Preparation of α -Haloacrylate Derivatives via Dimethyl Sulfoxide-Mediated Selective Dehydrohalogenation

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1. General experimental: All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. The α , β -dihalo substrates were purchased or prepared from the corresponding acrylate precursors through known olefin halogenation reactions. All products were characterized by H and H and MR, and MS if ionization was detectable. Mass spectrometers used were the Micromass LCT (ESI or APCI) with an Agilent 1100 LC Pump (for LCMS). All the reactions in Tables 1, 2 and 3 were carried out in either pure DMSO or wet DMSO containing up to 10% water. Gilson reversed-phase preparatory HPLC (pump models of 331 and 332 and UV detector wave length: 230 nm) was used for separation with a Phenomenex Gemini column (5u C18 110A, 150 X 30mm) gradient solvent program (solvent A: H₂O, solvent B: acetonitrile) from 10% to 50% solvent B for 10 min. at 40mL/min. flow rate. NMR experiments were performed on a Bruker AVANCE 400 MHz spectrometer equipped with a 5 mm broadband probe.

The following abbreviations are used to designate the multiplicity: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet.

Preparation of α-Bromoacrylate Derivatives and α-Bromo Vinylketones

General DMSO dehydrohalogenation procedures: A solution of 2,3-dibromopropanoic acid (0.696 g, 3.0 mmol) in 9 mL of DMSO with 1.0 mL of water was heated at 75 °C for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was loaded onto prep HPLC and purified (Gilson gradient of water and acetonitrile, see general experimental). The pH of the combined

S2

¹ a) Johnson, J. R.; McEwen, W. L. *Org. Synth. Coll Vol. I*, **1941**, 521. b) Snyder, H. R.; Brooks, L. A. *Org. Synth. Coll Vol. II*. **1943**, 171.

fractions was adjusted to pH = 8 using aqueous NaOH (2 N). Lyophilization of the fractions gave 0.47 g (91%) of the α -bromoacrylic acid sodium salt as a white solid. 1 H NMR (D₂O): δ 5.93 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (D₂O): δ 123.4, 127.2, 166.1. LC-ESMS [M-H]⁻: 148.9.

Similar procedure was used for the preparation of α -bromoacrylic esters and α -bromo vinylketones. The water content of DMSO in these reactions was reduced to 3-5%.

The following a-haloacrylate derivatives and the α -bromo vinylketones were prepared following the corresponding procedures described above.

2-Chloroacrylic acid (entry 1 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 6.16 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H) 6.50 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 126.12, 131.50, 162.48. LC-ESMS: [M-H]⁻: 105.0.

Methyl 2-chloroacrylate (entry 2 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 3.79 (s, 3H) 6.25 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H) 6.56 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 53.40, 127.23, 129.94, 161.73. LC-ESMS [M-H]⁻: 119.0.

2-Bromoacrylic acid (entry 3 of table 1): 1 H NMR (D₂O): δ 5.93 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (D₂O): δ 123.4, 127.2, 166.1. LC-ESMS [M-H]⁻: 148.9.

Ethyl 2-bromoacrylate² (entry 4 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 13.9, 62.6, 120.5, 131.7, 161.3. LC-ESMS [M-H]⁻: 177.0.

(**Z**)-Ethyl 2-bromobut-2-enoate² (entry 5 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) 1.96 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H) 4.26 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H) 7.45 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 14.0, 17.8, 62.1, 116.7, 142.1, 161.6. LC-ESMS [M-H]⁻: 191.0.

2-Bromo-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one³ (entry 6 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 6.57 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 - 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.68 - 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.78 - 7.83 (m, 2H).

2-Bromo-1-(4-fluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (entry 7 of table 1): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 6.56 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 - 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.83 - 7.93 (m, 2H).

² Chang, M.; Hsu, R.; Tseng, T.; Sun, P.; Chang, N. Tetrahsdron 2004, 60, 5545.

³ Nield, C. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1945**, 67, 1145.

Preparation of 2-Bromoacrylaldehyde Analogues

Step 1: To a solution of (E)-hept-2-enal (0.610 g, 5 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL) was added bromine (0.84 g, 5.25 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min. after which saturated aqueous Na₂S₂O₃ (10 mL) was added. After stirring for an additional 10 min. at room temperature, the product was extracted into methylene chloride (2 x 20 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over MgSO₄. After filtration, the organic solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to give the desired 2,3-dibromohexanal (1.28 g), which was used in the next step without purification.

Step 2: The crude 2,3-dibromopentanal intermediate (1.28 g) was dissolved in DMSO (20 mL). The solution was heated to 60 °C for 2 h before the addition of pentane (20 mL, 25 °C). The resulting mixture was washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and brine (2 x 10 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated to give the desired product (920 mg, 96.3%) as a colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 0.78 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.15 - 1.29 (m, 2H), 1.30 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 2.37 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H) 9.14 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 188.1, 158.7, 128.0, 31.7, 29.1, 22.0, 13.9.

The following α -haloacrylaldehyde and α -haloacrylonitrile analogs were prepared following similar procedures described above.

2-Bromoacrylaldehyde (entry 1 of table 2): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 7.11 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.26 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 188.0, 140.5, 131.8.

(**Z**)-2-Bromobut-2-enal⁴ (entry 2 of table 2): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 2.04 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 7.57 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 9.23 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 187.8, 154.1, 129.3, 18.3.

(**Z**)-2-Bromopent-2-enal⁵ (entry 3 of table 2): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 1.06 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 2.38 - 2.47 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 9.23 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 187.9, 159.5, 127.5, 25.6, 11.9.

(**Z**)-2-Bromohept-2-enal (entry 4 of table 2): 1 H NMR (DMSO- d_{6}): δ 0.78 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.15 - 1.29 (m, 2H), 1.30 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 2.37 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H) 9.14 (s, 1H). 13 C NMR (DMSO- d_{6}): δ 188.1, 158.7, 128.0, 31.7, 29.1, 22.0, 13.9.

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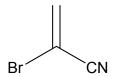
⁴ Dai, W.; Wu, J.; Chiu, K.; Fong, K. C.; Lee, M. Y. H.; Lau, C. W. J. Org. Chem. **1999**, 64, 5062.

⁵ Henning Lutjens, H.; Wahl, G.; Moller, F; Knochel, P.; Sundermeyer, J. *Organometallics* **1997**, *16*, 5869.

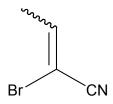
2-Bromo-3-methylbut-2-enal (entry 5 of table 2): 1 H NMR (DMSO- d_{6}): δ 2.10 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 9.65 (s, 1H). 13 C NMR (DMSO- d_{6}): δ 184.4, 161.8, 122.8, 28.2, 21.5.



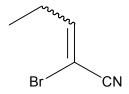
2-Chloroacrylonitrile (entry 1 of table 3): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 6.79 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 135.2, 114.7, 108.0.



2-Bromoacrylonitrile (entry 2 of table 3): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 6.81 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 139.8, 116.0, 93.5.



2-Bromobut-2-enenitrile⁶ (entry 3 of table 3): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 1.89 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.96 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 7.18 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H).



2-Bromopent-2-enenitrile⁷ (entry 4 of table 3): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_{6}): δ 1.06 - 1.15 (m, 6H), 2.29 - 2.43 (m, 4H), 7.27 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H).

⁶ Madsen, J. O.; Lawesson, S. O. Tetrahedron 1974, 30, 3481.

⁷ Ishizaki, M.; Osada, S.; Kato, T. Jpn. Kokai Tokkyo Koho **1993**, JP05117263A.

