## Chapter 13. Alkynes

Methods for preparation of alkynes:

- **Dehydrohalogenation** of vicinal dihalides with strong bases (NaNH<sub>2</sub>). Vicinal dihalides can be obtained by dibromination of alkenes.
- **Dehydrohalogenation** of geminal dihalides with strong bases (NaNH<sub>2</sub>). Geminal dihalides are obtained from ketones by treatment with PX<sub>5</sub>.
- A popular synthesis of alkynes applies **displacement reactions** (S<sub>N</sub>2) with metalated alkynes.

## Reactions of alkynes:

- Hg(II)-catalyzed hydration provides ketones from terminal as well as internal alkynes.
- **Hydrogenation** (H<sub>2</sub>, catalyst) provides alkanes via twofold <u>syn-addition</u> of H<sub>2</sub> to the double bond. In the presence of poisoned catalysts (<u>Lindlar</u>, <u>Ni<sub>2</sub>B</u>) the intermediate alkene can be isolated.
- Lindlar or Ni<sub>2</sub>B hydrogenation of alkynes provides Z-alkenes via syn-addition.
- <u>Dissolving metal reduction</u> of alkynes with Li or Na in liquid amines provides <u>*E*-alkenes</u> via radical anions, radicals, and anions.
- **Addition of X**<sub>2</sub> to alkynes occurs stepwise via (E)-1,2-dihaloalkenes to 1,1,2,2-tetrahaloalkanes. Addition of Br<sub>2</sub> in the absence of heat or light provides *vicinal* dibromides.
- **Addition of HX** to alkynes follows Markovnikov's rule to give vinyl halides and *geminal* dihaloalkanes.
- Oxidative cleavage of alkynes with O<sub>3</sub> or KMnO<sub>4</sub> results in carboxylic acids.