A brief survey of recent dry woody and ambery odorants

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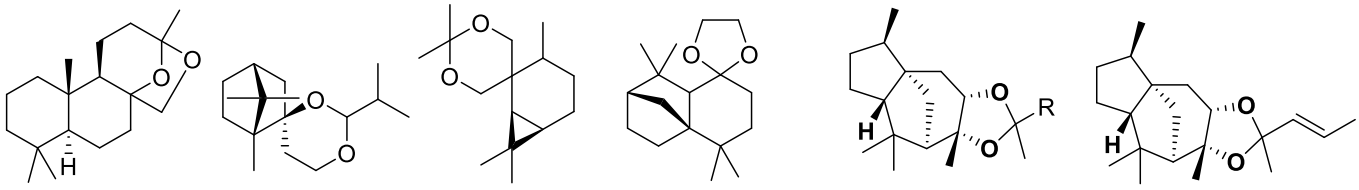
There is an ever-increasing need for maximizing the performance-to-cost ratio in perfumery applications, as well as minimizing the environmental impact in the eventual production of odoriferous molecules. The dry woody and ambery olfactive combination plays a key role in the creation of high impact compositions and the focus of our discovery work has been geared towards the exploitation of terpenes and sesquiterpenes to find increasingly potent molecules possessing extremely low thresholds of detection. The importance of the acetal functionality displaying highly appreciated woody/amber facets has been known from the initial discovery in 1954 by Jeger, Ruzicka, *et al*, of Z-11™ **1.**[1] The syntheses, from renewable carbon feedstocks, of related acetals such as Belambre® **2**,[2] Spirambrene® **3**,[3] Ysamber K® **4**[4] in the subsequent decades were a welcomed addition to the perfumer's palette. The discovery of the ultra-powerful cedrane-based molecules exemplified by Ambrocenide® **5**,[5] Ambrostar®**6**[6] and the dehydro-analog **7**[7] with odor thresholds on the order of 10^{-1} to 10^{-2} ng/L perhaps represents the culmination of a long-term search for woody amber odorants displaying excellent cost-performance advantages in perfumery applications.



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