Direct conjugate alkylation of α, β-unsaturated carbonyls by Ti^{III}-catalysed reductive umpolung of simple activated alkenes

Plamen Bichovski, Thomas M. Haas, Manfred Keller and Jan Streuff*

Institut für Organische Chemie, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Albertsraße 21, 79104 Freiburg, Germany. E-mail: jan.streuff@ocbc.uni-freiburg.de

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Materials and methods

All reactions have been carried out in flame-dried Schlenk-tubes under argon atmosphere (argon 5.0) using dry solvents unless noticed otherwise. Absolute THF was dried over potassium under argon atmosphere and freshly distilled prior to use. Ethyl acetate and cyclohexane for column chromatography was purchased in technical quality and purified by destillation with a rotary evaporator. Hexanes was purchased from VWR. Dichloromethane and diethyl ether were purchased in p.a. quality from Aldrich. Zinc powder was purchased from Merck and used without further activation. Manganese powder (325 mesh) was purchased from Alfa Aesar and used as received. Chlorotrimethylsilane was purchased from Acros and used as received. Titanocene dichloride was purchased from Alfa Aesar and used as received. Triethylamine hydrochloride was purchased from Aldrich and purified by crystallisation from chloroform. All other chemicals were purchased from Aldrich and used without further purification. An IKAmag temperature modulator in combination with an oil bath or stainless steel heating block was used to control the reaction temperatures. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using E. Merck silica gel 60 F254 precoated plates (0.25 mm) and visualised by UV fluorescence quenching, KMnO₄-staining, or *p*-anisaldehyde-staining. In general, Macherey-Nagel Silica gel 60 (particle size 0.04–0.063 mm) was used for flash chromatography. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 500 (500 MHz and 125 MHz), a Bruker Avance II 400 (400 MHz and 100 MHz), or a Varian Mercury 300 HFCP (300 MHz, ¹H only) spectrometer and reported to $CDCl_3$ ($\delta = 7.26$ ppm and $\delta = 77.16$ ppm, respectively) or benzene-d₆ ($\delta = 7.16$ ppm and $\delta = 128.00$ ppm, respectively). The following abbreviations were used: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, br = respectively. broad signal, ps = pseudo. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 65 FT-IR-spectrometer and are reported in frequency of absorption. Low and high resolution mass analyses were performed by the service department at the Institute for Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, Freiburg University using a Thermo Finnigan TSQ 700 for electron impact ionisation (EI) at 70 eV, 200 °C. High resolution mass analyses (HRMS) were carried out on a Thermo Exactive with Orbitrap-Analyzer using atmospheric pressure chemical ionisation (APCI or ESI).

Compounds 3, 4, 7–14, 16, 20 and 21, were reported in a preceding communication to this full paper.¹

Compounds 22a–d,g–i, 23a–d,g–i, 24a–d, 25a–d, 28a,f, 29a,f,30a–c, 31a–c, 32a–c,33a,c,34a,c, 35–39, 41, 46,48–51, were reported in a preceding communication to this full paper.²

Full characterisation data was included for compounds that were previously described in the literature, but for which no complete characterisation could be found.

Additional screening tables

Table S1. Reaction screening of the reductive coupling between 28a and acrylonitrile.

		CN -	Cp ₂ TiCl ₂ (10 mol%) reductant (2 equiv) Et ₃ N·HCl (1.3 equiv) TMSCl (1.5 equiv) THF workup: aq. HCl (1M			N
Frating	28a	2	- / M	4/1-	298	
Entry	Reductant	equiv 2	C / M	t/n	17.0	Yield / %
1	Zn	1	0.4	24	35	20
2	Zn	2	0.4	24	35	21
3	Zn	3	0.4	24	35	16
4	Zn	4	0.4	24	35	27
5	Zn	5	0.4	24	35	36 ^{<i>b</i>}
6	Zn	5	0.4	4	35	30
7	Zn	5	0.2	4	35	31
8	Zn	5	0.1	4	35	27
9	Zn	5	1.0	4	35	38
10	Zn	10	0.4	4	35	33
11	Zn	5	0.4	24	35	27 ^c
12	Zn	5	0.4	24	23	20
13	Zn	5	0.4	24	50	27
14	Zn	5	0.4	24	35	50 ^{b,d}
15	Zn	5	0.4	2	35	44 ^{b,d}
16	Zn	5	0.4	3	35	45 ^{b,d}
17	Mn	5	0.4	24	35	50 ^{b,d}

^{*a*} Yield of isolated material. ^{*b*} 0.5 mmol reaction. ^{*c*} 5 mol% Cp₂TiCl₂. ^{*d*} Slow addition of **28a** via syringe-pump.

Table S2. Reaction screening of the reductive coupling between 33a and acrylonitrile.

	() 0 33a	×₀ +	℃N — 2	atalyst (10 Zn (2 equ Et ₃ N•HCl, 1 THF orkup: aq. F	mol%) uiv) MSCI ICI (1M	► 〔	0 34a	`cn [≈] o	
Entry	Catalyst	equiv	equiv	equiv	<i>t </i> h	T/°C	с/М	Ratio ^a	Yield ^{^D / %}
	(mol%)	2	Et₃N•HCI	TMSCI				34a:33a	
1	Cp ₂ TiCl ₂ (10)	5	1.3	1.5	24	35	0.4	1:1	42
2	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	10	1.3	1.5	24	35	0.4	0.6:1	- ^c
3	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	1.3	0	24	35	0.4	-	- ^d
4	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	2.6	1.5	24	35	0.4	0.7:1	- ^c
5	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	2.6	3.0	24	35	0.4	-	_ ^d
6	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	2.6	3.0	24	35	0.2	1:1	- ^c
7	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	10	2.6	3.0	24	35	0.2	-	_ d
8	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	1.3	1.5	24	23	0.4	2.2:1	15
9	Cp_2TiCl_2 (10)	5	1.3	1.5	72	35	0.4	1:1	28
10	Cp_2TiCl_2 (20)	5	1.3	1.5	24	35	0.4	1:1	_ ^c
11	$Cp_{2}Ti(OPh)_{2}$ (10)	5	1.3	1.5	24	35	0.4	1:1	- ^c
12	rac-(ebthi)TiCl ₂ (10)	5	1.3	1.5	24	35	0.4	1:0	40 ^e

^{*a*} Product:substrate ratio determined by ¹H-NMR. ^{*b*} Yield of isolated material. ^{*c*} Product was not isolated. ^{*d*} Product was not formed. ^{*e*} Full conversion of substrate **33a**.

Standard procedure for the Ti^{III}-catalysed reductive umpolung.

A flame-dried 50 ml-Schlenk tube containing a magnetic stirbar was charged under argon atmosphere with Cp₂TiCl₂ (12.4 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), Zn (65.0 mg, 1.00 mmol, 2.0 equiv) und Et₃N·HCl (89.5 mg, 0.650 mmmol, 1.3 equiv). Stirring was started. The vessel was evacuated and backfilled with argon after a few minutes. Absolute THF (1.25 ml) was added and after 1 min the mixture had turned from red to lime-green. The substrate (e.g. 1, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added followed by the cross-coupling partner (e.g. 2, 2.5 mmol, 5 equiv) and TMSCl (95.2 µl, 1.5 equiv). The reaction vessel was sealed with a greased glass-stopper and the reaction stirred for the given time at 35 °C in an oil bath or at the given temperature after which the reaction was brought back to room temperature. Unless noted otherwise, workup was carried out by addition of 1N aqueous HCl (4 ml) and CH₂Cl₂ and stirring was continued for 30 minutes at room temperature (23 °C). The mixture was transferred into a separation funnel containing H₂O (20 ml) and CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). The biphasic mixture was shaken, the organic layer separated and the aqueous layer extracted with additional CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 10 ml). The combined organic extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified by flash chromatography as described.

Workup with TBAF under kinetically controlled conditions (see Tables 5 and 6).

The reaction was setup as described in the standard procedure. After the given reaction time, all volatile components were removed under reduced pressure and heating was discontinued. The residue was treated with CH_2Cl_2 (5 ml) and cooled to -78 °C. At that temperature, TBAF (1M in THF, 2.50 ml, 2.5 equiv) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred for another 3 h at -78 °C and then allowed to warm to room temperature (23 °C). The mixture was transferred into a separation funnel containing H_2O (20 ml) and CH_2Cl_2 (20 ml). The biphasic mixture was shaken, the organic layer separated and the aqueous layer extracted with additional CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 10 ml). The combined organic extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified by flash chromatography as described.

Synthesis and characterisation data of new compounds



3-(4-Oxotetrahydrothiopyran-2-yl)propanenitrile (15). Prepared from 2,3-dihydrothiopyran-4-one ³ following the standard procedure with the following modification for syringe pump addition: The reaction was setup using only 0.45 ml of THF for the generation of titanium(III). Then, acrylonitrile (2) and TMSCl *were added first* to the reaction mixture followed by a slow addition of a solution of 2,3-dihydrothiopyran-4-one in 0.8 ml abs. THF (total THF volume = 1.25 ml) with a syringe pump to the reaction mixture at 35 °C. Then, the vessel was sealed and stirred at 35 °C for 24 h followed by the standard workup procedure. The product was obtained after column chromatography (cyclohexane/EtOAc, 1:1, R_f = 0.33) as a yellow oil in 46% yield (39.3 mg, 0.23 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 1.82-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.93-2.03 (m, 1H), 2.47 (ddd, *J* = 0.9, 9.4, 13.8 Hz, 1H), 2.51-2.56 (m, 2H), 2.57-2.65 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.75 (m, 1H), 2.81 (ddd, *J* = 1.1, 3.7, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 2.86-2.94 (m, 1H), 2.99 (ddd, *J* = 5.2, 6.2, 13.9 Hz, 1H), 3.18-3.25 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): δ = 15.19, 27.49, 30.66, 42.95, 43.19, 49.88, 118.68, 207.08. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 169.1 [M]⁺ (100), 115.0 (60), 88.1 (47), 81.2 (56), 60.3 (27). HRMS (CI, MeOH) calcd for C₈H₁₂ONS⁺ [M+H]+: 170.06396, found: 170.06410. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2927, 2414, 2245, 1709, 1416, 1318, 1273, 1243, 1158, 750.

