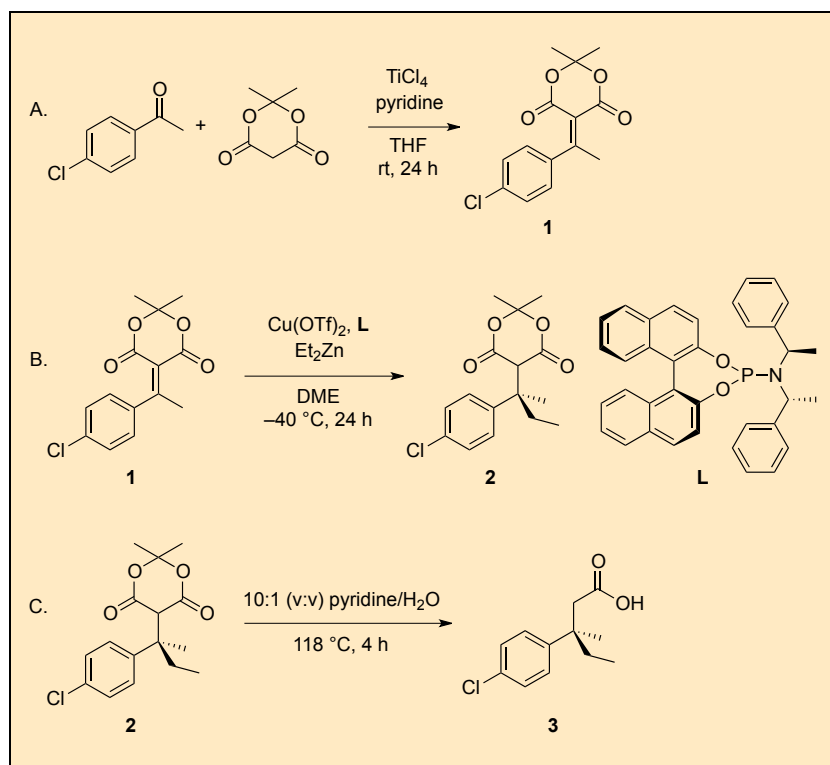


## Asymmetric Synthesis of All-Carbon Benzylic Quaternary Stereocenters via Conjugate Addition to Alkylidene Meldrum's Acids

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Checked by Li Zhang and Chris Senanayake



## Procedure

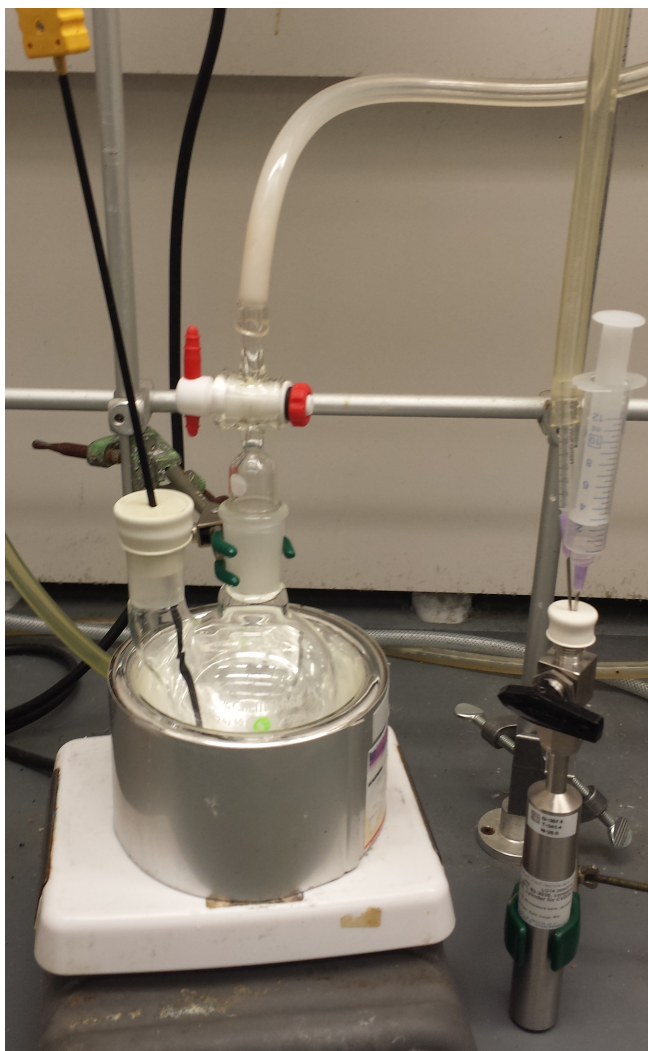
*Caution! Neat diethylzinc is extremely pyrophoric and moisture sensitive. Handle under argon or nitrogen at all times. Fires should be extinguished using a dry powder extinguisher.*

A. 5-(1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethylidene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (**1**).<sup>2,3</sup> An oven-dried 1000 mL, single-necked, round-bottomed flask, equipped with a 3 cm oval Teflon®-coated magnetic stirring bar and a rubber septum, is purged with nitrogen. The flask is charged with THF (300 mL) and cooled to 0 °C (bath temp) in an ice bath (Note 1). An oven-dried 100 mL, single-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a rubber septum is charged with dichloromethane (50 mL), and then titanium (IV) chloride (18.0 mL, 31.1 g, 164 mmol, 2.13 equiv) is added and the flask is swirled for 10 s (Notes 2 and 3). The TiCl<sub>4</sub> solution is added to the flask containing THF in four portions via a 20 mL Norm-ject plastic syringe at a rate of 4.3 mL/min with stirring (Note 4). During this addition smoke forms inside the reaction flask and the mixture becomes a cloudy yellow suspension. An oven-dried 250 mL, single-necked, round-bottomed flask is charged with 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (11.1 g, 77.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and THF (80 mL). The flask is sealed with a rubber septum and purged with nitrogen before 4'-chloroacetophenone (10.1 mL, 12.0 g, 77.8 mol, 1.01 equiv) is added via syringe. The flask is swirled until the solid has dissolved (<2 min) (Notes 5 and 6). The Meldrum's acid/4'-chloroacetophenone solution is added to the reaction flask containing TiCl<sub>4</sub> via cannula over a period of 10 min. During the addition, the mixture changes color from bright yellow to dark yellow/brown. The 250 mL flask is rinsed with 5 mL of THF, which is rapidly transferred to the reaction via cannula. Pyridine (31.5 mL, 30.7 g, 388 mmol, 5.04 equiv) is then added via a 20 mL syringe in 2 portions at a rate of 4.3 mL/min (Note 7). During this addition, a red color is observed initially and the mixture becomes a muddy brown suspension by the end of the addition. The vigorously stirred reaction is kept at 0 °C for 1 h and then allowed to stir at room temperature for 24 h. The mixture is cooled to 0 °C using an ice-water bath and 150 mL of deionized water is added. The stir bar is removed and the reaction is transferred to a 1000 mL separatory funnel with the assistance of 50 mL of deionized water and 50 mL of ethyl acetate. The layers are partitioned and the aqueous layer is extracted with

