Intramolecular Etherification and Polyene Cyclization of π -Activated Alcohols Promoted by Hot Water

Feng-Zhi Zhang, Yan Tian, Guo-Xing Li, and Jin Qu*

State Key Laboratory and Institute of Elemento-organic Chemistry[, C](#page-7-0)ollaborative Innovation Center of Chemical Science and Engineering (Tianjin), Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, China

S Supporting Information

[AB](#page-7-0)STRACT: [Hot water, a](#page-7-0)cting as a mildly acidic catalyst, efficiently promoted intramolecular direct nucleophilic substitution reactions of unsaturated alcohols with heteroatom or carbon nucleophiles. In a mixed solvent of water and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP), polyene cyclizations using allylic alcohols as initiators gave the desired cyclized products, and in neat HFIP, a tricyclization reaction gave a tetracyclic product in 51% chemical yield.

■ INTRODUCTION

The use of direct nucleophilic substitution reactions of alcohols to build carbon−heteroatom and carbon−carbon bonds has obvious advantages. First, alcohols with a wide variety of chemical structures are abundant in the natural world, the structural motif of an alcohol can be readily incorporated into a target molecule by means of these reactions. Second, water is the only byproduct of the reaction. However, the poor leaving ability of the hydroxyl group disfavors direct nucleophilic substitution, and therefore alcohols generally have to be transformed into the corresponding halides, carboxylates, or sulfonates, which are better leaving groups, before reaction with a nucleophile. Various catalytic methods employing Lewis acid or Brønsted acid catalysts¹ or transition-metal catalysts² have been developed to mediate the direct nucleophilic substitutions of alcohols in organic sol[ve](#page-7-0)nts.

For S_N1 substitutions of alcohols, the use of water as the solvent generally used to be avoided because water was expected to instantly trap the carbocation intermediate and give back the starting material. However, by comparing the N parameters of π -systems and the N_1 parameters of water or aqueous−alcoholic solvent mixtures, Mayr et al. predicted that solvolytically generated carbocations could be trapped by π nucleophiles ($[Nuc] = 1 mol/L$) in aqueous solution if the N of the corresponding π nucleophile is greater than the N_1 of the aqueous solvent.³ In 2007 and 2008, Cozzi et al. showed that water can facilitate the departure of the hydroxyl group of an electron-rich be[nz](#page-7-0)ylic alcohol, and the generated carbocation can react with carbon, sulfur, and nitrogen nucleophiles in water.⁴ In addition, reactions of carbocations generated from less-electron-rich benzylic alcohols can be carried out in 2,2,2 triflu[oro](#page-7-0)ethanol, which is less nucleophilic than water.^{4b} In 2012, the research groups of Nájera and Cozzi reported that perfluoroalcohols can promote direct nucleophilic substi[tut](#page-7-0)ion reactions of allylic alcohols and benzylic alcohols more effectively than water can.⁵

In addition to being an environmentally benign reaction medium, water has unique chemical and physical properties that allow it to catalyze organic reactions. $4,6$ In previous studies, we showed that under refluxing conditions water can act as a mildly acidic catalyst to promote organic [re](#page-7-0)actions traditionally catalyzed by Brønsted acid or Lewis acid catalysts.⁷ Recently, we found that the S_N1 hydrolysis of allylic and benzylic alcohols occurs in hot water, and we systematically studied t[he](#page-7-0) effects of various reaction parameters on the outcome of this reaction.^{7c} We were interested in determining whether an intramolecular heteroatom or carbon nucleophile could react with differe[nt](#page-7-0) kinds of π -stabilized carbocations preferentially over solvent water. Herein, we report that efficient intramolecular etherification and polyene cyclization reactions can be carried out in water or a mixed solvent of water and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2 propanol (HFIP) under refluxing conditions.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Intramolecular Etherifications Promoted by Hot Water. First, we tested various substrates to determine whether intramolecular etherification would take place in refluxing water without an additional catalyst $(Table 1)$.⁸ We found that the phenoxy group of substrate 1a readily displaced the benzylic hydroxyl group to give 2H-chromene 2a i[n](#page-7-0) 86% yield after 3 h (entry 1, Table 1).⁹ Methoxy-su[bs](#page-1-0)tituted substrate 1b gave a 95% yield of 2b under the same conditions (entry 2), and substrates bearing ele[ct](#page-1-0)r[o](#page-8-0)n-withdrawing groups on one or both of the phenyl rings (1c−e) gave slightly lower yields of the desired ethers (entries 3−5). Sulfonamide was also a suitable nucleophile: substrate 1f gave 1,2-dihydroquinoline 2f in 85% yield (entry 6). Photochromic compound 2g could be prepared in 82% yield by reaction of substrate 1g in refluxing water for 4 h (entry $7)^{10}$

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Table 1. Synthesis of 2H-Chromenes and 1,2- Dihydroquinoline α

^aReaction conditions: 0.2 mmol of alcohol in H₂O (20 mL). ^bIsolated yield.

A relatively stable carbocation intermediate is crucial for an S_N1 substitution in water.³ We found that intermolecular nucleophilic substitutions of cinnamic alcohol with various nucleophiles failed in water because the unstable carbocation was quenched by water before it could react with other nucleophiles. However, intramolecular substitution reactions of diols 3a−d, which are structurally similar to cinnamic alcohol, did take place in water to give cyclic ethers 4a−d in 70−79% yields (entries 1−4, Table 2, note that although 3c has been reported to cyclize to 4a in 91% yield with a boronic acid catalyst in $CH₃NO₂$ at room temperature, the isomeric 3a only react slowly at 80 °C and give 4a in 17% yield after 15 h^{10}). Under the same reaction conditions, the etherifications of benzylic alcohols 3e−i afforded spiro tetrahydrofurans [an](#page-7-0)d tetrahydropyrans 4e−i in 79−85% yields (entries 5−9, the control experiments showed that 3g did not react in refluxing methanol or 2-propanol, which indicated that the reactions did not initiate at raised temperature in a polar protic solvent and confirmed that water played a catalytic role in the reactions; see Supporting Information).

