

2-Bromobenzoic acids underwent an α -arylation with cyclohexane-1,3-diones to give 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-diones under Ar atmosphere catalyzed by CuI/L-proline in the presence of Cs₂CO₃. The subsequent regioselective oxidation took place under O₂ balloon automatically based on the substituents for the construction of structurally diversified benzo[*c*]coumarin derivatives.

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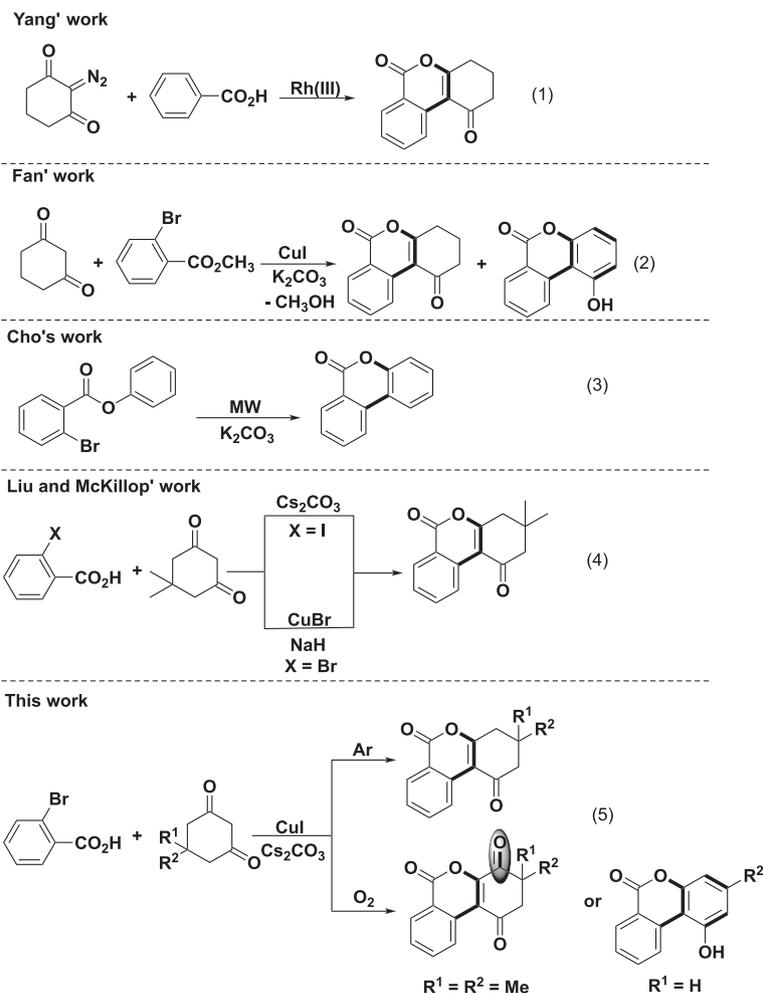
INTRODUCTION

Coumarin is also named 2*H*-chromen-2-one, which is a bicyclic oxygen-containing heterocycle. It is reported that coumarin exists in numerous natural products [1], such as tanizinin [2], anisocoumaramide [3], and defucogilvocarcin [4], and possesses good biological activities, for example, antitumor [5], anti-*Escherichia coli* [6], anticoagulation [7], and antifungal activities [8]. Acenocoumarol is a noteworthy anticoagulant drug that functions as a vitamin K antagonist [9]. In addition, dicoumarol [10] is a naturally occurring anticoagulant medication, which almost acts as the same function as acenocoumarol. According to its remarkable anticoagulant effect, many novel procedures for the synthesis of coumarins [11] have been reported in the past few years.

Benzo[*c*]coumarin is an important member of this large family whose derivatives also have the widespread applications [12]. In very recent, Yang's group [13] reported that Rh(III)-catalyzed C–H activation of cyclic 2-diazo-1,3-diketones and benzoic acids was an efficient method, leading to the functional benzo[*c*]coumarins in 2017 (Scheme 1, (1)). However, the cyclic 2-diazo-1,3-diketone was not a class of available reactants. In 2018, Cho's group [14] realized the synthesis of 6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-ones under metal-catalyst-free conditions using aryl 2-bromobenzoate as a reactant promoted by microwave in the presence of K₂CO₃ (Scheme 1, (2)).

Fan's group [15] utilized 2-bromobenzoate to react with cyclohexane-1,3-dione catalyzed by CuI with benzo[*c*]coumarins being obtained in moderate yields but losing a molecule of alcohol in ester (Scheme 1, (3)). In fact, using 2-halobenzoic acid as an easily available material to react with cyclohexane-1,3-dione was a very efficient and atomic economic method to synthesize 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-diones. Only losing a molecule of water in the conversion, it concerns the concept of green chemistry in organic synthesis accordingly. In 2012, Liu's group [16] realized this reaction under transition-metal-free conditions. However, the valuable 2-iodobenzoic acid was used as a reactant (Scheme 1, (4)). As early as 1977, McKillop and Rao [17] also achieved a copper-catalyzed arylation of dimedone with 2-bromobenzoic acid, leading to 63% yield of 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-dione. Only an example was reported but using the costly NaH as a base (Scheme 1, (4)). Therefore, a simple method for synthesizing this type of coumarins using easily available and cheap reactants is very essential.

