

Alcohol

Lecture-2

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Dept. of Biochemistry

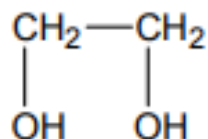
National Institute of Science & Technology

Alcohol



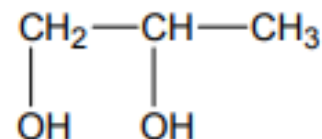
Some Important Alcohols

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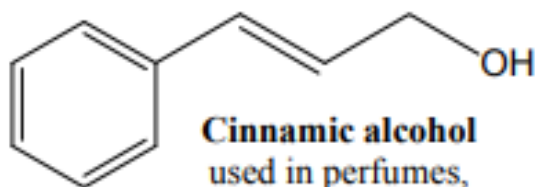
Ethylene glycol

antifreeze — pure ethylene glycol freezes at 11°F, but a 50:50 mixture of ethylene glycol and water freezes at -37°F; airplane de-icer; humectant (keeps other substances moist), used in ball point pen inks



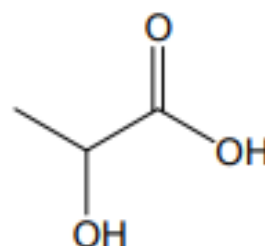
Propylene glycol

antifreeze, moisturizer in lotions and foods



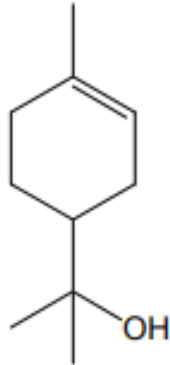
Cinnamic alcohol

used in perfumes, particularly in lilac and other floral scents; flavoring agent, soaps, cosmetics



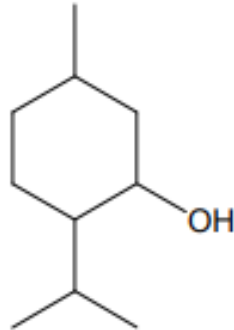
Lactic acid

produced from fermentation of sugars during anaerobic conditions; sour taste, found in sourdough bread, pickles, sauerkraut, sweat, etc.



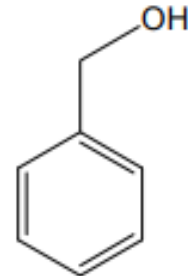
α -Turpineol

pine oil; perfume and bactericide used in domestic cleaners



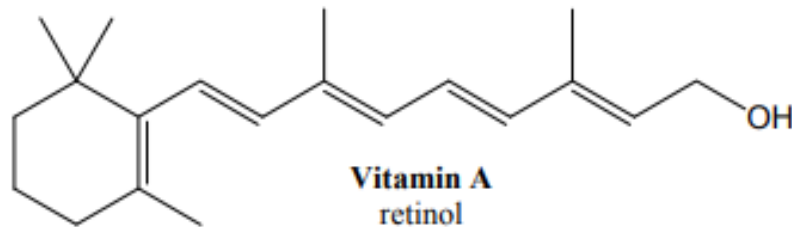
Menthol

oil of mint; has a cooling taste; found in cough drops, shaving lotion, and mentholated tobacco

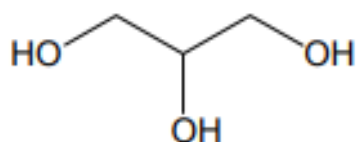


Benzyl alcohol

used in perfumes and flavors, cosmetics, ointments, ball point pen inks

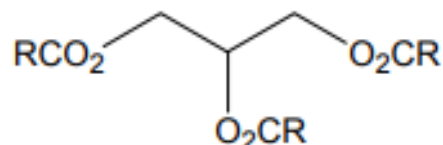


Vitamin A
retinol



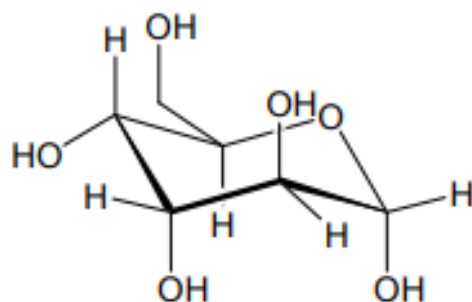
Glycerol / glycerin

softening agent and moisturizer
found in cosmetics and many foods;
used to keep toothpaste moist

