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DEPT: NURSING

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CHEM 102 ASSIGNMEN

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IUPAC NAMES FOR THE FOLLOWING COMPOUNDS

I, HCOOH: METHANOIC ACID

ii, HOOCCH2CH2CH2COOH: PETAN-1,5-DIOIC ACID

iii, CH3CH2CH2COOH: BUTANOIC ACID

iv, HO₂C-CO₂H: ETHANEDIOIC ACID

V, CH₃CH=CHCH₂CH₂COOH: HEX-4-ENE OIC ACID

VI, CH₃[CH₂]₄COOH: HEXANOIC ACID

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PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

Physical appearances

All simple aliphatic carboxylic acids up to C_{10} are liquids at room temperature. Most other carboxylic acids are solid at room temperature although anhydrous carboxylic acid (acetic acid) also known as glacial ethanoic acid freezes to an ice-like solid below the room temperature.

Boiling points

Boiling point increases with increasing relative molecular mass. Aromatic carboxylic acids are crystalline solids and have higher melting points than their aliphatic counterparts of comparable relative molecular mass.

Solubility

Lower molecular mass carboxylic acids with up to four carbon atoms in their molecules are soluble in water; this largely due to their ability to form hydrogen bonds with water molecules. The water solubility of the acids decreases as the relative molecular mass increases because the structure becomes relatively more hydrocarbon in nature and hence covalent. All carboxylic acids are soluble in organic solvents.

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INDUSTRIAL PREPARATIONS

1. From Carbon(II) oxide

Methanoic acid (formic acid) is manufactured by adding carbon(II)oxide under pressure to hot aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide. The free carboxylic acid is liberated by careful reaction with tetraoxosulphate (vi) acid (H₂SO₄)

CO
$$\longrightarrow$$
 HCOONa \longrightarrow HCOOH + NaHSO₄

2. From ethanal

Ethanoic acid is obtained commercially by the liquid phase air-oxidation of 5% solution of ethanal to ethanoic acid using manganite (II) ethanoate catalyst.

Ethanal itself is obtained from ethylene

$$HC = CH \quad \underline{\text{dil. H}_2SO_4/\text{Hg}SO_4} > CH_3CHO \quad \underline{O_2/(CH_3COO)_2Mn} \quad CH_3COOH$$

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SYNTHETIC PREPARATIONS OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

There are a lot of ways to prepare the carboxylic acid synthetically, but I will just state two briefly with the respective equations.

Oxidation of primary alcohols and aldehydes

Oxidation of primary alcohols and aldehydes can be used to prepare carboxylic acids using the usual oxidizing agents (i.e K₂Cr₂O₇ or KMnO₄) in acidic solution

 RCH_2OH [O], excess acid/KMnO₄ RCHO ____[O] RCOOH

Hydrolysis of nitriles (cyanides) or esters

$$RCN + 2H_2O \longrightarrow H^+ \rightarrow RCOOH + NH_4^+$$

(R=alkyl or aryl radical)

RCOOR'
$$H_2O/H^+$$
 reflux RCOOH + ROH

$$C_6H_5CH_2CN + 2H_2O \xrightarrow{H^+} C_6H_5CH_2COOH + NH_4^+$$

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Carboxylic acids are very difficult to reduce by catalytic hydrogenation or dissolving metals but lithium tetrahydridoaluminate (III) and diborane form intermediate compounds with the acids which liberate the alcohol on hydrolysis

$$4RCOOH + 3LiAlH_4 \qquad \qquad (C_2H_5)_2O \qquad (RCH_2O)_4AlLi + 2LiAlO_2 + 4H_2 \\ 4H_2O \\ 4RCH_2OH + Al(OH)_3 + LiOH$$

$$CH_3CH_2CH_2COOH \qquad \qquad LiAlH_4 \qquad CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2OH$$
 Butanoic acid
$$Butanol$$

Decarboxylation

This involves removal of the carboxyl group from the acid to give a hydrocarbon or its derivative.

Thermal decarboxylation

Carboxylic acids with a strong electron attracting group eg –COOH, -CN,NO₂, C=O decarboxylate readily on heating to 100-150°C while others decarboxylate when their salts are heated with soda lime

Kolbe synthesis

 $2CH_3CH_2COONa + 2H_2O$ electrolysis/aq. CH_3OH $CH_3(CH_2)_2CH_3 + CO_{2 (anode)} + 2NaOH + H_{2 (cathode)}$

Esterification

In the presence of strong acid catalyst, carboxylic acids react with alcohols to form esters

 $CH_3CH_2COOH + CH_3CH_2CH_2OH \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad } CH_3CH_2CH_2COO \ CH_2CH_2CH_3 + \\ H_2O.$