

Supplementary Information:

Efficient Synthesis of Polysubstituted Isochromanones Via a Novel Photochemical Rearrangement Reaction

Wujiong Xia,^{*,†,‡} Yutian Shao,[†] Weijun Gui,[†] and Chao Yang[†]

[†]*State Key Lab of Urban Water Resource and Environment, the Academy of Fundamental and Interdisciplinary
Sciences, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin 150080*

[‡]*State Key Lab of Applied Organic Chemistry, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou 730000, China*

xiawj@hit.edu.cn

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1. General and Materials

General Procedures. Reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen and monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using UV light visualizing agent and ethanolic solution of sulfate acid. Melting point was determined on Büchi Melting Point B-540. NMR spectra were measured on Bruker AVANCE III 400M NMR in CDCl_3 with tetramethylsilane as the internal reference (7.262 for ^1H , 77.01 for ^{13}C). When peak multiplicities were reported, the following abbreviations were used: s-singlet, d-doublet, t-triplet, q-quartet, m-multiplet, br-broadened. IR absorption spectra results were obtained on Nicolet impact 400 FT-IR instrument and using as a film on NaCl single-crystal plate (SPECTRUM100). HRMS (ESI) was recorded using Agilent 6520 accurate-Mass Q-TOF LC/MS system (1200-6520/Agilent). Low-resolution Mass spectra were obtained from GC-MS system (7890A-5975C/Agilent). Silica gel (200-300 mesh, QingDao, China) was used for column chromatography and preparative thin-layer chromatography was performed on commercial available silica gel plates (GF254, QingDao, China).

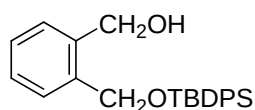
Materials. Anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (THF), benzene, diethyl ether (Et_2O), methanol (MeOH) and isopropanol ($i\text{-PrOH}$) were dried with sodium (Na). Anhydrous dichloromethane (DCM), N,N -dimethylformamide (DMF) and diisopropylethylamine (DIEA) were dealt with CaH_2 . N -bromosuccinimide (NBS), azodiisobutyronitrile (AIBN). Reagents were purchased at the highest commercial quality and used without further purification.

2. Experimental Procedures

2.1 General procedure for Synthesis of Ester 3

In a 500 mL oven-dried, three-necked flask, equipped with mechanical stirrer, commercially available phthalate acids (50.0 g, 0.3 mol) and freshly dried THF (300 mL) were added, then LiAlH_4 (34.0 g, 0.9 mol) was added carefully in ice-water bath. Upon completion, saturated NH_4Cl aqueous solution (40 mL) was added carefully to quench the reaction. The reaction mixture was filtered and the solid residue was washed with EtOH (3×100 mL). The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* to yield 1, 2-benzenedimethanol (39.4 g, 94 %, primrose solid), which was used directly for next step without further purification.

To a solution of 1, 2-benzenedimethanol (35.0 g, 0.25 mol) and redistilled DIEA (430.6 mL, 2.5 mol) in anhydrous DMF (150 mL) was added dropwise *tert*-butyldiphenylchlorosilane (TBDPSCI) (68.0 mL, 0.27 mol) under nitrogen at room temperature. After five hours, the reaction was quenched with addition of saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution (20 mL) and the organic layer was separated, washed with 2.0 M HCl (3×20 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (3×40 mL), brine (2×30 mL) and dried (MgSO₄). The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give a white solid (71.5 g, 75 %).¹

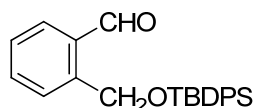


1

Compound 1. Mp 73-75 °C. IR (KBr) ν_{max} : 3072, 2929, 2856, 1698, 1590, 1471,

1260, 1113, 701, 623 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.37-7.46 (m, 7H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 3.04 (br, 1H), 1.05 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 139.6, 138.2, 135.7, 132.8, 130.0, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.9, 65.1, 63.7, 26.8, 19.2. LRMS (EI): 375 [M-1], 343, 319, 289, 199, 152, 122, 91, 75, 57, 41. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₄H₂₉O₂Si⁺ 377.1931 [M+H]⁺, found 377.1938.

In a 250 mL round-bottomed flask, compound **1** (45.0 g, 0.12 mol) was dissolved in 150 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂. To this solution, PCC (38.5 g, 0.18 mol) and Celite (77.0 g) were added and stirred for three hours at room temperature. 20 mL of Et₂O was added to quench the reaction. The mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to yield aldehyde **2**.²



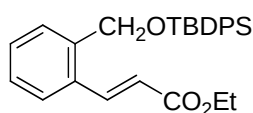
2

Compound 2. Yield 89%. Mp 112-115 °C. IR (KBr) ν_{max} : 2958, 2645, 1767, 1695,

1589, 1437, 1219, 739, 609 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.15 (s, 1H), 7.82-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.70 (m, 4H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.48 (m, 7H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 1.12 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.9, 143.7, 135.5, 134.0, 133.3, 132.8, 132.7, 129.8, 127.8, 127.2, 126.9, 63.6,

26.9, 19.4. **LRMS** (EI): 374 [M], 318, 212, 167, 119, 91, 77, 57, 41. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{24}H_{27}O_2Si^+$ 375.1775 [M+H]⁺, found 375.1776.

