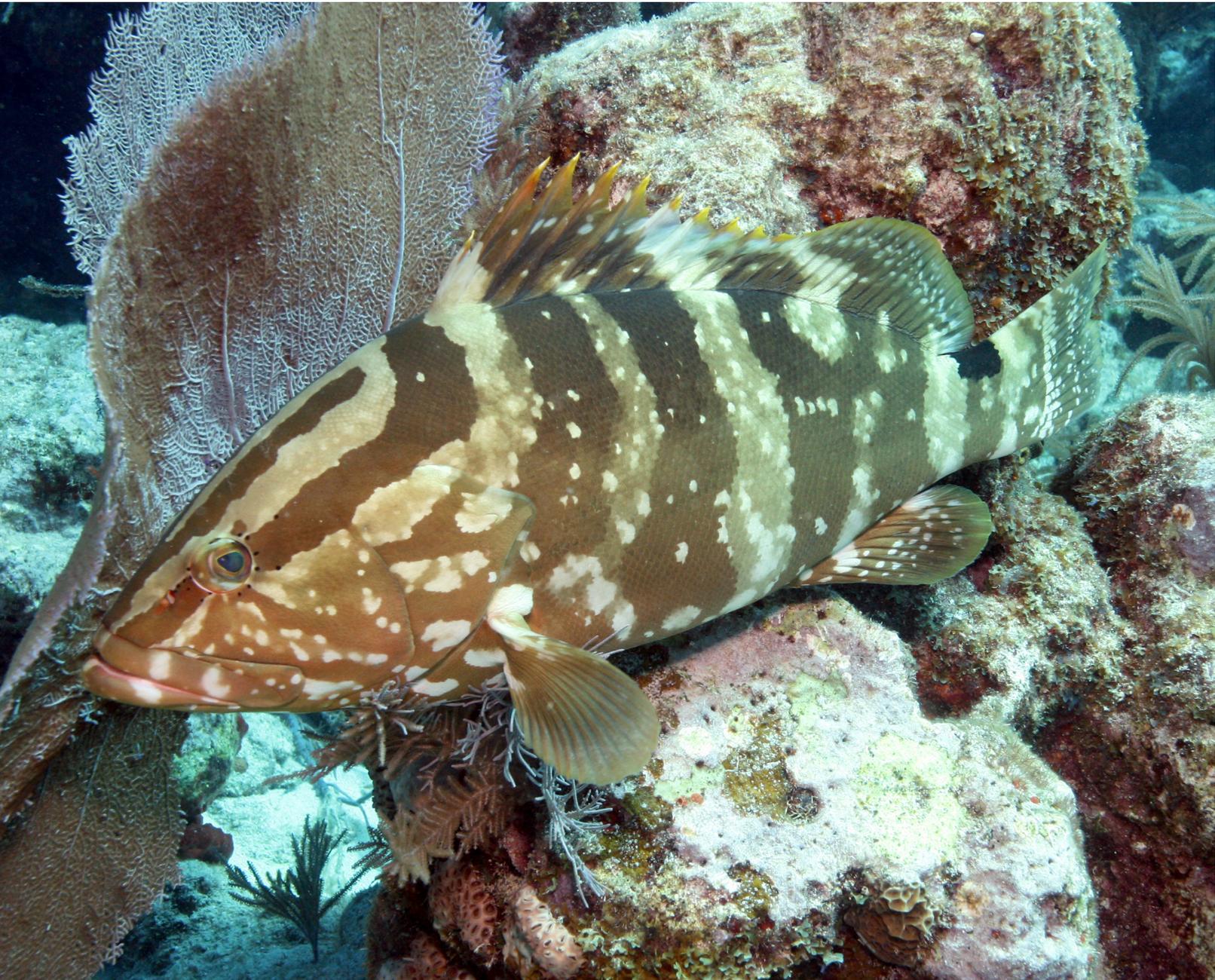




A few hundred to now thousands  
Endangered

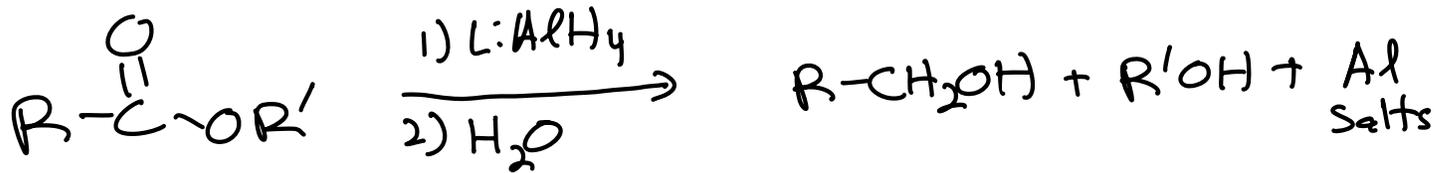


From 15 cranes last century  
to 831 today  
Endangered

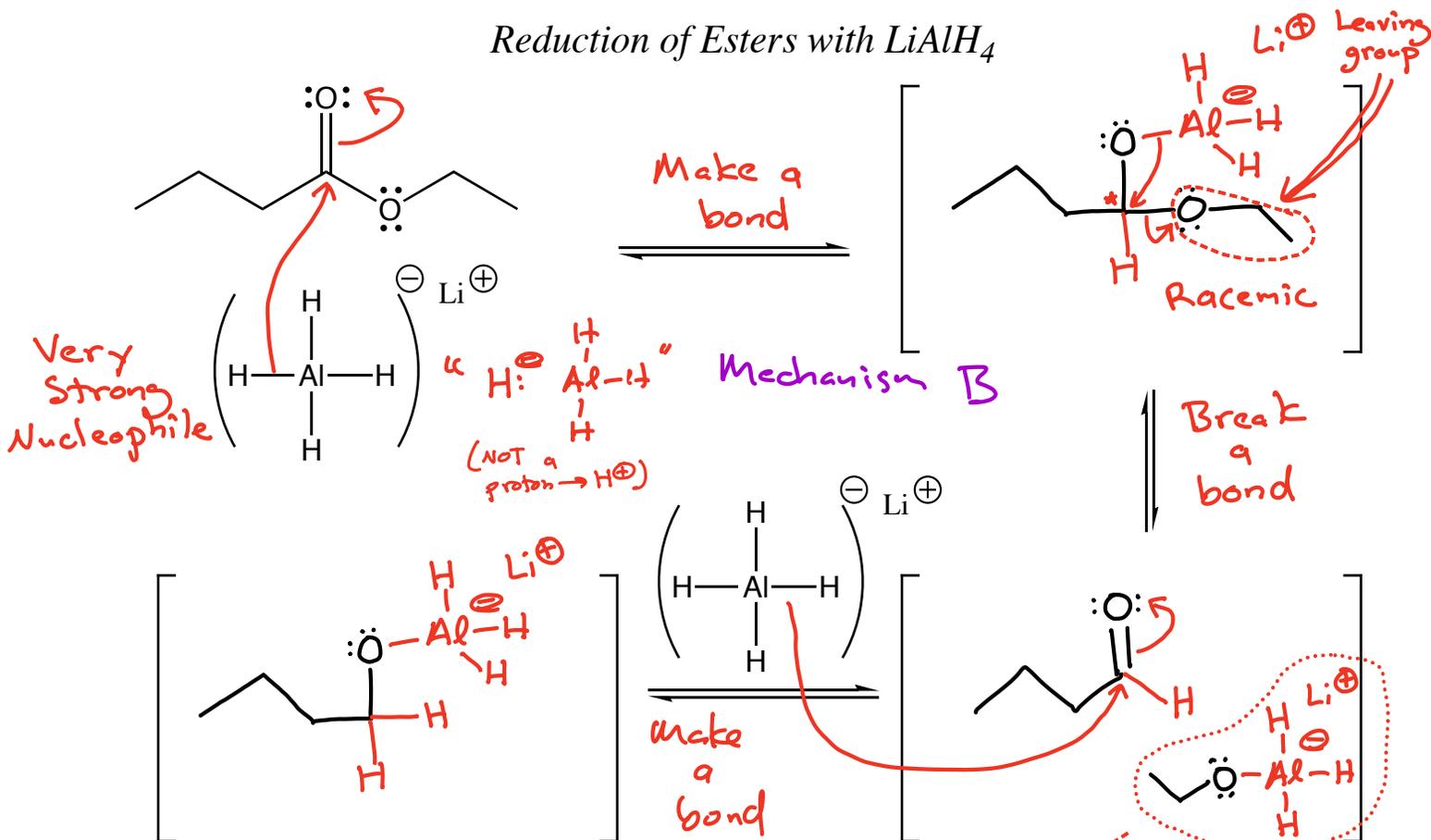


10,000 and declining fast!

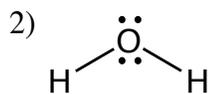
Newly listed as endangered



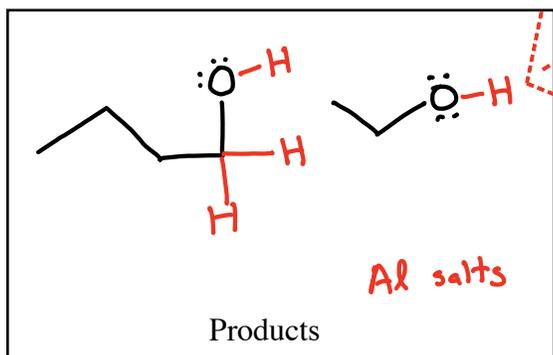
Reduction of Esters with  $LiAlH_4$



