Electrophilic Reactions on Aromatic Compounds Di-and Polysubstitution

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Effect of Substituents

The nature of groups <u>already on</u> an aromatic ring affect both the reactivity and orientation of future substitution.

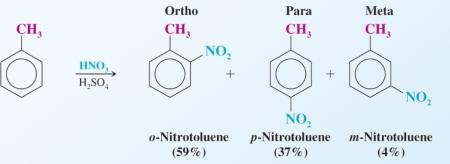
Activating Groups	Deactivating groups
Make benzene more electron rich; Making benzene more nucleophilic; Reaction is faster	Make benzene less electron rich; Making benzene less nucleophilic; Reaction is slower
Ortho para directors	Meta directors
Electron donating groups already present on the benzene ring	Electron withdrawing groups already present on the benzene ring

CH₃^e An activating group

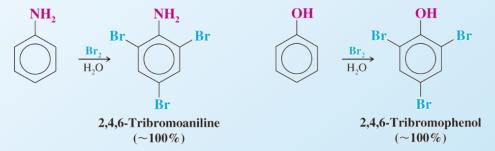
More reactive than benzene toward electrophilic substitution

Ortho-para Directors (Activating Groups)

• The methyl group of toluene is an ortho-para director



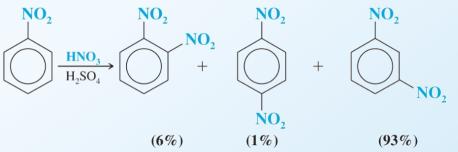
- Amino and hydroxyl groups are also activating and ortho-para directors
 - These groups are so activating that catalysts are often not necessary



• Alkyl groups and heteroatoms with one or more unshared electron pairs directly bonded to the aromatic ring will be ortho-para directors

Meta Directors (Deactivating Groups)

Strong electron-withdrawing groups such as nitro, carboxyl, and sulfonate are deactivators and meta directors



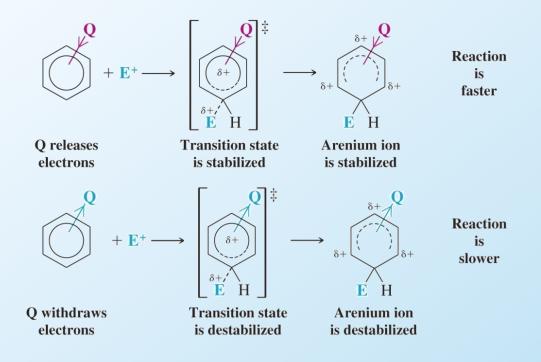
Halo Substitutents: Deactivating Ortho-Para Directors

• Chloro and bromo groups are weakly deactivating but are also ortho, para directors so the ortho and para products are major:

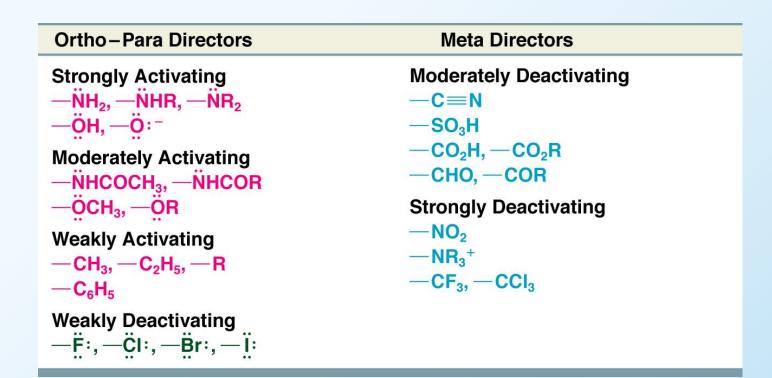
Reaction	Ortho Product (%)	Para Product (%)	Total Ortho and Para (%)	Meta Product (%)
Chlorination	39	55	94	6
Bromination	11	87	98	2
Nitration	30	70	100	
Sulfonation		100	100	

Theory of Substituent Effects on Electrophilic Substitution

- Reactivity: The Effect of Electron-Releasing and Electron-Withdrawing Groups
 - Electron-releasing groups activate the ring toward further reaction
 - Electron-withdrawing groups deactivate the ring toward further reaction.