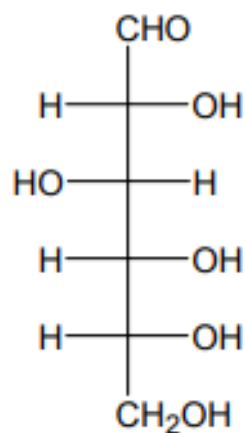


A triglyceride

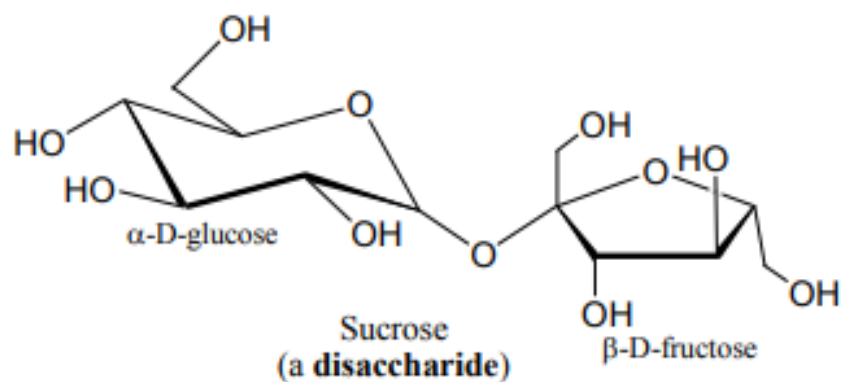
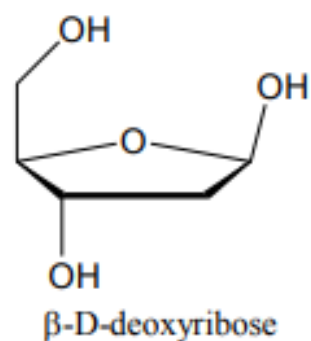
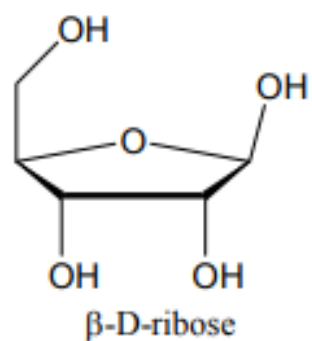
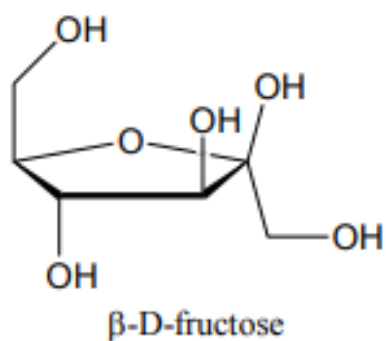
fats and oils



α -D-glucose

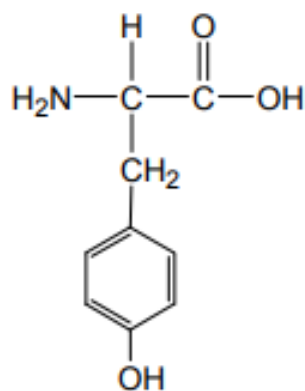


A Few Sugars



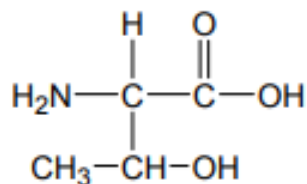


Polyoxyethylene
a *nonionic detergent*; produces
less foam, and is more effective
at lower temperatures than many
other detergents

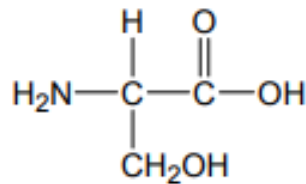


Tyrosine (Tyr)

Amino Acids containing alcohols



Threonine (Thr)

