


<u>Organic Chemistry</u> 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 molecules on the planet!!

You will learn how MRI scans work. 1/16/25

You will learn the basic principles of pharmaceutical science and how many drugs work. 1/21/25

You will learn about the special bond that holds carbohydrates such as glucose in six-membered rings, connects carbohydrate monomers together to make complex carbohydrate structures and is critical to DNA and RNA structure.

You will learn how soap is made from animal fat and how it works to keep us clean.

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

You will learn how important antibiotics like penicillins work, including ones that make stable covalent bonds as part of their mode of action.

You will learn why carrots are orange and tomatoes are red.

You will learn the very cool reason that the DNA and RNA bases are entirely flat so they can stack in the double helix structure.

You will learn even more about why fentanyl is such a devastating part of the opioid problem and how Naloxone is an antidote for a fentanyl overdose.

You will learn even more details about why Magic Johnson is still alive, decades after contracting HIV, and how the same strategy is being used to fight COVID.

You will learn about the surprising chemical reason the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines elicit strong immune responses.

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

You will learn how carbon-metal bonds lead to new carbon-carbon bonds. 1/16/25

You will learn how most reactions of carbonyl compounds involve only the four common mechanistic elements operating in only a few common patterns. 1/21/25

You will learn how, by simply adding a catalytic amount of base like HO^- to aldehydes or ketones, you can make new carbon-carbon bonds, giving complicated and useful products.

You will learn a reaction that can convert vinegar and vodka into a common solvent.

You will learn why molecules with six-membered rings and alternating double bonds are stable.

You will learn a reaction that can turn model airplane glue into a powerful explosive.

Most important, you will develop powerful critical thinking skills:

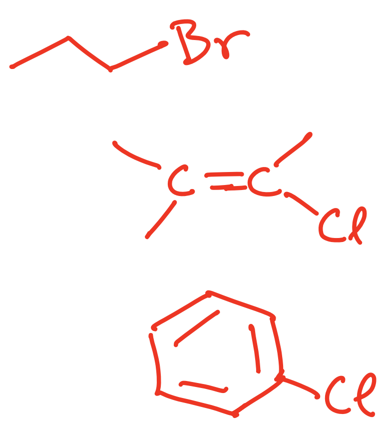
1. You will learn how to look at a molecule and accurately predict which atoms will react to make new bonds, and which bonds will break during reactions.
2. You will learn how to analyze a complex molecule's structure so that you can predict ways to make it via multiple reactions starting with less complex starting molecules.

Differences Between the Reagents

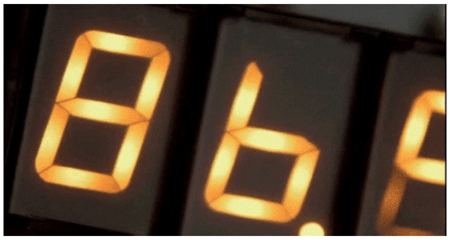
Alkyllithium Reagents extremely basic
– limits their use

Grignard Reagents → will deprotonate anything more/as acidic as an alcohol (pKa ~ 16)

Gilman Reagents (Watch the Gilman Reagent video) → least basic ⇒ so they are the only reagents capable of reacting with:



1) Primary haloalkanes
2) Vinyl halides
3) Aryl halides



Time Capsule!

Grignard and Gilman Reagents are not basic enough to make enolates from carbonyl compounds

→ They CAN be used as nucleophiles to react with carbonyls!


Make a Bond
Add a Proton
Break a Bond
Take a Proton Away
"The most important widsom in the universe, found, I have"

Here are the keys to understanding mechanisms in 320N!!

