

Hopane-Type Triterpenes and Binaphthopyrones from the Scale Insect Pathogenic Fungus *Aschersonia paraphysata* BCC 11964

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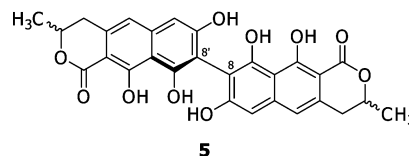
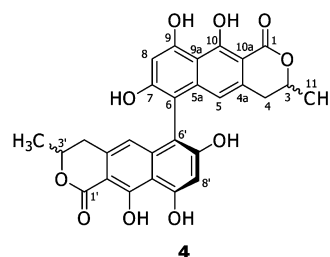
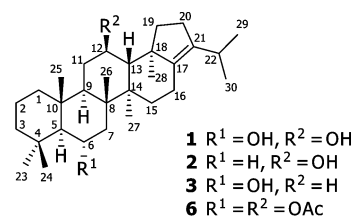
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Two new triterpenes, 17(21)-hopene-6 α ,12 β -diol (**1**) and 17(21)-hopene-12 β -ol (**2**), the known 17(21)-hopene-6 α -ol (zeorinin, **3**), and two new biaryl dihydronaphthopyrones, aschernaphthopyrones A (**4**) and B (**5**), were isolated from the scale insect pathogenic fungus *Aschersonia paraphysata* BCC 11964. Hopene **1** and aschernaphthopyrone A (**4**) exhibited antimalarial activity with IC₅₀ values of 15 and 7.3 μ M, respectively.

Aschersonia is a genus of entomopathogenic fungi that specifically attacks scale insects. There have been several reports on secondary metabolites from this genus: hopane-3 β ,15 α ,22-triol (a triterpene) from *A. aleyrodinis*,¹ its 3 β -O-acetyl derivative from *A. tubulata* BCC 1785,² ascherxanthonones A and B (tetrahydroxanthone dimers) respectively from *Aschersonia* sp. BCC 8401 and *A. luteola* BCC 8774,^{3,4} and destruxins A₄ and A₅ (cyclodepsipeptides) from an *Aschersonia* species.⁵ As part of our research program on bioactive compounds from insect pathogenic fungi, we recently conducted a broad survey of scale insect pathogenic *Aschersonia* species and their *Hypocrella sensu lato* teleomorphs for their secondary metabolites. The study resulted in the conclusion that this group of fungi is a hot spot for three hopane triterpenes, zeorinin (hopane-6 α ,22-diol), dustanin (hopane-15 α ,22-diol), and 3 β -acetoxyhopane-15 α ,22-diol.⁶ Recently, we found a mycelial extract from *Aschersonia* strain BCC 11964 that exhibited a unique ¹H NMR spectroscopic profile, suggesting the presence of triterpenes and several aromatic compounds. The ITS rDNA sequence data and the morphological characteristics of this strain indicated that it was identical to another strain (BCC 1467), which is currently described as the rarely collected *Aschersonia paraphysata*.⁷ Scale-up fermentation and chemical studies resulted in the isolation of three hopanoids, 17(21)-hopene-6 α ,12 β -diol (**1**), 17(21)-hopene-12 β -ol (**2**), and 17(21)-hopene-6 α -ol (**3**), and two biaryl dihydronaphthopyrones, aschernaphthopyrones A (**4**) and B (**5**), together with the known compounds 3,4,6-trihydroxymellein,^{8–10} 6,8-dihydroxy-3-hydroxymethylisocoumarin,^{11–13} and ergosterol. Details of the isolation, structure elucidation, and biological activities of the new compounds are presented here.

Results and Discussion

Compound **1** was isolated as a white powder, and the molecular formula was established as C₃₀H₅₀O₂ by HRESIMS. The IR spectrum exhibited a broad absorption band at ν_{\max} 3423 cm⁻¹, which indicated the presence of hydroxy groups. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in CDCl₃ strongly suggested that **1** is a hopane-type triterpene. The presence of two secondary alcohol groups was evident from the ¹H NMR resonances of oxymethines at δ_{H} 3.98 (1H, dt, J = 3.9, 10.7 Hz) and 3.86 (1H, dt, J = 5.4, 10.9 Hz). The J -values demonstrated that these protons should occupy axial positions. Acetylation of **1** (Ac₂O, pyridine) gave a diacetate derivative (**6**), in which the oxymethine protons were shifted downfield, resonating at δ_{H} 5.25 (1H, dt, J = 3.8, 10.9 Hz) and 5.08 (1H, dt, J = 5.6, 11.2 Hz). The ¹H and ¹³C NMR, DEPT135, and HMQC data for **1** allowed the categorization of two sp²



