

Article



# A Novel Method to Construct 2-Aminobenzofurans via [4 + 1] Cycloaddition Reaction of In Situ Generated *Ortho*-Quinone Methides with Isocyanides

Huaxin Lin<sup>1,2</sup>, Senling Tang<sup>1,2</sup>, Yang Pan<sup>1,2</sup>, Peng Liang<sup>1,2</sup>, Xiaofeng Ma<sup>1</sup>, Wei Jiao<sup>1,\*</sup> and Huawu Shao<sup>1,\*</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Natural Products Research Centre, Chengdu Institute of Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chengdu 610041, China
- <sup>2</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China
- \* Correspondence: jiaowei@cib.ac.cn (W.J.); shaohw@cib.ac.cn (H.S.)

**Abstract:** A new approach for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans has been described via  $Sc(OTf)_3$  mediated formal cycloaddition of isocyanides with the in situ generated *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) from *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol. Notably, as a class of readily available and highly active intermediates, *o*-QMs were first used in the construction of benzofurans. This [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction provides a straightforward and efficient methodology for the construction of 2-aminobenzofurans scaffold in good yield (up to 93% yield) under mild conditions.

Keywords: 2-aminobenzofurans; isocyanides; ortho-quinone methides; [4 + 1] cycloaddition



**Citation:** Lin, H.; Tang, S.; Pan, Y.; Liang, P.; Ma, X.; Jiao, W.; Shao, H. A Novel Method to Construct 2-Aminobenzofurans via [4 + 1] Cycloaddition Reaction of In Situ Generated *Ortho*-Quinone Methides with Isocyanides. *Molecules* **2022**, 27, 8538. https://doi.org/10.3390/ molecules27238538

Academic Editor: Antonio Palumbo Piccionello

Received: 20 October 2022 Accepted: 2 December 2022 Published: 4 December 2022

**Publisher's Note:** MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



**Copyright:** © 2022 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/).

## 1. Introduction

Benzofuran core, an important class of structural fragments, is widely distributed in natural products and biologically active compounds [1–4]. The benzofuran subunit is also present in a host of medicines, such as amiodarone, methoxypsoralen, dronedarone, etc [5]. Therefore, various methods for the preparation of benzofurans have been developed. As a special kind of functionalized benzofurans, 2-aminobenzofurans are of considerable interest and feature profound bioactivities, such as antifungal, P-glycoprotein inhibitors, anticancer activities, and tubulin polymerization inhibitors [6–9].

Although such structures are important, only limited methods have been reported for accessing 2-aminobenzofurans and the structural diversity of the products is insufficient. For example, in 2005, Ishikawa's group reported the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans from 1-aryl-2-nitroethylenes and cyclohexane-1,3-diones via a one-pot multistep strategy, but only moderate yield can be obtained. Moreover, unsymmetrical cyclohexane-1,3-diones have poor regiochemistry (Scheme 1a, Equation (1)) [10]. Soon after, Ohe and co-workers provided a new method to obtain 2-aminobenzofurans through palladium-catalyzed intramolecular cycloisomerization of 2-(cyanomethyl) phenyl ester; however, the substrate range is relatively limited (Scheme 1a, Equation (2)) [11]. In addition, Maurya's group also demonstrated the synthesis of very similar products (3-acyl-2-aminobenzofurans) via visible light-triggered intramolecular cyclization of  $\alpha$ -azidochalcones (Scheme 1a, Equation (3)) [12]. In 2013, Cao's group developed a method for the synthesis of 3-alkyl- or 3-allenyl-2-amidobenzofurans by carbocation-induced electrophilic cyclization of o-anisolesubstituted ynamides (Scheme 1a, Equation (4)) [13]. In this method, the substituent on the benzene ring is fixed at the 5 position, and at least one electron withdrawing substituent is required on nitrogen. Finally, Kumar et al. reported strong base (tBuOK) mediated synthesis of 3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amines (one example) (Scheme 1a, Equation (5)) [14]. While those methods allow 2-aminobenzofurans to be obtained in an efficient way, new methods that can access a variety of structural skeletons under mild reaction conditions and from simple starting materials are still highly desired (Scheme 1b).



a) The developed methods for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans

b) This work: Sc(OTf)3-mediated synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans

Scheme 1. Strategies for the diversified synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans.

In recent years, *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) [15–22], a versatile class of building blocks, have been widely used in organic synthesis. *o*-QMs could be generated from *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol derivatives and directly participate in various [4 + n] (n = 2, 3) cycloadditions [23–27]. The [4 + 1] cycloadditions involved in *o*-QMs, however, are only developed for the construction of 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran skeletons and have never been used to synthesize benzofurans [28–34], let alone 2-aminobenzofurans.

#### 2. Results

Our continuous interest in cycloaddition [35-40] led us to envision that the reaction of *o*-QMs with isocyanides [41-46] would achieve the benzofuran motifs via an intermolecular formal [4 + 1] cycloaddition. To test the feasibility of our hypothesis, we chose *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol **1a** and *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** as the model substrates to optimize the reaction conditions (Table 1).

The initial experiment was conducted in  $CH_2Cl_2$  in the presence of various Brønsted acids, such as benzoic acid, TsOH and TfOH, at room temperature. It was observed that, except for benzoic acid, which only offered a trace amount of the desired product, both TsOH and TfOH provided the cycloaddition product **3a** in roughly the same yield, even though the yield was relatively low (entries 1–3). Considering that isocyanide could be hydrolyzed under fairly strong acidic conditions [47], we replaced Brønsted acids with Lewis acids to further optimize reaction conditions. A range of Lewis acids, such as BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, InCl<sub>3</sub>, and Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>, were then screened (entries 4–6). Among them, the desired

cycloaddition product **3a** could be obtained with 53% isolated yield when 0.5 equiv. of  $Sc(OTf)_3$  was employed. To further improve the yield, different solvents, including THF, MeCN, and toluene, were also examined (entries 7–10). Toluene proved to be the best solvent for this transformation.

Table 1. Optimization of reaction conditions <sup>a</sup>.



