

Interpretation of NMR spectra of steroids

Strategy and Conclusions

Sum formula : Calculate the double-bond equivalents from the sum formula $C_{27}H_{44}O_7$.

$$DBE = \frac{(2 * 27 + 2) - 44}{2} = 6$$

1H : The angular CH_3 groups at 0.89 ppm and 0.96 ppm

$^{13}C\{^1H\}$: Number the ^{13}C signals sequentially, starting with No. 1 for the most high field signal.

27 Carbons

HSQC : Assign the 1H signals to the corresponding ^{13}C signals.

1H : Copy the numeration of the 1H signals in the HSQC to the 1H spectra.

Use the integrals to define the signals or some integral regions. And use the DEPT experiments to assign the CH_3 , CH_2 , CH and C groups.

1	CH_3	15	CH_2	
2	CH_3	16	C	
3	CH_2	17	CH	
4	CH_2	18	CH	
5	CH_3	19	CH	
6	CH_2	20	CH	
7	CH_3	21	C	C - OH
8	CH_3	22	C	
9	CH_2	23	CH	
10	CH_2	24	C	
11	CH_2	25	CH	Double bond region
12	CH	26	C	
13	CH_2	27	C	Ketone
14	C			

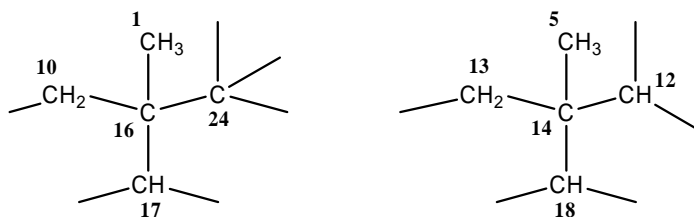
→ **DBE = 6 :**
 „backbone“ of steroids has already 4 DBE . So there are just 2 additional DBE

27 Carbons: does agree with the sum formula $C_{27}H_{44}O_7$.

HMBC :

Use the HMBC to put the fragment around the angular CH₃ together.

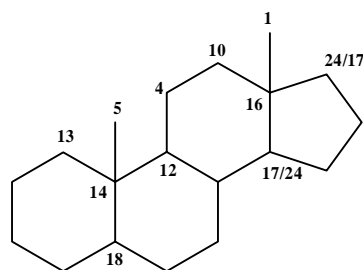
H(5) = C(12), C(13), C(14), C(18), [C(20)]
 H(1) = C(10), C(16), C(17), C(24)



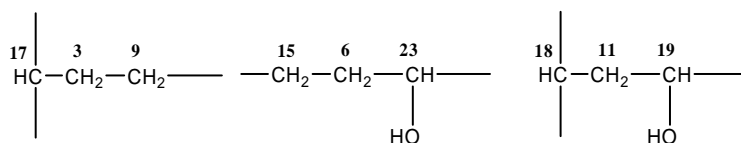
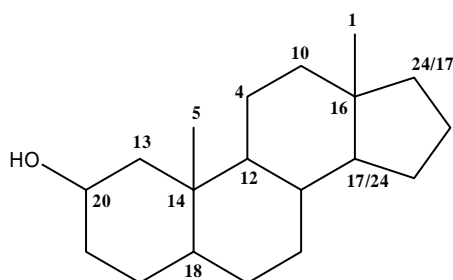
HSQC-TOCSY :

Use the HSQC-TOCSY instead of the DQF-COSY to put several fragments together, because in the DQF-COSY-Spectra the peak overlapping is enormous.

C(4) = H(10), H(12)
 Link between the two angular CH₃ fragments.



C(20) = H(15/13), H(20)	C(15) = H(6), H(15)
C(13) = H(20), H(13)	C(3) = H(9), H(17), H(3)
C(18) = H(11), H(18)	C(23) = H(6), H(23)
C(17) = H(3), H(17)	C(11) = H(19), H(11)



The exact position of C(24) and C(17) is not defined yet.

HMBC :

Use the HMBC to put more fragments together.

H(13) = C(5), C(12), C(14), C(18), [C(26)], C(19/20)

C(19) = H(20)

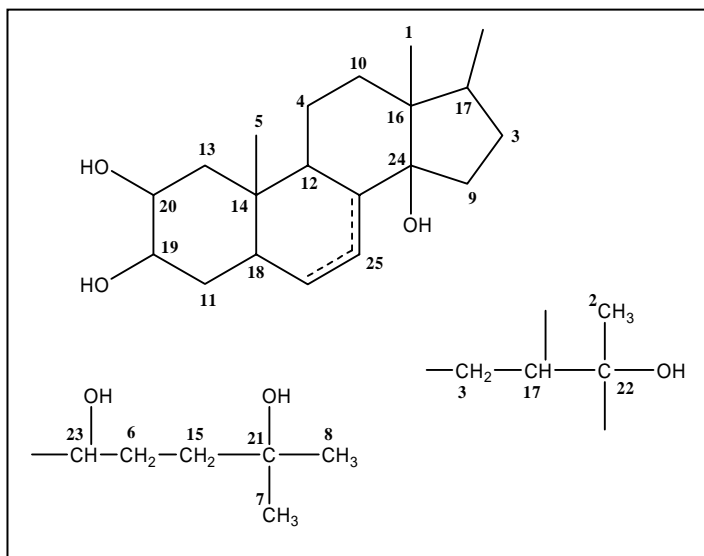
H(25) = C(12), C(18), C(24)

