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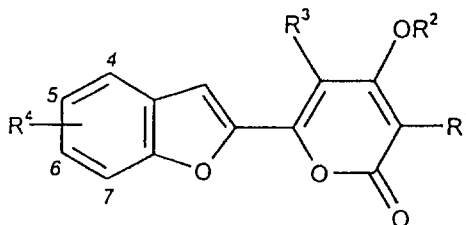
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ABSTRACT

There is provided benzofuryl- α -pyrone derivative
represented by the following structural formula (I):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl
group of 1 to 5 carbons;

R² represents hydrogen, -CO-R⁵ or -SO₂R⁶;

R³ represents hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1 to 5
carbons, etc.; and

R⁴ is a substituent attached to the 4-carbon, 5-
carbon, 6-carbon or 7 carbon of the benzofuran ring;
and their salts. The compounds are useful as therapeutic
agent for hypertriglyceridemia, lipid metabolism
enhancers, or prophylactic and/or therapeutic agents for
arteriosclerosis.