

A review of secondary metabolites isolated from *Plocamium* species worldwide

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Abstract

A review of halogenated monoterpenes isolated from various *Plocamium* species worldwide is presented here for the first time. It is anticipated that this review will be of great valuable to the natural product chemist working in the field of drug discovery with reference to the characterisation of halogenated monoterpene secondary metabolites from various *Plocamium* species. In addition, the *in vitro* cytotoxic bioactivity of these compounds is also reviewed.

Keywords: halogenated monoterpenes; *Plocamium* species; *in vitro* cytotoxicity

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1 Introduction

Red algae or red seaweed (Rhodophyta) of the family Plocamiaceae and Rhizophyllidaceae produce a number of different biologically active linear and cyclic polyhalogenated monoterpenes (Kladi *et al.*, 2004). These metabolites exhibit a range of biological activities including antifeedant effects on reef herbivores, antimicrobial, insecticidal, antitubercular and anticancer (Knott *et al.*, 2005). Of the 47 different species of *Plocamium* that occur around the world, at least 7 species occur off Namibia's coast (Bolton, 2014). Namibian *Plocamium*

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species include; *Plocamium cartilagineum*, *Plocamium corallorhiza*, *Plocamium cornutum*, *Plocamium glomeratum*, *Plocamium maxillosum*, *Plocamium rigidum* and *Plocamium suhrii*.

2 Findings

Halogenated monoterpenes that were isolated from various *Plocamium* species worldwide and described for the first time, are tabulated below in Tables 1-3. Structural re-assignments have substituted the original suggestions for some of the references, however some re-assignments may still be present (Knott, 2003; Knott, 2012).

The following secondary metabolites (**1-101**) below correspond to those listed in Tables 1-3 below. Note, the stereochemistry for some of the compounds is incomplete as this is not a trivial task. X-ray diffraction is the best method to unambiguously determine the stereochemistry of these compounds.

2.1 Review of cytotoxic compounds isolated from *Plocamium* species (Knott, 2012)

A literature review of marine algae belonging to Chlorophyta (green algae), Phaeophyta (brown algae) and Rhodophyta (red algae) soon revealed that Rhodophyta is far more prolific in producing cytotoxic secondary metabolites than both Chlorophyta and Phaeophyta. Red algae are generally more pharmacologically active against a wide variety of different *in vitro* cell lines when compared to a variety of other algal classes. The reason for this is that Rhodophyta possess the highest abundance of unique biosynthetic pathways necessary for organohalogen production (Kladi *et al.*, 2004). Further to this, halogenated low molecular weight metabolites have exhibited an impressive range of biological properties; from antimicrobial to insecticidal activity. It is believed that these halogenated compounds are produced by seaweeds as part of a defence system against micro-organism infections and herbivore grazing (Goodwin *et al.*, 1997). In addition to this, it has been postulated that halogenated compounds are also used to assist in anti-fouling and reduce space competition amongst competing marine algae (Dworjanyn *et al.*, 1999).

Plocamium cartilagineum yielded two compounds **32** and **54** which showed potent toxicity against both *Biomphalaria glabrata* and *Artemia salina* (König *et al.*, 1999). No IC₅₀ data was published. Compounds isolated from *P. cartilagineum* showed selective cytotoxic activity against a number of different human tumour cell lines (de Inés *et al.*, 2004) (Table 4).

Table 1: Halogenated monoterpenes isolated from various *Plocamium* species worldwide (Knott, 2003, Knott, 2012).

