# **Supporting Information**

# Synthesis of 2-hydroxymalonic acid derivatives via tandem oxidation and rearrangement by singlet oxygen

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#### **1. General Information**

All dry solvents were obtained from Kanto Kagaku Co., Ltd. Other chemicals used were of reagent grade and were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co., Tokyo Kasei Kogyo Co., Ltd. and Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a JEOL ECA 500 spectrometer (500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C NMR) or JEOL AL 400 spectrometer (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C NMR) at room temperature in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as a solvent. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield from internal Me<sub>4</sub>Si. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on a JEOL JMS-T100TD and are reported as m/z (M+Na+, relative intensity). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on precoated plates of silica gel (MERCK, silica gel F-254, 0.5 mm). Flash column chromatography was preformed with Kanto silica gel 60N (Spherical, Neutral, 40-50 mm) and Biotage Isolera® automated chromatography system using normal phase cartridges with YMC\*GEL SIL (YMC Co., Ltd., 25 µm). IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100 FTIR spectrometer and are reported in terms of frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>). Irradiation of visible light was performed with a 22 W fluorescent lamp (daylight color lamp, EFR25ED 22W from Panasonic Co., Ltd. as shown detailed in the bellow (Figure S-1 and Figure S-2)).



Figure S-1. The appearance of the fluorescent lamps

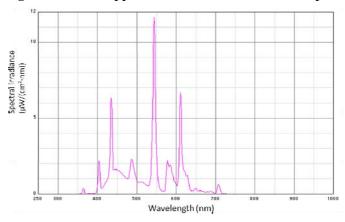


Figure S-2. The wavelength of the fluorescent lamp

#### 2. Materials

Methyl 3-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-oxopropanoate (1e) were prepared from ethyl 3-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-oxopropanoate according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> 1j was prepared from amine according to the literature.<sup>2</sup>

#### 3. General Experimental Procedure

A dry methanol solution (5 mL) of **1a** (0.3 mmol), methylene blue (2.0 mol%) and Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> (0.1 equiv) in a Pyrex test tube (diameter: 15mm, height: 145mm) equipped with an O<sub>2</sub> balloon, was irradiated with stirring condition for 10 h with four 22 W fluorescent lamps, which was set from the test tube in the distance of 80 mm. The crude product was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR with 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as the internal standard for determination of the NMR yields. The reaction mixture was concentrated under the reduced pressure. The pure product **2a** was obtained in 80% yield (49.0 mg) after column chromatography.

#### 4. Synthesis of Methyl 3-n-butyl-2-hydroxy-3-oxopropanoate (3a)

A dry methanol solution (5 mL) of **1a** (0.3 mmol), methylene blue (2.0 mol%),  $Ca(OH)_2$  (0.1 equiv) and P(OEt)<sub>3</sub> (1.0 equiv) in a Pyrex test tube equipped with an O<sub>2</sub> balloon, was irradiated with stirring condition for 10 h with four 22 W fluorescent lamps, which was set from the test tube in the distance of 80 mm. The reaction mixture was concentrated under the reduced pressure. This reaction performed three times. methyl was then 3-n-butyl-3,3-dimethoxy-2-hydroxypropanoate was obtained (total 30.6 mg) after column chromatography. A chloroform solution (3 mL) of this product and TFA (0.1 equiv) in flask was stirred for 10 minutes at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was concentrated under the reduced pressure. **3a** was obtained in 4% yield (6.7 mg) after column chromatography.

#### 5. Spectral Data of Compounds

#### **Dimethyl 2-butyl-2-hydroxymalonate (2a)**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.81 (s, 6H), 3.82 (s, 1H), 2.05-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.35-1.25 (m, 4H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 79.0, 53.3, 34.6, 25.2, 22.5, 13.8. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.20 (hexane:ether = 3:1). Yield: 80% (49.0 mg)

## **Dimethyl 2-ethyl-2-hydroxymalonate (2b)**<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.82 (s, 6H), 2.07 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.0, 79.4, 53.3, 28.1, 7.4. HRMS: m/z (DART) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 177,0763 found 177.0770. IR (ATR): 3941, 2959, 1735, 1438, 1225, 1156, 1119, 1089, 1006, 803 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.20 (hexane:ether = 3:1). Yield: 60% (31.8 mg)

## Dimethyl 2-hydroxy-2-propylmalonate (2c)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.81 (s, 6H), 3.73 (s, 1H), 2.03-1.99 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 79.0, 53.3, 36.9, 16.5, 13.9. HRMS: *m*/*z* (DART) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 191.0919, found 191.0913. IR (ATR): 3505, 2980, 2960, 1738, 1723, 1428, 1294, 1249, 1215, 1117, 935, 806, 599 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.20 (hexane:ether = 3:1). Yield: 79% (45.2 mg)

## **Dimethyl 2-hydroxy-2-isopropylmalonate** (2d)<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.82 (s, 6H), 3.66 (s, 1H), 2.65 (sep, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.9, 82.3, 53.3, 33.4, 16.4. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.20 (hexane:ether = 3:1). Yield: 82% (47.0 mg)

## **Dimethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(4-nitrophenyl)malonate (2e)**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.24 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.2, 148.0, 142.1, 128.0, 123.0, 79.6, 54.2. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.30 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 3:2). Yield: 74% (60.1 mg)

