Supporting information

Soft detoxification of chemical warfare agent simulants and pesticides under pressure

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General information

All reagent and CWA simulants (CEES, CTEA), and 4-nitrophenyl dimethyl phosphate (Methyl Paraoxon) were purchased from Sigma Aldrich and used as provided; solvents were purchased from VWR and used without further purification.

High-pressure reactions were performed in piston-cylinder type devices: U16 (Unipress, Warsaw, Poland), designed for P = 16 kbar, and an Ollivaud/Lebas (France) for P = 14 kbar.



Figure 1. Pictures of piston-cylinder type apparatus U16 (Unipress, Warsaw, Poland): front (left) and side (right)



Figure 2. Piston-cylinder type apparatus Ollivaud/Lebas, France.

High field ¹H, ¹³C, and ³¹P NMR studies were performed on a 300 MHz Bruker Spectrospin spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are given with regard to TMS using solvent as internal reference, *J* coupling constants are given in Hertz. Low resolution mass spectra and gas chromatograms were performed on a Shimadzu QP2010 hybrid ionization apparatus (HP5- MS stationary phase, I = 30 cm, d = 0.25 mm, film thickness = 0.25 µm).

All reactions were conducted at room temperature (23 °C) except if noted otherwise, with no particular precautions with regard to residual moisture and air. However due to the acute toxicity of CWA simulants, all reactions were carried out under closed atmosphere in a very well-ventilated fume hood. All glassware and materials in contact of simulants were immersed in a bleach bath under the fume hood for one day before further washing and/or disposal.

Preparation of starting materials

S-2-(Diisopropylamino)ethyl) O-ethyl phenylphosphonothioate (PhX)

Prepared according to the literature,¹ pale yellow oil.

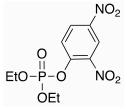
¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 4.31 – 4.13 (m, 2H), 2.97 – 2.79 (m, 2H), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.3, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.58 – 2.49 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 12H)

¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 133.7 (d, J=148.8) 132.06 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 130.89 (d, J = 10.8 Hz), 128.15 (d, J = 14.7 Hz), 61.67 (d, J = 6.8 Hz), 48.47 (s), 45.86 (d, J = 4.7 Hz), 30.98 (d, J = 2.1 Hz), 20.51 (t, J = 6.1 Hz), 16.08 (d, J = 6.7 Hz).

³¹**P NMR** (121 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 45.4 (m)

HRMS calc m/z: 330.1657 ([M+H]⁺), found 330.1657 (0.0 ppm)

Diethyl 2,4-Dinitrophenyl phosphate (DEDNPP)



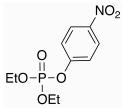
It was prepared according to the procedure described in literature, using THF as solvent instead benzene. The product was purified by flash chromatography (4:1 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate and 0.2% acetic acid; 56% yield (yellow solid), mp < 40 °C.² ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.40 (td J_{HH} = 7.05 Hz, J_{HP} = 1.17 Hz, 6H), 4.22-4.37 (m, 4H), 7.85 (dd, J_{HH} = 9.15 Hz, J_{HH} = 1.05 Hz), 8.47 (ddd, J_{HH} = 9.15 Hz, J_{HH} = 2.77, J_{HP} = 0.39 Hz, 1H), 8.83 (dd, J_{HH} = 2.77 Hz, J_{HP} = 1.05 Hz, 1H)

¹³**C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 16.1 (d, J = 6.75), 65.2 (d, J = 6.26); 120.6 (d, J = 5.54); 125.7 (s); 144.7 (s); 155.6 (d, J = 6.34)

³¹P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃): -7.5 (quint, 8.4 J_{PH})

HRMS calc m/z: 321.0488 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 321.0488 (0.0 ppm)

Diethyl 4-nitrophenyl phosphate (Paraoxon)



It was prepared according to the procedure employed for the DEDNPP; see above. The product was purified by flash chromatography (3:2 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate and 0.2% acetic acid; 68% yield) (yellow liquid).²

¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (td J_{HH} =7.05, JHP = 1.03, 6H), 4,27 (m, 4H), 7.73 and 8.17 (AA'BB', 4H).

¹³**C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 16.0 (d, J = 6.69), 66.1 (d, J = 6.66), 127.7 (s), 123.4 (d, J = 2.63), 128.8 (d, J = 0.90), 143.6 (s), 148.3 (d, J = 4.96).

³¹**P NMR** (121 MHz, CDCl₃): -6.5 (qu, 8.5 J_{PH}).

HRMS calc m/z: 276.0637 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 276.0616 (-7.6 ppm)

General Procedure for the neutralization of CWAs under high pressure

The mixture of CWAs (0.125 mmol for CTEA and DEAE and 0.044 mmol for PhX), and the nucleophile (0.375 mmol of pyrrolidine or EtOLi) were dissolved in dry ethanol (1 mL)¹ in a Teflon reaction vessel (0.9 mL) and submitted to a pressure of 14-16 kbar at room temperature. After 24 h, pressure was released, reaction medium was extracted (H₂O/diethyl ether, 3x2 mL) and volatiles were removed in vacuo before GC (decane is used as an internal standard, 0.125 mmol) and NMR analysis.

General Procedure for the neutralization of phosphate triesters under high pressure

Solvolysis reactions. A solution containing the phosphate triester (Paraoxon, Methyl Paraoxon or DEDNPP) (4.7 mmol L⁻¹ in MeCN/H₂O, 99:1, v/v) was prepared and placed in a Teflon reaction vessel (2.5 or 2.7 mL). The reaction mixture was kept under 14 kbar or 16 kbar, at room temperature for 24 h. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residues were dissolved in CDCl₃ and analyzed by ¹H and ³¹P NMR. The product ratio was calculated from ³¹P NMR spectra.

Reactions with imidazole. A solution containing imidazole (28 mmol L⁻¹; 6 equivalents) and the phosphate triester (4.7 mmol L⁻¹; 1 equivalent) was prepared and placed in a Teflon reaction vessel (2.5 or 2.7 mL). The reaction mixture was kept under 14 kbar or 16 kbar, at room temperature for 24 h. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residues were dissolved in deuterium oxide and analyzed by ¹H and ³¹P NMR. The product ratio was calculated from ³¹P NMR spectra.

Diethyl phenylphosphonate (1)

O EtO-P-OEt Ph

Viscous colorless liquid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.63 (m, J = 13.3, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 4.21 – 3.80 (m, 4H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H) ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 132.14 (d, J = 2.6 Hz), 131.44 (d, J = 9.9 Hz), 128.21 (d, J = 15.0 Hz), 128.04 (d), 61.83 (d, J = 5.4 Hz), 16.02 (d, J = 6.4 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 18.74 (S) HRMS calc m/z: 215.0837 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 215.0833 (1.8 ppm)

Data in accordance to literature.³

¹Commercial absolute ethanol > 99.7% was dried over molecular sieves before use.