ethyl acetate (3 x 150 mL). The combined organic layers are dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> (14 g, <2 min), filtered through a 7 cm diameter filter funnel packed with cotton into a 2 L round-bottomed flask, and concentrated by rotary evaporation (30 °C, 20 mmHg). The resulting dark yellow oil is dissolved in ethyl acetate (200 mL), which is washed sequentially with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, (2 x 100 mL) and brine (150 mL) and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> (6 g, <2 min) (Note 8). The mixture is filtered through a 7 cm diameter filter funnel packed with cotton and concentrated by rotary evaporation (30 °C, 20 mmHg) to obtain a bright yellow solid (Note 9). The solid is dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and transferred, with rinsing, to a 250 mL, single-necked round-bottomed flask. The solvent is removed by rotary evaporation (30 °C, 20 mmHg) (Note 9). Methanol (60 mL) and a 1 cm rod-shaped magnetic stirring bar are added and the mixture is placed in an oil bath heated to 50 °C with stirring until the solid dissolves (20 min) (Note 10). The flask is removed from the oil bath and swirled gently to dissolve any solid on the walls of the flask, and then the solution is allowed to cool to room temperature (1 h) before being placed in an ice-water bath for 1 h. The solid is collected by suction filtration (room temperature, ~20 mmHg) through a Büchner funnel equipped with a filter paper and is washed with 30 mL of methanol that has been cooled to -25 °C. The nearly colorless needles are pulverized using a mortar and pestle before being dried under reduced pressure (1 mmHg, 1 h, room temperature) to afford 13.2–13.8 g (61–64%) of 5-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethylidene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione [1] as an off-white powder (Notes 11, 12, 13, and 14).

B. (*R*)-5-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)butan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (2).<sup>3</sup> An oven-dried 250 mL, two-necked round-bottomed flask equipped with a 2 cm rod-shaped Teflon®-coated magnetic stirring bar and a thermocouple is charged with copper (II) trifluoromethanesulfonate (322 mg, 0.890 mmol, 2.5 mol %) then connected to a vacuum line and placed under reduced pressure (0.5 mmHg) before being placed in an oil bath heated to 100 °C (Note 15). The flask is held at this temperature for 3 h before the flask is removed from the oil bath and allowed to cool to room temperature (30 min) while still under reduced pressure. The flask is opened to air and (*S*)-2,2'-binaphthoyl-(*R,R*)-di(1-phenylethyl)aminoyl-phosphine<sup>4</sup> (961 mg, 1.78 mmol, 5.0 mol%) is quickly added before the flask is sealed with a rubber septum and purged with argon (Note 16). 1,2-Dimethoxyethane (45 mL) is then added via syringe and the mixture is stirred at room temperature for 30 min before being placed in an isopropanol bath maintained at -40 °C using an immersion cooler

(Notes 17 and 18). Diethylzinc (7.3 mL, 8.8 g, 71 mmol, 2.0 equiv) is added via a 10 mL gas-tight syringe under argon over 10 min and the reaction is allowed to stir for 15 min (Note 19). An oven-dried 100 mL, single-necked



**Set-up for Step B**

round-bottomed flask equipped with a rubber septum is purged with argon and charged with 5-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethylidene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-

dioxane-4,6-dione (**1**) (10.0 g, 35.6 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (35 mL). The flask is swirled to dissolve the solid (1 min) before being transferred to the reaction by cannula over a period of 10 min. 1,2-Dimethoxyethane (5 mL) is used to rinse the 100 mL flask, which is transferred to the reaction by cannula in 30 s and the reaction is allowed to stir for 24 h. While still at  $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , hydrochloric acid (100 mL, 2 M) is added to the reaction over 2 min (Note 20). Then ethyl acetate (50 mL) is added. The cooling bath is removed and the reaction is allowed to stir for 10 min in a room temperature water bath. The mixture is transferred to a 500 mL separatory funnel with the assistance of deionized water (50 mL) and ethyl acetate (50 mL). The layers are partitioned and the aqueous layer is extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers are washed once with 100 mL of brine and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  (6 g, <2 min), filtered through a 7 cm diameter filter funnel packed with cotton and concentrated by rotary evaporation ( $35\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 20 mmHg). The resulting white solid is mixed with dichloromethane (30 mL) to form a suspension, then subjected to flash chromatography (350 g silica, 60 cm x 5 cm inner diameter, 200 mL fractions) using 6 L of 9:1 hexanes/ethyl acetate as the eluent (Notes 21 and 22). The product is found in fractions 11-24, which are concentrated by rotary evaporation ( $35\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 20 mmHg) followed by removal of residual ethyl acetate under reduced pressure ( $23\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 5 mmHg, 30 min) to obtain 8.8–8.9 g (79–80% yield, 97:3–98:2 er) of (*R*)-5-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)butan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione as a white solid (Notes 23, 24, and 25).

C. (*R*)-3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methylpentanoic acid (**3**).<sup>3</sup> A 100 mL, single-necked round-bottomed flask equipped with a 1 cm oval Teflon®-coated magnetic stirring bar and a reflux condenser is charged with (*R*)-5-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)butan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (8.00 g, 25.7 mmol, 1.00 equiv), pyridine (47.0 mL, 45.8 g, 579 mmol, 22.5 equiv) and deionized water (4.7 mL, 4.7 g, 0.26 mol, 10 equiv) then the condenser is equipped with a rubber septum and the apparatus is purged with nitrogen (Note 7). The apparatus is placed in an oil bath preheated to  $118\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the brownish yellow solution is allowed to stir for 4 h under nitrogen. The reaction is removed from the oil bath and allowed to cool for 10 min before being concentrated by rotary evaporation ( $50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 20 mmHg) to obtain a brownish yellow oil. The residue is cooled to  $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  in an ice-water bath before being treated with 3M hydrochloric acid (40 mL) and allowed to stir for 5 min (Note 20). The resulting biphasic solution is diluted with methyl *t*-butyl ether (40 mL) and transferred to a 125 mL separatory funnel. The

layers are partitioned and the aqueous layer is extracted with methyl *t*-butyl ether (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic layers are dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> (6 g, <2 min) and filtered through a 4 cm diameter filter funnel packed with cotton before being concentrated by rotary evaporation (25 °C, 20 mmHg). The resulting oil is subjected to flash chromatography (100 g silica, 60 cm x 5 cm inner diameter, 200 mL fractions) using 2 L of hexanes:ethyl acetate (7:1) as the eluent (Note 22). The product is collected from fractions 6-15, which are concentrated by rotary evaporation (35 °C, 20 mmHg) followed by removal of residual ethyl acetate under reduced pressure (23 °C, 5 mmHg, 30 min) to obtain 5.5–5.7 g (94–98%) of (*R*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-methylpentanoic acid [3] as a pale yellow oil (Notes 26, 27 and 28).

