Metabolically Stable Dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)ones as Highly Selective p38 MAP Kinase Inhibitors: Optimizing Anti-Cytokine Activity in Human Whole Blood

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General Information

All commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification. Melting points were determined with a Büchi melting point device, model B-545 and were thermodynamically corrected. ¹H NMR (200/400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (50/100 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 200/400. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm from the solvent resonance. IR data were determined on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum One spectrometer (ATR technique). Flash chromatography was performed using a LaFlash system (VWR) with Merck silica gel (PharmPrep® 60 CC 25-40 µm). The purity of the final compounds was determined by HPLC (Merck Hitachi L-6200 Intelligent Pump, Merck Hitachi AS-2000 Autosampler, Merck Hitachi L-4250 UV-VIS Detector) using a LiChrospher C18 column (5 μ m), employing a gradient of 0.01 M KH₂PO₄ (pH 2.3) and methanol as solvent system with a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min and detection at 254 nm. Mass spectra were run on a Hewlett Packard HP 6890 Series GC-system equipped with a HP-5MS capillary column (0.25 µM film thickness 30 m x 0.25 mm) and a Hewlett Packard HP 5973 Mass selective detector (70 eV). HRMS (EI) (electron impact – high resolution mass spectroscopy) data were obtained from the department for mass spectrometry, Institute of Organic Chemistry, Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen. All compounds were >95% pure. Metabolic and pharmacokinetic experiments were analyzed using a Micromass Quattro micro Triple quadrupole mass spectrometer coupled to JASCO HPLC system.

Synthesis of amino substituted dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure B).

To a solution of the respective nitro compound in dry ethyl acetate, 50 mg of palladium on activated carbon were added at room temperature. The mixture was then stirred under a hydrogen atmosphere until TLC indicated complete conversion. After filtration over silica gel, the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified via flash chromatography.

3-[(2-Amino-4-fluorophenyl)amino]-7-methoxydibenzo[*b,e*]**oxepin-11**(*6H*)-**one** (1c). Compound 1c was prepared according to General Procedure B using 1k (100 mg, 0.27 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 4.5 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 55 mg (60.4%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 7.80$ min, purity: 100%; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.86 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.18 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 5.20 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.98 (d, *J*=2.02 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.33 (m, 1 H, C³·H), 6.45 (dd, *J*=8.97, 2.15 Hz, 1 H, C⁵·H), 6.54 (m, 1 H, C⁶·H), 6.95 (m, 1 H, C²H), 7.27 (m, 2 H, C⁸H, C⁹H), 7.40 (d, *J*=7.83 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰), 7.89 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹), 8.04 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₁H₁₇FN₂O₃): calculated: 364.1223; found: 364.1231.

3-[(2-Amino-4-fluorophenyl)amino]-7-(2-morpholin-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (1e).

Compound **1e** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **11** (100 mg, 0.20 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 8.5 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 60 mg (64.7%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 3.98$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.47 (m, 4 H, C ^{3/5} morpholinylH₂), 2.72 (t, *J*=5.18 Hz, 2 H, C²_{ethoxy}H₂), 3.56 (t, *J*=3.92 Hz, 4 H, C^{2/6} morpholinylCH₂), 4.16 (t, *J*=5.43 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{ethoxy}H₂), 5.16 (s, -NH₂, 2 H), 5.21 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.99 (m, 1 H, C⁵H), 6.43 (m, 3 H, C⁴H, C³H, C²H) 6.95 (m, 1 H, C⁶H), 7.34 (m, 3 H, C⁸H, C⁹H, C¹⁰H), 7.88 (m, 1 H, C¹H), 8.04 (s, -NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₆H₂₆FN₃O₄): calculated: 463.1907; found: 463.1899.

3-[(2-Amino-4-fluorophenyl)amino]-8-(2-morpholin-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (2e).

Compound **2e** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **2n** (120 mg, 0.24 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 6 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 75 mg (67.4%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 3.78$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.54 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6} morpholinylH₂), 2.80 (t, *J*=5.49 Hz, 2 H, t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C² ethoxyH₂), 3.71 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5} morpholinylH₂), 4.16 (t, *J*=5.43 Hz, 2 H, C¹ ethoxyH₂), 5.03 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.75 (s, NH, 1 H), 6.09 (d, *J*=1.89 Hz, 1 H, C¹·H), 6.44 (m, 3 H, C⁴H, C⁵·H, C⁶·H), 6.76 (m, 1 H, C²), 6.96 (m, 2 H, C⁷H, C⁹H)), 7.95 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.17 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₆H₂₆FN₃O₄): calculated: 463.1907; found: 463.1904.

9-Amino-3-[(2,4-difluorophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5a).

Compound **5a** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28a**. The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 6 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 25 mg (54.2%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 6.81$ min, purity: 98.4%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.98 (s, 2 H, -NH₂), 5.41 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.21 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.65 (m, 2 H, C²H, C⁶c⁴H), 7.06 (m, 3 H; C³; H, C⁵; H, C⁸H), 7.38 (m, 2 H, C¹⁰H, C⁷H), 7.95 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H) 8.62 (s, 1 H, NH); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₄F₂N₂O₂): calculated. 352.1023; found: 352.1033.

9-Amino-3-[(2-amino-4-fluorophenyl)amino]dibenzo[*b,e*]**oxepin-11(6***H***)-one** (5b). Compound **5b** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28b** (80 mg, 0.19 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 4 h and purified by flash chromatograph (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 40 mg (60.3 %), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 5.57$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.94 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 5.17 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.36 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 5.97 (d, *J*=2.15 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.43 (m, 3 H, C³·H, C⁵·H, C2H), 6.70 (dd, *J*=7.96, 2.40 Hz, 1 H, (C⁷), 6.96 (m, 2 H, C⁶·H, C⁸H), 7.09 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 7.97 (s, 1 H, -NH); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₆FN₃O₂): calculated: 349.1226; found: 349.1206.

9-Amino-3-[(2-aminophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5c).

Compound **5c** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28c** (80 mg, 0.22 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 8 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 40 mg (54.5%), yellow oil. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 4.15$ min, purity: 97.3%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.83 (s, 2 H, -NH₂), 4.95 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.39 (s, 2 H, -NH₂), 6.04 (d, *J*=2.02 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.53 (m, 2 H, C²H, C³·H), 6.74 (m, 2 H, C⁶·H, C⁴·H), 6.95 (m, 3 H, C⁵·H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H), 7.09 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C⁷H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.04 (s, 1 H, -NH); **HRMS-ESI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₇N₃O₂) calculated: [M + H]⁺ 322.1394; found: 322.1396.

9-Amino-3-[(3-aminophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5d).

Compound **5d** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28d** (70 mg, 0.19 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 9 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 35 mg (54.5%), yellow oil. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 3.62$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.98 (s, 2)

H, C⁶H₂), 5.10 (s, 2 H, -NH₂), 5.40 (s, 2 H, NH₂), 6.27 (m, 2 H, C⁴·H, C²·H), 6.42 (m, 1 H, C⁶·H), 6.49 (d, J=2.15 Hz, 1 H, C²·H), 6.73 (m, 2 H, C⁴H, C⁸H), 6.95 (m, 2 H, C¹⁰H, C⁵·H), 7.11 (d, J=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C⁷H), 7.94 (d, J=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.63 (s, 1 H, NH); **HRMS-ESI**, m/z (C₂₀H₁₇N₃O₂) calculated [M + H]⁺: 322.1394; found: 322.1394

9-Amino-3-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5e).

Compound **5e** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28e** (80 mg, 0.20 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 5 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 45 mg (67.3%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.51$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.99 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.43 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 6.33 (m, 1 H, C²H), 6.71 (m, 2 H, C³·H, C⁶·H), 7.00 (d, *J*=2.02 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.26 (m, 5 H, C²·H, C⁵·H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H), 7.98 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.71 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₅FN₂O₂) calculated 334.1117; found 334.1127.

9-Amino-3-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5f).

Compound **5f** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28f**. The reaction mixture was stirred under a hydrogen atmosphere for 3 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 45 mg (67.3%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.84$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 4.99 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.42 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 6.42 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.70 (m, 2 H, C²H, C⁸H), 6.99 (m, 1 H, C²·H), 7.19 (m, 5 H, C³·H, C⁵·H, C⁶·H, C¹⁰H, C⁷H), 7.97 (d, *J*=9.09 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.84 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₅FN₂O₂) calculated 334.1117; found 334.1124.

9-Amino-3-[(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)amino]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (5g).

Compound **5g** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **28g** (50 mg, 0.24 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 3 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 45 mg (60.9%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 7.34$ min, purity: 100%; ¹H **NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.00 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.43 (s, NH₂, 2 H), 6.34 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.69 (m, 2 H, C³·H, C⁶·H), 6.99 (d, *J*=2.15 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.12 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C⁸H), 7.55 (m, 2 H, (C¹⁰H, C⁷H), 7.98 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.74 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₃F₃N₂O₂) calculated 370.0934; found 370.0929.

9-Amino-3-(2,4-difluorophenoxy)dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (6a).

Compound **6a** was prepared according to General Procedure B using **31** (100 mg, 0.26 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere for 2 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 65 mg (70.5%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 8.13$ min, purity: 98.5%; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.13 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 5.53 (s, -NH₂, 2 H) 6.49 (s, 1 H, C³H), 6.79 (m, 2 H, C³'H, C²H), 7.00 (m, 1 H, C⁸H), 7.22 (m, 2 H, C¹⁰H, C⁵'H), 7.51 (m, 2 H, C⁶'H, C⁷H), 8.13 (d, *J*=9.09 Hz, 1 H, C¹H). **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₃F₂NO₃) calculated 353.0863; found 353.0869.

Synthesis of dihydroxy substituted dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure C).

To a stirred solution of the respective 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl substituted compound in 50 ml methanol and 5 ml water, *p*-toluenesulfonic acid mono hydrate (50 mg, 0.50 mmol) was added. The mixture was then heated to reflux until TLC indicated complete conversion. After cooling to room temperature, the organic phase was evaporated. The resulting oil was purified via flash chromatography.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-7-{[(2S)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (1i).

Compound **1i** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **1g** (75 mg, 0.16 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 4 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 36 mg (52.6%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.91$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.48 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}-H₂), 3.95 (m, 3 H, C²_{propoxy}H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 5.29 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.24 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.59 (dd, *J*=8.84, 2.27 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.10 (m, 1H, C⁶'H), 7.35 (m, 5 H, C³'H, C⁵'H, C⁸H, C⁹H, C¹⁰H), 7.93 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.70 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1231; found 427.1238.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-7-{[(2*R*)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (1j).

Compound **1j** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **1h** (80 mg, 0.19 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 5 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 43 mg (53.0%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.93$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.49 (t, J=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}-H₂), 3.97 (m, 3 H, C²_{propoxy}H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 4.70 (t, J=5.62 Hz, -OH, 1 H), 5.05 (d, -OH, J=5.18 Hz, 1 H), 5.29 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.24 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.59 (dd, J=9.09, 1.89 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.09 (m, 1 H, C⁶·), 7.34 (m, 5 H, C³·, C⁵·, C⁸, C⁹, C¹⁰), 7.93 (d, J=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹), 8.69 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1231; found 427.1224.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-8-{[(2S)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (2l).

