## Structural and Functional Basis of C-Methylation of Coumarin Scaffolds by NovO

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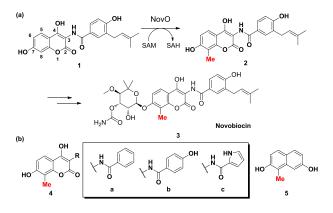
#### Supporting Information Placeholder

**ABSTRACT:** C-methylation of aromatic small molecules by Cmethyltransferases (C-MTs) is an important biological transformation that involves C-C bond formation using S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM) as the methyl donor. Here, two advances in the mechanistic understanding of C-methylation of the 8-position of coumarin substrates catalyzed by the C-MT NovO from Streptomyces Spheroides are described. First, a crystal structure of NovO reveals the Arg116-Asn117 and His120-Arg121 motifs are essential for coumarin substrate binding. Second, the active-site His120 is responsible for deprotonation of the phenolic 7-hydroxyl group on the coumarin substrate, activating the rate-determining methyl transfer step from SAM. This work expands our mechanistic knowledge of C-MTs which could be used in the downstream development of engineered biocatalysts for small molecule C-alkylations.

Methylation is an essential biological transformation used throughout Nature. This process is catalyzed by the methyltransferase (MT) family of enzymes and is used to control key biological processes, from gene regulation and epigenetics via histone lysine N-MTs,1-3 through to key methyl transfer steps in the biosynthesis of vitamins B12 and E.4.5 This family of enzymes catalyze O-, N, C- and even S-methylation of biomacromolecules and small molecule natural products (NPs) using S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM) as the methyl donor.<sup>6-9</sup> Of the various types of biocatalytic methylation reactions catalyzed by MTs, C-methylation has gained considerable prominence as a key epigenetic regulator of gene expression by methylating the 5-position of cytosine catalyzed by DNA m<sup>5</sup>C MTs. The mechanism of C-methylation of DNA by m<sup>5</sup>C MTs occurs via initial thiolation of the C6-position of cytosine by an active site cysteine residue, methylation using SAM as the methyl donor at the C5-position and finally deprotonation/dethiolation to reestablish the pyrimidine aromatic system.10,11

In contrast to numerous MTs that catalyze the SAMdependent C-methylation to protein and nucleic acid substrates, fewer than ten NP C-MTs have been reported; the majority of which have not been structurally and mechanistically characterised.<sup>12–15</sup> One exemplar is the C-MT NovO, which catalyses the regiospecific C-methylation of aminocoumarin 1 at the 8-position to form 2; an intermediate in the biosynthesis of the antibiotic novobiocin 3 by *Streptomyces Spheroides* (Scheme 1a).<sup>16,17</sup> Work by Gruber *et al.* has shown that NovO catalyses the alkylation of aminocoumarin substrate analogues to provide products 4a-c and dihydroxynapthalene 5 using SAM (Scheme 1b) and nonnatural SAM analogues bearing a variety of alkyl groups, which opens up opportunities to undergo Friedel-Crafts-like C-alkylations on high value small molecule substrates.<sup>18</sup>

Although this study provided initial insight into the substrate scope of NovO, a detailed understanding of the structure of this NP-MT and the factors associated with substrate recognition and the catalytic mechanism of methyl transfer are not known. Furthermore, NovO displays only 10-15% sequence homology with other structurally characterized NP-MTs in the Protein Data Bank (PDB, **Figure S1**), and as such it is difficult to gain accurate structural and mechanistic insight from homology models.<sup>12,13</sup> In this paper, we report a detailed structural and functional study of NovO. Using a combination of crystal structure analysis, substrate docking, site directed mutagenesis, kinetic isotope effect (KIE) studies and substrate analogue screens, we show that NovO uses a



**Scheme 1. (a)** SAM-dependent methyl transfer catalyzed by NovO in the biosynthesis of novobiocin by *Streptomyces Spheroides.* **(b)** Non-natural product analogues accessible with NovO.<sup>18</sup>

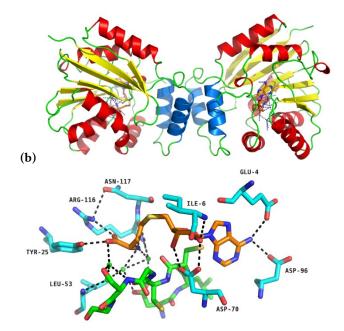
novel His-Arg motif firstly to deprotonate (His) the phenolic OH in the 7-position of substrate **6**, and then to lock (Arg) the

substrate in place for C-methylation to occur exclusively at the 8-position by SAM.

The X-ray crystal structure of selenomethionine (SelMet) substituted NovO in complex with S-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) was determined by single-wavelength anomalous dispersion. NovO crystallized as a homodimer, in which each monomer contains the characteristic Rossmann fold found extensively in SAM-dependent MTs.19,20 This result is consistent with a previous report from Gruber et al. that NovO is active as a dimer in solution.<sup>21</sup> The contact interface consists of two C-terminal  $\alpha$ -helices (Figure 1a, shown in blue) with an average separation of 2.85 Å. This is atypical for Class I MTs, which usually display additional α-helices at the N-terminus.<sup>20</sup> Although NovO displays very low sequence homology to other structurally characterised NP-MTs, a search for close structural analogues within the PDB revealed the carboxymethyl-SAM RNA MT CmoA and YecO from Haemophilus influenzae to be the closest analogues with 88% and 83% structural similarity, respectively.22-24 The residues forming the SAH binding pocket are located at flexible regions (Figure 1a, shown in green) between  $\alpha$ -helices and  $\beta$ sheets.<sup>19,20</sup> Extensive H-bonding networks are formed between the SAH-carboxylate and R116; the adenine-NH<sub>2</sub> and the two acidic residues E4 and D96; and the two ribose-hydroxyl groups with D70 (Figure 1b and Figure S4). Whilst D96 and D70 are both highly conserved across the Class 1 MT family, the other residues involved in SAH binding vary across the class (Figure S1). Another feature common to Class 1 MTs is a highly conserved, glycine rich region known as 'Motif 1' consisting of E/DXXXGXG, where X is any residue.<sup>19-21</sup> Gruber et al. have previously proposed this motif

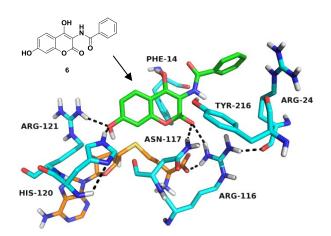
was located between D45 and G51, with D45 and G49 being crucial for enzymatic function, and C47, C48, G51 and D70 critical for protein folding. With reference to our crystal structure, D45 does indeed make key hydrogen bonds with the amino acid moiety of SAH *via* two water molecules (**Figure 1b**). Analysis of the protein structure by B-value revealed Arg24 to be highly flexible with an average B-factor of ~32, compared to that of ~16 for surrounding residues (**Figure S5**), and further confirmed by the existence of two conformations in the crystal structure. Given its positioning at the solvent interface, proximity to the active site and the absence of a pore for entrance of substrate to the active site, we surmise that this residue plays a gatekeeper role as has previously been described for some structurally unrelated peroxidases.<sup>25</sup>

Although attempts to obtain a crystal structure of NovO in complex with aminocoumarin substrate 618 and SAM, SAM analogues<sup>26,27</sup> or S-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) were unsuccessful, a model was generated using Molecular Operating Environment (MOE) software<sup>28</sup> using the crystal structure of the NovO-SAH complex to investigate the binding of 6 in NovO (see Supporting Information). A set of 6 residues were identified as putative active site residues (Figure 2). In particular, H120 and R121 made key hydrogen bond contacts with the phenolic group in the 7-position and R116 and N117 with the coumarin lactone. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that these two motifs have been implicated in a MT binding pocket. Furthermore, this model accounted for the experimentally observed regiospecificity of methyl transfer for the 8-position of the coumarin ring, as C-8 is positioned directly above the sulfur centre of SAH. This was confirmed by modelling a methyl group onto the SAH to mimic the naturally-occurring diastereomer (S-) of SAM (Figures S6 and S<sub>7</sub>).



(a)

**Figure 1.** Crystal structure of NovO (PDB accession code: 5MGZ) (**a**) complexed with SAH (coloured in orange) and (**b**) the SAH binding site with 'Motif 1' highlighted in green (D45, L46, C47, C48, G49, S50, G51).

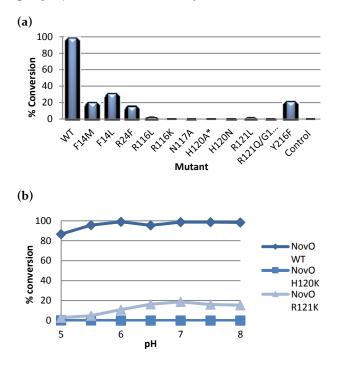


**Figure 2.** Substrate docking model of aminocoumarin **6** (green) in the crystal structure of NovO complexed with SAH.

In order to test the validity of our model, we probed the function of each of these residues by site-directed mutagenesis (SDM). A suite of systematic mutations were prepared to probe the electronic environment of the proposed substrate pocket and where possible, maintain a similar steric environment by mutating residues of a similar size. Furthermore, we investigated the significance of R24 as the proposed gatekeeper residue by its replacement with

phenylalanine, which was hypothesised to inhibit entrance to the active site.<sup>25</sup> The catalytic activity of each mutant was measured by conversion to the corresponding methylated product **4a** after 24 hours (**Figure 3a**).<sup>18,21</sup> All mutants resulted in a significant decrease in MT activity, with complete abolition of activity for mutants at positions R116, N117, H120 and R121.

These observations were consistent with our substrate binding model in which F14 takes part in end-on  $\pi$ -stacking interactions with the coumarin lactone ring and Y216 donates an H-bond to the amide carbonyl group (**Figure 2**). Whilst these residues are proposed to be involved in substrate binding, they are not essential for enzyme function as observed by a low level of conversion to product **4a**. Conversely, H120 and R121 form H-bonds with the hydroxy group adjacent to the site of methylation.



**Figure 3. (a)** Percentage (%) methylation of substrate **6** to provide product **4a** after **24** hours by NovO WT relative to NovO mutants. \* Due to the low levels of soluble expression of H120A, cell lysate was used. **(b)** Enzymatic activity of C-methylation of **6** by NovO H120K and R121K mutants relative to WT over pH values 5-8.

Based on these mutagenesis studies, we hypothesized that both H120 and R121 are essential for substrate activation, which was further probed by two single point mutants H120K and R121K. Whilst protonated R121K would be expected to support an H-bond to the phenolic hydroxy group in a similar manner to R121, H120K would most likely be protonated under the assay conditions and could not act as an appropriate base in order to activate the coumarin substrate **6** towards electrophilic aromatic substitution. As shown in **Figure 3b**, the H120K mutant was inactive across a pH range 5-7, whilst R121K retained ~20% of the activity displayed by the WT above

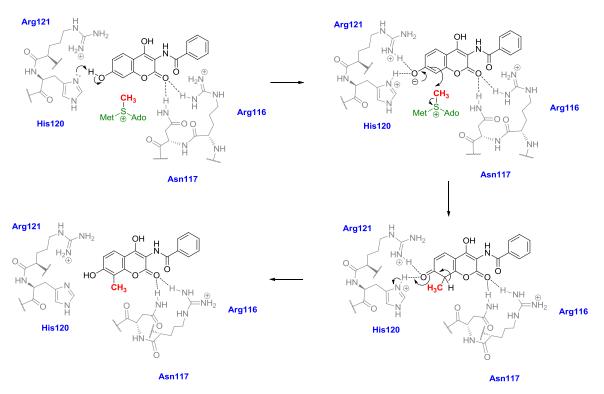
pH 6.5. Further analysis of the NovO crystal structure around the R121 residue revealed an extensive H-bonding network between the guanidinium moiety and nearby residues directly and via water molecules (Figure So). Thus, the formation of a sub-optimal H-bond network in the R121K mutant could explain the lower catalytic activity observed for the Cmethylation of 6 between pH 6.5-8. When the pH was below 6.5, a drop off in C-methylation activity was observed, which aligns with the pKa of protonated histidine. With reference to this and the crystal structure, we conclude that the H120- R121 motif plays an essential role in C-methylation of 6. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that such a motif has been implicated in methyl transfer by Class I MTs.12,13,21 This result is in contrast to a homology model of NovO reported by Gruber et al. (Figure S11a), in which H15 was hypothesised to be the catalytic base.<sup>21</sup> When the position of this residue is identified in our crystal structure, it is seen to be at the solvent interface rather than in the substrate binding pocket (Figure Sub).

