

New Triterpenoid Saponins from *Ilex pubescens*

Yong Nam Han, Seung Kyung Baik*, Tae Hee Kim* and Byung Hoon Han

Natural Products Research Institute, Seoul National University, Seoul 110 and

**College of Pharmacy, Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul 151, Korea*

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Abstract □ New triterpenoid saponins, ilexosides A, -D, -E, -H, -J, -K and -O, have been isolated from the root of *Ilex pubescens*. Chemical and spectroscopic studies have established their structures as shown in formulae **1, 2, 8, 11, 3, 4**, and **5**.

Keywords □ *Ilex pubescens*, Aquifoliaceae, saponin, triterpenoid, ¹³C-NMR, ilexolic acid, pubescenolic acid, pubescenic acid, secondary ion mass.

The root or leaf of *Ilex pubescens* Hook. et Arn (Aquifoliaceae), "Maodongqing" (毛冬青), is widely used in China for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, cerebral thrombosis, etc.¹⁾ The plant is known to contain homovanillic acid, vomifoliol²⁾, 3,4-dihydroxyacetophenone, 6-methyl-7-hydroxycoumarin, 6,7-dihydroxycoumarin³⁾, glaberride I, scopoletin, esculetin,⁴⁻⁶⁾ flavonoid glycosides,^{7,8)} and ilexolide A.^{9,10)} The latter two kinds of compounds have been isolated from the root, and the remainders are the constituents from the leaf. All these compounds were reported to be the active constituents of the plant.¹⁻¹⁰⁾

The antithrombotic activities of some medicinal plants were screened, utilizing the measurement of

bleeding and clotting times.¹¹⁻¹⁴⁾ Among them, *Ilex pubescens* root was shown to prolong the bleeding time three times as compared with a control group.¹⁴⁾ And the methanol extract of the root strongly inhibited the generation of malondialdehyde, which is known to be concomitantly released with thromboxane A₂ during thrombin-induced aggregation of rat platelets. By solvent fractionation, Sephadex LH-20 and silica gel column chromatography, saponin components were found to be the active principles.¹⁴⁾ Seven kinds of saponins, named ilexosides A, -D, -E, -H, -J, -K and -O, were purely isolated from the BuOH fraction of the plant. This communication describes the structural elucidation of the seven saponins. Their

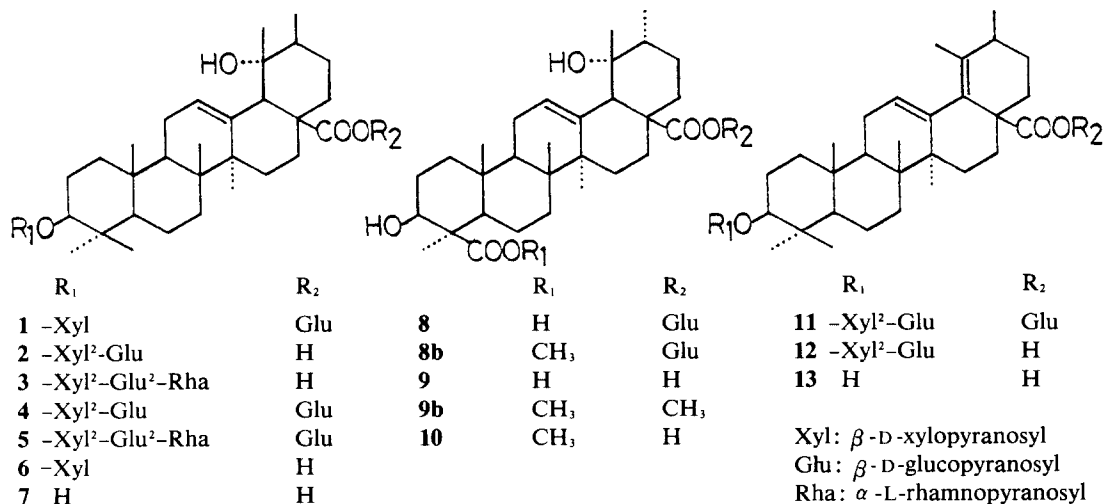


Chart 1

aglycones were reported in a separate article.¹⁵

Structures of ilexosides A, D, J, K and O

By Smith's degradation, ilexosides A(1), -D(2), -J(3), -K(4), and -O(5) were proved to have the same aglycone, pubescenic acid (7),¹⁵ which is supported by their ¹³C-NMR data as shown in Table I. The sugar compositions of the saponins were determined by GLC of their acid hydrolysates

Table I. ¹³C-NMR data for genin moieties of ilexosides A(1), -D(2), -J(3), -K(4) and -O(5), and their genin methyl ester(7b) (δ in pyridine-d₅, 20MHz)