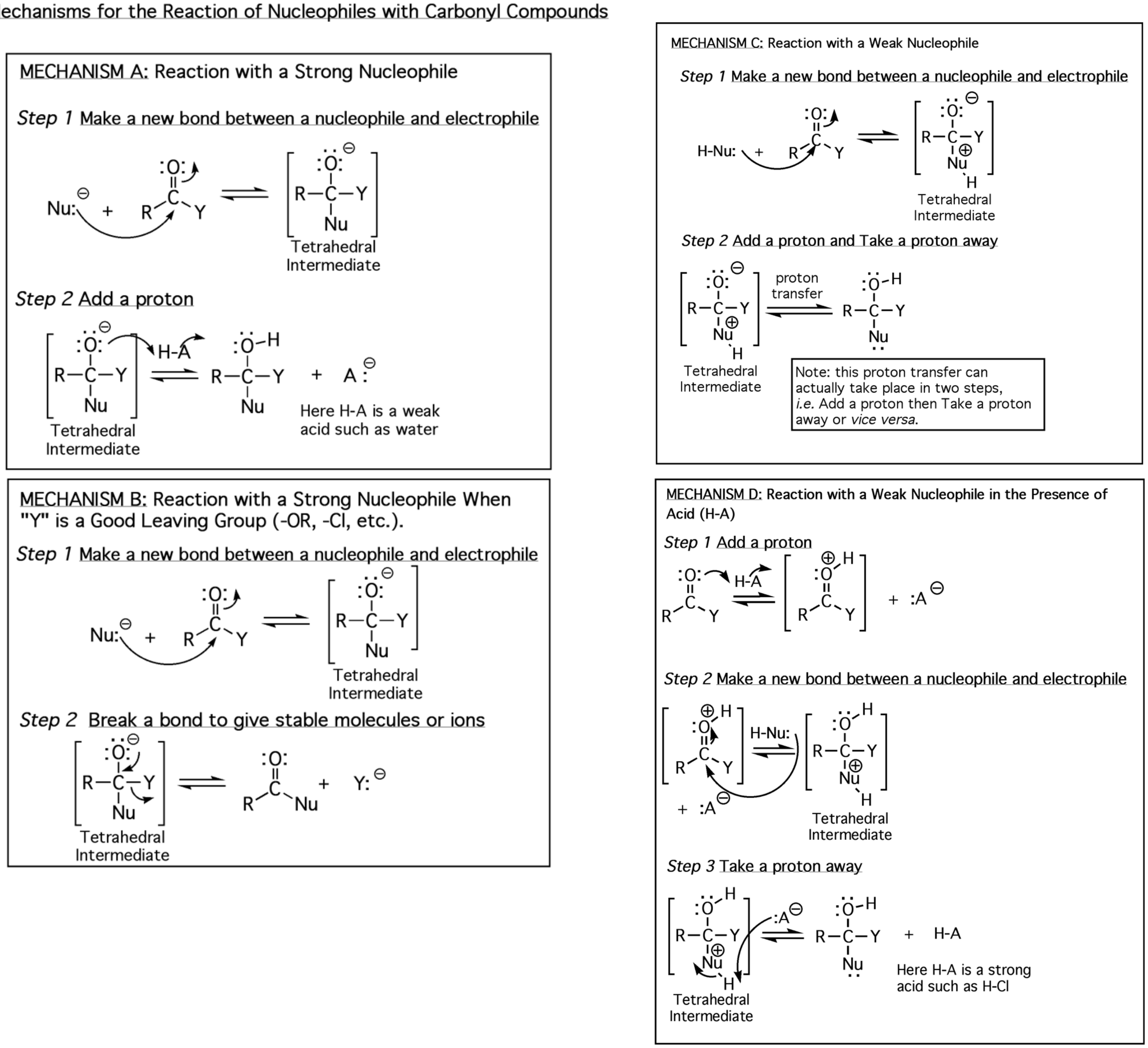
1) There are basically four different mechanisms elements that make up the steps of carbonyl reactions.

A) Make a bond between a nucleophile and an electrophile
B) Break a bond to give stable molecules or ions
C) Add a proton
D) Take a proton away

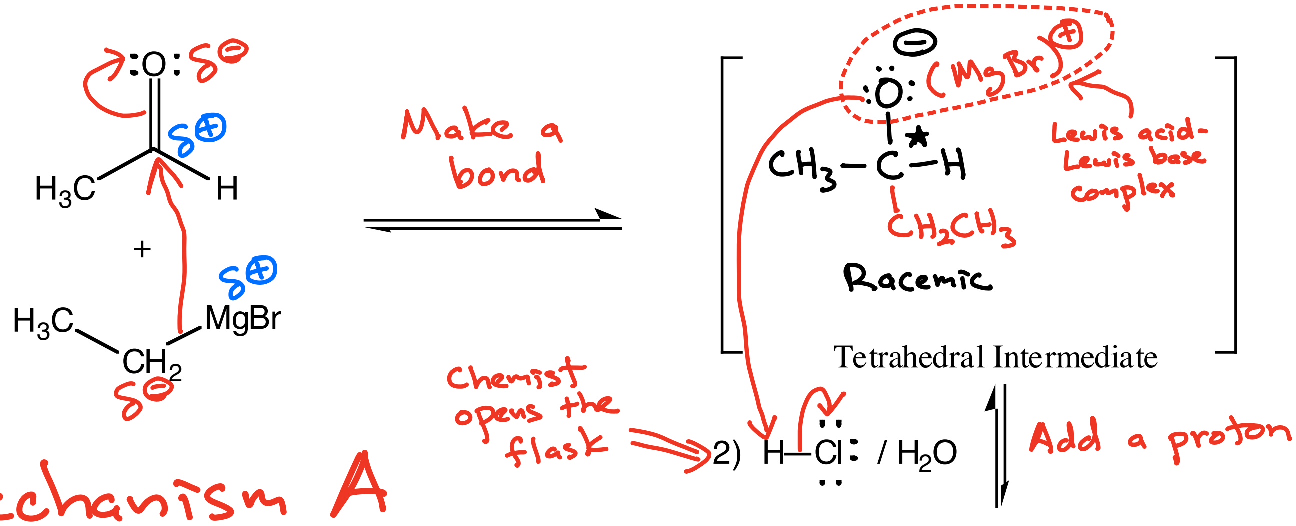
2) These same four mechanism elements describe most of the other mechanisms you have/will learn!!! (Yes, organic chemistry really is this simple if you look at it this way!!)

There are basically four different mechanisms that describe the vast majority of carbonyl reactions and these mechanisms are different combinations/ordering of the four mechanism elements listed above. In this class, I have termed them "Mechanism A", "Mechanism B", "Mechanism C", and "Mechanism D". They all involve a nucleophile attacking the partially positively charged carbon atom of the carbonyl to create a tetrahedral intermediate. Different reaction mechanisms are distinguished by the timing of protonation of the oxygen atom as well as the presence or absence of a leaving group attached to the carbonyl.

