## Chapter 18 Additions to the Carbonyl Groups

Nucleophilic substitution ( $S_N^2$  and  $S_N^1$ ) reaction occurs at *sp*3 hybridized carbons with electronegative leaving groups



Addition to the carbonyl group also occurs at the carbon of a carbonyl groups which is also electrophilic.



#### **Substitution vs. Addition**



## **18.1 General Mechanisms**



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#### **Possible both in basic and acidic conditions !**

![](_page_2_Figure_4.jpeg)

## **1. Mechanism under basic condition**

![](_page_3_Figure_1.jpeg)

- a. Nu: can be neutral
- b. If Nu: is a strong base, acidic solvents (H<sub>2</sub>O, alcohol) must be avoided. Then solvent without acidic proton such as ether is used. Acid is added after the anionic compound is formed (during workup).
- c. If Nu: is less basic, acidic solvents can be used.
- d. If Nu: is less nucleophilic, use acidic condition!

![](_page_4_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **Typical Features**

- a. Stereochemistry is not a concern (no way to determine whether syn or anti addition)
- b. Equilibrium favors the products or the reactants
  - $\Rightarrow$  strong Nu:, equilibrium is toward the product
  - $\Rightarrow$  Structural effect, which will be discussed

#### **Electrophilic additions to C=C vs to C=O**

![](_page_5_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### See p454-456

![](_page_5_Figure_3.jpeg)

regioselective non-stereoselective (Anti + syn addition)

> regioselective Stereoselective (Anti addition)

> regioselective Stereoselective (syn addition)

Nothing to do with regiochemistry and stereochemistry

Acid base reaction

### **18.2** Addition of Hydride; Reduction of Aldehydes and Ketones

Hydride  $\Rightarrow$  H $\oplus$   $\Rightarrow$  very strong nucleophile (pKa of H<sub>2</sub> = 35)

![](_page_6_Figure_2.jpeg)

This is a reduction, because hydrogen content increase Aldehyde  $\Rightarrow$  primary alcohol, Ketone  $\Rightarrow$  secondary alcohol Sources of hydride nucleophile: Lithium aluminium hydride (LiAIH<sub>4</sub>) or Sodium borohydride (NaBH<sub>4</sub>)

LiAlH<sub>4</sub> and NaBH<sub>4</sub> only react with carbonyls not C-C double bonds!

## LiAIH<sub>4</sub> vs NaBH<sub>4</sub>

 $LiAlH_4$  is very reactive  $\Rightarrow$  cannot use a solvent with acidic proton

alcohol  $\Rightarrow$  explosove!

Ether can be used as a solvent!

NaBH<sub>4</sub> is less reactive, therefore alcohols can be used as solvents

 $LiAlH_4 + 4 ROH \longrightarrow LiAl(OR)_4 + 4 H_2$ 

Highly exothermic

![](_page_8_Figure_0.jpeg)

# LiAlH<sub>4</sub> and NaBH<sub>4</sub> only react with carbonyls not C-C double bonds!

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **18.3 Addition of Water**

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### **Possible both in basic and acidic conditions !**

**Mechanism in Base** 

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

Acid and base is consumed in the first step and then regenerated in the last step, therefore it is a acid catalyzed or base catalyzed reaction

# The structure of the carbonyl compound on the equilibrium constant

**1. Inductive effect** 

![](_page_12_Figure_2.jpeg)

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e<sup>-</sup> w/drawing group: destabilize the aldehyde or ketone
e<sup>-</sup> donating group: stabilize the aldehyde or ketone

#### 2. Steric effect

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Larger substituent shift the equilibrium toward the reactant

