23.8

The Elimination-Addition Mechanism of Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution: Benzyne

Aryl Halides Undergo Substitution When Treated With Very Strong Bases





Regiochemistry

new substituent becomes attached to either the carbon that bore the leaving group or the carbon adjacent to it



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compound formed in this step is called benzyne





Benzyne has a strained triple bond. It cannot be isolated in this reaction, but is formed as a reactive intermediate.





Angle strain is relieved. The two *sp*-hybridized ring carbons in benzyne become sp^2 hybridized in the resulting anion.





Hydrolysis of Chlorobenzene

¹⁴C labeling indicates that the hightemperature reaction of chlorobenzene with NaOH goes via benzyne.



23.9 Diels-Alder Reactions of Benzyne

Other Routes to Benzyne

Benzyne can be prepared as a reactive intermediate by methods other than treatment of chlorobenzene with strong bases. Another method involves loss of fluoride ion from the Grignard reagent of 1-bromo-2-

fluorobenzene.

Other Routes to Benzyne



Benzyne as a Dienophile

Benzyne is a fairly reactive dienophile, and gives Diels-Alder adducts when generated in the presence of conjugated dienes.

Benzyne as a Dienophile