| Carbon | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7b |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 39.1 | 39.1 | 39.1 | 39.1 | 38.9 | 38.4 |
| 2 | 26.8 | 26.8 | 26.9 | 26.8 | 26.6 | 27.2 |
| 3 | 89.0 | 89.1 | 89.8 | 89.2 | 90.0 | 78.9 |
| 4 | 39.7 | 39.7 | 39.8 | 39.7 | 39.8 | 38.7 |
| 5 | 56.2 | 56.2 | 56.3 | 56.1 | 56.3 | 55.1 |
| 6 | 18.8 | 18.8 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 18.8 | 18.4 |
| 7 | 33.5 | 33.8 | 33.7 | 33.6 | 33.5 | 32.7 |
| 8 | 40.6 | 40.5 | 40.5 | 40.5 | 40.6 | 39.8 |
| 9 | 47.9 | 47.9 | 47.9 | 47.9 | 47.9 | 47.2 |
| 10 | 37.2 | 37.2 | 37.3 | 37.1 | 37.2 | 37.0 |
| 11 | 24.1 | 24.1 | 24.2 | 24.1 | 24.2 | 23.6 |
| 12 | 127.8 | 127.5 | 127.5 | 127.9 | 127.9 | 128.4 |
| 13 | 138.9 | 139.5 | 139.6 | 138.7 | 138.9 | 137.7 |
| 14 | 42.3 | 42.3 | 42.3 | 42.2 | 42.3 | 41.1 |
| 15 | 29.4 | 29.4 | 29.4 | 29.4 | 29.3 | 28.1 |
| 16 | 27.0 | 27.2 | 27.3 | 27.1 | 27.0 | 26.0 |
| 17 | 48.5 | 48.1 | 48.1 | 48.4 | 48.5 | 47.4 |
| 18 | 47.3 | 47.6 | 47.6 | 47.3 | 47.4 | 46.6 |
| 19 | 73.7 | 73.7 | 73.7 | 73.7 | 73.7 | 73.9 |
| 20 | 42.9 | 43.1 | 43.1 | 42.6 | 42.8 | 41.4 |
| 21 | 24.7 | 25.1 | 25.0 | 24.7 | 24.7 | 23.9 |
| 22 | 31.9 | 32.5 | 32.6 | 31.8 | 31.8 | 31.2 |
| 23 | 28.4 | 28.3 | 28.6 | 28.3 | 28.6 | 28.1 |
| 24 | 17.6 | 17.4 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.6 | 15.6 |
| 25 | 15.8 | 15.7 | 15.7 | 15.8 | 15.7 | 15.2 |
| 26 | 17.1 | 16.9 | 16.9 | 16.8 | 16.9 | 16.7 |
| 27 | 24.4 | 24.5 | 24.5 | 24.4 | 24.4 | 24.4 |
| 28 | 177.2 | 180.8 | 180.8 | 177.2 | 177.2 | 178.3 |
| 29 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 29.8 | 30.0 |
| 30 | 16.2 | 16.3 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 15.7 |
| C ₂₈ OOCH ₃ | — | — | — | — | — | 51.6 |

*Cited from reference 15. Measured in CDCl₃.

as shown in Table III, and the mole ratio of sugars were also confirmed by the ¹³C-NMR analysis (Table II).

Ilexoside A(1) is composed of xylose, glucose and 7. Its IR spectrum indicated the presence of OH (3400cm⁻¹) and ester (1735cm⁻¹) groups. By ¹H-NMR analysis, the sugars were identified as β -D-xylopyranose (anomeric H at δ 4.28, d, J = 6.7Hz) and β -D-glucopyranose (anomeric H at δ 5.33, d, J = 6.7Hz). The absolute configurations of the sugars were also ascertained to be both D, by analogy with methyl β -D-xylopyranoside and methyl β -D-glucopyranoside¹⁶ (Table II).

Acetylation of 1 yielded a peracetate (1a). From

Table II. ¹³C-NMR data for sugar moieties of ilexosides A(1), -D(2), -J(3), -K(4) and -O(5), (δ in pyridine-d₅, 20MHz)

| Methylglycoside* | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| β -D-Xylose | | | | | | |
| 1 | 106.1 | 107.4 | 105.6 | 105.8 | 105.4 | 105.8 |
| 2 | 74.6 | 75.4 | 83.1 | 79.5 | 82.6 | 79.4 |
| 3 | 78.1 | 78.3 | 78.2 | 77.7 | 77.8 | 77.7 |
| 4 | 70.9 | 71.2 | 71.0 | 71.3 | 70.9 | 71.3 |
| 5 | 66.9 | 66.9 | 66.6 | 66.7 | 66.6 | 66.5 |
| β -D-Glucose | | | | | | |
| 1 | 105.4 | 105.8 | 102.3 | 105.6 | 102.4 | |
| 2 | 74.8 | 76.8 | 79.4 | 76.5 | 79.2 | |
| 3 | 78.1 | 78.1 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 78.9 | |
| 4 | 71.4 | 71.9 | 72.7 | 71.7 | 72.9 | |
| 5 | 78.1 | 78.1 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 78.9 | |
| 6 | 62.5 | 62.9 | 63.4 | 62.7 | 63.4 | |
| α -L-Rhamnose | | | | | | |
| 1 | 102.4 | | 101.9 | | 101.9 | |
| 2 | 71.9 | | 72.3 | | 72.4 | |
| 3 | 72.5 | | 72.6 | | 72.6 | |
| 4 | 73.6 | | 74.3 | | 74.3 | |
| 5 | 69.4 | | 69.5 | | 69.5 | |
| 6 | 18.4 | | 18.9 | | 18.9 | |
| β -D-Glucose, C ₂₈ | | | | | | |
| 1 | 105.4 | 95.9 | | 95.7 | 95.8 | |
| 2 | 74.8 | 74.1 | | 73.9 | 74.2 | |
| 3 | 78.1 | 78.9 | | 78.7 | 78.8 | |
| 4 | 71.4 | 71.4 | | 71.3 | 71.4 | |
| 5 | 78.1 | 78.9 | | 78.7 | 78.8 | |
| 6 | 62.5 | 62.5 | | 62.5 | 62.5 | |

*Cited from reference 16.

Table III. Sugar compositions of ilexosides **A(1)**,-**D(2)**,-**E(8)**,-**H(11)**,-**J(3)**,-**K(4)** and **-O(5)**, and pro-sapogenins **A(6)** and **-H(12)**

| | sugars | ratio |
|----|-------------------------|-------|
| 1 | xylose/glucose | 1:1 |
| 2 | xylose/glucose | 1:1 |
| 8 | glucose | — |
| 11 | xylose/glucose | 1:2 |
| 3 | xylose/glucose/rhamnose | 1:1:1 |
| 4 | xylose/glucose | 1:2 |
| 5 | xylose/glucose/rhamnose | 1:2:1 |
| 6 | xylose | — |
| 12 | xylose/glucose | 1:1 |

the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of **1a**, the sugars were reconfirmed as β -D-glucopyranose (anomeric H at δ 4.50, d, $J = 6.6\text{Hz}$) and β -D-glucopyranose (anomeric H at δ 5.56, d, $J = 7.5\text{Hz}$).

