

- symmetry allowed reactions proceed smoothly on heating. Those symmetry forbidden reactions proceed usually on photo lysis. Three families of Pericyclic reactions are - electrocyclic reaction, cycloaddition and sigmatropic reactions. These reactions are very important because -

(1) They create new C-C  $\sigma$  bonds and hence are useful for Carbon skeleton construction.

(2) Reactions are independent of external influences such as solvent, change of concentration, catalyst and side reactions.

(3) Stereospecificity of these reactions is very high.

(3) Orbital Symmetry or HOMO Theory or Frontier Orbitals Approach.

Let us examine - Thermal Cyclization of 1,3 Butadiene.



The above electrocyclic reaction involving conversion of 2  $\pi$  bonds into 1  $\sigma$  and 1  $\pi$  bond. The reaction is completely stereospecific. Substituents on bond which breaks in cyclization must rotate to come in disocyclic plane of butadiene molecule. There are two ways in which this change can occur -

(1) Conrotatory motion when bonds rotate in the same direction.

(2) Disrotatory motion when bonds rotate in opposite direction.





Similarly four molecular orbitals arising from four p-orbitals in Buta diene in cisoid conformation can be represented as-

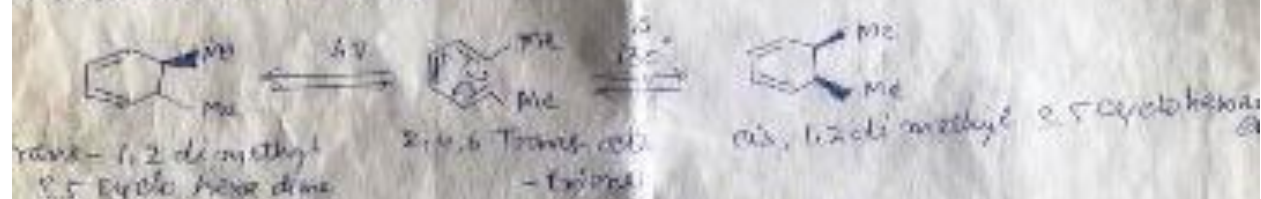


M.O.S

Ground state Is Expected H

Orbs of same phase will overlap resulting into RMO, while  
 Orb of orbitals of different phase will lead to repulsive anti-  
 situation. Essential feature of pericyclic reaction is  
 concerted overlapping of bond orbitals of participating in the  
 products. This transmission passes through a transition  
 of merging orbitals, which will be of relatively very low  
 energy and the reaction is favoured so long as symmetry  
 is conserved or retained. When the symmetry of the  
 reactant and product orbitals is the same, i.e. orbital  
 symmetry is conserved in the reaction, it is said to be  
 symmetry allowed or orbital symmetry favoured reaction.

stereochemical effects can be seen clearly as 2,4,6 trans-alkene cyclise on heating to give cis-1,2 dimethyl 3,5 cyclohexadiene or alkene on photochemical irradiation trans-1,2 dimethyl 3,5 cyclohexadiene is obtained.



The above reaction for  $\pi$  electrocyclic reaction.

### Phase and Symmetry of Orbitals

Individual electrons of an atom can be symbolised as  $\psi$  (Psi) by wave function. Analogy can be drawn between the behaviour of such a wave like electron and standing wave, that can be generated in a string fastened at both the ends, with the difference that vibrational of electron wave will be in three dimensional, while that of string is one dimension only.

First three possible modes of vibration can be shown as -



On  $\psi_1$  - Amplitude of wave increases from zero to max and then decreases to zero again.

Energy  $\psi_2$  - Amplitude increases to maximum and then decreases to zero (single node).

$\psi_3$  - Two such nodes as previous.

The lobes of a 2p atomic orbital which has one nodal plane thus differ in phase, conventionally designated as + and -

or shading or no shading.



