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### Hemisynthesis of New Triterpene Derivatives using Oxidation by $\text{CrO}_3$ and $\text{NaIO}_4$ -( $\text{RuCl}_3$ , $3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

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## Hemisynthesis of New Triterpene Derivatives using Oxidation by $\text{CrO}_3$ and $\text{NaIO}_4\text{-(RuCl}_3, 3\text{H}_2\text{O)}$

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**Abstract:** Oxidation of triterpenes resulting from *E. resinifera*, *E. officinarum*, and their derivatives, using chromic anhydride ( $\text{CrO}_3$ ) and the system  $\text{NaIO}_4\text{-(RuCl}_3, 3\text{H}_2\text{O)}$ , gives carbonyl triterpenic compounds with high chemoselectivity.

**Keywords:** *Euphorbia officinarum*, *Euphorbia resinifera*, hemisynthesis, latex, oxidation

The isolated triterpenes of *Euphorbia resinifera*<sup>[1]</sup> and *Euphorbia officinarum*<sup>[1–3]</sup> were subjected to hemisynthesis in order to prepare new carbonyl triterpenic compounds with good yield. The oxygenated triterpenic compounds exhibit good pharmacological activities. Some polyoxygenated triterpenics were proved to have the cytotoxicity against hepatoma cells in vitro.<sup>[4]</sup> Some others, isolated from *Ganoderma lucidum*, are effective as

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cytotoxic,<sup>[5]</sup> antiviral,<sup>[6]</sup> and anti-inflammatory agents.<sup>[7,8]</sup> They have been shown to inhibit farnesyl-protein transferase<sup>[9]</sup> and also cucurbitacin picfelta-raegenin I.<sup>[10]</sup>

To prepare a similar compound, we have used the oxidation of isolated triterpenes resulting from Moroccan cactoid euphorbium and their derivatives with chromic anhydride<sup>[11]</sup> and catalytic oxidation using ruthenium trichloride<sup>[12]</sup> in the presence of sodium periodate.

Thus, we were interested in the oxygenated triterpenic compounds in positions 3, 7, 11, and 24 because the access to triterpenic ketones in positions 3, 7, and 11 can be carried out by oxidation with chromic anhydride. On the other hand, the synthesis of carbonyl triterpenic derivatives in position 24 can be carried out using catalytic oxidation with the system  $\text{NaIO}_4\text{-(RuCl}_3, 3\text{H}_2\text{O)}$ , like an organic oxidant.

Oxidation with the system  $\text{NaIO}_4\text{-(RuCl}_3, 3\text{H}_2\text{O)}$  of eupho lanosta-8,24-dien-3 $\beta$ -ol (**1**), a major triterpene isolated from *Euphorbia resinifera* latex, followed by esterification and then acetylation reaction, led to the title compound (3S,5S,10S,13S,14S,17S)3 $\beta$ -acetyl-25,26,27-trisnorlanost-8-en-24-oate (**2**) in 75% yield (Scheme 1).

The compound **2** was characterized more precisely in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR by a doublet (of doublet) ( $J_1 = 12\text{ Hz}$ ,  $J_2 = 4\text{ Hz}$ ) at 4.44 ppm, due to the resonance of H-3. The methyl of ester group was observed as a singlet at 3.58 ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum exhibits 30 signals. Those observed at 81.07, 171.18, and 174.87 ppm were assigned respectively to C3 and CO of acetyl group and C24.

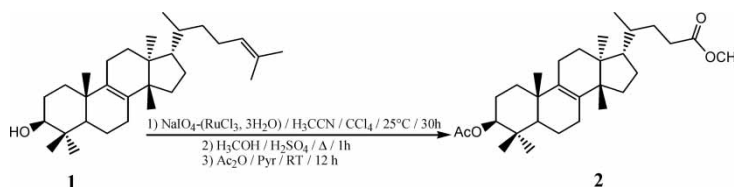
The relative stereochemistry of the title compound **2** was assigned to a known chiral center and confirmed by its single X-ray structure (Fig. 1).<sup>[12]</sup>

Treatment of 8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -epoxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholestan-3 $\beta$ -ol (**3**), a triterpene derivative from *Euphorbia officinarum* latex, with 3 equiv. of chromic anhydride yielded compound **4** in 85% yield (Scheme 2).