2. Structural Determinations

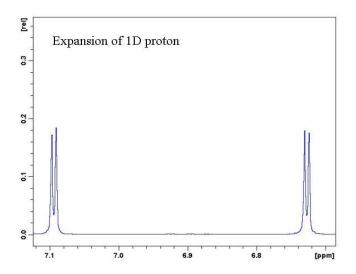
Structural determinations were carried out on Bruker 500MHz NMR instrument equipped with an inverse broadband probe at room temperature (25 °C). Proton direct observe experiments are typically acquired in eight scans using a 45 degree observe pulse and approximately five second recycle delay (this includes the acquisition time). Carbon direct observe experiments are typically acquired using a 45 degree pulse and a 1 second recycle delay (again, this includes the acquisition time). Proton decoupling is applied during acquisition. We obtained good S/N for most types of carbon atoms under these conditions, although the line intensities could vary by up to two-fold relative to the carbon integral. NOE experiments were run as double pulsed field gradient spin echo NOEs (DPFGSE-NOE) at 800ms build-up time. The carrier is placed on the resonance to be perturbed, and the selective excitation pulse is in the range of 20-160ms, depending on the extent of chemical shift overlap. Homonuclear correlation experiments (COSY) are run using pulsed field gradients, typically acquiring 2048 (direct dimension) by 256 (indirect dimension) points. We linearly predict 2x in the indirect dimension and zero fill another 2x to give a final data matrix of 1024 x 1024. Heteronuclear correlation experiments (HSQC or HMBC) are also run as pulsed field gradient experiments with the same acquisition and processing parameters. Carbon-proton HSQC is run using a ¹H-¹³C coupling of 145 Hz; carbon-proton HMBC is generally run optimized for eight Hz couplings, with a one-bond filter. All pulse sequences were Bruker library standard. Any significant deviations from these conditions are described if needed.

2-Bromoacrylonitrile (entry 2 of Table 3)

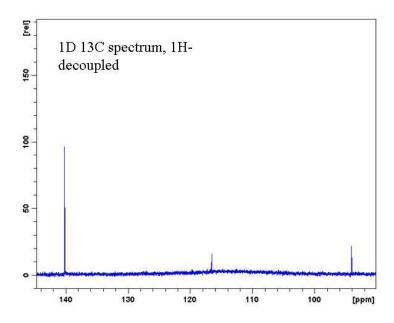
The proof of this structure is made primarily from the observation that both protons are connected to the same carbon, and that there is only one protonated carbon in the

molecule. The HSQC experiment correlates protons to their attached carbons as long as the 1-bond ¹³C-¹H coupling used for measurement is approximately correct. If the coupling constant is incorrect it is typically not possible to observe a correlation.

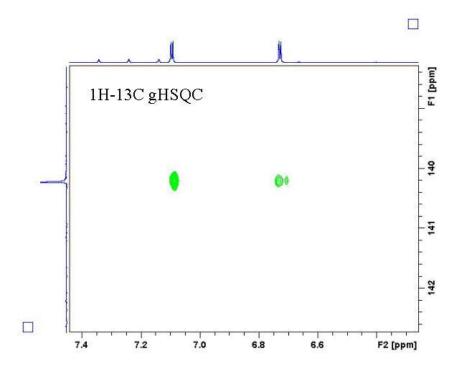
The proton 1D NMR spectrum consists of two doublets at 7.10 and 6.73 ppm, each with a 3.2 Hz coupling. This is pretty typical for terminal methylenes.



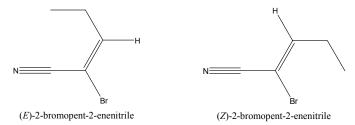
The 1D ¹³C spectrum shows the expected three carbons, one of which is protonated. The observed chemical shifts match chemical shift predicted values reasonably well.



The gHSQC experiment shows that both protons are connected to this protonated carbon, establishing the structure.



Determination of the E/Z configuration (entry 4, Table 3)



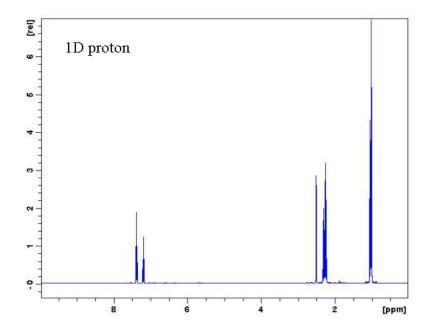
In the analysis that follows, we looked at a mixture of these two double bond isomers to identify the vinyl proton chemical shift for each compound. This allowed us to determine which compound was formed in subsequent reactions. The simplest way to discriminate between these isomers is to measure the three bond heteronuclear coupling constant between the vinyl proton and the nitrile carbon; in the compound on the left these are *trans* and so we would expect a coupling constant of greater than 10 Hz, whereas in the compound on the right these are *cis* and we would expect a coupling constant of approximately 5 Hz. A coupled carbon spectrum was used to make this determination, and since the two isomers are at somewhat different concentrations, we can relate this measurement back to the proton spectrum through the HSQC (not shown), or simply from the difference in intensity in the proton spectrum.

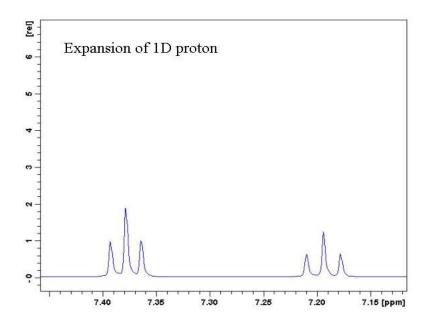
Table of chemical shifts and important coupling constants

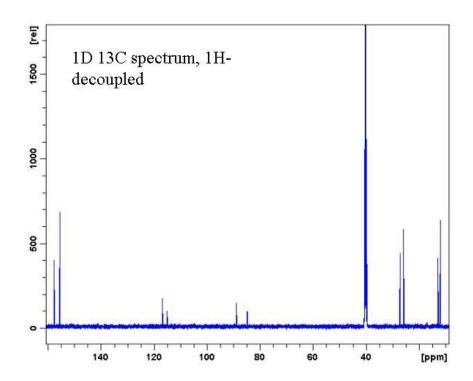
	(E)-2-bromopent-2-enenitrile	(Z)-3-bromohex-3-en-1-yne
vinyl 1H	7.195 ppm	7.379 ppm
3ЈНН	7.9 Hz	7.1 Hz
13C	157.47 ppm	155.40 ppm
	114.89	116.64
	84.66	88.74
	27.00	25.63
	12.69	11.73
3JCH	12.6 Hz	6.5 Hz

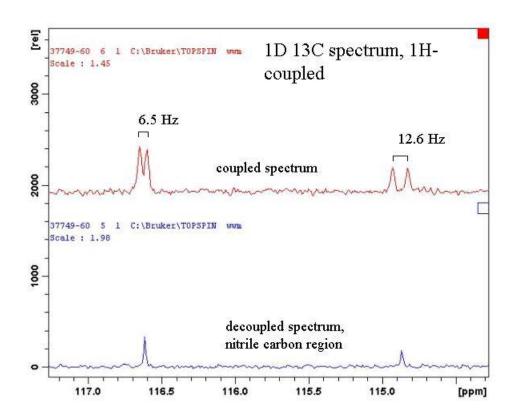
The proton spectrum of the mixture shows that each isomer has a typical three-bond proton-proton coupling between the vinyl proton and the methylene of the ethyl. This shows that the vinyl proton and ethyl are on the same carbon.

The carbon spectrum shows five pairs of chemical shifts, one pair for each carbon, with no significant overlaps. The coupled carbon spectrum clearly shows the difference in vinyl proton to nitrile carbon coupling, allowing us to make the assignments as given in the table.



