

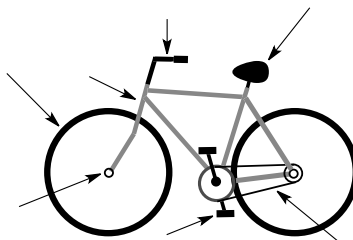
• A large part of organic chemistry involves building more complex molecules from smaller ones using a designed **sequence** of reactions, i.e. chemical synthesis. Especially in more complex cases, synthetic problems are often best solved BACKWARDS in a process know as retrosynthetic analysis

BUT FIRST.....

How to Ride a Bicycle

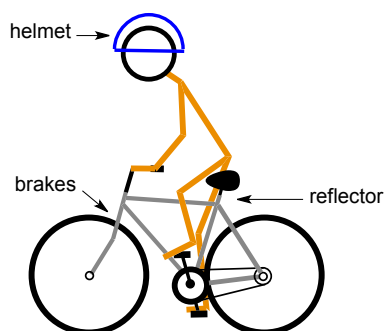
1.1 Parts of the bicycle

- It is important to understand bicycle nomenclature
- We will not cover IUPAC bicycle nomenclature in this case



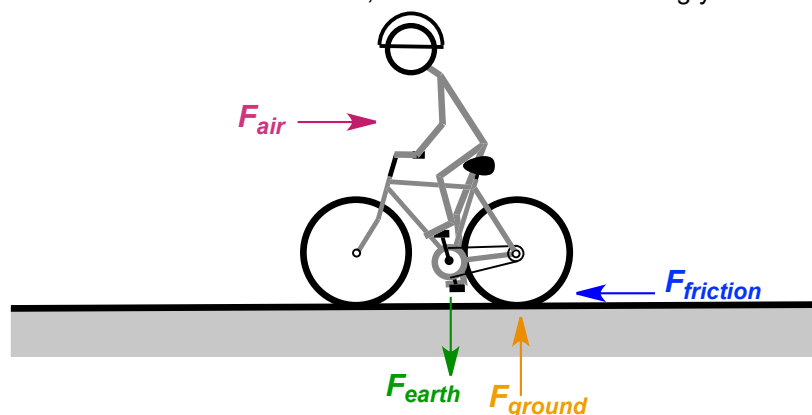
1.2 Bicycle Safety

Question? Which of the following are essential SAFETY ITEMS when riding a bicycle



1.3 Physics of Bicycle Riding

- You MUST understand the relevant forces involved, without this understanding you can NOT ride a bicycle!

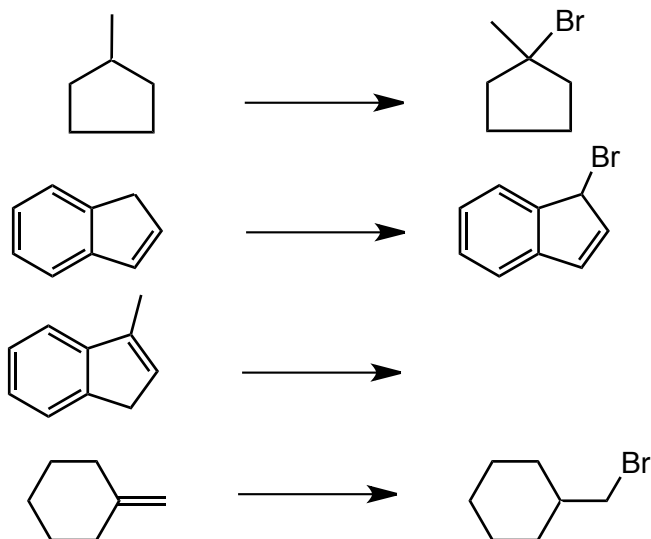


- Review sessions on Saturday
- Chad's Review on Bicycle Riding
- Kahn Academy lectures on Bicycle riding

1. Summary of First Semester Reactions Useful in Synthesis

1.1 Synthesis of Halides (Bromides)

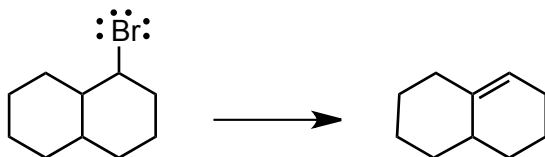
- Bromides are essential functional groups, easy to form, easy to remove as a leaving group



