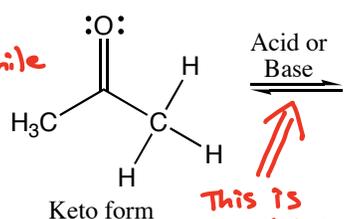


Keto-Enol Tautomerization vs. Enolate Resonance

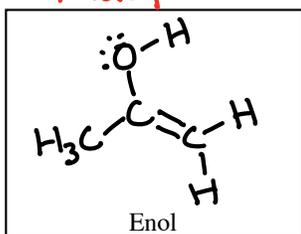
Keto-Enol Tautomerization

Nucleophile

Electrophile

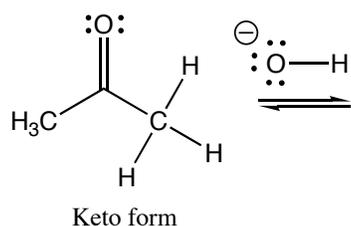


This is an equilibrium

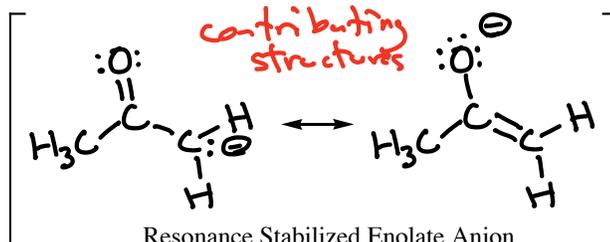


⇌ These are both neutral!

Enolate Resonance



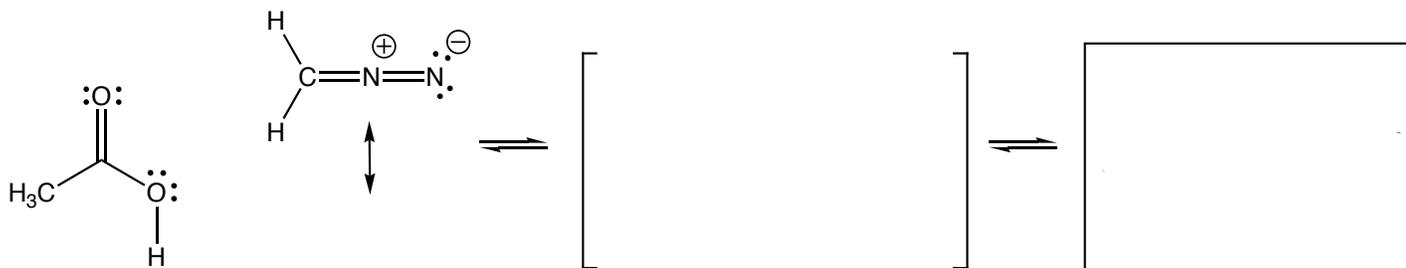
α -hydrogen $pK_a = 18-20$



Strong nucleophile

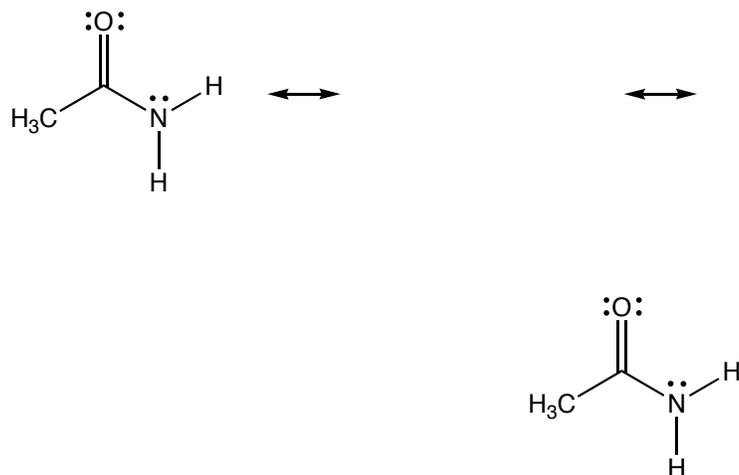
Full \ominus

Diazomethane reaction

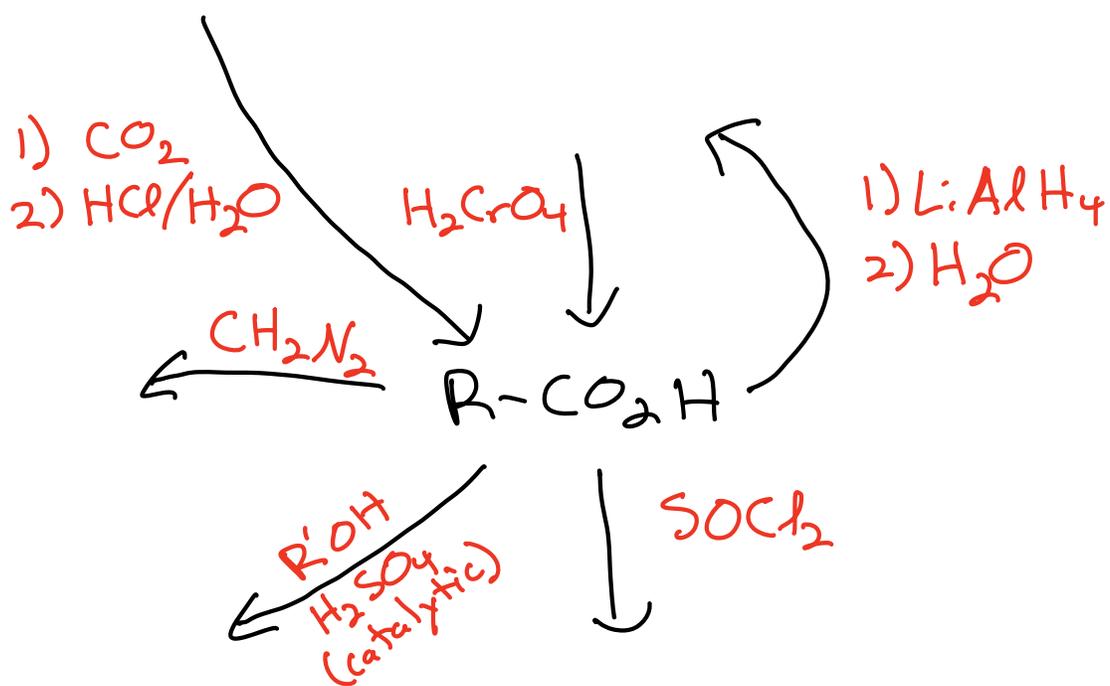


Diazomethane contributing structures

Amide Resonance VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!

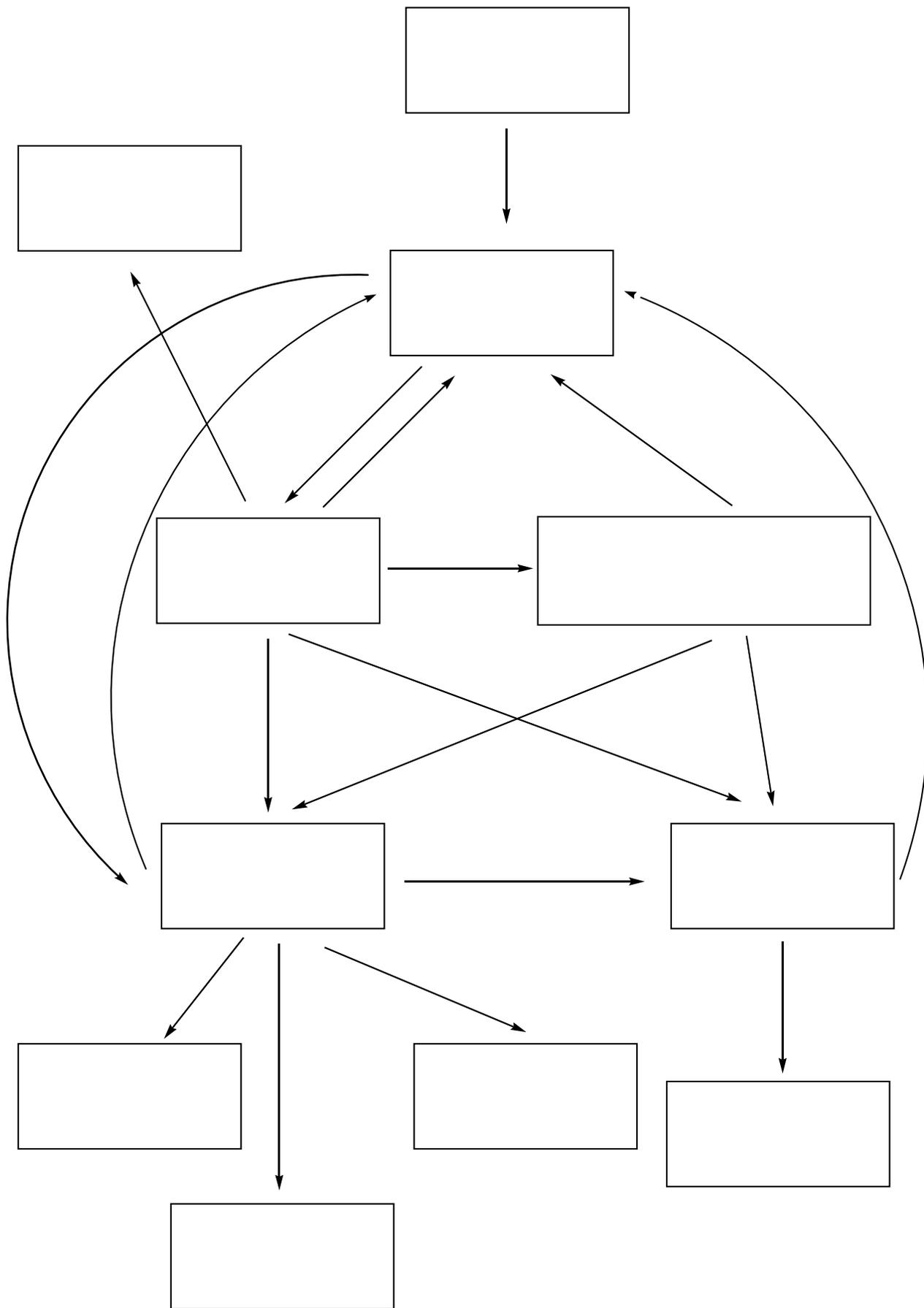


Summary of Carboxylic Acid Reactions →



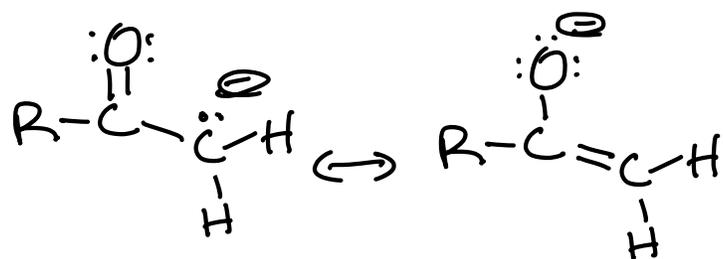
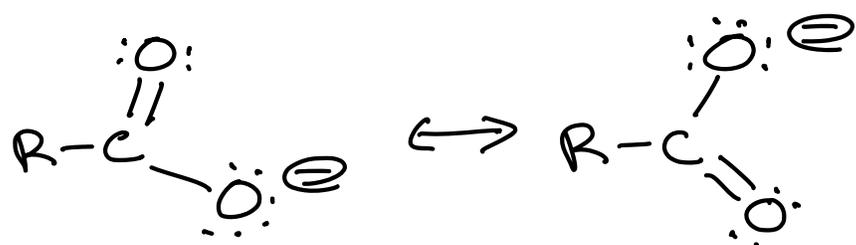
Carboxylic Acid Derivatives

