## Introduction to Organic Chemistry

First Year - 7 lectures
Handout 1 - Bonding
Dr Jonathan Burton


■ Organic Chemistry J. Clayden, N. Greeves, S. Warren
■ Stereochemistry at a Glance J. Eames \& J. M. Peach
■ The majority of organic chemistry text books have good chapters on the topics covered by these lectures

■ Eliel Stereochemistry of Organic Compounds (advanced reference text)

Nobel Prize for Chemistry 2019 - for the development of lithium-ion batteries
$■$ John Goodenough - head of the ICL Oxford 1976-1986 - discovered and developed $\mathrm{Li}_{x} \mathrm{CoO}_{2}$ as the cathode material of Li-ion batteries
■ Stanley Whittingham - undergraduate and graduate student in chemistry at Oxford worked on the precursor to $\mathrm{Li}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{CoO}_{2}$

■ Akira Yoshino - developed the direct precursor to the lithium ion battery that was commercialised by SONY


Mat. Res. Bull., Vol. 15, pp. 783-789, 1980. Printed in the USA. 0025-5408/80/060783-07\$02,00/0 Copyright (c) 1980 Pergamon Press
$\mathrm{Li}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{CoO}_{2}(0<\mathrm{x} \leqslant 1)$ : A NEW CATHODE MATERIAL FOR BATTERIES OF HIGH ENERGY DENSITY
K. Mizushima, P.C. Jones, P.J. Wiseman and J.B. Goodenough

Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford, OXI 3QR

(Received April 3, 1980; Communicated by J. B. Goodenough)

ABSTRACT
A new system $\mathrm{Li}_{x} \mathrm{CoO}_{2}(0<x \leqslant 1)$ has been prepared by electrochemical extraction of lithium from the parent $\mathrm{LiCoO}_{2}$ ordered rock-salt structure. Measured open-circuit voltages with respect to lithium metal are approximately twice those of $\mathrm{Li}_{x} \mathrm{TiS}_{2}(0 \leqslant x \leqslant 1)$, and a theoretical energy density of $1.11 \mathrm{kWh} \mathrm{kg}^{-1}$ is calculated for $\mathrm{Li}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{CoO}_{2} / \mathrm{Li}$. Preliminary voltage-composition curves show low overvoltages and good reversibility for current densities up to 4 mA cm

## Course Outline

These seven lectures will focus on bonding, stereochemistry, and an introduction to mechanism (curly arrows). All of these areas are crucial to being able to rationalise, and more importantly predict, what will happen when organic molecules are treated with any of a plethora of reagents used by organic chemists and chemists in general. Aspects of bonding will receive much more indepth treatments in both the 'inorganic' and 'physical and theoretical' lecture courses throughout the degree and here we will meet simple, but useful views of bonding, that are fit for our purposes. 'Curly arrow' mechanisms will be met in virtually all of the organic chemistry lecture courses and this course will introduce the key basic principles for drawing reasonable curly arrow mechanisms. Uniquely, this course will provide virtually all of the content you require regarding stereochemistry. Stereochemistry is chemistry in three-dimensions and developing skills to be able to manipulate molecules in 3-D in one's own head will prove important. Practising organic chemists frequently build 'ball-and-stick' models of molecules to better aid visualisation and a cheap, plastic molecular model kit can be very useful when working though stereochemical problems and will be useful throughout your degree - a decent one can be purchased here:
https://www.cochranes.co.uk/show product.asp?id=399\&catid=44

## Synopsis

Bonding - Lewis structures and bonding, formal charge, basic VSEPR, hybridisation, molecular orbitals, structures of some functional groups, drawing organic molecules, skeletal representations

Stereochemistry - conformation, stereochemical definitions, optical activity, configuration, chirality, enantiomers and diastereomers, CIP rules, compounds with more than one stereocentre, meso compounds, racemisation, planar and helical chirality, resolution, relative and absolute configuration

Mechanism - acid base reactions, curly arrows, delocalisation

Two of Oxford's Nobel Laureates

Dorothy Hodgkin

- Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin (1910-1994)
- Read Chemistry at Oxford (Somerville College)
- Chemistry Tutor Somerville College

■ Nobel Prize 1964 for "her determinations by X-ray techniques of the structures of important biochemical substances"

- 1945 - determined the structure of
hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity penicillin $G$



## Two of Oxford's Nobel Laureates

## Robert Robinson

■ Sir Robert Robinson (1886-1975)
■ Waynflete Professor of Organic Chemistry 1930-1954
■ Nobel Prize 1947 for "investigations on plant products of biological importance, especially the alkaloids"
■ Inventor of the 'curly arrow'
(a) Conjugation of Ethylene Linkings.-The representation of the active phase and conjugation of butadiene on the partial valency theory is

$$
\mathrm{CH}_{2}=\mathrm{CH}-\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \quad \rightarrow \quad \cdots \cdot \mathrm{CH}_{2}-\mathrm{CH}-\mathrm{CH}-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \cdots \cdots
$$

and on the Thomson and Lewis-Langmuir theory as now interpreted

$$
\text { (III.) } \quad \mathrm{CH}_{2} \vdots \mathrm{CH}: \mathrm{CH}_{\vdots} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \quad \underset{+}{\mathrm{CH}_{2}!\mathrm{CH}: \mathrm{CH}: \mathrm{CH}_{2}}
$$

Similarly, the conjugation of three double bonds, supposing such to occur, would be represented thus :-

$$
+/ \mathrm{CH}_{2}: \mathrm{CH}_{7}: \mathrm{CH}_{7}: \mathrm{CH}_{7}: \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}^{-} \quad \text { (V.) }
$$



## Atoms

$■$ Bohr atomic model - electrons moving in specific orbits, $s, p, d, f$.

