

Electronic Supplementary Information

**Configuration and stability of naturally occurring *all-cis*-tetrahydrofuran lignans  
from *Piper solmsianum***

Clécio S. Ramos,<sup>†</sup> Harrauld V. Linnert,<sup>‡</sup> Marcilio M. de Moraes,<sup>‡</sup>

João H. do Amaral,<sup>‡</sup> Lydia F. Yamaguchi,<sup>‡</sup> and Massuo J. Kato<sup>‡\*</sup>

<sup>†</sup>*Departamento de Química, Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco,*

*Rua Dom Manoel de Medeiros, s/n, 52.171-030 Recife, PE, Brazil*

<sup>‡</sup>*Department of Fundamental Chemistry, Institute of Chemistry, University of São*

*Paulo, Av. Prof. Lineu Prestes, 748, 05508-000 São Paulo, SP, Brazil*

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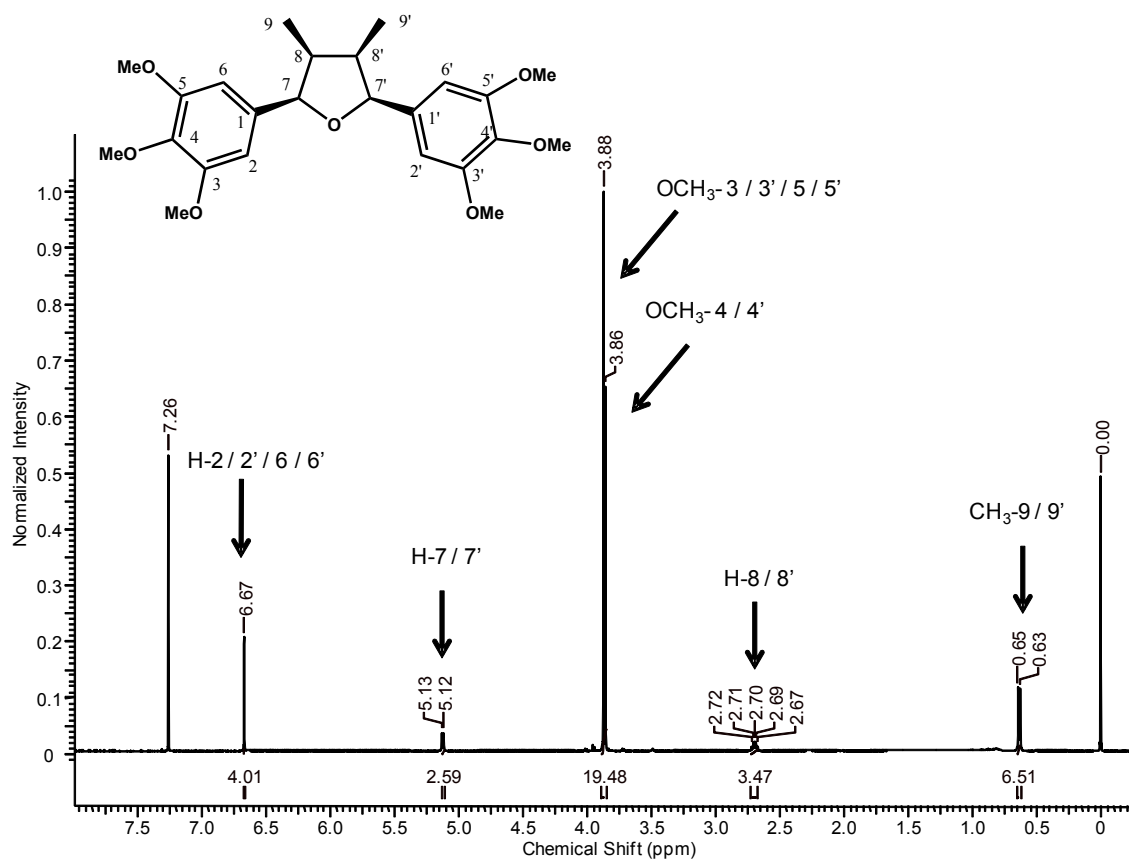


Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of compound **1a**.

