# **Organic synthesis**

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$$-c_{OH}^{O} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{O} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{O} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{O}$$

$$LiAlH_{4} \quad Li^{\oplus} \stackrel{H}{_{OH}} \stackrel{H}{_{OH}} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{O}$$

• strong, quite unselective reducing agent

J. Org. Chem. 1958, 23, 1483.

$$-c$$
OH
 $-c$ 
H
 $-c$ 
H

epoxides: typically, attack of H- on less substituted C

J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 2620.

reduction of C=O: attack at less sterically hindered site  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones: predominant 1,2-reduction

reduction of carbonyl compounds with LAH: typically *no* racemization (epimerization)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
CO_2Et \\
\hline
 & LiAIH_4 \\
\hline
 & Et_2O \\
 & 94\%
\end{array}$$

$$-c$$
OH
 $-c$ 
H
 $-c$ 
H
 $-c$ 
H
 $-c$ 
H
 $-c$ 
H

J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1980, 212.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{LiAIH}_4\\ \hline \\ \text{Et}_2\text{O}\\ \hline \\ \text{CN}\\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{LiAIH}_4\\ \hline \\ \text{Et}_2\text{O}\\ \hline \\ \text{95}\% \end{array}$$

J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 1548.

note: LiAlH<sub>4</sub> can also act as a base

LiBH<sub>4</sub> Li H−B−H

• reduction of esters to alcohols (in the presence of carboxylic acids, amides, nitriles)

Synlett. 2000, 1363.

# BH<sub>3</sub>: sold as BH<sub>3</sub>.THF or BH<sub>3</sub>.Me<sub>2</sub>S

- reduction of *carboxylic acids* in the presence of esters and other functional groups
- hydroboration of alkenes

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1980, 102, 2117.

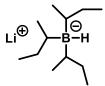
- donor of strongly nucleophilic hydride
- reduction of halides, sulfonates, opening of epoxides (attack on less sterically hindered C)

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1973, 95, 8486.

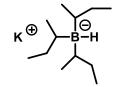
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1983, 105, 6736.

$$-c$$
 $R$ 
 $-c$ -OH

**Selectrides** 



L-Selectride



K-Selectride

- bulky donors of hydride
- frequently used for diastereoselective reductions (substrate control)

J. Org. Chem. 1988, 53, 4006.

#### enantioselective reduction

#### chiral boranes

# chiral oxazaborolidines + BH<sub>3</sub>

- catalytic amount
- activation of BH<sub>3</sub> by complexation

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1993, 115, 4419.

$$-c'_{R} \longrightarrow -c_{H}$$

#### enantioselective reduction

# **Corey-Bakshi-Shibata reduction (CBS reduction)**

$$R^1 \rightarrow R^2$$
 + BH<sub>3</sub>.ligand +  $R^3 \rightarrow R^3$  HO<sub>N</sub>H
 $R^1 \rightarrow R^2$  ligand: THF, Me<sub>2</sub>S etc. cat.  $R^3$ 

$$-c'_{R} \longrightarrow -c_{H}$$

#### enantioselective reduction

# catalytic hydrogenation (of β-ketoesters)

CI 
$$O$$
 OEt  $O$  RuCI<sub>2</sub>[(R)-BINAP]  $O$  OH OOET  $O$  OET  $O$  OET

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 629.

$$-c_{R}^{0} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{0}$$

#### DIBAL: i-Bu2AIH

- formation of stable tetrahedral adduct after first reduction -> another reduction does not proceed
- reduction of esters to aldehydes (low temperature)

reduction of nitriles to imines (which are hydrolyzed to aldehydes during work-up)

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1993, 115, 3146.

$$-c'_{R} \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} -c_{-}^{I} - OH$$

$$NaBH_{4} \qquad Na^{\oplus} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{-}_{-} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{-}_{-} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{-}_{-} H^{\ominus}_{-} H^{-}_{-} H^{-}$$

- selective reductant: reduction of aldehydes, ketones and acid chlorides in the presence of other reducible groups
- compatible with alcoholic solvents

(CO<sub>2</sub>R, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, epoxides)

