Convenient Syntheses of *trans*-Resveratrol 3-O and 4'-O-β-D-Glucuronides

and a Study of their Aqueous Stability

Megan K. Fraser,^{1,2} Aleksandra Gorecka,^{1,3} Edwin A Yates,⁴ Jonathan A. Iggo,¹ Krzysztof

Baj¹ and Andrew V. Stachulski*,1

¹Department of Chemistry, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7ZD, U.K.

² GSK Medicines Research Centre, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, SG1 2NY

³ School of Chemistry, Cardiff University, Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3AT

⁴Department of Biochemistry, Cell and Systems Biology, ISMIB, Crown St., University of

Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7ZB, U.K.

Supporting information:

- 1. Experimental procedures and characterisations of compounds described
- 2. Photocopy 1H and 13C NMR spectra for compounds described.
- 3. Photochemical isomerisation of diesters 13 and 16.
- 4. Assignment of 1H and 13C NMRs of the E/Z mixture of compound 4

¹ To whom correspondence should be addressed: stachuls@liv.ac.uk or 0151-794-3482

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Supporting Information

1. Experimental procedures and characterisation of compounds described, viz. 4 (E/Z), 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17

General Experimental Procedures

Organic extracts were finally washed with saturated brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ prior to rotary evaporation at <30°C. Moisture sensitive reactions were carried out in anhydrous organic solvents (purchased from Sigma-Aldrich) under a N₂ or Ar atmosphere. Reactions were monitored by analytical thin-layer chromatography using Merck Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄ silica plates, and were viewed under UV or by staining with KMnO₄ or iodine. Preparative flash column chromatography was performed on either VWR Prolabo silica gel or Sigma-Aldrich silica gel (particle size 40-63 Å). Melting points were recorded using a Bibby-Sterlin Stuart SMP3 melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Mass spectra were obtained in either electrospray mode (ES) with a Micromass LCT or chemical ionization (CI) mode with a Micromass Trio 1000 using ammonia. Elemental analyses were performed by Mrs. Jean Ellis, University of Liverpool. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained using a Bruker Avance-II 400 operating at 400.20 and 100.63 or a Bruker DPX 400 instrument operating at 400.053 and 100.59 MHz, respectively; chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to Me₄Si or DSS. Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hz.

3, 5, 4'-Tri-*O*-acetyl-(*E*)-resveratrol 6-The title triester was prepared from *trans*-resveratrol 3 (2 g, 8.77 mmol) using a literature procedure¹⁷ as a white solid in essentially quantitative yield, m. p. 103-104°C, pure enough to use directly. ¹H NMR: δ 7.51 (*J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, d, H-2', H-6'), 7.05-7.15 (5H, m, H-2, H-6, H-3', H-5' + 1 olef. H), 6.99 (1H, d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, olef. H), 6.85 (1H, t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, H-4) and 2.33 (s, 9H, 3xCH₃CO); ¹³C NMR: δ 169.4, 169.0, 151.3, 150.4, 139.5, 134.5, 129.7, 127.7, 127.2, 121.9, 116.9, 114.4, 21.2 and 21.1.

3, **5**, **4**'-**Tri**-*O*-**isobutyryl**-(*E*)-**resveratrol 15**-Trans-resveratrol **3** (0.57 g, 2.5 mmol) was stirred in a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL), Et₃N (1.05 mL) and isobutyryl chloride (0.55 mL) at 0°C. After 1 h, further Et₃N (0.2 mL) and isobutyryl chloride (0.18 mL) were added, then the mixture was allowed to warm to 20°C and stirred for 16 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with 5% aq. citric acid solution (25 mL), then with water, and evaporated to give the product which readily crystallised on trituration with Et₂O, affording **15** (1.08 g, 99%) as a white solid, m.p. 78-79°C. Found: C, 71.0; H, 6.85. C₂₆H₃₀O₆ requires C, 71.2; H, 6.9%; ¹H NMR: δ 7.51 (2H, d, H-2′, H-6′), 7.07-7.12 (5H, m, H-2, H-6, H-3′, H-5′ + 1 olef. H), 7.00 (1H, d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, olef. H), 6.82 (1H, t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, H-4),2.83 (3H, m, 3xMe₂CH) and 1.35 (18 H, d, 3xMe₂CH); ¹³C NMR: δ 175.5, 175.2, 151.5, 150.6, 139.5, 134.4, 129.6, 127.6, 127.2, 121.8, 116.7, 114.3, 34.2 and 18.9 (x2).

