

3. Synthesis of C=C Bonds

Organic Synthesis

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There are three main avenues for the synthesis of C=C bonds

I. Elimination of HX from halocompounds

2. Reactions of carbanions with aldehydes and ketones (Wittig & Julia-Kocienski Reactions)

3. Rearrangement of C=C bonds

(Metathesis)



Concept of elimination





EI, unimolecular elimination

v = k [RY]The base has no influenceCarbocations as intermediates

E2, bimolecular elimination

v = k [RY] [B]
The base is crucial.
Strong bases are usually required
No intermediates
Antiperiplanar stereochemistry









El Elimination reactions can be regioselective ...





E2 Elimination reactions can be regioselective ...



... they can give the more substituted alkene,

but become more regioselective for the less substituted alkene with more hindered bases





The stereoselectivity (E vs Z) of elimination reactions relies on conformational grounds ...





Elimination reactions confront several challenges ...



Competing reactions? Remember Elimination/Substitution issue

Regioselectivity: where is the double bond?

Stereoselectivity: what is the geometry of the double bond?

... the construction of C=C bonds requires other synthetic methodologies

Wittig and variants

Julia-Kocienski







Regioselectivity is not a problem ... The only concern is stereoselectivity!



X: Si, Peterson Reaction

X: S, Julia-Kocienski Reaction

X: P, Wittig Reaction and variants R₃P⁺, Wittig Reaction R₂P=O, Horner-Wittig (RO)₂P=O, Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons (HWE)

> N^ || N~



Georg Wittig Nobel Prize in Chemistry **1979**

..for the development of the use of phosphorus-containing compounds into important reagents in organic synthesis



Ylide (ilur): Compound in which an anionic site Y^- (originally on carbon, but now including other atoms) is attached directly to a heteroatom X^+ (usually nitrogen, phosphorus or sulfur) carrying a formal positive charge.

Phosphorus ylides are prepared by deprotonation of phosphonium salts





Wittig reaction: addition of a phosphorus ylide to a carbonyl







The E/Z selectivity also depends on the R groups (Ph₃P favor Z, Alkyl₃P favor E), presence of lithium salts (salt free conditions favor Z, LiX favor E) solvent

> Maryanoff, B. E. *Chem. Rev.* **1989**, 89, 863 Nicolaou, K. C. *Liebigs Ann.* **1997**, 7, 1283







The mechanism of the Wittig reaction has been the subject of much debate. Initially, Wittig described this reaction as an addition to a carbonyl...



... but the accepted picture in the absence of lithium salts is rather different nowadays



Formal [2,2] Cycloaddition

Pseudorotation



Particularly,

Wittig reactions carried out in the absence of lithium salts (salt-free Wittig reactions) are described as kinetically–controlled transformations...















Phosphonate stabilized carbanions are more nucleophilic and basic than the corresponding phosphonium ylides The by-product dialkylphosphate salt, $(RO)_2PO_2^-$, is readily removed by aqueous extraction







Wittig variants: addition of phosphonate carbanions to carbonyls











BuLi, NaH, KH For the use of LiOCH(CF₃)₂, Myers, A. G. OL 2005, 7, 4281

E / Z ratio

-	Temperature	Cation	THF	DME		
	−78 °C	Li	1/3	1/1		
		Na	1/1	1/1		
		К	1/1	1/1		
Major isomer: E	23 °C	Li	5.3 / 1	12 / 1		
		Na	4.3 / 1	5.3 / 1		
CO ₂ Me		К	4 / 1	4 / 1		
I		High T, Li	High T, Li > Na > K, DME > THF			

Heathcock, C. H. JOC 1990, 55, 3386



However, sensitive substrates usually require mild conditions and the phosphonate becomes crucial ...





Ketones can be partners of phosphonates due to their high nucleophilicity ...



E / *Z* 7 : 1 77%





Still-Gennari reaction provides a reliable entry to Z olefines ...



