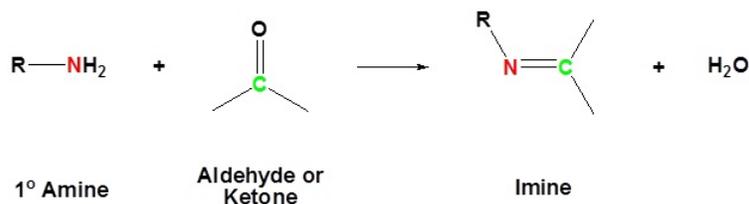
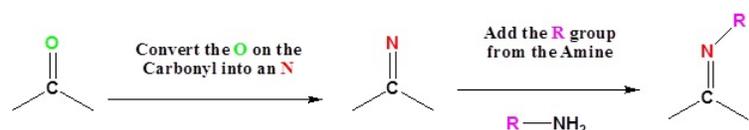


## 19.2: Addition of 1° Amines

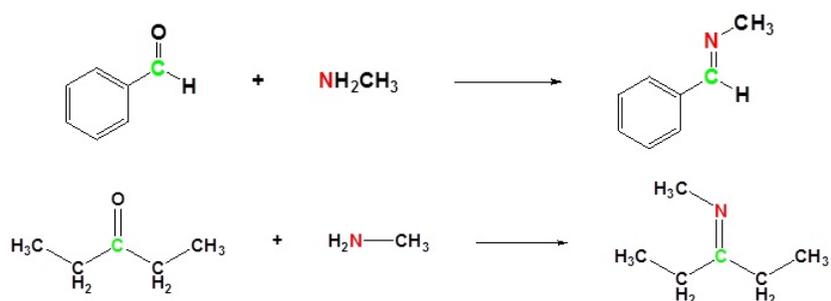
The reaction of aldehydes and ketones with ammonia or 1°-amines forms imine derivatives, also known as Schiff bases (compounds having a C=N function). Water is eliminated in the reaction, which is acid-catalyzed and reversible in the same sense as acetal formation. The pH for reactions which form imine compounds must be carefully controlled. The rate at which these imine compounds are formed is generally greatest near a pH of 5, and drops at higher and lower pH's. At high pH there will not be enough acid to protonate the OH in the intermediate to allow for removal as H<sub>2</sub>O. At low pH most of the amine reactant will be tied up as its ammonium conjugate acid and will become non-nucleophilic.