Next, the role of the hydroxy group at the 7-position of the coumarin scaffold was investigated. A library of substrate analogues was prepared with electron withdrawing (substrates 7-Cl **S1** and 7-NO<sub>2</sub> **S2** or an electron donating group (substrate  $-NH_2$  **S3**, -OMe **S4**) in the 7-position (**Scheme S2**). These analogues were screened under the standard assay conditions with the WT enzyme (**Scheme S1**). In all cases, no methylation was detected by HPLC after 24 hours, which indicates that the hydroxy group in the 7-position of **6** is essential for catalysis.<sup>18</sup>

To better understand the nature of the transition state and rate limiting step of C-methylation of 6, primary and secondary KIEs were determined using purified NovO and SAM or the isotopic analogues <sup>13</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>-SAM and CD<sub>3</sub>-SAM. Whilst with NovO exhibited a  $k_{cat}$  of 20.1x10<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> using SAM as the methyl donor,<sup>17,18</sup> a  $k_{cat}$  of 17.0x10<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> was measured using <sup>13</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>-SAM resulting in a primary KIE of 1.22. This value is notably higher than the primary KIEs for catachol O-MT (COMT)<sup>29</sup> and human DNMT1<sup>11</sup> reported by Schowen and Schramm, respectively. However, NovO represents a mechanistically distinct small molecule C-MT and to the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of KIE data for this class of MT. This KIE is indicative of methyl transfer being the rate limiting step in the catalytic cycle, as has been reported for COMT.<sup>30</sup> Furthermore, a large, normal KIE is characteristic of a symmetric transition state in the S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction.<sup>30–33</sup> A  $k_{cat}$ of 20.1x10<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> was measured when CD<sub>3</sub>-SAM was used, giving a smaller secondary KIE value of 1.03, which was within the limits of the error margins (Table 1 and Figure S10) and therefore not statistically significant.

Table 1. Kinetic Parameters and KIE values.

	$K_m (\mu M)$	$k_{cat}(s^{-1})$	KIE
Me-SAM	43.7 (±2.8)	2.1x10 <sup>-3</sup> (±0.0004)	-
<sup>13</sup> CH <sub>3</sub> -SAM	41.6 (±5.1)	1.7x10 <sup>-3</sup> (±0.0008)	1.22 (±0.04)
CD <sub>3</sub> -SAM	52.8 (±5.3)	2.0x10 <sup>-3</sup> (±0.0009)	1.03 (±0.03)



Scheme 2. Proposed mechanism of C-methylation of substrate 6 by NovO.

Taken collectively, we propose the following catalytic mechanism of C-methylation by NovO (Scheme 2). An initial enzyme-substrate complex is formed through H- bonding of the C-2 carbonyl of coumarin 6 with R116 and N117. Based on the pKa of histidine and the proximity of H120 to the phenolic proton (~1.75 Å based on the substrate docking model in Figure 2) and our study of mutants H120K and R121K, H120 deprotonates the phenolic -OH in the 7- position. The resulting phenoxide is stabilized by H-bonding to protonated H120 and R121 and has sufficient nucleophilicity to effect electrophilic aromatic substitution at the 8-position by SAM as the methyl donor. Following deprotonation, it is also possible that the phenolic anion is stabilised by Arg16 and Asn117 as loss of activity was also observed when these residues were mutated. Finally, rapid deprotonation of the resulting intermediate to regain aromaticity of the system provides the enzyme-product complex.

In summary, we have shown that C-methylation of coumarin **6** proceeds be a novel mechanism catalysed by NovO.<sup>12,13,15</sup> The His120-R121 motif is critical for substrate activation and docking of the coumarin substrate **6** into the active site of NovO. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first example of an His-Arg motif being implicated in the key stage of methyl transfer by a MT. Furthermore, our substrate analogue library reveals the 7-position hydroxy group is essential for substrate activation, rendering the aromatic ring susceptible to the rate-determining electrophilic aromatic substitution step at the 8-position. We envisage that this work will assist in the engineering of NovO variants that could be used in the development of a platform technology for biocatalytic C-alkylation of small molecule substrates.

#### ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website.

Additional materials and methods and supporting data, tables and figures (PDF).

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#### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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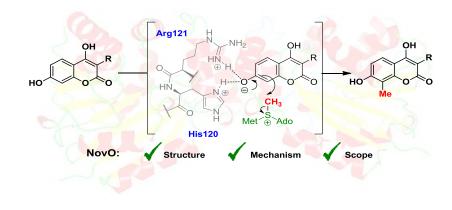
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## Structural and Functional Basis of C-Methylation of Coumarin Scaffolds by NovO

## **Supplementary Information**

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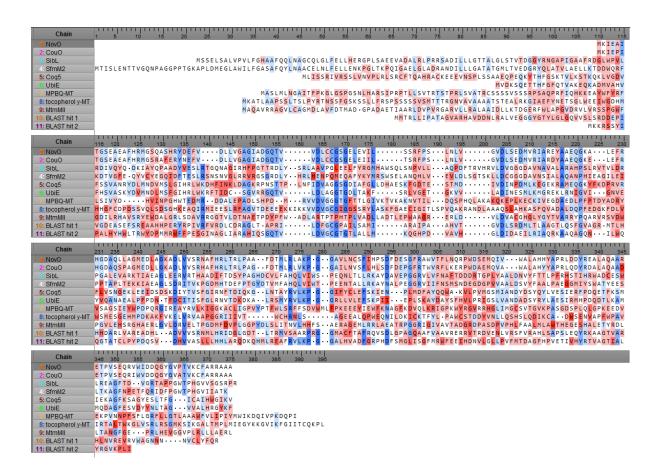
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#### 1 Sequence alignment of small molecule aromatic C-MTs and BLAST results

Sequence alignment carried out using MOE software (**Figure S1**).<sup>1</sup> In addition to analyses of other small molecule aromatic C-MTs, the top two hits from a Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) are shown in **Figure S1** (entries **10** and **11**). UniProt identifiers A0A017T191\_9DELT and NAL212\_0227).



**Figure S1.** Sequence alignment of small molecule aromatic C-MTs (entries **2-9**) and top two BLAST hits for NovO in UniProt (entries **10-11**). Results coloured according to amino acid similarity (blue: high; red: low).

#### 2 Determination of SelMet NovO crystal structure

#### Crystallisation of NovO with SAH

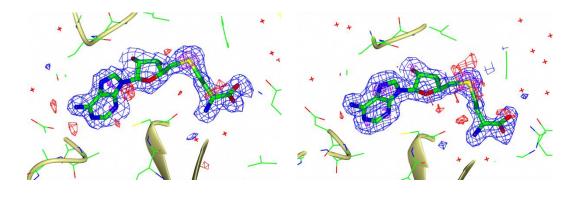
C-terminal His-tagged NovO 1-230 from *Streptomyces spheroides* at 12 mg/mL in 0.1 M trisaminomethane hydrochloride (Tris-HCl) pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl was incubated with 2 mM *S*-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) and left on ice for 30 minutes. Microseeding was used to obtain reproducible SelMet crystals of good quality. Crystallisation was achieved using drops containing 120 nL protein, 120 nL well solution (0.1 M 2-[*N*-morpholino]ethanesulfonic acid, [MES] pH 6.5, 20% w/v poly[ethylene glycol] [PEG]-4K, 0.6 M NaCl) and 60 nL seed solution in sitting drop

Medical Research Council (MRC) plates at 20 °C. Crystals grew over a period of 18 days and were harvested into mother liquor supplemented with 15% glycerol before flash freezing.

#### Data collection, Structure solution and refinement

X-ray diffraction data were collected at 100 K at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF, beamline ID23.1). Selenomethionine (SelMet) datasets were collected at the SelMet absorption peak (0.97916 Å f'= -7.82, f''= 4.98), 1800 images taken with 0.2 degree oscillations to give 360 degrees in total. The data were processed and scaled using autoPROC.<sup>2</sup> As there was no known structure of NovO the structure was solved by Single-wavelength Anomalous Dispersion (SAD). AUTOSHARP<sup>3</sup> and CCP4<sup>4</sup> were used for heavy atom detection, refinement, phasing and density modification. Two molecules of a homodimer were present within the asymmetric unit of the P2<sub>1</sub> crystal, with a solvent fraction of 45.3%. All 12 SelMet sites were found. The autobuilt coordinates provided a good starting point for manual rebuilding of NovO using COOT.<sup>5</sup> Structure refinement was carried out using AUTOBUSTER<sup>6</sup> utilising TLS refinement and automatic water fitting, with additional round of refinement and modelling were achieved using COOT and refmac<sup>7</sup> with TLS refinement. The S-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) was present in the active site of both chains (**Figures S2-S3**). MOGUL and MOLPROBITY were used to confirm the quality of the refined structure. Refinement statistics of the 1.9 Å X-ray homodimeric complex of NovO with SAH are in **Table S1**. PDB accession code: 5MGZ.

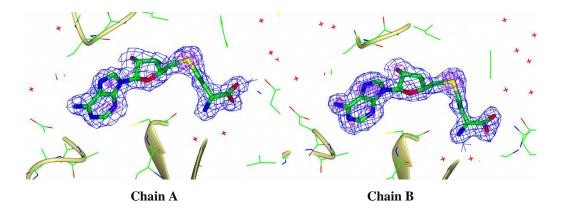
#### **Crystallography Omit Maps**



#### Chain A

Chain B

**Figure S2.** Omit (Fo-Fc) map of SAH in the active site contoured at  $\pm 3$ sigma (blue/red),  $\pm 9$ sigma (purple/orange). Conformation for the SAH is well defined.



**Figure S3.** Omit (2Fo-Fc) map of SAH in the active site contoured at +1sigma (blue), +3sigma (purple). Conformation for the SAH is well defined.

 Table S1: Data collection and refinement statistics

(collection on a single crystal)	NovO/SAH
Data collection	
Space group	P21
Cell dimensions	
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	43.724, 66.970, 80.563
α, β, γ (°)	90.000, 92.99, 90.000
Resolution (Å)	66.97-1.90 (2.00-1.90)
R <sub>merge</sub>	0.056 (0.080)
Ι/σΙ	22.6 (10.6)
Mn(I) CC (1/2)	0.997 (0.988)
Anomalous completeness (%)	88.6 (53.2)
Completeness (%)	90.7 (58.0)
Anomalous multiplicity	3.0 (1.8)
Redundancy	6.0 (3.8)
Wilson B-factor	17.79
Refinement	
Resolution (Å)	66.97-1.90
No. reflections	201009 (11593)
No. uniq reflections	33239 (3062)
R <sub>work</sub> / R <sub>free</sub>	0.178/0.202
No. atoms	4330
Protein	3618
Ligand/Other	52/10
Water	650
Ramachandran	
Favored (%)	97
Allowed (%)	3
Outliers (%)	0.22
Rotamer outliers	0.54
B-factors	
Protein	23.24
Ligand/Other	11.13/26.50
Water	31.68
R.m.s deviations	
Bond lengths (Å)	0.005
Bond angles (°)	1.032

\*Highest resolution shell is shown in parenthesis

### 3 S-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) binding site

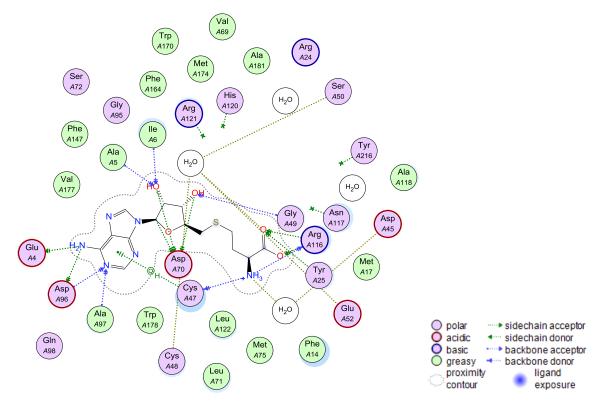
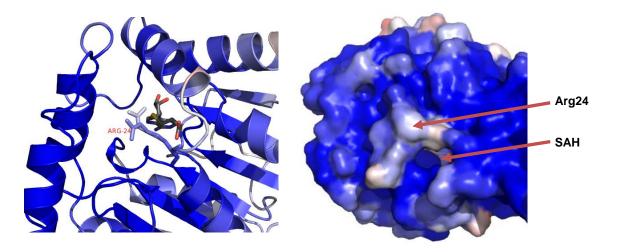


Figure S4. Interaction diagram of SAH binding site generated using Molecular Operating Environment<sup>1</sup> software.



### 4 Analysis of NovO by B-factor to reveal flexible R24

**Figure S5.** (a) Analysis of R24 by B-factor. Two conformations were visible in the X-ray crystal structure. SAH is shown in grey. (b) Surface of NovO (Chain A only) coloured by B-factor. Colour scale: Blue (low) – white – red (high).