Compound **21** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **2j** (75 mg, 0.16 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 4 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 43 mg (66.2%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{R} = 6.67$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.46 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}H₂), 3.94 (m, 3 H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂, C²_{propoxy}H), 5.16 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.26 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.61 (dd, *J*=8.97, 1.26 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.07 (m, 3 H, C³'H, C⁶'H, C⁵'H), 7.39 (m, 2 H, C⁷H, C⁹H), 7.82 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.02 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H), 8.67 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated: 427.1231; found: 427.1217.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-8-{[(3*R*)-2,3-dihydroxybutyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (2m).

Compound **2m** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **2k** (60 mg, 0.12 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 3 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 30 mg (56.6%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 7.12$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 1.80 (m, 2 H, C²_{butoxy}H₂), 3.64 (m, 1 H, C³_{butoxy}H), 4.17 (m, 2 H, C⁴_{butoxy}H₂), 4.63 (m, C¹_{butoxy}H₂), 5.14 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.26 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.61 (dd, *J*=8.97, 1.77 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.07 (m, 3 H, C⁷H, C⁹H, C³'H), 7.37 (m, 2 H, C⁵'H, C⁶'H), 7.82 (d, *J*=8.46 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H), 8.02 (d, *J*=8.97 Hz, 1

H, C¹H), 8.67 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, m/z (C₂₄H₂₁F₂NO₅) calculated 441.1387; found 441.1371.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-9-{[(2S)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (3h).

Compound **3h** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **3f** (80 mg, 0.19 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 5 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 35 mg (44.6%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 7.02$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.45 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}H₂), 3.84 (m, 2 H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 4.09 (m, 1 H C²_{propoxy}H), 4.68 (t, -OH, *J*=5.68 Hz, 1 H), 4.97 (d, -OH, *J*=4.93 Hz, 1 H), 5.12 (s, 2 H, C⁶H2), 6.22 (m, 1 H, C⁴H) 6.60 (dd, *J*=9.22, 2.15 Hz, 1 H, C²H) 7.11 (m, 2 H, C⁶, C³) 7.29 (m, 1 H, C⁵) 7.41 (m, 3 H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H, C⁷H) 7.98 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹H) 8.70 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1231; found 427.1223.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-9-{[(2*R*)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (3i).

Compound **3i** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **3g** (100 mg, 0.21 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 6 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 50 mg (56.4%), yellow oil. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.47$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.44 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}H₂), 3.84 (m, 2 H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 4.06 (m, 1 H, C²_{propoxy}H), 4.68 (t, -OH, *J*=5.62 Hz, 1 H), 4.97 (d, -OH, *J*=5.05 Hz, 1 H), 5.12 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.22 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.60 (dd, *J*=8.53, 0.69 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.11 (m, 2 H, C⁶, C²), 7.36 (m, 4 H, C⁵·H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H, C⁷H), 7.98 (d, *J*=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.71 (s, NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1230; found 427.1222.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-10-{[(2S)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (4e).

Compound **4e** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **4c** (80 mg, 0.17 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 4 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 51 mg (71.2%), yellow oil. **HPLC**: $t_R = 7.08$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.47 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}H₂), 3.75 (m, 1 H, C²_{propoxy}H), 3.98 (m, 2 H, 1 H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 4.58 (t, -OH, *J*=4.93 Hz, 1 H), 4.87 (d, -OH, *J*=4.55 Hz, 1 H), 5.08 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.21 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.58 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.07 (m, 2 H, C³·H, C⁶·H), 7.16 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C⁹H), 7.40 (m, 3 H, C⁵·H, C⁷H, C⁸H), 7.72 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.57 (s, -NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1231; found 427.1203.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-10-{[(2*R*)-2,3-dihydroxypropyl]oxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin -11(6*H*)-one (4f).

Compound **4f** was prepared according to General Procedure C using **4c** (70 mg, 0.16 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 3 h and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / ethanol 95:5). Yield: 40 mg (60.5%), orange solid. **HPLC**: $t_R = 7.11$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.45 (m, 2 H, C³_{propoxy}H₂), 3.73 (m, 1 H, C²_{propoxy}H), 3.96 (m, 2 H, C¹_{propoxy}H₂), 4.57 (t, -OH, *J*=5.68 Hz, 1 H), 4.86 (d, -OH, *J*=4.93 Hz, 1 H), 5.07 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.20 (s, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.57 (dd, *J*=8.78, 1.71 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.05 (m, 2 H, C³'H, C⁶'H), 7.15 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C⁹H), 7.39 (m, 3 H, C⁵'H, C⁷H, C⁸H), 7.71 (d, *J*=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.56 (s, -NH, 1 H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₃H₁₉F₂NO₅) calculated 427.1231; found 427.1226.

Synthesis of *N*-morpholino substituted dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure D).

The stated amount of aniline compound, N-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochloride, KI and K₂CO₃ was dissolved in acetonitrile (4ml) in a microwave vial. The vial was heated in a CEM Discover microwave at 110°C for 10 min. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was hydrolyzed with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. After evaporating the organic phase, the resulting oil was purified via flash chromatography.

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenyl)amino]-9-[(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethyl)amino]dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (6b).

Compound **6b** was prepared according to General Procedure D using **30** (150 mg, 0.58 mmol), K₂CO₃ (160 mg, 1.16 mmol), *N*-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochloride (106 mg, 0.58 mmol) and KI (50 mg, 0.3 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / methanol 98:2). Yield: 85 mg (31.5%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 5.26$ min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.48 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6}_{morpholinyl}H₂), 2.67 (t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C²_{ethylamino}H₂), 3.23 (t, *J*=5.75 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{ethylamino}H₂), 3.71 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5}_{morpholinyl}H₂), 5.05 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.44 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 6.61 (dd, *J*=8.91, 1.96 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 6.84 (m, 3 H, C⁶H, C³H, C⁵H), 7.13 (m, 2 H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H), 7.35 (m, 1 H, C⁷H), 8.17 (d, *J*=8.56 Hz, 1H, C¹H); **HRMS-ESI**, *m/z* (C₂₀H₁₇N₃O₂) calculated: [M + H]⁺ 466.1937; found: 466.1940

3-[(2,4-Difluorophenoxy]-9-[(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethyl)amino]dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (6c).

Compound **6c** was prepared according to General Procedure D using **6a** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol), K₂CO₃ (78 mg, 0.56 mmol), *N*-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochloride (52 mg, 0.28 mmol) and KI (50 mg, 0.3 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, dichloromethane / methanol 98:2). Yield: 34 mg (26.0%), yellow solid. **HPLC**: $t_{\rm R} = 6.38$ min, purity: 99.5%; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.57 (s, 4 H, C^{3/5} morpholinylH₂), 2.72 (s, 2 H t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C²_{ethylamino}H₂), 3.23 (s, 2 H C¹_{ethylamino}H₂), 3.74 (s, 4 H, C^{2/6} morpholinylH₂), 4.99 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.35 (s, C⁴H), 6.62 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 6.73 (d, *J*=7.33 Hz, 1 H, C³), 6.86 (m, 2 H, C⁸H, C⁵YH), 7.05 (m, 3 H, C¹⁰H, C⁶YH, C⁷H), 8.13 (d, *J*=9.09 Hz, 1 H, C¹H); **HRMS-EI**, *m/z* (C₂₆H₂₄F₂N₂O₄) calculated 466.1703; found 466.1688.

Synthesis of hydroxyl substituted 2-methylbenzoic acids (General Procedure E).

The aniline compound was dissolved in 200 ml H_2SO_4 (2.0%) and cooled to 0°C. The respective amount of NaNO₂ was dissolved in 20 ml H_2O and added dropwise to the reaction mixture and stirred for 30 min. After warming to room temperature, the solution was heated to reflux temperature for 30 min. After cooling down to room temperature, the solution was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic phase was evaporated. The phenol compounds remain as orange solids.

5-Hydroxy-2-methylbenzoic acid (19a).

Compound **19a** was prepared according to General Procedure E using 5-amino-2methylbenzoic acid (**18a**) (3.20 g, 21.17 mmol) and NaNO₂ (1.90 g, 27.50 mmol). Yield: 2.00 g (62.7%), orange solid. **C**₈**H**₈**O**₃ (M_r = 152.14 g/mol); **mp** = 181.8 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.37 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 6.82 (dd, *J*=8.27, 2.72 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.06 (d, *J*=8.21 Hz, 1 H, C³H), 7.22 (d, *J*=2.65 Hz, 1 H, C⁶H), 9.43 (s, -OH, 1 H) 12.67 (s, -CO₂H, 1 H); ¹³**C NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ [ppm] = 20.7 (-CH₃), 117.0 (C⁶), 119.2 (C⁴), 129.4 (C³), 131.3 (C²), 132.8 (C¹), 155.4 (C⁵), 168.9 (CO₂H); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)** = 2925, 2606, 1682, 1656, 1307, 1276, 1245, 1222, 759.

6-Hydroxy-2-methylbenzoic acid (19b).

Compound **19b** was prepared according to General Procedure E using 6-amino-2methylbenzoic acid (5.00 g, 32.90 mmol) and NaNO₂ (2.27 g, 36.18 mmol). Yield: 3.40 g (68.0%), orange solid. **C**₈**H**₈**O**₃ (M_r= 152.14 g/mol); **mp** = 168.1 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.61 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 6.78 (d, *J*=7.33 Hz, 1 H, C⁵H), 6.88 (d, *J*=8.21 Hz, 1 H, C³H),7.36 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 11.02 (s, -OH, 1 H); ¹³**C NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ [ppm] = 24.0 (-CH₃), 110.8 (C¹), 115.8 (C⁵), 123.2 (C³), 135.4 (C⁴), 142.9 (C²), 163.7 (C⁶), 176.1 (CO₂H); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)** = 2850, 1641, 1602, 1441, 1304, 1249, 1216, 902, 804, 718

Synthesis of substituted methyl-2-methylbenzoates (General Procedure F).

The benzoic acid is dissolved in 50 ml MeOH and 2ml H_2SO_4 conc and the solution was heated to reflux temperature for 6 hours. After cooling down to room temperature, the solution was evaporated. The resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate and extracted with sodium hydroxide solution (10%). The organic phase was evaporated and the product remains as a colorless oil.

Methyl-3-methoxy-2-methylbenzoate (9a).

Compound **9a** was prepared according to General Procedure F using 3-methoxy-2-methylbenzoic acid (5.00 g, 30.1 mmol). Yield: 4.90 g (90.7%), colorless oil. $C_{10}H_{12}O_3$ (M_r = 180.08 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.30 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.80 (s, 6 H, 2*-OCH₃), 7.21 (m, 3 H, C³H, C⁴H, C⁶H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 12.8 (-CH₃), 52.2 (-OCH₃), 56.0 (-OCH₃), 114.0 (C⁴), 121.6 (C⁶, C²), 126.8 (C⁵), 131.7 (C¹), 158.0 C³), 168.1 (CO₂Me); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)** = 3327, 2855, 1693, 1670, 1609, 1309, 1289, 1262, 1057, 713

Methyl-4-methoxy-2-methylbenzoate (9b).

