# **JS**}

# **Biomimetic Cyclization of Epoxide Precursors of Indole Mono-, Sesquiand Diterpene Alkaloids by Lewis Acids**

Tetsuya Isaka,<sup>1</sup> Morifumi Hasegawa,<sup>1,2</sup> and Hiroaki Toshima<sup>1,2,3,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>United Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, 3-5-8 Saiwai-cho, Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan <sup>2</sup>Department of Bioresource Science, College of Agriculture, Ibaraki University, 3-21-1 Chuo, Ami-machi, Inashiki-gun, Ibaraki 300-0393, Japan <sup>3</sup>Frontier Research Center for Applied Atomic Sciences, Ibaraki University, 162-1 Shirakata, Tokai-mura, Naka-gun, Ibaraki 319-1106, Japan

Received July 8, 2011; Accepted August 6, 2011; Online Publication, November 7, 2011 [doi:10.1271/bbb.110511]

Cyclization of the synthesized epoxide precursors of indole mono-, sesqui- and diterpene alkaloids was performed to elucidate the mechanism for biomimetic cationic cyclization to polycyclic structures. 3-(6,7-Epoxygeranyl)indole (11), 3-(10,11-epoxyfarnesyl)indole (2) and 3-(14,15-epoxygeranylgeranyl)indole (3) were respectively synthesized from geraniol, farnesol and geranylgeraniol in 6 or 7 steps. Four Lewis acids (MeAlCl<sub>2</sub>, BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, TiCl<sub>4</sub> and SnCl<sub>4</sub>) were applied for biomimetic cyclization of the synthesized epoxide precursors. The cyclization products (one product from 11, four products from 2, and three products from 3) were isolated after separation by chromatography. Their structures were determined by using NMR (COSY, HSQC, HMBC, NOESY, etc.) and HRMS analyses. The results show that biomimetic cyclization gave new polycyclic compounds similar to natural indole terpene alkaloids. We conclude that the stability of cation intermediates should determine the preference for product formation by biomimetic cyclization when using a Lewis acid.

## Key words: indole alkaloid; monoterpene; sesquiterpene; diterpene; biomimetic cyclization

Indole alkaloids have extraordinarily diverse structures which are produced by the inherent cyclases of various creatures. Many indole alkaloids have complicated frameworks and various bioactivities;<sup>1–4</sup>) for example, lolitrem B is the major lolitrem neurotoxin isolated from perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne* L.) infected with the endophytic fungus, *Neotyphodium lolii*.<sup>5</sup>) Paxilline<sup>6</sup> and paspaline<sup>7</sup>) are known as tremorgenic mycotoxins; while emindoles DB and DA<sup>8</sup>) are known as the indole diterpene alkaloids produced by the *Emericella* genus (Fig. 1).

Some indole diterpene alkaloids have been studied at the genetic level to analyze the respective functions of biosynthetic genes;<sup>9–12)</sup> for example, PaxC (prenyl transferase) is encoded by the *paxC* gene, and has been presumed to function as a cyclase in the biosynthesis of paxilline and paspaline.<sup>12)</sup> If recombinant proteins of the cyclases are obtained, they might be applied to the synthesis of cyclic compounds from various acyclic precursors. A combination of the organic synthesis of biosynthetic precursors and subsequent enzymatic cyclization would be a useful method to provide novel compounds which could be expected to have interesting bioactivities. Furthermore, the study of biomimetic cyclization is important to elucidate the basic cyclization mechanism for these classes of compounds.

There are some reports of the indole terpene alkaloids (polyveoline,<sup>13)</sup> polyalthenol,<sup>14)</sup> petromindole,<sup>15)</sup> and emindole  $SA^{16,17)}$  as shown in Fig. 2) which have been assumed to be derived from 2-(10,11-epoxyfarnesyl)indole (1), 3-(10,11-epoxyfarnesyl)indole (2), 3-(10,11-epoxygeranylgeranyl)indole (5) and 3-(14,15epoxygeranylgeranyl)indole (3) as respective biosynthetic intermediates; for example, polyveoline, which exhibits antiparasitic activity, has the 6.6.5-tricyclic framework cyclized from 1. Petromindole and emindole SA are indole alkaloids possessing the 6.6.6.6-tetracyclic and 6.6-bicyclic framework respectively cyclized from 3 and 5. A consideration of these reasonable examples leads to the notion that many other polycyclic indole terpene alkaloids would be biosynthesized from such indole epoxypolyenes as 1, 2, 3, 5 and similar intermediates.

Diverse families of indole terpene alkaloids are thought to be biosynthesized via the following four steps:<sup>18)</sup> (i) recognition of the epoxypolyene and control of its conformation, (ii) generation of the carbocation via epoxide-opening, (iii) C-C bond formation and stabilization of resulting carbocation intermediates, and (iv) quenching of the final carbocation. In the case of enzymatic cyclization, C-C bond formation produces not only an energetically stable carbocation, but also a labile carbocation. Furthermore, the hydride shifts and/or alkyl group rearrangements often occur to give other carbocations, the final carbocation being quenched to give the product. Petromindole is biosynthesized via the diastereoselective cyclization of enantiopure (S)-3 through epoxide opening. Specific protonation of the epoxide is the most important step, especially in the cyclization of a precursor containing a long terpene chain such as that in the biosynthesis of indole diterpene

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> To whom correspondence should be addressed. Fax: +81-29-888-8525; E-mail: toshima@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp

alkaloids, because an epoxide and three double bonds exist together in the precursor. Protonation of an epoxide easily occurs by the action of a Lewis acid to biomimetically generate a carbocation by epoxide opening. The resulted carbocation is attacked by the intramolecular double bond with subsequent hydride shifts and/or alkyl group rearrangements to provide a complex polycyclic skeleton. The biomimetic cyclization mediated by Lewis acids has therefore been studied for a long time and exploited in the total synthesis of natural products;<sup>19-21)</sup> for example, biomimetic cyclization with a Lewis acid has been applied for the total synthesis of emindole SA and petromindole.<sup>17,22)</sup> These reports indicate that the indole nitrogen was protected as a sulfonamide and Nsilvl derivative. Since the total syntheses of some natural products has been achieved by biomimetic cyclization using nitrogen-protected precursors, we expected that a natural product could be synthesized by biomimetic cyclization using nitrogen-unprotected precursors. Although indole sesqui- and diterpene alkaloids are popularly known, there have so far been no reports on indole monoterpene alkaloids. We therefore planned to synthesize a new indole monoterpene alkaloid from 3-(6,7-epoxygeranyl)indole (11) by biomimetic cyclization, using Lewis acids. It can be expected that the study of biomimetic cyclization with Lewis acids systematically using different chain-length intermediates would be useful in elucidating the cyclization mechanism by cyclases. The products from this study might also be expected to be unknown natural products and new



Fig. 1. Indole Diterpene Alkaloids Known as Mycotoxins.

polycyclic compounds similar to natural products which would be useful for studying biological activity. We describe here the biomimetic cyclization of indole terpene precursors 2, 3, and 11 by Lewis acids, structural determination of the cyclized products, and elucidation of the cyclization mechanism.

# **Results and Discussion**

The necessary precursors (11, 2 and 3) for biomimetic cyclization were synthesized as shown in Scheme 1. Geraniol was protected with TBDPSCl to give 7 in a 98% yield. Selective epoxidation of 7 with *m*CPBA at 0°C gave 8 in a 74% yield. This obtained 8 was deprotected with TBAF to give 9 in a 95% yield. Mesylation of 9 with MsCl and subsequent bromination with LiBr gave  $10^{23}$  in a one-pot step. This obtained 10 was coupled with indole to give  $11^{23}$  in a 53% yield in 3 steps.<sup>23</sup> Farnesol was converted to  $2^{24}$  in 6 steps in the same manner as that used for the synthesis of 11 from geraniol.

Geranylgeraniol was protected with TBDPSCl to give 12 in an 89% yield. Obtained 12 was treated with NBS to give bromohydrin 13 in a 35% yield.<sup>25)</sup> Obtained 13 was treated with  $K_2CO_3$  in MeOH to give epoxide 14 in an 80% yield. Obtained 14 was converted to  $3^{22)}$  in 4 steps in the same manner as that used for the synthesis of 11 from 8.

