

Organic Transformations Promoted by Liquid SO₂ as a Reaction Media

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Due to relatively high boiling point (-10 °C) and low vapor pressure (8 bar at 60 °C), SO_2 can be easily liquefied and handled in its liquid state. Liquid SO_2 is one of the few polar solvents that possess Lewis acid properties. Besides, it dissolves both organic and inorganic substances. All these facts together make liquid SO_2 a unique solvent for organic synthesis, especially, for transformations involving charged intermediates.

Herein we demonstrate application of liquid SO₂ as a solvent in various organic transformation that are known to be facilitated by highly polar or Lewis acidic media: (A) ring opening reactions of unprotected and carbamate-protected aziridines and azetidines with I,II group metal halides and thiols;¹ (B) the Ritter reaction of alcohols catalyzed by In(OTf)₃,² (C) In(OTf)₃ catalyzed alkyne hydration; (D) indirect hydrohalogenation of alkynes by employing various I,II group metal halides (I, Br, Cl) and NH₄I; (E) glycosylation reaction of alcohols and thiols³.

$$\begin{array}{c} R^1 \\ Nu \\ R^3 - NH \\ Nu = CI, Br, I \text{ or RS} \\ R^2 \\ Nu = CI, Br, I \text{ or RS} \\ R^3 - NH \\ Nu = CI, Br, I \text{ or RS} \\ R^2 - CN \\ R^2 - CN \\ R^2 - CN \\ R^3 - NH \\ R^4 - OH \\ R^2 - CN \\ R^4 - OH \\ R^5 - OH \\ R^6 -$$

References:

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