# Supporting information

## Pyridine-grafted graphene oxide: a reusable acid-base bifunctional catalyst for the one-pot synthesis of β-phosphonomalonates via cascade Knoevenogel-phospha Michael addition reaction in water Sara Sobhani,\* Farzaneh Zarifi

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### 1) General information

Chemicals were purchased from Merck Chemical Company. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance DPX-400, 300 and 250 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent and TMS as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP5050A and Agilent Technology (HP). The purity of the products and the progress of the reactions were accomplished by TLC on silica-gel polygram SILG/UV254 plates. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrophotometer (FT-IR-8300). TEM analysis was performed using TEM microscope (Philips CM30). Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) were determined by using a SEM Phenom, model PROX. Thermo gravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed using a Shimadzu thermo gravimetric analyzer (TG-50). Elemental analysis was carried out on a Costech 4010 CHNS elemental analyzer. Power X-ray diffraction (XRD) was performed on a X'Pert Pro MPD diffractometer with Cu K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$  = 0.154 nm) radiation. The UV-Vis spectra were carried out by using a Shimadzu UV-160 A spectrophotometer.

## 2) General procedure for the synthesis of β-phosphonomalonates

A mixture of aldehyde (1 mmol), malononitrile (1 mmol), diethyl phosphite (2 mmol) and Py-GO (3 mol%) was refluxed at 100 °C for an appropriate time (Table 2). The catalyst was separated by centrifugation. The supernatant was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting product (**1-15**) was purified by chromatography on silica (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1).

#### **3)** Spectral data of β-phosphonomalonates

#### [1-Phenyl-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (1)

Yellow solid, mp 53-54 °C;  $R_f = 0.40$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 1.08-1.18 (m, 3H), 1.25-1.37 (m, 3H), 3.65 (dd, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$ ,  ${}^{2}J_{HP} = 21.0$  Hz), 4.02-4.19 (m, 4H), 4.55 (t, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz), 7.43 (s, 5H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (62 MHz,CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} =$ 5.6 Hz), 16.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 5.6$  Hz), 25.5, 44.6 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 144.0$  Hz), 63.4 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 64.4 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.0$  Hz), 111.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 12.5$  Hz), 111.3 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 10.0$  Hz), 129.1, 129.2, 129.3, 129.4, 129.5, 129.6 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 292 [5%, M<sup>+</sup>], 155 [18%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 129 {100%, M<sup>+</sup> – [P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CN]}.

#### [1-(4-Methyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (2)

Yellow solid, mp 97 °C;  $R_f = 0.44$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.16 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 1.38 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 2.39 (s, 3H), 3.57 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>HP</sub> = 21.2 Hz), 3.74-3.84 (m, 1H), 3.99-4.08 (m, 1H), 4.14-4.24 (m, 2H), 4.50 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HP</sub> = 9.0 Hz), 7.28 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 7.38 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.4 Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 5.2 Hz), 16.2 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 21.2, 25.6, 44.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 143.2 Hz), 63.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 7.5 Hz), 64.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 7.5 Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 12.7 Hz), 111.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 10.5 Hz), 127.1 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 129.1 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 130.1, 139.5 ppm; MS (70 eV):  $m/z = 306 [6\%, M^+], 169 [7\%, M^+ - P(O)(OEt)_2], 143 \{100\%, M^+ - [P(O)(OEt)_2 and CN]\}.$ 

## [1-(4-Methoxy)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (3)

Yellow solid, mp 61 °C;  $R_f = 0.50$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.16 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz), 1.37 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz), 3.57 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HP} = 21.2$  Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.00-4.24 (m, 4H), 4.51 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HP} = 8.8$  Hz), 6.97 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.8$  Hz), 7.42 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.8$  Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.0 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.7$  Hz),

16.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$ ), 25.5, 44.3 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 142.5 \text{ Hz}$ ), 55.2, 63.3 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$ ), 64.2 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 6.7 \text{ Hz}$ ), 111.4 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 8.2 \text{ Hz}$ ), 114.5 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$ ), 121.4 (d,  $J_{CP} = 8.2 \text{ Hz}$ ), 130.3, 131.8, 160.0 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 323 [4%, M<sup>+</sup> + 1], 322 [23%, M<sup>+</sup>], 185 [18%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)\_2] 121 {100\%, M<sup>+</sup> - [P(O)(OEt)\_2 \text{ and } CH(CN)\_2]}.

