Efficient Synthesis of Tetrasubstituted 2,3-Allenoates and Preliminary Studies on Bioactivities

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General Information. NMR spectra were taken with an Agilent-400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ¹H NMR, 100 MHz for ¹³C NMR, and 376 MHz for ¹⁹F NMR) in CDCl₃ or CD₃OD. ¹H NMR experiments were measured with tetramethylsilane (0 ppm) in CDCl₃ or the signal of residual CH₃OH (3.31 ppm) in CD₃OD as the internal reference; ¹³C NMR experiments were measured in relative to the signal of CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) or the signal of CD₃OD (49.0 ppm); ¹⁹F NMR experiments were measured in relative to the signal of CFCl₃ (0 ppm) in CDCl₃. All reactions were carried out in oven-dried Schlenk tubes or vials. Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ and tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine were purchased from Energy Chemicals. Organoboronic acids were all commercially available: phenylboronic acid was purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China) and recrystallized from ethyl acetate before use; other arylboronic acids (98% purity) were purchased from Shanghai Boka Chemical Technology Co., Ltd (Shanghai, China) and used as received. Petroleum ether (b.p. 60-90 °C) was purchased from Shanghai Titan Scientific Co., Ltd. THF was dried over sodium wire with benzophenone as the indicator and distilled freshly before use.

Experimental details and analytical data

1. Preparation of 3-methoxycarbonyl propargylic alcohols¹

(1) Preparation of methyl 4-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-heptynoate (I) (yy-01-017)

Typical Procedure I: To an oven oven-dried round-bottom flask were charged with anhydrous THF (50 mL) and methyl propiolate (5.3 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 5.009 g, 60.0 mmol). The solution was cooled to -78 °C under argon atmosphere, and LiHMDS (60 mL, 60.0 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added dropwise over 30 min. The resulting solution was stirred for 55 minutes before 2-pentanone (5.1 mL, d = 0.809 g/mL, 4.126 g, 48.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the solution over 10 min. After stirring for 105 minutes at this temperature, the resulting mixture was quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl (aq.) solution (30 mL) and diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 150 mL), and the combined organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford I (4.1777 g, 51%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 7/1 (\sim 240 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4/1(~250 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.78$ (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.30 (s, 1 H, OH), 1.75-1.63 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.62-1.42 (m, 5 H, CH₂ and CH₃), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 154.0, 91.1, 74.5, 67.9, 52.6, 44.9, 28.7,$ 17.6, 13.9; **IR** (neat): v = 3411, 2961, 2875, 2233, 1715, 1699, 1434, 1371, 1239, 1159, 1135, 1086, 1032 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 188.0 (M+NH₄⁺), 171.0 (M+H⁺); **HRMS** calcd for $C_9H_{14}O_3$ [M⁺]: 170.0943; found 170.0941.

(2) Preparation of methyl 4-hydroxy-4-ethyl-2-hexynoate (II) (yao-01-088)

Following **Typical Procedure I**, the reaction of methyl propiolate (4.4 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 4.158 g, 50.0 mmol), LiHMDS (50 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 50.0 mmol), and 3-pentanone (4.2 mL, d = 0.815 g/mL, 3.423 g, 40.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (40 mL) afforded **II** (5.1368 g, 76%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~220 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/7 (~230 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4/1 (~120 mL)]: oil; 1 **H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.59 (s, 1 H, OH), 1.82-1.66 (m, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.05 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); 13 **C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.9, 90.1, 75.8, 72.0, 52.7, 33.7, 8.2; **IR** (neat): v = 3430, 2973, 2232, 1715, 1700, 1458, 1435, 1239, 1146, 1049, 1031 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 188 (M+NH₄⁺), 171 (M+H⁺); **HRMS** calcd for C₉H₁₈O₃N [M+NH₄⁺]: 188.1281; found 188.1279.

(3) Preparation of methyl 4-hydroxy-4,5,5-trimethyl-2-hexynoate (III) (yao-01-150)

Following **Typical Procedure I**, the reaction of methyl propiolate (2.2 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 2.079 g, 25.0 mmol), LiHMDS (25 mL, 25.0 mmol, 1.0 M in THF), and 3,3-dimethyl-2-butanone (2.5 mL, d = 0.809 g/mL, 2.023 g, 20.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (30 mL) afforded **III**² (1.7823 g, 48%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~220 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8/1 (~90 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4/1 (~120 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.03 (s, 1 H, OH), 1.50 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.07 (s, 9 H, ^tBu); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.9, 91.0, 75.7, 73.9, 52.7, 38.2, 24.9, 24.1; **IR**

(neat): v = 3490, 2965, 2232, 1706, 1439, 1367, 1242, 1107, 1146, 1049, 1031 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 202 (M+NH₄⁺).

