Classics in Ring-Expansion



Outline:

- 1. Introduction and General Reactivity Paradigms
- 2. Wagner-Meerwein
- 3. Pinacol/Semi-Pinacol
- 4. Dowd-Beckwith
- 5. Cyclopropanation/Fragmentation
- 6. Beckmann Rearrangement
- 7. Grob Fragmentation
- 8. Sigmatropic Rearrangements

General References:

Definition:

- Unsworth, W. Chem. Eur. J. 2017, 23, 8780.

Wagner-Meerwein:

- Hanson, J. Comprehensive Organic Synthesis. **1991**, 705. *Pinacol/Semi-Pinacol:*
- Tu, Y-Q. Chem. Rev. 2011, 111, 7523.

Dowd-Beckwith:

- Dowd, P. Chem. Rev. 1993, 93, 2091.
- Zhang, W. Radicals in Organic Synthesis: Ring Expansions. **2001**.
- Hari, D. Chem. Eur. J. 2022, 28.

Cyclopropanation/Fragmentation:

- Carreira, E. Chem. Rev. 2017, 117, 11651.

Beckmann Rearrangement:

- Georg, G. Molecular Rearrangements in Organic Synthesis. **2016**.

Grob Fragmentation:

Mulzer, J. Chem. Rev. 2010, 110, 3741.

Sigmatropic Rearrangements:

Gaich, T. Beilstein J. Org. Chem. 2014, 10, 163.

Covered Paradigms:

Fragmentation:



Atom Addition, then Expansion:



Disclaimers:

- 1. This review is not meant to be a comprehensive overview of ring-expansion techniques in total synthesis. Instead, it serves the purpose to quickly provide practitioners with variations of ring-expansions to further facilitate different retrosynthetic analyses.
- Techniques covered in previous MOTW and CHEM 534 will not be discussed (ie. Baeyer-Villiger, Schreiber fragmentation, etc.)
- 3. The outline for each technique is presented in the following manner:
- a. Introduction
- b. Methodological Advancements
- c. Applications in Synthesis

Classics in Ring-Expansion: Wagner-Meerwein



Wagner-Meerwein Rearrangement:

- One of the foundational reactions in organic synthesis identified in the 19th century. - The reaction is formally defined as follows: the generation of a carbocation on a bicyclic system followed by the 1,2-shift of an adjacent skeletal C-C bond to generate a new carbocation. - If carbocation generation is followed by the migration of a methyl group, the classification diverges to the Nametkin rearrangement.





camphene

The Wagner-Meerwein process enables the facile formation of guaternary carbon centers as well as the construction of highly difficult carbocyclic frameworks. These advantages have spurred significant interest in stereoselective variants of this process.

Trost (2001): A Catalytic Asymmetric Wagner-Meerwein Shift Hypothesis:



Trost (2001): Mechanistic and Stereochemical Rationale Favored:







Terada (2019): Organocatalytic Wagner-Meerwein Hypothesis:



Reaction Optimization:









Mechanistic Insight:



Terada, M. ACS Catal. 2019, 9, 6846. https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.9b01780

Classics in Ring Expansion: Wagner-Meerwein



Classics in Ring-Expansion: Pinacol/Semi-Pinacol Rearrangement



Pinacol Rearrangements:

- A specific variation of the Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement involving a 1,2-diol.

- Originally defined in the following manner: the acid-catalyzed transformation of 1,2-diols to ketones or aldehydes by a 1,2-migration of a C-C or C-H bond toward the vicinal carbocation.

In most cases, a pinacol rearrangement lacks regio- and diastereoselectivity. However, the semi-pinacol rearrangement has been extended to include multiple leaving groups instead of the second hydroxyl unit.
This description gives rise to a new definition: such processes share a common reactive species in which an electrophilic carbon center, including but not limited to carbocations, is vicinal to an oxygen-containing carbon and can drive the 1,2-migration of a C-C or C-H bond to terminate the process, generating a carbonyl group.

Pinacol Rearrangement:



Semi-pinacol Rearrangement:



Tandem Carbonyl Addition/Alkoxide-Directed Cyclopropanation/Rearrangement (Walsh, 2009):



antiperiplanar transition state. A possible isomerization of cis to trans may be involved for the observed outcomes.



Zhu, J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019. 141. 11372, https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.9b04551

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Classics in Ring Expansion: Pinacol/Semi-Pinacol Rearrangement SAR



Classics in Ring Expansion: Dowd-Beckwith

Further Developments:

n = 0,1,2; m = 1,2,3

The Aza-Dowd-Beckwith Variant and access to enones:

Bu₃SnH

AIBN

Ph⊢

reflux

N₃

R

X = I, SePh

R

SnBu₃

Bu₃SnH

AIBN

PhH

reflux

AIBN

PhMe

reflux

OSiEt₃

TESO

Ο



12 examples

21 - 89% yield

89%

TESO

Me

Bu₃Sn

Dowd-Beckwith: n - Carbon Ring Expansions

- The Dowd-Beckwith is a radical reaction which incorporates the side-chain into a nearby ring.

Separately, the overall process can be divided into two phases.

1st Phase: An initially formed alkyl radical adds into a nearby ketone to form an alkoxy radical. 2nd Phase: β -scission of the alkoxy radical results in a ring-expanded product and alkyl radical which further undergoes termination.

- Usually, the EWG plays two critical roles. 1.) It activates the ketone for attack by the formed carbon radical and 2.) alters the equilibrium to favor ring-expansion.