4', 5-Di-O-acetyl-(*E***)-resveratrol 11-**A solution of 3, 5, 4'-tri-O-acetyl-(*E*)-resveratrol **6** (0.302 g, 0.85 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 1:1 THF/MeOH (3 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Glacial acetic acid (0.050 mL, 0.85 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added and a white precipitate formed. 1-Methylpiperazine (0.095 mL, 0.85 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature with stirring over 2 hours and monitored by TLC (7% EtOAc/DCM). The starting material gradually dissolved as the reaction mixture warmed: after a further 3.5 hours at 20°C the solvent was evaporated. The resulting yellow residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL) and washed with water (2 x 25 mL). The combined aqueous layers were washed with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL) and the combined organic layers were evaporated to give crude product, which was purified by column chromatography (5% EtOAc/DCM) to give the title diester **11** as a white solid (0.0967 g, 36.4%). Found: *m/z* (MNa⁺, ES +ve mode) 313.1070; C₁₈H₁₇O₅ requires 313.1071; ¹H NMR: δ 7.47 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, H-2′, H-6′), 7.08 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, H-3′ + H-5′), 7.00 (1H, d, *J* = 16.3 Hz,) and 6.90 (1H, d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, olefinic Hs), 6.81 (1H, s, H-2), 6.78 (1H, s, H-6), 6.50 (1H, d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, H-4), 5.72 (1H, br s, OH), 2.33 (3H, s,) and 2.32 (3H, s, 2xCH₃CO); ¹³C NMR: δ 169.7, 169.6, 156.7, 151.8, 150.2, 139.7, 134.7, 129.0, 127.8, 127.6, 121.9, 111.9, 111.1, 108.5, 21.20 and 21.2.

4', **5-Di-O-isobutyryl-(E)-resveratrol 16**-This was obtained from **15** in a similar manner to **11** as a white solid after chromatography, ca. 40% on a 0.5 mmolar scale, m. p. 73-74°C. Found: C, 71.9; H, 6.5; m/z (MNa⁺, ES +ve mode), 391.1520; C₂₂H₂₄O₅ requires C, 71.7; H, 6.6%; C₂₂H₂₄O₅.Na requires m/z, 391.1521; ¹H NMR: δ 7.46 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz, H-2', H-6'), 7.08 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, H-3' + H-5'), 6.99 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz) and 6.89 (1H, d, J = 16Hz, olefinic Hs), 6.79 (1H, br s, H-2), 6.74 (1H, br s, H-6), 6.49 (1H, d, J = 1 Hz, H-4), 5.56 (1H, br s, OH), 2.84 (2H, m, 2xMe₂CH) and 1.35 (12H, d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2xMe₂CH); ¹³C NMR: δ 175.9, 175.8, 156.7, 151.9, 150.4, 139.6, 134.6, 128.8, 127.7, 127.5, 121.8, 111.8, 111.0, 108.4, 34.2 and 18.9; the isopropyl signals were not split. The minor product from the above, sc. the 3,5-diester corresponding to **13**, was also isolated by chromatography, Found: m/z, 391.1518 (MNa⁺); C₂₂H₂₄O₅.Na requires m/z, 391.1521; ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂CO): δ 7.49 (2H, d, J = 8Hz, H-2', H-6'), 7.21 (2H, br s, 2-H, 6-H), 7.24 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz) and 7.06 (1H, d, J = 16Hz, olefinic Hs), 6.87 (2H, d, J = 8Hz, H-3', H-5'), 6.81 (1H, br s, 4-H), 2.85 (2H, m, 2xMe₂CH) and 1.30 (12H, d, J = 7 Hz, 2xMe₂CH); ¹³C NMR ((CD₃)₂CO): δ 174.6, 157.7, 151.9, 140.3, 130.4, 128.5, 128.2, 123.9, 116.5, 115.5, 114.0, 33.8 and 14.7. **3**, **5**-Di-*O*-acetyl-(*E*)-resveratrol 13-3, 5, 4'-Tri-*O*-acetyl-(*E*)-resveratrol **6** (0.200 g, 0.56 mmol) was taken up in 1-BuOH (1 mL) and TBME (15 mL) in a round-bottomed flask. Immobilised enzyme CAL-B (0.200 g) was added and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 500 rpm and 45 °C for 50 min. The enzyme was then filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness under vacuum to give the crude diacetate as an off-white solid. The crude was purified by column chromatography (5% EtOAc/DCM) to give the title diester **13** as a white solid (0.130 g, 75%), m. p. 137-139°C. Found: m/z (M+H)⁺ = 313.1072; C₁₈H₁₇O₅ requires m/z, 313.1071; ¹H NMR: δ 7.36 (2H, d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, H-2′, H-6′), 7.10 (2H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, H-2, H-6), 7.00 (1H, d, *J* = 16.2 Hz) and 6.85 (1H, d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, olefinic Hs), 6.83 – 6.78 (3H, m, H-3′, H-5′ and H-4), 5.23 (1H, br s, OH) and 2.33 (6H, s, 2xCH₃CO); ¹³C NMR δ 169.3, 156.0, 151.3, 140.2, 130.3, 129.3, 128.2, 124.6, 116.7, 115.7, 113.8, 21.2.