Spiroketal enol ether derivatives have been synthesized by [intramolecular cyclizatio](#page-7-0)n of 2-furylcarbinols.¹¹ Here we found that in refluxing water, 2-furylcarbinol 5a gave spiroacetal enol ether 6a in 62% yield, together with a side p[rod](#page-8-0)uct with higher polarity than 6a. This side product was determined to be fused cyclopentenone 7a, which was generated from 6a through a thermal 4π electrocyclic rearrangement reaction described by Piancatelli et al.¹² A control experiment confirmed that 6a could be quantitatively transformed into 7a in refluxing water for 12 h. When t[he](#page-8-0) temperature of the cyclization reaction of 5a was lowered to 60 °C, a higher yield 6a $(77%)$ was obtained, and the yield of 7a was reduced to 10% (entry 1, Table 3). A higher yield of 7a (91%) could be achieved by refluxing 5a in water for 24 h. 2-Furylcarbinols 5b and 5c, which bear electrondonating or electron-withdrawing groups, respectively, on the phenyl ring showed reactivities similar to that of 5a at 60 °C and under refluxing conditions (entries 3−6). Reaction of styrenyl-substituted enol ether 5d at 60 °C gave a 1:2 mixture of spiroacetal enol ethers (E) - and (Z) -6d (entry 7), and

Table 2. Intramolecular Etherification in Water^a

^aReaction conditions: 0.2 mmol of alcohol in H₂O (20 mL). ^bIsolated yield.

Table 3. Synthesis of Spiroketal Enol Ethers and Fused Cyclopentenones in Water^a

R HC	$5a-5e$	H ₂ O OН	R	R $\ddot{}$ $6a-6e$ $7a-7e$
entry	R	temp (°C)	time (h)	yield(%) ^b
1		60	6	6a (77%) + 7a (10%)
2	5a	reflux	24	7a (91%)
3 MeO		60	4	6b $(79%) + 7b (12%)$
4	5b OMe	reflux	24	7b (82%)
5 F_3C		60	6	6c (82%) + 7c (3%)
6	5c	reflux	24	7c (87%)
7		60	5	6d $(71%)$ + 7d $(8%)$ $E/Z = 1:2$
8	5d	reflux	24	7d (86%)
9		60	4	6e $(76%) + 7e (12%)$
10	5e	reflux	24	7e (70%)

^aReaction conditions: 0.2 mmol substrate in H₂O (20 mL). ^bIsolated yields.

reaction of thiophene-substituted substrate 5e gave 6e in 76% yield at 60 \degree C and gave the natural product chrycorin (7e) in 70% yield under refluxing conditions (entry 10).¹³

We next turned our attention to intramolecular nucleophilic substitution reactions with carbon nucleophiles.^{10,14} We found that intramolecular Friedel−Crafts reactions of alcohols 8a−c proceeded in refluxing water, but the yields [of](#page-7-0) [th](#page-8-0)e cyclized products were only 11−23% after 24 h (data not shown). However, substrate 8d, which bears a hydroxyl group on the phenyl ring, gave a 65% yield of the cyclization product under the same conditions (entry 4, Table 4). We conjectured that

Table 4. Intramolecular Direct Nucleophilic Substitution by a Phenyl Ring^a

^aReaction conditions: 0.05 mmol of substrate in refluxing H_2O (50 mL). $\frac{b}{c}$ isolated yield. $\frac{c}{c}/Z$ isomer ratio >20:1. $\frac{d}{d}$ Reaction conditions: 0.2 mmol of substrate in H₂O (20 mL) under a N₂ atmosphere.

the poor aqueous solubility of substrates 8a−c might have slowed their reactions, $7f,15$ and by reducing the concentrations of 8a−c, we were able to obtain 80−90% yields of the desired cyclization products w[it](#page-7-0)[hin](#page-8-0) 24 h (entries 1−3).

Two reviewers raised a question about whether the reactions were actually catalyzed by the glass surface and water was just a polar solvent. Theoretically, the possibility that the reactions were catalyzed by the glass surface does exist because the glass surface is slightly acidic (the pK_a of silanol is estimated to be 13.6) and some types of laboratory glassware may leach Lewisacidic metals into aqueous solution. The controlled experiments were then performed in PFA round-bottom flasks¹⁶ and base-washed round-bottom flasks using compounds 5a and 8b as the substrates (see Supporting Information). The [ex](#page-8-0)perimental results showed that the reactions could proceed well in PFA or base-washed round-bottom flasks. The chemical yields obtained from base-was[hed](#page-7-0) [and](#page-7-0) [acetone-washed](#page-7-0) reaction flasks were comparable, but the reactions employing PFA reaction flasks were slightly slower than reactions employing glass reaction flasks (the chemical yields were 85−95% of the average yields obtained from glass reaction flasks). The possible reason might be the less efficient heat transfer while using a PFA reaction flask. Or it might be that the PFA surface disturbs the self-ionization of water, which is similar to the addition of an organic solvent to water.¹⁷ Recently, Professor Jamison

reported studies on the epoxide-opening cyclizations templated by a preformed tetrahydropyran ring (promoted by neutral water at 70 °C). The controlled experiment performed in polypropylene tube furnished similar endo/exo selectivity suggesting that the glass surface was not responsible for the observed high endo selectivity.¹⁸

Intramolecular Polyene Cyclizations of Allylic Alcohols Promoted by Hot Wat[er.](#page-8-0) There has been long-standing interest in nonenzymatic polyene cyclization reactions for the rapid construction of polycyclic frameworks. Polyene cyclizations are usually carried out in nonprotic solvents that do not trap the carbocation intermediate. We were interested to see whether polyene cyclization with an allylic alcohol as initiator groups could be carried out in water.¹⁹ An initial experiment showed that allylic alcohol 10a was unreactive in refluxing water. We speculated that the failure o[f t](#page-8-0)he reaction might have been due to insufficient solvation of the hydrophobic substrate in the aqueous solution. Therefore, we added a small amount of 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP), which is a better hydrogen-bond donor and has higher ionizing power than water, as well as better ability to solubilize organic compounds. At a H₂O:HFIP ratio of 3:1 (v/v) , a cyclization cascade afforded an 80% yield of a dicyclized product with very high diastereoselectivity (entry 1, Table 5). Allylic alcohols 10b and

Table 5. Intramolecular Dicyclization Reactions a

a Reaction conditions: 0.1 mmol of substrate in refluxing 3:1 H₂O:HFIP (v/v, 5 mL). ^bIsolated yield. ^cThe diastereomeric (dr) ratio was determined by ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectroscopy. d Under a N₂ atmosphere.

10c, which bear one or two methoxy groups on the phenyl ring, gave similar yields and diastereoselectivities (entries 2 and 3), and the formation of 11c was confirmed by X-ray crystallography (Figure 1). It is noteworthy that the current method, unlike the method using a Lewis acid catalyst, did not require the protection o[f t](#page-3-0)he phenoxy group in 10d (entry 4).

