[Table 1]

	component (% by weight)	Examples							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	n-octadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester	1	1	1	1	1	0.2		
	n-hexadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester				0.5			1	1
	cholesterol hydrogen succinate								
B	L-arginine			0.2	0.2				
	potassium hydroxide	0.034	0.054			0.2	0.036	0.054	
	aminomethyl propanol								0.124
E	phosphoric acid			0.01	0.01				
	succinic acid					0.03			
C	N-(hexadecyloxy hydroxypropyl)-N-hydroxyethyl hexadecanamide	1	1	1	3.5	1	2	1	1
	ceramide (type 2)				0.5				
	squalane			3				1	1
	dimethylpolysiloxane		2		1				
	cholesterol	0.5	0.5	1		0.5	0.5	1	1
	cetanol				1				
	cholesteryl isostearate				1				
	glycerine	10	10	10	10	10	5	10	10
	carboxyvinyl polymer		0.1	0.01		0.1	0.1	0.08	0.1
	methyl parahydroxybenzoate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
D	ion exchanged water	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	pH: when dissolved and homogenized (when components (A), (B), (C) and (D) are mixed)	8.5	9.2	8.4	8.4	12.2	11.4	9.2	9.6
	immediately after manufactured (pH as cosmetic)	8.5	6.4	6.6	6.8	9.4	6.9	6.4	7.6
	E/A	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0	0
	A/C	1	1	1	0.375	1	0.1	1	1
	storage stability	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

[0075]

[Table 2]

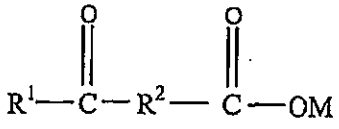
component (% by weight)		Examples					Comparative Examples			
		9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4
A	n-octadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester				1		1	0.0001	1	1
	n-hexadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester		7	1		7				
	cholesterol hydrogen succinate	1								
B	L- arginine		2		0.2	1.4			0.2	
	potassium hydroxide	0.054		0.2				0.054		0.2
	aminomethyl propanol									
E	phosphoric acid				0.01				0.02	
	succinic acid			0.08						0.2
C	N-(hexadecyloxy hydroxypropyl)-N-hydroxyethyl hexadecanamide	1	0.1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1
	ceramide (type 2)									
	squalane				1				1	
	dimethylpolysiloxane									
	cholesterol	0.5			1		0.5	0.5	1	0.5
	cetanol									
	cholesteryl isostearate									
	glycerine	10	5	10	10	5	10	10	10	10
	carboxyvinyl polymer	0.1						0.1		0.1
	methyl parahydroxybenzoate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
D	ion exchanged water	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	pH: when dissolved and homogenized (when components (A), (B), (C) and (D) are mixed)	7.6	9.3	11.9	8.4	7.9	6.8	11.1	8.4	12
	immediately after manufactured (pH as cosmetic)	6.1	9.3	11.0	6.6	7.9	6.8	7.2	4	7.1
	E/A	0	0	0.08	0.01	0	0	0	0.02	0.2
	A/C	1	70	1	1	1	1	0.0001	1	1
	storage stability	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B

Claims

[Claim 1]

A cosmetic comprising the following components (A), (B), (C) and (D):

(A) 0.001 to 50 % by weight of an organic acid represented by a general formula (1):



(1)

wherein R^1 denotes a residue derived from a natural sterin having one hydroxy group or a hydrogenated product thereof, or a residue derived from bile acid in which the hydroxyl hydrogen atom is removed; R^2 denotes a divalent hydrocarbon group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; and M denotes a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, ammonium, alkanolammonium having 2 to 9 carbon atoms in total, alkylammonium or alkenylammonium having 1 to 22 carbon atoms in total, a pyridinium substituted with an alkyl group or an alkenyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, or a basic amino acid;

(B) 0.001 to 20% by weight of a base;

(C) 0.0001 to 50% by weight of a ceramide; and

(D) water,

and comprising, as a component (E), an acid other than the component (A) and a weight ratio of the components (E) to (A) satisfying a relationship: $0 \leq (E)/(A) < 0.2$, and having pH of 6 to 11.

[Claim 2]

The cosmetic according to claim 1, wherein a weight ratio of the components (A) to (C) satisfies a relationship: $(A)/(C) \geq 0.001$.

[Claim 3]

The cosmetic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the component (E) is an acid selected from the group consisting of dicarboxylic acid and phosphoric acid.

