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First total synthesis of (±)-apparicine

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2-Isopropenyl-1-(methoxymethyl)indole-3-carbaldehyde (2).



Tetraethylammonium bromide (0.42 g, 2.01 mmol), Bu₃Sn(CH₃)C=CH₂ (1.33 g, 4.02 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ (42 mg, 0.06 mmol) were successively added to a solution of aldehyde 1^{1} (0.45 g, 2.01 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 85 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was diluted with AcOEt and washed with brine. The organic solution was dried and concentrated and the resulting residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, 9:1 hexanes-AcOEt) to give **2** as an oil: 0.37 g (80%); IR (film) 3057, 2934, 1663 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 5.44 (s, 2H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.49 (dm, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (dm, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 10.0 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 25.0 (CH₃), 56.3 (CH₃), 75.2 (CH₂), 110.4 (CH), 115.2 (C), 122.1 (CH), 123.4 (CH), 123.9 (CH₂), 124.3 (CH), 125.2 (C), 133.4 (C), 136.8 (C), 153.3 (C), 186.8 (CH); ESI-HRMS [M+H]⁺calcd for C₁₄H₁₆NO₂ 230.1175, found 230.1183.

¹Hagiwara, H.; Choshi, T.; Nobuhiro, J.; Fujimoto, H.; Hibino, S. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **2001**, *49*, 881-886.

3-[*N*-(**3-**Butenyl)-*N*-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)aminomethyl]-**2**-isopropenyl-**1**-(methoxymethyl)indole (**3**a).



3-Butenylamine (0.24 mL, 2.60 mmol), NaBH(OAc)₃ (0.82 g, 3.90 mmol) and AcOH (0.08 mL, 1.36 mmol) were successively added to aldehyde 1 (0.30 g, 1.30 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt overnight. The reaction mixture was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and 10% aqueous Na₂CO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated to give the crude secondary amine (0.30 g). This compound was dissolved in MeOH (10 mL) and treated with (t-BuOCO)₂O (0.45 g, 2.06 mmol) and Et₃N (0.58 mL, 4.12 mmol). After the mixture was heated at reflux for 4 h, the solvent was removed and the residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with HCl 1N and brine. The organic solution was dried and concentrated and the residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, 8:2 hexanes-AcOEt) to give carbamate **3a** as a pale yellow oil: 0.33 g (65%); IR (film) 1689, 1462, 1415 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.53 (br s, 9H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 2.13 (m, 2H), 3.10 (m, 2H) 3.26 (s, 3H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.96 (m, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 5.65 (m, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 24.5 (CH₃), 28.5 (3CH₃), 32.6 (CH₂), 39.7 (CH₂), 44.2 (CH₂), 55.7 (CH₃), 74.7 (CH₂), 79.2 (C), 109.8 (CH), 116.1 (CH₂), 120.1 (C), 120.4 (CH), 121.5 (CH₂), 122.4 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 127.9 (C), 135.5 (CH), 135.6 (C),

136.9 (C), 141.3 (C), 155.7 (C); ESI-HRMS $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{23}H_{33}N_2O_3$ 385.2485, found 385.2477.

3-[*N*-(**3-**Butenyl)-*N*-(tosyl)aminomethyl]-**2**-isopropenyl-**1**-(methoxymethyl)indole (**3**b).