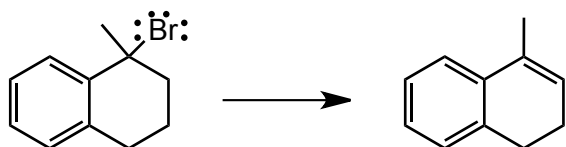
1.2 Synthesis of Alkenes

E2 elimination of ALKYL BROMIDES AVOIDS CATION INTERMEDIATES

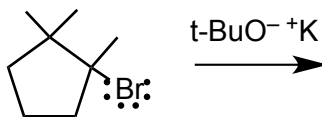
- **SUMMARY** of which bases to use under which circumstances



- Use a **BULKY** base with a **2° halide** to ensure no SN2, get **Saytzeff** (most substituted) alkene product

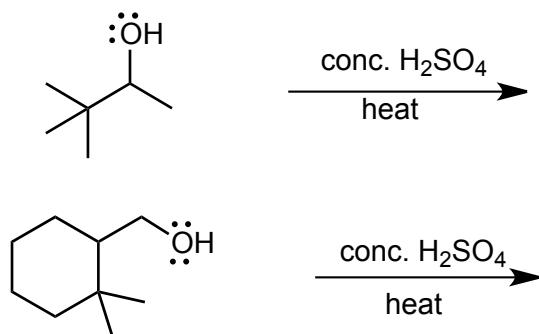


- Use a **NON-bulky** base with a **3° halide** (no SN2 not possible) to get the **Saytzeff** alkene product



- Use a **BULKY** base with a **3° halide** to get an **ANTI-Saytzeff** (Hofmann, least substituted) alkene product

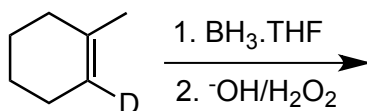
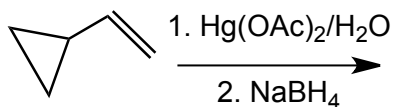
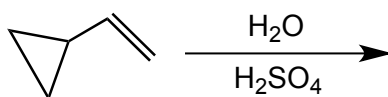
Elimination of ALCOHOLS CAN'T AVOID CARBOCATION INTERMEDIATES



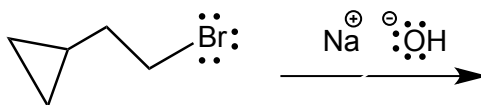
1.3 Synthesis of Alcohols

Addition reactions we know that form alcohols

- Use reagents that avoid carbocation intermediates whenever possible

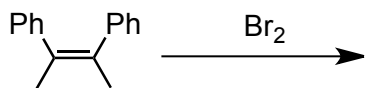


Substitution reactions we know that form alcohols: **SN2**



1.4 Synthesis of Dibromides

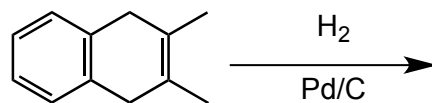
- Required for further synthesis of alkynes (see later)



- NOTE: This addition is ANTI-, even though there is no possibility of *cis-trans*-isomers in this reaction we can still tell that the addition is ANTI- and our answer MUST include this
- this reaction forms a pair of (R)/(R) and (S)/(S) enantiomers, and we need to distinguish these from the (R)/(S) and (S)/(R) diastereomers.

1.5 Synthesis of Alkanes

- More useful than it looks!

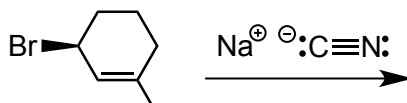


- Other catalysts you may see include Raney Ni or Pt

1.6 SN2 Reactions

- useful in many reactions that require addition of a substituent or formation of a new bond

Example



You will need to be able to use these reactions forwards and backwards!

2. Multi-Step Synthesis

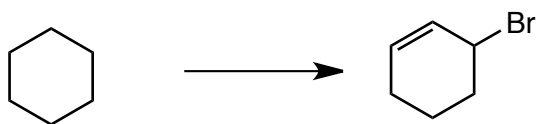
- multi-step chemical synthesis involves building larger or more complex molecules from smaller ones using a designed **series** of reactions
- this involves putting a series of reactions together **in sequence** (multiple steps)
- here we will look at some simple examples
- to do these problems you need to **KNOW THE REACTIONS**, and **PRACTICE**, practice, practice, practice.....