(4) Preparation of methyl 3-(1-hydroxycyclohexyl)propiolate (IV) (yao-01-151)

Following **Typical Procedure I**, the reaction of methyl propiolate (1.1 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 1.040 g, 12.5 mmol), LiHMDS (12.5 mL, 12.5 mmol, 1.0 M in THF), and cyclohexanone (1.03 mL, d = 0.95 g/mL, 0.979 g, 10.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **IV**³ (0.9610 g, 53%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~110 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/3 (~110 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4/1 (~120 mL)]: solid; **m.p.** 50.9-60.9 °C (petroleum ether/ethyl ether); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.08 (s, 1 H, OH), 2.02-1.90 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.80-1.49 (m, 7 H, 3 x CH₂ and one proton of CH₂), 1.34-1.21 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 154.0, 90.8, 75.6, 68.4, 52.7, 39.0, 24.8, 22.8; **IR** (neat): ν = 3258, 2934, 2853, 2238, 1707, 1450, 1431, 1284, 1237, 1070, 1041 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) 205 (M+Na⁺), 200 (M+NH₄⁺); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₄O₃: C 65.92, H 7.74; found C 65.96, H 7.58.

(5) Preparation of methyl 4-hydroxy-4-methyl-6,6-dimethoxy-2-hexynoate (V) (yy-01-027)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{1.25 equiv LiHMDS} \\ \text{THF, -78 °C (15+45) min, Ar} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{O OMe} \\ \text{1.0 equiv Me} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \end{array} \\ \text{THF, -78 °C, 15 min} \\ \text{1.25 equiv} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \\ \text{THF, -78 °C, 15 min} \\ \text{THP, -78 °C, 15 min} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \\ \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \\ \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \\ \text{O OMe} \\ \text{O OMe} \\ \text{MeO} \\ \text{O OMe} \\ \text{O OM$$

Following **Typical Procedure I**, the reaction of methyl propiolate (2.2 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 2.079 g, 25.0 mmol), LiHMDS (25 mL, 25.0 mmol, 1.0 M in THF), and

4,4-dimethoxy-2-butanone (2.7 mL, d = 0.996 g/mL, 2.689 g, 20.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (30 mL) afforded **V** (1.8775 g, 46%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/13 (~110 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/17 (~120 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/3 (~130 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 4.85 (dd, J_1 = 8.4 Hz, J_2 = 3.6 Hz, 1 H, CH), 4.39 (s, 1 H, OH), 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.48 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.37 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.08-1.95 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.53 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.7, 103.0, 89.7, 74.9, 65.2, 54.6, 52.64, 52.59, 43.6, 29.4; **IR** (neat): v = 3459, 2939, 2234, 1714, 1435, 1369, 1243, 1118, 1041 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 234 (M+NH₄⁺); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₀H₂₀O₅N [M+NH₄⁺]: 234.1336; found 234.1334.

(6) Preparation of methyl 4-hydroxy-4-methyloct-7-en-2-ynoate (VI) (yy-01-033)

Following **Typical Procedure I**, the reaction of methyl propiolate (2.2 mL, d = 0.945 g/mL, 2.079 g, 25 mmol), LiHMDS (25 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 25 mmol), and pent-4-en-2-one (2.3 mL, d = 0.847 g/mL, 1.948 g, 20.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (30 mL) afforded **VI** (2.0028 g, 55%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/13 (~110 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~220 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 5.92-5.80$ (m, 1 H, =CH), 5.10 (dq, $J_1 = 17.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.8$ Hz, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 5.01 (dq, $J_1 = 10.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.5$ Hz, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 3.79 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.40-2.20 (m, 3 H, CH₂ and OH), 1.90-1.74 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.55 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 153.9$, 137.7, 115.4, 90.4, 75.2, 68.0, 52.8, 41.8, 29.1, 28.8; **IR** (neat): v = 3420, 2953, 2234, 1715, 1699, 1642, 1435, 1371, 1248, 1018 cm⁻¹; **MS**

(ESI) m/z: 205 (M+Na⁺), 200 (M+NH₄⁺), 183 (M+H⁺); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{10}H_{14}O_3$ [M⁺]: 182.0943; found 182.0945.

2. Preparation of 3-methoxycarbonyl propargylic carbonates

(1) Preparation of methyl 4-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)-4-methyl-2-heptynoate (1a) (yy-01-018)

OH Me
$$\sim$$
 1.1 equiv LiHMDS \sim 2.0 equiv CI OMe \sim OCO₂Me Me \sim THF, -78 °C (10+60) min then 0 °C 2.5 h, Ar \sim 1 1a, 66%

Typical Procedure II: To an oven-dried, round-bottom flask were charged with and I (4.1777 g, 24.6 mmol). The solution was cooled to -78 °C (dry ice-acetone bath) under argon atmosphere, and LiHMDS (27.1 mL, 27.1 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added dropwise over 10 min. The resulting solution was stirred for 1 hour at this temperature before stirring for 2.5 hours at 0 °C (ice-water bath). The reaction was cooled to -78 °C (dry ice-acetone bath) again, methyl chloroformate (3.8 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 4.647 g, 49.2 mmol) was added dropwise over 7 min. After being stirred for 1.5 hours at the same temperature, it was allowed to stir for 1 hour at 0 °C (ice-water bath). The reaction was quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl (aq.) solution (20 mL) and diluted with H₂O (100 mL). The resulting solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 150 mL), and the combined organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford **1a** (3.6840 g, 66%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL)]: oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.784$ (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.780 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.12-1.94 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.91-1.80 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.73 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.65-1.41 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.96 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 153.5$, 153.3, 86.3, 76.9, 76.0, 54.5, 52.7, 42.8, 25.5, 17.2, 13.7; **IR** (neat): v = 2961, 2238, 1754, 1716, 1437, 1378, 1236, 1028 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 251 (M+Na⁺); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{11}H_{16}O_5$ [M⁺]: 228.0998; found 228.1003.