## **Dimethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(pylydine-3-yl)malonate (2f)**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.91 (s, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 4.5, 1H), 8.00 (dt, *J* = 8.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.6, 149.4, 148.2, 134.7,132.0, 122.9, 78.8, 54.0. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.32 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:3). Yield: 34% (25.9 mg)

## Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(dimethylamino)-3-oxopropanoate (2g)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.86 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s,3H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.2, 170.2, 75.1, 53.0, 37.2, 22.9. HRMS: *m*/*z* (DART) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 176.0922, found 176.0919. IR (ATR): 3512, 2925, 1740, 1636, 1396, 1257, 1157, 1088, 970 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.50 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 2:1). Yield: 59% (31.2 mg)

## Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(diethylamino)-3-oxopropanoate (2h)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.97 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H) 3.36-3.32 (m, 2H), 3.21-3.15 (m, 2H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.09-1.05 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.3, 169.5, 75.1, 52.8, 41.4, 41.0, 23.0, 13.3, 12.1. HRMS: m/z (DART) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 204.1235, found 204.1229. IR (ATR): 3348, 2938, 1740, 1630, 1251, 1118, 980, 795 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.50 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1). Yield: 72% (44.0 mg)

## Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(4-morpholinyl)-3-oxopropanoate (2i)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.60 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.75-3.45 (m, 8H), 1.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 168.7, 75.5, 66.6, 66.2, 53.1, 46.3, 43.7, 23.4. HRMS: *m*/*z* (DART) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 218.1028, found 218.1028. IR (ATR): 3461, 3284, 2970, 1741, 1637, 1432, 1266, 1235, 1109, 1031, 969, 835 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.50 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2). Yield: 68% (44.2 mg)

#### Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(1-indolinyl)-3-oxopropanoate (2j)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.22 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.06 (t, *J* =7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (s, 1H), 4.14 (dd, *J* =10.9, 8.0, 1H), 3.97-3.92 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 167.6, 143.1, 131.2, 127.5, 124.7, 124.5, 117.9, 53.3, 47.9, 28.6, 23.1. HRMS: *m*/*z* (DART) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 250.1079, found 250.1069. IR (ATR): 3383, 3013, 1747, 1640, 1480, 1410, 1162, 1080, 750 (cm<sup>-1</sup>). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.46 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 2:1). Yield: 75% (65.0 mg)

### Methyl 3-n-butyl-2-hydroxy-3-oxopropanoate (3a)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.80 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 1H), 2.77-2.56 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.38-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 204.4, 168.8, 77.6, 53.1, 38.3, 25.4, 22.1, 13.7.

HRMS: m/z (DART) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 175.0970, found 175.0972.

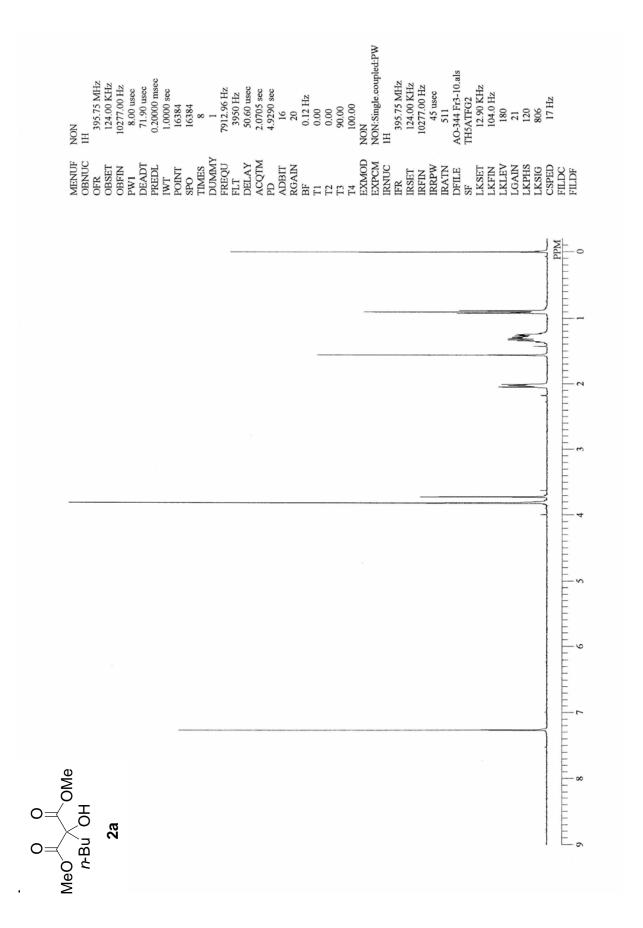
IR (ATR): 3441, 2960, 2875, 1727, 1439, 1210, 1170, 1123, 972 (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