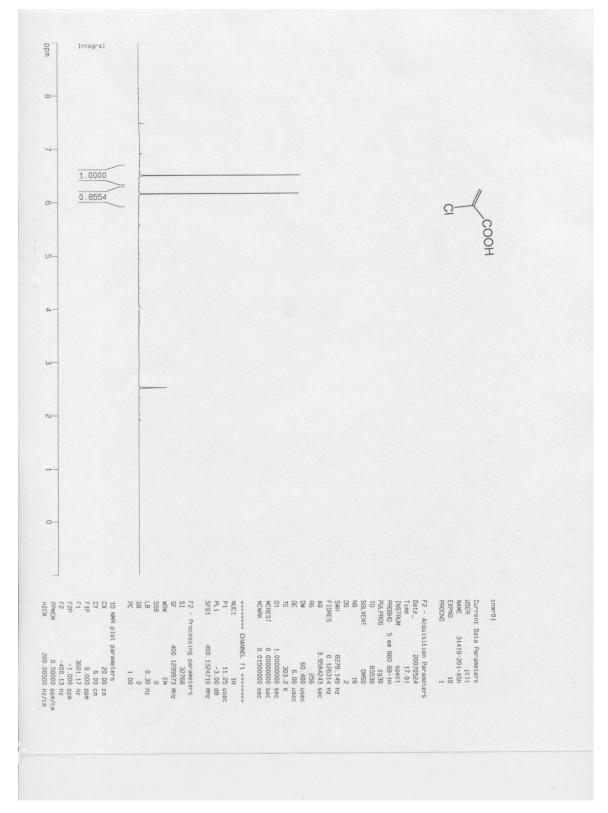




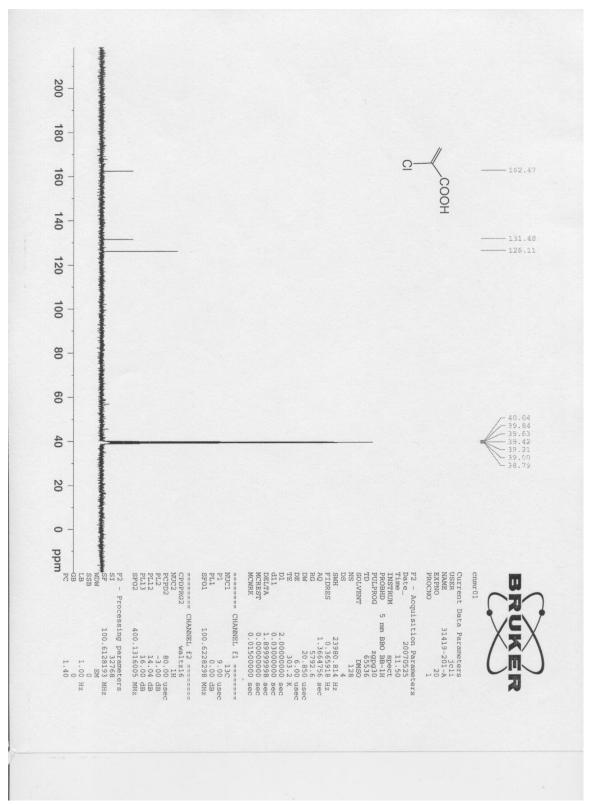


3. ¹H, ¹³C NMR spectra

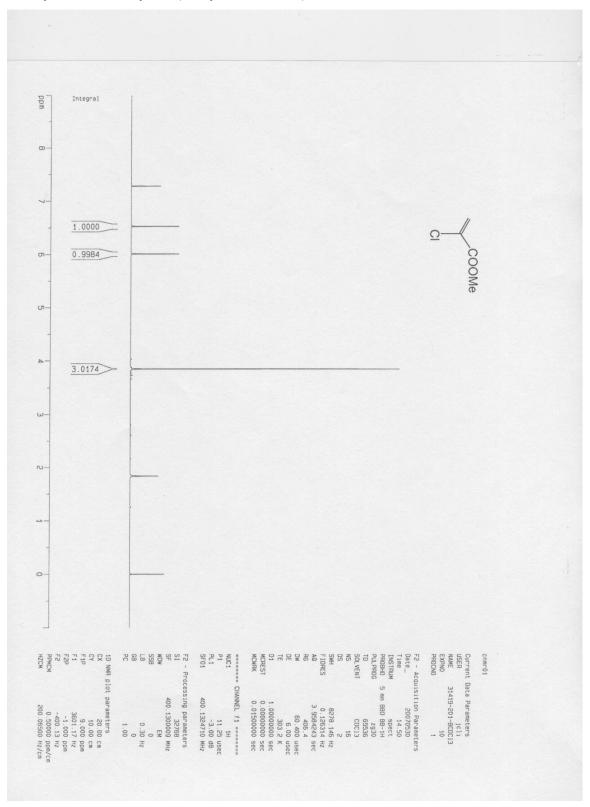
2-Chloroacrylic acid (entry 1 of Table 1): ¹H NMR



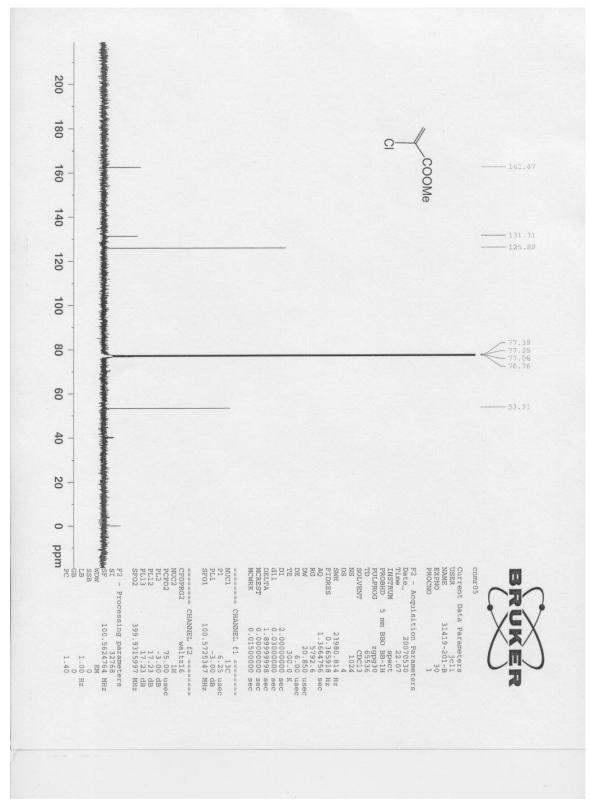
2-Chloroacrylic acid (entry 1 of Table 1): 13 C NMR



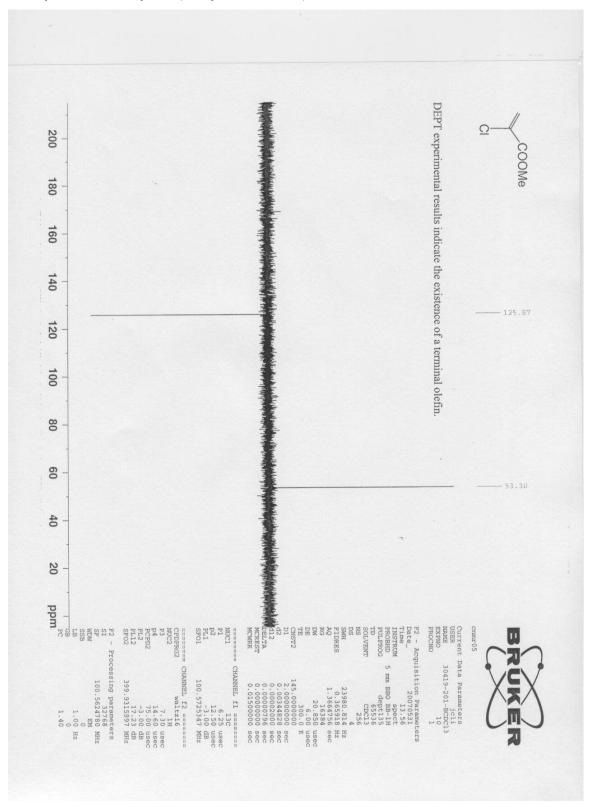
Methyl 2-chloroacrylate (entry 2 of Table 1): ¹H NMR