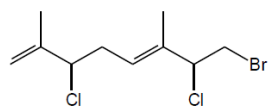
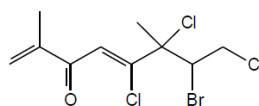
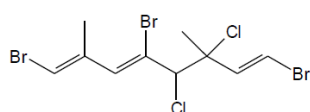
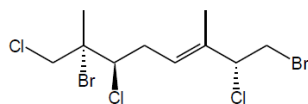
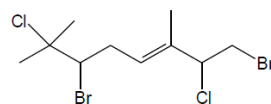
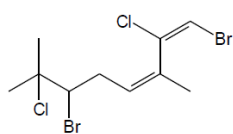
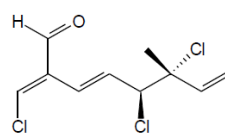
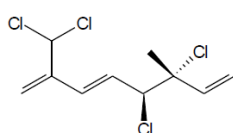
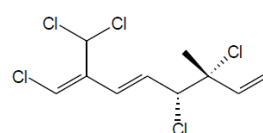
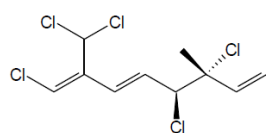
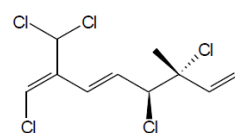
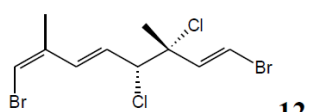
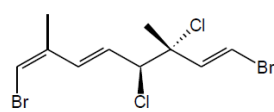
Metabolites isolated from:	Isolated Compounds	Location	Reference
<i>Plocamium angustum</i> 1-2	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes	Cape Northumberland (W. Australia)	(Dunlop <i>et al.</i> , 1979)
<i>Plocamium brasiliense</i> 3	2,6-Dimethyloctatrienes	Brazil	(Vasconcelos <i>et al.</i> , 2010)
<i>Plocamium cartilagineum</i> 4 5	2,6-Dimethyloctenes	Kaikoura (N. Zealand) Figueira de Foz (Portugal)	(Blunt <i>et al.</i> , 1985) (Abreu <i>et al.</i> , 1996)
6	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes	Kaikoura (N. Zealand)	(Blunt <i>et al.</i> , 1985)
7 8-18 19 20 21-22	2,6-Dimethyloctatrienes Cartilagineal	California (USA) La Jolla (USA) L' Estartit (Spain) Figueira da Foz (Portugal) Schouten (Tasmania)	(Crews and Kho-Wiseman, 1974) (Mynderse and Faulkner, 1975) (König <i>et al.</i> , 1990) (Abreu <i>et al.</i> , 1996) (Jongaramruong and Blackman, 2000)
23 24-26 27-30	1-Ethyl-1,3- dimethylcyclohexanes	Antarctica USA Chile	(Stierle <i>et al.</i> , 1979) (Higgs <i>et al.</i> , 1977) (San-Martin <i>et al.</i> , 1991)
31-33	1-Ethyl-2,4- dimethylcyclohexanes	USA	(Higgs <i>et al.</i> , 1977)
34-39	Hydroxy-bisnor monoterpenes	Kaikoura (N. Zealand)	(Blunt <i>et al.</i> , 1985)
40-42	Polyhalodroxylated monoterpenes	Chile	(Diaz-Marrero <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
43-45	Furanoid monoterpenes	Chile	(Darias <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
46-47	Tetrahydropyran monoterpenes	Chile	(Cueto <i>et al.</i> , 1998)
48-51	Homosesquiterpenic fatty acids	Maltese Islands and Corsica	(Řezanka and Dembitsky, 2001)
	Non-Terpenoid compounds Floridoside and Poly- β - hydroxybutyrate	Figueira da Foz (Portugal)	(Abreu <i>et al.</i> , 1997)

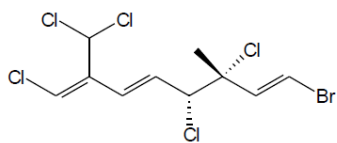
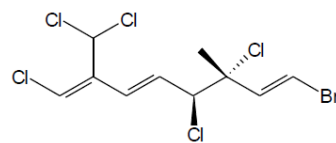
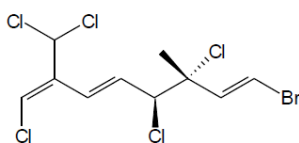
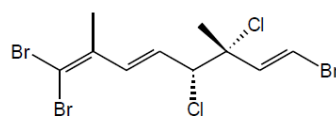
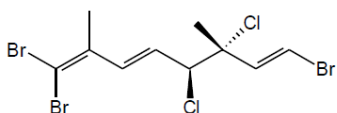
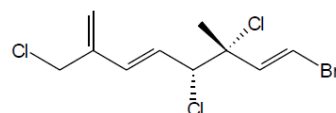
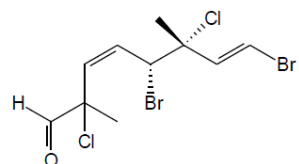
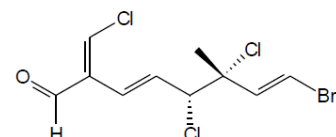
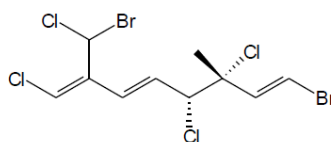
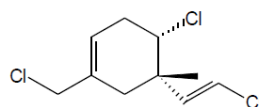
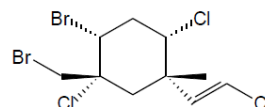
Table 2: **Continued:** Halogenated monoterpenes isolated from various *Plocamium* species worldwide (Knott, 2003, Knott, 2012).