Four Lewis acids (1 M MeAlCl<sub>2</sub> in a hexane solution, BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, 1 M TiCl<sub>4</sub> in a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution and 1 M SnCl<sub>4</sub> in a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution) were used for the cyclization of precursors 2, 3 and 11.  $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2^{24,26}$  was used in the biomimetic cyclization of 1, because it is known as a popular Lewis acid to activate an epoxide, while MeAlCl<sub>2</sub> was used for the total synthesis of emindole SA.<sup>17)</sup> SnCl<sub>4</sub><sup>27)</sup> and TiCl<sub>4</sub><sup>28)</sup> are general Lewis acids used in the synthesis of cyclic compounds for ringopening cyclization of epoxypolyene and polyene cyclization. In the case of biomimetic cyclization using the same precursor, there was not much difference in the total yield of the reaction with each of these Lewis acids (40-73% from 11, 29-36% from 2, and 21-24% from 3). The total yield decreased with extending terpene chain length, and the number of products increased to



Fig. 2. Plausible Biosynthetic Pathways to Polyveoline, Polyalthenol, Emindole SA and Petromindole.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of the Necessary Precursors (11, 2 and 3) for the Cyclization Reaction.

a) TBDPSCl, imidazole, DMF, **7** (98%), **32** (97%), **12** (89%); b) *m*CPBA, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, **8** (74%), **33** (22%); c) TBAF, THF, r.t, **9** (95%), **34** (91%), **36** (77%); d) MsCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, THF, -40 °C, then LiBr, THF, 0 °C; e) indole, Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub>, TBAI, DIEA, toluene, r.t, **11** (53%, 3 steps), **2** (50%, 3 steps), **3** (57%, 3 steps); f) NBS, THF/H<sub>2</sub>O, r.t; g) K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, r.t, 63% (2 steps).



Fig. 3. Cyclic Products from 2, 3 and 11 by Biomimetic Cyclization with Lewis Acids. Bold lines denote COSY correlations for the cyclic products. Single-headed arrows denote HMBC correlations, and double-headed arrows denote NOESY correlations.

give different cyclic structures. The structures of the isolated cyclic products were determined with one- and two-dimensional NMR measurements, these structures and NMR data being shown in Fig. 3 and Tables 1–3.

The molecular formula of **15** was established to be  $C_{18}H_{23}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{23}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), *m/z* 269.1780; found, 269.1779) coupled with <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 1). Three COSY fragments, F15-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F15-2 (H-1, 2) and F15-3 (H-4, 5, 6), were established by analyzing the COSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). HMBC correlation peaks were used to connect the COSY fragments and quaternary carbons (Table 1). The aryl portion of the indole moiety was

established from F15-1 and the correlation of H-5'/C-9' and H-8'/C-4'. The remainder of the indole moiety fragment was assigned on the basis of HMBC correlation peaks of H-5'/C-3', H-1/C-2' and C-3', and H-10/C-2'. HMBC correlation peaks from the H-1 methylene proton to C-3', C-2' and C-3 led to the connection of the indole moiety and F15-2, while HMBC correlation peaks from the H-10 methyl proton to C-2', C-2, C-3 and C-4 led to the connection of F15-2, F15-3 and the indole moiety. HMBC correlation peaks from a geminal dimethyl group (H-8 and H-9) to C-2, C-6 and C-7 led to the connection of F15-2 and F15-3. NOESY correlation peaks between H-2 and H-6 indicated the 1,3-

diaxial relationship for H-2 and H-6, while NOESY correlation peaks between C-9 and the C-10 methyl group indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for C-9 and the C-10 methyl group. The relative configuration was determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of **16** was established to be  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), m/z 337.2406; found, 337.2407) coupled with <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 2). Four COSY fragments,

Table 1. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectral Data for 15

Centerne	<b>15</b> (in $CDCl_3$ )					
Carbon no.	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)				
(1')	NH	7.76 (br s)				
2'	151.5 (s)					
3'	116.8 (s)					
4′	139.2 (s)					
5′	118.5 (d)	7.45 (dd, 7.3, 3.2)				
6′	120.4 (d)	7.09 (m)				
7′	119.7 (d)	7.07 (m)				
8′	111.6 (d)	7.30 (dd, 7.3, 3.2)				
9′	125.2 (s)					
1	22.7 (t)	2.70 (dd, 13.5, 6.1), 2.57 (dd, 13.5, 11.2)				
2	62.4 (d)	2.17 (dd, 11.2, 6.1)				
3	42.9 (s)					
4	33.6 (t)	2.01 (dt, 11.0, 3.2), 1.76 (m)				
5	28.7 (t)	1.90 (m), 1.83 (m)				
6	79.5 (d)	3.45 (m)				
7	38.7 (s)					
8	16.0 (q)	1.06 (s)				
9	28.6 (q)	1.11 (s)				
10	20.3 (q)	1.14 (s)				

F16-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F16-2 (H-1, 2), F16-3 (H-4, 5, 6) and F16-4 (H-8, 9, 10), were established by analyzing the COSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). HMBC correlation peaks were used to connect the COSY fragments and the quaternary carbons (Table 2). The aryl portion of the indole moiety was established from F16-1, and the correlation of H-5'/C-4' and C-9', H-6'/C-4', and H-8'/ C-9'. The remainder of the indole moiety fragment was assigned on the basis of HMBC correlation peaks from the methyne proton at H-2' to C-3', C-4' and C-9'. HMBC correlation peaks from the H-1 methylene proton to C-2', C-3', C-2 and C-3 led to the connection of the indole moiety and F16-2, while HMBC correlation peaks from the H-15 methyl proton to C-2, C-3 and C-4 led to the connection of F16-2 and F16-3. HMBC correlation peaks from the H-14 methyl group to C-6, C-7 and C-8 led to the connection of F16-3 and F16-4, and HMBC correlation peaks from a geminal dimethyl group (H-12 and H-13) to C-6, C-10 and C-11 led to the connection of F16-3 and F16-4. It was confirmed that the C-7 quaternary carbon ( $\delta_C$  86.7) and C-10 methine carbon ( $\delta_C$  86.1) were bound to oxygen by the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data, a bridged framework of C-7 and C-10 therefore being suggested. A NOESY correlation peak between H-6 and H-8 indicated a 1,3-diaxial-like relationship for H-6 and H-8, while a NOESY correlation peak between H-6 and H-14 indicated the synrelationship for H-6 and the C-14 methyl group. The relative configuration was therefore determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of **17** was established to be  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), m/z 337.2406; found, 337.2407) coupled with the <sup>1</sup>H- and

Table 2. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectral Data for 16–19

