

A Level Chemistry OCR

6. Organic Chemistry & Analysis (A Level Only)

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6.1 Benzene & Aromatic Compounds

6.1.1 Benzene

Comparing Models of Benzene

Structure of Benzene

- The structure of benzene was determined many years ago, by a chemist called Kekule
- The structure consists of 6 carbon atoms in a hexagonal ring, with alternating single and double carbon-carbon bonds
 - This suggests that benzene should react in the same way that an unsaturated alkene does
 - However, this is not the case



Like other aromatic compounds, benzene has a planar structure due to the sp² hybridisation of carbon atoms and the conjugated π system in the ring

- Each carbon atom in the ring forms three σ bonds using the sp² orbitals
- The remaining **p** orbitals overlap laterally with p orbitals of neighbouring carbon atoms to form a π system
- This extensive sideways overlap of p orbitals results in the electrons being delocalised and able to freely spread over the entire ring causing a π system
 - $\circ\,$ The π system is made up of two ring shaped clouds of electron density one above the plane and one below it

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- Benzene and other aromatic compounds are regular and planar compounds with bond angles of 120 $^{\rm o}$
- The delocalisation of electrons means that all of the carbon-carbon bonds in these compounds are identical and have both **single** and **double bond** character
- The bonds all being the same length is evidence for the delocalised ring structure of benzene

Evidence for delocalisation

- This evidence of the bonding in benzene is provided by data from enthalpy changes of hydrogenation and carbon-carbon bond lengths
- Hydrogenation of cyclohexene
 - $\circ\,$ Each molecule has one C=C double bond
 - $^\circ\,$ The enthalpy change for the reaction of cyclohexene is –120 kJ mol^-1

$C_6H_{10} + H_2 \rightarrow C_6H_{12} \ \Delta H^{\odot} = -120 \ kJ \ mol^{-1}$

- Hydrogenation of beznene
 - $\circ\,$ The Kekule structure of benzene as cyclohexa-1,3,5-triene has three double C=C bonds
 - $\circ\,$ It would be expected that the enthalpy change for the hydrogenation of this structure would be three times the enthalpy change for the one C=C bond in cyclohexene

$C_6H_6 + 3H_2 \rightarrow C_6H_{12} \ \Delta H^{\odot} = 3 \ x \ -120 \ kJ \ mol^{-1} = -360 \ kJ \ mol^{-1}$

• When benzene is reacted with hydrogen, the enthalpy change obtained is actually far less exothermic, $\Delta H^{\circ} = -208 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$



Nomenclature of Aromatic Compounds

- In normal, everyday conversation the word 'aromatic' is used to refer to pleasant, fragrant smells
- However, in chemistry, it is used to describe molecules that contain one or more benzene rings, i.e. a ring with conjugated π systems
- Conjugated π systems arise from alternating double and single bonds in which the electrons are delocalised
- Benzene is found in many useful compounds, for example in pharmaceuticals, pesticides, polymers and dyes
 - The common painkillers aspirin, paracetamol, ibuprofen and morphine all contain benzene rings

Functional Group	Example	Name
Arene	CH2CH2CH3	propylbenzene
Chlorobenzene	CL CH,	2-methylchlorobenzene
Phenol	CH ₃	2,3-dimethyl phenol

Examples of aromatic compounds including benzene table

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Benzene Resistance to Halogenation

• Alkenes tend to undergo bromination easily which can be observed in cyclohexene

$C_6H_{10} \textbf{+} Br_2 \rightarrow C_6H_{10}Br_2$

- As the π bond contains localised electrons, it produces an area of high electron density allowing it to repel the electron in the bromine molecule
- + Therefore a dipole is introduced making one bromine atom $\delta+$ and one $\delta-$ bromine atom
- The δ + bromine is attracted to the π bond in the cyclohexane
- This then leaves a carbocation in the intermediate molecule which the negative bromide ion is attracted to, hence forming 1,2-dibromocyclohexane by electrophilic addition
- In benzene, there are no localised areas of high electron density, preventing it from being able to polarise the bromine moelcule
- In order for benzene to undergo electrophilic substitution with bromine, a halogen carrier must be present in the reaction e.g. AlBr₃



6.1.2 Electrophilic Substitution

Electrophilic Substitution Reactions

Reactions of Benzene

- The main reactions which benzene will undergo include the replacement of one of the 6 hydrogen atoms from the benzene ring
 - This is different to the reactions of unsaturated alkenes, which involve the double bond breaking and the electrophile atoms 'adding on' to the carbon atoms
- These reactions where at least one of the H atoms from benzene are replaced, are called electrophilic substitution reactions
 - $^{\circ}\,$ The hydrogen atom is substituted by the electrophile
- You must be able to provide the mechanisms for specific examples of the electrophilic substitution of benzene

General Electrophilic Substitution Mechanism:



YOUR NOTES

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- The delocalised $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ system is extremely stable and is a region of high electron density
- Electrophilic substitution reactions involve an electrophile, which is either a positive ion or the positive end of a polar molecule
- There are numerous electrophiles which can react with benzene
 - However, they usually cannot simply be added to the reaction mixture to then react with benzene
 - The electrophile has to be produced in situ, by adding appropriate reagents to the reaction mixture



Benzene Nitration

- The electrophilic substitution reaction in arenes consists of three steps:
 - Generation of an **electrophile**
 - Electrophilic attack
 - Regenerating aromaticity

Mechanism of electrophilic substitution

- The nitration of benzene is one example of an electrophilic substitution reaction
 - $^\circ\,$ A hydrogen atom is replaced by a nitro (–NO2) group



The overall reaction of nitration of arenes

- In the first step, the electrophile is generated
 - \circ The electrophile NO_2^+ ion is generated by reacting concentrated nitric acid (HNO_3) and concentrated sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4)
- Once the electrophile has been generated, it will carry out an **electrophilic attack** on the benzene ring
 - $^\circ\,$ The nitrating mixture of HNO_3 and H_2SO_4 is refluxed with the arene at 25 60 $^\circ C$

Nitration of Benzene Mechanism:



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Addition reactions of arenes

- The delocalisation of electrons (also called aromatic stabilisation) in arenes is the main reason why arenes predominantly undergo substitution reactions over addition reactions
- In substitution reactions,
- In addition reactions, on the other hand, the aromaticity is **not restored** and is in some cases **completely lost**
 - The **hydrogenation** of arenes is an example of an addition reaction during which the aromatic stabilisation of the arene is completely lost
 - $^{\circ}$ The cyclohexane formed is energetically less stable than the benzene



Benzene Halogenation

Halogenation

- The nature of benzene is different to other unsaturated compounds such as alkenes and halogenation via electrophilic addition is not possible
- Therefore aromatic compounds will react with halogens in the presence of a **metal** halide carrier
 - iron(III) bromide
 - aluminium chloride
- The reaction of the metal halide carrier acts as catalyst and creates the electrophile, $X^{\rm +}$ (where X represents a halogen atom)
- At the end of the reaction it is regenerated

 $\text{AICI}_3 + \text{CI}_2 \rightarrow \text{AICI}_4^- + \text{CI}^+$

$FeBr_3 + Br_2 \rightarrow FeBr_4 - + Br^+$

• The overall equation for halogenation is

$$C_6H_6 + X_2 \rightarrow C_6H_5X + HX$$

- Remeber that one hydrogen atom on the benzene ring has been substituted for one halogen atom, therefore HX will be a product
- The electrophilic substitution reactions follows the same patter as the general mechanism



The different stages in the chlorination of benzene

Friedel-Crafts Acylation

• In the Friedel-Crafts acylation reaction, an **acyl group** is substituted into the benzene ring



- An acyl group is an alkyl group containing a carbonyl, C=O group
- A metal halide catalyst is needed to generate the necessary alkyl electrophile
- The benzene ring is reacted with an acyl chloride in the presence of an AlCl_3 catalyst
- This complex then reacts with the benzene ring in a similar manner as we have seen before
- An example of an acylation reaction is the reaction of methylbenzene with propanoyl chloride to form an acyl benzene
 - $\circ~$ Note that the acyl group is on the 4 position due to the $-CH_3$ group on the benzene



Example of a Friedel–Crafts acylation reaction



6.1.3 Phenol

YOUR NOTES

Acidity of Phenol



The structure of phenol

- · In phenol the OH group is directly bonded to the benzene ring
- Phenol can behave as a very weak acid
- Depending on the concentration, the typical pH of a solution of phenol will be 5-6
- A hydrogen ion can break away from the -OH group and transfer to a base

$C_6H_5OH + H_2O \Rightarrow C_6H_5O^- + H_3O^+$

- Phenol is able to lose a hydrogen ion because the phenoxide ion ($C_6H_5O^-$) formed is fairly stable
- The more stable the ion is, the more likely it is to form
- One of the lone pairs of electrons on the oxygen is delocalised with the electron cloud of the whole phenoxide ion
- Spreading the charge around makes the ion more stable than it would be if all the charge remained on the oxygen



Delocalisation in the phenoxide ion

- Oxygen is the most electronegative element in the ion and the delocalised electrons will be drawn towards it
- That means that there will still be a lot of charge around the oxygen which will tend to attract the hydrogen ion back again
- This is why phenol behaves as just a weak acid
- This behaviour is demonstrated by the reactions of phenol with sodium hydroxide and sodium metal
- Phenols dissolve in alkaline solutions and undergo acid-base reactions with bases to form a soluble salt and water



Reaction of phenol with sodium NaOH

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Reactions of Phenol

Reactions of the aromatic ring in phenols

- Phenols react more readily with electrophiles compared to benzene
- This is because one of the lone pairs of electrons on the oxygen atom in -OH overlaps with the π bonding system
- This **increases the electron density** of the benzene ring making it more susceptible to electrophilic attack
- The -OH group in phenols is activating and directs incoming electrophiles to the 2,
 4, and 6 positions

Bromination

- Phenols also undergo electrophilic substitution reactions when reacted with bromine water at room temperature
- Phenol **decolourises** the **orange** bromine solution to form a **white precipitate** of 2,4,6-tribromophenol
- This is also known as the bromination of phenol



Phenols undergo bromination when reacted with bromine water at room temperature

Nitration

- Phenols can undergo electrophilic substitution reactions when reacted with dilute nitric acid (HNO3) at room temperature to give a mixture of 2-nitrophenol and 4-nitrophenol
 - $\circ\,$ When concentrated HNO_3 is used, the product will be 2,4,6-trinitrophenol instead
- A hydrogen atom in the benzene ring is substituted by a nitro (-NO2) group
- This is also known as the nitration of phenol