Entry	Promoter	Solvent	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	
1	TsOH	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	18	
2	TfOH	$CH_2Cl_2$	15	
3	benzoic acid	$CH_2Cl_2$	trace	
4	$BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$	$CH_2Cl_2$	40	
5	InCl <sub>3</sub>	$CH_2Cl_2$	23	
6	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	$CH_2Cl_2$	53	
7	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	THF	29	
8	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	MeCN	37	
9	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	DCE	50	
10	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	60	
11 <sup>c</sup>	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	75	
12 <sup>d</sup>	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	71	
13 <sup>с,е</sup>	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	81	
14 <sup>c,f</sup>	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	69	
15 <sup>c,e,g</sup>	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	toluene	87	

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), promoter (0.05 mmol), dry solvent (1 mL), at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub>, for 30 min. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup> Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol). <sup>d</sup> Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.12 mmol). <sup>e</sup> The reaction was performed at 0 °C. <sup>f</sup> The reaction was performed at -10 °C. <sup>g</sup> 4 Å MS (50 mg) was employed.

Encouraged by these results, we investigated the effect of the loading of Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>. It was found that, when we increased the loading of Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> from 0.5 equiv. to 1.0 equiv., the yield of **3a** was improved to 75% (entry 11). However, when 1.2 equiv. of Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> was used, the yield was reduced slightly (entry 12). It is noteworthy that the cycloaddition product **3a** could be improved to 81% yield (entry 13) when the reaction was performed at 0 °C, but further cooling the temperature to -10 °C led to the yield's reduction to 69% (entry 14). Lastly, the addition a small number of 4 Å MS could increase the yield of **3a** to 87% (entry 15).

With the optimized conditions in hand, a number of 2-aminobenzofurans were successfully obtained in moderate to excellent yields within 30 min through the formal [4 + 1] cycloaddition of *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol (**1a–1s**) and *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** (Scheme 2). As shown in Scheme 2, both electron-donating substituents (**3ba–3fa**) and electron-deficient substituents (**3ga–3ia**) on the phenol were well tolerated in this formal [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction and afforded the desired products in 70% to 84% yields. Obviously, the position of the substituents on phenol moiety had little influence on the reaction (**3ba** and **3ca**). The structure of products was unambiguously confirmed by single-crystal X-ray analysis of **3ia** (please see Supplementary Materials). Next, different substitutions on the benzyl phenol moiety were examined. We found that methyl substitution at the *ortho-, meta-* and *para-* of benzyl alcohol moiety can afford the corresponding products (**3ja**, **3ka**, and **3la**) good to excellent yields. Strong electron-donating substituent (methoxy) in a different position was also converted smoothly into the desired 2-aminobenzofurans

(**3na** and **3oa**). Notably, the benzyl alcohol with high steric hindrance substitutions at *ortho*-position also efficiently underwent the formal [4 + 1] addition to provide corresponding products (**3ma** and **3pa**) in 73% and 58% yields, respectively. Electron-withdrawing substituents, including F, Cl, and CF<sub>3</sub>, were also suitable for this transformation, providing the 2-aminobenzofurans with good results (**3qa–3sa**). From the above results, it can be concluded that both strong electron-donating substituents and electron-withdrawing substituents at the benzyl alcohol slightly reduce the yield; the yield of the product decreases slightly when high steric hindrance substitutions at *ortho*-position of the benzyl alcohol take place.



**Scheme 2.** Scope of *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols. Standard reaction conditions: **1** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol), 4 Å MS (50 mg), dry toluene (1 mL), at 0 °C, 30 min. <sup>b</sup> 20 min.

We further evaluated the substrate scope of isocyanides (Scheme 3). A series of phenylisocyanides, with electron-withdrawing substituents at *para-* and *meta-*positions of the benzene ring, were smoothly converted to the corresponding products (**4ab–4ad**). However, for methyl substituted phenyl isocyanides, the yield decreased (**4ae**). Therefore, it can be inferred that electron-withdrawing substituents on phenyl isocyanides are beneficial to the formation of the product.  $\beta$ -Naphthyl isocyanide were employed in the transformation, offering the corresponding 2-aminobenzofurans in 83% yield (**4af**). Notably, alkyl isocyanides, including ethyl isocyanoacetate and *tert*-butyl isocyanide, could also smoothly



transform to the desired cycloaddition products in 46% and 85% yields, respectively (**4ag** and **4ah**), which enriched the diversity of structural skeletons.

**Scheme 3.** Scope of isocyanides. Standard reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), 2 (0.2 mmol), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol), 4 Å MS (50 mg), dry toluene (1 mL), at 0 °C, 20 min. <sup>b</sup> Reaction time is 3 min. <sup>c</sup> Reaction time is 10 min.

4ah, 85%

`*t*-Bu

чΗ

**4ag**, 46%<sup>c</sup>

COOFt

According to previous reports on Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>-triggered transformation of *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol [48–51], a plausible mechanism for the [4 + 1] cycloaddition was proposed (Scheme 4), the nucleophilic addition of the isocyanides to *o*-QMs (I) generated in situ from *o*-hydroxybenzyl alcohol **1a**, which formed intermediate **II**. Subsequently, **II** undergoes intramolecular cyclization producing the intermediate **III**, which isomerised to the desired 2-aminobenzofurans **3**.



Scheme 4. Plausible reaction mechanism.

4ab, 83%

4af 73%<sup>c</sup>

Given that 2-aminobenzofurans have been proven to have a variety of biological activities, we decide to conduct in silico researches of the synthesized 2-aminobenzofurans to evaluate their drug-likeness, which were carried out using the SwissADME platform [52]. Satisfyingly, except for compounds **3ea**, **3ma**, **3pa**, and **4ab–4af**, other compounds were found to have good obedience (100%) with two drug-likeness filters (Lipinski [53] and Veber [54]) (Table 2). In addition, some substituted (Cl, F, Br, CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>) 2-aminobenzofurans' pharmacokinetic properties were predicted through admetSAR [55], and it was found that

these products showed a great range of average ADMET score [56,57] (0.68–0.74) with regard to human intestinal absorption, blood–brain barrier penetration, Caco-2 permeability, Ames mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, and acute oral toxicity class (Table 3). Finally, taking **4ae** as an example, we predicted its possible molecular targets using SwissTargetPrediction [58,59]. The results show that it can act on multiple targets, such as nuclear receptor, family A-G protein-coupled receptor, etc., and the probability of prediction is around 10%.