Compound **9b** was prepared according to General Procedure F using 4-methoxy-2methylbenzoic acid (5.00 g, 27.6 mmol). Yield: 5.02 g (93.3%), colorless oil. **C**₉**H**₉**NO**₄ (M_r = 195.17 g/mol); ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.61 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.87 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 7.62 (d, 1 H, *J*=8.48 Hz, C³H), 8.29 (d, *J*=8.48 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 8.52 (s, 1H, C⁶H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 21.4 (-CH₃), 52.9 (-OCH₃), 125.1 (C⁶), 126.7 (C⁴), 130.7 (C¹), 133.6 (C³), 145.9 (C²), 147.6 (C⁵), 165.83 (CO₂Me);

Methyl-2-methyl-5-nitrobenzoate (9c).

Compound **9c** was prepared according to General Procedure F using 5-nitro-2methylbenzoic acid (5.00 g, 30.1 mmol). Yield: 4.50 g (83.0%), colorless solid. $C_{10}H_{12}O_3$ (M_r = 180.08 g/mol); **mp** = 72.3 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.50 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.76 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.79 (s, 3 H-OCH₃), 6.84 (m, 2 H, C³H, C⁵H), 7.83 (d, *J*=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C⁶H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 22.0 (-CH₃), 51.8 (-OCH₃), 55.7 (-OCH₃), 111.7 (C³), 117.2 (C⁵), 121.5 (C¹), 132.9 (C⁶), 142.5 (C²), 162.4 (C⁴), 167.0 (CO₂Me);

Synthesis of methoxy substituted methyl-2-methylbenzoates (General Procedure G).

The benzoic acid, iodomethan and K_2CO_3 were suspended in 50 ml DMF and heated to a temperature of 70°C for 16 hours. After cooling down to room temperature, the solution was hydrolyzed with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. After drying over Na₂SO₄, the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by flash chromatograph (SiO₂, hexane/ ethyl acetate 3:1).

Methyl-5-methoxy-2-methylbenzoate (20a).

Compound **20a** was prepared according to General Procedure G using **19a** (2.00 g, 13.1 mmol), K_2CO_3 (9.10 g, 66.2 mmol) and iodomethane (11.07 g, 78.5 mmol). Yield: 1.40 g (59.3%), yellow oil. $C_{10}H_{12}O_3$ (M_r = 180.20 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.52 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.82 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.90 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 6.96 (dd, *J*=8.40, 2.84 Hz, 1 H, C⁴), 7.15 (m, 1 H, C³), 7.45 (d, *J*=2.78 Hz, 1 H, C⁶); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 20.6 (-CH₃), 51.7 (-OCH₃), 55.3 -OCH₃), 114.9 (C⁴), 118.3 (C³), 130.1 (C⁶), 132.0 (C¹), 132.5 (C²), 157.3 (C⁵), 167.8 (CO₂Me);

Methyl-6-methoxy-2-methylbenzoate (20b).

Compound **20b** was prepared according to General Procedure G using **19b** (3.00 g, 19.7 mmol), K₂CO₃ (13.60 g, 98.6 mmol) and iodomethane (12.00 g, 85.1 mmol). Yield: 2.60 g (72.8%), yellow oil. C₁₀H₁₂O₃ (M_r = 180.20 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.17 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.74 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.79 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 6.83 (d, *J*=7.58 Hz, 1 H, C⁵H), 6.90 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C³H), 7.28 (m, 1 H, C⁴H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 19.0 (-CH₃), 52.3 (-OCH₃), 56.0 (-OCH₃), 109.2 (C⁵), 122.4 (C³), 123.8 (C¹), 130.7 (C⁴), 135.8 (C²), 156.2 (C⁶), 168.2 (CO₂Me).

Synthesis of substituted methyl-2-bromomethylbenzoates (General Procedure H).

The benzoate was dissolved in 50 ml CCl_4 (50 ml) and heated to 72 °C. Then respective amount of NBS and AIBN were added. The mixture was heated to reflux for 3 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was used in the next step without further purification.

Methyl-2-bromomethyl-3-methoxybenzoate (10a).

Compound **10a** was prepared according to General Procedure H using **8a** (4.90 g, 27.2 mmol), *N*-bromosuccinimide (4.84 g, 27.2 mmol) and AIBN (100mg, 0.60 mmol). Yield: not identified. **C**₁₀**H**₁₁**BrO**₃ (M_r = 259.10 g/mol); ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 3.93 (s, 6 H, 2*-OCH₃), 5.05 (s, 2 H, Br-CH₂-), 7.07 (dd, *J*=8.21, 0.76 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.34 (t, *J*=8.02 Hz, 1 H,C⁵H), 7.52 (m, 1 H, C⁶H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 24.4 (CH₂-Br), 52.21 (-OCH₃), 56.1 (OCH₃), 114.5 (C⁴), 122.8 (C⁶), 127.5 (C⁵), 129.2 (C²), 130.6 (C¹), 157.8 (C³), 167.1 (CO₂Me)

Methyl-2-bromomethyl-4-methoxybenzoate (10b).

Compound 10b was prepared according to General Procedure H using 8b (4.80 g, 26.7 mmol), *N*-bromosuccinimide (4.77 g, 26.7 mmol) and AIBN (100mg, 0.60 mmol). Yield: not identified. $C_{10}H_{11}BrO_3$ (M_r = 259.10 g/mol)

Methyl-2-bromomethyl-5-nitrobenzoate (10c).

Compound 10c was prepared according to General Procedure H using 8c (5.00 g, 25.7 mmol), *N*-bromosuccinimide (4.60 g, 25.7 mmol) and AIBN (100mg, 0.60 mmol). Yield: not identified. $C_9H_8BrNO_4$ (M_r = 274.07 g/mol)

Methyl-2-bromomethyl-5-methoxybenzoate (21a).

Compound **21a** was prepared according to General Procedure H using **20a** (1.10 g, 6.1 mmol), *N*-bromosuccinimide (1.09 g, 6.1 mmol) and AIBN (50 mg, 0.30 mmol). Yield: not identified. **C**₁₀**H**₁₁**BrO**₃ (M_r = 259.10 g/mol); ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 3.93 (s, 6 H, 2*-OCH₃), 5.05 (s, 2 H, Br-CH₂-), 7.07 (dd, *J*=8.21, 0.76 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.34 (t, *J*=8.02 Hz, 1 H,C⁵H), 7.52 (m, 1 H, C⁶H); ¹³**C NMR** (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 24.4 (CH₂-Br), 52.21 (-OCH₃), 56.1 (OCH₃), 114.5 (C⁴), 122.8 (C⁶), 127.5 (C⁵), 129.2 (C²), 130.6 (C¹), 157.8 (C³), 167.1 (CO₂Me)

Methyl-2-bromomethyl-6-methoxybenzoate (21b).

Compound **21b** was prepared according to General Procedure H using **20b** (2.00 g, 11.0 mmol), *N*-bromosuccinimide (1.97 g, 11.0 mmol) and AIBN (100 mg, 0.60 mmol). Yield: not identified. $C_{10}H_{11}BrO_3$ (M_r = 259.10 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 3.85 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.96 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 4.50 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.90 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C⁵H), 7.02 (d, *J*=7.45 Hz, 1 H, C³H), 7.35 (m, 1 H, C⁴H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 52.4 (-OCH₃), 56.0 (-OCH₃), 68.1 (CH₂Br), 111.5 (C⁵), 119.0 (C¹), 122.2 (C³), 131.0 (C⁴), 136.4 (C²), 156.8 (C⁶), 167.4 (CO₂Me)

Synthesis of substituted phenoxyesters (General Procedure I).

The stated amount of benzyl bromide, K_2CO_3 and 3-chlorophenole were dissolved in acetone (50 ml) and heated to reflux for 4 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was evaporated and the resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate and extracted with sodium hydroxide solution (10%). The organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified using flash chromatograph (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1).

Methyl-2-[(3-chlorophenoxy)methyl]-3-methoxybenzoate (11a).

Compound **11a** was prepared according to General Procedure I using **10a** (5.00 g, 19.3 mmol), 3-chlorophenole (2.48 g, 19.3 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (2.67 g, 19.3 mmol). Yield: 4.06 g (68.6%), white solid; $C_{16}H_{15}ClO_4$ (M_r = 306.75 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.71 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.84 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.28 (s, 2 H, -CH₂O-), 6.95 (m, 3 H, C²·H, C⁴·H, C³H), 7.30 (m, 3 H, C⁵H, C⁴H, C⁵·H), 7.48 (m, 1 H, C⁶H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 52.6 (-OCH₃), 56.6 (-OCH₃), 61.2 (-OCH₂-), 113.9 (C⁶), 114.7 (C²), 115.18 (C⁴), 120.9 (C⁴·), 121.9 (C⁶), 123.8 (C²), 130.4 (C⁵), 131.2 (C⁵), 133.0 (C¹), 134.0 (C³), 158.1 (C³), 160.0 C¹·), 167.8 (CO₂CH₃); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 1713, 1587, 1458, 1276, 1242, 1068, 1004, 903, 749.

Methyl-2-[(3-chlorophenoxy)methyl]-4-methoxybenzoate (11b).

Compound **11b** was prepared according to General Procedure I using **10b** (3.00 g, 11.6 mmol), 3-chlorophenole (1.48 g, 11.6 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (1.61 g, 11.6 mmol). The crude yellow oil was used without further purification in the next step. Yield: not identified. $C_{16}H_{15}ClO_4$ ($M_r = 306.75$ g/mol)

Methyl-2-[(3-chlorophenoxy)methyl]-5-nitrobenzoate (11c).

Compound **11c** was prepared according to General Procedure I using **10c** (2.74 g, 10.0 mmol), 3-chlorophenole (1.27 g, 10.0 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (1.39 g, 10.0 mmol). Yield: 1.80 g (55.9%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{12}CINO_5$ (M_r = 321.7 g/mol); **mp** = 143.4 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.89 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.56 (s, 2 H, -CH₂O), 7.02 (m, 2 H, C⁴·H, C⁶·H), 7.11 (s, 1 H, C²·H), 7.33 (m, 1 H, C5'H), 7.92 (d, 1H, J=8.58 Hz, C³H), 8.46 (d, 1H, J=8.58Hz, C⁴H), 8.62 (s, 1H, C⁶H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 53.2 (-OCH₃), 67.7 (-OCH₂-), 114.6 (C⁶·), 115.3 (C²·), 121.6 (C⁴·), 125.3 (C⁶), 127.3 (C⁴), 129.5 (C³), 129.9 (C¹), 131.4 (C⁵·), 134.2 (C³·), 145.5 (C²), 147.1 (C⁵), 159.1 C¹·), 165.4 (CO₂CH₃); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 1723, 1520, 1344, 1255, 1070, 1045, 902, 784, 735, 677.

Methyl-2-[(3-chlorophenoxy)methyl]-5-methoxybenzoate (22a).

Compound **22a** was prepared according to General Procedure I using **21a** (2.50 g, 9.7 mmol), 3-chlorophenole (1.24 g, 9.7 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (1.33 g, 9.7 mmol). Yield: 1.66 g (56.2%), white solid; $C_{16}H_{15}ClO_4$ (M_r = 306.75 g/mol); **mp** = 55.7 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.78 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.31 (s, 2H, CH₂-O-), 6.97 (m, 3 H, C²'H, C⁶'H, C⁴'H), 7.18 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.30 (m, 1 H, C⁵'H), 7.38 (d, *J*=2.78 Hz, 1 H, C⁶H), 7.54 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C³H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 52.6 (-OCH₃), 55.8 (-OCH₃), 68.0 (-CH₂-O), 114.1 (C⁶')', 115.1 C²'), 115.7 (C⁶), 118.1 (C⁴), 121.1 (C⁴'), 129.4 (C¹), 130.7 (C³), 131.1 (C²), 131.3 (C⁵'), 134.1 (C³'), 159.1 (C⁵), 159.7 (C^{1'}), 167.1 (CO₂CH₃); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 3090, 2923, 1717, 1288, 1218, 1078, 1030, 895, 828, 766.

