

Substitution Reactions

- Leaving group + nucleophile
- Leaving group is substituted by the nucleophile

S_N1

→ Polar, protic, unreactive Lewis Bases

- Leaving group + solvent are KEY

- Carbocation intermediate (2 step mechanism)

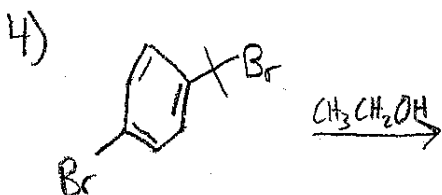
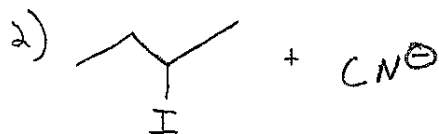
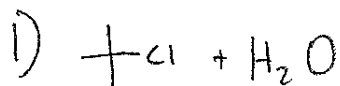
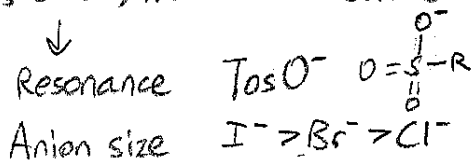
Rate = k[R-X]

- Racemic product

- Reactivity: 3° > 2° = Benzylic = Allylic > 1° > Methyl

Usually weak nucleophiles

Leaving Groups: Prefers stable, weak anion bases

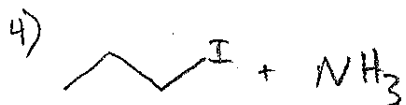
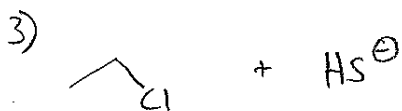
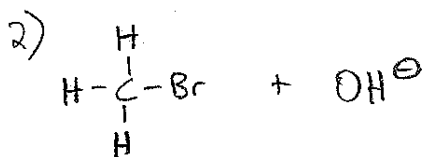
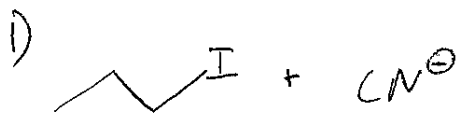


S_N2

- Rate = $k[\text{nucleophile}][\text{R-X}]$
- Inversion of reaction center
- Does NOT like steric hindrance methyl > 1° > 2°
- No carbocation; one step mechanism
- More basic nucleophiles and stronger nucleophiles preferred

Good leaving groups preferred
- stable, weak base anions

Polar solvents preferred
- avoid solvents w/ H-bonding (aprotic)



Determine whether each would undergo S_N1 or S_N2 and then determine the product.