Methyl 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-α,β-D-glucopyranuronate 8- Methyl 1,2,3,4-tetra-O-acetyl-β-Dglucopyranuronate 7 (2.496 g, 6.63 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (50 mL). 1-Methylpiperazine (2.21 mL, 19.93 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and glacial acetic acid (1.15 mL, 19.93 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were added to the flask and the mixture was stirred overnight at 20°C. After 18 hr, TLC analysis (50% EtOAc/hexane) showed a single more polar spot. Water (75 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and the precipitate dissolved to give an orange solution. The mixture was washed with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with aqueous citric acid (7%, 2 x 75 mL), water (75 mL), and brine (75 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to dryness to give 2,3,4-tri-O-acetyl-D-glucuronide methyl ester **8** (4:1 α/β) as a pale yellow oil (2.076 g, 94%), sufficiently pure for immediate progression, which slowly solidified. Found: m/z, 358.0825 (MNaH)⁺; C₁₃H₁₉O₁₀Na requires m/z, 358.0876; ¹H NMR: δ 5.66 – 5.57 (m, 1H, H-1), 5.21 (t, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H, H-3), 4.94 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H, H-2), 4.61 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.77 (s, 3H, CH₃O), 3.56 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.10 (s, 3H, CH₃CO), 2.06 (s, 6H, 2xCH₃CO). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz) δ 170.1, 170.0, 169.6, 169.5, 168.3, 95.6, 90.3, 73.0, 72.7, 71.4, 70.7, 69.5, 69.4, 69.0, 68.1, 53.0, 52.9, 20.7, 20.6, 20.5, 20.5.

Methyl 2,3,4-tri-*O*-acetyl-1-*O*-(trichloroacetimidoyl)-*α*-D-glucopyranuronate 9- The hemiacetal **8** (2.08 g, 6.21 mmol) and trichloroacetonitrile (5.63 mL, 56.10 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (35.0 mL). Anhydrous potassium carbonate (6.293 g, 44.88 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18.5 h, when TLC (1:1 ethyl acetate: hexane) showed complete reaction. The reaction mixture was eluted through a pad of silica with Et₂O, then 1:1 ethyl acetate: hexane. Appropriate fractions were concentrated to dryness to give a yellow oil which was dissolved in the minimum amount of EtOAc and recrystallised by addition of hexane to give the title imidate **9**³¹ (1.53g, 52%), m. p. 108-110°C as colourless crystals which were stored at -18 °C. Found: *m/z* (M+Na)⁺, 499.9890; C₁₅H₁₈Cl₃NO₁₀Na requires m/z, 499.9894; ¹H NMR: δ 8.75 (1H, s, NH), 6.65 (1H, d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, H-1), 5.64 (1H, t, *J* = 9.9 Hz, H-4), 5.29 (1H, t, *J* = 9.9 Hz, H-3), 5.16 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.2, 3.6 Hz, H-2), 4.51 (1H, d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, H-5), 3.76 (3H, s, CH₃O), 2.06 and 2.03 (9H, 3s, 3xCH₃CO); ¹³C NMR ((CD₃)₂SO): δ 165.0 (x2), 164.7, 162.4, 155.8, 87.9, 85.8, 65.7, 64.7, 64.3, 64.2, 48.3, 15.9, 15.7 and 15.7.

