Baeyer-Villiger oxidation is the oxidation of a ketone to a carboxylic acid ester using a peroxycacid as the oxidizing agent.

**eg. 1:**

![Mechanism Diagram](image)

**Mechanism**

When the two ligands on the carbonyl carbon in the ketone are different, Baeyer-Villiger oxidation is regioselective. Of the two alpha carbons in the ketone, the one that can stabilize a positive charge more effectively, which is the more highly substituted one, migrates from carbon to oxygen preferentially.

**eg. 1:**
References


Contributors

- Gamini Gunawardena from the OChemPal site (Utah Valley University)