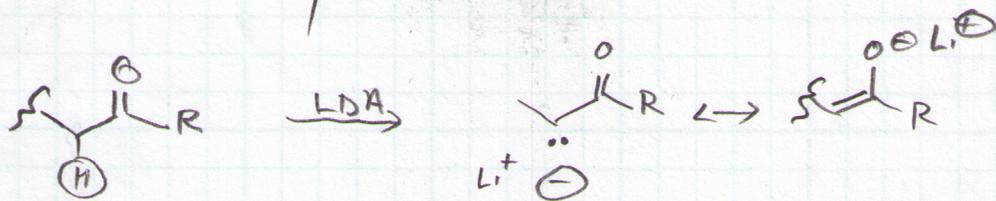
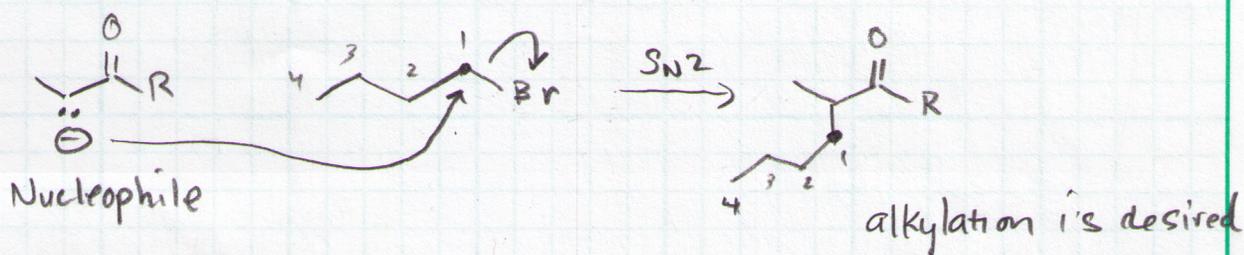


Alkylation at α -C of aldehydes / ketones

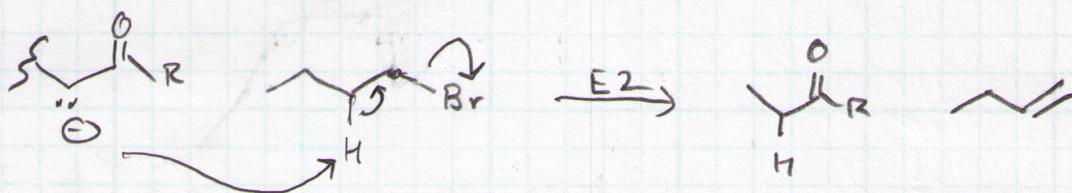
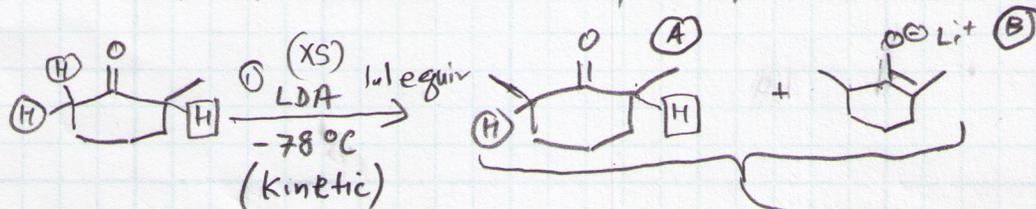
We know the C_{α} -H is rel. acidic and can be removed with a sufficiently strong base



Let's look at what we want to do



NOTE: SN_2 nucleophiles (neg charge) can also be good bases.

MORE COMPLICATIONS INVOLVED W/ ALKYLATING $\text{C}=\text{O}$ COMPOUNDS

$\oplus \text{CH}_3\text{I}$ (1 equiv)

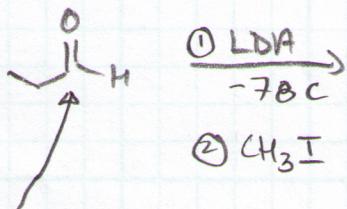
[All in a single rxn vessel]

A mixture of these two are in the rxn when, e.g. 10% CH_3I is added.

