

## Spruceanumines A and B, Novel Plumeran Indole Alkaloids from *Aspidosperma spruceanum* (Apocynaceae)

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Dois novos alcalóides indólicos com esqueleto plumerano, spruceanuminas A (**1**) e B (**2**), e oito alcalóides indólicos conhecidos, aspidospermidina (**3**), desmetoxipalosina (**4**), aspidocarpina (**5**), aspidolimina (**6**), fendlerina (**7**), aspidolimidina (**8**), obscurinervidina (**9**) e obscurinervina (**10**), foram isolados do extrato metanólico das cascas do caule e sementes de *Aspidosperma spruceanum*. As estruturas dos compostos foram elucidadas com base na análise de dados espectroscópicos, principalmente os obtidos por espectros de RMN <sup>1</sup>H e <sup>13</sup>C (1D e 2D) e por espectrometria de massas.

Two novel indole alkaloids with plumeran skeleton, spruceanumines A (**1**) and B (**2**), and eight known indole alkaloids, aspidospermidine (**3**), demethoxypalosine (**4**), aspidocarpine (**5**), aspidolimine (**6**), fendlerine (**7**), aspidolimidine (**8**), obscurinervidine (**9**) and obscurinervine (**10**) were isolated from stem bark and seeds methanolic extracts of *Aspidosperma spruceanum*. Compounds structures were elucidated on the basis of spectroscopic data, mainly those obtained by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (1D and 2D) and mass spectrometry.

**Keywords:** *Aspidosperma spruceanum*, Apocynaceae, plumeran indole alkaloids

### Introduction

The *Aspidosperma* (Apocynaceae) genus is endemic to Americas and is found mainly in regions between Mexico and Argentina.<sup>1</sup> *Aspidosperma* genus continues to be fascinating as an expressive source of indole alkaloids with novel skeletons, which are interesting from a biosynthetic perspective and reported biological properties. Several species of *Aspidosperma* are broadly used in popular medicine as potential antimalarial agents, leishmaniose treatment, uterus and ovary inflammation, as contraceptive, in diabetes, in stomach problems, against cancer, fever and rheumatism.<sup>2</sup>

*Aspidosperma spruceanum* (*A. spruceanum*), commonly known as “Paratudo-Branco” in Atlantic forest in the North of Espírito Santo State, appears as a tree of 5-20 m. The isolation and structure elucidation of two alkaloids from stem bark of *A. spruceanum* collected in Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil, were reported.<sup>3</sup>

In the present paper, we describe the isolation and characterization of two novel plumeran indole alkaloids named as spruceanumines A (**1**) and B (**2**), along with known indole alkaloids: aspidospermidine (**3**),<sup>4-7</sup> demethoxypalosine (**4**),<sup>7-9</sup> aspidocarpine (**5**),<sup>8,10,14</sup> aspidolimine (**6**),<sup>8,14</sup> fendlerine (**7**),<sup>15,16</sup> aspidolimidine (**8**),<sup>8,13,15</sup> obscurinervidine (**9**)<sup>14,17</sup> and obscurinervine (**10**).<sup>14,17</sup> Their structures were established by spectrometric techniques, mainly one- and two-dimensional nuclear

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magnetic resonance (NMR), as well as high resolution electron spray ionization mass spectra (HRESIMS).

## Results and Discussion

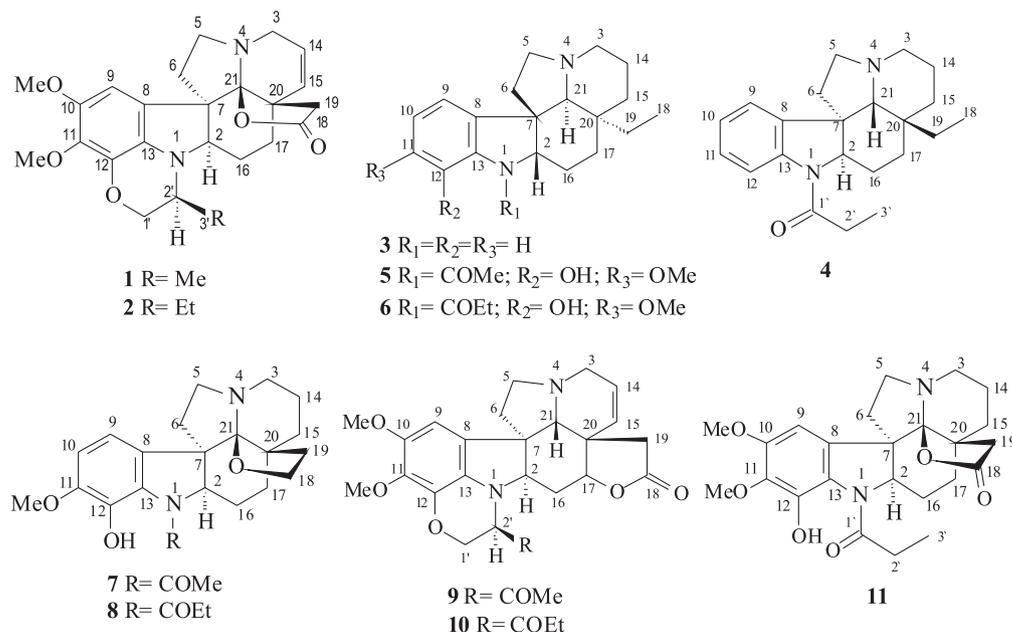
Elaboration of stem bark and seeds methanol extract of *A. spruceanum* by classical chromatographic methods resulted in the isolation of ten plumeran indole alkaloids (**1-10**), whose structures are shown in Figure 1. The well-known plumeran indole alkaloids, aspidospermidine (**3**), demethoxypalosine (**4**), aspidocarpine (**5**), aspidolimine (**6**), fendlerine (**7**), aspidolimidine (**8**), obscurinervidine (**9**) and obscurinervine (**10**) were identified on the basis of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data, including  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  correlation spectroscopy (COSY),  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  nuclear overhauser effect spectroscopy (NOESY), heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC) and heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) NMR experiments,<sup>18</sup> which were also used to complete unambiguous  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shift assignments of **1** and **2**.

Spruceanumines A (**1**) and B (**2**), were obtained as a mixture of amorphous form,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} = -101.7$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $c$  0.61). Infrared (IR) spectrum showed bands at  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3100-2890 (C-H stretching),  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1755 (stretching of the  $\gamma$ -lactone carbonyl group) in addition to other bands at  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1624, 1606 and 1497 (C=C stretching of the benzene ring), and 887 and 739  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C-H bending of substituted benzene ring).<sup>19</sup>

Comparative analysis of the  $\{^1\text{H}\}$ - and distortionless enhancement by polarization transfer (DEPT)  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (Table 1) revealed signals corresponding to

