AURONE: DERIVATIZATION, REACTION METHODOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, AND ITS UTILIZATION AS A FLUOROPHORE FOR DEVELOPING A FLUOROGENIC PROBE FOR SENSING HYDROGEN SULFIDE

By

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and my son Aayush Kafle.

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ABSTRACT

Aurones, a sub-class of the flavonoids with proven therapeutic importance, also exist in variously glycosylated forms. Although a large number of glycosylated aurone derivatives have been isolated from plant sources, no syntheses have been reported yet. Inspired from this gap, here we report the first synthesis of peracetylated glycosyl derivatives of synthetic aurones. The direct *O*-glycosylation was achieved by reacting 6-hydroxy aurones with 2, 3, 4, 6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- α -D glucopyranosyl bromide in the presence of a phase transfer catalyst tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB). The successful synthesis of aurone glycosides (33 examples) in 60-92% yield will benefit the synthesis of combinatorial libraries of glycosylated aurones for their biological study and comparison with non-glycosylated aurones.

Similarly, in an attempt to prepare azido-substituted aurones via a copper-catalyzed azidation, the reaction failed to afford the desired product but instead resulted in an unusual triazole formation reaction. Further efforts noted that copper was not required for this reaction but simply thermal treatment with sodium azide in a polar aprotic solvent. A wide range of substitution patterns was tolerated in this reaction to afford the interesting salicyl-substituted triazoles in modest to excellent yield. While the mechanism is not yet clear, a simple elimination/cyclization pathway seems unlikely given the failure of the reaction on the corresponding thioaurones, which feature an even better thiol leaving group. Regardless, the potential utility of these easily accessible, multifunctional compounds should engender further interest and applications.

Besides derivatizing aurone scaffolds for combinatorial library synthesis and developing a reaction protocol for the synthesis of a unique and unexplored salicyl-substituted triazoles scaffold, we utilized the aurone scaffold to develop a fluorescent probe for hydrogen sulfide detection in biological as well as environmental situations. While many methods are currently available, the most sensitive and biologically applicable ones are fluorescent-based. In general, these fluorescent probes are based upon large, high-molecular-weight, and well-characterized fluorescent scaffolds that are synthetically demanding to prepare and difficult to tune and modify. We have developed a new system based upon a synthetically simple aurone scaffold that features good sensitivity, selectivity for hydrogen sulfide, and has potential for application in a variety of contexts.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
BF ₃ .Et ₂ O	Boron trifluoride diethyl etherate
CDK	Cyclin-dependent kinase
CTAB	Cetyl trimethylammonium bromide
DBU	Diazabicycloundecene
DMF	Dimethyl formamide
DMSO	Dimethyl sulfoxide
EtOH	Ethanol
ESI	Electrospray ionization
HEPES	Hydroxyethyl piperazineethanesulfonic acid
HRMS	High-resolution mass spectrometry
MeCN	Acetonitrile
mM	Millimolar
nM	Nanomolar
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance
PBS	Phosphate buffer saline
РСТ	Phase transfer catalyst
TBAB	Tetra-n-butylammonium bromide
THF	Tetrahydrofuran
TLC	Thin layer chromatography
ΤΝΓα	Tumor necrosis factor alpha

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. Natural products

Natural products are a large and diverse groups of substances produced by living organisms, including plants, animals, bacteria, and fungi. Unlike primary metabolites (nucleic acids, amino acids, sugars, and fatty acids), which are the essential elements for the growth and development of living beings, secondary metabolites are non-essential compounds produced via primary metabolism.¹ With the emergence of chemical ecology, the majority of these enormous numbers (> 200,000) of structurally diverse natural products have been proven to be vital components for the regulation of interactions between the organisms.

Among the various roles of these natural products, they are well known for their unique pharmacological or biological activities, which has been the basis for modern drug discovery. They have been used to cure a wide spectrum of diseases from ancient times.² More than 80% of the drug molecules were either natural products or their synthetic analogs in the post-genomic era before the high-throughput screening technique was developed.³ This dependency on the utilization of the natural products and their novel structure for drug discovery is still alive and crucial. For instance, over the last seven decades (1940-2014) 49% of the total small molecules approved for cancer-related

treatment were either natural products or their direct derivatives.⁴ Besides medicinal purposes, the utility of natural products and their derivatives extends to food additives in the form of spices and herbs as well as antimicrobials and antioxidants. As a whole, natural products are in almost every facet of our lives. They are classified into various types, including alkaloids, terpenoids, and flavonoids. Among them, flavonoids have significant importance in terms of their therapeutic as well as coloring properties.

2. Flavonoids

Flavonoids are low molecular weight phenolic natural products distributed in the plant kingdom especially in higher plants.^{5, 6} Besides their primary function of imparting colors to flowers and fruits they are reported for defense against pathogen invasion, photoprotection from UV radiation, attract insects for pollination, growth, and development of seedlings, and interact with soil microbes.⁷⁻⁹ Additionally, they also function as a signaling molecule for various receptors including purinergic receptors (P_2X and P_2Y).¹⁰

Structurally, flavonoids contain the C6-C3-C6 framework, commonly referred to as phenylbenzopyran. Based on the abundance in nature, they are broadly divided into major and minor flavonoids. Major flavonoids are widely distributed in nature. Depending on the position of the attachment of the phenyl ring to the benzopyrano moiety, major flavonoids are further classified into flavonoids (2-phenylbenzopyrans), isoflavonoids (3phenylbenzopyrans), and neoflavonoids (4-phenylbenzopyrans). The further classification with corresponding examples is shown below (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Classification of Flavonoids

Flavonoids, especially the major flavonoids, have been well explored and studied for their broad range of biological activities. Apart from the well-known antioxidative property, they have exhibited anticancer, anti-inflammatory, and antimicrobial activities. ¹¹ Unlike major flavonoids, minor flavonoid chalcones and aurones, have very limited abundance in nature. This group of compounds includes 2'-hydroxychalcones, dihydro-(2'hydroxy)chalcones, 2'-hydroxy-*retro*-chalcone, aurones (2-benzylidenecoumaranone), and auronols (Figure 2). We are particularly interested in the minor flavonoid Aurone family.



Figure 2: Minor Flavonoids

2.1. Aurones

Aurones are tricyclic structural isomers of well-known flavonoids. They are primarily responsible for imparting bright yellow color to flowers, such as for snapdragon and cosmos.^{9, 12} Structurally, aurones contain a benzofuranone ring connected to a phenyl ring by an exocyclic carbon-carbon double bond forming a stable (Z) isomer (Figure 3).¹³⁻



Figure 3: Structure of Aurone

Although chalcones are known for various biological activities, their fate of undergoing easy cyclization to flavones makes them less advantageous over comparatively stable aurones.¹⁷ Despite their limited presence in nature, aurones have gained remarkable attention in the field of drug discovery. Inspired by their wide range of biological properties including antimicrobial, antimalarial, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant properties, several semi-synthetic and synthetic aurone analogs have been explored in the last two decades which has further widened the therapeutic utility of the aurone scaffold.¹⁸⁻²⁷

There are three general methods employed for the synthesis of aurones. (Scheme 1) The first strategy reported in 2008 incorporates a convenient three-step synthesis of aurones via gold-catalyzed cyclization of 2-(1-hydroxy-2-ynyl)phenols obtained by alkynylation of ortho salicylaldehyde.²⁸ (Scheme 1a) The next one mimics the biosynthetic route by involving oxidative cyclization of previously synthesized 2'-hydroxychalcones under various conditions.²⁹⁻³³ (Scheme 1b) The most popular and versatile method for the aurone synthesis is an aldol type condensation of a benzofuranone with an aromatic aldehyde.^{26, 34-39} (Scheme 1c) This strategy can be performed under acidic, basic, neutral, as well as solvent-free microwave conditions, although accommodation of certain labile functional groups under acidic and basic conditions can be limited.^{34, 39, 40} In such cases, neutral-alumina mediated method and a reaction employing a deep eutectic solvent are useful strategies.^{38, 41}

The alumina-mediated condensation method is limited in the case of hydroxylated aurone synthesis because of the decrease in the catalytic activity of alumina due to the possible interaction of alumina with the free hydroxyl group in the benzofuranone ring. An acidic condensation of hydroxy benzofuranone with an aldehyde in glacial acetic acid in the presence of few drops of concentrated hydrochloric is preferred in such cases (Scheme 1c).³⁹ Easy commercial availability of various benzofuranones has further increased the relevancy of this condensation method for the synthesis of variously substituted aurones.



a. Au-catalyzed cyclization of 2-(1-hydroxy-2-ynyl)phenols

Scheme 1: Synthesis of Aurones

There has been a continuous effort, particularly from academia, in the synthesis of structurally diverse combinatorial aurone libraries in search of hits against both metabolic and infective diseases. Various *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies have revealed a useful inhibitory role of aurones in several situations, including enzyme or protein specific interactions with topoisomerase, cyclin-dependent kinase (CDK), tubulin polymerization, ATP-binding

cassette, and tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF α). ^{10, 14, 42-46} This clearly shows their therapeutic efficacy in the cancer area.

At the same time, aurones have been noticed for their probing potential. In a study of aurones as possible small-molecule fluorescent probes, Shanker *et al.* explored both, UV-Vis absorption as well as fluorescence characteristics of a series of aurones.⁴⁷ As expected, they found that the presence of an amino group, especially at 4'-position of B ring, imparts a significant red-shift to the absorption maxima (Figure 4). They were also able to show the preferential binding of molecules **3** and **4** to protein and DNA, revealing their probing potential.



Figure 4: Absorption and Emission Maxima of Aurones in Methanol.

Based on these facts, we envisioned aurones as a tunable fluorophore for the development of azide reduction-based fluorescent probes for the detection of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) in living systems. This dissertation incorporates the three publications that employed aurone scaffolds for library synthesis, new methodology development, and design and synthesis of a fluorogenic probe for the detection of a biological and

environmental analyte H_2S as represented in Figure 5. More detailed background information is provided in each chapter.



Figure 5: Graphical Representation of Dissertation

Chapter II describes the first synthesis of aurone glycosides. Among various derivatives, glycosides are one of the interesting categories to study in terms of biological activities. As evident from many glycosylated drug molecules, including antibiotics vancomycin, gentamycin, and streptomycin, glycosylation has been reported to improve the activity as well as pharmacokinetics parameters of the molecules.⁴⁸ Although numerous glycosylated aurones have been isolated from plant sources, their non-enzymatic synthesis has not been reported yet. This chapter discusses the first synthesis of peracetylated

glucosyl derivatives of synthetic aurones, which is published in *Tetrahedron* **2020**, *76*, 131525. (Scheme 2)



Scheme 2: Graphical Abstract for Chapter II

Chapter III details how an effort on direct functionalization of halogen-containing aurones with an azido group surprisingly led to an unusual synthesis of triazole scaffold.⁴⁴ This work has been published in *Synthesis* 2020, *52*, 2337-2346. This simple and easy metal-free reaction protocol exhibited a wide range of substitution pattern tolerance in affording the interesting salicyl-substituted triazoles in modest to excellent yield in a short time (~ 30 minutes). (Scheme 3)



Scheme 3: Graphical Abstract for Chapter III

Despite the known coloring property of aurones, typically the aminoaurones, they have been hardly studied and utilized as a fluorophore scaffold. Chapter IV discusses how we rationally designed and synthesized a turn-on fluorogenic probes using an aurone scaffold as a fluorophore for the selective detection of hydrogen sulfide. (Scheme 4) The findings of this research are published in *RSC Advances* 2020, *10*, 45180-45188.



Scheme 4: Graphical Abstract for Chapter IV

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CHAPTER - II

THE FIRST SYNTHESIS OF PERACETYL GLYCOSYL AURONE DERIVATIVES AND AURONE GLUCOSIDES

1. Introduction

Aurones, a minor sub-class of flavonoid family, are naturally occurring pigments. They are primarily responsible for imparting bright yellow color to flowers and fruits.¹ Mainly found in eudicots and advanced monocots such as *Cyperaceae*, aurones are one of the less explored sub-families of the flavonoids.^{2, 3} Besides their primary role in plants, as a secondary metabolite, they are found to exhibit several useful biological activities against both metabolic and infective diseases. Both natural, as well as synthetic analogs, are reported to possess a broad spectrum of bioactivity, including antimicrobial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and anticancer properties.⁴⁻⁸ As a result, they are emerging as a potential therapeutic heterocyclic scaffold for the design and development of pharmaceuticals.

Unlike other flavonoids, aurones contain a benzofuranone ring connected to a phenyl ring by an exocyclic double bond-forming the thermodynamically more stable (Z) isomer.^{4, 5, 9} Despite their limited skeletal variation, aurones are found to maintain their structural diversity through different substitution patterns, mostly hydroxylation, methoxylation, and glycosylation.² At the same time, the development of a significant

number of synthetic strategies has tremendously contributed to structural diversification of the aurone scaffold, providing access to various different types of aurone derivatives for application in drug discovery.^{8, 10-14}

Aurones are biosynthesized in plants via oxidative cyclization followed by rearrangement of, typically, 2' and 4'-hydroxylated chalcones in the presence of *aureusidin synthase*. During this process, a chalcone is glycosylated in the cytoplasm, which eventually converts into an aurone-glucoside. ^{15, 16} Although various types of glycosylated aurone derivatives have been isolated from plant sources (Figure 6)², they lack variation in the substitution pattern, and there is only a single report of their synthesis. This paper by Tronina used an enzymatic reaction catalyzed by fungal strains to prepare two glycosylated aurones in modest yield with reaction times of several days.¹⁷



Figure 6: Structures of Some Aurone Glucoside Derivatives Found in Various Plants

Given the general importance of carbohydrate moieties in biological activity, recognition, and transport, the ability to readily access glycosylated aurones via a direct

and simple method would be of considerable value. Among N-, O-, and C-glycosylations, O-glycosylation is very common in nature, which involves an attachment of carbohydrate with another molecule. The formation of a glycosidic bond usually takes place in the presence of a promotor by nucleophilic substitution of a leaving group at the anomeric carbon of a glycosyl donor. Different direct activation-based O-glycosylation methods, as summarized in Figure 7, have been developed based on the types of glycosyl donors and promotors employed in the reaction.^{18, 19}



Figure 7: Methods of O-glycosylation

Glycosylation itself is challenging in that even a subtle change in electronic and/or steric factors often requires extensive optimization of the reaction conditions.^{18e} The Lewis acid promoted methods (Figure 7), including the Fischer glycosylation, were developed mostly for alcohols and, more typically, for oligosaccharide synthesis. In comparison, the glycosylation of less nucleophilic phenols has received relatively little attention.^{19, 20}

An electron-deficient phenol, such as those found in aurones, is even more challenging, and in reported examples typically requires acidic conditions employing glycosyl anomeric acetate and chloroacetimidate donors in the presence of the Lewis acid BF₃.Et₂O, which in most cases generates side reactions. ^{19, 20} In contrast, the basic medium proves to be advantageous, particularly for phenols as it cut off the side reactions triggered by the Lewis acid promotors. Alongside, generation of more stable and less basic phenolate ion in the basic medium greatly discourage 1, 2-elimination in donor molecule as well as drive the reaction via SN2 pathway providing better stereochemical control of the product.¹⁹

In this context, the Michael protocol developed back in 1879, is one of the effective and most utilized methods for O-glycosylation of phenols.²¹ Among various synthetic protocols that include the use of various types of glycosyl donors such as acetate, esters, trichloroacetimidates, and thioglycosides, Michael type protocols utilize glycosyl halides.²⁰ Glycosyl bromides, particularly the thermodynamically favored α -anomers, have been the frontrunner as they are more reactive than the chlorides and relatively more stable than the iodides. Influenced by their anomeric stereochemistry, the O-glycosylation generally results in β -glycosidic linkage irrespective of the solvent effect.^{19, 20}

This method has evolved with variations in the types of solvent and catalysts employed (Scheme 5).²² Particularly, the use of quaternary ammonium salts as a phase transfer catalyst (PTC) in a biphasic reaction condition has received significant attention for aromatic O-glycosylation. Tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB) is one of the most commonly employed PTC among other quaternary salts, particularly with glycosyl bromide donors. It helps to transport the water-soluble anionic reactants, in this case the aurone phenolate, into the organic phase.



Scheme 5: Variations in Michael Glycosylation

Both synthetic and natural aurones have been studied for their possible biological importance.⁵⁻⁸ Despite the proven therapeutic potential, their carbohydrate derivatives, including the isolated ones, have not been explored well. Inspired from this gap herein, we report the first synthesis of 2, 3, 4, 6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-glucosyl derivatives of previously synthesized variously substituted aurones using 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- α -D glucopyranosyl bromide as a glycosyl donor.

2. Results and Discussion

To access a library of glycosylated aurones, first, we synthesized various hydroxysubstituted aurones via an acid-catalyzed Knoevenagel type condensation of a benzofuranone with an aldehyde in glacial acetic acid medium. (Scheme 6)



Scheme 6: Synthesis of Aurones

The reaction generally results in the precipitation of the desired product, which can simply be filtered avoiding the necessity of chromatographic separation. The ease of separation, as well as the relatively fast reaction, allowed us to access the desired number of hydroxyaurones and their analogs in a short time for further glycosylation. With the initial subsequent failures to glycosylate aurone **1** with the glycosyl bromide (acetobromo- α -D-glucose) under Koenigs-Knorr (using Ag₂O) and original Michael conditions (employing 1M NaOH) we utilized tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB) as a phase transfer catalyst in a biphasic basic medium of chloroform and 5% aqueous Na₂CO₃. The reaction successfully resulted in 68% of the corresponding β -glycoside (**1a**) utilizing an excess of glycosyl donor to maintain its concentration, as it readily undergoes hydrolysis in an aqueous medium. (Scheme 7)



Scheme 7: Glycosylation of Aurone

Both electron-withdrawing and electron-donating groups in the phenyl moiety of the aurone molecule were tolerated well, yielding 61-92% of the corresponding peracetylated- β -D-glycosyl aurones. (Scheme 8) As expected, the stereochemistry of the anomeric carbon of the donor changed, creating β -glycosidic linkage with the aglycon (hydroxyaurone) in accordance with the likelihood of the reaction proceeding via S_N2 mechanism in the basic medium. The β -stereochemistry of the glycosidic linkage is established from the magnitude of coupling constant ($J_{1,2}$), with values 7-9 Hz observed for the anomeric hydrogens of the synthesized compounds in contrast to the J-values of 2-4 Hz for α -anomers.²³ While the alkene geometry of aurones is generally observed to be the thermodynamically favored Z geometry, this was also confirmed by the highly characteristic chemical shift of the exocyclic alkene proton signal in the as a singlet below 6.9 ppm, while the E isomer would have a signal above 6.95 ppm.²⁴



Scheme 8: Glycosylation of Aurone Analogs



Scheme 8 (cont.): Glycosylation of Aurone Analogs

Similarly, reactions with aurone analogs containing different heterocyclic moieties attached to the exocyclic double bond also afforded good yield reflecting the generality of the reaction. (Scheme 9)



Scheme 9: Glycosylation of Aurone Analogs Containing Heterocyclic Moiety

Since naturally occurring glycosylated aurones exist mostly as glucosides, we took some of the peracetylted glycosyl aurone derivatives and subjected them to deacetylation using sodium methoxide to get the corresponding aurones glucosides in good (> 72%) yield. (Scheme 10)



Scheme 10: Deacetylation of Glycosylated Aurones

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we report the first convenient and efficient *O*-glycosylation of variously substituted synthetic hydroxyaurones and their analogs with 2, 3, 4, 6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- α -D glucopyranosyl bromide using a readily available phase transfer catalyst tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB) in a basic medium. This will eventually provide us with an opportunity to access synthetically diverse glycosides and glucoside of aurones
and their analogs for further biological screening against both metabolic and infective diseases.

4. Experimental

General Information. All the reactions were done under an air atmosphere. ¹H and ¹³C NMR of all the compounds were recorded on JEOL AS (500 and 300 MHz) NMR instrument, and chemical shifts were recorded in ppm. All the chemical shifts were recorded taking CDCl₃, DMSO, methanol, or acetone as a standard reference.²⁵ The following conventions are used for multiplicities: s, singlet; *d*, doublet; *t*, triplet; *m*, multiplet; *dd*, doublet of doublet; *tt*, triplet of triplet; *dt*, doublet of triplet; *ddd*, doublet of doublet; *br*, broad. Cary 630 FT-IR (Agilent Technologies was used to collect IR spectra. All extracts were concentrated under reduced pressure using a Buchi Rotary Evaporator. During purification and identification of compounds, Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica-coated TLC plates and monitored by short wavelength (254 nm) UV light. Products were purified by silica gel column chromatography. ACS grade reagents were employed during the experiments.

4.1. General procedure: Synthesis of aurones

All the aurones utilized for the glycosylation were synthesized based on the literature.¹⁰ 0.57 mmol of benzofuranone was dissolved in 5 mL of glacial acetic acid in a 3-dram glass vial containing a magnetic stir bar in it. To this solution, 1.1 equivalent of aldehyde and 3 drops (0.1 mL) of concentrated HCl were added and stirred at room temperature for 30 min to 4 hours. In most cases, reaction resulted in the precipitation of the desired product

indicating completion of the reaction. After the reaction was completed, it was poured into ice-cold DI water. The precipitate obtained was filtered and washed multiple times with DI water and air-dried. Thus obtained aurones were characterized and directly used for the glycosylation reaction. For some of the aurones which did not precipitate out efficiently, the water diluted reaction mixture was neutralized with saturated NaHCO₃ and extracted with ethyl acetate.

