

obtained a 56 % yield of their product (b. $p_{760} = 111^\circ - 112^\circ$, $n_D^{20} = 1.4369$).

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Melting Points of *p*-Nitrobenzyl Esters of Aryl Substituted Propionic Acids

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In connection with other work in progress in this laboratory, a convenient method for identifying carboxylic acids was required. The melting points of the *p*-nitrobenzyl esters prepared according to the

method originally proposed by Reid¹ was found to be suitable for this purpose. The method was first applied to acids with similar constitutions and melting points that had been prepared in this laboratory². As the melting points of these *p*-nitrobenzyl esters may have a general interest in connection with the appraisalment of Reid's method, they are reproduced in Table 1.

The melting points of the *p*-nitrobenzyl esters are rather evenly spread over a temperature range of 55° and almost all differences between the melting points of the derivatives are sufficiently large for identification purposes.

The esters were prepared according to Wild³.

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Table 1.

Propionic acid		<i>p</i> -Nitrobenzyl ester		
Substituents	M.p. °C	M.p. °C	Calc. N	Found N
β, β, β -Triphenyl-	177-178	133-134	3.20	3.26
β, β -Diphenyl- β - <i>o</i> -tolyl-	174.5-175.5	110-111	3.10	3.09
β, β -Diphenyl- β - <i>m</i> -tolyl-	118-119	106-107	3.10	3.11
β, β -Diphenyl- β - <i>p</i> -tolyl-	195-196	120-121	3.10	3.12
β, β -Diphenyl- β - <i>o</i> -anisyl-	169-170	115-116	3.00	2.99
β, β -Diphenyl- β - <i>p</i> -anisyl-	155-156	83-84	3.00	2.99
β, β -Diphenyl-	154-155	90-91	3.88	3.87
β -Phenyl- β - <i>o</i> -tolyl-	131-132	83-84	3.73	3.68
β -Phenyl- β - <i>p</i> -tolyl-	145-146	78-79	3.73	3.77
β -Phenyl- β - <i>p</i> -anisyl-	124-125	87-88	3.58	3.48
β, β -Di- <i>p</i> -anisyl-	139-141	93-94	3.32	3.29
β -Phenyl- β - <i>p</i> -biphenyl-	176-177	110-111	3.20	3.27
β -Phenyl- β -naphthyl-1-	149-150	104-105	3.40	3.30