# What is Organic Chemistry?

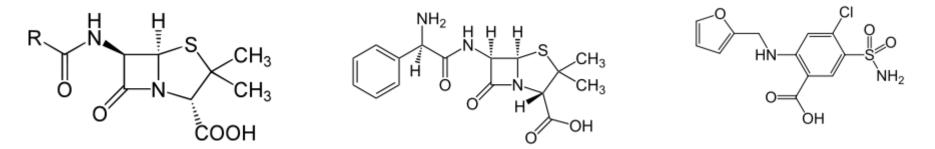
Originally, the study of **naturally occurring** molecules from live sources.

Expanded to include non-naturally occurring molecules **similar in structure**:

Penicillin and streptomycin are naturally occurring antibiotics,

**Ampicillin** is a **semisynthetic** antibiotic whose structure is essentially a modified penicillin; it's still considered to be an organic molecule.

**Sulfonamides** ("sulfa drugs") are **completely synthetic** antibiotics, but they're also considered to be organic molecules.



What's the common thread that ties these molecules together?

Organic chemistry is the study of carbon-containing molecules that aren't minerals.

 $CO_2$ ,  $CaCO_3$  and  $NaHCO_3$  contain carbon but aren't organic.

CARBON

# What is Organic Chemistry?

Examples of subdisciplines:

#### Drug design

i) Some chemists use computers to **model** what shape/polarity a drug needs to be in order to get to and **bind** to a target site.

ii) Other chemists work out how to make molecules that will have this shape/polarity, often designing **new reactions** in the process.

iii) Another group of chemists designs a series of reactions that can make the potential drug in a safe manner on a **large scale**.

#### **Structural determination**

Natural products are routinely found in extracts of plants/marine life/etc. have interesting useful properties.

Chemist specialize in **isolating** the different molecules in these extracts and uses **modern equipment** to help them determine the **structures** of the molecules involved – a lot like solving puzzles

#### **Energy-related research**

Petroleum products are organic molecules. (Biofuels)

# What is Organic Chemistry?

#### Materials/Alternative energy

Plastics, coatings, membranes, electrolytes, etc.

#### Environmental, agricultural sciences, green chemistry

i) Design of newer, better, safer herbicides and pesticides.

ii) Development of environmental **remediation** methods – methods to try and remove (or at least detoxify) chemicals from the environment.

iii) **Cleaner** ways to make chemicals on a large scale without pollution.

#### **Basic research/Education**

i) In every field of science, there are some scientists who do research just for the sake of **learning**.

ii) To produce ideas that **lead** to completely **new** understanding of our world.

Carbon is the **backbone** of any organic molecule.

A neutral carbon atom has 4 bonds and 0 lone pairs.

A carbon atom is in the tetrahedral shape family:

i) tetrahedral : 4  $\sigma$ -bonds (sp<sup>3</sup>)

ii) trigonal planar:  $3 \sigma$ -bonds +  $1 \pi$ -bonds (sp<sup>2</sup>)

iii) linear 2  $\sigma$ -bonds + 2  $\pi$ -bonds (sp)

Carbon needs to form 4 bonds in order to be neutral and obey the octet rule, as a result able to **form a wide variety of chains and rings**.

More than **7 billion** organic compounds are currently known and over a **million new** ones are discovered every year!

It is important to know which atoms are connected to which.

It is not enough to write **C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O.** (Emipirical formula)

We must show how the atoms are connected:

The structures above are **structural formulas**.

They show the location of **every** atom in the molecule.

For **very large** molecules, structural formulas take a long time to draw and can be **confusing** to read.

**Condensed structural formula**: group hydrogen atoms with the atoms they're attached to and leave out the single bonds:

#### CH<sub>3</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub> CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH

#### line-bond structure:

1) do <u>not draw</u> the **hydrogen** atoms attached to carbon.