(*E*)-6-((*tert*-butyldiphenylsilyl)oxy)hex-3-en-2-one (S1). ⁴ O-TBDPS-3-oxypropanal ⁵ (2.17 g, 6.95 mmol) was added to a mixture of triphenylphosphoranylideneacetone⁶ (2.3 g, 7.2 mmol) in benzene (70 ml). The mixture was stirred and heated to reflux at 80 °C for 88 h. The reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was

isolated after column chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 2:1, $R_f = 0.9$) in 94% yield (2.30 g, 6.5 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.06$ (s, 9H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.45 (ddt, J = 1.5, 3.5, 5.9 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (t, J = 6.32 Hz, 2H), 6.10 (dt, J = 1.5, 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (tt, J = 7.0, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.47 (m, 6H), 7.63–7.68 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 19.3$, 26.7, 26.9, 35.8, 62.4, 127.8, 129.8, 133.0, 133.6, 135.6, 145.2, 198.6. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 295.2 [M-C₄H₉]⁺ (99), 265.2 (40), 251.1 (14), 217.1 (17), 199.1 (100), 187.1 (21). HRMS (CI, NH₃): calcd for C₂₂H₃₂O₂NSi⁺ [M+NH₄]⁺: 370.22023, found: 370.22070. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 3071, 3049, 3015, 2999, 2958, 2931, 2893, 2858, 1962, 1891, 1827, 1776, 1699, 1677, 1926, 1589, 1473, 1428, 1390, 1361, 1254, 1112, 979, 938, 823, 799, 739.



4-(2-((*tert***-Butyldiphenylsilyl)oxy)ethyl)-6-oxoheptanenitrile (17)**. Prepared according to the standard procedure from **S1**. The reaction was run at 0 °C for 50 h followed by standard workup with 1N HCl and extraction with dichloromethane. Purified by column chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc, 5:1, $R_f = 0.4$) and isolated as a colourless oil in 53% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.06$ (s, 9H), 1.46–1.62 (m, 2H), 1.65 (dt, J = 6.5, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.20 (hept, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (dt, J = 1.7, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (dd, J = 7.2, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (dd, J = 5.6, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (dt, J = 1.9, 6.2 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.46 (m, 6H), 7.63–7.67 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 14.97$, 19.27, 27.02, 29.91, 30.44, 30.46, 35.77, 47.60, 61.54, 119.78, 127.89, 129.91, 133.64, 135.70, 207.62. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 350.2 [M-C_4H_9]⁺ (73), 272.2 (38), 199.1 (100). HRMS (CI, NH₃): calcd for C₂₅H₃₇N₂O₂Si⁺ [M+NH₄]⁺: 425. 26243, found: 425.26270. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3071, 2957, 2931, 2893, 2858, 2246, 1715, 1472, 1428, 1360, 1390, 1261, 1160, 1111, 998, 938, 823, 738, 703, 614, 505.



4-(2-(Benzyloxy)ethyl)-6-oxoheptanenitrile (18). Prepared according to the standard procedure from (*E*)-6-(benzyloxy)hex-3-en-2-one.⁷ The reaction was run at 0 °C for 50 h followed by standard workup with 1N HCl and extraction with dichloromethane. Purified by column chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc, 3:1, $R_f = 0.67$. Isolated as a colourless oil in 48% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.55-1.73$ (m, 4H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 2.21 (hept, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dd, J = 7.2, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (dd, J = 6.7, 17.4 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (dd, J = 6.1, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 7.28–7.37 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 15.01$, 30.11, 30.49, 31.03, 33.28, 47.66, 67.95, 73.22, 119.84, 127.84, 127.84, 128.56, 138.32, 207.64. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 259.3 [M]⁺ (1), 216.1 (14), 168.1 (7), 152.1 (80), 124.1 (20), 110.1 (22), 107.0 (35), 91.1 (100), 82.2 (7), 65.1 (6), 59.2 (5), 43.5 (32). HRMS (CI, NH₃): calcd for C₁₆H₂₉N₃O₂⁺ [M+NH₄]⁺: 277.1960, found: 277.19170. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3030, 2924, 2855, 2244, 1712, 1453, 1422, 1359, 1161, 1096, 737, 699.



6-Oxoheptanenitrile (19).⁸ Prepared from methyl vinyl ketone and acrylonitrile according to the standard procedure with a reaction time of 14 h. Isolated after column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 15:1, R_f = 0.7) in 17% yield. The analytical data matched the previously reported values. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.62-1.77$ (m, 4H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.35 (t, *J* = 6.92 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (t, *J* = 6.74, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 17.29, 22.79, 25.00, 30.08, 42.57, 119.55, 207.77.$



N-Benzyl-6-phenyl-4-quinolone (22f). To a solution of 6-phenyl-4-quinolone⁹ (2.71 mmol, 1 equiv) and KOH (1.5 equiv) in dry MeOH (*c* = 1.0M) was added BnBr (10 equiv) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature (23 °C) for 23 h. The mixture was transferred to a separation funnel followed by addition of CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml) and H₂O (50 ml). The mixture was shaken the organic layer separated and the aqueous layer extracted with additional CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 50 ml). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated. Purification via column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 1:6, R_f = 0.15) afforded **22f** as a white foam in 72% yield (605 mg, 1.94 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 5.24 (s, 2H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.41-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.72 (dd, *J* = 0.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): δ = 55.63, 110.64, 116.76, 124.96, 126.19, 127.18, 127.65, 127.75, 128.45, 128.96, 129.38, 131.09, 135.24, 136.66, 139.51, 139.61, 143.49, 178.42. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 311.1 [M]⁺ (83), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₂₂H₁₈NO⁺ [M+H]⁺: 312.13884, found: 312.13884. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2935, 1606, 1501, 1474, 1305, 1223, 1116, 1055, 942.



N-Methyl-6-bromo-4-quinolone (22j).¹⁰ Synthesised from 6-Bromo-4-quinolone¹⁰ (1.94 mmol) and methyl iodide in analogy to **22f** with a reaction time of 21 h. Product **22j** was received after workup in analytically pure form as a yellow solid in 83% yield (384 mg, 1.61 mmol). The analytical data matched the literature values. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.75$ (s, 3H), 6.19 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J = 2.4, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 40.70$, 110.43, 117.35, 117.61, 128.30, 129.43, 135.12, 139.42, 143.89, 176.87. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 239.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (99), 237.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (100), 211.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (485), 209.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (50), 130.1 HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉NO⁷⁹Br⁺ [M+H]⁺: 237.98675, found: 237.98680. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3063, 2934, 1619, 1571, 1541, 1452, 1367, 1256, 1181, 1119, 1085, 1006, 823.



N-Benzyl-6-bromo-4-quinolone (22k). Synthesised from 6-Bromo-4-quinolone¹⁰ (3.58 mmol) and benzyl bromide in analogy to **22f** with a reaction time of 21 h. Product **22k** was isolated after column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 1:1, R_f = 0.14) as a yellow solid in 56% yield (636 mg, 2.03 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 5.29$ (s, 2H), 6.30 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.16 (dd, J = 0.2, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.56 (dd, J = 2.4, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (dd, J = 0.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 56.69$, 110.76, 117.62, 118.15, 126.08, 128.54, 128.72, 129.38, 129.63, 134.74, 135.13, 138.95, 143.85, 176.95. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 315.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (57), 313.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (56), 195.9 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (7), 193.9 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (7), 115.0 (16), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₆H₁₃NO⁷⁹Br⁺ [M+H]⁺: 314.01805, found: 314.01810. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2983, 1695, 1606, 1581, 1474, 1264, 1177, 1100, 1044, 1026, 895.



N-Methyl-6-chloro-4-quinolone (221).¹⁰ Synthesised from 6-chloro-4-quinolone¹⁰ (1.94 mmol) and methyl iodide in analogy to **22f** with a reaction time of 21 h. Product **22j** was received after workup in analytically pure form as a yellow solid in 83% yield (384 mg, 1.61 mmol). The analytical data matched the literature values. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.78$ (s, 3H), 6.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 2.7, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (dd, J = 0.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 40.79$, 110.42, 117.14, 126.39, 128.11, 130.11, 132.52, 139.15, 143.85, 177.10. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 195.0 [M, ³⁷Cl]⁺ (32), 193.0 [M, ³⁵Cl]⁺ (100), 165.0 (18), 150.0 (6). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₈³⁵ClNONa⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 216.01921, found: 216.01930. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3043, 2995, 1616, 1552, 1488, 1451, 1338, 1598, 1232, 1158, 1124, 1101, 1008, 907, 857, 837, 817, 778, 716.



3-(1-Benzyl-4-oxo-6-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (23f). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22f** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.53) afforded **23f** as a yellow oil in 21% yield (38.3 mg, 0.105 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.93$ -2.04 (m, 1H), 2.04-2.13 (m, 1H), 2.34 (ddd, J = 6.8, 7.9, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, J = 6.8, 6.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, J = 2.3, 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (ddd, J = 0.6, 5.9, 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85-3.91 (m, 1H), 4.79 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.42 (m, 8H), 7.53-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 2.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.30$, 25.76, 41.09, 54.79, 57.59, 114.73, 118.59, 119.67, 125.88, 126.32, 126.84, 126.90, 127.96, 128.87, 129.16, 130.25, 134.72, 137.09, 139.79, 148.15, 192.13. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 366.2 [M]⁺ (55), 312.1 (34), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 367.18104, found: 367.18040. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3059, 3030, 2929, 2245, 1671, 1613, 1549, 1514, 1485, 1452, 1418, 1341, 1224, 1189, 1134, 1056, 1027, 905.



