Chem 220a

Problem Set 6

Chapter 7

Due: Monday, October 22, 2001



5. Treatment of (*3S*, *4S*)-3-bromo-3,4-dimethylhexane **A** with aqueous sodium hydroxide gives a tetrasubstituted alkene **B**, an optically active (*E*)-trisubstituted alkene **C** and a small amount of an optically active alkene **D**. Why is (*E*)-**C** favored over (*Z*)-**C**? Does the racemate of **A** give the same products? Explain. When the diastereomer (*3R*, *4S*)-**A** is used in the reaction, what are the structures of **B'**, **C'** and **D'**?

6. Treatment of bromide **1** with t-C₄H₉OK gives only bicyclic alkene **2**. Bromide **3** is unreactive under the same conditions. Explain. Provide an accurate mechanism for the formation of **2** from **1**.



7. A student decides to synthesize *tert*-butyl methyl ether (MTBE) by the reaction of *tert*-butyl chloride with CH_3ONa in CH_3OH . His classmate tells him that his experiemnt is doomed to failure. She, being well-informed and generous, offers two alternative methods for the solution of his synthesis. Where did he go wrong and what did she offer as alternatives?

8. Compound A, C_8H_{12} , reacts with hydrogen in the presence of the catalyst Pt to afford B, C_8H_{14} . [How many rings and double bonds in A and B?] Compound B forms **only** 2 monochloro derivatives, C and D, upon free radical chlorination. Compound C forms A and alcohol E (C_8H_{12} O) upon reaction with KOH. Compound D cannot undergo an S_N^2 reaction (why?) with KOH nor can it undergo elimination. What are the structures of A-E? Show your reasoning.

