

Fonction et réaction organiques II

Fall Semester 2025

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Assistants:

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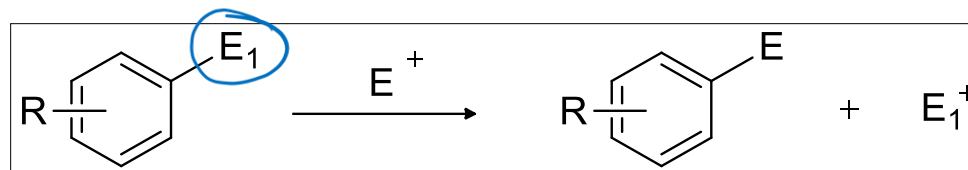
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Wilfrido Almaraz Ortiz

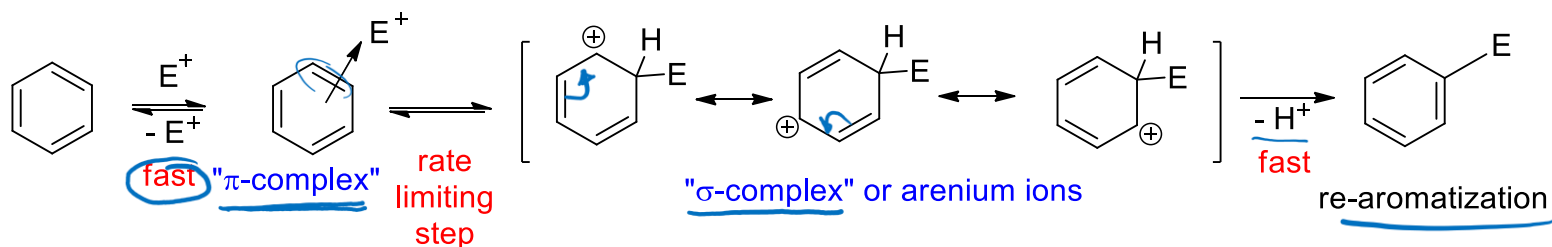
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1.2. Electrophilic aromatic substitution S_EAr

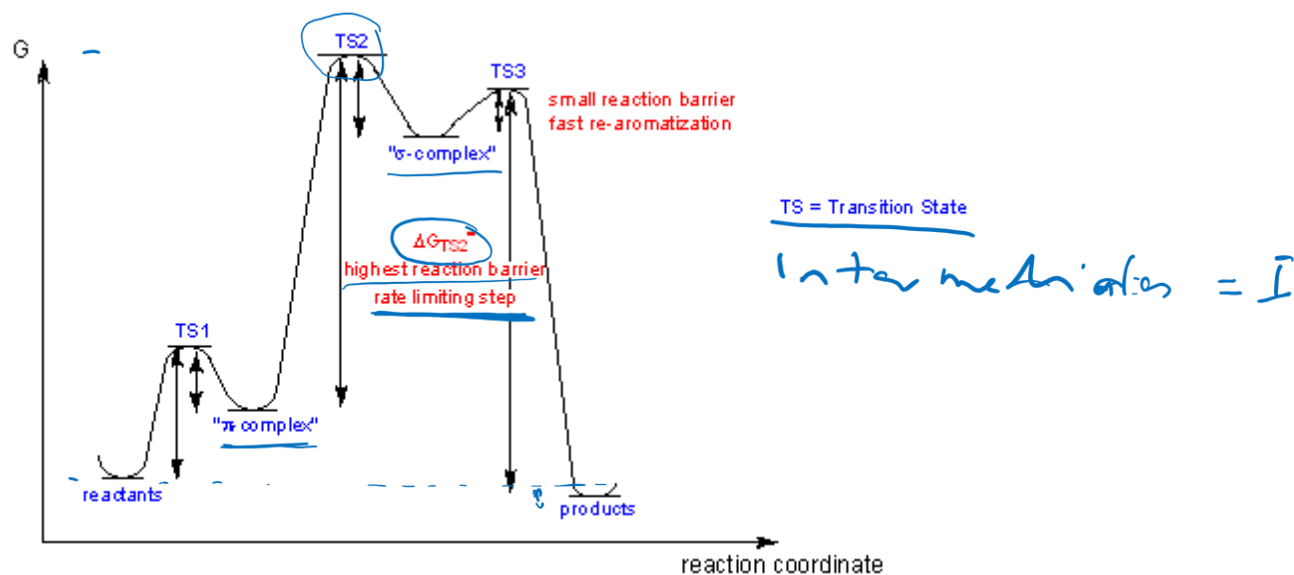
- General reaction:



- E₁ = H
- Rare cases where E₁ = SiR₃, tBu, SO₃H is then called ipso-substitution
- Formally, the reaction is the substitution of H⁺ by an electrophile E⁺
- Mechanistically, it is an addition / elimination process



1.2.1. General principles



- Polanyi-Hammond postulate:

When two neighboring species on the reaction coordinate are related in their energy, they are as well in their structure.

TS2 much closer to the σ -complex than to the π -complex

- Applications:

→ Lowering the activation barrier makes a reaction faster

→ For S_EAr : TS2 looks rather similar to the σ -complex

→ Everything stabilizing the σ -complex accelerates the reaction rate

→ Everything destabilizing the σ -complex decrease the reaction rate

1.2.1. General principles

- How can one speed up the reaction? How are the substituents chosen?

Substituents are generally divided in two groups:

Sub

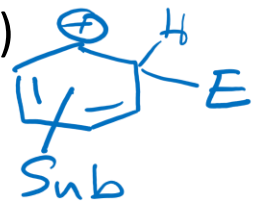
- EDG (Electron Donating Group) e.g. -OMe, having +M / +I effect
- EWG (Electron Withdrawing Group) e.g. -COOMe, having -M / -I effect



EDG stabilizes the σ -complex making the reaction faster

EWG destabilizes the σ -complex making the reaction slower

(how much faster/slower is depending on the substituent properties)



- Examples of EDG / EWG:

EDG with +M effect: -NR₂, - $\bar{N}H_2$, -OH, -OR

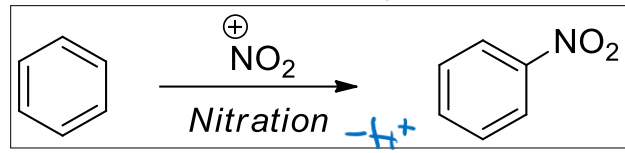
EDG with +I effect: -Alkyl, -SiR₃ $\rightarrow Csp^3$

EWG with -M effect: -NO₂, -COOR, -COR, -CHO, -CN, -SO₃H, -SO₂R

EWG with -I effect: -NH₃⁺, -NR₃⁺, -CF₃

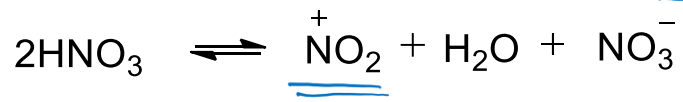
1.2.2.1. Nitration

- Electrophile = NO_2^+ , nitronium ion $\text{O}=\text{N}=\text{O}^+$

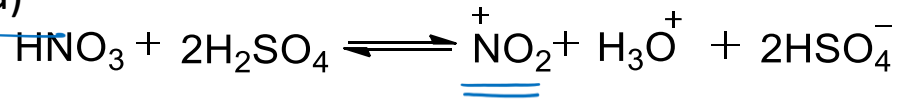


- Practical methods to generate the electrophile:

- Mild: autoprotolysis of nitric acid, in concentrated HNO_3 (68%) the amount of NO_2^+ is 3-4%



