

## **Derivatives of Carboxylic Acid**

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#### **Nomenclature of Acid Halides**

- IUPAC: alkanoic acid  $\rightarrow$  alkanoyl halide
- Common: alkanic acid  $\rightarrow$  alkanyl halide

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{NH}_2 & \mathsf{O} \\ \mathsf{H}_2 - \mathsf{CH}_2 - \overset{\mathbb{H}}{\mathsf{C}} - \mathsf{CI} \end{array}$ 

3-aminopropanoyl chloride



4-nitropentanoyl chloride

#### **Nomenclature of Acid Anhydrides**

Acid anhydrides are prepared by dehydrating carboxylic acids



ethanoic methanoic anhydride

#### **Nomenclature of Esters**



 Esters occur when carboxylic acids react with alcohols





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 $(CH_3)_3$ 

methyl ethanoate

phenyl methanoate

t-butyl benzenecarboxylate

## Nomenclature of Amides



2° and 3° amides are N-substituted amides



2-methy-Nmethylpropanamide



N-ethyl-N-methylcyclobutanecarboxamide

O $H_3C- C - N$ H*N*-phenylethanamide

#### **Nucleophilic Acyl Substitution in Acid Derivatives**

In carboxylic acid derivatives, the acyl group (RCO) is bonded to a leaving group (-Y).



- The leaving group (-Y) becomes a base (Y:-). The acid derivative is reactive If the base formed is weak (unreactive). Weak bases are formed from good leaving groups.
- For the carboxylic acid derivatives shown, circle the leaving group. Then draw the structure of the base formed, give its pKb, and describe it as a strong or weak base.

acid derivative	leaving group	pKb	strength as base
:0: " R—C–C:	: Čl:	+21	non basic
:0: :0: R-C-Ö-C-R	:0: 	+9	weak base
:0: R_C_Ö_R	<b>:</b> Ö-R	-2	strong base
:0: R_C_NH₂	-: NH <sub>2</sub>	-21	v. strong base

#### **Nucleophilic Acyl Substitution in Acid Derivatives**



We will study the reaction of only a few nucleophiles with various carboxylic acid derivatives and we will see that the same kinds of reactions occur repeatedly.

- Hydrolysis: Reaction with water to produce a carboxylic acid
- Alcoholysis: Reaction with an alcohol to produce an ester
- Aminolysis: Reaction with ammonia or an amine to produce an amide
- *Grignard Reaction:* Reaction with an organometallic to produce a ketone or alcohol
- *Reduction:* Reaction with a hydride reducing agent to produce an aldehyde or alcohol

Draw the structures of the expected products of these nucleophilic substitution reactions, then circle the group that has replaced the leaving group (-Y)

:0: R-C-Y +	н-ён	hydrolysis	$\rightarrow$	R−C+Ö−H
:0: " R-C-Y +	H-ÖR	alcoholysis	$\rightarrow$	R−C+Ö−R
:0: R-C-Y +	H-NH <sub>2</sub>	aminolysis	$\rightarrow$	
:0: " R-C-Y +	R – MgX	Grignard reduction	$\rightarrow$	iÖ−H R−C+R iÖ−H
:0: R-C-Y +	LiAlH <sub>3</sub> — H	hydride reduction	$\rightarrow$	$(\mathbf{R}) = \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{H}$

#### **Chemistry of Acid Halides**



 In the same way that acid chlorides are produced by reacting a carboxylic acid with thionyl chloride (SOCl<sub>2</sub>), acid bromides are produced by reacting a carboxylic acid with phosphorus tribromide (PBr<sub>3</sub>).



 Most acid halide reactions occur by a nucleophilic acyl substitution mechanism. The halogen can be replaced by -OH to produce an acid, -OR to produce an ester, -NH<sub>2</sub> to produce an amide. Hydride reduction produces a 1° alcohol, and Grignard reaction produces a 3° alcohol.



#### **Reduction of Acid Chlorides to Alcohols**



1. With hydride : Acid chlorides are reduced by LiAlH<sub>4</sub> to produce 1° alcohols. The alcohols can of course be produced by reduction of the carboxylic acid directly.



 However, the reaction will stop at the aldehyde if exactly 1 equivalent of a weaker hydride is used, i.e., diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAH) at a low temperature (-78°C).

$$NO_2$$
  $VO_2$   $VO_2$ 

#### 2. with Grignards

 Grignard reagents react with acid chlorides producing 3° alcohols in which 2 alkyl group substituents are the same. The mechanism the 1st equivalent of Grignard reagent adds to the acid chloride, loss of Cl<sup>-</sup> from the tetrahedral intermediate yields a ketone, and a 2nd equivalent of Grignard immediately adds to the ketone to produce an alcohol.

$$\begin{array}{c} & \vdots \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\$$

#### **Practice Questions for Acid Chloride Reductions**

Draw the reagents that can be used to prepare the following products from an acid ٠ chloride by reduction with hydrides, Grignards and Gilman reagent. Draw all possible combinations.