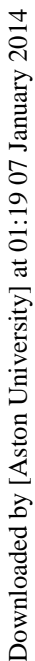
Structure elucidation of carbonyl compound **4** was based on spectral data including  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, and mass spectrometry.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum exhibits a signal at 212.40 ppm due to the resonance of C3.

The stereochemistry has been confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction (Fig. 2).<sup>[13]</sup>

Acylation<sup>[14]</sup> of 4 $\alpha$ -14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholest-8-en-3 $\beta$ -ol **5**, a major triterpene isolated from *Euphorbia officinarum* latex, followed by oxidation with 3 equiv. of  $\text{CrO}_3$  during 12 h, gave two functionalized triterpenes **6** and **7**



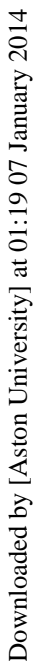
Scheme 1.



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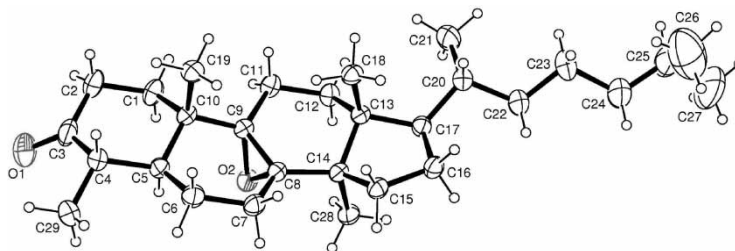


Figure 2. ORTEP drawing of **4**.

Treatment with tosyl chloride followed by an oxidation condition similar to that before gave triterpenic compounds **8** and **9** (Scheme 3).<sup>[16]</sup>

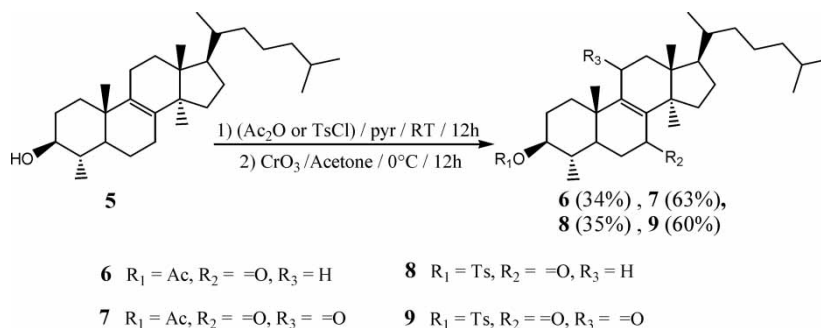
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum revealed that **8** has one carbonyl group at C7, whereas compound **9** has two carbonyl groups at C7 and C11. The structure and relative stereochemistry of the title compound **9** were established and confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction (Fig. 3).<sup>[17]</sup>

Tosylation of 4 $\alpha$ -14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -ergost-8-en-3 $\beta$ -ol **10**, a major triterpene isolated from *Euphorbia officinarum* latex, followed by catalytic oxidation similar to that before, gave compound **11** with a good yield (75%) (Scheme 4).

Structure of **11** was elucidated from <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR. Thus the multiplet at 4.09 ppm was assigned to H-3 proton. In <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, carbonyl group at C24 was observed at 215.50 ppm.

Oxidation of compound **11** by 3 equiv. with chromic anhydride leads to preparation of two carbonyl compounds, **12** and **13** (Scheme 5).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **12** showed more precisely two signals at 198.50 and 215.45 ppm, assigned respectively to C7 and C24, whereas the carbonyl groups at C7, C11, and C24 resonated respectively at 200.68, 202.35, and 214.54 ppm for compound **13**.