quaternary carbons (δ_{C} 139.3 and 137.4, a tetrasubstituted olefin), five sp³ quaternary carbons, two oxymethines (δ_{C} 69.3/ δ_{H} 3.98 and δ_{C} 70.8/ δ_{H} 3.86), four methines, nine methylenes, and eight methyl groups. The planar structure of **1** was deduced by analyses of COSY and HMBC data (Figure 1, Table 1). The key HMBC correlations were those from six methyl groups (H₃-23, H₃-24, H₃-25, H₃-26, H₃-27, and H₃-28) attached to quaternary sp³ carbons C-4, C-4, C-10, C-8, C-14, and C-18, respectively. An isopropyl group (C-22, C-29, and C-30) was attached to the quaternary sp² carbon C-21 (δ_{C} 137.4). Correlations from H $_{\beta}$ -15, H $_{\beta}$ -16, H $_{\beta}$ -20, and H₃-28 to the other sp² quaternary carbon (C-17, δ_{C} 139.3) indicated the location of the tetrasubstituted olefin as C-17/C-21.

The relative configuration of **1** was addressed on the basis of J -values and NOESY correlations (Figure 2). Key NOESY correlations were those for protons and methyl protons at axial positions. NOESY cross-peaks at the β -face were observed from H₃-25 to H $_{\beta}$ -2, H-6, and H $_{\beta}$ -11 and from H₃-26 to H-6, H $_{\beta}$ -11, and H-13. Important NOESY correlations on the α -face are those from H-12 to H-9, H₃-27, and H₃-28 and from H₃-27 to H $_{\alpha}$ -7, H-12, and H $_{\alpha}$ -16. An axial orientation of H-5 was evident from its antiperiplanar relation with H-6 (J = 10.7 Hz). Because of the close chemical shifts of H-5 (δ_{H} 0.85) and H $_{\alpha}$ -1 (δ_{H} 0.86), the NOESY correlations

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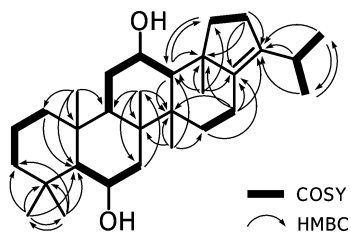


Figure 1. COSY and HMBC correlations for **1**.

from these protons could not be distinguished. However, intense cross-peaks were observed from one or both of these protons to δ_{H} 1.18 ($\text{H}_{\alpha-3}$), 1.44 (H-9), and 1.36 ($\text{H}_{\alpha-7}$). On the basis of these data, **1** was assigned as a new hopane-type triterpene, 17(21)-hopene-6 α ,12 β -diol (Table 1).

Compound **2** possessed the molecular formula $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{50}\text{O}$ (HRESIMS), containing one less oxygen atom than **1**. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopic data were similar to those of **1**. Significant differences were the absence of the ^1H and ^{13}C resonances of an oxymethine group (CH-6 of **1**) instead of the presence of one more aliphatic methylene group, which were indicated on the basis of the ^{13}C NMR, DEPT, and HMQC spectroscopic data. The axial proton H-5 (δ_{H} 0.72, dd, $J = 11.7, 2.2$ Hz) displayed intense and weak COSY correlations, respectively, to the methylene protons at δ_{H} 1.34 (m, $\text{H}_{\text{ax}}-6$) and 1.53 (m, $\text{H}_{\text{eq}}-6$). Other significant chemical shift differences, when compared with **1**, were the upfield shifts of C-5 (δ_{C} 56.5; **1**, 61.2), C-7 (δ_{C} 33.3; **1**, 45.7), and H_3-23 (δ_{H} 0.84; **1**, 1.16). Therefore, compound **2** was assigned as the 6-deoxy analogue of **1**.