3-(6-Bromo-1-methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (23j). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22j** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.46$) afforded **23j** as a yellow oil in 31% yield (45.5 mg, 0.155 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.85$ (dddd, J = 6.8, 6.8, 8.2, 14.1 Hz, 1H), 1.95-2.04 (m, 1H), 2.32 (ddd, J = 6.7, 8.0, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (ddd, J = 6.8, 6.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (dd, J = 1.9, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (ddd, J = 0.8, 6.1, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 3.77 (dddd, J = 2.2, 6.2, 6.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 2.6, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 0.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.29, 24.82, 38.72, 40.82, 59.54, 109.58, 115.27, 118.41, 120.25, 130.06, 138.65, 148.28, 191.01. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 294.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (31), 292.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (31), 240.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (99), 238.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (100), 159.0 (33), 131.0 (28). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₃N₂ONa⁷⁹Br⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 315.01089, found: 315.01090. IR (ATR): <math>v$ [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2934, 2249, 1673, 1599, 1551, 1420, 1385, 1188, 1100, 983.



3-(1-Benzyl-6-bromo-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (23k). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22k** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.61$) afforded **23k** as a yellow oil in 32% yield (58.8 mg, 0.159 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.19$ (dddd, J = 6.8, 6.8, 8.1, 14.1 Hz, 1H), 1.99-2.08 (m, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 6.6, 7.9, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (ddd, J = 6.8, 6.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, J = 2.3, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd, J = 0.6, 5.9, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (dddd, J = 2.3, 6.2, 6.2, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.34-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.97 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.23, 25.59, 40.76, 54.86, 57.59, 109.92, 116.21, 118.44, 120.70, 126.71, 128.04, 129.18, 130.18, 136.59, 138.56, 147.63, 190.90. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 370.1 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (46), 368.1 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (50), 316.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (41), 314.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (41), 236.1 (9), 179.1 (5), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₉H₁₇N₂ONa⁷⁹Br⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 391.04219, found: 391.04210. IR (ATR): <math>v$ [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2930, 2248, 1675, 1597, 1487, 1421, 1298, 1264, 1099, 908.



3-(6-Chloro-1-methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (23). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **221** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.45) afforded **231** as a yellow oil in 29% yield (36.0 mg, 0.144 mmol). A reaction with Mn as reductant resulted in 28% yield. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 1.80-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.95-2.05 (m, 1H), 2.32 (ddd, *J* = 6.7, 8.0, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 6.9, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd, *J* = 0.9, 6.6, 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.75 (dddd, *J* = 2.2, 6.1, 6.1, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 2.6, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): δ = 14.30, 24.83, 38.77, 40.91, 59.58, 114.93, 118.46, 119.75, 122.65, 126.99, 135.94, 147.97, 191.16. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 250.1 [M, ³⁷Cl]⁺ (7), 248.1 [M, ³⁵Cl]⁺ (21), 196.0 [M, ³⁷Cl]⁺ (34), 194.0 [M, ³⁵Cl]⁺ (100), 131 (5). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 249.07947, found: 249.07960. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2959, 2244, 1664, 1602, 1551, 1496, 1446, 1407, 1343, 1315, 1247, 1202, 1185, 1101, 1048, 1009, 988, 932, 908, 892, 846.



anti-3-(1-Methyl-4-oxo-3-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (26c). Prepared according to the standard procedure from $24c^2$ and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out using TBAF at -78 °C as described in the standard procedure for quenching under kinetic control. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.54) afforded **26c** as a yellow oil in 26% yield (38.1 mg, 0.131 mmol). A second fraction contained **25c**,² which was isolated in 63% yield (91.5 mg, 0.315 mmol). Combined yield: 89%. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 2.01 (ddt, *J* = 7.2, 7.2, 14.2 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (ddt, *J* = 7.2, 7.2, 14.2 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (td, *J* = 2.5, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.59 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (td, *J* = 1.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 0.3, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (ddd, *J* = 0.9, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.45 (ddd, *J* = 1.8, 7.1, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (ddd, *J* = 0.3, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): δ = 14.58, 26.47, 39.30, 54.74, 65.03, 113.25, 117.27, 118.37, 118.61, 127.44, 127.69, 128.61, 128.99, 136.58, 137.16, 148.83, 192.53. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 290.1 [M]⁺ (82),

236.1 (84), 208.1 (100), 193.0 (77), 147.0 (92), 104.0 (43), 77.0 (52). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for $C_{19}H_{19}N_2O^+$ [M+H]⁺: 291.14974, found: 291.14960. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2031, 2161, 1707, 1667, 1604, 1563, 1496, 1246, 1163, 1034.



anti-3-(1-Benzyl-4-oxo-3-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (26d). Prepared according to the standard procedure from $24d^2$ and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out using TBAF at -78 °C as described in the standard procedure for quenching under kinetic control. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.55$) afforded **26d** as a yellow oil in 22% yield (40.6 mg, 0.111 mmol). Single crystals suitible for X-ray analysis were received by crystallisation from *i*-PrOH at room temperature. A second fraction contained **25d**,² which was isolated in 47% yield (86.4 mg, 0.236 mmol). Combined yield: 69%. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.09-2.16$ (m, 2H), 2.42 (ddt, J = 7.4, 7.4, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (ddt, J = 6.8, 6.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (ddd, J = 1.9, 6.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.77-6.81 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.35 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.1, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (ddd, J = 0.3, 1.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.41$, 25.97, 54.24, 55.17, 65.17, 114.07, 117.62, 118.48, 119.68, 127.00, 127.56, 127.63, 127.81, 128.34, 128.74, 128.97, 136.43, 136.58, 137.32, 148.841, 193.00. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 366.1 [M]⁺ (65), 312.1 (62), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for $C_{25}H_{23}N_2O^+$ [M+H]⁺: 367.18104, found: 367.18130. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3060, 2930, 2246, 1666, 1602, 1491, 1316, 1266, 1171, 1113, 1041, 1002, 978.

X-ray analysis of compound 26d (CCDC 1440299)



Table S3. Crystal data and structure refinement for mk569al.

Identification code	mk569al
Empirical formula	C25 H22 N2 O
Formula weight	366.44
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 A
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, P 21/n
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.4307(6) A alpha = 90 deg. b = 17.1837(5) A beta = 91.937(2) deg. c = 11.8533(6) A gamma = 90 deg.
Volume	1919.78(17) A^3
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.268 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	0.078 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	776
Crystal size	0.180 x 0.100 x 0.080 mm
Theta range for data collection	2.088 to 27.490 deg.
Limiting indices	-12<=h<=12, -22<=k<=22, -15<=1<=15
Reflections collected / unique	19028 / 4396 [R(int) = 0.0993]
Completeness to theta = 25.242	100.0 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.996 and 0.809
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2
Data / restraints / parameters	4396 / 0 / 342
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	0.963

<pre>Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]</pre>	R1 = 0.0454, $wR2 = 0.0929$
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1028, $wR2 = 0.1160$
Extinction coefficient	0.0082(16)
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.222 and -0.334 e.A^-3



anti-3,3'-1,3-Dimethyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline-2,3-diyl)dipropanenitrile (27a). Prepared from 24a and acrylotnitrile (2) according to the standard procedure with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out by addition of TBAF (1M in THF, 1.5 ml, 3.0 equiv) at 0 °C followed by stirring of the mixture at 0 °C for additional 60 min. The mixture was transferred into a separation funnel containing H₂O (20 ml) and CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml) and from then on workup was continued as described in the standard procedure. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.68) afforded 27a as a yellow oil in 42% yield (58.5 mg, 0.208 mmol). A second fraction contained 25a (30% yield). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.85-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.94-2.00 (m, 2H), 2.06-2.13 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.19 (m, 1H), 2.23-2.33 (m, 2H), 2.34-2.41 (m, 1H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.37 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 0.3, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (ddd, *J* = 0.9, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (ddd, *J* = 1.7, 7.1, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (ddd, *J* = 0.2, 1.7, 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): δ = 12.49, 15.31, 16.35, 24.00, 31.98, 40.62, 47.97, 68.39, 113.28, 117.37, 117.62, 118.78, 119.42, 128.57, 136.57, 147.88. 195.82. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 281.1 [M]⁺ (93), 227.1 (100), 174.0 (77), 144.1 (52), 77.0 (32). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₇H₂₀N₃O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 282.16064, found: 282.16090. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3056, 2936, 2248, 1668, 1605, 1565, 1496, 1461, 1345, 1265, 1208, 1042, 908.



anti-3,3'-(-1-Benzyl-3-methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline-2,3-diyl)dipropanenitrile (27b).

Prepared from **24b** and acrylotnitrile (**2**) according to the standard procedure with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out by addition of TBAF (1M in THF, 1.5 ml, 3.0 equiv) at 0 °C followed by stirring of the mixture at 0 °C for additional 60 min. The mixture was transferred into a separation funnel containing H₂O (20 ml) and CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml) and from then on workup was continued as described in the standard procedure. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.73) afforded **27b** as a yellow oil in 39% yield (70.4 mg, 0.197 mmol). A second fraction contained **25b** (42% yield). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.22$ (s, 3H), 1.61-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.92-2.08 (m, 5H), 2.28-2.30 (m, 1H), 2.30-2.32 (m, 1H), 3.37 (dd, J = 4.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (ddd, J = 0.9, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.46 (m, 6H), 7.88 (ddd, J = 0.3, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 12.15, 15.44, 16.43, 24.71, 32.07, 47.68, 54.61, 65.05, 113.59, 117.64, 118.98, 119.11, 127.91, 128.51, 128.96, 129.31, 136.49, 136.68, 147.99, 195.74. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 357.1 [M]⁺ (21), 205.1 (20), 250.1 (10), 158.0 (9), 121.0 (8), 91.0 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₂₃H₂₄N₃O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 358.19194, found: 358.19210. IR (ATR): <math>\nu$ [cm⁻¹] = 2932, 2251, 1688, 1602, 1563, 1488, 1453, 1383, 1347, 1315, 1216, 1168, 1095, 1047, 1028, 905, 724.