Alkaline hydrolysis of **1** afforded prosapogenin **A(6)**, of which sugar was proved to be xylose alone (Table III). The IR spectrum of **6** revealed the presence of free COOH (1690cm^{-1}). Methylation of **6** gave a methyl ester (**6b**). In the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of **6**, the anomeric proton of xylose was exhibited at δ 4.33 (d, $J = 6.7\text{Hz}$). Therefore, the glucose moiety of **1** should be located at C₂₈ of **7** as an ester, which was reconfirmed by the anomeric carbon signal appeared at δ 95.9 (ester glycosidic glucose) in the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ spectrum of **1** (Table II). For clarification of the location of the xylose moiety, the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of **1** was inspected. The carbon signals were essentially identical with those of pubescenolic acid (**7**) except those due to the A ring carbons (Table I). Among the A ring carbon signals, the C-3 signal was significantly shifted downfield (glycosidation shift,¹⁷⁾ 10.1ppm), implying that the xylose molecule was bound through glycoside linkage to the C-3 hydroxyl group of the aglycone (**7**). Thus, the structure of **1** was established as the 3-O- β -D-xylopyranosyl-28-O- β -D-glucopyranoside of **7**.

Ilexoside **D(2)** is composed of xylose, glucose and **7**. It was shown to have the molecular formula C₄₁H₆₆O₁₃ from the results of SI mass¹⁸⁾ [m/z 773 ($M + \text{Li}$)⁺ and 779 ($M + 2\text{Li-H}$)⁺]. Its IR spectrum indicated the presence of free COOH group (1690cm^{-1}), suggesting that no sugar was linked at C-28 of **7**. Methylation of **2** with diazomethane afforded a monomethyl ester (**2b**), acetylation of **2** did a peracetate (**2a**), and methylation of **2a** did a monomethyl ester peracetate (**2c**).

By $^1\text{H-NMR}$ analysis of **2**, the sugars were identified as β -D-xylopyranose (anomeric H at δ 4.39, d, $J = 5.8\text{Hz}$) and β -D-glucopyranose (anomeric H at δ 4.58, d, $J = 6.9\text{Hz}$). The results were also reconfirmed by the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ analysis of **2a** and **2c**. In the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ spectrum of **2**, the carbon signals were essentially identical with those of **7** except those due to the A ring carbons (Table I). Among them, the C-3 signal was significantly shifted downfield by 10.2ppm. In the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data of the sugar moieties, the carbon signal of C-2 of xylose was notably shifted downfield by 8.5ppm compared with methyl β -D-xylopyranoside (Table II). These observations implied that glucose molecule was bound through glycoside linkage to the C-2 hydroxyl group of xylose, of which molecule was linked at the C-3 hydroxyl group of the aglycone (**7**). The sugar sequence was also ascertained by the results of SI mass [m/z 599 ($M + 2\text{Li-H-C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$)⁺ and 467 ($M + 2\text{Li-H-C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 - \text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$)⁺]. Therefore, the structure of **2** was established as the 3-O- β -D-glucopyranosyl (1 \rightarrow 2) β -D-xylopyranoside of **7**.

Ilexoside **J(3)** was shown to have the molecular formula C₄₇H₇₆O₁₇ from the results of SI mass [m/z 919 ($M + \text{Li}$)⁺ and 925 ($M + 2\text{Li-H}$)⁺]. The mole ratio of xylose, glucose and rhamnose of **3** was proved to be 1:1:1 by GLC of its hydrolysate and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ analysis (Table III and II). Its IR spectrum showed the presence of free COOH group (1700cm^{-1}). Methylation of **3** with diazomethane afforded a monomethyl ester (**3b**). In the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data of **3**, the C-3 signal of the aglycone moiety was significantly shifted by 10.9ppm compared with that of the aglycone (**7b**). These observations indicated that all the sugar molecules were located at C-3-O position of **7**.

In the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of **3**, the anomeric protons of xylose, glucose and rhamnose appeared at δ 4.30 (d, $J = 6.2\text{Hz}$), 4.79 (d, $J = 6.8\text{Hz}$) and 5.18 (d, $J = 0.9\text{Hz}$), indicating that they were β -D-xylopyranose, β -D-glucopyranose and α -L-rhamnopyranose, respectively. Acetylation of **3** and **3b** yielded an acetate (**3a**) and a methyl ester acetate (**3c**), respectively. The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ analysis of the derivatives (**3a**, **3b** and **3c**) confirmed the absolute configurations of the sugars.

The $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ analysis of the sugar moieties of **3** revealed 2-linked xylopyranose (its C-2 signal at δ 79.5), 2-linked glucopyranose (its C-2 signal at δ 79.3) and terminal rhamnopyranose (its C-2 signal at δ 72.3). The sugar sequence was ascertained by the results of SI mass [m/z 773 ($M + \text{Li-C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$)⁺ 617 ($M + 2\text{Li-H-C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4 - \text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5$)⁺ and 465

(M + 2Li-H-C₆H₁₂O₅ -C₆H₁₂O₅ -C₅H₈O₄)⁺. Thus, the structure of **3** was established as the 3-O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl (1 \rightarrow 2)- β -D-glucopyranosyl (1 \rightarrow 2)- β -D-xylopyranoside of **7**.

Ilexoside K (**4**) contained xylose and glucose with the mole ratio of 1 to 2 (Table II and III). Its IR spectrum indicated the presence of ester group (1735cm⁻¹). The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **4** was very similar to that of **2** except the C-28 signal at δ 177.2 which was shifted upfield by 3.6ppm compared with the C-28 signal of **2** (Table I), and the esterified β -D-glucopyranosyl signals (its C-1 at δ 95.7) (Table II).

In the ¹H-NMR spectrum of **4**, three anomeric proton signals were observed at δ 4.44 (d, J = 6.0Hz, β -D-xylopyranose), 4.67 (d, J = 6.9Hz, one β -D-glucopyranose) and 5.57 (d, J = 7.0Hz, the other esterified β -D-glucopyranose). The anomeric protons were detected in the ¹H-NMR of ilexoside K acetate (**4a**). Alkaline hydrolysis of **4** afforded ilexoside D (**2**). Therefore, the structure of **4** was established as the 28-O- β -D-glucopyranoside of **2**.

