1,2-Reduction of Conjugated Ketones: The Luche Reduction

**Significance:** In 1978, Luche reported the selective 1,2-reduction of α,β-unsaturated ketones by using sodium borohydride in the presence of various lanthanide chlorides, leading to allylic alcohols in excellent yields.

**Comment:** Remarkably, the use of lanthanide salts allowed the selective 1,2-reduction of several unsaturated ketones. Additionally, the undesired 1,4-reduction product was not formed which, until then, was a common byproduct in metal hydride mediated reduction methods.