



Plakoridine C, a novel piperidine alkaloid from an Okinawan marine sponge *Plakortis* sp.

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ABSTRACT

A new piperidine alkaloid plakoridine C (**1**) has been isolated from an Okinawan marine sponge *Plakortis* species, and the structure was elucidated from spectroscopic data. Plakoridine C (**1**) is a new alkaloid possessing a piperidine ring connected to a β -keto- γ -lactone through a double bond.

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Marine sponges of the genus *Plakortis* are known to be a rich source of unique peroxy aliphatic acids and esters.¹ During our search for new metabolites from Okinawan marine sponges, we have isolated some polyketide with unique skeletons from the genus *Plakortis*.^{2–7} Recently, we investigated extracts of an Okinawan marine sponge *Plakortis* sp. (SS-11) and isolated plakoridine C (**1**), a new alkaloid possessing a piperidine ring connected to a β -keto- γ -lactone through a double bond. Herein, we describe the isolation and structure elucidation of **1**.

The sponge *Plakortis* sp. (SS-11) collected off Manzano, Okinawa, was extracted with MeOH. EtOAc-soluble materials of the extract were subjected to silica gel column chromatographies to yield plakoridine C (**1**, 0.00015%, wet weight), together with known compounds, manzamenones A, D, J, and K,^{2,6,8,9} plakorin,¹⁰ chondrillin,¹¹ and plakevulin A.^{7,12}

Plakoridine C (**1**) was obtained as a colorless amorphous solid.¹³ The ESIMS spectrum of plakoridine C (**1**) showed the pseudomolecular ion peak at m/z 470 ($M+Na$)⁺, and the molecular formula of **1** was revealed to be $C_{27}H_{45}NO_4$ by HRESIMS data [m/z 470.3230 ($M+Na$)⁺, Δ -1.6 mmu]. UV absorptions [λ_{max} 289 nm (ϵ 18,400) and 229 nm (ϵ 11,900)] suggested the presence of conjugated system, while IR absorptions indicated the existence of carbonyl (1737 and 1712 cm^{-1}) functionalities. Several pairs of signals were observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **1** with a ratio of approximately 1:1, suggesting that **1** is an epimeric or isomeric mixture.

Despite many attempts, further separation of **1** was not accomplished by semi-preparative HPLC. Therefore, structural elucidation of **1** was carried out using the mixture.

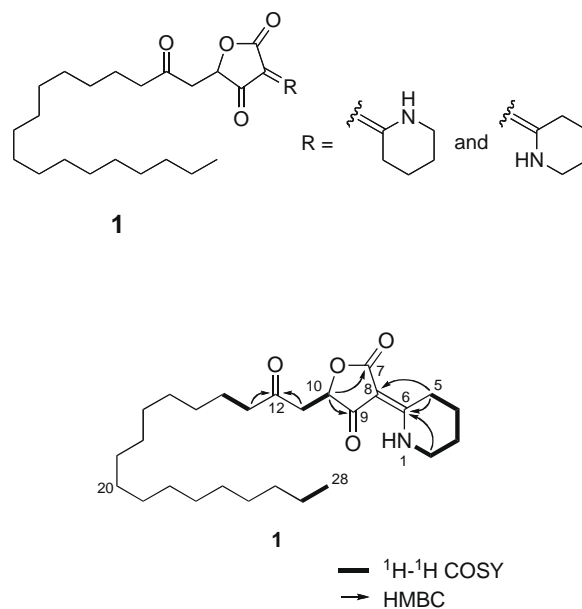


Figure 1. Selected 2D NMR correlations for plakoridine C (**1**). *E*-isomer was depicted for descriptive purposes.

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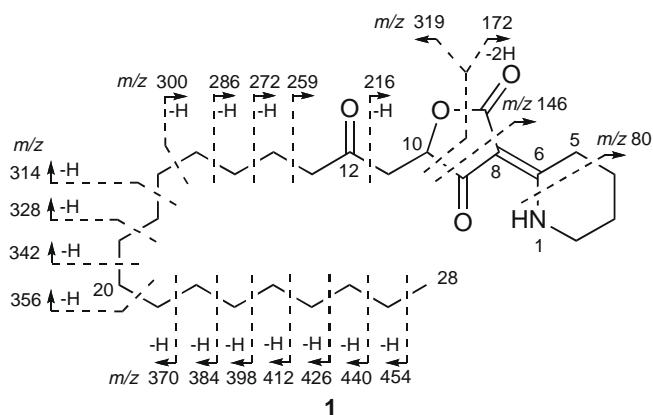


Figure 2. Fragmentation patterns observed in positive ion ESIMS/MS spectrum of plakoridine C (**1**) [precursor ion, m/z 470 ($M+Na^+$)]. *E*-isomer was depicted for descriptive purposes.

