Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution
Aryl Halides & Benzyne

Chlorobenzene is very unreactive with nucleophiles

Not practical.

Not sufficiently reactive.

OH

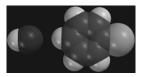
### Reasons for Low Reactivity



S<sub>N</sub>1 not reasonable because:

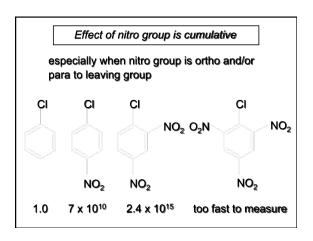
- 1) C—CI bond is strong; therefore, ionization to a carbocation is a high-energy process
- 2) aryl cations are highly unstable

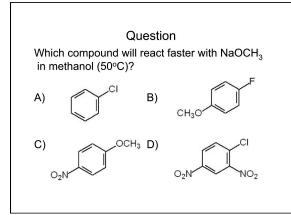
### Reasons for Low Reactivity



 ${\sf S_N2}$  not reasonable because ring blocks attack of nucleophile from side opposite bond to leaving group

# nitro-substituted aryl halides do undergo nucleophilic aromatic substitution readily CI OCH<sub>3</sub> + NaOCH<sub>3</sub> CH<sub>3</sub>OH + NaCl NO<sub>2</sub> NO<sub>2</sub> (92%)



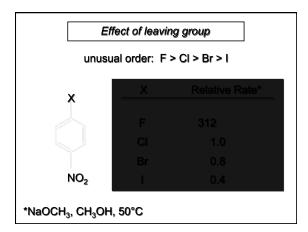


### **Kinetics**

follows second-order rate law: rate = k [aryl halide][nucleophile]

### inference:

both the aryl halide and the nucleophile are involved in rate-determining step



### General Conclusions About Mechanism

- •bimolecular rate-determining step in which nucleophile attacks aryl halide
- •rate-determining step precedes carbon-halogen bond cleavage
- •rate-determining transition state is stabilized by electron-withdrawing groups (such as NO<sub>2</sub>)

The Addition-Elimination Mechanism of Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution

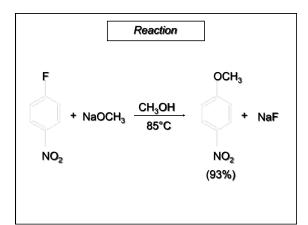
### Addition-Elimination Mechanism

Two step mechanism:

Step 1) nucleophile attacks aryl halide and bonds to the carbon that bears the halogen (slow: aromaticity of ring lost in this step)

Step 2) intermediate formed in first step loses halide

(fast: aromaticity of ring restored in this step)



### Question

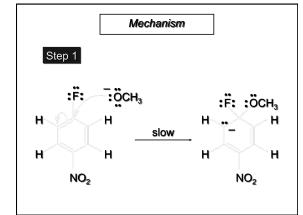
How many signals would be observed in the <sup>1</sup>H -NMR of the product isolated from the reaction of *p*-fluoronitrobenzene with potassium methoxide in methanol?

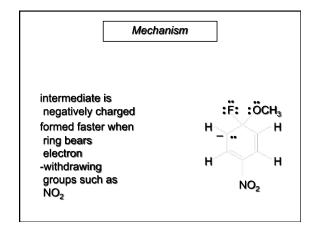
- A) 2
- B) 3
- C) 4
- D) 5

### Question

Identify the rate law for the addition-elimination mechanism of nucleophilic aromatic substitution.

- A) Rate = [aryl halide]
- B) Rate = [aryl halide][nucleophile]
- C) Rate = [aryl halide][nucleophile]<sup>2</sup>
- D) Rate = [nucleophile]





# Stabilization of Rate-Determining Intermediate by Nitro Group

# Stabilization of Rate-Determining Intermediate by Nitro Group

### Mechanism

Step 2

### Mechanism

Step 2

### Question

Which of the structures below is the most stable resonance structure for the reaction of *p* -fluoronitrobenzene with sodium methoxide?

