AN EXPERIMENTAL AND THEORETICAL STUDY ON SIDEROL ISOLATED FROM *Sideritis* **SPECIES**

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The Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrum of siderol, extracted from the aerial parts of *Sideritis Gülendamii*, has been measured in the range 4000–400 cm–1. Vibrational assignments and analyses of the fundamental modes of siderol were performed using the observed FTIR data recorded in the solid phase. The vibrational frequencies determined experimentally are compared with those obtained theoretically from density functional theory (DFT) and Hartee–Fock (HF) calculations. Optimized geometrical parameters of the title compound are in agreement with similar reported structures. The 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra of siderol have also been calculated by means of DFT and HF methods. The comparison between the experimental and the theoretical results indicates that density functional methods, B3LYP and MPW1PW91 with 6-31G(d) basis set, are able to provide satisfactory results for predicting NMR properties. On the basis of vibrational analyses, the thermodynamic properties of the title molecule have also been computed.

Keywords: Terpenoids; Natural Products; Density functional calculations; *Ab initio* calculations.

The chemistry and structure of natural products have been an interesting field of study for a long time. Especially, terpenes and terpenoids are one of the main groups of secondary metabolites in nature, showing a great diversity in structure and activity^{1,2}. They can also be used as intermediates and ingredients for flavours, fragrances and pharmaceuticals. Hence, researches on these compounds have lately undergone exponential growth due to advances in isolation techniques and synthetic method design, as well as the finding of a wide range of biological properties exhibited by them^{3,4}. Siderol (**1**), one of the kaurene terpenoids (Fig. 1), is isolated from the genus *Sideritis* (Lamiaceae) distributed mainly in the in temperature and tropical regions of the Northern Hemisphere, particularly in the Mediterranean and the Middle East^{5,6}. It has the antibacterial and antiviral activity against different bacteria⁷.

Computational methods are increasingly applied to representative biological active compounds aiming to elucidate their molecular structures and electronic properties, which contribute to the recognition of structureactivity relationships and to the understanding of the properties and system behavior⁸⁻¹⁰. More recently, several investigations have been carried out on the biological active molecules isolated from plants $11,12$. Literature survey reveals that to the best of our knowledge no *ab initio* density functional theory (DFT) and Hartee–Fock (HF) calculations of siderol have been reported so far. It may be due to difficulty in interpreting the results of calculations because of their complexity and low symmetry. Herein, we wish to report the optimal geometry and the detailed vibrational spectrum of siderol with the help of theoretical and experimental methods. In addition, the gauge-including atomic orbital (GIAO) 1 H and 13 C chemical shifts calculations of the title compound have been analyzed using HF and DFT methods. The spectroscopic constants derived from the *ab initio* HF and DFT calculations have been compared with the corresponding values obtained from the experimental studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The general route for the isolation of siderol is described in the part of experimental methods. The geometry optimization is the most important step for the calculation of the NMR and IR spectra because the molecular parameters are controlled by the molecular geometry. The general molecular structure and numbering of the atoms of siderol is shown in Fig. 1. The molecular geometry of the title compound has been optimized at the RHF-SCF, DFT/B3LYP and DFT/ MPW1PW91 level of theories in the ground state (*in vacuo*).

