## **Supporting Information**

Synthesis of B-Ring-fluorinated (-)-Epicatechin Gallate Derivatives

David D. S. Thieltges, Kai D. Baumgarten, Carina S. Michaelis and Constantin Czekelius\*

Institute for Organic Chemistry and Macromolecular Chemistry, Universität Düsseldorf, Universitätsstr. 1, D-40225 Düsseldorf, Germany

> Corresponding Author Constantin Czekelius Fax:+49211 81 11501 E-mail: constantin.czekelius@hhu.de

1	GENERAL METHODS
2	EXPERIMENTAL SECTION
2.1	1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)5
2.2	(1 <i>R</i> ,2 <i>S</i> )-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (10)6
2.3	3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (mixture of stereoisomers)6
2.4	(1 <i>R</i> ,2 <i>S</i> )-( <i>O</i> )- <i>tert</i> -Butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (17)7
2.5	3,5-Bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (20)8
2.6	(1 <i>R,2S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(( <i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)propan-2-ol (18)
2.7	(1 <i>R,2S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(( <i>tert</i> -butyl-dimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2- methoxyethoxymethyl)oxy)propan9
2.8	(1 <i>R,2S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxy)meth-oxy)propan-1- ol (21)10
2.9	(2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)chromane (22)10
2.10	(2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (23)11
2.11	(2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (24)12
2.12	Benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate <sup>[3]</sup> 12
2.13	3,4,5-Tris(benzyloxy)benzoic acid <sup>[3]</sup> 13
2.14	(2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (25)13
2.15	(2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26)14
2.16	Evaluation of stability of (2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>R</i> )-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26) at high pH conditions
2.17	(1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate (Mosher´s esters)15
3	SPECTRA16
3.1	1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)16
3.2	(1 <i>R,2S</i> )-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (10)19

3.3	3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (mixture of stereoisomers)21
3.4	(1 <i>R</i> ,2 <i>S</i> )-( <i>O</i> )- <i>tert</i> -Butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (17)23
3.5	3,5-Bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (20)25
3.6	(1 <i>R</i> ,2 <i>S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorphenyl)-1-(( <i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)propan-2-ol (18)26
3.7	(1 <i>R</i> ,2 <i>S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorbenzyl)-1-(( <i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)-2-((2- methoxyethoxymethyl)oxy)propan28
3.8	(1 <i>R,2S</i> )-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorphenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)-2-((2-methoxy-ethoxy)methoxy)propan-1-ol (21)31
3.9	(2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>S</i> )-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)chromane (22)
3.10	(2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (23)
3.11	(2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>R</i> )-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (24)40
3.12	Benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate43
3.13	3,4,5-Tris(benzyloxy)benzoic acid43
3.14	(2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (25)44
3.15	(2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26)47
3.16	(2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26) at pH 10
3.17	(1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-(S)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate52
4	HPLC TRACES
4.1	1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)56
4.2	3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (10)57
5	REFERENCES

## **1 GENERAL METHODS**

All reactions were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using established Schlenk techniques. The glassware was dried at 120 °C for two hours and cooled under evacuation using a high vacuum rotary vane oil pump (vacuubrand RZ 6). Chemicals and solvents were purchased from Alfa Aesar, Fluka, TCI, VWR, Merck or Sigma Aldrich and used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. Dry solvents (tetrahydrofuran, toluene, dichloromethane, diethylether) were taken from a MBraun Solvent Purification System (MB-SPS-800). *N*,*N*-Dimethylformamide (DMF) was distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> and stored over molecular sieve (4 Å). Other chemicals or solvents were purified according to common laboratory methods. For thin-layer chromatography (TLC) analysis, Macherey-Nagel precoated plates (ALUGRAM® Xtra G/UV254) with fluorescence indicator were used. The detection occurred by UV radiation (254 nm) and by staining with cerium molybdophosphoric acid solution (16.0 mL concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 200 mL distilled water, 5.00 g molybdophosphoric acid, 2.00 g Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> x 4 H<sub>2</sub>O). For preparative silica-gel chromatography or flash chromatography Macherey-Nagel silica-gel (60 Mesh, 0.04-0.063 mm) was used. Medium pressure chromatography (MPLC) was done using a Büchi Sepacore® X50 system.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR and <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III 300 or 600 spectrometer. The NMR samples were dissolved in deuterated chloroform (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) or methanol (CD<sub>3</sub>OD). The recorded spectra were calibrated on the corresponding solvent signal (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR -  $\delta$  = 7.26 pmm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR -  $\delta$  = 77.0 ppm; CD<sub>3</sub>OD: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR -  $\delta$  = 4.87 pmm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR -  $\delta$  = 49.0 ppm). Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm). Splitting patterns are indicated as follows: br, broad; s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Jasco FT/IR 6200 as a thin film on a NaCl single crystal at 499 – 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a resolution of 4 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Enantiomeric excesses were measured using a VWR-Hitachi LaChrom ELITE® HPLC system with Daicel CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> columns (length: 25 cm, diameter: 0.46 cm). Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin Elmer Polarimeter (341) at 589 nm. For High resolution electrospray ionization mass spectra (HRMS ESI) a Bruker Daltonics UHR-QTOF maXis 4G was used.