Phenols undergo nitration when reacted with dilute HNO3 at room temperature



6.1.4 Directing Effects

Directing Effects in Electrophilic Substitution

Electron donating and electron withdrawing sides groups

- Side groups on a benzene ring can affect the position on the ring of substitution reactions
- Groups which are **electron donating** such as -CH₃, -OH and -NH₂ will force further substitutions to occur in the **2-** and **4-** positions on the benzene ring
- Groups that are **electron withdrawing** such as $-NO_2$ will forces substitution in the **3-** position
- We can use the directing effect of substitute the groups when planning an **organic synthesis**
- If a -OH group, a Cl atom or an $-NH_2$ group is directly bonded to a benzene ring, the delocalisation in the ring will extend to include the lone pairs from the N, O and Cl atoms
- This changes the properties and the reactions of the side group
- Due to the **electron donating** alkyl group in methylbenzene, nitration of methylbenzene will occur on the 2 and 4 position



Nitration of methylbenzene

Chlorobenzene

- Typical halogenoalkane and elimination reactions do not occur
- Electron rich benzene ring will repel nucleophiles

Phenol

- Delocalisation makes the C-O bond stronger and the O-H bond weaker
- · It is more acidic than alcohols and also will not oxidise

Phenylamine

- Phenylamine is less base aliphatic amines as lone pair is delocalised
- Therefore it the lone pair is less available for accepting a proton





Copyright © Save My Exams. All Rights Reserved Phenylamine is less basic than an amine such as ethylamine due to the lone pair involvement of the delocalised electron ring

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6.2 Carbonyl Compounds

6.2.1 Reactions of Carbonyl Compounds

Oxidation of Aldehydes

- Aldehydes and ketones contain the carbonyl functional group, C=O
- This is why aldehydes and ketones are also known as carbonyls
- The difference between aldehydes and ketones is the groups bonded to the carbon of the carbonyl group



- The carbonyl group in an aldehyde is always situated at the end of the chain
 - When naming aldehydes, you do not include the '1' in the name, the carbonyl carbon is always number 1 on the chain
 - The simplest aldehyde is methanal, HCHO, with the only carbon being that of the carbonyl group
- The carbonyl group in a ketone is always situated in the middle of the chain
 - $\circ~$ The simplest ketone is propan-2-one, CH_3COCH_3, as you need an alkyl group either side of the carbonyl carbon in a ketone
- During the oxidation of a primary alcohol to an aldehyde, the apparatus must be set up to **distill** off the aldehyde as it is produced
- Further oxidation of primary alcohols can then take place
 Aldehydes can be easily oxidised to form carboxylic acids
- To oxidise a primary alcohol straight to a carboxylic acid, you would heat the reaction mixture under **reflux**
 - The aldehyde would still be produced, but as it evaporates it would condense and drop back into the reaction mixture, to be further oxidised to the carboxylic acid
- The oxidising agent used for **all** of the oxidation reactions be acidified potassium dichromate
 - $^\circ~$ K_2Cr_2O_7 with sulfuric acid, H_2SO_4
- Ketones are very resistant to being oxidised, so no further oxidation reaction will take place with secondary alcohols
 - This is because ketones do not have a readily available hydrogen atom, in the same way that aldehydes (or alcohols) do



- An extremely strong oxidising agent would be needed for oxidation of a ketone to take place
- $\circ\,$ The oxidation will likely oxidise a ketone in a destructive way, breaking a C-C bond

R-C H = C H = C O H = C O H $ALDEHYDE = (K_2Cr_2O_7/H_2SQ_1) CARBOXYLIC ACID$



Nucleophilic Addition Reactions

- Many of the reactions which carbonyl compounds undergo are nucleophilic addition reactions
- The carbonyl group -C=O, in aldehydes and ketones is polarised
- The oxygen atom is more electronegative than carbon drawing electron density towards itself
- This leaves the carbon atom slightly positively charged and the oxygen atom slightly negatively charged
- The carbonyl carbon is therefore susceptible to attack by a nucleophile, such as the cyanide ion

The carbonyl group here has a dipole with a delta positive carbon and a delta negative oxygen



General Mechanism with a ketone:



In both reactions, the nucleophile (Nu) attacks the carbonyl carbon to form a negatively charged intermediate which quickly reacts with a proton

Addition of HCN to carbonyl compounds

The nucleophilic addition of hydrogen cyanide to carbonyl compounds is a two-step process, as shown below



• In **step 1**, the cyanide ion attacks the carbonyl carbon to form a negatively charged intermediate

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 In step 2, the negatively charged oxygen atom in the reactive intermediate quickly reacts with aqueous H⁺ (either from HCN, water or dilute acid) to form 2hydroxynitrile compounds,

• e.g. 2-hydroxypropanenitrile

- This reaction is important in organic synthesis, because it adds a carbon atom to the chain, increasing the chain length
- The products of the reaction are hydroxynitriles
 - $\circ\,$ The nitrile group is the priority functional group so it is attached to carbon 1 and results in the suffix -nitrile
 - The hydroxyl group is not the priority functional group so the hydroxyl group is named using the hydroxy- prefix, rather than the -ol suffix

Reduction of Carbonyls

- There are a large number of reducing agents which will reduce both an aldehyde and a ketone to an alcohol
- Aldehydes are reduced to primary alcohols and ketones are reduced to secondary alcohols
- Possibly the most common reducing agent for this is sodium tetrahydridoborate, NaBH₄
 - $^{\circ}$ You may also see this named as sodium borohydride in some sources
- In an aqueous solution, NaBH $_4$ generates the hydride ion nucleophile, :H $^-$
- The hydride ion will reduce a carbonyl group in an aldehyde or a ketone, but is not strong enough to reduce a C=C double bond
 - $\circ~$ This is because it is attracted to the C in the C=O bond, but is repelled by the high electron density of the C=C bond
- When this reaction takes place, it is an example of a nucleophilic addition reaction

Reduction Reactions

• Carboxylic acid to a primary alcohol:



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🔿 Exam Tip

In theory the reduction of a carboxylic acid is a two stage process, from the carboxylic acid to the aldehyde and then further reduction from the aldehyde to the primary alcohol. In reality however, the reaction would really go from the carboxylic acid straight to the primary alcohol. Be careful and check the wording of the question when asked about the reduction of a carboxylic acid!



6.2.2 Testing for Carbonyl Compounds

Using 2,4-Dinitrophenylhydrazine

- 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine (also known as 2,4-DNPH) is a reagent which detects the presence of carbonyl compounds (compounds with -C=O group)
- The carbonyl group of **aldehydes** and **ketones** undergoes a **condensation** reaction with 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine
 - $\circ\,$ A condensation reaction is a reaction in which two molecules join together and a small molecule (such as H2O or HCl) is eliminated
- The product formed when 2,4-DNPH is added to a solution that contains an aldehyde or ketone is a deep-orange precipitate which can be purified by recrystallisation
- The **melting point** of the formed precipitate can then be measured and compared to literature values to find out which specific aldehyde or ketone had reacted with 2,4-DNPH



Ketones and aldehydes react with 2,4-DNPH in a condensation reaction



The test tube on the left shows a negative 2,4–DNPH test and the tube on the right shows a positive test

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🕜 Exam Tip

The 2,4-DNPH test is especially useful as other carbonyl compounds such as carboxylic acids and esters do not give a positive result



Using Tollens' Reagent

- + Tollens' reagent contains the silver(I) complex ion $[Ag(NH_3)_2]^+$
- This is formed when aqueous ammonia is added to a solution of silver nitrate
 Tollens' reagent is also known as ammoniacal silver nitrate
- If gently warmed with Tollens' reagent, an aldehyde will become oxidised
- The silver(I) complex ion solution, [Ag(NH₃)₂]⁺, is colourless
- As the aldehyde is oxidised, it causes the [Ag(NH₃)₂]⁺ ions to become reduced to solid metallic silver, Ag
- This is why a positive test result is called a "silver mirror"

Positive Test Result:

- When Tollens' reagent is gently warmed with an aldehyde, the silver mirror is formed
 - $^{\circ}\,$ This is the positive test result
- When Tollens' reagent is gently warmed with a ketone, no silver mirror will be seen, as the ketone cannot be oxidised by Tollens' reagent, so no reaction takes place
 - ° This is a negative test result



The Ag⁺ ions in Tollens' reagent are oxidising agents, oxidising the aldehyde to a carboxylic acid and getting reduced themselves to silver atoms

Exam Tip

Use 2,4-DNP to identify if the compound is a carbonyl

Then to differentiate an aldehyde from a ketone use Tollen's reagent.

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6.3 Carboxylic Acids & Esters

6.3.1 Carboxylic Acids

Properties of Carboxylic Acids

- **Carboxylic acid** is the name given to the family of compounds that contain the **carboxyl** functional group, -COOH
- The general formula of a carboxylic acid is $C_nH_{2n+1}COOH$ which can be shortened to just RCOOH
 - $^{\circ}$ (In some countries, this family is also called alkanoic acid)
- The nomenclature of **carboxylic acid** follows the pattern **alkan** + **oic acid**, e.g. propanoic acid
- There is no need to use numbers in the name as the carboxyl group, COOH, is always on the number 1 carbon atom

Structural Formula	Name	Molecular Formula
о Н-С-О-Н	methanoic acid (also known as formic acid)	нсоон
н о н-с-с-о-н н	ethanoic acid (also known as acetic acid)	СН ₃ СООН
н н о = н-с-с-с-о-н н н	propanoic acid	СН ₃ СН ₂ СООН

Carboxylic Acids Examples Table

Weak Acids

- Carboxylic acids with fewer than six carbon atoms per molecule are water-soluble \circ This is because water molecules can hydrogen-bond with the functional group
- In aqueous solution they are only slightly ionised, to give low concentrations of hydronium ions and alkanoate ions (often called carboxylate ions)

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Carboxylic acids are weak acids that do not fully dissociate in water, the position of the equilibrium lies to the left

• This partial ionisation in solution means that carboxylic acids are weak acids

Reactions of Carboxylic Acids

- Carboxylic acids can form salts with metals, alkalis and carbonates.
- In the reaction with metal oxides, a metal salt and water are produced

 For example in reaction with magnesium the salt magnesium ethanoate is
 formed:

2CH₃COOH (aq) + MgO (s) \rightarrow (CH₃COO)₂Mg (aq) + H₂O (l)

