

Lactones from *Angiopteris caudatiformis*

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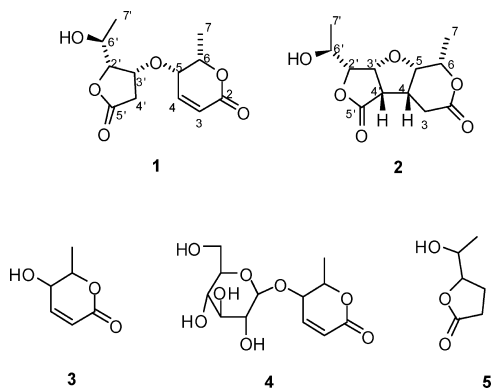
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Angiopterlactones A (**1**) and B (**2**), two unique lactones, and three known lactones, osmundalactone (**3**), osmundalin (**4**), and 3,5-dihydroxy- γ -caprolactone (**5**), have been isolated from the rhizome of *Angiopteris caudatiformis*. The structures of **1** and **2** were determined by NMR and MS methods, and the structure of **2** was confirmed by X-ray crystallography. The absolute configurations of **1** and **2** were assigned by application of the CD excitation chirality method and the modified Mosher's method. Compound **1** was slightly cytotoxic against HeLa cells, with an IC₅₀ value of 68.8 μ M, and compounds **3** and **4** showed moderate insect antifeeding activity against *Plutella xylostella* and *Heliothis virescens*.

Angiopteris caudatiformis Hieron (Angiopteridaceae) is an ancient fern species that grows mainly in Asia. Its rhizome is known as "ji ma" in Dai folk medicine in China, and it is used to treat infectious diseases such as enteritis, dysentery, and tuberculosis. The rhizomes and fibrous roots of *A. caudatiformis* are also used as ingredients in treatments of cough with lung heat, venomous snake bite, furuncle, and bleeding wounds in Tu folk medicine in China.¹ However, to the best of our knowledge, there has been no previous report of chemical investigation on this species. In our search for new bioactive constituents from the medicinal plants used by the Dai nationality in China, we initiated chemical studies of the rhizome of *A. caudatiformis*.

The air-dried and chopped rhizomes of *A. caudatiformis* (10 kg) were extracted with 95% EtOH (3 \times 40 L). After removal of solvent, the aqueous residue was partitioned successively with chloroform and ethyl acetate. The CHCl₃ and EtOAc extracts both exhibited significant insect antifeeding activity against *Plutella xylostella* and *Heliothis virescens*. Bioassay-guided fractionation of these extracts led to the isolation of two new metabolites, angiopterlactones A (**1**) and B (**2**), and three known compounds, osmundalactone (**3**),² osmundalin (**4**),^{3,4} and 3,5-dihydroxy- γ -caprolactone (**5**).⁵ Details of the isolation, structure elucidation, and biological activities of these compounds are reported herein.



Angiopterlactone A (**1**) was obtained as colorless, transparent needles. Its molecular formula was determined to be C₁₂H₁₆O₆ by

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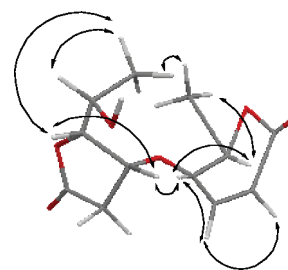


Figure 1. Key NOESY correlations for angiopterlactone A (**1**).