Four Mechanisms for the Reaction of Nucleophiles with Carbonyl Compounds



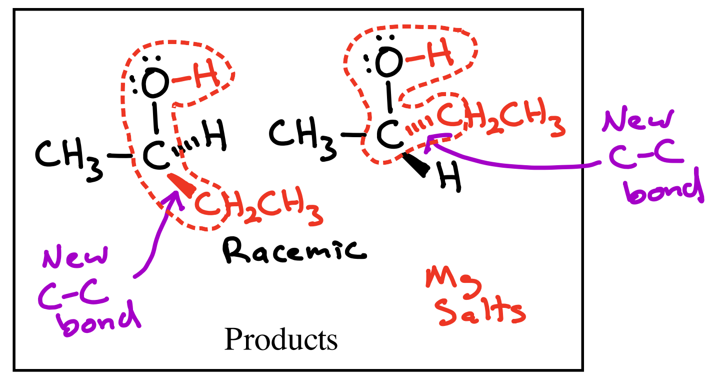
Grignard Reagent Reacting with an Aldehyde or Ketone

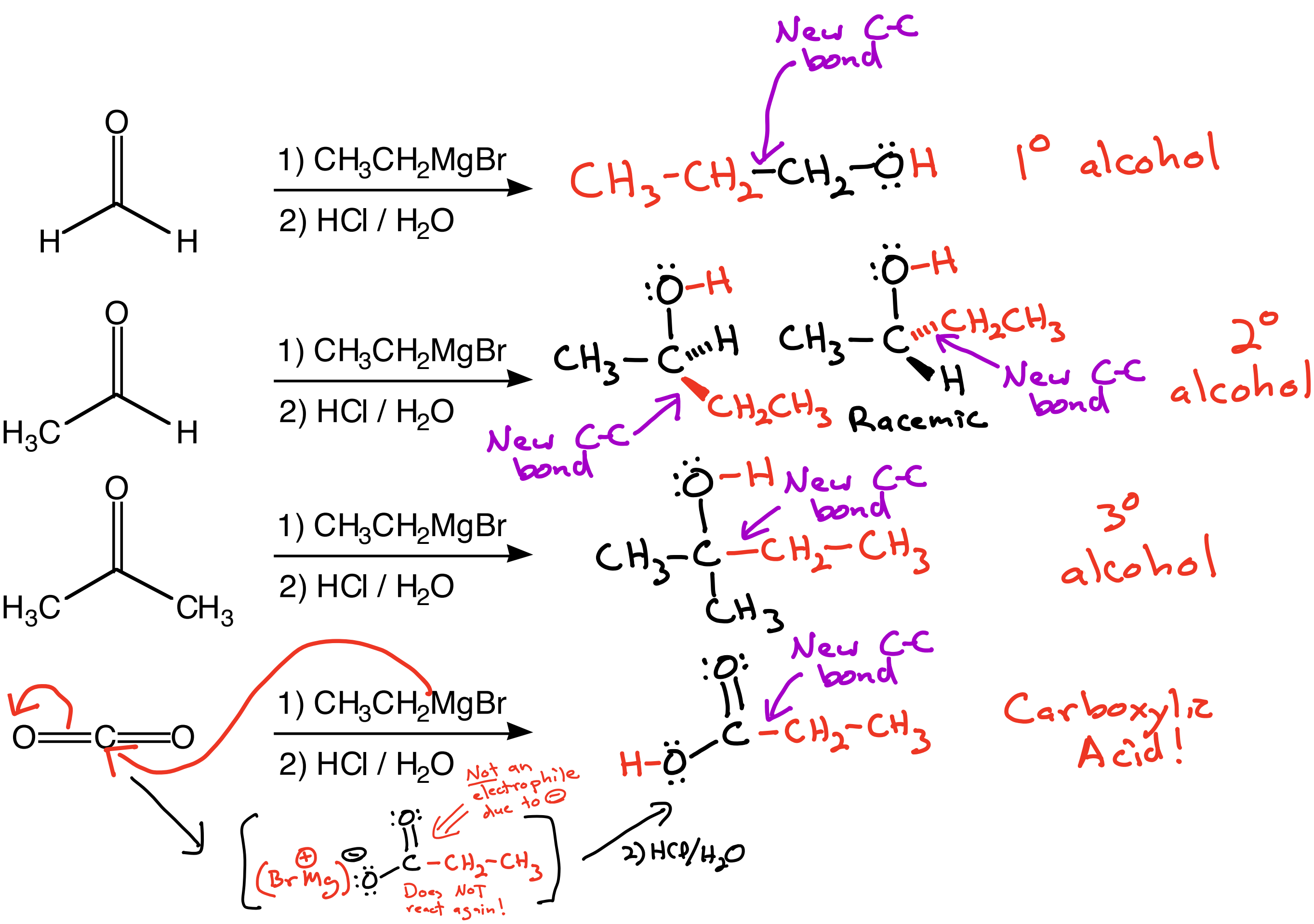


Mechanism A

Key Recognition Element (KRE):

