

# Replacing dichloroethane as a solvent for rhodium-catalysed intermolecular alkyne hydroacylation reactions: The utility of propylene carbonate

Philip Lenden, Paul M. Ylioja, Carlos González-Rodríguez, David A. Entwistle and Michael C. Willis\*

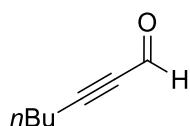
Department of Chemistry, University of Oxford, Chemistry Research Laboratory, Mansfield Road, Oxford, OX1 3TA, UK

## Supporting Information

### General considerations

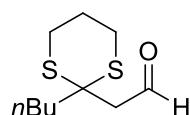
Reactions were performed under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen with technical grade solvent unless otherwise stated. All glassware was oven dried at >100 °C and allowed to cool to room temperature under a positive nitrogen pressure. Cooling of reactions to 0 °C was achieved using an ice-water bath and cooling to -40 °C was achieved using a dry ice-acetone bath. Reactions were monitored by TLC until deemed complete using aluminium backed silica plates. Plates were visualised under ultraviolet light and/or by staining with KMnO<sub>4</sub>. Reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co. Ltd., Acros Organics Ltd., Lancaster Synthesis Ltd, or Strem Chemicals Inc. and were used as supplied unless otherwise stated. Dry tetrahydrofuran was obtained by passing through anhydrous alumina columns using an Innovative Technology Inc. PS-400-7 solvent purification system. 3-(methylthio)propionaldehyde and 2-(methylthio)benzaldehyde were distilled under reduced pressure prior to use. Petroleum ether refers to the fraction obtained between 30 and 40 °C. Flash chromatography was carried out using matrix 60 silica, pressure was applied at the column head *via* hand bellows. Infra-red spectra were recorded using NaCl discs on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum One FT-IR or a Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker DPX-200 (200 MHz), Bruker DQX-400 (400 MHz) or Bruker AVC-500 (500 MHz) spectrometer using the residual solvent as an internal standard. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker DQX-400 (100 MHz) or Bruker AVC-500 (125 MHz) spectrometer using the residual solvent as an internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm) with the multiplicities of the spectra reported as following: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), multiplet (m) and broad (br). Mass spectrometry measurements were recorded by the internal service at the Department of Organic Chemistry, University of Oxford.

### Hept-2-ynal



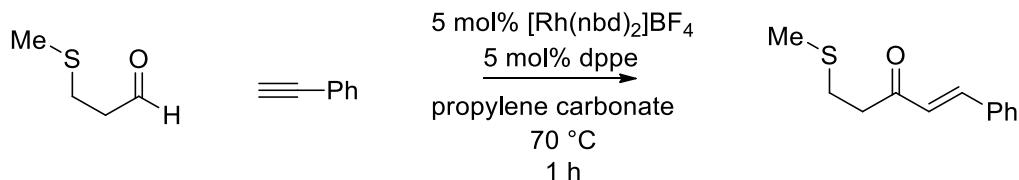
Prepared according to a procedure described by Journet *et al.*<sup>1</sup> *n*BuLi (2.5M in hexanes, 8.0 mL, 20 mmol) added over 2 minutes to a solution of 1-hexyne (3.3 mL, 20 mmol) in dry THF (50 mL) at -40 °C. DMF (3.1 mL, 40 mmol) added in one portion and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 30 minutes, before being added to a rapidly stirred mixture of Et<sub>2</sub>O (140 mL) and NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (14.2 g, 80 mmol) in water (140 mL) at 0 °C. The organic phase was separated and washed with water (2 x 40 mL), and the combined aqueous washes back-extracted into Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in petrol) to furnish the aldehyde as a light yellow oil (1.68 g, 76%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2961, 2937, 2873, 2281, 2203, 1671; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 9.17 (s, 1H), 2.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (sxt, *J* = 7.58 Hz, 2H) and 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 177.2, 99.3, 81.7, 29.5, 21.9, 18.8 and 13.4; HRMS (FI) found *m/z* 111.0810 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O requires 111.0810.

