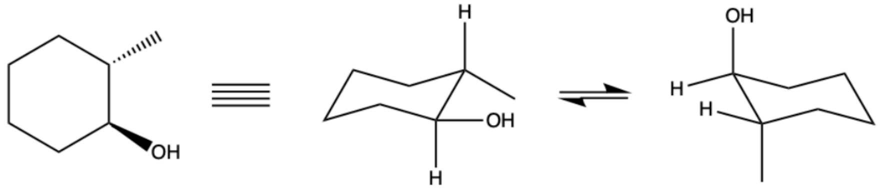
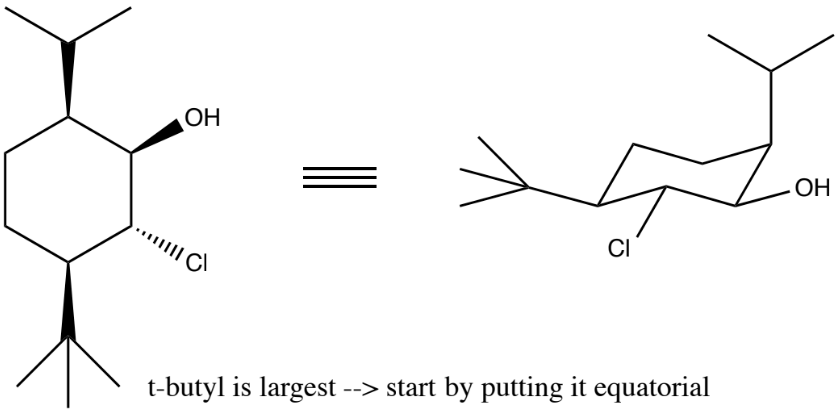
Recall: Cyclohexane molecules usually prefere to exist as chair conformations. Steric strain drives the lowest energy conformation.

Ex1)



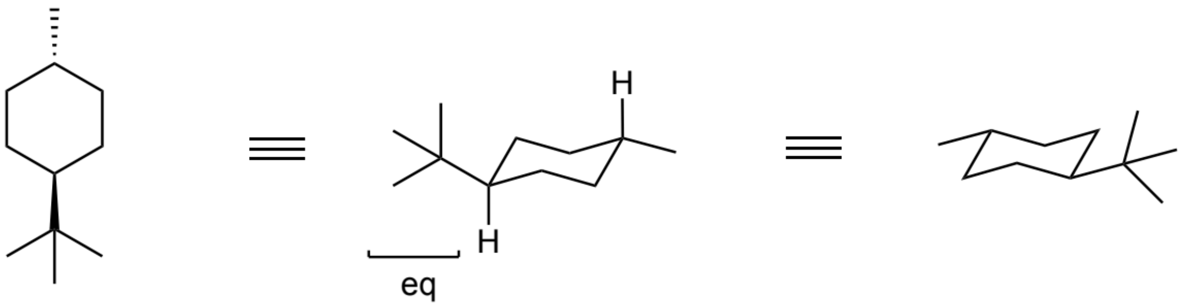
Lowest energy conformation

Ex2)



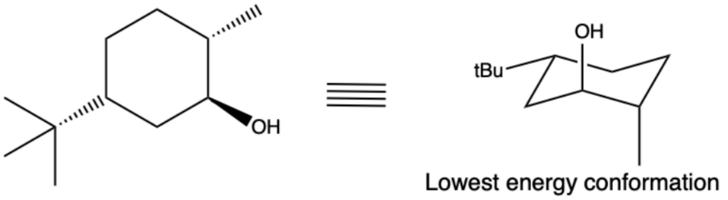
t-butyl is largest --> start by putting it equatorial

Ex3)



Ex4)

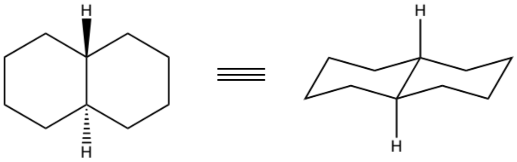
Lowest energy conformation



Lowest energy conformation

Examples of Basic Bicyclic Compounds:

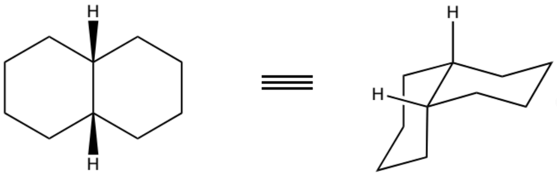
trans-Decalin: ($C_{10}H_{18}$)

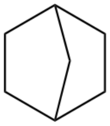


Stereoisomers

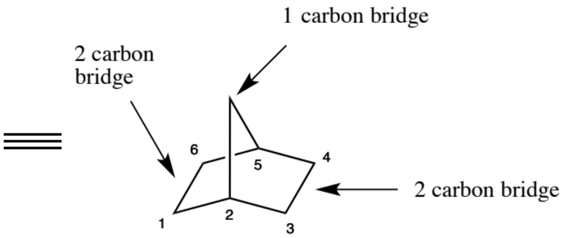
2 degrees of unsaturation

cis-Decalin:





