absolute configuration of the cyclic peroxide moiety was 2*S*, 3*S*, 6*R*.

The relative stereochemistry of the bicarbocyclic portion was assigned on the basis of NOESY data and 1H,1Hcoupling constant values. Large coupling constants between H-11a and H-12a ($J_{H11a,H12a} = 12$ Hz), and H-12a and H-13 $(J_{\rm H12a,H13} = 13 \text{ Hz})$, and NOESY cross-peaks between H-11a and H-13, and H-13 and H-8b, demonstrated the conformation of the saturated cyclohexane ring to be chair form with both methyls in equatorial positions. Additional NOESY cross-peaks [H-13/CH₃-14 α (intense), H-13/CH₃-14 β (medium), H-12b/CH₃-14 β (intense), H-15b/CH₃-14 β (medium), H-16b/CH₃-14a (intense), H-17/CH₃-9 (intense), H-16a/H-17 (intense), H-16b/H17 (medium), H-7b/CH₃-14α (medium), and H-15b/H-16a] allow us to assign the conformation of the other six-membered ring^{6,7} as shown in Figure 2.

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Table 1. ¹H and ¹³ C NMR Data of Mycaperoxide H (600 MHz, CD₃OD)

position	$\delta_{ m C}$	δ_{H} mult (J in Hz) ^a	¹ H ⁻¹ H COSY	HMBC ^b
1	178.2			
2	44.1	2.49 t (6.6)	CH ₃ -2, H-3	
CH ₃ -2	13.4	1.12 d (7.2)	H-2	C-1, C-2, C-3
3	83.3	4.11 dt (4.2, 8.4)	H-2, H-4	C-1, C-2
4	23.8	1.71 (2H, m)	H-3, H-5	ND ^c
5a	33.6	1.55 m	H-4	C-4, C-6, CH ₃ -6, C-7
5b		1.65 m	H-4	C-3, C-4
6	81.4			
CH ₃ -6	21.0	1.25 s		C-5, C-7
7a -	35.2	1.08 m	H-8ab	C-6, C-8
7b		1.17 dt (3.9, 13.1)	H-8ab	C-6, C-8
8a	24.7	1.10 m	H-7ab	ND
8b		1.70 m	H-7ab	ND
9	43.3			
CH ₃ -9	23.6	0.98 s		C-8, C-9, C-10, C-18
10	46.2	1.27 m	CH ₃ -10, H-11ab	C-8, C-9, CH ₃ -10, C-11
CH ₃ -10	16.7	0.86 d (7.2)	H-10	C-9, C-10, C-11
11a	32.2	1.48 dq (4.2, 13)	H-10, H-11b, H-12ab	C-9, C-10, CH ₃ -10, C-12, C-13
11b		1.52 m	H-10, H-11a, H-12ab	C-9, C-10, C-12, C-13
12a	31.4	1.07 m	H-11ab, H-12b, H-13	ND
12b		1.82 ddt (2.7, 12.2, 4.2)	H-11ab, H-12a, H-13	C-10, C-11
13	44.6	1.61 brdd (3.8, 12.7)	H-12ab	C-11, C-14, CH ₃ -14
14	32.2			
CH ₃ -14a	28.5	0.85 s		C-13, C-14, CH ₃ -14b, C-15
CH ₃ -14b	28.1	0.89 s		C-13, C-14, CH ₃ -14a, C-15
15a	32.5	1.08 m	H-15b, H-16	ND
15b		1.38 ddd (6.2, 11.2, 13.2)	H-15a, H-16	C-13, C-14, CH3-14ab, C-16
16a	24.2	1.98 ddt (2.7, 17.4, 5.8,)	H-15ab, H-16b, H-17	C-15, C-17, C-18
16b		2.06 dddt (6.2, 9.2, 17.4, 2.4)	H-15ab, H-16a, H-17	C-15, C-17, C-18
17	118.3	5.34 dd (2.3, 5.0)	H-16ab	C-9, C-13, C-15, C-16
18	147.4			

^a Assignment based on HMQC, HMBC, and COSY. ^b Correlation from protons to indicated carbons. ^c Not determined due to overlapping.

With mycaperoxide B (2) in hand, we envisaged assigning the absolute stereochemistry of mycaperoxide H (1) by chemical conversion.⁸ Acid treatment of mycaperoxide B (2) under mild conditions⁹ furnished a dehydration product 4 and its methyl ester 7, a Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement product 5, and 6, in addition to mycaperoxide H methyl ester (1a).



¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **7** coincided well with those reported for mycaperoxide G methyl ester¹⁰ and deoxydiacarnoate B benzyl ester.¹¹ Compound **5** had the same planar structure as that of a dehydration product of mycaperoxide E^{12} on the basis of ¹H NMR data. Since the absolute stereochemistry of mycaperoxide B (**2**) was proved, successful conversion of mycaperoxide B (**2**) to mycaperoxide H methyl ester (**1a**) established the assignment of the absolute stereochemistry of **1**. Mycaperoxide H (1) was cytotoxic against HeLa cells with an IC_{50} value of 0.8 μ g/mL.

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. NMR spectra were recorded on either a JEOL A600 or a JEOL A500 NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts were referenced to solvent peaks. FAB mass spectra were measured on a JEOL JMX-SX102/SX102 mass spectrometer. Optical rotations were carried out on a Jasco DIP-1000 digital polarimeter.

Animal Material. The sponge *Mycale* sp. (family Mycalidae) was collected off Sichang Island, Thailand, in July 2000, at depths of 7–10 m and was kept frozen until extracted. It has encrusting, arborescent, bushy, irregular branches and a blue color. The surface is opaque and hispid with a mucousy and soft texture. The specimen was primarily identified by N.C. and S.K. and confirmed by Dr. John N. A. Hooper. A voucher specimen (SROT 177) was deposited at Aquatic Resources Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University.

Extraction and Isolation. The frozen sponge *Mycale* sp. (313 g, wet wt) collected off Sichang Island (July 2000) was extracted with MeOH. The crude extract was partitioned between CHCl₃ and H₂O, and the organic layer was chromatographed on an ODS flash column. The fractions eluted with MeOH–H₂O (7:3) and MeCN–H₂O (9:1) were combined and subjected to Sephadex LH-20 [MeOH–CHCl₃ (1:3 to 1:1)]. Final purification was performed by ODS HPLC with MeOH–H₂O (9:1) to yield mycaperoxide H (**1**, 2 mg) and mycaperoxide B (**2**, 45 mg).

Mycaperoxide H (1): $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} - 142.9^{\circ}$ (*c* 0.10, acetone); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in CD₃OD, see Table 1; HRFABMS *m*/*z* 415.2824 (calcd for C₂₄H₄₀O₄Na 415.2824).

Preparation of Diol 3. To a solution of **1** (1.0 mg) in MeOH (200 μ L) was added 2.0 M TMSCHN₂ in hexane dropwise until a permanent yellow solution persisted. After standing at room temperature for 1 h, the reaction mixture was evaporated to give mycaperoxide H methyl ester (**1a**). A mixture of **1a**, EtOAc (2 mL), HOAc (100 μ L), and zinc (60 mg) was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solution was filtered, evaporated,

and separated on a short silica gel column with CH₂Cl₂-EtOAc (1:4) to afford **3**

Mycaperoxide H methyl ester (1a): ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 5.34 (1H, brs, H-17), 4.08 (1H, m, H-3), 3.68 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.55 (1H, m, H-2), 1.23 (3H, s, CH₃-6), 1.10 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH3-2), 0.98 (3H, s, CH3-9), 0.88, 0.85 (3H each, s, CH3-14a, CH₃-14b), 0.86 (3H, d, J = 5.4 Hz, CH₃-10); FABMS m/z 429 (M + Na).

Diol 3: ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 5.34 (1H, brs, H-17), 3.67 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.63 (1H, m, H-3), 2.54 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz, H-2), 1.28 (3H, s, CH₃-6), 1.11 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH₃-2), 1.02 (3H, s, CH₃-9), 0.91, 0.86 (3H each, s, CH₃-14a, CH₃-14b), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, CH₃-10); FABMS m/z 431 (M + Na).

Modified Mosher Analysis of 3. To a solution of 3 (250 μ g) in 200 μ L of pyridine was added (-)-MTPA chloride (7 μ L), and the mixture was left to stand at room temperature overnight. After dilution with 1 M NaHCO₃, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and evaporated. The residue was purified on a short silica gel column to afford the tris-(S)-MTPA derivative (3a). The tris-(R)-MTPA derivative (3b) was prepared by the same procedure. Selected $\Delta \delta$ values are as follows: $CO_2CH_3 = +0.018$; H-2 = +0.031; $2-CH_3 = +0.087$; $6-CH_3 = 0.000$; $9-CH_3 = -0.099$.