The geometry of siderol obtained from the optimization with B3LYP/6-31G(d) method is depicted in Fig. 2. The results of optimized parameters (bond lengths, bond angles and dihedral angles) of siderol are also listed in Table I. Since the crystal structure of siderol is not available and our crystallization efforts in various solvent systems failed, the optimized structure can be only being compared with other similar systems for which X-ray structures have been reported recently^{13,14}. For example, the optimized bond lengths of C4–C5, C6–C7 and C13–C14 in siderol are 1.565, 1.523 and 1.5304 Å for RHF/6-31G(d) method, 1.560, 1.522 and 1.530 Å for RMPW1PW91/6-31G(d) method, and 1.571, 1.529 and 1.538 Å for RB3LYP/6-31G(d) method, which are in good agreement with a similar molecular structure 1.563, 1.523 and 1.526 Å¹³. It is so remarkable that the optimized $C_{18}-O_{18'}$ bond lengths by three methods are 1.407 Å for RHF/6-31G(d), 1.418 Å for RMPW1PW91/ 6-31G(d) and 1.430 Å for RB3LYP/6-31G(d), which are slightly shorter than that in compound with a similar molecular structure 1.432 Å. However, they are 1.453 Å for RHF/3-21G(d), 1.468 for RMPW1PW91/3-21G(d) and 1.480 for RB3LYP/3-21G(d), which are significantly longer than this value¹³. Moreover, the optimized $O_{21} = C_{21'}$ carbonyl group bond lengths obtained from $RHF/6-31G(d)$, $RMPW1PW91/6-31G(d)$ and $RB3LYP/6-31G(d)$ methods are 1.190, 1.209 and 1.219 Å, respectively, which are in good agreement with a similar structure 1.181 \hat{A} , whereas those achieved by $RHF/3-21G(d)$, $RMPW1PW91/3-21G(d)$ and $RB3LYP/3-21G(d)$ methods are 1.206, 1.224 and 1.227 Å, respectively, which are again longer than the experimental values of similar structure¹⁴.

TABLE I

Optimized geometrical structural parameters (bond lengths (in Å), bond angles (in °) and dihedral angles (in °)) of siderol

(*Continued*)

Vibrational Analysis

The experimental and theoretical IR spectra are shown in Fig. 3 for comparative purposes, where the calculated intensity and activity are plotted against the harmonic vibrational frequencies. The experimental and calculated wavenumbers and IR intensities are also given in Table II. In order to facilitate assignment of the observed peaks, we have analyzed vibrational frequencies and compared our calculation of the compound with their experimental results. The vibrational frequency and approximate description of each normal mode obtained using HF and DFT methods with both 6-31G(d) and 3-21G(d) basis sets. The assignment of the experimental frequencies are based on the observed band frequencies in the infrared spectrum of this species confirmed by establishing "one to one" correlation between experiment and theory.

The calculated vibrational spectra of the title molecule belonging to C_1 point group have no imaginary frequencies which helped to confirm that the structure of the compound deduced following geometry optimization corresponds to energy minimum. In total, there are 171 vibrations from 49

to 3880 cm⁻¹ at RHF/3-21G(d) level, 37 to 4115 cm⁻¹ at RHF/6-31G(d) level, 54 to 3503 cm–1 at B3LYP/3-21G(d) level, 41 to 3757 cm–1 at B3LYP/ 6-31G(d) level, 54 to 3589 cm⁻¹ at MPW1PW91/3-21G(d) level and 39 to 3831 cm–1 at MPW1PW91/6-31G(d) level. The main focus of the present investigation is the proper assignment of the experimental frequencies to the various vibrational modes of siderol in corroboration with the calculated harmonic frequencies at HF, B3LYP and MPW1PW91 levels using both 3-21G(d) and 6-31G(d) basis sets. To make comparison with experiment, we obtained the correlation graphics, from which the correlation values of computational and experimental frequencies are found to be 0.995 for $RHF/3-21G(d)$, 0.9838 for $RHF/6-31G(d)$, 0.9971 for RB3LYP/3-21G(d),

0.9938 for RB3LYP/6-31G(d), 0.995 for RMPW1PW91/3-21G(d) and 0.9958 for RMPW1PW91/6-31G(d) level, respectively. Hence, experimental fundamentals have slightly a better correlation for RB3LYP/3-21G(d) than the others (Fig. 4).

Generally, the calculated frequencies are slightly higher than the observed values for the majority of the normal modes. Two factors may be responsible for the discrepancies between the experimental and computed spectra of the title molecule. The first is caused by the environment and the second reason for these discrepancies is the fact that the experimental value is an anharmonic frequency while the calculated value is a harmonic one¹⁵.

