Supporting Information for

Chiral Organic Contact Ion Pairs in Metal-free Catalytic Asymmetric Allylic Substitutions

Magnus Rueping,* Uxue Uria, Ming-Yuan Lin, Iuliana Atodiresei

Institute of Organic Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Landoltweg 1, 52074, Aachen (Germany) Magnus.Rueping@rwth-aachen.de

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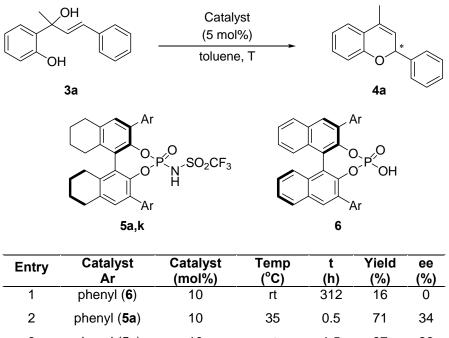
General Methods. Unless otherwise noted, all commercially available compounds were used as received. Solvents for chromatography were technical grade and distilled prior to use. Toluene used in reactions was analytical grade. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel 60 aluminum plates with F-254 indicator, visualized by UV irradiation. Column chromatography was performed using MN silica gel (particle size 0.040-0.063 mm). ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR were recorded on a Mercury 300 or Inova 400 spectrometer in CDCl₃ or CD₂Cl₂ with residual proton signal of the deuterated solvents as the internal reference (δ $_{\rm H}$ = 7.26 ppm and $\delta_{\rm C}$ = 77.0 ppm for CDCl₃ and $\delta_{\rm H}$ = 5.32 ppm and $\delta_{\rm C}$ = 53.8 ppm for CD₂Cl₂). Data are reported in the following order: chemical shift (δ) in ppm; multiplicities are indicated s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublets), td (triplet of doublets), qt (quartet of triplets), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublets), m (multiplet); coupling constants (J) are in Hertz (Hz). ¹³C NMR spectra were acquired on a broad band decoupled mode. Mass spectra was conducted on GC-MS Shimadzu QP2010 (column: Equity[®]-5, length \times I.D. 30 m \times 0.25 mm, d_f 0.25 µm, lot # 28089-U, Supelco). HRMS were measured on a Finnigan MAT 95 or LTQ Orbitrap XL spectrometer. IR spectra were measured in a Perkin-Elmer ATR apparatus and are reported in terms of frequency of absorption (cm⁻¹). Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. The enantiomeric excess (ee) of the products was determined by Supercritical Fluid Chromatography (SFC) analysis using Daicel Chiralpak IA, Daicel Chiralcel ODH or OJH and (S,S)-Whelk-01 columns. The chiral SFC methods were calibrated with the corresponding racemic mixtures. The CD-spectrum for the 2H-chromene 4m was recorded on a circular dichroism spectrometer (AVIV Model 62DS) at room temperature in acetonitrile.

The starting materials **3a-o** were readily prepared by using established Claisen-Schmidt condensation and subsequent alkylation reactions (*1-3*). The two enantiomers of **3a** have been separated by preparative SFC on a Chiralpack IA column 250×20 mm, CO2 (60g) and 12% *n*-Hexan:*iso*-Propanol 1:1.

Catalytic Metal-free Allylic Substitution

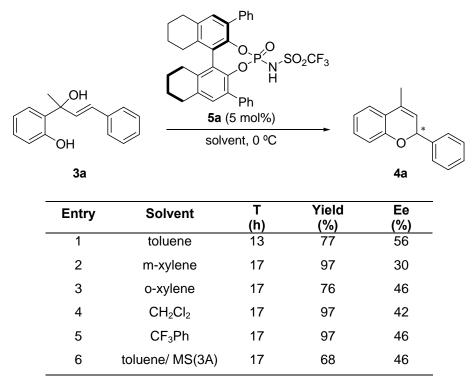
Table S1. Preliminary Evaluation of Brønsted Acid Nature, Catalyst Loading and Temperature in

 Asymmetric Allylic Substitution.



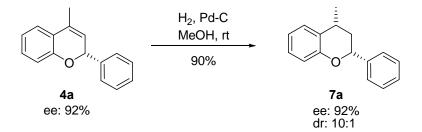
| - | Ar | (mol%) | (°C) | (h) | (%) | (%) |
|---|------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | phenyl (6) | 10 | rt | 312 | 16 | 0 |
| 2 | phenyl (5a) | 10 | 35 | 0.5 | 71 | 34 |
| 3 | phenyl (5a) | 10 | rt | 1.5 | 97 | 36 |
| 4 | phenyl (5a) | 5 | 0 | 13 | 77 | 56 |
| 5 | biphenyl (5k) | 10 | rt | 1.5 | 77 | 26 |
| 6 | biphenyl (5k) | 5 | rt | 4 | 83 | 22 |
| 7 | biphenyl (5k) | 2 | rt | 312 | 54 | 1 |

Table S2. Solvent and Molecular Sieves Effect on Asymmetric Allylic Alkylation.



Functionalization of the Products.

We have also gained some insight into the ability of the chromene structure to undergo chemical modifications. In this respect, the presence of a C-C double bond in the chromene skeleton provides great flexibility for further structural modifications. For instance, compounds containing a chroman scaffold, which are chemotherapeutic (antiviral) agents (4), are readily available by a simple reduction from adducts **4** (Scheme 1S). For example during the reduction of **4a** a new stereogenic center is formed in a diastereoselective way, affording the flavan derivative **7a** in an excellent yield.



Scheme 1S. Reduction of chromene 4a to the corresponding chromane 7a.

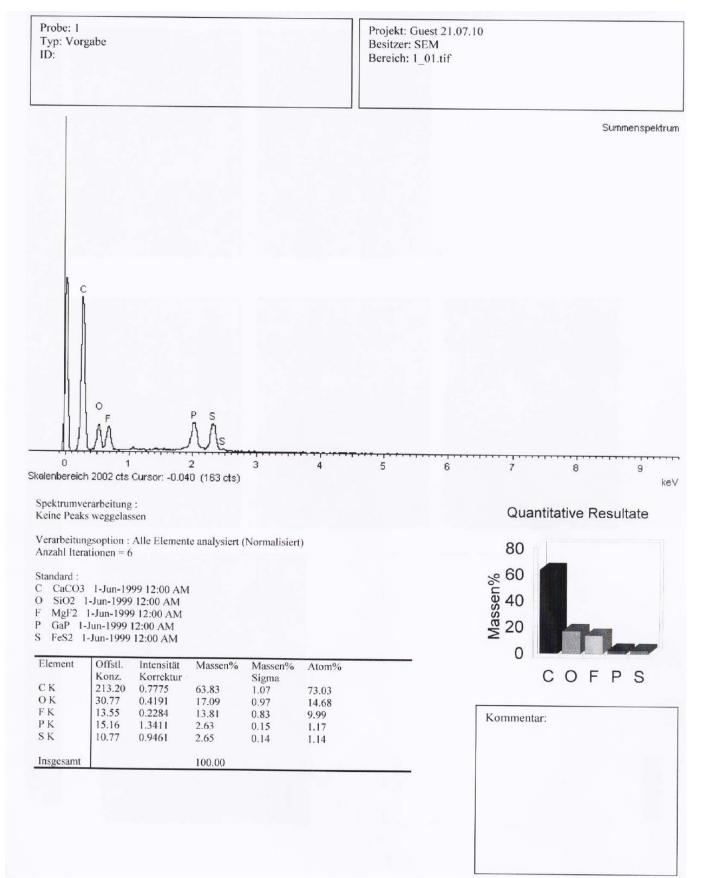


Figure S1. EDX of catalyst 5a.

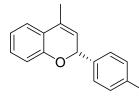
Representative procedure for the Enantioselective Allylic Substitution.

To a solution of the corresponding freshly prepared substituted phenol compound in toluene (0.08 M) was added the catalyst (5-10 mol%) at the temperature indicated and the resulting mixture was stirred until being completed (TLC monitoring). The crude reaction mixture was directly charged on silica gel and purified by column chromatography (cyclohexane/AcOEt 19:1) to afford the corresponding product **4a-o**. To avoid the decomposition of these products, they were stored at -26 °C.

Characterization of Products 4a-o

(2*R*)- 4-Methyl-2-phenyl-2H-chromene (4a). Following the general procedure 4a (34 mg, 0.15 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 20 hours in 92% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxy-4-phenylbut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.17 mmol) in the presence of 5a (10 mg, 10 mol%) and

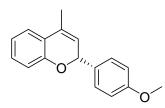
using toluene (2.08 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-6.99 (m, 7H), 6.83 (t, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (m, 1H), 5.77 (m, 1H), 5.53 (m, 1H), 2.00 (t, *J*=1.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.2, 141.3, 129.6, 129.3, 128.6, 128.2, 127.0, 123.5, 123.2, 121.7, 121.0, 116.0, 77.1, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3062, 3036, 2920, 2852, 1648, 1605, 1486, 1450, 1222, 754, 699 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 222.0 (M⁺, 22), 221.0 (32), 207.0 (77), 202.0 (18), 178.0 (43), 145.1 (55), 115.0 (37), 91.0 (18), 77.9 (19), 77.0 (100), 63.0 (16). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₄O₁ 222.10392 found 222.10353. [α]_D^{rt}: +182.4 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 244nm; τ_{major} = 3.86 min, τ_{minor} = 3.49 min (92% ee).



(2*R*)- 4-Methyl-2-*p*-tolyl-2H-chromene (4b). Following the general procedure 4b (31 mg, 0.16 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 17 hours in 84% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxy-4-*p*-tolylbut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.16 mmol) in the presence of 5a (5 mg, 5 mol%) and

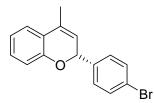
using toluene (1.96 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.08 (m, 4H), 6.91 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (dd, *J*=3.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (dd, *J*=3.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.09 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.3, 138.3, 138.0, 129.5, 129.2, 127.0, 123.4, 123.2, 121.8, 120.9, 116.0, 76.9, 21.2, 18.0. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3033, 2920, 2857, 1648, 1608, 1485, 1449, 1222, 753 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 236.0 (M⁺, 28), 235.1 (35), 221.0 (100), 201.9 (23), 178.1 (29), 145.1 (44), 115.1 (30), 91.1 (32),

77.1 (10), 65.0 (16). HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for $C_{17}H_{16}O_1$ +H ($C_{17}H_{17}O_1$) 237.12739 found 237.12685. [α]_D^{rt}: +187.5 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 244nm; τ_{major} = 4.32 min, τ_{minor} = 3.80 min (93% ee).



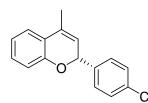
(2*R*)- 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4c). Following the general procedure 4c (42 mg, 0.17 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 17 hours in 91% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxy-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-yl)phenol (50 mg, 0.19 mmol) in the

presence of **5a** (6 mg, 5 mol%) and using toluene (2.31 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.12-6.98 (m, 2H), 6.85-6.75 (m, 3H), 6.73-6.67 (m, 1H), 5.77-5.66 (m, 1H), 5.50 (dd, *J*=3.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.00 (t, *J*=1.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5, 153.2, 133.3, 129.6, 129.2, 128.6, 123.4, 123.2, 121.8, 120.9, 116.0, 113.9, 76.7, 55.4, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3036, 2919, 2840, 1650, 1608, 1511, 1486, 1450, 1248, 755 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 252.1 (M⁺, 40), 251.0 (40), 237.0 (100), 221.1 (15), 208.0 (30), 194.0 (22), 165.0 (18), 145.0 (34), 115.1 (23), 91.2 (13). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₆O₂ 252.11448 found 252.11378. [α]_D^{rt}: +108.2 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 249nm; τ_{major} = 6.58 min, τ_{minor} = 6.07 min (90% ee).



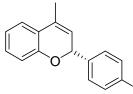
(2*R*)-2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4d). Following the general procedure 4d (34 mg, 0.11 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 3 days in 80% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(4-bromophenyl)-2-hvdroxybut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (45 mg, 0.14 mmol) in the presence of 5a (9

mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.76 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.84 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.75-5.71 (m, 1H), 5.52-5.48 (m, 1H), 2.01 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9, 140.2, 131.6, 130.1, 129.4, 128.7, 123.5, 123.0, 122.1, 121.2, 120.9, 116.0, 76.2, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3064, 3039, 2971, 2918, 2851, 1644, 1600, 1485, 1451, 1222, 754 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m*/*z* (%): 300.8 (M⁺, 24), 298.9 (31), 286.9 (100), 284.9 (92), 219.0 (27), 204.9 (70), 178.1 (34), 145.0 (79), 115.0 (42), 91.2 (17), 78.1 (16). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₁O₁Br₁ 300.01443 found 300.01328. [α]_D^{rt}: +180.3 (c = 0.5, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 8% MeOH/CO₂, 2.5 mL/min, 250nm; τ_{maior} = 5.5 min, τ_{minor} = 5.25 min (94% ee).



