



Published in final edited form as:

J Nat Prod. 2017 August 25; 80(8): 2252–2262. doi:10.1021/acs.jnatprod.7b00193.

Stereochemistry of a Second Riolozone and Other Diterpenoids from *Jatropha dioica*

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Abstract

The dichloromethane extract of the roots of *Jatropha dioica* afforded riolozone (1) and a C-6 epimer of riolozone, 6-*epi*-riolozone (2), as a new structure and only the second reported riolozone diterpenoid. The two known diterpenoids jatrophatriene (3) and citlalatriene (4) were also isolated and characterized. Both epimers 1 and 2 are genuine plant constituents, with 2 likely being the biosynthesis precursor of 1 due to the tendency for the quantitative transformation of 2 into 1 under base catalysis. The structural characterization and distinction of the stereoisomers utilized ¹H iterative full-spin analysis, yielding complete *J*-correlation maps that were represented as quantum interaction and linkage tables. The absolute configuration of compounds 1–4 was established by means of vibrational circular dichroism and via X-ray diffraction analysis for 1, 2, and 4. Additionally, the cytotoxic and antihyperthermic in vitro activities of the isolates were evaluated.

Graphical abstract

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Supporting Information: The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.jnatprod.7b00193.

HPLC analysis, elemental analysis, IR, MS, NMR spectra, and HiFSA profiles of compounds 1 and 2 (PDF)

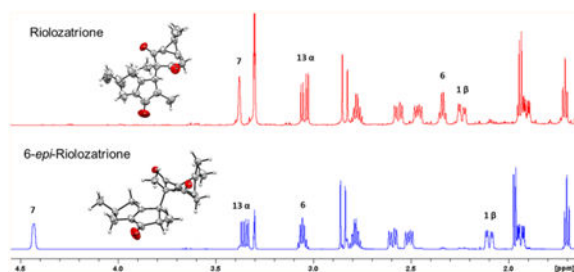
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Notes: The authors declare no competing financial interest.

The original NMR data (FIDs) are made available at DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7910/DVN/QHYRAM>.



Jatropha dioica, commonly known as “sangre de drago” (“dragon’s blood”), has been used in Mexican herbal medicine since the pre-Hispanic era.¹ Active compounds reported from *J. dioica* roots include riolozatrione (**1**),² which was hypothesized to arise from the rearrangement of lathyrol or an unknown macrocyclic precursor. To date, the rearranged diterpenoid skeleton (riolozane) of **1** is the only known structure of its kind, and *Jatropha* species are its sole natural source. Recently, **1** was reported to exhibit a weak in vitro activity against herpes simplex virus (HSV).³ Other *Jatropha* diterpenoids comprise jatrophatrione (**3**), a tricyclic compound including a nine-membered ring isolated from the roots of *J. microrhiza*, which has displayed tumor-inhibitory activity in the P-388 (3PS) lymphocytic leukemia assay.⁴ A congeneric compound, citlalitrione (**4**), has subsequently been reported from *J. dioica*,⁵ but its bioactivity has not been evaluated. The total synthesis of **3** and **4** has been accomplished, their relative configuration has been confirmed by X-ray crystallography,^{4,5} and the identity of synthesized **3** and **4** relative to the isolated natural product has been demonstrated by NMR spectroscopy.⁶

Ongoing studies regarding the biosynthesis of riolozatrione (**1**) triggered a search for congeneric compounds and led to the isolation of a new riolozane, 6-*epi*-riolozatrione (**2**), from the CH₂Cl₂ extract of *J. dioica* roots. Unambiguous establishment of its structure required detailed 1D and 2D NMR studies, including full-spin analysis, and its absolute configuration was determined by means of vibrational circular dichroism (VCD) and X-ray diffraction analysis. Recent insights in the understanding of the terminal steps in the biosynthesis of the two riolozanes are in line with the assignment of the absolute configurations of **1** and **2** established in the present study, as well as with those of other diterpenoids from *J. dioica*.

While the reported stereochemistry of **1** could be confirmed, its NMR assignments are in need of revision. The close similarity between **1** and **2** necessitated a ¹H iterative full-spin analysis (HiFSA). Their full ¹H NMR spin parameters include complete *J*-coupling relationships that were compiled in the form of quantum interaction and linkages tables (QuILTs).⁷ In addition, the shared absolute configurations of **1–4** and highly congruent structures of **1** and **2** indicate their close biogenetic relationship. While this article was under preparation, the absolute configurations of **3** and **4** were reported by experimental and calculated IR and VCD spectra using DFT B3LYP/DGDZVP level of theory calculations, as well as by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis of **4**.⁸ Moreover, this study shows the good agreement between computed VCD spectra that are based on conformational analysis of **3** and **4** at the mPW1B95/DGDZVP and B3PW91/DGDZVP levels and the experimental VCD results. In support of the possible potential of *J. dioica* diterpenoids as bioactive leads,

the present study evaluated the cytotoxicity and anti-HSV activities of **2**, **3**, and **4**, comparing their activities with those reported previously for **1**.³

Results and Discussion

As *J. dioica* is known to produce the structurally unique diterpenoid riolozatrione (**1**), studies of the biosynthesis pathways of the distinctive riolozane skeleton can benefit from a search of congeneric compounds. Conventional chromatography of the dichloromethane extract of *J. dioica* roots afforded compounds **1–4** (Chart 1 and Figure S1, Supporting Information). Compound **2** was obtained as colorless crystals and subjected to NMR, IR, and MS analysis. HR-EIMS established its molecular formula as C₂₀H₂₆O₃ (Figures S2 and S3, Supporting Information). The UV maximum at 243 nm confirmed the presence of an α,β unsaturated carbonyl moiety, and IR absorptions at 2952 and 2870 cm⁻¹ indicated C–H stretching from alkyl groups, whereas bands at 1722 and 1696 cm⁻¹ were consistent with nonconjugated and conjugated carbonyl groups, respectively (Figure S4, Supporting Information). The 400 MHz ¹H NMR spectrum in CDCl₃ showed five methyl signals, two doublets at δ 1.15 and 1.07 and three singlets at δ 1.23, 1.08, and 0.85, suggesting the terpenoidal origin of **2**. Several highly complex resonance patterns between 3.2 and 1.5 ppm and a methine proton giving rise to a broad doublet at δ 4.22 indicated the aliphatic nature of the structure (Figure S5, Supporting Information). Comparison of the ¹H NMR chemical shifts of **2** with those of **1** showed close similarities albeit with specific differences. An array of 1D and 2D NMR experiments supported the structure of **2** as a riolozane-type diterpenoid epimeric with compound **1** (Figures S6, S8, S9, S10, and S11, Supporting Information). Signals ascribed to H-6 and H-7 of **2** appeared at lower field, and the H₃-18 and H₃-20 methyl protons were shifted upfield relative to **1**. Therefore, the structural difference between the compounds had to be in the C-6 and/or C-7 configurations. Such a difference was expected to cause a conformational change in the six-membered ring and, therefore, a change in the spin–spin coupling pattern of H-12 and H-13 (Figure S5, Supporting Information).

The ¹³C NMR spectrum exhibited 20 signals, confirming the diterpenoid character of **2**. DEPT experiments indicated that these 20 signals corresponded to five methyl, three methylene, five methine, seven nonprotonated, three carbonyl, and two olefinic carbons. Notably, the similarities in the pattern of the olefinic carbons of **1** (180.62 and 149.33 ppm) vs **2** (181.27 and 149.67 ppm) was interpreted to represent a characteristic pattern of a 3,4,5,6-tetrahydropentalen-1(2H)-one system (Figure S5, Supporting Information).