In the experimental spectrum, C–C vibrations in siderol arise from mainly C=C bond of bicycloalkene and methyl and cyclohexyl carbons. The weak intense IR band at 1645 cm⁻¹ is assigned to the $C_{15}=C_{16}$ bond stretching. As seen from Table II, the medium intense band at around 948 cm^{-1} can also be assigned to the C–C bond stretching and CCC in plane deformation. The C–H stretching vibration bands are at 3050– 2800 cm⁻¹ (see Fig. 3). This interval can be divided into two parts: the first one between 3050 and 3010 cm–1 corresponds to the stretch vibration of the double bond C–H and the other one at 3010–2800 cm–1 to the saturated aliphatic CH groups. Moreover, C=C–CH₃ scissoring vibrations are identified in the range of $1655-1510$ cm⁻¹ by DFT and HF methods and it is in agreement with the recorded FTIR spectral value of 1558 cm^{-1} except HF/3-21G(d) level (1655 cm–1). The O=C–C**H3** wagging vibration computed

by MPW1PW91/ 6-31G(d) method is around 1434 cm^{-1} and it shows better agreement with the experimentally observed value of 1439 cm^{-1} than the others.

The free OH group absorbs strongly in the region of $3700-3580$ cm⁻¹, whereas the existence of intermolecular hydrogen bond formation can lower the O–H stretching frequency to the $3550-3200$ cm⁻¹ region with increase in intensity and breath¹⁶. The IR spectrum in the high wavenumber region shows a sharp intense band at 3473 cm^{-1} , attributed to no hydrogen bonded OH stretching vibrations. It is possible that the OH group may participate in intermolecular hydrogen bonding with a neighboring molecule. Due to that, the calculated values of OH group vibrations, 4115 cm^{-1} for $HF/6-31G(d)$, 3880 cm⁻¹ for HF/3-21G(d), 3757 cm⁻¹ for B3LYP/6-31G(d) and 3831 cm⁻¹ for MPW1PW91/6-31G(d), show no good agreement with the experimental results except of 3503 cm⁻¹ for B3LYP/3-21G(d) and 3588 cm–1 for MPW1PW91/3-21G(d).

Normal esters are characterized by the strong IR absorptions due to the C=O stretching vibration in the range of $1750-1735$ cm⁻¹ and the other due to C–O stretching vibration near 1200 cm⁻¹. Similarly in our study also a strong band observed by IR at 1708 cm^{-1} is assigned to C=O stretching vibration. However, the theoretically computed one by HF/6-31G(d) and HF/3-31G(d) shows great deviation of about 294 and 219 cm⁻¹, respectively. DFT methods have a better correlation with the recorded spectrum. This deviation may be due to the presence of $CH₂OH$ group in the adjacent position. The other characteristic carboxylic group vibration is the C–O stretching at 1268 cm⁻¹. The computed values are at 1427 , 1371 , 1280 , 1227, 1310 and 1255 cm⁻¹ by HF/6-31G(d), HF/3-21G(d), B3LYP/6-31G(d), B3LYP/3-21G(d), MPW1PW91/6-31G(d) and MPW1PW91/3-21G(d), respectively. DFT methods again show a better agreement with experimental observation than HF methods.

NMR Spectra

GIAO 1 H and 13 C chemical shift values (with respect to TMS) have been calculated using DFT and HF methods with both $3-21G(d)$ and 6-31 $G(d)$ basis sets and generally compared to the experimental 1 H and 13 C chemical shift values reported in ppm relative to TMS. The experimental and computed NMR results are shown in Tables III and IV. Experimental ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained at a base frequency of 500 MHz for ¹H and 125 MHz for 13 C nuclei. Relative chemical shifts were then estimated using the corresponding TMS shielding calculated in advance at the same theoretical