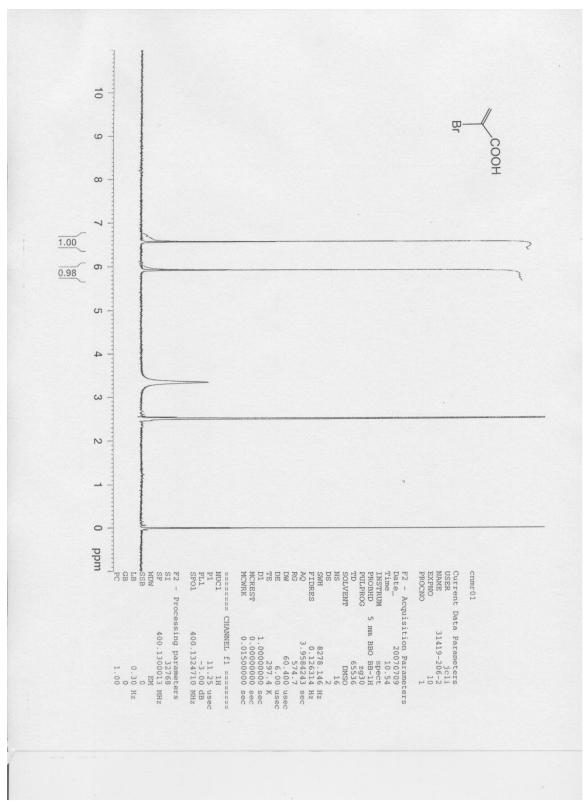
Methyl 2-chloroacrylate (entry 2 of Table 1): ¹³C NMR



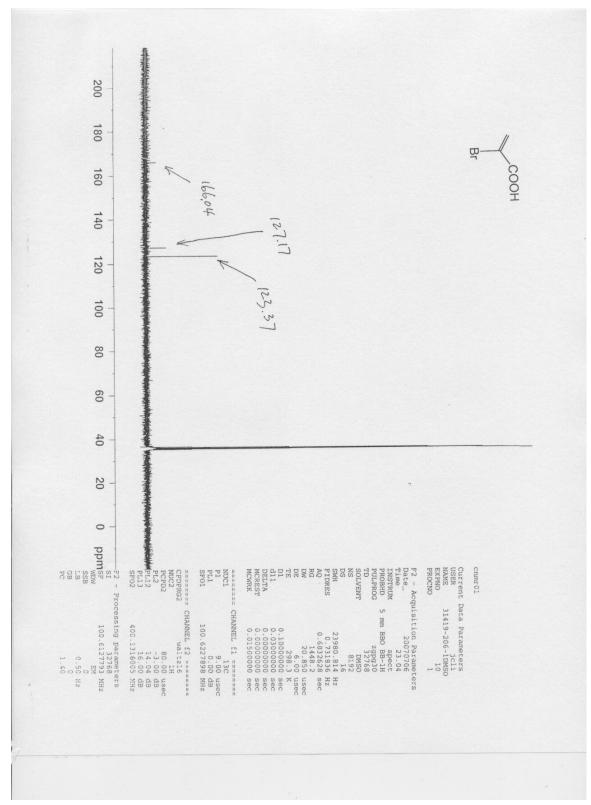
Methyl 2-chloroacrylate (entry 2 of Table 1): DEPT



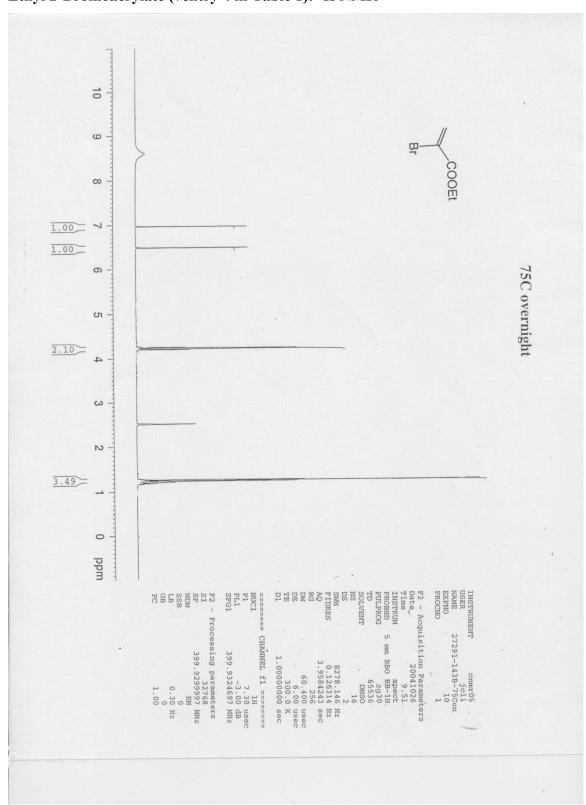
2-Bromoacrylic acid (entry 3 of Table 1): $^1\mathrm{H}\ \mathrm{NMR}$



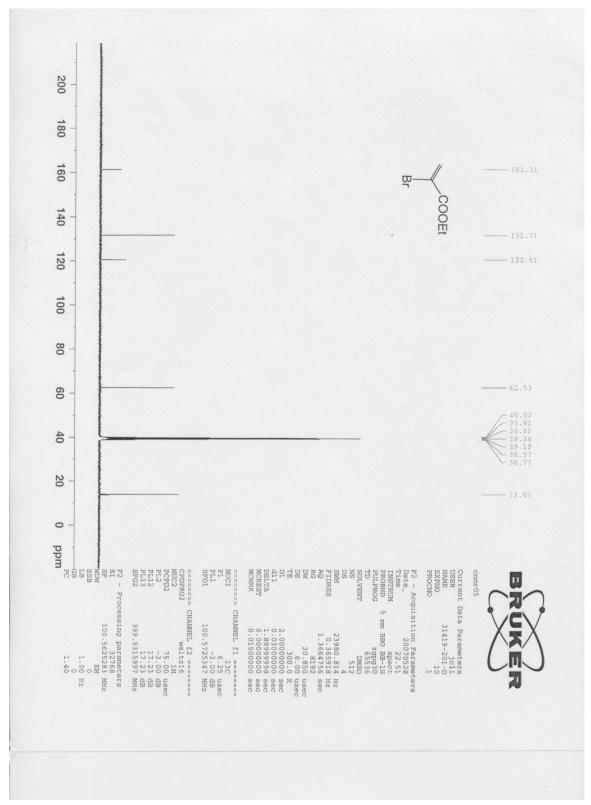
2-Bromoacrylic acid (entry 3 of Table 1): ¹³C NMR