Chemist Opens Flask



Mechanism A



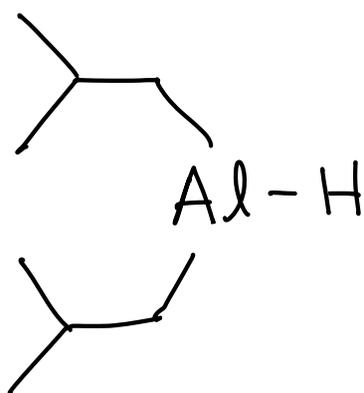
Just keeping track of this product

KRE  $\rightarrow$  converts an ester into two alcohols  $\rightarrow$  breaks C-O bond

Note the extreme similarities between these last two mechanisms!

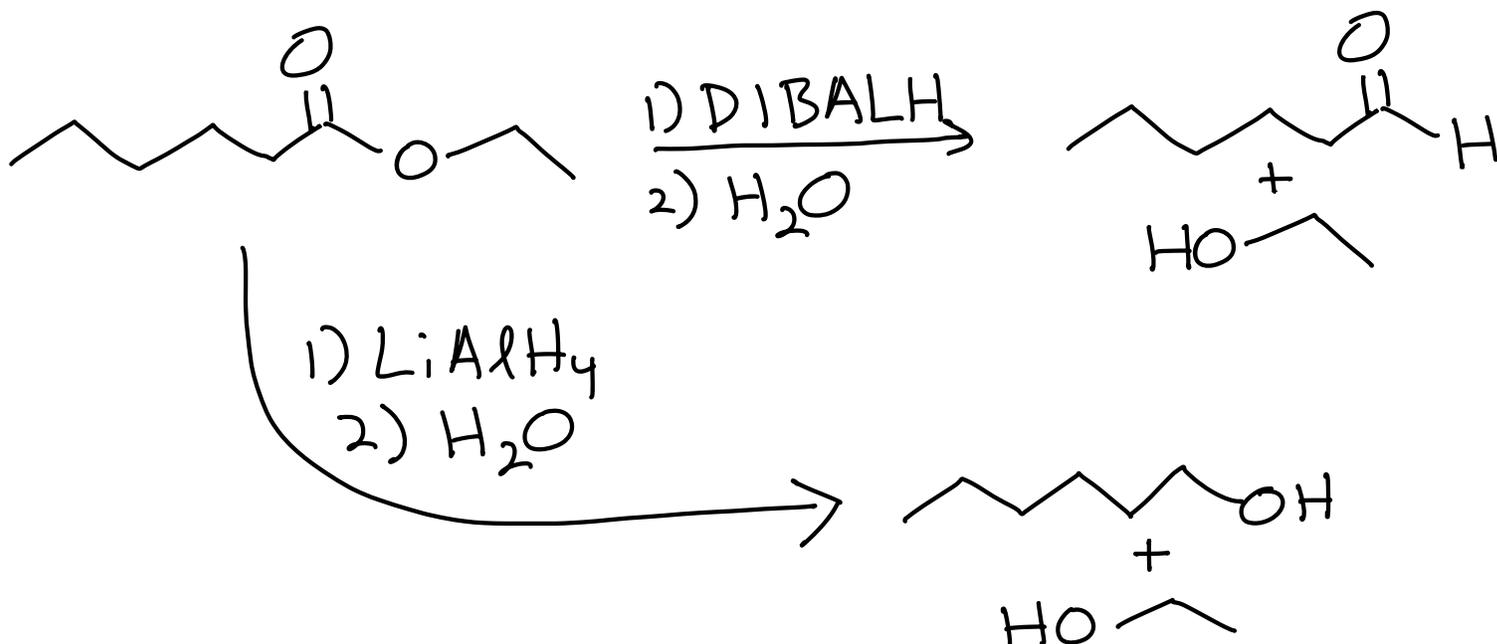
Mechanism B followed by Mechanism A just like the last reaction!