Compound Name	MW	nHetero Atoms	Rotatable Bonds	H-Bond Acceptor	H-Bond Donor	TPSA (Å sqr)	MlogP
3aa	330.34	5	4	3	1	70.99	4.03
3ba	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ca	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3da	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ea	386.45	5	5	3	1	70.99	4.90 *
3fa	360.37	6	5	4	1	80.22	3.71
3ga	348.33	6	4	4	1	70.99	3.60
3ha	364.79	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.71
3ia	409.24	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.82
3ja	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ka	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
31a	358.40	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.66
3ma	372.42	5	5	3	1	70.99	4.69 *
3na	360.37	6	5	4	1	80.22	3.71
30a	360.37	6	5	4	1	80.22	3.71
3pa	380.40	5	4	3	1	70.99	4.73 *
3qa	348.33	6	4	4	1	70.99	3.60
3ra	364.79	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.71
3sa	398.34	8	5	6	1	70.99	4.04
4ab	319.79	3	3	1	1	25.17	4.79 *
4ac	364.24	3	3	1	1	25.17	4.90 *
4ad	319.79	3	3	1	1	25.17	4.79 *
4ae	299.37	2	3	1	1	25.17	4.52 *
4af	335.31	2	3	1	1	25.17	4.99 *
4ag	295.34	4	6	3	1	51.47	2.80
4ah	265.36	2	3	1	1	25.17	3.79

 Table 2. Physiochemical properties of the compounds predicted using SwissADME.

(Lipinski: MW  $\leq$  500, MlogP  $\leq$  4.15, N or O  $\leq$  10, NH or OH  $\leq$  5; Veber: Rotatable bonds  $\leq$  10, TPSA  $\leq$  140). \* The asterisk indicates that it is outside the standard range.

**Table 3.** ADMET score for human intestinal absorption, Caco-2 permeability, blood–brain barrier, carcinogenicity, Ames mutagenesis and acute oral toxicity, as predicted using admetSAR.

Compound Name	Human Intestinal Absorption	Blood Brain Barrier	Caco-2 Permeability	Ames Mutagenesis	Carcinogenicity	Acute Oral Toxicity	Average Score
3ba	0.9868	0.7500	0.7184	0.7400	0.5000	0.5118	0.7012
3fa	0.9848	0.7500	0.7869	0.7400	0.6020	0.5636	0.7379
3ga	0.9874	0.7500	0.7567	0.6800	0.5381	0.4706	0.6971
3ha	0.9860	0.7500	0.6451	0.7600	0.5881	0.5396	0.7115
3ia	0.9835	0.7500	0.5890	0.7000	0.5371	0.5325	0.6820
3ka	0.9868	0.7500	0.8320	0.7900	0.5000	0.5118	0.7284
3na	0.9848	0.7500	0.7356	0.7700	0.6020	0.5636	0.7343
3qa	0.9874	0.7500	0.7716	0.7600	0.5381	0.4706	0.7130
3ra	0.9860	0.7500	0.5674	0.8100	0.5881	0.5396	0.7069
4ab	0.9939	0.9000	0.6813	0.5500	0.5419	0.5439	0.7018
4ac	0.9925	0.9000	0.6529	0.6300	0.5929	0.5220	0.7151

In summary, we have developed a novel and efficient method for the acquisition of 2-aminobenzofuran derivatives via Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>-promoted [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction of isocyanides with the in situ generated *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) under mild conditions. In addition, *o*-QMs were first successfully used in this transformation and its advantage of this transformation is the simplicity of the reaction and the increased variety of 2-aminobenzofurans. Further exploration of the construction of other heterocyclics from *o*-QMs and applications of this product is in progress.

## 3. Experimental

### 3.1. General Procedures

Unless otherwise noted, reagents were commercially available and were used without further purification. A 4 Å molecular sieve was pre-dried in an oven at 200 °C for 3 h Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using silica gel GF254 precoated plates (0.20 mm thickness). Visualization on TLC was achieved by UV light (254 nm). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel 90, 200–300 mesh. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H: 400 MHz and <sup>13</sup>C: 101 MHz). <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance employed as the internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  7.26 ppm; DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  2.5 ppm). <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts were determined relative to the signal of the solvent:  $CDCl_3$  at  $\delta$  77.00 ppm, DMSO- $d_6$  at  $\delta$  39.5 ppm. Data for 1H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were recorded as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, td = tripletof doublets), coupling constants (Hz), and integration. ESI-HRMS spectra were recorded on a BioTOF Q instrument. Infrared (IR) spectra are obtained by the use of Spectrum One and expressed in wave number (cm<sup>-1</sup>). *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols **1a–1s** [60] and isocyanides 2a–2f [51] were synthesized according to the previously reported.

#### 3.2. Typical Procedure for Synthesis of **3aa**

To a solution of *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** (0.2 mmol, 30 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL), we immediately added the *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols **1a** (0.1 mmol, 20 mg), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol, 49 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> in a Schlenck tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with water, and then extracted with EtOAc and washed with brine. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was purified using flash chromatography column eluting with (petroleum ether:ethyl acetate = 15:1) to obtain the product **3aa**.

Detailed physicochemical properties of novel 2-aminobenzofuran derivatives:

*N*-(4-*Nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3aa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.5, yield: 87%, red solid, mp 123 °C.IR: 3309, 1639, 1589, 1494, 1393, 1311, 1242, 1190, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.37 (dt, *J* = 13.6, 6.9 Hz, 3H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.2, 148.3, 145.3, 141.0, 131.2, 129.6, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.0, 124.3, 123.6, 119.5, 114.6, 111.1, 108.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 331.1077, found: 331.1075.

*5-Methyl-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ba**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 84%, red solid, mp 108 °C. IR: 3368, 2922, 1586, 1492, 1323, 1239, 1192, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.58–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.12 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.8Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.6, 148.3, 145.3, 141.1, 133.1, 131.4, 129.2, 128.2, 128.0, 127.6, 126.0, 125.4, 119.4, 114.5, 110.6, 108.0, 21.5. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1239.

6-*Methyl*-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ca**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 86%, red solid, mp 109 °C. IR: 3360, 2920, 1596, 1496, 1322, 1304, 1248, 1188, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.91 (m, 2H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.7, 148.7, 144.4, 141.0, 134.8, 131.4, 129.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.0, 125.3, 124.8, 119.2, 114.4, 111.4, 109.0, 21.7. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1234.

