# Chapter 21 Carboxylic Acids and Their Derivatives

# **Review of Concepts**

Fill in the blanks below. To verify that your answers are correct, look in your textbook at the end of Chapter 21. Each of the sentences below appears verbatim in the section entitled *Review of Concepts and Vocabulary*.

- Treatment of a carboxylic acid with a strong base yields a \_\_\_\_\_\_ salt.
- The  $pK_a$  of most carboxylic acids is between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Using the **Henderson-Hasselbalch equation**, it can be shown that carboxylic acids exist primarily \_\_\_\_\_\_ at **physiological pH**.
- Electron-\_\_\_\_\_\_ substituents can increase the acidity of a carboxylic acid.
- When treated with aqueous acid, a nitrile will undergo \_\_\_\_\_, yielding a carboxylic acid.
- Carboxylic acids are reduced to \_\_\_\_\_ upon treatment with lithium aluminum hydride or borane.
- Carboxylic acid derivatives exhibit the same \_\_\_\_\_\_ state as carboxylic acids.
- Carboxylic acid derivatives differ in reactivity, with \_\_\_\_\_\_ being the most reactive and \_\_\_\_\_\_ the least reactive.
- When drawing a mechanism, avoid formation of \_\_\_\_\_\_ charges in acidic conditions, and avoid formation of \_\_\_\_\_\_ charges in alkaline conditions.
- When a nucleophile attacks a carbonyl group to form a tetrahedral intermediate, always reform the carbonyl if possible, but never expel \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_.
- When treated with an alcohol, acid chlorides are converted into \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- When treated with ammonia, acid chlorides are converted into \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- When treated with a \_\_\_\_\_ reagent, acid chlorides are converted into alcohols with the introduction of two alkyl groups.
- The reactions of anhydrides are the same as the reactions of \_\_\_\_\_\_ except for the identity of the leaving group.
- When treated with a strong base followed by an alkyl halide, carboxylic acids are converted into \_\_\_\_\_.
- In a process called the **Fischer esterification**, carboxylic acids are converted into esters when treated with an \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the presence of \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- Esters can be hydrolyzed to yield carboxylic acids by treatment with either aqueous base or aqueous \_\_\_\_\_. Hydrolysis under basic conditions is also called \_\_\_\_\_.
- When treated with lithium aluminum hydride, esters are reduced to yield \_\_\_\_\_\_. If the desired product is an aldehyde, then \_\_\_\_\_\_ is used as a reducing agent instead of LAH.
- When treated with a \_\_\_\_\_\_ reagent, esters are reduced to yield alcohols, with the introduction of two alkyl groups.
- When treated with excess LAH, amides are converted into \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nitriles are converted to amines when treated with \_\_\_\_\_.

# **Review of Skills**

Fill in the blanks and empty boxes below. To verify that your answers are correct, look in your textbook at the end of Chapter 21. The answers appear in the section entitled *SkillBuilder Review*.

#### 21.1 Drawing the Mechanism of a Nucleophilic Acyl Substitution Reaction



#### 21.2 Interconverting Functional Groups





21.3 Choosing the Most Efficient C-C Bond-Forming Reaction

# **Review of Reactions**

Identify the reagents necessary to achieve each of the following transformations. To verify that your answers are correct, look in your textbook at the end of Chapter 21. The answers appear in the section entitled *Review of Reactions*.







# **Solutions**

#### 21.1.

a) IUPAC name = pentanedioic acid Common name = glutaric acid

b) IUPAC name = butanoic acid Common name = butyric acid

c) IUPAC name = benzene carboxylic acid Common name = benzoic acid

d) IUPAC name = butanedioic acid Common name = succinic acid

e) IUPAC name = ethanoic acid Common name = acetic acid

f) IUPAC name = methanoic acid Common name = formic acid







- a) 3,3,4,4-tetramethylhexanoic acid
- b) 2-propylpentanoic acid
- c) (S)-2-amino-3-phenylpropanoic acid

**21.4.** The compound below is more acidic because its conjugate base is resonance stabilized. The conjugate base of the other compound is not resonance stabilized.



### 21.5.

The conjugate base is resonance stabilized, with the negative charge spread over two oxygen atoms, just like with carboxylic acids:



**21.6.** *meta*-Hydroxyacetophenone should be less acidic than *para*-hydroxyacetophenone, because in the conjugate base of the former, the negative charge is spread over only one oxygen atoms (and three carbon atoms). In contrast, the conjugate base of *para*-hydroxyacetophenone has the negative charge spread over two oxygen atoms (more stable).

21.7.  $\dot{O}$  H  $\dot{O}$   $\dot{O}$   $\dot{H}$   $\dot{O}$   $\dot{O}$   $\dot{O}$   $\dot{H}$   $\dot{O}$   $\dot{O}$ 

**21.8.** The conjugate base predominates under these conditions:  $\frac{[\text{conjugate base}]}{[\text{acid}]} = 10^{(\text{pH} - \text{pK}_a)} = 10^{(5.76 - 4.76)} = 10^1 = 10$ 

### 21.9.

a) 2,3-dichlorobutyric acid is the most acidic and 3,4-dimethylbutyric acid is the least acidic.

b) 2,2-dibromopropionic acid is the most acidic and 3-bromopropionic acid is the least acidic.