2) <u>replace</u> each **'C'** with a **dot** and connect the dots with **lines** (i.e. bonds)

**NB:** If you write the 'C', you <u>must</u> write <u>all</u> the atoms bonded to it as well.

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} H & H & H & H \\ H & C & C & C & H \\ C & C & C & C & H \\ H & H & H & H \end{array} or \quad CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_3 \quad or \quad \checkmark \\ H & H & H & H & H \end{array}$$

(structural formula) (condensed structural formula)

*(line-bond structure)* 

Structural Formula	Condensed Structural Formula	Line-Bond Structure
$ \begin{vmatrix} H - C \\ H - C \\ C \\ H \\ H$		
	H <sub>2</sub> C=CHCH <sub>2</sub> CI	

Organic compounds are **classified** according to their **functional groups.** 

Functional group are essential in determining their **physical** and **chemical** properties.

A **functional group** is part of an organic molecule that contains:

i) a heteroatom (atom other than C or H; usually N, O or S)

and/or

ii) a **multiple bond** (double or triple)

So, essentially what we're looking for are:

i) polar bonds - **CO**, **CN**, **CX** (X = F, CI, Br, I)

ii) lone pairs - N, O, S, X

iii) π bonds - **C=C**, **C=N**, **C=O** 

Functional groups with <u>carbon-carbon</u> **multiple** bonds:

- i) **Alkene**: C=C
- ii) **Alkyne**: C≡C

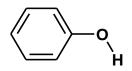
iii) **Arene**: 6 atoms in a ring with 3  $\pi$  bonds

Functional groups with **single bonds** to <u>N, O or S</u>:

- i) **Amine**: C–N
- ii) **Ether**: C–O–C
- iii) Alcohol: C–O–H

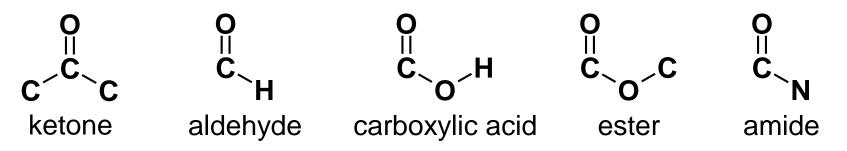
iv) **Phenol**: C–O–H where C is part of an arene:

v) Thiol : C–S–H



Functional groups with **multiple bonds** to N, O or S:

- i) Ketone: C=O with two C's attached
- ii) Aldehyde: C=O with H attached
- iii) Carboxylic Acid: C=O with OH attached
- iv) Ester: C=O with O–C attached
- v) Amide: C=O with N attached
- vi) Nitrile: contains C=N

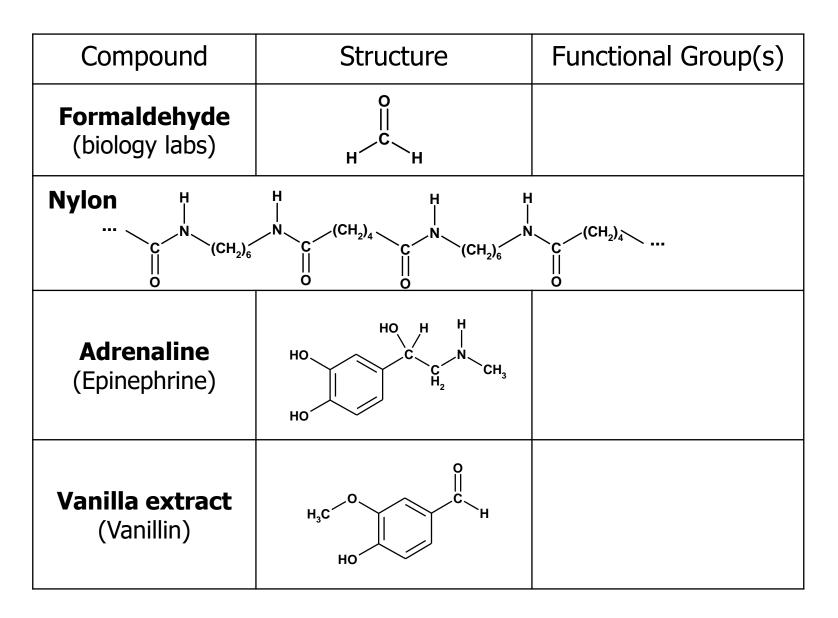


C=O is called a **carbonyl**.