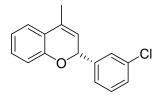
(2*R*)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4e). Following the general procedure 4e (32 mg, 0.13 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 3 days in 86% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxybut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.15 mmol) in the presence of 5a (9

mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.83 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.23-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.93 (td, *J*=7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.87-5.78 (m, 1H), 5.64-5.54 (m, 1H), 2.10 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9, 139.7, 133.9, 130.1, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 123.5, 123.1, 121.1, 121.0, 116.0, 76.2, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3068, 2975, 1626, 1594, 1486, 1457, 1223, 752 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 256.0 (M⁺, 20), 254.9 (32), 240.9 (100), 205.0 (19), 201.9 (18), 178.1 (31), 164.9 (10), 145.1 (52), 115.1 (28), 90.9 (14), 76.9 (12). HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for C₁₆H₁₃O₁Cl₁+H (C₁₇H₁₄O₁Cl₁) 257.07277 found 257.07266. [α]_D^{rt}: +174.9 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 8% MeOH/CO₂, 2.5 mL/min, 250nm; τ_{major} = 4.45 min, τ_{minor} = 4.24 min (94% ee).



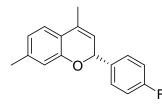
(2*R*)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4f). Following the general procedure 4f (30 mg, 0.13 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 27 hours in 81% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-hydroxybut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.16 mmol) in the presence of 5a

(10 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.94 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.09-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.92 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.90-5.78 (m, 1H), 5.64-5.55 (m, 1H), 2.10 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.5 (d, *J*_{CF} = 245.1 Hz), 152.9, 137.0, 129.9, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 123.5, 123.1, 121.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 23.6 Hz), 116.0, 115.3 (d, *J*_{CF} = 21.3 Hz), 76.3, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3065, 2919, 2851, 1647, 1604, 1504, 1450, 1223, 755 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 240.0 (M⁺, 23), 239.2 (31), 224.8 (100), 197.0 (22), 195.9 (56), 145.1 (64), 115.1 (42), 113.1 (18), 91.3 (27), 75.1 (21), 64.6 (20). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₃O₁F₁ 240.09449 Found 240.09471. [α]_D^{rt}: +210.4 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 8% MeOH/CO₂, 2.5 mL/min, 250 nm; τ_{major} = 3.1 min, τ_{minor} = 2.97 min (94% ee).



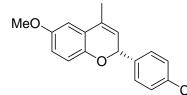
(2*R*)-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4g). Following the general procedure 4g (40 mg, 0.16 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 15 hours in 95% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-

hydroxybut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (45 mg, 0.16 mmol) in the presence of **5a** (10 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (2.05 mL) as solvent at -48 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44 (d, *J*=1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.93 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.88-5.79 (m, 1H), 5.64-5.55 (m, 1H), 2.10 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9, 143.3, 134.4, 130.1, 129.8, 129.4, 128.2, 127.1, 125.0, 123.6, 123.0, 121.2, 120.8, 116.0, 76.2, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3066, 2920, 2852, 1650, 1600, 1576, 1481, 1447, 1220, 754 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m*/*z* (%): 255.8 (M⁺, 20), 255.0 (36), 241.0 (92), 205.0 (25), 201.9 (31), 178.0 (28), 145.1 (100), 115.0 (41), 91.1 (20), 76.9 (15). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₃O₁Cl₁ 256.06494 found 256.06452. [α]_D^{rt}: +273.4 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 8% MeOH/CO₂, 2.5 mL/min, 250 nm; τ_{major} = 4.52 min, τ_{minor} = 4.05 min (84% ee).



(2*R*)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,7-dimethyl-2H-chromene (4h). Following the general procedure 4h (23 mg, 0.09 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 22 hours in 82% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-hydroxybut-3-en-2-yl)-5-methylphenol (30 mg, 0.11

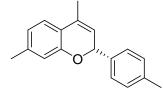
mmol) in the presence of **5a** (7 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.38 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.36-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.92 (m, 3H), 6.67-6.61 (m, 1H), 6.53-6.49 (m, 1H), 5.74-5.66 (m, 1H), 5.51-5.46 (m, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.99 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 162.4 (d, *J*_{CF} = 243.5 Hz), 152.7, 139.7, 137.3, 130.0, 128.8 (d, *J*_{CF} = 8.4 Hz), 123.3, 121.7, 120.5, 120.0, 116.4, 115.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 21.2 Hz), 76.0, 21.1, 17.8. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3038, 2969, 2920, 2857, 1651, 1611, 1507, 1442, 1229, 1151, 820 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 254.1 (M⁺, 21), 253.0 (32), 239.0 (100), 220.0 (14), 196.1 (37), 159.0 (49), 129.1 (10), 115 (16), 91.2 (16). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O₁F₁ 254.11015 found 254.10968. [α]_D^π: +210.1 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 1% ⁱPrOH/CO₂, 2.5 mL/min, 229 nm; τ_{major} = 7.28 min, τ_{minor} = 7.92 min (90% ee).



(2*R*)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-methoxy-4-methyl-2H-chromene (4i). Following the general procedure 4i (35 mg, 0.12 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 5 days in 83% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(4-(4-chlorophenyl)but-2-en-2-yl)-4-methoxyphenol (45 mg,

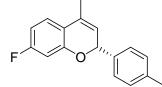
0.15 mmol) in the presence of **5a** (9 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.85 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.41-7.28 (m, 4H), 6.82-6.65 (m, 3H), 5.77-5.73 (m, 1H), 5.65-5.61 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.08 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 154.0, 146.8,

139.5, 133.9, 130.2, 128.6, 128.4, 124.0, 122.0, 116.4, 113.8, 109.6, 76.0, 55.8, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{v} = 2919$, 2850, 1680, 1488, 1433, 1210, 821 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 285.9 (M⁺, 29), 285.0 (49), 273.1 (33), 270.9 (100), 252.0 (17), 242.0 (19), 227.8 (22), 175.1 (65), 165.1 (39), 132.1 (25), 77.0 (13). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O₂Cl₁ 286.07551 found 286.07550. [α]_D^{rt}: +65.5 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralcel OJH column, 2% ^{*i*}PrOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 250 nm; $\tau_{maior} = 14.11 \text{ min}, \tau_{minor} = 12.49 \text{ min} (84\% \text{ ee}).$



(2*R*)-4,7-dimethyl-2-*p*-tolyl-2H-chromene (4j). Following the general procedure 4j (25 mg, 0.10 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 4 days in 87% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxy-4-*p*-tolylbut-3-en-2-yl)-5-methylphenol (30 mg, 0.11 mmol) in the presence of 5a (7 mg, 10

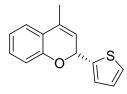
mol%) and using toluene (1.40 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.19 (d, J=7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, J=7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, J=7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.64-6.58 (m, 1H), 6.52-6.47 (m, 1H), 5.70-5.63 (m, 1H), 5.50-5.44 (m, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.98-1.94 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 152.9, 139.5, 138.3, 138.0, 129.6, 129.0, 126.9, 123.3, 121.5, 120.7, 120.5, 116.4, 76.6, 21.1, 21.0, 17.9. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3028, 2919, 2855, 1652, 1616, 1444, 1242, 814 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 250.1 (M⁺, 28), 249.0 (43), 235.0 (100), 219.1 (13), 192.1 (20), 159.1 (45), 129.1 (10), 115.0 (12), 91.0 (18). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₈O₁ 250.13522 found 250.13488. [α]_D^{rt}: +266.9 (c = 0.5, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a (S,S) Whelk-01 column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 249 nm; τ_{major} = 6.94 min, τ_{minor} = 6.17 min (84% ee).



(2*R*)-7-fluoro-4-methyl-2-*p*-tolyl-2H-chromene (4k). Following the general procedure 4k (26 mg, 0.10 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 22 hours in 94% yield starting from (*E*)-5-fluoro-2-(2-hydroxy-4-p-tolylbut-3-en-2-yl)phenol (30 mg, 0.11 mmol) in the presence of 5a

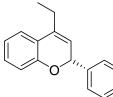
(7 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.34 mL) as solvent at -78 °C.¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34-7.28 (m, 2H), 6.22-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.60 (td, *J*=8.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H),6.54 (dd, *J*=10.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.87-5.81 (m, 1H), 5.59-5.54 (m, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.08 (t, *J*=1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 244.3 Hz), 154.5 (d, *J*_{CF} = 12.2 Hz), 138.0 (d, *J*_{CF} = 35.7 Hz), 129.3, 128.9, 127.0, 124.4, 120.5, 119.5, 107.4 (d, *J*_{CF} = 21.2 Hz), 103.7 (d, *J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz), 77.3, 21.3, 18.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3026, 2921, 2857, 1605, 1499, 1431, 1145, 1119, 814 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 254.0 (M⁺, 34), 253.0 (54), 240.1 (32), 239.0 (100), 223.0 (24), 219.9 (23), 195.9 (28), 163.1 (45), 132.8 (14), 115.0 (18), 91.0 (16). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O₁F₁ 254.11015 found

254.10993. $[\alpha]_D^{\text{rt}}$: +215.9 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 229 nm; $\tau_{\text{major}} = 3.63 \text{ min}, \tau_{\text{minor}} = 3.12 \text{ min} (92\% \text{ ee}).$



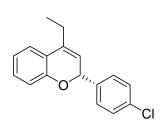
(2*R*)-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-2H-chromene (4l). Following the general procedure 4l (26 mg, 0.11 mmol) was isolated as a yellow oil after 24 hours in 94% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxy-4-(thiophen-2-yl)but-3-en-2-yl)phenol (30 mg, 0.122 mmol) in the presence of 5a (4 mg, 5 mol%) and

using toluene (1.53 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.07 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.85 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.11-6.04 (m, 1H), 5.80-5.72 (m, 1H), 2.14 (t, *J*=1.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.6, 144.4, 130.4, 129.4, 126.7, 126.1, 125.9, 123.6, 123.3, 121.3, 120.7, 116.4, 71.7, 18.0. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2918$, 2851, 1652, 1484, 1447, 1216, 831 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 228.0 (M⁺, 41), 227.1 (34), 213.0 (100), 183.9 (37), 165.1 (19), 152.0 (14), 145.1 (23), 115.0 (31), 91.0 (16). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₂O₁³²S₁ 228.06034 found 228.06044. [α]_D^{rt}: +102.2 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralpak IA column, 2% MeOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 250 nm; $\tau_{major} = 4.49$ min, $\tau_{minor} = 3.79$ min (90% ee).



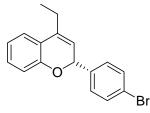
(2*R*)-4-ethyl-2-phenyl-2H-chromene (4m). Following the general procedure 4m (33 mg, 0.14 mmol) was isolated as a white solid after 3 days in 88% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(3-hydroxy-1-phenylpent-1-en-3-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.16 mmol) in the presence of 5a (10 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.96

mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.48-7.19 (m, 6H), 7.18-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.90 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.84-6.75 (m, 1H), 5.87-5.82 (m, 1H), 5.67-5.62 (m, 1H), 2.49 (qt, *J*=7.4, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 153.2, 141.2, 135.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 126.9, 123.1, 122.7, 120.9, 119.6, 116.0, 76.8, 24.0, 12.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3068, 3031, 2965, 2910, 1648, 1601, 1485, 1449, 1208, 747 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 236.1 (M⁺, 21), 235.1 (19), 208.1 (26), 207.1 (100), 178.0 (46), 159.1 (38), 144.2 (19), 131.0 (18), 115.1 (22), 90.9 (25). HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for C₁₇H₁₆O₁+H (C₁₇H₁₇O₁) 237.12739 Found 237.12730. [α]_D^{rt}: +210.7 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralcel OJH column, 5% MeOH/CO₂, 3 mL/min, 265 nm; τ_{major} = 6.05 min, τ_{minor} = 5.60 min (91% ee; 98% ee after crystallization).



(2*R*)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-ethyl-2H-chromene (4n). Following the general procedure 4n (20 mg, 0.07 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 6 days in 71% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-1-en-3-yl)phenol (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in the presence of 5a (6 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.30 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H

NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.36-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.16 (dd, *J*=7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (td, *J*=7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (td, *J*=7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.76-6.66 (m, 1H), 5.81-5.70 (m, 1H), 5.56-5.51 (m, 1H), 2.41 (qt, *J*=7.3, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 152.9, 139.8, 135.6, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.5, 123.1, 121.0, 119.1, 116.1, 75.9, 24.0, 12.1. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3066, 2967, 2922, 2852, 1598, 1486, 1455, 1221, 753 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m*/*z* (%): 269.9 (M⁺, 15), 269.0 (15), 243.0 (37), 241.0 (100), 205.0 (29), 178.0 (27), 159.3 (32), 144.0 (20), 114.8 (22), 107.2 (19), 91.2 (21), 68.5 (14). HRMS (EI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O₁Cl₁ 270.08059 found 270.08019. [α]_D^{rt}: +217.3 (c = 1.0, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralcel OJH column, 5% ^{*i*}PrOH/CO₂, 3 mL/min, 250 nm; τ_{major} = 9.91 min, τ_{minor} = 8.73 min (96% ee).