In order to generate unambiguous NMR reference data, the spectra of **1** were re-examined with respect to the original communication.² The corrected and complete ¹H and ¹³C NMR assignments in CDCl₃ and methanol-*d*₄ are shown in Table 1. The relative configuration of **2** was established on the basis of NOESY correlations and compared with those of **1** (Figures 1 and S11, Supporting Information). In both compounds, the dipolar coupling of H₃-18 to H-1b and of H₃-19 to H-1b and H-3b allowed the assignment of the β -orientations of H-1b and H-3b. Accordingly, H-1a, H-2, and H-3a could be assigned as α -oriented. The NOE correlations between H₃-18 and H-6 and between H₃-20 and H-7 were observed only in **1**, indicating the different chirality of the C-6 and C-7 stereogenic centers in these compounds. Moreover, dipolar couplings between the H₃-18 and H₃-20 methyl protons and NOE

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correlations between H-6 and H-7 were observed only in **2**. Considering the observed differences in the dipolar couplings of **1** vs **2** showed that **2** is the C-6 epimer of **1**. Compared to **1**, the ^{13}C NMR resonances of the adjacent C₃-18, C-9, and C-7 of **2** show significantly reduced intensities and peak broadening (Figure S5, Supporting Information). Peak intensity increased slightly when longer relaxation delays (20 and 40 s) were applied, indicating the prevalence of dynamic (conformational averaging) over relaxation effects leading to this characteristic behavior of the three carbon resonances. Preliminary evaluation of rotameric populations indicated similar energy barriers for **1** and **2**, and this is in line with variable-temperature (−40 to +40 °C) ^{13}C NMR measurements, showing no major effects on molecular dynamics in this temperature range. More detailed dynamic NMR studies and consideration of the keto-enol tautomerism and its impact on both the dynamics and the relative stability of the two epimers are required to fully explain the underlying mechanism, but were beyond the scope of the present study.

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In order to establish the precise difference between **1** and **2**, a full determination of the $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ coupling network in both molecules was undertaken using the 1D ^1H NMR spectra acquired in CDCl_3 at 400 and 700 MHz. Processing the FIDs with Lorentzian–Gaussian apodization permitted the resolution of coupling constants as small as ~ 0.5 Hz as line splittings in all signals. In both compounds, several ^1H resonances were overlapped at 400 MHz (Figure S5, Supporting Information), making it difficult to extract coupling constants for H-6, H-3 α , and H-1 α of **2** as well as H-6, H-13 α and β , H-3 α , and H-1 α of **1** by manual analysis, even with resolution enhancement processing. While the 700 MHz spectra of **1** and **2** in CDCl_3 exhibited improved resolution (Figure 2), some overlap remained for the resonances of H-6, H-3 α , and H-1 α of **1**, as well as H-6 and H-13 β of **2**. One remarkable detail of the 1D ^1H NMR behavior of **1** vs **2** is that their identical coupling pattern in the six-membered ring gives rise to disparate H-12 resonances with very different apparent multiplicities. This is due to a higher order effect caused by the close AB-pattern of the H-13 methylene protons in **1**, which yields an unexpected ddd-like resonance pattern for H-12 that is prone to misinterpretation (Figure S7, Supporting Information).

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Switching to methanol- d_4 , as a less obvious but still suitable solvent, led to the complete resolution of all proton signals at both 400 and 700 MHz (Figures 2 and S12, Supporting Information). The change of solvent is an important but almost forgotten strategy in ^1H NMR analysis.⁹ One notable detail of the spectra is that H-7, H-6, and H-13 α of **1** are shielded relative to their counterparts in **2**. This can be explained by the influence of the Me-20 being close to both H-7 and H-13 α , and Me-18 being in close proximity to H-6 in **1**. In contrast, the Me-20 and Me-18 protons experience a subtle but opposing shielding effect in **2** (Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2). These effects are diagnostic but remain empirical until confirmed by quantum mechanical shift calculations.

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For unambiguous extraction of the ^1H spin parameters in methanol- d_4 , the NMR data at 700 MHz of both compounds were analyzed using HiFSA (Figures S13 and S14, Supporting Information).¹⁰ The resulting coupling constants and multiplicities (Table 1) showed a relatively complex network of spins. By constructing a QuILTs, a comprehensive visualization of the J -coupling relationships was achieved, allowing for ready distinction between the δ/J patterns of **1** and **2** (Figure 3). The J value of 6.1 Hz representing the

coupling of H-6 with H-7 in **2** was in particular agreement with the conformationally averaged 20° dihedral angle calculated from a molecular model. Similarly, the observed 1.9 Hz coupling between H-6 and H-7 in **1** was consistent with a 120° dihedral angle calculated for H-6–C-6–C-7–H-7 in **1**.

The spectroscopic parameters found and calculated from methanol-*d*₄ at 700 MHz were fitted to the 1D NMR spectra in CDCl₃ at 700 MHz and iterated, thereby creating a ¹H fingerprint of compounds **1** and **2** despite the overlapping of several signals. Therefore, HiFSA profiles and the automated consistency analysis (ACA) could be completed, and QuILTs for CDCl₃ data were also constructed (Figures S15–S18, Supporting Information).

In order to explain why **2** had not been detected in earlier studies, the reported extraction methodology of riolozatrione was re-examined.² Initially, **1** was obtained from a petroleum ether extract after refluxing for 1 h in MeOH and chromatographic separation on silica gel. A more recent study³ used an aqueous MeOH extraction at room temperature (RT) for 12 h, evaporation at reduced pressure at 40 °C, and subsequent partitioning to obtain *n*-hexane, EtOAc, and *n*-BuOH fractions. The *n*-hexane fraction afforded **1** after chromatographic separation on silica gel. The present work added the direct extraction of the ground *J. dioica* roots with dichloromethane for 2 h at RT to the methods. Comparing a hexane partition obtained as reported³ with direct CH₂Cl₂ extraction using an HPLC method established in our laboratory (Figure S1, Supporting Information) indicated that **2** was present in both extracts but was extracted more efficiently by the direct CH₂Cl₂ method.

However, as the different abundance of **2** in the two extracts could also be the result of chemical interconversion between **1** and **2**, the following two-prong approach was taken to investigate this possibility: (a) determination of the energy of the most stable conformers of both epimers, using density functional theory (DFT) calculations; (b) study of the interconversion induced by NaOMe. According to the energy calculated at the mPW1B95/DGDZVP level of theory, the most stable conformer of compound **1** (–1003.15004 hartree) is 3.7 kcal/mol more stable than the most stable conformer of **2** (–1003.14245 hartree). This difference in energy explains why only compound **1** is observed in the extract. On the other hand, treatment of 10 mg of **1** with 1 equiv of NaOMe in MeOH at RT for 30 min yielded no product. Surprisingly, performing the same procedure with **2** led to the quantitative formation of **1**. These results indicated that **2** is more likely to serve as a reactive biosynthetic precursor of **1**, in a yet to-be-determined process. A subsequent experiment exposing **2** to the isolation conditions described previously³ demonstrated that **2** is stable in MeOH solution (for 4 months). In contrast, by adding a catalytic amount of HCl, and acquiring ¹H NMR spectra over time, the gradual formation of **1** and an unidentified product was observed. Compound **1** does not produce **2** under the same conditions, confirming that **1** is not an artifact from the extraction or the separation procedures. Moreover, over several years we have prepared extracts from ground roots collected in different seasons. Both compounds **1** and **2** were detected in different proportions in all these extracts, and we consider this additional evidence that both compounds are present in the plant rather than being artifacts.

Interpretation of the NMR spectra of **3** and **4** was established previously without details about stereochemical properties of the compounds.⁶ Although the ¹³C and ¹H NMR data of **3** were obtained in CDCl₃, and those of **4** in benzene-*d*₆ and acetone-*d*₆, the ¹³C and ¹H NMR data obtained here were consistent with reported data,⁶ and 2D experiments permitted the unequivocal assignment of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR resonances (Table 2). The relative configuration of **3** was confirmed via NOESY experiments. NOE correlations between H₃-16 and the proton resonating at 1.35 ppm identified this signal as belonging to H-1 α . This led to assignment of H-1 β as the signal at 1.95 ppm, which was consistent with its NOE with H₃-20. In the same way, the NOE association between H₃-20 and the Me signal at δ 0.97 showed the β -orientation of H-19. Correlations between H₃-19 and H-8b (δ 2.58) led to the assignment of H-8b as being β , placing H-8a in an α position. As most of the NOE interactions observed in **3** were similar to those in **4** (Figure 4), both compounds were concluded to have congruent configurations. Accordingly, assignments of the α - vs β -orientation of the methylene protons at C-1, C-8, and C-11 were done by analogy.

The absolute configurations of compounds **1–4** were initially obtained by comparison of the calculated and experimental VCD spectra. In the first step, a Monte Carlo conformational search was performed using a 10 kcal/mol energy window, yielding 15, eight, three, and four conformers for **1–4**, respectively. These structures were submitted to DFT geometry optimizations using the DGDZVP basis set and the mPW1B95 functional, chosen to more accurately predict the thermochemical data than the B3LYP functional.¹¹ The relative energy values of the four most stable conformers of **1** and **2** represented 98% and 97% of the conformational population, respectively. The selected conformers of the four compounds were considered to compute the IR and VCD spectra using the values of the dipole transition moments and rotational strengths. Individual spectra were processed using Lorentzian functions with a half-width of 6 cm⁻¹. For **1** and **2**, the final spectra were computed based on the Boltzmann population shown in Table 3. For **3** and **4**, the relative energies of the conformers were 4 kcal/mol greater than those of the most stable structure; therefore, only one conformer was considered for each compound in the next steps.

The confidence-level data for the IR and VCD spectra comparisons of **1–4** are given in Table 4. For **1** and **3**, the IR and VCD spectra were similar according to the S_{IR} and S_{E} index values,¹² with a 99% confidence level, which permitted assignment of their absolute configurations as (2*S*, 6*S*, 7*S*, 9*S*, 11*R*, 12*S*) for **1** and (2*R*, 9*R*, 14*S*, 15*S*) for **3** (Chart 1). The IR and VCD similarity indices for **2** and **4** were sufficiently high, but only with confidence levels of 86% and 87%, respectively. This result is interesting because for the calculation of the IR and VCD spectra of **3** and **4**, only one conformer was considered. The structure of each conformer differs only in the epoxide functional group. This result shows the limitations of the mPW1B95 functional to predict the VCD spectra of **2** and **4**.

Because the B3PW91 functional has been used successfully to compute the IR and VCD spectra of a great number of diterpenoids,¹³ the quantum mechanics (QM) geometry optimization for the conformers was performed at the B3PW91/DGDZVP level of theory. A single conformer represented more than 99% of the conformational population of **3** and **4**. For **1** and **2**, the relative energy values of the most likely structures are displayed in Table 3. These conformers were submitted to Gaussian 09¹⁴ to calculate the dipole transition

moments and rotational strengths affording the calculated IR and VCD spectra shown in Figure 5 along with the experimental spectra. The comparison indices presented in Table 4, S_{IR} , S_E , and ESI, increased with respect to those obtained with the mPW1B95 functional, which confirms the proposed absolute configuration. With the B3PW91 functional, the S_E spectral similarity values of **2** and **4** were 72.2 and 80.1, respectively, with a 99% confidence level (Table 4). Cross comparisons between IR and VCD spectra of **1** and **2** showed a poor agreement, with a confidence level below 95% in both cases (Figure 5 and Table 4). This confirmed the (2*S*, 6*S*, 7*S*, 9*S*, 11*R*, 12*S*) and (2*S*, 6*R*, 7*S*, 9*S*, 11*R*, 12*S*) absolute configurations for **1** and **2**, respectively (Chart 1), and also demonstrated that **3** and **4** share (2*R*, 9*R*, 14*S*, 15*S*) absolute configurations.

The absolute configurations of compounds **3** and **4** were recently published via computed data generated at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) single-point and B3LYP/DGDZVP full geometry optimization levels.⁸ In the current study the conformational populations were estimated with two calculation models¹¹ with different capabilities: mPW1B95/DGDZVP and B3PW91/DGDZVP. As expected, the nature of the conformers is different when calculated at different levels of theory; nevertheless results are quite similar (Figure S19, Supporting Information).

In order to confirm the absolute configurations of **1**, **2**, and **4** (Figure 6), crystals of those compounds were subjected to crystallographic analysis by the anomalous X-ray scattering from the oxygen atoms,¹⁵ asserting that the isolated compounds crystallized as enantiopure compounds. Compound **2** shows two isoforms described in the Experimental Section. The Flack parameter refined to those values indicated in Table 5 for the “hole-in-one” fit and for the selected quotients from Parsons' method.^{16,17} These assessment factors suggest that the resonant-scattering contributions to the observed intensities are weak, but still significant enough to assign the absolute stereostructures correctly.

To further increase the confidence of the absolute structure determination, a Bayesian analysis as implemented in PLATON¹⁸ was used to analyze the Bijvoet differences¹⁹ and suggested that compounds **1**, **2**, and **4** are enantiopure: the probability $P_2(\text{true}) = P_3(\text{true}) = 1.000$ with $P_3(\text{racemate-twin})$, $P_3(\text{false})$, G , and the Hooft parameter γ for the 3*R* enantiomer of **4**. However, prior to and after Bayesian refinement, the Flack parameter and its standard deviation as well as the excellent figures of merit clearly indicate the reliability of X-ray analyses and also verify the absolute configurations of **1**, **2**, and **4**.^{2,4,5,8}

Finally, **1–4** were assessed biologically for their toxicity against Vero cells using the Mossman method and for in vitro anti-HSV activity using the plaque reduction assay with HSV-1- and HSV-2-infected Vero cells (Table 6). Compared to **1**, compound **2** exhibited higher nonspecific cytotoxicity and also displayed lower antiviral activity against both viruses, leading to SI values around 3. Both **1** and **3** showed similar activity against HSV-1, while **4** was inactive against either virus at the tested concentrations.

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures

Melting points were measured on an electrothermal apparatus. IR and VCD spectra were recorded on a BioTools ChiralIR 2× VCD spectrometer (BioTools, Inc., Jupiter, FL, USA). X-ray data were obtained on a Bruker D8 Venture Geometry diffractometer. The 1D and 2D NMR experiments were performed on a Bruker AVANCE III HD 400 MHz and a Bruker AVANCE III HD 700 MHz. Chemical shifts were referenced to tetramethylsilane, and J values are given in Hz. The HRESIMS data were acquired on a Jeol AccuTOF JMS T100LC spectrometer. Silica gel 40–63 μm (Aldrich) and LiChroprep RP-18 40–63 μm (Merck) were used for column chromatography (CC). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ (Merck).

Acquisition of NMR Spectra

¹H NMR data on a Bruker AVANCE III HD 700 MHz were acquired under the following conditions: temperature 298 K, probe 5 mm BBO GRD Z120187/0029, T1 1.0000 s, pulse width 6.76, AQ time 2.3243 s, spectral width 14097.7 Hz, acquired size 32 768, spectral size 65 536. ¹H NMR data on a Bruker AVANCE III HD 400 MHz were acquired under the following conditions: temperature 298 K, probe 5 mm PABBO GRD Z116098/0245, T1 1.0000 s, pulse width 10.00, AQ time 4.0894 s, spectral width 8012.8 Hz, acquired size 32 768, spectral size 65 536.

General NMR Data Processing

The 1D ¹H NMR data were processed with NUTS software (v.201004, Acorn NMR, Inc., Las Positas, CA, USA) using Lorentzian-to-Gaussian apodization for resolution enhancement (line broadening = −1.0 Hz, Gaussian factor = 0.10), followed by zero filling to 256 K data points prior to Fourier transformation. The resulting NMR spectra were subjected to manual phase adjustment and baseline correction using fifth-order polynomial functions. PERCH NMR software (v.2014.1, PERCH Solutions Ltd.) was used for all QM-based NMR spectroscopic analysis including iteration, simulation, and HiFSA, as described before.^{20,21}

Plant Material

J. dioica var. *sessiliflora* (Hook) was collected from Villaldama Municipality of Nuevo León, Mexico, and authenticated at the Institutional Herbarium of the Biological Sciences School at Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León (UANL). Voucher specimens (UAN-24077) have been deposited.

