

# Synthesis of Pyridyl- $\beta$ -ketophosphonates

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**Abstract.** In this paper we report a three-stage synthesis of alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonates (2a-e, 3a-e, 4a-e) starting from commercially-available triethyl phosphite. Triethyl phosphite was first transesterified with alcohols in the presence of sodium catalyst to give the alkyl diethyl phosphites (1b-e) in low to moderate yields. The Claisen condensation between 2-lithioalkylphosphonates and ethyl pyridine-2-, -3- and -4-carboxylate, followed by an Arbusov reaction with methyl iodide, gave the final products in moderate yields. The structures of the products were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, and <sup>31</sup>P-NMR. Estimation of the pharmacotherapeutic potential has been accomplished for synthesized compounds on the basis of Prediction of Activity Spectra for Substances (PASS).

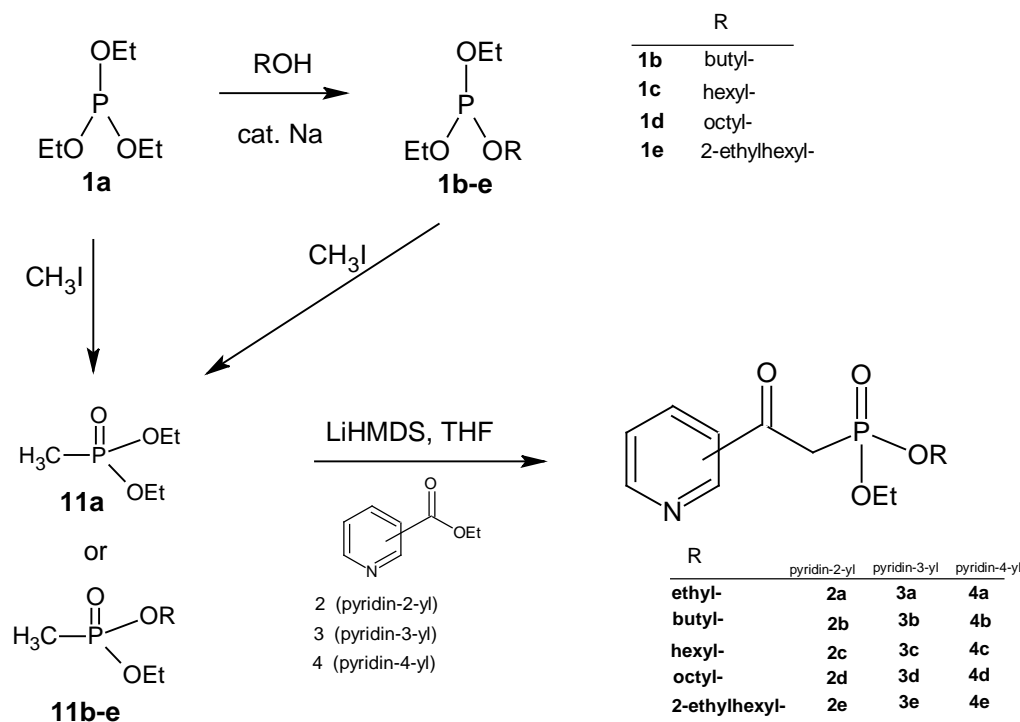
**Keywords:** Claisen condensation, synthesis, 2-oxo-2-pyridylethylphosphonates, bioactive compounds

