Chapter 1: Structure and bonding

Why do we study organic chemistry?

99% of known chemical compounds (over 30 million) are organic compounds.



What is an organic compound?

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All organic compounds contain ______
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Historically, it was thought that organic compounds were fundamentally different from inorganic compounds. They believed organic compounds had a "vital force" that inorganic compounds lacked.



Why carbon?

What's so special about carbon?



Group: ∭A Valence electrons: 4 # Covalent bonds: 4



Ability to form chains:



Organic compounds can be: • formed by nature (natural products)

 $\circ~$ created in a laboratory

(synthetic)



1.2 Orbitals

Quantum mechanics uses mathematical wave equations to describe the behavior of electrons.

 $\sim \checkmark$

<u>Wavefunction</u> or <u>orbital</u>: A solution to a quantum mechanical wave equation that describes a 3dimensional space where an electron is likely to be



(we will be mostly concerned with s and p orbitals) $| orbital holds Ze^{-}$

<u>Shells</u>: groupings of orbitals. Higher shells have orbitals that are larger in size and <u>higher</u> in energy.





Electrons fill into available orbitals using the following rules:

 Aufbau principle: electrons fill in lowest energy orbitals first

(transition)

ls, 2s, 2p, 3s, 3p, 4s, 3d

- Pauli exclusion principle: electrons have an up or down spin - each orbital can hold no more than 2 electrons, one with an up spin and one down
- Hund's rule: if there are equal energy orbitals, electrons fill one per orbital first (with parallel spins) before pairing



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 $N_{a}^{+} \rightarrow \leftarrow C_{l}^{-}$

Covalent bonds: e - <hared</p>

A tetrahedral carbon atom

Why do bonds form?

A regular

tetrahedron

Atoms bonded together in a stable compound have lower energy than individual atoms. Energy is **always** released when a bond forms.

· Ionic bonds: Transfer electrons, then ious attract

good tetrahedron

Bond receding of page into page

Late 1800s: Jacobus van't Hoff (Netherlands) and Joseph Le Bel (France) showed that carbon is tetrahedral

methane

tetravalent

Mid 1800s: August Kekulé (Germany) and Archibald

1.4 Development of chemical bonding theory

Couper (Scotland) independently showed that carbon is

Kekulé suggested carbon can form chains and rings.

4 ve, 4 covalent bonds

Bonds in plane

towards

Bond coming

4...4

out of plane

Line-bond (Kekulé) structures represent a shared pair of electrons (covalent bond) as a line. H - H

Lewis electron-dot structures show valence electrons as

dots that can be shared between atoms in covalent

Structures

bonds.

H··H

group #



Normal number of covalent bonds depends on the number of additional electrons required to reach noblegas configuration. octet rule



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1.5 Valence bond theory

There are two models for describing covalent bonding:

- Valence bond theory
- Molecular orbital theory

<u>Valence bond theory</u> describes covalent bonding as the <u>overlap</u> between two single-electron orbitals so their electrons can be shared.



The new resulting orbital is cylindrically symmetrical. Bonds like this directly between two nuclei are called **sigma (σ) bonds**.

J sigma



Energetics of bond formation

When bonds are formed, energy is <u>released</u>

When two hydrogen atoms combine to make an H₂ molecule, 436 kJ/mol of energy is $\underline{re|eased}$.



Which is more stable, the H_2 molecule or the two H atoms?

The **bond strength** of the H-H bond is 436 kJ/mol - the molecule would need to absorb 436 kJ/mol in order to break the bond.

The nuclei in the H₂ molecule will sit at an optimal **bond length**





Valence bond theory would suggest that each of carbon's orbitals would overlap with a hydrogen atom to make bonds.

So, does CH₄ have 3 of one kind of bond and 1of another?

Actual structure of CH₄ is tetrahedral with four identical bonds:





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tetrahedral bond angle 109.5° (sp³)

Bond angle

109.5°

*sp*³ Hybrid orbitals

In order for carbon to make four equal bond the single s orbital and the three p orbitals must combine or hybridize.



See

http://webs.anokaramsey.edu/aspaas/2061/molecules/C orbitals.htm for interactive 3D atomic and hybrid orbitals of C.

