

Contents

About the Authors *xiii*

Acknowledgments *xv*

Introduction *xvii*

List of Abbreviations *xix*

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Synthesis of Nitroalkanes | 1 |
| 1.1 | Synthesis of Nitroalkanes | 1 |
| 1.1.1 | Displacement of Alkyl Halides | 1 |
| 1.2 | Nitration of Mesylates and Tosylates | 4 |
| 1.3 | Oxidation of Nitrogen Derivatives | 5 |
| 1.3.1 | Oxidation of Amines | 5 |
| 1.3.2 | Oxidation of Oximes | 7 |
| 1.3.3 | Oxidation of Azides | 8 |
| 1.4 | Reduction of Conjugate Nitroalkenes | 8 |
| 1.4.1 | Reduction of Nitroalkenes into Nitroalkanes | 8 |
| 1.4.2 | Stereoselective Reduction of Conjugated Nitroalkenes | 10 |
| 1.4.3 | Aldehyde Reductive Nitromethylation | 10 |
| 1.5 | Nitration of Alkanes | 11 |
| 1.6 | Metal-Catalyzed Alkylation or Arylation of Nitroalkanes | 11 |
| 1.6.1 | Nitroalkylation of Aryl Halides | 12 |
| 1.6.2 | Nitroalkylation of Allylic Esters | 13 |
| 1.6.3 | Nitroalkylation of Allylic Alcohols | 13 |
| 1.6.4 | Two-Carbon Homologation of Vinyl Triflates and Bromides | 15 |
| | References | 16 |
| 2 | Reduction of the Nitro Group into Amines | 19 |
| 2.1 | Representative Synthetic Applications of Nitroalkane Reductions | 24 |
| 2.1.1 | Reduction of Nitroalkanes Obtained via Nitroaldol Reaction | 24 |
| 2.1.2 | Reduction of Nitroalkanes Obtained via Michael Reaction | 26 |
| | References | 28 |
| 3 | Nitro Group to Carbonyl (Nef Reaction) | 31 |
| 3.1 | Nef Reaction under Oxidative Conditions | 31 |

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| 3.1.1 | Method Ox1 | 31 |
| 3.1.2 | Method Ox2 | 31 |
| 3.1.3 | Method Ox3 | 32 |
| 3.1.4 | Method Ox4 | 33 |
| 3.1.5 | Method Ox5 | 34 |
| 3.1.6 | Method Ox6 | 34 |
| 3.1.7 | Method Ox7 | 34 |
| 3.1.8 | Method Ox8 | 35 |
| 3.1.9 | Method Ox9 | 36 |
| 3.1.10 | Method Ox10 | 37 |
| 3.1.11 | Method Ox11 | 37 |
| 3.1.12 | Method Ox12 | 38 |
| 3.1.13 | Method Ox13 | 38 |
| 3.1.14 | Method Ox14 | 38 |
| 3.1.15 | Method Ox15 | 39 |
| 3.1.16 | Method Ox16 | 40 |
| 3.1.17 | Method Ox17 | 40 |
| 3.2 | Nef Reaction Under Reductive Conditions | 41 |
| 3.2.1 | Method Red1 | 41 |
| 3.2.2 | Method Red2 | 42 |
| 3.2.3 | Method Red3 | 43 |
| 3.2.4 | Method Red4 | 43 |
| 3.3 | Nef Reaction Under Basic Conditions | 44 |
| 3.3.1 | Method Base1 | 44 |
| 3.3.2 | Method Base2 | 45 |
| 3.4 | Other Methods for the Nef Reaction | 46 |
| 3.4.1 | Method by NaNO ₂ | 46 |
| 3.4.2 | Method by Me ₃ SiCl | 47 |
| 3.4.3 | Method by SiO ₂ /TBD | 48 |
| 3.5 | Synthetic Applications of the Nef Reaction (Representative Examples) | 49 |
| 3.5.1 | Solvolytic Methods | 49 |
| 3.5.2 | Oxidative Methods | 50 |
| 3.5.3 | Reductive Methods | 52 |
| 3.5.4 | Basic Methods | 54 |
| 3.5.5 | NaNO ₂ Methods | 55 |
| | References | 57 |
| 4 | Nitroaldol (Henry) Reaction | 59 |
| 4.1 | General Catalysts and Promoters | 60 |
| 4.1.1 | Heterogeneous Catalysts and Promoters | 60 |
| 4.1.2 | Green Solvents | 66 |
| 4.1.2.1 | Nitroaldol Reaction in Water | 67 |
| 4.1.2.2 | Nitroaldol Reaction in Ionic Liquids | 70 |