4.1.1. Characterization data for aurones

Among 28 aurones 1, 3, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 21 were characterized by comparing ¹H and ¹³C NMR with those reported in the literature.^{10, 26-33}



(Z)-4-((6-hydroxy-7-methyl-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H) ylidene) methyl) benzonitrile (2):
Yield: 144 mg (91%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 8.12
(d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.79
(d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-2-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (4): Yield: 136 mg (84%);
yellow solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.35 (s, 1H), 8.79 – 8.74 (m, 1H), 8.38
(d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-2-(2-chlorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxy-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one(5): Yield: 124 mg (77%); light orange solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.20 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.61 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.79 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(3,5-dichlorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(6): Yield: 145 mg (83%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.36 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.74 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-2-(4-bromobenzylidene)-6-hydroxy-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one(8): Yield: 147 mg (78%); coral solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.13 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H, overlapped with the DMSO signal). ¹HNMR using Methanol-D₃ has been included as an inset.



(Z)-2-(4-bromobenzylidene)-6-hydroxy-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one (9): Yield: 182 mg (96%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.91 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (11):
Yield: 50 mg (68%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.19 (s, 1H), 8.13
(d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.5 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(2-fluoro-3-methoxybenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(12): Yield:
131 mg (80%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.32 (s, 1H), 7.78 – 7.73
(m, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.25 (m, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H),
6.73 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)-6-hydroxy-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one (18):
Yield: 155 mg (92%); red solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 10.87 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.01 (s, 6H), 2.22 (s, 3H).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-(4-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (22):
Yield: 40 mg (22%); dark brown solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.77 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64-6.62 (m, 3H), 6.58 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 - 6.43 (m, 1H), 3.32 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 1.98 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 4H).



(Z)-2-(4-(diphenylamino)benzylidene)-6-hydroxy-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one (23): Crude; yield: 118 mg (49%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 10.98 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 5H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 5H), 6.95 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H, overlapped with DMSO).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (24): Yield:
116 mg (79%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.06 (s, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 4.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 4.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.48 t = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.5 (s, 3H, overlapped with DMSO).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-3-ylmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (25): Yield: 133mg (90%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.05 (s, H), 8.14 (dd, J = 3.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.48 – 6.45 (m, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H, overlapped with DMSO peak). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD) δ 7.98 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.54 – 6.51 (m, 1H), 6.44 (dd, J = 2.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H).



(Z)-5-((6-hydroxy-4-methyl-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)ylidene)methyl)thiophene-2-

carbonitrile (26): Yield: 110mg (68%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-((4-bromothiophen-2-yl)methylene)-6-hydroxy-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one
(27): Yield: 151mg (84%); yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.29 (s, 1H),
7.99 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-((5-methylfuran-2-yl)methylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (28):
Yield: 129mg (88%); light orange solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.01 (s, 1H),
7.04 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.47 - 6.45 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H).

4.2. General procedure: Glycosylation of aurones

In a 6-dram glass vial aurone (50 mg, 0.186 mmol) and glycosyl donor peracetylglycosyl bromide (153.3 mg, 2 equiv.) were dissolved in 4 mL chloroform. After stirring for 5 minutes, tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB) (13.29 mg, 0.2 equiv.) and potassium carbonate (154.23 mg, 6 equiv.) solution (3 mL in DI water) were added. The reaction vial was then wrapped with an Al-foil as the glycosyl donor is light sensitive. The reaction mixture was then stirred for the next 72 hours at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by thin-layer chromatography followed by p-anisaldehyde staining [(ethanol: conc. H₂SO₄: p-anisaldehyde (10:1:1 by volume)]. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was transferred to a 50 mL centrifuge tube, diluted with distilled water, and extracted with dichloromethane (DCM). The organic layer was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude thus obtained was purified by flash column chromatography using a mixture of hexane and ethyl acetate.

4.2.1. Characterization data for glycosylated aurones



[(Z)-2-(4'-cyanobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (1a): Reaction mixture of aurone 1 (0.26 mmol, 68.4 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Yield: 106 mg, 68%; yellow solid, mp 239-240 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ = 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 5.40 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.41 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.18 (ddd, *J* = 14.9, 12.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 2H), 1.99 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.78, 170.48, 170.27, 169.48, 169.28, 167.99, 164.15, 148.86, 136.75, 132.55, 131.51, 126.48, 118.61, 116.43, 113.72, 112.70, 109.81, 100.49, 98.24, 72.56, 72.50, 70.98, 68.10, 61.97, 20.76, 20.70. IR (neat) 2231, 1754, 1709, 1607, 1445, 1372, 1238, 1218, 1086, 1065, 1035, 910, 886, 829 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₂₈NO₁₂, 594.1612, found 594.1604.



[(Z)-2-(4'-cyanobenzylidene)-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (2a): Reaction mixture of aurone 2 (0.26 mmol, 72 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield:

112 mg, 72%; yellow solid, mp 226-228 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.24 – 5.16 (m, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 2.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.63, 170.57, 170.27, 169.51, 169.24, 166.00, 161.92, 149.02, 136.98, 132.63, 131.50, 123.38, 118.67, 116.16, 112.69, 112.57, 110.62, 109.51, 98.67, 72.47, 72.44, 70.92, 68.21, 61.91, 20.79, 20.73, 8.15. IR (neat) 2959, 2926, 2229, 1750, 1706, 1657, 1603, 1369, 1208, 1037, 910, 875, 775, 685 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₁H₃₀NO₁₂, 608.1768, found 608.1775.



[(Z)-2-(4'-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O- β -D-glucopyranoside](3a): Reaction mixture of aurone 3 (0.26 mmol, 74 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 147.5 mg, 92%; yellow solid, mp 218-221 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 5.84 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, J = 9.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 12.3, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J = 12.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.71, 170.47, 170.25, 169.47, 169.28, 168.03, 164.20, 149.05, 147.68, 138.64, 131.74, 126.50, 124.05, 116.31, 113.80, 109.17, 100.48, 98.20, 72.53, 72.48, 70.96, 68.08, 61.95, 20.75, 20.68. IR (neat) 2956, 2928, 1752, 1711, 1611, 1594, 1516, 1445, 1341, 1212, 1084, 1045, 910, 864, 852, 773 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₈NO₁₄, 614.1510, found 614.1502.



[(Z)-2-(3'-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]- [(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside](4a): Reaction mixture of aurone 4 (0.26 mmol, 74 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 118 mg, 74%; yellow solid, mp 218-221 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.79 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.0, 6.2 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 5.86 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (m, 2H), 2.04 (s, 9H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.72, 170.57, 170.25, 169.50, 169.30, 168.05, 164.18, 148.75, 148.63, 136.80, 133.97, 129.92, 126.42, 125.41, 124.10, 116.41, 113.91, 109.36, 100.34, 98.16, 72.60, 72.55, 71.01, 68.14, 62.01, 20.71, 20.70. IR (neat) 2962, 2924, 1747, 1709, 1665, 1613, 1527, 1447, 1352, 1236, 1220, 1037, 914, 905, 773, 739, 681 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₈NO₁₄, 614.1510, found 614.1513.



[(Z)-2-(2'-chlorobenzylidene)-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-\beta -D-glucopyranoside] (5a): Reaction mixture of aurone **5** (0.26 mmol, 74.5 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 109 mg, 68%; yellow solid, mp 195-197 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.31 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (ddd, *J* = 9.9, 5.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, *J* = 12.3, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 5H), 2.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.68, 170.57, 170.23, 169.51, 169.25, 165.85, 161.59, 148.39, 135.95, 132.09,

130.60, 130.50, 130.11, 127.21, 123.19, 116.49, 112.54, 110.35, 107.41, 98.70, 72.47, 72.40, 70.91, 68.23, 61.92, 20.76, 20.70, 8.05. IR (neat) 2961, 2935, 1737, 1709, 1657, 1607, 1426, 1378, 1214, 1035, 914, 782, 758 732 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₀ClO₁₂, 617.1426, found 624.1433.



[(Z)-2-(3',5'-dichlorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl) -6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (6a): Reaction mixture of aurone **6** (0.26 mmol, 79.8mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 30% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 124.5 mg, 65%; yellow solid, mp 109-110 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.99 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.42 – 4.36 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.46, 170.45, 170.15, 169.43, 169.19, 167.83, 164.02, 148.32, 135.33, 134.99, 129.32, 128.99, 126.19, 116.23, 113.89, 109.05, 100.09, 98.09, 72.51, 72.45, 70.89, 68.13, 62.03, 20.80, 20.60. IR (neat) 1749, 1709, 1611, 1447, 1369, 1216, 1035, 961, 907, 674 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₇Cl₂O₁₂, 637.0880, found 637.0887.



[(Z)-2-(4'-bromobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]- [(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β -D-glucopyranoside](7a): Reaction mixture of aurone 7 (0.26 mmol, 82 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 149.5 mg, 89%; yellow solid, mp 224-226 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.90 (d, J = 8.0Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, br, 2H), 5.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 12.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 – 4.35 (m, 1H), 4.18 (m, 2H), 2.03 (s, 9H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.94, 170.51, 170.27, 169.49, 169.30, 167.78, 163.88, 147.78, 132.75, 132.24, 131.19, 126.24, 124.41, 116.83, 113.51, 111.38, 100.37, 98.32, 72.56, 71.02, 68.19, 62.03, 20.77, 20.70. IR (neat) 3097, 3067, 2957, 1739, 1706, 1654, 1611, 1490, 1378, 1348, 1225, 1134, 1106, 1073, 1050, 1037,821 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₈BrO₁₂, 647.0764, found 647.0759.



[(Z)-2-(4'-bromobenzylidene)-4-methybenzofuran-3(2H)one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-Oacetyl)-6-O-β -D-glucopyranoside] (8a): Reaction mixture of aurone 8 (0.26 mmol, 86 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 138 mg, 82%; yellow solid, mp 99-102 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.89 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.69 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, J = 9.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.31 (m, 1H), 4.22 – 4.13 (m, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.58, 170.50, 170.26, 169.50, 169.30, 168.02, 163.19, 147.95, 142.00, 132.60, 132.14, 131.37, 124.05, 115.17, 114.40, 110.25, 98.19, 97.54, 72.58, 72.51, 71.03, 68.25, 62.10, 20.76, 20.73, 20.69, 18.15. IR (neat) 2957, 1747, 1704, 1667, 1596, 1488, 1367, 1214, 1171, 1138, 1037, 1013, 909, 821, 732 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₀BrO₁₂, 661.0920, found 661.0923.



[(Z)-2-(4'-bromobenzylidene)-7-methybenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O*acetyl*)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (9a): Reaction mixture of aurone 8 (0.26 mmol, 86 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 30% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 120.5 mg, 70%; yellow solid, mp 218-219 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 5.73 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.26 - 5.14 (m, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 12.1, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H),2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 2.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.81, 170.59, 170.28, 169.52, 169.26, 165.84, 161.62, 147.95, 132.78, 132.34, 131.42, 124.30, 123.13, 116.59, 112.60, 111.11, 110.41, 98.78, 72.52, 72.47, 70.97, 68.28, 61.96, 20.79, 20.74, 8.11. IR (neat) 2957, 2263, 1745, 1706, 1657, 1605, 1490, 1371, 1223, 1041, 1013, 918, 905, 888, 823, 734 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₀BrO₁₂, 661.0920, found 661.0918.



[(Z)-2-(4'-fluorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-**Ο-β-D-glucopyranoside**](10a): Reaction mixture of aurone 10 (0.26 mmol, 67 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 130 mg, 85%; off-white solid, mp 191-194 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.04 (dd, J = 9.0, 6.0 Hz, 2H, 7.78 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 10.0Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (ddd, J = 10.0, 5.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, J = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J = 12.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 183.01, 170.53, 170.29, 169.50, 169.31, 167.77, 164.51, 163.80, 163.5 (d, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 252.5$ Hz), 147.21, 133.5 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C-F} = 8.3$ Hz), 133.46, 128.58 (d, ${}^{4}J_{C-F} = 2.0$ Hz), 126.21, 116.96, 116.31 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-F} = 2.0$ Hz) 21.7 Hz), 113.42, 111.62, 100.34, 98.34, 72.57, 71.01, 68.18, 62.02, 20.77, 20.71. IR (neat) 2950, 1745 1706, 1657, 1600, 1449, 1369, 1216, 1071 1033, 892, 830, 702, 685 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₈FO₁₂, 587.1565, found 587.1560.



[(Z)-4-methyl-2-(4'-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)]-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (11a): Reaction mixture of aurone 11 (0.13 mmol, 42 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.26 mmol, 107 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 8.6 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 106.5 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 51 mg, 60%; off-white solid, mp 201-203 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H 1H), 5.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dd, J = 10.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.38 - 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J= 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H, 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³CNMR (125) MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.65, 170.55, 170.31, 169.53, 169.35, 168.28, 163.40, 148.70, 142.25, 135.93, 131.27 (q, ${}^{2}J_{C-F}$ = 32.8 Hz), 125.74, 123.9 (q, ${}^{1}J_{C-F}$ = 272.2 Hz), 115.02, 114.55, 109.51, 98.18, 97.63, 72.57, 72.55, 71.04, 68.22, 62.10, 20.78, 20.75, 20.72, 18.22. IR (neat) 2941, 1749, 1708, 1598, 1326, 1216, 1123, 1052, 1035, 1020, 910, 702, 687 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₁H₃₀F₃O₁₂, 651.1689, found 651.1684.



[(Z)-2-(2'-fluoro-3'-methoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"- tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β -D-glucopyranoside] (12a): Reaction mixture of aurone 12 (0.26 mmol, 74 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 141 mg, 88%; off-white solid, mp 220-222 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.79 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 5.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (t, J = 9.5Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.03(d, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.77, 170.54, 170.25, 169.49, 169.31, 167.83, 163.87, 151.58 (d, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 254.8$ Hz), 147.91 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-F} = 10.6$ Hz, 126.25, 124.09 (d, ${}^{4}J_{C-F} = 4.1 \text{ Hz}$), 122.71, 121.17 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-F} = 9.2 \text{ Hz}$, 116.78, 114.72, 113.49, 103.81 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C-F} = 8.0$ Hz 100.33, 98.34, 72.56, 72.53, 70.97, 68.19, 62.02, 56.43, 20.75, 20.69. IR (neat) 2969, 1747, 1737, 1708, 1657, 1613, 1449, 1253, 1223, 1132, 1087, 1035, 842, 834, 782,722 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₂₉FO₁₃, 616.1592, found 616.1587.



[(Z)-2-(4'-methylbenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-**Ο-β-D-glucopyranoside**](13a): Reaction mixture of aurone 13 (0.26 mmol, 66 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethylacetate in hexane. Yield: 129 mg, 86%; off-white solid, mp 210-211°C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 5.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 10.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.43 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.20 (dd, J = 12.0,6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.07 – 2.03 (m, 9H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.84, 169.95, 169.64, 169.38, 169.13, 167.16, 163.41, 146.64, 140.28, 131.30, 129.71, 129.10, 125.89, 115.91, 113.49, 111.91, 99.85, 96.50, 71.87, 71.22, 70.45, 67.91, 61.68, 21.18, 20.46, 20.44, 20.35, 20.31. IR (neat) 2957, 2918, 1737, 1700, 1652, 1607, 1596, 1443, 1378, 1348, 1246, 1052 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₁O₁₂, 583.1816, found 583.1810.



[(Z)-2-(3',5'-dimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acet vl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (14a): Reaction mixture of aurone 14 (0.26 mmol, 79 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 50% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 100 mg, 61%; off-white solid, mp 192-193 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.63 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 10.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.42 - 4.34 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H), 2.03 (s, 9H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.94, 169.98, 169.64, 169.38, 169.13, 167.28, 163.53, 160.66, 147.20, 133.40, 126.01, 115.73, 113.39, 111.63, 109.49, 101.70, 99.98, 96.35, 71.86, 71.21, 70.41, 67.91, 61.68, 55.41, 20.48, 20.43, 20.36, 20.31. IR (neat) 2950, 2922, 2853, 1749, 1739, 1704, 1657, 1607, 1590, 1449, 1367, 1318, 1249, 1223, 1091, 1974, 843, 776 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₁H₃₃O₁₄, 629.1870, found 629.1875.



[(Z)-2-(3', 4', 5'-trimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β -D-glucopyranoside] (15a): Reaction mixture of aurone 15 (0.26 mmol, 85 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 50% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 156 mg, 91%; yellow solid, mp 113-116 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.79 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (s, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H),6.87 (s, 1H), 5.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 9.7, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (ddd, *J* = 10.1, 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 12.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.85, 170.50, 170.20, 169.44, 169.30, 167.41, 163.54, 153.37, 146.99, 140.18, 127.57, 126.11, 117.04, 113.09, 112.63, 109.05, 100.66, 98.06, 72.46, 72.34, 71.00, 68.17, 61.92, 61.05, 56.35, 20.70, 20.64. IR (neat) 1754, 1732, 1652, 1605, 1506, 1447, 1423, 1372, 1350, 1339, 1240, 1214, 1074, 1035, 843, 910, 691 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₂H₃₅O₁₅, 659.1976, found 659.1971.



[(Z)-7-methyl-2-(3',4',5'-trimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetvl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (16a): Reaction mixture of aurone 16 (0.26 mmol, 89 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 50% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 150.7 mg, 87% yellow solid, mp 127-130 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 5.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J= 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.39 - 4.31 (m, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 12.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 6H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.62, 170.56, 170.23, 169.50, 169.25, 165.53, 161.32, 153.33, 147.27, 139.84, 127.82, 123.04, 116.68, 112.80, 112.09, 110.13, 108.68, 98.66, 72.44, 72.39, 70.93, 68.24, 61.92, 61.09, 56.07, 20.75, 20.68, 7.90. IR (neat) 2942, 2844, 1752, 1730, 1655, 1611, 1506, 1426, 1214, 1037, 910, 775 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₃H₃₇O₁₅, 673.2133, found 673.2135.



[(Z)-2-(4'-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-Oacetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside] (17a): Reaction mixture of aurone 17 (0.26 mmol, 73 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 141 mg, 89%; orange solid, mp 140-142 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.82 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.79 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (s, 6H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.04 (d, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 180.86, 169.96, 169.65, 169.38, 169.14, 166.17, 162.74, 151.33, 144.71, 133.29, 125.40, 118.81, 116.65, 114.04, 113.09, 111.94, 99.73, 96.59, 71.88, 71.17, 70.50, 67.94, 61.67, 20.45, 20.35, 20.32. IR (neat) 2920, 2117, 1747, 1698, 1644, 1588, 1527, 1369, 1222, 1037, 951, 814, 732 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₁H₃₄NO₁₂, 612.2081, found 612.2077.



[(Z)-2-(4'-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glycopyranoside] (18a): Reaction mixture of aurone 18 (0.26 mmol, 77 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 137 mg, 84%; red solid, mp 107-109 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.85 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 5.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.36 – 4.30 (m, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 12.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 12.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (s, 6H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H),3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.25, 170.59, 170.23, 169.52, 169.29, 164.97, 160.72, 151.30, 145.77, 133.58, 122.49, 120.09, 117.54, 114.73, 112.26, 112.06, 109.96, 98.91, 72.57, 72.31, 70.98, 68.30, 61.95, 40.14, 20.76, 20.72, 8.07. IR (neat) 2926, 2861, 1749, 1581, 1527, 1428, 1367, 1212, 1113, 1035, 815, 778, 685 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₂H₃₆NO₁₂, 626.2238, found 626.2241.



[(Z)-2-benzylidenebenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-4'-O-β-D-

glycopyranoside] (19a): Reaction mixture of aurone **19** (0.26 mmol, 62 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 125.7 mg, 85%; yellow solid, mp 77-79 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 5.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.43 (t, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (t, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (ddd, *J* = 10.0, 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.74, 170.67, 170.34, 169.50, 169.40, 166.06, 157.86, 146.44, 136.94, 133.32, 127.59, 124.76, 123.58, 121.80, 117.18, 112.99, 112.51, 98.54, 72.71, 72.25, 71.15, 68.25, 61.95, 20.80, 20.73. IR (near) 1745, 1706, 1600, 1510, 1369, 1210, 1035, 888, 758, 702 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₉O₁₂, 569.1659, found 569.1664.



[(Z)-2-(3'-methoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-4'-O-β-D-glucopyranoside](20a): Reaction mixture of aurone 20 (0.26 mmol, 70 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 136 mg, 87%; yellow solid, mp 78-79 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.81 (d = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 5.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1HJ = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dd, J = 10.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dt, J = 9.0, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.71, 170.73, 170.41, 169.54, 169.47, 166.06, 150.68, 147.62, 146.57, 136.97, 128.88, 125.30, 124.82, 123.68, 121.78, 119.51, 115.40, 113.00, 112.79, 100.33, 72.60, 72.23, 71.21, 68.40, 61.97, 56.25, 20.85, 20.78, 20.73. IR (neat) 2924, 1745, 1648, 1600, 1514, 1369, 1216, 1067, 1035, 884, 758, 702 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₁O₁₃, 599.1796, found 599.1800.



[(Z)-2-(3'-methoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-2'-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (21a): Reaction mixture of aurone 21 (0.26 mmol, 69.5 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 98.5 mg, 64%; yellow solid, mp 105-107 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 7.92 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.99 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5Hz, 1H), 5.40 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 12.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.03(dd, J = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.59. (ddd, J = 9.8, 4.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.49, 170.95, 170.58, 169.64, 169.44, 166.11, 152.16, 147.33, 144.64, 136.81, 128.40, 125.66, 124.79, 123.49, 121.86, 113.85, 112.91, 108.00, 101.58, 72.88, 71.80, 71.71, 68.48, 61.58, 56.05, 20.85, 20.79, 20.70, 20.57. IR (neat) 3613, 2952, 1745, 1704, 1652, 1603, 1462, 1367, 1218, 1190, 1035, 886, 761, 737, 702 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₀H₃₁O₁₃, 599.1796, found 599.1893.