- I: ethanoyl chloride

$$()_{2}^{2}CuLi$$
1.
1 equiv. -78°C
$$H_{3}CH_{2}-C-CI$$
2.
$$H_{3}O^{+}$$

- I: 1-phenyl-1-propanone
- c: ethyl phenyl ketone

or

- I: 2,2-dimethylpropanoyl chloride
- I: 2,2-dimethyl-1-propanol
- I: cyclohexanecarbonyl chloride
- I: cyclohexanecarbaldehyde

#### **Preparations of Acid Anhydrides**

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#### Preparation of Acid Anhydrides:

Dehydration of carboxylic acids as previously discussed is difficult and therefore limited to



A more versatile method is by nucleophilic acyl substitution of an acid chloride with a carboxylate anion. Both symmetrical and unsymmetrical anhydrides can be prepared this way.



• Draw all sets of reactants that will produce the anhydride shown with an acid chloride.



#### **Reactions of Acid Anhydrides**

 $\begin{array}{c} :o: \quad :o: \\ \parallel & \vdots \\ R - C - O - C - R \end{array} \qquad [ \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet ]$ 

The chemistry of acid anhydrides is similar to that of acid chlorides except that anhydrides react more slowly. Acid anhydrides react with HOH to form acids, with ROH to form esters, with amines to form amides, with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> to form 1° alcohols and with Grignards to form 3° alcohols. Note that ½ of the anhydride is wasted so that acid chlorides are more often used to acylate compounds. Acetic anhydride is one exception in that it is a very common acetylating agent.



#### **Practice Questions for Acid Anhydrides**



• Show the product of methanol reacting with phthalic anhydride



2-(methoxycarbonyl)benzoic acid

• Draw acetominophen; formed when p-hydroxyaniline reacts with acetic anhydride

$$HO \longrightarrow NH_2 + CH_3 - \overset{O}{\mathbb{C}} - O - \overset{O}{\mathbb{C}} - CH_3 \longrightarrow HO \longrightarrow N - \overset{O}{\mathbb{C}} - CH_3 + CH_3 - \overset{O}{\mathbb{C}} - OH$$

N-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acetamide

#### **Preparation of Esters**



1. S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction of a carboxylate anion with a methyl or 1° alkyl halide

 $: O: \qquad : O: \quad : O: \quad$ 

2. Fischer esterification of a carboxylic acid + alcohol + acid catalyst

$$\begin{array}{cccc} : O: & : O: \\ || \\ R - C - OH & + R' - OH & \longrightarrow & R - C - OR' \end{array}$$

3. Acid chlorides react with alcohols in basic media

#### **Reactions of Esters**



 Esters react like acid halides and anhydrides but are less reactive toward nucleophiles because the carbonyl C is less electrophilic. Esters are hydrolyzed by HOH to carboxylic acids, react with amines to amides, are reduced by hydrides to aldehydes, then to 1°alcohols, and react with Grignards to 3° alcohols.



### **Hydride Reduction of Esters**

Esters are easily reduced with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> to yield 1° alcohols. The mechanism is similar to that of acid chloride reduction. A hydride ion first adds to the carbonyl carbon temporarily forming a tetrahedral alkoxide intermediate. Loss of the –OR group reforms the carbonyl creating an aldehyde and an OR<sup>-</sup> ion. Further addition of H: <sup>-</sup> to aldehyde gives the 1° alcohol. Draw the mechanism and show all products.



## **Grignard Reduction of Esters**



 Esters react with 2 equivalents of Grignard reagent to yield 3° alcohols in which the 2 substituents are identical. The reaction occurs by the usual nucleophilic substitution mechanism to give an intermediate ketone, which reacts further with the Grignard to yield a 3° alcohol.



#### **Practice with Esters**



• What ester and Grignards will combine to produce the following

#### 2-phenyl-2-propanol

$$\begin{array}{c} CH_3 \\ C-OH \\ CH_3 \end{array} \leftarrow \begin{array}{c} C=O + & 1.2 CH_3 MgBr \\ OR & 2. H_3O^+ \end{array}$$

1,1-diphenylethanol



## **Chemistry of Amides**



• Amides are usually prepared by reaction of an acid chloride with an amine. Ammonia, monosubstituted and disubstituted amines (but not trisubstituted amines) all react.



