

# <sup>11</sup>C-Labeling of the C(1)-C(10) Dihydroxy Acid Moiety for the Study on the Synthesis of Kulokekahilide-2 PET Tracer

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## Abstract

<sup>11</sup>C-labeled C1-C10 partial structure of kulokekahilide-2 (**1**) was successfully synthesized based on Pd<sup>0</sup>-mediated rapid C-[<sup>11</sup>C]methylation using [<sup>11</sup>C]methyl iodide and pinacol alkenylboronate. The preparation of organoboron intermediate via olefin cross-metathesis is also a crucial procedure for the synthesis of <sup>11</sup>C-labeling C1-C10 dihydroxy acid moiety of **1**.

## Keywords

Kulokekahilide-2, Carbon-11, Boron, C-C Coupling, Isotopic Labeling

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## 1. Introduction

Kulokekahilide-2 (**1**) was isolated from the Hawaiian marine mollusk *Philine speciosa*, as an aurilide-type metabolite to show potent cytotoxicity against several cell lines in nanomolar concentrations [1]. The 26-membered form of **1** consisting of five amino acids (43-D-Ala, 37-L-Ile, 34-MeGly, 24-D-MePhe, 21-L-Ala) and two hydroxy acids {15-D-2-hydroxyisocaproic acid (15-D-Hica) and (5*S*,6*S*,7*S*,2*E*,8*E*)-2,6,8-trimethyl-5,7-dihydroxy-2,8-decadienoic acid (Dtda), **Figure 1**}, possesses almost the same components as the aurilides [2] [3]

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and lagunamides [4] isolated from the Japanese sea hare *Dolabellaauricularia* and marine cyanobacteria respectively [5]. The aurilide also shows high-level cytotoxicity against renal and prostate cancer cell lines and its molecular target for inducing apoptosis in human cell lines was reported by Sato *et al.* [6] [7]. Recently, Kimura *et al.* revealed that kulokekahilide-2 shows potent cytotoxicity against 39 human cancer cell lines, suggesting a mechanism of action could be different from that of standard anticancer drugs, aurilides, palau'amide [8] [9], and lagunamides [5].

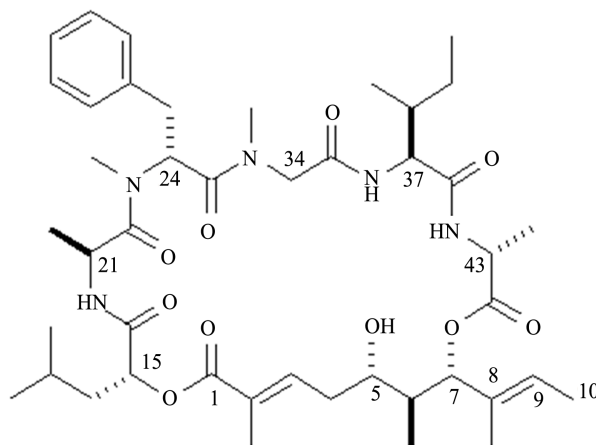
Positron emission tomography (PET), which uses specific probes radiolabeled with short-lived positron-emitting radionuclides ( $^{11}\text{C}$ ,  $^{13}\text{N}$ ,  $^{15}\text{O}$ ,  $^{18}\text{F}$  etc.), is a powerful non-invasive molecular imaging technique usable for highly accurate diagnoses and investigation of the *in vivo* biochemistry of bioactive compounds. In addition, it is strongly hoped that PET would be applied as a human microdosing study to an early-stage of drug development [10]. Carbon-11 (half-life = 20.4 min) is one of the most meritorious isotopes for PET research because carbon is included in all organic molecules. In recent years, efficient labeling methods of the  $^{11}\text{C}$  radioisotope into organic frameworks have continuously been developed by Suzuki *et al.* using palladium(0)-mediated rapid C-[ $^{11}\text{C}$ ]methylation (5 min reactions) consisting of the cross-coupling reactions of [ $^{11}\text{C}$ ]methyl iodide and the stannyl or boron substrates [11] [12]. Actually, the rapid cross-coupling reactions have successfully been applied for the syntheses of various disease-oriented PET tracers [13]-[16]. Our interest has been intrigued by extending the  $^{11}\text{C}$  labeling reactions to complex natural product. Described herein in the synthesis of  $^{11}\text{C}$ -incorporated C(1)-C(10) partial structure in [ $^{11}\text{C}$ ]kulokekahilide-2 focused on the  $^{11}\text{C}$  labeling at C10 carbon of **1** using a combination of olefin cross metathesis (CM) and rapid C-[ $^{11}\text{C}$ ]methylation.

