CHEM 232 Organic Chemistry I

University of Illinois UIC

## Organic Chemistry 1 Lecture 6

Instructor: Prof. Duncan Wardrop Time/Day: T & R, 12:30-1:45 p.m. January 28, 2010

## **Self Test Question**

Which form of strain occurs in cycloalkanes when bond angles are distorted from their natural preference?

steric strain	A. van der Waals strain B. steric strain			
groups close in space				
	C. compression strain			
eclipsed bonds	D. torsional strain			
angle strain	E. Baeyer strain			



**The Answer is E.** Factors A, B, D and E all potentially contribute to the strain energy in cyclohexanes, but that arising from bond angle deformations is termed Baeyer strain.

## **Summary of Strain Energy**

strain energy: additional potential energy associated with unfavorable interactions in different conformations

**1. Angle strain (Baeyer strain):** increase in energy associated with deviation of natural bond angles (i.e. predicted by VSEPR).



## **Summary of Strain Energy**

strain energy: additional potential energy associated with unfavorable interactions in different conformations

**2. Torsional strain:** increase in energy associated with eclipsed electron pairs (typically in covalent bonds).



## Summary of Strain Energy

 <u>strain energy</u>: additional potential energy associated with unfavorable interactions in different conformations
**3. Steric strain (van der Waals strain):** increase in energy associated adjacent groups being close together (i.e. overlapping van der Waals radii); most pronouced for large groups (i.e. two eclipsed -CH<sub>3</sub>)





- no steric strain between adjacent hydrogen atoms
- slight steric strain between adjacent H & CH<sub>3</sub> groups (~1.4 kcal/mol)
- large steric strain between adjacent, eclipsed CH<sub>3</sub> groups (~3.1 kcal/mol)

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## Conformational Analysis: Combined Energy "Costs" in Alkanes

### total energy cost = sum of steric strain and torsional strain 1 kcal = 4.1868 kJ

most stable (lowest NRG)		(	least stable highest NRG)	Adjacent Groups	Relationship	Strain energy
н₃С	H <sub>3</sub> CH	H H CH <sub>3</sub>		H – H	gauche	0
н ↓ СН₃	H CH <sub>3</sub>	Н СН3	H H CH <sub>3</sub>	H – CH₃	gauche	0
anti			syn	$CH_3 - CH_3$	gauche	0.9 kcal/mol
individual	1(1.0) = 1.0	1(0.9) = 0.9	2(1.0) = 2.0	H–H	eclipsed	1.0 kcal/mol
total energy cost for each	2(1.4) = 2.8		1(3.1) = 3.1	H – CH₃	eclipsed	1.4 kcal/mol
conformation	tot = 3.8 kcal/mol	tot = 0.9 kcal/mol	tot = 5.1 kcal/mol	CH <sub>3</sub> – CH <sub>3</sub>	eclipsed	3.1 kcal/mol
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**Self Test Question** 

Rank the following conformations of isobutane in order of *increasing* energy?



**The Answer is C**. Employing the table on Slide 6, determine the number of syn and significant gauche interactions (i.e. ignore H–H and H–Me gauche interactions, but not Me–Me ones) and sum the associated strain energies. You will not be expected to remember these specific numbers, but will be expected to know how to employ them to determine strain energy.

## **Self Test Question**

Using the table below, estimate the <u>difference</u> in energy ( $\Delta E$ ) between the eclipsed and staggered conformations of ethane?



The Answer is **B**. See notes for Slide 7.