[Claim 4]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 3, comprising 0.1 to 10% by weight of the component (A).

[Claim 5]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 4, comprising 0.01 to 5% by weight of the component (B).

[Claim 6]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 5, comprising 0.01 to 10% by weight of the component (C).

[Claim 7]

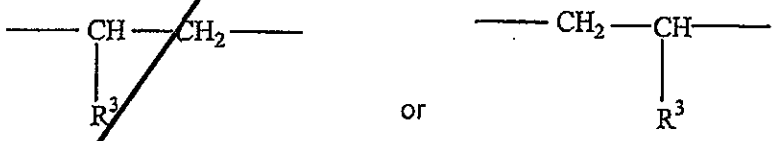
The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the component (B) is one or two or more selected from the group consisting of basic amino acids, alkanol amine, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

[Claim 8]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein a weight ratio of the components (E) to (A) satisfies a relationship: $0 \leq (E)/(A) \leq 0.1$.

[Claim 9]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the natural sterin having one hydroxy group denoted by R^1 is selected from the group consisting of cholesterol, stigmasterol, sitosterol, campesterol, lanosterol and ergosterol, R^2 denotes groups represented by the following formulae:

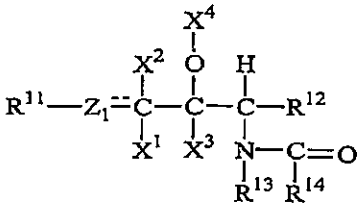


wherein R^3 is a linear chain or branched chain alkyl group or alkenyl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, note here that in both formulae, a carboxyl group is bonded to the side chain at the right side, and R^3 is a group selected from the group consisting of a 2-tetradecenyl group, a 2-hexadecenyl group,

2-octadecenyl group, a 2-eicocenyl group, a tetradecyl group, a hexadecyl group, an octadecyl group and an eicosyl group.

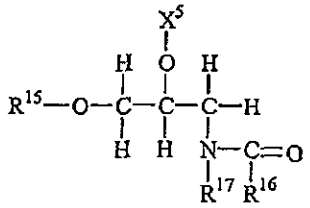
[Claim 10]

The cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the ceramide of the component (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of compounds represented by the following general formula (2) or (3) :



(2)

wherein R^{11} denotes linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 7 to 19 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group; Z_1 denotes a methylene group or a methine group; X^1, X^2, and X^3 each independently denote a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or an acetoxy group; X^4 denotes a hydrogen atom or forms an oxo group together with the neighboring oxygen atoms (wherein when Z_1 is a methine group, any one of X^1 and X^2 is a hydrogen atom, and the other is not present, and when X^4 forms an oxo group, X^3 is not present); R^{12} denotes a hydroxymethyl group or an acetoxyl methyl group; R^{13} denotes a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; R^{14} denotes a linear, branched or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 5 to 30 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, or a substituent in which a linear chain or branched chain, and saturated or unsaturated fatty acid having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, is ester-bonded to the ω-terminal of the alkyl group; and a broken line denotes it may be an unsaturated bond;



(3)

wherein R^{15} denotes a linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 10 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, or a hydrogen atom; X^5 denotes a hydrogen atom, an acetyl group or a glyceryl group; R^{16} denotes a linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 5 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group or an amino group, or a substituent in which a linear chain or branched chain, and saturated or unsaturated fatty acid having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, is ester-bonded to the ω-terminal of the hydrocarbon group; and R^{17} denotes a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having in total 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, a hydroxyalkoxy group, an alkoxy group or an acetoxy group.

[Claim 11]

A method for producing a cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 10, the method comprising:

mixing components (A), (B), (C) and (D) to be homogenized while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher, and then

cooling to 50°C or less, followed by adjusting pH to 6 to 11.

[Claim 12]

A method for producing a cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 10, the method comprising:

mixing components (A), (B), (C) and (D) to be homogenized such that a content of the component (B) is adjusted to be pH 7 or more while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher, and then

cooling to 50°C or less, followed by

adding the component (E) so as to adjust pH to 6 to 11.

[Claim 13]

The method according to claim 11 or claim 12, wherein the step of mixing the components (A), (B), (C) and (D) comprises the following steps:

a step 1 of mixing the component (A), the component (B), and a part of the component (D), and heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of the component (A), and

a step 2 of mixing the component (C) and an oil phase containing other oil ingredients while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the highest melting point among all the components, after the step 1.

