

# Fonction et réaction organiques II

Fall Semester 2025

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BCH 4305

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Assistants:

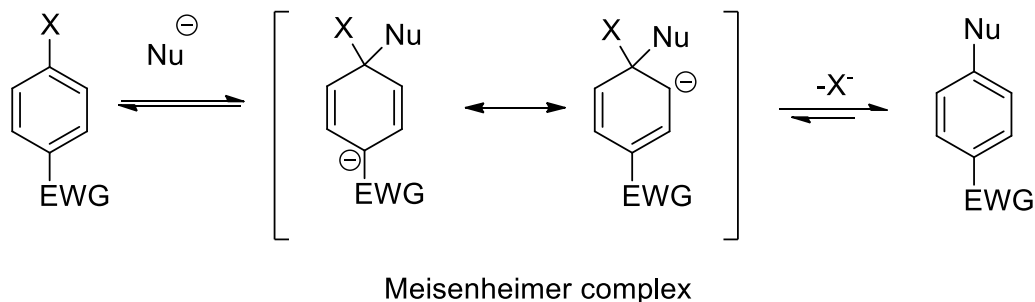
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## 1.6. Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution $S_NAr$

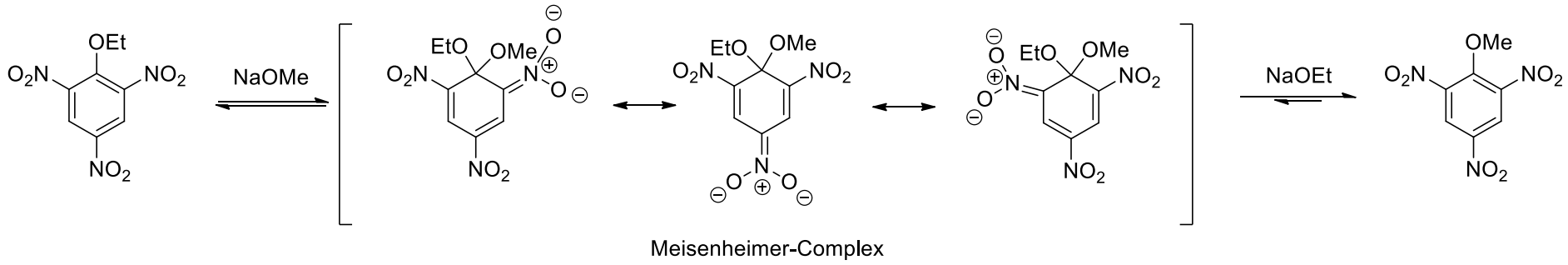


Criteria:

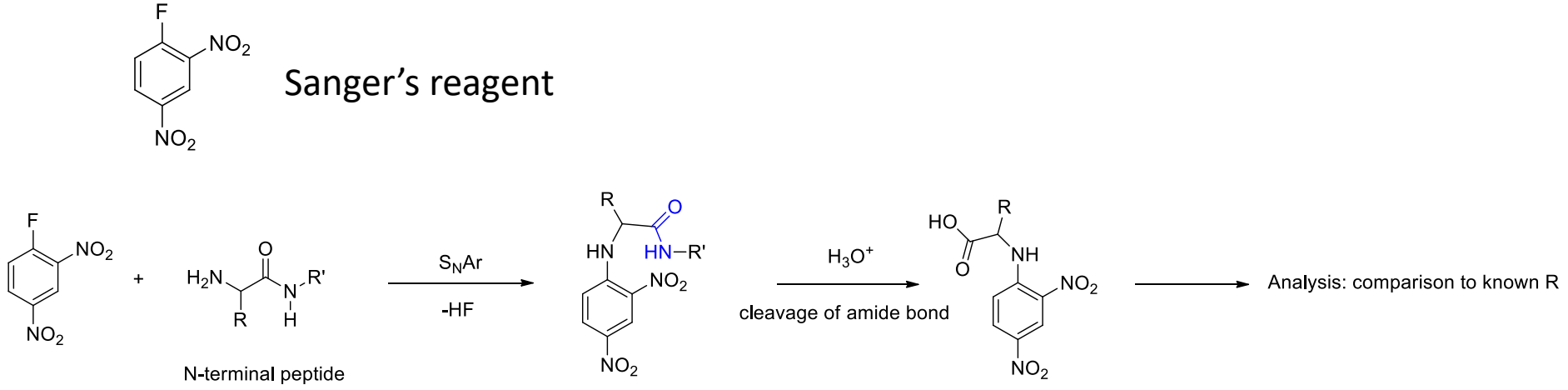
- X must be a leaving group with high electronegativity (F, Cl, OR...)
- EWG group ( $-NO_2$ ,  $-CN$ , ...)
  - The reaction proceeds by an addition/elimination mechanism.
  - Obeys second order kinetics
  - EWG substituents must stabilize the negative charge of the Meisenheimer intermediate.
  - Therefore they must be in the ortho- or para- position.