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## Conformations of Cyclohexane

Sections 3.7-3.9

## **Conformers of Cyclohexane**



## "Chair" Conformation of Cyclohexane



- most stable (lowest energy conformation)
- all vicinal C-C & C-H bonds are gauche (dihedral angle = 60°)
- bond angles at carbon are close to 109.5°



## "Boat" Conformation of Cyclohexane



- least stable conformation
- all bond angles close to tetrahedral (109.5°)
- steric strain: repulsion between "flagpole" hydrogens
- torsional strain: eclipsed bonds



### Why "Chair" and "Boat"?



## Boat Conformer is <u>Less Stable</u> Than Chair

#### Another View:



- eclipsed bonds produce torsional strain (raise energy)
- Steric strain (van der Waals strain) of flagpole hydrogens



## **Twist Boat is Slightly More Stable Than Boat**



Skew boat

Boat

- less steric strain (van der Waals strain)
- less torsional strain; fewer eclipsed bonds



## **Axial & Equatorial Bonds in Cyclohexane**





## **Axial & Equatorial Bonds in Cyclohexane**



## Sawhorse and Newman Projection of Cyclohexane Chair







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## **Conformational Inversion is Rapid**



X axial; Y equatorial

X equatorial; Y axial

- ring flipping = conformational inversion of cyclohexane
- chair-to-chair: all axial become equatorial and vice versa
- both chairs have equal energy ( $K_{eq} = 1$ )
- activation energy = 10.8 kcal/mol (45 kJ/mol)



## How to Cyclohexane Skeleton...



- Draw two parallel lines that are offset and at approximately 45° from any axis.
- 2. Connect the offset ends of the lines with the equilateral sides of an isosceles triangle.



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## Now Add the Hydrogen Atoms...



## Finally, Put It All Together....



### **Common Mistakes**

How not to draw cyclohexanes.....



the chair has been drawn with the middle bonds horizontal, so the upper points of the chair are not level. Axial bonds cannot be drawn vertically the axial hydrogens have been drawn alternating up and down on the wrong carbons - none of the C-centers are tetrahedral!

the red hydrogens have been drawn at the wrong angles notice the lack of "W" and "M"



## Mechanism of Ring-Flipping (No Boat Required)



#### Intermediate

local <u>minimum</u> energy species on the potential energy profile

#### **TS (transition state)**

local <u>maximum</u> energy species on the potential energy profile

#### H<sub>act</sub> (activation energy)

energy required to reach the transition state



## **Self Test Question**

Using the table below, estimate the <u>difference</u> in energy ( $\Delta E$ ) between the two conformations of methyl-cyclohexane? Use a model to determine the # of gauche & eclipsed relationships



**The Answer is C**. As before, determine the strain energy of the axial conformer by identifying "bad" gauche interactions (Me–CH2) and summing their contributions to strain energy. In the case of the axial conformer of methylcyclohexane, you must consider the gauche interaction between Me–(C1)–(C2)–(C3) as well as between Me–(C1)–(C6)–(C5).

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## Conformational Analysis of Monosubstituted Cyclohexanes

Section 3.10

## Methylcyclohexane



- conformer with equatorial methyl is more stable by 7.3 kJ/mol
- although ring flipping occurs, at any given moment 95% of conformers have the methyl group equatorial (K = 19)
- axial methyl group is crowded (steric strain)



## **Steric Strain: 1,3-Diaxial Repulsions**





Van der Waals strain between hydrogens of axial CH<sub>3</sub> and axial hydrogens at C-3 and C-5

Smaller van der Waals strain between hydrogens at C-1 and axial hydrogens at C-3 and C-5

 these interactions are very similar to those found in the syn-periplanar and gauche conformations of n-butane

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## The Bigger the Group, The Bigger the Strain



## tert-Butyl Group is Very "Bulky"



Less than 0.01% (Severe 1,3-diaxial replusions involving tert-butyl group) **Greater than 99.99%** (Decreased van der Waals strain)



The energy difference between axial and equatorial conformers is ~20 kJ/mol and the equilibrium constant (K) is >3000. At room temperature, >99.99% of tert-butylcyclohexane is in the equatorial conformation.

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## Conformational and Configurational Stereoisomers of <u>Di</u>substituted Cycloalkanes

Sections 3.11-3.12 You are responsible for Sections 3.13-3.15

## **Reminder: Isomer Classification**



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## **Self Test Question**

Determine which set of molecules are <u>configurational</u> stereoisomers; the remaining three sets are either conformational isomers or identical.