## 2 EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

#### 2.1 1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)



#### Synthesis by addition of vinyImagnesium bromide to 3,4-difluorobenzaldehyde (8)

A solution of 3,4-difluorobenzaldehyde (8) (2.00 mL, 18.2 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in THF (40 mL) was cooled to -78 °C. Vinylmagnesium bromide (1.0 m in THF, 21.7 mL, 21.7 mmol, 1.19 eq.) was added dropwise over a period of 15 minutes and the mixture was stirred for 3.5 hours until full conversion was indicated by TLC analysis on silica plates deactivated with 1 % (v/v) Et<sub>3</sub>N. Saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (3.30 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (40.0 mL) were added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Column chromatography (*n*-hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1:1.25) on deactivated silica gel (1 % (v/v) NEt<sub>3</sub>) gave 1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9) (2.58 g, 15.2 mmol, 84%) as a slightly yellowish oil.

 $R_f = 0.38$  (*n*-hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1:1.25).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.25–7.03 (m, 3H, arom.-*H*), 5.96 (ddd, *J* = 17.1, 10.3, 6.2 Hz, 1H, *H*-2), 5.33 (dt, *J* = 17.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-3a), 5.22 (dt, *J* = 10.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H, *H*-3b), 5.14 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 2.24 (s, 1H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -137.43 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -139.50 (d, J = 21.0 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 151.8 (dd, J = 45.7, 12.8 Hz), 148.5 (dd, J = 45.2, 12.7 Hz), 139.7, 139.7-139.6 (m), 122.4 (dd, J = 6.4, 3.6 Hz), 117.3 (d, J = 17.3 Hz), 116.1, 115.5 (d, J = 17.9 Hz), 74.4.

IR (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3427, 3069, 3001, 2925, 1612, 1520, 1435, 1380, 1283, 1210, 1143, 1116, 1075, 1042, 967, 946, 925, 826, 768, 751, 709, 656, 562.

HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z* calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 169.0470, found 169.0465.

#### Attempted enantioselective addition of divinylzinc to 3,4-difluorobenzaldehyde (8) in the presence of (-)-MIB<sup>[1]</sup> (14)

VinyImagnesium bromide (1.0 M in THF, 5.44 mL, 5.44 mmol, 4.00 eq) was added over 10 minutes to a solution of zinc chloride (1.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 2.72 mL, 2.72 mmol, 2.00 eq.) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. 1,4-dioxane (1.65 mL, 19.3 mmol, 14.2 eq.) was added and the grey precipitate was filtered off using a Schlenk-frit and rinsed with 1,4-dioxane (4 x 6 mL). The solution of divinyl zinc was concentrated in vacuo at room temperature. Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL), (–)-MIB<sup>[1]</sup> (16.0 mg, 66.8 µmol , 4.91 mol%), diethylzinc (1.0 M in *n*-hexane, 4.22 mL, 4.22 mmol, 3.10 eq.) and 3,4-difluorobenzaldehyde (**8**) (0.15 mL, 1.36 mmol, 1.00 eq.) were added. After 2 h, saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL) solution was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 minutes. The white precipitate was filtered off and rinsed with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1:1.25, on deactivated silica-gel: 1 % (v/v) NEt<sub>3</sub>) to give allylic alcohol **9** (199 mg, 1.17 mmol, 86%) as a slightly yellowish oil in racemic form (Chiral HPLC: Chiralpak IA, flow 0.9 mL/min., *n*-hexane/isopropanol 99.5:0.5).



A solution of freshly distilled Ti(O<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>4</sub> (17.5 mL, 58.8 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (500 mL) was dried over molecular sieve (4 Å, 40.0 g) that was crushed and baked out at 200 °C in vacuo overnight and cooled to -25 °C. (-)-D-DIPT (13.5 mL, 64.4 mmol, 1.10 eq.) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 minutes. TBHP (5.5 M in *n*-decane, 5.35 mL, 29.4 mmol, 0.501 eq.) was added and stirring was continued for another 30 minutes. A solution of 1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (**9**) (10.0 g, 58.8 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) that was dried over molecular sieve (4 Å, 8.00 g) was added via transfer cannula. Aliquots were taken for monitoring conversion. The mixture was stirred for 62 h until 50% conversion was indicated by <sup>19</sup>F-NMR-spectroscopy. It was poured into an ice-cold solution of FeSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O (11.4 g, 41.1 mmol, 0.700 eq.) and (+)-L-tartaric acid (9.72 g, 64.8 mmol, 1.10 eq.) in H<sub>2</sub>O (240 mL). After stirring for 30 minutes at room temperature, the solid was filtered off and washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 100 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 x 300 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, before the solvent was removed under reduced pressure at room temperature. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1) to give (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (**10**) (4.46 g, 24.0 mmol, 41%) as a colorless oil with 97% *ee* (Chiral HPLC: Chiralpak IB, flow 0.9 mL/min., *n*-hexane/isopropanol 95:5).

In an entirely analogous fashion, but running the reaction at -35 °C, the product was isolated in 22% yield and >99% ee.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.33 (n-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1). [\alpha]_{D}^{27} = -65.2 (c = 1.5, CHCl_{3}).$ 

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.28–7.08 (m, 3H, arom.-*H*), 4.90 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 3.19 (ddd, *J* = 4.0, 3.2, 2.7 Hz, 1H, *H*-2"), 2.91 (ddd, *J* = 4.9, 2.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"a), 2.77 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"b), 2.30 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -137.05 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), -138.50 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{C}$  [ppm] = 152.1 (dd, *J* = 26.3, 12.5 Hz), 148.8 (*J* = 26.2, 12.5 Hz), 136.6 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 3.7 Hz), 122.5 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 3.7 Hz), 117.5 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz), 115.5 (d, *J* = 18.1), 70.0, 54.9, 43.6.

IR (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3428, 3069, 3001, 2925, 1612, 1519, 1435, 1283, 1210, 1143, 1116, 1075, 1042, 967, 946, 925, 850, 826, 768, 751, 708, 656, 626, 562.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M - H]<sup>-</sup> 185.0420, found 185.0414.