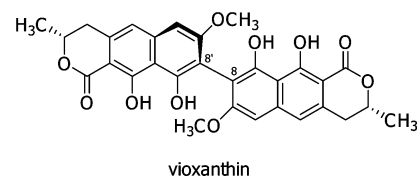
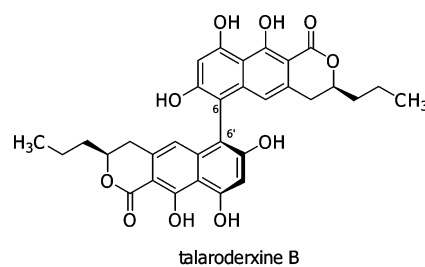
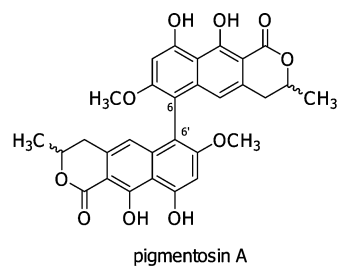
The molecular formula of compound **3** was determined by HRESIMS as $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{50}\text{O}$, which was the same as **2**. The comparison of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopic data with those of **1** suggested that **3** was the 12-deoxy analogue **1**. This conclusion was confirmed by the assignments of protons and carbons by analysis of the COSY, HMBC, and NOESY correlations. The notable chemical shift differences, when compared with **1**, were the upfield shifts of C-11 (δ_{C} 21.4; **1**, 32.0), C-13 (δ_{C} 48.9; **1**, 54.5), and $\text{H}_{\alpha-19}$ (δ_{H} 1.64; **1**, 1.95). The latter data can be explained by the deshielding of this proton by the 12 β -OH group in **1**, which was absent in **3**. Therefore, compound **3** was assigned as 17(21)-hopene-6 α -ol. This compound was previously reported as the dehydration product from zeorin (hopane-6 α ,22-diol) by heating in HCl/EtOH and was named zeorinin.^{14,15} In the present study, **3** was isolated as a secondary metabolite of the fungus BCC 11964. The positive specific rotation ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} +58$, c 0.1, CHCl_3) was consistent with the literature data for the zeorin-derived sample ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}} +59$, c 0.5, CHCl_3).¹⁵

Aschernaphthopyrone A (**4**) was isolated as a greenish powder. The molecular formula of **4** was estimated to be $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_{10}$ by HRESIMS. The presence of only 14 carbon resonances in the ^{13}C NMR spectrum indicated a symmetric, homodimeric structure. Analysis of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR, DEPT, and HMQC data revealed that one-half of the molecule, $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_5$, possessed an ester carbonyl (δ_{C} 171.3), eight sp^2 quaternary carbons at δ_{C} 163.0, 159.5, 157.9, 140.3, 133.9, 108.3, 107.8, and 99.0, two sp^2 methines at δ_{C} 113.5 (δ_{H} 6.20, s) and 102.3 (δ_{H} 6.60, s), an oxymethine at δ_{C} 76.6 (δ_{H} 4.68, m), a methylene at δ_{C} 34.4 (δ_{H} 2.80 and 2.67), and a methyl group at δ_{C} 20.7 (δ_{H} 1.32, d, $J = 6.3$ Hz). Also observed were proton signals of three phenolic OH groups at δ_{H} 13.47 (br s), 9.81 (br s), and 9.78 (s) (Table 2). COSY correlations revealed that the oxymethine (C-3) was connected to a methyl group (C-11) and a methylene (C-4). The 3,4-dihydro- α -naphthopyrone structure was deduced on the basis of the HMBC correlations. The diastereotopic methylene protons (H_2-4) showed HMBC correlations to the sp^2 methine (δ_{C} 113.5, C-5) and the quaternary carbons C-4a (δ_{C} 133.9) and C-10a (δ_{C} 99.0). The aromatic H-5 (δ_{H} 6.20) showed HMBC correlations to C-4, C-4a, C-5a, C-6, C-9a, and C-10a. In addition,

weak $^4J_{\text{CH}}$ correlations from this proton to three oxygenated sp^2 quaternary carbons at δ_{C} 163.0 (C-10), 159.5 (C-7), and 157.9 (C-9) and a carbonyl carbon at δ_{C} 171.3 (C-1) were observed. The aromatic H-8 (δ_{H} 6.60) exhibited intense HMBC correlations to C-6, C-7, C-9, and C-9a. A weak cross-peak to C-10 was also observed. One of the phenolic OH groups at δ_{H} 9.78 showed HMBC correlations to C-6, C-7, and C-8. These data required dimer formation involving C-6 and C-6'. The upfield shift of H-5 (δ_{H} 6.20) was consistent with the shielding by the attached aromatic ring.

