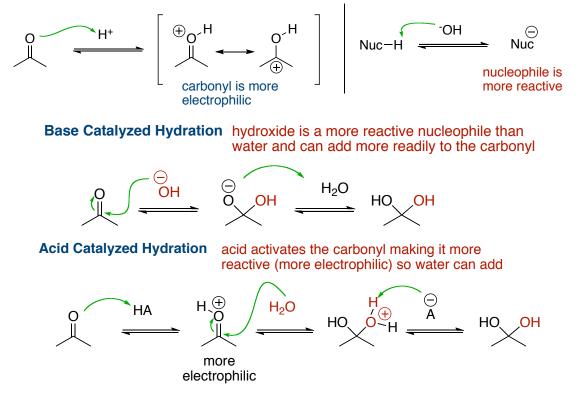


Chapter 19 - Aldehydes and Ketones: Nucleophilic Addition Reactions

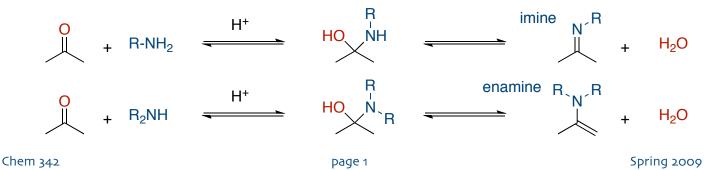
Mechanism for Hydration

The reaction of a carbonyl with water is very slow. It can be catalyzed by either acid or base. It is useful to understand the mechanism for this process because it relates to many reactions of carbonyl compounds. These mechanisms are worth learning as most of the catalyzed carbonyl chemistry is very similar. Strong nucleophiles like Hydride reagents (NaBH₄ or LiAlH₄) or Grignard reagents add to carbonyls without any activation. For weaker nucleophiles (H₂O, ROH, RNH₂, R₂NH, etc) either the carbonyl needs to be made electrophilic by protonation (acid catalysis) or the nucleophile needs to be made stronger by deprotonation (base catalysis).

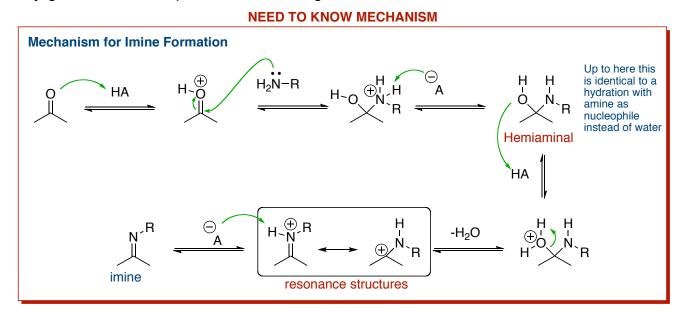


Addition of Amines - Imine and enamine formation

Primary amines (RNH_2) will react with aldehydes and ketones to form Imines. If the amine is a secondary amine (R_2NH) then enamines are formed. This is an acid-catalyzed reaction very similar to acid catalyzed hydration.

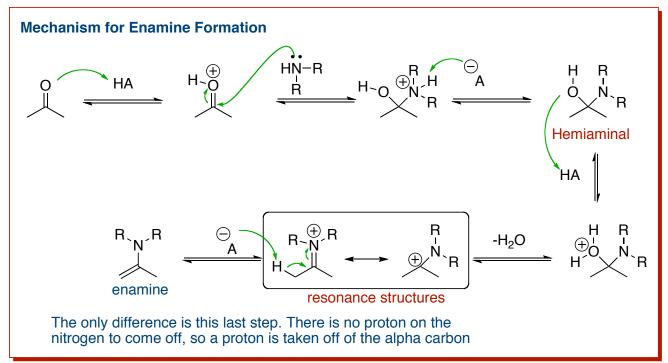


Imine formation begins just like the hydration of ketones. The acid protonates the carbonyl making it more electrophilic. The amine attacks the carbonyl carbon and the conjugate base takes the proton off of the nitrogen. This generates a hemiaminal. This is not very stable. If the acid protonates the OH group, it can leave, facilitated by the lone pair on nitrogen. The conjugate base then deprotonates the nitrogen to form the imine.



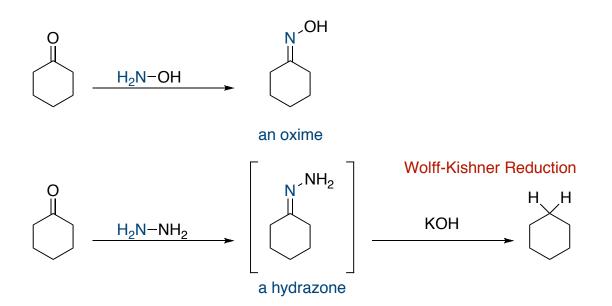
The mechanism for the formation of an enamine from a secondary amine is exactly the same up to the last deprotonation step. As there is no hydrogen on the nitrogen, the conjugate base deprotonates the alpha carbon instead, neutralizing the intermediate and forming the carboncarbon double bond.

NEED TO KNOW MECHANISM



Oximes and Hydrazines

Many kinds of amines participate in imine formation reactions including hydroxyl amine and hydrazine.



Daily Quiz