## 1 Introduction

$\beta$ -ketophosphonate aliphatic, thioaliphatic and aromatic derivatives are frequently used as bioactive agents. For example, aromatic  $\beta$ -ketophosphonates have been shown to be potent  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors [1], dual inhibitor of human neutrophil Cat G and human mast cell chymase [2], but in the acid form the compounds have been proposed as a novel class of serine protease inhibitors [3]. The synthesis of  $\beta$ -ketophosphonates is the reaction of trialkyl phosphites and  $\beta$ -halogenoketones, but this method requires highly reactive  $\beta$ -halogenoketones [4]. Other methods include acylation of 1-(trimethylsilyl)vinyl phosphonates [5] or cuprophosphonates [6], hydrolysis of vinylogous phosphoramides [7], and the reaction of phosphite with epoxysulfones [8] or with silyl enol ethers using a hypervalent iodine compound [9]. Cyclic  $\beta$ -ketophosphonates can also be prepared in good yields by the reaction of a dialkyl phosphite anion and  $\alpha$ -nitro epoxides [10]. The present paper, reports a simple method for the synthesis of 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonates (2a-e, 3a-e and 4a-e) starting from triethyl phosphite.

## 2 Results

As shown in Scheme 1, the alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonates (2a-e, 3a-e, 4a-e) can be prepared using a three-stage procedure starting from commercially-available triethyl phosphite. In the first stage, alkyl diethyl phosphites (1b-e) are prepared by reaction of alcohols (butan-1-ol, hexan-1-ol, octan-1-ol and 2-ethylhexan-1-ol) with triethyl phosphite in the presence of Na as catalyst [11]. Then, the Arbusov rearrangement of alkyl diethyl phosphites was used to prepare alkyl ethyl methylphosphonates [12]. According to this procedure ethyl pyridine-2-, -3- or-4-carboxylate is transformed into the corresponding  $\beta$ -ketophosphonate by treatment with 1.2 equivalents of the lithium anion of diethyl methylphosphonate (11a) or alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate (11b-e) in THF at  $-78$  °C, in good yields. The results are shown in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3.



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonates.

**Table 1.** Yields and characteristic spectral data of synthesized alkyl diethyl phosphites (1b-e).

Compound	R	Yield [%]	Form	Bp(°C/mmHg)	<sup>31</sup> P-NMR[ppm]
1b	butyl-	78	oil	61/10	139.6
1c	hexyl-	61	oil	78/10	139.4
1d	octyl-	63	oil	90/8	139.1
1e	2-ethylhexyl-	32	oil	90/10	138.8

**Table 2.** Yields and characteristic spectral data of synthesized alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate (11a-e).

Compound	R	Yield[%]	Form	Bp(°C/mmHg)	<sup>31</sup> P-NMR [ppm]
11a	ethyl-	71	oil	51/1.0	31.1
11b	butyl-	68	oil	55/1.0	31.1
11c	hexyl-	64	oil	59/1.0	31.3
11d	octyl-	53	oil	60/0.4	31.4
11e	2-ethylhexyl-	55	oil	73/0.4	29.6

**Table 3.** Yields and characteristic spectral data of synthesized alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonates (2a-e, 3a-e, 4a-e).

Compound	R	Yield[%]	Form	<sup>13</sup> C-NMR[ppm]C=O	<sup>31</sup> P-NMR[ppm]P=O
2a	ethyl-	73	oil	192.66	22.8
2b	butyl-	47	oil	192.69	23.1
2c	hexyl-	51	oil	192.72	23.2
2d	octyl-	38	Viscous oil	192.71	23.4
2e	2-ethylhexyl-	23	oil	192.56	22.9

3a	ethyl-	79	oil	190.41	22.6
3b	butyl-	73	oil	190.68	22.9
3c	hexyl-	65	oil	190.75	23.1
3d	octyl-	43	Viscous oil	190.84	23.4
3e	2-ethylhexyl-	22	Viscous oil	191.06	24.7
4a	ethyl-	69	oil	191.48	22.8
4b	butyl-	64	oil	191.54	22.9
4c	hexyl-	52	oil	191.61	23.0
4d	octyl-	31	Viscous oil	191.58	23.3
4e	2-ethylhexyl-	27	Viscous oil	191.38	24.5