### [1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (4)

Yellow liquid;  $R_f = 0.50$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.10 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 1.31 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz), 3.56 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 21.0 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.94-4.15 (m,4H), 4.56 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 6.91 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz), 7.00 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (62 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 16.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.9 Hz), 25.5, 44.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 144.9 Hz), 55.3, 63.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.6 Hz), 64.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.9 Hz), 111.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 11.2 Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 10.0 Hz), 114.9 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 121.4, 130.4, 131.6, 160.0, 160.3 ppm; MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 323 [3%, M<sup>+</sup> + 1], 322 [13%, M<sup>+</sup>], 185 [8%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 121 {100%, M<sup>+</sup> – [P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CH(CN)<sub>2</sub>}.

## [1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (5)

Yellow solid, mp 98°C;  $R_f = 0.53$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.16 (t, 3H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 1.33 (t, 3H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 3.62 (dd, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.5$  Hz,  ${}^{2}J_{HP} = 21.5$  Hz), 3.82-4.19 (m, 4 H), 4.55 (t, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.7$  Hz), 7.42 (s, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (62 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 5.0$  Hz), 16.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 5.6$  Hz), 25.5, 43.9 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 144.7$  Hz), 63.5 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.0$  Hz), 64.4 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.0$  Hz), 111.0 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 11.9$  Hz), 111.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 11.3$  Hz), 128.8, 129.6, 130.7, 135.7 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 326 [16%, M<sup>+</sup>], 328 [5%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 189 [31%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 191 [10%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 163 {100%, M<sup>+</sup> - [P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN]}, 165 [33%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN].

## [1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (6)

Yellow liquid;  $R_f = 0.56$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.19 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 1.38 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 3.60 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 21.2 Hz), 3.83-3.93 (m, 1H), 4.03-4.26 (m, 3H), 4.56 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 9.2 Hz), 7.41-7.44 (m, 3H), 7.49 (s, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 5.2 Hz), 16.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 25.3, 43.8 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 142.5 Hz), 63.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 64.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 111.4 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 127.5 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 129.5 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 129.6, 130.6, 132.6 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 135.0 ppm, MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 326 [12%, M<sup>+</sup>], 328 [4%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 163 {100%, M<sup>+</sup> - [P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CN]}, 165 {33%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - [P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CN]}.

## [1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (7)

Yellow solid, mp 77 °C;  $R_f = 0.57$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.11 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 1.35 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 3.75-4.30 (m, 4H), 4.46 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.2$ , <sup>2</sup> $J_{HP} = 21.2$  Hz), 4.61 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.5$  Hz), 7.35 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 4$  Hz), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 5.3$  Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  15.9 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.0$  Hz), 16.1 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.0$  Hz), 24.8, 43.7 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CP} = 142.5$  Hz), 63.5 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 64.3 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 111.2 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 11.2$  Hz), 113.8 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 11.2$  Hz), 127.7, 128.7, 129.6, 130.3, 130.5, 135.0 ppm, ; MS (70 eV): m/z = 327 [100%, M<sup>+</sup> + 1], 329 [26%, M<sup>+</sup> + 3], 291 [84%, M<sup>+</sup> - Cl], 189 [15%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 191 [5%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 163 {6%, M<sup>+</sup> - [P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN]}, 165 {3%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN]}.