- $\ensuremath{\boldsymbol{\cdot}}$ In the reaction with $\ensuremath{\boldsymbol{\mathsf{alkalis}}}$ a salt and water are formed in a neutralisation reaction
 - For example in reaction with potassium hydroxide the salt potassium ethanoate is formed:

$\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}\text{ (aq)} + \text{KOH}\text{ (aq)} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{COOK}\text{ (aq)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}\text{ (l)}$

- In the reaction with **carbonates** a metal salt, water and carbon dioxide gas are produced
 - For example in reaction with potassium carbonate the salt potassium ethanoate is formed:

2CH_3COOH (aq) + K_2CO_3 (s) \rightarrow 2CH_3COOK (aq) + H_2O (l) + CO_2 (g)



Exam Tip

The effervescence caused by the production of CO_2 with carboxylic acids with solid Na_2CO_3 or aqueous $NaHCO_3$ can be used as a functional group test for carboxylic acids



6.3.2 Esters

Esterification of Carboxylic Acids & Acid Anhydrides

- Esters are a carboxylic acid derivative which contains the ester group, -COO-
- An ester is named after the parent carboxylic acid from which it is derived
- The nomenclature of esters follows the pattern:
 - Remove the -oic acid suffix from the parent carboxylic acid and replace with oate
 - $\circ\,$ The **alkyl** chain attached to the oxygen atom of the -COO- group is then added as the first word in the name
 - This part of the name comes from the alcohol, e.g. propanol becomes propyl
- Ester names are confusing because the name is written backwards from the way the structure is drawn

H₃C ETHANOIC ACID PARENT CARBOXYLIC ACID METHYL FT Copyright © Save My Exams. All Rights Re

Structure of methyl ethanoate

Esters Examples Table



Structural Formula	Name	Molecular Formula
О Н Н-С-О-С-Н Н	methyl methanoate	HCO₂CH₃
H O H H-C-C-O-C-H H H H	methyl ethanoate	СН ₃ СО ₂ СН ₃
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	ethyl ethanoate	CH ₃ CO ₂ C ₂ H ₅

Esterification

- Esters are characterised by their sweet and fruity smells
- They are prepared from the condensation reaction between a carboxylic acid and alcohol with concentrated H₂SO₄ as catalyst
 - $^{\circ}$ This is also called esterification
- A condensation reaction involves the elimination of a small molecule **not** always water
 - Esterification is **one** example of a condensation reaction as water is eliminated from the acid and alcohol reacting together
- The reaction is reversible
- The reaction is quite slow and needs heating under reflux, (often for several hours or days).
- Low yields(50% ish) tend to be achieved by this route





Esters are formed from the condensation reaction between carboxylic acids and alcohols



- Acid anhydrides are also derivatives of carboxylic acids formed by substitution of the -OH group by an alkanoate
 - Acid anhydrides are named by identifying the parent hydrocarbon chain and adding the suffix -*oic anhydride*
 - They can also be named by removing the -oic acid from the carboxylic acid and adding -oic anyhydride



- The acid anhydrides are more reactive than carboxylic acids
- The reaction is not reversible and a higher yield is achieved.



Hydrolysis of Esters

- Esters can be hydrolysed to reform the carboxylic acid and alcohol by either dilute acid or dilute alkali and heat
- When an ester is **heated under reflux** with **dilute acid** (eg. sulfuric acid) an equilibrium mixture is established as the reaction is **reversible**



Ester hydrolysis by dilute acid is a reversible reaction forming carboxylic acid and alcohol

- However, heating the ester under reflux with dilute alkali (eg. sodium hydroxide) is an irreversible reaction as the ester is fully hydrolysed
- This results in the formation of a **sodium carboxylate** salt which needs further **acidification** to turn into a **carboxylic acid**
 - The sodium carboxylate (-COO⁻) ion needs to get protonated by an acid (such as HCl) to form the carboxylic acid (-COOH)



Ester hydrolysis by dilute alkali is an irreversible reaction forming a sodium carboxylate salt and alcohol

Table showing differences in hydrolysis of esters

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Alkaline hydrolysis	
Reaction is irreversible / goes to completion	
Reflux, heat and dilute alkali (NaOH)	
Carboxylate salt and alcohol produced	



6.3.3 Acyl Chlorides

Formation of Acyl Chlorides

- Due to the increased reactivity of acyl chlorides compared to carboxylic acids, they are often used as **starting compounds** in organic reactions
- Acyl chlorides are compounds that contain an -COCI functional group and can be prepared from the reaction of carboxylic acids with:
 - ° Liquid sulfur dichloride oxide (SOCl₂)
- Propanoyl chloride can this way be prepared from propanoic acid using the reaction above





Uses of Acyl Chlorides

- Acyl chlorides are reactive organic compounds that undergo many reactions such as addition-elimination reactions
- In addition-elimination reactions, the **addition** of a small molecule across the C=O bond takes place followed by **elimination** of a small molecule
- Examples of these addition-elimination reactions include:
 - Hydrolysis
 - $^{\circ}$ Reaction with alcohols and phenols to form esters
 - $^{\circ}$ Reaction with ammonia and amines to form amides

Hydrolysis

- The hydrolysis of acyl chlorides results in the formation of a carboxylic acid and HCI molecule
- This is an addition-elimination reaction
 - A water molecule adds across the C=O bond
 - ° A hydrochloric acid (HCl) molecule is eliminated
- An example is the hydrolysis of propanoyl chloride to form propanoic acid and HCl



Acyl chlorides are hydrolysed to carboxylic acids

Formation of esters

- Acyl chlorides can react with alcohols and phenols to form esters

 The reaction with phenols requires heat and a base
- Esters can also be formed from the reaction of **carboxylic acids** with phenol and alcohols however, this is a **slower** reaction as carboxylic acids are less reactive and the reaction does **not go to completion** (so less product is formed)
- Acyl chlorides are therefore more useful in the synthesis of esters
- The esterification of acyl chlorides is also an addition-elimination reaction
 - $\circ~$ The alcohol or phenol adds across the C=O bond
 - ° A HCl molecule is eliminated



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Acyl chlorides undergo esterification with alcohols and phenols to form esters

Formation of amides

- Acyl chlorides can form **amides** from their **condensation reaction** with **amines** and **ammonia**
- The nitrogen atom in ammonia and amines has a lone pair of electrons which can be used to attack the carbonyl carbon atom in the acyl chlorides
- The product is a non-substituted amide (when reacted with ammonia) or substituted amide (when reacted with primary and secondary amines)
- This is also an example of an addition-elimination reaction as
 - $\circ~$ The amine or ammonia molecule adds across the C=O bond
 - A HCl molecule is eliminated




amides



6.4 Nitrogen Compounds

6.4.1 Amines

Amine Basicity

Amines

- Amines can be thought of as derivates of ammonia, in which one or more of the hydrogens is replaced by an alkyl or aryl group
- The number of substituted hydrogens is the basis of classifying amines



Classification of amines

- Notice the classification is not the same as in alcohols and haloalkanes, where the designation primary, secondary and tertiary is based on the substituents on the *carbon* atom rather than the *nitrogen* atom
- If the R group is an alkyl group (methyl, ethyl, etc) then then it is an **aliphatic amine**; if it is an aryl group (benzene ring or phenyl) then it is an **aromatic amine**
- Aliphatic and aromatic amines share similar chemical reactions and the aryl group can strongly influence the chemistry and reactivity of the amine group

Naming Amines

- Amines can be named using common names or IUPAC systematic names
- The common way to name amines is to use the alkyl (or aryl) prefix followed by amine
- The IUPAC systematic name uses the numbered prefix **amino-** followed by the alkane (or aromatic) stem

Nomenclature of aliphatic and aromatic amines table



Structural Formula	Name	Molecular Formula
	methylamine or aminomethane	CH₅N
	ethylamine or aminoethane	C ₂ H ₇ N
Н Н Н-С-Й-С-Н Н Н Н	dimethylamine or N–methyl aminomethane	C₂H ₇ N
$ \begin{array}{cccc} H & H \\ -H & -C \\ -H & -C \\ -H & -H \\ -H & -H$	trimethylamine or N,N-dimethyl aminomethane	C₃H ₉ N
Й. Н Н	phenylamine or aminobenzene	C ₆ H ₇ N

Basic properties

- The nitrogen atom in ammonia and amine molecules can accept a $\textbf{proton}~(H^+~ion)$
- They can therefore act as **bases** in aqueous solutions by **donating** its lone pair of electrons to a proton and form a **dative bond**
 - For example, ammonia undergoes an **acid-base** reaction with dilute hydrochloric acid (HC/) to form a salt

 $\text{NH}_3 \textbf{+} \text{HC}\textbf{\textit{I}} \rightarrow \text{NH}_4 \textbf{^+C}\textbf{\textit{I}}^{-}$

base acid salt

 $\mbox{ \bullet}$ Amines react with HC/ to form amine salts, such as ethylammonium chloride

 $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_2 \textbf{+} \text{HC}\textbf{\textit{I}} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_3 \textbf{+}\text{C}\textbf{\textit{I}}$

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base acid salt

- Like ammonium salts, amine salts are soluble ionic compounds, so when the alkyl group is small they are water soluble but become less so as the carbon chain increases
- We can show the reaction in **Brønsted-Lowry terms**, where ammonia or the amine acts as a **proton acceptor**:



The nitrogen atom in ammonia and amines can donate its lone pair of electrons to form a bond with a proton and therefore act as a base



6.4.2 Preparing Amines

Preparing Aliphatic Amines

Preparing Amines

- Primary amines can be prepared from different reactions including:
 - \circ The reaction of halogenoalkanes with ammonia
 - ° The reduction of nitriles

Reaction of halogenoalkanes with ammonia

- This is a **nucleophilic substitution** reaction in which the nitrogen lone pair in ammonia acts as a **nucleophile** and **replaces** the halogen in the halogenoalkane
- When a halogenoalkane is reacted with excess, hot ethanolic ammonia under pressure a primary amine is formed



Formation of primary amine

Reduction of nitriles

- Nitriles contain a -CN functional group which can be reduced to an -NH2 group
- The nitrile vapour and hydrogen gas are passed over a nickel catalyst or LiAlH₄ in dry ether can be used to form a primary amine



Nitriles can be reduced with LiAIH₄ or H₂ and Ni catalyst

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Reaction of halogenoalkanes with primary amine

- This is also a **nucleophilic substitution** reaction in which the nitrogen in the primary amine acts as a **nucleophile** and **replaces** the halogen in the halogenoalkane
- When a halogenoalkane is reacted with a **primary amine** in **ethanol** and **heated in a sealed tube, under pressure** a **secondary amine** is formed



Formation of secondary amine

- Tertiary amines can also be formed by further reaction of the secondary amine
- In this example, further substitution would form triethylamine (CH3CH2)N



Preparing Aromatic Amines

- **Phenylamine** is an organic compound consisting of a benzene ring and an **amine** (NH₂) functional group
- Nitrobenzene, C₆H₅NO₂, can be reduced to phenylamine, C₆H₅NH₂, according to the following two-stage reaction:



The two-stage reduction reaction of nitrobenzene to phenylamine

Stage 1 - Reduction of nitrobenzene

- $\circ\,$ Nitrobenzene, $C_6H_5NO_2,$ is reacted with tin, Sn, and concentrated hydrochloric acid, HCl
 - Tin and hydrochloric acid act as reducing agents
- $\circ\,$ The reaction mixture is heated under reflux in a boiling water bath
- $\circ\,$ The phenylammonium ions, $C_6H_5NH_3{}^+,$ are protonated due to the acidic conditions

Stage 2 - Formation of phenylamine

 $\circ~$ The phenylammonium ions, $C_6H_5NH_3{}^+,$ are deprotonated by the addition of excess sodium hydroxide solution, NaOH (aq)



6.4.3 Amino acids

Reactions of Amino Acids

- Amino acids are organic compounds that contain two functional groups:
 - A basic **amino** (-NH₂) group
 - An acidic carboxylic acid (-COOH) group
- Due to the presence of both a basic and acidic group in amino acids, they are said to be amphoteric
 - ° They can act as both acids and bases

Naturally occurring amino acids

- 2-aminocarboxylic acids are a type of amino acids in which the amine $(-NH_2)$ group is bonded to the carbon atom next to the -COOH group
- These type of amino acids form the 'building blocks' that make up proteins
- There are 20 naturally occurring amino acids with the general structural formula of RCH(NH₂)COOH



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General structural formula of amino acids

General structural formula of amino acids

- The **R** group varies in different amino acids and can be:
 - Acidic
 - ∘ Basic
 - Neutral



The R group varies in different amino acids

Acid / base properties of amino acids

- Amino acids will undergo most reactions of amines and carboxylic acids including acid-base reactions of:
 - Amines with acids
 - Carboxylic acids with bases



Reactions of the amine group

- The amine group is basic and reacts with acids to make salts
- For example, a general amino acid reacts with hydrochloric acid to form the ammonium salt:



Reactions of the carboxylic acid group

Reaction with aqueous alkalis

- An amino acid reacts with aqueous alkali such as sodium or potassium hydroxide to form a salt and water
- For example, a general amino acid reacts with sodium hydroxide to form a sodium salt:



Esterification with alcohols

- Amino acids, like carboxylic acids, can be esterified by heating with alcohol in the presence of concentrated sulfuric acid
- The carboxylic acid group is esterified whilst the basic amine group is protonated due to the acidic conditions:





6.4.4 Amides

Amides

- Amides are formed from the condensation reaction of carboxylic acids or acyl chlorides with ammonia or amines
- Amides are common in nature such as in proteins where the amine and carboxylic acid groups of amino acids bond together
- Amides have a general structure of RCONR2



The general structure of an amide

- · Amides can be classified as primary, secondary or tertiary amides
- Like amines, this is done as a comparison to ammonia, depending on the number of substitutions on the amide nitrogen
 - ° Primary amide one carbon bonded to the amide nitrogen
 - R' and R'' are both hydrogen atoms so one "ammonia" hydrogen has been substituted with the carbonyl group from the RCO portion of the molecule
 - Secondary amide two carbons bonded to the amide nitrogen (one MUST be the carbonyl carbon)
 - Tertiary amide three carbons bonded to the amide nitrogen (one MUST be the carbonyl carbon)

Naming primary amides

- For primary amides, we simply add -amide to the stem name
 - ° e.g. CH₃CONH₂
 - Contains two carbons with a C-C (ethan-) and an amide group (-amide)
 - This gives us ethanamide

Naming secondary amides

- For secondary amides, the alkyl chain attached to the nitrogen is added at the start of the chemical name
- This alkyl chain is prefixed with N-
- The chain containing the carbonyl group is named the same as a primary amide
 - ° e.g. CH₃CONH(C₃H₇)
 - Contains a propyl group on the nitrogen (N-propyl)
 - Contains two carbons with a C-C (ethan-) and an amide group (-amide)
 - This gives us N-propylethanamide

Naming tertiary amides

- For tertiary amides, there are two alkyl chains attached to the nitrogen
- The naming of these chains is the same as secondary amides

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- As with standard nomenclature, these chains are listed in alphabetical order and the prefix 'di-' is used if necessary
 - ° e.g. CH3CONCH₃(C₃H₇)
 - Contains a methyl group on the nitrogen (N-methyl)
 - Contains a propyl group on the nitrogen (N-propyl)
 - Contains two carbons with a C-C (ethan-) and an amide group (-amide)
 - This gives us N-methyl-N-propylethanamide



6.5 Optical Isomerism

6.5.1 Optical Isomers

Optical Isomers & Chirality

Optical isomerism

- **Stereoisomers** are molecules that have the same **structural formula** but have the atoms arranged differently in space
- There are two types of stereoisomerism
 - Geometrical (E / Z)
 - Optical
- A carbon atom that has **four different atoms** or **groups of atoms** attached to it is called a **chiral carbon** or **chiral centre**
 - Chira comes from a Greek word meaning hand, so we talk about these molecules having a handedness
- Compounds with a chiral centre (chiral molecules) exist as two optical isomers which are also known as enantiomers
- The enantiomers are **non-superimposable mirror images** of each other just like your left and right hand



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A molecule has a chiral centre when the carbon atom is bonded to four different atoms or group of atoms; this gives rises to enantiomers

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6.5.2 Identification of Chiral Centres

Identification of Chiral Centres

- Identifying chiral centres in a molecule takes a bit of practice whether it is from a formula, a 2D drawing or a 3D drawing
- To be successful you need to differentiate the carbon atoms and determine one of the following:
 - $\circ\,$ Whether a particular carbon is bonded to four dimerent atoms or groups of atoms and therefore is chiral
 - Whether a particular carbon is bonded to two of the same atoms or groups of atoms and therefore cannot be chiral
- If you are given a molecular formula you need to either draw the molecule as a condensed structural formula or a displayed formula so you can see all the bonds and groups

Worked Example

Determine which isomers of C4H9Br contain chiral carbons

Answer

 $CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2Br$

1-BROMOBUTANE

X NOT OPTICALLY ACTIVE

CH₃CH₂CHBrCH₃ 2-BROMOBUTANE √OPTICALLY ACTIVE

(CH₃)₂CHCH₂Br 1-BROMO-2-METHYLPROPANE X NOT OPTICALLY ACTIVE C 2 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 2 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 3 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL

C 3 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 2 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL

C 2 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C H, CH₃, Br AND C₂H₅ AROUND CHIRAL

C 3 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL

C 3 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 2 CH₃s AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 2 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL

(CH₃)₃CBr

2-BROMO-2-METHYLPROPANE

C 3 Hs AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL C 3 $CH_{3}S$ AROUND IT NOT CHIRAL

X NOT OPTICALLY ACTIVE Copyright & Saw

• You should be able to spot chiral centres in 3D drawings

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- Chiral centres are marked with an asterisk (*)
- For example, glyceraldehyde contains a chiral centre on the middle carbon:



A 3D drawing space filling model of glyceraldehyde

• You can show the chiral carbon in a displayed formula like this



A displayed formula for glyceraldehyde showing the the chiral centre

Drawing optical isomers

- + You need to use stereochemical drawing conventions to represent optical isomers
- In the convention:
 - $^{\circ}$ a solid line is a bond in the same plane as the paper
 - a dotted line is a bond receding behind the plane of the paper(this can also be hatched or shaded wedges)
 - $^{\circ}\,$ a solid wedge is a bond coming out of the paper
- For example, suppose you are asked to draw the optical isomers of the amino acid alanine, CH₃CH(NH₂)COOH
 - Start by drawing a vertical dotted line to represent a line of symmetry in the centre of your page
 - \circ Next draw the chiral carbon with four bonds in a tetrahedral arrangement
 - $\circ\,$ Make sure two bond lie in the plane of the paper, one comes out and one recedes

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 $^{\circ}\,$ Add the four groups, but be careful to show the mirror image sequence of atoms



Drawing optical isomers



6.6 Polymers

6.6.1 Condensation Polymers

Condensation Polymers

- Addition polymerisation has been covered in reactions of alkenes
 - They are made using monomers that have C=C double bonds joined together to form polymers such as polyethene
- Condensation polymerisation is another type of reaction whereby a polymer is produced by repeated condensation reactions between monomers
- Natural condensation polymers are all formed by elimination of water
 - Although the process of condensation polymerisation involves the elimination of a small molecule
- Condensation polymers can be identified because the monomers are linked by ester or amide bonds
- · Condensation polymers can be formed by:
 - $\circ~$ dicarboxylic acids and diols
 - dicarboxylic acids and diamines
 - amino acids

Polyester

- Is formed by the reaction between dicarboxylic acid monomers and diol monomers
- · Polyester is produced by linking these monomers with ester bonds / links



This polymer structure shows an ester functional group linking monomers together

Formation of polyesters

- A diol and a dicarboxylic acid are required to form a polyester
 - A diol contains 2 -OH groups
 - ° A dicarboxylic acid contains 2 -COOH groups



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The position of the functional groups on both of these molecules allows condensation polymerisation to take place effectively

- When the polyester is formed, one of the -OH groups on the diol and the hydrogen atom of the -COOH are expelled as a water molecule (H₂O)
- The resulting polymer is a polyester
 - In this example, the polyester is poly(ethylene terephthalate) or PET, which is sometimes known by its brand names of Terylene or Dacron



Expulsion of a water molecule in this condensation polymerisation forms the polyester called (ethylene terephthalate) (PET)

Formation of polyesters - hydroxycarboxylic acids

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- So far the examples of making polyesters have focused on using 2 separate monomers for the polymerisation
- There is another route to making polyesters
- A single monomer containing both of the key functional groups can also be used
- These monomers are called hydroxycarboxylic acids
 - They contain an alcohol group (-OH) at one end of the molecule while the other end is capped by a carboxylic acid group (-COOH)



