Chem 41c Final Exam

Stoltz, Spring 2009, June 8, 2009

The exam begins when you turn to page 2. You have 4 hours to complete the exam. This is a closed note and closed book exam with no collaboration. You may use the periodic table on the last page of this packet. You may not use any other materials. The exam has a total of 170 points and counts for 40% of your course grade. Good luck.

There are 16 pages in this exam packet.
The Exam is due by Friday June 12, 2009 by 5 PM.
Name:

1. Predict the major non-volatile products (if any) of the following reactions or sequences. Clearly mark your answers by placing a **box** around the compound that you believe to be the major product. (5 points each).

a.

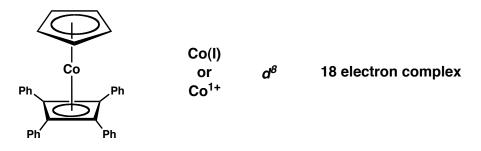
b.
$$+ (PPh_3)_2Pd \xrightarrow{80 \, ^{\circ}C} Ph_3P Pd Br Pd Br Ph_3P Pd Br Pd Br Ph_3P Pd Br Ph_3P$$

e.

a.

b.
$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ O \\ \hline \\ D_2O, Et_3N \\ \hline \end{array}$$

a.



b.

c.

d.

4. Draw two distinct retrosytheses for the following molecule going back to starting materials of 6 carbons or less (10 points).

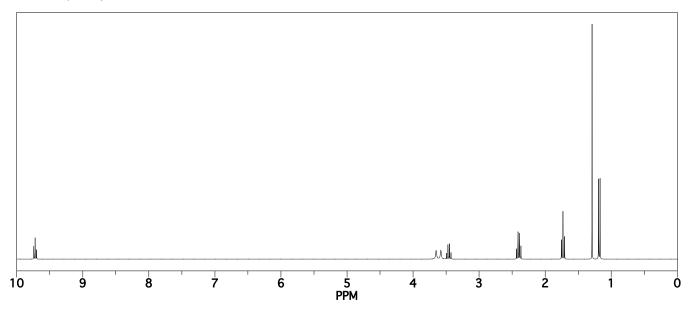
Show the forward reactions needed to accomplish one of your designed routes above (10 points).

¹H NMR spectrum of A

a δ 9.72 (t, 1H) d δ 1.73 (t, 2H)

b δ 3.46 (q, 1H) **e** δ 1.29 (s, 3H)

c δ 2.40 (dt, 2H) f δ 1.18 (d, 3H)



-structure of **A**:

-Reagents to convert **A** to **B**:

-Mechanism for the conversion of **A** to **B**:

acetal formation mechanism

6. a) The following palladium-catalyzed reaction was reported in the literature. Draw a mechanism for the process and clearly label all elementary steps (i.e., reductive elimination, oxidative addition, insertion, etc.) (10 points).

Answer: Oxidative addition, transmetallation, reductive elimination

b) Interestingly, it was found that treatment of related bromide **A** produced none of the expected **B**, but compound **D** instead. This compound is believed to arise from intermediate **C**, although **C** was not observed directly either. Provide a mechanistic rationale for the formation of **C** and **D** (hint: the final step $(C \rightarrow D)$ does not involve palladium). (5 points)

Answer: Oxidative addition, olefin insertion, transmetallation, reductive elimination, 6π -electrocyclization (disrotatory)

c) Furthermore, when dienyl stananne \mathbf{E} was used in the coupling, a product \mathbf{F} was formed. Predict the structure of \mathbf{F} and include stereochemistry. (5 points)

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

Answer: Fischer esterification mechanism.

b) In contrast to part a of this problem, under the same conditions the following reaction $(3\rightarrow 4)$ is extremely slow. Why do you think this is the case? Provide an alternative method for preparing the methyl ester 4 from carboxylic acid 3 that you believe would be fast and high yielding. Provide a detailed curved arrow mechanism for your new synthesis of 4 from 3 and explain why the new method should be better. (5 points)

Answer: Diazomethane or base + MeI. Both use the carboxylate as a nucleophile and don't require attack at the carbonyl carbon.

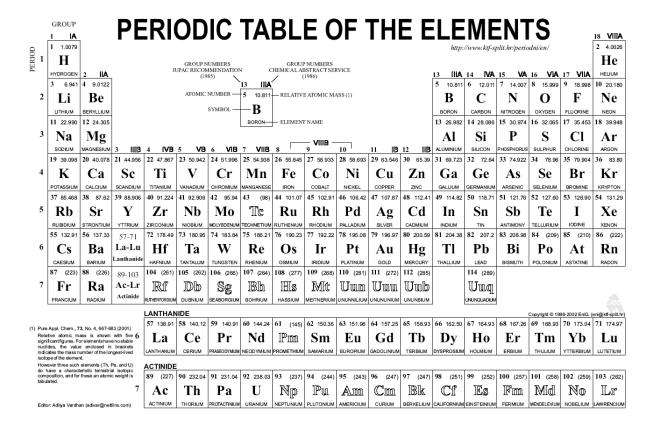
- 8. Your friend Herschel is desperately trying to finish his research project before graduating (the synthesis of the natural product Hamigeran B (1)). He is nearly there, but a problematic and surprising outcome of an aldol addition reaction is causing problems.
- a. Draw the possible outcomes of the intramolecular aldol reaction of diketone 2 (hint, there are 6 possible aldol addition products, and 2 aldol condensation products-draw all 8 of them). (10 points)

b. Unfortunately, Herschel keeps isolating the unwanted 7-membered ring products. He concludes that the problem is selective enolization and decides to treat the precursor to 2, enone 3, with a CuH reagent. This reagent saves the day and produces the desired product, albeit in low yield. Since he is running low on compound 3, Herschel asks you to lend a hand by making more. Unfortunately, Herschel is away at Senior Week. He did leave the starting material, ketone 4, but no instructions. Provide a detailed synthetic plan for producing more of enone 3 so that Herschel can finish his project before commencement on Friday! (10 points)

$$H_3C$$
 O
 CH_3
 CH_3
 CH_3

One possibility:

Bonus: Provide a mechanistic rationale for how the CuH reagent produced the desired outcome (5 points).



The End