6-Methylchromone (28b).¹¹ Prepared according to the literature. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.43$ (s, 3H), 6.30 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (ddd, J = 0.6, 2.3, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97-7.99 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 20.97$, 112.86, 117.98, 124.63, 125.18, 135.03, 135.29, 154.87, 154.23, 177.78. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 160.1 [M]⁺ (100), 131.1 (20), 106.1 (7), 78.2 (6). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 161.06025, found: 161.06030. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3096, 3064, 2992, 2912, 1648, 1570, 1481, 1440, 1322, 1203, 1135, 1034, 957, 821.



6-Methoxychromone (28c).¹¹ Prepared according to the literature. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.89$ (s, 3H), 6.32 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 3.1, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 0.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 55.97$, 104.90, 112.18, 119.65, 123.91, 125.55, 151.44, 155.07, 157.02, 177.52. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 176.3 [M]⁺ (59), 146.3 (10), 79.1 (92), 63.3 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 177.05517, found: 177.05520. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3494, 3432, 3062, 2970, 2939, 2838, 1628, 1586, 1483, 1327, 1311, 1228, 1020, 828.



6-Bromochromone (28d).¹¹ Prepared according to the literature. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 6.36$ (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 0.3 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 2.5, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 0.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 113.16$, 118.82, 120.25, 126.28, 128.59, 136.85, 155.36, 155.49, 176.26. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 226.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (100), 224.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (98), 198.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (32), 196.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (20), 171.9 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (10), 169.9 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (12), 89.1 (9), 63.3 (11). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₉H₆O₂⁷⁹Br⁺ [M+H]⁺: 224.95512, found: 224.95500. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3111, 3072, 3049, 1638, 1608, 1559, 1464, 1308, 1231, 1137, 1056, 1022, 899, 818.



7-Methoxychromone (28e).¹¹ Prepared according to the literature. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.89$ (s, 3H), 6.32 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 3.1, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 0.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 55.97$, 104.90, 112.18, 119.65, 123.91, 125.55, 151.44, 155.07, 157.02, 177.52. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 176.3 [M]⁺ (59), 146.3 (10), 79.1 (92), 63.3 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 177.05517, found: 177.05520. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 3494, 3432, 3062, 2970, 2939, 2838, 1628, 1586, 1483, 1327, 1311, 1228, 1020, 828.



2-Methylchromone (28f).¹² Prepared according to the literature. The analytical data matched the literature values.



3-(6-Methyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl)propanenitrile (29b). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **28b** and acrylonitril (**2**) with Mn (2.0 equiv) as reductant and a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/EtOAc, 1:1, $R_f = 0.40$) afforded **29b** as a yellow oil in 42% yield (45.2 mg, 0.209 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.03-2.09$ (m, 1H), 2.15-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.65 (dd, J = 1.7, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.66-2.68 (m, 1H), 2.70 (s, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.51-4.57 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 4.1, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 4.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 13.49, 20.49, 30.72, 42.73, 75.48, 117.68, 118.56, 120.60, 126.76, 131.52, 137.39, 158.87, 191.30. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.1 [M]⁺ (80), 161.1 (16), 134.1 (100), 106.1 (11), 78.2 (9). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for <math>C_{13}H_{14}NO_2^+$ [M+H]⁺: 216.10245, found: 216.10230. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 3003, 2930, 2872, 2247, 1689, 1617, 1577, 1489, 1420, 1292, 1227, 1134, 824.



3-(6-Methoxy-4-oxochroman-2-yl)propanenitrile (29c). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **28c** and acrylonitril (**2**) with Mn (2.0 equiv) as reductant and a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/EtOAc, 1:1, $R_f = 0.40$) afforded **29c** as a yellow-brown solid in 37% yield (42.5 mg, 0.184 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.05$ (dddd, J = 3.3, 7.7, 8.3, 14.3 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (dddd, J = 5.9, 6.8, 9.4, 14.3 Hz, 1H), 2.63-2.67 (m, 2H), 2.69 (s, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.48-4.55 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 13.47$, 30.67, 42.59, 55.87, 75.61, 107.56, 118.86, 119.18, 120.85, 125.41, 154.49, 155.47, 191.12. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231.0 [M]⁺ (54), 177.0 (19), 150.0 (100), 107.0 (11), 79.0 (7). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄NO₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 232.09737, found: 232.09750. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 3155, 2903, 2839, 2253, 1688, 1488, 1432, 1383, 1286, 1214, 1094, 908, 734.



3-(7-Methoxy-4-oxochroman-2-yl)propanenitrile (29e). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **28c** and acrylonitril (**2**) with Mn (2.0 equiv) as reductant and a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/EtOAc, 1:1, $R_f = 0.40$) afforded **29e** as a yellow-brown solid in 32% yield (37.0 mg, 0.158 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.06$ (dddd, J = 3.4, 7.6, 8.3, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (dddd, J = 5.9, 6.9, 9.4, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.64-2.66 (m, 3H), 2.68 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.56 (dddd, J = 3.4, 6.5, 6.5, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 2.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 13.53$, 30.72, 42.33, 55.78, 75.93, 100.91, 110.45, 114.87, 118.83, 128.93, 163.75, 166.32, 189.64. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231.1 [M]⁺ (25), 150.0 (100), 122.0 (17). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄NO₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 232.09737, found: 232.09740. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 2939, 2253, 1678, 1608, 1576, 1497, 1444, 1352, 1297, 1264, 1199, 1160, 1120, 1022, 910.



3-(2-Methyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl)propanenitrile (29f). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **28c** and acrylonitril (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/EtOAc, 1:1, $R_f = 0.40$) afforded **29f** as a yellow oil in 17% yield (18.8 mg, 0.087 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.45$ (s, 3H), 2.03 (ddd, J = 6.9, 8.4, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.18-2.19 (m, 1H), 2.53 (ddd, J = 6.8, 8.7, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (ddd, J = 6.5, 8.4, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, J = 0.6, 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (ddd, J = 1.0, 7.2, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 11.87$, 23.35, 35.07, 47.29, 79.29, 118.35, 119.22, 120.27, 121.57, 126.75, 136.61, 158.97, 191.13. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.0 [M]⁺ (100), 161.0 (97), 120.0 (87), 92.1 (28). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₃NO₂Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 238.08440, found: 238.08430. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2983, 2253, 1689, 1473, 1384, 1307, 1224, 1117, 1086, 906.



3-Chlorochromone (30d).^{13,14} Prepared according to a literature procedure.¹³ The analytical data matched the literature values.¹⁴ ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 7.44$ -7.50 (m, 2H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 1.7, 7.1, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 8.27 (ddd, J = 0.5, 1.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 118.28, 121.02, 123.61, 125.91, 126.46, 134.22, 152.16, 156.16, 172.36$. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 181.9 [M, ³⁷Cl]⁺ (33), 179.9 [M, ³⁵Cl]⁺ (100), 152.0 (22), 120.0 (31), 92.0 (24). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₉H₅O₂³⁵ClNa⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 202.98758, found: 202.98770. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3052, 1662, 1567, 1370, 1347, 1313, 1220, 1173, 1115, 927.



3-Bromochromone (30e).¹⁵ Prepared according to the literature procedure. The analytical data matched the literature values.



3-Iodochromone (30f).¹⁶ Prepared according to a modified literature procedure: To a solution of (*E*)-3-(dimethylamino)-1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one¹⁷ (2.73 g, 14.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CHCl (100 ml) was added I₂ (3.62 g, 28.6 mmol, 2 equiv) and the dark, brown-violet mixture was stirred for 70 h at room temperature (23 °C). The mixture was then washed with saturated aqueous Na₂S₂O₃-solution (3 × 100 ml). The combined aqueous layers were extracted with CHCl₃ (2 × 100 ml). The organic layers were combined, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.59) to afford **30e** as a yellow solid in 52% yield (2.02 g, 7.53 mmol). The analytical data matched the literature values.



syn- and anti-3-(3-Chloro-4-oxochroman-2-yl)propanenitrile (31d, 32d). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **30d** and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h and a modified workup procedure. All volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was treated with CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml), stirred, and cooled to 0 °C. Aqueous HCl (6M, 4 ml) was added and stirring was continued at 0 °C for another 3 h. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature (23 °C) and workup was continued as in the standard procedure by addition of H_2O and CH_2Cl_2 , followed by separation, extraction and drying of the organic layer as described. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.15-0.21$) afforded the products as a 1.6:1 diastereomeric mixture in form of a yellow oil in 49% yield (58.3 mg, 0.247 mmol). Workup of the reaction under kinetically controlled conditions (see standard procedure for quench with TBAF at -78 °C) followed by column chromatography afforded a 1:1.8 diastereomeric mixture of the products in 54% yield (63.4 mg, 0.269 mmol). D1 = diastereomer 1, D2 = diastereomer 2. The relative configuration of each diastereomer could not be determined from the mixture. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.07$ (dddd, J = 3.3, 7.0, 8.8, 14.3 Hz, 1H, D2), 2.19-2.29 (m, 1H, D1), 2.46-2.55 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 2.67-2.77 (m, 4H, D1 + D2), 4.32 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H, D2), 4.47-4.56 (m, 2H, D1), 4.64 (ddd, J = 1.9, 3.4, 9.9 Hz, 1H, D2), 7.02-7.07 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 7.10-7.15 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 7.55 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.2, 8.9 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.57 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H, D2), 7.93 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.94 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H, D2). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, D1): $\delta = 13.25$, 28.68, 60.28, 79.83, 118.83, 118.25, 118.77, 122.96, 128.19, 137.05, 159.69, 185.13. ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, D2): $\delta = 13.43$, 27.36, 57.96, 76.74, 117.88, 118.25, 118.47, 122.87, 128.48, 137.05, 159.83, 184.85. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z $(\%) = 237.0 \text{ [M, } {}^{37}\text{Cl}]^+(8), 235.0 \text{ [M, } {}^{35}\text{Cl}]^+(24), 200.0 (7), 120.0 (100), 92.0 (17). HRMS (APCI, MeOH)$ calcd for $C_{12}H_{10}ON_2^{35}CINa^+ [M+Na]^+$: 258.02978, found: 258.02990. IR (ATR): $v [cm^{-1}] = 3055$, 2248, 1699, 1616, 1580, 1501, 1474, 1362, 1262, 1224, 1150, 1116, 895.