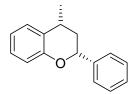
(2*R*)-2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-ethyl-2H-chromene (4o). Following the general procedure 4o (23 mg, 0.07 mmol) was isolated as a colorless oil after 6 days in 61% yield starting from (*E*)-2-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-1-en-3-yl)phenol (40 mg, 0.12 mmol) in the presence of 5a (7 mg, 10 mol%) and using toluene (1.50 mL) as solvent at -78 °C. ¹H

NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.53-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24 (dd, *J*=7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (td, *J*=7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (td, *J*=7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd, *J*=8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.84-5.77 (m, 1H), 5.69-5.58 (m, 1H), 2.49 (qt, *J*=7.4, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.18 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 152.9, 140.3, 135.6, 131.5, 129.1, 128.7, 127.9, 123.2, 121.9, 121.1, 119.0, 116.1, 76.0, 24.0, 12.1. IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2966$, 2921, 2851, 1592, 1485, 1453, 1221, 753 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 313.9 (M⁺, 16), 313.0 (16), 286.9 (89), 284.9 (100), 219.1 (41), 205.1 (72), 191.2 (29), 159.1 (45), 144.1 (20), 115.2 (24), 91.0 (19). HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O₁Br₁+H (C₁₇H₁₆O₁Br₁) 315.03790 found 315.03793. [α]_D^{rt}: +162.6 (c = 0.25, MeOH). The enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralcel OJH column, 5% ^{*i*}PrOH/CO₂, 3 mL/min, 229 nm; $\tau_{major} = 9.33$ min, $\tau_{minor} = 8.13$ min (93% ee).

General procedure for reduction of product 4a.

To a solution of chromene **4a** (20 mg, 0.09 mmol) in MeOH (2.0 mL) was added Pd-C (3 mg, 5% in 50% water) and the resulting mixture was stirred under an atmosphere of H_2 at room temperature for 2 hours. The crude reaction mixture was filtrated, washed with MeOH several times (5 or 6) and purified by column chromatography (cyclohexane/AcOEt 19:1) to afford the corresponding product **7a** (18 mg, 0.08 mmol) in 90% yield.

Characterization of Product 7a



(2*R*,4*R*)- 4-methyl-2-phenylchroman (7a). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, major, *syn*) δ 7.52-7.27 (m, 6H), 7.19-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.89 (m, 2H), 5.09 (dd, *J*=11.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.32-3.12 (m, 1H), 2.23 (ddd, *J*=13.6, 5.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.92-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.39 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃,

major, *syn*) δ 154.8, 141.7, 129.2, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 127.1, 126.1, 120.6, 116.9, 78.0, 40.0, 30.1, 20.2. IR (KBr): $\tilde{v} = 3067$, 3034, 2953, 2916, 2867, 1577, 1484, 1450, 1226, 749, 701 cm⁻¹. MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 224.0 (M⁺, 34), 209.0 (29), 165.0 (7), 133.1 (21), 131.0 (21), 120.0 (22), 115.1 (25), 114.1 (44), 91.1 (100), 78.0 (24). The enantiomeric excess and diastereomeric ratio was determined by chiral SFC using a Chiralcel ODH column, 10% EtOH/CO₂, 4 mL/min, 265nm; $\tau_{anti,major} = 1.98 \text{ min}, \tau_{syn,major} = 2.73 \text{ min}, \tau_{syn,minor} = 2.31 \text{ min} (92\% \text{ ee; dr: 10:1}).$

Determination of the absolute configuration

X-ray Crystallographic Data.

The structure of the chromene 4m was determined by single-crystal X-ray analysis.

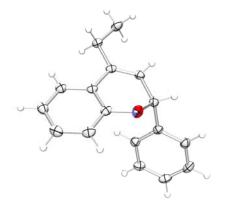
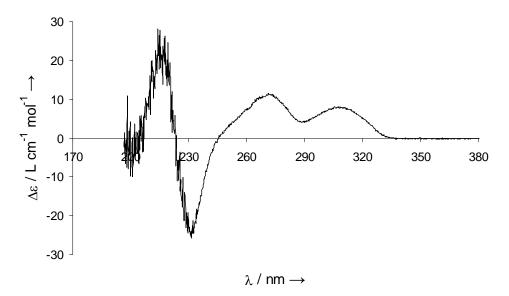
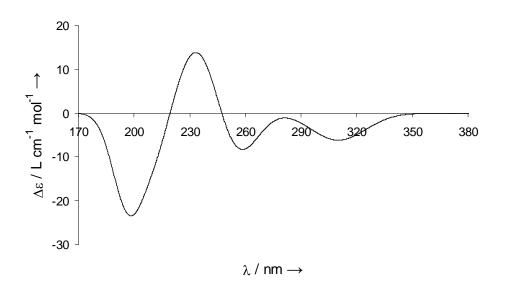


Fig. S2. Structure of **4m** in the solid state $X_{abs} = 0.003(267)$.

However, the values of the Flack parameter and standard uncertainty did not allow unambiguous determination of the absolute configuration. As an alternative, CD-spectroscopy was considered and the recorded and theoretically calculated CD-spectra of compound **4m** were analyzed (Fig. S3 a, b). The theoretical CD-spectrum has been obtained as an average of the spectra of the most stable five conformers lying in a range of 2 kcal/mol. Single spectra of the corresponding conformers have been obtained at the TD-DFT/B3LYP/6-31+G**//B3LYP/6-31+G** level using Gaussian 09 program package (5-6). Since the measured spectrum resembles the mirror image of the spectrum calculated for the (*S*)-enantiomer, we conclude that the absolute configuration of the compound present in our sample is (*R*).



a) Recorded CD-spectrum of 4m.



b) Averaged calculated CD-spectrum for (S)-4m at the TD-DFT/B3LYP/6-31+G**//B3LYP/6-31+G** level.

Fig. S3. Recorded and calculated CD-spectra for 4m.

References

- 1. Barros, A. I. R. N. A.; Silva, A. M. S.; Alkorta, I.; Elguero, J. Tetraedron 2004, 60, 6513-6521.
- Cabrera, M.; Simoens, M.; Falchi, G.; Lavaggi, M. L.; Piro, O. E.; Castellano, E. E.; Vidal, A.; Azqueta, A.; Monge, A.; de Cerain, A. L.; Sagrera, G.; Seoane, G.; Cerecetto H.; Gonzalez, M. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2007, 15, 3356-3367.
- 3. Dennis, L.; George, Z. J. Org. Chem. 1980, 45, 2551-2553.
- Patent J. F. Batchelor, H. F. Hodson, J. G. Vinter, Benzopyran compounds, useful as chemotherapeutic agents. Eur. Pat. Appl. EP 25599, CAN 95, 42910, 1981.
- 5. The calculations have been performed by using the facilities and computing resources offered by the Center for Computing and Communication of the RWTH Aachen University.
- Gaussian 09, Revision A.02, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.

NMR Spectra of Compounds 4a-o and 7a.

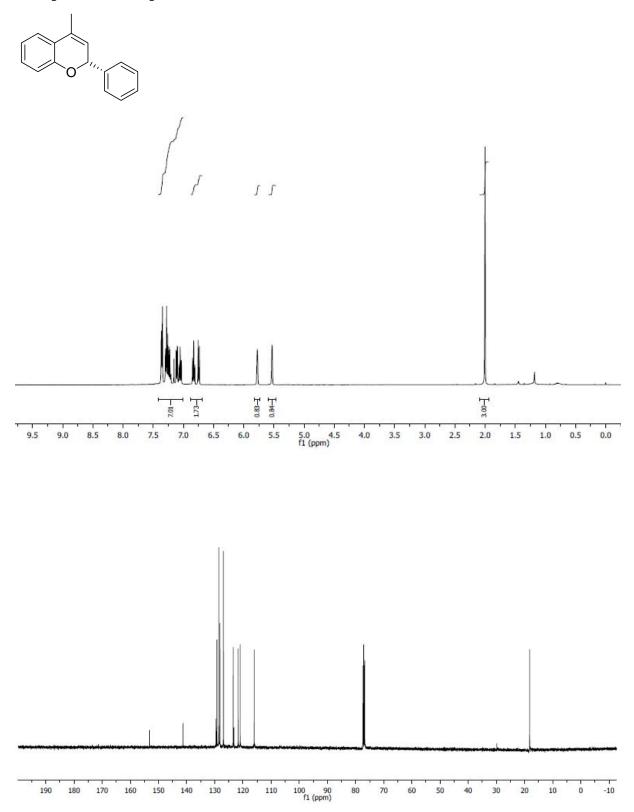


Figure S4: NMR spectra of compound 4a.

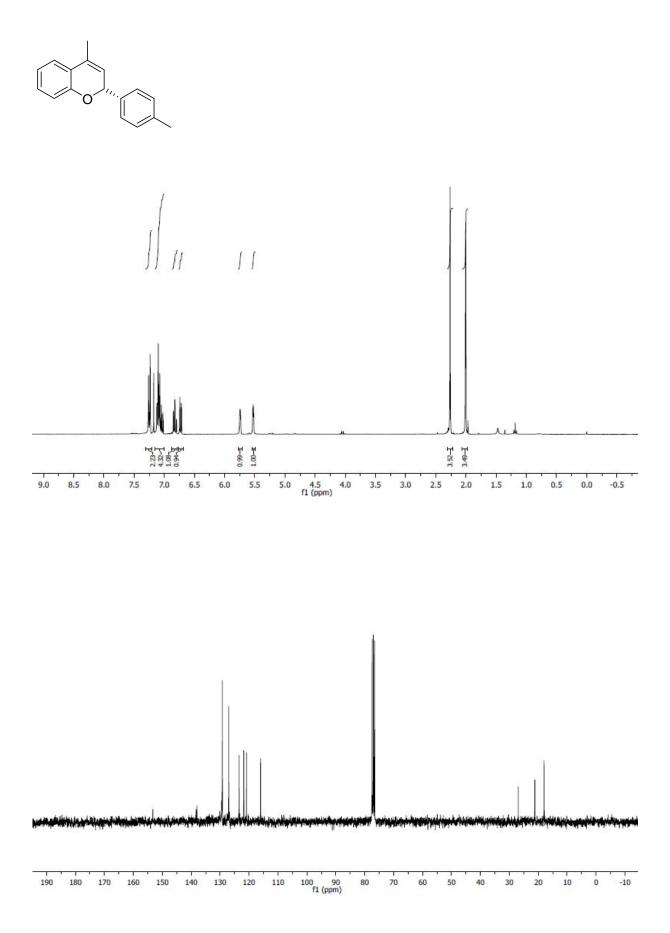


Figure S5: NMR spectra of compound 4b.

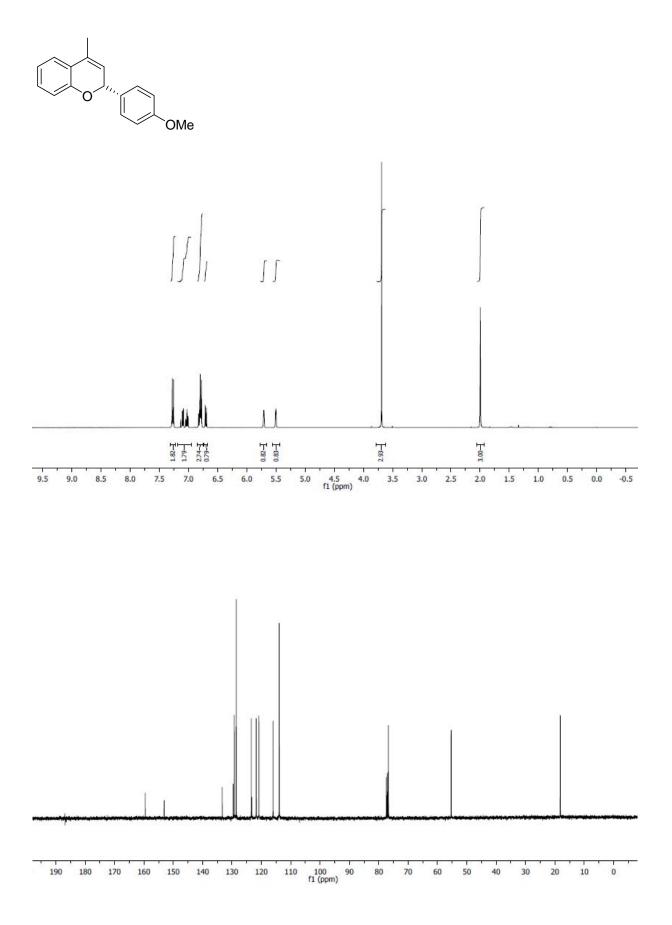


Figure S6: NMR spectra of compound 4c.