Ilexoside O (**5**) involved xylose, glucose and rhamnose with the ratio of 1:2:1 (Table II and Table III). Its IR spectrum showed an ester band (1730cm⁻¹). The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **5** was very similar to that of **3**. The difference was observed in the C-28 signal shifted upfield by 3.6ppm and the esterified β -D-glucopyranosyl signals (Table I and II). In the ¹H-NMR spectrum of **5**, four anomeric proton signals were observed at δ 4.31 (d, J = 6.7Hz, β -D-xylopyranose), 4.80 (d, J = 6.8Hz, one β -D-glucopyranose), 5.18 (d, J = 1.0Hz, α -L-rhamnopyranose) and 5.34 (d, J = 6.8Hz, the other esterified β -D-glucopyranose). The anomeric protons were also observed in that of ilexoside O acetate (**5a**). Alkaline treatment of **5** yielded ilexoside J (**3**). Thus, the structure of **5** was established as the 28-O- β -D-glucopyranoside of **3**.

Structure of ilexoside E (**8**)

Ilexoside E (**8**) gave positive Liebermann-Burchard reaction. Its IR spectrum showed the presence of OH (3400cm⁻¹), ester (1725cm⁻¹) and

Table IV. ¹³C-NMR data of ilexoside Eb (**8b**), pubescenic acid dimethyl ester (**9b**), pro-sapogenin H(**12**) and acetylilexolic acid methyl ester (**13c**)

| Carbon | 9b* | 8b** | 13c* | 12** |
|--------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 39.2 | 39.0 | 38.9 | 39.1 |
| 2 | 28.1 | 28.0 | 23.7 | 26.6 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3 | 78.3 | 78.3 | 80.9 | 88.7 |
| 4 | 49.0 | 49.0 | 39.1 | 39.4 |
| 5 | 56.5 | 56.2 | 55.6 | 56.0 |
| 6 | 20.2 | 20.1 | 18.3 | 18.3 |
| 7 | 33.0 | 33.0 | 34.9 | 35.4 |
| 8 | 39.7 | 39.8 | 37.8 | 39.2 |
| 9 | 46.6 | 46.7 | 47.9 | 48.1 |
| 10 | 37.3 | 37.4 | 36.9 | 36.7 |
| 11 | 23.8 | 23.7 | 23.2 | 23.3 |
| 12 | 129.1 | 128.2 | 126.1 | 126.1 |
| 13 | 138.3 | 138.8 | 138.9 | 139.5 |
| 14 | 41.1 | 41.4 | 44.5 | 44.7 |
| 15 | 28.1 | 28.1 | 28.8 | 29.1 |
| 16 | 25.5 | 25.5 | 28.3 | 28.8 |
| 17 | 47.9 | 47.8 | 50.1 | 50.2 |
| 18 | 53.3 | 53.5 | 135.7 | 135.5 |
| 19 | 73.1 | 73.1 | 134.0 | 134.8 |
| 20 | 41.1 | 41.4 | 37.0 | 37.3 |
| 21 | 26.0 | 26.3 | 34.4 | 34.8 |
| 22 | 37.3 | 36.8 | 34.3 | 34.9 |
| 23 | 23.6 | 23.5 | 28.2 | 28.1 |
| 24 | 178.4 | 176.6 | 16.8 | 17.9 |
| 25 | 13.1 | 12.8 | 16.1 | 16.0 |
| 26 | 16.5 | 16.5 | 17.6 | 16.5 |
| 27 | 24.2 | 24.0 | 22.1 | 22.1 |
| 28 | 178.3 | 176.6 | 177.1 | 178.9 |
| 29 | 27.4 | 28.3 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| 30 | 16.1 | 16.2 | 20.2 | 20.3 |
| 1' | | 95.8 | | 105.4 |
| 2' | | 73.9 | | 83.0 |
| 3' | | 78.7 | | 78.1 |
| 4' | | 71.3 | | 70.7 |
| 5' | | 78.7 | | 66.4 |
| 6' | | 62.5 | | — |
| 1" | | | | 105.7 |
| 2" | | | | 76.6 |
| 3" | | | | 77.7 |
| 4" | | | | 71.6 |
| 5" | | | | 77.7 |
| 6" | | | | 62.6 |
| 24OOCH ₃ | 51.1 | 50.3 | | — |
| 28OOCH ₃ | 51.5 | — | | 51.4 |
| 3-OCOCH ₃ | — | — | | 170.7 |
| 3-OCOCH ₃ | — | — | | 21.1 |

*Cited from reference 15. Measured in CDCl₃

**Measured in pyridine-d₅

COOH (1690cm^{-1}) groups. Alkaline hydrolysis of **8** yielded the aglycone, pubescenic acid (**9**).¹⁵ From acid hydrolysate of **8**, only glucose was detected by TLC and GLC (Table III). Methylation of **8** with diazomethane afforded a monomethyl ester (**8b**), which was shown to have the molecular formula $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{58}\text{O}_6$ from the results of SI mass [m/z 685 ($\text{M} + \text{Li})^+$ and 667 ($\text{M} - \text{H}_2\text{O})^+$], indicating that **8** contained one mole of glucose. Acetylation of **8** with Ac_2O /pyridine gave a pentacetate (**8a**). In the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of **8a**, the anomeric proton signal of glucose appeared at δ 5.80 (d, $J = 7.6\text{Hz}$), revealing it to be the esterified β -D-glucopyranose, which was reconfirmed by the anomeric carbon signal at δ 95.8 in the $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of **8b** (Table IV).

The $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data of **8b** was not informative for clarification of the location of the glucose moiety, because the carbon signals of the aglycone of **8b** were nearly identical with those of pubescenic acid dimethyl ester (**9b**).¹⁵ Alkaline hydrolysis of **8b** afforded pubescenic acid monomethyl ester (**10**). On comparison of **10** with **9b** in their mass spectra, the differences of CH_2 mass units were found in the fragment peaks due to retro-Diels-Alder cleavage (m/z 264 of **10**; 278 of **9b**) followed by further fragmentation [i.e., m/z 246 ($264 - \text{H}_2\text{O}$); 260 ($278 - \text{H}_2\text{O}$)], as well as in their molecular ion peaks (m/z 516; 530). The results indicated **10** to be 24-methyl ester of the aglycone. Thus, the glucose moiety should be located at C_{28} . Therefore, the structure of **8** was established as the 28-O- β -D-glucopyranoside of **9**.