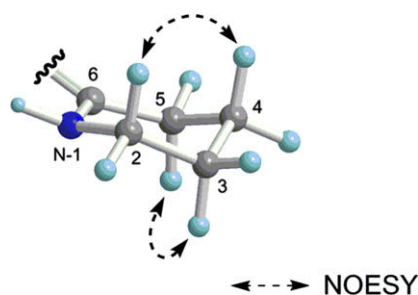


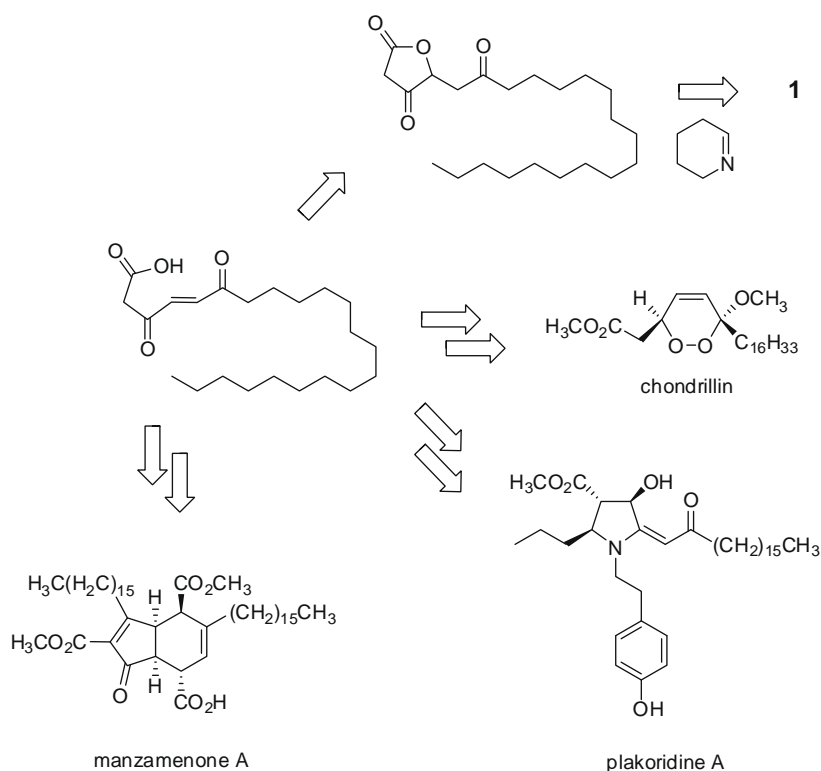
Figure 3. Selected NOESY correlations and the conformation of piperidine ring in plakoridine C (**1**).

The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of **1** implied the presence of two keto groups and an ester carbonyl group, a tetrasubstituted olefin, and a long aliphatic chain. The HN-HMQC spectrum of **1** revealed that two proton signals (δ_{H} 11.03 and 10.20) were ascribed to a proton attached to a nitrogen atom (δ_{N} -238.4).¹⁴ Analyses of the ^1H - ^1H COSY and the HMQC spectra of **1** disclosed connectivities of N-1 to C-5, C-10 to C-11, C-13 to C-14, and C-27 to C-28 (Fig. 1). HMBC correlations for H-2 and H-5 to C-6 revealed the presence of a piperidine ring (N-1 to C-6), while connectivities of N-1, C-5, and C-8 to C-6 were implied by the HMBC cross-peak for H-5 to C-8 (Fig. 1). Connections of C-10 to an ester carbonyl carbon through an oxygen atom and a keto carbonyl carbon were indicated by HMBC correlations of H-10 to C-7 and C-9. In addition, HMBC cross-peaks for H₂-11 and H₂-13 to C-12 suggested connections of C-11 and C-13 to another keto carbonyl carbon (C-12).