## Notes

1. ACS Reagent tetrahydrofuran (99.0%, contains 250 ppm BHT) was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Company and distilled from sodium-benzophenone ketyl immediately prior to use.
2. Titanium (IV) chloride, ReagentPlus®, 99.9%, was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Company and used without further purification.
3. Dichloromethane (99.9%, HPLC grade, contains 15-200 ppm amylene) was dried by percolation through two columns packed with neutral alumina under a positive pressure of nitrogen.
4. In some cases the TiCl<sub>4</sub> solution causes corrosion of the plastic syringe during one of the additions. If this occurs, the current addition is allowed to complete and a new syringe is used for the remaining additions.
5. 4'-Chloroacetophenone, 98%, was obtained from Oakwood Products, Inc. and used without further purification.
6. 2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, 99%, was obtained from Oakwood Products, Inc. and used without further purification.
7. Pyridine, 99%, was obtained from Caledon Laboratories Ltd. and used without further purification. In step C, an excess of pyridine is used because it is the solvent for the reaction.
8. A large amount of CO<sub>2</sub> gas evolves when the NaHCO<sub>3</sub> is added.
9. If the resulting residue is an oil, methanol (10 mL) is added and the flask is swirled for <2 min to precipitate the solid.

10. Methanol (99.8%, HPLC grade) was obtained from Caledon Laboratories Ltd. and used without further purification.
11. Whatman® 70 mm filter papers are used.
12. 5-(1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethylidene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione is stable in excess of six months when stored in the freezer.
13. The product displayed the following physicochemical properties: mp 72–74 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 1.83 (s, 6 H), 2.70 (s, 3 H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 26.3, 27.4, 104.0, 117.2, 127.4, 128.8, 135.6, 140.0, 160.2, 161.0, 171.7; IR (thin film, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1765, 1726; HRMS (DART) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub><sup>35</sup>ClO<sub>4</sub>•Na<sup>+</sup>: 303.0400, found: 303.0386. The purity of product (97–99%) is determined by quantitative HPLC (Halo-C18 0.46 cm × 15 cm column) using acetonitrile (A) and water (B, contains 0.2% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and 60 mM NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub>) as eluent (1.3 mL/min, percentage of A starts from 35%, changes to 45% in 4 min, increases to 98% in another 3 min and keeps at 98% for another 2 min). *t<sub>R</sub>* = 7.00 min. Purity of the quantification standard is determined by NMR assay using dimethyl fumarate as internal standard.
14. Sometimes it is possible to obtain a second crop from the filtrate. The filtrate is transferred to a 100 mL single-necked round-bottomed flask and concentrated by rotary evaporation (30 °C, 20 mmHg). Methanol (5 mL) is added to the resulting dark orange oil and the flask is swirled for 1 min to form a uniform solution. The flask is placed in a –25 °C freezer for 18 h. The solid is collected by suction filtration (room temperature, ~20 mmHg) through a Büchner funnel equipped with a filter paper and are washed with 10 mL of methanol at –25 °C to obtain an additional 0.98 g (5%) of **1** as a pale yellow solid contaminated with traces of Meldrum's acid and 2,2-dimethyl-5-(propan-2-ylidene)-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione.
15. Copper (II) trifluoromethanesulfonate, 98%, was purchased from Strem Chemicals, Inc. and used without further purification. It was stored in a desiccator containing Drierite® under nitrogen.
16. (*S*)-2,2'-Binaphthoyl-(*R,R*)-di(1-phenylethyl)aminoyl-phosphine was prepared following literature procedure.<sup>4</sup>
17. 1,2-Dimethoxyethane (99.0%) was obtained from TCI America, Inc., purified by distillation from sodium-benzophenone ketyl, and degassed using the freeze-pump-thaw method (3 cycles).
18. A Kinetics Flexi-Cool 100 immersion cooler was used.

19. Diethylzinc, 95%, was purchased from Strem Chemicals, Inc. and used without further purification.
20. Hydrochloric acid, 37%, was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Co. and used as received. The 2 M solution was prepared by diluting 82 mL of concentrate in deionized water to a 500 mL solution. The 3 M solution was prepared by diluting 10 mL of concentrate in 30 mL of deionized water.
21. The crude white solid starts to turn yellow if allowed to stand overnight.
22. SiliaFlash® F60 (40-63  $\mu\text{m}$ , 230-400 mesh) silica gel was used.
23. Occasionally, fractions 8-10 contained some product that was contaminated with an unknown compound that is UV active ( $R_f = 0.28$  in 9:1 hexanes/ethyl acetate). These fractions can be purified via flash chromatography as follows. After concentration by rotary evaporation (35 °C, ~20 mmHg), the mixed fractions were dissolved in dichloromethane (3 mL) and loaded onto a 40 cm x 3 cm inner diameter column containing 60 g of silica gel. The product was eluted with 750 mL of hexanes/ethyl acetate (9:1) and collected in 30 mL fractions. Fractions 11-24 were concentrated using rotary evaporation (35 °C, ~20 mmHg) before drying under reduced pressure (23 °C, 0.5 mmHg, 0.5 h) to obtain 0.5–1.0 g of **2** (5–9% yield).
24. (R)-5-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)butan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione is stable in excess of six months when stored in the freezer.
25. The product displayed the following physiochemical properties: mp 89–92 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 0.73 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3 H), 1.36 (s, 3 H), 1.60 (s, 3 H), 1.65 (s, 3 H), 2.11 (q,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2 H), 3.62 (s, 1 H), 7.22–7.24 (m, 2 H), 7.29–7.32 (m, 2 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.6, 21.4, 27.5, 29.0, 32.7, 45.7, 57.0, 105.1, 128.3, 128.4, 128.7, 132.8, 141.3, 163.8, 164.3; IR (thin film,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2982, 1742; HRMS (DART)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}^{35}\text{ClO}_4^+$ : 311.1050, found: 311.1038.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +16.1$  (c 0.57, MeOH) (er 97 (R) : 3 (S)). Enantiomeric ratio (er) (97:3–98:2 (R:S)) determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H 0.46 cm x 25 cm column) using 1% 2-propanol and 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid in hexanes as eluent (1 mL/min, prepared by diluting 2-propanol (5 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (0.5 mL) with hexanes to make a 500 mL solution).  $t_{\text{R}1} = 11.1$  min,  $t_{\text{R}2} = 14.3$  min. The purity of product (97–99%) is determined by quantitative HPLC (Halo-C18 0.46 cm x 15 cm column) using acetonitrile (A) and water (B, contains 0.2%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  and 60 mM  $\text{NH}_4\text{PF}_6$ ) as eluent (1.3 mL/min, percentage of A starts from 35%, changes to 45%



