Dynamic Article Links 🕟

PAPER

Synthesis of 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-alkyl/aryl-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol derivatives from β -tetralones and α , β -unsaturated aldehydes[†]

Jung-Hsuan Chen, Chihliang Chang, Hui-Ju Chang and Kwunmin Chen*

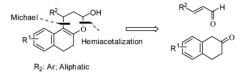
Received 15th June 2011, Accepted 5th August 2011 DOI: 10.1039/c1ob05966a

Organocatalytic domino Michael-hemiacetalization of β -tetralones with α , β -unsaturated aldehydes is presented. Treatment of β -tetralones with α , β -unsaturated aldehydes in the presence of diphenylprolinol silyl ether gave 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-alkyl/aryl-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol derivatives with high to excellent chemical yields (50–99%) and high levels of enantioselectivities (up to 96% ee).

Introduction

Six-membered oxygenated benzopyrans such as chromans, chromenes, and flavanones exhibit one of the most important structural motifs in natural products total synthesis.¹ The synthesis of functionalized derivatives for the study of diverse biological profiles has attracted attention in both academia and the pharmaceutical industry.² Asymmetric organocatalysis has proven to be a highly effective means of developing novel methodologies in organic synthesis.3 In recent years, the scope of this field has been expanded to include multicomponent domino reactions for the preparation of complex molecules with more than one stereogenic center.⁴ An organocatalytic cascade reaction of α , β -unsaturated aldehydes with various enolizable carbonyl compounds has been utilized to synthesize 3,4-dihydropyran,5 hydroxyquinone,⁶ 3,4-dihydropyranones,⁷ chromene derivatives⁸ and many other intermediates.9 Benzochromenes are found in numerous natural products and are important pharmacophores of many biologically active compounds.10

Functionalization of β -tetralone at the benzylic position has been documented.¹¹ For example, treatment of cinnamaldehyde with β -tetralone under acidic conditions affords Michael– dehydration conjugate products.¹² To the best of our knowledge, the asymmetric synthesis of multifunctionalized 2,3,5,6tetrahydro-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol derivatives from β -tetralone and α , β -unsaturated aldehydes catalyzed by an organocatalyst has not been reported. This work describes the first organocatalytic reaction of β -tetralones with α , β -unsaturated aldehydes to construct optically enriched 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-substituent-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol derivatives through a domino Michael– hemiacetalization sequence.



Results and discussion

Investigations were begun using β -tetralone (1a) and transcinnamaldehyde (2a) as model substrates in the presence of a catalytic amount of diphenylprolinol silyl ether I.13 The corresponding benzochromene product 3aa was obtained under neat conditions with moderate stereoselectivity and low chemical yield (Table 1, entry 1). We next studied the solvent effects of the sequential process. No improvement was observed when weakly polar organic solvents were used (Table 1, entries 2-4). Both the reactivity and stereoselectivity of the products decreased when protic methanol was used (Table 1, entry 5). The reactivity was enhanced when the reaction was conducted in CH₃CN and further improved when DMSO was used (Table 1, entries 6-7). These effects may have been caused by the stabilization of the reaction intermediate by the polar aprotic solvents. Various L-proline derived organocatalysts were tested in the domino reaction. The incorporation of the sterically encumbered naphthalene group into organocatalysts II-IV resulted in high chemical yields and low enantioselectivities of the desired product 3aa (Table 1, entries 8-10). Interestingly, the opposite enantiomer of 3aa dominated when catalyst II was adopted (Table 1, entry 8).14 The use of the camphor-pyrrolidine derived organocatalysts V-VII¹⁵ failed to improve the stereoselectivity of the domino Michael-hemiacetalization reaction (Table 1, entries 11–13). The structure of benzo[f]chromenol 3aa was characterized by IR, ¹H, ¹³C NMR and DEPT NMR spectroscopy. The diastereo-/enantioselectivities were determined by chiral HPLC analyses. The ratio of the hemiacetal anomers typically ranges from 5:1 to 7:1. Organocatalyst I was the catalyst of choice for the process.

The reaction conditions were fine-tuned by examining the effects of additives. Various acidic and basic additives were studied.

Department of Chemistry, National Taiwan Normal University, 88 Sec. 4, TingChow Road, Taipei, Taiwan 116, ROC. E-mail: kchen@ntnu.edu.tw; Fax: (+886)2-29324249

[†] Electronic supplementary information (ESI) available. CCDC reference numbers 824118 and 824119. For ESI and crystallographic data in CIF or other electronic format see DOI: 10.1039/c1ob05966a

Table 1DominoMichael-hemiacetalization: solvents and catalystssurvey

Ph.,,OH catalyst (20 mol %) solvent, 23 °C, 3 d						
	1a	2a	3aa			
Ph Ph OTMS H U U U U U U U U U U U U U						
				Me		
Entry	Catalyst	Solvent	Yield (%) ^b	ee (%) ^c		
1	I	neat	41	63		
	Ĩ	toluene	34	35		
2 3	Ĭ	CH ₂ Cl ₂	59	60		
4	Ĩ	CHCl ₃	49	42		
5	Ĩ	MeOH	39	17		
6	Î	CH ₃ CN				
7	Ī	DMSO	91	69 72		
8	Î	DMSO	81	-40		
9	ш	DMSO	99	-2		
10	IV	DMSO	98	15		
11	V	DMSO	93	-4		
12	VI	DMSO	79	15		
13	VII	DMSO	94	33		

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.20 mmol) and catalyst (20 mol%) were dissolved in the solvent (0.5 mL) indicated at 23 °C, then **2a** (0.80 mmol) was added. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. ^{*c*} Determined by chiral HPLC analysis.