Example Problem 1: Synthesize the molecule on the right from the one on the left. This cannot be done in one reaction. Give reagents and conditions and the intermediate molecules at each step.



- the **FIRST REACTION WORKING BACKWARDS** must have an alkene as the product
- alkenes can be formed by elimination from halides or alcohols
- of these two we choose the halide reaction, because the halide can be made from the starting structure more easily than the alcohol, completing the problem
- **NOTE**: the first bromination is of an alkane, EITHER Br₂/light or NBS/light can be used, if we were brominating in an allylic position only NBS/light could have been used
- then E2 elimination, which is the standard way to make an alkene avoiding cation intermediates

Example Problem 2: Synthesize the molecule on the right from the one on the left. This cannot be done in one reaction. Give reagents and conditions and the intermediate molecules at each step.



- The first bromination is of an alkane, EITHER Br₂/light or NBS/light can be used
- Br₂/light can NOT be used for the last bromination of the alkene, we need to avoid Br₂ addition to the C=C bond
- it may be a good idea to always use NBS and for all radical brominations then you don't have to remember which bromination reagent works best in which case, this one works in all cases
- E2 with a BULKY BASE, which is the standard way to avoid SN2 to make an alkene, then brominate again in the allylic position (same reagents)
- Formation of an alkene in the last step is NOT a good idea, there is more than one leaving group, double eliminations may occur, or the C=C bond may be formed in the wrong place with respect to the other bromine

Example Problem 3:



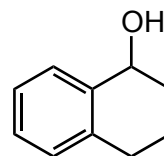
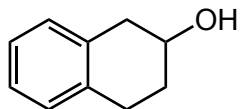
- We need to add Br at a position that is not possible by direct bromination, the obvious way is by addition of HBr to an alkene Anti-Markovnikov, so first, make an alkene as usual

Example Problem 4:



- We can't add -OMe to an alkane, so we need to add a functional group, specifically a LEAVING group at that carbon, once we recognize this then the strategy is same as previous problem

Example Problem 5:



- We have two ways to make an alcohol, SN2 or water addition to an alkene, the best thing to "do" with the starting alcohol is make an alkene, which decides for us which alcohol synthesis method to use

3. Retrosynthetic Analysis : The Synthon

The most important concept from First Semester Organic : Lewis Acid/Base reactions explains bond **formation**

- The Lewis Base **provides** the electrons and the Lewis Acid **accepts** the electrons to make the bond

- Lewis acid base theory is extremely useful in **PREDICTING** the products of organic reactions
- Although it works as a fundamental theory, we will find that occasionally we have to just "know" some reagents, the same will apply for reaction in reverse, next.....
- LEWIS ACID BASE THEORY HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND THE PRODUCTS OF REACTIONS
- Lewis acid/base theory helps us to generate the product of a reaction when we are provided with the reactants

New concept : the SYNTHON, explains bond formation from **reactants, Lewis acid/base theory in REVERSE**

- SYNTHON THEORY HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND WHERE THE PRODUCTS CAME FROM
- Synthon theory helps us to figure out what Lewis acid/base reaction to DO to form a bond
- Retrosynthetic analysis helps us to generate the reactants when we are provided with the product

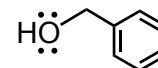


- Synthons indicate where the electrons come from to make the bond, they help us to identify which fragment is the Lewis base and which fragment is the Lewis acid do make the desired bond
- Synthons DON'T EXIST, they are the products of a THOUGHT EXPERIMENT, they need to be converted into "real" reactants, or synthetic equivalents
- One synthon must carry the electron pair (LB), the other accepts the electrons to make the bond (LA)
- Somewhat counter-intuitive is that the synthon with the electrons (LB) is usually the one where the ELECTRONS WOULD BE MOST STABLE (lowest in energy)
- The idea here is that the synthon that carries the electrons would be most useful if it could be kept "in a bottle", if the electron pair is very high in energy then that synthon may be impossible to make and the retrosynthetic strategy would fail

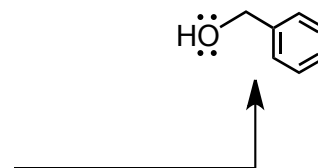
- Very often, even putting the electrons where they are most stable results in one or more of the synthons being so unstable, and they have to be used in the form of "synthetic equivalents" or "actual reagents", these are stable chemicals that react in the same way as the synthons.