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level as the reference. Calculated 1H isotropic chemical shift values for TMS at RHF/3-21G(d), RHF/6-31G(d), B3LYP/3-21G(d), B3LYP/6-31G(d), MPW1PW91/3-21G(d) and MPW1PW91/6-31G(d) levels were 33.6, 32.9, 32.8, 32.2, 32.7 and 32.2 ppm, respectively. Moreover, calculated 13C chemical shift values for TMS at RHF/3-21G(d), RHF/6-31G(d), B3LYP/3-21G(d), B3LYP/6-31G(d), MPW1PW91/3-21G(d) and MPW1PW91/6-31G(d) levels were 213.2, 201.7, 201.8, 189.7, 205.8 and 194.3 ppm, respectively. The ex-

TABLE III

Experimental and calculated 13 C NMR chemical shifts (in ppm) of siderol

TABLE IV

Experimental and calculated 1H NMR chemical shifts (in ppm) of siderol

Proton No.	Exp.	DFT				HF	
		$6-31G(d)$	MPW1PW91/ MPW1PW91/ $3-21G(d)$	B3LYP/ $6-31G(d)$	B3LYP/ $3-21G(d)$	HF/ $6-31G(d)$	HF/ $3-21G(d)$
H(2'a)		2.33	2.70	2.32	2.68	1.99	2.20
H(2'b)		1.38	1.05	1.40	1.10	1.20	0.88
H(3'a)		1.59	1.43	1.60	1.48	1.24	1.03
H(3'b)	$\overline{}$	1.70	1.23	1.71	1.27	1.44	1.01
H(1'a)		1.46	1.35	1.47	1.39	1.15	1.02
H(1'b)	$\overline{}$	1.55	1.38	1.56	1.42	1.21	1.05
H(5')	÷,	2.85	2.95	2.90	3.03	2.15	2.18
H(9')	$\overline{}$	1.89	1.75	1.95	1.81	1.43	1.35
H(7')	4.6	4.57	4.44	4.62	4.51	4.20	4.13
H(6'a)		2.12	2.06	2.09	2.04	1.78	1.66
H(6'b)	$\overline{}$	1.46	1.22	1.46	1.26	1.04	0.73
H(11'a)	$\overline{}$	1.75	1.58	1.81	1.66	1.41	1.24
H(11'b)	$\overline{}$	1.56	1.29	1.56	1.32	1.20	0.91
H(12'a)	$\overline{}$	1.52	1.25	1.56	1.32	1.33	1.05
H(12'b)	$\overline{}$	1.56	1.30	1.57	1.33	1.29	0.98
H(13')	2.37	2.31	1.98	2.31	2.01	2.00	1.74
H(14'a)	$\overline{}$	1.61	1.55	1.59	1.55	1.30	1.26
H(14'b)	$\overline{}$	1.92	1.72	1.91	1.74	1.47	1.26
H(15')	5.25	5.70	5.67	5.63	5.64	5.77	5.94
H(17'a)	1.01	1.65	1.60	1.69	1.64	1.56	1.51
H(17'b)	1.01	1.82	1.70	1.78	1.69	1.84	1.74
H(17'c)	1.01	1.64	1.59	1.64	1.60	1.57	1.54
H(18'a)	2.98	3.12	2.95	3.17	3.05	2.85	2.68
H(18 ^h)	3.31	3.66	3.67	3.73	3.79	3.27	3.25
H(19'a)	0.67	0.56	0.53	0.57	0.60	0.46	0.38
H(19'b)	0.67	0.40	0.25	0.40	0.29	0.37	0.19
H(19'c)	0.67	1.09	1.04	1.04	1.03	0.96	0.90
H(O)	$\overline{}$	0.04	0.49	0.12	0.64	-0.10	0.001
H(22'a)	2.05	1.51	1.40	1.45	1.35	1.61	1.59
H(22'b)	2.05	1.97	2.10	1.95	2.08	1.96	2.11
H(22'c)	2.05	2.18	3.41	2.22	3.44	2.14	3.05
H(20'a)	1.11	1.22	1.16	1.19	1.14	0.98	0.90
H(20'b)	1.11	1.13	1.05	1.10	1.06	0.88	0.76
H(20 ['] c)	1.11	1.56	1.55	1.54	1.57	1.14	1.08

perimental values for 1 H and 13 C isotropic chemical shifts for TMS were 30.8 and 188.1 ppm, respectively¹⁷.