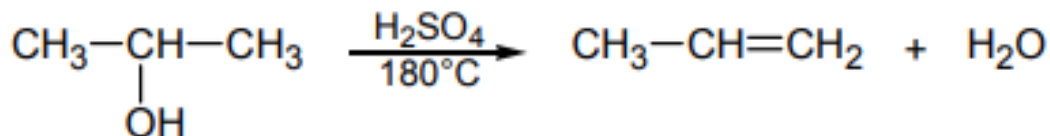
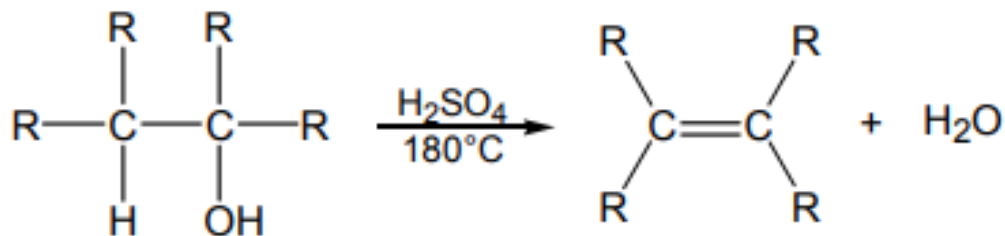


Serine (Ser)

Reactions of Alcohols

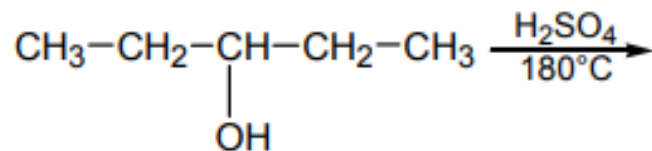
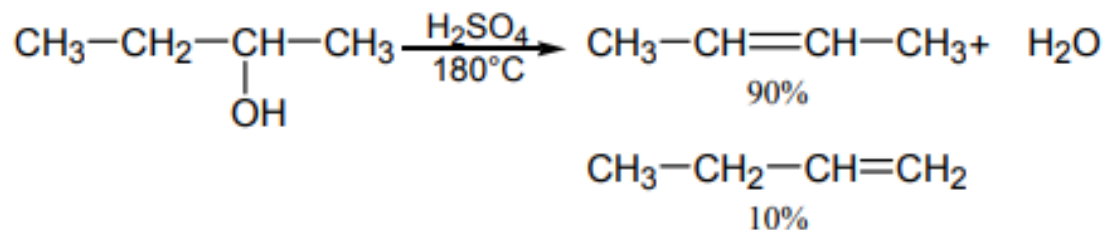
Dehydration of Alcohols to Produce Alkenes :

Heating alcohols in concentrated sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) at 180°C removes the OH group and a H from an adjacent carbon to produce an alkene, with water as a by-product. Since water is “removed” from the alcohol, this reaction is known as a dehydration reaction (or an elimination reaction):



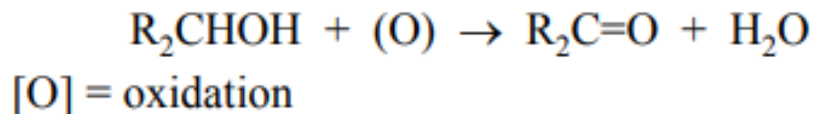
Dehydration of Alcohols to Produce Alkenes :

- If there is more than one possible product of a dehydration reaction, the major product can be predicted from Zaitsev's Rule:
- Zaitsev's Rule — when an alkene is produced in an elimination reaction, the major product is the one with the more highly substituted double bond.



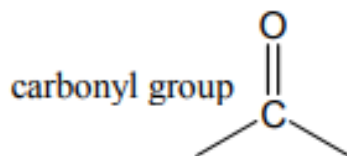
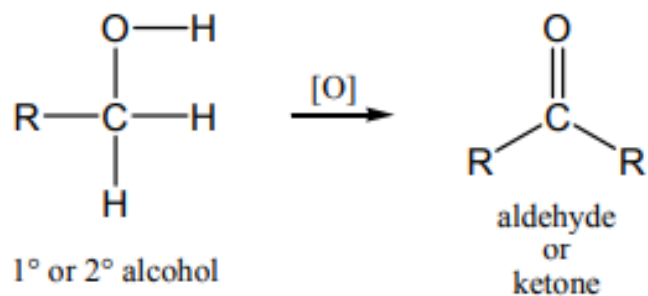
Oxidation of Alcohols to Carbonyl Compounds

- An oxidation reaction occurs when a molecule loses electrons. This is usually manifested as an increase in the number of oxygen atoms or a decrease in the number of hydrogen atoms.
- Some common oxidizing agents include potassium permanganate (KMnO₄), chromic acid (H₂CrO₄), sodium dichromate (Na₂Cr₂O₇), and other Cr⁶⁺ salts.
- Alcohols can be oxidized by removing two H atoms from the molecule; the exact products of the reaction will depend on the type of alcohol.



