### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# E-factor minimized protocols for the Polystyryl-BEMP catalyzed conjugate additions of various nucleophiles to $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compounds

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- page S12-S22 Copies of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR for compounds **6**, **9**, **10**, **15**, **23**, **25**, **27a**, **27b**, **28a**, **28b**, **29**.

#### **Experimental section**

All chemicals were purchased and used without any further purification.

GC analyses were performed by using Hewett-Packard HP 5890 series II equipped with a capillary column SPB-5 (30 m, 0.25 mm), a FID detector and hydrogen as gas carrier. GC-EIMS analyses were carried out by using a Hewett-Packard HP 6890 Series GC system/5973 Mass Selective Detector equipped with a electron impact ionizer at 70 eV. All <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 200 MHz or 400 MHz, and at 50.3 or 100.6 MHz respectively, using a Bruker DRX-ADVANCE 200 MHz and a Bruker DRX-ADVANCE 400 MHz spectromers. Deuterated solvents were used with the residual peak as internal standard, or TMS in the case of CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Chemical shift was reported in ppm and coupling costants in Hertz. All melting points were measured with Buchi Melting Point 510 apparatus and are uncorrected. Microanalyses were realized by using a Carlo Erba Elemental analyzer mod. 1106. Thin Layer Cromatography analyses were performed on silica gel on aluminum plates and UV and/or KMnO<sub>4</sub> were used as revealing systems. Column chromatographies were performed by using silica gel 230-400 mesh and eluting as reported below. PS-BEMP was purchased from Aldrich.

Compounds 4,<sup>1</sup> 5,<sup>2</sup> 7,<sup>1</sup> 8,<sup>2</sup> 11,<sup>3</sup> 12,<sup>4</sup> 14,<sup>5</sup> 16,<sup>6</sup> 17,<sup>7</sup> 18,<sup>8</sup> 19,<sup>9</sup> 21a-b,<sup>10</sup> 22,<sup>11</sup> 24a-b,<sup>12</sup> 26<sup>13</sup> are known compounds, compounds 10, 23, 27a-b, 28a, 29 have been already prepared but spectroscopic data have not been reported, while compounds 6, 9, 15, 25, 28b are new compounds. Characterization data (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, GC-EIMS, mp, and elemental analyses) for compounds 6, 9, 10, 15, 23, 25, 27a, 27b, 28a, 28b, 29 are reported below.

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#### Representative experimental procedure.

In a screw capped vial equipped with a magnetic stirrer PS-BEMP (1) (0.048 g, 0.1 mmol, 2.1 mmol/g), *trans*-4-phenyl-3-buten-2-one (2a) (0.292 g, 2.0 mmol) and dimethylmalonate (3a) (0.229 ml, 2.0 mmol) were consecutively added and the resulting mixture was left under vigorous stirring at 60 °C. After 24 h, methanol was added, the catalyst was recovered by filtration and the organic solvent was evaporated under vacuum to give pure dimethyl-2-(1'-phenyl-3'-oxo-butyl)malonate (4) as a colourless oil (0.541 g, 97 % yield).

## E-factor calculation (Waste produced (g)/ Product (g))

Batch conditions:

Table 2, entry 1: reaction of 2a with 3a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.132 g (3a) + 1.58 g (MeOH) – 0.270 g (isolated 4)] / 0.270 g= 5.97 Table 2, entry 2: reaction of **2a** with **3b** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.133 g (3b) + 2.37 g (MeOH) - 0.265 g (isolated 5)] / 0.265 g= 9.0 Table 2, entry 3: reaction of **2a** with **3c** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.128 g (3c) + 1.58 g (MeOH) - 0.247 g (isolated 6)] / 0.247 g= 6.5 Table 2, entry 4: reaction of **2b** with **3a** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.132 g (3a) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.217 g (isolated 7)] / 0.217 g= 11.0 Table 2, entry 5: reaction of **2b** with **3b** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.133 g (3b) + 1.58 g (MeOH) - 0.213 g (isolated 8)] / 0.213 g= 7.5 Table 2, entry 6: reaction of **2b** with **3c** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.128 g (3c) + 2.37 g (MeOH) - 0.211 g (isolated 9)] / 0.211 g =11.3 Table 2, entry 7: reaction of 2c with 3a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.086 g (2c) + 0.396 g (3a) + 1.58 g (MeOH) – 0.186 g (isolated 10)] / 0.186 g= 10.1 Table 2, entry 8: reaction of 2c with 3b (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.086 g (2c) + 0.399 g (3b) + 1.58 g (MeOH) - 0.197 g (isolated 11)] / 0.197 a= 9.5 Table 2, entry 9: reaction of 2c with 3c (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.086 g (2c) + 0.128 g (3c) + 2.37 g (MeOH) - 0.197 g (isolated 12)] / 0.197 g= 12.1 Table 3, entry 1: reaction of 2a with 13a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.110 g (13a) + 1.42 g (MeOH) – 0.249 g (isolated 14)] / 0.249 g= **5.7** Table 3, entry 2: reaction of **2a** with **13b** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.090 g (13b) + 1.42 g (MeOH) – 0.225 g (isolated 15)] / 0.225 g= 6.4 Table 3, entry 3: reaction of 2b with 13a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.096 g (**2b**) + 0.110 g (**13a**) + 1.42 g (MeOH) – 0.190 g (isolated **16**)] / 0.190 g**= 7.6** 

Table 3, entry 4: reaction of **2b** with **13b** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.090 g (13b) + 1.42 g (MeOH) - 0.179 g (isolated 17)] / 0.179q= 8.0 Table 3, entry 5: reaction of 2c with 13a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.086 g (2c) + 0.110 g (13a) + 1.42 g (MeOH) - 0.188 g (isolated 18)] / 0.188 g= 7.6 Table 3, entry 6: reaction of 2c with 13b (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.086 q (2c) + 0.090 q (13b) + 1.42 q (MeOH) - 0.164 q (isolated 19)] / 0.164 g= 8.8 Table 4, entry 1: reaction of 2a with 20a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.119 g (20a) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.252 g (isolated 21)] / 0.252 g= **9.5** Table 4, entry 2: reaction of 2a with 20b (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.146 g (20b) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.219 g (isolated 22)] / 0.219 g= **11.2** Table 4, entry 3: reaction of 2a with 20c (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.146 g (2a) + 0.087 g (20c) + 2.37 g (MeOH) - 0.198 g (isolated 23)] / 0.198 g= 12.2 Table 4, entry 4: reaction of **2b** with **20a** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.119 g (20a) + 2.37 g (MeOH) - 0.198 g (isolated 24)] / 0.198 g= 12.1 Table 4, entry 5: reaction of **2b** with **20b** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.096 g (2b) + 0.146 g (20b) + 2.37 g (MeOH – 0.220 g (isolated 25)] / 0.220 g= 10.9 Table 4, entry 6: reaction of **2b** with **20c** (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.096 g (**2b**) + 0.087 g (**20c**) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.186 g (isolated **26**)] / 0.186 g= **12.7** Table 4, entry 7: reaction of 2c with 20a (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.086 g (2c) + 0.119 g (20a) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.193 g (isolated 27)] / 0.193 g= 12.4 Table 4, entry 8: reaction of 2c with 20b (calculated for 1.0 mmol): **E-factor** = [0.258 g (**2c**) + 0.146 g (**20b**) + 2.37 g (MeOH) – 0.223 g (isolated **28)**] / 0.223 g= **11.5** Table 4, entry 9: reaction of 2c with 20c (calculated for 1.0 mmol): E-factor = [0.172 g (2c) + 0.087 g (20c) + 1.58 g (MeOH) – 0.171 g (isolated 29)] / 0.171 g= 9.8

Cyclic continuous-flow conditions for the reaction of **2c** with **3c** (calculated for 50.0 mmol):

E-factor = [4.3 g (2c) + 6.4 g (3c) + 4.75 g (MeOH) – 10.17 g (isolated 12)] / 10.17 g= 0.52

#### **Characterization data**

# 3-Acetyl-3-(3'-oxo-1'-phenyl-butyl)-dihydro-furan-2-one (6)

Ph COMe

Diastereisomeric mixture isolated in 90% overall yield. Diastereoisomer A: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 1.92-1.98 (m, 1H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 2.38-2.44 (m, 1H), 3.07-3.10 (m, 1H), 3.12-3.21 (m, 1H), 3.30-3.34 (m, 1H), 3.47-3.52 (m, 1H), 4.12-4.16 (m, 1H), 7-27-7.35 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 193.6, 174.0, 164.5, 138.9, 129.0, 128.3, 124.2, 66.5, 57.4, 48.8, 35.6 (2 carbons), 29.5, 28.4, 24.3. Diastereoisomer B: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 2.07 (s, 3H), 2-23-2.38 (m, 2H), 2.74-2.76 (m, 2H), 3.83-3.90 (m, 2H), 4.17-4.23 (m, 1H), 7-22-7.33 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 195.3, 175.6, 163.3, 138.4, 128.7, 127.9, 124.3, 65.7, 59.1, 45.9, 44.5, 33.9, 29.3, 28.0, 24.6. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) diastereoisomer A: 258 (13), 126 (100), 115 (77), 91 (40); diastereoisomer B: 256 (94), 210 (100), 128 (96), 115 (100), 91 (83).

#### 3-Acetyl-3-(3'-oxo-cyclohexyl)-dihydro-furan-2-one (9)



Isolated in 94% overall yield as a colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 1.60-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.00-2.80 (m, 1H), 2.00-2.32 (m, 4H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.40-2.50 (m, 2H), 2.68-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.85-2.98 (m, 1H), 4.05-4.20 (m, 1H), 4.20-4.40 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 208.3, 201.3, 201.0, 173.7, 66.2, 66.2, 65.9, 65.5, 43.2, 42.5, 41.5, 41.1, 40.8, 40.7, 26.5, 26.3, 25.4, 25.0, 24.5, 24.3, 24.0. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (FW 224): C, 64.27; H, 7.19; O, 28.54. Found: C, 64.01; H, 7.16. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) diastereoisomer A: 181 (M<sup>+</sup>, 22), 112 (47), 97 (38), 43 (100); diastereoisomer B: 181 (M<sup>+</sup>, 63), 112 (46), 97 (36), 43 (100).

## 2-Methoxycarbonyl-pentandioic acid dimethylester (10)

$$MeO \xrightarrow{O} CO_2Me$$
**10** CO\_2Me

Isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 95/5) in 85% yield. Colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 2.15-2.27 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.43 (m, 2H), 3.48 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 172.7, 169.3, 52.6, 51.7, 50.4, 31.1, 23.7. Anal. calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (FW 218): C, 49.54; H, 6.47. Found: C, 48.62; H 6.44. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 187 (28), 158 (54), 155 (100), 145 (24), 132 (43), 126 (29), 113 (83), 100 (30), 59 (100), 55 (55), 43 (13).

#### 4-(Butylthio)-4-phenylbutan-2-one (15)



Isolated in 95% yield. Yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 0.83 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.20-1.40 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.53 (m, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.19-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.40 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 205.6, 142.0, 128.5, 127.7, 127.2, 50.1, 44.1, 31.2, 31.0, 30.7, 21.9, 13.6. Anal. calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>OS (FW 236): C, 71.14; H, 8.53; S, 13.57. Found: C, 70.8; H 8.57; S 13.52. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 236 (M+, 28), 179 (26), 148 (41), 104 (31), 43 (100).

#### 3-(3'-Oxo-1'-phenyl-butyl)-oxazolidin-2-one (23)



Isolated in 72% yield. Yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 2.23 (s, 3H), 3.01 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.40-3.58 (m, 2H), 4.24 (t, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 5.23 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.45 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 205.6, 157.6, 137.9, 128.8, 128.1, 127.0, 61.8, 53.7, 45.2, 42.3, 29.6. Anal. calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (FW 233): C, 66.94; H, 6.48; N, 6.00. Found: C, 66.62; H, 6.45; N, 6.03.

