

Organic chemistry

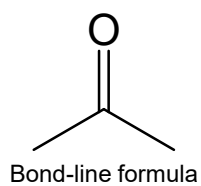
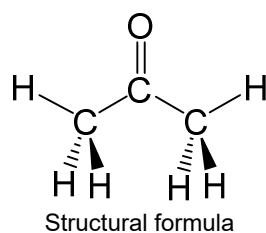
Chemistry of carbon:

All organic molecules contain C atoms.

C is the only element able to:

- bind other C atoms forming chains and cycles
- bind H and many other heteroatoms (N, O, S, P, halogens, etc.)
- Form single, double or triple bonds.

Representation of organic molecules



ball-and-stick

space-filling

FUNCTIONAL GROUPS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

FUNCTIONAL GROUPS ARE GROUPS OF ATOMS IN ORGANIC MOLECULES THAT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHARACTERISTIC CHEMICAL REACTIONS OF THOSE MOLECULES. IN THE GENERAL FORMULAE SHOWN BELOW FOR EACH FUNCTIONAL GROUP, 'R' REPRESENTS THE REST OF THE MOLECULE, AND 'X' REPRESENTS ANY HALOGEN ATOM.

● HYDROCARBONS	● SIMPLE OXYGEN HETEROATOMICS	● HALOGEN HETEROATOMICS	● CARBONYL COMPOUNDS	● NITROGEN-BASED	● SULFUR-BASED	● AROMATIC
ALKANE Naming: -ane e.g. ethane	ALKENE Naming: -ene e.g. ethene	ALKYNE Naming: -yne e.g. ethyne	ALCOHOL Naming: -ol e.g. ethanol	ETHER Naming: -oxy-ane e.g. methoxyethane	EPOXIDE Naming: -ene oxide e.g. ethene oxide	HALOALKANE Naming: halo- e.g. chloroethane
ALDEHYDE Naming: -al e.g. ethanal	KETONE Naming: -one e.g. propanone	CARBOXYLIC ACID Naming: -oic acid e.g. ethanoic acid	ACID ANHYDRIDE Naming: -oic anhydride e.g. ethanoic anhydride	ESTER Naming: -yl -oate e.g. ethyl ethanoate	AMIDE Naming: -amide e.g. ethanamide	ACYL HALIDE Naming: -oyl halide e.g. ethanoyl chloride
AMINE Naming: -amine e.g. ethanamine	NITRILE Naming: -nitrile e.g. ethanenitrile	IMINE Naming: -imine e.g. ethanimine	ISOCYANATE Naming: -yl isocyanate e.g. ethyl isocyanate	AZO COMPOUND Naming: -yl azo- e.g. azoethane	THIOL Naming: -thiol e.g. methanethiol	ARENE Naming: -yl benzene e.g. ethyl benzene

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Functional groups determine the chemical reactivity of the organic molecules.

Classification of organic molecules

Aromatic compounds

All the compounds that are follow the **Hückel's rule**

Aliphatic compounds

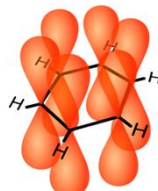
All the compounds that are not aromatic

Hückel's rule

- Planar structure with sp^2 hybridization
- Extended π system, delocalized on the on the whole molecule and containing a number of electrons equal to $2n+1$, where n in an integer ≥ 0

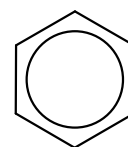


Sigma Bonds
 sp^2 Hybridized orbitals



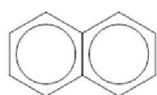
6 p_z orbitals

Benzene
 $n = 1$

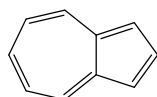


Classification of organic molecules

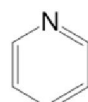
Aromatic compounds



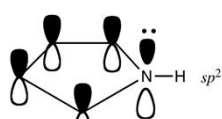
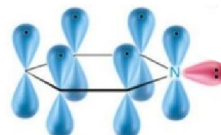
Naftalene
n = 2



Azulene
n = 2

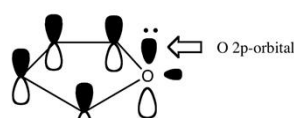


Pyridine
n = 2



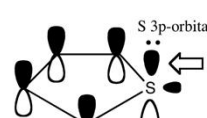
Pyrrole
n = 1

HOMO energy = -8.66 eV
(benzene = -9.65 eV)
Less stable than benzene



Furan
n = 1

Smaller stabilisation -
O more electronegative -
less delocalisation



Thiophene
n = 1

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC

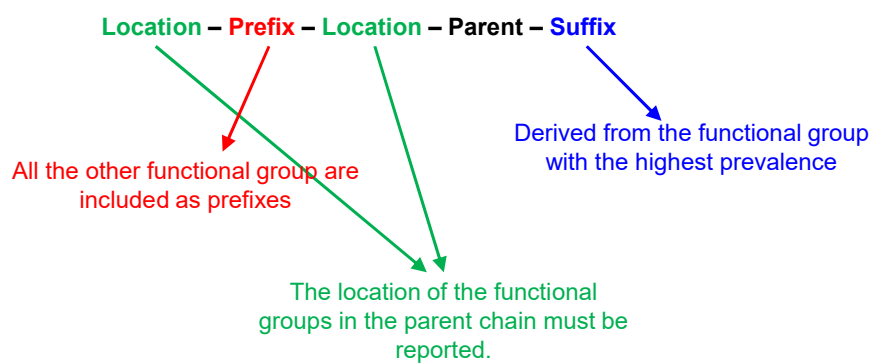
Location - Prefix - Location - Parent - Suffix

↓
Name of the hydrocarbon with the same number of carbon atoms

N° C atoms	Alkane	Parent	Alkyl group
1	Methane	Meth-	Methyl
2	Ethane	Eth-	Ethyl
3	Propane	Prop-	Propyl
4	Butane	But-	Butyl
5	Pentane	Pent-	Pentyl
6	Hexane	Hex-	Hexyl

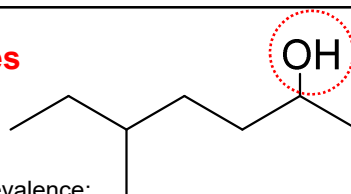
Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC



Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC



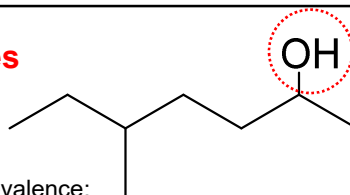
- Find the functional group with the highest prevalence: bound to aliphatic or aromatic skeleton?

Prevalence	Functional group	Formula	Prefix	Suffix
1	Carboxylic acid	R-COOH	Carboxy-	-ic acid
2	Aldehyde	R-CHO	formyl-	-al
3	Ketone	R ¹ -CO-R ²	oxo-	-one
4	Alcohol, phenol	R-OH	hydroxy-	-ol
5	Amine	R-NH ₂ R ¹ -NHR ² R ¹ -NR ² R ³	amino- N-alkylamino- N,N'-dialkylimino-	-amine -N-alkylamine -N,N'-dialkylamine
6	Halide	-X	fluoro- chloro- bromo- iodo-	----
7	Ether	R ¹ -OR ²	alkoxy-	----
8	Alkyne	C≡C	alkynyl-	-ine
9	Alkene	C=C	alkenyl-	-ene
10	Alkane	C-C	alkyl-	-ane

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC

- Find the functional group with the highest prevalence: bound to aliphatic or aromatic skeleton?

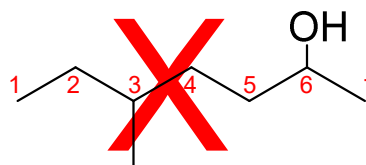
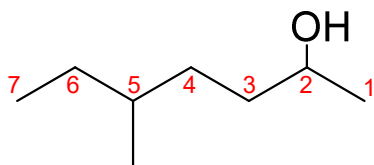


Priorità	Functional group	Formula	Prefix	Suffix
1	Acidi carbossilici	R-COOH	carbossi-	acido ...-oico
2	Aldeidi	R-CHO	formil-	-ale
3	Chetoni	R ¹ -CO-R ²	osso-	-one
4	Alcoli, Fenoli	R-OH	idrossi-	-olo
5	Ammine	R-NH ₂ R ¹ -NHR ² R ¹ -NR ² R ³	ammino- N-alchilammino- N,N'-dialchilammino-	-ammina -N-alchilammina- -N,N'-dialchilammina
6	Alogenuri	-X	fluoro- cloro- bromo- iodo-	[mai]
7	Eteri	R ¹ -OR ²	alcossi-	[mai]
8	Alchini	C≡C	alchilil-	-ino
9	Alcheni	C=C	alchenil	-ene
10	Alcani	C-C	alchil-	-ano

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aliphatic compounds

- Find the longest C atom chain connected to the functional group with the highest prevalence
- Enumerate the C atom chain in order to obtain the lowest numbers for location of the substituents.