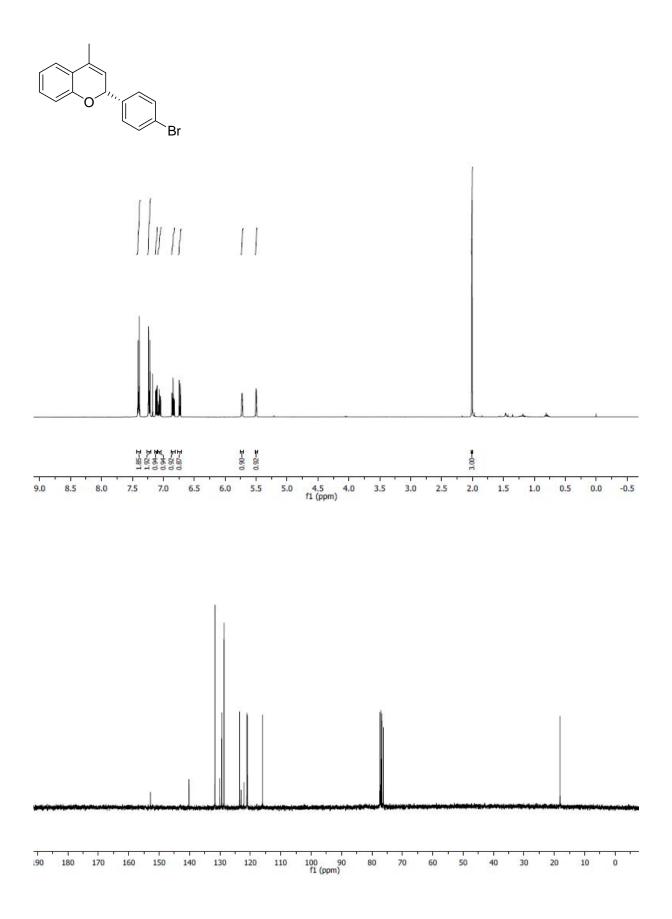


Figure S7: NMR spectra of compound 4d.

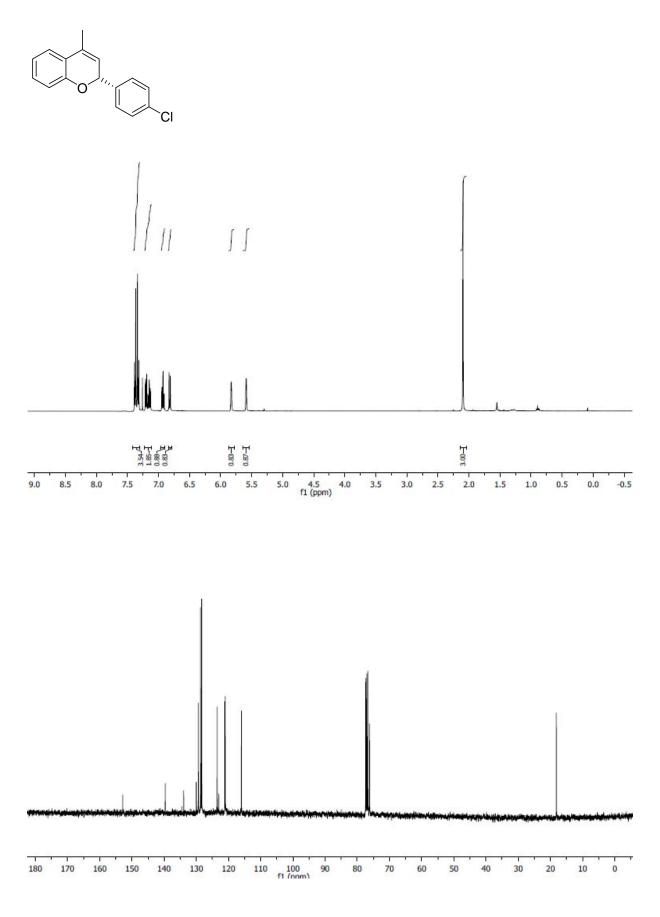


Figure S8: NMR spectra of compound 4e.

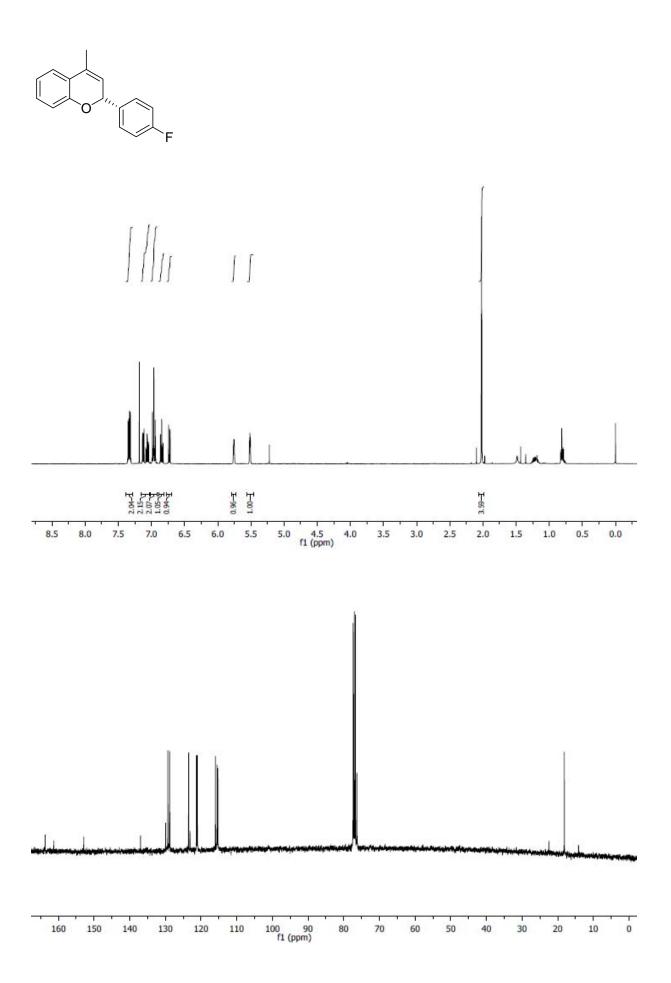


Figure S9: NMR spectra of compound 4f.

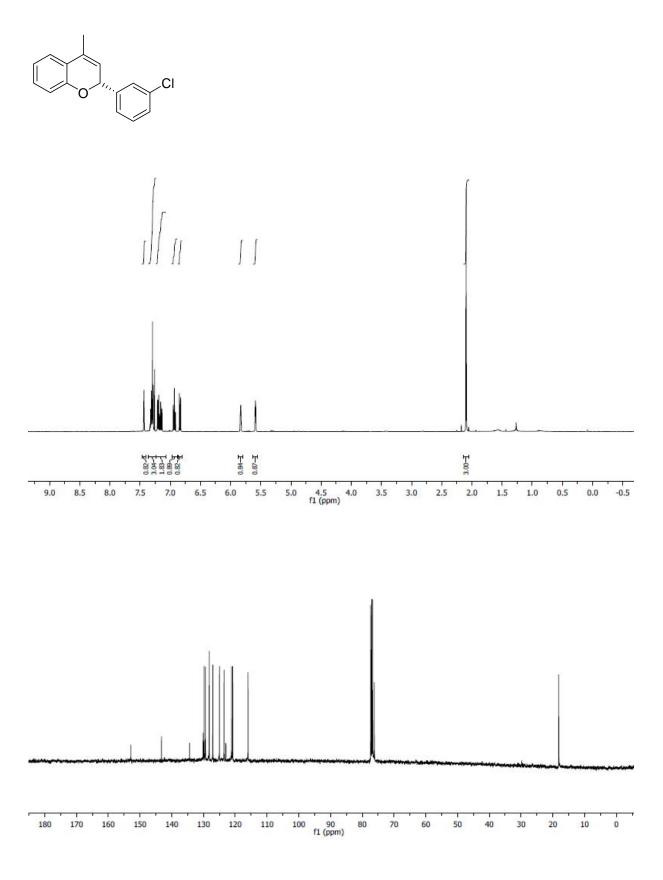


Figure S10: NMR spectra of compound 4g

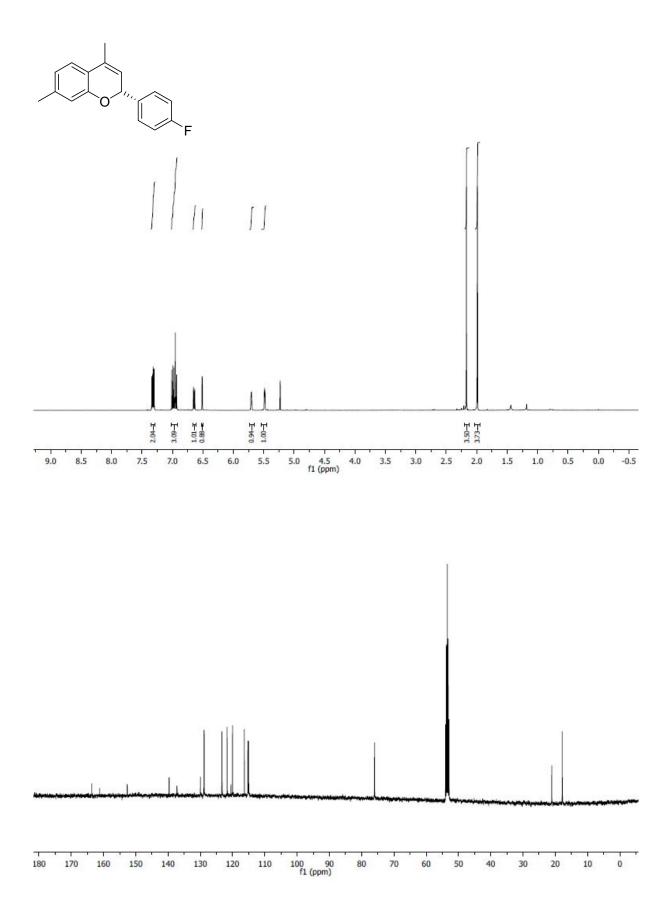


Figure S11: NMR spectra of compound 4h

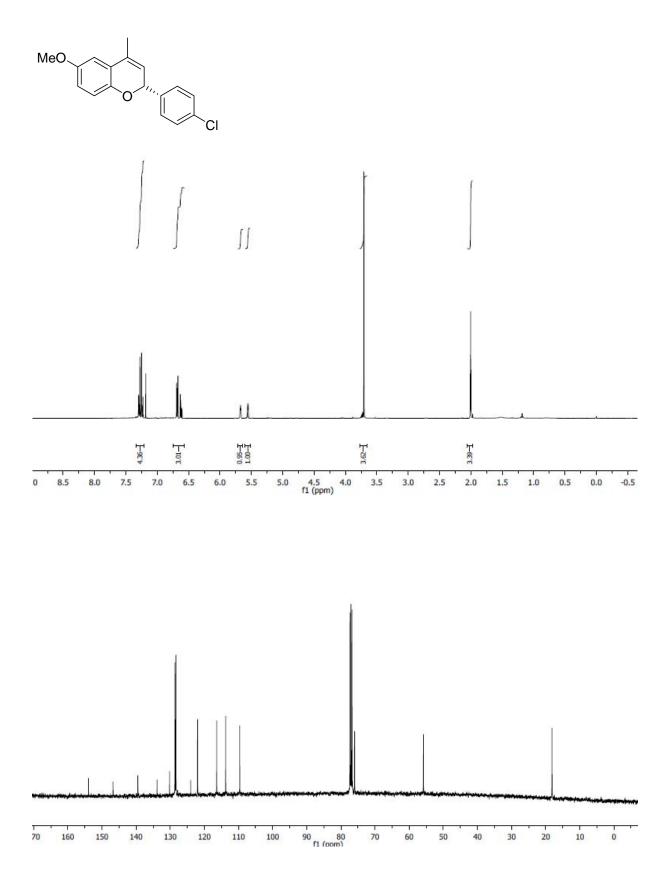
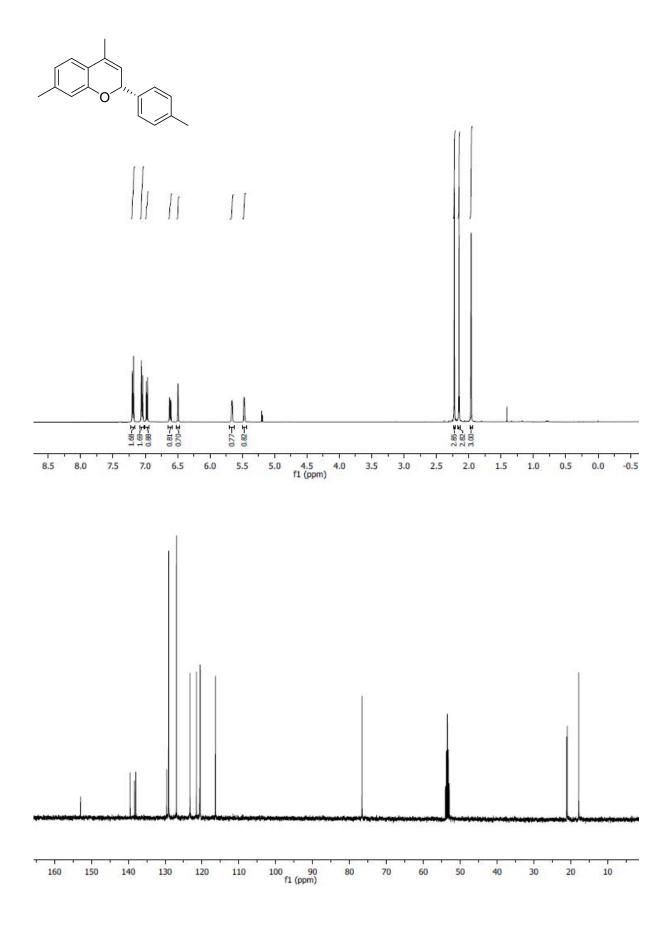
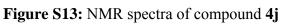


