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## New ecdysteroid and ecdysteroid glycosides from the roots of *Serratula chinensis*

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### ABSTRACT

Three new ecdysteroid glycosides (**1–3**) and one new ecdysteroid (**4**), were isolated from the roots of *Serratula chinensis*. Their structures were established on the basis of extensive spectroscopic analysis and chemical methods.

### ARTICLE HISTORY

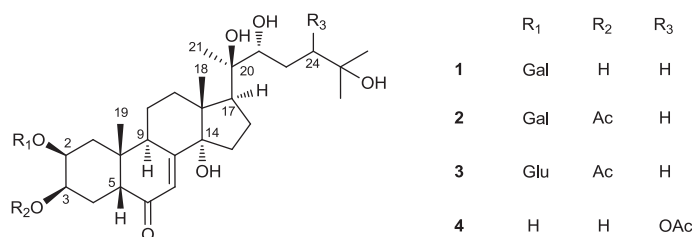
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### KEYWORDS

Compositae; *Serratula chinensis*; ecdysteroid; ecdysteroid glycoside

## 1. Introduction

The plant *Serratula chinensis* S. Moee (Compositae) is a perennial herb widely distributed in southern China [1]. The roots of this plant, called “Guang Sheng Ma” in Chinese, are widely used as an alternative to the traditional Chinese medicine *Cimicifugae foetida* L. (“Sheng Ma”) (Ranunculaceae) for the treatment of pharyngitis and morbilli in southern areas of China, such as Guangdong, Guangxi, and Fujian provinces [2]. Previous phytochemical investigations of this plant had led to the isolation of ecdysteroids, sphingolipids, and cerebrosides [3–5]. Among them, ecdysteroids are the major and characteristic components of the roots of *S. chinensis*, some of which have been reported to show potent antioxidant, hepatoprotective, immunomodulatory, antitumor, and erythropoietic activities [6–11]. During the course of our ongoing program to assess the chemical and biological diversities of medicinal plants growing in southern China [12–17], we carried out extensive phytochemical investigation on the roots of *S. chinensis* and had reported the isolation of several known ecdysteroids [18]. More recently, our further study of this plant led to the finding of three new ecdysteroid glycosides, 20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (**1**), 3-O-acetyl-20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (**2**), 3-O-acetyl-20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside (**3**) and a new ecdysteroid, 24-O-acetyl-*epi*-abutasterone (**4**) (Figure 1). To the best of our knowledge, there are only six ecdysteroid glycosides isolated from the genus *Serratula* [11,18], three of which were reported here. In this paper, we report the isolation and structural elucidation of these new compounds.