### 2-(2-butyl-1,3-dithian-2-yl)acetaldehyde



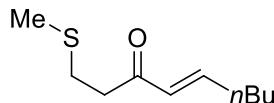
A solution of hept-2-ynal (3.10 g, 28 mmol) in THF (280 mL) was cooled to 0 °C, followed by the addition of 1,3-propanedithiol (3.11 mL, 31 mmol) then NaOMe (1.97 g, 36 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight, then quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted into Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water then brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was washed with saturated aqueous CuSO<sub>4</sub> then purified by column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in petrol) to provide the aldehyde as a bright yellow oil (2.92 g, 48%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2955, 2934, 1718; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 9.78 (t, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.94-2.80 (m, 6H), 2.09-1.88 (m, 4H), 1.55-1.46 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 199.8, 50.1, 49.2, 40.2, 26.2, 26.1, 24.7, 22.8, 13.9; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 273.0953 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> requires 273.0953.

**General procedure, as exemplified by the preparation of (*E*)-5-(methylthio)-1-phenylpent-1-en-3-one**



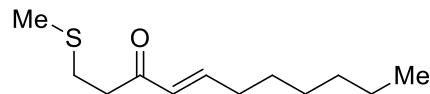
[Rh(nbd)<sub>2</sub>]BF<sub>4</sub> (14 mg, 0.0375 mmol) and dppe (15 mg, 0.0375 mmol) were dissolved in propylene carbonate (2.5 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes. 3-(methylthio)propionaldehyde (75 µL, 0.75 mmol) then phenylacetylene (90 µL, 0.83 mmol) were added and the reaction heated at 70 °C for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was loaded directly onto silica and eluted with 30% Et<sub>2</sub>O/petrol to furnish the pure product as a yellow oil (139 mg, 90%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2917, 1688, 1661, 1612; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.69-7.49 (m, 3H [including d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1H]), 7.47-7.35 (m, 3H) 6.75 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 3.05-2.92 (m, 2H), 2.91-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  198.4, 143.1, 134.3, 130.7, 129.0, 128.4, 125.9, 40.6, 28.4, 15.9; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  229.0658 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaOS requires 229.0660.

**(*E*)-1-(methylthio)non-4-en-3-one**



Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (127 mg, 91%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.85 (dt,  $J$  = 15.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dt,  $J$  = 15.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92-2.66 (m, 4H), 2.29-2.13 (m, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.56-1.19 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  198.6, 148.2, 130.1, 39.7, 32.2, 30.1, 28.3, 22.2, 15.8, 13.8;  $m/z$  (ESI) 187 (25%, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>). Data consistent with the literature.<sup>2</sup>

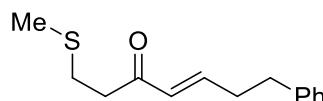
**(*E*)-1-(methylthio)undec-4-en-3-one**



Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (146 mg, 91%) as a mixture of linear and branched isomers (84:16 l:b).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2956, 2927, 2857, 1696, 1673, 1629; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.81 (dt,  $J$  = 15.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (d,  $J$  = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 2.82-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.73-2.69 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.14 (m, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.45-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.28 (m, 6H), 0.85-0.81 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  198.5, 148.2, 130.0, 124.0, 39.7, 32.5, 31.6,

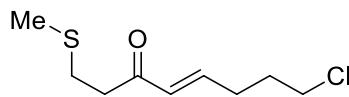
28.3, 28.0, 22.5, 15.8, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  237.1281 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaOS requires 237.1284.

**(E)-1-(methylthio)-7-phenylhept-4-en-3-one**



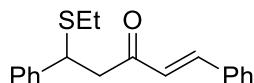
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a pale yellow oil (146 mg, 83%) as a mixture of linear and branched isomers (80:20 1:b).  $\nu_{max}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2917, 1671, 1628; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.32-7.17 (m, 5H), 6.88 (dt,  $J$  = 15.9, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (d,  $J$  = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 2.85-2.72 (m, 6H), 2.55 (q,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.11 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 198.4, 146.7, 140.6, 130.6, 128.6, 128.4, 126.3, 39.9, 34.4, 34.2, 28.3, 15.8; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  257.0972 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaOS requires 257.0971.