#### 2.3 3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (mixture of stereoisomers)



A solution of 1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (8) (200 mg, 1.18 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10.0 mL) was cooled to -30 °C and a solution of *m*CPBA (378 mg, 2.19 mmol, 1.86 eq.) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred for 25 h at -30 °C and for 21 h at -10 °C. After addition of additional *m*CPBA (388 mg, 2.25 mmol, 1.91 eq.) from another batch the mixture was stirred for 26 – 10 °C. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> solution (10 % in water, 12.0 mL) was added. The organic phase was washed with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> solution (10 % in water,

2 x 19 mL) and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (3 x 13 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure and column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1, deactivated with 1 vol% NEt<sub>3</sub>) gave the racemic diastereomeric mixture (60.6 mg, 0.326 mmol, 28 %) as a colourless oil.

**R**<sub>f</sub> = 0.33 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.30–7.04 (m, 6H, arom.-*H*), 4.86 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, erythro-*H*-1), 4.44 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, threo-*H*-1), 3.27–3.09 (m, 2H, *H*-2"), 2.93–2.86 (m, 1H, *H*-1"a), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H, threo-*H*-1"b), 2.77 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H, erythro-*H*-1"b), 2.74–2.33 (br-s, 2H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -136.98 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -137.08 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -138.58 (d, J = 7.4 Hz), -138.58 (d, J = 7.7 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{c}$  [ppm] = 152.2 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 2.15 Hz), 151.9 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 2.3 Hz), 148.9 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 2.3 Hz), 148.6 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 2.5 Hz), 137.2 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.8 Hz), 136.6 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.7 Hz), 122.4 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.4, 3.7 Hz), 117.5 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 5.5 Hz), 115.5 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz), 73.3, 69.9, 55.8, 54.9, 45.5, 43.6.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3423, 3068, 3002, 2894, 1611, 1566, 1520, 1435, 1284, 1210, 1143, 1116, 1050, 962, 922, 879, 854, 826, 809, 768, 752, 625.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 185.0420, found 185.0416.

#### 2.4 (1R,2S)-(O)-tert-Butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (17)



A solution of (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (**10**) (955 mg, 5.13 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10.3 mL) was cooled to -10 °C before TBDMSCl (1.96 g, 13.0 mmol, 2.54 eq.) and imidazole (1.06 g, 15.6 mmol, 3.03 eq.) were added. After 14.5 h saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (20.0 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (20.0 mL) were added and the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (30 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1) to give (1*R*,2*S*)-(*O*)-tert-butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (**17**) (1.33 g, 4.43 mmol, 86%) as a colorless oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.65$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{27} = -42.1$  (c = 1.77, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.26–7.02 (m, 3H, arom.-*H*), 4.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 2.98 (td, *J* = 3.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H, *H*-2"), 2.79 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"a), 2.72 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.8 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"b), 0.88 (s, 9H, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.08 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>), -0.02 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ_F$  [ppm] = -137.52 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -139.45 (d, J = 21.2 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 151.9 (dd, *J* = 37.3, 12.7 Hz), 148.6 (dd, *J* = 36.6, 12.6 Hz), 138.77 (m), 122.2 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 3.6 Hz), 117.2 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 115.3 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz), 72.6, 72.6, 55.7, 44.6, 25.8, 18.4, 1.2, -4.7, -4.8.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3063, 2956, 2930, 2887, 2858, 1729, 1611, 1519, 1472, 1434, 1362, 1288, 1257, 1209, 1146, 1115, 1084, 1004, 961, 939, 839, 778, 673, 625, 583.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 301.1430, found 301.1428.



A solution of NaH (60% in mineral oil, 4.60 g, 115 mmol, 2.98 eq.) in *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidon (60.0 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Benzyl alcohol (9.90 mL, 95.2 mmol, 2.46 eq.) was added dropwise and the solution was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. 1,3,5-Trifluorobenzene (**19**) (4.00 mL, 38.7 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was added at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature and for 2.5 h at 100 °C. After cooling to 0 °C, H<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3x). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (2 x 20 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The yellow oil crystallized overnight. Benzyl alcohol and *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidon were separated by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 32:1) and the resulting mixture of 3,5-bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (**20**) and 1,3,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzene was purified by repetitive recrystallization (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 6.5:1– 3:1). The residue was purified by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 32:1). The reaction gave 3,5-bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (**20**) (10.3 g, 29.0 mmol, 75%) as a white solid.

R<sub>f</sub> = 0.19 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99:1); 0.65 (*n*-hexane /EtOAc 90:10).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.30–7.46 (m, 10H, OC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 6.41 (td, *J* = 2.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H, *H*-4), 6.33 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 2.2 Hz, 2H, *H*-2, *H*-6), 5.01 (s, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $δ_F$  [ppm] = -110.76 (s).

# 2.6 (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)propan-2-ol (18)



A solution of 3,5-bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (**20**) (821 mg, 2.66 mmol, 1.99 eq.) in THF (23.0 mL) was cooled to -78 °C, before *n*-BuLi (2.5 M in *n*-hexane, 1.16 mL, 2.90 mmol, 2.16 eq.) was added and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at -78 °C. (1*R*,2*S*)-(*O*)-*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (**17**) (402 mg, 1.34 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and freshly distilled BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> (0.35 mL, 2.76 mmol, 2.06 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred for 5 minutes at -78 °C before the reaction was quenched by the addition of MeOH (4.00 mL) and brine (6.00 mL). After warming up to room temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (20.0 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (25 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by MPLC (gradient over 2 h: *n*-hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 2.3:1  $\rightarrow$  1:1.5, flow: 30 mL/min., length: 15 cm, diameter: 4 cm) to give (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-bis (benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)propan-2-ol (**18**) (620 mg, 1.02 mmol, 76%) as a white solid.