Refluxing of alcohol 12 in the above-described mixed solvent resulted in the formation of the trans,trans-tricyclized product 13 and the trans,cis-tricyclized product 14 in 26% total yield, along with a mixture of mono- and dicyclized products in 21%

^aReaction conditions: 0.1 mmol of substrate in mixed solvent or pure HFIP (5 mL) under refluxing conditions. b Isolated yield. ^cThe diastereomeric ratio was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of 11c.

total yield (entry 1, Table 6). Increasing the volume ratio of HFIP increased the speed of the reaction as well as the total yield of the tricyclization products (entries 2 and 3); the yield reached 51% in pure HFIP (entry 4). The mixture of monoand dicyclized products could be transformed into tricyclized products in 72% yield by treatment with trifluoroacetic acid; thus the combined yield of tricyclized products obtained from the reaction in entry 4 was 68% .^{19b,j}

■ CONCLUSION

In summary, intramolecular direct nucleophilic substitutions of unsaturated alcohols could be realized in water without an additional catalyst. In a mixed solvent of water and HFIP, polyene cyclizations using allylic alcohols as the initiator gave the desired cyclized products, and the use of neat HFIP afforded tricyclization products in a high yield that was comparable to the yields obtained by catalysis with Lewis acids or Brønsted acids. The unique catalytic effects of water and HFIP demonstrated here can be expected to facilitate the extensive use of these solvents as reaction media and promoters in organic synthesis.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Methods. Unless specially indicated, all reactions were carried out in aerial atmosphere. Water used in the reactions was from Milli-Q Ultrapure Water Purification System or Watson's distilled water ($pH = 5.5 - 6.5$). Reaction temperatures reported in the tables were the temperatures of the oil bath. Organic solvents used were purified by standard methods. Flash column chromatographies were performed using the indicated solvent system on Qingdao−Haiyang silica gel (200−300 mesh). Melting points were measured using open capillary tubes and are uncorrected. All of the compounds were characterized by ${}^{1}H$ and ${}^{13}C$ NMR peaks recorded are relative to internal standards: TMS (δ = 0.00) for ¹H NMR and CDCl₃ (δ = 77.00) for 13C NMR spectra. High resolution mass spectral analyses

(HRMS) were performed on a high resolution ESI−FTICR mass spectrometer.

Preparation of Substrates 1a−g. Substrates 1a−e,²⁰ 1f,g²¹ were prepared according to previously reported procedures.

(E)-2-(1-Hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)allyl)phenol ([1b](#page-8-0)). [Col](#page-8-0)orless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.65 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 5.52 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (dd, J = 15.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.83–6.87 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.05 $(d, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$, 7.20 $(t, J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$, 7.31–7.33 $(m, 2\text{H})$, 7.92 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 159.6, 155.5, 131.8, 129.3, 128.7, 128.0, 127.6, 126.7, 125.7, 120.0, 117.3, 114.0, 76.7, 55.3; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₆H₁₆O₃Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 279.0997, found 279.0995.

(E)-2-(1-Hydroxy-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)allyl)phenol (1d). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.25 (br s, 1H), 5.54 $(d, J = 6.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.54 (dd, J = 15.8, 6.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.64 (d, J = 15.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.86−6.91 (m, 2H), 7.05 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41−7.45 (m, 2H), 7.53−7.55 (m, 2H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 155.2, 139.5, 131.6, 130.0, 129.6, 127.6, 126.8, 125.5 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 125.4, 125.4, 120.3, 117.3, 75.7; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₆H₁₂F₃O₂ calcd for $[M - H]^+$ m/z 293.0789, found 293.0792.

(E)-4-Chloro-2-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-hydroxyallyl)phenol (1e). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.86 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (dd, J = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.83 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 154.1, 134.2, 134.0, 131.3, 129.2, 128.8, 128.8, 128.0, 127.2, 126.8, 124.8, 118.7, 75.7; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{15}H_{11}Cl_2O_2$ calcd for $[M - H]^+$ m/z 293.0136, found 293.0145.

(E)-1-(1-Hydroxy-3-phenylallyl)naphthalen-2-ol (1g). Yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.98 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, $J = 15.8$, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20−7.25 (m, 2H), 7.29−7.38 (m, 3H), 7.42−7.51 (m, 2H), 7.70−7.77 (m, 3H), 9.04 (s, 1H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 154.3, 135.9, 131.8, 130.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.8, 126.7, 123.0, 121.0, 119.8, 115.3, 72.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{19}H_{16}O_2$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 299.1048, found 299.1043.

General procedure for Intramolecular Etherifications in Table 1. 2-Phenyl-2H-chromene (2a).²² Substrate 1a (45 mg, 0.2 mmol) was suspended in water (20 mL), and then the mixture was heated under refluxing condition. After t[he](#page-8-0) reaction was completed as determ[in](#page-1-0)ed by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$. The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:25) to give the desired product 2a (36 mg, 86% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.80 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 5.91–5.92 (m, 1H), 6.53 (dd, $J = 9.8$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.86 (td, $J = 7.4$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (td, $J =$

7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.47 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 153.1, 140.8, 129.4, 128.6, 128.3, 127.0, 126.6, 124.8, 124.0, 121.3, 121.1, 116.0, 77.3.

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2H-chromene $(2b)$.²² Following the general procedure (45 mg, 95% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.80 (s, 3H), 5.78 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.4 [H](#page-8-0)z, 1H), 5.86–5.87 (m, 1H), 6.54 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83− 6.90 (m, 3H), 7.01 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.40 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 159.7, 153.1, 132.9, 129.4, 128.6, 126.5, 124.9, 124.0, 121.3, 121.0, 116.0, 114.0, 76.8, 55.3.

6-Chloro-2-phenyl-2H-chromene $(2c).^{22}$ Following the general procedure (39 mg, 80% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.86 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.90[−](#page-8-0)5.91 (m, 1H), 6.48 (dd, J $= 9.8, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99–7.06 (m, 2H), 7.32−7.44 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 151.6, 140.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 127.0, 126.1, 126.0, 125.8, 123.1, 122.6, 117.3, 77.3.

2-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2H-chromene $(2d)$.²² Following the general procedure (41 mg, 74% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.79 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H[\),](#page-8-0) 5.94–5.99 (m, 1H), 6.56 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dt, $J = 7.4$, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (td, $J = 8.0$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.64 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.8, 144.7, 129.7, 127.1, 126.8, 125.6 (q, J = 3.5 Hz), 124.5, 123.9, 121.5, 121.1, 116.0, 76.2.

6-Chloro-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2H-chromene $(2e)^{22}$ Following the general procedure (42 mg, 76% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR $(CDCl₃, 400 MHz)$ δ [5.](#page-8-0)82 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32−7.37 (m, 4H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 151.3, 138.6, 134.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 126.2, 126.0, 125.4, 123.5, 122.4, 117.3, 76.4.