The chemical structure and inhibitory molecules of 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl) ethylphosphonates (2a-e, 3a-e and 4a-e) were retrieved from Pub Chem database. The molecules were retrieved in standard 3D SDF format and activities of the compounds were predicted using PASS (Prediction of Activity Spectra for substances) [13]. If predicted activity is higher than 0.7 ( $Pa > 0.7$ ), the substance is very likely to exhibit the activity in experiment, but the chance of the substance being the analogue of a known pharmaceutical agent is also high. According to data from PASS program the most frequently predicted types of biological activity are: inhibitor of glutamate-5-semialdehyde dehydrogenase, phosphatase, glyceryl-ether monooxygenase, carboxypeptidase Taq and cutinase. The results of the bioactivity analysis are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4.** “Probability to be Active” (PA) values for the predicted biological activity of 2a-e, 3a-e and 4a-e.

Bioactivity (PA>0.7)	Compounds				
	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e
Glutamate-5-semialdehyde dehydrogenase inhibitor	0.867	0.817	0.807	0.807	0.761
Dehydro-L-gulonate decarboxylase inhibitor	0.733	-	-	-	-
Phosphatase inhibitor	0.710	-	-	-	-
Glyceryl-ether monooxygenase inhibitor	-	0.779	-	-	-
Carboxypeptidase Taq inhibitor	-	0.708	0.737	0.737	-
Cutinase inhibitor	-	-	-	-	0.81
Bioactivity (PA>0.7)	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e
	Glutamate-5-semialdehyde dehydrogenase inhibitor	0.866	0.818	0.807	0.807
Steroid 9- $\alpha$ -monooxygenase inhibitor	0.719	-	-	-	-
Phosphatase inhibitor	0.708	-	-	-	-
Dehydro-L-gulonate decarboxylase inhibitor	0.707	-	-	-	-
Glyceryl-ether monooxygenase inhibitor	-	0.770	0.779	0.779	-
Ecdysone 20-monooxygenase inhibitor	-	0.712	-	-	-
Cutinase inhibitor	-	-	-	-	0.718
Bioactivity (PA>0.7)	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e
	Glutamate-5-semialdehyde dehydrogenase inhibitor	0.877	0.83	0.82	0.82
Phosphatase inhibitor	0.721	-	-	-	-
Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor	0.701	-	-	-	-
Glyceryl-ether monooxygenase inhibitor	-	0.76	0.771	0.771	-
Carboxypeptidase Taq inhibitor	-	-	-	-	-
Cutinase inhibitor	-	-	-	-	0.791

### 3 Conclusion

In conclusion, alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-pyridylphosphonates containing ethyl, butyl, hexyl and octyl chain and the pyridine ring (substitution at 2, 3 and 4 position) (2a-d, 3a-d, 4a-d) were prepared in good yields using the three-step procedure (Scheme 1). The reaction was noted to be sensitive to steric hindrance, as yields were lower with the branched alkyl ethyl methylphosphonates (2-ethylhexyl; 2e, 3e, 4e). The presented procedure is generally applicable for the synthesis of the target molecules.

### 4 Experimental

#### 4.1 Methods

The nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were measured with a Bruker Avance II 400 MHz UltraShield Plus spectrometer, operating at 400.6 and 101.2 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  or  $^{31}\text{P}$ , respectively. The number of scans varied from 1000 to 5,000 per spectrum with digital resolution of  $\pm 0.01$  ppm. All the chemical shifts are expressed in ppm. The chemical shifts were measured in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  relative to an internal standard of TMS ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were measured without the external standard. Silica gel 60 (E. Merck 70–230 mesh) was used for column chromatography.

#### 4.2 Synthesis

##### Procedure for synthesis of alkyl diethyl phosphites (1b-e)

An alcohol (0.25 mol) was weighed into the dropping funnel and triethyl phosphite (0.4 mol) with sodium metal was added to a round-bottom flask equipped. The mixture was stirred and heated to  $100\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , then the alcohol was added dropwise over 30 min. After evolution of ethanol ceased, the residue was fractionated under reduced pressure.