 $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones: 1,2-reduction (in combination with lanthanide salts - *Luche reduction*)

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1978, 100, 2226.

note

#### Stryker reduction: 1,4-reduction

- complementary to 1,2-reduction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones, aldehydes, nitriles, sulfones
- highly chemoselective: isolated C=C, C=O and many protecting groups typically not affected
- [(Ph<sub>3</sub>P)CuH]<sub>6</sub> commercially available

Tetrahedron Lett. 1990, 31, 3237.

reductive amination: NaBH<sub>4</sub>, NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub>, NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN

• selective reduction of imines and iminium salts; stable under mildly acidic conditions

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 4329.

Tetrahedron Lett. 1984, 25, 5449.

# alkylative amination

- formally analogous to reductive amination -> complex tertiary amines (frequent motifs in medchem)
- but historically difficult to carry out

Roopender Kumar, Nils J. Flodén, William G. Whitehurst & Matthew J. Gaunt *Nature* **2020**, https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2213-0

R-N=N=N  $\longrightarrow$   $R-NH_2$ 

# Staudinger reaction

Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 24, 763.

#### "ionic hydrogenation"

- combination of proton donor (CF<sub>3</sub>COOH) and hydride donor (Et<sub>3</sub>SiH)
- typically selective with ketones, alkenes and lactoles

#### Sml<sub>2</sub>

• reduction of aldehydes and ketones in the presence of carb. acids and esters

$$-c_{R}^{O} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{O}$$

#### **Clemmensen reduction**

• strongly acidic conditions; limited use

J. Org. Chem. 1969, 34, 1109.

reduction of thioacetals (thioketals), also thiols, thioethers, sulfoxides and sulfones

$$-c_{R}^{O} \longrightarrow -c_{H}^{C+}$$

#### **Kizhner-Wolff reduction**

traditional protocol:

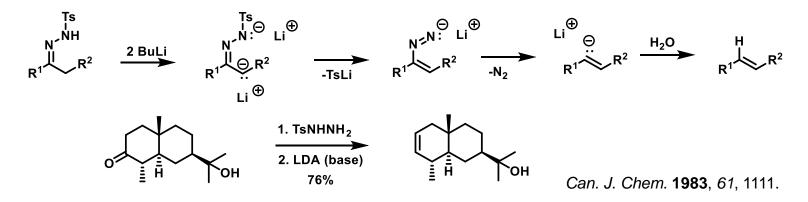
Can. J. Chem. 1979, 57, 1064.

low temperature variant: t-BuOK, DMSO

$$-c$$
 $R$ 
 $-c$ -H

#### **Shapiro reaction**

• ketones (aldehydes) -> tosylhydrazones -> alkenes

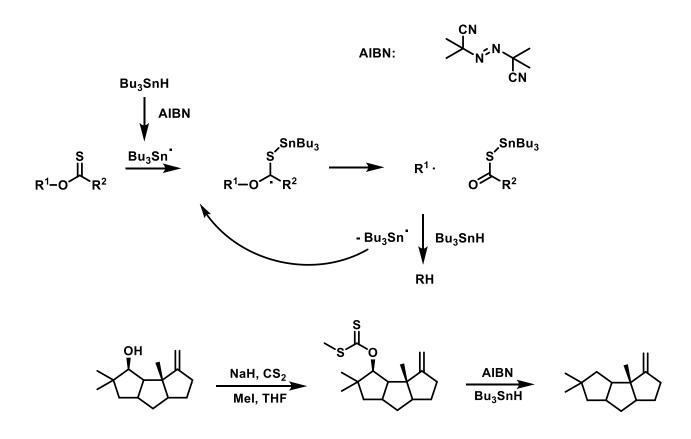


#### reduction of tosylhydrazones by hydrides

• mild & chemoselective (esters, amides, nitro, nitriles... tolerated) removal of O from carbonyl

Ts NH 
$$\oplus$$
 H N  $\oplus$  NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN  $\oplus$  NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN

## **Barton-McCombie deoxygenation**



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1986, 108, 3443.