**hydroxy** is often used to describe just the **–OH** part of an alcohol and **carboxy** refers to the **CO**<sub>2</sub> part of an ester or carboxylic acid.

10

Compound	Structure	Functional Group(s)
Acetic acid (vinegar)	О    Н₃С <sup>С</sup> ОН	
Acetone (nail polish remover)	H <sub>3</sub> C CH <sub>3</sub>	
Ethyl acetate (acetone-free nail polish remover)	H <sub>3</sub> C O CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	
<b>Isopropanol</b> (rubbing alcohol)	H OH H <sub>3</sub> C CH <sub>3</sub>	



### Isomers

Shape is **crucial** in organic chemistry.

Shape determines how it **interacts** with other molecules (recall IMFs).

**Isomers** are compounds that have the **same** molecular formula but **different** arrangements of atoms.

**Isomers** can be divided into **two** main categories:

**1) Structural isomers** have **different connectivity**. There is a be a differences in which atoms are connected to which:

CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH	Ethanol
CH <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>3</sub>	dimethyl ether

2) Stereoisomers have the same connectivity but different shapes.

CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CHCH<sub>3</sub>

#### 2-butene

# Structural Isomers

#### Structural isomers have different physical properties:

melting pt, boiling pt, etc....

NB: This is also the **only** kind of isomerism for which **isomers** can have **different functional groups**.

Ex)  $C_3H_8O$  has three structural isomers:BP (°C) $CH_3CH_2CH_2OH$ Propanol98 $CH_3CH_2OCH_3$ Ethyl-methyl-ether7.4 $(CH_3)_2CHOH$ 2-methyl-ethanol (isopropanol)82

How many structural isomers can you draw for  $C_3H_6$ ?

$CH_3CH=CH_2$	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> -
(1-)propene	cyclopropane

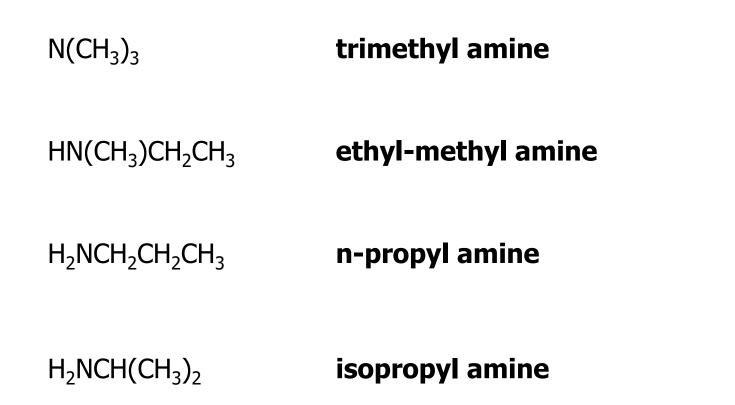
# Structural Isomers

How many structural isomers can you draw for  $C_6H_{14}$ ?

- CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>HexaneCH<sub>3</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>2-methylpentaneCH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>3-methylpentaneCH<sub>3</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>2,2-dimethylbutane
  - $CH_3CH(CH_3)CH(CH_3)CH_3$
- 2,3-dimethylbutane

## **Structural Isomers**

How many structural isomers can you draw for  $C_3H_9N$ ?



**Stereoisomers** can be further divided into different groups

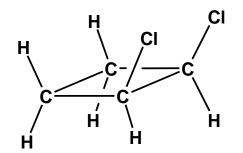
**Geometric isomers** have the **same connectivity** but different **spatial arrangement**.

