Professor Don Tilley

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T. Don Tilley is Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. His research involves synthetic, structural, and reactivity studies in organometallic systems. Metal-mediated routes to new polymers, and molecular approaches to the designed construction of advanced solid state materials and heterogeneous catalysts are also being developed.

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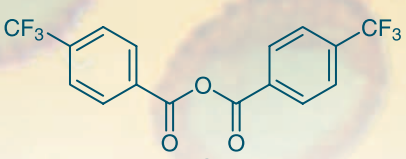
TCI's Useful Synthetic Method for Lactones

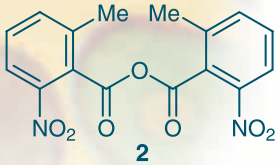
4-Trifluoromethylbenzoic Anhydride (1) 10g [T1593]
2-Methyl-6-nitrobenzoic Anhydride (2) 5g 1g [M1439]

for Acidic Condition



1

for Basic Condition



2

Recently, Shiina *et al.* have reported a new condensation method using dehydrating condensing agents **1** and **2**. In the presence of **1** or **2**, carboxylic acids react with nearly equimolar amounts of alcohols or amines to obtain corresponding carboxylic esters or amides in high yields. **1** and **2** perform effectively under Lewis acidic conditions and basic conditions, respectively. Therefore, a wide variety of substrates can be used by choosing **1** and **2**.
1 and **2** are quite effective as dehydrating condensing agents in the synthesis of carboxylic esters and amides, especially, when synthesizing lactones and lactams.

1) Condensation reaction by using 4-trifluoromethylbenzoic anhydride a) I. Shiina, S. Miyoshi, M. Miyashita, T. Mukaiyama, *Chem. Lett.*, **1994**, 515. b) I. Shiina, M. Miyashita, M. Nagai, T. Mukaiyama, *Heterocyles*, **40**, 141 (1995). c) I. Shiina, H. Fujisawa, T. Ishii, Y. Fukuda, *Heterocycles*, **52**, 1105 (2000). d) I. Shiina, *Tetrahedron*, **60**, 1587 (2004).
2) Condensation reaction by using 2-methyl-6-nitrobenzoic anhydride a) I. Shiina, R. Ibuka, M. Kubota, *Chem. Lett.*, **2002**, 286. b) I. Shiina, H. Oshiumi, M. Hashizume, Y. Yamai, R. Ibuka, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **45**, 543, (2004). c) I. Shiina, *Tetrahedron*, **60**, 4729 (2004). d) I. Shiina, M. Kubota, H. Oshiumi, M. Hashizume, *J. Org. Chem.*, **69**, 1822 (2004). e) Tokyo Kasei Kogyo Co., Ltd, JP Patent 2003-335731. f) J. Tian, N. Yamagiwa, S. Matsunaga, M. Shibasaki, *Org. Lett.*, **5**, 3021 (2003). g) I. Shiina, M. Hashizume, Y. Yamai, H. Oshiumi, T. Shimazaki, Y. Takasuna, R. Ibuka, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **11**, 6601 (2005).

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