#### radical dehalogenation

- radical source: Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH
- Br a I more reactive than CI a F
- also useful for removal of NO<sub>2</sub>

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1991, 113, 8980.

J. Org. Chem. 1979, 44, 151.

#### dehalogenation with Zn/AcOH

• chemoselective reduction of  $\alpha$ -haloketones,  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones

J. Org. Chem. 1988, 53, 1100.

J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 2781.

#### catalytic hydrogenation (of alkenes)

- substituted alkenes are typically less reactive
- syn- addition from sterically less hindered site

but: addition of H<sub>2</sub> can be directed using proper polar substituents

heterogenous: typically with Pd/C, Pd(OH)2, Pt, PtO2 etc.

Tetrahedron 1972, 28, 3583.

J. Chem. Soc. 1957, 3107.

#### homogenous

Wilkinson catalyst: RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>

- compatible with CO, COOR, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>
- stereoselective *cis* hydrogenation

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 4339.

# Reduction

# Crabtree's catalyst:

frequently used for directed hydrogenations

Organometallics 1987, 2, 681.

(Pd/C: cis-isomer)

(only the desired diastereomer)

#### asymmetric catalytic hydrogenation (of olefins)

• complexes of metals with chiral phosphines

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & H_2 \\ \hline & RuBr_2[(R)\text{-BINAP}] \\ \hline & MeOH \\ \hline & 85\% \ ee \\ \end{array}$$

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1987, 109, 1596.

#### reduction with diimide

- in situ generation
- selective cis- reduction of C=C
- tolerated: C=O, C=N, NO<sub>2</sub>, OBn etc.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 256.

J. Org. Chem. 1977, 42, 3987.

alternative generation of diimide: thermal decomposition

Tetrahedron 1976, 32, 2157.

# Reduction

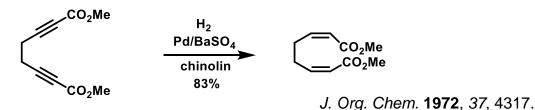
#### **Birch reduction**

- Na, K, Li in liquid NH<sub>3</sub> -> reduction of aromatic rings
- product is generated from the corresponding radical-anion
   (regioselectivity is given by its stabilization -> depends on substituents)

J. Org. Chem. 1991, 56, 741.

#### reduction of alkynes

cis: H<sub>2</sub> + Lindlar catalyst (Pd/BaSO<sub>4</sub>)



note. used also for chemoselective reduction of COCI to CHO (Rosenmund reduction)

Helv. Chim. Acta 1989, 72, 1400.

Helv. Chim. Acta 1990, 73, 405.

trans: Na in liquid NH<sub>3</sub>

$$R^{1} \xrightarrow{e^{\bigodot}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{2}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} R^{1} \xrightarrow{H} R^{2} \xrightarrow{e^{\bigodot}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{2}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} H$$

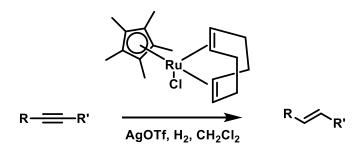
$$R^{1} \xrightarrow{R^{2}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} H$$

$$R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{2}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} H$$

$$R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH_{3}} R^{2} \xrightarrow{NH$$

trans: modern methods: Pd- or Ru-catalyzed semi-hydrogenation

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 806.



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 355.

- cyclic & acyclic alkynes
- tolerated: OH, OTs, NO<sub>2</sub>, SMe, COOH etc.

## elimination of H<sub>2</sub>O

#### **Burgess reagent**

• for sec. & tert. OH

J. Org. Chem. 1973, 38, 26.

#### **Martin sulfurane**

• for sec. & tert. OH

$$- \begin{array}{c} F_3C \xrightarrow{Ph} S \xrightarrow{Ph} CF_3 \\ CF_3C \xrightarrow{Ph} O \xrightarrow{CF_3} \\ - & CF_3 \\ CF_3 \\ Ph \end{array}$$

$$F_3C$$
 $Ph$ 
 $O$ 
 $CF_3$ 
 $Ph$ 
 $CF_3$ 
 $Ph$ 
 $CF_3$ 

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 4327.