24 (**1**) or 25 (**2**) carbon atoms, allowing to recognize the presence of signals corresponding to nine nonhydrogenated  $[(\text{C})_9]$ : three  $\text{sp}^3$  (including one bounded to nitrogen and oxygen atoms at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  106.79), six  $\text{sp}^2$  (including one carbonyl group at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  175.10 and five  $\text{sp}^2$  attributed to aromatic ring), five methine  $[(\text{CH})_5]$ : two  $\text{sp}^3$  linked to nitrogen atom ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  68.91/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.50 and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  44.73/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.27 correlated in the HSQC spectrum with  $^1\text{H}$  chemical shifts at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.50 and 3.27, respectively, as indicated also in the direct subsequent correlations,  $^1J_{\text{CH}}$ ) and three  $\text{sp}^2$  (one aromatic at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  101.78/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.63 (*s*) and two olefinic at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  123.31/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.81 (*ddd*) and 130.79/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.37 (*brd*)], seven (**1**) and eight (**2**)  $\text{sp}^3$  methylene  $[(\text{CH}_2)_7]$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_8$ , including one linked to oxygen atom at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  72.26 (**1**) and 70.20 (**2**, revealing  $\gamma$ -effect of the methyl group  $\text{CH}_3$ -4') and three methyl  $[(\text{CH}_3)_3]$ :  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  15.10/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.12 (*d*,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), **1**;  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  9.39/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.98 (*t*,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), **2**; and  $(\text{MeO})_2$  represented by signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  56.49/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.70 (*s*) and 61.18/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.81 (*s*), **1**;  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  56.97/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.74 (*s*) and 61.18/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.86 (*s*), **2**] carbon atoms, allowing to deduce the expanded molecular formulae  $(\text{C})_7(\text{C}=\text{O})(\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{O})(\text{CH})_5(\text{O}-\text{CH}_2)(\text{CH}_2)_6(\text{CH}_3)(\text{MeO})_2$  and  $(\text{C})_7(\text{C}=\text{O})(\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{O})(\text{CH})_5(\text{O}-\text{CH}_2)(\text{CH}_2)_7(\text{CH}_3)(\text{MeO})_2$  for **1** and **2**, respectively. This later contains additional methylene group  $\text{CH}_2$  ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  22.56/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.69 (*m*) and 1.46 (*m*) coupled to the hydrogens of an adjacent methyl group ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  9.39/ $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.98 (*t*,  $J = 7.5$  Hz).

The high resolution electro-spray ionization mass spectrum (ESI-MS) of **1** and **2** showed peaks corresponding to the protonated molecules  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  425.2170 of **1** ( $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 = m/z$  425.2076,  $\Delta_{m/z}$  0.0094) and 439.2332 of **2** ( $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 = m/z$  439.2233,  $\Delta_{m/z}$  0.0099) Daltons, which



**Figure 1.** Structure of the plumeran indole alkaloids isolated from *A. spruceanum*.

**Table 1.**  $^1\text{H}$  (500 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (125 MHz) NMR data of mixture spruceanumines A (**1**) and B (**2**), in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent and TMS used as internal reference. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm) and coupling constants ( $J$ , Hz, in parenthesis)\*

	<b>1</b> HSQC		<b>2</b> HSQC		<b>1 + 2</b> HMBC	
	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	$\delta_{\text{H}}$			$^2J_{\text{CH}}$	$^3J_{\text{CH}}$
<b>C</b>						
7	60.21	-	60.21	-	H-2; 2H-6	H-5a; H-9; 2H-16
8	124.90	-	124.76	-	H-9	H-6b
10	147.45	-	147.27	-	H-9	MeO-10
11	136.53	-	136.53	-		H-9; MeO-11
12	136.24	-	136.24	-		2H-1'
13	131.03	-	131.06	-		H-9
18	175.10	-	175.10	-	2H-19	
20	43.90	-	43.90	-	H-15; 2H-27	H-14; 2H-16
21	106.79	-	106.79	-		
<b>CH</b>						
2	68.91	3.50 ( <i>m</i> )	68.91	3.50 ( <i>m</i> )		H-1'; 2H-6; 2H-17
9	101.78	6.63 ( <i>s</i> )	101.85	6.63 ( <i>s</i> )		
14	123.51	5.81 ( <i>ddd</i> , 9.9, 3.7, 1.7)	123.51	5.81 ( <i>ddd</i> , 9.9, 3.7, 1.7)	H-3	
15	130.79	5.37 ( <i>brd</i> , 9.9)	130.66	5.37 ( <i>brd</i> , 9.9)		H-3; 2H-17; 2H-19
2'	44.73	3.27 ( <i>m</i> )	50.43	3.13 ( <i>m</i> )	2H-1'; 2H-3'	3H-4'
<b>CH<sub>2</sub></b>						
3	45.00	3.60-3.40 ( <i>m</i> )	45.88	3.60-3.40 ( <i>m</i> )	H-14	H-15
5	50.09	3.34 ( <i>m</i> ), 3.15 ( <i>m</i> )	50.43	3.34 ( <i>m</i> ), 3.15 ( <i>m</i> )	2H-6	
6	33.76	2.55 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.03 ( <i>m</i> )	33.89	2.55 ( <i>m</i> ), 2.03 ( <i>m</i> )	2H-5	H-2
16	18.96	1.77 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.47 ( <i>m</i> )	19.11	1.77 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.47 ( <i>m</i> )	2H-17	
17	28.82	1.75 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.58 ( <i>m</i> )	28.82	1.75 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.58 ( <i>m</i> )	2H-16	H-19a
19	40.53	2.50 ( <i>d</i> , 16.4) 2.12 ( <i>d</i> , 16.4)	40.53	2.50 ( <i>d</i> , 16.4) 2.12 ( <i>d</i> , 16.4)		H-15; 2H-17
1'	72.26	4.27 ( <i>dd</i> , 10.7, 2.7) 3.90 ( <i>dd</i> , 10.7, 8.8)	70.20	4.35 ( <i>dd</i> , 10.8, 2.6) 4.00 ( <i>dd</i> , 10.8, 8.6)	H-2'	2H-3'
3'	-	-	22.56	1.69 ( <i>m</i> ), 1.46 ( <i>m</i> )	H-2'; 3H-4'	2H-1'
<b>CH<sub>3</sub></b>						
3'	15.10	1.12 ( <i>d</i> , 6.2)	-	-		
4'	-	-	9.39	0.98 ( <i>t</i> , 7.5)	2H-3'	H-2'
<b>MeO</b>						
10	56.49	3.70 ( <i>s</i> )	56.97	3.74 ( <i>s</i> )		
11	61.18	3.81 ( <i>s</i> )	61.18	3.86 ( <i>s</i> )		

\*Number of hydrogens bound to carbon atoms deduced by comparative analysis of  $\{^1\text{H}\}$ - and DEPT- $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra. Chemical shifts and coupling constants ( $J$ ) were obtained of 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ -COSY and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ -NOESY experiments were also used to these assignments. Superimposed  $^1\text{H}$  signals are described without multiplicity and chemical shifts deduced by HSQC and HMBC spectra.

together with the NMR  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum enable to propose molecular formulas  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  (**1**) and  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  (**2**), respectively, containing twelve degrees of unsaturation ( $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{52}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 - \text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 = \text{H}_{24}$  or  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{54}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 - \text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 = \text{H}_{24}$ ), which is consistent with the structure of alkaloids containing the nucleus of 21-oxo-aspidalbidine<sup>20</sup> (**11**),

aspidospermidin-18,21-olide, using actual numeration) as basic structure (eleven degrees of unsaturation = four corresponding to aromatic ring, two to carbonyl lactone group and additional pentacyclic moiety), which after the location of one 1,2-disubstituted double bond between the carbon atoms CH-14 and CH-15 and of one heterocyclic

involving the N-substituent and the oxygen atom sustained by carbon atom C-12, justifying the presence of OCH<sub>2</sub> (**1**:  $\delta_C$  72.26/ $\delta_H$  4.27 and 3.90; **2**:  $\delta_C$  70.20/ $\delta_H$  4.35 and 4.00, revealing shielding induced by  $\gamma$ -effect of the methyl 3H-4'), methyl group represented by a doublet signal ( $J = 6.2$  Hz) at  $\delta_H$  1.12 (3H-3' correlated in the HSQC spectrum with <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift at  $\delta_C$  15.10) coupled hydrogen linked to nitrogenated carbon atom ( $\delta_H$  3.27, *m*, H-2' correlated with <sup>13</sup>C signal at  $\delta_C$  44.73, CH-2') in the alkaloid **1** and by a triplet signal ( $J = 7.5$  Hz) at  $\delta_H$  0.98 (3H-4') coupled to hydrogen atoms of the additional methylene of **2** ( $\delta_H$  1.69 and 1.46 correlated in the HSQC with <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift at  $\delta_C$  22.56). The lower field <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift CH-2' ( $\delta_C$  50.43) in compound **2** when to that of **1** ( $\delta_C$  44.73) is indicative of a  $\beta$ -effect induced by the methyl group CH<sub>3</sub>-4', as shown in Table 1.