2-Phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline $(2f).^{23}$ Following the general procedure (61 mg, 85% yield). White solid: mp = 124−125 °C $(lit.^3$ mp = 125 °C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 M[Hz\)](#page-8-0) δ 2.35 (s, 3H), 5.88 $(dd, J = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (d, J = 9.6 Hz,$ 1H[\),](#page-7-0) 6.96 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08−7.14 (m, 3H), 7.18−7.24 (m, 4H), 7.33–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 143.4, 138.3, 136.1, 132.9, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 127.4, 127.2, 126.5, 126.4, 126.2, 125.5, 56.9, 21.5.

3-Phenyl-3H-benzo[f]chromene $(2g)^{24}$ Following the general procedure (42 mg, 82% yield). Colorless oil: 1 H NMR (CDCl $_3$, 400 MHz) δ 5.93 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.[97](#page-8-0)–5.98 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.32−7.38 (m, 4H), 7.46−7.51 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 151.2, 140.5, 129.8, 129.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.1, 126.6, 123.6, 123.4, 121.2, 120.2, 118.0, 114.1, 76.9.

Preparation of Substrates 3a–i. Substrates 3a– d^{10} were prepared according to previously reported procedures.

1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthal[en](#page-7-0)-1-ol (3e). A solution of i-PrMgCl (2.75 mL, 2.0 M in THF, 5.5 mmol) was added to a THF (10 mL) solution of 3-iodopropan-1-ol (930 mg, 5.5 mmol) at −78 °C. After 5 min, a hexane solution of *n*-BuLi (4.38 mL, 2.4 M in hexanes, 10.5 mmol) was added, and then to it was added 1 tetralone (730 mg, 5.0 mmol). After 30 min, a saturated aqueous NH4Cl (10 mL) solution was added, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 50 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic extracts were dried over $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (EtOAc/ petroleum ether $= 1:1$) to afford the desired product 3e (823 mg, 80%) yield). White solid: mp = 84–85 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.59−2.14 (m, 10H), 2.70−2.88 (m, 2H), 3.62−3.75 (m, 2H), 7.06− 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.56 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 142.6, 136.5, 128.9, 127.1, 126.3, 126.1, 72.3, 63.3, 39.1, 35.9, 29.7, 27.3, 19.8; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₃H₁₇O₂ calcd for $[M - H]$ ⁻ m/z 205.1229, found 205.1227.

1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-ol (3f). Prepared using the similar procedure of 3e. White solid: mp = 69–70 °C; ^1H

NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.67−1.86 (m, 3H), 1.96−2.04 (m, 1H), 2.08−2.16 (m, 1H), 2.26−2.33 (m, 1H), 2.43 (br s, 2H), 2.78−2.86 (m, 1H), 2.96−3.04 (m, 1H), 3.69 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22−7.24 (m, 3H), 7.34–7.37 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 147.5, 142.8, 128.2, 126.7, 125.0, 122.9, 83.3, 63.2, 40.2, 37.2, 29.4, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{12}H_{16}O_2$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 215.1048, found 215.1043.

1-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol (3g). Prepared using the similar procedure of 3e. Colorless viscous oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.29−1.59 (m, 5H), 1.79−1.89 (m, 5H), 1.99−2.07 (m, 2H), 2.69−2.83 (m, 2H), 3.62 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 $(d, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.15-7.20 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.51 \text{ (d, } J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H});$ ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 142.4, 136.6, 128.8, 127.0, 126.2, 126.1, 72.4, 62.5, 41.9, 35.9, 32.9, 29.8, 20.2, 19.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{14}H_{20}O_2$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 243.1361, found 243.1356.

1-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-ol (3h). Prepared using the similar procedure of 3e. Colorless viscous oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.38–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.70–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.87– 1.95 (m, 2H), 2.04−2.11 (m, 1H), 2.16 (br s, 1H), 2.25−2.32 (m, 1H), 2.77−2.85 (m, 1H), 2.95−3.02 (m, 1H), 3.62 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.32 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 147.5, 142.8, 127.9, 126.4, 124.7, 122.8, 83.4, 62.0, 39.7, 32.7, 29.4, 20.2; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{13}H_{17}O_2$ calcd for $[M - H]$ ⁻ m/z 205.1229, found 205.1236.

9-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-9,10-dihydroanthracen-9-ol (3i). Prepared using the similar procedure of 3e. Light yellow solid: mp = 131− 132 [°]C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.38−1.45 (m, 2H), 1.76− 1.79 (m, 2H), 2.03 (br s, 1H), 2.96 (br s, 1H), 3.47 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.88−4.03 (m, 2H), 7.23−7.32 (m, 6H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 142.8, 133.9, 127.3, 126.9, 126.5, 124.9, 74.1, 62.9, 39.9, 35.0, 27.1; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{17}H_{18}O_2$ Na calcd for [M $+$ Na^{$+$} m/z 277.1204, found 277.1202.

General Procedure for Intramolecular Etherifications in Table 2. (E)-2-Styryltetrahydrofuran $(4a)$.¹⁰ Substrate 3a (39 mg, 0.2 mmol) was suspended in water (20 mL), and then the mixture was heated under refluxing condition. After the [rea](#page-7-0)ction was completed as determ[in](#page-1-0)ed by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$. The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:50) to give the desired product 4a (27 mg, 75% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.69−1.76 (m, 1H), 1.90−2.01 (m, 2H), 2.08−2.17 (m, 1H), 3.81−3.87 (m, 1H), 3.94−4.00 (m, 1H), 4.45− 4.50 (m, 1H), 6.21 (dd, $J = 15.8$, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.20−7.24 (m, 1H), 7.28−7.32 (m, 2H), 7.37−7.39 (m, 2H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 136.8, 130.5, 130.4, 128.5, 127.4, 126.4, 79.6, 68.1, 32.4, 25.9.

 (E) -2-Styryltetrahydro-2H-pyran (4b).^{1o} Following the general procedure (26 mg, 70% yield). Colorless oil: $^1\mathrm{H}$ NMR (CDCl $_3$, 400 MHz) δ 1.21−1.81 (m, 6H), 3.47 (t, J = 1[4.0](#page-7-0) Hz, 1H), 3.87−4.01 (m, 2H), 6.14 (dd, J = 21.2, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 21.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14− 7.31 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 137.0, 130.8, 129.7, 128.4, 127.4, 126.4, 78.0, 68.4, 32.2, 25.8, 23.4.