#### 5 Preparation of substrate binding model

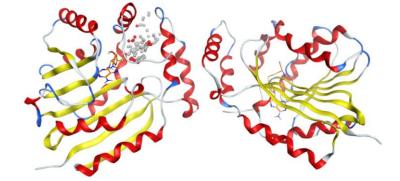
The substrate binding model was generated using Molecular Operating Environment  $(MOE)^1$  software. The X-ray crystal structure was prepared using the Stucture Preparation command followed by optimisation of the H-bonding network using the Protonate  $3D^8$  (pH 7) command, and finally calculation of partial charges. Putative binding sites in NovO were identified using the Site Finder application.<sup>9,10</sup> The default settings for these procedures were used in all cases and SAH was retained in the crystal structure throughout the study (**Table S1**).

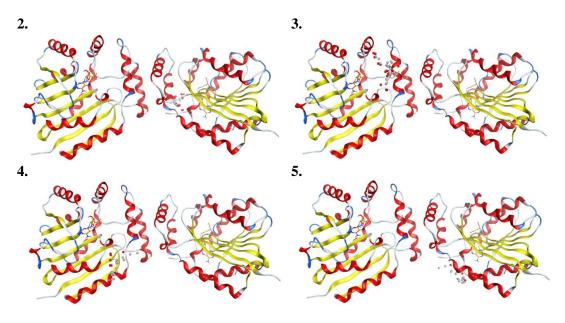
Site	PLB	Residues
1	3.6	I6, F14, M17, G18, Q20, A21, H23, R24, Y25, R116, N117, A118, H120, R121, F127, F164, Q167, R168, P169, W170, D171, M174, V177, W178, A181, Y216.
2	1.05	M1, K2, I3, E4, A6, I6, T7, E10, A11, H120, R121, I176, V177, L180, A181, W184, A185
3	1.05	E155, R159 (Chain 1), M1, K2, I3, E4, A6, I6, T7, E10, A11, H120, R121, I176, V177, L180, A181, W184, A185 (Chain 2)
4	0.77	K2, F119, H120, L122, T123, R124, L125, P126, Y184, A185, P186, D190, E193, A194, Q197
5	0.13	K2, L122, T123, R124, L125, P126, Y184, A185, P186, D190, E193, A194

**Table S1.** Top 5 ligand binding sites identified by the Site Finder application using MOE. PLB: propensity for ligand binding.<sup>10</sup>

The putative binding sites were further analysed manually based on their proximity to the SAH present in the crystal structure. Site 1 was found to be in a suitable location relative to SAH (**Figure S5**).

1.





**Figure S5.** Top 5 results from Site Finder search using MOE software relative to the position of SAH, which is shown in orange. Dummy atoms are represented as white and red spheres.

The Dock application was employed to model substrate **6** into the putative binding site. The top 5 hits were analysed manually and the final model selected based on proximity of the coumarin C-8 to the sulfur centre of SAH and the potential energy of the substrate, giving rise to the final model shown in **Figure S6**, in which the coumarin ring was adopted a planar conformation. When a methyl group was modeled onto the sulfur centre of SAH to model the naturally occurring, S- diastereomer of SAM,<sup>11</sup> the pendant methyl group was 2.59 Å from C-8, at an angle of 109 ° from the coumarin scaffold.

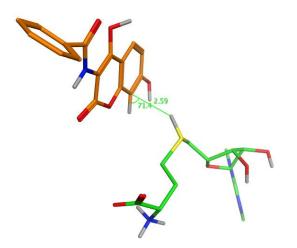
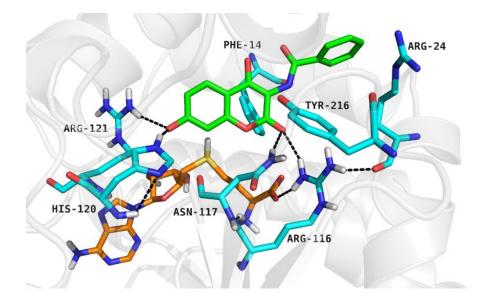


Figure S6. Conformation of substrate 6 in substrate binding model distance between coumarin C-8 and the SAM methyl group.



**Figure S7.** Substrate **4a** (shown in green) docking model with SAM (shown in orange) modelled into the active site of NovO by addition of a methyl group and subsequent minimisation of the sulfonium center. The stereochemistry (-*S*) at the sulfonium center corresponds to the natural diastereoisomer of SAM.

## 6 Environment surrounding H120 and R121

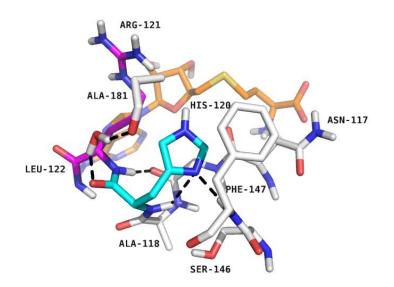


Figure S8. H-bonding network of the NovO active site residues H120.

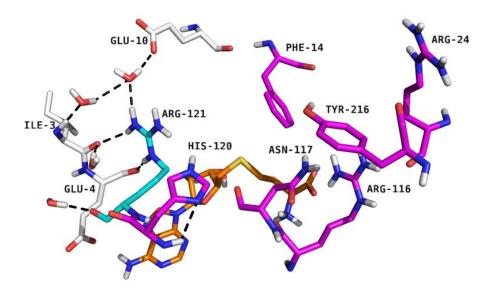
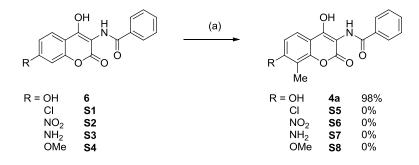


Figure S9. H-bonding network of the NovO active site residues R121.

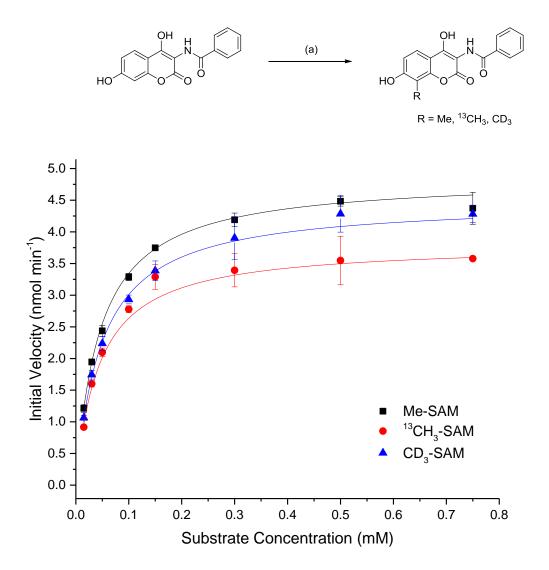
#### 7 Analysis of substrate analogues with variation at the 7-position

A suite of analogues of substrate 6 were prepared (see Scheme S2) and was used to the explore the enzymatic activity of NovO (see Section 12). All substrate analogues were inactive with NovO WT (Scheme S1).



**Scheme S1.** Methylation of aminocoumarin substrates **6** and **S1-S4** to products **4a** and **S5-S8** by NovO WT. *Reagents and conditions:* (a) NovO, SAM, bovine serum albumin, 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 6.5, 35 °C, 24 h. See **Section 12**.

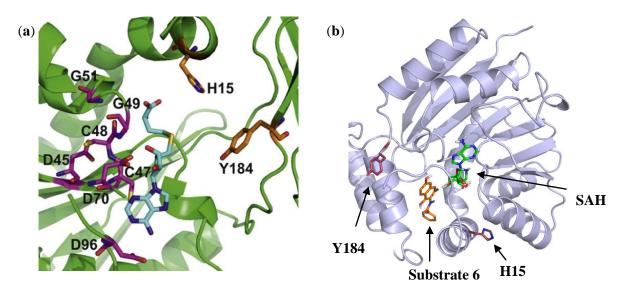
### 8 Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Data



**Figure S10.** Michealis Menten curves for KIE data for NovO WT. The data set was collected accorded to the procedure outlined in **Section 11** using purified NovO and SalL. The data set was processed using  $Origin^{12}$  software, using the Michealis Menton Nonlinear Curve Fit function. *Reagents and conditions:* (a) methionine, (2R,3R,4S,5S)-2-(6-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)-5-(chloromethyl)tetrahydrofuran-3,4-diol (**S35**), SalL<sup>13,14</sup>, potassium phophate buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5), 37 °C, 2 hours, then NovO. See **Section 11**.

# 9 Comparative analysis of homology model of NovO with the X-ray crystal structure of NovO and SAH

A homology model of the active site of NovO, based on the SAM-dependent MT from *Pyrococcus horikoshii* OT3 (PDB code 1WZN) has previously been disclosed by Tengg *et al.*<sup>15</sup> The positions of putative active site residues H15 and Y184 in this model were compared to their positions in the crystal structure of NovO (**Figure S**).



**Figure S11.** (a) Homology model of NovO with bound SAH based on the SAM-dependent MT derived from *Pyrococcus horikoshii* OT3 (PDB code 1WZN) as proposed by Tengg *et al.*<sup>15</sup> Model generated using Yasara software.<sup>10</sup> (b) Position of H15 and Y184 in NovO relative to the substrate and SAH according to the substrate binding model generated from our crystal structure of NovO.

#### 10 Synthesis of aminocoumarin substrates

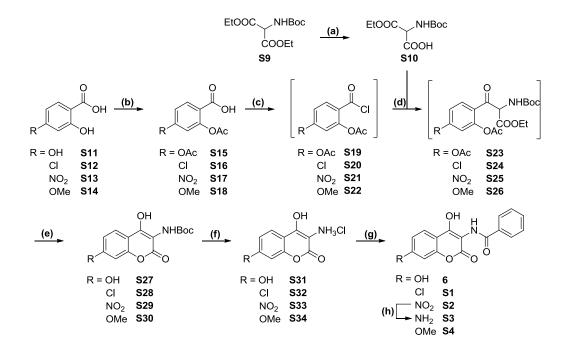
#### General experimental techniques and procedures

All reagents and solvents were used as supplied from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Solvents used in the preparation of substrates **7-10** were all High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) grade and were used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy was carried out using a Bruker 400 UltraShield<sup>TM</sup> B-ACS 60 spectrometer. All chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were referenced to the deuterium lock and are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants are quoted in hertz (Hz). Abbreviations for splitting patterns are br. (broad), app. (apparent), s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) and dd (doublet of doublets). All NMR data was processed using Advanced Chemistry Development Inc. (ACD/Labs) 12.0 software.<sup>16</sup> Proton and carbon chemical shifts were assigned using proton (<sup>1</sup>H), carbon (<sup>13</sup>C), Heteronuclear Single Quantum Coherence (HSQC), Heteronuclear Multiple-Bond Correlation Spectroscopy (HMBC), Correlation Spectroscopy (COSY)

and Distortionless Enhancement of Polarisation Transfer (DEPT). Liquid Chromatography coupled Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS) was carried out on an Agilent 1100 HPLC instrument in conjunction with a Waters Micromass ZQ 2000/4000 mass detector. Electrospray ionization (ESI) was used in all cases. HPLC was carried out on an Agilent 1100 series instrument. Infra-Red (IR) data was collected on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum One FTIR spectrometer and the data was processed using Spectrum One software. Only major absorbances are reported. Melting points of solids were obtained using a Stuart automatic SMP40 melting point machine or a SRS OptiMelt automated melting point system.

#### Synthesis of aminocoumarin substrates

Aminocoumarin substrates and variants based on substitution at the 7- position were synthesised by a modified route outlined by Gruber *et al.* (Scheme S2).<sup>17</sup>



**Scheme S2.** Synthetic route to aminocoumarin substrates **6** and **S1-S4**.<sup>17</sup> *Reagents and conditions:* (a) KOH, aq. EtOH, 22 °C. (b) Ac<sub>2</sub>O, 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP), NEt<sub>3</sub>, THF, 0-22 °C or AcCl, NEt<sub>3</sub>, THF, 0-22 °C. (c) (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF), PhMe, 40 °C. (d) MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NEt<sub>3</sub>, THF, 4 °C, then acid chloride. (e) aq. NaOH, MeOH, 22 °C. (f) HCl in cyclopentylmether ether (CPME), *tert*-butylmethyl ether, MeOH, 22 °C. (g) BzCl, NEt<sub>3</sub>, EtOAc, 22 °C, then aq. NaOH, MeOH 22 °C. (h) Fe, AcOH, aq. HCl, 40 °C.