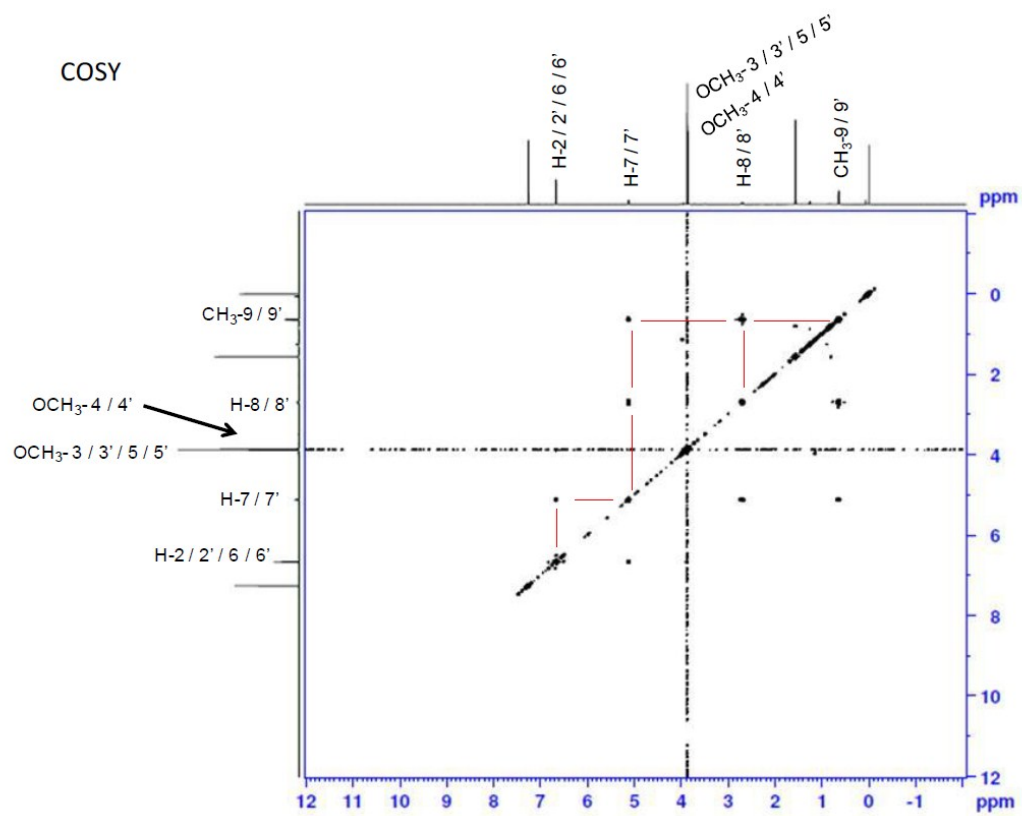


Figure S2. COSY correlation for **1a**.

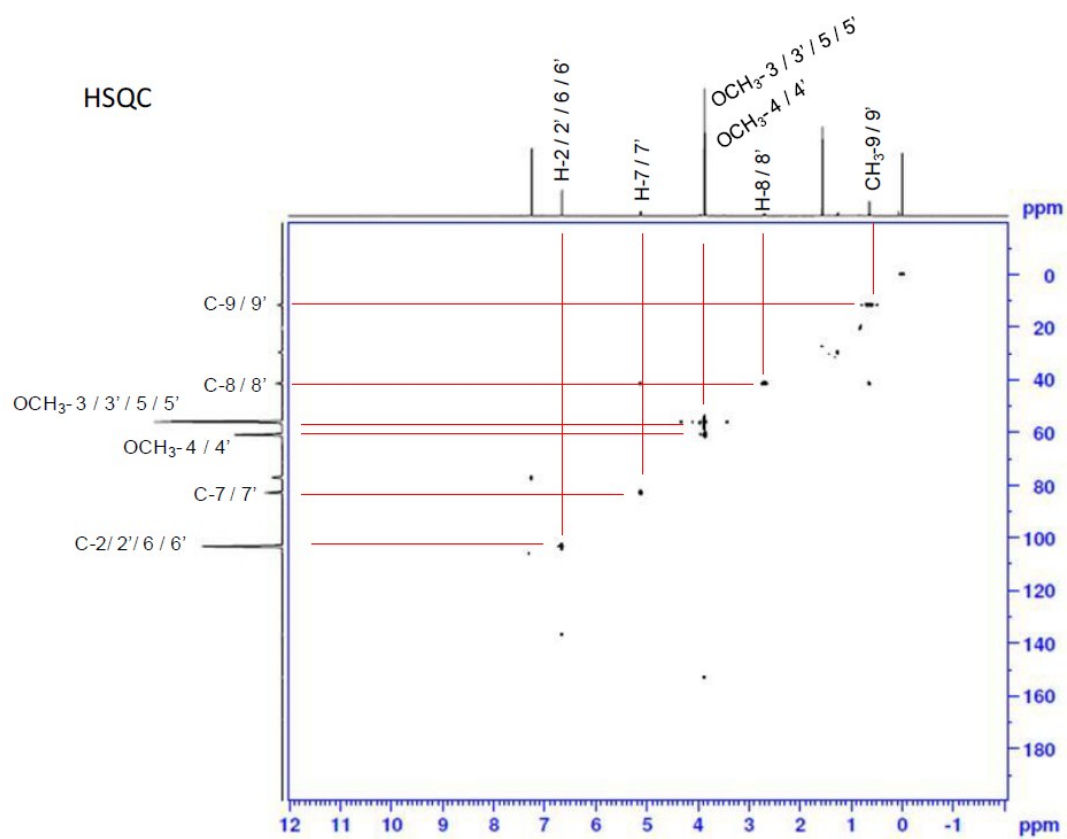


Figure S3. HSQC correlation for **1a**.