Scheme 3.

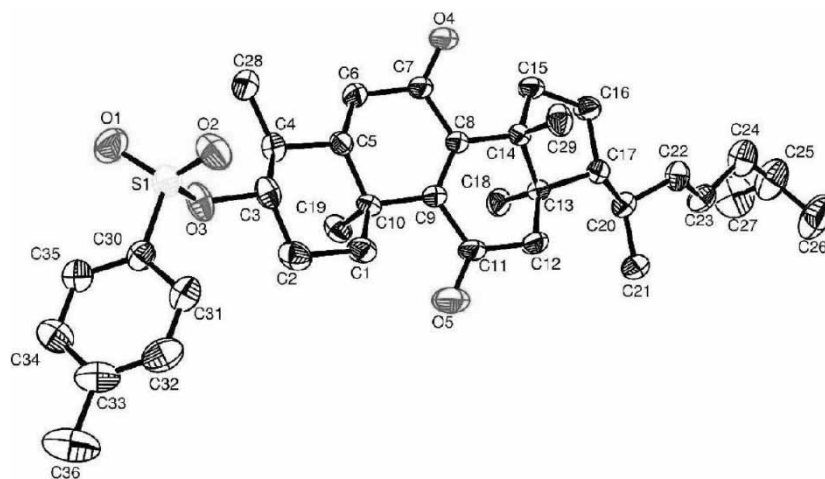


Figure 3. ORTEP drawing of **9**.

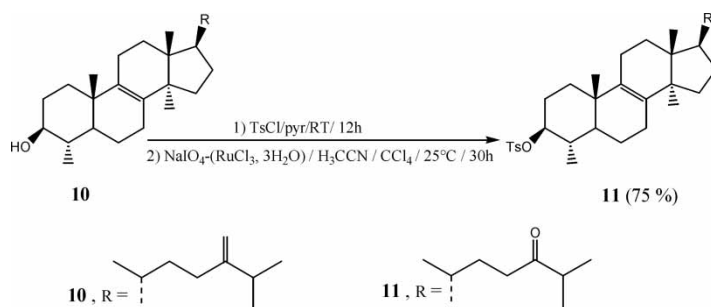
The structure of compound **13** was performed on the basis of X-ray single-crystallography analysis (Fig. 4).

In summary, we have synthesized the novel carbonyl compounds **2**, **4**, **6**, **7**, **8**, **9**, **11**, **12**, and **13** with a good yield via an oxidative route.

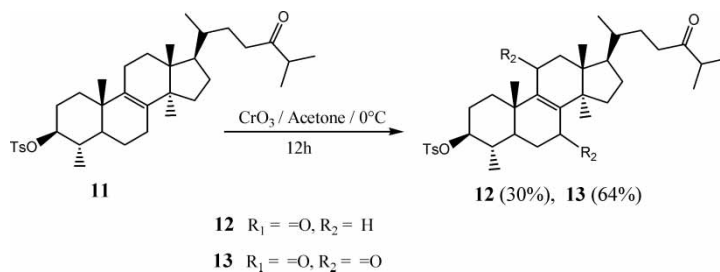
The ruthenium-catalyzed oxidation was proved to be effective and chemoselective.

## EXPERIMENTAL

The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum were recorded on AMX2 Brüker 500-Hz ( $^1\text{H}$  500 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  125 MHz) using TMS as an internal standard and  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as the solvent. The melting points were measured in capillaries on a Buchi 510 apparatus. The chemical shifts are given in ppm. The multiplicity of



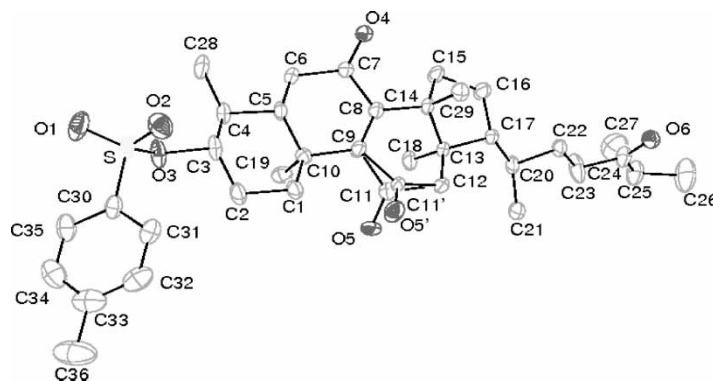
Scheme 4.

*Scheme 5.*

the signals observed is indicated by the letters: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quadruplet (q), doublet and doublet (dd), and triplet dedoublet (td). Mass spectra were obtained with an Autospect Instrument 70-ev spectrometer. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel (Merk Art. 15111, 7741); eluent: hexane–ethyl acetate. The X-ray diffraction measurements were carried out on an automated diffractometer, Nonius CCD, with monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ ) radiation.

#### General Procedure of Oxidation using $\text{NaIO}_4$ -( $\text{RuCl}_3, 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

The sodium periodate was prepared in situ with a equimolar quantity of soda NaOH (0.5 g; 12.50 mmol) and periodic acid  $\text{H}_5\text{IO}_6$  (2.85 g; 12.50 mmol). The mixture was stirred at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . After 15 min, 5 ml of  $\text{CCl}_4$ , 5 ml of  $\text{H}_3\text{CCN}$ , and 32.70 mg (0.12 mmol) of ruthenium trichloride were added. The mixture was stirred during 15 mn, then 1.33 g (3.12 mmol) of **1** was added. The reaction was left under agitation at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 h, then 20 ml of distilled water was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted with 40 ml of dichloromethane, dried over sodium sulphate, and reduced in

*Figure 4.* ORTEP drawing of **13**.

vacuum to afford a black solid. The latter was filtered on a silica-gel column to eliminate  $\text{RuO}_4$ . The organic layer is recovered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified on a silica-gel column using hexane/EtOAc (90:10) as an eluent.

### General Procedure of Oxidation with $\text{CrO}_3$

To a solution of 1.00 g (2.34 mmol) of **3** in 20 ml of acetone, 0.70 g (7.04 mmol) of chromic anhydride was added. The mixture was maintained at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 h (12 h for allylic oxidation), washed with 20 ml of cold water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified on a silica-gel column using hexane/EtOAc (95:5) as an eluent.

### Data

**(3S,5S,10S,13S,14S,17S)3 $\beta$ -Acetyl-25,26,27-trisnorlanost-8-en-24-oate (2):** mp =  $176\text{--}177^\circ\text{C}$  (methanol), yield: 75%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.43 (H-3, dd,  $J_1 = 12$  Hz,  $J_2 = 4$  Hz); 3.64 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 1.98 ( $\text{OCOCH}_3$ ), 0.75 (H-18), 1.00 (H-19, s), 0.95 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 0.96 (H-25, s), 0.97 (H-26, s), 0.90 (H-27, s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 35.28 (C-1), 35.84 (C-2), 81.32 (C-3), 51.8 (C-4), 51.43 (C-5), 31.10 (C-6), 30.70 (C-7), 133.9 (C-8), 134.3 (C-9), 49.8 (C-10), 28.43 (C-11), 28.37 (C-12), 44.48 (C-13), 38.24 (C-14), 27.89 (C-15), 24.80 (C-16), 50.39 (C-17), 15.85 (C-18), 20.57 (C-19), 31.43 (C-20), 18.99 (C-21), 31.11 (C-22), 37.52 (C-23), 175.09 (C-24), 24.62 (C-25), 21.88 (C-26), 16.99 (C-27), 20.57 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 21.69 ( $\text{OCOCH}_3$ ).