7-*Methyl*-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3da**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 79%, red solid, mp 141 °C. IR: 3364, 2923, 1591, 1501, 1385, 1325, 1248, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.19–8.11 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.51 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.2, 148.4, 144.9, 141.0, 131.4, 129.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.5, 126.0, 125.4, 123.6, 121.4, 117.1, 114.5, 108.6, 15.0. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1255.

5-(*tert-butyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ea**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.7, yield: 80%, red solid, mp 97 °C. IR: 3356, 2960, 1591, 1503, 1340, 1285, 1186, 1111. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 1.41 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.5, 148.5, 146.8, 145.3, 141.0, 131.4, 129.3, 128.3, 127.6, 126.0, 122.2, 115.7, 114.5, 110.5, 108.7, 34.9, 31.9. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1703, found: 387.1704.

5-*Methoxy*-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3fa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.4, yield: 75%, red solid, mp 165 °C. IR: 3371, 2931, 1586, 1479, 1322, 1296, 1225, 1191, 1152, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.6, 148.1, 146.0, 146.0, 141.1, 131.3, 129.3, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 126.0, 114.6, 112.3, 111.6, 107.9, 102.5, 56.0. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1183, found: 361.1187.

5-*Fluoro-N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ga**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 70%, red solid, mp 141 °C. IR: 3343, 1586, 1502, 1476, 1325, 1311, 1242, 1195, 1140, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 5.9 Hz, 3H), 7.53–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, *J* = 9.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ159.6 (d, *J* = 232.3 Hz), 150.0, 148.1, 147.3, 140.1, 131.0, 129.5, 129.3, 128.4, 127.9, 126.2, 115.1, 112.7, 118.0 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 108.3, 105.6, 105.3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ –119.35. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{20}H_{14}FN_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0983, found: 349.0992.

5-*Chloro-N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ha**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 198 °C. IR: 3366, 1588, 1500, 1384, 1325, 1234, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (td, *J* = 6.3, 5.5, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 149.9, 149.6, 147.9, 140.1, 130.8, 129.9, 129.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.0, 126.2, 124.4, 118.9, 115.1, 113.2, 107.6. ESI-HRMS: m/z calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 365.0687, found: 365.0678.

5-Bromo-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine (**3ia**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 80%, red solid, mp 210 °C. IR: 3367, 1585, 1504, 1468, 1324, 1232, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.54–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 149.9, 149.9, 147.7, 140.1, 130.8, 130.5, 129.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.2, 121.8, 116.4, 115.1, 113.6, 107.4. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 431.0002, found: 430.9998.

*N*-(*4*-*Nitrophenyl*)-3-(*o*-tolyl)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ja**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 93%, red solid, mp 145 °C. IR: 3347, 2925, 1593, 1503, 1327, 1248, 1169, 1112. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.17–8.11 (m, 2H), 7.54–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.37–7.27 (m, 7H), 7.08–7.02 (m, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.0, 147.6, 145.8, 141.1, 137.6, 130.9, 130.5, 129.8, 129.1, 128.4, 126.4, 125.9, 123.8, 123.4, 119.6, 114.7, 110.9, 106.2, 20.2. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1234.

*N*-(4-*Nitrophenyl*)-3-(*p*-tolyl)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ka**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 91%, red solid, mp 138 °C. IR: 3359, 2920, 1591, 1524, 1384, 1248, 1175, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.72–7.64 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.2, 148.4, 145.0, 141.0, 137.5, 130.0, 128.1, 128.1, 128.1, 126.0, 124.2, 123.5, 119.6, 114.5, 111.1, 108.3, 21.3. ESI-HRMS: m/z calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 367.1053, found: 367.1054.

3-(3,5-*Dimethylphenyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3la**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 12:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 89%, red solid, mp 92 °C. IR: 3342, 2922, 1592, 1502, 1384, 1326, 1182, 1111. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dt, *J* = 6.6, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (s, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 2.37 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.1, 148.2, 145.3, 141.0, 138.9, 131.0, 129.4, 128.2, 126.0, 124.0, 123.5, 119.6, 114.7, 111.0, 107.7, 21.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1210, found: 381.1206.

3-(2-*Isopropylphenyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3ma**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 12:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 73%, red solid, mp 170 °C. IR: 3319, 2961, 1642, 1592, 1499, 1384, 1323, 1306, 1237, 1186, 1112. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 3.02 (hept, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.9, 148.9, 147.9, 146.0, 141.1, 130.9, 129.8, 129.0, 128.3, 126.3, 126.3, 125.9, 123.8, 123.5, 119.3, 114.6, 110.9, 106.3, 30.1, 24.5, 24.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 373.1547, found: 373.1547.

3-(4-*Methoxyphenyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3na**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.4, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 177 °C. IR: 3358, 2950, 1594, 1502, 1307, 1231, 1152, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.37–7.28 (m, 2H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 8.9 Hz, 4H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.1, 151.2, 148.5, 144.7, 141.0, 129.4, 128.2, 126.0, 124.3, 123.4, 123.3, 119.6, 114.7, 114.4, 111.1, 108.4, 55.4. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1183, found: 361.1183.

3-(3-*Methoxyphenyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**30a**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.4, yield: 77%, red solid, mp 107 °C. IR: 3315, 2920, 1591, 1501, 1325, 1309, 1239, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.2, 151.1, 148.1, 145.4, 141.1, 132.5, 130.4, 128.0, 126.0, 124.2, 123.6, 120.5, 119.5, 114.7, 114.0, 112.8, 111.1, 107.5, 55.3. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 383.1002, found: 383.1004.

3-(*Naphthalen-1-yl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran-2-amine* (**3pa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 58%, red solid, mp 194 °C. IR: 3309, 2920, 1637, 1587, 1498, 1322, 1305, 1242, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.99–7.91 (m, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.61 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.0, 147.4, 146.8, 141.1, 134.1, 131.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 126.7, 126.4, 125.8, 125.8, 125.4, 123.7, 123.6, 119.7, 114.9, 110.9, 104.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1234, found: 381.1225.