H(8) = C(7), C(15), C(21)

H(7) = C(8), C(15), C(21)

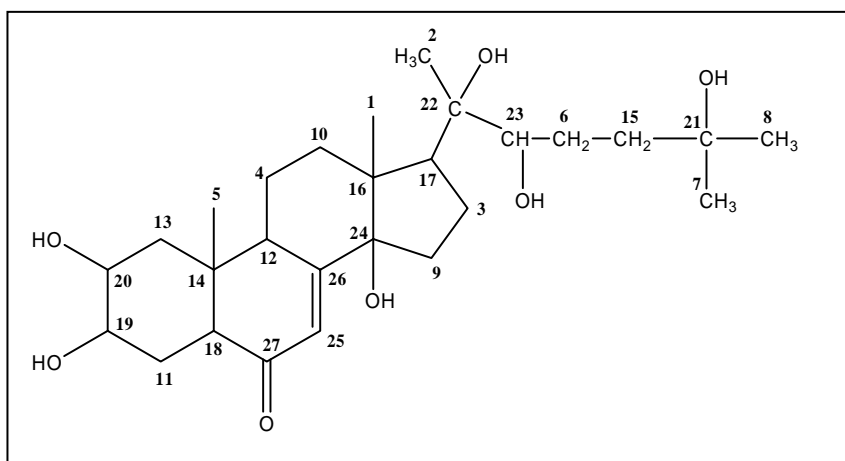
H(2) = C(17), C(22), C(23)

C(22) = H(3a)



1	CH₂
2	CH₂
3	CH₂
4	CH₂
5	CH₂
6	CH₂
7	CH₂
8	CH₂
9	CH₂
10	CH₂
11	CH₂
12	CH
13	CH₂
14	C
15	CH₂
16	C
17	CH
18	CH
19	CH
20	CH
21	C
22	C
23	CH
24	C
25	CH
26	C
27	C

There is just C(26) and C(27) left to close the ring at C(18), C(12), C(24).



NOESY : The configuration at the individual carbons are determined by using the NOESY .

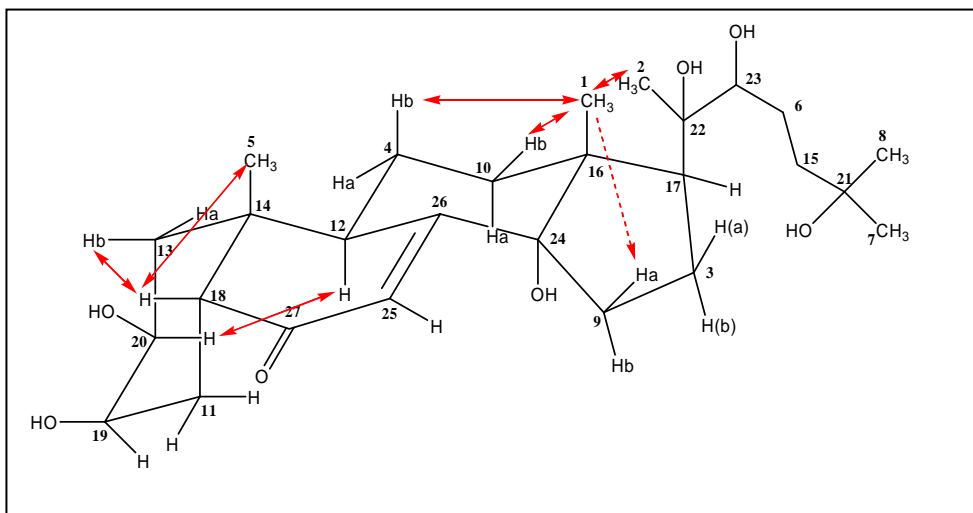
H(12) = H(20)
 H(1) = H(9a), H(4b), H(10b)
 H(5) = H(18)
 H(19) = H(11)
 H(17) = H(10a)
 H(18) = H(13b)

Remember:

To determine the configuration **never** use NOEs from H₁-H₂, H₂-H₃, ... !

Always look for NOEs from H₁-H₃, H₃-H₅,

It is not allowed to deduce stereochemistry from the absence of a NOE!



¹H : The ¹H signal of H(19) has only small couplings no big ones. Therefore H(19) has no axial-axial coupling to the axial H(20). So H(19) is equatorial.

The configuration at C(11) and C(3) can not be determined exactly because the relevant signals are overlapping.