Extraction and Isolation

Dried and powdered roots of *J. dioica* (250 g) were extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 1 L) at room temperature to give 3.5 g of crude extract upon evaporation in vacuo. The extract was fractionated on silica gel by low-pressure CC using CH₂Cl₂/acetone (19:1) to give four fractions (A–D). Fraction B was further fractionated by silica gel CC using *n*-hexane/EtOAc (6:4) to give six fractions (B1–B6) based on TLC monitoring results. Fractions B2 and B3

were separated by CC on RP-18 silica gel using an isocratic mode with MeOH/H₂O (7:3 v/v) to give **4** (30 mg) and **3** (50 mg), respectively. Compounds **1** (180 mg) and **2** (90 mg) were purified from fraction C using silica gel CC eluted with *n*-hexane/EtOAc (6:4), followed by RP-18 silica gel CC with MeOH/H₂O (7:3 v/v). The HPLC analysis was performed on a Waters liquid chromatograph 1525 linked to a Waters diode array detector 2996, using a Waters AccQ-Tag column and isocratic elution with acetonitrile/water (50:50).

Riolozatrione (1)—colorless crystals (Et₂O/petroleum ether); mp 116–118 °C (118.6 °C); [α]_D²⁵ +49.2 (*c* 0.4, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 2955, 2929, 2871, 1688, 1625, 1454, 1380, 729 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ and methanol-*d*₄, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃ and methanol-*d*₄, 100 MHz), see Table 1; ESIMS *m/z* [M + H]⁺ 315.19420 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₆O₃ 315.19385).

6-epi-Riolozatrione (2)—colorless crystals (Et₂O/petroleum ether); mp 126–128 °C; [α]_D²⁵ +14.2 (*c* 0.2, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 2952, 2870, 1722, 1696, 1632, 1454, 1383, cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ and methanol-*d*₄, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃ and methanol-*d*₄, 100 MHz), see Table 1; ESIMS *m/z* [M + H]⁺ 315.19650 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₆O₃ 315.19602).

Jatrophatrione (3)—colorless solid; mp 147–149 °C (148–150 °C); ⁴¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 2.

Citlitrione (4)—colorless crystals (MeOH/*n*-hexane); mp 196–198 °C (194–196 °C); ⁵¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 2.

IR and VCD Analysis

Compounds **1–4** were dissolved in 100% CDCl₃ (5 mg/0.15 mL, 8.8 mg/0.2 mL, 7.5 mg/0.21 mL, and 5 mg/0.15 mL, respectively) and placed in a 100 μ m path-length cell with BaF₂ windows. IR and VCD spectra were collected with a 4 cm⁻¹ resolution over 8 h for **1**, 19 h for **2**, 21 h for **3**, and 5 h for **4**. In all collections, the instrument was optimized at 1400 cm⁻¹. The blank solvent spectra measured under the same conditions were subtracted from the spectra of the molecules.

Computational Methods

A molecular mechanics conformational search was performed for **1–4** using ComputeVOA software with the MMFF94 force field. The conformations obtained for each compound were subjected to geometry optimization using the mPW1B95 calculation models and the DGDZVP basis set. For **3** and **4**, the respective single most stable conformer represented 99.99% of the conformational populations, whereas the four conformers of **1** and **2** listed in Table 3 accounted for 97% of the conformational space of each of these molecules. All these structures were considered to obtain the harmonic frequencies, dipole transition moments, and rotational strengths that were subsequently used to compute the IR and VCD spectra of each conformer. The final spectra of **1** and **2** were obtained considering a Boltzmann distribution with the *G* values of Table 3. Comparisons of experimental and calculated spectra were performed with the CompareVOA software.²² The same procedure was

performed at the B3PW91/DGDZVP level of theory. After DFT optimization, one single conformer respectively for **3** and **4** and four conformers of each of **1** and **2** represented at least 98% of the conformational populations.

X-ray Diffraction Analysis

Crystals of **1**, **2**, and **4** were mounted on the goniometer of a Bruker D8 Venture geometry diffractometer operating with Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$). Data collection, unit-cell refinement, and data processing were carried out with the APEX2.41 program. The structures were solved using SHELXS and refined using SHELXL-2014/7.42. The absolute configurations were established from the anomalous dispersion effects.¹⁷

Crystal data of riolozatrione (1, CCDC 1543367)—colorless prisms, C₂₀H₂₆O₃, $M = 314.41$, orthorhombic, crystal size = $0.351 \times 0.248 \times 0.142 \text{ mm}$, $a = 7.51070(10) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 11.4024(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 21.1329(4) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 1809.82(5) \text{ \AA}^3$, $T = 298(2) \text{ K}$, space group $P2_12_12_1$, $Z = 4$, $D_{\text{cald}} = 1.154 \text{ mg/m}^3$, $\lambda(\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$, reflections collected = 68 276, independent reflections = 3702 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0382$]. Final R indices for $I > 2\sigma(I)$: $R_1 = 0.0387$, $wR_2 = 0.1035$. R indices for all data: $R_1 = 0.0430$, $wR_2 = 0.1082$. Flack parameter = $-0.01(5)$.

Crystal data of 6-epi-riolozatrione (2, CCDC 1543373)—isoform A colorless prism, C₂₀H₂₆O₃, $M = 314.41$, monoclinic, crystal size = $0.394 \times 0.222 \times 0.094 \text{ mm}$, $a = 10.7807(12) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 14.2755(16) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 11.7322(13) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 105.260^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 1741.9(3) \text{ \AA}^3$, $T = 150(2) \text{ K}$, space group $P2_12_12_1$, $Z = 4$, $D_{\text{cald}} = 1.199 \text{ mg/m}^3$, $\lambda(\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$, reflections collected = 72 830, independent reflections = 7410 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0457$]. Final R indices for $I > 2\sigma(I)$: $R_1 = 0.0374$, $wR_2 = 0.0901$. R indices for all data: $R_1 = 0.0410$, $wR_2 = 0.0930$. Flack parameter = $0.04(5)$. CCDC 1544841; isoform B: colorless prism, C₂₀H₂₆O₃, $M = 314.41$, monoclinic, crystal size = $0.374 \times 0.362 \times 0.098 \text{ mm}$, $a = 10.6742(13) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 14.1451(16) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 11.5436(16) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 105.595(12)^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 1678.8(4) \text{ \AA}^3$, $T = 298(2) \text{ K}$, space group $P2_1$, $Z = 4$, $D_{\text{cald}} = 1.244 \text{ mg/m}^3$, $\lambda(\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$, reflections collected = 62 416, independent reflections = 7333 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0483$]. Final R indices for $I > 2\sigma(I)$: $R_1 = 0.0427$, $wR_2 = 0.1084$. R indices for all data: $R_1 = 0.0499$, $wR_2 = 0.1163$. Flack parameter = $0.04(6)$.

Crystal data of citlalitrione (4, CCDC 1543369)—colorless prism, C₂₀H₂₆O₄, $M = 330.41$, orthorhombic, crystal size = $0.380 \times 0.235 \times 0.112 \text{ mm}$, $a = 6.57050(1) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 11.1729(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 25.1590(5) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 1846.96(6) \text{ \AA}^3$, $T = 298(2) \text{ K}$, space group $P2_12_12_1$, $Z = 4$, $D_{\text{cald}} = 1.188 \text{ mg/m}^3$, $\lambda(\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$, reflections collected = 71 131, independent reflections = 3927 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0384$]. Final R indices for $I > 2\sigma(I)$: $R_1 = 0.0369$, $wR_2 = 0.0949$. R indices for all data: $R_1 = 0.0404$, $wR_2 = 0.0978$. Flack parameter = $0.03(4)$.

Crystallographic data for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, upon application to the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44-(0)1223-336033 or deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Cell Culture and Viral Particles

Mammalian Vero cells ATCC CRL-1586 were used for the cytotoxicity and antiviral assays. Cells were grown in advanced DMEM media that was supplemented with 2% fetal bovine serum with glutamine, essential amino acids, streptomycin, and 1% penicillin. Cells were maintained at 37 °C in a 5% CO₂ atmosphere to reach 80–90% confluence. HSV-1 was obtained from a clinical isolate of an infected patient at the Department of Dermatology, UANL. HSV-2 was obtained from a clinical isolate from patients attending the Dental School. Both isolates were found to be positive for the herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase gene by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay and positive for the cytopathic effect of HSV infection by Vero cell culture.