–OH group attached the same C atom as a new C–C bond





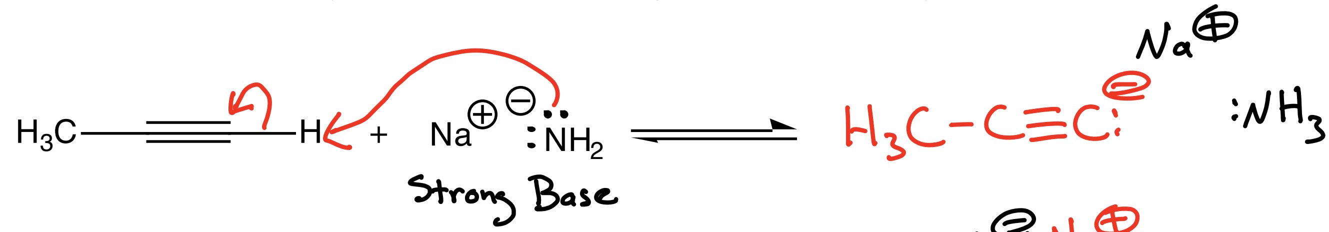
Lesson for Today:

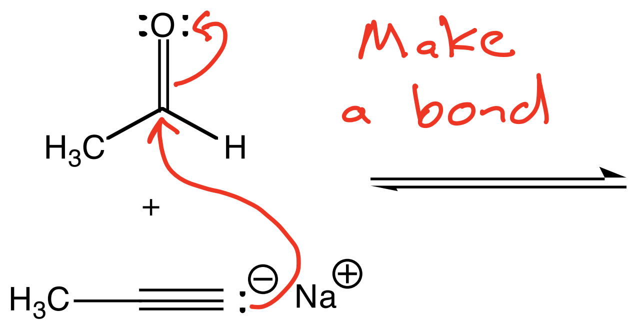
"The Song"

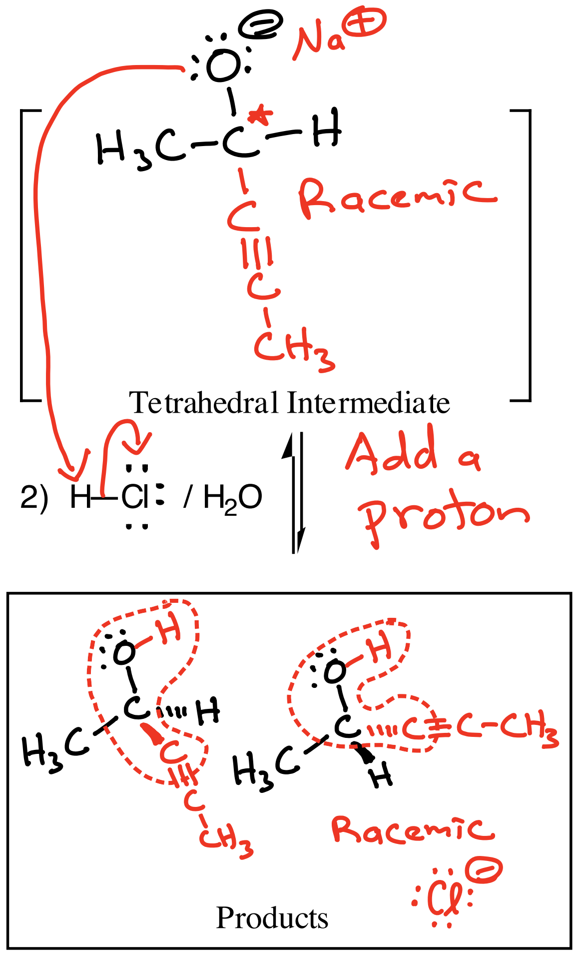
Strong nucleophiles react directly at the electrophilic C atom of carbonyls to make a bond as the carbonyl π bond breaks. A proton is added to the O atom.

MECHANISM A!

Alkyne Anion Reacting with an Aldehyde or Ketone







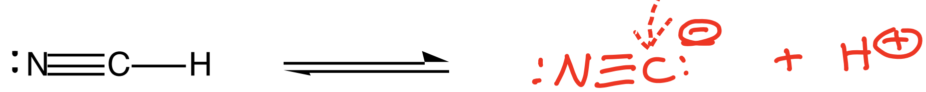
Mechanism A

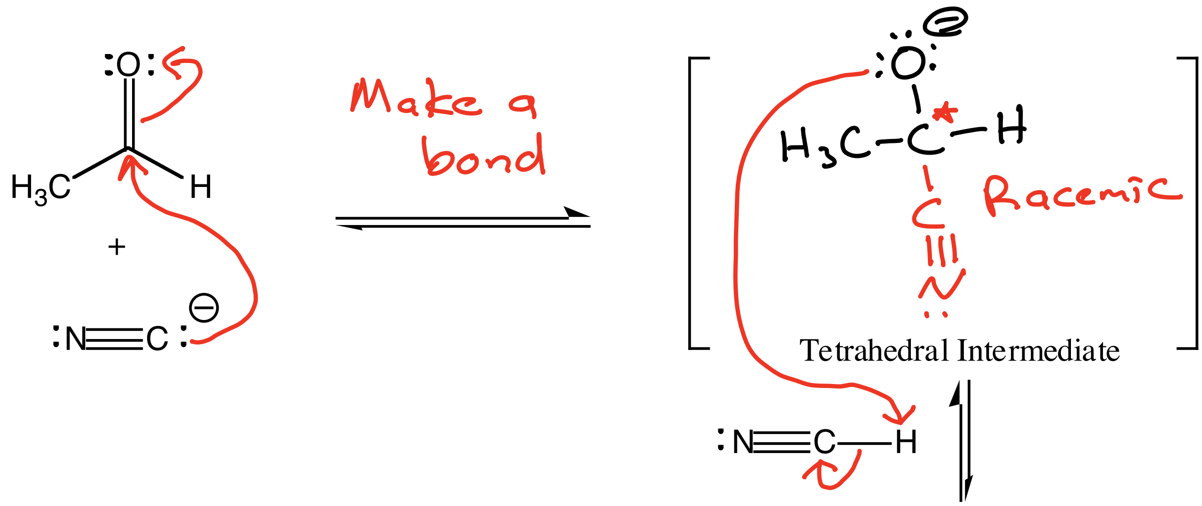
Key Recognition Element (KRE):