High enantioselectivities with low chemical yields were obtained when an acidic additive was employed in the reaction (Table 2, entries 1–3). Both the reactivity and the enantioselectivity dropped considerably when DBU was used but rebounded when DMAP was used instead (Table 2, entries 5 and 6). The reactivity increased when DABCO was used and the product was obtained with high stereoselectivity. Thus, in the presence of DABCO, the reaction

Table 2	Optimization	of the domino	reaction ^a
---------	--------------	---------------	-----------------------

+ Ph CHO CHO Cat. 1 (x mol %) additive (20 mol %) DMSO, 23 °C					
	1a	2a		3aa	
Entry	Cat. I (mol%)	Additive	Time (d)	Yield ^b	ee (%) ^c
1	20	NH ₄ Cl	3	39	81
2	20	PhCOOH	3	66	74
3	20	AcOH	3	66	71
4	20	TsOH	3	trace	
5	20	DBU	1.5	27	0
6	20	DMAP	1.5	74	88
7	20	DABCO	1	97	88
8	25	DABCO	1	80	84
9	10	DABCO	1	94	88
10	5	DABCO	1	73	89
11^{d}	20	DABCO	1	99	88
12 ^{<i>d</i>}	10	DABCO	1	97	90

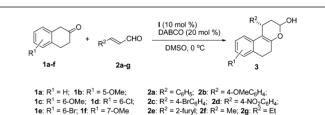
^{*a*} Unless otherwise noted, the reaction was performed using **1a** (0.20 mmol), **Cat. I**, additive (20 mol%) and **2a** (0.80 mmol) in DMSO (0.5 mL) at 23 °C. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. ^{*c*} Determined by chiral HPLC analysis. ^{*d*} The reaction was carried out at 0 °C. proceeded rapidly to give the corresponding **3aa** in 97% yield and 88% ee after 24 h (Table 2, entry 7).

Variations of catalyst loading were investigated to optimize the reaction conditions. Comparable stereoselectivity with decreased chemical yield was obtained when the reaction were carried out in the presence of 25 and 5 mol% of catalyst, respectively (Table 2, entries 8 and 10). The chemical yield was regained with comparable selectivity when 10 mol% of the catalyst was used (Table 2, entry 9). The selectivity was slightly improved by performing the reaction at 0 °C. Finally, the optimal reaction conditions were realized by using 10 mol% of catalyst I and 20 mol% of DABCO at 0 °C (Table 2, entry 12).

The scope and general utility of the organocatalytic Michaelhemiacetalization were exploited using various β -tetralones **1af** and α , β -unsaturated aldehydes **2a**-**g** (Table 3). Substituted β tetralones reacted efficiently with **2a** to generate the corresponding products with excellent chemical yields and high enantioselectivities (Table 3, entries 1, 3–5). The use of 6-methoxy- β -tetralone **1c** resulted in a low chemical yield owing to the ready decomposition of the starting substrate (Table 3, entry 2).

Various α,β -unsaturated aldehydes were also tolerated with **1a** under the reaction conditions (Table 3, entries 7–11). However, 1,2-addition–dehydration products were observed when specific substrates were adopted.¹⁶ Therefore, the use of *trans*-4bromocinnamaldehyde with β -tetralone gave the desired product with 60% chemical yield together with 25% of the 1,2-addition– dehydration product (Table 3, entry 7).¹⁷ The reaction was carried out at –20 °C to avoid the side reaction and failed. Comparable results were obtained when the starting enals **2d–e** were used with isolated yields of 15 and 40%, respectively (Table 3, entries 8, 9). The aliphatic α,β -unsaturated aldehydes were excellent substrates

Table 3 The scope of the domino Michael-hemiacetalization^a

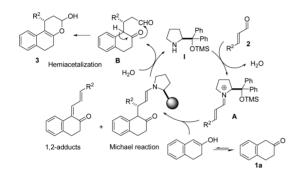


	Te. K = 0-	$\mathbf{B}_{1}, \mathbf{H}_{2}, \mathbf{K}_{2} = 7 \cdot \mathbf{O}_{1} \mathbf{M}_{2} \mathbf{E}_{2}$	2e. K - 2-lulyi, 2i. K - Me, 2g. K - Lt				
Entry	\mathbb{R}^1	\mathbb{R}^2		Time (d)	Yield $(\%)^c$	d.r.	ee (%) ^d
1	5-OMe	C ₆ H ₅	3ba	1	92	6:1	89
2	6-OMe	C_6H_5	3ca	1	77	5:1	88
3	6-C1	C_6H_5	3da	1	95	4:1	90
4	6-Br	C ₆ H ₅	3ea	1	99	4:1	91
5	7-OMe	C_6H_5	3fa	1	99	5:1	93
6	Н	4-OMeC ₆ H ₄	3ab	1	99	6:1	86
7 ^{<i>b</i>}	Н	$4-BrC_6H_4$	3ac	2	$60(25)^{e}$	4:1	80
8 ^b	Н	$4 - NO_2C_6H_4$	3ad	2	$67 (15)^{e}$	3:1	95
9	Н	2-furyl	3ae	1	$50 (40)^{e}$	9:1	83
10	Н	Me	3af	1	99	2:1	93
11 ^b	Н	Et	3ag	2	62	3:1	93
12	5-OMe	Me	3bf	1	67	3:1	94
13	6-C1	Me	3df	1	80	3:1	95
14	6-Br	Me	3ef	1	99	3:1	95
15	7-OMe	Me	3ff	1	77	3:1	96

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: **1** (0.2 mmol), **Cat. I** (10 mol%) and DABCO (20 mol%) were dissolved in DMSO (0.5 mL) at 0 °C, then enals **2** (0.8 mmol) were added. ^{*b*} The reaction was carried out at -20 °C. ^{*c*} Isolated yield. ^{*d*} Determined by HPLC. ^{*e*} Yield of 1,2-addition–dehydration product (**4**).