(E)-1-(3-Acetoxy-5-O-2,3,4-triacetyl-β-D-glucuronopyranosidophenyl)-2-(4'-

acetoxyphenyl)ethene Methyl Ester 12-4', 5-Di-O-acetyl-(E)-resveratrol 11 (0.101 g, 0.32 mmol) and the trichloroacetimidate 9 (0.226 g, 0.47 mmol) were dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) and the resulting solution was cooled to 0°C. $BF_3.OEt_2$ (0.01 mL, 0.08 mmol) was added whilst stirring. After 5 minutes, the stirring was stopped and the reaction mixture was stored

at -18 °C for 17 h. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (10% to 20% EtOAc/toluene) to give *trans*-resveratrol penta-O-acetyl-3-β-D-glucuronide methyl ester **12** (0.106 g, 53%) as a crystalline white solid, m. p. 146-147°C. Found: C, 59.0; H, 5.1; *m/z* (M+NH₄)⁺ = 646.2133; C₃₁H₃₂O₁₄ requires C, 59.2; H, 5.1%; C₃₁H₃₆NO₁₄ requires m/z = 646.2136. ¹H NMR: δ 7.51 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, H-2′, H-6′), 7.11 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, H-3′ + H-5′), 7.06 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H, olefinic H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 2H, H-2 + H-6), 6.96 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H, olefinic H), 6.67 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, H-4), 5.42 – 5.27 (3H, m, H-2″, H-3″ and H-4″), 5.21 (1H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, H-1″), 4.24 (1H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, H-5″), 3.75 (3H, s, CH₃O), 2.33 (3H, s, Ar CH₃CO); ¹³C NMR: δ 169.4, 169.3 (x2), 169.2, 166.9, 157.4, 151.7, 150.4, 139.7, 134.4, 129.6, 127.7, 127.4, 121.9, 114.7, 112.7, 109.9, 99.0, 72.8, 71.8, 71.1, 69.0, 53.0, 21.2, 20.7, 20.6 and 20.5.

(E)-1-(3-Isobutyryl-5-O-2,3,4-triacetyl-β-D-glucuronopyranosidophenyl)-2-(4'-

isobutyrylphenyl)ethene Methyl Ester 17- This compound was prepared from diester **16** (0.214 g, 0.58 mmol) as described for compound **12** using trichloroacetimidate **9** (0.275 g, 0.57 mmol). After chromatography the title compound **17** was obtained as a white solid (0.257 g, 66%). Found: C, 61.1; H, 5.9; m/z, 707.2313 (MNa⁺, ES +ve mode); $C_{35}H_{40}O_{14}$ requires C, 61.4; H, 5.84%; $C_{35}H_{40}O_{14}$.Na requires m/z 707.2316; ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO): δ 7.65 (2 H, d, J = 7.8 Hz, H-2′ + H-6′), 7.34 (1 H, d, J = 16.4 Hz, olefinic H), 7.22 (1 H, d, J = 16.4 Hz, olefinic H), 7.12-7.16 (4 H, m, H-2 + H-6 + H-3′ + H-5′), 6.72 (1 H, br s, H-4), 5.80 (1 H, d, J = 8 Hz, H-1′′), 5.47 (1 H, t, J = 9.6 Hz, H-3′′), 5.07-5.15 (2 H, m, H-2′′ + H-4′′), 4.74 (1 H, d, J = 10.0 Hz, H-5′′), 3.66 (3 H, s, CH₃O), 2.84 (2 H, m, 2xMe₂*CH*), 2.04, 2.02

and 2.01 (9 H, 3s, 3xCH₃CO) and 1.25 (12 H, 2d, 2x*Me*₂CH); ¹³C NMR: δ 175.5, 175.3, 170.1, 169.3, 169.3, 166.9, 157.4, 151.9, 150.7, 139.7, 134.3, 129.5, 127.6, 127.3, 121.9, 114.6, 112.4, 109.7, 99.0, 72.7, 71.8, 71.1, 69.0, 53.0, 34.2, 20.7, 20.6, 20.5 and 18.9.