**1) double bond** with two different groups attached to each atom.

**2) ring** with two different groups attached to two of the carbon atoms in the ring.

*cis-* isomer - **sam**e side of the ring/double bond

*trans-* isomer **opposite** sides of the ring/double bond.

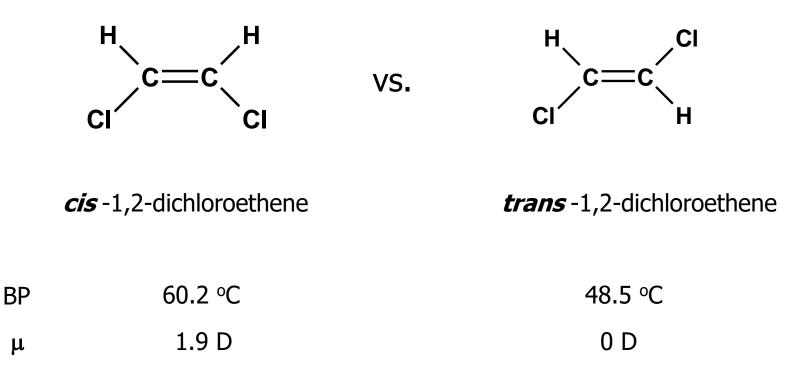


*cis* -1,2-dichlorocyclobutane

trans -1,2-dichlorocyclobutane

Geometric isomers have different physical and chemical properties.

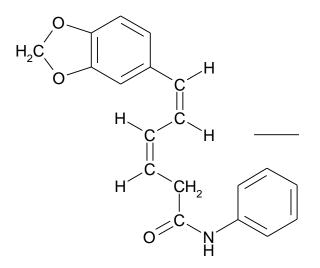
Of the geometric isomers shown below, which would you expect to have a **higher boiling point**?



Ex) Chavicine is the molecule responsible for the flavour and smell of black pepper.

In the peppercorn, it exists as the *cis, cis* - isomer.

After it is ground, it is slowly converted to the *trans, trans* - **isomer** which has less flavour and aroma:



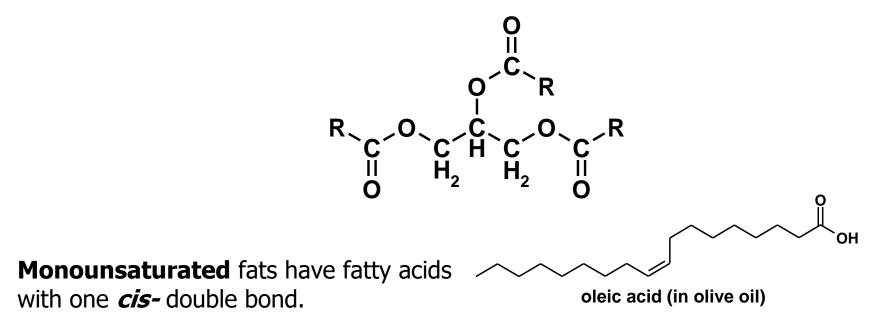
cis, cis - isomer.

*trans, trans* - isomer



Ex) Unsaturated fats such as olive oil and canola oil contain *cis* double bonds.

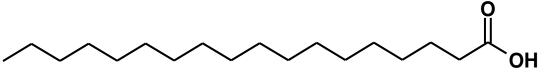
Each fat molecule contains **three fatty acids** ( $R-CO_2H$ ) attached to a **glycerol** (HOCH<sub>2</sub>CH(OH)CH<sub>2</sub>OH) residue:



**Polyunsaturated** fats have fatty acids with several *cis-* double bonds.

Fats containing *cis-* **double bonds** tend to exist as liquids at room/body temperature.

