

# An Efficient Synthesis of Functionalized 1,6-Dienes from Baylis-Hillman Adducts via a Pd-Catalyzed Decarboxylative Protonation Protocol

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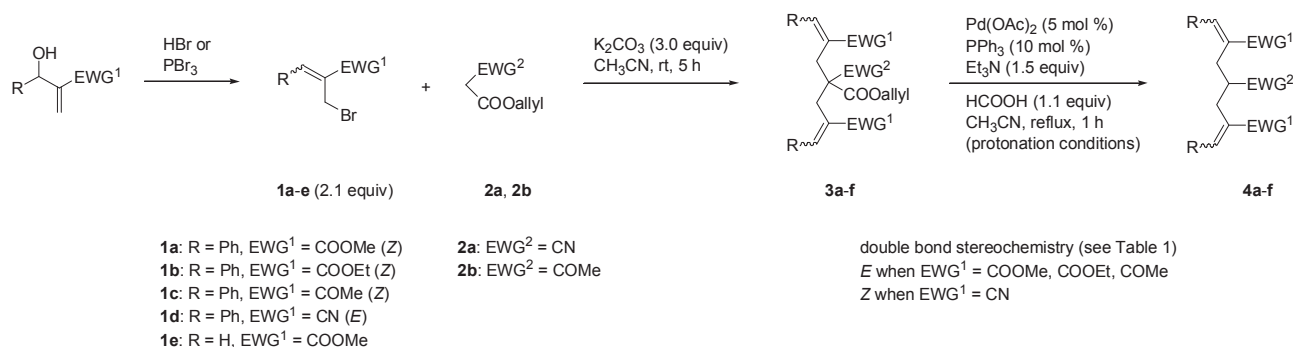
**Key Words:** Palladium, 1,6-Dienes, Baylis-Hillman adducts, Decarboxylative protonation

Functionalized 1,6-dienes is a synthetically important skeleton<sup>1,2</sup> and has been used for the synthesis of various carbocycles via a ring-closing metathesis (RCM) reaction<sup>1a</sup> and a Pd-catalyzed cyclization/hydrosilylation.<sup>1b,c</sup> In addition, symmetric bis-cinnamic acid derivatives have been used for the synthesis of C<sub>2</sub>-symmetric core units of HIV protease inhibitors,<sup>2a</sup> spiro glutarimides and spiro bisglutarimides,<sup>2b</sup> and propellano bis-lactone derivatives.<sup>2c</sup> These functionalized 1,6-dienes are most commonly prepared by diallylation of active methylene compounds with allylic halides under basic conditions.<sup>1e,2b,2c</sup> Recently, a palladium-catalyzed allylation of active methylene compounds are using widely.<sup>1a,3</sup> Cinnamyl bromides, derived

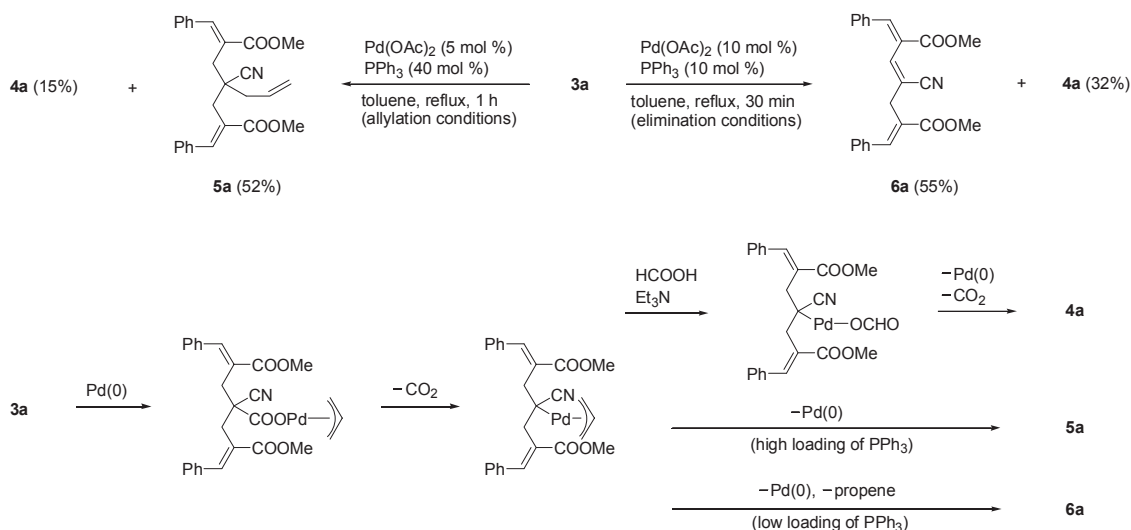
from the Baylis-Hillman adducts, has also been used in this way for the synthesis of symmetric bis-cinnamic acid derivatives.<sup>2b-e</sup>

