Reactions of Amines

1. **Reaction as a proton base** (Section 19-5 and 19-6)

   - Mechanism: Required (protonation)
   - Reverse Mechanism: Required (deprotonation)
   - Amines are completely converted to ammonium salts by acids
   - Ammonium salts are completely neutralized back to amines by bases
   - Patterns in base strength: Reflect stabilization/destabilization factors for both the amine and the ammonium
     - N lone pair: $sp^3 > sp^2 > p$
     - For $sp^3$ nitrogens, $3^\circ > 2^\circ > 1^\circ$

2. **Reaction with Ketones or Aldehydes** (Section 18-16,17 and 19-10)

   Notes:
   - “$Z$” can be a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, or hydrogen atom/group.
   - The “aminol” can’t be isolated, it’s only present at equilibrium.
   - Equilibrium factors apply. Water drives to the carbonyl side; removal of water drives to the imine side.
   - Mechanism: Learned for last test (not tested this time)
   - Must have at least 2 H’s on nitrogen $\rightarrow 2^\circ$, $3^\circ$ amines can’t do this
1. **Alkylation of 1º Alkyl Halides** (Section 19-12, 19-21A)

   ![Reaction Scheme]

   - **3a. Polyalkylation** is routine.
     - With excess alkyl halide and base, keep on alkyrating until it becomes the quaternary ammonium salt (no surviving H’s on nitrogen, examples below).
     - Mechanism required for polyalkylations. The mechanism involves repetitive sequential S_N2 alkylations-deprotonations.

   ![Polyalkylation Examples]

   - **3b. Monosubstitution** is possible when excess ammonia (or other cheap amines) is used.
     - Mechanism for monosubstitution required. This involves simple S_N2, followed by deprotonation by the excess amine.

   ![Monosubstitution Example]

2. **Acylation with Acid Chlorides** to From Amides: (Section 19-13, 20-15)

   ![Acylation Reaction Scheme]

   - Mechanism: Required (addition-elimination-deprotonation)
   - Amine must have at least one hydrogen to begin. But 1º, 2º, or NH_3 all react well.
   - But 3º amines can’t work.
   - Some base is required for the deprotonation step and to absorb the HCl. For cheap amines, excess amine can simply be used. Alternatively, amines with no H’s (triethylamine, pyridine) can be used. Or else NaOH or NaHCO_3 can be used.
4b. **Acylation with Carboxylic Acids** to From Amides: (Section 20-12)

\[
\begin{align*}
R_1\text{N}H & \quad \text{HOOCR} \\
& \quad \text{heat} \\
& \quad R_1\text{N}O\text{R}_2
\end{align*}
\]

- Mechanism: Not Required
- Fairly high temperatures often required, and yields aren’t as good as with acid chlorides
- Biologically amine + acid → amide is routine, and is facilitated by complex enzyme mechanisms

3. **Substitution for Aromatic Amines via the Diazonium Salts** (“The Sandmeyer Reaction”) (Section 19-17, 18)

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ArNH}_2 & \quad \text{NaNO}_2, \text{HCl} \\
\text{ArN}_2\text{Cl} & \quad \text{CuCN} \\
& \quad \text{CuBr} \\
& \quad \text{CuCl} \\
& \quad \text{H}_2\text{O, H}^+, \text{heat} \\
& \quad \text{ArOH} \\
& \quad \text{ArH}
\end{align*}
\]

- Mechanism: Not Required
- Qualitatively, can think of this as a nucleophilic substitution: a nucleophile replaces \(\text{N}_2\), a premier leaving group. The actual mechanism is probably radical, however.
- Application in synthesis: The amine (an o/p director) is often derived from a nitro (a meta director). Using the nitro group to direct meta, then reducing and converting the nitrogen into CN, Br, Cl, OH, or H, provides products we haven’t been able to make before.
Synthesis of Amines

6. **From Aldehydes or Ketones: Reductive Amination** (Section 19-19)

\[
\text{Ketone or aldehyde + H}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{N} \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{N}^+ \text{R} - \text{R}_1 \rightarrow \text{R} - \text{R}_1 \text{H}
\]

- Access: 1º, 2º, or 3º Amines
- Mechanism: Not required. (Basic workup)
- The carbonyl reactant can be an aldehyde or a ketone
- The amine reactant must have at least one hydrogen, as shown above; but R₂ and/or R₃ can be either a carbon or a hydrogen. Thus:
  - NH₃ \(\rightarrow\) 1º RNH₂
  - 1º RNH₂ \(\rightarrow\) 2º R₂NH
  - 2º R₂NH \(\rightarrow\) 3º R₃N
  - 3º R₃N don’t react

