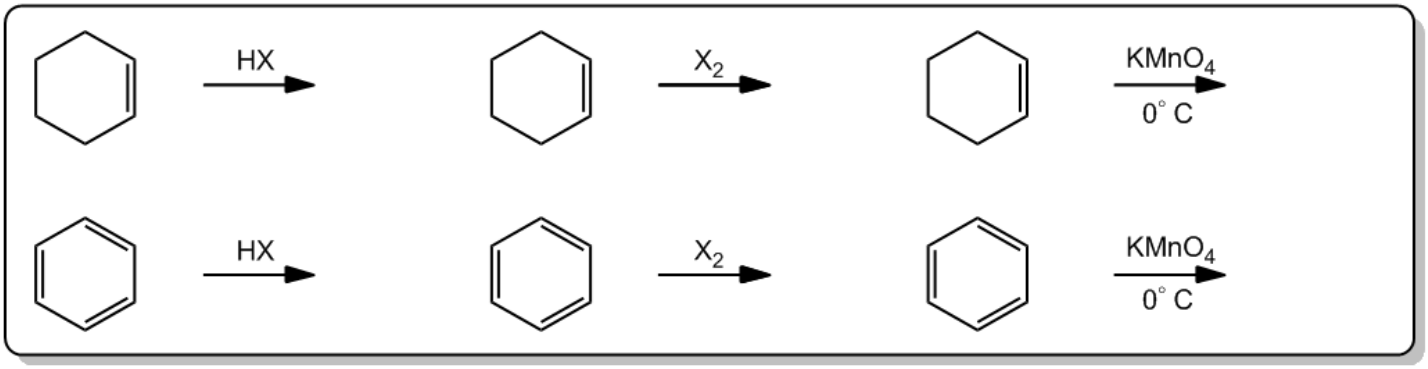
CONCEPT: AROMATICTY – INTRODUCTION

Aromatic compounds display an unusual stability for their high level of electron density.

- Their high level of unsaturation should make them ***extremely reactive***, however they are difficult to react with.

EXAMPLE: Three typical addition reactions with cyclohexene vs. benzene

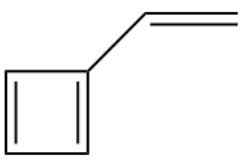


What is responsible for this crazy level of stability? _____

Categories of Aromatics:

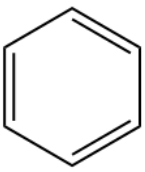
- _____: These compounds possess an unusually _____ level of stability
- _____: These compounds do not possess any unique level of stability or instability
- _____: These compounds possess an unusually _____ level of stability. Very reactive!

EXAMPLE: Differing aromaticity of conjugated trienes



Antiaromatic

Non-Aromatic



Aromatic