 $R_f = 0.22$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 19:1).  $[\alpha]_D^{27} = -36.7$  (c = 1.0, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.44–7.27 (m, 10H, arom.-*H*), 7.22–7.12 (m, 1H, *H*-6"), 7.08–6.96 (m, 2H, *H*-2", *H*-5"), 6.38 (dd, *J* = 2.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-3'), 6.32 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-5'), 4.97 (d, *J* = 7.67 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.65 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 3.84 (dq, *J* = 9.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H, *H*-2), 2.79–2.63 (m, 2H, *H*-3a, *H*-3b), 2.04 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, 1H, OH), 0.89 (s, 9H, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.04 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>), -0.13 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -114.86, -137.93 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), -139.99 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 164.1, 160.9, 158.8 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz), 158.4 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz), 151.5 (dd, *J* = 45.6, 12.7 Hz), 148.3 (dd, *J* = 45.6, 12.7 Hz), 139.0 (m), 136.6, 136.4, 128.8, 128.3, 127.7, 127.5, 122.7 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 3.5 Hz), 116.8 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz), 107.3 (d, *J* = 19.2 Hz), 96.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 94.6 (d, *J* = 28.1 Hz), 77.3, 70.7, 70.5, 25.9, 24.8, 18.3, -4.6, -4.9.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3033, 2929, 2857, 2337, 1628, 1589, 1516, 1500, 1455, 1436, 1377, 1279, 1257, 1207, 1144, 1105, 1029, 939, 836, 777, 749, 697, 617.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>39</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 609.2635, found 609.2642.

# 2.7 (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((*tert*-butyl-dimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxymethyl)oxy)propan



A solution of (1R,2S)-3-(2,4-bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)propan-2-ol (18) (100 mg, 0.164 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.47 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Diisopropylethylamine (0.34 mL, 2.00 mmol, 12.2 eq.), MEMCl (0.11 mL, 0.962 mmol, 5.87 eq.) and *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (3.5 mg, 9.5 µmol, 0.058 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24.5 h. Saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (1.75 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 mL) were added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (3 x 10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by MPLC (gradient over 2 h: *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1  $\rightarrow$  4:1, flow: 30 mL/min., length: 15 cm, diameter: 4 cm) gave (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-2-((methoxyethoxy-methyl)oxy)propan (107 mg, 0.154 mmol, 94%) as a white solid.

 $R_f = 0.23$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1).  $[\alpha]_D^{22} = -45.9$  (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.44–7.27 (m, 10H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.22–7.13 (m, 1H, *H*-6''), 7.03–6.90 (m, 2H, *H*-2'', *H*-5''), 6.34 (dd, J = 2.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-3'), 6.29 (dd, J = 11.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-5'), 4.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.63 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 4.39 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.31 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.02 (dt, J = 8.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-2), 3.27 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.21–2.96 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 2.88–2.72 (m, 2H, *H*-3a, *H*-3b), 0.86 (s, 9H, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.04 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>), -0.16 (s, 3H, SiCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -114.17 (s), -138.19 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), -140.22 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{C}$  [ppm] = 164.1, 160.9, 158.6 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 158.5, 151.3 (dd, *J* = 45.2, 12.3 Hz), 148.0 (dd, *J* = 44.8, 12.8 Hz), 139.4 (m), 136.5, 136.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 127.3, 122.9 (m), 116.5 (dd, *J* = 30.7, 17.4 Hz), 107.6 (d, *J* = 18.9 Hz), 96.1 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 94.8, 94.2 (d, *J* = 28.0 Hz), 80.2, 76.2, 71.5, 70.4, 70.3, 66.6, 58.9, 29.7, 25.8, 24.1, 18.2, -4.8, -5.0.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 2928, 2885, 2856, 1626, 1589, 1517, 1500, 1456, 1436, 1376, 1280, 1254, 1219, 1170, 1146, 1111, 1039, 984, 952, 913, 837, 773, 697, 627.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>51</sub>NF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Si [M + NH<sub>4</sub>] + 714.3432, found 714.3432.

2.8 (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxy)meth-oxy)propan-1-ol (21)



To a solution of (1R,2S)-3-(2,4-bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethyl-silyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((methoxyethoxy-methyl)oxy)propane (1.99 g, 2.85 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in THF (180 mL) was added tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride (1.0 M in THF, 3.76 mL, 3.76 mmol, 1.32 eq.) and the mixture was stirred for 22 h at room temperature. Phosphate buffer solution (pH = 7, 100 mL) was added and stirring was continued for 1 h before the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (4 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (3 x 50 mL) and brine (100 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by MPLC (gradient over 2 h: *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2.3:1  $\rightarrow$  1.5:1, flow: 30 mL/min., length: 15 cm, diameter: 4 cm) gave (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxy)-methoxy)-propan-1-ol (**21**) (1.63 g, 2.80 mmol, 98%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.53$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1.5:1).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = +11.5$  (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.43–7.28 (m, 10H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.25–7.15 (m, 1H, *H*-6"), 7.03–6.87 (m, 2H, *H*-2", *H*-5"), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 2.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-3'), 6.31 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-5'), 4.97 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.76 (t, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 4.62 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.53 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.10 (dt, *J* = 8.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H, *H*-2), 3.55–3.32 (m, 7H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.87 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H, *H*-3b), 2.54 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H, *H*-3a), 2.36 (s, 1H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ_F$  [ppm] = -113.72, -138.15 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), -140.32 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 164.1, 161, 158.8 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz), 158.5 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz), 137.8 (m), 136.5, 136.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.7, 122.8 (m), 116.7 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 116.0 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz), 106.9 (d, *J* = 19.2 Hz), 96.4, 95.0, 94.7, 94.4, 80.8, 73.5, 71.7, 70.8, 70.5, 67.4, 59.0, 22.60.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 2924, 2854, 2370, 2325, 1625, 1588, 1558, 1541, 1519, 1456, 1436, 1375, 1278, 1220, 1170, 1143, 1104, 1030, 913, 820, 772, 697.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>51</sub>NF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Si [M + NH<sub>4</sub>] + 714.3432, found 714.3432.