Aldehyde 2 (0.25 g, 1.09 mmol) was allowed to react as above with 3-butenylamine and NaBH(OAc)₃. The resulting secondary amine (0.25 g) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (12 mL) and treated with TsCl (0.20 g, 1.05 mmol) and Et₃N (0.15 mL, 1.05 mmol) at rt overnight. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with 1N HCl and brine. The organic solution was dried and concentrated and the resulting residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, 9:1 hexanes-AcOEt) to give sulfonamide 3b as a pale yellow solid: 0.29 g (60%); mp 88 °C (Et₂O); IR (KBr) 1463, 1332, 1158 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) § 1.92 (m, 2H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 3.04 (m, 2H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 4.70 (dm, J = 17 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (dm, J = 10 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (s, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.53 (br s, 1H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 21.5 (CH₃), 24.5 (CH₃), 32.9 (CH₂), 43.4 (CH₂), 46.7 (CH₂), 55.7 (CH₃), 74.7 (CH₂), 107.1 (C), 109.8 (CH), 116.3 (CH₂), 120.1 (CH), 120.7 (CH), 121.9 (CH₂), 122.7 (CH), 127.3 (2 CH), 127.7 (C), 129.2 (2 CH), 134.8 (CH), 135.2 (C), 136.9 (2C), 141.4 (C), 143.0 (C); ESI-HRMS $[M+H]^+$ calcd for C₂₅H₃₁N₂O₃S 439.2049, found 439.2039; $[M+Na]^+$ calcd for $C_{25}H_{30}NaN_2O_3S$ 461.1869, found 461.1866. Anal. calcd for C₂₅H₃₀N₂O₃S: C, 68.46%; H, 6.88%; N, 6.38%. Found: C, 68.22%; H, 6.43%; N, 6.25%.

2-(1-Methyl-2-(*E*)-butenyl)-1-(phenylsulfonyl)indole (7).



n-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane, 5.83 mL, 9.33 mmol) was slowly added to a cooled (0 °C) solution of 1-(phenylsulfonyl)indole (2 g, 7.78 mmol) in THF (20 mL) and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h and then cooled to -78 °C. CuCN (0.84 g, 9.38 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt (2-3 h) and then cooled again to -78 °C. (*E*)-4-chloro-2-pentene (0.98 g, 9.38 mmol) was added and the stirring was continued at rt for 12 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with 20% NH₄OH and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated and the resulting residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, hexanes and 95:5 hexanes-AcOEt) to give indole 7 as an oil: 2.15 g (85%); IR (neat) 1448, 1367, 1173 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, signals due to a minor isomer are omitted) δ 1.45 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.67 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 4.34 (m, 1H), 5.52 (m, 1H), 5.66 (m, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 7.24-7.50 (m, 6H), 7.72 (m, 2H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6

MHz) δ 17.9 (CH₃), 21.7 (CH₃), 35.0 (CH), 108.6 (CH), 115.3 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 123.7 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 126.2 (2CH), 129.0 (2CH), 129.9 (C), 133.5 (CH), 134.0 (CH), 137.5 (C), 139.0 (C), 147.1 (C); ESI-HRMS [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₉H₂₀NO₂S 326.1209, found 326.1212.

2-(1-Methyl-2-(E)-butenyl) 1-(phenylsulfonyl)indole-3-carbaldehyde (8).



Indole 7 (1 g, 3.07 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added to a cooled (– 78 °C) solution of TiCl₄ (1 M in CH₂Cl₂, 6.15 mL, 6.15 mmol) and Cl₂CHOCH₃ (0.55 mL, 6.15 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at –78 °C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O, basified with a saturated aqueous Na₂CO₃ solution and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated and the residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, hexanes and 95:5 hexanes-AcOEt) to give aldehyde **8** as an amorphous solid: 0.83 g (76%); IR (film) 1666, 1449, 1382, 1174 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.47 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.61 (dm, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 4.76 (m, 1H), 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.61 (dm, *J* = 15 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.32 (m, 2H), 10.45 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 17.7 (CH₃), 22.5 (CH₃), 33.8 (CH), 114.7 (CH), 119.3 (C), 122.1 (CH), 125.2 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 125.9 (CH), 126.3 (C), 126.5 (2CH), 129.6 (2CH), 133.1 (CH), 134.4 (CH), 136.4 (C), 139.4 (C), 155.3 (C), 187.5 (CH); ESI-HRMS [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₂₀NO₃S 354.1158, found 354.1165.

3-[*N*-Allyl-*N*-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)aminomethyl]-2-(1-methyl-2-(*E*)-butenyl)-1-(phenylsulfonyl)indole (9).