Triethyl phosphate (2) EtO - P - OEt OEt¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.27 (td J_{HH} =7.1 Hz, J_{HP} = 0.89 Hz, 9H), 4.04 (dq, J_{HP} = 7.9 Hz, J_{HH} =7.1 Hz, 6H).0 ³¹P{¹H} NMR: -0.9 (s) Data in accordance to literature.³

Diethyl phosphate (3b)

 $\begin{array}{c} O \\ EtO - P - OH \\ OEt \end{array} \\ \end{tabular}^{1} \mbox{H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta \ 1.27 \ (t \ J_{HH} = 6.9 \ Hz, \ 6H), \ 3.95 \ -4.06 \ (m, \ 4H). \\ \end{tabular}^{31} \mbox{P{'1H} NMR (121 \ MHz, \ CDCl_3): \ 0.6 \ (s) } \\ \end{tabular} \end{tabular}$

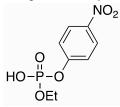
Dimethyl phosphate (3c)

 $\begin{array}{c} O \\ MeO-P-OH \\ OMe \end{array}$ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 3.55 (t J_{HP} =10.7 Hz, 6H)
³¹P{¹H} NMR (121 MHz, D₂O): 3.6 (s)
Data in accordance to literature.⁵

Methyl phosphate (5c)

 $\begin{array}{c} O \\ HO - P \\ OMe \end{array}$ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 3.44 (t J_{HP} =10.1 Hz, 3H) ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121 MHz, D₂O): 4.7 (s) Data in accordance to literature.⁶

Ethyl 4-nitrophenyl hydrogen phosphate (4b)

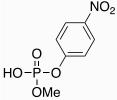


¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.25(dt J_{HH}= 7.1 J_{HP} = 1.0 Hz, 3H), 4.01 (m, 2H), 7.28 and 8.12 (AA'BB', 4H).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃): -7.1 (s)

Data in accordance to literature, slight shifted due to the solvent.⁷

Methyl 4-nitrophenyl hydrogen phosphate (4c)



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.91 (d, J_{HP} = 11.5 Hz 6H), 7.33 and 8.20 (AA'BB', 4H). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃): -5.5 (bs) **4-Nitrophenol (C₆H₅NO₃)** ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 6. 89 and 8.14 (AA'BB', 4H). Data in accordance to literature.⁸

2,4-Dinitrophenol

¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (d J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d of d, J = 9.3, J = 2.7, 1H), 9.01 (d J = 2.7 Hz, 1H). Data in accordance to literature.⁹

N-Methyl imidazole

¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.73 (s, 3H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H). Data in accordance to literature.¹⁰

1-Ethoxy-2-(ethylthio)ethane (6a)

Viscous pale yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.65 – 3.37 (m, 4H), 2.76 – 2.48 (m, 4H), 1.20 (dt, J = 15.8, 7.2 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 77.58 (s), 77.16 (s), 76.74 (s), 70.30 (s), 66.39 (s), 31.23 (s), 26.48 (s), 15.24 (s), 14.94 (s). HRMS calc m/z: 134.0765 Da (M), found 134.0767 (1.5 ppm) 1-[2-(Ethylthio)ethyl]-pyrrolidine (6b)

Viscous pale yellow liquid.

¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.48 (s, 4H), 2.35 (td, J = 7.0, 2.7 Hz, 6H), 1.67 – 1.50 (m, 4H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 77.58 (s), 77.16 (s), 76.73 (s), 56.18 (s), 53.88 (s), 30.32 (s), 25.91 (s), 23.22 (s), 14.64 (s).

HRMS calc m/z: 160.1160 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 160.1147 (8 ppm)

2-Ethoxy-N,N-diethylethanamine (7a)

.N _ `OEt

Viscous pale yellow liquid

¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.44 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 4H), 2.64 – 2.44 (m, 6H), 1.14 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H).

¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 77.58 (s), 77.16 (s), 76.74 (s), 69.09 (s), 66.49 (s), 52.39 (s), 47.71 (s), 15.22 (s), 11.71 (s).

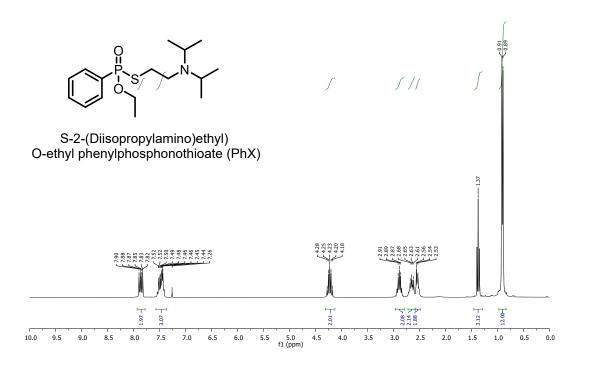
HRMS calc m/z: 146.1545 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 146.1538 (5 ppm)

N,*N*-Diethyl-1-pyrrolidineethanamine (7b)

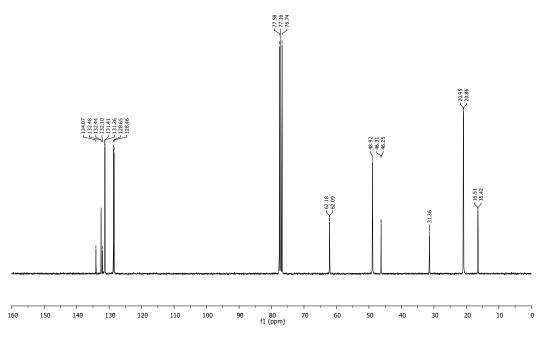
Viscous yellow pale liquid ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.53 – 2.27 (m, 12H), 1.62 (t, J = 3.4 Hz, 4H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H). ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 77.59 (s), 77.16 (s), 76.74 (s), 54.52 (s), 54.46 (s), 51.86 (s), 47.41 (s), 23.27 (s), 11.66 (s).