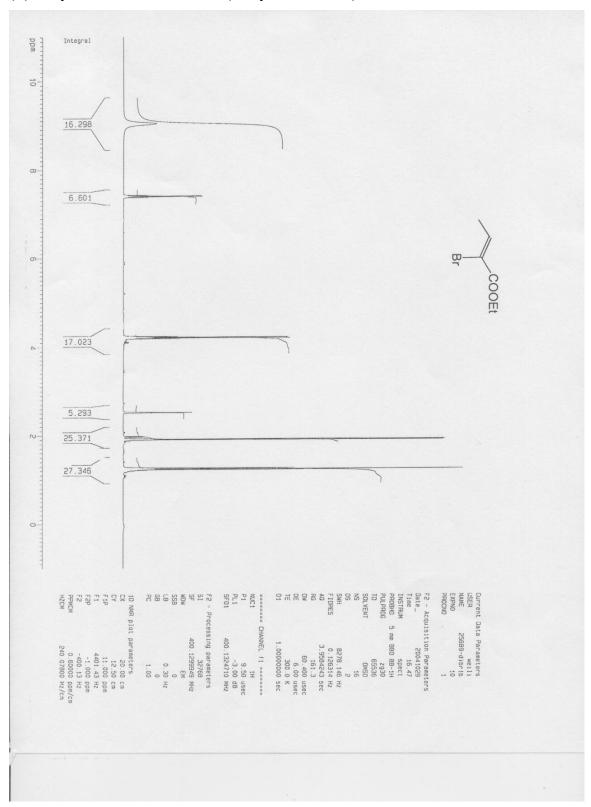
Ethyl 2-Bromoacrylate (7entry 4 in Table 1): ¹H NMR



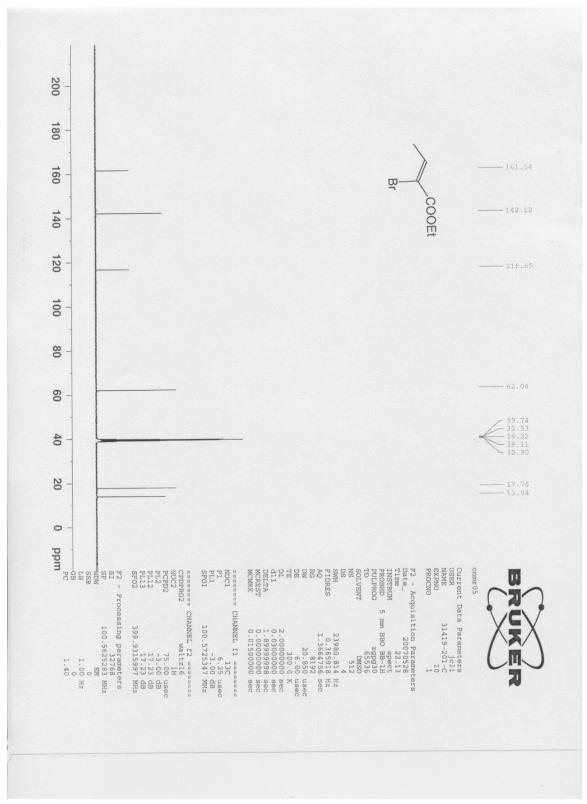
Ethyl 2-bromoacrylate (entry 4 of Table 1): ¹³C NMR



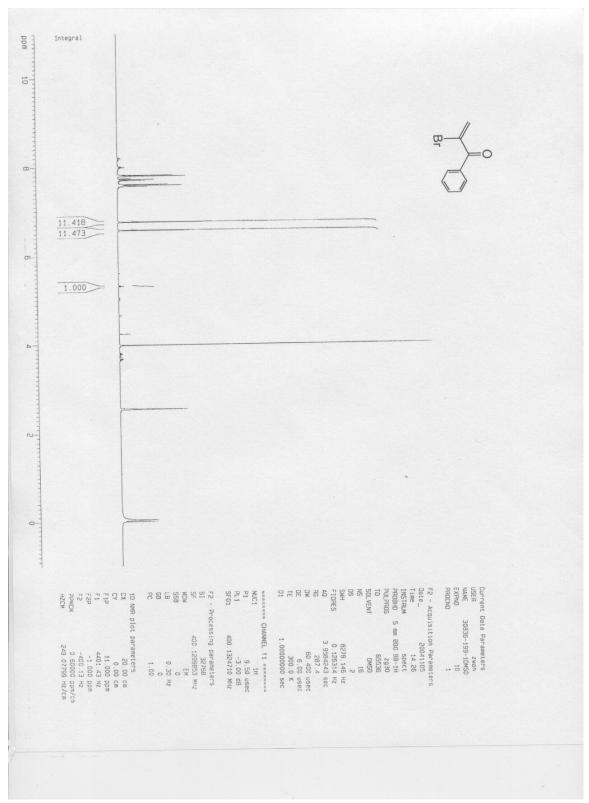
(Z)-Ethyl 2-bromobut-2-enoate (entry 5 of Table 1): $^1\mathrm{H}\ \mathrm{NMR}$



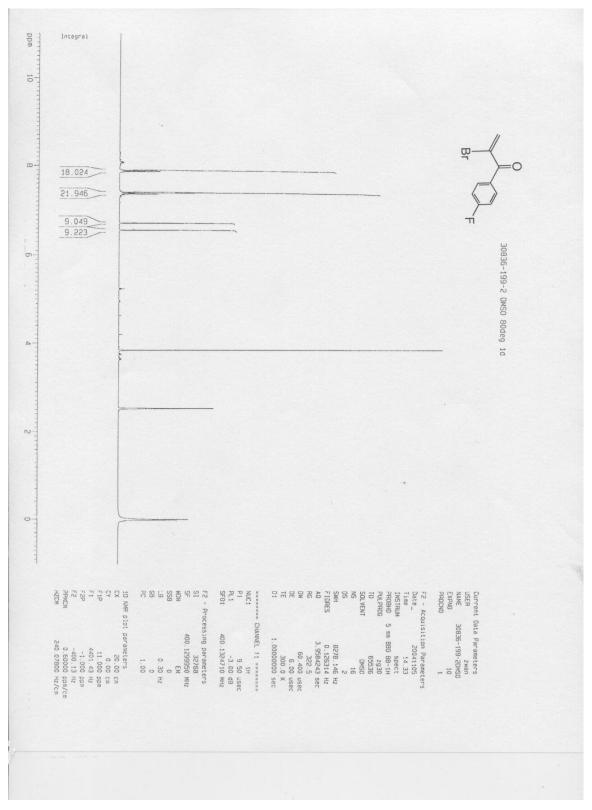
(Z)-Ethyl 2-bromobut-2-enoate (entry 5 of Table 1): ¹³C NMR



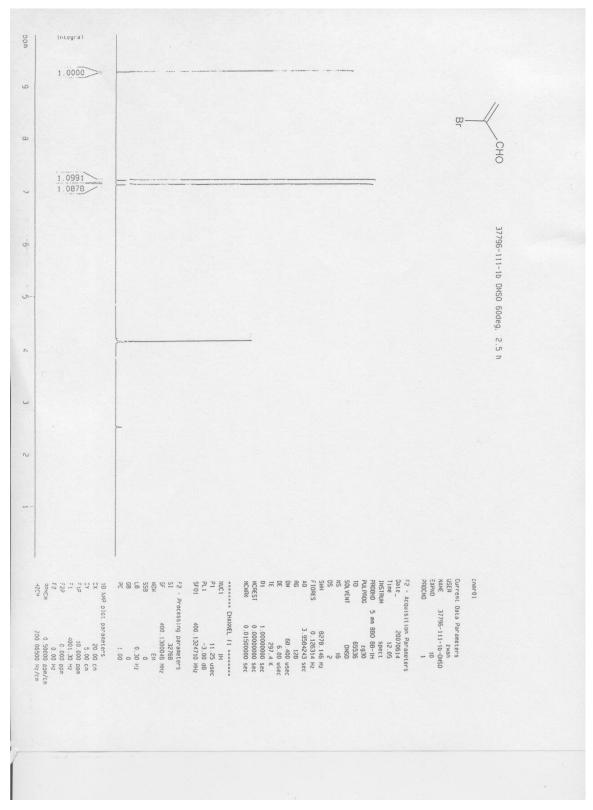
2-Bromo-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (entry 6 of Table 1): ¹H NMR



