

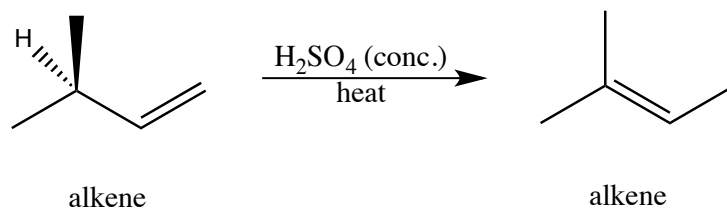
Chem 343 – Organic Reactions

Chapter 4

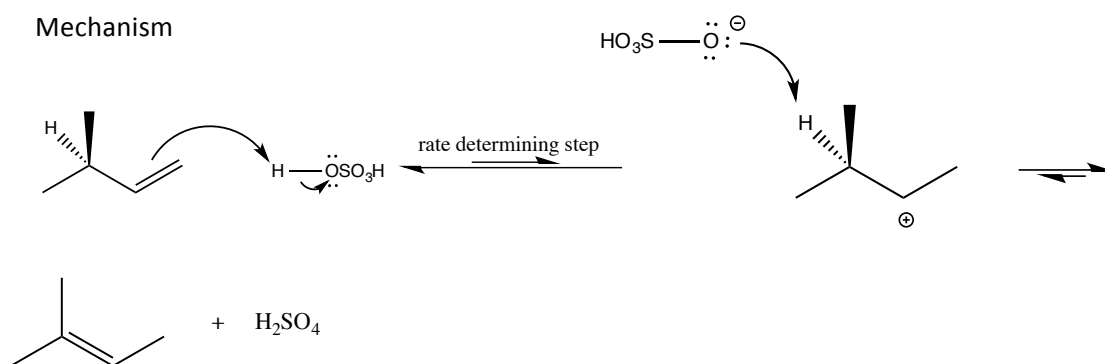
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<http://www.chem.wisc.edu/areas/clc> (Resource page)

Reactions of Alkenes - Isomerization



Mechanism



The reaction conditions are harsh, i.e., hot concentrated sulfuric acid. There is virtually no water in the reaction. This reaction is under thermodynamic control, that is, the most stable product is formed. Therefore substituted alkenes are favored over terminal alkenes. The highly substituted alkenes have lower boiling points compared to terminal alkenes, therefore as the product forms it's boiled off the solution favoring greater yield of product (Le-Châtelier's Principle).