**(E)-8-chloro-1-(methylthio)oct-4-en-3-one**



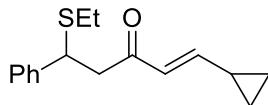
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a pale yellow oil (85 mg, 66%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 6.80 (dt,  $J$  = 15.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (d,  $J$  = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.83-2.80 (m, 2H), 2.74-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.40-2.34 (m, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.91 (quin,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 198.2, 145.6, 130.8, 44.0, 40.0, 30.7, 29.5, 28.2, 15.8;  $m/z$  (FI) 206 (100%, [M]<sup>+</sup>). Data consistent with the literature.<sup>2</sup>

**(E)-5-(Ethylthio)-1,5-diphenylpent-1-en-3-one**



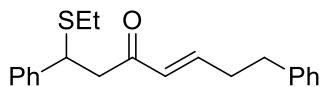
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a white solid (196 mg, 86%). m.p. 100-102 °C;  $\nu_{max}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2970, 1648, 699; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.54-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H), 6.68 (d,  $J$  = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43-2.29 (m, 2H), 1.18 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 196.9, 143.2, 142.1, 134.3, 130.6 (2×CH), 128.9 (2×CH), 128.5, 128.3 (2×CH), 127.8 (2×CH), 127.2, 126.1, 47.4, 44.2, 25.4 and 14.3. HRMS (FI) found  $m/z$  296.1231 [M]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>OS requires 296.1235. Data consistent with the literature.<sup>3</sup>

**(E)-1-Cyclopropyl-5-(ethylthio)-5-phenylpent-1-en-3-one**



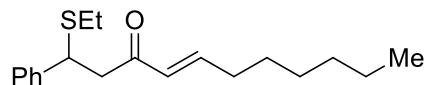
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a colourless oil (174 mg, 90%).  
 $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3027, 3006, 2926, 2870, 1949, 1876, 1805, 1713, 1667, 1616, 950, 937, 699; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.36-7.09 (m, 5H), 6.19 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (t, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.33-2.17 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.39 (m, 1H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 0.95-0.84 (m, 2H), 0.59-0.51 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 196.1, 153.5, 142.2, 128.4 (2×CH<sub>2</sub>), 127.7 (2×CH<sub>2</sub>), 127.2, 127.1, 46.8, 44.1, 25.4, 14.8, 14.3, 9.1 (2×CH<sub>2</sub>). HRMS (FI) found *m/z* 260.1242 [M]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>OS requires 260.1235. Data consistent with the literature.<sup>3</sup>

#### (E)-1-(Ethylthio)-1,7-diphenylhept-4-en-3-one



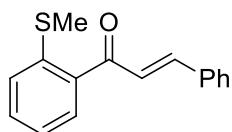
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a colourless oil (210 mg, 87%).  
 $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3061, 3027, 2967, 2926, 2869, 1693, 1677, 1453, 748; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ<sub>H</sub> 7.37-6.96 (m, 10H), 6.74 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (t, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.30-2.18 (m, 2H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ<sub>C</sub> 196.9, 146.89, 142.1, 140.6, 130.8, 128.5 (2×CH), 128.4 (2×CH), 128.3 (2×CH), 127.7 (2×CH), 127.1, 126.2, 46.6, 44.1, 34.3, 34.1, 25.4, 14.3; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 325.1621 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OS requires 325.1621.

#### (E)-1-(ethylthio)-1-phenylundec-4-en-3-one



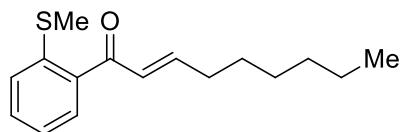
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a colourless oil (207 mg, 95%).  
 $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2928, 2870, 1674, 1627, 1409, 699; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.40-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.7, 2H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 1H), 6.80 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (t, *J* = 7.3, 2H), 2.24-2.11 (m, 2H), 1.48-1.36 (m, 2H), 1.34-1.22 (m, 6H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.95-0.82 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 197.1, 148.5, 142.2, 130.3, 128.43 (2×CH), 127.7 (2×CH), 127.1, 46.5, 44.1, 32.5, 31.5, 28.8, 27.9, 25.4, 22.5, 14.3, 14.0; *m/z* (ESI) 327 (100%, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>), 305 (45%, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>); HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 305.1934 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>29</sub>OS requires 305.1934.