(2) Preparation of methyl 4-ethyl-4-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)-2-hexynoate (1b) (yy-01-020)

OH Et
$$OH$$
 1.1 equiv LiHMDS OH 2.0 equiv CI OH Et OH ET

Following **Typical Procedure II**, the reaction of **II** (2.0367 g, 12.0 mmol), LiHMDS (13.2 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 13.2 mmol), and methyl chloroformate (1.9 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 2.324 g, 24.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **1b** (1.0822 g, 39%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1 (~200 mL); oil; **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.78$ (s, $\delta = 4.78$ (s, $\delta = 4.78$ (m, $\delta = 4.78$ (m); $\delta = 4.78$ (meat): $\delta =$

(3) Preparation of methyl 4-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)-4,5,5-trimethyl-2-hexynoate (1c) (yy-01-026)

Following **Typical Procedure II**, the reaction of **III** (2.1820 g, 11.8 mmol), LiHMDS (13.0 mL, 13.0 mmol, 1.0 M in THF), and methyl chloroformate (1.8 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 2.201 g, 23.6 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **1c** (1.6 g, 56%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.78$ (s, 6 H, 2 x OCH₃), 1.74 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.11 (s, 9 H, ¹Bu); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 153.6$, 153.5, 86.2, 81.8, 77.9, 54.5, 52.7, 39.3, 24.9, 20.0; **IR** (neat): v = 2960, 2238, 1754, 1715, 1437, 1373, 1251, 1233, 1127, 1068, 1024, 1004 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 265 (M+Na⁺), 260 (M+NH₄⁺); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₂H₁₈O₅ [M⁺]: 242.1154; found 242.1155.

(4) Preparation of methyl 3-(1-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)cyclohexyl)propiolate (1d) (yy-01-030)

Following **Typical Procedure II**, the reaction of **IV** (2.5230 g, 13.8 mmol), LiHMDS (15.2 mL, 15.2 mmol, 1.0 M in THF), and methyl chloroformate (2.1 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 2.568 g, 27.6 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **1d** (2.2068 g, 66%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~100 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/7 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~110 mL)]: oil; **H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.35-2.14 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.98-1.87 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.75-1.50 (m, 5 H, 2 x CH₂ and one proton of CH₂), 1.43-1.31 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂); **13C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.5, 153.0, 86.0, 77.9, 76.2, 54.5, 52.6, 36.0, 24.6, 22.1; **IR** (neat): ν = 2940, 2863, 2234, 1752, 1715, 1437, 1275, 1230, 1118, 1017 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 263 (M+Na⁺); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₅ [M⁺]: 240.0998; found 240.0996.

(5) Preparation of methyl

6,6-dimethoxy-4-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)-4-methyl-2-hexynoate (1e) (yy-01-035)

Following **Typical Procedure II**, the reaction of **V** (1.8775 g, 8.7 mmol), LiHMDS (9.6 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 9.6 mmol), and methyl chloroformate (1.3 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 1.590 g, 17.4 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **1e** (0.9467 g, 40%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/3 (~110 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~220 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~240 mL)]: oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 4.65 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, CH), 3.79 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.43-3.29 (m, 6 H, 2 x OMe), 2.38-2.24 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.78 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.4, 153.1, 101.0, 85.6, 77.27, 73.8, 54.6, 53.2, 52.8, 52.7, 42.7, 26.3; **IR** (neat): v = 2957, 2835, 2241, 1754, 1716, 1437, 1376, 1239, 1111, 1085, 1059 cm⁻¹; MS (ESI) m/z: 297 (M+Na⁺), 292 (M+NH₄⁺). **HRMS** calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}O_7$ [M⁺]: 274.1053; found 274.1056.

(6) Preparation of methyl 4-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)-4-methyloct-7-en-2-ynoate (1f) (yy-01-036)

Following **Typical Procedure II**, the reaction of **VI** (2.0028 g, 11.0 mmol), LiHMDS (12.1 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 12.1 mmol), and methyl chloroformate (1.7 mL, d = 1.223 g/mL, 2.079 g, 22.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (15 mL) afforded **1f** S10

(1.7256 g, 65%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~240 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/13 (~110 mL)] to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~220 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 5.88-5.74 (m, 1 H, =CH), 5.12-5.03 (m, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 5.03-4.96 (m, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.40-2.19 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.15-2.02 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 2.02-1.90 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.76 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.4, 153.2, 136.7, 115.3, 85.9, 77.2, 75.7, 54.6, 52.7, 40.0, 28.1, 25.6; **IR** (neat): ν = 2957, 2240, 1754, 1716, 1643, 1437, 1377, 1232, 1022 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 263 (M+Na⁺), 258 (M+NH₄⁺); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₅ [M⁺]: 240.0998; found 240.0999.

