Supporting Information for

Targeting Cancer Cells with Folic Acid-Iminoboronate Fluorescent Conjugates

Pedro M. S. D. Cal,^a Raquel F. M. Frade,^a Carlos Cordeiro,^b Vijay Chudasama,^c Stephen Caddick^c and Pedro M. P. Gois^{a*}

^aResearch Institute for Medicines and Pharmaceutical Sciences (iMed.UL), Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon, Av. Prof. Gama Pinto, 1649-003 Lisbon, Portugal. E-mail: pedrogois@ff.ul.pt; Fax: (+351) 21 794 64 70; Tel.: (+351) 21 794 64 00.

^bCQE, Departamento de Engenharia Química e Biológica, Complexo I, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, Av. Rovisco Pais 1, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal ^cDepartment of Chemistry, University College London, 20 Gordon St, London, UK.

Index

1.	General Information	2
2.	Chemistry Results	2
	2.1 – Boronated core compound 4 synthesis	2
	2.1.1 – Synthesis of compound 2	2
	2.1.2 – Synthesis of compound 2'	4
	2.1.3 – Synthesis of compound 3	5
	2.1.4 – Synthesis of compound 4	6
	2.2 – Fluorescent boronated species	8
	2.2.1 – Synthesis of boronate ester 5'	8
	2.2.2 – Synthesis of boronate ester 6'	. 12
	2.3 – Synthesis of EDA-FA and reaction with 5 and 6	. 15
	2.3.1 – Synthesis of N-(2-aminoethyl) folic acid (EDA-FA)	. 15
	2.3.2 – Pinacol deprotection and reaction with EDA-FA	. 15
	2.4 – Aboronated core VS boronate core – Equilibrium	. 16
	2.5 – Aboronated compound 14 synthesis	. 18
	2.5.1 – Synthesis of compound 12	. 18
	2.5.2 – Synthesis of compound 13	. 19
	2.5.3 – Synthesis of compound 14	. 21
3.	Biochemistry Results	. 24
	3.1 – Unmodified Lysozyme	. 24
	3.2 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 5	. 26
	3.3 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 6	. 28
	3.3.1 – After 30 minutes of reaction	. 28
	3.3.2 – After 2 hours of reaction	. 30
	3.4 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 14	. 31
	3.4.1 – After 30 minutes of reaction	. 32
	3.4.2 – After 2 hours of reaction	. 33
4.	Biological Results	. 35

1. General Information

All reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware or in sterilized 1.5-2 mL eppendorf tubes. Reaction mixtures were analyzed by thin layer chromatography TLC using coated silica gel plates (Merck, aluminium sheets, silica gel 60 F254), and visualization of TLC spots was effected using UV and phosphomolybdic acid solution. NMR spectra were recorded in a Bruker AMX 300 or 400 using CDCl₃, D₂O or DMSO as solvent and (CH₃)₄Si (¹H) as internal standard. All coupling constants (*J* values) are expressed in Hz. All reagents were purchased from either Aldrich or Alfa-Aesar and used without further purification. UV-visible spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-1603 UV-visible spectrometer with a temperature controlled (25 °C) cell holder. Mass spectra and HRMS were performed in a FTICR-MS Bruker Daltonics Apex Qe, Apollo II combi source, 7 Tesla Magnet, operated in positive ionization mode.

2. Chemistry Results

2.1 – Boronated core compound 4 synthesis



2.1.1 – Synthesis of compound **2** Literature basis - Al-Smadi, M.; Hanold, N.; Kalbitz, H.; Meier, H.; *Synthesis*, **2009**, 15, 2539

In a round bottom flask (A), 2',4'-dihydroxyacetophenone (5.0 g, 32.9 mmol) and potassium carbonate (4.5 g, 32.9 mmol) were heated in acetone to reflux for 2 hours. In a separate round bottom flask (B), ethyl 4-bromobutyrate (4.7 mL, 32.9 mmol) and sodium iodide (5.4 g, 36.1 mmol) were stirred in acetone at room temperature for 2 hours. Then, flask B was transferred to flask A and refluxed for 20 hours. After that, acetone was evaporated to dryness and 200 mL of water were added and extracted with diethyl ether (3*200 mL). The solution was dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane:diethyl ether (9:1)) to give a viscous oil that solidified below 20°C; compound **2** (7.6 g, 87%)



¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 12.70 (s, 1H, C_{arom}O<u>H</u> (10)), 7.59 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (6)), 6.39 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (1)), 6.36 (s, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (3)), 4.12 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₃ (18)), 4.02 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (12)), 2.52 (s, 3H, COC<u>H</u>₃ (8)), 2.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CO (14)), 2.09 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (13)), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₃ (19)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 202.62 (s, CCOCH₃ (7)), 173.01 (s, CH₂COO (15)), 165.37 (s, CH₂arom OHC (4)), 165.21 (s, (CH)₂Carom OCH₂ (2)), 132.39 (s, CH_{arom} (6)), 113.95 (s, CH_{arom} COCOH (5)), 107.85 (s, CH_{arom} (1)), 101.42 (s, CH_{arom} (3)), 67.15 (s, OCH₂CH₂ (12)), 60.59 (s, OCH₂CH₃ (18)), 30.68 (s, CH₂CH₂CO (14)), 26.28 (s, COCH₃ (8)), 24.39 (s, CH₂CH₂CH₂ (13)), 14.29 (s, CH₂CH₃ (19)).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+Na]^+ = 289.10464$, found $[M+Na]^+ = 289.10334$.

2.1.2 – Synthesis of compound 2'

Literature basis - Luker, T.; Bonnert, R.; Paine, S.W.; Schmidt, J.; Sargent, C.; Cook, A.R.; Cook, A.; Gardiner, P.; Hill, S.; Weyman-Jones, C.; Patel, A.; Thom, S.; Thorne, P.; *J. Med. Chem.* **2011**, 54 (6), 1779

In a round bottom flask, N-Phenyltrifluoromethanesulfonimide (3.05 g, 8.5 mmol) was added portion wise to a solution of **1** (3.0 g, 11.3 mmol) and triethylamine (4.7 mL, 33.8 mmol) in DMF (27 mL) and the reaction stirred for 2 h. Water was added and the mixture extracted with diethyl ether. The organic layer was washed with water, LiCl (aq), brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane:diethyl ether (4:1 – 1:1)) to give **2'** as a white solid (3.9 g, 90%).





¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (6)), 6.93 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (5)), 6.79 (s, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (3)), 4.14 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₃ (17)), 4.08 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (11)), 2.57 (s, 3H, COC<u>H</u>₃ (8)), 2.50 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CO (13)), 2.13 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (12)), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₃ (18)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 195.14 (s, C<u>C</u>OCH₃ (7)), 172.93 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>OO (14)), 162.96 (s, (CH)₂<u>C</u>_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 148.58 (s, CH<u>C</u>_{arom}OTfC (2)), 132.89 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (6)), 124.05 (s, CH<u>C</u>_{arom}COCOTf (1)), 118.70 (q, SO₂<u>C</u>F₃ (23)), 113.68 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (5)), 109.53 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (3)), 67.85 (s, O<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (11)), 60.71 (s, O<u>C</u>H₂CH₃ (17)), 30.49 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CO (13)), 29.15 (s, CO<u>C</u>H₃ (8)), 24.27 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (12)), 14.28 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₃ (18)).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+K]^+ = 437.027867$, found $[M+K]^+ = 437.027219$.

2.1.3 – Synthesis of compound 3

Literature basis - Patent: Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; GlaxoSmithKline; US2010/256092; (2010); (A1) English

In a flame dried round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, **2'** (0.5 g, 1.25 mmol), bis(pinacolato)diboron (0,6 g, 2.51 mmol), [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]palladium (II) chloride (0,1 g; 0,125 mmol) and sodium acetate (0,3 g, 3,76 mmol) were flushed 3 times with Argon. Then, 8 mL of previously distilled dioxane (8 mL) were added and degassed for 10 minutes with bubbling Argon. The reaction mixture was heated at 95 °C for 4 hours, after which the solvent was concentrated in vacuo and the crude purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane:diethyl ether (19:1 – 9:1)) to give**3**as a white solid (0,3 g, 64%).