Spiro[furan-2(3H),1'(2'H)-naphthalene] (4e).²⁵ Following the general procedure (31 mg, 83% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.72–1.83 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.[88](#page-8-0) (m, 2H), 1.93– 2.15 (m, 5H), 2.73−2.82 (m, 2H), 4.00−4.05 (m, 1H), 4.11−4.16 (m, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.11−7.20 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 142.6, 136.8, 128.4, 126.7, 126.4, 126.1, 82.8, 68.4, 40.4, 35.9, 29.3, 26.6, 21.1.

Spiro[tetrahydrofuran-2,1′-indan] $(4f)$ ²⁶ Following the general procedure $(27 \text{ mg}, 79\% \text{ yield})$. Colorless oil: $^1\text{H NMR}$ $(\text{CDCI}_3, 400$ MHz) δ 2.08−2.25 (m, 6H), 2.77−2.84 ([m, 1](#page-8-0)H), 2.97−3.04 (m, 1H), 3.95−4.02 (m, 2H), 7.22−7.29 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 146.6, 143.2, 127.9, 126.6, 124.7, 122.7, 91.8, 67.9, 39.6, 37.1, 29.7, 26.6.

Spiro[1H-2-benzopyran-1,1′-cyclohexane] $(4g)^{27}$ Following the general procedure (33 mg, 81% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 4[0](#page-8-0)0 MHz) δ 1.56−1.94 (m, 9H), 2.34−2.40 (m, 1H), 2.70− 2.86 (m, 2H), 3.80−3.84 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 142.7, 136.6, 128.3, 127.0, 126.7, 126.1, 73.8, 61.7, 36.0, 29.8, 28.9, 25.8, 20.0.

Spiro[cyclohexane-1,1′(3′H)-isobenzofuran] (4h).²⁸ Following the general procedure (31 mg, 81% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.60−1.86 [\(m](#page-8-0), 6H), 2.24−2.28 (m, 2H), 2.78− 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.99−3.03 (m, 1H), 3.69−3.89 (m, 2H), 7.22−7.39 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 147.6, 142.7, 128.1, 126.6, 124.7, 123.2, 85.0, 63.6, 34.6, 34.1, 29.6, 25.8, 21.0.

4′,5′-Dihydro-3′H,10H-spiro[anthracene-9,2′-furan] (4i). Following the general procedure (40 mg, 85% yield). White solid: mp = 58− 59 °C; ¹ H NMR (CDCl3, 400 MHz) δ 1.97−2.10 (m, 4H), 3.95 (dd, J $= 17.8, 15.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.45 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.27−7.31 (m, 4H), 7.57−7.61 (m, 2H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 144.2, 134.2, 127.1, 126.4, 126.3, 123.3, 83.8, 70.8, 39.9, 35.9, 25.6; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₇H₁₇O calcd for $[M + H]^+$ m/z 237.1279, found 237.1270.

Preparation of Substrates 5a-e. Substrates 5a-e were prepared according to previously reported procedures.^{11d}

3-(5-((2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)furan-2-yl)propan-1-ol (5b). Yellow solid: mp = 83–86 °C; ¹H [NM](#page-8-0)R (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.42 (br s, 1H), 1.86−1.93 (m, 2H), 2.72 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.97 $(br s, 1H)$, 3.68 (dd, J = 10.8, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 5.92−5.94 (m, 3H), 6.47−6.50 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 160.6, 157.9, 155.2, 154.3, 128.7, 121.9, 107.5, 105.6, 104.2, 98.8, 66.2, 62.1, 55.5, 55.4, 31.0, 24.4; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₆H₂₀O₅Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/ z 315.1208, found 315.1211.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Spiroketal Enol Ethers and Cyclopentenones in Table 3. 2-Benzylidene-1,6-
dioxaspiro[4.4]non-3-ene (6a).²⁹ Substrate 5a (47 mg, 0.2 mmol) was suspended in water (20 mL), and then the mixture was stirred at 60 °C, After the reaction was c[om](#page-8-0)pleted as d[ete](#page-1-0)rmined by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/ petroleum ether = 1:7) to give products 6a (33 mg, 77% yield) and 7a (5 mg, 10% yield). Compound $6a$; Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.95−2.06 (m, 2H), 2.12−2.32 (m, 2H), 3.93 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.15−4.20 (m, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 5.95 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 155.9, 136.1, 130.9, 129.8, 128.2, 128.1, 125.6, 121.0, 101.2, 69.0, 35.9, 24.5.

5-Phenyl-3,4,7,7a-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]pyran-6(2H)-one (7a).30 Following general procedure (39 mg, 91% yield). Colorless oil: ¹ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.81–1.88 (m, 2H), 2.49 (dd, J = 18.4, 2.4 [Hz](#page-8-0), 1H), 2.53−2.59 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 18.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.06−3.10 (m, 1H), 3.74−3.81 (m, 1H), 4.06−4.11 (m, 1H), 4.53− 4.55 (m, 1H), 7.26−7.44 (m, 5H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 202.7, 168.7, 138.2, 130.2, 129.0, 128.3, 128.1, 75.6, 57.4, 42.0, 26.8, 26.5.

2-(2,4-Dimethoxybenzylidene)-1,6-dioxaspiro[4.4]non-3-ene (6b). Following general procedure (43 mg, 79% yield). Yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.04–2.08 (m, 2H), 2.20–2.29 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 3.99−4.04 (m, 1H), 4.22−4.26 (m, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 6.36–6.42 (m, 2H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 158.8, 157.0, 154.7, 130.2, 129.8, 129.2, 120.8, 118.0, 104.5, 98.1, 94.1, 68.9, 55.5, 55.3, 36.0, 24.6; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{16}H_{19}O_4$ calcd for $[M + H]^+ m/z$ 275.1283, found 275.1280.

5-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3,4,7,7a-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b] pyran-6(2H)-one (7b). Following general procedure (45 mg, 82% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.75−1.89 (m, 2H), 2.36−2.49 (m, 2H), 2.70−2.88 (m, 2H), 3.72−3.76 (m, 4H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.08 (d, J = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 $(s, 1H)$, 6.55 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 203.1, 170.0, 161.1, 157.9, 135.1, 131.6, 111.8,

104.4, 98.8, 75.7, 67.4, 55.4, 42.0, 27.3, 26.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{16}H_{18}O_4$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 297.1103, found 297.1108.