Cytotoxicity Assay

Cell viability was determined according to the MTT method.²³ The compounds were further examined for toxicity in a Vero cell line at concentrations of 100, 200, 400, 800, and 1600 μ M. After 3 days of incubation, cell viability was assessed by adding 10 μ L of a solution of 5 mg/mL of 3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2, 5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT). The CC₅₀ was determined as the concentration of the compound required to reduce cell viability by 50%, taking as much as 100% of the untreated cells. The experiments were performed in triplicate for each compound.

Antiherpetic Assay

The antiherpetic effects on HSV-1 and HSV-2 in vitro were evaluated using the reduction plaque assay.²⁴ Briefly, 5×10^5 Vero cells were seeded onto six-well culture plates and then incubated with 100 plaque forming units of HSV-1 or HSV-2 for 1 h at 37 °C. Supernatant was discarded, fresh medium was supplemented with 1% DMSO, and 0.32% IgG was added. Concentrations of 80, 160, and 320 μ M of each compound were tested. Cells were incubated for 72 h for HSV-1 and HSV-2. Finally, the cells were fixed with MeOH and stained with Giemsa reagent. Negative (mock) and positive (acyclovir) controls were used for each assay. All assays were carried out in triplicate.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to I. Carrera (FM-UANL) for technical assistance with the extraction procedures, to Dra. Beatriz Quiróz García, Q. Luis Velasco-Ibarra, Dr. Javier Pérez-Flores, Q. María de la Paz Orta Pérez (IQ-UNAM), and Dra. Karla Ramírez-Gualito (Centro de Nanociencias y Nanotecnología-IPN) for technical assistance. We also acknowledge financial support by the Dirección de Cómputo y de Tecnologías de Información y Comunicación de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, via Grant SC16-1-IG-105; the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León via Grant PAICYT-CS657-11; the Programa para el Desarrollo Profesional Docente (PRODEP) from the Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP) via Grant 103.5/15/14156; and the Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT-México) via Grant 252589. E.M.M.M. acknowledges CONACYT for scholarship number 208998. G.F.P. and S.N.C. acknowledge support by Grant U41 AT008706 from NCCIH and ODS.

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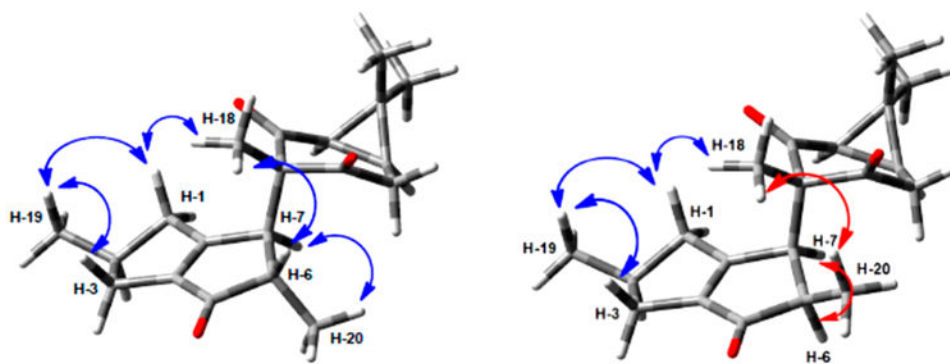


Figure 1.
Observed NOE correlations for compounds **1** (left) and **2** (right).

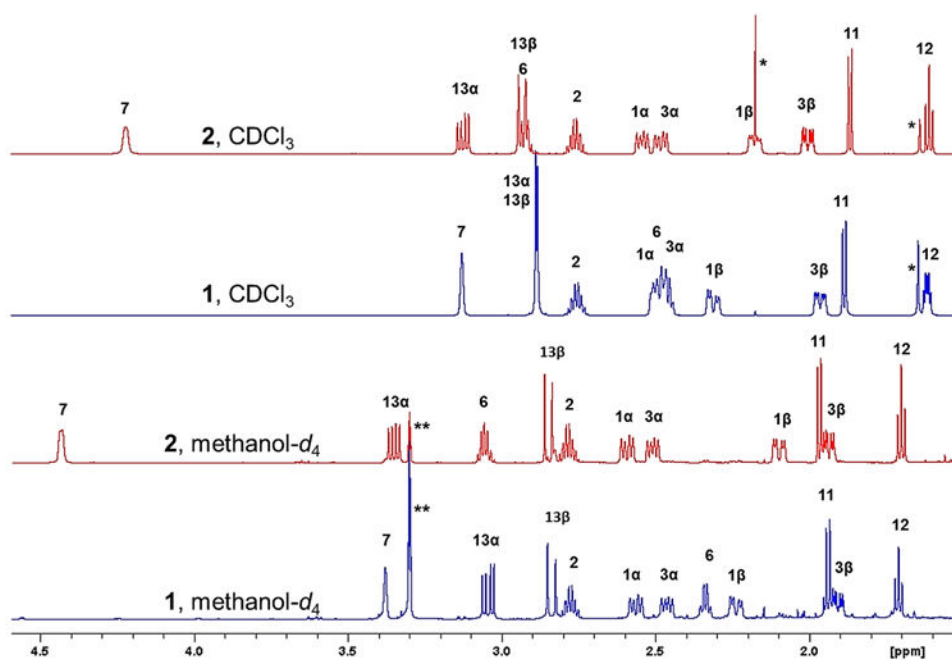


Figure 2. Experimental ¹H NMR spectra at 700 MHz of **1** (blue) and **2** (red). Signals marked with (*) and (**) denote impurity and solvent signals, respectively.

| δ | M | H | 1b(β) | 1a(α) | 2 | 3b(β) | 3a(α) | 6 | 7 | 11 | 12 | 13a(α) | 13b(β) | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 2.2378 | dddd(d) | 1b(β) | d | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.5637 | dddd(d) | 1a(α) | -18.72 | d | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.7765 | ddqdd | 2 | 6.90 | 8.21 | d | 3 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 7 | | | | |
| 1.9075 | dddd | 3b(β) | 2.04 | 2.07 | 6.40 | d | 2 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.4627 | dddd | 3a(α) | 2.03 | 1.10 | 8.40 | -15.00 | d | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.3371 | qd(d)dd | 6 | 0.78 | 0.75 | \emptyset | 0.20 | 0.09 | d | 3 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 3 | | | | |
| 3.3780 | dddd | 7 | 1.36 | 1.69 | \emptyset | 2.24 | 2.85 | 1.90 | d | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 4 | | | | |
| 1.9390 | d(d)d | 11 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | |
| 1.7100 | dd(d) | 12 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7.75 | d | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 8 | | | | |
| 3.0437 | dd(d) | 13a(α) | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | -0.20 | 7.91 | d | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | | |
| 2.8375 | d(d)d | 13b(β) | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | -0.50 | 0.96 | -18.51 | d | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | | |
| 1.2220 | s | 16 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 4 | 7 | 11 | 9 | |
| 0.7894 | s | 17 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7 | 11 | 9 | |
| 0.9670 | s | 18 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 8 | 6 | |
| 1.1410 | d | 19 | \emptyset | \emptyset | 6.95 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 8 | |
| 1.1270 | d | 20 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7.46 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d |

| δ | M | H | 1b(β) | 1a(α) | 2 | 3b(β) | 3a(α) | 6 | 7 | 11 | 12 | 13a(α) | 13b(β) | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 2.0981 | dddd(d) | 1b(β) | d | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.5920 | dddd | 1a(α) | -18.58 | d | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.7850 | ddqdd | 2 | 6.34 | 6.22 | d | 3 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 7 | | | | |
| 1.9363 | dddd | 3b(β) | 1.95 | 2.07 | 6.32 | d | 2 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 2.5090 | dddd | 3a(α) | 2.00 | 1.17 | 8.32 | -15.85 | d | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| 3.0560 | qd(d) | 6 | 1.00 | 0.94 | \emptyset | \emptyset | 0.27 | d | 3 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 3 | | | | |
| 4.4320 | dddd(d) | 7 | 1.31 | 1.61 | 0.50 | 2.22 | 2.76 | 6.14 | d | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 4 | | | | |
| 1.9680 | d | 11 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | |
| 1.7010 | dd(d) | 12 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7.94 | d | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 8 | | | | |
| 3.3500 | dd | 13a(α) | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 8.44 | d | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | | |
| 2.8480 | d(d) | 13b(β) | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 0.94 | -16.99 | d | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | | |
| 1.2071 | s | 16 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 4 | 7 | 11 | 9 |
| 0.7340 | s | 17 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7 | 11 | 9 |
| 0.9060 | (d) | 18 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | -0.41 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 8 | 6 |
| 1.1390 | d | 19 | \emptyset | \emptyset | 6.96 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d | 8 |
| 0.9890 | d | 20 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | 7.71 | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | \emptyset | d |

