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# THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA GRADUATE COLLEGE

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF BILE SALTS IN SUCKER FISHES (FAMILY CATOSTOMIDAE)

## A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BY

Oklahoma Sity, Oklahoma
1973

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF BILE SALTS IN SUCKER FISHES (FAMILY CATOSTOMIDAE)

APPROVED BY

iam 5. May

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

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# LIST OF TRIVIAL AND SYSTEMATIC NAMES OF COMPOUNDS

Trivial Name	Systematic Name
allocholic acid	$5\alpha$ -cholane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ -triol, $24$ -oic acid
5α-bufol	$5\alpha$ -cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $25\xi$ , $26$ (or $27$ )-pentol
5β-bufol	58-cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $25\xi$ , $26$ (or 27)-pentol
5α-chimaerol	$5\alpha$ -cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $24$ , $26$ -pentol
5β-chimaerol	$5\beta$ -cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $24$ , $26$ -pentol
cholic acid	5β-cholane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ -triol, $24$ -oic acid
5α-cyprinol	$5\alpha$ -cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $26$ , $27$ -pentol
latimerol	$5\alpha$ -cholestane, $3\beta$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $26$ , $27$ -pentol
myxinol	5 $\beta$ -cholestane,3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,26(or 27)-pentol
5∝-ranoľ	$5\alpha$ -27-nor-cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $24\xi$ , $26$ -pentol
5β-ranol	$5\beta$ -27-nor-cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $24\xi$ .
	26-pentol
scymnol	$5\beta$ -cholestane, $3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ , $24\xi$ , $26$ , $27$ -hexol
trihydroxy coprostanic acid	5 $\beta$ -cholestane, 3 $\alpha$ , 7 $\alpha$ , 12 $\alpha$ -triol, 26(or 27)-oic acid

# A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF BILE SALTS IN

## SUCKER FISHES (FAMILY CATOSTOMIDAE)

#### CHAPTER I

#### INTRODUCTION

Bile salts are substances, derived from sterols in vertebrates, which have been perfected during evolution to assist in the emulsification, hydrolysis and absorption of fats. Haslewood (1962) lists three distinct chemical types fulfilling these conditions which have been found in nature. These are: 1) alcohols found primarily in the primitive fishes (Cyclostomata and Chondrichthyes), cyprinid fishes and amphibians; 2)  ${\rm C_{27}}$  acids found in some amphibians and reptiles; 3)  ${\rm C_{24}}$  acids (the predominant type) found in snakes, birds and mammals. In nature, all bile acids and alcohols are believed to occur in bile as the conjugated forms; bile alcohols are conjugated with sulfate, bile acids may be conjugated either with glycine or taurine.

The biogenesis of bile acids from cholesterol in higher animals, and their functions in regulating sterol metabolism and in gastro-intestinal physiology have been elucidated by the development of elegant methodological approaches during the last two decades. Investigations into the nature of the compounds present in bile actually date back to the first decade of the nineteenth century and possibly earlier. The

history of this early work has been reviewed by Kritchevsky and Nair (1971). Matschiner (1971) designates three phases in the history of scientific investigations of bile salts. The first phase began in the middle of the nineteenth century when bile acids were first obtained in crystalline form. This phase terminated around the end of the nineteenth century and was characterized by uncertainty and confusion concerning the constituents of bile. The second phase included the development of methods of isolation and characterization of bile salts. This provided a strong background of structural knowledge concerning these compounds. In addition, these studies recognized the relationship between the bile acids and cholesterol, and later, the steroid hormones. Fieser and Fieser (1959) reviewed the contribution of Wieland and his collaborators to the structure of bile acids. Their work, which began about 1912, is classic in the field of steroid biochemistry.

The third, and current, scientific phase of bile salt investigation began about 1950. The application of reversed-phase partition chromatography to the separation of free (Bergström and Sjövall, 1951; and Sjövall, 1953) and conjugated (Bergström and Norman, 1953; and Norman, 1953) bile acids was probably the greatest single advance in the separation and purification of bile acids. Thin-layer and gas chromatography were introduced separately for the separation of bile acids. Together they provide a valuable means for the identification of bile acids and alcohols (Grundy, et al., 1965 and Ali, et al., 1966). Mass spectrometry, which was applied to the characterization of bile acids as early as 1958 (Bergström, et al.) may be coupled with gas-liquid chromatography. Used in conjunction with thin-layer chromatography, these

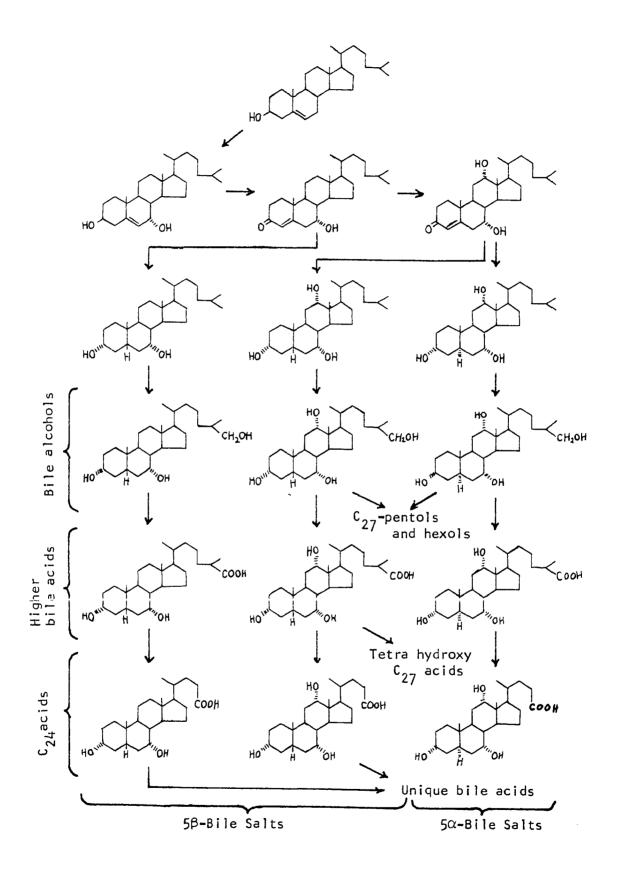
methods provide a means of thorough analysis of any source of naturally occurring bile salts (Eneroth, et al., 1966). As a result of these improved techniques, nearly half of the known bile acids and alcohols have been reported since 1960 (Matschiner, 1971).

The bile salts, as principal end products of cholesterol metabolism, occupy a focal position in our understanding of the role of steroids in biological systems. The molecular pleiomorphism exhibited by the bile acids and bile alcohols in the animal kingdom is a classic example of their role in biochemical evolution. Haslewood (1964) suggests that bile salts may be used as a criterion for comparisons of evolutionary relationships. The breakdown of cholesterol ( $^{\rm C}_{27}$ ) to  $^{\rm C}_{24}$  bile acids occurs stepwise (Fig. 1).

- The cholesterol ring structure is hydrogenated and extra hydroxyl groups are added to it.
- The end of the side-chain is oxidized to give alcohols and then acids.
- 3. Carbon atoms are removed from the side chain, resulting finally in  $\mathbf{C}_{2\mathbf{L}}$  acids.

On the basis of these biosynthetic pathways, substances that lie in the pathway between cholesterol and a  $\rm C_{24}$  bile acid are less highly evolved chemically than the  $\rm C_{24}$  acids. Therefore these substances, if they are found in the bile, and the organism that produces them are regarded as being less highly evolved biologically as well. However, some substances may also represent a branch line that biochemically cannot evolve to  $\rm C_{24}$  acids. There is apparently an evolutionary change with respect to the type of conjugate formed since the bile alcohols are conjugated with

Figure 1. Proposed stages in the biosynthesis of various bile acids and alcohols from cholesterol. The pathways from cholesterol to the  $5\beta$  bile acids have been studied and shown to occur in rat liver (Haslewood, 1967). The  $5\alpha$  counterparts of these compounds are thought to follow a parallel biosynthetic sequence. However, this has not yet been demonstrated.



sulfate while the bile acids are conjugated with either glycine or taurine. Finally, the  $5\alpha$  configuration is considered to be more primitive than the  $5\beta$  configuration (Haslewood, 1967a).

In bile salts, the progression from substances containing the entire  ${\rm C}_{27}$  skeleton of cholesterol to  ${\rm C}_{24}$  acids entails several changes which seem to be of evolutionary significance: 1) the change from alcohols to acids, 2) the change from  ${\rm C}_{27}$  compounds to  ${\rm C}_{24}$  compounds, and 3) the change from sulfate as the conjugate with alcohols to glycine or taurine as the conjugate with acids (Haslewood, 1967a). In this progression each chemical stage can be regarded as more advanced in an evolutionary sense, than those previous to it. However, more than one stage may be represented at the same time in a single species. Also, there are bile salts apparently confined within vertebrate groups and peculiar to the group, but which do not seem to be more or less advanced in the sense discussed above.

Table I summarizes the major groups of vertebrates and the major type of bile salt found in each group. This shows the close correlation between chemical types and systematic classification which can be readily interpreted in terms of evolution. It is apparent also, that the evolution of bile salts leading from  ${\rm C}_{27}$  alcohols through  ${\rm C}_{27}$  acids to  ${\rm C}_{24}$  acids must have occurred independently at least twice (i.e. cholic acid is seen to occur in the bony fishes as well as in amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals). Such evolution may have gone on separately in each of the vertebrate classes in which the apparent evolutionary progression can be demonstrated. Bile salt evolution in some groups (e.g. Crocodilia) seems to have ceased and in others (e.g. Ranidae) it appears to be still in progress (Haslewood, 1964).

Table I. Bile Acids and Alcohols Present in the Various Classes of Veretbrates (Haslewood, 1967a).