During our recent studies on Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative protonation, allylation, and elimination reactions with modified Baylis-Hillman adducts,<sup>4</sup> we envisioned that synthetically interesting 1,6-diene derivatives **4** could be synthesized, as shown in Scheme 1.

The starting materials **3a-f** were prepared by the reactions of various cinnamyl bromides **1a-e**, prepared from the corresponding Baylis-Hillman adducts stereoselectively,<sup>5</sup> and active methylene compounds **2a** or **2b** under the influence of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at room temperature. Bis-cinnamylated products

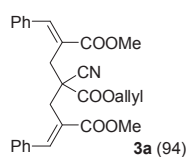
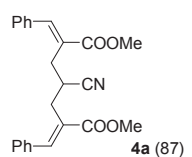
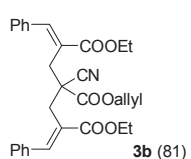
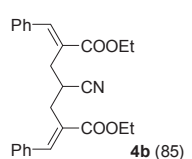
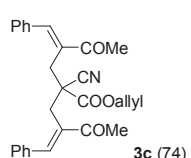
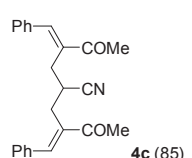
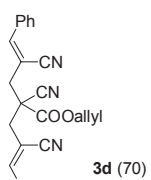
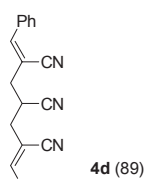
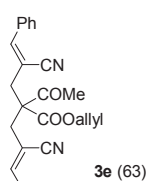
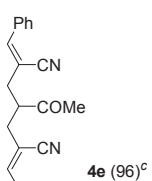
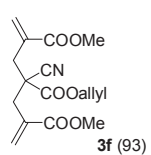
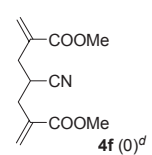


Scheme 1



Scheme 2

**Table 1.** Synthesis of **3** and Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative protonation to **4**

Entry	Substrates	<b>3</b> (%) <sup>a</sup>	<b>4</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	<b>1a</b> + <b>2a</b>	 <b>3a</b> (94)	 <b>4a</b> (87)
2	<b>1b</b> + <b>2a</b>	 <b>3b</b> (81)	 <b>4b</b> (85)
3	<b>1c</b> + <b>2a</b>	 <b>3c</b> (74)	 <b>4c</b> (85)
4	<b>1d</b> + <b>2a</b>	 <b>3d</b> (70)	 <b>4d</b> (89)
5	<b>1d</b> + <b>2b</b>	 <b>3e</b> (63)	 <b>4e</b> (96) <sup>c</sup>
6	<b>1e</b> + <b>2a</b>	 <b>3f</b> (93)	 <b>4f</b> (0) <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Conditions: compound **1** (2.1 mmol), compound **2** (1.0 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv), CH<sub>3</sub>CN, rt, 5 h. <sup>b</sup>Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.5 equiv), HCOOH (1.1 equiv), CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux, 1 h. <sup>c</sup>Run at rt, 30 min. <sup>d</sup>Severe decomposition of **3f** to intractable mixtures and failed to obtain **4f**.