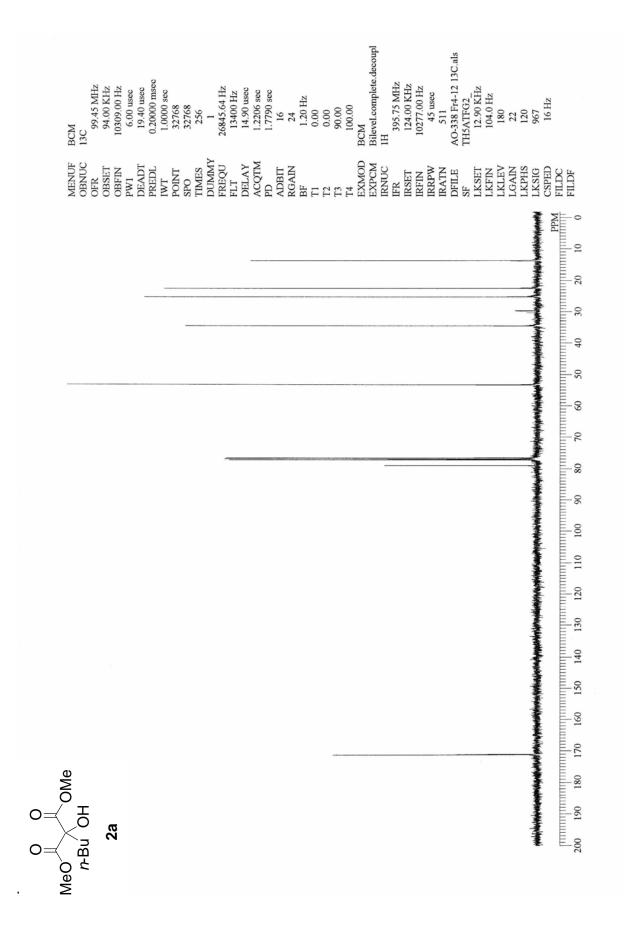
 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.40 (hexane:ethyl acetate = 3:1).

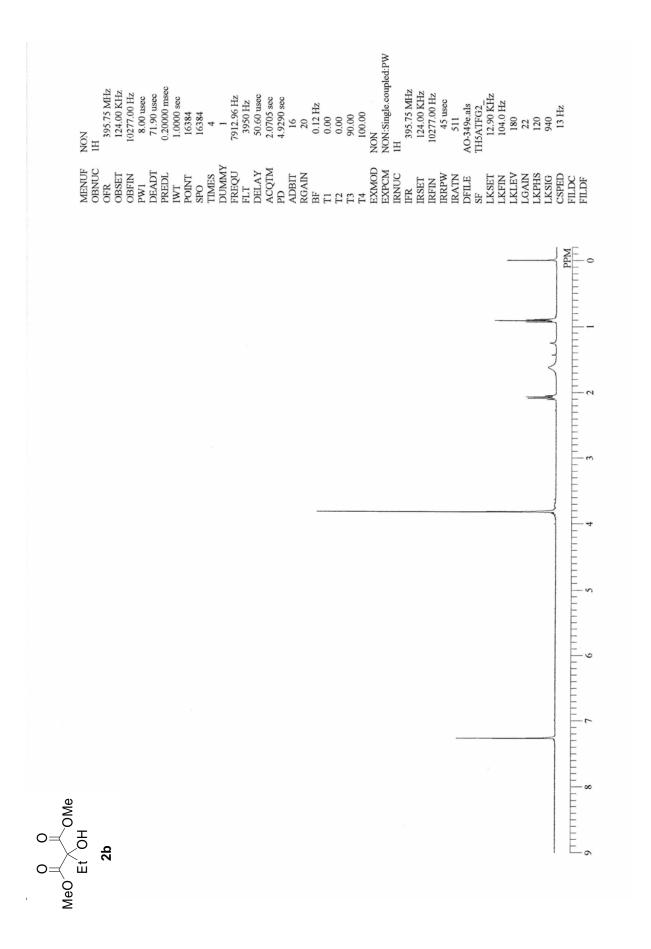
Yield: 4% (6.7 mg)