Vertebrate Class	Bile Alcohols or Acids Found in Class	Type of Conjugation	Some Examples
Cyclostomata	C <sub>27</sub> Alcohol	Sulfate	Myxinol
Chondrichthyes	C <sub>27</sub> Alcohol	Sulfate	5β-Chimaerol \$cymnol
Osteichthyes	C <sub>27</sub> Alcohol	Sulfate	5α-Chimaerol Latimerol 5α- & 5β-Cyprinol
	C <sub>24</sub> Acid	Taurine	Cholic acid Allocholic acid
Amphibia	C <sub>27</sub> Alcohol	Sulfate	5α- ε 5β-Bufol 5α- ε 5β-Ranol
	C <sub>27</sub> Acid	Taurine	3α,7α,12α-trihydroxy <b>-5</b> β- cholestanoic acid
	C <sub>24</sub> Acid	Taurine	Cholic acid
Reptilia	C <sub>27</sub> Acid	Taurine	$3\alpha$ , $7\alpha$ , $12\alpha$ -trihydroxy- $5\beta$ -cholestanoic acid
	C <sub>24</sub> Acid	Taurine	Cholic acid
Aves	C <sub>24</sub> Acid	Taurine	Cholic acid
Mammalia	C <sub>24</sub> Acid	Taurine	Cholic acid

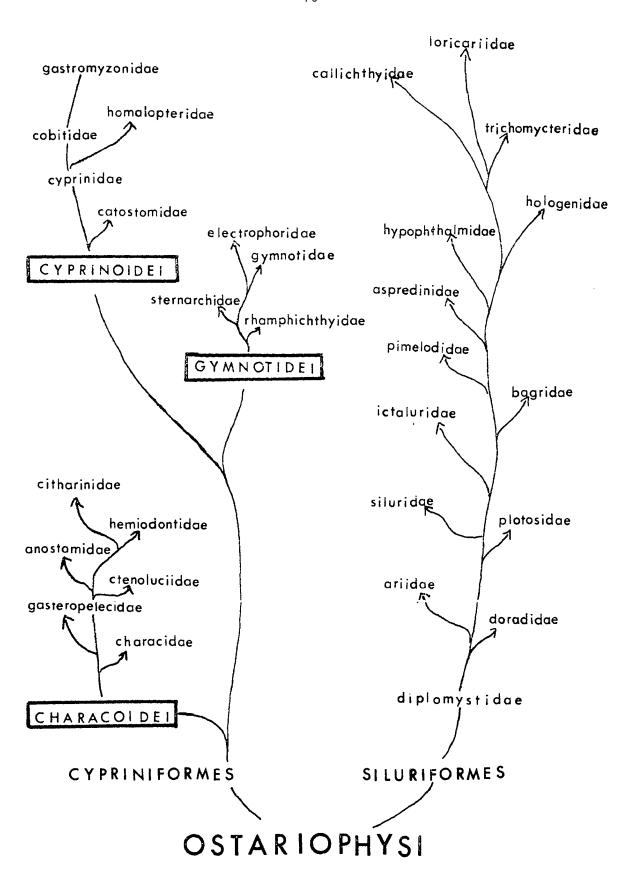
This study is centered on teleostean fishes, specifically the family Catostomidae. Figure 2 is a phylogenetic representation of the superorder Ostariophysi, the large group of teleostean fishes to which the family Catostomidae belongs. A comparison of the two orders of ostariophysan fishes provides an interesting contrast since members of the Siluriformes (catfishes) have taurocholate as their major bile salt, as do most teleostean fishes. Members of the Cypriniformes (suckers and minnows) have C<sub>27</sub> alcohol sulfates as their major biliary components, with the exception of the genus <u>Carpiodes</u>.

The discovery of allocholic acid in the River carpsucker, Carpiodes carpio (Briggs and Bussjaeger, 1972), suggested an unusual diversity of bile salts in the family Catostomidae. The principal components of bile are usually invariant within any given vertebrate family. Hence, the discovery of a  $C_{24}$  bile acid in a family previously known only to have  $C_{27}$  bile alcohols suggested that bile salt evolution is currently in progress in catostomid fishes.

The family Catostomidae is comprised of 11 genera containing 57 species in Central and North America. In addition, one genus (Myxocyprinus) which has three species occurs in northeastern Siberia and Yangtse Kiang. The catostomid fishes are well represented in Oklahoma with eight of the 11 extant genera (14 of 57 species) occurring in the state. Furthermore, one genus which does not occur in the state (Lagochila) is thought to be extinct (Moore, 1968).

Hubbs (1930) states, "In few groups of North American fresh-water fishes have ichthyologists exhibited as little agreement as to specific limits or as to nomenclature, as in the suckers or Catostomidae.

Figure 2. A phylogenetic representation of the relationships of various families of Ostariophysan fishes. Adapted from Greenwood, et al., 1966.



Specific names have been juggled back and forth between distinct species and even between different genera, and the concept of the species variously broadened or restricted." To judge from the number of taxonomic changes in the Catostomidae in the most recent edition of the list of <u>Common and Scientific Names of Fishes</u> (Bailey, <u>et al.</u>, 1970) Hubbs' statement is still **t**rue.

The purpose of this study was to isolate and identify the major biliary component in each available genus of the family Catostomidae. From this, we hoped to see the extent of the diversity in catostomid bile salts and perhaps later be able to determine what selective pressures are involved in the evolution of bile salts. Haslewood (1964) indicates that systematic use of bile salts as a taxonomic character is too 'coarse' or too 'insensitive' in its variation to be useful at a specific or even generic level. However, bile salt variation might be a character which can be used to clarify relationships of the various genera within the family.

#### CHAPTER II

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

## Collection and Identification of Animals

Animals from which the bile samples were taken for this study were obtained in a variety of ways. Those collected by the author were taken with the use of seines and by electro-fishing. Many specimens were taken with the co-operation of various fisheries biologists in Oklahoma and Arkansas during their population samplings with rotenone and gill nets. Bile samples from Buffalo fishes, genus <a href="Ictiobus">Ictiobus</a>, were collected by a commercial fisherman and samples from <a href="Chasmistes">Chasmistes</a></a>
<a href="Drevirostris">brevirostris</a> were taken from fresh fishes discarded by fishermen around Antero Reservoir, near Fairplay, Colorado. Specimens of the Blue sucker, <a href="Cycleptus elongatus">Cycleptus elongatus</a>, were captured in the draft tubes of Denison Dam, Lake Texoma.

In all cases, gallbladders were taken either from freshly caught specimens or from specimens which had been frozen soon after capture. The gallbladders were immediately put in an excess of 95% ethanol to avoid bacterial contamination. If there was any suspicion that the animal had begun to decay so that bacterial contamination may have altered the structure of the bile salts, the specimen was not used.

Specimens were identified with the aid of <u>The Freshwater Fishes</u> (Eddy, 1957), "Fishes" (Moore, 1968) and "Know Your Oklahoma Fishes"

(Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, 1965). The common and scientific names of the fishes referred to in this study are those approved by the American Fisheries Society (Bailey, et al., 1970).

## Isolation, Purification and Subsequent Treatment of Bile Salts

General procedures for isolating and purifying bile samples are those outlined by Haslewood (1967a). Gallbladders which had been collected and stored in an excess of 95% ethanol were cut into tiny pieces. After the debris was removed by filtration, the solvent was evaporated leaving a solid residue which was washed with light petroleum (b.p.  $30-60^{\circ}$ ) to remove fatty materials. This crude bile sample was then analyzed by thin-layer chromatography.

#### Bile Alcohol Sulfates

Those bile salts composed of bile alcohol sulfates were subjected to solvolysis by a procedure designed in our laboratory. Crude defatted bile salts (200 mg) were dissolved in concentrated formic acid (5 ml) with warming (50- $70^{\circ}$ ), and left several hours or overnight. (Partial formylation yields a product which is soluble in dioxane). The solution was evaporated under N<sub>2</sub> and finally in a vacuum dessicator to remove all formic acid. The formylated bile salt mixture was dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (10 ml) and a minute amount of sulfuric acid in dioxane (0.2 ml of a solution containing 0.1 ml concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in 10 ml dioxane) added as catalyst. Solvolysis usually occurred immediately as indicated by the formation of a fluffy precipitate.

On completion of solvolysis, the dioxane was evaporated under  $N_2$ . Formyl groups were then removed by saponification with ethanolic

KOH, leaving the free bile alcohol. Acidification, extraction with ethyl acetate and drying with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, left the product in a clear, pale yellow solution. Evaporation of the ethyl acetate followed by warming with acetone yielded the crystalline product in some cases. In other instances, the product had to be purified by reversed-phase column chromatography before it could be crystallized. In all cases, repeated crystallization to a constant melting point concluded the purification procedure.

The water solution from which the bile alcohol was extracted was treated with BaCl<sub>2</sub>. The resultant precipitation of BaSO<sub>4</sub> confirmed the conjugation with sulfate. In some cases the BaSO<sub>4</sub> was filtered, dried and weighed to determine the molar relationship between the amount of sulfate vs. the amount of bile alcohol in the conjugate. During the purification process, the course of the reactions for formylation, solvolysis and saponification were monitored by thin-layer chromatography.

#### Bile Acid Conjugates

In the case of the river carpsucker, <u>Carpiodes carpio</u>, (whose major biliary component was a bile acid conjugated with taurine) the crude bile salts (1.18 g) were dissolved in  $2\underline{N}$  NaOH (8 ml) and heated in a stainless steel bomb at  $125^{\circ}$  for 5 hr. The hydrolysate was diluted with water, acidified with  $12\underline{N}$  HCl (2 ml) and extracted with ethyl acetate. The washed extract was filtered through  $Na_2SO_4$  and taken to small volume, whereupon a precipitate formed and was collected (320 mg). The free bile acids were analyzed by thin-layer chromatography. Purification of the bile acid was achieved through a series of crystallizations with the final crystallization from acetone.

#### Anhydro-bile Alcohols

Anhydro-forms of the bile alcohols were isolated from Buffalo fishes (Ictiobus spp.), the Rio Grande sucker (Catostomus plebius), and the Redhorses (Moxostoma spp.) by using a modification of the procedure of Bridgwater, et al. (1963). Crude bile salts (1 g) were dissolved in  $H_2^0$  (2.5 ml) in a stainless steel bomb. To this mixture, 2N NaOH (7.5 ml) was added so that the final concentration was 1 g crude bile salts in 10 ml 1.5N NaOH. The sealed bomb was heated for 16 hr at  $140^\circ$ . The contents were rinsed out with water and diluted to 200 ml. The hydrolysate was extracted with butanol to remove the anhydro-alcohol.

#### Analytical and Chemical Procedures

### Thin-layer Chromatography

As indicated previously, thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was used extensively throughout this study. Analyses were performed using silica gel H (Brinkmann Instruments, Westbury, N.Y.) in 250-µm layers on glass plates preground to that depth (Kontes Glass Co., Vineland, N.J.). Solvent systems are described below. Samples were detected with an anisaldehyde spray reagent (Kritchevsky, et al., 1963) which made it possible to distinguish some samples on the basis of color.

Thin-layer chromatography was used in the initial qualitative analysis of the crude bile. Color and  $R_{\rm f}$  of spots derived from samples whose bile salt components were unknown were compared with those from samples whose bile salt components were known. The solvent system used for crude conjugated bile salts was modified from Sasaki (1966): ethyl acetate-butanol-acetic acid-water (40:30:10:10). Free bile acids and

alcohols were analyzed with ethyl acetate-methanol-acetic acid (85:10:5). Permanent records were made by photographing TLC plates with Polaroid color film using a Polaroid MP Land Camera.

## Column Chromatography

In some cases the free bile alcohol did not crystallize readily after extraction. It was then purified by reversed-phase column chromatography. The support was Hyflo Supercel (Bergström and Sjövall, 1951) with chloroform-octanol (1:1 v/v) as the stationary phase. Five-milliliter fractions of the moving phase, methanol-water (52:48 v/v), were collected in tared tubes, evaporated to dryness, and the residues detected by weight. Fractions which contained a significant amount of material were analyzed by TLC to determine the presence of bile alcohols.