#### 21.10.

a) Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
b) Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
c) CH<sub>3</sub>Cl, AlCl<sub>3</sub> followed by Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
d) NaCN, followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, heat or Mg, followed by CO<sub>2</sub>, followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>
e) Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
f) Mg, followed by CO<sub>2</sub>, followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>

#### 21.11. 1) Mg 2) CO<sub>2</sub> Br OH 3) H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> 4) LAH 5) H<sub>2</sub>O a) 1) Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O 2) LAH 3) H<sub>2</sub>O ОH 1) NBS, heat 2) NaOH b)

# 21.12.

- a) propionic anhydride
- b) *N*,*N*-diphenyl-propionamide
- c) dimethylsuccinate
- d) N-ethyl-N-methylcyclobutanecarboxamide
- e) butyronitrile
- f) propyl butyrate
- g) succinic anhydride
- h) methyl benzoate
- i) phenyl acetate























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# 21.21.





21.24.







21.26.









21.29.













21.31.



**21.33.** Four steps: 1) oxidize to a carboxylic acid, 2) convert into an acid halide, 3) convert into an amide, and 4) reduce to give an amine.



21.35.













**21.38.** The signal at  $1740 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  indicates that the carbonyl group is not conjugated with the aromatic ring (it would be at a lower wavenumber if it was conjugated),







### 21.40.

- a) The second carboxylic acid moiety is electron withdrawing, and stabilizes the conjugate base that is formed when the first proton is removed.
- b) The carboxylate ion is electron rich and it destabilizes the conjugate base that is formed when the second proton is removed.

Θ  $\Theta_{\mathbf{0}}$ c)

d) The number of methylene groups (CH<sub>2</sub>) separating the carboxylic acid moieties is greater in succinic acid than in malonic acid. Therefore, the inductive effects are not as strong.

# 21.41.

- a) cyclopentanecarboxylic acid
- b) cyclopentanecarboxamide
- c) benzoyl chloride
- d) ethyl acetate
- e) hexanoic acid
- f) pentanoyl chloride
- g) hexanamide

# 21.42.

- a) acetic anhydride
- b) benzoic acid
- c) formic acid
- d) oxalic acid

21.43.





**21.47.** As discussed in Chapter 19, the methoxy group is electron donating via resonance, but electron withdrawing via induction. The resonance effect is stronger, but only occurs when the methoxy group is in an *ortho* or *para* position.











# 21.50.









21.52.



### 21.53.

- a) NaOH, followed by Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
- b) NaCN followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>
- c) NaOH, followed by Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, followed by SOCl<sub>2</sub>
- d) NaCN, followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, followed by SOCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by xs NH<sub>3</sub>
- e) NaOH, followed by Na<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, followed by SOCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by xs NH<sub>3</sub>
- f) NaCN followed by H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, followed by [H<sup>+</sup>], EtOH (with removal of water)









**21.56.** A methoxy group is electron donating, thereby decreasing the electrophilicity of the ester moiety. A nitro group is electron withdrawing, thereby increasing the electrophilicity of the ester group.







21.59.



21.60.



21.61.

a)





 $\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{OH} \\ \mathsf{Ph} & \\ \mathsf{Ph} & \\ \mathsf{Ph} \\ \mathsf{Ph} \end{array}$ 





21.64.





phenylalanine

aspartic acid

**21.65.** a)

















N` H

|| 0



**21.66.** The three chlorine atoms withdraw electron density via induction. This effect renders the carbonyl group more electrophilic.





21.70.









OH



21.73.

21.74.







 $\overline{+}$ 









ΗÓ





Compound A



- **21.78.** An IR spectrum of butyric acid should have a broad signal between 2500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3600 cm<sup>-1</sup>. An IR spectrum of ethyl acetate will not have this signal.
- **21.79.** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *para*-chlorobenzaldehyde should have a signal at approximately 10 ppm corresponding to the aldehydic proton. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of benzoyl chloride should not have a signal near 10 ppm.

21.80.



**21.81.** If the oxygen atom of the OH group in the starting material is an isotopic label, then we would expect the label to be incorporated into the ring of the product:



**21.82.** The lone pair of the nitrogen atom in this case is participating in resonance and is less available to donate electron density to the carbonyl group. As a result, the carbonyl group is more electrophilic than the carbonyl group of a regular amide (where the lone pair contributes significant electron density to the carbonyl group). Also, when this compound functions as an electrophile in a nucleophilic acyl substitution reaction, the leaving group is particularly stable because it is an aromatic anion. With a good leaving group, this compound more closely resembles the reactivity of an acid halide than an amide.

# 21.83.

a) DMF, like most amides, exhibits restricted rotation about the bond between the carbonyl group and the nitrogen atom. This restricted rotation causes the methyl groups to be in different electronic environments. They are not chemically equivalent, and will therefore produce two different signals (in addition to the signal from the other proton in the compound). Upon treatment with excess LAH followed by water, DMF is reduced to an amine that does not exhibit restricted rotation. As such, the methyl groups are now chemically equivalent and will together produce only one signal.

b) Restricted rotation causes the methyl groups to be in different electronic environments. As a result, the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of DMF should have three signals.