

NAME: _____ Section: A Student Number: _____

Spring 2020

Chemistry 4000 Midterm

____ / 60 marks

- INSTRUCTIONS:
- 1) Please read over the test carefully before beginning. You should have 7 pages of questions and a periodic table.
 - 2) Unless otherwise stated in the question, explain all of your answers fully. Use diagrams where appropriate. When invoking any argument based on resonance, you must draw all relevant resonance structures.
 - 3) ALL structures must be drawn showing lone pairs, non-zero formal charges and reasonable bond angles – regardless of whether they are expanded, condensed or line-bond. Marks will be deducted for poorly drawn structures.
 - 4) Marks will be deducted for incorrect information added to an otherwise correct answer.
 - 5) If your work is not legible, it will be given a mark of zero.
 - 6) Calculators are not allowed. You are not permitted to have any electronic devices with you during the exam unless authorized by the instructor.
 - 7) You may use a molecular model kit.
 - 8) You have 2 hours to complete this test.

Confidentiality Agreement:

I agree not to discuss (or in any other way divulge) the contents of this exam until after 8:00pm Mountain Time on Monday, March 9th, 2020. I understand that breaking this agreement would constitute academic misconduct, a serious offense with serious consequences. The minimum punishment would be a mark of 0/60 on this exam; the maximum punishment would include expulsion from this university.

Signature: _____
Course: CHEM 4000A (Medicinal Chemistry)
Semester: Spring 2020
The University of Lethbridge

Date: _____

Question Breakdown

Q1	/ 6
Q2	/ 7
Q3	/ 8
Q4	/ 16
Q5	/ 4
Q6	/ 9
Q7	/ 10

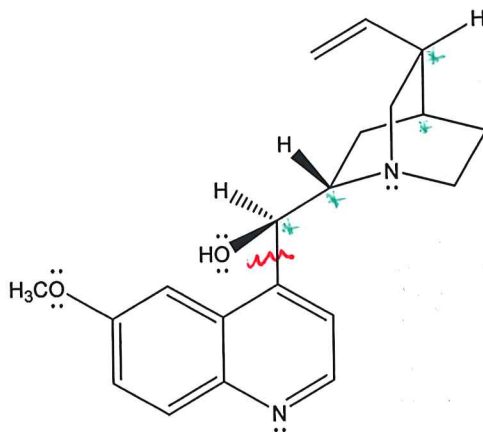
Total	/ 60
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NAME: _____

Section: A

Student Number: _____

1. The molecule below is quinine, one of the oldest known treatments for malaria. The active ingredient in cinchona bark – which has been used to treat malaria since at least the 1600s – quinine has since been isolated and prescribed in pure form. While no longer recommended as a first line treatment due to side effects, it is still prescribed in cases where alternative medications don't work due to drug resistance. [6 marks]



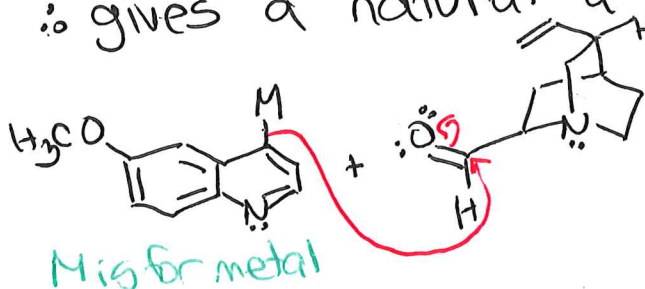
- (a) Identify one feature in the structure of quinine that would make it particularly challenging to synthesize. [1 mark]

- 4 chiral carbon atoms (+ on diagram)
 - getting groups attached to the bicyclic pieces in the correct positions with the correct stereochemistry (in the case of the non-aromatic bicyclic piece)

- (b) If you were going to propose a retrosynthetic analysis for quinine, what would be the first disconnection you would suggest? Draw it directly on the diagram above. In the space below, give two reasons for your choice. [5 marks]

The disconnections shown:

- gives two synthetic targets of similar size
 - does not require reaction to form either ring
 - is consistent with a reaction between a Grignard (or alkyllithium) and carbonyl
 ∴ gives a natural α' synthon:



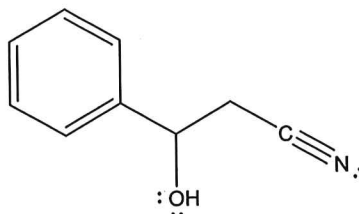
NAME: _____

Section: A

Student Number: _____

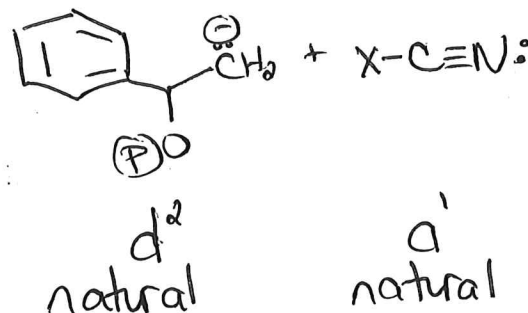
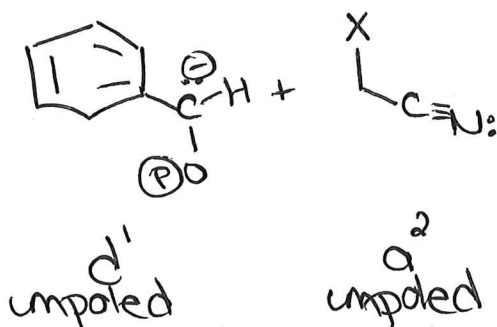
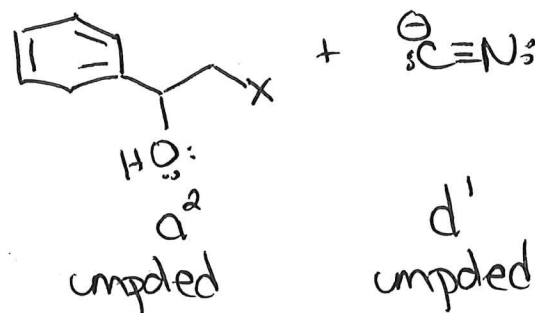
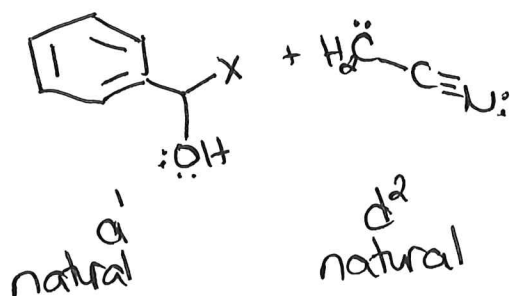
2. A chemist wants to make the molecule below:

[7 marks]

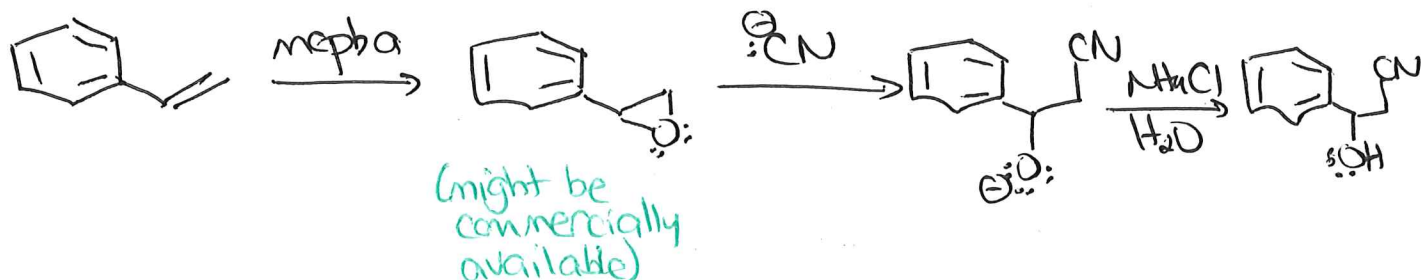
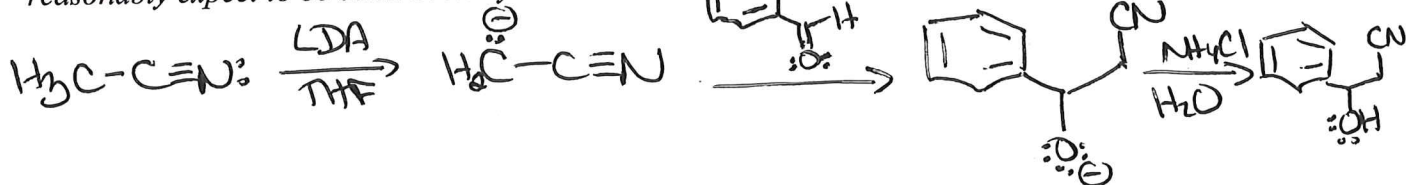