Acid-Catalyzed Rearrangement of 2. To a solution of 2 (20 mg) in MeOH (500 µL) was added HCl-HOAc-MeOH (1: 1:1, 200 μ L), and the mixture was heated at 50 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was evaporated and partitioned between EtOAc and brine. The organic layer was purified by ODS HPLC (MeOH-H₂O, 9:1) to afford **4** (1 mg), **5** (0.9 mg), **6** (1.4 mg), 7 (14 mg), and mycaperoxide H methyl ester (1a, 0.5 mg).

Cyclic peroxide 4: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ 4.27 (1H, m, H-3), 2.66 (1H, m, H-2), 1.58 (3H, s, CH₃-10), 1.37 (3H, s, CH₃-6), 1.18 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH₃-2), 1.03 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.90, 0.85 (3H each, s, CH₃-14a, CH₃-14b); FABMS m/z 415 (M + Na).

Cyclic peroxide 5: [α]²²_D -49.1° (*c* 0.06, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) & 4.25 (1H, m, H-3), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.59 (1H, m, H-2), 1.28 (3H, s, CH₃-6), 1.18 (3H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, CH₃-2), 0.99, 0.97, 0.83 (3H each, s, CH₃-9, CH₃-14a, CH₃-14b), 0.84 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH₃-10); FABMS m/z 429 (M + Na).

Cyclic peroxide 6: [α]²²_D -25.6° (*c* 0.09, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR $(CDCl_3, 600 \text{ MHz}) \delta 5.40 (1\text{H, brs, H-11}), 4.26 (1\text{H, d, } J = 4.2)$ Hz, H-3), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.61 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz, H-2), 1.98 (1H, brd, J = 18.0 Hz, H-12a), 1.87 (1H, m, H-12b), 1.86 (1H, brd, J = 13.2 Hz, H-17a), 1.73 (2H, m, H-5), 1,72 (2H, m, H-4), 1.71 (3H, s, CH₃-10), 1.57 (1H, m, H-16a), 1.55 (1H, m, H-9), 1.51 (2H, m, H-8), 1.47 (1H, m, H-16b), 1.43 (2H, m, H-15), 1.35 (3H, s, CH₃-6), 1.19 (1H, m, H-13), 1.18 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH₃-2), 1.18 (2H, m, H-7), 0.96 (1H, dt, J = 2.4, 12.0 Hz, H-17), 0.89, 0.87, 0.77 (3H each, s, CH₃-14a, CH₃-14b, CH₃-18); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz)¹³ δ 174.5 (C-1), 135.1 (C-10), 122.3 (C-11), 81.8 (C-3), 80.6 (C-6), 55.3 (C-9), 51.9 (CO2CH3), 50.2 (C-13), 42.6 (C-2), 42.2 (C-7, C-15), 39.3 (C-17), 36.9 (C-18), 33.3 (14-CH₃), 33.1 (C-14), 32.0 (C-5), 23.7 (C-12), 23.0 (C-4), 22.2 (CH3-10), 22.0 (CH3-14), 20.3 (C-8, CH3-6), 18.8 (C-16), 13.7 (CH₃-18), 12.9 (CH₃-2); HRFABMS m/z 407.3160 (calcd for $C_{25}H_{43}O_4$ 407.3159, M + H).

Cyclic peroxide 7: [α]²³_D –44.1° (*c* 0.25, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) & 4.26 (1H, m, H-3), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.62 (1H, m, H-2), 1.57 (3H, s, 10-CH₃), 1.35 (3H, s, CH₃-6),

1.18 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz, CH₃-2), 1.00 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.90, 0.85 (3H each, s, CH₃-14); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ 174.5 (C-1), 139.6 (C-9), 126.2 (C-10), 81.7 (C-3), 51.9 (C-8, C-13, CO2CH3), 42.7 (C-2), 41.8 (C-15), 40.4 (C-7), 39.1 (C-18), 37.0 (C-17), 33.6 (C-11), 33.3 (C-14, 14-CH₃), 32.1 (C-5), 22.8 (C-4), 21.7 (CH₃-14), 21.1 (CH₃-18), 20.1 (CH₃-6), 19.4 (CH₃-10), 19.0 (C-12, C-16), 12.8 (CH₃-2), C-6 not detected; FABMS m/z 429 (M + Na).

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Supporting Information Available: 1D and 2D NMR spectra for 1. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http:// pubs.acs.org.

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