In a 100 mL oven-dried flask, equipped with a constant pressure funnel, triethyl phosphonoacetate (5.74 g, 0.26 mmol) and 40 mL of anhydrous THF were added and cooled to -78 °C, then *n*-butyl lithium (11.6 mL, 2.2 M in hexane, 25.5 mmol) was added with dropwise under nitrogen. After 15 minutes, compound **2** (8.0 g, 20.0 mmol) and HMPA (8.91 mL, 67.0 mmol) were slowly added. The mixture was warmed to room temperature gradually after two hours and stirred over night. The reaction was quenched by addition of 5 mL of water and the organic layer was separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3× 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (3×30 mL) and dried (Na₂SO₄). The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the ester **3**.³



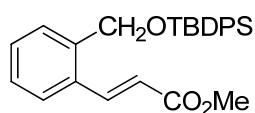
3

Compound 3. Yield 81 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2958, 2740, 1959, 1714, 1635, 1428, 1176, 740, 623 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.01 (dd, J = 16.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.58 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.45 (m, 9H), 6.36 (dd, J = 16.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 141.7, 139.7, 135.6, 133.3, 132.9, 129.9, 129.8, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 126.6, 119.9, 64.0, 60.5, 26.8, 19.3, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 444 [M], 429, 384, 358, 342, 313, 297, 226, 184, 166, 138, 99, 75, 57, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{28}H_{33}O_3Si^+$ 445.2193 [M+H]⁺, found 445.2201.

2.2 Synthesis of Esters **4** and **5**

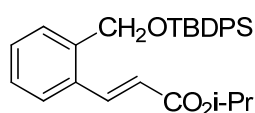
n-Butyl lithium (2.5 mL, 2.2 M in hexane, 5.5 mmol) was added to 5 mL of anhydrous MeOH or *i*-PrOH under nitrogen at -10°C. After 15 minutes, compound **3** (2.0 g, 5.34 mmol) dissolved in 10 mL of anhydrous THF was added with dropwise. After reaction, 5 ml of ice water was used to quench the reaction. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL), and the combined organic phases was dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel

column chromatography.⁴



4

Compound 4. Yield 98 %, oil. **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2929, 2855, 1727, 1636, 1483, 1077, 687 cm^{-1} . **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.01 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.45 (m, 9H), 6.36 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.3, 142.0, 139.7, 136.7, 135.6, 133.3, 132.8, 130.0, 129.8, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 126.6, 119.4, 64.0, 51.7, 26.8, 19.4. **LRMS** (EI): 431 [M+1], 415, 399, 372, 214, 183, 115, 91, 77, 57, 41, 15. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{31}\text{O}_3\text{Si}^+$ 431.2037 [M+H]⁺, found 431.2041.



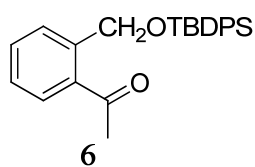
5

Compound 5. Yield 85 %, oil. **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2930, 2856, 1711, 1635, 1471, 1274, 1109, 701, 604 cm^{-1} . **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.96 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.45 (m, 9H), 6.35 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (m, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 1.28 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H), 1.07 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.4, 141.4, 139.6, 135.6, 133.3, 133.0, 129.8, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.6, 120.5, 67.8, 64.0, 26.8, 22.0, 19.3. **LRMS** (EI): 458 [M], 414, 388, 361, 314, 279, 263, 206, 182, 134, 116, 91, 77, 43, 27. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_3\text{Si}^+$ 459.2350 [M+H]⁺, found 459.2358.

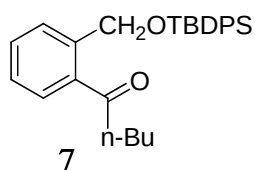
2.3 General Procedure for Synthesis of Ketones 6 and 7⁵

To an oven-dried, round-bottomed flask was added aldehyde **2** (2.0 g, 7.28 mmol) and 30 mL of anhydrous Et_2O under nitrogen at 0 °C. Then methylmagnesium iodide (2.8 mL, 3.12 M in Et_2O , 8.74 mmol) or n-butyl lithium (3.97 mL, 2.2 M in hexane, 8.74 mmol) solution was added with dropwise. The reaction was stirred until starting material consumed (detected by TLC). Saturated NH_4Cl aqueous solution (5 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The separated organic layer was washed with brine (3×20 mL), dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated under vacuum to give the crude product which was used in next step without further purification.

To a solution of alcohol (6.0 mmol) prepared above in 40 mL of anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 was added a mixture of PCC (1.94 g, 9.0 mmol) and Celite (3.88 g) at room temperature and stirred over night. The mixture was diluted with 10 mL of Et_2O and filtered on a pad of silica gel. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the desired ketone **6** or **7**.



Compound 6. Yield 85 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2930, 2778, 1718, 1681, 1589, 1428, 1252, 1067, 702, 616 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.41 (m, 6H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 9H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 200.7, 142.8, 135.5, 134.8, 133.5, 132.3, 129.7, 129.6, 127.7, 126.8, 126.3, 64.3, 28.8, 26.9, 19.4. **LRMS** (EI): 388 [M], 332, 287, 225, 200, 181, 165, 133, 105, 77, 57, 41. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_2\text{Si}^+$ 389.1931 [M+H] $^+$, found 389.1934.



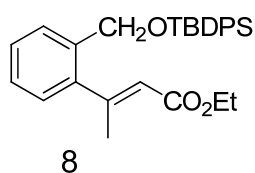
Compound 7. Yield 87 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2931, 2858, 2740, 1770, 1682, 1471, 1260, 1076, 702, 615 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.04 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.71 (m, 5H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.46 (m, 7H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.88 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.34 (m, 2H), 1.16 (s, 9H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 203.7, 142.4, 135.6, 135.4, 133.6, 131.9, 129.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.0, 126.4, 64.2, 40.6, 27.0, 26.5, 22.5, 19.4, 13.9. **LRMS** (EI): 429 [M-1], 412, 396, 371, 352, 312, 295, 264, 211, 175, 156, 134, 118, 91, 77, 57, 41, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_2\text{Si}^+$ 431.2401 [M+H] $^+$, found 431.2404.

