Week 7

Reactions of Alkynes

7.1 Methods of Hydration

11/9: • Mukaiyama Hydration.

- A "greener" method.

• General form.

$$R-= \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Co(acac)_2,\,O_2}} R-(-\mathrm{OH})-$$

• Mechanism:

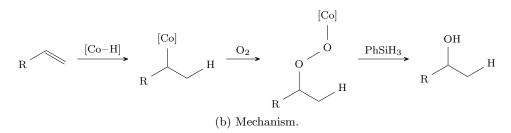


Figure 7.1: Mukaiyama hydration mechanism.

- Note that $Co(acac)_2$ is a catalyst.
- Hydroboration/oxidation of alkene.
 - Nobel Prize (1979).
 - Discovered by a UChicago undergrad, H. C. Brown.
- General form.

$$R-=\xrightarrow[2.\,\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}_2,\,\mathrm{NaOH}]{1.\,\mathrm{BH}_3}}R---\mathrm{OH}$$

- Regioselective (anti-Markovnikov).

- Stereospecific (H and OH add cis).
- Covers BH_3 with its empty p orbital that makes it a good Lewis acid and dimerizes to B_2H_6 with its "3C-2e" bond in the gas phase.

• Mechanism:

R

$$(b)$$
 Part II: Oxidative cleavage of the B-C bond.

(c) Part III: Hydrolysis of boric acid ester.

Figure 7.2: Hydroboration mechanism.

- The step in Part I is a concerted step (this is key for cis addition).
- BH₃ adds the way it does in part I (with the H put on the more substituted carbon) due to sterics (bulky group attaches to the less bulky side) and electronics (the π -bonding electrons of the alkene connecting to the boron first will create a partial positive charge, and it is more stable to have that partial positive on the more substituted position).
- The alkene does not attack an H on BH₃ because said H's are not acidic (it is the boron that is electron deficient).
- Each part repeats an additional two times with the product of the n^{th} run the reactant of the $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$ run to create the reactant of the next part.
- In part II, mixing H₂O₂ with OH⁻ yields a deprotonated peroxide (O₂H⁻).
- The final product of part II is the boric acid ester.
- Part III has a borate salt as a final byproduct.
- The mechanism implies that the hydrogen added comes from BH_3 , and the oxygen added (as part of the hydroxide) comes from H_2O_2 .
- If we add to an alkene borane, and then a strong acid and heat, we end up hydrogenating it.
- Summary of alcohol synthesis:
 - If you want Markovnikov addition, use...

- Acid-catalyzed hydration.
- Oxymercuration/reduction.
- Mukaiyama hydration.
- If you want anti-Markovnikov addition, use...
 - Hydroboration.
- Ozonolysis of alkenes.
 - An **oxidation** reaction (adding oxygen or removing hydrogen).
 - Treat an alkene with ozone and dimethyl sulfide to cleave the C=C bond and add oxygen onto each carbon, forming carbonyls (and associated groups).
 - Note that if we consider the resonance structures of ozone, we will find that charger separation is unavoidable, i.e., that the molecule must have a plus and a minus charge somewhere. This makes it very reactive.

• Mechanism.

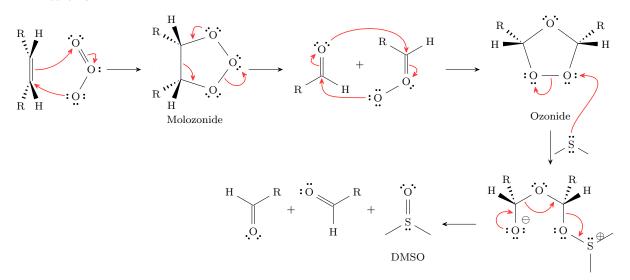


Figure 7.3: Ozonolysis of alkenes.

- The first step of the reaction is a concerted 3 + 2 addition.
- The ozonide intermediate is more stable than the molozonide owing to its symmetry.
- Motivation for the last intermediate to split is eliminating charge separation.
- Dihydroxylation of alkene (creation of a 1,2-diol).
- General form.

$$R-=\frac{1. \, OsO_4}{2. \, NaHSO_3} \, R-(-OH)--OH$$

- Stereospecific (cis).
 - Compare to bromination, which gives the trans-product (the difference is for mechanistic reasons).
- The product is a 1,2-diol, or a vicinal diol.

