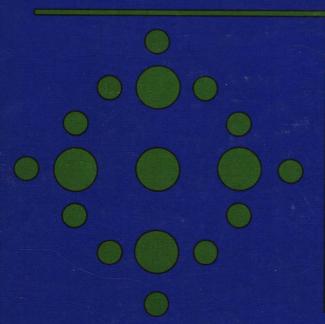
THE CHEMICAL BASIS OF LIFE





General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry for the Health Sciences

Geneva H Schmid Ph D

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PREFACE

I have written this text for use by students preparing for careers in the health sciences, such as nursing, medical laboratory technology, dietetics, health and physical education, and dental hygiene. It also provides the necessary chemistry background for students in community health, home economics, and the liberal arts. No previous course in the sciences is assumed.

The central theme of this text is that living systems are practical examples of the chemical principles that are discovered in the chemical laboratory. To emphasize this point, examples from living systems are used extensively to illustrate basic chemical principles. For example, breathing is presented as a practical example of the gas laws. Acid-base balance in the blood is used as an example of the basic principles of acid-base chemistry. Metabolic diseases and the action of drugs, vitamins, and hormones are discussed as examples of chemical reactions of organic compounds. A variety of other examples related to living systems are given throughout the text, in the examples, and in the exercises.

The topics are arranged in the following order. The first ten chapters cover the basic principles of general chemistry. The next nine chapters present the major functional groups of organic compounds; each of these nine chapters contains a section on naming, physical properties, and biologically important chemical reactions. Several chapters include optional sections (which can be omitted without loss of continuity) on the mechanisms of organic reactions.

Once the biologically important reactions of organic compounds con-

taining only one functional group have been covered, polyfunctional compounds are introduced in Chapter 20. This prepares the student for the following four chapters, which introduce the major types of biologically important compounds: carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and enzymes. Finally, these compounds and the chemical reactions learned in Chapters 11 through 19 are brought together and are applied to metabolism in the last five chapters. Extensive cross-references in these chapters emphasize the important point that most of the chemical reactions of living systems are examples of the reactions of the major functional groups of organic compounds.

Numerous study aids are provided for the student. New terms are italicized when they are first defined. These terms and their definitions, new concepts, any new chemical reactions, and a summary are given at the end of each chapter. Exercises are placed at appropriate places in the text and at the end of each chapter. The answers to all in-chapter exercises appear at the back of the book. Frequent cross-references throughout the text help the student tie together related concepts and facts found in different sections of the text. The Appendix provides a review of basic mathematics.

A study guide is available for this text. It includes detailed solutions to the exercises in the text as well as additional exercises. An accompanying laboratory manual and instructor's reference manual are also available.

G. H. S.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In writing this book I have benefited greatly from the comments and suggestions of many colleagues and students. I wish to express my appreciation to Sara Chambers, Professor M. Bersohn, and Professor R. Kluger for detailed and thoughtful reviews of various sections of the book. Special thanks are due Snezana Dalipi and Wai-Fun Chan for their tireless efforts through the various stages of proofreading and to Claudette Garipy and Ann Young for their excellent work in typing the manuscript. I have been aided by the many detailed suggestions received from reviewers: Geoffrey Davies, Northeastern University; Sam Milosevich, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee; Richard G. Pflanzer, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis; and Marlene Spero, Loretto Heights College.

I am especially grateful to Coleen Dean for her constructive criticism, invaluable advice, and moral support.

Converting the author's manuscript into the final textbook required the dedication of a number of people at Little, Brown and Company. I am indebted to editors Ann West and Julie Stillman for their continued enthusiasm, advice, and attention to detail, to Clif Gaskill for expertly solving the multitude of production problems, and to Katharine Tsioulcas, Janet Olsen, Priscilla Hurdle, and Nancy Mimeles Carey for their outstanding copyediting.

G. H. S.

xxiii

TO THE STUDENT

This text is written to help you learn chemistry. It will help you by presenting chemistry in a clear, logical, and orderly way. The sections within each chapter are organized so that one subject leads smoothly and logically to another. Your progress in learning chemistry depends in large part on your mastering each concept or principle as it is presented. To help you do this, a number of study aids are provided.

New terms are italicized when they are first defined. In addition, all new terms and their definitions are given at the end of each chapter, together with a list of the new concepts and any new chemical reactions. Each chapter has a summary at the end. Read the chapter summary after you have finished studying the chapter to be sure you have understood all the essential points. You may also find it helpful to read the summary to get an overview before studying a chapter.