Dowd-Beckwith General Mechanism:





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SnBu₃

Classics in Ring Expansion: Dowd-Beckwith



80%

Ding, H. Org. Lett. 2014, 16, 3376. https://doi.org/10.1021/ol501423t

CO₂Me

CO₂Me

TBHP (1.5 eg.) HÉIP н н 95% Me aram-scale Ding, H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2022, 144, 2495. <u>https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.1c13370</u>

Ме

Synthetic Applications:

ОРМВ

CO₂Et

Sml₂

THF

H₂O 90%

CpTiCl₂, Mn

2,4,6-collidine

HC

DCE, 50 °C

61%

HgO, I₂

PhH, reflux

48%

Co(Salen) (5 mol%)

PhSiH₃ (2.5 mol%)

OSm

OPMB

Me

Me

CO₂Et

Me

Me

Sarcodonin G (Pier):

Me

Me

Rhodomollein XXII (Ding):

Swinhoeisterol A (Heretsch):

он

н

Crinipellins (Ding):

C Me

CO₂Me

The

Classics in Ring Expansion: Cyclopropanation/Fragmentation



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Classics in Ring Expansion: Cyclopropanation/Fragmentation



Classics in Ring Expansion: Beckmann Rearrangement



Me

OTBS

AcOH 67% over 2 steps

> HO н

NMe



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Classics in Ring Expansion: Grob Fragmentation



Taxol (Guir): - One of the classical methods of generating medium to large rings is through the implementation AcO 0 OH of the Grob fragmentation. Me Me - The Grob fragmentation is defined as the following: a heterolytic fragmentation in a molecule .OH 1. LiAlH₄, DME Me where a certain carbon-heteroatom (N, O, S, P, Si, B, or halogen) combination is cleaved under Me 2. Ac₂O specific mechanistic principles. - Typically, the fragmentation substrates exhibit a 1,3-diheterofunctionalization, where one is a nucleophilic atom with a negative charge or lone pair, while the other is a leaving group. RO HO BzO The Grob Fragmentation: General Mechanism TBSO Me TBSO OTs OΔc Guir, F. Tetrahedron Letters. 1997, 38, 3223. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0040-4039(97)00583-2 Aquariane (Burnell): Θ OH Ð. Note: Appropriate Fragmentation Arrangements: AcO · MsO ́Ме KOtBu, 18-C-6 н Me also undergoes fragmentation 45% due to the all-anti-periplanar OAc relation. 'nн Me OF OH The generality of this method can be extended to many systems and is exemplified by the examples below: Burnell, D. Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 3195. https://doi.org/10.1021/ol0609715 Synthetic Applications: Jatrophatrione (Paquette): 1. TsCl Carvophyllene (Corev): 0 NaBH/ 2. NaH. DMSO. Me Me 1. MsCl, DIPEA Me 2. KOtBu, tBuOH_ Me 98% Me BnO Н BnO Me Me 1. TsCl OH H₂, Ra-Ni 2. NaH. DMSO Paquette, L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 6542. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja020292z Eleutherobin (Winkler): ⊖ ⊕ 0 K OH OH 0 OH Pentalenene (Pattenden): Me 0 K₂CO₃ 68% (Me н Ē н 1 Me о ⊕ ⊕к ō Me Me Me, Me Me Me Me HC Me Winkler, J. Org. Lett. 2003, 5, 1805. https://doi.org/10.1021/ol0345226 Pattenden, G. Tetrahedron Letters. 1984, 25, 3021. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0040-4039(01)81354-X Parvifoline (Joseph-Nathan): Periplanone B (De Clercg): HO Me MeC BuLi, Tf₂O 0 -NaOMe Me MeOH, reflux 80% OH Me Me Me Me OMs Me Me

De Clercq, P. J. Tetrahedron Letters. 1984, 29, 6501. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0040-4039(00)82384-9____

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Joseph-Nathan, P. Tetrahedron. 1995, 51, 9285. https://doi.org/10.1016/0040-4020(95)00517-C

Classics in Ring Expansion: Sigmatropic Rearrangements S



- An alternative pathway for ring expansion to medium and macrocyclic rings is through the sigmatropic rearrangements of cyclic systems.

- Namely, the Cope and divinylcyclopropane (DVCP) rearrangements are frequently employed.

- The traditional Cope rearrangement proceeds through either a chair or boat transition state, with the chair being favored by 11 kcal/mol.

-In contrast, the DVCP rearrangement proceeds through only through the boat transition state, with both vinyl substituents in the endo-orientation.



Organocatalytic DVCP Rearrangement (Christmann):





via:



catalyst, temperature, yield, cis:trans pyrrolidine, 20 °C, 31%, 3:1 piperidine, 20 °C, 38%, 3:1 morpholine, 20 °C, 7%, 2:1 (-)-2a, 20 °C, 96%, > 20:1 (-)-2a, 40 °C, 72%, > 20:1 (-)-2b, 20 °C, 60%, > 20:1 (-)-2c, 20 °C, 2%, > 20:1 with 10% AcOH and (-)-2a: 83%, 4 hours, > 20:1

Christmann, M. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2019, 58, 5075. https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201813880







60%, 90% e.e.



85%, 82% e.e

88%, 88% e.e. 56%, 90% e.e.





Θ ÉWG Closure +H⁺





87%, 92% e.e.

Classics in Ring Expansion: Sigmatropic Rearrangements