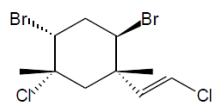
Metabolites isolated from:	Isolated Compounds	Location	Reference
<i>Plocamium coccineum</i> 52 53-54	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexanes	Bastiagueiro (N.W. Spain) Bastiagueiro (N.W. Spain)	(Castedo <i>et al.</i> , 1984) (Sardina <i>et al.</i> , 1985)
<i>Plocamium corallorhiza</i> 55-57	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes Plocoralides A-C	Kalk Bay (South Africa)	(Knott <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
58-61	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes and 2,6-Dimethyloctatriene aldehydes	Kenton-On-Sea (South Africa)	(Mann <i>et al.</i> , 2007)
<i>Plocamium cornutum</i> 62-63	2,6-Dimethyloctatriene	Kalk Bay (South Africa)	(Afolayan <i>et al.</i> , 2009)
<i>Plocamium costatum</i> 64	2,6-Dimethyloctene	Eaglehawk Neck (Tasmania)	(König <i>et al.</i> , 1999)
65-66 67	2, 6-Dimethyloctadienes Costatol, Costatone	Port MacDonnell (S. Australia) Robe (S. Australia)	(Kazlauskas <i>et al.</i> , 1976) (Stierle <i>et al.</i> , 1976)
	Polysaccharides	Tauranga (New Zealand)	(Falshaw <i>et al.</i> , 1999)
<i>Plocamium cruciferum</i> 68	2,6-Dimethyloctene	Rosy Morn (N. Zealand)	(Bates <i>et al.</i> , 1979)
69 70	Degraded or mixed biogenesis monoterpene	Kaikoura (N. Zealand) Rosy Morn (N. Zealand)	(Blunt <i>et al.</i> , 1978) (Bates <i>et al.</i> , 1979)
<i>Plocamium hamatum</i> 71	2,6-Dimethyloctene	Palm Is. (W. Australia)	(Coll <i>et al.</i> , 1988)
72	2,6-Dimethyloctadiene	Palm Is. (W. Australia)	(König <i>et al.</i> , 1999)
73	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane	Palm Is. (W. Australia)	(Coll <i>et al.</i> , 1988)
<i>Plocamium maxillosum</i> 74	Harrietone A OR 6-methylene-4-vinyl-4-methylcyclohex-2-enone	W. Cape (South Africa)	(Knott, 2012)
75	Harrietone B OR 6-methylene-4-vinyl-4-methylcyclohex-2-enone	W. Cape (South Africa)	(Knott, 2012)

Table 3: **Continued:** Halogenated monoterpenes isolated from various *Plocamium* species worldwide (Knott, 2003, Knott, 2012).