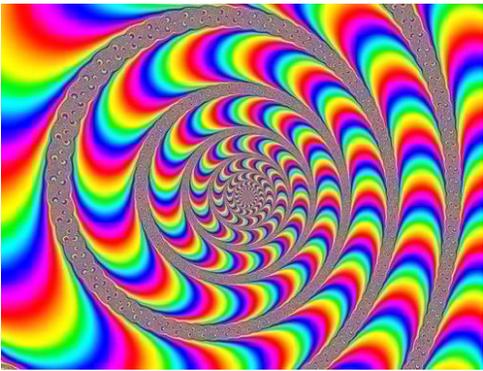
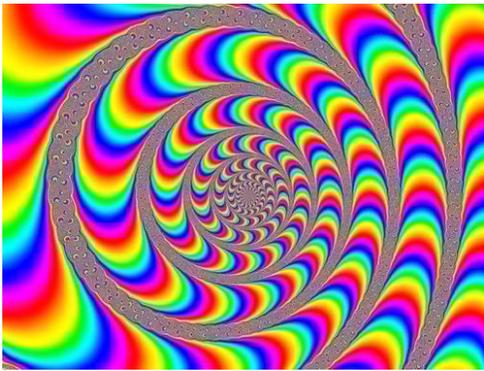
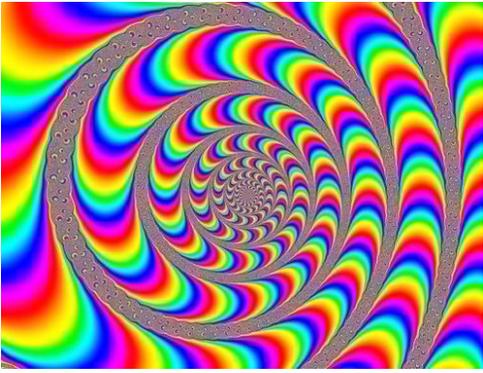
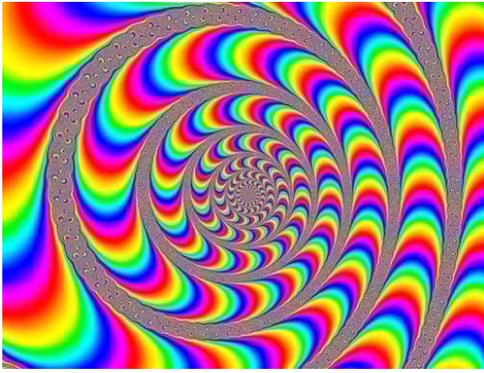
Note: An aldehyde is produced as an intermediate when esters react with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$



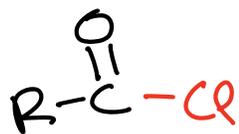
Diisobutylaluminum hydride  
DIBALH

→ Reaction stops  
at the aldehyde!





Acid Chloride



Leaving Group



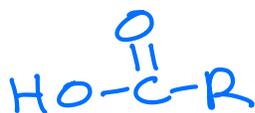
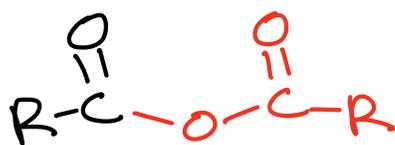
Conjugate Acid



pK<sub>a</sub>

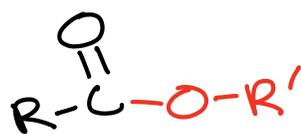
-7

Anhydride



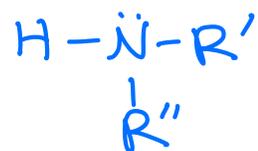
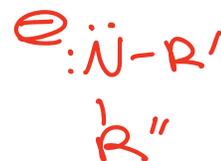
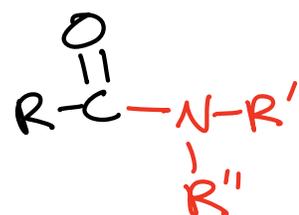
3-5

Ester



16

Amide



38

← Anion Stability

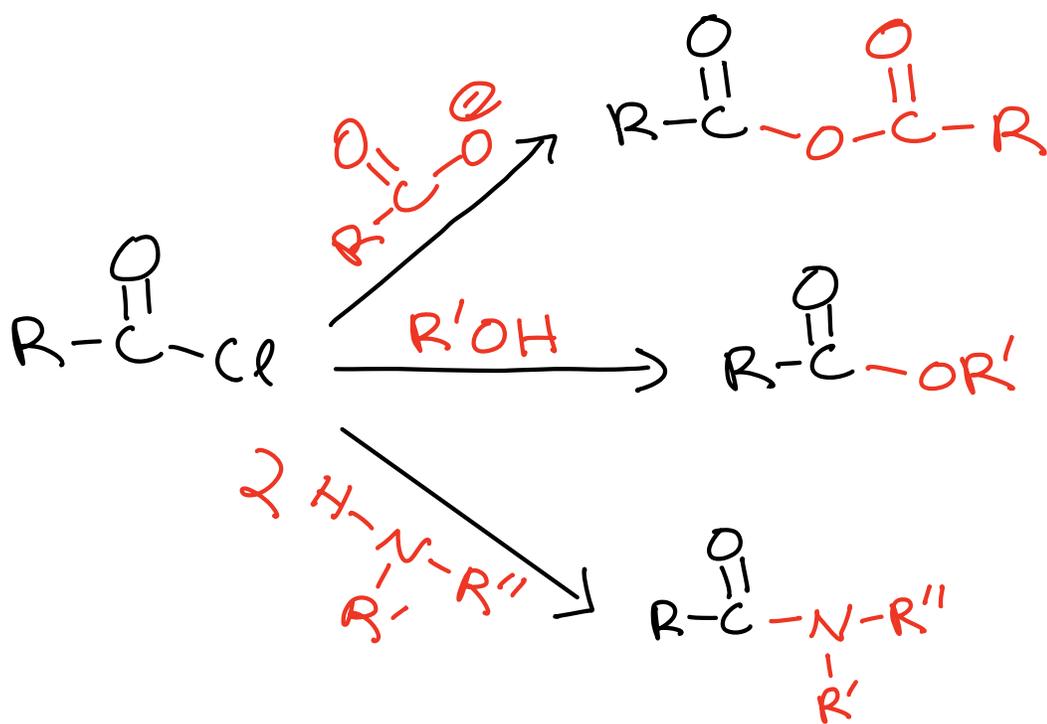
← Better Leaving Group Ability

← Reactivity of Carboxylic Acid Derivative

Think of carboxylic acid derivatives  
⇒ C=O with a leaving group attached

Here is the big rule → You can make any of the less reactive carboxylic acid derivatives from any of the more reactive carboxylic acid derivatives using the appropriate nucleophiles