syn- and anti-3-(3-Bromo-4-oxochroman-2-vl)propanenitrile (31e, 32e). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **30e** and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h and a modified workup procedure. All volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was treated with CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml), stirred, and cooled to 0 °C. Aqueous HCl (6M, 4 ml) was added and stirring was continued at 0 °C for another 3 h. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature (23 °C) and workup was continued as in the standard procedure by addition of H_2O and CH_2Cl_2 , followed by separation, extraction and drying of the organic layer as described. Column chromatography (cyclohexane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.16-0.19$) afforded the products as a 3.5:1 diastereomeric mixture in form of a yellow oil in 42% yield (59.3 mg, 0.212 mmol). Workup of the reaction under kinetically controlled conditions (see standard procedure for quench with TBAF at -78 °C) followed by column chromatography afforded a 1:4.9 diastereomeric mixture of the products in 42% yield (58.9 mg, 0.209 mmol). D1 = diastereomer 1, D2 = diastereomer 2. The relative configuration of each diastereomer could not be determined from the mixture. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.04$ (dddd, J = 3.3, 6.9, 8.9, 14.3 Hz, 1H, D2), 2.17-2.27 (m, 1H, D1), 2.39-2.48 (m, 1H, D1), 2.48-2.55 (m, 1H, D2), 2.64-2.79 (m, 4H, D1 + D2), 4.37 (ddd, J = 1.8, 3.3, 9.7 Hz, 1H, D2), 4.04 (d, J = 1.8) Hz, 1H, D2), 4.58-4.66 (m, 2H, D1), 7.04 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.1, 8.4 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.04-7.07 (m, 1H, D2), 7.12 (ddd, J = 1.0, 7.2, 8.2 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.13 (ddd, J = 1.4, 7.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H, D2), 7.55-7.59 (m, 1H, D2), 7.57 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.93 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H, D1), 7.96 (ddd, J = 0.3, 1.7, 7.9 Hz, 1H, D2). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, D1): $\delta = 13.57$, 28.98, 50.64, 79.89, 117.98, 118.37, 118.93, 122.93, 128.26, 137.13, 159.12, 184.67. ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, D2): $\delta = 13.31, 29.24, 49.85, 76.25, 128.26,$ 117.83, 118.19, 118.49, 122.91, 128.54, 136.94, 159.83, 185.03. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 280.9 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (23), 279.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (22), 200.0 (37), 160.0 (13), 131.0 (17), 120.0 (100), 92.0 (18). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for $C_{12}H_{10}ON_2^{79}BrNa^+ [M+Na]^+$: 301.97926, found: 301.97920. IR (ATR): $v [cm^{-1}] = 3055$, 2985, 2249, 1695, 1606, 1581, 1474, 1367, 1178, 1099, 1042, 895.



6-Bromocoumarin (33b).¹⁸ Prepared according to a literature procedure.¹⁹ The analytical data matched the literature values.¹⁸



7-Methylcoumarin (33d). This compound was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (CAS 2445-83-2) and used as received.



7-Methoxycoumarin (33e).²⁰ Prepared from commercially available umbelliferone (CAS 93-35-6, Sigma-Aldrich) according to the literature procedure. The analytical data matched the literature values.



7-(Dimethylamino)-coumarin (33f).²¹ Prepared according to the literature procedure. The analytical data matched the literature values. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.04$ (s, 3H), 6.05 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, J = 2.5, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 0.6, 9.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 40.21$, 98.19, 108.85, 109.08, 109.92, 128.58, 143.73, 153.02, 156.44, 162.14. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 189.0 [M]⁺ (100), 160.1 (35), 44.6 (7). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₁H₁₂NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 190.08680, found: 190.08700. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2935, 1697, 1605, 1579, 1501, 1473, 1463, 1433, 1363, 1304, 1223, 1199, 1116, 1055, 941, 763.



8-Methylcoumarin (33g).²² Prepared according to a literature procedure.^{21 1}H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.45$ (s, 3H), 6.41 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 15.47$, 116.44, 118.68, 124.06, 125.65, 126.46, 133.25, 143.84, 152.53, 161.06. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 160.0 [M]⁺(100), 132.1 (41), 104.0 (9). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 161.05971, found: 161.05971. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3054, 1755, 1604, 1401, 1264, 1239, 1119, 1081, 922, 732.



4-Methylcoumarin (33h).²³ Prepared according to a literature procedure.^{24 1}H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.44$ (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H), 6.29 (q, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (ddd, J = 1.2, 7.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.2, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (ddd, J = 1.6, 7.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 18.67$, 115.25, 117.19, 120.08. 124.26, 124.62, 131.82, 152.34, 153.66, 160.79. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 160.0 [M]⁺ (100), 131.0 (94), 103.1 (9). HRMS

(APCI, MeOH) calcd for $C_{10}H_8O_2Na^+[M+Na]^+$: 183.04220, found: 183.04220. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 1732, 1625, 1608, 1568, 1468, 1385, 1367, 1264, 1185, 1036, 960.



3-Methylcoumarin (33i).²⁵ Prepared according to a literature procedure.²¹ ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.22$ (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 7.24 (ddd, J = 1.2, 7.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.52 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 17.23$, 116.56, 119.69, 124.32, 125.97, 127.00, 130.52, 139.24, 153.38, 162.25. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 160.0 [M]⁺ (100), 131.1 (56), 77.1 (8). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₀H₉O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 161.06025, found: 161.06030. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3041, 2988, 2950, 2922, 1703, 1625, 1610, 1489, 1463, 1449, 1371, 1295, 1194, 1154, 1076, 946, 752.



7-(Dimethylamino)-3-methylcoumarin (33j). Prepared following a literature procedure²¹ from 4-(Dimethylamino)-2-hydroxybenzaldehyde and Ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)propanoate on a 6.05 mmol scale. The reaction mixture was heated to 180 °C for 2 h. Column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 2:1, $R_f = 0.34$) afforded the title compound as a red-orange solid in 72% yield (890 mg, 4.38 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.13$ (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 3.02 (s, 6H), 6.50 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, J = 2.5, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.37 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 16.86$, 40.25, 98.15, 109.09, 109.55, 119.06, 127.61, 138.93, 152.18, 155.47, 163.31. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 203.0 [M]⁺ (100), 174.1 (29), 86.6 (6). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 204.10245, found: 204.10240. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2892, 1697, 1635, 1529, 1450, 1394, 1285, 1234, 1066, 919.



7-(Dimethylamino)-3-phenylcoumarin (33k). ²⁶ Prepared following a literature procedure²¹ from 4-(Dimethylamino)-2-hydroxybenzaldehyde and Ethyl 2-phenyl-2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate on a 6.05 mmol scale. The reaction mixture was heated to 180 °C for 2 h. Column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 2:1, $R_f = 0.27$) afforded the title compound as a red-orange solid in 29% yield (458 mg, 1.73 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 3.06$ (s, 6H), 6.54 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, J = 2.5, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.71 (m, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 40.24$, 97.78, 109.35, 109.68, 121.63, 127.87, 128.34, 128.75, 135.83, 140.58, 152.84, 155.93, 161.59. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 265.1 [M]⁺ (100), 237.1 (16), 165.0 (48), 118.4 (68), 82.4 (14). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₇H₁₆NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 266.11810, found: 266.11830. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2905, 1709, 1672, 1447, 1348, 1235, 821.



3-(6-Bromo-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34b). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33b** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.15$) afforded **34b** as a yellow solid in 36% yield (50.0 mg, 0.178 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.83$ -1.91 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.99 (m, 1H), 2.36 (ddd, J = 6.8, 8.1, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (ddd, J = 6.6, 6.6, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, J = 3.1, 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, J = 5.8, 16.2 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dddd, J = 3.0, 6.2, 6.2, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 2.4, 8.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃,

100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.99$, 29.79, 33.86, 34.14, 17.46, 118.35, 119.46, 126.33, 130.68, 132.39, 150.38, 166.42. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 281.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (51), 279.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (50), 227.0 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (100), 225.0 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (99), 182.9 [M, ⁸¹Br]⁺ (8), 180.9 [M, ⁷⁹Br]⁺ (7), 118.0 (45), 89.0 (14). HRMS (CI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀NO₂³⁵Cl⁷⁹Br⁻ [M+Cl]⁻: 313.95834, found: 313.95880. IR (NaCl): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3054, 2987, 2305, 1775,1479, 1421, 1265, 1170, 1149, 1067, 896, 738.



