

Table of Nucleophiles

Strong Nucleophiles Br^- , I^- , R-S^- , H-S^- , $\text{N}\equiv\text{C}^-$, N_3^-	
$\text{R-C}\equiv\text{C}^-$, R-O^- , H-O^-	Strong Bases
Medium Nucleophiles R-CO_2^- , R-S-H , R_2S , NH_3 , RNH_2 , R_2NH , NR_3	
Weak Nucleophiles $\text{R-CO}_2\text{H}$, R-O-H , H_2O	
	Very Weak Bases

KCN

NaN_3

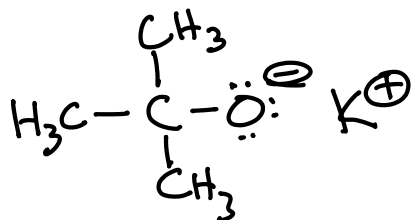
LiOH
KOH
NaOH

↑↑
There is always a counterion (Li^+ , K^+ or Na^+) with the negatively-charged nucleophiles/bases. Sometimes called a "spectator ion", the Li^+ , K^+ , Na^+ do not take part in the mechanisms

Special Case

Tert-Butoxide (tBuO^-) is a strong base, but is not a nucleophile due to steric hindrance.

Alcohol $\rightarrow$ CH_3OH
or
 $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$



"KOtBu"
or
" tBuO^- "

Substitution/Elimination Decision Map

Methyl Halide $\Rightarrow$ S_N2

Primary Haloalkane $\Rightarrow$ $t\text{BuOK ?}$ $\Rightarrow$ Yes $\Rightarrow$ E2
 $\downarrow$
 No $\Rightarrow$ S_N2

Secondary Haloalkane $\Rightarrow$ Very Weak Base ? $\Rightarrow$ Yes $\Rightarrow$ $S_N1/E1$ *
 $\downarrow$
 Very Strong Base ? $\Rightarrow$ Yes $\Rightarrow$ E2 **
 $\downarrow$
 No $\Rightarrow$ S_N2

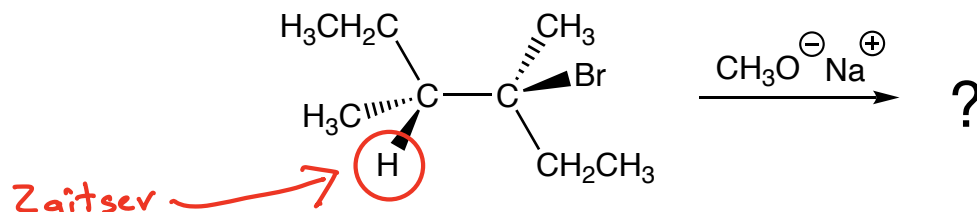
Tertiary Haloalkane $\Rightarrow$ Very Weak Base ? $\Rightarrow$ Yes $\Rightarrow$ $S_N1/E1$
 $\downarrow$
 No $\Rightarrow$ E2

For S_N2 Remember Chiral Center INVERSiON
 For E2 Remember anti-periplanar and Zaitsev
 For S_N1 Remember Chiral Center Scrambling
 For E1 Remember Zaitsev

* Note: With Very Weak Bases, S_N2 can compete here, but for the purposes of this class, assume S_N1 / E1 predominate

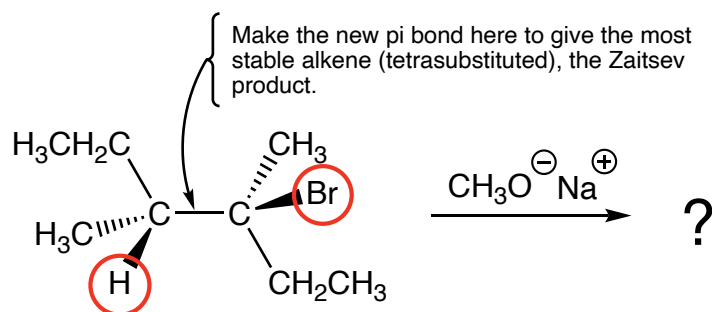
** Note: If $t\text{BuOK}$ is the very strong base, an appreciable amount of a non-Zaitsev product can be formed because the bulky $t\text{BuOK}$ will tend to react with the most accessible H atom.

E2 Reaction Considerations:

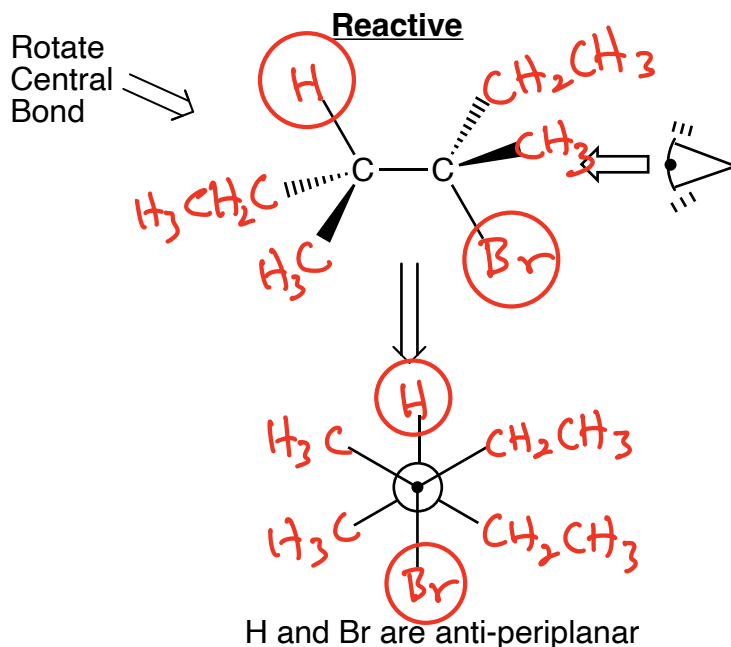
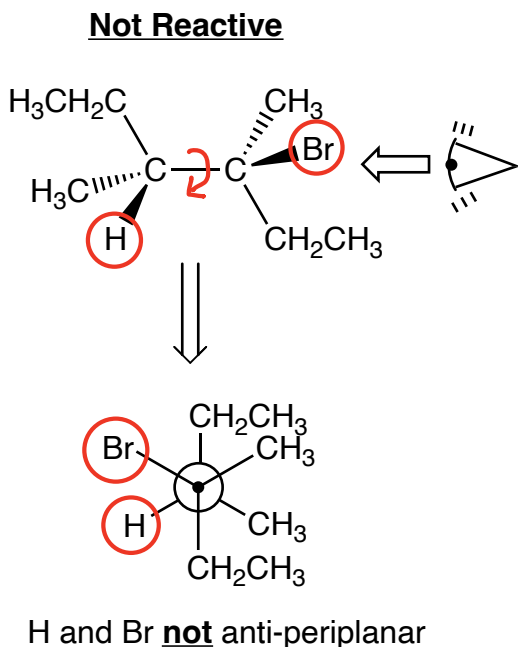


When analyzing highly substituted haloalkanes for a possible E2 reaction:

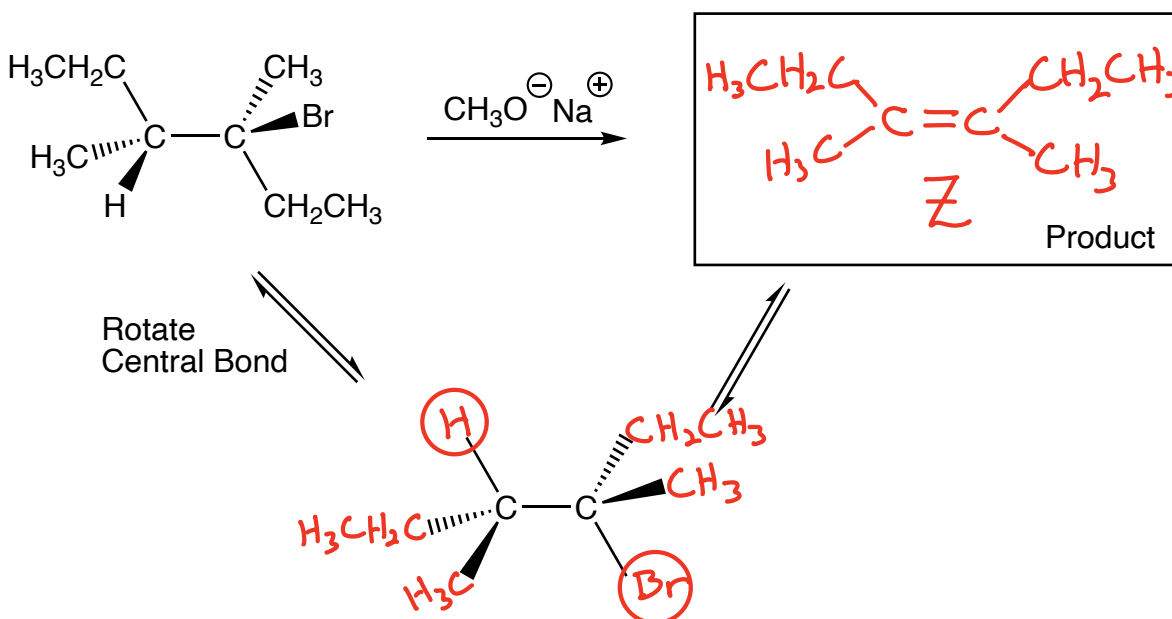
1. You need to identify the most stable possible alkene (most highly substituted, *trans* over *cis*) that could be made (Zaitsev product).



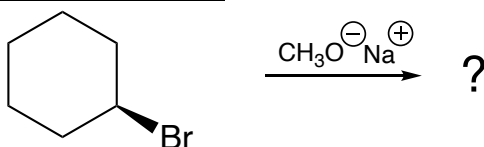
2. Given the Zaitsev product you have identified, verify which anti-periplanar H atom(s) can be removed during the reaction to determine whether the product is E or Z.
3. You often need to rotate bonds to identify the particular H atom and configuration that reacts to give the alkene product.



Putting it all together:

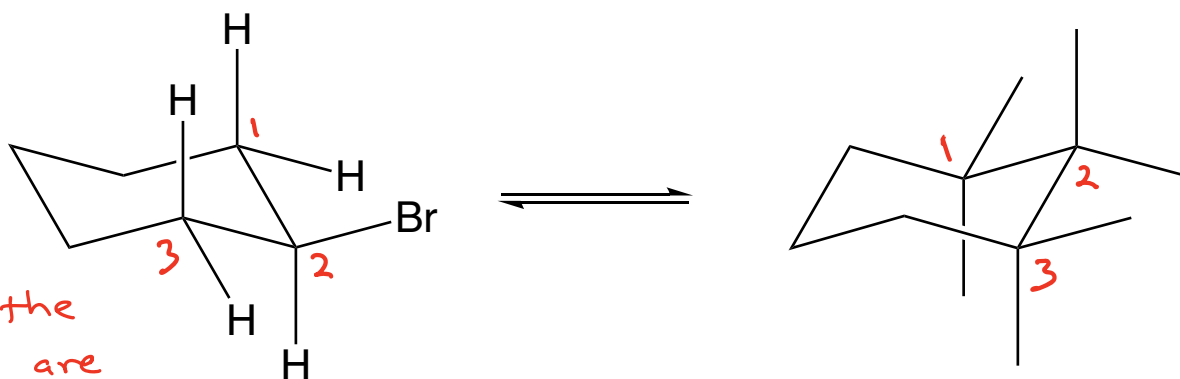


E2 Reaction of cyclohexane derivatives:



When analyzing highly substituted haloalkanes for a possible E2 reaction:

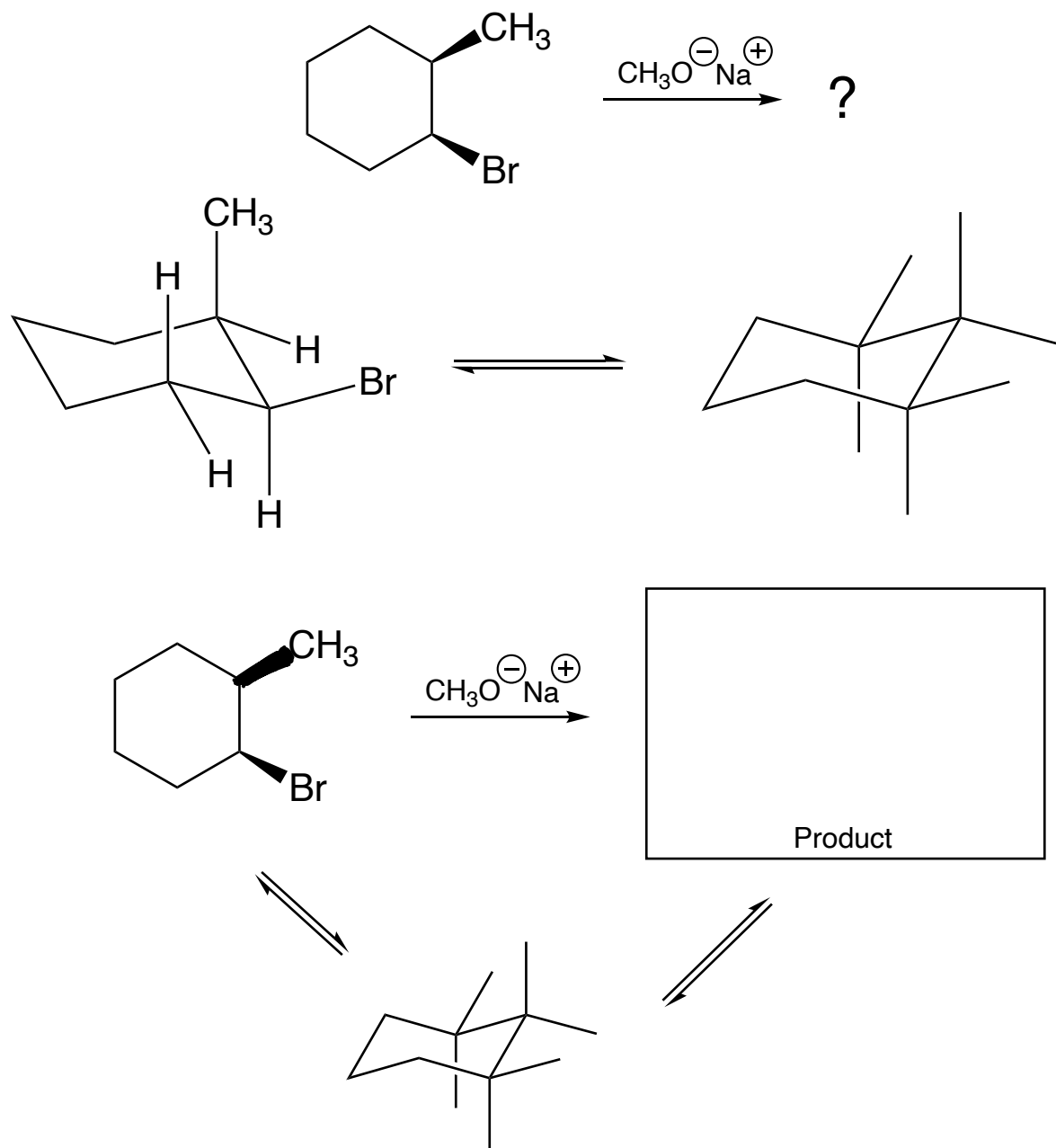
1. You need to identify the most stable possible alkene (most highly substituted, *trans* over *cis*) that could be made (Zaitsev product).
2. Given the Zaitsev product you have identified, verify which anti-periplanar H atom(s) can be removed during the reaction to determine if that product can be made.
3. You often need to flip chairs in cyclohexane derivatives to identify the particular H atom and configuration that reacts to give the alkene product.

