Supplementary Information

Umpolung Catalyzed by Organophosphines: Efficient β,β-Dimerization of Vinylphosphonates Affording Linear Dimers

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General Procedure for β , β -Addition of Vinylphosphonates (1)

General procedure for β , β -addition of vinylphosphonates (1): In a glove box, a glass tube was charged with vinylphosphonate (0.4 mmol) and 0.46 mL solvent, then sealed with a Teflon screw cap with a hole and rubber liner. After the tube was removed from the glove box, PMe₃/THF (1.0 mol/L, 0.04mL) was injected into it with a syringe. The reaction was monitored by NMR. Removal of the solvent and PMe₃ under a reduced pressure gave the crude product. β , β -adducts 2/2' were obtained by passing the crude product through a short silica gel column using hexane then CHCl₃ as eluent.

Structure determination of the isomers (a representative example): The structure of the products were determined on the basis of NMR spectra. Isomers **2c** and **2'c** could be distinguished by 1H NMR based on the chemical shifts and coupling constants of vinyl protons. The *E/Z* isomers of **2'c** was estimated based on the chemical shifts of their ally CH₂ group (the E isomer is more downfield than the Z isomer: *Carbon-13 NMR Spectroscopy*, H.-O. Kalinowski, S. Berger, S. Braun, John Wiley & Sons, Chichester, 1988). Thus, the ratio of **2c/2'c** was based on the vinyl protons of ¹ H NMR (**2c**: 6.84–6.74 ppm (m, 1H), 5.76–5.69 ppm (m, 1H); **2'c**: 5.69–5.62 ppm (m, 2H)). The *E/Z* ratio of **2'c** was based on the ³¹ P NMR (*Z*-**2'**: 27.0 ppm; *E*-**2'**: 26.8 ppm) and the allyl CH₂ carbons of ¹³ C NMR (*Z*-**2'**: 27.5 ppm (dd, $J_{C,P} = 23.8$ Hz); *E*-**2'**: 31.5 ppm (dd, $J_{C,P} = 142.6$ Hz)) (J. M. Kauffman, G. Moyna, *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 839-853).



¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.84–6.74 (m, 1H), 5.76–5.69 (m, 1H), 4.14–4.06 (m, 8H), 2.72–2.51 (m, 2H), 1.92–1.85 (m, 2H), 1.38–1.32 (m, 12H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 30.1, 17.9. ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 151.8 (dd, $J_{C,P} = 17.6$ Hz), 118.9 (d, $J_{C,P} = 188.1$ Hz), 62.42 ($J_{C,P} = 3.0$ Hz), 62.2 ($J_{C,P} = 8.3$ Hz), 25.6 (dd, $J_{C,P} = 4.1$ Hz), 24.9 ($J_{C,P} = 142.7$ Hz), 16.74, 16.68.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.69–5.62 (m, 2H), 4.14–4.06 (m, 8H), 2.72–2.51 (m, 4H), 1.38–1.32 (m, 12H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 26.8. ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 124.9 ($J_{C,P}$ = 43.4 Hz), 62.37 ($J_{C,P}$ = 3.1 Hz), 31.5 (dd, $J_{C,P}$ = 142.6 Hz), 16.8.

$$(EtO)_2P \xrightarrow{P(OEt)_2} O (Z-2'c)$$

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.69–5.62 (m, 2H), 4.14–4.06 (m, 8H), 2.72–2.51 (m, 4H), 1.38–1.32 (m, 12H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 27.0. ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 123.3 ($J_{C,P}$ = 39.3 Hz), 62.39 ($J_{C,P}$ = 6.1 Hz), 27.5 (dd, $J_{C,P}$ = 23.8 Hz), 16.8.





Hydrogenation of 2b and 2b' to Produce (R_p, R_p) -3



A solution of 2b/2b' (0.25 g, 0.41 mmol) in 15 mL methanol was hydrogenated with 13 mg of 10% Pd/C under 5 atm of H₂ pressure at RT overnight. The reaction mixture was filtered and evaporated to remove the solvent and passed through a short silica gel column using CHCl₃ as eluent to give 0.242 g (97 % yield) of the product.

White solid, m.p. 159-160 ^oC. $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ -24.2 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.74–7.68 (m, 4H), 7.54–7.42 (m, 6H), 5.39–5.37 (m, 2H), 4.38–4.20 (m, 2H), 2.78–2.44 (m, 4H), 2.23–2.19 (m, 2H), 1.77–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.77–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.40–1.29 (m, 4H), 1.03–0.75 (m, 24H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 42.1. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 133.4 ($J_{C,P}$ = 123.0 Hz), 131.8, 131.3 ($J_{C,P}$ = 9.5 Hz), 128.4 ($J_{C,P}$ = 12.4 Hz), 48.8 ($J_{C,P}$ = 5.7 Hz), 43.1, 34.0, 31.4, 30.6 ($J_{C,P}$ = 100.1 Hz), 25.7, (dd, $J_{C,P}$ = 2.8 Hz, $J_{C,P}$ = 18.1 Hz), 22.8, 21.9, 21.1,15.7.