3-(7-Methyl-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34d). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33d** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.15$) afforded **34d** as a yellow oil in 46% yield (49.0 mg, 0.228 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.81$ (dddd, J = 6.2, 6.6, 9.6, 13.8 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (dddd, J = 6.2, 6.6, 8.6, 13.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 6.7, 8.6, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.41 (ddd, J = 6.4, 6.4, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 2.9, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, J = 5.9, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dddd, J = 2.9, 6.0, 6.0, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.89-6.91 (m, 1H), 6.95-6.98 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 14.99$, 21.16, 30.04, 33.62, 34.84, 118.10, 118.72, 120.88, 125.54, 127.74, 139.77, 151.16, 167.51. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.0 [M]⁺ (37), 161.0 (100), 117.0 (14). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 216.10245, found: 216.10230. IR (NaCl): v [cm⁻¹] = 3031, 2925, 2857, 2245, 1768, 1625, 1581, 1507, 1420, 1260, 1231, 1145, 1124, 1070, 867, 821.



3-(7-Methoxy-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34e). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33e** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/Et₂O, 1:1, R_f = 0.10) afforded **34e** as a yellow solid in 45% yield (52.5 mg, 0.227 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.79$ (dddd, J = 6.1, 6.6, 9.6, 13.8 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (dddd, J = 6.1, 6.4, 8.6, 13.8 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (ddd, J = 6.6, 8.6, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (ddd, J = 6.3, 6.3, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, J = 2.8, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd, J = 5.9, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dddd, J = 2.8, 5.9, 5.9, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 6.64 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, J = 2.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 15.00, 30.21, 33.33, 34.94, 55.67, 103.30, 110.77, 115.77, 118.74, 128.58, 152.13, 160.46, 167.30. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231.1 [M]⁺ (17), 177.1 (100), 121.1 (8). HRMS (CI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₂O₃⁺ [M+NH₄]⁺: 249.12392, found: 249.12400. IR (NaCl): <math>v$ [cm⁻¹] = 2923, 2840, 2245, 1769, 1624, 1585, 1508, 1357, 1272, 1189, 1148, 1123, 1107, 1070, 1032, 971.



3-(7-(Dimethylamino)-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34f). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33f** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.69$) afforded a 1.4:1 mixture of **33f** and **34f** (62.7 mg) as a yellow solid. From this mixture, the yield in **34f** was calculated to be 26% (31.4 mg, 0.128 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.78$ (dddd, J = 6.0, 6.7, 9.7, 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (dddd, J = 5.8, 6.8, 8.6, 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 6.7, 8.6, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (ddd, J = 6.0, 6.7, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 2.8, 15.9 Hz, 1H), 2.88-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 3.08-3.14 (m, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (dd, J = 2.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 15.04, 30.54, 33.25, 35.39, 40.44, 101.05, 108.58, 110.76, 118.93, 128.36, 130.10, 151.47, 152.17, 167.95. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 244.1 [M]⁺ (2), 190.0 (100), 134.0 (4). HRMS (ESI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₄H₁₆N₂O₂Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 267.11095, found: 267.11140. IR (ATR): <math>\nu$ [cm⁻¹] = 2928, 2247, 1764, 1628, 1566, 1521, 1445, 1359, 1264, 1145, 994, 921, 702.



3-(8-Methyl-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34g). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33g** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/CH₂Cl₂/Et₂O, 3:3:1, $R_f = 0.42$) afforded **34g** as a yellow solid in 36% yield (50.0 mg, 0.178 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.79$ -1.88 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.99 (m, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.32 (ddd, J = 6.7, 8.6, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (ddd, J = 6.4, 6.4, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dd, J = 2.8, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, J = 5.8, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dddd, J = 2.8, 5.9, 5.9, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.08 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.19 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 15.07, 15.71, 29.92, 34.16, 34.74, 118.69, 123.84, 124.36, 125.55, 127.16, 130.88, 149.54, 167.43. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.1 [M]⁺ (55), 161.1 (100), 117.0 (16), 77.0 (6). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for <math>C_{13}H_{14}NO_2^{+}$ [M+H]⁺: 216.10191, found: 216.10204. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2928, 2254, 1766, 1469, 1269, 1079, 903, 723.



3-(4-Methyl-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34h). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33h** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.17$) afforded **34h** as a colourless oil in 33% yield (35.9 mg, 0.167 mmol). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.47$ (s, 3H), 1.98-2.08 (m, 2H), 2.21 (ddd, J = 6.8, 8.7, 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 6.8, 9.2, 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (ddd, J = 1.2, 7.1, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (ddd, J = 0.3, 1.9, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (ddd, J = 1.9, 7.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 12.82, 24.56, 35.35, 36.23, 41.84, 117.89, 118.95, 125.12, 125.18, 127.76, 129.43, 151.01, 167.00$ MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.1 [M]⁺ (33), 200.0 (7), 161.1 (100), 115.0 (9). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 216.10245, found: 216.10260. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2924, 2248, 1766, 1610, 1487, 1449, 1276, 1192, 1131, 1071, 944.



syn-3-(3-Methyl-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34i). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **33i** and acrylonitrile (**2**) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (*n*-pentane/Et₂O, 1:1, $R_f = 0.24$) afforded **34i** as a colourless oil in 44% yield (49.1 mg, 0.228 mmol). A single crystal suitible for X-ray analysis was obtained by crystallisation from CH₂Cl₂/Et₂O by slow evaporation at room temperature. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.40$ (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 1.43-1.52 (m, 1H), 2.05-2.16 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.24 (m, 1H), 2.36-2.43 (m, 1H), 3.01-3.09 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd, J = 1.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 1.2, 7.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, J = 1.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 1.7, 7.4, 8.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 12.35$, 15.03, 24.94, 38.46, 39.69, 117.68, 118.872, 124.55, 125.66, 128.09, 129.41, 151.11, 170.70. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215.0 [M]⁺ (21), 161.0 (100), 105.1 (9). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₂O₂⁺ [M+NH₄]⁺: 233.12900, found: 233.12920. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 2983, 2939, 2246, 1761, 1611, 1588, 1456, 1425, 1383, 1364, 1194, 1141, 1117, 1081, 1050, 973, 759.

X-ray analysis of 34i (CCDC 1440298)



↓ **Table S4.** Crystal data and structure refinement for mk568al.

Identification code	mk568al		
Empirical formula	C13 H13 N O2		
Formula weight	215.24		
Temperature	100(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 A		
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, P 21/c		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 5.6624(4) A alpha = 90 deg. b = 13.0517(9) A beta = 100.888(4) deg c = 15.2377(8) A gamma = 90 deg.		
Volume	1105.86(12) A^3		
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.293 Mg/m^3		
Absorption coefficient	0.088 mm^-1		
F(000)	456		
Crystal size	0.100 x 0.100 x 0.100 mm		
Theta range for data collection	2.071 to 27.415 deg.		
Limiting indices	-7<=h<=7, -16<=k<=14, -19<=1<=19		
Reflections collected / unique	10410 / 2522 [R(int) = 0.0458]		
Completeness to theta = 25.242	99.8 %		
Absorption correction	None		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2		
Data / restraints / parameters	2522 / 0 / 198		
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.051		
<pre>Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]</pre>	R1 = 0.0402, $wR2 = 0.0892$		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0572, $wR2 = 0.0952$		
Extinction coefficient	0.036(4)		
Largest diff. peak and hole 0.215 and -0.209 e.A^-3			



syn-3-(7-(Dimethylamino)-3-methyl-2-oxochroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34j). Prepared according to the standard procedure from 33j and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.78$) afforded a 1.4:1 mixture of 34j and 33j (83.9 mg) as a yellow solid. From this the yield in 34j was calculated to be 38% (49.4 mg, 0.189 mmol). The relative configuration of 34j was assigned in analogy to 34i. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.36$ (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.37-1.45 (m, 1H), 2.02-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.36 (ddd, J = 4.6, 6.7, 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.94 (s, 6H), 2.96-3.02 (m, 1H), 6.39 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, J = 2.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 12.57, 14.98, 25.52, 38.89, 39.03, 40.43, 100.98, 108.20, 112.52, 119.14, 128.41, 151.42, 151.99, 171.38. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 258.2 [M]⁺ (59), 204.1 (100), 160.1 (7). HRMS (ESI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₅H₁₈N₂O₂Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 281.12660, found: 281.12680. IR (ATR): <math>v$ [cm⁻¹] = 2923, 2807, 2246, 1761, 1708, 1609, 1519, 1486, 1445, 1381, 1283, 1266, 1183, 1137, 1083, 981.



syn-3-(7-(Dimethylamino)-2-oxo-3-phenylchroman-4-yl)propanenitrile (34k). Prepared according to the standard procedure from 33k and acrylonitrile (2) with a reaction time of 24 h. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.81$) afforded a 1:1.4 mixture of 34k and 33k (93.1 mg) as a yellow solid. From this the yield in 34k was calculated to be 24% (39.3 mg, 0.122 mmol). The relative configuration of 34k was assigned in analogy to 34i. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.62$ (dddd, J = 4.8, 7.2, 11.8, 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.94-2.03 (m, 1H), 2.13 (ddd, J = 7.4, 9.2, 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (ddd, J = 4.8, 7.4, 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 3.07-3.15 (m, 1H), 4.24 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (ddd, J = 2.6, 8.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.39 (m, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 15.09$, 25.85, 40.41, 40.79, 50.67, 100.97, 108.39, 112.04, 128.93, 127.98, 128.29, 128.71, 129.86, 134.29, 151.54, 151.83, 168.39. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 320.2 [M]⁺ (65), 266.2 (48), 202.1 (100), 146.1 (6). HRMS (ESI, MeOH) calcd for C₂₀H₂₀N₂O₂Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 343.14225, found: 343.14230. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2930, 2242, 1761, 1708, 1570, 1522, 1496, 1382, 1245, 1235, 1137, 1115, 1063, 1001, 907.



40 (1.3:1 d.r.)