> atomic number = number of protons


■ Lewis Bonding Theory (1916) - historic and useful
■ Bonding = achievement of completely filled (or empty) valence shells by sharing (covalent bonds) or transfer of electrons (ionic bonds) between atoms
$■$ Lewis bonding forms a simple basis for the qualitative understand of the structures and properties of organic molecules

- you will meet more sophisticated theories of bonding
- particularly molecular orbital theory - as the course progresses


Gilbert. N. Lewis

## Atoms

- Electronegativity ( $\chi$ chi) - measure of the relative ability of an atom to attract valence electrons to itself (Pauling Scale 1932, empirical)

| $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{H} \\ 2.2 \end{gathered}$ | increasing electronegativity |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Li | Be | B | C | N | 0 | F |
| 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.0 |
| Na | Mg | Al | Si | P | S | Cl |
| 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.6 | 3.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Br |
| ollowing order of electroneg to remember: $\mathrm{F}>\mathrm{O}>\mathrm{Cl}>\mathrm{N}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 2.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.6 |



Linus Pauling

## Ionic Bonds

- usually occur between atoms at opposite ends of the periodic table i.e. between atoms that have very different electronegativities
- the atoms involved in ionic bonding achieve filled shells by the transfer of electrons (usually 1 or 2 electrons)
- examples



## Covalent bonds

$■$ generally between atoms of similar electronegativity - sharing of electrons


■ in $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{F}$ the atoms have a large difference in nuclear charge and hence electronegativity
■ the shared pair is therefore not equally distributed but displaced towards $F$ - this is bond polarisation by the inductive effect leading to a permanent dipole


■ the Greek letter $\delta$ (delta) is used to indicate a partial charge
■ organic molecules are held together by covalent bonds
■ carbon is in the middle of the period, with no great difference in electonegativity with other elements

■ very difficult to form stable closed shell by ionisation i.e. $\mathrm{C}^{4+}$ and $\mathrm{C}^{4-}$


- $\mathrm{CH}_{4}$ - methane

■ bonds formed by the combination of 4 H atoms ( $1 \mathrm{~s}^{1}$ ) and 1 C atom ( $2 \mathrm{~s}^{2}, 2 \mathrm{p}^{2}$ )


- $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ - water



## Rules for Lewis structures

- line - = shared pair = covalent bond - no more drawing dots for electrons in bonds
- •• = unshared pair or lone pair
- formal charge on atom = number of valence electrons - (number of lone pair electrons $+1 / 2$ bonding pair electrons)

■ for $2^{\text {nd }}$ row elements $\mathrm{Li} \rightarrow \mathrm{F}$ the sum of the number of bonds plus the number of lone pairs cannot exceed 4
i.e. no more than 8 electrons around the atom - Lewis octet rule

- formal charge - charge assigned to each atom in a molecule assuming the electrons in the bonds are shared equally between atoms regardless of electronegativity - bookkeeping tool to denote relationship between the bonding electrons and those 'formally' belonging to each atom - a useful formalism but must be interpreted with care
- formal charge on atom = number of valence electrons - (number of lone pair electrons + number of bonds)


$$
\text { for } 06-(2+6 / 2)=+1
$$

$■$ (organic) chemists do not work out the formal charge on atoms, they just remember that whenever oxygen has 8 electrons around it, and has 1,2 , or 3 bonds, it is negative, neutral or positive respectively


■ more generally, whenever an atom has 8 electrons around it , and has one more bond than its neutral state, it will be positively charged, and one fewer bonds it will be negative
$\stackrel{\ominus}{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{H}_{2} \quad \mathrm{NH}_{3} \quad \stackrel{\oplus}{\mathrm{~N}} \mathrm{H}_{4}$

■ best guide to actual charge distribution is electronegativity

■ in the hydronium ion the formal positive charge is drawn on oxygen

- in reality the oxygen, being more electronegative than hydrogen, does not have a positive charge and the positive charge is spread out over the 3 hydrogen atoms
$\square$ physical origin of bonding forces (simplified) - if two atoms form a bond, the bonded state must be more stable then the separated atoms

■ in covalent bonds the repulsion between the electrons and between the nuclei is balanced by the attraction of the electrons to the positive nuclei at the stable internuclear distance - the bond length

```
-H
■ attraction - each electron sees 2
positive nuclei (}\longrightarrow
\square repulsion - electron-electron and
nucleus-nucleus (----->)
```



■ lone pairs, a.k.a. non-bonded pairs, formally interact with only one positive nucleus, hence their interelectron repulsion is greater than for a bond pair - they are higher in energy and more available for bonding


■ reactions which reduce this electron-electron repulsion are favoured


■ in the product the lone pair electrons are now a bond pair and see 2 positive nuclei
$\square$ this is the Lewis basicity of lone pairs - frequently the reactive site of a molecule towards electrophiles

■ Lewis structures are useful in predicting the bonding in molecules but they tell us nothing of the shape of the molecules

$\square$ the shapes of the vast majority of organic compounds are determined by repulsion between electrons in the valance shell (VSEPR - valence shell electron pair repulsion)

■ i.e. bond pair - bond pair repulsions bond pair - lone pair repulsions lone pair - lone pair repulsions
$\square$ geometry of molecules is determined by minimising the above interactions

■ for methane, $\mathrm{CH}_{4}$, there are 4 bonding pairs of electrons and they repel each other to be as far apart as possible leading to the tetrahedral structure of methane

$\square$ tetrahedral geometry, $109.5^{\circ} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ bond angle
$\square$ with ammonia there are still four 'groups' to place around the central nitrogen atom -3 bond pairs and 1 lone pair $\mathrm{NH}_{3}$ is therefore based on a tetrahedron - its shape is described as pyramidal



■ $107^{\circ} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ bond angle N-H bond length $=1.01 \AA$
$■$ similarly with water there are still four 'groups' to place around the central oxygen atom -2 bond pairs and 2 lone pairs - water $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is therefore also based on a tetrahedron - its shape is described as bent

$\square$ bond angles decrease in the order $\mathrm{CH}_{4}, \mathrm{NH}_{3}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ because:
lone pair / lone pair repulsions are greater than lone pair / bond pair repulsions which are greater than bond pair / bond pair repulsions