Structure of ilexoside H (**11**)

Ilexoside H (**11**) exhibited UV absorption at 248nm ($\epsilon = 9,800$). Its IR spectrum showed the presence of OH (3400cm^{-1}) and ester (1735cm^{-1}) groups. Smith's degradation of **11** afforded the aglycone, ilexolic acid (**13**). From acid hydrolysate, xylose and glucose with the ratio of 1 to 2 were detected by TLC and GLC (Table III). Acetylation of **11** gave a peracetate (**11a**). In the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of **11a** three anomeric proton signals appeared at δ 4.49 (d, $J = 6.2\text{Hz}$, β -D-xylopyranose), 4.69 (d, $J = 7.2\text{Hz}$, β -D-glucopyranose) and 5.64 (d, $J = 7.3\text{Hz}$, esterified β -D-glucopyranose).

Alkaline hydrolysis of **11** yielded prosapogenin H (**12**), which also exhibited UV absorption at 247.5nm. The IR spectrum of **12** showed the presence of OH (3400cm^{-1}) and COOH (1700cm^{-1}) groups. The sugar composition of **12** was determined as xylose and glucose with the ratio 1 to 1 (Table III). Two anomeric proton signals appeared at δ 4.45 (d, $J = 6.0\text{Hz}$, β -D-xylopyranose) and 4.66 (d,

$J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, β -D-glucopyranose) in the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of **12**. The $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ analysis, revealed 2-linked xylopyranose (C-2 of xylose at δ 83.0) and terminal glucopyranose (Table IV). Thus, the structure of **11** was established as the 3-O- β -D-glucopyranosyl (1 \rightarrow 2)- β -D-xylopyranosido-28- β -D-glucopyranoside of **13**.

After the publication of "Doctral Thesis of Sookmyung Women's University (December 1986)" of Dr. S.K. Baik, one of the authors of this article, a paper of new triterpene saponins from *ilex pubescens* [Chem. Pharm. Bull. **35**(2), 524 (1987)] was published by Hidaka, K. *et al.* They isolated four saponins, named ilexosaponins A₁, B₁, B₂ and B₃, which correspond to ilexosides E, D, J and K, respectively, in this article. They reported that ilexosaponin B₃ possessed an activity against experimental hypercholesteremia in mice.

EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Plant materials

The root of *Ilex pubescens* was purchased from a market of Hong Kong in 1983.

General Procedures

Acetylation of a compound was performed with Ac_2O /pyridine at room temp. and methylation was carried out with diazomethane, in the usual ways. Mps were determined on a Mitamura-Ricken apparatus and are uncorrected. IR absorption spectra were obtained in KBr pellets on a Perkin-Elmer Model 283B spectrophotometer and optical rotations were obtained on a Rudolph Autopol III automatic polarimeter. A recording spectrophotometer, Gilford Type 2600 was used for the measurements of UV/visible absorption spectra. NMR spectra were taken at 25°C using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal (80MHz). EIMS spectra were obtained on a Hewlett Packard GC/MS spectrometer (Type 5985B) and SIMS spectra on a Hitachi M-80 high resolution mass spectrometer. GLC was performed by a Hewlett-Packard Model 5985A GC chromatograph.

Isolation of ilexosides

Dried roots (30kg) were crushed and extracted with MeOH (120/ X 3), and the extracts were concentrated to dryness (7.7kg). A portion of the methanol extract (1kg) was suspended in water and then partitioned into 1-butanol. The BuOH extract was evaporated to dryness (440g).

A portion of the BuOH extract (110g) was chromatographed on a column of silica gel (E. Merck,

70-230 mesh) and eluted with $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (80:20:1 \rightarrow 60:20:2 \rightarrow 60:30:4 \rightarrow 30:20:5 \rightarrow 10:10:4), and divided into six fractions: fr.1 (14.4g), fr.2 (31.2g), fr.3 (20.2g), fr.4 (32.4g), fr.5(7.3g) and fr.6 (2.6g).

Fractions 2,3 and 4 were further chromatographed on silica gel using $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and/or $\text{EtOAc}/\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ system, and on Sephadex LH-20 using MeOH eluent. From fr.2, ilexosides A (400mg), D (470mg) and E (2.62g) were purely obtained; from fr.3, ilexoside J (120mg); from fr.4, ilexosides H (250mg), K (3.0g) and O (300mg).

Smith's degradation of ilexosides

Each ilexoside (30mg) was dissolved in pyridine (1ml) and MeOH (5ml), and periodic acid dihydrate (50mg) in 1ml MeOH was added over a period of 20min, while the solution was being stirred and cooled in an ice bath. The solution was allowed to stand in the dark at room temperature for two days, and 30ml water was added. A precipitate was taken by centrifugation, and suspended with 10ml water. Then while the suspension was being stirred, potassium iodide (10mg) was added and then sodium arsenite until iodine color disappeared. An equal volume of 10% potassium hydroxide in ethanol was added. The solution was heated on a boiling water bath under nitrogen for 4hrs, and carefully acidified with $\text{d-H}_2\text{SO}_4$ to about pH 3-4. Ethanol was removed *in vacuo*, and extraction with EtOAc gave sapogenin. From ilexoside A, D, J, K and O, pubescenolic acid (7) was obtained; from ilexoside E pubescenic acid (9); from ilexoside H ilxolic acid (13).