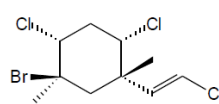
Metabolites isolated from:	Isolated Compounds	Location	Reference
<i>Plocamium mertensii</i> 76 77	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane Mertensene	Australia Carnac Is. (W. Australia)	(Norton <i>et al.</i> , 1977) (Capon <i>et al.</i> , 1984)
78-79 80	1-Ethyl-2,4-dimethylcyclohexanes	Australia Carnac Is. (W. Australia)	(Norton <i>et al.</i> , 1977) (Capon <i>et al.</i> , 1984)
<i>Plocamium oregonum</i> 81-82	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes Oregonene A (82)	California (USA)	(Crews, 1977)
<i>Plocamium rigidum</i> 83	Octatrienal	W. Cape (South Africa)	(Fakee, 2013)
<i>Plocamium robertiae</i> 84	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane	E. Cape (South Africa)	(Knott, 2012)
<i>Plocamium suhrüi</i> 85	2,6-Dimethyloctene	Noordhoek (South Africa)	(Antunes <i>et al.</i> , 2011)
86	Octatrienes	Noordhoek (South Africa)	(Antunes <i>et al.</i> , 2011)
<i>Plocamium telfairae</i> 87	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane Telfairine	Fakui (Japan)	(Watanabe <i>et al.</i> , 1989)
<i>Plocamium violaceum</i> 88-90	2,6-Dimethyloctadienes Preplocamene A, B and C	California (USA)	(Crews and Kho-Wiseman, 1977)
91	2,6-Dimethyloctatriene	California (USA)	(Crews <i>et al.</i> , 1984)
92 93-95	1-Ethyl-1,3-dimethylcyclohexanes Violacene Plocamene D and E	California (USA) California (USA)	(Mynderse and Faulkner, 1974) (Crews <i>et al.</i> , 1978)
96 97	1-Ethyl-2,4-dimethylcyclohexanes Plocamene-C;Violacene-2 Plocamene B	California (USA) California (USA)	(Mynderse <i>et al.</i> ,1975) (Crews and Kho-Wiseman, 1975)
<i>Plocamium species</i> 98-101	2,6-Dimethyloctatrienes	Antarctica	(Stierle <i>et al.</i> , 1979)

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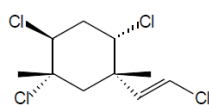
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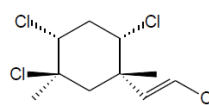
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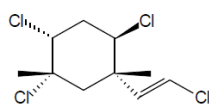