# 1.6. Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution $S_NAr$

Prominent example of  $S_NAr$



Historical very important application with Sanger's reagent using  $S_NAr$  for amino acid sequence analysis



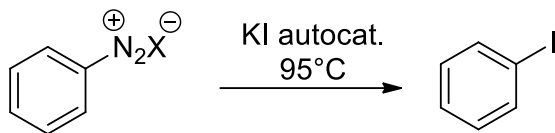
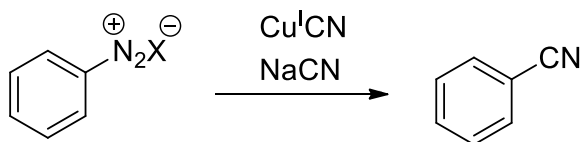
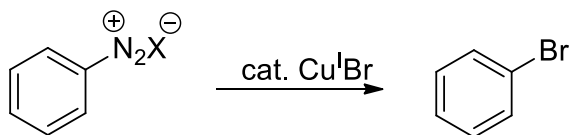
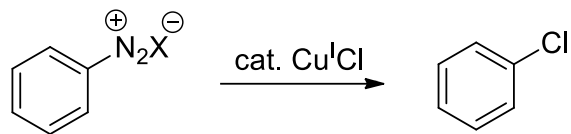
## 1.6. Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution $S_NAr$

Comparison between  $S_EAr$  and  $S_NAr$  : basic key facts

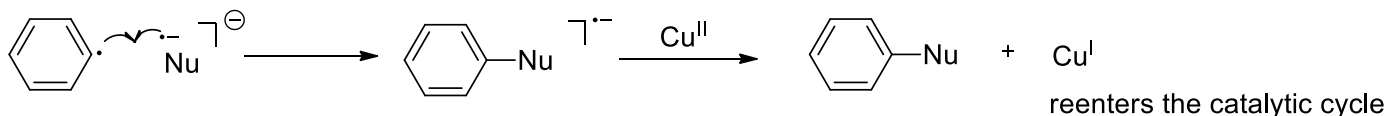
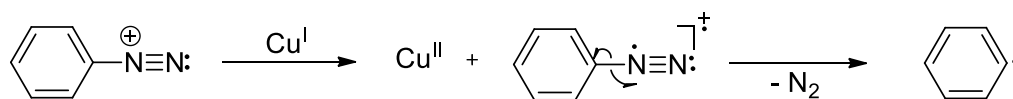
	$S_EAr$	$S_NAr$
<b>Agent</b>	$E^+$	$Nu^-$
<b>Key Intermediate</b>	Cationic, Wheland complex	Anionic, Meisenheimer Complex
<b>Substituent that accelerate the reaction</b>	+M/+I groups	strong -M groups
<b>Leaving group</b>	-H ( -SiR <sub>3</sub> ; -CR <sub>3</sub> )	-F, -Cl, -OR