## General procedure for the synthesis of 2, 4-diacetoxybenzoic acid (S15) and 2-acetoxy 4methoxybenzoic acid (S18)

To a solution of 2, 4-dihydroxybenzoic acid (S11) or 2-hydroxy 4-methoxybenzoic acid (S14) (1 eq.) in tetrahydrofuran (10 mL/g) was added triethylamine (3.5 eq.), 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.1 eq.) and acetic anhydride (5 eq.) and the reaction was stirred at 22 °C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was acidified with aqueous 1 M HCl to pH 3 and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 100 mL). The combined

organic fractions were washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting solid was recrystallised from EtOAc to provide the title compounds.

## 2,4-Diacetoxybenzoic acid (S15)<sup>18</sup>

Colourless crystalline solid (12.6 g, 82%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR:** δ (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 13.14 (br. s, 1H, COOH), 7.98 (d, *J*=8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.18 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.6, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.09 (d, *J*=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.24 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR:** δ (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 169.2 (CO), 168.3 (CO), 168.2 (CO), 155.3 (C), 152.2 (C), 133.5 (C), 119.5 (CH), 119.3 (CH), 117.5 (CH), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

 $v_{max}$  (neat): 2859, 1773, 1680, 1607 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**LC-MS:** *m*/*z* 261 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>, 5%), 179 (100%).

 $R_{f}$ : (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.16.

**M.pt.:** 135-137 °C (lit. 136-137 °C).<sup>18</sup>

## 2-acetoxy 4-methoxybenzoic acid (S18)<sup>19</sup>

Colourless crystalline solid (4.96 g, 79%).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR: δ (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 12.71 (br. S , 1H, COOH), 7.90 (d, *J*=8.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.93 (dd,  $J_1$ =8.9,  $J_2$ =2.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.77 (d, *J*=2.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 169.0 (CO), 165.1 (CO), 163.4 (C), 152.2 (C), 133.0 (C), 115.9 (CH), 111.7 (CH), 109.2 (CH), 55.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

 $\mathbf{v}_{\max}$  (neat): 2936, 1760, 1694, 1611, 1335, 1210 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**LC-MS:** m/z 211 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 2%), 151 (100%).

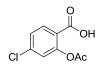
**R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.62.

**M.pt.:** 144-115 °C.

## General procedure for the synthesis of 2-acetoxy 4-chlorobenzoic acid (S16) and 2-acetoxy 4nitrobenzoic acid (S17)

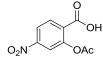
To an ice-cooled solution of 4-chloro-2-hydroxybenzoic acid (S12) or 4-nitro-2-hydroxybenzoic acid (S13) (1.0 eq.) in tetrahydrofuran (20 mL) was added triethylamine (3.0 eq.) and acetyl chloride (2.0 eq.) dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred at 22 °C for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was acidified with aqueous 2 M HCl to pH 2 and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic fractions were washed with brine (15 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting solid purified as described below.

### 2-acetoxy 4-chlorobenzoic acid (S16)<sup>20</sup>



Purified by recrystallisation from EtOAc to provide the title compound as a colourless crystalline solid (0.54 g, 87%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.06 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.35 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.5, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.18 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 2.35 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). *COOH signal not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 168.9 (CO), 164.8 (CO), 150.9 (C), 137.6 (C), 132.8 (C), 126.3 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 20.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 2680, 1763, 1686 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m*/z: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 171 (M-CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>+H<sup>+</sup>, 75%), 372 (100%). **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.22. M.pt.: 147 °C. (lit.: 133-135 °C).<sup>20</sup>

## 2-acetoxy 4-nitrobenzoic acid (S17)<sup>21</sup>



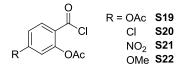
Product purified by column chromatography (20-100% EtOAc in heptane) to provide the title compound as colourless amorphous solid (0.55 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.28 (d, *J*=8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.19 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.6, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.02 (d, *J*=2.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 2.39 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>). *COOH signal not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 168.9 (CO), 164.8 (CO), 150.9 (C), 137.6 (C), 132.8 (C), 126.3 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 20.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>).  $\mathbf{v}_{max}$  (neat): 1768, 1701, 1523, 1350 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m*/*z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 211 (M+H<sup>+</sup> -16, 100%).<sup>22</sup> **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.62. **M.pt.**: 146-147 °C.

2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (S10)<sup>23</sup>

To a solution of diethyl 2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)malonate (**S9**) (10.0 mL, 39.2 mmol) in ethanol (50 mL) was added solid potassium hydroxide (2.25 g, 40.1 mmol). The suspension was stirred at 22 °C for 12 hours before concentrating under reduced pressure. The suspension was redissolved in 1 M NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (75 mL) and washed with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C, acidified with solid KHSO<sub>4</sub> to pH 2 and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic fractions were washed with brine (20 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to provide the title compound as an amorphous colourless solid (7.66 g, 77%).

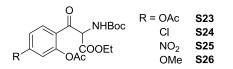
<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 7.49 (d, *J*=7.9 Hz, 1H, NH), 4.73 (d, *J*=7.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.15 (q, *J*=7.0 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.41 (s, 9H, 3xCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.21 (t, *J*=7.0 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). *COOH signal not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 167.8 (CO), 167.2 (CO), 156.3 (CO), 78.9 (C), 61.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 57.6 (CH), 28.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 13.9 (3xCH<sub>3</sub>).  $v_{max}$  (neat): 3264, 2984, 1756, 1733, 1652 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 248 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 6%), 148 (100%). M.pt.: 84-85 °C (lit.: 93-95 °C [diethyl ether/ hexane]).<sup>23</sup> **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.53.

#### General procedure for acid chloride formation



To a suspension of carboxylic acid (1.0 eq.) in anhydrous toluene (10 mL/g) under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in a flame dried flask at 22 °C was added (COCl)<sub>2</sub> (2.0 eq.) and anhydrous DMF (0.1 eq.). The reaction mixture was heated to 40 °C and stirred for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the resulting crude residue was used in the next stage of the synthesis without further purification.

# General procedure for the coupling of 2-(*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (S10) with acid chlorides S19-S22



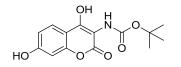
To an ice-cooled solution of 2-(*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (**S10**) (1.0 eq.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (8 mL/g) under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere was added triethylamine (5.0 eq.) and anhydrous magnesium chloride (3.0 eq.). The resulting slurry was stirred vigorously at 4 °C for 2 hours. A solution of the previously prepared crude acid chloride (theoretical amount 1 eq.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (5 mL/ mmol) was then added and the resulting suspension stirred for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride

(5 mL/mmol) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic fractions were washed with brine (10 mL) and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to provide a brown solid which was used in the next stage of the synthesis without further purification.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of N-Boc aminocoumarin derivatives (S27-S30)<sup>17</sup>

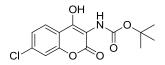
To a solution of crude coupling product (**S23-S26**) (1.0 eq., theoretical) in methanol (10 mL/g) was added aqueous 1 M NaOH (5.0 eq.) and the reaction mixture was stirred at 22 °C for 4 hours. The reaction mixture was acidified with 2 M HCl to pH 3 and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic fractions were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was recrystallised from EtOAc to provide the title compounds.

tert-Butyl (4,7-dihydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S27)<sup>17</sup>



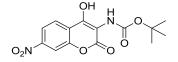
Isolated as a pale orange crystalline solid (3.57 g, 58% over 3 stages). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 7.79 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.66 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.79 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.7, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.70 (d, *J* =2.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 1.44 (s, 9H, 3xCH<sub>3</sub>). *OH signals not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 165.4 (CO), 161.2 (CO), 161.2 (C), 157.9 (C), 154.7 (C), 125.0 (CH), 112.8 (CH), 106.3 (C), 101.8 (CH), 79.3 (C), 77.3 (C), 28.2 (3xCH<sub>3</sub>). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3370, 1612, 1575 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 294 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 9%), 238 (100%). **R**<sub>*f*</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.38. M.pt.: 208-210 °C.

tert-Butyl (7-chloro-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S28)



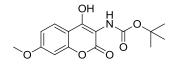
Isolated as a colourless crystalline solid (0.20 g, 28% over 3 stages). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) 12.24 (br. s, 1H, OH), 7.98 (br. S. 1H, NH), 7.86 (d, 1H, *J*=8.5 Hz, Ar-H), 7.59 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.43 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.5, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 1.42 (s, 9H, 3xCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) 160.0 (CO), 157.9 (CO), 154.0 (C), 151.5 (C), 135.8 (C), 124.8 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 115.8 (CH), 115.2 (C), 103.3 (C), 78.8 (C), 27.7 (3xCH<sub>3</sub>). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3287, 1705, 1602 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 310 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 10%), 236 (100%). HRMS: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 312.0633, found 312.0643. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.54. **M.pt.:** 162 °C.

#### tert-Butyl (7-nitro-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S29)



Isolated as a crystalline yellow solid (0.5 g, 70%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 12.57 (s, 1H, OH), 8.22 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.18 (dd, *J*<sub>*I*</sub>=2.2, *J*<sub>2</sub>=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.12 (s, 1H, NH) 8.09 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 1.42 (s, 9H, 3xCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 160.0 (CO), 157.9 (C), 154.1 (CO), 151.0 (C), 148.9 (C), 125.3 (CH), 121.8 (C), 118.7 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 105.5 (C), 79.1 (C), 28.1 (3xCH<sub>3</sub>).  $\mathbf{v}_{max}$  (neat): 3286, 1703, 1633, 1523, 1347 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 323 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 4%), 247 (M-Boc+Na<sup>+</sup> 100%). HRMS: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 323.0874, found 323.0883. **R**<sub>*f*</sub>: (20% EtOAc in heptane) 0.23. **M.pt.**: decomp. > 210 °C.

#### tert-Butyl (7-methoxy-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S30)

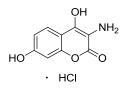


Isolated as a colourless crystalline solid (0.68 g, 23%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 11.82 (br. s, 1H, OH), 7.84 (s, 1H, NH), 7.75 (d, *J*=8.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.96 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 3.86 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.43 (br. s, 9H, 3xCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 162.5 (CO), 161.1 (CO), 154.6 (C), 153.3 (C), 124.7 (CH), 112.1 (CH), 109.1 (C), 100.4 (CH), 78.7 (C), 55.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 28.2 (3xCH<sub>3</sub>). *Two C signals not detected*. **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3397, 1690, 1611 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 308 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 45%), 252 (100%). HRMS: C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 308.1129, found 308.1139. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.48. M.pt.: 149-150 °C.

#### General procedure for synthesis of aminocoumarins (S31-S34)

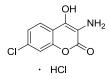
To an ice cooled solution of the *N*-Boc protected aminocoumarin (1.0 eq.) in *tert*-butylmethyl ether (TBME) (20 mL/g) and methanol (5 mL/g) was added HCl in cyclopentylmethyl ether (3 M, 15.0 eq.) and the mixture stirred at 22 °C for 24 hours. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue triturated with TBME (10 mL). The suspension was filtered to provide the title compounds.

3-Amino-4,7-dihydroxy-2H-chromen-2-one hydrochloride (S31)<sup>17</sup>



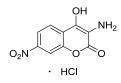
Isolated as an off-white amorphous solid (1.94 g, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 7.78 (d, *J*=8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.75 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=8.6, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.64 (d, *J*=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H). *OH and NH*<sub>2</sub> signals not detected. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 161.4 (CO), 160.2 (C), 159.6 (C), 153.8 (C), 125.7 (C), 112.8 (C), 110.3 (CH), 102.3 (CH), 94.3 (CH). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3336, 1710 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 194 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%). **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.03. **M.pt.**: 240-241 °C.

#### 3-Amino-7-chloro-4-hydroxy-2H-chromen-2-one hydrochloride (S32)



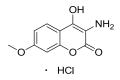
Isolated as an off-white amorphous solid (136 mg, 95%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 7.88 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.64 (br. s. 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.43 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, *J*=8.3, 1H, Ar-H). *OH signals not detected*.<sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 159.8 (CO), 152.4 (C), 134.5 (C), 125.6 (CH), 123.2 (CH), 120.5 (C), 116.0 (CH). *Two C signals not detected*.**v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 2900, 1733 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 212 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%). HRMS: C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] requires 212.6092, found 212.212.0109. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.08. M.pt.: 241 °C.

#### 3-Amino-7-nitro-4-hydroxy-2H-chromen-2-one hydrochloride (S33)



Isolated as a pale yellow solid (78 mg, 97%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 8.37 (br. s., 3H, NH<sub>3</sub>), 8.10 (m, 2H, 2xAr-H), 8.02 (m, 1H, Ar-H). *OH signal not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 159.6 (CO), 157.8 (C), 154.5 (C), 152.9 (C), 131.9 (C), 128.8 (C), 124.0 (CH), 118.2 (CH), 111.5 (CH). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 2968, 1668, 1539, 1356 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 223 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%). HRMS: C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] requires 223.0350, found 223.0354. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.06. M.pt.: decomp. >215 °C.

