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# SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL TO Determination of the enol form of asymmetric 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds: 2D HMBC NMR data and DFT calculations

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### EXPERIMENTAL

Synthesis of 1-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropane-1,3-dione (1)

1-(2,6-Dimethoxphenyl)ethanone (0.72 g, 4 mmol) and ethyl benzoate (2.8 mL, 20 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with *n*-hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as white crystals. Yield: 1.113 g.<sup>1</sup>

*Synthesis of 1-phenyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-dione (2)* 

1-(2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl)ethanone (0.84 g, 4 mmol) and ethyl benzoate (2.8 mL, 20 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as honey yellow crystals. Yield:  $1.09 \text{ g}^2$ 

# Synthesis of 1-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-dione (3)

1-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)ethanone (0.54 g, 3 mmol) and ethyl acetate (1,47 mL, 15 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as a bright gel-like substance. Yield:  $0.852 \text{ g.}^3$ 

Synthesis of 1-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-dione (4)

1-(2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl)ethanone (0.63 g, 3 mmol) and ethyl acetate (1.47 mL, 15 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as a light yellow solid. Yield: 0.653 g.<sup>4</sup>

Synthesis of 1,3-di(naphthalen-1-yl)propane-1,3-dione (5)

1-Acetylnaphthalene (0.3 mL, 2 mmol) and ethyl 1-naphthoate (1,8 mL, 10 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (8:1) gave the product as light yellow crystals. Yield: 0.58 g.<sup>5</sup>

Synthesis of 1-(naphthalen-1-yl)butane-1,3-dione (6)

1-Acetylnaphthalene (0.75 mL, 5 mmol) and ethyl acetate (2.45 mL, 25 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product. Yield:  $0.766 \text{ g.}^6$ 

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### Synthesis of 1-(naphthalen-1-yl)-3-phenylpropane-1,3-dione (7)

Acetophenone (0.58 mL, 5 mmol) and ethyl 1-naphthoate (4.5 mL, 25 mmol) was reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (8:1) gave the product as yellow crystals. Yield:  $1 \text{ g.}^7$ 

#### Synthesis of 1-(3-bromothiophen-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (8)

3-Bromo-2-acetylthiophene (1.025 g, 5 mmol) and ethyl acetate (2.45 mL, 25 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (4:1) gave the product as a yellow solid. Yield: 0.65 g.

#### Synthesis of 1,3-di(thiophen-2-yl)propane-1,3-dione (9)

1-(Thiophen-2-yl)ethanone (0.43 mL, 4 mmol) and ethyl thiophene-2-carboxylate (2.7 mL, 20 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as a lemon yellow solid. Yield: 0.736 g).<sup>8</sup>

### Synthesis of 1-(thiophen-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (10)

2-Acetylthiophene (0.54 mL, 5 mmol) and ethyl acetate (2.45 mL, 25 mmol) were reacted according to the general procedure. Column chromatography with hexane/ethyl acetate (5:1) gave the product as a brick red solid. Yield:  $0.80 \text{ g.}^9$ 

# ANALYTICAL AND SPECTRAL DATA

*1-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropane-1,3-dione (1).* Yield: 95 %; white crystals; m.p.: 85–88 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2921, 2989, 1681, 1598, 1582, 1495, 1469, 1453, 1424, 1323, 1287, 1247, 1176, 1111, 1071; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.13 (1H, *bs*, OH), 7.92–7.90 (2H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.53–7.49 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.47–7.42 (2H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.33 (1H, *t*, *J*<sub>5,4</sub> = 8.4 Hz, H-5), 6.61 (2H, *d*, *J*<sub>4,5</sub> = 8.4 Hz, H-4 & H-6), 6.4 (1H, *s*, H-13), 3.83 (6H, *s*, H-8 & H-12); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 189.4, 181.5, 157.7, 135.0, 132.1, 131.2, 128.5, 127.1, 117.2, 104.2, 100.6, 56.1; HR-MS (*m*/*z*, (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 285.1121. Found: 285.1119.

*1-Phenyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-dione (2).* Yield: 87 %; honey yellow crystals; m.p.: 95–98 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2969, 2940, 2838, 1698, 1682, 1585, 1490, 1452, 1411, 1331, 1274, 1226, 1203, 1185, 1154, 1123; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.23 (1H, *bs*, OH), 7.91–7.89 (2H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.52–7.48 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.46–7.42 (2H, *m*, Ar-H), 6.41 (1H, *s*, H-15), 6.16 (2H, *s*, H-4 & H-6), 3.85 (3H, *s*, H-14), 3.82 (6H, *s*, H-8 & H-12); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 188.7, 181.3, 162.8, 159.1, 135.3, 131.9, 128.5, 127.0, 110.3, 101.0, 90.8, 56.1, 55.5; HR-MS (*m*/*z*, (M+H<sup>+</sup>)): Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 315.1227. Found: 315.1224.