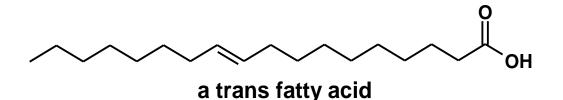
To make **solid** fats **hydrogenation** is used to **`saturate'** the fats with hydrogen:



stearic acid (a saturated fatty acid)

**Saturated** fats **pack** together more closely than **unsaturated** fats.

*Trans*-fats contain fatty acids with unnatural *trans*-double bonds which also pack together easily <u>and</u> which the body doesn't have the enzymes to break down properly:



*Trans-* fatty acids are a by-product of partial hydrogenation.

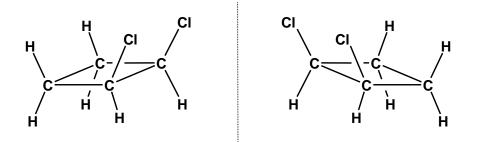
The reaction conditions for adding H to double bonds also allows any **remaining** double bonds to **isomerize**.

**Enantiomers** are isomers which are mirror images of each other.

They must have the **same connectivity** and the **same distances** between atoms.

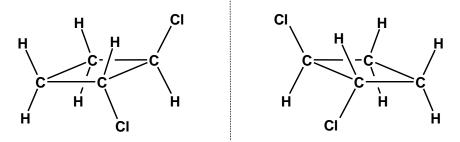
The two molecules below are **mirror images** but **can** be **superimposed** 

These are **not** enantiomers! They are the **same** molecule!



The two molecules below are **mirror images** they **cannot** be **superimposed**.

These are enantiomers!



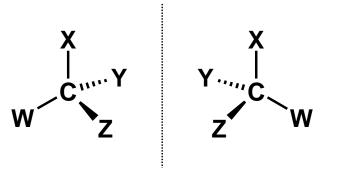
Any molecule which has an **enantiomer** is termed **chiral**. (Greek for hand)

Chiral molecules are **optically active**; they **rotate** plane-polarized light.

Any molecule which does **<u>not</u>** have an enantiomer is termed **achiral**.

All chiral molecules contain one or more **stereogenic centers**.

In organic chemistry, a **stereogenic center** is often a carbon atom with <u>4 different</u> groups attached:



**NB:** Some achiral molecules also contain **two or more** stereogenic centers, hence it is more straightforward to determine the **relationship** between the **molecule** and its mirror image.

The standard way to **draw chiral molecules** is to use **line-bond** structures with **wedges and dashes** to show stereochemistry:

Ex) CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH(OH)CH<sub>3</sub>

The **longest chain** is drawn as a zigzag in the **plane** of the page.

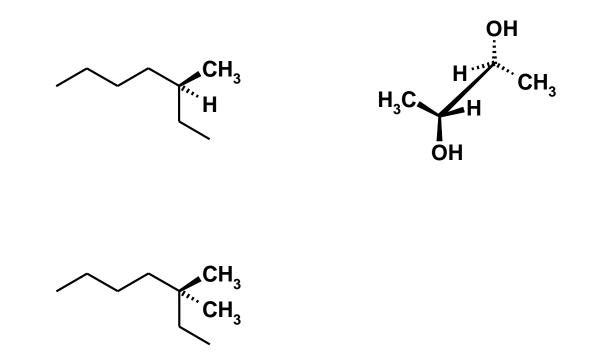
Wedges are used to show groups coming out of the page towards you.

Dashed lines are used to show groups going into the page away from you.



#### **Exercise:**

For each of the following molecules, **locate** the stereogenic center(s) and decide whether the molecule is **chiral** or **achiral**.

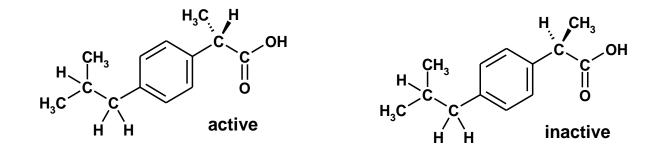


The physical and chemical **properties** of a pair of enantiomers are **identical** unless they are in a **chiral environment**.

Ex) A hormone may fit nicely into a pocket in a protein, but its **opposite** enantiomer won't and is thus **inactive**. (like gloves)

Many **drugs** are chiral and act in the same way.