[Claim 14]

The method according to claim 11 or claim 12, wherein the step of mixing the components (A), (B), (C) and (D) comprises the following steps:

a step 1 of mixing the components (A) and (C) while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher;

a step 2 of adding a mixed solution of the component (B) and a part of the component (D) and mixing them while heating after the step 1; and

a step of adding the other oil ingredients after the step 2.

[Claim 15]

Use of the cosmetic according to any one of claims 1 to 10 which is used for applying on the skin.

[Table 1]

	component (% by weight)	Examples							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	n-octadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester	1	1	1	1	1	0.2		
	n-hexadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester				0.5			1	1
	cholesterol hydrogen succinate								
B	L-arginine			0.2	0.2				
	potassium hydroxide	0.034	0.054			0.2	0.036	0.054	
	aminomethyl propanol								0.124
E	phosphoric acid			0.01	0.01				
	succinic acid					0.03			
C	N-(hexadecyloxy hydroxypropyl)-N-hydroxyethyl hexadecanamide	1	1	1	3.5	1	2	1	1
	ceramide (type 2)				0.5				
	squalane			3				1	1
	dimethylpolysiloxane		2		1				
	cholesterol	0.5	0.5	1		0.5	0.5	1	1
	cetanol				1				
	cholesteryl isostearate				1				
	glycerine	10	10	10	10	10	5	10	10
	carboxyvinyl polymer		0.1	0.01		0.1	0.1	0.08	0.1
	methyl parahydroxybenzoate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
D	ion exchanged water	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	pH: when dissolved and homogenized (when components (A), (B), (C) and (D) are mixed)	8.5	9.2	8.4	8.4	12.2	11.4	9.2	9.6
	immediately after manufactured (pH as cosmetic)	8.5	6.4	6.6	6.8	9.4	6.9	6.4	7.6
	E/A	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0	0
	A/C	1	1	1	0.375	1	0.1	1	1
	storage stability	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

[0075]

[Table 2]

component (% by weight)		Examples					Comparative Examples			
		9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4
A	n-octadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester				1		1	0.0001	1	1
	n-hexadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester		7	1		7				
	cholesterol hydrogen succinate	1								
B	L- arginine		2		0.2	1.4			0.2	
	potassium hydroxide	0.054		0.2				0.054		0.2
	aminomethyl propanol									
E	phosphoric acid				0.01				0.02	
	succinic acid			0.08						0.2
C	N-(hexadecyloxy hydroxypropyl)-N-hydroxyethyl hexadecanamide	1	0.1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1
	ceramide (type 2)									
	squalane				1				1	
	dimethylpolysiloxane									
	cholesterol	0.5			1		0.5	0.5	1	0.5
	cetanol									
	cholesteryl isostearate									
	glycerine	10	5	10	10	5	10	10	10	10
	carboxyvinyl polymer	0.1						0.1		0.1
	methyl parahydroxybenzoate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
D	ion exchanged water	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	pH: when dissolved and homogenized (when components (A), (B), (C) and (D) are mixed)	7.6	9.3	11.9	8.4	7.9	6.8	11.1	8.4	12
	immediately after manufactured (pH as cosmetic)	6.1	9.3	11.0	6.6	7.9	6.8	7.2	4	7.1
	E/A	0	0	0.08	0.01	0	0	0	0.02	0.2
	A/C	1	70	1	1	1	1	0.0001	1	1
	storage stability	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B

The invention claimed is:

1. A cosmetic comprising the following components (A), (B), (C) and (D), and (E):

(A) 0.1-7% by weight of an organic acid selected from the group consisting of n-octadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester, n-hexadecenyl succinic acid cholesteryl monoester, cholesterol hydrogen succinate and mixtures thereof;

(B) 0.01-3% by weight of a base;

(C) 0.1-8% by weight of a ceramide;

(D) water; and

optionally, (E), an acid other than the component (A), wherein

a weight ratio of the component (E) to (A) satisfies:

$0 \leq (E)/(A) \leq 0.1$, and

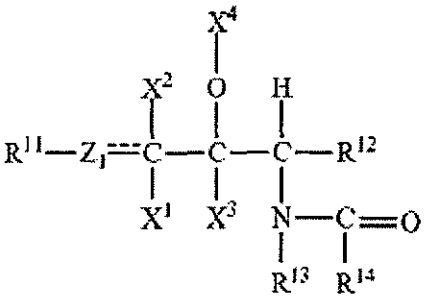
the cosmetic has a pH of 6 to 11.