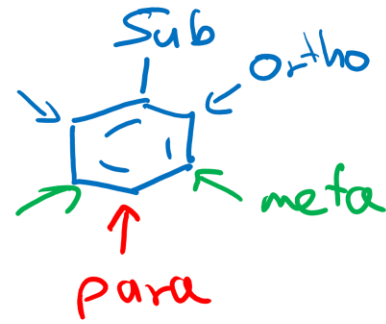
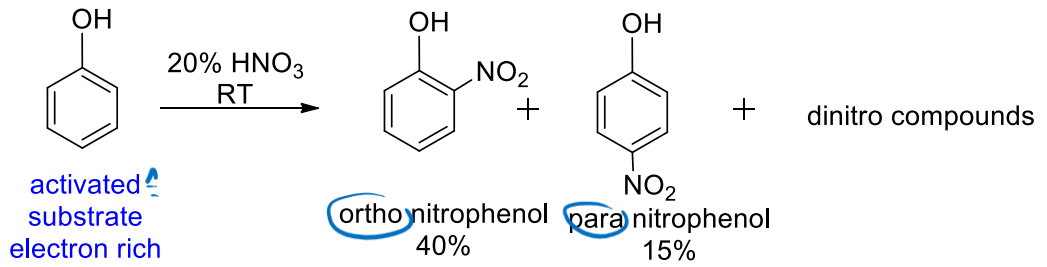
- More forcing conditions: mixture of concentrated HNO_3 + concentrated H_2SO_4 (nitrosulfuric acid)



- Strongest conditions: nitroniumtetrafluoroborat salt $\text{NO}_2^+ \text{BF}_4^-$

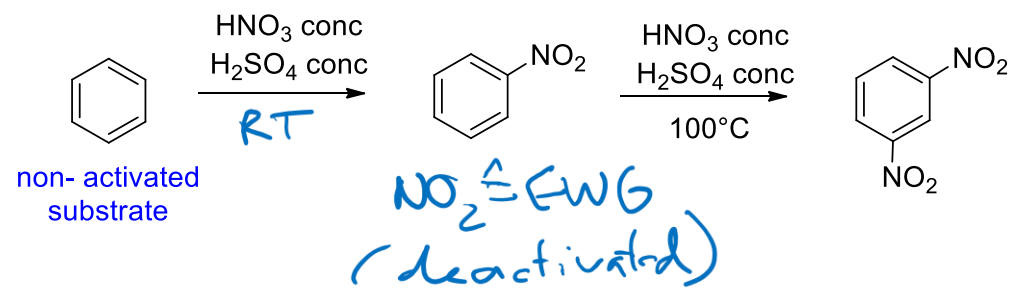
- Examples for activated substrates: mild conditions are used

Handwritten: $-\text{OH} =$ very good EDG

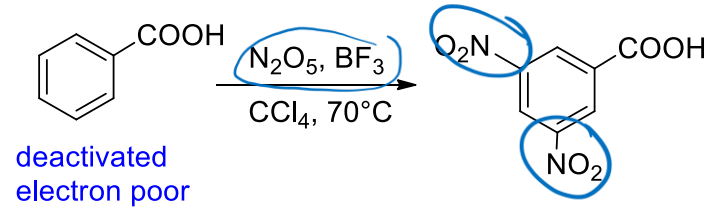


1.2.2.1. Nitration

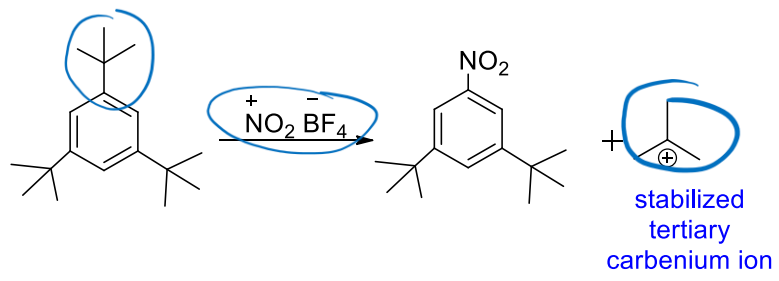
- Examples for non-activated substrates: more forcing conditions are required



- Examples for deactivated substrates:



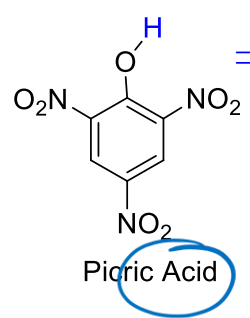
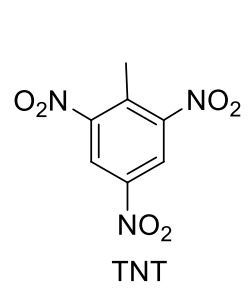
- Example for an ipso-substitution :