*1-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-dione (3).* Yield: 54 %; bright gel-like substance; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 15.54 (0.8 H, *bs*, OH), 7.32– -7.27 (1.75 H, *m*, keto & enol H-5), 6.59–6.55 (3H, *m*, keto & enol H-4 & H-6), 5.71 (0.8 H, *s*, enol H-13), 3.88 (0.8 H, *s*, keto H-13), 3.81 (8.5 H, *s*, keto & enol H-8 & H-12), 2.29 (1H, *s*, keto H-16), 2.12 (3H, *s*, H-16); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 189.5, 186.8, 157.6, 131.1, 116.4, 104.1, 104.0, 56.0, 24.6 (enol

form), 201.8, 197.3, 157.0, 131.7, 119.2, 104.1, 60.1, 55.8, 30.2 (keto form); HR-MS (m/z, (M+H<sup>+</sup>)): Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 223.0965. Found: 223.0964.

*1-(2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-dione (4).* Yield: 86 %; light yellow solid; m.p.: 99–102 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 15.65 (1H, *bs*, OH), 6.12 (2H, *s*, enol H-4 & H-6), 6.09 (2H, *s*, keto H-4 & H-6), 5.71 (1H, *s*, enol H-15), 3.85 (1H, *s*, keto H-15), 3.83 (5H, *s*, keto & enol H-14), 3.80 (10H, *s*, keto & enol H-8 & H-12), 2.26 (1.5H, *s*, keto H-18), 2.10 (3H, *s*, enol H-18); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 189.5, 186.0, 162.6, 159.0, 104.3, 90.8, 90.6, 56.0, 55.8, 24.8 (enol form), 202.4, 195.9, 163.3, 159.1, 112.4, 109.6, 60.5, 55.5, 55.4, 30.1 (keto form); HRMS (*m*/*z*, (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 253.1071. Found: 253.1064.

*1,3-Di(naphthalen-1-yl)propane-1,3-dione* (5). Yield: 89 %; light yellow crystals; m.p.: 104–108 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3041, 1708, 1673, 1593, 1574, 1527, 1506, 1459, 1423, 1384, 1364, 1338, 1290, 1278, 1243, 1194, 1123, 1065; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 8.61 (2H, d, Ar-H), 8.00 (2H, d, Ar-H), 7.92 (2H, d, Ar-H), 7.84 (2H, dd, Ar-H), 7.64–7.58 (3H, m, Ar-H), 7.56–7.53 (3H, m, Ar-H), 6.60 (1H, s, H-13); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 188.2, 133.4, 132.9, 130.9, 129.2, 127.6, 126.4, 126.3, 125.4, 124.6, 123.8, 102.1; HRMS (m/z, (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 325.1223. Found: 325.1219.

*1-(Naphthalen-1-yl)butane-1,3-dione* (6). Yield: 81 %; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3048, 1717, 1575, 1508, 1418, 1392, 1363, 1339, 1280, 1244, 1210, 1173, 1123, 1068; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.12 (1H, *bs*, OH), 8.46 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.96 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.89 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.72 (1H, *m*, Ar-H), 7.59–7.48 (3H, *m*, Ar-H), 6.04 (1H, *s*, H-13), 2.22 (3H, *s*, H-16); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 191.4, 187.3, 133.3, 132.8, 130.6, 129.1, 127.5, 126.2, 125.9, 125.3, 124.5, 123.7, 100.7, 24.4; HRMS (*m*/*z* (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 213.0910. Found: 213.0905.

*1-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-3-phenylpropane-1,3-dione (7).* Yield: 80 %; yellow crystals; m.p.: 60–63 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3045, 2952, 2922, 2853, 1722, 1603, 1590, 1542, 1508, 1462, 1420, 1388, 1287, 1256, 1229, 1210, 1178, 1157, 1123, 1086, 1066; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 8.53 (1H, *m*, Naph-H), 8.01–7.98 (3H, *m*, Ar-H & Naph-H); 7.92 (1H, *m*, Naph-H), 7.83 (1H, *m*, Naph-H), 7.62–7.54 (4H, *m*, Ar-H & Naph-H), 7.52–7.48 (2H, *m*, Ar-H), 6.73 (1H, *s*, H-13); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 188.5, 182.4, 133.1, 133.0, 131.8, 130.5, 129.7, 128.1, 126.7, 126.5, 125.3, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 123.6, 122.8, 96.2; HRMS (*m*/*z* (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 275.1067. Found: 275. 1064.