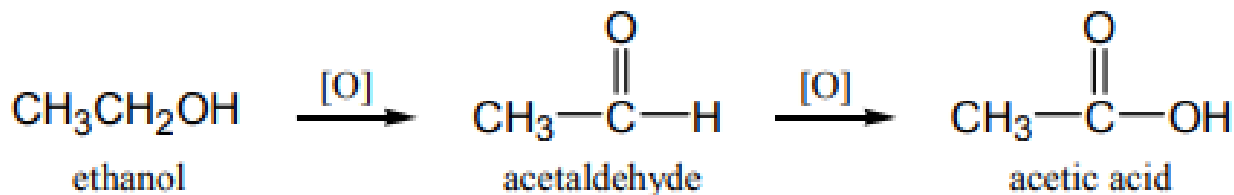
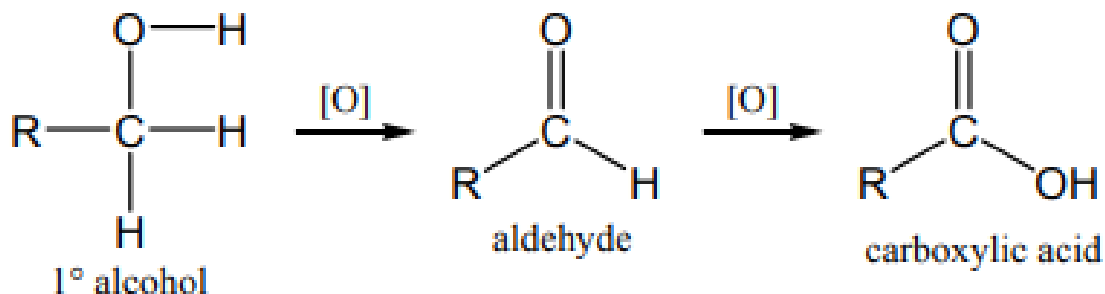
Oxidation of Alcohols to Carbonyl Compounds

Primary or secondary alcohols can be oxidized to produce compounds containing the carbonyl group (a carbon-oxygen double bond, C=O):



Oxidation of 1° Alcohols

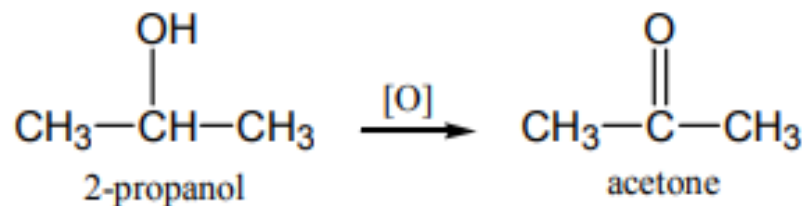
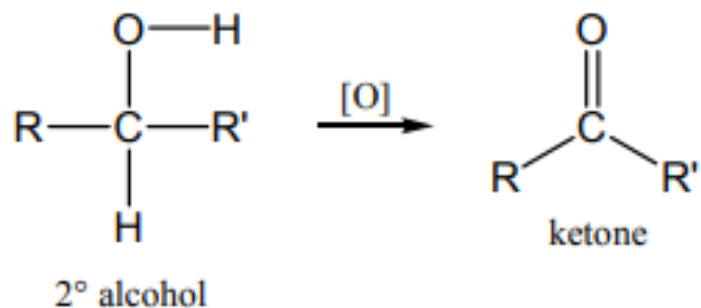
Primary alcohols are oxidized first to aldehydes, but the aldehydes are then usually oxidized into carboxylic acids.



In the body, oxidation of ethanol to acetaldehyde takes place in the liver; the acetaldehyde is further oxidized to acetyl coenzyme A, which can be used to synthesize fat or eventually be oxidized to water and carbon dioxide.

Oxidation of 2° Alcohols

Secondary alcohols are oxidized to **ketones**, which cannot be oxidized any further:



Oxidation of 3° Alcohols

Tertiary alcohols, because there is by definition no hydrogen on the alcoholic carbon, cannot be oxidized:

