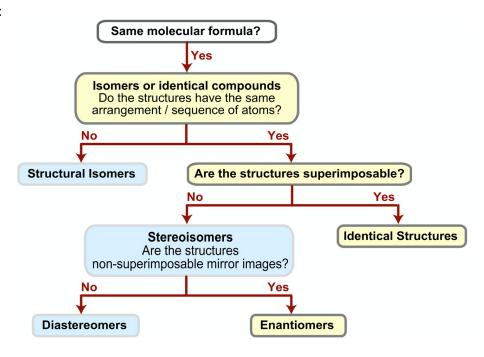
CHEM 261 October 12, 2023

Recall:



A chiral center (or stereogenic center) exists if <u>4 different groups</u> are attached to the carbon in question

If there is <u>plane of symmetry</u> within a molecule, then the molecule is **achiral** (not chiral)

Meso compounds – molecules containing chiral (stereogenic) centers but has a plane of symmetry, therefore they are achiral

Diastereomers have different physical properties (e.g. mp, bp, etc), and can be separated. Stereogenic centers can exist in a molecule but if there is a plane of symmetry, it renders the whole molecule achiral.

Cholesterol - A steroid with 8 stereogenic centers (red circles)

Stereoisomer calculation:

If only some (not all) stereogenic centers are inverted, then a diastereomer of cholesterol is produced.

8 stereocenters identified in cholesterol:

 2^n = number of stereoisomers, where n = number of stereogenic centers

 $2^n = 2^8 = 256$ stereoisomers, which are divided into three kinds below:

1 Cholesterol (the bioactive natural product)

1 enantiomer of cholesterol

254 are diastereomers of cholesterol

Stereochemistry of carbon bearing the hydroxyl is S

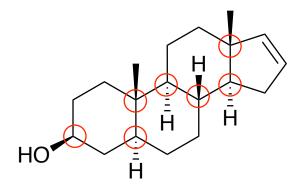
Carbon in brackets represents the carbon-carbon double bond.

Enantiomer of cholesterol:

To make the enantiomer of cholesterol, invert every stereogenic center

Pheromones: from Greek "pherein horman" meaning to carry excitement. Discovered by Adolf Butenandt.

Male Pheromone:



Only about 50 % of the population can smell this compound, which is genetically determined. About half find the smell disgusting while the other half find it tolerable or pleasant.

Some pheromones can be detected by insects at concentrations of 10⁻¹⁷ molar.

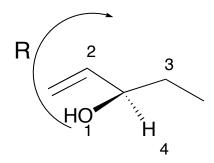
Contain 7 stereogenic centers, circled in red above; ~ 128 stereoisomers

What is the R/S configuration of the carbon attached to OH?

S configuration of stereogenic center

Chiral Centers:

Example: 3-hydroxy-pent-1-ene



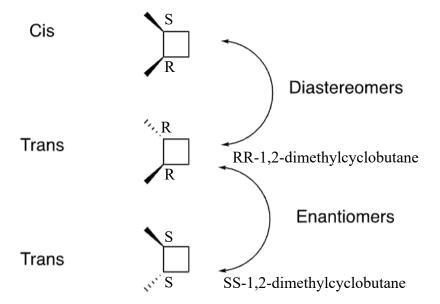
Carbon double bounded to another carbon is equivalent to a carbon bound to two carbons when considering priority

Example:

Example:

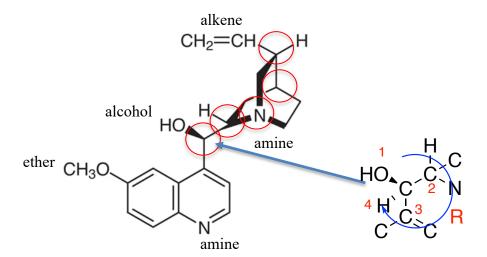
Achiral

meso compound - has stereogenic centers, but has a mirror plane of symmetry, so is achiral