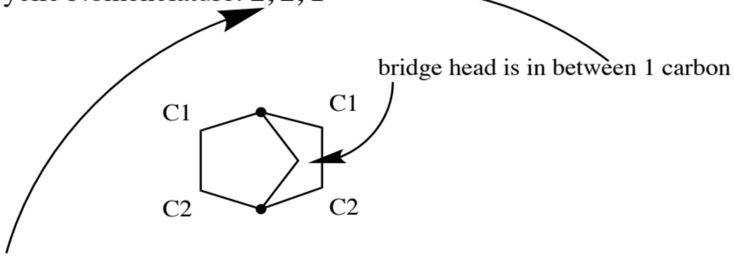
norbornane
C_7H_{12}
Degrees of unsaturation: 2



2 bridge head carbons (2 and 5)
6 membered ring in a boat conformation

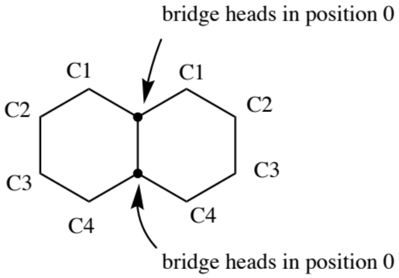
You are not responsible for nomenclature of bridged bicyclic compounds described below, but you should know norbornane and decalin structures above

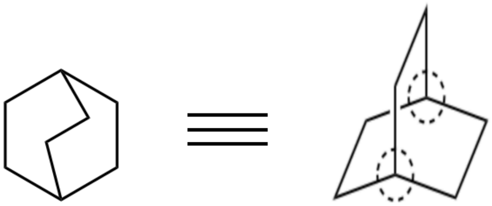
Bicyclic Nomenclature: **2, 2, 1**



there are two sets of two carbons (C1, C2) on both sides of the bridge head, hence, 2, 2

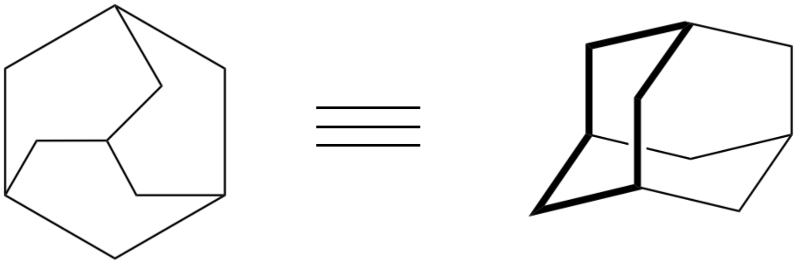
Bicyclic Nomenclature: **4, 4, 0**





2,2,2-Bicyclooctane

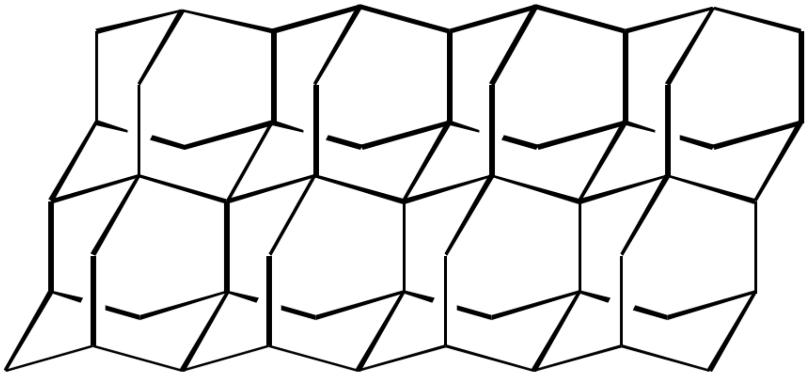
A tricyclic compound:



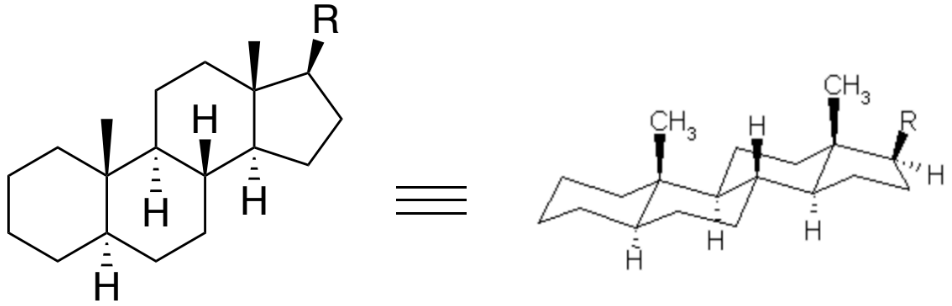
Adamantane

- This will be the basic structure of diamond

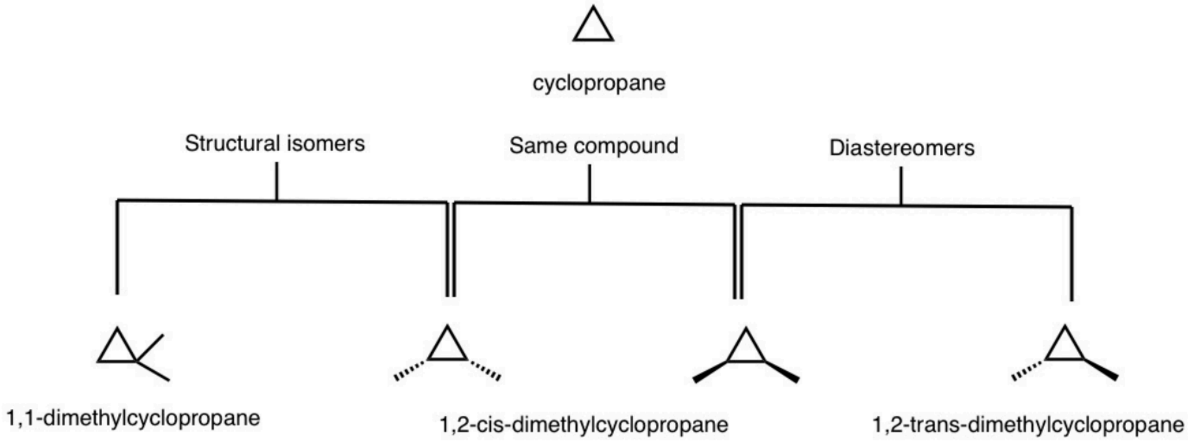
Diamond:



Steroids:



Cyclopropane



When naming the compounds above, it is necessary to describe the location of the two methyl groups even if they are located on the same substituent because all of these are dimethylcyclopropanes (i.e. from left to right: 1,1-dimethyl-, 1,2-cis-dimethyl-, 1,2-trans-dimethyl- cylcopropane).

Reactions of alkanes

1) Combustion:

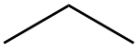
$$R\text{-}H \quad + \quad O_2 \quad \xrightarrow{\Delta=\textbf{heat}} \quad CO_2 \quad + \quad H_2O$$

R = any alkyl group

General formula for combustion reactions:

$$C_nH_{2n+2} + \left(\frac{3n}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) O_2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad (n+1)\ H_2O + n\ CO_2$$

e.g. propane



$CH_3CH_2CH_3$

$$5O_2 \quad \xrightarrow{\Delta} \quad 3CO_2 \quad + \quad 4H_2O$$

2) Halogenation

$$R\text{-}H \quad + \quad X_2 \quad \xrightarrow{h\nu} \quad R\text{-}X \quad + \quad HX$$

R = any alkyl group, R-X = alkyl halide / haloalkane
X = halogen
F_2 (most reactive) > Cl_2 > Br_2 >> I_2 (does not react)
h = Planck's constant 6.6×10^{-34} joules-sec
ν = frequency of light
E = hν, are the symbols we use to describe light energy

In this course, we will be focused on chlorination and bromination.

Substitution reaction (via radicals) – Substitute H with X

e.g. Chlorination of methane

$$CH_4 + Cl_2 \xrightarrow{h\upsilon} CH_3Cl + HCl$$

methane

methyl chloride
chloromethane

$$CH_3Cl + Cl_2 \xrightarrow{h\upsilon} CH_2Cl_2 + HCl$$

methylene chloride
dichloromethane

$$CH_2Cl_2 + Cl_2 \xrightarrow{h\upsilon} CHCl_3 + HCl$$

chloroform
trichloromethane

$$CHCl_3 + Cl_2 \xrightarrow{h\upsilon} CCl_4 + HCl$$

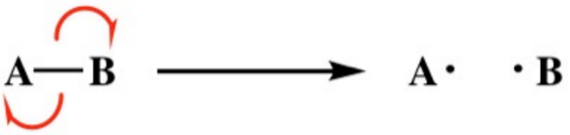
carbon tetrachloride
tetrachloromethane

Mechanism of reaction:

- Step by step description (proposal) of a reaction process (hypothetical and difficult to "prove")

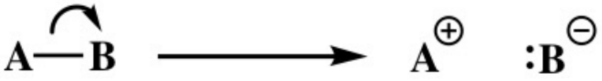
Two kinds of mechanism

1. Homolytic (radical): One electron goes to each atom once the bond in broken. e.g. Free radical halogenation of alkanes



The red half arrows (single hook arrow) above describe the movement of one electron, full arrows describe movement of lone pairs.