OH group on the carbon that makes a new C-C bond to an sp C atom (alkyne)

HCN Reacting with an Aldehyde or Ketone

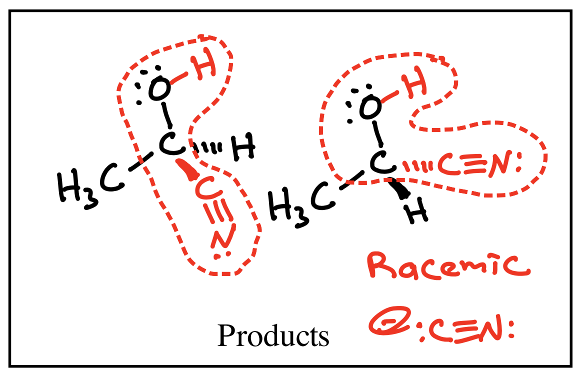
Reacts on the C atom because that makes stronger bonds





Key Recognition Element (KRE):

Cyanohydrin → OH on a C atom that made a new C–C bond to –C≡N:

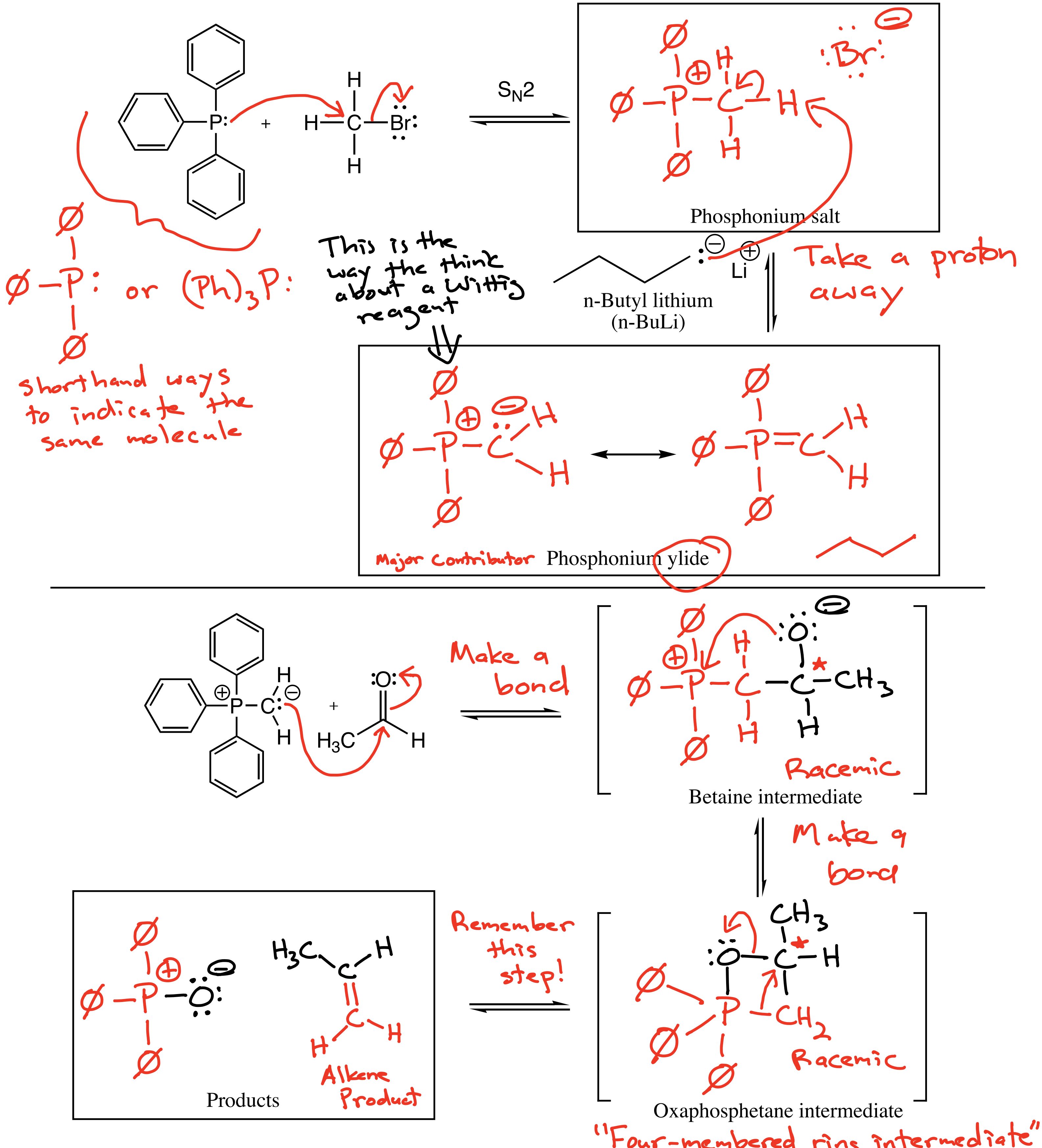


Time capsule → cyanohydrins can be hydrolyzed in H_2SO_4/H_2O to give α-hydroxyacids

"alpha"

Plot Twist!!