# HMBC

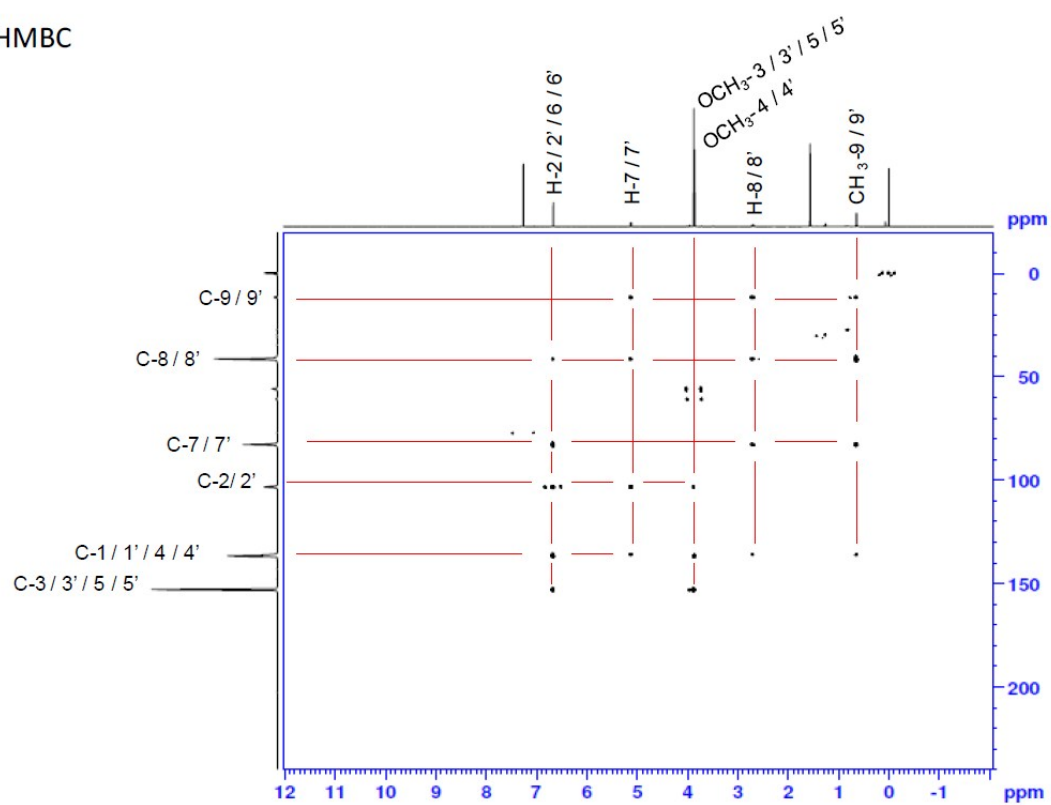


Figure S4. HMBC correlation for **1a**.

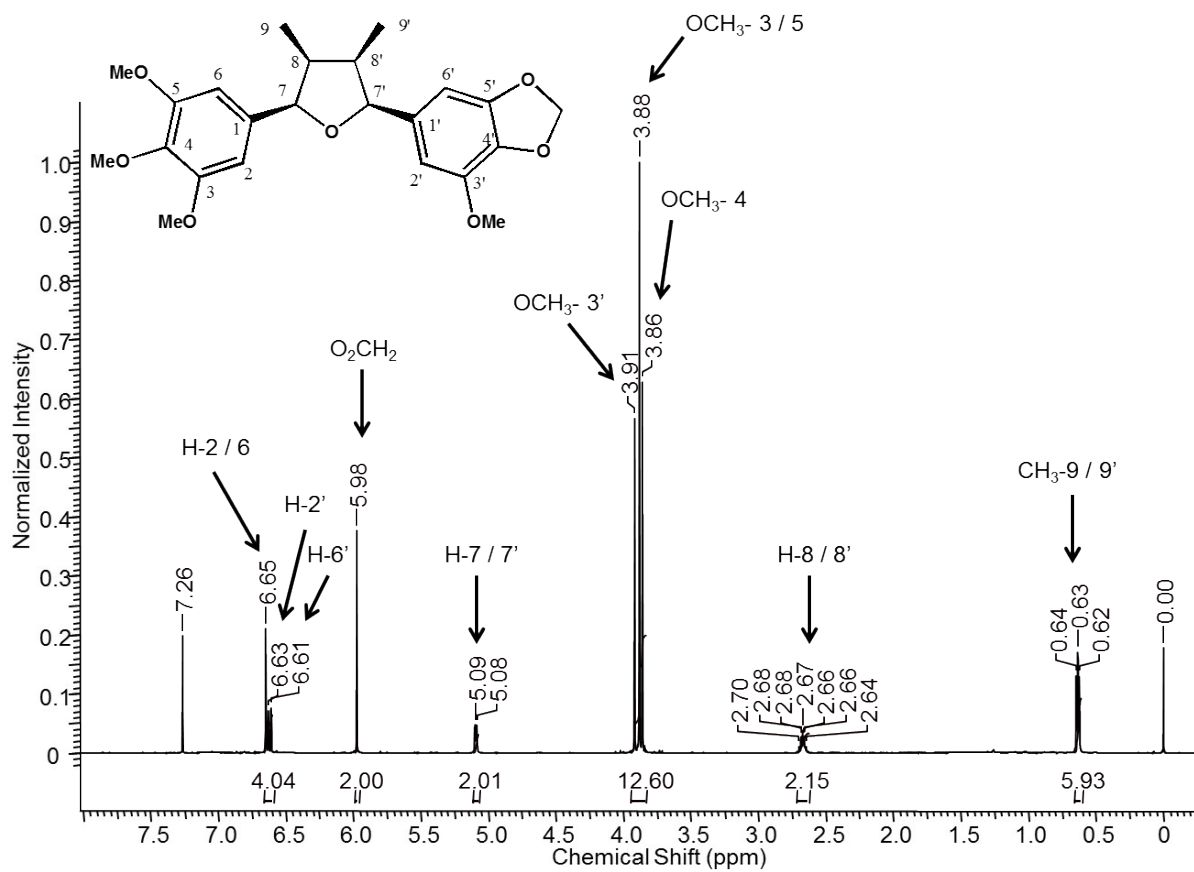


Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **1b**.