## 2. Results and Discussion

Kulokekahilide-2 has several possible positions for  $^{11}\text{C}$  radiolabeling. Prior to actual synthesis of  $^{11}\text{C}$ -incorporated **1**, we investigated a model study using a partial structure. Here, we are particularly interested in introducing  $^{11}\text{C}$  onto the methylene group of **2** as a  $^{11}\text{CH}_3$  by our rapid cross-coupling reaction [12], [17] between  $\text{sp}^2_{\text{vinyl}}$ - and  $\text{sp}^3$ -carbon atoms using an organostannyl or boron precursor **3** (Scheme 1) where key step of synthetic strategy involves the preparation of precursor **3** derived from methyl ester **2**.

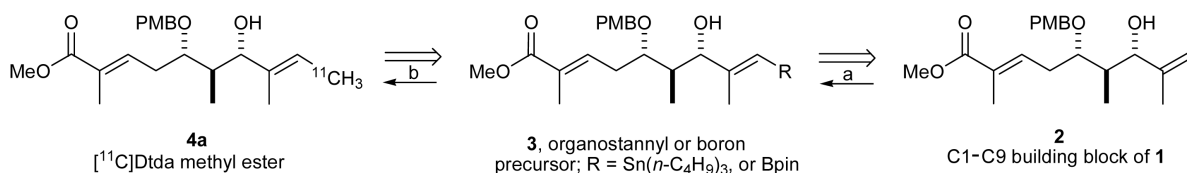
Before synthesizing  $^{11}\text{C}$ -labeled **4a**, we prepared the nonradioactive molecule **4b**. Thus, the intermediary compound **5** was synthesized from (*S*)-3-propionyl-4-isopropyl-2-oxazolidinone according to the reported procedure [1]. Protection of the secondary alcohol **5** gave PMB ether **6** in 49% yield. Subsequent deprotection of the TBS group at C7 in **6** afforded the desired compound **4b** in 78% yield after column chromatography on silica gel (Scheme 2).

The synthesis of the organostannyl or boron compound **3** started with an acylation of commercially available ox-azolidinone **7** with the treatment of LDA and EtCOCl to give aldol coupling precursor [18]. Subsequent *an-*

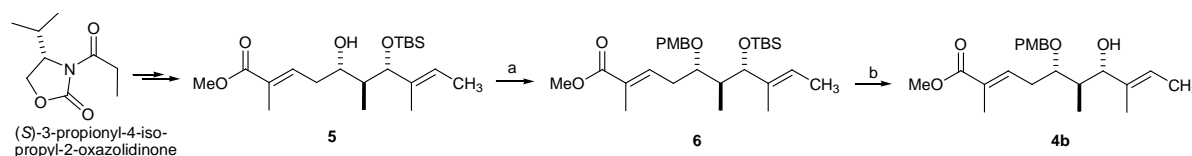


Kulokekahilide-2 (1)

**Figure 1.** Chemical structure of kulokekahilide-2 (1).



**Scheme 1.** Synthetic plan: Transformation from terminal alkene **2** to  $^{11}\text{C}$ -labeled **4a** by (a) olefin cross metathesis and (b) rapid C- $^{11}\text{C}$ methylation.



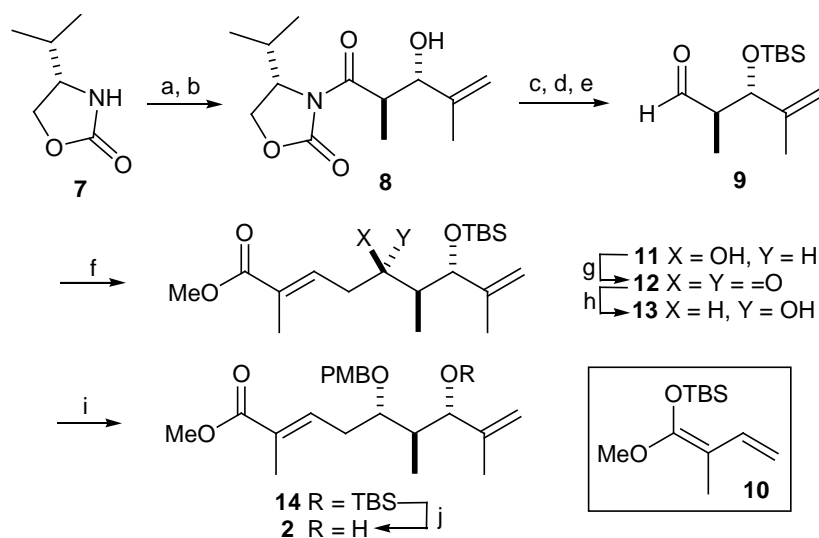
**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of **4b**. Reagents and Conditions: (a) PMBTCA,  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  added to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ , then RT, 2 h, 49%; (b)  $\text{HF}\cdot\text{Py}$ , pyridine, THF, RT,  $40^\circ\text{C}$ , overnight, 78%.

