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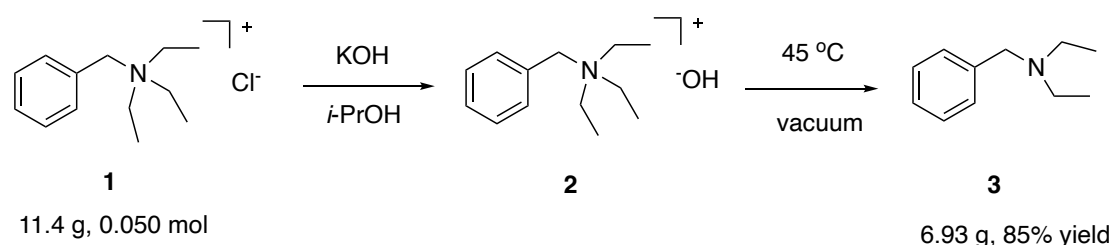
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KOH can be readily dissolved in isopropanol to form a 1.07 M solution, addition of BnNEt₃Cl (1.67 M in isopropanol) into this solution led to immediate participation of KCl and formation of BnNEt₃OH solution. Warming this mixture at 45 °C under reduced pressure led to Hofmann elimination and formation of N,N-diethylbenzylamine. This constitute a convenient and effective way for the preparation of this fundamental reagent.



Experimental Procedure

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with KOH (3.00 g, 0.053 mmol). *i*-PrOH (50 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred until all the solid dissolves to form a clear colorless solution. A solution of **1** (11.4 g in 30 mL *i*-PrOH) was added and a white particulate was immediately formed. The mixture was stirred for 5 min and then filtered and the solid washed with *i*-PrOH (10 mL×2) and then combined to afford a clear solution. Most of the solvent was removed by a diaphragm vacuum pump at 35 °C water bath. The water bath was then adjusted to 45 °C, ethylene gas gradually generated. The mixture was kept at this temperature for 3 h, the reaction was completed. PE (50 mL) and H₂O (50 mL) were added into the flask, the mixture was stirred and then the organic phase was separated. The aqueous phase was further extracted with PE (20 mL). The organic phase was combined, dried by Na₂SO₄ and filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford product **3** (6.93 g, 85% yield) as a colorless oil. The NMR spectral data of **3** was identical with the literature data¹.

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