analysis of its HRESIMS (m/z 279.0844 [M + Na]⁺), indicating the presence of five degrees of unsaturation. The IR spectrum of **1** showed absorption bands at 3462 (OH), 1764 (C=O), 1712 (C=O), and 1633 (C=C) cm⁻¹. An α,β -unsaturated- δ -lactone moiety in **1** was indicated by a carbonyl carbon signal at δ_C 162.9 (C-2) and two olefinic carbon signals at δ_C 122.6 and 144.6 in the ¹³C NMR spectrum. The two oxymethine proton signals at δ_H 4.03 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.0 Hz) and 4.58 (dq, J = 6.6, 3.0 Hz) in the ¹H NMR spectrum were assigned to C-5 and C-6, respectively, on the basis of HMQC data. Analysis of the ¹H–¹H COSY NMR data led to the identification of two isolated proton spin systems corresponding to the C-3–C-7 and C-4'–C-7' (including OH-6') subunits of **1**. HMBC correlations from H-3 and H-4 to the carboxyl carbon (C-2) led to the connection of C-2 to C-3, while a correlation from H-7 to C-2 established the structure of the α,β -unsaturated- δ -lactone moiety. HMBC cross-peaks from H-3' to C-5 and from H-5 to C-3' indicated that C-5 and C-3' were connected to the same oxygen to form an ether linkage. Although no HMBC correlation was observed between H-2' and C-5', a γ -lactone ring was proposed on the basis of the degree of unsaturation requirement of **1** to complete the gross structure of **1** as shown. The proposed structure of **1** was also supported by the fragment ions at m/z 212, 167, 129, 111, 84, 68, and 55 in the EIMS spectrum of **1** (Figure S1, Supporting Information). The NOESY correlation of H-3' with H-5 suggested a *cis* relationship between these protons. A correlation between H₃₋₇ and H_{3-7'} indicated that these two methyl groups were in close proximity. The *cis* relationship between H-3'/H-2' and H-5/H-6 was also established by relevant NOESY correlations as shown in Figure 1.

The absolute configuration of **1** was determined by application of the CD excitation chirality method. The CD spectrum of **1** showed a negative Cotton effect ($\Delta\epsilon$ –2.9) at 221 nm, and according to an empirical observation for the absolute configuration

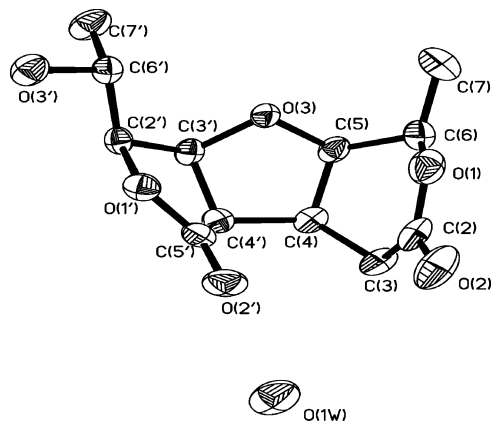


Figure 2. Thermal ellipsoid representation of angiopterlactone B (**2**).

of α,β -unsaturated- δ -lactones, such a negative Cotton effect was consistent with the *S* absolute configuration at C-6.⁶ The strong negative value of $\Delta\epsilon$ -2.9 at 221 nm was due to the overlapped negative Cotton effects resulting from the saturated γ -lactone,⁷ leading to the *3'R* absolute configuration assignment. The absolute configuration of C-6' was established using the modified Mosher's method.⁸ Treatment of **1** with (*S*)- and (*R*)- α -methoxy- α -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl (MTPA) chlorides using catalytic DMAP afforded (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA esters (**1a** and **1b**), respectively (see Experimental Section). Analysis of the proton chemical shift differences between its (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA esters showed negative $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}$ signs for H₃-7' (-0.07) and positive signs for H-2' ($+0.01$) and H-3' ($+0.01$) (Figures S14 and S15, Supporting Information). This distribution of $\Delta\delta$ signs enabled assignment of the *S*-configuration to C-6'. Thus, from the relative configuration, the absolute configuration of **1** was established as *5S,6S,2'R,3'R,6'S*.