• Mechanism.

Figure 7.4: Dihydroxylation.

- The first step is concerted, once again.
- Osmium gets reduced in the first step (oxidation number goes from +8 to +6).
- In the second step, sodium bisulfite cleaves the two osmium oxygen bonds in a very complex process.
- Problems: OsO₄ is very expensive and very toxic.
- Solutions:
- UpJohn process (1976).
 - The same as dihydroxylation but with only 1% OsO₄ and NMO (N-methylmorpholine oxide) and H_2O added second instead of NaHSO₃.
- Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation.
 - Nobel prize (2001).
 - Gives high ee for each product.
 - Conditions are catalytic potassium osmium salt $(K_2OsO_2(OH)_4)$, potassium carbonate (K_2CO_3) , and potassium iron cyanate $(K_3Fe(CN)_6)$.
- Alkene dihydrogenation.

11/13: • General form:

$$R-= \xrightarrow[\text{cat} \cdot \text{Pt}]{H_2} R--$$

- A reduction reaction.
- The catalyst can be Pd, Ru, Rh, Ir, etc.
- This reaction happens on the solid surface of a metal catalyst.
- Most of the time, this is cis-addition (as we can determine with deuterium labeling).

7.2 Alkynes

- Review of bonding.
 - Consider acetylene, or ethyne $(H-C\equiv C-H)$.
 - Bond angle 180° .
 - Linear
 - \blacksquare sp hybridization.
 - Orbital diagram (similar to homework 1.7b).
 - Driving force: Break weaker π bonds.

- IUPAC nomenclature.
 - If there is a stereocenter, we need (R/S). If there is cis/trans, we need that, too.
 - Same rules as for alkenes except with "-yne."
 - No Z/E for alkyne.
 - Alkenes have higher priority than alkynes, e.g., we have but-1-ene-3-yne, not but-1-yne-3-ene.
 - Alkenes have higher priority than alkynes, have higher priority than halogens, e.g., we have 3-bromo-3-methyl-1-butyne.

• Acidity of terminal alkynes.

- Recall that sp hydrogens are more acidic than sp^2 hydrogens, are more acidic than sp^3 hydrogens (more s character means that the charge on the conjugate base is held closer to the positive nucleus and thus stabilized better).
- Indeed, R-C≡C-H is a reasonable Brønsted acid (it can react with a strong base).
 - For example, acetylene and sodium amide react to establish an acid-base equilibrium to the right.
- Take home message: Strong bases can remove hydrogen from terminal alkynes to give $R-C \equiv C^-$.
- Two more strong bases (that can fully remove a hydrogen from a terminal alkyne): NaH (sodium hydride) and LDA (lithium diisopropylamide).
- NaOH cannot remove a hydrogen from a terminal alkyne.

• Reactions of alkynes.

- Tip: Learn alkyne reactions simply by making an analogy to an alkene reaction.

• Hydrohalogenation.

$$R \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad \qquad } H + H \xrightarrow{\qquad \stackrel{\bigcirc}{\text{Cl}}} : \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad } R \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad } H + : \stackrel{\square}{\text{Cl}} : \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad } R$$
(a) One equivalent HBr.

$$\begin{array}{c} Cl \\ + H \\ \hline Cl : \\ R \\ \hline \\ (b) \text{ Another equivalent HBr.} \\ \end{array}$$

Figure 7.5: Hydrohalogenation mechanism (alkynes).

- Two equivalents of HBr yields a **geminal dichloride**.
- Still Markovnikov addition.
- If we wanted to form a viscinal (or 1,2-) dichloride, we would use chlorination, but if we want to form the geminal chloride, we must start with an alkyne.

• Halogenation.

- Similarly, one equivalent yields a trans alkene.
- Two equivalents yield a tetrahalo alkyne.