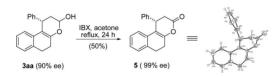
for use in the reaction. High enantioselectivities were observed when (*E*)-2-butenal and (*E*)-2-pentenal were used (Table 3, entries 10–11). (*E*)-2-Butenal also reacted smoothly with substituted β tetralones. The corresponding benzochromene products **3bf–3ff** were achieved with good to excellent chemical yields and excellent levels of enantioselectivities (Table 3, entries 12–15).

A reasonable mechanism is proposed in Scheme 1. α,β -Unsaturated aldehydes 2 reacted with amine catalyst I to form the intermediary iminium ion (A). The enol derived from the β tetralone 1a attacked the iminium ion on the less hindered side to give the Michael adduct. Protonation and hydrolysis of the intermediate produced keto aldehyde B. This process was followed by hemiacetalization to complete the domino sequence. The amine catalyst I was regenerated and participated in the next catalytic cycle.



Scheme 1 The proposed mechanism of the domino Michael-hemia-cetalization.

To determine the absolute stereochemistry of the newly generated stereogenic centers, several attempts to derivatize the products were made and unsuccessful. Finally, treatment of benzochromene acetal **3aa** with IBX gave 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-one (**5**) with excellent optical purity (Scheme 2). The structure of compound **5** was verified by X-ray analysis.¹⁷



Scheme 2 The synthesis of 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-phenyl-1*H*-benzo-[*f*]chromen-3-one (5) and its X-ray crystal structure (30% probability).¹⁸

Conclusions

In summary, the organocatalytic enantioselective domino Michael-hemiacetalization of β -tetralones with α , β -unsaturated aldehydes to give 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-alkyl/aryl-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol derivatives has been presented. The functionalized products were obtained with high to excellent chemical yields and good to high enantioselectivities. This process provides a useful synthesis for the preparation of important benzo[*f*]chromenols and their derivatives. Further exploration is underway.

Experimental

Measurement: ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured, and spectral data are reported in *ppm* relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard using CDCl₃ as solvent; stereoselectivities were determined by chiral High-Performance Liquid Chromatography analysis; optical rotation was measured on a polarimeter.

Typical procedure

To a stirred solution of catalyst I (0.02 mmol) and DABCO (0.04 mmol) in DMSO (0.5 mL) was added β -tetralone 1a–f (0.21 mmol) at appropriate temperature (0 °C or -20 °C). The mixture was stirred for 5 min and then α , β -unsaturated aldehydes 2a–g (0.85 mmol) were added slowly. Stirring was continued until the starting material had completely disappeared, as determined by TLC. The reaction mixture was quenched with H₂O (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (5 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, a crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluted with hexanes–ethyl acetate = 4:1 ~ 6:1) to give the corresponding benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol (3).

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chromen-3-ol (3aa). 90% ee, $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +80.6$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; R_f 0.25 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.29–7.24 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.20–7.15 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.08-7.06 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.95-6.89 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 6.70-6.65 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.38 (br s, 1H, minor), 5.28 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H, major), 4.06 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 4.01 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H, major), 3.03-2.86 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 2.56-2.47 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.25 (ddd, J = 16.4, 7.8, 5.9 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.17 (ddd, J = 16.4, 4.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 152.7, 152.3, 144.4, 143.7, 134.9, 134.6, 133.0, 132.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.3, 126.9 (×2), 126.4, 126.3, 126.2, 126.1, 124.3 (×2), 122.9, 122.7, 106.7, 105.6, 93.5, 91.3, 39.3, 38.3, 36.6, 36.4, 28.5 (×2), 27.4, 27.1 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3404, 3061, 3026, 2936, 1646, 1601, 1488, 1451, 1240, 1115, 1040; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₈O₂ 278.1307; found 278.1302.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-7-methoxy-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ba).** 89% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{18} = +105.3$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; $R_f 0.28$ (3:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.28-7.19 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.19-7.11 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.87 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.57 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.36 (d, J =7.9 Hz, 1H, major), 6.33 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.36 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.24 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H, major), 4.04 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.98 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H, major), 3.79 (s, 3H, both diastereomers), 3.16-2.75 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.53-2.41 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 2.25-2.18 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.15 (ddd, J = 13.1, 4.2, 2.7 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 155.8 (×2), 152.8, 152.6, 144.7, 143.9, 136.3, 136.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.9, 127.4, 126.5 (×2), 126.4, 126.3, 120.7, 120.5, 116.1, 116.0, 107.4 (×2), 106.1, 105.3, 93.4, 91.3, 55.4 (×2), 39.0, 38.4, 37.0, 36.2, 26.8, 26.5, 20.6, 20.4 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3417, 2960, 2930, 2898, 2834,