Angiopterlactone B (**2**) was obtained as colorless needles. It was assigned the same molecular formula as that of **1** (C₁₂H₁₆O₆) on the basis of HRESIMS analysis (*m/z* 279.0839 [M + Na]⁺). The IR spectrum of **2** showed absorption bands at 3612 (OH), 1765 (C=O), and 1735 (C=O) cm⁻¹. Analysis of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic data of **2** revealed the presence of structural features similar to those of **1**, such as the presence of the same γ -lactone ring and a saturated δ -lactone moiety. The ¹³C NMR spectrum displayed lactone carbonyl carbon signals at δ_{C} 169.8 (C-2) and 172.9 (C-5') and five oxygen-linked carbon signals at δ_{C} 78.8, 73.3, 84.9, 78.9, and 66.4. However, the absence of olefinic carbon signals in the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2** suggested the presence of a saturated δ -lactone in **2** instead of the α,β -unsaturated- δ -lactone present in **1**. From the ¹H-¹H COSY spectra, it was observed that a methine signal at δ_{H} 3.28 (H-4, ddd, *J* = 9.0 Hz) was coupled with the methylene signals at δ_{H} 3.33 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz) and 2.50 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 9.0 Hz) and with an oxymethine signal at δ_{H} 4.15 (H-5, dd). The γ -lactone moiety displayed proton signals similar to those of **1**, except for the appearance of a methine signal at δ_{H} 3.43 (H-4') instead of the methylene signals. Furthermore, couplings between H-5 and H-4, H-4 and H-4', and H-4' and H-3' were observed in the ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum, suggesting that the δ -lactone ring was coupled to the γ -lactone ring through a tetrahydrofuran ring, which satisfied the degree of unsaturation requirement of **2**. This assignment was supported by relevant HMBC correlations and was consistent with the EIMS fragmentation pattern (Figure S2, Supporting Information). Ultimately, the structure of **2** was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis, and a perspective ORTEP plot is shown in Figure 2.

The absolute configuration of angiopterlactone B (**2**) was determined by the CD excitation chirality method. The δ -lactone ring adopted a boat conformation, which was in agreement with the negative Cotton effect ($\Delta\epsilon$ -0.6) at 221 nm, suggesting the *4R*

and *3'R* absolute configurations.⁹ The absolute configuration of C-6' was also determined by the modified Mosher's method. The same methodology as **1a** and **1b** was applied to **2**, which, by analysis of the $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}$ (*S* - *R*) values between its (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA esters **2a** and **2b** (Figures S16 and S17, Supporting Information), negative $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}$ signs for H₃-7' (-0.09) and positive signs for H-2' ($+0.01$) and H-4' ($+0.02$) were evident, indicating the *S* configuration at C-6'. Therefore, the absolute configuration of angiopterlactone B (**2**) was assigned as *4R,5S,6S,2'R,3'R,4'S,6'S*.

Angiopterlactones A (**1**) and B (**2**) are unique metabolites possessing dual-lactone skeletons. Compound **1** could be the biosynthetic precursor of **2** by reaction of the α -proton of the γ -lactone ring with the olefin of the α,β -unsaturated- γ -lactone unit, leading to the formation of the previously unreported tricyclic system present in **2**. The known compound **3** was isolated for the first time from the genus *Angiopteris*.

Compounds **1**–**5** were tested for insecticidal activity using the *P. xylostella* insect mortality¹⁰ (PLUTMA) and *H. virescens* leaf area eaten (HELIVI) assays.¹¹ Compounds **3** and **4** displayed antifeeding effects on *P. xylostella* and *H. virescens* at 500 and 1000 ppm, respectively, similar to the antifeeding activity reported for **3** toward yellow butterfly larvae.¹² Compounds **1**–**5** were also evaluated for their in vitro cytotoxicity against HeLa, K562, and KB cell lines using the [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide] (MTT) colorimetric assay.¹³ Compound **1** showed minimal cytotoxicity against HeLa cells, with an IC₅₀ of 68.8 μM .

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were determined on a Fisher-Johns apparatus and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 341 polarimeter. CD spectra were recorded on a Jasco J-815 spectropolarimeter in CH₃OH. UV absorption was recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2550 spectrophotometer. IR spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu FTIR-8400S spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker AMX 600 spectrometer using the residual CHCl₃ (δ_{H} 7.26/ δ_{C} 77.2) and DMSO-*d*₆ (δ_{H} 2.50/ δ_{C} 39.5) signals as references. The 2D NMR experiments (¹H-¹H COSY, HMQC, HMBC, NOESY) were performed using standard Bruker microprograms. EIMS data were recorded on a GCMS-QP 2010 Shimadzu spectrometer, and HRESIMS data were obtained using a LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer.