Figure 3. Full H NMR δ and J -correlation maps, termed quantum interaction and linkage tables (QuILTs), of riolozatrione (**1**) and 6-*epi*-riolozatrione (**2**) were achieved by HiFSA processing of the 700 MHz spectra in methanol- d_4 . Multiplicities within parentheses are due to couplings of 1 Hz. Couplings with absolute values of 0.10 Hz are given as “ \emptyset ”.

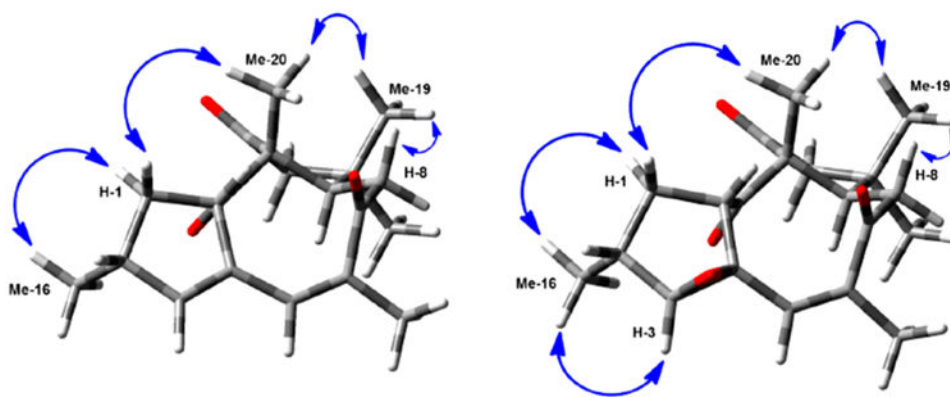


Figure 4.
Observed NOE correlations for **3** (left) and **4** (right).

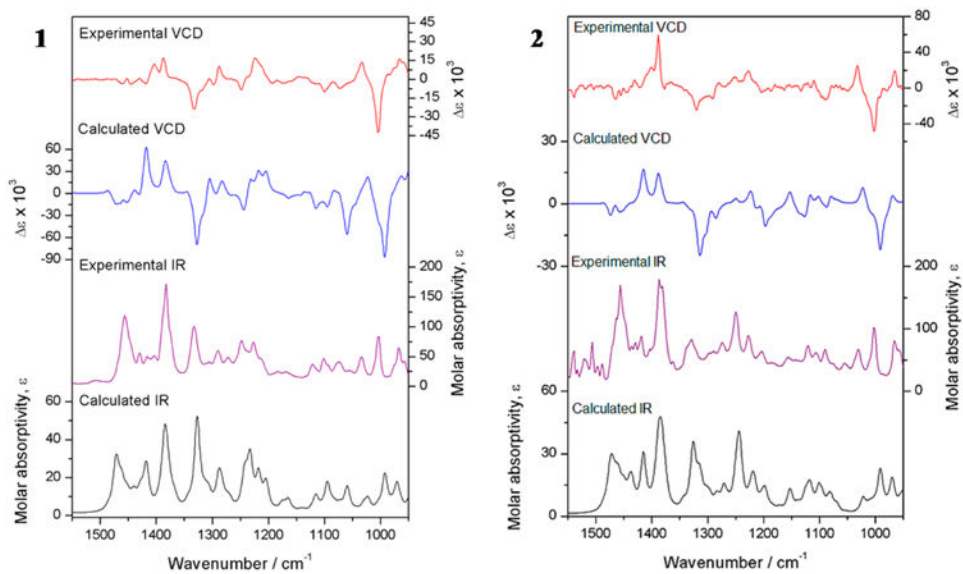


Figure 5. Experimental and calculated IR and VCD spectra at the B3PW91/DGDZVP level of theory for **1** and **2**.

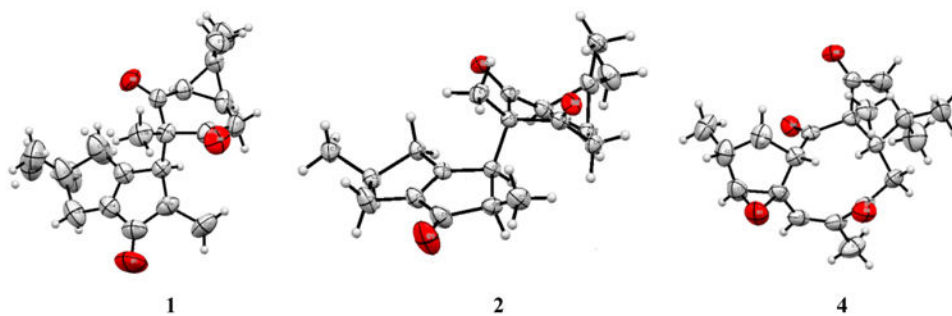


Figure 6.
ORTEP drawings of the X-ray structures of **1**, **2**, and **4**.

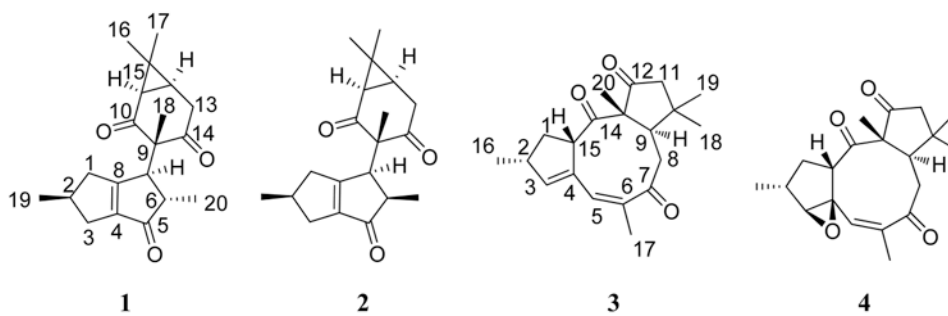
**Chart 1.**

Table 1

NMR Spectroscopic Data of Riolozatrione (1) and 6-*epi*-Riolozatrione (2)

