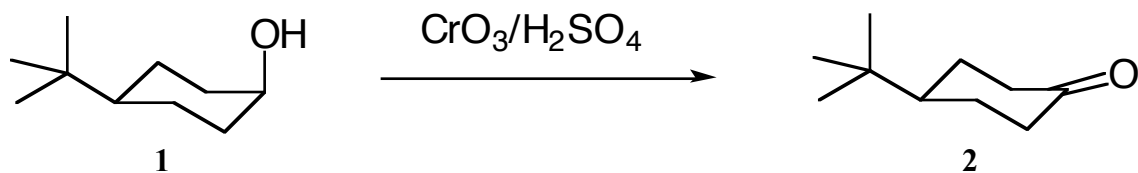


## Using the Passive Voice in Scientific Writing



Present Tense Active:

The oxidation of alcohol **1** with chromic acid produces ketone **2** in 85% yield.  
(base form of verb)

Present Tense Passive:

The synthesis of ketone **2** is carried out in 85% yield by chromic acid oxidation of alcohol **1**.  
(form of “be” + past participle)

Past Tense Active:

The oxidation of alcohol **1** with chromic acid gave ketone **2** in 85% yield.  
(past form of verb)

Past Tense Passive:

The synthesis of ketone **2** was accomplished in 85% yield by chromic acid oxidation of alcohol **1**.  
(past form of “be” + past participle)

Present Perfect Active:

The oxidation of alcohol **1** with chromic acid has produced ketone **2** in 85% yield.  
(have, has + past participle)

Present Perfect Passive:

The synthesis of ketone **2** has been carried out in 85% yield by the chromic acid oxidation of alcohol **1**.  
(have/has + form of “be” + past participle)