There are four possible pairs of synthons corresponding to disconnections at carbon-carbon bonds between the two heteroatoms.

- (a) Show the four possible pairs of synthons, labeling each synthon (as a¹, d¹, etc.) and identifying it as natural or unpoled. [4 marks]



- (b) Choose one of your answers to part (a) and propose a reaction that would make the target molecule according to that approach. You may use any reagents or reactants that you could reasonably expect to be commercially available. [3 marks]



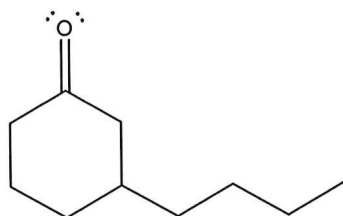
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NAME: _____

Section: A

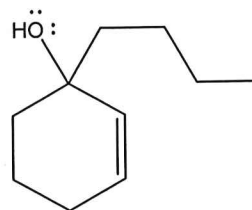
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3. The products below can both be prepared by reaction of 2-cyclohexenone with butyllithium in THF followed by aqueous work-up. In one case, however, it is necessary to add a catalyst. [8 marks]



Product A

vs



Product B

- (a) Which of these two products is obtained by reacting only 2-cyclohexenone and butyllithium? [1 mark]

B

- (b) Give an example of a catalyst you could add to the reaction flask that would favour production of the other product. [1 mark]

CuCl or CuBr or CuCN or CuI

- (c) Use hard-soft acid-base theory to explain why reaction of 2-cyclohexenone with butyllithium gives the product it does and why the other product is favoured if the catalyst is added. [6 marks]

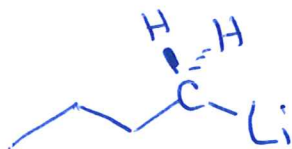
Your answer must clearly identify the relevant nucleophilic/electrophilic sites and explain why each is hard or soft.

The harder nucleophile reacts at the harder electrophilic site.
The softer nucleophile reacts at the softer electrophilic site.



This is the harder electrophilic site. This C is directly bonded to O so it has a larger partial positive charge.

This is the softer electrophilic site. Because it is farther from O, the inductive effect is weaker so it has a much smaller partial positive charge. It is only electrophilic because it is part of the π system.



There is a large electronegativity difference between C and Li, giving C a significant partial negative charge in butyllithium. This makes BuLi the harder nucleophile.