Carbon no.	16 (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		<b>17</b> (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		<b>18</b> (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		<b>19</b> (in C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub> )	
	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)
(1')	NH	7.78 (br s)	NH	7.78 (br s)	NH	7.70 (br s)	NH	6.60 (br s)
2′	121.1 (d)	6.94 (br s)	121.1 (d)	6.90 (br s)	152.5 (s)		151.8 (s)	
3′	116.1 (s)		116.0 (s)		113.2 (s)		116.5 (s)	
4′	127.5 (s)		127.5 (s)		139.5 (s)		139.8 (s)	
5′	119.0 (d)	7.58 (d, 8.1)	119.0 (d)	7.58 (d, 8.0)	118.5 (d)	7.42 (dd, 6.2, 1.6)	118.9 (d)	7.64 (dd, 6.8, 1.6)
6′	119.1 (d)	7.09 (t, 8.1)	119.2 (d)	7.10 (t, 8.0)	120.3 (d)	7.07 (m)	120.6 (d)	7.26 (dt, 1.6, 6.8)
7′	121.4 (d)	7.17 (t, 8.1)	122.0 (d)	7.18 (t, 8.0)	119.6 (d)	7.06 (m)	120.0 (d)	7.23 (dt, 1.6, 6.8)
8'	111.0 (d)	7.34 (d, 8.1)	111.1 (d)	7.34 (d, 8.0)	111.4 (d)	7.30 (dd, 6.2, 1.6)	112.0 (d)	7.14 (dd, 6.8, 1.6)
9′	136.5 (s)		136.5 (s)		125.3 (s)		126.1 (s)	
1	24.0 (t)	3.46 (d, 7.1)	24.1 (t)	3.46 (d, 7.0)	26.4 (t)	2.78 (dd, 13.7, 8.3) 2.67 (dd, 13.7, 9.6)	22.3 (t)	2.50 (dd, 13.2, 5.7) 2.38 (dd, 13.2, 11.0)
2	123.2 (d)	5.43 (t, 7.1)	123.2 (d)	5.47 (t, 7.0)	67.0 (d)	2.30 (dd, 9.6, 8.3)	67.9 (d)	1.94 (dd, 11.0, 5.7)
3	135.8 (s)		135.7 (s)		41.4 (s)		43.4 (s)	
4	39.8 (t)	2.00 (m)	32.6 (t)	1.91 (td, 11.6, 5.1) 2.06 (td, 11.6, 5.1)	38.4 (t)	1.86 (dt, 13.1, 1.1) 1.38 (m)	36.6 (t)	1.86 (dt, 11.0, 2.8) 1.43 (m)
5	26.1 (t)	1.43 (m)	35.9 (t)	1.44 (m)	18.1 (t)	1.50 (m)	19.4 (t)	1.66 (m) 1.50 (m)
6	55.2 (d)	1.19 (t, 6.8)	43.5 (s)		47.7 (d)	1.24 (m)	56.5 (d)	0.75 (m)
7	86.7 (s)		36.1 (d)	2.01 (m)	36.9 (s)		37.3 (s)	
8	39.0 (t)	1.46 (m)	31.0 (t)	1.86 (m) 1.62 (m)	35.8 (t)	1.66 (m) 1.44 (dt, 12.6, 3.1)	38.4 (t)	1.38 (m) 0.93 (m)
9	25.8 (t)	1.88 (m) 1.65 (m)	41.6 (t)	2.32 (m)	27.2 (t)	1.70 (m)	27.7 (t)	1.46 (m)
10	86.1 (d)	3.72 (d, 5.3)	214.0 (s)		79.2 (d)	3.29 (dd, 9.7 6.6)	78.8 (d)	3.00 (dd, 11.4, 5.7)
11	45.3 (s)		50.5 (d)	2.48 (q, 6.7)	38.7 (s)		39.1 (s)	
12	25.9 (q)	1.02 (s)	7.6 (q)	0.93 (d, 6.7)	15.7 (q)	0.85 (s)	15.4 (q)	0.83 (s)
13	23.4 (q)	1.01 (s)	15.4 (q)	0.58 (s)	28.3 (q)	1.02 (s)	28.3 (q)	1.03 (s)
14	19.0 (q)	1.32 (s)	15.1 (q)	0.89 (d, 6.7)	23.8 (q)	1.21 (s)	16.9 (q)	0.94 (s)
15	16.0 (q)	1.76 (br s)	16.3 (q)	1.78 (br s)	25.5 (q)	1.53 (s)	21.8 (q)	0.97 (s)

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 2). Five COSY fragments, F17-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F17-2 (H-1, 2), F17-3 (H-4, 5), F17-4 (H-14, 7, 8, 9) and F17-5 (H-11, 12), were established by analyzing the COSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). HMBC correlations were used to connect these COSY fragments and the quaternary carbons (Table 2). Since the correlation peaks for the substructure (indole and F17-2) of 17 were consistent with the substructure (indole and F16-2) of 16, the substructure (indole and F17-2) of 17 was determined in the same manner as that used for the structural determination of 16. HMBC correlation peaks from the H-15 methyl proton to C-2, C-3, and C-4 led to the connection of F17-2 and F17-3, and HMBC correlation peaks from the H-9 methylene proton to C-10 and C-11 led to the connection of F17-4 and F17-5. HMBC correlation peaks from the H-13 methyl proton to C-5, C-6, C-7 and C-11 led to the connection of F17-3, F17-4, and F17-5. The NOESY correlation peak between H-7 and H-11 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship of H-7 and H-11. The NOESY correlation peak between H-13 and H-14 indicated the axial-equatorial relationship of the C-13 and C14 methyl groups, while the NOESY correlation peak between H-12 and H-13 indicated the equatorialaxial relationship of the C-12 and C-13 methyl groups. The relative configuration was determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of 18 was established to be  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), m/z337.2406; found, 337.2404) coupled with the <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 2). Four COSY fragments, F18-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F18-2 (H-1, 2), F18-3 (H-4, 5, 6) and F18-4 (H-8, 9, 10), were established by analyzing the COSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). The HMBC correlation peaks were used to connect the COSY fragments and the quaternary carbons (Table 2). The indole moiety was established from F18-1 and the correlation of H-5'/C-3', C-4' and C-9', and H-8'/C-9'. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-1 methylene proton to the indole moiety (C-2' and C-3'), C-3 and C-7 led to the connection of the indole moiety and F18-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-15 methyl proton to C-2', C-2, C-3 and C-4 led to the connection of F18-3, the indole moiety and F18-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-14 methyl proton to C-2, C-6, C-7 and C-8 led to the connection of F18-2, F18-3 and F18-4. The HMBC correlation peaks from the geminal dimethyl protons (H-12 and H-13) to C-6, C-10 and C-11 led to the connection of F18-3 and F18-4. The NOESY correlation peaks between H-6 and H-10 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-6 and H-10, while the NOESY correlation peaks between the H-2 and C-15 methyl groups indicated the syn-relationship for the H-2 and C-15 methyl groups. The NOESY correlation peaks between the H-2 and C-14 methyl groups indicated the syn-relationship for the H-2 and C-14 methyl groups, and the NOESY correlation peaks between the C-14 and C-15 methyl groups indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for the C-14 and C-15 methyl groups. The relative configuration was determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of **19** was established to be  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{31}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), m/z 337.2406; found, 337.2405) coupled with the <sup>1</sup>H- and

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 2). Four COSY fragments, F19-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F19-2 (H-1, 2), F19-3 (H-4, 5, 6) and F19-4 (H-8, 9, 10), were established by analyzing the COSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). The HMBC correlation peaks were used to connect the COSY fragments and the quaternary carbons (Table 2). The indole moiety was established from F19-1 and the correlation of H-5'/C-3', C-4' and C-9', and H-8'/C-9' and C-4'. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-1 methylene proton to the indole moiety (C-2' and C-3'), C-2 and C-3 led to the connection of the indole moiety and F19-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-15 methyl proton to C-2', C-2, C-3 and C-4 led to the connection of F19-3, the indole moiety and F19-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-14 methyl proton to C-2, C-6, C-7 and C-8 led to the connection of F19-2, F19-3 and F19-4. The HMBC correlation peaks from the geminal dimethyl protons (H-12 and H-13) to C-6, C-10 and C-11 led to the connection of F19-3 and F19-4. The NOESY correlation peaks between H-2 and H-6 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-2 and H-6, and the NOESY correlation peaks between H-6 and H-10 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-6 and H-10. The NOESY correlation peaks between the C-14 and C-15 methyl groups indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for the C-14 and C-15 methyl groups. The relative configuration was determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of 20 was established to be  $C_{28}H_{39}NO$  by HRMS (calcd. for  $C_{28}H_{39}NO$  (M<sup>+</sup>), m/z405.3032; found, 405.3050) coupled with the  $^{1}$ H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data (Table 3). Five COSY fragments, F20-1 (H-5', 6', 7', 8'), F20-2 (H-1, 2), F20-3 (H-4, 5, 6), F20-4 (H-8, 9, 10) and F20-5 (H-12, 13, 14), were established by analyzing the COSY and HSQC-TOCSY correlation peaks (Fig. 3). The HMBC correlation peaks were used to connect the COSY and HSQC-TOCSY fragments and the quaternary carbons (Table 3). The indole moiety was established from F20-1, and the correlation of H-5'/C-3', C-4' and C-9', H-8'/C-9' and C-4'. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-1 methylene proton to the indole moiety (C-2') and C-3') and C-3 led to the connection for the indole moiety and F20-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-20 methyl proton to C-2', C-2, C-3 and C-4 led to the connection for F20-3, the indole moiety and F20-2. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-19 methyl proton to C-2, C-6, C-7 and C-8 led to the connection for F20-2, F20-3 and F20-4. The HMBC correlation peaks from the H-18 methyl proton to C-6, C-10, C-11 and C-12 led to the connection for F20-3, F20-4 and F20-5, and the HMBC correlation peaks from a geminal dimethyl proton (H-16 and H-17) to C-10, C-14 and C-15 led to the connection for F20-4 and F20-5. The NOESY correlation peaks between H-2 and H-6 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-2 and H-6, while the NOESY correlation peaks between H-6 and H-10 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-6 and H-10. The NOESY correlation peaks between H-10 and H-14 indicated the 1,3-diaxial relationship for H-10 and H-14, and the NOESY correlation peaks between the C-18 and C-19 methyl groups indicated the 1,3diaxial relationship for the C-18 and C-19 methyl groups. The NOESY correlation between the C-19 and