2-Methyl-3-(1-methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanenitrile (40). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22a** and methacrylonitrile with a reaction time of 24 h on a 1 mmol scale. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.61$) afforded **40** as a 1.3:1 diastereomeric mixture in 36% yield (81.0 mg, 0.355 mmol). The relative configuration of the major diastereomer could not be assigned. NMR data for the diastereomeric mixture: ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.29$ (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.32 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.69 (ddd, J = 4.8, 10.4, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 1.77-1.82 (m, 2H), 2.04 (ddd, J = 5.5, 9.4, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (dd, J = 2.1, 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.57-2.66 (m, 3H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.07-3.14 (m, 2H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 3.79-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.88 (dddd, J = 2.1, 4.0, 6.0, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61-6.63 (m, 1H), 6.64-6.65 (m, 1H), 6.69-6.75 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.87 (m, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 18.34$, 18.65, 22.54, 23.53, 32.21, 35.48, 37.87, 39.61, 40.73, 42.35, 58.84, 59.46, 113.22, 113.38, 116.84, 116.14, 121.75, 122.18, 127.67, 127.80, 136.15, 149.09, 149.87, 192.36, 192.49. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 228.2 [M]⁺ (18), 160.1 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₄H₁₆N₂ONa⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 251.11603, found: 251.11610. IR (ATR): ν [cm⁻¹] = 3055, 2939, 2239, 1670, 1603, 1563, 1460, 1435, 1295, 1265, 1206, 1134, 998, 908.



3-(1-Methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)butanenitrile (42). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22a** and crotononitrile (1.5 equiv, $E:Z = \sim 2:1$) with a reaction time of 24 h on a 1 mmol scale. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.70) afforded **42** as a 1.6:1 diastereomeric mixture in 29% yield (65.1 mg, 0.285 mmol). The relative configuration of the major diastereomer could not be assigned. D1 = diastereomer 1; D2 = diastereomer 2. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): δ = 1.08 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, D1), 1.11 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H, D2), 2.29-2.41 (m, 6H, D1 + D2), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 1.7, 16.4 Hz, 1H, D2), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 16.4 Hz, 1H, D1), 3.01-3.11 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 3.17 (s, 3H, D2), 3.22 (s, 3H, D1), 3.46-3.53 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 6.61-6.65 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 6.68-6.74 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 7.38-7.43 (m, 2H, D1 + D2), 7.81 (ddd, *J* = 0.4, 1.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H, D2), 7.82 (ddd, *J* = 0.5, 1.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H, D1). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz, D2): δ = 17.42, 21.48, 32.33, 39.55, 40.19, 64.21, 112.77, 113.36, 116.56, 117.73, 119.02, 127.61, 136.33, 149.76, 192.48. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 228.2 [M]⁺ (9), 160.1 (100). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₄H₁₇N₂O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 229.13409, found: 229.13420. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2919, 2161, 1667, 1590, 1495, 1434, 1344, 1207, 1159, 1035.



43 (1.4:1 d.r. at C3)

3-(syn-1,3-Dimethyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)butanenitrile (43). Prepared according to the standard procedure from 24a and crotononitrile ($E:Z = \sim 2:1$) with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out by evaporation of the volatiles under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Aqueous HCl (6M, 4 ml) was added and the mixture stirred at 0 °C for 3 h. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature followed by extraction/drying/concentration as in the standard procedure. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.56$) afforded 43 as a 1.2:1 diastereomeric mixture in 28% yield (34.0 mg, 0.140 mmol). The relative configuration of the major diastereomer could not be assigned. NMR data for the diastereomeric mixture: ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 0.85$ (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.28 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.29 (d, J = 7.03H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (dd, *J* = 4.7, 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.29-2.54 (m, 4H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.26-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.51 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (ddd, *J* = 0.4, 0.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (ddd, J = 0.4, 0.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65-6.71 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.78 (dd, J = 0.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 0.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 11.30$, 11.48, 16.49, 19.72, 21.75, 24.49, 32.17, 33.16, 41.13, 41.26, 44.06, 44.31, 67.98, 69.43, 112.42, 112.59, 116.47, 116.62, 118.34, 118.58, 119.15, 119.59, 127.29, 127.43, 135.77, 136.05, 150.09, 150.71, 195.62, 195.69. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 242.2 [M]⁺(31), 174.2 (100), 146.3 (13). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for $C_{15}H_{19}N_2O_+$ [M+H]⁺: 243.1497, found: 243.1494. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 3464, 2936, 2252, 1709, 1673, 1605, 1500, 1313, 1288. 1264, 1252, 1228, 1048, 1037, 936, 859.



3-(1-Methyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)-3-phenylpropanenitrile (44). Prepared according to the standard procedure from **22a** and cinnamonitrile (1.5 equiv, $E:Z = \sim 1.2:1$) with a reaction time of 24 h on a 1 mmol scale. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.70) afforded **44** as a 1.6:1 diastereomeric mixture in 18% yield (51.4 mg, 0.176 mmol). The relative configuration of the major diastereomer could not be assigned. NMR data for the diastereomeric mixture: ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 2.46$ (s, 3H), 2.66 (dd, J = 4.1, 17.1 Hz, 1H), 2.73-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.14 (dd, J = 5.9, 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (ddd, J = 4.1, 9.0, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (ddd, J = 2.2, 5.9, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (ddd, J = 0.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (ddd, J = 0.9, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.39 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.1, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 20.44$, 39.67, 40.53, 41.29, 65.38, 113.00, 116.60, 117.78, 119.14, 127.63, 127.86, 128.29, 129.19, 136.36, 139.44, 149.43, 192.21. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 290.1 [M]⁺ (1), 160.0 (100), 131.0 (19). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₉H₁₉N₂O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 291.14974, found: 291.14980. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2928, 2252, 1669, 1607, 1563, 1493, 1264, 1206, 1095, 1033, 905.



Methyl 3-(*syn***-1,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanoate (45)**. Prepared according to the standard procedure from **24a** and methyl acrylate with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out following the procedure for the kinetic quench with TBAF at -78 °C. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, R_f = 0.51) afforded **45** in 35% yield (45.7 mg, 0.175 mmol) as a yellow oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.21$ (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.85-1.91 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.32 (m, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.14 (qd, J = 5.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (ddd, J = 5.4, 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 6.57-6.59 (m, 1H), 6.67 (ddd, J = 0.9, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.1, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 10.95$, 21.98, 31.47, 34.49, 45.12, 51.69, 65.59, 112.73, 116.20, 119.25, 127.62, 135.55, 149.53, 173.19, 196.06. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 261.1 [M]⁺ (53), 174.2 (100), 146.3 (22). HRMS (APCI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₅H₂₀NO₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 262.1443, found: 262.1440. IR (ATR): v [cm⁻¹] = 2952, 1733, 1673, 1605, 1495, 1564, 1356, 1264, 1201, 1166, 907, 728.



tert-Butyl 3-(*syn*-1,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl)propanoate (47). Prepared according to the standard procedure from 24a and *tert*-butyl acrylate with a reaction time of 24 h. Workup was carried out following the procedure for the kinetic quench with TBAF at -78 °C. Column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 10:1, $R_f = 0.62$) afforded 47 in 37% yield (56.4 mg, 0.186 mmol) as a yellow oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400.1 MHz): $\delta = 1.21$ (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.79-1.89 (m, 2H), 2.13-2.27 (m, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.14 (qd, J = 5.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50-3.55 (m, 1H), 6.58-6.61 (m, 1H), 6.67 (ddd, J = 1.0, 7.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (ddd, J = 1.8, 7.1, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 0.4, 1.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100.6 MHz): $\delta = 10.99$, 21.89, 28.19, 32.83, 39.57,45.22, 65.58, 80.72, 112.73, 116.09, 119.26, 127.65, 135.53, 149.54, 172.19, 196.19. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 303.0 [M]⁺ (16), 275.0 (17), 173.9 (100), 146.0 (16). HRMS (ESI, MeOH) calcd for C₁₈H₂₅NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 326.1732, found:

326.1730. IR (ATR): *v* [cm⁻¹] = 3054, 2984, 1728, 1674, 1564, 1495, 1461, 1355, 1264, 1201, 1166, 1038, 977, 731.

Deuteration experiment with Et₃N·DCl

The coupling of cyclohexenone (1) with acrylonitrile (2) was carried out following the standard procedure with $Et_3N \cdot DCl$ instead of $Et_3N \cdot HCl$. An approximated 70% deuterium incorporation at C2 was observed by ¹H NMR. Fragmentation mass analysis (EI, 70 eV) confirmed the deuteration at this position.



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectra (in benzene-d₆) of the undeuterated **3** (top) and partially deuterated **3–d**₁ (bottom). The triplet at 1.37 (top) and 1.32 (bottom) is the NMR signal CH₂-group alpha to the nitrile and it is reduced by \sim 70% in the bottom spectrum.