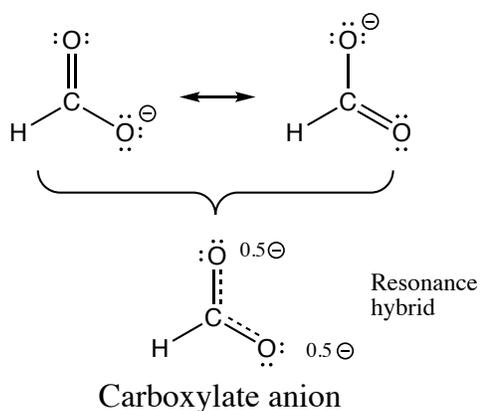
Interconversion of Carboxylic Acid Derivatives



Key idea →

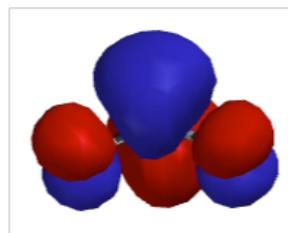
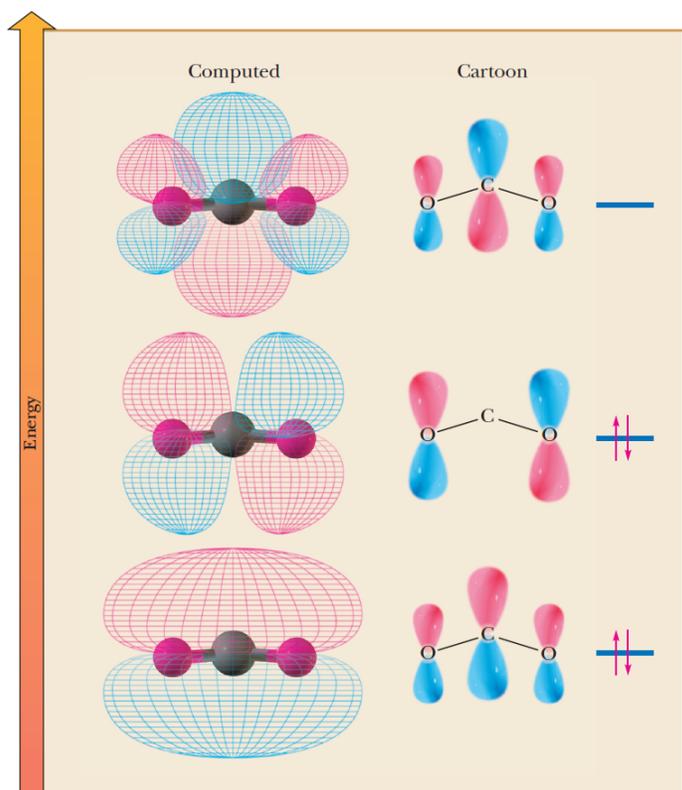
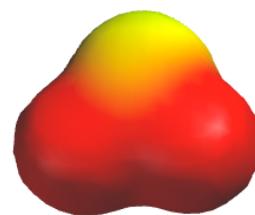
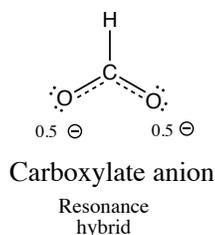
Resonance contributing structures you
have seen before:



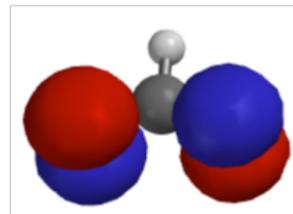


A common situation, and the one many resonance contributing structures describe, occurs when three 2p orbitals combine on adjacent atoms. A good example is the carboxylate anion. When three adjacent 2p orbitals interact (we add the three 2p orbital wave functions $\Psi_{C2pz} + \Psi_{O2pz} + \Psi_{O2pz}$), three new molecular orbitals are produced; a low energy bonding “pi-way”, a non-bonding orbital and an antibonding orbital as shown below. This pattern of three molecular orbitals is generally the same whenever three 2p orbitals interact even if there are different atoms involved, for example the enolate ion or allyl cation. There are four electrons in the pi system of the carboxylate anion, (you can see this by looking at either of the contributing structures; two electrons from the pi bond and two from the third lone pair on the negatively charge O atom). Note the non-bonding orbital contains the electron density of two electrons that are paired, do NOT think of it as having one unpaired electron on each O atom. I know, weird, but remember it is best to think of bonding electrons as waves, not particles. Note the electron density on only the O atoms of the non-bonding orbital explains why the negative charge is localized on the O atoms in the carboxylate anion.

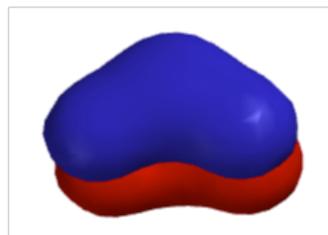
$$\Psi_{C2pz} + \Psi_{O2pz} + \Psi_{O2pz}$$



Antibonding orbital



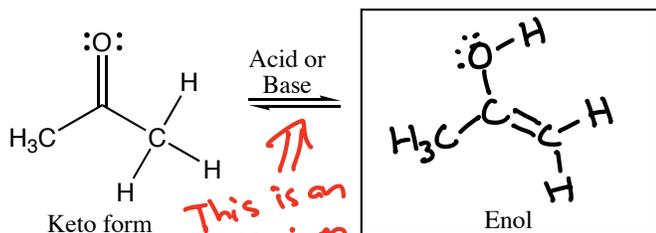
Non-bonding orbital



“π-way” orbital

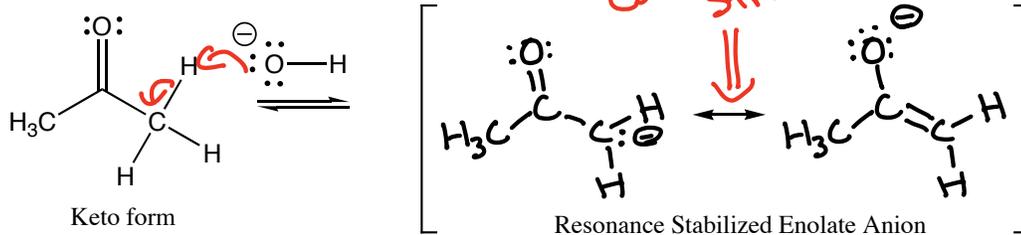
Keto-Enol Tautomerization vs. Enolate Resonance

Keto-Enol Tautomerization



Both the keto and enol molecules are Neutral!

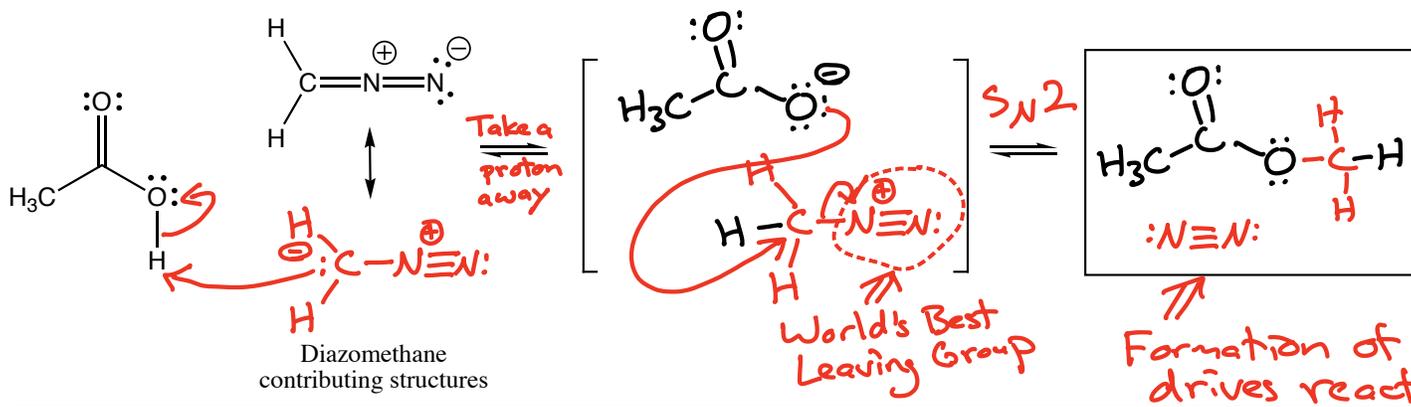
Enolate Resonance



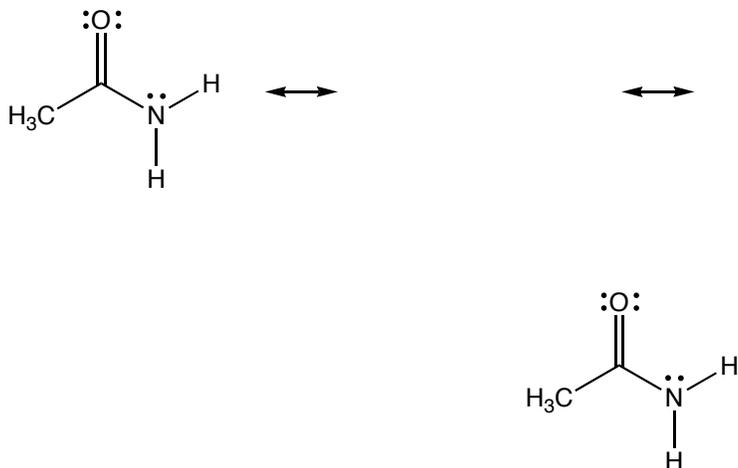
Full \ominus

α -hydrogen $\text{p}K_a = 18-20$

Diazomethane reaction

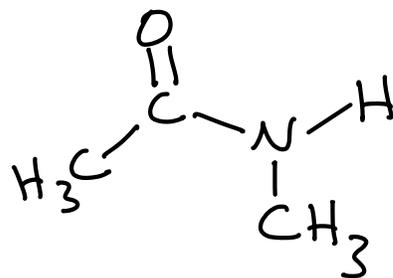
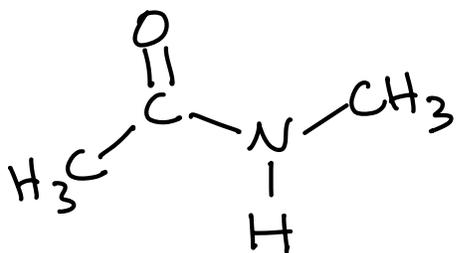


Amide Resonance VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!



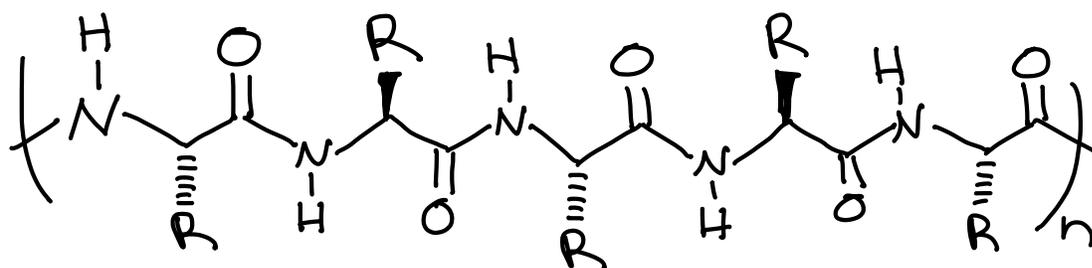
What does all of this mean for amide bonds?