Configuration isomers differ from conformational isomers in that they can only be interconverted through bond breaking processes. **The answer is A**. Pairs C and D are conformational stereoisomers (conformers) of one another. Pair B are identical.

# Configurational Stereoisomers of 1,2-Dimethylcyclopropane





cis-1,2-Dimethylcyclopropane

trans-1,2-Dimethylcyclopropane

- no conformational isomers of cyclopropane since there is no rotation around C-C bonds in the ring
- *cis* = groups on the <u>same side</u> (plane) of ring
- trans = groups on the <u>opposite side</u> (plane) of ring
- configurational stereoisomers = must break bonds to interconvert



## **Relative Stabilities of Configurational Isomers** Measured by Heat of Combustion -





# Configurational Stereoisomers of 1,4-Dimethylcyclohexane





cis-1,4-Dimethylcyclohexane

trans-1,4-Dimethylcyclohexane

higher energy (less stable) lower energy (more stable)

- trans is more stable in 1,4 configuration
- but <u>not</u> because of <u>steric strain</u>: methyl groups are too far apart to crowd each other



## Conformational Analysis of *Cis-* and *Trans-*1,4-dimethylcyclohexane



# Configurational Stereoisomers of 1,2-Dimethylcyclohexane





cis-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane

higher energy (less stable) trans-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane

lower energy (more stable)

- trans is also more stable in 1,2 configuration
- trans can adopt conformation with both methyl groups equatorial



## Conformational Analysis of *Cis-* and *Trans-*1,2-dimethylcyclohexane





# Configurational Stereoisomers of 1,3-Dimethylcyclohexane



cis-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane

trans-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane

lower energy (more stable) higher energy (less stable)

- <u>unlike</u> 1,2 and 1,4-disubstituted rings, cis-1,3 is most stable
- only cis can adopt a conformation with both methyl groups in equatorial positions



## Conformational Analysis of *Cis-* and *Trans-*1,3-dimethylcyclohexane

- two axial groups is much higher in energy than two equatorial groups
- in this case, *cis* is the configuration with the conformation with most equatorial groups



- two equivalent energy conformations for trans
- each has one axial and one equatorial methyl group





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## **Converting Wedge & Dash Drawings of Cyclohexane to Chair-Conformations**

While wedge & dash drawings are convenient, they give little information about conformational relationships.



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### Steps

- 1. Number the wedge & dash drawing.
- 2. Draw a chair-cyclohexane skeleton.
- 3. Number the chair skeleton.
- 4. Draw axial and equatorial positions on the skeleton where subsituents will go.
- 5. Place the first substituent in either position.
- 6. Place second substituent *cis* or *tran* relative to the first.

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## **A Trickier Example**

While wedge & dash drawings are convenient, they give little information about conformational relationships.



### Steps

- 1. Number the wedge & dash drawing.
- 2. Draw a chair-cyclohexane skeleton.
- 3. Number the chair skeleton.
- 4. Draw axial and equatorial positions on the skeleton where subsituents will go.
- 5. Place the first substituent in either position.
- 6. Place second substituent *cis* or *tran* relative to the first.

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**Slide 43** Lecture 6: January 28 **Self Test Question** 

Which is the most stable conformation of *trans*-1,2-dibromocyclohexane?



**The answer is C**. Compound E is not trans-1,2-dibromocyclohexane but trans-1,4dibromocyclohexane, a structural isomer. Structure B is cis-1,2-dibromocyclohexane, a configurational isomer. trans-1,2-Dibromocyclohexane is therefore represented by conformers A, D and C. Conformers A and D are identical and higher in energy than C since they have two substituents in the axial position while C has two groups in equatorial positions. CHEM 232 Organic Chemistry I University of Illinois UIC

## Next Lecture...

Chapter 4: Sections 4.1-4.10