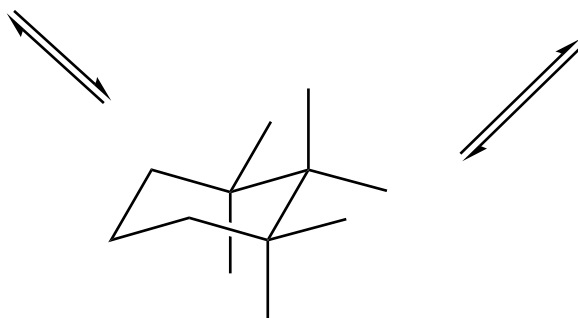
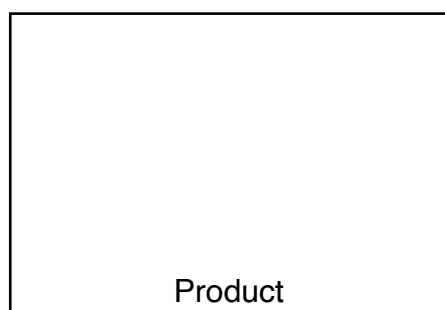
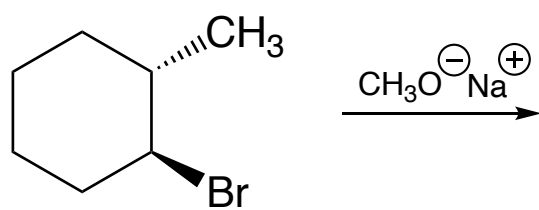
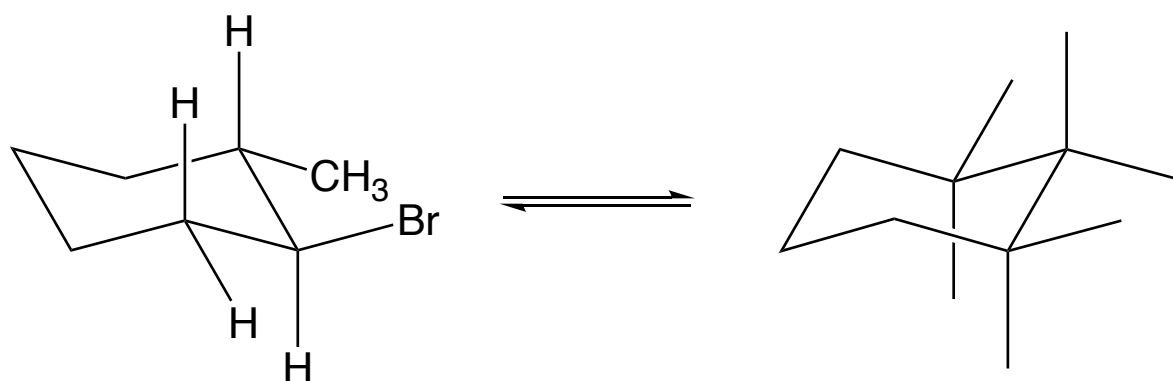
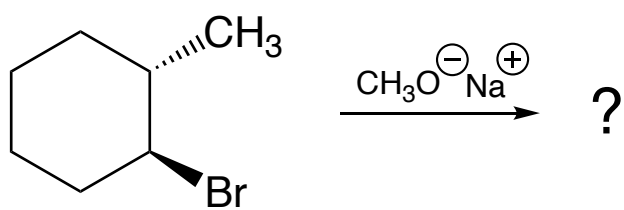


None of the H atoms are anti-periplanar to the Br atom!

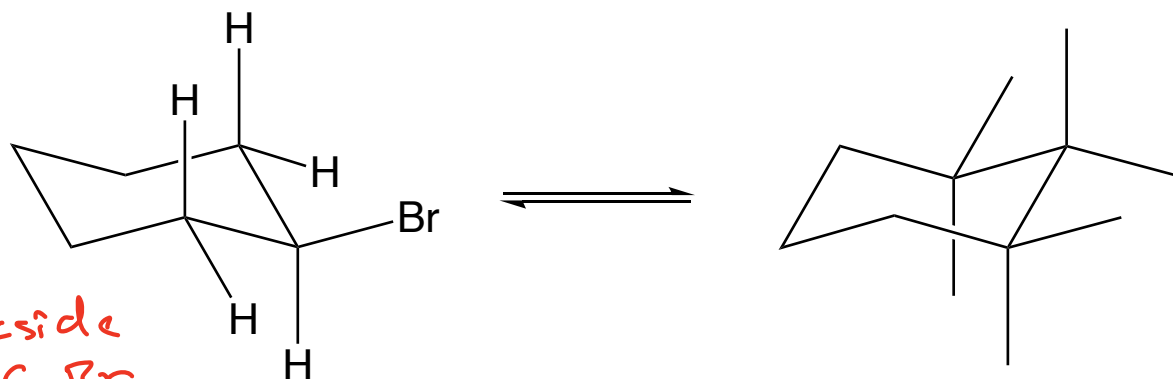
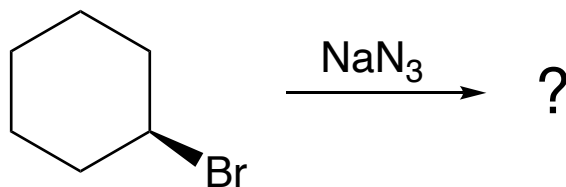
Rule: The halogen and H atom must both be AXIAL to react by an E2 mechanism.

Classic Examples:

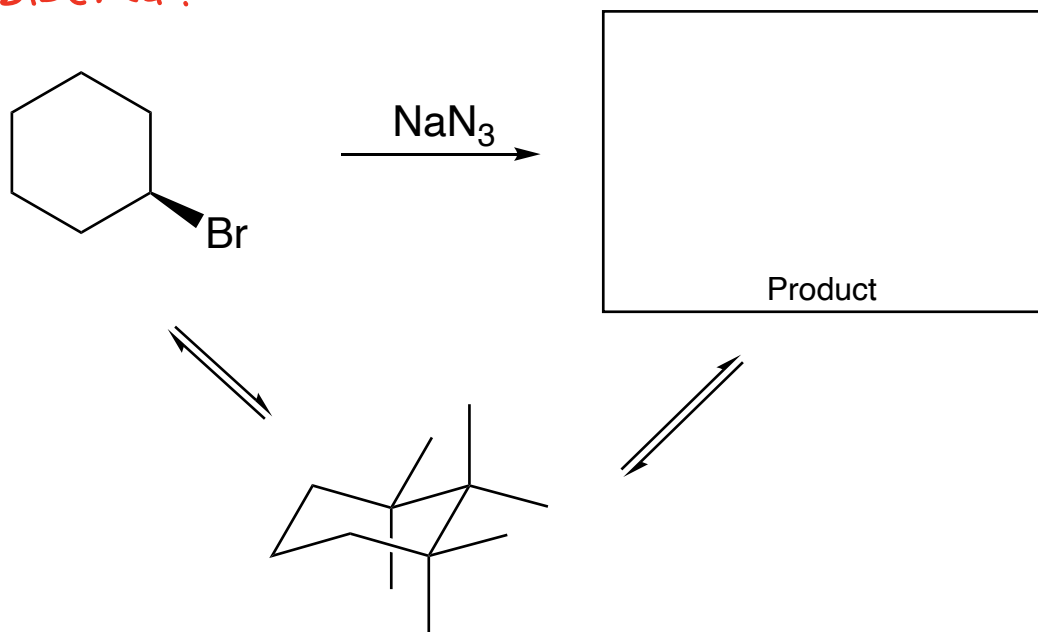




S_N2 Reactions of Cyclohexanes:



Backside
of C-Br
bond is blocked!



Rule: The halogen must be AXIAL
to react by an S_N2 mechanism.



“You can’t stop the waves, but you can learn to surf”

Jon Kabat-Zinn



Alkanes

Alkenes

Alkynes

Haloalkanes

Vicinal dihaloalkanes

Ketones and Aldehydes

Carboxylic Acids

Alcohols

Where Electrons Are

Mechanisms

Roadmaps

Stereochemistry

Regiochemistry

ROTD

NIRRS

Motive

Opportunity

Carbocation

Radical

Pi-ways

Golden Rules

Make a Bond

Break a Bond

Add a Proton

Take a Proton

Nucleophiles and Electrophiles

Charge Delocalization

Hyperconjugation

Steric strain

Angle and Torsional Strain

Epoxides

Vicinal Diols

Radical Chain

SN2 vs. E2

SN1 and E1

Anti-periplanar

Markovnikov

Zaitsev

Geminal
Dihaloalkanes

Vicinal
Tetrahaloalkanes

Alkynes

Aldehydes/Ketones

Vicinal
Dihaloalkanes

Vicinal
Diols

Alkenes

Alcohols

Haloalkanes

Halohydrins

Alkanes

Geminal
Dihaloalkanes

Vicinal
Tetrahaloalkanes

Aldehydes/Ketones

Vicinal
Diols

Alcohols

Halohydrins

Various S_N2
Products

Alkynes (DFW)



R-C≡C-H
Terminal
1) 3NaNH_2
2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{H}_2\text{O}$

R-C≡C-R
Internal
 2NaNH_2

Double E2

Vicinal
Dihaloalkanes (Waco)

X_2 (Br, Cl, I)
Anti 3-membered ring

Alkenes (ATX)



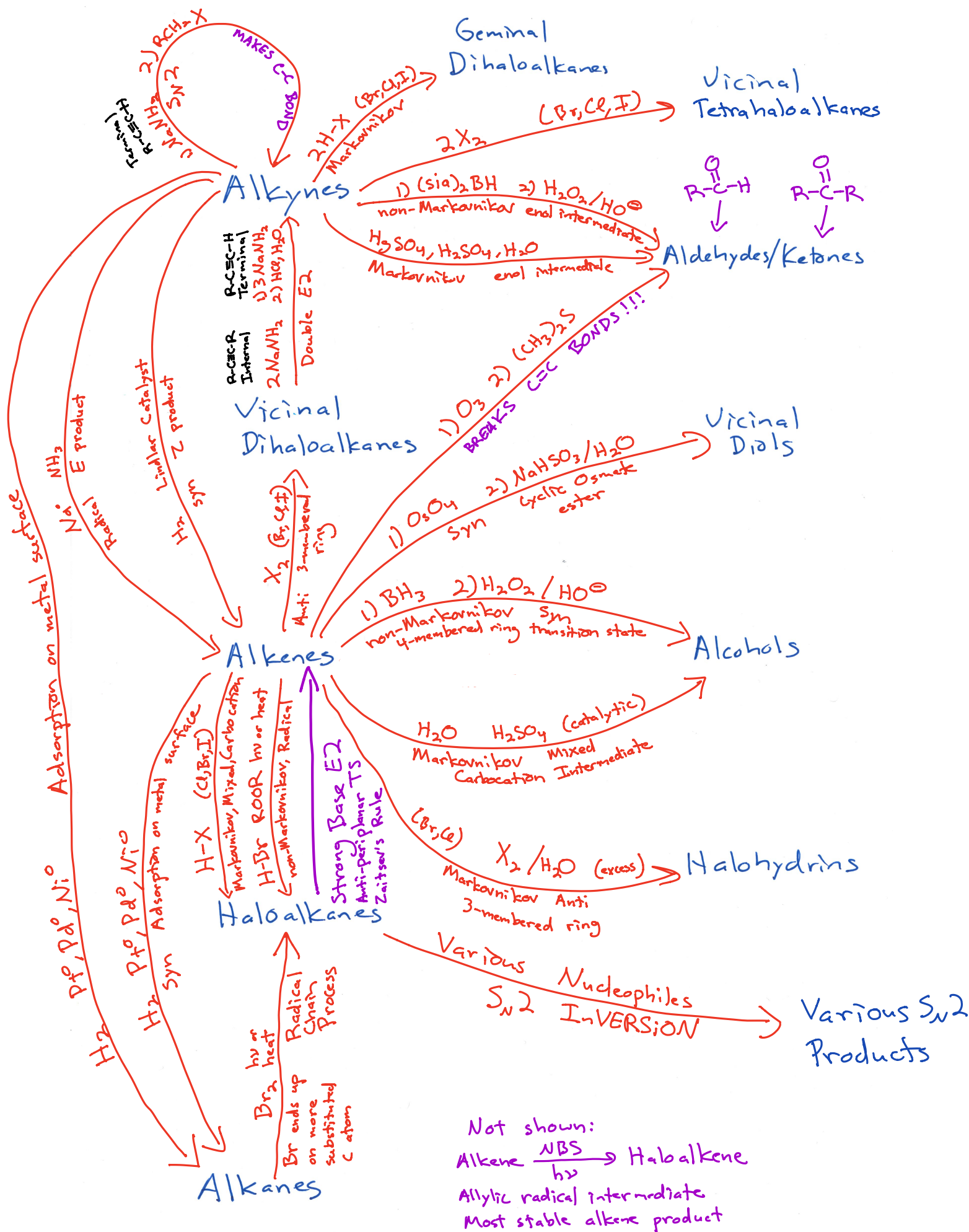
H-X (Cl, Br, I) *
Markovnikov, Mixed, Carbocation
H-Br ROOR hv or heat
non-Markovnikov, Radical

Strong Base E2
Anti-periplanar TS
Zaitsev's Rule

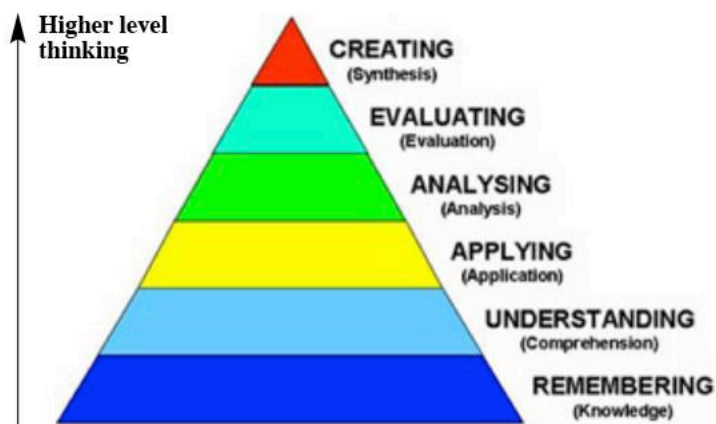
Haloalkanes (S.M., N.B.)