■ some examples
■

## ■ Quantum Numbers and Atomic Orbitals

$\square$ atomic orbitals - mathematical functions (wave functions) related to the probability of finding an electron in a particular region of space - for organic chemistry we will generally be concerned with s and p-orbitals
$\square$ atomic orbitals come in sets associated with the principal quantum number $n=1,2,3, \ldots$


■ an atom's highest principal quantum number determines the valence shell of the atom - only these orbitals are generally involved in bonding

■ each row of the periodic table indicates a different principal quantum number
$■$ for hydrogen the principal quantum number is 1 giving rise to the familiar 1 s orbital
$\square$ for carbon the principal quantum number is 2 giving rise to the familiar $2 s$ and three $2 p$ orbitals

■ ' $s$ ' and ' $p$ ' orbitals

S

$p_{y}$



■ there are three p-orbitals, $p_{x}, p_{y}$ and $p_{z}$, orthogonal to each other electron density decreases in moving away from the nucleus

- p-orbitals have phase (sign) and a node at the nucleus (where the wavefunction changes sign) - the electron density is zero at a node

■ the order of occupancy of atomic orbitals for a ground state configuration follows the Aufbau principle

| 15 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2 s$ | $2 p$ |  |  |
| 35 | $3 p$ | $3 d$ |  |
| 45 | $4 p$ | $4 d$ | $4 f$ |
| $5 s$ | $5 p$ | $5 d$ | $5 f$ |

- ground state electronic configuration
i) orbitals filled lowest energy to highest energy following the arrows from top to bottom i.e. $1 \mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{p}, 3 \mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{p}, 4 \mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{~d}$, 4 p , etc.
ii) maximum two electrons in each orbital which must have opposite spins (Pauli exclusion principle)
iii) empty orbitals of equal energy (e.g. $3 \times 2$ p orbitals) take one electron each before pairing occurs (Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity)

■ Molecular Orbitals (simplified - an organic chemistry view)
■ molecular orbitals are formed from combining atomic orbitals - we will look at $\mathrm{H}_{2}$
$■$ overlap of two hydrogen is atomic orbitals leads to two molecular orbitals, one lower in energy, and one higher in energy, than the original atomic orbitals ■ electrons are fed into the lowest energy poteqular orbital first


■ destructive overlap of atomic orbitals leads to anti-bonding molecular orbital (internuclear node)


H is

molecular orbital diagram for $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ ■ energy released in combining two hydrogen atoms to give $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ is the bond strength $=432 \mathrm{kJmol}^{-1}$
$\square$ bonding molecular orbital in $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ has cylindrical symmetry and is termed a $\sigma$ orbital (sigma orbital) - c.f. - s-atomic orbital
$\square$ in $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ this orbital can be viewed as the (Lewis) bond and is called a $\sigma$-bond although the electron density is distributed over the whole molecule

## - combinations of p-orbitals

(with all orbitals, the strongest bonding occurs when maximum overlap of (atomic) orbitals occurs)
■ in a similar manner we can combine $p$-orbitals to make bonding and antibonding $\sigma$-molecular orbitals

$■ \pi$-bonding - p-orbitals can also overlap edge on which leads to $\pi$-bonds - weaker than the corresponding $\sigma$-bonds as the orbital overlap is not as good


■ returning to $\mathrm{CH}_{4}$ (methane)

$■$ organic chemists generally draw Lewis structures where the line connecting the atoms represents a localised 2 centre, 2-electron bond. How can we rationalise this with a molecular orbital view of bonding involving overlap of orbitals?
$\square$ methane $-\mathrm{CH}_{4} \quad \square$ carbon ground state $1 s^{2}, 2 s^{2}, 2 p^{2}-$ the $1 s$ electrons are core leaving the $2 s$ and $2 p$ valence electrons for bonding


■ how can $s$ and $p$ atomic orbitals accommodate the tetrahedral structure of methane (and the structures of many organic molecules)?

■ one approach, initially proposed by Pauling, is the idea of hybridisation - a method of creating orbitals that reproduces the observed shapes of molecules

■ atomic orbitals are just mathematical functions, so we can add and subtract them (as we have done to form simple molecular orbitals)
■ full molecular orbital analysis (2nd year lecture course) is another approach

- hybridisation

■ mixing the $2 s$ and three $2 p$ orbitals gives four $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ hybrids that point towards the corners of a tetrahedron

$■$ these hybrid orbitals can overlap with the hydrogen 1 s orbitals to form $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \sigma$-bonding orbitals (and the corresponding $\sigma^{*}$ antibonding orbitals)


- the four $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ hybrid orbitals on carbon overlap with the 1s orbitals of the four hydrogen atoms to give methane

■ the carbon atom is said to be $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ hybridised


■ bonding hybrid molecular orbitals in methane corresponding to the Lewis structure $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ bonds each bond $=435 \mathrm{kJmol}^{-1}$
$■$ as hybrid orbitals are directional they provide much better overlap with the 1 s orbitals of the hydrogen atoms
$■$ ethane $-\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{6}-s p^{3}$ hybrid orbitals can overlap with each other as in the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond in ethane to give a bonding $\sigma$ molecular orbital


■ constructive overlap of hybrid orbitals leads to bonding o molecular orbital - often drawn as below so the provenance of the molecular orbital is clear

$\square$ rotation around the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ axis does not alter the overlap of the $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ orbitals (the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C} \sigma$ orbital) and occurs readily to give a variety of conformers of ethane - more of this later

■ staggered conformation


■ eclipsed conformation




■ the "end-on" views are termed Newman projections
$\square$ hybridisation - $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$
■ mixing the 2 s and two 2 p orbitals gives three $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrids that lead to trigonal geometry ( $120^{\circ}$ bond angles)


■ forming three $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrids leaves one p -orbital perpendicular to the plane containing the hybrid orbitals (drawn in xy plane)
■ three $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrid orbitals


- three $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrid orbitals and perpendicular p-orbital around central (carbon) atom
$\square$ the bonding in ethene/ethylene $\left(\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)$ is a result of overlap of $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised carbon atoms with each other to form the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C} \sigma-$ bond, and with four hydrogen 1 s orbitals to form the four $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ o-bonds