[(Z)-4-methyl-2-(4'-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4", 6" -tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyrano side (22a): Reaction mixture of aurone 22 (0.093 mmol, 30 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.187 mmol, 76.8 mg) in 2.5 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 6.2 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 77 mg) and 1.5 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 50 mg, 82%; red solid, mp 113-116 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.80 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.63 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 3H), 5.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.39 – 4.32 (m, 1H), 4.23 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 3.36-3.33 (m, 4H, overlapped with H₂O signal) 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, 6H), 1.98 (s, 7H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) & 183.28, 170.66, 170.31, 169.54, 169.39, 167.11, 162.37, 148.87, 145.65, 141.28, 133.57, 119.56, 116.23, 114.30, 113.84, 111.96, 98.41, 97.40, 72.71, 72.44, 71.10, 68.38, 62.16, 47.66, 25.57, 20.83, 20.76, 20.72, 18.13. IR (neat)) 2959, 2928, 2855, 1747, 1581, 1525, 1378, 1346, 1214, 1171, 1138, 1037, 815, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₃₄H₃₈NO₁₂, 652.2394, found 652.2395.



[(Z)-2-(4'-(diphenylamino)benzylidene)-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6" -tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (23a): Reaction mixture of aurone 23 (0.26 mmol, 109 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 129 mg, 67%; orange- yellow solid, mp 103-105 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.83 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (dd, J = 11.0, 5.0 Hz, 4H), 7.20 - 7.10 (m, 6H), 6.97 - 6.90 (m, 3H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.34 – 4.30 (m, 1H), 4.19-4.11 (m, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.52, 170.22, 169.44, 169.28, 167.50, 162.68, 149.31, 146.72, 141.47, 132.60, 129.56, 125.61, 125.22, 124.28, 121.33, 114.15, 112.21, 98.20, 97.32, 72.59, 72.39, 70.96, 68.20, 62.04, 20.70, 20.66, 18.10. IR (neat) 1749, 1695, 1650, 1587, 1510, 1492, 1214, 1138, 1035, 907, 758, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₄₂H₄₀NO₁₂, 750.2550, found 750.2547.



[(Z)-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2", 3", 4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (24a): Reaction mixture of aurone 24 (0.26 mmol, 67 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 143 mg, 87%; yellow solid, mp 93-94 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.94 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J = 4.0, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71 - 6.67 (m, 1H), 5.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dd, J =9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 – 4.34 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.85, 170.52, 170.18, 169.45, 169.26, 167.48, 162.87, 146.07, 141.59, 135.48, 132.67, 131.16, 127.97, 115.74, 114.29, 105.63, 98.02, 97.36, 72.53, 72.37, 70.95, 68.24, 62.06, 20.82, 20.67, 20.62, 18.01. IR (neat) 2956, 1749, 1698, 1650, 1605, 1423, 1367, 1216, 1171, 1134, 1037, 909 717, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₈H₂₉SO₁₂, 589.2550, found 589.1385.



[(Z)-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-3'-vlmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (25a): Reaction mixture of aurone 25 (0.26 mmol, 67 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 115 mg, 75%; yellow solid, mp 94-96 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.20 – 8.15 (m, 1H), 7.73 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 – 4.29 (m, 1H), 4.26 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, 9H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.63, 170.53, 170.25, 169.48, 169.31, 167.74, 162.97, 146.94, 141.74, 133.82, 129.86, 129.13, 126.32, 115.65, 114.13, 105.91, 98.13, 97.41, 72.56, 72.41, 70.98, 68.20, 62.05, 20.76, 20.71, 20.67, 18.10. IR (neat) 2956, 1747, 1700, 1652, 1601, 1369, 1212, 1171, 1130, 1035, 909, 791, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₈H₂₉SO₁₂, 589.1380, found 589.1379.



[(Z)-2-((5'-cyanothiophen-2'-yl)methylene)-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-2",3",4",6"tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyrano side] (26a): Reaction mixture of aurone **26** (0.26 mmol, 74 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Yield: 135 mg, 85%; yellow solid, mp 139-140 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.02 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (ddd, J = 10.0, 5.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (m, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.26, 170.39, 170.13, 169.42, 169.20, 167.65, 163.39, 147.81, 142.08, 137.42, 131.32, 115.09, 114.85, 113.95, 112.82, 102.85, 97.93, 97.49, 72.42, 70.88, 68.09, 62.02, 20.78, 20.63, 20.59, 18.01. IR (neat) 2218, 1745, 1704, 1655, 1596, 1439, 1369, 1214, 1173, 1134, 1033, 909, 810, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₂₈NSO₁₂, 614.1332, found 614.1330.



[(Z)-2-((4'-bromothiophen-2'-yl)methylene)-4-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3", 4",6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glycopyranoside (27a): Reaction mixture of aurone 27 (0.26 mmol, 84 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 30% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 146 mg, 86%; yellow solid, mp 139-140 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.08 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 4.43 - 4.32 (m, 3.14 (m), 4.43 - 4.32 (m), 4.43 - 4.43 (m), 4.43 + 4.43 (m), 4.43 + 4.43 (m), 4.43 + 4.43 (m), 4.44 + 4.43 (m), 4.44 + 4.431H), 4.24 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) & 182.01, 170.52, 170.21, 169.47, 169.26, 167.31, 163.79, 146.59, 136.38, 134.20, 128.03, 126.06, 117.08, 113.65, 111.41, 104.83, 100.22, 98.17, 72.49, 70.95, 68.17, 62.02, 20.84, 20.66, 20.63. IR (neat) 3093, 1745, 1650, 1605, 1447, 1411, 1371, 1216, 1035, 910, 875, 732, 696 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₈H₂₇BrSO₁₂, 667.0485, found 667.0489.



[(Z)-4-methyl-2-((5'-methylfuran-2'vl)methylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-[(2",3",4", 6"-tetra-O-acetyl)-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (28a): Reaction mixture of aurone 28 (0.26 mmol, 67 mg) and glycosyl donor (0.52 mmol, 214 mg) in 4 mL chloroform was stirred for 48 hours in the presence of TBAB (0.2 equiv., 17.12 mg), potassium carbonate (6 equiv., 213 mg) and 3 mL DI water under the standard condition. Eluent 40% ethyl acetate in hexane. Yield: 109 mg, 72%; yellow solid, mp 83-85 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.07 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, J = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.0Hz, 1H), 4.16 – 4.11 (m, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.03 (d, 6H), 1.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.04, 170.59, 170.26, 169.50, 169.34, 167.41, 162.75, 156.07, 147.39, 145.12, 141.49, 118.48, 115.86, 114.09, 109.88, 100.91, 98.18, 97.48, 72.60, 72.41, 71.01, 68.27, 62.08, 20.79, 20.72, 20.68, 18.07, 14.13. IR (neat) 1747, 1695, 1648, 1600, 1521, 1369, 1210, 1171, 1132, 1033, 909, 791, 698 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₉H₃₁SO₁₃, 687.1765, found 687.1767.
4.3. Deacetylation of peracetyl glycosyl aurones

In a 1-dram glass vial, 0.1 mmol of peracetylated glycosyl aurone was dissolved in 1 mL MeOH. To this solution, 10 mol% of NaOMe was added (5M in MeOH) and stirred at room temperature for 45 minutes. After the completion of the reaction, the solvent was vacuum off and subjected to flash column chromatography. The crude was eluted with ethyl acetate, followed by 5-7% MeOH in DCM.

4.3.1. Characterization data for glucosides



[(Z)-2-(4-methylbenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (29a): 0.051 mmol (30 mg) **13a** was stirred in 1 mL MeOH in the presence of 10 mol% NaOMe (5M in MeOH) for 2h under standard condition. Eluent 5% MeOH in DCM. Yield: 18 mg, 18 mg, 84%; off-white solid, mp 158-160 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 7.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, J= 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.25 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 – 3.70 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1H), 3.58-3.53 (m, 2H), 3.52-3.47 (m, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, METHANOL-D4) δ 184.74, 169.53, 166.95, 148.62, 141.98, 132.69, 130.73, 126.56, 116.88, 114.99, 113.95, 101.68, 100.84, 78.43, 77.82, 74.70, 71.21, 62.45, 21.59. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₂H₂₃O₁₈, 415.1393, found 415.1397.



[(Z)-2-(4'-cyanobenzylidene)-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one]-6-O-β-D-glucopyrano side] (30a): 0.051 mmol (31 mg) **2a** was stirred in 1 mL MeOH in the presence of 10 mol% NaOMe (5M in MeOH) for 2h under standard condition. Eluent 5% MeOH in DCM. Yield: 18.3 mg, 80%; off-white solid, mp 230-233 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.45 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.31 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.08 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 1H, -OH), 3.69 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.54 – 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.42 (m, Hz, 2H), 3.22 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 182.53, 165.24, 162.92, 148.65, 136.89, 132.80, 131.52, 123.05, 118.73, 114.25, 111.34, 111.00, 110.90, 108.58, 100.35, 77.28, 76.39, 73.24, 69.48, 60.54, 7.94. IR (neat) 3313, 2924, 2227, 1693, 1654, 1600, 1428, 1397, 1264, 1102, 1080, 1043, 991, 778, 681 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₃H₂₂NO₈, 440.1345, found 440.1339.



[Z]-2-(4'-cyanobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (31*a*): 0.051 mmol (30.5 mg) **1a** was stirred in 1 mL MeOH in the presence of 10 mol% NaOMe (5M in MeOH) for 2h under standard condition. Eluent 5% MeOH in DCM. Yield: 20 mg, 88%; off-white solid, mp 188-190 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 5.62 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.52 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.35 (s, 1H, -OH), 5.18 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 1H, -OH), 3.71 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.29 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.23 – 3.12 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.87, 167.85, 165.39, 148.54, 136.72, 132.75, 131.46, 125.83, 118.68, 114.45, 114.05, 111.47, 108.83, 99.82, 99.66, 77.22, 76.38, 73.12, 69.48, 60.60. IR (neat) 3395, 3326, 2918, 2240, 1704, 1657, 1613, 1600, 1354, 1264, 1080, 1011, 903, 834, 683 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₂H₂₀NO₈, 426.1189, found 426.1186.



[(Z)-2-(3',5'-dimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-6-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (32a): 0.051 mmol, (32 mg) **14a** was stirred in 1 mL MeOH in the presence of 10 mol% NaOMe (5M in MeOH) for 2h under standard condition. Eluent 5% MeOH in DCM. Yield: 20 mg, 63%; yellow solid, mp 174-177 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, OH), 5.17 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, OH and anomeric), 5.11 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, OH), 4.63 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, OH), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.71 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 3.37-3.35 (m, 1H), 3.30-3.28 (m, 2H), 3.18 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 182.01, 167.68, 165.20, 160.71, 147.40, 133.58, 125.69, 114.84, 113.92, 111.35, 109.38, 101.89, 99.91, 99.80, 77.28, 76.49, 73.18, 69.65, 60.70, 55.45. IR (neat) 3604, 3348, 2931, 2885, 2851, 1702, 1654, 1615, 1596, 1445, 1428, 1357, 1346, 1279, 1166, 1089, 1074, 1063, 1039, 853, 685 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₃H₂₅O₁₀, 461.1448, found 461.1451.



[(Z)-7-methyl-2-(3',4',5'-trimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one]-6-O-fi-D-gluco pyranoside (33a): 0.051 mmol (34 mg) **16a** was stirred in 1 mL MeOH in the presence of 10 mol% NaOMe (5M in MeOH) for 2h under standard condition. Eluent 7% MeOH in DCM. Yield: 17 mg, 75%; yellow solid, mp 190-192 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) (signals are highly overlapped) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (s, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 5.53 (s, 1H, OH), 5.23 (s, 1H, OH), 5.05 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (s, 1H, OH), 3.87 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.68 (m, 1H), 3.49 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 4H), 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.20 (m, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 182.32, 164.84, 162.47, 152.95, 146.78, 139.10, 127.53, 122.68, 114.69, 111.51, 110.91, 108.77, 100.54, 77.25, 76.40, 73.23, 69.51, 60.56, 60.21, 55.80, 7.58. IR (neat) 3339, 2931, 1641, 1605, 1587, 1505, 1423, 1352, 1259, 1123, 1099, 1076, 1043, 992, 776 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI): [M + H], calcd for C₂₅H₂₉O₁₁, 505.1710, found 505.1713.

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CHAPTER - III

AN UNUSUAL TRIAZOLE SYNTHESIS FROM AURONES

1. Introduction

Aurones are an interesting minor sub-family of the flavonoid family of natural products.¹ Although known for some time, they have received comparatively little interest until fairly recently. Even this current interest has been fairly limited in terms of its diversity. In part, this situation is the result of most efforts being determined by the synthetic approach employed to access the aurone framework. In virtually all cases, this approach is the Knoevenagel-type condensation of a benzofuranone with an aromatic aldehyde.² (Scheme 11)



benzofuranone

anone aromatic aldehyde

aurone

Scheme 11: Condensation Routes to Aurones

While it is true that there are many commercially available aldehydes as well as a number of commercially available benzofuranones, we were interested in potentially combining our recently reported azidation/click reaction of aryl halides to further diversify and functionalize halogen-containing aurones.³ In this way, even greater structural diversity could be accessed without the need to synthesize a new aldehyde for each new aurone.

In addition, this same azidation chemistry in the absence of an alkyne should afford the unknown 4-azidoaurone. This compound or similar azidoaurones are expected to be suitable substrates for photoaffinity labeling via nitrene generation and thus find application in studies to better understand the interaction of these compound with biological systems.⁴

With these twin goals in mind, iodoaurone **1** was selected as a substrate for an *in situ* azidation/click reaction. Initial attempts did result in the consumption of the iodoaurone, but failed to afford any of the anticipated triazole **2**. (Scheme 12)



Scheme 12: Azidation /Click Attempt

In an effort to understand the failure of this transformation, iodoaurone 1 was simply subjected to our standard azidation conditions but without the alkyne (sodium azide,

catalytic copper (I) iodide and *N*, *N*'-dimethylethylenediamine in choline chloride/ glycerol). Again, this consumed the starting material but failed to afford any azide **3**. Further variations in solvent, catalyst, and temperature likewise only resulted in conversion to a new unknown product that did not contain an azide. However, the product featured most of the anticipated spectral features of an aurone except for the very characteristic enone β -proton.

After several other failed attempts, new attempts were made to react cyanoaurone **5a** with sodium azide to form the corresponding tetrazole **4**. (Scheme 13) Again, the reaction failed to afford the anticipated tetrazole but did result in the consumption of the starting material and the formation of a new polar product that showed considerable similarity to that obtained from the reactions with iodoaurone **1**.



Scheme 13: New Triazole Formation

This product could be isolated as a solid that could be crystalized to afford crystals suitable for x-ray diffraction analysis.⁵ (Figure 8) This analysis confirmed that the product was indeed not a tetrazole, but actually triazole **5**.



Figure 8: Crystal Structure of New Triazoles

2. Results and discussions

With this structural confirmation, reexamination of the products from the reaction with iodoaurone **1** proved to have similarly afforded these unique triazole products. Further optimization of this transformation was conducted using cyanoaurone **5a**. (Scheme 14)

Using sodium azide in DMSO without any catalyst also afforded the triazole product **5**. Further attempts at the optimization of this transformation noted that polar aprotic solvents were suitable for this reaction, affording modest to good yields of the triazole after short reaction times at moderate temperatures (120 °C). Decreasing the temperature resulted in slower conversion to the azide, with the reaction at 100 °C requiring 3 hours and one at 80 °C requiring 6 hours. Further reduction in temperature resulted in a very sluggish and unclean reaction. Less polar solvents (THF and dioxane) were not

effective, while a protic solvent (EtOH) was slower, but did afford the product in a reduced yield.



^a Conversion yield by ¹H NMR. Values in parentheses is isolated yield ND = not determined, NR = no reaction, DMF = N,N-dimethylformamide, DMSO = dimethylsulfoxide, THF = tetrahydrofurane

Scheme 14: Reaction Condition Study

While the results in Scheme 14 might appear to indicate that DMF was the best solvent, further examples did not demonstrate this to be a consistent result. Further, one major challenge with this chemistry was product isolation. The triazole products are relatively polar and frequently do not afford good recovery following chromatography. DMSO could be removed much more readily from the reactions than DMF and was used in all subsequent examples. In examining the scope of the reaction, variations of the aryl group proved to be well tolerated. (Scheme 15) While the isolated yields varied from near 50% to just under 90%, there was no clear trend in terms of electronics or location of substitution on the aryl ring.



Scheme 15: Aryl Variations



Scheme 15 (cont): Aryl Variations

Electron withdrawing groups afforded high yields, as did methyl ethers. Most halogens were similarly efficient. Curiously, free hydroxyl groups and alkyl groups tended to afford the lowest yields. In the case of free hydroxyl groups, this is likely due to their highly polar nature, making isolation and purification difficult. It is worth noting that NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixtures showed clean conversion to the product, with only small amounts (< 10%) of starting material or unidentified by-products as well as residual solvent. Further, mass balance was near quantitative, demonstrating that the yield challenge is clearly in the purification step. Two heteroaromatics that were explored afforded similar yields.

In probing the utility of the reaction with respect to the benzofuranone portion, it proved to be equally general. (Scheme 16) Halogens were tolerated at all positions as were methyl groups at all 3 positions that were tested. Yields ranged from 55-81%.

Additional peaks observed, which were particularly evident in the ¹³C-NMR of some triazoles, suggested the presence of tautomeric mixtures that depend on the concentration and type of solvent used. Tautomerism has been reported as a common phenomenon in 1,2,3-triazoles,⁶ which in our case, was further evidenced in the crystal structures of triazoles **5** and **10** which feature the N2 and N1 tautomers respectively. (Figure 1) This tautomerization is evident from the hybridization and bond lengths indicated in the crystal structures and the inferred location of hydrogen atoms.



Scheme 16: Benzofuranone Variations

With respect to the reaction mechanism, it is unclear at this point whether some form of Michael addition/elimination/cyclization sequence, a cycloaddition/elimination sequence, or an elimination to an intermediate ynone followed by cycloaddition is occurring as proposed in scheme 17. From the literature, the closest transformation was reported a number of years ago by Bognar and co-workers on the conversion of dibromochalcones with sodium azide in DMF into a number of different compounds, including a triazole.⁷. Even in this case, the mechanism is unclear, and a number of



Scheme 17: Plausible Mechanism for Triazole Formation

possible pathways are proposed. Ring opening of aurones using methyl isocyanoacetate has been reported recently by Shao and co-workers for which a more complicated cyclization/ring-opening pathway has been proposed.⁸ But, this reaction also requires a base catalyst and proceeds best in protic solvents. Additionally, Msadek and co-workers have reported the ring-opening synthesis of pyrazoles from aurones by reaction with aryldiazomethanes under mild thermal conditions. They propose that this reaction occurs via cycloaddition followed by elimination to afford the aromatic pyrazole, but no mechanistic evidence is provided.⁹

At the same time, ynones are known to readily undergo reaction with sodium azide to afford triazoles, making the elimination/cycloaddition pathway appear to be the simplest mechanistic explanation.¹⁰ Unfortunately, attempts to observe an ynone intermediate have not been successful, and reactions under the same reaction conditions using thioaurone **47a** afforded only recovered starting material even though it would be expected that elimination of the better thiol-leaving group would be more facile and thus afford better yields of the triazole product. (Scheme 18) Additionally, attempts to induce elimination using DBU in DMSO at temperatures up to 120 °C for up to 12 hours have resulted only in recovery of the starting aurone, as has thermal treatment of the aurone in the absence of sodium azide. All of this evidence lends more support for a cycloaddition/elimination pathway.



Scheme 18: Thioaurone Attempt

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have observed an unusual ring-opening triazole formation by the reaction of aurones with sodium azide. The product triazoles feature two clear sites for alkylation chemistry, as well as a great opportunity for modification at many sites in the ring system. Given this potential and their ease of access, it is anticipated that they could prove to be new, unexplored scaffolds for further development.

4. Experimental

General Information: All the reactions were done under an air atmosphere. ¹H and ¹³C NMR of all the compounds were recorded on JEOL AS (500 and 300 MHz) NMR instrument, and chemical shifts were recorded in ppm. All the chemical shifts were recorded taking CDCl₃ or DMSO or acetone-D as a standard reference.¹¹ The following conventions are used for multiplicities: s, singlet; *d*, doublet; *t*, triplet; *m*, multiplet; *dd*, doublet of doublet; *tt*, triplet of triplet; *dt*, doublet of triplet; *ddd*, doublet of doublet of doublet of doublet of triplet; *dt*, and the triplet of triplet of triplet; *dt*, doublet of triplet; *ddd*, doublet of doublet of doublet. R spectra. All mass spectra were acquired on a Waters Synapt HDMS QToF with Ion Mobility. All

extracts were concentrated under reduced pressure using a Buchi Rotary Evaporator. During purification and identification of compounds, Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica-coated TLC plates and monitored by short wavelength (254 nm) UV light. Products were purified by silica gel column chromatography. ACS grade reagents were employed during the experiments.