Aschernaphthopyrone B (**5**) possessed the same molecular formula ($\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_{10}$) as **4**. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopic patterns were similar to those of **4**. The aromatic H-5 (δ_{H} 6.95, s) was significantly downfield shifted when compared to **4**. This proton showed HMBC correlation to the other sp^2 methine at δ_{C} 102.0 (δ_{H} 6.69, s, H-6) as well as to C-4, C-5a, C-9a, and C-10a, but it lacked the correlation to the δ_{C} 108.8 quaternary carbon. In addition, an intense NOESY correlation was observed between the aromatic protons H-5 and H-6. These data indicated that the δ_{H} 6.69 (δ_{C} 102.0) methine should be placed at CH-6. HMBC correlations were observed from H-6 to C-5, C-5a, C-7, C-9a, and the quaternary carbon at δ_{C} 108.6. Therefore, this upfield quaternary carbon was assigned as C-8, i.e., the location of symmetric dimer formation.

The structure of aschernaphthopyrone A (**4**), a C-6–C-6' 3,4-dihydro- α -naphthopyrone dimer, is most closely related to pigmentosin A, which possesses a 7,7'-dimethoxy functionality and was isolated from the lichen *Hypotrachyna immaculate*.¹⁶ The chirality of the stereogenic centers C-3/C-3' and the 6,6'-axis of pigmentosin A has not been determined. Talaroderxines A and B, isolated from the fungus *Talaromyces derxii* NHL 2982, are substituted at C-3/C-3' with a propyl group.¹⁷ They are atropisomers, and both possess the 3*S*,3'*S* configuration.¹⁷ Viriditoxin also shows structural resemblance to these compounds.¹⁸ Aschernaphthopyrone B (**5**) is closely related to vioaxanthin,^{19,20} which possesses a 7,7'-dimethoxy functionality. Recently, Müller and co-workers reported the synthesis of vioaxanthin and its atropisomer and determined the absolute configuration.²¹

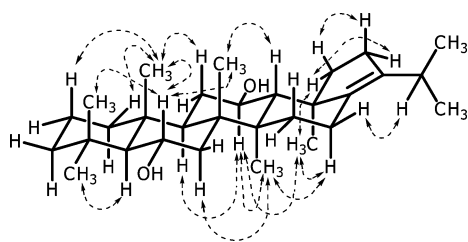


The chirality of the 6,6'-axis of aschernaphthopyrone A (**4**) was assigned by the exciton chirality method.²² The CD spectrum of **4**

Table 1. ^{13}C (125 MHz) and ^1H (500 MHz) NMR Data for Compounds **1–3** in CDCl_3