Alkanes (San Antonio)



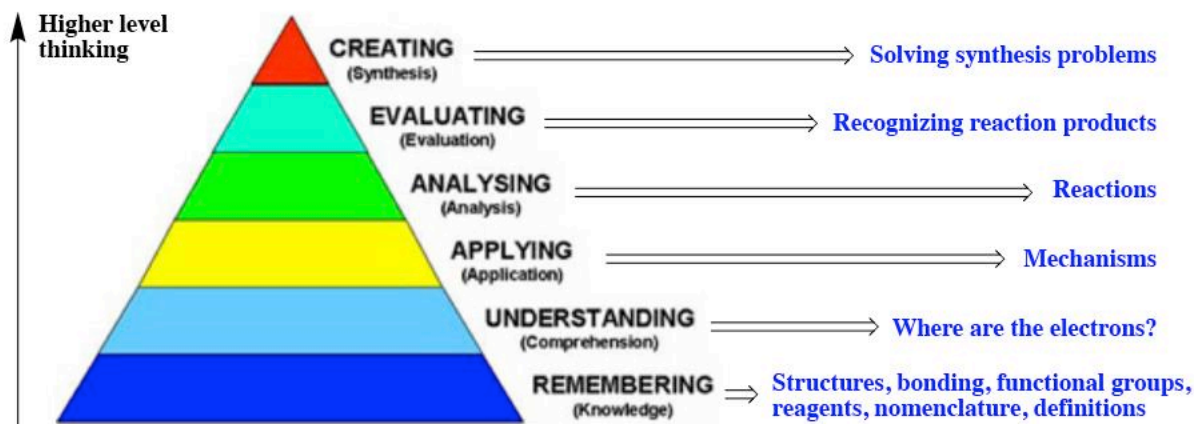


Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning



Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning

Organic Chemistry Analog



A) **You must have your entire roadmap learned** so you can recite the NIRRS parameters for each reagent, i.e. Nature of overall transformation ("locations" on the roadmap), the Intermediate or transition state (carbocation, anti-periplanar etc.), the Reagents and how to designate them, as well as any Regiochemistry (Markovnikov, etc.) and any appropriate Stereochemistry (syn, anti, InVERSiON, scrambled, etc).

B) **Work backwards** (learn to RECOGNIZE the appropriate reagents and starting materials by looking at the products) from the final product. DO NOT try to work forward from the starting materials. Please trust me on this.

C) **Count carbons** in the starting material(s) and product(s) to see if any carbon-carbon bonds need to be broken or made, thereby zeroing in on key steps. This will be far more important next semester, so you should get used to doing this now.

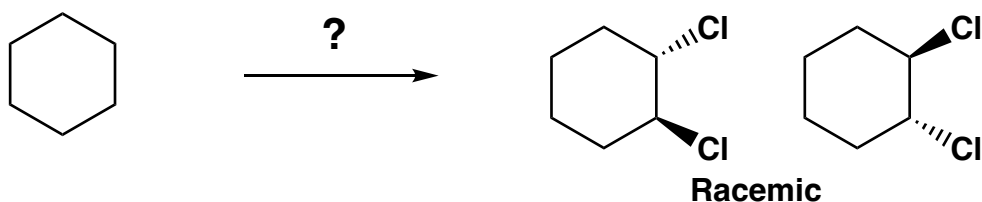
D) **Pretty much all synthesis problems in OChem 1 involve traveling "north or south" on the so-called "I-35"** reactions (alkanes SA, haloalkanes NB/SM, alkenes ATX, vicinal dihaloalkanes Waco, alkynes DFW) at least part way at some point during the synthesis. This is not a promise or a rule, just an observation.

Signature _____

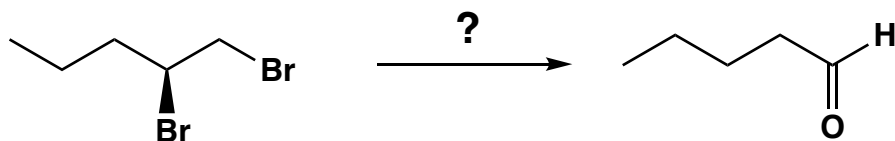
Pg 17 _____ (11)

20. These are synthesis questions. You need to show how the starting material can be converted into the product(s) shown. You may use any reactions we have learned provided that the product(s) you draw for each step is/are the predominant one(s). Show all the reagents you need. Show each molecule synthesized along the way and be sure to pay attention to the regiochemistry and stereochemistry preferences for each reaction. You must draw all stereoisomers formed, and use wedges and dashes to indicate chirality at each chiral center. Write racemic when appropriate. **All the carbons of the product must come from carbons of the starting material.**

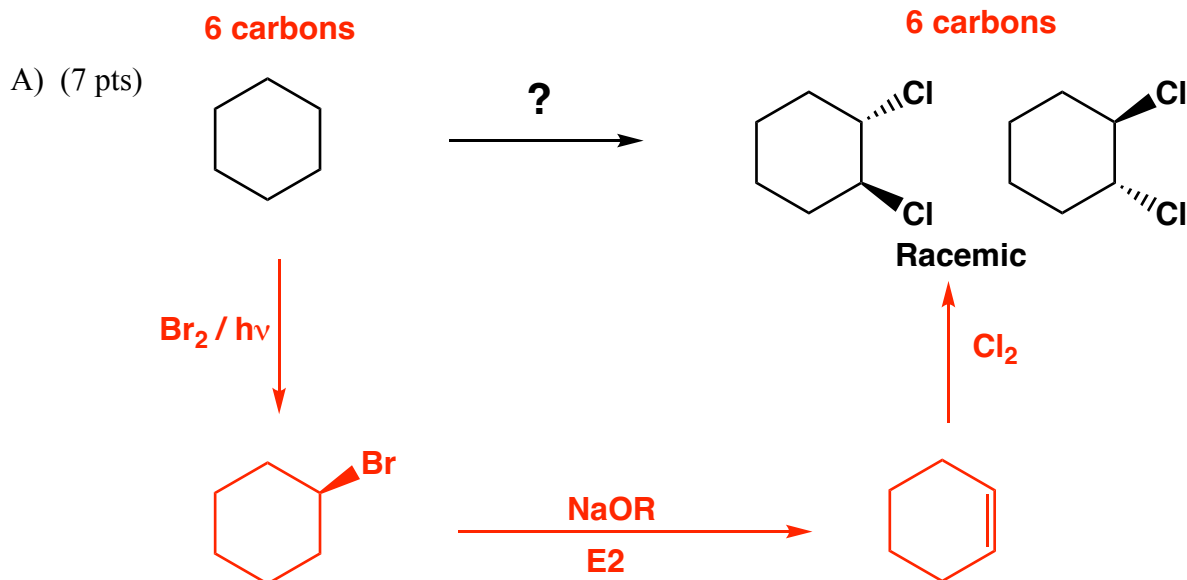
A) (7 pts)



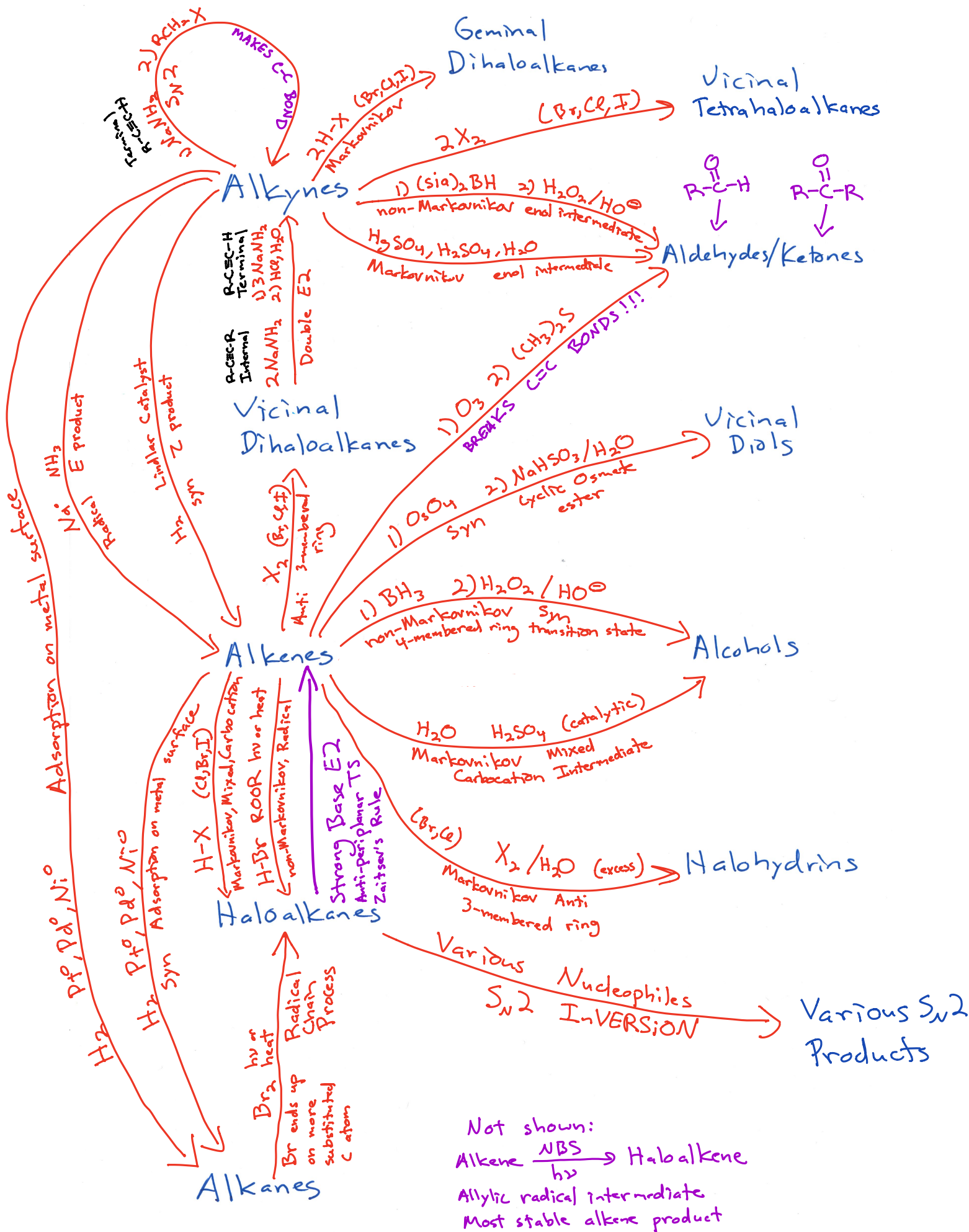
B) (4 pts)



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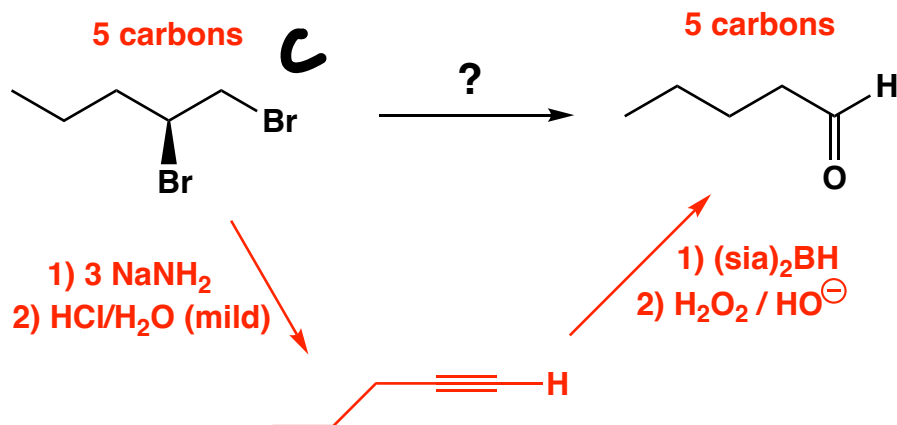


Recognize: The product is a *trans* dichlorocyclohexane that must result from the reaction of an alkene (cyclohexene) with Cl_2 . **Recognize:** The cyclohexene comes from the usual “1-3-5” combination of halogenation of an alkane with light (the only reaction that uses an alkane starting material) followed by an E2 in strong base such as an alkoxide (NaOR).