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Still, W. C. & Gennari, C. Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 23, 4405

Ando reaction also gives Z olefins ...

It is generally accepted that the stereoselectivity of the HWE reaction is a result of both kinetic and thermodynamic control upon the reversible formation of the erythro and threo adducts followed by the oxaphosphetane formation, pseudorotation, and decomposition to olefins.

Julia-Kocienski reaction: addition of sulfone carbanions to aldehydes

Blakemore, P. R. JCS Perkin Trans 1 2002, 2563; Aïssa, C. EJOC 2009, 1831

Sulfone acidity

О Н +			MN(SiMe ₃) ₃ → -78 °C to rt		E	
	М	PhMe	Et ₂ O	THF	DME	More E
	Li	50 : 50	50 : 50	66 : 34	70:30	
	Na	54 : 46	50 : 50	62 : 38	75 : 25	
	K	54 : 46	50 : 50	54 : 46	76 : 24	
	0,0 NS	O, O S		³ 3) ₃		
	₁∽N Ph		–78 °C to rt		E	
						More E
	М	PhMe	Et ₂ O	THF	DME	
	Li	51:49	61:39	69:31	72 : 28	
	Na	65 : 35	65 : 35	73:27	89:11	
	К	77:23	89:11	97:3	99:1	Ļ
Kocienski, P.J. Synthesis 1998, 26		33				More E

Olefin Metathesis: A New Reaction?

Olefin Metathesis: the reaction of the 90s?

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2005 ...

for the development of the metathesis method in organic synthesis

Yves CHAUVIN

Robert H. GRUBBS

Richard R.SCHROCK

Alkene metathesis in all its various guises has arguably influenced and shaped the landscape of synthetic organic chemistry more than any other single process over the last 15 years.

Nicolaou, K. C. ACIE 2005, 4490

Olefin metathesis can be formally described as the intermolecular mutual exchange of alkylidene fragments between two olefins promoted by metal-carbene complexes

$$\begin{bmatrix} R' \\ R' \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} M \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R' \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} + = \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R^2 \\ R^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R^$$

Nicolaou, K. C. Classics in Total Synthesis II. p. 162

Grela K. Olefin Metathesis. Theory and Practice. Wiley

Olefin metathesis is a

reversible,

catalytic process (1-5 mol%),

with high levels of chemo-, regio-, and stereoselectivity

Except for the synthesis of small cycles, the reversible character of olefin metathesis usually results in the formation of the thermodynamically most favorable E product.

CURRENT CHALLENGE: KINETIC STEREOCONTROL

Fürstner, A, Science **2013**, 341, 1357 Fischmeister, C. ChemCatChem **2013**, 5, 3436 Grubbs, R. H. Chem. Sci. **2014**, 5, 501

Ruthenium carbenes, [M]=, are the most common catalysts used in olefin methathesis so far.

Nicolaou, K. C. Classics in Total Synthesis II. p. 162

For a recent account of different ruthenium catalysts, Grela, K. ASC **2013**, 355, 1997 For a recent perspective on Olefin Metathesis, Hoveyda, A. H. *JOC* **2014**, 79, 4763

More complex ruthenium based complexes are being developed to achieve high Z stereoselectivity

Olefin metathesis is now widely considered as one of the most powerful synthetic tools in organic synthesis

Cross Metathesis has to face non-selective couplings ...

Romea, P. & Urpí, F. OL 2011, 13, 5350

Streptolic acid

TOTAL SYNTHESIS of DIHYDROXANTHAIN: synthesis of C=C in action

Diels-Alder and Ring-Closing Metathesis: two ways to cyclohexenes

+ 2 C-C & - 1 C=C 0 C-C & 0 C=C

(Catalytic) process

Catalytic process

Inter or intramolecular process

Reversible

Up to four new stereocenters

Intramolecular process

Reversible

No new stereocenters

Mature metathesis for scale-up: BILN 2061 ZW by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co

Nicola, T. Org. Process Res & Dev 2005, 513

BILN 2061 ZW