- in 4 min, increases to 98% in another 3 min and keeps at 98% for another 2 min).  $t_R = 7.94$  min. Purity of the quantification standard is determined by NMR assay using dimethyl fumarate as internal standard.
26. The submitters report that under vacuum the pale yellow oil slowly (>24 h) crystallizes to a white solid (mp = 39-41 °C); however, the checkers did not observe crystallization.
27. (R)-3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methylpentanoic acid is stable in excess of six months when stored in the freezer.
28. The product displayed the following physiochemical properties:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 0.66 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3 H), 1.45 (s, 3 H), 1.64–1.73 (m, 1 H), 1.75–1.83 (m, 1 H), 2.55 (d,  $J = 14.4$  Hz, 1 H), 2.69 (d,  $J = 14.4$  Hz, 1 H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2 H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.5, 23.8, 35.4, 40.2, 46.3, 127.6, 128.2, 131.7, 144.5, 176.5; IR (thin film, neat)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2968 (br), 1701; HRMS (DART)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}^{35}\text{ClO}_2 \cdot \text{Na}^+$ : 249.0658, found: 249.0649.  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -11.8$  (c 0.67, MeOH) (er 97 (R):3 (S)). Enantiomeric ratio (er) (97:3–98:2 (R:S)) determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD-H 0.46 cm  $\times$  25 cm column) using 1% 2-propanol and 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid in hexanes as eluent (1 mL/min, prepared by diluting 2-propanol (5 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (0.5 mL) with hexanes to make a 500 mL solution).  $t_{\text{R1}} = 28.8$  min,  $t_{\text{R2}} = 30.2$  min. The purity of product (96–98%) is determined by quantitative HPLC (Halo-C18 0.46cm  $\times$  15 cm column) using acetonitrile (A) and water (B, contains 0.2%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  and 60 mM  $\text{NH}_4\text{PF}_6$ ) as eluent (1.3 mL/min, percentage of A starts from 35%, changes to 45% in 4 min, increases to 98% in another 3 min and keeps at 98% for another 2 min).  $t_R = 7.01$  min. Purity of the quantification standard is determined by NMR assay using dimethyl fumarate as internal standard.

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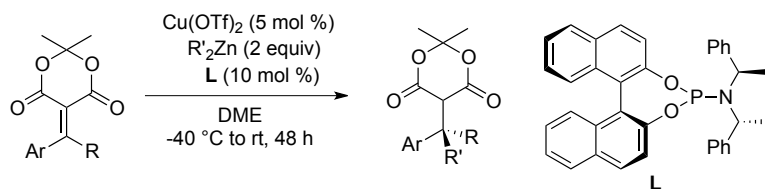
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## Discussion

The catalytic asymmetric formation of all carbon benzylic quaternary centres is an important goal in organic chemistry as these moieties are ubiquitous in natural products and pharmaceuticals. Conjugate addition of organometallic reagents to tri- and tetrasubstituted alkenes activated by carbonyl, nitro or sulfone groups is an efficient method that can be used to synthesize these motifs. The conjugate addition of dialkylzinc reagents to 5-ylidene Meldrum's acid derivatives presented herein is a flexible and convenient method to perform this transformation because the substrates are readily prepared by Knoevenagel condensation<sup>2</sup> of various commercially available aryl ketones and the conjugate addition products may undergo a wide variety of transformations. In addition, the substrate scope is broad as the reaction tolerates numerous functional groups.<sup>3,5-8</sup>

**Table 1. Asymmetric Conjugate Addition Reactions to Alkylidene Meldrum's Acids<sup>3,7</sup>**



entry	Ar	R	R'	yield (%)	er (R:S)
1	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	Me	Et	95	92:8
2	2-naphthyl	Me	Et	66	97.5:2.5
3	2-furyl	Me	Et	97	95.5:4.5
4	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	82	94.5:5.5
5	4-PhC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	76	97.5:2.5
6	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	88	97.5:2.5
7	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	84	96:4
8	4-FC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	83	96:4
9	4-(F <sub>3</sub> C)C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	87	96:4
10	4-(BnO)C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	75	96.5:3.5
11	3-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	93	89:11
12	3-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	96	87:13
13	3-(BnO)C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	97	89.5:10.5
14	3,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Me	Et	98	92.5:7.5
15	2-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	NR	N/A
16	2-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	NR	N/A
17	2-(BnO)C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	Et	NR	N/A
18	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<i>n</i> -Bu	Et	78	97:3
19	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	<i>i</i> -Pr	Et	NR	N/A
20	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Et	Me	N/A	N/A
21	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	<i>n</i> -Bu	87	93.5:6.5

As shown in Table 1, asymmetric conjugate addition reactions of 5-(1-arylalk-1-ylidene) Meldrum's acid derivatives occur in good to excellent yield and excellent enantiomeric excess for 3- and 4-substituted aryl groups, although no reaction is obtained for 2-substituted aryl groups due to steric reasons.<sup>3,7</sup> The reaction is successful when R is a primary alkyl group but no addition occurs for secondary alkyl groups; however, both primary and secondary alkyls are tolerated as the nucleophile, although poor results

have been obtained for dimethylzinc under these conditions (it has been shown that dimethylzinc adds effectively under modified conditions).<sup>6</sup>

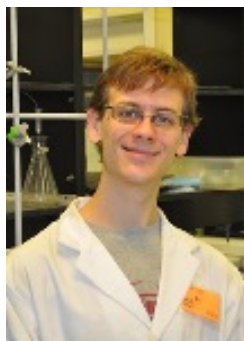
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## Appendix

### Chemical Abstracts Nomenclature (Registry Number)

- 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethanone: 4'-chloroacetophenone; (99-91-2)  
 2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione: Meldrum's acid; (2033-24-1)  
 Titanium (IV) chloride; (7550-45-0)  
 Pyridine; (110-86-1)  
 5-(1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethylidene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione;  
 (882161-49-1)  
 Copper (II) trifluoromethanesulfonate; (34946-82-2)  
 Diethylzinc; (557-20-0)  
 (S)-2,2'-Binaphthoyl-(R,R)-di(1-phenylethyl)aminoyl-phosphine; (712352-08-4)  
 1,2-dimethoxyethane; (110-71-4)  
 (R)-5-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)butan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione;  
 (882161-62-8)  
 (R)-3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methylpentanoic acid; (number not yet assigned)



Eric Beaton was born in 1988 in Kitchener, ON, Canada. He graduated with a B.Sc. in Chemical Physics in 2012 from the University of Waterloo where his honors thesis was done under the supervision of Professor Eric Fillion. In 2013, he started his M. Sc. studies under the direction of Eric Fillion where he is studying Lewis acid-promoted substitution reactions of benzyl Meldrum's acid derivatives.