Plant Material. The rhizomes of *A. caudatiformis* were collected from Meng-La County, Yunnan Province, in May 2006. The sample was identified by one of the authors, C.Z.P. A voucher specimen (No. 20060528) has been deposited in the Herbarium of the Institute of Medicinal Plant Development, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing.

Extraction and Isolation. The air-dried and chopped rhizomes of *A. caudatiformis* (10 kg) were extracted with 95% EtOH (3 \times 40 L), and the organic solvent was evaporated under vacuum to afford a crude extract (860 g). The extract was suspended in H₂O (5.0 L) and then partitioned successively with CHCl₃ and EtOAc (3 \times 5.0 L). The CHCl₃ extract (80 g) was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (2.4 kg, 100–200 mesh), using petroleum ether–EtOAc gradient elution, and yielded compound **3** (60 g; 0.6%). The EtOAc extract (35 g) was fractionated by silica gel CC (0.7 kg, 100–200 mesh) using CHCl₃–MeOH gradient elution (20:1, 10:1, 5:1, 1:1, 0:1) to give eight fractions (I–VIII). Angiopterlactones A (**1**, 230 mg) and B (**2**, 20 mg) were isolated from fraction II (2.8 g) by further chromatography over silica gel (90 g, 15:1 CHCl₃–Me₂CO) and purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography using CHCl₃–MeOH (1:1) as eluent. Compounds **4** (1.2 g) and **5** (14 mg) were isolated from fraction VII (2.6 g) eluting with petroleum ether–Me₂CO (3:1, 2:1, 1:1, 0:1) over silica gel (80 g, 100–200 mesh).

Angiopterlactone A (1): colorless, transparent needles; mp 160–162 °C; [α]_D²⁰ -110 (*c* 0.04, Me₂CO); UV (MeOH) λ max (log ϵ) 200 (2.75) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3461, 2916, 1764, 1712, 1633, 1396 cm⁻¹; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; EIMS *m/z* (% rel int), 212 (6), 167 (10), 129 (32), 111 (66), 84 (100), 68 (28), 55 (51); HRESIMS *m/z* 279.0844 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₆Na, 279.0845).

Table 1. ^1H (600 MHz) and ^{13}C (150 MHz) NMR Data for Angiopterlactones A (**1**) (DMSO- d_6) and B (**2**) (CDCl_3)

position	angiopterlactone A (1)			angiopterlactone B (2)		
	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult, J in Hz)	HMBC	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult, J in Hz)	HMBC
2	162.9			169.8		
3	122.6	6.09 (d, 9.6)	2, 5	27.9	3.33 (d, 16.2)	2, 4, 5, 4'
4	144.6	7.17 (dd, 9.6, 5.4)	2, 5, 6	36.6	2.50 (dd, 16.2, 9.0)	2, 4, 4'
5	68.6	4.03 (dd, 5.4, 3.0)	3, 4, 3'	78.8	3.28 (ddd, 9.0, 8.4, 10.2)	3, 6, 5'
6	76.0	4.58 (dq, 3.0, 6.6)	5, 7	73.3	4.15 (br d, 8.4)	3, 6
7	15.6	1.32 (d, 6.6)	2, 5, 6	16.6	4.31 (br q, 6.6)	5, 7
2'	87.0	4.20 (dd, 4.2, 7.2)	6'	84.9	1.46 (d, 6.6)	5, 6
3'	75.7	4.48 (ddd, 2.4, 5.4, 4.2)	5', 5	78.9	4.21 (m, overlap)	
4'	37.8	2.88 (dd, 17.4, 5.4)	5'	48.9	4.58 (dd, 5.4, 3.0)	5'
		2.47 (dd, 17.4, 2.4)	2', 3', 5'		3.43 (dd, 10.2, 5.4)	5
5'	175.0			172.9		
6'	63.7	3.93 (dq, 7.2, 6.6)	2'	66.4	4.21 (m, overlap)	
7'	19.0	1.10 (d, 6.6)	2', 6'	17.2	1.31 (d, 6.0)	2', 6'
OH-6'		4.93 (d, 5.4)			2.45 (s)	