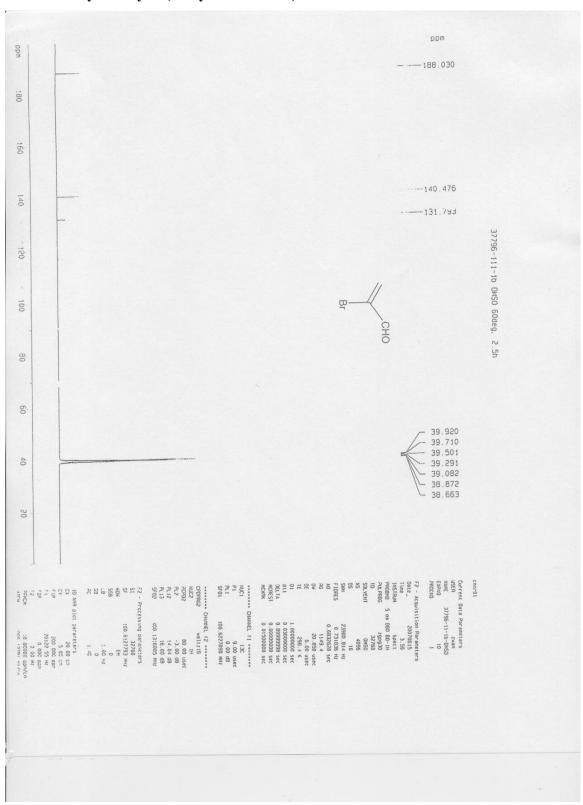
2-Bromo-1-(4-fluorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (entry 7 of Table 1): ¹H NMR



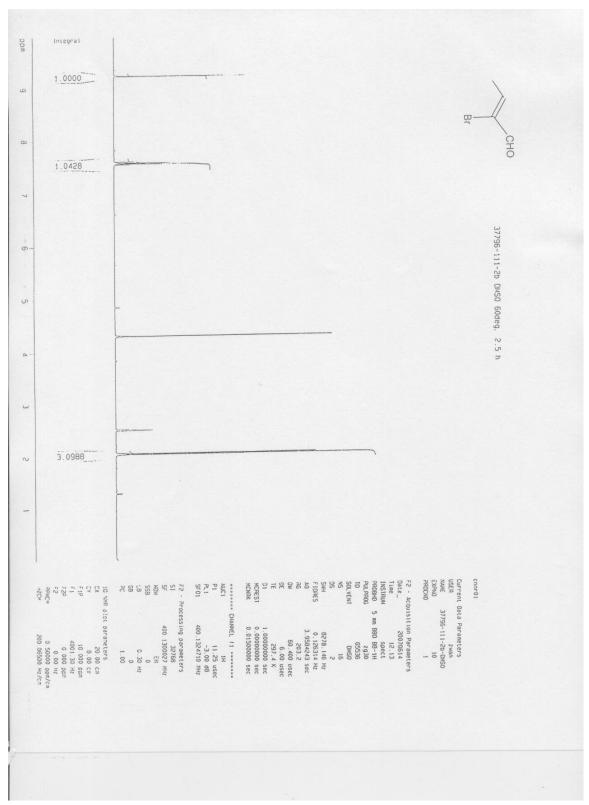
2-Bromoacrylaldehyde (entry 1 of Table 2): $^1\mathrm{H}$ NMR



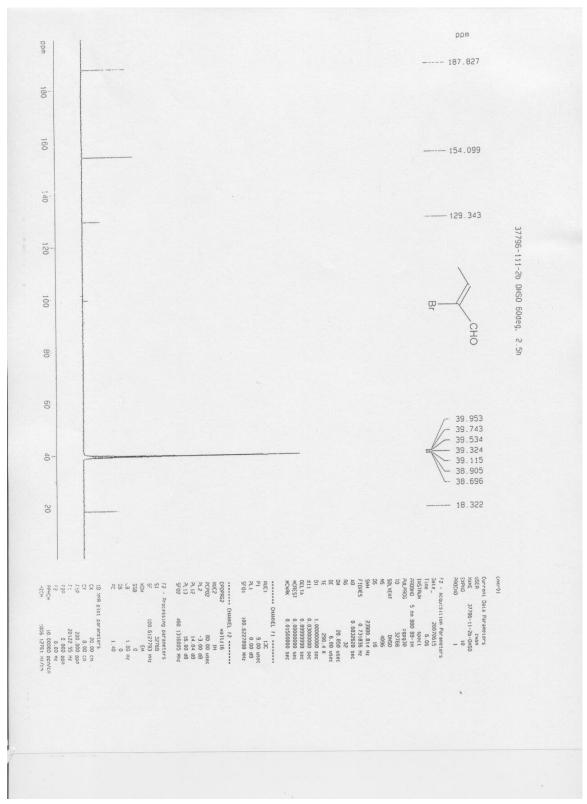
2-Bromoacrylaldehyde (entry 1 of Table 2): 13 C NMR



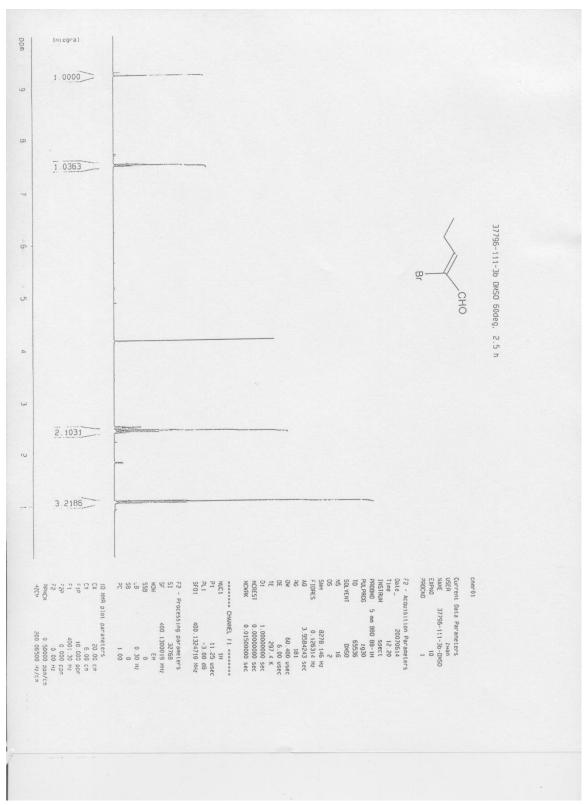
(Z)-2-Bromobut-2-enal (entry 2 in Table 2): ¹H NMR



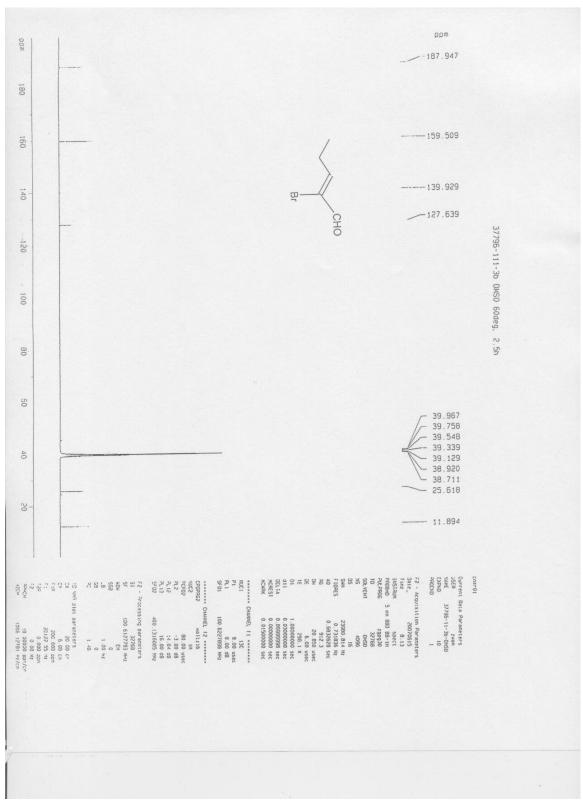
(Z)-2-Bromobut-2-enal (entry 2 in Table 2): ¹³C NMR