## Gas-liquid Chromatography

Elmer Model 880 gas chromatography (GLC) was performed with a Perkin-Elmer Model 880 gas chromatograph having a 180-cm coiled glass column, 2mm ID, at  $260^{\circ}$  and a N<sub>2</sub> flow of 35 ml/min. In some cases GLC was performed with a Varian Model 1740 gas chromatograph having a 150-cm coiled glass column, 2 mm ID, at  $275^{\circ}$  and a N<sub>2</sub> flow of 50 ml/min. Columns were packed with 3% OV 17 on Gas Chrom Q (Applied Science Laboratories, State College, Pa.). Samples were converted to trimethylsilyl (TMS) ethers for GLC as follows (Horning et al., 1967): a sample (50  $\mu$ g) was dissolved in bistrimethylsilyl acetamide (25  $\mu$ l); trimethyl chlorosilane (5  $\mu$ l) was added as catalyst. The sample was diluted with methylene chloride (25  $\mu$ l) prior to analysis. All samples contained methyl cholate TMS ethers as an internal standard. One-microliter portions (about 1  $\mu$ g

of original sample) were injected into the instrument. Relative proportions of the components present in GLC samples were determined by comparison of peak areas (height x base at half height).

## Melting Points

Melting points were determined with a Nalge Company (Rochester, N.Y.) hot-stage melting-point apparatus and are uncorrected. The melting points reported are those taken after the final crystallization when the crystals had been dried in vacuo for 1 hr at  $100^{\circ}$  over  $P_2O_5$ .

#### Specific Rotations

Specific rotations were determined at  $25^{\circ}$  with a Franz Schmidt and Hoensch polarimeter having a 2-dm light path. Samples of the highest purity obtainable having a constant melting point, were dried in vacuo at  $100^{\circ}$  over  $P_2 P_5$  for at least one hour. Ethanol solutions were used for rotation determinations.

#### Infrared Spectra

Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer model 21 spectrophotometer and a Beckman IR 10 spectrophotometer, using KBr

pellets. Prior to analysis, samples were dried in vacuo over  $P_2^{0}$ 5 at  $100^{\circ}$  for at least one hour.

#### Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded by Mr. Bob Hayes (Department of Chemistry, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma) with a Varian A-60 spectrometer. Samples were dissolved in deuterated pyridine with trimethyl silane as the internal standard. Spectra were recorded with a sweep time of 250 sec, sweep width 500 hz and spin rate 40 rps.

#### Mass Spectra

Mass spectra were recorded by Mr. Keith Kinneberg (Department of Biochemistry, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma) using the procedures of Waller (1968) on the prototype LKB-9000 gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer (LKB instruments, Inc., Rockville, Md.). The ion source temperature was  $310^{\circ}$ , probe temperature  $140^{\circ}$ . Spectra were recorded by direct probe at 70 ev using an accelerating voltage of 3.5 kv and a brief current of 60  $\mu$ A. The source pressure was 5 x  $10^{-6}$  to 1 x  $10^{-7}$  num fig. Perfluorokerosene was used for peak-matching. The spectra were plotted from tabular intensity data.

#### Derivatives

The ethyl ester of allocholic acid from the River carpsucker (Carpiodes carpio) was formed by dissolving the acid in ethanol which contained 2% H $_2$ SO $_4$  and allowing it to stand overnight. It was crystallized from acetone. The methyl ester was formed by treating the acid dissolved in a minute amount of methanol with diazomethane in ether.

The tetra-acetates of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol from Buffalo fishes (<u>Ictiobus</u> spp.) and of the  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol complex from the Golden redhorse (<u>Moxostoma erythrurum</u>) were prepared by dissolving the sample in pyridine, adding acetic anhydride and leaving overnight at room temperature. The solution was diluted with water, acidified and extracted with ether from which the product was obtained after evaporation. The tetra-acetate was recrystallized several times with the final crystallization from a mixture of ethyl ether and light petroleum.

## Chemicals

The deuterated pkyidine used in the NMR studies was 99% pure, purchased from Aldrich Biochemical Co. (Atlanta, Ga.). Potassium bromide used in making pellets for IR was of spectral quality, purchased from Matheson, Coleman and Bell (Cincinnati, Ohio). All other chemicals were reagent grade. Solvents were redistilled before use.

#### CHAPTER III

#### RESULTS

Thirteen species of sucker fishes were collected for this study. This collection included representatives from eight of the 11 extant genera of the family Catostomidae occurring in North America. Specimens used in this study, their scientific and common names, along with their major biliary component are shown in Table 2. The two genera not represented in this study (Erimyzon and Xyrauchen) are both limited in numbers and distribution. The Creek chubsucker, Erimyzon oblongus (Mitchill), occurs in eastern Oklahoma. However, in recent years very few specimens have been collected by the Oklahoma Biological Survey (Stevens, pers. comm.). The Humpback sucker, Xyrauchen texanus (Abbott), occurs in the Colorado and Gila River systems in Utah and Arizona. 1972, an attempt was made by the author to collect "Humpies." On that occasion, several small populations of "Humpies" were sighted in the Colorado River 0-20 miles below Hoover Dam in Arizona. However, in all cases the animals were in deep pools (20-30 feet) where the current was swift and it was impossible to capture any specimens with the equipment available at the time. One other genus, Lagochila, is thought to be extinct (Moore, 1968).

There was little or no variation in the bile salts found in species which were members of the same genus. Hence the results are

Table 2. A List of Scientific and Common Names of Fishes used in this Study and the Major Biliary Component in Each.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Major Biliary Component (s)	
Carpiodes carpio (Rafinesque)	River carpsucker	allocholic acid	
Catostomus commersoni (Lacépède)	White sucker	5lpha - chimaerol	
Catostomus macrocheilus Girard	Largescale sucker	5 $lpha$ - chimaerol	
Catostomus plebius Baird & Girard	Rio Grande sucker	5lpha - chimaerol	
Chasmistes brevirostris Cope	Shortnose sucker	5lpha - chimaerol	
Cycleptus elongatus (Lesueur)	Blue sucker	$5\alpha$ - chimaerol (65%) $5\alpha$ - cyprinol (35%)	
Hypentelium nigricans (Lesueur)	Northern hogsucker	$5\alpha$ - chimaerol (74%) $5\alpha$ - cyprinol (22%)	
lctiobus bubalus (Rafinesque)	Smallmouth buffalo	5lpha - cyprinol	
Ictiobus cyprinellus (Valenciennes)	Bigmouth buffalo	$5\alpha$ - cyprinol	
Minytrema melanops (Rafinesque)	Spotted sucker	5lpha - chimaerol (49%) 5lpha - cyprinol (51%)	
Moxostoma carinatum (Cope)	River redhorse	5lpha - chimaerol (80%) 5lpha - cyprinol (20%)	
Moxostoma duquesnei (Lesueur)	Black redhorse	5lpha - chimaerol (87%) 5lpha - cyprinol (13%)	
Moxostoma erythrurum (Rafinesque)	Golden redhorse	5α - chimaerol (82%) 5α - cyprinol (18%)	

reported for each genus studied. Infrared, NMR and mass spectra are recorded in Appendices I, II, and III, respectively.

# Genus <u>Carpiodes</u>

The River carpsucker, <u>Carpiodes carpio</u>, is the only species collected from this genus. This is the only catostomid genus whose major biliary component was a  $C_{24}$  acid conjugated with taurine.

Thin-layer chromatography of the crude bile salts showed two spots; the major component had an  $R_f$  slightly less than that of taurocholate and the minor component had an  $R_f$  similar to that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate. Thin-layer chromatography of the free bile acid showed a single substance which was more polar than cholic acid. Gas-liquid chromatography of the TMS methyl ester of the acid showed a retention time of 0.885 relative to TMS methyl cholate (Table 3). This corresponds closely with the 0.875 relative retention time for TMS methyl allocholate reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970). Gas-liquid chromatography of the neutral material from alkaline hydrolysis of River carpsucker bile showed a single peak with a relative retention time of 1.76. This corresponds to the relative retention for anhydro- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (1.75) reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970).

The free acid, crystallized from acetone, showed a melting point of 246-248° (Table 4). This is close to the melting point (250-251°) reported by Mitra and Elliott (1968) for their synthetic allocholic acid. Anderson and Haslewood (1962) report a melting point of 239-241° for allocholic acid, but they indicated that their crystals contained acetone. The melting point for the ethyl ester was 226-227°, which agrees with the value for ethyl allocholate reported by Haslewood

Table 3. Gas-liquid chromatography data. For each sample, the type of compound, the number of peaks, retention time relative to TMS methyl cholate and per cent of the sample are shown.

Species	Compound	Peak No.	Rel.Ret.Time	% Sample
Carpiodes carpio	methyl ester neutral fraction	] 1	0.885 <sup>a</sup> 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	100 100
Catostomus commersoni	alcohol	Ī	1.45 <sup>b</sup>	100
Catostomus macrocheilus	alcohol	1	1.47 <sup>b</sup>	100
Catostomus plebius	alcohol anhydro-alcohol	1	1.46 <sup>b</sup> 1.21 <sup>a</sup>	100 100
Chasmistes brevirostris	alcohol	1	1.47 <sup>b</sup>	100
Cycleptus elongatus	alcohol	1 2	1.40 <sup>a</sup> 1.77 <sup>a</sup>	65 35
Hypentelium nigricans	alcohol	1 2 3	1.40 <sup>a</sup> 1.75 <sup>a</sup> 1.27 <sup>a</sup>	79 22 4
Ictiobus bubalus	alcohol	1	1.86 <sup>b</sup>	100
Ictiobus cyprinellus	alcohol	1	1.86 <sup>b</sup>	100
Minytrema melanops	a I coho I	1 2	i.40 <sup>a</sup> 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	49 51
Moxostoma carinatum	alcohol alcohol	1 2	1.40 <sup>a</sup> 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	80 20
Moxostoma duquesnei	alcohol	1 2	1.46 <sup>b</sup> 1.87 <sup>b</sup>	87 !3
Moxostoma erythrurum	alcohol	1 2	1.46 <sup>b</sup> 1.86 <sup>b</sup>	82 18
	anhydro-alcohol	1 2	1.19 <sup>a</sup> 1.67 <sup>a</sup>	74 26

a = samples run on Varian at  $275^{\circ}$ ;  $N_2$  flow 50 ml/min. b = samples run on Perkin-Elmer at  $260^{\circ}$ ;  $N_2$  flow 35 ml/min.

Table 4. Melting points of the major component crystallized from various species. In cases where some other form of the major component was produced, a melting point is listed for the derivative.

Species	Melting Point (°C) Major Component Derivatives		
Carpiodes carpio	246-248	225 <b>-</b> 226 (ethyl ester)	
Catostomus commersoni	234-235		
Catostomus macrocheilus	233-234		
Catostomus plebius	235-236	220-221 (anhydro-alcohol	
<u>Chasmistes</u> <u>brevirostris</u>	234-236		
<u>Ictiobus</u> <u>bubalus</u>	243-244		
Ictiobus cyprinellus	243-244	109-111 & 135-138 °C (tetra-acetate)	
Minytrema melanops	239-241		
Moxostoma duquesnoi	239-240		
Moxostoma erythrurum	238-239	133-137 (tetra-acetate)	

(1961) and by Mitra and Elliott (1968) (225-226° in both cases). Ethyl allocholate has  $[\alpha]_0 + 24.8^\circ$ ,  $\pm 2^\circ$  (Table 5, c = 2.0 in ethanol). Haslewood (1961) reports  $\pm 23^\circ$ ,  $\pm 2^\circ$ . The infrared spectrum (Appendix 1) for the free acid is identical to that published for allocholic acid (Anderson and Haslewood, 1962).