Allylamine (0.21 mL, 2.83 mmol), NaBH(OAc)₃ (0.90 g, 4.25 mmol) and AcOH (0.08 mL, 1.41 mmol) were successively added to aldehyde **8** (0.50 g, 1.41 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (17 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt overnight. The reaction mixture was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and 10% aqueous Na₂CO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated to give the crude secondary amine (540 mg). This compound was dissolved in MeOH (5 mL) and treated with (*t*-BuOCO)₂O (0.54 g, 2.47 mmol) and Et₃N (0.70 mL, 4.94 mmol). After the mixture was heated at reflux for 5 h, the solvent was removed and the residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with 2N HCl and brine. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated to give the crude product. Flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes and 95:5 hexanes-AcOEt) gave diene **9** as a pale yellow oil: 0.63 g (90%); IR (film) 1690, 1450, 1368, 1173 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 3.38 (br s, 2H), 4.44 (m, 1H), 4.57 (m, 2H), 4.83 (dd, *J* = 17.2 and 1.5

Hz, 1H), 4.92 (dd, J = 10.4 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (m, 1H), 5.44 (dm, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (m, 1H), 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, J = 2H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.60 (dm, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 18.1 (CH₃), 20.1 (CH₃), 28.6 (3CH₃), 33.5 (CH), 40.0 (CH₂), 46.8 (CH₂), 80.1 (C), 115.4 (CH₂), 115.6 (CH), 117.2 (C), 119.7 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 124.7 (CH), 125.2 (CH), 126.5 (2CH), 129.2 (C), 129.3 (2CH), 132.8 (CH), 133.8 (CH), 133.9 (CH), 137.1 (C), 139.7 (C), 142.9 (C), 156.1 (CO); ESI-HRMS [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₃₄N₂O₄NaS 517.2131, found 517.2144.

2-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-6-methyl-7-(phenylsulfonyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazocino[4,3-*b*]indole (10).



The second-generation Grubbs' catalyst (24 mg, 7 mol%) was added under Ar to a solution of diene 9 (200 mg, 0.40 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.7 mL) and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 4.5 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, 9:1 hexanes-AcOEt) to give azocinoindole 10 as a white foam: 146 mg (80%); IR (KBr) 1689, 1450, 1370, 1172 cm⁻¹ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, assignments aided by gHSQC and ¹H gCOSY, mixture of rotamers) δ 1.42 (br s, 9H, Boc), 1.47 (br s, 3H, CH₃), 2.85 (m, 1H, 3-H), 3.81 and 4.03 (2m, 1H, 3-H), 4.37 (br s, 1H, 1-H), 4.65 (m, 1H, 6-H), 4.89 and 5.01 (2m, 1H, 1-H), 5.44 (br s, 1H, 4-H), 5.80 (br d, J = 11 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, assignments aided by gHSQC) & 24.3 (CH₃), 28.4 (3CH₃), 32.5 (CH, C-6), 37.0 (CH₂, C-1), 38.0 (CH₂, C-3), 79.90 (C), 115.6 (CH, C-8), 118.7 (CH, C-11), 118.9 (C), 121.0 (CH, C-4), 123.8 (CH, C-10), 124.8 (CH, C-9), 126.0 (2CH, Ph), 129.2 (2CH, Ph), 130.8 (C), 133.8 (CH, Ph), 136.9 (C), 137.6 (CH, C-5), 138.8 (C), 142.2 (C), 155.0 (CO); ESI-HRMS $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{25}H_{29}N_2O_4S$ 453.1842, found 453.1851; $[M+Na]^+$ calcd for C₂₅H₂₈N₂O₄NaS 475.1662, found 475.1670.

2-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-6-methyl-7-(phenylsulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydroazocino[4,3-*b*]indole (11).



The second-generation Grubbs' catalyst (4.5 mg, 10 mol %) was added under Ar to a solution of azocinoindole **10** (23 mg, 0.05 mmol) in toluene (5.5 mL) and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 18 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, 5% hexanes-AcOEt) to give enamide **11**: 12 mg (50%); IR (film) 1700, 1650, 1450, 1363, 1173 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz,

