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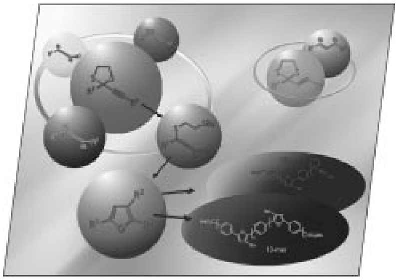
COVER PICTURE

The cover picture shows recent advances in the synthetic applications of the dithioacetal functionality. With the aid of thiophilic organolithium or organocopper reagents, propargylic dithioacetals and related compounds have been shown to be useful for the synthesis of polysubstituted allenes, trisubstituted furans and pyrroles. An extension of this annulation reaction to the bidirectional iterative synthesis of furan-containing oligoaryls and to cyclophane synthesis is described. Alternatively, convergent synthesis of such oligoaryls from propargylic dithioacetals is briefly discussed. Not only can the carbon–sulfur bonds in dithioacetals be readily displaced by carbon–carbon and/or carbon–heteroatom bonds, but a range of reactions involving polarity inversion in neighboring carbon atoms can also take place. Representative examples are presented in the Microreview by T.-Y. Luh and C.-F. Lee on p. 3875 ff.

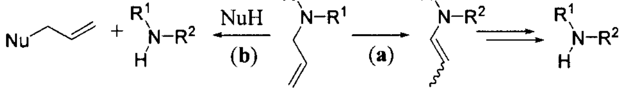


MICROREVIEWS

Contents

3855 **S. Escoubet, S. Gastaldi, M. Bertrand***

Methods for the Cleavage of Allylic and Propargylic C–N Bonds in Amines and Amides – Selected Alternative Applications of the 1,3-Hydrogen Shift



Keywords: Amides / Amines / Cleavage reactions / Hydrogen transfer / Nucleophilic substitution / Synthetic methods