Downloaded by Universitaire d'Angers on 12 February 2012 Published on 08 August 2011 on http://pubs.rsc.org | doi:10.1039/C1OB05966A 1649, 1598, 1572, 1470, 1439, 1261, 1153, 1122, 1054; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₀O₃ 308.1412; found 308.1414.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-8-methoxy-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ca).** 88% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +46.2$ (*c* = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.20 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.29-7.23 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.22-7.16 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.67–6.66 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.60–6.56 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.46 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.39-5.33 (m, 1H, minor), 5.31-5.20 (m, 1H, major), 4.04–4.01 (m, 1H, minor), 3.98–3.95 (m, 1H, major), 3.72 (s, 3H, minor), 3.70 (s, 3H, major), 3.05-2.81 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 2.50 (td, J = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.27-2.12 (m, 2H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.7 (×2), 150.7, 150.5, 144.6, 143.8, 134.8, 134.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 127.4, 126.5, 126.4, 123.8, 123.7, 113.7, 113.6, 110.8, 110.7, 106.1, 105.2, 93.4, 91.2, 55.2 (×2), 39.2, 38.5, 36.8, 36.3, 29.0, 28.9, 27.3, 27.0 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3420, 3057, 3023, 2932, 2835, 1649, 1609, 1572, 1499, 1453, 1252, 1119, 1054.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-8-chloro-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3da).** 90% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{18} = +60.3$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.28 (3:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.29-7.24 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 7.05–7.04 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.58 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, major), 6.55 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.38 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.31–5.27 (m, 1H, major), 4.01 (td, J = 7.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.96 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H, major), 3.00 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H, major), 3.01-2.98 (m, 1H, minor), 2.97-2.81 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.52–2.48 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.26 (ddd, J = 13.6, 7.8, 6.0 Hz, 1 H, both diastereomers), 2.19-2.13 (m, 10.13)1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 152.9, 152.5, 144.1, 143.3, 135.0, 134.8, 133.5, 133.3, 129.6, 129.5, 129.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.3, 127.0 (×2), 126.7, 126.6, 126.1, 126.0, 124.1, 124.0, 106.0, 105.3, 93.5, 91.3, 39.1, 38.3, 36.4, 36.3, 28.4 (×2), 27.2, 27.0 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3417, 3028, 2930, 2852, 1646, 1598, 1484, 1451, 1241, 1122, 1054; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇ClO₂ 312.0917; found 312.0912.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-8-bromo-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ea).** 91% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{18} = +51.3$ (c = 1.1 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.28 (3:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.28-7.23 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.21-7.17 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, major), 6.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.37 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.30–5.26 (m, 1H, major), 4.00 (td, J = 6.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.95 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H, major),3.11 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H, major), 3.03 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H, minor),3.00-2.80 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.51-2.46 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.27–2.22 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.17–2.12 (m, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 153.0, 152.7, 144.1, 143.2, 135.3, 135.1, 134.0, 133.8, 129.8 (×2), 129.1 (×2), 129.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.3, 126.7, 126.6, 124.4 (×2), 117.6, 117.5, 106.1, 105.3, 93.5, 91.4, 39.1, 38.3, 36.4, 36.2, 28.3 $(\times 2)$, 27.2, 27.0 ppm; FTIR (v/cm^{-1}) : 3392, 3028, 2926, 2858, 1646, 1555, 1482, 1450, 1377, 1238, 1159, 1122, 1054; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇BrO₂ 356.0412; found 356.0404.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-9-methoxy-1-phenyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3fa).** 93% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +48.2$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.25 (3:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.27-7.22 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.18-7.11 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.97 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 6.96 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, major), 6.46 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.27 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 6.24 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.34 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.28 (dd, J = 7.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H, major), 4.02 (td, J = 7.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.96 (td, J = 4.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H, major), 3.51 (s, 3H, minor), 3.50 (s, 3H, major), 3.39-3.26 (br s, 1H, major), 3.26–3.16 (br s, 1H, minor), 2.98–2.77 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.50-2.45 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.26-2.20 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.18-2.10 (m, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.2, 158.1, 153.3, 153.0, 144.4, 143.6, 136.2, 136.0, 128.9, 128.7, 127.9, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 126.6, 126.4, 125.4, 125.2, 109.8, 109.6, 109.0, 108.9, 106.7, 105.7, 93.5, 91.3, 55.0 (×2), 39.3, 38.3, 36.7, 36.5, 27.8, 27.7, 27.6, 27.5 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3426, 3023, 2932, 2835, 1646, 1606, 1575, 1493, 1453, 1244, 1215, 1150, 1122, 1045; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₀O₃ 308.1412; found 308.1404.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ab).** 86% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = +59.9$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.23 (3:1 Hex-EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.18–7.14 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.08–7.06 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.95–6.90 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 6.82-6.79 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 6.73-6.67 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.38 (tt, J = 5.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.26 (tt, J = 5.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H, major), 4.00 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.95 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H, major), 3.76 (s, 3H, major), 3.74 (s, 3H, minor), 3.01-2.87 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 2.56-2.43 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.25-2.18 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.14 (ddd, J = 13.0, 4.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.2, 158.1, 152.4, 152.3, 136.5 (×2), 135.3, 135.0, 133.1, 132.9, 128.9, 128.4, 127.0 (×2), 126.3, 126.2, 124.4, 124.3, 122.8 (×2), 114.4, 114.0, 106.5, 105.8, 93.4, 91.4, 55.2 (×2), 38.8, 38.6, 35.9, 34.8, 28.6 (×2), 27.4, 27.1 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3420, 3063, 3017, 2932, 2835, 1646, 1609, 1510, 1487, 1453, 1246, 1178, 1116, 1059; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₀O₃ 308.1412; found 308.1406.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-1-(4-bromophenyl)-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ac).** 80% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{30} = +58.1$ (*c* = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.23 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.39 (dt, J = 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 2H, major), 7.35 (dt, J = 8.4, 2.6 Hz, 2H, minor), 7.15–7.09 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.09–7.05 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.97-6.89 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 6.63 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H, major), 6.61 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.40-5.36 (m, 1H, minor), 5.29-5.22 (m, 1H, major), 4.02 (td, J = 7.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.97 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H, major), 3.09 (br s, 1H, both diastereomers), 3.03-2.82 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.53-2.45 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.28-2.21 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.13-2.05 (m, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 152.9, 152.7, 143.6, 142.9, 134.6, 134.4, 133.1, 133.0, 131.9, 131.8, 129.7, 129.3, 127.1 (×2), 126.3, 126.2, 124.6, 124.5, 122.9, 122.7, 120.2, 120.1, 106.3, 105.4, 93.3, 91.1, 39.1, 38.2, 36.0 (×2), 28.6, 28.5, 27.4, 27.2 ppm; FTIR (v/cm^{-1}) : 3415, 3063, 3023, 2932, 2898, 2858, 1646, 1601, 1569, 1487, 1241, 1150, 1119, 1057; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇BrO₂ 356.0412; found 356.0415.

