

**ortho esters**

Compounds having the structure  $RC(OR')_3$  ( $R' \neq H$ ), or the structure  $C(OR')_4$  ( $R' \neq H$ ), e.g.  $HC(OCH_3)_3$  trimethyl orthoformate,  $C(OCH_3)_4$  tetramethyl orthocarbonate.

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