In our lab, the same reaction of dimedone with 2-bromobenzoic acid was charged with CuI/L-proline using 1.0 equiv of Cs₂CO₃ as the base under Ar atmosphere. To our delight, the desired 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-dione was obtained in 76% yield. With the deepening of our research, the methylene on 4-position could be oxidized regioselectively under aerobic

Scheme 1. Approaches to benzo[*c*]coumarins.

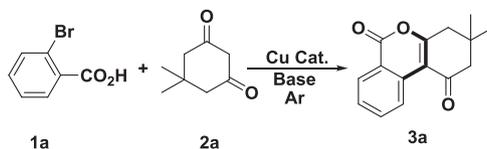
conditions, leading to 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione in good yields. More interesting is that this oxidation could be controlled step by step via regulating the number of the substituents on cyclohexane-1,3-dione. The final products were 1-hydroxy-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-ones through subsequent partial oxidation, dehydration, and enolization. As our continuous study on the construction of functionalized heterocycles catalyzed by copper [18], herein, we would like to report the reaction of 2-bromobenzoic acid and cyclohexane-1,3-dione catalyzed by CuI under aerobic or anaerobic conditions, leading to structurally diversified benzo[*c*]chromene derivatives (Scheme 1, (5)).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In our initial study, the reaction of 2-bromobenzoic acid (**1a**) and dimedone (**2a**) was used as the model to

optimize the reaction conditions (Table 1). Under argon atmosphere, the various kinds of copper sources, such as CuX (X = I, Br, Cl), CuOAc, Cu₂O, CuBr₂, and copper powder, were screened in the presence of K₂CO₃ (1.0 equiv) using DMF as a solvent at 100°C for 20 h, and the effect of cuprous salts was obviously better than that of Cu₂O. To our delight, the CuI gave the best result leading **3a** in 56% yield. However, the CuBr₂ and Cu powder were unreactive to this reaction, which no desired **3a** was observed by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). Then, organic bases, such as Et₃N and DBU, or inorganic bases including Na₂CO₃, Cs₂CO₃, and NaH, were also tested using 10 mol% CuI as the catalyst in DMF, and it was found that strong base was beneficial to this conversion. Cs₂CO₃ (100 mol%) gave almost the same result (63% yield, Table 1, entry 11) as that of NaH (64% yield), and organic bases nearly conducted nonreactivity for this reaction because only trace amount of **3a** was observed

Table 1
Optimization of the reaction conditions.^a



Entry	Catalyst	Ligand	Solvent	Base	Yields (%) ^a
1	CuI	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	56
2	CuBr	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	36
3	CuCl	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	21
4	CuOAc	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	38
5	Cu ₂ O	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	12
6	CuBr ₂	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	0
7	Cu	—	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	0
8	CuI	—	DMF	Et ₃ N	Trace
9	CuI	—	DMF	DBU	Trace
10	CuI	—	DMF	Na ₂ CO ₃	48
11	CuI	—	DMF	Cs ₂ CO ₃	63
12	CuI	—	DMF	NaH	64
13	CuI	L-Proline	DMF	Cs ₂ CO ₃	76
14	CuI	<i>o</i> -Phen	DMF	Cs ₂ CO ₃	72
15	CuI	PPh ₃	DMF	Cs ₂ CO ₃	68
16	CuI	L-Proline	DMSO	Cs ₂ CO ₃	72
17	CuI	L-Proline	DME	Cs ₂ CO ₃	62
18	CuI	L-Proline	DMA	Cs ₂ CO ₃	75

Reaction conditions: **1a** (101 mg, 0.5 mmol), **2a** (70 mg, 0.5 mmol), catalyst (0.05 mmol), ligand (0.1 mmol), solvent (10.0 mL), and base (0.5 mmol), 100°C, 20 h.

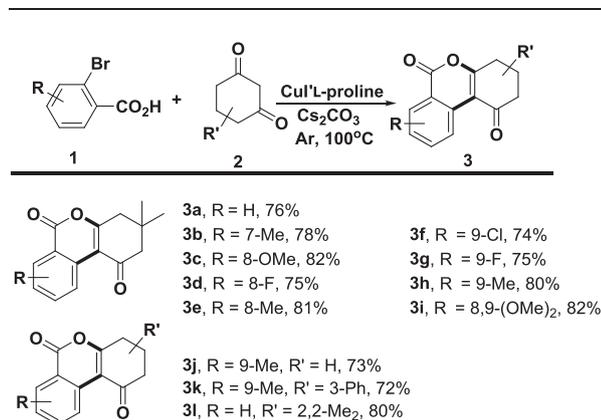
^aIsolated yields.

by TLC. Moreover, when the common ligands of metal copper, such as L-proline, *o*-phen, and PPh₃, were added to the catalytic system, the coordinate CuI all

indicated higher catalytic activity comparing with ligand-free conditions, and L-proline showed the highest activity, leading **3a** in 76% yield (Table 1, entry 13).

