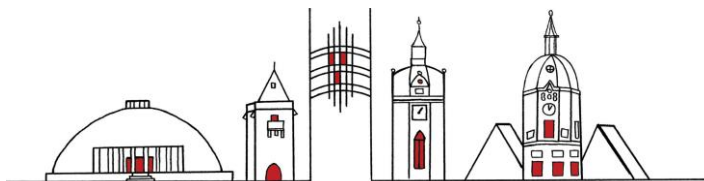




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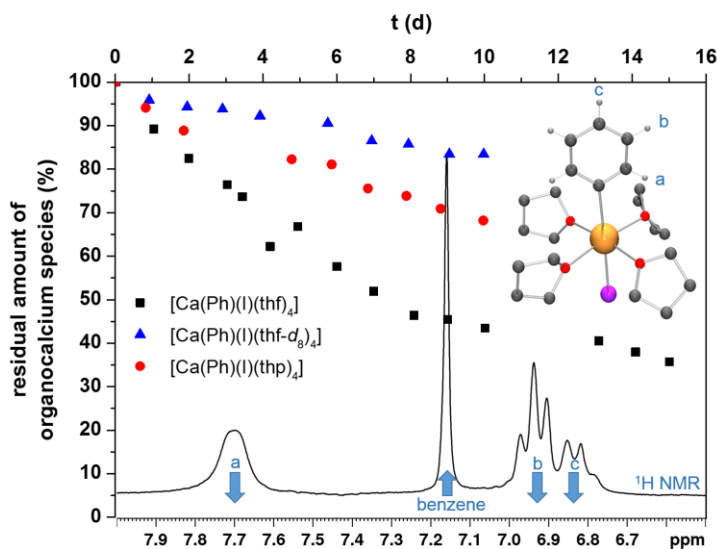
Organocalcium chemistry (Heavy *Grignard* Reagents)

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Abstract: The heavy alkaline earth metals combine the beneficial properties of the s-block metals (very electropositive and heteropolar M-C bonds, very nucleophilic carbanions) and of the early transition metals (availability of d-orbitals, strongly Lewis acidic ions, catalytic activity). Especially the use of calcium is advantageous because it is globally abundant, easily available, non-toxic, and inexpensive. However, the discrepancy between the inertness of the metal and the extreme reactivity of the calcium-based organometallics hampered a vast development of an organocalcium chemistry comparable to classic *Grignard* reagents. In order to compete with lithium- and magnesium-organic reagents, high-yield synthesis and durability of ethereal solutions are mandatory. Preparative concepts and stability in organic solvents are presented as well as preliminary applications in stoichiometric and catalytic reactions.



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