T. ISAKA *et al.* **Table 3.** <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectral Data for **20–22** 

Carbon	<b>20</b> (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		21	(in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	<b>22</b> (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
no.	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$ (Mult.)	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (Mult., J Hz)
(1')	NH	7.75 (br s)	NH	8.09 (br s)	NH	7.88 (br s)
2'	152.3 (s)		121.3 (d)	6.96 (br s)	121.1 (d)	6.94 (d, 1.1)
3'	116.6 (s)		116.1 (s)		116.2 (s)	
4′	139.1 (s)		127.5 (s)		127.6 (s)	
5′	118.4 (d)	7.43 (dd, 6.6, 3.1)	119.0 (d)	7.58 (d, 8.0)	119.1 (d)	7.58 (d, 8.0)
6'	120.3 (d)	7.07 (m)	119.1 (d)	7.08 (t, 8.0)	119.2 (d)	7.09 (t, 7.1)
7′	119.6 (d)	7.05 (m)	121.9 (d)	7.18 (t, 8.0)	122.0 (d)	7.18 (t, 7.0)
8'	111.5 (d)	7.29 (dd, 6.6, 3.1)	111.1 (d)	7.35 (d, 8.0)	111.0 (d)	7.34 (d, 8.0)
9′	125.3 (s)		136.6 (s)		136.6 (s)	
1	22.1 (t)	2.49 (dd, 13.3,11.0) 2.61 (dd, 13.3, 6.0)	23.9 (t)	3.46 (d, 7.1)	24.1 (t)	3.46 (d, 7.1)
2	68.3 (d)	2.18 (dd, 11.0, 6.0)	123.0 (d)	5.47 (t, 7.1)	123.1 (d)	5.45 (t, 7.1)
3	43.4 (s)		135.5 (s)		135.4 (s)	
4	36.4 (t)	1.58 (m) 2.06 (ddd, 8.8, 3.1, 1.6)	39.7 (t)	2.09 (t, 6.4)	39.7 (t)	2.07 (t, 7.0)
5	18.3 (t)	1.65 (m)	26.4 (t)	2.14 (t, 6.4)	26.7 (t)	2.12 (t, 7.0)
6	61.7 (d)	0.97 (m)	124.1 (d)	5.14 (t, 6.4)	124.4 (d)	5.15 (t, 7.0)
7	37.3 (s)		135.3 (s)		135.1 (s)	
8	41.8 (t)	1.16 (m) 1.67 (m)	39.7 (t)	1.92 (m)	32.6 (t)	1.80 (m) 1.95 (m)
9	17.7 (t)	1.53 (m)	26.2 (t)	1.40 (m)	36.0 (t)	1.37 (m)
10	56.1 (d)	0.83 (dd, 11.5, 3.1)	55.3 (d)	1.18 (dd, 8.2, 6.3)	43.5 (s)	
11	37.7 (s)		86.9 (s)		36.1 (d)	1.99 (m)
12	38.4 (t)	1.02 (m) 1.66 (m)	39.0 (t)	1.48 (m)	31.0 (t)	1.85 (m) 1.61 (m)
13	27.4 (t)	1.59 (m)	25.8 (t)	1.88 (m) 1.65 (m)	41.6 (t)	2.33 (m)
14	78.9 (d)	3.21 (dd, 11.2, 5.1)	86.2 (d)	3.73 (d, 5.3)	214.0 (s)	
15	39.1 (s)		45.2 (s)		50.5 (d)	2.45 (q, 6.8)
16	15.2 (q)	0.99 (s)	26.1 (q)	1.04 (s)	7.6 (q)	0.91 (d, 6.8)
17	28.0 (q)	0.81 (s)	23.5 (q)	1.00 (s)	15.4 (q)	0.56 (s)
18	16.1 (q)	0.90 (s)	18.9 (q)	1.31 (s)	15.0 (q)	0.88 (d, 6.8)
19	17.9 (q)	1.10 (s)	16.1 (q)	1.60 (s)	16.2 (q)	1.77 (s)
20	21.6 (q)	1.11 (s)	16.0 (q)	1.76 (br s)	16.1 (q)	1.62 (br s)

C-20 methyl groups was ambiguous due the proximity of their proton signals. No NOESY correlation between the H-2 and C-20 methyl groups was apparent, nor between the H-2 and C-19 methyl groups. The relative configuration was determined in this way by analyzing the NOESY correlation peaks (Fig. 3).

The same bicyclic structure for **21** as that for **16** was confirmed by analyzing the <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data. Furthermore, the same cyclohexanone structure for **22** as that for **17** was also confirmed by analyzing the <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data.

Compound 15 would be synthesized from 11 by a cyclization mechanism of the 6.5-bicyclic type in 4 steps: i) epoxide-opening with a Lewis acid, ii) formation of tert-cation 23 by nucleophilic attack of C-2, iii) formation of a cation on the indole ring (C-3') by nucleophilic attack of the indole ring (C-2'), iv) quenching of the carbocation to reproduce the indole ring. Since H-2/H-6 and the C-9 methyl/C-10 methyl were determined to have 1,3-diaxial relationships, the formation of the cyclohexane ring of 15 was presumed to proceed via a stable chair conformation. Biomimetic cyclization of 11 gave only 15, but biomimetic cyclization of 2 and 3 gave several cyclic compounds. It is suggested that biomimetic cyclization of 11 proceeded instantaneously due to the proximity between cation 23 and the indole ring. It is suggested that biomimetic cyclization of 2 and 3 would be difficult to proceed,

because of the long distance between the *tert*-cation and the double bond in a flexible conformation based on a longer terpene chain.

The cyclization mechanism for compounds 18 and 19 synthesized from 2 is shown in Fig. 4. These compounds were stereoisomers at C-2. This result suggests that the 6.6-bicyclic framework of 18 and 19 was respectively cyclized through a boat-like and chair-like conformation in the formation at the second ring. The 6.6.5-tricyclic framework of 18 was formed from cation 27 via a boatlike conformation (24) to give the stereogenic center of 25, this being followed by quenching of the carbocation to reproduce an indole ring (26) and changing to a stable conformation. The 6.6.5-tricyclic framework of 19 was formed from cation 27 via a chair-like conformation and quenching of the carbocation to reproduce an indole ring (28). The yield of 19 was higher than that of 18, suggesting that cyclization through the chair-like conformation proceeded more easily than that through a boat-like conformation. The kind of Lewis acid did not affect the total yields of 18 and 19. Compound 5 had a longer terminal isoprene unit than 2 which was used as a model compound for the synthesis of emindole SA<sup>17)</sup> by biomimetic cyclization. Compound 2 is considered to be a biosynthetic precursor of polyalthenol; however, the polyalthenol-type framework and decalin of the emindole-type framework were not synthesized from 2 by biomimetic cyclization.



Fig. 4. Cyclization Mechanism for Compounds 15, 18 and 19.

Compound **20** would be synthesized from **3** by a cyclization mechanism of the 6.6.6.5-tetracyclic type in 6 steps: i) epoxide- opening with a Lewis acid, ii) formation of a *tert*-cation at C-11 by nucleophilic attack of C-10, iii) formation of a *tert*-cation at C-7 by nucleophilic attack of C-6, iv) formation of a *tert*-cation at C-3 by nucleophilic attack of C-2, v) formation of a cation on the indole ring (C-3') by nucleophilic attack of the indole ring (C-2'), vi) quenching of the carbocation to reproduce the indole ring. The cyclization of **20** proceeded *via* a chair conformation, because H-2/H-6, H-6/H-10, H-10/H-14, C-18/C-19 and C-19/C-20 each had a 1,3-diaxial relationship.

The cyclization mechanism for compounds 16 and 17 synthesized from 2 is shown in Fig. 5. The bridged framework of 16 was formed from 2 via 29 which was in equilibrium with 27. The framework of 17 was formed from cation 27 via the formation of cation 30 by a hydride shift and methyl rearrangement, quenching of the carbocation and subsequent ring-flip of carbonyl compound 31. It is suggested that biomimetic cyclization easily proceeded not only with cyclization but also with the hydride shift and methyl rearrangement. In the case of biomimetic cyclization, the reaction of the linear side chain of terpene may be difficult, because the olefin in the linear side chain was conformationally away from the cation.