2.4 General Methods for Synthesis of Esters (**8**) and (**9**)⁶

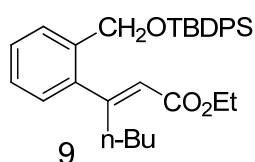
To an oven-dried, two-necked, round-bottomed flask, equipped with a condenser, was added Zn power (1.14 g, 17.5 mmol) and anhydrous benzene (40 mL) under nitrogen. Ketone **8** (1.36 g, 3.5 mmol) or **9** (1.5 g, 3.5 mmol) and ethyl bromoacetate (1.74 mL, 15.8 mmol) diluted in 15 mL of anhydrous

benzene was then added with dropwise via a syringe as the reaction was maintaining under reflux. After addition, the reaction was refluxed for additional six hours. Saturated NH_4Cl aqueous solution (10 mL) was slowly added to the mixture and stirred vigorously for one hour. The organic phase was separated and the water layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL), the combined organic layer was washed with brine (2×20 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 .

The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a dark residue which was then dissolved in 20 mL of pyridine and cooled to 0 °C. To the mixture POCl_3 (0.84 g, 5.25 mmol) was slowly added under vigorously swirling. After addition, the reaction mixture was then warmed to room temperature gradually and stirred over night. The mixture was then poured into 50 mL of ice water, extracted with EtOAc (3×50 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with saturated CuSO_4 aqueous solution (5×30 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under vacuum, the residue was then purified on a silica gel column.



Compound 8. Yield 57 % for two steps from **6**, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2931, 1715, 1644, 1428, 1274, 1043, 879, 764 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.67 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4H), 7.53 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.44 (m, 9H), 5.74 (s, 1H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 4.16 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.06 (s, 9H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.4, 156.8, 142.6, 136.8, 135.6, 133.4, 129.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 127.1, 127.1, 119.7, 63.5, 59.7, 26.8, 20.9, 19.3, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 460 $[\text{M}+2]$, 443, 404, 355, 335, 311, 278, 222, 197, 181, 157, 129, 105, 91, 77, 57, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_3\text{Si}^+$ 459.2350 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, found 459.2358.



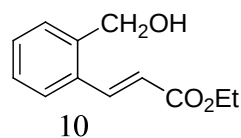
Compound 9. Yield 53 % for two steps from **7**, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2978, 2928, 2850, 1715, 1633, 1469, 1171, 1038, 769 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.70 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.47 (m, 7H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.69 (s,

1H), 4.68 (s, 2H), 4.18 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.84 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.27 (m, 7H), 1.10 (s, 9H), 0.82 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.1, 161.2, 141.2, 137.3, 135.6, 133.4, 129.7, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 126.8, 119.5, 63.4, 59.7, 33.5, 30.2, 26.9, 23.0, 19.3, 14.3, 13.8. LRMS (EI): 501 [M+1], 231, 187, 170, 143, 117, 91, 77, 55, 29. HRMS (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{41}\text{O}_3\text{Si}^+$ 501.2819 [M+H] $^+$, found 501.2820.

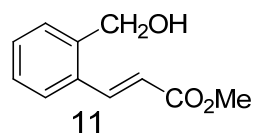
2.5 General Method for Synthesis of Compounds 15-19

Acetyl chloride (15.8 mL) was added with dropwise to 100 mL of methanol, which was then cooled to room temperature. Ester (**3**, **4**, **5**, **8** or **9**) (2.67 mmol) prepared above was added and monitored by TLC. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was neutralized with 10 % NaOH, then concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography to give alcohols **10-14**.⁷

Alcohol **10-14** (2.0 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 and oxidized with a mixture of PCC (0.65 g, 3.0 mmol) and Celite (1.3 g) until no alcohol was detected by TLC. 5 mL of Et_2O was added, the mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel, and the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to yield compounds **15-19**.⁵

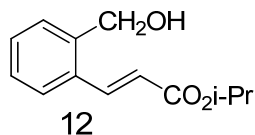


Compound 10. Yield 72 %, oil. IR (neat) ν_{max} : 3434, 2980, 2929, 1715, 1634, 1368, 1031, 766, 610 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.04 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.45 (m, 3H), 6.39 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.26 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.17 (br, 1H), 1.34 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.0, 141.5, 139.8, 133.1, 130.1, 128.7, 128.1, 126.8, 120.1, 62.7, 60.6, 14.3. LRMS (EI): 206 [M], 188, 174, 162, 133, 89, 77, 65, 51, 39, 27. HRMS (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3^+$ 207.1016 [M+H] $^+$, found 207.1022.



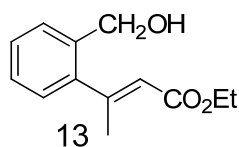
Compound 11. Yield 74 %, oil. IR (neat) ν_{max} : 3340, 2930, 1697, 1631, 1427, 1315, 1169, 975, 764 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.02 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.38 (m, 2H), 6.37 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.12

(br, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.6, 141.8, 139.7, 133.0, 130.2, 128.8, 128.2, 126.8, 119.6, 62.7, 51.8. **LRMS** (EI): 193 [M+1], 177, 159, 148, 130, 114, 103, 91, 77, 57, 27. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3^+$ 193.0859 [M+H] $^+$, found 193.0868.



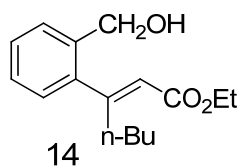
Compound 12. Yield 71 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 3436, 2927, 1709, 1634, 1454, 1312,

1017, 765 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.02 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.47 (m, 3H), 6.39 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.11-5.17 (m, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 2.19 (br, 1H), 1.31 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.5, 141.1, 139.5, 133.2, 130.1, 128.7, 128.2, 126.9, 120.8, 68.0, 62.9, 22.0. **LRMS** (EI): 220 [M], 202, 178, 161, 146, 133, 114, 102, 91, 77, 63, 51, 41, 27. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_3^+$ 221.1172 [M+H] $^+$, found 221.1181.



