

21.8: CONDENSATION OF ACIDS WITH AMINES

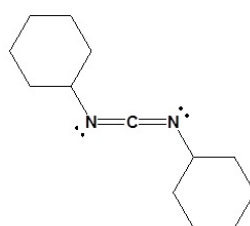
CONVERSION OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS TO AMIDES

The direct reaction of a carboxylic acid with an amine would be expected to be difficult because the basic amine would deprotonate the carboxylic acid to form a highly unreactive carboxylate. However when the ammonium carboxylate salt is heated to a temperature above 100 °C water is driven off and an amide is formed.



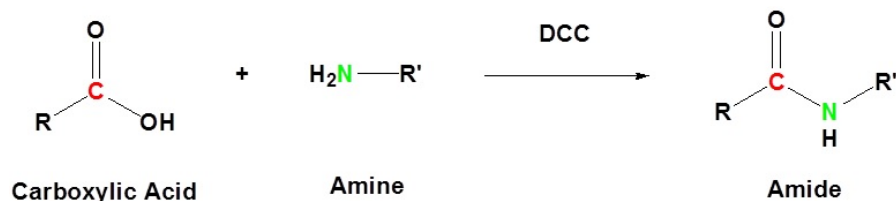
CONVERSION OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS TO AMIDE USING DCC AS AN ACTIVATING AGENT

The direct conversion of a carboxylic acid to an amide is difficult because amines are basic and tend to convert carboxylic acids to their highly unreactive carboxylates. In this reaction the carboxylic acid adds to the DCC molecule to form a good leaving group which can then be displaced by an amine during nucleophilic substitution.



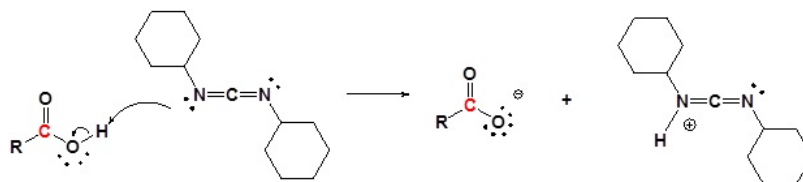
Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC)

DCC induced coupling to form an amide linkage is an important reaction in the synthesis of peptides.

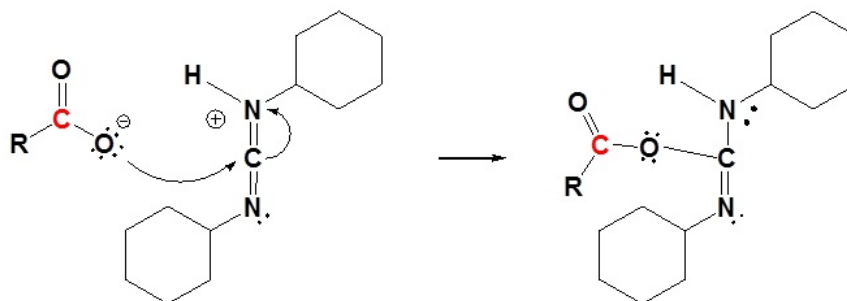


MECHANISM

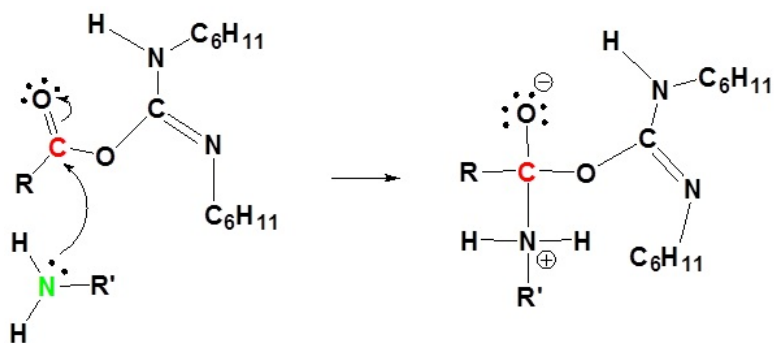
1) Deprotonation



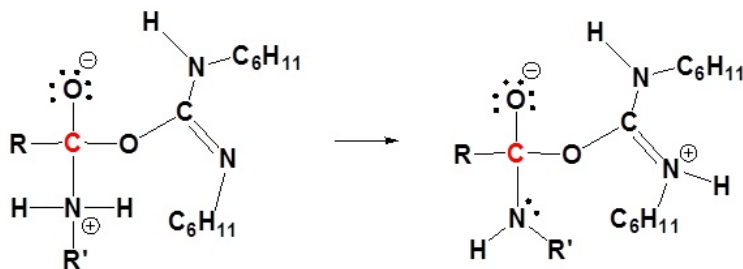
2) Nucleophilic reaction with carboxylate acting as the nucleophile



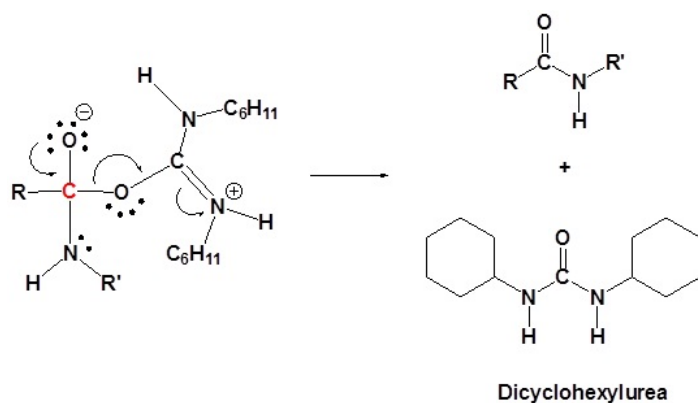
3) Nucleophilic reaction with the amine acting as the nucleophile



4) Proton transfer

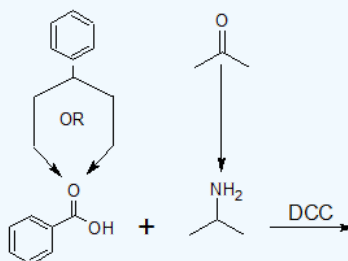


5) Leaving group removal



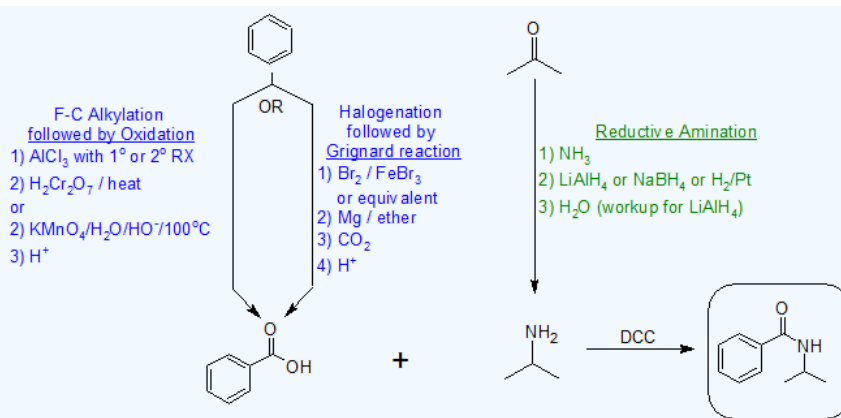
Exercise

7. Complete the reaction map below proposing two different ways to synthesize benzoic acid from benzene.



Answer

7.



CONTRIBUTORS AND ATTRIBUTIONS

- Dr. Dietmar Kennepohl FCIC (Professor of Chemistry, Athabasca University)
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