Table 2

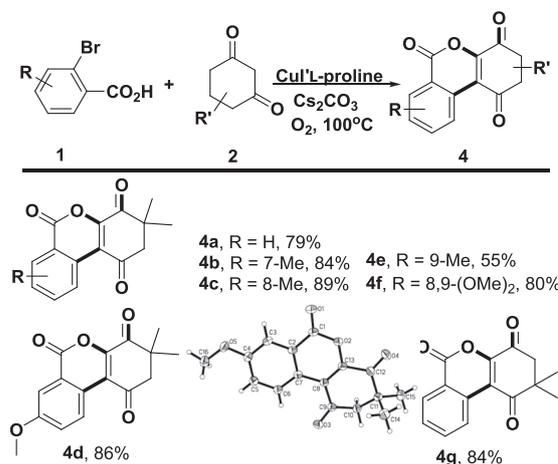
Synthetic results of 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-dione.



Reaction condition: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (0.5 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol), CuI (10 mg, 0.05 mmol), L-proline (12 mg, 0.1 mmol), and DMF (10.0 mL), 20 h.

Table 3

Synthetic results of 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-triones.



Reaction condition: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (0.5 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol), CuI (10 mg, 0.05 mmol), L-proline (12 mg, 0.1 mmol), and DMF (10.0 mL), O₂ balloon, 20 h.

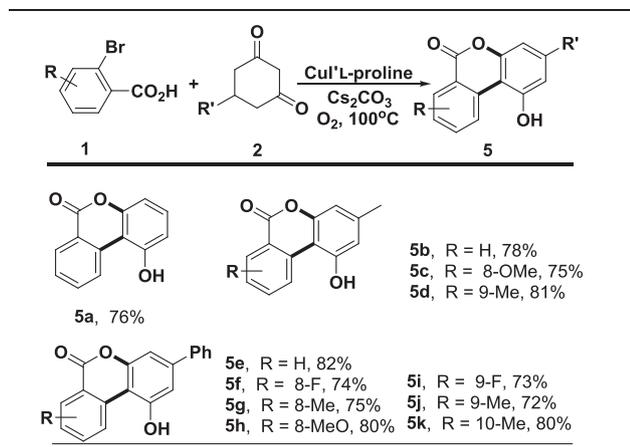
Finally, we tried to examine the use of a variety of solvents (e.g. DMSO, DME, and DMA) in order to further increase the reaction yield. However, they all failed to provide better result than in the solvent of DMF. After evaluating various conditions, we obtained

the optimum results using 10 mol% CuI accompanied by 20 mol% L-proline, 1.0 equiv of Cs₂CO₃ in DMF at 100°C.

Under the optimized reaction conditions, 2-bromobenzoic acids bearing electron-donating groups, such as methyl or methoxy, and electron-withdrawing groups (e.g. Cl or F), all gave **3a–3i** in the satisfied yields (Table 2, 74–82%). Other dimedone analogues, for example, cyclohexane-1,3-dione, 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, and 4,4-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, also afforded the good results, leading to **3** in 72–80% yields (Table 2, **3j–3l**).

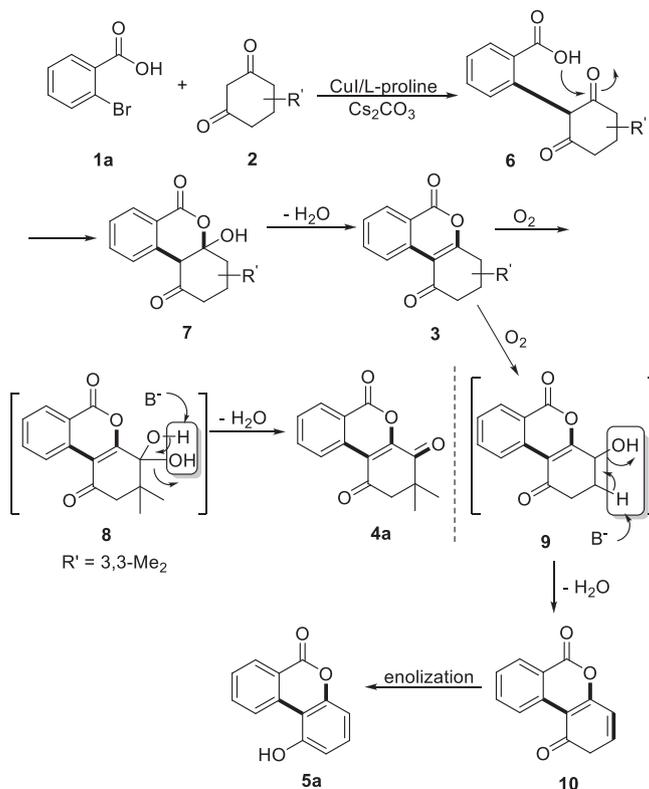
Surprisingly, the previously mentioned reaction also could be proceeded smoothly under air keeping all other reaction conditions as the same. However, a byproduct was observed by TLC gradually as reaction time was prolonged. Subsequently, it (R = 5-MeO, R¹ = R² = Me) was isolated in 42% yield by column chromatography. One of the methylene groups disappeared in ¹H-NMR. Instead, it changed to a new carbonyl group which was found in its ¹³C-NMR. In order to identify which methylene was oxidized in the air? The X-ray diffraction analysis of product **4d** was determined, and it was 8-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione. Table 3

Table 4

Synthetic results of 1-hydroxy-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-ones.