(1S) - 2,3,5,6 - Tetrahydro - 1 - (4 - nitrophenyl) - 1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ad).** 95% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = +40.1$ (*c* = 1.0 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; R_f 0.16 (3:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, major), 8.08 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, minor), 7.42–7.37 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.09 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.94 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.89 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.54 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.43 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.30 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H, major), 4.16–4.13 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 3.41 (br s, 1H, major), 3.26 (br s, 1H, minor), 3.07-2.84 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.59–2.41 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.36-2.29 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.12-2.06 (m, 1H, both diastereomers); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 153.3, 153.0, 152.5, 152.2, 146.7, 146.6, 134.2, 134.1, 133.2, 133.0, 128.8, 128.6, 127.3 (×2), 126.3 (×2), 124.8, 124.7, 124.0, 123.9, 122.6 (×2), 105.8, 105.1, 93.0, 90.8, 38.5, 37.9, 36.6, 36.0, 28.5 (×2), 27.4 (×2) ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3432, 2926, 2852, 1646, 1603, 1518, 1487, 1348, 1238, 1113, 1057; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇NO₄ 323.1158; found 323.1150.

(1R) - 2,3,5,6 - Tetrahydro - 1 - (furan - 2 - yl) - 1H - benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ae).** 83% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{18} = +54.8$ (c = 0.36 in CHCl₃); yellow oil; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.25 (4 : 1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 7.33–7.32 (m, 1H, major), 7.11–7.07 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.05–7.02 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.01-6.96 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.89-6.87 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.24-6.22 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.00 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.96 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H, major), 5.44 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.32 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, major), 4.10–4.04 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 3.54 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.15 (br s, 1H, major), 3.02-2.86 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.54 (dt, J = 14.0, 3.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.51–2.43 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.40 (dt, J = 13.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 2.30 (ddd, J = 14.0, 6.8, 3.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.06 (ddd, J = 13.0, 9.3, 5.7 Hz, 1H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.8, 156.4, 152.3, 151.6, 142.1, 141.4, 134.8, 134.5, 132.9, 132.8, 127.2, 127.1, 126.4 (×2), 124.7, 124.6, 121.8, 121.6, 110.6, 110.3, 107.1, 106.5, 104.0, 103.6, 92.3, 92.1, 34.7, 32.9, 31.1, 28.5, 28.3, 27.7, 27.2, 27.0 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3415, 3063, 2932, 2892, 2852, 1646, 1601, 1504, 1487, 1453, 1272, 1241, 1150, 1119, 1057; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{17}H_{16}O_3 [M - H]^-$ 267.1099; found 267.1090.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-1-methyl-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3-ol (3af). 93% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -85.9 (c = 1.0 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$; colorless oil; $R_{f} 0.28$ (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.17–7.14 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.10-7.04 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.01 (qd, J = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.43 (d, J =5.1 Hz, 1H, major), 5.26 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.40 (br s, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.95–2.85 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.78-2.68 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.50-2.37 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.30-2.19 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.00-1.91 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.78 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H, minor),1.22 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.20 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 149.8, 149.7, 134.9, 134.8, 133.8, 133.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.3, 126.1, 124.3 (×2), 122.2, 121.6, 110.6, 109.7, 93.7, 91.4, 38.1, 36.8, 28.6, 28.5, 27.2, 26.9, 24.9, 23.8, 21.0, 20.4 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3415, 2955, 2932, 2892, 2835, 1643, 1601, 1569, 1487, 1453, 1235, 1122, 1085; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆O₂ 216.1150; found 216.1149.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-1-ethyl-1H-benzo[f]chromen-3ol (3ag). 93% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{17} = -86.9$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.30 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.17-7.14 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.11-7.07 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.05-6.99 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 5.40 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H, major), 5.22 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.58-3.21 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.93-2.83 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.78–2.70 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.68-2.63 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.51-2.35 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.22 (ddd, J = 16.0, 6.9, 3.8 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.10 (ddd, J = 13.4, 4.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 1.90-1.73 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.44-1.22 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, major), 0.90(t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, minor); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 150.7, 150.1, 135.0, 134.9, 133.8, 133.5, 127.3, 127.2, 126.3, 126.1, 124.3 (×2), 122.0, 121.4, 109.8, 108.8, 94.1, 91.7, 34.6, 32.8, 31.4, 30.6, 28.6 (×2), 27.3, 27.0, 26.8, 26.0, 11.5, 10.7 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3415, 3063, 3023, 2960, 2932, 2875, 1643, 1601, 1569, 1484, 1456, 1235, 1125, 1110, 1085, 1014; HRMS (FAB) m/z calcd. for [M -H]⁺ C₁₅H₁₇O₂ 229.1229; found 229.1226.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-7-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3bf).