Pubescenolic acid (7)

mp: 256-258° (fine needles from CHCl_3); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.48 (THF); IR (cm^{-1}): 3620, 3480 (OH), 1690 (COOH), 995 (C-OH), 930 (tert. C-OH); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{N}$): 0.66, 0.75, 0.87 (12H, 4 X CH_3), 0.88 (3H, d, $J = 6.7\text{Hz}$, $\text{C}_{30}\text{-H}_3$), 1.06 (3H, s, $\text{C}_{29}\text{-H}_3$), 1.18 (3H, s, $\text{C}_{27}\text{-H}_3$), 2.79 (1H, br. s, $\text{C}_{18}\text{-H}$), 3.09 (1H, t-like, $\text{C}_3\text{-H}$), 5.23 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$); MS (m/z , %): 472 (M^+ , 16.7), 454 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{H}_2\text{O}$, 14.5), 426 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{HCOOH}$, 48.0), 354 (14.0), 264 (1.4), 207 (32.3), 190 (41.0), 146 (100)

Pubescenic acid (9)

mp > 320 (needles from MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ + 0.67 ($c = 0.5\%$, THF); UV (MeOH): end absorption only; IR (cm^{-1}): 3565, 3480 (OH), 1695 (COOH), 995 (C-OH), 930 (tert. C-OH); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{N}$): 0.85, 0.93, 1.24, 1.33, 1.48 (5 X 3H,

each s, 5 X CH_3), 0.94 (3H, d, $J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, $\text{C}_{30}\text{-H}_3$), 2.68 (1H, br.s, $\text{C}_{18}\text{-H}$), 3.31 (1H, dd, $J = 4.4$ and 11.2Hz , $\text{C}_3\text{-H}$), 5.40 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$); MS (m/z , %): 502 (M^+ , 10.3), 456 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{HCOOH}$, 93.6), 384 (26.3), 220 (37.8), 201 (23.1), 146 (100)

Ilexolic acid (13)

mp: 161-3° (needles from $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +1.9 ($c = 1\%$, CHCl_3); IR (cm^{-1}): 3480 (OH), 1695 (COOH); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3): 0.78, 0.90 (2 X 3H, each s, 2 X CH_3), 0.99 (9H, s, 3 X CH_3), 1.04 (3H, d, $J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, $\text{C}_{30}\text{-H}_3$), 1.73 (3H, s, $-\text{C} = \text{C}-\text{CH}_3$), 3.23 (1H, m, $\text{C}_3\text{-H}$), 5.41 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$); MS (m/z , %): 454 (M^+ , 100), 439 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3$, 5.1), 409 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{HCOOH}$, 13.5), 248 (15.7), 231 (22.8), 201 (45.1), 119 (13.5)

Ilexoside A (1)

mp: 212-214° (amorphous); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.059 ($c = 0.91\%$, THF); UV: end absorption only (MeOH); IR (cm^{-1} , KBr): 3400 (OH), 1735 (ester), 1100-1000 (glycoside); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CD_3OD , TMS) δ ppm: 2.73 (1H, br. s, $\text{C}_{18}\text{-H}$), 4.28 (1H, d, $J = 6.7\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of D-xylose), 5.31 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$), 5.33 (1H, d, $J = 6.7\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of $\text{C}_{28}\text{-D-glucose}$)

Ilexoside A acetate (1a)

mp: 136-138° (amorphous); IR (cm^{-1} , KBr): 3480 (OH), 1760, 1255 (OCOCH_3); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , TMS) δ ppm: 2.01 (6 X 3H, s, 6 X OCOCH_3), 2.05 (3H, s, 1 X OCOCH_3), 2.74 (1H, br. s, $\text{C}_{18}\text{-H}$), 3.07 (1H, m, $\text{C}_3\text{-H}$), 4.50 (1H, d, $J = 6.6\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of D-xylose), 5.34 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$), 5.56 (1H, d, $J = 7.5\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of $\text{C}_{28}\text{-D-glucose}$)

Ilexoside D (2)

mp: 264-266° (needles from MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.275 ($c = 0.53\%$, THF); UV: end absorption only (MeOH); IR (cm^{-1} , KBr): 3400 (OH), 1690 (COOH), 1100-1000 (glycoside); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{CD}_3\text{OD}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$, TMS) δ ppm: 0.73, 0.79, 0.88, 1.00, 1.13, 1.23 (6 X 3H, each s, 6 X CH_3), 0.96 (3H, d, $J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, $\text{C}_{30}\text{-H}_3$), 2.75 (1H, br.s, $\text{C}_{18}\text{-H}$), 3.05 (1H, m, $\text{C}_3\text{-H}$), 4.39 (1H, d, $J = 5.8\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.58 (1H, d, $J = 6.9\text{Hz}$, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.27 (1H, m, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-H}$); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ see Table I and II. SI mass: m/z 779 ($\text{M} + 2\text{Li-H}$) $^+$, 773 ($\text{M} + \text{Li}$) $^+$, 727 ($\text{M} + \text{Li-HCOOH}$) $^+$, 599 ($\text{M} + 2\text{Li-H-C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$) $^+$, 467 ($\text{M} + 2\text{Li-H-C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6\text{-C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$) $^+$

Ilexoside D acetate (2a)

mp: 169-171° (needles from MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$:

-0.014 (c = 2.0%, CHCl₃); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3510 (OH); 1750, 1230 (OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.71, 0.77, 0.89, 1.00, 1.16, 1.23 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.97, 2.05, 2.09 (3 × 3H, each s, 3 × OCOCH₃), 2.01 (9H, s, 3 × OCOCH₃), 2.76 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.06 (1H, m, C₃-H), 4.52 (1H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.68 (1H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.30 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside D methylester (2b)

mp: 196-198 ° (needles from MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1720 (COOH₃); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃ = 1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.70, 0.85, 0.94, 1.05, 1.16, 1.29 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.77 (1H, br. s, C₁₈-H), 3.63 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 5.30 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside D methylester acetate (2c)

mp: 140-142 ° (needle from MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1760, 1230 (OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.67, 0.78, 0.88, 1.00, 1.16, 1.23 (3H × 6, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.98 (3H, d, J = 7 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.97, 2.05, 2.09 (3 × 3H, each s, 3 × OCOCH₃), 2.00 (9H, s, 3 × OCOCH₃), 2.82 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.06 (1H, m, C₃-H), 3.60 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.68 (1H, J = 7.1 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.31 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside J (3)

mp: 248-250 (MeOH); [α]_D²³: +0.115 (c = 0.27%, THF); UV: end absorption only; IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1700 (COOH), 1100-1000 (glycoside); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃ = 1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.79, 0.85, 0.94, 1.08, 1.17, 1.29 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.26 (3H, d, J = 5.3 Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 2.75 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 4.30 (1H, d, J = 6.2 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.79 (1H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.18 (1H, d, J = 0.9 Hz, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.27 (1H, m, C₁₂-H); ¹³C-NMR see Table I and II; SI mass: *m/z* 925 (M + 2Li-H)⁺, 919 (M + Li)⁺, 873 (M + Li-HCOOH)⁺, 773 (M + Li-C₆H₁₀O₄)⁺, 617 (M + 2Li-H-C₆H₁₀O₄-C₆H₁₀O₅)⁺, 465 (M + 2Li-H-C₆H₁₂O₅-C₆H₁₂O₅-C₅H₈O₄)⁺