$\square$ the remaining two p-orbitals overlap to form a $\pi$-bond


■ overlap of the $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrid orbitals leads to three $\sigma$-bonds - two $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ bonds and one $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond
■ overlap of the remaining perpendicular 'p'-orbitals gives a $\pi$-bond

overlap of ' $p$ ' orbitals
gives $C-C \pi$-bond

the two lobes of the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C} \pi$-bond

overlap of $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrid orbitals gives $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ o-bond

- the $\pi$-bond leads to electron density above and below the molecular plane

■ rotation about the $C-C$ axis is impossible as this would reduce overlap of the p-orbitals and would break the $\pi$-bond

$\square$ as before the $\pi$-molecular orbital ( $\pi$-bond) is generally drawn as two separate $p$-atomic orbitals for clarity



- rotation about C-C axis would break the $\pi$-bond and does not occur ■ hence alkenes are configurationally stable (i.e. cis and trans)


## - hybridisation - sp

$\square$ mixing the $2 s$ and one $2 p$ orbitals gives two $s p$ hybrids that lead to linear geometry ( $180^{\circ}$ bond angles)
sp hybrid orbitals


- X





2s
sp hybrid orbitals
$\pi$-bond formed by p-orbital overlap

$\square$ forming two sp hybrids leaves two $p$-orbitals which can form $\pi$-bonds

$$
\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}
$$

$\square$ this is the bonding arrangement found in ethyne (acetylene) with the sp hybrids overlapping with the hydrogen 1 s orbitals (not shown) the remaining p orbitals overlapping to form the two $\pi$-bonds
$\square$ the triple bond in acetylene is made up from one $\sigma$-bond and two orthogonal $\pi$-bonds, the carbons are said to be sp hybridised

$\square$ view without $\sigma$-orbitals

- a quick method to work out the hybridisation of an atom is to count the number of substituents on that atom (including lone pairs of electrons), remembering that in the bonded environment second row elements have 8 electrons around them (there are exceptions to this method which we will meet later)
$\mathrm{CH}_{4}$


4 substituents $=s p^{3}$ hybridised, $\quad 3$ substituents $=s p^{2}$ hybridised, 2 substituents $=s p$ hybridised

- allene $\mathrm{CH}_{2}=\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ - what is its molecular shape?
- terminal carbons bonded to 2 hydrogen atoms ( $\sigma$-bonds) and double bonded to central carbon ( $\sigma$-bond and $\pi$-bond) $-\therefore$ terminal carbon atoms are $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised
- central carbon bonded to 2 substituents $\therefore$ has linear geometry $\therefore \mathrm{sp}$ hybridised
- central carbon forms a single $\sigma$-bond with each terminal carbon (sp-sp2 hybrid orbital overlap)


- alternative perspective
- hybridisation can be used with atoms other than carbon

■ the nitrogen atom in ammonia can be viewed as $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ hybridised as can the oxygen atom in water although the H -$X-H$ bond angle is slightly less than $109^{\circ}$ due to lone pair-bond pair repulsion


■ similarly for amines, alcohols, ethers etc.

methylamine


Methanol

diethylether
$\square \mathrm{BF}_{3}$ - three substituents around boron - no lone pair $\therefore$ planar, $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised, planar with empty $p$-orbital on boron

$\square \mathrm{CH}_{3}{ }^{+}$- three substituents around carbon - no lone pair $\therefore$ planar, $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised, planar with empty p -orbital on carbon - other carbocations have similar planar structure




■ hybridisation in functional groups (sites of chemical reactivity)
$■$ formaldehyde (c.f. bonding in ethene)


lone pairs in $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ orbital
$\pi$-bond formed by overlap
of adjacent p-orbitals
■ bonding and reactivity is similar in aldehydes and ketones

acetone (propanone)


■ electronegativity difference results in polarisation of $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}$ bond

■ nucleophiles $\therefore$ react on carbon and break the weaker $\pi$-bond


■ conversely, lone pairs are sites of electron density
$■$ electrophiles $\therefore$ react on oxygen


■ imines - planar, lone pair in $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ orbital



H

■ oximes- planar, lone pair in $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ orbital
$\square$ nitriles - e.g. $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ (c.f. bonding in acetylene)

lone pair in sp-orbital


## Introduction to Organic Chemistry

## Handout 2 - Stereochemistry



■ Organic Chemistry J. Clayden, N. Greeves, S. Warren
■ Stereochemistry at a Glance J. Eames \& J. M. Peach

- The majority of organic chemistry text books have good chapters on the topics covered by these lectures

■ Eliel Stereochemistry of Organic Compounds (advanced reference text)

- representations of formulae in organic chemistry
- skeletal representations are far less cluttered and as a result are much clearer than drawing all carbon and hydrogen atoms explicitly, they also give a much better representation of the likely bond angles and hence hybridisation states of the carbon atoms
■ skeletal representations allow functional groups (sites of reactivity) to be clearlltseen ${ }^{1+}$
guidelines for drawing skeletal structures
n-butare
i) draw chains of atoms as zig-zags
ii) do not draw C atoms unless there is good reason to draw them
iii) do not draw $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ bonds unless there is good reason to draw then
iv) do not draw Hs attached to carbon atoms unless there is good reason to draw them
v) make drawings realistic

H $H$ ethan

 cyclopropare

decalin

draw explicit
'H' on heferoator'

caffeine

cholesterol
representing structures in three dimensions
a wedged bond _— indicates the bond is projecting out in front of the plane of the paper
a dashed bond
a wavy bond $\quad n \quad$ indicates one of two things: either unknown or unspecified stereochemistry or a mixture of two stereoisomer


$$
P h=C_{6} H_{5}=
$$ phenyl

phenylalanine




all clear representations of (n)-hexan-2-01



DO NOT DO THIS
D-glucose
conformation - any spatial arrangement of atoms of a molecules that can be achieved by rotation about single bonds
virtually an infinite number of conformations
■ generally only the most and least stable conformations are discussed
$-\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{6}$ - ethane


