# ORGANIC CHEMISTRY <br> ALKANE REACTIONS: HALOGENATION \& SUBSTITUTION 

## Alkane radical halogenation

This reaction requires an alkane, a halogen $\mathrm{X}_{2}\left(\mathrm{Br}_{2}, \mathrm{~F}_{2}, \mathrm{I}_{2}, \mathrm{~F}_{2}\right)$, and some radiation/photons ( $\mathrm{E}=\mathrm{hv}$ ).

Reaction: substitute a hydrogen atom (H) with a halogen atom (X).
Product: the halogen atom $(X)$ attaches to the most substituted carbon atom.


## PRACTICE PROBLEM 1

What are the unique products for the radical halogenation of pentane with $\mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ and UV radiation.



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Q: Which of the two products of the reaction above contains a chiral center?
A: 2-chloropentane because C2 is chiral.

## PRACTICE PROBLEM 2

Give the product(s) for the following alkane radical halogenation reactions.





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HCl



$+\quad \mathrm{HCl}$


$+$
HCl

## Nucleophilic substitutions ( $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}}$ )

This reaction requires an electrophile on the alkylhalide and a nucleophile.

Nucleophile: a group that is electronegative (negatively charged, an anion, a lone pair, etc.)
Electrophile: a group that is electron-deficient (positively charged, a cation, etc.)
Reaction: substitute an electrophile with a nucleophile on an alkylhalide ( $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{X}} \mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Y}} \mathrm{X}$, where $\left.\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{Br}, \mathrm{I}\right)$.


## PRACTICE PROBLEM 3

Give the products for the following nucleophilic substitution reactions.





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## PRACTICE PROBLEM 4

Fill in the red blank squares with the correct reagents or products to make 2-methylhexan-2-ol from 2-methylhexane.


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