

# Contents

## Preface

		xii
<b>1</b>	<b>General introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Preliminaries</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	The laboratory	3
2.1.1	Bench space	3
2.1.2	Fume cupboards	5
2.1.3	Apparatus and glassware	5
2.1.4	Solvent stills	5
2.1.5	Procuring chemicals and equipment	6
2.1.6	Carrying out reactions	6
2.1.7	Cleaning and drying glassware	6
2.1.8	Disposal of residues	7
2.1.9	Using departmental facilities	8
2.2	The literature	8
2.2.1	Finding your way through the chemical literature	9
2.2.2	Keeping up to date	13
2.2.3	Searching for specific information	14
2.2.4	Organizing the information	16
2.3	Keeping records	17
2.3.1	The lab notebook	17
2.3.2	Recording and filing data	20
2.4	Safety	21
2.4.1	Legal aspects	21
2.4.2	Responsibilities	22
2.4.3	General behaviour and awareness	22
2.4.4	Risk assessment	22
<b>3</b>	<b>Bench-top techniques</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1	Introduction to inert atmosphere techniques	25
3.2	The inert-gas/vacuum double manifold	26
3.2.1	Design	26
3.2.2	Setting up the manifold	28
3.2.3	The vacuum pump	30
3.2.4	The inert gas supply	31
3.2.5	Purification columns	31
3.2.6	Initial setup	32
3.3	Schlenk techniques	33
3.3.1	Principles involved	33
3.3.2	Reaction flasks	34
3.3.3	Ground-glass joints and taps	34
3.3.4	Greasing ground glass	34
3.3.5	Greaseless taps and joints	37
3.3.6	Attaching flexible hoses to glassware	39
3.4	Syringe and cannula techniques	39
3.4.1	Using cannulae	39
3.4.2	Filtration with a filter stick	41
3.4.3	Syringes	43
3.5	Apparatus	49

<b>4</b>	<b>Glove boxes</b>	<b>53</b>
4.1	Introduction	53
4.2	General features	53
4.2.1	The box	54
4.2.2	Maintaining an inert atmosphere	56
4.2.3	Pressure control	60
4.3	Maintenance and use	61
4.3.1	Preparing to use the dry box	61
4.3.2	Taking items in	62
4.3.3	Working inside the box	63
4.3.4	Taking items out	64
4.3.5	Useful items	64
4.3.6	General maintenance	65
<b>5</b>	<b>Operations on the high-vacuum line</b>	<b>67</b>
5.1	Introduction	67
5.2	The high-vacuum line	67
5.2.1	The pumping station	69
5.2.2	Pressure gauges	70
5.2.3	The vacuum manifold	76
5.2.4	The work station	77
5.3	Manipulating volatile materials	82
5.3.1	Volatile liquids	82
5.3.2	Condensable gases	83
5.3.3	Fractionation trains	83
5.3.4	Slush baths	83
5.3.5	Quantitative gas measurements	84
5.4	High-vacuum pumps	86
5.4.1	Diffusion pumps	86
5.4.2	Turbomolecular pumps	87
5.5	Alternative designs of high-vacuum lines	89
<b>6</b>	<b>Solvents and reagents</b>	<b>92</b>
6.1	Introduction	92
6.2	Purifying and storing solvents	92
6.2.1	General considerations	92
6.2.2	Drying	93
6.2.3	Solvents	97
6.3	Design and maintenance of solvent stills	101
6.3.1	Design considerations	101
6.3.2	Maintenance and use	103
6.4	Reagents	107
6.4.1	Halogenation	107
6.4.2	Ligand metathesis/exchange	108
6.4.3	Alkylation	109
6.4.4	Reduction	111
6.4.5	Oxidation	112
6.4.6	Deprotonation	113
6.5	Gases	114
6.5.1	Gas cylinders	115
6.5.2	Generation of reagent gases	119
6.5.3	Purification of reagent gases	121
<b>7</b>	<b>Carrying out reactions in solution</b>	<b>123</b>
7.1	Introduction and general considerations	123
7.2	Measuring out reagents	124
7.2.1	Solids	124
7.2.2	Liquids	126