(S)-MTPA Ester of 1 (1a): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.20 (1H, dd, $J = 9.6, 5.4$ Hz, H-4), 6.13 (1H, d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, H-3), 5.44 (1H, dq, $J = 6.6, 6.0$ Hz, H-6), 4.67 (1H, dd, $J = 6.0, 5.4$ Hz, H-5), 4.63 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 3.0$ Hz, H-2'), 4.63 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 2.4$ Hz, H-3'), 4.12 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 3.0$ Hz, H-6'), 2.90 (1H, dd, $J = 17.4, 5.4$ Hz, H-4'a), 2.42 (1H, dd, $J = 17.4, 2.4$ Hz, H-4'b), 1.36 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7), 1.29 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7').

(R)-MTPA Ester 1 (1b): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.16 (1H, dd, $J = 9.6, 5.4$ Hz, H-4), 6.14 (1H, d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, H-3), 5.45 (1H, dq, $J = 6.6, 6.0$ Hz, H-6), 4.65 (1H, dd, $J = 6.0, 5.4$ Hz, H-5), 4.62 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 3.0$ Hz, H-2'), 4.62 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 2.4$ Hz, H-3'), 4.08 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 3.0$ Hz, H-6'), 2.78 (1H, dd, $J = 17.4, 6.6$ Hz, H-4'a), 2.14 (1H, dd, $J = 17.4, 3.6$ Hz, H-4'b), 1.38 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7), 1.36 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7').

Angiopterlactone B (2): colorless needles; mp 200–202 °C; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} +22$ (c 0.04, EtOAc); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 203 (2.45) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3612, 1765, 1735 cm^{-1} ; ^1H and ^{13}C NMR data, see Table 1; EIMS m/z (% rel int), 212 (92), 194 (36), 184 (9), 170 (74), 155 (13), 137 (38), 126 (11), 109 (31), 97 (26), 81 (100), 68 (33), 57 (65); HRESIMS m/z 279.0839 [M + Na] $^+$ (calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₆Na, 279.0845).

(S)-MTPA Ester of 2 (2a): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 5.45 (1H, dq, $J = 6.6, 6.0$ Hz, H-6'), 4.56 (1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 4.8$ Hz, H-3'), 4.43 (1H, dd, $J = 9.0, 3.6$ Hz, H-5), 4.30 (1H, dq, $J = 7.2, 6.0$ Hz, H-6), 4.20 (1H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, H-2'), 3.35 (1H, dd, $J = 16.2, 4.8$ Hz, H-3a), 3.35 (1H, dd, $J = 4.8$ Hz, H-4'), 3.31 (1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 9.0$ Hz, H-4), 2.51 (1H, dd, $J = 16.2, 8.4$ Hz, H-3b), 1.50 (3H, d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, H₃-7), 1.40 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7').

(R)-MTPA Ester of 2 (2b): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 5.48 (1H, dq, $J = 6.0, 2.4$ Hz, H-6'), 4.57 (br), 4.46 (1H, dd, $J = 9.0, 3.6$ Hz, H-5), 4.30 (1H, dq, $J = 6.6, 6.0$ Hz, H-6), 4.19 (1H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, H-2'), 3.34 (1H, dd, $J = 16.2, 4.8$ Hz, H-3a), 3.33 (1H, dd, $J = 4.8$ Hz, H-4'), 3.29 (1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 9.0$ Hz, H-4), 2.50 (1H, dd, $J = 16.2, 8.4$ Hz, H-3b), 1.51 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H₃-7), 1.49 (3H, d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, H₃-7').