The acid was probably conjugated with taurine since the  $R_{f}$  of the crude bile salt on TLC was closer to the  $R_{f}$  of taurocholate than to that of glycocholate. However, no specific test was done to prove the presence of taurine in the conjugate.

# Genus <u>Catostomus</u>

The genus <u>Catostomus</u> was represented by three species:  $\underline{C}$ . <u>commersoni</u>,  $\underline{C}$ . <u>macrocheilus</u>, and  $\underline{C}$ . <u>plebius</u>. The data for all three were similar. Thin-layer chromatography showed two spots: the major component had an  $R_f$  slightly greater than that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate with the solvent system EtOAc:BuOH:HOAc:H $_2$ O:MeOH ( $_4$ O:30:10:10:10). This  $R_f$  difference was reproducible, but not great enough to separate the compounds. In addition, this major substance differed from  $_5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate in that its TLC color was more blue. The minor component was slightly more polar than the major one. However, it appeared to be less than  $_5$ % of the total and was not further investigated. Analysis by TLC of the free alcohol showed only a single spot which was not separable at all from  $_5\alpha$ -cyprinol, although it did still show the color difference. The anhydro compound obtained by alkaline hydrolysis of bile from  $_5\alpha$ -cyprinol. The anhydro-form of the compound also showed the blue color difference.

Table 5. Specific rotation of the major biliary component of the various species studied. For <u>Carpiodes carpio</u>, the specific rotation was determined for the derivative, ethyl allocholate. In all other species, the specific rotation was determined for the free alcohol.  $\alpha$  is the observed rotation using the sodium D line as a light source; c is the concentration of the compound in absolute ethanol, expressed in g/100 ml;  $[\alpha]_D$  is the calculated or specific rotation.

	$lpha_{ t D}$	[α] <sub>n</sub> <u>+</u> 2	
Species	D	С	- JD —
Carpiodes carpio	1.0	2.02	24.8
Catostomus macrocheilus	1.03	1.59	32.4
Chasmistes brevirostris	1.36	2.10	32.3
Ictiobus bubalus	1.24	2.15	28.8
Ictiobus cyprinellus	1.12	2.02	27.7
Minytrema melanops	1.13	2.10	26.9
Moxostoma duquesnei	1.18	2.06	28.7
Moxostoma erythrurum	1.38	2.20	31.4

Gas-liquid chromatography of the free alcohol showed a single peak with a retention time of 1.45-1.47 (Table 3) relative to TMS methyl cholate. This corresponded closely to the relative retention time of 1.42 reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970) for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. The anhydro-alcohol from <u>C. plebius</u> appeared as a single peak on GLC with a relative retention time of 1.21. Anderson and Haslewood (1970) report a relative retention time of 1.20 for anhydro- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol.

Melting points for the alcohol from these three species were:  $234-235^{\circ}$ ,  $233-234^{\circ}$  and  $235-236^{\circ}$ , respectively. These are essentially the same as the melting point  $(234-235^{\circ})$  reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol by Anderson and Haslewood (1970). The anhydro-alcohol had a melting point of  $220-222^{\circ}$  which also corresponded to Anderson and Haslewood's (1970) reported melting point of  $221-222^{\circ}$ .

The alcohol from <u>C</u>. <u>macrocheilus</u> (Table 5) had  $[\alpha]_D$  +32.4°. This is in the  $\pm$  2° range of +33.5° reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970). The infrared spectrum was similar to that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol; Anderson and Haslewood (1970) also found the spectra of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol to be similar. The IR spectra of the alcohol from all three species were identical (Appendix I). Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra from these samples show chemical shifts which are the same as those reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol (Tökes, 1970) and are all identical (Appendix II). The mass spectrum of the alcohol from <u>C</u>. <u>macrocheilus</u> (Appendix III) shows the same molecular ion and m/e peaks as Tökes (1970) reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol.

The alcohol was shown to be conjugated with sulfate. However, the  ${\rm BaSO}_L$  was not quantitatively determined. The mobility of

the conjugated bile salt on TLC indicated one sulfate group per alcohol moiety.

## Genus <u>Chasmistes</u>

Chasmistes brevirostris is the only representative studied from this genus. Thin-layer chromatography of the crude bile showed a single spot with the same  $R_f$  as that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate, but with the blue color difference that was seen with the bile salt from members of the genus Catostomus. Thin-layer chromatography of the free alcohol also showed a single spot with the same  $R_f$  as that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, but with the blue color. Gas-liquid chromatography showed a single peak with the relative retention time of 1.47 (Table 3), characteristic of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970). The crude bile was not subjected to alkaline hydrolysis to obtain the anhydro-form of the alcohol.

The melting point  $(235-236^{\circ})$  and specific rotation  $(+32.3^{\circ})$  of the free alcohol corresponded to the values reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970) for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. The NMR spectrum from this alcohol (Appendix II) is also similar to that reported by Tokes (1970).

The alcohol was shown to be conjugated with sulfate. However, the BaSO<sub>4</sub> was not quantitatively determined. The mobility of the conjugated bile on TLC indicated one sulfate group per alcohol moiety.

# Genus <u>Cycleptus</u>

cyprinol sulfate with an indeterminate color--sometimes appearing more red like that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate, sometimes more blue like that of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol sulfate. One minor component migrated slightly faster than, but was separate from, the major component, the other moved more slowly than, but was just separate from, the major component. Neither of the two minor spots had an  $R_f$  characteristic of any known bile salt. Neither of these minor substances was analyzed further.

Gas-liquid chromatography of the free alcohol from the Blue sucker (which showed a single spot,  $R_f$  like that of 5 $\alpha$ -cyprinol on TLC) showed two distinct peaks (Table 3). The first (and larger) peak had a relative retention time of 1.40 and comprised 65% of the total fraction. The second peak had a relative retention time of 1.77 and comprised 35% of the fraction. These retention times suggest 5 $\alpha$ -chimaerol and 5 $\alpha$ -cyprinol, respectively.

Although the alcohol from the Blue sucker was purified by reversed-phase column chromatography, it was not possible to obtain crystals. Therefore there are no data for melting point, IR spectra or specific rotation. The bile alcohol from the Blue sucker was shown to be conjugated with sulfate (Table 6); having one suifate per alcohol moiety in the conjugate.

# Genus <u>Hypentelium</u>

The Northern hogsucker,  $\underline{H}$ . nigricans, is the only representative studied from this genus. Thin-layer chromatography of the crude bile showed a single spot with an  $R_f$  similar to that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate, but having an indeterminate color like that of the main component from the Blue sucker. Thin-layer chromatography of the free

Table 6. Sulfate conjugation as determined by BaSO<sub>4</sub> precipitation. Comparison of molar amounts of free alcohol with sulfate released indicates the number of moles of sulfate conjugated with each alcohol moiety.

Species	mg alcohol	mmole alcohol	mg BaSO <sub>4</sub>	mmole BaSO <sub>4</sub>
Cycleptus elongatus	535	1.18	280	1.19
Hypentelium nigricans	158	0.334	79	0.338
Minytrema melanops	493	1.09	209	0.94
Moxostoma duquesnei	603	1.33	322	1.38
Moxostoma erythrurum	610	1.35	320	1.36

alcohol also showed a single spot with an R  $_{\rm f}$  like that of 5lpha-cyprinol and an indeterminate color.

Gas-liquid chromatography of the free alcohol showed three peaks (Table 3). One tiny peak (4% of the sample), had a relative retention time of 1.27, which was not comparable to that of any known bile alcohol. The major component (74% of the sample) had a relative retention time of 1.40 and was identifiable with 5 $\alpha$ -chimaerol (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970). The third peak (22% of the sample), had a relative retention time of 1.76 which was comparable to that of 5 $\alpha$ -cyprinol (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970).

Although the free alcohol from the Northern hogsucker was purified by reversed-phase column chromatography, it was not possible to obtain crystals. Hence there are no data for melting point, IR spectra or specific rotation. The bile alcohol(s) from the Northern hogsucker was shown to be conjugated with sulfate (Table 6), having one sulfate per alcohol moiety in the conjugate.

# Genus <u>Ictiobus</u>

The genus <u>lctiobus</u> is represented by samples known to come

from the Smallmouth buffalo, <u>l. bubalus</u>, and the Bigmouth buffalo, <u>l. cyprinellus</u>. In addition, a large sample of bile collected by a commercial fisherman from "Buffalo fishes" which undoubtedly contained bile from the Black buffalo, <u>l. niger</u>, as well as from <u>l. bubalus</u> and <u>l. cyprinellus</u>, was analyzed. No differences were found in any of these samples.

Thin-layer chromatography of the crude bile from the Buffalo  $\\ \text{fishes resulted in a major spot with } R_{\text{f}} \text{ and color identical to those of }$ 

 $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate. A very minor component had  $R_f$  and color suggesting tauroallocholate, although its identity was not confirmed. Thin-layer chromatography of the free alcohol showed a single spot with the same  $R_f$  and color as  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol.

Gas-liquid chromatography of the free alcohol from both 1. bubalus and 1. cyprinellus produced a single peak with a relative retention time of 1.86 in both cases (Table 3). This agrees with the relative retention time of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970).

Melting points for the crystalline alcohol from Buffalo fishes were  $243-244^{\circ}$ . This is close to the  $242^{\circ}$  melting point reported for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol by Anderson et al. (1964). The tetra-acetate derivative of the alcohol underwent the double melting point (Table 4) reported for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol tetra-acetate. Anderson et al. (1964) reported 110.5° and  $137.5-139^{\circ}$  as the melting point for their  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol tetra-acetate. The tetra-acetate from the Buffalo fishes melted at 199-111° and 135- $138^{\circ}$ . The specific rotation of the free alcohol (Table 5) was  $28.8^{\circ}$  for the sample from 1. bubalus and  $27.7^{\circ}$  for the sample from 1. cyprinellus. Both values are slightly lower, but within the  $\pm 2^{\circ}$  range of the  $[\alpha]_0$  reported by Anderson et al. (1964) for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol.

The IR spectra from both the alcohol and the anhydro-alcohol from the Buffalo fishes (Appendix I) are identical to those published for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and anhydro- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (Anderson, et al., 1964). In addition, the NMR spectrum (Appendix II) shows the same chemical shifts as those reported for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (Cross, 1964).

No BaCl $_2$  precipitation test was done to determine the type of conjugation. However, conjugation with one mole of sulfate was

inferred from the similarity in  $R_f$  between the crude bile from Buffalo fishes and known  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate from the carp.

## Genus <u>Minytrema</u>

Minytrema is a monotypic genus containing only the Spotted sucker, M. melanops. Thin-layer chromatography of the crude bile sample produced a single spot with the  $R_f$  of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate and with the indeterminate color seen with the samples from the Blue sucker and the Hog sucker. Thin-layer chromatography of the free alcohol also resulted in a single spot with the  $R_f$  of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and the indeterminate redblue color.

Gas-liquid chromatography of the free alcohol showed two distinct peaks of about equal intensity (Table 3). The first peak had a relative retention time of 1.40 and contained 49% of the sample; the second peak had a relative retention time of 1.76 and contained 51% of the sample. These peaks correspond to  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, respectively (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970).