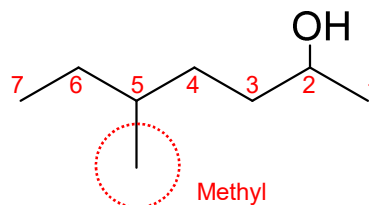
Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aliphatic compounds

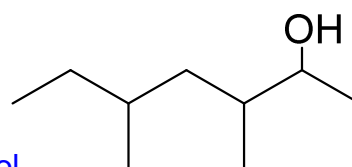
4. Assign the proper name to each substituent depending on its chemical nature.

5. List the substituents in alphabetic order as prefixes.

6. Use di-, tri-, tetra- etc. if identical substituents are present.



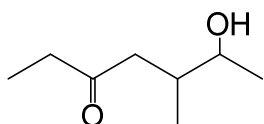
5-methyl-2-heptanol



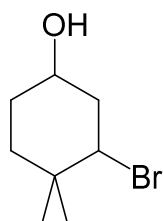
3,5-dimethyl-2-heptanol

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aliphatic compounds



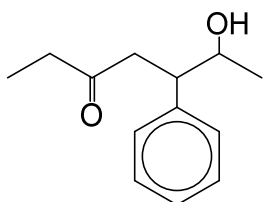
2-hydroxy-3-methyl-5-heptanone



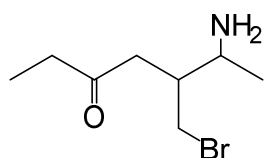
3-bromo-4,4-dimethyl-cyclohexanol

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aliphatic compounds



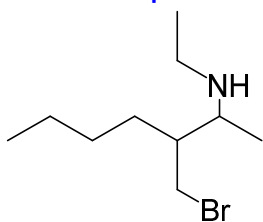
2-hydroxy-3-phenyl-5-heptanone



2-amino-3-(bromomethyl)-5-heptanone

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aliphatic compounds



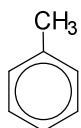
N-ethyl-3-(bromomethyl)-2-heptanamine

2-[4-(2-methylpropyl)phenyl]propanoic acid

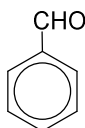
Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aromatic compounds

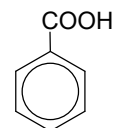
The name of benzene derivatives is formed starting from very common compounds:



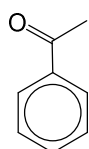
Toluene
(methylbenzene)



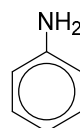
Benzaldehyde



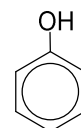
Benzoic acid



Acetophenone



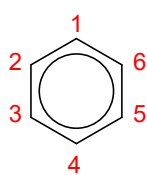
Aniline



Phenol

Nomenclature of organic molecules

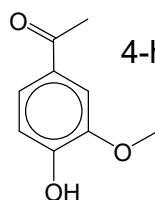
IUPAC – aromatic compounds



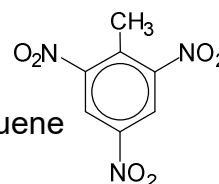
1. The substituent with the highest prevalence is placed in position 1.

2. Enumerate the C atom ring in order to obtain the lowest numbers for location of the substituents.

The name of benzene derivatives is formed starting from very common compounds:



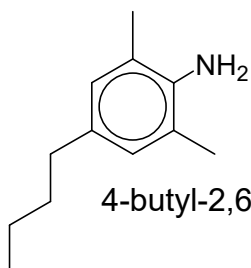
4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde



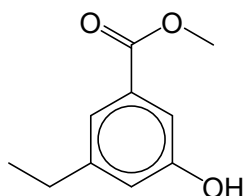
2,4,6-trinitrotoluene

Nomenclature of organic molecules

IUPAC – aromatic compounds



4-butyl-2,6-dimethylaniline

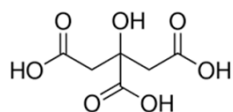


Methyl 5-ethyl-3-hydroxybenzoate

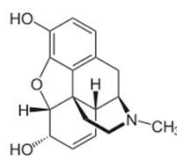
Nomenclature of organic molecules

Traditional

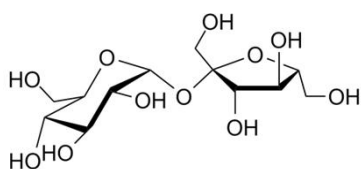
Many organic compounds have a traditional name, deriving from its natural source.



Citric acid



Morphine



Sucrose

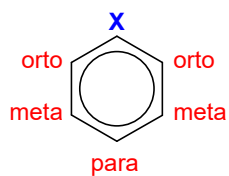
(2R,3R,4S,5S,6R)-2-[(2S,3S,4S,5R)-3,4-dihydroxy-2,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)oxolan-2-yl]oxy-6-(hydroxymethyl)oxane-3,4,5-triol

Nomenclature of organic molecules

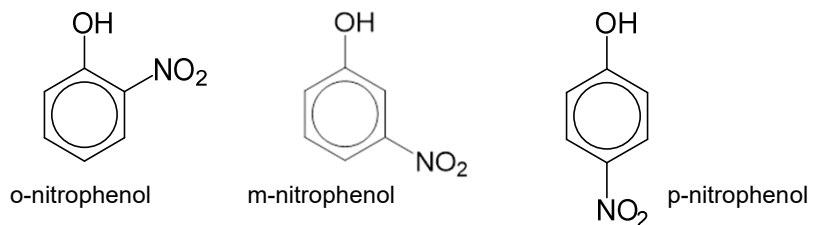
Carbon atoms	Common name	IUPAC name	Chemical formula	Common location or use
1	Formic acid	Methanoic acid	HCOOH	Insect stings
2	Acetic acid	Ethanoic acid	CH ₃ COOH	Vinegar
3	Propionic acid	Propanoic acid	CH ₃ CH ₂ COOH	Preservative for stored grains, body odour
4	Butyric acid	Butanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₂ COOH	Butter
5	Valeric acid	Pentanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₃ COOH	Valerian
6	Caproic acid	Hexanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₄ COOH	Goat fat
7	Enanthic acid	Heptanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₅ COOH	
8	Caprylic acid	Octanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₆ COOH	Coconuts and breast milk
9	Pelargonic acid	Nonanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₇ COOH	Pelargonium
10	Capric acid	Decanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₈ COOH	Coconut and Palm kernel oil
11	Undecylic acid	Undecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₉ COOH	
12	Lauric acid	Dodecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₀ COOH	Coconut oil and hand wash soaps
13	Tridecylic acid	Tridecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₁ COOH	
14	Myristic acid	Tetradecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₂ COOH	Nutmeg
15	Pentadecylic acid	Pentadecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₃ COOH	
16	Palmitic acid	Hexadecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₄ COOH	Palm oil
17	Margaric acid	Heptadecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₅ COOH	
18	Stearic acid	Octadecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₆ COOH	Chocolate, waxes, soaps, and oils
19	Nonadecylic acid	Nonadecanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₇ COOH	Fats, vegetable oils, pheromone
20	Arachidic acid	Icosanoic acid	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₈ COOH	Peanut oil

Nomenclature of organic molecules

Traditional – aromatic compounds



The name of benzene derivatives is formed starting from very common compounds:

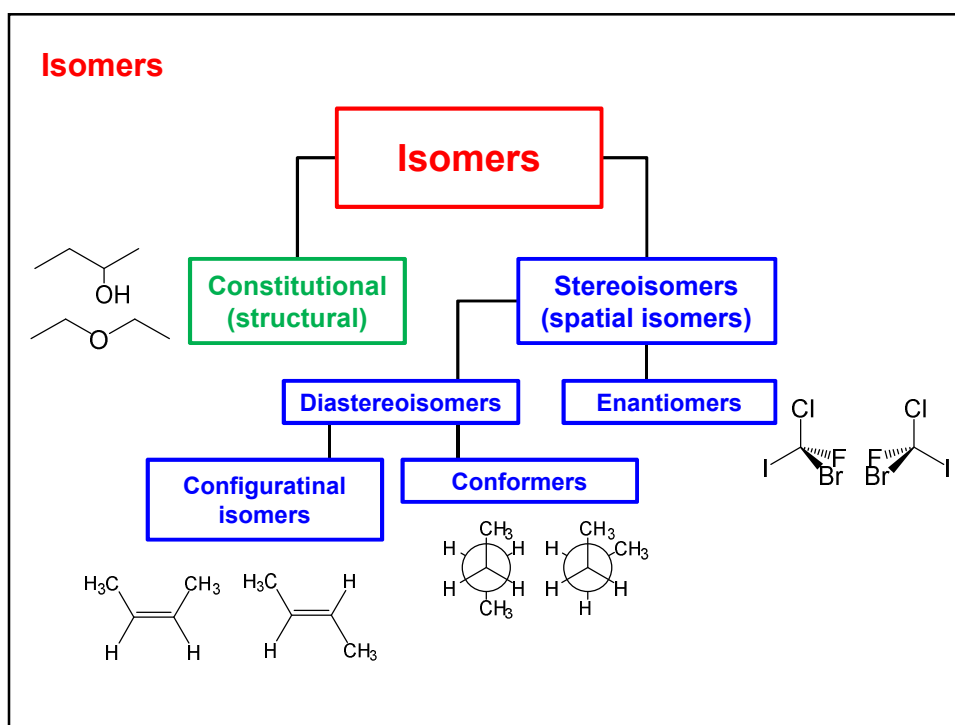


Isomers

Isomers are compounds with the same molecular formula (same molecular weight and same atomic composition) but with a **different molecular structure**.

They can differ by:

- How the **atoms are connected** within the molecule
- The **spatial disposition** of the atoms

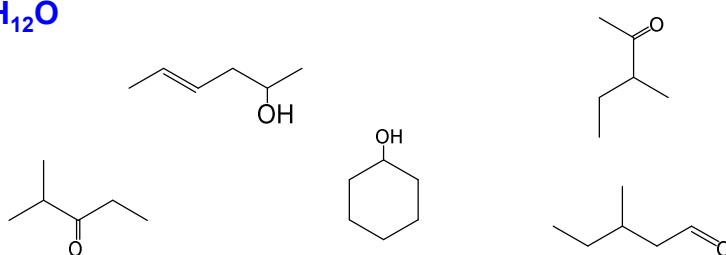
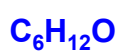


Constitutional isomers

They have the same formula but different connections between the atoms.

In other words, they have the **same molecular formula** but **different structural formula**.

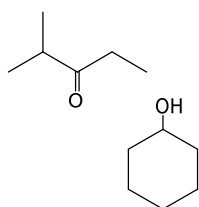
They have **different physical and chemical properties**, because of the different bonds between the atoms.



Constitutional isomers

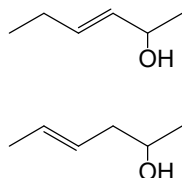
Functional group

Contain different functional groups: different chemical reactivity and different physical properties.



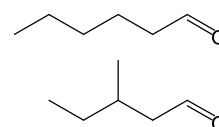
Position

Different position of multiple bonds or substituents on the carbon chain: different physical properties.



Chain

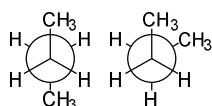
Presence of ramification on the carbon chain: different physical properties.



Stereoisomers

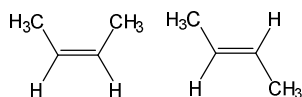
They have the same formula and the same connections between the atoms but they are arranged in a different way in the space. For this reason, stereoisomers cannot superimpose.

Conformers



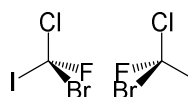
Differ only for rotation around a single bond.

Geometric isomers

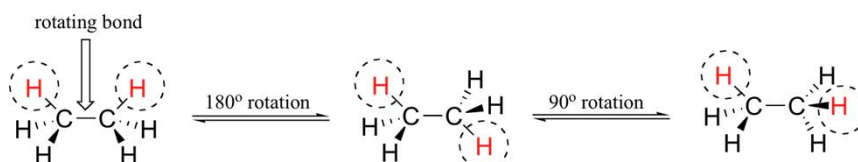


Cannot be interconverted without breaking bonds between the atoms.

