

Condensation of 2-pyridylmethyllithium nucleophiles and pyridine electrophiles as a convenient synthetic route to polydentate chelating N-donor ligands

Vedernikov N., Miftakhov R., Borisoglebski S., Caulton K., Solomonov B.
Kazan Federal University, 420008, Kremlevskaya 18, Kazan, Russia

Abstract

Condensation of 2-pyridylmethyllithium or (6-methyl-2-pyridyl)methyllithium nucleophiles and pyridine, 2-picoline or 4-tert-butylpyridine as electrophiles leads to new polydentate N-donor ligands, methyl-, tert-butylsubstituted tripyridinedimethanes or to tripyridinedimethane itself, in good or high yields. Depending on the reagent ratio, solvent used and reaction condition corresponding intermediate dipyridinemethanes can be minor by-product or major products of the condensation. In contrast to 2-pyridylmethyllithium, lithiated 2-isopropylpyridine does not react with pyridine electrophiles. Vice versa, nucleophilic substitution at C(2)-pyridine carbon of 2,2-bis(2-pyridyl)propane with 2-pyridylmethyllithium takes place to produce products of condensation of 2-isopropylpyridine and dipyridylmethyllithium. DFT calculations of the reactions Gibbs free energies combined with pKa values of the CH-acids involved help to explain the reactivity observed.

Keywords

(6-methyl-2-pyridyl) methyllithium, 2,6-lutidine, 2-picoline, 2-pyridylmethyllithium, 4-tert-butylpyridine, C-C bond cleavage, Condensation, DFT calculations, Dipyridinemethanes, Pyridine, Tripyridinedimethanes