2-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)-1,6-dioxaspiro[4.4]non-3-ene (6c).³¹ Following general procedure (46 mg, 82% yield). Yellow oil:
¹H NMB (CDCL 400 MHz) δ 2.01–2.16 (m, 2H) 2.20–2.40 (m ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.01–2.16 (m, 2H), 2.20–2.40 (m, 2H)[, 3](#page-8-0).97−4.32 (m, 2H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 6.12 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 157.7, 139.8, 132.5, 129.6, 128.0, 127.2, 125.8, 125.1 (q, $J = 3.4$ Hz), 121.4, 99.9, 69.4, 35.9, 24.6.

5-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3,4,7,7a-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b] pyran-6(2H)-one $(7c)$.³¹ Following general procedure (49 mg, 87%) yield). Pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.81−1.89 (m, 2H), 2.50−2.64 (m, 2[H\)](#page-8-0), 2.90 (dd, J = 18.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.03−3.07 (m, 1H), 3.79 (td, J = 11.6, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.09−4.12 (m, 1H), 4.62 (dd, J = 6.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 202.2, 170.2, 137.1, 133.9, 130.3, 130.0, 129.4, 125.3 (q, $J = 3.4$ Hz), 75.6, 67.4, 42.0, 26.8, 26.6.

 $2-(3-Phenylallylidene)-1,6-dioxaspiro[4.4]non-3-ene (6d, E/Z =$ $1:2$).³² Following general procedure (34 mg, 71% yield). Yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.07−2.34 (m, 4H), 3.98−4.01 (m, 1H), 4.17[−](#page-8-0)4.25 (m, 1H), 5.38 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 0.66H, Z-isomer), 5.79 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 0.33H, E-isomer), 6.03 (s, 0.63H, Z-isomer), 6.12 (s, 0.30H, E-isomer), 6.27−6.30 (m, 0.60H, Z-isomer), 6.38−6.46 (m, 1H), 6.79−6.94 (m, 0.66H), 7.12−7.42 (m, 6H).

(E)-5-Styryl-3,4,7,7a-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]pyran-6(2H)-one
(7d).³⁰ Following general procedure (41 mg, 86% yield). Colorless oil:
¹H NMP (CDCL, 400 MHz) δ 1.86–1.97 (m, 2H), 2.42 (dd, I – 18.4 ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.86−1.97 (m, 2H), 2.42 (dd, J = 18.4, 2.8 [Hz](#page-8-0), 1H), 2.50 (td, $J = 13.2$, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, $J = 18.4$, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dt, $J = 14.4$, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (td, $J = 11.6$, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dt, J = 11.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26−7.28 (m, 1H), 7.32−7.36 (m, 2H), 7.48−7.50 (m, 2H), 7.76 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 203.2, 168.1, 137.3, 134.5, 133.1, 128.6, 128.1, 126.6, 116.1, 75.3, 67.2, 42.4, 26.8, 25.9.

2-(Thiophen-2-ylmethylene)-1,6-dioxaspiro[4.4]non-3-ene (6e).²⁹ Following general procedure (33 mg, 76% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.04−2.17 (m, 2[H\),](#page-8-0) 2.20−2.27 (m, 1H), 2.33−2.46 (m, 1H), 4.01−4.06 (m, 1H), 4.28 (td, J = 8.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95− 6.98 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 154.3, 139.2, 131.3, 128.5, 126.7, 124.9, 124.2, 120.7, 95.3, 69.0, 35.9, 24.4.

5-(Thiophen-2-yl)-3,4,7,7a-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]pyran-6(2H)-
20% one (chrycorin) (**7e**).³⁰ Following general procedure (31 mg, 70% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.87–1.94 (m, 2H), 2.48 (dd, J = 18.[4, 2](#page-8-0).8 Hz, 1H), 2.58–2.66 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 18.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.43−3.47 (m, 1H), 3.75−3.82 (m, 1H), 4.08−4.11 (m, 1H), 4.52−4.53 (m, 1H), 7.10−7.13 (m, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 201.6, 166.4, 131.2, 131.1, 127.9, 127.0, 126.6, 75.5, 67.3, 41.8, 26.8, 26.4.

Preparation of Substrates 8a–d. Substrates 8a–d were prepared according to previously reported procedures.^{1o}

(E)-5-(4-Methoxyphenoxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-ol (8b). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.[10](#page-7-0) (s, 1H), 2.51 (q, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.95 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 5.17 (br s, 1H), 5.76−5.88 (m, 2H), 6.81 (s, 4H), 7.24−7.36 (m, 5H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 153.8, 152.9, 143.0, 134.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.6, 126.2, 115.5, 114.6, 74.9, 67.8, 55.7, 32.2; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{18}H_{20}NaO_3$ calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 307.1310, found 307.1301.

(E)-5-(3,5-Dimethoxyphenoxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-ol (8c). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.97 (br s, 1H), 2.54 (q, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 6H), 3.97 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.78−5.90 (m, 2H), 6.07−6.08 (m, 3H), 7.26−7.30 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.39 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 161.5, 160.7, 142.9, 134.8, 128.5, 127.7, 127.6, 126.2, 93.4, 93.0, 75.0, 67.1, 55.3, 32.1; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₉H₂₃O₄ calcd for $[M + H]$ ⁻ m/z 315.1596, found 315.1591.

 (E) -4- $((5-Hydroxy-5-phenylpent-3-en-1-yl)oxy)phenol (8d)$. White solid: mp = 100−102 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.99 (br s, 1H), 2.52 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 4.84 (br s, 1H),

5.21 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.78−5.90 (m, 2H), 6.73−6.78 (m, 4H), 7.28−7.39 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.9, 149.6, 142.9, 134.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.7, 126.2, 116.0, 115.7, 75.0, 67.8, 32.2; HRMS (ESI) for C₁₇H₁₇O₃ calcd for $[M - H]$ ⁻ m/z 269.1178, found 269.1188.

General Procedure for the Intramolecular Friedel−Crafts Reactions in Table 4. (E)-4-Styrylchroman (9a).¹⁰ Substrate 8a (13 mg, 0.05 mmol) was suspended in water (50 mL) and then the mixture was heated under refluxing condition. Aft[er](#page-7-0) the reaction was completed for 24 [h,](#page-2-0) the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 75 \text{ mL})$. The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:20) to give the desired product 9a (10 mg, 80% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.94−2.02 (m, 1H), 2.12−2.20 (m, 1H), 3.68 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.16−4.21 (m, 1H), 4.24−4.29 (m, 1H), 6.24 (dd, J = 15.6, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83−6.87 (m, 2H), 7.11−7.23 (m, 3H), 7.28−7.37 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 154.5, 137.0, 133.1, 131.6, 130.1, 128.5, 127.9, 127.3, 126.2, 123.7, 120.2, 116.8, 64.0, 38.5, 29.0.