2. Heterolytic (polar reaction): The electron pair goes to one of the atoms once the bond is broken. e.g. Addition reactions of alkenes; elimination reactions

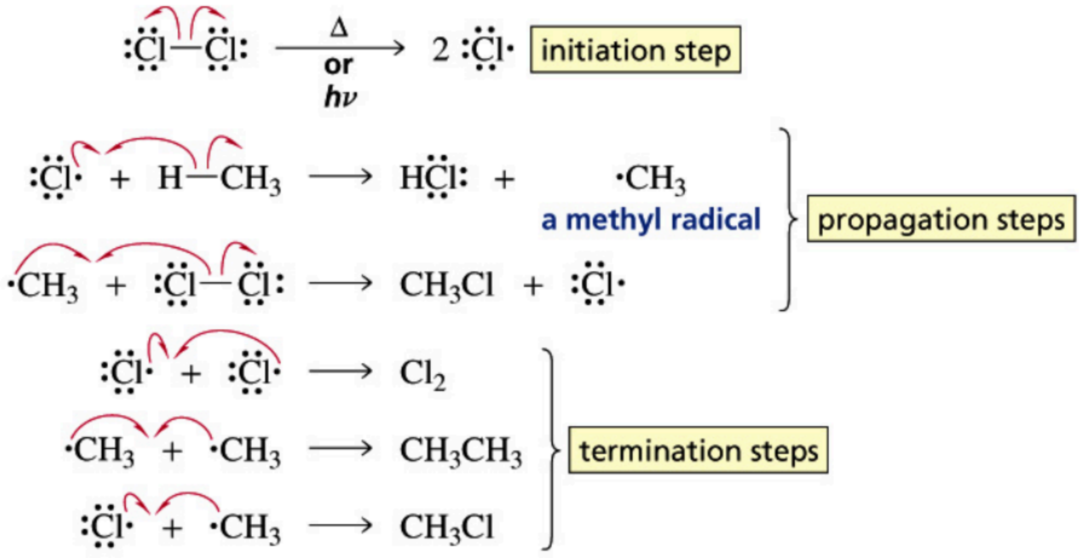


Homolytic reactions are less common than heterolytic reactions

- Initiated by heat (Δ) or by light (hυ)

Mechanism of halogenation of CH_4:

$$CH_4 + X_2 \xrightarrow{h\upsilon} CH_3X + HX$$



Propagation is the main step within the process. The **termination** step is the combination of radicals and is quite rare during the progress of the reaction, yet any one of the three listed can occur to terminate the reaction.

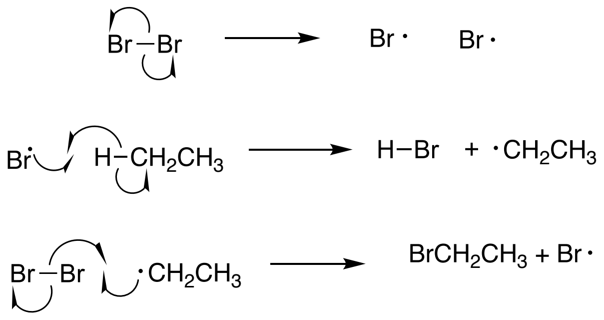
Note: The above mechanism also applies to other halogens (F, Cl, Br; not I)

Example: Ethane (analogous)

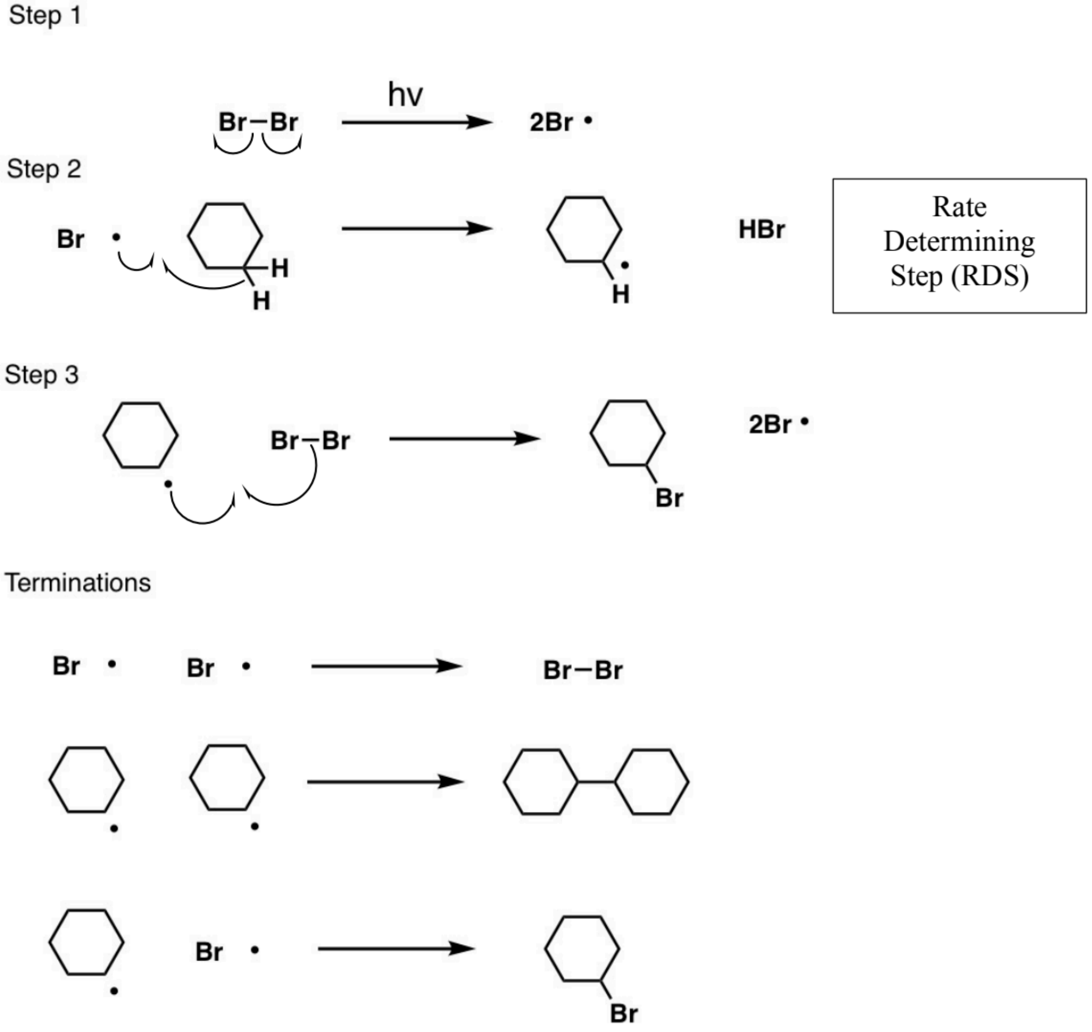
$$H_3C - CH_3 \xrightarrow[h\nu]{Cl_2} CH_3\text{-}CH_2\text{-}Cl + HCl$$