#### 2.9 (2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)chromane (22)



To a solution of (1R,2S)-3-(2,4-bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorophenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxy)-methoxy)propan-1-ol (21) (500 mg, 0.859 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in DMF (500 mL) was slowly added a solution of KO<sup>4</sup>Bu (144 mg, 1.28 mmol, 1.49 eq.) in DMF (24.0 mL) using a syringe pump (1 mL/h). After 24 h, the syringe was replaced and another solution of KO<sup>4</sup>Bu (144 mg, 1.28 mmol, 1.49 eq.) in DMF (24.0 mL) was added over 24 h. Phosphate buffer solution (pH = 7, 750 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 150 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (150 mL) and brine (150 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by MPLC (gradient over 2 h: *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2.3:1  $\rightarrow$  1.5:1, flow: 30 mL/min., length: 15 cm, diameter: 4 cm) gave

(2*R*,3*S*)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy) chromane (**16**) (296 mg, 0.527 mmol, 61%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.48$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2.33:1).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = +17.8$  (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.48–7.25 (m, 10H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.28–7.10 (m, 3H, *H*-2', *H*-5', *H*-6'), 6.28 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-6), 6.25 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-8), 5.02 (d, *J* = 5.42 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.91 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-2), 4.75 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.50 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.09 (td, *J* = 7.5, 5.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-3), 3.57 – 3.30 (m, 7H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H, *H*-4b), 2.72 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 7.7 Hz, 1H, *H*-4a).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -137.37 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), -138.68 (d, J = 21.0 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.0, 157.8, 154.8, 151.9 (dd, *J* = 18.4, 12.4 Hz), 148.6 (dd, *J* = 18.5, 12.4 Hz), 138.0, 137.0, 136.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.4, 125.4, 123.3 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 3.6 Hz), 117.2 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz), 116.1 (d, *J* = 18.2 Hz), 101.9, 94.5, 94.1, 93.9, 78.9, 72.2, 71.7, 70.3, 70.2, 67.0, 59.1, 25.3, 21.6.

IR (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 2916, 2364, 1619, 1593, 1520, 1498, 1436, 1376, 1280, 1219, 1149, 1115, 1053, 814, 772, 697, 510. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>33</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 563.2240, found 563.2241.

#### 2.10 (2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (23)



A solution of (2R,3S)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)chromane (**22**) (258 mg, 0.459 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10.0 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Phloroglucinol (177 mg, 1.41 mmol, 3.07 eq.) and *p*-TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (382 mg, 2.01 mmol, 4.37 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred for 14 days at room temperature. Saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (30 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) were added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (4 x 40 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by MPLC (gradient over 2 h: *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2.3:1  $\rightarrow$  1.5:1, flow: 30 mL/min., length: 15 cm, diameter: 4 cm) afforded (2*R*,3*S*)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (**23**) (174 mg, 0.367 mmol, 80%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.54$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2.33:1).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = -10.0$  (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.46–7.11 (m, 13H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, H-2', H-5', H-6'), 6.29 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.23 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-8), 5.02 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.75 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-2), 4.40 (tt, J = 8.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H, H-3), 3.08 (dd, J = 16.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H, H-4b), 2.69 (dd, J = 16.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H, H-4a), 1.76 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -136.66 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), -137.88 (d, *J* = 21.2 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 159.1, 157.9, 154.9, 152.2 (t, *J* = 12.9 Hz), 148.9 (t, *J* = 12.9 Hz), 136.9, 135.5 (m), 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.3, 123.4 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 3.6 Hz), 117.6 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz), 102.0, 94.5, 94.2, 80.6, 70.3, 70.1, 68.3, 27.7.

**IR** (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{v}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3284, 3032, 2869, 2346, 1619,1499,1455,1434,1376,1341,1276, 1221, 1154, 1115, 1088, 1049, 913, 813, 772, 744, 699, 627, 512.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>25</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 475.1715, found 475.1721.

#### 2.11 (2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (24)



For the inversion of configuration of secondary alcohol **23** a modified protocol reported by Li and Chan was followed.<sup>[2]</sup> To a solution of (2R,3S)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (**23**) (50.1 mg 0.106 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) was added Dess-Martin periodinane (59.5 mg, 0.140 mmol, 1.32 eq.). After 85 minutes the solvent was evaporated at room temperature. The residue was dissolved in THF (5.0 mL) and the solution was cooled to -78 °C. A solution of L-Selectride (1.0 m in THF, 0.25 mL, 0.25 mmol, 2.4 eq.) was added dropwise and stirring was continued overnight. After 18.5 h saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (3 mL) and H2O (10 mL) were added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 90:10) gave (2*R*,3*R*)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (24) (36.7 mg, 77.4 µmol, 73%) as a white solid.