Compound 13. Yield 73 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 3430, 2926, 1725, 1639, 1446, 1174,

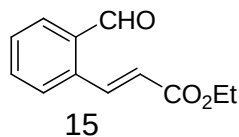
1040, 879, 764 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.52 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.69 (br, 1H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.4, 156.7, 143.1, 136.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 119.9, 62.8, 60.0, 29.7, 21.3, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 219 [M-1], 204, 188, 174, 160, 128, 115, 102, 91, 77, 63, 43, 29, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_3^+$ 221.1172 [M+H] $^+$, found 221.1171.



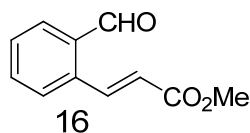
Compound 14. Yield 70 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 3381, 2930, 1725, 1637, 1442, 1101,

767, 620 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.53 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (m, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 4.66 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.14 (br, 1H), 1.87 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.2, 161.2, 141.6, 137.3, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.3, 119.7, 62.6, 60.0, 33.8, 30.2, 23.0, 14.3, 13.9. **LRMS** (EI): 262 [M],

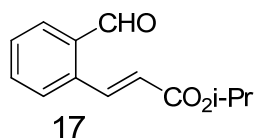
2444, 218, 189, 146, 117, 91, 77, 57, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{16}H_{23}O_3^+$ 263.1642 $[M+H]^+$, found 263.1648.



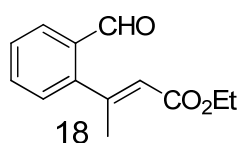
Compound 15. Yield 85%, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2983, 2728, 1740, 1699, 1635, 1316, 1183, 774 cm^{-1} . **1H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.31 (s, 1H), 8.51 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.64 (m, 3H), 6.38 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 191.7, 166.2, 140.9, 136.7, 133.9, 133.9, 132.2, 129.9, 128.0, 123.3, 60.8, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 204 [M], 175, 158, 131, 103, 77, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}O_3^+$ 205.0859 $[M+H]^+$, found 205.0867.



Compound 16. Yield 87%, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2954, 1720, 1694, 1595, 1436, 1315, 1169, 974, 700 cm^{-1} . **1H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.24 (s, 1H), 8.53 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.70 (m, 3H), 6.38 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 191.8, 166.6, 141.3, 136.4, 133.9, 133.8, 132.5, 130.0, 127.9, 122.6, 51.9. **LRMS** (EI): 190 [M], 176, 161, 105, 91, 75, 59, 15. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{11}H_{11}O_3^+$ 191.0703 $[M+H]^+$, found 191.0709.

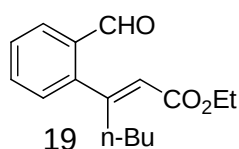


Compound 17. Yield 85 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2936, 1715, 1635, 1595, 1268, 1108, 765, 660 cm^{-1} . **1H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.31 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.65 (m, 3H), 6.36 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.11-5.21 (m, 1H), 1.33 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 191.7, 165.7, 140.6, 136.8, 133.9, 133.8, 132.0, 129.8, 128.0, 123.8, 68.2, 21.9. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 175, 147, 129, 103, 75, 43, 27. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}O_3^+$ 219.1016 $[M+H]^+$, found 219.1018.



Compound 18. Yield 85 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2928, 2853, 1708, 1634, 1385, 1162,

777, 670 cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.13 (s, 1H), 7.92 (dd, $J = 7.6, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, $J = 7.8, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 4.23 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 1.32 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.2, 165.8, 154.2, 147.1, 133.8, 133.0, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 121.9, 60.2, 21.7, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 199, 180, 159, 116, 91, 77, 57, 28, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3^+$ 219.1016 [M+H] $^+$, found 219.1017.



Compound 19. Yield 87 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2958, 2931, 2860, 1715, 1633, 1447,

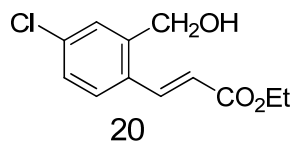
1171, 764, 609 cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.14 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 4.23 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.05 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.27-1.41 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.3, 165.5, 158.5, 146.2, 133.6, 133.5, 128.6, 128.6, 128.3, 121.8, 60.2, 34.3, 30.1, 22.9, 14.3, 13.8. **LRMS** (EI): 259 [M-1], 242, 216, 187, 144, 115, 91, 75, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_3$ 261.1485 [M+H] $^+$, found 261.1481.

2.6 General Procedure for Synthesis of Compounds 20-23

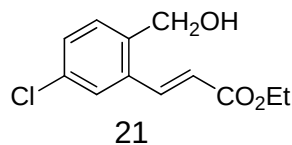
To a flame-dried, two-necked, round-bottomed flask were added NBS (4.27 g, 23.7 mmol), AIBN (0.89 g, 5.45 mmol) and 40 mL of anhydrous benzene. Then a mixture of (*E*)-ethyl 3-(2-methyl-4-chloro-phenyl) and 3-(2-methyl-5-chloro-phenyl) acrylates (4.9 g, 21.8 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was warmed to 80 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and refluxed over night under nitrogen. The reaction was cooled down to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved in 60 mL of dioxane/ H_2O (5:1 v/v), and then CaCO_3 (10.9 g, 0.11 mol) power were added. The mixture was refluxed for five hours and then cooled to room temperature. 50 mL of EtOAc was added, the mixture was filtered and the white solid was washed with EtOAc (3 $\times$ 30 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (3 $\times$ 30 mL) before dried over Na_2SO_4 . After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to yield compound **20** (1.3 g, 22%) and **21** (1.5 g, 37 %).⁸

Alcohol **20** or **21** (1.0 g, 4.16 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 and oxidized with a

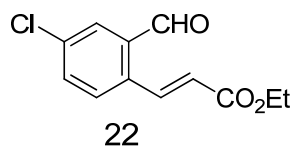
mixture of PCC (1.34g, 6.24 mmol) and Celite (2.7 g) at room temperature. After 3 hours, 5 mL of Et₂O was added to diluted the mixture, which was then filtered on a pad of silica gel. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the desired product.