Wittig Reaction

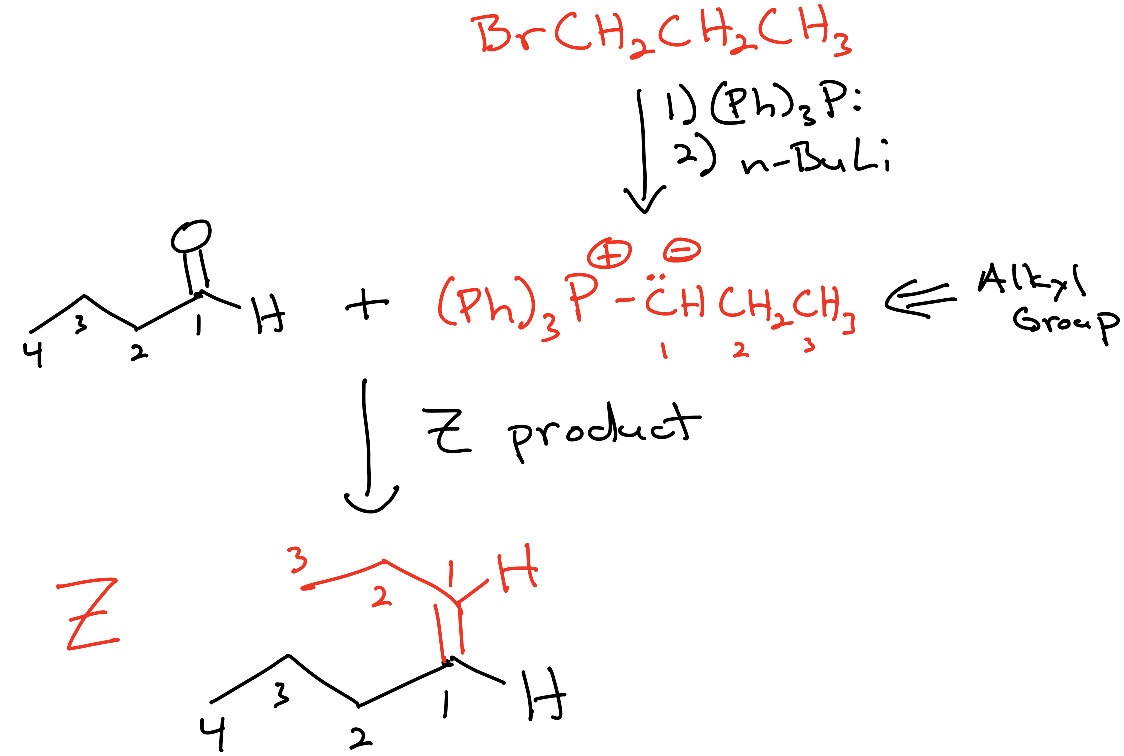


Key Recognition Element (KRE):

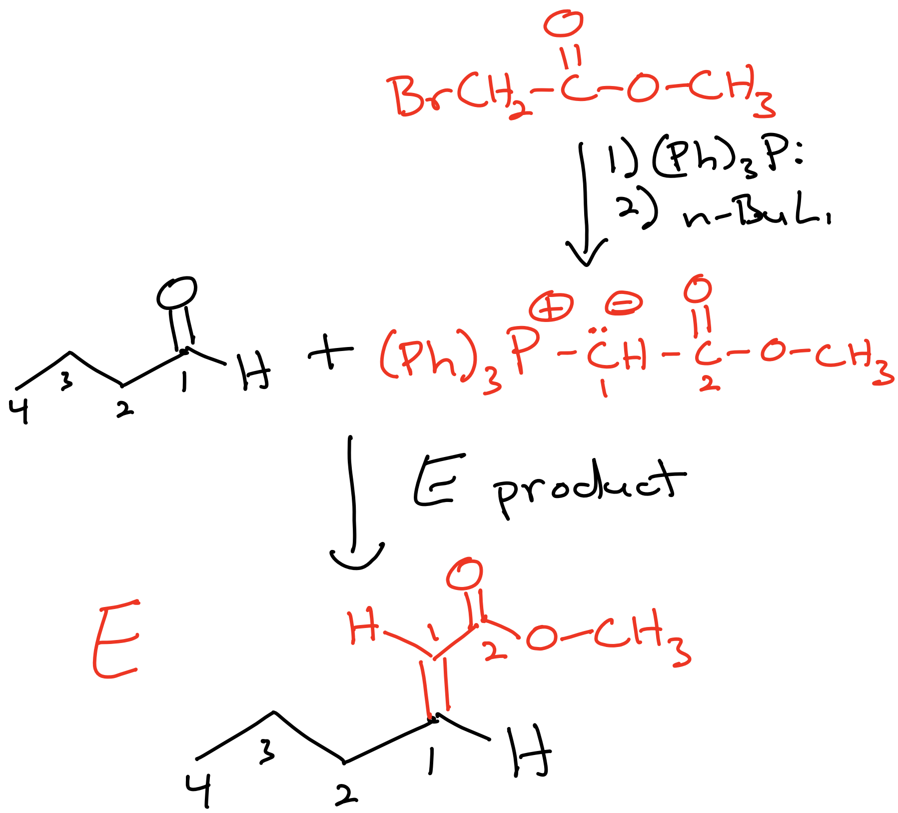
Alkene → New C=C where the C=O was!