The identity of the six-membered heterocyclic ring containing and oxygen, was supported by <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CH</sub> HMBC correlations between C-12 [ $\delta_C$  136.24, **1** and **2**] and 2H-1' [ $\delta_H$  4.27 and 3.90 (**1**);  $\delta_H$  4.35 and 4.00 (**2**) (Table 1), as well as by <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY cross-peaks displayed by H-1'b ( $\delta_H$  4.27 in **1**; 4.35 in **2**), H-1'a ( $\delta_H$  3.90 in **1**; 4.00 in **2**), H-2' ( $\delta_H$  3.27 in **1**; 3.13 in **2**).

The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY spectrum (Table 1) showed coupling of methylenic hydrogens at  $\delta_H$  4.27 [(*dd*,  $J = 10.7$  and 2.7 Hz, H-1'b (**1**)] and  $\delta_H$  3.90 [(*dd*,  $J = 10.7$  and 8.8 Hz, H-1'a (**1**)] with the methinic hydrogen at  $\delta_H$  3.27 (*m*, H-2', **1**) and at  $\delta_H$  4.35 [(*dd*,  $J = 10.8$  and 2.6 Hz, H-1'b (**2**)] and  $\delta_H$  4.00 [(*dd*,  $J = 10.8$  and 8.6 Hz, H-1'a (**2**)] correlated with the signal at  $\delta_H$  3.13 [(*m*, H-2', **2**)], in agreement with the presence six-membered ring formation.

The assignment of a methyl group at C-2' was confirmed by its <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY and <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CH</sub> HMBC correlations with H-2' ( $\delta_H$  3.27) and 2H-1' ( $\delta_H$  4.35 and 4.00), respectively.

In spruceanumine B (**2**), the presence of an ethyl group at C-2 was confirmed by the coupling of the methylenic hydrogens CH<sub>2</sub>-3' ( $\delta_H$  1.69 and 1.46) with the vicinal methyl group ( $\delta_H$  0.98) and H-2' ( $\delta_H$  3.13).

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of mixture showed signals at  $\delta_H$  3.70 (**1**), 3.74 (**2**) and  $\delta_H$  3.81 (**1**), 3.86 (**2**), which are characteristics of methoxyl groups linked to the benzene

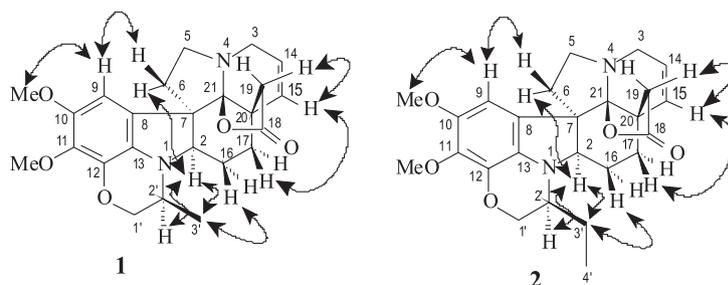
ring.<sup>19</sup> These signals showed heteronuclear interaction via one bond (<sup>1</sup>J<sub>CH</sub>) with the signals at  $\delta_C$  56.49 (**1**), 56.97 (**2**) and 61.18 (**1** e **2**) observed in the HSQC spectrum, suggesting the presence of two methoxyl groups linked to the ring A. This, was confirmed by long range heteronuclear coupling (<sup>n</sup>J<sub>CH</sub>,  $n = 2$  and 3) observed in the HMBC spectrum, as summarized in Table 1. The signal at  $\delta_C$  61.18 (Table 1) observed in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **1** and **2** is a typical value corresponding to signal of methoxyl groups located at forbidden position (MeO-11), as also observed in the aromatic ring of **11** (MeO-11). These data allowed to and postulate the same substitution for **1** and **2**, as indicated in Figure 1.

The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (Table 1) revealed the presence of a  $\gamma$ -lactone covering the carbon atoms C-20 e CH-21 by the signal at  $\delta_C$  175.10 (C-18), consistent with carbonyl carbon lactone of five members,<sup>20-21</sup> that was also confirmed by long-range coupling of C-18 ( $\delta_C$  175.10) with both hydrogen atoms 2H-19 represented by the signals at  $\delta_H$  2.50 (H-19b) and  $\delta_H$  2.12 (H-19a). Additional heteronuclear long-range couplings are summarized in Table 1.

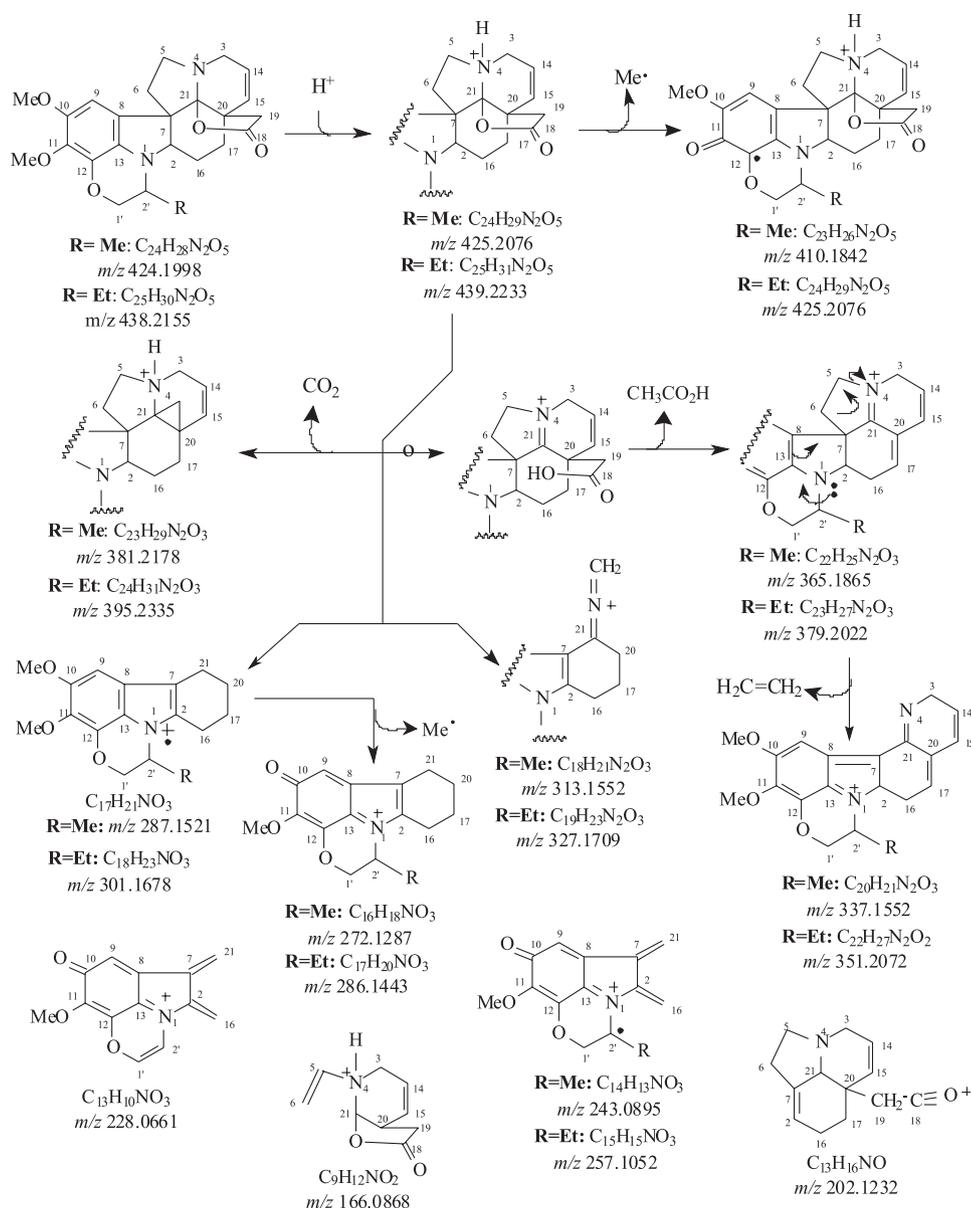
The main ions fragments observed in the ESI-MS/MS spectrum (low resolution) of **1** and **2** are summarized in Scheme 1. These fragmentation pattern are compatible with that of plumeran alkaloids, as 21-oxo-aspidoalbidine (18-oxo by actual numeration utilized in the literature), previously isolated from *Aspidosperma exalatum*<sup>20</sup>, and they are also in agreement with the presence of 18,21-olide function in **1** and **2**, as suggested by signals at  $\delta_C$  175.10 (C-18) and 106.79 (C-21).

