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TETRAHEDRON

# Paradisin C: a new CYP3A4 inhibitor from grapefruit juice

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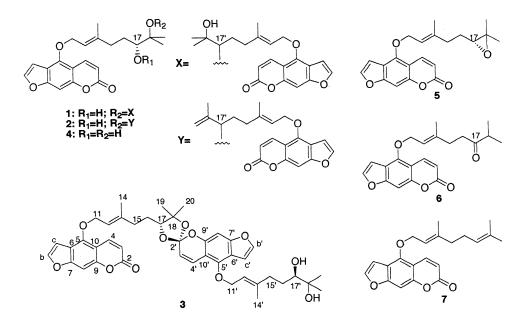
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Abstract—A new furanocoumarin derivative, paradisin C, was isolated from grapefruit juice as an inhibitor of cytochrome P450 (CYP) 3A4. Its stereochemistry was elucidated by spectroscopic methods. The stereochemistries of 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin and 17-epoxybergamottin were also elucidated. © 2002 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

# 1. Introduction

Cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes are recognized to be responsible for drug metabolism, degradation of xenobiotics, and carcinogenesis. Concomitant oral administration of grapefruit juice affected the bioavailability of dihydropyridine-type calcium channel blockers, such as felodipine and nifedipine,<sup>1</sup> and similar phenomena in pharmacokinetics have been reported for various clinically important drugs. In the course of our study on CYP3A4<sup>2</sup> inhibitors in the diet, we have already reported the isolation of two furanocoumarin dimers, GF-I-1 (1) and GF-I-4 (2), newly named paradisins A and B, respectively, from grapefruit juice<sup>3-6</sup> and bisalkaloids from white pepper.<sup>7,8</sup> Recently, we found new CYP inhibitors in which a semisynthetic 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin caproate having a more stable and simpler structure than 1 and 2, exhibited comparable activity.<sup>9</sup> This paper describes the isolation, structure determination, and CYP inhibitory activity of a new furanocoumarin dimer, paradisin C (3),<sup>10</sup> along with the elucidation of the absolute stereochemistries of 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin (4)<sup>11</sup> and 17-epoxybergamottin (5)<sup>12</sup> (Chart 1).



#### Chart 1.

*Keywords*: grapefruit juice; paradisin; furanocoumarin; CYP3A4 inhibition; absolute stereochemistry. \* Corresponding author. Tel./fax: +81-76-234-4417; e-mail: ohta@dbs.p.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

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	$\delta_{ m H}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$	HMBC		$\delta_{ m H}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$	HMBC
2		161.3 s		2'		117.6 s	
3	6.26 (1H, d, 9.8)	112.6 d	C-2, C-10	3′	5.59 (1H, d, 9.8)	116.6 d	C-2', C-10'
4	8.14 (1H, d, 9.8)	139.5 d	C-2, C-5, C-9	4′	7.22 (1H, d, 9.8)	124.7 d	C-3', C-5', C-9'
5		148.9 s		5′		147.8 s	
6		114.1 s		6'		113.3 s	
7		158.1 s		7′		156.5 s	
8	7.16 (1H, s)	94.3 d	C-7, C-9, C-10	8′	6.81 (1H, s)	94.5 d	C-6', C-7', C-9', C-10'
9		152.6 s		9′		150.5 s	, , ,
10		107.5 s		10'		108.0 s	
11	4.94 (2H, d, 7.8)	69.6 t	C-5, C-12, C-13	11'	4.80 (2H, d, 7.8)	69.5 t	C-5', C-12', C-13'
12	5.58 (1H, t, 7.8)	119.6 d	C-14, C-15	12'	5.54 (1H, t, 7.8)	120.2 d	C-14', C-15'
13		141.9 s		13′		141.9 s	- ,
14	1.71 (3H, s)	16.7 q	C-12, C-13, C-15	14'	1.61 (3H, s)	16.3 q	C-12', C-13', C-15'
15	2.32 (1H, m)	36.4 t	C-12, C-13	15'	2.26 (1H, m)	36.4 t	C-12', C-13'
	2.21 (1H, m)				2.16 (1H, m)		,
16	1.72 (1H, m)	27.2 t	C-13, C-15	16'	1.57 (1H, m)	29.1 t	
	1.57 (1H, m)				1.40 (1H, m)		
17	4.24 (1H, dd, 3.4, 9.8)	82.6 d		17'	3.15 (1H, dd, 2.6, 10.5)	77.6 d	
18		82.7 s		18'		73.0 s	
19	1.47 (3H, s)	22.6 q	C-17, C-18, C-20	19'	1.13 (3H, s)	23.0 q	C-17', C-18', C-20'
20	1.20 (3H, s)	26.4 q	C-17, C-18, C-19	20'	1.15 (3H, s)	26.5 q	C-17', C-18', C-19'
b	7.59 (1H, d, 2.4)	144.9 d	C-6, C-7, C-c	b′	7.44 (1H, d, 2.4)	143.3 d	C-6', C-7', C-c'
c	6.94 (1H, d, 2.4)	105.0 d	C-6, C-7, C-b	c′	6.80 (1H, d, 2.4)	104.7 d	C-6', C-7', C-b'