Converting reactants to products simply

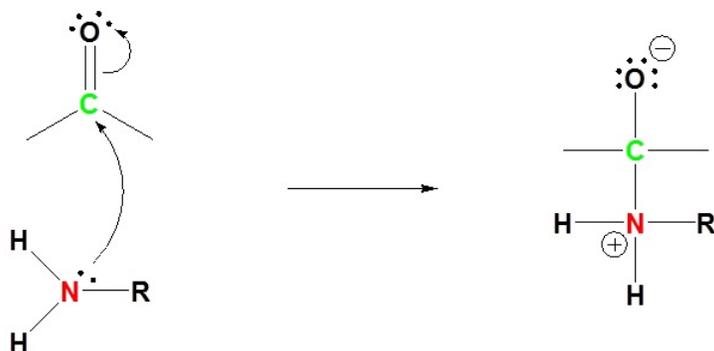


### Examples of imine forming reactions

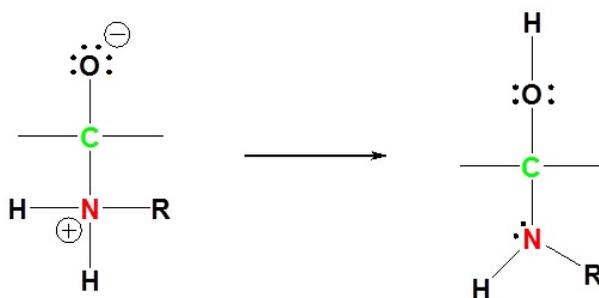


### Mechanism of imine formation

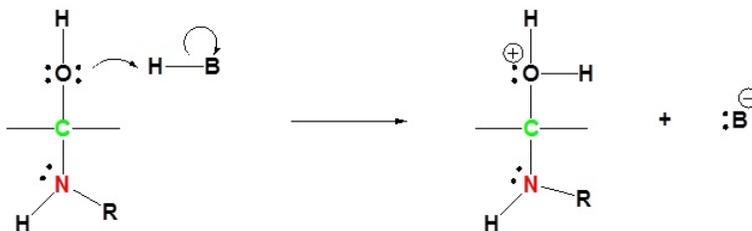
1) Nucleophilic attack



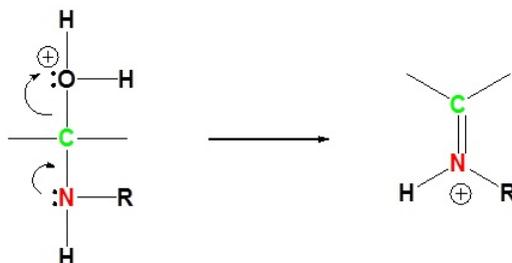
2) Proton transfer



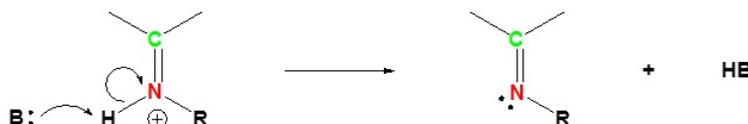
3) Protonation of OH



4) Removal of water

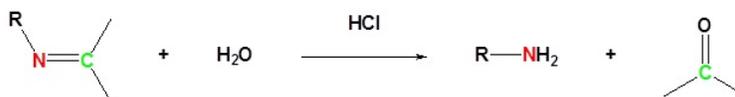


5) Deprotonation



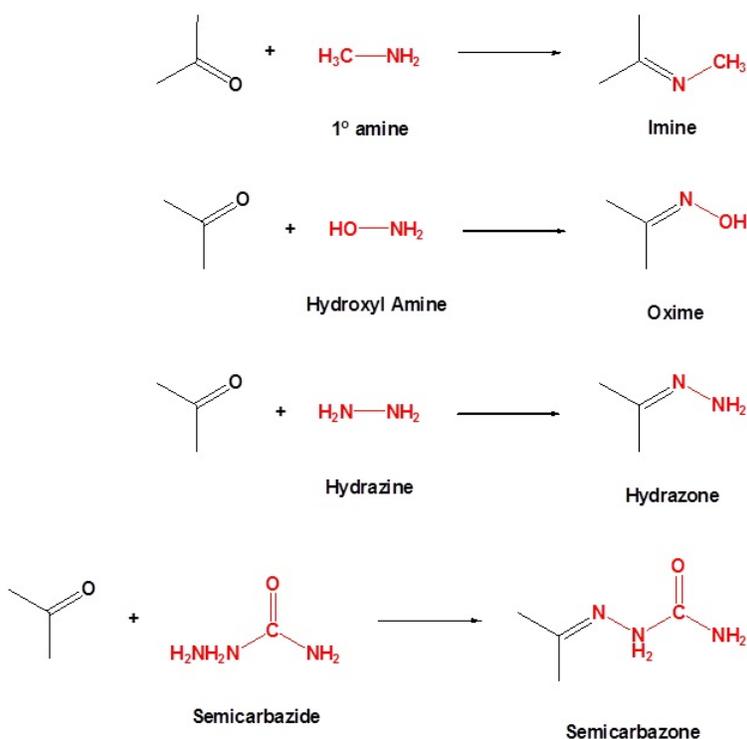
### Reversibility of imine forming reactions

Imines can be hydrolyzed back to the corresponding primary amine under acidic conditions.