HRMS calc m/z: 171.1861 Da ([M+H]⁺), found 171.1858 (1.7 ppm)

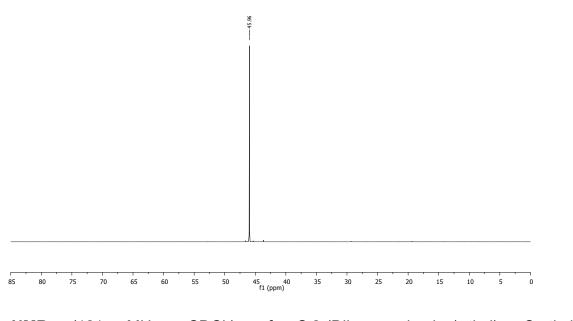
High field NMR Spectra



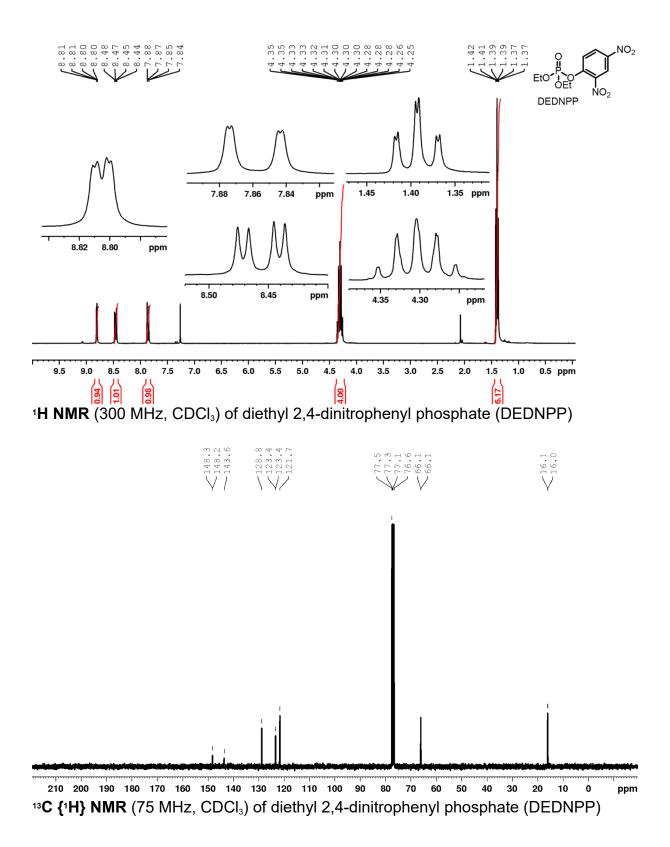
¹**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) of S-2-(Diisopropylamino)ethyl) O-ethyl phenylphosphonothioate (PhX)

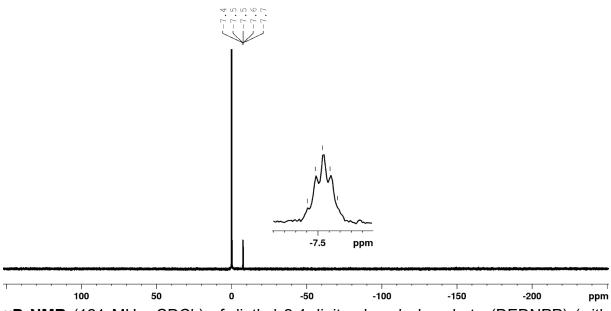


¹³**C** {¹**H**} **NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃) of S-2-(Diisopropylamino)ethyl) O-ethyl phenylphosphonothioate (PhX)

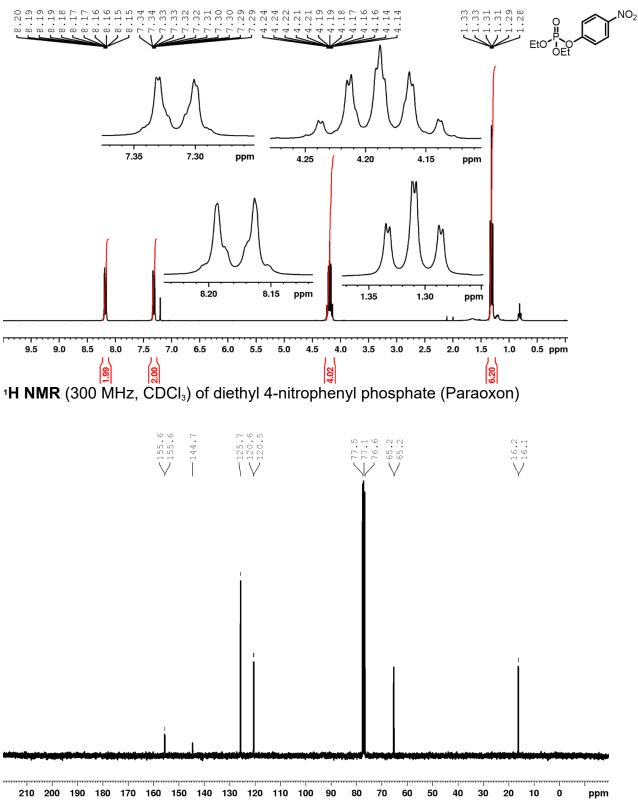


 ${}^{_{31}}\textbf{P}$ NMR (121 MHz, CDCl_{_3}) of S-2-(Diisopropylamino)ethyl) O-ethyl phenylphosphonothioate (PhX)

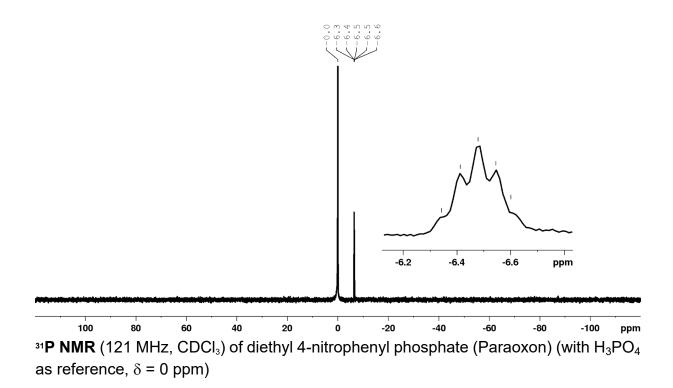


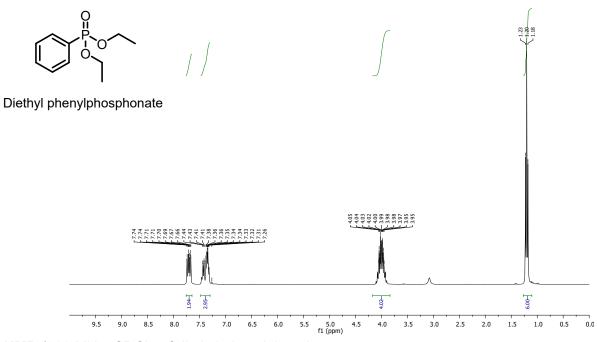


³¹**P NMR** (121 MHz, CDCl₃) of diethyl 2,4-dinitrophenyl phosphate (DEDNPP) (with H₃PO₄ as reference, $\delta = 0$ ppm)