Methyl-2-[(3-chlorophenoxy)methyl]-6-methoxybenzoate (22b).

Compound **22b** was prepared according to General Procedure I using **21b** (3.00 g, 11.6 mmol), 3-chlorophenole (1.49 g, 11.6 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (1.61 g, 11.6 mmol). Yield: 2.35 g (66.1%), yellow oil; $C_{16}H_{15}ClO_4$ (M_r = 306.75 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.73 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 3.79 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.09 (s, 2 H, CH₂O), 6.91 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C⁶), 7.02 (m, 2 H, C²'H, C⁵H), 7.12 (m, 2 H, C⁴'H, C⁷H), 7.29 (m, 1 H, C⁵'H), 7.45 (m, 1 H, C⁴H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 52.0 (-OCH₃), 55.9 (-OCH₃), 67.6 (-CH₂O), 111.8 (C¹), 113.8 (C⁶), 114.7 (C²), 120.6 (C⁵), 120.9 (C³), 122.3 (C²), 130.8 (C⁴), 130.9 (C⁵), 133.7 (C⁴), 135.0 (C³), 156.3 (C⁶), 158.9 C¹), 167.0 (CO₂CH₃).

Synthesis of substituted phenoxybenzoic acids (General Procedure J).

The stated amount of phenoxy ester and KOH were dissolved in MeOH (50 ml) / H_2O (2 ml) and heated to a temperature of 40°C for 4 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was evaporated and the resulting oil was dissolved in cooled water. After acidification with HCl solution (10%), the product precipitated as a white solid. The suspension was filtered and dried for 48 h in a exsiccator.

2-[(3-Chlorophenoxy)methyl]3-methoxybenzoic acid (12a).

Compound **12a** was prepared according to General Procedure J using **11a** (3.00 g, 9.8 mmol) and KOH (1.10 g, 19.6 mmol). Yield: 2.14 g (74.8%), white solid. $C_{15}H_{13}ClO_4$ (M_r = 292.72 g/mol); **mp** = 147.3 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.85 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.34 (s, 2 H, -CH₂O), 6.94 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C6'H), 6.98 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C⁴'H), 7.05 (s, 1 H, C²'H), 7.37 (m, 4 H, C⁴H, C⁵H, C⁶H, C⁵'H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 56.2 (-OCH₃), 60.9 (-OCH₂-), 113.5 (C6'), 114.4 (C²'), 114.4 (C⁴), 120.4 (C⁴'), 121.6 (C⁶), 123.3 (C²), 129.9 C⁵), 130.8 (C⁵'), 133.6 C¹), 134.1 (C³'), 157.8 (C³), 159.8 (C¹'), 168.6 (CO₂H); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 1690, 1594, 1465, 1278, 1243, 1065, 999, 772, 750.

2-[(3-Chlorophenoxy)methyl]4-methoxybenzoic acid (12b).

Compound **12b** was prepared according to General Procedure J using **11b** (3.20 g, 10.4 mmol) and KOH (1.10 g, 19.6 mmol). Yield: 2.32 g (75.9%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{13}ClO_4$ (M_r = 292.72 g/mol); **mp** = 133.0 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.82 (s, 3 H, OCH3), 5.46 (s, 2 H, -CH2O-), 6.99 (m, 3 H, C6'H, C3H, C5H), 7.07 (s, 1 H, C2'), 7.16 (m, 1 H, C4'), 7.33 (m, 1 H, C5'), 7.96 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C6), 12.73 (s, COOH, 1 H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 55.5 (-OCH₃), 67.8(-CH2O-), 91.7 (C3), 100.6 (C5), 108.7 (C2'), 112.2 (C6'), 113.7 (C4'), 120.8 (C1), 131.1 (C6), 133.2 (C5'), 133.7, 140.7 (C2), 159.2 (C4), 162.2 (C1'), 167.4 (COOH); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 1678, 1596, 1569, 1292, 1237, 1153, 1046, 899, 773.

2-[(3-Chlorophenoxy)methyl]-5-nitrobenzoic acid (12c).

Compound **12c** was prepared according to General Procedure J using **11c** (3.52 g, 10.94 mmol) and KOH (0.61 g, 10.94 mmol). Yield: 2.45 g (73.3%), white solid; $C_{14}H_{10}CINO_5$ (M_r = 307.68 g/mol); **mp** = 164.4 °C; ¹H **NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.58 (s, 2 H, CH₂O), 7.02 (m, 3 H, C²·H, C⁴·H, C⁶·H), 7.33 (m, 1 H, C⁵·H), 7.91(d, 1 H, J=8.58Hz, C³H), 8.24 (d, *J*=8.58 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 8.63 (s, 1 H, C⁶); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 67.9 (CH₂O), 114.1 (C⁶·), 115.3 (C⁶), 115.9 (C²·), 121.5 (C⁴·), 125.5 (C⁶), 127.0 (C⁴), 129.4 (C³), 130.9 (C¹), 131.4 (C⁵·), 134.2 (C³·), 145.7 (C⁵), 159.2 (C¹·), 166.5 (CO₂H); **FT-IR** (**ATR, cm⁻¹**): 1723, 1613, 1522, 1347, 1256, 1233, 1071, 1047, 851, 734, 674.

2-[(3-Chlorophenoxy)methyl]-5-methoxybenzoic acid (23a).

Compound **23a** was prepared according to General Procedure J using **22a** (1.00 g, 3.3 mmol) and KOH (0.50 g, 8.9 mmol). Yield: 0.70 g (73.3%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{13}ClO_4$ (M_r = 292.72 g/mol); **mp** = 126.5 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.79 (s, 3 H, - OCH₃), 5.34 (s, 2 H, CH₂O), 6.97 (m, 3 H, C2'H, C4'H, C6'H), 7.15 (dd, *J*=8.46, 2.91 Hz, 1 H, C3H), 7.30 (m, 1 H, C4), 7.40 (d, *J*=2.78 Hz, 1 H, C6), 7.51 (d, *J*=8.46 Hz, 1 H, C2'); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 55.8 (-OCH₃), 68.1 (CH₂O), 114.1 (C²), 115.2 (C⁶), 115.9 (C⁶), 117.8 (C⁴), 121.0 (C⁴), 129.6 (C¹), 130.9 (C³), 131.7 (C³), 134.1 (C²), 159.0 (C⁵), 159.8 (C¹), 168.3 (CO₂H); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 2837, 2547, 1690, 1572, 1295, 1276, 1230, 1048, 1037, 751.

2-[(3-Chlorophenoxy)methyl]-6-methoxybenzoic acid (23b).

Compound **23b** was prepared according to General Procedure J using **22b** (1.00 g, 3.3 mmol) and KOH (0.50 g, 8.9 mmol). Yield: 675 mg (70.5%), colorless oil; $C_{15}H_{13}CIO_4$ (M_r = 292.72 g/mol), ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.80 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃) 5.08 (s, 2 H, CH₂O) 7.02 (m, 5 H, C⁶'H, C²'H, C⁵H, C⁷H, C⁴'H) 7.31 (m, 1 H, C⁷H) 7.41 (m, 1 H, C⁵') 13.01 (s, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 55.8 (-OCH₃), 67.6 (-CH₂O-), 111.7 (C¹), 113.8 (C⁶'), 114.9 (C²'), 120.5 (C⁵), 120.9 (C³), 124.2 (C²), 130.2 (C⁴'), 130.8 (C⁵'), 133.6 (C⁴), 134.1 (C^{3'}), 155.8 (C⁶), 159.1 (C¹'), 167.9 (CO₂H); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3208, 2981, 1735, 1583, 1272, 1230, 1028, 778, 757, 675.

Synthesis of substituted 3-chlorodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure K).

To a stirred solution of the benzoic acid in dichloromethane (40 ml), the thionyl chloride was added dropwise over 30 minutes at room temperature. After stirring another 60 minutes, $AlCl_3$ was added slowly and the mixture stirred for 30 minutes. After hydrolysis with water, the organic phase was extracted with sodium hydroxide solution (10%) and evaporated. The resulting oil was purified via flash chromatography.

3-Chloro-8-methoxydibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (13b).

Compound **13b** was prepared according to General Procedure K using **12b** (2.50 g, 8.56 mmol), SOCl₂ (1.01 g, 8.56 mmol) and AlCl₃ (2.28 g, 17.15 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1). Yield: 1.34 g (56.9%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{11}ClO_3$ (M_r = 274.71 g/mol); mp = 120.8 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.87 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.29 (s, 2 H, C⁶), 7.08 (m, 1 H, C⁴), 7.15 (m, 1 H, C²), 7.25 (m, 2 H, C⁷, C⁹), 7.84 (d, *J*=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰), 8.14 (d, *J*=9.35 Hz, 1 H, C¹); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 56.1 (-OCH₃), 73.7 (C⁶), 113.8 (C⁴), 115.0 (C⁷), 120.6 (C⁹), 123.1 (C²), 124.9 (C^{11a}), 132.1 (C^{10a}), 132.3 (C¹⁰), 133.7 (C¹), 138.8 (C³), 139.6 (C^{6a}), 161.5 (C⁸), 163.5 (C^{4a}), 187.1 (C¹¹); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3070, 2947, 1591, 1281, 1193, 1122, 1019, 871, 749, 694.

3-Chloro-9-nitrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (13c).

Compound **13c** was prepared according to General Procedure K using **12c** (2.70 g, 8.80 mmol), SOCl₂ (1.12 g, 8.80 mmol) and AlCl₃ (5.0 g, 35.0 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1). Yield: 1.40 g (55.1%), white solid; $C_{14}H_8CINO_4$ (M_r = 289.67 g/mol); **mp** = 175.0 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.49 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 7.30 (m, 1 H, C⁴H, C²H), 7.90 (d, J=8.96 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.13 (d, J=9.08Hz, 1 H, C⁷H), 8.48 (m, 2 H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 72.7 (C⁶), 120.8 (C⁴), 123.5 (C²), 123.9 (C^{11a}), 124.4 (C⁸), 127.9 (C¹⁰), 130.7 (C⁷), 133.7 (C¹), 140.5 (C^{10a}), 140.7 (C³), 142.4 (C^{6a}), 161.7 (C^{4a}), 187.3 (C¹¹); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 1723, 1589, 1428, 1344, 1251, 1040, 1023, 881, 717, 682.

3-Chloro-10-methoxydibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (24b).

Compound **24b** was prepared according to General Procedure K using **23b** (2.50 g, 8.56 mmol), SOCl₂ (1.01 g, 8.56 mmol) and AlCl₃ (2.28 g, 17.15 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1). Yield: 1.45 g (61.8%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{11}ClO_3$ (M_r = 274.71 g/mol); **mp** = 113.0 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.77 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.22 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 7.15 (m, 4 H, C⁹H, C⁴H, C⁷H, C²H), 7.54 (m, 1 H, C8H), 7.80 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C¹H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 56.0 (-OCH₃), 72.1 (C⁶), 113.2 (C⁹), 119.3 (C⁴), 120.4 (C⁷), 121.8 (C²), 125.3 (C^{11a}), 129.0 (C^{10a}), 132.1 (C⁸), 132.8 (C¹), 135.2, (C³), 138.8 (C^{6a}), 156.7 (C¹⁰), 159.6 (C^{4a}), 189.5 (C¹¹); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 3441,3014, 1662, 1593, 1472, 1271, 1091, 1001, 857, 800.