Eg. Bromination of ethane

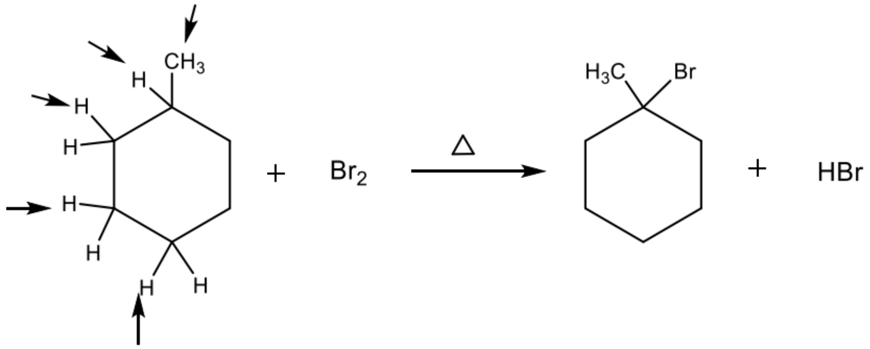
$$Br_2 + H_3CCH_3 \xrightarrow[(\triangle)]{h\nu}$$



Example: **Bromination of cyclohexane**
(Step 1 is **initiation**, steps 2 and 3 are **propagation** steps that are the main process. Other steps are **termination** steps that shut down the reaction)



Example: Methylcyclohexane

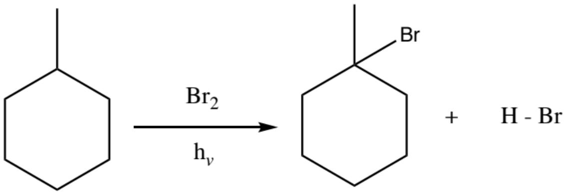


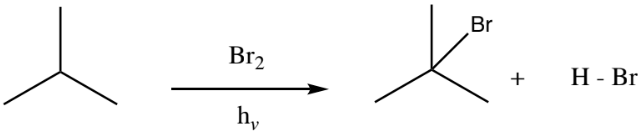
The reaction can utilize either heat (Δ) or light (hν)

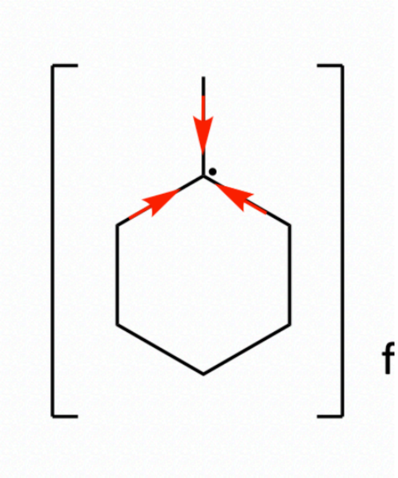
Different types of hydrogen can be pulled from a methylcyclohexane in a radical halogenation reaction to give various products. However, one main product is obtained. This is explained in terms of the stability of the radical formed during the reaction process.