position	1		2		3	
	δ_{C} , mult.	δ_{H} , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)	δ_{C} , mult.	δ_{H} , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)	δ_{C} , mult.	δ_{H} , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz)
1	40.4, CH ₂	α 0.86, m; β 1.67, m	40.3, CH ₂	α 0.82, m; β 1.68, m	40.5, CH ₂	α 0.82, m; β 1.65, m
2	18.5, CH ₂	α 1.38, m; β 1.58, m	18.66, ^b CH ₂	α 1.39, m; β 1.58, m	18.5, CH ₂	α 1.39, m; β 1.56, m
3	43.7, CH ₂	α 1.18, m β 1.31, m	42.1, CH ₂	α 1.13, dt (4.1, 13.0) β 1.36, m	43.8, CH ₂	α 1.19, dt (4.1, 13.7) β 1.35, m
4	33.7, qC		33.26, qC		33.7, qC	
5	61.4, CH	0.85, d (10.7)	56.5, CH	0.72, dd (11.7, 2.2)	61.2, CH	0.84, d (10.6)
6	69.3, CH	3.98, dt (3.9, 10.7)	18.74, ^b CH ₂	α 1.53, m; β 1.34, m	69.3, CH	3.95, dt (4.0, 10.6)
7	45.5, ^a CH ₂	α 1.36, m; β 1.59, m	33.29, CH ₂	α 1.33, m; β 1.28, m	45.7, CH ₂	α 1.45, dd (11.9, 10.6) β 1.59, dd (11.9, 4.0)
8	42.4, qC		42.9, qC		41.5, qC	
9	49.1, CH	1.44, m	49.6, CH	1.41, m	50.4, CH	1.32, m
10	39.2, qC		37.4, qC		39.4, qC	
11	32.0, CH ₂	α 1.90, ddd (12.5, 5.4, 3.0) β 1.27, ^c m	32.3, CH ₂	α 1.89, ddd (12.2, 5.4, 3.0) β 1.30, m	21.4, CH ₂	α 1.30, m β 1.57, m
12	70.8, CH	3.86, dt (5.4, 10.9)	71.0, CH	3.85, dt (5.3, 10.9)	23.9, CH ₂	α 1.39, m; β 1.34, m
13	54.5, CH	1.47, d (11.1)	54.9, CH	1.47, d (11.1)	48.9, CH	1.41, m
14	43.0, qC		42.0, qC		43.1, qC	
15	32.4, CH ₂	α 1.41, m; β 1.27, ^c m	32.0, CH ₂	α 1.30, m; β 1.27, m	31.8, CH ₂	α 1.31, m; β 1.28, m
16	19.8, CH ₂	α 1.93, m β 2.31, dt (14.5, 3.3)	19.8, CH ₂	α 1.92, m β 2.28, dt (15.3, 3.5)	19.8, CH ₂	α 1.92, m β 2.28, ddd (14.4, 4.0, 2.9)
17	139.3, qC		139.6, qC		139.8, qC	
18	48.7, qC		48.8, qC		49.7, qC	
19	45.4, ^a CH ₂	α 1.95, m; β 1.56, m	45.4, CH ₂	α 1.95, m; β 1.55, m	41.6, CH ₂	α 1.64, m; β 1.30, m
20	28.1, CH ₂	α 2.22, m β 2.11, br dd (15.6, 9.1)	27.5, CH ₂	α 2.19, m β 2.11, dd (15.4, 9.2)	28.1, CH ₂	α 2.23, m β 2.11, br dd (15.4, 9.3)
21	137.4, qC		137.1, qC		136.3, qC	
22	26.4, CH	2.66, m	26.4, CH	2.65, m	26.4, CH	2.64, m
23	36.7, CH ₃	1.16, s	33.4, CH ₃	0.84, ^e s	36.7, CH ₃	1.16, s
24	22.1, CH ₃	1.01, ^d s	21.5, CH ₃	0.79, s	22.1, CH ₃	1.01, s
25	17.5, CH ₃	0.90, s	16.1, CH ₃	0.84, ^e s	17.5, CH ₃	0.87, s
26	17.9, CH ₃	1.03, s	16.4, CH ₃	0.95, s	17.8, CH ₃	1.00, s
27	15.9, CH ₃	1.07, s	15.9, CH ₃	1.05, s	15.0, CH ₃	1.06, s
28	19.3, CH ₃	1.01, ^d s	19.3, CH ₃	1.02, s	19.0, CH ₃	0.83, s
29	21.8, CH ₃	0.98, d (6.8)	21.8, CH ₃	0.98, d (6.9)	21.9, CH ₃	0.97, d (6.9)
30	21.3, CH ₃	0.91, d (6.8)	21.2, CH ₃	0.91, d (6.8)	21.3, CH ₃	0.91, d (6.9)

^{a,b} Carbon assignment may be interchanged. ^{c–e} Proton signals are superimposed.

**Figure 2.** Key NOESY correlations for **1**.

exhibited a strong negative first Cotton effect at 272 nm ($\Delta\epsilon -140.1$) and positive second Cotton effect at 252 nm ($\Delta\epsilon +109.0$), which indicated the helicity of the chiral axis as *aR*. The CD data were similar to that of talaroderxin B and viriditoxin and were opposite those of talaroderxin A.^{17,18} The axial configuration of **5** was assigned as *aR* by comparison of the CD data with those established for synthetic viioxanthin isomers.²¹ Thus, the CD spectrum of **5** exhibited a negative first Cotton effect at 272 nm ($\Delta\epsilon -59.5$) and a positive second Cotton effect at 252 nm ($\Delta\epsilon +53.5$), which was opposite that of the natural viioxanthin, but the same sense as the atropisomer. The absolute configuration of the stereogenic center C-3/C-3' of **4** and **5** remains unassigned. The symmetry of these molecules indicates that they should possess either a 3*S*,3'*S*' or 3*R*,3'*R*' configuration.