Figure S6 - ¹H-NMR for compound **3**



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.74 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (6)), 6.93 (s, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (3)), 6.82 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (5)), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₃ (18)), 4.04 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (12)), 2.54 - 2.45 (m, 5H, COC<u>H</u>₃ (9), CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CO (14)), 2.12 - 2.05 (m, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (13)), 1.41 (s, 12H, CC<u>H</u>₃ (24-27)), 1.23 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, OCH₂C<u>H</u>₃ (19)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.54 (s, C_{arom} COCH₃ (7)), 173.16 (s, CH₂COO (15)), 162.57 (s, <u>C</u>_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 133.47 (s, CH₃CO<u>C</u>_{arom} (1)), 130.79 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (6)), 117.94 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (3)), 113.98 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (5)), 83.63 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₂ (21,22)), 66.87 (s, OCH₂CH₂ (12)), 60.54 (s OCH₂CH₃ (18)), 30.60 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CO (14)), 24,95 (s, C(<u>C</u>H₃)₂ (24-27)), 24.54 (s, <u>C</u>H₃COC_{arom} (9)), 24.47 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (13)), 14.32 (s, OCH₂<u>C</u>H₃(19)).

¹³C-HMBC 138.5 (s, $\underline{C}_{arom}B$ (2))

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+H]^+ = 377.213364$, found $[M+H]^+ = 377.211988$.

2.1.4 – Synthesis of compound **4**

Literature basis - Griffin, D.R.; Andrea M. Kasko, A.M.; J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 13103

In a round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, **3** (1.3 g, 3.4 mmol) was stirred in a solution of trifluoroacetic acid (1 mL) and water (9.5 mL) at 90 °C for 3 hours, after which the solvent was concentrated in vacuo. The product was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane:diethyl ether 9:1 – 1:1) and recrystallized in diethyl ether to afford **4** (0.9 g, 77%).



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.77 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (6)), 6.96 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (3)), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (5)), 4.09 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (16)), 2.58 (t, J = 7.1Hz,2H, CH₂CH₂COOH (18)), 2.55 (s, 3H, COCH₃ (10)), 2.12 - 2.05 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂(17)), 1.44 (s, 12H, CCH₃ (22-25)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.92 (s, C_{arom}COCH₃ (9)), 178.49 (s, CH₂COO (19)), 162.64 (s, <u>C</u>_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 133.53 (s, CH₃CO<u>C</u>_{arom} (1)), 130.83 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (6)), 117.86 (s, <u>C</u>H_{arom} (3)), 114.16 (s, <u>CH</u>_{arom} (5)), 83.73 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₂ (13,14)), 66.75 (s, O<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (16)), 30.39 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CO (18)), 24.99 (s, C(<u>C</u>H₃)₂ (22-25)), 24.77 (s, CO<u>C</u>H₃ (10)), 24.28 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂(17)).

¹³C-HMBC 138.7 (s, <u>C</u>arom B (2))

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+H]^+ = 349.182029$, found $[M+H]^+ = 349.181109$.

2.2 – Fluorescent boronated species

2.2.1 – Synthesis of boronate ester 5'



Figure S10 – Synthesis of compound 5'

2.2.1.1 – Synthesis of 2-Dansylaminoethylamine (**DNH(CH₂)₂NH₂**) Literature basis - Sun, W.; Bandmann, H., Schrader, T.; *Chem. Eur. J.* 2007, 13, 7701

In a round bottom flask, 1,2-ethylenediamine (7.4 mL, 111 mmol) was diluted in dichloromethane previously distilled over CaH₂ (25 mL) and cooled to 0 °C, while stirring. A solution of dansyl chloride (1.0 g, 3.7 mmol) in dichloromethane 16 mL was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred while warming to room temperature. It was subsequently acidified with HCl (1 M) and then extracted with dichloromethane (3x20 mL). The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to afford **DNH(CH₂)₂NH₂** as a light yellow solid (1.02 g, 94%).



Figure S11 – ¹H-NMR for compound $DNH(CH_2)_2NH_2$



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 8.53 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.86 (m, 8H), 2.69 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³**C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 152.11 (s), 134.88 (s), 130.50 (s), 130.01 (s), 129.73 (s), 129.68 (s), 128.48 (s), 123.30 (s), 118.86 (s), 115.31 (s), 45.62 (s) 45.52 (s), 40.99 (s). NMR characterization in accordance with the one described in literature

2.2.1.2 – Amidation to afford boronate ester 5' Literature basis - Park, S. Y.; Oh, K. T.; Oh, Y. T.; Oh, N. M.; Youn, Y. S.; Lee, E. S. *Chem. Commun*, 2012, 48, 2522

In a round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, **4** (100 mg, 0.29 mmol), *N*,*N*'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (119 mg, 0.57 mmol) and *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (66 mg, 0.29 mmol) were mixed at room temperature in 5 mL of previously distilled tetrahydrofuran and stirred overnight. DNH(CH₂)₂NH₂ (101 mg, 0.34 mmol) was added and the solution was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. After which the solvent was concentrated in vacuo and redissolved in ethyl acetate, which was then washed with water and brine. The product was further purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate:hexane 1:1 – 1:0) to afford **5'** as a light yellow solid (41 mg, 23%).





¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta 8.51$ (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (23)), 8.25 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (29)), 8.18 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (21)), 7.73 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (6)), 7.51 (dt, J = 19.6, 8.0 Hz, 2H, CH_{arom} (28,22)), 7.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (27)), 6.93 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (3)), 6.80 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{arom} (5)), 6.25 (s, 1H, CONHCH₂ (12)), 6.00 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H, CH₂NHSO₂ (16)), 3.96 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₂ (8)), 3.25 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.3 Hz, 2H, CONHCH₂ (14)), 2.96 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHSO₂ (15)), 2.85 (s, 6H, C_{arom}N(CH₃)₂ (31,32)), 2.52 (s, 3H, COCH₃ (35)), 2.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₂CONH (10)), 2.00 - 1.96 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂ (9)), 1.42 (s, 12H, C(CH₃)₂ (41-44)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.68 (s, C_{arom}COCH₃ (33)), 173.26 (s, CH₂CONH (11)), 162.66 (s, C_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 152.11 (s, C_{arom}N(CH₃)₂ (26)), 134.45 (s, CH_{Carom}SO₂ (20)), 133.50 (s, CH₃COC_{arom} (1)), 130.95 (s, CH_{arom} (6)), 130.66 (s, CH_{arom} (23)), 129.95 (s, CNC_{arom}CH (24)), 129.67 (s, CH_{arom}CSO₂ (21)), 129.54 (s, CHC_{arom}CSO₂ (25)), 128.60 (s, CH_{arom} (28)), 123.31 (s, CH_{arom} (22)),

118.73 (s, \underline{CH}_{arom} (29)), 118.17 (s, \underline{CH}_{arom} (3)), 115.33 (s, \underline{CH}_{arom} CNCH₃ (27)), 113.90 (s, \underline{CH}_{arom} (5)), 83.72 (s, $\underline{C}(CH_3)_2$ (38,39)), 67.09 (s, $O\underline{C}H_2CH_2$ (8)), 45.49 (s, $C_{arom}N(\underline{C}H_3)_2$ (31,32)), 43.25 (s, $\underline{C}H_2NHSO_2$ (15)), 39.27 (s, $CONH\underline{C}H_2$ (14)), 32.42 (s, $CH_2\underline{C}H_2CONH$ (10)), 24,96 (s, $C(\underline{C}H_3)_2$ (41-44)), 24,93 (s, $CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_2$ (9)), 24,87 (s, $CO\underline{C}H_3$ (35)). ¹³C-HMBC 138.6 (s, $\underline{C}_{arom}B$ (2)) HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+K]^+ = 662.247383$, found $[M+K]^+ = 662.247221$.



27-09-2013 17:37:47

170119_Cell1 - RawData-001 - D:\Pedro Cal\PCD381.spc



Figure S15 – UV spectrum for compound **5**'

 $\lambda_{max} = 290$ nm; Absorbance (Abs_{max})= 0,404; Molar absorption coefficient (ϵ)= 8080 M⁻¹cm⁻¹

2.2.2 – Synthesis of boronate ester 6'



Figure S16 – Synthesis of compound 6'

2.2.2.1 – Synthesis of 4-(2-Hydroxyethylamino)-7-nitro-2,1,3-benzoxadiazole (NBD-NH(CH₂)₂OH)

Literature basis - Onoda, M.; Uchiyama, S., Santa, T., Imai, K.; Analytical Chemistry 2002, 74(16), 4089

In a round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, 4-Chloro-7-nitro-2,1,3-benzoxadiazole (NBD-Cl) (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL). After the addition of 2-ethanolamine (200 μ L) in acetonitrile (5 mL), the solution was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane-methanol (1:0 – 19:1)) to afford **NBD-NH(CH₂)₂OH** as an orange solid in 49% yield. This compound was immediately used after being synthesized.