Synthesis of substituted 3-chlorodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure L).

To a stirred solution of benzoic acid in DCM (40 ml), trifluoroacetic anhydride was added slowly at room temperature. After stirring for 30 minutes, the borontrifluorid etherate (0.2 ml) was added and the solution was stirred for another 30 minutes. After hydrolysis with water, the organic phase was extracted with sodium hydroxide solution (10%) and evaporated. The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography.

3-Chloro-7-methoxydibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (13a).

Compound **13a** was prepared according to General Procedure L using **12a** (2.00 g, 6.85 mmol), TFAA (4.50 g, 21.42 mmol) and BF₃-O(Et)₂ (0.2 ml). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1). Yield: 1.12 g (59.7%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{11}ClO_3$ (M_r = 274.71 g/mol); **mp** = 172.8 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.92 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.36 (s, 2 H,-CH₂O-), 7.08 (m, 3 H, C²H, C⁴H, C⁸H), 7.40 (m, 2 H, C⁹, C¹⁰), 8.11 (d, *J*=9.09 Hz, 1 H, C¹H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 55.9 (-OCH₃), 65.5 (-CH₂O-), 114.6 (C⁴), 120.3 C⁸), 120.5 (C²), 122.3 (C¹⁰), 123.2 (C^{11a}), 123.7 (C^{10a}), 130.1 (C⁹), 132.9 (C¹), 140.8 C³), 142.4 (C^{6a}), 155.6 (C⁷), 161.7 C^{4a}), 190.7 (C¹¹); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3344, 2929, 1694, 1595, 1462, 1268, 1242, 1156, 1063, 766.

3-Chloro-9-methoxydibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (24a).

Compound **24a** was prepared according to General Pprocedure L using **23a** (2.00 g, 6.85 mmol), TFAA (4.50 g, 21.42 mmol) and BF₃-O(Et)₂ (0.2 ml). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 3:1). Yield: 0.45 g (23.9%), white solid; $C_{15}H_{11}CIO_3$ (M_r = 274.71 g/mol); **mp** = 105.1 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 3.82 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 5.28 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 7.24 (m, 4 H, C²H, C⁴H, C¹⁰H, C⁸H), 7.51 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C⁷H), 8.08 (d, *J*=8.59 Hz, 1 H, C¹H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 55.5 (-OCH₃), 72.3 (C⁶), 113.1 (C⁴), 118.9 (C¹⁰), 120.2 (C⁸), 122.3 (C²), 123.7 (C^{11a}), 127.9 (C^{10a}), 130.1 (C⁷), 133.2 (C¹), 139.7 (C^{6a}), 141.0 (C³), 159.7 (C⁹), 161.3 (C^{4a}), 189.0 (C¹¹); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)**: 3085, 2942, 1589, 1328, 1283, 1255, 1010, 878, 853, 766.

Synthesis of hydroxyl substituted 3-chloro-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure M).

A solution of 3-chloro-oxepin-11(6H)-one in dichloromethane (40ml) was cooled to a temperature of -20 °C under an argon atmosphere and BBr₃ was added slowly. The progress was monitored until TLC indicated complete conversion. After hydrolysis with water, the organic phase was evaporated. The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography.

3-Chloro-7-hydroxydibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (14a).

Compound **14a** was prepared according to General Procedure M using **13a** (1.70 g, 6.19 mmol) and BBr₃ (2.33 g, 9.28 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 830 mg (52.8%), colorless oil; $C_{14}H_{19}ClO_3$ (M_r = 260.67 g/mol); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.32 (s, 2 H, -CH₂O-), 7.22 (m, 5 H, C²H, C⁴H, C⁸H, C⁹, C¹⁰), 8.00 (d, *J*=9.10 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 10.35 (s, -OH, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 65.8 (-CH₂O-), 119.2 (C^{11a}), 120.3 (C⁴), 120.4 (C⁸), 121.6 (C²), 122.5 (C¹⁰), 124.1 (C^{10a}), 130.4 (C⁹), 133.3 (C¹), 139.9 (C³), 142.3 (C^{6a}), 154.4 (C⁷), 161.6 (C^{4a}), 190.4 (C¹¹).

3-Chloro-8-hydroxydibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (14b).

Compound **14b** was prepared according to General Procedure M using **13b** (1.50 g, 5.47 mmol) and BBr₃ (2.50 g, 10.0 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 630 mg (44.1%), white solid; $C_{14}H_{19}ClO_3$ (M_r = 260.67 g/mol); **mp** = 254.1°C; ¹H **NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.22 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.89 (m, 2 H, C⁷H, C⁹H), 7.23 (m, 2 H, C⁴H,C²H), 7.76 (d, *J*=9.35 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H), 8.14 (m, 1 H, C¹H), 10.58 (s, -OH, 1 H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 73.9 (C⁶), 115.0 (C⁷), 116.3 (C⁹), 120.6 (C⁴), 123.0 (C²), 125.1 (C^{11a}), 130.7 (C^{10a}), 132.6 (C¹⁰), 133.7 (C¹), 139.1 (C^{6a}), 139.4 (C³), 161.5 (C⁸), 162.5 (C^{4a}), 186.8 (C¹¹).

3-Chloro-9-hydroxydibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (25a).

Compound **25a** was prepared according to General Procedure M using **24a** (0.40 g, 1.46 mmol) and BBr₃ (0.73 g, 2.92 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 230 mg (60.4%), white solid; $C_{14}H_{19}ClO_3$ (M_r = 260.67 g/mol); **mp** = 162.5 °C; ¹H **NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 5.22 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 7.03 (m, 1 H, C⁸H), 7.21 (m, 3 H, C³H, C²H, C¹⁰H) 7.39 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C1H, C⁷H), 8.07 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 9.99 (s, OH, 1 H); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 72.4 (C⁶), 114.8 (C⁴), 119.9 (C¹⁰), 120.2 (C⁸), 122.2 (C²), 123.7 (C^{11a}), 126.3 (C^{10a}),

130.1 (C⁷), 133.2 (C¹), 139.6 (C^{6a}), 141.0 (C³), 158.0 (C⁹), 161.3, (C^{4a}), 189.1 (C¹¹); **FT-IR** (**ATR, cm⁻¹**): 3336, 1581, 1303, 1289, 1253, 1241, 1021, 873, 789, 771.

3-Chloro-10-hydroxydibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (25b).

Compound **25b** was prepared according to General Procedure M using **24b** (1.50 g, 5.47 mmol) and BBr₃ (2.33 g, 9.28 mmol). The resulting oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexane / ethyl acetate 1:1). Yield: 860 mg (60.5%), white solid; **C**₁₄**H**₁₉**ClO₃** (M_r= 260.67 g/mol); **mp** = 145.4 °C; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 5.14 (s, 2 H, C⁶H₂), 6.84 (dd, *J*=7.20, 0.63 Hz, 1 H, C⁹H), 7.11 (m, 3 H, C⁴H, C⁷H, C²H), 7.47 (m, 1 H, C⁸H), 8.35 (d, *J*=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 12.50 (s, -OH, 1 H); ¹³**C NMR** (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 74.9 (C⁶), 119.3 (C⁹), 119.3 (C⁴), 120.4 (C⁷), 121.0 (C^{11a}), 123.3(C²), 124.6 (C^{10a}), 133.8 (C⁸), 135.5 (C¹), 137.0 (C³), 141.6 (C^{6a}), 161.6 (C¹⁰), 163.4 (C^{4a}), 191.4 (C¹¹); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)**: 3073, 1590, 1256, 1205, 1165, 1089, 1013, 803, 772, 702.

Synthesis of 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl substituted 3-chlorodibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure N).

The stated amount of the phenole, K_2CO_3 , and (2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)methyl 4methylbenzenesulfonate were dissolved in DMF (10 ml) under an argon atmosphere and heated to reflux for 6 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was hydrolyzed with water and extracted with hexane. The organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was used in the next step without further purification.

3-(Chloro)-7-{2-[(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (15c).

Compound **15c** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **14a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*S*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-7-{2-[(4S)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (15d).

Compound **15d** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **14a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-8-{2-[(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (16d).

Compound **16d** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **14b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*S*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}CIO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-Chloro-8-{2-[(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]ethoxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (16e).

Compound **16e** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **14b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*S*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]ethyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (432 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{21}H_{21}ClO_5$ (M_r = 388.84 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-9-{2-[(4S)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (26b).

Compound **26b** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*S*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-9-{2-[(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (26c).

Compound **26c** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-10-{2-[(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (27b).

Compound **27b** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **25b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*S*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

3-(Chloro)-10-{2-[(4S)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (27c).

Compound **27c** was prepared according to General Procedure N using **25b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), [(4*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (440 mg, 1.44 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (200 mg, 1.44 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{19}ClO_5$ (M_r = 374.81 g/mol)

Synthesis of substituted 3-chloro-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones (General Procedure O).

The stated amount of the phenol, K_2CO_3 and the halogen alkane were suspended in acetone (10ml) and heated to reflux for 6 hours under an argon atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was evaporated and the resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate and extracted twice with sodium hydroxide solution (10%). The organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was used in the next step without further purification.

3-Chloro-7-[(2-morpholin-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (15a).

Compound **15a** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **14a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochlorid (150 mg, 0.79 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (400 mg, 2.87 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{20}CINO_4$ (M_r = 374.83 g/mol)

3-Chloro-7-[(2-tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (15b).

Compound **15b** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **14a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-bromoethyl)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (148 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77

mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{21}H_{21}ClO_4$ (M_r = 372.84 g/mol)

3-Chloro-8-[(2-morpholin-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (16a).

Compound **16a** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **14b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochlorid (150 mg, 0.79 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (210 mg, 1.52 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{20}CINO_4$ (M_r = 374.83 g/mol)

3-Chloro-8-[(2-tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (16b).

Compound **16b** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **14a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-bromoethyl)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (150 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{21}H_{21}ClO_4$ (M_r = 372.84 g/mol)

3-Chloro-8-[(2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (16c).

Compound **16c** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **14b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), *N*-(2-chlorethyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylamin hydrochlorid (148 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (208 mg, 1.50 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{18}H_{18}CINO_3$ (M_r = 331.79 g/mol)

3-Chloro-9-[(2-morpholin-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (26a).

Compound **26a** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (150 mg, 0.57 mmol), 4-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochlorid (113 mg, 0.59 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (210 mg, 1.52 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{20}CINO_4$ (M_r = 374.83 g/mol), ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.57 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5}_{Morpholino}H₂), 2.80 (t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C²_{Ethoxy}H₂), 3.72 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6}_{Morpholino}H₂), 4.15 (t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{Ethoxy}H₂), 5.11 (s, 2 H, C⁶H2), 7.06 (m, 3 H, C⁴H, C⁸H, C²H) 7.25 (m, 1 H, C⁷H), 7.38 (d, *J*=2.65 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰H) 8.14 (d, *J*=9.09 Hz, 1 H, C¹H; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 53.9 (C^{3/5}_{Morpholino}), 57.3 8 C²_{Ethoxy}), 66.0 (C¹_{Ethoxy}), 66.7 (C^{2/6}_{Morpholino}), 73.0 (C⁶), 114.0 (C⁴), 119.7 (C¹⁰), 120.5 (C⁸), 122.5 (C²), 123.7 (C^{11a}), 127.9(C^{10a}), 129.3 (C⁷), 133.2 (C¹), 140.9 (C^{6a}), 141.3 (C³), 159.3 (C⁹), 161.5 (C^{4a}), 189.5 (C¹¹)

3-Chloro-9-[(2-(diethylamino)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (26d).