Compound 20. Yield 22 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 3441, 2955, 1727, 1636, 1595, 1483, 1292, 687 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR**(400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.93 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (s, 2H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (br, 1H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 140.0, 137.9, 134.7, 134.0, 130.0, 129.9, 126.7, 121.5, 62.2, 60.8, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 239 [M-1], 222, 219, 193, 181, 167, 151, 125, 103, 89, 77, 63, 51, 43, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₂H₁₄ClO₃⁺ 241.0626 [M+H]⁺, found 241.0628.

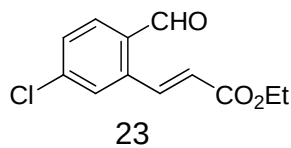


Compound 21. Yield 37 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 3430, 2924, 1715, 1685, 1366, 981, 698 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.26 (dd, J = 8.8/8.4, 2.0/1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (br, 1H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0, 141.5, 140.1, 136.1, 131.1, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 120.4, 62.1, 60.8, 14.7. **LRMS** (EI): 239 [M-1], 221, 194, 168, 149, 131, 115, 103, 77, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₂H₁₄ClO₃⁺ 241.0626 [M+H]⁺, found 241.0628.



Compound 22. Yield 94 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2959, 1720, 1636, 1466, 1191, 823, 696 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.26 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 190.3, 165.8, 140.5, 139.4, 138.3,

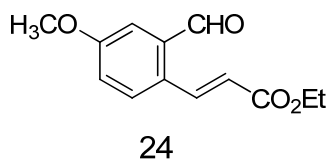
133.3, 132.1, 129.9, 128.0, 124.4, 61.0, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 238 [M], 208, 192, 164, 135, 102, 75, 51, 43, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}ClO_3^+$ 239.0478 [M+H]⁺, found 239.0469.



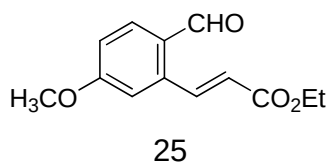
Compound 23. Yield 92 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2926, 1715, 1638, 1556, 1365, 1033, 822, 692 cm^{-1} . **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.27 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 190.1, 165.9, 139.3, 136.3, 135.0, 134.9, 133.9, 131.3, 129.4, 123.9, 60.9, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 239 [M+1], 209, 193, 163, 136, 102, 75, 51, 43, 29, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}ClO_3^+$ 239.0478 [M+H]⁺, found 239.0469.

2.7 General Method for Synthesis of Compound 24-25.

A mixture of (*E*)-ethyl β -(2-CH₂OH-4-methyloxy-phenyl) or β -(2-CH₂OH-5-methyloxy-phenyl) acrylates (0.6 g, 2.54 mmol) dissolved in 30 mL of anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 was oxidized with a mixture of PCC (0.82 g, 3.81 mmol) and Celite (1.64 g) at room temperature. After three hours, Et₂O (5 mL) was added. The mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel, and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified through a silica gel column to give the product.



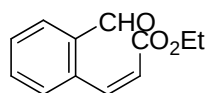
Compound 24. Yield 92 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2924, 1712, 1631, 1601, 1497, 1028, 756, 668 cm^{-1} . **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.38 (s, 1H), 8.46 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 191.0, 166.5, 161.0, 139.6, 135.1, 129.4, 129.4, 121.4, 120.8, 114.4, 60.7, 55.7, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 234 [M], 206, 177, 161, 134, 118, 89, 75, 63, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}O_4^+$ 235.0965 [M+H]⁺, found 235.0972.



Compound 25. Yield 89 %, oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2933, 1765, 1713, 1635, 1606,

1464, 1108, 737, 602 cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.16 (s, 1H), 8.52 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.02-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.36 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 190.3, 166.2, 163.8, 141.1, 139.0, 134.8, 127.5, 123.3, 115.1, 113.1, 60.8, 55.7, 14.3. **LRMS** (EI): 233 [M-1], 219, 198, 175, 147, 105, 91, 77, 59, 28, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4^+$ 235.0965 [M+H] $^+$, found 235.0972.

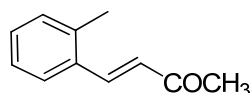
2.8 Synthesis of Compound 26⁹



26

Compound 26. To an oven-dried, two-necked round-bottomed flask, commercially available (Z)-methyl-3-iodoacrylate (47.1 mg, 0.22 mmol), 2-formylphenylboronic acid (50.0 mg, 0.33 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (2.57 mg, 0.0022 mmol), $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (150.2 mg, 0.44 mmol) was added in anhydrous THF (4.0 mL) under nitrogen and the mixture was stirred at 40 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 10 hours. The reaction was diluted with 30 mL of Et_2O , the organic phase was separated and washed with brine (2×10 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to yield 23.1 mg (54 %) as a colorless oil. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2928, 2854, 1773, 1695, 1596, 1361, 1014, 755 cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.14 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.18 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.04 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.11 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.9, 165.4, 142.1, 138.2, 133.2, 131.7, 131.0, 130.0, 128.5, 122.8, 60.3, 13.9. **LRMS** (EI): 204 [M], 175, 158, 131, 103, 77, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3^+$ 205.0859 [M+H] $^+$, found 205.0867.