Table 1. NMR spectral data for paradisin C (3) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

#### 2. Results and discussion

## 2.1. Isolation and structure elucidation of paradisin C (3)

Grapefruit juice (12 L) was extracted with hexane/EtOAc (1:1). The concentrated extract (1.2 g) was purified by silica gel (hexane/EtOAc) and ODS chromatography to afford a new furanocoumarin derivative paradisin C (3, 2.0 mg, 0.17% from the extract) as well as known paradisins A (1) and B (2) and 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin (4).

The FAB mass spectrum of paradisin C (**3**) showed a pseudomolecular ion peak at m/z 727 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> and the formula of C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O<sub>11</sub> was established by HRFABMS. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum in CDCl<sub>3</sub> showed six singlet methyl ( $\delta$  1.13, 1.15, 1.20, 1.47, 1.61, and 1.71), two oxymethylene ( $\delta$  4.80 (d, J=7.8 Hz) and 4.94 (d, J=7.8 Hz)), two oxymethine ( $\delta$  3.15 (dd, J=2.6, 10.5 Hz) and 4.24 (dd, J=3.4, 9.8 Hz)), 12 olefinic signals ( $\delta$  5.54 (t, J=7.8 Hz), 5.58 (t, J=7.8 Hz), 5.59 (d, J=9.8 Hz), 6.26 (d, J=9.8 Hz), 6.80 (d, J=2.4 Hz), 6.81 (s), 6.94 (d, J=2.4 Hz), 7.16 (s), 7.22 (d,

J=9.8 Hz), 7.44 (d, J=2.4 Hz), 7.59 (d, J=2.4 Hz), and 8.14 (d, J=9.8 Hz)) (Table 1), which indicated the presence of two O-prenylfurocoumarin moieties. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3 (Table 1) was almost superimposable on those of 1 and 2 except for the presence of a quaternary carbon at  $\delta$ 117.6 (C-2') instead of a carbonyl carbon. Interpretation of the HMBC spectrum confirmed that 3 was composed of two O-prenylfurocoumarin moieties (Fig. 1). HMBC correlation,  $\delta$  5.59 (H-3')/ $\delta$  117.6 (C-2') (Fig. 1), and NOE correlation between H-3' and H<sub>3</sub>-20 (Fig. 2) suggested the presence of an orthoester structure in 3. The acid hydrolysis of 3 (10.0 mg) afforded 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin (4, 4.0 mg), 17-ketobergamottin (6, 1.0 mg),<sup>12</sup> and 3 (2.0 mg) which supported the gross structure of 3. During the hydrolysis of 3, partial dehydration of 4 may be occurred to afford 6. The compound 4 was led to 17-O-R-(+)-MTPAester (4r), whose NMR data were identical to those of the corresponding ester with 17R-dihydroxybergamottin, indicating 17R, 17'R-configuration of 3. Thereby, together with the result from the NOESY correlation (Fig. 2), 2'S-configuration of **3** was established.

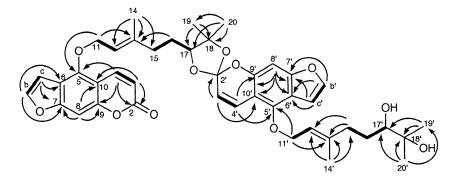


Figure 1. COSY (bold lines) and HMBC (arrows) correlations observed for paradisin C (3).

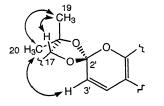


Figure 2. NOE correlations observed for paradisin C (3).

# **2.2.** Absolute stereochemistry of 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin (4) and 17-epoxybergamottin (5)

The structures of 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin  $(4)^{11}$  and 17-epoxybergamottin  $(5)^{12}$  were reported while the absolute stereochemistry remained undetermined. Here, we establish the absolute configurations of the chiral centers of the compounds.

