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Green Chemistry

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Supporting Information

The Improved Synthesis of Carbonated Soybean Oil using Supercritical Carbon

Dioxide at a Reduced Reaction Time.

Kenneth M. Doll* and Sevim Z. Erhan 10

Food and Industrial Oil Research Unit: National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, 1815 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61604, USA

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*Corresponding author, mailing address: Food and Industrial Oil Unit, National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, 1815 N. University St., Peoria, Il 61604.

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Section S-1

The NMR data for carbonated soybean oil.

NMR spectroscopy was performed on a Bruker Avance 500 NMR operating at
500 MHz for ¹H and 125 mHz for ¹³C. Bruker Icon NMR software was used running on an HP x1100 Pentium 4 workstation. Peaks were referenced to sodium 3-trimethylsilylpropionate-2,2,3,3-d₄ (TSP) at 0.0000 ppm. Simulations of ¹³C NMR spectra were performed by ACD/CNMR predictor version ACD/Labs 6.00, running on a Gateway Pentium 4 CPU with a 2.53 GHz processor

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The carbonated soybean oil solution was dried in a Kugel-Rohr® and characterized by ¹H NMR, and ¹³C NMR. ¹H NMR: δ 5.3 ppm multiplet, ppm glycerol backbone single proton; δ 4.49–4.90 ppm, multiple signals, cyclic carbonate ring protons; δ 4.11-4.29 ppm, multiplet, glycerol backbone, 4 proton signal; δ 2.32 ppm, triplet, protons on carbon

15 α to backbone, 2 proton signal; δ 0.86 ppm triplet, end of fatty chain, 3 proton signal; other signals from δ 1.2-2.2 ppm, many signals. ¹³C NMR: δ 173 and δ 172, glycerol backbone carbonyl carbons; δ 153 and δ 154, cyclic carbonate carbons from both oleic and linoleic moieties; δ 79-82 ppm, cyclic ring carbons; δ 69 and δ 62, glycerol backbone signals; δ 20-35 multiple signals.

The reaction products of different reaction times were studied by ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR. Both the ¹H and ¹³C NMR show the conversion to the expected product. The carbonated product has new peaks in the ¹H NMR at δ 4.49–4.9 ppm corresponding to the protons on the carbons in the cyclic carbonate rings. Additionally the disappearance of the protons in the δ 2.89-3.13 ppm region can be followed and used to help quantitate the reaction progress at each reaction time (Table 1). The size of these peaks was compared to the signal at δ 0.86 ppm, a triplet corresponding to the end of the fatty chains which did not change position with reaction progress. It can be seen that the reaction is ~94% complete in only 20 hours, less than 1/3 of the reaction time required to achieve the same

- 10 extent of completion in the literature synthesis.¹ Another ¹H NMR signal of note is the shift of the peak at δ 1.49 ppm slightly downfield to δ 1.61 ppm but it was not resolved sufficiently to attempt quantitation. In the ¹³C NMR, the appearance of the carbonyl signals of the cyclic moieties at δ 153 and 154 ppm are clearly visible. Additionally, the corresponding signals in of the epoxy carbons of the starting material at δ 58-62 ppm are
- 15 not present.

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Section S-2

A Plot to obtain the apparent 1st order kinetic rate constant

Using the h NMR spectroscopy data, A plot of the ln ([ESO]_{initial}/[ESO]_t) vs time was

5 performed for our system and from the literature synthesis.¹

A 1st order kinetic rate constant of 0.1118 hr⁻¹ was calculated in our system, giving a $t_{1/2}$ of 6.2 hrs. From literature data, a rate of ~0.0402 hr⁻¹ and $t_{1/2}$ of 17.2 hrs can be calculated in a similar manner. In other words, we have increased the observed reaction rate by a factor of three.

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