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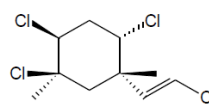
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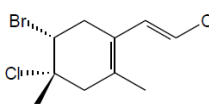
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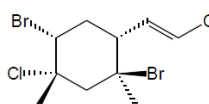
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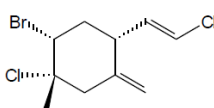
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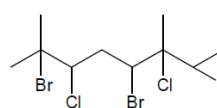
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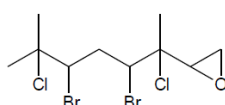
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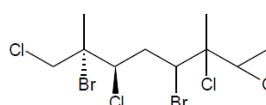
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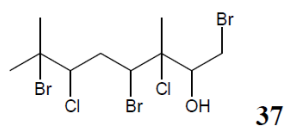
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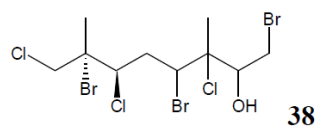
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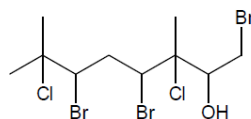
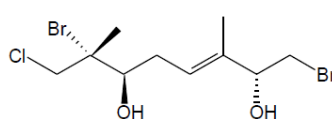
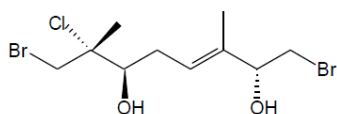
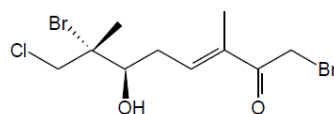
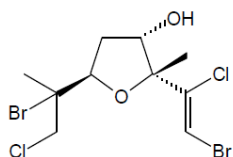
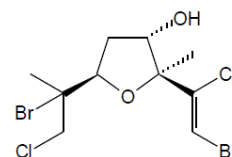
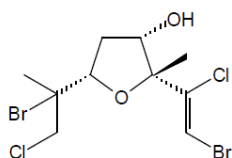
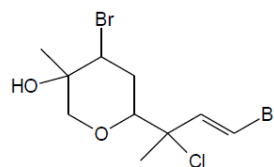
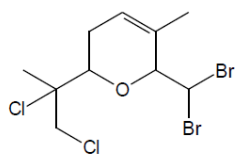
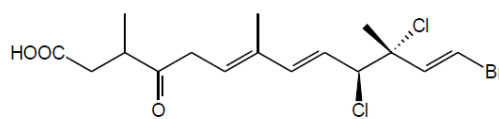
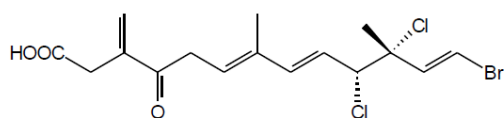
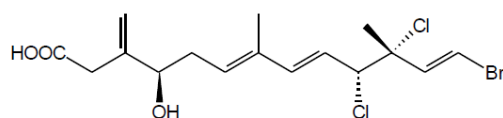
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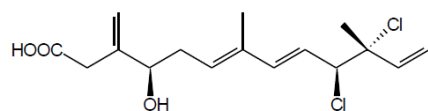
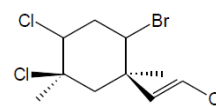
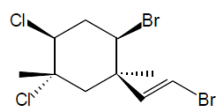
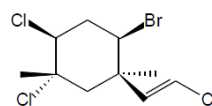
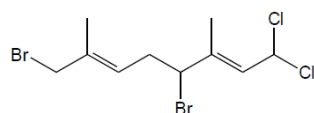
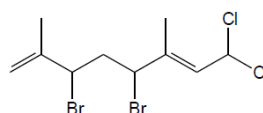
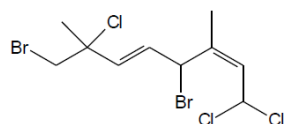
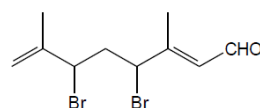
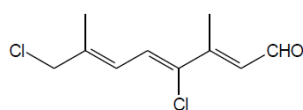
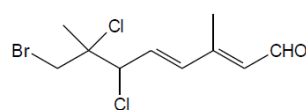
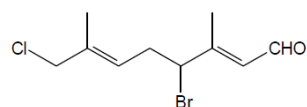
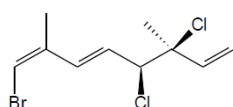
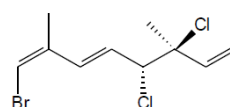