Other Examples:

Alkyl Groups Donate electrons and stabilize
Intermediate Radical
is NOT a transition state

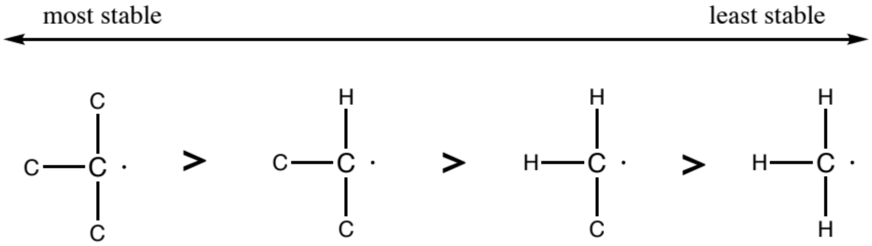






Stability of radicals:

- Stability increases with alkyl substitution
- Alkyl groups are polarizable and donate electrons to electron deficient sites better than hydrogens (this is called **inductive effect** and occurs through sigma bonds)



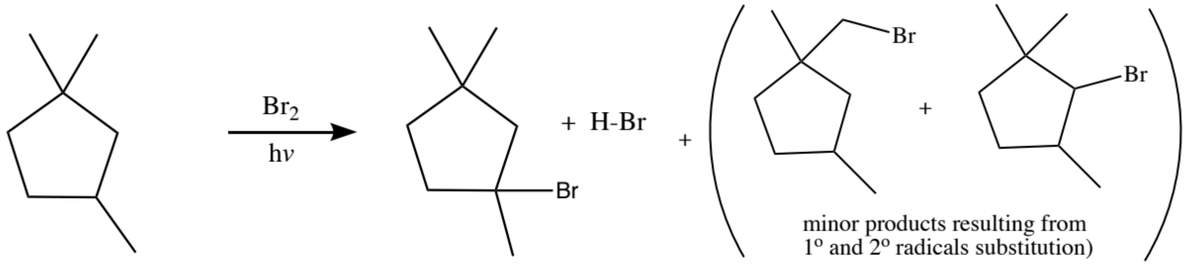
tertiary (3°) radical	secondary (2°) radical	primary (1°) radical	methyl radical

Or it can be summarized from least to most stable radicals:

$\cdot CH_3$	<	$\cdot CH_2R$	<	$\cdot CHR_2$	<	$\cdot CR_3$
methyl radical (least stable)		primary (1°) radical		secondary (2°) radical		tertiary (3°) radical (most stable)

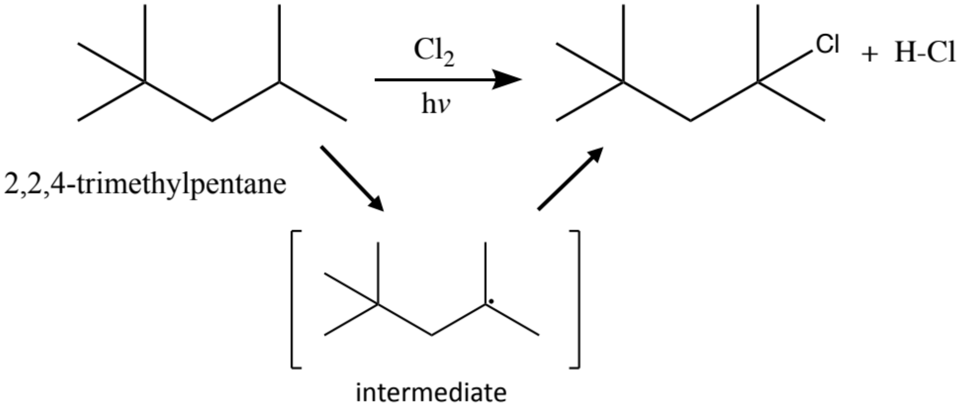
More Examples

A. 1,1,3-trimethylcyclopentane bromination

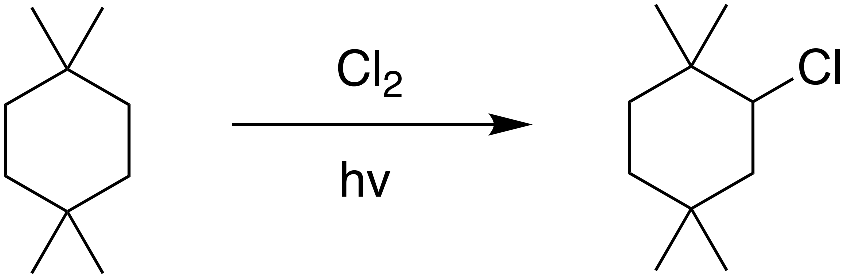


1,1,3-trimethylcyclopentane

B. 2,2,4-trimethylpentane chlorination



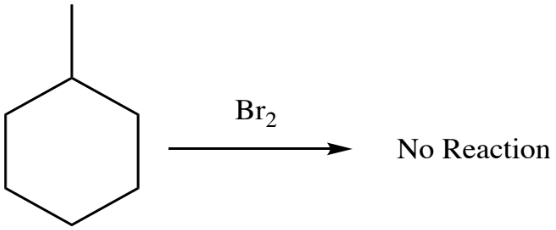
C.