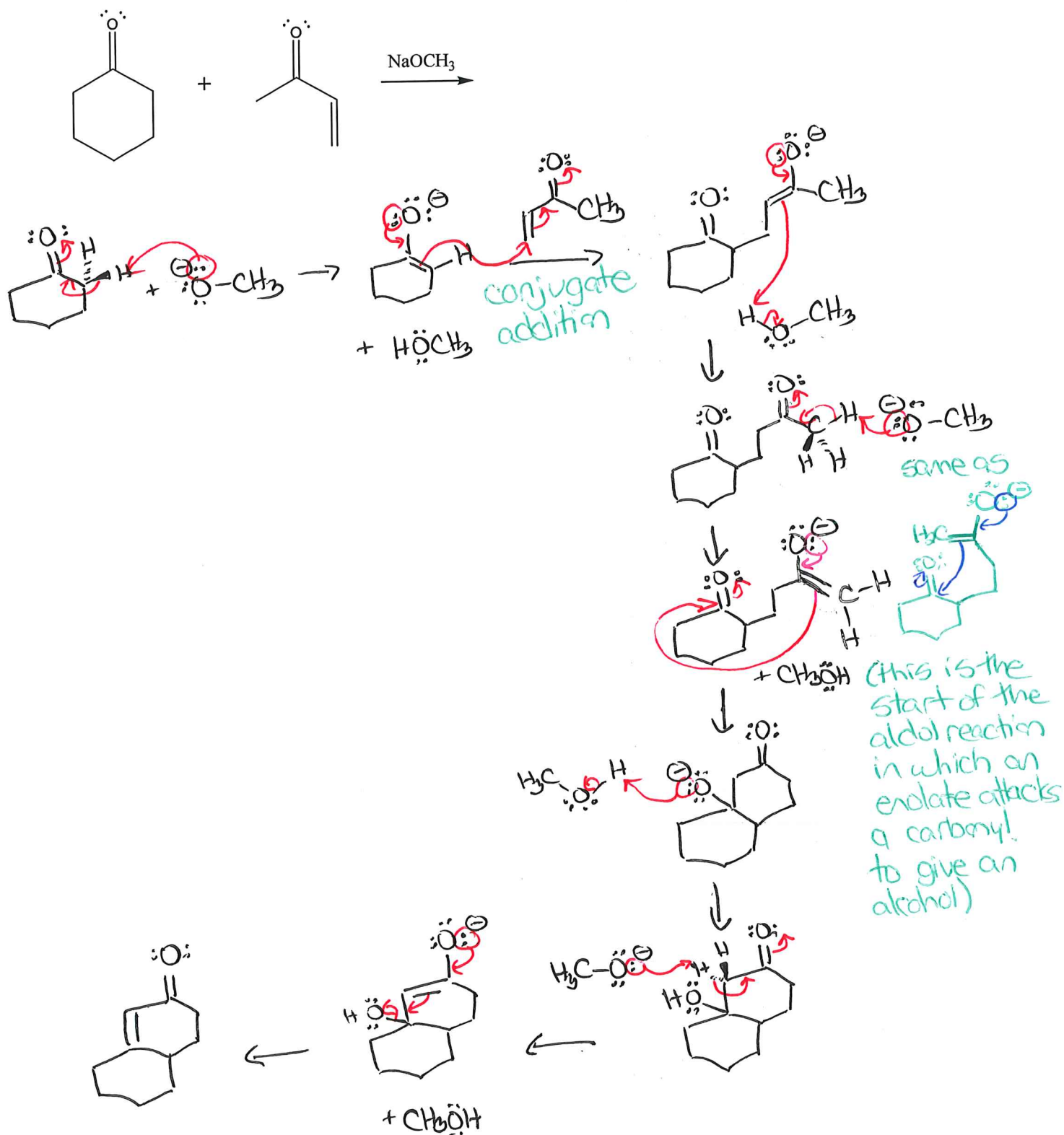
Cu is much closer in electronegativity to C than Li is. Therefore the C-Cu bond is less polar and C has a smaller partial negative charge. This makes the cuprate the softer nucleophile.

NAME: _____

Section: A

Student Number: _____

4. In a Robinson annelation, a conjugate addition is followed by an aldol reaction. This results in formation of a new ring. Draw a mechanism for the Robinson annelation reaction between cyclohexanone and butenone in the presence of sodium methoxide. [16 marks]



NAME: _____

Section: A

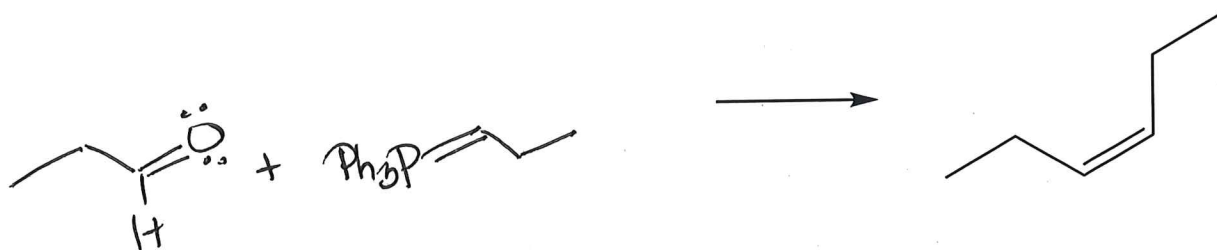
Student Number: _____

5. It is often important to control the stereochemistry of double bonds when they are produced. [4 marks]

- (a) Write a reaction equation showing the preparation of the *cis* double bond in *cis*-3-hexene.