# 1.7. Reaction of diazonium salts

## ■ Sandmeyer reaction



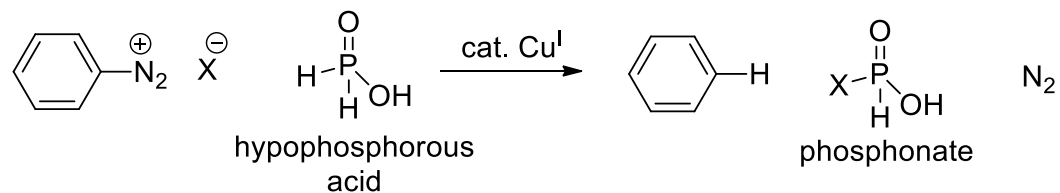
## • General mechanism:



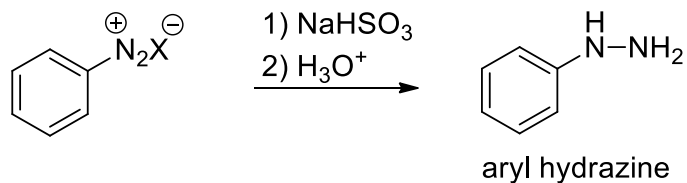
Exception: no copper needed with iodide, iodide act as a redox catalyst itself

## 1.7. Reaction of diazonium salts

- Meerwein reduction: removal of the diazonium group



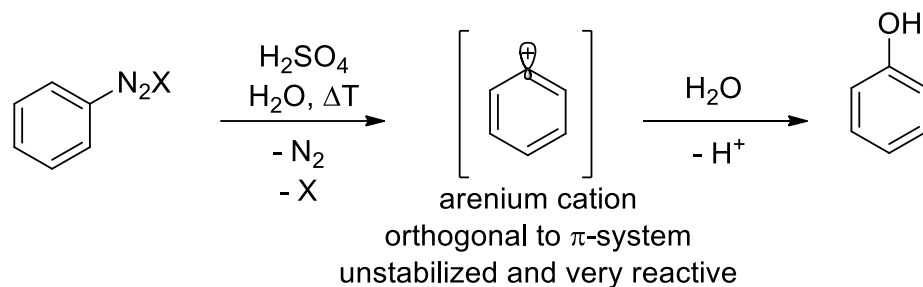
- Reduction of a diazonium salt maintaining the N-N single bond: preparation of aromatic hydrazines



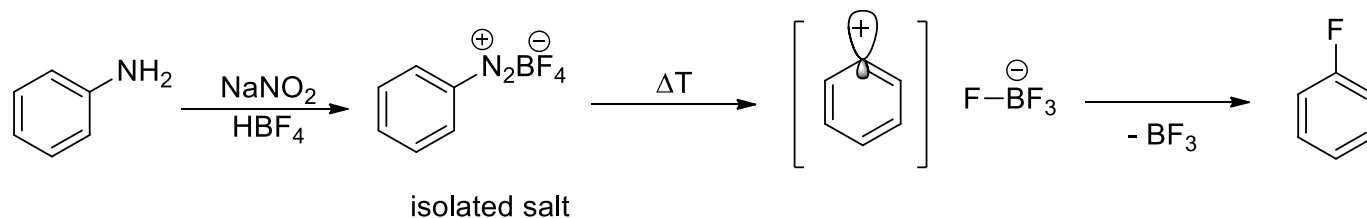
## 1.7. Reactions proceeding by arenium cations

Only possible with the very best leaving group:  $\text{N}_2$

- Generation of arene cations: “Phenol cooking”