#### 3-(5'-Phenyl-tetrazol-2'-yl)-cyclohexanone (25)



Isolated in 91% overall yield as a yellow solid (m.p. = 63-65 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 1.78-2.00 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.35-2.63 (m, 4H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 14.8 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 14.8 Hz, 1H), 5.15-5.35 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.60 (m, 3H), 8.10-8.25 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 205.8, 165.0, 130.4, 128.9, 127.2, 126.8, 61.5, 46.2, 40.4, 30.8, 21.3. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O (FW 242): C, 64.45; H, 5.82; N, 23.23; O, 6.60. Found: C, 64.76; H, 5.84; N, 23.04. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 103 (100), 76 (38).

# 3-Benzotriazol-1-yl-propionic acid methyl ester (27a)/3-Benzotriazol-2-yl-propionic acid methyl ester (27b)



Mixture of two regioisomeric products (27a:27b=4:1 from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR). Isolated in 94% overall yield. Yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 3.13 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H, A), 3.20 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, B), 3.67 (s, 3H, A), 3.73 (s, 3H, B), 4.93 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H, A), 5.05 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, B), 7.35-7.42 (m, 1H A + 1H B), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, A), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, A), 7.82-7.95 (m, 2H, B), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, A). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 171.0 (A+B), 145.8 (A), 144.3 (B), 133.1 (A), 127.5 (A); 126.4 (B), 124.0 (A), 119.9 (A), 118.0 (B), 109.5, (A), 52.1 (A+B), 51.6 (B), 43.3 (A), 34.1 (A), 33.9 (B). Anal. calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (FW 205): C, 58.53; H, 5.40; N, 20.48. Found: C, 58.27; H 5.41; N 20.56. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) A: 205 (M+, 44), 104 (99), 91 (57), 87 (32), 77 (90), 64 (41), 59 (100), 51 (35); B: 205 (M+, 57), 146 (100), 91 (47), 77 (31), 64 (31), 59 (40), 55 (36).

#### 3-(5'-Phenyl-tetrazol-2'-yl)-propionic acid methyl ester (28a)



Mixture of two regioisomeric products (**28a**:**28b**=89:11 from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR). Isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1) in 96% overall yield. **28a**: white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 3.14 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 4.96 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.60 (m, 3H), 8.10-8.25 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 170.1, 165.2, 130.4, 128.9, 127.2, 126.8, 52.3, 48.4, 33.3. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (FW 232): C, 56.89; H, 5.21; N, 24.12; O, 13.78. Found: C, 57.13; H, 5.19; N, 24.23. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 232 (M+, 11), 159 (100), 131 (20).

3-(5'-Phenyl-tetrazol-1'-yl)-propionic acid methyl ester (28b)



Mixture of two regioisomeric products (**28a**:**28b**=89:11 from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR). Isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1) in 96% overall yield. **28b**: colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 3.10 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 4.67 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.65-7.80 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 170.2, 154.6, 131.3, 129.3, 128.8, 123.7, 52.3, 43.4, 33.3. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (FW 232): C, 56.89; H, 5.21; N, 24.12; O, 13.78. Found: C, 57.13; H, 5.19; N, 24.23. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 232 (M+, 43), 131 (27), 118 (31), 104 (69), 89 (47), 77 (78), 63 (37), 59 (100), 55 (43), 51 (31).

3-(2'-Oxo-oxazolidin-3'-yl)-propionic acid methyl ester (29)



Isolated in 99% yield. Colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  = 2.61 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H,), 3.61 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 4.29 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  = 171.9, 158.3, 61.8, 51.8, 45.2, 40.1, 32.5. Anal. calc. for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (FW 173): C, 48.55; H, 6.40; N, 8.09. Found: C, 48.33; H 6.37; N 8.12. GC-EIMS (m/z, %) 142 (15), 129 (20), 113 (20), 100 (39), 70 (27), 56 (100), 43 (13).

# <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra





