assignments aided by gHSQC and gCOSY, mixture of rotamers) δ 1.44 and 1.46 (2s, 9H, Boc), 1.58 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.16 (m, 1H, 5-H), 3.03 (m, 1H, 5-H), 3.82 (m, 1H, 6-H), 4.45 (m, 1H, 4-H), 4.75 and 4.90 (2d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H, 1-H), 5.30 and 5.52 (2d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H, 1-H), 6.10 and 6.26 (2d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.60 (m, 3H), 8.22 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, gHSQC, only CH₃, CH₂ and CH signals are listed) δ 24.0 (CH₃), 28.3 (3CH₃), 32.8 (CH₂, C-5), 34.3 (CH, C-6), 38.7 (CH₂, C-1), 107.8 (CH, C-4), 115.4 (CH, C-8), 118.4 (CH, C-11), 124.1 (2CH, C-9, C-10), 126.8 (2CH, Ph), 127.4 (CH, C-3), 129.1 (2CH, Ph), 133.6 (CH, Ph). Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₈N₂O₄S: C, 65.43%; H, 6.40%; N, 6.36%. Found: C, 65.58%; H, 6.24%; N, 5.94%.

2-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-6-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroazocino[4,3-b]indole (12).



t-BuOK (0.55 g, 4.90 mmol) was added to a solution of azocinoindole 10 (0.22 g, 0.49 mmol) in THF (14 mL) and the resulting solution was heated at reflux for 48 h. The reaction mixture was partitioned between a saturated aqueous NH₄Cl solution and Et₂O and extracted with Et₂O. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated to give azocinoindole 12 as a yellow foam: 138 mg (90%). An analytical sample was obtained by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes and 8:2 hexanes-AcOEt); IR (film) 3321, 1670 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, assignments aided by gHSQC, mixture of rotamers) δ 1.35 and 1.45 (2s, 9H, Boc), 2.13 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.37 (m, 2H, 4-H), 3.60 (m, 2H, 3-H), 4.64 (br s, 2H, 1-H), 5.69 and 5.75 (2t, J = 8 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.15 (m, 2H, 9-H, 10-H), 7.28 and 7.31 (2 d, J = 8 Hz, 1H, 8-H), 7.56 and 7.62 (2d, J = 8 Hz, 1H, 11-H), 7.85 and 7.89 (2 br s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, assignments aided by gHSQC,) δ 22.7 and 22.8 (CH₃), 28.4 and 28.5 (3CH₃, Boc), 28.7 (CH₂, C-4), 43.4 and 43.5 (CH₂, C-1), 46.0 and 46.7 (CH₂, C-3), 79.1 and 79.3 (C), 110.3 and 110.4 (CH, C-8), 110.8 and 111.0 (C), 118.5 and 119.0 (CH, C-11), 119.3 and 119.4 (CH, C-10), 122.1 and 122.2 (CH, C-9), 126.5 and 127.1 (CH, C-5), 127.2 and 127.3 (C), 128.9 and 129.5 (C), 132.8 and 133.4 (C), 135.7 and 135.9 (C), 156.1 and 156.5 (C); ESI-HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₂₄N₂O₂ 312.1837, found 312.1837.

2-(2-Iodo-2-(Z)-butenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroazocino[4,3-b]indole (13).



A solution of carbamate **12** (224 mg, 0.72 mmol) in 1.2 M HCl in MeOH (3.2 mL) was stirred at rt for 4.5 h. 20% NH₄OH was added and the organic solvent was removed. The residue was partitioned between CH_2Cl_2 and H_2O and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The

organic extracts were dried and concentrated to give the secondary amine (127 mg), which was directly used in the next step. Diisopropylethylamine (0.15 mL, 0.89 mmol) and (Z)-2-iodo-2-butenyl tosylate² (230 mg, 0.65 mmol) were added to a solution of the above amine (127 mg, 0.59 mmol) in 1:1 CH₂Cl₂-acetonitrile (21 mL). After the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h, MeNH₂ (2 M in MeOH, 1.5 mL, 3 mmol) was added and the stirring was continued for 1 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with a saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution. The organic solution was dried and concentrated and the residue was chromatographed (hexanes and 9:1 hexanes-EtOAc) to give pure tertiary amine 13 (yellow oil): 70 mg (30%); IR (film) 3408, 2923, 1612, 1460, 742 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.79 (dd, J = 6.2 and 1.2 Hz, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 2.14 (br s, 2H), 2.77 (br s, 2H), 3.35 (br s, 2H), 3.99 (br s, 2H), 5.81 (q, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz) δ 21.7 (CH₃), 22.5 (CH₃), 26.0 (CH₂), 48.0 (CH₂), 50.6 (CH₂), 65.3 (CH₂), 110.1 (C), 110.5 (CH), 110.6 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 126.9 (C), 128.8 (C), 130.0 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 135.8 (C), 136.1 (C); ESI-HRMS [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₂₂IN₂ 393.0822, found 393.0831.