1) The C-N bond of amides acts like a C=C bond so there can be cis and trans isomers!



2) The contributing structures verify there is more negative charge on O atom of amides than on the O atom of other carbonyls.

3) The C-N bond of amides does not rotate at room temperature.



We inherit DNA sequences from our parents →

The rigidity of the protein backbone due to the amide bonds is enough to provide for the stable folded three-dimensional structures!

Organic Chemistry is the study of carbon-containing molecules. This class has two points.

The first point of the class is to understand the organic chemistry of living systems. We will teach you how to think about and understand the most amazing molecules on the planet!!

You will learn how MRI scans work. 1/14/26

You will learn the basic principles of pharmaceutical science and how many drugs work. 1/21/26

You will learn about the special bond that holds carbohydrates such as glucose in six-membered rings, connects carbohydrate monomers together to make complex carbohydrate structures and is critical to DNA and RNA structure. 2/2/26

You will learn how soap is made from animal fat and how it works to keep us clean.

You will learn the important structural reason proteins, the most important molecular machines in our bodies, can support the chemistry of life.

You will learn how important antibiotics like penicillins work, including ones that make stable covalent bonds as part of their mode of action.

You will learn why carrots are orange and tomatoes are red.

You will learn the very cool reason that the DNA and RNA bases are entirely flat so they can stack in the double helix structure.

You will learn how energy drinks work.

You will learn even more about why fentanyl is such a devastating part of the opioid problem and how Naloxone is an antidote for a fentanyl overdose.

You will learn even more details about why Magic Johnson is still alive, decades after contracting HIV, and how the same strategy is being used to fight COVID.

You will learn about the surprising chemical reason the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines elicit strong immune responses.

The second point of organic chemistry is the synthesis of complex molecules from simpler ones by making and breaking specific bonds, especially carbon-carbon bonds.

You will learn how carbon-metal bonds lead to new carbon-carbon bonds. 1/21/26

You will learn how most reactions of carbonyl compounds involve only the four common mechanistic elements operating in only a few common patterns. 1/21/26

You will learn how, by simply adding a catalytic amount of base like HO^- to aldehydes or ketones, you can make new carbon-carbon bonds, giving complicated and useful products.

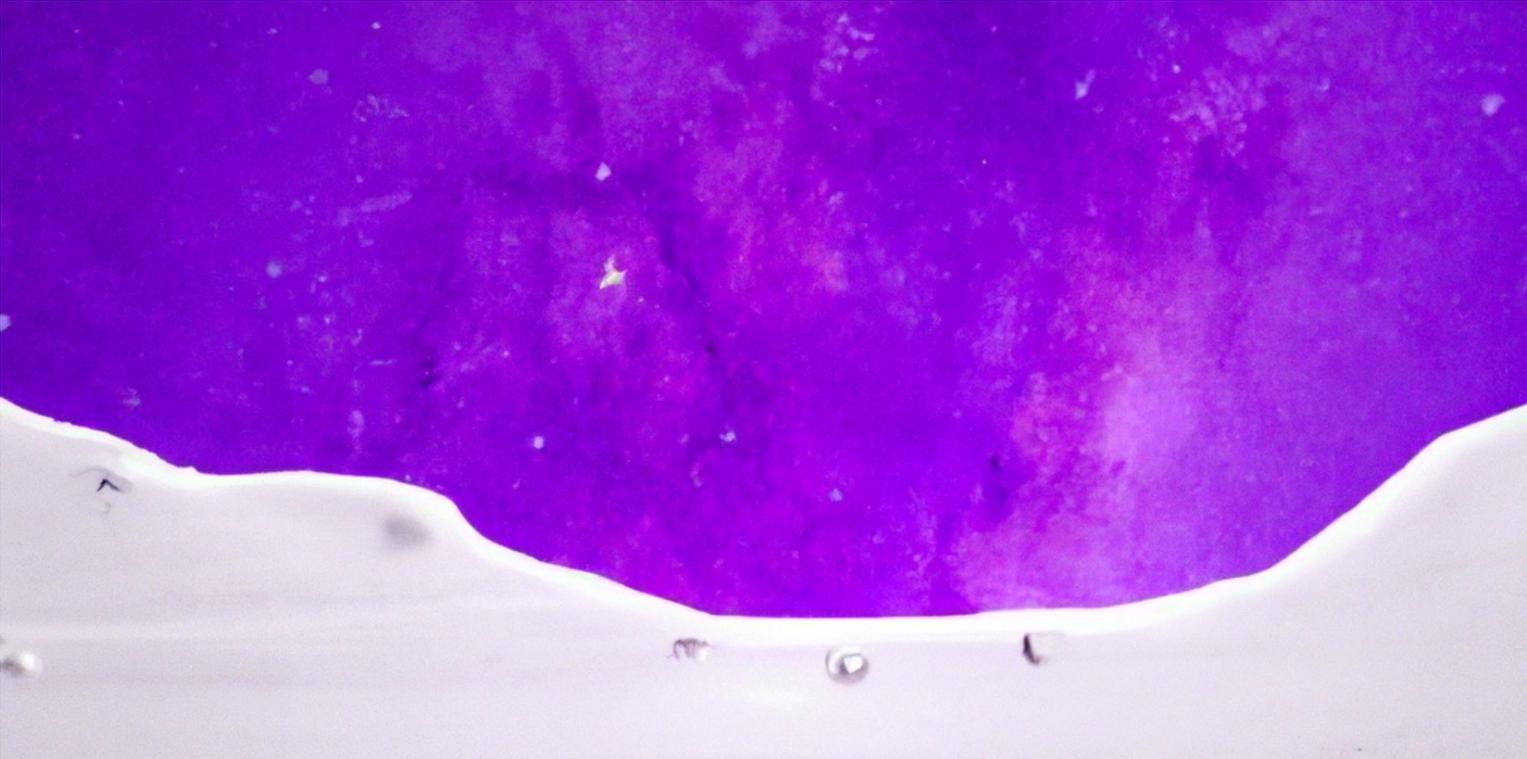
You will learn a reaction that can convert vinegar and vodka into a common solvent.

You will learn why molecules with six-membered rings and alternating double bonds are stable.

You will learn a reaction that can turn model airplane glue into a powerful explosive.

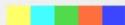
Most important, you will develop powerful critical thinking skills:

1. You will learn how to look at a molecule and accurately predict which atoms will react to make new bonds, and which bonds will break during reactions.
2. You will learn how to analyze a complex molecule's structure so that you can predict ways to make it via multiple reactions starting with less complex starting molecules.

- 
1. Identify bonds being made and broken
 2. Avoid “mixed media errors”
 3. When in doubt transfer a proton
 4. Analyze each intermediate to predict next step



“These four truths you must have.
The true force of knowledge they are.”



For mechanisms, keep the following in mind:

- 1) Identify the bonds to be made and broken in the overall reaction
- 2) Avoid "mixed media errors"
- 3) When in doubt transfer a proton \rightarrow protons move very fast
- 4) Analyze each intermediate carefully to predict the next step

Here are the keys to understanding mechanisms in 320N!!

1) There are basically four different mechanism elements that make up the steps of carbonyl reactions.

A) Make a bond between a nucleophile and an electrophile

B) Break a bond to give stable molecules or ions

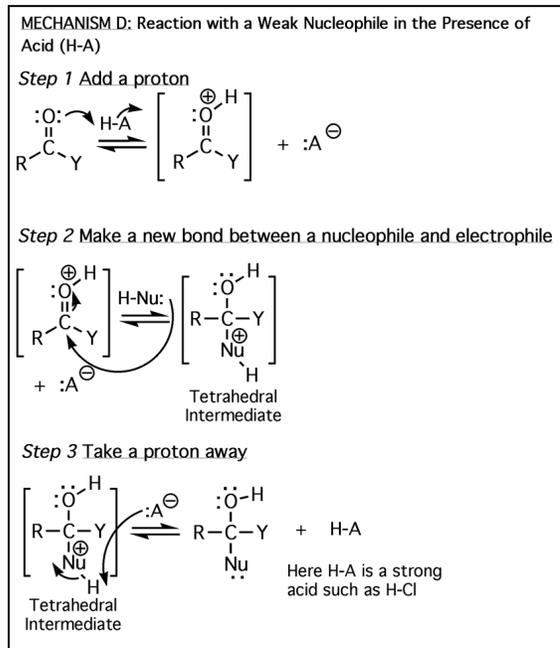
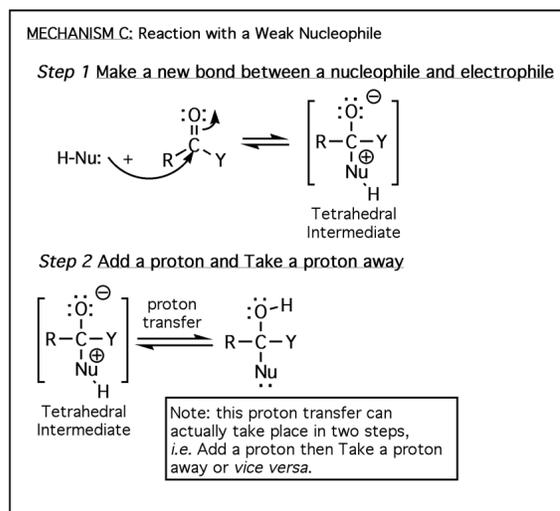
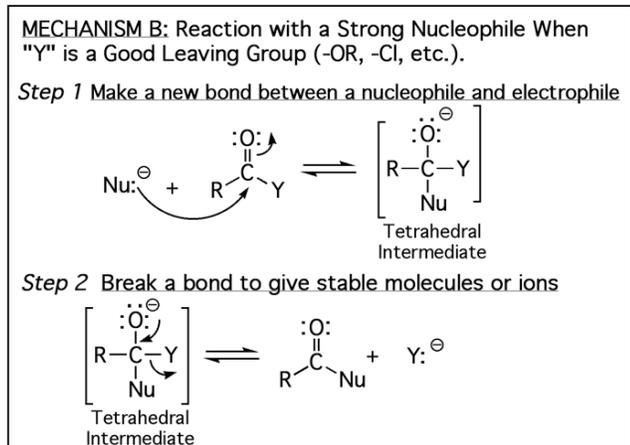
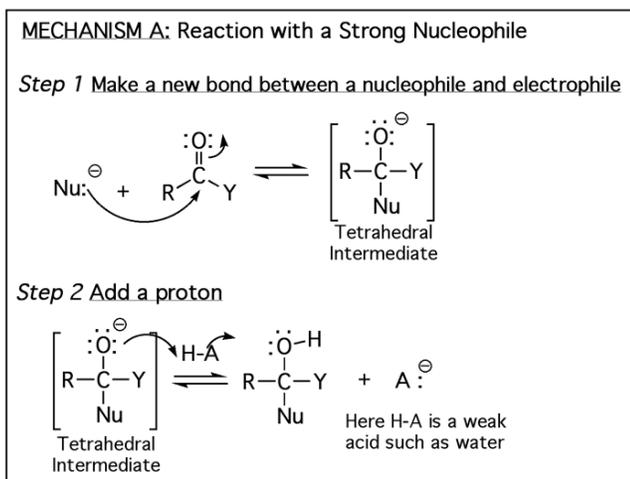
C) Add a proton

D) Take a proton away

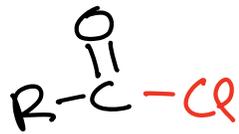
2) These same four mechanism elements describe most of the other mechanisms you have/will learn!!! (Yes, organic chemistry really is this simple if you look at it this way!!)