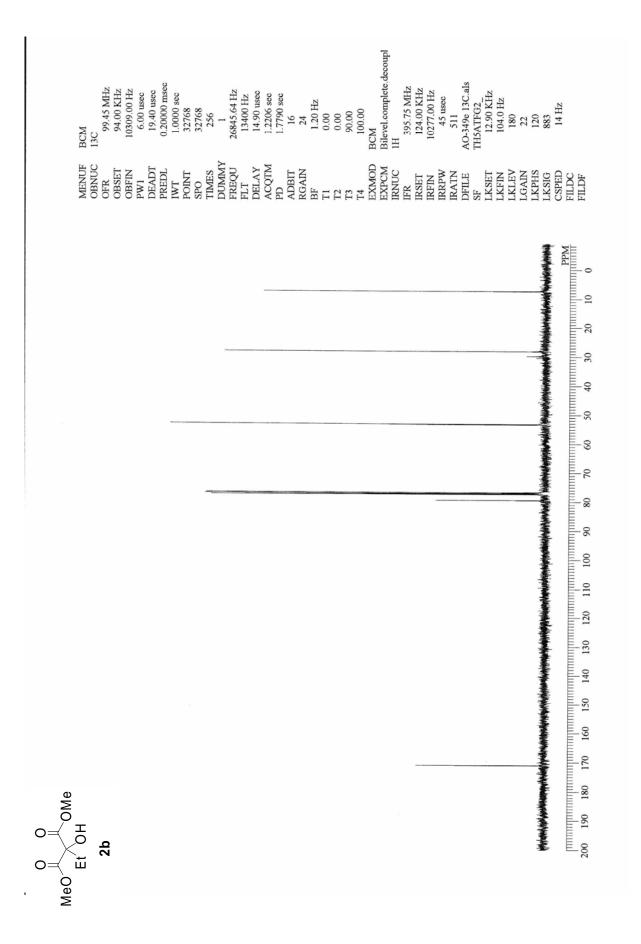
### 6. References

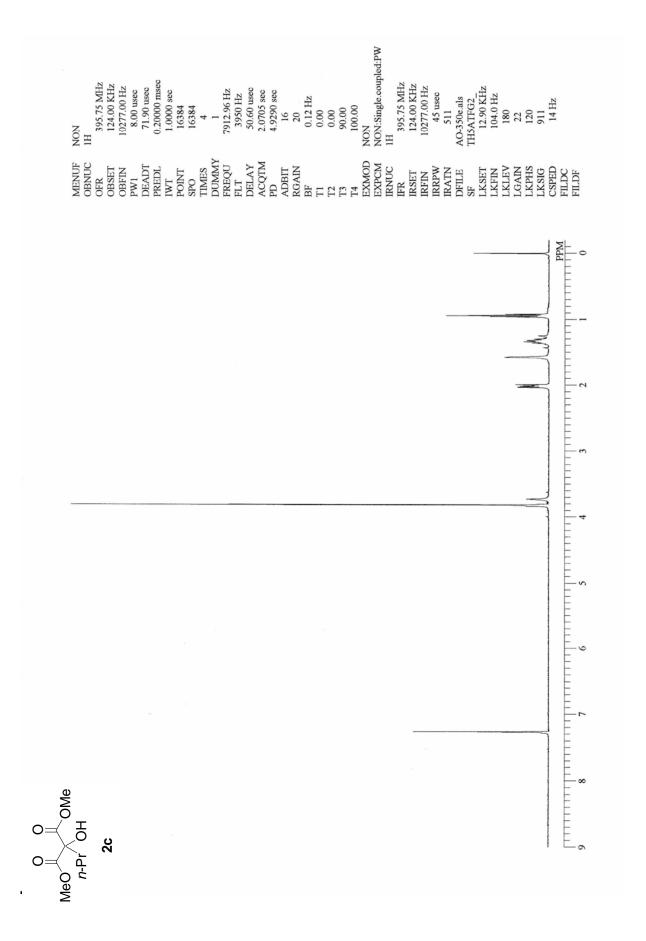
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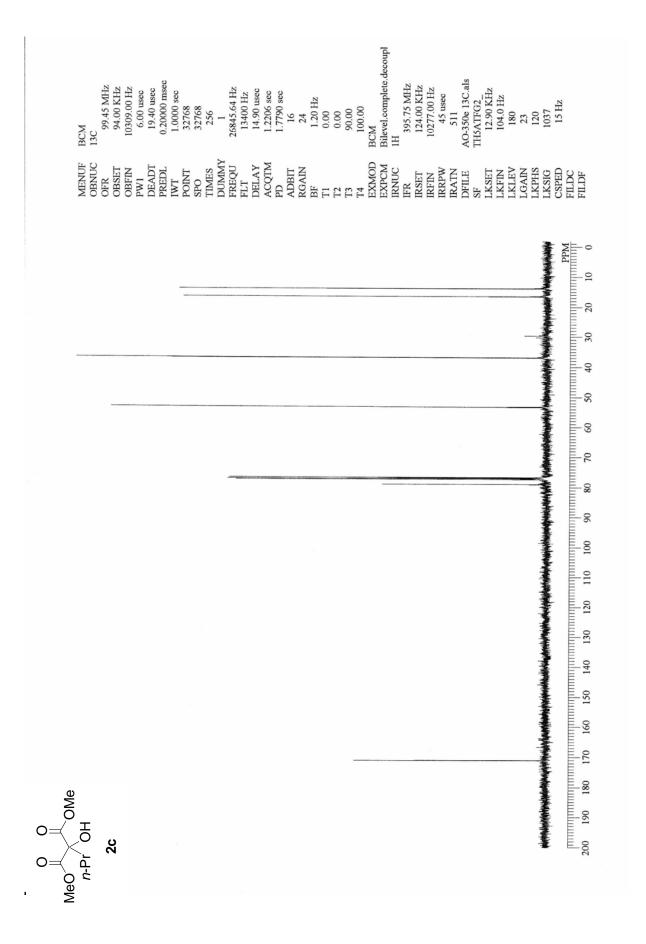


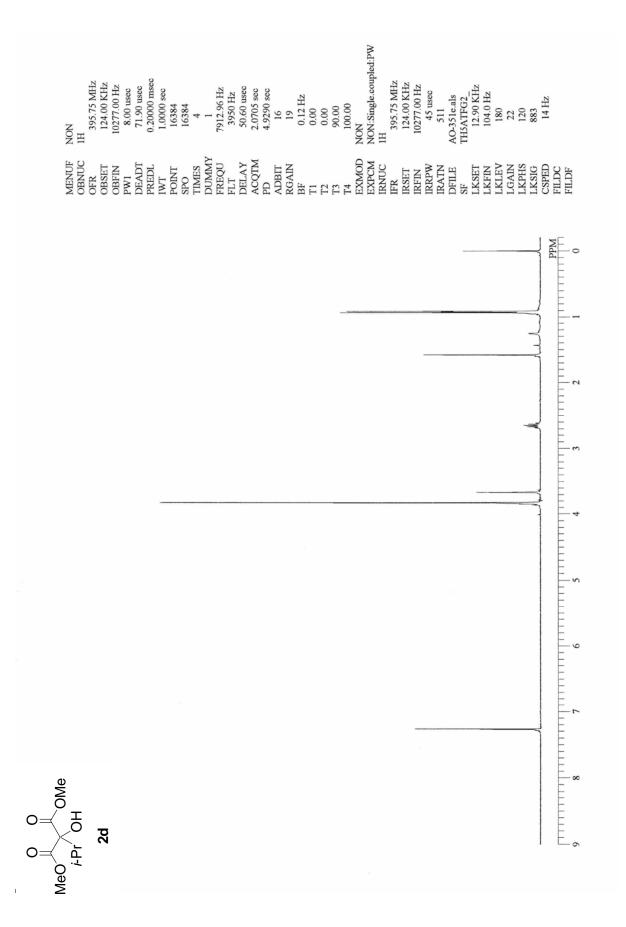


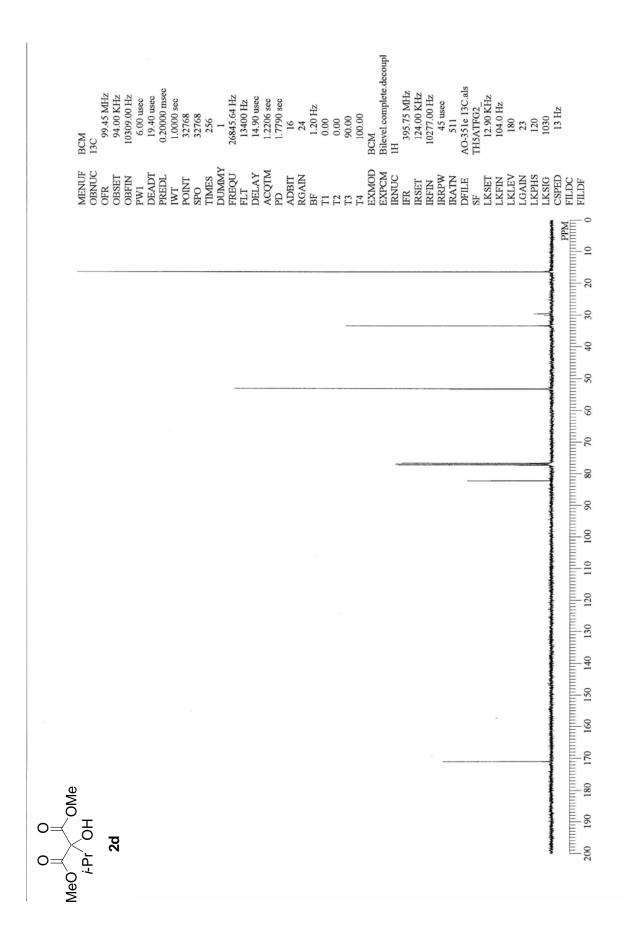


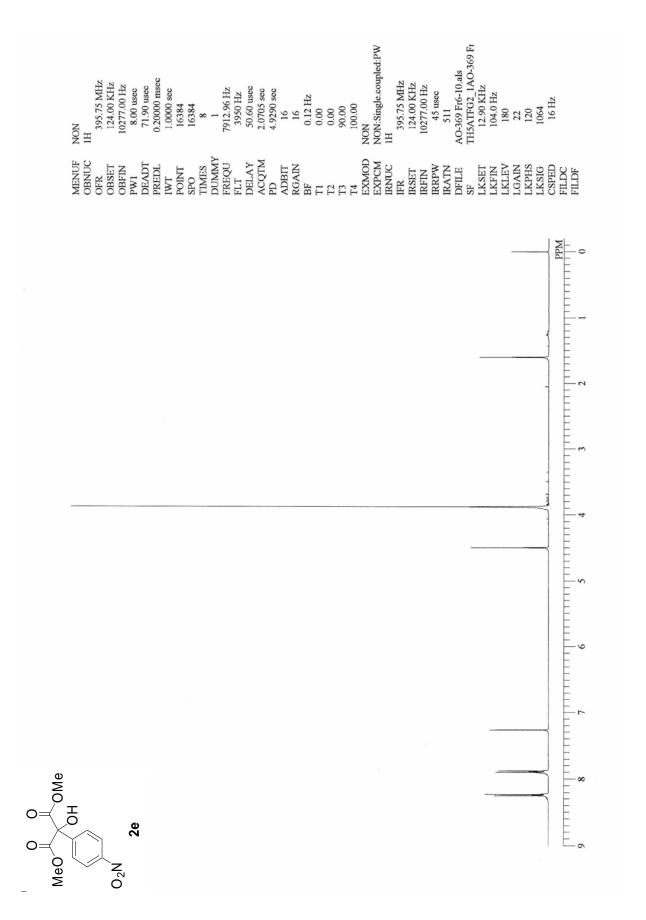