| pos. | type | CDCl ₃ -d ₁ at 700 MHz (¹ H) and 100 MHz (¹³ C) | | | | | | methanol-d ₄ at 700 MHz (¹ H) and 100 MHz (¹³ C) | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---|----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------|---|--------|
| | | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | | | | |
| 1 α | CH ₂ | 2.4853 dddddd | -18.56, 8.28, 2.14, 1.59, 1.02, 0.63 | 40.46 | 2.4794 dddddd | -18.47, 8.24, 2.20, 1.51, 1.12, 0.87 | 40.35 | -0.0784 | -1.15 | -0.1128 | -1.16 | 2.5637 dddddd | -18.72, 8.21, 2.07, 1.69, 1.10, 0.75 | 41.61 | 2.5922 dddddd | -18.58, 8.22, 2.07, 1.61, 1.17, 0.94 | 41.51 |
| 1 β | | 2.3103 dddddd | -18.56, 6.65, 2.05, 2.04, 1.38, 0.76 | | 2.1745 dddddd | -18.47, 6.51, 2.14, 2.05, 1.50, 0.83 | | 0.0725 | 0.00 | 0.0764 | 0.00 | 2.2378 dddddd | -18.72, 6.50, 2.04, 2.03, 1.36, 0.78 | | 2.0981 dddddd | -18.58, 6.34, 2.00, 1.95, 1.31, 1.00 | |
| 2 | CH | 2.7534 dqddd | 8.41, 8.28, 6.97, 6.65, 6.60 | 37.99 | 2.7580 dqddd | 8.34, 8.24, 6.95, 6.51, 6.49 | 37.83 | -0.0231 | -1.35 | -0.0270 | -1.27 | 2.7765 dqddd | 8.40, 8.21, 6.95, 6.50, 6.40 | 39.34 | 2.7850 dqddd | 8.32, 8.22, 6.96, 6.34, 6.32, 0.50 | 39.10 |
| 3 α | CH ₂ | 2.4949 dddddd | -16.04, 8.40, 2.84, 2.05, 1.02 | 32.58 | 2.5406 dddddd | -16.00, 8.34, 2.82, 2.05, 1.12 | 32.70 | 0.0322 | -0.91 | 0.0317 | -0.92 | 2.4627 dddddd | -15.90, 8.40, 2.85, 2.03, 1.10 | 33.49 | 2.5089 dddddd | -15.85, 8.32, 2.76, 2.00, 1.17, 0.27 | 33.62 |
| 3 β | | 1.9619 dddddd | -16.04, 6.60, 2.29, 2.14, 2.04 | | 2.0021 dddddd | -16.00, 6.48, 2.20, 2.18, 2.14 | | 0.0544 | 0.00 | 0.0658 | 0.00 | 1.9075 dddddd | -15.90, 6.40, 2.24, 2.07, 2.04, 0.20 | | 1.9563 dddddd | -15.85, 6.32, 2.22, 2.07, 1.95 | |
| 4 | C | | | 149.67 | | | 149.33 | | -0.63 | | -0.55 | | | 150.30 | | | 149.88 |
| 5 | C | | | 203.44 | | | 203.30 | | -2.87 | | -3.27 | | | 206.31 | | | 206.57 |
| 6 | CH | 2.4564 br qddd | 7.46, 2.01, 0.76, 0.63 | 47.94 | 2.9213 qddd | 7.75, 6.32, 0.87, 0.83 | 50.29 | 0.1193 | -1.57 | -0.1346 | -1.51 | 2.3371 qddd | 7.46, 1.90, 0.78, 0.75, 0.20 | 49.51 | 3.0559 qddd | 7.71, 6.14, 1.00, 0.94, 0.27 | 51.80 |
| 7 | CH | 3.1265 dddddd | 2.84, 2.29, 2.01, 1.59, 1.38 | 52.63 | 4.2193 dddddd | 6.32, 2.82, 2.18, 1.51, 1.50, -0.35 | 45.61 | -0.2517 | -0.30 | -0.2126 | -1.30 | 3.3782 dddddd | 2.85, 2.24, 1.90, 1.69, 1.36 | 52.93 | 4.4319 dddddd | 6.14, 2.76, 2.22, 1.61, 1.31, 0.50, -0.41 | 46.91 |
| 8 | C | | | 181.27 | | | 180.62 | | -3.50 | | -3.48 | | | 184.77 | | | 184.10 |
| 9 | C | | | 65.54 | | | 68.59 | | -1.78 | | -1.63 | | | 67.32 | | | 70.22 |
| 10 | C | | | 206.79 | | | 205.27 | | -2.01 | | -2.21 | | | 208.80 | | | 207.48 |
| 11 | CH | 1.8832 br dd | 7.68, -0.47, -0.12 | 33.16 | 1.8648 d | 7.81 | 33.16 | -0.0557 | -0.92 | -0.1029 | -1.31 | 1.9389 ddd | 7.79, -0.50, -0.20 | 34.08 | 1.9677 d | 7.94 | 34.47 |
| 12 | CH | 1.6141 ddd | 8.01, 7.68, 0.64 | 22.73 | 1.6079 ddd | 8.38, 7.81, 0.64 | 21.82 | -0.0960 | -1.00 | -0.0931 | -1.43 | 1.7101 ddd | 7.93, 7.79, 0.96 | 23.73 | 1.7010 ddd | 8.44, 7.94, 0.64 | 23.25 |
| 13 α | CH ₂ | 2.8822 ddd [ABX] | -18.16, 8.01, -0.47 | 35.85 | 3.1215 dd | -16.95, 8.37 | 36.76 | -0.1615 | -0.90 | -0.2285 | -1.26 | 3.0437 ddd | -18.51, 7.93, -0.20 | 36.75 | 3.3500 dd | -16.99, 8.44 | 38.02 |
| 13 β | | 2.8848 br dd [ABX] | -18.16, 0.64, -0.12 | | 2.9313 dd | -16.95, 0.64 | | 0.0473 | | 0.0836 | | 2.8375 ddd | -18.51, 0.96, -0.50 | | 2.8477 dd | -16.99, 0.64 | |
| 14 | C | | | 207.14 | | | 206.83 | | -2.03 | | -2.64 | | | 209.17 | | | 209.47 |
| 15 | C | | | 26.18 | | | 26.29 | | -0.94 | | -1.13 | | | 27.12 | | | 27.42 |
| 16 | CH ₃ | 1.2359 s | | 28.31 | 1.2265 s | | 28.43 | 0.0137 | -0.11 | 0.0194 | -0.17 | 1.2222 s | | 28.42 | 1.2071 s | | 28.60 |
| 17 | CH ₃ | 0.8529 s | | 16.74 | 0.8041 s | | 16.45 | 0.0635 | -0.44 | 0.0704 | -0.44 | 0.7894 s | | 17.18 | 0.7337 s | | 16.89 |

| pos. | type | CDCl ₃ -d at 700 MHz (¹ H) and 100 MHz (¹³ C) | | | | | | methanol-d ₄ at 700 MHz (¹ H) and 100 MHz (¹³ C) | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|---|----------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| | | 1 | | | 2 | | | 1 | | | 2 | | | | | |
| | | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | δ_{H} [ppm], mult | J [Hz] | δ_{C} | | | |
| 18 | CH ₃ | 1.0881 s | | 12.42 | 1.0196 d | -0.35 | 10.70 | 0.1207 | 0.56 | 0.1135 | -0.24 | 0.9674 s | 11.86 | 0.9061 d | -0.41 | 10.94 |
| 19 | CH ₃ | 1.1535 d | 6.97 | 21.48 | 1.1560 d | 6.95 | 21.51 | 0.0128 | -0.54 | 0.0175 | -0.54 | 1.1407 d | 22.02 | 1.1385 d | 6.95 | 22.05 |
| 20 | CH ₃ | 1.1571 d | 7.46 | 17.62 | 1.0702 d | 7.75 | 11.84 | 0.0300 | -0.14 | 0.0812 | -0.25 | 1.1271 d | 17.76 | 0.9890 d | 7.71 | 12.09 |

^a δ = difference between CDCl₃-d and Methanol-d₄ values.