As can be seen from Tables III and IV, the calculated chemical shifts are in compliance with the experimental findings. Comparing calculated and experimental data, the correlation values of carbon and proton shifts are found to be 0.9862 and 0.8846 for RHF/3-21G(d), 0.9872 and 0.925 for RHF/6-31G(d), 0.9542 and 0.884 for B3LYP/3-21G(d), 0.993 and 0.9364 for

B3LYP/6-31G(d), 0.9909 and 0.8842 for MPW1PW91/3-21G(d), 0.992 and 0.9359 for MPW1PW91/6-31G(d) level, respectively (best ones in Figs 5 and 6). Hence, the results of DFT methods with 6-31G(d) basis set have shown better fit to experimental ones than HF methods in evaluating ¹H and 13C chemical shifts.

The proton of double bond (H-15') resonates at 5.25 ppm from ¹H NMR spectrum of the title compound (Fig. 7). This signal has been calculated as

5.63 ppm (best) for B3LYP/6-31G(d) and 5.94 ppm (worst) for HF/3-21G(d). The signal at 4.60 ppm is also assigned to H atom attached to C-7. It bas been computed as 4.62 ppm (best) for B3LYP/6-31G(d) and 4.13 ppm (worst) for HF/3-21G(d). Moreover, 13C NMR spectrum of siderol shows the signal at 171.1 ppm experimentally, that has been calculated at 159.7– 201.7 ppm due to the C atom of carbonyl group.

Frontier Molecular Orbitals

Frontier molecular orbital (MO) theory in chemistry is an application of MO theory describing highest occupied MO (HOMO)/lowest unoccupied MO (LUMO) interactions that play an important role in the electric, optical and other properties, as well as in UV-Vis spectra and chemical reactions¹⁸. Figure 8 indicates the distribution and energy levels of the HOMO-1, HOMO, LUMO, LUMO+1 orbitals calculated at B3LYP/6-31G(d) level for siderol. As seen from Fig. 8, HOMO and LUMO+1 are mainly on the double bond, whereas LUMO are substantially localized on the carbonyl group. Electrons in the HOMO–1 are also delocalized through the molecule. The value of energy separation between HOMO and LUMO is 0.241 eV. This small HOMO–LUMO gap means low excitation energies for many of excited states and low chemical hardness for siderol.

Other Molecular Properties

The calculation of effective atomic charges plays an important role in the application of quantum mechanical calculations to molecular systems. Natural population analysis (NPA) atomic charges for the non-H atoms of the title compound calculated at MPW1PW91/3-21G(d), MPW1PW91/ 6-31G(d), B3LYP/3-21G(d), B3LYP/6-31G(d), RHF/3-21G(d) and RHF/6-31G(d) levels are presented in Table V. Generally, the computed results show that the carbon atom of carbonyl group has a bigger positive charge and carbon atom of methyl group attached to carbonyl has a bigger negative charge. Moreover, the large negative charge of oxygen atom of hydroxy group may be regarded as a nucleophilic suction pump, acting as a possible magnet for electrophilic attack of H^+ or part of a biological receptor.

The thermodynamic parameters of the title compound have been also calculated at MPW1PW91/3-21G(d), MPW1PW91/6-31G(d), B3LYP/3-21G(d), B3LYP/6-31G(d), RHF/3-21G(d) and RHF/6-31G(d) levels and are presented in Table VI. These results will be helpful for further studies of siderol.