■ conformational analysis of butane is similar to that of ethane


+
-
fully eclipsed

■ staggered conformations are energy minima
■ eclipsed conformations are energy maxima
■ lowest energy conformation has Me groups as far apart as possible
■ highest energy conformation has Me groups eclipsing one another

STEREOCHEMISTRY - from the Greek stereos (бTعןعÓऽ) meaning solid

- isomers - non-identical molecules with the same molecular formula
e.s. $C_{3} H_{6}$ related as constitutional isomers cyclopropane (structuralisomers)
- constitution of a molecule is defined by the sequence of bonds (atom connectivity) between atoms without reference to their directions in space - constitutional isomers have the same molecular formula but different connectivity
stereoisomers - isomers with the same connectivity - i.e. A linked to $B$ linked to $C$ etc., but different disposition of atoms in space
stereoisomers cannot be interconverted by rotation about single bonds (more later)


stereoisomer
stereoisomers can be divided into two mutually exclusive classes enantiomers and diastereoisomers (diastereomers)


STEREOISOMER

ENANTIOMERS
DIASTEREOISOMERS


- molecules (and objects) which have a non-superimposable mirror image are called chiral (from the Greek for hand - cheri (X́́pı))

- a carbon atom (or other atom) bearing four different substituent is termed a stereogenic centre or stereocentre frequently termed a chiral centre
- compounds in which one or more carbon atoms have four non-identical substituent are the largest class of chiral molecules
- conversely a molecule (or object) is termed chiral if it is superimposable on its mirror image

hands - chiral

golf clubs - chiral

tennis rackets - achiral

snails - chiral usually right-handed helix

screws - chiral - right-handed screw


left-handed snails are rarer

■ enantiomers have the same physical and chemical properties in a non-chiral (achiral) environment - i.e. they are identical (in an achiral environment)

■ enantiomers have different properties in a chiral environment e.g. an enzyme
■ separated enantiomers rotate the plane of plane polarised light in equal but opposite directions - this is optical activity and the sample is said to be optically active

■ optical activity was first demonstrated by Pasteur in 1848 and led to the idea of tetrahedral carbon
■ Jean Baptiste Biot (1774-1862) first showed that some natural substances can rotate the plane of plane polarised light

(+)-thalidomide, $[\alpha]_{D}{ }^{21}=+63(c 2.03, \mathrm{DMF})$ sedative, hypnotic, stops morning sickness

(-)-thalidomide, $[\alpha]_{D} 21=-63$ (c 2.03, DMF) teratogen, foetal damage, congenital malformation

(+)-limonene oranges

(-)-limonene turpentine / lemon

(+)-carvone caroway and dill

(S)-(-)-nicotine

(-)-carvone spearmint

## ■ optical rotation.

$\square$ schematic of a polarimeter

| wavelength, $\lambda$ | concentration of solution, <br> $c(g / \mathrm{mL})$ |
| :--- | :--- |


$\alpha=$ observed rotation
$D=$ wavelength of sodium " $D$ " line -589 nm
$c=$ concentration of solution in $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{mL}$
$l=$ length of cell in dm (usually 1 dm )
$\mathrm{T}=$ temperature in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$


(S)-L-(+)-alanine (S)-L-(-)-phenylalanine $[\alpha]_{D}=+14.7$
$[\alpha]_{D}=-35.2$

hexahelicene
$[\alpha]_{D}=+3640!$
rotation to the right dextrorotatory (+) rotation to the left levorotatory (-)


$$
[\alpha]_{D}=+13.5
$$

■ there is no simple connection between structure and specific rotation; however, single enantiomers always show equal and opposite rotation if the specific rotation is measured under identical conditions

- the magnitude of the specific rotation depends on the wavelength, the temperature, the concentration and the solvent, among other things
- a 1:1 mixture of enantiomers is termed a racemic mixture (or racemate), a racemic mixture is optically inactive does not rotate the plane of plane polarised light
- achiral (non-chiral) molecules do not rotate the plane of plane polarised light and are optically inactive
$\square$ if a reaction is to produce an excess of one enantiomer over the other then the reaction must be conducted in a chiral, non-racemic environment e.g. in the presence of an enzyme or enantiomerically enriched reagent or catalyst
- no optically active material can be generated if all the staring material, reagents and conditions are either achiral or racemic i.e. optically inactive.
i.e. if a chiral compound is synthesised from achiral or racemic reactants, reagents and catalysts then it will be formed as a racemate

■ Note: a sample of a chiral molecule may contain a single enantiomer or it may be a mixture of enantiomers, depending on how it was made

- which of the following molecules are chiral?


- the presence of a stereogenic centre, a.k.a a stereocentre (ie. a carbon with four different substituent, often called a chiral centre), is a reliable test for chirality if the molecule has only one stereocentre


2-stereocentres butachiral

- molecules with more than one stereocentre can be chiral (more of this later)
- the only reliable test to determine if a molecule is chiral, is the test of non-superimposability of the mirror image with the object



■ Note: it is the relationships, enantiomeric and diastereomeric, that are mutually exclusive
ie. two particular stereoisomer are either enantiomers or diastereomers; however, a molecule that is enantiomeric to one other molecule, may also be diastereomeric to other molecules

- diastereomers have different physical and chemical properties - different NMR spectra, IR spectra, melting point, boiling point etc. - they are different compounds
$\square$ remember enantiomers are related as non-superimposable object and mirror image and hence only have different properties in a chiral environment - they are identical in an achiral environment - more on this later
flow chart of isomers


Cahn-Ingold-Prelog Sequence Rules
CIP rules
it is important to be able to label the configuration of a stereocentre centre in much the same way as geometrical isomers of double bonds are termed cis and trans
$\square R=$ Rectus (Latin for 'right') and $S=$ Sinister (Latin for 'left') are used to label the configurations of stereogenic centres

■ assign the priority of each atom directly attached to the stereocentre on the basis of atomic number - higher atomic number $=$ higher priority

- if atoms directly attached to the stereocentre have the same atomic number move down each substituent one atom at a time until the first difference is reached, with higher atomic number always being the first point of difference
$■$ same atomic number but different mass number - higher mass number takes priority eng. T>D $\boldsymbol{D}$

| substituent | $1^{\text {st }}$ tam | $2^{\text {nd }}$ atom | priority |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OH | 0 |  | $a$ |
| $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{H}$ | $C$ | 0 | $b$ |
| $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $C$ | $H$ | $c$ |
| $H$ | $H$ |  | $d$ |

■ draw molecule with the lowest priority substituent (priority d) at the rear
$\square \mathrm{a} \rightarrow \mathrm{b} \rightarrow \mathrm{c}$ is clockwise the stereochemical descriptor is $R$

$\square a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c$ is anticlockwise the stereochemical descriptor is $S$

$■$ assign $R$ and $S$ stereochemical descriptors to the following molecules










Cahn-Ingold-Prelog Sequence Rules - continued
the CIP rules can be extended to the assignment of double bond geometry.
look at one end of the double bond and decide which substituent has higher priority.

■ look at the other end of the double bond and decide which substituent has higher priority.

■ double bond is $(Z)$ if the the higher order substituent are on the same side of the double bond (Zusammen - together in German)
$\square$ double bond is $(E)$ if the higher order substituent are on the opposite side of the double bond (Entgegen - opposite in German)





## ■ (Z)-but-2-ene



- three projections of the products formed from the syn-addition of two OH groups to the top or bottom face of (Z)-but-2-ene (cis-but-2-ene)

■ the products formed from addition to either face of the alkene are the same i.e. only one stereoisomer is formed

■ this stereoisomer has a plane of symmetry and is thus achiral (not chiral and is optically inactive)

- this stereoisomer is termed a meso compound

there are therefore three stereoisomer of butane-2,3-diol


pair of enantiomers (chiral)

meso compound chiral optically inactive
a simple definition of a meso compound is a stereoisomer with two or more stereocentres but which is itself achiral
a fuller definition is that a 'meso compound is an achiral member of a set of diastereomers that includes at least one chiral member' Elliel

■ 2-stereogenic centres - tartaric acid - potential descriptor combinations $R R, S S, R S, S R$

object and mirror image are the same
(superimposable) achiral, meso, form $S R=R S=$ meso


$R, R$
pair of enantiomers
(non-superimposable object and mirror image)

■ there are 3 steresiomers of tartaric acid, a pair of enantiomers, and the meso-form

■ as drawn the conformers of the meso compound have a centre of inversion $i(\bullet)$

■ molecules (objects) with a centre of inversion cannot be chiral
$\square$ redrawing in a different conformation reveals a plane of symmetry ( $\sigma$, often easier to spot than $i$ ) indicating that this stereoisomer is achiral


- if a molecule can gain access to a conformation which is superimposable on its mirror image then it will be achiral
■ if a molecule can gain access to a conformation that has a plane of symmetry or centre of inversion (or more generally an improper axis of rotation $S_{n}$ ) then it will be achiral

■ 2-stereogenic centres-1,2-dichlorocyclopropane-3 stereoisomers


■ in compounds with 2 stereocentres, when the groups are not the same there are always 4 stereoisomers
■ if a compound has $n$ stereogenic centres (or more generally stereogenic elements) then the maximum number of stereoisomers is $2^{n}$

■ 2-stereogenic centres - 1-bromo-2-chlorocyclopentane 4 stereoisomers, 2 pairs of enantiomers


C

- for molecules with multiple stereocentres all stereocentres must be inverted to convert one enantiomer into the opposite enantiomer
- draw all the stereoisomers of the following compounds. What are the stereochemical relationships between the various pairs of stereoisomers? Which of the stereoisomers are chiral? Identify any meso compounds





$■$ to investigate how many stereoisomers a compound has the following method may be useful:
i) if a compound has $n$ stereogenic centres (or more generally stereogenic elements) then the maximum number of stereoisomers will be $2^{n}$ - if you have more than $2^{n}$ you have made a mistake
ii) if the compound is acyclic draw it in zig-zag fashion
iii) identify the stereocentres
iv) decide how many diastereomers there are by putting substituents, with defined stereochemistry on the stereocentres
v) look for possible planes of symmetry (or centres of inversion) and hence decide which diastereomers are chiral - identify meso compounds - the presence of meso compounds reduces the number of stereoisomers
vi) draw the enantiomers of any chiral diastereomers by inverting all of the stereogenic centres - chiral steroisomers always come in pairs i.e. two enantiomers
racemisation - the conversion of one enantiomer (or an excess of one enantiomer) into a 1:1 mixture of enantiomers (a racemate or racemic mixture)
- egg. $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} 1$ reaction (more of this in later courses)

(s)

carbocation - planar $c$-aton $s p^{2}$ hybridised
- on recombination, $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$has equal probability of attacking either side of the carbocation leading to a racemic mixture


so far we have mainly looked at 'central' chirality - we will now briefly look at planar, axial and helical chirality
- chirality is a molecular property (in fact a property of an object) so it is not necessary for a molecule to posses a stereocentre (chiral centre) in order to be chiral encatiomers
the necessary and sufficient condition for a molecule to be chiral is that it is non-superimposable on its mirror image (i.e. that it lacks an improper axis of rotation $\left(S_{n}\right)$ )


chiral axis

object and mirror image
$\therefore$ this allere ischiral






which of the following molecules are chiral?