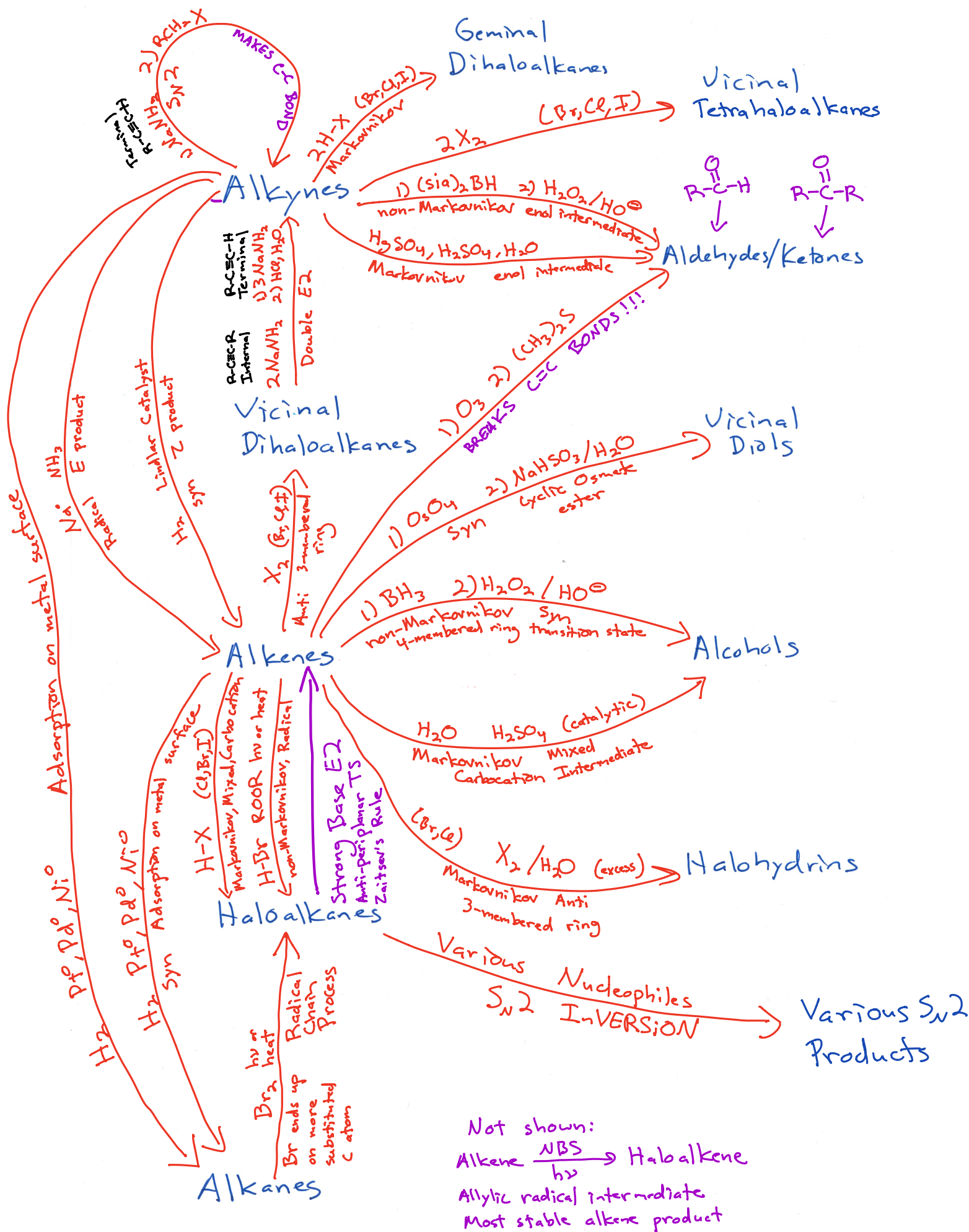


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B) (4 pts)



Recognize: The product is an aldehyde that can be made from a primary alcohol, ozonolysis of an alkene (breaks carbon-carbon bond so not possible here) or from an alkyne. Choose the latter because an alkyne can be made from the starting vicinal dihaloalkane using base, in this case three equivalents of NaNH₂ followed by mild acid workup because the product is a terminal alkyne.



Alcohols $\rightarrow$ $R-\ddot{O}-H$

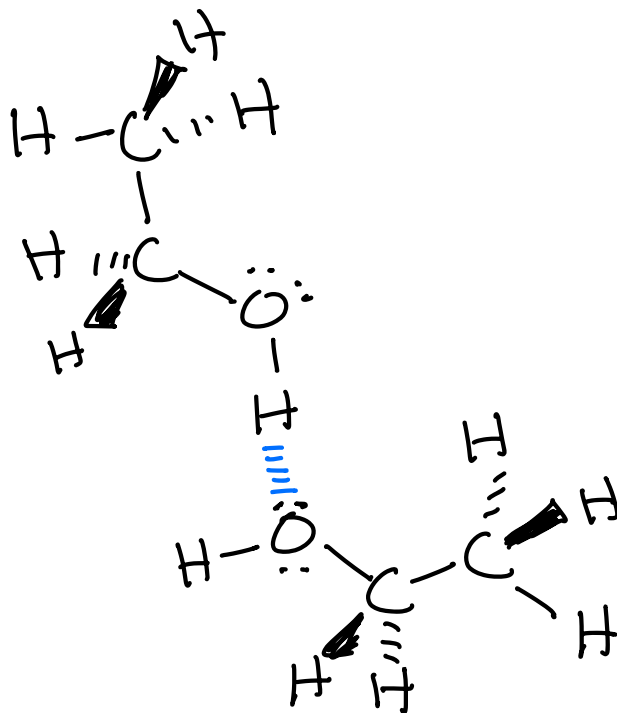


Table 10.1 **Boiling Points and Solubilities in Water of Five Groups of Alcohols and Hydrocarbons of Similar Molecular Weight**

Structural Formula	Name	Molecular Weight (g/mol)	Boiling Point (°C)	Solubility in Water
CH_3OH	Methanol	32	65	Infinite
CH_3CH_3	Ethane	30	-89	Insoluble
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	Ethanol	46	78	Infinite
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$	Propane	44	-42	Insoluble
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	1-Propanol	60	97	Infinite
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$	Butane	58	0	Insoluble
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	1-Butanol	74	117	8 g/100 g
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$	Pentane	72	36	Insoluble
$\text{HOCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	1,4-Butanediol	90	230	Infinite
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	1-Pentanol	88	138	2.3 g/100 g
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$	Hexane	86	69	Insoluble

General Rules of Solvents

Polar Protic

Polar protic solvents dissolve other polar molecules →

Polar protic solvents →

⇒ See the POTD for today
for the main messages here

- 1) Solvation of cations and anions
- 2) Solvation of carbocations/anions in $S_N1/E1$ reactions
- 3) Methanol dissolved in water
- 4) Why pentane and water do not mix

IN CHEMISTRY
ALCOHOL IS
A SOLUTION

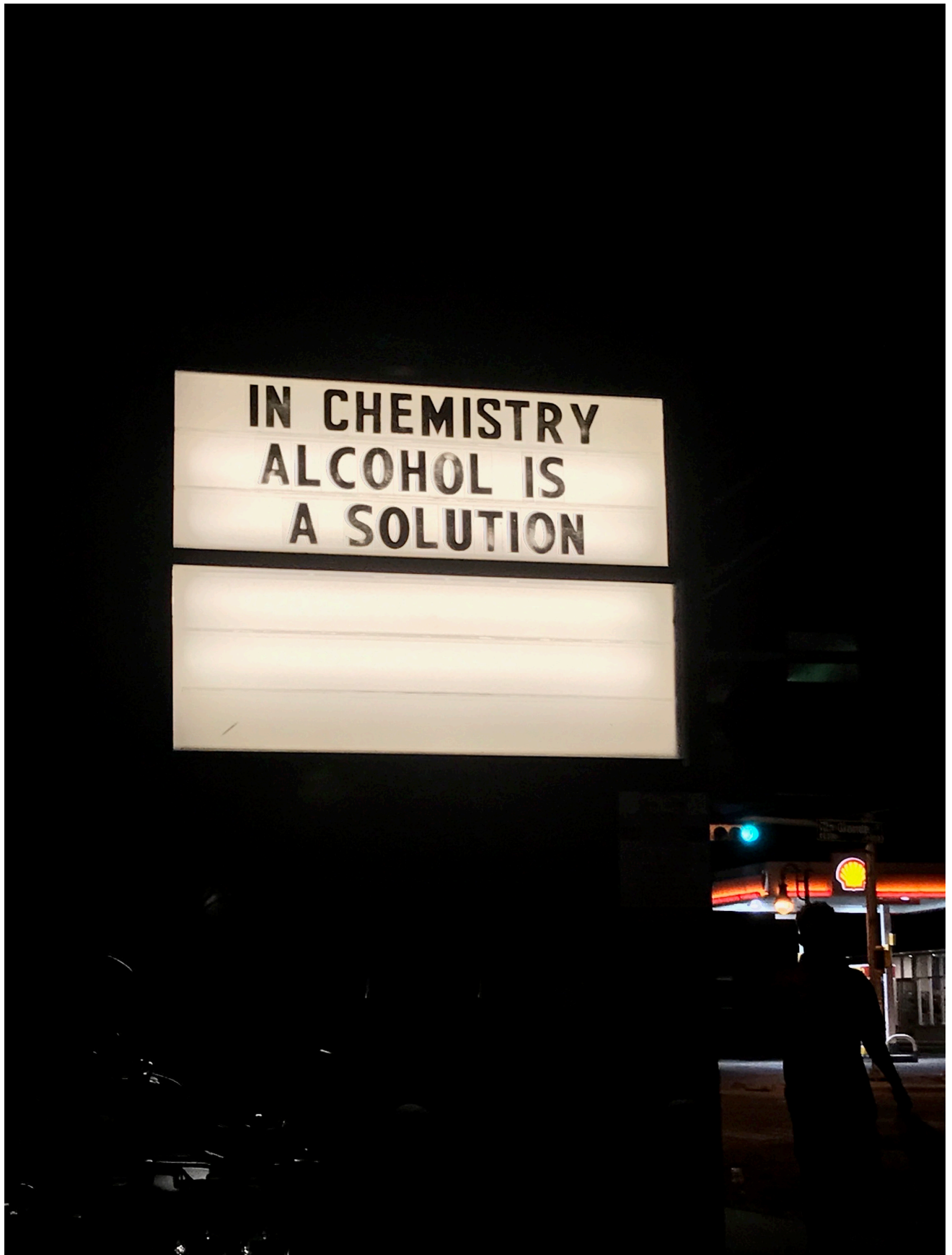
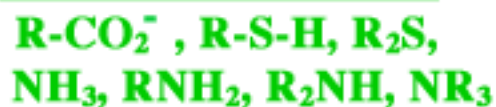


Table of Nucleophiles

Strong Nucleophiles



Medium Nucleophiles

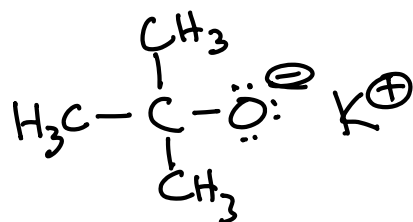


Weak Nucleophiles



Special Case

Tert-Butoxide (tBuO^-) is a strong base, but is not a nucleophile due to steric hindrance.



" KOtBu "
or
" tBuO^- "

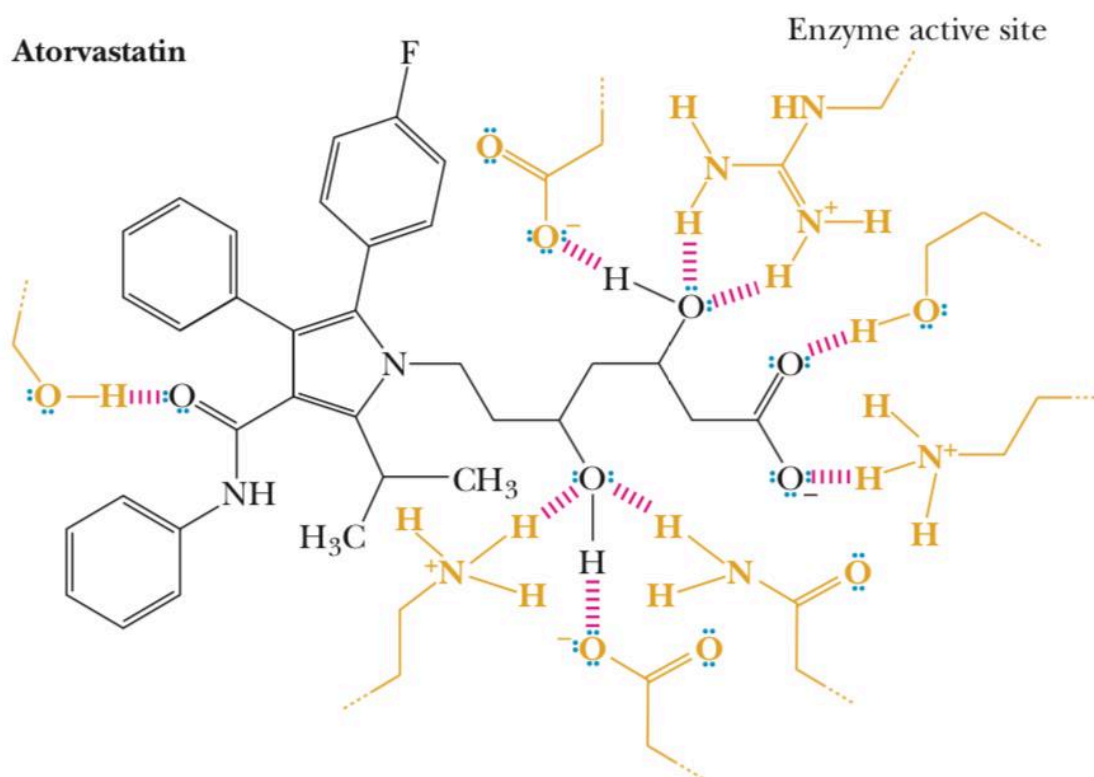


Figure 2

Hydrogen bonding (shown in red) between atorvastatin and the functional groups at the active site of the enzyme HMG-CoA reductase. The nine hydrogen bonds (shown in red), many of which involve hydroxyl groups on atorvastatin or the enzyme surface, help to provide the specificity that directs the binding of the drug to its target enzyme.