3-(4-*Fluorophenyl*)-*N*-(4-*nitrophenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3qa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 81%, red solid, mp 126 °C. IR: 3332, 2920, 1587, 1500, 1472, 1325, 1108. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 9.93 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72–7.58 (m, 4H), 7.40–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 161.7

10 of 14

(d, J = 252.5 Hz), 151.2, 150.5, 146.3, 139.9, 130.5, 130.4, 128.0, 127.8, 126.3, 124.8, 124.0, 119.7, 116.4 (d, J = 20.2 Hz), 114.8, 111.6, 108.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  -114.37. ESI-HRMS: m/z calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0983, found: 349.0977.

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine (**3ra**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 70%, red solid, mp 177 °C. IR: 3312, 2920, 1638, 1588, 1491, 1390, 1308, 1241, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.47 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.2, 148.0, 145.3, 141.3, 133.5, 129.7, 129.5, 129.5, 127.7, 126.0, 124.5, 123.7, 119.3, 114.6, 111.2, 107.3. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 365.0687, found: 365.0687.

*N*-(*4*-*Nitrophenyl*)-3-(*4*-(*trifluoromethyl*)*phenyl*)*benzofuran*-2-*amine* (**3sa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 226 °C. IR: 3311, 2967, 1590, 1311, 1307, 1272, 1239, 1112, 1066. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (s, 4H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 151.1, 149.9, 147.5, 140.1, 136.0, 129.1, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 126.3, 126.3, 126.1, 124.8, 124.2, 123.4, 119.5, 115.2, 111.7, 106.5. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ –60.99. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 421.0770, found: 421.0766.

*N*-(4-*Chlorophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**4ab**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 83%, white solid, mp 102 °C. IR: 3371, 1636, 1594, 1479, 1384, 1238, 1183. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62–7.67 (m, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.00–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.13 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.9, 147.9, 140.8, 132.0, 129.3, 129.2, 128.6, 128.1, 127.1, 126.1, 123.3, 123.2, 118.8, 117.3, 110.8, 104.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClNO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 320.0837, found: 320.0822.

*N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine (**4a**c): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 74%, white solid, mp 137 °C. IR: 3360, 1636, 1590, 1489, 1379, 1241, 1174. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.65 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.12 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.9, 147.7, 141.3, 132.2, 132.0, 129.12, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 123.3, 123.2, 118.8, 117.7, 113.3, 110.8, 104.7. ESI-HRMS: m/z calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 364.0332, found: 364.0323.

*N*-(3-*Chlorophenyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**4ad**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 81%, white solid, mp 134 °C. IR: 3359, 1637, 1593, 1492, 1378, 1242, 1173. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.68 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.86 (m, 2H), 6.15 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.0, 147.3, 143.6, 135.1, 131.9, 130.4, 129.2, 128.4, 128.2, 127.2, 123.4, 123.3, 121.1, 119.0, 115.9, 114.1, 110.9, 105.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>CINO [M – H]<sup>-</sup>: 318.0680, found: 318.0685.

3-*Phenyl-N-(p-tolyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**4ae**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 56%, white solid, mp 92 °C. IR: 3380, 2925, 1608, 1517, 1384, 1196, 1071. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.69–7.56 (m, 3H), 7.52–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.8, 149.2, 139.5, 132.5, 129.9, 129.2, 128.9, 128.1, 126.8, 123.1, 122.6, 118.4, 116.7, 110.7, 102.6, 20.7. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 300.1383, found: 300.1380.

*N*-(*Naphthalen-2-yl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**4af**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 73%, White solid, mp 124 °C. IR: 3377, 1629, 1600, 1454, 1381, 1220, 1184. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.19 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.68–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H). ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO [M – H]<sup>–</sup>: 334.1226, found: 334.1239.

*Ethyl-(3-phenylbenzofuran-2-yl) glycinate* (**4ag**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 6:1, Rf = 0.5, yield: 46%, White solid, mp 96 °C. IR: 3349, 2927, 1734, 1612, 1463, 1393, 1206, 1122. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45–7.55 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.06 (m, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.7, 153.7, 150.0, 133.2, 130.2, 129.2, 127.6, 126.0, 123.1, 120.6, 117.1, 109.9, 93.9, 61.6, 45.4, 14.2. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 296.1281, found: 296.1281.

*N*-(*tert-butyl*)-3-*phenylbenzofuran*-2-*amine* (**4a**h): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 85%, White solid, mp 108 °C. IR: 3367, 2967, 1606, 1458, 1379, 1210, 1015. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.53 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.51 –7.45 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.2, 150.4, 133.7, 129.6, 129.2, 127.8, 125.9, 122.8, 120.6, 117.0, 110.0 97.0, 53.5, 30.6. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 266.1539, found: 266.1537.

#### 3.3. X-ray Crystallographic Data of 3ia

The crystal of **3ia** for XRD analysis was prepared by recrystallization from the DMSO (see the supporting information for details). CCDC 1914402 containing the supplementary crystallographic data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif (accessed on 5 July 2019). (remarks: The unit cell contains several **3ia** and DMSO, which are weakly clustered together, but this does not affect the structural characterization of compound **3ia**.)

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: https: //www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/molecules27238538/s1, Figure S1: X-ray molecular structure of **3ia**; Table S1: Crystal data and structure refinement for **3ia**; Figures S2–S56: NMR spectra of the products (**3aa–3sa**, **4ab–4ah**).

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, H.L., W.J. and H.S.; data curation, S.T.; investigation, H.L. and X.M.; methodology, H.L. and Y.P.; visualization, P.L.; validation, H.L., W.J. and H.S.; writing—original draft preparation, H.L.; writing—review and editing, S.T. and W.J.; funding acquisition, project administration and supervision, W.J. and H.S. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

**Funding:** This work was funded by the Key Research and Development Program of Sichuan Province (No. 2022YFS0001) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 21672205 and No. 21772192).

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement: Not applicable.