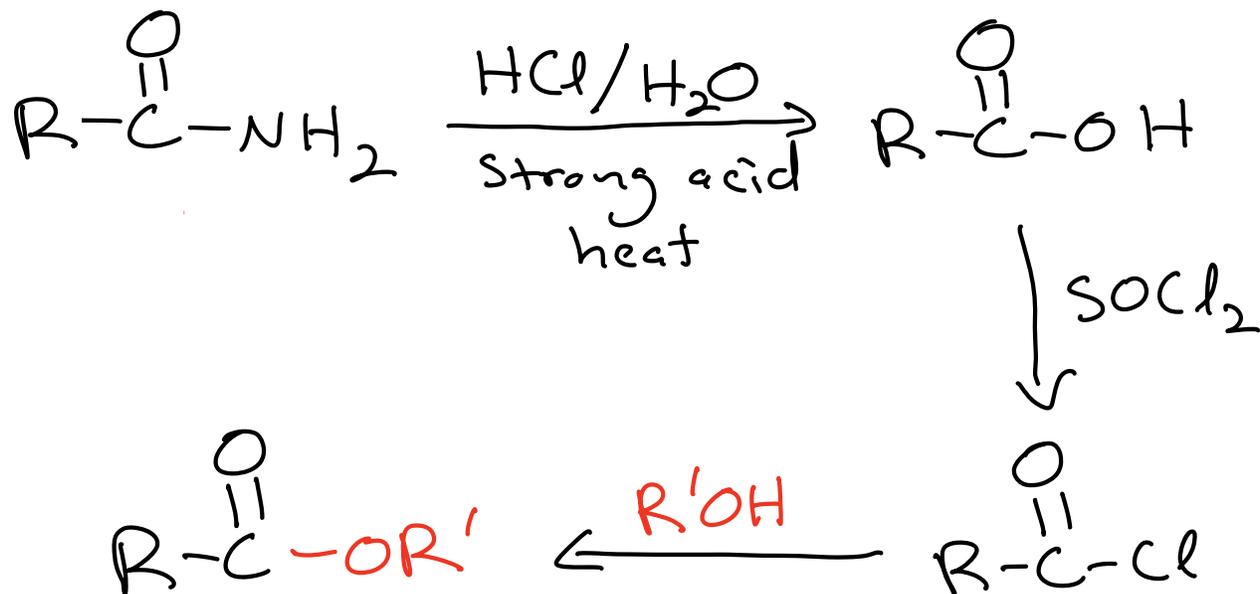
Note: Acid chlorides and anhydrides spontaneously react with nucleophiles at room temperature, esters usually need some heat.



