CHEM 232 Organic Chemistry I

University of Illinois UIC at Chicago

Lecture 25 Organic Chemistry 1

Professor Duncan Wardrop April 6, 2010

Self Test Question

Below is the molecular orbital diagram for cyclooctatetraene; only the energy levels for each MO are indicated, not the MOs themselves. List the number of π -electrons in cyclooctatetraene and the number of π -electrons that would be required to fill the MO diagram below so that the system were aromatic, respectively.





120 kJ/mol 231 kJ/mol 208 kJ/mol

Observation: Heat of hydrogenation of benzene is 152 kJ/mol less than three times that of cyclohexene.
Hypothesis: Cyclic conjugation imparts extra stability compared to acyclic π-system (more MO net bonding).





Observation: Heat of hydrogenation of cyclooctatetraene is even greater than four times that of cyclooctene.





Observation: In order to avoid cyclic conjugation, cyclooctatetraene adopts a non-planar conformation.

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Cyclooctatetraene Adopts A Bucket Conformation





Observation: In order to avoid cyclic conjugation, cyclooctatetraene adopts a non-planar conformation.

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Observation: The filled MOs for cyclobutadiene contain the same amount of *net bonding* than the acyclic 1,3butadiene; no extra stability = not aromatic

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Observation: MO orbital calculations give two different bond lengths for cyclobutadiene suggesting no delocalization of the alkenes; act as if not conjugated

Observation: Cyclobutadiene is very difficult to prepare; it is very high in energy (unstable)



Aromaticity: Initial Conclusion







antiaromatic (when planar) antiaromatic (when square)



antiaromatic: destabilized by cyclic delocalization of π -electrons aromatic: extra stabilization by cyclic delocalization of π -electrons

Conclusion: Aromaticity depends on the number of π -electrons that can be cyclically delocalized



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Hückel's Rule

Aromatic: compounds that posses extra stability as a result of cyclically delocalized π -systems with an odd number of electrons *pairs* (4n + 2; n = integer). **Antiaromatic:** compounds that are destabilized as a result of cyclically delocalized π -systems with an *even* number of electron *pairs* (4n; n = integer).



Hükel's Rule

There can only be one lowest MO with zero nodes. Therefore, there is always an odd number of bonding MOs. An odd number of bonding MOs requires an odd number of π -electrons to fill a closed shell.



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Frost Circle

Frost Circle: a mnemonic for determining the number and relative energies for the π -molecular orbitals of cyclically conjugated systems.

Steps:

I. Draw a circle.

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- 2. Inscribe a regular polygon inside the circle so that one of the corners is at the bottom.
- **3.** Draw a horizontal line at each vertex non bon intersecting the circle. These are the energy levels of the MOs. bonding
- 4. Draw a dotted-line through the center of the circle. This represents the boundary between bonding and antibonding orbitals. Orbitals coinciding with this line are nonbonding.



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Frost Circle

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Frost Circles



Self Test Question

Which MO diagram best represents the fully conjugated cycloheptatrienyl carbocation (a.k.a. tropylium cation)?







6 π-electrons not fully conjugated = not aromatic 6 π-electrons fully conjugated = aromatic



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- tropylium cation is so stable, that tropylium bromide is ionic rather than covalent
- high mp = 203 °C
- soluble in water
- insoluble in diethyl ether



6 π-electrons fully conjugated = aromatic



Cyclopentadiene is only a slightly weaker acid that water; it's conjugate bases is exceptionally stable since it is aromatic.



The conjugate base of cycloheptatriene is antiaromatic. Consequently, cycloheptatriene is a much weaker acid than cyclopentadiene.



Self Test Question



Heterocyclic Aromatic Compounds

Heteroatom: any atom other than C or H; typically, but not limited to N, O, Si, P, S, Se



There are more examples in your text; I will only ask you to know these 7.