Example 1

- disconnect the O-C bond and "put" the electrons on the synthon where they would be most "temporarily" stable

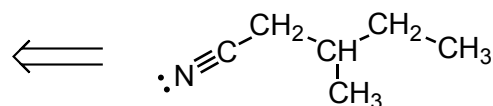


- NEXT, ask the following question about each synthon "can it be put into a bottle (with an appropriate counter ion)?" if the answer is yes then the synthon is also the reagent, if the answer is no, then we need to convert the synthon into an actual useable reagent, i.e. a synthetic equivalent
- reacting the synthetic equivalents makes the required alcohol

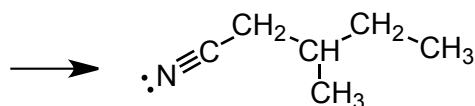


Example 2

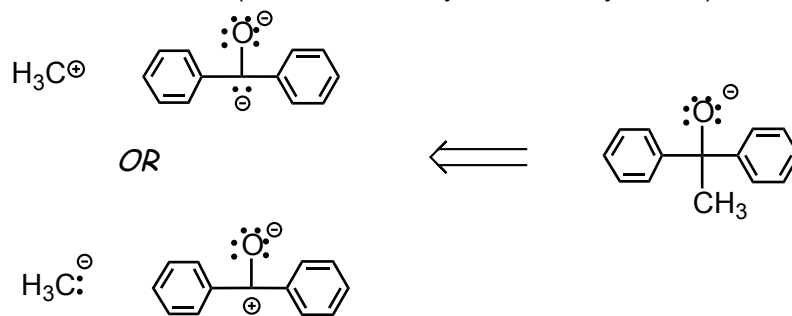
- disconnect the indicated C-C bond
- one of the carbons must carry the electron pair, one the leaving group, which is best?



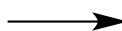
- convert to "real" reactants (synthetic equivalents)



Example 3 : disconnect the indicated bond (this is a reaction you have not yet seen)

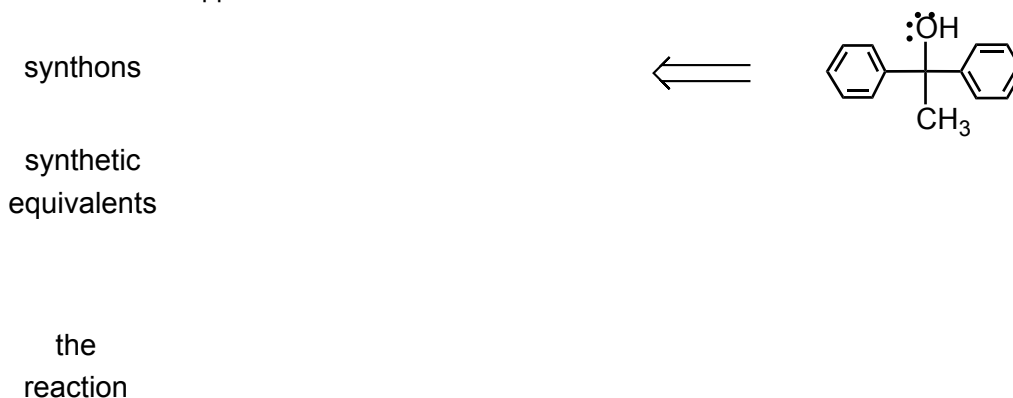


- convert to "real" reactants (synthetic equivalents)



- in this case the "leaving group" is the C-O pi-bond

Example 4 : a more realistic application



- synthons and **retrosynthetic strategy** is an advanced organic chemistry concept
- however, we **don't** analyze every forward reaction in terms of Lewis acid/base, we don't have time, we just **know the reactions forwards**
- similarly, we **won't** analyze every reverse reaction in terms of synthons, we won't have time, we **will just know the reactions backwards**
- it sometimes takes experience and practice to recognize how to convert the synthons into synthetic equivalents, so you should expect to find some of these difficult to do at first
- we will return to synthons as we work our way through the semester