Figure S12: NMR spectra of compound 4i





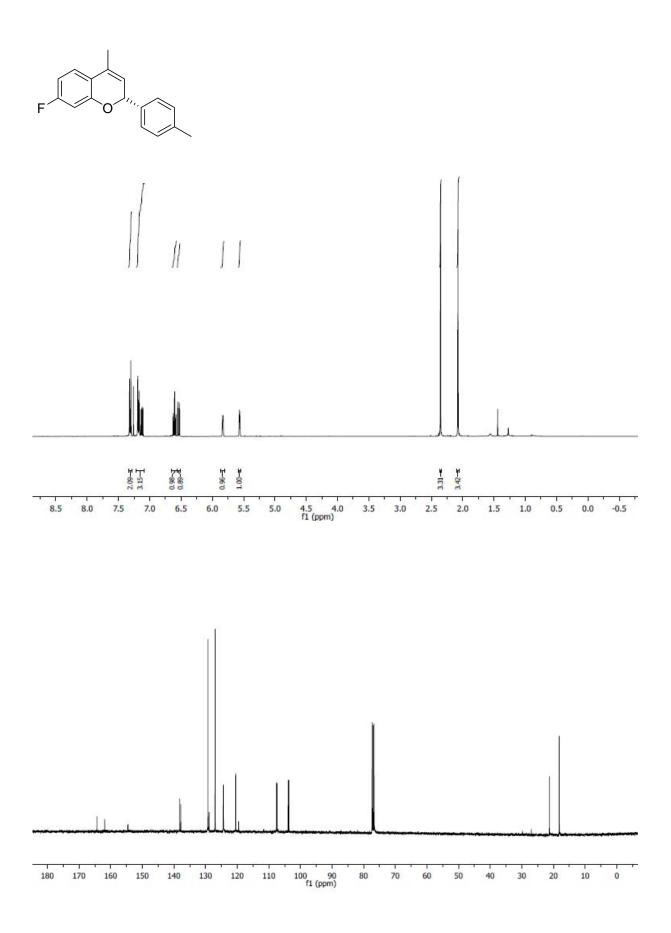
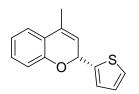


Figure S14: NMR spectra of compound 4k



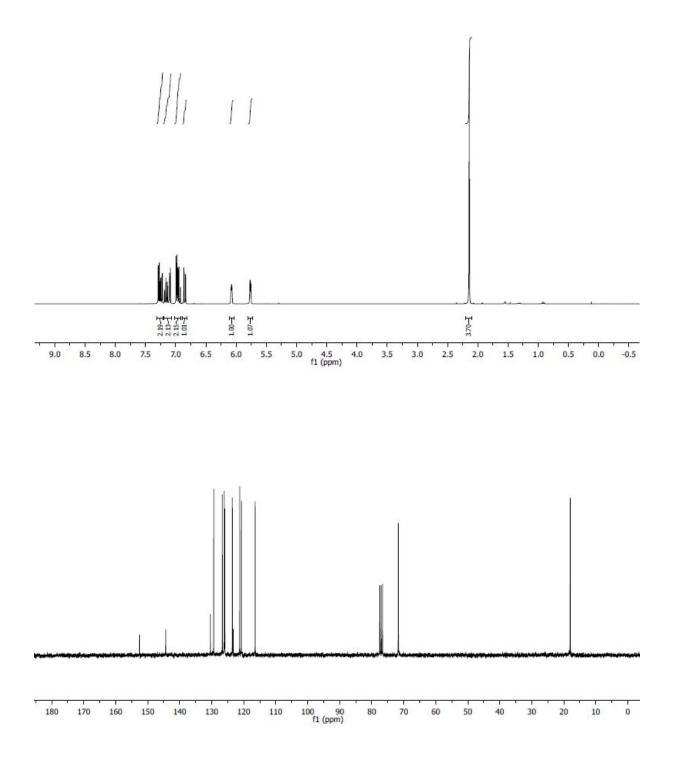


Figure S15: NMR spectra of compound 4l

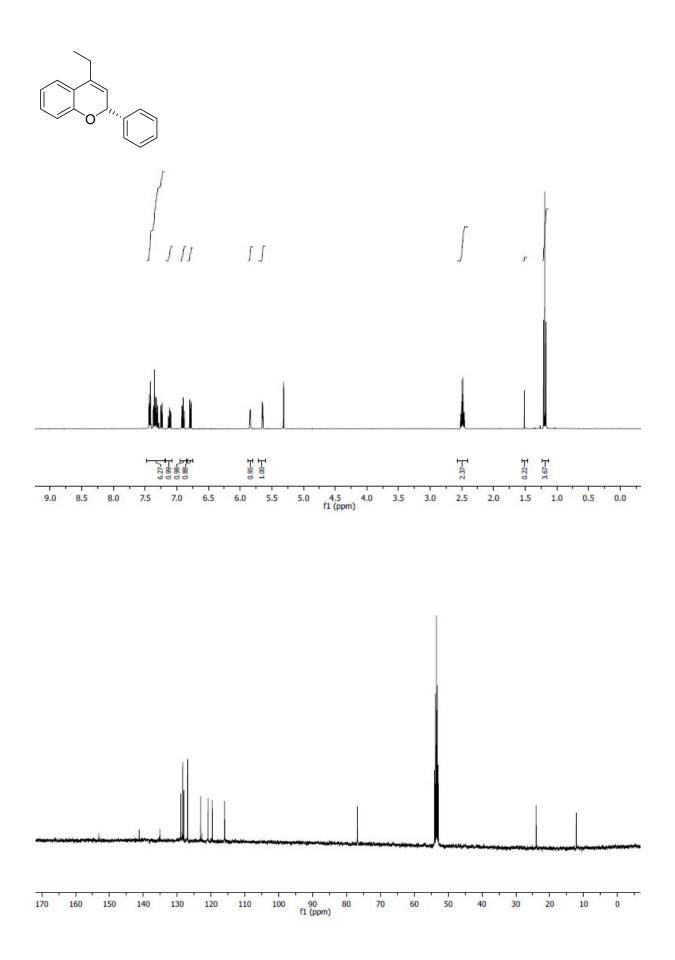


Figure S16: NMR spectra of compound 4m

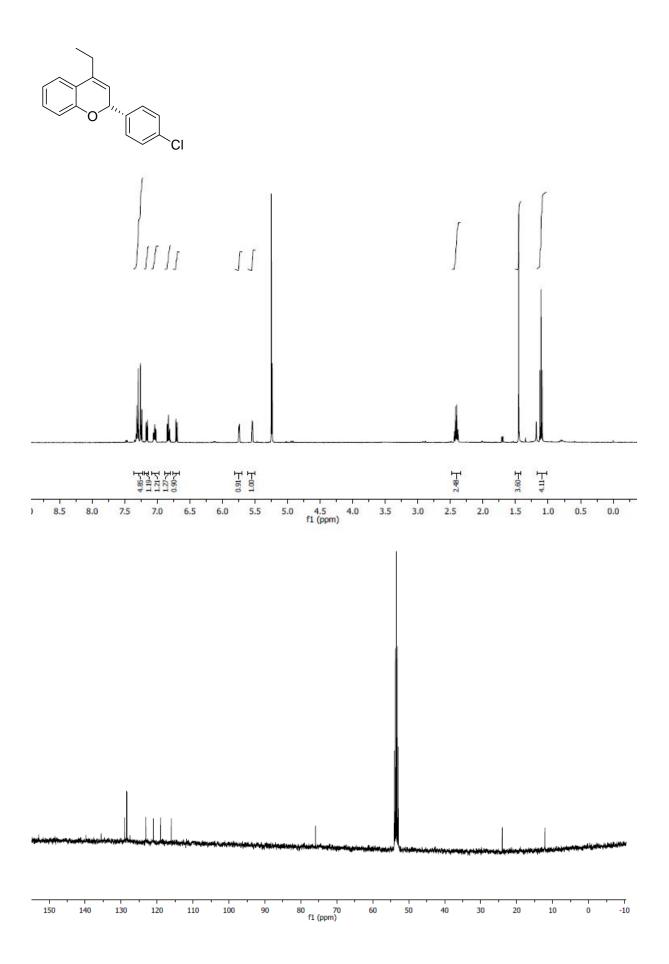
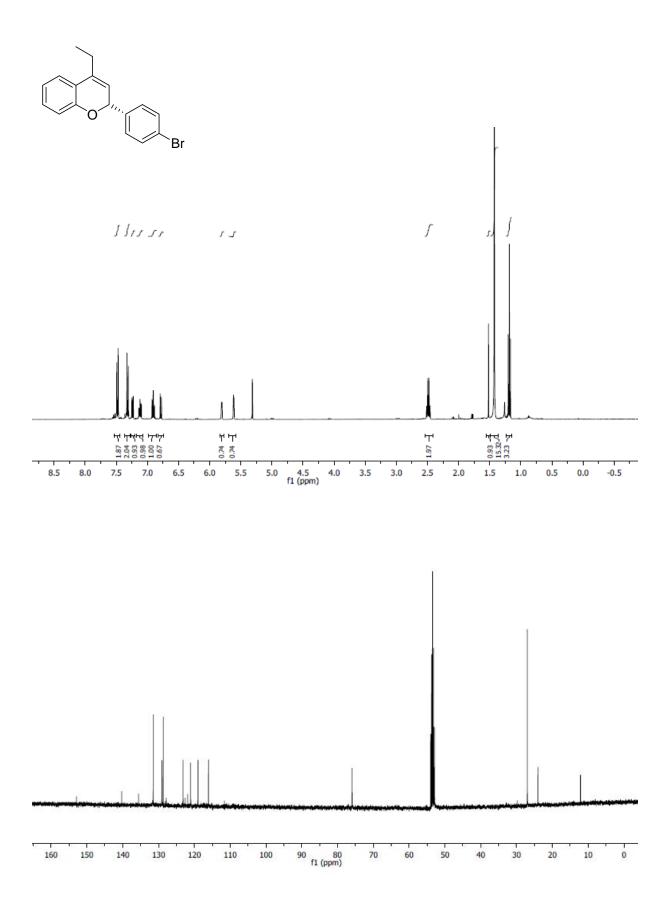
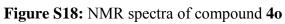
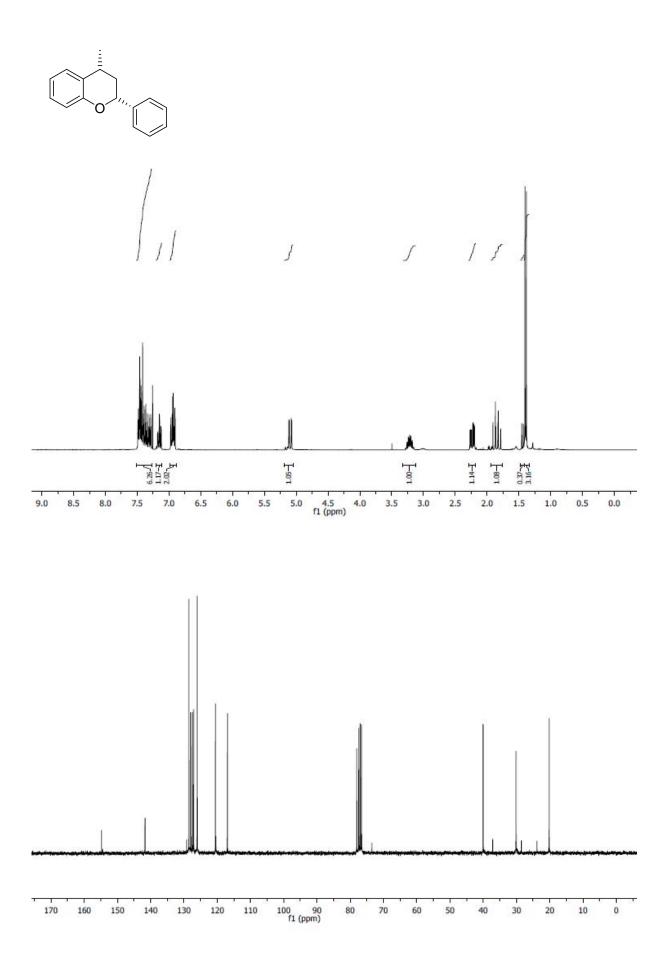
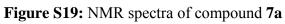