We were interested in the synthesis of natural products by biomimetic cyclization when using a nitrogen-unprotected precursor, because some total syntheses of natural products have been reported by biomimetic cyclization when using a nitrogen-protected precursor. The synthesis in a low yield of petromindole from a nitrogen-protected precursor by biomimetic cyclization when using a Lewis acid has been reported.<sup>22)</sup> However, petromindole has not been synthesized from a nitrogen-unprotected precursor. Emindole SA has similarly been synthesized from a nitrogen-protected precursor by biomimetic cyclization when using a how been synthesized from a nitrogen-protected precursor by biomimetic cyclization when using Lewis acid,<sup>17)</sup> but no emindole analogs have been synthesized from a



Fig. 5. Cyclization Mechanism for Compounds 16 and 17.

nitrogen-unprotected precursor by biomimetic cyclization with a Lewis acid. These results suggest that biomimetic cyclization is controlled by the protection of nitrogen: the cyclization mechanism may be controlled to some extent by protecting nitrogen with an electronwithdrawing group such as a sulfonyl.

In conclusion, no natural product was obtained by biomimetic cyclization of a nitrogen-unprotected precursor. However, the many cyclic compounds obtained were new. The results of biomimetic cyclization suggest that the reaction proceeds through a relatively stretched conformation, whereas the enzymatic reaction proceeds through a folded conformation at the reaction site of the cyclase. It would therefore be difficult to synthesize the major or sole product by biomimetic cyclization. Our results suggest that protection of the indole-nitrogen was important in synthesizing the emindole and petromindole framework. Biomimetic cyclization may possibly be controlled to some extent by protecting nitrogen with electron-withdrawing groups. The number of products possessing unknown frameworks would be increased with increasing terpene chain length. Furthermore, all Lewis acids gave the same cyclic compounds. A Lewis acid was enough to initiate the reaction, but insufficient to carry out polycyclization. However, biomimetic cyclization may possibly be used for synthesizing new polycyclic compounds similar to natural indole terpene alkaloids. It is hoped that a useful bioactive compound could be found from these.

### Experimental

Instrumentation. IR spectra were measured with a Jasco FT/IR-4100 spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz by a Bruker AVANCE III 400 spectrometer, the peak for TMS (at  $\delta$  0.00) being used as the internal standard. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz by the Bruker AVANCE III 400 spectrometer, the peaks for CDCl<sub>3</sub> (at  $\delta$  77.0) and C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (at  $\delta$  128.0) being used as the internal standards. Mass spectra were obtained with a Jeol JMS-BU25 (GCmate II) mass spectrometer in the electron ionization mode at an ionization energy of 70 eV. Column chromatography was carried out on 60 N silica gel (Kanto Chemicals), and PTLC was performed on PLC 60 F<sub>254</sub> silica gel (Merck, 20 × 20 cm plate, 0.5 mm thickness, 1.05744.0009 or 1.0 mm thickness, 1.13895.0009).

(E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-3,7-dimethylocta-2,6-diene (7). Imidazole (956 mg, 14.0 mmol) and TBDPSCl (2.31 g, 8.40 mmol) were added to a cooled solution of geraniol (1.08 g, 7.00 mmol) in dry DMF (14 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. After adding aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and EtOAc, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 10:1) to give silyl ether **7** (2.69 g, 98%) as a colorless oil. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3070, 3049, 2961, 2930, 2857, 1472, 1428, 1380, 1111, 1059, 823, 778, 738, 701, 613, 505. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.44 (3H, s), 1.60 (3H, s), 1.68 (3H, s), 1.97 (2H, t, J = 7.5 Hz), 2.05 (2H, t, J = 7.5 Hz), 4.22 (2H, t, J = 5.9 Hz), 5.10 (1H, t, J = 7.5 Hz), 5.38 (1H, t, J = 5.9 Hz), 7.34–7.42 (6H, m, 6 × Ar*H*), 7.67–7.71 (4H, m, 4 × Ar*H*). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.1 (C), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.8 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 61.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 124.8 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 127.5 (2 × CH), 129.4 (4 × CH), 131.4 (C), 134.5 (2 × C), 135.6 (4 × CH), 137.0 (C). MS m/z: 392 (M<sup>+</sup>, 16), 335 (98), 257 (41), 230 (16), 198 (100), 181 (39), 135 (57), 121 (24), 105 (14), 93 (11), 77 (32). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>OSi (M<sup>+</sup>), 392.2535; found, 392.2509.

(E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-3,7-dimethyl-6,7-epoxyoct-2-ene (8). NaHCO3 (820 mg, 9.76 mmol) and mCPBA (77% purity, 1.48 g, 6.59 mmol) were added to a cooled solution of silyl ether 7 (1.96 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry CH2Cl2 (51 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. After adding aq. NaHCO3, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 6:1) to give 8 (1.53 g, 74%) as a colorless oil. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3071, 3049, 2959, 2930, 2857, 1472, 1461, 1428, 1377, 1111, 1058, 823, 786, 739, 702, 613, 505. NMR δ<sub>H</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (3H, s), 1.46 (3H, s), 1.55-1.68 (2H, m), 2.03-2.20 (2H, m), 2.70 (1H, t, J = 6.4 Hz), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 6.0 Hz), 5.41 (1H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 7.34– 7.42 (6H, m, 6 × ArH), 7.67–7.71 (4H, m, 4 × ArH). NMR  $\delta_{C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.1 (C), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.8  $(3 \times CH_3)$ , 27.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 61.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.0 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 127.6 (2 × CH), 129.5 (4 × CH), 134.0 (2 × C), 135.6  $(4 \times CH)$ , 136.1 (C). MS m/z: 351 ([M – t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 64), 273 (71), 229 (31), 213 (21), 198 (100), 181 (50), 135 (88), 121 (36), 107 (47), 93 (46), 77 (39), 59 (18). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C222H27O2Si [M – *t*-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 351.1775; found, 351.1790.

(E)-3,7-Dimethyl-6,7-epoxyoct-2-en-1-ol (9). A THF solution of TBAF (1.0 M, 5.60 mL, 5.60 mmol) was added to a cooled solution of 8 (1.53 g, 3.70 mmol) in THF (16 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After adding aq. NH4Cl and EtOAc, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (30 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 1:2.5) to give 9 (597 mg, 95%) as a colorless oil. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film) cm^{-1}: 3407, 2962, 2925, 2877, 1666, 1450, 1379, 1248, 1116, 1002, 869, 680. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (3H, s), 1.67 (2H, quintet, J = 6.4 Hz), 1.70 (3H, s), 2.10–2.18 (2H, m), 2.71 (1H t, J = 6.4 Hz), 4.16 (2H, t, J = 6.2 Hz), 5.46 (1H, t, J = 6.2 Hz). NMR  $\delta_{C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 59.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.0 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 138.8 (C). MS m/z: 152 ([M - H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>, 2), 149 (19), 137 (14), 130 (11), 123 (9), 109 (10), 95 (17), 81 (51), 69 (100), 58 (43). HRMS m/z: calcd. for  $C_{10}H_{16}O [M - H_2O]^+$ , 152.1201; found, 152.1203.

(E)-Bromo-3,7-dimethyl-6,7-epoxyoct-2-ene (10). Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.98 mL, 7.00 mmol) and MsCl (0.35 mL, 4.55 mmol) were added to a cooled solution of 9 (597 mg, 3.50 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) in a nitrogen atmosphere at -30 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -30 °C for 1 h. To the resulting mesylate solution was added LiBr (1.21 g, 13.9 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) at -30 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. After adding aq. NH4Cl and EtOAc, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , and concentrated in vacuo to afford crude product 10 (820 mg) as a colorless oil. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2961, 2924, 2860, 1655, 1450, 1377, 1323, 1249, 1202, 1174, 1122, 874, 897, 679, 589. NMR δ<sub>H</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.26 (3H, s), 1.31 (3H, s), 1.66 (2H, m), 1.75 (3H, br s), 2.15–2.28 (2H, m), 2.69 (1H t, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.01 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.58 (1H, t, J = 8.4 Hz). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.4 (C), 63.8 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 142.5 (C). MS m/z: 153 ([M – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 27), 149 (30), 135 (29), 111 (31), 93 (33), 81 (100), 71 (87), 69 (78), 58 (95). HRMS m/z: calcd. for  $C_{10}H_{17}O$  [M – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 153.1274; found, 153.1271.