**(E)-1-(2-(methylthio)phenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-ol**



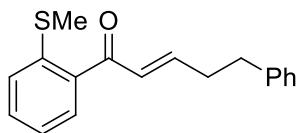
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (160 mg, 84%) as a mixture of linear and branched isomers (11:1, l:b).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3059, 2912, 1655, 1598, 1208, 750; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.70 (dd, *J* = 1.3 and 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.9, 1H), 7.60-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 15.9, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  192.9, 145.2, 140.5, 137.2, 134.8, 131.6, 130.6, 129.5, 129.0, 128.5, 126.3, 124.8, 124.2, 16.5; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 277.0657 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaOS requires 277.0658.

**(E)-1-(2-(methylthio)phenyl)non-2-en-1-one**



Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (169 mg, 86%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2955, 2926, 2856, 1661, 1615; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.56 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 1H), 6.90-6.83 (m, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.26 (app. q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.51-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.28 (m, 6H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  193.4, 151.1, 140.2, 137.1, 131.2, 129.3, 128.5, 126.1, 124.0, 32.8, 31.6, 28.9, 28.0, 22.5, 16.4, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 285.1280 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaOS requires 285.1284.

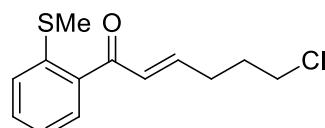
**(E)-1-(2-(methylthio)phenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one**



Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (149 mg, 70%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3060, 3026, 2920, 2856, 1661, 1615, 1300, 748; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.16 (m, 4H), 6.91 (dt, *J* = 15.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (m, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  193.2, 149.4, 140.8, 140.5, 136.8, 131.4, 129.5, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4,

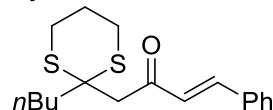
126.2, 126.1, 124.0, 34.5, 34.4, 16.4; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  305.0972 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaOS requires 305.0971.

**(E)-6-chloro-1-(2-(methylthio)phenyl)hex-2-en-1-one**



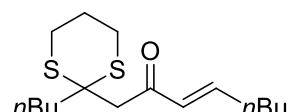
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (126 mg, 66%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3059, 2957, 2020, 1662, 1616, 1298, 755, 740; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.60 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.85 (dt,  $J$  = 15.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.50-2.44 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.94 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 192.8, 148.1, 140.6, 136.7, 131.5, 129.5, 129.4, 126.1, 124.0, 44.1, 30.7, 29.7 and 16.4; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  277.0424 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClNaOS requires 277.0424.

**(E)-1-(2-butyl-1,3-dithian-2-yl)-4-phenylbut-3-en-2-one**



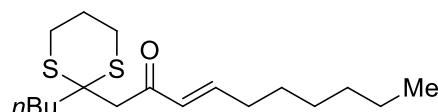
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a bright yellow oil (175 mg, 73%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2954, 1717, 1605; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.59-7.54 (m, 3H [incl. 7.57, d,  $J$  = 15.9 Hz, 1H]), 7.39-7.38 (m, 3H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 2H), 2.95-2.82 (m, 2H), 2.16-2.09 (m, 2H), 2.08-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.41-1.31 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 195.8, 142.6, 134.5, 130.5, 129.0, 128.4, 126.7, 51.1, 48.6, 38.6, 26.5, 26.4, 25.0, 22.8, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) found  $m/z$  343.1159 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaOS<sub>2</sub> requires 343.1161.