Preparation of MTPA Esters of 1 and 2. To a solution of **1** (1 mg) and *N,N*-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, a spatula tip, 5 mg) in dry pyridine (2 mL) was added 10 μL of (*S*)-MTPA chloride. The mixture was stirred overnight under N₂ at room temperature. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the product was purified by HPLC (ODS column) eluting with MeOH–H₂O (65:35) at a flow rate of 2 mL/min to give (*S*)-MTPA ester **1a** in 20% yield (0.2 mg) in 29.2 min. The corresponding (*R*)-MTPA ester (**1b**) was also obtained in 70% yield (0.7 mg) using the same procedure. This procedure was repeated for **2** (2 mg) to obtain the (*S*)-MTPA ester **2a** and (*R*)-MTPA ester **2b** in similar yields.

X-ray Crystallographic Analysis of Angiopterlactone B (2).¹⁴ Crystallization from petroleum ether–EtOAc (1:5) yielded colorless crystals of **1**. A crystal (0.20 \times 0.20 \times 0.10 mm) was separated from the sample and mounted on a glass fiber, and data were acquired with a MAC DIP-2030K single-crystal X-ray diffractometer with Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71071\text{\AA}$) and a graphite monochromator. Structure analysis was made using the SHELXS97 program. Crystal data: C₁₂H₁₆O₆ (256 g/mol), space group *P2*₁*2*₁*2*₁; unit cell dimensions $a = 5.481(1)\text{\AA}$, $b = 9.784(1)\text{\AA}$, $c = 24.207(1)\text{\AA}$, orthorhombic, $V =$

1298.0(1) \AA^3 , $D_{\text{c}} = 1.404\text{ g/cm}^3$, $Z = 4$. A total of 30 maps and 2974 independent reflections were collected in the range $0^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$, of which 2726 were observable reflections [$|FI^2| \geq 2\sigma(FI^2)$], completeness to θ max was 99.7%; non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were located in Fourier difference maps and refined with idealized geometries and riding constraints. The final indices were $R_1 = 0.0347$, $wR_2 = 0.0965$, $S = 1.090$ [$I > 2\sigma(I)$].

Insecticidal Assay. All compounds were formulated to 500 or 1000 ppm and applied to 96-well assay plates at various volumes to give final concentrations. Two replicates were carried out for each species. Direct contact application was used in the PLUTMA assay. A leaf-dipping means and leaf damage area was applied in the HELIVI assay. A score based on a two-banded scale of 0 and 99 was assigned to each well, where 0 represented no activity and 99 was almost complete control. Different assays were assessed in different ways and at different time points but generally between 5 and 9 days after treatment.

Cytotoxic Assay. The isolated compounds were tested in vitro against HeLa, K562, and KB cell lines. All three cell lines were maintained in RPMI 1640 (Gibco) containing 10% FBS (Gibco), 2 mg/mL sodium bicarbonate, 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ penicillin sodium salt, and 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ streptomycin sulfate. Cells were grown to 70% confluence, trypsinized with 0.05% trypsin-2 mM EDTA, and plated for experimental use. In all experiments, the cells were grown in RPMI-1640 medium with 10% FBS for 24 h prior to treatment. All compounds were dissolved in DMSO at a concentration of 100 mM, then diluted in tissue culture medium and filtered before use. The cells (1.0×10^4) were seeded in 96-well tissue culture plates, treated with test compounds or vehicle (0.1% DMSO) at various concentrations, and incubated for 48 h followed by MTT assay at 570 nm. The IC₅₀ values of the tested compounds against different cell lines were obtained from the concentration–effect curves. Each experiment was repeated at least three times, and the combined data were analyzed using the Student's paired *t* test.

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Supporting Information Available: ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of angiopterlactones A (**1**) and B (**2**), proposed MS fragmentation schemes of **1** and **2**, and the cif file of the X-ray data. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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- (14) Crystallographic data for compound **2** have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (deposition number CCDC 724062). Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the director, CCDC 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44 1223 336033 ore-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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