Hexoside J acetate (3a)

mp: 169-171 ° (MeOH); [α]_D²³: +0.10 (c = 0.28%, CDCl₃); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1755 (ester), 1705 (COOH); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.75, 0.81, 0.92, 1.03, 1.17, 1.25 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 1.00 (3H,

d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.20 (3H, d, J = 5.3 Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 1.96, 2.00, 2.01, 2.12 (4 × 3H, s, 4 × COCH₃), 2.04, 2.09 (2 × 6H, s, 4 × OCOCH₃), 2.77 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.04 (1H, m, C₃-H), 4.52 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.66 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.13 (1H, d, J = 0.9 Hz, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.30 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside J methylester (3b)

mp: 204-206 ° (needles from MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1725, 1710 (ester); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃ = 1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.75, 0.85, 0.94, 1.06, 1.17, 1.29 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.26 (3H, d, J = 5.1 Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 2.77 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.62 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 4.83 (1H, d, J = 6.9 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.21 (1H, d, J = 0.9 Hz, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.27 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside J methylester acetate (3c)

mp: 141-143 ° (MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1755, 1230 (OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.68, 0.79, 0.89, 1.01, 1.17, 1.24 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.97 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.19 (3H, d, J = 5.1 Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 1.96, 1.99, 2.01, 2.12 (4 × 3H, each s, 4 × OCOCH₃), 2.04, 2.09 (2 × 6H, each s, 4 × OCOCH₃), 2.82 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.03 (1H, m, C₃-H), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.65 (1H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.13 (1H, br.s, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.30 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Hexoside K (4)

mp: 204-206 °; [α]_D²³: +0.156 (c = 0.57%, THF); UV: end absorption only (MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1735 (ester), 1100-1000 (glycoside); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃/CD₃OD/D₂O/TFA = 7:3:0.5:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.74, 0.83, 0.93, 1.03, 1.26 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.80 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 4.44 (1H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.67 (1H, d, J = 6.9 Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.57 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose), 5.23 (1H, m, C₁₂-H); ¹³CMR see Table I and II.

Hexoside K acetate (4a)

mp: 148-150 (amorphous); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1760, 1230 (OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.70, 0.79, 0.90, 1.00, 1.17, 1.24 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.01 (21H, s, 7 × OCOCH₃), 2.05 (6H, s, 2 × OCOCH₃), 2.08 (3H, s, 1 × OCOCH₃), 2.75 (1H,

br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.06(1H, m, C₃-H), 4.49(1H, d, J=6.2Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.69(1H, d, J=7.3Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.57(1H, d, J=7.2Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose), 5.34(1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Ilexoside O (5)

mp: 224-226° (MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: -0.194(c=1.0%, pyridine); UV: end absorption only(MeOH); IR(cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400(OH), 1730(ester), 1100-1000(glycoside); ¹H-NMR(CD₃OD/CDCl₃=1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.77, 0.84, 0.94, 1.07, 1.18, 1.29(6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 1.02(3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.26(3H, d, J=5.9Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 2.74(1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 4.31(1H, d, J=6.7Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.80(1H, d, J=6.8Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.18(1H, d, J=1.0Hz, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.34(1H, d, J=6.8Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose), 5.28(1H, m, C₁₂-H); ¹³C-NMR see Table I and II

Ilexoside O acetate (5a)

mp: 147-149° (MeOH); IR(cm⁻¹, KBr): 1755, 1230(OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.72, 0.81, 0.92, 1.02, 1.17, 1.24(6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99(3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.18(3H, d, J=5.6Hz, CH₃ of L-rhamnose), 2.01, 2.04, 2.08(12 × OCOCH₃), 2.74(1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.03(1H, m, C₃-H), 4.49(1H, d, J=5.8Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.65(1H, d, J=6.7Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.13(1H, br.s, anomeric H of L-rhamnose), 5.56(1H, d, J=7.3Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose), 5.33(1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Ilexoside E (8)

UV: end absorption only (MeOH); IR(cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400(OH), 1725(ester), 1690(COOH), 1100-1000(glycoside); ¹H-NMR(CD₃OD/CDCl₃=1:1, TMS) ppm: 0.77, 0.88, 1.18, 1.28, 1.37(5 × 3H, each s, 5 × CH₃), 0.95(3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.52(1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.10(1H, dd, J=4.8 and 11.9Hz, C₃-H), 5.32(1H, m, C₁₂-H), 5.32(1H, d, J=6.6Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose)

Ilexoside E acetate (8a)

mp: 180-200° (needles from MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.241(c=1.0%, CHCl₃); IR(cm⁻¹, KBr): 3550(OH), 3500-2800(COOH), 1760, 1230(OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.69(3H, s, 1 × CH₃), 0.92(6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 1.25(9H, s, 3 × CH₃), 1.99, 2.02(2 × 6H, each s, 4 × OCOCH₃), 2.06(3H, s, 1 × OCOCH₃), 2.51(1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 4.55(1H, dd, J=4.0 and 11.6Hz, C₃-H), 5.50(1H, m, C₁₂-H), 5.80(1H, d,

J=7.6Hz, anomeric H of 28-D-glucose)

Ilexoside E methylester (8b)

mp: 197-199° (amorphous); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.393(c=0.55%, THF); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3450 (OH), 1730, 1705 (ester); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃=1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.78 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 0.95 (3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.21, 1.30, 1.39 (3 × 3H, each s, 3 × CH₃), 2.55 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.12 (1H, dd, J=4.6 and 11.3Hz, C₃-H), 3.67 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 5.31 (1H, m, C₁₂-H), 5.35 (1H, d, J=7Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose); CMR: see Table I and II; SI mass: m/z 685 (M + Li)⁺, 667 (M-H₂O)⁺, 529 (M + 2Li-H-C₆H₁₀O₅)⁺, 523 (M + Li-C₆H₁₀O₅)⁺, 477 (M + Li-C₆H₁₀O₅-HCOOH)⁺

