Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2016

# Supporting Information

for

## **Elemental Step Thermodynamics of Dihydropyrimidine: a New Class**

### of Organic Hydride Donors

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The State Key Laboratory of Elemento-Organic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Collaborative Innovation Center of Chemical Science and Engineering, Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, China. E-mail: mfk\_823@163.com, xqzhu@nankai.edu.cn Synthesis of dihydropyrimidines by the Biginelli reaction.



A mixture of aldehyde (20 mmol), ethyl acetoacetate (22 mmol), O-Methylisourea hemisulfate (15 mmol mmol), acetic acid (3 mmol) and piperazine (catalytic amount) was stirred in 50 ml toluene. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 3 h. After completion (as followed by TLC), excess toluene was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residues were treated with excess cold water (200 ml). The crude product thus was extracted by  $CH_2Cl_2$ , concentrated and isolated through column chromatography to afford 1, 4-dihydropyrimidine. The obtained compounds were methylated by  $CH_3I$ , and isolated through column chromatography to afford 1, 2-dihydro- and 1, 4-dihydro-isomers, respectively.

Copies of the Typical <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectra of XH.



ppm (t1)







|] + 3.11 |] + 2.04 ] - 3.09 ] - 2.00 子 0.95 ] <del>]</del> 5.16 3.09 7.0 4.0 2.0 8.0 ppm (t1) т т Т Т т 6.0 T T т 5.0 <del>- - - - -</del> Т **T** T 3.0 T T -1 1 1 1.0

















#### **Typical Electrochemical Spectra**



Figure s1. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $1H(R = CH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $1^+(R = CH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s2. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $2H(R = OCH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $2^+(R = OCH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s3. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $2H(R = CH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $2^+(R = CH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s4. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of 2H(R = Cl) (a) and reduction of  $2^+(R = Cl)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s5. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $2H(R = NO_2)$  (a) and reduction of  $2^+(R = NO_2)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s6. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $\mathbf{3H}(R = OCH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $\mathbf{3}^+(R = OCH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s7. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $3H(R = CH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $3^+(R = CH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s8. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $\mathbf{3H}(R = H)$  (a) and reduction of  $\mathbf{3}^+(R = H)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s9. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $\mathbf{3H}(R = Cl)$  (a) and reduction of  $\mathbf{3}^+(R = Cl)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s10. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $\mathbf{3H}(R = NO_2)$  (a) and reduction of  $\mathbf{3}^+(R = NO_2)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s11. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $4H(R = OCH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $4^+(R = OCH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s12. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $4H(R = CH_3)$  (a) and reduction of  $4^+(R = CH_3)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s13. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of 4H(R = H) (a) and reduction of  $4^+(R = H)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s14. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of 4H(R = Cl) (a) and reduction of  $4^+(R = Cl)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s15. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $4H(R = NO_2)$  (a) and reduction of  $4^+(R = NO_2)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s16. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $5H(R = NO_2)$  (a) and reduction of  $5^+(R = NO_2)$  (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s17. CV and OSWV for the oxidation of  $5H(R = CH_3)$  (a) and 5H(R = H) (b) in deaerated acetonitrile containing 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte.



Figure s18. Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) for the reaction heat of  $1H(R = CH_3)$  with 9-phenylxanthylium perclorate (PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>) in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $1H(R = CH_3)$  (2.87 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s19. ITC for the reaction heat of 1H(R = H) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 1H(R = H) (2.97 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s20. ITC for the reaction heat of 1H(R = Cl) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 1H(R = Cl) (3.03 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s21. ITC for the reaction heat of  $1H(R = NO_2)$  with  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $1H(R = NO_2)$  (3.01 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s22. ITC for the reaction heat of  $2H(R = OCH_3)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $2H(R = OCH_3)$  (2.98 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s23. ITC for the reaction heat of  $2H(R = CH_3)$  with  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $2H(R = CH_3)$  (2.89 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s24. ITC for the reaction heat of 2H(R = Cl) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 2H(R = Cl) (3.04 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s25. ITC for the reaction heat of  $2H(R = NO_2)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $2H(R = NO_2)$  (2.98 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s26. ITC for the reaction heat of  $3H(R = OCH_3)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $3H(R = OCH_3)$  (2.98 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s27. ITC for the reaction heat of  $3H(R = CH_3)$  with  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $3H(R = CH_3)$  (3.03 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing  $PhXn^+ClO_4^-$  (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s28. ITC for the reaction heat of 3H(R = H) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 3H(R = H) (2.99 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s29. ITC for the reaction heat of 3H(R = Cl) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 3H(R = Cl) (3.02 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s30. ITC for the reaction heat of  $3H(R = NO_2)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $3H(R = NO_2)$  (3.03 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s31. ITC for the reaction heat of  $4H(R = OCH_3)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $4H(R = OCH_3)$  (3.00 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s32. ITC for the reaction heat of  $4H(R = CH_3)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $4H(R = CH_3)$  (3.01 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s33. ITC for the reaction heat of 4H(R = H) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 4H(R = H) (2.95 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s34. ITC for the reaction heat of 4H(R = Cl) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 4H(R = Cl) (3.15 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s35. ITC for the reaction heat of  $4H(R = NO_2)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $4H(R = NO_2)$  (3.09 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s36. ITC for the reaction heat of  $5H(R = CH_3)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $5H(R = CH_3)$  (3.07 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s37. ITC for the reaction heat of 5H(R = H) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 5H(R = H) (3.09 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s38. ITC for the reaction heat of 5H(R = Cl) with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of 5H(R = Cl) (3.15 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).



Figure s39. ITC for the reaction heat of  $5H(R = NO_2)$  with PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> in acetonitrile at 298 K. Titration was conducted by adding 10  $\mu$ L of  $5H(R = NO_2)$  (3.21 mM) every 300 s into the acetonitrile containing PhXn<sup>+</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (ca. 30 mM).

#### Typical Hammett Plots for Thermodynamic Parameters.



Figure s40. Plot of  $\Delta H_{\text{H}^-\text{D}}(\mathbf{XH})$  against Hammett substituent parameter ( $\sigma$ ).



Figure s41. Plot of  $E(\mathbf{XH}^{+/0})$  against Hammett substituent parameter ( $\sigma$ ).