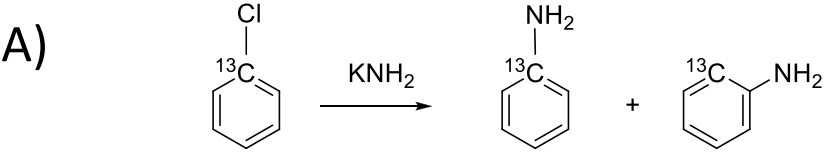


- Balz-Schiemann reaction: introduction of a fluorine substituent

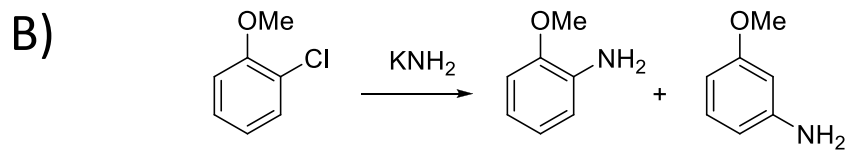


# 1.8. Substitution by the aryne mechanism

Experimental observations:

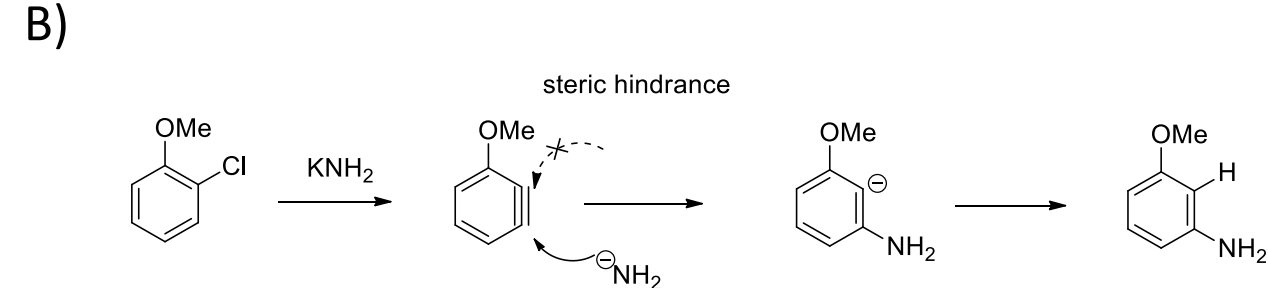
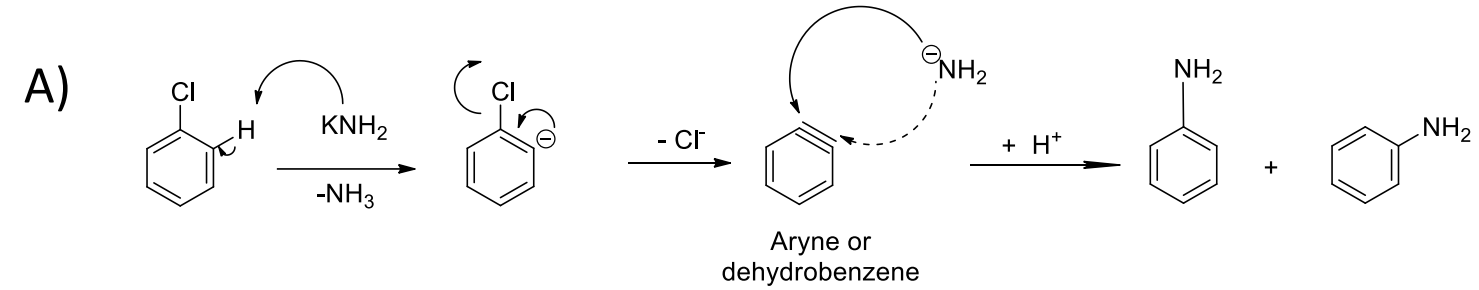


1 : 1



0 : 1

Explanation by a new mechanism:

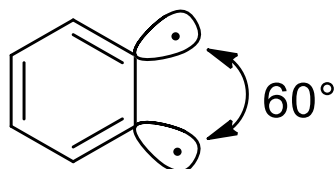


- $\sigma$ - acceptor stabilizes the negative charge
- Attack on meta position due to less steric hindrance