##### Procedure for synthesis of alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate (11a-e)

Methyl iodide (0.25 mol) was added to a round-bottomed flask fitted with an efficient water-cooled condenser and a dropping funnel. Next, dialkyl alkyl phosphite (0.25 mol) was added dropwise. After the addition was complete, the mixture was refluxed for 2 h. The residue was then distilled in vacuo to give alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate in low to good yields.

##### Procedure for synthesis of alkyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-, -3- and -4-yl)ethylphosphonate (2a-e, 3a-e, 4a-e)

To a solution of alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate (11a-e, 33 mmol) in THF (10 mL) lithium *bis*(trimethylsilyl)amide (3.3 mL, 0.1M in THF) was slowly added via a syringe. To the resulting pale-yellow mixture a solution of ethyl pyridine-2-, -3- or -4-carboxylate (2, 3 and 4) (40 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added at  $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . This solution was allowed to reach r.t. Stirring was continued for 4 h and then allowed to reach  $23\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  over 1 h. The reaction was quenched with a solution of ammonium chloride and extracted twice with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and ethyl acetate. After drying over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and concentration under vacuum, the crude oil was first distilled at low pressure to remove excess alkyl ethyl methylphosphonate, and the residue was then purified by column chromatography (eluent: chloroform: ethyl acetate:acetone 10:5:3).

**Diethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethylphosphonate (2a):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.43 (1H, ddd,  $J=5.33$ ,  $J=4.47$ ,  $J=1.79$ ), 8.01 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.11$ ,  $J=5.33$ ,  $J=1.12$ ), 7.84 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.10$ ,  $J=7.00$ ,  $J=1.79$ ), 7.57 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.60$ ,  $J=4.47$ ,  $J=1.13$ ), 3.89 (2H, s), 4.11 (2H, q,  $J=7.10$ ), 4.12 (2H, q,  $J=7.11$ ), 1.21 (3H, t,  $J=6.80$ ), 1.23 (3H, t,  $J=6.84$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 192.66, 153.06, 148.83, 137.14, 123.38, 123.16, 41.69, 16.28, 62.19;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.8.

**Diethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethylphosphonate (3a):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 9.03 (1H, ddd,  $J=5.41$ ,  $J=1.30$ ,  $J=1.44$ ), 8.54 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.63$ ,  $J=1.30$ ,  $J=1.48$ ), 8.01 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.07$ ,  $J=1.81$ ,  $J=1.44$ ), 7.45 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.07$ ,  $J=5.19$ ,  $J=4.3$ ), 4.12 (2H, q,  $J=7.10$ ), 4.11 (2H, q,  $J=7.11$ ), 3.72 (2H, s), 1.23 (3H, t,  $J=6.80$ ), 1.24 (3H, t,  $J=7.11$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.41, 150.67, 149.71, 136.13, 130.25, 123.33, 62.18, 62.17, 41.67, 16.28, 16.27;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.6.

**Diethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethylphosphonate (4a):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.54 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.41$ ,  $J=0.44$ ,  $J=0.1$ ), 8.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.51$ ,  $J=0.52$ ,  $J=0.1$ ), 7.90 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.51$ ,  $J=0.52$ ,  $J=0.1$ ), 7.86 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.51$ ,  $J=0.64$ ,  $J=0.2$ ), 4.09 (2H, q,  $J=7.108$ ), 4.06 (2H, q,  $J=7.108$ ), 3.82 (2H, s), 1.23 -1.25 (6H, m).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.48, 150.12, 149.28, 135.11, 122.79, 122.72, 62.19, 62.24, 41.66, 16.23, 16.29;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.8.

**Butyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethylphosphonate (2b):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.42 (1H, ddd,  $J=5.31$ ,  $J=4.47$ ,  $J=1.72$ ), 8.02 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.12$ ,  $J=5.31$ ,  $J=1.13$ ), 7.83 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.15$ ,  $J=7.51$ ,  $J=1.79$ ), 7.57 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.43$ ,  $J=4.47$ ,  $J=1.13$ ), 4.13 (2H, t,  $J=6.10$ ), 4.12 (2H, q,  $J=7.08$ ), 3.90 (2H, s), 1.66 (2H, tt,  $J=7.10$ ,  $J=7.37$ ), 1.22-1.23 (5H, m), 0.83 (3H, t,  $J=7.10$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 192.69, 153.08, 148.84, 137.15, 123.38, 123.18, 62.20, 69.06, 41.67, 32.57, 18.84, 16.29, 13.85;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.1.

**Butyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethylphosphonate (3b):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 9.02 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.20$ ,  $J=1.31$ ,  $J=1.32$ ), 8.05 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.07$ ,  $J=1.18$ ,  $J=1.43$ ), 7.43 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.07$ ,  $J=5.20$ ,  $J=3.13$ ), 8.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.63$ ,  $J=1.01$ ,  $J=1.18$ ), 4.13 (2H, t,  $J=7.04$ ), 4.12 (2H, q,  $J=6.18$ ), 3.84 (2H, s), 1.66 (2H, tt,  $J=7.22$ ,  $J=6.37$ ), 1.21-1.23 (5H, m), 0.83 (3H, t,  $J=6.11$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 190.68, 150.26, 149.7598, 136.21, 130.25, 123.33, 62.15, 69.02, 41.59, 32.57, 18.25, 16.28143, 13.34;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.9.

**Butyl ethyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethylphosphonate (4b):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.90 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.51$ ,  $J=0.63$ ,  $J=0.07$ ), 7.86 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.50$ ,  $J=0.51$ ,  $J=0.01$ ), 8.54 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.51$ ,  $J=0.61$ ,  $J=0.02$ ), 8.74 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.55$ ,  $J=0.53$ ,  $J=0.09$ ), 3.86 (2H, s), 4.12 (2H, t,  $J=6.50$ ), 4.13 (2H, q,  $J=6.18$ ), 1.76 (2H, tt,  $J=6.80$ ,  $J=7.37$ ), 1.21-1.23 (5H, m), 0.83 (3H, t,  $J=6.11$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.54, 150.31, 150.27, 134.89, 122.64, 122.71, 69.12, 62.17, 32.57, 41.59, 18.25, 16.23, 13.38;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.9.

**Ethyl hexyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethylphosphonate (2c):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.60 (1H, ddd,  $J=5.32$ ,  $J=3.66$ ,  $J=1.19$ ), 8.02 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.11$ ,  $J=4.42$ ,  $J=1.03$ ), 7.86 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.15$ ,  $J=7.61$ ,  $J=1.81$ ), 7.55 (1H, ddd,  $J=6.601$ ,  $J=3.66$ ,  $J=1.23$ ), 4.13 (2H, t,  $J=6.58$ ), 4.19 (2H, q,  $J=5.10$ ), 3.91 (2H, s), 1.82 (2H, tt,  $J=6.40$ ,  $J=6.38$ ), 1.36 (2H, tt,  $J=7.41$ ,  $J=6.80$ ), 1.27-1.23 (7H, m), 0.865 (3H, t);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 192.72, 153.06, 148.84, 137.13, 123.38, 123.16, 69.05, 62.19, 41.68, 31.02, 31.51, 25.91, 22.63, 16.28, 14.01;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.2.

**Ethyl hexyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethylphosphonate (3c):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 9.01 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.20$ ,  $J=1.21$ ,  $J=1.41$ ), 8.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.63$ ,  $J=1.31$ ,  $J=1.08$ ), 8.03 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.01$ ,  $J=0.89$ ,  $J=1.44$ ), 7.43 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.01$ ,  $J=3.20$ ,  $J=4.73$ ), 4.12 (2H, t,  $J=6.10$ ), 4.08 (2H, q,  $J=6.18$ ), 3.84 (2H), 1.81 (2H, tt,  $J=6.20$ ,  $J=6.49$ ), 1.26-1.23 (4H, m), 0.87 (3H, t).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 190.75, 150.67, 149.78, 136.11, 30.25, 123.06, 69.02, 62.47, 41.69, 31.71, 31.02, 25.14, 22.11, 16.03, 14.02;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.1.