7. **Via Amides**: (Section 19-20)

\[
\text{R} - \text{O} - \text{N} - \text{R}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \text{R} \xrightarrow{\text{N}} \text{R} - \text{R}_1
\]

- No mechanism required for the reduction
- Access: 1º, 2º, or 3º Amines.
- R₁ and R₂ can be either H or C. Thus, you can produce either 1º, 2º, or 3º amines in this way:
  - RCONH₂ \(\rightarrow\) 1º RCH₂NH₂
  - RCONHR \(\rightarrow\) 2º RCH₂NHR
  - RCONR₂ \(\rightarrow\) 3º RCH₂NR₂
8. **From Amines via Amides**: (Section 19-20)

\[
\text{R}^\text{O} \text{Cl} + \text{H}_2\text{N} R_1 \xrightarrow{\text{acylation}} \text{R}^\text{N} R_1 \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \text{R}^\text{N} R_1
\]

\[
\text{R}^\text{O} \text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{N} R_1 \xrightarrow{\text{acylation, heat}} \text{R}^\text{N} R_1 \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \text{R}^\text{N} R_1
\]

- Access: 1º, 2º, or 3º Amines
- Acylation mechanism required (see reaction 4) but reduction mechanism not required.

9. **Reduction of nitro compounds**: (section 19-21C)

\[
\text{NO}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Fe, HCl}} \text{NH}_2
\]

- Access: 1º Amines only (especially aromatic amines)
- No mechanism required.
- There are many other recipes for reduction of nitro compounds:
  - Pd/H₂, Ni/H₂, Pt/H₂,
  - Fe/HCl, Zn/HCl, Sn/HCl

10. **From 1º Alkyl Halides: Alkylation of Ammonia** (Section 19-12, 19-21A) (See reaction 3).

\[
\text{R}^\text{Br} \xrightarrow{\text{excess NH}_3} \text{R}^\text{NH}_2
\]

- Access: 1º Amines only
- Mechanism required. (see reaction 3b)
- No change in number of carbons.
- Excess NH₃ prevents polysubstitution.

11. **From Nitriles: Reduction of Nitriles** (Section 19-21B)

\[
\text{R}^\text{C} \equiv \text{N} \xrightarrow{\text{LiAlH}_4} \text{R}^\text{NH}_2
\]

- Access: 1º amines
- Mechanism not required.

12. **From Alkyl Halides: Via the Nitrile** (Section 19-21B)

\[
\text{R}^\text{Br} \xrightarrow{\text{1. KCN}} \text{[R} \equiv \text{CN]} \xrightarrow{\text{2. LiAlH}_4} \text{R}^\text{NH}_2
\]

- Access: 1º Amines only
- Mechanism not required.
- One-Carbon chain extension!
## Summary of Amine Syntheses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Reaction Number</th>
<th>Source/Precursor</th>
<th>Reagent</th>
<th>Available Amines</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>#6</td>
<td>Aldehydes or Ketones</td>
<td>R₂NH, H⁺, NaBH₃CN,</td>
<td>1°, 2°, or 3° Amines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>#7, #8</td>
<td>Amides</td>
<td>LiAlH₄</td>
<td>1°, 2°, or 3° Amines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>#7, #8</td>
<td>Amines (via Amide)</td>
<td>1. RCOCl (or RCO₂H, heat) 2. LiAlH₄</td>
<td>1° ArNH₂</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>#7, #8</td>
<td>Acid Chlorides or Acids (via Amide)</td>
<td>1. RNH₂ 2. LiAlH₄</td>
<td>1° ArNH₂</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>#9</td>
<td>ArNO₂</td>
<td>Fe/HCl</td>
<td>1° ArNH₂</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>#10</td>
<td>1° RCH₂Br</td>
<td>NH₃ (excess)</td>
<td>1° only, with CH₂ next to nitrogen</td>
<td>Original carbon chain is not extended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>#12</td>
<td>1° RCH₂Br (via nitrile)</td>
<td>1. KCN or NaCN 2. LiAlH₄</td>
<td>1° only, with CH₂ next to nitrogen</td>
<td>Original carbon chain is extended by one carbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>#11</td>
<td>RCH₂CN</td>
<td>LiAlH₄</td>
<td>1° only, with CH₂ next to nitrogen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>