Reaction condition: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (0.5 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol), CuI (10 mg, 0.05 mmol), L-proline (12 mg, 0.1 mmol), and DMF (10.0 mL), O₂ balloon, 20 h.

Scheme 2. The possible reaction mechanism.



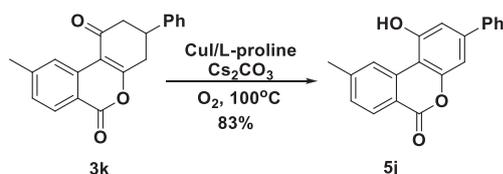
indicated that the methylene on 4-position was oxidized selectively to corresponding carbonyl group automatically.

Because the air functioned as a green oxidant in this subsequent oxidation reaction, we repeated the same reaction under the pure oxygen atmosphere. The yield of **4d** could be improved observably from 42% to 86%. Under O₂ balloon, total of seven 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-triones were obtained in moderate yields with high regioselectivity.

It was very interesting that the regioselective oxidation reaction could be carried out step by step via group controlling. If one of the substituent groups (R¹ or R²) was hydrogen atom, only one C—H bond was oxidized to C—OH. The dehydration took place unexpectedly followed by an enolization in cyclohexane-1,3-dione, and phenol analogue was obtained finally. Table 4 indicated that cyclohexane-1,3-dione, 5-methylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, and 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, especially for 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, all gave partial oxidation products in good yields (Table 4). The key step of this partial oxidation is enolization. If there are two substituent groups on one position in cyclohexane-1,3-dione, such as 5,5-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione, or 4,4-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (Table 3), the enolization was hold back. Therefore, the second oxidation went on to give ketone hydrate, which converted to corresponding product **4** immediately.

According to the previously mentioned results, we think that the first is α -arylation of carbonyl group catalyzed by CuI/L-proline, which was well documented by Ma and other groups [19]. And then, the carboxyl negative ion in **6** attacks the carbonyl followed by dehydration to give product **3**. Under aerobic conditions, the methylene on 4-position is oxidized into two C—O—H bonds (**8**, the similar allylic oxidations were realized by metal catalyst of Rh₂(esp)₂[20]), and **8** loses a molecule of water to afford product **4**. When there is a hydrogen atom on 3-position, the partial oxidation takes place first to lead intermediate product **9**. The dehydration preferentially conducts to give ketone structure **10**, and the final product **5** is obtained via an enolization. The possible reaction mechanism is outlined in Scheme 2.

Scheme 3. The controlled reaction.



If **3k** was treated with CuI/L-proline in the presence of Cs₂CO₃ under oxygen balloon at 100°C, product **5j** was obtained in 83% yield (Scheme 3). This controlled reaction indicated that the first conversion is cyclization to benzo[*c*]chromene analogue and then allylic oxidation.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the selective oxidation reaction of 2-bromobenzoic acid and cyclohexane-1,3-dione catalyzed by CuI/L-proline was found in the presence of Cs₂CO₃. Under Ar atmosphere, it gave normal 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-dione derivatives in good yields. The O₂ as a greener oxidant could promote the subsequent regioselective oxidation to provide 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-triones. It was controlled by substituents to undergo a partial oxidation, leading to structurally diversified 1-hydroxy-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-one derivatives.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined in open capillaries and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a TENSOR 27 spectrometer in KBr. NMR spectra were obtained from solution in CDCl₃ with Me₄Si as internal standard using a Bruker 400 spectrometer (Bruker Corp., Billerica, MA). HRMS analyses were carried out using a Bruker micrOTOF-Q MS analyzer (Bruker Corp.).

General procedure for the syntheses of 1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-diones **3** (using **3a** as a model). 2-Bromobenzoic acid (101 mg, 0.5 mmol), dimetone (70 mg, 0.5 mmol), CuI (10 mg, 0.05 mmol), L-proline (12 mg, 0.1 mmol), and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) were added to a dry reaction flask with high vacuum valve. After three times in vacuum and replacement of argon, DMF (10.0 mL) was injected into the mixture. Before reaching completion, the reaction mixture was stirred and heated at 100°C under an Ar balloon. The mixture was poured into 50-mL water, and the yellow precipitate was formed and collected by filtration. The crude product was purified by chromatography over silica gel to give **3a** using ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (1:6) as an eluent.