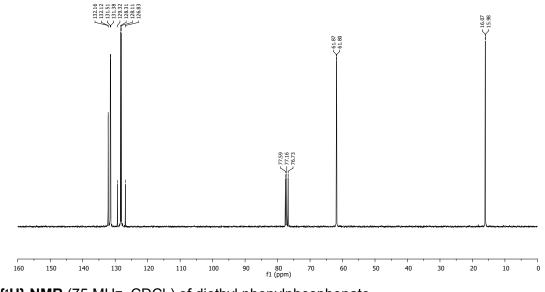


¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) of diethyl 4-nitrophenyl phosphate (Paraoxon)

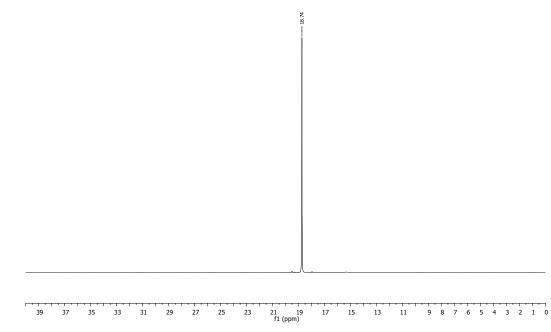




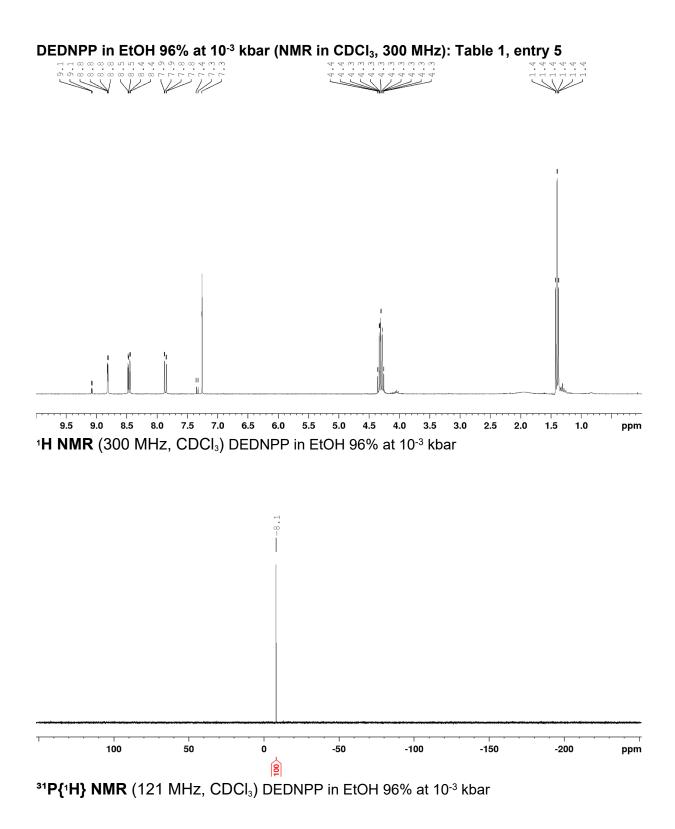
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) of diethyl phenylphosphonate



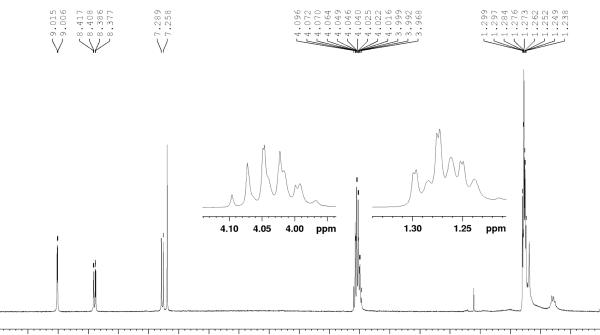
¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) of diethyl phenylphosphonate



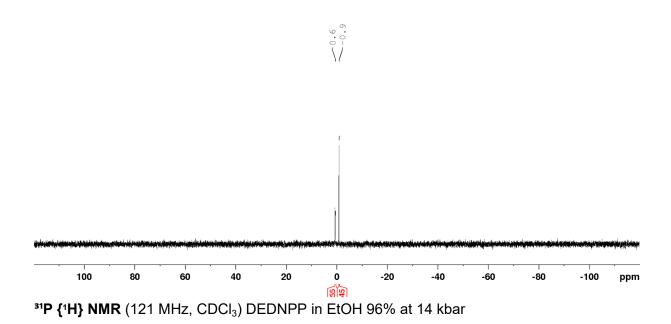
³¹**P NMR** (121 MHz, CDCl₃) of diethyl phenylphosphonate

