Aldehydes and ketones

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6.1 Introduction

Carbonyl compounds are compounds that contain the carbonyl group, which include aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acid and its derivatives.

They have dipolar moment as oxygen is more electronegative than carbon. This implies that the carbonyl carbon is slightly positively charged and the carbonyl oxygen is slightly negatively charged. This makes the former susceptible to nucleophilic attack while the latter should be susceptible to attack by electrophiles.

In simple nucleophilic addition reaction, where the rate limiting step is the attack by

In simple nucleophilic addition reaction, where the rate limiting step is the attack by nucleophile (Nu'), the rate of the reaction will reduce with electron donating R groups and enhance with electron withdrawing R groups. This is on account of the fact that the positive charge on carbonyl carbon is neutralized progressively on going to the transition state for nucleophilic addition.

Thus it is further expected that the factors which may cause the delocalization of the positive charge on the carbonyl carbon will render the nucleophilic addition slow. Such factors include conjugation with aromatic rings, double bonds and groups containing unshared pair of electrons. As the addition reaction proceeds, the trigonal carbon is

converted to saturated carbon, any increase in steric bulk in the R groups is expected to hinder the rate of the reaction. Thus, carbonyl compounds containing sterically bulky groups tend to react slowly and more reversibly.

6.2 Aldehydes and Ketones

Trivially, aldehydes are usually named after the acids they form on oxidation. The -ic in the name of the acid is then replaced by *aldehyde* to get the name of the aldehyde.

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H \\
H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
H$$
\\

On the other hand, ketones are named by using the names of the groups attached with the carbonyl group and then adding ketone after the name of groups.

In the *IUPAC* system, aldehydes and ketones are named according to the following procedure:

- The name of the parent hydrocarbon (alkane or alkene or alkyne) is determined while counting the carbonyl carbon as a methyl group for aldehydes and as a methylene group for ketones. The substituents are named as it is done for the hydrocarbon while considering the position of aldehyde as 1-position. For both aldehydes and ketones, the naming is done as in alkanes but keeping in mind the priority sequence and rule of lowest locants.
- The name of the alkane is modified to alkanal for an aldehyde. In case of ketones, the name is modified to alkanone. The position of the carbonyl group is denoted as numerical prefix to -one.

 Traditional names are used for a great many aldehydes and ketones which were recognized as substances long before systems of nomenclature were developed:

$$H_2C=CH-C=0$$
 cinnamaldehyde furfural acrolein

 Three of the four bases which comprise DNA contain carbonyl groups (and all four bases are nitrogen heterocycles, which we will discuss later):

 In cases where both the aldehyde and keto functionalities are present in the same molecule, the aldehyde gets preference and the molecule is suffixed with an -al.
 The position of the keto group is denoted by a numerical prefix and is denoted by used of the word oxo.

2-methyl-4-oxopentanal

6.2.1 Common Methods for Preparation Aldehydes and Ketones

6.2.1.1 Oxidation of Alcohols

Ketones may be prepared by the oxidation of secondary alcohols in the presence of acid dichromate (Scheme 1). The reaction probably proceeds via the rate limiting formation of a chromate ester followed by decomposition of the ester to give the products.

$$OH$$
 H_3C
 CH_3
 OH
 $AB_2Cr_2O_7$
 $AB_3CH_3CH_3$
 AB_3C
 CH_3

6.2.1.5 Acylation of Arenes

Friedel Craft acylation may be used to prepare alkyl aryl ketones or diaryl ketones (Scheme 7). In this process, an arene is usually treated with an acid halide or acid anhydride in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst. This reaction is an example of aromatic electrophilic substitution.

$$H_3$$
C H_3 C

Reaction of aldehyde and ketone

Reactions of Aldehydes and Ketones with Amines

 Aldehydes and ketones react with primary amines to form imines, or Schiff bases.

 The mechanism of imine formation involves the nucleophilic addition of the amine to the carbonyl carbon, forming a stable intermediate species called a carbinolamine.

Carbinolamines are compunds with an amine group and a hydroxy group attached to the same carbon.

:Ö—H —C— R—N: H

Carbinolamines are analogous to hemiacetals.

Reaction of Aldehydes/Ketones with 2° Amines

· Aldehydes and ketones react with secondary amines to form enamines.

Enamines have a nitrogen bound to a carbon which is part of a C=C double bond.

- The mechanism involves nucleophilic addition of the amine to the carbonyl to form a carbinolamine.
- Enamines form only if the carbonyl compound has at least one hydrogen on a carbon adjacent to the carbonyl carbon.
- Formation of the alkene may be recognized as an elimination reaction.