²(a) Rawal, V. H.; Michoud, C. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, *32*, 1695-1698. (b) Eichberg, M. J.; Dorta, R. L.; Grotjahn, D. B.; Lamottke, K.; Schmidt, M.; Vollhardt, K. P. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 9324-9337.

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Pd(OAc)₂ (7.6 mg, 0.034 mmol), PPh₃ (26 mg, 0.10 mmol) and Ag₂CO₃ (93 mg, 0.34 mmol) were added under Ar to a solution of amine 13 (65 mg, 0.17 mmol) in 1:1 toluene-Et₃N (17 mL) and the mixture was heated at 80 °C for 1.5 h. The solvent was removed and the residue was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ and a saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were dried and concentrated and the resulting residue was chromatographed (SiO₂, flash, CH₂Cl₂ to 9:1 CH₂Cl₂-MeOH). An additional chromatography (SiO₂, 0.5% Et₂O-diethylamine) gave pure (±)-apparicine as an amorphous solid: 6.6 mg (15%); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, assignments aided by gHSQC) δ 1.46 (dd, J = 6.8 and 2.4 Hz, 3H, 18-H), 1.89 (ddt, J =13.6, 6.8 and 2.4 Hz, 1H, 14-H), 2.16 (dddd, J = 13.6, 11.2, 8 and 5.6 Hz, 1H, 14-H), 3.07 (dddd, J = 13.2, 11.2, 6.8 and 1.2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 3.20 (d, J = 16 Hz, 1H, 21-H), 3.42 (ddd, J = 13.2, 8 and 2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 3.82 (dt, J = 16 and 2 Hz, 1H, 21-H), 3.92 (broad)s, 1H, 15-H), 4.28 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 4.51 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 5.25 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H, 19-H), 5.26 (s, 1H, 17-H), 5.39 (s, 1H, 17-H), 7.06 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.2 and 1.2 Hz, 1H, 10-H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8, 7.2 and 1.2 Hz, 1H, 11-H), 7.28 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H, 12-H), 7.42 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H, 9-H), 7.84 (broad s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, assignment aided by gHSQC) & 12.6 (CH₃, C-18), 29.6 (CH₂, C-14), 41.2 (CH, C-15), 45.3 (CH₂, C-3), 54.2 (CH₂, C-6), 54.3 (CH₂, C-21), 110.2 (CH, C-12), 111.5 (C, C-7), 112.2 (CH₂, C-17), 118.6 (CH, C-9), 119.3 (CH, C-10), 120.1 (CH, C-19), 123.0 (CH, C-11), 129.0 (C, C-8), 131.3 (C, C-20), 135.6 (C, C-16), 137.4 (C, C-13), 145.2 (C, C-2); ESI-HRMS $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{21}N_2$ 265.1699, found 265.1705.

Comparison of the NMR data of synthetic apparicine with those reported for the natural product



Apparicine (biogenetic numbering)

¹H NMR data:

| Н | synthetic apparicine | natural product ³ | |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| NH | 7.84 (br s) | 7.88 (br s) | |
| 3-Н | 3.07 (dddd, <i>J</i> = 13.2, 11.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz) | 3.06 (dddd, <i>J</i> = 13.2, 11.4, 7.0, 1.2 Hz) | |
| | 3.42 (ddd, J = 13.2, 8, 2 Hz) | 3.40 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 13.3, 8, 2.2 Hz) | |
| 6-H | 4.28 (d, <i>J</i> = 17.8 Hz) | 4.26 (d, <i>J</i> = 17.7 Hz) | |
| | 4.51 (d, <i>J</i> = 17.8 Hz) | 4.49 (d, <i>J</i> = 17.7 Hz) | |
| 9-Н | 7.42 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz) | 7.42 (dd, <i>J</i> = 7.7, 1.2 Hz) | |
| 10-H | 7.06 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 7.6, 7.2, 1.2 Hz) | 7.05 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 7.7, 7.3, 1.2 Hz) | |
| 11 - H | 7.18 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 8, 7.2, 1.2 Hz) | 7.17 (ddd, <i>J</i> = 8.1, 7.3, 1.2 Hz) | |
| 12-H | 7.28 (d, J = 8 Hz) | 7.28 (dd, <i>J</i> = 8.1, 1.2 Hz) | |
| 14-H | 1.89 (ddt, J = 13.6, 6.8, 2.4 Hz); | 1.88 (dddd, <i>J</i> = 13.6, 7, 2.6, 2.2 Hz) | |
| | 2.16 (dddd, <i>J</i> = 13.6, 11.2, 8, 5.6 Hz) | 2.15 (dddd, <i>J</i> = 13.6, 11.4, 8, 5.4 Hz) | |
| 15-H | 3.92 (br s) | 3.91 (dd, <i>J</i> = 5.4, 2.6 Hz) | |
| 17 - H | 5.26 (s) | 5.25 (s) | |
| | 5.39 (s) | 5.38 (s) | |
| 18-H | $1.46 (\mathrm{dd}, J = 6.8, 2.4 \mathrm{Hz})$ | 1.45 (dd, $J = 7, 2.3$ Hz) | |
| 19-H | 5.25 (q, J = 6.8 Hz) | 5.23 (q, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz) | |
| 21-Н | 3.20 (d, J = 16 Hz) | 3.18 (dd, J = 16, 1.2 Hz) | |
| | 3.82 (dt, <i>J</i> = 16, 2 Hz) | 3.80 (dd, <i>J</i> = 16, 2.3 Hz) | |

³ van Beek, T. A.; Verpoorte, R.; Kinh, P. Q. Planta Med. 1985, 51, 277-279.

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¹³C NMR data:

| С | synthetic apparicine | natural product ^{4,5} | |
|------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | reference 4 | reference 5 |
| C-2 | 145.2 | 142.6 | 144.7 |
| C-3 | 45.3 | 45.3 | 45.2 |
| C-6 | 54.2 | 54.3 | 53.8 |
| C-7 | 111.5 | 111.1 | 109.9^{b} |
| C-8 | 129.0 | 129.0 | 129.0 |
| C-9 | 118.6 | 118.6 | 118.6 |
| C-10 | 119.3 | 119.3 ^{<i>a</i>} | 119.6 |
| C-11 | 123.0 | 123.0^{a} | 123.2 ^c |
| C-12 | 110.2 | 110.2 | 110.4^{d} |
| C-13 | 137.4 | 137.8 | 136.6 |
| C-14 | 29.6 | 29.6 | 29.1 |
| C-15 | 41.2 | 41.3 | 41.1 |
| C-16 | 135.6 | 135.7 | 135.8 |
| C-17 | 112.2 | 112.2 | 112.6 ^b |
| C-18 | 12.6 | 12.5 | 12.6 |
| C-19 | 120.1 | 120.3 | 121.4 ^e |
| C-20 | 131.3 | 131.3 | 131.6 |
| C-21 | 54.3 | 54.3 | 54.2 |

^{*a*} Exchanged assignments in ref. 4 ^{*b*} Exchanged assignments in ref. 5

^c Signal assigned as C-12 in ref. 5 ^d Signal assigned as C-19 in ref. 5 ^e Signal assigned as C-11 in ref. 5

⁴ Massiot, G.; Zèches, M.; Thépenier, P.; Jacquier, M.-J.; Le Men-Olivier, L.; Delaude, C. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1982**, 768-769.

⁵ Atta-ur-Rahman; Fatima, T.; Mehrun-Nisa; Ijaz, S.; Crank, G.; Wasti, S. Planta Med. 1987, 53, 57-59.

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