The melting point of the crystals obtained from this sample was constant and sharp,  $239-241^{\circ}$ . This melting point is somewhat low for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, which was reported as  $242^{\circ}$  (Anderson, et al., 1964) and found to be  $243-244^{\circ}$  in the present study (sample from letiobus spp.). However, it is too high for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol which was reported as  $234-235^{\circ}$  (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970), and also found to be  $234-235^{\circ}$  in the present study (samples from Catostomus spp.). The IR spectrum is similar to that of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol; but these two are similar to each other as indicated by Anderson and Haslewood (1970).

The specific rotation for the free alcohol was  $+26.9^{\circ}$ . This is lower than the  $+29^{\circ}$  reported for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol by Anderson, et al. (1964). The bile alcohol(s) from the Spotted sucker was shown to be conjugated with sulfate (Table 6); having one sulfate per alcohol moiety in the conjugated bile salt.

### Genus Moxostoma

This genus is represented by three species: the River red-horse, M. carinatum; the Black redhorse, M. duquesnei; and the Golden redhorse, M. erythrurum. No significant differences were noted in the data for the bile salts of these three species. Thin-layer chromatograms of the crude bile showed a single spot with the R<sub>f</sub> of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol sulfate, whose color was indeterminate—being neither the reddish color from  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, nor blue as with  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. Thin-layer chromatography of the free alcohol produced a single spot with the R<sub>f</sub> of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, but with the same indeterminate color.

The melting point for the crystals obtained from M. duquesnei and M. erythrurum was  $239-240^{\circ}$  and  $238-239^{\circ}$ , respectively (Table 4). This suggested the possibility of a new compound, since the melting point was intermediate between that reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol ( $234-235^{\circ}$ , Anderson and Haslewood, 1970) and that reported for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol ( $242^{\circ}$ , Anderson, et al., 1964). The tetra-acetate was prepared and its melting point was  $133-137^{\circ}$  (Table 4), a value which is compatible with the upper melting point of the double melting point of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol tetra-acetate ( $110.5^{\circ}$  and  $137.5-139^{\circ}$ , Anderson, et al., 1964). However, repeated recrystallization of the tetra-acetate from the redhorse alcohol failed to give the lower melting point so characteristic of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol tetra-

acetate. The tetra-acetate from  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol has a single melting point,  $141-143^{\circ}$  (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970).

A number of tests were performed to determine the identity of the single spot on TLC which did not match other data. The crystals from the redhorse alcohol showed a melting point depression with both pure  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. The presence of a  $3\beta$ -OH group was tested with digitonin. However, no insoluble digitonide resulted. The anhydro-alcohol was formed by alkaline hydrolysis and purified by reversed-phase column chromatography. One fraction from this column crystallized on avaporation of the solvent, and had a melting point of  $210-214^{\circ}$ . Since all fractions showing the same  $R_f$  by TLC were thought to contain the same compound, they were combined and repeated attempts made to crystallize the substance. However, it was not possible to regain the crystals from the Redhorse anhydro-alcohol. The IR spectra of the compounds (Appendix II) were also inconclusive since they all appeared similar to  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (or  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, as the case may be).

Finally, the compounds were analyzed by GLC. In all three species, the alcohol showed two peaks (Table 3) with relative retention times that suggested  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970). The  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol comprised 80-87% of the samples and the  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol comprised 13-20% of the samples. The anhydro-alcohol from the Golden redhorse also showed two peaks with the relative retention times that suggested anhydro- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and anhydro- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970). The anhydro- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol comprised 74% of that sample.

Specific rotations of the free alcohols from <u>M. duquesnei</u> and <u>M. erythrurum</u> were  $+28.7^{\circ}$  and  $+31.4^{\circ}$ , respectively (Table 5). Since the specific rotations reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol ( $+33.5^{\circ}$ , Anderson and Haslewood, 1970) and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol ( $+29^{\circ}$ , Anderson, <u>et al.</u>, 1964) are fairly close and the specific rotations for the Redhorses were both nearly the same as the rotations reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, this data was considered inconclusive.

The bile alcohol from the Redhorses was shown to be conjugated with sulfate (Table 6); having one sulfate per alcohol moiety in the conjugate. Nuclear-magnetic resonance spectra (Appendix II) and mass spectra (Appendix III) showed chemical shifts and m/e peaks intermediate between those resulting from  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol. Hence, this data is not definitive except that it is consistent with the hypothesis that the crystals from which the spectra were taken contained both  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol.

To confirm the hypothesis that the crystalline material obtained from the isolation and purification of the bile alcohols from the Redhorses and the Spotted sucker contained a complex formed from  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, 50 mg each  $(5\alpha$ -cyprinol, m.p. 243-244° from Ictiobus sp., and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, m.p. 234-235° from Catostomus commersoni) were dissolved together in acetone, taken to a small volume and crystallized twice. The crystals had a melting point of 237-239° and on gas chromatography produced two distinct peaks, with relative retention times of 1.46 and 1.86, respectively. Each represented approximately half the total sample. Liquours from this crystallization produced the same two peaks on GLC, in the same relative proportions.

### CHAPTER IV

#### DISCUSSION

Three different compounds were found to be present as major biliary components in catostomid fishes. The structures of these compounds,  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol,  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and allocholic acid, are shown in Figure 3. The data indicate that on the basis of bile salt composition the various genera of the family Catostomidae may be placed in four groups. 1) Members of the genus Carpiodes (carpsuckers) alone possess allocholic acid, a  $C_{2\mu}$  acid, conjugated with taurine as their major biliary component. However, they may also contain some  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol as a secondary component. 2) Members of the genus Ictiobus (Buffalo fishes) alone possess  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol as their major biliary component. Their bile may contain traces of allocholic acid, though this was not confirmed. 3) Members of both Catostomus and Chasmistes contain  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol as their major biliary component. 4) Members of the genera Moxostoma, <u>Hypentelium</u>, <u>Minytrema</u> and <u>Cycleptus</u> all contain both  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, in varying proportions, as major biliary components (Table 2).

Criteria for identification, such as physical properties and chromatographic behavior, of the allocholic acid with its taurine conjugation and the  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol as sulfate conjugates, all corresponded closely with published values. The crystalline complex

Figure 3. Structures of the three compounds identified from the bile of catostomid fishes:  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol,  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and allocholic acid.

HO CH<sub>3</sub>
OH CH<sub>2</sub>OH
5
$$\alpha$$
-CHIMAEROL

formed by  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, however, was not nearly so easy to identify. The fact that the material formed crystals with a sharp melting point which was different from all melting points published to date for bile alcohols suggested that the material was a new, undescribed bile alcohol.

Several avenues were explored in the elucidation of this complex. The first specific rotation determined for the substance from the Golden redhorse was  $+36^{\circ}$ . This was higher than the  $+33^{\circ}$  rotation reported by Anderson and Haslewood (1970) for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. Furthermore, they indicated that  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from <u>Catostomus commersoni</u> showed the greatest degree of rotation that would be predicted for any of the possible isomers of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. However, there was a change in the zero point on the polarimeter (which is of unknown, but venerable, vintage) during the time when the Golden redhorse rotation was recorded, so this datum was questionable.

Another possibility considered was that the Golden redhorse alcohol was a 3 $\beta$  isomer of 5 $\alpha$ -chimaerol since such isomers do exist (e.g., latimerol is the 3 $\beta$  isomer of 5 $\alpha$ -cyprinol and has a specific rotation  $4^{\circ}$  greater than 5 $\alpha$ -cyprinol, Haslewood, 1967a). Preparation of the digitonide disproved this possibility because 3 $\beta$  digitonides are insoluble and this reaction did not form an insoluble compound.

Mixed melting points showed a melting point depression with both pure  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and pure  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. The melting point of the tetra-acetate derivative (133-137°) did not show the double melting point (110.5° and 137.5-139°) characteristic of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol tetra-acetate and is too low for the melting point of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol tetra-acetate (141-143°).

Both NMR and IR spectra were inconclusive. As Anderson and Haslewood (1970) note, the IR spectra of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol (which are positional isomers, Fig. 3) are very similar. The IR spectrum from the Redhorses resembles these two, but that did not indicate whether the alcohol from the redhorses was  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol,  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, or another closely related positional isomer. The NMR spectra of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol show different chemical shifts (Tokes, 1970, and Cross, 1964). The NMR spectrum from the Redhorse alcohol (Appendix II) was intermediate between these two. The mass spectrum of the alcohol from the Redhorses showed the molecular ion to be 452, the same as for  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol. However, the spectrum showed the m/e peaks characteristic of the  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol mass spectrum as well as the m/e peaks characteristic of the  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol mass spectrum.

Access to a gas chromatograph finally solved the puzzle of the Redhorse bile alcohol. The two distinct peaks produced by GLC had the same relative retention times that Anderson and Haslewood (1970) reported for  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol. Furthermore, if known  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and/or  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol was added to the injection sample of Redhorse alcohol, there was no evidence that either of these compounds separated, even partially, from the respective components of the Redhorse sample. The particular peak was merely heightened with no broadening or other evidence of partial separation.

The bile samples from the Blue sucker and the Hog sucker were analyzed after the problem of the composition of the Redhorse bile had been solved. Hence, these samples were not subjected to the variety of tests that were performed during the analysis of the Redhorse bile.

The case of the Spotted sucker reinforced to this author the need for thoroughness in analyses such as these. The bile of the Spotted sucker was analyzed prior to that of the Redhorses and was initially thought to contain  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol with a slightly low melting point (239-241° as opposed to 243-244° for the  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol we had purified in our laboratory or 242° reported by Anderson, et al., 1964). The single spot seen on TLC indicated  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol. The indeterminate nature of the color of the spot from the  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol complex is more evident in retrospect and with subsequent tests and comparisons than it was initially. Gas-liquid chromatographic analysis of the crystals from the Spotted sucker bile alcohol consistently shows the presence of both  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol. The greater percentage of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol (Table 2) in the Spotted sucker bile would account for the fact that these crystals have a slightly higher melting point than those from the Redhorses.

To substantiate the theory that the crystalline material obtained from the Redhorses and the Spotted sucker was a complex containing both  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, 50 mg of pure material of each of these compounds was dissolved in and recrystallized twice from acetone. The crystals resulting from this mixture had a melting point of  $236-238^{\circ}$ . On GLC these crystals produced the two peaks that had been seen from the crystals from Redhorses and Spotted suckers.