Table 2
NMR Data of Compounds 3 and 4 in CDCl₃ at 400 MHz (¹H) and 100 MHz (¹³C)

| position | 3 | | | 4 | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| | δ_{H} , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz) | δ_{C} (type) | δ_{H} , mult. (<i>J</i> in Hz) | δ_{C} (type) | δ_{C} (type) | HMBC ^a |
| 1 | α 1.453, ddd (-13.1, 5.2, 5.1) | 37.95 (CH ₂) | 1.351, ddd (-13.7, 1.5, 1.3) | 34.90 (CH ₂) | 2, 3, 4, 16 | |
| | β 2.303, ddd (-13.1, 9.1, 9.0) | | 1.945, ddd (-13.7, 9.5, 8.8) | | 2, 14, 15, 16 | |
| 2 | 2.801–2.873, m | 39.82 (CH) | 2.364 dqd (8.8, 7.5, 1.3) | 33.80 (CH) | 3, 4, 15, 16 | |
| 3 | 5.887, s br | 144.53 (CH) | 3.304, s | 72.93 (CH) | 2, 5 | |
| 4 | | 138.38 (C) | | 67.58 (C) | | |
| 5 | 6.147, s br | 128.11 (CH) | 5.513, q (1.6) | 128.35 (CH) | 3, 4, 7, 15, 17 | |
| 6 | | 135.91 (C) | | 145.55 (C) | | |
| 7 | | 210.63 (C) | | 208.41 (C) | | |
| 8 | α 2.896, dd (-13.0, 2.1) | 38.30 (CH ₂) | 2.945, dd (-12.7, 1.8) | 38.01 (CH ₂) | 7, 9, 10, 13 | |
| | β 2.519, dd (-13.1, 13.0) | | 2.577, dd (-13.3, 12.7) | | 6, 7, 9 | |
| 9 | 2.430 dd (13.1, 2.1) | 51.34 (CH) | 2.508, dd (13.3, 1.8) | 52.84 (CH) | 10, 13, 18, 19, 20 | |
| 10 | | 37.44 (C) | | 37.57 (C) | | |
| 11 | α 2.462 d (-16.7) | 55.46 (CH ₂) | 2.424, d (-12.0) | 55.52 CH ₂ | 9, 10, 12, 19 | |
| | β 2.326 d (-16.7) | | 2.424, d (-12.0) | | | |
| 12 | | 218.01 (C) | | 217.23 (C) | | |
| 13 | | 64.55 (C) | | 65.72 (C) | | |
| 14 | | 215.66 (C) | | 215.52 (C) | | |
| 15 | 4.123, dddd (9.1, 5.1, 2.9, 1.5) | 51.02 (CH) | 3.656, dd (9.5, 1.5) | 46.65 (CH) | 2, 3, 13, 14 | |
| 16 | 1.126, d (7.0) | 20.54 (CH ₃) | 1.156, d (7.5) | 16.12 (CH ₃) | 1, 2, 3 | |
| 17 | 1.947, s broad | 20.68 (CH ₃) | 1.945, d (1.6) | 20.54 (CH ₃) | 5, 6, 7 | |
| 18 | 1.238, s | 27.92 (CH ₃) | 1.277, s | 28.29 (CH ₃) | 9, 10, 11, 19 | |
| 19 | 0.921, s | 23.59 (CH ₃) | 0.969, s | 23.67 (CH ₃) | 9, 10, 18 | |
| 20 | 1.479, s | 14.04 (CH ₃) | 1.441, s | 14.60 (CH ₃) | 9, 13 | |

^aIndicates ²*J* and ³*J* interactions.

Table 3
DFT Relative Energies and Conformational Populations of Riolozatrione (1) and 6-*epi*-Riolozatrione (2)

| conformer | E_{mpw1B95} | %OFT | G_{mpw1B95} | %mpw1B95 | E_{B3PW91} | %OFT | G_{B3PW91} | %B3PW91 |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|----------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|---------|
| 1a | 0.36 | 25.54 | 0.00 | 56.92 | 0.00 | 43.24 | 0.00 | 51.17 |
| 1b | 1.02 | 8.31 | 1.03 | 10.05 | 0.94 | 8.80 | 0.40 | 25.92 |
| 1c | 0.00 | 46.49 | 0.62 | 20.10 | 0.05 | 39.94 | 0.63 | 17.61 |
| 1d | 0.51 | 19.66 | 0.88 | 12.93 | 1.00 | 8.02 | 1.34 | 5.29 |
| 2a | 0.00 | 69.23 | 0.00 | 86.00 | 0.00 | 61.42 | 0.00 | 56.84 |
| 2b | 0.84 | 16.88 | 1.17 | 11.06 | 0.94 | 12.78 | 0.57 | 21.75 |
| 2c | 1.45 | 6.03 | 2.44 | 1.33 | 0.91 | 13.22 | 0.77 | 15.41 |
| 2d | 1.29 | 7.86 | 1.59 | 5.57 | 0.94 | 12.57 | 1.33 | 5.98 |

Table 4
Confidence Data for IR and VCD Spectra Comparisons for Compounds 1–4

| compound | level of theory | anH ^a | S _{IR} ^b | S _E ^c | S _E ^d | ESI ^e | C (%) ^f |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | mPW1B95/DGDZVP | 0.960 | 91.9 | 72.5 | 9.6 | 62.9 | 99 |
| | B3PW91/DGDZVP | 0.971 | 92.2 | 75.9 | 6.5 | 69.4 | 99 |
| 2 | mPW1B95/DGDZVP | 0.960 | 90.4 | 57.6 | 20.9 | 36.7 | 86 |
| | B3PW91/DGDZVP | 0.971 | 93.3 | 72.2 | 4.9 | 67.3 | 99 |
| 3 | mPW1B95/DGDZVP | 0.974 | 90.4 | 72.4 | 3.9 | 68.5 | 99 |
| | B3PW91/DGDZVP | 0.972 | 90.5 | 73.8 | 4.5 | 69.3 | 99 |
| 4 | mPW1B95/DGDZVP | 0.960 | 92.4 | 67.4 | 18.5 | 48.9 | 87 |
| | B3PW91/DGDZVP | 0.976 | 91.8 | 80.1 | 6.8 | 73.3 | 99 |
| | 1 exp vs 2 calc | 0.971 | 90.2 | 65.6 | 9.1 | 56.5 | 93 |
| | 2 exp vs 1 calc | 0.970 | 92.3 | 49.8 | 19.9 | 29.9 | 69 |

^aScaling frequencies factor.

^bIR spectral similarity.

^cVCD spectral similarity for the correct enantiomer.

^dVCD spectral similarity for the incorrect enantiomer.

^eEnantiomer similarity index calculated as $S_E - S_{-E}$.

^fConfidence level for the stereochemical assignment.

Table 5
Flack, Parsons, and Hooft Parameters for Absolute Configuration Determination

| | 1 | 2^a | 4 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| space group | $P2_1 2_1 2_1$ | $P2_1$ | $P2_1 2_1 2_1$ |
| wavelength | 1.54178 | 1.54178 | 1.54178 |
| Flack param x | -0.01(5) | 0.04(6) | 0.03(4) |
| Parsons z | 0.00(5) | 0.03(6) | 0.05(4) |
| Student- t ν | 99 | 47 | 99 |
| select pairs | 1567 | 3509 | 1648 |
| θ_{\min} | 7.37 | 5.06 | 8.02 |
| θ_{\max} | 74.64 | 82.71 | 77.49 |
| P2 (true) | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| P3 (true) | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| P3 (rac-twin) | 0.1×10^{-17} | 0.2×10^{-12} | 0.2×10^{-23} |
| P3 (false) | 0.2×10^{-68} | 0.3×10^{-52} | 0.4×10^{-98} |
| G | 0.9896 | 0.9535 | 0.9192 |
| $G(\text{su})$ | 0.1074 | 0.1239 | 0.0865 |
| Hooft y | 0.01(5) | 0.02(6) | 0.04(4) |

^aCalculated values for isoform B.

Table 6
Cytotoxic Effect against Vero Cell Lines and Antiherpetic Activity of Compounds 1–4

| compound | Vero cells | HSV-1 | HSV-2 | SI ^b |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | CC ₅₀ , μM^a | IC ₅₀ , μM^a | IC ₅₀ , μM^a | CC ₅₀ /IC ₅₀ |
| 1 ^c | 1222.9 ± 1.9 | 210.2 ± 8.6 | 210.2 ± 5.9 | 5.8 |
| 2 | 584.2 ± 17 | 179.8 ± 4.1 | 172.4 ± 4.3 | 3.2/3.4 |
| 3 | 1523.0 ± 39.5 | 292.9 ± 9.4 | >318.5 | 5.2 |
| 4 | >1515.1 | >303.0 | >303.0 | ND |
| acyclovir ^d | ND ^e | 4.75 × 10 ⁻⁶ ± 0.31 | 3.11 × 10 ⁻⁶ ± 0.10 | ND |

^aResults are expressed as a mean ($n = 3$) ± SD.

^bSI is the selective index, SI = CC₅₀/IC₅₀.

^cSee ref 3.

^dPositive control.

^eNot determined.