• Acid-catalyzed hydration.

$$R = H \xrightarrow{H_2SO_4, H_2O} R \xrightarrow{OH} R \xrightarrow{H} H$$

Figure 7.6: Hydration mechanism (alkynes).

- For an alkyne, we need a more forcing condition. In particular, we will add catalytic HgSO₄.
- After running once, we will form an enol.
 - \blacksquare Enols are unstable and undergo enol-keto tautomerizations, forming a ketone.
 - If we are asked to draw the products of this reaction, draw *only* the ketone.
 - The tautomerization favors the ketone for thermodynamic reasons: The ketone is more stable (by about 15 kcal mol⁻¹), and the O-H and C-H bonds have similar BDEs.
- This is Markovnikov.
- A good method for ketone synthesis: Alkyne to ketone.
- We do not need to know the mechanism because the introduction of the mercury catalyst goes beyond this class.
- Know, however, that alkyne hydration requires a more forcing condition because alkynes' hybridization leads to tighter holding of electrons relative to alkenes. Thus, we say that alkenes are more electron rich.
- There are some alternative greener methods, but we will not cover them.

• Hydroboration.

$$R \xrightarrow{BH_3} R' \xrightarrow{BH_3} R \xrightarrow{H} R' \xrightarrow{H} H \xrightarrow{H} H$$

$$R \xrightarrow{R'} R' \xrightarrow{BH_3} R' \xrightarrow{H} H$$

$$R \xrightarrow{R'} R' \xrightarrow{R'} R'$$

(a) Alkyne hydroboration.

$$R = BH_3 \xrightarrow{BH_3} R \xrightarrow{B} B$$

(b) Over hydroboration.

$$R \xrightarrow{\text{(sia)}_2 \text{BH}} \begin{array}{c} H \\ \\ R \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{B(sia)}_2} \begin{array}{c} NaOH \\ \\ H_2O_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{R}} OH \end{array} \xrightarrow{R} \begin{array}{c} H \\ \\ R \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{H}} O$$

$$\text{(c) Solving over hydroboration.}$$

Figure 7.7: Hydroboration mechanism (alkynes).

- Three equivalent of the reactant go through at once to form three equivalents of the product.
- The product results from typical hydroboration cis-addition followed by the keto-enol tautomerization.

- The R' group in the normal hydroboration prevents boron from adding to the alkene again via steric hindrance.
- We can solve over hydroboration by using $(sia)_2B-H$ instead of BH_3 , which only works one molecule at a time and is too bulky for over hydroboration.
 - The sia ligand is sec-isoamyl (5 carbons, prong at the end, bonds through the second carbon along the tail).
 - The full name of (sia)₂BH is di-sec-iso-amylborane.
- Three ways to make ketones:
 - 1. Ozonolysis of alkenes.
 - 2. Acid-catalyzed hydration of alkynes.
 - 3. Hydroboration of alkynes.
- Reduction (hydrogenation).
 - The reaction is hard to stop at the alkene if we use catalytic platinum and hydrogen.
 - To stop at the alkene stage, we can use a Lindlar catalyst (has some Pd, CaCO₃, and PbO).
 - A **poisoned catalyst** that does not have the same reactivity as platinum. It can bind with the alkyne, but not the alkene.
 - Alternatively, we can use Ni₂Br.
 - We can get the trans product with a special condition called dissolving metal reduction.

$$R = -R' \xrightarrow{2 \text{ Na}} trans - R = -R' + 2 \text{ NaNH}_{2}$$

$$R \xrightarrow{\text{Na}} R' \xrightarrow{\text{Na}} Na + \begin{bmatrix} R - \dot{C} = \ddot{C} - R' \\ \downarrow \\ R - \ddot{C} = \dot{C} - R' \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{H - NH_{2}} R - \dot{C} = C$$

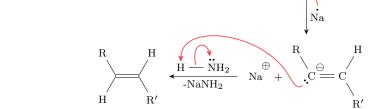


Figure 7.8: Monohydrogenation of an alkyne.

- Dissolve two equivalents of sodium in NH₃.
- Stereospecific (trans).
- Sodium is very electropositive, a single electron donor. On the other hand, the alkyne is electron poor.
- We favor the trans intermediate for steric reasons.