Eric Fillion received his undergraduate degree in biochemistry at the Université de Sherbrooke. After completing his M. Sc. in medicinal chemistry at the Université de Montreal with Professor Denis Gravel, he began his doctoral studies at the University of Toronto under the direction of Professor Mark Lautens. From 1998-2000, he was an NSERC post-doctoral fellow in the laboratories of Professor Larry E. Overman at the University of California, Irvine. In August 2000, he joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Waterloo, where he is currently a Professor of Chemistry.



Li Zhang received his undergraduate degree in chemistry at the Nanjing University in 1994. After completing his M. Sc. in organic chemistry at the Iowa State University with Professor Richard C. Larock in 1999, he joined Chemical Development at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., where he is currently a senior scientist. He is the co-author of more than 30 papers and patents in synthetic organic chemistry and pharmaceutical industry.

103415-099

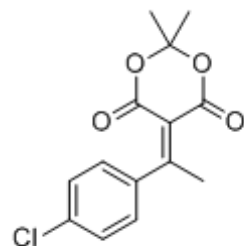


Current Data Parameters  
NAME 103415-099  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20141204  
Time 11.47  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zg10  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 16  
DS 0  
SWH 7500.000 Hz  
FIDRES 0.228882 Hz  
AQ 2.1845334 sec  
RG 362  
DW 66.667 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.0 K  
D1 1.0000000 sec  
TD0 1

==== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 11.95 usec  
PL1 2.10 dB  
PL1W 18.43091774 W  
SFO1 500.1325007 MHz

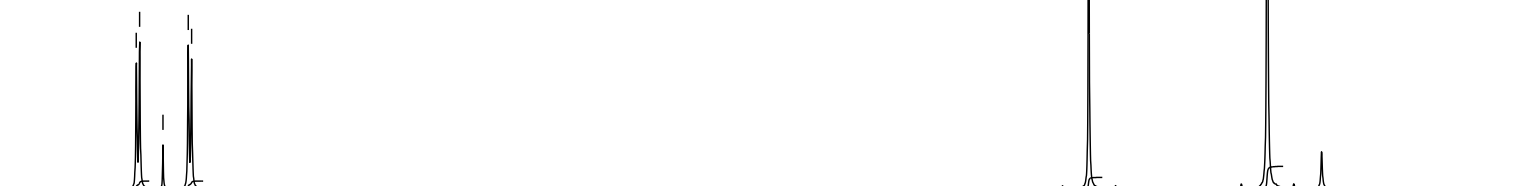
F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 500.1300130 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.30 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00



7.391  
7.375  
7.260  
7.136  
7.119

2.703

1.825



7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 ppm

2.00  
2.00

3.00

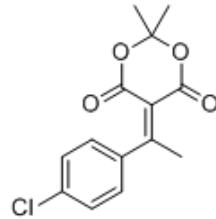
6.04

103415-099



— 171.740  
— 160.959  
— 160.173  
  
— 140.032  
— 135.576  
— 128.847  
— 127.383  
— 117.196  
  
— 104.010

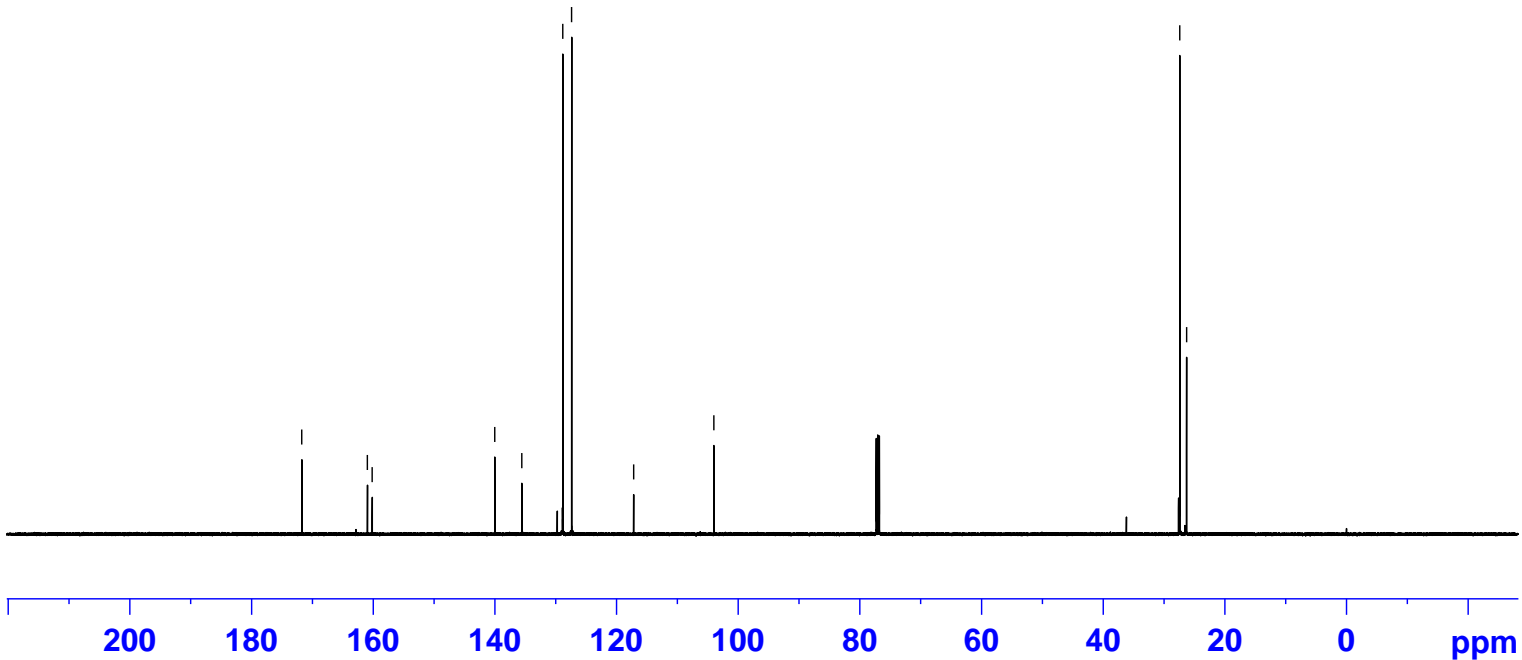
— 27.413  
— 26.295



Current Data Parameters  
NAME 103415-099  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20150219  
Time 10.32  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zgpg  
TD 262144  
SOLVENT CDC13  
NS 256  
DS 0  
SWH 31250.000 Hz  
FIDRES 0.119209 Hz  
AQ 4.1943040 sec  
RG 2050  
DW 16.000 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.0 K  
D1 1.0000000 sec  
d11 0.0300000 sec  
DELTA 0.89999998 sec  
TD0 1  
SF01 125.7698617 MHz  
NUC1 13C  
P1 9.75 usec  
PLW1 -1.0000000 W  
SFO2 500.1325007 MHz  
NUC2 1H  
CPDPRG[2] waltz16  
PCPD2 80.00 usec  
PLW2 -1.0000000 W  
PLW12 -1.0000000 W  
PLW13 -1.0000000 W