Although the co-crystallization of two closely related compounds to form a crystalline complex with a constant melting point is rare, it is not unknown. In a similar circumstance, Ohta (1939), in his analysis of the bile from the Gigi fish, Pelteobagrus nudiceps, reported what he thought was a new compound. The acid which Ohta isolated from the Gigi fish (tetrahydroxy-norsterocholanic acid,  $^{\rm C}_{27}^{\rm H}_{46}^{\rm O}_{\rm 6}$ , is the name and formula he assigned to the compound) crystallized from acetone and from ethanol-water. The crystalline needles showed a constant melting point of 212-214°. In elucidating the structure of his acid, Ohta found that when he oxidized the acid carefully he obtained two triketo acids, an  $\alpha$ -triketo acid with a melting point of 1980 and a  $\beta$ -triketo acid with a melting point of 234°. These he thought were oxidation products from his acid, according to his interpretation of the structure as  $3\alpha, 6\alpha, 12\alpha, x$ , tetrahydroxy cholestanoic acid. However, Anderson and Haslewood (1962) showed that what Ohta had interpreted to be a single substance was actually a combination of cholic and allocholic acids. It is not surprising that Ohta's acid was thought to be a single substance, for Anderson and Haslewood (1962) further indicate that its methyl and ethyl esters as well as the free acids consist of apparently homogeneous crystals, which have been chromatographically inseparable. It seems that methyl (and ethyl) cholate form mixed crystals with their corresponding allo esters. The composition of such mixtures may be variable, but Anderson and Haslewood (1962) suggest that what have been described as ester of Ohta's acid are approximately 2:1 (w/w) methyl (or ethyl) allocholate:methyl (or ethyl) cholate. Such a composition agrees also with results of measurements of optical rotation. These results are suprisingly consistent with the data from this study. Ratios of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol: $5\alpha$ -cyprinol were 1:1 (Spotted sucker), 2:1 (Blue sucker) and 4:1 (Redhorses) in this study.

The discovery of tauro-allocholate as the major bile salt in the River carpsucker represents some significant "firsts" in the study

of bile salts in general, and for fish bile salts in particular (Briggs and Bussjaeger, 1972). This is the first report of an "allo" (5 $\alpha$ ) bile acid as the main component of bile from fishes of the superorder Ostariophysi. Haslewood (1967) reports cholic acid (5 $\beta$ ) as the major component from several fishes of the order Siluriformes, and Ohta's acid from the "Gigi" fish has been shown to contain allocholic acid (Anderson and Haslewood, 1962) but it has not been verified as being the principal component of the bile. In addition, this is the first report of a bile acid being the chief component of bile from fishes in the order Cypriniformes. Yamasaki, et al. (1972) have since reported the presence of allocholic acid in carp bile. However, the percentage of allocholic acid present was in that case exceedingly small. Previous reports show a bile alcohol, specifically  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol or  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, to be the principal component of bile in cypriniform fishes (Anderson and Haslewood, 1970). Finally, the relative abundance of the River carpsucker in Oklahoma makes this a substantial reservoir of naturally occurring allocholic acid. The lizard Anolis lineatopus does have tauroallocholate as almost its only bile salt (Haslewood, 1967a), but its small size and relatively small numbers would limit it as a natural source of allocholic acid.

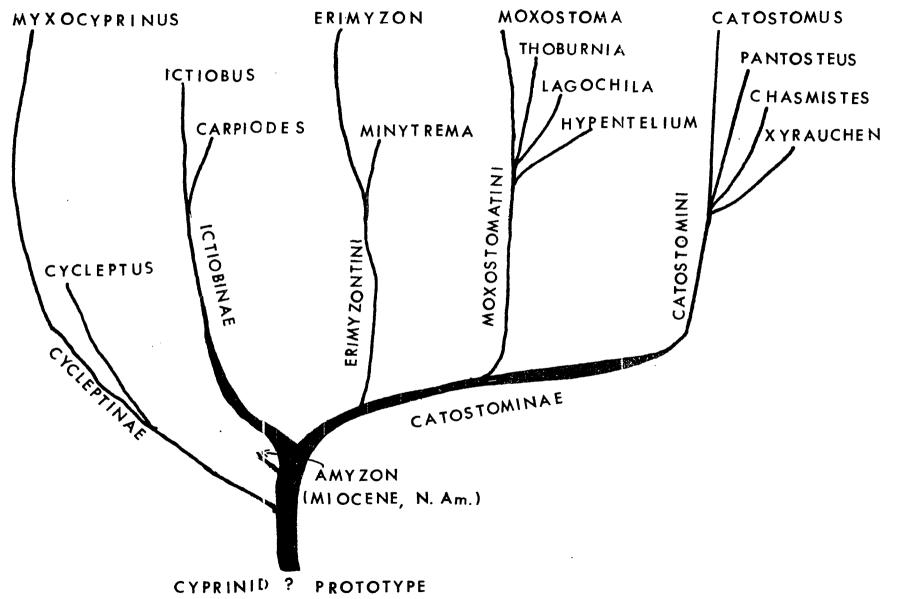
The availability of large amounts of allocholic acid makes possible a variety of experimental work, such as the synthesis (Briggs, 1970) of metabolic precursors of  $5\alpha$ -bile salts, and the work being done in other laboratories (Mitra and Elliott, 1968) which requires allocholic acid. Also, this may provide the resources necessary for determining the relationship between the  $5\alpha$  and  $5\beta$  configuration and the structure and function of enzymes in bile acid formation.

A number of studies dealing with the biochemical taxonomy of catostomids have been conducted in recent years. Tsuyuki et al. (1967) studied variations in the electrophoretic patterns of muscle myogens and plasma proteins in several species of catostomids. Variations in the serum esterases of Catostomus clarkii were shown by Koehn and Rasmussen (1967) and polymorphisms in the hemoglobin of a number of species of catostomids have been described (Tsuyuki et al., 1967 and Koehn, 1969). In addition, Huntsman (1970) studied blood sera and muscle extracts from catostomid fishes. Powers and Edmundson (1972, 1972a) have isolated isohemoglobins from C. clarkii and determined the amino acid sequence of the major  $\alpha$  chain.

Catostomids provide a suitable group for studies in biochemical taxonomy. Since much of their taxonomy has been well worked out on morphological, anatomical and meristic characters, a good background exists by which to evaluate the findings of biochemical studies. There are many interesting taxonomic problems in the Catostomidae to which the application of biochemical studies may be of real value.

Miller (1958) presents the most recent phylogeny of the family Catostomidae (Fig. 4). This phylogeny is based largely on Nelson's (1948, 1949) division of the family into three subfamilies primarily on the basis of morphology of the four highly modified anterior vertebrae (the Weberian apparatus) that connect the gas bladder with the inner ear. Miller indicates, however, that since the sub-family Cycleptinae has a primitive genus in each continent, it might justifiably be segregated as two subfamilies with Cycleptus as the North American and Myxocyprinus as the Asian representative.

Figure 4. Miller's (1958) "Hypothetical phylogeny of the family Catostomidae."



The four groups of catostomids based on bile salt composition generally correlate quite well with Miller's hypothetical phylogeny. However, some minor changes may be in order, based on this and other studies. First, since the tribes Erimyzontini and Moxostomatini both show the  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol complex as does the genus Cycleptus, it would seem that these groups should show a closer phylogenetic relationship than may be inferred from Miller's representation (Fig. 4). This change could be accomplished simply by a three-dimensional re-orientation of the Cycleptus "branch" of the phylogenetic tree.

Secondly, the tribes Erimyzontini and Moxostomatini are quite close to each other according to bile salt composition. These data as well as Huntsman's (1970) data on blood sera and muscle myogens support the conclusion that these two tribes are closer to the Catostomini than to the branch point of the subfamily Ictiobinae. In addition, Huntsman (1970) indicates that his data do not resolve whether <a href="Hypentelium">Hypentelium</a> is most closely related to the Moxostomatini or the Catostomini. Bile salt data indicates that <a href="Hypentelium">Hypentelium</a> is more closely related to the Moxostomatini. Eastman (pers. comm.) also affirms that his data on the pharyngeal teeth of catostomids support this conclusion. From these data, it is tempting to suggest that the tribes Erimyzontini and Moxostomatini be combined and perhaps put into their own subfamily separate from the Catostominae. However, more supporting evidence would need to be gathered before such a change would be seriously proposed.

Finally, the major bile salt component of <u>Carpiodes</u> is more "advanced" chemically that that from <u>Ictiobus</u> inasmuch as a  ${\rm C}_{24}$  acid

is not only chemically more changed from the cholesterol molecule than is a C<sub>27</sub> alcohol, but also because an acid is more highly oxidized than an alcohol. An argument for switching their positions in the phylogenetic tree could also be supported by the fact that the carpsuckers are a highly specialized genus, particularly with respect to their food habits. No alterations are in order for the Catostomini, since bile salt data indicate this group to be quite discrete.

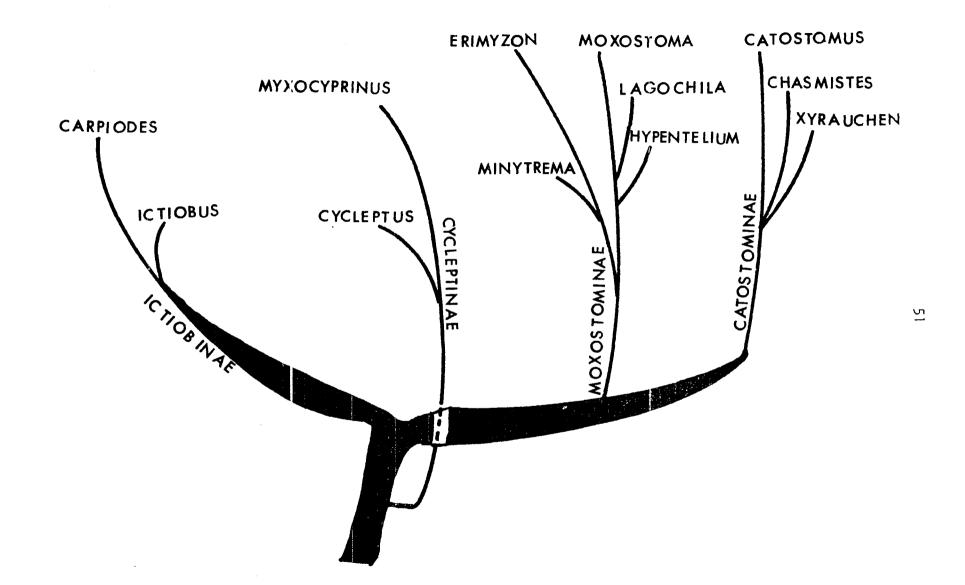
A proposed altered hypothetical phylogeny of the family Catostomidae, incorporating these changes, is presented in Figure 5. It should also be pointed out that since Miller's (1958) publication, Pantosteus and Catostomus have been combined in a single genus, Catostomus; and Thoburnia and Moxostoma have been combined in a single genus, Moxostoma (Bailey, et al., 1970).

A more nearly comprehensive study would require samples from Xyrauchen, Erimyzon and (if they are still extant) Lagochila. However, the conclusions presented here do correspond closely with already-postulated phylogenetic relationships. Furthermore, these data confirm and extend the use of bile salts as a phylogenetic character, at least above the generic level.

As with most research, this study leaves questions unanswered and points out many avenues for further investigation. For example, a close comparison of members of the genus <u>lctiobus</u> with members of the genus <u>Carpiodes</u>, particularly in the area of habitat and food habits might indicate a correlation between these factors and reasons for difference in bile salt composition.