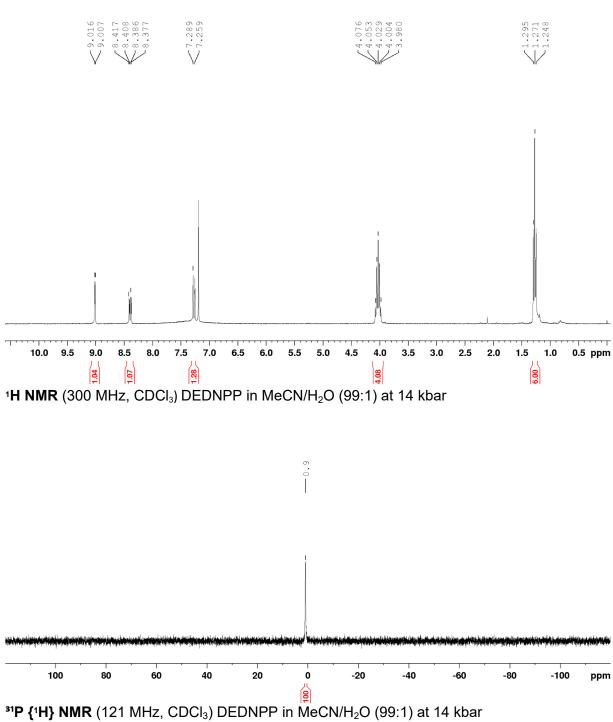




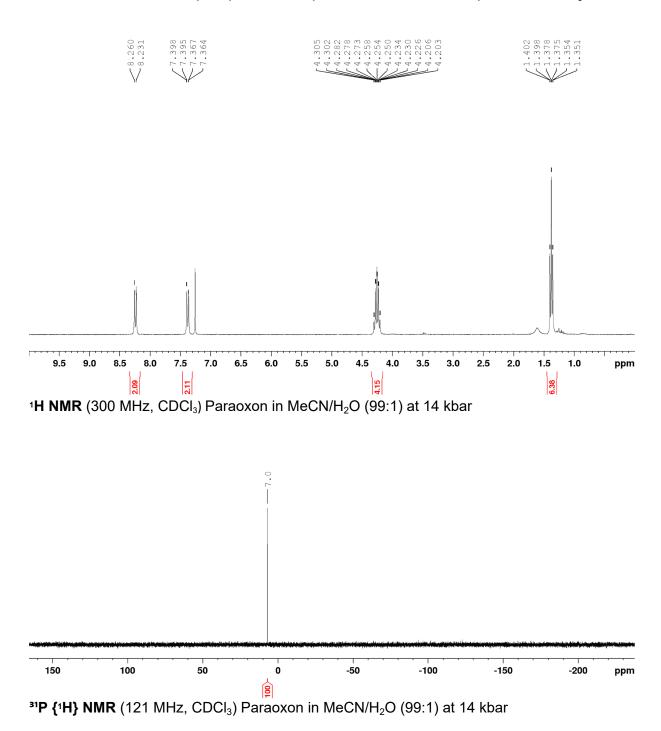


9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 2.5 3.0 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 ppm ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) DEDNPP in EtOH 96% at 14 kbar

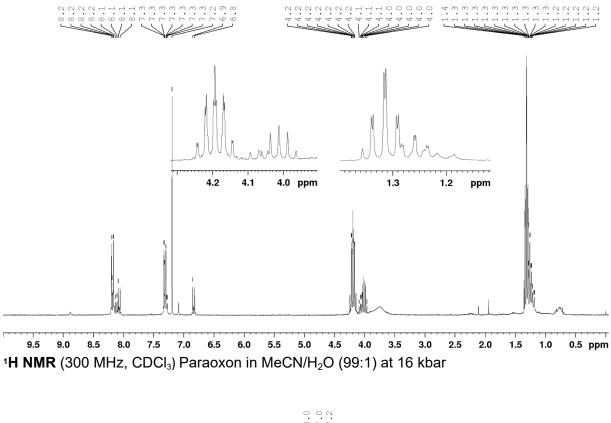


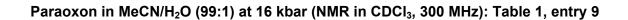


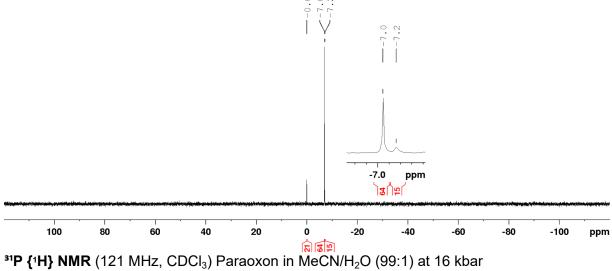
DEDNPP in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) at 14 kbar (NMR in CDCI₃, 300 MHz): Table 1, entry 7



Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) at 14 kbar (NMR in CDCI₃, 300 MHz): Table 1, entry 8

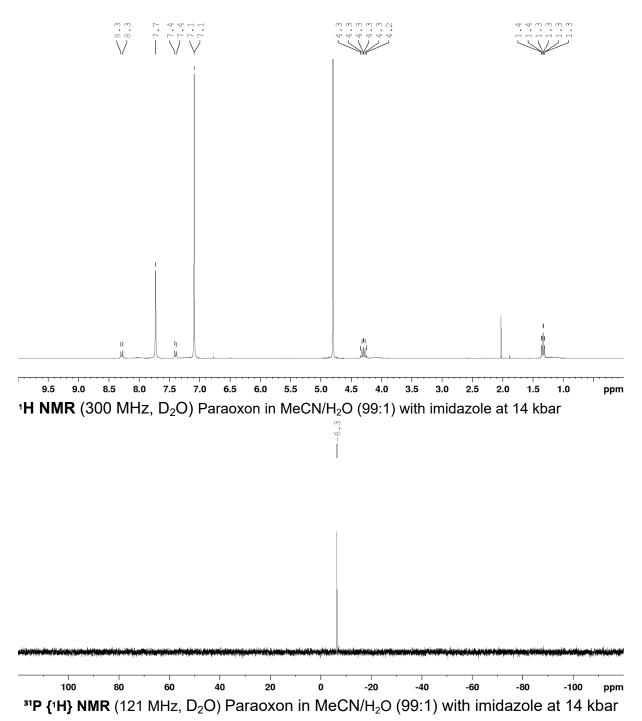




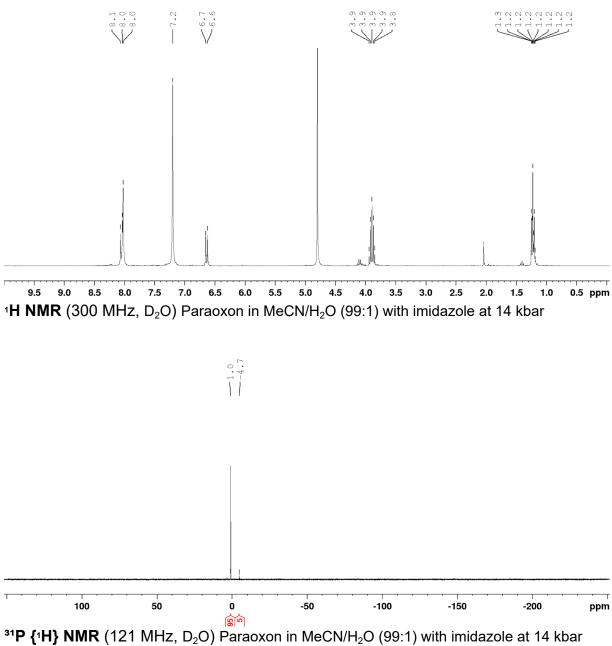




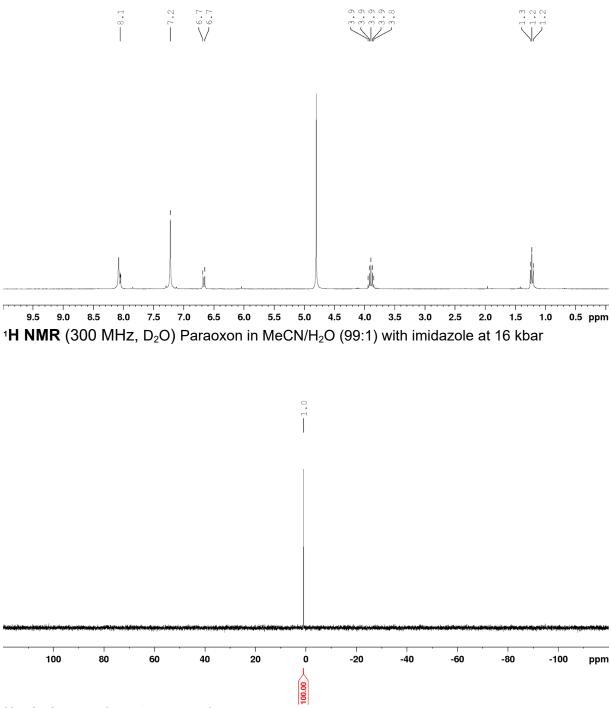
Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 14 kbar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 1



Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 14 kbar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 2

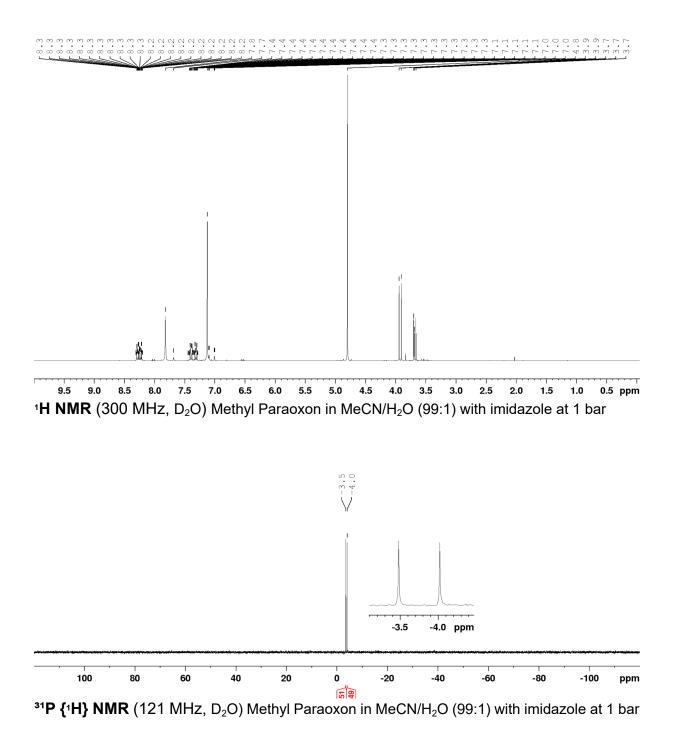


Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 16 kbar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 3

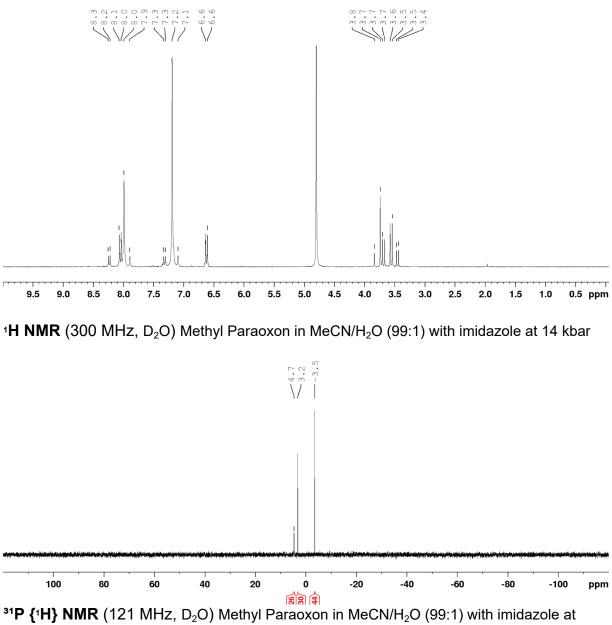


³¹P {¹H} NMR (121 MHz, D₂O) Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 16 kbar

Methyl Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 1 bar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 4

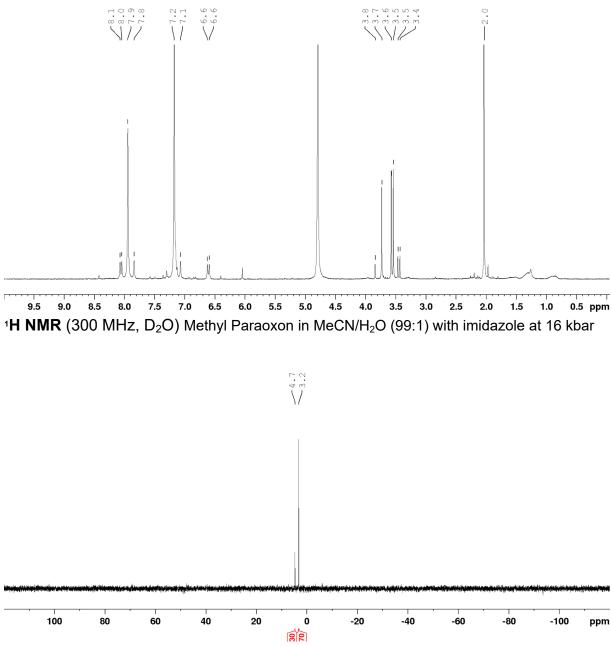


Methyl Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 14 kbar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 5

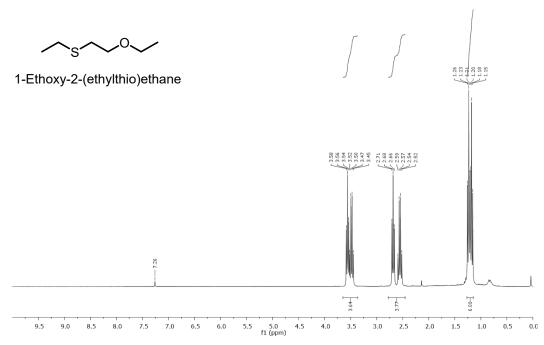


³¹P {¹H} NMR (121 MHz, D₂O) Methyl Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 14 kbar

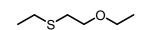
Methyl Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 16 kbar (¹H and ³¹P NMR in D₂O): Table 2, entry 6

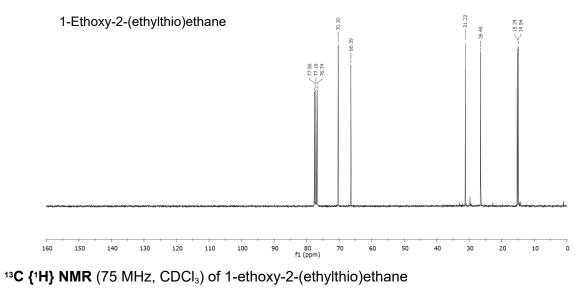


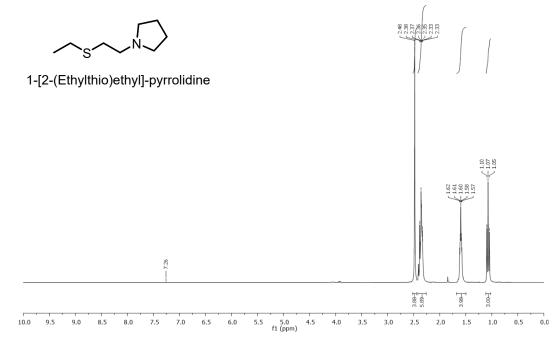
³¹**P** {¹**H**} **NMR** (121 MHz, D_2O) Methyl Paraoxon in MeCN/H₂O (99:1) with imidazole at 16 kbar