(E)-6-Methoxy-4-styrylchroman (9b). Following general procedure (12 mg, 90% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.92−2.00 (m, 1H), 2.12−2.19 (m, 1H), 3.66 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 4.12−4.17 (m, 1H), 4.20−4.26 (m, 1H), 6.24 (dd, J = 15.7, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.68−6.79 (m, 3H), 7.21−7.24 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.38 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 153.2, 148.6, 137.0, 133.0, 131.6, 128.5, 127.4, 126.2, 124.3, 117.4, 114.6, 114.0, 64.0, 55.7, 38.9, 29.2; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{18}H_{18}NaO_2$ calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 289.1204, found 289.1193.

(E)-5,7-Dimethoxy-4-styrylchroman (9c). Following general procedure (12 mg, 85% yield). White solid: mp = 49–50 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl 3, 400 MHz) δ 1.87−1.91 (m, 1H), 2.08−2.17 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.76−3.78 (m, 4H), 4.07−4.13 (m, 1H), 4.19−4.23 (m, 1H), 6.06−6.08 (m, 2H), 6.15 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.32 (dd, J = 15.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15−7.19 (m, 1H), 7.25−7.33 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 159.8, 158.9, 155.8, 137.6, 133.2, 130.4, 128.4, 126.9, 126.1, 104.7, 93.2, 91.4, 62.2, 55.5, 55.2, 31.2, 27.3; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{19}H_{20}NaO_3$ calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 319.1310, found 319.1302.

(E)-4-Styrylchroman-6-ol (9d). Substrate 8d (54 mg, 0.2 mmol) was suspended in water (20 mL), and then the mixture was heated under refluxing condition. After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/ petroleum ether = 1:7) to give the desired product $9d$ (33 mg, 65%) yield). White solid: mp = 79–82 °C (decomp); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.91−2.17 (m, 2H), 3.59−3.65 (m, 1H), 4.10−4.26 (m, 2H), 4.55 (br s, 1H), 6.20 (dd, J = 15.8, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.62−6.64 (m, 2H), 6.72 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21−7.25 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.38 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 148.9, 148.5, 136.9, 132.8, 131.7, 128.6, 127.4, 126.2, 124.6, 117.5, 116.0, 115.2, 64.2, 38.8, 29.1; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{17}H_{15}O_2$ calcd for $[M - H]$ ⁻ m/z 251.1072, found 251.1075.

Preparation of Substrates 10a–d and 12. Substrates 10a–d,¹⁰ 12^{1o} were prepared according to previously reported procedures.

(2E,7E)-10-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-7-methyl-1,1-diphenyldec[a-](#page-7-0)2,[7-d](#page-7-0)ien-1-ol (10b). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.44−1.59 (m, 5H), 1.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.06 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.25−2.33 (m, 3H), 2.58 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 5.14 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.57–5.64 (m, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67-6.81 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.37 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 148.6, 147.0, 146.4, 135.8, 135.4, 135.0, 130.9, 128.0, 127.0, 126.8, 123.9, 120.2, 111.7, 111.0, 79.0, 55.8, 55.7, 39.1, 35.6, 31.7, 30.0, 27.4, 15.9; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{31}H_{36}NaO_3$ calcd for $[M +]$ Na]⁺ m/z 479.2562, found 479.2558.

(2E,7E)-10-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-7-methyl-1,1-diphenyldeca-2,7 dien-1-ol (10c). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.44– 1.52 (m, 5H), 1.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.05 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.23− 2.30 (m, 3H), 2.56 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 5.13 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.57–5.64 (m, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23−7.38 (m, 10H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 157.6, 146.4, 135.8, 135.4, 134.4, 131.0, 129.3, 128.5, 128.0, 127.0, 126.9, 126.5, 124.0, 113.6, 79.0, 55.2, 39.1, 35.1, 31.7, 30.1, 27.3, 15.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{30}H_{34}NaO_2$ calcd for $[M +]$ Na]⁺ m/z 449.2457, found 449.2451.

4-((3E,8E)-10-Hydroxy-4-methyl-10,10-diphenyldeca-3,8-dien-1 yl)phenol (**10d**). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.41– 1.49 (m, 5H), 1.93–2.02 (m, 4H), 2.24 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.54 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.09 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.54–5.61 (m, 1H), 6.04 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22− 7.37 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 153.5, 146.3, 135.7, 135.4, 134.4, 131.1, 129.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.9, 124.0, 115.0, 79.1, 39.1, 35.0, 31.6, 29.9, 27.3, 15.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{29}H_{32}NaO_2$ calcd for [M $+$ Na]⁺ m/z 435.2300, found 435.2299.

(2E,7E,11E)-14-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-7,11-dimethyl-1,1-diphenyltetradeca-2,7,11-trien-1-ol (12). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.48−1.57 (m, 8H), 1.96−2.11 (m, 8H), 2.25−2.32 (m, 3H), 2.56−2.60 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 5.08 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.59–5.66 (m, 1H), 6.09 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71−6.78 (m, 3H), 7.22−7.38 (m, 10H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 148.6, 147.0, 146.4, 135.8, 135.7, 135.0, 134.7, 130.9, 128.0, 127.0, 126.8, 124.4, 123.6, 120.2, 111.8, 111.1, 79.0, 55.9, 55.7, 39.7, 39.1, 35.6, 31.7, 30.1, 27.4, 26.6, 16.0, 15.8; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{36}H_{44}O_3$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 547.3188, found 547.3184.

General Procedure for the Polyene Cyclization Reactions in Table 5. (1S,4aS,10aS)-1-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-4amethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,9,10,10a-octahydrophenanthrene (11b). Substrate 10b (44 mg, 0.1 mmol) was suspended in the mixed solution of wat[er](#page-2-0) and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP) (5 mL, $V_{\text{H2O}}:V_{\text{HFP}} = 3:1$), and then the mixture was stirred in a 95 °C oil bath. After the reaction was completed as determined by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄ and then concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:6) to give the desired product 11b (33 mg, 78% yield). The dr ratio was determined from the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude product. Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.93 (s, 3H), 1.23−1.27 (m, 1H), 1.38−1.45 (m, 3H), 1.52−1.58 (m, 1H), 1.65− 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.94−1.99 (m, 1H), 2.14−2.32 (m, 2H), 2.68−2.81 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 5.86 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 7.16–7.40 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 146.8, 146.8, 142.6, 141.0, 140.5, 134.0, 134.9, 129.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0, 126.8, 126.7, 111.6, 108.1, 56.0, 55.7, 47.4, 38.2, 38.0, 36.7, 33.5, 29.4, 23.2, 22.6, 21.5; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{31}H_{35}O_2$ calcd for $[M + H]^+$ m/z 439.2637, found 439.2635.