3-(6,7-Epoxygeranyl)indole (11). DIEA (1.35 mL, 7.75 mmol) was added to a solution of indole (826 mg, 7.05 mmol), Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (1.54 g, 4.23 mmol) and TBAI (1.34 g, 3.62 mmol) in dry toluene (21 mL) at room temperature in a nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. To the reaction mixture was added crude product 10 (820 mg) in dry toluene (14 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. After adding aq. NH4Cl, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (35 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 12:1) to give 11 (497 mg, 53%, 3 steps) as a colorless oil. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3414, 3342, 3055, 2961, 2923, 2851, 1456, 1378, 1251, 1227, 1125, 1092, 739. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.25 (3H, s), 1.26 (3H, s), 1.67 (2H, m), 1.78 (3H, br s), 2.12–2.26 (2H, m), 2.72 (1H t, J = 6.4 Hz), 3.47 (2H, d, J = 7.0 Hz), 5.50 (1H, t, J = 7.0 Hz), 6.95 (1H, br s), 7.10 (1H, t, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.18 (1H, t, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.35 (1H, d, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.58 (1H, d, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.90 (1H, br s). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 64.9 (CH), 111.0 (CH), 115.9 (C), 119.0 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 127.4 (C), 134.6 (C), 136.5 (C). MS m/z: 269 (M<sup>+</sup>, 77), 251 (25), 236 (13), 210 (67), 182 (49), 170 (84), 143 (42), 130 (100), 117 (74), 103 (13), 77 (22), 59 (15). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 269.1780; found, 269.1756.

(2E,6E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-triene (32). Farnesol (3.89 g, 17.5 mmol) was converted to silyl ether 32 (7.91 g, 97%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 7. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3070, 3049, 2959, 2929, 2857, 1472, 1461, 1428, 1387, 1111, 1058, 1006, 822, 738, 700, 613, 505, 739. NMR δ<sub>H</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.44 (3H, br s), 1.60 (6H, br s), 1.67 (3H, br s), 1.95-2.02 (4H, complex), 2.03-2.11 (4H, complex), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 5.09 (1H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 5.11 (1H, t,  $J = 6.8 \,\text{Hz}$ ), 5.38 (1H, t,  $J = 6.6 \,\text{Hz}$ ), 7.32–7.42 (6H,  $6 \times \text{ArH}$ ), 7.65–7.72 (4H,  $4 \times \text{Ar}H$ ). NMR  $\delta_{C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.2 (C), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.9 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 124.0 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 127.6 (4 × CH), 129.5 (2 × CH), 131.3 (C), 134.1 (2 × C), 135.2 (C), 135.6 (4 × CH), 137.1 (C). MS m/z: 403  $([M - t-Bu]^+, 9), 311$  (8), 289 (11), 217 (14), 198 (100), 181 (17), 149 (20), 135 (26), 93 (47), 77 (48), 69 (96). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>35</sub>OSi [M - t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 403.2452; found, 403.2478.

(2E,6E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-10,11-epoxy-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6-diene (33). Compound 32 (7.91 g, 17.0 mmol) was converted to epoxide 33 (2.11 g, 22%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 8. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film)  $cm^{-1}:$  3070, 3048, 2959, 2930, 2856, 1733, 1590, 1472, 1461, 1445, 1428, 1377, 1111, 1056, 1006, 823, 770, 741, 701, 613, 504. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl\_3, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.25 (3H, br s), 1.29 (3H, s), 1.44 (3H, br s), 1.561.68 (2H, complex), 1.62 (6H, br s), 1.98 (2H, t, J = 4.0 Hz), 2.02-2.20 (4H, complex), 2.69 (1H, t, J = 4.0 Hz), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 5.16 (1H, t, J = 4.0 Hz), 5.38 (1H, t, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.32–7.42 (6H,  $6 \times \text{ArH}$ ), 7.65–7.72 (4H,  $4 \times ArH$ ). NMR  $\delta_C$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.2 (C), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.8 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.1 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 127.6 (4 × CH), 129.5 (2 × C), 134.2 (C), 135.1 (C), 135.6 (4  $\times$  CH), 137.1 (C). MS m/z: 419  $([M - t-Bu]^+, 13), 341$  (4), 283 (4), 229 (6), 199 (100), 181 (10), 161 (8), 147 (17), 135 (32), 119 (17), 95 (15), 81 (20), 69 (28). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M - t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 419.2401; found, 419.2419.

(2E,6E)-10,11-Epoxy-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6-dien-1-ol (34). Epoxide 33 (2.11 g, 4.43 mmol) was converted to the compound 34 (1.14 g, 91%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 9. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3414, 2960, 2924, 2857, 1667, 1448, 1378, 1248, 1118, 1066, 871, 678. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):

1.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (3H, s), 1.62 (3H, br s), 1.62–1.65 (2H, complex), 1.67 (3H, br s), 1.97–2.10 (2H, complex), 2.10–2.19 (4H, complex), 2.70 (1H, t, J = 6.2 Hz), 4.15 (2H, t, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.16 (1H, t, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.41 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 59.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.1 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 134.3 (C), 139.4 (C). MS m/z: 220 ([M-H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>, 5), 199 (25), 189 (10), 177 (9), 159 (25), 153 (26), 143 (33), 135 (71), 121 (56), 109 (75), 93 (84), 85 (86), 81 (100), 69 (69), 59 (59). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>, 220.1827; found, 220.1864.

(2E,6E)-*Bromo-10*,11-*epoxy-3*,7,11-*trimethyldodeca-2*,6-*diene* (**35**). Compound **34** (1.14 g, 4.03 mmol) was converted to crude **35** (1.23 g) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of **10**. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3458, 2960, 2924, 2853, 2363, 2339, 1654, 1447, 1377, 1202, 1119, 874, 857. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.25 (3H, s), 1.29 (3H, s), 1.61 (3H, br s), 1.58–1.65 (2H, complex), 1.72 (3H, br s), 2.05–2.15 (6H, complex), 2.69 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.08 (2H, d, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 5.13 (1H, t, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 5.52 (1H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 64.1 (CH), 120.7 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 134.8 (C), 143.4 (C). MS *m/z*: 221 ([M - Br]<sup>+</sup>, 5), 203 (7), 18 (2), 153 (19), 107 (43), 101 (91), 93 (78), 85 (77), 81 (85), 71 (83), 59 (100). HRMS *m/z*: calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O [M - Br]<sup>+</sup>, 221.1900; found, 221.1884.

3-(10,11-Epoxyfarnesyl)indole (2). Crude 35 (1.23 g) was converted to 2 (677 mg, 50%, 3 steps) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of **11**. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3417, 3346, 3055, 2961, 2923, 2852, 1455, 1378, 1351, 1338, 1249, 1225, 1122, 1092, 1045, 1009, 868, 800, 740. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.24 (3H, s), 1.29 (3H, s), 1.58-1.63 (2H, complex), 1.62 (3H, br s), 1.75 (3H, br s), 2.05–2.20 (6H, complex), 2.70 (1H, t, J = 6.2 Hz), 3.46 (2H, d, J = 7.2 Hz), 5.18 (1H, t, J = 6.1 Hz), 5.46 (1H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 6.93 (1H, d, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.09 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.17 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.34 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.58 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 8.03 (1H, br s). NMR  $\delta_{C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.5 (C), 64.3 (CH), 111.1 (CH), 116.1 (C), 119.0 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 121.3 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 123.2 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 127.5 (C), 134.1 (C), 135.4 (C), 136.6 (C). MS *m*/*z*: 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 96), 320 (7), 238 (14), 210 (9), 196 (32), 184 (100), 170 (70), 168 (63), 143 (21), 130 (74), 117 (36), 93 (7), 85 (11), 59 (10). HRMS m/z: calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{31}NO \ (M^+),\ 337.2406;\ found,\ 337.2388.$ 

(2E,6E,10E,14E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-3,7,11,15-tetramethylhexadeca-2,6,10-tetraene (12). Geranylgeraniol (2.52 g, 8.67 mmol) was converted to silvl ether 12 (4.08 g, 89%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 7. IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2960, 2929, 2856, 1446, 1428, 1111, 1057, 823, 737, 700, 688, 613, 504, 490. NMR δ<sub>H</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.44 (3H, br s), 1.59 (3H, br s), 1.90 (6H, complex), 1.67 (3H, br s), 1.95-2.10 (12H, complex), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.09 (1H, t, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.11 (1H, t, J = 6.6 Hz), 5.38 (1H, t, J = 6.3 Hz), 7.34–7.45 (6H,  $6 \times \text{Ar}H$ ), 7.65– 7.70 (4H, 4 × ArH). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.2 (C), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.9 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.7 (2 × CH<sub>2</sub>), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 124.0 (2 × CH), 124.3 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 127.6 (4 × CH), 129.5 (2 × CH), 131.3 (C), 134.1 (2 × C), 134.9 (C), 135.2 (C), 135.6  $(4 \times CH)$ , 137.1 (C). MS m/z: 471 ([M – t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 8), 433 (5), 272 (6), 199 (100), 181 (11), 135 (36), 93 (30), 81 (39), 69 (96). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>43</sub>OSi [M - t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 471.3032; found, 471.3034.