# Pericyclic Reaction

M.Sc. II Sem  
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Controlled Reactions (Morrison and Boyd, 10th ed, 1992, 1993)

Organic reactions proceed via reaction intermediates, as revealed by reaction mechanisms, yet there are a no. of reactions which neither by polar nor by a radical pathway and are also unaccounted by changes in solvent polarity, presence of radical or inhibitors and other catalysts and in the attempt to detect reaction intermediates in such reactions have failed.

Examples - Diels-Alder reactions and Pyrolytic elimination of carboxylic esters (a) and vinyl ethers (b) to yield alkenes.



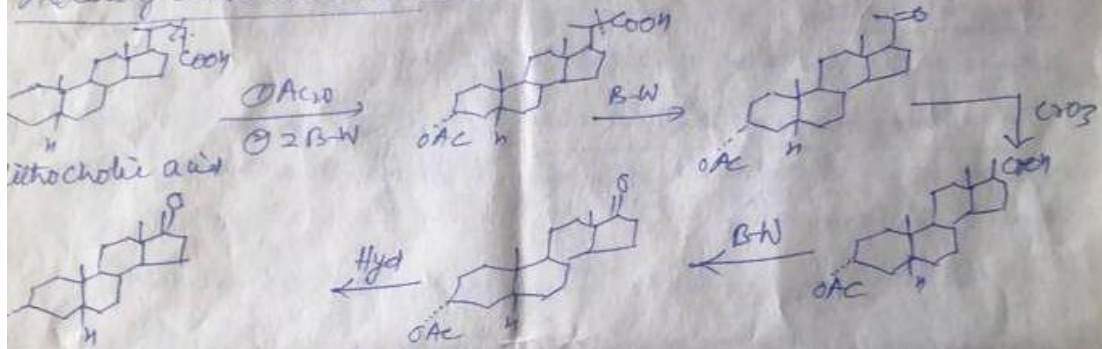
These reactions are concerted i.e. bond making and bond breaking take place simultaneously in one step process. The transition state is cyclic and reactions are stereoselective. Many of these reactions are reversible e.g. Diels-Alder Reaction. Thus Pericyclic or Electrocyclic reactions are the concerted reactions which proceed via cyclic transition state.

These reactions can be carried out either thermally or photochemically. Both the factors give different results. Diels-Alder reaction which is a pericyclic reaction can be induced thermally or photochemically. Concerted cycloaddition of two molecules of cycloalkene to form cycloalkane can be induced photochemically and not thermally.

stand can be converted into two iso-dicarb acids which on  $\text{CrO}_3$  oxidation form a mixture of two tri-carboxylic acids, lithocholic and  $\beta$ -lithocholic acids. The same tri-carboxylic acids are obtained by oxidation of lithocholic acid, proving identical position of OH group of lithocholic acid and Coprostanol as OH group is present at C-3 in lithocholic acid.

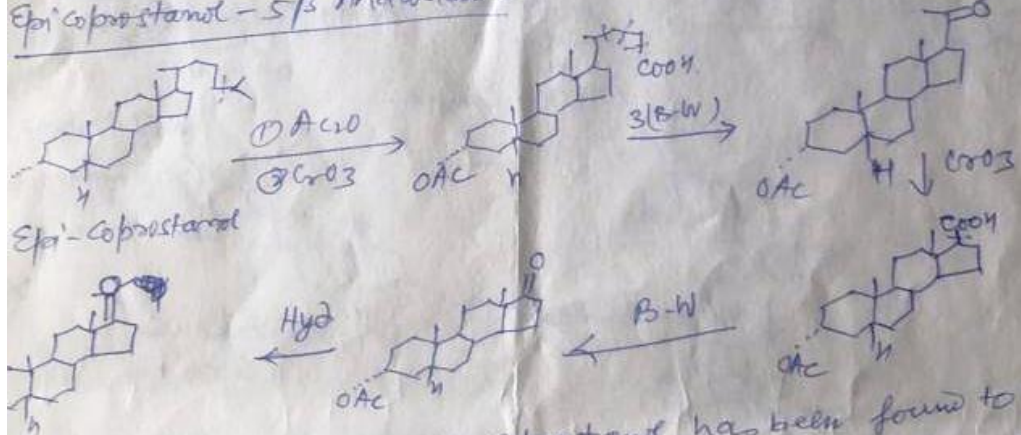
Configuration of OH group:

Epi-Coprostanol  $\rightarrow$   $5\beta$  androsterone (OH as d)  
(C-3 hydroxy  $5\beta$  cholestane)  
 Acetate of lithocholic acid  $\rightarrow$



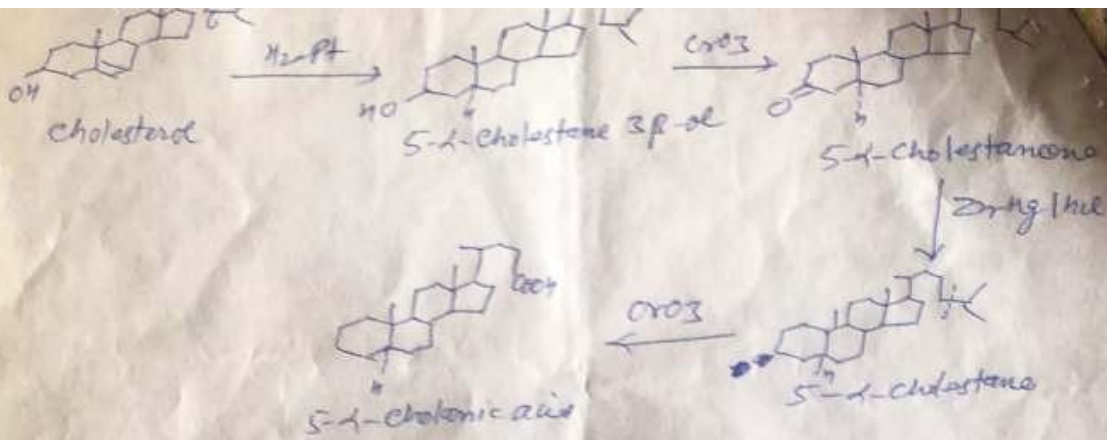
$\beta$  Androsterone

Epi-Coprostanol -  $5\beta$  Androsterone

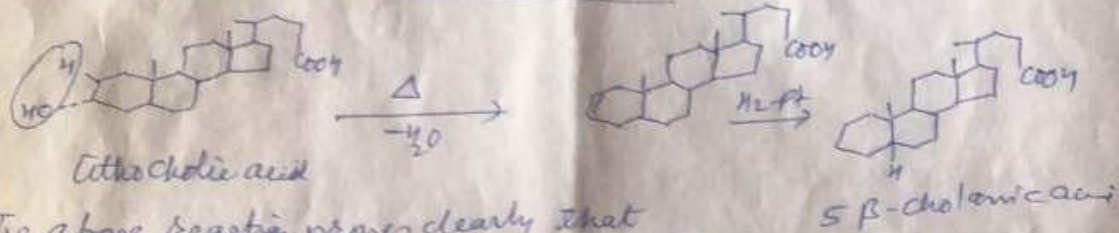


$\beta$ -Androsterone

Since Epi-Coprostanol has been found to occur in  $\alpha$ -configuration, therefore, lithocholic acid, too, will show  $\alpha$ -configuration of OH group.