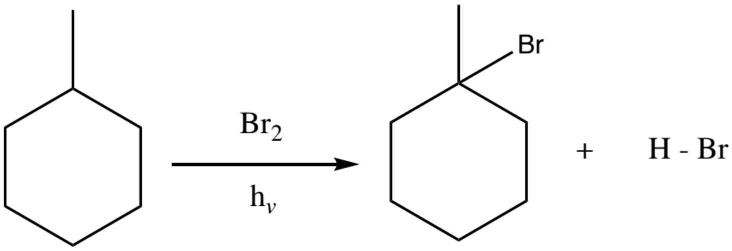
Halogenation of alkanes:

- requires light or heat to cause a reaction between the starting material and halogen.

Example:

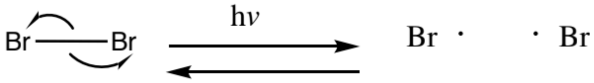


- requires light or heat to cause a reaction between the starting material and halogen.

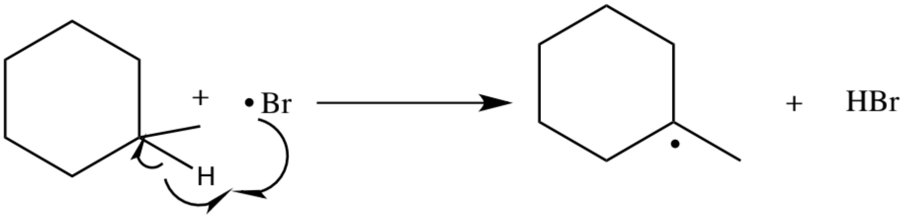


C_7H_{14}

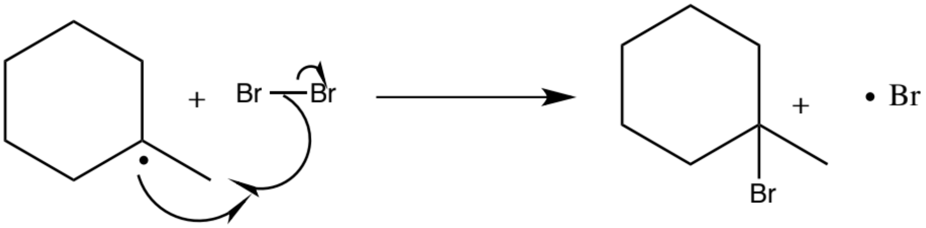
Initiation Step:



Propagation Step 1

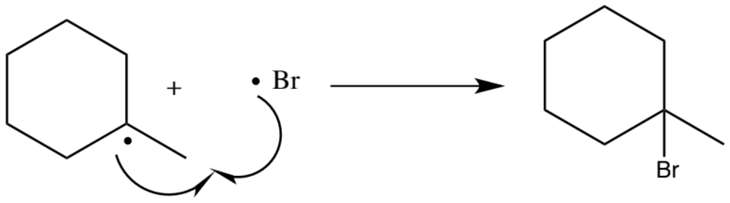


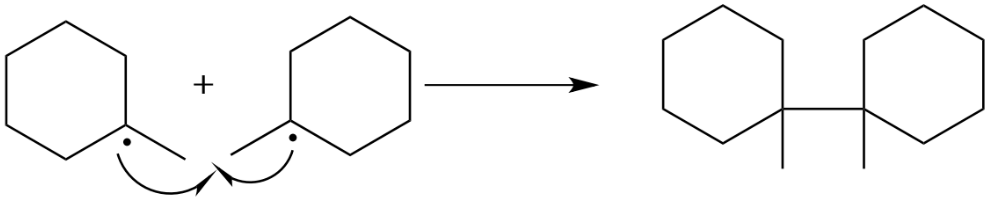
Propagation Step 2



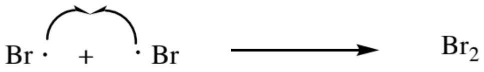
Termination Step: Radicals Recombine

-Very minor component of the reaction





Two alkyl radicals combining is highly unlikely because the chances of them finding one another is very low (they are low in concentration) – above also very crowded (steric effect)



Hammond Postulate

More reactive, less selective

Less reactive, more selective

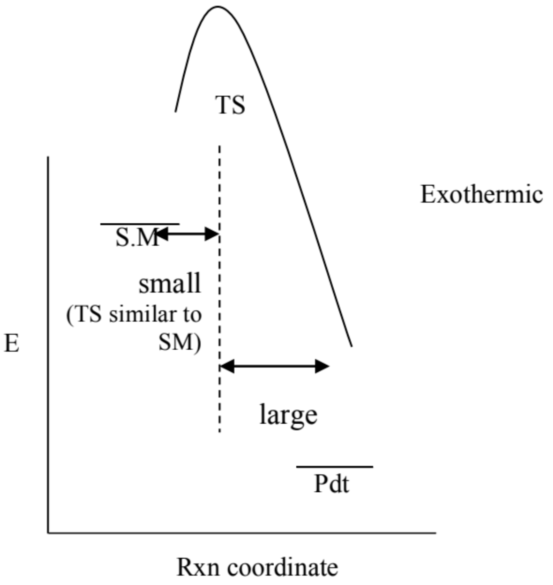
Exothermic T.S. (transition state) resembles S.M. (starting material)