1.2.2.1. Nitration

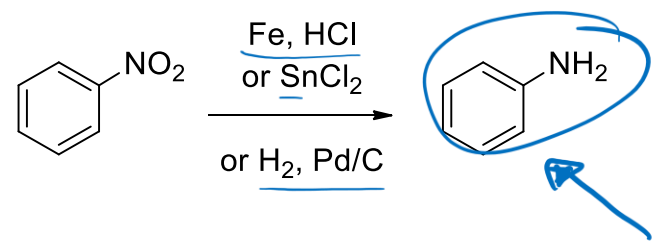
- Nitro groups are important synthetic intermediates

Application for dyes, explosives (TNT, picric acid) and basic industrial processes



very acidic due to 3EWG -NO₂ groups
⇒ crystalline salts are formed very easily
but these can be explosives !

Most important follow-up reaction: reduction of the nitro group to an aniline with a variety of reducing reagents

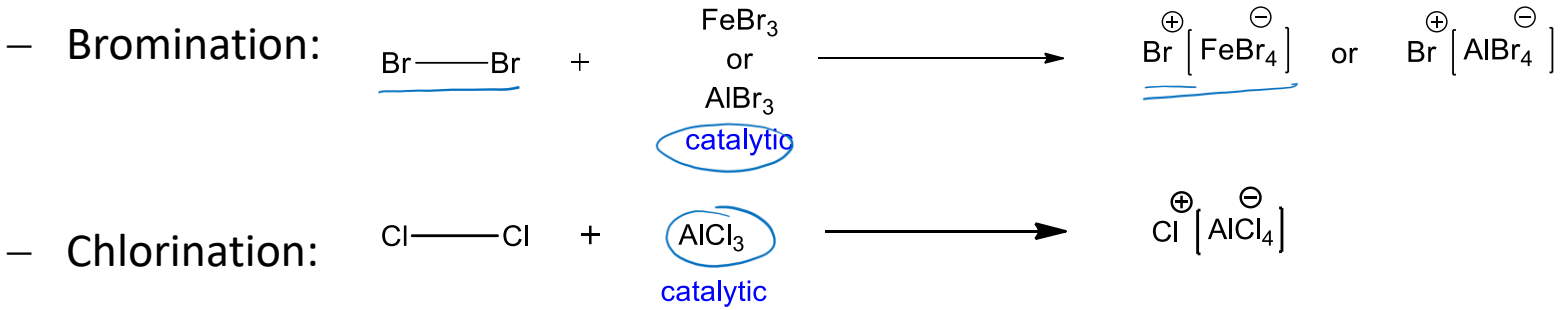


BASF
Aniline

1.2.2.2. Halogenation: bromination / chlorination

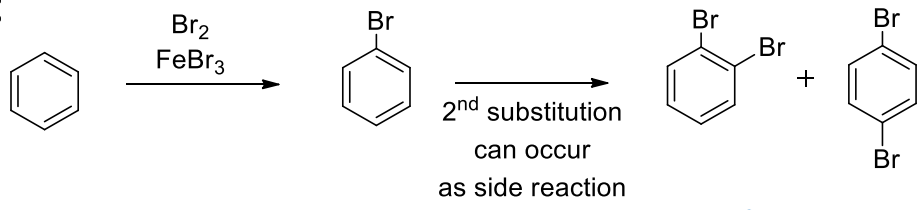
- Electrophile = Br⁺ / Cl⁺
- Hal⁺*
no
 - Fluorination: not controllable
 - Iodination: requires promoters

• Practical methods to generate the electrophile:

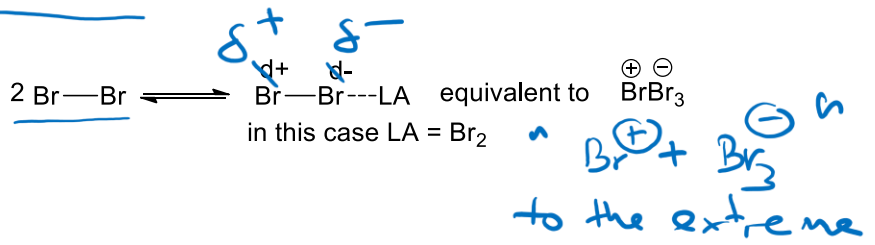
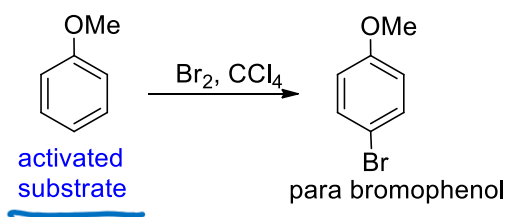


• Typical examples:

neutral reactivity



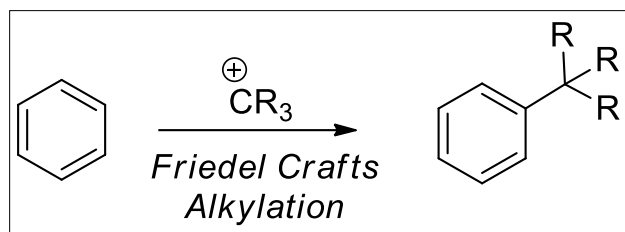
good EDG: -OMe



1.2.2.3. Friedel-Crafts reaction *FC-reaction*

- Friedel-Crafts alkylation: $E^+ = R_3C^+$ (carbenium ion, $R=H, alkyl$)
- Friedel-Crafts acylation: $E^+ = RCO^+$ (acylium cation, $R=alkyl, aryl$)

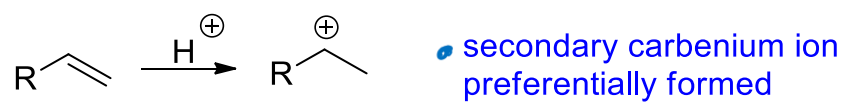
1.2.4.1. Friedel-Crafts alkylation



recall:
Stability: $1^\circ < 2^\circ < 3^\circ$

Practical methods to generate the electrophile:

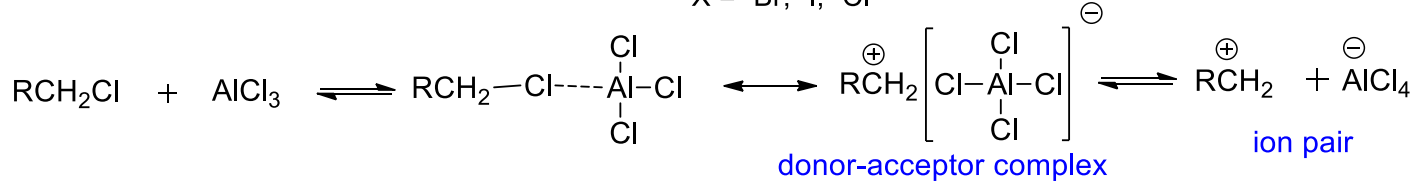
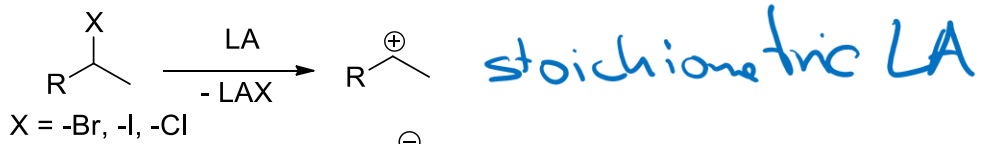
From protonation of alkenes: the selectivities of the carbenium ion apply



From alcohols and acid:



From alkyl halides and a Lewis acid:



1.2.2.3. Friedel-Crafts reaction

Caution: all aspects of carbenium ions apply:

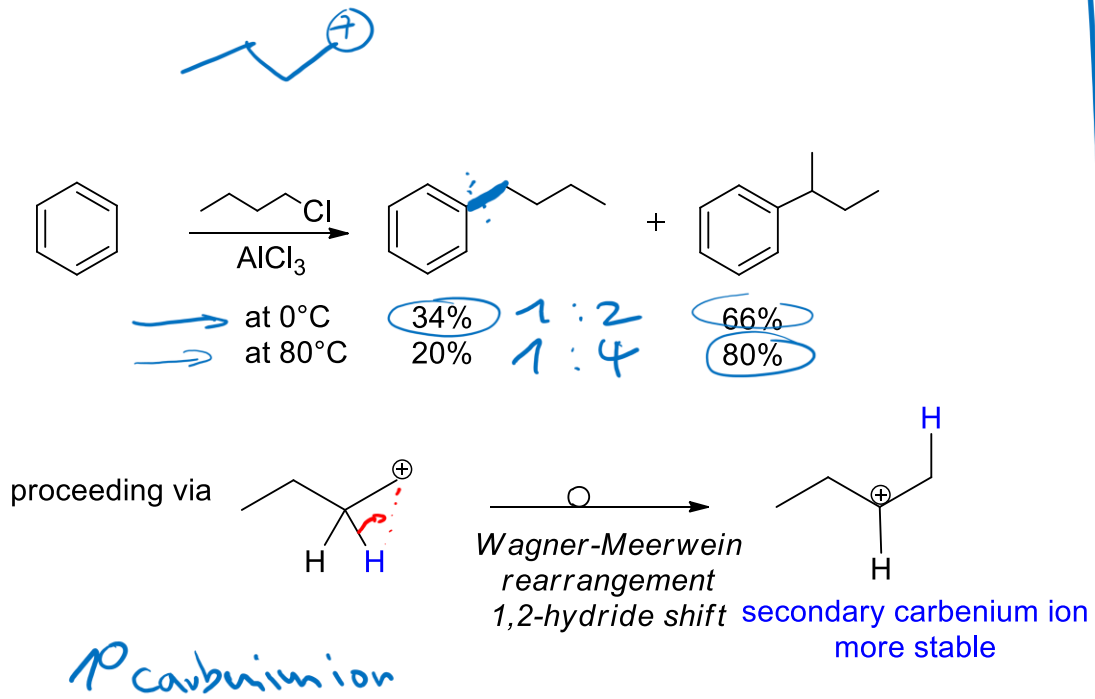
Stability: Benzylic \geq allylic $>$ tertiary $>$ secondary $>$ primary $>$ methyl

First issue:

Wagner-Meerwein type rearrangements prone to isomerization

- It is difficult to make primary alkyl chains under Wagner-Meerwein

For example:



Q:



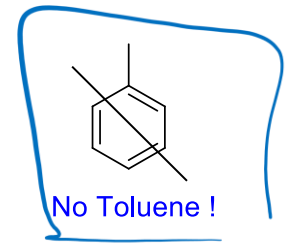
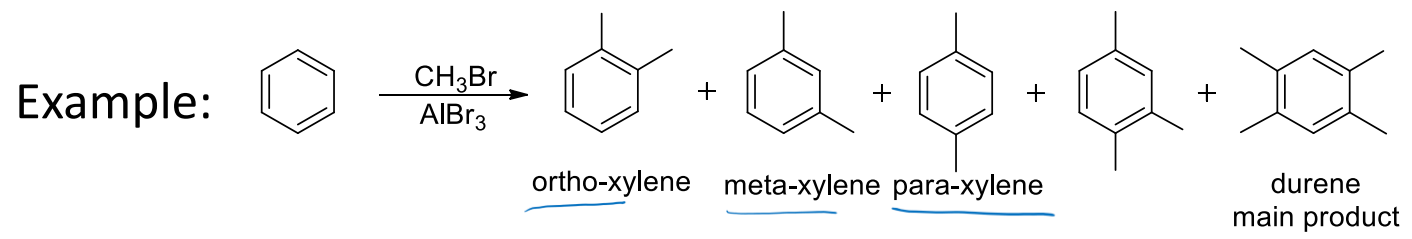
Subst = Me
 Me = EDG
 + I effect
 ↓
 renders substrate more reactive