#### 3-Amino-7-methoxy-4-hydroxy-2H-chromen-2-one hydrochloride (S34)



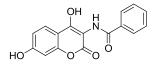
Isolated as a pale yellow solid (0.35 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR**  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>,) 9.20 (br. s, 4H, OH and NH<sub>3</sub>), 7.93 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.94 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 3.85 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101

MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 162.4 (CO), 159.9 (C), 153.5 (C), 125.4 (CH), 124.9 (C), 111.7 (CH), 100.6 (CH), 96.1 (C), 94.8 (C), 55.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>).  $v_{max}$  (neat): 2914, 1706, 1243, 1194 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m*/*z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 208 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%). HRMS: C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] requires 208.0604, found 208.0605. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc) 0.04. M.pt.: decomp. >250 °C.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of aminocoumarin substrates 6 and S1-S4

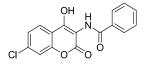
To a solution of **S31-S34** (1.0 eq.) in EtOAc (12 mL/ mmol) was added benzoyl chloride (5.0 eq.) and triethylamine (10.0 eq.). The suspension was stirred at 22 °C for 3 hours before being filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue dissolved in methanol (25 mL). Aqueous 1 M NaOH (25 mL, 25.0 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at 22 °C for 12 hours before acidifying to pH 3 with aqueous 2 M HCl. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL) and the combined organic fractions were washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude solid washed with EtOAc (10 mL) and filtered to provide the title compounds.

#### *N*-(4,7-Dihydroxy-2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (6)<sup>17</sup>



Isolated as a pale yellow amorphous solid (0.43 g, 67%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 11.82 (br. s, 1H, OH), 10.54 (s, 1H, OH), 9.41 (s, 1H, NH), 8.01 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.73 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.60 (app. t, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.52 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 6.84 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> =8.7, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.74 (d, *J*=2.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 166.5 (CO), 161.4 (CO), 160.8 (C), 160.4 (C), 153.5 (C), 133.9 (C), 131.5 (CH), 128.1 (2xCH) 128.0 (2xCH), 125.0 (CH), 112.9 (CH), 108.0 (C), 101.9 (CH), 100.1 (C). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3176, 1665, 1625 cm<sup>-1</sup>. *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 298 (M+H<sup>+</sup>, 100%). **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane) 0.31. M.pt.: 283-285 °C (lit.: 283-285 °C).<sup>17</sup>

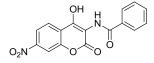
#### N-(4-Chloro, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S1)



Isolated as a pale yellow amorphous solid (74 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR:**  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 12.30 (s, 1H, OH), 9.55 (s, 1H, NH), 8.01 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.56 - 7.50 (m, 2H, 2xAr-H), 7.47 (dd, *J*<sub>I</sub>=2.0, *J*<sub>2</sub>=8.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR:**  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 166.4 (CO), 159.9 (CO), 159.2 (C), 152.0

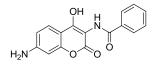
(C), 136.5 (C), 133.7 (C), 131.7 (CH), 128.1 (2xCH), 128.0 (2xCH), 125.3 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 116.4 (CH), 115.4 (C), 103.0 (C).  $v_{max}$  (neat): 3352, 1695, 1623, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 316.0371, found 316.0377. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane): 0.25. **M.pt.:** 233 °C.

#### N-(4-Nitro, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S2)



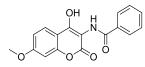
Isolated as a pale yellow amorphous solid (40 mg, 63%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 9.71 (s, 1H, NH), 8.27 (d, *J*=2.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.21 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=2.1, *J*<sub>2</sub>=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.15 (d, *J*=8.7, 1H, Ar-H), 8.02 (d, *J*=7.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.61 (t, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.53 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H). *OH signal not detected*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 166.3 (CO), 159.7 (C), 158.2 (CO), 151.1 (C), 149.0 (C), 133.6 (C), 131.8 (CH), 128.2 (2xCH), 128.0 (2xCH), 125.4 (CH), 121.9 (C), 118.8 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 105.2 (C). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 1698, 1630, 1524, 1341 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 327.0612, found 327.0622. **R**<sub>*f*</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane): 0.28. M.pt.: 296 C.

#### N-(4-Amino, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S3)



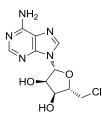
To a suspension of *N*-(4-nitro, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (**9**) (100 mg, 0.307 mmol) in acetic acid (5 mL) was added iron powder (171 mg, 3.07 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to 50 °C and stirred for 4 hours before concentrating under reduced pressure. The mixture was acidified to pH 1 with aqueous 2 M HCl and EtOAc (5 mL) was added. The resulting suspension was filtered to provide the title compound as a yellow solid (63 mg, 69%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 11.48 (s, 1H, OH), 9.33 (s, 1H, NH), 8.00 (d, *J*=5.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.53 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 6.59 (d, *J*=7.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.43 (s, 1H, Ar-H). *NH*<sub>2</sub> signal not detected.<sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 166.6 (C), 161.0 (CO), 160.7 (CO), 154.0 (C), 153.2 (C), 134.0 (C), 131.5 (CH), 128.1 (2xCH), 128.0 (2xCH), 124.6 (CH), 111.3 (CH), 104.2 (C), 98.4 (C), 98.2 (CH). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3349, 1664, 1608, 1539, 1381 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 297.0870, found 297.0879. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane): 0.2. **M.pt.**: decomp. >260 °C.

#### N-(4-Methoxy, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S4)



Isolated as a pale yellow solid (50 mg, 39%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz) 11.95 (s, 1H, OH), 9.45 (s, 1H, NH), 8.01 (d, *J*=7.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.81 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.58 (t, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.51 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.02 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 3.88 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 166.5 (CO), 162.6 (CO), 153.5 (C), 133.9 (CH), 131.6 (CH), 128.2 (2xCH), 128.0 (2xCH), 124.8 (C), 112.2 (CH), 109.4 (C), 100.5 (CH), 55.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). *Three C signals not detected*.**v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3299, 1674, 1609, 1372, 1294, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 312.0866, found 312.0883. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (1:1 EtOAc/ heptane): 0.4. **M.pt.:** decomp. >240 °C.

#### (2R,3R,4S,5S)-2-(6-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)-5-(chloromethyl)tetrahydrofuran-3,4-diol (S35)<sup>24</sup>



To an ice cooled suspension of adenosine (1.00 g, 3.74 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 mL) was added pyridine (0.61 mL, 7.48 mmol) and thionyl chloride (1.40 mL, 18.7 mmol) was added dropwise over 5 minutes. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 hours before being warmed to 22 °C and stirred for 16 hours. The resulting precipitate was filtered and dissolved in water/ methanol (5:1). Aqueous ammonia (25%, 2.00 mL) was added and the reaction mixture stirred at 22 °C for 30 minutes. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to provide the title compound as a colourless amorphous solid (1.05 g, 98%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 8.34 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.16 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 5.93 (d, *J*=5.7 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.58 (s, 1H, OH), 5.44 (s, 1H, OH), 4.75 (t, *J*=5.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.24 (t, *J*=4.3 Hz, 1 H, CH), 4.08 (q, *J*=5.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 3.96 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=5.1, *J*<sub>2</sub>=11.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.84 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.4, *J*<sub>2</sub>=11.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 156.1 (C), 152.7 (CH), 149.4 (C), 139.7 (CH), 119.1 (C), 87.4 (CH), 83.63 (CH), 72.6 (CH), 71.2 (CH), 44.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>). *m/z*: (ES<sup>+</sup>) 286 (M<sup>35</sup>Cl + H<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 288 (M<sup>37</sup>Cl + H<sup>+</sup>, 35%). Mpt.: 72 °C. (lit. 75-80 °C).<sup>25</sup> v<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3148, 1648, 1601 cm<sup>-1</sup>. R*f*: (EtOAc) 0.20.

#### 11 Enzymatic assays using NovO

All protein concentrations were measured on a Trinean Xpose micro-volume spectrometer, using an E1% of 11.308 for NovO. HPLC analysis was carried out on an Agilent 1100 series instrument using the following method:

**Column:** Waters Xbridge C18 column (50mm x 4.6 mm i.d. 3 µm packing diameter) at 40 °C.

Method: A = 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate in water adjusted to pH 10 with ammonia solution.
 B = Acetonitrile.
 Flow rate: 3 mL/ min.

#### Gradient profile:

Time (min)	% A	% B
0	99	1
0.1	99	1
4	3	97
5	3	97

**Detection:** Detection wavelength of 320 nm used for all aminocoumarin substrates and methylated products.

#### **General Procedure for KIE Measurements**

All reactions were carried out in triplicate in 96 well plate on format 200 uL scale using a multichannel pipette for reagent addition and sampling of aliquots.

To a solution of *N*-(4,7-Dihydroxy-2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (**6**) (final concentration 0.5 mM), (2*R*,3*R*,4*S*,5*S*)-2-(6-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)-5-(chloromethyl)tetrahydrofuran-3,4-diol (**CIDA**, **S35**) (from a 100 mM stock solution in DMSO, final concentration 2 mM) and methionine, methionine-<sup>13</sup>C or methionine-d<sub>3</sub> as appropriate (from a 100 mM stock solution in 250 mM aqueous NaOH, final concentration 2.5 mM) in phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5) was added SalL<sup>13,14</sup> (final concentration 0.1 mg/ml). The reaction was incubated at 37 °C, 750 rpm for 2 hours. Methyltransfer reactions were initiated by the addition of 20 µL NovO (final concentration 0.5 mg/mL) and quenched after 3 minutes by transferring 50 µL of the reaction into a preheated vial and incubated at 97 °C for 10 minutes before clarifying by centrifugation (15 minutes, 13.2k rpm, 4 °C). The supernatant was transfered to an HPLC insert vial and 5 uL injected directly onto the HPLC according to the above method. % conversion was calculated by the ratio of area/area% of starting material (RT = 2.528 min) to product (RT=2.664 min).

#### 12 Methyl transfer assay using NovO or NovO mutants

To a 1.5 mL Eppendorf vial containing in sodium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5 to a total volume of 0.5 mL), 100  $\mu$ M substrate (from a 50 mM stock solution in DMSO), 2 mM SAM (from a 20 mM

stock solution in sodium phosphate buffer) and bovine serum albumin (0.1 mg/mL, taken from 2 mg/mL stock solution in sodium phosphate buffer) was added 250  $\mu$ g purified enzyme (final concentration = 1.9  $\mu$ M) in SEC buffer (see above) containing 40% glycerol. Reactions were incubated at 35 °C, 1000 rpm using a thermomixer and quenched after 24 hours by heating to 80 °C for 15 minutes. Samples were cooled to 4 °C for 10 minutes, clarified by centrifugation (10 minutes, 13 200 rpm, 4 °C) and 5  $\mu$ L injected directly onto the HPLC instrument for analysis. HPLC analysis was carried out on an Agilent 1100 series instrument using the following method:

**Column:** Waters Xbridge C18 column (50mm x 4.6 mm i.d. 3 µm packing diameter) at 40 °C.

Method: A = 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate in water adjusted to pH 10 with ammonia solution.
 B = Acetonitrile.
 Flow rate: 3 mL/ min.

#### **Gradient profile:**

Time (min)	% A	% B
0	99	1
0.1	99	1
4	3	97
5	3	97

**Detection:** Detection wavelength of 320 nm used for all aminocoumarin substrates and methylated products.

Conversions were calculated by area/area% conversion from starting material to methylated product (**Figure S10**).

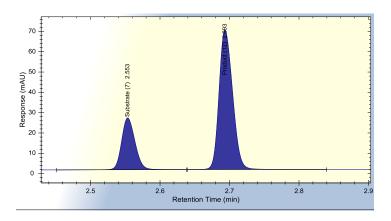
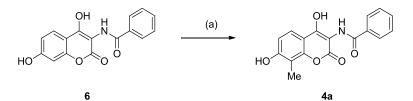


Figure S10. Exemplar HPLC spectrum for the MT assay used to determine the catalytic activity of NovO WT and mutants.

#### 13 Analysis of NovO mutants by methyl transfer assay

Assays were carried out as described in Section 12. Percentage (%) conversion calculated by HPLC area/area% observed for each mutant (**Table 1**).



Mutant	% Conversion after 24 h
WT	98
<b>F14M</b>	19
F14L	30
<b>R24</b> F	15
R116L	1
R116K	<1
N117A	<1
H120A*	0
H120N	<1
R121L	<1
R121Q/G108D	<1
Y216F	20
Control**	0

**Table 2.** Analysis of NovO WT and mutant library. *Reagents and conditions:* (a) NovO WT or mutant, SAM, bovine serum albumin, 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 6.5, 35 °C, 24 h. \*Cell lysate used due to poor solubility of H120A mutant. \*\*Reactions were carried out next to a negative control in which no MT was added.

