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Chapter 3

Aromatic Compounds

• The expressing aromatic compounds came to mean benzene and derivatives.

Structure of Benzene: Resonance Description



1.It contains a six-membered ring and three additional degrees of unsaturation.
2.It is planar.
2.All C - C hand lengths are equal.

3.All C—C bond lengths are equal.

The Kekule Structure for Benzene:

- In 1865, Kekulé proposed a reasonable structure for benzene. He suggested that six carbon atoms are located at the corners of a regular hexagon, with one hydrogen atom attached to each carbon atom.
- To give each carbon atom a valence of 4, he suggested that single and double bonds alternate around the ring (what we now call a conjugated system of double bonds).
- Kekulé suggested that the single and double bonds exchange positions around the ring so rapidly that the typical reactions of alkenes cannot take place.



• Kekulé's formulas represent two identical contributing structures to a single resonance hybrid structure of benzene.



Modern physical measurements support this model for the benzene structure.
 Benzene is planar, and each carbon atom is at the corner of a regular hexagon. All of the carbon–carbon bond lengths are identical: 1.39 Å, intermediate between typical single (1.54 Å) and double (1.34 Å) carbon–carbon bond lengths.

$$\begin{array}{cccc} CH_3 - CH_3 & CH_2 = CH_2 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & 1.53 \text{ Å} & 1.34 \text{ Å} \end{array} \qquad \overbrace{\begin{array}{c}} & \overbrace{} \\ & 1.53 \text{ Å} & 1.34 \text{ Å} \end{array} \qquad \overbrace{\begin{array}{c}} & \overbrace{} \\ & 1.39 \text{ Å} \end{array} \qquad \overbrace{\begin{array}{c}} \\ & 1.39 \text{ Å} \end{array}$$

Orbital Model for Benzene:

- Each carbon atom in benzene is connected to only three other atoms (two carbons and a hydrogen).
- Each carbon is therefore sp^2 -hybridized, as in ethylene.
- It also explains its hexagonal shape, with H-C-C and C-C-C angles of 120°.



• An orbital representation of the bonding in benzene. Sigma (s) bonds are formed by the end-on overlap of sp2 orbitals. In addition, each carbon contributes one electron to the pi (p) system by lateral overlap of its p orbital with the p orbitals of its two neighbors.

Aromatic Character: The $(4n + 2) \pi$ Rule

- A molecule must be cyclic.
- A molecule must be planar.
- A molecule must be completely conjugated.
- A molecule must satisfy Hückel's rule, and contain a particular number of π electrons.

 $4n+2\pi$ electrons ($n=0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots = 2, 6, 10, 14, \ldots$)

Examples:



Benzene Aromatic



Cyclobutadiene Not aromatic



Cyclopentadiene Not aromatic



Cyclooctatetraene Not aromatic



Naphthalene Aromatic



Anthracene Aromatic

Examples:



• Common names have acquired historic respectability and are accepted by IUPAC. Examples include:



• Monosubstituted benzenes that do not have common names accepted by IUPAC are named as derivatives of benzene.



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When two substituents are present, three isomeric structures are possible. They are designated by the prefixes *ortho-*, *meta-*, and *para-* (abbreviated as *o-*, *m-*, and *p-*) or by the use of numbers.
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• When more than two substituents are present, their positions are designated by numbering the ring.

Examples:





3,5-dichlorotoluene



• Two groups with special names occur frequently in aromatic compounds; They are the phenyl group and the benzyl group.



Examples:



2-phenylpentane (or 2-pentylbenzene) phenylcyclopropane (or cyclopropylbenzene)

1,3,5-triphenylbenzene

benzyl chloride

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons



Reaction of Benzene A- Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution

- Some of the most important reactions of aromatic compounds are those in which an electrophile replaces one of the hydrogen atoms of the ring.
- These reactions, called electrophilic aromatic substitutions (EAS).



The Mechanism of Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution



Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution



Halogenation of Benzene

• Benzene reacts with bromine and chlorine in the presence of Lewis acids (iron chloride (FeCl₃) for chlorination, and iron bromide (FeBr₃) for bromination).



Nitration of Benzene

• Benzene undergoes nitration on reaction with a mixture of concentrated nitric acid and concentrated sulfuric acid.



Sulfonation of Benzene

Benzene reacts with concentrated or fuming sulfuric acid, and the electrophile may be sulfur trioxide (SO₃), or protonated sulfur trioxide ($^+SO_3H$).



Friedel-Crafts Alkylation

• The Electrophile is a carbocation, which can be formed either by removing a halide ion from an alkyl halide with a Lewis acid catalyst (for example, AlCl₃).



Friedel-Crafts Acylation

• The Electrophile is an acyl cation generated from an acyl halide, the reaction requires the addition of at least one equivalent of a Lewis acid (such as AlCl₃). The product of the reaction is an aryl ketone.

$$O \\ H_3CCl + AlCl_3 \rightleftharpoons CH_3C = 0 + AlCl_4^-$$

acetyl choride acetyl cation
$$O \\ Acetyl choride + CH_3C = 0 \xrightarrow{+} O \\ CCH_3 \\ CC$$

Reaction of Benzene B- Reactions of the Side Chain of Alkylbenzene

- 1- Oxidation of the Side Chain
 - Alkylbenzenes with alkyl groups longer than methyl are ultimately degraded to benzoic acids.



- 2- Halogenation of the Side Chain
- Chlorine and bromine can be made to replace hydrogen atoms that are on a benzylic carbon, such as the methyl group of toluene.
- Benzylic halogenation is carried out in the absence of Lewis acids and under conditions that favor the formation of radicals.



Substituents Can Affect Both the Reactivity of the Ring and the Orientation of the Incoming Group

• A substituent group already present on a benzene ring can affect both the reactivity of the ring toward electrophilic substitution and the orientation that the incoming group takes on the ring.



Directing and Activating Effects of Common Functional Groups (Groups are Listed in Decreasing Order of Activation)

| | Substituent group | Name of group | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|----------|--|----------------------------|
| Ortho, Para-Directing | $-NH_2$, $-NHR$, $-NR_2$ | amino | | | |
| | -OH, -OCH₃, -OR hydroxy, alkoxy O acylamino | hydroxy, alkoxy | Activ | Substituent | Effect on reactivity |
| | | acylamino | | o,p-Directing | |
| | -NHC - R $-CH_3, -CH_2CH_3, -R$ | alkyl | | -NH ₂ , -NHR, -NR ₂ - OH, | Very strongly activating |
| | -F: -Cl: -Br: -l: | halo | | -NHCOR , OR | Strongly activating |
| Meta-Directing | :0: :0: | acyl, carboxy | | -C ₆ H ₅ , -CH ₃ , -R (Alkyl),CH ₂ =CHR | Moderately activating |
| | —C—R —C—ÖH | | | -F, -Cl, -Br, -I | Deactivating |
| | :0: :0: | | | <i>m</i> -Directing | |
| | $-C - NH_2 - C - OR$ | carboxamido, carboalkoxy | Deac | -SO ₃ H, -COOH, -COOR,-CHO, -CORCN | Strongly deactivating |
| | | sulfonic acid | tivating | -NO ₂ , -CF ₃ | Very strongly deactivating |
| | -C≡N: | cyano | | | |
| | | nitro | | | 24 |

Examples:



m-Dinitrobenzene