3,3-Dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2*H*)-dione (3a**)**. Yield: 76% (92 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 127–128°C (lit. [13] mp 125–126°C); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 2.53 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.52–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.78–7.82 (m, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 9.05 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J'* = 2.0 Hz, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 3117, 2966, 1736, 1668, 1618, 1482, 1372, 1335, 1323, 1248, 1195, 1155, 1061, 1035, 1022, 780 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF,

ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}O_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 243.1016, found 243.1016.

3,3,7-Trimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3b). Yield: 78% (100 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 112–114°C (lit. [13] mp 109–110°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.17 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.51 (s, 2H), 2.77 (s, 2H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 7.33 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.62–7.65 (m, 1H), 8.96 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2961, 2929, 1744, 1674, 1621, 1473, 1426, 1383, 1363, 1328, 1295, 1240, 1163, 1065, 1012, 999, 768 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}O_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 257.1172, found 257.1168.

8-Methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3c). Yield: 82% (112 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 141–142°C (lit. [15] mp 139–141°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.18 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.51 (s, 2H), 2.79 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 7.36 (dd, $J = 8.8$ Hz, $J' = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.98 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2963, 2875, 1731, 1667, 1615, 1500, 1471, 1374, 1375, 1345, 1252, 1225, 1156, 1058, 1035, 884, 777 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{16}H_{16}O_4Na$ $[M + Na]^+$ 295.0946, found 295.0952.

8-Fluoro-3,3-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3d). Yield: 75% (98 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 147–148°C; 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.19 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.53 (s, 2H), 2.81 (s, 2H), 7.48–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.91–7.94 (m, 1H), 9.10 (dd, $J = 9.2$ Hz, $J' = 5.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): δ_C 28.1, 32.0, 42.4, 52.7, 110.2, 115.0 (d, $J_{F-C} = 23.1$ Hz), 121.8 (d, $J_{F-C} = 7.9$ Hz), 123.6 (d, $J_{F-C} = 21.7$ Hz), 128.7 (d, $J_{F-C} = 7.4$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 2.9$ Hz), 159.9 (d, $J_{F-C} = 3.3$ Hz), 161.8 (d, $J_{F-C} = 249.5$ Hz), 167.3, 196.8; IR (KBr): ν 3082, 2960, 2925, 1744, 1678, 1621, 1497, 1430, 1397, 1318, 1249, 1208, 1152, 1144, 1055, 1037, 947, 833, 781 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{15}H_{14}FO_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 261.0921, found 261.0911.

3,3,8-Trimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3e). Yield: 81% (104 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 153–155°C (lit. [13] mp 151–152°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.18 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 2H), 2.79 (s, 2H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 8.8$ Hz, $J' = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 8.92 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2966, 2921, 1731, 1673, 1619, 1504, 1467, 1365, 1331, 1254, 1157, 1065, 1041, 877, 784 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}O_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 257.1172, found 257.1177.

9-Chloro-3,3-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3f). Yield: 74% (102 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 157–159°C; 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.18 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.53 (s, 2H), 2.81 (s, 2H), 7.49 (dd, $J = 8.4$ Hz, $J' = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 9.11 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): δ_C 28.1, 31.9, 42.6, 52.7, 109.8, 118.1, 125.8, 129.0, 131.1, 135.1, 142.8, 160.0, 169.1, 196.5; IR (KBr): ν

3114, 2967, 2871, 1740, 1666, 1593, 1475, 1374, 1373, 1307, 1240, 1161, 1084, 1035, 998, 904, 781 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{15}H_{14}ClO_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 277.0626, found 277.0627.

9-Fluoro-3,3-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3g). Yield: 75% (98 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 171–172°C; 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.19 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.53 (s, 2H), 2.81 (s, 2H), 7.20–7.25 (m, 1H), 8.31 (dd, $J = 8.8$ Hz, $J' = 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.80 (dd, $J = 11.2$ Hz, $J' = 2.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): δ_C 28.1, 32.0, 42.6, 52.6, 110.0 (d, $J_{F-C} = 3.0$ Hz), 112.5 (d, $J_{F-C} = 26.0$ Hz), 116.2 (d, $J_{F-C} = 2.2$ Hz), 116.7 (d, $J_{F-C} = 23.3$ Hz), 132.7 (d, $J_{F-C} = 10.5$ Hz), 136.6 (d, $J_{F-C} = 12.3$ Hz), 159.8, 167.3 (d, $J_{F-C} = 254.6$ Hz), 169.2, 196.8; IR (KBr): ν 3082, 2960, 2925, 1744, 1678, 1621, 1497, 1430, 1397, 1318, 1249, 1208, 1152, 1144, 1055, 1037, 947, 833, 781 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{15}H_{14}FO_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 261.0921, found 261.0935.

3,3,9-Trimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3h). Yield: 80% (102 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 147–148°C (lit. [13] mp 143–145°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.18 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 2H), 2.79 (s, 2H), 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.0$ Hz, $J' = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2965, 2929, 1744, 1675, 1621, 1566, 1488, 1368, 1314, 1249, 1159, 1149, 1033, 904, 830, 776 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}O_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 257.1172, found 257.1170.