3. Preparation of allenoates

(1) Preparation of methyl 4-methyl-2-phenyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3aa) (yao-01-060)

OCO₂Me
$$Pd_2(dba)_3 \cdot CHCl_3 (1 \text{ mol}\%)$$
 $Oco_2 Me$ $PhB(OH)_2$ $Oco_2 Me$ $Oco_2 M$

Typical Procedure III: To an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added **2a** (135.9 mg, 1.1 mmol), Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (11.1 mg, 0.01 mmol), and tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.8 mg, 0.04 mmol). After replacing air with argon for three times at rt by vaccum, **1a** (231.5 mg, 1.0 mmol) and freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 3.2 h at 25 °C as monitored by TLC and then filtered through a short pad of silica gel eluted with ethyl acetate (15 mL x 3). After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford **3aa** (209.4 mg, 90%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~300 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.20-2.07 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.87 (s,

3 H, CH₃), 1.60-1.46 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.93 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of ⁿPr); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 209.4$, 167.3, 134.0, 128.3, 128.0, 127.1, 105.0, 101.8, 52.0, 35.7, 20.5, 17.9, 13.6; **IR** (neat): v = 2955, 1948, 1714, 1599, 1493, 1434, 1384, 1273, 1195, 1175, 1040, 1021 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 231 (M⁺+1, 5.71), 230 (M⁺, 33.18), 128 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₂ [M⁺]: 230.1307; found 230.1303.

(2) Preparation of methyl 4-ethyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-hexadienoate (3bb) (yy-01-045)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.4 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2b** (170.6 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1b** (226.8 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3bb** (225.9 mg, 87%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~200 ml)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.43 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, Ar-H), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.17 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 208.2, 167.8, 158.8, 129.2, 126.4, 113.6, 113.5, 103.9, 55.2, 52.0, 25.7, 12.1; **IR** (neat): v = 2966, 1942, 1713, 1607, 1510, 1434, 1375, 1245, 1196, 1169, 1025 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 261 (M⁺+1, 14.98), 260 (M⁺, 84.66), 201 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₃ [M⁺]: 260.1412; found 260.1411.

(3) Preparation of methyl 4-ethyl-2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-hexadienoate (3bc) (yao-01-050)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.4 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.2 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2c** (171.5 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1b** (227.6 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3bc** (235.4 mg, 91%) [eluent: petroleum ether (100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.27-7.18 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.13-7.05 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 6.82-6.77 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.18 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 208.6, 167.4, 159.3, 135.4, 129.0, 120.6, 113.8, 112.6, 104.3, 55.1, 52.0, 25.6, 12.0; **IR** (neat): v = 2966, 1942, 1715, 1598, 1579, 1488, 1455, 1432, 1277, 1227, 1190, 1152, 1030 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 261 (M⁺+1, 17.66), 260 (M⁺, 100); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{16}H_{20}O_3$ [M⁺]: 260.1412; found 260.1408.

(4) Preparation of methyl 4-ethyl-2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-hexadienoate (3bd) (yao-01-122)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (20.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (24.5 mg, 0.08 mmol), **2d** (229.0 mg, 1.5 mmol), and **1b** (225.1 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3bd** (215.7 mg, 84%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/3 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/3 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/2 (~100 mL)]: solid; **m.p.** 45.5-46.3 °C

(petroleum ether/ethyl ether); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.32-7.25$ (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.21 (dd, $J_1 = 7.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.0$ Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 6.97-6.87 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.74 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.21-2.04 (m, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.10 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 207.7$, 167.8, 157.0, 130.6, 129.0, 124.4, 120.4, 112.4, 111.1, 101.7, 55.6, 52.0, 25.5, 12.0; **IR** (neat): v = 2967, 1956, 1718, 1597, 1492, 1451, 1433, 1259, 1194, 1170, 1112, 1080, 1048, 1030, 1019 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 261 (M⁺+1, 10.68), 260 (M⁺, 62.34), 245 (100); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₂₀O₃: C 73.82, H 7.74; found C 73.33, H 7.62.

The reaction of 1b with 2d under the standard conditions (yao-01-051)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.9 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (13.3 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2d** (168.0 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1b** (229.5 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded a crude product. 75% NMR yield of **3bd** and 23% recovered of **1b** were determined by the NMR spectrum of the crude product with CH₂Br₂ (17.5 μL) as the internal standard.

(5) Preparation of methyl 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3ae) (yao-01-109)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of $Pd_2(dba)_3$ •CHCl₃ (10.6 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (13.0 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2e** (155.1 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (223.4 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ae** (220.9 mg, 92%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (\sim 100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl

acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~200 mL)]: solid; **m.p.** 83.2-84.2 °C (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 7.25 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 4.85 (s, 1 H, OH), 3.74 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.20-2.05 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.84 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.52 (sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of ⁿPr); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 209.9, 169.4, 157.9, 130.5, 126.0, 115.9, 105.9, 102.8, 52.5, 36.7, 21.5, 18.2, 14.0; **IR** (neat): ν = 3348, 2946, 1944, 1683, 1612, 1515, 1435, 1387, 1266, 1212, 1173, 1105, 1084, 1023 cm⁻¹; **MS** (EI) m/z (%): 247 (M⁺+1, 5.73), 246 (M⁺, 32.20), 187 (100); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₃: C 73.15, H 7.37; found C 73.13, H 7.33.

