

terpenes

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**Marine Terpenes and Terpenoids. Part 15. Dimethylamine Adducts of .  $\alpha$ -Methylene- $\gamma$ -lactonic Marine Cembranoids.**

— The recently reported dimethylamine adducts (trivial name: simulamines) of the known title compounds (I) and (IV), obtained from the *Sinularia* sp. of soft coral, are to be regarded as formed in the organism during storage in relation with the enzymatic conversion of trimethylamine oxide. NOE experiments indicate that the stereochemistry at C(15), assigned to be *cis*, should be revised. The products of the reaction of (I) and (IV) in acetone with HNMe<sub>2</sub> at either 0 or 25 °C are isomeric mixtures of (III) or (V), respectively. In MeOH other workers have obtained single diastereoisomers. Repeated NOE studies and comparative investigations using X-ray data of a similar compound show that the adducts isolated from the natural product are the 1,15-*trans* isomers of (III) and (V) and not the *cis* compounds. — (KOBAYASHI, M.; ISHIZAKA, T.; J. Chem. Res., Synop. (1992) 10, 340-341; Fac. Pharm. Sci., Hokkaido Univ., Kita, Sapporo 060, Japan; EN)