F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 131072  
SF 125.7577890 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.30 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.40



103485-014



Current Data Parameters  
NAME 103485-014  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20150219  
Time 10.36  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zg10  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 16  
DS 0  
SWH 7500.000 Hz  
FIDRES 0.228882 Hz  
AQ 2.1845334 sec  
RG 512  
DW 66.667 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.0 K  
D1 1.0000000 sec  
TD0 1

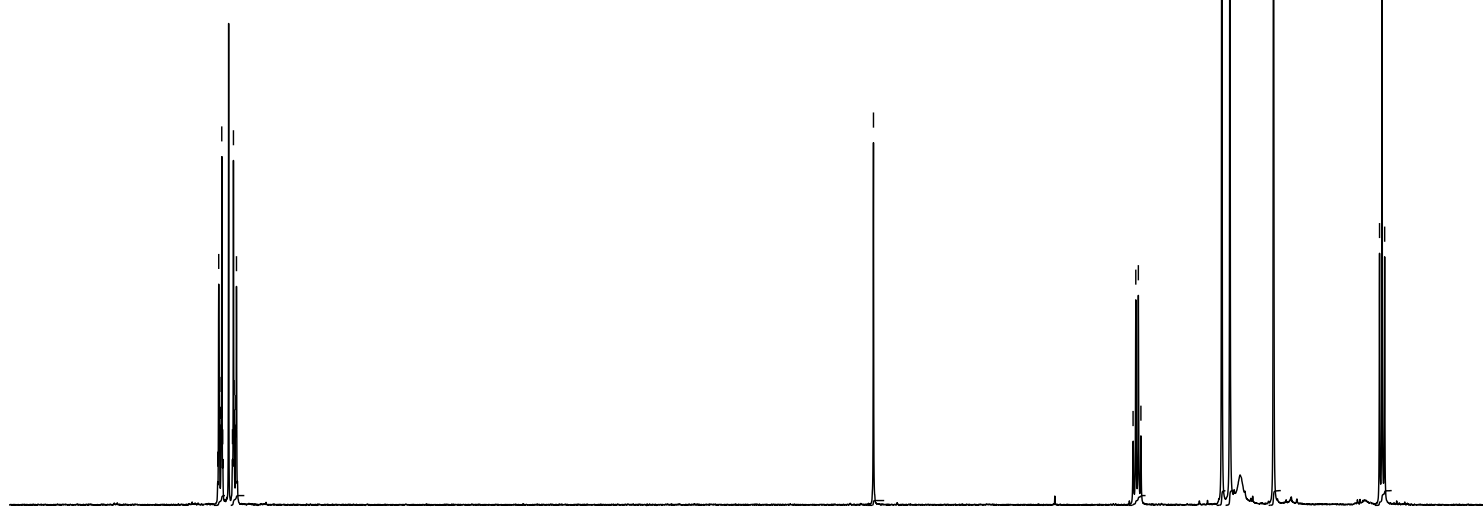
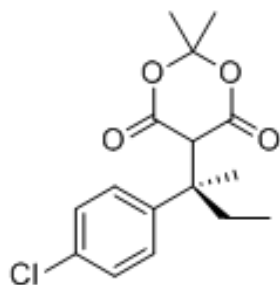
==== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 11.95 usec  
PL1 2.10 dB  
PL1W 18.43091774 W  
SF01 500.1325007 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 500.1300131 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.30 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

7.321  
7.316  
7.312  
7.303  
7.298  
7.293  
7.239  
7.233  
7.229  
7.220  
7.216