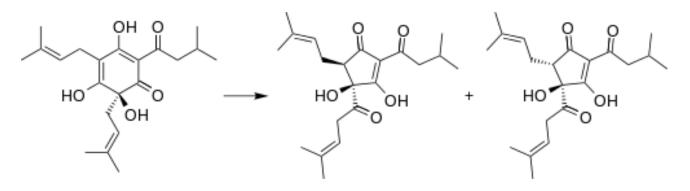
Ex) **Ibuprofen** is sold as a **mixture** of enantiomers, but only one is active.



### Beer - Hops

#### Humolone

*cis* and *trans* Isohumolone



Very bitter



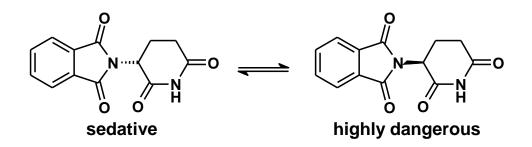


Sometimes, the 'wrong' enantiomer is can be a serious problem

It might fit into a different pocket in the protein (or another protein) or bind too strongly/weakly, giving a completely different effect from the 'right' enantiomer.

**Ex) Thalidomide:** which was prescribed as a medication for morning sickness in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

One enantiomer of this drug was **effective** in combating morning sickness; however, the other enantiomer caused **severe birth defects** in the children of the women who took it. It was pulled from the market 4 years after its release, but not before many 'Thalidomide babies' had been born.



Since this tragedy, there have been much tighter regulations on testing of chiral drugs. For any drug that can be converted to the other enantiomer within the body, both enantiomers must be tested as well as a mixture.

# Reactions in Organic Chemistry

**Synthesis** - One of the major goals of organic chemistry

Need a tool kit!

By identifying the **reactive parts** a reaction can be placed into one of just a few categories.

Most organic reactions fit into one or more of the following **four** categories:

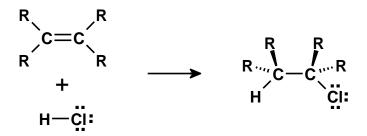
- 1) **Addition**. Two parts of a molecule are **added** across a  $\pi$  **bond**.
- 2) **Elimination.** Two parts of a molecule are **removed**, leaving a  $\pi$  **bond**.
- 3) **Substitution.** One group is **replaced** by another.
- 4) **Redox.** An atom changes **oxidation state**.

## **Addition Reactions**

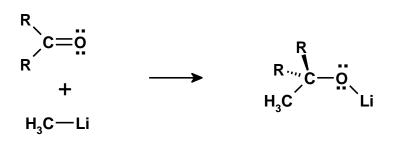
Addition reactions can be performed on most organic molecules with a  $\pi$  bond.

In an addition reaction, **two parts** of a molecule are **added** across a  $\pi$  **bond** of another molecule.

Ex) Addition of HCI across an alkene:



Ex) Addition of CH<sub>3</sub>Li across a ketone or aldehyde:

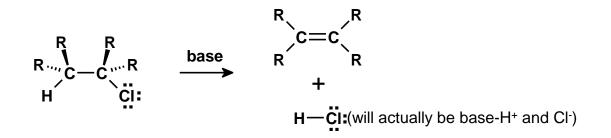


## **Elimination Reactions**

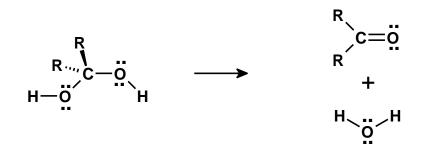
**Elimination reactions** are the reverse of addition reactions.

In an elimination reaction, **two parts** of a molecule are **removed** from a larger molecule, leaving behind a  $\pi$  **bond**.

**Ex)** Removal of **HCI** from a **haloalkane** (giving an alkene):



Ex) Removal of water from a diol (giving a ketone or aldehyde):



# **Substitution Reactions**

Substitution reactions generally involve tetrahedral carbon atoms with good leaving groups attached.