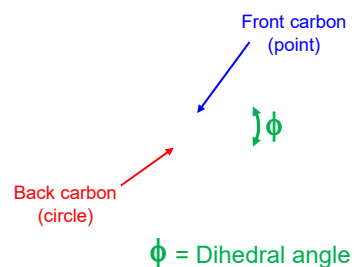
Enantiomers



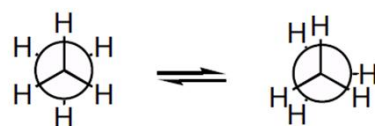
Conformers – Ethane



Newman projections

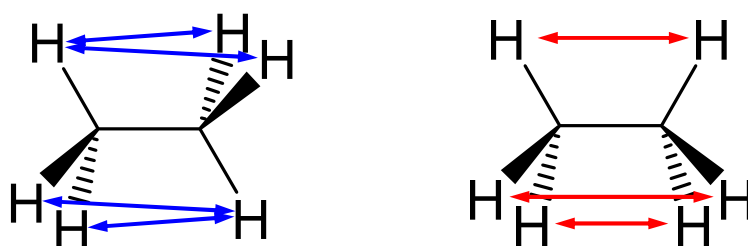


Conformers – Ethane



staggered
 $\theta = 60^\circ$

eclipsed
 $\theta = 0^\circ$

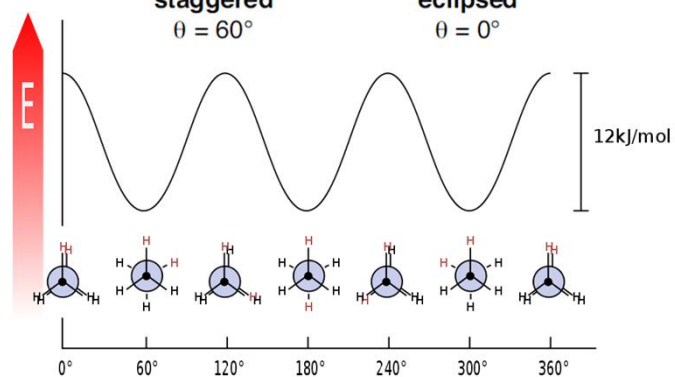


Conformers – Ethane

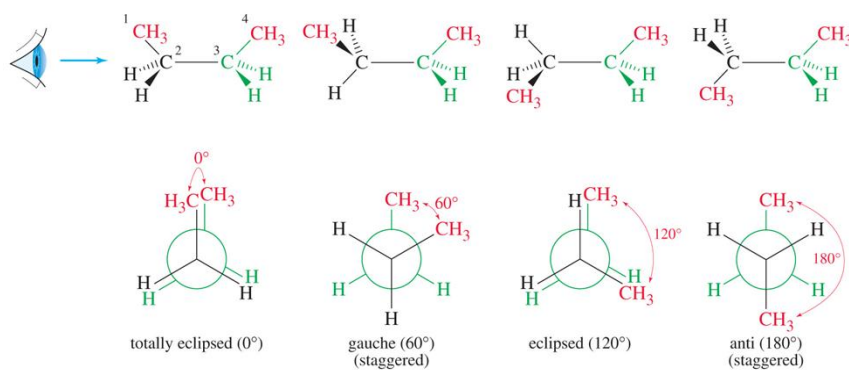


staggered
 $\theta = 60^\circ$

eclipsed
 $\theta = 0^\circ$

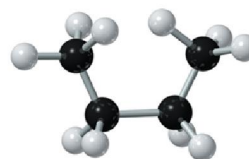
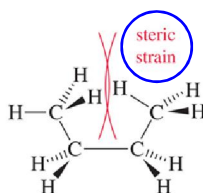
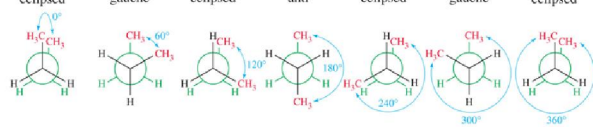
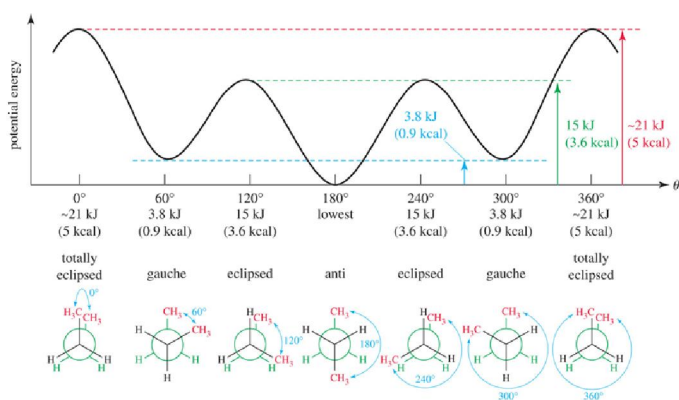


Conformers – Butane

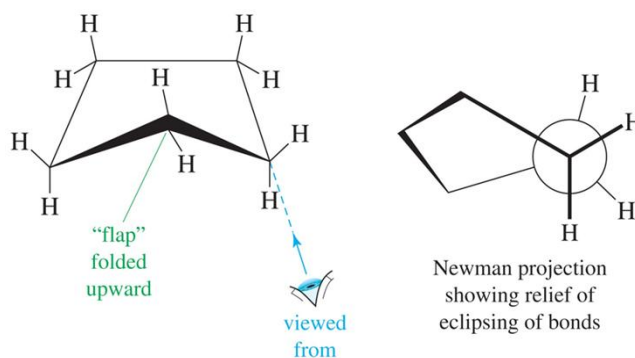


- Butane has two different staggered conformations: gauche (60° between the methyl groups) and anti (180° between the methyl groups).
- The eclipsed conformation where the dihedral angle between the methyl groups is 0° is referred to as *totally eclipsed*.

Conformers – Butane

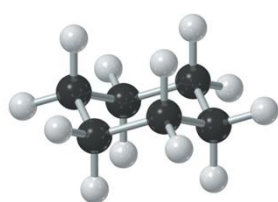


Conformers – Cyclopentane

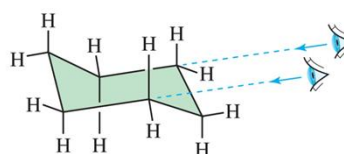


The conformation of cyclopentane is slightly folded, like the shape of an envelope. This puckered conformation reduces the eclipsing of adjacent methylene (CH_2) groups.

Conformers – Cyclohexane

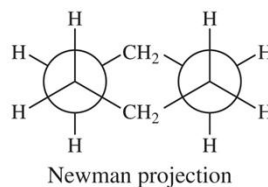


chair conformation

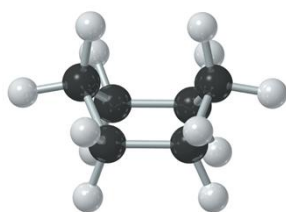


viewed along the “seat” bonds

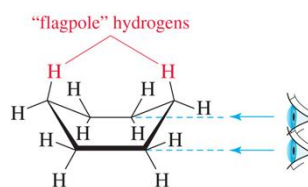
All bonds are in
“anti” configuration



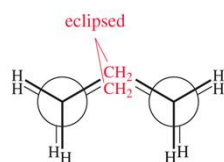
Conformers – Cyclohexane



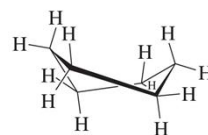
boat conformation



symmetrical boat

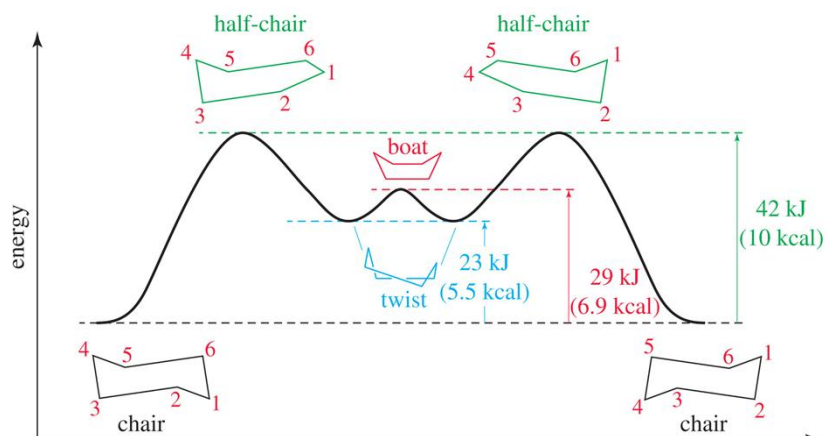


Newman projection

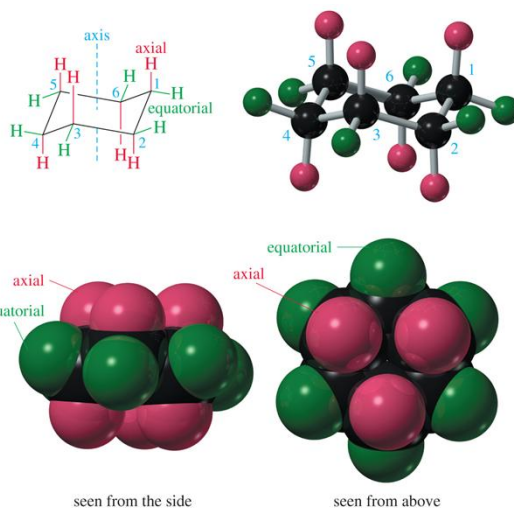


"twist" boat

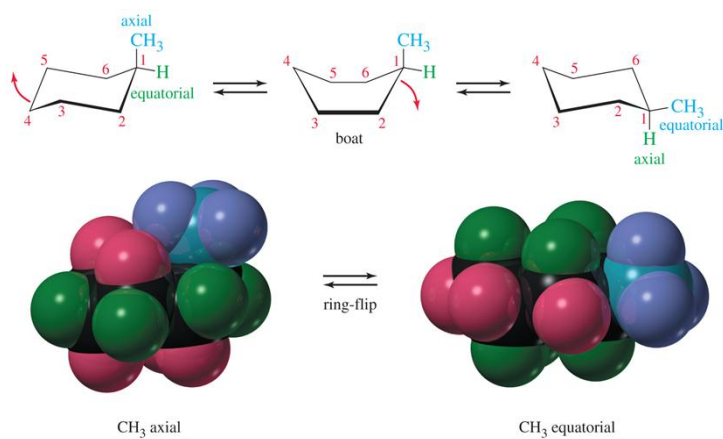
Conformers – Cyclohexane



Conformers – Cyclohexane

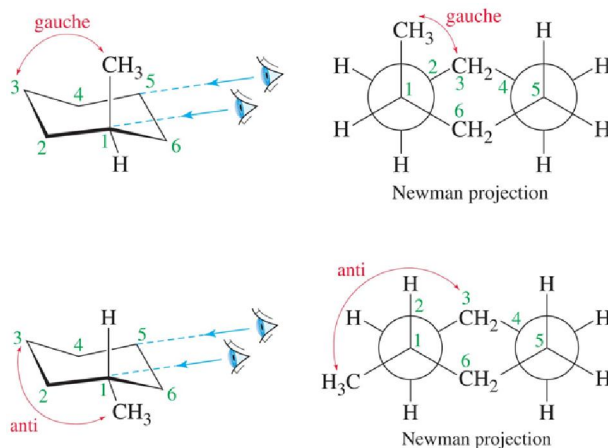


Conformers – Cyclohexane

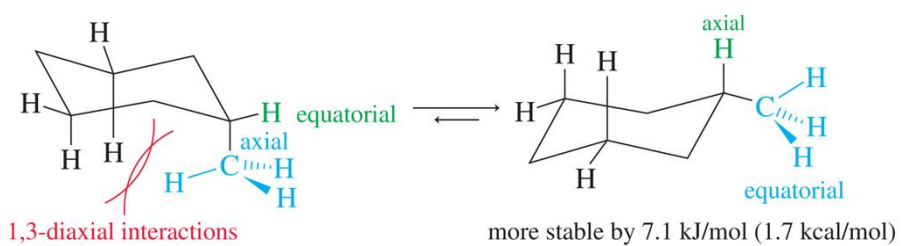


The most important result in chair conversion is that any substituent that is **axial** in the original conformation becomes **equatorial** in the new conformation.