![](_page_13_Figure_4.jpeg)

| Compound   | К                    | Comments   |
|--|----------------------|--|
| O<br>  <br>HCH<br>Formaldehyde   | $2 	imes 10^3$       | Formaldehyde has a large equilibrium constant for hydrate<br>formation because it has no bulky, electron-donating alkyl<br>groups. It is more than 99.9% in the hydrated form in<br>aqueous solution. The "formaldehyde" or formalin used to<br>preserve biological samples is actually a concentrated<br>solution of the hydrate in water. Formaldehyde itself<br>is a gas. |
| O<br>  <br>CH3CH<br>Acetaldehyde                                       | 1.3                  | The more hindered carbonyl carbon of acetaldehyde is less<br>reactive. Acetaldehyde is slightly more than 50% hydrated<br>in aqueous solution.   |
| O<br>  <br>CH <sub>3</sub> CCH <sub>3</sub><br>Acetone                 | 2 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> | Acetone, with an even more hindered carbonyl carbon, forms only a negligible amount of hydrate.  |
| О<br>  <br>СН <sub>3</sub> СН <sub>2</sub> СН<br>СН <sub>3</sub> О<br> | 0.71                 | As can be seen by comparing these two examples to<br>acetaldehyde, an increase in steric hindrance further from<br>the carbonyl carbon results in only a small decrease in the<br>equilibrium constant.  |
| CICH <sub>2</sub> CH   | 37                   | As can be seen by comparing these two examples to acetaldehyde, the inductive effect of chlorine shifts the equilibrium toward the hydrate. When three chlorines are present, the product, known as chloral hydrate, can be isolated (mp = $57^{\circ}$ C). It is a powerful hypnotic and is the   |
| Cl <sub>3</sub> CCH  | $2.8 	imes 10^{4}$   | active ingredient of a "Mickey Finn," or knockout drops.   |

**18.4 Addition of Hydrogen Cyanide** 

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$\operatorname{ClCH}_{2}^{\mathbb{C}}H + H - \mathbb{C} \equiv \mathbb{N} \xrightarrow[H_{2}O]{} \operatorname{ClCH}_{2}^{\mathbb{C}}H \qquad (95\%)$$

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K cyanohydrin formation > K hydrate formation

 $\Rightarrow$  CN<sup>-</sup> is stronger nucleophile than H2O

# Unfavorable equilibrium constant for ketones conjugated with benzene

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Reactant has resonance stabilization ⇒ reduced electrophilicity of the carbonyl carbon

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

## **18.5 Preparation and Properties of Organometallic Nucleophiles**

**Organometallic Nu:**  $R-M(metal) \equiv R^{\delta}M^{\delta+}$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  R is more electronegative

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### **Examples**

#### **1. Acetylide anion** (see Section 10.12): 1-alkyne + sodium amide

 $\Rightarrow$  Hydrogens bonded to  $sp^3$  and  $sp^2$  C's cannot be removed because not acidic enough (*sp*: pKa ~25, *sp*<sup>2</sup>: pKa ~45, *sp*<sup>3</sup> pKa ~50)

$$R - C \equiv C \stackrel{\frown}{H} + \stackrel{\frown}{:} \stackrel{\bullet}{NH}_2 \longrightarrow R - C \equiv \stackrel{\frown}{C} \stackrel{\bullet}{:} + \stackrel{\bullet}{NH}_3$$

2. Grignard reagent (organometallic halides)

![](_page_18_Figure_5.jpeg)

**Reactivity of R-X** 

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R-I > R-Br > R-CI, R-F is not used  $\Rightarrow$  see leaving group property

#### 3. Organolithium reagent

 $\text{R-X} + 2\text{Li} \rightarrow \text{RLi} + \text{LiX}$ 

#### **Chemical behavior of organometallic reagent**

Very close to carbanion and strong base, although M-R is a covalent bond(?)

Therefore it react rapidly with even with weak acids

 $\Rightarrow$  avoid compounds with acidic proton (-OH, -NH,  $\equiv$ C-H...)

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Therefore solvents for the reactions should be very dry !