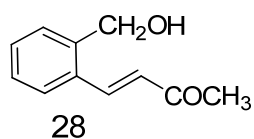
2.9 General Procedure for Synthesis of Compound 27-29



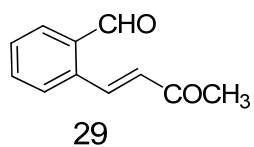
27

Compound 27. To a mixture of acetone (20 mL) and 10 % NaOH (3.86 mL, 11.0 mmol), 2-methylbenzaldehyde (1.1 g, 9.16 mmol) was added with dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the 2-methylbenzaldehyde was consumed (detected by TLC). The reaction was neutralized with 10 % HCl aqueous solution, and extracted with Et_2O (3×30 mL). The

combined organic layers was washed with brine (2 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified through a silica gel column to yield a yellow oil (1.04 g, 71 %). ¹⁰ **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2926, 1693, 1598, 1359, 1257, 975, 752 cm⁻¹. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.3, 140.9, 137.9, 133.4, 130.9, 130.3, 128.1, 126.5, 126.4, 27.8, 19.8. **LRMS** (EI): 160 [M], 144, 126, 117, 101, 89, 77, 57, 27. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₁H₁₃O⁺ 161.0961 [M+H⁺], found 161.0961.



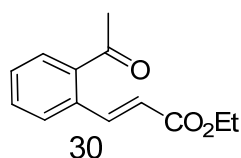
Compound 28. A mixture of compound **27** (0.9 g, 5.62 mmol), NBS (1.1 g, 6.18 mmol) and AIBN (0.23 g, 1.4 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of anhydrous benzene and refluxed at 80 °C under nitrogen protection for eight hours. Benzene was then evaporated *in vacuo*, the residue redissolved in 60 mL of dioxane/H₂O (5:1, v/v) was refluxed with CaCO₃ (2.81 g, 28.1 mmol) over night. 40 mL of EtOAc was added and the reaction mixture was filtered. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (2×20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the resulted residue was purified through a silica gel column to give the desired alcohol **28** (0.63 g, 64 %). **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 3065, 2980, 2616, 1715, 1693, 1598, 1258, 1014, 755 cm⁻¹. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.95 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.46 (m, 3H), 6.70 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.00 (br, 1H). ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.6, 140.2, 139.7, 133.4, 130.4, 129.0, 129.0, 128.5, 126.9, 63.3, 27.7. **LRMS** (EI): 177 [M+1], 157, 115, 89, 77, 63, 42. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₂H₁₅O₃⁺ 177.0910 [M+H]⁺, found 177.0908.



Compound 29. A mixture of PCC (0.38 g, 1.77 mmol) and Celite (0.76 g) was added to a stirred solution of alcohol **28** (0.2 g, 1.14 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂. The mixture was stirred over night. 10 mL of Et₂O was added to dilute the reaction and the mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation *in vacuo* and the residue was purified

by silica gel column chromatography to give the product as a clear oil (0.17 g, 86 %). **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2921, 1764, 1685, 1598, 1366, 1045, 737 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.24 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, $J = 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.69 (m, 3H), 6.60 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 198.7, 192.6, 140.6, 136.4, 134.0, 133.8, 131.8, 130.1, 127.9, 27.0. **LRMS** (EI): 175 [$\text{M}+1$], 158, 133, 104, 77, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2^+$ 175.0754 [$\text{M}+\text{H}^+$], found 175.0761.

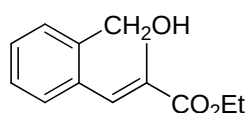
2.10 Synthesis of Compound 30²



Compound 30. To a stirred solution of **15** (0.204 g, 1.0 mmol) in 10 mL of anhydrous Et_2O , Methylmagnesium iodide (0.5 mL, 3.12 M in Et_2O , 1.56 mmol) was added with dropwise through a syringe under nitrogen protection at -40°C . After one hour, saturated NH_4Cl aqueous solution (5 mL) was slowly added to quench the reaction. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (2×20 mL) and dried over Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the crude product was directly used for next step without further purification.

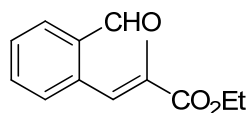
Alcohol (0.18 g, 0.82 mmol) obtained above was redissolved in 20 mL of anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 , PCC (0.26 g, 1.23 mmol) and Celite (0.52 g) were then added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for three hours. After reaction, Et_2O (5 mL) was added and the mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, the residue was purified by column chromatography to give the desired compound **30** (0.15 g, 86 % for two steps from compound **15**). **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2982, 2850, 1714, 1682, 1566, 1359, 1251, 1178, 1041, 863, 768, 607 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.14 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 200.6, 166.3, 143.7, 138.0, 134.6, 131.8, 129.2, 129.1, 128.1, 120.7, 60.3, 29.1, 14.1. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 190, 162, 134, 117, 91, 77, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3^+$ 219.1016 [$\text{M}+\text{H}^+$], found 219.1017.