(6) Preparation of methyl 4-methyl-2-(3-nitrophenyl)- 2,3-heptadienoate (3af) (yao-01-059)

OCO₂Me
Me
Pr
CO₂Me
$$O_2$$
N

 O_2 N

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.8 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2f** (189.0 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (228.6 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3af** (235.0 mg, 85%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 ml) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~100 ml)]: oil; ¹H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.37$ (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 8.12-8.06 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.85 (dt $J_1 = 8.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.4$ Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.49 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.82 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.26-2.13 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.92 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.62-1.48 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 210.0$, 166.6, 148.1, 136.0, 134.2, 128.9, 123.2, 121.9, 106.7, 100.1, 52.2, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; **IR** (neat): v = 2955, 1945, 1714, 1527, 1434, 1347, 1269, 1198, 1097, 1035 cm⁻¹;

MS (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 275 (M⁺, 7.52), 246 (100); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{15}H_{17}NO_4$ [M⁺]: 275.1158; found 275.1161.

(7) Preparation of methyl 2-(3-methoxycarbonylphenyl)-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3ag) (yz-cfsy-186, yao-01-110)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2g** (205.1 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (229.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ag** (239.4 mg, 83%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~300 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.14 (s, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.93 (d, 1 H, J = 8.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.68 (d, J₁ = 8.0 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.91 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.23-2.10 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.89 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.61-1.47 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.94 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.7, 167.1, 167.0, 134.5, 132.8, 130.1, 129.5, 128.3, 128.1, 105.6, 101.1, 52.11, 52.05, 35.7, 20.4, 17.9, 13.6; **IR** (neat): ν = 2953, 1945, 1714, 1602, 1583, 1435, 1288, 1257, 1194, 1170, 1108, 1037 cm⁻¹; **MS** (EI) m/z (%): 289 (M⁺+1, 5.41), 288 (M⁺, 27.90), 169 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₇H₂₀O₄ [M⁺]: 288.1362; found 288.1367.

(8) Preparation of methyl 2-(4-formylphenyl)-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3ah) (yao-01-105)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of $Pd_2(dba)_3$ ·CHCl₃ (11.0 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2h** (169.6 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (223.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ah** (220.7 mg, 87%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/2 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8/1 (~90 mL)]: oil; 1 **H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 9.99 (s, 1 H, CHO), 7.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 3.81 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.24-2.11 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.91 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.62-1.46 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 210.4, 191.8, 166.7, 140,4, 134.9, 129.5, 128.7, 106.1, 101.2, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.7, 13.6; **IR** (neat): ν = 2956, 1943, 1714, 1699, 1602, 1569, 1434, 1381, 1277, 1196, 1180 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (%): 259 (M⁺+1, 3.97), 258 (M⁺, 22.16), 128 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C_{16} H₁₈O₃ [M⁺]: 258.1256; found 258.1253.

(9) Preparation of methyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3ai) (yao-01-104)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (11.0 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (12.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2i** (154.9 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a**

(228.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ai** (210.6 mg, 85%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL); oil; 1000 mK (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 1000 mC = 1000 mC, 100 mC, 100

(10) Preparation of methyl

4-methyl-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2,3-heptadienoate (3aj) (yao-01-106)

OCO₂Me

Me

Pd₂(dba)₃•CHCl₃ (1 mol%)

(o-tol)₃P (4 mol%)

THF, 25 °C, 3 h, Ar

$$P_{Pr}$$

CO₂Me

1a

2j (1.1 equiv)

3aj, 92%

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (11.0 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.5 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2j** (214.8 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (224.3 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3aj** (269.8 mg, 92%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL); oil; 10/3 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 (3. H, OCH₃), 2.16 (t, 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.57 (d, 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, Ar-H), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.16 (t, 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, CH₂), 1.89 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.61-1.47 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.94 (t, 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, CH₃ of 10/3 Pr); 10/3 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 17.8, 13.6; 10/3 F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 106.0, 100.9, 52.1, 35.6, 20.4, 107.0 Hz, 107.0 Hz, 107.0 Hz, 100

1616, 1436, 1323, 1277, 1200, 1163, 1121, 1068, 1016 cm⁻¹; **MS** (EI) m/z (%): 299 (M⁺+1, 5.83), 298 (M⁺, 30.37), 269 (100); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}O_2F_3$ [M⁺]: 298.1181; found 298.1188.

(11) Preparation of methyl 4-methyl-2-(2-naphthyl))-2,3-heptadienoate (3ak) (yao-01-103)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (11.2 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2k** (195.6 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (222.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ak** (234.6 mg, 81%, purity = 94%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~100 mL)]: oil; **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.05 (s, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.85-7.75 (m, 3 H, Ar-H), 7.52 (dd, J_1 = 8.8 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 3.83 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.25-2.11 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.91 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.63-1.49 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); 13 C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.8, 167.4, 133.3, 132.5, 131.2, 128.2, 127.5, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 125.9, 125.8, 105.3, 101.9, 52.0, 35.7, 20.5, 18.0, 13.7; **IR** (neat): v = 2953, 1943, 1713, 1598, 1504, 1434, 1367, 1240, 1164, 1124, 1031 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 281 (M⁺+1, 20.60), 280 (M⁺, 95.38), 178 (100); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}O_2$ [M⁺]: 280.1463; found 280.1467.