7.2.3	Gases	127
7.3	Transferring solvents	131
7.4	Mixing	131
7.4.1	Magnetic stirring	132
7.4.2	Mechanical stirring	132
7.5	Heating	135
7.5.1	Heating under reflux	135
7.5.2	Heating for short times	138
7.6	Cooling	139
7.7	Monitoring the reaction	140
<b>8</b>	<b>Reaction work-up</b>	<b>142</b>
8.1	Introduction	142
8.2	Isolating products	142
8.2.1	Filtration	143
8.2.2	Removing solvents	146
8.2.3	Precipitation	147
8.2.4	Trituration	148
8.2.5	Soxhlet extraction	148
8.3	Purifying products	149
8.3.1	Recrystallization	150
8.3.2	Distillation	153
8.3.3	Sublimation	160
8.3.4	Chromatography	163
8.4	Storing products	165
8.4.1	Ampoules	166
<b>9</b>	<b>Reactions between a solid and a gas</b>	<b>171</b>
9.1	Introduction	171
9.2	Designing apparatus	171
9.2.1	Horizontal reactors	171
9.2.2	Vertical reactors	173
9.3	Procedure	174
<b>10</b>	<b>Reactions between solids</b>	<b>177</b>
10.1	Introduction	177
10.2	General considerations	177
10.3	Choice of container	178
10.4	Typical procedures	179
10.4.1	Glass containers	179
10.4.2	Metal containers	181
<b>11</b>	<b>Product characterization</b>	<b>183</b>
11.1	Introduction	183
11.2	Spectroscopic techniques	183
11.2.1	NMR spectroscopy	184
11.2.2	Vibrational spectroscopy	197
11.2.3	Electronic spectroscopy	203
11.3	Mass spectrometry	204
11.4	Elemental microanalysis and molecular weight determinations	206
11.4.1	CHN combustion analysis	207
11.4.2	Determination of elements other than C, H and N	208
11.4.3	Molecular weight determination	208
11.5	Growing crystals for single-crystal X-ray diffraction	210
11.5.1	Slow evaporation	210
11.5.2	Vapour diffusion	211
11.5.3	Mounting crystals	212

11.6	Powder X-ray diffraction	212
11.7	Other techniques	213
11.7.1	Conductivity measurements	213
11.7.2	ESR spectroscopy	215
11.7.3	Mössbauer spectroscopy	216
11.7.4	Thermogravimetry	216
11.7.5	Magnetic measurements	216
11.7.6	Determination of melting point	216
<b>12</b>	<b>Special techniques</b>	<b>219</b>
12.1	Introduction	219
12.2	Electrochemical techniques	219
12.2.1	Cyclic voltammetry	219
12.2.2	Controlled potential electrolysis	222
12.3	Thermal analysis	223
12.3.1	Thermogravimetry	223
12.3.2	Differential thermal analysis and differential scanning calorimetry	223
12.3.3	Equipment	224
12.4	High pressure reactions	225
12.4.1	Glass reaction vessels	226
12.4.2	Metal reaction vessels	227
12.5	Photochemical reactions	229
12.6	Sonication	231
12.7	Microwave heating	233
12.8	Reactions in special solvents	234
12.8.1	Condensable gases	234
12.8.2	Super-critical fluids	235
12.8.3	Ambient temperature ionic liquids	237
12.9	Matrix isolation	238
12.10	Metal vapour synthesis	239
12.10.1	Heating options	239
12.10.2	Static reactors	241
12.10.3	Rotating reactors	242
<b>13</b>	<b>Preparation of starting materials</b>	<b>244</b>
13.1	Introduction	244
13.2	Halides and their simple derivatives	244
13.2.1	M(I) halides	245
13.2.2	M(II) halides	245
13.2.3	M(III) halides	247
13.2.4	M(IV) halides	249
13.2.5	M(V) halides	249
13.2.6	M(VI) halides	250
13.3	Amides	250
13.4	Alkoxides and related compounds	251
13.5	Oxo compounds	253
13.5.1	Oxohalides and related compounds	253
13.5.2	Oxometalates	254
13.6	Organoimido complexes	255
13.7	Carbonyls	256
13.8	Cyclopentadienyl complexes	257
13.9	Miscellaneous metal complexes	260
13.9.1	$\beta$ -Diketonates and carboxylates	260
13.9.2	Thio and alkylthiolate complexes	260
13.9.3	Pd(0) and Pt(0) phosphine complexes	261
13.9.4	Complexes with weakly bound ligands	261
13.10	Ligands and reagents	261

13.10.1	Magnesium alkyls	261
13.10.2	Phosphorus compounds	262
13.10.3	Silicon and tin reagents	262
13.10.4	Miscellaneous compounds	263
<b>Appendix A</b>	<b>Health and safety information</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>Appendix B</b>	<b>Deoxygenation columns</b>	<b>272</b>
<b>Appendix C</b>	<b>Solvents</b>	<b>274</b>
<b>Appendix D</b>	<b>NMR solvents</b>	<b>277</b>
<b>Appendix E</b>	<b>Gases</b>	<b>281</b>
<b>Index</b>		<b>283</b>