*ti*-selective aldol reaction with methacrylaldehyde to provide the aldol product **8**, which was converted into aldehyde **9** in three steps. Then the  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{OEt}_2$  mediated Mukaiyamaaldol reaction of **9** with silyl ketene acetal **10** afforded methyl ester (*5R*)-**11** as a single diastereomer. Successful Moffatt oxidation of **11** to give ketone **12**, and subsequent reduction of the resulting keto group in **12** with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  stereoselectively (*S/R* = 22/1) proceeded to give the desired alcohol (*5S*)-**13** in 69% yield. PMB protection of the secondary hydroxy substituent at C5 in **14**, followed by cleavage of the TBS protecting group at C7 with  $\text{HF}\cdot\text{Py}$ , accomplishing the synthesis of 1,1-disubstituted alkene **2** (Scheme 3).

As the key step for synthesis of organostannane or organoboron precursor of **2**, cross metathesis was chosen because it has become a powerful and convenient synthetic technique for the preparation of functionalized alkenes in organic chemistry [19]. With this concern, hydroxy 1,1-disubstituted alkene **15** as a model compound for screening the most effective Ru complexes and cross partners in metathesis. Cross metathesis using **15** prepared by Grignard addition reaction [20] was investigated under various reaction conditions: Grubbs second-generation (G-II) [21] [22] or the Hoveyda-Grubbs second-generation complex (HG-II) [23] in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , benzene, and toluene at reflux or microwave irradiation, and the use of an excess amount of cross partners such as vinylstannane **16a**, or vinyl boronates (**16b** and **16c**). These results are summarized in Table 1. Cross metathesis of **15** with vinylstannane **16a** using HG-II (1.0 equiv) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  or toluene at reflux did not give the desired organostannane precursor **17a** presumably due to highly sterically hindered  $\text{Sn}(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_3$  group in **16a** (Table 1, entries 1-2). The lower sterically hindered vinyl dioxaborolane **16b** compared with tetramethyl vinyl boronate **16c** also did not afford the corresponding organoboron compound **17b** with the use of HG-II or G-II catalysts in thermal or microwave heating conditions [24]-[31] (entries 3-5). Grubbs II-catalyzed cross metathesis of **15** with vinyl pinacol boronate **16c** (4.0 equiv) in benzene at reflux did not afford desired **17c** (entry 6). By contrast, when **15** was treated with more robust and powerful HG-II (25 mol%) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at reflux for one day, we observed a small amount of organoboron precursor **17c** (entry 7). The increase of the catalyst to a stoichiometric amount under the same reaction conditions to give **17c** in 35% yield (entry 8) as a single *E*-isomer as judged by the NOE observation.

We envisioned here that the *E*-selective olefin cross metathesis using HG-II catalyst in the reaction of **15** and vinyl pinacol boronate **16c** could be applied for synthesis of the organoboron derivative of 1,1-disubstituted alkene **2**, which is crucial precursor for the synthesis of the  $^{11}\text{C}$ -labeling dihydroxy acid moiety of **1**. However, contrary to our expectation, cross metathesis using **2** did not proceed under above reaction conditions (Table 1, entry 8) with the notice of complete recovery of **2**. The reaction was further conducted under more forcing the reaction conditions, giving the desired (*E*)-organoboron derivative **3** in 14% yield along with recovered **2** in 32% yield (Scheme 4). The geometry of the newly formed double bond was decided by NOE observation as shown below.

