



A Level Organic Chemistry

Acyl Halides

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Acyl Halides Synthesis

Sulphur dichloride oxide (thionyl chloride) is a liquid at room temperature and has the formula SOCl_2 .

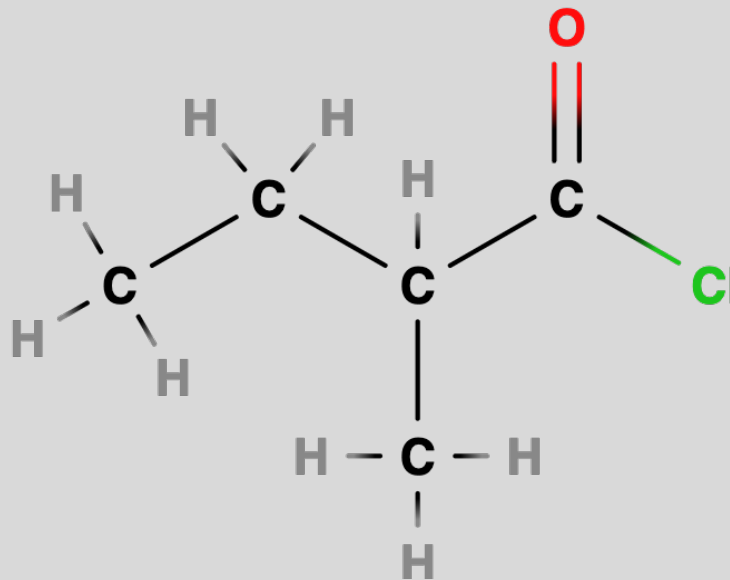
The sulphur dichloride oxide reacts with carboxylic acids to produce an acyl chloride, and sulphur dioxide and hydrogen chloride gases are given off.



Propanoyl chloride

Naming Acyl Halides

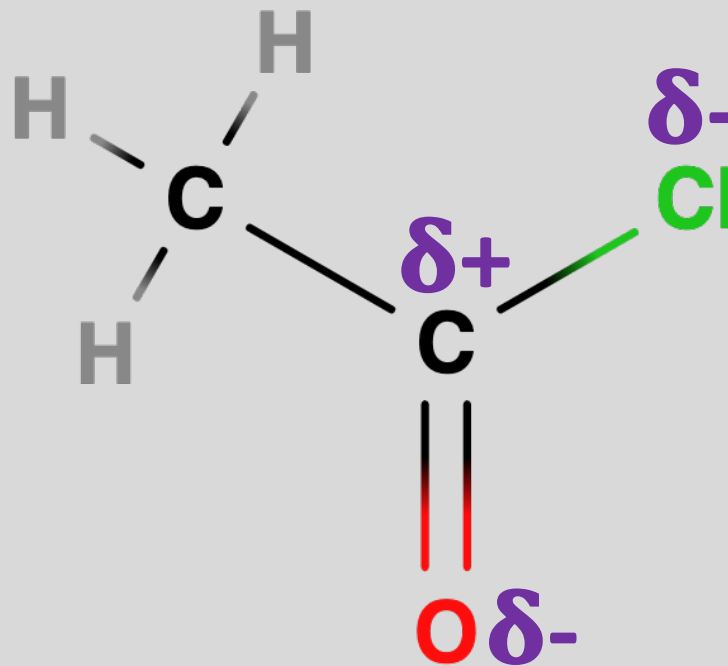
carboxylic acid name	acyl chloride name	acyl chloride formula
ethanoic acid	ethanoyl chloride	CH ₃ COCl
propanoic acid	propanoyl chloride	CH ₃ CH ₂ COCl
butanoic acid	butanoyl chloride	CH ₃ CH ₂ CH ₂ COCl