A **leaving group** is part of an organic compound that would be a **stable** molecule or ion on its own if it took a pair of electrons.

Ex) **R-CI** becomes **CI**<sup>-</sup> is stable => a good leaving group.

Ex) **R-OH** becomes **OH**<sup>-</sup> is not as stable as **OH**<sub>2</sub> from **R-OH**<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (Acid Helps).

In a substitution reaction, one group is replaced by another group:

Ex) Replacement of a chloro group by an iodo group:

$$R \xrightarrow{R} C \xrightarrow{R} R + : \underline{i}: \xrightarrow{R} R \xrightarrow{R}$$

**Ex)** Replacement of a **hydroxy** group by a **bromo** group:

$$R \stackrel{R}{\overset{}_{\scriptstyle -}} C \stackrel{R}{\overset{}_{\scriptstyle -}} R + H - \ddot{B} \dot{R} \stackrel{R}{\longrightarrow} R \stackrel{R}{\overset{}_{\scriptstyle -}} C \stackrel{R}{\overset{}_{\scriptstyle -}} R + H - \ddot{D} \stackrel{R}{\overset{}_{\scriptstyle -}} H$$

## **Redox Reactions**

Carbon can have any oxidation state from -4 to +4.

Any reaction in which the oxidation state of carbon changes is a **redox reaction**.

Many organic reactions fit into both the redox category <u>and</u> one of the other three categories.

We will focus on the other three categories of organic reactions.

Exercise: Propose a set of molecules showing the +4, +2, 0, -2, and -4 oxidation states of carbon.

# **Nucleophiles and Electrophiles**

In reaction electrons **flow** from **electron-rich** atoms to **electron-poor** atoms.

Essentially **the same** as electrons flow from **Lewis base** to **Lewis acid**.

The electron **donors** are termed **nucleophiles** (lovers of nuclei or positive charges) and the **electron-rich** parts of them are the **nucleophilic sites**.

**Nucleophilic sites** typically have a partial (or full) **negative charge** and at least one **lone pair** of electrons, which they can **donate**. (like Lewis Base).

#### Ex NR<sub>3</sub>, OH<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>

The electron **acceptors** are termed **electrophiles** (electron lovers) and the **electron-poor** parts of them are the **electrophilic sites**.

**Electrophilic sites** typically have partial (or full) **positive charge** and able to **accept electrons**. (Like a Lewis Acid).

# Following Electrons with Curly Arrows

Let's look at some **familiar reactions** to see how the curly arrows show the electron movement: *ie* **reaction mechanism**.

What happens when  $CH_3NH_2$  is added to a solution of HCl?

$$CH_3NH_2 + H^+ + CI^- => CH_3NH_3^+ + CI^-$$

What happens when  $CO_2$  is bubbled through an aqueous solution of NaOH?

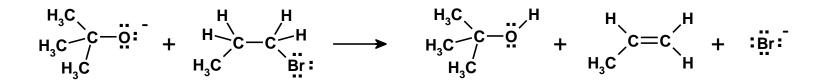
$$CO_2 + H_2O => H_2CO_3$$
  
 $H_2CO_3 + Na^+ + OH^- => HCO_3^- + Na^+ + H_2O$ 

# Following Electrons with Curly Arrows

What happens when an iodide anion reacts with chloromethane?

$$I^- + CH_3CI => CH_3I + CI^-$$

Use curly arrows to show the movement of electrons in the following reaction:



NB: the bromide ion that leaves in this reaction. Why doesn't hydrogen leave instead?

Alkenes and alkynes are good **nucleophiles** as they have **electron-rich**  $\pi$  **bonds**.