Both functional groups that are needed to make the polyester come from the same monomer

Polyamides

- Polyamides are polymers where repeating units are bonded together by amide links
- The formula of an amide group is -CONH



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An amide link - also known as a peptide link - is the key functional group in a polyamide

Polyamide monomers

- A diamine and a dicarboxylic acid are required to form a polyamide
 - A diamine contains 2 -NH₂ groups
 - $^\circ\,$ A dicarboxylic acid contains 2 –COOH groups
- Dioyl dichlorides can also used to react with the diamine instead of the acid
 A dioyl chloride contains 2 -COCl groups
 - $^{\circ}$ This is a more reactive monomer but more expensive than dicarboxylic acid





The monomers for making polyamides

Formation of polyamides

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This shows the expulsion of a small molecule as the amide link forms

Amino acids - formation of proteins

- Proteins are vital biological molecules with varying functions within the body
- They are essentially polymers made up of amino acid monomers
- Amino acids have an aminocarboxylic acid structure
- Their properties are governed by a branching side group the R group



Amino acids contain an amine group, an acid group and a unique R group

- Different amino acids are identified by their unique R group
- The names of each amino acid is given using 3 letters
- For example Glutamine is known as 'Gln'
- Dipeptides can be produced by polymerising 2 amino acids together
 - The amine group (-NH₂) and acid group (-COOH) of each amino acid is used to polymerise with another amino acid

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• Polypeptides are made through polymerising more than 2 amino acids together

YOUR NOTES

2 AMINO ACIDS REACT TOGETHER TO FORM A DIPEPTIDE



Dipeptides and polypeptides are formed by polymerising amino acid molecules together



Acid & Base Hydrolysis

Biodegradable polymers

- Both polyesters and polyamides can be broken down using hydrolysis reactions
- This is a major advantage over the polymers produced using alkene monomers (polyalkenes)
- When polyesters and polyamides are taken to landfill sites, they can be broken down easily and their products used for other applications

Hydrolysis of polyamides

- Hydrolysis is a breaking up of a molecules using water
- In acidic hydrolysis, acid (such as hydrochloric acid) acts as the catalyst
 - Polyamides are heated with dilute acid
 - This reaction breaks the polyamide into carboxylic acid molecules and ammonium chloride ions
- Alkaline hydrolysis
 - The polyamide is heated with a species containing hydroxide ions (eg. sodium hydroxide)
 - This breaks the polymer into the sodium salts of its monomers (dicarboxylic acids and diamines)
 - If the poly amide link used an aminocarboxylic acid as the monomer, then a sodium salt of the original amino acid is reformed



When polyamides are degraded by hydrolysis, carboxylic acids and amines are formed

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Hydrolysis of polyesters

- Ester linkages can also be degraded through hydrolysis reactions
- Acid hydrolysis forms the alcohols and carboxylic acids that were used to form the polyesters



When polyesters are degraded by hydrolysis, carboxylic acids and alcohols are formed



6.6.2 Polymer Repeat Units

Polymer Repeat Units

Repeat units for addition polymers

- A **repeat unit** is the smallest group of atoms that when connected one after the other make up the polymer chain
 - $^{\circ}$ It is represented by square brackets in the displayed and general formula
- In poly(alkenes) (such as poly(ethene)) and substituted poly(alkenes) (such as PVC) made of one type of monomer the repeating unit is the same as the monomer except that the C=C double bond is changed to a C-C single bond



The repeating units of poly(ethene) and poly(chloroethene) are similar to their monomer except that the C=C bond has changed into a C-C bond

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Identify the monomers present in the given sections of addition polymer molecules:



YOUR NOTES

Answers:

Answer 1:

When ethenol $(CH(OH)=CH_2)$ is polymerised, the C-C double bond opens to produce a repeating unit of $CH(OH)-CH_2$. This gives the polymer poly(ethenol)



Answer 2:

• To find the monomer, first the repeating unit should be deduced. Repeating units have only 2 carbons in the polymer main chain









 Since the repeating unit is now found, it can be concluded that the monomer is prop-2-enoic acid



Answer 3:

- Again, the repeating unit only has 2 carbons in the polymer chain which in this case are two carbon atoms that each contain one OH group
- Thus, when ethene-1,2-diol (CH(OH)=CH(OH)) is polymerised, the C=C double bond opens to produce a repeating unit of CH(OH)-CH(OH) which gives the polymer poly(ethene-1,2-diol)



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Repeat units for condensation polymers

- Remember we can tell the type of polymerisation by identifying the linking between the monomers
- If a chan of carbon atoms is present, the polymer is an addition polymer
- If there is an ester link, the polymer is a polyester (formed by condensation polymerisation)
- If there is an amide link, the polymer is a polyamide (formed by condensation polymerisation)



This polymer structure shows an ester functional group linking monomers together



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An amide link - also known as a peptide link - is the key functional group in a polyamide



Answer:



a) REPEATING UNIT:



a) MONOMERS:



b) REPEATING UNIT:



b) MONOMERS:





6.7 Extending Carbon Chains

6.7.1 Nitriles

Formation of Nitriles

Carbon-carbon bond forming

- Carbon-carbon bond forming reactions are organic reactions in which a new carbon-carbon bond is formed
- They are important in the production of many man-made chemicals such as pharmaceuticals and plastics
- Carbon-carbon bonds can be formed via the following reactions
 - $\circ\,$ Formation of nitriles to extend the carbon chain
 - ° Frieidel-Crafts alkylation and acylation

Formation of nitriles

- The nucleophile in this reaction is the cyanide, CN⁻ ion
- Ethanolic solution of potassium cyanide (KCN in ethanol) is heated under reflux with the halogenoalkane
- The product is a **nitrile**
 - $\circ\,$ Eg. bromoethane reacts with ethanolic potassium cyanide when heated under reflux to form propanenitrile

 $\begin{array}{ccc} CH_{3}CH_{2}Br + CN^{-} \longrightarrow CH_{3}CH_{2}CN + Br^{-} \\ BROMOETHANE & PROPANENITRILE \\ Copyright O Save My Exams. All Rights Reserved \end{array}$

The halogen is replaced by a cyanide group, CN⁻

- The nucleophilic substitution of halogenoalkanes with KCN adds an **extra** carbon atom to the carbon chain
- This reaction can therefore be used by chemists to make a compound with one more carbon atom than the best available organic starting material



Nucleophilic substitution of a haloalkane with CN-

Addition of HCN to carbonyl compounds

• The nucleophilic addition of hydrogen cyanide to carbonyl compounds is a twostep process, as shown below

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- In **step 1**, the cyanide ion attacks the carbonyl carbon to form a negatively charged intermediate
- In step 2, the negatively charged oxygen atom in the reactive intermediate quickly reacts with aqueous H⁺ (either from HCN, water or dilute acid) to form 2hydroxynitrile compounds,
 - ° e.g. 2-hydroxypropanenitrile



Reactions of Nitriles

Hydrolysis of nitriles

- Nitriles are hydrolysed by either dilute acid or dilute alkali followed by acidification
 - Hydrolysis by dilute acid results in the formation of a carboxylic acid and ammonium salt
 - Hydrolysis by dilute alkali results in the formation of a sodium carboxylate salt and ammonia; **Acidification** is required to change the carboxylate ion into a carboxylic acid
- The -CN group at the end of the hydrocarbon chain is converted to a -COOH group



Hydrolysis of nitriles by either dilute acid (1) or dilute alkali and acidification (2) will form a carboxylic acid

Reduction of Nitriles

- Nitriles contain a -CN functional group which can be **reduced** to an -NH₂ group
- The nitrile vapour and hydrogen gas are passed over a nickel catalyst or LiAlH4 in dry ether can be used to form a primary amine

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Nitriles can be reduced with LiAIH₄ or H₂ and Ni catalyst



6.7.2 Substituted Aromatic Carbon-carbon Bond Formation

Alkylation & Acylation

Friedel-Crafts Reactions

- Friedel-Crafts reactions are also **electrophilic substitution** reactions
- Due to the aromatic stabilisation in arenes, they are often unreactive
- To use arenes as **starting materials** for the synthesis of other organic compounds, their structure, therefore, needs to be changed to turn them into more reactive compounds
- Friedel-Crafts reactions can be used to substitute a hydrogen atom in the benzene ring for an **alkyl group** (Friedel-Crafts alkylation) or an **acyl group** (Friedel-Crafts acylation)
- Like any other electrophilic substitution reaction, the Friedel-Crafts reactions consist of three steps:
 - Generating the electrophile
 - $\circ\,$ Electrophilic attack on the benzene ring
 - $^{\circ}\,$ Regenerating aromaticity of the benzene ring

Friendel-Crafts Alkylation

- In the Friedel-Crafts alkylation, an alky group is substituted into the benzene ring
- The benzene ring is reacted with a chloroalkane (e.g. chloroethane) in the presence of an AlCl3 catalyst
- An example of alkylation is the reaction of benzene with chloroprpane to form propylbenzene
- The Friedel-Crafts alkylation reaction is a method of generating alkylbenzenes by using alkyl halides as reactants

Friedel-Crafts Acylation

- In the Friedel-Crafts acylation reaction, an **acyl group** is substituted into the benzene ring
 - $^\circ\,$ An acyl group is an alkyl group containing a carbonyl, C=O group
- The benzene ring is reacted with an acyl chloride in the presence of an AlCl_3 catalyst
- An example of an acylation reaction is the reaction of benzene with propanoyl chloride to form phenylpropanone
 - $^{\circ}\,$ The Friedel-Crafts alcylation reaction is a method of generating ketones





Examples of Friedel-Crafts alkylation and acylation reactions


6.8 Organic Synthesis

6.8.1 Techniques

Preparation of an Organic Solid

- This preparation and purification covers a number of key laboratory skills:
 - \circ use appropriate apparatus to record a range of measurements
 - ° use water bath or electric heater or sand bath for heating
 - $\circ\,$ use laboratory apparatus for a variety of experimental techniques
 - purify a solid product by recrystallisation
 - ° use melting point apparatus
 - ° safely and carefully handle solids and liquids
- There are a few choices of experiments that are commonly done in schools which cover these laboratory skills and three which can be done are:
 - ° The preparation of aspirin
 - The preparation of benzoic acid
 - $\circ\,$ The nitration of methyl benzoate
 - These are covered in more detail in Unit 1. Development of practical skills in chemistry



Purification of an Organic Solid

Recrystallisation

- Recrystallisation is used to purify impure solids
- The principle is that a hot solvent is used to dissolve both the organic solid and the impurities and then as the solution cools the solid crystallises out and leaves behind the impurities in the solution
- The key is using the minimum amount of solvent to dissolve the solid and avoid loss of the product
- If any solid impurities remain in the solution, a hot filtration can be carried out
- Once the solution has cooled down to room temperature and crystallised then the product crystals can be recovered by filtration
- This is faster using Buchner apparatus in which filtration occurs under reduced pressure



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Recrystallisation and Buchner filtration

• After filtration the product is washed with fresh cold solvent and then allowed to dry on filter paper



Exam Tip

Recrystallisation can be repeated more than once to ensure a very pure product, but each time the yield of product will decrease. Slow cooling results in bigger well defined crystals which are easier to filter and dry.