(12) Preparation of methyl 4-methyl-2-(2-thienyl)-2,3-heptadienoate (3al) (yao-01-107)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.9 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (13.0 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2l** (144.6 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1a** (223.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3al** (193.5 mg, 84%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL); oil; 10/3 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 10/3 E = 10/3 Hz, 1

(13) Preparation of methyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,5,5-trimethyl-2,3-hexadienoate (3cm) (yao-01-127)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of $Pd_2(dba)_3$ •CHCl₃ (20.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (24.6 mg, 0.08 mmol), **2m** (240.0 mg, 1.5 mmol), and **1c** (240.3 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3cm** (263.3 mg, 92%, purity = 97%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to

= 7.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 1.87 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.15 (s, 9 H, ^tBu); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 208.7, 167.3, 132.8, 132.5, 129.3, 128.3, 114.4, 101.0, 52.1, 34.8, 28.7, 14.0; IR (neat): ν = 2963, 1940, 1716, 1491, 1434, 1361, 1275, 1194, 1170, 1091, 1037, 1012 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 281 (M⁺ (³⁷Cl) +1, 1.67), 280 (M⁺(³⁷Cl), 9.09), 279 (M⁺ (³⁵Cl) +1, 4.62), 278 (M⁺(³⁵Cl), 27.92), 222 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₉³⁵ClO₂ [M⁺]: 278.1074; found 278.1069.

The reaction of 1c with 2m under the standard conditions (yy-01-048)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.6 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (12.5 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2m** (178.5 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1c** (246.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded a crude product. 52% NMR yield of **3cm** and 52% recovered of **1c** were determined by the NMR spectrum of the crude product with CH₂Br₂ (17.5 μL) as the internal standard.

(14) Preparation of methyl

4,4-pentamethylane-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2,3-butadienoate (3dn) (yao-01-123)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (20.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (24.8 mg, 0.08 mmol), **2n** (205.3 mg, 1.5 mmol), and **1d** (237.1 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3dn** (236.4 mg, 93%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1

(~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.36 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.40-2.25 (m, 7 H, 2 x CH₂ and CH₃), 1.80-1.54 (m, 6 H, 3 x CH₂); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 206.3, 167.5, 136.8, 131.2, 128.8, 128.3, 107.2, 100.3, 52.0, 30.4, 27.1, 25.8, 21.1; **IR** (neat): v = 2926, 2852, 1947, 1714, 1511, 1433, 1274, 1222, 1162, 1089, 1032, 1017 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 257 (M⁺+1, 19.12), 256 (M⁺, 100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₇H₂₀O₂ [M⁺]: 256.1463; found 256.1457.

The reaction of 1d with 2n under the standard conditions (yy-01-049)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (10.3 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (12.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2n** (150.3 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1d** (238.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded a crude product. 89% NMR yield of **3dn** and 16% recovered of **1d** were determined by the NMR spectrum of the crude product with CH₂Br₂ (17.5 μL) as the internal standard.

(15) Preparation of methyl 6,6-dimethoxy-4-methyl-2-phenyl-2,3-hexadienoate (3ea) (yao-01-072)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of $Pd_2(dba)_3$ •CHCl₃ (11.4 mg, 0.01 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (12.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), **2a** (135.8 mg, 1.1 mmol), and **1e** (272.1 mg, 1.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) afforded **3ea** (240.3 mg, 88%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (\sim 100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl

acetate = 20/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/2 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~100 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.56-7.48 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 4.56 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H, CH), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.31 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 3.27 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.47 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 1.92 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.9, 167.0, 133.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.2, 102.7, 101.8, 100.8, 52.9, 52.8, 52.1, 36.9, 18.6; **IR** (neat): v = 2949, 2831, 1952, 1715, 1493, 1434, 1367, 1272, 1196, 1119, 1053, 1020 cm⁻¹; **MS** (ESI) m/z: 299 (M+Na⁺), 277 (M+H⁺), 245 (M-OMe)⁺; **HRMS** calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₄ [M⁺]: 276.1362; found 276.1364.

(16) Preparation of methyl 4-methyl-2-phenyl-2,3,7-octatrienoate (3fa) (yao-01-117)

OCO₂Me
$$^{+}$$
 PhB(OH)₂ $^{-}$ $^$

To an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added **2a** (135.9 mg, 1.1 mmol), which was then transferred to a glovebox. After adding Pd(PPh₃)₄ (48.4 mg, 0.04 mmol) in glovebox, it was transferred out of the glovebox. After replacing nitrogen with argon for three times at rt by vaccum, **1f** (235.5 mg, 1.0 mmol) and freshly distilled THF (2.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 12 h at 26 °C as monitored by TLC and filtered through a short pad of silica gel with ethyl acetate (15 mL x 3) as the eluent. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford **3fa** (156.0 mg, 66%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl

CH=), 5.02 (d, J = 17.2 Hz, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 4.95 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1 H, one proton of =CH₂), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.32-2.19 (m, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.89 (s, 3 H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.2, 167.2, 137.6, 133.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.2, 115.1, 104.7, 102.3, 52.0, 33.0, 31.4, 18.1; **IR** (neat): ν = 2948, 1949, 1715, 1640, 1599, 1493, 1434, 1273, 1196, 1176, 1040 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 243 (M⁺+1, 1.73), 242 (M⁺, 9.22), 141 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₆H₁₈O₂ [M⁺]: 242.1307; found 242.1310.