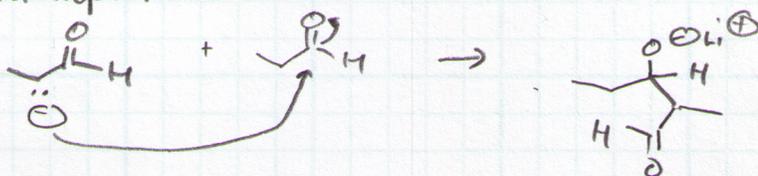
Enolate (B) acts as a base and removes (H) or (H) from (A), so the next CH_3I added can alkylate the enolate of (A)

ALKYLATING ALDEHYDES UNDER LDA CONDITIONS ARE DIFFICULT

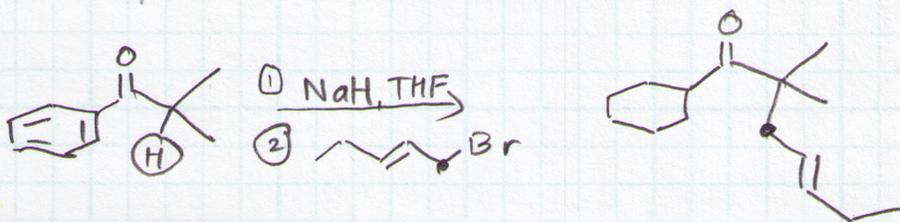
Aldehydes react w/ themselves



reactive center for nucleophiles such as

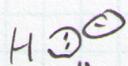


RARE ALKYLATION OF A KETONE



$\text{H}_2(\text{g})$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{NaBr}}$
 salt ppt
 from solution

H^- is basic but not nucleophilic



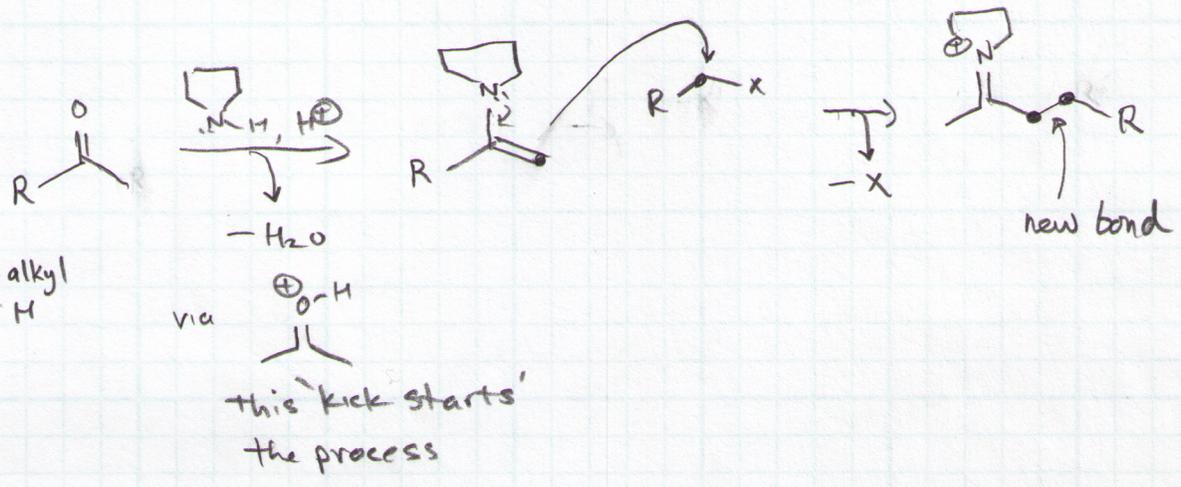
1s orbital is tiny, whereas nucleophilic e^- prefer to be in larger s-orbitals, p-orbitals, sp^3 - or d-orbital hybrids