**8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -Epoxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ ,cholestan-3-one (4):** mp =  $128\text{--}129^\circ\text{C}$  (hexane), yield: 85%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 0.73 (H-18, s), 0.83 (H-19, s), 0.82 (H-21, d,  $J = 6$  Hz), 0.77 (H-26, d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 0.80 (H-27,  $J = 2$  Hz), 1.25 (H-28, s), 0.87 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 36.3 (C-1), 36.4 (C-2), 212.4 (C-3), 49.2 (C-4), 45.4 (C-5), 22.7 (C-6), 22.0 (C-7), 69.6 (C-8), 68.3 (C-9), 36.4 (C-10), 19.4 (C-11), 26.5 (C-12), 43.9 (C-13), 43.3 (C-14), 30.9 (C-15), 29.3 (C-16), 48.6 (C-17), 15.9 (C-18), 15.5 (C-19), 36.4 (C-20), 19.6 (C-21), 36.2 (C-22), 24.1 (C-23), 39.5 (C-24), 28.1 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 21.8 (C-27), 16.5 (C-28), 24.5 (C-29).

**3 $\beta$ -Acetoxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholest-8-en-7-one (6):** mp =  $135\text{--}136^\circ\text{C}$  (hexane); yield: 34%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.39 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.68 (H-18, s), 1.02 (H-26, d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 1.03 (H-27, d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 0.96 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz), 1.2 (H-19, s), 0.73 (H-28, s), 0.86 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz), 2.05 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ , s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.5 (C-1), 28.5 (C-2), 76.70 (C-3), 36.6 (C-4),



46.2 (C-5), 39.1 (C-6), 197.5 (C-7), 139.7 (C-8), 164.4 (C-9), 38.7 (C-10), 24.5 (C-11), 30.1 (C-12), 44.9 (C-13), 47.80 (C-14), 30.9 (C-15), 30.60 (C-16), 51.4 (C-17), 15.40 (C-18), 18.1 (C-19), 36.3 (C-20), 18.60 (C-21), 36.4 (C-22), 24.0 (C-23), 39.4 (C-24), 27.8 (C-25), 22.7 (C-26), 22.5 (C-27), 25.4 (C-28), 15.0 (C-29), 170.7 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>). Low resolution: MS (m/z): 470.2 (10%), 283.2 (100%), 411.2 (50%), 117.2 (20%). High resolution: 470.3425 (calc. 470.3464).

**3 $\beta$ -Acetoxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholest-8-ene-7,11-dione (7):** mp = 117–119°C (hexane), yield: 63%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.40 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.75 (H-18, s), 0.79 (H-26, d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 0.83 (H-27, d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 0.84 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 1.24 (H-19, s), 1.14 (H-28, s), 0.88 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz), 2.04 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.6 (C-1), 31.3 (C-2), 77.2 (C-3), 35.2 (C-4), 47.1 (C-5), 39.2 (C-6), 201.0 (C-7), 151.6 (C-8), 152.1 (C-9), 38.4 (C-10), 202.5 (C-11), 51.4 (C-12), 47.4 (C-13), 47.6 (C-14), 32.1 (C-15), 27.3 (C-16), 48.9 (C-17), 16.7 (C-18), 16.2 (C-19), 36.5 (C-20), 18.5 (C-21), 34.9 (C-22), 24.1 (C-23), 39.4 (C-24), 27.7 (C-25), 21.8 (C-26), 22.1 (C-27), 26.1 (C-28), 14.7 (C-29), 170.6 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>).