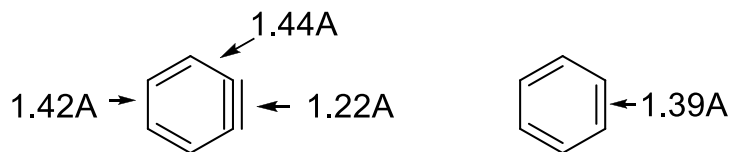
# 1.8. Substitution by the aryne mechanism

## General properties of the arynes

- Are not real/normal triple bond with two sp-hybridized carbon atoms
- Only a partial orbital overlap possible, remain mostly sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized
- Arynes are reactive singlet species

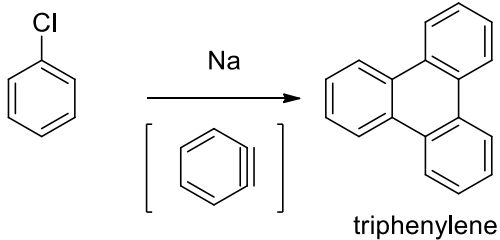


- Bond lengths in comparison to benzene



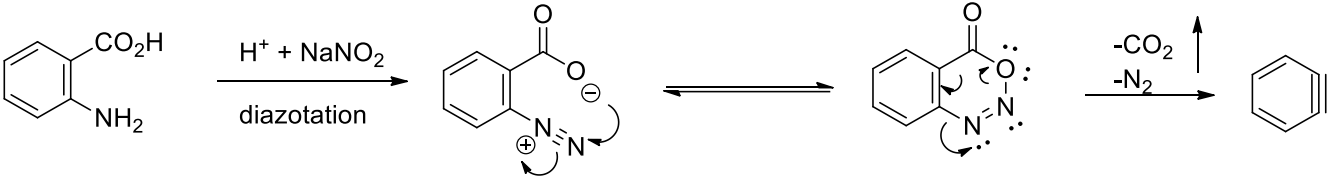
# 1.8. Substitution by the aryne mechanism

Other reactions of arynes:

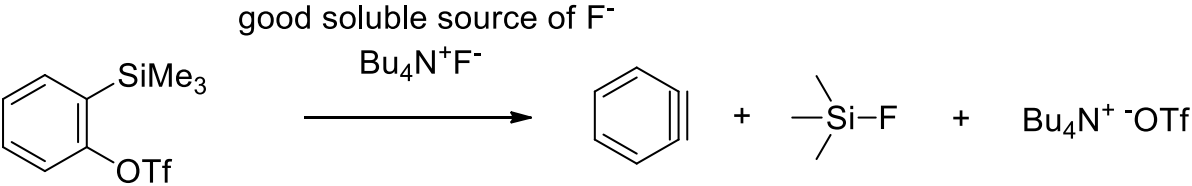


Trimerization in higher concentration and absence of reaction partner

Additional methods for their preparation:



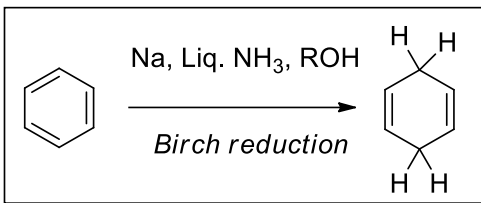
Modern method:



Tf= Triflat, Trifluoromethane sulfonyl <sup>-</sup>O<sub>3</sub>SCF<sub>3</sub>

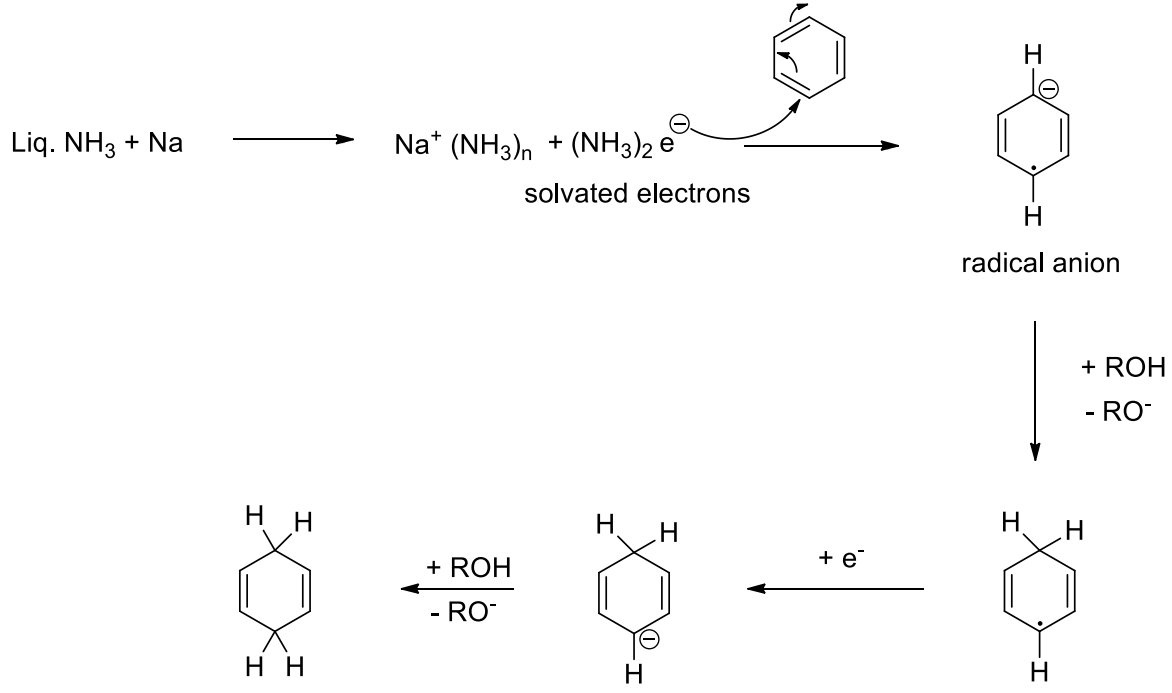
# 1.9. Reduction of the aromatic ring

Birch reduction: reduction of the aromatic ring to give 1,4-cyclohexadienes



Solvent: liquid ammonia  
Reaction below -31°C

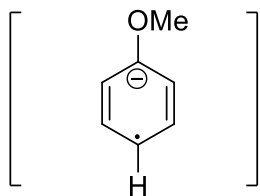
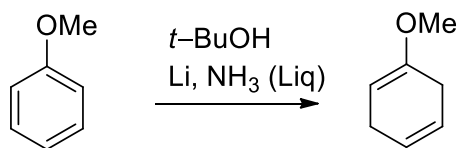
Mechanism:



# 1.9. Reduction of the aromatic ring

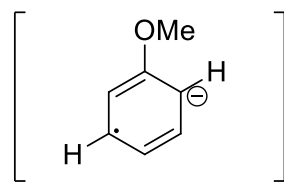
Regioselectivity of the reduction:

Case 1: Electron-donating substituents



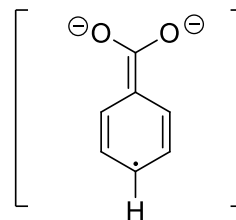
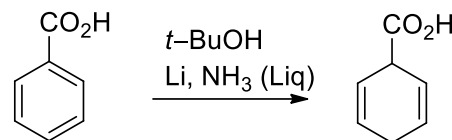
less stable intermediate  
not formed