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **18.6 Addition of Organometallic Nucleophiles**

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

- 1. This reaction is conducted in basic condition
- 2. As -R: is very strong nucleophile the reaction is irreversible.
- In the protonation step, use weaker acids such as NH<sub>4</sub>CI (pK<sub>a</sub>~ 9) strong acid:acid catalyzed elimination rxn

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(see ch9. P378, next page)
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 $\Rightarrow$ 

#### Examples See p 379

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Grignard reagent** $\Rightarrow$ **formation of alcohols**

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_25_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

r Bronnonapina

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Organolithium reagent** $\Rightarrow$ **formation of alcohols**

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

# **18.7** Addition of Phosphorus Ylides; The Wittig Reaction

- $\Rightarrow$  Method for the synthesis of alkene
- $\Rightarrow$  1979 Nobel prize Georg Wittig

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

## Ylide is stabilized by

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

- 1. Inductive effect of the positive P atom
- 2. Delocalization of the e<sup>-</sup> pairs by the overlap

## **Mechanism of the Wittig Reaction**

#### $\Rightarrow$ Addition-elimination reaction

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Examples of the Wittig Reaction**

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_3.jpeg)

## **18.8 Addition of Nitrogen Nucleophiles**

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### It is Addition + Elimination.

#### Optimum $pH = 4 \sim 6$

If too acidic, the amine nucleophile is protonated.

If too basic, the concentration of the protonated carbinolamine is low.

#### Mechanism for the addition of an amine to an aldehyde to form an imine

At low pH, this amine is protonated.

Then the conc. of Nu: is very low

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

Optimum pH = 4 ~ 6 !

At higher pH, the conc. of  $H_3O^+$  is low. Then the conc. of the protonated carbinolamine is low

The intermediate is called a **carbinol**amine. (Most of the other addition

#### C=O bond is stronger than C=N bond. To shift the equilibrium, remove the water!

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

Equilibrium favors the product, because the product is very stable (resonance stabilization  $\rightarrow$  aromatic ring formation)

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Until now, the rxn of primary amines, How about secondary amines? $\rightarrow$ Enamines are formed

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Wolff-Kishner reduction (17.13); carbonyl groups can be<br/>converted to $CH_2$ groups $\stackrel{0}{l}_{CCH_2CH_3}$ $\stackrel{0}{cH_2CH_2CH_3}$

![](_page_38_Figure_1.jpeg)

(82%)

# Another reducing agent → sodium cyanoborohydride

Sodium cyanoborohydride is less nucleophilic than sodium borohydride.  $\rightarrow$  CN is electro withdrawing group

Therefore it do not react with aldehyde and ketone.

![](_page_39_Figure_3.jpeg)

## **18.9 Addition of Alcohol**

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Figure_0.jpeg)

The equilibrium does not favor the product, because alcohols are weak nucleophile.

42

## To shift the equilibrium

- 1. Electro withdrawing groups in the reactant  $\rightarrow$  destabilize the reactant
- 2. The alcohol nucleophile is part of the same molecule, then form **5- or 6-membered rings**
- 3. **Remove the water** using acids such as TsOH
- 4. Use difunctional alcohol or dithiol  $\rightarrow$ intramolecular reaction

## The alcohol nucleophile is part of the same molecule, then form 5- or 6-membered rings

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Use difunctional alcohol or dithiol $\rightarrow$ intramolecular reaction

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

## A major use of acetals (cyclic) $\rightarrow$ protective groups for aldehyde and ketone

$$\begin{array}{cccc} OH & O & O & O \\ | & & & \\ CH_3 CCH_2 CH_2 CH_2 CCH_3 & \longleftarrow & CH_3 CCH_3 + BrMgCH_2 CH_2 CH_2 CCH_3 \\ CH_3 & & \\ \end{array}$$

6-Hydroxy-6-methyl-2-heptanone (synthetic target) This reagent cannot be prepared because the carbonyl group and the Grignard reagent are incompatible.

An attempt to form a Grignard reagent from 5-bromo-2-pentanone is doomed to failure because the Grignard will react with the carbonyl group.

Therefore, the carbonyl group is first protected as an ethylene glycol acetal.

Because the acetal group does not react with Grignard reagents (or other basic or nucleophilic reagents), the Grignard reagent can be prepared from this compound. The acetal is being used as a protecting group for the carbonyl group.

