Pyrolytic syn elimination

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Introduction

- Pyrolysis is a process in which chemical decomposition of organic materials have been occured at elevated temperature
- It takes place in a concerted manner (via cyclic TS) with syn stereochemical relationship in which the hydrogen atom and the leaving group depart from the same side of the incipient double bond: Examples are-

selenoxide elimination

Pyrolysis of Esters

- ✓ Usually effected at 300-500°C (Very high; Limitation of its usefulness!)
- Carried out by simple heating if bp is high enough,
- ✓ Carried out by passing the vapor through a heated tube
- ▼ The absence of solvents and other reactants simplifies the isolation of the product
- ✓ Effective for the preparation of sensitive or reactive alkenes due to the absence of acidic or basic reagents.
 - ✓ Passing through 6-membered cyclic Transition State

Regioselectivity and stereoselectivity

- ✓ In acyclic compounds, the regioselectivity is often poor
- ✓ The composition of the products is determined mainly by the number of H atoms on each β-carbon.

In cyclic compounds ring conformation is important

If there is a conjugating substituent in the β-position, elimination occurs predominantly to give the conjugated alkene

Pyrolysis of Xanthates

Introduction

- → Takes place in the region of 150-250°C (Much lower T; 300-500°C in ester)
- ✓ Separation of the alkene product from sulfur-containing by-products can sometimes be troublesome

Transitions State

✓ 6-Ring TS with syn-relationship of H and X

In acyclic compounds (E) isomer generated predominantly

✓ In acyclic compounds, regioselectivity is often poor

Pyrolysis of amine oxides (Cope elimination)

- ✓ Prepared by oxidation of tert-amine (with H₂O₂ or mCPBA)
- ✓ Alternative way to the Hofmann elimination of quaternary ammonium salt
- ✓ Takes place under relatively mild reaction conditions (100-200°C)
- Allow generation of C=C bond without subsequent migration into the conjugation systems



Pyrolysis of sulfoxides

- → Readily obtained by oxidation of sulfides (mCPBA or NaIO₄)
- Sulfoxides with a β-hydrogen atom readily undergo syn-elimination on pyrolysis
- ✓ Take place with a high syn-stereoselectivity
- Another useful method for making C=C bonds

- ✓ A convenient method for introducing unsaturation at the position α- to carbonyl compounds.
- → The (E)-isomer usually predominates in reactions leading to 1,2-disubstituted alkenes

Regioselectivity and stereoselectivity

- ✓ In acyclic compounds, the configuration of tertiary amine oxide determines the stereochemistry of the alkene
- ✓ In cyclic compounds, ring conformation is very important

- ▼ The Cope elimination is reversible
- → The intramolecular reverse Cope elimination, involving the addition of a tethered hydroxylamine to an alkene,
 has found recent application for the stereocontrolled preparation of cyclic amines

Pyrolysis of β-Hydroxy selenides

- → High yields of di-, tri- or tetrasubstituted alkenes can be obtained
- → Alternative route to the Wittig reaction when the phosphonium salt cannot be readily obtained.
- → Proceeds under the action of MsCl, SOCl₂, or other appropriate activating conditions
- → Proceeds by stereospecific anti-elimination to the episelenonium ion, and then by syn-elimination of
 the episelenonium ion to the alkene

Summary.....

