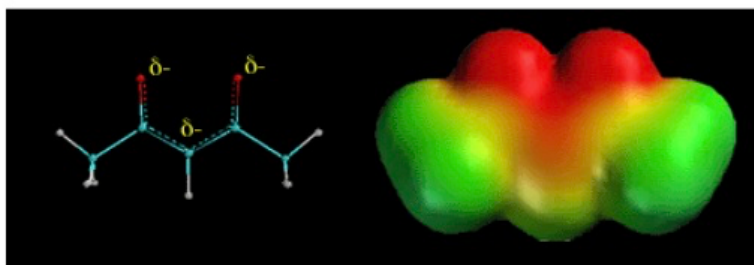
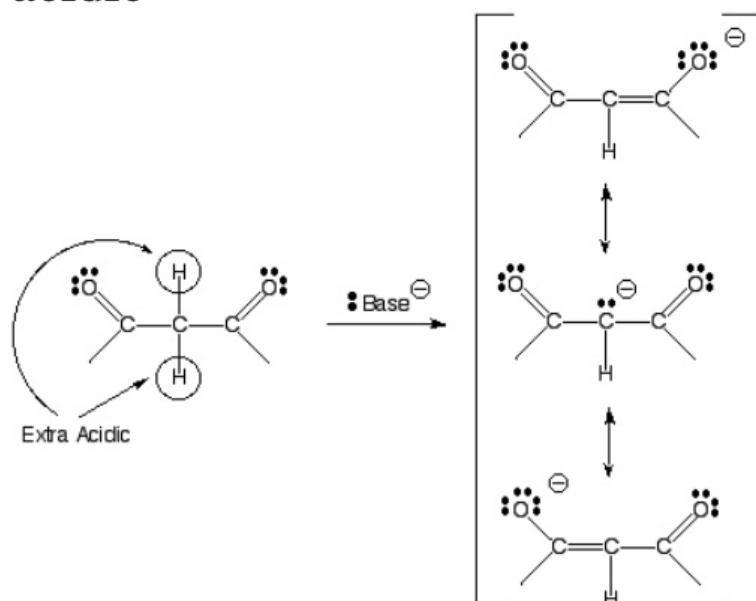


Beta-dicarbonyls have alpha-hydrogens that are extra acidic



The C-H hydrogen atoms between two carbonyl groups are even more acidic than normal alpha hydrogens because the resulting anion is double resonance stabilized. The above electrostatic potential surface shows how the negative charge (red color) is spread over all three atoms as predicted by the three resonance contributing structures.