Carbon in the COCl group is always number 1

2-methyl butanoyl chloride

Reactions of Acyl Halides

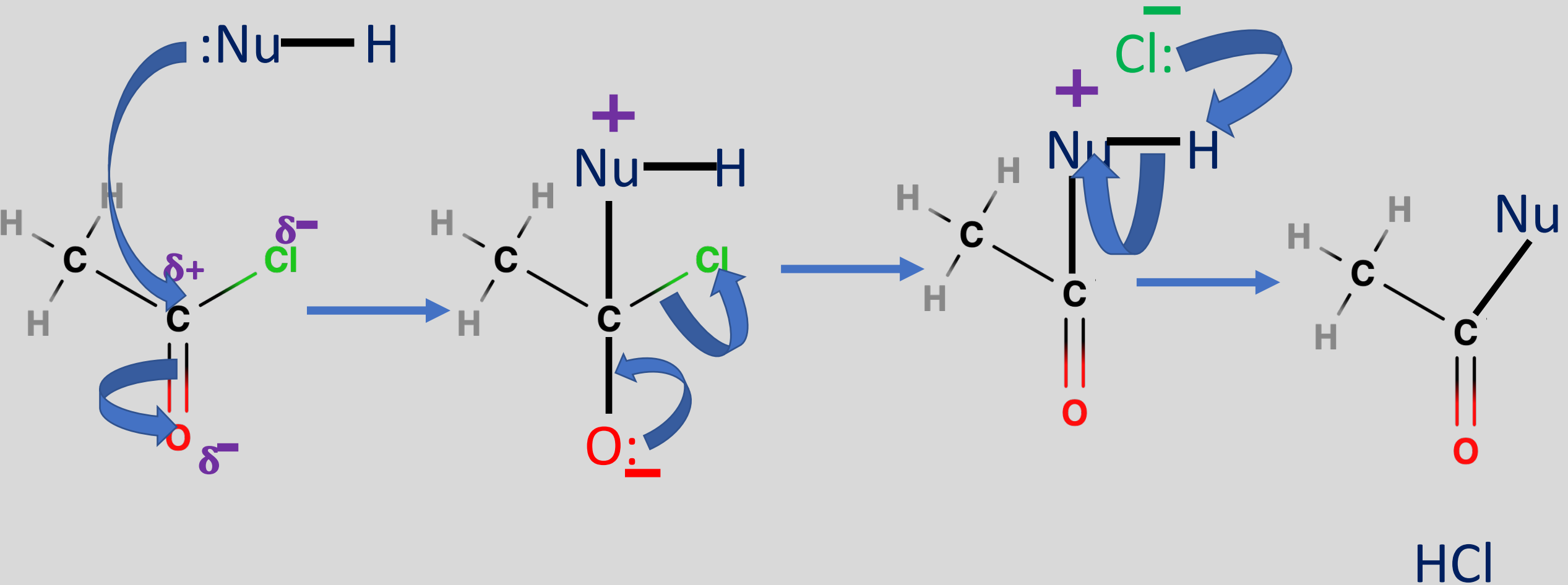


Since the C atom is $\delta+$ it will be attacked by nucleophiles. Since the halide ions are good leaving groups, nucleophilic addition-elimination occurs.