■ atropisomers and axial chirality - biphenyls

■ atropisomers may be defined as stereoisomers resulting from restricted rotation about single bonds
$\square$ the (arbitrary) definition of atropisomers is that they have a half life of at least 1000 s at a given temperature $(>90 \mathrm{~kJ} \bullet \mathrm{~mol}-1$ at 300 K ) - the rotational barrier needs to be high enough that the separate isomeric species can be isolated
severe steric hindrance means rotation around the central C-C single bond only occurs at high temperature and this compound can be resolved



$\square$ trans-cyclooctene is stable to racemisation indefinitely at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (chiral)
■ cis-cyclooctene is achiral

$■$ Resolution of Racemates - separation of a 1:1 mixture of enantiomers i.e. ( $\pm$ ) mixture, into pure (+) and ( - ) forms

■ problem: enantiomers have identical physical properties therefore they are very difficult to separate

- if a racemate crystallises it can either crystallise so that each crystal contains both enantiomers (a racemic crystal) or such that each crystal is either $(R)$ or $(S)$ - this is termed a conglomerate and approximately $5-10 \%$ of chiral crystalline materials crystallise in this manner

■ sodium ammonium tartrate crystallises as a conglomerate, which allowed Pasteur to separate the enantiomeric crystals by hand

$\square$ this is not a general solution to the separation of enantiomers as:
i) not all racemates are crystalline
ii) the majority of chiral crystalline materials are not conglomerates

■ separating diastereomers - diastereomers are different molecules, and have different physical properties,
■ we should therefore expect to be able to separate diastereomers by standard methods including: chromatography on silica, crystallisation, distillation etc.

- this property of diastereomers indirectly allows the separation of mixtures of enantiomers
- a racemic mixture is a 1:1 mixture of enantiomers
$\square$ if we react the racemic mixture with a single enantiomer of a reagent we will produce diastereomers which are (at least theoretically) separable
$B n=\operatorname{Benzyl}=P H_{2}=$

racemic


(S)-(-)-alcohol single enantiomer

■ it can be much more efficient to do a resolution by selective crystallisation of diastereomeric salts
■ diastereomeric salts, much like diastereomers, have different physical properties including melting points and solubility and hence selective crystallisation is frequently possible





## ■ absolute and relative configuration

$\square$ before 1951 we did not know the absolute configuration of any molecule i.e. we did not know what the actual 3-D arrangement of atoms was. For example we could not tell if (+)-tartaric acid was $(R, R)$ or $(S, S)$

■ Rosenhoff had arbitrarily assigned the absolute configuration of D-(+)-glyceraldehyde as (R)
■ many compounds were assigned absolute configuration by tedious chemical degradation, if they were related to the assigned configuration of D-glyceraldehyde they were called D-compounds, regardless of the direction of optical rotation (if they were related to the enantiomer of $D$-glyceraldehyde they were called L-compounds)

■ in 1951 Johannes Martin Bijvoet (1892-1980) used X-ray crystallography to assign the absolute configuration to sodium rubidium (+)-tartrate tetrahydrate - Rosenhoff had guessed correctly.


D-(+)-glyceraldehyde

(+)-tartaric acid sodium rubidium salt ( $R, R$ )

## - absolute and relative configuration

- absolute and relative configuration can therefore be defined as follows:
if we know which enantiomeric series a molecule is in we know its absolute configuration
if we only know its relative configuration we only know how the stereogenic centres within a molecule are related to one another
- to put it another way:
"When the stereochemistry drawn on a molecule means 'this diastereomer' we say we are representing relative configuration; when it means 'this enantiomer of this diastereomer' we say we are representing its absolute configuration" from Clayden, Greeves, Warren
- generation of chirality - the chiral pool

As stated previously no optically active material can be generated if all the staring material, reagents and conditions are either achiral or racemic i.e. optically inactive.

Ultimately to generate non-racemic material (material which is optically active) it is necessary to utilise molecules from the chiral pool i.e. from the vast array of enantiopure and enantioenriched molecules which occur in Nature

The Chiral Pool



Terpenes


Hydroxy acids etc.





■ Glossary of terms (working definitions)
achiral - not chiral i.e. molecule/object has a superimposable mirror image. If a molecule can gain access to a conformation which has a plane of symmetry (or centre of inversion) it will be achiral
chiral - molecules (and objects) which have a non-superimposable mirror image
chiral centre - see stereogenic centre
diastereomers - stereoisomers which are not related as enantiomers
enantioenriched - consisting of an excess of one enantiomer
enantiopure - consisting of a single enantiomer.
enantiomers - stereoisomers which are related as non-superimposable object and mirror image
epimer - diastereomers related by the difference in configuration at one chiral centre
meso compound - a stereoisomer with two or more stereocentres but which is itself achiral (an achiral member of a set of diastereomers that includes at least one
chiral member)
optically active - rotates the plane of plane polarised light - can only occur with non-racemic samples
racemate or racemic mixture - 50:50 mixture of enantiomers; a racemate is optically inactive.
racemisation - the conversion of one enantiomer (or an excess of one enantiomer) into a 50:50 mixture of enantiomers
stereogenic centre (stereocentre) - an atom (generally carbon) with four non-identical substituents - also called a chiral centre
stereoisomers - isomers with the same connectivity - i.e. A linked to B linked to linked to C etc. but different disposition of atoms in space

| name of group | formula | abbreviation |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| methyl | $-\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | Me |
| ethyl | $-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | Et |
| propyl | $-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | Pr |
| butyl | $-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | Bu |
| phenyl | $-\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ | Ph |
| acyl | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CO}$ | Ac |

# Introduction to Organic Chemistry 

Handout 3 - Mechanism


http://burton.chem.ox.ac.uk/teaching.html
$■$ Organic Chemistry J. Clayden, N. Greeves, S. Warren
$■$ Stereochemistry at a Glance J. Eames \& J. M. Peach
■ The majority of organic chemistry text books have good chapters
on the topics covered by these lectures
$■$ Eliel Stereochemistry of Organic Compounds (advanced reference text)

## ■ acid base reactions

- a Lewis base is an electron pair donor (can be charged or neutral)



when atom is negatively charged, the negative charge implies a lone pair (this is shorthand notation used by organic chemists)


- a Lewis acid is an electron pair acceptor (can be charged or neutral)


■ acid base reactions


■ conservation of charge
$B$ is sharing an electron pair and therefore becomes positively charged

$A$ is accepting an electron pair and therefore becomes negatively charged

CURLY ARROWS - indicate the movement of a pair of electrons

- the arrow starts at the origin of the pair of electrons (lone pair or bonding pair) and the head of the arrow indicates where the electrons end up (lone pair or bonding pair)


