

## Nucleophilic Substitution vs Elimination Reaction

In general, substrates react in the following way:

$RCH_2X$  (primary)  $\longrightarrow$  Mostly  $S_N2$  substitution

$R_2CHX$  (secondary)  $\longrightarrow$   $S_N2$  substitution with nonbasic nucleophiles  
E2 elimination with strong bases

$R_3CX$  (tertiary)  $\longrightarrow$  Mostly E2 elimination  
( $S_N1$  substitution and E1 elimination in nonbasic solvents)