# Photochemistry and Applications in Synthesis

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-chemical reactions initiated by light -energy is absorbed or emitted by matter in discrete quanta called photons

 $E = h_V = hc/\lambda$ 

short  $\lambda$  light corresponds to high energy

-absorption of light leads to an electronic excitation (ground state  $\rightarrow$  excited state) -promote an e<sup>-</sup> like  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  or  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ -most chemistry takes place from S<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>1</sub> excited states S<sub>1</sub> have a shorter lifetime and higher E (10<sup>-9</sup> to 10<sup>-5</sup>)  $\downarrow$  T<sub>1</sub> have a longer lifetime b/c spin flip req. (10<sup>-5</sup> to 10<sup>-3</sup>)  $\uparrow$  $1 \downarrow 1 \downarrow \rightarrow 1 \downarrow 1$  -If a molecule absorbs energy, it can undergo a reaction or undergo loss of energy by two methods: radiative processes-involve emission of a photon -phosphorescence-relaxation to a lower state with different multiplicity, such as  $T_1 \rightarrow S_0$  (spin forbidden) -fluorescence-relaxation to lower state of same multiplicity, such as  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  (spin allowed) non-radiative processes-no emission -internal conversion-involves no spin change, such as  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$ -intersystem crossing-involves change in spin multiplicity •one way competes with phophorescent decay of the lowest triplet state to the ground state •another way converts the lowest excited singlet state to the lowest triplet state (competes with fluorescence and IC)[gives access to triplet state]

-Excitation by E transfer is Sensitization (deactivation is Quenching)



-*cis/trans* (*E* / *Z*) isomerism under photochemical conditions commonly leads to thermodynamically less stable*cis*-isomer -*cis*-isomer typically absorbs at a lower  $\lambda$  due to decreased conjugation b/c of non-bonded interactions -reactions come to photostationary state unless optical pumping is performed (irradiation of just 1 isomer to drive the equilibrium)



w/o sensitizer photostationary state: *E / Z* : 8/92 w sensitizer photostationary state: *E / Z* :50/50

#### **Geometrical Isomerism**



α-pyran: G. Büchi and N.C. Yang *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1957**, *7*9, 2318.

#### **Geometrical Isomerism**



H. Dorr, V. Rawal J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1999, 121, 10229

## Electrocyclizations

-reactions generate a new  $\sigma$ -bond between the termini of the conjugated  $\pi$ -system -concerted process-bond breaking occurs at the same time as bond formation -reactions also come to photostationary state based on absorption coefficient at the  $\lambda$  of irradiation

Thermal Reactions	Photochemical Reactions
-occur via HOMO	-occur via LUMO
4n - conrotatory	4n - disrotatory
4n + 2 - disrotatory	4n + 2 - conrotatory

 $4\pi$ -Electrocyclizations





### **6**π-Electrocyclization in Synthesis



J. Whitesell and M. Minton J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1987, 109, 6403

#### retro-6π-Electrocyclization



E. Corey and A. Hortmann J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1963, 85, 4033

-Howard E. Zimmerman has studied this reaction extensively -Reaction takes 1,4-dienes or 3-phenylalkenes to vinyl or phenyl cyclopropanes







## **Di**- $\pi$ -methane rearrangement in Natural Products



S. Look, W. Fenical, D. Van Engen, J. Clardy J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 5026.



T. Uyehara, Y. Kabasawa, T. Kato Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1986, 59, 2521

# **1,3-Acyl Migration in Natural Products**



J. Shin, W. Fenical J. Org. Chem. 1991, 56, 1227

# [2 + 2] Cycloaddition

- -[2+ 2] photocycloadditon is the cyclization of two olefinic units to provide a cyclobutane (generate 2 new C-C bonds and up to four new stereocenters)
- -1908 Ciamician observed the first [2 + 2] reaction when exposure to Italian sunlight for 1 year generated carvone camphor from carvone



carvone

carvone camphor

-photochemical conditions create charge like umpolung of enone (β-carbon is electron rich)
-intermolecular variants also well known, but regioselec. can be highly dependent on both olefinic partners
-this [2 + 2] follows the "rule of 5" and none of the other regioisomer is observed



not observed

"Rule of 5"



# [2 + 2] Cycloaddition in Synthesis



periplanone: S. Schreiber, C. Santini *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1981**, *22*, 4651 saudin: J. Winkler, E. Doherty *J. Am Chem. Soc.* **1999**, *121*, 7425



-[2 + 2] cycloaddition involving double bond of an enol and another olefin and the retro-aldol reaction

#### **Paterno-Büchi Reaction**

-Paterno and Chieffi observed the first example of a [2 + 2] cycloaddition between a carbonyl and an olefin to make an oxetane



 -many examples of intermolecular reaction, but regioselectivity and product distributions are highly case dependent
 -many synthetic examples of intramolecular variant



vitamin D<sub>3</sub> analogs: M. Mihailovic, L. Lorenc, V. Pauolvic, J. Kalvoda Tetrahedron **1977**, 33, 441

#### Paterno-Büchi Reaction in Synthesis



# **Furan-Carbonyl Variant of the Paterno-Büchi Reaction**



# **Furan-Carbonyl Variant of the Paterno-Büchi Reaction**



establishes 2 sterocenters present in asteltoxin (architecture used to install remaining stereocenters in next few steps)



asteltoxin

S. Schreiber, K. Satake *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1983**, *105*, 6723 S. Schreiber, K. Satake *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1984**, *106*, 4186





Bryce-Smith and Blair dispelled the long standing myth that arenes are photochemically inert



In 1966, Wilzbach and Kaplan and Bryce-Smith, Gilber and Orger codiscovered the meta arene olefin cycloaddition



# Meta Cycloadditions in Synthesis



P. Wender, J. Howbert J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1981, 103, 688

## **Meta Cycloadditions in Synthesis**



P. Wender, G. Dreyer Tetrahedron 1981, 37, 4445

#### **Photoinduced Electron Transfer**



polar solvents facilitate the generation of radical ions and subsequent chemical reactions

Witkop Cyclization



O. Yonemitsu, P. Cerutti, B. Witkop J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1966, 88, 3941

# Witkop Cyclization in Synthesis



A. Burgett, Q. Li, Q. Wei, P. Harran Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 4961

# **Additional Photochemical Reactions**

- -Norrish Type I and II ( $\alpha$ -cleavage of carbonyl and H-abstraction and fragmentation)
- -nitrogen extrusion (generate carbenes such as the Wolff rearrangment or to give diradical)
- -sigmatropic rearrangements such as (1,3), (1,5), and (1,7)
- -<sup>1</sup>O reactions
- -deprotections (such as cleavage of nitroarenes)
- -many other PET reactions
  - isomerizations
  - rearrangements
  - fragmentations
  - arene substitutions and reductions
  - photooxygenations
  - and many more reactions

# Problem 1 (Were you paying attention to the last slide?)



R. Danheiser, A. Helgason J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 9471

### **Problem 1 Solution**



R. Danheiser, A. Helgason J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 9471

# Problem 2



Y. Kwak, J. Winkler J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 7429

#### **Problem 2 Solution**



Y. Kwak, J. Winkler J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 7429