The most important study aids in the text are the exercises. There are exercises within many sections of every chapter. Do all the exercises pertaining to a section to test your understanding of the material before going on to the next section. Additional exercises are given at the end of each chapter. Solve these as well. The best way to understand and learn to apply a chemical principle is to solve a number of exercises that require the application of that chemical principle. It is not sufficient simply to follow an example and its worked-out solution in the text or in class. You must be able to solve the exercise—in the chapter and at the end of the chapter—yourself. Only then can you be confident of your knowledge of the material in that chapter. The answers to the in-chapter exercises are given at the end of the text. Detailed

solutions to all the exercises are given in the study guide, which offers additional exercises as well.

Anyone learning a new subject finds it difficult to see interrelationships and general principles. The text contains frequent cross-references to help you tie together related concepts and facts found in different sections of the text. The Appendix presents a brief mathematical review. If you have any doubts about your ability to handle the mathematical skills needed in this text, you should read the Appendix and do the Appendix exercises. The extensive index at the end of the book should also prove useful.

In this text I have tried to help you understand chemistry and show you the importance of chemistry to all living systems. How successful I have been will be determined by you, the student who uses this text. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

G. H. S.

CONTENTS

Prefac	e xxi	
Ackno	wledgmen	its xxiii
To the	e Student	xxv

					_
1	CHEMISTRY,	METHODS,	AND	MEASUREMENTS	1

- 1.1 Chemistry and Life 1
- 1.2 The Scientific Method 2
- 1.3 The International System of Units (SI) 4
- 1.4 Converting Systems of Units 7
- 1.5 Temperature 9
- 1.6 Density and Specific Gravity 12
- 1.7 Summary 16

Review of Terms and Concepts 16

Exercises 17

2 MATTER AND ENERGY 19

- 2.1 Properties of Matter 19
- 2.2 Classifying Matter 20
- 2.3 Composition of Matter 21

2.4	States of Matter 22
2.5	Physical and Chemical Changes 22
2.6	Energy and Its Transfer 23
2.7	Energy and Life 25
2.8	Conservation of Mass-Energy 26
2.9	Units of Energy 27
2.10	
2.11	Summary 30
Revie	ew of Terms and Concepts 31
	ises 32
ATO	MS 35
3.1	Elements: Their Names and Symbols 35
3.2	Periodic Table 36
3.3	Parts of Atoms 39
3.4	Putting the Parts Together 40
3.5	Atomic Numbers 40
3.6	Isotopes 41
3.7	Mass Numbers and Relative Atomic Masses 42
3.8	Electron Arrangement 45
3.9	Ionization Energy, Electron Affinity, and Electronegativity: Three Periodic Properties of Atoms 51
3.10	Summary 55
Revie	w of Terms and Concepts 56
Exerc	ises 57
	IOACTIVITY AND NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY 59
	Types of Radiation 60
4.2	Ionizing Radiation 61
4.3	Detecting Ionizing Radiation 62
4.4	Nuclear Reactions 63
4.5	Half-Life 65
4.6	Radiation Dosages 66

	4.7	Transmutation 68
	4.8	Medical Uses of Radioactive Isotopes 70
	4.9	Energy and Nuclear Reactions 71
	4.10	Summary 76
	Revio	ew of Terms and Concepts 77
	Exerc	cises 79
5	CHE	MICAL BONDS 81
	5.1	Octet Rule 81
	5.2	Ions 82
	5.3	Ionic Bonds 85
	5.4	Structure, Properties, and Names of Ionic Compounds 88
	5.5	Covalent Bonds 90
	5.6	Polar Covalent Bonds 93
	5.7	Bonding Capacities of Atoms 94
	5.8	Polyatomic Ions 96
	5.9	Resonance Theory 99
	5.10	Summary 101
	Revie	w of Terms and Concepts 102
	Exerc	ises 103
6		ERMOLECULAR ATTRACTIONS STATES OF MATTER 105
	6.1	The Shapes of Water, Ammonia, and Methane Molecules 105
	6.2	Polar Molecules 107
	6.3	Intermolecular Attractions 109
	6.4	Solids 111
	6.5	Liquids 113
	6.6	Gases 116
	6.7	Units of Pressure 116
	6.8	Ideal Gas Laws 119
	6.9	Gas Laws and Breathing 129

