

Friedel-Crafts Alkylation of 1,4-Dimethoxybenzene

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Draft Procedure

Place 200 mg of 1,4-dimethoxybenzene in a 25 mL Erlenmeyer flask and add 1.0 mL of glacial acetic acid and 0.5 mL of t-butyl alcohol. Swirl to mix and dissolve the solid and then cool the mixture in an ice bath. While keeping cool in the ice bath, add drop-wise, with extreme caution, 1.0 mL of concentrated H_2SO_4 . Stir the probably viscous mixture with a glass rod, remove from the ice bath, and allow it to stand at room temperature for 15 minutes. Return to the ice bath and add 5 mL of water (be VERY CAUTIOUS: add the water one drop at a time until it is obvious that the reaction has slowed). Filter the crystals and wash with several small portions of water, then two portions of saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 , then several more small portions of water, and finally with 1 mL of cold methanol. Purify the crystals by recrystallization from ethanol.