Isomerization Experiments of 2c/2c'

The dimers 2c/2c' (55/45) (105 mg, 0.32 mmol) was dissolved in 0.4 mL THF- d_8 in a sealed NMR tube, Then PMe₃ (33 µL, 0.32 mmol) was injected with a syringe. After heating at 60 °C for 12h, 24h and 48h, the dimer-isomer ratio was checked by ¹H NMR spectra. (Figure 1).



Figure 1.

Synthesis of 9 and 9a

Under nigrogen, a 20 mL tube containing a magnetic stir bar was charged with vinylphosphonate 1c (0.272 mL, 1.6 mmol), 2.4 mL THF and 0.8 mL H₂O. After stirring at RT for 5 min., PMe₃/THF(1.0 mol/L, 0.4 mL) was added with a syringe then stirred at RT for 12h. After removal of the solvent and PMe₃ under a reduced pressure, the crude product was obtained as a white solid, then pure **9** was obtained by washing with CHCl₃ and hexane in 92 % yield (0.312 g). The structure of **9** was determined by X-ray analysis.

White solid, m.p.69-72 ^OC. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O): δ 3.89–3.83 (m, 2H), 2.32–2.24 (m, 12H), 1.82–1.81 (d, *J* = 6.1Hz, 9H), 1.80–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.20–1.17 (m, 2H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, D₂O) 28.7 (d, *J* = 63.9 Hz), 22.9 (d, *J* = 61.9 Hz). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, D₂O): δ 61.1 (d, 5.8 Hz), 18.8 (dddd, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 3.8 Hz, 3.8 Hz, 4.8 Hz), 16.1 (d, 5.8 Hz), 7.2, 6.7.

d-9 was synthesized following the same procedure using D₂O (Figure 2).



Figure 2. ¹H NMR spectra of 9 and d-9: H^a, H^b and H^c were deuterated.

Reaction of Diethyl Vinylphosphonate (1c) with Aldehydes

General procedure: into a nigrogen-charged tube was placed diethyl vinylphosphonate **1c** (0.4 mmol), aldehyde (0.4 mmol) and 0.6 mL DMF with 0.1eq H₂O in it. Then PMe₃/THF (1.0 mol/L, 0.4 mL) was added with a syringe and stirred at RT. The reaction was monitored by GC until the reactant disappeared. After removal of the solvent and PMe₃ under a reduced pressure, the crude product was passed through a silica gel column using hexane then EtOAc/hexane (1/5) as eluent to give corresponding olefin. (E)-diethyl 4-methoxycinnamylphosphonate, 45 % yield. (E)-diethyl cinnamylphosphonate, 65 % yield. (S. Ghosh, S. U. Kumar, J. Shashidhar. *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, 73, 1582-1585; N. N. Demik, M. M. Kabachnik, Z. S. Novikova, I. P. Beletskaya, *Russ. J. Org. Chem.* **1994**,*30*, 935-940)

(E)-diethyl cinnamylphosphonate

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35–7.17 (m, 5H), 6.52–6.46 (dd, J= 4.8, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.18–6.09 (m, 1H), 4.15–4.02 (m, 4H), 2.77–2.69 (m, 2H), 1.31–1.24 (m, 6H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 27.6. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 136.8 ($J_{C,P}$ = 2.8 Hz), 134.7 ($J_{C,P}$ = 15.3 Hz), 128.6, 127.6, 126.2, 118.9 ($J_{C,P}$ = 11.6 Hz), 62.1 ($J_{C,P}$ = 6.7 Hz), 31.9 ($J_{C,P}$ = 139.8 Hz), 16.6 ($J_{C,P}$ = 5.7 Hz).

(E)-diethyl 4-methoxycinnamylphosphonate

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.34–7.33 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.89–7.88 (d, J=9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.53–6.49 (dd, J=5.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.37–1.37 (t, 6H). ³¹P NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 27.2. ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.6, 134.6 ($J_{C,P} = 14.4$ Hz), 130.2 ($J_{C,P} = 3.1$ Hz), 127.8 ($J_{C,P} = 2.0$ Hz), 116.9 ($J_{C,P} = 12.4$ Hz), 114.4, 62.5 ($J_{C,P} = 6.1$ Hz), 55.7, 32.0 ($J_{C,P} = 139.6$ Hz), 17.0 ($J_{C,P} = 6.3$ Hz).





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PPN

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S11







S13



























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