**(E)-1-(2-butyl-1,3-dithian-2-yl)oct-3-en-2-one**



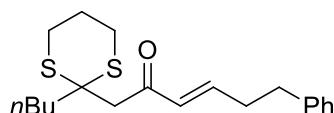
Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a bright yellow oil (175 mg, 73%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 6.80 (1H, dt,  $J$  = 15.6, 6.9 Hz), 6.12 (1H, dt,  $J$  = 15.6, 1.5 Hz), 3.06 (2H, s), 2.82-2.77 (4H, m), 2.15 (2H, tdd,  $J$  = 7.0, 6.9, 1.4 Hz), 2.05-1.85 (4H, m), 1.47-1.19 (8H, m), 0.86 (3H, t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 0.84 (3H, t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 196.4, 148.3, 131.4, 51.6, 47.8, 38.9, 32.6, 30.6, 26.9 (2 x CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.8, 25.5, 23.3, 22.7, 14.4, 14.2; HRMS (EI) found  $m/z$  301.1654 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>29</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> requires 301.1651. Data consistent with the literature.<sup>4</sup>

**(E)-1-(2-butyl-1,3-dithian-2-yl)dec-3-en-2-one**



Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (204 mg, 83%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2956, 2929, 2858, 1618, 1555; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 6.87 (dt, *J* = 15.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 2H), 2.89-2.85 (m, 4H), 2.25-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.11-2.07 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.46 (m, 4H), 1.38-1.26 (m, 8H), 0.96-0.87 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 196.0, 148.0, 130.9, 50.9, 47.3, 38.4, 32.4, 31.6, 28.8, 28.0, 26.5, 26.4, 25.0, 22.8, 22.5, 14.02, 13.97; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 351.1785 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NaOS<sub>2</sub> requires 351.1787.