There are basically four different mechanisms that describe the vast majority of carbonyl reactions and these mechanisms are different combinations/ordering of the four mechanism elements listed above. In this class, I have termed them "Mechanism A", "Mechanism B", "Mechanism C", and "Mechanism D". They all involve a nucleophile attacking the partially positively charged carbon atom of the carbonyl to create a tetrahedral intermediate. Different reaction mechanisms are distinguished by the timing of protonation of the oxygen atom as well as the presence or absence of a leaving group attached to the carbonyl.

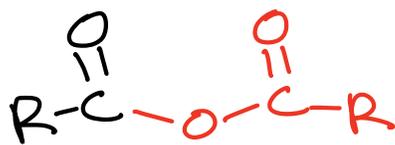
Four Mechanisms for the Reaction of Nucleophiles with Carbonyl Compounds



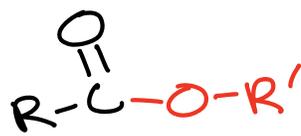
Acid
Chloride



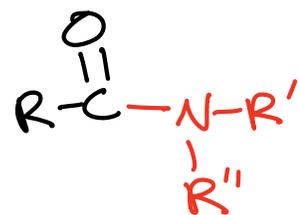
Anhydride



Ester



Amide

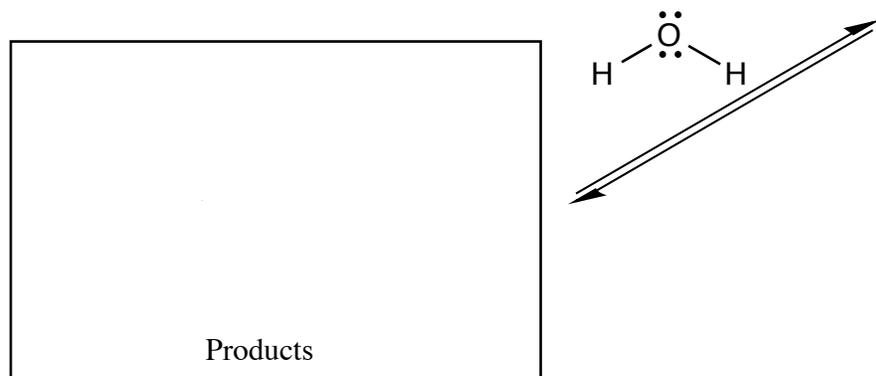
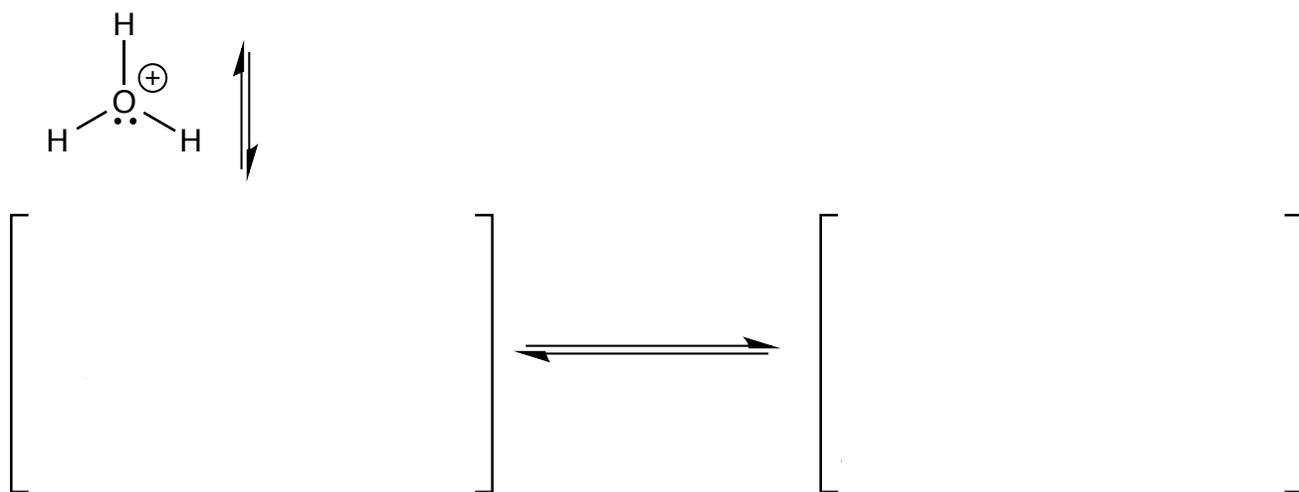
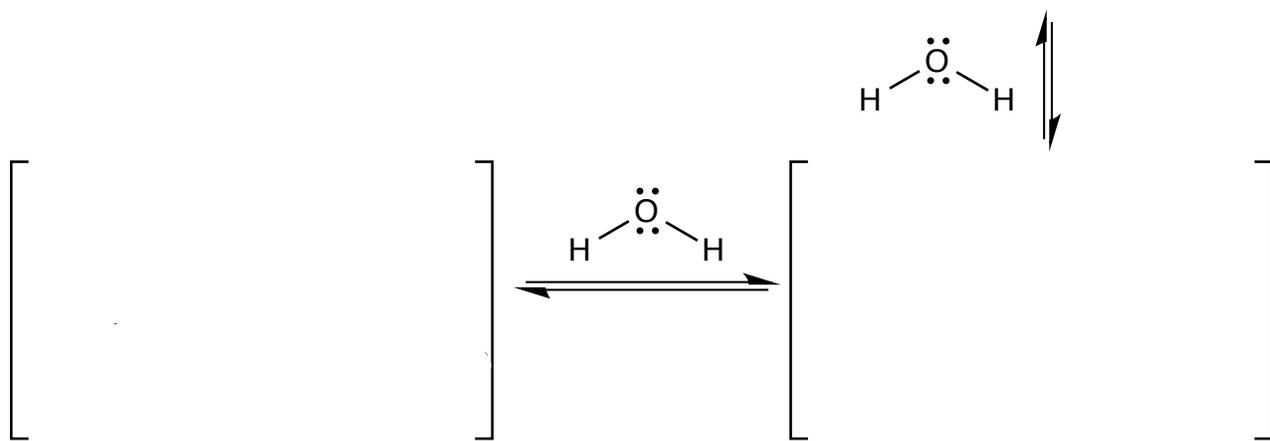
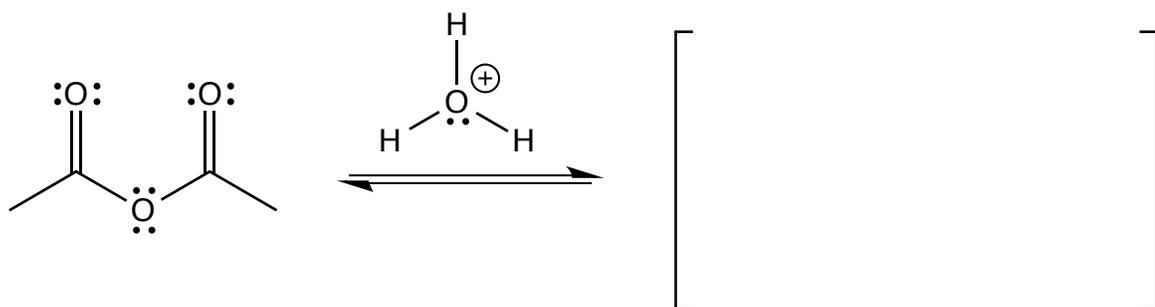


Leaving
Group

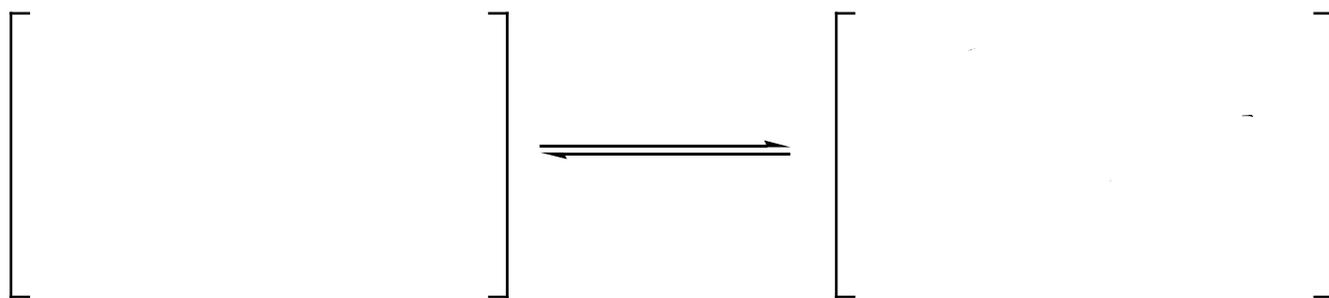
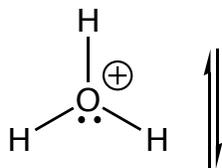
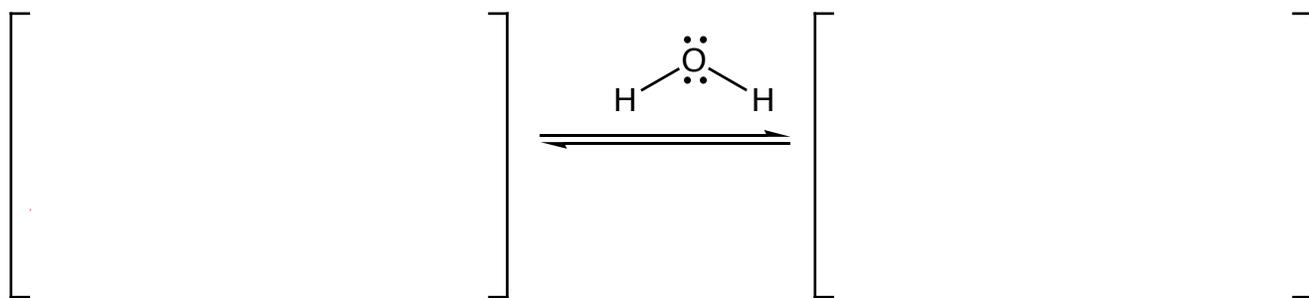
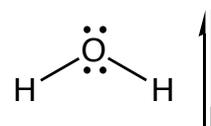
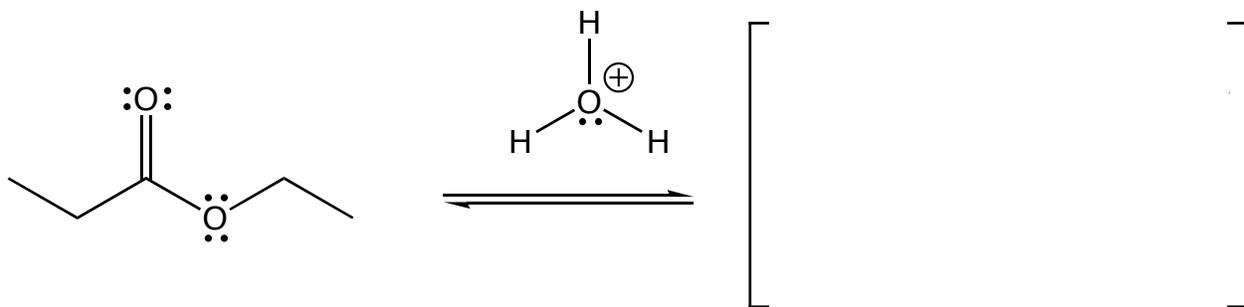
Conjugate
Acid