**Figure 1.** Chemical structures of **1–4**.

## 2. Results and discussion

Compound **1** was obtained as amorphous powder. The molecular formula of **1** was established as C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>54</sub>O<sub>12</sub> on the basis of the quasi-molecular ion at  $m/z$  665.3532 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> by its HR-ESI-MS. The IR spectrum showed the presence of hydroxyl (3406 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and carbonyl (1660 cm<sup>-1</sup>) groups. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1** showed signals for five angular methyl groups ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.91, 0.98, 1.20, 1.20, and 1.22, each 3H, s), three oxygenated methines [ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.34 (1H, m), 4.05 (1H, dt,  $J$  = 12.5, 3.5 Hz), and 4.16 (1H, d,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz)], as well as one olefinic proton [ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.82 (1H, d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz)]. In the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **1**, thirty-three carbon signals were observed. Among them, twenty-seven of which could be assigned to the aglycone moiety including five methyls ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  18.0, 21.0, 24.2, 28.9, and 29.7), six oxygenated methines or quaternary carbons ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  66.0, 71.3, 76.4, 77.9, 78.4, and 85.2), two olefinic carbons ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  122.6 and 168.3), as well as a carbonyl ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  206.5). Detailed interpretation of the 2D NMR (<sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HSQC and HMBC) spectra of **1** allowed the assignment of all proton and carbon resonances (Table 1). The aglycone of **1** was identified as 20-hydroxyecdysone by comparison of the NMR data of **1** with those published in literature [3]. In the NOESY spectrum of **1**, correlations between H-9 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.18) and H-2 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.05), as well as between H<sub>3</sub>-19 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.98) and H-5 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.39) confirmed the presence of *cis* junction of rings A and B. Chemical shift values of C-12 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  32.5) and C-15 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  31.7) confirmed the *trans* junction of rings C and D [19]. The  $\alpha$ -configurations of H-2 and H-3 could be confirmed by the large <sup>3</sup> $J_{\text{H1}\beta\text{-H2}}$  coupling constant (12.5 Hz) and small <sup>3</sup> $J_{\text{H2-H3}}$  coupling constant (3.5 Hz), as well as by the NOE correlation between H-2 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.05) and H-9 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.18). Furthermore, the NOE correlations between H-9 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.18) and H-12 $\alpha$  ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.76), between H-12 $\alpha$  ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.76) and H-17 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.41) suggested the presence of  $\alpha$ -configuration of H-17 (Figure 2). The configurations of H-21 and H-22 were determined by comparison of the NMR data of C-17, C-20, C-21, C-22, and C-25 [3,20,21] among **1**, 20-hydroxyecdysone and 22-*epi*-20-hydroxyecdysone both in CD<sub>3</sub>OD and C<sub>5</sub>D<sub>5</sub>N [3,20,21].

In addition, the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **1** showed the presence of a sugar anomeric proton signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.41 (1H, d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, H-1') and the corresponding carbon signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  103.3 (C-1'). Acid hydrolysis of **1** yielded the D-galactose, which was identified by HPLC analysis [22]. The relative anomeric configuration of the D-galactose was determined to be  $\beta$  based on the <sup>3</sup> $J_{\text{H1-H2}}$  coupling constant of the anomeric proton ( $J$  = 7.5 Hz). The linkage position of the monosaccharide could be deduced by the HMBC correlation between the anomeric proton H-1' ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.41) and C-2 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  76.4) (Figure 2). Therefore, the structure of **1** was determined as 20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside.