Carpiodes, since they contain tauro-allocholate as their major biliary component, provide an ideal system for comparing the biosynthetic

Figure 5. A proposed alteration of Miller's "Hypothetical phylogeny of the family Catostomidae."



sequences of  $5\alpha$ -bile salts with the already-determined formation of their  $5\beta$ -counterparts in mammals. Carpiodes would also be a good genus to use in experimental work for determining the role of 26,27 (cyprinol) versus 24,27 (chimaerol) hydroxylation patterns as possible intermediates in  $C_{24}$ -acid formation. The fact that those catostomid species which have allocholic acid as their major biliary component (Carpiodes) or as a secondary biliary component (Ictiobus) also possess  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol, but do not have  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol may be interpreted two ways. It is possible that  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol is an intermediate in allocholic acid biosynthesis and the relative efficiencies of the enzymes involved in this conversion determine whether allocholic acid is present in major or minor amounts. If this is the case, one must infer that the enzymes necessary for the 24-hydroxylation of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol either have not arisen in this group or have been lost.

A second, chemically more sound, argument is that  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol is an intermediate in allocholic acid biosynthesis and is not present because it is converted to allocholic acid. Chemically this seems to be the stronger argument since with the presence of the hydroxyl group at  $C_{24}$  in  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol, one would predict cleavage of the side chain at this point upon oxidation. The 26,27 hydroxylation pattern in  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol would not lead directly to side-chain cleavage, a circumstance which would explain the presence of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol in these animals. These theories could easily be tested by injecting labeled  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol and  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol into Carpiodes and determining if either of them produced any labeled allocholic acid.

The genetic control of the enzymes regulating bile salt production could be pursued through the formation of artificial hybrids. In his summary of the naturally occurring hybrids of North American fishes, Hubbs (1955) reported approximately 70 natural hybrids in the faimly Cyprinidae. This author (unpublished data) has artificially produced viable hybrids between two members of different subfamilies in the family Cyprinidae (Pimephales vigilax X Notropis boops). The bile salts from artificial hybrids from the family Catostomidae such as Carpiodes (a bile acid-former) X Catostomus (a producer of bile alcohols) should provide interesting data on the genetic control of bile salt production.

Finally, a comprehensive comparison of the entire catostomid family in terms of habitat, food habits, climate and genetics (karyotypes and hybridization) might indicate the relative influence of these factors as selective pressures in bile salt evolution.

#### CHAPTER V

### SUMMARY

- 1. The major biliary component of 13 species (8 genera) of the family Catostomidae was isolated and identified.
- 2. A new, more simple, procedure for solvolysis of the bile alcohol sulfate conjugates is described.
- 3. Allocholic acid found in the river carpsucker is the first "allo"  $(5\alpha)$  bile acid reported to be the main component of bile from fishes of the superorder Ostariophysi and the first bile acid reported to be the main component of bile from fishes in the order Cypriniformes.
- 4. A crystalline complex formed from varying ratios of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol and  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol was discovered in several genera.
- 5. Biliary components in catostomid fishes fall into four categories which correspond fairly closely to previously proposed phylogenies for the family Catostomidae based primarily on anatomy and morphology.
- 6. Some minor changes in Miller's phylogeny of the family Catostomidae are proposed.

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Figure 6. Infrared spectrum of allocholic acid from <u>Carpiodes</u> <u>carpio</u>.

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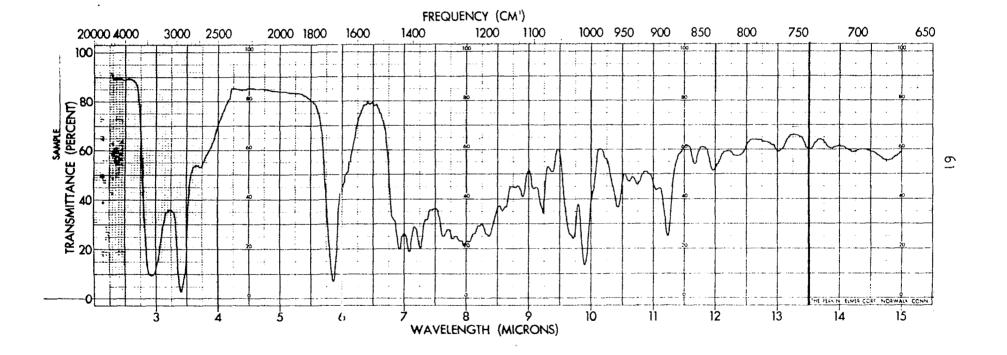


Figure 7. Infrared spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from Catostomus macrocheilus.

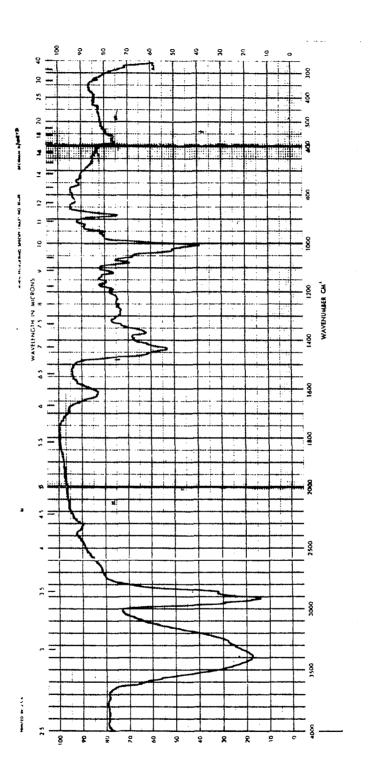


Figure 8. Infrared spectrum of anhydro- $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from <u>Catostomus plebius</u>

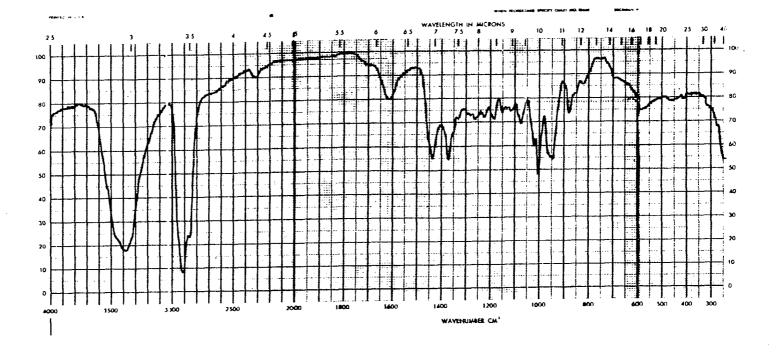


Figure 9. Infrared spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from Chasmistes brevirostris

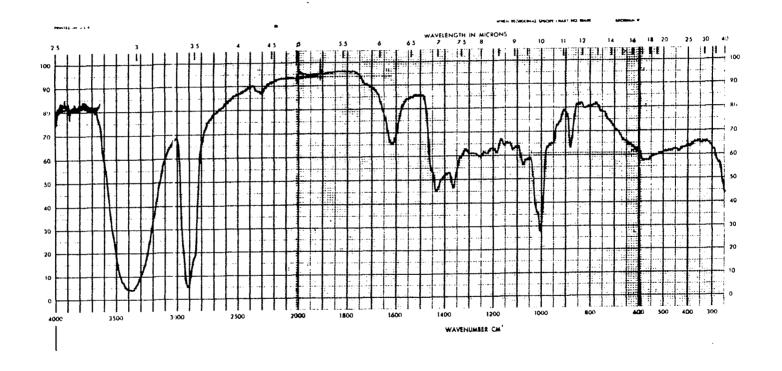


Figure 10. Infrared spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol from <u>lctiobus</u> cyprinellus

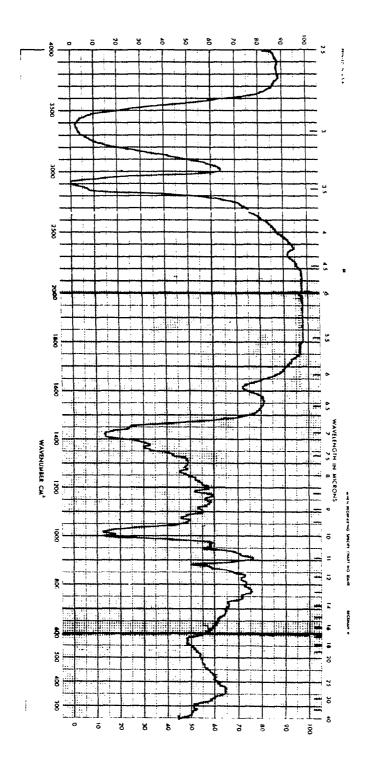


Figure 11. Infrared spectrum of anydro- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol from <u>lctiobus</u> spp.



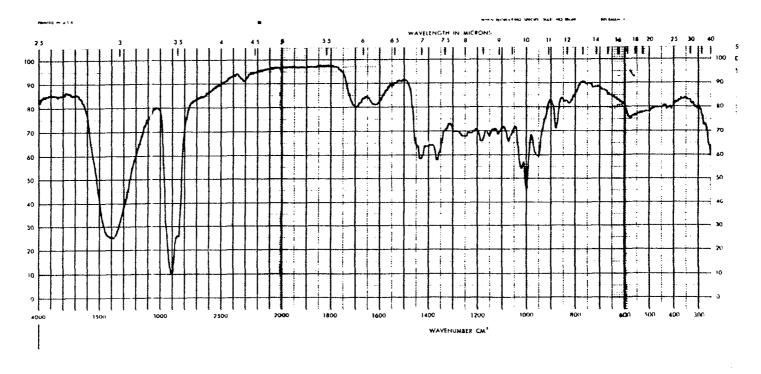


Figure 12. Infrared spectrum of alcohol complex from Moxostoma duquesnei

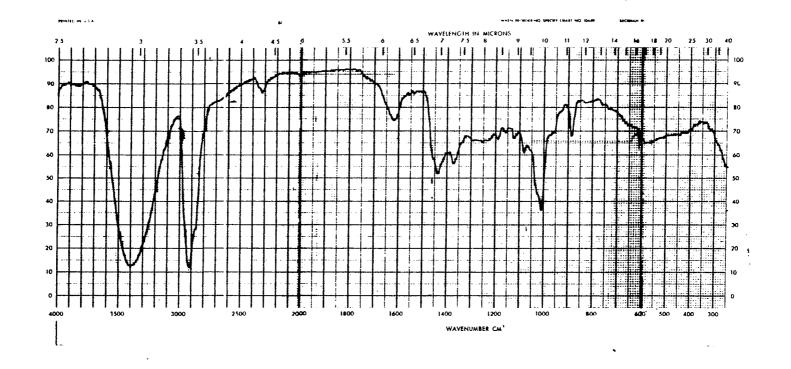
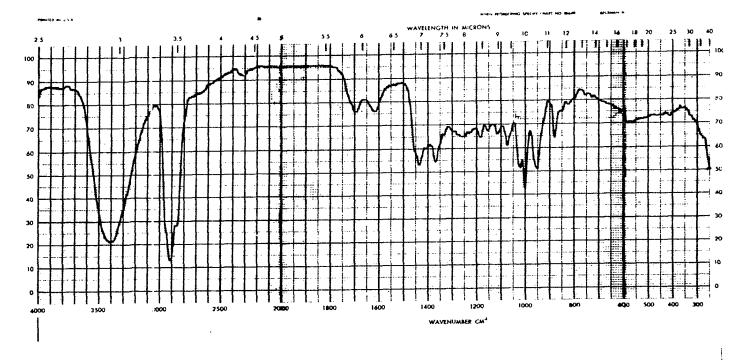