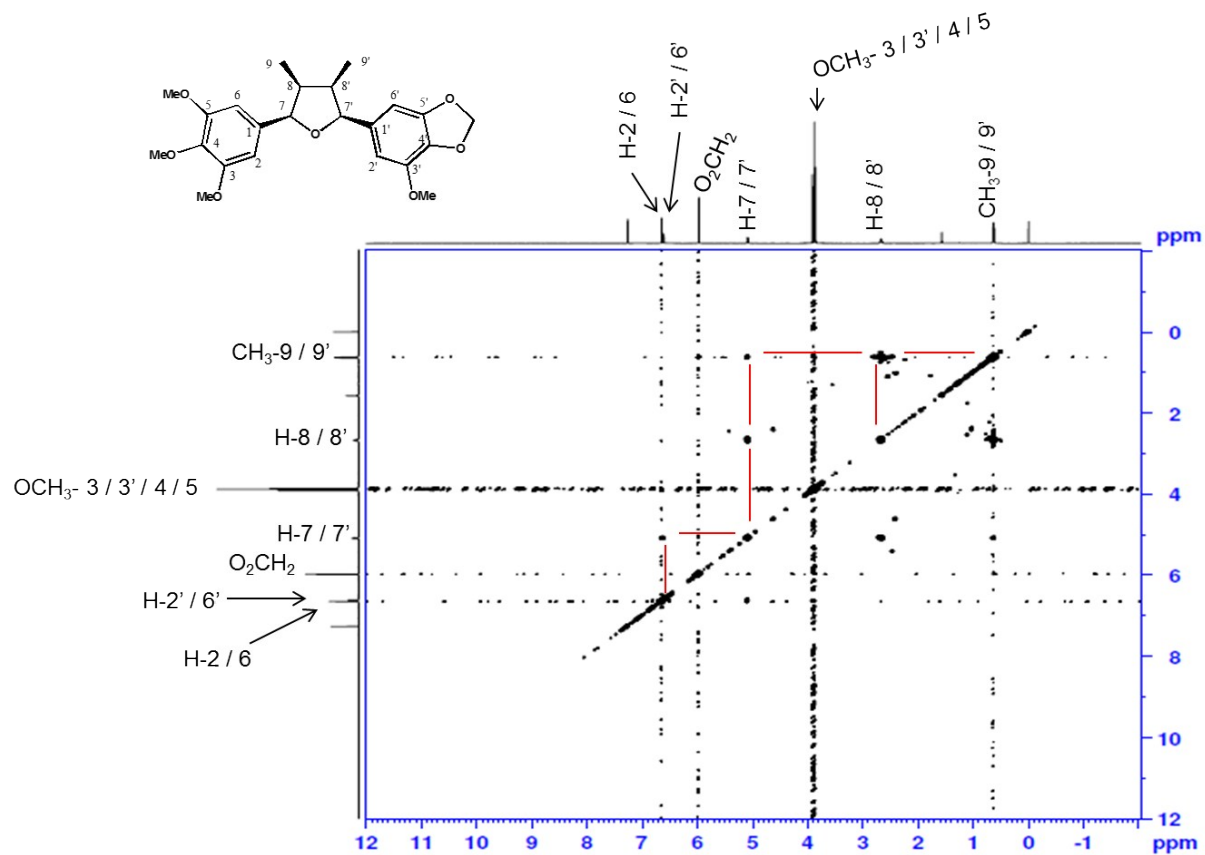


Figure S6. COSY correlation for **1b**.

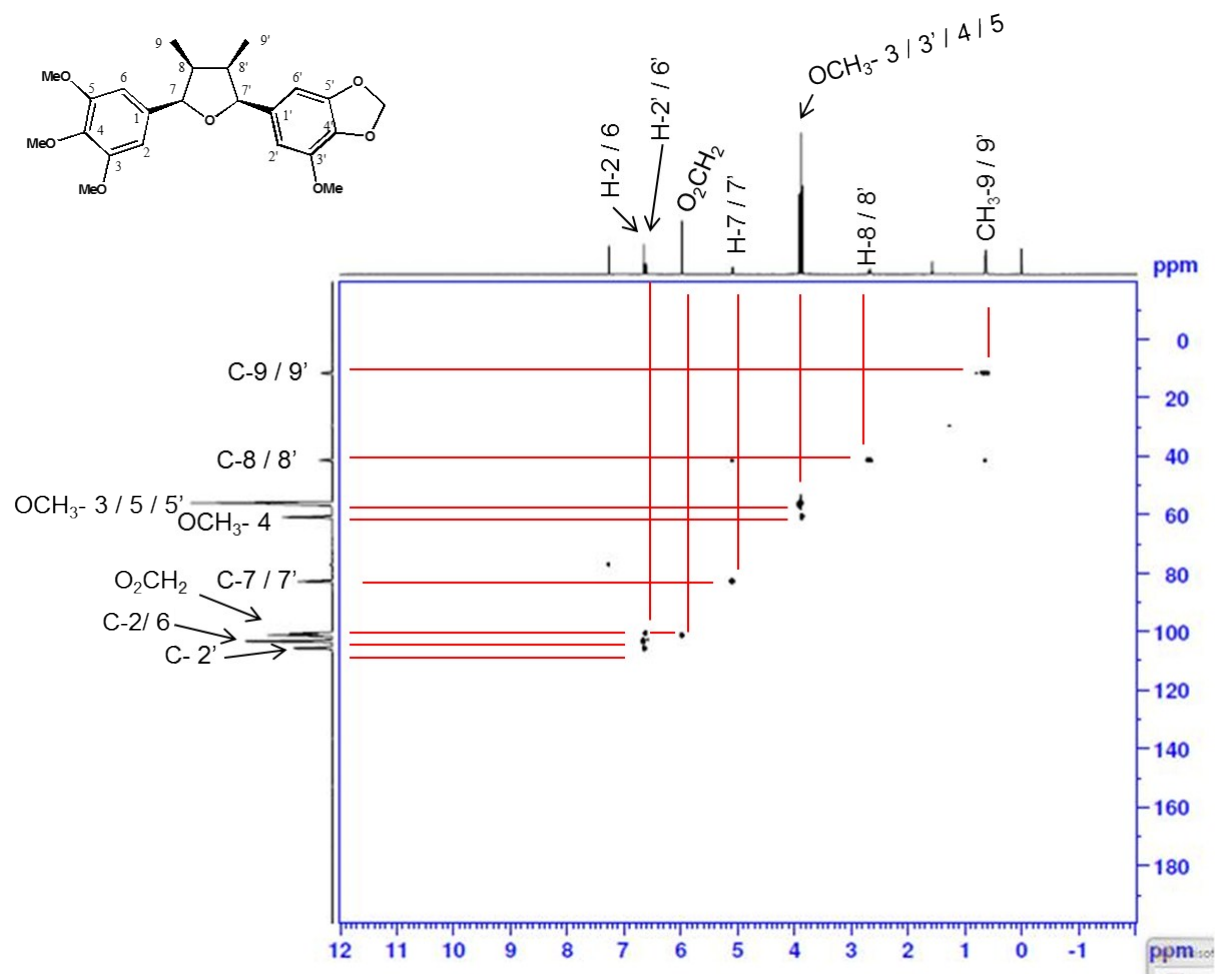


Figure S7. HSQC correlation for **1b**.

