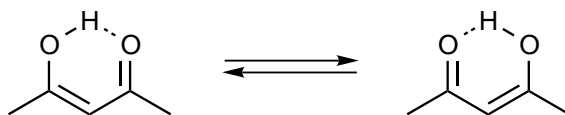


pseudopericyclic

A *concerted transformation* is pseudopericyclic if the primary changes in bonding occur within a cyclic array of atoms at one (or more) of which nonbonding and bonding atomic orbitals interchange roles. A formal example is the enol \rightarrow enol prototropy of pentane-2,4-dione (acetylacetone).



Because the π - and σ -atomic orbitals that interchange roles are orthogonal, such a reaction does not proceed through a fully *conjugated transition state* and is thus not a pericyclic reaction and therefore not governed by the rules that express *orbital symmetry* restrictions applicable to pericyclic reactions.

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