Compound **1** exhibited activity against the malarial parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* K1 with an IC_{50} value of 15 μM , but it was not cytotoxic to NCI-H187 cells (human small-cell lung cancer), MCF-7 cells (human breast cancer), KB cells (oral human carcinoma), and noncancerous Vero cells (African green monkey kidney fibroblasts) at 113 μM (50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) (Table 3). Compounds **2** and **3** were inactive in these assays. The 6,6'-binaphthopyrone **4**

exhibited moderate antimalarial activity and cytotoxicity against cancer cell lines, but it was not cytotoxic to Vero cells. The 8,8'-dimer **5** showed much weaker activities in these assays. All compounds (**1–5**) were inactive in an antituberculosis assay.

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were measured with an Electrothermal IA9100 digital melting point apparatus. Optical rotations were measured with a JASCO P-1030 digital polarimeter. UV spectra were recorded on a GBS Cintra 404 spectrophotometer. CD spectra were recorded on a JASCO J-180 spectropolarimeter. FTIR spectra were taken on a Bruker VECTOR 22 spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX400 and AV500D spectrometers using the signals of the residual solvent as internal references (δ_{H} 7.26/ δ_{C} 77.0 for CDCl_3 and δ_{H} 2.50/ δ_{C} 40.0 for $\text{DMSO}-d_6$). ESITOF mass spectra were measured with Micromass LCT and Bruker micrOTOF mass spectrometers.

Fungal Material. *Aschersonia paraphysata* was isolated on January 10, 2001, from a scale insect (Hemiptera) on the underside of a dicotyledonous leaf in Khao Sok National Park, Surat Thani Province, Thailand, by one of the authors (A.L.). The living culture was deposited in the BIOTEC Culture Collection as BCC 11964 on March 9, 2001. The identification of the fungus was based on morphology and sequence data of the ITS rDNA.⁷

Fermentation and Isolation. The fungus BCC 11964 was maintained on potato dextrose agar at 25 °C. The agar was cut into small plugs and inoculated into 2 × 250 mL Erlenmeyer flasks containing 25 mL of potato dextrose broth (PDB; potato starch 4.0 g, dextrose 20.0 g, per liter). After incubation at 25 °C for 3 days on a rotary shaker (200 rpm), each primary culture was transferred into a 1 L Erlenmeyer flask containing 250 mL of the same liquid medium (PDB) and incubated at 25 °C for 3 days on a rotary shaker (200 rpm). These secondary cultures were transferred into 20 × 1 L Erlenmeyer flasks containing 250 mL of M102 medium (sucrose 30 g, malt extract 20 g,

Table 2. ^{13}C (125 MHz) and ^1H (500 MHz) NMR Data for **4** and **5** in DMSO- d_6

position	aschernaphthopyrone A (4)		aschernaphthopyrone B (5)	
	δ_{C} , mult.	δ_{H} , mult. (J in Hz)	δ_{C} , mult.	δ_{H} , mult. (J in Hz)
1, 1'	171.3, qC		171.6, qC	
3, 3'	76.6, CH	4.68, m	76.9, CH	4.81, m
4, 4'	34.4, CH ₂	2.80, dd (16.2, 2.9) 2.67, dd (16.2, 11.2)	34.1, CH ₂	3.09, dd (16.1, 2.4) 2.94, dd (16.1, 10.8)
4a, 4a'	133.9, qC		133.6, qC	
5, 5'	113.5, CH	6.20, s	115.4, CH	6.95, s
5a, 5a'	140.3, qC		139.7, qC	
6, 6'	108.3, qC		102.0, CH	6.69, s
7, 7'	159.5, qC		160.5, qC	
8, 8'	102.3, CH	6.60, s	108.6, qC	
9, 9'	157.9, qC		155.9, qC	
9a, 9a'	107.8, qC		107.0, qC	
10, 10'	163.0, qC		162.4, qC	
10a, 10a'	99.0, qC		98.7, qC	
11, 11'	20.7, CH ₃	1.32, d (6.3)	20.7, CH ₃	1.43, d (6.2)
7-OH, 7'-OH		9.78, s		10.11, s
9-OH, 9'-OH		9.81, br s		9.44, br s
10-OH, 10'-OH		13.47, br s		13.72, br s