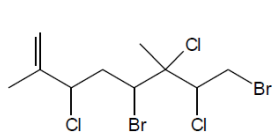
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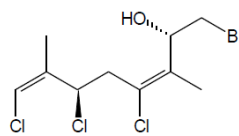
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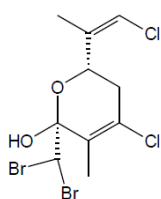
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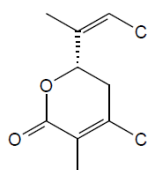
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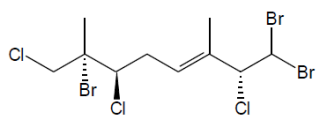
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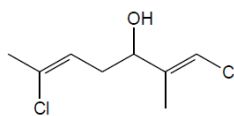
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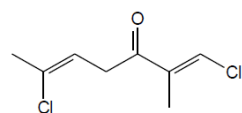
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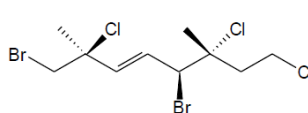
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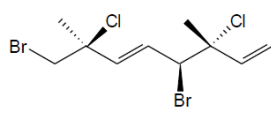
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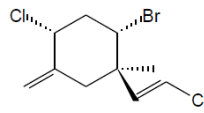
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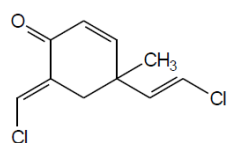
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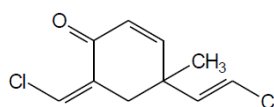
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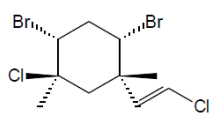
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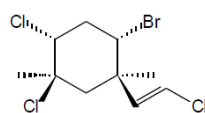
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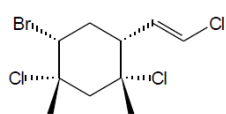
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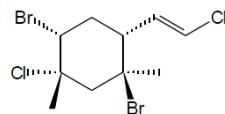
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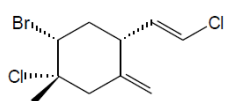
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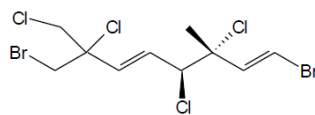
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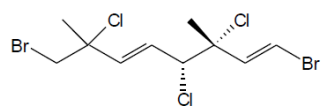
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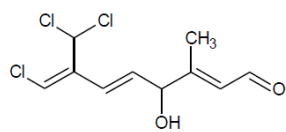
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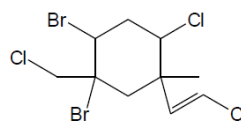
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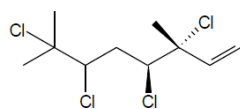
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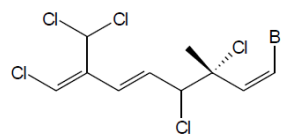
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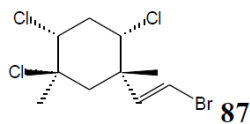
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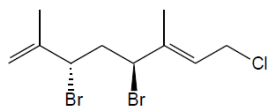
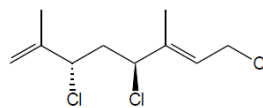
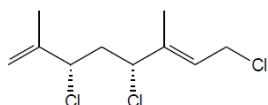
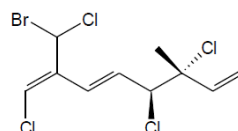
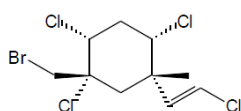
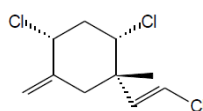
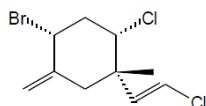
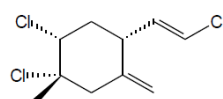
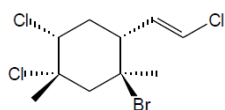
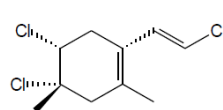
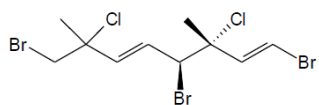
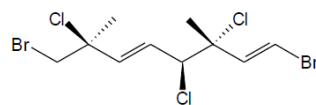
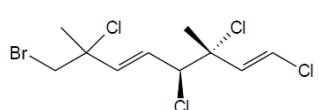
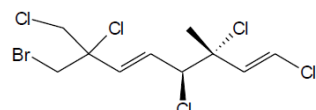
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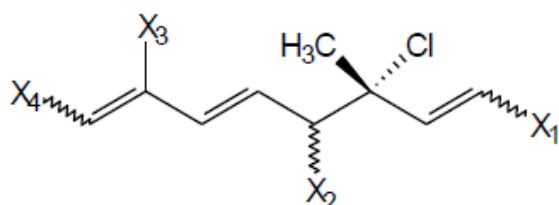
Table 4: Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) [μM] of test compounds **24**, **27**, **30**, **45**, **47**, **52**, **92** and **93**) on several mammalian cell lines (de Inés *et al.*, 2004).