The reaction of 1f with 2a under the standard conditions (yao-01-112)

To an oven-dried vial were added **2a** (33.8 mg, 0.275 mmol), Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (2.4 mg, 0.025 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (2.9 mg, 0.01 mmol), which was then transferred to a glovebox. After adding **1f** (59.1 mg, 0.25 mmol) and freshly distilled THF (0.5 mL) in glovebox, it was transferred out of the glovebox. The resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h at 25 °C, then filtered through a short pad of silica gel with ethyl acetate (4 mL) as the eluent afforded a crude product. 47% NMR yield of **3fa** and 46% recovered of **1f** were determined by the NMR spectrum of the crude product with CH₂Br₂ (17.5 μL) as the internal standard.

4. Gram-scale reactions

(1) Gram-scale preparation of methyl 2-phenyl-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3aa) (yao-01-132)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, the reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (0.0625 g, 0.06 mmol), tris(*o*-tolyl)phosphine (0.0738 g, 0.24 mmol), **2a** (0.8062 g, 6.6 mmol),

and **1a** (1.3664 g, 6.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (12.0 mL) afforded **3aa** (1.2187 g, 88%) [eluent: petroleum ether (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/3 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 25/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.52-7.43 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.29-7.22 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃,), 2.21-2.07 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.87 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.61-1.48 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.4, 167.3, 133.9, 128.3, 128.0, 127.1, 105.0, 101.7, 52.0, 35.6, 20.4, 17.9, 13.6.

(2) Gram-scale preparation of methyl 2-phenyl-4-methyl-2,3-heptadienoate (3ba) (yao-01-145)

Following **Typical Procedure III**, The reaction of Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (0.0622 g, 0.06 mmol), tris(o-tolyl)phosphine (0.0737 g, 0.24 mmol), **2a** (0.8240 g, 6.6 mmol), and **1b** (1.3628 g, 6.0 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (12.0 mL) afforded **3ba** (1.0590 g, 77%) as an oil [eluent: petroleum ether (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 (~240 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.54-7.47 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.36-7.28 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.27-7.21 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.18 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 208.7, 167.5, 134.1, 128.10, 128.08, 127.1, 113.7, 104.4, 52.0, 25.6, 12.0; **IR** (neat): v = 2967, 1945, 1714, 1599, 1493, 1434, 1273, 1194, 1174, 1084, 1040, 1022 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 231 (M⁺+1, 10.89), 230 (M⁺, 66.27), 115 (100); **HRMS** calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₂ [M⁺]: 230.1307; found 230.1308.

5. Synthetic applications

(1) Preparation of 4-bromo-5-methyl-3-phenyl-5-propylfuran-2(5H)-one⁴ (4)

(yao-01-140)

To a Schlenk tube were added CuBr2 (451.2 mg, 2.0 mmol), 3aa (114.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), EtOH (3.0 mL), and H2O (2.0 mL) sequentially. Then the Schlenk tube was placed in an oil bath pre-heated at 80 °C with stirring for 12 h. To the mixture was added H₂O (5.0 mL). After extraction with ethyl acetate (5 mL x 3), the organic layer was then washed with brine (10 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 4 (113.8 mg, 76%, purity = 98%) [eluent: petroleum ether ($\sim 100 \text{ mL}$) to petroleum ether /dichloromethane/ethyl ether = 100/1/1(\sim 200 mL) to petroleum ether /dichloromethane/ethyl ether = 80/1/1 (\sim 400 mL) to petroleum ether /dichloromethane/ethyl ether = 50/1/1 (~200 mL)]: solid; m.p. 79.6-80.6 °C (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.75$ (dd, J_1 = 8.0 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.50-7.39 (m, 3 H, Ar-H), 1.99-1.89 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.89-1.79 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.60 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.41-1.29 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH_2), 1.29-1.15 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH_2), 0.94 (t, 3 H, J =7.4 Hz, CH₃ of ⁿPr); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 169.1$, 148.7, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 88.5, 39.3, 24.3, 16.2, 13.8; **IR** (neat): v = 3053, 2961, 2928, 2870, 1738, 1644, 1597, 1493, 1445, 1376, 1296, 1154, 1134, 1027, 1004 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 296 ($M^{+}(^{81}Br)$, 10.20), 294 ($M^{+}(^{79}Br)$, 9.93), 43 (100); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅BrO₂: C 56.97, H 5.12; found C 56.82, H 5.16.