Table 3. Antimalarial and Cytotoxic Activities of Compounds **1–5**

compound	antimalaria	cytotoxicity (IC ₅₀ , μM)			
	(IC ₅₀ , μM)	NCI-H187	MCF-7	KB	Vero
1	15	>113	>113	>113	>113
2	>23	>118	>118	>118	>118
3	>23	>118	>118	>118	>118
4	7.3	4.5	87	17	>96
5	>19	95	79	>96	52
dihydroartemisinin ^a	0.0046	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c
doxorubicin	— ^c	0.086	1.5	0.28	— ^c
hydrochloride ^b					
ellipticine ^b	— ^c	1.5	— ^c	2.5	3.8

^a Standard antimalarial drug. ^b Reference compounds for the cytotoxicity assay. ^c Not tested.

Bacto-peptone 2.0 g, yeast extract 1.0 g, KCl 0.5 g, MgSO₄·7H₂O 0.5 g, KH₂PO₄ 0.5 g, per liter), and final fermentation was carried out at 25 °C for 23 days on rotary shakers (200 rpm). The culture was filtered to separate broth (filtrate) and mycelia (residue). The filtrate was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 3.5 L) to give a dark brown gum (1.40 g, extract A). The wet mycelia were macerated in MeOH (2 × 1.5 L, rt, 2 days). To the MeOH solution were added hexanes (2 L) and H₂O (200 mL), and the layers were separated. The hexane layer was concentrated, under reduced pressure, leaving a pale yellow solid (1.50 g, extract B). The aqueous MeOH layer was partially concentrated by evaporation, and the residue was extracted with EtOAc. The EtOAc solution was washed with H₂O and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain a brown gum (2.08 g, extract C). Extracts A, B, and C were separately subjected to chromatographic fractionation. Extract A was fractionated by column chromatography (CC) on silica gel (3.0 × 15 cm, MeOH/CH₂Cl₂, step gradient elution from 0:100 to 15:85) to obtain 13 pooled fractions: fraction A-1 (86 mg), A-2 (62 mg), A-3 (10 mg), A-4 (53 mg), A-5 (106 mg), A-6 (148 mg), A-7 (88 mg), A-8 (60 mg), A-9 (68 mg), A-10 (155 mg), A-11 (180 mg), A-12 (142 mg), and A-13 (54 mg). Fraction A-1 was subjected to CC on silica gel (CH₂Cl₂/hexanes, step gradient elution from 0:100 to 20:80) to furnish **2** (27 mg) and **3** (53 mg). Fraction A-2 was identified as **1** (62 mg). Fractions A-4–A-9 were combined and triturated in MeOH and then filtered. Compound **5** (222 mg) was furnished as the residual solid. The filtrate was subjected to CC on Sephadex LH-20 (MeOH) to afford **4** (110 mg). Fraction A-10 was triturated in MeOH to obtain **5** (35 mg) as the insoluble solid. The filtrate was purified by CC on Sephadex LH-20 (MeOH) to afford 3,4,6-trihydroxymellein (76 mg). Fractions A-11 and A-12 also mainly contained **5**, which was purified as the insoluble residue (230 mg) by trituration in MeOH. Extract B was fractionated by CC on silica gel (3.0 × 15 cm, CH₂Cl₂/hexanes, step gradient elution from 2:98 to 50:50) to obtain 13 pooled fractions (fraction B-1–B-13). Fraction B-3 (70 mg) was purified by CC on silica gel (CH₂Cl₂/hexanes, step gradient elution from 0:100 to 20:80) to furnish **3** (37 mg). Fractions B-4 (61