#### 14 Preparative scale methylation of 6 using NovO

N-(4,7-dihydroxy-8-methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)benzamide<sup>17</sup>

To a 40 mL aliquot of *E. coli* cell lysate from the overexpression of NovO in phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, resupended at 10 mL/g cell pellet) was added bovine serum albumin (final concentration 1 mg/ mL), SAM (72.0 mg in 2.5 mL phosphate buffer, 0.126 mmol) and *N*-(4,7-dihydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)benzamide **6** (20 mg in 2.5 mL dimethyl sulfoxide, 0.084 mmol). The reaction was incubated at 35 °C, 350 rpm for 24 hours, before adding a further portion of SAM (72.0 mg in 1 mL phosphate buffer, 0.126 mmol). The reaction mixture was incubated for a further 16 hours at 35 °C, 350 rpm before adding aqueous 5 M HCl to pH 2 and clarifying the suspension by

centrifugation (4000 rpm, 20 min). HPLC conversion at end of reaction: 90%. The supernatant was concentrated by lyophilisation and the residue purified by mass-directed automated purification (MDAP). The product was precipitated by the addition of MeOH (5 mL) and filtered to provide the title compound as a pale yellow amorphous solid (14 mg, 67%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 11.71 (br. s., 1H, OH), 10.42 (s, 1H, OH), 9.41 (s, 1H, NH), 8.01 (d, *J*=7.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.48-7.62 (m, 2x2H, Ar-H), 6.89 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 2.18 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 166.5 (CO), 160.8 (CO), 160.5 (C), 159.1 (C), 151.5 (C), 133.9 (C), 131.6 (CH), 128.1 (2xCH), 128.0 (2xCH), 121.5 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 110.4 (C), 107.9 (C), 99.9 (C), 8.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). **v**<sub>max</sub> (neat): 3215, 1567, 1534, 1369, 1312 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] requires 312.0868, found 312.0866. **R**<sub>f</sub>: (EtOAc): 0.28. **M.pt.:**. 310-312 °C.

## 15 General procedure for the preparation of NovO mutants by Site-Directed Mutagenesis

Site-directed mutagenesis (SDM) was accomplished by a modified QuickChange protocol using primers bearing desired mutations (see below). Colonies containing the desired mutation were identified by gene sequencing using T7 forward and reverse primers. Colonies bearing the desired mutation were amplified using a Qiagen Miniprep kit according to the manufacturer's instructions, eluting with 100  $\mu$ L elution buffer. The gene sequence for all mutants was confirmed by gene sequencing using the gene sequencing primers detailed below.

#### SDM Primers (5' to 3')

F14M fwd	GGTTCCGAAGCAGAAGCAATGCACCGCATGGGCTCG
F14M rev	CGAGCCCATGCGGTGCATTGCTTCTGCTTCGGAACC
F14L fwd	GGTTCCGAAGCAGAAGCACTCCACCGCATGGGCTCG
F14L rev	CGAGCCCATGCGGTGGAGTGCTTCTGCTTCGGAACC
R24M fwd	GGCTCGCAAGCATCGCACATGTATGACGAATTTGTT
R24M rev	AACAAATTCGTCATACATGTGCGATGCTTGCGAGCC
R24F fwd	GGCTCGCAAGCATCGCACUTCTATGACGAATTTGTT
R24F rev	AACAAATTCGTCATAGAAGTGCGATGCTTGCGAGCC
H120F fwd	GTGAGTCGTAATGCCTTTTTCCGTCTGACCCGCCTG
H120F rev	CAGGCGGGTCAGACGGAAAAAGGCATTACGACTCAC
H120N fwd	GTGAGTCGTAATGCCTTTAACCGTCTGACCCGCCTG
H120N rev	CAGGCGGGTCAGACGGTTAAAGGCATTACGACTCAC
H120A fwd	GTGAGTCGTAATGCCTTTGCCCGTCTGACCCGCCTG
H120A rev	CAGGCGGGTCAGACGGGCAAAGGCATTACGACTCAC
N117A fwd	CTGGTCGTGAGTCGTGCTGCCTTTCACCGTCTGACC
N117A rev	GGTCAGACGGTGAAAGGCAGCACGACTCACGACCAG
R121Q fwd	CGTAATGCCTTTCACCAGCTGACCCGCCTGCCG

R121Q rev	CGGCAGGCGGGTCAGCTGGTGAAAGGCATTACG
R121L fwd	CGTAATGCCTTTCACCTTCTGACCCGCCTGCCG
R121L rev	CGGCAGGCGGGTCAGAAGGTGAAAGGCATTACG
Y216F fwd	GTGTGGATCGATGACCAAGGCTTCGGTGTGCCGACGGTT
Y216F rev	AACCGTCGGCACACCGAAGCCTTGGTCATCGATCCACAC

Gene sequencing primers (5' to 3')

NovO 1 fwd	CAATCACGGGTTCCGAAG
NovO 1 rev	CTTCGGAACCCGTGATTG
NovO 2 fwd	CGGTATTGCAGATGGCC
NovO 2 rev	GGCCATCTGCAATACCG
NovO 3 fwd	GTCGATCTGAGCGAAGAC
NovO 3 rev	GTCTTCGCTCAGATCGAC
NovO 4 fwd	AGGCATGGAAGATCTGG
NovO 4 rev	CCAGATCTTCCATGCCT
NovO 5 fwd	GCTGCGCCTGGCTAAAC
NovO 5 rev	GTTTAGCCAGGCGCAGC
NovO 6 fwd	CATGGGTTACGTTCCTG
NovO 6 rev	CAGGAACGTAACCCATG
NovO 7 fwd	CTATGCGCCGCGTCTGG
NovO 7 rev	CCAGACGCGGCGCATAG
NovO 8 fwd	GTGCCGACGGTTAAATG
NovO 8 rev	CATTTAACCGTCGGCAC

#### Gene synthesis and cloning

The gene for NovO with a C-terminal 6-His tag was synthesized by GenScript with codon optimization and subcloned into a pET26b(+) plasmid using NdeI and XhoI restriction sites. The plasmid was received from GenScript in the lyophilised form and was resuspended in 40  $\mu$ L water. *E.coli* TOP10 competent cells were transformed using the heat shock method with 5  $\mu$ L of DNA solution. Transformants were plated on LB agar containing 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamycin and grown at 37 °C overnight. Colonies were inoculated into 10 mL LB media containing 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamycin and grown overnight at 30 °C. The DNA was then extracted and purified using a Qiagen Miniprep kit according to the manufacturer's instructions, eluting with 100  $\mu$ L elution buffer.

#### General procedure for the expression of NovO and NovO mutants

The plasmid pET26b(+)-NovO was transformed into *E. coli* BL21 DE3 competent cells (Invitrogen) for protein expression. Transformants harbouring the plasmids were grown at 37 °C in LB medium supplemented with 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamycin and 1% glucose overnight. This seed culture was used to inoculate Magic Media supplemented with kanamycin (final concentration of 50  $\mu$ g/ mL) and

Component B (5% v/v) using 2% inoculant. The cultures were incubated at 30 °C, 200 rpm and grown to an OD of ~2 before the incubating at 18 °C, 200 rpm overnight. The cells were harvested by centrifugation (4400 rpm, 4 °C, 20 minutes), the supernatant discarded and the cell pellets stored at - 80 °C for further use.

#### 16 Preparation of SelMet labeled NovO

The plasmid pET26b(+)-NovO was transformed into *E. coli* BL21 DE3 competent cells (Invitrogen) for protein expression. Transformants harbouring the plasmids were grown at 37 °C in 100 mL LB medium supplemented with 50 µg/ mL kanamycin and 1% glucose for 7 hours at 37 °C, 240 rpm. This seed culture was used to inoculate 1 L Modified Terrific Broth (MTB) supplemented with kanamycin (final concentration of 50 µg/ mL) and 4% glucose, using 2% inoculant. The culture was grown overnight at 30 °C, 180 rpm. The culture was spun (4700 rpm, 22 °C, 30 minutes) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellet was resuspended in G1X minimal media supplemented with sorbitol (440 mM) betaine (1.5 mM) glycerol (1% v/v) kanamycin (50 µg/ mL) and amino acids threonine, lysine, phenylalanine (each at 100 µg/ mL) and leucine, isoleucine, valine and selenomethionine (each at 50 µg/mL). The culture was incubated at 37 °C, 180 rpm for 30 minutes and then at 18 °C, 180 rpm for 30 minutes before inducing with isopropyl  $\beta$ -*D*-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) (final concentration of 100 µM) and incubating overnight at 18 °C, 180 rpm. The cells were harvested by centrifugation (4400 rpm, 4 °C, 20 minutes), the supernatant discarded and the cell pellets stored at -80 °C for further use.

#### 17 Purification of SelMet NovO and NovO mutants

# General procedure for the purification of NovO, NovO mutants and SelMet NovO by affinity chromatography

Binding Buffer (Buffer A): 50 mM Tris-HCl, 300 mM NaCl, pH 8.0 Elution Buffer (Buffer B): 50 mM Tris-HCl, 300 mM NaCl, 500 mM imidazole, pH 8.0

The cell pellet (~30 g) was resuspended in 200 mL binding buffer and the cells lysed by sonication on ice using a 19 mm probe for 5 minutes (9.9 s on, 9.9 s off) at 40% intensity. The resulting cell lysate was separated by centrifugation (100 000 g, 4 °C, 90 minutes) and the supernatant collected. A 5 mL HisTRAP HP column (GE Healthcare 17-5248-02) was washed with 10 column volumes (CV) of elution buffer before being equilibrated with binding buffer. The clear cell lysate was loaded onto the column and eluted as follows:

Step 1: 0-20 mM imidazole (0-4% elution buffer) for 10 CV

Step 2: 20-50 mM imidazole (4-10% elution buffer) for 10 CV Step 3: 50-500 mM imidazole (10-100% elution buffer) for 10 CV

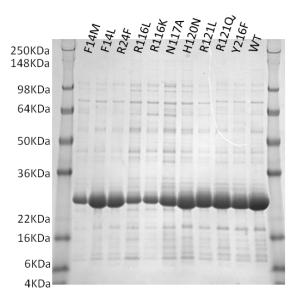


Figure S7. SDS-PAGE gel from purification of NovO mutant library. Theoretical mass of NovO WT: 26.23 KDa.

#### General procedure for the purification of NovO by Size Exclusion Chromatography (SEC)

SelMet labeled protein was additionally purified by SEC according to following procedure (SEC buffer: 100 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, pH 8):

A HiLoad 26/60 320 mL Superdex 75 prep grade SEC Column was equilibrated with SEC buffer and loaded with 10 mL of the pooled fractions from the affinity chromatography pool. The column was eluted over with SEC buffer, collecting 2 mL fractions, which were analysed by SDS-PAGE. Fractions containing NovO were concentrated as required using an Amicon Ultra 15 centrifugal filter with a 10 KDa retention limit.

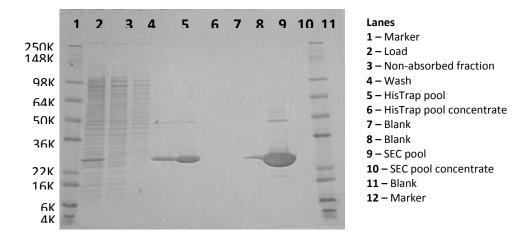
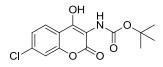


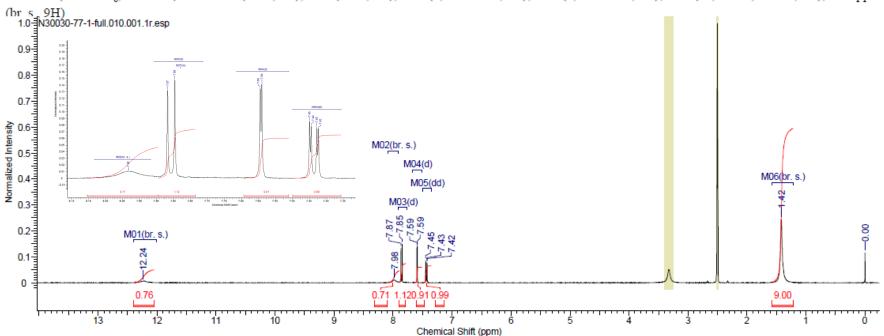
Figure S9. SDS-PAGE gel from purification of SelMet NovO. Theoretical mass of NovO WT: 26.23 KDa.