### Reactions involving other reagents of the type Y-NH<sub>2</sub>

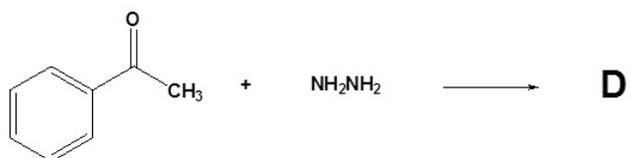
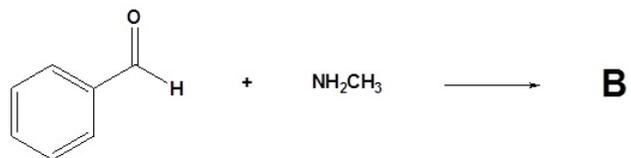
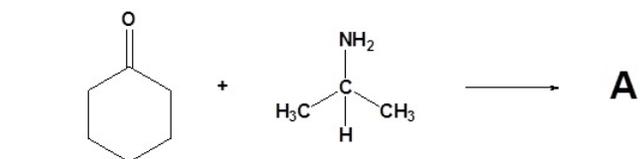
Imines are sometimes difficult to isolate and purify due to their sensitivity to hydrolysis. Consequently, other reagents of the type Y-NH<sub>2</sub> have been studied, and found to give stable products (R<sub>2</sub>C=N-Y) useful in characterizing the aldehydes and ketones from which they are prepared. Some of these reagents are listed in the following table, together with the structures and names of their carbonyl reaction products. Hydrazones are used as part of the Wolff-Kishner reduction and will be discussed in more detail in another module.



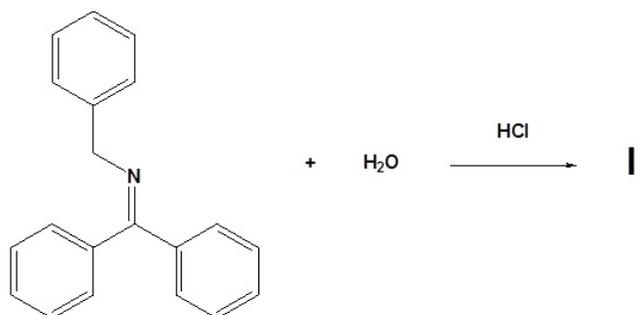
With the exception of unsubstituted hydrazones, these derivatives are easily prepared and are often crystalline solids - even when the parent aldehyde or ketone is a liquid. Since melting points can be determined more quickly and precisely than boiling points, derivatives such as these are useful for comparison and identification of carbonyl compounds. It should be noted that although semicarbazide has two amino groups ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) only one of them is a reactive amine. The other is amide-like and is deactivated by the adjacent carbonyl group.

## Problems

1) Please draw the products of the following reactions.



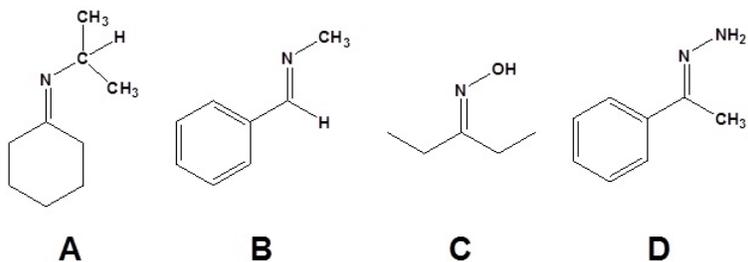
2) Please draw the structure of the reactant needed to produce the indicated product.



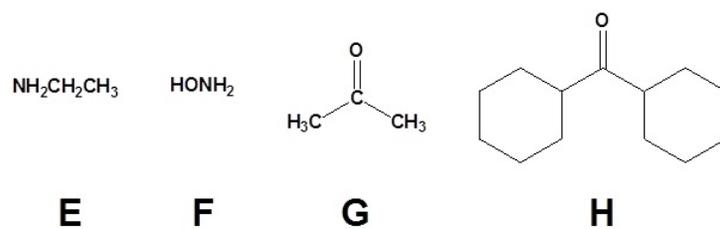
3) Please draw the products of the following reactions.

### Answers

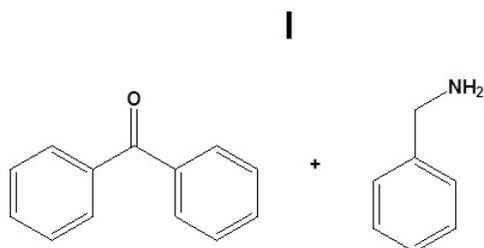
1)



2)



3)



### Contributors

- Prof. Steven Farmer ([Sonoma State University](#))
- William Reusch, Professor Emeritus ([Michigan State U.](#)), [Virtual Textbook of Organic Chemistry](#)

---

19.2: Addition of 1° Amines is shared under a [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by LibreTexts.