Compound **26d** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), *N*-(2-chlorethyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylamin hydrochlorid (110 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (208 mg, 1.50 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{22}CINO_3$ (M_r = 359.84 g/mol)

3-Chloro-9-[(2-tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (26e).

Compound **26e** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-bromoethyl)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (150 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{21}H_{21}ClO_4$ (M_r = 372.84 g/mol)

3-Chloro-9-(2-cyclohexylethoxy)dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (26f).

Compound **26f** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), (2-bromoethyl)cyclohexane (147 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{21}H_{21}CIO_4$ (M_r = 370.86 g/mol)

2-[(3-Chloro-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]oxepin-9-yl)oxy]ethyl acetate (26g).

Compound **26g** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 2-chloroethyl acetate (94 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{18}H_{15}CIO_5$ (M_r = 346.76 g/mol)

2-[(3-Chloro-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-9-yl)oxy]ethyl acetate (26g).

Compound **26g** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 2-chloroethyl acetate (94 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{18}H_{15}CIO_5$ (M_r = 346.76 g/mol)

3-[(3-Chloro-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b,e*]**oxepin-9-yl)oxy**]**propyl acetate (26h).** Compound **26h** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 3-chloropropyl acetate (105 mg, 0.77 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (108 mg, 0.77 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; C₁₉H₁₇ClO₅ (M_r = 360.78 g/mol)

3-Chloro-10-[(2-morpholin-4-yl)ethoxy]dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (27a).

Compound **27a** was prepared according to General Procedure O using **25b** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), 4-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochlorid (150 mg, 0.79 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (400 mg, 2.87 mmol). The resulting yellow oil was used in the next step without further purification. Yield: not identified; $C_{20}H_{20}CINO_4$ (M_r = 374.83 g/mol)

Tert-butyl-2,4-difluorophenyl-(9-nitro-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-3-yl)carbamate (29).

Compound **29** was prepared using **28a** (370 mg, 0.96 mmol) and dimethylaminopyridine (236 mg, 1.94 mmol) in dichloromethane (50ml). After stirring for 30 minutes di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (236 mg, 1.94 mmol) was added and the progress was monitored until TLC indicated complete conversion. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash Chromatography. Yield: 220 mg (47.5%), white solid; $C_{25}H_{20}F_2N_2O_6$ (M_r = 482.43 g/mol); **mp**. = 171.0°C; ¹H **NMR** (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 1.30 (s, 9 H, (C(-CH₃)₃), 5.36 (s, 2 H, C⁶H2), 6.85 (s, 1 H, C³·H), 6.96 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C²H), 7.09 (m, 1 H, C⁵·H), 7.41 (m, 2 H, C⁴H, C²H), 7.80 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C⁷H), 8.02 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹H), 8.42 (m, 2 H, C⁸H, C¹⁰H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 27.5 (-CH₃)₃, 72.2 (C⁶), 82.2 (C(-CH₃)₃), 112.5 (C⁴), 114.4 (C²), 118.1(C⁸), 121.0 (C^{11a}), 123.9 (C¹⁰), 127.3 (C⁷), 130.2 (C¹), 132.3 (C^{10a}), 142.3 (C^{6a}), 148.0 (C=O_{Boc}), 148.3 (C⁹), 151.6 (C³), 161.1 (C^{4a}), 186.4 (C¹¹), C¹ - C⁶ not detected ; **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 1728, 1644, 1605, 1509, 1351, 1288, 1155, 1027, 819, 764.

Synthesis of the disubstituted dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones targeting the activation loop (General Procedure P).

The stated amount of amino derivative, X-Phos, Cs_2CO_3 , halogen compound and Pd(OAc)₂ were dissolved in 10 ml of 1,4-dioxane and 2 ml of *t*-BuOH. The mixture was heated at 110°C under an atmosphere of argon until TLC indicated complete conversion. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtrated and the solvent evaporated in vacuo. The remaining oil was purified using Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60).

N-(2-Fluoro-5-{[9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-3-yl]amino}phenyl)benzamide (32a).

Compound **32a** was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (250 mg, 0.66 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (700 mg, 2.14 mmol), *N*-(5-amino-2-fluorophenyl)benzamide (250 mg, 1.07 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110°C for 3 h.

After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 35 mg (9.3%), yellow solid; $C_{33}H_{30}FN_3O_5$ (M_r = 567.60 g/mol); **mp**. = 189.0°C; **HPLC**: t_R = 4.90 min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.59 (m, 4 H, C_{2/6morpholinylH₂), 2.83 (t, J = 5.37 Hz, 2 H, C_{2ethoxy}H₂), 3.73 (m, 4 H, C_{3/5morpholinylH₂), 4.18 (t, J = 5,49 Hz, 2 H, C_{1ethoxy}H₂), 5.07 (s, 2 H, C⁶ H₂), 6.45 (s, 1 H, C⁴···H), 6.53 (m, 1 H, C²··H), 6.64 (dd, J=8.97, 2.15 Hz, 1 H, C⁸··H), 6.92 (m, 1 H, C⁴·H), 7.05 (m, 2 H, C³·H, C⁶·H), 7.22 (m, 1 H, C¹⁰···H), 7.50 (m, 4 H, C³H, C⁵H, C¹···H, C⁷··H), 7.87 (m, 2 H, C²H, C⁶H), 8.33 (dd, J=6.88, 2.34 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H); ¹³C **NMR** (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 53.9 (C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}), 57.4 (C²_{Ethoxy}), 65.8 (C^{2/6}_{Morpholinyl}), 66.7 (C¹_{Ethoxy}), 72.8 (C⁶··), 102.9 (C⁴··), 110.3 (C²··), 113.9 (C¹⁰··), 115.1 (C^{8··}), 115.1 (d, J=6.5 Hz, C^{6·}), 127.13 (d, J=11.4 Hz, C^{1·}), 128.4 (C^{10a··}), 128.8 (C³, C⁵), 129.0 (C¹), 132.2 (C⁴), 134.1 (C^{1··}), 136.6 (d, J=2.7 Hz), 141.8 (C^{6a··}), 149.3 (d, J=238.5 Hz, C^{2·}), 150.8 (C^{3··}), 159.0 (C^{9··}), 163.3 (C^{4a··}), 165.4 (C=O_{Amid}), 188.2 (C^{11··}); **FT-IR** (**ATR, cm⁻¹**): 3294, 1573, 1525, 1279, 1116, 856, 776, 708; **HRMS-EI**, *m/z*: calculated: 568.2242; found: 568.2241.}}

N-(4-Fluoro-3-{[9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-3-yl]amino}phenyl)benzamide (32b).

Compound **32b** was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (250 mg, 0.66 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (700 mg, 2.14 mmol), *N*-(3-amino-4-fluorophenyl)benzamide (250 mg, 1.07 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110°C for 3 h. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 45 mg (12.0%), yellow solid; C₃₃H₃₀FN₃O₅ (M_r = 567.60 g/mol); mp. = 97.4°C; HPLC: t_R = 4.90 min, purity: 100%; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.54 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6}_{Morpholinyl}H₂), 2.77 (t, *J*=5.24 Hz, 2 H, C²_{Ethoxy}H₂), 3.70 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}H₂), 4.10 (t, *J*=5.31 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{Ethoxy}H₂), 4.98 (s, 2 H, C⁶···H₂), 6.37 (s, 1 H, C⁵··H, C²··H), 7.15 (m, 1 H, C⁶··H), 7.38 (m, 4 H, C^{10··}·H, C^{7··}H, C²H, C⁵H), 7.80 (m, 3 H, C⁴H, C¹H, C⁶H), 8.09 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C^{1··}·H), 8.49 (s, 1H, -NH); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 53.9 (C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}), 57.4 (C²_{Ethoxy}), 65.7 (C^{2/6}_{Morpholinyl}), 66.7 (C¹_{Ethoxy}), 72.7 (C6^{··}), 104.3 (C^{4···}), 111.1 (C^{2···}), 113.4 (C^{10··}), 113.9 (C^{8···}), 115.5 (d, J=7.6 Hz, C^{6·}), 115.9 (d, J=20.7 Hz, C^{5·}), 118.2 (C^{11a··}), 119.2 (C^{7···}), 127.1 (C², C⁶), 128.2 (C^{10a··}), 128.5 (C³, C⁵), 128.6 (d, J=12.5 Hz, C^{2·}), 129.0 (C^{3·}), 131.7 (C⁴), 133.9 (C^{1···}), 134.5 (C¹), 134.5 (d, J=2.3 Hz, C^{1·}), 141.6 (C^{6a··}), 149.3 (C^{3···}), 150.8 (d, J=240.7 Hz, C^{4·}), 159.0 (C^{9···}, 163.1 (C^{4a···}), 165.9 (C=O_{Amid}), 188.6 (C¹¹); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3294, 1572, 1524, 1497, 1325, 1287, 1115, 1028, 855, 706; HRMS-EI, *m/z*: calculated: 568.2242; found: 568.2247.

N-(2-Fluoro-4-methyl-5-{[9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo [*b,e*]oxepin-3-yl]amino}phenyl)thiophene-3-carboxamide (32c).

Compound **32c** was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-9-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (250 mg, 0.66 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (1.0 g, 3.0 mmol), *N*-(5-amino-2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)thiophene-3-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.80 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110°C for 4 h. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 45 mg (11.4%), yellow oil; C₃₂H₃₀FN₃O₅S (M_r = 587.66 g/mol); HPLC: *t*_R = 4.87 min, purity: 95.3%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.19 (s, 3 H, -CH₃) 2.44 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6}_{Morpholinyl}H₂), 2.69 (t, *J*=5.05 Hz, 2 H, C²_{Ethoxy}H₂), 3.58 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}H₂), 4.14 (t, *J*=5.05 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{Ethoxy}H₂), 5.11 (s, 2 H, C⁶···H₂), 6.17 (s, 1 H, C⁴···H), 6.59 (d, *J*=9.10 Hz, 1 H, C²···H), 7.15 (m, 1 H, C³·H), 7.29 (m, 2 H, C⁶··H, C⁸···H), 7.41 (d, *J*=8.34 Hz,

1 H, C^{7,·}(H), 7.47 (d, *J*=7.33 Hz, 1 H, C⁵H), 7.63 (m, 2 H, C^{10,·}(H, C⁴H), 7.99 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C^{1,·}(H), 8.36 (s, 1 H, C¹H), 8.45 (s, 1 H, NH), 9.90 (s, 1 H, NH); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 17.3 (-CH₃), 53.6 (C^{3/5} Morpholinyl), 56.9 (C²_{Ethox}), 65.7 (C¹_{Ethox}), 66.1 (C^{2/6} Morpholinyl), 72.1 (C^{6··}), 101.0 (C^{4··}), 109.3 (C^{2··}), 113.9 (C^{10··}), 115.8 (C^{11a··}), 117.6 (d, J=21.45 Hz, C^{3·}), 118.4 (C^{8··}), 123.1 (C^{6·}), 123.5 (d, J=13.24 Hz, C^{4·}), 127.0 (C^{10··}), 127.1 (C^{7··}), 128.4 (C^{10a··}), 129.6 (C⁴), 130.1 (C⁵), 132.1 (d, J=7.17 Hz, C^{1·}), 133.5 (C¹), 134.2 (d, J=2.13 Hz, C^{5·}), 136.9 (C¹), 141.5 (C^{6a··}), 152.6 (d, J=245.58 Hz), 152.9 (C^{3··}), 158.7 (C^{9···}), 160.8 (C^{4a··}), 163.0 (C=O_{Amid}), 186.8 (C^{11···}); **FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 3297, 2922, 1569, 1520, 1279, 1255, 1115, 856, 776; **HRMS-EI**, *m/z*: calculated: 588.1963; found: 588.1968.

