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Directing Effects in Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution

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Two major effects play a role - resonance effect and inductive effect

Resonance Effect: Through π (double bond) system Strong effect Can be e⁻ Donating (ortho-para directing) or Withdrawing (meta directing)

Resonance Donating Effect (ortho-para directing, activates - i.e. more reactive than benzene) recognize by lone pair of e⁻ on atom directly attached to aromatic ring



Resonance Withdrawing Effect (meta directing, deactivates - i.e. less reactive than benzene) recognize by double bond (often with Z=oxygen) conjugated to aromatic ring



Inductive Effect: Through σ (single bond) system Weak effect Can be e⁻ Donating (ortho-para directing) or Withdrawing (meta directing)

Inductive Donating Effect (ortho-para directing, activates - i.e. more reactive than benzene) often alkyl group



Inductive Withdrawing Effect (meta directing, deactivates - i.e. less reactive than benzene) often haloalkyl group



Multiple Substituents: Position of reaction is <u>controlled by strongest donating group</u> substitution between meta substituents rare (very difficult because of steric crowding)