**Data Availability Statement:** The details of the data supporting the report results in this research were included in the paper and Supplementary Materials.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

## References

- 1. Simonetti, S.O.; Larghi, E.L.; Bracca, A.B.J.; Kaufman, T.S. Angular Tricyclic Benzofurans and Related Natural Products of Fungal Origin. Isolation, Biological Activity and Synthesis. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **2013**, *30*, 941–969. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Radadiya, A.; Shah, A. Bioactive Benzofuran Derivatives: An Insight on Lead Developments, Radioligands and Advances of the Last Decade. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2015, 97, 356–376. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 3. Okamoto, Y.; Ojika, M.; Suzuki, S.; Murakami, M.; Sakagami, Y. Iantherans A and B, Unique Dimeric Polybrominated Benzofurans as Na, K-ATPase Inhibitors from a Marine Sponge, *Ianthella* sp. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2001**, *9*, 179–183. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Srivastava, V.; Negi, A.S.; Kumar, J.K.; Faridi, U.; Sisodia, B.S.; Darokar, M.P.; Luqman, S.; Khanuja, S.P.S. Synthesis of 1-(3',4',5'-Trimethoxy) Phenyl Naphtho[2,1b]Furan as a Novel Anticancer Agent. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2006, 16, 911–914. [CrossRef]
- 5. Hiremathad, A.; Patil, M.R.; Chethana, K.R.; Chand, K.; Santos, M.A.; Keri, R.S. Benzofuran: An Emerging Scaffold for Antimicrobial Agents. *RSC Adv.* 2015, *5*, 96809–96828. [CrossRef]
- 6. Ryu, C.-K.; Kim, Y.H.; Im, H.A.; Kim, J.Y.; Yoon, J.H.; Kim, A. Synthesis and antifungal activity of 6,7-bis(arylthio)-quinazoline-5,8-diones and furo[2,3-f]quinazolin-5-ols. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *22*, 500–503. [CrossRef]
- Chen, C.Y.; Lin, C.M.; Lin, H.C.; Huang, C.F.; Lee, C.Y.; Si Tou, T.C.; Hung, C.C.; Chang, C.S. Structure-activity relationship study of novel 2-aminobenzofuran derivatives as P-glycoprotein inhibitors. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2017, 125, 1023–1035. [CrossRef]
- Eldehna, W.M.; Nocentini, A.; Elsayed, Z.M.; Al-Warhi, T.; Aljaeed, N.; Alotaibi, O.J.; Al-Sanea, M.M.; Abdel-Aziz, H.A.; Supuran, C.T. Benzofuran-based carboxylic acids as carbonic anhydrase inhibitors and antiproliferative agents against breast cancer. ACS Med. Chem. Lett. 2020, 11, 1022–1027. [CrossRef]
- 9. Oliva, P.; Romagnoli, R.; Manfredini, S.; Brancale, A.; Ferla, S.; Hamel, E.; Ronca, R.; Maccarinelli, F.; Giacomini, A.; Rruga, F.; et al. Design, synthesis, in vitro and in vivo biological evaluation of 2-amino-3-aroylbenzo[b]furan derivatives as highly potent tubulin polymerization inhibitors. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2020**, 200, 112448. [CrossRef]
- 10. Ishikawa, T.; Miyahara, T.; Asakura, M.; Higuchi, S.; Miyauchi, Y.; Saito, S. One-Pot Multistep Synthesis of 4-Acetoxy-2-Amino-3-Arylbenzofurans from 1-Aryl-2-Nitroethylenes and Cyclohexane-1,3-Diones. *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 1211–1214. [CrossRef]
- 11. Murai, M.; Miki, K.; Ohe, K. A New Route to 3-Acyl-2-Aminobenzofurans: Palladium-Catalysed Cycloisomerisation of 2-(Cyanomethyl)Phenyl Esters. *Chem. Commun.* **2009**, *23*, 3466–3468. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 12. Borra, S.; Chandrasekhar, D.; Khound, S.; Maurya, R.A. Access to 1*a*, 6*b*-Dihydro-1*H*-Benzofuro[2, 3-*b*]Azirines and Benzofuran-2-Amines via Visible Light Triggered Decomposition of *α*-Azidochalcones. *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 5364–5367. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Kong, Y.; Jiang, K.; Cao, J.; Fu, L.; Yu, L.; Lai, G.; Cui, Y.; Hu, Z.; Wang, G. Synthesis of 3-Alkyl-or 3-Allenyl-2-Amidobenzofurans via Electrophilic Cyclization of *o*-Anisole-Substituted Ynamides with Carbocations. *Org. Lett.* 2013, 15, 422–425. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Rathore, V.; Sattar, M.; Kumar, R.; Kumar, S. Synthesis of Unsymmetrical Diaryl Acetamides, Benzofurans, Benzophenones, and Xanthenes by Transition-Metal-Free Oxidative Cross-Coupling of sp<sup>3</sup> and sp<sup>2</sup> C-H Bonds. J. Org. Chem. 2016, 81, 9206–9218. [CrossRef]
- 15. Luan, Y.; Schaus, S.E. Enantioselective Addition of Boronates to *o*-Quinone Methides Catalyzed by Chiral Biphenols. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 19965–19968. [CrossRef]
- Saha, S.; Alamsetti, S.K.; Schneider, C. Chiral Brønsted Acid-Catalyzed Friedel–Crafts Alkylation of Electron-Rich Arenes with *in situ-*Generated *ortho-*Quinone Methides: Highly Enantioselective Synthesis of Diarylindolylmethanes and Triarylmethanes. *Chem. Commun.* 2015, *51*, 1461–1464. [CrossRef]
- 17. Wu, B.; Gao, X.; Yan, Z.; Chen, M.W.; Zhou, Y.G. C-H Oxidation/Michael Addition/Cyclization Cascade for Enantioselective Synthesis of Functionalized 2-Amino-4*H*-Chromenes. *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 6134–6137. [CrossRef]
- Jeong, H.J.; Kim, D.Y. Enantioselective Decarboxylative Alkylation of β-Keto Acids to *ortho*-Quinone Methides as Reactive Intermediates: Asymmetric Synthesis of 2,4-Diaryl-1-Benzopyrans. *Org. Lett.* 2018, 20, 2944–2947. [CrossRef]
- 19. Bai, W.J.; David, J.G.; Feng, Z.G.; Weaver, M.G.; Wu, K.L.; Pettus, T.R.R. The Domestication of *ortho*-Quinone Methides. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 2014, 47, 3655–3664. [CrossRef]
- 20. Huang, H.M.; Wu, X.Y.; Leng, B.R.; Zhu, Y.L.; Meng, X.C.; Hong, Y.; Jiang, B.; Wang, D.C. Cu(ii)-Catalyzed formal [4 + 2] cycloaddition between quinone methides (QMs) and electron-poor 3-vinylindoles. *Org. Chem. Front.* 2020, 7, 414–419. [CrossRef]
- 21. Jaworski, A.A.; Scheidt, K.A. Emerging Roles of *in situ* Generated Quinone Methides in Metal-Free Catalysis. J. Org. Chem. 2016, 81, 10145–10153. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 22. Yang, B.; Gao, S. Recent Advances in the Application of Diels–Alder Reactions Involving *o*-Quinodimethanes, aza-*o*-Quinone Methides and *o*-Quinone Methides in Natural Product Total Synthesis. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2018**, 47, 7926–7953. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 23. Alden-Danforth, E.; Scerba, M.T.; Lectka, T. Asymmetric Cycloadditions of *o*-Quinone Methides Employing Chiral Ammonium Fluoride Precatalysts. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 4951–4953. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 24. Hsiao, C.C.; Liao, H.H.; Rueping, M. Enantio- and Diastereoselective Access to Distant Stereocenters Embedded within Tetrahydroxanthenes: Utilizing *ortho*-Quinone Methides as Reactive Intermediates in Asymmetric Brønsted Acid Catalysis. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 13258–13263. [CrossRef]
- Lee, A.; Scheidt, K.A. N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Catalyzed Enantioselective Annulations: A Dual Activation Strategy for a Formal [4+2] Addition for Dihydrocoumarins. *Chem. Commun.* 2015, *51*, 3407–3410. [CrossRef]