	6.10	Summary 131	
	Review of Terms and Concepts 132		
	Exerc	-	
7	CHE	MICAL REACTIONS 135	
	7.1	Chemical Formulas 135	
	7.2	Chemical Equations 138	
	7.3	Gram-Molecular Weights and Moles 142	
	7.4	Weight Relations in Chemical Reactions 147	
	7.5	Energy and Chemical Reactions 151	
	7.6	Oxidation-Reduction Reactions 154	
	7.7	Catalysis 160	
	7.8	Summary 161	
	Revie	ew of Terms and Concepts 161	
	Exerc	tises 163	
8	AQU	EOUS SOLUTIONS AND COLLOIDS 165	
	8.1	Types of Solutions 165	
	8.2	Solubility 166	
	8.3	Concentrations of Solutions 168	
	8.4	Electrolytes and Nonelectrolytes 179	
	8.5	Arrhenius' Theory of Electrolytes 180	
	8.6	Osmosis and Osmotic Pressure 183	
	8.7	Colloids and Colloidal Dispersions 187	
	8.8	Dialysis and Living Systems 189	
	8.9	Summary 190	
	Revie	ew of Terms and Concepts 191	
	Exerc	rises 192	
9	CHE	MICAL REACTIONS IN AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS 195	
	9.1	Solubilities of Salts in Water 195	
	9.2	Ionic Reactions 197	

	9.3	Ions in Living Systems 200
	9.4	Chemical Equilibrium 201
	9.5	The Le Châtelier Principle 204
	9.6	Ionization of Water 207
	9.7	Introduction to Acids and Bases 210
	9.8	Neutralization 214
	9.9	Reactions of Acids and Bases with Carbonic Acid and Its Salts 216
	9.10	Aqueous Solutions of Salts 218
	9.11	Summary 220
	Revie	w of Terms and Concepts 221
	Exerci	ises 222
10	ACID	OS AND BASES 225
	10.1	The pH Scale 225
	10.2	Measuring pH 230
	10.3	Acid-Base Titrations 231
	10.4	Normality 234
	10.5	Brønsted Acids and Bases 240
	10.6	Ionization Constants of Acids and Bases 245
	10.7	Buffer Solutions 249
	10.8	Acid-Base Balance in Blood 252
	10.9	Summary 254
	Review	w of Terms and Concepts 255
	Exerci	ses 257
11		NES AND CYCLOALKANES: NTRODUCTION TO ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 259
	11.1	Structural Formulas 260
	11.2	Structural Isomers 262
	11.3	Functional Groups 263
	11.4	Petroleum 267

	11.5	Alkanes 268
	11.6	Naming Alkanes and Cycloalkanes 270
	11.7	Physical Properties 277
	11.8	Three-Dimensional Structure of Alkanes 278
	11.9	Conformational Isomers 279
	11.10	Three-Dimensional Structure of Cycloalkanes 282
	11.11	Chemical Reactions 285
	11.12	Summary 287
	Reviev	v of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 288
	Exercis	
12	ALKE	NES AND ALKYNES 293
	12.1	Naming Alkenes 293
	12.2	Structure of Alkenes and Geometric Isomers 296
	12.3	Importance of Geometric Isomers in Living Systems 298
	12.4	Addition Reactions of Alkenes 300
	12.5	Reaction Mechanisms: How Reactions Occur 305
	12.6	Polymerization: One Alkene Adding to Another 308
	12.7	Polymers Formed by Living Systems 310
	12.8	Oxidations of Carbon-Carbon Double Bonds 312
	12.9	Alkynes 315
	12.10	Summary 318
	Review	of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 319
	Exercis	ses 322
13	ARON	MATIC COMPOUNDS 325
	13.1	Structure of Benzene 326
	13.2	Naming Aromatic Compounds 328
	13.3	Substitution Reactions of Aromatic Compounds 333
	13.4	Mechanism of Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution Reactions 338
	13.5	Other Reactions of Aromatic Compounds 342

	13.6	Aromatic Compounds in Nature 344
	13.7	Summary 351
	Review	v of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 352
	Exercis	ses 354
14	STERI	EOISOMERS OF CARBON COMPOUNDS 357
	14.1	Chiral Compounds 357
	14.2	Recognizing Chiral Compounds 361
	14.3	Optical Activity 362
	14.4	Difference between Chirality and Optical Activity 365
	14.5	Naming Stereoisomers 367
	14.6	Diastereomers 369
	14.7	Meso Stereoisomers 370
	14.8	Resolution of Racemic Mixtures 372
	14.9	Chiral Compounds and Living Systems 374
	14.10	Summary 376
	Review	of Terms and Concepts 376
	Exercis	ses 377
15	ORGA	NIC HALIDES 379
	15.1	Occurrence 379
	15.2	Classifying Organic Halides 384
	15.3	Naming Alkyl Halides 384
	15.4	Physical Properties 387
	15.5	Substitution Reactions of Alkyl Halides 388
	15.6	Elimination Reactions of Alkyl Halides 391
	15.7	How Nucleophilic Substitution Reactions Occur 394
	15.8	How Elimination Reactions Occur 397
	15.9	Substitution and Elimination Reactions in Living Systems 398
	15.10	Organometallic Compounds 401