Conformers – Cyclohexane



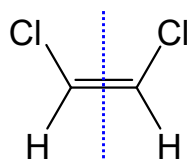
Conformers – Cyclohexane



The axial substituent interferes with the axial hydrogens on C3 and C5. This interference is called a *1,3-diaxial interaction*.

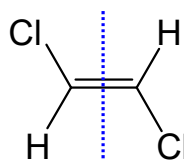
Configurational isomers

Cannot be converted into each other without breaking bonds within the molecule.



cis-1,2-dichloroethane

The substituents with the higher priority are on the same side of the double bond.



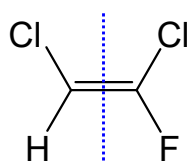
trans-1,2-dichloroethane

The substituents with the higher priority are on the opposite sides of the double bond.

Priority is determined on the basis of the atomic weight of the substituents.

Configurational isomers

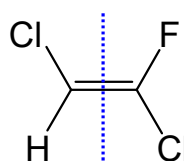
(*E*) – (*Z*) system is not ambiguous in the case of trisubstituted alkenes.



(*Z*)-1,2-dichloro-1-fluoroethane

Zusammen

The substituents with the higher priority are on the same side of the double bond.



(*E*)-1,2-dichloro-1-fluoroethane

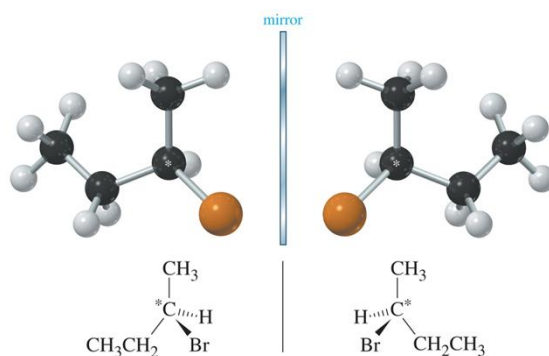
Entgegen

The substituents with the higher priority are on the opposite sides of the double bond.

Priority is determined on the basis of the atomic weight of the substituents.

Enantiomers

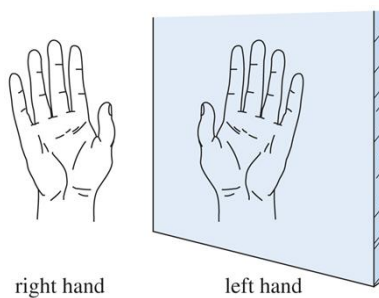
Non-superimposable mirror images



This property is called **CHIRALITY**

Enantiomers

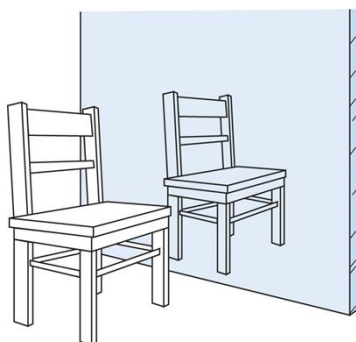
Chirality



Mirror-image object is different from the original object.

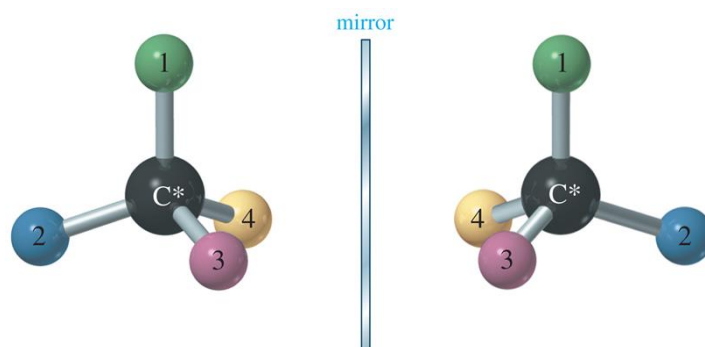
Enantiomers

Objects that can be superposed are **achiral**.

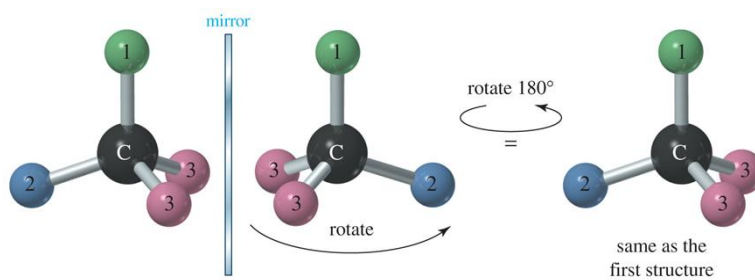


Chiral Carbons

Carbons with four different groups attached are chiral.
It's mirror image will be a different compound (enantiomer).



Achiral Compounds

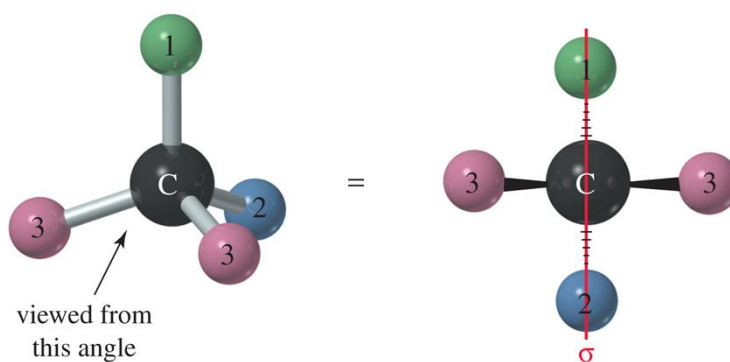


Take this mirror image and try to superimpose it on the one to the left matching all the atoms. Everything will match.

When the images can be superposed the compound is **achiral**.

Enantiomers

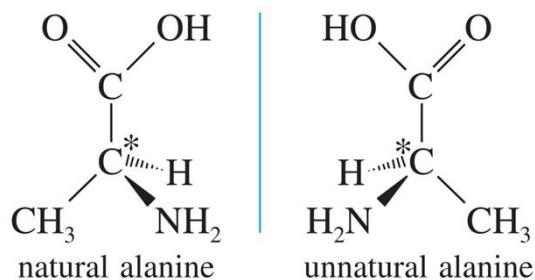
Planes of Symmetry



A molecule that has a plane of symmetry is **achiral**.

Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

(R) and (S) Nomenclature



- Different molecules (enantiomers) must have different names.
- Usually only one enantiomer will be biologically active.
- Configuration around the chiral carbon is specified with (*R*) and (*S*).

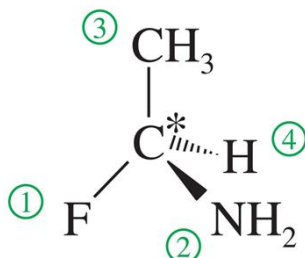
Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

Cahn–Ingold–Prelog Rules

- Assign a priority number to each group attached to the chiral carbon.
- Priority is assigned according to atomic number. The highest atomic number assigned is the highest priority #1.
- In case of ties, look at the next atoms along the chain.
- Double and triple bonds are treated like bonds to duplicate atoms.

Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

Assign Priorities



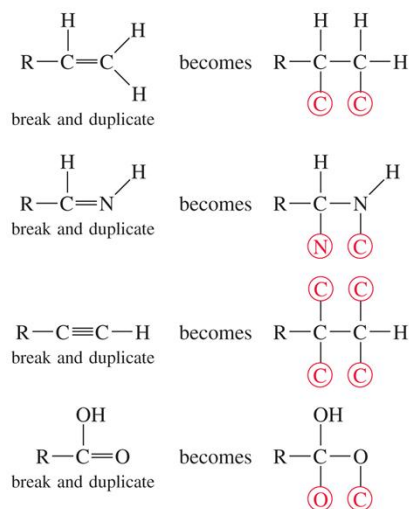
Atomic number: $F > N > C > H$

Once priorities have been assigned, the lowest priority group (#4) should be moved to the back if necessary.

Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

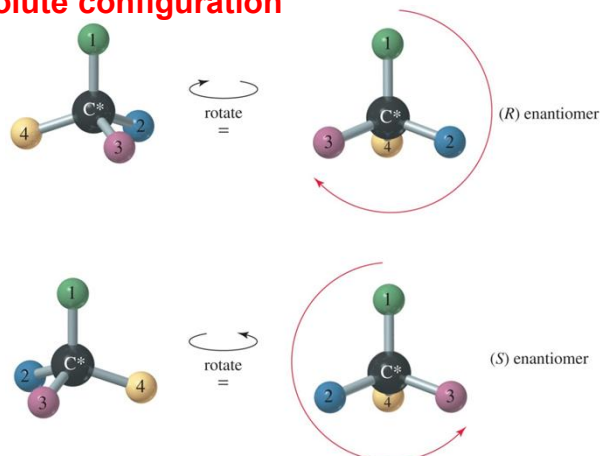
Assign Priorities

Treatment of Multiple Bonds



Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

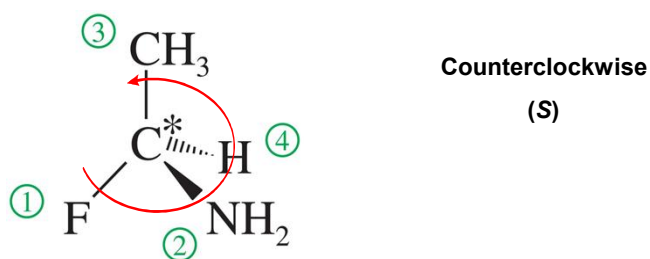
Assign
(R) or (S)



- Working in 3-D, rotate the molecule so that the lowest priority group is in back.
- Draw an arrow from highest to lowest priority group.
- Clockwise = (R), Counterclockwise = (S)

Enantiomers – Absolute configuration

Assign (R) or (S)

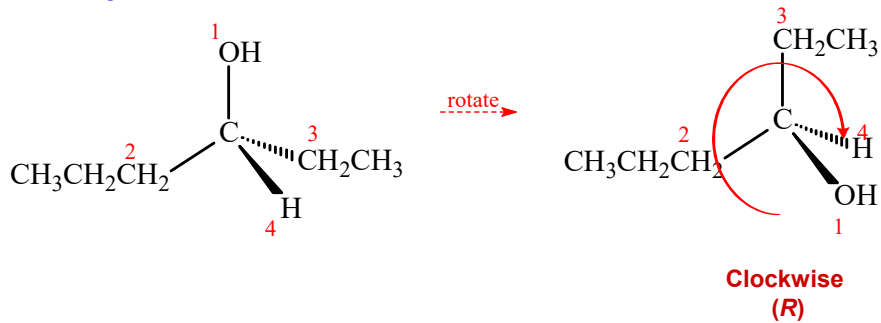


Draw an arrow from Group 1 to Group 2 to Group 3 and back to Group 1. Ignore Group 4.

Clockwise = (R) and Counterclockwise = (S)

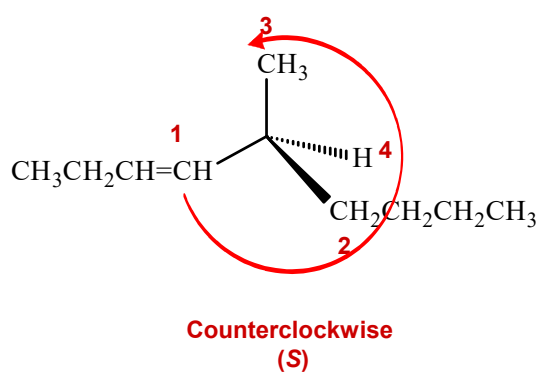
Enantiomers

Example 1



Enantiomers

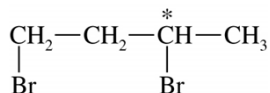
Example 2



Enantiomers

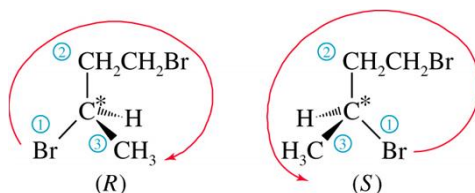
Problem 1

Draw the enantiomers of 1,3-dibromobutane and label them as (*R*) and (*S*). (Making a model is particularly helpful for this type of problem.)



Solution

The third carbon atom in 1,3-dibromobutane is asymmetric. The bromine atom receives first priority, the ($-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$) group second priority, the methyl group third, and the hydrogen fourth. The following mirror images are drawn with the hydrogen atom back, ready to assign (*R*) or (*S*) as shown.

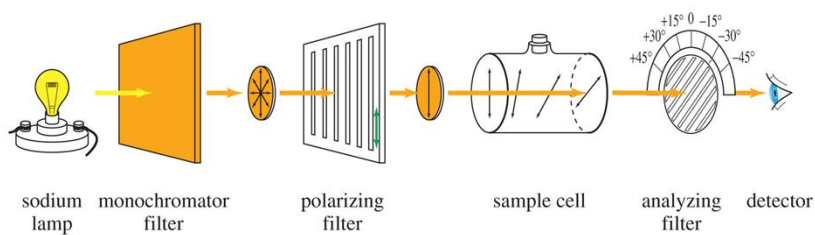


Enantiomers - Properties

- Same boiling point, melting point, and density.
- Same refractive index.
- Rotate the plane of polarized light in the same magnitude, but in opposite directions.
- Different interaction with other chiral molecules:
 - Active site of enzymes is selective for a specific enantiomer.
 - Taste buds and scent receptors are also chiral. Enantiomers may have different smells.

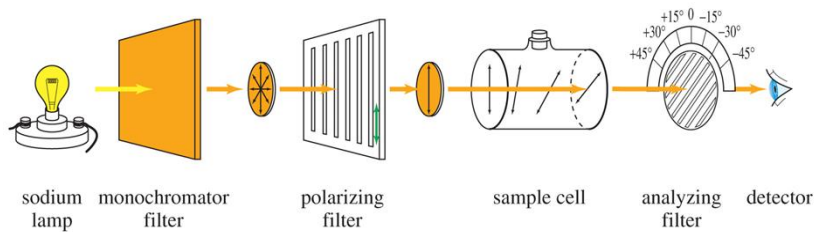
Enantiomers – Optical activity

- Enantiomers rotate the plane of polarized light in opposite directions, but same number of degrees.



Enantiomers – Optical activity

Polarimeter



Clockwise

Counterclockwise

Dextrorotatory (+)

Levorotatory (-)

Not related to (*R*) and (*S*)

Enantiomers – Optical activity

Specific rotation

Observed rotation depends on the length of the cell and concentration, as well as the strength of optical activity, temperature, and wavelength of light.

$$[\alpha] = \frac{\alpha \text{ (observed)}}{c \cdot l}$$

Where α (observed) is the rotation observed in the polarimeter, c is concentration in g/mL and l is length of sample cell in decimeters.

Enantiomers

Problem 2

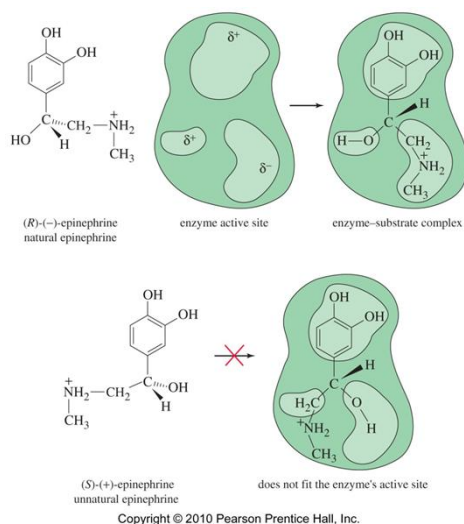
When one of the enantiomers of 2-butanol is placed in a polarimeter, the observed rotation is 4.05° counterclockwise. The solution was made by diluting 6 g of 2-butanol to a total of 40 mL, and the solution was placed into a 200-mm polarimeter tube for the measurement. Determine the specific rotation for this enantiomer of 2-butanol.