(E)-1-(5-hydroxy-3-O-β-D-glucuronopyranosidophenyl)-2-(4'-hydroxyphenyl)ethene, Na salt 4-The glucuronide ester 12 (0.105 g, 0.17 mmol) was suspended in MeOH (4.0 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. A solution of sodium carbonate (0.0828 g, 0.78 mmol) in water (3.0 mL) was added over 1 minute with stirring and the reaction mixture turned from cloudy white to cloudy yellow. The resulting reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 2 hours and THF (5.0 mL) was added to aid dissolution. After a further hour, water (1.0 mL) was added. After 10 minutes, stirring was stopped and the reaction mixture was kept in the fridge overnight. Amberlite IR-120 (H⁺) resin was added with stirring until a pH of 6.0 was obtained, then the resin was filtered off and washed with water. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness then azeotroped with ethanol (3x5 mL) to give a pale beige solid, which was recrystallised from cold ethanol containing water (1 drop). The precipitate was filtered off, washed with cold ethanol, and dried in vacuo to give the title glucuronide 4 (0.053 g, 77%) as a beige, flaky solid. Found: m/z (MH⁺, ES +ve mode) 427.0994; C₂₀H₂₀O₉Na requires m/z, 427.1005; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O): δ 7.46 (2H, pd, J = 8.3 Hz, H-2' + H-6') ^a, 7.11 (1H, ABq, J = 16.5 Hz, olefinic H)^b, 6.93 (1H, ABq, J = 16.5 Hz, olefinic H)^b, 6.81 (2H, pd, J =8.3 Hz, H-3' + H-5')^a, 6.73 (1H, s, H-6)^c, 6.72 (1H, s, H-2)^c 6.45 (1H, s, H-4), 5.12 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz, H-1'', 3.92 (1H, d, J = 8.8 Hz, H-5''), 3.70-3.56 (3 H, m, H-2'' + H-3'' + H-4'').¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, D₂O)^d: 162.9 (C-3), 161.9 (C-4'), 161.1 (C-5), 142.8 (C-1)^e, 131.9 (C-8), 131.0 (C-2',6') 130.3 (C-1')^e, 127.5 (C-7), 111.3 (C-2), 107.3 (C-6), 106.5 (C-4). ¹H Chemical shifts closely match the values reported by Lucas *et al.*¹³ a pd = pseudo doublet, the ortho and meta protons of the phenol form a 2nd order spin system, apparent J(HH) given.^b

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ABq = AB quartet. ^c Assignment might be reversed. ^d ¹³C shifts taken from HSQC and HMBC spectra. ^e Assignment might be reversed. ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 175.5, 158.3, 140.2, 129.2, 128.2, 127.3, 124.8, 116.9, 108.9, 104.5, 103.5, 100.2, 76.2, 75.3, 72.8 and 71.7. The corresponding diisobutyryl ester **17** gave a similar result.

(*Z*)-1-(5-hydroxy-3-O-β-D-glucuronopyranosidophenyl)-2-(4'-hydroxyphenyl)ethene, Na salt – 4 (ca. 0.005 g) was dissolved in D₂O (ca. 0.7 ml) and the solution placed in an NMR tube. After standing in the dark for ca. 2 weeks, the NMR tube containing the solution was placed on the window ledge in bright sunlight for ca. 8 h after which time the sample was transferred to the NMR spectrometer. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O): δ 7.17 (2H, pd, *J* = 8.7 Hz, H-2' + H-6')^a, 6.76 (2H, pd, *J* = 8.7 Hz, H-3' + H-5')^a, 6.62 (1H, ABq, *J* = 12.1 Hz, olefinic H)^b, 6.46 (1H, ABq, *J* = 12.1 Hz, olefinic H)^b, 6.46 (1H, s, H-2)^c, 6.40 (1H, s, H-6)^c, 6.35 (1H, s, H-4), 5.12 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-1''), 3.92 (1H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, H-5''), 3.70-3.56 (3 H, m, H-2'' + H-3'' + H-4''). ¹³C {¹H} NMR (101 MHz, D₂O)^d: 163.3 (C-3), 160.6 (C-5), 159.7 (C-4'), 142.3 (C-1)^e, 133.4 (C-8), 133.3 (C-2',6') 131.2 (C-1')^e, 130.8 (C-7), 114.9 (C-2), 108.7 (C-6), 106.5 (C-4). ^a pd = pseudo doublet, the ortho and meta protons of the phenol form a 2nd order spin system, apparent *J*(HH) given. ^b ABq = AB quartet. ^c Assignment might be reversed. ^d 1³C shifts taken from HSQC and HMBC spectra. ^c Assignment might be reversed.