(2E,6E,10E)-tert-*Butyldiphenylsiloxy-14-bromo-15-hydroxyl-3,7,11,15tetramethylhexadeca-2,6,10-triene* (13). Silyl ether 12 (1.46 g, 2.77 mmol) was converted to bromohydrine 13 (1.37 g, 79%) as a colorless oil According to the method of Ceruti *et al.*<sup>21)</sup> IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2960, 2930, 2856, 1428, 1379, 1111, 1055, 701, 502. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.32 (3H, br s), 1.33 (3H, br s), 1.44 (3H, br s), 1.59 (3H, br s), 1.60 (3H, br s), 1.78 (1H, m), 1.92–2.14 (10H, complex), 2.31 (1H, m), 3.96 (1H, d, J = 11.6 Hz), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 6.2 Hz), 5.12 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.20 (1H, t, J = 6.4 Hz), 5.38 (1H, t, J = 6.2 Hz), 7.34–7.45 (6H,  $6 \times$  ArH), 7.65–7.70 (4H, 4 × Ar*H*). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.2 (C), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.9 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 32.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 71.1 (CH), 72.5 (C), 124.0 (CH), 124.2 (C), 126.0 (CH), 127.6 (4 × CH), 129.5 (2 × CH), 133.0 (C), 134.1 (2 × C), 135.0 (C), 135.6 (4 × CH), 137.1 (C). MS *m*/*z*: 488 ([M – *t*-Bu – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 2), 289 (4), 71 (7), 229 (4), 199 (100), 161 (10), 149 (17), 135 (50), 121 (25), 81 (91), 71 (27), 69 (23). HRMS *m*/*z*: calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>44</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M – *t*-Bu – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 488.3105; found, 488.3095.

(2E,6E,10E)-tert-Butyldiphenylsiloxy-14,15-epoxy-3,7,11,15-tetramethylhexadeca-2,6,10-triene (14). Bromohydrine 13 (1.37 g, 2.19 mmol) was converted to 14 (943 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil according to the method of Ceruti *et al.*<sup>(21)</sup> IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2959, 2930, 2857, 1472, 1461, 1428, 1378, 1111, 1057, 823, 738, 701, 612. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.04 (9H, s), 1.25 (3H, s), 1.29 (3H, s), 1.44 (3H, br s), 1.60 (3H, br s), 1.61 (br s), 1.60-1.69 (2H, complex), 1.94-2.20 (10H, complex), 2.69 (1H, t, J = 6.3), 4.22 (2H, d, J = 6.1 Hz), 5.12 (1H, t, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.16 (1H, t, J = 6.6 Hz), 5.38 (1H, t, J = 6.1 Hz),7.34–7.45 (6H, 6 × ArH), 7.66–7.72 (4H, 4 × ArH). NMR  $\delta_C$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.9 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.2 (C), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.2 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 124.2 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 127.5 (4 × CH), 129.5 (2 × CH), 133.6 (CH), 134.1  $(2 \times C)$ , 134.2 (C), 135.1 (C), 135.6 (4 × CH),137.0 (C). MS m/z: 487 ([M - t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 9), 351 (3), 271 (13), 199 (100), 181 (12), 164 (14), 135 (65), 121 (34), 93 (53), 77 (35), 69 (31). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>43</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M - t-Bu]<sup>+</sup>, 487.3032; found, 487.3025.

(2E,6E,10E)-14,15-Epoxy-3,7,11,15-tetramethylhexadeca-2,6,10trien-1-ol (36). Compound 14 (943 mg, 1.73 mmol) was converted to 36 (408 mg, 77%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 9. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film)  $cm^{-1}$ : 3419, 2961, 2923, 2855, 1733, 1668, 1598, 1446, 1379, 1322, 1249, 1121, 1004, 871, 768, 681. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (3H, s), 1.60 (3H, br s), 1.62 (3H, br s), 1.68 (3H, br s), 1.57-1.69 (2H, complex), 1.97-2.20 (10H, complex), 2.70 (1H, t, J = 6.4), 4.15 (2H, d, J = 7.0 Hz), 5.12 (1H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 5.16 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.41 (1H, t, J = 7.0 Hz). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (2 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 59.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.2 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 134.0 (C), 135.2 (C), 139.6 (C). MSm/z:288 $([M - H_2O]^+, 4), 202 (4), 189 (4), 161 (12), 153 (15), 135 (46), 119$ (34), 93 (79), 81 (100), 59 (17). HRMS m/z: calcd. for  $C_{20}H_{32}O$  $[M - H_2O]^+$ , 288.2453; found, 288.2446.

 $(2E, 6E, 10E) \hbox{-} Bromo-14, 15 \hbox{-} epoxy-3, 7, 11, 15 \hbox{-} tetramethyl hexadeca-berger and a state of the state of the$ 2,6,10-triene (37). Compound 36 (408 mg, 1.33 mmol) was converted to crude 37 (497 mg) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of 10. IR  $\upsilon_{\rm max}$  (film)  ${\rm cm^{-1}}{:}$  2960, 2924, 2854, 1777, 1655, 1449, 1377, 1324, 1248, 1200, 1174, 1121, 897, 872, 793, 5843. NMR δ<sub>H</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.26 (3H, s), 1.29 (3H, s), 1.59 (3H, br s), 1.62 (3H, br s), 1.61-1.69 (2H, complex), 1.78 (3H, br s), 1.96-2.20 (10H, complex), 2.69 (1H, t, J = 6.3), 4.01 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.08 (1H, t, J = 5.8 Hz), 5.16 (1H, t, J = 6.7 Hz), 5.52 (1H, t, J = 8.4 Hz).NMR  $\delta_C$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 16.0 (3 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.1 (CH2), 26.6 (CH2), 27.5 (CH2), 29.5 (CH2), 36.3 (CH2), 39.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.3 (C), 64.2 (CH), 120.6 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 134.1 (C), 135.5 (C), 143.5 (C). MS m/z: 289 ([M – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 3), 252 (6), 199 (35), 153 (15), 147 (17), 135 (51), 119 (72), 107 (49), 93 (100), 58 (21). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O [M – Br]<sup>+</sup>, 289.2526; found, 289.2526.

3-(14,15-*Epoxygeranylgeranyl*)indole (3). Crude **37** (497 mg) was converted to **3** (306 mg, 57%) as a colorless oil by the same method as that used for the synthesis of **10**. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3417, 3343, 3054, 2961, 2920, 2850, 1665, 1618, 1455, 1379, 1351, 1337, 1249, 1224, 1122, 1092, 1009, 867, 739, 423. NMR  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): 1.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (3H, s), 1.60 (3H, br s), 1.61 (3H, br s), 1.59–1.66 (2H, complex), 1.76 (3H, br s), 1.96–2.20 (10H, complex), 2.70 (1H, t, J = 6.4), 3.46 (2H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.13 (1H, t, J = 5.6 Hz), 5.15 (1H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 5.45 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz), 6.95 (1H, d, J = 1.2 Hz), 7.10 (1H, t, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.18 (1H, t, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.35 (1H, d, J = 7.7 Hz),

7.59 (1H, d, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.98 (1H, br s). NMR  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 15.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.8 (C), 64.3 (CH), 111.0 (CH), 116.1 (C), 119.0 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 123.0 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 127.5 (C), 134.0 (C), 134.9 (C), 135.6 (C), 136.5 (C). MS m/z: 405 (M<sup>+</sup>, 19), 196 (9), 184 (100), 170 (24), 13 (81), 117 (19), 93 (9). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 405.3032; found, 405.3020.

Biomimetic cyclization of indole terpene precursors 11, 2 and 3 by a Lewis acid. A Lewis acid (0.12 mmol) was added to the solution of an indole terpene precursor (0.1 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) at -78 °C in a nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 min. After adding aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 3 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo*.