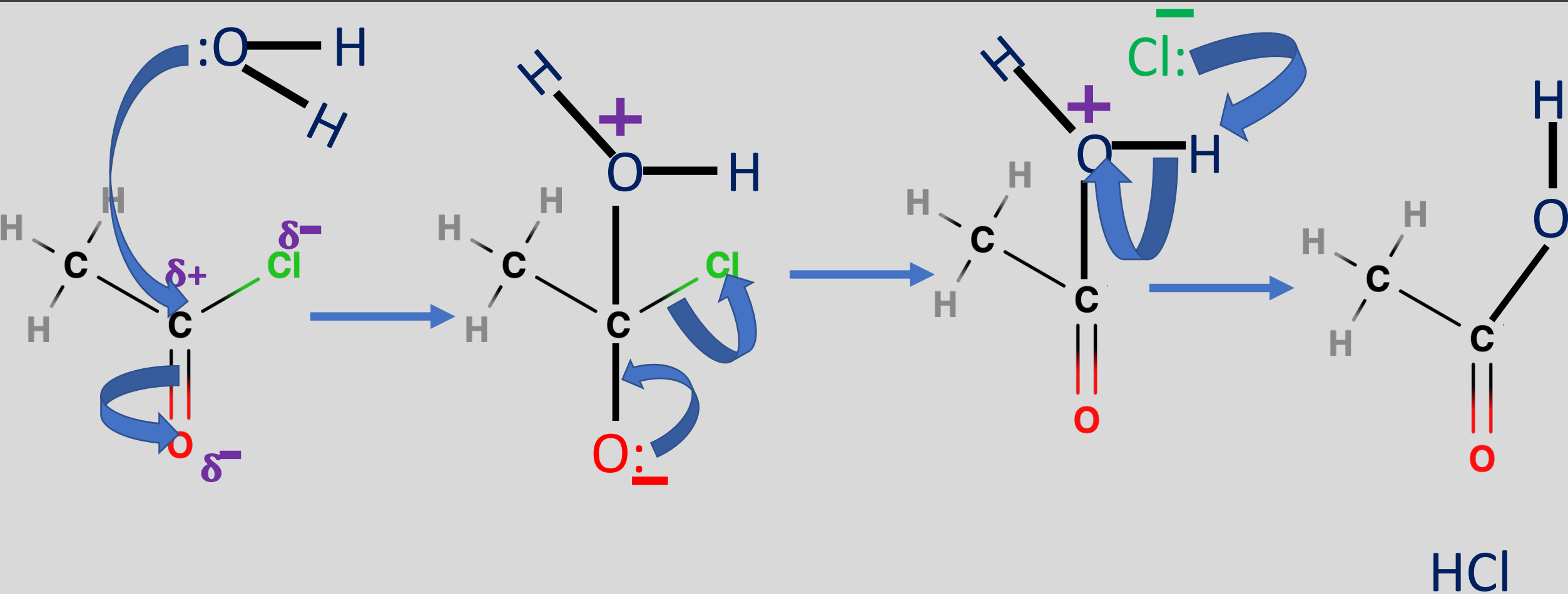
Acyl halides are extremely reactive and must be stored and handled with care.

They react with water, alcohols, amines and ammonia.

