# Elimination Reactions & Introduction to Alkenes - Chapter 7, part 2 (Klein)

#### **Chapter Outline (Part 2)**

I. Alkene structure & stability (7.6)

- II. Alkene synthesis: E2 elimination (7.5, 7.7) SkillBuilders 7.3, 7.4, 7.5
- III. Alkene synthesis: E1 elimination (7.8)
  - A) Dehydration of alcohols (7.10)
- IV. Substitution vs. Elimination (7.9) SkillBuilder 7.7
- V. Synthesis strategies (7.11) SkillBuilder 7.8
- I. Alkene structure (review)

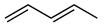
3-D sketch: p orbitals are orthogonal to  $sp^2$  plane

- $\pi$  bonds are higher energy than  $\sigma$  bonds (more reactive, easier to break)
- $\pi$  bonds are electron-rich (can react as a nucleophile or a base see Chapter 8)

#### Alkene stability (7.6)

- conjugation increases stability (resonance)





- increasing number of alkyl substituents increases stability



R R

R

R R R

R\_\_\_\_

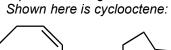
substituted

\_\_\_\_substituted \_\_\_\_substituted

substituted

- trans is more stable than cis, except in rings





trans possible if ring is >7 carbons



cis (less stable) **\** 

trans (more stable)



cis only





- FYI  $\pi$  bond is unstable at bridgehead carbons (Bredt's rule)

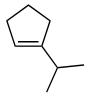




Example: Which alkene is most stable? Least stable?







## II. Alkene synthesis via E2 mechanism (7.5, 7.7)

- one-step mechanism
- needs strong base
- rate = k [RX] [base]

### Example:

"eliminate" or lose β-hydrogen and LG (loss of HBr is called dehydrohalogenation)

## Stereochemisty of E2 mechanism (7.7)

- β-hydrogen and LG must be anti-coplanar (180°) or anti-periplanar (close to 180°)
- E2 is called "anti elimination"

#### Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ is the major product because it is the most stable alkene (Zaitsev's Rule)

Effect of chair conformation on rate of E2 mechanism.

When a sterically hindered "bulky" base is used, then  $\beta$ -hydrogen on *less substituted* C is removed.

\_\_\_\_ is the major product because it is formed fastest (Hofmann's Rule)

Example: predict the major E2 elimination product for each reaction.

When do they compete? Reactions involving HO<sup>-</sup> (hydroxide) or RO<sup>-</sup> (alkoxide).

Compare rates:

RBr	name	Туре	% S <sub>N</sub> 2	% E2
CH₃Br				
∕ → Br				
Br				
<b>&gt;</b> ─Br				
<del>→</del> Br				

Consider t-BuBr:

*t*-Butoxide is a very <u>bulky</u> base (also Et<sub>3</sub>N, iPr<sub>2</sub>NH, DBU, DBN)

- not good for  $S_N 2$
- classic E2 reaction conditions (gives Hofmann product if there is a choice)

# Preference for E2 over S<sub>N</sub>2 (by RX type):

<sup>\*\*</sup>Addition of heat also favors elimination (T∆S becomes large)\*\*

b) 
$$\sim$$
 Br  $\sim$  DMF

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_2\text{CI} \\ \hline \\ \text{CH}_3\text{CN} \end{array} \xrightarrow{}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{h)} & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ &$$

E1 Mechanism: 2 steps, via carbocation

1) loss of LG



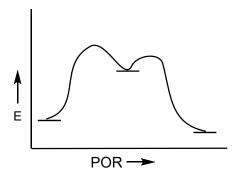
(same slow, rate-determining step as  $S_N1$ )

2) loss of  $\beta$ -H

(follows Zaitsev's rule - forms most substituted, most stable alkene)

**E1 Kinetics** Rate = k[RCI]

- unimolecular
- rate not dependent on [H<sub>2</sub>O] so H<sub>2</sub>O is not involved in rate-determining step
- a more stable carbocation will be formed faster (lower  $E_a$ ) and gives faster  $E1/S_N1$



Rate (by RX type)

allyl / benzyl / 3° > 2° >> 1° methyl

Br, H, CH<sub>3</sub> NaOH 
$$H_2O$$
  $\Delta$   $H_2O$   $\Delta$ 

#### **Carbocation Rearrangements (6.11)**

Because of rearrangements, product mixtures are common for reactions involving carbocations.

- 1) Of the elimination products shown below, which is expected to be major?
- 2) What mechanism accounts for the alcohol products? For the alkene products?
- 3) Provide detailed mechanisms to generate all products shown.