pK_a

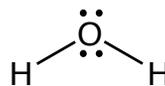
Acid Catalyzed Anhydride Hydrolysis



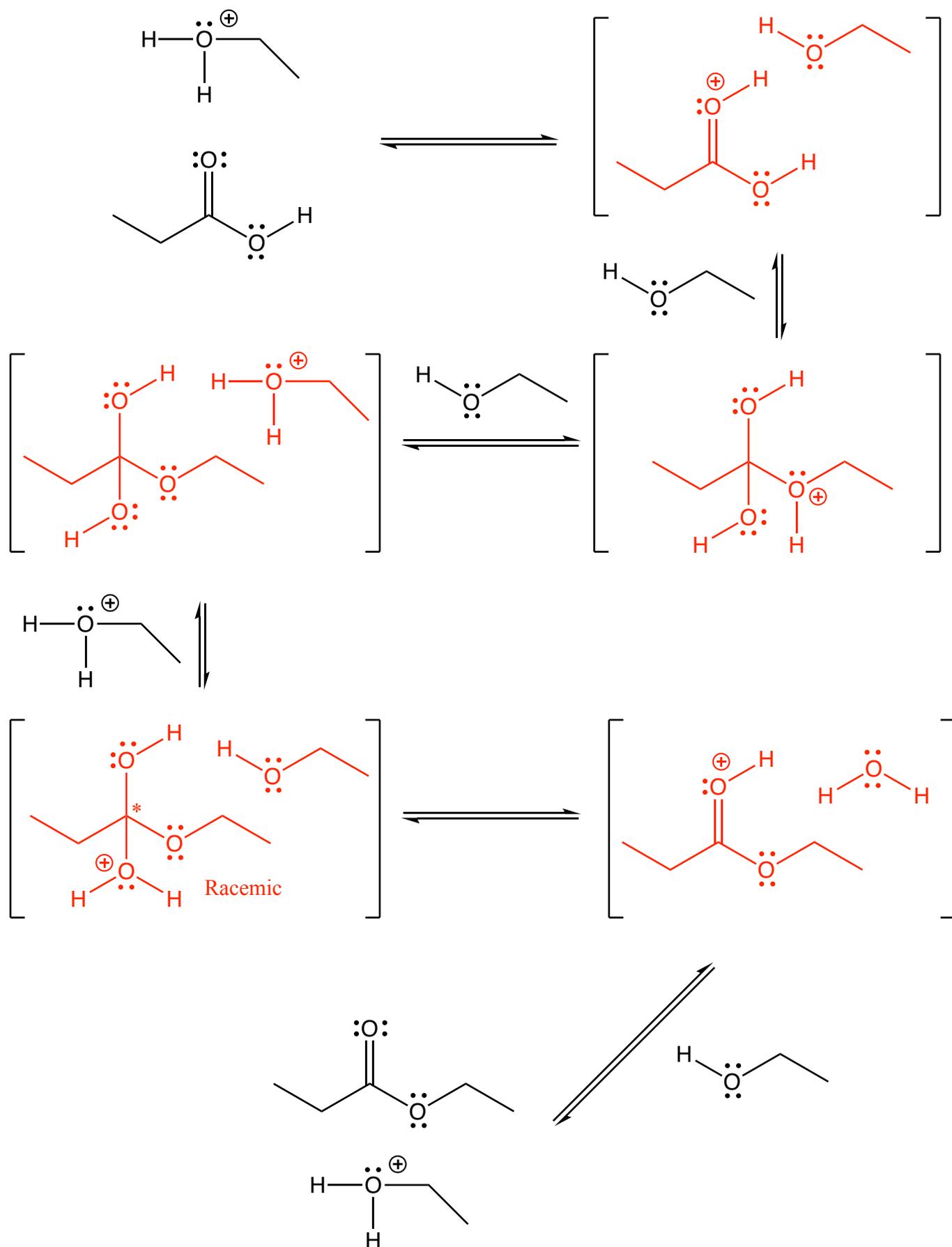
Acid Catalyzed Ester Hydrolysis



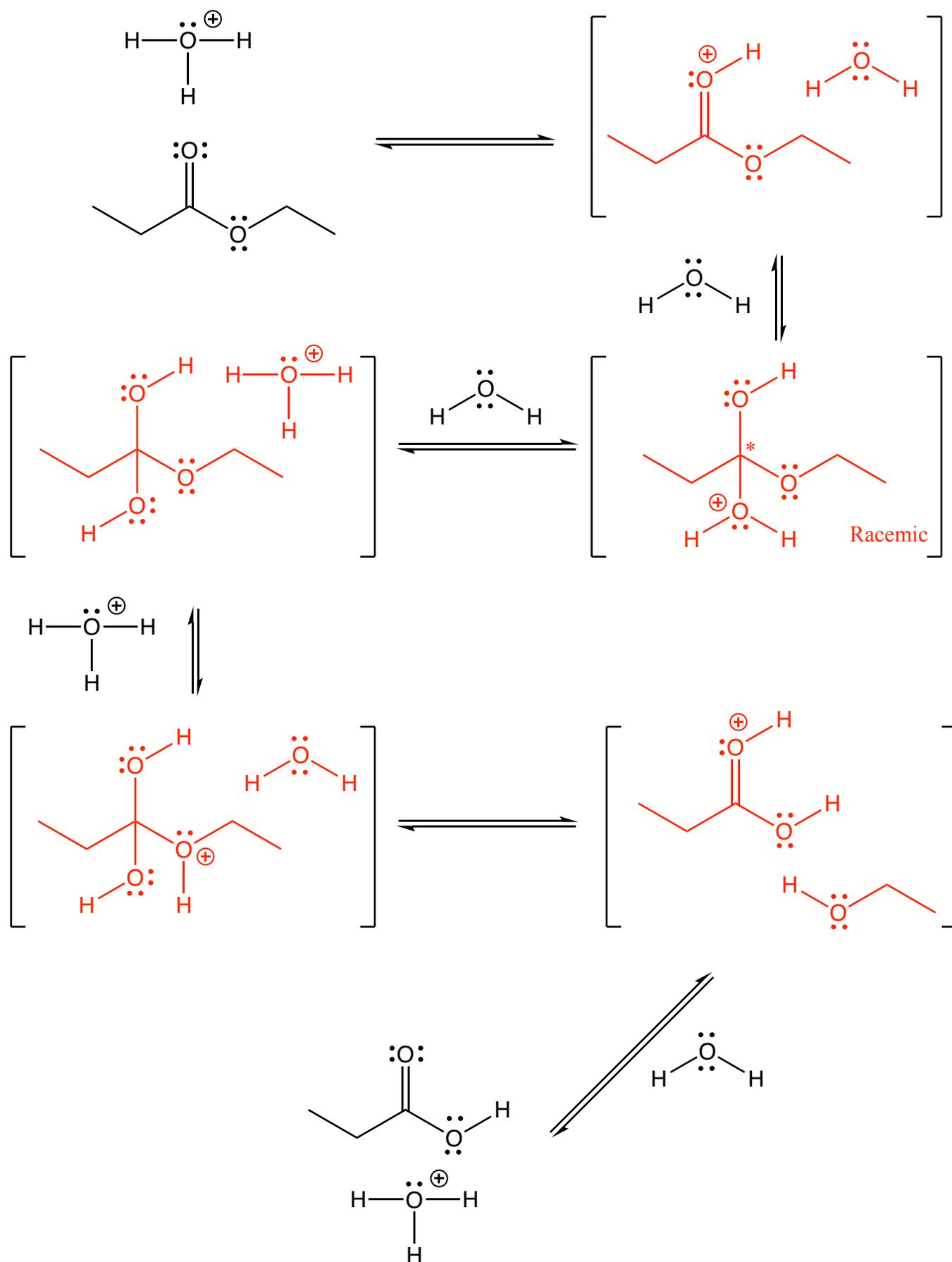
Products



Microscopic Reversibility: Acid Catalyzed Ester Hydrolysis-Fischer Esterification



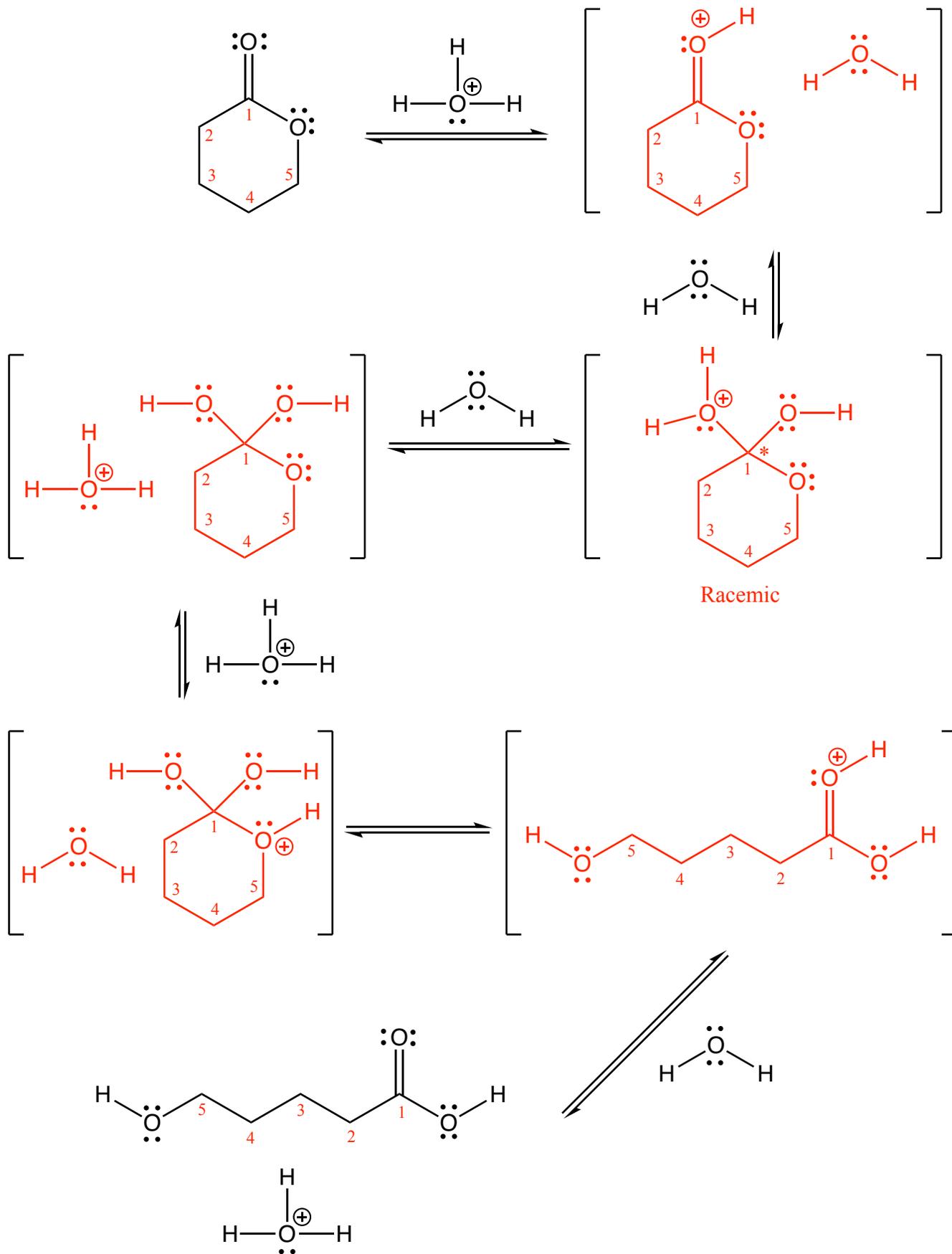
Microscopic Reversibility: Acid Catalyzed Ester Hydrolysis-Fischer Esterification