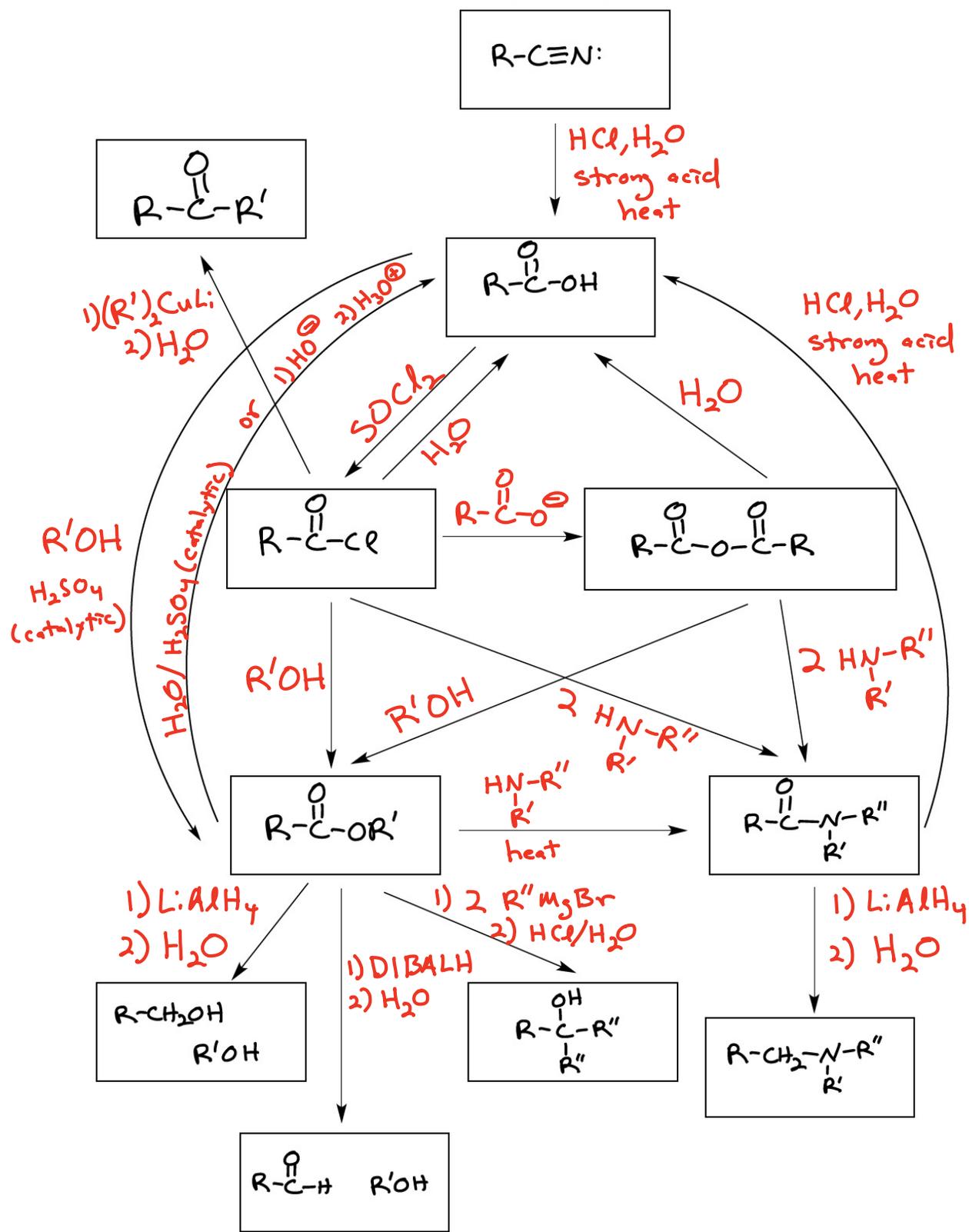


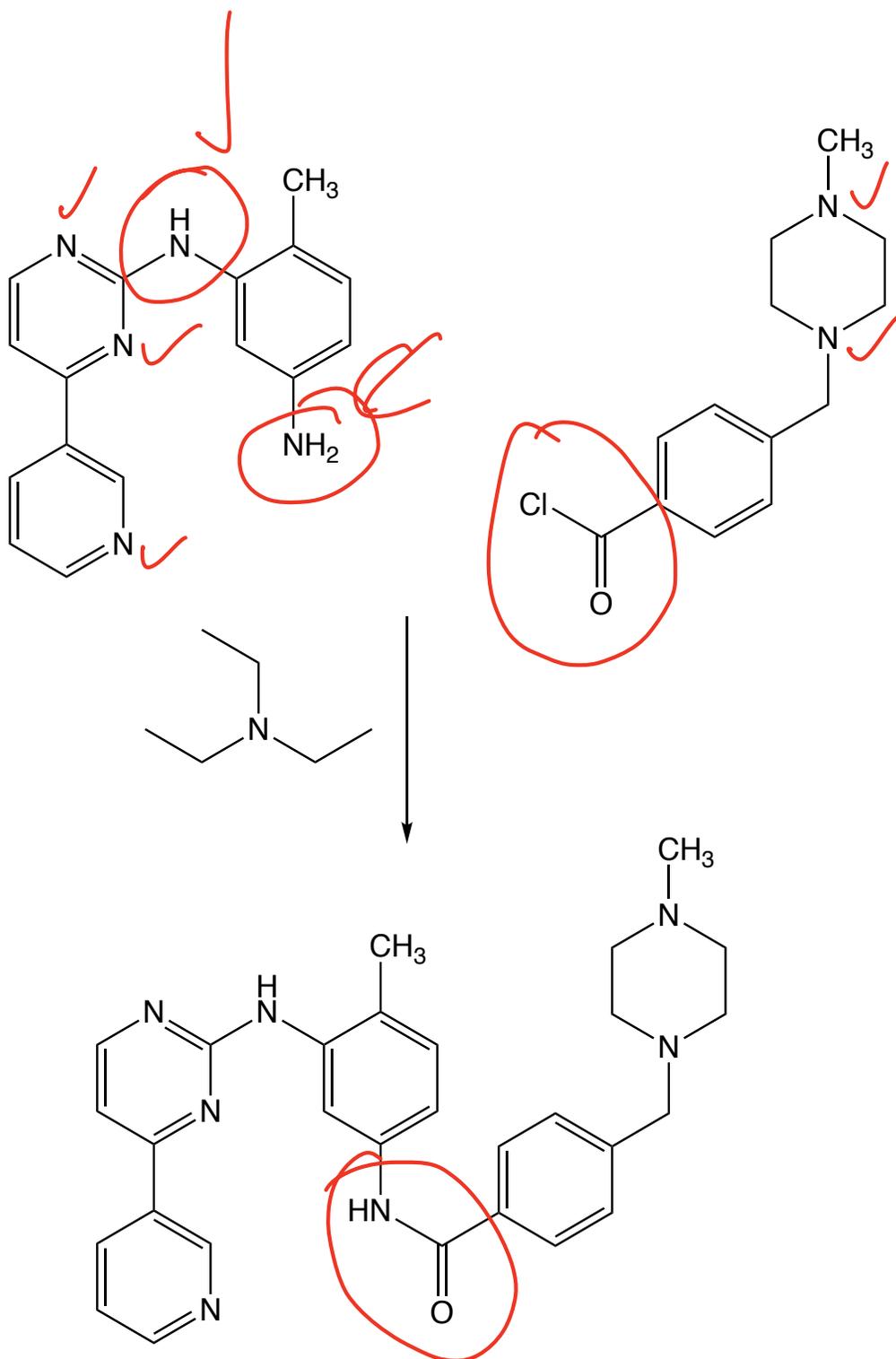
However: You can make a less stable carboxylic acid derivative from a more stable carboxylic acid derivative, but only if you:

- 1) You hydrolyze the carboxylic acid derivative to the carboxylic acid
- 2) You react the carboxylic acid with  $\text{SOCl}_2$  to make an acid chloride

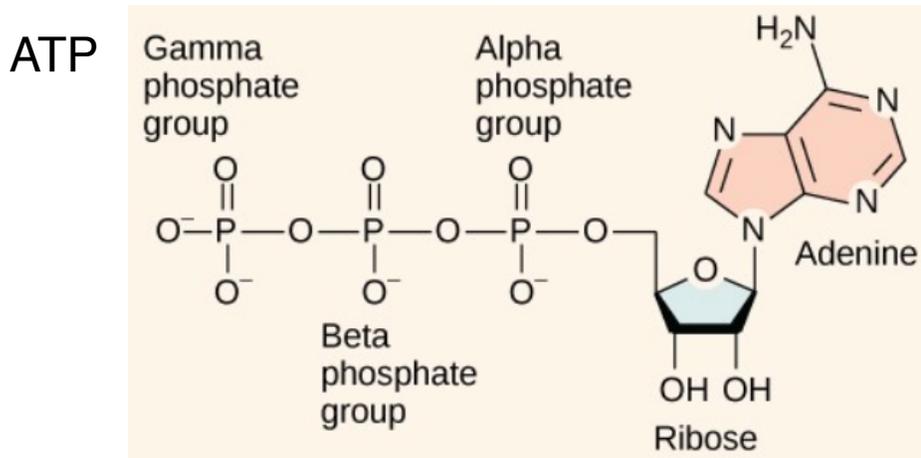
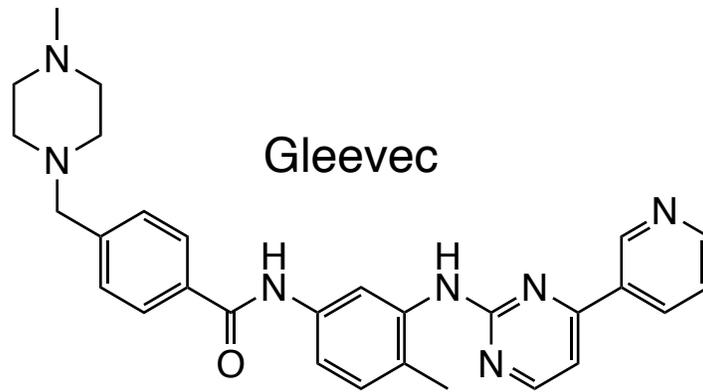