- C) 3 only
- D) 1 and 2

### Leaving Group Effects

F > CI > Br > I is unusual, but consistent with mechanism

carbon-halogen bond breaking does not occur until after the rate-determining step

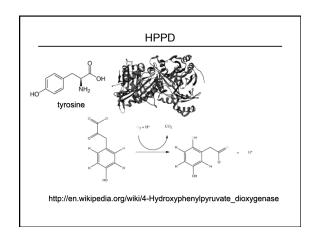
electronegative F stabilizes negatively charged intermediate

### Question

Which of the following compounds is the least reactive toward nucleophilic aromatic substitution?

- A) 1-chloro-4-nitrobenzene
- B) 1-iodo-2-nitrobenzene
- C) 1-fluoro-4-nitrobenzene
- D) 1-bromo-3-nitrobenzene

Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution Reactions in Synthesis



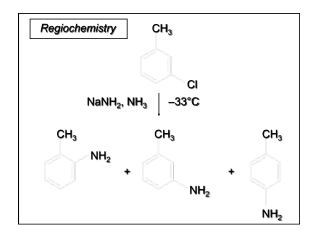
# Inhibition of HPPD Hydroxyphenyl pyruvate dioxygenase SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P-hydroxyphenylpyruvate\_dioxygenase\_inhibitor Synthetic Intermediate Triketones Continued OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>

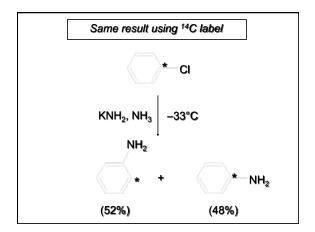
The Elimination-Addition Mechanism of Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution:

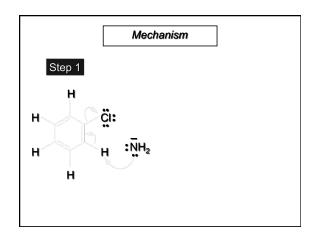
Benzyne

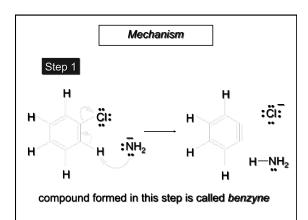
### Regiochemistry

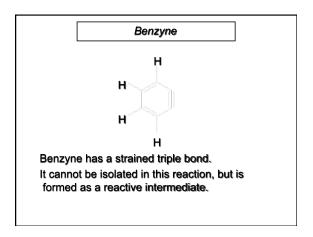
new substituent becomes attached to either the carbon that bore the leaving group or the carbon adjacent to it

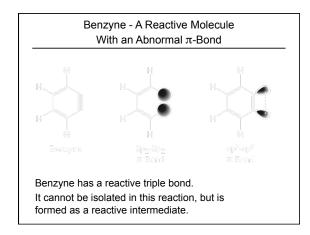


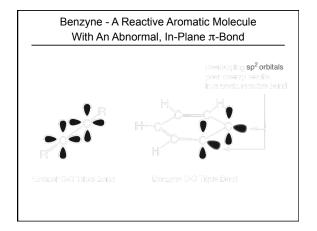


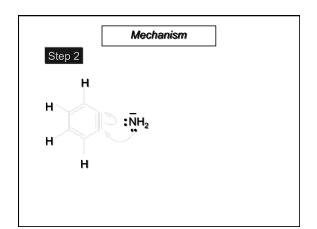


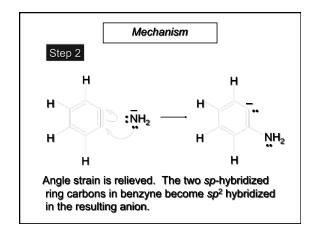


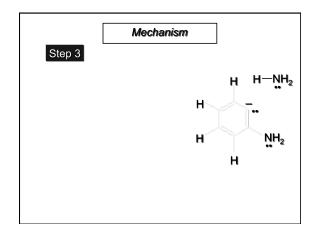


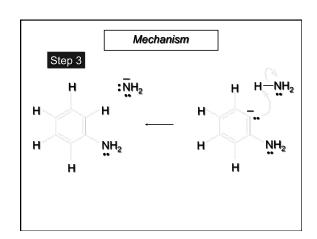












### Question

Which of the following compounds give a single benzyne intermediate on reaction with sodium amide?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 3 only
- D) 1 and 2

### 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.

### Benzyne as a Dienophile

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