The location of a double bond at CH-14, CH-15 was deduced from the HMBC correlations of carbons resonating at  $\delta_C$  123.51 (CH-14, **1** and **2**), 130.79 (CH-15, **1**) and 130.66 (CH-15, **2**), with olefinic hydrogens at  $\delta_H$  5.81 (H-14), and  $\delta_H$  5.37 (H-15). The vicinal coupling between these hydrogen atoms was confirmed in the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY spectrum.<sup>18,21</sup>

The relative stereochemistry of spruceanumine A (**1**) and B (**2**) was suggested from the nuclear overhauser effect (nOe) interactions displayed in the NOE spectrum, as summarized in Figure 2.



**Figure 2.** Selected NOESY correlations and relative stereochemistry for spruceanumines A (**1**) and B (**2**). Arrows denote the main NOESY correlations.



**Scheme 1.** Proposed fragmentation mechanisms of **1** and **2** by MS/MS of the peaks at *m/z* 425.2183 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, **1**, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> = *m/z* 425.2076, Δ<sub>*m/z*</sub> 0.0107) and 439.2332 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, **2**, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> = *m/z* 439.2332, Δ<sub>*m/z*</sub> 0.0099), only peaks classified as principals.

<sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-NOESY correlations of H-2 and H-2' of **1** and **2** indicated both α-orientations; of H-2 with one hydrogen H-6 of the methylene group CH<sub>2</sub>-6 of **1** and **2** was also used to establish the relative configuration 7(*S*); of H-2 with both H-2' and 2H-3 of the methylene group CH<sub>2</sub>-3' of **2** revealed α-orientation of H-2; of H-16β with methyl group CH<sub>3</sub>-3' of **1** and with methylene group CH<sub>2</sub>-3' of **2** are consistent with β orientation of this hydrogen atom H-16; spatial interaction of the of the H-15 with both H-19 and H-17 indicated to these hydrogen atoms α and β-orientation, respectively, as shown in Figure 2.

The relative intensity of <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals from the methyl groups CH<sub>3</sub>-3' (**1**, δ<sub>H</sub> 1.12) and CH<sub>3</sub>-4' (**2**, δ<sub>H</sub> 0.98) was used to deduce the approximated percentage

of the 32.9% and 67.1% to spruceanumine A (**1**) and, spruceanumine B (**2**) in the mixture, respectively.

## Experimental

### General Procedures

Measures of optic rotation were obtained on a Perkin Elmer 343 digital polarimeter. Melting points were obtained on a Microquímica MQRPF and were uncorrected. Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) spectra were recorded on a FTIR-8300 Shimadzu spectrometer using KBr disk. ESI-MS (high resolution) and ESI-MS/MS (low resolution) mass spectra were obtained on a

MICROMASSUltrOTOF-Q (Brüker Daltonics, Billerica, MA) mass spectrometer, using the positive ion mode of analysis. Chromatographic purifications were carried out over silica gel (70-230 mesh). Silica gel 60F<sub>254</sub> was used in thin layer chromatography analysis.

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were measured on a Brüker DRX500 spectrometer, equipped with inverse probes and field gradient, operating at 500 (<sup>1</sup>H) and 125 (<sup>13</sup>C) MHz. CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal reference. Chemical shifts are given in the  $\delta$  scale (ppm) and coupling constants *J* in Hz. One dimensional (1D) <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were acquired under standard conditions by using a direct detection 5 mm <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C dual probe. Standard pulse sequences were used for two dimensional spectra by using a multinuclear inverse detection 5 mm probe with field gradient.

#### Plant materials

The stem bark and seeds of *A. spruceanum* Benth ex. Mull. Arg. were collected in November 2004 at Reserva Florestal de Linhares, Linhares, Espírito Santo State, Brazil. A voucher specimen (CVRD-273) is deposited at the Reserva Florestal herbarium, Cia. Vale do Rio Doce, Linhares, Espírito Santo State.

#### Extraction and isolation

Dried and powdered stem bark (3.09 kg) and seeds (530.1 g) from *A. spruceanum* Benth ex. Mull Arg were extracted with methanol at room temperature, furnishing, after solvent evaporation, 63.7 g and 18.5 g of crude methanol extracts, respectively.

The methanol extract (63.7 g) from stem bark was successively partitioned with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> fraction (7.7 g) was chromatographed over silica gel column with a gradient of hexane/ethyl acetate to afford ten fractions. Fraction 8 (475.8 mg) was rechromatographed over a silica gel column with a gradient of MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> yielding aspidolimine (**6**, 15.9 mg) and demethoxypalosine (**4**, 34.7 mg). Fraction 10 (364.5 mg) was rechromatographed over a silica gel column with a gradient of MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> supplying aspidocarpine (**5**, 97.9 mg) and aspidospermidine (**3**, 19.1 mg) alkaloids.

The methanol extract (18.5 g) from seeds was partitioned with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> fraction (7.4 g) was chromatographed over silica gel column with a gradient of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/methanol supplying six fractions. Fraction 3 (3.9 g) was rechromatographed over a silica gel column with a gradient of MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> supplying four fractions. Fraction 3.1 (74.6 mg) provided the

spruceanumines A-B (**1-2**) alkaloids mixture. Fraction 3.2 (103.2 mg) was rechromatographed over a silica gel column with a gradient of MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> supplying five fractions. Fraction 3.2.2 (20.6 mg) yielded the fendlerine (**7**) and aspidolimidine (**8**) alkaloids mixture, and fraction 3.2.4 (68.2 mg) afforded a mixture of obscurinervidine (**9**) and obscurinervine (**10**).

#### Spruceanumine A (**1**)

Amorphous solid, mp 195°C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>23</sup> [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>23</sup> = -101.7° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, *c* 0.61); IR (KBr disk)  $\nu_{\max}$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3100-2890 (C-H stretching), 1755 (C=O); 1624, 1606, 1479 (benzene ring), 887, 739 (benzene ring). HRESI-MS ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>) Found: *m/z* 425.2170. Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>: 425.2071 (see Scheme 1); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR: see Table 1.

#### Spruceanumine B (**2**)

Amorphous solid, mp 195°C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>23</sup> = -101.7° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, *c* 0.61); IR (KBr disk)  $\nu_{\max}$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3100-2890 (C-H stretching), 1755 (C=O); 1624, 1606, 1479 (benzene ring), 887, 739 (benzene ring). HRESI-MS ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>) Found: *m/z* 439.2233. Calc. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>: 439.2227 (see Scheme 1); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR: see Table 1.

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### Supplementary Information

Available free of charge at <http://jbcs.org.br>, as PDF file.

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## Spruceanumines A and B, Novel Plumeran Indole Alkaloids from *Aspidosperma spruceanum* (Apocynaceae)

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IR, ESI-MS, ESI-MS/MS, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, (<sup>1</sup>H)-<sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT 135°<sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-NOESY, HSQC (<sup>1</sup>J<sub>CH</sub>) and HMBC (<sup>n</sup>J<sub>CH</sub>, n=2 and 3) spectra of **1** and **2** are available free of charge at <http://jbc.sbq.org.br>, as PDF file.

