

Supporting Information

Metal-free oxidative decarbonylative alkylation of chromones with aliphatic aldehydes

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1. General experimental details

General Information: All chemicals were used as received without further purification unless stated otherwise. NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature on a 300 or 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, the coupling constants J are given in Hz. HRMS were recorded on a TOF LC/MS equipped with electrospray ionization (ESI) probe operating in positive or negative ion mode.

Experimental procedure: Under N_2 , the mixture of **1** (0.2 mmol), **2** (0.8 mmol), DTBP (0.6 mmol) and isopropanol (1 mL) were added into the sealed tube. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 120 °C for 15h. Then, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

2. Mechanism Studies

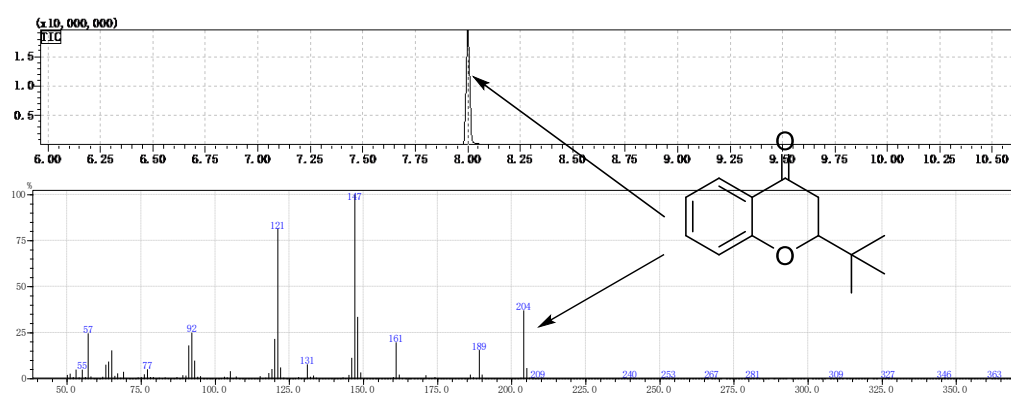
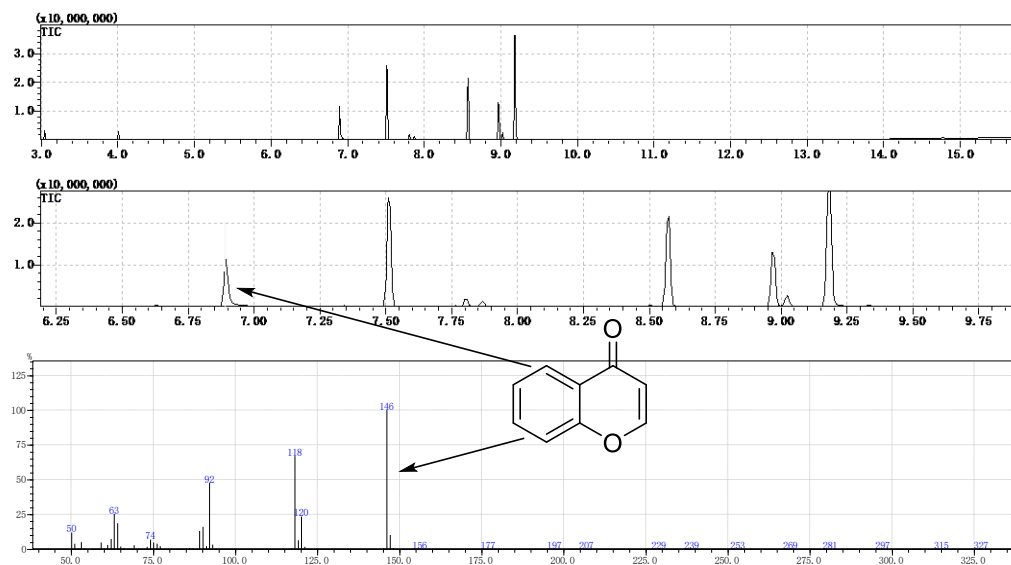


Figure S1 GC-MS spectra of the product **3aa**

Standard Procedure + BHT (3.0 equiv)