By using the precursor **3**, we examined the  $\text{Pd}^0$ -mediate rapid C- $^{11}\text{C}$  methylations protocol [12] for preparing the  $^{11}\text{C}$ -labeled partial structure of **1** under cold conditions (Scheme 4). The methylation of **3** was conducted



**Scheme 3.** Synthesis of **2**. Reagents and Conditions: (a) EtCOCl, LDA, THF,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h, 95%; (b) methacrylaldehyde,  $n\text{Bu}_2\text{BOTf}$ , DIPEA,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h, 47%; (c) MeNH(OMe)HCl,  $\text{Me}_3\text{Al}$ ,  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ –RT, 30 min, then  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  added to **8**, warmed up to RT for overnight; (d) TBSCl, Imidazole, DMF, 94% for two steps; (e) DIBAL-H, THF,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1.5 h, 89%; (f) **10**,  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{OEt}_2$ ,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h, 69%; (g) DCC, pyridine trifluoroacetate, DMSO/ $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (1:1), RT, 1.5 h, 75%; (h)  $\text{NaBH}_4$ , MeOH,  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h, 69%; (i) PMBTCA,  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  added to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ , then RT, 2.5 h, 49%; (j) HF·Py, pyridine, THF, RT,  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , overnight, 74%.

**Table 1.** Screening the reactions of Ru complexes and cross metathesis partners<sup>a</sup>.

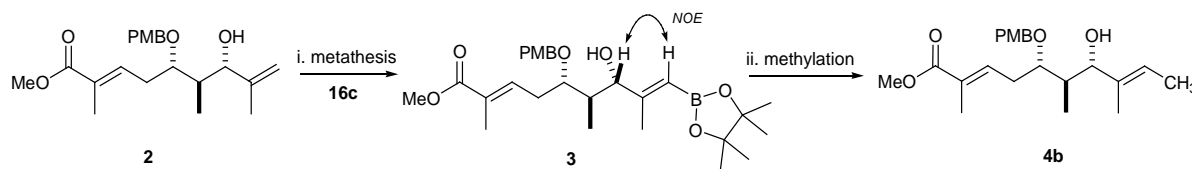
| Entry | Cross partner | Catalyst (equiv.) | Product <sup>b</sup>   | Yield <sup>f</sup> (%) |
|-------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1     | <b>16a</b>    | HG-II (1.0)       | <b>17a</b>             | N.R.                   |
| 2     | <b>16a</b>    | HG-II (1.0)       | <b>17a<sup>c</sup></b> | N.R.                   |
| 3     | <b>16b</b>    | HG-II (1.0)       | <b>17b</b>             | N.R.                   |
| 4     | <b>16b</b>    | HG-II (1.0)       | <b>17b<sup>d</sup></b> | N.R.                   |
| 5     | <b>16b</b>    | G-II (1.0)        | <b>17b</b>             | N.R.                   |
| 6     | <b>16c</b>    | G-II (0.1)        | <b>17c<sup>e</sup></b> | N.R.                   |
| 7     | <b>16c</b>    | HG-II (0.25)      | <b>17c</b>             | 5                      |
| 8     | <b>16c</b>    | HG-II (1.0)       | <b>17c</b>             | 35                     |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **15** (1 equiv), cross partner (4 equiv), in refluxing  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.02 M) for 24 h.

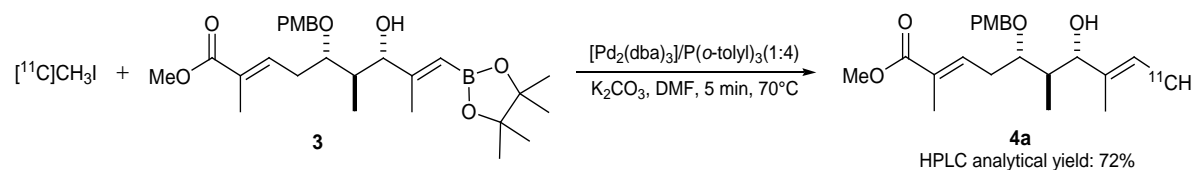
<sup>b</sup>Only the *E* isomer was observed in all cases; <sup>c</sup>In toluene (0.02 M), reflux, 24 h; <sup>d</sup>In  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.1 M), microwave heating,  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 30 min; <sup>e</sup>In benzene (0.02 M), reflux, 24 h. <sup>f</sup>Isolated yield; HG-II: Hoveyda-Grubbs second-generation catalyst; G-II: Grubbs second-generation catalyst.

following the standard procedure:  $\text{CH}_3\text{I}$  dissolved in DMF was added to a solution of **3**,  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ ,  $\text{P}(o\text{-tolyl})_3$ , and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  in DMF, and the resulting mixture was heated at  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 min, then purified on ODS to give **4b** in 78% yield.