1-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-6-methoxy-4a-methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,9,10,10aoctahydrophenanthrene (11c). Following general procedure (31 mg, 76% yield). The single crystal of 11c was grown from EtOAc. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.99 (s, 3H), 1.24−1.35 (m, 1H), 1.43− 1.53 (m, 3H), 1.55−1.63 (m, 1H), 1.71−1.79 (m, 2H), 2.01−2.04 (m, 1H), 2.22−2.37 (m, 2H), 2.83−2.86 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 5.92 (d, J $= 10.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16−7.45 (m, 10H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ 157.5, 149.2, 142.6, 141.0, 140.5, 134.9, 129.9, 129.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 127.0, 126.8, 110.8, 110.4, 55.2, 47.1, 38.4, 37.7, 37.2, 33.5, 28.8, 23.2, 22.6, 21.5; HRMS (ESI) for C₃₀H₃₃O calcd for $[M + H]^+$ m/z 409.2531, found 409.2524.

8-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-4b-methyl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydrophenanthren-3-ol (11d). Following general procedure (32 mg, 82% yield). Colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.90 (s, 3H), 1.21−1.27 (m, 1H), 1.33−1.43 (m, 3H), 1.45−1.55 (m, 1H), 1.63− 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.94−1.96 (m, 1H), 2.05−2.10 (m, 1H), 2.27−2.45 (m, 1H), 2.75−2.77 (m, 2H), 4.74−4.80 (m, 1H), 5.85 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 6.54−6.57 (m, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18−7.37 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 153.2, 149.4, 142.6, 141.0, 140.4, 134.9, 130.1, 129.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 127.0, 126.8, 126.8, 112.7, 111.3, 47.0, 38.3, 37.6, 37.0, 33.4, 28.8, 23.1,

22.6, 21.4; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{29}H_{31}O$ calcd for $[M + H]^+ m/z$ 395.2375, found 395.2378.

General Procedure for the Tricyclization Reactions in Table 6. Allylic alcohol 12 (52 mg, 0.1 mmol) was suspended in 1,1,1,3,3,3 hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP) (5 mL), and then the mixture was stirred under refluxing condition. After the reaction was completed as [de](#page-3-0)termined by TLC, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel $(CH₂Cl₂/petroleum ether = 2:5)$ to give the crude tetracyclic products 13 and 14 and mono- and dicyclized byproducts. The crude tetracyclic products were further purified by preparative HPLC on $ODS-C_{18}$ (flow: 10 mL/min; 26.08 min (14), 28.31 min (13); 99% CH₃CN, 1% H_2O , 25 °C).

(1S,4aS,4bR,10bR,12aS)-1-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-8,9-dimethoxy-4a,10b-dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,4b,5,6,10b,11,12,12a-dodecahydrochrysene (13). White solid (20 mg, 39% yield): mp = 82–89 °C; ¹H NMR $(CDCl_3, 600 MHz) \delta 0.67$ (s, 3H), 0.88 (td, J = 12.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 0.99−1.03 (m, 1H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.18−1.22 (m, 1H), 1.26−1.28 (m, 1H), 1.34 (qd, J = 13.2, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.42−1.54 (m, 3H), 1.60−1.66 (m, 2H), 1.77−1.79 (m, 2H), 1.83−1.87 (m, 1H), 2.16 (qd, J = 10.9, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (dt, J = 12.7, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.73−2.86 (m, 2H), 3.82 $(s, 3H)$, 3.83 $(s, 3H)$, 5.80 $(d, J = 10.1 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 6.51 $(s, 1H)$, 6.74 $(s,$ 1H), 7.17-7.24 (m, 7H), 7.29-7.39 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ 147.0, 146.7, 142.7, 142.5, 140.6, 140.5, 135.4, 129.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.2, 127.0, 126.7, 126.8, 111.2, 107.8, 56.0, 55.7, 53.3, 52.4, 39.9, 38.8, 37.8, 37.5, 36.8, 33.8, 30.3, 25.8, 23.5, 20.7, 18.1, 13.6; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{36}H_{42}O_2$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 529.3083, found 529.3079.

(1S,4aS,4bS,10bR,12aS)-1-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-8,9-dimethoxy-4a,10b-dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,4b,5,6,10b,11,12,12a-dodecahydrochrysene (14). White solid (6 mg, 13% yield): mp = 91–96 °C; ¹H NMR $(CDCl_3, 600 MHz)$ δ 0.98 (s, 3H), 1.16−1.20 (m, 3H), 1.23−1.30 (m, 1H), 1.33−1.37 (m, 1H), 1.47 (s, 3H), 1.48−1.72 (m, 7H), 1.80−1.83 (m, 1H), 2.08−2.14 (m, 2H), 2.60−2.70 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 6H), 5.75 $(d, J = 10.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 7.15–7.24 (m, 7H), 7.30−7.39 (m, 3H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 150 MHz) δ 147.1, 146.4, 142.7, 140.7, 140.6, 135.4, 129.7, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 126.9, 126.7, 110.7, 110.4, 56.1, 55.7, 54.3, 44.9, 39.3, 38.6, 38.3, 37.6, 36.9, 33.6, 32.0, 31.3, 24.4, 22.6, 21.5, 21.1; HRMS (ESI) for $C_{36}H_{42}O_2$ Na calcd for $[M + Na]^+$ m/z 529.3083, found 529.3074.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the products listed in Tables 1–6. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

■ [AUTHOR INF](http://pubs.acs.org)ORMATION

Corresponding Author

*E-mail: qujin@nankai.edu.cn.

Notes

The auth[ors declare no comp](mailto:qujin@nankai.edu.cn)eting financial interest.

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(16) The PFA round-bottom flask was purchased from Vitlab (PFA: fluoropolymers which are copolymers of tetrafluoroethyl[ene](#page-7-0) (C_2F_4) [and](#page-7-0) [per](#page-7-0)fluoroethers $(\text{CF}_2\text{F}_3\text{OR}^{\text{f}})$ where R^{f} is a perfluorinated group such as trifluoromethyl)).

(17) At room temperature, the pK_a^* value of water (K_a^*) is the apparent ionization constant of water) changes from 14 to 14.60 in an aqueous solution containing 20 vol % of 1,4-dioxane and further to 16 in an aqueous solution containing 60 vol % of 1,4-dioxane. Please see: Woolley, E. M.; Hurkot, D. G.; Hepler, L. G. J. Phys. Chem. 1970, 74, 3908−3913.

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