

IV. O-Nitro Carbohydrates

Reaction of an *O*-nitro carbohydrate with a tri-*n*-butyltin radical or with ultraviolet light produces the corresponding alkoxy radical, an intermediate that is reactive enough to abstract a hydrogen atom from most C–H bonds. Also characterizing the reactivity of alkoxy radicals is rapid carbon–carbon bond cleavage to produce both a compound with a carbonyl group and a carbon-centered radical. Examples of these reactions are discussed in the next several sections.

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