(E)-1-(3,5-Diacetoxyphenyl)-2-(4'-O-2,3,4-triacetyl-β-D-glucopyranosidophenyl)ethene

Methyl Ester 14- 3, 5-Di-*O*-acetyl-(*E*)-resveratrol 13 (0.109 g, 0.35 mmol) and the trichloroacetimidate 9 (0.246 g, 0.51 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (4.0 mL) and cooled to -20 °C. BF₃.OEt₂ (0.012 mL, 0.10 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, stirring was stopped and the reaction mixture was

kept at -20 °C for 1.5 hours. Saturated Na₂CO₃ solution (3.0 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was washed with ethyl acetate (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness under vacuum to give a yellow oil which was purified by column chromatography (20% EtOAc/toluene) to give the title compound **14** (0.122 g, 56%) as a colourless oil which solidified to a white solid, m. p. 164-165°C. Found: C, 59.2; H, 5.0; *m/z* (CI, NH₃) (M+H)⁺ = 646.2135; C₃₁H₃₂O₁₄ requires C, 59.2; H, 5.1%; C₃₁H₃₆NO₁₄ requires m/z = 646.2136. ¹H NMR: δ 7.42 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, H-2′, H-6′), 7.11 (2H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 2-H + 6-H), 7.03 (1H, d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, olefinic H), 6.99 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, H-3′ + H-5′), 6.92 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H, olefinic H), 6.81 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, H-4), 5.38 – 5.27 (3H, m, H-2″, H-3″ and H-4″), 5.18 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, H-1″), 4.25 – 4.19 (1H, m, H-5″), 3.74 (3H, s, CH₃O), 2.31 (6H, s, 2xAr CH₃CO), 2.07, 2.06 and 2.05 (9H, 3s, 3xCH₃CO); ¹³C NMR: δ 170.1, 169.3, 169.2, 169.0, 166.9, 156.5, 151.3, 139.7, 132.2, 129.7, 128.0, 126.2, 117.3, 116.8, 114.2, 99.0, 72.7, 71.8, 71.1, 69.1, 53.0, 21.1, 20.6, 20.50.

(E)-1-(3, 5-Dihydroxy-3-O-β-D-glucuronopyranosidophenyl)-2-(4'-

hydroxyphenyl)ethane, Na salt 5-Ester 14 (0.0843 g, 0.13 mmol) was dissolved in 1:1 THF/MeOH (5.0 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. Sodium carbonate (0.0716 g, 0.68 mmol) was dissolved in water (5.0 mL) and added slowly over 3 minutes with stirring. The colourless solution gradually turned yellow and was allowed to warm to 20°C over 2 hours. After 3 h at this temperature, no starting material was present. Amberlite IR-120 (H⁺) resin was added with stirring to pH 6, then the resin was filtered off and washed with water. The filtrate was evaporated and azeotroped with ethanol (3x5 mL) to give a crude pale brown solid, which was recrystallised from ethanol and 3 drops of warm water. The brown solid was filtered off and washed with cold ethanol. After drying, purified by column chromatography (5:3:1 EtOAc:/PrOH: H₂O) gave a pale beige solid. Cold Et₂O was added to the solid and gently stirred before carefully pipetting off the solvent. This was repeated once more before final drying under vacuum to give the title glucuronide **5** as a beige, flaky solid (0.0203 g, 39%). Found: m/z (MH⁺, ES +ve mode) 427.0996; C₂₀H₂₀O₉Na requires m/z, 427.1005; ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 7.38 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz, H-2′ + H-6′), 7.03 (2H, d, J = 8.6 Hz, H-3′ + H-5′), 6.97 (1H, d, J = 16.4 Hz, partly obscured, alkene H), 6.81 (1H, d, J = 16.4 Hz, alkene H), 6.48 (2H, d, J = 1.9 Hz, H-2 + H-6), 6.17 (1H, d, J = 2.0 Hz, H-4), 5.00 (1H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, anomeric H), 3.80 (1 H, d, J = 8.8 Hz, 5′′-H) and 3.29 – 3.09 (3H, m, H-2′′ + H-3′′ + H-4′′); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 175.4, 157.7, 156.3, 139.8, 132.0, 128.3, 127.9, 126.9, 116.8, 100.1, 76.1, 75.3, 72.7 and 71.7.

2. Photocopy 1H and 13C NMR spectra of the above



12































Figure 2. 1H NMR spectrum of 5.Na after 5 days, showing H/D exchange. Contains ca. 10 mol% Et_2O .