$1^{\text {st }}$ curly arrow starts from the negative charge which we treat as a lone pair
$2^{\text {nd }}$ curly arrow starts from the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond pair

■ strictly speaking the arrow starts from an actual lone pair but it is normal practice to draw it from the negative charge


- drawing the curly arrow to point at the atom to which it is forming a bond is also common practice



## ■ acid base reactions



## borohydride


here the negative (formal) charge (although drawn on boron) does not represent a lone pair -
$B$ has 8 electrons from the bonding pairs




- further examples - some typical reactions of aldehydes and ketones


■ orbitals

sp lone pair overlaps with $\pi$-orbitals
$-\mathrm{Li} \stackrel{\oplus}{\mathrm{AlH}_{4}}$ or $\mathrm{Na} \stackrel{\oplus}{\mathrm{BH}_{4}}$


- arrow comes from a bond pair of electrons and transfers hydrogen with its pair of electrons i.e. as hydride $H^{\ominus}$ (remember the negative charge on $B$ does not represent a lone pair)

■ addition of a Grignard reagent $-\underset{\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{MgBr}}{\delta-{ }_{7}}$

- addition of a neutral nucleophile

$\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{~N}$ :


■ delocalisation a.k.a resonance



■ amines are basic - the nitrogen lone pair is readily protonated
■ amides, however, are essentially neutral - the lone pair is delocalise into the carbonyl group
$\square$ lone pair in $A$ is bonding pair in $B$

double headed arrow (resonance arrow) actual structure of molecule is a hybrid of the structures

```
Shorror
```

■ effect on structure
■ the curly arrows above represent the overlap of the nitrogen lone pair with the C-O $\pi$-orbitals
■ the best overlap occurs if the N -lone pair is in a p-orbital, i.e. N is $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised


■ the curly arrows above represent the overlap of the nitrogen lone pair with the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O} \pi$-orbitals (the antibonding $\pi^{*}$ orbital)

- the best overlap therefore is if the N -atom is $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised resulting in the N -lone pair being in a p -orbital with excellent overlap with the p -orbitals of the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O} \pi$-system
- if the N -atom were $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ hybridised then the N -lone pair would be in an $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$ orbital which would result in poorer overlap with the adjacent C-O $\pi$-system

■ generally better overlap (of full and empty orbitals) = greater stabilisation

- actual structure is composite of $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ - the geometry of amides is planar
restricted rotation


X-ray crystal structure of dimethyl acetamide


N -sp3 hybridised
N -lone pair in $\mathrm{sp}^{3}$-orbital

■ some guidelines for drawing delocalised structures (resonance structures, canonical forms)

■ all resonance structure must be proper Lewis structures

■ the positions of the nuclei must be the same in all structures

■ all structures must have the same number of paired/unpaired electrons


■ all atoms involved in delocalistion should be co-planar or nearly co-planar
$■$ the overall structure of the molecule is a weighted average of the various resonance structures the more stable resonance structures contribute more to the overall structure of the molecule (and generally only the most stable resonance structures need to be considered)

■ charge separation is destabilising

■ the energy of the actual molecule is lower than any of the resonance structures
$■$ some of the arrows of organic chemistry




■ equilibrium arrow - indicates a reversible reaction
equilibrium arrow strongly
favouring products
equilibrium arrow strongly
favouring reactants


■ resonance arrow - indicates actual structure of the molecule is a hybrid of the structures shown


■ curly arrows (double headed) - indicates movement of a pair of electrons


■ curved single-headed arrow - indicates movement of single electrons (homolysis of the bond in this example)

oxygen atom is $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised
one oxygen lone
pair in $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybrid orbital

one oxygen lone pair in p-orbital

esters are generally planar

■ an unusual amide




- impossible overlap of lone pair with $\pi$-orbitals
$\square$ the above amide is much more basic than a normal amide

■ delocalisation in common functional groups

■ carboxylic acids similarly

- carboxylate $\frac{1}{2}-\sqrt{2}$ charge
or each $\Theta_{0}$
■ azides


in general if a $\pi$-system has an adjacent atom which carries a lone pair delocalisation of the lone pair into the $\pi$-system is possible


■ double bond resonance
$\square$ benzene
■ heats of hydrogenation


■ benzene $\approx 150 \mathrm{kJmol}^{-1}$ more stable than expected - (represents stability over hypothetical 1,3,5-
cyclohextriene) - termed the empirical resonance energy (values vary enormously)


- molecular orbital description


■ all carbon atoms are $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ hybridised

- all bond angles are $120^{\circ}$
- there are six p-orbitals which overlap to give six molecular orbitals


## Frost-Musulin Diagram - Frost Circle

- simple method to find the energies of the molecular orbitals for an aromatic compound

■ inscribe the regular polygon, with one vertex pointing down centred at the energy of an isolated p-orbital

- each intersection of the polygon with the circumference of the circle corresponds to the energy of a molecular orbital


■ the six electron are delocalised over the entire ring - benzene is described as aromatic with aromatic stabilisation
$\square$ for aromaticity require $\left(4 n^{f}+2\right) \pi$-electrons cyclically conjugated
■ other common aromatic systems
negative charge spread over 5 carbon atoms
$\square$ cyclopentadienyl anion $-(4 n+2), n=1,6 \pi$ electrons


bonding molecular orbitals (full)
6 electrons, 5 from the
$p$-orbitals one from the negative charge
$\square$ tropylium cation $-(4 n+2), n=1,6 \pi$ electrons - aromatic


$$
-1+1+1+
$$


$■$ delocalisation in conjugated alkenes (non-aromatic)
■ dienes


■ $\alpha, \beta$-unsaturated carbonyl compounds


■ similary with $\alpha, \beta$-unsaturated nitro compounds and $\alpha, \beta$-unsaturated nitriles


■ or with triple bonded species



■ some more simple reactions

## cyanohydrin




■ cyanide will add to the carbonyl carbon, or the $\beta$-position of an $\alpha, \beta$-unsaturated ketones depending on the reaction conditions


- these reactions can be reversible