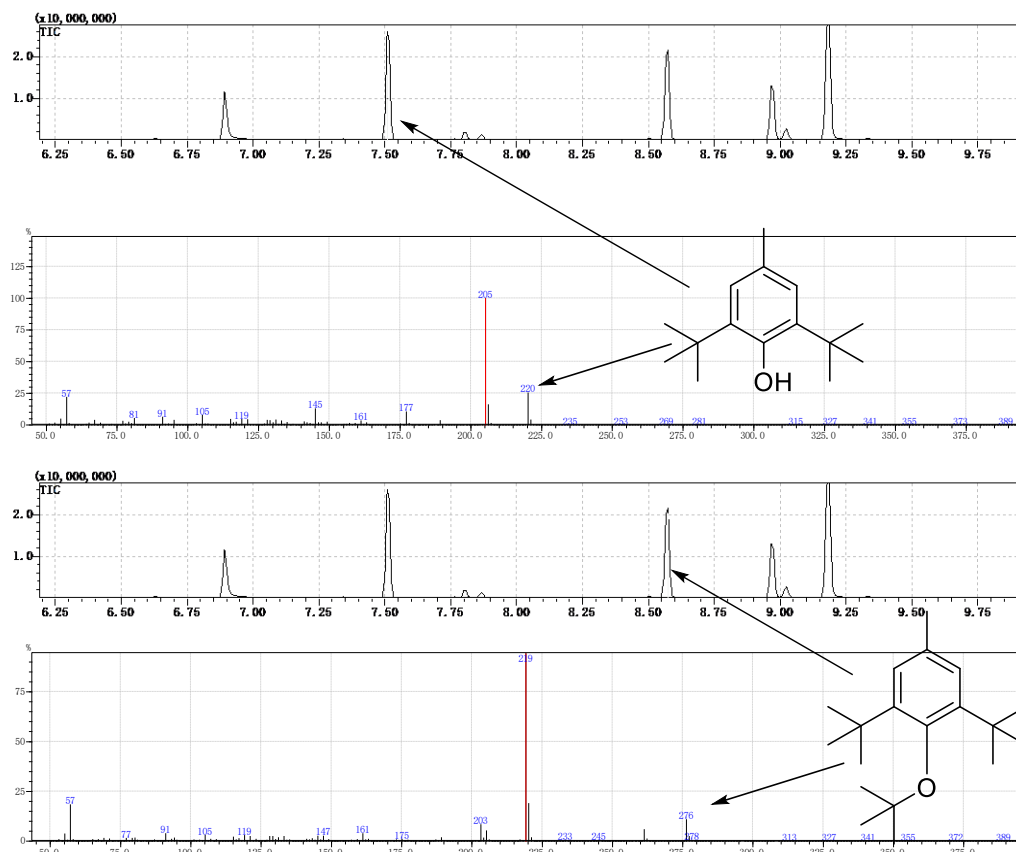


Figure S2 GC-MS spectra of the free radical capture results

Test for the evolution of CO gas

A piece of test strip prepared from PMA (phosphomolybdic acid)-PdCl₂ solution¹ was put into the reaction tube and sealed. After the completion of the reaction, the color of the test strip was changed from light yellow to dark blue (Figure S3).

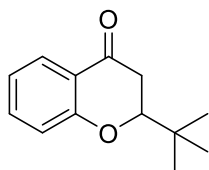


Figure S3. The PMA-PdCl₂ test strip as prepared (left) and the PMA-PdCl₂ test strip in the reaction tube (right).

¹ A. Verma and S. kumar, *Org. Lett.*, 2016, **18**, 4388.

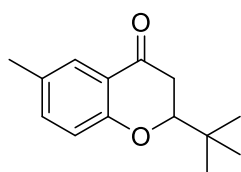
3. Characterization data of the products

2-(tert-butyl)chroman-4-one (3aa)²



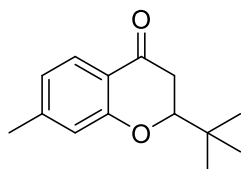
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.95 (m, 2H), 4.04 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72-2.61 (m, 2H), 1.05 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.5, 162.2, 135.9, 126.9, 121.0, 120.8, 117.9, 85.2, 38.4, 34.2, 25.5.

2-(tert-butyl)-6-methylchroman-4-one (3ba)



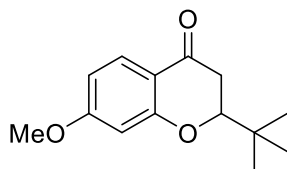
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03-3.91 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.56 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.7, 160.3, 136.9, 130.3, 126.4, 120.3, 117.7, 85.2, 38.4, 34.1, 25.5, 21.4. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₉O₂ (M+H)⁺ 219.1380, found 219.1381.

2-(tert-butyl)-7-methylchroman-4-one (3ca)



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.77 (m, 2H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.68-2.55 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.2, 162.2, 147.3, 126.7, 122.4, 118.5, 117.9, 85.2, 38.4, 34.1, 25.5, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₉O₂ (M+H)⁺ 219.1380, found 219.1381.

2-(tert-butyl)-7-methoxychroman-4-one (3da)

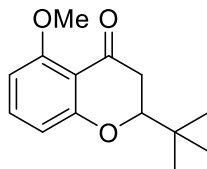


¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.00-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.62-2.48 (m, 2H), 1.00 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃,

² D. Xiong, W. Zhou, Z. Lu, S. Zeng and J. Wang, *Chem. Commun.*, 2017, **53**, 6844.

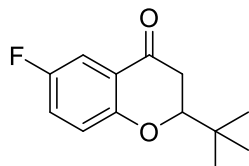
100 MHz): δ 191.9, 165.9, 164.1, 128.5, 114.6, 109.8, 100.5, 85.6, 55.6, 38.0, 34.1, 25.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{14}H_{19}O_3$ ($M+H$)⁺ 235.1329, found 235.1328.

2-(tert-butyl)-5-methoxychroman-4-one (3ea)



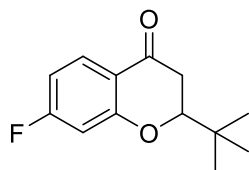
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.72-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.55-6.51 (m, 1H), 6.44-6.41 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.91 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.67-2.49 (m, 2H), 0.98 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 192.1, 163.7, 160.5, 135.7, 111.1, 109.9, 103.4, 85.5, 56.1, 39.9, 33.9, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{14}H_{19}O_3$ ($M+H$)⁺ 235.1329, found 235.1328.

2-(tert-butyl)-6-fluorochroman-4-one (3fa)



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 1H), 6.93-6.89 (m, 1H), 4.02-3.93 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.59 (m, 2H), 1.01 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 192.6, 158.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.7 Hz), 155.7, 123.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 24.3 Hz), 121.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 6.4 Hz), 119.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.3 Hz), 111.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 23.0 Hz), 85.5, 38.1, 34.1, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{13}H_{16}FO_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 223.1129, found 223.1130.

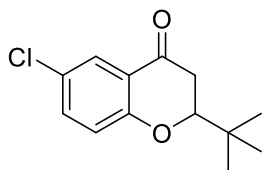
2-(tert-butyl)-7-fluorochroman-4-one (3ga)



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.89-7.85 (m, 1H), 6.73-6.66 (m, 2H), 4.12-4.02 (m, 1H), 2.71-2.61 (m, 2H), 1.05 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 192.0, 167.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 254.3 Hz), 163.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 13.6 Hz), 129.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 11.4 Hz), 109.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.6 Hz), 104.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 24.1 Hz), 85.9, 38.1, 34.2, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{13}H_{16}FO_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 223.1129, found 223.1131.

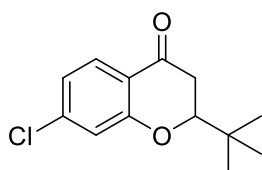
2-(tert-butyl)-6-chlorochroman-4-one (3ha)³

³ E. R. Ashley, E. C. Sherer, B. Pio, R. K. Orr and R. T. Ruck, *ACS Catal.*, 2017, 7, 1446.



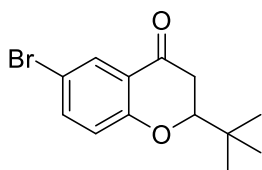
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.75-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.95 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.58 (m, 2H), 1.02 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 192.2, 160.6, 135.6, 126.5, 126.1, 121.5, 119.6, 85.5, 38.1, 34.2, 25.5.

2-(tert-butyl)-7-chlorochroman-4-one (3ia)



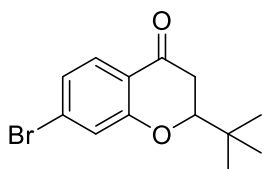
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.75-7.72 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.89 (m, 2H), 4.08-3.98 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.58 (m, 2H), 1.02 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 192.2, 162.4, 141.6, 128.1, 121.8, 119.3, 118.0, 85.7, 38.2, 34.2, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClO}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 239.0833, found 239.0836.

6-bromo-2-(tert-butyl)chroman-4-one (3ja)



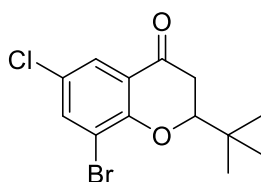
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.88-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 1H), 6.85-6.81 (m, 1H), 4.01-3.93 (m, 1H), 2.65-2.55 (m, 2H), 1.00 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 191.9, 160.9, 138.4, 129.2, 121.9, 120.0, 113.6, 85.5, 38.0, 34.2, 25.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_3$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 179.0703, found 179.0704. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrO}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 283.0328, found 283.0332.