**Table 1.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data of compounds **1-4** (J in Hz) <sup>[a][b]</sup>.

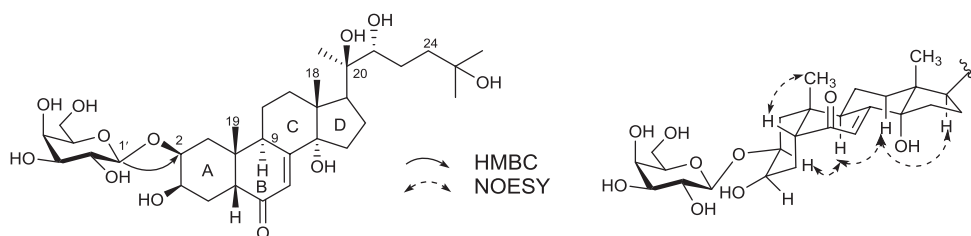
No.	<b>1</b> <sup>[c]</sup>			<b>2</b> <sup>[d]</sup>			<b>3</b> <sup>[d]</sup>			<b>4</b> <sup>[c]</sup>		
	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>H</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>H</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>H</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>	δ <sub>H</sub>	δ <sub>C</sub>
1	36.1	α 1.96; β 1.54 (t, 12.5)	37.7	α 2.44; b 1.83	37.5	α 2.46; β 1.87	37.4	α 2.46; β 1.87	37.4	β 1.80; α 1.44	3.84	37.4
2	76.4	4.05 (dt, 12.5, 3.5)	73.9	4.49	74.1	4.57	68.7	4.57	68.7	3.96 (br s)	3.96	68.7
3	66.0	4.16 (d, 3.5)	68.6	5.65 (br s)	68.6	5.70 (br s)	68.5	5.70 (br s)	68.5	α 1.72; b 1.72	2.40 (dd, 13.0, 4.5)	68.5
4	32.0	1.75	29.8	α 1.98; β 1.74	29.8	α 1.84; β 2.04	32.8	α 1.84; β 2.04	32.8	2.66 (dd, 14.0, 4.0)	2.66	32.8
5	51.9	2.39	52.3	2.63 (dd, 14.0, 4.0)	52.1	2.66 (dd, 14.0, 4.0)	51.8	2.66 (dd, 14.0, 4.0)	51.8	5.82 (d, 2.5)	5.82	51.8
6	206.5	—	202.3	—	202.6	—	206.2	—	206.2	—	—	206.2
7	122.6	5.82 (d, 2.0)	121.9	6.21 (d, 2.0)	122.2	6.24 (d, 2.0)	121.8	6.24 (d, 2.0)	121.8	—	—	121.8
8	168.3	—	167.0	—	167.3	—	167.9	—	167.9	—	—	167.9
9	35.0	3.18	34.6	3.60 (br s)	34.6	3.63 (br s)	35.1	3.63 (br s)	35.1	3.17	3.17	35.1
10	39.5	—	39.2	—	39.0	—	39.3	—	39.3	—	—	39.3
11	21.3	α 1.88; β 1.68	21.3	α 2.08; b 1.70	21.2	α 2.07; b 1.73	21.5	α 2.07; b 1.73	21.5	α 1.81; β 1.70	α 1.81; β 1.70	21.5
12	32.5	β 2.15 (td, 13.0, 4.5); α 1.76	32.0	β 2.15; α 1.85	32.0	α 2.54; b 1.91	32.5	α 2.54; b 1.91	32.5	α 2.14; β 1.77	α 2.14; β 1.77	32.5
13	48.5	—	48.3	—	48.2	—	48.5	—	48.5	—	—	48.5
14	85.2	—	84.4	—	84.5	—	85.2	—	85.2	—	—	85.2
15	31.7	α 1.99; β 1.63	32.2	α 2.51; b 1.96	32.1	α 2.13; b 1.92	31.8	α 2.13; b 1.92	31.8	β 1.96; α 1.61	β 1.96; α 1.61	31.8
16	21.5	α 1.99; β 1.76	21.8	α 2.45; b 2.05	21.8	α 2.46; b 1.89	21.3	α 2.46; b 1.89	21.3	α 1.98; β 1.72	α 1.98; β 1.72	21.3
17	50.5	2.41	50.4	2.95 (t, 9.0)	50.3	2.97 (t, 9.0)	50.4	2.97 (t, 9.0)	50.4	2.35 (t, 9.5)	2.35 (t, 9.5)	50.4
18	18.0	0.91 (s)	18.1	1.20 (s)	18.1	1.21 (s)	18.1	1.21 (s)	18.1	0.90 (s)	0.90 (s)	18.1
19	24.2	0.98 (s)	24.4	1.03 (s)	24.3	1.04 (s)	24.4	1.04 (s)	24.4	0.98 (s)	0.98 (s)	24.4
20	77.9	—	77.2	—	77.1	—	77.6	—	77.6	—	—	77.6
21	21.0	1.20 (s)	22.0	1.55 (s)	22.0	1.57 (s)	21.0	1.57 (s)	21.0	1.20 (s)	1.20 (s)	21.0
22	78.4	3.34	77.8	3.87 (d, 9.5)	77.9	3.89 (d, 10.0)	73.8	3.89 (d, 10.0)	73.8	3.31	3.31	73.8
23	27.4	α 1.67; b 1.30	27.7	α 2.15; b 1.85	27.7	β 2.18; α 1.87	33.1	β 2.18; α 1.87	33.1	α 1.76; b 1.57	α 1.76; b 1.57	33.1
24	42.3	α 1.81; b 1.45	42.9	α 2.30; b 1.81	42.9	α 2.33; b 1.83	78.7	α 2.33; b 1.83	78.7	5.09 (dd, 10.5, 1.5)	5.09 (dd, 10.5, 1.5)	78.7
25	71.3	—	70.0	—	70.0	—	72.7	—	72.7	—	—	72.7
26	29.7	1.22 (s)	30.6	1.39 (s)	30.5	1.42 (s)	26.0	1.42 (s)	26.0	1.21 (s)	1.21 (s)	26.0
27	28.9	1.20 (s)	30.3	1.39 (s)	30.2	1.42 (s)	26.0	1.42 (s)	26.0	1.19 (s)	1.19 (s)	26.0
1'	103.3	4.41 (d, 7.5)	104.4	4.84 (d, 7.5)	104.1	4.95 (d, 7.5)	173.0	4.95 (d, 7.5)	173.0	—	—	173.0
2'	72.7	3.56	72.8	4.40 (dd, 9.5, 7.5)	75.5	4.00 (t, 8.0)	21.0	4.00 (t, 8.0)	21.0	—	—	21.0
3'	70.2	3.86 (d, 3.0)	75.6	4.10 (dd, 9.5, 3.0)	78.7	4.23	—	4.23	—	—	—	—
4'	74.8	3.50 (dd, 9.7, 3.0)	70.4	4.55 (d, 3.0)	71.9	4.25	—	4.25	—	—	—	—
5'	76.7	3.54	77.2	4.02 (t, 6.0)	78.6	3.94	—	3.94	—	—	—	—
6'	62.4	3.77 (d, 8.0)	62.5	α 4.46; b 4.42	63.0	α 4.55 (dd, 11.0, 2.5); b 4.38 (dd, 11.0, 5.0)	—	—	—	—	—	—
1''	—	—	171.2	—	171.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2''	—	—	21.5	1.96 (s)	21.4	2.01 (s)	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>[a]</sup>Assignments were established by interpretation of the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HSQC, and HMBC spectra.

<sup>[b]</sup>Overlapped signals are reported without designating multiplicity.

<sup>[c]</sup>Measured in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.

<sup>[d]</sup>Measured in CD<sub>3</sub>N.



**Figure 2.** Key HMBC and NOESY correlations of **1**.

Compound **2** was isolated as amorphous powder. The molecular formula of **2** was assigned as  $C_{35}H_{56}O_{13}$  by its HR-ESI-MS with a quasi-molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  707.3609  $[M + Na]^+$ . Comparison of the  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR data of **2** with those of **1** (Table 1) revealed that they were very similar, except for the presence of signals assigned to an acetyl group [ $\delta_H$  1.96 (3H, s);  $\delta_C$  21.5 and 171.2] in **2**, and the significant downfield shift of C-3 and H-3 signals of **2**. In the HMBC spectrum, the correlation between H-3 ( $\delta_H$  5.65) and C-1'' ( $\delta_C$  171.4) indicated that the additional acetyl group was located at C-3 in **2**. Acid hydrolysis of **2** also afforded D-galactose, which was identified by HPLC analysis [22]. Furthermore, the  $^3J_{H1-H2}$  coupling constant of the anomeric proton ( $J = 7.5$  Hz) established the  $\beta$ -configuration of the sugar unit. The HMBC correlation between H-1' ( $\delta_H$  4.84) and C-2 ( $\delta_C$  73.9) further confirmed that the C-2 position of the aglycone was glycosylated with D-galactose. Thus, compound **2** was deduced to be 3-O-acetyl-20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside.

