



>>Entry Name: Lithium aluminium hydride

Synonym(s): Lithium tetrahydroaluminate(*III*). Tetrahydroaluminate lithium salt, 8Cl. Lithium aluminohydride. Lithal. Lithium alanate

CAS Registry Number: 16853-85-3

LiAlH₄

Molecular Formula: AlH₄Li

Molecular Weight: 37.954

Accurate Mass: 38.028842

Percentage Composition: Al 71.09%; H 10.62%; Li 18.29%

Source/Synthesis: Prepd. by reaction of LiH with AlCl₃ or AlBr₃ in Et₂O or from NaAlH₄ and LiCl in Et₂O

Use/Importance: Commercially available as solid or in soln. in Et₂O (1.0 *M*), diglyme (0.5 *M*) and THF (1.0 *M*). Versatile reducing agent. Polym. catalyst

Physical Description: Moisture sensitive white monoclinic cryst. Reacts violently with H₂O. Dec. on heating to form LiH, Al and H₂

Solubility: Sol. Et₂O (39g per 100 cm³), THF (15g per 100g); spar. sol. hydrocarbons

Other Data: ΔH_f° -117 kJ mol⁻¹; ΔG_f° -48 kJ mol⁻¹; S° 87.9 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹

Hazard & Toxicity: Flammable, corrosive. May catch fire in air without warning

Aldrich: 31746-2

Fluka: 62426

Sigma: L0260

>>Derivative: Deutero deriv.

Synonym(s): Lithium aluminium deuteride (LiAlD₄). Deuterated lithium aluminium hydride. Lithium tetrahydroaluminate - d₄. Tetrahydroaluminate - d₄, lithium salt, 8Cl

CAS Registry Number: 14128-54-2

Molecular Formula: AlD₄Li

Molecular Weight: 41.979

Source/Synthesis: Prepd. from AlBr₃/Et₂O + LiD/Et₂O or from Li, Al and D₂ at 150°, 15 atm.

Use/Importance: Commercially available. Reducing agent for producing deuterated organics

Physical Description: V. moisture sensitive white cryst.

Solubility: Sol. Et₂O; spar. sol. hydrocarbons

Other Data: Dec. at 98°

Hazard & Toxicity: Produces HD on reacting violently with H₂O

Aldrich: 40423-3

Fluka: 62413

Sigma: L4007

References:

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