8,9-Dimethoxy-3,3-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3i). Yield: 82% (124 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 155–156°C; 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 1.18 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.52 (s, 2H), 2.80 (s, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 8.65 (s, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): δ_C 28.1, 32.0, 42.5, 52.9, 56.2, 56.4, 107.0, 109.4, 110.3, 113.0, 129.7, 149.4, 155.5, 160.6, 167.3, 197.4; IR (KBr): ν 3125, 3034, 1717, 1686, 1621, 1598, 1575, 1450, 1374, 1396, 1299, 1202, 1096, 1048, 988, 900, 845, 778 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{17}H_{18}NaO_5$ $[M + Na]^+$ 325.1052, found 325.1052.

9-Methyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3j). Yield: 73% (83 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 127–128°C (lit. [13] mp 129–130°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.15–2.19 (m, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.66 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2965, 2941, 1746, 1717, 1686, 1634, 1606, 1492, 1463, 1321, 1284, 1195, 1155, 1061, 1035, 1022, 780 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, APCI, m/z): Calcd for $C_{14}H_{13}O_3$ $[M + H]^+$ 229.0859, found 229.0860.

9-Methyl-3-phenyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzof[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3k). Yield: 72% (109 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 170–171°C (lit. [13] mp 168–169°C); 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.85–2.98

(m, 2H), 3.15–3.17 (m, 2H), 3.52–3.59 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.41 (m, 3H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 3163, 3125, 3033, 1717, 1687, 1621, 1598, 1419, 1397, 1299, 1202, 1096, 1048, 1013, 988, 970, 845, 777 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, APCI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 305.1172, found 305.1160.

2,2-Dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,6(2H)-dione (3l). Yield: 80% (97 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 111–112°C (lit. [15] mp 109–110°C); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.25 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.01 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.95 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.76–7.81 (m, 1H), 8.29 (dd, $J = 8.0$ Hz, $J' = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 9.04 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); IR (KBr): ν 2969, 2633, 1766, 1736, 1666, 1617, 1563, 1480, 1450, 1375, 1366, 1317, 1246, 1185, 1156, 1018, 984, 840, 785 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 243.1016, found 243.1000.

General procedure for the syntheses of 1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-triones 4 (using **4a** as a model). This procedure is almost the same as that of **3a**, except for replacement with oxygen and being controlled in an O₂ balloon until all **2a** was consumed.

3,3-Dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4a). Yield: 79% (101 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 124–125°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.40 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 3.00 (s, 2H), 7.72–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.88–7.92 (m, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.95 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 25.8, 45.4, 53.5, 119.0, 122.7, 128.0, 130.3, 131.4, 131.5, 135.8, 150.6, 159.0, 193.8, 195.1.

3,3,7-Trimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4b). Yield: 84% (113 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 167–168°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.38 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.85 (s, 3H), 2.90 (s, 2H), 7.53 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.77–7.75 (m, 1H), 8.80 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 23.7, 25.7, 29.7, 45.0, 53.9, 119.3, 120.9, 125.9, 132.6, 134.9, 144.3, 150.5, 158.1, 193.9, 195.2; IR (KBr): ν 3002, 2961, 2930, 1755, 1663, 1618, 1606, 1560, 1484, 1460, 1420, 1362, 1309, 1250, 1187, 1131, 1052, 1017, 987, 842, 773 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 271.0965, found 271.0955.

3,3,8-Trimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4c). Yield: 89% (120 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 177–179°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.39 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 2H), 7.69–7.72 (m, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.82 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 22.4, 25.7, 45.0, 53.6, 119.1, 120.2, 128.1, 130.3, 131.3, 132.7, 147.3, 150.8, 159.0, 193.9, 195.9; IR (KBr): ν 3011, 2982, 2969, 2931, 1749, 1709, 1670, 1609, 1560, 1360, 1291, 1258, 1198, 1074, 1032, 918, 785 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 271.0965, found 271.0954.

8-Methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4d). Yield: 86% (123 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 173–175°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.38 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.98 (s, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 7.43 (dd, $J = 9.2$ Hz, $J' = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 25.9, 44.9, 53.6, 55.9, 111.5, 119.4, 124.3, 124.6, 129.9, 148.9, 159.1, 162.0, 193.7, 195.4; IR (KBr): ν 3020, 2982, 2969, 2931, 1750, 1710, 1671, 1610, 1407, 1360, 1312, 1258, 1199, 1074, 1032, 918, 840, 774 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_5$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 309.0739, found 309.0741.

3,3,9-Trimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4e). Yield: 55% (74 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 165–166°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.39 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.90 (s, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.74 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 22.4, 25.8, 45.0, 53.6, 119.1, 120.2, 128.1, 130.3, 131.3, 132.7, 147.3, 150.8, 159.0, 193.9, 195.3; IR (KBr): ν 3030, 2961, 2930, 1755, 1663, 1618, 1606, 1560, 1484, 1460, 1420, 1362, 1309, 1250, 1187, 1131, 1052, 1017, 987, 842, 773 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 271.0965, found 271.0956.