4.1. General procedure: Synthesis of aurones

All the aurones (**5a-46a**) utilized for the triazole formation were synthesized based on the literature.¹² 0.57 mmol of benzofuranone was dissolved in 5 mL of glacial acetic acid in a 3-dram glass vial containing a magnetic stir bar. To this solution, 0.63 (1.1 equivalent) of aldehyde and 3 drops (0.2 mL) of concentrated HCl were added and stirred at room temperature for 30 min to 6 hours. In most cases, reaction resulted in a precipitate normally after 30 min indicating the completion of the reaction. After the reaction was complete, it was poured into ice-cold DI water. The precipitate obtained was filtered, and the residue was washed multiple times with water and allowed to air dry. No further purification was required. For some of the aurones which did not precipitate out efficiently, the water diluted reaction mixture was neutralized with saturated NaHCO₃ and extracted with ethyl acetate. Among the synthesized aurones, **5a-10a**, **12a-17a**, **19a-29a**, and **31a** are known compounds and were characterized by comparing ¹H and ¹³C NMR with those reported in the literature.¹³

4.1.1. Characterization data for known aurones



(Z)-4-((3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (5a)^{13a}: Yield: 84% (119 mg); yellow solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H).



(Z)-3-((3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (6a)^{13b}: Yield: 87% (123 mg); yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (s, 1H), 8.02 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (7a)^{13a}: Yield: 88% (134 mg); orange solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.07 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (ddd, J = 7.5, 1.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (8a)^{13a}: Yield: 81% (123 mg); yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.82 (s, 1H), 8.24 (ddd, J = 8.4, 2.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(3,5-dimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (9a)^{13c}: Yield: 70% (112 mg); greenish yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 - 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.54 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-2-(3-methoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (11a)^{13c}: Yield: 83% (119 mg);
yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (ddd, J = 8.1, 2.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (12a)^{13a,13c}: Yield: 82% (146 mg); bright yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (ddd, J = 7.6, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 2H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 3.95 (s, 6H), 3.93 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (13a)^{13d}: Yield: 80% (117 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (ddd, J = 7.5, 1.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 - 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(3-chlorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (14a)^{13c}: Yield: 50.6% (73 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.82(ddd, J = 7.5, 1.2, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.69 (ddd, J = 8.8, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(2-chlorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (15a)^{13d}: Yield: 82.7% (121 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-2-(2,4-dichlorobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (16a)^{13e}: Yield: 72% (119 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 7.6, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 8.6, 1.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 1H).



(Z)-2-(4-iodobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (17a)^{13f}: Yield: 64.5% (128 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.77 (m, 3H), 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 1H, overlapped with the next signal), 7.64 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.20 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (19a)^{13d, 13f}: Yield: 71%
(118 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 7.5, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.67 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one(20a) ^{13d, 13f}: Yield: 83%
(138 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (ddd, J = 7.5, 1.2, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.56 (m, Hz, 3H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(2-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (21a)^{13d, 13f}: Yield: 30%
(45 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (ddd, J = 7.8, 1.2, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dt, J = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20 (q, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H).



(Z)-2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (22a)^{13d}: Yield: 87% (118 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 10.24 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92-6.90 (m, 3H).



(Z)-2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one(23a)^{13c}: Yield: 71.3%
(109 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83-7.80 (m, 1H), 7.65 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(3-methylbenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (24a)^{13g}: Yield: 34% (46 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H).



(Z)-2-(4-(tert-butyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (25a)^{13h}: Crude yield: 94.5 %
(150 mg, impure), brown liquid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H),
7.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 1.36 (s, 9H).



(Z)-2-(4-(butyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (26a)¹³ⁱ: Crude yield: 97 % (154 mg, impure), brown liquid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 2.69 – 2.64 (m, 2H), 1.63 (dt, J = 15.3, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (m, 2H), 0.94 (td, J = 7.2, 1.5 Hz, 3H).



(Z)-2-(4-(isopropyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (27a)^{13j}: Crude yield: 93 % (140 mg, impure), brown liquid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69 - 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 3.25 - 2.81 (m, 1H), 1.29 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H).



(Z)-2-(4-phenyl)benzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (29a)^{13a, 13d} Crude yield: 84 % (143 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 3H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H).



(Z)-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (31a)^{13a}: Crude yield: 57.6 % (75 mg), yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H).

4.1.2. Characterization data for new aurones



(*Z*)-2-(2,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (10a): Yield: 84% (135 mg); greenish yellow solid, mp 168-170 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.8 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.5, 165.7, 162.9, 160.6, 146.0, 136.3, 133.5, 124.6, 123.2, 122.3, 114.6, 112.9, 107.9, 105.8, 98.1, 55.7, 55.6. IR (neat) 2929, 1701, 1645, 1589, 1459, 1271, 1183, 1094, 1028, 883 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₇H₁₅O₄, 283.0971, found 283.0973.



(*Z*)-2-(3-iodobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2*H*)-one (18a): Yield: 72% (143 mg); off-white solid, mp 128-130 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.0, 1H), 7.74 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.68 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.76

(s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.8, 166.3, 147.4, 139.9, 138.7, 137.3, 134.5, 130.7, 130.6, 124.9, 123.9, 121.5, 113.2, 111.1, 94.8. IR (neat) 3054, 1709, 1649, 1600, 1459, 1302, 1190, 1067, 883, 749 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₅H₁₀IO₂, 248.9726, found 248.9723.



(Z)-2-(thiophen-3-ylmethylene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (30a): Yield: 82% (107 mg); yellow solid, mp 99-101 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.7, 166.0, 146.3, 136.9, 133.9, 130.5, 129.4, 126.5, 124.7, 123.5, 122.2, 113.0, 107.3. IR (neat) 3091, 1705, 1647, 1601, 1595, 1459, 1299, 1187, 1092, 868, 751 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₃H₉O₂S, 229.8350, found 229.8349.



(Z)-4-((7-chloro-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile(32a) Yield: 89% (143 mg); pink solid, mp 226-228 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.5 Hz,

2H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.7, 161.9, 147.9, 137.2, 136.4, 132.7, 131.9, 124.9, 123.3, 123.1, 118.9, 118.5, 113.2, 111.6. IR (neat) 3036, 2225, 1715, 1657, 1601, 1477, 1434, 1289, 1138, 890 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉ClNO₂, 282.0323, found 282.0324.



(*Z*)-4-((6-chloro-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (33a) Yield: 90 % (145 mg); light pink solid, mp 242-244 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.78 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.2, 166.5, 148.3, 143.8, 136.5, 132.7, 131.7, 125.8, 125.2, 119.9, 118.6, 113.9, 113.0, 110.9. IR (neat) 3093, 2227, 1708, 1654, 1609, 1428, 1343, 1136, 873, 817 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉ClNO₂, 282.0323, found 282.0326.



(Z)-4-((5-chloro-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (34a) Yield: 89 % (142 mg); yellow solid, mp 220-223 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.4, 164.6, 148.3, 137.4, 136.5, 132.7, 131.8, 130.0, 124.7, 122.5, 118.6, 114.5, 113.1, 111.1. IR (neat) 3065, 2228, 1712, 1651, 1587, 1459, 1261, 1179, 1116, 833, 808 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉CINO₂, 282.0323, found 282.0321.



(Z)-4-((4-chloro-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (35a) Yield: 92 % (148 mg); light yellow solid, mp 248-250 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.8, 166.8, 147.8, 137.62, 136.6, 133.0, 132.6, 131.7, 125.5, 118.8, 118.6, 113.0, 111.5, 110.7. IR (neat) 3041, 2221, 1716, 1649, 1597, 1472, 1252, 1161, 971, 829, 792 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉ClNO₂, 282.0323, found 282.0325.



(*Z*)-4-((7-bromo-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (36a) Yield: 89 % (165 mg); light pink solid, mp 234-237 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.81 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.8, 163.3, 147.9, 140.1, 136.4, 132.7, 131.9, 125.4, 123.9, 122.9, 118.5, 113.2, 111.5, 106.3. IR (neat) 2223, 1712, 1653, 1599, 1426, 1272, 1129, 971, 833, 752 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉BrNO₂, 325.9817, found 325.9815.



(Z)-4-((5-bromo-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (37a): Yield: 70 %
(130 mg); orange solid, mp 205-207 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.2, 164.9, 148.1, 140.1, 136.4, 132.6, 131.8, 127.7, 122.9, 118.5, 117.1, 114.8, 113.1, 111.2. IR (neat) 3063, 2227,
1712, 1653, 1595, 1457, 1177, 1116, 833, 807 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉BrNO₂, 325.9817, found 325.9814.



(Z)-4-((5-fluoro-3-oxobenzofuran-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (38a): Yield: 88 % (133 mg); yellow solid, mp 208-211 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.7, 3.6 Hz, 1H) 6.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.0, 162.4, 159.25 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 245.8$ Hz), 148.8, 136.6, 132.6, 131.7, 125.0 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 26.1$ Hz), 122.0 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 8.2$ Hz), 118.6, 114.4 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 113.0, 110.96, 110.7 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 24.5$ Hz). IR (neat) 3069, 2219, 1712, 1656, 1608, 1479, 1261, 1192, 1090, 905, 820 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₉FNO₂, 266.0618, found 266.0621.



(Z)-2-(3-methoxybenzylidene)-5-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-on (39a): Yield: 50 % (83 mg); yellow solid, mp 152-154 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (s, (br) 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.37 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.94

(m, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.1, 164.8, 159.9, 147.5, 138.2, 133.7, 133.4, 129.9, 124.4, 124.4, 121.6, 116.6, 115.8, 112.7, 112.6, 55.5, 20.9. IR (neat) 2920, 1697, 1649, 1484, 1269, 1164, 905, 816, 780 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₇H₁₅O₃, 267.1022, found 267.1024.



(Z)-2-(3-methoxybenzylidene)-7-methylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one (40a): Purified by column chromatography (eluent - 10% EA : hexane). Yield: 50 % (76 mg); yellow solid, mp 126-128 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.2, 164.9, 159.9, 147.2, 137.8, 133.8, 129.9, 124.4, 123.5, 122.9, 122.0, 121.2, 116.3, 115.9, 112.7, 55.3, 14.3. IR (neat) 3011, 1693, 1646, 1600, 1493, 1456, 1264, 1201, 1131, 1041, 807, 758, cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₇H₁₅O₃, 267.1022, found 267.1025.



(*Z*)-2-(3-methoxybenzylidene)-5,6-dimethylbenzofuran-3(2H)-one(41a): Purified by column chromatography (eluent - 10% EA : hexane) Yield: 45 % (80 mg); orange solid, mp 133-136 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.6, 165.4, 159.9, 148.1, 147.7, 133.9, 132.5, 129.9, 124.6, 124.3, 119.5, 116.4, 115.7, 113.5, 112.2, 55.4, 21.6, 19.5. IR (neat) 2922, 1696, 1655, 1613, 1467, 1387, 1195, 1127, 907, 851, 780cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₃, 281.1178, found 281.1177.



(Z)-7-methyl-2-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (42a): Yield: 92 % (147 mg); orange solid, mp 230-233 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.94 (t, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.1, 165.1, 148.9, 148.4, 138.5, 136.8, 134.4, 129.9, 125.8, 124.1, 123.9, 123.3, 122.3, 120.8, 109.4, 14.3. IR (neat) 3073, 1703, 1653, 1597, 1528, 1343, 1192, 1138, 930, 766 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₄, 282.0767, found 282.0764.



(*Z*)-5-*methyl*-2-(3-*nitrobenzylidene*)*benzofuran*-3(2*H*)-*one* (43*a*): Yield: 92 % (147 mg); orange solid, mp 176-179 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.82 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 2.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.8, 164.9, 148.8, 148.5, 138.8, 136.8, 134.3, 134.0, 129.9, 125.6, 124.6, 124.0, 121.2, 112.8, 109.4, 20.9. IR (neat) 2968, 1712, 1660, 1489, 1203, 1162, 799 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₄, 282.0767, found 282.0767.



(Z)-5,6-dimethyl-2-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (44a): Yield: 74 % (138 mg); yellow solid, mp 227-230 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.82 (t, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.3, 165.6, 148.9, 148.8, 136.7, 134.4, 133.1, 129.8, 125.5, 124.8, 123.8, 119.1, 113.7, 108.8, 21.7, 19.6. IR (neat) 2926, 1703, 1658, 1613, 1524, 1459, 1341, 1131, 799 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NO₄, 296.0924, found 296.0928.



(*Z*)-5,6-dimethyl-2-(4-methylbenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (45a): Yield: 63 % (95 mg); yellow solid, mp 154-157 °C.¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (s, 2H), 6.83 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.7, 165.3, 147.9, 147.2, 140.3, 132.3, 131.5, 129.9, 129.8, 124.5, 119.7, 113.5, 112.7, 21.7, 21.6, 19.6. IR (neat) 2922, 1697, 1647, 1589, 1466, 1194, 1157, 1121, 1023, 816 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₂, 265.1229, found 265.1232.



(Z)-7-chloro-2-(4-methylbenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (46a): Yield: 65 % (101 mg); yellow solid, mp 124-126 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H),
7.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.9, 161.6, 146.3,
141.3, 136.4, 132.1, 130.0, 129.2, 124.2, 123.7, 122.9, 118.7, 115.2, 21.8. IR (neat) 2922,

1705, 1643, 1599, 1479, 1194, 1176, 1138, 969, 887 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₂ClO₂, 271.0524, found 271.0522.



(*Z*)-4-((3-oxobenzo[b]thiophen-2(3H)-ylidene)methyl)benzonitrile (47a): Following the general procedure benzo[b]thiophen-3(2H)-one (53 mg, 0.35 mmol) and 4-formylbenzonitrile (50 mg, 0.38 mmol) were dissolved in 5 mL glacial acetic and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour in the presence of 3 drops of conc. HCl. Yield: 65 % (101 mg); brown solid, mp 188-190 °C.¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 4H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 145.58, 138.7, 136.1, 133.7, 132.8, 131.1, 130.5, 129.9, 127.5, 126.3, 124.2, 118.5, 112.9. IR (neat) 3069, 2227, 1682, 1599, 1586, 1194, 1449, 1280, 1049, 833, 734 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₀NOS, 264.0484, found 264.0485.

4.2. General procedure for the synthesis of triazoles

In a 3-dram glass vial, aurone (1 equivalent) and sodium azide (1.5 equivalent) were combined and dissolved in 1.5 mL of regular DMSO. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 30 minutes at 120 °C in a sand bath. The reaction mixture immediately changed its color to dark brown. The reaction was monitored by thin-layer chromatography. After 30

minutes, the mixture was transferred to a 50 mL centrifuge tube, diluted with distilled water, and extracted with ethyl acetate multiple times. To remove residual DMSO, the organic fraction was then washed with DI water, followed by brine. The organic fraction was concentrated in vacuo, and the crude material was further purified by flash column chromatography using mixtures of hexane and ethyl acetate (20-50% ethyl acetate: hexane) to obtain the desired triazole.

4.2.1. Characterization data for triazoles (5-46)



4-(5-(2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzonitrile (5): From aurone **5a** (215 mg, 0.87 mmol); No chromatographic separation was needed. Yield: 83% (241 mg); yellow solid, mp 162-164 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 8.29 – 8.20 (m, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C {¹H} NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 193.4, 164.3, 138.1, 135.5, 134.9, 133.1, 133.0, 130.2, 130.1, 120.5, 119.9, 119.0, 118.8, 113.4 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat) 3160, 2997, 2924, 2238, 1737, 1628, 1469, 1432, 1264, 1233, 1153, 991, 920, 747 cm⁻¹.HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₁N₄O₂, 291.0882, found 291.0885.



3-(5-(2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzonitrile (6): From aurone **6a** (94 mg, 0.38 mmol); Yield: 74% (82 mg); eluent = 40% ethyl acetate : hexane, yellow solid, mp 159-161 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 8.31 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 10.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (ddd, J = 10.0, 6.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 193.1, 164.3, 138.0, 134.9, 133.9, 133.4, 132.2, 132.9, 132.5, 131.8, 130.6, 120.5, 119.9, 118.9, 118.7, 113.4 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat) 3306, 3073, 2924, 2231, 1628, 1600, 1475, 1315, 1145, 1119, 924, 760, 732 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₁N₄O₂, 291.0882, found 291.0879.



(2-hydroxyphenyl)(5-(4-nitrophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methanone (7): From aurone 7a (80 mg, 0.30 mmol); Yield: 73% (68 mg); eluent = 40% ethyl acetate : hexane, yellow solid, mp 200-202 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 8.34 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.26 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 193.4, 164.3, 149.0, 138.2, 136.8, 134.9, 130.6, 130.5, 124.4, 120.5, 119.9, 118.8 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat) 3471, 2903, 1596, 1467, 1438, 1207, 1162, 1149, 1041, 929, 834, 754 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): [M+H], calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N₄O₄, 311.0780, found 311.0781.



(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(3-nitrophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone(8):From aurone 8a (101.5 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 105 mg (89%); yellow solid; mp 157–158 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*6): δ = 8.72 (br s, 1 H), 8.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 193.2, 164.3, 149.2, 138.1, 134.9, 132.2, 130.7, 124.6, 124.4, 124.2, 124.0, 120.5, 119.9, 118.8 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat): 3110, 2903, 1628, 1534, 1482, 1350, 1253, 1153, 1100, 925, 817, 747 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N₄O₄: 311.0780; found: 311.0783.



[5-(3,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone(9): From aurone 9a (107.3 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 103 mg (83%); waxy solid; mp 79–82 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.99 (s, 1 H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.82 (s, 2 H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.74 (s, 6 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.4, 163.6, 160.9, 137.4, 133.8, 119.6, 119.3, 118.3, 106.7, 102.1, 55.6. IR (neat): 3478, 3070, 2905, 2838, 1600, 1596, 1469, 1439, 1289, 1248, 1151, 1069, 752, 678 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₄: 326.1141; found: 326.1138.



(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (10): From aurone 10a (96 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 96 mg (78%); yellow solid; mp 94-96 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.03 (s, 1 H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.51 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 3.0, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.27 (overlapped with residual CHCl₃ in the solvent, 1 H) 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl3): δ = 192.3, 163.5, 159.6, 140.7, 137.3, 133.8, 129.9, 128.6, 121.0, 119.5, 119.3, 118.3, 115.8, 114.1, 55.4. IR (neat): 3078, 2959, 2907, 1628, 1598, 1585, 1484, 1441, 1225, 1150, 1033, 1009, 752 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₄O₃: 296.1035; found: 296.1038.



[5-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (11): From aurone 11a (107.3 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 96 mg (86%); yellow solid; mp 194-195 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ = 11.55 (s, 1 H), 7.8 (br s, 1 H), 7.46 (dd, J = 18.6, 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.53 (s, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, acetone-d6): δ = 194.5, 164.1, 163.3, 158.3, 137.4, 134.6, 131.8, 120.6, 119.7, 118.5, 106.4, 99.2, 55.8, 55.3. IR (neat): 3237, 1624, 1581, 1499, 1458, 1441, 1210, 1032, 925, 819, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₄: 326.1141; found: 326.1143.



(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (12): From aurone 12a (62.5 mg, 0.20 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 50 mg (70%); yellow solid; mp 211–213 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): $\delta = 7.77$ (s, 1 H), 7.52– 7.42 (m, 1 H), 7.10 (s, 2 H), 6.93 (m, 2 H), 3.77 (m, 6 H), 3.69 (m, 3 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6): $\delta = 190.7$, 159.3, 152.7, 138.3, 134.9, 131.9, 123.5, 118.9, 117.2, 106.1, 60.1, 55.9. IR (neat): 2957, 2928, 1631, 1596, 1482, 1441, 1248, 1132, 983, 935, 760 cm– 1. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₃O₅: 356.1247; found: 356.1246.



[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (13): From aurone 13a (97.5 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 91 mg (80%); yellow solid; mp 147–149 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, acetone-*d*6): δ = 12.03 (br s, 1 H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.59 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 4.5, 0.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (dd, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, acetone-*d*6): δ = 193.5, 164.3, 137.9, 135.6, 134.9, 131.1, 130.9, 129.4, 129.3, 120.5, 119.8, 118.7 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat): 3150, 2913, 2825 (br), 1626, 1596, 1443, 1259, 1318, 1259, 1222, 1154, 1099, 924, 791 cm–1. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClN₃O₂: 300.0540; found: 300.0545.



[5-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (14): From aurone 14a (97.5 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 103 mg (90%); waxy solid; mp 67-69 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.98 (s, 1 H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.57–7.49 (m, 2 H), 7.40–7.29 (m, 1 H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 191.9, 163.6, 141.1, 137.6, 134.8, 133.7, 129.9, 128.7, 126.9, 119.4, 118.5 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat): 3161 (br), 2920, 1626, 1598, 1445, 1255, 1153, 925, 754, 680 cm–1. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClN₃O₂: 300.0540; found: 300.0541.



[5-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (15): From aurone 15a (97.5 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 107 mg (94%); yellow solid; mp 102–105 °C. IR (neat): 3460, 3091, 2812, 1601, 1473, 1452, 1249, 1153, 1037, 992, 752 cm–1. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.91 (s, 1 H), 8.36 (br s, 1 H), 7.56–7.54 (m, 1 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.44–7.38 (m, 2 H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 191.1, 163.6, 137.2, 133.5, 133.4, 131.5, 131.1, 130.1, 127.2, 119.3, 119.1, 118.3. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClN₃O₂: 300.0540; found: 300.0538.



[5-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone 16: From aurone 16a (128 mg, 0.44 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 90 mg (61%); yellow waxy solid; mp 62–64 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 11.88$ (s, 1 H), 8.35 (br s, 1 H), 7.56–7.52 (m, 1 H), 7.51–7.49 (m, 2 H), 7.39 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.04 (d, J =8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 190.8, 163.7,$ 137.3, 136.5, 134.2, 133.4, 132.3, 129.9, 127.6, 119.3, 119.0, 118.4. IR (neat): 3132, 2909, 1626, 1601, 1447, 1248, 1151, 922, 618 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₀Cl₂N₃O₂: 334.0150; found: 334.0151.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(4-iodophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (17): From aurone **17a** (250.7 mg, 0.72 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 177 mg (63%); yellow solid; mp 161–163 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.98 (s, 1 H), 8.08 (br s, 1 H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.55 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.26 (s, 1 H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.91 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.1, 163.58, 138.0, 137.6, 133.7, 130.3, 119.5, 119.4, 118.6, 96.5. IR (neat): 3132, 2909, 1626, 1601, 1447, 1248, 1151, 922, 618 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁IN₃O₂: 391.9896; found: 391.9896.