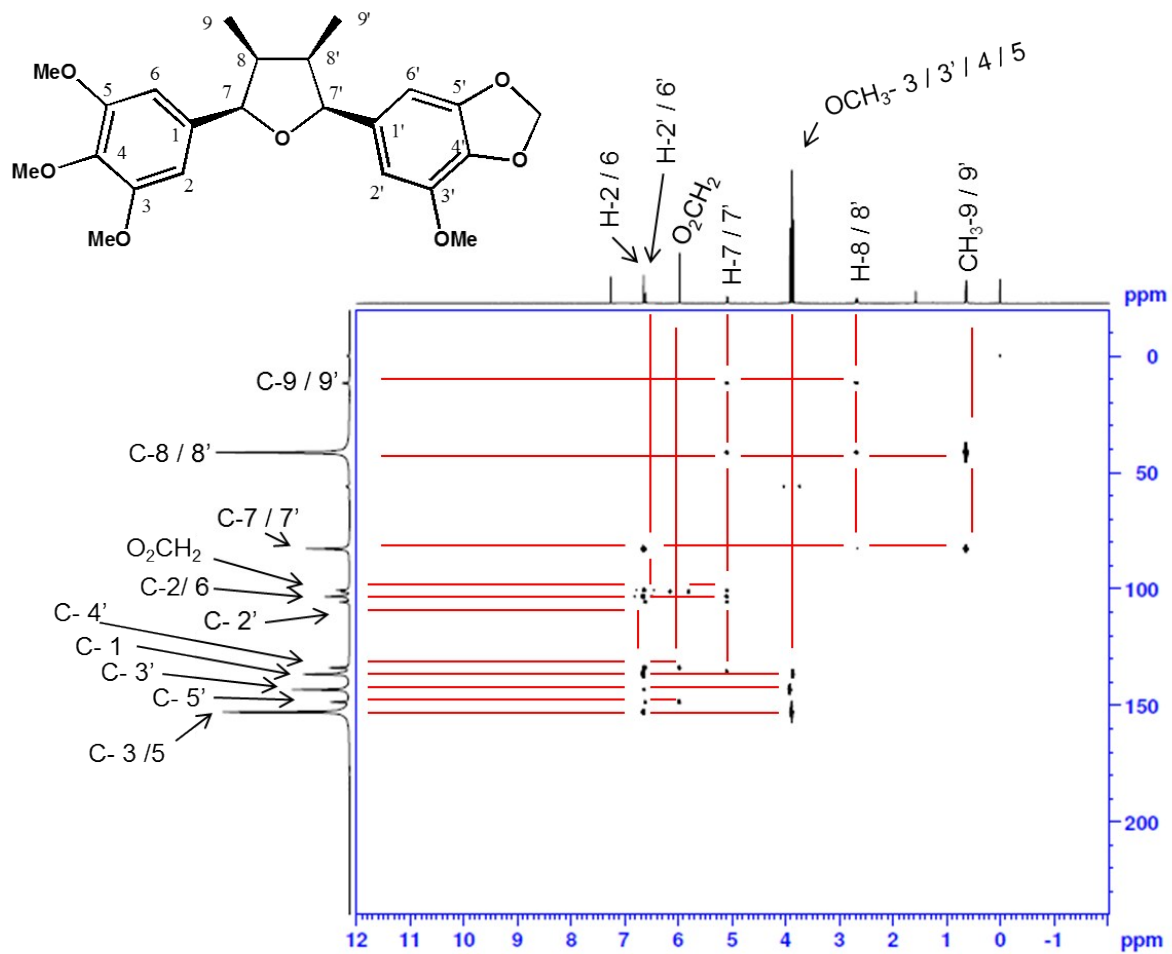


Figure S8. HMBC correlation for **1b**.