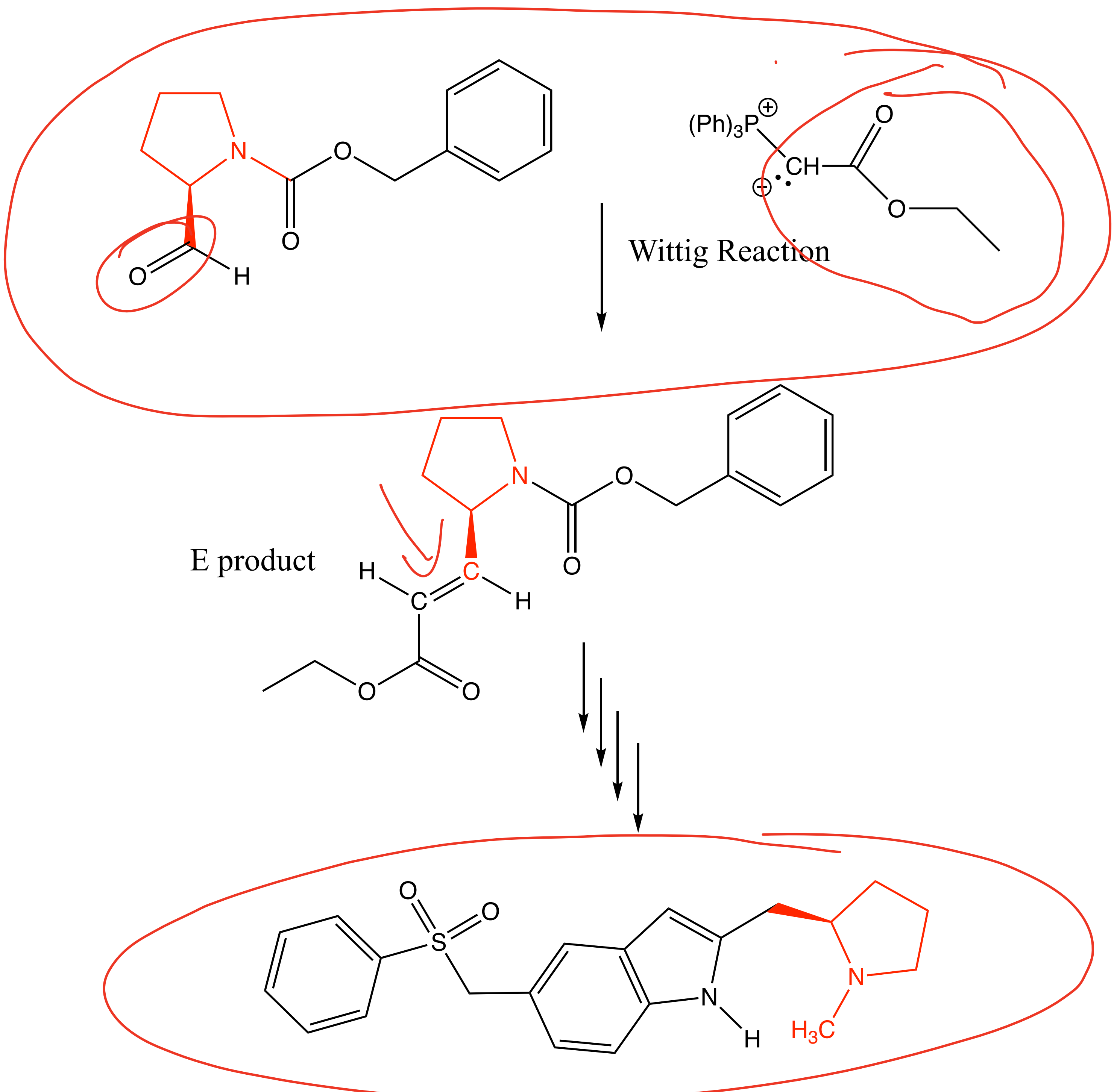
E vs. Z → Which product alkene?