Determination of Melting point

- The melting point of a solid is indicative of its purity and identity
- A melting point can be matched to a known substance as a means of identification or confirmation of a desired product
- The proximity of a melting point to the actual data book value can express purity

 Impurities tend to lower the melting point of a solid
- The melting point range also reveals the degree of purity
 - $\circ\,$ Pure substances have sharp well defined melting points
 - Impure substances have a broad melting point range, i.e. a large difference between when the substance first melts until it completely melts
- The skills needed in performing a melting point test are largely dependent on the specific melting point apparatus you are using
- However, there are some common key skills:
 - Correctly preparing the melting point tubes
 - Heating the tubes very slowly
 - ° Repeating to get a range of measurements (three would be normal)
- The sample solid must be totally dry and finely powdered this can be achieved by crushing it with the back of a spatula onto some filter paper or the back of a white tile (this absorbs any moisture)
- Use the first tube to find the approximate melting point range and then repeat using a much slower heating rate



YOUR NOTES



Melting point test using an oil bath









🕜 Exam Tip

Always quote a melting point as a range + or - and reference a data book value if you have one.



6.8.2 Synthetic Routes

Multi-Stage Organic Synthetic Routes

- A large number of organic products are made from a few starting compounds using appropriate reagents and conditions
- Knowing how organic functional groups are related to each other is key to the synthesis of a given molecule
- The main functional groups you need to know are
 - Alkanes
 - Alkenes
 - Haloalkanes
 - Nitriles
 - Amines
 - Alcohols
 - Carbonyls (aldehydes & ketones)
 - Hydroxynitriles
 - Carboxylic acids
 - Esters
 - ° Acyl chlorides
 - Primary and secondary amides



Exam Tip

You also need to be able to identify the functional groups of these chemicals in structures that are given to you

Aliphatic Reaction Pathways

• The key interconversions between functional groups are summarised here:

Aliphatic Reactions Table

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Reactant	Product	Reagents	Reaction
Alkene	Haloalkane	Hydrogen halide	Electrophilic addition
Alkene	Alcohol	Steam + H ₂ SO ₄ / heat	Hydration
Alkene	Alkane	Hydrogen + Ni catalyst / 150 °C	Electrophilic addition / hydrogenation
Alcohol	Alkene	Al₂O₃ or conc. acid∕ heat	Elimination / dehydration
Alcohol	Haloalkane	NaX + H ₂ SO ₄ / heat under reflux	Nucleophilic substitution
Haloalkane	Alcohol	NaOH (aq) / heat under reflux	Nucleophilic substitution
Alkane	Haloalkane	Halogen / UV light	Free radical substitution
Primary alcohol	Aldehyde	K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇ / H ₂ SO ₄ / Distillation	Oxidation
Secondary alcohol	Ketone	K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇ / H ₂ SO ₄ / Heat	Oxidation
Primary alcohol	Carboxylic acid	K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇ / H ₂ SO ₄ / Heat under reflux	Oxidation
Aldehyde	Primary alcohol	NaBH ₄ /H ₂ O	Reduction
Ketone	Secondary alcohol	NaBH ₄ /H ₂ O	Reduction
Haloalkane	Nitrile	NaCN	Nucleophilic substitution
Haloalkane	Amine	NH₃∕ethanol	Nucleophilic substitution
Nitrile	Carboxylic acid	H ₂ O / HCl	Hydrolysis
Aldehyde	Hydroxynitrile	NaCN ∕ H ⁺	Nucleophilic addition
Alcohol	Ester	Carboxylic acid / H ₂ SO ₄	Esterification
Carboxylic acid	Ester	Alcohol / H ₂ SO ₄	Esterification
Ester	Carboxylate salt and alcohol	NaOH (aq)	Alkaline hydrolysis
Ester	Carboxylic acid	Dilute acid	Acid hydrolysis

YOUR NOTES

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Carboxylic acid Acyl chloride SOCL₂ Chlorination Acyl chloride Carboxylic acid H₂O Hydrolysis Acyl chloride Primary amide Nucleophilic addition NHa elimination Acyl chloride Secondary amide Primary amine Nucleophilic addition elimination

Aromatic Reaction Pathways

• The key aromatic reactions are summarised here:

Aromatic Reactions Table

Reactant	Product	Reagents	Reaction
Benzene	Methylbenzene / toluene	CH ₃ CL/ALCL ₃	Alkylation / Electrophilic substitution
Benzene	Bromobenzene	Br ₂ / FeBr ₃	Bromination / Electrophilic substitution
Benzene	Chlorobenzene	Cl ₂ /AlCl ₃	Chlorination / Electrophilic substitution
Benzene	Nitrobenzene	HNO3/H2SO4	Nitration / Electrophilic substitution
Nitrobenzene	Aminobenzene / phenylamine / aniline	Sn / HCl	Reduction
Aminobenzene	2,4,6-tribromodminobenzene / 2,4,6-tribromodniline	Bromine	Electrophilic substitution
Benzene	Phenylethanone	CH3COCI /AICI3	Acylation / Electrophilic substitution
Phenylethanone	1-phenylethanol	NaBH	Reduction

Designing a Reaction Pathway

- The given molecule is usually called the **target molecule** and chemists try to design a synthesis as efficiently as possible
- Designing a reaction pathway starts by drawing the structures of the **target molecule** and the **starting molecule**
- Determine if they have the same number of carbon atoms
 - If you need to lengthen the carbon chain you will need to put on a **nitrile group** by nucleophilic substitution
- Work out all the compounds that can be made from the starting molecule and all the molecules that can be made into the target molecule
 - $\circ\,$ Match the groups they have in common and work out the reagents and conditions needed

Worked Example

Suggest how the following synthesis could be carried out:

Ethene to 1-aminopropane

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Exam Tip

Sound knowledge of all of the different reactions is beneficial as the A-level course simply states that you should be able to design a multistage synthesis

Past papers generally go to four steps in a multistep reaction although there is no clear limit stated



6.9 Analytical Techniques

6.9.1 Thin Layer Chromatography, TLC

Thin-Layer Chromatography Practical

- Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) is a technique used to analyse small samples via separation
 - For example, we could separate a dye out to determine the mixture of dyes in a forensic sample
- There are 2 phases involved in TLC:
 - Stationary phase
 - This phase is commonly thin metal sheet coated in alumina (Al₂O₃) or silica (SiO₂)
 - The solute molecules **adsorb** onto the surface
 - Depending on the strength of interactions with the stationary phase, the separated components will travel particular distances through the plate
 - The more they interact with the stationary phase, the more they will 'stick' to it
 - Mobile phase
 - Flows over the stationary phase
 - It is a polar or non-polar liquid (solvent) that carries components of the compound being investigated
 - Polar solvents water or alcohol
 - Non-polar solvents alkanes
- If the sample components are coloured, their spots are easily identifiable on the chromatogram
- If the sample components are not coloured, then we can **locate** the spots on the chromatogram and draw around them in pencil
 - To locate the spots we can use:
 - UV light
 - Ninhydrin (carcinogenic)
 - Iodine vapour

Conducting a TLC analysis

• Step 1:

Prepare a beaker with a small quantity of solvent

• Step 2:

On a TLC plate, draw a horizontal line at the bottom edge (in pencil)

This is called the **baseline**

• Step 3:

Place a spot of pure reference compound on the left of this line, then a spot of the sample to be analysed to the right of the baseline and allow to air dry



The reference compounds will allow identification of the mixture of compounds in the sample

• Step 4:

Place the TLC plate inside the beaker with solvent – making sure that the solvent does not cover the spot – and place a lid to cover the beaker

The solvent will begin to travel up the plate, dissolving the compounds as it does • Step 5:

As solvent reaches the top, remove the plate and draw another pencil line where the solvent has reached, indicating the **solvent front**

The sample's components will have separated and travelled up towards this solvent front



A dot of the sample is placed on the baseline and allowed to separate as the mobile phase flows through the stationary phase; The reference compound/s will also move with the solvent



TLC & Rf Values

*R*_f values

• A TLC plate can be used to calculate Rf values for compounds

$$R_f = \frac{\text{Distance travelled by component}}{\text{Distance travelled by solvent}}$$

 These values can be used alongside other analytical data to deduce composition of mixtures



R_f values can be calculated by taking 2 measurements from the TLC plate

Exam Tip

The baseline on a TLC plate must be drawn in pencil. Any other medium would interact with the sample component and solvents used in the analysis process.