2.2.2.2 – Esterification to afford boronate ester **6'** Literature basis - Liu, Z.; Hu, J.; Sun, J.; He, G.; Li, Y.; Zhang, G.; *Journal of Polymer Science Part A: Polymer Chemistry* **2010**, 48 (16), 3573

In a round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, **4** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol), *N*,*N*'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (71 mg, 0.34 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (2 mg, 0.01 mmol) were mixed at 0°C in 1mL of previously distilled acetonitrile and stirred for 30 minutes. A solution of NBD-NH(CH₂)₂OH (50 mg, 0.23 mmol) in 1 mL of previously distilled acetonitrile was added via a syringe and the solution was stirred for 22 hours at room temperature. The solvent was, then, concentrated in vacuo and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane:acetone 1:0 – 9:1) and recrystallized with acetone/hexane to afford **6'** as an orange solid (56 mg, 88%).



Figure S18 - ¹³C-NMR for compound **6**'

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 8.44 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, CHC<u>H</u>CNO₂ (31)), 7.71 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>*arom* (6)), 6.90 (s, 1H, C<u>H</u>*arom* (3)), 6.84 (s, 1H, CH₂N<u>H</u>C (28)), 6.78 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, C<u>H</u>*arom* (5)), 6.19 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, NHCC<u>H</u>CH (30)), 4.45 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H₂</u>CH₂NH (26)), 4.06 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H₂</u>CH₂ (20)), 3.75 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂C<u>H₂</u>NH (27)), 2.58 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂C<u>H₂</u>COO (22)), 2.53 (s, 3H, COC<u>H₃</u> (9)), 2.15 – 2.07 (m, 2H, CH₂C<u>H₂</u>CH₂ (21)), 1.42 (s, 12H, CC<u>H₃</u>(15-18)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.57 (s, C_{arom}COCH₃ (7)), 173.50 (s, CH₂COO (23)), 162.40 (s, C_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 144.32 (s, 2xCNO (33,34)), 143.88 (s, CCNO₂CH (32)), 143.67 (s, CCNHCH (29)), 136.37 (s, CHCHCNO₂ (31)), 133.71 (s, CH₃COC_{arom} (1)), 130.83 (s, CH_{arom} (6)), 118.04 (s, CH_{arom} (3)), 113.91 (s, CH_{arom} (5)), 99.05 (s, NHCCHCH (30)), 83.78 (s, C(CH₃)₂ (12,13)), 66.69 (s, OCH₂CH₂CH₂ (20)), 61.85 (s, OCH₂CH₂NH (26)), 43.21 (s, OCH₂CH₂NH (27)), 30.52 (s, CH₂CH₂CO (22)), 25.06 (s, C(CH₃)₂ (15-18)), 24.92 (s, COCH₃ (9)), 24.41 (s, CH₂CH₂CH₂ (21)). ¹³C-HMBC 138.5 (s, C_{arom}B (2)) **HMRS (ESI):** m/z calculated $[M+Na]^+ = 577.208100$, found $[M+Na]^+ = 577.207605$.

Overlay Spectrum Graph Report

27-09-2013 17:35:12

165448_Cell1 - RawData-001 - D:\Pedro Cal\PCD380_2.spc



Figure S19 – UV spectrum for compound 6'

 $\lambda_{max} = 480$ nm; Absorbance (Abs_{max})= 0,604; Molar absorption coefficient (ϵ)= 12080 M⁻¹cm⁻¹

2.3 – Synthesis of EDA-FA and reaction with 5 and 6

2.3.1 – Synthesis of N-(2-aminoethyl) folic acid (EDA-FA)



Figure S20 – Synthesis of compound EDA-FA

The derivative of folic acid (N-(2-aminoethyl) folic acid (EDA-FA)) was synthesized according to an existing procedure obtaining 69% in the first step and 92% in the second one. (Rutnakornpituk, M.; Puangsin, N.; Theamdee, P.; Rutnakornpituk, B.; Wichai, U.; *Polymer*, **2011**, 52, 987).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+H]^+ = 484.205141$, found $[M+H]^+ = 484.205640$.

2.3.2 - Pinacol deprotection and reaction with EDA-FA

2.3.2.1 – Compound 5 and 6 synthesis

Literature basis - Pennington, T.E.; Kardiman, C.; Hutton, C.A.; Tetrahedron Letters 2004, 45, 6657

Treatment of the boronate ester with 5 equiv of polystyrene–boronic acid in acetonitrile/1 M HCl (9:1) for 18 h yielded 27% of compound **5** and 53% of compound **6**, after evaporating

solvents and performing a flash column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane: acetone 4:1-0:1). These compounds were immediately used after deprotection.

