## **Supplementary Material**

# Reduction of phenylacetylenes using Raney Ni–Al alloy, Al powder in the

## presence of noble metal catalysts in water

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#### Issue in honor of Prof. Kenneth K. Laali

#### **1. Experimental Section**

#### 1.1 General remarks

All melting points are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz on a Nippon Denshi JEOL FT-300 NMR spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with Me<sub>4</sub>Si as an internal reference. IR spectra were measured as KBr pellets on a Nippon Denshi JIR-AQ2OM spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained on Shimadzu GCMS-QP5050A Ultrahigh Performance Mass Spectrometer AOC-20I, 100V using a direct-inlet system. GLC analyses were performed by Shimadzu gas chromatographer, GC-2010.

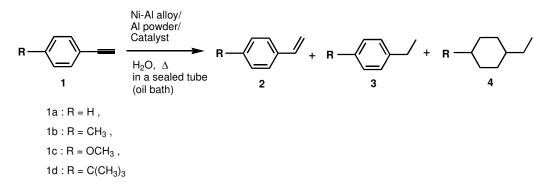
#### 1.2 Reagent list

Raney Ni–Al alloy (500 wt%), Al powder (500 wt%) (53–150 μm, 99.5%) (Wako), Pt/C, Pd/C, Ru/C and Rh/C (5 wt%) (Wako), Distilled water (Wako).

#### 1.3 Typical procedure

The mixture of a substrate (20 mg, 0.20 mmol) (Wako), Raney Ni–Al alloy (500 wt%), Al powder (500 wt%) (53–150 µm, 99.5%) (Wako) and Pt/C, Pd/C, Ru/C or Rh/C (20 mg) (4.5 mole % metal) was added to water (0.5 mL) (Wako distilled water). After heating the mixture at 60–120 °C for 6–12 h, it was cooled to room temperature. The solution was then diluted with 1 mL water and stirred overnight at room temperature in a sealed tube. After 24 h, the solution was extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 2 mL) as per the reported procedure.<sup>37</sup> The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered through a porous cotton plug followed by concentrating in vacuum to afford the corresponding hydrogenated product. The yields were determined by GLC analysis using the standard compound (1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene), and the products were identified by GC–MS.

#### **Reduction of phenylacetylenes (1)**

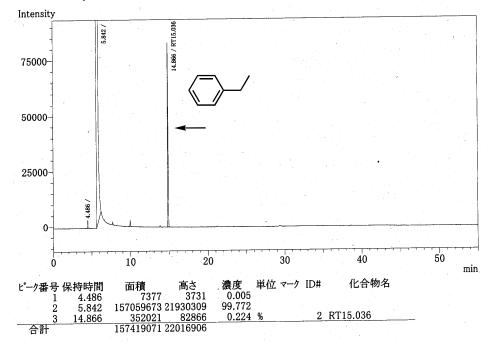


**Scheme S1.** Reduction of phenylacetylene by using AI powder in the presence of catalyst in water. **GC Conditions:** 

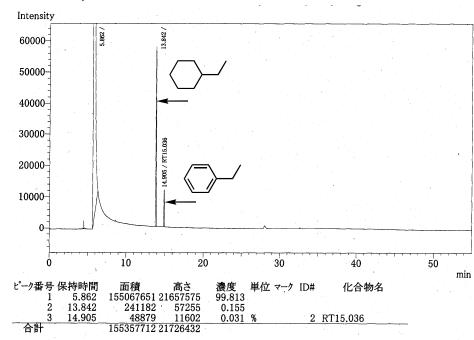
	Rate (°C/min)	Temperature (°C)	Hold (min)
1	-	35	-
2	2	100	10

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#### Table 2 Entry 3



#### Reduction of phenylacetylene using Ni-Al and Al powder in $H_2O$ at 120 °C for 6 h



#### Table 5 Entry 1

Reduction of phenylacetylene using Ni-Al, Al powder and Pt/C in  $H_2O$  at 60 °C for 12

#### Table for figure 1

Entry	Temp.	Pt/C	Pd/C	Ru/C	Rh/C
	(°C)				
1	120	30.9	4.5	0	37
2	90	31.3	7.5	16	27.5
3	60	33.7	3.4	25.9	26.3

Reduction of phenylacetylene (1a) using Raney Ni–Al, Al powder and noble metal catalysts in H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Substrate: 20 mg (0.20 mmol), Raney Ni–Al: 100 mg (500 wt%), Al powder: 100 mg (500 wt%), catalyst: 4.5 mol% (metal),  $H_2O$ : 0.5 mL.

<sup>b</sup>Conditions: time: 6 h.

<sup>c</sup>The yields were determined by GLC.

#### Table for figure 2

Reduction of phenylacetylene (1a) using Raney Ni–Al, Al powder and Pt/C in  $H_2O^{a,b}$ 

Entry	Temp.	Yield (%) <sup>c</sup> 4	
	(°C)	3	
1	60	13.1	86.9
2	80	28.7	71.3
3	120	50	50

<sup>a</sup>Substrate: 20 mg (0.20 mmol), Raney Ni–AI: 100 mg (500 wt%), Al powder: 100 mg (500 wt%), catalyst: 4.5 mol% (metal),  $H_2O$ : 0.5 mL.

0.5 mL.

<sup>b</sup>Conditions: time: 12 h.

<sup>c</sup>The yields were determined by GLC.