Figure 13. Infrared spectrum of anhydro alcohol complex from Moxostoma erythrurum

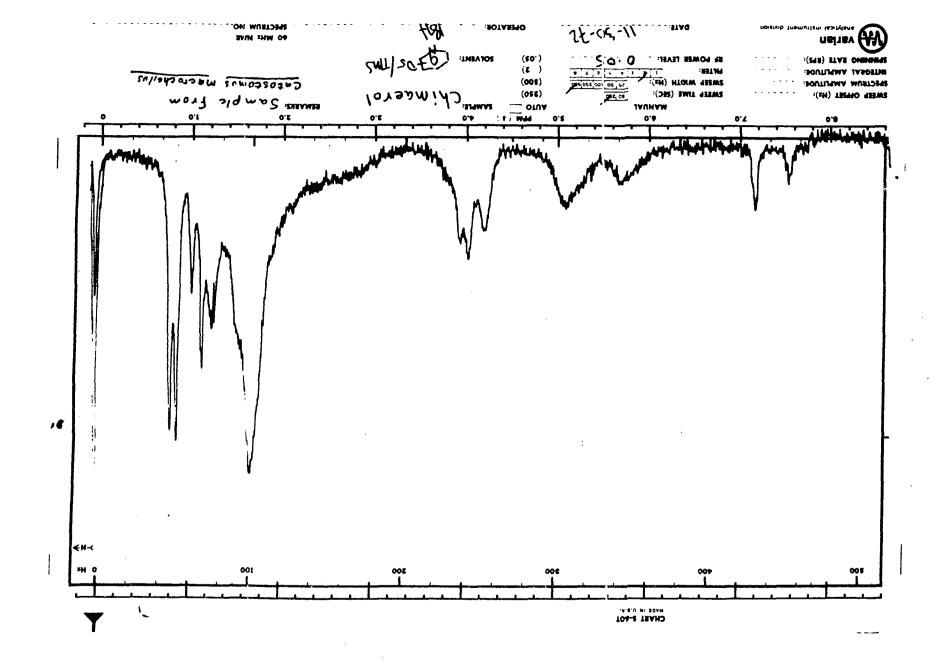
7



APPENDIX II

Figure 14. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from <u>Catostomus</u>

macrocheilus.



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Figure 15. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from <u>Chasmistes</u>

brevirostris.

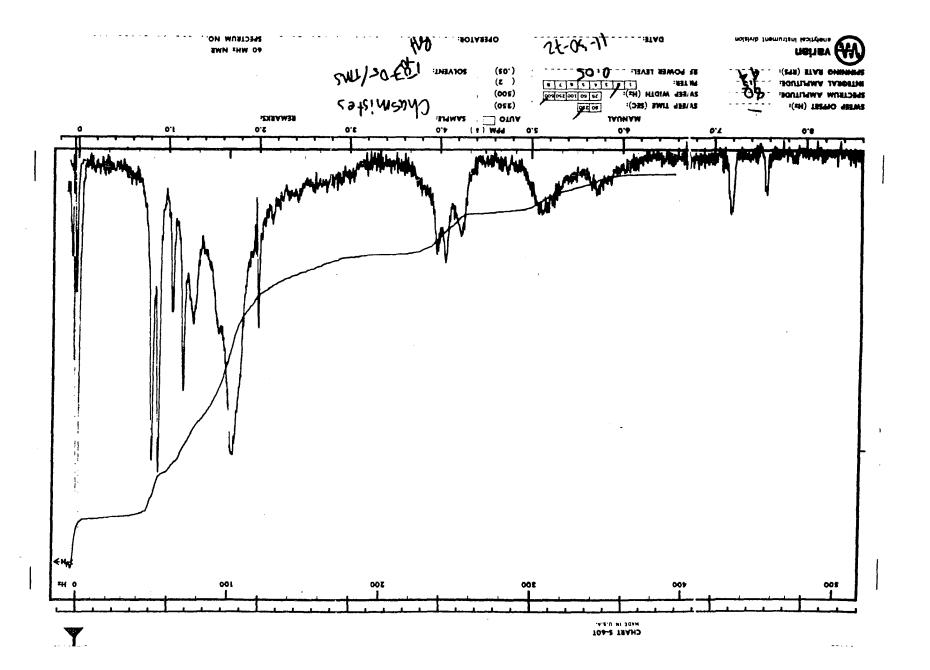


Figure 16. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol from <u>Ictiobus</u> spp.

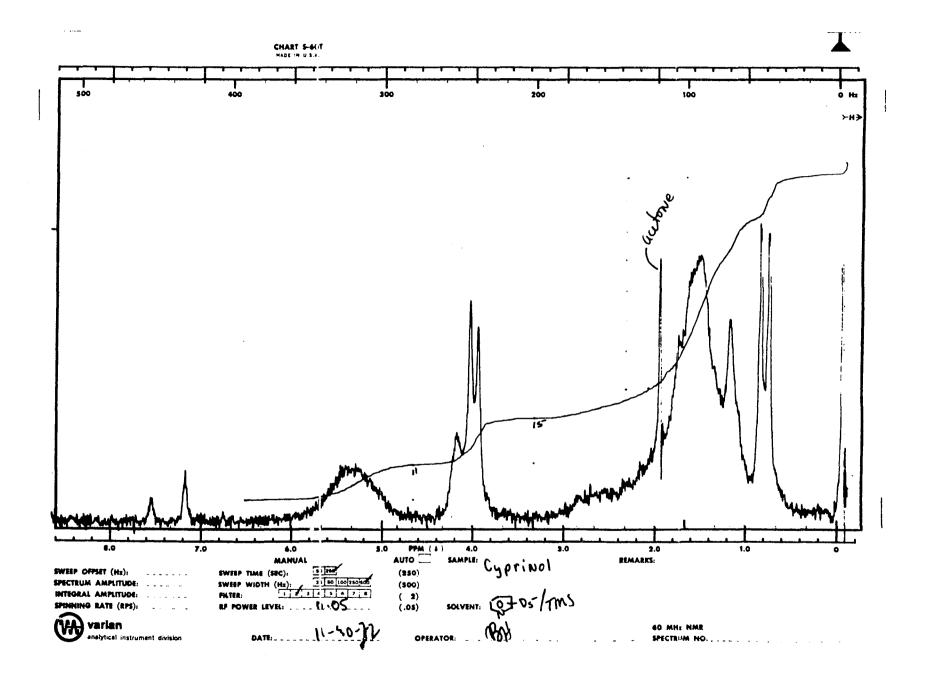
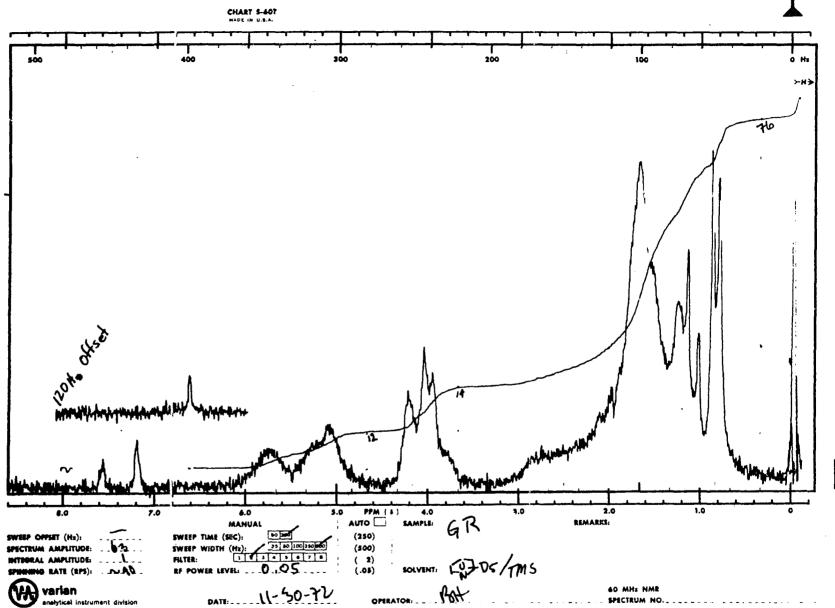


Figure 17. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol- $5\alpha$ -cyprinol complex from Moxostoma erythrurum.





APPENDIX III

Figure 18. Mass spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -chimaerol from Catostomus macrocheilus.

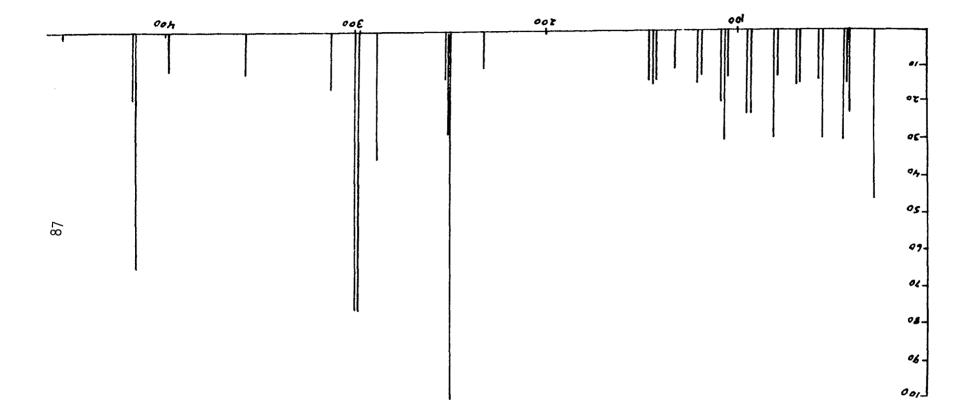


Figure 19. Mass spectrum of  $5\alpha$ -cyprinol from <u>Ictiobus</u> spp.

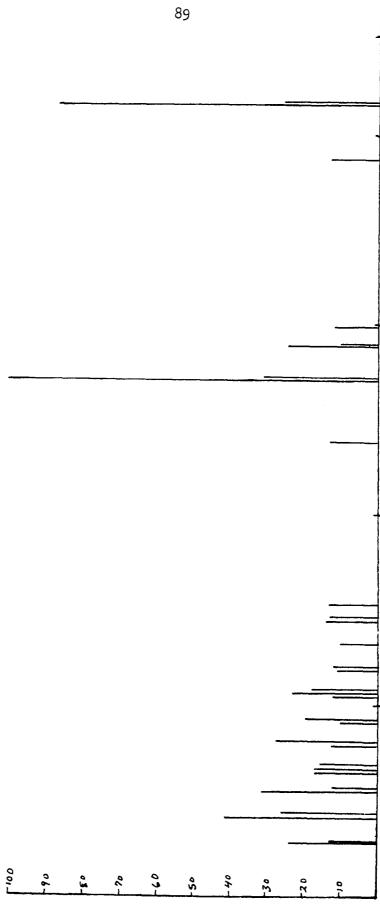


Figure 20. Mass spectrum of Redhorse alcohol complex.