Compound **3** showed the same molecular formula as **2** by its HR-ESI-MS at  $m/z$  707.3609  $[M + Na]^+$ . The  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectral data of the aglycone part of **3** were in accordance with those of **2** (Table 1), suggesting that the aglycone of **3** was 20-hydroxyecdysone. Besides, the  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra displayed the signals due to one sugar moiety. Acid hydrolysis of **3** afforded D-glucose. The relative anomeric configuration of D-glucose was determined to be  $\beta$  based on the  $^3J_{H1-H2}$  coupling constant ( $J = 7.5$  Hz). In the HMBC spectrum, correlations between H-1' ( $\delta_H$  4.95) and C-2 ( $\delta_C$  74.1), as well as between H-3 ( $\delta_H$  5.70) and C-1'' ( $\delta_C$  171.4) suggested that the D-glucose and acetyl group were attached to the C-2 and C-3 positions, respectively. Thus, the structure of **3** was determined as 3-O-acetyl-20-hydroxyecdysone-2-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside.

Compound **4** gave a molecular formula  $C_{29}H_{46}O_9$  by its HR-ESI-MS at  $m/z$  561.3045  $[M + Na]^+$ . The  $^1H$  NMR spectrum of **4** indicated the presence of signals for five methyl groups ( $\delta_H$  0.90, 0.98, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21, each 3H, s), four oxygenated methines [ $\delta_H$  3.31 (1H, m), 3.84 (1H, m), 3.96 (1H, br s), and 5.09 (1H, dd,  $J = 10.5, 1.5$  Hz)], as well as one olefinic proton [ $\delta_H$  5.82 (1H, d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz)]. The  $^{13}C$  NMR and DEPT spectra of **4** showed the signals for twenty-nine carbons, including five methyls ( $\delta_C$  18.1, 21.0, 24.4, and  $26.0 \times 2$ ), seven oxygenated carbon signals ( $\delta_C$  68.5, 68.7, 72.7, 73.8, 77.6, 78.7, and 85.2), two olefinic carbons ( $\delta_C$  121.8 and 167.9), as well as a carbonyl ( $\delta_C$  206.2). The NMR spectral data of **4** were similar to those of 24-*epi*-abutasterone [23], except for the presence of signals assigned to an acetyl group [ $\delta_H$  2.11 (3H, s);  $\delta_C$  21.0 and 173.0] (Table 1). The HMBC correlations between H-24 ( $\delta_H$  5.09) and C-1' ( $\delta_C$  173.0)/C-22 ( $\delta_C$  73.8)/C-23 ( $\delta_C$  33.1)/C-26, 27 ( $\delta_C$   $26.0 \times 2$ ) suggested that the additional acetyl group was located at C-24 in **4**. The relative configuration of **4** could be further determined on the basis of NOESY experiment, which was identical to 24-*epi*-abutasterone. However, the stereochemistry of C-24 in the side-chain

could not be assigned based on current evidence. Thus, the structure of **4** was established as 24-*O*-acetyl-*epi*-abutasterone.

### 3. Experimental

#### 3.1. General experimental procedures

Optical rotations were measured on Jasco P-1020 digital polarimeter at room temperature (Jasco, Tokyo, Japan). UV data were obtained on a JASCO V-550 UV/vis spectrophotometer (Jasco, Tokyo, Japan). Jasco FT/IR-480 plus Fourier Transform Spectrometer was used for scanning IR spectra with KBr pellets (Jasco, Tokyo, Japan). NMR spectra were acquired with Bruker AV-500 Spectrometer (500 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and 125 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, Bruker, Fallanden, Switzerland). HR-ESI-MS analyses were recorded with Agilent 6210 ESI/TOF mass spectrometer (Agilent, Palo Alto, CA, USA). Silica gel (200–300 mesh or 300–400 mesh, Qingdao Haiyang Chemical Corporation, Qingdao, China) and Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden) were used for column chromatography.

#### 3.2. Plant material

The roots of *Serratula chinensis* were purchased from Qingping market of traditional Chinese medicine, Guangzhou city, Guangdong province of China, in October of 2012, and authenticated by Professor Guang-Xiong Zhou (College of Pharmacy, Jinan University). A voucher specimen (No. 20,121,015) was deposited in the Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine & Natural Products, College of Pharmacy, Jinan University, Guangzhou, China.