N-{5-[(9-{[(4*S*)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo [*b,e*]oxepin-3-yl)amino]-2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl}thiophene-3-carboxamide (32d).

Compound **32d** was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-9-{[(4S)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxydibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (150 mg, 0.40 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (1.0 g, 3.0 mmol), N-(5-amino-2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)thiophene-3carboxamide (200 mg, 0.80 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110°C for 3 h. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 50 mg (21.2%), yellow solid; $C_{32}H_{29}F_2N_2O_6S$ (M_r = 588.46 g/mol); mp. = 120.8°C; HPLC: $t_{\rm R}$ = 8.20 min, purity: 95.3%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 1.31 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 1.36 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.18 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.77 (m, 1 H, $C^{3}_{Propoxy}$ H), 4.07 (m, 3 H, $C^{3}_{Propoxy}$ H, $C^{1}_{Propoxy}$ H₂), 4.42 (m, 1 H, $C^{1}_{Propoxy}$ H), 5.12 (s, 2 H, C^{0} "H₂), 6.16 (s, 1 H, C^{4} "H), 6.58 (d, *J*=9.35 Hz, 1 H, C^{2} "H), 7.17 (dd, *J*=8.46, 1.89 Hz, 1 H, C^{3} 'H), 7.26 (d, J=11.37 Hz, 1 H, C^{6} 'H), 7.31 (m, 1 H, C^{8} 'H), 7.44 (m, 2 H, C^{10} 'H, C^{7} 'H), 7.62 (m, 2 H, C⁵H, C⁴H), 7.98 (d, J=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹, H), 8.35 (s, 1 H, C²H), 8.45 (s, NH, 1 H) 9.89 (s, NH, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 17.7 (-CH₃), 25.7 (-CH_{3Acetal}), 26.9 (-CH_{3Acetal}), 66.0 (C³_{Propoxy}), 69.4 (C¹_{Propoxy}), 72.4 (C²_{Propoxy}), 74.0 (C⁶,), 101.3 $(C^{4,*})$, 109.2 (C_{Acetal}) , 109.7 $(C^{2,*})$, 114.2 $(C^{10,*})$, 116.2 $(C^{8,*})$, 118.0 $(d, J=22.70 \text{ Hz}, C^{3,*})$, 118.8 (C^{11a},), 123.5 (d, J=1,79 Hz, C⁶), 123.8 (d, J=13.38 Hz, C⁴), 127.3 (C^{10a}), 127.5 (C⁴), 129.0 (C^{7}), 130.0 (C^{4}), 130.5 (C^{5}), 132.4 (d, J=7.43 Hz, C^{1}), 133.9 (C^{1})), 134.5 (d, J=3.60 Hz, C^{5}), 137.3 (C^{2}), 141.9 (C^{6a}), 153.0 (d, J=244.78 Hz, C^{2}), 153.3 (C^{3})), 159.0 (C^{9})), 161.2 (C^{4a},), 163.4 (C=O_{Amid}), 187.1 (C¹¹,); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3319, 2985, 1570, 1521, 1326, 1280, 1255, 1221, 1048, 1030, 841, 739; **HRMS-EI**, *m/z*: calculated: 588.1798; found: 588.1712.

N-{5-[(9-{[(2*R*)-2,3-Dihydroxypropyl]oxy}-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b,e*]oxepin-3-yl)amino]-2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl}thiophene-3-carboxamide (32e).

Compound **32e** was prepared according to the following procedure: *N*-{5-[9-{[(4S]2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]methoxy}-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]oxepin-3-yl)amino]-2-fluoro-4-methylphenl}thiophene-3-carboxymide (40 mg, 0.07 mmol) were dissolved in 40 ml MeOH and 2 ml H₂O. Catalytic amounts of p-toulenesulfonic acid were added. After the reaction is completed, the solvent was removed in vacuo and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 24 mg (62.5%), yellow solid; C₂₉H₂₅FN₂O₆S (M_r = 548.52 g/mol); **mp**. = 178.9°C; **HPLC**: t_R = 6.46 min, purity: 100%; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.19 (s, 3 H, -CH₃), 3.45 (m, 2 H, C³_{Propoxy}H₂), 3.80 (m, 1 H C¹_{Propoxy}H), 3.92 (m, 1 H C¹_{Propoxy}H), 4.09 (m, 1 H C²_{Propoxy}H), 4.67 (t, -OH, *J*=5.56 Hz, 1 H), 4.96 (d, -OH, *J*=5.05 Hz, 1 H), 5.12 (s, 2 H, C⁶''H₂), 6.17 (s, 1 H, C⁴''H), 6.58 (d, *J*=9.10 Hz, 1 H, C²''H), 7.15 (m, 1 H, C³'), 7.26 (d, *J*=11.12 Hz, 1 H, C⁶'H), 7.32 (m, 1 H, C⁸''H), 7.42 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰''H), 7.46 (d, *J*=7.33 Hz, 1 H, C⁷''H), 7.62 (m, 2 H, C⁵H, C⁴H), 7.99 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C¹⁰''H), 8.35 (s, 1 H, C²H) 8.45 (s, NH, 1 H) 9.89 (s, NH, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 17.3 (-CH₃), 62.6 (C³_{Propoxy}), 69.8 (C¹_{Propoxy}), 70.0 (C¹_{Propoxy}), 72.1 (C^{6'''}), 101.0 (C^{4'''}), 109.3 (C^{2''}), 113.8 (C^{10''}), 115.9 (C^{8'''}), 117.6 (d, J=20.7 Hz, C^{3'}), 118.5 (C^{11a''}), 123.2 C^{6'}, 123.5 (d, J=13.6 Hz, C^{4'}), 127.0

 (C^{10a}) , 127.1 (C^{4}) , 128.3 (C^{7}) , 129.6 (C^{4}) , 130.1 (C^{5}) , 132.1 $(d, J=8.2 \text{ Hz}, C^{1})$, 133.5 (C^{1}) , 134.2 $(d, J=3.2 \text{ Hz}, C^{5})$, 136.9 (C^{2}) , 141.4 (C^{6a}) , 152.6 $(d, J=245.2 \text{ Hz}, C^{2})$, 152.9 (C^{3}) , 159.0 (C^{9}) , 160.8 (C^{4a}) , 163.0 $(C=O_{\text{Amid}})$, 186.7 (C^{11}) ; **FT-IR (ATR, cm^{-1})**: 3295, 2922, 1566, 1519, 1281, 1256, 1223, 1030, 859, 739; **HRMS-EI**, *m*/*z*: calculated: 548.1416; found: 548.1361.

N-(2-Fluoro-5-{[8-(2-morpholin-4-ylethoxy)-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-3-yl]amino}phenyl)benzamide (32f).

Compound 32g was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-7-(2morpholino-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11(6H)-one (200 mg, 0.53 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (700 m g, 2.14 mmol), N-(3-amino-4-fluorophenyl)benzamide (200 mg, 0.86 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110° C for 3 h. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 40 mg (13.2%), yellow solid; $C_{33}H_{30}FN_{3}O_{5}$ (M_r = 567.60 g/mol); mp. = 98.1°C; HPLC: t_{R} = 4.89 min, purity: 100%; ¹**H** NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 2.54 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5} MorpholinylH₂), 2.81 (t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C²_{Ethoxy}H₂), 3.70 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6} MorpholinylH₂), 4.13 (m, 2 H, C¹ EthoxyH₂), 5.26 (s, 2 H, C⁶··H2), 6.25 (s, NH, 1 H), 6.65 (m, 2 H, C⁴··H,C²··H), 7.04 (m, 2 H, C⁵·H, C⁸"H), 7.39 (m, 6 H, C²"H, C⁶"H, C¹⁰"H, C⁹"H, C³H, C⁵H), 7.72 (m, 1 H, C¹"H), 7.83 (m, 2 H, C²H, C⁶H), 8.08 (d, J=8.72 Hz, 1 H, C⁴H), 8.33 (s, NH, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃): δ [ppm] = 53.9 (C^{2/6}_{Morpholinyl}), 57.4 (C²_{Ethoxy}), 65.2 (C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}), 66.8 C¹_{Ethoxy}), 66.9 (C^{6,*}), $104.2 (C^{4,**}), 111.0 (C^{2,**}), 113.1 (C^{2,*}), 115.4 (d, J=7.2 Hz, C^{6,**}), 115.5 (C^{8,**}), 115.9 (d, J=20.6)$ Hz, C⁵), 118.3 (C¹¹a''), 121.1 (C¹⁰''), 124.0 (C^{10a''}), 127.0 (C², C⁶), 128.5 (C³, C⁵), 128.7 (d, J=11.8 Hz, C³'), 129.7 (C⁹''), 131.7 (C⁴), 133.7 (C^{1''}), 134.4 (d, J=2,7 Hz, C^{1'}), 134.5 (C¹), 142.8 (C^{6a,*}), 149.1 (C^{3,*}), 154.7 (C^{7,*}), 160.2 (d, *J*= 242.6 Hz, C^{4,*}) 163.2 (C=OAmid), 165.9 (C^{4a,}), 189.5 (C¹¹); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3302, 2857, 1598, 1525, 1263, 1228, 1114, 852, 702; HRMS-EI, *m/z*: calculated: 567.2169; found: 567.2176.

N-(3-{[7-(2-Morpholino-4-ylethoxy)-11-oxo-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-3-yl]amino} phenyl)-3-furamide (32h).