Ilexoside E methylester acetate (8c)

mp: 144-146 (needles from MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.304 (c=1.0%, CHCl₃); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3560 (OH), 1760, 1230 (OCOCH₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.70, 0.79 (2 × 3H, each s, 2 × CH₃), 0.93 (3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.21 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 1.22 (3H, s, 1 × CH₃), 2.01 (3 × 3H, s, 3 × OCOCH₃), 2.05 (6H, s, 2 × OCOCH₃), 2.51 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.67 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 4.54 (1H, dd, J=4.1 and 12.0Hz, C₃-H), 5.37 (1H, m, C₁₂-H), 5.51 (1H, d, J=7.0Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose)

Ilexoside H (11)

mp: 187-190° (amorphous); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1735 (ester), 1100-1000 (glycoside); UV (λmax in MeOH): 248.0nm (ε=9800); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃=1:1): 0.85, 0.93, 1.00 (15H, 5 × CH₃), 1.06 (3H, d, J=7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.73 (3H, s, -C=C-CH₃), 5.35 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Ilexoside H acetate (11a)

mp: 148-150° (amorphous); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1760 (ester); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 0.78, 0.85, 0.94, 0.99 (18H, 6 × CH₃), 1.68 (3H, s, -C=C-CH₃), 2.00 (7 × 3H, s, 7 × OCOCH₃), 2.05 (2 × 3H, s, 2 × OCOCH₃), 2.09 (3H, s, 1 × OCOCH₃), 3.06 (1H, m, C₃-H), 4.49 (1H, d, J=6.2Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.69 (1H, d, J=7.2Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.64 (1H, d, J=7.3Hz, anomeric H of C₂₈-D-glucose), 5.34 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Alkaline hydrolysis of ilexosides A, E, H, K and O

Each saponin (100mg) was refluxed with 5% KOH in 50% EtOH solution for 4hrs under nitrogen. After cooling, the hydrolysate was acidified with d-H₂SO₄ to pH 3-4, freed from EtOH and ex-

tracted with BuOH. The BuOH extract was washed with water and concentrated to give a residue. Prosapogenin A (6), pubescenic acid (9), prosapogenin H (12), ilexosides D (2) and J (3) were obtained from ilexosides A (1), E (8), H (11), K (4) and O (5), respectively.

Alkaline treatment of ilexoside E monomethyl ester (8b) gave pubescenic acid monomethyl ester (10) by the above procedure.

Prosapogenin A (6)

mp: 257-259° (MeOH); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$: +0.352 (c = 0.20%, THF); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3595, 3400 (OH), 1690 (COOH), 1100-1000 (glycoside); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD/CDCl₃ = 1:1, TMS) δ ppm: 0.79, 0.85, 0.94, 1.05, 1.17, 1.29 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 6.8Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.78 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.10 (1H, m, C₃-H), 4.33 (1H, d, J = 6.7Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 5.31 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Prosapogenin A methylester (6b)

mp: 178-180°; IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3450 (OH), 1730 (ester); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm: 0.68, 0.80, 0.91, 0.96, 1.17, 1.23 (6 × 3H, each s, 6 × CH₃), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 2.82 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.61 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 5.31 (1H, m, C₁₂-H)

Prosapogenin H (12)

mp: 214-218°; UV (λ_{max} in MeOH): 247.5nm; IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400 (OH), 1700 (COOH), 1100-1000 (glycoside); ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD): 0.86, 0.94, 1.00, 1.07 (6 × CH₃), 1.72 (3H, s, -C = CH₃), 4.45 (1H, d, J = 6.0Hz, anomeric H of D-xylose), 4.66 (1H, d, J = 7.0Hz, anomeric H of D-glucose), 5.32 (1H, m, C₃-H); ¹³C-NMR see Table IV.

Pubescenic acid monomethyl ester (10)

mp: 194-6° (MeOH); IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3565, 3500 (OH), 1695 (COOH); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 0.74 (2 × 3H, s, C₂₅- and C₂₆-H₃), 0.92 (3H, d, J = 7.0Hz, C₃₀-H₃), 1.19 (3H, s, C₂₉-H₃), 1.24 (3H, s, C₂₇-H₃), 1.39 (3H, s, C₂₃-H₃), 3.12 (1H, dd, J = 4 and 10.7Hz, C₃-H), 2.52 (1H, br.s, C₁₈-H), 3.66 (3H, s, COOCH₃), 5.33 (1H, m, C₁₂-H); MS (rel. int. %): m/z 516 (M⁺, 11.5), 498 (M⁺-H₂O, 5.9), 470 (71.7), 398 (20.8), 264 (5.7), 252 (16.4), 246 (11.8), 236 (6.9), 219 (11.8), 218 (12.6), 201 (26.8), 165 (12.2), 146 (100)

Pubescenic acid dimethyl ester (9b)¹⁵⁾

Ms (rel. int. %): m/z 530 (M⁺, 14.6), 512

(M⁺-H₂O, 8.9), 470 (69.4), 398 (15.1), 278 (1.9), 252 (14.8), 260 (5.9), 250 (5.6), 219 (11.0), 218 (8.2), 201 (33.0), 179 (100), 146 (43.7)

Sugar analysis of each glycoside

Each glycoside (10mg) in 4NHCl/dioxane/benzene (3:1:2, v/v, 4.8ml) was refluxed for 4hrs. The hydrolysate was diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc. The aqueous layer was concentrated *in vacuo* to give a residue. It stood in a NaOH desiccator under *vacuo* for 2 days. TLC was performed with the solvent system of CHCl₃/MeOH/H₂O (70:30:4), and detected with 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium chloride. GLC of its TMS-ether was carried out under the following condition: SE-54 fused silica capillary column (0.2mm × 12m), column temp. 130-180°C (rate 1°C/min), injection temp. 250°, FID temp. 280°, helium $\bar{\mu}$ = 17.4cm/sec.

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