The reaction should be forming a new bond between the two central carbon atoms – not just converting a single or triple bond into a double bond. If your approach requires a sequence of reactions, the order in which the reagents are added must be clear. You do not, however, need to show a mechanism or intermediate structures.

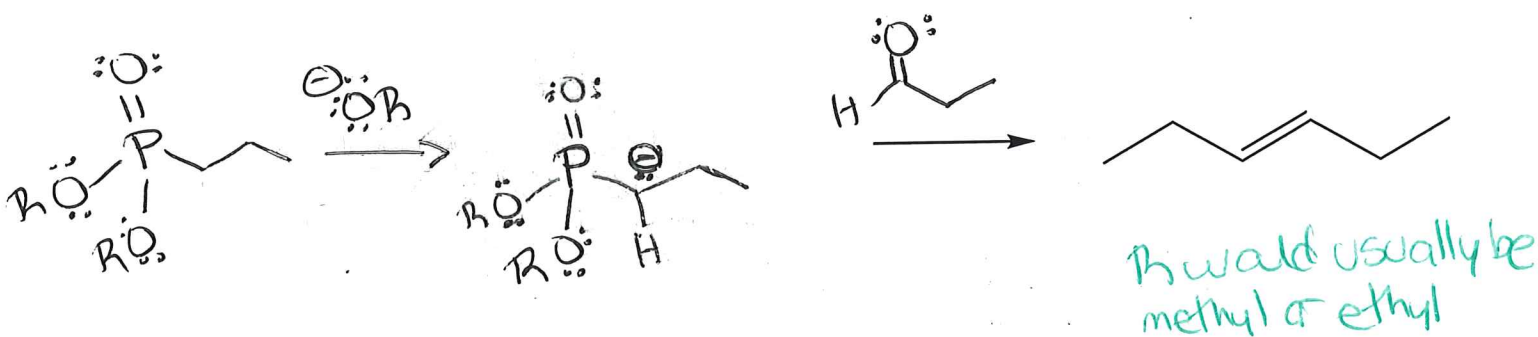
Wittig reaction



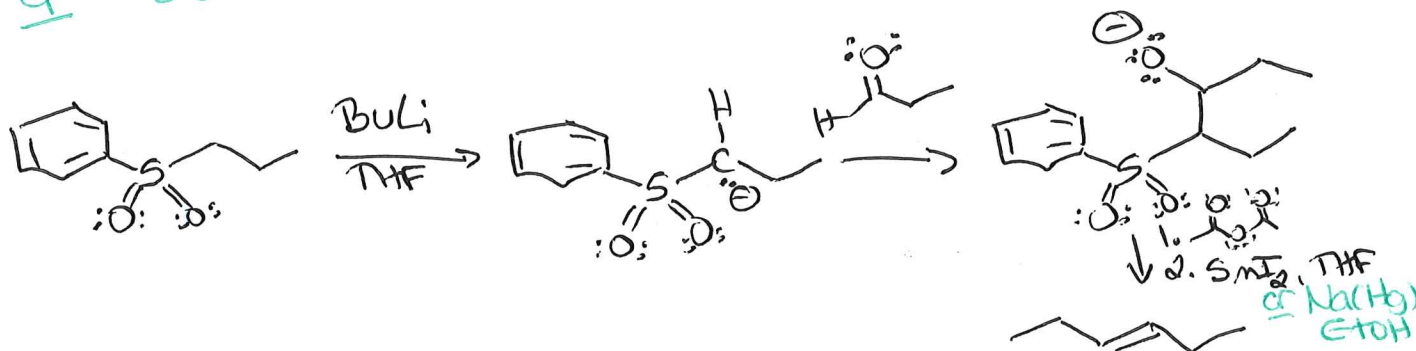
- (b) Write a reaction equation showing the preparation of the *trans* double bond in *trans*-3-hexene.

