

Aromaticity - 2



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Recommended Textbook:

Chapter 16 in *Organic Chemistry*, 8th Edition, L. G. Wade, Jr., **2010**, Prentice Hall (Pearson Education)

Deprotonation of Cyclopentadiene



- Cyclopentadiene is acidic because deprotonation will convert it to an aromatic ion
- By deprotonating the sp³ carbon of cyclopentadiene, the electrons in the p orbitals can be delocalized over all five carbon atoms and the compound would be aromatic



Cyclopentadienyl Cation



 Huckel's rule predicts that the cyclopentadienyl cation, with four pi electrons, is antiaromatic; therefore, the cyclopentadienyl cation is not easily formed



cyclopentadienyl cation: four pi electrons, antiaromatic The resonance picture gives a misleading suggestion of stability.

Tropylium Ion



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Cyclooctatetraene Dianion



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Aromaticity – Examples



Problem #1

Explain why each compound or ion should be aromatic, antiaromatic, or nonaromatic.



the [18]annulene dianion

Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

- Composed of two or more fused benzene rings. **Fused rings** share two carbon atoms and the bond between them.
- Naphthalene is the simplest fused aromatic hydrocarbon.



Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

 As the number of fused aromatic rings increases, the resonance energy per ring continues to decrease and the compounds become more reactive.



Larger Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons

- Formed in combustion (tobacco smoke).
- Many are carcinogenic.



pyrene



benzo[a]pyrene





benzo[a]pyrene



7,8-benzo[a]pyrene oxide

H NH₂ arene oxide N: N O: DNA polymer

cytidine (a DNA base)

Graphite

- Planar layered structure.
- Layer of fused benzene rings, bonds: 1.415 Å.
- Only van der Waals forces between layers.
- Conducts electrical current parallel to layers.





graphite

Some New Allotropes

- Fullerenes: 5- and 6-membered rings arranged to form a "soccer ball" structure.
- Nanotubes: half of a C_{60} sphere fused to a cylinder of fused aromatic rings.



buckyball (C_{60})

carbon nanotube

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Applications of Heterocyclic Compounds

- Heterocyclic compounds can be synthesized in many ways
- Many synthetic (as well as natural) heterocyclic compounds are of extreme value as medicinals, agrochemicals, plastics precursors, dyes, photographic chemicals, and so on, and new structures are constantly being sought in research in these areas



Applications of Heterocyclic Compounds

Medicinal chemistry especially is associated intimately with heterocyclic compounds; most of all chemicals used in medicine are based on heterocyclic frameworks



Heterocyclic Aromatic Compounds

Pyridine



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- Pyridine has **six** delocalized electrons in its pi system.
- The two non-bonding electrons on nitrogen are in an sp² orbital, and they do not interact with the pi electrons of the ring.

Pyridine



- Pyridine is **basic**, with a pair non-bonding electrons available to abstract a proton.
- The protonated pyridine (the pyridinium ion) is still aromatic.

Pyrrole

- Pyrrole is a **much weaker base** than pyridine
- This difference is due to the structure of the protonated pyrrole



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Basic or Nonbasic?



Pyrimidine has two basic nitrogens.



Imidazole has one basic nitrogen and one nonbasic.



Only one of purine's nitrogens is not basic.

Other Heterocyclics



Problem #2

Explain why each compound is aromatic, antiaromatic, or nonaromatic.