*[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(3-iodophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone(18):*From aurone **18a** (212.4 mg, 0.61 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 209 mg (88%); waxy solid; mp 60–61 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.21 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.83 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 8.0

Hz, 1 H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.98 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 209.5$, 192.1, 163.6, 145.5, 141.1, 138.5, 137.3, 133.8, 130.2, 128.0, 119.5, 119.3, 118.4, 94.3. IR (neat): 2887, 3060 (br), 2920, 1628, 1443, 1257, 1218, 1153, 1009, 924, 752 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁IN₃O₂: 391.9896; found: 391.9898.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl){5-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl}methanone

(19): From aurone 19a (98.7 mg, 0.34 mmol), no chromatographic separation was needed; yield: 101 mg (89%); yellow solid; mp 127–129 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.96 (s, 1 H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.1, 163.7, 146.2, 141.3, 137.8, 133.6, 131.8 (q, ²*J*_{C,F} = 30 Hz), 129.1, 127.4 (q, ¹*J*_{C,F} = 240 Hz), 125.7 (q, ³*J*_{C,F} = 4.5 Hz), 119.5, 119.4, 118.6 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat): 3226, 2828, 1626, 1607, 1479, 1450, 1432, 1322, 1158, 1110, 920, 845 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₁F₃N₃O₂: 334.0803; found: 334.0800.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl){5-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl}methanone

(20): From aurone 20a (119 mg, 0.41 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 99 mg (73%); mp 113–115 °C.1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 11.97$ (s, 1 H), 8.07 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.89 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 191.9$, 163.6, 141.1, 137.7, 133.6, 132.1, 131.2 (q, 2JC,F = 32.5 Hz), 129.3, 129.1, 126.4 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 2.5$ Hz), 125.6 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 3.75$ Hz), 123.8 (q, ${}^{1}J_{C,F} = 270$ Hz), 119.4, 119.3, 118.3. IR (neat): 3226, 2828, 1626, 1607, 1479, 1432, 1322, 1110, 920, 758 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₁F₃N₃O₂: 334.0803; found: 334.0801.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl){5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl}methanone

(21): From aurone **21a** (41 mg, 0.14 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 36 mg (72%); yellow solid; mp 147–150 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 11.90$ (s, 1 H), 8.48 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.77 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.61 (td, J = 15.0, 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 2 H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.93 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 190.3, 163.6, 143.3, 137.1, 133.61, 132.3, 131.8, 129.9, 129.3$ (q, ² $J_{C,F} = 30$ Hz), 127.5, 126.5 (q, ³ $J_{C,F} = 5$ Hz), 123.7 (q, ¹ $J_{C,F} = 272.5$ Hz), 120.4, 119.3, 118.3. IR (neat): 3084, 2855, 1629, 1574, 1439, 1328, 1253, 1076, 973, 758 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₁F₃N₃O₂: 334.0803; found: 334.0804.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (22): From aurone **22a** (100 mg, 0.42 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 59 mg (50%); yellow solid; mp 130–132 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): $\delta = 8.26$ (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 1 H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.92–6.87 (m, 3 H) (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): $\delta = 193.8$, 164.3, 159.5, 137.6, 135.0, 131.0, 130.8, 120.7, 119.7, 118.6, 116.3, 116.0 (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). IR (neat): 3131, 2961, 1615, 1592, 1434, 1223, 922, 748 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N₃O₃: 282.0878; found: 282.0875.



[5-(4-Hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone

(23): From aurone 23a (110 mg, 0.41 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 55 mg (43%); yellow solid; mp 186–187 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6): $\delta = 12.08$ (s, 1 H), 8.26 (s, 1 H), 7.60 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.46 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1

H), 3.87 (s, 3 H) (peaks for another tautomer were also observed). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6): $\delta = 194.0$, 164.3, 148.9, 148.3, 137.7, 135.1, 122.9, 120.9, 119.8, 118.7, 116.0, 113.1, 56.3 (peaks for other tautomers were also observed). IR (neat): 3181, 2939, 1628, 1594, 1486, 1445, 1214, 927, 789 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₃O₄: 312.0984; found: 312.0981.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(m-tolyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (24): From aurone 24a (45 mg, 0.19 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 31 mg (58%); waxy solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.05 (s, 1 H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 2 H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.34 (s, 3 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 163.7, 141.1, 138.7, 137.3, 133.9, 130.8, 129.3, 128.8, 127.6, 125.9, 119.7, 119.3, 118.4, 77.4, 77.2, 76.9, 21.5. IR (neat): 3134, 2918, 1626, 1445, 1309, 1257, 1151, 925, 754 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₃O₂: 280.1086; found: 280.1084.



{5-[4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl]-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl}(2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (25): From aurone 25a (142 mg, 0.51 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 93 mg (57%); yellow solid; mp 138–139 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.07 (s, 1 H), 8.14 (s, 1 H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2 H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.32 (s, 9 H) (COSY, HMQC, HMBC spectra are provided in the Supporting Information). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 163.7, 153.4, 137.2, 133.9, 128.4, 125.9, 119.7, 119.3, 118.4, 34.9, 31.3. IR (neat): 3272, 2969, 1628, 1452, 1328, 1205, 998, 922, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₉H₂₀N₃O₂: 322.1555; found: 322.1556.



[5-(4-Butylphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (26): From aurone 26a (147.5 mg, 0.53 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 85 mg (50%); brown oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.08 (s, 1 H), 8.16 (s, 1 H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.26 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.90

(t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.62 (dt, J = 13.0, 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.37 (dq, J = 14.5, 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.4, 163.6, 145.2, 140.7, 137.2, 133.9, 128.9, 128.6, 119.7, 119.2, 118.3, 35.6, 33.4, 22.5, 14.0. IR (neat): 3105, 2928, 1628, 1469, 1253, 1151, 922, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): <math>m/z$ [M + H] calcd for C₁₉H₂₀N₃O₂: 322.1555; found: 322.1554.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(4-isopropylphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (27): From aurone **27a** (129.5 mg, 0.49 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 75 mg (50%); yellow solid; mp 125–126 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.06 (s, 1 H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.12–2.81 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 163.7, 151.1, 140.8, 137.2, 133.9, 128.7, 127.1, 119.7, 119.2, 118.4, 34.1, 23.8. IR (neat): 3250, 2961, 1618, 1488, 1452, 1244, 1210, 1162, 998, 924, 761 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₃O₂: 308.1399; found: 308.1401.



[{5-[4-(Diphenylamino)phenyl]-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl}(2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (28): From aurone 28a (210 mg, 0.54 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 133 mg (57%); orange solid; mp 88–90 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 12.07$ (s, 1 H), 8.13 (s, 1 H), 7.55 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 4 H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4 H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.04–6.99 (m, 3 H), 6.81 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 4 H), 1³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.4$, 163.7, 149.6, 147.0, 137.2, 133.9, 129.6, 125.5, 124.1, 121.7, 119.7, 119.2, 118.4. IR (neat): 3159, 2922, 1600, 1590, 1486, 1447, 1253, 1151, 920, 821, 754, 696 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₂₇H₂₁N₄O₂: 433.1664; found: 433.1665.



[5-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl](2-hydroxyphenyl)methanone (29): From aurone 29a (137 mg, 0.46 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 94 mg (61%); yellow solid; mp 165–166 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.06 (s, 1 H), 8.15 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.61–7.59 (m, 2 H), 7.54–

7.50 (m, 1 H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.38 (ddd, J = 7.5, 4.0, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.90–6.87 (m, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 206.8, 192.3, 163.7, 142.7, 140.9, 140.0, 137.4, 133.9, 129.1, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 127.2, 119.6, 119.3, 118.4. IR (neat): 3071, 2920, 1628, 1596, 1475, 1445, 1259, 1223, 1156, 924, 735 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): <math>m/z$ [M + H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₆N₃O₂: 342.1242; found: 342.1238.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(thiophen-3-yl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (30): From aurone **30a** (89 mg, 0.39 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 77 mg (73%); yellow solid; mp 125–126 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.11 (s, 1 H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.52 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 6.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.89 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.0, 163.7, 140.8, 137.3, 133.9, 127.6, 127.3, 126.6, 119.7, 119.3, 118.5. IR (neat): 2883, 2922, 1628, 1600, 1445, 1309, 1255, 1108, 931, 732 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₃H₁₀N₃O₂S: 272.0493; found: 272.0491.



[(2-Hydroxyphenyl)[5-(thiophen-2-yl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (31): From aurone **31a** (105 mg, 0.46 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 60 mg (48%); yellow solid; mp 131–132 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.18$ (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.80 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.12 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.08–7.05 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.12 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.08–7.05 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 191.7, 163.8, 140.5, 137.3, 133.8, 129.5, 128.4, 127.9, 119.7, 119.3, 118.5$. IR (neat): 3080, 2928, 1626, 1596, 1467, 1443, 1255, 1161, 985, 912, 752 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₃H₁₀N₃O₂S: 272.0493; found: 272.0490.



4-[5-(3-Chloro-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (32): From aurone **32a** (113 mg, 0.40 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 108 mg (83%); yellow solid; mp 182–183 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 8.33 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.03 (t, *J* =

8.0 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): $\delta = 192.9$, 170.9, 159.7, 148.1, 142.1, 141.6, 137.7, 135.4, 134.6, 133.7, 133.1, 133.0, 130.3, 130.2, 122.8, 121.6, 120.2, 118.9, 113.5, 113.3 (tautomers). IR (neat): 3170, 2922, 2231, 1624, 1430, 1261, 1143, 951, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀ClN₄O₂: 325.0492; found: 325.0493.



4-[5-(4-Chloro-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (33): From aurone 33a (113 mg, 0.40 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 78 mg (60%); yellow solid; mp 200–201 °C. 1H NMR (300 MHz, acetone-*d*6): δ = 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1 H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 192.25, 164.91, 143.09, 138.15, 136.38, 134.69, 133.12, 133.05, 130.40, 130.29, 130.23, 120.45, 119.96, 119.36, 119.02, 118.57, 113.56 (tautomers). IR (neat): 3203, 2922, 2237, 1596, 1469, 1292, 1128, 935, 782 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀ClN₄O₂: 325.0492; found: 325.0495.



4-[5-(5-Chloro-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (34): From aurone 34a (113 mg, 0.40 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 106 mg (82%); yellow solid; mp 212–214 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ = 8.42 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.08 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ = 190.9, 161.9, 141.4, 136.6, 133.9, 132.9, 132.3, 129.7, 129.6, 123.3, 120.6, 119.9, 118.2, 112.8. IR (neat): 3155, 2995, 2922, 2237, 1737, 1628, 1467, 1257, 1158, 937, 827, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀ClN₄O₂: 325.0492; found: 325.0490.



4-[5-(2-Chloro-6-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (35): From aurone **35a** (113 mg, 0.40 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 75 mg (58%); yellow solid; mp 177–179 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, acetone- d_6): $\delta = 8.23$ (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.92 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.29 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.2 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6): $\delta = 187.2$, 155.7, 145.5, 134.1, 132.2, 131.3, 130.8, 129.7, 129.6, 127.9,

120.3, 118.3 114.6, 112.2 (tautomers). IR (neat): 3177, 2924, 2235, 1672, 1588, 1287, 1140, 905, 780 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀ClN₄O₂: 325.0492; found: 325.0494.



4-[5-(3-Bromo-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (36): From aurone **36a** (130 mg, 0.40 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 83 mg (56%); yellow solid; mp 217–218 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 8.38 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.93–7.86 (m, 3H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 206.3, 192.9, 160.5, 148.1, 142.0, 141.5, 140.9, 135.4, 134.5, 133.1, 130.4, 130.3, 121.5, 120.8, 118.9, 113.5, 113.3, 111.9 (tautomers). IR (neat): 3287, 2231, 1622, 1564, 1426, 1330, 1223, 1138, 996, 765 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀BrN₄O₂: 368.9987; found: 368.9989.



4-[5-(5-Bromo-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (37): From aurone 37a (98 mg, 0.30 mmol), no chromatographic separation was needed; yield: 82 mg (74%); yellow solid; mp 240–243 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, acetone-*d*6): δ = 8.55 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 191.6, 163.1, 140.2, 136.7, 133.0, 130.5, 121.9, 121.10, 119.03, 113.52, 110.94. IR (neat): 3162, 2922, 2238, 1626, 1467, 1231, 1158, 991, 726 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₀BrN₄O₂: 368.9987; found: 368.9984.



4-[5-(5-Fluoro-2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]benzonitrile (38): From aurone **38a** (106 mg, 0.40 mmol); no chromatographic separation was needed; yield: 100 mg (81%); yellow solid; mp 220–223 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 8.16 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 3.5 Hz, 1 H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.47–7.43 (m, 1 H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.5 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ = 191.8, 160.6, 155.6 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} = 235 Hz), 148.3, 141.7, 135.5, 134.7, 133.1, 125.3 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 25 Hz), 120.3 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 7.5 Hz), 120.1 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 7.5 Hz), 119.4 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 25 Hz), 119.0, 113.6, 113.3. IR (neat): 3153, 2995, 2922, 2240, 1611, 1469, 1430, 1244, 1141, 991, 789 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₀FN₄O₂: 309.0788; found: 309.0791.



(2-Hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)/5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl/methanone

(39): From aurone **39a** (77 mg, 0.29 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 55 mg (59%); yellow solid; mp 119–121 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.85 (s, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97–6.91 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.7, 159.8, 138.6, 133.3, 130.0, 128.5, 121.0, 119.3, 118.2, 115.8, 114.0, 55.5, 20.6. IR (neat): 3466, 3347, 2667, 1605, 1585, 1477, 1261, 1033, 955, 830, 795 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₃: 310.1191; found: 310.1187.



(2-Hydroxy-3-methylphenyl)/5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl/methanone

(40): From aurone 40a (133 mg, 0.50 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 96 mg (62%); yellow solid; mp 77–80 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 12.30$ (s, 1 H), 7.82 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.31 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.28 (s, 1 H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.77 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.30 (s, 3 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.8$, 162.1, 159.8, 138.2, 131.4, 129.9,

127.4, 120.9, 118.9, 118.6, 115.8, 113.9, 55.5, 15.7. IR (neat): 3470, 2890, 1605, 1425, 1259, 1041, 849, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₃: 310.1191; found: 310.1189.



(2-Hydroxy-4,5-dimethylphenyl)[5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (41): From aurone 41a (118 mg, 0.38 mmol); eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 87 mg (71%); waxy solid; mp 75–78 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.91 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.32–7.25 (m, 2H, 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 5.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 191.9, 162.1, 159.8, 148.5, 141.1, 133.6, 129.9, 127.8, 120.9, 118.9, 117.6, 115.8, 113.9, 55.5, 20.8, 18.9. IR (neat): 3458, 2920, 1639, 1579, 1451, 1264, 1246, 1030, 901, 700 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₃O₃: 324.1348; found: 324.1350.



(2-Hydroxy-3-methylphenyl)[5-(3-nitrophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (42): From aurone 42a (120 mg, 0.43 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane, yield: 101 mg (72%); yellow solid; mp 170–171 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): $\delta = 8.72-8.70$ (m, 1 H), 8.35–8.30 (m, 1 H), 8.26 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 8.12 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.80 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.89 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): $\delta = 193.7$, 162.9, 149.2, 138.9, 135.1, 132.7, 132.3, 130.8, 130.7, 127.7, 124.6, 124.4, 124.1, 123.9, 119.7, 119.4, 15.5. IR (neat): 3200, 2922, 1605, 1540, 1426, 1356, 1268, 1074, 968, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₄O₄: 325.0937; found: 325.0941.



(2-Hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)[5-(3-nitrophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (43): From aurone 43a (130 mg, 0.46 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 90 mg (60%); yellow solid; mp 152–153 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 11.77$ (s, 1H), 8.69 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.30–8.27 (m, 1H), 8.12–8.09 (m, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.62 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, acetone- d_6): $\delta = 193.1$, 162.3, 149.1, 139.1, 135.6, 134.5, 134.4, 132.2, 130.7, 130.62, 128.95, 124.49, 124.06, 120.16, 118.57, 20.41 (tautomeric mixture). HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H], calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₄O₄: 325.0937; found: 325.0936.



(2-Hydroxy-4,5-dimethylphenyl)[5-(3-nitrophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone

(44): From aurone 44a (121 mg, 0.41 mmol); eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 92 mg (68%); yellow solid; mp 155–157 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 11.84$ (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 191.2$, 162.3, 149.0, 148.4, 134.7, 133.3, 130.9, 129.7, 128.0, 124.1, 123.8, 119.1, 117.4, 20.8, 19.0. IR (neat): 3330, 3185, 1639, 1534, 1352, 1268, 991, 735 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C¹⁷H₁₅N₄O₄: 339.1093; found: 339.1089.



(2-Hydroxy-4,5-dimethylphenyl)[5-(p-tolyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone(45): From aurone 45a (80 mg, 0.30 mmol); eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 59 mg (64%); yellow solid; mp 129–132 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.96 (s, 1 H), 7.78 (s, 1 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.80 (s, 1 H), 2.33 (s, 3 H), 2.23 (s, 3 H), 2.05 (s, 3 H) (tautomeric peaks observed). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 191.7, 162.0,

148.2, 140.0, 133.7, 129.5, 128.5, 127.7, 126.5, 118.8, 117.6, 21.5, 20.7, 18.8 (tautomeric peaks observed). HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₃O₂: 308.1399; found: 308.1401.



(3-Chloro-2-hydroxyphenyl)[5-(p-tolyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methanone (46): From aurone 46a (97 mg, 0.36 mmol); eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane; yield: 63 mg (55%); yellow solid; mp 107–109 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.63 (s, 1 H), 8.22 (s, 1 H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.26 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.41 (s, 2 H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 191.7, 159.2, 140.7, 137.0, 132.49, 129.7, 128.6, 122.8, 120.5, 119.3, 21.6. IR (neat): 2998, 1624, 1598, 1430, 1264, 1147, 1007, 955, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₆H₁₃ClN₃O₂: 314.0696; found: 314.0700.

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CHAPTER - IV

HYDROGEN SULFIDE SENSING USING AN AURONE-BASED SCAFFOLD

1. Introduction

The detection of hydrogen sulfide has been an important goal for some time.¹⁻⁵ From an environmental perspective, hydrogen sulfide is a noxious and toxic by-product of various industrial processes, particularly the Kraft pulping process.⁶ From a biological perspective, hydrogen sulfide has increasingly been recognized as a critical signaling molecule akin to nitric oxide and carbon monoxide that can be diagnostic for a range of pathological conditions,⁷ including kidney disease,⁸ Down syndrome,⁹ and cirrhosis of the liver.¹⁰ This recognition, combined with the desire to understand better the role and localization/transport of hydrogen sulfide, has gained considerable attention these days. Although most of the reports suggest the normal physiological blood concentration of hydrogen sulfide is in the range of 10-100 μ M, some other studies label this range to vary over a 10⁵-fold range.¹¹⁻¹⁶

The complicated sample preparation steps and their incompatibility with living cells and tissues limit currently available methods. The rapid fluctuation of H_2S concentration in living cells and tissues further limits the applicability of these methods for the fast, accurate, and real-time detection of H_2S . In relevance to these limitations, a

fluorescence-based method is emerging as a powerful tool for both qualitative and quantitative detection of H_2S . Since fluorescent probes are easy to use and afford real-time analysis without destroying the cells, they have appeared as the frontrunner resulted in the development of several probes for live-cell imaging.¹⁷

Mechanistically, a fluorescent probe can be either turn-on or turn-off. A turn-on strategy works by converting a non-fluorescent or weakly fluorescent molecular probe into an intensely fluorescent species in the presence of a particular analyte or target. Turn-on probes, when triggered by a chemical reaction, transduce signals by converting the molecular recognition phenomenon into an intense fluorescence signal. A turn-off probe works in just the opposite fashion. (Figure 9) In general, turn-on probes can effectively detect analytes at low concentration and greatly minimize the background signals.¹⁸



Figure 9: Working Principle of a Fluorescent Probe

The development of H₂S detecting fluorescent probes utilizes specific irreversible chemical reactions. Several different approaches have been developed, including the
reduction of nitro and azido groups,¹⁹⁻²⁹ the chelation with copper (II) complexes,³⁰⁻³² nucleophilic thiolysis,³³⁻⁴⁷ and conjugate additions and cyclizations.⁴⁷⁻⁵² (Figure 10)



Figure 10: Probe Design Strategies

The reduction of azido groups is the most commonly utilized strategy among others. For all of these approaches, one key consideration is avoiding reaction with other common sulfur-containing compounds, particularly glutathione and cysteine. A second concern with existing probes is that they are mostly based upon common bulky scaffolds, including fluorescein, xanthene, and rhodamine, which have inherent limitations in terms of cell permeability and solubility in the cellular environment.^{53, 54} Additionally, these molecules often require more lengthy synthetic sequences for their preparation, and significant effort is required to modify their intrinsic spectral range.