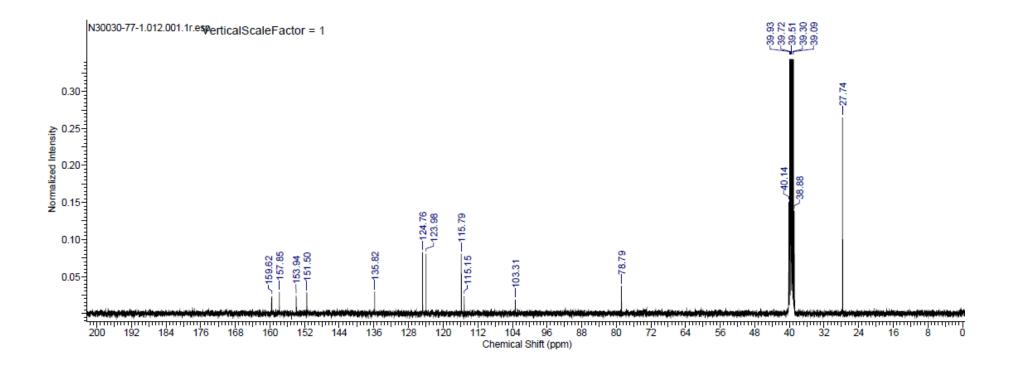
# 18 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of Novel Compounds

*tert*-Butyl (7-chloro-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S28)



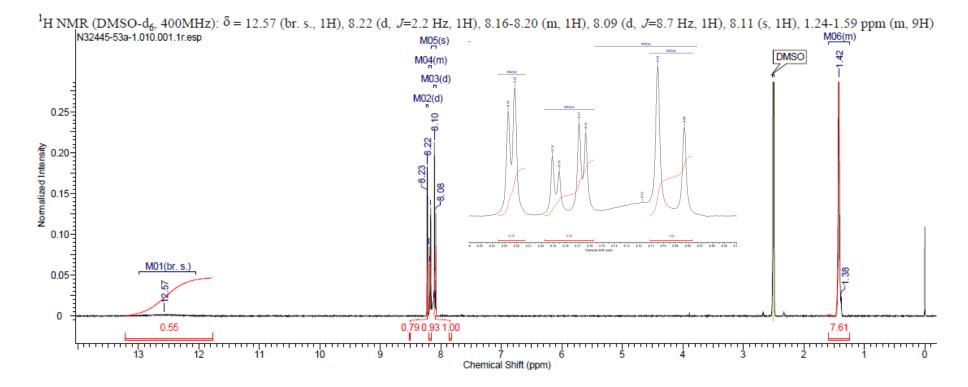
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 12.24 (br. s., 1H), 7.98 (br. s., 1H), 7.86 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J=8.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.42 ppm (br. s., 9H)

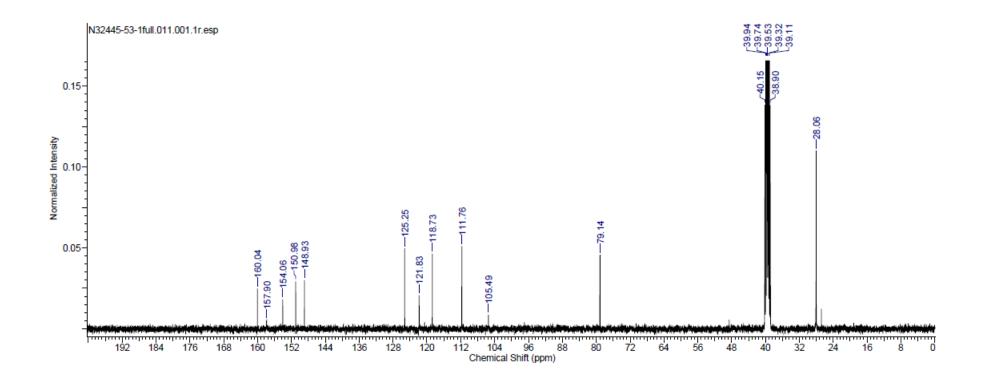




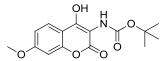
tert-Butyl (7-nitro-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S29)

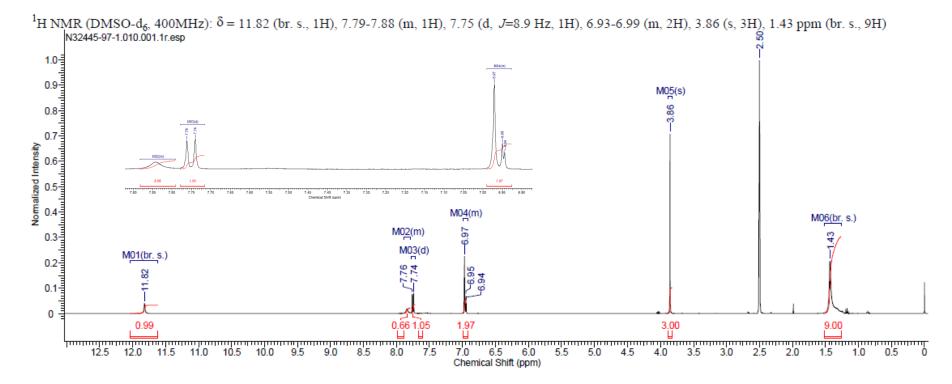
OH ö  $O_2N$ Ò  $\sim$ 

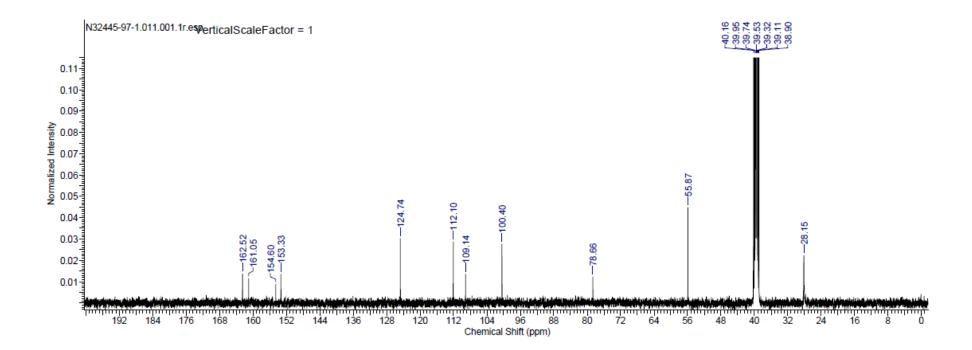




#### tert-Butyl (7-methoxy-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) carbamate (S30)







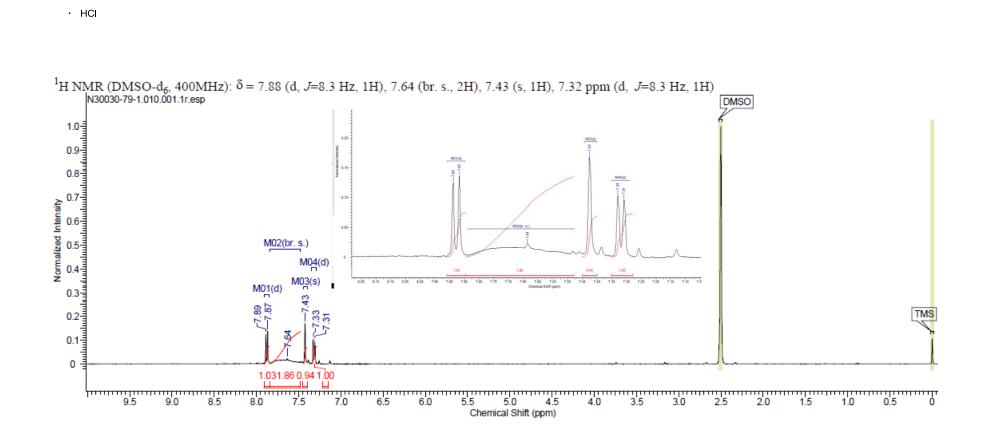


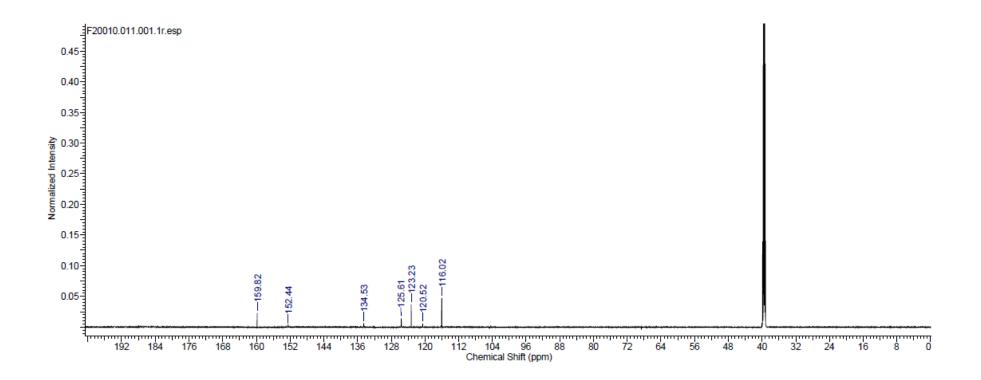
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CI

 $NH_2$ 

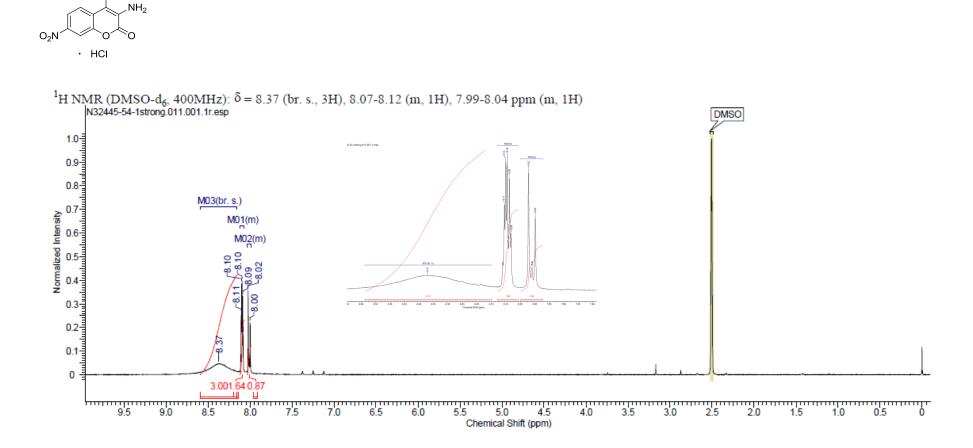
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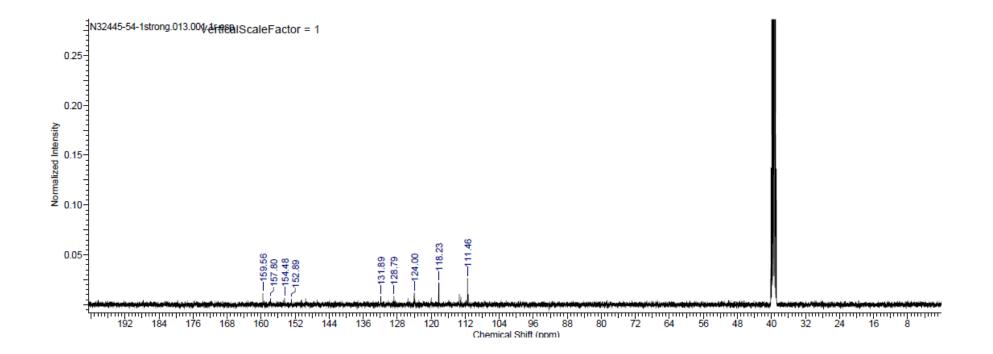