- * The less polar components travel further up the TLC plate
 - $^\circ\,$ Their R_f values are higher than those closer to the baseline
 - They are **more soluble** in the mobile phase and get carried forwards with the solvent
- More polar components do not travel far up the plate
 - $\circ\,$ They are more attracted to the polar stationary phase
- The extent of separating molecules in the investigated sample depends on the solubility in the mobile and stationary phases

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• Knowing the R_f values, of compounds being analysed, helps to compare the polarity of various molecules



Worked Example

A mixture of amino acids is analysed by thin layer chromatography (TLC). The TLC plate produced is shown below. Identify the amino acids in the sample using the table of values for $R_{\rm f.}$

Amino acid	R _f value		/	
Alanine	0.33	\uparrow		FRONT
Aspartic acid	0.24			
Valine	0.44	y = 4.63		
Leucine	0.61			
Cysteine	0.37		x = 2.04	SAMPL
lsoleucine	0.53			
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Answers:

Blue spot R_f value = 2.82 \div 4.63 = 0.61 = Leucine

Green spot $R_{\rm f}$ value = 2.45 \div 4.63 = 0.536 = Isoleucine

Red spot R_f value = 2.04 \div 4.63 = 0.44 = Valine



6.9.2 Gas Chromatography, GC

Interpreting Gas Chromatograms

- Gas-Liquid Chromatography (GLC) is used for analysing:
 - Gases
 - Volatile liquids
 - ° Solids in their vapour form
- The stationary phase:
 - \circ This method uses a long coiled column for the stationary phase
 - Normally a non-volatile liquid is the stationary phase in GLC
- The Mobile phase
 - An **inert** carrier gas (e.g. helium, nitrogen) moves the sample molecules through the stationary phase
- The sample is injected into the column through a self-sealing disc and the vapour formed is carried through the stationary phase using the inert-gas mobile phase

Retention times

- Once sample molecules reach the detector, their retention times are recorded
 This is the time taken for a component to travel through the column
 - It depends upon the attraction between the solute and the stationary and mobile phases as well as the volatility and nature of the solute
- The retention times are recorded on a chromatogram where each peak represents a volatile compound in the analysed sample
 - The relative sizes (i.e. areas) of the peaks are related to how much of each compound is present in the mixture
- Retention times are then compared with data book values to identify unknown molecules





A gas chromatogram of a volatile sample compound has six peaks. Depending on each molecule's interaction with the stationary phase, each peak has its own retention time





Answers:

i) ${\bf D}$ (the larger the relative size of the peak, the greater the quantity of that substance present)

ii) **B** and **C** (the peak sizes are equal)

iii) **D** (the larger the retention time, the greater the interaction of that component with the stationary phase)



6.9.3 Qualitative Analysis

Testing for Alkenes & Haloalkanes

Testing for an Alkene

- Halogens can be used to test if a molecule is **unsaturated** (i.e. contains a double bond)
- Br2(aq) is an orange-yellow solution, called bromine water
- The unknown compound is **shaken** with the bromine water
- If the compound is unsaturated, an addition reaction will take place and the coloured solution will decolourise



The bromine water test is the standard test for unsaturation in alkenes

Testing for a haloalkane

- The haloalkane must first be warmed with sodium hydroxide in a mixture of ethanol and water
- The haloalkane will undergo nucleophilic substitution releasing the halide ion into solution, which can then be tested
- The released halide ion is tested for using the silver nitrate test:
 - $\circ\,$ Acidify the sample with dilute nitric acid (HNO_3) followed by the addition of silver nitrate solution, AgNO_3 $\,$
 - The acidification is done to remove carbonate ions that might give a false positive result
 - If a halide is present it forms a silver halide precipitate:

$$Ag^+(aq) + X^-(aq) \rightarrow AgX (s)$$



- Depending on the halide present, a **different coloured precipitate** is formed, allowing for identification of the halide ion
 - Silver chloride is white, silver bromide is cream and silver iodide is yellow

Each silver halide produces a precipitate of a different colour



Exam Tip

The acidification step in the halide ion test must be done with nitric acid rather than hydrochloric acid, as HCl contains chloride ions which would interfere with the results.



Testing for Carbonyls & Alcohols

Testing for a carbonyl

2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine or Brady's reagent

- 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine (2,4-DNP or 2,4-DNPH) is used to test for the presence of a carbonyl group, C=O
 - \circ 2,4-DNP is usually dissolved in methanol and sulfuric acid
 - It is a pale orange solution
- A few drops of the unknown sample are added to 5.0 cm³ of 2,4-DNP and it left to stand
- A few drops of sulfuric acid are then added to the mixture
 - The formation of an orange / yellow precipitate of 2,4-dinitrophenylhydraz<u>one</u> confirms the presence of an aldehyde or ketone

🕜 Exam Tip

It is more common to use other chemical tests to more specifically check for the presence of an aldehyde or a ketone because:

- 1. Brady's reagent / 2,4-DNP only confirms the presence of a carbonyl group, it does not distinguish between an aldehyde and a ketone
- 2. Friction or sudden impacts can cause solid 2,4-DNP to explode

Testing for an Aldehyde

Tollens' reagent

- Tollens' reagent is an aqueous alkaline solution of silver nitrate in excess ammonia solution
 - $^{\circ}$ Tollens' reagent is also called ammoniacal silver nitrate solution
- When **warmed** with an aldehyde, the aldehyde is oxidised to a carboxylic acid and the Ag⁺ ions are reduced to Ag atoms
 - $\circ\,$ In the alkaline conditions, the carboxylic acid will become a carboxylate ion and form a salt
- The Ag atoms form a silver 'mirror' on the inside of the tube
- Ketones cannot be oxidised and therefore give a negative test when warmed with Tollens' reagent





Testing an Alcohol

- Alcohols can be classified as either primary, secondary or tertiary, depending on the placement of the -OH group
- Primary and secondary alcohols can both be oxidised, but tertiary alcohols cannot
- To test for the alcohol functional group, add a small amount (1 cm³) of the substance to a test tube using a pipette
- Then, add a small amount (1 cm³) of a suitable oxidising agent to the sample using a different pipette

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- $\circ\,$ The most commonly used oxidising agent for this test is acidified potassium dichromate solution (K_2Cr_2O_7, acidified with H_2SO_4)
- + Add a stopper to the test tube and shake well
- Place in a hot water bath (heated to around 60 °C) for a few minutes
- If a primary or secondary alcohol are present, then the colour will change from orange to green
 - If a tertiary alcohol is present, then nothing will happen the solution will remain orange



Positive test results of the oxidation of a primary, secondary and tertiary alcohol

Exam Tip

When heated with acidified potassium dichromate, an aldehyde will also cause a colour change from orange to green



Testing for Carboxylic Acids & Phenols

Testing for a Carboxylic Acid

- Carboxylic acids in solution have a pH of around 3, so measuring the pH is a way of testing for the presence of the carboxylic acid functional group in an organic sample
- The end of a glass rod could be dipped into the solution and then carefully dripped onto indicator paper
- Or, a pH probe could be used, which would give you an exact pH
- Since carboxylic acids are acids, they will react with a carbonate solution to produce carbon dioxide gas
- 1-2 cm³ of sodium carbonate (Na₂CO₃) or sodium hydrogen carbonate solution (NaHCO₃) could be added using a pipette
- If bubbles of gas are seen, this is a good indicator that the solution is a carboxylic acid
 - If an exam question asks you to simply distinguish between different types of organic compound, and the carboxylic acid is the only organic compound present which would react in this way with a carbonate solution, then this is enough
- The gas produced could then be bubbled into limewater
- If the limewater turns milky or cloudy, then this proves that the gas produced was carbon dioxide



Testing for Phenols

- Bromine water can be used to test if a molecule is phenolic (i.e. contains phenol)
- The unknown compound is shaken with the bromine water

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• If the compound contains phenol, a substitution reaction will take place and the coloured bromine water will decolourise and then a white precipitate will form



6.9.4 Carbon-13 NMR

Carbon-13 NMR

- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy is used for analysing organic compounds
- Atoms with odd mass numbers usually show signals on NMR
 - For example, isotopes of atoms
 - $^\circ\,$ Many of the carbon atoms on organic molecules are carbon-12
 - A small quantity of organic molecules will contain the isotope carbon-13 atoms
 - ° These will show signals on a ¹³C NMR
- In ¹³C NMR, the magnetic field strengths of carbon-13 atoms in organic compounds are measured and recorded on a spectrum
- Just as in ¹H NMR, all samples are measured against a reference compound -Tetramethylsilane (TMS)
- On a ¹³C NMR spectrum, non-equivalent carbon atoms appear as peaks with different chemical shifts

Environment of carbon	Groups	Chemical shift range 8/ppm
-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -	Alkyl	5-40
RCH ₂ Cl or Br	Halogenoalkanes	10-70
RCOCH ₂ -	Carbonyls	20-50
RCH ₂ NH ₂	Amines	25-60
-CH2-O-	Alcohols, ethers or esters	50-90
-CH=CH-	Alkenyl	90-150
R-C≡N	Nitriles	110-125
C ₆ H ₆	Benzene	110-160
R-COO-	Ester or acids	160 - 185
R-CO-	Aldehyde or ketones	190-220

Chemical shift values (relative to the TMS) for ¹³C NMR analysis table

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Features of a ¹³C NMR spectrum

- ¹³C NMR spectrum displays sharp single signals
 - $^{\rm o}\,$ There are no complicated spitting patterns like ^1H NMR spectra

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- The height of each signal is **not proportional** to the number of carbon atoms present in a single molecular environment
- Carbon atoms in different chemical environments will give resonances at different chemical shifts in a ¹³C spectrum
- + As with ¹H NMR, tetramethylsilane is used as the standard reference point for $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ at 0 ppm

Identifying ¹³C molecular environments

- On an organic molecule, the carbon-13 environments can be identified in a similar way to the proton environments in ¹H NMR
- For example propanone
 - $^{\circ}\,$ There are 2 molecular environments
 - $^\circ\,$ 2 signals will be present on its ^{13}C NMR spectrum



There are 2 molecular environments in propanone



The ¹³C NMR of propanone showing 2 signals for the 2 molecular environments

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Exam Tip

Counting the number of ¹³C resonances should be the first step in analysing a spectrum. For example, it is possible to differentiate the three isomers of dihydroxybenzene quickly be considering the symmetry of the molecules and therefore the number of resonances expected in their spectra.



How many chemical environments and therefore number of peaks / resonances would be in a ^{13}C spectra of 1,3-dihydroxybenzene?

Answer:

4 chemical environments and therefore four peaks / resonances on the spectra



1,3-DIHYDROXYBENZENE (4 CHEMICAL ENVIRONMENTS) 1,3-DIHYDROXYBENZENE OH





6.9.5 Proton NMR

Low & High Resolution Proton NMR

Features of a ¹H NMR spectrum

- An NMR spectrum shows the intensity of each peak against its chemical shift
- The area under each peak gives information about the number of protons in a particular environment
- The area under each peak shows the intensity / absorption from protons
- A single sharp peak is seen to the far right of the spectrum
 - This is the reference peak from TMS
 - ° By definition the chemical shift is at 0 ppm



A low resolution ¹H NMR for ethanol showing the key features of a spectrum

Molecular environments

- ¹H nuclei that have different neighbouring atoms (said to have different **chemical environments**) absorb at slightly different field strengths
- $\ensuremath{\cdot}$ The difference environments are said to cause a $\ensuremath{\mathsf{chemical shift}}$ away from TMS
 - $\circ~$ Ethanol has the structural formula CH_3CH_2OH
 - $^{\circ}\,$ There are 3 chemical environments: -CH_3, -CH_2 and -OH
- The hydrogen atoms in these environments will appear at 3 different chemical shifts
- Different types of protons are given their own range of chemical shifts

Worked Example

How many different ¹H chemical environments occur in 2-methylpropane?