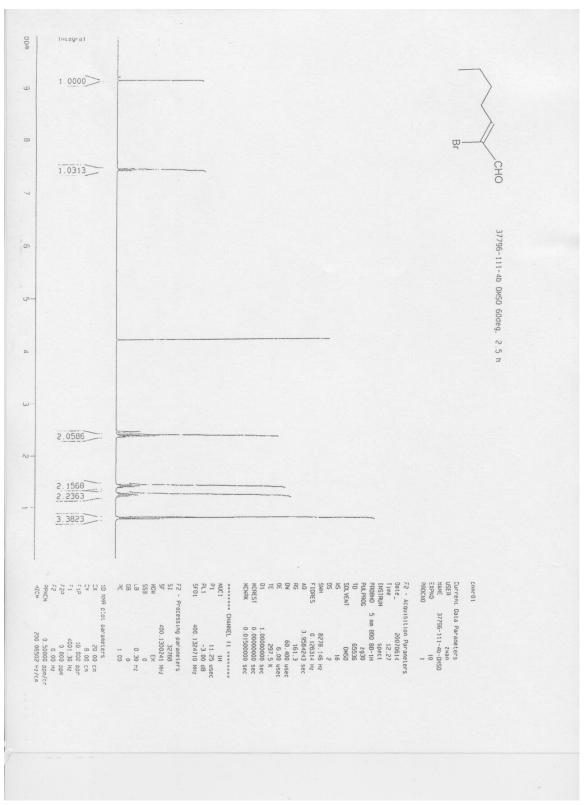
(Z)-2-Bromopent-2-enal (entry 3 of Table 2): ¹H NMR



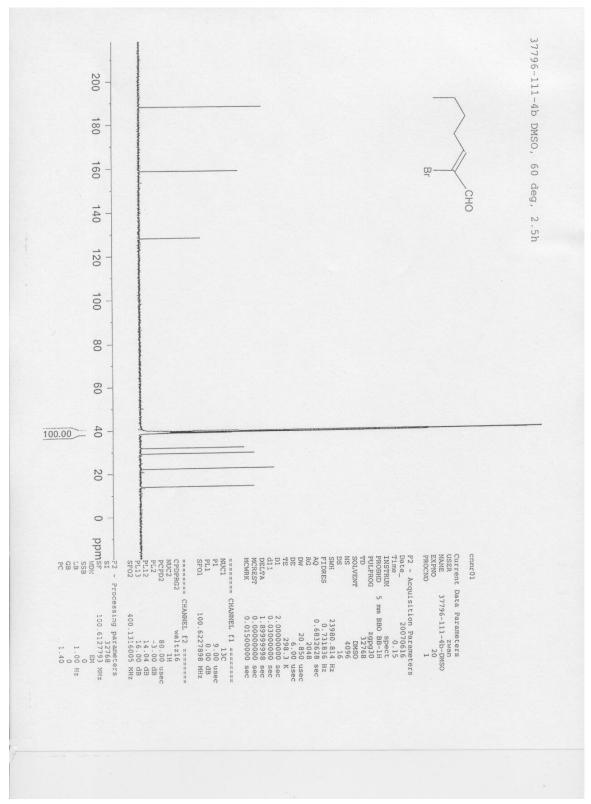
(Z)-2-Bromopent-2-enal (entry 3 of Table 2): 13 C NMR



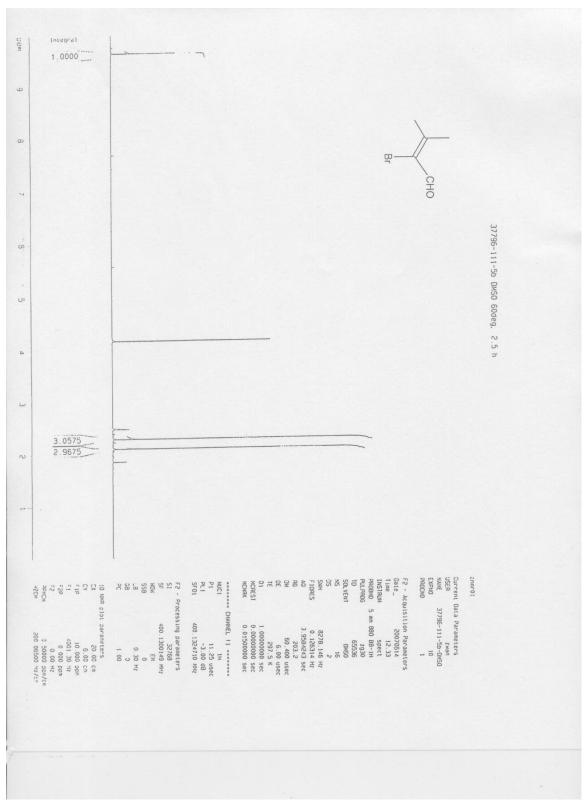
(Z)-2-Bromohept-2-enal (1entry 4 of Table 2): ¹H NMR



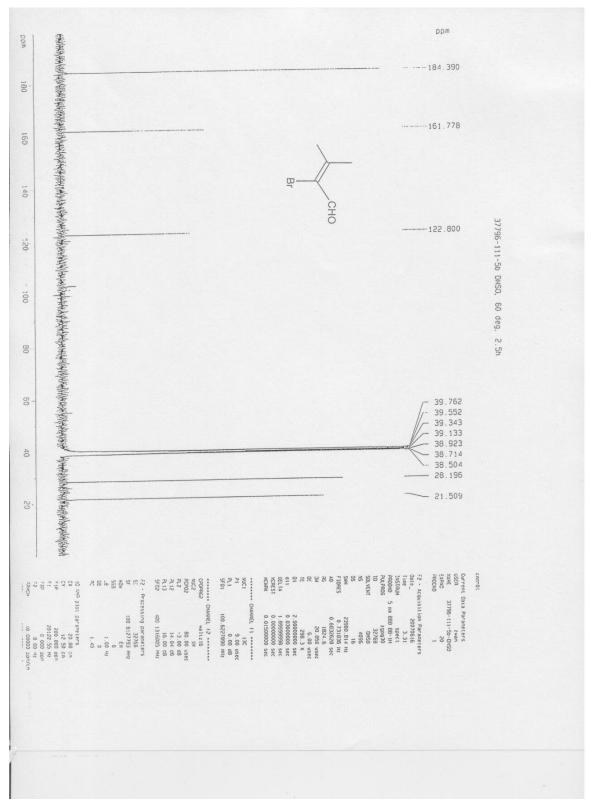
(Z)-2-Bromohept-2-enal (1entry 4 of Table 2): ¹³C NMR