To address this situation, we envisioned using the aurone system as an alternative fluorescent scaffold. Aurones are a small family of natural products primarily responsible for the golden pigmentation present in plants with yellow flowers such as dahlias, snapdragons, and cosmos.⁵⁵⁻⁵⁷ Due to their unusual exocyclic alkene, they absorb at longer wavelengths compared to the more common flavones. At the same time, this ring system is easy to synthesis in a variety of ways, particularly the acid or base-catalyzed condensation of an aldehyde and a benzofuranone.⁵⁸⁻⁶¹ Indeed, this condensation can even be performed under effectively neutral conditions, rendering it highly functional group compatible as well as generally high yielding.

Aurones have been reported to be fluorescent, with the first significant study reported by Bane and co-workers.⁵³ Since this report on the fluorescent properties of a series of amino-substituted aurones, a few other studies have explored variations of the benzofuranone portion either experimentally or computationally.⁶²⁻⁶⁴ Nonetheless, application of aurone fluorescence has been virtually unexplored. To date, only two reports have appeared in the literature. (Figure 11)



Figure 11: Aurone-based Fluorescent Probes

In the first, hydroxyaurone **1** was reported as a selective sensor for mercury (II) in aqueous solution as well as living cells.⁶⁵ It exhibited high selectivity and a linear decrease in fluorescence intensity in the presence of low micromolar concentrations of mercury (II) salts. An earlier report noted that 4-hydroxyaurones **2** exhibited changes in their UV and fluorescence spectra in the presence of cyanide anion.⁶⁶ p-Bromo-substituted compound **2b** was particularly interesting as it showed a dramatic increase in emission upon irradiation at 469 nm in acetonitrile in the presence of cyanide anion as well as a visual color change. This observation is attributed to the hydrogen bonding between the cyanide anion and the hydroxy (-OH) group of the probe. Other anions did not induce a similar change. As a result, aurones certainly have the potential to be fluorescent sensors.

With this in mind, we envisioned utilizing an aurone scaffold to develop an azidereduction based turn-on fluorescent probe, which in the presence of H₂S, undergoes reduction to the corresponding amine accompanied by a significant shift in the absorption and emission spectrum. For this purpose, we explored 4'-azidodoaurone **6a** as a simple model probe, which ultimately on appropriate optimization led us to the rationally designed H₂S selective probe **6g**. (Scheme 21)

2. Results and Discussion

2.1. Probe Design

As attempts to install azides on halogenated aurones proved ineffective, we turned our attention to first installing the azide on an aryl aldehyde and then condensing this aldehyde to afford the azido-aurone. A search of the literature regarding the synthesis of azide-substituted benzaldehydes revealed an interesting situation. While paraazidobenzaldehyde and related compounds are well known, they are most accessed via relatively lengthy procedures (particularly when considering the simplicity of such compounds).

Thus, the vast majority of publications that employ this compound prepare it via a 3-4 step pathway involving the nitration of benzyl alcohol, reduction of the nitro group to an aniline, diazonium ion formation and displacement with sodium azide, and then oxidation of the alcohol to an aldehyde.⁶⁷ (Scheme 19) While this chemistry is simple to perform and generally high-yielding, it is still a much longer sequence than one would expect. The primary alternative method has been a copper-catalyzed azidation of aryl bromides,^{68, 69} iodides,⁷⁰ or boronic acids,^{71-75,} which in our attempts were ineffective. Direct, metal-free S_NAr reactions have been limited to either nitro group displacement in DMSO.⁸⁰



Scheme 19: General Synthetic Approaches to Azidoaldehydes

With the patent report as an only available example, we put an effort to access azidobenzaldehydes quickly and inexpensively from fluorobenzaldehydes and establish the generality of the protocol. The reaction of para-fluorobenzaldehyde with sodium azide in DMSO at 70 °C for 3 hours completely consumed the starting material and afforded the desired azide in 71% yield. (Scheme 20). Under this reaction condition, a series of fluoroaldehydes were treated with sodium azide. As expected for an S_NAr type reaction, fluoro groups ortho or para to the aldehyde reacted smoothly, while fluoro groups at meta did not react.⁸¹ This selectivity was important to prepare fluoroazidobenzaldehydes such as **3a** and **3b** (Scheme 20) which are useful building blocks for hydrogen sulfide sensors, due to their increased reaction rates of reduction.⁸²



Scheme 20: Azidobenzaldehyde Synthesis Using DMSO as Solvent

All the fluorescent probe candidates **6a-6g** were synthesized as outlined in Scheme 21. The reaction involved Knoevenagel-type condensation of a benzofuranone **5** with a 4-azidobenzaldehyde derivative **4** under acidic reaction conditions.⁶¹



Scheme 21: Aurone-based Probe Synthesis. *a*) 1.5 equiv. NaN₃, DMSO, 70-90 °C, 2-5 h b)1.1 equiv. 4, glacial acetic acid, 3 drops conc. HCl, rt, 3h c) 4 equiv. NaHS, 2 mL MeCN or acetone, few drops DI water, 30 min.

Since the reaction product generally precipitates out in the cold water, the products were separated simply by filtration. As depicted in Scheme 3, the 4-azidoaldehydes were prepared by direct azidation of the corresponding 4-fluorobenzaldehydes with NaN₃ in DMSO.⁸¹ The 4'-azidoaurone derivatives **6(a-g)** were further reduced by NaHS to give the corresponding amines **7**.

Based on the fact that highly water-soluble H₂S predominantly (>75%) exists as HS⁻ under physiological conditions, NaHS was utilized as the source of H₂S for this study.⁸³ Although the model probe **6a** (100 μ M) was found to react efficiently (~7 min) with 5 equivalent of NaHS in a 1:1 or higher ratio of DMSO in phosphate buffer saline (PBS) medium, its utility was significantly limited in a highly aqueous medium (< 1% DMSO) as the probe precipitates out below 20% DMSO or MeCN in PBS. Additionally, increasing the aqueous fraction of the solvent was accompanied by a significant decrease in the fluorescence intensity of the corresponding amine. Nevertheless, this observation provided proof of concept for the utility of an aurone scaffold for hydrogen sulfide detection.

To improve solubility with increasing ratios of water to DMSO, we introduced a hydroxyl (-OH) group at C-6 or C-4 of the benzofuranone moiety of the model probe **6a** to give respective aurones **6b** and **6c** respectively. As expected, this rendered them highly soluble in predominantly aqueous media (as low as 5% DMSO in PBS). Unfortunately, it also resulted in significant spectral overlap limiting the selective excitation of the starting azides and/or the corresponding amine products. (Figure 12)



Figure 12: UV-visible Spectra Illustrating Spectral Overlap. Samples (50 μ M) were prepared in 5% DMSO in PBS (v/v) for the study.

Next, leaving the hydroxyl group intact to the benzofuranone moiety, the effects of a substitution in phenyl ring on the reactivity and electronic properties of the probe molecule were explored. As suggested by Henthorn and Pluth in their mechanistic study of H₂S-mediated reduction of aryl azides, the introduction of fluorine was reported to result in roughly a 2.2-fold rate increase for each fluorine substitution.⁸⁴⁻⁸⁷ Utilizing this same strategy, we synthesized both mono- and di-fluoro substituted hydroxylated candidates **6d**-**6f**. Despite their outstanding aqueous solubility, all of them resulted in highly overlapped absorption spectra with their corresponding amines **7d**-**7f**, similar to that observed with **6b** and **6c** (devoid of fluorine). The result was that there was still no excitation window available for the selective excitation of the reactant or the product to monitor the reaction. (Figure 12) This situation can be attributed to the electron-donating effect of the hydroxyl group making the carbonyl group less electron-deficient, which in overall results a reduction in the resonance mediated electron donation from the amine.

Since phenyl ring functionalization of aurones encountered spectral overlap of azido and amino compounds, we decided to introduce fluorine in the benzofuranone moiety. This should increase the electrophilicity of the carbonyl carbon, which in turn will efficiently pull the electron via resonance from the amino group. This should impart significant differences in the electronic properties of the compounds, thereby improving the spectral separation. The impact of the fluorine functional group on the rate of azide reduction was less clear. As an initial test, **6g** and its corresponding amine **7g** were synthesized. Interestingly, the introduction of fluorine (F) at C-5 of benzofuranone moiety not only solved the problem with spectral overlap but also afforded considerable solubility to the probe in predominantly aqueous media (as low as 0.5% DMSO in PBS buffer) and without the need for any hydroxyl group. This ultimately provided us with the desired turn-on fluorescent probe **6g** for the detection of H₂S.

2.2. Spectral Characterization of 6g and 7g

To evaluate its utility as a fluorescent probe, the excitation and emission properties of probe **6g** (reactant) and corresponding amine **7g** (product) were characterized under varied solvent conditions. Figures 13A-13B present excitation and emissions spectra collected with either molecule in the presence of 0.5, 50, 90, or 100 % v/v DMSO and phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) solution. All **6g** excitation spectra recorded in DMSO/PBS mixtures exhibit two distinct excitation modes that are not significantly dependent on DMSO/PBS ratio (Figure 13A). Excitation maxima are observed at 346/394 nm, 362/414 nm, 346/402 nm, and 350/406 nm for conditions of 0.5, 50, 90, or 100 % v/v DMSO, respectively (dashed lines in Figure 13A).



Figure 13: Evaluation of Chromophore DMSO-Sensitivity. *A-B) Normalized excitation* and emission spectra are represented from bottom to top of the frame in order of ascending [DMSO]. All spectra are colored blue, red, green, or black to indicate 0.5 % v/v, 50 % v/v, 90 % v/v, or 100 % v/v DMSO, respectively. Excitation and emissions spectra are represented as either dashed or solid lines, respectively. Peak maxima are discussed intext. Panel (A) and (B) represent spectral data corresponding to reactant **6g** or product 7**g**, respectively.

Emission spectra of **6g** indicate solvent sensitivity when excited at 405 nm where maximum fluorescence is observed for 0.5 % DMSO/99.5 % PBS conditions at 510 nm (solid lines in Figure 13A). This contrasts with the red-shifted **6g** emission maxima of 545, 531, and 539 nm for 50 %, 90 %, and 100 % v/v DMSO conditions, respectively. In comparison, maximal **7g** absorption occurs at 442 nm in the presence of 0.5 % DMSO, whereas absorption maxima equal to 458, 462, and 462 are observed for conditions including 50, 90, and 100 % v/v DMSO, respectively (Figure 13B). However, maximal

emissions occur at 566, 566, 563, and 561 nm for 0.5, 50, 90, and 100 % v/v DMSO, respectively, thereby indicating minimal solvent sensitivity for product species fluorescence. Comparison of the spectra in Figures 13A-13B indicates that excitation of 6g/7g mixtures using wavelengths in the 440-460 nm range may allow for selective observation of product emission.

Inspection of raw 7g fluorescence intensities as a function of increasing DMSO concentration suggests that an aqueous environment may contribute to quenched product emission. Our data indicate a 33-fold increase in fluorescence intensity for conditions including 90 % versus 0.5 % v/v DMSO. Thus, the use of 6g as a fluorescent sulfide probe may be limited in biological applications under these conditions. In this context, cationic surfactant cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) has been utilized in the literature to enhance both the rate of the reaction and the intensity of the fluorescence (Figure 14).⁸⁸⁻⁸⁹ Based on this precedent, we successfully employed CTAB to enhance the reactivity of probe 6g in highly aqueous medium (0.5% DMSO in PBS).



Micelles



Figure 15 indicates that the inclusion of 1 mM CTAB in 0.5 % v/v DMSO does not impact 6g excitation properties (dashed lines in Figure 15A), but instead promotes a redshift in the apparent emission maximum from 510 nm to 550 nm in the absence versus presence of CTAB, respectively. In contrast, 7g excitation properties in 0.5 % v/v DMSO are perturbed by the inclusion of CTAB such that maximal absorption shifts from 442 nm to 462 nm in the absence versus presence of surfactant, respectively (Figure 15B). However, it reveals no impact of CTAB on the wavelength of maximum emission.



Figure 15: CTAB Influences Product Emissions Properties. Normalized excitation/ emission spectra are presented in the presence of 0.5 % v/v DMSO and varied buffer components. Excitation and emission spectra are represented by dashed or solid lines, respectively. Spectra corresponding to conditions including PBS buffer without or with 1 mM CTAB are colored red or green, respectively (top panel). Spectra corresponding to conditions including HEPES buffer without or with 1 mM CTAB are colored black or blue, respectively (bottom panel). Peak maxima are discussed in-text. Panel (A) and (B) represent spectral data corresponding to reactant **6g** or product **7g**, respectively.

Furthermore, raw 7g fluorescence intensities are observed to increase 42-fold for 0.5 % v/v DMSO conditions, including CTAB versus conditions that do not. Our data also indicate that these trends occur independent of buffer components included in the aqueous fraction since the inclusion of PBS or HEPES buffers yield identical results. The data presented in Figures 15A-15B collectively suggest that 7g may be utilized in aqueous solution as a fluorescent probe under conditions that include CTAB.

2.3. Effect of pH on Spectral Properties of 6g and 7g

The effect of pH on **6g** and **7g** spectral properties was also examined. Excitation and emission spectra were collected in PBS buffer previously pH adjusted to pH = 3.0, 4.8,7.5, 9.2, and 11 in the absence and presence of CTAB as described above. Figures 16A-16B illustrate that 6g experiences an altered Stokes shift that depends on whether CTAB is included. In the absence of CTAB, we note excitation and emission maxima occur at 424 and 500 nm, respectively, at pH = 3.0. A similar observation is made when the pH is adjusted to 4.8, where excitation and emission maxima occur at 426 and 502 nm, respectively. At pH = 3.0 and 4.8, the Stokes shift is calculated as 76 nm. However, at pH 7.5 and above, we observe a blue-shift, where excitation maxima are observed at 400 nm when determined at pH = 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0. Corresponding emission maxima were observed at 527, 528, and 528 nm for pH = 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0, respectively. The calculated Stokes shift for pH \geq 7.5 is ~128 nm. In contrast, when CTAB is included, no effect of pH is observed such that maximal excitation is observed at 404 nm independent of pH. Emission maxima are observed at wavelengths that increase with increasing pH such that maxima are observed at 511 (Stokes shift = 107 nm), 527 (Stokes shift = 123 nm), 547 (Stokes shift = 143 nm), 547, and 550 (Stokes shift = 146 nm) nm for pH = 3.0, 4.8, 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0, respectively. In contrast **7g** exhibits pH-independent excitation maxima at 440 and 460 nm when CTAB is absent or present, respectively. The emission maximum for **7g** is observed at 565 nm independent of pH, yielding a Stokes shift equal to 125 or 105 depending on the absence or presence of CTAB, respectively. Taken together, we note **7g** spectral properties to be largely independent of solution pH. However, we do note an increase in raw emission intensities for **7g** when CTAB is included, where mild fluorophore quenching is observed at pH below 4.8. At pH \geq 4.8, emission intensities are observed to be independent of pH.



Figure 16: Effects of pH on 6g/7g Spectral Properties. *Excitation spectra collected in 0.5* % DMSO/PBS buffer with pH adjusted to 3.0, 4.8, 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0 are represented as solid red, orange, green, blue, and purple lines, respectively. Corresponding emission

spectra collected at pH = 3.0, 4.8, 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0 are represented as dashed red, orange, green, blue, and purple lines, respectively. Excitation/emission spectra were collected for (A) **6g** in the absence of CTAB, (B) **6g** in the presence of 1 mM CTAB, (C) **7g** in the absence of CTAB, and (D) **7g** in the presence of 1 mM CTAB. **6g** emission spectra were collected using excitation wavelengths of 425, 425, 405, 405, and 405 nm for conditions with pH = 3.0, 4.8, 7.5, 9.2, and 11.0, respectively, in the absence of CTAB. In the presence of CTAB, **6g** emission spectra were collected using an excitation wavelength equal to 405 nm at all pH values. **7g** emission spectra were generated using excitation wavelengths equal to 440 or 460 nm depending on whether 1 mM CTAB was absent or present, respectively. (E) Raw emission intensities plotted for **6g** without CTAB (red bars), **6g** with 1 mM CTAB (green bars), **7g** without CTAB (purple bars), and **7g** with 1 mM CTAB (orange bars) as a function of pH.

2.4. Dynamic Range Study

The use of any fluorescent probe requires knowledge of the dynamic range under specific working conditions. As such, we next determined the useful working range of 7g in conditions including either increased DMSO concentrations or 0.5 % v/v DMSO/1 mM CTAB. Knowledge of dynamic range under these separate conditions allows for both biological and non-aqueous applications. (Figure 17A)

Figure 17A demonstrates that the titration of [7g] in 0.5 % v/v DMSO, 99.5 % v/v PBS, and 1 mM CTAB with excitation at 465 nm yield emission spectra with maxima observed at ~565 nm. A secondary plot of maximum fluorescence intensity versus [7g] clearly reveals non-linear behavior for concentrations exceeding 20 μ M (Figure 17B). Our

data also indicate that fluorescence intensities can be reliably estimated for [7g] as low as 1 μ M based on spectra signal-to-noise ratio and deviation from linearity. Thus, the useful dynamic range for 7g in the presence of 0.5 % v/v DMSO, 99.5 % PBS, and 1 mM CTAB spans from 1 μ M to 20 μ M.



Figure 17: Determination of Product 7g Range of Detection. Product 7g was titrated separately into conditions including either 1 mM CTAB and 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS (A-

B) or 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS buffer (c-d). Emissions spectra are represented as solid lines (A, C). Signal intensity observed at 560 nm plotted as a function of [7g] reveals linear range of detection (B, D). All data points represent average values determined from at least three independent experiments. Error bars indicate \pm standard deviation. Solid lines are the result of Linear Least Squares (LLS) fits. For conditions with 1 mM CTAB and 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS (B), LLS fit yields estimates of slope and y-intercept equal to 50 ± 24 (AU) and 107 ± 3 AU μ M, respectively. For conditions with 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS buffer (D), LLS fit yields estimates of slope and y-intercept equal to 68 ± 24 (AU) and 60 ± 1 AU μ M, respectively.

Figures 17C and D reveal a similar trend when measurements are made under conditions including 90 % v/v DMSO and 10 % v/v PBS solution. However, elevated DMSO concentrations appear to increase the useful linear concentration range such that non-linearity is observed for [7g] greater than 30 μ M. We note the observation of decreased reproducibility when 7g concentrations are utilized that exceed 25 μ M in 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS as indicated by increased standard deviation on mean fluorescence intensities presented in Figure 17D.

2.5. Reaction Kinetics and Solvent Studies

Quantification of sulfide concentration in any sample using "turn-on" fluorescent sensing requires knowledge of kinetic rates of reaction under varied solution conditions. Rate profiles describing the reduction of azide reactant to amine product were performed by the incubation of 20 μ M **6g** with 100 μ M NaHS in either 0.5 % v/v DMSO/99.5 % PBS/1 mM CTAB or 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS solvent systems at 25 °C. Samples were excited at 465 nm, and emission spectra spanning from 480 to 700 nm were collected at 2-minute intervals. Figures 18 demonstrate a time-dependent increase in fluorescence intensity for both conditions.

Figure 18C shows a plot of maximum fluorescence intensity as a function of time for aqueous reaction conditions, including 0.5 % v/v DMSO/99.5 % v/v PBS in the presence or absence of 1 mM CTAB. In the presence of 1 mM CTAB, reaction completion is achieved within approximately one hour (blue spheres, Figure 18C). In contrast, no reaction is observed in the absence of CTAB (green spheres, Figure 18C). By comparison, reactions performed in 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS are observed to reach completion within 20 minutes (green spheres, Figure 18D). Nonlinear least squares (NLLS) analysis of the data shown in Figure 18C estimates the apparent rate constant, amplitude, and yintercept as $0.078 \pm 0.002 \text{ min}^{-1}$, $842 \pm 8 \text{ AU}$, and $149 \pm 7 \text{ AU}$, respectively. In comparison, NLLS analysis of reaction data collected in 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS (Figure 18D) estimates the apparent rate constant, amplitude, and y-intercept as $0.28 \pm 0.02 \text{ min}^{-1}$, $284 \pm 7 \text{ AU}$, and $249 \pm 6 \text{ AU}$, respectively. These data collectively indicate that reactions performed in a polar aprotic environment occur with increased reaction rates relative to those performed in aqueous conditions.

NLLS analyses of data presented in Figures 18C and D yield estimates of the yintercept as nonzero values. Reference to Figure 14 illustrates that excitation at 465 nm of a mixture of **6g** and **7g** may yield an apparent fluorescence intensity that contains contributions from both reactant and product. Moreover, no product could be present at time zero. Therefore, we interpret the observation of a nonzero y-intercept to reflect the contribution of reactant emission to the overall observed signal.



Figure 18: Compound 6g Reaction Rate Constant is Dependent on Solvent Condition. Reaction profiles describing the reduction of azide reactant to amine product by the incubation of compound **6g** with 100 μ M NaHS in the presence of either 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS +/- 1 mM CTAB (A) or 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS buffer (B). Emissions spectra are represented as solid lines and reveal increasing signal intensity as a function of reaction time (A-B). All data points represent average values determined from at least

three independent experiments. Error bars indicate \pm standard deviation. Solid lines are the result of Nonlinear Least Squares (NLLS) fits with rate constants indicated.

To determine whether contaminating reactant emission leads to errors in our estimation of reaction rate, we performed a series of reactions using independent excitation wavelengths wherein 20 μ M **6g** was incubated with 100 μ M NaHS in 0.5 % v/v DMSO/99.5 % PBS/1 mM CTAB. Samples were excited at 465, 480, and 500 nm with spectra collected at 2-minute intervals as described above. (Figure 19)



Figure 19: Compound 6g Reaction Rate Constant is Independent of Excitation Wavelength. *A) Kinetic time courses were collected using excitation wavelengths equal to 465 (green*

spheres), 480 (red spheres), and 500 nm (blue spheres). Reactions were performed by incubating 20 μ M **6g** with 100 μ M NaHS in 1 mM CTAB and 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS. Reaction progress was monitored by fluorescence intensity observed at 560 nm. Solid lines are the result of Nonlinear Least Squares (NLLS) fits to a single-exponential function. B) First-order rate constants plotted as a function of excitation wavelength with average apparent rate constant indicated. C) Estimates of amplitude (green spheres) and Yintercept (blue spheres) describing time courses in Figure 19a obtained from NLLS analyses. Solid lines are the result of LLS fits with slopes equal to -14.6 ± 0.9 and -1.6 ± 0.3 AU nm⁻¹, respectively. All data points represent average values determined from at least three independent experiments. Error bars indicate ± standard deviation.