![](_page_46_Figure_3.jpeg)

6-Hydroxy-6-methyl-2-heptanone

When the reaction is worked up with aqueous acid, not only is the alkoxide group protonated but the acetal is also hydrolyzed back to the ketone and ethylene glycol. Easy removal is an important feature of protecting groups. 3 This Grignard reagent reacts like any other Grignard reagent.

## **18.10** Conjugated Addition

#### $\rightarrow \alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compound

![](_page_47_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

## 1,2-addition or 1,4-addition

- 1. Highly reactivenucleophile: Grignard reagent  $\rightarrow$  1,2 additon
- 2. Less reactive nucleophile: cyanide, amine  $\rightarrow$  1,4 additon

![](_page_49_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Hydride nucleophile

- 1.  $LiAlH_4$ : 1,2 additon > 1,4 additon
- 2. NaBH<sub>4</sub>: 1,2 additon < 1,4 additon

![](_page_51_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **18.11 Synthesis**

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_0.jpeg)

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55

![](_page_55_Figure_0.jpeg)

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56

| $\begin{array}{c} O \\ \parallel \\ CH_3CH + Nu \end{array} \longrightarrow$ |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Nucleophile  | Product                                  | Comments   |  |
| H<br>H<br>H<br>H<br>H<br>H   | ОН<br> <br>СН <sub>3</sub> СН<br> <br>Н  | Section 18.2<br>Reaction with NaBH <sub>4</sub> or LiAlH <sub>4</sub> proceeds to stage 1 (see<br>Figure 18.7) and follows the basic conditions mechanism.   |  |
| H <sub>2</sub> O   | OH<br> <br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH<br> <br>OH | Section 18.3<br>This reaction proceeds to stage 1.<br>Hydrates usually cannot be isolated because of the<br>unfavorable equilibrium.<br>The reaction follows either the acidic or basic conditions<br>mechanism. |  |
| HCN  | OH<br> <br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH<br> <br>CN | Section 18.4<br>This reaction proceeds to stage 1 and follows the basic<br>conditions mechanism.   |  |
| R—MgX  | OH<br> <br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH<br> <br>R  | Section 18.6<br>Reaction with organometallic nucleophiles (Grignard<br>reagents and organolithium reagents) proceeds to stage 1<br>and follows the basic conditions mechanism.                                   |  |
| $Ph_{3}P - C:-$  | R R'<br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH               | <b>Section 18.7</b><br>The Wittig reaction proceeds to stage 2 and follows the basic conditions mechanism.   |  |
| RNH <sub>2</sub>   | NR<br>I<br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH            | Section 18.8<br>Imine formation proceeds to stage 2 with primary amines.<br>Addition follows the basic conditions mechanism, but acid<br>is needed to remove the oxygen.<br>Secondary amines give enamines.      |  |
| ROH  | OR<br> <br>CH <sub>3</sub> CH<br> <br>OR | Section 18.9<br>Acetals are formed at stage 3. Thiols react in a very<br>similar manner.<br>The unfavorable equilibrium must be driven to products.<br>The reaction follows the acidic conditions mechanism.     |  |

All of these reactions begin this way. The electrophile (E) is usually hydrogen, but in the case of the Wittig reaction, it is phosphorus. Under basic conditions, Nu adds first. Under acidic conditions, E (a proton) adds first.

The reaction stops at stage I if the original Nu has only one unshared pair of electrons (CN<sup>-</sup>, hydrides, organometallic nucleophiles).

If the nucleophile has a second pair of electrons (or can generate one), then the oxygen is eliminated. The O must be protonated first, unless E is phosphorus.

![](_page_57_Figure_3.jpeg)

The reaction proceeds to stage 3 for alcohols and thiols as nucleophiles.

The reaction stops at stage 2 if this species is uncharged (Wittig reaction, imines).

When the doubly bonded Nu has a positive charge, the reaction proceeds further. If Nu is a secondary amine, a proton is lost to form an enamine. If Nu is ROH or RSH, a second Nu attacks.