Less selective reaction because of a small difference in Ea

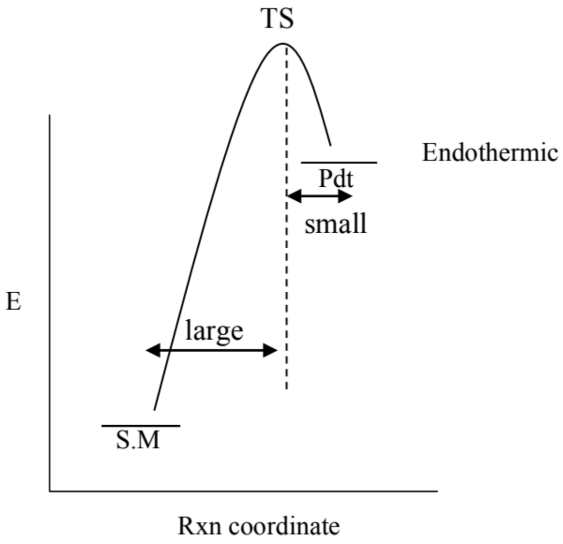
Endothermic T.S. resembles product

More selective because of a larger difference in Ea

Energy Diagrams for Halogenation Reactions

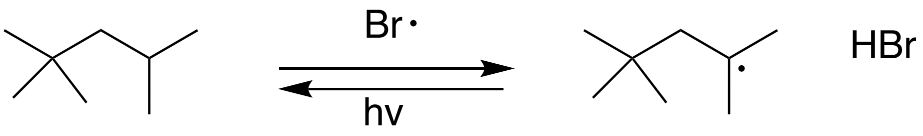


Fluorination ($\Delta H < 0$)

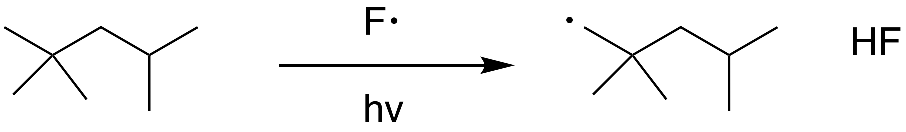


Bromination ($\Delta H > 0$)

E = energy
TS = transition state
SM = starting material



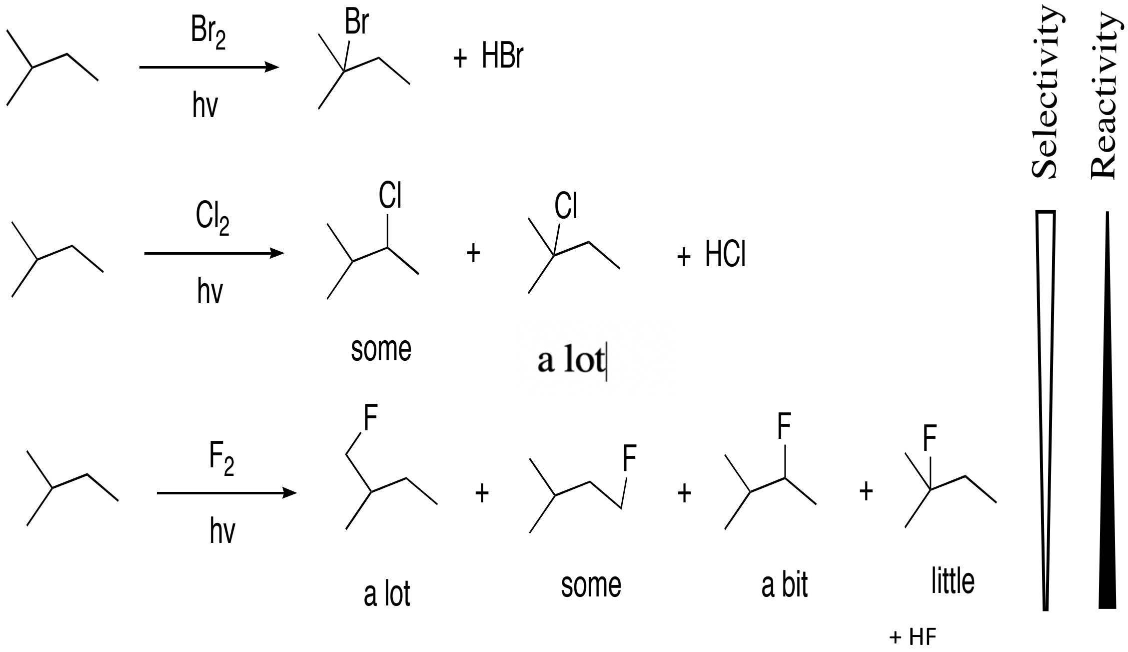
Br_2 is less reactive, more selective, endothermic



F_2 is more reactive, less selective, exothermic

Reactivity and Selectivity (Hammond Postulate)

e.g. Halogenation of 2-methylbutane



I_2 does not react as above