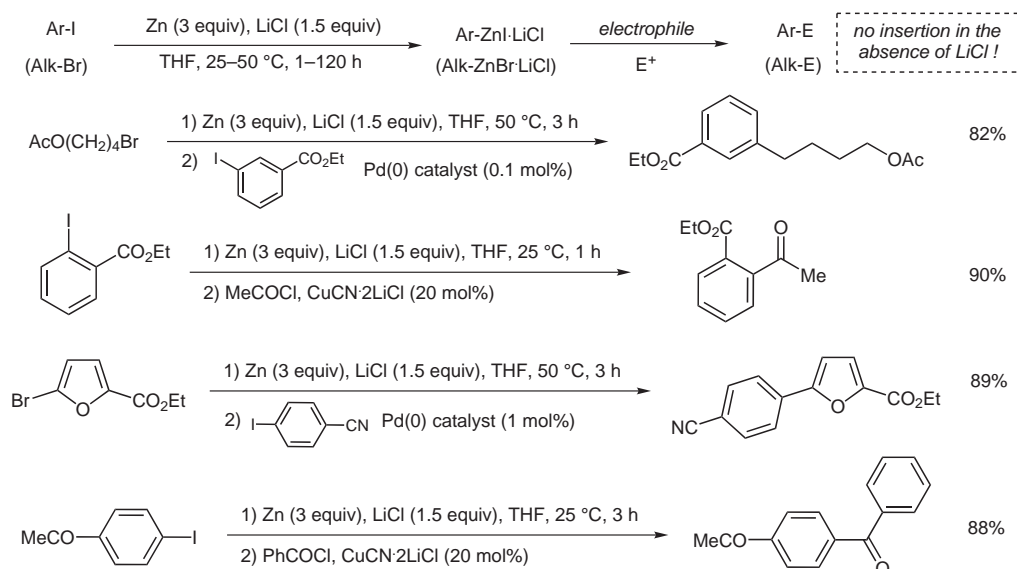


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Efficient Synthesis of Functionalized Organozinc Compounds by the Direct Insertion of Zinc into Organic Iodides and Bromides

*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 6040-6044.

## Direct LiCl-Promoted Insertion of Zinc into Organic Iodides and Bromides



**Significance:** Organozinc compounds are very useful intermediates in synthesis of complex organic molecules due to their high reactivity combined with an excellent tolerance of functional groups. So far, the direct insertion of commercial zinc dust into organic halides was limited only to alkyl iodides and tertiary bromides, which diminished its synthetic value. Herein, a new method, allowing the preparation of aryl- and heterarylzinc iodides, alkyl- and several arylzinc bromides by the direct insertion of cheap metallic zinc into the corresponding halides, is reported. Inexpensive LiCl serves as an efficient promotor of this insertion. The resultant organozinc reagents react with various electrophiles, affording excellent yields of products.

**Comment:** Direct insertion of Zn into non-activated aryl iodides can be accomplished either at high temperature in dipolar aprotic solvents or by using activated Rieke zinc. Both ways are expensive and not convenient for scaled-up reactions. LiCl was found to accelerate significantly a number of reactions involving organometallics like the halogen-magnesium exchange (A. Krasovskiy, P. Knochel *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 3333-3336), supposedly by prevention of the formation of unreactive oligomers and formation of chloride ate-complexes.

**Review:** For a recent review on organozinc chemistry, see: P. Knochel, H. Leuser, L.-Z. Gong, S. Perrone, F. F. Kneisel In *Handbook of Functionalized Organometallics*, Vol. 1, P. Knochel, Ed.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **2005**, 251-346.

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Synfacts 2007, 1, 0079-0079 Published online: 16.12.2006  
DOI: 10.1055/s-2006-955709; Reg-No.: P14306SF

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Category

Metal-Mediated  
Synthesis

Key words

organozinc reagents

zinc insertion

lithium chloride  
catalysis

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*of the month*

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