They **react** with good **electrophiles** like HCl, HBr and Br<sub>2</sub>:

$$R_2C=CR_2 + HX => R_2CH-CR_2^+ + X^-$$

This gives a **carbocation**, a very **reactive electrophile** which immediately reacts with the remaining **nucleophilic halide**:

$$R_2CH-CR_2^+ + X^- => R_2CH-CXR_2$$

The **overall** reaction is:

$$R_2C=CR_2 + HX => R_2CH-CXR_2$$

Carbocations are not particularly stable.

They can be **stabilized** somewhat by **alkyl groups** (methyl, ethyl, etc.) attached to the carbon with the positive charge:

 $+CR_3 > +CHR_2 > +CH_2R > +CH_3$  where R = Alkyl

They can also be stabilized by **resonance**:

R-CH<sup>+</sup>- CH=CR<sub>2</sub>  $\Leftrightarrow$  RCH=CH-C<sup>+</sup>R<sub>2</sub>

A carbocation will **no**t form unless it has some type of **stabilization.** 

If the alkene was **not symmetric**, we would have to decide **which carbon** bonded to the **H**<sup>+</sup> and which carbon bonded to the **Cl**<sup>-</sup>.

**Compare** the **two** possible carbocations formed.

Whichever is **more stable** will form more readily and then will react with Cl<sup>-</sup> to give the product:

#### Ex) $CH_3CH=CH_2 + HCI => ?$

This is known as Markovnikov's rule.

It's often misstated as: The hydrogen adds to the side with **more** hydrogens.

That works for many examples – but not all!

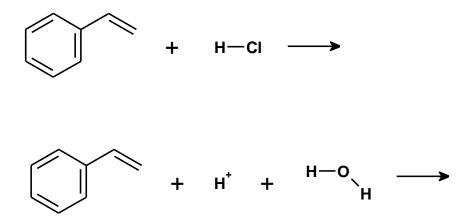
The <u>real</u> Markovnikov's rule is: *make the more stable carbocation.* 

Draw the major organic product for the following reactions:

$$H_{3}C \longrightarrow H + H - Br \longrightarrow$$

$$H_{3}C \longrightarrow H + H - CI \longrightarrow$$

Draw the major organic product for the following reaction:



Addition of water to an alkene proceeds according to the same mechanism as addition of HCl, HBr or HI to an alkene.

This means that there needs to be some acid (e.g.  $H_2SO_4$ ) in the flask.

### Addition Reactions of Alkenes and Alkynes (X<sub>2</sub>)

Addition of **chlorine** or bromine across a  $\pi$  bond works in a similar fashion:

 $R_2C=CR_2 + X-X => ??$ 

The  $\pi$  bond is nucleophilic and the halogen molecule is electrophilic (??) .

The alkene donates its  $\pi$  electrons to the electrophilic end of the halogen, creating a carbocation :

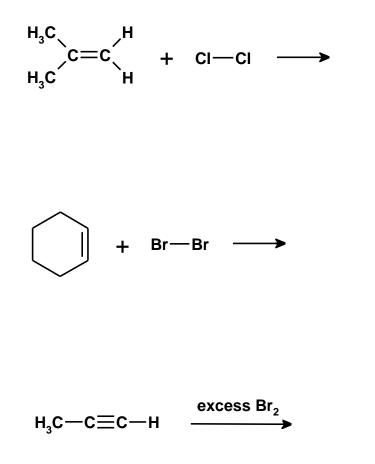
#### NB: **resonance stabilization** from the halogen atom resulting in a ring.

As the positive charge is on the halogen atom, it is referred to as a **chloronium** ion or a **bromonium** ion.

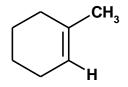
The special carbocation quickly reacts with the remaining halide ion.

As the halogen atom is **leaning over** to resonance stabilize the carbocation, it blocks that side of the carbocation and the halide must attack from the other side:

Draw the major organic product for the following reactions:



In summary, we can add a variety of small molecules across a carbon-carbon double bond. In the diagram below, X is a halogen (specifically Cl, Br or I):



Because we understand the mechanism behind these reactions, we can predict which isomer will be the major product.