Interconversion of Carboxylic Acid Derivatives

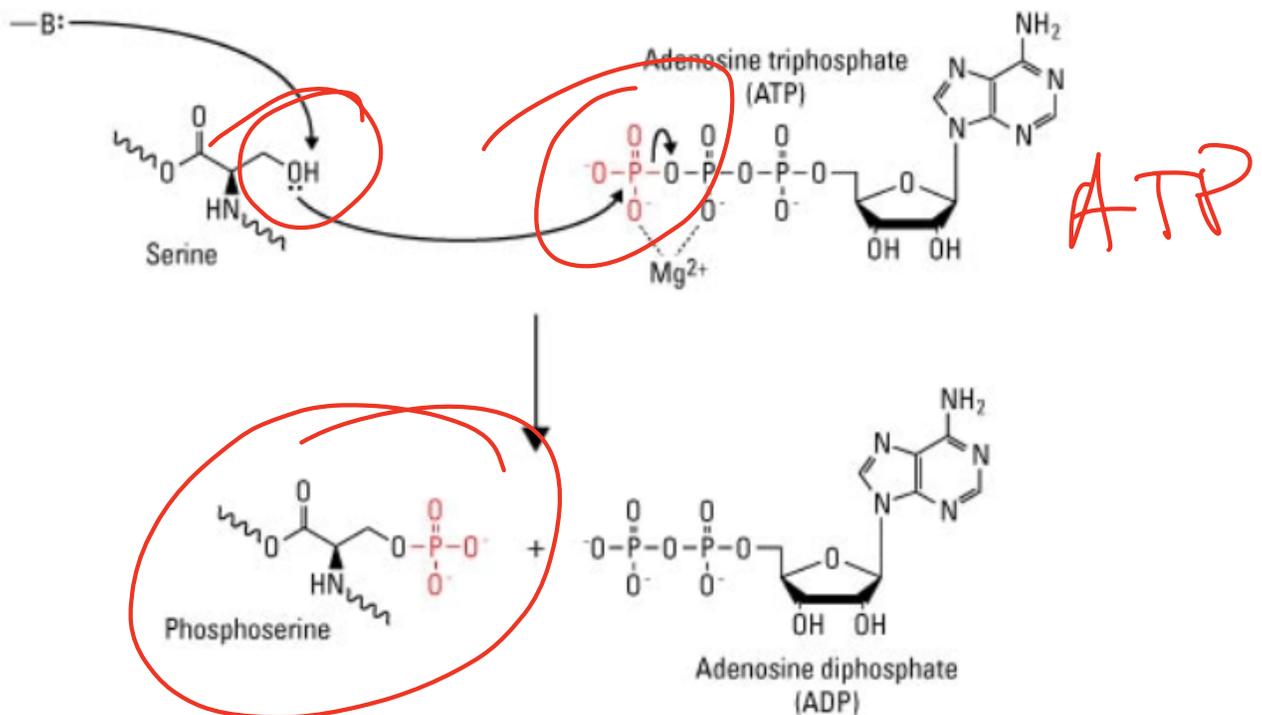




**Gleevec** – Novartis (\$4.65 Billion in sales in 2015). A kinase inhibitor, that is a first of its kind pill capable of treating certain blood cancers with only limited side effects. It was designed to combat leukemias with the relatively common “Philadelphia chromosome” (BCR-ABL kinase gene fusion)



How Kinases Work:

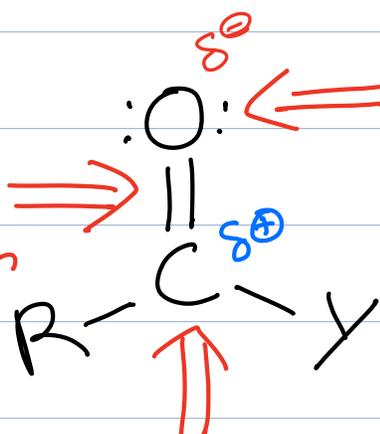


# Carbonyl Death Star

Old  
"pi bond"  
Kenobi



$\pi$  bond  
breaks  
during  
reaction



Protons ( $\text{H}^+$ )  
react here

Han  
"The  
Proton"  
Solo



Nucleophiles ( $\delta^-$ )  
react here

"Nuc" Skywalker



" $\text{sp}^3 \text{O}$ "

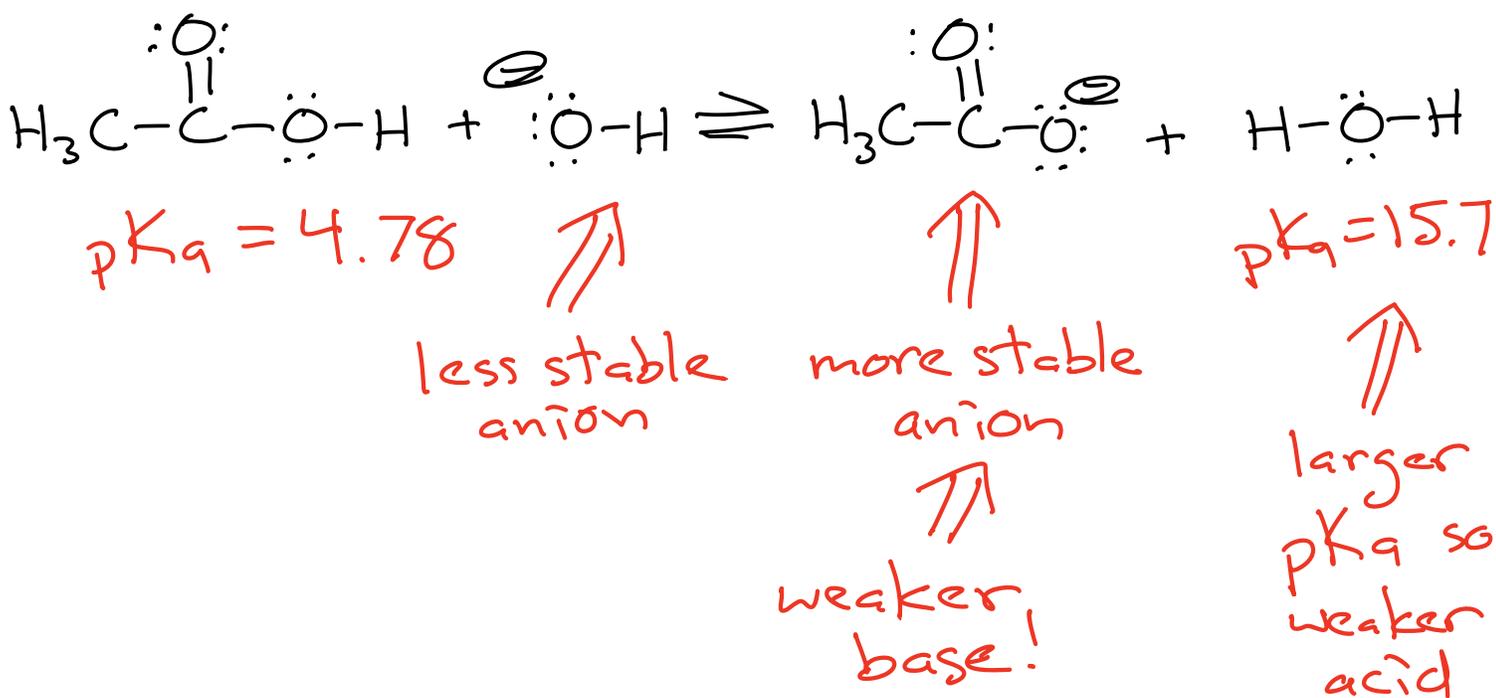


" $\text{S}_\text{N}2/\text{E}2$ "

Equilibrium favors formation of the weaker base and weaker acid

⇓  
more stable anion

⇓  
higher pKa



Bottom line → position of equilibrium favors the side with the more stable anion

Amounts to a thermodynamic driving force (motive) for a reaction

# Weaker bases are favored at equilibrium

Compound	Chemical Structure	pK <sub>a</sub>
	H-Cl	-7
Carboxylic acids*	$\text{R}-\text{CO}-\text{H}$	3-5
β-Dicarbonyls*	$\text{RC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CR}'$	10
β-Ketoesters*	$\text{RC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COR}'$	11
β-Diesters*	$\text{ROC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COR}'$	13
Water	HOH	15.7
Alcohols	$\text{RCH}_2\text{OH}$	15-19
Acid chlorides*	$\text{RCH}_2-\text{COCl}$	16
Aldehydes*	$\text{RCH}_2-\text{CHO}$	18-20
Ketones*	$\text{RCH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}'$	18-20
Esters*	$\text{RCH}_2-\text{COOR}'$	23-25
Terminal alkynes	$\text{RC}\equiv\text{C}-\text{H}$	25
LDA	$\text{H}-\text{N}(\text{i-C}_3\text{H}_7)_2$	40
Terminal alkenes	$\text{R}_2\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$	44
Alkanes	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2-\text{H}$	51

Strongest Acid  
(Weakest conjugate base)



Weakest Acid  
(Strongest conjugate base)

A) Reactions are favored (i.e. have a motive) if they lead to formation of a weaker acid and/or weaker base.