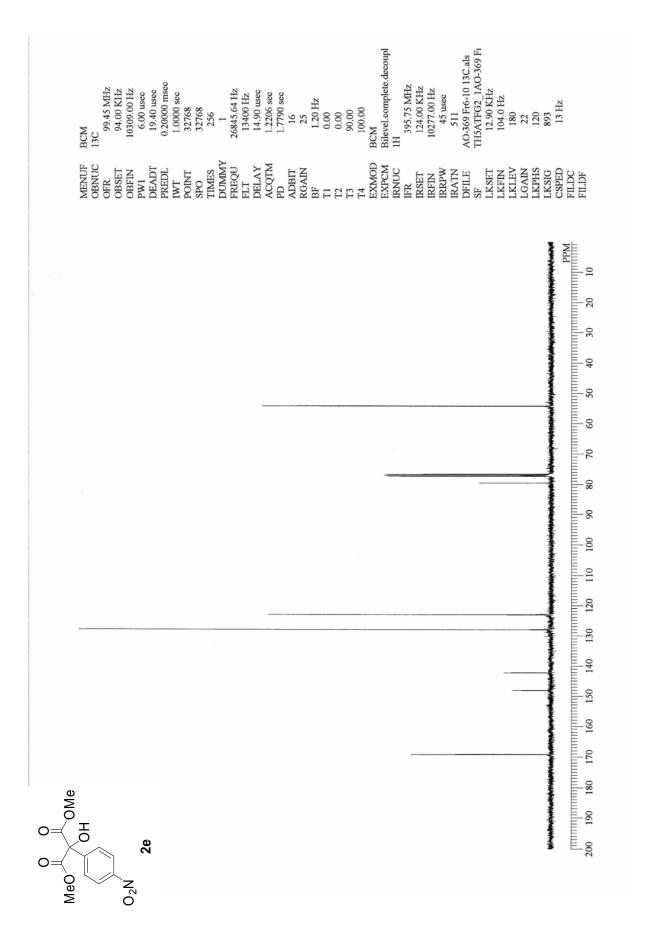


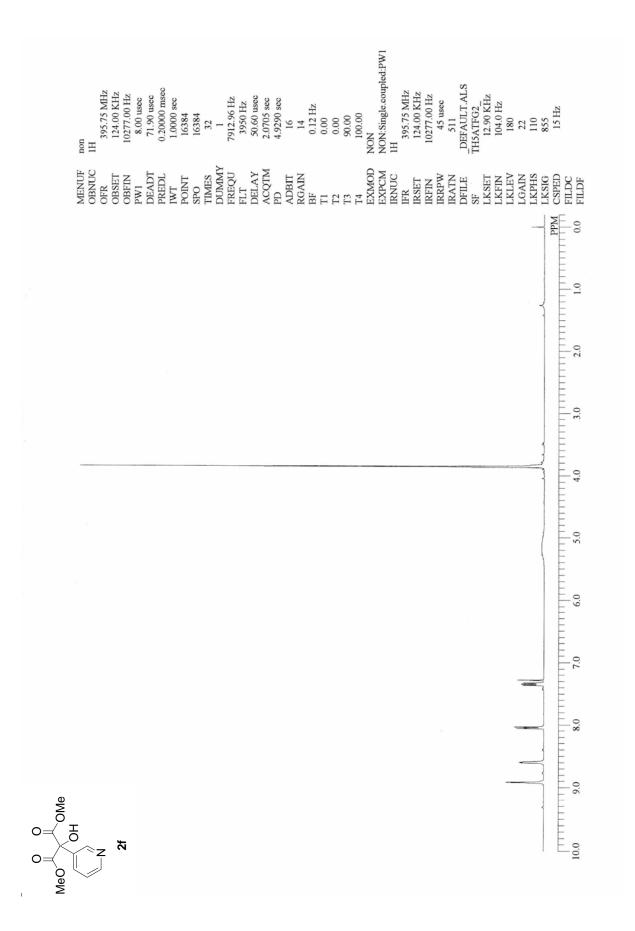


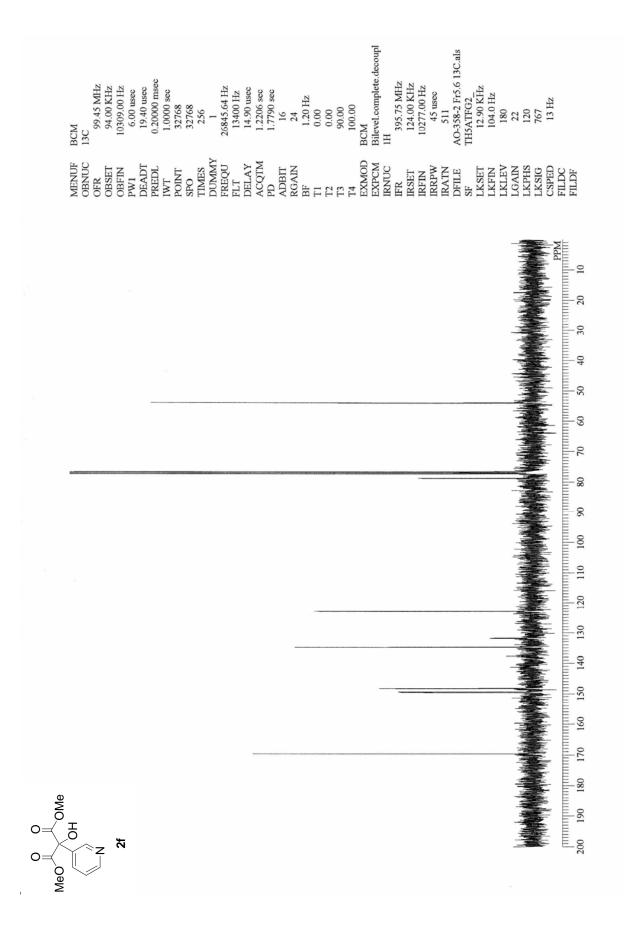


