Drawing Organic Structures

UCI Chem 51A Dr. Link

Goals

After this lesson you should be able to:
 Identify different ways of drawing organic molecules and when each should be used.

Traw molecules using condensed structures.

Traw molecules using skeletal structures.

Representations



On a street, what does this shape mean?

Color?

Words?

We use shape, color, and words all to convey the idea of "stop".

Many Methods of Representing Molecules

Learn to think on the molecular level.

Recognize multiple representations of the same molecule.

acetic acid

acidic H acetate ion condensed structures convey order of atoms





Three-Dimensional Representations





Why Do We Need MORE Ways to Draw Structures?

- Ways to represent molecules you already know:
 - Molecular formulas
 - Lewis structures
- Why do we need more ways?

Imagine drawing a large molecule as a full Lewis structure!

Condensed Structures

How to draw:

- Generally only atoms, usually listed in order of how they're bonded
- Leave out nonbonding pairs
- Use parentheses around multiple groups bonded to the same atom.
- When to draw:
 - Use for relatively simple or small molecules where structure can easily be conveyed by order

Condensed Structure Examples







Common Condensed Structure Mistakes

H can't be in the middle!

© C must be tetravalent

 $CH_3CH_3 \neq C-H-H-H-C-H-H-H$

Skeletal Structures

- We can also draw structures and leave out most of the atoms.
- How to draw:
 - Ends and junctions of lines = C atom
 - Leave out H (but remember they are there!)
 - Traw in all atoms other than C or H (heteroatoms). Draw any H bonded to heteroatoms.
- When to draw:
 - ø Big molecules
 - Ø Picture explains more than condensed structure

Skeletal Structure Examples







Common Mistakes

Don't forget that the H-atoms are there!

Wrapping Up

Practice going back and forth between multiple forms

Practice making some models

Practice looking at a formula and imagining the 3-D shape