**Ethyl hexyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethylphosphonate (4c):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.51 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.30$ ,  $J=0.261$ ,  $J=0.10$ ), 8.49 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.28$ ,  $J=0.21$ ,  $J=0.09$ ), 7.91 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.10$ ,  $J=0.271$ ,  $J=0.02$ ), 7.89 (1H, ddd,  $J=2.50$ ,  $J=0.21$ ,  $J=0.01$ ), 4.16 (2H, t,  $J=6.40$ ), 4.14 (2H, q,  $J=6.18$ ), 3.86 (2H, s), 1.82 (2H, tt,  $J=6.20$ ,  $J=6.49$ ), 1.36 (2H, tt,  $J=5.69$ ,  $J=6.01$ ), 1.28-1.24 (7H, m), 0.88 (3H, t);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.61, 150.23, 150.31, 135.09, 122.14, 122.27, 69.02, 61.87, 31.47, 31.02, 25.24, 22.17, 16.23, 41.66, 13.90;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.0.

**Ethyl octyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethylphosphonate (2d):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.02 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.11$ ,  $J=4.02$ ,  $J=1.10$ ), 8.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.42$ ,  $J=3.46$ ,  $J=0.89$ ), 7.94 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.05$ ,  $J=6.61$ ,  $J=1.09$ ), 7.56 (1H, ddd,  $J=6.01$ ,  $J=4.46$ ,  $J=1.01$ ), 4.16 (2H, t,  $J=6.58$ ), 4.13 (2H, q,  $J=5.88$ ), 3.91 (2H, s), 1.82 (2H, tt,  $J=6.20$ ,  $J=6.41$ ), 1.37 (2H, tt,  $J=6.41$ ,  $J=5.91$ ), 1.28-1.23 (11H, m), 0.865 (3H, t);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 192.71, 153.08, 148.84, 137.15, 123.38, 123.17, 62.19, 69.04, 41.71, 32.41, 31.02, 29.37, 29.38, 25.63, 22.62, 16.29, 14.00;  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.4.

**Ethyl octyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethylphosphonate (3d):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 9.06 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.21$ ,  $J=1.31$ ,  $J=1.04$ ), 8.68 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.07$ ,  $J=1.18$ ,  $J=1.44$ ), 7.44 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.07$ ,  $J=4.21$ ,  $J=3.64$ ), 8.44 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.14$ ,  $J=0.99$ ,  $J=0.89$ ), 3.86 (2H, s), 4.13 (2H, t,  $J=6.49$ ), 4.15 (2H, q,  $J=5.98$ ), 1.81 (2H, tt,  $J=7.500$ ,  $J=7.46$ ), 1.37 (2H, tt,  $J=6.49$ ,  $J=7.12$ ), 1.22-1.28 (11H, m), 0.85 (3H, t,  $J=5.89$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 190.84, 149.94, 149.08, 135.12,

130.12, 123.16, 69.08, 62.15, 41.7, 32.31, 30.02, 29.35859, 28.76, 25.38, 22.69, 16.18, 13.91;  $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.4.

**Ethyl octyl 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethylphosphonate (4d):**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.87 (1H, ddd,  $J=2.23$ ,  $J=0.51$ ,  $J=0.21$ ), 7.91 (1H, ddd,  $J=2.50$ ,  $J=0.31$ ,  $J=0.1$ ), 8.72 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.53$ ,  $J=0.41$ ,  $J=0.1$ ), 8.75 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.30$ ,  $J=0.41$ ,  $J=0.11$ ), 3.70 (2H, s), 4.13 (2H, t,  $J=6.52$ ), 4.04 (2H, q,  $J=6.18$ ), 1.83 (2H, tt,  $J=5.27$ ,  $J=5.41$ ), 1.37 (2H, tt,  $J=7.469$ ,  $J=6.11$ ), 1.23-1.28 (11H, m), 0.86 (3H, t,  $J=5.89$ ).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.58, 150.03, 149.73, 135.08, 122.04, 121.94, 68.02, 61.74, 41.7, 31.02, 29.36, 28.89, 25.63, 21.97, 32.23, 16.21, 13.88;  $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.3.