Solution

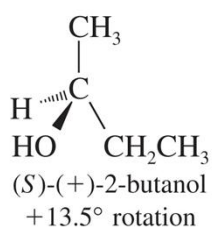
Since it is levorotatory, this must be (–)-2-butanol. The concentration is 6 g per 40 mL = 0.15 g/mL, and the path length is 200 mm = 2 dm. The specific rotation is

$$[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = \frac{-4.05}{0.15 \cdot 2} = -13.5^\circ$$

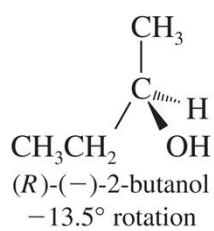
Enantiomers – Biological discrimination



Enantiomers – Racemic mixtures



and



A racemic mixture contains equal amounts of the two enantiomers.

- Equal quantities of R- and S- enantiomers.
- Notation: (R,S) or (\pm)
- No optical activity.
- The mixture may have different boiling point (b. p.) and melting point (m. p.) from the enantiomers!

Enantiomers – Enantiomeric excess

Enantiomeric excess (ee) is defined as the absolute difference between the mole fraction of each enantiomer.

$$ee = |x_R - x_S|$$

Example:

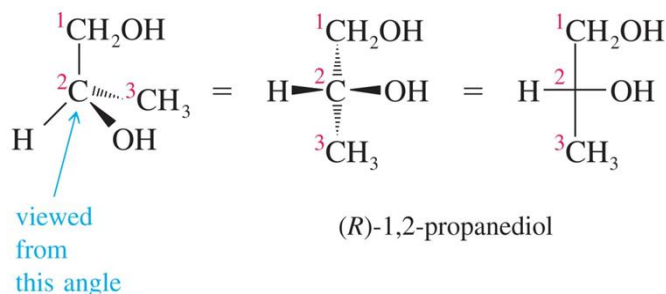
a sample with 70% of R isomer and 30% of S has an enantiomeric excess of 40%

ee can be determined by different analytical method (chiral GC, NMR) or simply measuring the specific rotation of the mixture (the specific rotation of the pure enantiomers must be known).

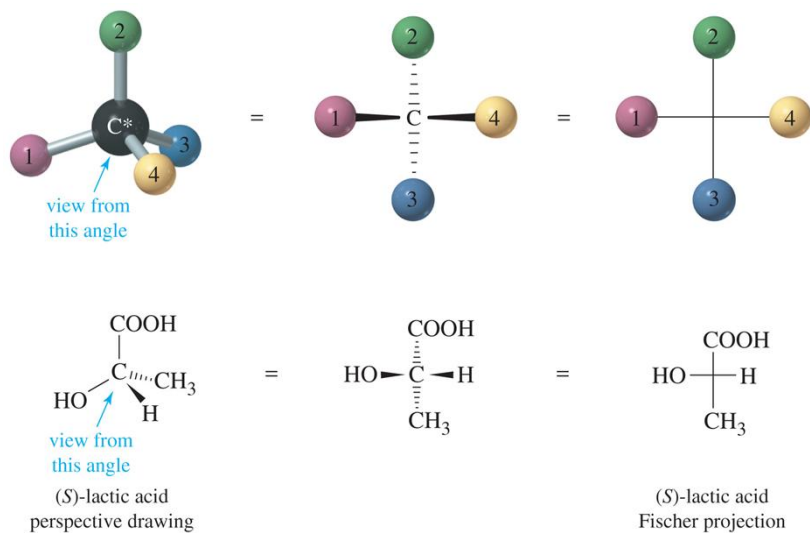
$$\text{optical purity (\%)} = \frac{[\alpha]_{\text{observed}}}{[\alpha]_{\text{maximal}}} \cdot 100$$

Enantiomers – Fisher projection

- Flat representation of a 3-D molecule.
- A chiral carbon is at the intersection of horizontal and vertical lines.
- Horizontal lines are forward, out-of-plane.
- Vertical lines are behind the plane.



Enantiomers – Fisher projection



Enantiomers – Fisher projection

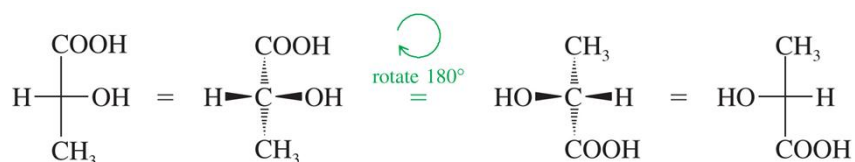
Fisher rules

- Carbon chain is on the vertical line.
- Highest oxidized carbon is at top.
- Rotation of 180° in plane doesn't change molecule.
- Do not rotate 90°!

Enantiomers – Fisher projection

Fisher rules

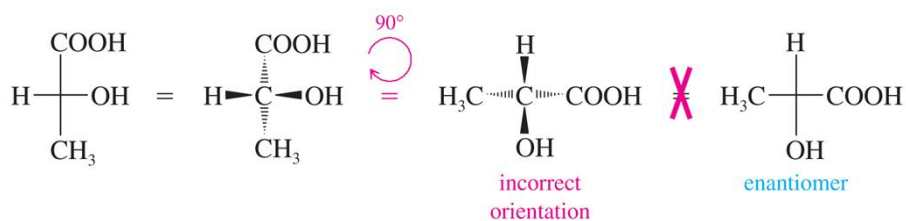
- Carbon chain is on the vertical line.
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Enantiomers – Fisher projection

Fisher rules

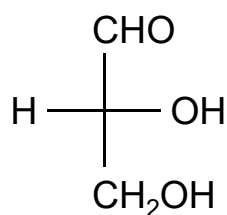
- Carbon chain is on the vertical line.
- Highest oxidized carbon is at top.
- Rotation of 180° in plane doesn't change molecule.
- Do not rotate 90°!



Enantiomers – Relative configuration

(D) or (L) nomenclature

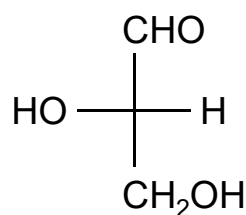
The D/L system (named after latin Dexter and Laevus, right and left) does this by relating the molecule to glyceraldehyde.



(R)-glyceraldehyde

(+)-glyceraldehyde

D-glyceraldehyde



(S)-glyceraldehyde

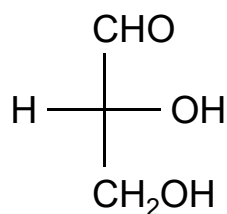
(-)-glyceraldehyde

L-glyceraldehyde

Enantiomers – Relative configuration

(D) or (L) nomenclature

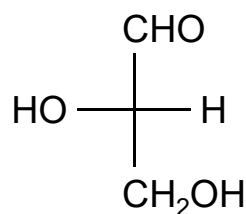
The D/L system (named after latin Dexter and Laevus, right and left) does this by relating the molecule to glyceraldehyde.



(R)-glyceraldehyde

(+)-glyceraldehyde

D-glyceraldehyde



(S)-glyceraldehyde

(-)-glyceraldehyde

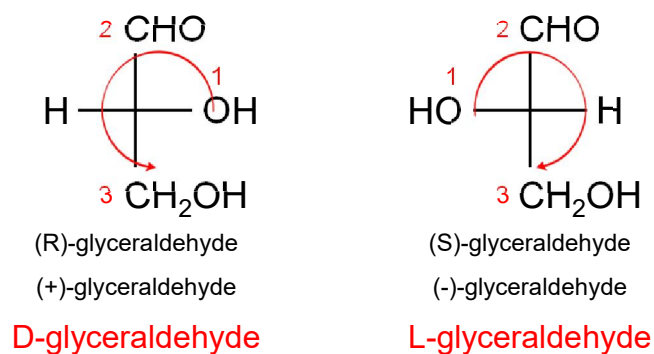
L-glyceraldehyde

Enantiomers – Relative configuration

(D) or (L) nomenclature

Lowest priority (usually H) comes forward, so assignment rules are backwards!