2. The cosmetic according to claim 1, wherein a weight ratio of the components (A) to (C) satisfies: (A)/(C)≥0.001.

3. The cosmetic according to claim 1, wherein the component (B) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a basic amino acid, an alkanol amine, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

4. The cosmetic according to claim 1, wherein the ceramide of component (C) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by formula (2) or (3):

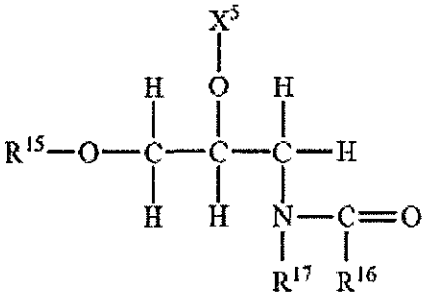
(2)



wherein R^{II} represents linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 7 to 19 carbon atoms, which is optionally substi-

tuted with a hydroxyl group; Z^1 represents a methylene group or a methine group; X^1, X^2 and X^3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or an acetoxy group; X^4 represents a hydrogen atom or forms an oxo group together with the neighboring oxygen atoms; wherein when Z^1 is a methine group, any one of X^1 and X^2 is a hydrogen atom, and the other is not present, and when X^4 forms an oxo group, X^3 is not present; R^{12} represents a hydroxymethyl group or an acetoxyl methyl group; R^{13} represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; R^{14} represents a linear, branched or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 5 to 30 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, or a substituent in which a linear chain or branched chain, and saturated or unsaturated fatty acid having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, is ester-bonded to the ω-terminal of the alkyl group; and a broken line denotes it may be an unsaturated bond;

(3)



wherein R^{15} represents a linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 10 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, or a hydrogen atom; X^5 represents a hydrogen atom, an acetyl group or a glyceryl group; R^{16} represents a linear chain, branched chain or cyclic, and saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 5 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group or an amino group, or a substituent in which a linear chain or branched chain, and saturated or unsaturated fatty acid having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, is ester-bonded to the ω-terminal of the hydrocarbon group; and R^{17} denotes a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having in total 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, a hydroxyalkoxy group, an alkoxy group or an acetoxy group.

5. The cosmetic according to claim 1, wherein a weight ratio of the component (A) to (C) satisfies: $0.1 \leq (A)/(C) \leq 10$.

6. The cosmetic according to claim **1**, further comprising a content of surfactants other than component (A) in an amount of 0.2% by weight or less.

7. A method for producing the cosmetic according to claim **1**, the method comprising:

mixing components (A), (B), (C) and (D) to be homogenized while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher, and then

cooling to 50° C. or less, followed by adjusting pH to 6 to 11.

8. A method for producing the cosmetic according to claim **1**, the method comprising:

mixing components (A), (B), (C) and (D) to be homogenized such that a content of the component (B) is adjusted to be pH 7 or more while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher, and then

cooling to 50° C. or less, followed by

adding the component (E) so as to adjust pH to 6 to 11.

9. The method according to claim **7**, wherein said mixing of components (A), (B), (C) and (D) comprises:

mixing the component (A), the component (B), and a part of the component (D), and heating the mixture to a

temperature not lower than the melting point of the component (A); and thereafter

mixing the component (C) and an oil phase containing other oil ingredients while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the highest melting point among all the components.

10. The method according to claim **7**, wherein said mixing of components (A), (B), (C) and (D) comprises:

mixing the components (A) and (C) while heating the mixture to a temperature not lower than the melting point of either the component (A) or the component (C), whichever is higher;

thereafter adding a mixed solution of the component (B) and a part of the component (D) and mixing them while heating; and thereafter adding other oil ingredients.

11. A method for using the cosmetic according to claim **1**, comprising applying the cosmetic on skin.

12. The cosmetic according to claim **1**, comprising (E), the acid other than the component (A), wherein

the weight ratio of the components (E) to (A) satisfies:

$$0<(E)/(A)\leq 0.1.$$

13. The cosmetic according to claim **12**, wherein the component (E) is an acid selected from the group consisting of dicarboxylic acid and phosphoric acid.