** 94% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{24} = -45.9$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; R_f 0.23 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.78 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H, major), 6.74 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 6.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 6.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, major), 5.44–5.42 (m, 1H, major), 5.28 (dd, J = 7.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.82 (s, 3H, minor), 3.82 (s, 3H, major), 3.16 (ddd, J = 15.5, 6.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.09 (ddd, J = 16.0, 7.1, 4.5 Hz, 2H, major), 2.95–2.89 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.65–2.46 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.44–2.27 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.23 (ddd, J = 16.0, 7.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.00-1.92 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.79 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.21 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.20 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.1, 156.0, 150.1, 149.9, 136.4, 136.3, 126.6, 126.4, 121.4, 121.0, 115.4, 114.8, 109.4, 107.5, 93.6, 91.4, 55.5 (×2), 38.0, 36.9, 26.5, 26.3, 25.0, 24.2, 21.2, 20.6, 20.5, 20.3 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3420, 2960, 2926, 2858, 1649, 1586, 1575, 1473, 1439, 1263, 1130, 1093, 1028; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₃ [M – H]⁻ 245.1256; found 245.1244.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-8-chloro-1-methyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3df).** 95% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -64.6$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; R_f 0.18 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.08 (s, 1H, minor), 7.07 (s, 1H, major), 6.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, major), 6.95 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.43 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, major), 5.28 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.24 (br s, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.90-2.83 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.75–2.65 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.48–2.35 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.28 (ddd, J = 13.5, 7.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.26-2.19 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.01-1.91 (m, 2H, major), 1.79 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.19 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.18 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 150.0, 149.9, 135.6, 135.3, 133.5, 133.4, 129.5 (×2), 127.3, 127.2, 126.2, 126.0, 123.3, 122.7, 110.0, 109.2, 93.6, 91.4, 37.8, 36.7, 28.4, 28.3, 26.9, 26.7, 24.7, 23.7, 20.8, 20.3 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3420, 2955, 2932, 1643, 1595, 1484, 1450, 1238, 1125, 1088; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅ClO₂ [M – H]⁻ 249.0761; found 249.0731.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-8-bromo-1-methyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ef).** 95% ee, $[\alpha]_{10}^{26} = -40.6$ (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; R_f 0.25 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 7.22 (s, 1H, minor), 7.21 (s, 1H, major), 6.94 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, major), 6.89 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.43 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H, major), 5.28 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.31 (br s, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.90-2.83 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.75–2.65 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.47–2.35 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.27 (ddd, J = 13.5, 7.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.21 (ddd, J = 16.1, 7.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.00–1.90 (m, 2H, major), 1.78 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.19 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.18 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 150.1, 150.0, 136.0, 135.6, 134.0, 133.9, 130.1, 130.0, 129.1, 129.0, 123.7, 123.1, 117.5, 117.4, 110.1, 109.2, 93.7, 91.4, 37.7, 36.6, 28.3, 28.2, 26.9, 26.7, 24.7, 23.7, 20.8, 20.2 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3572, 2959, 2930, 2893, 2841, 1642, 1558, 1480, 1373, 1233, 1119, 1086; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅BrO₂ [M+K]⁺ 333.0255; found 333.0176.

(1S)-2,3,5,6-Tetrahydro-9-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-benzo[f]chro**men-3-ol (3ff).** 96% ee, $[\alpha]_{D}^{27} = -73.0$ (*c* = 1 in CHCl₃); colorless oil; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.18 (4:1 Hex–EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.02–6.99 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 6.69 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 6.64 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 6.58–6.55 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 5.43 (dd, J = 6.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H, major), 5.27 (dd, J = 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.79 (s, 3H, both diastereomers), 3.27 (br s, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.92–2.86 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.82 (td, J = 14.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.74–2.64 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.48–2.35 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 2.28 (ddd, J = 13.5, 7.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.24–2.18 (m, 1H, both diastereomers), 1.99-1.92 (m, 2H, major), 1.78 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.23 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.21 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, major); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.5, 158.3, 150.5 (×2), 136.3, 136.2, 127.7, 127.6, 126.1, 125.7, 110.5, 109.6, 109.4, 108.8, 108.3, 108.2, 93.7, 91.4, 55.3 (×2), 37.9, 36.8, 27.7, 27.6, 27.5, 27.3, 24.8, 23.9, 21.0, 20.4 ppm; FTIR (v/cm⁻¹): 3420, 2960, 2926, 2858, 1643, 1609, 1572, 1493, 1456, 1238, 1212, 1125, 1042; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₃ [M – H]⁻ 245.1256; found 245.1245.

(*E*)-1-((*E*)-3-(4-Nitrophenyl)allylidene)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2(1*H*)-one (4). yellow crystal; $R_f 0.28$ (6 : 1 Hex–EtOAc); mp (°C) 190–191; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.21 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 11.8, 10.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 201.3, 147.5, 142.8, 139.5, 138.6, 135.8, 133.2, 133.1, 129.2, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.6, 126.9, 124.2, 37.0, 27.8 ppm; FTIR (ν/cm^{-1}): 1680, 1592, 1507, 1337, 1241, 1167, 1110; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₅NO₃ 305.1052; found 305.1059.