2.3.2.2 – Reaction with EDA-FA

Compound 5 and 6 were dissolved in DMSO, as well as EDA-FA. From these solutions compounds 5 and 6 (100 μ M) reacted with 100 μ M in NH₄CH₃CO₂ buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) at room temperature. After 10 minutes, the reactions mixtures were evaluated by performing an ESI-FTICR-MS and the conjugated species were detected:

- **HRMS for compound 5 with EDA-FA (ESI):** *m/z* calculated [M+H-H₂O]⁺ = 989.39022, found [M+H-H₂O]⁺ = 989.39107.
- HRMS for compound 6 with EDA-FA (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+H]^+ = 938.33545$, found $[M+H]^+ = 938.33917$.

2.4 – Aboronated core VS boronate core – Equilibrium



Figure S21 - Equilibrium of 2-acetylbenzene derivatives with 1-butylamine in aqueous medium

As a preliminary result, the aboronated core - acetophenone - and the boronated core - 2-acetylbenzeneboronic acid - were evaluated in terms of imine stability once these were reacted with 1-butylamine - an alkylic model for lysine (Figure S21).

General procedure:

2-Acetylbenzeneboronic acid or acetophenone (0,33mmol) was added to a 10mL round bottom flask and then dissolved in 2mL of H₂O. Afterwards, 1-butylamine (33µL, 0,33 mmol) was added to the same flask and these compounds reacted for 16 hours at 25°C. At that time, one drop of the reaction mixture was taken from the media and diluted in D₂O in order to perform a ¹H-NMR and evaluate the reaction's yield based on the comparison of the signal from α -protons of 1-butylamine and the same protons from imine, which differ from ~2.5 ppm to ~3.6 ppm, respectively. Figure S22 shows ¹H-NMR for 2-acetylbenzeneboronic acid and Figure S23 shows ¹H-NMR for acetophenone.



Figure S22 – ¹H-NMR for 2-acetylbenzeneboronic acid and 1-butylamine in water after 16h of reaction (in D_2O)



Figure S23 – 1 H-NMR for acetophenone and 1-butylamine in water after 16h of reaction (in D₂O)

2.5 – Aboronated compound 14 synthesis



Once the imine's stability of the aboronated species was studied, a fluorescent probe was synthesized to serve as a blank for the biological results.

2.5.1 – Synthesis of compound 12

Literature basis - Al-Smadi, M.; Hanold, N.; Kalbitz, H.; Meier, H.; Synthesis, 2009, 15, 2539

In a round bottom flask (A), 4'-hydroxyacetophenone (0.5 g, 3.6 mmol) and potassium carbonate (0.5 g, 3.6 mmol) were heated in acetone to reflux for 3 hours. In a separate round bottom flask (B), ethyl 4-bromobutyrate (0.8 mL, 5.5 mmol) and sodium iodide (0.8 g, 5.5 mmol) were stirred in acetone at room temperature for 2 hours. Then, flask B was transferred to flask A and refluxed for 14 hours. After that, acetone was evaporated and 200 mL of water were added and extracted with diethyl ether (3*200 mL). The solution was dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane:diethyl ether (9:1)) to give a viscous oil that solidified below 20°C; compound **12** (0.54 g, 59%).



Figure S25 - ¹H-NMR for compound **12**



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 7.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, C \underline{H}_{arom} (2,6)), 6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, C \underline{H}_{arom} (3,5)), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OC \underline{H}_2 CH₃ (17)), 4.06 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H, OC \underline{H}_2 CH₂ (11)), 2.57 – 2.46 (m, 5H, COC \underline{H}_3 (8), COC \underline{H}_2 CH₂ (13)), 2.12 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₂ (12)), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₂ (18)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 196.84 (s, C_{arom}COCH₃ (7)), 173.11 (s, OCOCH₂ (14)), 162.85 (s, CH_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 130.67 (s, CH_{arom} (2,6)), 130.44 (s, CHC_{arom}COCH (1)), 114.22 (s, CH_{arom} (3,5)), 67.07 (s, OCH₂CH₂ (11)), 60.60 (s, OCH₂CH₃ (17)), 30.74 (s, COCH₂CH₂ (13)), 26.42 (s, COCH₃ (8)), 24.56 (s, CH₂CH₂CH₂ (12)), 14.32 (s, OCH₂CH₃ (18)).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+Na]^+ = 273.109730$, found $[M+Na]^+ = 273.108601$.