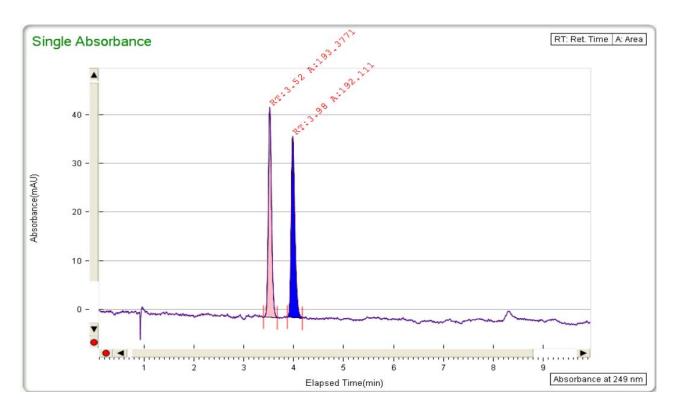
Figure S17: NMR spectra of compound 4n

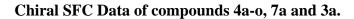












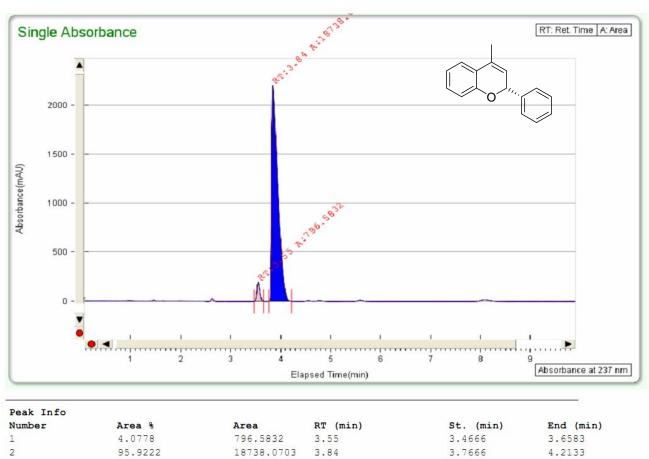
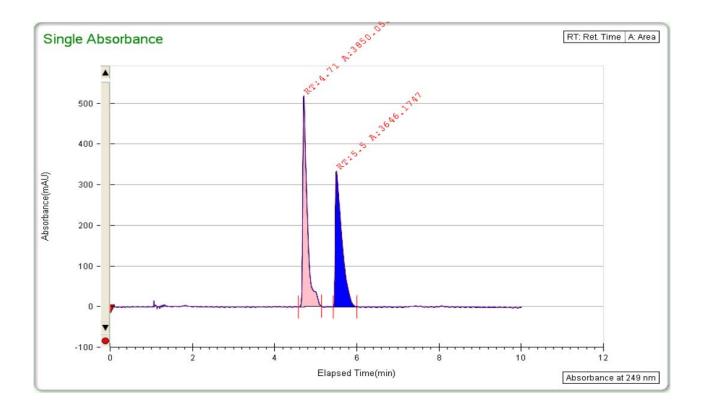


Figure S20: SFC chromatograms of compound 4a.



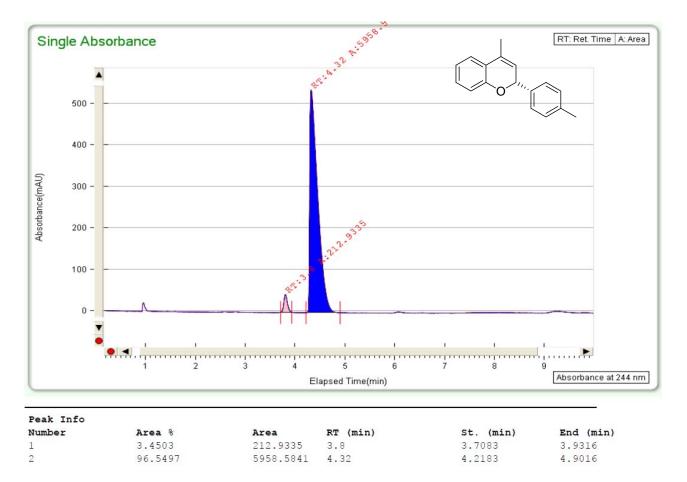


Figure S21: SFC chromatograms of compound 4b.

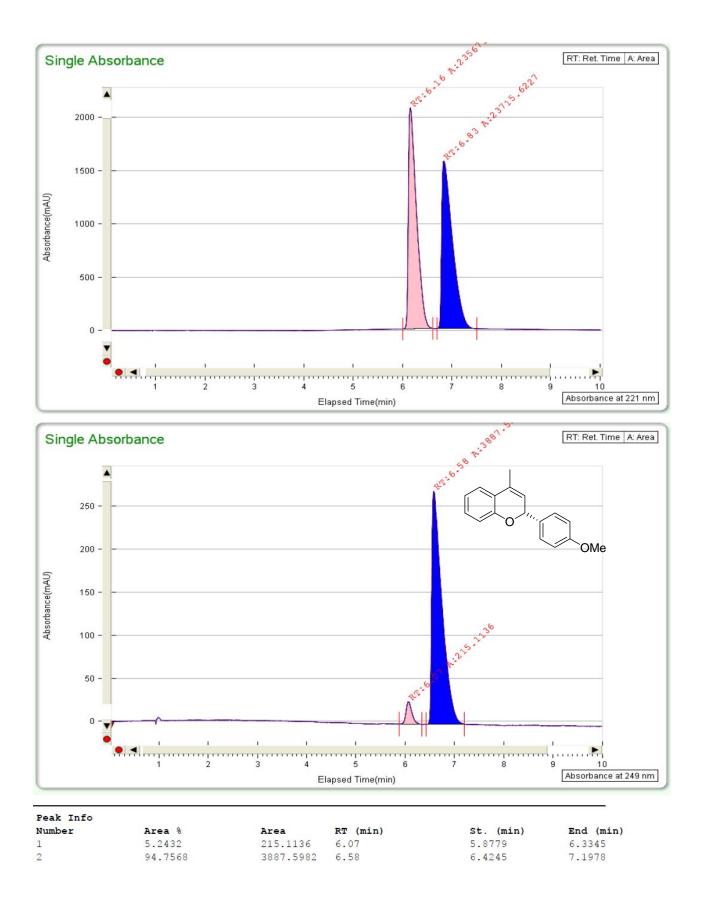


Figure S22: SFC chromatograms of compound 4c.

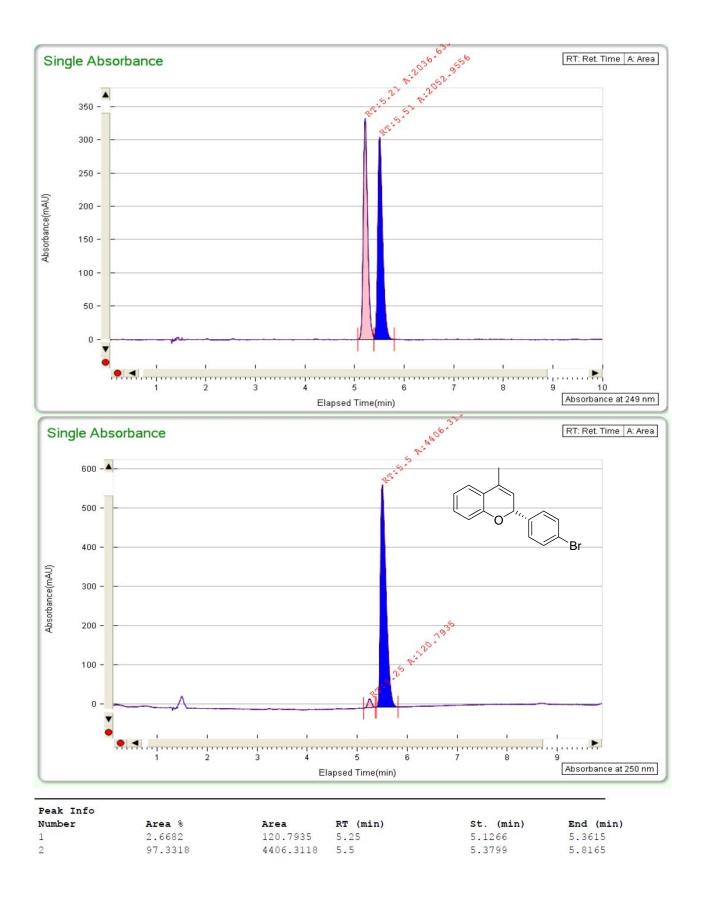


Figure S23: SFC chromatograms of compound 4d.

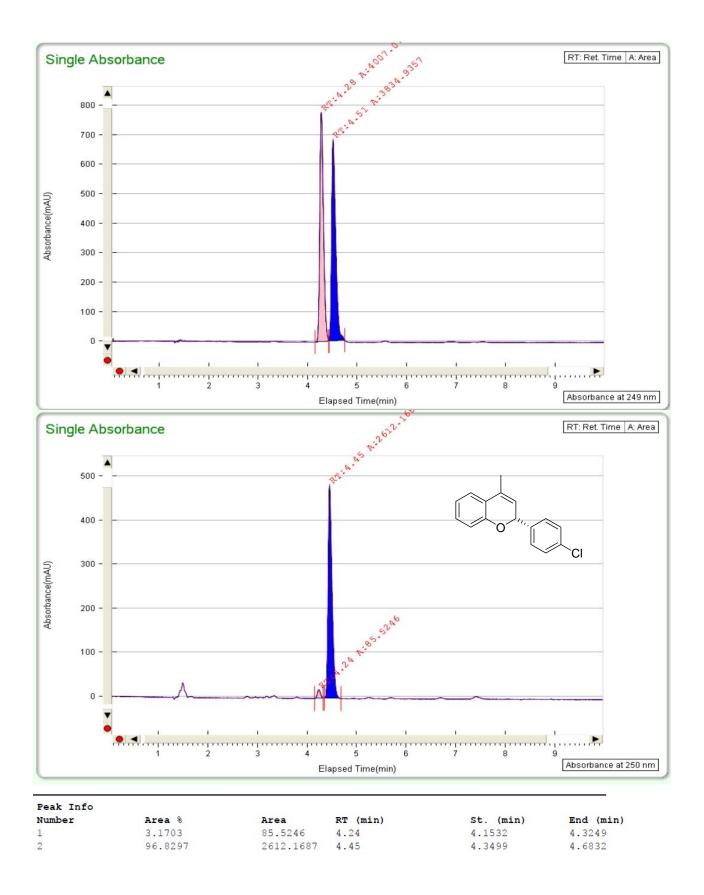


Figure S24: SFC chromatograms of compound 4e.

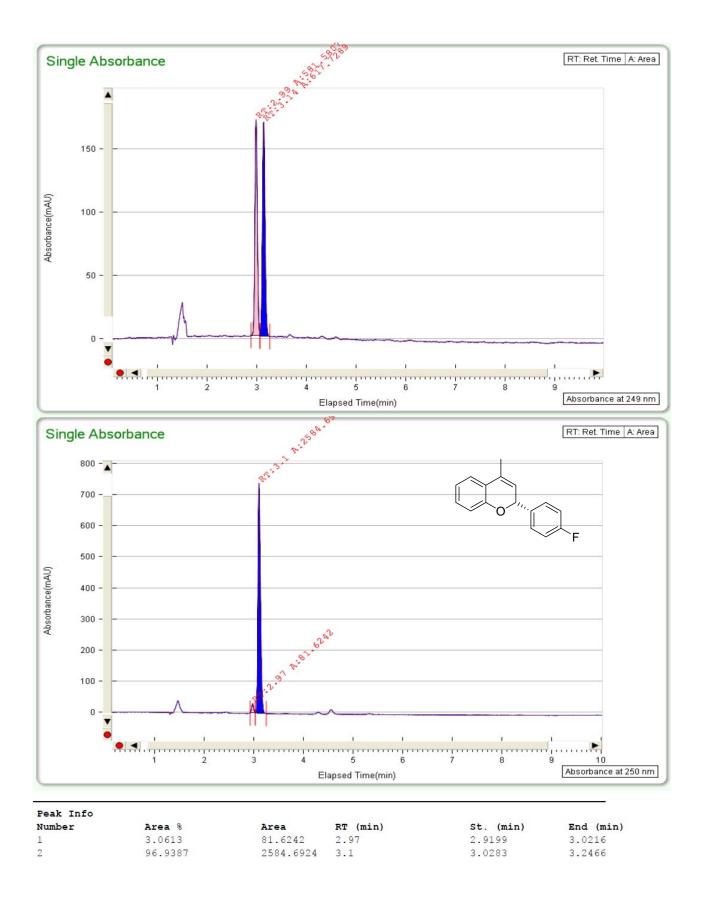


Figure S25: SFC chromatograms of compound 4f.