The hybrid orbitals are called sp^3 because one s and 3 p orbitals are combining. The superscript 3 is the number of *p* orbitals that combined.



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<u>Ethane</u>, C₂H₆, contains a carbon-carbon bond. Since carbon makes $\underline{--}_{H}$ bonds, each C has $\underline{-3}_{H}$ H atoms bonded to it.

The carbon-carbon bond is formed by σ overlap of of an sp^3 hybrid orbital from each carbon.



http://webs.anokaramsey.edu/aspaas/2061/molecules/ the 3D structures of all the molecules in this chapter.

Chains of carbons tend to form zig-zag shapes because of the tetrahedral angles of the sp^3 hybrid orbitals.



1.8 sp^2 Hybrid orbitals and the structure of ethylene

<u>Ethylene</u> also has two carbons, but it has two fewer hydrogens than ethane: C_2H_4 .

The only way for carbon to have four valence electrons is if the two carbons are **double bonded** (share four electrons).



The structure of ethylene is much different than ethane:

- Its bond angles are approx 120° (not 109.5°)
- The molecule is **planar** (all of its atoms exist in a single, flat plane it's flat!)

This arrangement can come from the formation of **three** sp^2 hybrid orbitals instead of four, leaving one of the original p orbitals unhybridized.





One hybrid orbital from each carbon overlaps to form a bond just like in ethane, but the unhybridized p orbitals also overlap to form a **<u>pi</u>**(π) **bond** that exists above and below the p hand



C=C double bond

 σ bonding only shares 2 electrons between 2 atoms.

More electrons can be shared by adding π bonds in addition to the σ bond, but that requires leaving one p orbital out of the hybridization for every π bond.

Each additional π bond adds two shared electrons. π bonds can only form by overlapping unhybridized p orbitals.

A **<u>C=C double bond</u>** consists of:

- one σ bond directly between the two nuclei, formed by two overlapping sp² hybrid orbitals
- one π bond above and below the σ bond, formed by two overlapping unhybridized p orbitals

Carbon will be sp^2 hybridized even if it's double bonded to an element other than carbon, like oxygen.

CH₂O, formaldehyde:



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1.9 sp hybrid orbitals and the structure of acetylene

In <u>acetylene</u>, C₂H₂, the carbons are triple bonded.

A triple bond contains:

- One σ bond, from overlapping *sp* hybridized orbitals
- Two π bonds, from two pairs of unhybridized p orbitals.



Structure of acetylene

sp hybrid orbitals are 180° apart since there are only two of them. The two unhybridized p orbitals occupy the other two axes.



Review of carbon bonding:

<u>Bonding</u>	Hybridization	<u># </u>	<u># π</u>	Bond angle
4 single	sp³	4	O	109.5°
2 single, 1 double	Sp ²	3	1	120°
1 single, 1 triple	sp	2	2	180°

1.10 Hybridization of N and O

<u>Nitrogen</u> normally has one lone pair of electrons in order for it to share its 5 valence electrons and make 3 bonds.



If the 3 bonds are single bonds, N is sp^3 hybridized much like carbon, except one sp^3 orbital is occupied by two nonbonding electrons. (Lowe pair)

Oxygen normally has two lone pairs and makes two bonds. If they're single bonds, the oxygen is sp^3 hybridized, and the two lone pairs occupy two of the hybrid orbitals.



Lone pairs take up slightly more space than a σ bond, so they compress the remaining bond angles.

1.11 Molecular orbital theory

Molecular orbital theory is used often when describing the behavior of π bonds, especially when there are multiple π bonds in a molecule. We'll discuss it in detail in 2nd semester.



1.12 Drawing structures

We will **very rarely** draw organic molecules with every bond shown.

<u>**Condensed structures</u>** omit C-H and C-C single bonds, and combine together atoms or groups that are bonded to a common atom.</u>



Line structures

<u>Line structures</u> or <u>skeletal structures</u> show the C-C bonds but not actual C or H atoms.

- C atoms are understood to be at the ends or the intersections of lines
- H's are not shown, and are understood to fill carbon's valence
- Atoms other than C and H are shown (as well as H's bonded to those atoms)