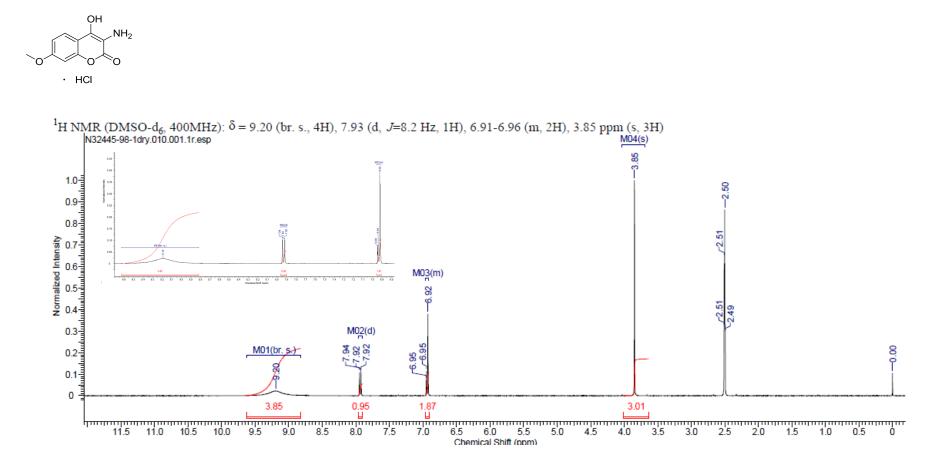




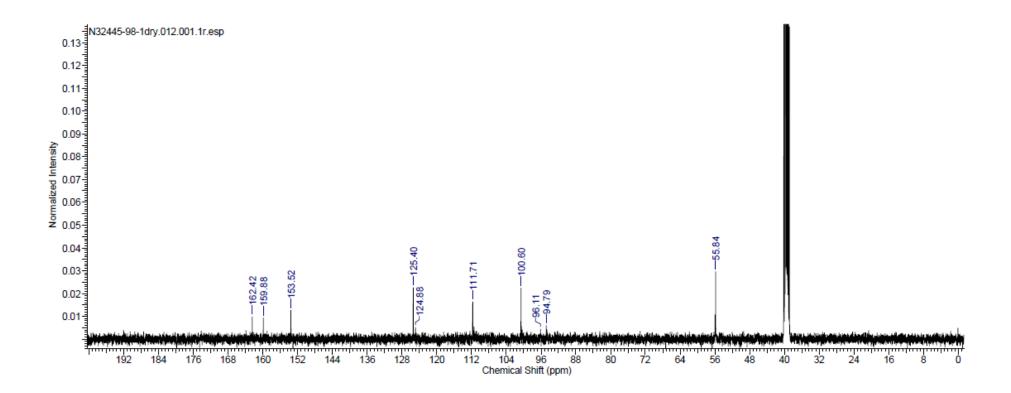
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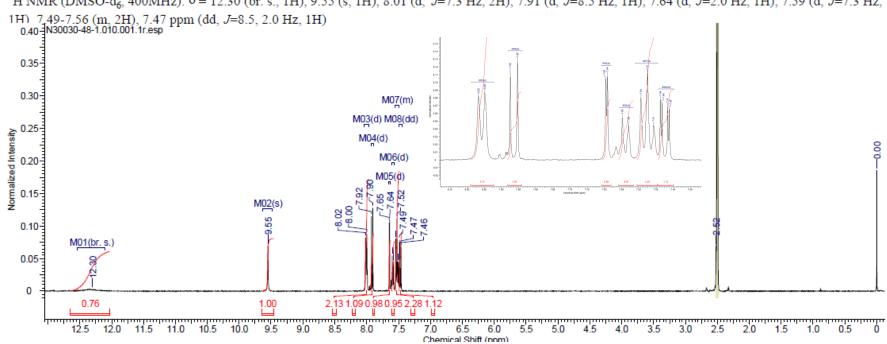


3-Amino-7-methoxy-4-hydroxy-2*H*-chromen-2-one hydrochloride (S34)

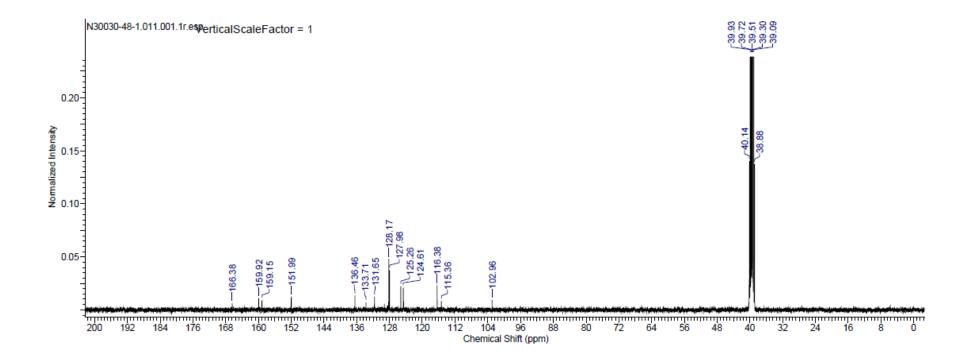


### N-(4-Chloro, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S1)

OH  $\cap$ 



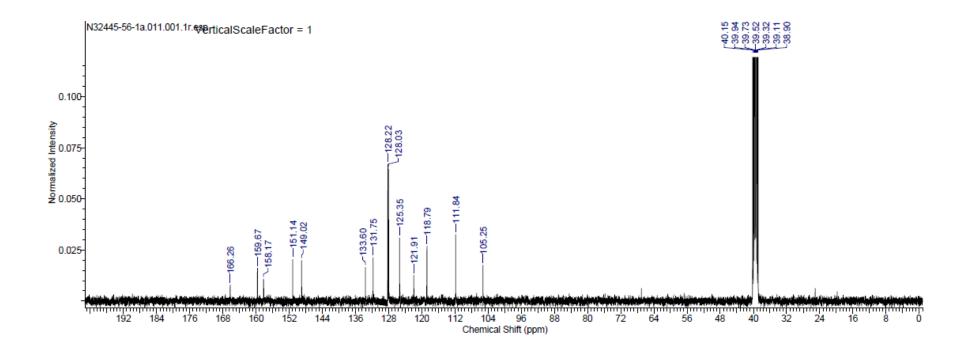
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400MHz): δ = 12.30 (br. s., 1H), 9.55 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d,



#### N-(4-Nitro, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S2)

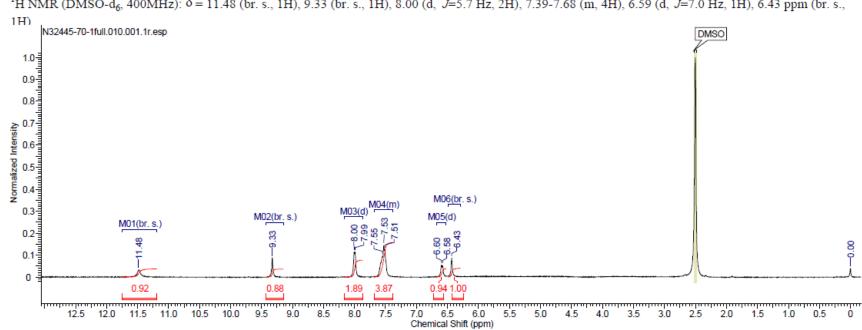
 $\cap \vdash$ 0  $O_2N$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400MHz): δ = 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, J=2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (dd, J=8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, J=8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 1H), .J=7 3,Hz, 1H), 7.53 ppm (t, J=7.6 Hz, 2H) N32445-56-1a.010.001.1r.esp DMSO 0.8 Ę 0.7 Normalized Intensity 0.6 0.2 0.2 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 M05(d) M03(dd) M04(d) M06 M02(d) <u>\_\_\_\_</u> MON 5 -8.27 \_\_\_\_\_8.26 M01(s) 8.03 8.01 53 0.2 -9.71 59 0.1 0 0.92 1.04 1.04 2.061.05 2.11 1.00 8.5 8.0 7.5 6.5 6.0 5.5 Chemical Shift (ppm) 0.5 0 11.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 9.0 7.0 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0

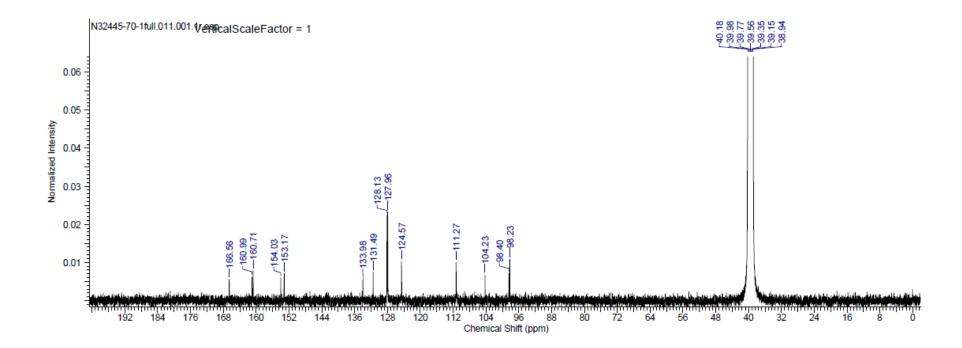


#### N-(4-Amino, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S3)

Ö H<sub>2</sub>N



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 11.48 (br. s., 1H), 9.33 (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 6.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 8.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 8.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 8.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.00 (d, J=5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.68 (m, 4H), 8.59 (d, J=7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 ppm (br. s., 1H), 8.44 ppm (br. s., 1H),

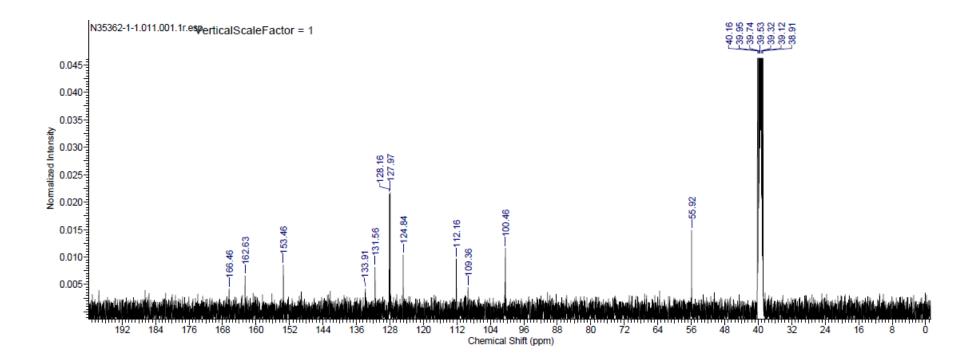


#### N-(4-Methoxy, 7-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl) benzamide (S4)

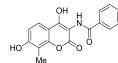
 $\cap$ ò

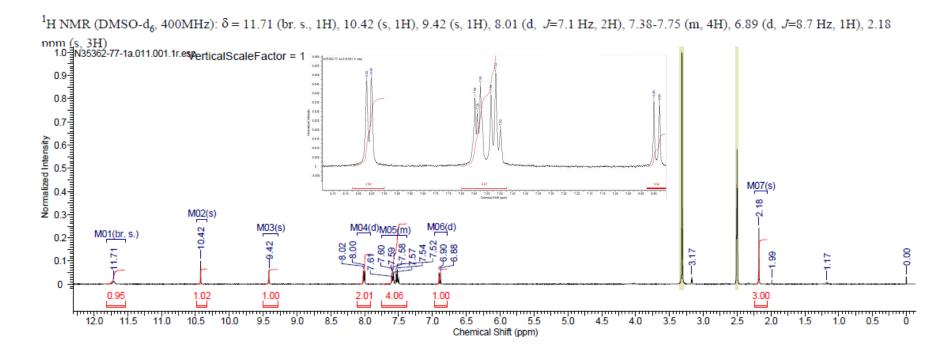
2H) 6.97-7.04 (m, 2H), 3.88 ppm (s, 3H) N35362-1-1c.010.001.1r.esp M08(s) 88 -2.50 က် 0.5 Normalized Intensity 0.4 - -M04(d) 0.3 M03(d) M06(d) M07(m) M05(d) M02(s) 0.2 -.50 7.52 8 7.59-7.80 9.45 સં 8 M01(br. s.) 8 ò œ -11.95 ~ 0.1 -0 0.88 12.5 12.0 11.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 0.97 9.5 3.00 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 Chemical Shift (ppm) 0.5 0 9.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 2.0 1.5 1.0

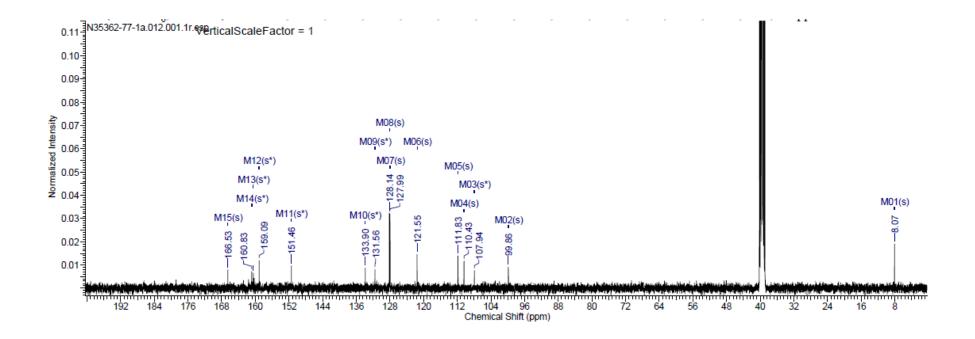
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 11.95 (br. s., 1H), 9.45 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J=7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d



## N-(4,7-dihydroxy-8-methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)benzamide<sup>17</sup>







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