7-bromo-2-(tert-butyl)chroman-4-one (3ka)



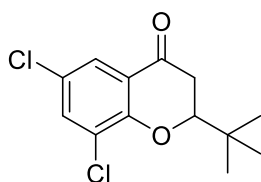
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.06-3.96 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.57 (m, 2H), 1.01 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 192.4, 162.3, 130.2, 128.1, 124.6, 121.1, 119.6, 85.7, 38.2, 34.2, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrO}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 283.0328, found 283.0332.

8-bromo-2-(tert-butyl)-6-chlorochroman-4-one (3la)



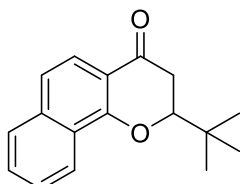
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.72 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.13-4.03 (m, 1H), 2.69-2.63 (m, 2H), 1.08 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 191.5, 157.1, 138.2, 126.6, 125.6, 121.9, 112.9, 86.3, 37.8, 34.5, 25.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrClO}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 316.9938, found 316.9943.

2-(tert-butyl)-6,8-dichlorochroman-4-one (3ma)



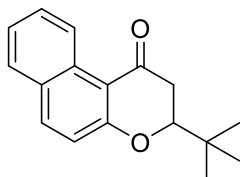
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.71 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.14-4.05 (m, 1H), 2.75-2.66 (m, 2H), 1.09 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 191.5, 156.3, 135.3, 126.2, 124.9, 124.2, 122.2, 86.3, 37.9, 34.5, 25.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 273.0444, found 273.0447.

2-(tert-butyl)-2,3-dihydro-4H-benzo[h]chromen-4-one (3na)



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 8.27 (dd, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.20-4.16 (m, 1H), 2.80-2.65 (m, 2H), 1.15 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 192.9, 160.2, 137.5, 129.5, 127.9, 126.2, 125.0, 123.5, 121.8, 120.7, 115.2, 86.1, 37.8, 34.4, 25.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 255.1380, found 255.1382.

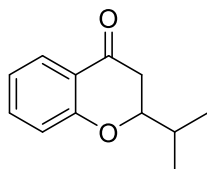
3-(tert-butyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[f]chromen-1-one (3oa)



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 9.46 (dd, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.04 (m, 1H), 4.16-4.13 (m, 1H), 2.86-2.77 (m, 1H), 2.71-2.65 (m, 1H), 1.09 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 194.5, 164.2, 137.2, 131.5, 129.5, 129.0, 128.3,

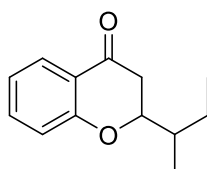
125.8, 124.7, 118.9, 112.2, 86.2, 39.6, 34.0, 25.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{17}H_{19}O_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 255.1380, found 255.1381.

2-isopropylchroman-4-one (3ab)²



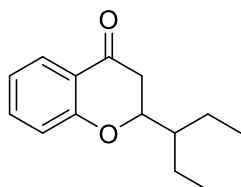
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.95 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.14 (m, 1H), 2.73-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.08-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.08-1.03 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.1, 161.9, 135.9, 126.9, 121.1, 120.9, 117.9, 82.5, 40.1, 32.2, 17.9.

2-(sec-butyl)chroman-4-one (3ac)



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 2H), 4.32-4.24 (m, 1H), 2.78-2.65 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.55 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.84 (m, 0.48H), 1.77-1.68 (m, 0.53H), 1.65-1.57 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.24 (m, 1H), 1.05-0.93 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.2, 193.1, 162.0, 161.9, 135.9, 135.8, 126.9, 121.1, 121.0, 120.9, 117.94, 117.91, 81.3, 81.1, 40.3, 39.5, 38.7, 38.5, 24.9, 24.8, 14.2, 14.1, 11.6, 11.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{13}H_{17}O_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 205.1223, found 205.1224.

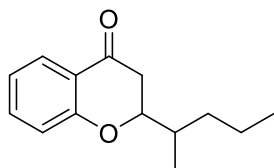
2-(pentan-3-yl)chroman-4-one (3ad)⁴



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 2H), 4.44-4.39 (m, 1H), 2.77-2.69 (m, 1H), 2.60-2.55 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.46 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.29 (m, 1H), 0.96-0.92 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 193.2, 162.1, 135.9, 126.9, 121.1, 121.0, 117.9, 79.5, 44.8, 39.9, 21.5, 21.3, 11.4.