#### 3.3. Extraction and isolation

Air-dried and powdered roots (20.0 kg) of *S. chinensis* were extracted with 95% (v/v) ethanol for three times. The solvent was removed under vacuum to obtain a crude extract (370 g), which was then suspended in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and successively extracted with petroleum ether, EtOAc and *n*-BuOH. The *n*-BuOH fraction (190 g) was subjected to silica gel column chromatography eluted gradually with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH (100:0–0:100, v/v) to yield seven fractions (Fr. 1–Fr. 7). Fr. 4 (14 g) was further subjected to silica gel column chromatography eluted by  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH (100:0–0:100, v/v) to yield seven subfractions (Fr. 4a–Fr. 4 g). Fr. 4d (1.6 g) was further purified with Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography ( $\text{MeOH}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 70:30, v/v) to yield **1** (10 mg), **2** (16 mg) and **4** (13 mg), respectively. Fr. 4e (0.8 g) was further separated by preparative HPLC using  $\text{MeOH}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (65:35, v/v, 6 ml/min) to afford **3** (RT: 25.2 min, 6 mg).

##### 3.3.1. Compound 1

Amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} + 13.1$  (c 0.01, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ : 242 nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3406, 2954, 2928, 1660, 1384  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data see Table 1; HR-ESI-MS  $m/z$ : 665.3532  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  (calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{54}\text{O}_{12}\text{Na}$ , 665.3507).

### 3.3.2. Compound 2

Amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 21.0$  (*c* 0.01, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$ : 242 nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3420, 2925, 2857, 1647, 1382, 1057  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data see Table 1; HR-ESI-MS  $m/z$ : 707.3609  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  (calcd for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{56}\text{O}_{13}\text{Na}$ , 707.3613).

### 3.3.3. Compound 3

Amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 13.4$  (*c* 0.01, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$ : 242 nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3423, 2962, 2923, 1728, 1660, 1382, 1051  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data see Table 1; HR-ESI-MS  $m/z$ : 707.3609  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  (calcd for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{56}\text{O}_{13}\text{Na}$ , 707.3613).

### 3.3.4. Compound 4

Amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 46.4$  (*c* 0.01, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$ : 242 nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3420, 2964, 2929, 1713, 1648, 1383, 1054  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data see Table 1; HR-ESI-MS  $m/z$ : 561.3045  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  (calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{46}\text{O}_9\text{Na}$ , 561.3034).

## 3.4. Acid hydrolysis and sugar analysis

Compounds **1–3** (each 2 mg) were dissolved in 2 M HCl (10 ml) and stirred at 80 °C for 3 h, respectively [22]. The solution was extracted with chloroform to yield an aglycone fraction and an aqueous fraction. The aqueous layer was evaporated to give a residue, followed by adding with anhydrous pyridine (0.5 ml) and L-cysteine methyl ester (1 mg). The reaction mixture was heated at 60 °C for 1 h. After that, *O*-aryl isocyanate ester (5  $\mu\text{l}$ ) was added to the solution, which was then heated at 60 °C for another 1 h. Filtered with membrane (0.45  $\mu\text{m}$ ) after reaction, the solution was analyzed with HPLC under the following conditions: Cosmosil 5C<sub>18</sub>-MS-II (4.6  $\times$  250 mm, i.d. 5.0  $\mu\text{m}$ ), mobile phase: acetonitrile-0.05% formic acid (25:75), detector wavelength: 250 nm, flow rate: 0.8 ml/min, acquisition time: 40 min. The derivatives of authentic D-glucose, L-glucose, D-galactose and L-galactose were prepared by the same method, and showed the retention times of 20.65, 18.69, 16.78 and 17.71 min. As a result, D-galactose [ $t_R$  (min): 16.72, 16.77] from the hydrolyzates of **1** and **2**, and D-glucose [ $t_R$  (min): 20.53] from the hydrolyzate of **3** were detected.

## Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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