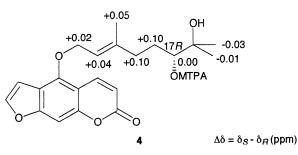


Figure 3. Application of modified Mosher's method to 17,18-dihydrox-ybergamottin (4).

17,18-Dihydroxybergamottin (4) was isolated from both grapefruit juice and its peel oil, while 17-epoxybergamottin (5) was only from the peel oil. The configuration at C-17 of 4 was determined by the Mosher method (Fig. 3).<sup>13</sup> The chemical shift differences for 17-(R)- and 17-(S)-MTPA esters of 4 indicated 17R configuration. The absolute stereochemistry of 17-epoxybergamottin (5) was determined by comparison of the optical rotation of synthetic 17R-epoxybergamottin (17R-5). Bergamottin (7) was converted to 17S,18-dihydroxybergamottin (17S-4) and then to 17R-epoxybergamottin (17R-5) following the mesylation (Scheme 1). Optical rotation of the synthetic 17R-5 ([ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub>=+4.6°) was consistent with that of the natural 5 ([ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub>=+5.3°). Thus, 17-configuration of 5 from the grapefruit peel oil was established as R.

## 2.3. CYP3A4 inhibitory activity of paradisin C (3)

CYP activity was based on nifedipine oxidation. Paradisin C (3) showed moderate CYP3A4 inhibitory activity with IC<sub>50</sub> values of 1.0  $\mu$ M compared to paradisins A (1) and B (2) (IC<sub>50</sub>, 0.07 and 0.07  $\mu$ M).

By means of the inhibitory effect of drug metabolizing enzyme CYP3A4, administration of grapefruit juice could reduce the drug dose and lead to cost-savings for patients. Elucidation of the interaction between CYP3A4 and the inhibitors may be an interesting subject in the pharmacokinetics of clinically used drugs.

## 3. Experimental

# 3.1. General

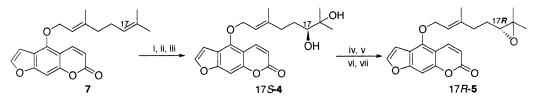
Optical rotations were determined with a HORIBA SEPA-300 high sensitive polarimeter. UV spectrum was measured on a SHIMADZU UV-1600 UV-visible spectrophotometer. IR spectrum was recorded on a SHIMADZU IR-460 infrared spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL GSX-500 NMR spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. All chemical shifts were reported with respect to TMS. Mass spectra were measured on a JEOL SX-102 mass spectrometer.

## 3.2. Extraction and isolation

Grapefruit juice (12 L) was extracted with hexane/EtOAc (1:1). The concentrated extract (1.2 g) was purified by silica gel (hexane/EtOAc) and ODS (82% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) chromatography to afford known furanocoumarin derivatives, paradisins A (**1**, 5.0 mg, 0.42% from the extract) and B (**2**, 15.0 mg, 1.3%), bergamottin (**7**, 25.2 mg, 2.1%), and a crude fraction (15.0 mg). The crude fraction was purified by ODS HPLC (95% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) to afford a new furanocoumarin derivative, paradisin C (**3**, 2.0 mg, 0.17%). 17,18-Dihydroxybergamottin (**4**) and 17-epoxybergamottin (**5**, 99.8 mg, 1.0%) isolated from grapefruit oil<sup>14</sup> were used in this experiment.

**3.2.1. Paradisin C (3).** A colorless solid.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -17^{\circ}$  (*c* 0.12, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\varepsilon$ ) 225 (4.3), 245 (5.7), 267 (3.2), 311 nm (2.0). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu_{max}$  3581, 1723, 1627, 1608, 1582, 1140, 1080 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) see Table 1. FABMS (positive) *m*/*z* 727 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; HRFABMS (positive) *m*/*z* 727.3115 (C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>47</sub>O<sub>11</sub>,  $\Delta$  -0.4 mmu).

**3.2.2.** Acid hydrolysis of paradisin C (3). A solution of **3** (10.0 mg) in dimethoxyethane (210  $\mu$ L) was added to 0.01N HCl (150  $\mu$ L), and the mixture was kept at room temperature for 4 h. The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was purified by ODS HPLC (70% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) to afford 17,18-dihydroxybergamottin (**4**, 4.0 mg), 17-keto-bergamottin (**6**, 1.0 mg), and **3** (2.0 mg).