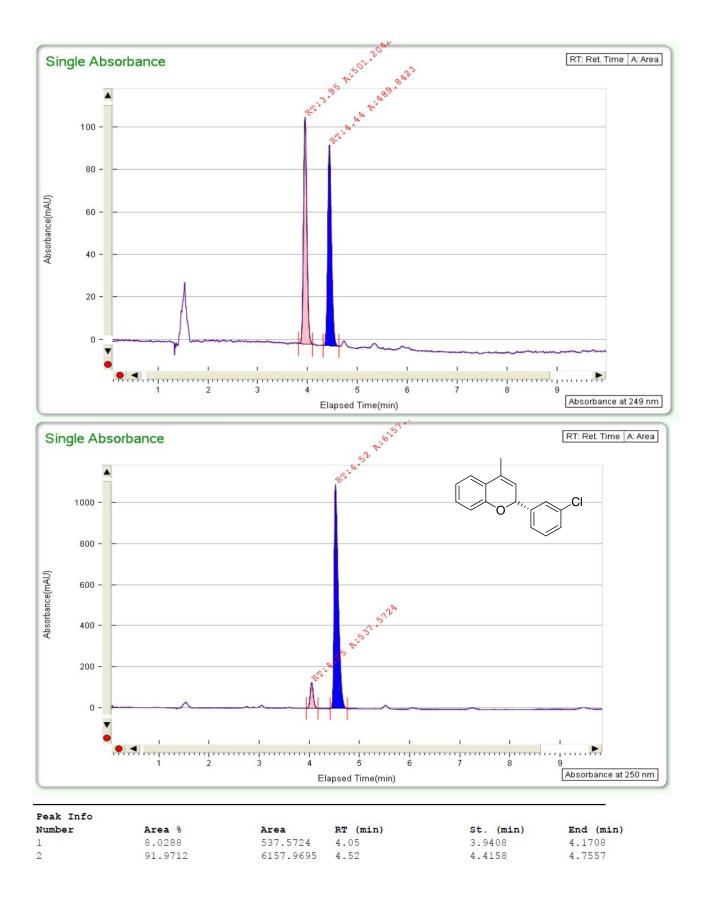


Figure S26: SFC chromatograms of compound 4g.

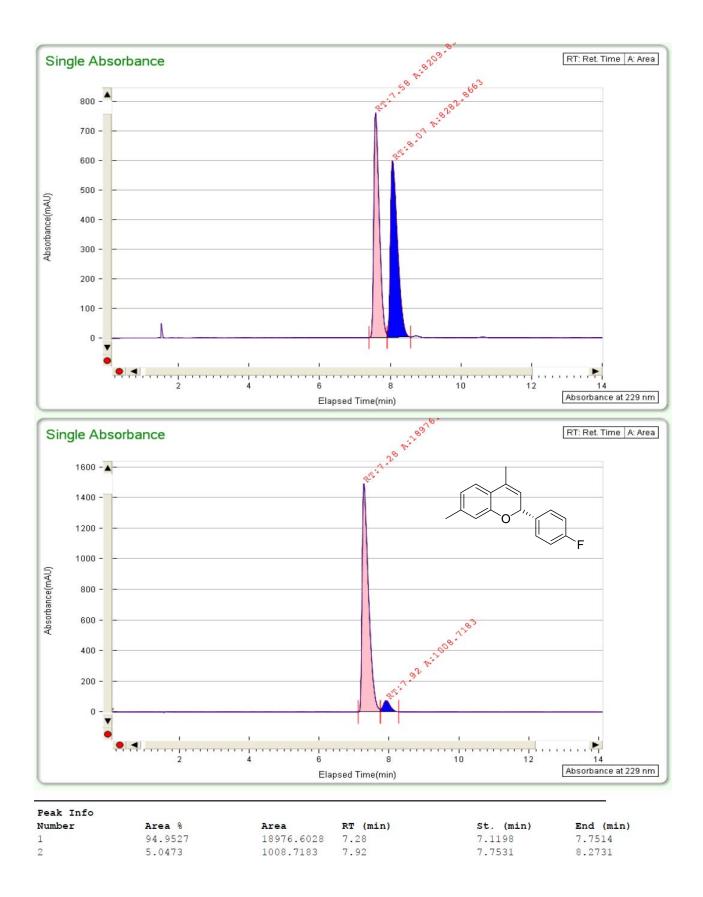


Figure S27: SFC chromatograms of compound 4h.

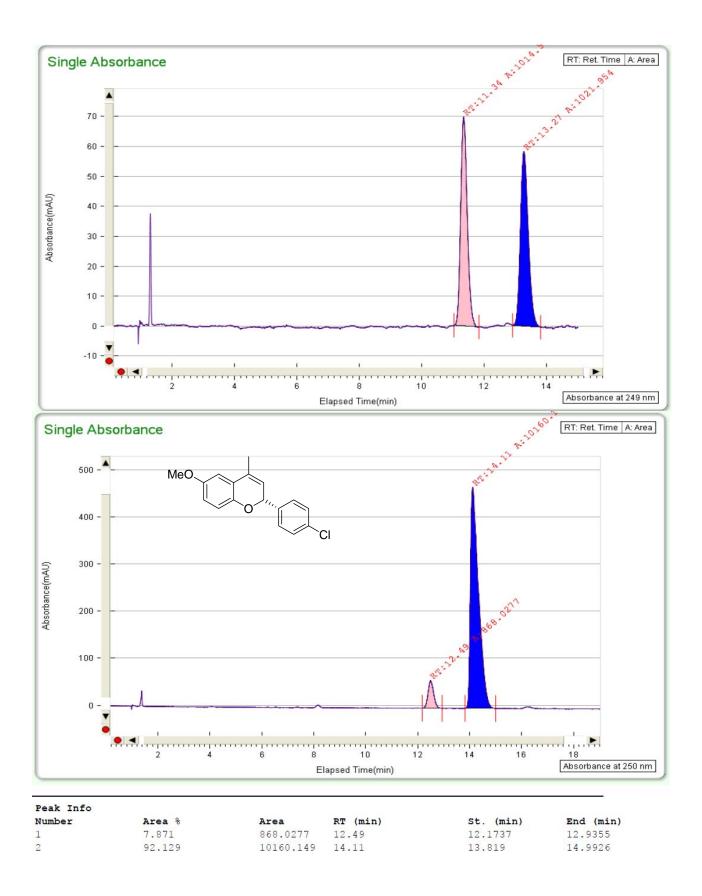


Figure S28: SFC chromatograms of compound 4i.

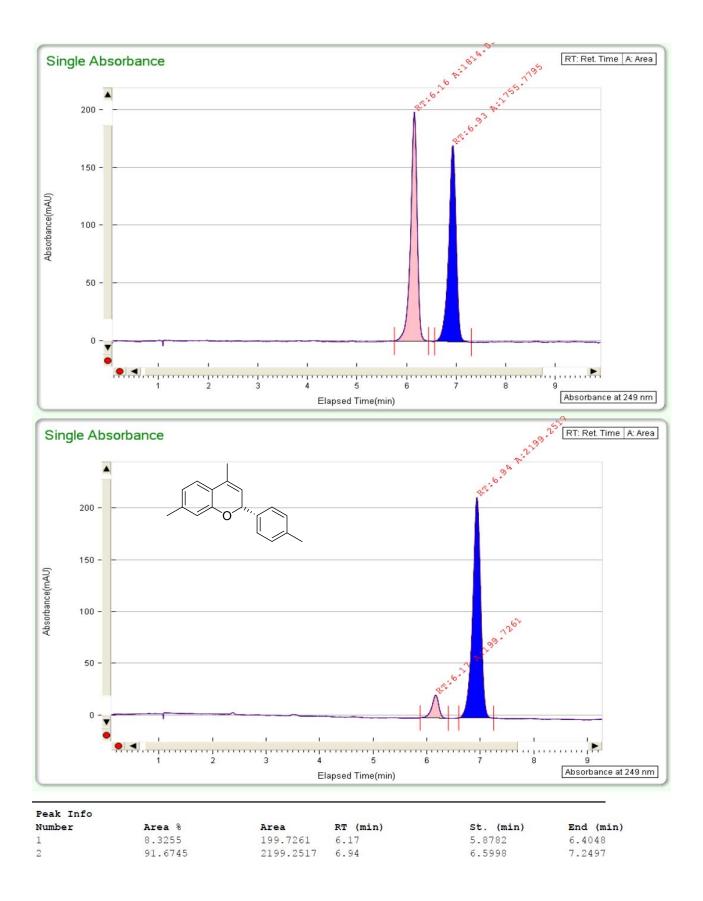


Figure S29: SFC chromatograms of compound 4j.

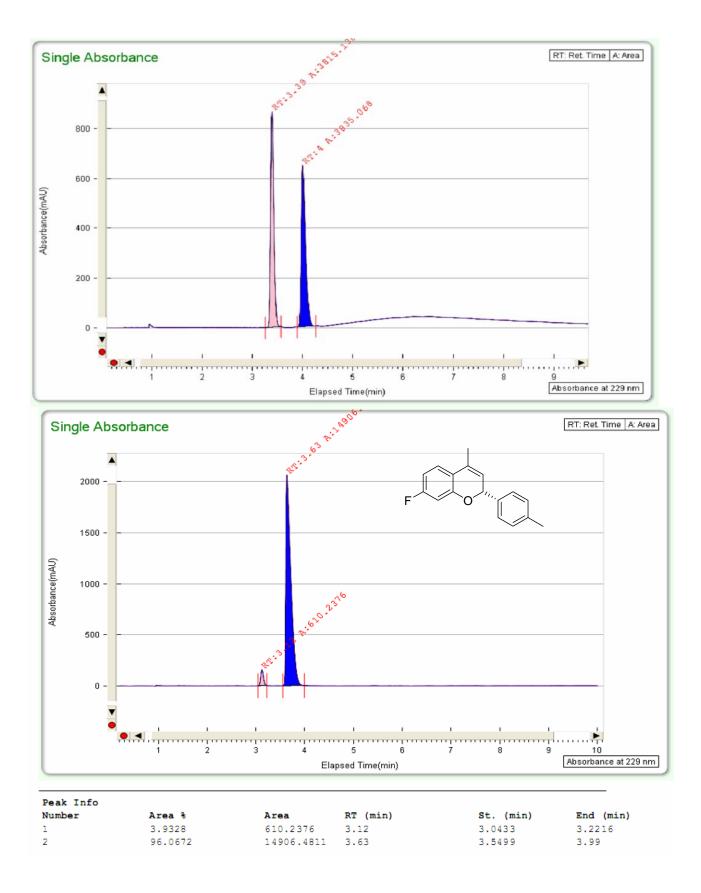


Figure S30: SFC chromatograms of compound 4k.

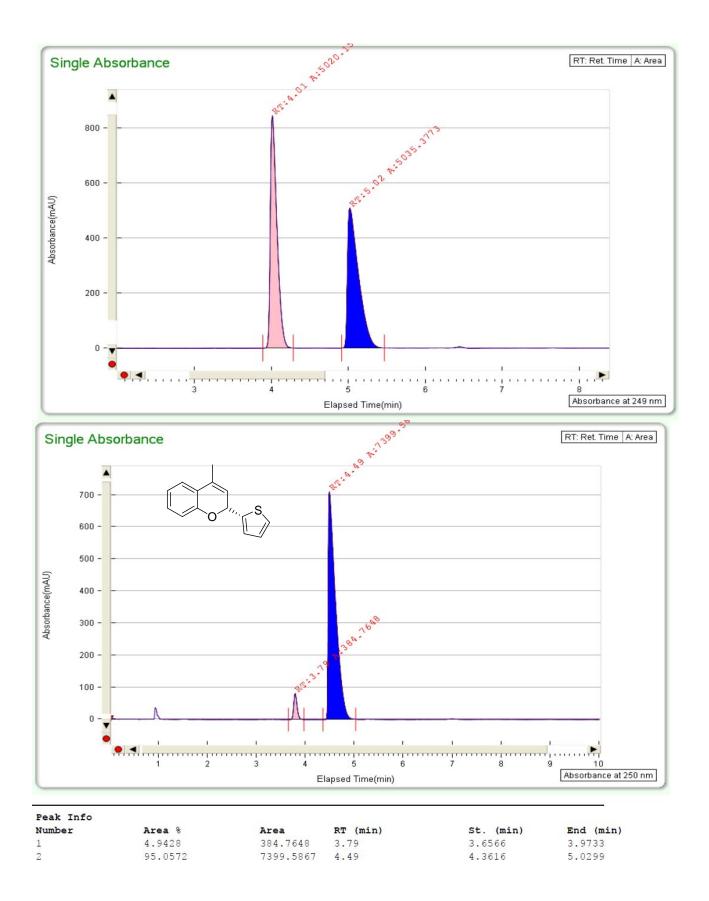


Figure S31: SFC chromatograms of compound 4l.