Based on the above-mentioned protocol, we performed the synthesis of  $^{11}\text{C}$ -labeled Dtda methyl ester **4a**. Thus,  $\text{3}/\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/\text{P}(o\text{-tolyl})_3/\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2:1:4:10) dissolved in DMF under argon was mixed with  $[^{11}\text{C}]\text{CH}_3\text{I}$ , prepared as previously described [32], the solution was heated at  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 min (Scheme 5). After the mixture was



**Scheme 4.** Synthesis of **3** and **4b**. Reagents and Conditions: (i) HG-II (1.3 equiv), toluene (0.01M), 80°C, 24 h, 14%; (ii) MeI, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>, P(*o*-tolyl)<sub>3</sub>, and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 70°C, 5 min, 78%.



**Scheme 5.** Synthesis of <sup>11</sup>C-labeled Dtda methyl ester **4a**.

poured into a separate vial containing a solution of ascorbic acid in acetonitrile, the resulting reaction mixture was submitted to HPLC, and then purified by reverse phase semi-preparative HPLC to give desired [<sup>11</sup>C]Dtda-methyl ester **4a** in 72% as reverse phase HPLC analytical yield (Figure 2). Total synthesis time including HPLC purification was 33 min. The radioactivity of isolated **4a** was 315 MBq and the radiochemical purity was >99%. The chemical identity of **4a** was confirmed by co-injection with the authentic sample of **4b** by analytical HPLC.

### 3. Conclusion

<sup>11</sup>C-labeled Dtda methyl ester **4a** as C1-C10 building block of kulokekahilide-2 (**1**) has been successfully synthesized using a combination of olefin cross-metathesis/rapid C-[<sup>11</sup>C]methylation. Pinacol alkenyl boronate precursor **3** prepared via cross-metathesis is crucial for subsequent Pd<sup>0</sup>-mediated rapid C-[<sup>11</sup>C]methylation using [<sup>11</sup>C]CH<sub>3</sub>I. The <sup>11</sup>C-labeling would be applied at later stage for the synthesis of <sup>11</sup>C-incorporated **1**.

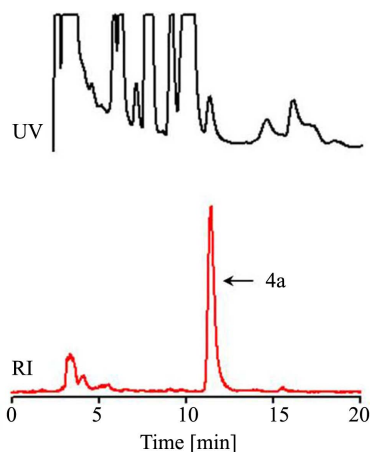
### 4. Acknowledgements

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### 5. Experimental

#### 5.1. General

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECX400P spectrometer (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H), and the chemical shifts in δ (parts per million) were referenced to the solvent peaks of δ<sub>H</sub> 7.26 for CHCl<sub>3</sub>. HR ESI-TOF-MS spectra were measured on an Applied Biosystems Mariner Biospectrometry Workstation using ABN as a calibration standard in the positive mode. Microwave irradiation was carried out in a Biotope Initiator™ (Tokyo, Japan) using a sealed vessel. [<sup>11</sup>C]Carbon dioxide was produced by a <sup>14</sup>N(p, α)<sup>11</sup>C reaction by using a Sumitomo CYPRIS HM-12S cyclotron (Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Tokyo, Japan), and then converted to [<sup>11</sup>C]methyl iodide by treatment with lithium aluminum hydride followed by hydriodic acid using an automated synthesis system (Cupid, Sumitomo Heavy Industries). The obtained [<sup>11</sup>C]methyl iodide was used for palladium(0)-mediated rapid [<sup>11</sup>C]methylation shown in Scheme 5. The synthesis of <sup>11</sup>C-labeled Dtda methyl ester **4a** in Scheme 5 was conducted in a lead-shielded hot-cell with remote control of all operations in RIKEN CLST. Purification with HPLC was performed on a GL Science system (Tokyo, Japan). Radioactivity was quantified with an ATOMLAB™ 300 dose calibrator (Aloka, Tokyo, Japan). Analytical HPLC was performed on a Shimadzu system (Kyoto, Japan), and effluent radioactivity was measured with an RLC700 radio analyser



**Figure 2.** HPLC for purification of the reaction mixture. UV absorbance: 223 nm.

(Aloka). The column used for analytical and semi-preparative HPLC was Develosil ODS-HG-5 (Nomura Chemical, Japan).

