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LUPIN ALKALOIDS FROM THE SEEDS OF *THERMOPSIS LUPINOIDES*

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Abstract—A new lupin alkaloid, (+)-lupanine N-oxide, was isolated from the seeds of *Thermopsis lupinoides* together with nine known alkaloids. The structure of the new compound was determined by spectroscopic methods and chemical transformations.

INTRODUCTION

Thermopsis lupinoides Link is a herbaceous plant containing a large amount of lupin alkaloids [1]. We have already reported the isolation of eight lupin alkaloids from the flowers, leaves, stems and roots of *T. lupinoides* [2]. In the present communication, we describe the isolation of a new alkaloid, (+)-lupanine N-oxide (1), from the seeds of *T. lupinoides* and the structural elucidation by spectroscopic methods and chemical transformations.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the 75% EtOH extract of the seeds of *T. lupinoides*, a new alkaloid (1) was isolated in a yield of 0.005% of the fr. wt. by repeated silica gel chromatography. We also isolated nine known lupin alkaloids, (+)-lupanine (2, main base), (–)-anagyrine, (–)-cytisine, (–)-N-methylcytisine, (–)-sparteine, (+)-17-oxolupanine, N-formylcytisine, baptifoline, and ammodendrine.

The in-beam HRMS spectrum of 1 indicated the molecular formula C₁₅H₂₄N₂O₂ (M⁺, m/z 264.1838, calc. 264.1837). The fragment pattern of 1 was similar to that of (+)-lupanine (2). The IR spectrum showed the presence of an amido group (1640 cm⁻¹) and an N-oxide bond (930 cm⁻¹). In the ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1 (Table 1), the signals of C-11, C-15 and C-17 were shifted downfield in the range, δ 7–14 compared to those of 2. The up-field

shifts, on the contrary, were observed in the signals of C-8, C-12 and C-14, because of the steric effects of axial N-oxide bond at N-16. These substituent effects of N-oxide group were also reported in other lupin alkaloids [3–5]. In the ¹H NMR spectrum of 1, the signals in low field were assigned by decoupling experiments and comparison

Table 1 ¹³C NMR chemical shifts of (+)-lupanine N-oxide (1) and (+)-lupanine (2) in CDCl₃

C	1	2	Δ(1–2)
2	172.1	171.3	+0.8
3	33.0	33.1	–0.1
4	19.4	19.7	–0.3
5	27.7	26.8	+0.9
6	61.8	60.9	+0.9
7	33.6	35.0	–1.4
8	22.7	27.4	–4.7
9	31.7	32.5	–0.8
10	47.0	46.8	+0.2
11	71.4	64.0	+7.4
12	27.7	33.6	–5.9
13	25.7	24.5	+1.2
14	20.3	25.3	–5.0
15	69.6	55.4	+14.2
17	65.2	52.9	+12.3

with the spectral data of **2**. The 10α and 10β protons resonated at δ 4.52 and 2.55, respectively. The protons at C-15 and C-17 appeared in low-field between δ 2.9 and 3.7 compared with those of **2** because of the substituent effects of *N*-oxide [6]. Thus, the structure of **1** was determined as (+)-lupanine *N*-oxide.

To confirm the structure of **1**, chemical conversions between **1** and **2** were performed. Compound **1** was reduced by sulphur dioxide gas to give **2**. Furthermore, **1** was synthesized from **2** by oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid.

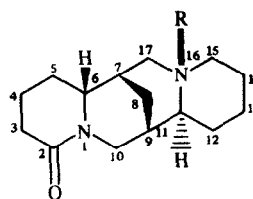
The *N*-oxides of lupin alkaloids are apparently rare in plants [7, 8]. Only seven *N*-oxides [8] and a few other examples [3, 4] are reported in the literature. Many of the known lupin alkaloids are, however, oxygenated on carbons adjacent to nitrogen, e.g. lupanine, 17-oxolupanine, and 6 β -hydroxylupanine [9]. The present study is the first isolation of (+)-lupanine *N*-oxide (**1**) from natural sources, although **1** had already been synthesized artificially [10, 11]. It is interesting that we have also isolated (+)-lupanine and (+)-17-oxolupanine from the seeds of *T. lupinoides*. Because it is possible that **1** is the biosynthetic intermediate from (+)-lupanine to (+)-17-oxolupanine [7].

EXPERIMENTAL

Extraction and isolation of alkaloids. The seeds of *T. lupinoides* were collected in July in Hokkaido, Japan. 10 g of total alkaloidal fraction from 400 g of the seeds was prepared as described in ref. [2]. This fraction was dissolved in *n*-hexane. The insoluble fraction was further purified on a silica gel column. **1** was eluted by the solvent system of CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH-28% NH_4OH (50:10:1). The 20 mg of **1** was recrystallized from C_6H_6 .

(+)-Lupanine *N*-oxide (**1**). Hygroscopic needle, mp 58° (C_6H_6), $[\alpha]_D^{24} + 65.5^\circ$ (EtOH). HRMS (in-beam) m/z (rel. int.): 264 (1838), $[\text{M}]^+$ (16), 248 $[\text{M}-\text{O}]^+$ (58), 247 $[\text{M}-\text{OH}]^+$ (29), 150 (30), 149 (45), 148 (50), 136 (100), 110 (38), 98 (53), 97 (46), 84 (42), 41 (67). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{neat}}$ cm^{-1} : 1640 (C=O), 930 (N-O). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 4.52 (1H, *d*, $J=13.0$ Hz, $10\alpha\text{-H}$), 3.82 (1H, *m*, $W_{h/2}=20$ Hz, $6\beta\text{-H}$), 3.66 (1H, *t*, $J=11.6$ Hz, $17\beta\text{-H}$), 3.40 (2H, *m*, $W_{h/2}=21$ Hz, $15\beta\text{-H}$), 2.99 (1H, *t*, $J=12.0$ Hz, $15\alpha\text{-H}$), 2.94 (1H, *dd*, $J=11.6$ and 2.7 Hz, $17\alpha\text{-H}$), 2.55 (3H, *d* like, $J=13.0$ Hz, $10\beta\text{-H}$). ^{13}C NMR: see the data in Table 1.

Reduction of **1 to **2**.** 10 mg of **1** was dissolved in 2 ml of MeOH and reduced with SO_2 gas for 15 min at 0° . The purification by prep TLC using solvent system of CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH-28% NH_4OH (980:20:1) gave 4 mg of pure **2**, $[\alpha]_D^{24} + 65.0^\circ$.



1 R = O

2 R = lone pair

Synthesis of **1 from **2**.** (+)-Lupanine (**2**) (260 mg) was dissolved in 5 ml of CH_2Cl_2 . *m*-Chloroperoxybenzoic acid (174 mg) in CH_2Cl_2 was added gradually to the former soln. After stirring 6 hr at room temp. the products were extracted and purified by CC on silica gel with the solvent system of CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH-28% NH_4OH (200:8:1). **1**, $[\alpha]_D + 65.3^\circ$, was obtained with a yield of 71% (190 mg).

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