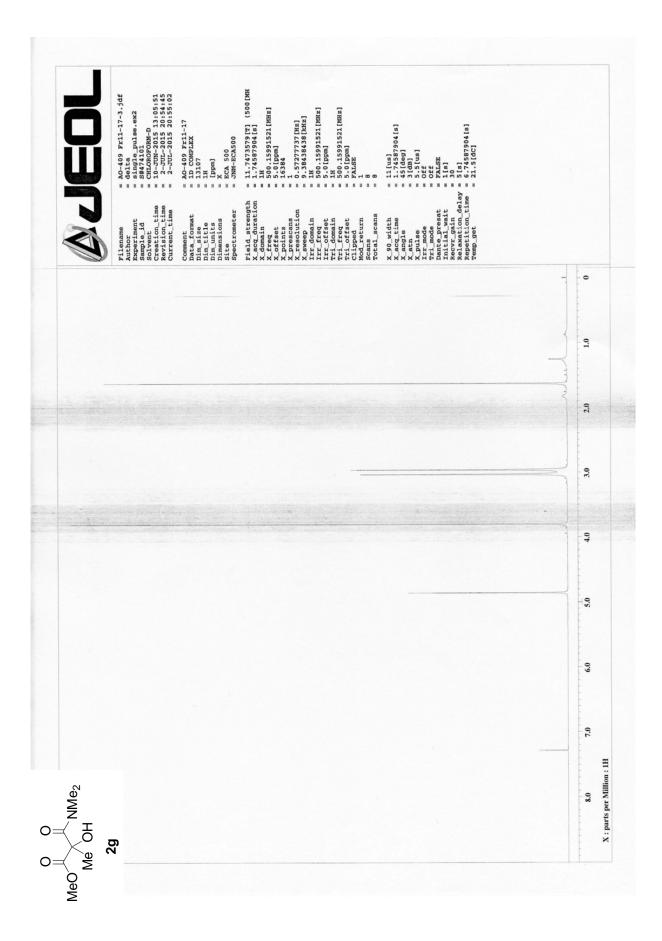




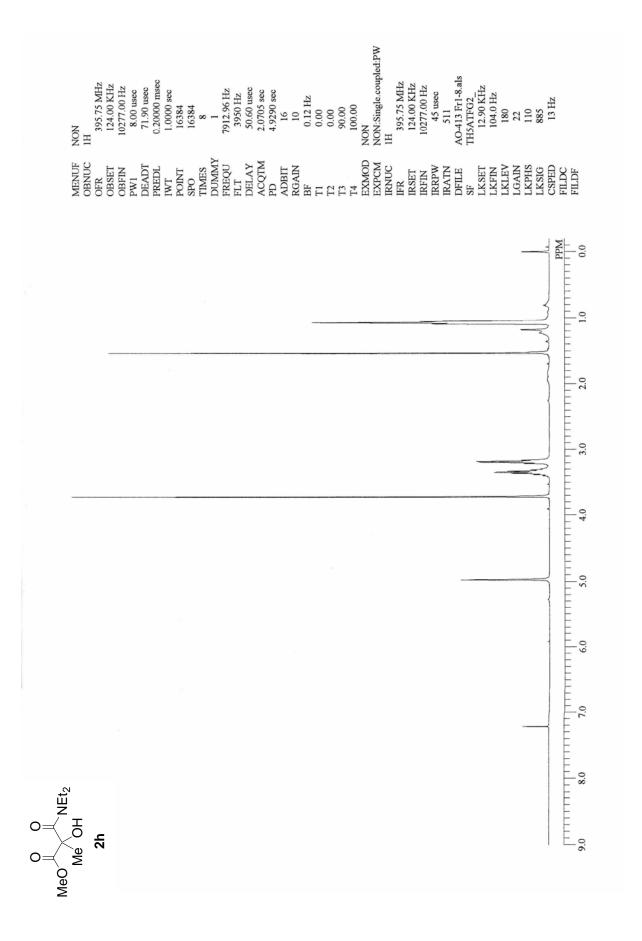


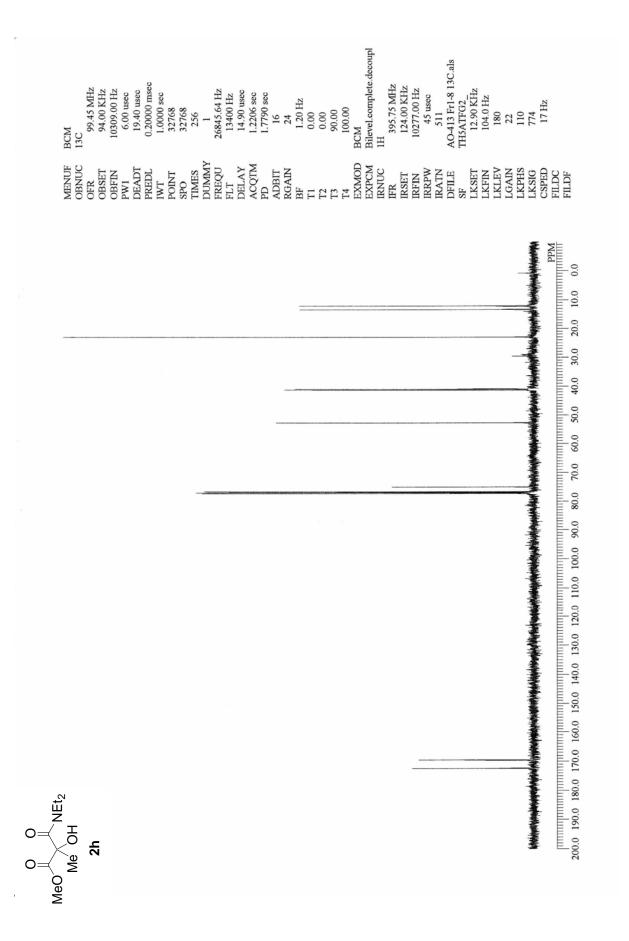