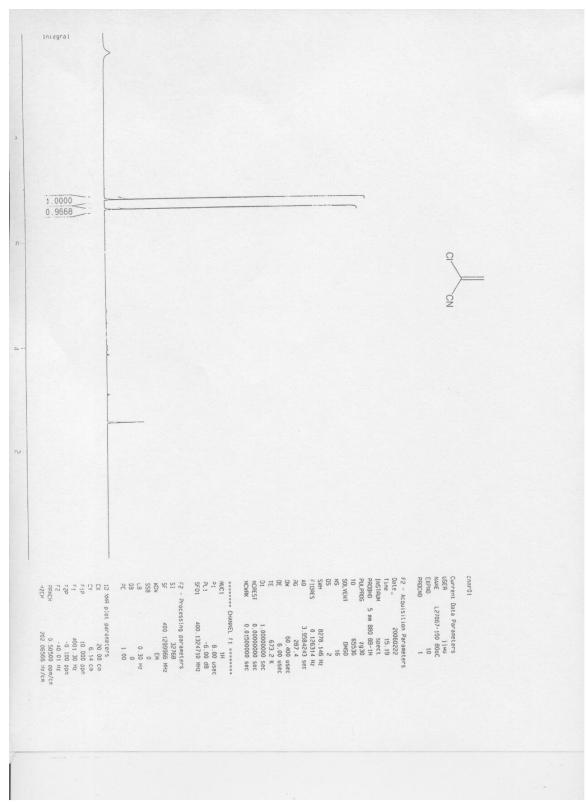
2-Bromo-3-methylbut-2-enal (entry 5 of Table 2): $^1\mathrm{H}$ NMR



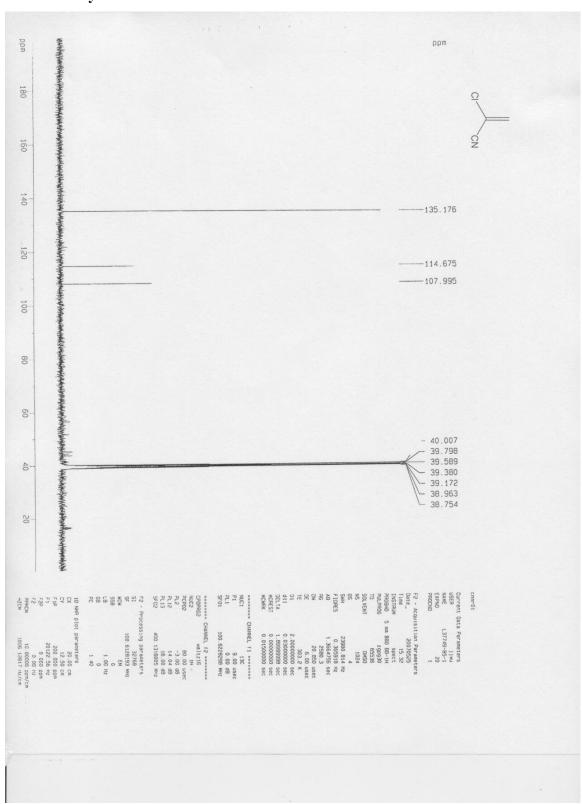
2-Bromo-3-methylbut-2-enal (entry 5 of Table 2): ¹³C NMR



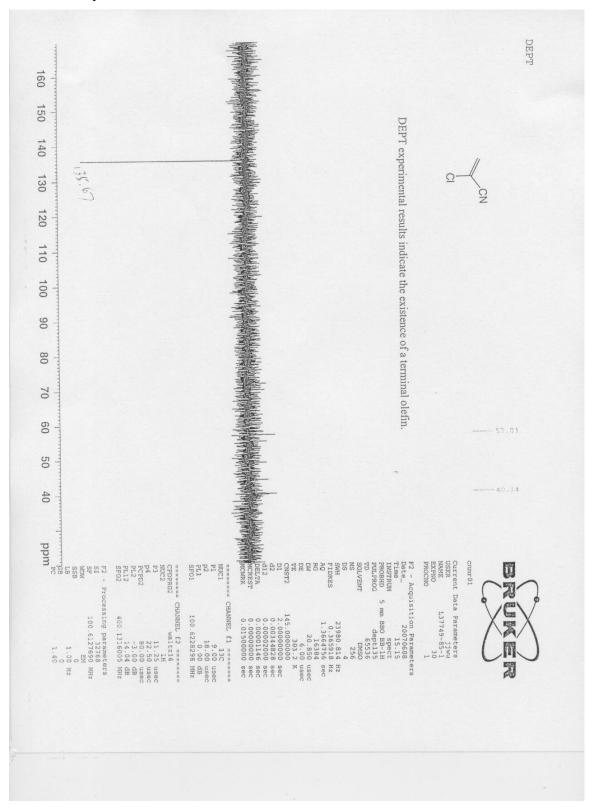
2-chloroacrylonitrile: ¹H NMR



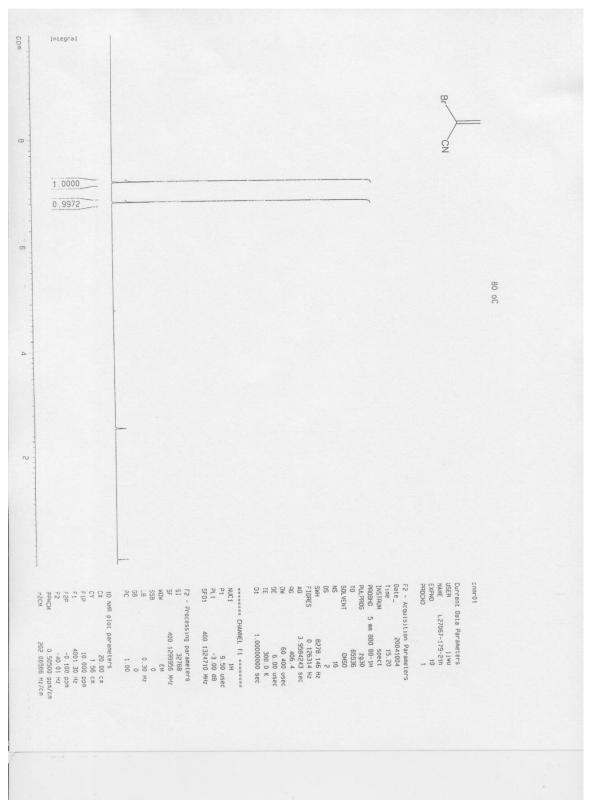
2-Chloroacrylonitrile: ¹³C NMR



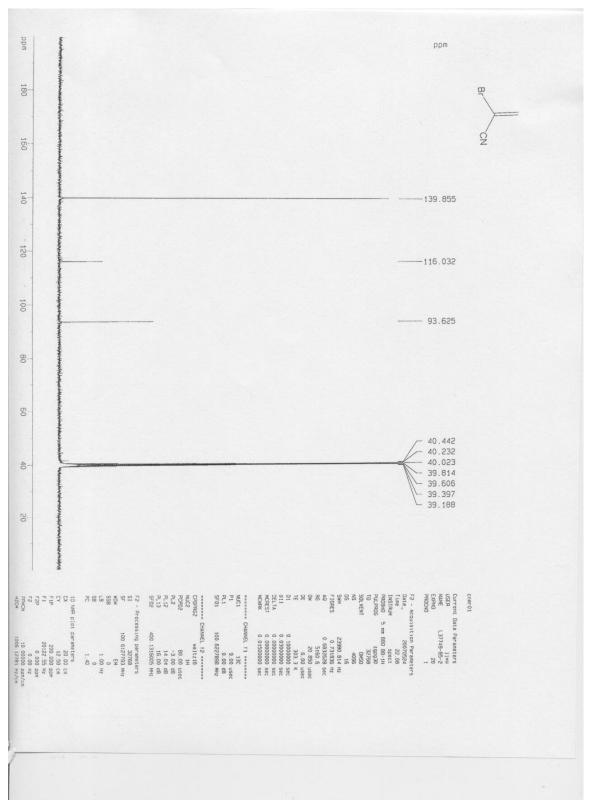
2-Chloroacrylonitrile: DEPT



2-Bromoacrylonitrile: ¹H NMR



2-Bromoacrylonitrile: ¹³C NMR



2-Bromoacrylonitrile: DEPT