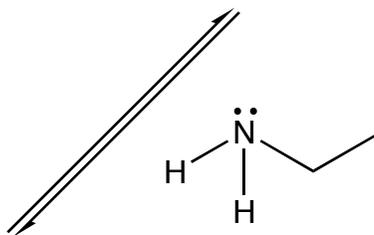
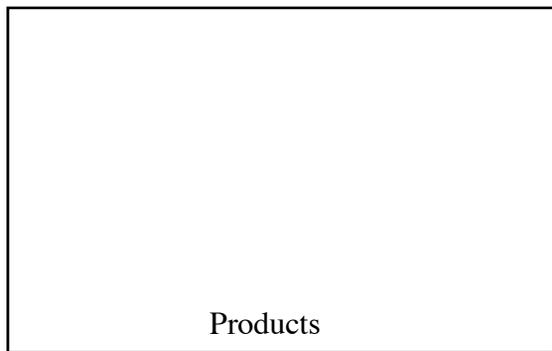
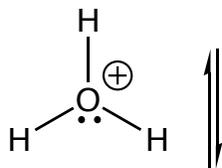
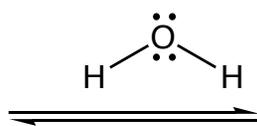
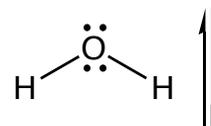
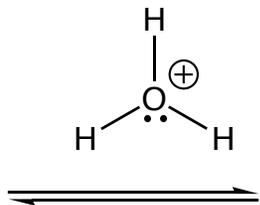
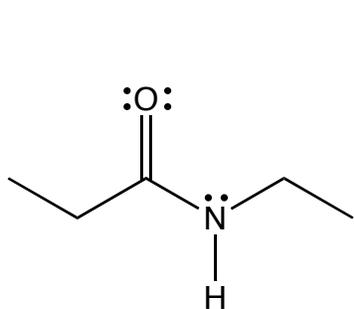


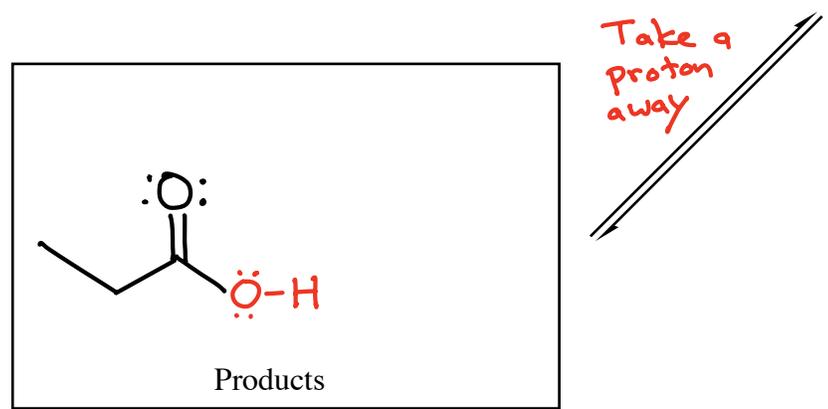
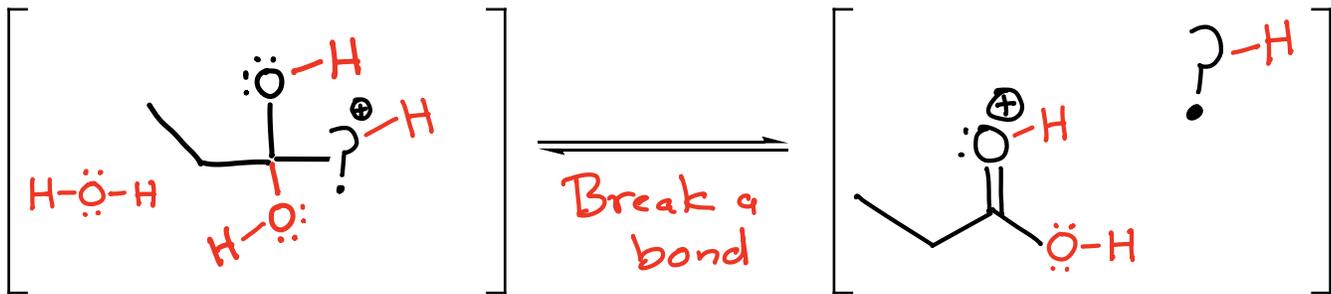
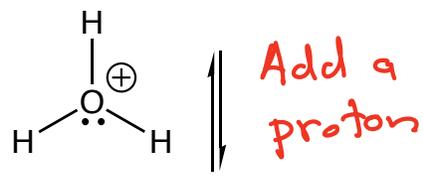
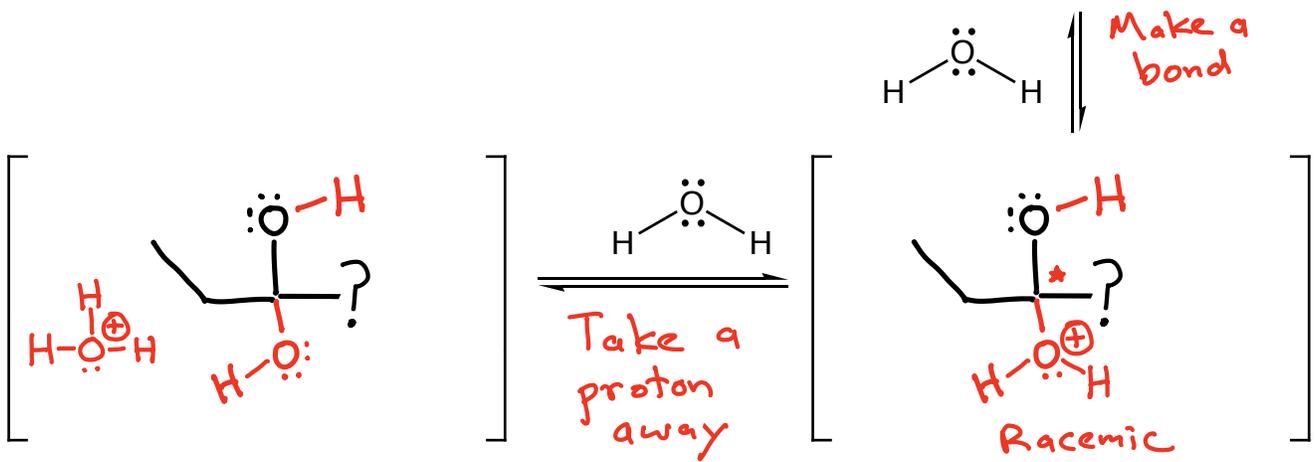
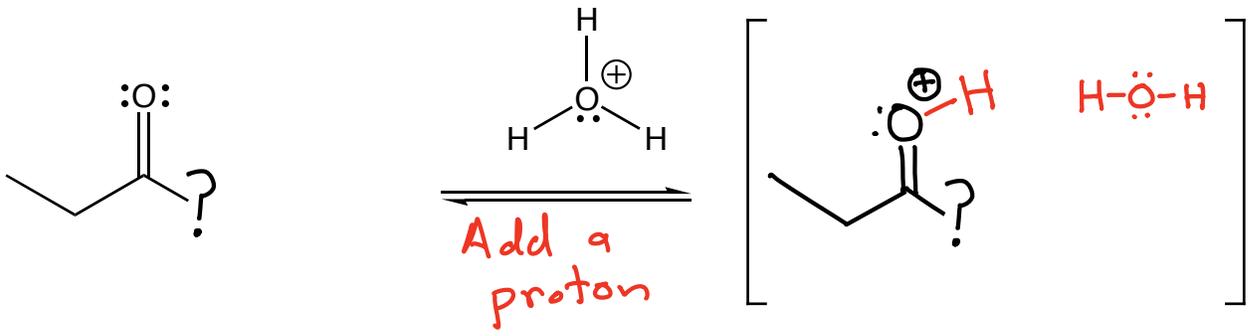
Microscopic Reversibility →

Microscopic Reversibility: Acid Catalyzed Ester Hydrolysis-Fischer Esterification

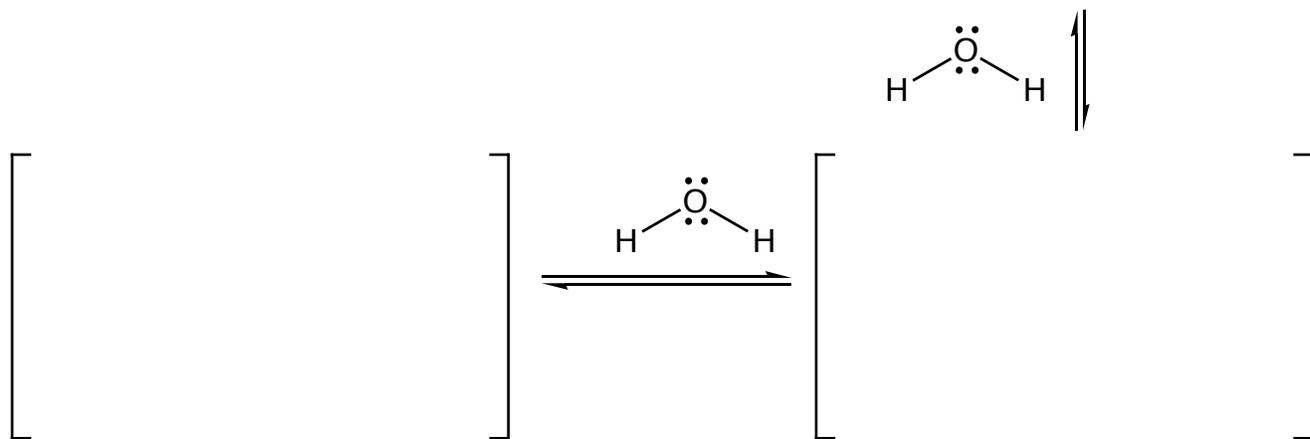
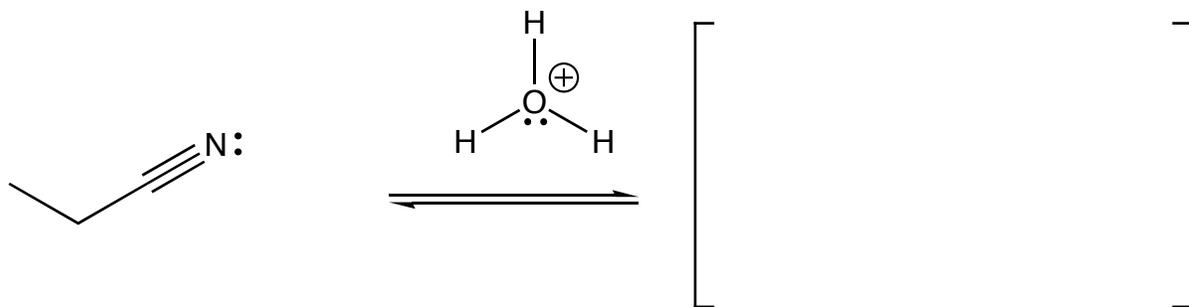