Fluorescence time courses are presented in Figure 19A, which qualitatively demonstrates a decrease in apparent amplitude and y-intercept with increasing excitation wavelength. Figure 19B predicts no significant dependence in the apparent rate constant describing product formation on excitation wavelength. NLLS analyses of the data presented in Figure 19A yield estimates of the rate constant that fluctuate about a mean value equal to $0.075 \pm 0.006 \text{ min}^{-1}$.

In addition, the apparent amplitude and Y-intercept are observed to linearly decrease as excitation wavelength is increased, which is an observation consistent with the excitation of sample at non-maximal excitation wavelengths for both reactant and product (Figure 19C). Given that the Y-intercept represents signal derived at time zero prior to any product formation, we interpret the observation of a Y-intercept that decreases with increasing excitation wavelength to suggest that longer excitation wavelengths favor

decreased background signal associated with reactant emission. Taken together, the data presented in Figure 19 collectively indicate that reactant contribution to overall apparent fluorescence signal does not interfere in the estimation of reaction rate constants.

Moreover, knowledge of the dependence of time course y-intercept on excitation wavelength allows for baseline correction to remove reactant signal contributions, thereby allowing for conversion of fluorescence intensity values into concentration units. By subtracting baseline emissions from subsequent time points, the resulting emission values can be readily converted into concentration units if a standard curve relating product concentration to emission value is available. Figure 20 highlights this ability for time courses collected in the presence of 1 mM CTAB in 0.5 % DMSO in PBS or 90 % DMSO/10 % PBS. Though the estimated rate constants are unaltered, Figure 20 now readily allows for estimation of hydrogen sulfide concentration in real-time.



Figure 20: All time courses can be converted into plots of [Product] versus time. *Blue* spheres represent conditions including 1 mM CTAB, 0.5 % DMSO in PBS (Condition A).

Green squares represent conditions including 90 % DMSO and 10 % PBS (Condition B). The solid line represents the results of a NLLS fit with A, kapp, and b estimated as 7.9 ± 0.1 , 0.08 ± 0.002 , and -0.03 ± 0.07 , respectively. The dashed line represents the results of a NLLS fit with A, kapp, and b estimated as 4.8 ± 0.1 , 0.28 ± 0.02 , and 0.1 ± 0.1 , respectively. Error bars indicate \pm standard deviation.

2.6. Selectivity for Sulfide Studies

Any use of **6g** as a molecular probe will require knowledge of its reaction specificity. To evaluate reaction specificity, a series of fluorescence time courses were collected using the same methodology as described above. In place of sodium hydrogen sulfide (NaHS), three potential sulfide-donors were employed: L-cysteine, reduced glutathione, and 2-mercaptoethanol.



Figure 21: Compound 6g Displays Chemical Reactivity that is Selective for Sulfide. *Kinetic time courses were collected using an excitation wavelength equal to 465 nm.*

Reactions were performed by incubating 20 μ M **6g** with 100 μ M sulfide-donor in 1 mM CTAB and 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS. Sulfide-donors examined include L-cysteine (green squares), glutathione (blue triangles), NaHS (black circles), and 2-mercaptoethanol (red diamonds). Reaction progress was monitored by fluorescence intensity observed at 560 nm. Solid lines are the result of Nonlinear Least Squares (NLLS) fits to a single-exponential function. All data points represent average values determined from at least three independent experiments. Error bars indicate \pm standard deviation.

All emission spectra reflect the reaction of 100 μ M sulfide-donor with 20 μ M 6g in 0.5 % v/v DMSO, 99.5 % v/v PBS, and 1 mM CTAB. As expected, highly nucleophilic NaHS yields the observation of significant product emission at $\lambda_{EM} = 560$ nm (Figure 21). In contrast, the inclusion of less nucleophilic either L-cysteine or reduced glutathione yielded no observed product formation. Figure 21 illustrates that a mild increase in emission was observed when 2-mercaptoethanol was utilized as a sulfide-donor. However, 2-mercaptoethanol reactivity with 6g is apparently slow on the time scale associated with NaHS: 6g reaction. Taken together, we conclude that 6g chemical reactivity is selective for free sulfide.

2.7. Sensing Mechanism

In this study the turn-on probe **6g**, in the presence of HS⁻ undergoes an irreversible chemical transformation to amine **7g** thereby transducing signals by converting the molecular recognition phenomenon into an intense fluorescence signal.



Figure 22: Sensing Mechanism of **6g**. A) Reaction scheme showing the reduction of azide $(-N_3)$ to the corresponding amine. The resonance responsible for the fluorescence is depicted in parenthesis. B) Schematic representation of CTAB micelle and its role in recruiting and changing the local concentration of 6g and HS⁻. C) Reaction scheme representing the dissociation of H₂S in aqueous medium.

Based on the mechanistic study by Henthorn and Pluth, this reaction is suggested to proceed via nucleophilic attack of hydrosulfide ion (HS⁻) to the terminal electrophilic nitrogen of azido group forming an azidothiol intermediate species which on subsequent HS⁻ intermolecular attack is converted to the respective amine **7g**.⁸⁶ The amine subsequently undergoes a spontaneous internal charge transfer (ICT) via resonance to its corresponding highly fluorescent zwitterionic form as depicted in Figure 22A. The presence of CTAB may further stabilize the charged species via electrostatic interactions. This consequently leads to the stabilization of the high quantum yield state resulting in an

enhanced emission intensity as evident in Figures 18A, C, Appendix B. It has been suggested that CTAB works by changing the local concentration of the reactants and the pH value of the reaction mixture. The CTAB micelles increase the local concentration of anions, including OH⁻ and HS⁻ around it (Figure 22B), which increases the local pH of the solution. This in turn decreases the [H₂S]/[HS⁻] ratio thereby contributing an overall higher HS⁻ concentration around the micelles.⁸⁸ The effect of pH on dissociation of H₂S in an aqueous medium is summarized in Figure 22C.⁸³ At lower pH (~ 3) the fluorescence intensity of the product is expected to decrease due to protonation of the amine which shuts down the ICT process (Figure 16E). This is apparent from Appendix B which clearly demonstrates how the emission intensity of the product **7g** is affected by the pH although uv-absorption remains unaffected. In this overall phenomenon, CTAB micelles serve as a scaffold to recruit HS⁻ and probe **6g** in the vicinity of each other localizing within the micelles, thereby significantly increasing the reaction rate (Figure 18A and C) along with fluorescent intensities.

3. Conclusions

In short, an aurone-based sensor for hydrogen sulfide has been developed that exhibits good sensitivity and selectivity. Further, the development of this probe molecule has demonstrated the strength of the aurone framework in terms of the ease with which new compounds can be prepared to modify the reactivity and physical properties (solubility in this case) to fit the demands of various sensing applications. Based on these results, future optimized compounds can be designed and prepared for a wide range of environmental as well as biological applications. Given the ease and flexibility in the synthesis of the aurone framework, many additional sensing applications can be envisioned, particularly applying the lessons learned in this project. Efforts to this end are underway and will be reported in due course.

4. Experimental

4.1. Materials and methods

ACS grade chemicals and solvents used for the synthesis were directly employed without further purification. All the reactions were done under an air atmosphere. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL AS (500 and 300 MHz) NMR instrument and chemical shifts were recorded in ppm with reference to the tetramethylsilane (TMS) chloroform-d or DMSO- d_6 .⁹⁰ The following conventions are used for multiplicities: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; dd, doublet of doublet; dt, doublet of triplet; ddd, doublet of doublet of doublet; br, broad. Cary 630 FT-IR (Agilent Technologies) was used to collect IR spectra. Fluorescence spectra were collected using F-4500 fluorescence spectrophotometer (Hitachi, Japan) with the slit width for excitation and emission set at 5 nm and photomultiplier voltage 700v. Alongside, HP-8452A Diode Array set at Spectrophotometer (Agilent Technologies Inc.) was used to record UV-visible absorption spectra. The reaction was monitored by Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) on aluminum supported silica-coated plates (Sorbent Technologies, Inc.). All extracts were concentrated under reduced pressure using a Buchi Rotary Evaporator. During purification and identification of compounds, Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed on aluminum supported Silica coated plates (Sorbent Technologies, Inc.) and monitored by

short wavelength (254 nm) UV light. Products were purified by flash silica gel (32-63u) column chromatography.

4.2. Synthesis of 4'-azido benzaldehyde derivatives

In a 3-dram glass vial containing a magnetic stir bar, 1.0 mmol of fluorinated aromatic aldehyde and 1.5 mmol (1.5 equivalent) of sodium azide (NaN₃) were dissolved in 2 mL of dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) and heated for 2-3 h at 70-90 °C (70 °C for multi-fluorosubstituted) in a sand bath. After the completion of the reaction, it was diluted with DI water and extracted with ethyl acetate (×4). To remove residual DMSO, the organic fraction was further washed with DI water and brine, followed by drying over anhydrous MgSO₄. The organic fraction was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash column chromatography using 2-10% ethyl acetate: hexane mixture to obtain the desired 4'-azido benzaldehydes.

4.2.1. Characterization data for 4'-azido benzaldehydes



4-Azidobenzaldehyde (4a, 4b, 4c, 4g)⁹¹: Yield: 105 mg (71%); brown oil, eluted with 2%
EA : hexane, ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.94 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.15
(d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.7, 146.41, 133.4, 131.7, 119.6. IR
(neat) 2832, 2113, 1689, 1599, 1506, 1283, 784 cm⁻¹.



4-Azido-3-fluorobenzaldehyde (4d)⁹²: Yield: 132 mg (80%); yellow soild, eluted with 2% EA : hexane; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.91 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 10.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 189.6, 155.5 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 252.7$ Hz), 134.5 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 11.5$ Hz), 134.2 (d, ⁴ $J_{C-F} = 4.9$ Hz), 127.2, 121.5, 116.8 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 19.5$ Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -123.8. IR (neat) 2858, 2125, 1689, 1588, 1480, 1372, 1197, 881, 817, 795 cm⁻¹.



*4-Azido-3,5-difluorobenzaldehyde (4e, 4f)*⁹³: Yield: 151 mg (82%); yellow solid, eluted with 5% EA : hexane; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.86 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 155.8 (dd, J = 254, 4.0 Hz), 132.6 (t, J = 6.3 Hz), 124.0 (t, J = 14.0 Hz), 113.1 (dd, J = 18, 6.0 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -120.0. IR (neat) 2819, 2115, 1698, 1574, 1500, 1336, 1040, 859 cm⁻¹.

4.3. Synthesis of aurones (6a-6g)

All the aurones **6a-6g** were synthesized based on the literature.⁶¹ In a 3-dram glass vial, benzofuranone (1 equivalent) was dissolved in 5 mL of glacial acetic acid containing a magnetic stir bar. To this solution 4'-azidobenzaldehyde (1.5 equivalent) and 2-3 drops (0.2 mL) of concentrated HCl were added and stirred at room temperature for up to 3 hours. In most cases, reaction resulted in a precipitate usually after 30 min indicating the completion of the reaction. After the reaction was complete, it was poured into ice-cold DI water. The precipitate obtained was filtered, and the residue was washed multiple times with water and allowed to air dry. No further purification was required. For some of the aurones which did not precipitate out efficiently, the water diluted reaction mixture was neutralized with saturated NaHCO₃ and extracted with ethyl acetate and purified by flash column chromatography.

4.3.1. Characterization data for aurones 6a-6g



(Z)-2-(4-azidobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (6a): Reaction scale (1.80 mmol),
Yield: 70% (331 mg); yellow solid, mp 128-129 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92
(d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz,
1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 184.7, 166.1, 146.8, 141.6, 137.0, 133.2, 129.3, 124.8, 123.7, 121.8, 119.7, 113.0, 112.2. IR (neat) 2121, 1704, 1655, 1596, 1508, 1302, 1186, 1108, 829, 750 cm⁻¹.



(*Z*)-2-(4-azidobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (6b): Reaction scale (0.114 mmol), Yield: 94% (25.4 mg); faint orange red solid, mp 194-196 °C.¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.2, 167.8, 166.5, 147.1, 140.5, 132.7, 128.9, 125.9, 119.6, 113.0, 112.8, 109.5, 98.6. IR (neat) 3074-2600 (br), 2117, 1681, 1577, 1506, 1458, 1294, 1112, 825 cm⁻¹.



(Z)-2-(4-azidobenzylidene)-4-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (6c): Reaction scale (0.30 mmol), Yield: 90% (75 mg); red solid, mp 179-181 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ

11.16 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (76 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.2, 165.9, 157.2, 146.31, 140.5, 138.7, 132.7, 129.1, 119.7, 110.7, 109.2, 109.1, 102.4. IR (neat) 3283, 2125, 2028, 1693, 1652, 1592, 1458, 1316, 1134, 769 cm⁻¹.



(Z)-2-(4-azido-3-fluorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(6d): Reaction scale (0.27 mmol), Yield: 76% (61 mg); red solid, mp 186 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.24 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.71 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 153.5 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 247.3$ Hz), 130.3 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 7.5$ Hz), 128.3 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 3.5$ Hz), 118.30 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 20.1$ Hz), 108.43 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 2.4$ Hz). IR (neat) 3074-2653 (br), 2136, 2106, 1685, 1573, 1462, 1298, 1119, 851 cm⁻¹.



(Z)-2-(4-azido-3,5-difluorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (6e): Reaction scale (0.33 mmol), Yield: 76% (79.3 mg); yellow solid, mp 260 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.30 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.72 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.0, 167.9, 166.8, 154.7 (d, ¹J_{C-F} = 247.5 Hz), 148.0, 129.6 (t, ²J_{C-F} = 10.1 Hz), 125.9, 114.3 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 19.6 Hz), 113.2, 112.3, 107.3, 98.8. IR (neat) 3078, 2117, 1685, 1577, 1506, 1458, 1279, 1138, 1112, 1045, 832 cm⁻¹.



(Z)-2-(4-azido-3,5-difluorobenzylidene)-4-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (6f): Reaction scale (0.36 mmol), Yield: 70% (80 mg); yellow solid, mp 160-170 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.27 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 6.65 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 180.9, 165.8, 157.2, 154.9 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 245.9$, 4.6 Hz), 147.2, 138.9, 129.68 (t, ³ $J_{C-F} = 9.8$ Hz), 117.32 (t, ² $J_{C-F} = 14.0$ Hz), 114.22 (dd, ² $J_{C-F} = 19.2$, 4.7 Hz), 111.0, 108.6, 106.8, 102.5. IR (neat) 3379, 2121, 1696, 1607, 1495, 1339, 1305, 1179, 1041, 799 cm⁻¹.



(Z)-2-(4-azidobenzylidene)-5-fluorobenzofuran-3(2H)-one (6g): Reaction scale (0.40 mmol), Yield: 80% (90 mg); yellow solid, mp 137-138 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 7.89 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (dd, J = 7.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (td, J = 8.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 9.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.9, 162.1, 159.02 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 244.7$ Hz), 147.4, 141.9, 133.3, 129.0, 124.4 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 26.1$ Hz), 122.5 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 8.0$ Hz), 119.7, 114.21 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 7.8$ Hz), 113.08, 110.36 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 24.3$ Hz). IR (neat) 2128, 1707, 1655, 1598, 1484, 1305, 1268, 1190, 892, 832.

4.4. Synthesis of amino aurones (7a-7g)

For the synthesis of the corresponding amines (7a-7g) of the probe candidates, 1 equivalent of the aurone **(6a-6g)** was mixed with an excess of NaHS (4 equivalent) in a 1-dram glass vial containing a magnetic stir bar. To the mixture, 1.5 mL of MeCN with few drops of DI H₂O was added and stirred for 30 minutes (acetone can also be used as a solvent). The solution turned bright red in about 5 minutes. Once the reaction was complete based on the TLC, the mixture was concentrated under vacuum and subjected to flash column chromatography.

4.4.1. Characterization data for amino aurones 7a-7g



(Z)-2-(4-aminobenzylidene)benzofuran-3(2H)-one (7a): Reaction scale (0.114 mmol), Yield: 94% (25.4 mg); orange red solid, mp 173-175 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.4, 165.6, 148.7, 145.4, 136.3, 133.9, 124.5, 123.2, 122.5, 122.3, 115.1, 114.8, 112.9. IR (neat) 3439, 3312, 3216, 1683, 1577, 1518, 1488, 1302, 1182, 1100, 832, 754 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₂ 238.0868, found 238.0871.



(Z)-2-(4-aminobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (7b): Reaction scale (0.11 mmol), Yield: 92% (25.6 mg); orange red solid, mp > 260 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 11.00 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 3H), 5.94 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 180.7, 166.9, 165.6, 151.1, 144.5, 133.3, 125.3, 119.0, 113.8, 113.6,

112.9, 112.5, 98.4. IR (neat) 3461, 3361, 3300-2500 (br), 1666, 1629, 1551, 1454, 1287, 1108, 821 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₃ 254.0817, found 254.0813.



(Z)-2-(4-aminobenzylidene)-4-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2*H*)-one (7c): Reaction scale (24 mg, 0.083 mmol), Yield: 92% (20 mg); red solid, mp >260 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 5.86 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 182.1, 173.9, 165.9, 149.7, 145.9, 136.4, 131.9, 120.4, 117.7, 113.8, 110.7, 107.5, 89.3. IR (neat) 3394-3275 (br), 1674, 1592, 1561, 1477, 1376, 1235, 1127, 1004, 803 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₃ 254.0817, found 254.0819.



(Z)-2-(4-amino-3-fluorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(7d): Reaction scale (21.5 mg, 0.069 mmol), Yield: 98% (18.4 mg); orange solid, mp >260 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.64 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 12.0 Hz
J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 – 6.76 (m, 2H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 5.96 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 180.8, 167.2, 166.0, 149.8 (d, ¹ $J_{C-F} = 237.2$ Hz), 145.3, 138.9 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 12.8$ Hz), 129.1, 125.5, 119.5 (d, ³ $J_{C-F} = 7.0$ Hz, 117.25 (d, ² $J_{C-F} = 18.8$ Hz), 115.7, 113.2, 112.8, 111.5, 98.5. IR (neat) 3478, 3372, 3041-2586 (br), 1674, 1566, 1521, 1454, 1294, 1112, 999 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁FNO₃ 272.07230, found 272.07228.



(Z)-2-(4-amino-3,5-difluorobenzylidene)-6-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(7e):Reaction scale (31 mg, 0.098 mmol), Yield: 80% (22.7 mg); orange solid, mp >260 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.62 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, J = 7.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 180.9, 167.4, 150.4 (dd, J_{C-F} = 238.8, 10.0 Hz), 146.0, 128.0 (t, J_{C-F} = 16.5 Hz), 125.7, 117.85 (t, J_{C-F} = 9.1 Hz), 113.95 (dd, J_{C-F} = 13.3, 8.4 Hz), 113.0, 110.4, 98.7. IR (neat) 3469, 3368, 1678, 1581, 1532, 1454, 1324, 1287, 1115, 821, 769 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁FNO₃ 272.07230, found 272.08226.



(Z)-2-(4-amino-3,5-difluorobenzylidene)-4-hydroxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one(7f):

Reaction scale (13 mg, 0.041 mmol), Yield: 84% (10 mg); red solid, mp 222-225 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.44 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 6.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.74 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.2, 165.8, 150.6 (dd, ¹ J_{C-F} = 238.4, 9.8 Hz), 147.5 (t, J_{C-F} = 10.4), 136.6, 126.3 (t, ² J_{C-F} = 11.2 Hz), 119.5, 112.7 (d, ² J_{C-F} = 16.7 Hz), 109.9, 104.9, 104.8, 104.7. IR (neat) 3346, 1689, 1596, 1566, 1566, 1480, 1354, 1235, 1115, 1000, 803 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₀F₂NO₃ 290.06288, found 290.06290.



(Z)-2-(4-aminobenzylidene)-5-fluorobenzofuran-3(2H)-one (7g): Reaction scale (18 mg, 0.064 mmol), Yield: 73% (12 mg); red solid, mp 178-180 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 7.74 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.57 (dd, J = 7.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.16 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (76 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 181.64,

160.5, 158.18 (d, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 240.9 \text{ Hz}$), 152.1, 144.3, 134.2, 123.7 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-F} = 26.0 \text{ Hz}$), 122.6 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C-F} = 8.0 \text{ Hz}$), 118.7, 116.2, 114.72 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C-F} = 8.1 \text{ Hz}$), 113.9, 109.48 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-F} = 24.2 \text{ Hz}$). IR (neat) 3420, 3320, 3216, 1689, 1633, 1562, 1514, 1480, 1272, 1156, 817, 762 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI): m/z [M + H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₁FNO₂ 256.0774, observed 256.0071.

