#### Oppenauer oxidation

- Aluminium t- butoxide [(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CO]<sub>3</sub>Al in the presence of a ketone (such as cyclohexanone) as an hydride acceptor, oxidizes primary alcohols to aldehydes, and secondary alcohols to ketones.
- hydride receptor is used in excess to push the equilibrium to the right side.
- . Other functions (as alkene..) are not affected.

#### Oppenauer reaction mechanism

• Al- alkoxide transfers H- to cyclohexanone (hydride acceptor).

## Oppenauer oxidation (semi-synthesis of Progesterone from pregnenolone)

Oxidation of secondary OH to ketone with the simultaneous shifting of the double bond from  $C_5$  to  $C_4$  forming stable conjugated enone.

 $(3\beta$ -hydroxypregn-5-en-20-one)

## Drug Synthesis الاصطناع (التخليق) الدوائي

## Some types of reactions used in drug synthesis 5. Reduction reactions

#### **Types of Reduction Reactions**

- . Reductive processes are divided into three categories:
- Addition of molecular hydrogen H<sub>2</sub> to the unsaturated systems (Catalytic hydrogenation of the unsaturated systems)
- Addition of hydrides H<sup>-</sup> to the unsaturated systems ( hydride reduction)
- Gain of electrons (Electron transfer reduction)

### Catalytic hydrogenation

### Selective catalytic hydrogenation of alkenes

 $\bullet$ . Alkenes are easily and selectively reduced by  $H_2/Pd-C$  reduces in the presence of other functions: aldehydes , ketones , esters, nitriles, carboxylic acid.

4-Phenyl-3-buten-2-one

 $\textbf{4-Phenyl-2-butanone} \; \textbf{(100\%)}$ 

 The aromatic ring requires more powerful reducing conditions such as Pt at high pressure or rhodium Rd catalysts ordinary conditions

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CH_3 & & CH_3 \\ \hline & & H_2, \text{Pt; ethanol} \\ \hline & CH_3 & & CH_3 \\ \end{array}$$

o-Xylene

1,2-Dimethylcyclohexane (100%)

### Catalytic reduction of functional groups (H<sub>2</sub>/ cat.)

## Catalytic Reduction of Alkyl aryl ketone's

 Carbonyl function conjugated with aromatic ring (alkyl aryl ketones) is easily reduced to CH<sub>2</sub> by H<sub>2</sub>/Pd, as in the reduction of alkenes

## Reduction by hydrides

## Mechanism of Reduction by hydrides

 Hydrides, as LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, NaBH<sub>4</sub> are chemicals that donate H<sup>-</sup> Example: the reduction of the carbonyl group by LiAlH<sub>4</sub>

### Reduction of functional groups by LiAIH<sub>4</sub>

 $\bullet$  Aldehydes, ketones, esters, amides and carboxylic acids are reduced by  ${\rm LiAIH_4}$  to alcohols except the amides which give amines.

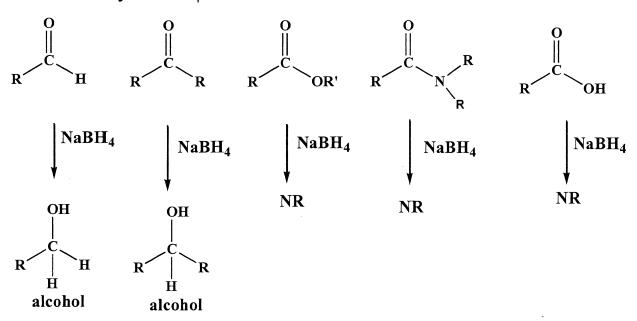
### Reduction of nitriles by LiAIH<sub>4</sub>

Nitriles give primary amines

$$R-C \equiv N: \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \begin{bmatrix} :N: \\ & \\ & \\ & \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \xrightarrow{\text{H}} H \xrightarrow{\text{H}} H \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2O} \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2O} \xrightarrow{\text{H}} H \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2O} \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2O} \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2O} \xrightarrow{\text{NITrile}} \xrightarrow{\text{Planton Sincks Cole}} \text{Imine anion} \qquad \text{Dianion} \qquad \text{Amine}$$

### Reduction of functional groups by NaBH<sub>4</sub>

- NaBH<sub>4</sub> only reduces aldehydes and ketones.
- Esters, amides carboxylic acids and nitro (NO<sub>2</sub>) are not affected by NaBH<sub>4</sub>.



## Selective reduction of carboxylic acid and amides by BH<sub>3</sub>

- BH<sub>3</sub> reduces amides and carboxylic acids selectively.
- Esters, ketones aldehydes and NO<sub>2</sub> are not affected by BH<sub>3</sub>

## Reduction of esters to aldehydes by DIBAH

 Diisobutyl aluminium hydride (DIBAH) reduces esters and has no action on aldehydes

### **Electron transfer reduction**

#### Reduction by transfer of electrons

 When metals such as sodium or lithium are dissolved in solvents such as liquid ammonia, they readily give up their single outer-shell electron and an intense blue solution of solvated electrons is formed.

Li + liquid NH<sub>3</sub> 
$$\xrightarrow{\text{fast}}$$
  $\xrightarrow{\bigoplus}$   $\xrightarrow{\bigoplus}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{Li}}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{e}[NH_3]_n}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{slow}}$   $\xrightarrow{NH_2}$  + 1/2 H<sub>2</sub> blue color strong base

electrons solvated by ammonia

• With the time, the blue color fades as the electrons reduce the ammonia to amide ion NH<sub>2</sub>- and H<sub>2</sub> gas

# Mechanism of Electron transfer reduction (Reduction of alkynes)

• Alkynes give trans alkenes (anti addition):

RC 
$$=$$
 CR  $\xrightarrow{\text{Na/NH}_3}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{R}}$  C  $=$  C  $\xrightarrow{\text{R}}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{Trans-alkene}}$ 

#### **Mechanism**

## Electron transfer reduction (Reduction of benzene: Birch reduction)

This reaction performs 1,4-protonation with the formation of cyclohexa-1,4-diene

cyclohexa-1,4-diene

#### Birch reduction of methoxybenzene

- When EDG such as OCH<sub>3</sub> is present, protonation takes place at ortho and meta and 1-methoxycyclohexa-1,4diene is formed.
- Ethanol is added to serve as a better proton donor than NH<sub>3</sub>.
- Acid hydrolysis of the enol ether product gives unsaturated ketone which tautomerises to the conjugated ketone (conjugated enone)

## Synthesis of the anabolic Nandrolone

**Hydrogenolysis**