**3a-f** were obtained as the major products (63 - 94%) along with trace amounts of mono-cinnamylated compounds. The stereochemistry around the double bond is *E* for **3a-c** and *Z* for **3d** and **3e**.<sup>5</sup> The next Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative protonation reaction of **3a-f** was carried out under the typical conditions involving the use of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)/PPh<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.5 equiv)/HCOOH (1.1 equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (reflux, 1 h).<sup>4,6</sup>

Desired products **4a-e** were isolated in 85 - 96% yields and the results are summarized in Table 1. It is interesting to note that the reaction of acetyl derivative **3e** (entry 5) showed very fast and clean reaction even at room temperature within short time (30 min). As shown in Table 1, the stereochemistry around the double bond is *E* for **4a-c** and *Z* for **4d** and **4e**. The reaction of methylene derivative **3f** (entry 6) did not produce the desired compound **4f** in an appreciable amount, unexpectedly. Severe decomposition of **3f** to intractable side products was observed.

As a next trial, we examined Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative allylation<sup>4b,6</sup> and decarboxylation-elimination,<sup>4b,e,6</sup> with compound **3a** as a representative example as shown in Scheme 2. Decarboxylative allylation was carried out under the conditions of high loading of PPh<sub>3</sub> (Pd/PPh<sub>3</sub>, 1:8),<sup>4b,6</sup> and allyl derivative **5a** was isolated in 52% yield along with a protonation product **4a** (15%).<sup>7</sup> Decarboxylation-elimination reaction was performed under the conditions of low loading of PPh<sub>3</sub> (Pd/PPh<sub>3</sub>, 1:1), as reported in a similar system,<sup>4b,e,6</sup> and desired product **6a** was obtained in 55% along with **4a** (32%).<sup>7</sup> All of the mechanisms for the Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative protonation, allylation, and elimination reactions are summarized in Scheme 2.<sup>4,6</sup>

In summary, we disclosed an efficient synthesis of functionalized 1,6-diene derivatives starting from the Baylis-Hillman adducts *via* the Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative protonation as the key step.

## Experimental Section

**Typical procedure for the preparation of compound 3a.**<sup>4c</sup> A solution of cinnamyl bromide **1a** (536 mg, 2.1 mmol), allyl cyanoacetate **2a** (125 mg, 1.0 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (415 mg, 3.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (4 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/ether, 4:1) compound **3a** was obtained as colorless oil, 445 mg (94%). Other compounds were prepared similarly and the spectroscopic data of **3a-f** are as follows.

**Compound 3a:**<sup>4c</sup> 94%; colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 3.15 (s, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 4.49 (dt, *J* = 5.4 and 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.22-5.37 (m, 2H), 5.82-5.91 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.88 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 33.54, 48.80, 52.09, 67.03, 117.17, 118.49, 127.13, 128.56, 128.71, 128.87, 130.98, 134.54, 144.29, 167.63, 167.99.

**Compound 3b:** 81%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2246, 1748, 1709, 1255 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 3.14 (s, 4H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 4.48 (dt, *J* = 5.4 and 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.21-5.37 (m, 2H), 5.80-5.91 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.87 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 14.13, 33.53, 48.84, 61.33, 67.08, 117.29, 118.47, 127.58, 128.62, 128.71, 128.96, 131.12, 134.76, 144.01, 167.33, 168.15; ESIMS *m/z* 524 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>: C, 71.84; H, 6.23; N, 2.79. Found: C, 71.57; H, 6.51; N, 2.88.