## **Alcoholysis of Amides (to Esters)**



- Alcoholysis of amides occurs by the same acid catalyzed mechanism as acid hydrolysis except that the amido group of the amide is replaced with by an alcohol rather than water. Dry acid, e.g., HCl(g) or H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> must be used otherwise water would compete with the alcohol as the nucleophile producing some carboxylic acid product in place of an ester.
- The reaction will require a long reflux period because amides are weak electrophiles and alcohols are weak nucleophiles.



## **Hydride Reduction of Amides**

Amides are reduced by LiAlH<sub>4</sub>. The product is an amine rather than an alcohol. The amide carbonyl group is converted to a methylene group (-C=O → -CH2). This is unusual.



#### **Grignard Reduction of Amides**

 Grignards deprotonate 1° and 2° amides and are not reactive enough to add to the imide ion product. N-H protons are acidic enough (pKa = 17) to be abstracted by Grignards.



## **Chemistry of Nitriles**

- $R C = N^{+} N^{-}$
- The carbon atom in the nitrile group is electrophilic because it is bonded to an electronegative N atom and a  $\pi$  bond in the nitrile is easily broken, i.e., as if it were providing a leaving group.

#### Preparation of Nitrile:

Nitriles are easily prepared by S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction of cyanide ion (CN<sup>-</sup>) with methyl halides or a 1° alkyl halide. 2° alkyl halides also work but some E2 product also forms. 3° alkyl halides will result in mostly an alkene (E2) product instead of a nitrile. (pKb of CN<sup>-</sup> = 4.7)



Another method of preparing nitriles is by dehydration of a 1° amide using any suitable dehydrating agent such as SOCl<sub>2</sub>, POCl<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, or acetic anhydride. Initially, SOCl<sub>2</sub> reacts with the amide oxygen atom and elimination follows. This method is not limited by steric hindrance.



#### **Reactions of Nitriles**

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R \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow N: \qquad | \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare
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• Like carbonyl groups, the nitrile group is strongly polarized and the nitrile C is electrophilic. Nucleophiles thus attack yielding an sp2 hybridized imine anion.



 Nitriles are hydrolyzed by HOH to amides and subsequently to carboxylic acids, reduced by hydrides to amines or aldehydes, and by Grignards to ketones.



## Hydrolysis of Nitriles into Carboxylic Acids

 Nitriles are hydrolyzed in either acidic or basic aqueous solution to yield carboxylic acids plus ammonia or an amine.

 $\delta^{-}$ 

 $R - C \equiv N$ :



 In acid media, protonation of N produces a cation that reacts with water to give an imidic acid (an enol of an amide). Keto-enol isomerization of the imidic acid gives an amide. The amide is then hydrolyzed to a carboxylic acid and ammonium ion. It is possible to stop the reaction at the amide stage by using only 1 mole of HOH per mole of nitrile. Excess HOH forces carboxylic acid formation.



#### Hydrolysis of Nitriles into Carboxylate Salts

 In basic media, hydrolysis of a nitrile to a carboxylic acid is driven to completion by the reaction of the carboxylic acid with base. The mechanism involves nucleophilic attack by hydroxide ion on the electrophilic C producing a hydroxy imine, which rapidly isomerizes to an amide. Further hydrolysis yields the carboxylate salt.



• Show how the following transformation can be carried out without using a Grignard.



δ

R—C=N:

#### **Reduction of Nitriles**

 $R - C = N^{+} N^{-}$ 

<u>Alcoholysis of Nitriles</u> doesn't work. Alcohols are weak nucleophiles and nitriles are weak electrophiles

<u>Aminolysis of Nitriles</u> doesn't work. Amines are weak nucleophiles and nitriles are weak electrophiles.

#### **Reduction with Hydrides:**

Reduction of nitriles with 2 equivalents of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> gives 1° amines. LiAlH<sub>4</sub> is a very good nucleophile and can break 2  $\pi$  bonds forming a dianion.



• If less powerful DIBAH is used, only 1 equivalent of hydride can add. Subsequent addition of HOH yields the aldehyde.



#### **Reduction of Nitriles with Grignards**

- $R C = N^{+} N^{-}$
- Grignards add to nitriles giving intermediate imine anions which when hydrolyzed yield ketones. The mechanism is similar to hydride reduction except that the attacking nucleophile is a carbanion (R<sup>-</sup>). Grignards are not as strongly nucleophilic as LiAlH<sub>4</sub> and so can only add once – a dianion is not formed.

