Chem 41c Midterm Exam

Stoltz, Spring 2005, May 2, 2005

The exam begins when you turn to page 2. You have 55 minutes to complete the exam. This is a closed note and closed book exam with no collaboration. You may use the periodic table at the front of the room or the one on the last page of this packet. You may not use any other materials. The exam has a total of 135 points. You're grade will be calculated based on 120 points (i.e., you have 15 bonus points built-in). (Also, remember that your midterm counts 60 points toward your final grade, e.g., 5 quiz points = 10 points here). Good luck.

There are 9 pages in this exam packet.	
Name:	

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

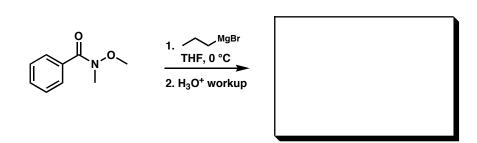
f.

2. Provide reagents for the following transformations. They may be multistep processes (none are longer than 5 steps). (5 points each)

a.

a)

b)



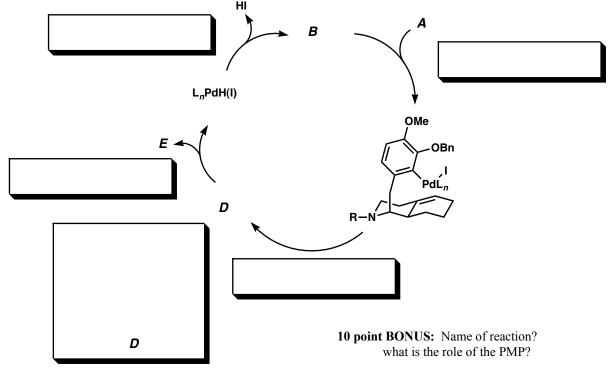
4. Rank the following compounds in order of reactivity with MeMgBr. (5 points)

5. Provide a detailed curved arrow mechanism for the following reaction. What drives the equilibrium to the product side? (10 points)

6. Recently, an asymmetric synthesis of (-)-Morphine was reported utilizing the Palladium-catalyzed reaction described below as the key step.

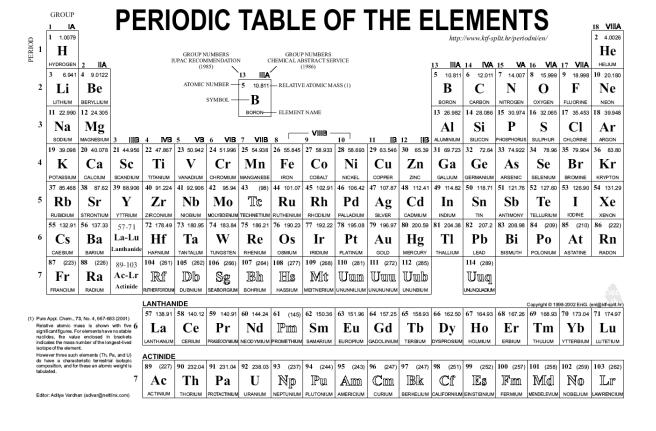
a) The active catalyst for the reaction is believed to be **B**, not Pd(TFA)₂(Ph₃P)₂. Give the formal oxidation state, d^n descriptor, and electron count for each complex. Also, what is a general name for the process to get to **B** from Pd(TFA)₂(Ph₃P)₂? (HINT: oxidation, reduction, or ligand exchange) (10 points)

b) Label each of the boxes below describing the key steps in the catalytic cycle. Also, what is the structure of **D**? (10 points)



- 7. (25 points total) Imagine yourself as a graduate student in a famous laboratory working on a complex synthetic problem. After a long day of frustrating chemistry at the "cutting edge", you decide to rattle off some easy chemistry for the synthesis of compounds needed for simpler work (i.e., $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$). After a few hours of this "sophomore" organic chemistry, you return to your desk to realize that you have not labeled your IR spectra for compounds **B** through **D**.
- (a) Draw compounds **B** and **C** into the boxes below
- (b) Looking at your three IR spectra, you take note of a key peak in each. These key peaks fall at 3200 (broad), 1725 and 1710 cm⁻¹. (hint: the spectrum that has a strong peak at 1710 cm⁻¹ also has a large, broad peak from 2400-3600 cm⁻¹). Assign your spectra to compounds **B-E** below by writing the key frequency below the corresponding compound.

b) Since the chemistry was so simple, you decide to scale up the process. Unfortunately, as a result of this somewhat rushed series of experiments and your general sleepiness, you completely forget the first step and mistakenly treat compound A with LiAlH₄. What is the structure of your product E? Fortunately, your labmate happens to need this compound, but usually synthesizes it from an alternative carboxylic acid derivative. Please provide the structure of E from your mistake and predict the compound that your lab-mate uses as starting material (i.e., **F**).



The End