2.11 Synthesis of Compounds 31-32



31

Compound 31. ¹¹ Compound **2** (1.0 g, 2.67 mmol) was added to a solution of PPh₃=C(CH₃)CO₂Et (1.06 g, 2.94 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous MeOH under nitrogen protection. After reaction, the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was dissolved in EtOAc (50 mL), washed with brine (3×20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* to give a colorless oil, which was directly used for next step without further purification. The protecting group was then removed by 3 % HCl-MeOH solution at room temperature to give the compound **31**. Yield, 54 % for two steps from **2**. **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 3331, 2936, 1713, 1592, 1367, 1101, 765, 601 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (s, 1 H), 7.47 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 2 H), 7.21 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 4.26 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.26 (br, 1H), 1.93 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.4, 139.2, 136.8, 134.3, 130.4, 129.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 62.9, 61.0, 14.3, 14.0. **LRMS** (EI): 219 [M-1], 202, 189, 174, 161, 144, 131, 119, 105, 91, 77, 65, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₃H₁₇O₃⁺ 221.1172 [M+H]⁺, found 221.1171.

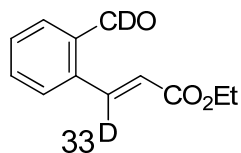


32

Compound 32. Alcohol **31** (300 mg, 1.0 equiv) in 20 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ was oxidized with PCC (439 mg, 1.5 equiv) and Celite (880 mg, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature for three hours. Then Et₂O (5 mL) was added and the mixture was filtered on a pad of silica gel. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the product **32** as a colorless oil (273 mg, 92 %). **IR** (neat) $\nu_{\max}$: 2964, 2845, 1693, 1442, 1230, 1010, 869, 767 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.6, 167.7, 138.8, 136.0, 133.8, 133.7, 132.0, 130.0, 129.9, 128.4, 61.1, 14.3, 14.0. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 203, 189, 173, 161, 146, 131, 117, 102, 89, 77, 63, 51, 39, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃⁺ 219.1016 [M+H]⁺, found 219.1017.

2.12 Synthesis of Compound 33

The synthesis route for compound **33** was similar to compound **15** except of LiAlD₄ used to reduce the phthalate in the first step.

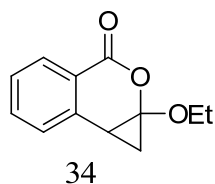


Compound 33. IR (neat) ν_{max} : 2983, 2850, 1740, 1621, 1373, 1245, 1179, 1045, 847,

607 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.89 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.55 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.2, 136.6, 133.9, 133.8, 132.2, 129.9, 128.0, 123.2, 60.8, 14.3. LRMS (EI): 206 [M], 176, 160, 148, 133, 104, 79, 64, 43, 28, 14. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₁₂H₁₀D₂O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺ 207.0985, found 207.0994.

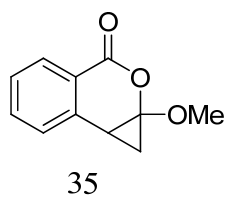
2.13 General Procedure for Irradiation of Compounds 15-19, 22-24, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33 in Benzene.

The reactant dissolved in benzene (2.0 mg/mL) was purged with nitrogen for 20 min then irradiated with a 500 W medium-pressure mercury lamp through a Pyrex filter. The reaction was monitored by TLC. After reaction, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography to give the photoproduct.^{2,5}



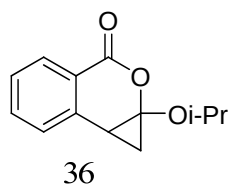
Compound 34. Yield 89 %. IR (neat): ν_{max} 2982, 2849, 1736, 1607, 1374, 1046, 737,

607 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (m, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.88-3.94 (m, 2H), 2.60 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.81 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.8, 140.7, 134.2, 131.2, 127.9, 127.3, 120.4, 91.4, 64.4, 22.4, 21.4, 15.1. LRMS (EI): 204 [M], 175, 146, 131, 103, 77, 51, 29. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₁₂H₁₃O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺ 205.0859, found 205.0867.

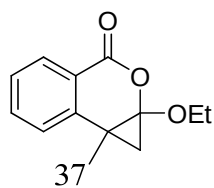


Compound 35. Yield 67.7%. IR (neat) ν_{max} : 2952, 2834, 1716, 1608, 1476, 953, 826,

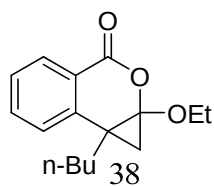
676 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (m, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.61 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (q, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.8, 140.6, 134.3, 131.2, 127.9, 127.4, 120.3, 92.3, 55.7, 22.3, 21.2. **LRMS** (EI): 190 [M], 161, 130, 103, 77, 59, 28, 15. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₁H₁₁O₃ 191.0703⁺ [M+H]⁺, found 191.0709.



Compound 36. Yield 71%. **IR** (neat) *v*_{max}: 2923, 2779, 1724, 1606, 1463, 1108, 752, 688 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (m, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (m, 1H), 2.59 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.8, 140.7, 134.1, 131.2, 127.9, 127.3, 120.4, 90.7, 72.7, 23.4, 23.3, 22.3, 21.7. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 191, 176, 162, 147, 130, 103, 91, 77, 59, 43, 28, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃⁺ 219.1016 [M+H]⁺, found 219.1018.

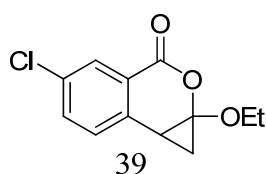


Compound 37. Yield 98 %. **IR** (neat) *v*_{max}: 2928, 2850, 1723, 1605, 1469, 1195, 770, 692 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 0.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.36 (m, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (q, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.48 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.7, 144.4, 134.2, 131.0, 126.8, 125.5, 120.4, 94.6, 64.7, 27.4, 24.4, 16.1, 15.2. **LRMS** (EI): 218 [M], 189, 161, 145, 115, 91, 63, 45, 29, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃⁺ 219.1016 [M+H]⁺, found 219.1024.