v.s



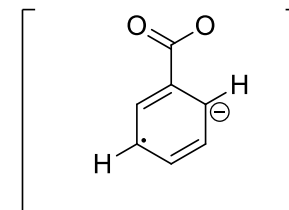
more stable intermediate  
preferred

Case 2: Electron-withdrawing substituents



better stabilization of  
the negative charge

v.s

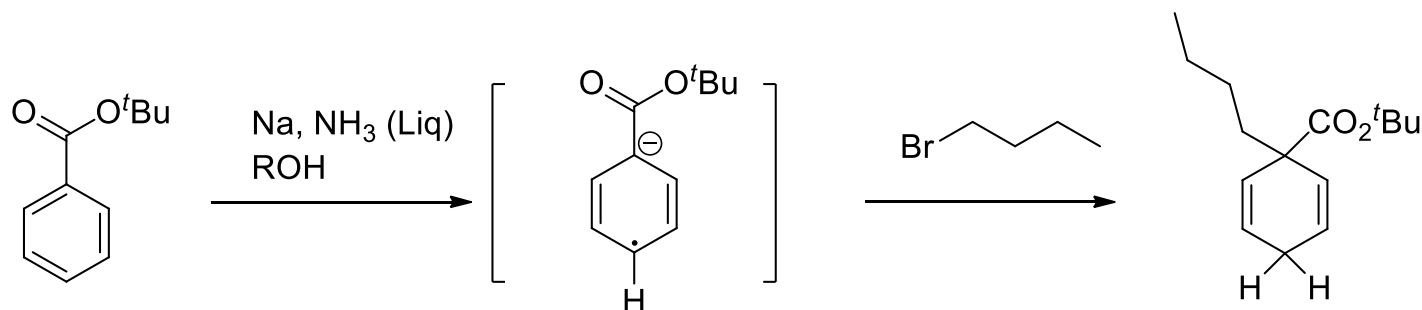


not formed

## 1.9. Reduction of the aromatic ring

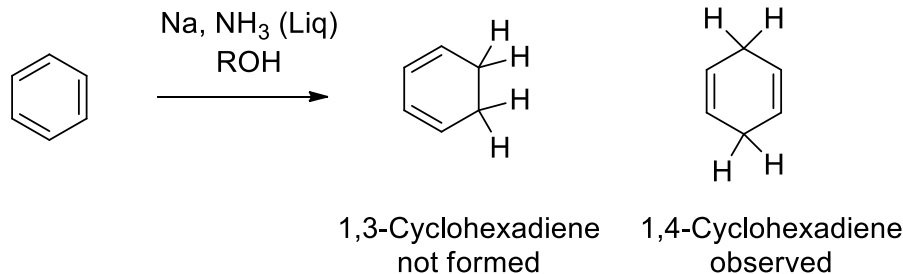
Example for a Birch alkylation:

interception of the carbanion by an electrophile, e.g. alkylhalide instead of proton

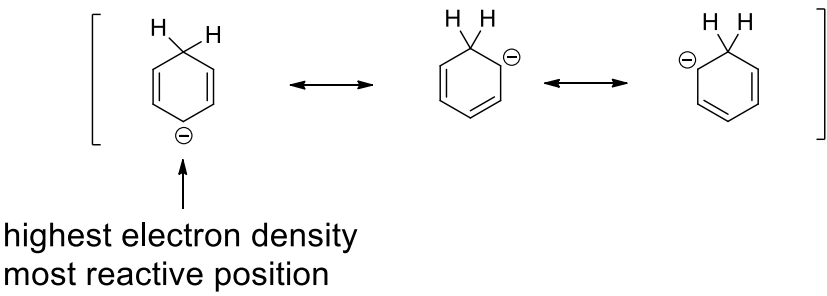


# 1.9. Reduction of the aromatic ring

The Birch reduction yields selectively 1,4-Cyclohexadienes.  
 Why are 1,3-Cyclohexadienes not formed?



Explanation by the electron densities of the pentadienyl anion



Relevant HOMO: the electron density is highest at central carbon atom C3