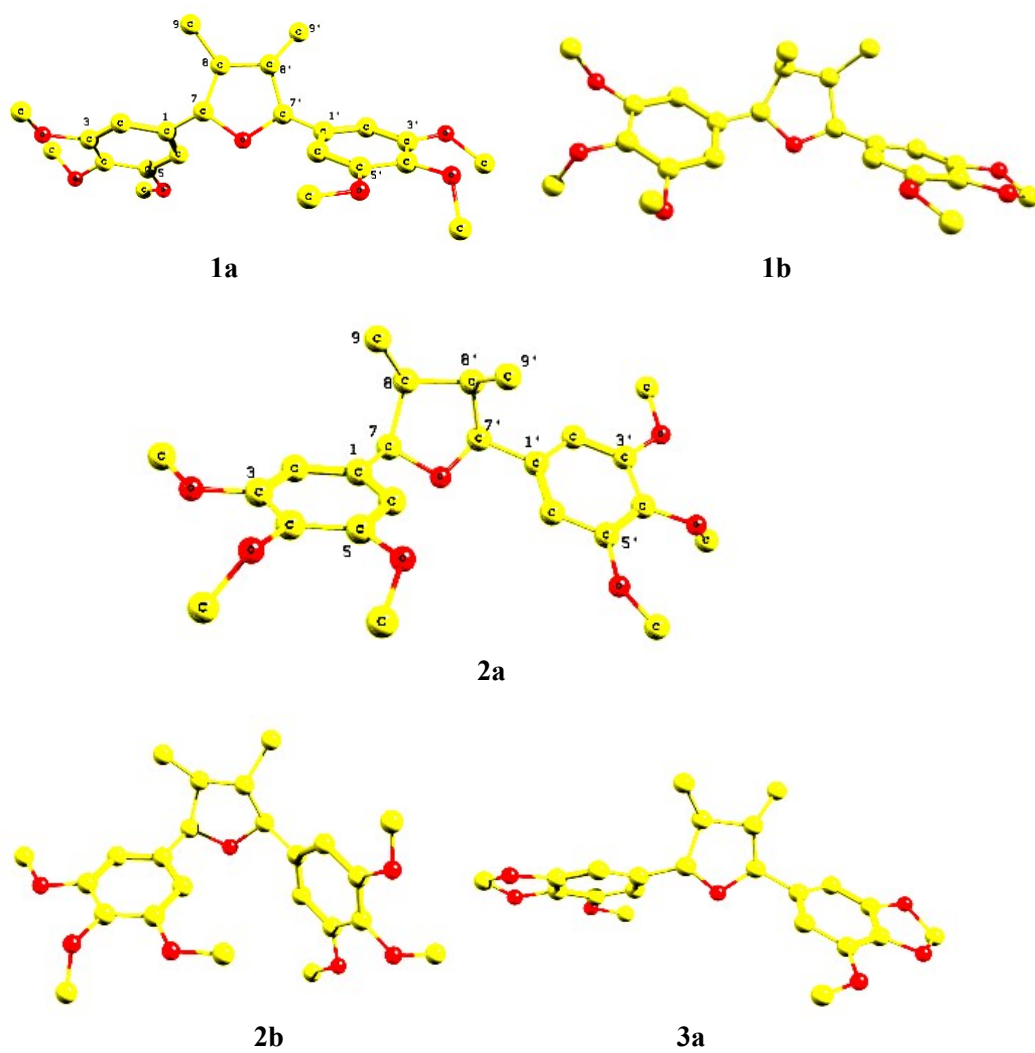


Figure S9. Calculated geometrical structures of lignans **1a** - **3a** (hydrogens not shown).

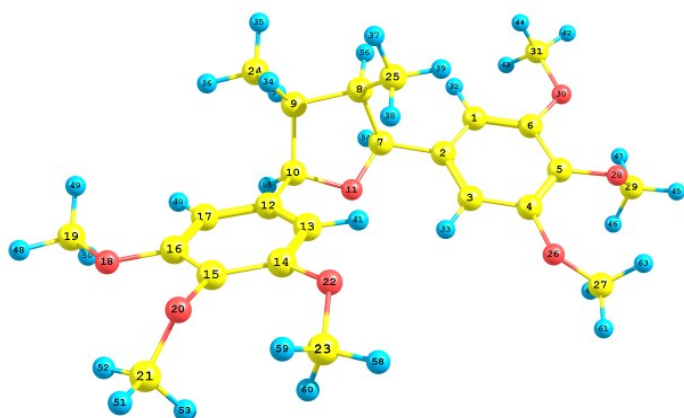
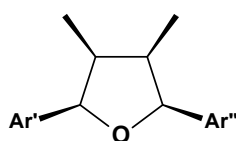


Figure S10. Numbering for lignan **2a** showing all hydrogen atoms.

Table S1.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data<sup>a</sup> for tetrahydrofuran lignans with different substitution patterns and stereochemistries

| compounds | 7 and 7'                   |                            | 8 and 8'                   |                            | 9 and 9'                   |                            | $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{21}$ | ref    |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
|           | $^1\text{H}_{(\delta, J)}$ | $^{13}\text{C}_{(\delta)}$ | $^1\text{H}_{(\delta, J)}$ | $^{13}\text{C}_{(\delta)}$ | $^1\text{H}_{(\delta, J)}$ | $^{13}\text{C}_{(\delta)}$ |                            |        |
| <b>1c</b> | 5.06 (d, 6.6)              | 84.3                       | 2.60 (m)                   | 42.7                       | 0.56 (d, 7.0)              | 12.6                       | 0                          | 32, 37 |
| <b>5</b>  | 4.38 (d, 6.5)              | 88.3                       | 2.20 (m)                   | 45.7                       | 0.99 (m)                   | 13.1                       | 0                          | 32, 37 |
| <b>3c</b> | 4.59 (d, 9.1)              | 88.7                       | 1.74 (m)                   | 51.9                       | 1.01 (d, 5.8)              | 13.9                       | -                          | 32, 37 |
| <b>4</b>  | 5.44 (d, 6.0)              | 83.2                       | 2.26 (m)                   | 43.7                       | 0.71 (d, 6.4)              | 14.4                       | -38.2°                     | 40     |
| <b>2a</b> | 4.67 (d, 8.8)              | 88.4                       | 1.75 (m)                   | 50.9                       | 1.08 (d, 8.8)              | 13.9                       | -51.1°                     | 35     |
| <b>2b</b> | 4.50 (d, 9.0)              | 88.4                       | 1.68 (m)                   | 51.0                       | 0.96 (d, 6.3)              | 13.9                       | -10.1°                     | 36     |
| <b>2c</b> | 4.52 (d, 7.2)              | 88.3                       | 1.67 (m)                   | 50.8                       | 0.96 (d, 7.2)              | 13.8                       | -4.5°                      | 35     |
|           |                            | 88.4                       |                            | 51.1                       |                            | 13.9                       |                            |        |
| <b>3a</b> | 5.05 (d, 8.5)              | 83.1                       | 2.26 (m)                   | 48.2                       | 0.68 (d, 7.0)              | 15.0                       | -25.6°                     | 20     |
|           | 4.33 (d, 9.0)              | 87.4                       | 1.72 (m)                   | 45.9                       | 1.06 (d, 7.0)              | 14.9                       |                            |        |
| <b>3b</b> | 5.02 (d, 8.5)              | 83.2                       | 2.16 (m)                   | 45.8                       | 0.61 (d, 7.5)              | 15.0                       | -30.7°                     | 20     |
|           | 4.30 (d, 9.0)              | 87.3                       | 1.68 (m)                   | 47.8                       | 1.01 (d, 6.5)              | 14.8                       |                            |        |

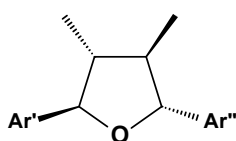
<sup>a</sup> Compounds dissolved in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ;  $\delta$  in ppm relative to TMS,  $J$  in Hz.