 $R_f = 0.33$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1).  $[\alpha]_D^{26} = -17.8$  (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.48–7.15 (m, 13H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, H-2', H-5', H-6'), 6.30 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.28 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H, H-8), 5.03 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 4.96 (s, 1H, H-2), 4.28 (dt, J = 7.0, 3.4 Hz, 1H, H-3), 3.00 (2x dd, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H, H-4), 1.69 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, OH).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -137.21 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), -138.79 (d, J = 21.4 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ_C$  [ppm] = 159.1, 158.5, 155.0, 137.0, 136.9, 135.5 (m), 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 122.5 (dd, J = 6.3, 3.6 Hz), 117.4 (d, J = 17.3 Hz), 116.2 (d, J = 18.3 Hz), 100.7, 94.8, 94.5, 77.8, 70.3, 70.2, 66.4, 28.7.

IR (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 2924, 2359, 1618, 1592, 1519, 1497, 1439, 1376, 1278, 1219, 1148, 1114, 1062, 1029, 772, 737, 696. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>25</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 475.1715, found 475.1713.

#### 2.12 Benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate<sup>[3]</sup>



A mixture of gallic acid monohydrate (20.0 g, 106 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (120 g, 869 mmol, 8.20 eq.) in DMF (550 mL) was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The mixture was heated to 40 °C and benzyl bromide (151 mL, 1.27 mol, 12.0 eq.) was added over 45 minutes using a dropping funnel. After refluxing for 16 h and stirring at room temperature for additional 48 h the solid was filtered off and EtOAc (100 mL) was added. The solution was washed with water (5 x 250 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Recrystallization from EtOH gave benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (37.9 g, 71.2 mmol, 67%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> [ppm] = 7.47–7.27 (m, 22H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, H-2, H-6), 5.33 (s, 2H, C(O)OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 5.13 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 6H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph).



Benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (41.7 g, 78.6 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in a solution of KOH (350 g, 6.24 mol, 78.6 eq.) in MeOH (1450 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 3 h, stirred over night at room temperature and refluxed again for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature, the precipitate was filtered off and dissolved in EtOAc (3 L). The pH value was adjusted to pH = 1 by the addition of concentrated HCl. The organic phase was washed with water (12 L), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Recrystallization from MeOH gave 3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoic acid (32.5 g, 73.4 mmol, 93%) as white needles.

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> [ppm] = 7.48 – 7.26 (m, 17H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, H-2, H-6), 5.15 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 6H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph).

#### 2.14 (2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (25)



To a solution of (2R,3R)-5,7-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (**24**) (15.0 mg, 31.6 µmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) were added 3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoic acid (26.0 mg, 59.0 µmol, 1.87 eq.), DMAP (2.0 mg, 16.4 µmol, 0.518 eq.) and EDC·HCl (16.0 mg, 103 µmol, 3.26 eq.). The mixture was stirred for 4 d, before H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. Dissolving the residue in Et<sub>2</sub>O and precipitation with *n*-pentane gave pure (2*R*,3*R*)-5,6-bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy) benzoate (**25**) (25 mg, 27.9 µmol, 88%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.36$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 4:1).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = -51.5$  (c = 0.75, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.47–7.24 (m, 26H, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, H-6'), 7.18 (s, 2H, H-2'', H-6''), 7.11–6.98 (m, 2H, H-2', H-5'), 6.37 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.33 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H, H-8), 5.59 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H, H-2), 5.14–5.00 (m, 11H, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph, H-3), 3.10 (2x d, J = 3.9 Hz, 2H, H-4).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\rm F}$  [ppm] = -137.09 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), -138.39 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 165.2, 159.1, 158.1, 155.2, 152.5, 142.7, 137.5, 136.9, 136.8, 136.7, 135.0 (m), 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 127.4, 124.7, 122.5 (m), 117.3 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz), 109.1, 100.8, 94.7, 94.3, 76.7, 75.2, 71.2, 70.4, 70.2, 68.6, 26.0.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 2359, 1716, 1591, 1541, 1520, 1428, 1220, 1149, 1114, 1028, 772, 695.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>57</sub>H<sub>50</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>8</sub> [M + NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 914.3499, found 914.3499.

#### 2.15 (2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26)



(2R,3R)-5,6-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (**25**) (34.3 mg, 38.3 µmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in a degassed solvent mixture of HPLC-grade MeOH and freshly distilled, peroxide free THF (1:1 v/v, 3 mL) and transferred into a Schlenk-flask containing Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C (20 %, 36.0 mg, 5.13 µmol, 13 mol%). After rinsing with the degassed solvent mixture (2 x 3.0 mL) the flask was connected to a hydrogen balloon and flushed with hydrogen. The mixture was stirred for 20 h until full conversion was indicated by TLC. Then, the hydrogen balloon was removed and the flask was flushed with argon. A syringe with two merged syringe filters (PTFE, pore diameter = 0.45 µm) was flushed with argon and used to withdraw the mixture into the syringe. The reaction flask was rinsed with the degassed solvent mixture (3 x 3 mL). Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure gave (2*R*,3*R*)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl 3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoate (**26**) as a grey solid. The sample was purified by a short filter column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>  $\rightarrow$  *n*-pentane  $\rightarrow$  MeOH).

 $\mathbf{R}_{f} = 0.86 \text{ (MeOH)}. \ [\alpha]_{D}^{22} = -55.7 \text{ (c} = 0.15, \text{CH}_{3}\text{OH}).$ 

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.42 (ddd, *J* = 11.7, 7.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H, *H*-6'), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*-2'), 7.20 (dt, *J* = 10.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H, *H*-5'), 6.92 (s, 2H), 6.00 (s, 2H), 5.60 (dt, *J* = 4.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H).

