



تفريغ المحاضرة

السادسة

دكتور جلال زهرة

نور سلامة

(2-8): CONFORMATIONS OF ALKANES

A sample of molecule like ethane, for example, can have an infinite number of shapes as a consequence of *rotating* one carbon atom and its attached hydrogen with respect to the other carbon atom (fixed atom). These arrangements are called *conformations*.

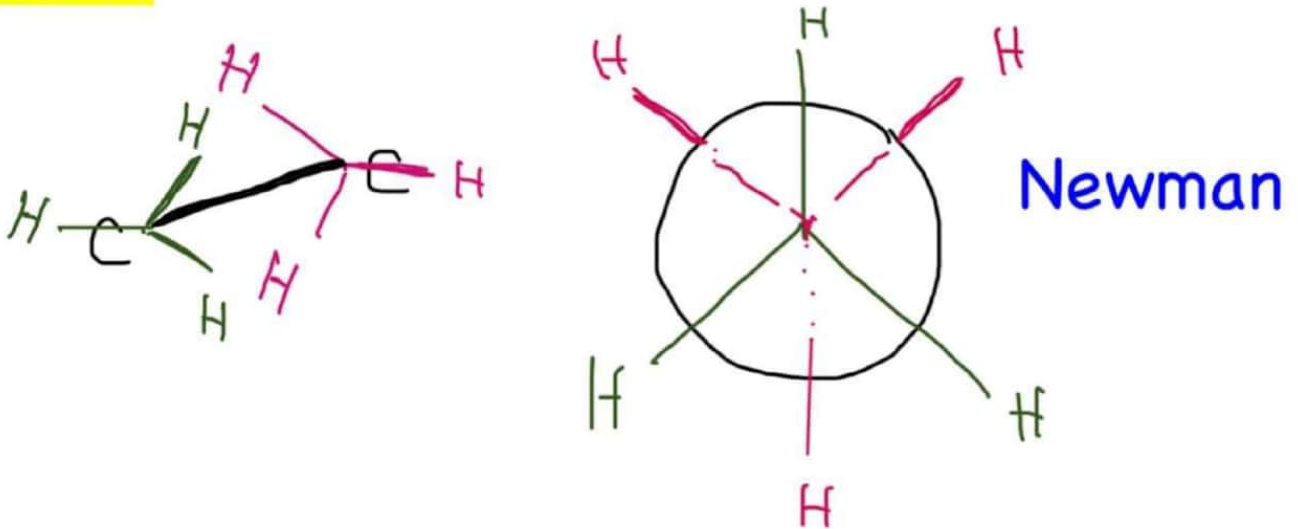
NOTE: different shapes of the same molecule that are interconvertible by rotation around a single bond are called **CONFORMERS OR ROTAMERS**.

NOTE: conformers are **STEREOMERS**, isomers with the same atom connectivity but different spatial arrangements of atoms.

there are two common conformations

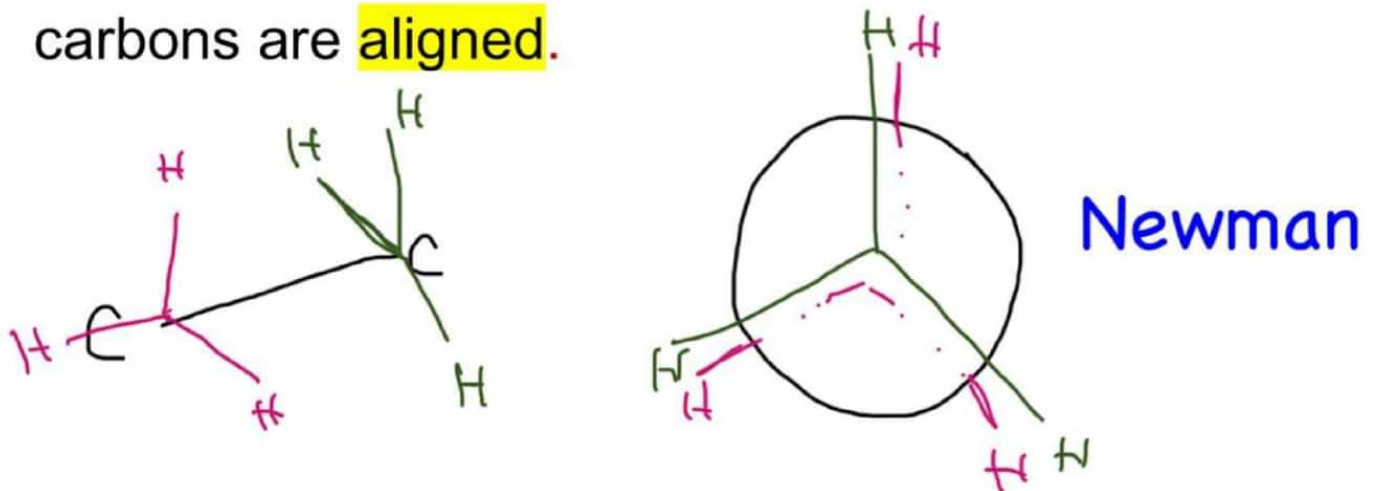
(1) STAGGERED

For ethane: each C-H bond in one carbon **bisects** an H-C-H on the other carbon.



(2) ECLIPSED

For ethane: C-H bonds on the front and back carbons are **aligned**.



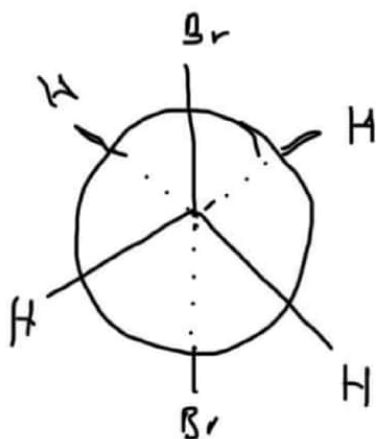
****Both shapes are not equally stable.
The **staggered** is the most stable (low potential energy), while the **eclipsed** is the least stable (high potential energy).

draw the most and the least stable conformers for 1,2-dibromoethane

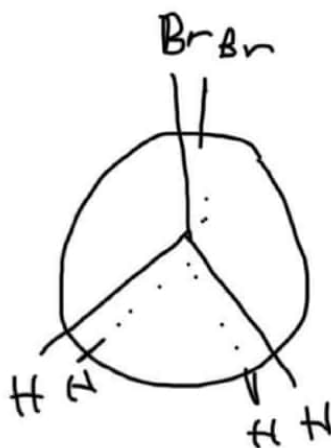
9-2

Page(85)

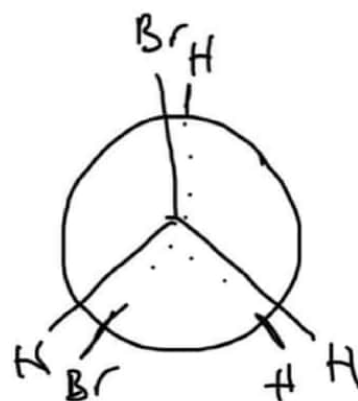
حل



the most stable conformer



the least stable conformer



the most stable(eclipsed)conformer

NOTES:

- (1) by rotating one carbon 60 degree with respect to the other, we can interconvert staggered and eclipsed conformations.
- (2) such rotation about single bond occurs easily.
- (3) there is enough energy available at room temperature for the staggered and eclipsed conformers of ethane to interconvert rapidly.
- (4) the most important thing to remember about conformers is that they are just different forms of a single molecule that can be interconvert by rotational motion about single(sigma) bonds.