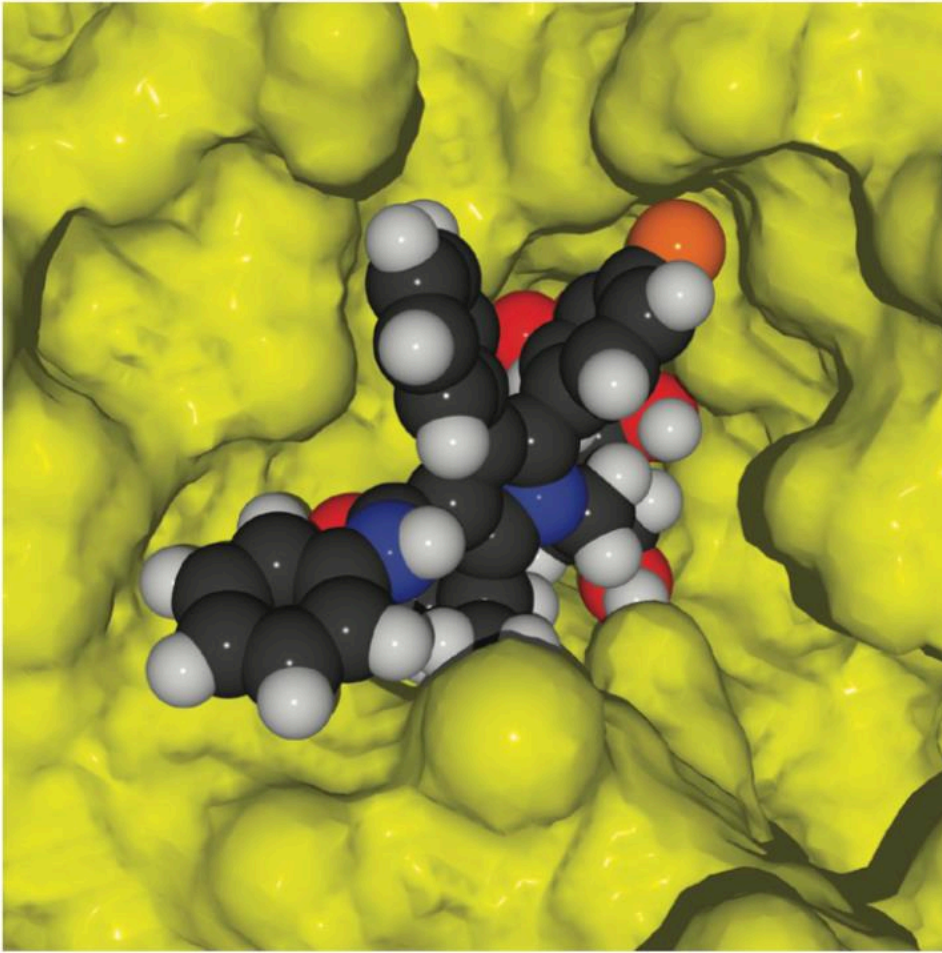


Figure 1

A space-filling model of the cholesterol-lowering drug atorvastatin (Lipitor) bound to the active site of its enzyme target HMG-CoA reductase (shown as a yellow surface). The shape of the drug is complementary to the active site of the enzyme.

Organic Chemistry is the study of carbon-containing molecules.

This class has two points.

The first point of the class is to understand the organic chemistry of living systems. We will teach you how to think about and understand the most amazing things on the planet!!

Water is essential for life, you will learn why water has such special properties. 8/27/25

You will learn the secret structural reason proteins, the most important molecular machines in our bodies, can support the chemistry of life. 9/10/25

You will learn why when you take Advil for pain, exactly half of what you take works, and the other half does nothing. 9/24/25

You will learn how toothpaste works. 10/6/25

You will learn how a single chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant molecule released into the atmosphere can destroy many, many ozone molecules, leading to an enlargement of the ozone hole. 10/29/25

You will learn how medicines like Benadryl, Seldane, and Lipitor work.

You will learn how Naloxone is an antidote for an opioid overdose.

You will learn why Magic Johnson is still alive, decades after contracting HIV.

You will learn how MRI scans work.

The second point of organic chemistry is the synthesis of complex molecules from simpler ones by making and breaking specific bonds.

You will learn how to understand movies of reaction mechanisms like alkene hydration. 10/8/25

You will learn reactions that once begun, will continue reacting such that each product molecule created starts a new reaction until all the starting material is used up. 10/29/25

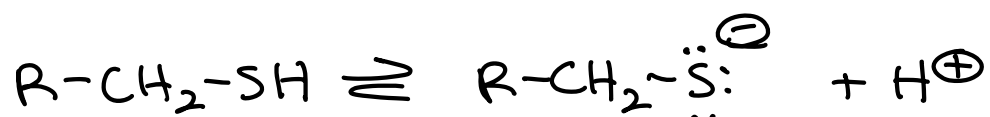
You will learn reactions that can make antifreeze from vodka.

You will learn a reaction that can make nail polish remover from rubbing alcohol.

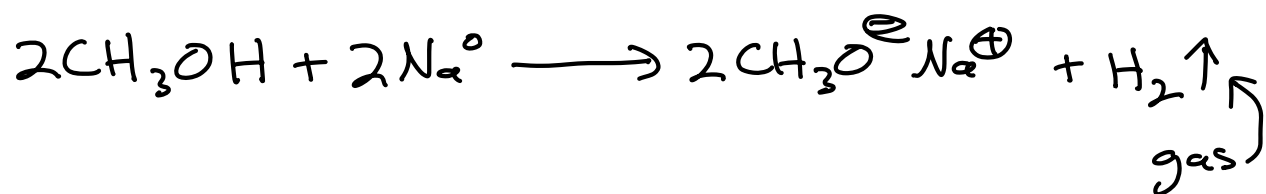
You will learn how to look at a molecule and accurately predict which atoms will react to make new bonds, and which bonds will break during reactions.

You will learn how to analyze a complex molecule's structure so that you can predict ways to make it via multiple reactions starting with less complex starting molecules.

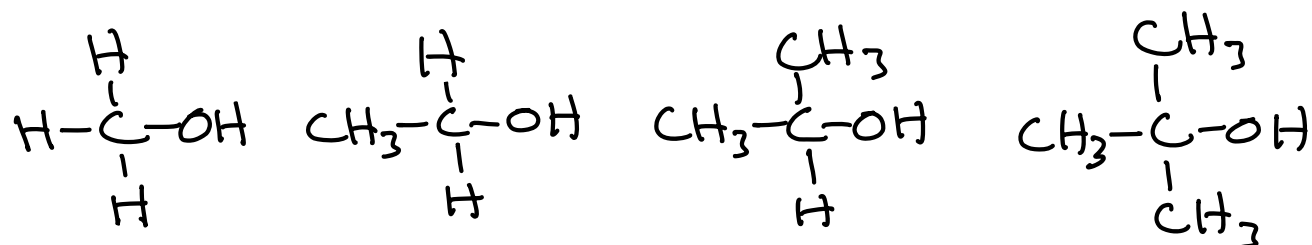
Alcohols $\rightarrow$ Acidity and Basicity



Notice This $\rightarrow Na^{\circ}, K^{\circ}, Li^{\circ}$



Alcohols $\rightarrow$ Reaction mechanisms depend on the number of alkyl groups attached on the C atom of C-OH bond.

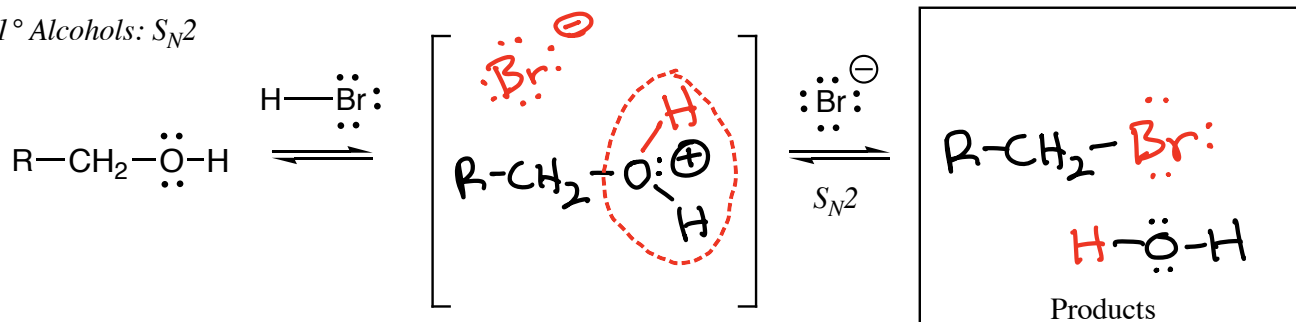


The -OH is not a leaving group but several reactions involve conversion of the -OH group into a good leaving group

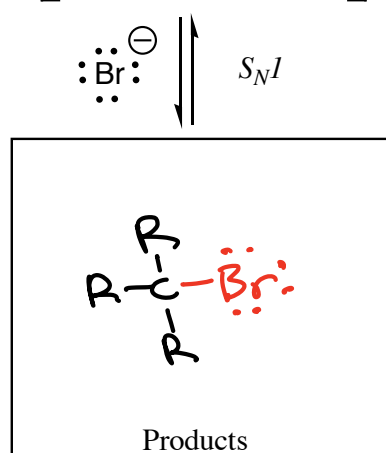
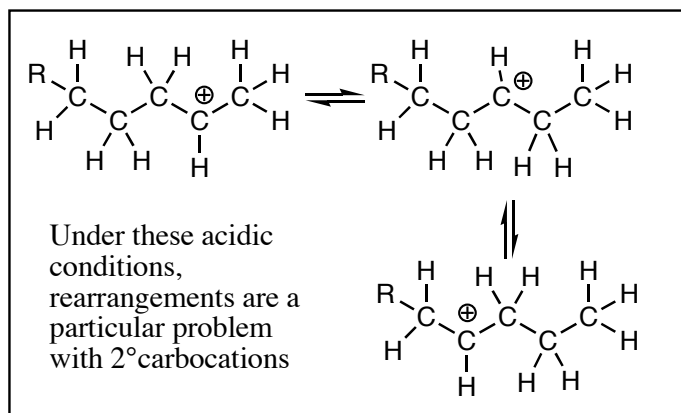
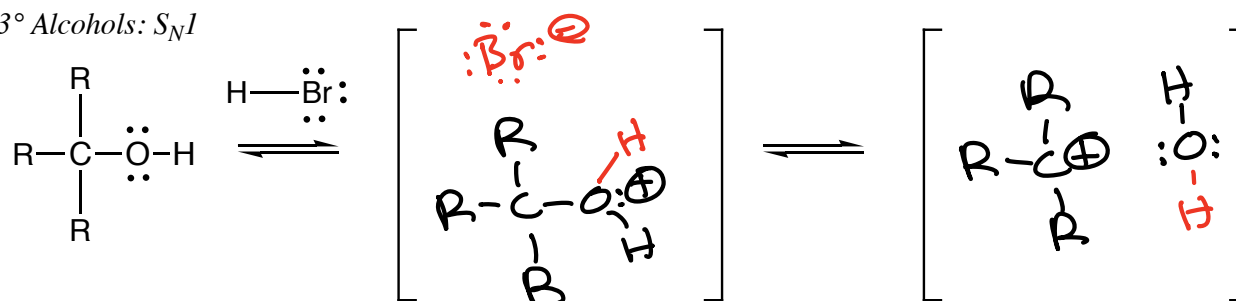
Recall, the -OH group is a weak nucleophile and weak base (in strong acid)

Alcohols + H-X

1° Alcohols: S_N2



2°/3° Alcohols: S_N1



Summary:

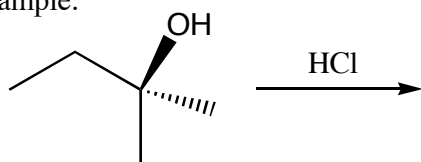
Summary:

- Reaction of primary alcohols $\rightarrow S_N2$
- Reaction of secondary/tertiary alcohols $\rightarrow S_N1$
- The $-OH$ group is converted to a good leaving group by protonation

Regiochemistry:

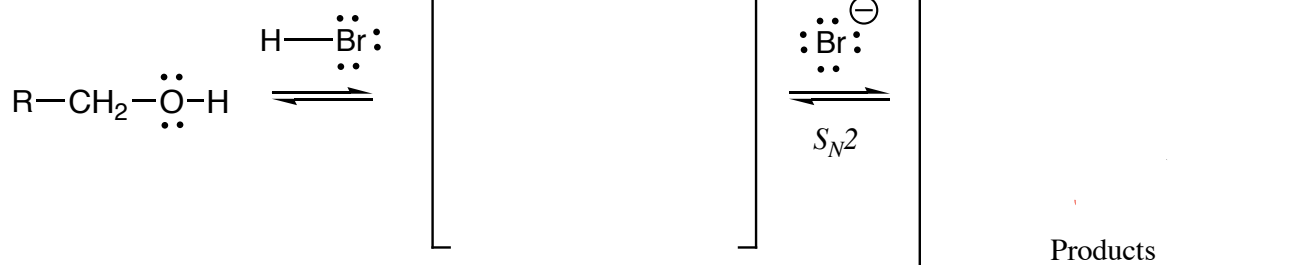
Stereochemistry:

Example:

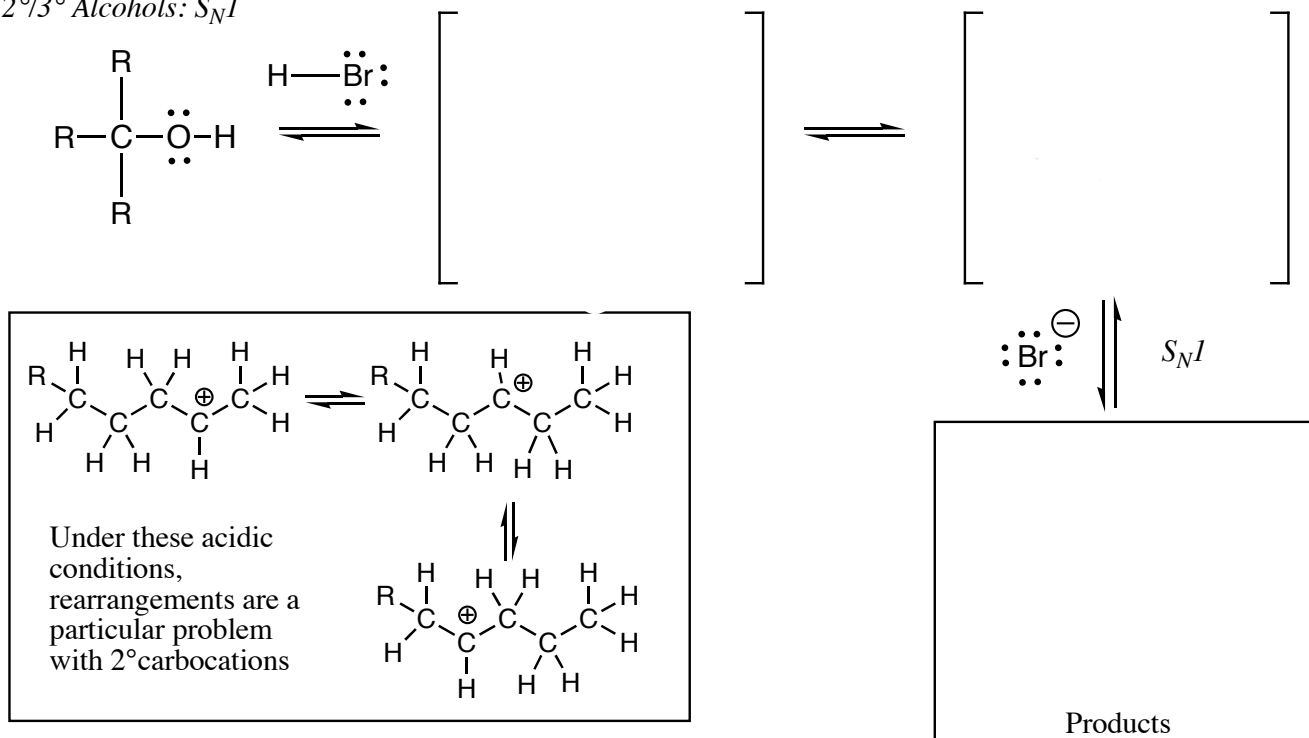


Alcohols + H-X

1° Alcohols: S_N2



2°/3° Alcohols: S_N1



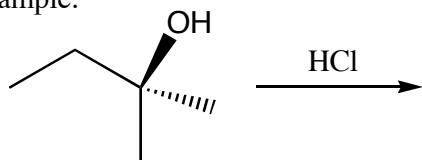
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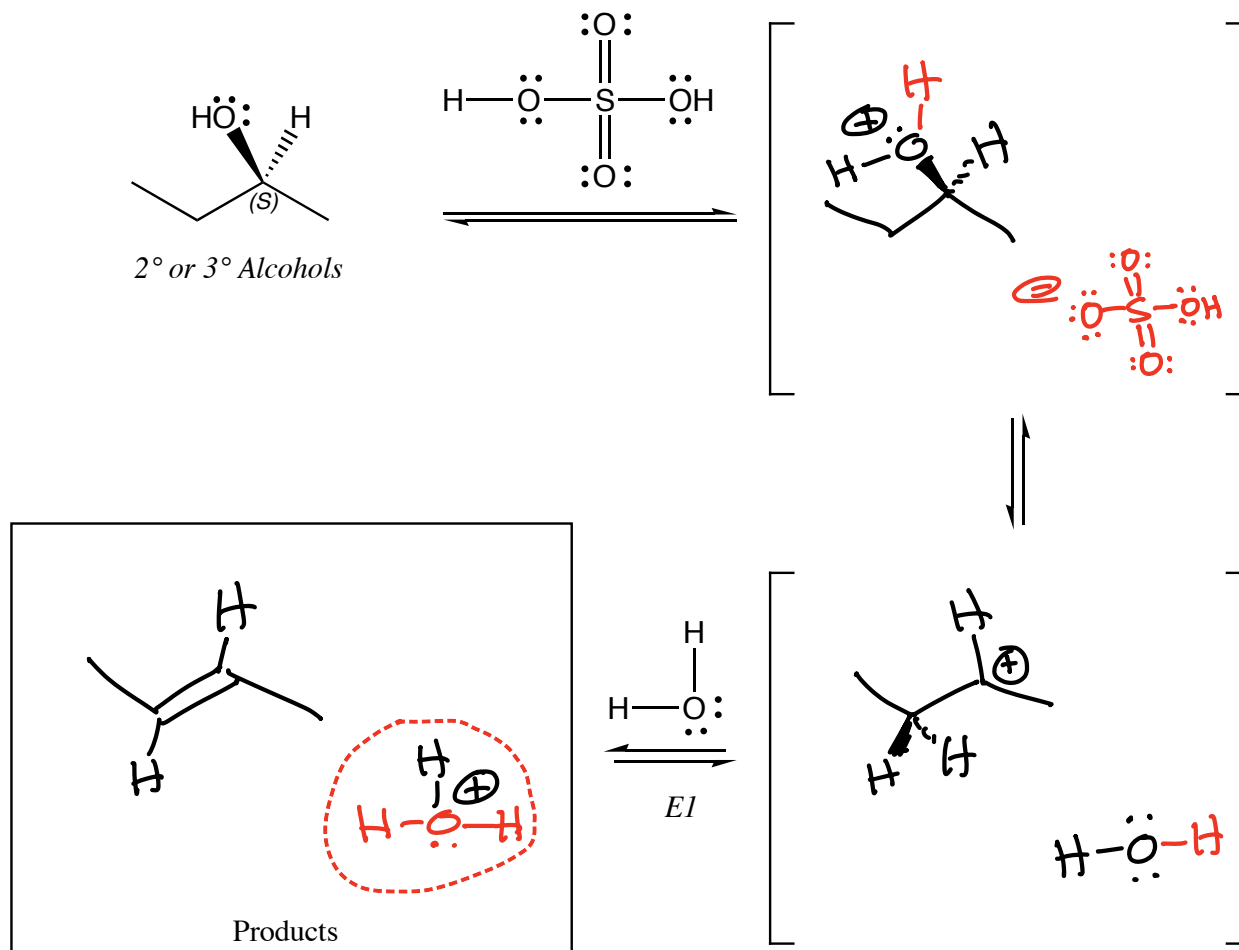
Regiochemistry:

Stereochemistry:

Example:



2° or 3° Alcohol Dehydration

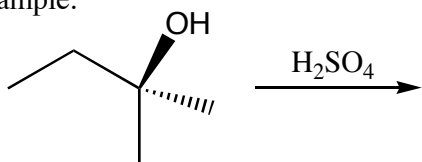


Summary: The OH group is protonated in strong acid to make a good leaving group (H_2O), which breaks a bond to give a carbocation that has a proton taken away $\rightarrow$ E1 (No $\text{S}_{\text{N}}1$!)

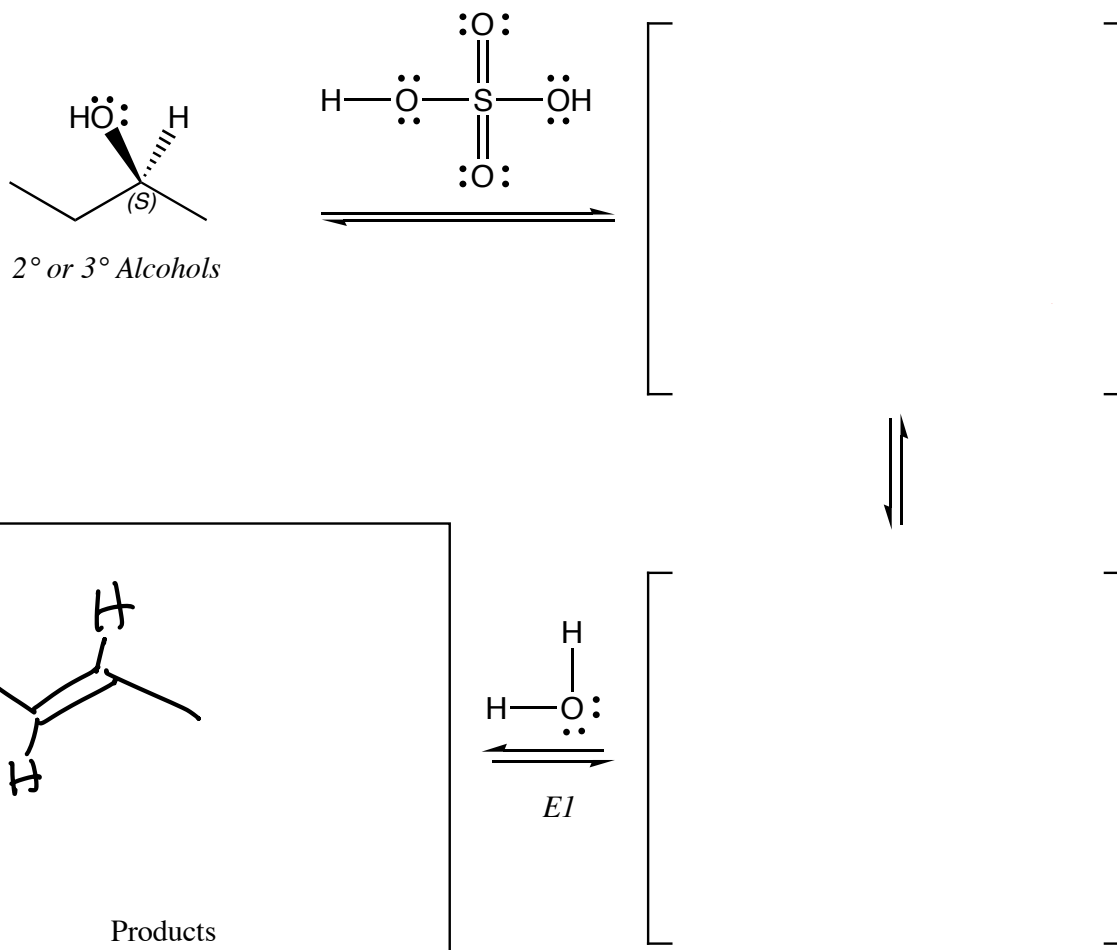
Regiochemistry:

Stereochemistry:

Example:



2° or 3° Alcohol Dehydration

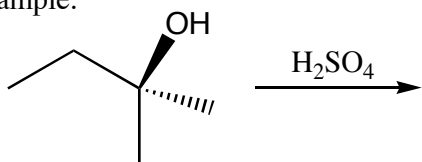


Summary: The OH group is protonated in strong acid to make a good leaving group (H_2O), which breaks a bond to give a carbocation that has a proton taken away $\rightarrow$ *E1* (No *S_N1*!)

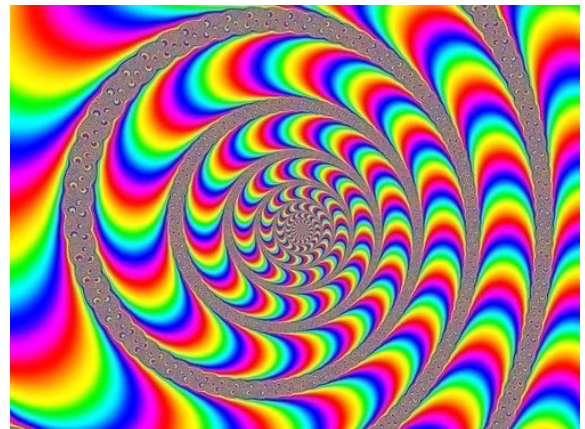
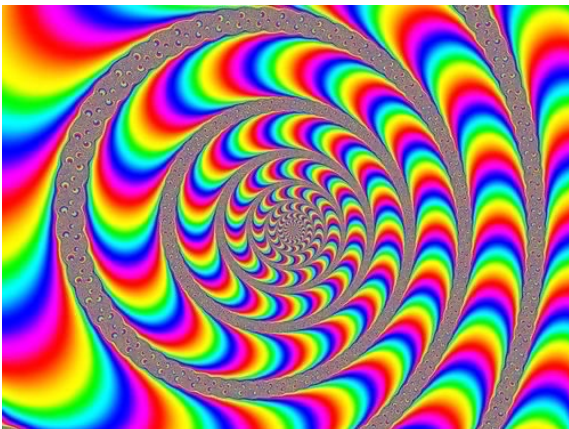
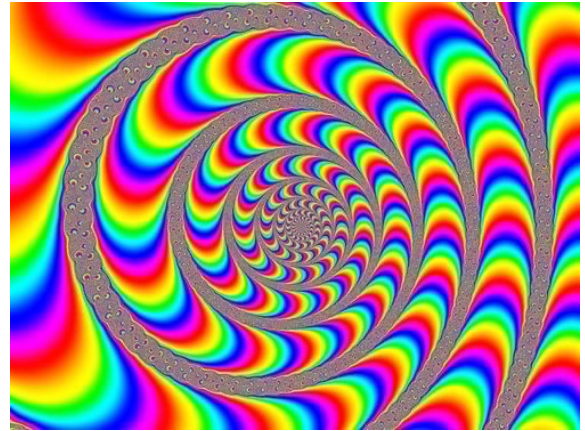
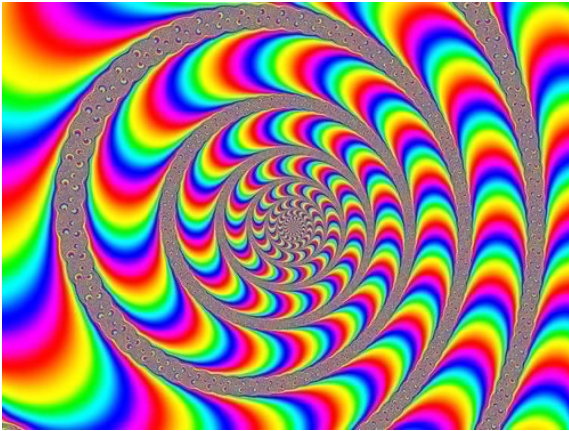
Regiochemistry:

Stereochemistry:

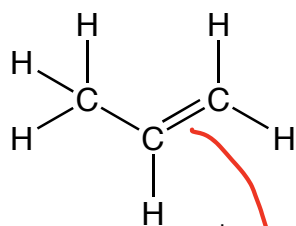
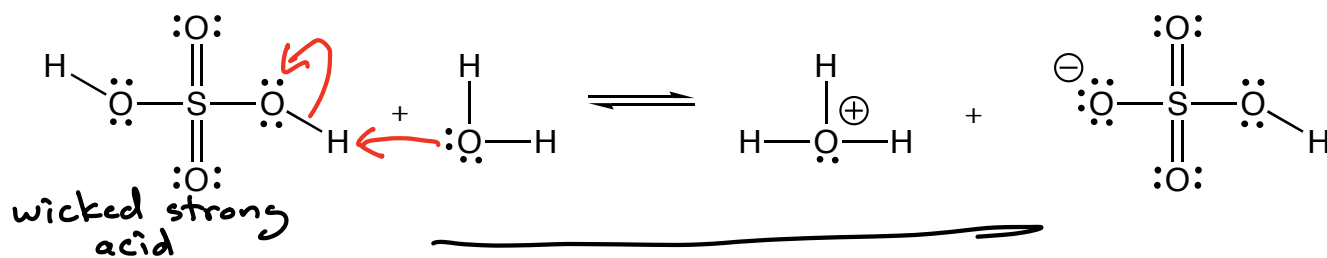
Example:



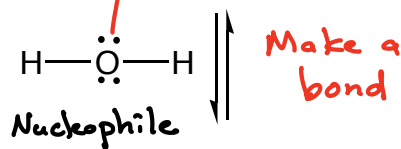
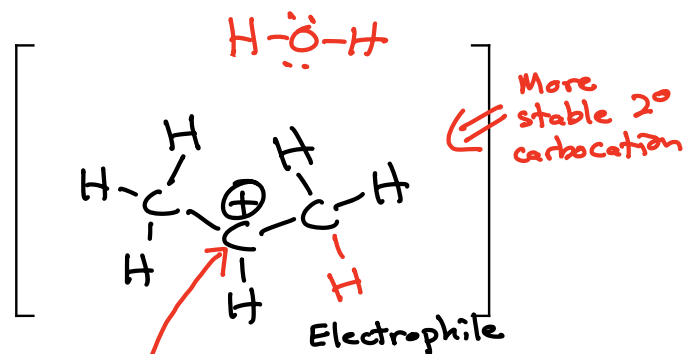
Flashback!!



Acid-catalyzed Hydration of an Alkene

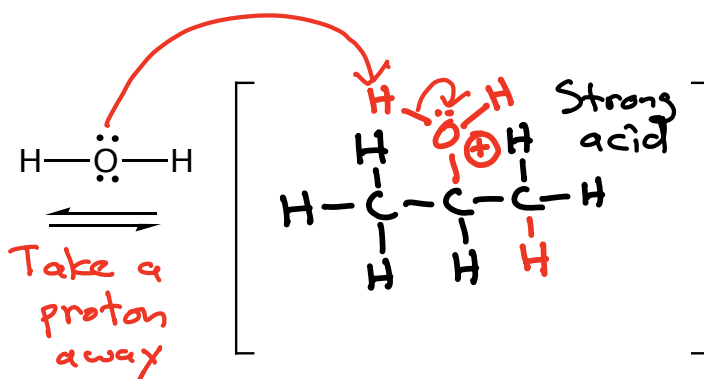
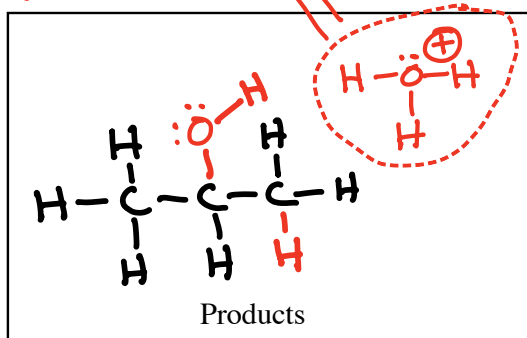


Add a proton



Catalytic in Acid!
 ⇒ The $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ does not change during the reaction

strong acid

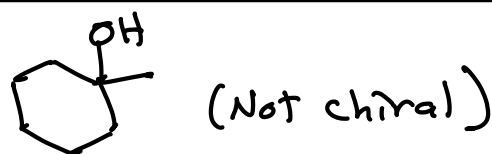
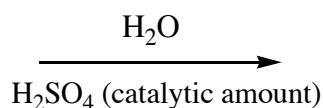
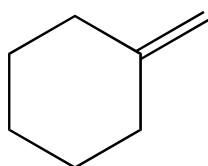


Summary: Proton adds to make a carbocation intermediate, water attacks to make a new bond, take a proton away to make the product alcohol. Catalytic in H_3O^+

Regiochemistry: Markovnikov's Rule

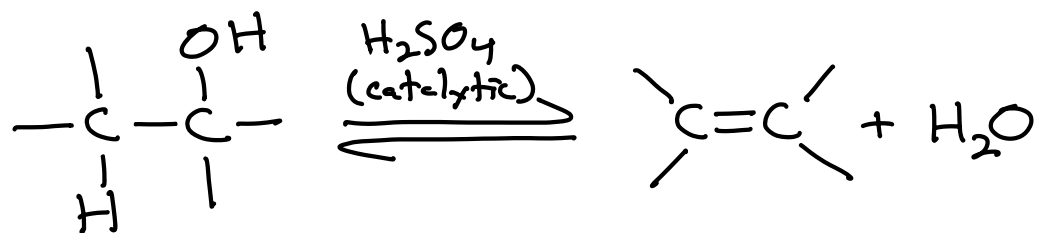
Stereochemistry: Mixed (time capsule)

Example:



-OH on more substituted C atom ⇒ Markovnikov's Rule

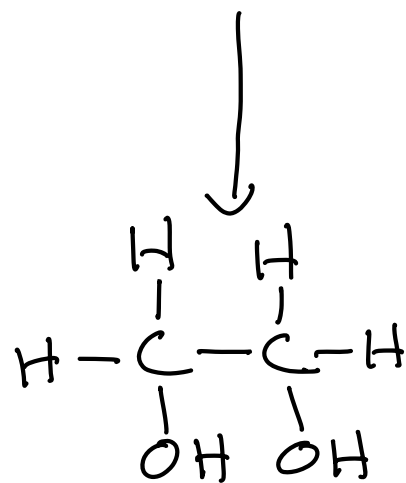
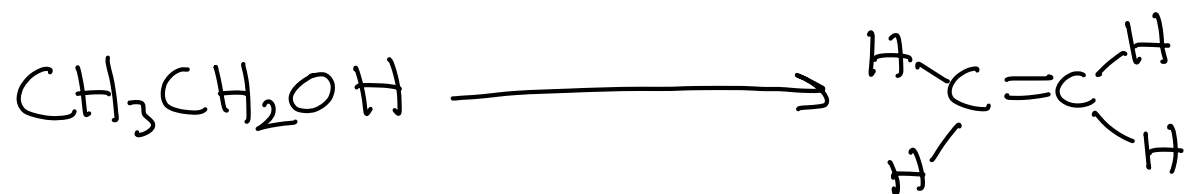
Microscopic Reversibility $\rightarrow$



Le Chatlier's Principle $\Rightarrow$

If we add water $\rightarrow$

If we remove the water as it is formed $\rightarrow$



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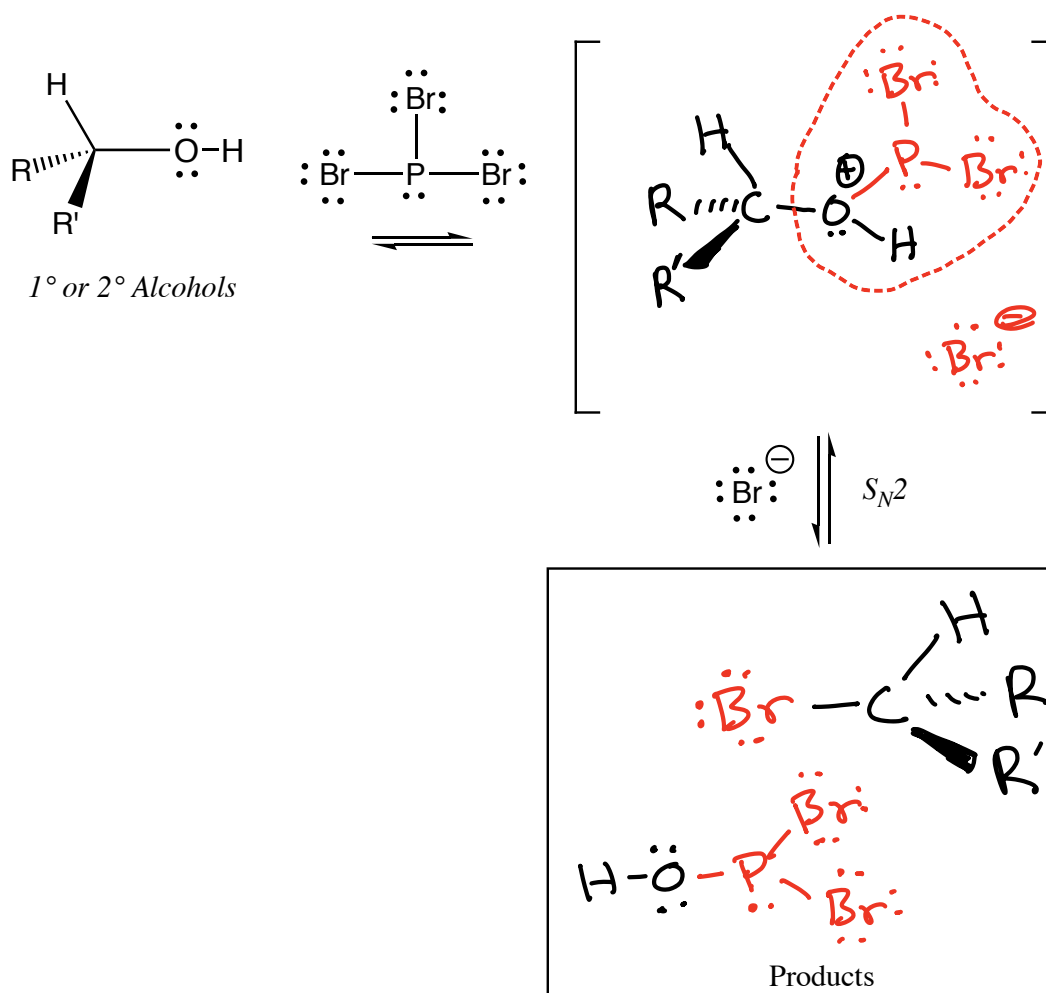
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Alcohols + PBr_3

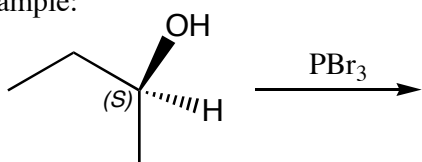


Summary: 1° or 2° alcohols react with PBr_3 via an S_N2 reaction at the P atom to create a great leaving group that undergoes an S_N2 reaction with Br^- at the C atom

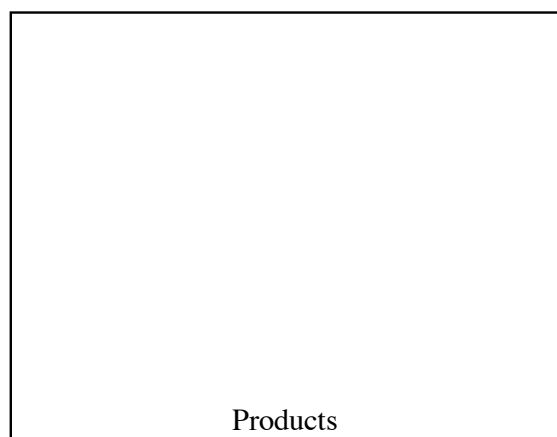
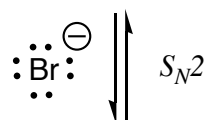
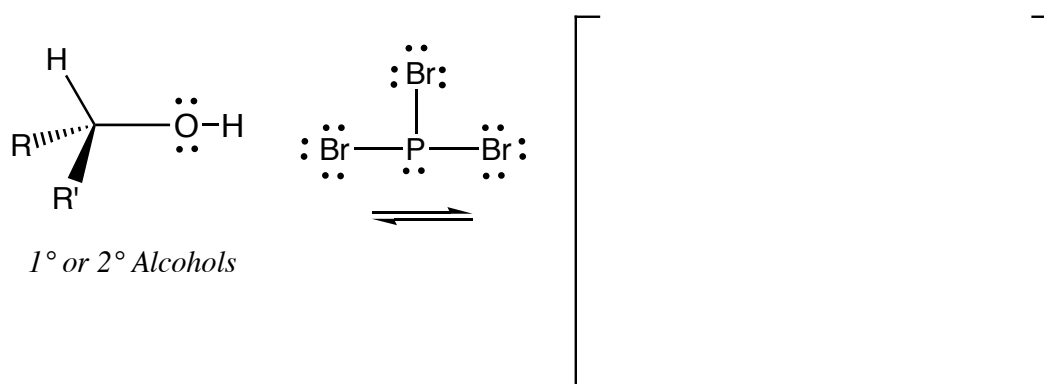
Regiochemistry:

Stereochemistry:

Example:



Alcohols + PBr_3

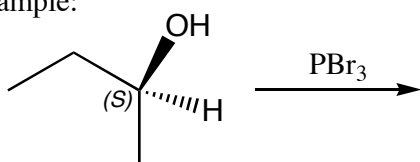


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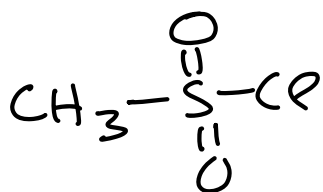
Stereochemistry:

Example:

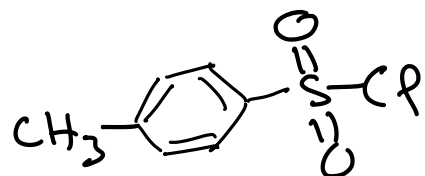




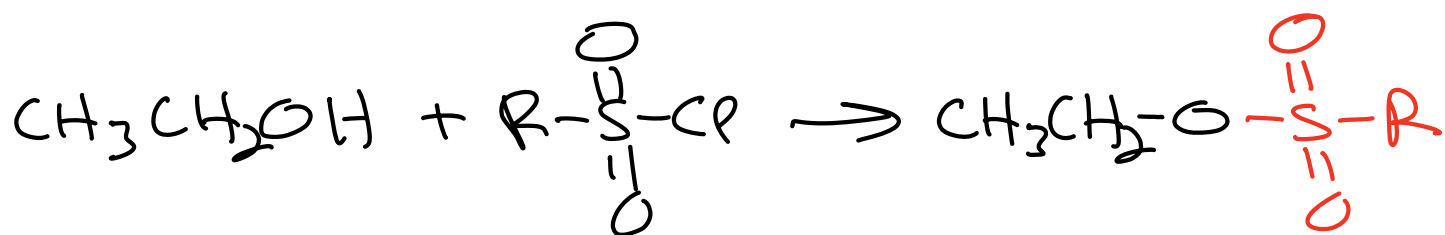
Alkyl Sulfonates



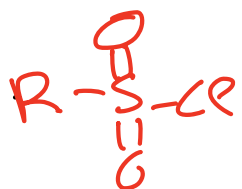
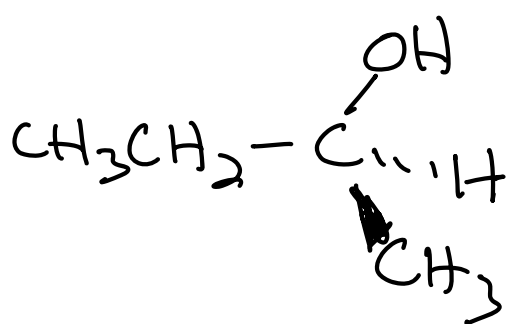
Methanesulfonyl
Chloride



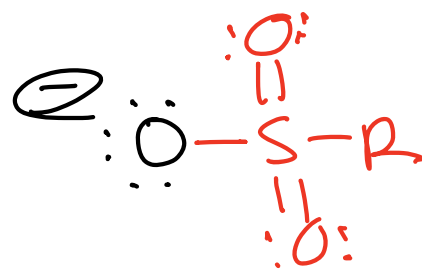
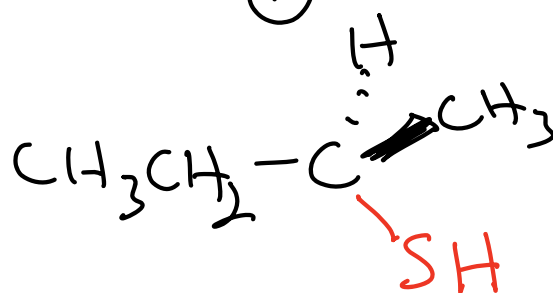
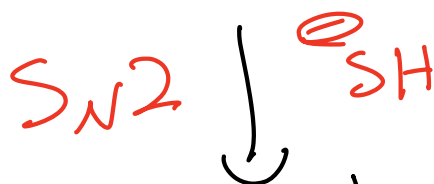
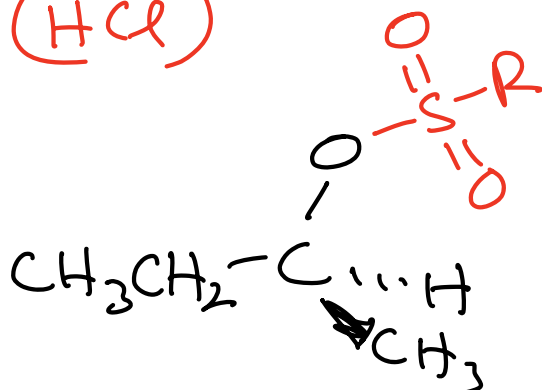
p-Toluenesulfonyl
Chloride

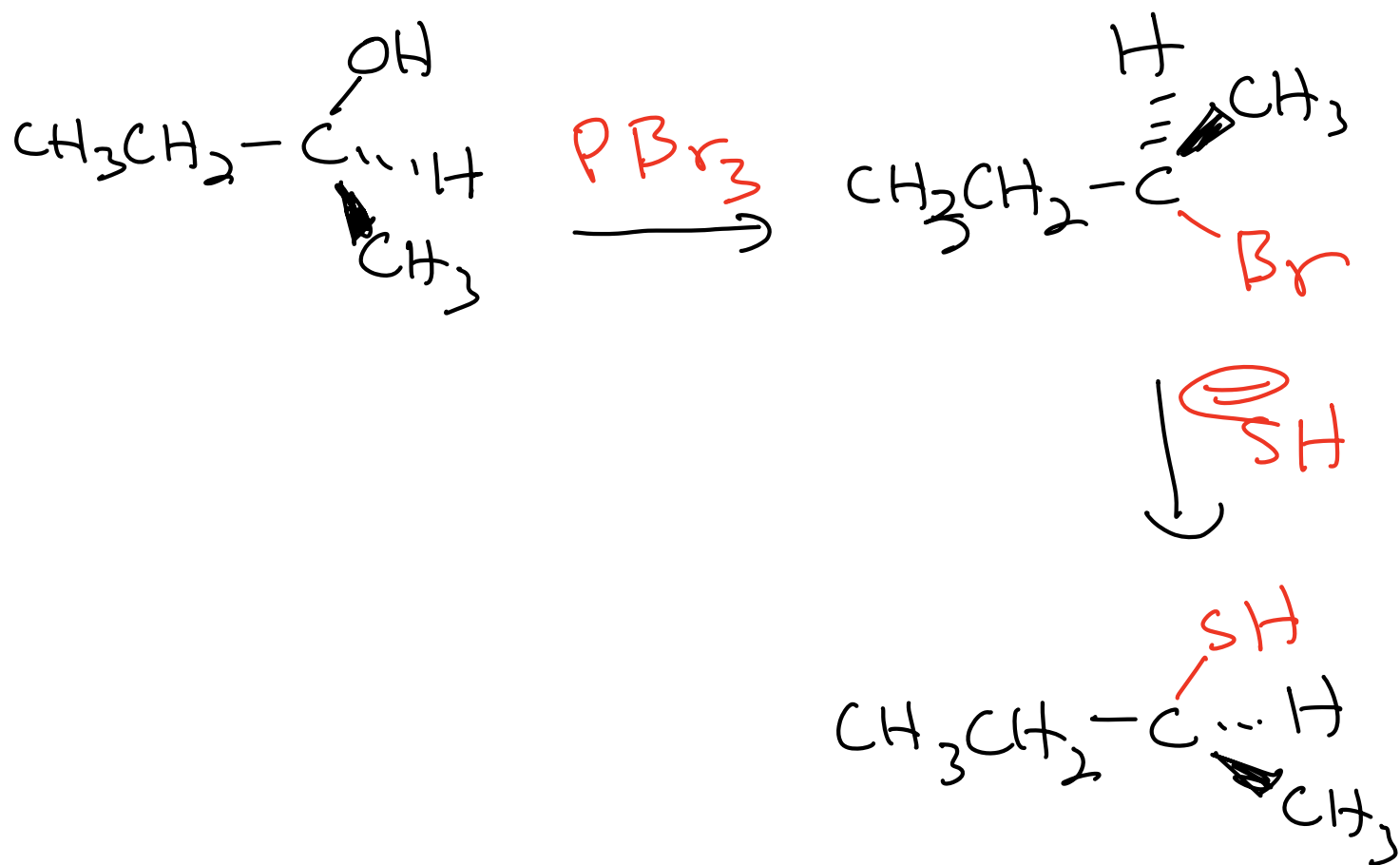


Stereochemistry



(HCl)





$\Rightarrow$ You can net invert
 or retain the stereochemistry
 of a chiral alcohol taking
 part in $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ reactions

Called "Jones Reagent" $\left(\begin{matrix} \text{CrO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7 \end{matrix} \right) + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{H} \\
 | \\
 \text{R}-\text{C}-\ddot{\text{O}}-\text{H} \\
 | \\
 \text{H}
 \end{array}
 \quad \xrightarrow{\quad} \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{:O:} \\
 || \\
 \text{H}\ddot{\text{O}}-\text{Cr}-\ddot{\text{O}}\text{H} \\
 || \\
 \text{:O:}
 \end{array}$$

1° Alcohols

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \text{:}\ddot{\text{O}}\text{H} \\ | \\ \text{R}-\text{C}-\text{H} \\ | \\ \text{:}\ddot{\text{O}}\text{H} \end{array} \right]$$
 Called a geminal diol

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{:}\ddot{\text{O}}\text{:} \\ || \\ \text{HO}-\text{C}-\text{OH} \\ || \\ \text{:}\ddot{\text{O}}\text{:} \end{array} \rightleftharpoons$$

Water reacts with aldehyde - will learn next semester

Aldhyde

Take a proton away and break a bond

Carboxylic
Acid

Products

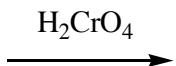
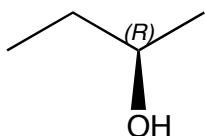
$$H-O\oplus H$$

$\begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ | \\ \text{R}-\text{C}-\text{OH} \\ | \\ \text{H} \end{array}$ 1° alcohols $\Rightarrow$ Carboxylic Acid $\rightarrow \text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{OH}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \\ | \\ \text{R}-\text{C}-\text{OH} \\ | \\ \text{H} \end{array}$ 2° alcohols $\Rightarrow$ Ketone $\rightarrow \text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{R}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \\ | \\ \text{R}-\text{C}-\text{OH} \\ | \\ \text{R} \end{array}$ 3° alcohols $\Rightarrow$ NO REACTION

Regiochemistry: *N/A*

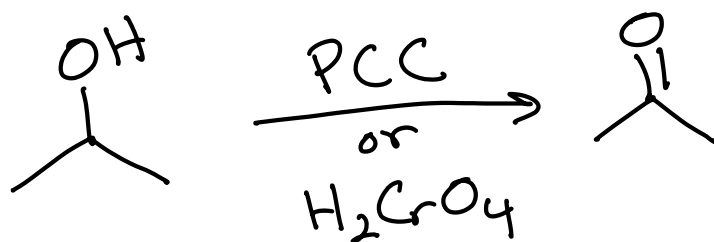
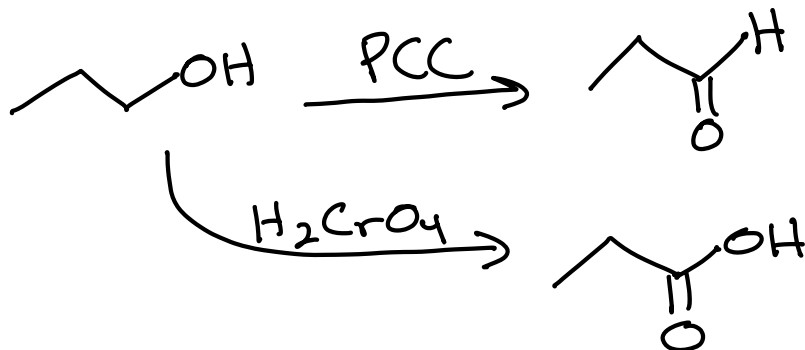
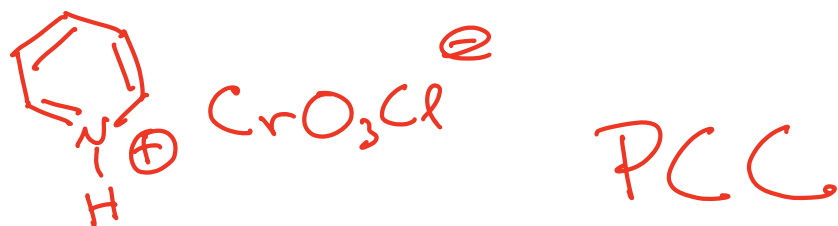
Stereochemistry: *N/A*

Example:



Ketone

A chromic acid-like reagent WITHOUT WATER will stop at the _____ when using a _____ as starting material



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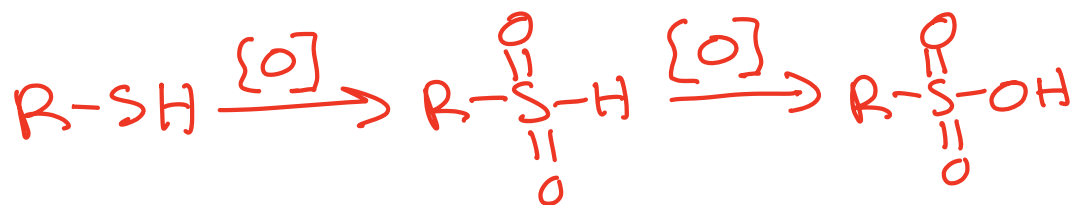
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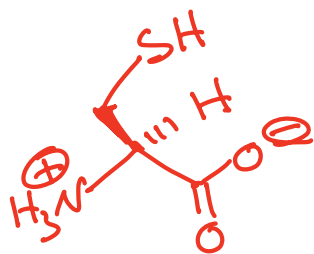
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In the presence of O_2 :



The amino acid
cysteine (Cys)

Disulfide bonds between cysteine residues that are far apart in the sequence, but overlap in three-dimensions, provide covalent links that stabilize folded protein structures