**1a**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_2$

**1b**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}_2$ ;  $\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_3$

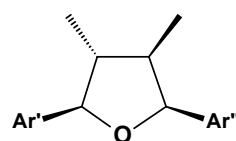
**1c**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_1$



**2a**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_2$

**2b**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_3$

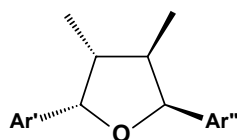
**2c**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}_2$ ;  $\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_3$



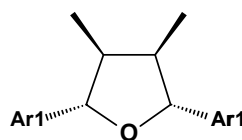
**3a**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_3$

**3b**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}_2$ ;  $\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_3$

**3c**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_1$



**4**  $\text{Ar}'=\text{Ar}''=\text{Ar}_4$



**5**

$\text{Ar}_1$ = 4-hydroxyphenyl

$\text{Ar}_2$ = 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl

$\text{Ar}_3$ =3,4-methylenedioxy-5-methoxyphenyl

$\text{Ar}_4$ =3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl

Table S2. Calculated energies (gas phase) for the lignans with geometries optimized according to B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) and zero-point energies (ZPE) added.

| Lignans   | energy + ZPE<br>(Hartree/particle) | relative energy<br>(Hartree/particle) | relative energy<br>(kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>1a</b> | - 1459.800437                      | 0.010359                              | 6.5                                          |
| <b>3a</b> | - 1459.810119                      | 0.000677                              | 0.42                                         |
| <b>2a</b> | - 1459.810796                      | 0.0                                   | 0.0                                          |
| <b>1b</b> | - 1419.337431                      |                                       |                                              |
| <b>2b</b> | - 1378.883505                      |                                       |                                              |

Table S3. Conformer energy\* of lignans in water ( $\epsilon=78.3$ ) and cyclohexane ( $\epsilon=2.0$ ) media.

| Isomers Lignans           |              |              |              | Relative Energy           |                      |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Energy (Hartree/particle) |              |              |              |                           |                      |
| Medium                    | 1a           | 2a           | 3a           | $\Delta E^{(2a-1a)}$      | $\Delta E^{(2a-3a)}$ |
|                           |              |              |              | (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> ) |                      |
| <b>Gas Phase</b>          | -1460.329755 | -1460.339709 | -1460.339364 | - 6.25                    | - 0.22               |
| <b>Water</b>              | -1460.351951 | -1460.361272 | -1460.361762 | - 5.85                    | + 0.31               |
| <b>Cyclohexane</b>        | -1460.332939 | -1460.342804 | -1460.342544 | - 6.19                    | - 0.16               |

| Isomers Lignans           |              |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Energy (Hartree/particle) |              |              |
| Medium                    | 1b           | 2b           |
| <b>Gas Phase</b>          | -1419.816936 | -1379.314216 |
| <b>Water</b>              | -1419.837997 | -1379.340329 |
| <b>Cyclohexane</b>        | -1419.819695 | -1379.317854 |

\* PCM/(B3LYP/6-31G(d,p))SCRF models

Table S4. Selected Bond Lengths<sup>a</sup> in Lignans **1a** – **3a** Calculated using the B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) Method

| Bond                                   | <b>1a</b>          | <b>1b</b> | <b>2a (crystal)<sup>b</sup></b> | <b>2b</b> | <b>3a</b>          |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| O-C7                                   | 1.436              | 1.426     | 1.430 (1.431)                   | 1.437     | 1.432              |
| O-C7'                                  | 1.435              | 1.430     | 1.425 (1.426)                   | 1.437     | 1.442              |
| C7-C8                                  | 1.545              | 1.549     | 1.546 (1.534)                   | 1.546     | 1.554              |
| C8-C9                                  | 1.526              | 1.532     | 1.528 (1.515)                   | 1.526     | 1.527              |
| C7'-C8'                                | 1.547              | 1.580     | 1.550 (1.549)                   | 1.546     | 1.541              |
| C8'-C9'                                | 1.526              | 1.528     | 1.532 (1.506)                   | 1.526     | 1.532              |
| C7-C1                                  | 1.516              | 1.512     | 1.516 (1.511)                   | 1.515     | 1.522              |
| C7'-C1'                                | 1.514              | 1.518     | 1.511 (1.503)                   | 1.515     | 1.525              |
| C <sub>ring</sub> -O <sub>(MeO)</sub>  | ~1.37 <sup>a</sup> | 1.374     | ~1.37 <sup>a</sup> (1.365)      | 1.361     | 1.372              |
| C <sub>(MeO)</sub> -O <sub>(MeO)</sub> | ~1.43 <sup>a</sup> | 1.434     | ~1.43 <sup>a</sup> (1.431)      | 1.420     | ~1.42 <sup>a</sup> |
| C <sub>ring</sub> -O <sub>MeO</sub>    |                    | 1.378     |                                 | 1.377     |                    |
| (C-O) <sub>epoxy</sub>                 |                    | 1.433     |                                 | 1.428     |                    |