## 5.2. Synthesis of Authentic Sample 4b

***p*-Methoxybenzyl ether (6):** To a stirred solution of alcohol **5** (19 mg, 0.05 mmol) and *p*-methoxybenzyl-2,2,2-trichloroacetimidate (72 mg, 0.26 mmol) in ether (1.6 mL) cooled at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  was added trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (1.5  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.018 mmol). After the addition was completed, the ice bath was removed and the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature. After being stirred at rt for 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . The separated aqueous layer was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (8 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue oil was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 hexane/ethyl acetate) to give **6** (12 mg, 49%) as a colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.31 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.43 (q,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.42 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.76 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.21 (m, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.67 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.80 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 0.03 (s, 3H), 0.01 (s, 3H).

**Authentic sample (4b):** *p*-methoxybenzyl ether **6** (12 mg, 0.02 mmol) was dissolved in a 5:3:12 mixture of HF $\cdot$ Py, Pyridine and THF (0.6 mL). The solution was stirred at  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 12 h, diluted with EtOAc (2 mL), and poured into saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (6 mL) cooled at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (4 mL  $\times$  3). The combined extracts were washed with brine dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and concentrated. The residue oil was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 hexane/ethyl acetate) to give desired **4b** (7 mg, 78%) as a colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.26 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.43 (q,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.69 (m, 1H), 2.59 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.61 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 0.66 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H). HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_5$  377.2322; Found 377.2298.

## 5.3. Synthesis of Organoboron Precursor 3

Alcohol **2** was prepared from **14** by deprotection of the second TBS ether using HF $\cdot$ Py as a colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.26 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 4.54 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d,  $J = 10$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 0.73 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H).

**Organoboron precursor (3):** To a solution of HG-II catalyst (63 mg, 0.1 mmol) and dry toluene (6.5 mL) in a round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser was added alcohol **2** (28 mg, 0.08 mmol) and vinyl boronate **16c** (66  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.38 mmol). The solution was refluxed for roughly overnight. The mixture was then con-



centrated, and the products were purified by SiliaMetS<sup>®</sup> DMT. The filtrate was concentrated, and then the residue was separated by HPLC [Develosil ODS-HG-5 (Ø 10 × 250 mm), flow rate 4 mL/min, 60% - 80% aqMeCN, 40 min] to give **3** (5.3 mg, 14%;  $t_R$  = 19.5 min.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.25 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 4.52 (d,  $J$  = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (d,  $J$  = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.71 (m, 1H), 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 12H), 0.74 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H). HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>41</sub>BO<sub>7</sub>Na 511.2837; Found 511.2814.

#### 5.4. Synthesis of **4b** by the Rapid C-Methylation (Cold Conditions)

Iodomethane (0.25 µL, 4 mmol) dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (19.75 µL, 0.2 M) was added to a solution of Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub> (1.8 mg, 2.0 µmol), tri(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (2.4 mg, 7.9 µmol), potassium carbonate (2.8 mg, 20 µmol), and **3** (2.0 mg, 4.0 µmol) in anhydrous *N,N*-dimethylformamide (200 µL). The resulting mixture was heated at 70°C for 5 min. The reaction solution was evaporated in vacuo and purified on ODS, eluting with MeCN-H<sub>2</sub>O (7:3) to afford **4b** (1.2 mg) in 78% yield.

#### 5.5. Synthesis of <sup>11</sup>C-Labeled Dtda Methyl Ester **4a**

[<sup>11</sup>C]CH<sub>3</sub>I was transported into a vial where the organoboron precursor **3** (2.0 mg), Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub> (1.8 mg), P(*o*-tolyl)<sub>3</sub> (2.4 mg), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.8 mg) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (200 µL) at room temperature. After the solution was heated at 70°C for 5 min, the mixture was poured into a separated vial. Then the reaction vial was washed with MeCN/water (70:30, 800 µL) and the washing was added to the above mixture solution. The resulting mixture was purified to reverse-phase HPLC [Develosil ODS-HG-5 (Ø 10 × 250 mm), flow rate 5.0 mL/min, 70% aqMeCN, detection at 223 nm, **3a**:  $t_R$  = 11.4 min]. The desired fractions were collected in a flask containing 25% ascorbic acid (50 µL), and the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure.

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