#### [1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (8)

White solid, mp 102 °C;  $R_f = 0.44$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>HNMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.16 (t, 3H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 1.33 (t, 3H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 3.58 (dd, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.5$  Hz,  ${}^{2}J_{HP} = 21.5$  Hz), 3.79-4.18 (m, 4H), 4.56 (t, 1H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{HP} = 7.7$  Hz), 7.36 (d, 2H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.2$  Hz), 7.56 (d, 2H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (62 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 4.4$  Hz), 16.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 5.7$ 

Hz), 25.4, 43.9 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 144.7$  Hz), 63.6 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 64.4 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 111.0 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 11.9$  Hz), 111.2 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 10.7$  Hz), 123.9, 129.4, 131.0, 132.5 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 370 [7%, M<sup>+</sup>], 372 [8%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 233 [12%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 235 [12%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2], 207 {99\%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN]}, 209 {100\%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)\_2 and CN]}.

#### [1-(3-Bromophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (9)

White solid, mp 78-79 °C;  $R_f = 0.46$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.14 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 1.31 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 3.65 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.6 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 21.6 Hz), 3.85-4.17 (m, 4H), 4.70 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 9.2 Hz), 7.27 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 7.43 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 7.51 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 7.62 (s, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 5.0 Hz), 16.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 25.3, 43.8 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 143.0 Hz), 63.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 64.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 12.1 Hz), 111.4 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 11.1 Hz), 123.1, 127.9 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 130.8, 132.4 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 132.6, 132.8 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz) pm; MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 370 [7%, M<sup>+</sup>], 372 [7%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 234 [7%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 236 [6%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 207 {56%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CN]}, 209 {57%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 137 [100%, P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>].

### [1-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (10)

Yellow solid, mp 129-131 °C;  $R_f = 0.55$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 1.19 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 1.38 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz), 3.53 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.8$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HP} = 21.3$ Hz), 3.79-4.23 (m, 4H), 4.43 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$ , <sup>3</sup> $J_{HP} = 8.0$  Hz), 6.76 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.4$  Hz), 7.25 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.4$  Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  16.1 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 5.2$  Hz), 16.2 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} =$ 5.2 Hz), 25.7, 43.7 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CP} = 145.5$  Hz), 63.8 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 64.7 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.8$  Hz), 111.2 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 12.7$  Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 9.7$  Hz), 116.6, 120.4 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.0$  Hz), 130.6 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.0$  Hz), 157.8 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 308 [36%, M<sup>+</sup>], 243 [89%, M<sup>+</sup> – CH(CN)<sub>2</sub>], 215 [88%, M<sup>+</sup> – (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OH)], 171 [31%, (M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 145 {45%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CN]}, 107 {100%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub> and CH(CN)<sub>2</sub>]}.

## [1,1-Dicyanopentan-2-yl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (11)

Yellow liquid,  $R_f = 0.50$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.00 (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 1.37 (t, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 1.61 (q, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 1.72-2.09 (m, 2H), 2.29-2.34 (m, 1H), 4.16-4.24 (m, 4H), 4.28-4.48 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (62 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.7, 16.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 5.6 Hz), 20.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.6 Hz), 23.7, 29.2, 37.8 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 144.9 Hz), 63.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 110.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 5.0 Hz), 112.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 17.0 Hz) ppm; MS (70 eV): *m/z* = 259 [5%, M<sup>+</sup> + 1], 138 [100%, HP(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 193 [35%, M<sup>+</sup> – (CN)<sub>2</sub>], 121 [20%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>].

