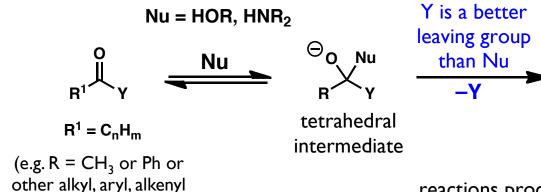
From Last Time: Nucleophilic Substitution at the Carbonyl

Guide to addition/elimination reactions

• note: HOR, HNR₂ are relatively weak nucleophiles

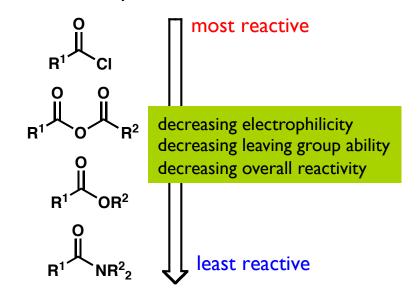


Must meet the following 3 conditions for reaction to occur:

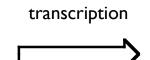
or alkynyl groups)

- Y must be a better leaving group than Nu (otherwise the reverse reaction will dominate)
- Nu must be nucleophilic enough to attack R¹C(O)Y
- R^IC(O)Y must be electrophilic enough to react with Nu

reactions proceed down the hierarcy of carboxylic acid derivatives



Understanding Biology on a Chemical Level



translation

RNA

protein

2'-deoxyadenosine-5'-phosphate

DNA

2'-deoxycytidine-5'-phosphate

2'-deoxyguanosine-5'-phosphate

2'-deoxythymidine-5'-phosphate

adenosine-5'-phosphate

cytidine-5'-phosphate

guanosine-5'-phosphate

uradine-5'-phosphate

$$HO$$
 NH_2
 HO
 NH_2
 NH_2
 NH_2

(plus 10 more)

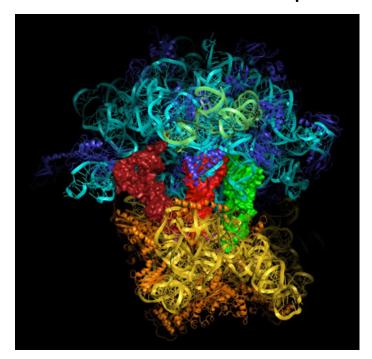
Proteins are Amino Acid Polymers

there are twenty canonical amino acids

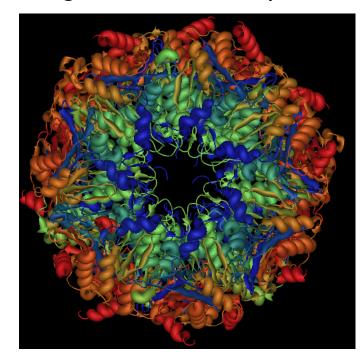
Proteins are Amino Acid Polymers

amino acids are both nucleophiles and electrophiles

ribosomes: RNA and protein assemblies that make new proteins



proteasomes: proteins that catalyze the degradation of other proteins



Peptide Synthesis: In the Laboratory

amino acids are both nucleophiles and electrophiles

• chemists use "peptide coupling" reactions

$$H_2N$$
 $\downarrow D$
 $\downarrow D$

Blocking Groups are Known as "Protecting Groups"

the Fmoc protecting group for amines: generates a less nucleophilic 'carbamate'

- added to nitrogen by an acylation reaction
- cleaved from nitrogen using base

N-Fmoc-alanine

OH
OH
OH

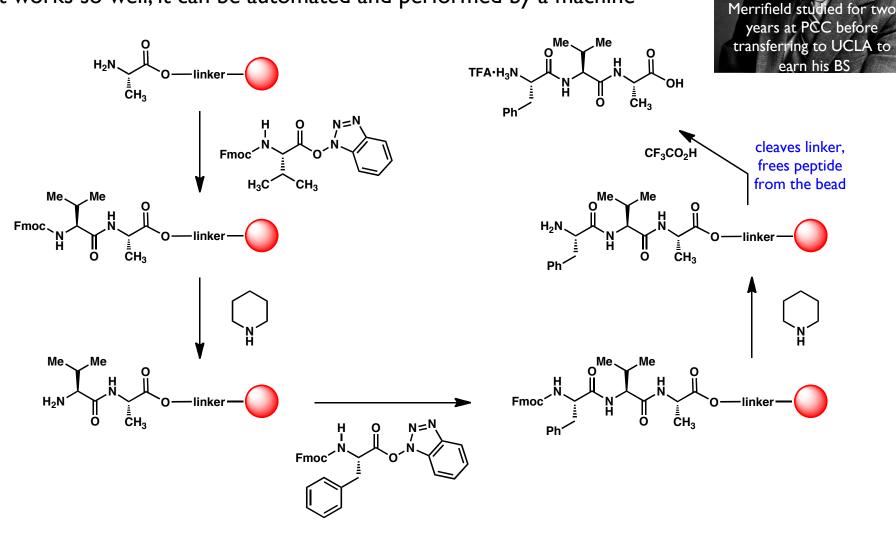
Amino Acids can be Attached to Resins by Ester Linkages

- amino acid is added to resin by esterification reaction
- diisopropyl carbodiimide is used to generate ester under mild conditions

The Merrifield Peptide Synthesis

Robert Bruce Merrifield: won Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1984 for the development of "solid phase" peptide synthesis.

- substrates are appended to a polystyrene bead; simplifies purification
- it works so well, it can be automated and performed by a machine



The Chemistry of Peptide Synthesis

What are the mechanisms for these reactions?

Mechanism of Amide Bond Formation

Mechanism of Fmoc-Deprotection

what is the mechanism for this reaction?