Nomenclature Refresh



Physical Properties:

- hydrocarbons alkanes are non-polar H and C have similar electronegativity therefore there is no permanent dipole
- soluble in other organic solvents (like dissolves like)
- immiscible with water (not infinitely soluble in water)

boiling point trend:



- increasing the straight chain length increases the bp. This is due to London forces (hydrophobic forces) between the adjacent molecules.





• n-pentane has high bp due to multiple contacts of straight chains (London Forces)

Conformations

- Different 3-D shapes a molecule can assume by rotation around single bonds.



- Rotation occurs rapidly at room temperature.
- Room temperature = \sim 15-20 kcal/mol of energy available.

Eg) n-butane (C_4H_{10}) – rotation around all bonds still very rapid

- most stable (most populated conformation) is called anti and has groups as far away as possible



The dihedral angle in the above diagram is the angle between the two methyl groups.



Cycloalkane Conformations

Eg) Cyclopropane –bond angle 60°



Eg) Cyclopentane – bond angles nominally 108°



108^o

With envelope conformation there are still bad H-H interactions.

Cyclohexane Conformations - How to draw



Eg) Cyclobutane – bond angle close to 90°



Eg) Cyclohexane – bond angles actually 109° not 120° as in flat hexagon



Another way to draw cyclohexane





Vertical Lines in Axial Position