2.5.2 – Synthesis of compound 13

Literature basis - Griffin, D.R.; Andrea M. Kasko, A.M.; J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 13103

In a round bottom flask, **12** (0.3 g, 1.2 mmol) was stirred in a solution of trifluoroacetic acid (0.35 mL) and water (3.35 mL) at 90 °C for 3 hours. The product precipitates during the reaction and it was filtrated and washed with water and acetone to afford **13** as a white solid (0.24 g, 89%).



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO):** δ 7.79 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (2,6)), 6.90 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, C<u>H</u>_{arom} (3,5)), 3.94 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (11)), 2.38 (s, 3H COC<u>H</u>₃ (8)), 2.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, COC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (13)), 1.86 – 1.81 (m, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (12)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO): δ 196.47 (s, C_{arom}COCH₃ (7)), 174.20 (s, OCOCH₂ (14)), 162.48 (s, CHC_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 130.61 (s, CH_{arom} (2,6)), 129.92 (s, CHC_{arom}COCH (1)), 114.34 (s, CH_{arom} (3,5)), 67.08 (s, OCH₂CH₂ (11)), 30.11 (s, COCH₂CH₂ (13)), 26.50 (s, COCH₃ (8)), 24.18 (s, CH₂CH₂CH₂ (12)).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+Na]^+ = 245.078430$, found $[M+Na]^+ = 245.077406$.

2.5.3 – Synthesis of compound 14

Literature basis - Liu, Z.; Hu, J.; Sun, J.; He, G.; Li, Y.; Zhang, G.; Journal of Polymer Science Part A: Polymer Chemistry 2010, 48 (16), 3573

In a round bottom flask, under inert atmosphere, **13** (25 mg, 0.11 mmol), *N*-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-*N*'-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (65 mg, 0.34 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (2 mg, 0.01 mmol) were mixed at 0 °C in 1 mL of previously distilled dichloromethane and stirred for 1 hour. A solution of NBDNH(CH_2)₂OH (50 mg, 0.23 mmol) in 0.5 mL of previously distilled acetone was added via a syringe and the solution was stirred for 5 hours at room temperature. Then, the solvent was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with a solution of 5% NaHCO₃. The organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to a residue that was further purified by column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane:ethyl acetate 1:0 – 9:1) to afford **14** as an orange solid (34 mg, 71%).



Figure S29 - ¹H-NMR for compound 14



¹**H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO):** δ 9.44 (s, 1H, CN<u>H</u>CH₂ (19)), 8.44 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H, CHC<u>H</u>*arom* CNO₂ (24)), 7.78 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, C<u>H</u>*arom* (2,6)), 6.85 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, C<u>H</u>*arom* (3,5)), 6.41 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H, NHCC<u>H</u>*arom* CH (25)), 4.27 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H, NHCH₂C<u>H</u>₂O (17)), 3.95 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, OC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (11)), 3.70 (s, 2H, NHC<u>H</u>₂CH₂O (18)), 2.44 (s, 3H, COC<u>H</u>₃ (8)), 2.40 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, COC<u>H</u>₂CH₂ (13)), 1.92 – 1.87 (m, 2H, CH₂C<u>H</u>₂ (12)).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO): δ 196.26 (s, CCOCH₃ (7)), 172.56 (s, OCOCH₂ (14)), 162.22 (s, CH<u>C</u>_{arom}OCH₂ (4)), 145.21 (s, 2x<u>C</u>_{arom}NO (21,22)), 144,43 (s, CC_{arom}NO₂CH (23)), 144,07 (s, CC_{arom}NHCH₂ (20)), 137.88 (s, CH<u>C</u>H_{arom}CNO₂ (24)), 130.42 (s, <u>CH</u>_{arom} (2,6)), 129.82 (s, CH<u>C</u>_{arom}COCH (1)), 114.10 (s, <u>CH</u>_{arom} (3,5)), 99.54 (s, NHC<u>C</u>H_{arom}CH (25)), 66.86 (s, OCH₂CH₂ (11)), 61.79 (s, NHCH₂<u>C</u>H₂O (17)), 42.31 (s, NH<u>C</u>H₂CH₂O (18)), 30.09 (s, CO<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (13)), 26.41 (s, CO<u>C</u>H₃(8)), 24.00 (s, CH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂ (12)).

HMRS (ESI): m/z calculated $[M+Na]^+ = 451.122420$, found $[M+Na]^+ = 451.121982$.