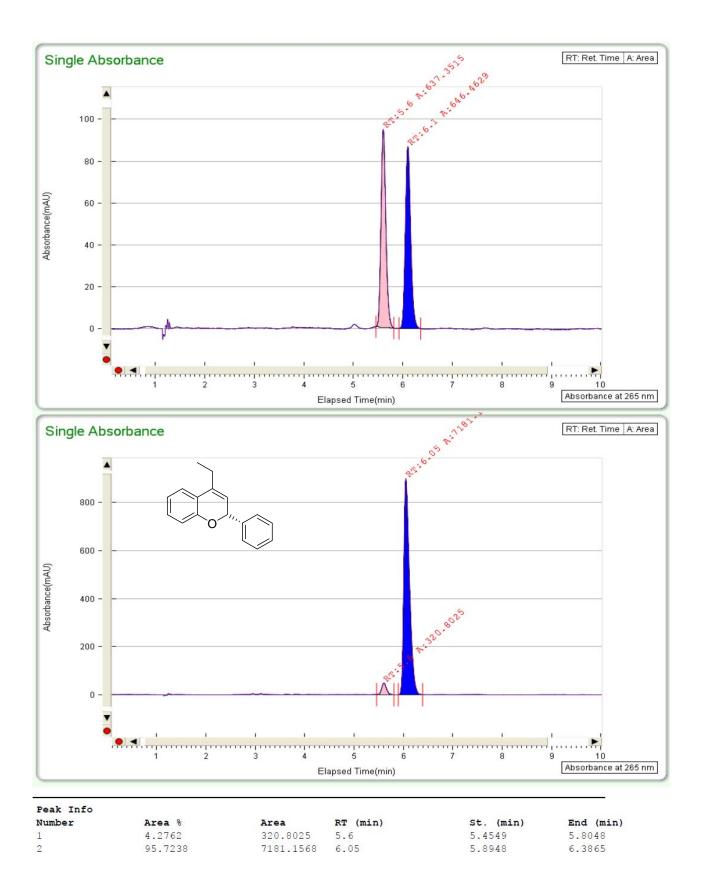


Figure S32: SFC chromatograms of compound 4m.

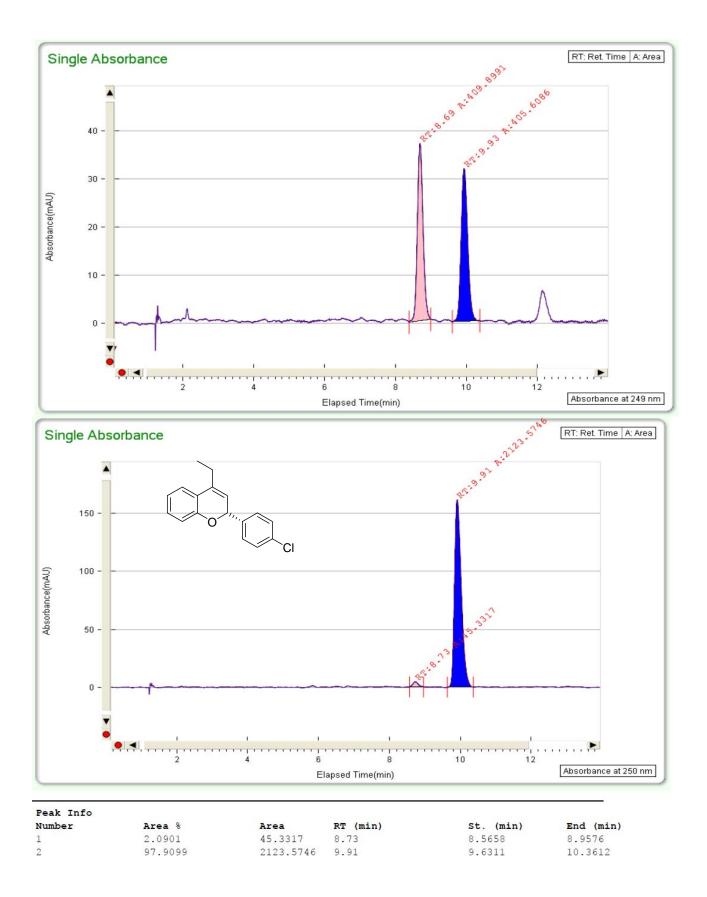
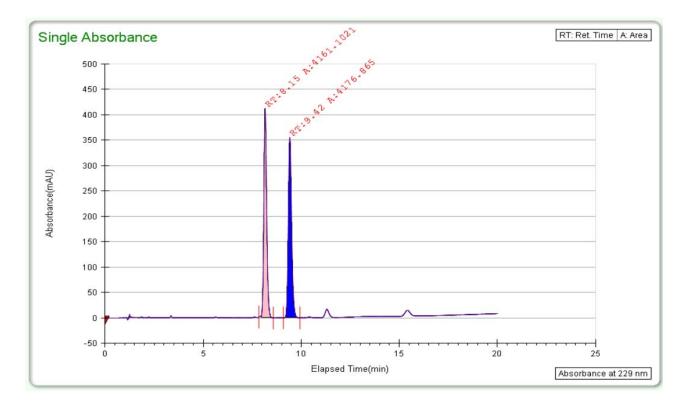
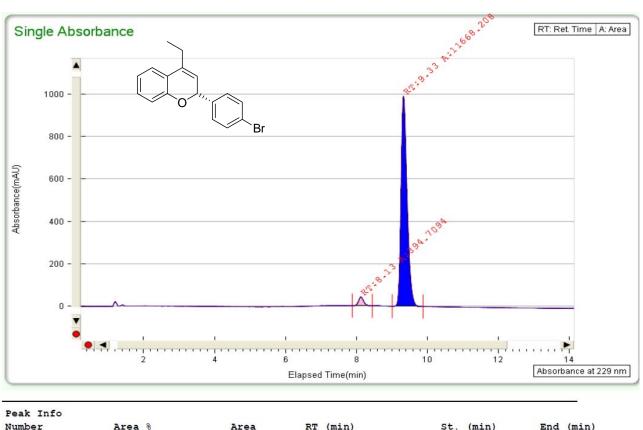


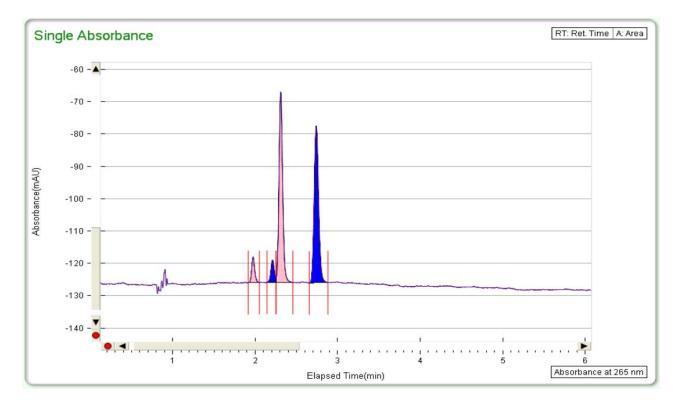
Figure S33: SFC chromatograms of compound 4n.





| Number | Area % | Area | RT (min) | St. (min) | End (min) |
|--------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 3.2721 | 394.7094 | 8.13 | 7.883 | 8.4448 |
| 2 | 96.7279 | 11668.208 | 9.33 | 9.0116 | 9.8784 |

Figure S34: SFC chromatograms of compound 40



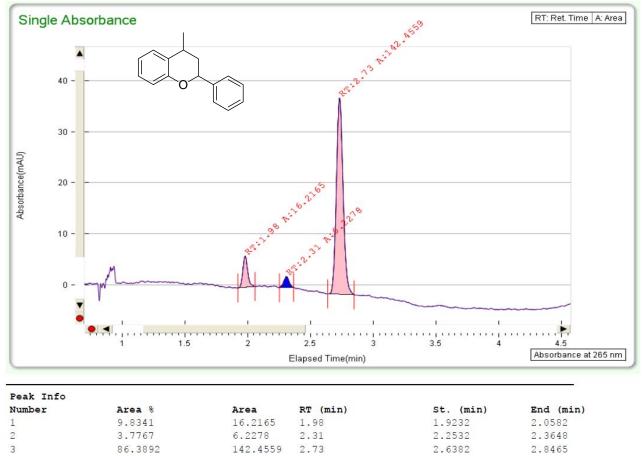
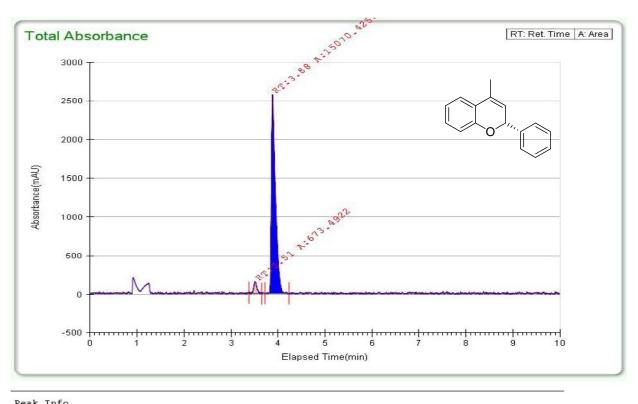
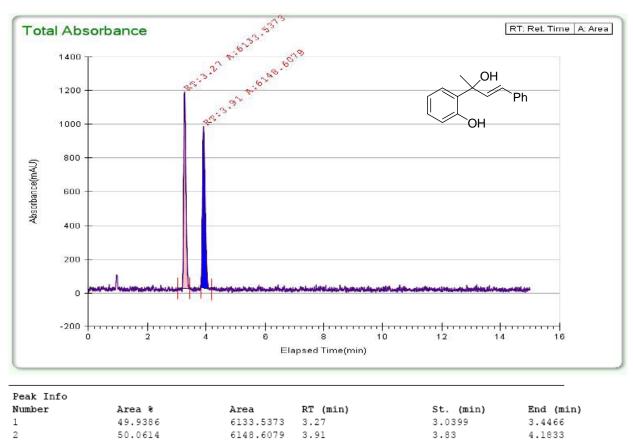


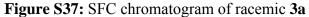
Figure S35: SFC chromatograms of compound 7a



| Feak Info | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Number | Area % | Area | RT (min) | St. (min) | End (min) |
| 1 | 4.2778 | 673.4922 | 3.51 | 3.3833 | 3.6533 |
| 2 | 95.7222 | 15070.4255 | 3.88 | 3.7233 | 4.2333 |
| D . 03. | | C 4 (010/ | $1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1$ | ,• , ,• | c . |

Figure S36: SFC chromatogram of **4a** (91% ee) obtained in the reaction starting from optically pure **3a** (ee > 99%) and chiral catalyst **5a**.





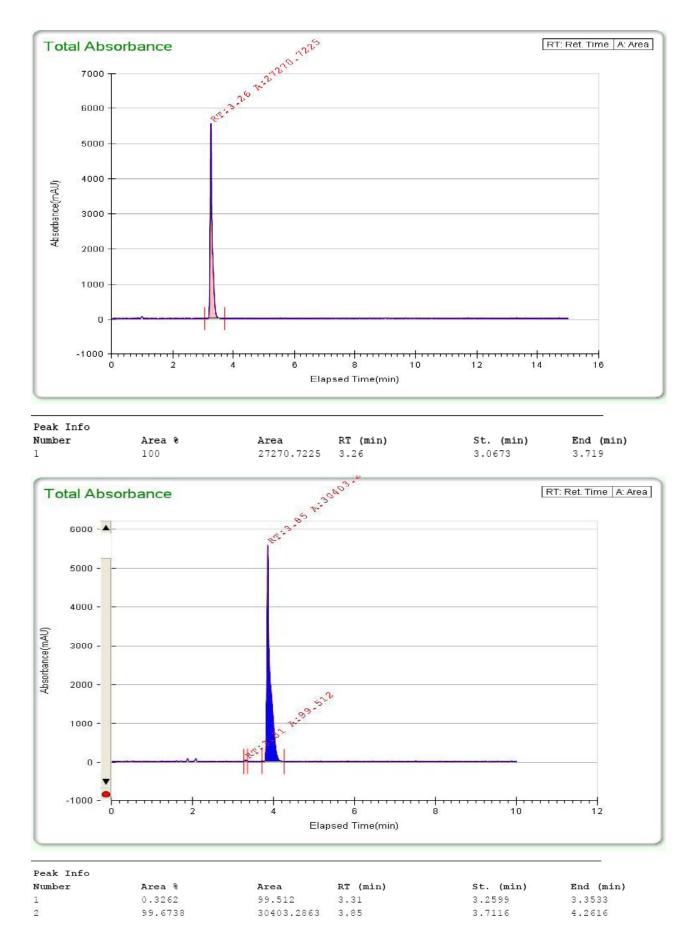


Figure S38: SFC chromatograms of the two enantiomers of 3a.