**Compound 3c:** 74%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2246, 1744, 1671, 1246 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 2.40 (s, 6H), 3.05 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (dt, *J* = 5.7 and 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.22-5.37 (m, 2H), 5.83-5.96 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.33-7.43 (m, 6H), 7.66 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR

(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  25.83, 32.79, 49.19, 67.22, 117.68, 118.67, 128.71, 128.88, 129.01, 131.38, 134.74, 137.48, 143.76, 168.04, 199.66; ESIMS  $m/z$  464 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 76.17; H, 6.16; N, 3.17. Found: C, 76.46; H, 6.34; N, 3.02.

**Compound 3d:**<sup>4e</sup> 70%; white solid, mp 86 - 88 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  3.00 (d,  $J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 3.16 (d,  $J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 4.79 (dt,  $J$  = 6.0 and 1.2 Hz, 2H), 5.21-5.41 (m, 2H), 5.86-5.99 (m, 1H), 7.24 (s, 2H), 7.38-7.45 (m, 6H), 7.73-7.79 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  41.92, 50.70, 68.24, 102.41, 116.17, 117.82, 120.36, 128.83, 129.08, 130.16, 131.09, 132.48, 150.24, 165.81.

**Compound 3e:**<sup>4e</sup> 63%; colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.35 (s, 3H), 3.14 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 2H), 4.73 (dt,  $J$  = 6.3 and 1.2 Hz, 2H), 5.25-5.40 (m, 2H), 5.87-6.00 (m, 1H), 7.15 (s, 2H), 7.37-7.44 (m, 6H), 7.67-7.73 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  27.61, 37.61, 63.36, 67.11, 104.27, 118.45, 120.32, 128.90, 128.95, 130.76, 130.78, 132.91, 149.27, 169.50, 201.85.

**Compound 3f:** 93%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2246, 1744, 1724, 1442, 1284, 1216, 1162 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.90 (d,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz, 2H), 3.05 (d,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 4.62 (dt,  $J$  = 5.7 and 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.26-5.40 (m, 2H), 5.83-5.96 (m, 1H), 5.86 (s, 2H), 6.43 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  37.85, 49.63, 52.25, 67.28, 117.44, 119.44, 130.49, 130.69, 134.11, 166.55, 167.14; ESIMS  $m/z$  344 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>: C, 59.81; H, 5.96; N, 4.36. Found: C, 60.11; H, 6.18; N, 4.29.

**Typical procedure for the synthesis of compound 4a.** A solution of **3a** (237 mg, 0.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (6 mg, 5 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (13 mg, 10 mol %), Et<sub>3</sub>N (76 mg, 0.75 mmol), and HCOOH (25 mg, 0.55 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1.5 mL) was heated to reflux for 1 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/EtOAc, 7:1) compound **4a** was obtained as colorless oil, 170 mg (87%). Other compounds were prepared similarly and the spectroscopic data of **4a-e** are as follows.

**Compound 4a:** 87%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2239, 1711, 1266 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.74 (dd,  $J$  = 13.5 and 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (dd,  $J$  = 13.5 and 9.3 Hz, 2H), 3.39-3.48 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 6H), 7.22-7.42 (m, 10H), 7.90 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  29.72, 29.79, 52.22, 120.90, 128.24, 128.65, 128.81, 128.91, 134.71, 143.18, 167.56; ESIMS  $m/z$  412 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 74.02; H, 5.95; N, 3.60. Found: C, 74.41; H, 5.79; N, 3.33.

**Compound 4b:** 85%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2239, 1705, 1224 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  1.34 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 2.73 (dd,  $J$  = 13.8 and 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (dd,  $J$  = 13.8 and 9.3 Hz, 2H), 3.42-3.53 (m, 1H), 4.27 (q,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 7.28-7.42 (m, 10H), 7.90 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  14.18, 29.77, 29.87, 61.20, 120.95, 128.58, 128.63, 128.72, 128.91, 134.83, 142.87, 167.09; ESIMS  $m/z$  440 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 74.80; H, 6.52; N, 3.35. Found: C, 74.69; H, 6.89; N, 3.47.