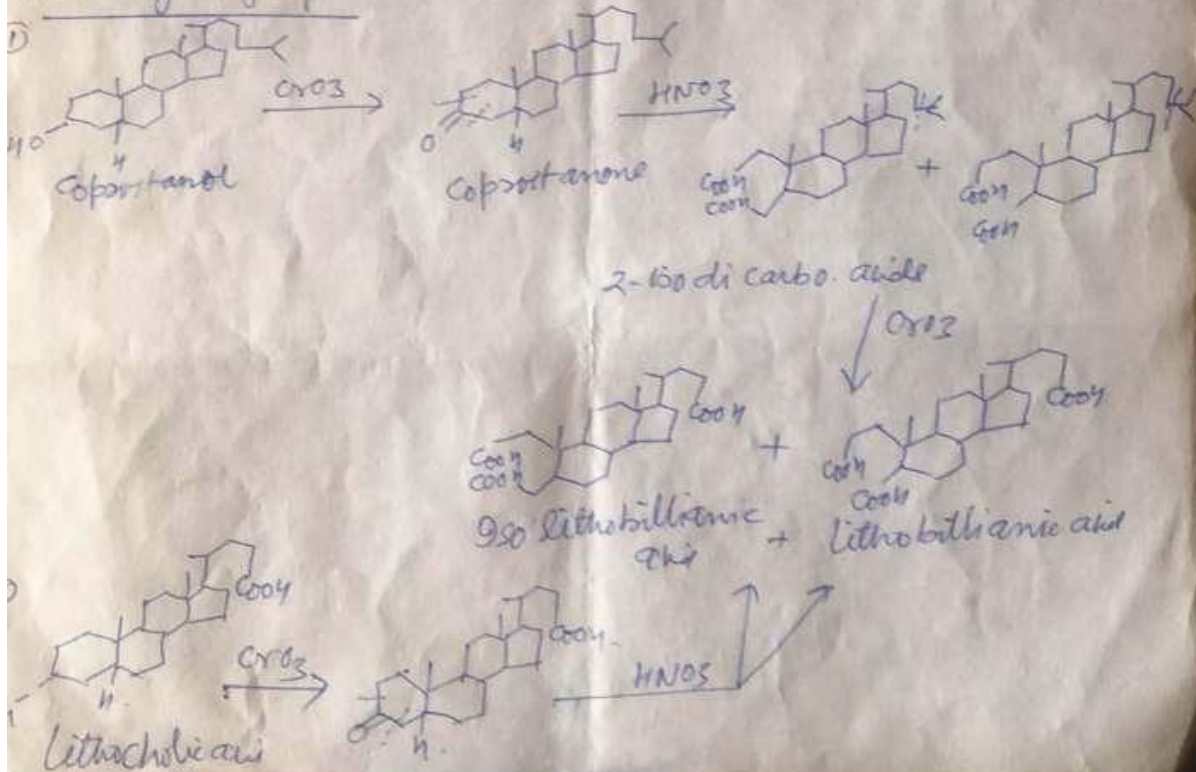


(iii) Lithocholic acid  $\longrightarrow$  5 $\beta$ -cholonic acid



The above reaction proves clearly that bile acids and steroids have common nucleus

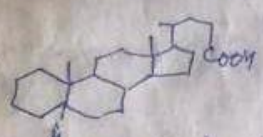
1) Position of OH group.



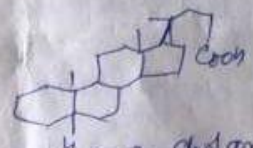
BILE ACIDS

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Secrets a golden viscous blue fluid, which is known as bile.  
 contains organic substances as well as inorganic ions, dissolved in it.  
 occurs as sodium salt of glycine or Taurine. Bile acids are  
 many derivatives of cholanic or allocholanic acid. Based on the number  
 of OH groups present in a molecule, these are divided as mono, di  
 tri-hydroxy derivatives.



5- $\alpha$ -cholanic acid  
 I (allo-cholanic acid)



5- $\beta$ -cholanic acid  
 II

Little bile acids are found to contain above basic substances, The  
 figuration of OH group is 2.

- Monohydroxy cholanic acid — lithocholic acid
- Dihydroxy cholanic acid —  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{chenodeoxycholic acid (30-50\%)} \\ \text{deoxycholic acid (5-25\%)} \end{array} \right.$
- Trihydroxy cholanic acid — cholic acid — (25-60%)

emistry of Bile Acids

Prove that Steroids and Bile Acids have Common nucleus.

- i) cholesterol  $\rightarrow$  5 $\beta$ -cholanic acid
- ii) cholesterol  $\rightarrow$  5 $\alpha$ -cholanic acid
- iii) lithocholic acid  $\rightarrow$  5 $\beta$ -cholanic acid

iv) cholesterol  $\rightarrow$  5 $\beta$ -cholanic acid