- Alamsetti, S.K.; Spanka, M.; Schneider, C. Synergistic Rhodium/Phosphoric Acid Catalysis for the Enantioselective Addition of Oxonium Ylides to *ortho*-Quinone Methides. *Angew. Chemie Int. Ed.* 2016, 55, 2392–2396. [CrossRef]
- Lv, H.; Jia, W.Q.; Sun, L.H.; Ye, S. N-Heterocyclic Carbene Catalyzed [4+3] Annulation of Enals and *o*-Quinone Methides: Highly Enantioselective Synthesis of Benzo-ε-Lactones. *Angew. Chemie Int. Ed.* 2013, 52, 8607–8610. [CrossRef]
- Chen, M.W.; Cao, L.L.; Ye, Z.S.; Zhou, Y.G.; Jiang, G.F. A Mild Method for Generation of *o*-Quinone Methides under Basic Conditions. The Facile Synthesis of Trans-2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans. *Chem. Commun.* 2013, 49, 1660–1662. [CrossRef]
- 29. Wu, B.; Chen, M.W.; Ye, Z.S.; Yu, C.B.; Zhou, Y.G. A Streamlined Synthesis of 2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans *via* the *ortho*-Quinone Methides Generated from 2-Alkyl-Substituted Phenols. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2014**, *356*, 383–387. [CrossRef]
- Meisinger, N.; Roiser, L.; Monkowius, U.; Himmelsbach, M.; Robiette, R.; Waser, M. Asymmetric Synthesis of 2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans by a [4 + 1] Annulation Between Ammonium Ylides and In Situ Generated *o*-Quinone Methides. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2017, 23, 5137–5142. [CrossRef]
- Rodriguez, K.X.; Vail, J.D.; Ashfeld, B.L. Phosphorus(III)-Mediated Stereoconvergent Formal [4 + 1]-Cycloannulation of 1,2-Dicarbonyls and *o*-Quinone Methides: A Multicomponent Assembly of 2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans. *Org. Lett.* 2016, 18, 4514–4517. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Osyanin, V.A.; Osipov, D.V.; Klimochkin, Y.N. Reactions of *o*-Quinone Methides with Pyridinium Methylides: A Diastereoselective Synthesis of 1,2-Dihydronaphtho[2,1-*b*]Furans and 2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans. *J. Org. Chem.* 2013, 78, 5505–5520. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 33. Cheng, Y.Y.; Fang, Z.Q.; Li, W.J.; Li, P.F. Phosphine-mediated enantioselective [4 + 1] annulations between *ortho*-quinone methides and Morita–Baylis–Hillman carbonates. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2018**, *5*, 2728–2733. [CrossRef]
- 34. Jiang, X.L.; Liu, S.J.; Gu, Y.Q.; Mei, G.J.; Shi, F. Catalytic Asymmetric [4 + 1] Cyclization of *ortho*-Quinone Methides with 3-Chlorooxindoles. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, *359*, 3341–3346. [CrossRef]
- Liang, P.; Pan, Y.; Ma, X.; Jiao, W.; Shao, H. A Facile Method for the Synthesis of Fused Perhydropyrano[2,3-b]Pyrans Promoted by Yb(OTf)<sub>3</sub>. *Chem. Commun.* 2018, 54, 3763–3766. [CrossRef]
- Zhang, X.; Pan, Y.; Liang, P.; Pang, L.; Ma, X.; Jiao, W.; Shao, H. Oxadiazepine Synthesis by Formal [4+3] Cycloaddition of o-Chloromethyl Arylsulfonamides with Nitrones Promoted by NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2018, 360, 3015–3019. [CrossRef]
- Ma, X.; Tang, Q.; Ke, J.; Zhang, J.; Wang, C.; Wang, H.; Li, Y.; Shao, H. Straightforward and Highly Diastereoselective Synthesis of 2,2-Di-Substituted Perhydrofuro[2,3-b]Pyran (and Furan) Derivatives Promoted by BiCl<sub>3</sub>. *Chem. Commun.* 2013, 49, 7085–7087. [CrossRef]
- Ma, X.; Tang, Q.; Ke, J.; Yang, X.; Zhang, J.; Shao, H. InCl<sub>3</sub> Catalyzed Highly Diastereoselective [3+2] Cycloaddition of 1,2-Cyclopropanated Sugars with Aldehydes: A Straightforward Synthesis of Persubstituted *Bis* -Tetrahydrofurans and Perhydrofuro[2,3-*b*]Pyrans. *Org. Lett.* 2013, 15, 5170–5173. [CrossRef]
- Ma, X.; Zhang, J.; Tang, Q.; Ke, J.; Zou, W.; Shao, H. Stereospecific [3+2] Cycloaddition of 1,2-Cyclopropanated Sugars and Ketones Catalyzed by SnCl<sub>4</sub>: An Efficient Synthesis of Multi-Substituted Perhydrofuro[2,3-b]Furans and Perhydrofuro[2,3-b]Pyrans. *Chem. Commun.* 2014, 50, 3505–3508. [CrossRef]
- 40. Zhang, X.; Pan, Y.; Liang, P.; Ma, X.; Jiao, W.; Shao, H. An Effective Method for the Synthesis of 1,3-Dihydro-2*H*-Indazoles via N-N Bond Formation. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2019**, *361*, 5552–5557. [CrossRef]
- Winkler, J.D.; Asselin, S.M. Synthesis of Novel Heterocyclic Structures *via* Reaction of Isocyanides with *S-trans*-Enones. *Org. Lett.* 2006, *8*, 3975–3977. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 42. Masdeu, C.; Gómez, E.; Williams, N.A.O.; Lavilla, R. Double Insertion of Isocyanides into Dihydropyridines: Direct Access to Substituted Benzimidazolium Salts. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2007, *46*, 3043–3046. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Gao, Q.; Zhou, P.; Liu, F.; Hao, W.J.; Yao, C.; Jiang, B.; Tu, S.J. Cobalt(II)/Silver Relay Catalytic Isocyanide Insertion/Cycloaddition Cascades: A New Access to Pyrrolo[2,3-b]Indoles. *Chem. Commun.* 2015, *51*, 9519–9522. [CrossRef]
- 44. Pan, Y.Y.; Wu, Y.N.; Chen, Z.Z.; Hao, W.J.; Li, G.; Tu, S.J.; Jiang, B. Synthesis of 3-Iminoindol-2-Amines and Cyclic Enaminones *via* Palladium-Catalyzed Isocyanide Insertion-Cyclization. *J. Org. Chem.* **2015**, *80*, 5764–5770. [CrossRef]
- Prasad, B.; Nallapati, S.B.; Kolli, S.K.; Sharma, A.K.; Yellanki, S.; Medisetti, R.; Kulkarni, P.; Sripelly, S.; Mukkanti, K.; Pal, M. Pd-Catalyzed Isocyanide Insertion/Nucleophilic Attack by Indole C-3/Desulfonylation in the Same Pot: A Direct Access to Indoloquinolines of Pharmacological Interest. *RSC Adv.* 2015, *5*, 62966–62970. [CrossRef]
- Senadi, G.C.; Hu, W.P.; Boominathan, S.S.K.; Wang, J.J. Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Single and Double Isonitrile Insertion: A Facile Synthesis of Benzofurans, Indoles, and Isatins. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2015, 21, 998–1003. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 47. ITO, Y.; Kobayashi, K.; Maeno, M.; Saegusa, T. A New Synthetic Method for Preparation of 1,3,4,5-Tetrahydro-2H-1-Benzazepin-2-One Derivatives. *Chem. Lett.* **1980**, *9*, 487–490. [CrossRef]
- Liang, M.; Zhang, S.; Jia, J.; Tung, C.H.; Wang, J.; Xu, Z. Synthesis of Spiroketals by Synergistic Gold and Scandium Catalysis. Org. Lett. 2017, 19, 2526–2529. [CrossRef]
- Liu, S.; Chen, K.; Lan, X.C.; Hao, W.J.; Li, G.; Tu, S.J.; Jiang, B. Synergistic Silver/Scandium Catalysis for Divergent Synthesis of Skeletally Diverse Chromene Derivatives. *Chem. Commun.* 2017, 53, 10692–10695. [CrossRef]
- 50. Thirupathi, N.; Tung, C.H.; Xu, Z. Scandium (III)-Catalyzed Cycloaddition of in Situ Generated *ortho*-Quinone Methides with Vinyl Azides: An Efficient Access to Substituted 4*H*-Chromenes. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2018**, *360*, 3585–3589. [CrossRef]
- Wang, L.; Ferguson, J.; Zeng, F. Palladium-Catalyzed Direct Coupling of 2-Vinylanilines and Isocyanides: An Efficient Synthesis of 2-Aminoquinolines. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2015, 13, 11486–11491. [CrossRef] [PubMed]