Acid Promoted Amide Hydrolysis

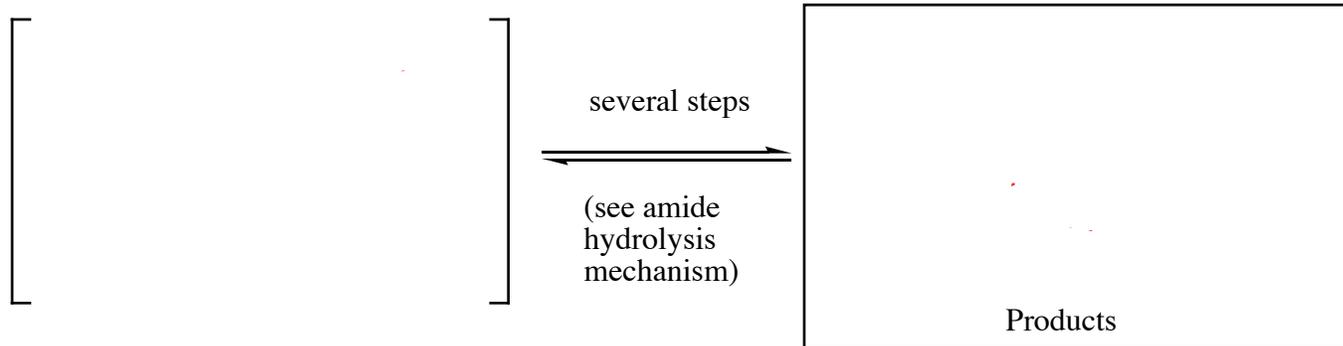


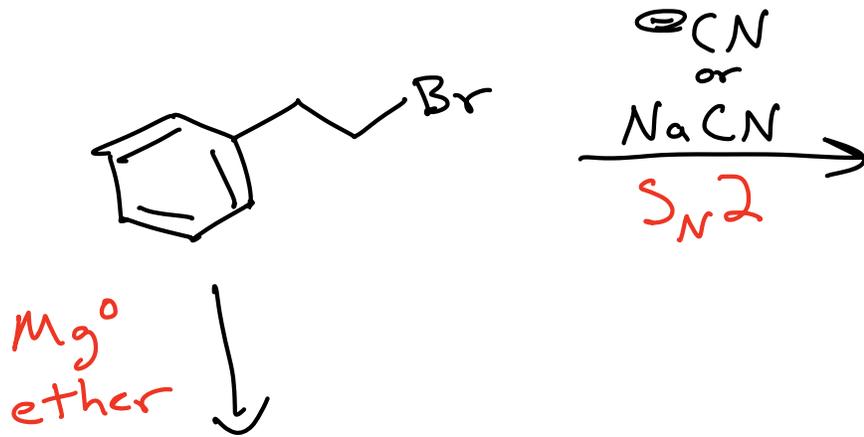


Acid Promoted Nitrile Hydrolysis

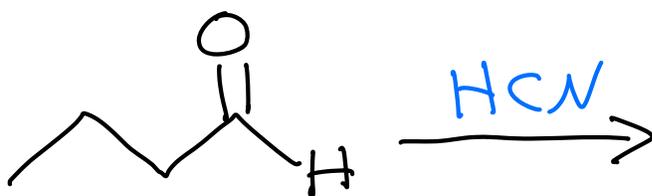
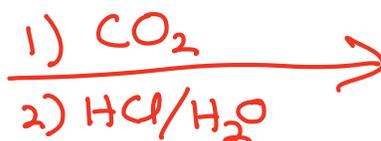


tautomerization \rightleftharpoons





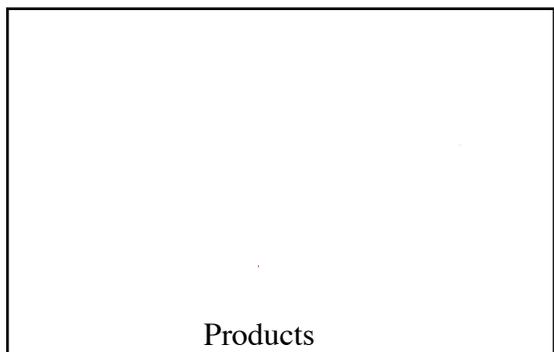
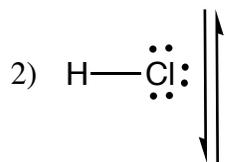
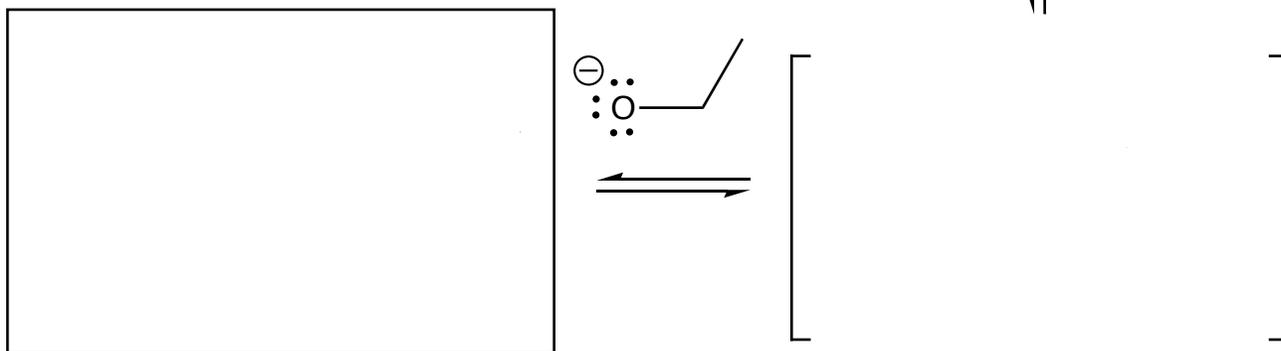
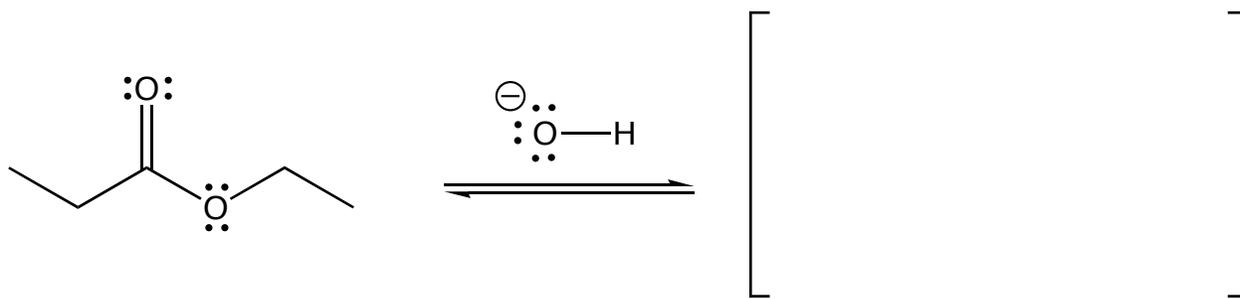
↓
HCl/H₂O
Strong Acid
Heat



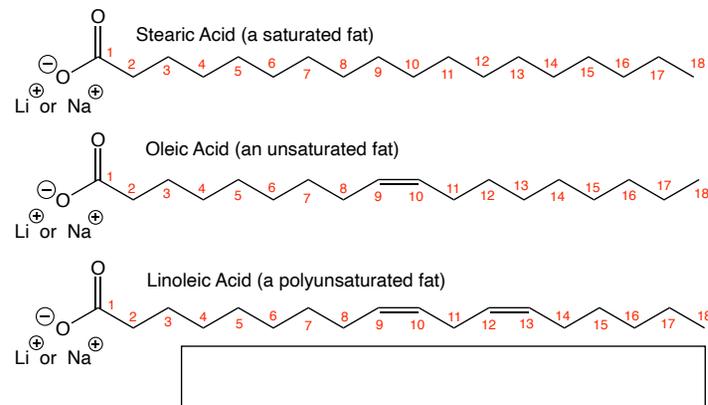
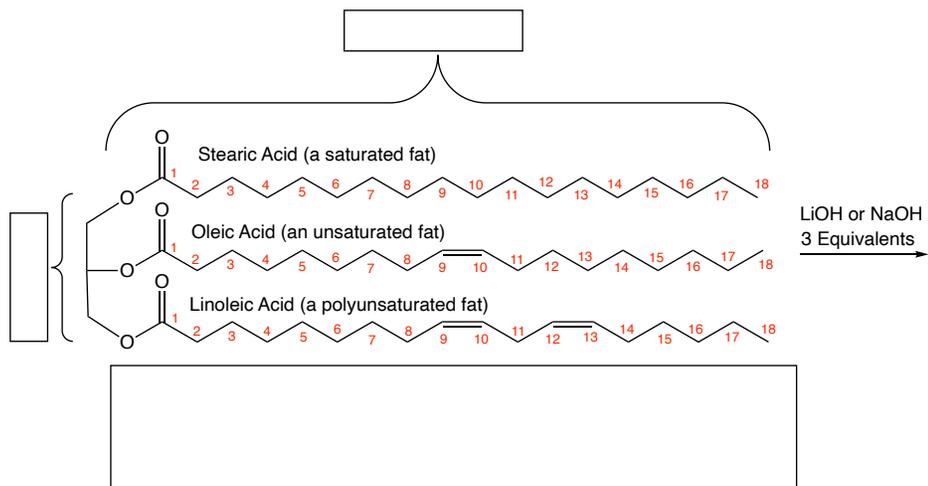
KRE →

↓
HCl/H₂O
Strong Acid
Heat

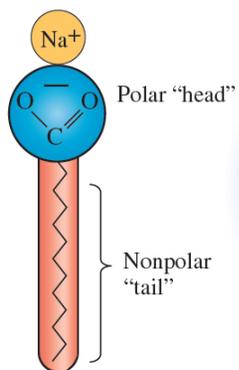
Base-Promoted Ester Hydrolysis - Saponification



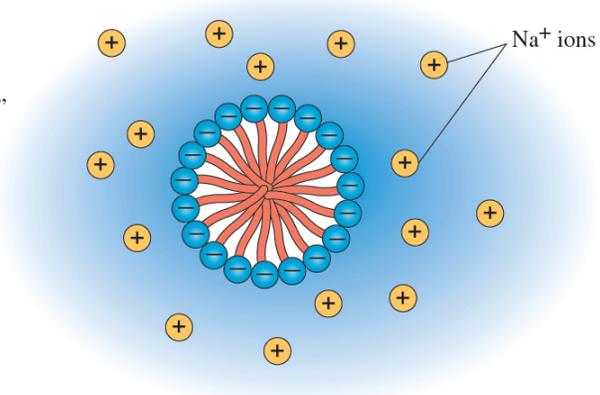
Driving force \rightarrow



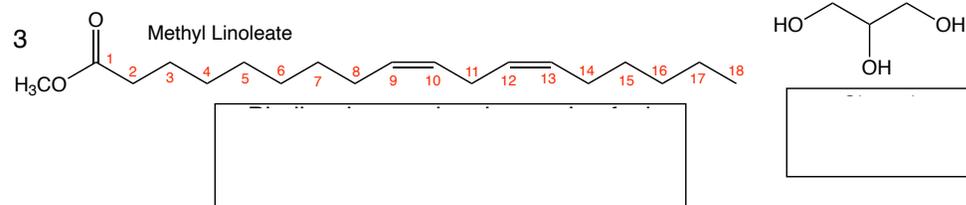
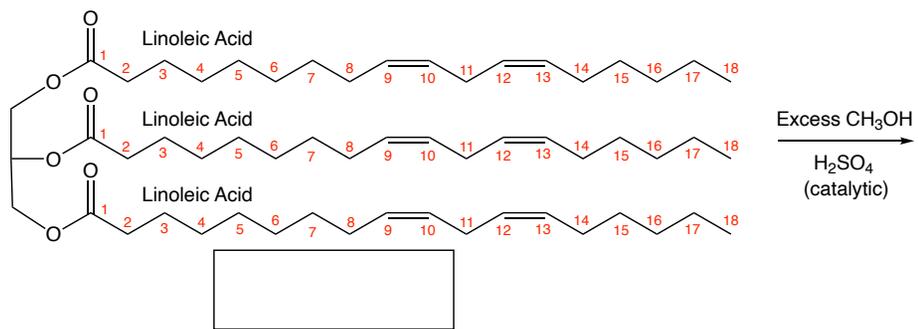
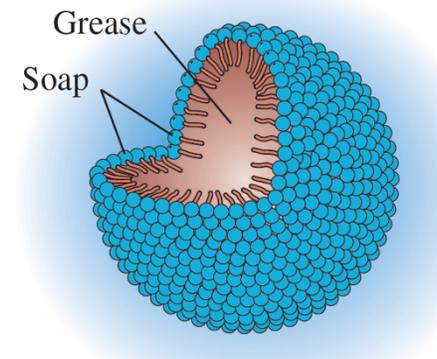
(a) A soap