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Hükel's Rule and Lone Pairs on Heteroatoms



convention: lone pairs that are not part of the aromatic π -system are written outside of the ring;

lone pairs that are part of the aromatic π -system are written inside the ring \bullet 6 π -electrons in the ring

- lone pair of electrons on nitrogen is in an sp2hybridized orbital that is perpendicular to ring πsystem
- lone pairs must be in coplanar orbitals to delocalize
- Ione pair is not counted in Hükel's rule

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Hükel's Rule and Lone Pairs on Heteroatoms



convention: lone pairs that are not part of the aromatic π -system are written outside of the ring; lone pairs that are part of the aromatic π -system are written inside the ring

- lone pair on nitrogen does participate in ring π-system so that ring is aromatic and more stable
- lone pair of electrons on nitrogen is in an pure p-orbital that is coplanar to the ring π-system
- Ione pair is counted in Hükel's rule

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Hükel's Rule and Lone Pairs on Heteroatoms



convention: lone pairs that are not part of the aromatic π -system are written outside of the ring; lone pairs that are part of the aromatic π -system are written inside the ring

- only one lone pair is in a pure p-orbital coplanar to the ring π-system (is counted in Hükel's rule)
- the second lone pair is in an sp2-hybridized orbital perpendicular to the ring π-system (not counted in Hükel's rule)



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Self Test Question

Which compound below is either not aromatic or antiaromatic? *Lone pairs are not shown.*



Self Test Question

Which compound below is neither aromatic or antiaromatic, i.e. is non-aromatic



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Reactions of Functional Groups Attached to Aromatic Rings

Sections: 11.12-11.17 You are responsible for sections 11.10, 11.11, 11.13,11.18, 11.21, 11.23, 11.24

Conjugation with Benzene

benzyllic carbon: carbon atom attached to a benzene ring benzyllic hydrogen: hydrogen attached to a benzyllic carbon



Benzylic carbocation

Benzylic radical

Alkenylbenzene



benzyllic carbon: carbon atom attached to a benzene ring benzyllic hydrogen: hydrogen attached to a benzyllic carbon





- benzyllic radical is analogous to an allylic radical
- both are stabilized by resonance
- benzyllic is more stabilized than allylic because more resonance structures
- see lecture 23 (April 7) for reactivity of allylic systems

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Resonance in a benzyl radical



unpaired electron is delocalized over benzylic carbon as well as the ortho & para carbon ataoms

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Free radical halogenation at the benzylic position is analogous to the same reaction at the allylic position (see lecture 23 for reactivity pattern and mechanism)



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S_N1 Reactions of Benzylic Halides

benzyllic carbon: carbon atom attached to a benzene ring benzyllic hydrogen: hydrogen attached to a benzyllic carbon





- benzyllic carbocation is analogous to an allylic carbocation
- both are stabilized by resonance
- benzyllic is more stabilized than allylic because more resonance structures
- see lecture 23 (April 7) for reactivity of allylic systems

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S_N1 Reactions of Benzylic Halides

Resonance in a benzylic carbocation



positive charge is delocalized over benzylic carbon as well as the ortho & para carbon ataoms

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S_N1 Reactions of Benzylic Halides

SNI of benzylic halides is faster since carbocation formed is more stable (lower NRG)



 $H_3C - C - Cl$ | CH_3

2-Chloro-2-phenylpropane More reactive: *k*(rel) 620 *tert*-Butyl chloride Less reactive: *k*(rel) 1.0

 CH_3



is more stable than



1-Methyl-1-phenylethyl cation

tert-Butyl cation



S_N2 Reactions of Benzylic Halides

 $S_N 2$ of benzylic halides is faster than allylic halides. How can this be explained if there is no carbocation intermediate?



Allylic SN2 Faster: Two Arguments

I. steric hinderance (VWF)2. molecular orbital interactions



- LUMO of C-X bond can adopt a coplanar arrangement with porbitals of p-bond =
- electron delocalization over three orbitals =
- lower energy LUMO =
- lower activation energy =
- faster reaction
- Why does lower energy LUMO result in lower activation energy?

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Benzylic S_N2 Faster: Two Arguments

I. steric hinderance (VWF)2. molecular orbital interactions



- LUMO of C-X bond can adopt a coplanar arrangement with porbitals of p-bond =
- more p-orbitals in benzene than alkene =
- more electron donation into LUMO of C-Cl bond =
- weaker C-X bond =
- faster reaction

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Preparation of Alkenylbenzenes

Same methods used to prepare alkenes can be used to prepare alkenylbenzenes



Elimination of Benzylic Hydrogens

Addition reactions to alkenes can also be applied to addition reactions to alkenylbenzenes

Hydrogenation





Regioselective Addition of Electrophiles to Alkenylbenzenes

Addition to alkenylbenzenes favors (faster) formation of the more stable benzylic carbocation



Self Test Question



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Next Lecture...

Chapter 12: Sections 12.1-12.8

No Quiz This Week. . .

Grade Distribution