- 52. Daina, A.; Michielin, O.; Zoete, V. SwissADME: A Free Web Tool to Evaluate Pharmacokinetics, Drug- Likeness and Medicinal Chemistry Friendliness of Small Molecules. *Sci. Rep.* 2017, *7*, 42717. [CrossRef]
- 53. Lipinski, C.A.; Lombardo, F.; Dominy, B.W.; Feeney, P.J. Experimental and Computational Approaches to Estimate Solubility and Permeability in Drug Discovery and Development Settings. *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* **2001**, *46*, 3–26. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Veber, D.F.; Johnson, S.R.; Cheng, H.; Smith, B.R.; Ward, K.W.; Kopple, K.D. Molecular Properties That Influence the Oral Bioavailability of Drug Candidates. J. Med. Chem. 2002, 45, 2615–2623. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 55. Cheng, F.; Li, W.; Zhou, Y.; Shen, J.; Wu, Z.; Liu, G.; Lee, P.W.; Tang, Y. AdmetSAR: A Comprehensive Source and Free Tool for Assessment of Chemical ADMET Properties. J. Chem. Inf. Model. 2012, 52, 3099–3105. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Guan, L.; Yang, H. ADMET-Score—A Comprehensive Scoring Function for Evaluation of Chemical Drug-Likeness. *Med. Chem. Commun.* 2019, 10, 148–157. [CrossRef]
- 57. Wang, H.; Tang, S.; Zhang, G.; Pan, Y.; Jiao, W.; Shao, H. Synthesis of *N*-Substituted Iminosugar C-Glycosides and Evaluation as Promising *a*-Glucosidase Inhibitors. *Molecules* **2022**, *27*, 5517. [CrossRef]
- Gfeller, D.; Michielin, O.; Zoete, V. Shaping the Interaction Landscape of Bioactive Molecules. *Bioinformatics* 2013, 29, 3073–3079. [CrossRef]
- 59. Antoine, D.; Michielin, O.; Zoete, V. SwissTargetPrediction: Updated data and new features for efficient prediction of protein targets of small molecules. *Nucl. Acids Res.* 2019, 47, 357–364. [CrossRef]
- Fan, J.; Wang, Z. Facile Construction of Functionalized 4H-Chromene via Tandem Benzylation and Cyclization. Chem. Commun. 2008, 42, 5381–5383. [CrossRef]