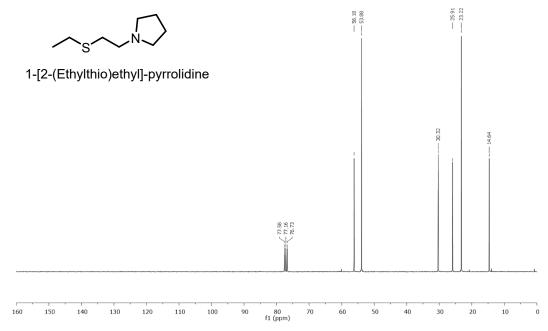
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) of 1-ethoxy-2-(ethylthio)ethane



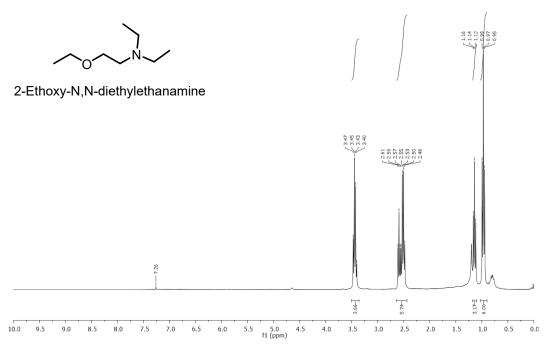




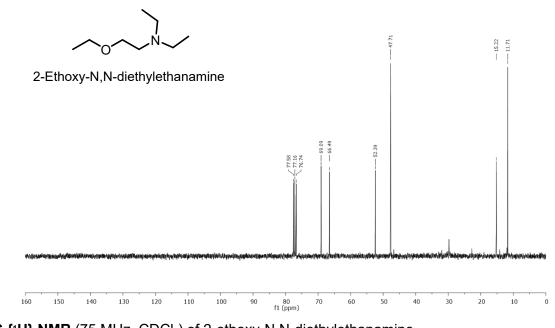
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) of 1-[2-(ethylthio)ethyl]-pyrrolidine



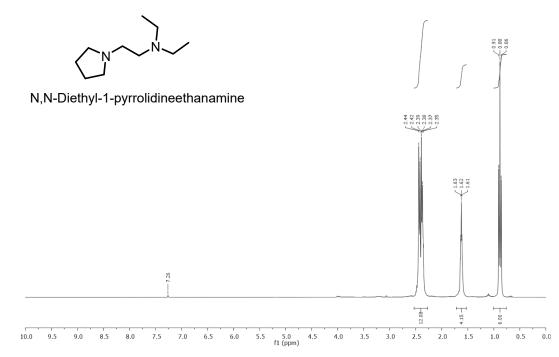
¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) of 1-[2-(ethylthio)ethyl]-pyrrolidine



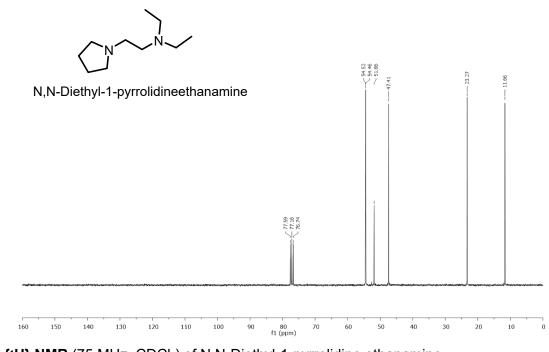
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃) of 2-ethoxy-N,N-diethylethanamine



 ${}^{13}\mbox{C }{1}\mbox{H}\mbox{N}, \mbox{N}\mbox{N}\mbox{H}\mbox{Z}, \mbox{CDCI}_3)$ of 2-ethoxy-N,N-diethylethanamine



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) of N,N-Diethyl-1-pyrrolidine ethanamine



¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) of N,N-Diethyl-1-pyrrolidine ethanamine

GC-MS results

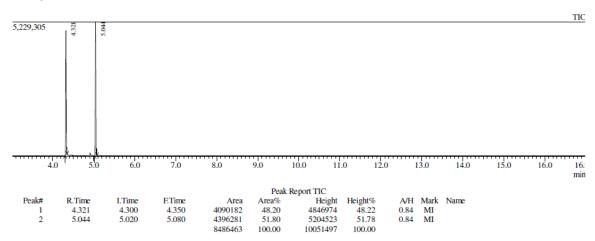
Results table

Entry	Substrate	Scavenger	P (kbar)	Temp. (°C)	Time (h)	Conv. (%)
1	CEES	Ethanol	1·10 ⁻³	20 °C	24	0
2	CEES	Ethanol	1·10 ^{–3}	50 °C	24	69
3	CEES	Ethanol	14		24	32
4	CEES	Ethanol	16		24	14
5	CTEA	Ethanol*	4		24	0
6	CTEA	Ethanol*	16		24	0
7	CEES	EtOLi	1	20 °C	24	37
8	CEES	EtOLi	14		24	100
9	CTEA	EtOLi	14		24	100
10	CEES	Pyrrolidine	1·10 ⁻³	20 °C	24	15
11	CEES	Pyrrolidine	14		24	100
12	CTEA	Pyrrolidine	14		24	100

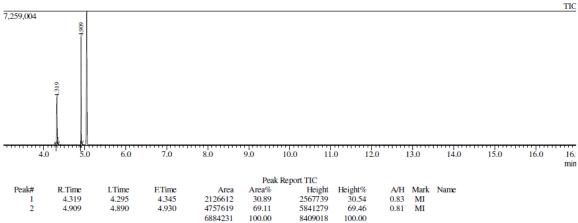
The results are obtained by low resolution GC-MS (Shimadzu QP2010 hybrid ionization apparatus (HP5- MS stationary phase, I = 30 cm, d = 0.25 mm, film thickness = 0.25 μ m) following the method A (Starting temperature is set at 50 °C, hold for 2 min then the temperature is increased by 20 °C/min to reach 250 °C and hold for 5 min). The ethyl vinyl sulfide formation was detected following method B (starting temperature is set at 40°C, hold at 5 min, then increasing by 15 °C/min to reach 150 °C and hold for 2 min. The latest analysis was performed by low resolution GC-MS (Thermo scientific, TRACE 1310 gas chromatography and ISQ 7000 single Quadrupole Mass spectrometer) (HP5- MS stationary phase, I = 30 cm, d = 0.25 mm, film thickness = 0.25 μ m).