1.2.2.3. Friedel-Crafts reaction

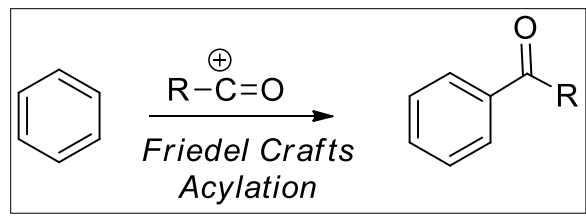
Second issue: alkyl groups are σ -donors which means:

→ The product is more reactive than the starting material and therefore the reaction is difficult to stop at the mono-alkylation stage

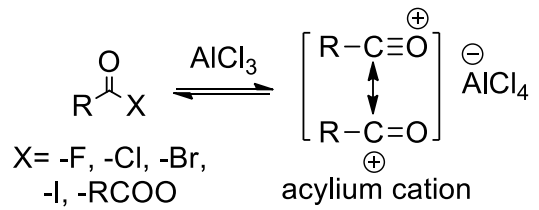


Mono substitution

1.2.4.2. Friedel-Crafts acylation

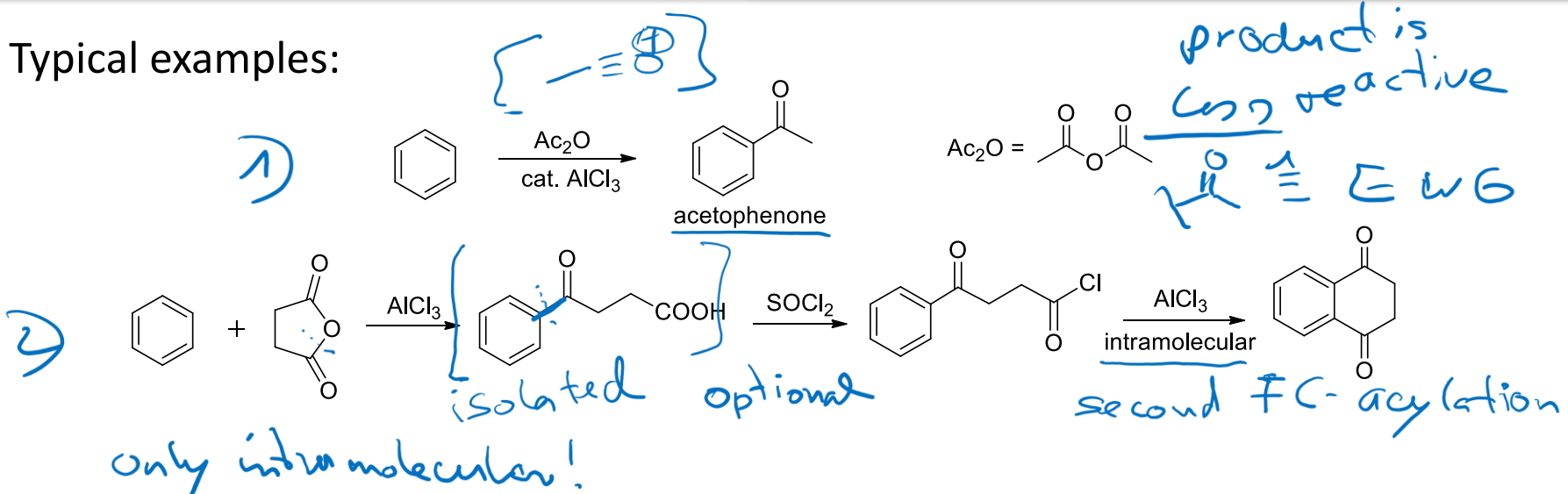


- Practical methods to generate the electrophile: from acid halogenide (acid chloride or anhydride) and a catalytic amount of a Lewis acid (AlCl_3)



1.2.2.3. Friedel-Crafts reaction

Typical examples:



- Important characteristics compared to Friedel-Crafts alkylation:

- The introduction of a carbonyl group (EWG) decreases the reactivity
- It prevents the risk of double acylation (however possible for intramolecular reactions)