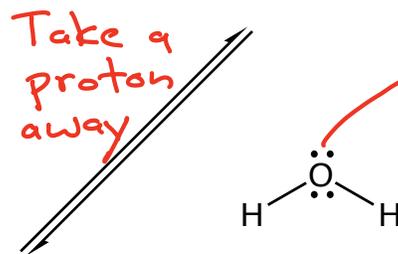
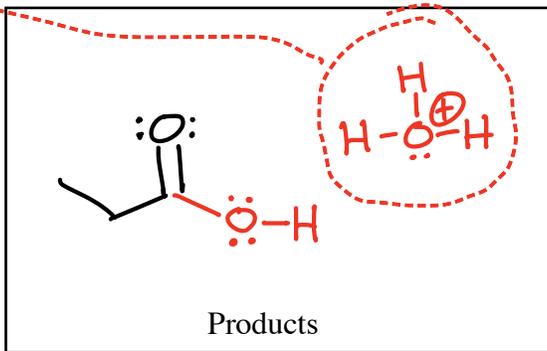
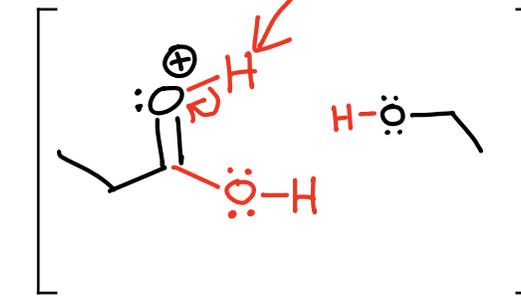
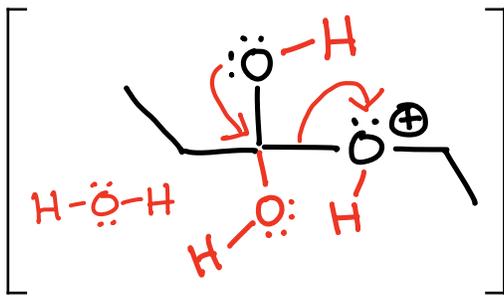
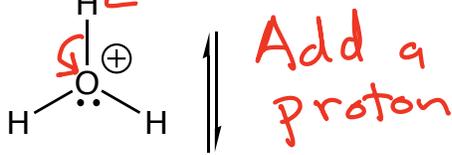
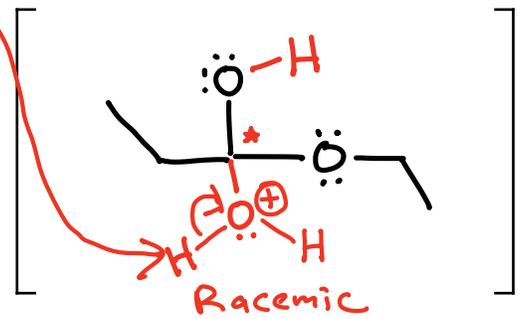
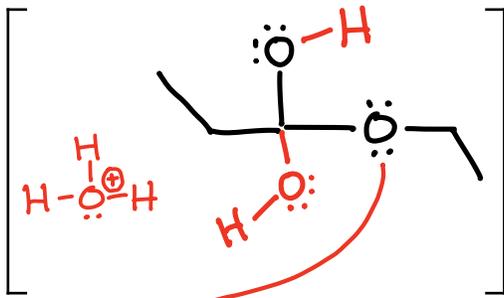
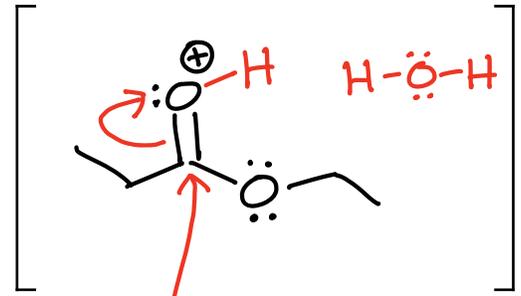
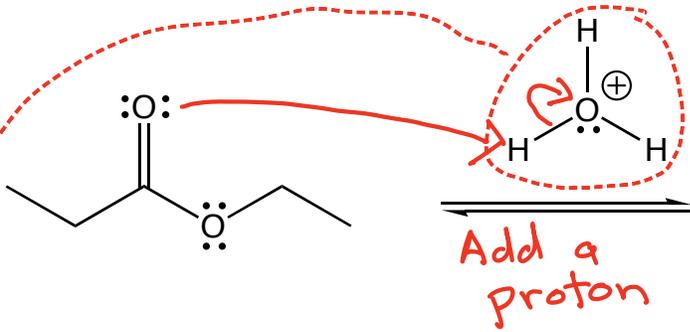
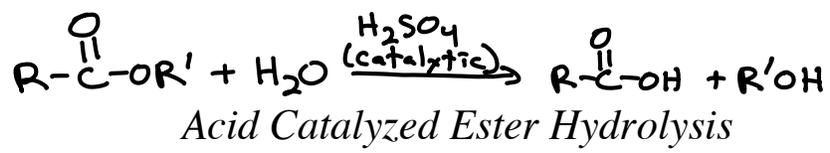


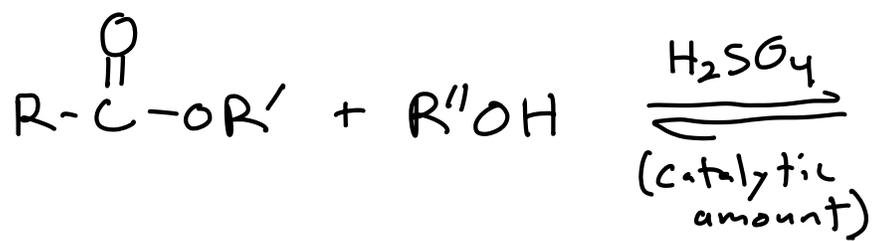
(b) Cross section of a soap micelle in water



Soap micelle with "dissolved" grease







Transesterification \rightarrow

Organic Chemistry is the study of carbon-containing molecules. This class has two points.

The first point of the class is to understand the organic chemistry of living systems. We will teach you how to think about and understand the most amazing molecules on the planet!!

You will learn how MRI scans work. 1/14/26

You will learn the basic principles of pharmaceutical science and how many drugs work. 1/21/26

You will learn about the special bond that holds carbohydrates such as glucose in six-membered rings, connects carbohydrate monomers together to make complex carbohydrate structures and is critical to DNA and RNA structure. 2/2/26

You will learn how soap is made from animal fat and how it works to keep us clean.

You will learn the important structural reason proteins, the most important molecular machines in our bodies, can support the chemistry of life.

You will learn how important antibiotics like penicillins work, including ones that make stable covalent bonds as part of their mode of action.

You will learn why carrots are orange and tomatoes are red.

You will learn the very cool reason that the DNA and RNA bases are entirely flat so they can stack in the double helix structure.

You will learn how energy drinks work.

You will learn even more about why fentanyl is such a devastating part of the opioid problem and how Naloxone is an antidote for a fentanyl overdose.

You will learn even more details about why Magic Johnson is still alive, decades after contracting HIV, and how the same strategy is being used to fight COVID.

You will learn about the surprising chemical reason the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines elicit strong immune responses.

The second point of organic chemistry is the synthesis of complex molecules from simpler ones by making and breaking specific bonds, especially carbon-carbon bonds.

You will learn how carbon-metal bonds lead to new carbon-carbon bonds. 1/21/26

You will learn how most reactions of carbonyl compounds involve only the four common mechanistic elements operating in only a few common patterns. 1/21/26

You will learn how, by simply adding a catalytic amount of base like HO^- to aldehydes or ketones, you can make new carbon-carbon bonds, giving complicated and useful products.

You will learn a reaction that can convert vinegar and vodka into a common solvent.

You will learn why molecules with six-membered rings and alternating double bonds are stable.

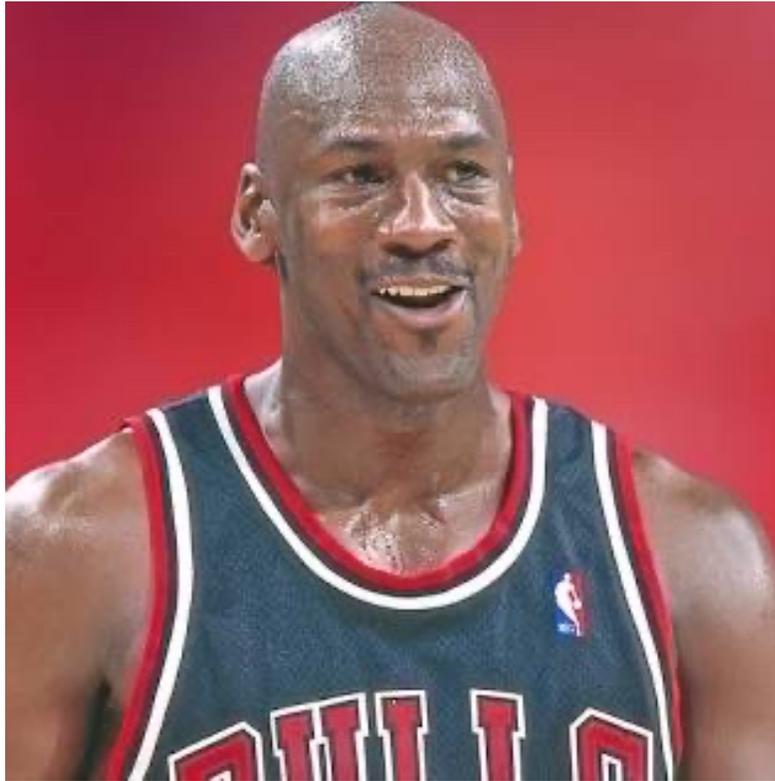
You will learn a reaction that can turn model airplane glue into a powerful explosive.

Most important, you will develop powerful critical thinking skills:

1. You will learn how to look at a molecule and accurately predict which atoms will react to make new bonds, and which bonds will break during reactions.
2. You will learn how to analyze a complex molecule's structure so that you can predict ways to make it via multiple reactions starting with less complex starting molecules.

Hydrolysis of Esters and Amides

Although either acid or base will work for both esters and amides, it is easiest (less harsh conditions required) to



“I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.” Michael Jordan