Compounds	Retention times (min)			
	Method A	Method B		
Decane	5.08	9.842		
S CI	4.348	8.712		
	7.303			
	4.947	9.586		
s' v v		3.179		
	4.179			
	4.617			
	6.896			

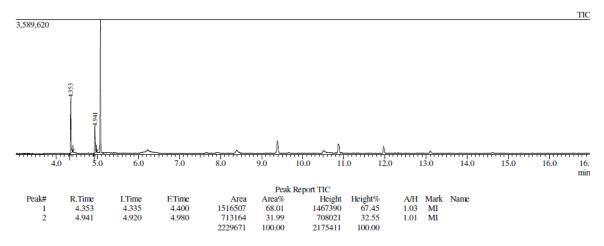
Entry 1 (method A)



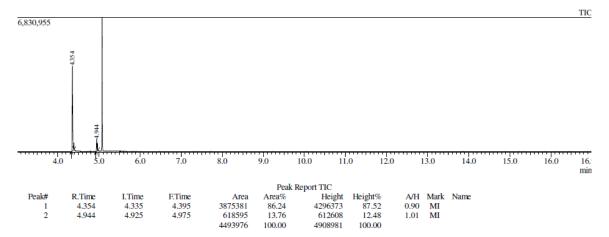
Entry 2 (method A)



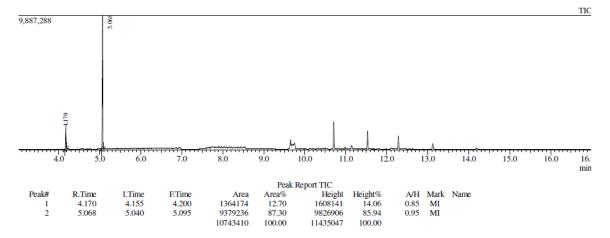
Entry 3 (method A)



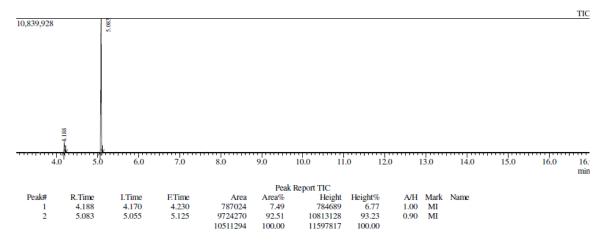
Entry 4 (method A)



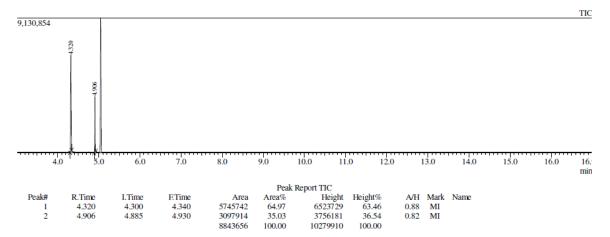
Entry 5 (method A)

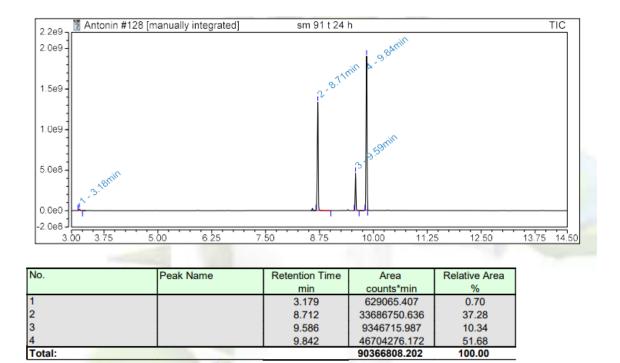


Entry 6 (method A)



Entry 7 (methods A and B)

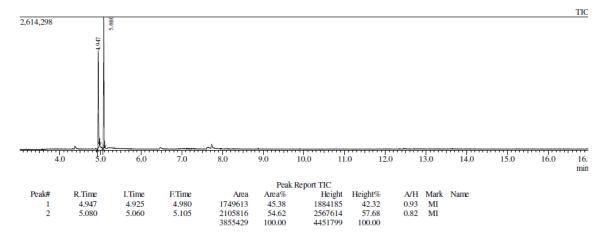




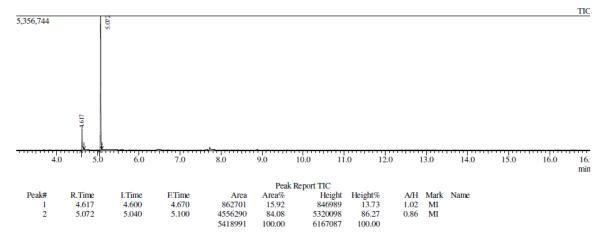
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100.00

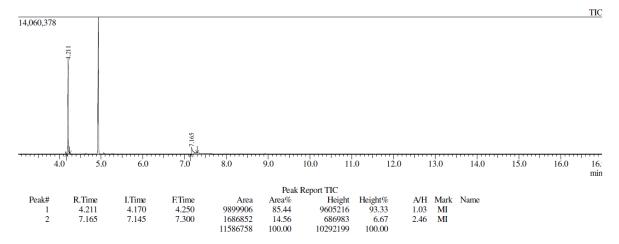
Entry 8 (method A)

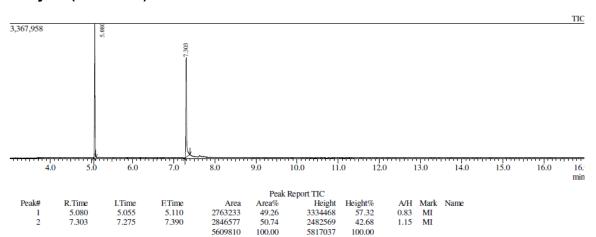


Entry 9 (method A)



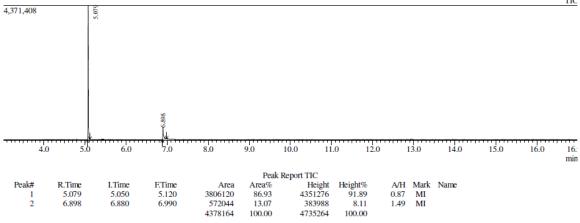
Entry 10 (method A)





Entry 11 (method A)

Entry 12 (method A)



TIC

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