8,9-Dimethoxy-3,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4f). Yield: 80% (126 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 197–198°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.39 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 3.00 (s, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 25.8, 44.9, 53.5, 56.4, 56.5, 108.6, 110.1, 116.7, 118.7, 126.4, 149.9, 151.9, 155.4, 158.9, 193.6, 195.9; IR (KBr): ν 3023, 2974, 2948, 1746, 1717, 1696, 1594, 1523, 1463, 1394, 1354, 1284, 1237, 1072, 1043, 878, 767 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_6$ $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ 339.0845, found 339.0844.

2,2-Dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[*c*]chromene-1,4,6-trione (4g). Yield: 84% (107 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 188–189°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 1.47 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 2.69–2.73 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.77–7.81 (m, 1H), 8.29 (dd, $J = 8.0$ Hz, $J' = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 9.07 (dd, $J = 8.4$ Hz, $J' = 0.4$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 26.3, 34.8, 35.8, 110.1, 119.8, 126.4, 128.4, 129.4, 134.2, 135.5, 160.7, 174.3, 197.0; IR (KBr): ν 3021, 2961, 2930, 1755, 1663, 1618, 1606, 1560, 1484, 1460, 1420, 1362, 1309, 1250, 1187, 1131, 1052, 1017, 987, 842, 773 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, APCI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 257.0808, found 257.0807.

General procedure for the syntheses of 1-hydroxy-6H-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-ones 5 (using **5a** as a model). This procedure is almost the same as that of **4a**, except for using a mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (1:4) as an eluant in the purification.

1-Hydroxy-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5a). Yield: 76% (81 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 231–233°C (lit. [15] mp 227–229°C); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 6.87–6.93 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.37 (m, 1H), 7.61–7.65 (m, 1H), 7.90–7.94 (m, 1H), 8.28 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J'* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 9.15 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 11.09 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 106.5, 108.2, 112.5, 120.5, 127.6, 128.5, 129.9, 130.7, 135.1, 135.5, 152.6, 157.2, 160.9; IR (KBr): ν 3250, 3130, 2917, 1704, 1616, 1604, 1486, 1434, 1356, 1320, 1262, 1219, 1103, 1052, 1021, 789 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₃H₇O₃ [M – H]⁻ 211.0395, found 211.0392.

1-Hydroxy-3-methyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5b). Yield: 78% (88 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 216–217°C (lit. [15] mp 215–217°C); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.31 (s, 3H), 6.72 (s, 2H), 7.57–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.87–7.91 (m, 1H), 8.24 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J'* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 9.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 10.95 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 21.4, 104.1, 108.7, 113.2, 120.1, 127.2, 128.0, 129.9, 135.2, 135.5, 141.0, 152.5, 156.8, 161.0; IR (KBr): ν 3347, 3030, 2924, 1701, 1617, 1608, 1405, 1314, 1269, 1112, 1059, 1029, 774 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₄H₉O₃ [M – H]⁻ 225.0552, found 225.0564.

1-Hydroxy-8-methoxy-3-methyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5c). Yield: 75% (96 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 191–192°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.30 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 6.71 (s, 2H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 9.2 Hz, *J'* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 9.01 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 10.84 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 21.4, 56.0, 104.1, 108.6, 111.6, 113.0, 121.5, 123.6, 128.5, 129.1, 139.8, 151.7, 156.0, 158.6, 160.9; IR (KBr): ν 3285, 3059, 1706, 1684, 1657, 1620, 1487, 1398, 1285, 1199, 1055, 833, 740 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁O₄ [M – H]⁻ 255.0651, found 255.0671.

1-Hydroxy-3,9-dimethyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5d). Yield: 81% (97 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 187–189°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J'* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (s, 1H), 10.89 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 21.4, 22.6, 104.0, 108.7, 113.1, 117.7, 127.3, 129.0, 129.9, 135.2, 140.9, 145.9, 152.7, 156.8, 161.0; IR (KBr): ν 3376, 3140, 1700, 1619, 1564, 1524, 1492, 1459, 1397, 1333, 1322, 1273, 1094, 929, 852, 741 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, APCI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₅H₁₃O₃ [M + H]⁺ 241.0859, found 241.0860.

1-Hydroxy-3-phenyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5e). Yield: 82% (118 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 273–275°C (lit. [15] mp 270–272°C); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 7.20 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.62–7.66 (m, 1H), 7.70–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.91–7.96 (m, 1H), 8.29 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J'* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 9.15 (d,

J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 11.26 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 105.8, 106.3, 110.4, 120.5, 127.1, 127.5, 128.5, 128.9, 129.6, 130.0, 134.8, 135.6, 138.9, 142.2, 153.1, 157.4, 161.0; IR (KBr): ν 3241, 2917, 1690, 1628, 1606, 1480, 1412, 1325, 1304, 1280, 1224, 1105, 1065, 822, 724 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₉H₁₁O₃ [M – H]⁻ 287.0708, found 287.0699.