Clockwise 1-2-3 is (S) and counterclockwise 1-2-3 is (R).



Enantiomers – Relative configuration

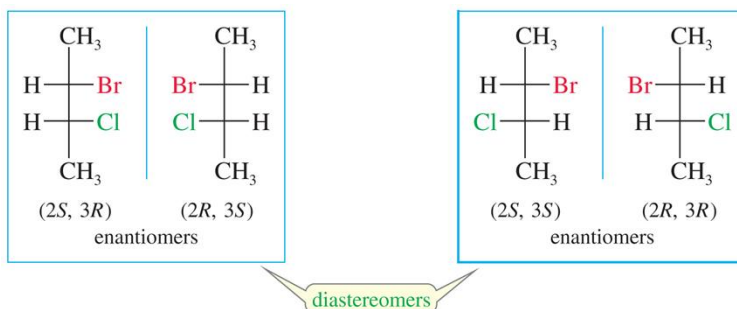
(D) or (L) nomenclature

Fisher projections are easy to draw and make it easier to find enantiomers and internal mirror planes when the molecule has 2 or more chiral centers.



Diastereoisomers

- Molecules with two or more chiral carbons.
- Stereoisomers that are not mirror images.

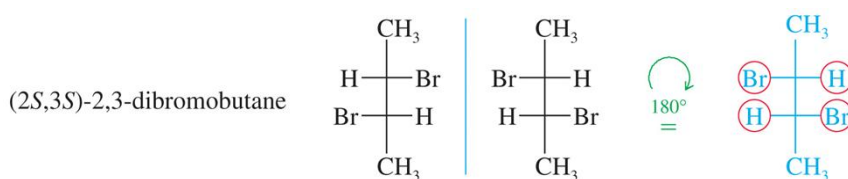


Number of different diastereoisomers:

$$2^n$$

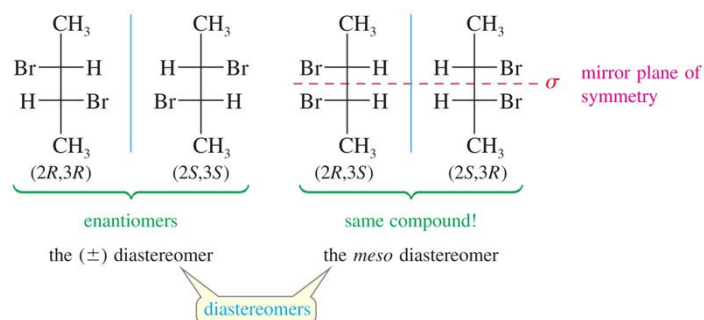
where *n* is the number of stereocenters

Diastereoisomers - meso compounds



- Meso compounds have a plane of symmetry.
- If one image was rotated by 180°, then it could be superimposed on the other image.
- Meso compounds are achiral even though they have chiral centers.

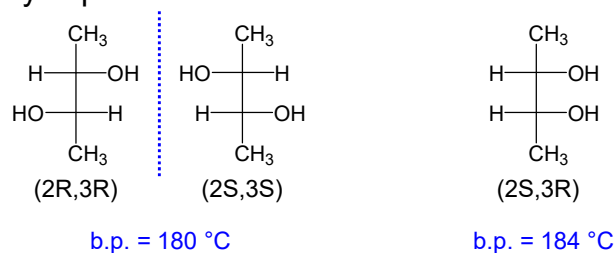
Diastereoisomers - meso compounds



The 2^n rule will not apply to compounds that may have a plane of symmetry. 2,3-dibromobutane has only 3 stereoisomers: (\pm) diastereomer and the meso diastereomer.

Diastereoisomers - Properties

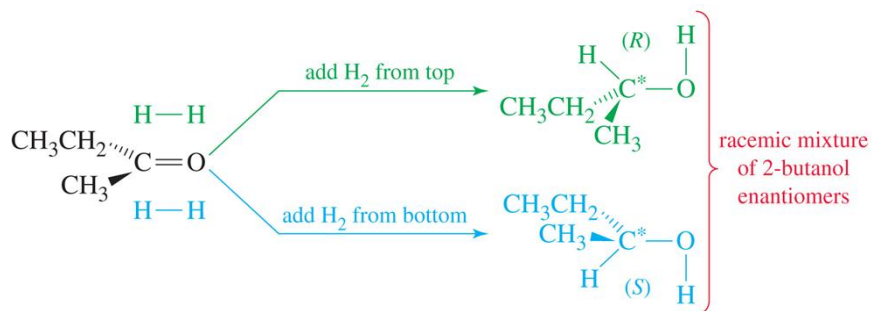
- Diastereomers have different physical properties, so they can be easily separated.



- Enantiomers differ only in reaction with other chiral molecules and the direction in which polarized light is rotated.
- Enantiomers are difficult to separate.
- Convert enantiomers into diastereomers to be able to separate them.

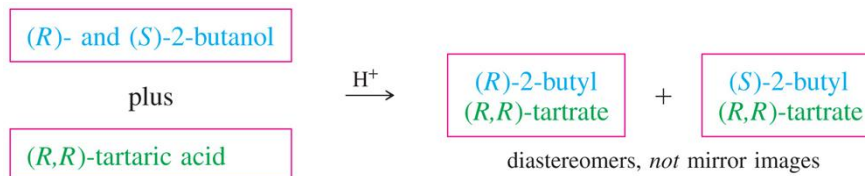
Racemic products

If optically inactive reagents combine to form a chiral molecule, a racemic mixture is formed.



Resolution of enantiomers

Chemical method

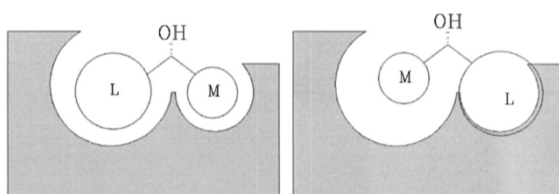
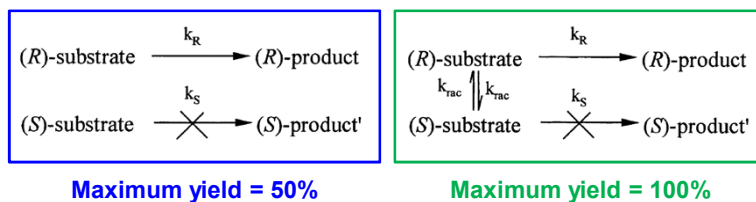


React the racemic mixture with a pure chiral compound, such as tartaric acid, to form diastereomers, then separate them.

Resolution of enantiomers

Enzymatic method

Enzymes can react one enantiomer faster than the other.

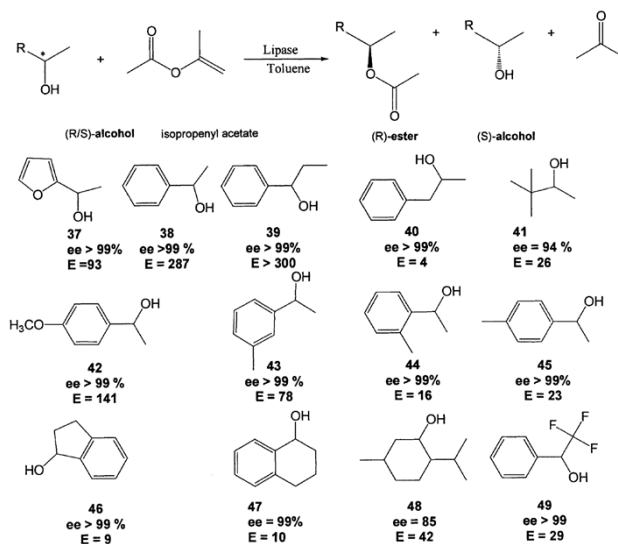


The active site of an enzyme hosts perfectly one enantiomer but not the other one.

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Resolution of enantiomers

Enzymatic method



80