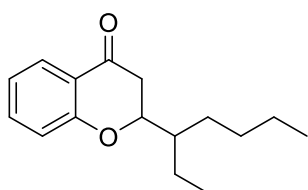
2-(pentan-2-yl)chroman-4-one (3ae)

⁴ C. Vila, V. Hornillos, M. Fananas-Mastral and B. L. Feringa, *Chem. Commun.*, 2013, **49**, 5933.



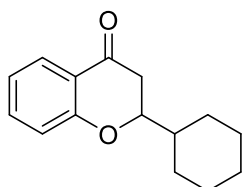
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 2H), 4.31-4.23 (m, 1H), 2.78-2.65 (m, 1H), 2.61-2.54 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.93 (m, 0.53H), 1.88-1.78 (m, 0.51H), 1.59-1.39 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.19 (m, 2H), 1.04-0.99 (m, 3H), 0.94-0.90 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 193.2, 193.1, 162.0, 161.9, 135.9, 135.8, 126.9, 121.1, 121.0, 120.9, 117.94, 117.91, 81.6, 81.3, 40.3, 39.3, 36.8, 36.6, 34.4, 34.3, 20.2, 20.1, 14.6, 14.5, 14.3, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 219.1380, found 219.1382.

2-(heptan-3-yl)chroman-4-one (3af)



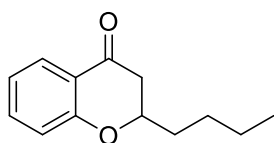
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 2H), 4.45-4.38 (m, 1H), 2.78-2.70 (m, 1H), 2.60-2.54 (m, 1H), 1.70-1.60 (m, 1.51H), 1.57-1.42 (m, 2.54H), 1.38-1.24 (m, 5H), 0.97-0.88 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 193.3, 193.2, 162.12, 162.10, 135.9, 126.9, 121.03, 121.00, 117.9, 79.8, 79.7, 43.3, 43.2, 39.9, 39.8, 29.4, 29.3, 28.6, 28.5, 23.1, 23.0, 22.1, 21.9, 14.1, 14.0, 11.5, 11.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 247.1693, found 247.1692.

2-cyclohexylchroman-4-one (3ag)²



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.84 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.93 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.14 (m, 1H), 2.74-2.59 (m, 2H), 1.98-1.95 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.68 (m, 5H), 1.34-1.07 (m, 5H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 193.1, 162.9, 135.9, 126.9, 121.0, 117.9, 81.9, 41.8, 40.2, 28.3, 28.2, 26.3, 26.0, 25.9.

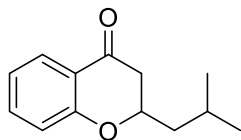
2-butylchroman-4-one (3ah)⁵



⁵ D. Zhao, B. Beiring and F. Glorius, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2013, 52, 8454.

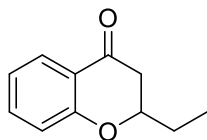
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.86 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.01-6.95 (m, 2H), 4.46-4.39 (m, 1H), 2.67 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 1.93-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.59-1.33 (m, 4H), 0.94 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 192.8, 162.7, 135.9, 126.9, 121.1, 121.0, 117.9, 77.9, 43.0, 34.7, 27.1, 22.5, 14.0.

2-isobutylchroman-4-one (3ai)⁴



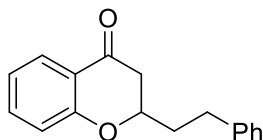
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz): δ 7.87 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.94 (m, 2H), 4.57-4.47 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.65 (m, 2H), 1.99-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.41 (m, 1H), 0.99-0.96 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz): δ 192.7, 162.7, 135.9, 126.9, 121.2, 121.1, 117.9, 76.3, 43.9, 43.4, 24.2, 23.0, 22.2.

2-ethylchroman-4-one (3aj)²



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz): δ 7.87 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.96 (m, 2H), 4.43-4.33 (m, 1H), 2.70-2.67 (m, 2H), 1.95-1.72 (m, 2H), 1.08 (t, $J = 7.4$, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz): δ 192.7, 162.7, 135.9, 126.9, 121.1, 121.0, 117.9, 79.1, 42.6, 27.9, 9.3.

2-phenethylchroman-4-one (3ak)⁶



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz): δ 7.88-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 2H), 4.46-4.36 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.70-2.63 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.15 (m, 1H), 2.03-1.91 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz): δ 192.3, 161.6, 140.9, 136.1, 128.6, 128.5, 127.0, 126.2, 121.3, 121.1, 117.9, 76.8, 43.0, 36.5, 31.2.

⁶ M. Kawasaki, H. Yoshikai, H. Kakuda, N. Toyooka, A. Tanaka, M. Goto and T. Kometani, *Heterocycles*, 2006, **68**, 483.

4. Copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the products