<sup>a</sup> Average values in Å; For numbering see Figure S9

<sup>b</sup> ref. 14

Table S5. Selected Dihedral Angles<sup>a</sup> in Lignans **1a** - **3a**

| Bond          | <b>1a</b> | <b>1b</b> | <b>2a</b> | <b>2b</b> | <b>3a</b> |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| O-C7'-C1'-C6' | 38.8      | 26.7      | 11.1      | 31.3      | – 34.9    |
| C8-C7-C1-C2   | 90.7      | – 69.5    | – 87.0    | 89.5      | – 89.0    |
| O-C7-C1-C6    | 32.0      | – 9.1     | – 28.0    | 31.0      | – 29.0    |
| O-C7'-C8'-C9' | 156.5     | – 138.3   | – 81.6    | 157.0     | 147.0     |
| O-C7-C8-C9    | 157.5     | 81.5      | 137.8     | 156.5     | 158.7     |
| O-C7-C8-C8'   | 32.6      | – 41.8    | 8.92      | 31.4      | 31.9      |
| O-C7'-C8'-C8  | 30.4      | – 9.46    | 41.7      | 32.1      | 24.6      |

<sup>a</sup> Dihedral angles in °; For numbering see Figure S9

Table S6. Lengths of Selected Hydrogen Bonds<sup>a</sup> in Lignans **1a** – **3a** Calculated using the B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level of theory.

| Bond <sup>b</sup> | <b>1a</b> | <b>1b</b> | <b>2a</b> | <b>2b</b> | <b>3a</b> |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| O11 – H38         |           |           | 2.87481   |           |           |
| O11 – H33         | 2.53065   | 2.47395   | 2.40684   | 2.44379   | 2.41733   |
| O29 – H63         | 2.40625   |           | 2.41130   |           |           |
| O30 – H47         | 2.32478   |           | 2.32082   |           | 3.00064   |
| O11 – H41         | 2.47677   | 2.39822   | 2.51029   | 2.44094   | 2.50649   |
| O18 – H52         |           |           | 2.31947   |           |           |
| O20 – H59         |           |           | 2.40968   |           |           |
| O11 – H14         |           | 2.87041   |           |           |           |

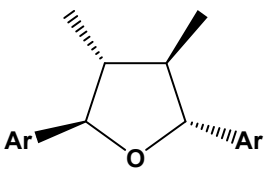
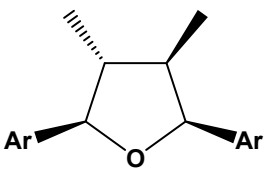
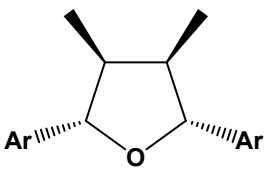
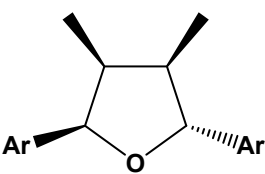
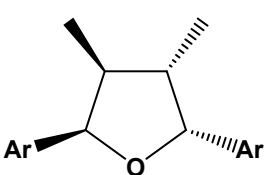
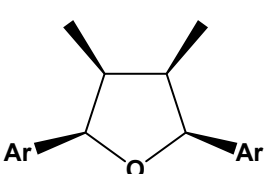
<sup>a</sup> Values in Å; <sup>b</sup> For numbering see Figure S9

Table S7. Selected Bond Angles<sup>a</sup> in Lignans **1a** – **3a** Calculated using the B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) Method.

| Bond <sup>b</sup> | <b>1a</b> | <b>1b</b> | <b>2a</b> (crystal) <sup>c</sup> | <b>2b</b> | <b>3a</b> |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| O11-C7-C2         | 110.8     | 110.0     | 110.6 (111.9)                    | 110.8     | 109.1     |
| O11-C10-C12       | 110.6     | 110.4     | 110.6 (110.3)                    | 110.4     | 111.7     |
| C12-C10-C9        | 114.8     | 117.2     | 116.4 (117.1)                    | 115.1     | 115.8     |
| C7-C8-C25         | 114.3     | 116.4     | 113.8 (111.2)                    | 114.4     | 114.2     |
| C14-O22-C23       | 118.0     | 115.0     | 120.9 (117.2)                    | 117.6     | 117.9     |
| C15-O20-C21       | 116.4     | 113.6     | 116.4 (115.3)                    |           | 114.4     |
| C16-O18-C19       | 120.7     | 115.7     | 118.2 (118.6)                    |           | 118.0     |
| C4-O26-C27        | 121.3     | 118.8     | 121.0 (118.2)                    | 117.6     | 118.0     |
| C5-O28-C29        | 116.3     |           | 116.4 (113.7)                    |           | 114.4     |
| C6-O30-C31        | 118.2     |           | 118.1 (117.3)                    |           | 118.2     |
| C7-C2-C3          | 120.8     | 121.3     | 121.7 (121.7)                    | 119.9     | 118.0     |
| C10-C12-C13       | 120.3     | 121.6     | 121.8 (120.7)                    | 119.9     | 120.9     |
| C10-C9-C24        | 114.3     | 113.8     | 116.4 (112.5)                    | 114.4     | 116.7     |

<sup>a</sup> Bond angles in °; <sup>b</sup> For numbering see Figure S10; <sup>c</sup> ref. 14.

Table S8. Relative energies and structures of ten possible stereoisomers for THFs  
lignans (pairs of enantiomers: **2a**, **3a**, **7** and **8**; *meso*: **6** and **1a**)

| Lignans                                                                                                 | Relative energies<br>(Kcal/mol) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <br><b>2a</b>          | 0.0                             |
| <br><b>3d</b>          | 2.5                             |
| <br><b>6 (meso)</b>   | 3.1                             |
| <br><b>7</b>         | 4.1                             |
| <br><b>8</b>         | 4.4                             |
| <br><b>1a (meso)</b> | 5.6                             |
| Ar = phenyl                                                                                             |                                 |