**3 $\beta$ -Tosyloxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholest-8-en-7-one (8):** mp = 123–124°C (methanol), yield: 35%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.00 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.72 (H-18, s), 0.98 (H-19, s), 0.84 (H-26, d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz), 0.85 (H-27, d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz), 0.86 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 1.12 (H-28, s), 0.88 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz), 7.72 (H-2', d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 7.25 (H-3', d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 2.44 (H-5'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.4 (C-1), 26.3 (C-2), 86.6 (C-3), 34.3 (C-4), 48.1 (C-5), 39.2 (C-6), 197.5 (C-7), 140.2 (C-8), 164.2 (C-9), 38.3 (C-10), 22.7 (C-11), 28.3 (C-12), 47.1 (C-13), 47.5 (C-14), 32.3 (C-15), 25.4 (C-16), 49.4 (C-17), 17.5 (C-18), 16.4 (C-19), 36.0 (C-20), 18.5 (C-21), 34.3 (C-22), 25.4 (C-23), 39.7 (C-24), 28.3 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 22.5 (C-27), 18.4 (C-30), 144.9 (C-1'), 134.7 (C-2'), 130.1 (C-3'), 128.0 (C-4'), 21.50 (C-5'). Low resolution: MS (m/z): 395.3 (100%), 410.3 (43%), 424.3 (32%), 229 (22%), 582.3 (6%). High resolution: 582.3773 (calc. 582.3742).

**3 $\beta$ -Tosyloxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -cholest-8-ene-7,11-dione (9):** mp = 124–125°C (hexane), yield: 60%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.06 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.88 (H-18, s), 1.12 (H-19, s), 0.85 (H-26, d,  $J = 2.2$  Hz), 0.86 (H-27, d,  $J = 2.2$  Hz), 0.87 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz), 1.16 (H-28, s), 0.90 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz), 7.79 (H-2', d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz), 7.31 (H-3', d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz), 2.43 (H-5'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.5 (C-1), 26.2 (C-2), 86.5 (C-3), 34.9 (C-4), 48.6 (C-5), 39.4 (C-6), 200.5 (C-7), 151.4 (C-8), 150.7 (C-9), 38.2 (C-10), 202.7 (C-11), 51.5 (C-12), 47.7 (C-13), 47.5 (C-14), 32.5 (C-15), 27.5 (C-16), 49.5 (C-17), 16.5 (C-18), 16.4 (C-19), 36.4 (C-20), 18.5 (C-21), 34.8 (C-22), 28.4 (C-23), 39.5 (C-24), 31.8 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 22.5 (C-27),

14.5 (C-30), 26.2 (C-32), 144.3 (C-1'), 134.5 (C-2'), 129.8 (C-3'), 127.5 (C-4'), 21.4 (C-5').

**3 $\beta$ -Tosyloxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -ergost-8-en-24-one (11):** mp = 145–146°C (hexane), yield: 75%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.09 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.86 (H-18, s), 1.54 (H-19, s), 0.77 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.37$  Hz), 1.08 (H-26, d,  $J = 1.52$  Hz), 1.09 (H-27, d,  $J = 1.53$  Hz), 0.93 (H-28, s), 0.88 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.38$  Hz), 7.79 (H-2', d,  $J = 8.31$  Hz), 7.31 (H-3', d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz), 2.43 (H-5'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.5 (C-1), 26.2 (C-2), 88.8 (C-3), 44.5 (C-4), 49.2 (C-5), 22.7 (C-6), 22.0 (C-7), 133.4 (C-8), 135.2 (C-9), 38.2 (C-10), 20.7 (C-11), 51.5 (C-12), 47.7 (C-13), 47.5 (C-14), 32.5 (C-15), 27.5 (C-16), 49.5 (C-17), 16.5 (C-18), 16.4 (C-19), 36.4 (C-20), 18.5 (C-21), 34.8 (C-22), 28.4 (C-23), 215.5 (C-24), 31.8 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 22.5 (C-27), 144.6 (C-1'), 135.3 (C-2'), 129.9 (C-3'), 128.5 (C-4'), 21.5 (C-5'). Low resolution: MS ( $m/z$ ): 582.3 (3%), 393.3 (42%), 395.3 (65%), 396 (25%), 407.3 (26%), 408.3 (27%), 409.3 (63%), 410.3 (70%), 424.3 (62%), 425.3 (25%), 442.3 (23%), 321.2 (22%), 343.2 (25%), 215.1 (25%), 241.2 (24%). High resolution: 582.3758 (calc. 582.3742).