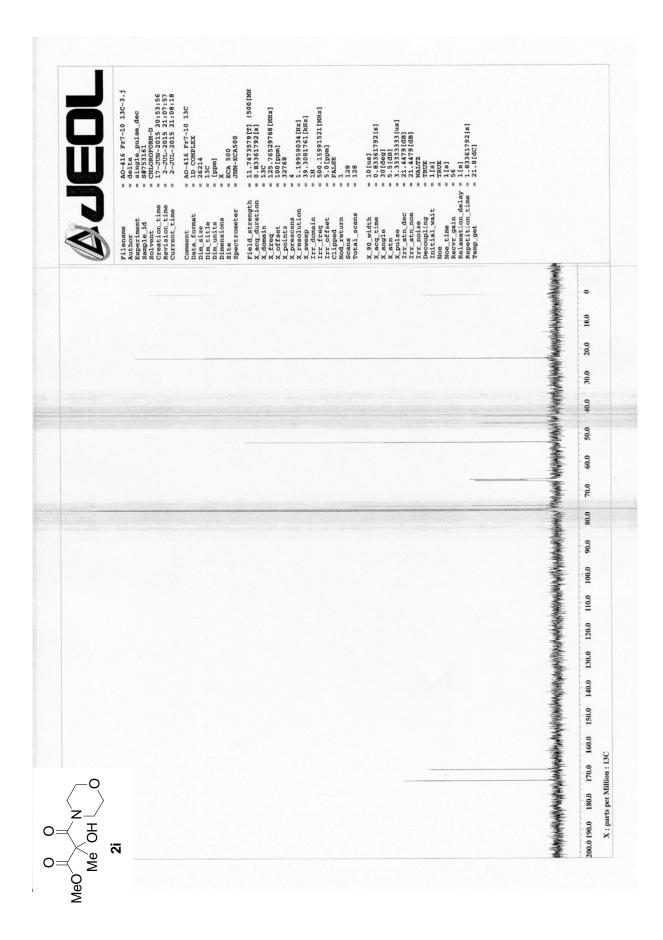


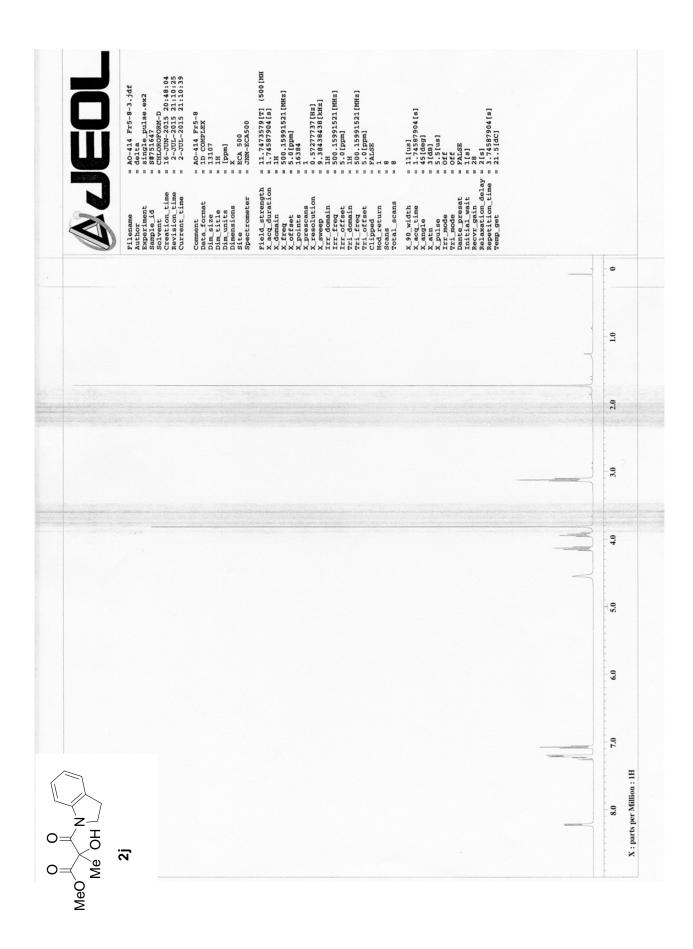
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