Overlay Spectrum Graph Report

27-09-2013 17:31:41

164810_Cell1 - RawData-001 - D:\Pedro Cal\PCD378_2.spc



Figure S31 – UV spectrum for compound 14

 $\lambda_{max} = 480$ nm; Absorbance (Abs_{max})= 0,570; Molar absorption coefficient (ϵ)= 11400 M⁻¹cm⁻¹

3. Biochemistry Results

Lysozyme, from chicken egg white, was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without further purification.

General Procedure for reactions with lyzosyme:

Compounds 5, 6 and 14 dissolved in DMSO (200 μ M) reacted with 10 μ M of lysozyme in NH₄CH₃CO₂ buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) at room temperature. After 10, 30 minutes or 2 hours of reaction the solutions were evaluated by performing an ESI-FTICR-MS and the conjugated species were detected, up to 4 modifications. Results are shown in Figures S29-S46 and tables S1-S4.

3.1 – Unmodified Lysozyme











3.2 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 5

Reaction	Deconvoluted Mass	Molecule	Abundance	Abundace [%]
Lys	14296.86852	$[M+H]^+$	17286140	100.00
Lys + 5	14803.04136	$[M+H-H_2O]^+$	4950278	28.64

Table S2 – Data for the most relevant deconvoluted species (reaction with compound 5)



buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS full spectrum







Figure S37 – Lyzosyme (10,0 μM) with compound 5 dissolved in DMSO (200,0 μM) in acetate buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state (m/z 2060 – 2400)

3.3 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 6

Reaction	Deconvoluted Mass	Molecule	Abundance	Abundace [%]
Lys	14296.84145	$[M+H]^+$	7490357	100.00
Lys + 6	14732.91497	$[M+H-H_2O]^+$	1133658	15.13

Table S3 – Data for the most relevant deconvoluted species (reaction with compound 6)

3.3.1 – After 30 minutes of reaction



Figure S38 – Lyzosyme (10,0 μM) with compound **6** dissolved in DMSO (200,0 μM) in acetate buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) after 30 minutes – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS full spectrum







Figure S40 – Lyzosyme (10,0 μM) with compound 6 dissolved in DMSO (200,0 μM) in acetate buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) after 30 minutes – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS Zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state (m/z 2060 – 2400)

3.3.2 - After 2 hours of reaction







Zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state $(m/z \ 2000 - 2400)$



Figure S43– Lyzosyme (10,0 μM) with compound 6 dissolved in DMSO (200,0 μM) in acetate buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) after 2 hours – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS Zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state (m/z 2060 – 2400)

3.4 – Lysozyme reaction with compound 14

Reaction	Deconvoluted Mass	Molecule	Abundance	Abundace [%]
Lys	14296.77072	[M+H]+	38352376	100.00
Lys + 14	14687.05288	$[M+H-H_2O]^+$	2494221	6.50

Table S4 – Data for the most relevant deconvoluted species (reaction with compound 14)



Zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state (m/z 2000 - 2400)















Figure S49 – Lyzosyme (10,0 μ M) with compound 14 dissolved in DMSO (200,0 μ M) in acetate buffer (50,0 mM, pH 7.0) after 2 hours – Positive Mode of ESI-FTICR-MS Zoomed spectrum (7+) charge state (m/z 2060 – 2400)

4. Biological Results

Cell staining procedure: Cell lines were culture in RPMI-1640 medium with phenol red supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and antibiotic antimycotic solution (100 units/ml penicillin, 0,1 mg/ml streptomycin and 0,25 mg/ml amphotericin B) at 37 °C and under a 5% CO_2 atmosphere.

Cells were plated on a Slide 8 well plate and incubated for 2 days in the incubator. Prior to the addition of the cells the chambers were coated with poly-L-Lysine for one hour and then each well washed with fresh cell culture medium. Samples to be tested were added at approximately 20 μ M concentration in phenol-red free RPMI-1640 medium for 4 hours. When pre-treatment with FA-ethylenediamine was employed, the concentration used was 71,4 μ M and the incubation time was 1 hour. Cells were washed and their membrane stained with WGA-Alexa 594 dye for 15-20 minutes. After this staining treatment, the cells were washed and fresh phenol-red free RPMI-1640 medium was added. Cell imaging was carried on a Leica TCS-SP5 Multiphoton/Confocal Fluorescence Microscope equipped with a continuous Ar ion laser (458, 476, 488, 496 and 514 nm) and a Helium-Neon laser (633 nm).