4.5. Sample preparation method for spectroscopic measurement

Stock solutions (10, 5, and 1mM) of the probe candidates (6a-6g) and their respective amines were prepared in DMSO. Similarly, the stock solutions of NaHS (10, 5 and 1 mM), cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) (5 and 1 mM), and various biologically relevant sulfide sources L-cysteine, reduced glutathione, and 2-mercaptoethanol (5 and 1 mM) were prepared in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) (1X, pH = 7.4, without Ca and Mg). The detailed sample preparation procedure for the experiments is incorporated in the supporting information. All UV-visible absorption and emission spectra were collected in various concentrations of DMSO (0.5, 5, 50, and 100%) and/or MeCN in PBS -buffer (1X, pH = 7.4, without Ca and Mg) in 3 mL and 1.5 mL cuvettes respectively, in the presence and absence of 1mM CTAB. The detection limit was determined using different concentrations of 7g (0.1-50 μ M) in different solvent systems (biological and nonaqueous). Limits of detection were defined based on linearity and signal-to-noise ratios for the upper and lower limits, respectively. All emission intensities used to determine detection limits were derived from triplicate experimental measurements. Rate profiles of the reduction reaction as well as the selectivity study of the probe were performed by the incubation of 20 µM 6g with 100 µM H₂S source (NaHS) in either 0.5 % v/v DMSO in PBS/1 mM CTAB (biological) or 90 % v/v DMSO/10 % v/v PBS (non-aqueous) solvent

systems. The reactions were excited at 465 nm and emission spectra spanning from 480 to 700 nm were collected at 2-minute intervals. All Nonlinear Least Squares (NLLS) analyses were performed using a single-exponential function given as:

$$Y = A(1 - e^{-kapp * t}) + b$$

,where A, k_{app} , t, and b represent the time course amplitude, apparent rate constant, time, and the y-intercept, respectively. All kinetic data were measured in triplicate to allow for statistical comparisons.

4.5.1. UV-visible absorption and emission spectra

The 10 mM stock solution of all the 4'-azidoaurones **6a-g** and corresponding amines **7a-g** were prepared in DMSO. Unless otherwise stated 1X, pH = 7.4 PBS was used for the preparation of samples. All the UV-absorption and emission spectra were collected using a 50 μ M solution of the compounds in different solvent systems (90% DMSO/10% PBS, 5% DMSO in PBS, and 0.5% DMSO in PBS) in the presence or absence of CTAB.

Sample preparation for UV-Vis absorption

a) <u>50 µM solution of 6g and 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS</u>

15 μ L 10 mM stock solution of **6g** or **7g** in DMSO was diluted with 2985 μ L of PBS (1x pH = 7.4) in a 3 mL cuvette.

b) <u>50 µM solution of 6g and 7g in 5% DMSO in PBS</u>

150 μ L 1.0 mM stock solution of **6g** or **7g** in DMSO was diluted with 2850 μ L of PBS (1x pH = 7.4) in a 3 mL cuvette.

c) <u>50 µM solution of 6g and 7g in 90% DMSO in PBS</u>

150 μ L 1.0 mM stock solution of **6g** or **7g** in DMSO was diluted with 2550 μ L DMSO and 300 PBS (1x pH = 7.4) in a 3 mL cuvette.

d) <u>50 μM solution of 6g v 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS and 1mM CTAB (in PBS)</u>
To a 15 μL 10 mM 6g and 7g, 600 μL of CTAB (5 mM stock solution in PBS) and 2385 μL of PBS in a 3 mL cuvette.

Similarly, for collecting the emission spectra the 50 μ M solutions of **6g** and **7g** in a 1.5 mL cuvette were excited at their respective absorption maxima (λ max) obtained for the specific solvent condition e.g., **6g** and **7g** were excited at 405 and 460 nm respectively in 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB.

4.5.2. Effect of pH on spectral properties of 6g and 7g

The effect of pH on the absorption and fluorescence behavior of probe **6g** and the corresponding amine **7g** in the presence or absence of 1 mM CTAB was studied. This study was done in 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS (1X) solvent. For the study, five different PBS (1X) solutions of pH = 3, 4.8, 7.5, 9.15, and 11 were prepared by adjusting pH using a pH meter. Five different 10 mM stock solution of CTAB (pH = 3, 4.8, 7.5, 9.15, and 11) were prepared using the corresponding PBS (1X, pH = 3, 4.8, 7.5, 9.15, and 11) solutions. The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **6g** and **7g** were collected with and without the inclusion of 1mM CTAB in 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS (1X) of the specific pH as described above.

Sample preparation (example)

1. <u>50 μ M solution of 6g and 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS (pH = 3) with 1mM CTAB</u>

To a 15 μ L 10 mM stock solution of **6g** and **7g**, 600 μ L of CTAB (5 mM stock solution in PBS, pH=3) and 2385 μ L of PBS (pH=3) were mixed in a 3 mL cuvette and excited at the corresponding λ max to collect the emission spectra.

Similarly, the emission spectra of **6g** and **7g** at specific pH were collected by preparing and exciting their 50 μ M solution in a 1.5 mL cuvette at their corresponding absorption maxima (λ max).

4.5.3. Determination of detection limit

Using the stock solutions of **7g** the emission spectra of its various concentrations (0.1 - 50 μ M) were collected in either 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS/ 1 mM CTAB or 90% v/v DMSO/ 10% v/v PBS (IX, pH 7.4) solvent systems. Each solution of **7g** (0.1, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40 and 50 μ M) prepared in a particular solvent system in a 1.5 mL cuvette was excited at the 465 nm. For each concentration, at least three independent trials were performed. The corresponding emission intensity observed at 560 nm was then plotted as a function of [**7g**] to obtain the linear range of detection. This generated the calibration curve for each solvent condition revealing the useful working range of **7g**.

<u>Sample preparation in 0.5% DMSO in PBS (1X, pH = 7.4) with 1mM CTAB</u>)

a) <u>0.1 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB</u>

In a cuvette containing 3.0 μ L of **7g** (50 μ M stock in DMSO), 4.5 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L, 1X, pH = 7.4)

b) 0.5 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB

In a cuvette containing 7.5 μ L of **7g** (100 μ M stock in DMSO), 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

c) <u>1.0 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB</u>

In a cuvette containing 7.5 μ L of 7g (200 μ M stock in DMSO), 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

d) 2.0 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB

In a cuvette containing 3.0 μ L of 7g (1 mM stock in DMSO), 4.5 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

e) $5.0 \mu M 7g \text{ in } 0.5\% \text{ DMSO in PBS with } 1 \text{mM CTAB}$

In a cuvette containing 7.5 μ L of 7g (1 mM stock in DMSO), 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

f) $10 \mu M 7g \text{ in } 0.5\% \text{ DMSO in PBS with } 1mM \text{ CTAB}$

In a cuvette containing 3.0 μ L of **7g** (5 mM stock in DMSO), 4.5 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

g) $15 \,\mu\text{M} \, 7\text{g}$ in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB

In a cuvette containing 4.5 μ L of 7g (5 mM stock in DMSO), 3.0 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

h) 20 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB

In a cuvette containing 3.0 μ L of **7g** (10 mM stock in DMSO), 4.5 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

i) $25 \,\mu\text{M} \, 7\text{g}$ in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB

In a cuvette containing 7.5 μ L of **7g** (5 mM stock in DMSO), 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L).

j) $30 \mu M 7g \text{ in } 0.5\% \text{ DMSO in PBS with } 1mM \text{ CTAB}$

In a cuvette containing 4.5 μ L of **7g** (10 mM stock in DMSO), 3.0 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L).

k) <u>40 µM 7g in 0.5% DMSO in PBS with 1mM CTAB</u>

In a cuvette containing 6.0 μ L of **7g** (10 mM stock in DMSO), 1.5 μ L DMSO, 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L)

1) $50 \mu M 7g \text{ in } 0.5\% \text{ DMSO in PBS with } 1 \text{mM CTAB}$

In a cuvette containing 7.5 μ L of 7g (10 mM stock in DMSO), 300 μ L CTAB (5 mM in PBS) were added and diluted to the final volume of 1500 μ L with PBS (1192.5 μ L).

4.5.4. Reaction kinetics study

The time course reaction kinetics for the reduction of the azide (**6g**) to amine (**7g**) was performed by incubating 20 μ M **6g** with 100 μ M NaHS in either 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS (1X, pH = 7.4) +/- 1 mM CTAB or 90% v/v DMSO/10% v/v PBS (1X, pH = 7.4) solvent systems. Samples were excited at 465 nm and emission spectra spanning from 480 to 700 nm were collected at 2-minute intervals.

Sample preparation (solvent system 0.5% v/v DMSO in PBS (1X, pH = 7.4)/1 mM CTAB): In a cuvette, 3.0 µL of **6g** (10 mM stock in DMSO) was added followed by 4.5 µL DMSO, 300 µL CTAB (5 mM in PBS), and 1042.5 µL PBS (1X, pH = 7.4). To this solution, 150 µL of NaHS (1 mM stock solution in PBS) was mixed and placed in the fluorescence spectrophotometer to monitor the progress of the reaction by exciting the sample at 465 nm. The emission spectra corresponding to the amine were collected every 2-minutes for 60 minutes. At least 3 trials were performed for each experiment. For the reaction that employed 90% v/v DMSO/10% v/v PBS (1X, pH = 7.4) solvent system, the emission spectra were collected every 2-minutes for 30 minutes

4.5.5. Selectivity study

To evaluate the reaction specificity, a series of fluorescence time courses were collected using the same methodology as described for the kinetics study. In place of NaHS, three potential sulfide-donors were substituted: L-cysteine, reduced glutathione, and 2-mercaptoethanol. All emission spectra reflect the reaction of 100 μ M sulfide-donor with 20 μ M **6g** in 0.5 % v/v DMSO, 99.5 % v/v PBS, and 1 mM CTAB. At least 3 trials were performed for each experiment.

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CHAPTER – V

CONCLUSIONS

Aurones are secondary metabolites found in various flowering plants. As a secondary metabolite, they are well documented to exhibit a wide range of biological activity against infective diseases, including bacteria, viruses, and various parasites, consequently making the aurone structure a potential therapeutic scaffold. Among several types of aurone derivatives, information on glycosylated analogs is limited. Although various glycosylated aurone derivatives have been isolated from plant sources, there is no report on their syntheses. Since glycosylation in many drug molecules, e.g., vancomycin, gentamycin, and streptomycin, has been found to help to improve their activity, as well as their pharmacokinetic parameters, developing efficient reaction protocols for their easy access is essential.¹

To address this omission, we reported the first synthesis of peracetylated aurone analogs as discussed in chapter II. This research provided an efficient and convenient Oglycosylation of hydroxyaurones with acetobromo- α -D-glucose donor. The reaction in the presence of phase transfer catalyst TBAB, under mild basic condition, is found to tolerate different electron-withdrawing and donating groups yielding the desired glycosylated products in good to excellent (60-92%) yield. This will eventually provide us with an opportunity to access synthetically diverse glycosides and glucoside of aurones and their analogs for further biological screening against various pathological conditions.

Concurrently, the diversification of the aurone skeleton led us to the synthesis of a unique and unexplored triazole scaffold, as discussed in chapter III. To achieve even greater structural diversity without the need for the synthesis of new aldehydes, halogen (iodo-) containing aurones were subjected to a direct azidation reaction with sodium azide in the presence of CuI. These same azidoaurones were also expected to be a stable substrate for photoaffinity labeling to understand the interaction of these compounds with biological systems. Unfortunately, the reactions failed to afford the desired azide substituted product. Instead, it resulted in an unknown and relatively polar compound with most of the anticipated structural features of the aurone substrate. Since the NMR analysis was inconclusive, the structure of the compound was confirmed by X-ray diffraction analysis to be a salicyl-substituted triazole. This provided a convenient and straightforward thermal mediated reaction protocol to synthesize a unique triazole scaffold using aurones and sodium azide in a short time (~ 30 min). Further, the synthesis of 42 different salicylsubstituted triazoles proves the generality of this reaction. Although the reaction mechanism is not clear yet, the ease of access and the presence of multiple modification sites make this new and unexplored scaffold appealing for further interest and applications.

In another project, discussed in chapter IV, we utilized the aurone scaffold as a fluorophore to develop a fluorogenic probe for the detection of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). H₂S is recognized as a third gaseous signaling molecule (gasotransmitter) following carbon monoxide (CO) and nitric oxide (NO). This endogenously generated H₂S, primarily from cysteine and homocysteine, has been identified to regulate a wide range of biological processes, while an abnormal level of H₂S has been implicated in various pathological conditions. As a result, the importance of understanding the biological role of H₂S has gained considerable attention. Cellular incompatibility limits currently available methods for the selective detection of H_2S . In relevance to these limitations, fluorescence-based approaches are emerging as a powerful tool for both qualitative and quantitative detection of H_2S as they are easy to use and afford real-time analysis without causing cell damage.

In this context, despite their promising fluorescence characteristics, minor flavonoid aurones have not been explored well as a potential fluorophore scaffold, and particularly for H₂S detection, no fluorescent probe utilizing the aurone scaffold has been reported so far. Inspired by this gap, we envisioned and successfully used the aurone scaffold as a tunable fluorophore to develop an azide reduction-based fluorescent probe for the detection of H₂S in living and aqueous systems. In this research, a rationally designed turn-on fluorescent probe (Z)-2-(4-azidobenzylidene)-5-fluorobenzofuran-3(2H)-one is demonstrated to react effectively with NaHS in the presence of cationic surfactant cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB), resulting in the formation of the corresponding amine accompanied by both a color change and \sim 42-fold enhancement in the raw fluorescence intensities with a detection limit as low as 1 µM. Furthermore, the probe displayed excellent selectivity for HS⁻ over cysteine, glutathione, and 2-mercaptoethanol revealing its applicability for quantitative detection of H₂S in both living systems and the environment. Given the ease and flexibility in synthesizing the aurone framework, many additional sensing applications can be envisioned, particularly applying the lessons learned in this project.

In conclusion, these projects have expanded the potential of the aurone system for both application to the treatment of pathological conditions and its potential for probing or sensing various biological processes. Further exploration and expansion of these areas can be readily imagined and will serve as the basis of considerable future work.

References

1. Křen, V.; Řezanka, T. FEMS Microbiol. Rev., 2008, 32, 858-889.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX – A

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 - Kafle, A.; Bhattarai, S.; Miller, J. M.; Handy, S. T. "Hydrogen sulfide sensing using an aurone-based fluorescent probe" *RSC Adv.* **2020**, *10*, 45180-45188.

APPENDIX - B

Effect of pH on 6g/7g Absorption and Emission Properties - Chapter IV



APPENDIX - C

NMR Spectra - Chapter I





AK_1_116_2-DMSO









AK_1_117_1-DMSO





193





AK_1_73_1-DM50







AK-02-20-DMSO



-11.133





AK-02-19-DMSO






















AK-01-74-1-DMSO

-7.988 -7.673 -7.627 7.611 -7.156 €6.772 €6.734 €6.717

- 11. 288



Peracetyl Glycosylated Aurone Derivatives

(1a-33a)























































f1 (ppm)







f1 (ppm)






























f1 (ppm)































f1 (ppm)











f1 (ppm)








APPENDIX – D

X-ray crystallographic data – Chapter II

<u>Compound 5 (CCDC : 1832154)</u>



Chemical formula	$C_{16}H_{10}N_4O_2$
Chemical name	4-[5-(2-hydroxybenzoyl)-2H-triazol-4-
	yl]benzonitrile
Formula weight	290.28
Temperature	100 K
Wavelength	1.54184 Å
Crystal size	$0.074\times0.07\times0.06~mm^3$
Crystal color:	yellow
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	P c a 21
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 20.4270 (5)$ Å $\alpha = 90$
	$b = 3.76320 (1)$ Å $\beta = 90$
	$c = 20.4678 (4) \text{ Å}, \qquad \gamma = 90$
Volume	1573.38(6) Å ³
Z	4

Dx, g, cm ⁻³	1.225
Absorption coefficient (Mu)	0.698 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	600
Diffractometer	Rigaku SuperNova
Radiation type	CuK\α
Diffraction source type	SuperNova (Cu) X-ray source
Diffraction source	'micro-focus sealed X-ray tube'
Theta (max)	67.954
Index ranges (h, k, lmax)	24, 4, 24
Unique reflections (Nref)	2824
wR2 (reflections)	0.0856 (2824)
R (reflections)	0.0333 (2650)
Absorption correction (Tmin, Tmax)	0.947, 1.000
Absorption correction	GAUSSIAN
Structure solution program	SHELXT (Sheldrick 2015)
Structure refinement program	SHELXL (Sheldrick, 2015)
Data / restraints / parameters	2824 / 1 / 205
Goodness-of-fit	1.022
$\Delta \sigma_{\rm max}$	0.001
Weighting scheme	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)+(0.0658P)^2]$
	where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
Data completeness	1.938

Compound 10 (CCDC : 1832154)



Chemical formula	$C_{17}H_{15}N_3O_4$	
Chemical name	[5-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1H	I-triazol-4-yl]-
	(2-hydroxyphenyl)methanon	e
Formula weight	325.32	
Temperature	100 K	
Wavelength	1.54184 Å	
Crystal size	$0.057\times0.04\times0.02~mm^3$	
Crystal color:	yellow	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	P 1 21/n 1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 3.89210 (10)Å	$\alpha = 90$
	b = 12.2806 (2)Å	$\beta = 90.19$
	c = 30.0412 (4) Å,	$\gamma = 90$
Volume	1434.84(5) Å ³	
Z	1	
Dx, g, cm ⁻³	1.506	
Absorption coefficient (Mu)	0.912 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	680	
Diffractometer	Rigaku SuperNova	
Radiation type	CuK\α	

Diffraction source type	SuperNova (Cu) X-ray source
Diffraction source	'micro-focus sealed X-ray tube'
Theta (max)	68.201
Index ranges (h, k, lmax)	4, 14, 36
Unique reflections (Nref)	3111
wR2 (reflections)	0.1032 (3111)
R (reflections)	0.0393 (2631)
Absorption correction (Tmin, Tmax)	0.821, 1.000
Absorption correction	MULTI-SCAN
Structure solution program	SHELXT (Sheldrick 2015)
Structure refinement program	SHELXL (Sheldrick, 2015)
Restraints / parameters	0 / 225
Goodness-of-fit	1.046
$\Delta \sigma_{\rm max}$	0.001
Weighting scheme	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)+(0.0658P)^2+2.3363P]$
	where $P = (F_{\circ}^{2} + 2F_{\circ}^{2})/3$
Data completeness	1.178
Refine special details	'Refined as a 2-component twin.,Twin'

NMR Spectra - Chapter II

Known aurones (5a-10a, 12a-17a, 19a-29a, 31a)









AK_2_126_1H

7.813 7.718 7.890 7.890 7.887 7.850 7.596 7.596 7.596 7.596 7.708 7.708 7.380 7.380

















8.373 9.379 9.359 7.870 7.825 7.825 7.822 7.825 7.825 7.557 7.







AK_1_111_1_1H



















-2./33











New aurones (11a, 18a, 30a, 32a-47a)
















7.261













AK-03-3-3

319





















7,509 7,597 7,527 7,527 7,527 7,527 7,527 7,39 7,729 7,357 7,338 7,332 7,357 7,357 7,357 7,357 7,359 7,357 7,359 7,359 7,359 7,359 7,527 7

AK_5_48_1H





AK_5_48_13C _____185.210

-18/.931

-159.893

-1/7.235

L137.792 -133.82 -123.913 -123.72 122.959 122.059 121.165 -115.959 -115.959 -115.778

-14.301





















₹7.820 7.792 7.572 7.270 7.273 7.128 —8.832

AK-3-19.3











AK_4_61_thio 7.953 7.9'9 7.891 7.791 7.775 7.775 7.778 7.785 7.778 7.8'1 7.8'1 7.512 7.512 7.528 7.512 7.330





Triazoles
























AK-2-146-13C













AK-2-136-1H

363













-137.19
-133.52
6-133.39
-131.48
7-131.10
-130.06
-127.17
~119.27
-119.14
-118.31





















8.084 8.054 7.922 7.698 7.694 7.565 7.542 7.513 7.050 6.893 6.865

AK-3-35







 $\begin{array}{c} < 8.48 \\ 8.47 \\ 7.76 \\ 7.63 \\ 7.61 \\ 7.61 \\ 7.50 \\ 7.69 \\ 6.99 \\ 6.95 \\ 6.93 \\ 6.92 \end{array}$

AK-3-45-vac-1
























f1 (ppm)



-12.079

AK-3-59-1H

392

















AK-3-47-1H





AK_4_107






























































APPENDIX - E

NMR Spectra - Chapter IV



7.925 7.209 7.815 7.801 7.557 7.359 7.359 7.257 7.359 7.259

AK_3_82_2_1H





7.805 7.787 7.774 7.757 7.7629 7.7615 7.7613 7.7613 7.7610 7.7598 7.7598 7.7598 7.7598 7.7598 7.7598 7.711 7.7598 7.711 7.718 7.718 7.718 7.714 7.714 7.714 7.759 7.7615 7.7117 7.7629 7.717 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.712 7.7203 7.728 7.729 7.728 7.728 7.729 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.729 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.728 7.729 7.728 7.729 7.728 7.729

AK_3_109_2_1H



















L 7.667 27.650 7.575 7.558 S.768 S.75/ S.597 S.580 S.550 S.550 S.552 S.572









<7.989 7.972 7,552 7,536 7,238 7,237 7,238 7,237 7,238



443













7.84/ 7.789 7.755 7.737 7.58/ 7.357 8.5718 8.5712 8.5712 8.5712 8.5578 8.5712 8.5578









AK_4_40B







7706 7.617 7.600 6.831 6.7/3 6.7/3 6.726 6.726 6.713 6.709



Ϋ́





AK_5_39

-11.375












AK_5_41_1H





0



7,902 7,895 7,751 7,751 7,737 7,393 7,393 7,399 7,397 7,307 7,307 7,307 7,307 7,307 7,299 7,299 7,292 7,292 7,202 7,205