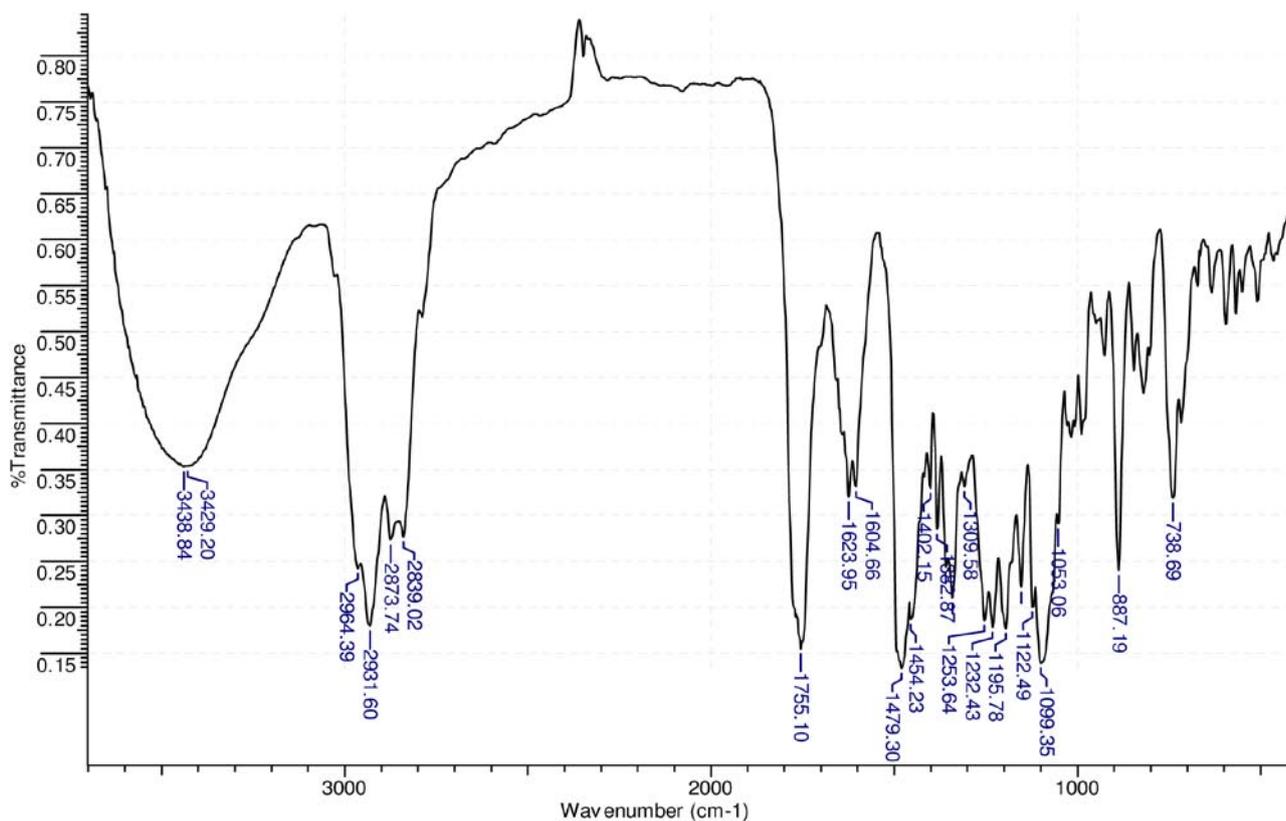


Figure S1. IR of the mixture alkaloids **1** e **2**

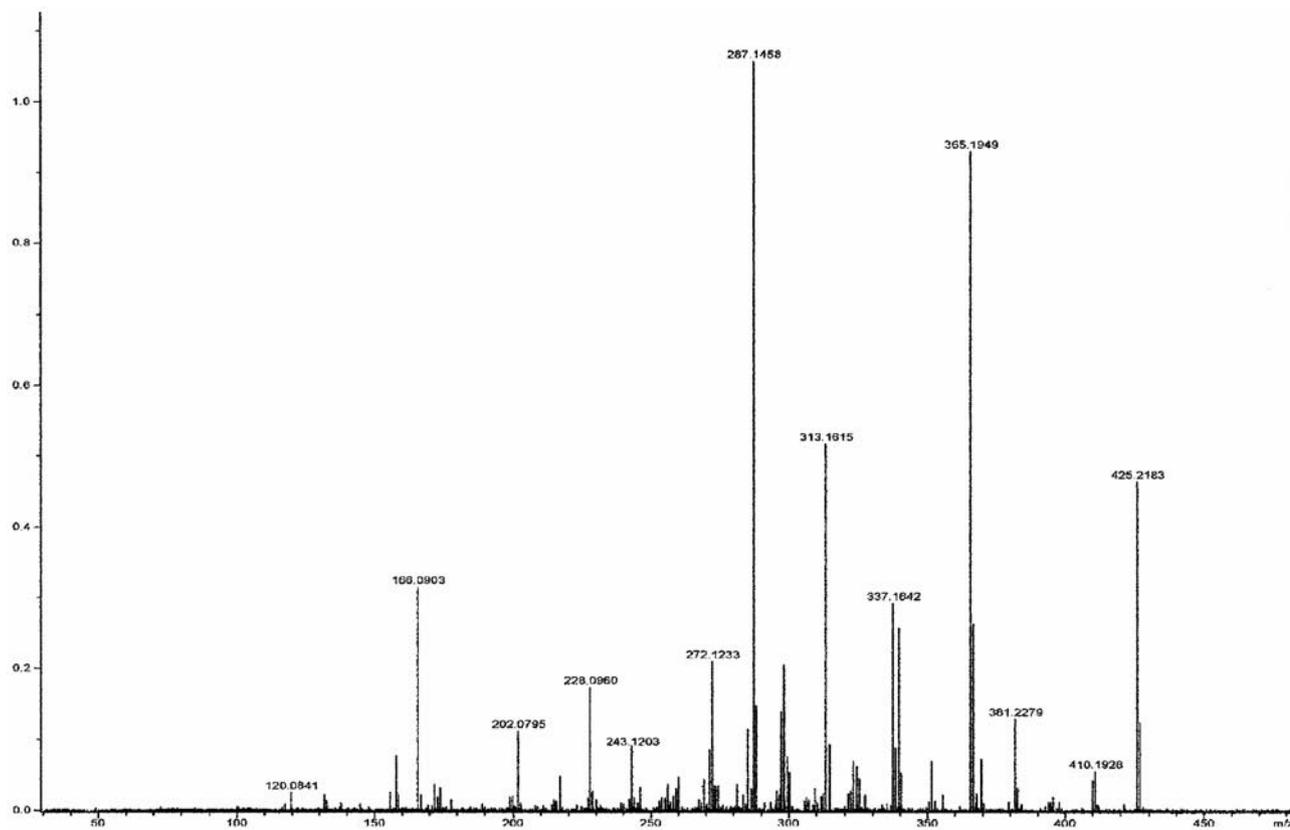


Figure S2. ESI-MS/MS of alkaloid 1.