(*S*)-1-Phenyl-5,6-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*f*]chromen-3(2*H*)-one (5). >99% ee, $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +95.6$ (c = 1 in CHCl₃); colorless crystal; R_r 0.25 (6:1 Hex–EtOAc); mp (°C) 159–160; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.14 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.03 (m, 2H), 6.93 (dd, J = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dd, J = 15.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.10–3.05 (m, 1H), 2.99 (dt, J = 15.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd, J = 15.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (ddd, J = 18.9, 12.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.62–2.56 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0, 150.8, 140.3, 133.2, 132.5, 129.3, 127.6 (×2), 126.8 (×2), 126.5, 122.7, 111.9, 38.2, 37.8, 28.3, 25.4 ppm; FTIR (ν /cm⁻¹): 3063, 3028, 2949, 2892, 2841, 1771, 1669, 1601, 1490, 1450, 1244, 1178, 1130; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₉H₁₆O₂ 276.1150; found 276.1144.

Acknowledgements

The authors thank the National Science Council of the Republic of China (NSC 99-2113-M-003-002-MY3 and NSC 99-2119-M-003-001-MY2) and National Taiwan Normal University (99T3030-5 and 99-D) for financial support of this work. Our gratitude extends to the Academic Paper Editing Clinic at NTNU, and to the National Center for High-Performance Computing for providing us with computer time and facilities.

Notes and references

- For review articles, see: (a) M. G. Núñez, P. Garíc, R. F. Moro and D. Díez, *Tetrahedron*, 2010, **66**, 2089; (b) H. C. Shen, *Tetrahedron*, 2009, **65**, 3931; (c) K.-S. Yeung and I. Paterson, *Chem. Rev.*, 2005, **105**, 4237.
- 2 (a) Z. Dong, X. Liu, J. Feng, M. Wang, L. Lin and X. Feng, Eur. J. Org. Chem., 2011, 137; (b) J.-F. Soulé, A. Mathieu, S. Norsikian and J.-M. Beau, Org. Lett., 2010, **12**, 5322; (c) J. Liu, K. Xu, J. He, L. Zhang, X. Pan and X. She, J. Org. Chem., 2009, **74**, 5063; (d) C. F. Nising, U. K. Ohnemüler (née Schmid) and S. Bräce, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2006, **45**, 307; (e) D. J. Maloney, S. Chen and S. M. Hecht, Org. Lett., 2006, **8**, 1925; (f) L.-W. Ye, X.-L. Sun, C.-Y. Zhu and Y. Tang, Org. Lett., 2006, **8**, 3853; (g) I. R. Hardcastle, X. Cockcroft, N. J. Curtin, M. D. El-Murr, J. J. J. Leahy, M. Stockley, B. T. Golding, L. Rigoreau, C. Richardson, G. C. M. Smith and R. J. Griffin, J. Med. Chem., 2005, **48**, 7829; (h) W. Kemnitzer, J. Drewe, S. Jiang, H. Zhang, Y. Wang, J. Zhao, S. Jia, J. Herich, D. Labreque, R. Storer, K. Meerovitch, D. Bouffard, R. Rej, R. Denis, C. Blais, S. Lamothe, G. Attardo, H. Gourdeau, B. Tseng, S. Kasibhatla and S. X. Cai, J. Med. Chem., 2004, **47**, 6299; (i) H. Lebel and V. Paquet, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2004, **126**, 11152.
- 3 For review articles on organocatalysis, see: (a) Ł. Albrecht, A. Albrecht, H. Krawczyk and K. A. Jørgensen, Chem. -Eur. J., 2010, 16, 28; (b) S. Bertelsen and K. A. Jørgensen, Chem. Soc. Rev., 2009, 38, 2178; (c) A. Dondoni and A. Massi, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2008, 47, 4638; (d) Chem. Rev., 2007, 107(12), special issue on organocatalysis; For application of organocatalysis, see: ; ; (e) H. Ishikawa, T. Suzuki, H. Orita, T. Uchimaru and Y. Hayashi, Chem.-Eur. J., 2010, 16, 12616;; (f) S. Knüppel, V. O. Rogachev and P. Metz, Eur. J. Org. Chem., 2010, 6145.
- 4 (a) D. Enders, C. Grondal and M. R. M. Hüttl, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2007, 46, 1570; (b) P. He, X. Liu, J. Shi, L. Lin and X. Feng, Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 936; (c) X.-F. Wang, J. An, X.-X. Zhang, F. Tan, J.-R. Chen and W.-J. Xiao, Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 808; (d) T. Urushima, D. Sakamoto, H. Ishikawa and Y. Hayashi, Org. Lett., 2010, 12, 4588; (e) E. Reyes, G. Talavera, J. L. Vicario, D. Badia and L. Carrillo, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2009, 48, 5609; (g) B.-C. Hong, R. Y. Nimje, A. A. Sadani and J.-H. Liao, Org. Lett., 2008, 10, 2345; (h) B. Tan, P. J. Chua, X. Zeng, M. Lu and G. Zhong, Org. Lett., 2008, 10, 3489; (i) D. Enders, A. A. Narine, T. R. Benninghaus and G. Raabe, Synlett, 2007, 1667; (j) Y. Hayashi, T. Okano, S. Aratake and D. Hazelard, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2007, 46, 4922; (k) K. Jiang, Z.-J. Jia, X. Yin, L. Wu and Y.-C. Chen, Org. Lett., 2016, 12, 2766.
- 5 (a) W. Yao, L. Pan, Y. Wu and C. Ma, Org. Lett., 2010, **12**, 2422; (b) P. T. Franke, B. Richter and K. A. Jørgensen, Chem.-Eur. J., 2008, **14**, 6317; (c) S. Samanta, J. Krause, T. Mandal and C.-G. Zhao, Org. Lett., 2007, **9**, 2745; (d) K. Juhl and K. A. Jørgensen, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2003, **42**, 1498.
- 6 M. Rueping, E. Sugiono and E. Merino, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2008, 47, 3046.
- 7 (a) M.-K. Zhu, Q. Wei and L.-Z. Gong, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2008, 350, 1281; (b) M. He, G. J. Uc and J. W. Bode, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2006, 128, 15088.
- 8 (a) M. Rueping, E. Sugiono and E. Merino, *Chem.-Eur. J.*, 2008, 14, 6329; (b) B. Lesch, J. Toräng, S. Vanderheiden and S. Bräse, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2005, 347, 555.