Answer:

Two different ¹H chemical environments occur in 2-methylpropane

- $\circ\,$ The three methyl groups are in the same ^1H environment
- ° The lone hydrogen is in its own ¹H environment



Chemical shift values for ¹H molecular environments table

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Environment of proton	Chemical shift range ර/ppm	
ROH	0.5-5.5	
RCH ₃	0.7-1.2	
RNH ₂	1.0-4.5	
R ₂ CH ₂	1.2-1.4	
R₃CH	1.4 - 1.6	
RCOCH-	2.1-2.6	
ROCH-	3.1-3.9	
RCH ₂ Cl or Br	3.1-4.2	
RCOOCH-	3.7-4.1	
RC=CH-	4.5-6.0	
RCHO	9.0-10.0	
RCOOH	10.0-12.0	

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- * Protons in the same chemical environment are chemically equivalent
 - 1,2-dichloroethane, CI-CH₂-CH₂-Cl has one chemical environment as these four hydrogens are all exactly equivalent
- Each individual peak on a ¹H NMR spectrum relates to protons in the same environment
 - Therefore, 1,2-dichloroethane would produce one single peak on the NMR spectrum as the protons are in the same environment



Low resolution ¹H NMR

• Peaks on a low resolution NMR spectrum refer to molecular environments of an organic compound

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- ° Ethanol has the molecular formula CH₃CH₂OH
- This molecule as 3 separate proton environments: -CH₃, -CH₂, -OH
- $\circ~$ So 3 peaks would be seen on its spectrum at 1.2 ppm (-CH_3), 3.7 ppm (-CH_2) and 5.4 ppm (-OH)
- The strengths of the absorptions are proportional to the number of equivalent ¹H atoms and are proportional to the area underneath each absorption peak
- $\circ\,$ Hence, the areas of absorptions of $-CH_3,\,-CH_2,\,-OH$ are in the ratio of 3:2:1 respectively



A low resolution NMR spectrum of ethanol showing 3 peaks for the 3 molecular environments

High resolution ¹H NMR

- More structural details can be deduced using high resolution NMR
- The peaks observed on a high resolution NMR may sometimes have smaller peaks clustered together
- The splitting pattern of each peak is determined by the number of protons in neighbouring environments



Spin-Spin Splitting Patterns

Spin-Spin Splitting

- A high resolution ¹H NMR spectrum can show you the structure of the molecule but also the peaks can be split into sub-peaks or splitting patterns
- These are caused by a proton's spin interacting with the spin states of nearby protons that are in different environments
 - This can provide information about the number of protons bonded to adjacent carbon atoms
 - The splitting of a main peak into sub-peaks is called spin-spin splitting or spin-spin coupling



High resolution ¹H NMR spectrum of ethanol showing the splitting patterns of each of the 3 peaks. Using the n+1, it is possible to interpret the splitting pattern

🔿 Exam Tip

- It is very rare that the spin-spin splitting of equivalent protons is covered in teaching because it is so rarely asked in exams
- Equivalent protons do not cause spin-spin splitting
 - ° The simplest example of this is benzene
 - In benzene, all of the protons are equivalent
 - This means that they are seen as one singlet in the high resolution ¹H NMR spectrum of benzene

The n+1 rule



- The number of sub-peaks is one greater than the number of adjacent protons causing the splitting
 - For a proton with *n* protons attached to an adjacent carbon atom, the number of sub-peaks in a splitting pattern = n+1
- When analysing spin-spin splitting, it shows you the number of hydrogen atoms on the adjacent carbon atom
- These are the splitting patterns that you need to be able to recognise from a ¹H spectra:

Number of adjacent protons (n)	Splitting pattern using the n+1 rule the peak will split into	Relative intensities in splitting pattern	Shape
Ο	1, singlet	1	
1	2, doublet	1 : 1	
2	3, triplet	1:2:1	M
3	4, quartet	1:3:3:1	

¹H NMR peak splitting patterns table

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- Splitting patterns must occur in pairs, because each protons splits the signal of the other
- There are some common splitting pairs you will see in a spectrum however you don't need to learn these but can be worked out using the n+1 rule
 - $^\circ\,$ You will quickly come to recognise the triplet / quartet combination for a $\rm CH_3CH_2\,$ because it is so common

Common pair of splitting patterns

- A quartet and a triplet in the same spectrum usually indicate an ethyl group, $\rm CH_3CH_2-$
- $\ensuremath{\cdot}$ The signal from the CH_3 protons is split as a triplet by having two neighbours
- \bullet The signal from the CH_2 protons is split as a quartet by having three neighbours
- · Here are some more common pairs of splitting patterns

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Common pairs of splitting patterns

¹H NMR spectrum of propane



- The CH₂ signal in propane (blue) is observed as a heptet because it has six neighbouring equivalent H atoms (*n*+1 rule), three either side in two equivalent CH₃ groups
- The CH_3 groups (red) produce identical triplets by coupling with the CH_2 group

Worked Example

For the compound (CH₃)₂CHOH predict the following:

- i) the number of peaks
- ii) the type of proton and chemical shift (using the Data sheet)
- iii) the relative peak areas
- iv) the splitting pattern

Answers:

i) 3 peaks

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ii) $(CH_3)_2$ CHOH at 0.7 – 1.2 ppm, $(CH_3)_2$ CHOH at 3.1 – 3.9 ppm, $(CH_3)_2$ CHOH at 0.5 – 5.5 ppm

iii) Ratio 6 : 1 : 1

iv) $(CH_3)_2CHOH$ split into a doublet (1+1=2), $(CH_3)_2CHOH$ split into a heptet (6+1=7)

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Tetramethylsilane as a Standard

Tetramethylsilane

- The horizontal scale on an NMR spectrum represents chemical shift (δ)
- Chemical shift is measured in parts per million (ppm) of the radio frequency needed for resonance compared to a reference chemical called tetramethylsilane, abbreviated to **TMS**



The displayed formula of tetramethylsilane

- TMS is used universally as the reference compound for NMR as its methyl groups are particularly well shielded and so it produces a strong, single peak at the far right of an NMR spectrum
- The signal from the hydrogen atoms in TMS is defined as having a chemical shift of 0 ppm



The NMR reference peak for TMS

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Hydroxyl and amino protons

- Organic compounds often contain protons from part of a functional group rather than being bonded to a carbon, examples include:
 - Alcohols, ROH
 - Carboxylic acids, RCOOH
 - Phenols, ArOH
 - Amines, RNH₂
 - Amides, RCONH₂
 - Amino acids, H2NCHRCOOH
- These hydroxyl, OH, protons and amino, NH, protons can be involved in hydrogen bonding which causes their peaks to be broader than normal and they can appear at almost any chemical shift
 - The broadening of the peak means that they are not usually involved in spinspin coupling and therefore appear as singlets

Deuterated solvents

- Deuterated solvents such as $\mathsf{D}_2\mathsf{O}$ (heavy water) and CDCI_3 can be used to identify OH and NH protons
- This is achieved by:
 - $^\circ\,$ Performing a standard proton NMR on the sample compound
 - $\circ\,$ A small amount of the deuterated solvent is added to the sample compound and mixed
 - ° A second proton NMR is then performed
- Deuterium atoms from the solvent replace the OH and NH protons in the sample, e.g for ethanol

 $C_2H_5OH \ + \ CDCI_3 \ \rightleftharpoons \ C_2H_5OD \ + \ CHCI_3$

• This means that the second proton NMR will still have the peaks for the CH_3 and CH_2 protons of ethanol but will not have the OH peak as that proton has been **exchanged**



6.9.6 Combined Techniques

Deducing Organic Structures

- Organic chemists use a variety of techniques to determine an organic structure
 - In real laboratory practice, certain pieces of information might already be known as target molecules are often tested once they are produced to check that the reaction has gone as planned
- * The typical sequence using the common analytical techniques would be:
 - 1. Elemental analysis to determine the empirical formula
 - 2. Mass spectrometry to determine the molecular mass, and consequently the molecular formula, as well as fragments of the molecule
 - 3. Infrared spectrometry to primarily identify functional groups but also identify types of bond, e.g. C-C, C=C
 - 4. NMR spectrometry to determine the number of carbon / hydrogen atoms and their environments
- Each technique provides valuable information that can be used to propose a structure, although some techniques provide more information than others
 - Elemental analysis is sometimes skipped as the combination of mass spectrometry and NMR can suggest the molecular formula without the need for elemental analysis





An unknown compound, X, of molecular formula, $C_4H_8O,$ has the following MS, IR and 1H NMR spectra.





YOUR NOTES

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¹H NMR spectrum of X

Deduce the structure of X using the information given and any other additional information in the Data booklet. For each spectrum assign as much spectroscopic information as possible.

Answer

Mass Spectrum

• The molecular ion peak is at m/z = 72, which corresponds to the relative molecular mass of C₄H₈O

$$M_r = (12 \times 4) + (8 \times 1) + (16) = 72$$

- The large peak at m/z = 43 could correspond to $CH_3CH_2CH_2^+$ or CH_3CO^+ indicating the loss of CH_4O or C_2H_5 from X, that is $(M_r 43)$
- The peak at m/z = 29 could correspond to $CH_3CH_2^+$ indicating the loss of C_2H_3O from X, that is $(M_r 29)$

IR Spectrum

- There is a strong absorption in the range 1700-1750 cm⁻¹ which corresponds to C=O, based on Section 26 of the Data book
- This suggests an aldehyde or ketone is present (it cannot be an ester or carboxylic acid as only one oxygen is in the formula)

¹H NMR Spectrum

- The ¹H NMR spectrum shows three protons environments
- The peak around chemical shift 1.0 ppm could correspond to a proton on the end of a chain, -CH₃



YOUR NOTES

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- The peaks around chemical shift 2.2 2.7 ppm could correspond to a proton next to a carbonyl group RCH₂CO-
- The peak splitting is a quartet, singlet and triplet
- A quartet and triplet in the same spectrum usually corresponds to an ethyl group, CH₃CH₂, following the n+1 rule
- The singlet indicates an isolated proton environment

Putting the information together the structure of X is



The structure of X is butanone