3.616

2.149  
2.134  
2.119  
2.105  
1.648  
1.602  
1.355  
0.757  
0.742  
0.727



8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 ppm

2.00  
2.02

1.00

2.01

3.00

3.07

3.02

3.01



103485-014



Current Data Parameters  
 NAME 103485-014  
 EXPNO 2  
 PROCNO 1

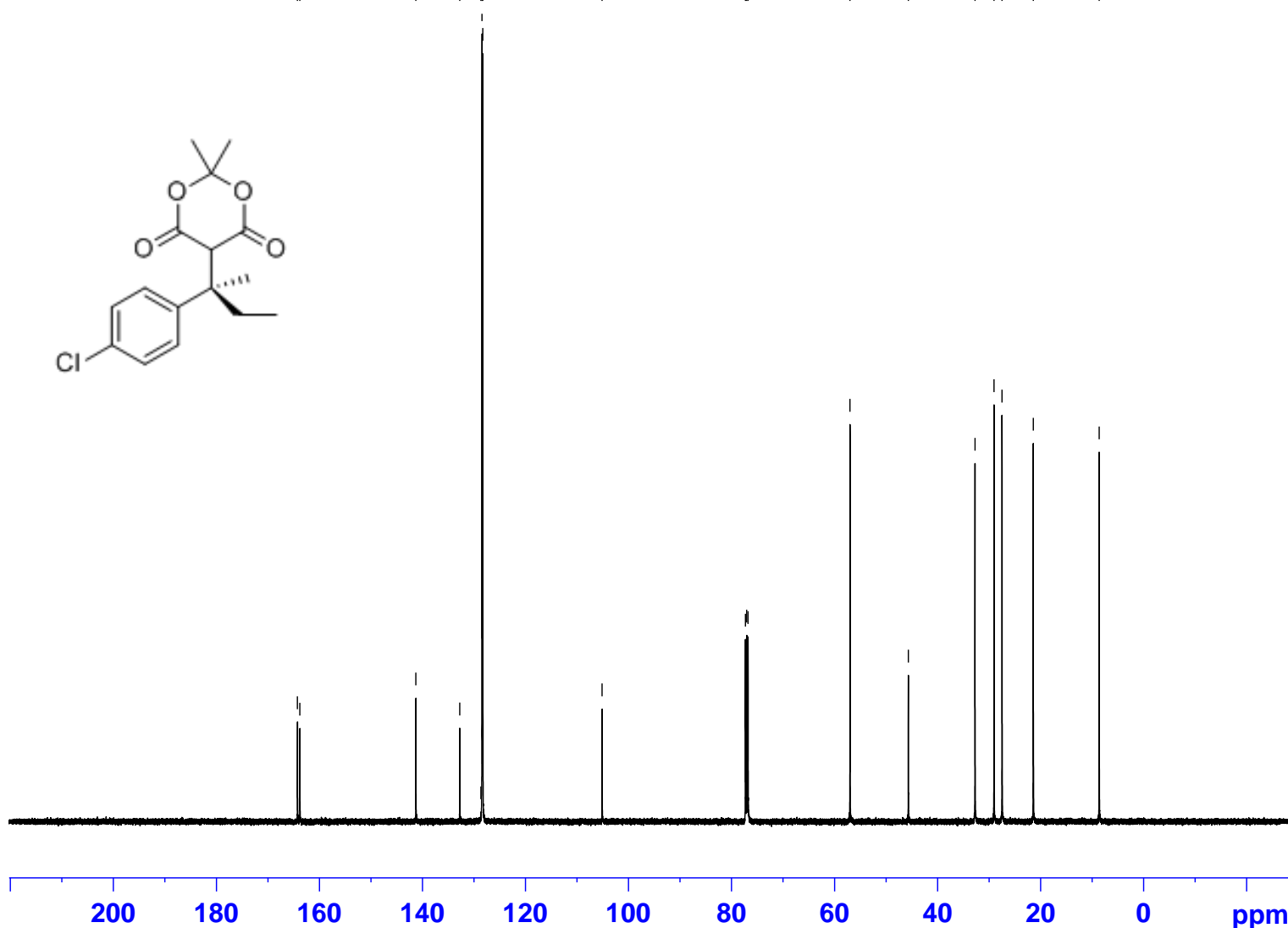
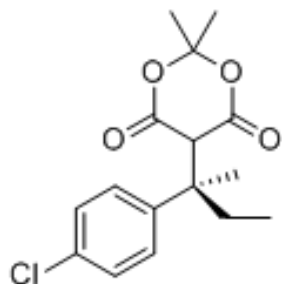
F2 - Acquisition Parameters

Date\_ 20150114  
 Time 23.54  
 INSTRUM spect  
 PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
 PULPROG zgpg  
 TD 262144  
 SOLVENT CDCl3  
 NS 1024  
 DS 0  
 SWH 31250.000 Hz  
 FIDRES 0.119209 Hz  
 AQ 4.1943040 sec  
 RG 1820  
 DW 16.000 usec  
 DE 6.50 usec  
 TE 299.0 K  
 D1 1.0000000 sec  
 d11 0.0300000 sec  
 DELTA 0.89999998 sec  
 TD0 1  
 SF01 125.7698617 MHz  
 NUC1 13C  
 P1 9.75 usec  
 PLW1 -1.0000000 W  
 SFO2 500.1325007 MHz  
 NUC2 1H  
 CPDPRG[2] waltz16  
 PCPD2 80.00 usec  
 PLW2 -1.0000000 W  
 PLW12 -1.0000000 W  
 PLW13 -1.0000000 W

F2 - Processing parameters

SI 131072  
 SF 125.7577890 MHz  
 WDW EM  
 SSB 0  
 LB 0.30 Hz  
 GB 0  
 PC 1.40

164.271  
 163.797  
 141.274  
 132.760  
 128.667  
 128.441  
 128.299  
 105.123  
 77.307  
 77.053  
 76.798  
 57.005  
 45.687  
 32.735  
 29.047  
 27.483  
 21.422  
 8.631



103485-039 product



Current Data Parameters  
NAME 103485-039  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1

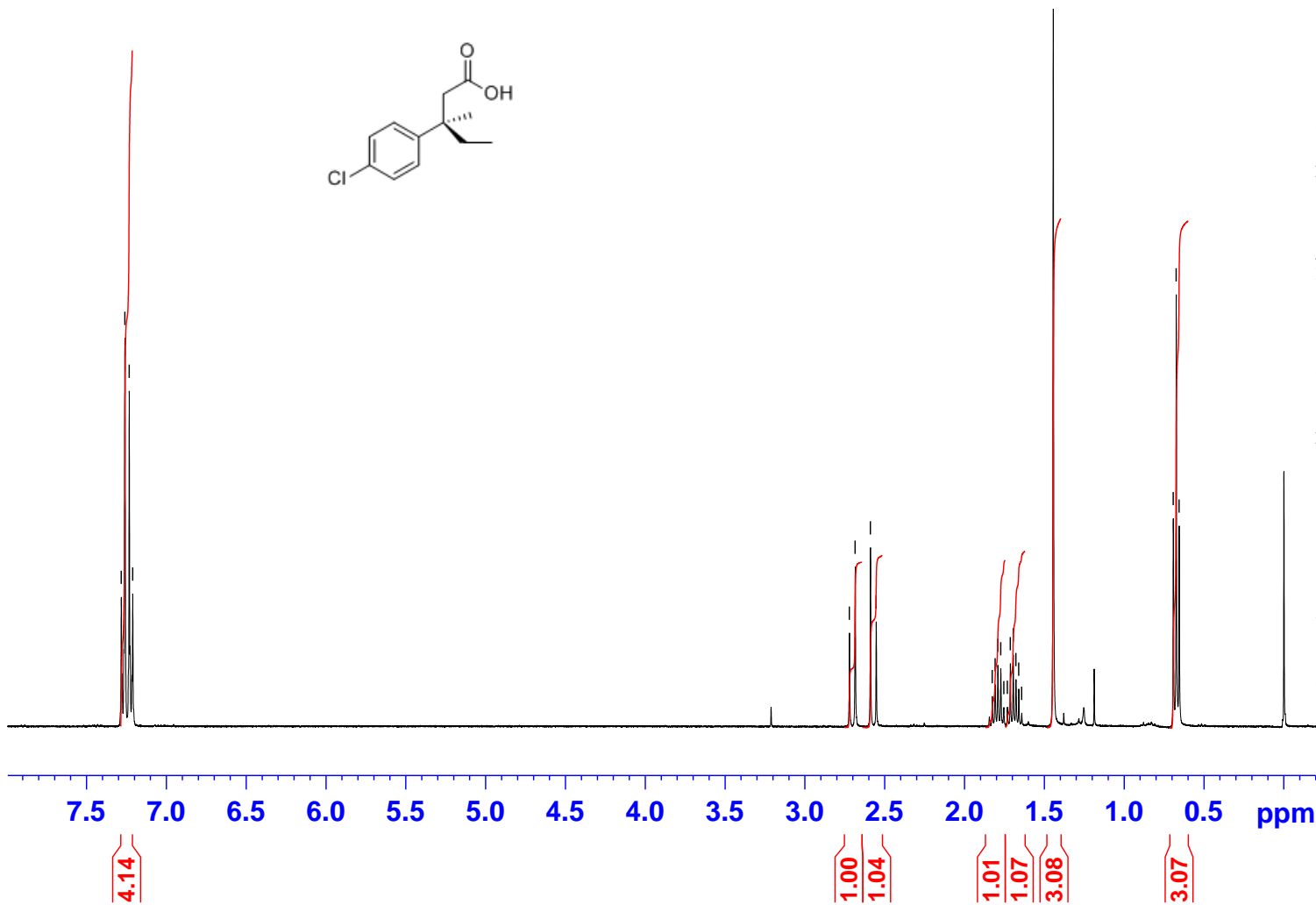
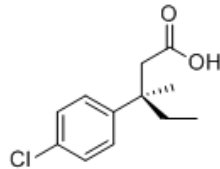
F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20150218  
Time 9.31  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zg10  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 32  
DS 4  
SWH 5896.227 Hz  
FIDRES 0.179939 Hz  
AQ 2.7787263 sec  
RG 724  
DW 84.800 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 298.0 K  
D1 2.00000000 sec  
TD0 1

==== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 15.00 usec  
PL1 0 dB  
PL1W 10.49968529 W  
SFO1 400.1327209 MHz

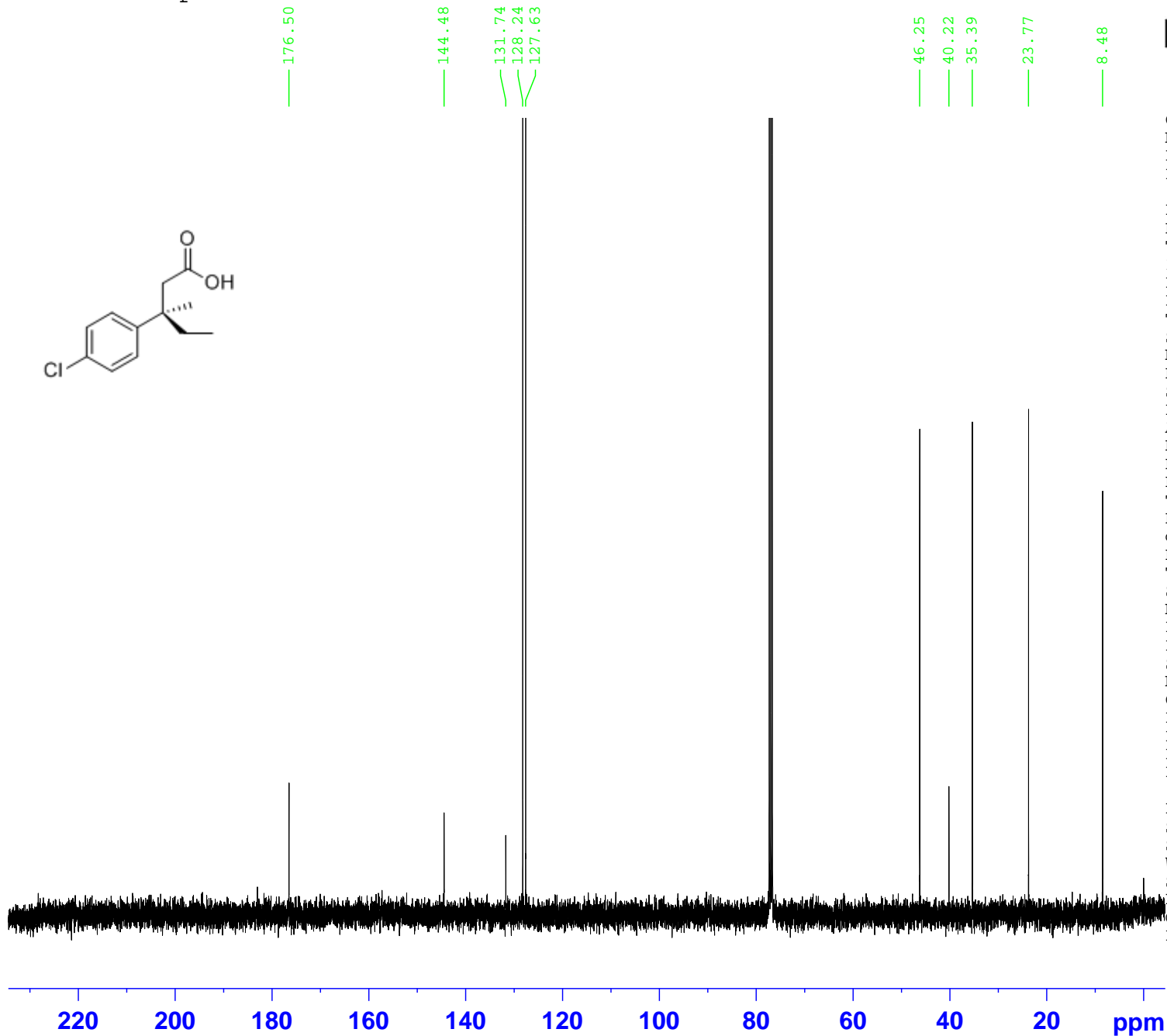
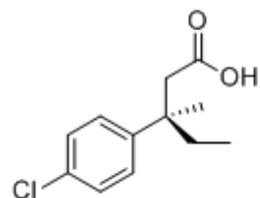
F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 65536  
SF 400.1300104 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.05 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

2.721  
2.685  
2.590  
2.554  
1.827  
1.808  
1.792  
1.773  
1.754  
1.732  
1.714  
1.695  
1.678  
1.661  
1.642  
1.445  
0.693  
0.674  
0.656

7.283  
7.261  
7.233  
7.211



103485-039 product



Current Data Parameters  
NAME 103485-039  
EXPNO 2  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20150218  
Time 9.56  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zgpg  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 512  
DS 4  
SWH 24038.461 Hz  
FIDRES 0.733596 Hz  
AQ 0.6815744 sec  
RG 2050  
DW 20.800 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 298.0 K  
D1 2.00000000 sec  
d11 0.03000000 sec  
DELTA 1.89999998 sec  
TD0 1  
SFO1 100.6243395 MHz  
NUC1 13C  
P1 10.10 usec  
PLW1 -1.00000000 W  
SFO2 400.1316005 MHz  
NUC2 1H  
CPDPRG[2] waltz16  
PCPD2 90.00 usec  
PLW2 -1.00000000 W  
PLW12 -1.00000000 W  
PLW13 -1.00000000 W

F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 65536  
SF 100.6127690 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 1.00 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.40