3. Photochemical isomerisation of diesters 13 and 16.



Diester 16, t = 0 in CD_3CN

Diester **16** in CD₃CN after 12h in diffused sunlight; E:Z ~54:46 6.5 [ppm]





Diester 13 in CD₃CN after 12h in diffused sunlight; E:Z ~14:86

4. Assignment of 1H and 13C NMRs of the E/Z mixture of compound 4

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Experimental

All spectra were recorded using a Bruker Avance-II NMR spectrometer operating at 1 H = 400.20 MHz equipped with an inverse 1 H,BB probe and Bruker GRASP II gradient accessory. Spectra were recorded in D2O at 298 K using standard Bruker pulse sequences with the exception of the nOe difference measurements which used a custom pulse sequence that combined the Bruker sequences noedif.2 and noemult to collect a pseudo 2D data set containing a series of 1D spectra in which, in turn, each multiplet was selected for irradiation and presaturation of both lines of the selected pseudo doublet occurred. Spectra are referenced to the resonances of DSS.

Photo-interconversion of trans and cis isomers



Figure 1 Interconversion of trans and cis isomers. Bottom: On extended storage in the dark. Middle: After ca 10 hours in sunlight. Top: After ca 5 days in the dark.



1H NMR spectrum of **4** after 7 days' standing in daylight @ 20°C, E:Z ~3:2, showing the aryl region.

Trans isomer

Table of Assignments





 $\delta(H)^a$ J(HH) ⁿJ(CH) correlations

4 6 ^b 2 ^b 3',5'	HSQC 106.5 107.3 111.3 119.6	HMBC 106.5 107.3 111.3	6.45 6.73 6.72 6.81	J(10,11) 8.3	7 7	2 2	
7	127.5	127.5	6.93	<i>J</i> (7,8) 16.5	8	6/4 weak	
1'°	n/a	130.3			7 (<i>J</i> larger)	11 (<i>J</i> smaller)	8 weak?
2',6'	131.0	131.0	7.46	<i>J</i> (10,11) 8.3	8		
8	131.9	131.9	7.11	<i>J</i> (7,8) 16.5	10	7	
1°	n/a	142.8			8 (<i>J</i> larger)	7 (<i>J</i> smaller)	
5	n/a	161.1			2	11	
4' 3	n/a n/a	161.9 162.9	-		10 2	11	

^a 10,10',11,11' and 7,8 form mutually coupled 2nd order spin systems, the apparent ¹H chemical shift is given. A full analysis to obtain *J*(HH) has not been attempted. ^b Assignment based on chemical shift, may be reversed. ^c Assignment based on chemical shift, may be reversed.

¹H NMR spectrum



Figure 1¹H NMR spectrum of trans isomer. Top full spectrum; Bottom expansion of aromatic region







Figure 1 HSQC spectrum of the trans isomer. Top: Full spectrum; Bottom: Expansion of the aromatic region. 2nd order systems indicated by dotted lines.



Figure 1 HMBC spectra of the trans isomer. Top: Full spectrum; Bottom: Expansion of the aromatic and quaternary region.

HSQC/HMBC Overlay



Figure 1 Overlay of HSQC (red) and HMBC (blue) spectra, contours have been selected to reveal primarily correlations from the trans isomer. $* = {}^{1}J$ correlations, dotted boxes indicate correlations from 2^{nd} order spin systems in the HSQC spectra

HSQC F1 projection



HMBC F1 projection





Figure 1 nOe difference spectra of the trans isomer



Observed nOe

,5'

Cis isomer Table of Assignments



Assignment based on chemical shift, may be reversed. ^b Assignment based on chemical shift, may be reversed

а

¹H NMR spectrum



Figure 2 1H NMR spectrum of cis isomer. Top: Full spectrum; Bottom: Expansion of the aromatic region

gNMR simulation of the AA'XX' and AB resonances of the cis isomer







Figure 3 COSY spectrum of cis isomer. * trans correlations



HSQC

Figure 3 HSQC spectrum of cis isomer. 2nd order systems indicated by dotted boxes * = correlations from the minor, trans isomer present. Top full spectrum. Bottom expansion of aromatic region

HMBC



Figure 3 HMBC spectrum of cis isomer.

¹³C projections











Figure 3 nOe difference spectra of cis-isomer. Strong nOes are seen between the olefinic protons 7 and 8 confirming cis arrangement. nOes from A-ring protons not detectable due to overlap of signals. (A) 1H NMR spectrum. nOe difference spectra irradiat



Observed nOe	
H3',5'	H8
H2',6'	
H7	H3',5'
H8	