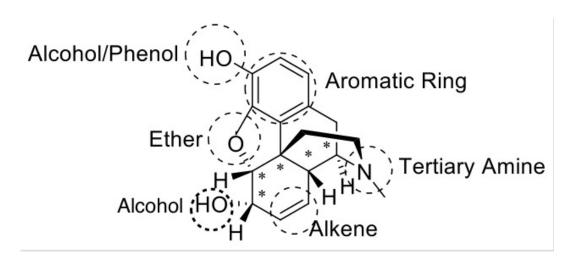
Quinine:

- An anti-malarial agent found in cinchona trees in South America
- Was brought to Spain by Jesuit missionaries in 1632 but was used by native populations long before
- Has 5 chiral centers (labeled in red)
- Here nitrogen is all tied back and is a stereogenic center, but typically it is not
- $2^5 = 32$ stereoisomers
 - o 1 is quinine (itself)
 - o 1 is the enantiomer
 - o 30 are diastereomers



Morphine:

- Is an alkaloid, meaning it contains nitrogen, can be isolated from a plant (or bacteria) and is considered a natural product.
- From Morpheus, Greek god of sleep
- Opium: Sap from the seed pod of opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*)
 - o (poppy sleep-carrying)
- \sim 10% of opium is morphine
- Morphine is used as an analgesic
- Heroin (diacetylmorphine) is even more potent (and more addictive)



- 5 stereogenic centers in morphine (represented by *) Nitrogen NOT a stereogenic centre because the methyl group can move up or down
 - $-2^5 = 32$ stereoisomers possible, where:
 - 1 morphine (itself)
 - 1 enantiomer
 - 30 diastereoisomers

Mithridates VI (135-63 BC)

- Poisoned slaves and attempted to cure them using mixtures of different plants
- Favorite mixture was Theriac, which contained morphine

Examples of Configuration in Stereocenters of Morphine

Configuration at the **ether** stereocenter:

$$\begin{array}{c}
1 & C \\
0 & C \\
4H & C \\
C & C
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
1 & C \\
0 & C \\
C & 3 & C
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
0 & C \\
C & 3 & C
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
0 & C \\
C & C
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
0 & C \\
C & C
\end{array}$$

- Cannot assign 2, 3 at first try

- At the second atoms in the chain, there is a difference. The alcohol carbon is attached to one oxygen, one carbon, and one hydrogen. It has a higher priority than the other carbon which is attached to three carbons.

- Count 1, 2, 3: Counterclockwise

- This center is *R* and not *S* because the lowest priority group (the hydrogen) is pointing toward the front, not to the back.

Configuration at the **alcohol** stereocenter:

- Cannot assign 2, 3 at first try

- At the second atoms in the chain, the eth carbon is attached to one oxygen, one carl and one hydrogen. It has a higher priority the alkene carbon which is attached to two carbons and one hydrogen

- Count 1, 2, 3: Clockwise

- This center is *S* and not *R* because the lo priority group (the hydrogen) is pointing toward the front, not the back

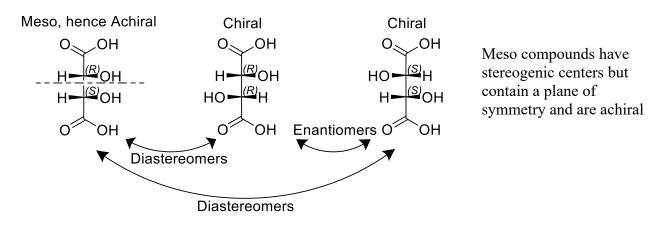
1000x stronger as analgesic and more addictive than morphine

Fischer Projections

A method of drawing chemical structures, where the horizontal components are coming towards you and the vertical ones are going back.

Example #1: Lactic Acid

Example #2: Tartaric acid



Racemic mixtures (or racemate) contain a 1:1 ratio of each enantiomer