Computational details

The structure optimisations and single-point calculations were performed on the DFT level with the TURBOMOLE 6.5 package.²⁷ For these DFT calculations, the resolution-of-identity (RI) approximation²⁸ for the Coulomb integrals was applied together with matching default auxiliary basis sets.²⁹ Furthermore, the *m4*-grid was applied. For all structure optimisations and single point calculations, the D3 dispersion correction scheme³⁰ with applied Becke-Johnson (BJ) damping³¹ was used. Structure optimisations were carried out in solution using the TPSS density functional,³² the triple-zeta basis set def2-TZVP,³³ and the cosmo continuum solvation model (COSMO)³⁴ as implemented in TURBOMOLE. The dielectric constant was set to 7.4 (THF). The final optimisation level was TPSS-D3-COSMO/def2-TZVP. Stationary points were confirmed by absence of imaginary frequencies in the output of the TURBOMOLE module *NumForce*. Single point energies were calculated in the gas phase on the PW6B95³⁵-D3/def2-QZVP level.³³

Single point energies and spin density populations

[Cp₂Ti^{III}Cl]-acrylonitrile:

total energy = -1868.23074299262 (PW6B95-D3/def2-QZVP)

atomic	populations from	spin der	sity:			
atom	sum	n(s)	n(p)	n (d)	n(f)	n(g)
1 c	-0.00387	-0.00016	-0.00378	0.00006	0.00000	-0.00000
2 c	-0.00259	-0.00037	-0.00258	0.00038	-0.00002	0.00000
3 с	-0.00301	-0.00059	-0.00225	-0.00018	0.00001	-0.00000
4 c	-0.00086	-0.00024	-0.00055	-0.00003	-0.00005	-0.00000
5 h	0.00044	-0.00000	0.00044	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
6 C	0.00012	0.00004	0.00019	-0.00006	-0.00005	0.00000
7 h	-0.00006	0.00004	-0.00011	0.00000	-0.00000	0.00000
8 h	-0.00005	-0.00006	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
9 ti	0.69783	0.00833	0.02657	0.66283	0.00013	-0.00003
10 c	0.00536	0.00013	0.00552	-0.00020	-0.00008	0.00000
11 c	-0.00001	0.00015	-0.00020	0.00002	0.00001	0.00000
12 c	-0.01118	-0.00038	-0.01084	0.00002	0.00001	-0.00000
13 c	-0.00464	-0.00004	-0.00474	0.00018	-0.00004	0.00000
14 c	-0.00638	-0.00009	-0.00627	0.00000	-0.00002	0.00000
15 h	0.00023	0.00024	-0.00001	0.00001	-0.00000	0.00000
16 h	0.00007	0.00006	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
17 h	-0.00008	-0.00013	0.00005	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
18 h	-0.00019	-0.00012	-0.00007	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
19 h	0.00038	0.00031	0.00006	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
20 cl	0.05333	0.00010	0.05270	0.00052	0.00001	0.00000
21 n	-0.01887	-0.00084	-0.01794	-0.00009	-0.00000	0.00000
22 h	-0.00018	-0.00019	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
23 h	0.00126	0.00107	0.00018	0.00002	0.00000	0.00000
24 c	0.11952	0.00225	0.11765	0.00024	-0.00061	-0.00001
25 c	-0.03191	-0.00118	-0.03110	0.00031	0.00005	-0.00000
26 c	0.21317	0.00654	0.20805	-0.00144	-0.00003	0.00005
27 h	0.00023	0.00077	-0.00062	0.00008	-0.00000	0.00000
28 h	-0.00398	-0.00403	0.00005	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
29 h	-0.00407	-0.00445	0.00036	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000

[Cp₂Ti^{III}Cl]-cyclohexenone:

total energy = -2007.71887617989 (PW6B95-D3/def2-QZVP)

atomic	populations from	spin der	nsity:			
atom	sum	n(s)	n(p)	n (d)	n(f)	n (g)
1 c	0.00313	-0.00026	0.00339	0.00007	-0.00006	0.00000
2 c	-0.00712	-0.00095	-0.00621	0.00003	0.00002	-0.00000
3 c	-0.00841	-0.00073	-0.00763	-0.00001	-0.00004	-0.00000
4 c	-0.00400	-0.00018	-0.00363	-0.00013	-0.00006	-0.00000
5 h	-0.00035	-0.00035	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
6 C	-0.00885	0.00013	-0.00899	0.00002	-0.00000	-0.00000
7 h	0.00021	0.00018	0.00003	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
8 h	0.00022	0.00009	0.00013	-0.00000	-0.00000	0.00000
9 ti	0.79144	0.00800	0.02076	0.76286	-0.00017	-0.00001
10 c	-0.00520	-0.00061	-0.00455	-0.00002	-0.00003	-0.00000
11 c	-0.00429	-0.00021	-0.00414	0.00004	0.00002	-0.00000
12 c	-0.00406	-0.00064	-0.00313	-0.00022	-0.00007	0.00000
13 c	-0.01193	-0.00044	-0.01154	0.00005	0.00000	-0.00000

14	С	0.00824	-0.00002	0.00843	-0.00004	-0.00013	0.00000
15	h	0.00065	0.00063	0.00001	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
16	h	0.00028	0.00025	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
17	h	-0.00028	-0.00030	0.00002	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
18	h	0.00020	0.00016	0.00003	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
19	h	-0.00011	-0.00013	0.00002	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
20	0	-0.04948	0.00010	-0.04956	-0.00002	0.00000	0.00000
21	cl	0.01654	-0.00196	0.01800	0.00051	-0.00001	0.00000
22	h	-0.00008	-0.00012	0.00003	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
23	h	-0.00013	-0.00012	-0.00002	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
24	С	0.15504	0.00421	0.15461	-0.00354	-0.00030	0.00006
25	С	-0.00301	-0.00037	-0.00276	0.00012	0.00000	-0.00000
26	С	-0.05126	-0.00119	-0.05013	0.00009	-0.00003	-0.00000
27	С	0.15656	0.00399	0.15333	-0.00072	-0.00007	0.00003
28	С	-0.00197	-0.00044	-0.00159	0.00004	0.00001	0.00000
29	С	0.00427	0.00025	0.00412	-0.00010	0.00000	0.00000
30	h	0.01119	0.01102	0.00016	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
31	h	0.00307	0.00301	0.00005	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
32	h	-0.00020	-0.00020	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
33	h	-0.00035	-0.00032	-0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
34	h	0.00216	0.00204	0.00011	0.00001	0.00000	0.00000
35	h	0.00972	0.00946	0.00026	-0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
36	h	0.00029	0.00096	-0.00072	0.00004	0.00000	0.00000
37	h	-0.00212	-0.00227	0.00014	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

Coordinates

[Cp ₂ T	[Cp ₂ Ti ^{III} Cl]-cyclohexenone:				
Energ	gy = -2006.09	9278697			
С	1.9330301	-2.1139811	-0.6597398		
С	3.0690138	-1.3247282	-0.9468576		
С	3.6923367	-0.9809529	0.2880476		
С	2.9424755	-1.5691760	1.3311572		
Н	3.3973010	-1.0208035	-1.9309686		
С	1.8449615	-2.2560668	0.7522441		
Н	1.2215688	-2.4894127	-1.3819365		
Н	1.0546037	-2.7567258	1.2934428		
Ti	1.5257641	0.0507888	0.2595248		
С	0.5684220	1.8913562	-0.9880318		
С	1.0631786	2.4183309	0.2221549		
С	1.6608719	1.3603870	-1.7217833		
С	2.8434972	1.6066250	-0.9705271		
С	2.4756999	2.2316048	0.2443602		
Н	1.6040980	0.8711117	-2.6849821		
Н	-0.4713166	1.8462380	-1.2816024		
Н	0.4761067	2.8501800	1.0188036		
Н	3.8473971	1.3371525	-1.2652137		
Н	3.1422646	2.5149076	1.0474924		
0	-0.3304426	-0.6357137	-0.0025959		
Cl	1.0010222	0.4544972	2.6022839		
Н	4.5735195	-0.3655001	0.4090986		
Н	3.1364138	-1.4620523	2.3881001		
С	-1.5702794	-0.3282814	0.0789093		
С	-2.5597084	-1.2378540	-0.6055539		
С	-2.0433383	0.8383856	0.7557540		
С	-3.3698346	1.1513673	0.7961765		
С	-4.4231241	0.2872476	0.1694221		
С	-3.9477989	-1.1672010	0.0446855		
Н	-4.6735259	0.6868963	-0.8273670		
Н	-5.3476631	0.3434135	0.7557231		
Н	-4.6649970	-1.7568470	-0.5353466		
Н	-3.8939509	-1.6079257	1.0478941		
Н	-2.1602004	-2.2572351	-0.6008177		
Н	-2.6258181	-0.9275330	-1.6607643		
Н	-1.3051750	1.4583652	1.2533416		
Н	-3.6863733	2.0591352	1.3054720		

[Cp₂Ti^{III}Cl]-acrylonitrile: Energy = -1868.182311675

Energy	7 = -1868.182	2311675	
С	1.1633983	2.2755663	0.9800111

С	2.1555398	1.8709299	0.0580452
С	1.5118369	1.5993245	-1.1853870
С	0.1231065	1.8044116	-1.0175927
Н	3.2150700	1.7870756	0.2596725
С	-0.0927166	2.2189373	0.3320405
Н	1.3270739	2.5140189	2.0201036
Н	-1.0497398	2.4268730	0.7895533
Тi	0.7178213	-0.0120574	0.3577037
С	2.2796596	-1.7467887	0.7398811
С	0.9951802	-2.3471179	0.6103790
С	2.6125773	-1.1636127	-0.5042967
С	1.5358804	-1.4000508	-1.4077639
С	0.5509445	-2.1466648	-0.7223354
Н	3.5178879	-0.6159992	-0.7275199
Н	2.8724723	-1.7061200	1.6425536
Н	0.4417432	-2.8354788	1.3994033
Н	1.4787814	-1.0683547	-2.4352435
Н	-0.3964214	-2.4677579	-1.1321143
Cl	0.5505567	-0.1039732	2.8078042
Ν	-1.3158107	-0.3465833	0.2981539
Н	2.0017409	1.2784925	-2.0934690
Н	-0.6390292	1.6605932	-1.7715841
С	-2.4717901	-0.5166323	0.2342003
С	-3.8542498	-0.7417806	0.1541469
С	-4.7690067	0.2532210	0.0710864
Н	-4.1579088	-1.7864658	0.1666313
Н	-4.4788240	1.2985699	0.0598299
Н	-5.8257738	0.0174246	0.0161066

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¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra of new compounds































































































