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978-0-521-29014-2 - Electrophilic Halogenation: Reaction Pathways Involving Attack by
Electrophilic Halogens on Unsaturated Compounds

Peter B. D. de la Mare

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Electrophilic halogenation

**Reaction pathways involving attack by
electrophilic halogens on
unsaturated compounds**

Cambridge Chemistry Texts

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London · New York · Melbourne

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521290142

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First published 1976

Re-issued 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress catalogue card number: 75-13451

ISBN 978-0-521-20968-7 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-29014-2 Paperback

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Preface

The separation of the chemistry of aromatic systems from that of other unsaturated organic compounds is convenient for some purposes. It tends, however, to set up a number of artificial barriers; for example, between systems which 'should' substitute and those which 'should' add; and between reactions involving 'Wheland' intermediates and those involving carbocationic intermediates. The result too often constrains our attention into paths which become unsatisfactory, particularly when the reactions of halogens with unsaturated compounds are considered.

My interest in these processes was first stimulated by association with the late Professor P. W. Robertson, of Victoria University College in the University of New Zealand. This book, which is intended in part as a tribute to his inspiration, is an attempt to survey organic electrophilic halogenations and to illustrate the variety of ways in which carbocationic character can be developed in such reactions. General principles are emphasised; details are given only where necessary for illustration, and no attempt has been made to be exhaustive. Attention has been drawn wherever possible, directly or by inference, to the potential preparative significance of mechanistic findings. References are usually to recent articles, and are not intended to attribute priorities for ideas or for findings. Although many references are made to reviews, important recent work has necessitated rather extensive documentation in some areas.

I am immediately indebted to Professor R. C. Cambie and to Dr B. E. Swedlund for discussions of their recent work; and to Professor K. Schofield for his valued comments, criticisms and advice. This survey would have been much more imperfect without the help, encouragement and stimulation which I have had over the years from the many research workers and colleagues with whom I have been associated scientifically.

Mrs A. B. Bell typed the manuscript, and her help is much appreciated. I thank also the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press for the invitation to write this book, and the Council of the University of Auckland for refresher leave which made the undertaking possible.

P. B. D. DE LA MARE

Auckland, New Zealand, 1975

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