| | | |
|----------|---|------------|
| 4.2 | Nitroaldol Condensation | 72 |
| 4.2.1 | Application of General Henry Reaction | 75 |
| 4.3 | Asymmetric Henry Reaction | 82 |
| 4.4 | Aza-Henry Reaction | 91 |
| 4.4.1 | Aza-Henry Reaction via <i>N</i> -Protected Imines | 92 |
| 4.4.2 | Aza-Henry Reaction via α -Amidosulfones | 96 |
| | References | 102 |
| 5 | Conjugate Addition of Nitroalkanes to Electron-Poor Alkenes (Michael Reaction) | 107 |
| 5.1 | General Homogeneous Procedures | 107 |
| 5.2 | Heterogeneous Procedures | 109 |
| 5.3 | Michael Reaction under Green Solvents | 114 |
| 5.4 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction | 117 |
| 5.4.1 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction with Enones | 117 |
| 5.4.2 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction with Enals | 123 |
| 5.4.3 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction with α,β -Unsaturated Esters | 126 |
| 5.4.4 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction with Conjugate Nitroalkenes | 126 |
| 5.4.5 | Asymmetric Michael Reaction with Vinyl Sulfones | 128 |
| 5.5 | Synthetic Applications of Michael Reaction | 129 |
| | References | 138 |
| 6 | Formation of C—C Bond by Coupling Nitroalkanes with Aryl Halides | 141 |
| 6.1 | Main Procedures for Coupling Nitroalkanes with Aryl Halides | 141 |
| 6.2 | Application of C—C Coupling Nitroalkanes with Aryl Halides | 144 |
| 6.3 | Others | 147 |
| | References | 149 |
| 7 | Synthesis and Reactivity of 1,3-Dinitroalkanes | 151 |
| 7.1 | Synthesis of 1,3-Dinitroalkanes | 151 |
| 7.1.1 | Asymmetric Synthesis of 1,3-Dinitroalkanes | 152 |
| 7.1.2 | Synthesis of Symmetric 1,3-Dinitroalkanes | 154 |
| 7.2 | Synthetic Applications of 1,3-Dinitroalkanes | 156 |
| 7.2.1 | Synthesis of 1,3-Diamines | 156 |
| 7.2.2 | Synthesis of Carbocycles | 156 |
| 7.2.2.1 | Synthesis of Dinitrocyclohexanols | 156 |
| 7.2.2.2 | Synthesis of Bicyclo[3.3.1]nonanes | 157 |
| 7.2.3 | Synthesis of Benzene Derivatives | 159 |
| 7.2.3.1 | Synthesis of Acetophenones and Benzoates | 159 |
| 7.2.3.2 | Synthesis of Arylamines | 161 |
| 7.2.3.3 | Synthesis of Polyfunctionalized Phenols | 161 |
| 7.2.3.4 | Synthesis of Nitrobenzenes | 162 |
| | References | 163 |

