

Zinc-Catalyzed Reduction of Amides: Unprecedented Selectivity and Functional Group Tolerance [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 1770–1771]. Shoubhik Das, Daniele Addis, Shaolin Zhou, Kathrin Junge, and Matthias Beller*

Our Communication did not emphasize important safety considerations in the reported reactions.

Buchwald and co-workers previously studied the Ti-catalyzed reduction of amides to amines or enamines.¹ Additionally, in 1992, Berk and Buchwald reported the combination of 5 mol % Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄ with 2.5–3.0 equiv of (EtO)₃SiH for the reduction of esters to silyl ethers at 40–55 °C.² An attempt to use this procedure for the reduction of a methyl ester (90 mmol) with triethoxysilane (313 mmol) resulted in the formation of an extremely pyrophoric gas (possibly SiH₄), leading to several fires and an explosion.³

During our studies on the reduction of amides, we used triethoxysilane without incident, although the Material Safety Data Sheet indicates that this chemical is a corrosive and flammable liquid. Due to the previously reported hazards, we advise that methyldiethoxysilane be used instead of triethoxysilane for the large-scale (>1 g) reduction of amides. As shown in the Supporting Information of our Communication, methyldiethoxysilane and other organosilanes can also be used for the reduction of amides at slightly higher temperature, e.g. 60 °C. We thank Professor Buchwald for pointing out these latent safety problems with triethoxysilane.

Literature Cited

- (1) Kreutzer, K. A. *Ph.D. Thesis*. MIT: Cambridge, MA, **1992**.
- (2) Berk, S. C.; Buchwald, S. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 37513753; U.S. Patent 5220020, **1993**.
- (3) Buchwald, S. L. *Chem. Eng. News* **1993**, *71* (13), 2.

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Bimetallic Effects for Enhanced Polar Comonomer Enchainment Selectivity in Catalytic Ethylene Polymerization [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 5902–5919]. Brandon A. Rodriguez, Massimiliano Delferro, and Tobin J. Marks*

Page 5907. The crystal structure reported was not that of (FI²Ni₂PMe₃)·PMe₃ but that of a decomposition product. The structure is now clarified by Delferro et al.¹

Literature Cited

- (1) Delferro, M.; Weberski, M. P., Jr.; Rodriguez, B. A.; Marks, T. J. *Acta Crystallogr.* **2010**, *E66*, m258.

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On the Binding of Cationic, Water-Soluble Conjugated Polymers to DNA: Electrostatic and Hydrophobic Interactions [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 1252–1254]. Fan Xia, Xiaolei Zuo, Renqiang Yang, Yi Xiao, Di Kang, Alexis Vallée-Bélisle, Xiong Gong, Alan J. Heeger,* and Kevin W. Plaxco*

We regret the omission of a prior publication describing the relative affinities of poly[(9,9-bis(6'-*N,N,N*-trimethylammonium)hexyl)fluorene-*alt*-1,4-phenylene]bromide (PFP-Br) and single- and double-stranded DNA that has recently come to our attention. Some years prior to our work, Liu and Bazan¹ demonstrated improved fluorescence energy transfer from PFP, Br to acceptor-labeled single-stranded DNA relative to transfer to acceptor-labeled double-stranded DNA. We hereby acknowledge this precedent. Literature Cited

- (1) Liu, B.; Bazan, G. C. *Chem. Mater.* **2004**, *16*, 4467–4476.

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