**Scheme 1.** (i) 3.0 equiv.  $K_3$ Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>, 3.0 equiv.  $K_2$ CO<sub>3</sub>, 1.0 equiv. CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, 0.025 equiv. (DHQ)<sub>2</sub>-PHAL, H<sub>2</sub>O, 0°C; (ii) 0.005 equiv. OsO<sub>4</sub>, *t*-BuOH, H<sub>2</sub>O, 7°C, 21 h; (iii) 12 equiv. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, 7°C, 30 min; (iv) 1.2 equiv. MsCl, pyridine, rt, 3 h; (v) 1.2 equiv. MsCl, rt, 4 h; (vi) 2.0 equiv. DBU, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 1 h; (vii) 2.0 equiv. DBU, rt, 2 h.

**4**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.16 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.20 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.45 (1H, m, H-16), 1.59 (1H, m, H-16), 1.70 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 2.15 (1H, m, H-15), 2.36 (1H, m, H-15), 3.31 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz, H-17), 4.94 (2H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 5.59 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.26 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.94 (1H, d, *J*=1.5 Hz, H-c), 7.14 (1H, s, H-8), 7.59 (1H, d, *J*=1.5 Hz, H-b), 8.14 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). EI-MS *m/z* 372 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

**6**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.10 (6H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-19 and H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.70 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 2.34 (2H, t, *J*=7.3 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-15), 2.58 (2H, t, *J*=7.3 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-16), 2.60 (1H, septet, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-18), 4.93 (2H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 5.53 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.28 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.94 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.17 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.15 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). FABMS (positive) *m/z* 355 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

A solution of **4** (4.1 mg) derived from **3** in THF (1.0 mL) was treated with (*S*)-MTPA chloride (6.0  $\mu$ L) in the presence of DMAP (5.0 mg) at room temperature for 23 h. After evaporation, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 3:1) and ODS HPLC (82% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) to afford (*R*)-MTPA ester (**4r**, 3.1 mg).

**4r**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.15 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.20 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.61 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 1.62 (1H, m, H-16), 1.75 (1H, m, H-16), 1.97 (2H, t, *J*=7.3 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-15), 4.92 (2H, d, *J*= 6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 4.97 (1H, dd, *J*=10.3, 2.4 Hz, H-17), 5.47 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.28 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.94 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.17 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, *J*= 2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.16 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). FABMS (positive) *m*/*z* 589 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

**3.2.3. MTPA** ester of dihydroxybergamottin (4). A solution of 4 (4.0 mg) in THF (1.0 mL) was treated with (*S*)-MTPA chloride (6.1  $\mu$ L) in the presence of DMAP (5.3 mg) at room temperature for 32 h. After evaporation, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 3:1) and ODS HPLC (82% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) to afford (*R*)-MTPA ester (4**r**, 2.0 mg). (*S*)-MTPA ester (4 **s**, 1.5 mg) was prepared by the same procedure as that for (*R*)-MTPA ester (4 **s**).

**4r**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.15 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.20 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.61 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 1.62 (1H, m, H-16), 1.75 (1H, m, H-16), 1.97 (2H, t, J=7.3 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-15), 4.92 (2H, d, J=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 4.97 (1H, dd, J=10.3, 2.4 Hz, H-17), 5.47 (1H, t, J=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.28 (1H, d, J=9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.94 (1H, d, J=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.17 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, J=2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.16 (1H, d, J=9.8 Hz, H-4). FABMS (positive) m/z 589 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

**4s**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.14 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.17 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.66 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 1.72 (1H, m, H-16), 1.85 (1H, m, H-16), 2.07 (2H, t, *J*=7.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-15), 4.94 (2H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 4.97 (1H, dd, *J*=9.8, 2.0 Hz, H-17), 5.51 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.27 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.95 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.17 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.17 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). FABMS (positive) *m*/*z* 589 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

**3.2.4. Preparation of** (R)**-17-epoxybergamottin (17**R**-5).** To a solution of K<sub>3</sub>Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub> (156.4 mg, 3.0 mol equiv.),