| | |
|----------|---|
| 8 | Formation of Carbon=Carbon Double Bonds via Nitrous Acid Elimination (NAE) 165 |
| 8.1 | Synthesis of α,β -Unsaturated Carbonyl Derivatives 165 |
| 8.2 | Nitroaldol Reaction, Nitrous Acid Elimination vs Water Elimination 170 |
| 8.3 | Synthesis of Cyclic Compounds 171 |
| 8.3.1 | Synthesis of Aromatic Rings 171 |
| 8.3.1.1 | Synthesis of Benzene Ring 171 |
| 8.3.1.2 | Synthesis of Furan Ring 174 |
| 8.3.1.3 | Synthesis of Pyrrole Ring 176 |
| 8.3.1.4 | Synthesis of Isoxazole Ring 176 |
| 8.3.2 | Synthesis of Heterocyclic (Non-Aromatic) Rings 176 |
| 8.3.2.1 | Synthesis of Dihydropyranol Ring 177 |
| 8.3.2.2 | Synthesis of Butyrolactone Ring 177 |
| 8.3.2.3 | Synthesis of Pyrrolidine Ring 178 |
| 8.3.2.4 | Synthesis of Succinic Anhydride Ring 178 |
| 8.3.3 | Synthesis of Cyclopentenone Ring 179 |
| 8.4 | Synthesis of Polyenes 180 |
| 8.4.1 | Asymmetric Synthesis of Electron-Poor Alkenes 183 |
| | References 185 |
| 9 | α-Nitrocycloalkanones, Synthesis, and Reactivity 187 |
| 9.1 | Synthesis of Cyclic α -Nitro Ketones 187 |
| 9.2 | Ring Cleavage of Cyclic α -Nitro Ketones 189 |
| 9.2.1 | Cleavage to ω -Nitro Acids and ω -Nitro Esters 190 |
| 9.2.2 | Cleavage to Methyl ω -Oxoalkanoate 192 |
| 9.2.3 | Reductive Cleavage of α -Nitrocycloalkanones 193 |
| 9.2.4 | Oxidative Cleavage of α -Nitrocycloalkanones 193 |
| 9.2.4.1 | Cleavage into α,ω -Dicarboxylic Acids 193 |
| 9.2.4.2 | Cleavage to α,ω -Dicarboxylic Acids Dialkyl Esters 195 |
| 9.2.4.3 | Cleavage to α,ω -Dicarboxylic Acids Monomethyl Esters 195 |
| 9.2.4.4 | Cleavage to Methyl ω,ω -Dihalo- ω -nitroalkanoates 196 |
| 9.2.5 | Reaction of α -Nitrocycloalkanones with Organometallic Reagents 196 |
| 9.3 | α -Nitrocycloalkanones and Michael Reaction 198 |
| 9.4 | α -Nitrocycloalkanones and Henry Reaction 200 |
| 9.5 | “Zip Reaction” 201 |
| 9.5.1 | Synthesis of Bicyclic Macrolactones 202 |
| 9.5.2 | Synthesis of 12-Oxotetradecan-14-lactam 202 |
| 9.5.3 | Asymmetric Synthesis of Bicyclic Hemiketals 203 |
| 9.6 | Arylation of Nitrocycloalkanones 203 |
| 9.6.1 | Synthesis of Benzo- and Naphtho-fused Bicyclo[n.3.1]structures 204 |
| 9.6.2 | α -Arylation of 2-Nitrocycloalkanones 205 |
| | References 206 |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| 10 | Acyclic α-Nitro Ketones: Synthesis and Reactivity | 209 |
| 10.1 | Synthesis of α -Nitro Ketones | 209 |
| 10.1.1 | Synthesis of α -Nitro Ketones from Henry Reaction | 209 |
| 10.1.2 | Synthesis of α -Nitro Ketones from Carboxylic Acid Derivatives | 211 |
| 10.1.3 | Synthesis of α -Nitro Ketones from Alkenes | 212 |
| 10.1.4 | Synthesis of α -Nitro Ketones from Silyl Enol Ethers | 212 |
| 10.2 | Reactivity of Acyclic α -Nitro Ketones | 213 |
| 10.2.1 | Replacement of the Nitro Group of α -Nitro Ketones | 213 |
| 10.2.1.1 | Replacement of the Nitro Group with Hydrogen | 213 |
| 10.2.1.2 | Tandem Denitration–Deoxygenation | 217 |
| 10.2.1.3 | Replacement of the Nitro Group with Deuterium | 220 |
| 10.2.1.4 | Replacement of the Nitro Group with Phenylthio Group | 221 |
| 10.2.2 | α -Nitro Ketones to Conjugated Enones | 221 |
| 10.2.3 | α -Nitro Ketones into Nitroalkanols | 224 |
| 10.2.4 | Chemoselective Reduction of α -Nitro Ketones to Amino Ketones | 226 |
| 10.2.5 | Alkylation of α -Nitro Ketones | 228 |
| 10.2.5.1 | α^1 -Alkylation of α -Nitro Ketones | 228 |
| 10.2.5.2 | α -Allylation of α -Nitro Ketones | 229 |
| 10.2.5.3 | α -Alkylation of α -Nitro Ketones by Michael Reaction Followed by Nitrous Acid Elimination | 232 |
| 10.2.5.4 | α -Alkylation of α -Nitro Ketones by the Mannich (or Aza-Henry) Reaction | 235 |
| 10.3 | Other Reactions | 235 |
| 10.3.1 | Synthesis of Furoxans | 235 |
| 10.3.2 | Synthesis of α -Nitro- α -Diazocarbonyl Derivatives | 236 |
| 10.3.3 | Synthesis of Acylthioamides | 236 |
| | References | 237 |
| 11 | Nitro Cyclopropanes: Synthesis and Applications | 239 |
| 11.1 | Synthesis of Nitro Cyclopropanes | 239 |
| 11.1.1 | Synthesis of Nitro Cyclopropanes from Bromine Derivatives | 239 |
| 11.1.2 | Synthesis of Nitro Cyclopropanes from Conjugate Nitroalkenes | 247 |
| 11.1.3 | Synthesis of Nitro Cyclopropanes from Alkenes | 250 |
| 11.1.4 | Intramolecular Synthesis of Nitro Cyclopropanes from γ -Nitro Alcohols (the Mitsunobu Displacement) | 253 |
| 11.2 | Applications of Nitrocyclopropanes | 256 |
| 11.2.1 | Nitrocyclopropanes and Henry Reaction: Synthesis of Novel HIV-1 Protease Inhibitor. | 256 |
| 11.2.2 | Cyclopropane Ring Expansion | 257 |
| | References | 261 |
| 12 | Nitroalkanes as Source of Dicarbonyls | 263 |
| 12.1 | 1,2-Dicarbonyl Derivatives | 263 |
| 12.2 | 1,3-Dicarbonyl Derivatives | 265 |
| 12.3 | 1,4-Dicarbonyl Derivatives | 266 |

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| 12.3.1 | 1,4-Diketones | 266 |
| 12.3.2 | γ -Ketoesters and γ -Ketoacids | 272 |
| 12.4 | 1,5-Dicarbonyl Derivatives | 275 |
| | References | 276 |
| 13 | Nitroalkanes as Source of Spiroketals | 277 |
| 13.1 | 1,6-Dioxaspiro[4.4]nonanes | 277 |
| 13.2 | 1,6-Dioxaspiro[4.5]undecanes | 279 |
| 13.3 | 1,6-Dioxaspiro[4.6]undecanes | 281 |
| 13.4 | 1,7-Dioxaspiro[5.5]undecanes and 1,7-Dioxaspiro[5.6]dodecanes | 283 |
| | References | 284 |
| | Index | 285 |