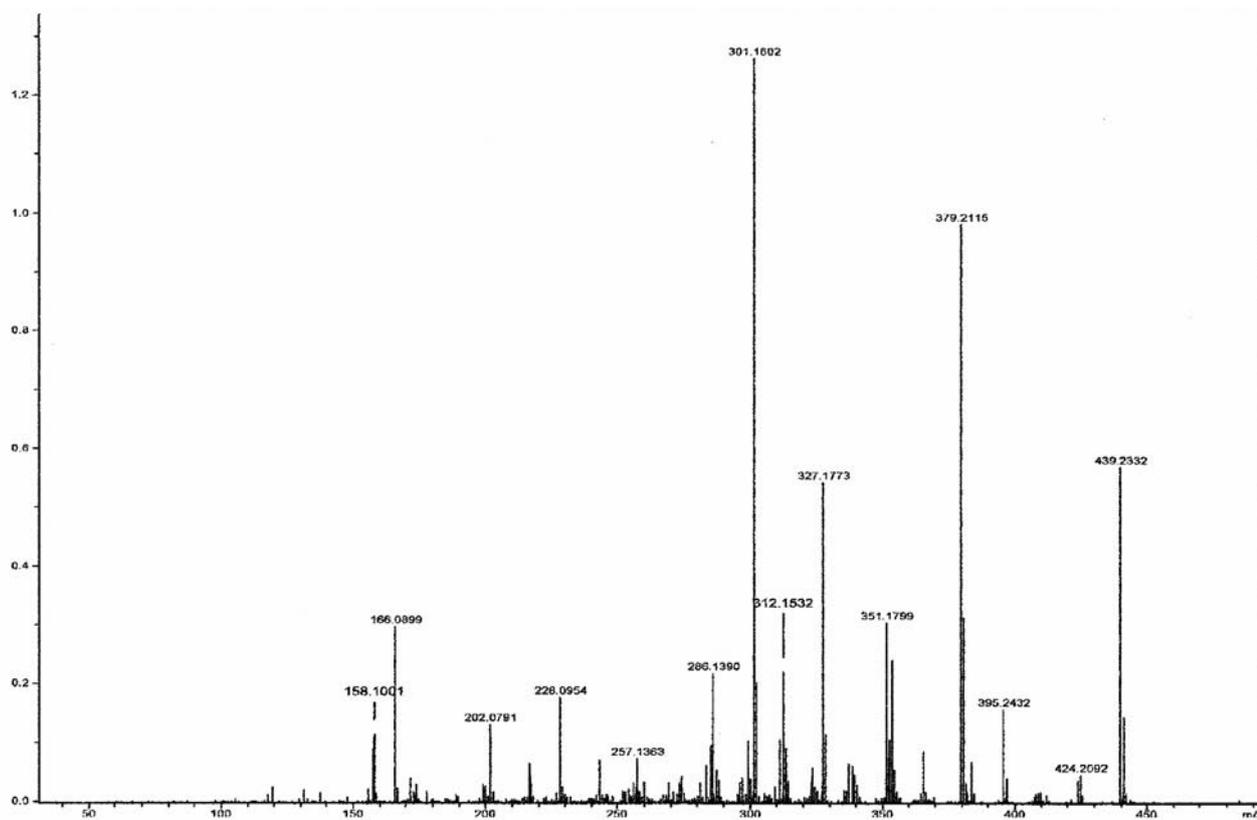
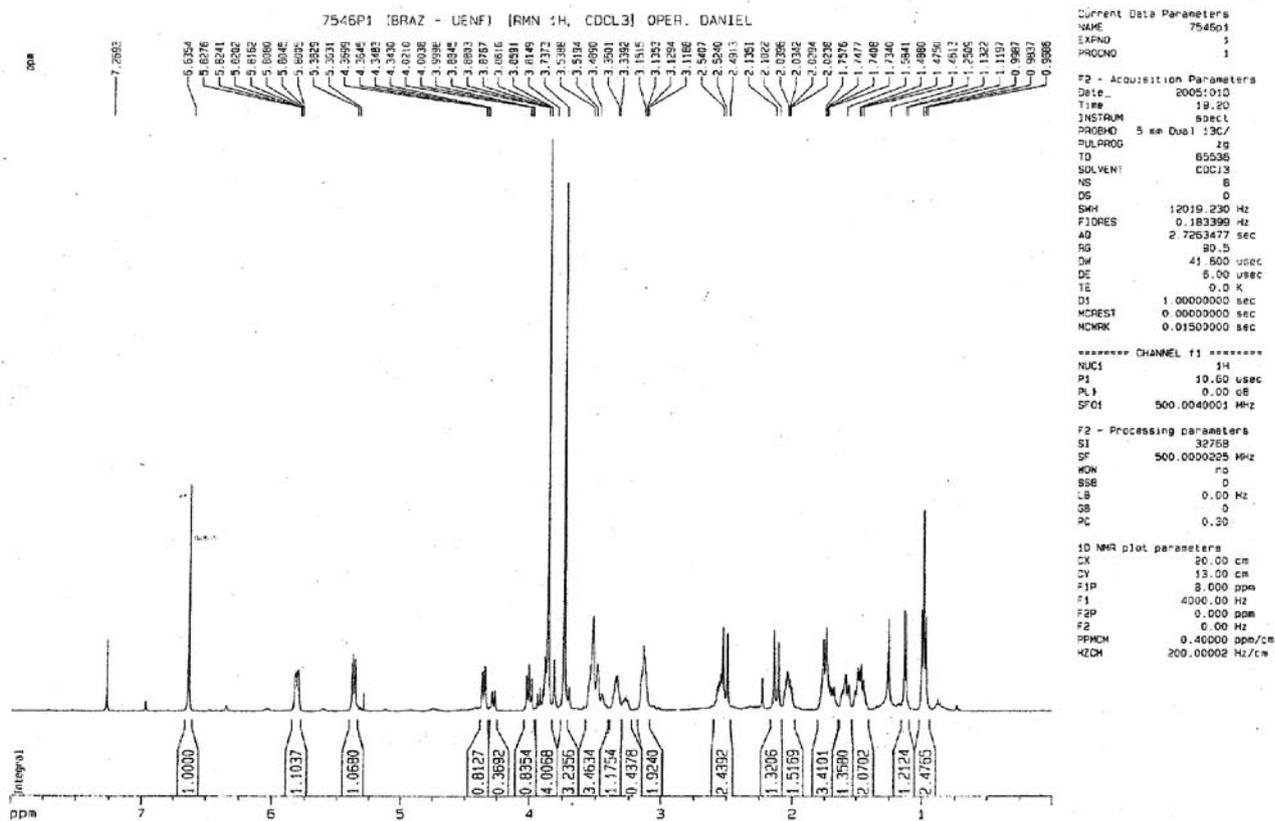
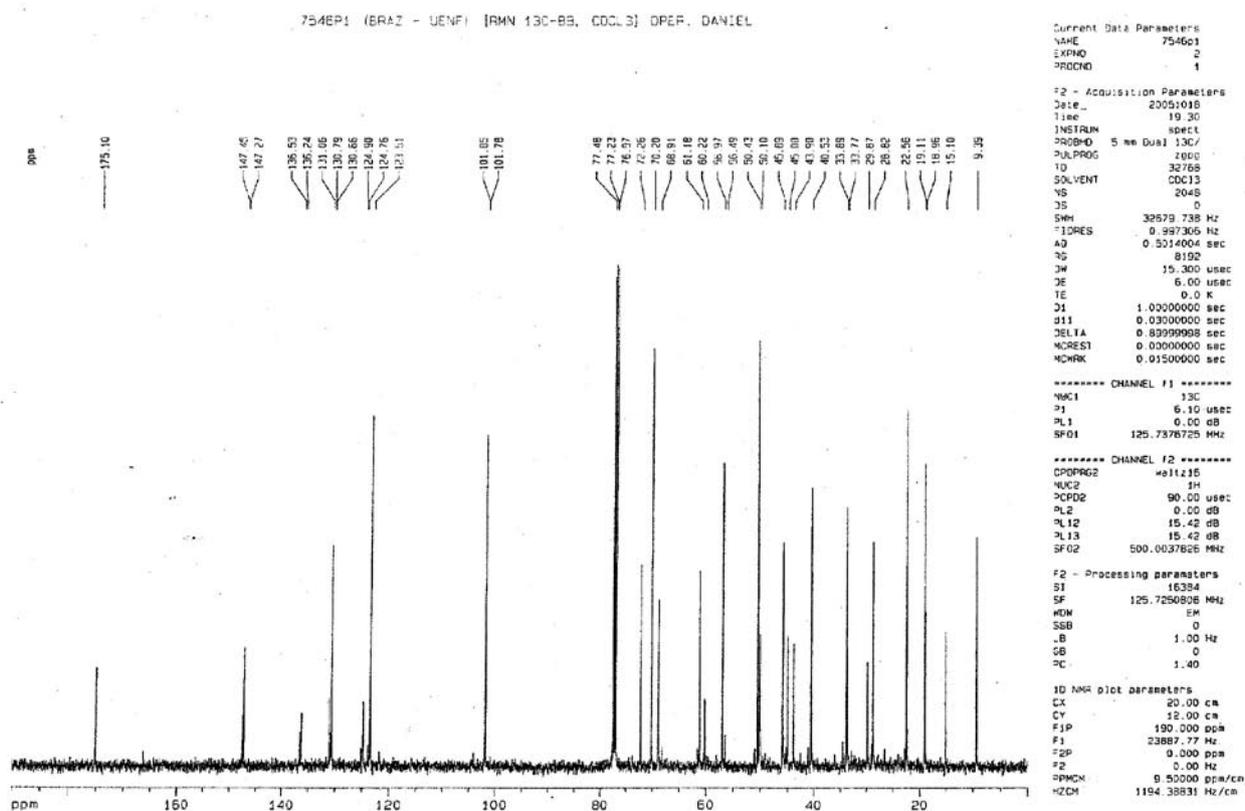