Also, H_2 gas is very stable product

Workaround. Form an enamine w/ pyrrolidine

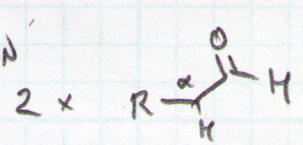


- ① No LDA ∴ no need for kinetic control
- No E2 competition
- No overalkylation

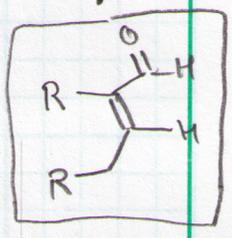
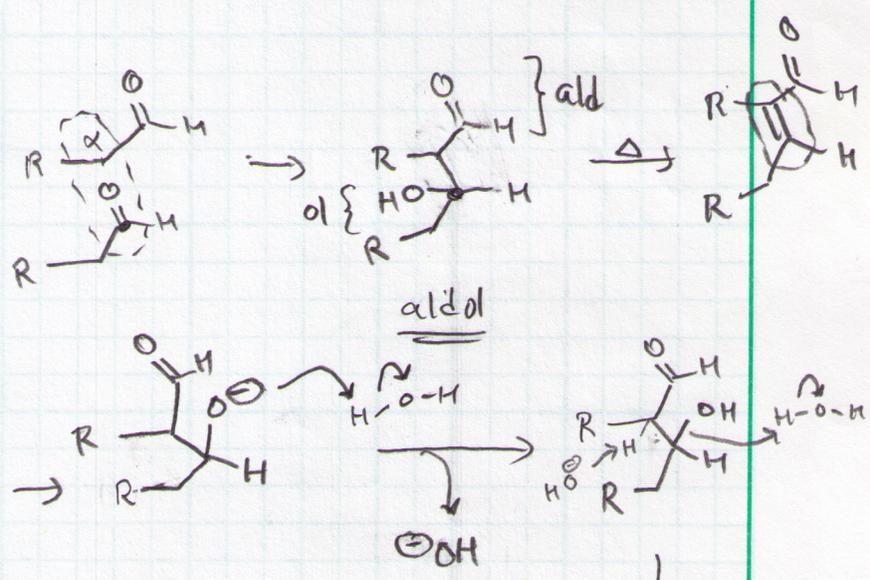
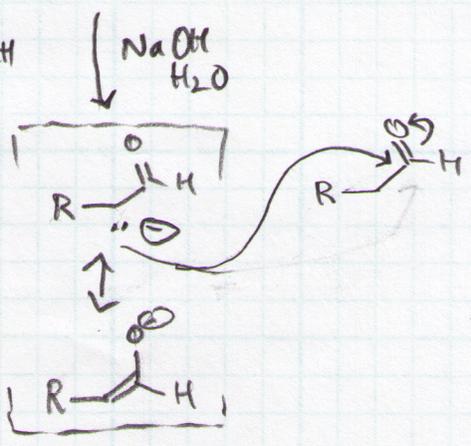