mg) and B-5 (202 mg) were mixtures of **2** and **3**, which were separated by repeating the CC on silica gel (CH₂Cl₂/hexanes, step gradient elution from 0:100 to 20:80) to furnish pure compounds **2** (155 mg) and **3** (36 mg). Fractions B-6 (67 mg) and B-7 (41 mg) contained **3**, which was further purified (34 mg) by CC on silica gel. Fraction B-10 was identified as **1** (362 mg). Fractions B-11 (166 mg) and B-12 (23 mg) mainly contained ergosterol. Extract C was fractionated by CC on Sephadex LH-20 (3.8 × 50 cm, MeOH) to obtain 12 pooled fractions. Each fraction was further fractionated by CC on silica gel (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) to furnish pure compounds **1** (196 mg), **4** (441 mg), **5** (9 mg), and 6,8-dihydroxy-3-hydroxymethylisocoumarin (31 mg).

17(21)-Hopene-6 α ,12 β -diol (1**):** colorless solid; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +42$ (c 0.115, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) end absorption; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3423, 2956, 1462 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) data, see Table 1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 465.3706 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀O₂Na 465.3703).

17(21)-Hopene-12 β -ol (2**):** colorless solid; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -44$ (c 0.10, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) end absorption; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3318, 2947, 2923, 1460 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) data, see Table 1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 449.3751 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀ONa 449.3754).

17(21)-Hopene-6 α -ol (zeorinin, **3):** colorless solid; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} +58$ (c 0.105, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) end absorption; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3481, 2953, 2932, 1459 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) data, see Table 1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 449.3751 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀ONa 449.3754).

Aschernaphthopyrone A (4**):** green powder; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} -147$ (c 0.165, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 225 (4.27), 266 (4.66), 378 (4.15) nm; CD (MeOH) $\Delta\epsilon$ 272 (-140.1), 252 (+109.0) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3406, 1636, 1589 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) data, see Table 2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 519.1280 [M + H]⁺ (calcd for C₂₈H₂₅O₁₀, 519.1286).

Aschernaphthopyrone B (5**):** green powder; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{27} -123$ (c 0.10, dioxane); UV (MeCN) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 223 (4.11), 267 (4.57), 368 (4.01), 380 (4.01) nm; CD (MeCN) $\Delta\epsilon$ 272 (-59.5), 252 (+53.5) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3475, 3373, 1635, 1583 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) data, see Table 2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 519.1287 [M + H]⁺ (calcd for C₂₈H₂₅O₁₀, 519.1286).

Acetylation of **1.** Compound **1** (3.0 mg) was treated with Ac₂O (0.15 mL) in pyridine (0.3 mL) at room temperature for 15 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with H₂O. The EtOAc layer was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by CC on silica gel (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) to afford the diacetate **6** (2.8 mg) as a colorless solid; mp 173–175 °C; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3442, 2956, 2931, 1734, 1237 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) selected resonances, δ 5.25 (1H, dt, J = 3.8, 10.9 Hz, H-6), 5.08 (1H, dt, J = 5.6, 11.2 Hz, H-12), 2.06 (3H, s, -OCOCH₃), 2.07 (3H, s, -OCOCH₃); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.5 (-OCOCH₃), 170.2 (-OCOCH₃), 138.7, 137.7, 73.3, 71.7, 58.6, 51.2, 48.6, 48.5, 44.6, 43.3, 43.2, 42.2, 40.7, 40.1, 39.4, 36.2, 33.2, 31.8, 28.0, 27.9, 26.4, 22.1, 22.0 (-OCOCH₃), 21.9 (-OCOCH₃), 21.7, 21.2, 19.6, 19.3, 18.2, 17.5, 17.3, 15.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z 549.3920 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₃₄H₅₄O₄Na, 549.3920).

Biological Assays. Each sample was dissolved in DMSO to prepare a stock solution (10 mg/mL), which was diluted with H₂O and subjected to biological assays. The assay for activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* (K1, multi-drug-resistant strain) was performed using the microculture radioisotope technique.²³ The anticancer activities against NCI-H187 cells (human small-cell lung cancer), MCF-7 cells (human breast cancer), and KB cells (oral human epidermoid carcinoma) were evaluated using the resazurin microplate assay.²⁴ Cytotoxicity to Vero cells was performed using the green fluorescent protein microplate assay (GFPMA).²⁵

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Supporting Information Available: NMR spectra of compounds 1–5 and CD and UV spectra of 4 and 5. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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