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loss of \_\_\_\_\_ = dehydration

Mechanism?  $S_N1$   $S_N2$  E1 E2

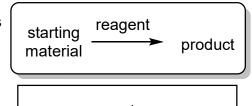
- produces most stable alkene possible ( Zaitsev / Hofmann )
- carbocation can rearrange
- recall what is needed to make OH a good leaving group: \_

$$H-A \equiv H-O-S-OH$$

$$A: \stackrel{\Theta}{=} \stackrel{\Theta}{=} \stackrel{O}{\circ} - \stackrel{\Pi}{\stackrel{\Pi}{\circ}} - OH$$

- HBr H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>
- strong / weak base- non-nucleophilic, so no S<sub>N</sub>1 competition
- A<sup>-</sup> is like a spectator ion (N/R)

Start building up a set of flashcards to study CHM 3140 reactions and organize material (essential in Chapter 8!!). From any new reaction we learn in class, you can create **THREE** flashcards:



starting reagent ?

starting material product

? reagent → product

predict the product

transform problem\*

retrosynthesis\*

Useful for preparing for final, reviewing material in CHM 3150 and \*planning a synthesis.

# **Sample Flashcards (Reactions of Alcohols)**

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## IV. Substitution vs. Elimination (7.9)

Bimolecular reactions (1-step mechanism)

S<sub>N</sub>2 • requires good Nu: (X<sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>, RNH<sub>2</sub>, CN<sup>-</sup>, N<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, RO<sup>-</sup>, HO<sup>-</sup>)

• steric hinderance slows  $S_N2$ :  $CH_3$  (fastest) > 1° > 2° >> 3° (tertiary, slowest)

E2 • requires a strong base (RO⁻, HO⁻, NOT H₂O, ROH)

Unimolecular reactions (stepwise mechanism, via carbocation)

S<sub>N</sub>1 and E1 • requires NO strong base/Nu: (usually H<sub>2</sub>O, ROH – called solvolysis)

• more stable carbocation, faster reaction: benzyl/allyl, 3° > 2° >> 1°, methyl

# V. Synthesis strategies (7.11)

Provide suitable starting materials to synthesize the following target molecules (TM).

# Organic Chemistry I, CHM 3140, Dr. Laurie S. Starkey, Cal Poly Pomona Elimination Reactions & Alkenes Summary (Ch 7 Part 2)

- I. Review the pi  $(\pi)$  bond & Alkene stability (7.6)
  - i) more alkyl groups, more stable
  - ii) trans is more stable than cis (except in rings)
  - iii) pi bond unstable at bridgehead carbon (Bredt's Rule)
  - iv) alkene is more stable if conjugated with another pi bond (16.2)
- II. Alkene synthesis: E2 mechanism (one-step) (7.5, 7.7) SkillBuilders 7.3, 7.4, 7.5
  - i) requires strong base (HO<sup>-</sup>, RO<sup>-</sup>, R<sub>2</sub>N<sup>-</sup>)
  - ii) stereochemistry: anti-elimination of β-hydrogen and LG
  - iii) regiochemistry: depends on base choice
    - a. usually gives the most stable alkene (Zaitsev with NaOH, MeONa, EtONa)
    - b. bulky base gives less substituted alkene (Hofmann with t-BuOK)
  - iv) often in competition with  $S_N2$  (E2 favored unless primary RX)
- III. Alkene synthesis: E1 mechanism (7.8)
  - i) two steps, via carbocation (rearrangement can occur)
  - ii) proceeds with loss of stereochemistry (both E and Z alkenes formed; E favored)
  - iii) regiochemistry: gives the most stable alkene (Zaitsev)
  - iv) usually in competition with S<sub>N</sub>1 (E1 favored with heat)
  - v) dehydration of alcohols (conc.  $H_3PO_4$  or conc.  $H_2SO_4$  + heat) (7.10)
- IV. Predicting Products: Substitution vs. Elimination (7.9) SkillBuilder 7.7
  - i) Bimolecular (strong base/nu:): S<sub>N</sub>2 vs. E2 (see below)
  - ii) Unimolecular (carbocation): S<sub>N</sub>1 vs. E1 (see below)
- V. Synthesis Strategies (7.11) SkillBuilder 7.9

#### **Bimolecular reactions** (1-step mechanism)

- S<sub>N</sub>2 requires good Nu: (X<sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>, RNH<sub>2</sub>, CN<sup>-</sup>, N<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, RO<sup>-</sup>, HO<sup>-</sup>)
  - steric hinderance slows  $S_N2$ :  $CH_3$  (fastest) > 1° > 2° >> 3° (tertiary, slowest)
- requires a strong base (RO<sup>-</sup>, HO<sup>-</sup>, NOT H<sub>2</sub>O, ROH)

#### Unimolecular reactions (stepwise mechanism, via carbocation)

S<sub>N</sub>1 and E1 • requires NO strong base/Nu: (usually H<sub>2</sub>O, ROH – called solvolysis)

• more stable carbocation, faster reaction: benzyl/allyl, 3° > 2° >> 1°, methyl

Alkyl Group (RX) 3° (tertiary)	S <sub>N</sub> 1, E1, E2 common	S <sub>N</sub> 2 rare
2° (secondary)	sometimes	sometimes
1° (primary)	rare	common
CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl)	rare	common