Compound **32h** was prepared according to General Procedure P using 3-chloro-7-(2-morpholino-4-ylethoxy)dibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-one (200 mg, 0.53 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (700

m g, 2.14 mmol), *N*-(3-aminophenyl)-3-furamide (200 mg, 1.0 mmol), X-Phos (100 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (20 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture was heated to 110°C for 3 h. After hydrolysis with water the organic phase was evaporated and the resulting oil was purified by Flash chromatography (SiO₂ 60, dichloromethane / ethanol 95+5). Yield: 35 mg (12.2%), yellow solid; $C_{31}H_{29}N_3O_6$ (M_r = 539.57 g/mol); mp. = 194.8°C; HPLC: t_R = 4.31 min, purity: 100%; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 2.47 (m, 4 H, C^{3/5} MorpholinylH₂), 2.74 (t, *J*=5.62 Hz, 2 H, C²_{Ethoxy}H₂), 3.57 (m, 4 H, C^{2/6} MorpholinylH₂), 4.18 (t, *J*=5.68 Hz, 2 H, C¹_{Ethoxy}H₂), 5.28 (s, 2 H, C^{6··}(H₂), 6.62 (d, *J*=2.15 Hz, 1 H, C^{4··}(H), 6.85 (m, 2 H, C^{2··}(H, C^{3··}), 6.99 (m, 1 H, C⁴H), 7.34 (m, 5 H, C^{8··}(H, C⁶H, C⁵H, C^{4·}H, C^{9··}(H), 7.75 (m, 2 H, (C^{10··}, C⁵H), 7.97 (d, *J*=8.84 Hz, 1 H, C^{1··}), 8.38 (m, 1 H, C²H), 9.01 (s, 1 H, -NH), 9.90 (s, 1 H, NH_{Amid}); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ [ppm] = 53.9 (C^{2/6} Morpholinyl), 57.3 (C²_{Ethoxy}), 65.1 (C^{3/5}_{Morpholinyl}), 66.6 (C¹_{Ethoxy}), 67.1 (C^{6··}), 102.6 (C^{4··}), 109.6 (C⁴), 110.9 (C^{2··}), 111.6 (C^{6··}), 114.5 (C²), 151.6 (C^{4·}), 133.5 (C^{1··}), 140.1 (C^{6a}), 141.4 (C^{1·}), 142.6 (C^{3·}), 124.2 (C^{10a··}), 129.8 (C^{9··}), 130.3 (C^{5·}), 133.5 (C^{1··}), 140.1 (C^{6a}), 141.4 (C^{1·}), 142.6 (C^{3·}), 144.5 (C⁵), 146.2 (C²), 151.1 (C^{3··}), 155.0 (C^{4a··}), 160.8 (C=O_{Amid}), 163.3 (C^{3a}), 188.1 (C^{11··}); FT-IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 3324, 2957, 1589, 1568, 1398, 1298, 1261, 1120, 1075, 759, 688; HRMS-EI, *m/z*: calculated: 539.2055; found: 539.2044.

Table S1. Biological activity of position 10-substituted 3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)aminodibenzo[*b*,*e*]oxepin-11(6*H*)-ones **4a-f**. Variation of the hydrophilic residue R₁.





^{*a*} Results from three experiments.

^b Results from four experiments except where otherwise stated. n. d.: not determined

Table S2. Data Collection and Refinement Statistics for $p38\alpha$ with compound $32a^{\alpha}$

	p38α_32a(4L8M)
Data collection	
Space group	$P2_12_12_1$
Celldimensions	
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	64.62, 72.95, 76,92
α, β, γ (°)	90.0, 90.0, 90.0
Resolution (Å)	$50.0-2.10(2.20-2.10)^{a}$
$R_{\text{sym}} \text{or} R_{\text{merge}}$ (%)	2.9 (30.6)
Ι/σΙ	25.8 (5.2)
Completeness (%)	98.4 (97.7)
Redundancy	4.2 (4.3)
Refinement	
Resolution (Å)	48.4-2.10
No. reflections	21490
$R_{\rm work}$ / $R_{\rm free}$	22.1 / 27.9
No. atoms	
Protein	2744
Ligand/ion	82
Water	43
<i>B</i> -factors	
Protein	49.0
Ligand/ion	52.7
Water	41.4

R.m.s. deviations	
Bond lengths (Å)	0.012
Bond angles (°)	1.488
Structure (PDB-ID code)	p38a_32a (4L8M)
Wavelength (Å)	0.978600
Temperature	90K
X-raysource	SLS X10SA
Ramachandran Plot:	
Residues in	
most favored regions	86.5%
additional allowed regions	12.5%
generously allowed regions	1.0%
disallowedregions	0.0%

aDiffraction data from one crystal was used to determine the structure. Values in parenthesis are for the highest resolution shell.

Selectivity Screen.

Kinase Name	Kinase Family	Residual activity with 10 µM of compound 32e
CAMK2D	САМК	46
p38-alpha	CMGC	4
p38-beta	CMGC	1
SLK	STE	48

PROQINASE Kinase WholePanelProfile

Compound 32e

Profiling of 32e against 333 protein kinases

Residual activities (% of control Residual activity < 60 %

Kinase Name Kinase Family 1.0E-0
 FGF.4B X680E

 FGF.4B X680E

 FGF.4B X680E

 FGR.4D

 FGR.4D

 FGR.4D

 FLT3 ID

 FRX

 FRX

 FWX

 GRX3

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GGS2

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX8

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX6

 GRX7

 GS32

 GRX8

 GRX9

 GS4

 <
 PDGFR - appar visit 0

 PDGFR - appar visit 0

 PDGFR - beta

 PDGFR - beta

 PDGFR - beta

 PDGFR - beta

 PMR01

 PHK02

 PHK1

 PMR03

 PRC-apparent

 PRC-apparent
 </t "Classification of protein kinase families (Marmorg et al. Science & Discember 2002: Vol. 298 no. 5500 pp. 1912-1934) AGC containing RAX, PAC and PMC tamilies CAMK. Calcium:Calmoduline-dispindent protein kinases CAM. Calcium:Calmoduline-dispindent protein kinases CAM. Calcium: Calmoduline-dispindent protein kinases CAM. Calcium: Calmoduline-dispindent protein kinases CAM. Calcium: Calcium: All Adv. Calcium: Calcium Calcium: Calcium: Calcium RAX, Troome Kinase-like STE: Homology of Yeast Sterile 17, Sterile 11, Sterile 20 Kinases

S27

In Vitro Metabolism Studies. Pooled male and female liver microsomes of rats (RLMs) were purchased from Life Technologies GmbH (Darmstadt, Germany). These microsomes were characterized in protein and cytochrome P-450 content. Human CYP2B6R reductase bactosomes were purchased from tebu-bio GmbH (Offenbach, Germany).

All incubations (final total volume 1050 μ l) were made in the presence of an NADPHregenerating system, consisting of 5 mM Glucose 6-phosphate, 5 U/ml Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase, and 1 mM NADP⁺. The substrate (10 μ M), NADPH regenerating system, and 3.8 mM MgCl₂ x 6 H₂O in 0.1 M Tris buffer (pH 7.4) were preincubated for 5 min in a shaking heating block at 37°C, 550 rpm, and the reaction was started by addition of microsomes (1 mg protein/ml or 0.578 pmol P450/ml). To follow the course of metabolism, 100 μ l aliquots were withdrawn at different time points (0, 10, 20, 40, 60, 120 and 180 min) and transferred into an ice-cooled vial containing 100 μ l internal standard at a concentration of 100 μ g/mL. The samples were vortexed for 15 s and centrifuged (19800 relative centrifugal force/ 4°C/ 10 min). The supernatant was directly used for analysis. All incubations were conducted in triplicates; average mean values of these incubations are shown in the figures. In all incubations a limit of 1% organic solvent was not exceeded.^{1,2}

Screening of Metabolites by LC-MS/MS Analysis. Metabolite formation was analyzed with a Jasco (Groß-Umstadt, Germany) HPLC system, consisting of a pump (PU-1580) and an autosampler from CTCAnalytics (HTSPal; Zwngen, Switzerland). The chromatographic separation was performed on a Phenomenex Synergi Polar RP column (150 x 4.6 mm; 5 μ m) with a precolumn of the same material. The injection volume was 30 μ l. A binary gradient of 33 min with solvent A (H₂O/ ACN/ FA; 90/ 10/ 0.1%) and solvent B (ACN/ 0.1% FA) at a flow rate of 300 μ l/min was used. The initial composition of 0% B was held for 3 min, followed by a linear gradient up to 95% B in 20 min, holding for 5 min, changing to 0% B in 1.5 min, and reequilibrating at the end. The detection was performed on a Micromass Quattro micro triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (Waters GmbH, Eschbronn) in the electrospray ionization-positve SRM/ MRM mode. Spray voltage was set to 2.9 kV and the heated capillary operated at 350°C. Desolvation gas flow worked at 200 l/hr. Metabolites were also identified by direct injection of the according reference material. Substrates and metabolites were quantified by internal standards as well as with calibration curves constructed from known concentrations of reference material.

Method validation parameters. The developed method was validated using spiked blank human plasma. The validation parameters were in accordance with the recommendations, defined by the EU and with the criteria in the literature.^{3,4}

Pharmacokinetic study of the compound 3i in Black six C57 mice. The animal experimental part of this study was performed at Synovo GmbH (Tuebingen, Germany). The compound **3i** was administered to three male Black six C57 mice with a single oral gavage (p.o.) dose of 10 mg/kg body weight. The drug formulation was prepared by grinding 0.4 mg of 2M in a mortar. The drug was solved in a vehicle containing 10% DMSO and 90% of a hypromellose solution in H₂O (1%), 1% of citric acid, 1% of Tween 80 and PEG 400. A dose of 5 ml/kg was administered with continuous stirring of the suspension. All mice were following the same time schedule for blood sampling. A total of 9 samples were taken at time points 0.25 h, 0.5 h, 1 h, 2 h, 4 h, 8 h, 24 h, 48 h and 72 h. Blood samples of 30 µL were drawn from the caudal vene into lithium-heparinized Eppendorf tubes. Blood samples were centrifuged for 10 min at 3000 rpm at 10 °C, and the plasma (approximately 15 µL) was transferred into Eppendorf tubes containing 15 µL of internal Standard (500 ng/mL). After centrifuging for 10 min at 19800 relative centrifugal force and 4 °C, the supernatant was transferred to into highperformance liquid chromatography vials and stored at -8 °C. Pharmacokinetic data were evaluated according to a two-compartmental pharmacokinetic model using WinNonlin 4.0.1 (Pharsight Corp., Mountain View, CA).

Derivatization of Plasma Samples. Samples were thawed to room temperature. To each vial, the derivatization reagent (50% v/v) 4-pyridinylboronic acid (10 mM in H_2O) was added. The derivatization was conducted at 70 °C for 40 min.

Online LC-SPE-MS/MS Analysis of Plasma Samples. For the quantitative analysis of the derivatized plasma samples, a fast and simple method was developed. The method is based on an online SPE in the first dimension to remove polar matrix elements coupled to a reversedphase chromatography in the second dimension with a sensitive triple quadrupole mass spectrometric (MS) detection in the multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) mode. In this method, the compound **3i** is capable of being analyzed with an internal standard in 5 min without time-consuming offline extraction steps. Nine standard solutions (2.5, 5, 10, 50, 500, 1000 and 2500 ng/ml) were prepared by spiking human plasma of different donors. Blank human plasma samples were used to confirm the specificity of the method. All calibration standards were also derivatized as described above. Online SPE was performed on an Oasis HLB cartridge (Waters, Eschborn, Germany) with an isocratic clean-up flow of H₂O/Methanol/FA (90:10:0.1) at 2.5 ml/min. For the chromatographic separation, a Phenomenex Kinetex 2.6 µm C18 (50 x 2.1 mm) with a SecurityGuard ULTRA cartridge (Phenomenex, Aschaffenburg, Germany) was used with an isocratic elution of 60% solvent A (Water/Acetonitril/FA; 90:10:0.1) and 40% solvent B (Acetonitril/0.1% FA) at a flow rate of 0.15 ml/min. After each injection, the SPE cartridge was regenerated with an injection of 30 µL of Acetonitril. The detection was performed on a Micromass Quattro Micro triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (Waters, Eschbronn, Germany) in electrospray ionizationpositive MRM mode. The linear range of the method extents from 2.5 ng/ml (limit of quantitation) to 2500 ng/ml. All metabolite areas of the MRM traces were related to the area of the 500 ng/ml internal standard.

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