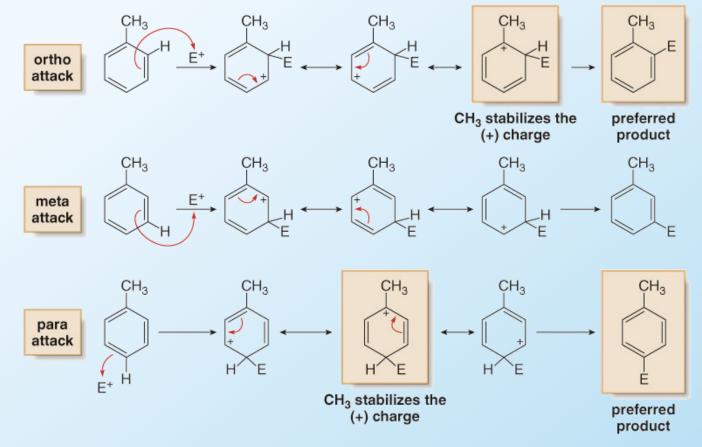


Classification of Groups



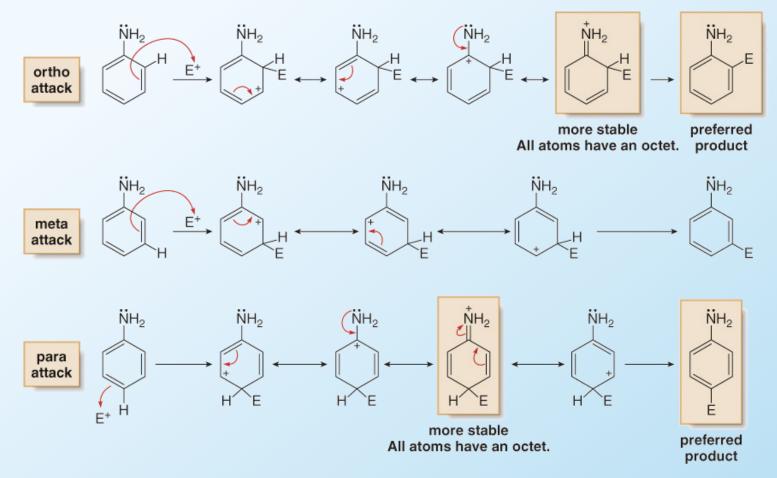
Orientation Effect – Activating Group

A CH_3 group directs electrophilic attack ortho and para to itself because an electron-donating inductive effect stabilizes the carbocation intermediate.



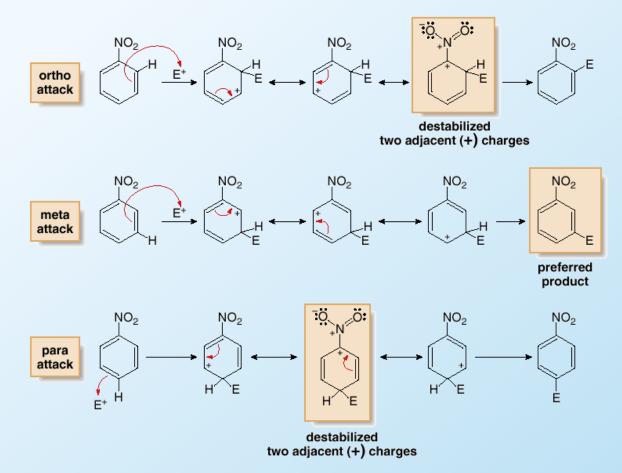
Orientation Effect – Activating Group, Contd..

An NH_2 group directs electrophilic attack ortho and para to itself because the carbocation intermediate has additional resonance stabilization.



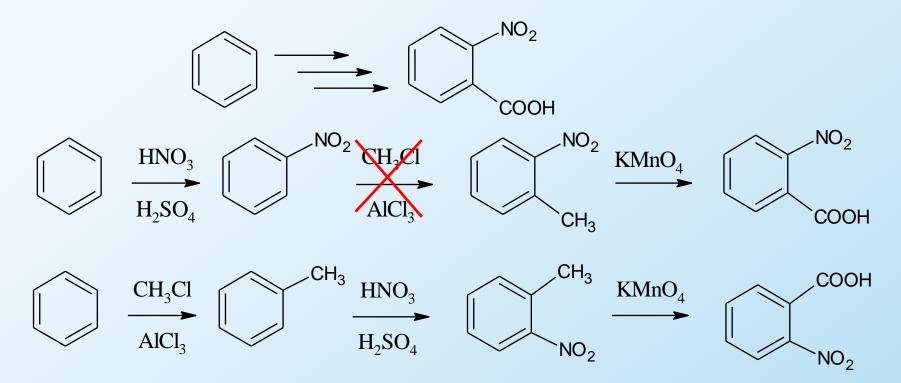
Orientation Effect – Deactivating Group

With the NO_2 group (and all meta directors) meta attack occurs because attack at the ortho and para position gives a destabilized carbocation intermediate.



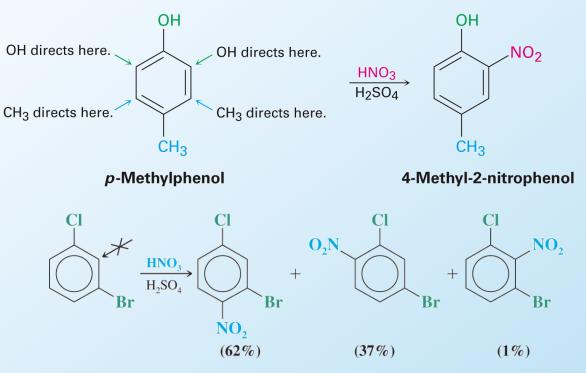
Synthetic Applications

- When designing a synthesis of substituted benzenes, the order in which the substituents are introduced is crucial
- Example: Synthesize ortho-nitrobenzoic acid from benzene



Trisubstitution on Benzene Ring

- When two substituents are present on the ring initially, the more powerful activating group generally determines the orientation of subsequent substitution
 - Ortho-para directors determine orientation over meta directors
 - Substitution does not occur between meta substituents due to steric hindrance

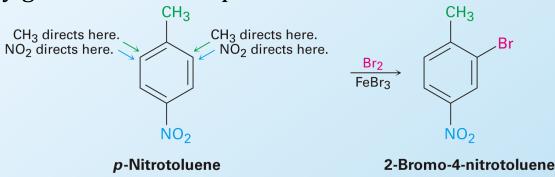


Trisubstitution on Benzene contd...

• If both groups are the same directors; then follow the steric hinderance rule.



- If the directing effects of two groups oppose each other, the more powerful activating group decides the principal outcome
- Usually gives mixtures of products



Key Concepts

- Activating and deactiving groups
- Resonace stabilization of intermediate
- Trisubstitutions