## [1,1-Dicyanooctan-2-yl] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (12)

Yellow liquid,  $R_f = 0.60$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta 0.81$  (t, 3H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 1.23-1.25 (m, 6H), 1.29 (t, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 1.44-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.78 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.98 (m, 1H), 2.24-2.34 (m, 1H), 4.07-4.16 (m, 4H), 4.36 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> = 13.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 3.6 Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 13.8, 16.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 5.0 Hz), 22.3, 23.7, 27.1, 27.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 28.8, 31.2, 37.7 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 143.0 Hz), 63.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.0 Hz), 111.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 112.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 17.0 Hz) ppm; MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 301 [1%, M<sup>+</sup> + 1], 163 [16%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>], 137 [100%, P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>]

#### [1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid diiso-propyl ester (13)

Yellow solid, mp 111 °C;  $R_f = 0.62$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.00 (d, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 6.4$  Hz), 1.32 (d, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 6.0$  Hz), 1.38 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 6.0$  Hz), 3.51 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HP} = 21.6$  Hz), 4.51-4.57 (m, 1H), 4.75-4.82 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.50 (m, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  23.1 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.0$  Hz), 23.8 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 5.2$  Hz), 23.9, 24.2, 25.7, 44.4

(d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 144.7 \text{ Hz}$ ), 72.9 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.5 \text{ Hz}$ ), 73.8 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 7.5 \text{ Hz}$ ), 111.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 11.2 \text{ Hz}$ ), 111.4 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 11.2 \text{ Hz}$ ), 129.1 (d,  $J_{CP} = 5.2 \text{ Hz}$ ), 129.6, 130.9 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.7 \text{ Hz}$ ), 135.7 ppm; MS (70 eV):  $m/z = 354 [16\%, M^{+}]$ , 356 [5%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 189 [16%, M<sup>+</sup> – P(O)(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub>], 191 [5%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) – P(O)(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub>], 163 {100\%, M<sup>+</sup> – [P(O)(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub> and CN}, 165 {34\%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) – [P(O)(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub>], 163 {100\%, M<sup>+</sup> – [P(O)(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub> and CN}]}.

#### [1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanoethyl] phosphonic acid dimethyl ester (14)

White solid, mp 118 °C;  $R_f = 0.31$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.60-3.68 (m, 4H), 3.85 (d, 3H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HP} = 11.2$  Hz), 4.51 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz), 7.50 (s, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  25.4, 43.4 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CP} = 144.0$  Hz), 53.7 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 7.5$  Hz), 54.6 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CP} = 6.7$  Hz), 111.2 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 10.5$  Hz), 111.3 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CP} = 11.2$  Hz), 129.5, 129.7, 130.7 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.4$  Hz), 135.8 ppm; MS (70 eV): m/z = 298 [6%, M<sup>+</sup>], 300 [2%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], 189 [6%, M<sup>+</sup> - P(O)(OMe)\_2], 191 [2%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) - P(O)(OMe)\_2], 109 [100%, P(O)(OMe)\_2].

# [1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-ethylcarboxylic acid ethyl ester] phosphonic acid diethyl ester (15; mixture of two diastereoisomers, ratio ~ 68:32)

Light yellow liquid,  $R_f = 0.46$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.10-1.15 (m, 2H), 1.19-1.30 (m, 6H), 1.34 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 3.74-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.96-4.21 (m, 6H), 4.27 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HP</sub> = 8.4 Hz), 7.33-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.47 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.5, 13.6, 16.0-16.1, 39.0, 39.1, 42.7 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 142.5 Hz), 43.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 142.5 Hz), 62.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 63.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 63.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 5.2 Hz), 63.25, 63.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 114.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 9.0 Hz), 114.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 4.5 Hz), 128.8, 130.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 130.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 130.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 131.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.0 Hz), 134.3, 134.5, 163.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 164.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 13.5 Hz) ppm; MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 373 [43%, M<sup>+</sup>], 375 [14%, M<sup>+</sup> + 2], {302 [ 35%, (M<sup>+</sup> + 2) – CO<sub>2</sub>Et]}, 300 [100%, M<sup>+</sup> – CO<sub>2</sub>Et].



## 4) <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of β-phosphonomalonates

























































5) Mass spectra of  $\beta$ -phosphonomalonates