(2) Preparation of 3-ethyl-4-methyl-2-phenyl-4-propylcyclobut-2-enone⁵ (5) (yao-01-142)

Me Ph
$$CO_2Me$$
 $Toluene, 100 °C, 2.5 h, Ar$ $Toluene, 100 °C, 2.5 h, Ar$

To an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added **3aa** (114.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) and toluene (5.0 mL) under an argon atmosphere at room temperature. A solution of Et₂Zn in toluene (1.0 mL, 1.5 M, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) was added with a syringe dropwise within 2 min at rt and the tube was then submerged in an oil bath preheated to 100 °C. After being stirred for 2.5 h, the reaction mixture was quenched by dropwise addition of a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (10 mL) at 0 °C. After warming up to room temperature, H₂O (50 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layer was washed sequentially with diluted HCl (5%, aq.), a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃, and brine, and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, After filtration and concentration under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 5 (85.8 mg, 76%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl ether = 100/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 (~200 mL)]: oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.68-7.61 (m, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 2.92-2.71 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.75-1.65 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.62-1.51 (m, 1 H, one proton of CH₂), 1.40-1.25 (m, 8 H, 2 x CH₃ and CH₂), 0.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of ⁿPr); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 196.8$, 180.8, 140.4, 130.2, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 67.0, 37.0, 21.8, 20.2, 19.3, 14.5, 11.4; **IR** (neat): v = 2957, 2872, 17481628, 1596, 1493, 1447, 1088, 1066 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 229 (M⁺+1, 2.62), 228 (M⁺, 14.48), 199 (100); **HRMS** calcd for $C_{16}H_{20}O$ [M⁺]: 228.1514; found 228.1517.

(3) Preparation of 4-methyl-2-phenyl-2,3-heptadien-1-ol (6) (yao-01-136)

To an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added **3aa** (115.3 mg, 0.5 mmol) and toluene (5.0 mL) under a argon atmosphere at room temperature, The solution was cooled to -78 $^{\circ}$ C and then DIBAL-H (1.0 M in hexane, 1.05 mL, 1.05 mmol) was added with a syringe dropwise at -78 $^{\circ}$ C. After stirring at -78 $^{\circ}$ C for 10 hours, the reaction was

quenched with MeOH (5 mL) and the resulting mixture was warmed up to room temperature. Then H₂O (10 mL) and 1 N HCl (10 mL) were added sequentially. After extraction with ethyl ether (10 mL x 3), the combined organic layer was washed with brine (10 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford **6** (55.3 mg, 51%, purity = 93%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1 (~100 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (~300 mL)]: oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.38 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1 H, Ar-H), 4.51 (s, 2 H, CH₂O), 2.17-2.01 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 1.84 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.66 (brs, 1 H, OH), 1.55-1.44 (m, 2 H, CH₂ of n Pr), 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H, CH₃ of n Pr); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.3, 135.6, 128.4, 126.7, 125.9, 106.6, 105.9, 61.6, 36.4, 20.9, 18.9, 13.9; IR (neat): v = 3357, 2957, 2930, 2871, 1948, 1598, 1494, 1456, 1397, 1368, 1057, 1025 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 203 (M⁺+1, 2.09), 202 (M⁺, 13.02), 129 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O [M⁺]: 202.1358; found 202.1357.

(4) Preparation of 4-ethyl-2-phenyl-2,3-hexadienoic acid (7) 6 (yao-01-149)

To a Schlenk tube were added **3ba** (114.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), THF (1.0 mL), LiOH•H₂O (32.4 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), EtOH (1.0 mL), and H₂O (1.0 mL) sequentially. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 26 °C. Then 2 M HCl solution (aqueous, 5 mL) and H₂O (10 mL) were added sequentially and the resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL x 3). Then the combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford **7** (75.0 mg, 70%) [eluent: petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 10/1 (~200 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/3 (~220 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (~120 mL) to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1 (~120 mL)]: solid; **m.p.** 86.7-87.9

°C (petroleum ether/ethyl ether); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.6 (brs, 1 H, COOH), 7.52 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.30-7.25 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 2.20 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.12 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ = 12.5 (brs, 1 H, COOH), 7.43 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.33 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2 H, Ar-H), 7.20-7.28 (m, 1 H, Ar-H), 2.15 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 4 H, 2 x CH₂), 1.01 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 6 H, 2 x CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 210.4, 173.0, 133.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.3, 114.1, 104.1, 25.6, 12.0; **IR** (neat): v = 3400-2250, 1934, 1670, 1493, 1451, 1401, 1321, 1280, 1196, 1185 cm⁻¹; **MS** (70 eV, EI) m/z (%): 217 (M⁺+1, 14.22), 216 (M⁺, 89.40), 201 (100); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆O₂: C 77.75, H 7.46; found C 77.45, H 7.36.

6. Evaluation of Biological Activity

(1) Cytotoxicity test

Human lung cancer A549 cells were purchased from ATCC (Manassas, VA) and cultured in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FBS, 100 U/mL penicillin, and 100 mg/mL streptomycin. Cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 2000 cells/well. On the next day, the cells were treated with different concentrations of compounds for 72 h and the sulforhodamine B (SRB) assay was used to measure the cell mass as previously described.⁷

(2) Secretion of GLP-1 by STC-1 cells

STC-1 cells were kindly provided by Dr. Jia Li (Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences) and cultured in DMEM containing 15% FBS, 100 U/mL penicillin, and 100 mg/mL streptomycin. STC-1 cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 40000 cells/well and cultured overnight. After the cells were treated with 0.1% DPP-IV inhibitor PK44 in KRB buffer supplemented with 0.2% fatty acid-free BSA for 2 h, vehicle control (DMSO), positive control (1 µM PMA) or compounds at different concentrations were added and cells were further incubated for another 2 h. Then the level of GLP-1 in supernatant of the culture

medium was measured with active GLP-1 kits according to the manufacturer's instructions (Cisbio, Bedford, MA).

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