1) With alkyl Wittig reagents, the Z alkene product predominates



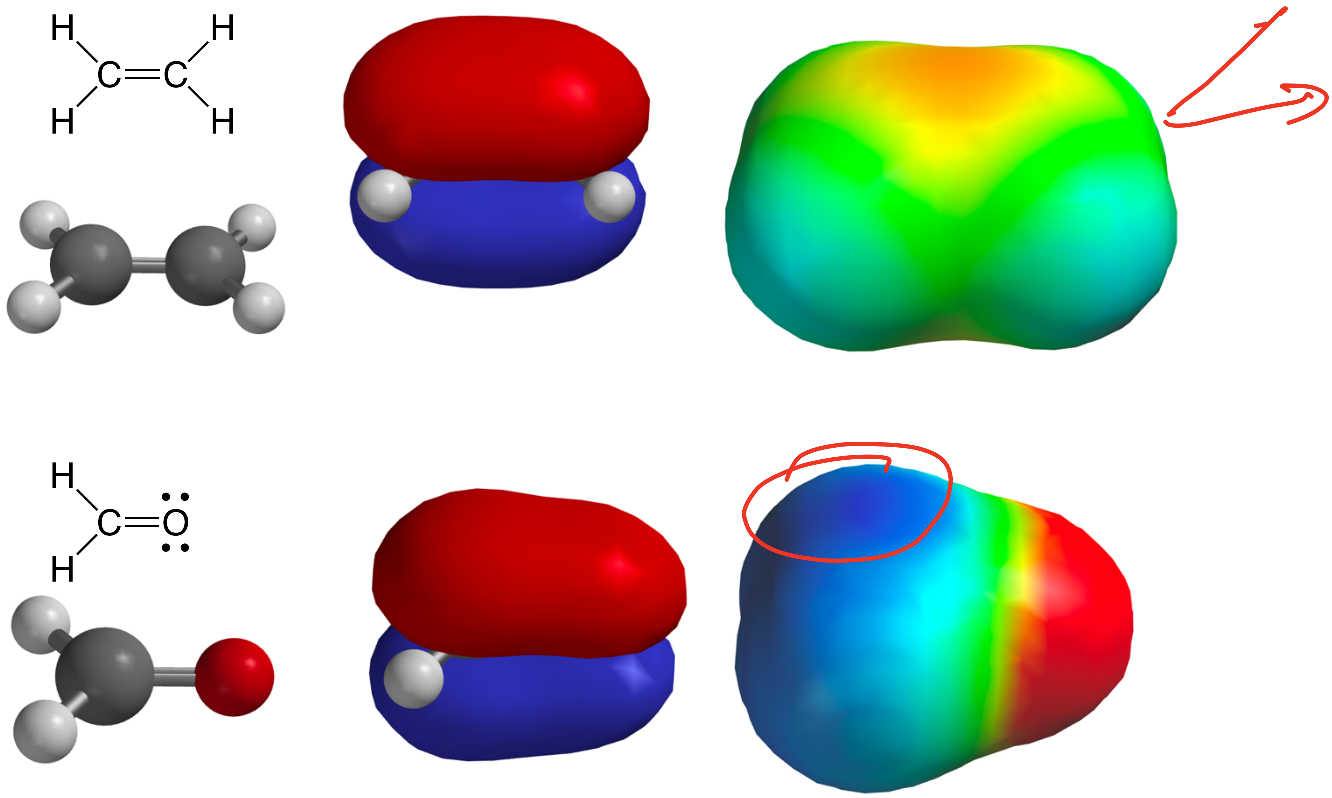
2) When using Wittig reagents that have a carbonyl attached to the C atom that is bonded to the P⊕ atom — E alkenes predominate



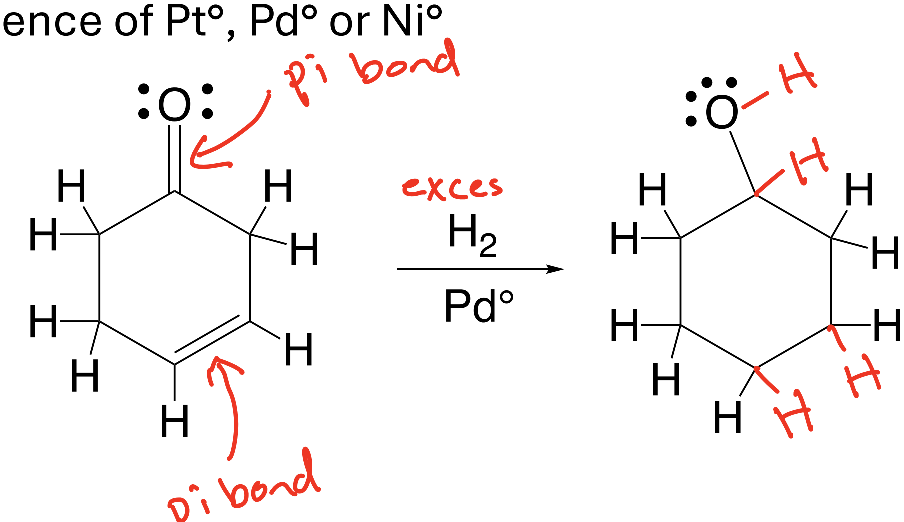


Eletriptan - used to treat migraine headaches
A seratonin receptor agonist (5-$HT_{1B,1D,1F}$)

Detour: Hydrogenation and Oxidation of Aldehydes and Ketones



The pi bonds of carbonyls react the same as pi bonds of alkenes with H_2 in the presence of Pt°, Pd° or Ni°



Aldehydes are oxidized to carboxylic acids using the Jones Reagent (H_2CrO_4 in H_2O). Ketones do not react.