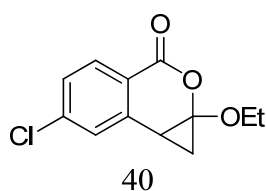


Compound 38. Yield 82 %. **IR** (neat) *v*_{max}: 2956, 2930, 2860, 1716, 1633, 1447, 1171, 764, 609 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.36

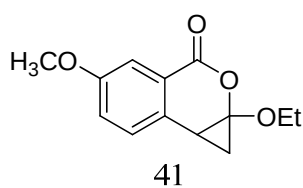
(m, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.08-4.16 (m, 1H), 3.80-3.87 (m, 1H), 2.32-2.38 (m, 1H), 1.56-1.64 (m, 3H), 1.44 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.30-1.34 (m, 5H), 0.88 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 0.82 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.6, 142.9, 133.9, 131.2, 126.6, 125.8, 121.3, 94.7, 64.8, 30.1, 29.3, 28.4, 27.0, 22.8, 15.3, 13.8. **LRMS** (EI): 260 [M], 242, 217, 189, 171, 156, 144, 131, 115, 103, 91, 77, 41, 29, 14. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_3^+$ 261.1485 [M+H] $^+$, found 261.1481.



Compound 39. Yield 75 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2918, 2851, 1724, 1484, 1264, 1180, 1041, 953, 765 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.10 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.87-3.93 (m, 2H), 2.58 (q, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.89 (q, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.31 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.0, 142.3, 140.7, 132.8, 127.9, 127.9, 118.9, 91.4, 64.6, 22.6, 21.2, 15.1. **LRMS** (EI): 238 [M], 224, 210, 196, 183, 164, 158, 138, 131, 103, 89, 77, 63, 51, 43, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClO}_3^+$ 239.0478 [M+H] $^+$, found 239.0469.

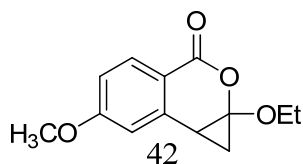


Compound 40. Yield 73 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2919, 2851, 1724, 1484, 1275, 1178, 953, 764 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.14 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (m, 2H), 2.57 (q, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.85 (q, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.31 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 0.82 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 160.6, 139.0, 134.3, 133.4, 130.9, 129.3, 121.9, 91.5, 64.6, 22.5, 20.9, 15.1. **LRMS** (EI): 239 [M+1], 209, 181, 165, 137, 102, 75, 51, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClO}_3^+$ 239.0478 [M+H] $^+$, found 239.0469.



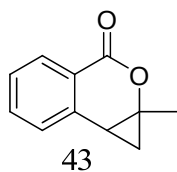
Compound 41. Yield 63 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2924, 2840, 1722, 1504, 1269,

1025, 679 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.66 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.96 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.57 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.78 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.76 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 162.0, 158.8, 133.0, 129.0, 122.6, 121.2, 113.2, 91.5, 64.4, 55.7, 21.9, 20.8, 15.1. **LRMS** (EI): 234 [M], 205 176, 161, 117, 89, 77, 63, 29. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4^+$ 235.0965 [M+H] $^+$, found 235.0972.



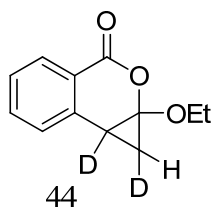
Compound 42. Yield 74 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2915, 2834, 1712, 1635, 1466, 1352,

1033, 679 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.13 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88-6.90 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.95 (m, 5H), 2.56 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.85 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.2, 161.7, 143.0, 133.6, 113.8, 113.0, 112.1, 91.2, 64.4, 55.6, 22.2, 21.7, 15.1. **LRMS** (EI): 234 [M], 206, 176, 161, 117, 89, 77, 63, 28. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4^+$ 235.0965 [M+H] $^+$, found 235.0972.



Compound 43. Yield 48 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2928, 2854, 1715, 1608, 1488, 1308, 1128,

743, 645 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.14 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (m, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (m, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (q, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.43 (q, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 0.69 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 162.6, 142.0, 133.9, 131.0, 127.8, 126.8, 120.1, 63.0, 23.1, 22.9, 20.6. **LRMS** (EI): 173 [M-1], 131, 103, 77, 43, 15. **HRMS** (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2^+$ 175.0754 [M+H] $^+$, found 175.0763.



Compound 44. Yield 73 %. **IR** (neat) ν_{max} : 2925, 2853, 1725, 1619, 1463, 1262, 1085,

747, 688 cm^{-1} . **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.17 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,

$J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.88-3.94 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 0.81 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.8, 140.6, 134.2, 131.2, 127.9, 127.3, 120.4, 91.3, 64.5, 15.1. LRMS (EI): 206 [M], 176, 167, 133, 105, 78, 51, 29. HRMS (ESI): calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{D}_2\text{O}_3^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 207.0985, found 207.0994.

Quantum yields for formation of products (lactones) were determined in dried benzene solutions containing 0.01 mol/L reactant and 1.000 g/mL tetradecane as internal standard. Equal volumes (3 mL) of each solution were placed in specially cleaned 1×10 cm Pyrex culture tubes, degassed 20 min and sealed. Irradiations were conducted at about 25 °C in a merry-go-round apparatus with a 500 W medium-pressure mercury lamp housed in an immersion well. The 313-nm mercury line was isolated by a glass tube which contained an aqueous solution of 0.002 mol/L K_2CrO_4 /5% K_2CO_3 . Quantum yields of photoproduct formation were determined by quantitative GC relative to acetophenone formation (<10%) from parallel runs on 0.1 mol/L valerophenone in benzene containing 1.000 g/mL of tetradecane as internal standard ($\Phi = 0.32$). Quantum yield for formation of lactones were determined at varying conversions. The experiment was repeated three times and average quantum yield for formation of lactone was 0.36.

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