	15.11	Substitution Reactions of Aryl and Vinyl Halides 402
	15.12	Summary 403
	Revie	w of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 404
	Exerc	ises 406
16	ALCC	OHOLS, PHENOLS, ETHERS, AND THIOLS 409
	16.1	Classifying and Naming Alcohols 409
	16.2	Physical Properties 413
	16.3	Preparing Alcohols 414
	16.4	Reactions of Alcohols 417
	16.5	Oxidation of Alcohols in Living Systems 421
	16.6	Phenols 422
	16.7	Ethers 426
	16.8	Thiols 429
	16.9	Summary 431
	Review of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 432	
	Exerci	ises 435
17	AMIN	NES 437
	17.1	Classifying and Naming Amines 437
	17.2	Physical Properties 440
	17.3	Substituted Ammonium Ions 441
	17.4	Preparing Amines 444
	17.5	Preparing Amines in Living Systems 447
	17.6	Reactions of Amines 448
	17.7	Oxidative Dealkylation of Amines 455
	17.8	Summary 456
	Reviev	w of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 457
	Exerci	
18	CARB	OXYLIC ACIDS AND THEIR DERIVATIVES 463
	18.1	Naming Carboxylic Acids 465
	18.2	Physical Properties 470

	18.3	Preparing Carboxylic Acids 471
	18.4	Acidity of Carboxylic Acids 473
	18.5	Esters 475
	18.6	Thioesters 481
	18.7	Preparation and Hydrolysis of Esters in Living Systems 482
	18.8	Amides 484
	18.9	Carboxylic Acid Anhydrides 486
	18.10	Acyl Transfer Reactions 487
	18.11	Mechanism of Reactions of Carboxylic Acids and Their Derivatives 488
	18.12	Phosphoric Acid and Its Derivatives 493
	18.13	Summary 495
	Review	v of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 496
	Exercis	ses 500
19	ALDE	HYDES AND KETONES 503
	19.1	Naming Aldehydes and Ketones 504
	19.2	Physical Properties 508
	19.3	Preparing Aldehydes and Ketones 508
	19.4	Tests for Aldehydes 510
	19.5	Addition Reactions of Aldehydes and Ketones 511
	19.6	Addition Reactions of Aldehydes and Ketones in Living Systems 518
	19.7	Mechanism of Addition Reactions of Aldehydes and Ketones 520
	19.8	Condensation Reactions 523
	19.9	Condensation Reactions in Living Systems 526
	19.10	Acidity of α Hydrogens 528
	19.11	Mechanism of Condensation Reactions 529
	19.12	Summary 531

Review of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 532

Exercises 535

20	REAG	REACTIONS OF POLYFUNCTIONAL COMPOUNDS 539			
	20.1	Naming Polyfunctional Compounds 540			
	20.2	The β -Dicarbonyl Functional Group 544			
	20.3	The β -Dicarbonyl Functional Group in Living Systems 550			
	20.4	Intramolecular Reactions 552			
	20.5	Intermolecular Reactions: Polymer Formation 557			
	20.6	Predicting the Reactions of Polyfunctional Compounds 561			
	20.7	Summary 567			
	Revie	w of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 567			
	Exerc	ises 570			
21	CARI	BOHYDRATES 573			
	21.1	Classifying Carbohydrates 574			
	21.2	The Three-Dimensional Structure of Monosaccharides 575			
	21.3	The Cyclic Structure of Monosaccharides 581			
	21.4	Mutarotation 585			
	21.5	Reactions of Monosaccharides 586			
	21.6	Disaccharides 591			
	21.7	Polysaccharides 596			
	21.8	Summary 598			
	Revie	w of Terms, Concepts, and Reactions 599			
	Exercises 602				
22	LIPID	OS 605			
	22.1	Fatty Acids 606			
	22.2	Waxes 607			
	22.3	Triacylglycerols (Triglycerides) 609			
	22.4	Phosphoglycerides 614			
	22.5	Sphingolipids 616			
	22.6	Biological Membranes 618			
	22.7	Soaps 621			