**Ethyl (2-ethylhexyl) 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethylphosphonate (2e):**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.38$ ,  $J=4.66$ ,  $J=1.10$ ), 7.98 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.16$ ,  $J=5.37$ ,  $J=1.33$ ), 7.99 (1H, ddd,  $J=8.17$ ,  $J=7.60$ ,  $J=1.89$ ), 7.59 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.60$ ,  $J=4.66$ ,  $J=1.34$ ), 3.92 (2H), 4.11 (2H, d,  $J=6.73$ ), 4.12 (2H, q,  $J=7.11$ ), 1.65 (1H, tq,  $J=6.92$ ,  $J=6.73$ ), 1.24-1.29 (9H, m), 0.89 (2H, td,  $J=6.12$ ,  $J=5.92$ ), 0.87 (3H, t,  $J=6.51$ ), 0.84 (3H, t,  $J=7.13$ );  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.56, 153.05, 148.83, 137.14, 123.37, 123.16, 69.33, 62.19, 41.71, 40.24, 29.99, 29.06, 23.24, 22.87, 16.28, 14.04, 11.08;  $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.9.

**Ethyl (2-ethylhexyl) 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-3-yl)ethylphosphonate (3e):**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 9.01 (1H, ddd,  $J=4.23$ ,  $J=1.31$ ,  $J=1.42$ ), 8.44 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.63$ ,  $J=1.31$ ,  $J=1.08$ ), 8.06 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.02$ ,  $J=0.98$ ,  $J=1.472$ ), 7.46 (1H, ddd,  $J=7.09$ ,  $J=4.23$ ,  $J=3.63$ ), 3.71 (2H, s), 4.18 (2H, d,  $J=5.30$ ), 4.06 (2H, q,  $J=6.10$ ), 1.63 (1H, tq,  $J=5.14$ ,  $J=5.70$ ), 1.23-1.26 (9H, m), 0.89 (2H, td,  $J=6.12$ ,  $J=5.14$ ), 0.83 (3H, t,  $J=6.11$ ), 0.88 (3H, t,  $J=5.38$ );  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.06, 150.29, 149.98, 136.28, 130.95, 123.69, 69.35, 62.22, 41.70, 40.24, 30.07, 29.08, 23.27, 22.91, 16.31, 14.02, 11.09;  $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 24.7.

**Ethyl (2-ethylhexyl) 2-oxo-2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethylphosphonate (4e):**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.64 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.10$ ,  $J=0.31$ ,  $J=0.01$ ), 8.75 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.30$ ,  $J=0.26$ ,  $J=0.01$ ), 7.89 (1H, ddd,  $J=3.10$ ,  $J=0.56$ ,  $J=0.04$ ), 7.91 (1H, ddd,  $J=2.50$ ,  $J=0.17$ ,  $J=0.02$ ), 3.87 (2H, s), 4.12 (2H, d,  $J=5.30$ ), 4.11 (2H, q,  $J=6.10$ ), 1.64 (1H, tq,  $J=5.14$ ,  $J=5.30$ ), 1.25-1.28 (9H, m), 0.89 (2H, td,  $J=6.12$ ,  $J=5.14$ ), 0.83 (3H, t,  $J=6.11$ ), 0.872 (3H, t,  $J=5.19$ ).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 191.38, 150.42, 150.39, 135.09, 122.74, 122.76, 69.34, 62.21, 41.72, 40.24, 30.01, 29.06, 23.27, 22.91, 16.31, 14.04, 11.11;  $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$  (101.2 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 24.5.

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