- 9 (a) M. Rueping, E. Merino and E. Sugiono, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2008, 350, 2127; (b) E. M. Phillips, M. Wadamoto, A. Chan and K. A. Scheidt, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2007, 46, 3107; (c) I. K. Mangion and D. W. C. MacMillan, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2005, 127, 3696.
- 10 (a) G. P. Ellis, I. M. Lockhart, The Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds Chromenes Chromanones and Chromones, Vol. 31 (Ed.: G. P. Ellis), Wiley-VCH, 2007, pp 1–1196; (b) Y. R. Lee and Y. M. Kim, Helv. Chim. Acta, 2007, 90, 2401; (c) B. Appel, N. N. R. Saleh and P. Langer, Chem.-Eur. J., 2006, 12, 1221; (d) X. Wang, K. F. Bastow, C.-M. Sun, Y.-L. Lin, H.-J. Yu, M.-J. Don, T.-S. Wu, S. Nakamura and K.-H. Lee, J. Med. Chem., 2004, 47, 5816.
- (a) A. Covarrubias-Zúñiga, F. Cantú and L. A. Maldonado, J. Org. Chem., 1998, 63, 2918; (b) D. F. Taber, T. D. Neubert and A. L. Rheingold, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2002, 124, 12416; (c) C. C. Silveira, A. Machado, A. L. Bragaa and E. J. Lenardão, Tetrahedron Lett., 2004, 45, 4077; (d) M. H. Parker, R. Chen, K. A. Conway, D. H. S. Lee, C. Luo, R. E. Boyd, S. O. Nortey, T. M. Ross, M. K. Scott and A. B. Reitz, Bioorg. Med. Chem., 2002, 10, 3565; (e) N. Tagmatarchis, K. Thermos and H. E. Katerinopoulos, J. Med. Chem., 1998, 41, 4165; (f) W. Nerinckx and M. Vandewalle, Tetrahedron: Asymmetry, 1990, 1, 265; (g) R. Ireland, A. Evans, D. Over, G. Ruboiytoamnd and H. Oung, J. Org. Chem., 1969, 34, 3717.
- 12 A. Jha, J. Zhao, T. S. Cameron, E. D. Clercq, J. Balzarini, E. K. Manavathu and J. P. Stables, *Lett. Drug Des. Discovery*, 2006, 3, 304.

- 13 (a) M. Marigo, T. C. Wabnitz, D. Fielenbach and K. A. Jørgensen, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2005, 44, 794; (b) Y. Hayashi, H. Gotoh, T. Hayashi and M. Shoji, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2005, 44, 4212; (c) M. Marigo, J. Franzén, T. B. Poulsen, W. Zhuang and K. A. Jørgensen, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2005, 127, 6964.
- 14 For similar results, see: (a) S.-W. Duan, J. An, J.-R. Chen and W.-J. Xiao, Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 2290; (b) E. Reyes, H. Jiang, A. Milelli, P. Elsner, R. G. Hazell and K. A. Jørgensen, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2007, 46, 9202; (c) C. D. Papageorgiou, M. A. Cubillo de Dios, S. V. Ley and M. J. Gaunt, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2004, 43, 4641.
- 15 (a) C. Chang, S.-H. Li, R. J. Reddy and K. Chen, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2009, **351**, 1273; (b) Y.-F. Ting, C. Chang, R. J. Reddy, D. R. Magar and K. Chen, Chem.-Eur. J., 2010, **16**, 7030; (c) P.-M. Liu, D. R. Magar and K. Chen, Eur. J. Org. Chem., 2010, 5705; (d) S. Anwar, P.-H. Lee, T.-Y. Chou, C. Chang and K. Chen, Tetrahedron, 2011, **67**, 1171.
- 16 P.-J. J. Huang, E. Potter and A. Jha, Mol. Diversity, 2010, 14, 393
- 17 Detailed X-ray crystallographic data⁺ for the 1,2-addition–dehydration product **4** (CCDC 824118) and 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1-phenyl-1*H*benzo[/]chromen-3-one **5** (CCDC 824119) are available from the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2, 1EZ, UK (www.ccdc.cam.ac. uk/data_request/cif).
- 18 The absolute stereochemistry of the products is tentative assigned with the Flack parameter of compound **5** is 0.47, see: H. D. Flack, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A*, 1983, **39**, 876.