Alkenes



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Alkenes

Family of hydrocarbons, the alkenes, which contain less hydrogen, carbon for carbon, than the alkanes



Structure of ethylene, The carbon-carbon double bond

The simplest member of the alkene family is ethylene, C_2H_4



carbon makes use of three equivalent hybrid orbitals: sp2 orbitals , lie in one plane

trigonal arrangement



Figure 5.1. Atomic orbitals: hybrid sp² orbitals. Axes directed toward corners of equilateral triangle.

Because it is formed by the overlap of p orbitals, this bond is called a pi bond (π **bond**).



Propylene

The next member of the alkene family is propylene, C_3H_6



There are two types of hybridized carbon atoms, sp2 in C=C (unsaturated carbons) and sp3 in saturated carbon atom



The butylenes

butylenes, C₄H₈, there are a number of possible arrangements



Experiment has shown that not three but **four** alkenes of the formula C_4H_8 exist, ; they have the physical properties



Geometric isomerism

Isomeric 2-butenes differ from one another only in the way the atoms are oriented in space, stereoisomers

The arrangement of atoms that characterizes a particular stereoisomer is called its configuration



Higher alkenes

The general formula for this family is C_nH_{2n}

Common names are seldom used except for three simple alkenes: ethylene, propylene, and isobutylene

Most alkenes are named by the IUPAC system

1- Select as the parent structure the longest continuous chain that contains the carbon-carbon double bond name is derived by changing the ending **-ane** of the corresponding alkane name to **-ene**

2. Indicate by a number the position of the double bond in the parent chain.

designate its position by the number of the first doubly-bonded carbon

3. Indicate by numbers the positions of the alkyl groups attached to the parent chain.







Physical properties

- They are insoluble in water, but quite soluble in nonpolar solvents like benzene, ether, chloroform, or ligroin.
- > They are less dense than water.
- The boiling point rises with increasing carbon number; as with the alkanes, the boiling point rise is 20-30° for each added carbon.
- > Branching lowers the boiling point.

Preparation

1- Dehydrohalogenation of alkyl halides.

Alkyl halides are converted into alkenes by **dehydrohalogenation**: *elimination of the elements of hydrogen halide*.



Mechanism of dehydrohalogenation

The function of hydroxide ion is to pull a hydrogen ion away from carbon; simultaneously a halide ion separates and the double bond forms.



The preferred product is the alkene that has the greater number of alkyl groups attached to the doubly-bonded carbon atoms.

KOH (alc) KOH (alc) CH₁CH₂CH₂CH₂Cl CH₁CH==CH₂ CH₃CHCH₃ n-Propyl chloride Propylene Isopropyl chloride KOH (alc) CH3CH2CH=CH2 n-Butyl chloride 1-Butene KOH (ale) CH₃CH₂CHCH₃ $CH_1CH = CHCH_1 + CH_1CH_2CH = CH_2$ 2-Butene 1-Butene 20% 80% sec-Butyl chloride

2- Dehydration of alcohols

An alcohol is converted into an alkene by dehydration: elimination of a molecule of water. Dehydration requires the presence of an acid and the application of heat.



Mechanism of dehydration of alcohols

(step 1), The alcohol reacts with a hydrogen ion to form the protonated alcohol,

(step 2), which dissociates into water and a carbocation; (step 3), the carbocation then loses a hydrogen ion to form the alkene.



Ease of formation of carbocation $3 > 2 > 1 > CH_3^+$

the greater the number of alkyl groups, the more stable the carbocation



Q/ Explain formation of two product in the following reaction

 $\begin{array}{cccc} CH_{3}CH_{2}-CH-CH_{3} & \xrightarrow{acid} & CH_{3}CH=CHCH_{3} + CH_{3}CH_{2}CH=-CH_{2} \\ & & & \\ OH & & & \\ sec-Butyl alcohol & & Chief product \end{array}$

3- Dehalogenation of vicinal dihalides.

$$\begin{array}{cccc} -\overset{|}{C} -\overset{|}{C} -\overset{|}{C} + Zn & \longrightarrow & -\overset{|}{C} = \overset{|}{C} - + ZnX_2 \\ \overset{|}{X} & \overset{|}{X} \end{array}$$

Example:



4- Reduction of alkynes.



Reactions of alkenes

Reactions of the carbon-carbon double bond: addition

The double bond consists of a strong σ bond and a weak π bond; we might expect, therefore, that reaction would involve the breaking of this weaker bond



1- Addition of hydrogen. Catalytic hydrogenation.

We can convert an alkene into an alkane

$$-\overset{|}{C}=\overset{|}{C}-+H_{2} \xrightarrow{Pt, Pd, or N_{1}} -\overset{|}{C}-\overset{|}{C}-\overset{|}{C}-\overset{|}{H} \overset{|}{H}$$

Example:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} CH_{3}CH=CH_{2} & \xrightarrow{H_{2}, N_{1}} & CH_{3}CH_{2}CH_{3} \\ Propene & Propane \\ (Propylene) & \end{array}$$

2- Addition of halogens.

Alkenes are readily converted by chlorine or bromine into saturated compounds

3- Addition of hydrogen halides.

An alkene is converted by hydrogen chloride, hydrogen bromide, or hydrogen iodide into the corresponding alkyl halide.

Propylene could yield either of two products, the n-propyl halide or the isopropyl halide



In the **ionic addition** of an acid , hydrogen of the acid attaches itself to the carbon atom that already holds the **greater number of hydrogens**. This statement is generally known as **Markovnikov's rule**.

But in the **radical addition** of an acid to the double bond of alkene, using peroxide as catalyst, **anti-Markovnikov's rule**.



4- Addition of sulfuric acid.

Alkenes react with cold, concentrated sulfuric acid to form compounds of the general formula **ROSO₃H**, known as alkyl hydrogen sulfates.



The alkyl hydrogen sulfate has been cleaved by water to form the alcohol and sulfuric acid, and is said to have been hydrolyzed



5- Addition of water, Hydration

Water adds to the more reactive alkenes in the presence of acids to yield alcohols. Since this addition, too, follows Markovnikov's rule



Electrophilic addition: mechanism

Addition of the acidic reagent, HZ, is believed to proceed by two steps:



Example HCl addition

(1)
$$CH_3--CH=CH_2 + H: \ddot{C}I: \longrightarrow CH_3--CH--CH_3 + : \ddot{C}I:^- \oplus CH_3--CH_3 + : \ddot{C}I:^- \longrightarrow CH_3--CH_3-CH_3$$

(2) $CH_3--CH--CH_3 + : \ddot{C}I:^- \longrightarrow CH_3--CH_3-CH_3$

Q/ Give the mechanism for the addition of sulfuric acid and water to the isobutene?