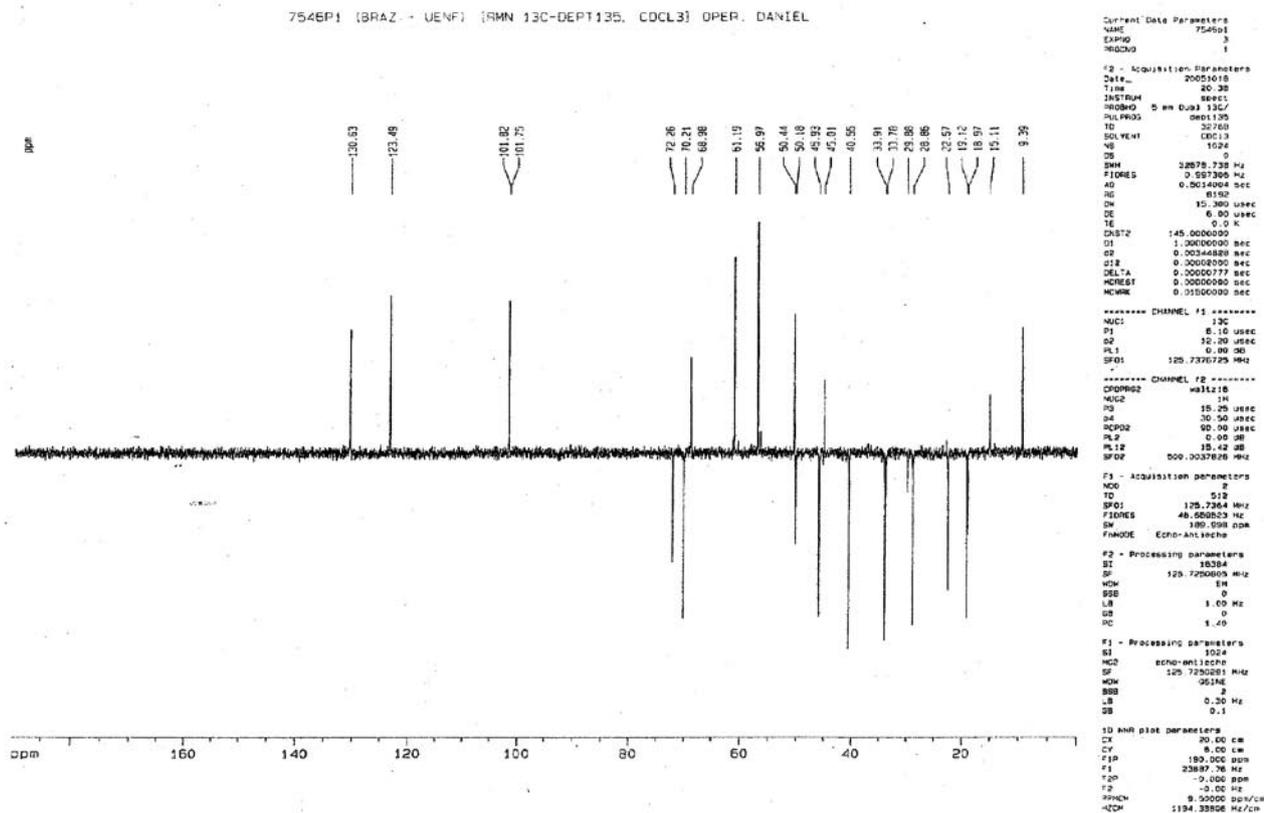
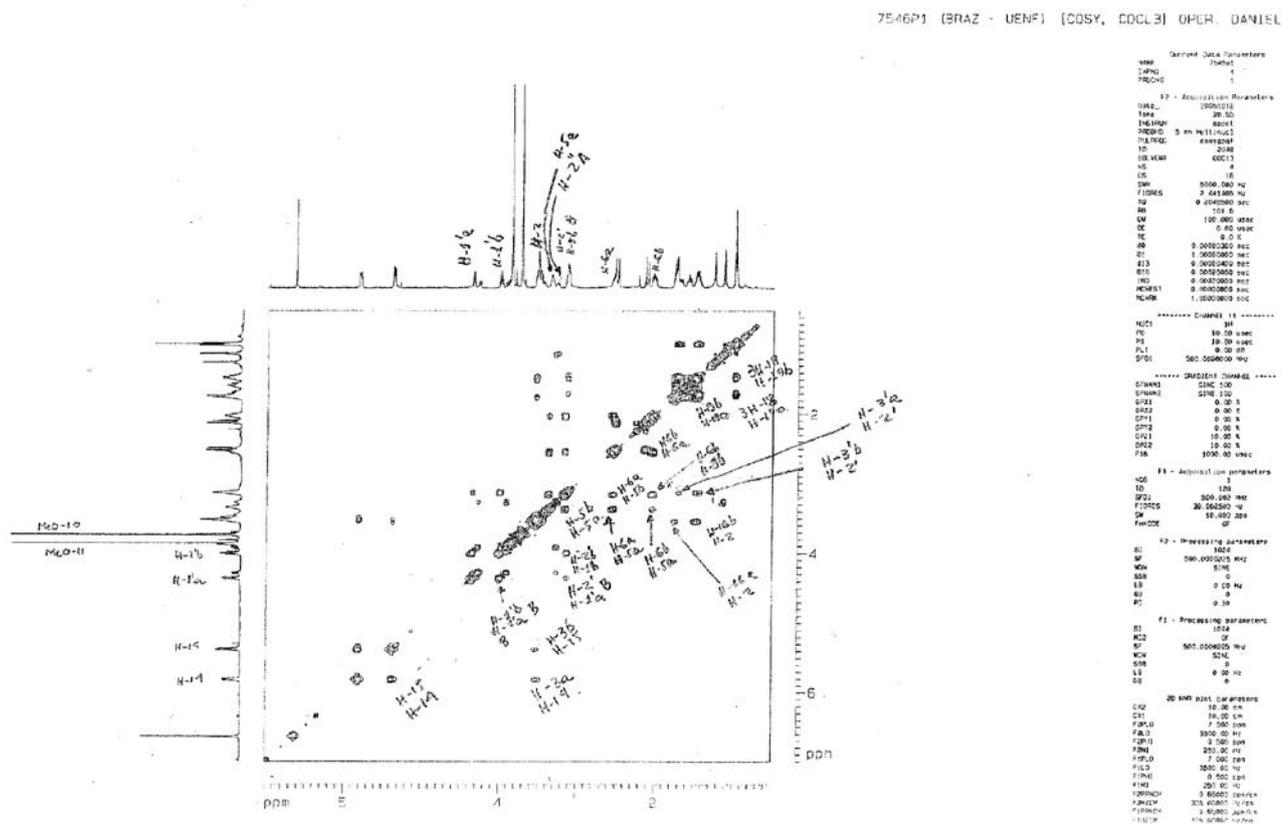