 $K_2CO_3$  (65.6 mg, 3.0 mol equiv.),  $CH_3SO_2NH_2$  (15.1 mg, 1.0 mol equiv.), and  $(DHQ)_2$ -PHAL (3.1 mg, 0.025 mol equiv.) in water (3.5 mL) at 0°C was added bergamottion (7, 58.9 mg) and OsO<sub>4</sub> (5.3 µL of 3.8% aqueous solution, 0.005 mol equiv.) in *t*-BuOH (3.5 mL). The mixture was stirred at 7°C for 21 h. To this was added Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (250 mg, 12 mol equiv.) and stirred at this temperature for 30 min. The product was extracted with EtOAc (15 mL×3), and the organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to afford a residue (51.9 mg). Purification over silica gel using hexane/EtOAc (1:1) gave 17*S*,18-dihydroxybergamottin (17*S*-4, 30.2 mg, 86% ee) of which solution in EtOAc gave colorless needles (17*S*-4, 7.0 mg, 92% ee). Enantiomeric excess (ee) was analyzed by a chiral HPLC.

17*S*-4: mp 60–68°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.17 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.21 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.46 (1H, m, H-16), 1.60 (1H, m, H-16), 1.70 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 2.16 (1H, m, H-15), 2.37 (1H, m, H-15), 3.22 (1H, d, *J*=9.3 Hz, H-17), 4.94 (2H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 5.59 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.26 (1H, d, *J*= 9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.95 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.13 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.15 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). FABMS (positive) *m/z* 373 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

A solution of 17S-4 (20.0 mg) in pyridine (200 µL) was added to MsCl (5.0 µL, 1.2 mol equiv.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, and to this was added additional MsCl (5.0 µL, 1.2 mol equiv.). After being stirred at room temperature for 4 h, a solution of DBU (16.2 µL, 2.0 mol equiv.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 µL) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, and to this was added additional DBU (16.2 µL, 2.0 mol equiv.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and the solution was applied on silica gel chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), followed by HPLC with gel filtration column (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to afford (*R*)-epoxybergamottin (17*R*-5, 4.5 mg).

17*R*-**5**: [α]<sub>D</sub>=+4.6° (*c* 0.18, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.27 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-19), 1.31 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-20), 1.59–1.72 (2H, m, H<sub>2</sub>-16), 1.73 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-14), 2.16–2.31 (2H, m, H<sub>2</sub>-15), 2.70 (1H, dd, *J*=7.3, 5.4 Hz, H-17), 4.96 (2H, d, *J*=6.8 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>-11), 5.60 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, H-12), 6.27 (1H, d, *J*= 9.8 Hz, H-3), 6.95 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-c), 7.15 (1H, s, H-8), 7.60 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz, H-b), 8.15 (1H, d, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-4). EI-MS (positive) m/z 354 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

## **3.3. CYP inhibition assay**

CYP activity was based on nifedipine oxidation. Various amounts (0–10  $\mu$ M, final concentration) of samples in 1  $\mu$ L of DMSO were added to 192  $\mu$ L of solution containing 100 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 50  $\mu$ M nifedipine (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd (Osaka, Japan)), 5 mM glucose-6-phosphate (Oriental Yeast Co., Ltd (Tokyo, Japan)), 0.5 mM  $\beta$ -NADP<sup>+</sup> (Oriental Yeast Co., Ltd), 0.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 4.3  $\mu$ g/mL glucose-6phosphate dehydrogenase (Oriental Yeast Co., Ltd) and incubated at 37°C for 5 min. CYP3A4 (Gentest Co. (Woburn, MA, USA)) was also preincubated in 7  $\mu$ L of the buffer at 37°C for 5 min and added to the sample solution. After the incubation at 37°C for 1 h, the reaction was quenched by the addition of 100  $\mu$ L of MeOH. After adding 3.7 µg of 6-methoxycarbonyl-5-methyl-7-(2-nitrophenyl)-4,7-dihydrofuro[3,4-*b*]pyridin-1-(3*H*)-one in 1 µL of DMSO as an internal standard, the reaction mixture was extracted with 1 mL of ether, and the ether layer was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in 100 µL of MeOH, and an aliquot (20 µL) was analyzed by reverse phase HPLC (column, TSK-gel ODS-120T, 4.6 mm i.d.×150 mm; mobile phase, 64% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O; flow rate, 1.0 mL/min; detection, UV 254 nm); retention times: 2.9 min for the internal standard, 4.0 min for the nifedipine metabolite (nifedipine pyridine), and 5.5 min for nifedipine. The value of IC<sub>50</sub>, the concentration required for 50% inhibition of CYP3A4 activity, was calculated from the data of duplicate measurements.

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