MODULE IV

STEREOCHEMISTRY AND POLYMER CHEMISTRY

Kavitha S

R and S Configuration for Optical Isomers

- This nomenclature is applied to chiral molecules based on a priority sequence assigned to groups around an asymmetric carbon atom.
 The rules are:
- 1. The directly attached atom having highest atomic number has highest priority.
- 2. When two directly attached atoms are same then look for the atomic number of the next linked atom.
- 3. For double bonds like –C=O, -C=C are treated as two oxygen attachment and two carbon attachment respectively to first atom.
- 4. The molecule is viewed such that the lowest priority group is away from us and look for prioriy order, if the sequence is clockwise the notation ℝ is given, if it is anticlockwise notation S is given.
- 5. If lowest priority group given in a structure is towards us take opposite rotation of what obtained from front side.



2. Assign R,S notation to Fischer projection formula for two chiral carbon molecules





Carbon 2 H-atom is on vertical line Anticlockwise S notation Carbon 3 H-atom is on vertical line Anticlockwise S notation

2(S) 3(S) – dihydroxybutanoic acid







Carbon 2 H-atom is on horizontal line Anticlockwise from front, so clockwise from back Notation R Carbon 3 H-atom is on horizontal line Anticlockwise from front, so clockwise from back Notation R

2(R), 3(R) – dihydroxy butanoic acid



Optical Isomerism in Substituted Rings



The different spacial arrangement of atoms that results from the rotation of groups about a c-c bond is called conformational isomers or rotational isomers. The energy difference between two extreme conformations is very small, thus rapid interconversions takes place at room temperature. Low energy conformer is more populated than high energy conformer at room temperature.



CONFORMATIONS OF BUTANE

CH₃-CH₂-CH₂-CH₃

