I- Chemistry of Halogenated Hydrocarbons III -Semester Lecture-37

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Aryl Halides

Aryl halides generally do not undergo SN^I or SN² reactions. An SN^I reaction would require ionization to form a aryl cation, which is less stable than most alkyl carbocations. An SN² reaction would require backside attack by the nucleophile, which is made impossible by the repulsion of the electrons in the aromatic ring.