The reaction should be forming a new bond between the two central carbon atoms – not just converting a single or triple bond into a double bond. If your approach requires a sequence of reactions, the order in which the reagents are added must be clear. You do not, however, need to show a mechanism or intermediate structures.

Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction



or Julia olefination



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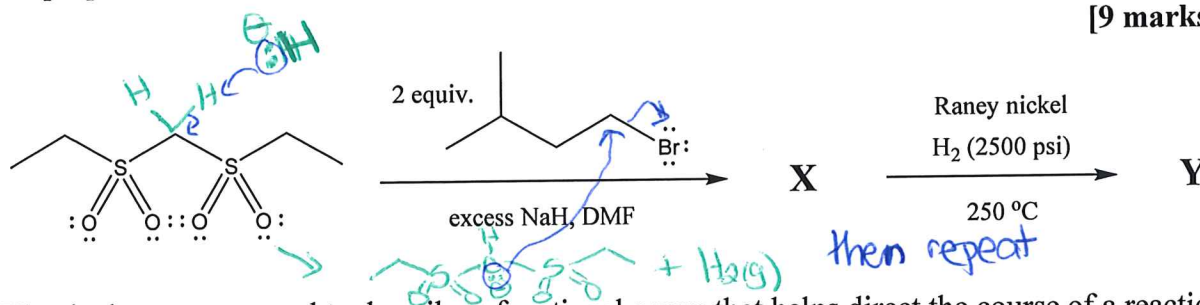
Section: A

Student Number: _____

6. We saw that sulfone groups can be useful tools in organic synthesis, helping to direct the course of reactions even if they are not required in the final product.

Bis(sulfones) are compounds containing two sulfone groups, and they can also be very useful for this purpose. The first published example of this chemistry is shown in the figure below.

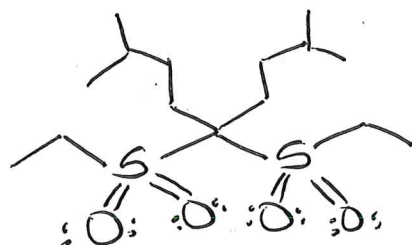
[9 marks]



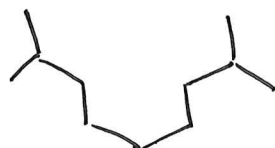
- (a) What is the term we used to describe a functional group that helps direct the course of a reaction but is not a part of the final product? [1 mark]

auxiliary functional group

- (b) Draw the structure of X (the product of the first step in the reaction sequence above). [2 marks]



- (c) Draw the structure of Y (the product of the second step in the reaction sequence above). [2 marks]
The Raney nickel and hydrogen gas do the same thing as Na in NH₃.



- (d) What would be the advantage of having two sulfone groups instead of one? Give two reasons why the reaction above works better with the bis(sulfone) shown than it would have with CH₃SO₂CH₃. [4 marks]

- the second sulfone increases the acidity of the H on the central C, allowing use of a weaker base (NaH instead of BuLi)
- the second sulfone means that there are only two acidic H on the central C so you won't get any byproducts where three H were reacted
- the second sulfone pulls electron density away from :C⁻, making it a softer nucleophile (which is good because the electrophile is soft)

NAME: _____

Section: A

Student Number: _____

7. How would you make the molecule below?

[10 marks]

Your answer should take the form of a retrosynthetic analysis followed by chemical equations for the reactions in the synthesis itself. Write an equation for each reaction. Show all required reagents, and number steps within a reaction if order of addition is important.

You may use any reactants that you could reasonably expect to be commercially available and that **contribute no more than 6 carbon atoms to the final product**. (This means that you are allowed to use reagents like PPh_3 or mcpba – even though they contain more than 6 carbon atoms – because they do not add more than 6 carbon atoms to the final product. These examples should not be construed as a hint; just a clarification.)