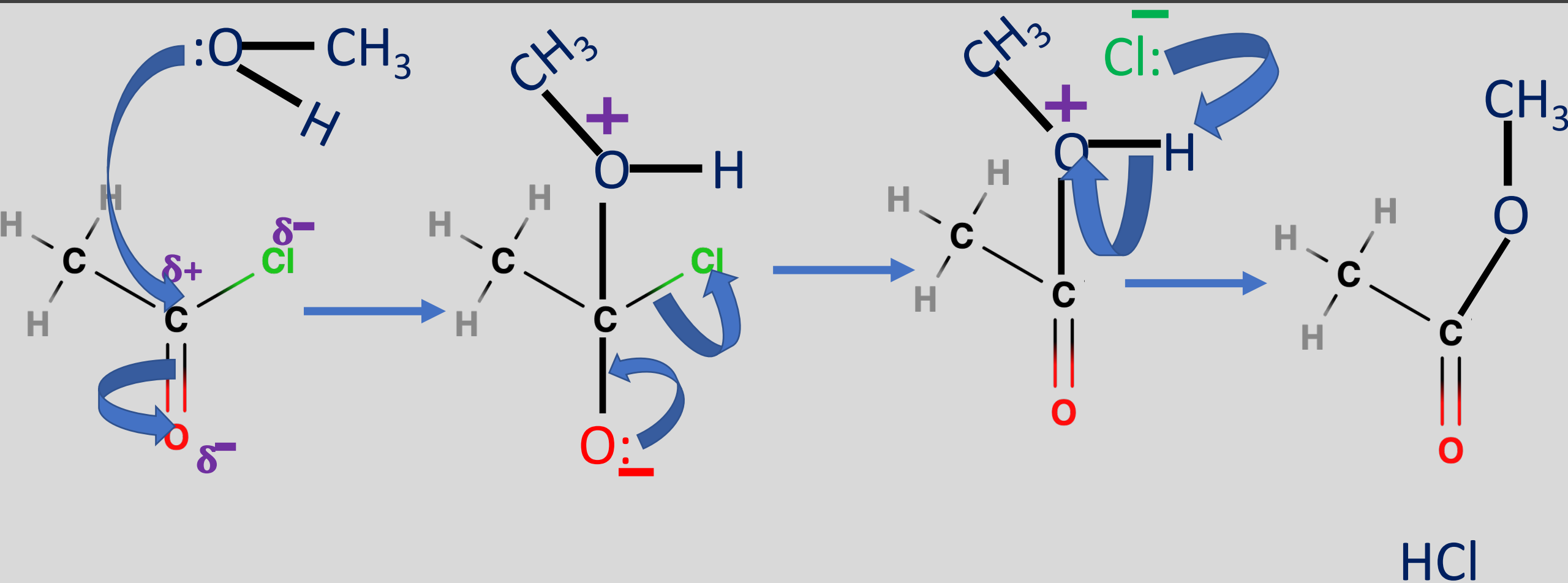
General Reaction Mechanism



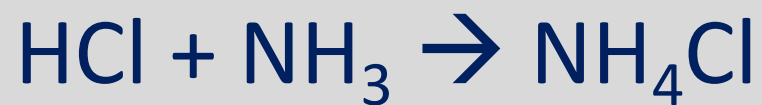
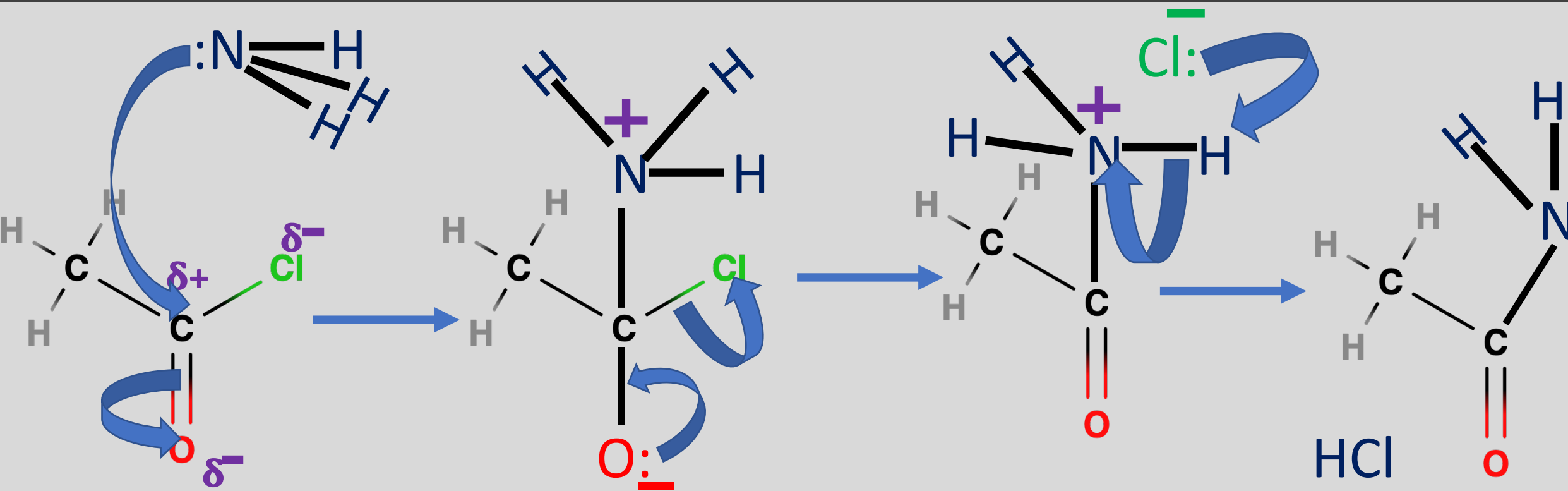
Reaction Mechanism with H₂O



Reaction Mechanism with CH_3OH



Reaction Mechanism with NH_3



Reaction Mechanism with CH_3NH_2