*1-(3-Bromothiophen-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (8).* Yield: 53 %; yellow solid; m.p.: 55–58 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3101, 2915, 1716, 1698, 1559, 1540, 1499, 1458, 1398, 1363, 1350, 1255, 1179, 1151; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 15.88 (1H, *bs*, OH), 7.51 (1H, *d*, *J*<sub>2,3</sub> = 5.2 Hz, H-2), 7.10 (1H, *d*, *J*<sub>3,2</sub> = 5.2 Hz, H-3), 6.56 (1H, *s*, H-9), 2.19 (3H, *s*, H-12); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 190.9, 178.8, 135.4, 133.5, 130.8, 112.6, 97.9, 24.9; HRMS (*m*/*z* (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>BrNaO<sub>2</sub>S: 268.9242. Found: 268.9242.

*1,3-Di(thiophen-2-yl)propane-1,3-dione* (9). Yield: 78 %; lemon yellow solid; m.p.: 99–101 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3102, 3080, 1526, 1406, 1336, 1276, 1228; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm); 16.18 (1H, *bs*, OH), 7.78 (2H, *dd*, *J*<sub>4,2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, *J*<sub>4,3</sub> = 3.8 Hz, H-4), 7.62 (2H, *dd*, *J*<sub>2,3</sub> = 4.9 Hz, *J*<sub>2,4</sub> = 1.2 Hz, H-2), 7.17 (2H, *dd*, *J*<sub>3,2</sub> = 4.9 Hz, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> = 3.8 Hz, H-3), 6.54 (1H, *s*, H-8); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CHCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 176.3, 138.2, 129.5, 127.5, 125.8, 90.2; HR-MS (*m*/*z* (M+H)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 237.0038. Found: 237.0037.

*1-(Thiophen-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (10).* Yield: 90 %; brick red solid; m.p.: 44–48 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3105, 1698, 1558, 1515, 1425, 1404, 1368, 1354, 1268, 1236; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 15.65 (1H, *bs*, OH), 7.69 (1H, *dd*, *J*<sub>4,2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, *J*<sub>4,3</sub> = 3.8 Hz, H-4), 7.60 (1H, *dd*, *J*<sub>2,3</sub> = 4.9 Hz, *J*<sub>2,4</sub> = 1.2 Hz, H-2), 7.13 (1H, *dd*, *J*<sub>3,2</sub> = 4.9 Hz, *J*<sub>3,4</sub> = 3.8 Hz, H-3), 6.03 (1H, *s*, H-8), 2.14 (3H, *s*, H-11); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 187.3, 181.7, 141.7, 132.3, 130.2, 128.2, 96.5, 23.9; HRMS (*m*/*z* (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S: 191.0137. Found: 191.0137.





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Fig. S-6. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of **3** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).



Fig. S-7. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 4 (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).

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Fig. S-8.  $^{13}$ C-NMR spectrum of 4 (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).









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Fig. S-16.  $^{13}$ C-NMR spectrum of **8** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).









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Fig. S-23. IR spectrum of **3** (ATR).



Fig. S-24. IR spectrum of 4 (ATR).



Fig. S-25. IR spectrum of **5** (ATR).



Fig. S-26. IR spectrum of 6 (ATR).



Fig. S-27. IR spectrum of 7 (ATR).

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1500

1000

500

Fig. S-29. IR spectrum of 9 (ATR).

2000



Fig. S-30. IR spectrum of 10 (ATR).

HR-MS SPECTRA OF 1–10



Fig. S-31. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of 1.



Fig. S-32. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of **2**.



Fig. S-33. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of **3**.



Fig. S-34. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of 4.



Fig. S-35. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of 5.



Fig. S-36. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of **6**.



Fig. S-37. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of 7.

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Fig. S-38. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+Na)^+)$  spectrum of **8**.



Fig. S-39. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+H)^+)$  spectrum of 9.



Fig. S-40. HR-MS  $(m/z (M+Na)^+)$  spectrum of 10.



# DIHEDRAL ANGLE SCANNING OF THE COMPOUNDS

Fig. S-41. a) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form 1a (most and least stable conformers);b) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form 1b (most and least stable conformers).

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Fig. S-42. a) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form 2a (most and least stable conformers);b) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form 2b (most and least stable conformers).



Fig. S-43. a) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form **7a** (most and least stable conformers); b) Dihedral angle scanning of the enol form **7b** (most and least stable conformers).



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Fig. S-47. HMBC spectrum of compound 4.





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