No.	CHO	CT26	SW480	HeLa	SkMe128
45	126	63 (IC ₅₀ 30 μM)	126	126	126
47	262	262	131 (IC ₅₀ 73 μM)	262	262
93	3.30	6.52	3.30	13.05	6.52
27	23	181	5.70(IC ₅₀ 0.08 μM)	5.70(IC ₅₀ 0.06 μM)	23
30	362	362	362	362	362
52	39	78	78	312	>312
92	141	141	141	282	282
24	63	125	125	125	250
Lindane	>344	>344	>344	>344	>344

P. corallorhiza yielded five compounds which demonstrated moderate to good activity towards oesophageal cancer cells (WHCO1) (Knott *et al.*, 2005). IC₅₀ values were 9.3 (**56**), 33.8 (**57**), 17.2 (**100**), 18.1 (**98**) and 34.8 μM (**24**), respectively. For this assay, cisplatin has an IC₅₀ value of 13 μM . *P. corallorhiza* also yielded four new halogenated monoterpene aldehydes. Two of these compounds were tested for cytotoxic activity. Compound **58** demonstrated moderate to good activity towards oesophageal cancer cells (WHCO1) with an IC₅₀ value of 7.5 μM . Compound **60** was only weakly active and had an IC₅₀ value of 64.8 μM (Mann *et al.*, 2007). Compound **24** isolated from *Plocamium hamatum* showed moderate cytotoxic activity IC₅₀: Lu1 12.9 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, KB 13.3 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ and ZR-75-1 7.8 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ (König *et al.*, 1999).

Two new compounds known as Harrietone A (**74**) and Harrietone B (**75**) were isolated from *Plocamium maxillosum* and showed good cytotoxic activity against MDA-MB-231 metastatic breast cancer cell line with IC₅₀ = 12 μM for compounds **74** and IC₅₀ = 27 μM for compound **75**. Tamoxifen was used as a standard and had an IC₅₀ of 0.1 μM on MDA-MB-231 cell lines (Knott, 2012).

Five known halogenated monoterpenes (**14**, **15**, **10**, **12**, **13**), together with two new ones (**86**) and (**85**) were isolated from the red macroalga *P. suhrii*. During this study five related compounds from *P. cornutum*, as well as the seven compounds from *P. suhrii* were evaluated for their cytotoxic effects on an oesophageal cancer cell line (WHCO1). During this assay compounds **10**, **12**, **14**, **15**, **85** and **86** showed greater cytotoxicity than the known anti-cancer drug cisplatin (Antunes *et al.*, 2011) (Table 5).

Table 5: Selected structural features and cytotoxic effects of compounds (**14**, **15**, **10**, **12**, **13**, **86** and **85**) on oesophageal cancer cells (Antunes *et al.*, 2011).

Compound	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	X ₄	IC ₅₀ (μg/ml)	IC ₅₀ (μM)
15	1 <i>E</i> -Br	4 <i>S</i> * -Cl	CHCl ₂	7 <i>Z</i> -Cl	2.5	6.6
14	1 <i>E</i> -Br	4 <i>R</i> * -Cl	CHCl ₂	7 <i>Z</i> -Cl	3.8	9.9
86	1 <i>Z</i> -Br	4 <i>S</i> * -Cl	CHCl ₂	7 <i>Z</i> -Cl	3.6	9.3
10	H	4 <i>S</i> * -Cl	CHCl ₂	7 <i>Z</i> -Cl	2.6	8.5
85					2.2	7.9
12	1 <i>E</i> -Br	4 <i>R</i> * -Cl	CH ₃	7 <i>Z</i> -Br	3.1	8.4
13	1 <i>E</i> -Br	4 <i>S</i> * -Cl	CH ₃	7 <i>Z</i> -Br	5.5	15.1

3 Conclusion

Building up summarised databases such as those seen in Tables 4-5 will assist future drug developing researcher's to better understand some of the structure activity relationships (SAR's) that exist between different compounds and selected types of cancer cells. However, it should be noted that there is more to rational drug selection than simply low IC₅₀ values. For example, comparing the 'drug-likeness' of marine natural products with all other natural products, as measured by an examination of their Lipinski characteristics can also be very useful. Examining Lipinski's 'rule of five' criteria, Lipinski suggested that to be drug-like and orally-bioavailable, a molecule must have a partition coefficient ($\log P$) < 5, a molecular weight < 500 Da, < 5 hydrogen bond donors (HBD) and < 10 hydrogen acceptors (HBA) (Blunt *et al.*, 2011) (Knott, 2012).

In the search for new or novel halogenated monoterpenes from different *Plocamium* species, it is important to know what compounds have already been characterised or discovered. Furthermore, with the large number of metabolites that have already been isolated from various *Plocamium* species; an effective, reliable and rapid literature review of all these compounds is essential. Being able to provide this information both rapidly and accurately as seen in Tables 1-3, is extremely valuable to the natural product chemist who is researching halogenated monoterpenes.

Note:

This review forms part of my PhD thesis which was completed at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa (Knott, 2012).

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