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (565 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $δ_F$  [ppm] = -140.81 (d, J = 21.2 Hz), -142.04 (d, J = 20.6 Hz)

<sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (126 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 167.3 (C=O), 158.0 (m, C-5/C-7), 157.9 (m, C-5/C-7), 156.7 (m, C-8a), 152.2 (m, C-4'), 150.3 (d, J = 33.1, 12.8 Hz, C-3'), 146.4 (C-3'', C-5''), 139.9 (C-4''), 137.5 (m, C-1'), 124.1 (m, C-2'), 121.2 (C-1''), 117.9 (d, J = 17.8 Hz C-5'), 116.8 (d, J = 18.8 Hz C-6'), 110.2 (C-2'', C-6''), 99.3 (C-4a), 97.0 (C-6/C-8), 95.9 (C-6/C-8), 77.6 (C-2), 69.6 (C-3), 26.7 (C-4).

**IR** (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3710, 3679, 3649, 2950, 2865, 2844, 2356, 2333, 2229, 2074, 1753, 1614, 1558, 1522, 1455, 1435, 1274, 1242, 1170, 1119, 1055, 1033, 1015, 823, 767, 719.

**HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 447.0886, found 447.0882.

## 2.16 Evaluation of stability of (2*R*,3*R*)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26) at high pH conditions

Into a Young tube containing a solution of B-ring fluorinated ECG (2.00 mg, 4.48  $\mu$ mol) in deuterated MeOD (0.600 mL) was added a degassed solution of NaOD in D<sub>2</sub>O (0.300 mL) previously adjusted to pH = 10.02 using a pH meter (Metrohm 744). The Young tube was closed and thoroughly mixed by repeated flipping to ensure a homogeneous solution, before it was subjected to <sup>1</sup>H-NMR-spectroscopy. To obtain sharp signals, all NMR measurements were performed at 50 °C. NMR spectra were repeatedly measured and compared with the chemical shifts and coupling constants of B-ring fluorinated ECG. Thereby, no signs of racemization, epimerization or degradation were observed after 24 h.

#### 2.17 (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate (Mosher's esters)



To a solution of (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (**10**) (50.0 mg, 268 µmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.3 mL) were subsequently added (*R*)-(-)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoic acid (MTPA) (195 mg, 833 µmol, 3.11 eq.), DCC (172 mg, 834 µmol, 3.11 eq.) and DMAP (102 mg, 835 µmol, 3.12 eq.). The mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature. The white precipitate was filtered off and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure at room temperature. The residue was purified by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 4:1) to give the product (48.2 mg, 130 µmol, 48%) as a white solid. In an entirely analogous fashion, (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-(S)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate (53.6 mg, 144 µmol, 54%) was prepared using (*S*)-(-)-MTPA.

#### (R)-(-)-MTPA ester:

## $[\alpha]_{D}^{22} = -3.5$ (c = 0.75, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{H}$  [ppm] = 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 5H, MTPA-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.16 – 7.01 (m, 3H, arom.-*H*), 6.03 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 3.56 (q, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H, MTPA-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.26 (td, J = 3.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H, *H*-2"), 2.80 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"a, trans to H-2"), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"b, cis to H-2").

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -71.54 (s), -136.33 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), -136.56 (d, J = 21.2 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 165.6, 150.8 (dd, *J* = 247.3, 9.2 Hz), 150.4 (dd, *J* = 253.2, 16.2 Hz), 132.0, 131.9, 131.9, 129.9, 128.6, 127.4, 124.0 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 3.8 Hz), 123.4 (q, 288.6 Hz), 117.7 (d, *J* = 17.5 Hz), 116.82 (d, *J* = 18.2 Hz), 84.82 (q, *J* = 27.9 Hz), 74.4, 55.7, 52.4, 44.4.

**IR** (film on NaCl) ῦ [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3003, 2952, 2851, 1755, 1613, 1523, 1440, 1278, 1244, 1172, 1120, 1082, 1054, 1020, 997, 914, 877, 822, 788, 766, 746, 719, 698, 655, 563.

#### (S)-(-)-MTPA ester:

 $[\alpha]_D^{22} = -58.8 (c = 1.0, CHCl_3)$ 

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  [ppm] = 7.48 – 7.35 (m, 5H, MTPA-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.23 – 7.11 (m, 3H, arom.-*H*), 6.03 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, *H*-1), 3.48 (t, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 3H, MTPA-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.20 (td, *J* = 3.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H, *H*-2"), 2.75 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"a, trans to H-2"), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H, *H*-1"b, cis to H-2").

<sup>19</sup>**F-NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_F$  [ppm] = -71.41 (s), -136.14 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), -136.36 (d, J = 20.7 Hz).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> [ppm] = 165.5, 151.9 (dd, *J* = 246.6, 8.3 Hz), 149.8 (dd, *J* = 252.9, 15.8 Hz), 131.9, 131.8 (m), 129.9, 128.6, 127.3, 123.9 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 3.8 Hz), 123.3 (q, *J* = 288.6 Hz), 117.8 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz), 116.8 (d, *J* = 18.1 Hz), 84.8 (q, *J* = 27.9 Hz), 74.6, 55.5, 52.3, 44.5.

IR (film on NaCl)  $\tilde{\upsilon}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 3066, 3002, 2951, 2851, 2117, 1756, 1613, 1523, 1440, 1275, 1244, 1172, 1120, 1082, 1053, 1019, 996, 914, 877, 823, 786, 766, 748, 718, 698, 636, 563.