Analysis of the ESIMS/MS spectrum of **1** revealed connectivities from C-14 to C-27 (Fig. 2). These fragmentation patterns also supported the structure of plakoridine C (**1**) elucidated from 2D NMR data.

The conformation of a piperidine ring in **1** was deduced from NOESY correlations between H-2 and H-4, and H-3 and H-5 as shown in Figure 3.

According to the structure of **1** based on these data, it was revealed that **1** is a mixture of inseparable geometrical isomers at the C-6–C-8 double bond (*E/Z*, ca. 1:1).¹⁵ Furthermore, the specific optical rotation, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{21} \sim 0$ (c 1.0, CHCl_3), and the CD spectrum, which was flat between 200 and 400 nm, suggested that **1** was racemic mixture of enantiomers at C-10 of *E* and *Z* isomers. Chiral HPLC analysis of **1** [CHIRALCEL® OD-H, Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd, 4.6×250 mm; eluent, *n*-hexane/*i*-propanol, 70:30; flow rate, 0.5 mL/min; UV (289 nm) and chiral detection] resulted in separation of (+)-plakoridine C (t_{R} 26.3 min) and (–)-plakoridine C (t_{R} 27.9 min), and revealed that the ratio of (+)- and (–)-forms of plakoridine C (**1**) was ca. 1:1.



Scheme 1. Plausible biogenetic path for plakoridine C (**1**).

A plausible biogenetic path for plakoridine C (**1**) is proposed as shown in Scheme 1. Plakoridine C (**1**) seems to be generated from a piperidine and a 3,6-dioxo-4-docosenoic acid, which has been proposed to be a common key intermediate for metabolites of *Plakortis* sponges such as chondrillin,¹¹ plakoridine A,⁵ and manzamine A.^{2,8,9}

Plakoridine C (**1**) is a new alkaloid possessing a piperidine ring connected to a β -keto- γ -lactone through a double bond. Plakoridine C (**1**) did not show cytotoxicities against P388 and L1210 murine leukemia, and KB human epidermoid carcinoma cells ($IC_{50} > 10.0 \mu\text{g/mL}$) in vitro.

Acknowledgments

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- Plakoridine C (**1**): colorless amorphous solid; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} 289 nm (ϵ 18,400), 229 nm (ϵ 11,900); IR (film) ν_{max} 1737, 1712, 1664, 1647, and 1604 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ_{H} 11.03 (0.5H, br s NH), 10.20 (0.5H, br s NH), 4.84 (0.5H, dd, 8.0, 3.5 Hz, H-10), 4.79 (0.5H, dd, 8.0, 3.5 Hz, H-10), 3.49 (2H, m H₂-2), 3.14 (1H, m, H-5a), 3.09 (1H, m, H-5b), 2.94 (1H, dd, 15, 3.5 Hz, H-11a), 2.75 (1H, dd, 15, 8.0 Hz, H-11b), 2.43 (2H, m, H₂-13), 1.87 (2H, m, H₂-3), 1.81 (2H, m, H₂-4), 1.56 (2H, m, H₂-14), 1.10–1.30 (26H, br s, H₂-15–H₂-27), 0.88 (3H, t, 10.2 Hz, H₃-28) δ_{C} 206.4 (1C, C-12), 198.0 (0.5C, C-9), 194.5 (0.5C, C-9), 175.3 (0.5C, C-7), 171.3 (0.5C, C-7), 171.3 (0.5C, C-6), 170.7 (0.5C, C-6), 90.5 (0.5C, C-8), 89.0 (0.5C, C-8), 78.2 (0.5C, C-10), 76.5 (0.5C, C-10), 43.6 (1C, C-11), 43.4 (1C, C-13), 42.1 (1C, C-2), 22.6–31.8 (13C, C-15–C-27), 26.3 (0.5C, C-5), 25.7 (0.5C, C-5), 23.4 (1C, C-14), 20.9 (1C, C-3), 17.4 (1C, C-4), 14.0 (1C, C-28); ESIMS (pos.) m/z 470 [(M+Na)⁺]; HRESIMS (pos.) m/z 470.3230 [(M+Na)⁺, calcd for C₂₇H₄₅NO₄Na, 470.3246].
- The ^{15}N signal of formamide (–267.5 ppm with respect to CH₃NO₂, 0 ppm) was used as a reference for ^{15}N chemical shifts.
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