**Compound 4c:** 85%; white solid, mp 108 - 110 °C; IR (KBr) 2238, 1666, 1220 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.46 (s, 6H), 2.69 (dd,  $J$  = 13.2 and 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (dd,  $J$  = 13.2 and 9.6 Hz, 2H), 3.21-3.32 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 10H), 7.70 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  25.72, 28.57, 29.30, 121.06,

128.68, 128.86, 128.92, 134.65, 137.99, 143.40, 199.29; ESIMS  $m/z$  380 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 80.64; H, 6.49; N, 3.92. Found: C, 80.87; H, 6.57; N, 3.79.

**Compound 4d:** 89%; white solid, mp 99 - 102 °C; IR (KBr) 2243, 2211, 1449 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.82 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 3.33-3.42 (m, 1H), 7.20 (s, 2H), 7.41-7.46 (m, 6H), 7.74-7.80 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  31.57, 37.89, 104.96, 118.18, 118.97, 129.30, 129.32, 131.36, 132.95, 148.51; ESIMS  $m/z$  346 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 81.71; H, 5.30; N, 12.99. Found: C, 81.45; H, 5.76; N, 12.63.

**Compound 4e:** 96%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2209, 1714, 1448 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.29 (s, 3H), 2.56 (dd,  $J$  = 14.1 and 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (dd,  $J$  = 14.1 and 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.38-3.47 (m, 1H), 6.99 (s, 2H), 7.38-7.43 (m, 6H), 7.69-7.73 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  31.64, 37.70, 49.51, 107.40, 118.46, 129.05, 129.20, 130.86, 133.34, 146.61, 209.08; ESIMS  $m/z$  363 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 81.15; H, 5.92; N, 8.23. Found: C, 80.96; H, 6.04; N, 8.11.

**Typical procedure for the synthesis of compound 5a.** A solution of **3a** (237 mg, 0.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (6 mg, 5 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (52 mg, 40 mol %) in toluene (1.5 mL) was heated to reflux for 1 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ether, 15:10:1) compound **5a** was obtained as colorless oil, 112 mg (52%) along with **4a** (29 mg, 15%).

**Compound 5a:** 52%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2233, 1718, 1232 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  2.04 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (d,  $J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 2.85 (d,  $J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 4.96 (d,  $J$  = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d,  $J$  = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.52-5.65 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.86 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  32.86, 41.94, 42.47, 52.46, 120.54, 121.37, 128.83, 128.91, 129.01, 129.22, 132.00, 135.48, 143.60, 168.76; ESIMS  $m/z$  452 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 75.50; H, 6.34; N, 3.26. Found: C, 75.77; H, 6.58; N, 3.41.

**Typical procedure for the synthesis of compound 6a.** A solution of **3a** (237 mg, 0.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 10 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (13 mg, 10 mol %) in toluene (1.5 mL) was heated to reflux for 30 min under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/CHCl<sub>3</sub>/ether, 20:10:1) compound **6a** was obtained as colorless oil, 107 mg (55%) along with **4a** (62 mg, 32%).

**Compound 6a:** 55%; colorless oil; IR (film) 2216, 1717, 1256 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  3.60 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.46 (m, 10H), 7.81 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz)  $\delta$  32.67, 52.38, 52.50, 116.69, 117.15, 126.15, 128.62, 128.84 (2C), 129.18, 129.47, 130.06, 130.54, 134.11, 134.35, 138.59, 143.85, 143.89, 166.37, 167.52; ESIMS  $m/z$  410 (M<sup>+</sup>+Na). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 74.40; H, 5.46; N, 3.62. Found: C, 74.67; H, 5.76; N, 3.59.

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## References and Notes

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7. Decarboxylative protonation product **4a** must be formed due to trace amounts of moisture in the reaction mixture.<sup>4</sup>