8-Fluoro-1-hydroxy-3-phenyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5f). Yield: 74% (113 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 190–191°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 7.20 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.69–7.71 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.84 (m, 1H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.8 Hz, *J'* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 9.19 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, *J'* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 11.33 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 105.1 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 2.6 Hz), 106.3, 110.3, 113.4 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 26.0 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 23.1 Hz), 117.3 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 2.0 Hz), 127.1, 129.0, 129.6, 133.4 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 10.6 Hz), 137.5 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 11.7 Hz), 138.7, 143.0, 153.3, 157.4, 160.1, 166.3 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 249.5 Hz); IR (KBr): ν 3365, 3034, 1705, 1616, 1604, 1600, 1512, 1471, 1322, 1196, 1103, 1036, 834, 789 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₁₉H₁₀FO₃ [M – H]⁻ 305.0614, found 305.0629.

1-Hydroxy-8-methyl-3-phenyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5g). Yield: 75% (113 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 198–199°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 2.47 (s, 3H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.40–7.44 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 9.02 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 11.04 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 21.1, 106.0, 106.2, 110.4, 120.4, 127.0, 127.5, 128.7, 129.5, 129.7, 132.3, 136.5, 138.2, 139.1, 141.2, 152.9, 157.1, 161.0; IR (KBr): ν 3289, 3059, 3033, 1705, 1684, 1657, 1487, 1398, 1285, 1104, 1055, 834, 740 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₂₀H₁₃O₃ [M – H]⁻ 301.0865, found 301.0881.

1-Hydroxy-8-methoxy-3-phenyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5h). Yield: 80% (127 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 210–211°C (lit. [15] mp 242–244°C); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 3.90 (s, 3H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.54 (m, 3H), 7.68–7.70 (m, 3H), 9.06 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 11.12 (brs, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 56.0, 105.9, 106.2, 110.3, 111.7, 121.9, 123.5, 127.0, 128.1, 128.7, 129.4, 129.6, 139.0, 141.1, 152.5, 156.5, 158.9, 160.8; IR (KBr): ν 3302, 3060, 1706, 1684, 1658, 1620, 1398, 1285, 1104, 1055, 857, 833, 789 cm⁻¹; HRMS (TOF, ESI, *m/z*): Calcd for C₂₀H₁₄NaO₄ [M + Na]⁺ 341.0784, found 341.0780.

9-Fluoro-1-hydroxy-3-phenyl-6H-benzof[chromen-6-one (5i). Yield: 73% (112 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 193–195°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ_H 7.17 (s, 2H), 7.43–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.69–7.70 (m, 2H), 8.32 (dd, *J* = 8.8 Hz, *J'* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.78 (dd, *J* = 12.0 Hz, *J'* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 11.42 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz): δ_C 105.0 (d, *J*_{F-C} = 2.6 Hz),

106.3, 110.3, 113.4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 26.0$ Hz), 116.2 (d, $J_{F-C} = 23.1$ Hz), 117.3 (d, $J_{F-C} = 2.0$ Hz), 127.1, 128.9, 129.6, 133.4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 10.6$ Hz), 137.5 (d, $J_{F-C} = 11.7$ Hz), 138.7, 142.9, 153.3, 157.4, 160.0, 166.3 (d, $J_{F-C} = 249.5$ Hz); IR (KBr): ν 3291, 3058, 3033, 1705, 1684, 1657, 1621, 1487, 1420, 1398, 1286, 1199, 1104, 1055, 834, 740 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{10}\text{FO}_3$ $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ 305.0614, found 305.0632.

1-Hydroxy-9-methyl-3-phenyl-6H-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-one (5j). Yield: 72% (109 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 185–187°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 400 MHz): δ_{H} 2.51 (s, 3H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.38–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.72 (m, 2H), 8.16 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.95 (s, 1H), 11.18 (brs, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ ($\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 100 MHz): δ_{C} 21.2, 105.9, 106.3, 110.3, 120.3, 127.0, 127.5, 128.8, 129.6, 129.7, 132.3, 136.6, 138.2, 139.0, 141.7, 152.8, 157.1, 161.0; IR (KBr): ν 3275, 1706, 1684, 1619, 1576, 1398, 1285, 1200, 1104, 1055, 833, 763, 740 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ 301.0865, found 301.0866.

1-Hydroxy-10-methyl-3-phenyl-6H-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-one (5k). Yield: 80% (121 mg); pale yellow solid; mp 197–198°C; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ_{H} 2.59 (s, 3H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.63–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ_{C} 23.1, 107.7, 110.5, 123.5, 126.9, 127.2, 127.7, 127.8, 128.4, 129.0, 132.5, 136.1, 137.8, 139.0, 143.1, 152.9, 158.5, 162.0; IR (KBr): ν 3273, 3061, 2916, 1706, 1659, 1591, 1506, 1482, 1377, 1340, 1246, 1034, 900, 778 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (TOF, ESI, m/z): Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ 301.0865, found 301.0875.

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