**3 $\beta$ -Tosyloxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -ergost-8-ene-7,24-dione (12):** mp = 152–153°C (hexane), yield: 30%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.10 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_{33} = 3$  Hz), 0.90 (H-18, s), 1.54 (H-19, s), 0.76 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.40$  Hz), 1.06 (H-26, d,  $J = 2.00$  Hz), 1.08 (H-27, d,  $J = 2.00$  Hz), 0.95 (H-28, s), 0.88 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.40$  Hz), 7.77 (H-2', d,  $J = 8.40$  Hz), 7.31 (H-3', d,  $J = 8.00$  Hz), 2.42 (H<sub>3</sub>-5'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.5 (C-1), 26.2 (C-2), 88.8 (C-3), 44.5 (C-4), 49.2 (C-5), 22.7 (C-6), 198.5 (C-7), 140.2 (C-8), 164.2 (C-9), 38.2 (C-10), 20.7 (C-11), 51.4 (C-12), 47.7 (C-13), 47.5 (C-14), 32.5 (C-15), 27.4 (C-16), 49.5 (C-17), 16.4 (C-18), 16.4 (C-19), 36.4 (C-20), 18.5 (C-21), 34.8 (C-22), 28.4 (C-23), 215.4 (C-24), 31.8 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 22.5 (C-27), 144.6 (C-1'), 135.3 (C-2'), 129.9 (C-3'), 128.4 (C-4'), 21.4 (C-5'). Low resolution: 43.1 (22%), 91.1 (22%), 229.1 (24%), 302.2 (22%), 395 (26%), 424.3 (100%), 425.3 (31%), 596 (30%). High resolution: 596.3519 (calc. 596.3535).

**3 $\beta$ -Tosyloxy-4 $\alpha$ ,14 $\alpha$ -dimethyl-5 $\alpha$ -ergost-8-ene-7,11,24-trione (13):** mp = 155–156°C (methanol), yield: 64%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.10 (H-3, ddd,  $J_1 = 11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 11$  Hz,  $J_3 = 3$  Hz), 0.91 (H-18, s), 1.45 (H-19, s), 0.80 (H-21, d,  $J = 6.40$  Hz), 1.06 (H-26, d,  $J = 2.00$  Hz), 1.08 (H-27, d,  $J = 2.00$  Hz), 0.95 (H-28, s), 0.88 (H-29, d,  $J = 6.45$  Hz), 7.78 (H-2', d,  $J = 8.10$  Hz), 7.33 (H-3', d,  $J = 8.10$  Hz), 2.43 (H-5'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 33.2 (C-1), 26.1 (C-2), 86.4 (C-3), 35.8 (C-4), 47.3 (C-5), 38.3 (C-6), 200.7 (C-7), 151.4 (C-8), 150.9 (C-9), 40.9 (C-10), 202 (C-11), 51.50 (C-12), 49.1 (C-13), 47.5 (C-14), 32.1 (C-15), 27.3 (C-16), 49.2 (C-17), 16.9 (C-18), 16.4 (C-19), 35.8 (C-20), 18.4 (C-21), 38.2 (C-22), 29.8 (C-23), 214.5 (C-24), 35.6 (C-25), 21.7 (C-26),

22.4 (C-27), 31.8 (C-25), 21.5 (C-26), 18.4 (C-27), 14.5 (C-28), 16.4 (C-29), 144.7 (C-1'), 134.6 (C-2'), 129.8 (C-3'), 127.8 (C-4'), 18.4 (C-5'). Low resolution: 610.3 (2%), 395.3 (20%), 410.3 (21%), 423.3 (23%), 438.3 (100%), 439.3 (58%), 257.1 (20%), 229 (25%). High resolution: 610.3312 (calc. 610.3328).

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