B) Checking pK<sub>a</sub> values can predict if a reaction has a motive even if there are other steps besides a proton transfer.

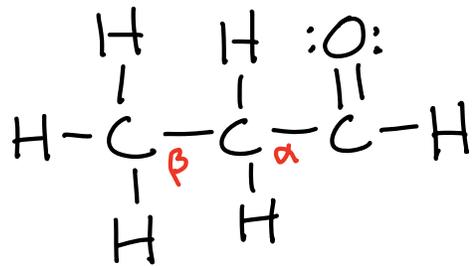
C) Recall that the conjugate base of a stronger acid (lower pK<sub>a</sub>) is a weaker base.

D) Check the pK's of the conjugate acid of the bases on either side of the equation. Lower pK<sub>a</sub> value corresponds to stronger acid of the conjugate acid, and thus weaker conjugate base. The base with a stronger conjugate acid (lower pK<sub>a</sub> value) will be the weaker base and will be favored at equilibrium.

E) Another way to look at it is that the base that is favored at equilibrium is the one that has the more stabilized anion, i.e. the one with the charge spread around more (electronegative) atoms.

F) Above is a pK<sub>a</sub> table that we will refer to often.

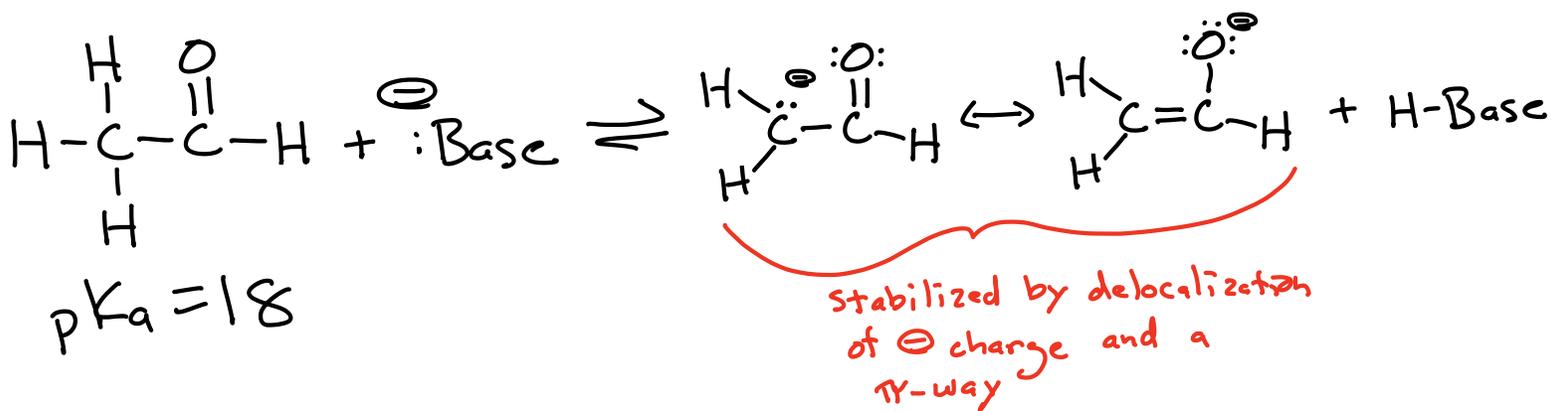
\*These have resonance stabilized anions



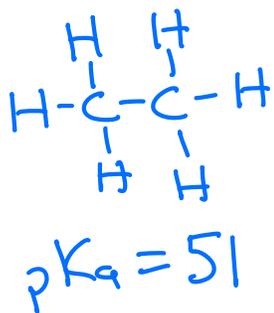
The C atom adjacent to a carbonyl is called the  $\alpha$  carbon. The next C atom is called the  $\beta$  carbon.

The H atoms on the  $\alpha$  carbon are called  $\alpha$  hydrogens

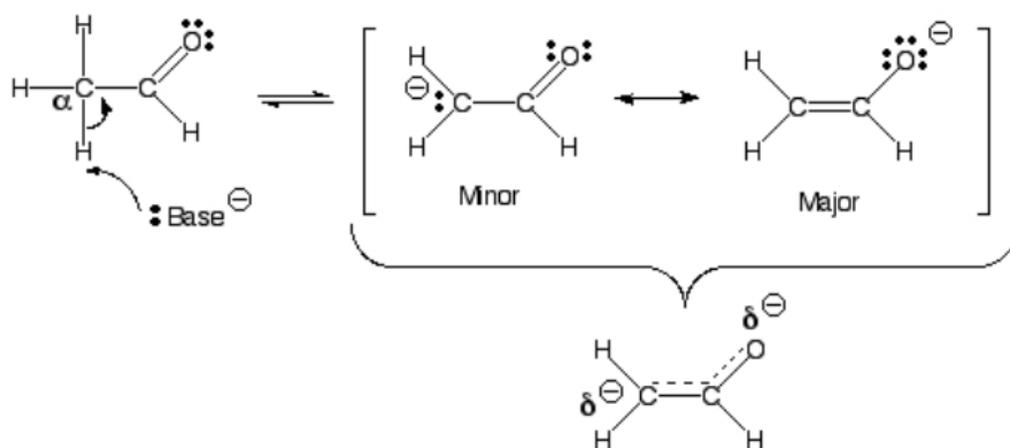
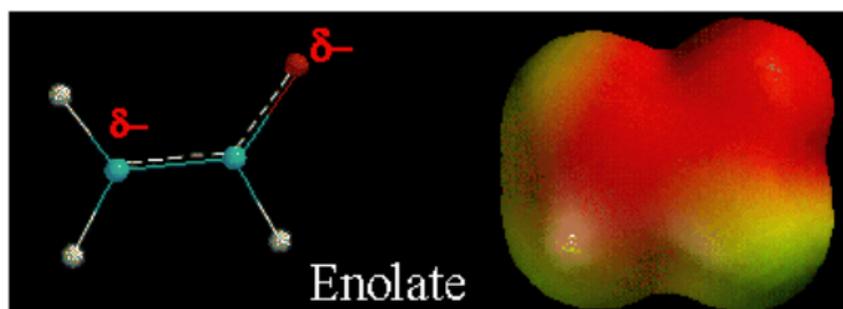
$\alpha$  hydrogens are extremely acidic for a C-H bond