Aldol condensations

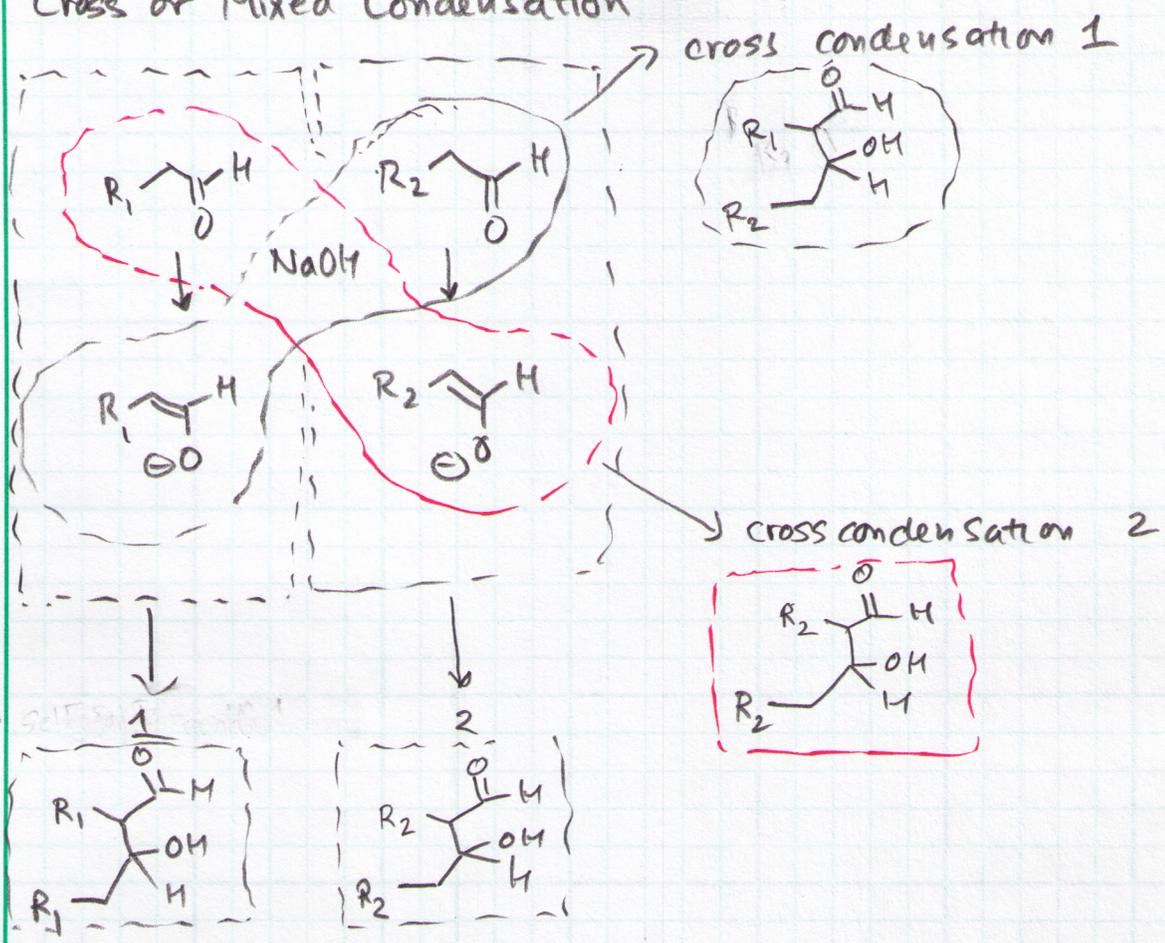
self condensation



MECH

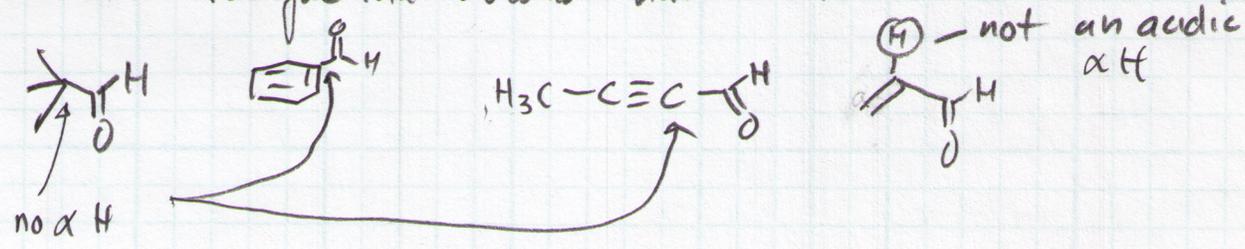


Cross or Mixed Condensation



Cannot control mixture. So what has to be done. LIMITS!

Use one aldehyde that does not have α -Hs!



... and use aldehyde that contains α -H