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TABLE V

NPA atomic charges (in __) of siderol at the DFT and HF methods with both 6-31G(d) and 3-21G(d) basis sets

CONCLUSIONS

Siderol (**1**) characterized using spectral methods has been isolated from endemic plant, *Sideritis Gülendamii*. Geometrical structural parameters (bond lengths, bond angles, dihedral angles), vibrational frequencies, IR intensities, ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts and thermodynamic parameters of siderol in the ground state have been calculated using DFT and HF methods with both 6-31G(d) and 3-21G(d) basis sets. Experimental and theoretical vibrational analyses of siderol have also been performed for the first time. Calculated vibrational frequencies have been compared with that obtained from the experimental IR spectrum. Experimental fundamentals are found to have slightly a better correlation for DFT than for HF method. Moreover, ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts have been compared with experimental values. DFT results with 6-31G(d) basis set have shown a better fit to experimental ones than HF methods in evaluating 1 H and 13 C chemical shifts.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials and Instruments

All solvents were purchased from Merck and Aldrich. Silica gel 60 was also used for column chromatography and Kieselgel 60F254 precoated plates (Merck Co.) for preparative TLC. The FTIR spectrum of the title compound was obtained using IR grade KBr disks on a Perkin–Elmer 1600 Series FTIR spectrophotometer in the range of $4000-400$ cm⁻¹ at room temperature. ¹H and ¹³C spectra were obtained in CDCl₃ using Varian 500 MHz NMR.

Plant Material

Siderol having the *ent-*kaurene skeleton can be isolated from different species of *Sideritis* such as *S. Trojana, S. Dichotoma*, *S. Sipylea Boiss*19, *S. Argyrea*20, *S. Lycia*, *S. Gülendamiae H. Duman* δ *F. A. Karaveliogullari*, *S. Condensata*21, *S. Cillensis*22, *S. Tmolea P. H Davis*23, *S. Lanata* L*.* ²⁴ and *S. Almerienses*, *S. leucantha* var. *Serratifolia* and *S. pusilla* ssp. *Almerienses*25.

In our study, *Sideritis Gülendamiae H. Duman* δ *F. A. Karaveliogullari* was collected from Eskişehir in July 2008. The plant was identified by Assoc. Prof. Dr. T. Dirmenci from University of Balikesir.

Extraction and Isolation

The plant material, *Sideritis Gülendamiae H. Duman* δ *F. A. Karaveliogullari*, was dried in shade and then cut into small pieces. The whole plant (1.5 kg) was extracted with acetone to give a crude extract (40 g). This extract was fractionated on a silica gel column. Elution was started with hexane and continued with gradients of chloroform, acetone and then methanol. From the acetone extract, three diterpenoids, siderol (*ent*-7_-acetoxy-18-hydroxykaur-15-ene), linearol (*ent*-3b,7a-dihydroxy-18-acetoxykaur-16-ene) and athonolone (*ent*-7a,17,18-trihydroxy-9,11-en-12-one), were isolated. The final amounts of the extracted compounds are 2 g, 100 mg and 30 mg, respectively. For purification of the isolated compounds, preparative TLC was applied using pre-coated silica gel F254 aluminum plates (0.2 mm; Merck). All compounds were characterized by spectral methods.

Computational Procedure

The calculations of geometrical parameters in the ground state were performed using the Gaussian 03 suite of programs²⁶ at DFT and HF levels with both 6-31G(d) and 3-21G(d) basis sets²⁷. Initial geometry generated from standard geometrical parameters was minimized without any constraint in the potential energy surface at AM1 semiemprical level. This geometry was then re-optimized again at both HF and DFT levels. The optimized structural parameters were used in the vibrational frequency calculations at both HF and DFT levels to characterize all stationary points as minima. Then, vibrationally averaged nuclear positions of siderol were used for harmonic vibrational frequency calculations resulting in IR frequency together with intensities. Moreover, the absolute assignments of ${}^{1}H$ and ${}^{13}C$ chemical shifts were calculated subtracting the isotropic shielding tensor (in ppm) of each atom from the corresponding HF and DFT/GIAO shielding tensor of the reference TMS, which was calculated from its optimized geometry at the related level and basis set of siderol. Natural atomic charges were also calculated within the natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis at HF and DFT levels. Vibrational frequency assignments and NMR analyses were performed with a high degree of accuracy using Gauss View 3.0 program²⁸.

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