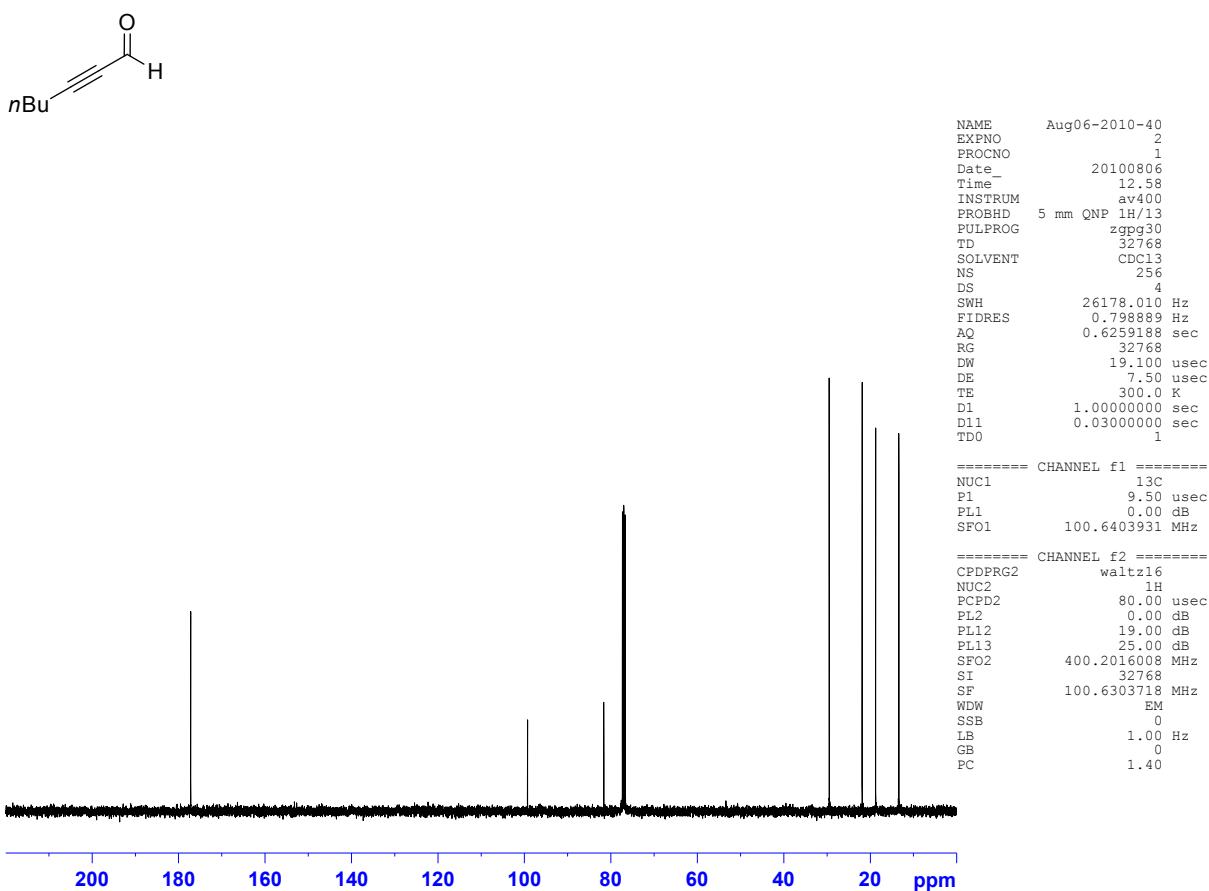
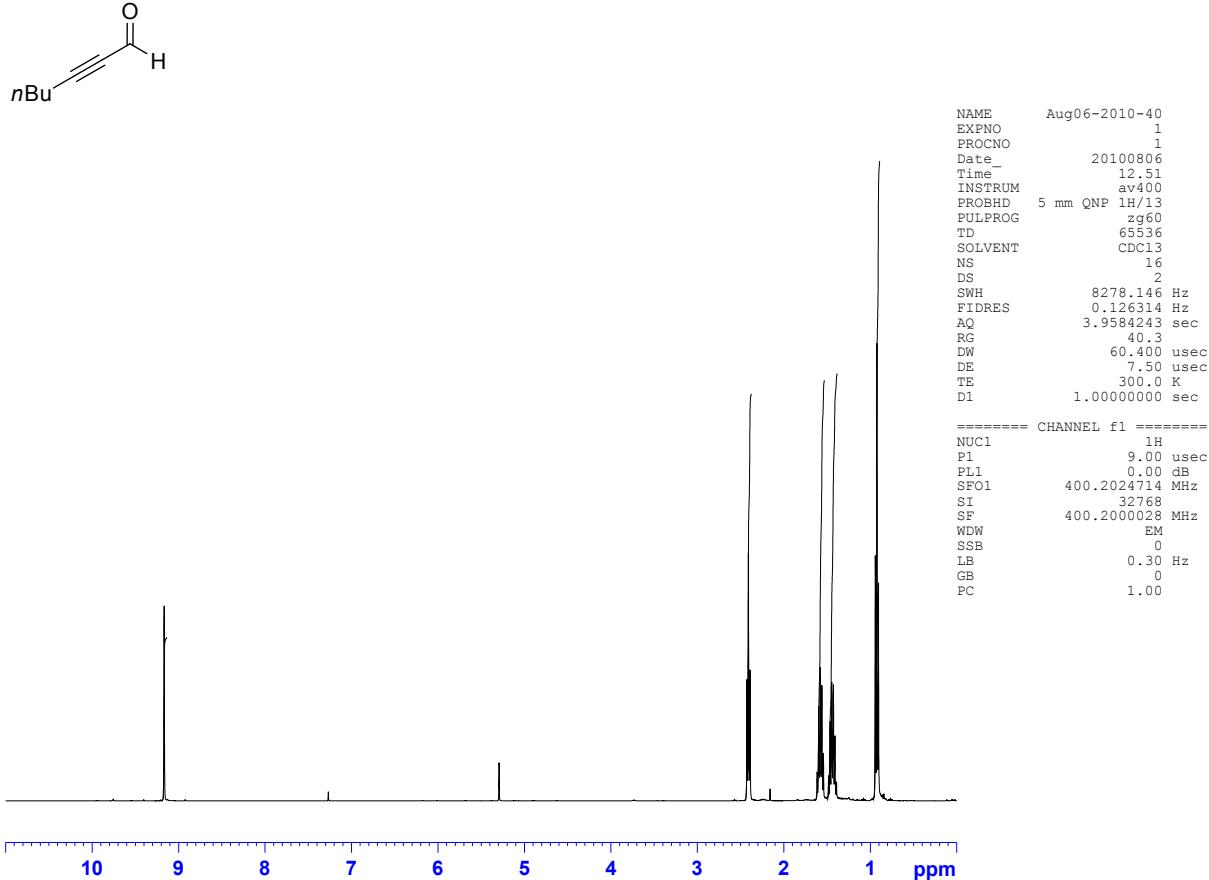
**(E)-1-(2-butyl-1,3-dithian-2-yl)-6-phenylhex-3-en-2-one**