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2,4-ditrophenylhydrazine

$$H_3C$$
 NNH
 NO_2

orange coloured precipitate a 2,4-ditrophenylhydrazone

Addition Using Grignard Reagents

 Primary, secondary and tertiary alcohols may be formed in the reactions of aldehydes or ketones with Grignard reagents.

primary alcohols from formaldehyde

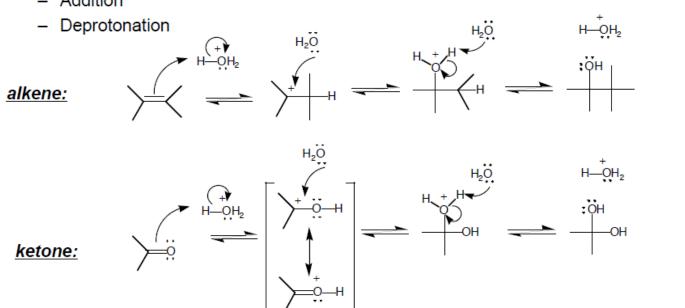
secondary alcohols from aldehydes

tertiary alcohols from ketones

+ CH₃Mgl
$$\rightarrow$$
 step 1 \rightarrow Step 2 \rightarrow + Mg²⁺ \rightarrow + H₂O

Addition Under Acidic Conditions

- Addition of water to carbonyl compounds under acidic conditions is analogous to addition of water to alkenes
- · The reaction occurs in three steps:
 - Protonation
 - Addition



1. oxidation

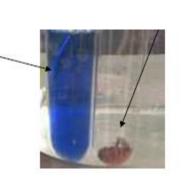
- prim. alcohol → aldehyde → carboxylic acid
- sec. alcohol → ketone → no more oxidized

Tollens' reagent: $[Ag(NH_3)_2]^+ \rightarrow Ag$

Benedict's or Fehling's solution: $Cu^{2+}(I) \rightarrow Cu_2O(s)$

2. reduction

- aldehyde → primary alcohol
- ketone → secondary alcohol



$$\begin{array}{c|c}
O \\
C \\
OH \\
C \\
H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_2OH \\
CH_2OH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_2OH \\
CH_2OH
\end{array}$$

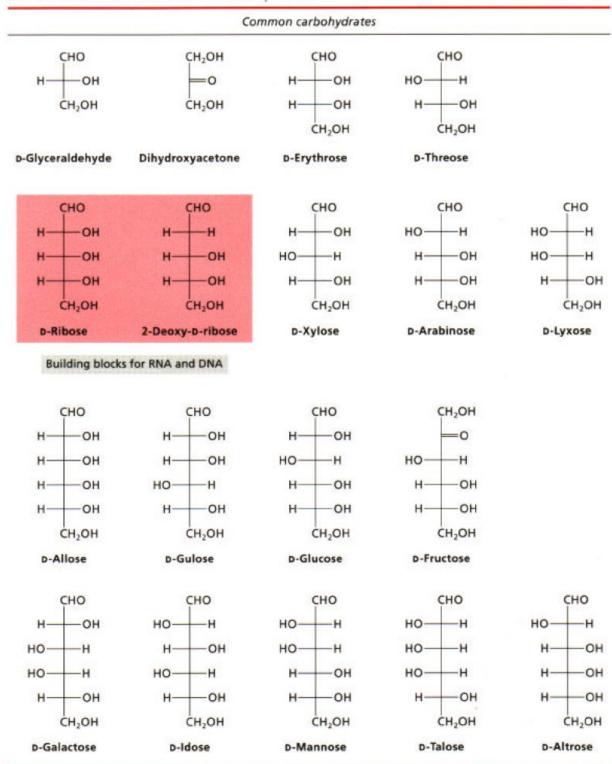
5. Hemiacetals are the key to understanding the carbohydrates ("sugars")

· Ring-chain tautomerism of hemiacetals result in stable rings under special conditions

· Stable rings are commonly seen among sugars

- · Sugars are classified by the number of carbon atoms in the chain
- There are three-carbon, four-carbon, five-carbon and six-carbon sugars

Table 17.1
Structures and names of common carbohydrates.



Sugars may be aldoses (contain an aldehyde) or ketoses (contain a ketone)

 $[\alpha]_D = +18.7^\circ$

 $[\alpha]_D = +112^{\circ}$.

Sugar Chemistry

- · Acetal derivatives are made by addition of alcohol to aldose carbonyl groups
- The alcohol can be from another sugar, producing di- and polysaccharides

Sucrose and Lactose are common disaccharides

HOH HO OH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH
$$\alpha$$
-Lactose

Carbohydrates are polysaccharides:

Cellulose

Polysacharides are hydrolysed to sugars under acid conditions because they are acetals

Reduction of the carbonyl groups of sugars produces alditols which are polyols

Oxidation of sugars leads to: carboxylic acids using aqueous Br₂

Such long-chain carboxylic acids can also cyclise to give cyclic esters (lactones)

With concentrated nitric acid, dicarboxylic acids also called aldaric acids are produced

