Chapter 13: Alcohols and Phenols

[Chapter 9 Sections: 9.10; Chapter 13 Sections: 13.1-13.3, 13.9-13.10]

Nomenclature of Alcohols METHYL ALCOHOL METHANOL simple alcohols CH₃OH CH₃CH₂OH THANOL CAN BE PRODUCED BY DRY DISTILLATION OF OOD. FILL A TIST TUBE ONE THEO FULL OF SUMER WOOD, HEAT, LEAD VARIORS THEORICH LSHARED GLASS BE INTO TEST TUBE IN MIXTURE OF WATER AND ICE. 000 **Eddie Sachs** 1927-1964 OH Whisky Brandy Rubbing Vodka OH Tequila Pao-Chu Saké Wine Beer larger alcohols OH HO OH

- find the longest continuous carbon chain that contains the OH group (hydroxyl group)
- number the chain to assign the lowest locant value to the OH
- *OH takes precedence over* C=C *and triple bonds*
- in cyclic alcohols, the OH group is always at the 1-position
- alcohols are designated as 1°, 2° or 3° based on the type of carbon to which the OH group is attached





Joseph Lister 1827-1912

40~60

40~60

40~60

15~40

30~60

14~18

12~16

4-15

OH

Properties of Alcohols

A. Boiling Points



as with alkyl halides, since oxygen is more electronegative than carbon, carbon takes on a partial positive charge and oxygen a partial negative charge leading to a polar covalent bond
similarly, the OH bond is polarized strongly towards the oxygen

• the strongly polarized O–H bond results in a very strong dipole-dipole interaction termed a "hydrogen bond"

• alcohols have higher boiling points than similar weight non-hydrogen bonding compounds as a result of this additional intermolecular "hydrogen bonding" interaction

• the term "hydrogen bond" is a misnomer since it is NOT actually a bond, just a strong interaction (~10-20 kJ/mole interaction versus ~300 kJ/mol for actual bonds)

Explain the following boiling point observations for a series of compounds with similar molecular weights





alcohols are polar compounds and capable of hydrogen bonding
low molecular weight alcohols are soluble (i.e., "miscible") in polar solvents and hydrogen bonding solvents (like water)
higher molecular weight alcohols are more "alkane like" and are rejected by hydrogen bonding solvents (therefore, they are NOT soluble or immiscible)

• "like dissolves like"



hexanol heptanol etc.

Problems: 2–5

Acidity of Alcohols

Summary of Factors that Affect Acidity



• resonance interactions spread charge over multiple atoms

• since delocalization of charge stabilizes charge, resonance-stabilized anions are always more stable than non-resonance stabilized anions

• phenols are more acidic than typical alcohols

Rationalize the following differences in pKa



• electron-withdrawing substituents close to the site of deprotonation serve to stabilize the negative charge and thereby increase acidity

• electron-donating substituents close to the site of deprotonation serve to destabilize the negative charge and thereby decrease acidity

Typical Bases Used





Synthesis of Alcohols

A. $S_N 2$ reactions



• typical bases for deprotonating alcohols are sodium metal (Na°), lithium metal (Li°), sodium hydride (NaH), or sodium amide (NaNH₂)

• hydroxide as a nucleophile will react with methyl, 1° and 2° alkyl halides and tosylates to form alcohols

Problems: 6,7

3° alkyl halides and tosylates cannot react via the SN2 reaction (E2 predominates)
a polar aprotic solvent (DMSO, DMF) are favored for these reactions



• Osmium tetroxide provides the same product as KMnO4 with alkenes, but the OsO_4 can be used in catalytic amounts if tBuOOH is present to re-oxidize the OsO_2 byproduct

Oxidation of Alcohols



Problems: 10,11

Chapter 13 Essential Concepts

- 1. Know the names and uses of common alcohols
- 2. Be able to apply systematic nomenclature to acyclic and cyclic alcohols
- 3. Know how the presence of the hydroxyl group (OH) affects the properties of alcohols (boiling point, solubility, acidity)
- 4. Be able to apply the ARI effects of acidity towards evaluating the acidity of organic compounds.
- 5. Know the reagents commonly used to deprotonate alcohols to form alkoxides
- 6. Know how to form alcohols via SN1 and SN2 reactions on alkyl halides and tosylates, and the three ways (and nuances involved) to hydrate alkenes.
- 7. Know the reagents for diol formation from alkenes and the stereochemical implications of the reaction.
- 8. Know how alcohols are commonly transformed into alkyl halides
- 9. Understand and know the reagents for oxidation of 1° and 2° alcohols and the lack of reactivity of 3° alcohols.