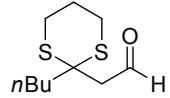


Prepared according to general procedure A to furnish the product as a yellow oil (196 mg, 75%).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2954, 2931, 2870, 1686, 1663, 1622; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>H</sub> 7.32-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.89 (dt, *J* = 15.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 2H), 2.87-2.78 (m, 6H), 2.59-2.52 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.05 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.38-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ<sub>C</sub> 195.8, 146.3, 140.7, 131.4, 128.5, 128.4, 126.2, 50.9, 47.4, 38.5, 34.3, 34.1, 26.4, 26.1, 25.0, 22.8, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) found *m/z* 371.1469 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NaOS<sub>2</sub> requires 371.1474.

**References**

1. M. Journet, D. Cai, L. M. DiMichele and R. D. Larsen, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1998, **39**, 6427-6428.
2. M. C. Willis, H. E. Randell-Sly, R. L. Woodward, S. J. McNally and G. S. Currie, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2006, **71**, 5291-5297.
3. C. González-Rodríguez, S. R. Parsons, A. L. Thompson and M. C. Willis, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2010, **16**, 10950-10954.
4. M. C. Willis, H. E. Randell-Sly, R. L. Woodward and G. S. Currie, *Org. Lett.*, 2005, **7**, 2249-2251.

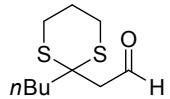
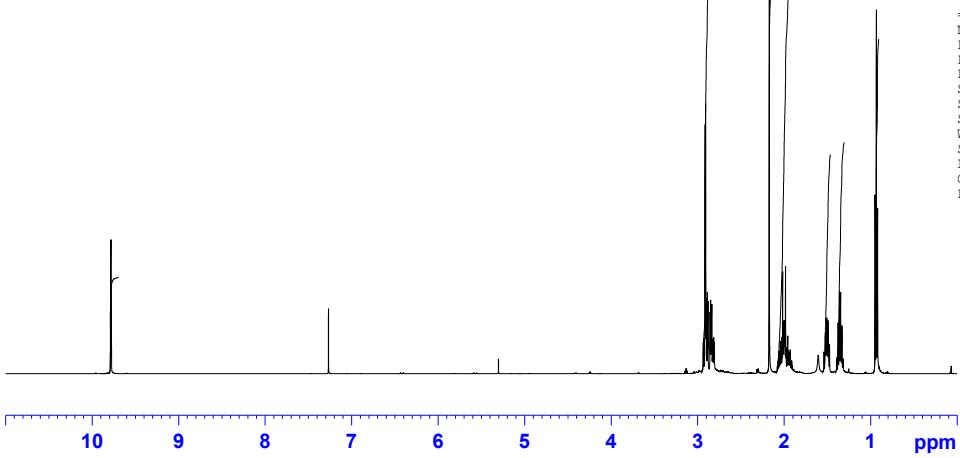




```

NAME          pl12460811
EXPNO           1
PROCNO          1
Date         20101109
Time            7.46
INSTRUM        avc500
PROBHD      5 mm CPDUL 13C
PULPROG        zg30
TD              65536
SOLVENT         CDC13
NS                16
DS                 2
SWH             10330.578 Hz
FIDRES        0.157632 Hz
AQ            3.1719923 sec
RG                 4
DW             48.400 usec
DE               6.000 usec
TE              298.0 K
D1        1.00000000 sec
TD0                 1

```



```

NAME          p112460811
EXPNO           2
PROCNO          1
Date_        20101109
Time           8.00
INSTRUM      avc500
PROBHD       5 mm CPDUL 13C
PULPROG      zgpg30
TD            65536
SOLVENT      CDC13
NS             256
DS              2
SWH          31250.000 Hz
FIDRES      0.476837 Hz
AQ            1.0486259 sec
RG             1820
DW            16.000 usec
DE            20.000 usec
TE            298.1 K
D1          2.00000000 sec
D11         0.03000000 sec
TDO             1

```

