

Grignard Reagents

Grignard reagents are undoubtedly the most widely used organometallic reagents in organic chemistry. An examination of the Fieser and Fieser "Reagents" series reveals the diversity of synthetic reactions known for organomagnesium compounds. One might think that the study of Grignard reagents is old-fashioned and that little remains to be discovered. It is satisfying to find that such time-honored reagents are still enjoying significant usage, as evidenced by these applications reported in 1980 and 1981.

Synthesis of α -Keto Esters²

Synthesis of α-Amino Acetals³

Synthesis of β -Substituted Propionic Acids⁴

Preparation of Organosilver Compounds⁵

$$t ext{-BuMgCl} + AgBr ext{ } ext{LiBr} ext{ } t ext{-BuAg} \cdot 3LiBr$$

Coupling Reaction with Substituted Alkenes

In addition to the coupling reactions shown above, a number of other transition metal-catalyzed reactions were recently reported. For example, the Cp₂TiCl₂-catalyzed reac-

tion of Grignard reagents with ketones9 and esters10 results in reduction of the carbonyl group to give secondary and primary alcohols, respectively. With the same catalyst, reaction of alkylmagnesium compounds with alkynes provides a convenient route to E-alkenylmagnesium reagents.11

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References:

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