Compare:



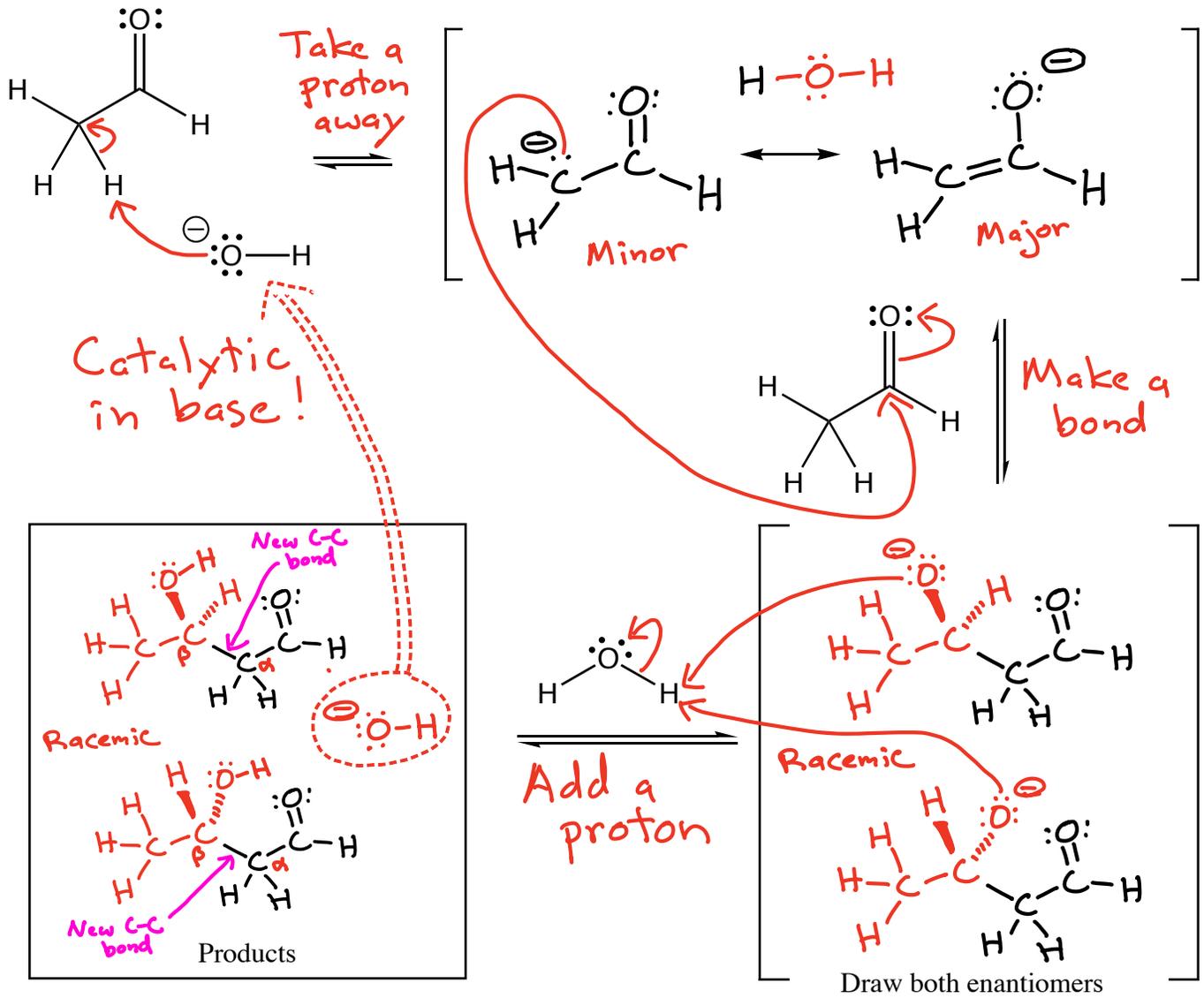
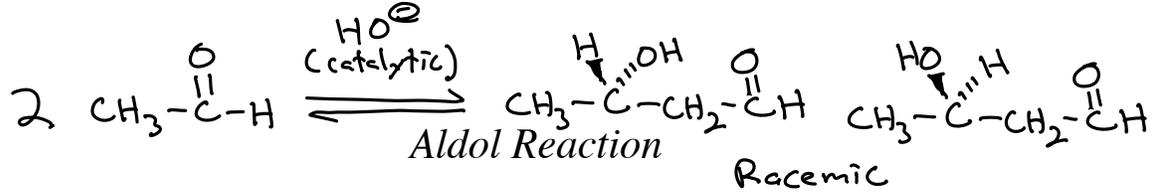
# Enolates as nucleophiles



A) Enolates are resonance stabilized, with a partial negative charge on carbon and oxygen. ✓

B) Enolates are nucleophiles, so they could react at either the carbon atom or oxygen atom. The partial negative charges give them the **opportunity** to react at either the carbon or oxygen.

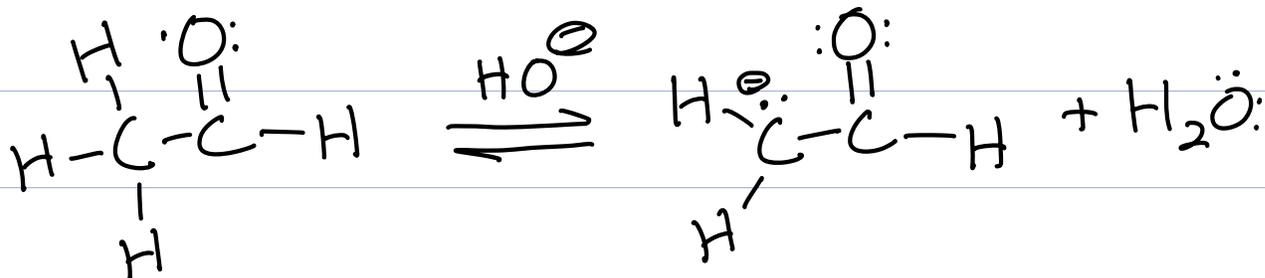
C) Reaction at the carbon atom gives the final product a C=O bond, while reaction at the oxygen atom gives the final product a C=C bond. However, C=O bonds are stronger than C=C bonds, **so the motive is to react at the carbon atom with most electrophiles.**



KRE  $\rightarrow$   $\beta$ -hydroxy aldehyde  
with a new C-C  
bond between the  
aldehyde  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$   
carbons

Mechanism  
A

# Another Movie Rips Off Organic Chemistry



Aldehyde

Enolate

Is Attacked  
By Enolate

Attacks  
Aldehyde

Austin Powers

Dr. Evil