The residue obtained by biomimetic cyclization of **11** was purified by PTLC (hexane/EtOAc 3:1) to give **15** as a colorless oil. The yield of **15** using each Lewis acids was as follows: MeAlCl<sub>2</sub>, 62%; BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, 40%; TiCl<sub>4</sub>, 73%; and SnCl<sub>4</sub>, 48%. The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data for **15** are shown in Table 1. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3402, 3304, 2999, 2975, 2933, 2860, 1450, 1370, 1303, 1246, 1216, 1084, 1008, 746. MS *m*/*z*: 269 (M<sup>+</sup>, 73), 254 (100), 236 (83), 182 (32), 146 (29), 130 (46), 120 (93). HRMS *m*/*z*: calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 269.1780; found, 269.1779.

The residue obtained by biomimetic cyclization of **2** was purified by PTLC (hexane/EtOAc 3:1) to give **16**, **17** and a mixture containing **18** and **19** as colorless oils. The mixture containing **18** and **19** was separated by HPLC under the following conditions: column, Inertsil-ODS-3 ( $\phi$ 10.0 × 250 mm, GL Sciences); UV, 210–350 nm; solvent, 85% MeOH; flow rate, 2 mL/min;  $t_R$ : **18**, 24.80 min; **19**, 26.25 min. The yields of **16**, **17**, **18** and **19** using each Lewis acid were as follow: MeAlCl<sub>2</sub>, 7% (**16**), 7% (**17**), 4% (**18**) and 13% (**19**); BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, 6% (**16**), 6% (**17**), 7% (**18**) and 16% (**19**); TiCl<sub>4</sub>, 11% (**16**), 6% (**17**), 6% (**18**) and 13% (**19**); SnCl<sub>4</sub>, 6% (**16**), 8% (**17**), 3% (**18**) and 12% (**19**). The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data for cyclic compounds **16–19** are shown in Table 2.

Compound **16**. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3417, 3299, 2963, 2870, 1455, 1381, 1363, 1351, 1339, 1225, 1192, 1094, 1007, 986, 870, 739. MS m/z: 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 91), 210 (20), 196 (33), 184 (57), 170 (100), 168 (27), 143 (19), 130 (90), 117 (36), 95 (14). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 337.2406; found, 337.2407.

Compound **17**. IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3411, 3295, 2965, 2938, 2874, 1702, 1455, 1377, 1352, 1221, 1091, 1010, 740. MS m/z: 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 89), 196 (33), 183 (33), 170 (100), 143 (19), 139 (72), 130 (74), 117 (42), 95 (5). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 337.2406; found, 337.2407.

Compound **18**. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3403, 3307, 2938, 2866, 1459, 1452, 1382, 1305, 1027, 1005, 753. MS m/z: 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 74), 319 (23), 252 (26), 186 (38), 170 (59), 149 (67), 130 (80), 120 (100), 69 (54), 55 (69). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 337.2406; found, 337.2404.

Compound **19**. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3399, 3275, 2999, 2961, 2930, 2851, 1733, 1600, 1540, 1497, 1447, 1215, 1034, 1009, 754. MS m/z: 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 22), 322 (21), 273 (15), 252 (11), 188 (25), 149 (49), 135 (60), 120 (100), 69 (64), 57 (94). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 337.2406; found, 337.2405.

The residue obtained by biomimetic cyclization of **3** was purified by PTLC (hexane/EtOAc 3:1) to give **20**, **21** and **22** as colorless oils. The yields of **20**, **21** and **22** using each Lewis acid were as follow: MeAlCl<sub>2</sub>, 15% (**20**), 6% (**21**) and 3% (**22**); BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, 14% (**20**), 2% (**21**) and 6% (**22**); TiCl<sub>4</sub>, 12% (**20**), 7% (**21**) and 4% (**22**); SnCl<sub>4</sub>, 12% (**20**), 5% (**21**) and 4% (**22**). The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data for cyclic compounds **20-22** are shown in Table 3.

Compound **20**. IR  $\upsilon_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3401, 3311, 2962, 2926, 2852, 1732, 1599, 1463, 1455, 1447, 1417, 1358, 1375, 1302, 1261, 1215, 1101, 1020, 864, 799, 758. MS m/z: 405 (M<sup>+</sup>, 78), 387 (94), 372 (74), 182 (64), 168 (39), 130 (100), 69 (51), 55 (59). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 405.3032; found, 405.3050.

Compound **21**. IR  $v_{max}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3412, 3310, 3054, 2962, 2933, 2870, 1706, 1683, 1618, 1455, 1381, 1092, 1002, 986, 872, 740. MS m/z: 405 (M<sup>+</sup>, 31), 279 6), 252 (7), 196 (11), 184 (100), 149 (35), 130 (89), 117 (22), 55 (34). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 405.3032; found, 405.3048.

Compound **22**. IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3407, 3311, 2925, 1703, 1455, 1377, 1261, 1091, 1020, 738. MS m/z: 405 (M<sup>+</sup>, 45), 238 (7), 196 (10), 184 (100), 170 (33), 139 (39), 130 (92), 117 (229), 69 (47), 55 (61). HRMS m/z: calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>), 405.3032; found, 405.3053.

### References

- 1) Kawasaki T and Higuchi K, *Nat. Prod. Rep.*, **22**, 761–793 (2005).
- 2) Scholz U and Winterfeldt E, Nat. Prod. Rep., 17, 349–366 (2000).
- 3) Hosoe T, Itabashi T, Kobayashi N, Udagawa S, and Kawai K, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, **54**, 185–187 (2006).
- Zhao S, Liao X, Wang T, Flippen-Anderson J, and Cook JM, J. Org. Chem., 68, 6279–6295 (2003).
- Grancher D, Jaussaud P, Durix A, Berthod A, Fenet B, Moulard Y, Bonnaire Y, and Bony S, J. Chromatogr. A, 1059, 73–81 (2004).
- Springer JP, Clardy J, Wells JM, Cole RJ, and Kirksey JW, Tetrahedron Lett., 16, 2531–2534 (1975).
- 7) Springer JP and Clardy J, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **21**, 231–234 (1980).
- Nozawa K, Nakajima S, Kawai K, and Udagawa S, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1, 1689–1694 (1988).
- Young C, McMillan L, Telfer E, and Scott B, *Mol. Microbiol.*, 39, 754–764 (2001).
- Young CA, Felitti S, Shields K, Spangenberg G, Johnson RD, Bryan GT, Saikia S, and Scott B, *Fungal Genet. Biol.*, 43, 679– 693 (2006).
- Stöckigt J, Barleben L, Panjikar S, and Loris EA, *Plant Physiol. Biochem.*, 46, 340–355 (2008).
- Saikia S, Parker EJ, Koulman A, and Scott B, *FEBS Lett.*, 580, 1625–1630 (2006).
- Hocquemiller R, Dubois G, Leboeuf M, Cavé A, Kunesch N, Riche C, and Chiaroni A, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 22, 5057–5060 (1981).
- Leboeuf M, Hamonnière M, Cavé A, Gottlieb HE, Kunesch N, and Wenkert E, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **17**, 3559–3562 (1976).
- 15) Ooike M, Nozawa K, Udagawa S, and Kawai K, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, **45**, 1694–1696 (1997).
- Nozawa K, Yuyama M, Nakajima S, Kawai K, and Udagawa S, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1, 2155–2160 (1988).
- Rainier JD and Smith III AB, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **41**, 9419–9423 (2000).
- Fueki S, Tokiwano T, Toshima H, and Oikawa H, Org. Lett., 6, 2697–2700 (2004).
- Yoder RA and Johnston JN, Chem. Rev., 105, 4730–4756 (2005).
- 20) Arkoudis E and Stratakis M, J. Org. Chem., 73, 4484–4490 (2008).
- Valentine JC, McDonald FE, Neiwert WA, and Hardcastle KI, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 127, 4586–4587 (2005).
- 22) Xiong Q, Zhu X, Wilson WK, Ganesan A, and Matsuda SPT, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 125, 9002–9003 (2003).
- 23) Zhu X and Ganesan A, J. Org. Chem., 67, 2705–2708 (2002).
- 24) Mirand C, Maindreville MD, and Lévy J, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 26, 3985–3988 (1985).
- 25) Ceruti M, Rocco F, Viola F, Balliano G, Milla P, Arpicco S, and Cattel L, J. Med. Chem., 41, 540–554 (1998).
- 26) Mirand C, Maindreville MD, Cartier D, and Lévy J, Tetrahedron Lett., 28, 3565–3568 (1987).
- 27) Tsangarakis C, Arkoudis E, Raptis C, and Stratakis M, Org. Lett., 9, 583–586 (2007).
- 28) Burke SD, Kort ME, Strickland SMS, Organ HM, and Silks III LA, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **10**, 1503–1506 (1994).