Figure S3. ESI-MS/MS of alkaloid 2.

Figure S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500MHz) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  of mixture alkaloids 1 and 2.Figure S5.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  of mixture alkaloids 1 and 2.

Figure S6.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR-DEPT 135 (125 MHz) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  of mixture alkaloids **1** and **2**.Figure S7. Homocorrelation  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  of mixture alkaloids **1** and **2**.

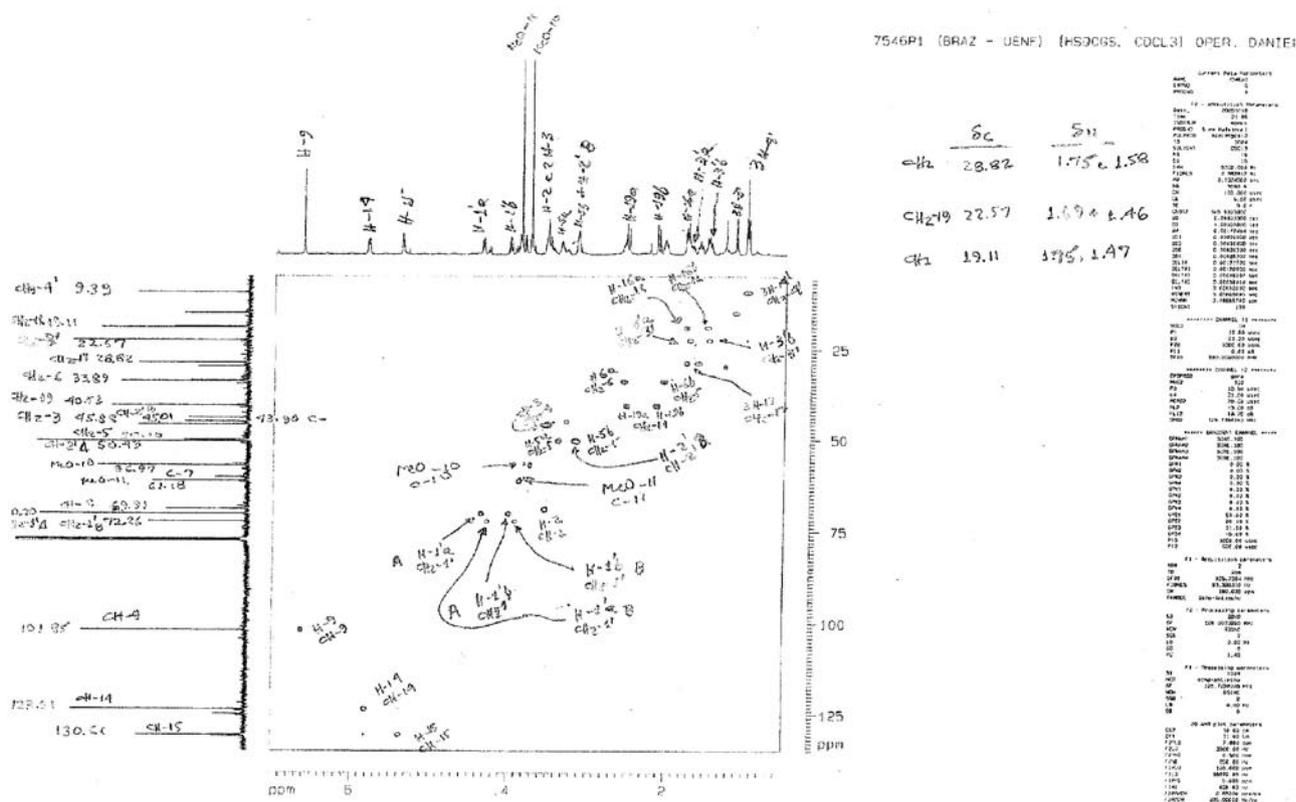


Figure S8. Heteronuclear correlation HSQC in CDCl<sub>3</sub> of mixture alkaloids 1 and 2.

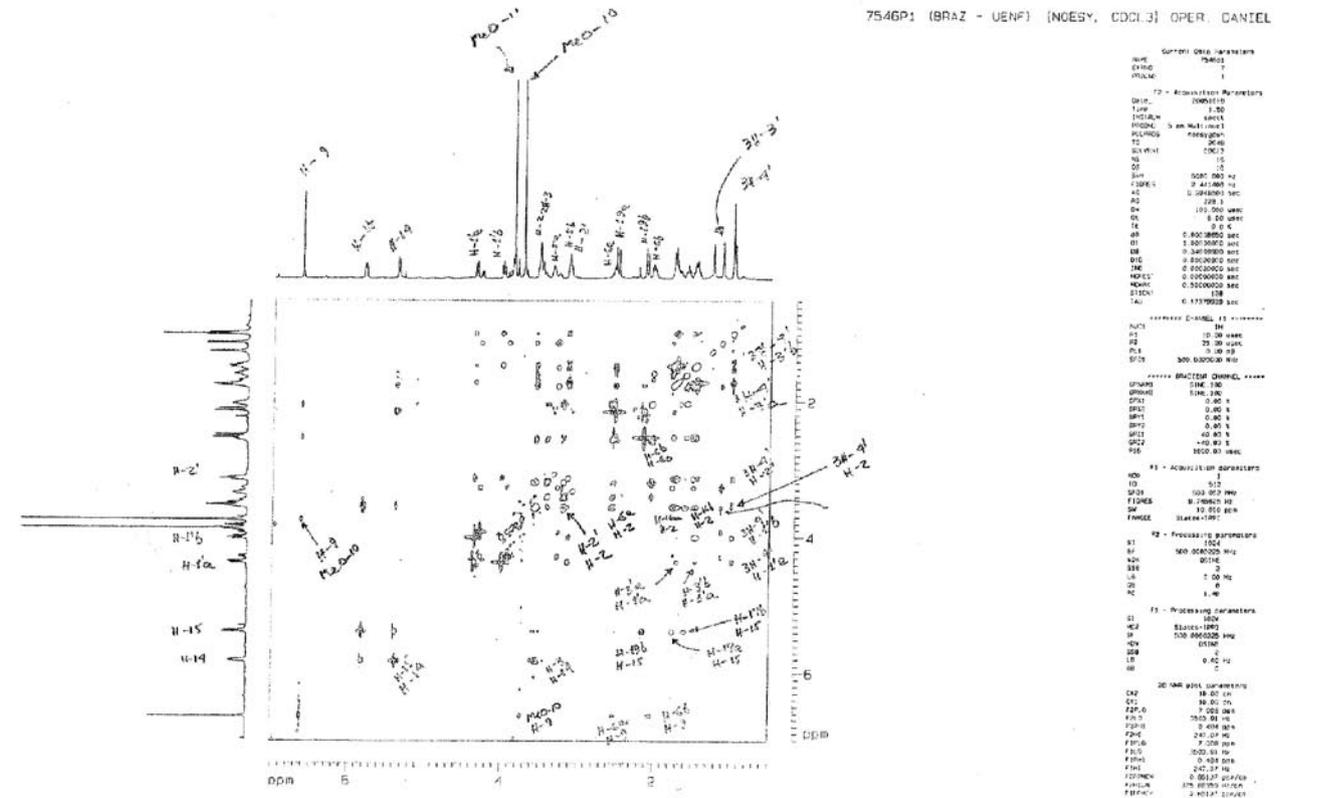


Figure S9. Homonuclear correlation <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-NOESY in CDCl<sub>3</sub> of mixture alkaloids 1 and 2.