## 3 SPECTRA

## 3.1 1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)

1H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl3)







Spectrum 2. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

13C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 4. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 5. HSQC-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 6. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.2 (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (10)





Spectrum 8. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 9. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, 75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 10. IR, film on NaCl.

#### 3.3 3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (mixture of stereoisomers)



Spectrum 12. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Wavenumber [cm-1]

Spectrum 14. IR, film on NaCl.



-160

-165

-170

-175

-180

-185

## 3.4 (1R,2S)-(O)-tert-Butyldimethylsilyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-glycidol (17)



-195

-190

-2

13C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 17. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, 75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 18. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.5 3,5-Bis(benzyloxy)fluorobenzene (20)









Spectrum 20. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

## 3.6 (1R,2S)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorphenyl)-1-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)propan-2-ol (18)

1H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 22. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 24. IR, film on NaCl.

# 3.7 (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorbenzyl)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)-2-((2-methoxyethoxymethyl)oxy)propan



Spectrum 25. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

19F NMR (282.38 MHz, CDCI3)



Spectrum 26. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 28. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 29. IR, film on NaCl.

3.8 (1*R*,2*S*)-3-(2,4-Bis(benzyloxy)-6-fluorphenyl)-1-(3,4-difluorphenyl)-2-((2-methoxy-ethoxy)methoxy)propan-1-ol
(21)



Spectrum 30. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

19F NMR (282.38 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 31. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 33. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 34. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.9 (2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-3-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)chromane (22)



Spectrum 35. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

19F NMR (282.38 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 36. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

13C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 38. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 39. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.10 (2R,3S)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (23)



Spectrum 40. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

19F NMR (282.38 MHz, CDCl3)



Spectrum 41. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 43. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 44. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.11 (2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-ol (24)









Spectrum 46. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.





Spectrum 48. COSY-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 49. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.12 Benzyl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate



Spectrum 50. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

## 3.13 3,4,5-Tris(benzyloxy)benzoic acid

1H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl3)





## 3.14 (2R,3R)-5,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)chroman-3-yl-3,4,5-tris(benzyloxy)benzoate (25)



Spectrum 52. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, 600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 53. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 55. COSY-NMR, 600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 56. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.15 (2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26)



19F NMR (564.63 MHz, MeOD)



Spectrum 58. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 282 MHz, MeOD.







Spectrum 62. COSY-NMR, 600 MHz, MeOD.



Spectrum 63. HMBC-NMR, 600 MHz, MeOD.



Spectrum 64. IR, film on NaCl.

## 3.16 (2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-5,7-dihydroxychroman-3-yl-gallate (26) at pH 10



Spectrum 66.  $^1\text{H-NMR},$  600 MHz, 50 °C, MeOD and NaOD/D2O after 24 h.

## 3.17 (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-(S)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate

1H NMR (600.13 MHz, CDCl3) (S)-MTPA-ester



19F NMR (564.63 MHz, CDCl3) (S)-MTPA-ester









Spectrum 69. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, 151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 70. IR, film on NaCl.

## (1R,2S)-3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidyl-(R)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenyl-propanoate



50 -55 -60 -65 -70 -75 -80 -85 -90 -95 -100 -105 -110 -115 -120 -125 -130 -135 -140 -145 -150 -155 -160 -165 -170 -175 -180 -185 -190 -195 -2 [ppm]

Spectrum 72. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR, 565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

13C NMR (150.92 MHz, CDCl3) (R)-MTPA-ester





Spectrum 73. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, 151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Spectrum 74. IR, film on NaCl.

## 4 HPLC TRACES

#### 4.1 1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (9)

#### Attempted enantioselective addition of divinylzinc to 3,4-difluorobenzaldehyde in the presence of (-)-MIB

ChiralPak IA, *n*-hexane/isopropanol 99.5:0.5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



#### 1-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol - Racemic reference

ChiralPak IA, n-hexane/isopropanol 99.5:0.5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



## 4.2 3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol (10)

## Sharpless epoxidation at -25 °C

#### ChiralPak IB, n-hexane/isopropanol 95:5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



Channel A Results						
Retention Time	Area	Area %	Height	Height %		
12,240	78816537	97,84	3385707	97,48		
13,457	1255927	1,56	63387	1,82		
15,113	361631	0,45	18528	0,53		
19,580	120062	0,15	5687	0,16		

#### 3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol – Racemic reference

ChiralPak IB, n-hexane/isopropanol 95:5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



U V INCSUITS				
Retention Time	Area	Area %	Height	Height %
12,503	12414500	19,44	680484	23,94
13,437	11581360	18,14	614443	21,61
15,017	19559979	30,64	880626	30,98
19,473	20288893	31,78	667466	23,48

#### Sharpless epoxidation at -35 °C

#### ChiralPak IB, n-hexane/isopropanol 95:5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



## 3-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-glycidol – Racemic reference

ChiralPak IB, n-hexane/isopropanol 95:5, Flow: 0.9 mL/min



Channel A Results						
Retention Time	Area	Area %	Height	Height %		
11,797	6002290	18,96	386616	22,38		
12,573	5602166	17,70	360443	20,86		
14,120	9987981	31,55	545051	31,55		
17,510	10063261	31,79	435689	25,22		

## 5 **REFERENCES**

- [1] M. M. Hussain and P. J. Walsh, Org. Synth., 2013, 90, 25-40.
- [2] L. Li and T. H. Chan, *Org. Lett.*, 2001, **3**, 739-741.
- [3] H. Yin and K. Cheng, PCT/US2013/052517 (WO2014022287A1), 2013.