

CONFORMATIONAL ANALYSIS - I

Unit-3

Conformational Analysis - I

The different spatial arrangement of atoms in a molecule which are readily interconvertible by rotations about single bonds are called conformations. If the energy barrier for conversion of different spatial arrangement is  $> 100$  kJ/mol then it is configurational isomers. If it is less than  $60$  kJ/mol it is said to be conformational isomers.

→ Conformation of ethane - Jagadamba sing, Erode, Chandras

The angle b/w the atoms attached to the front and rear carbon is called the torsional angle (dihedral angle). Staggered conformation has  $60^\circ$  torsional angle, eclipsed conformation has  $0^\circ$  torsional angle. In staggered conformation, the distance b/w H nuclei is  $2.55 \text{ \AA}$ , in eclipsed it is still lower i.e.  $2.29 \text{ \AA}$ . The rotational energy barrier is just  $12.6$  kJ/mol at  $298$  K. Thus individual conformers cannot be isolated. The rotation about the Carbon-Carbon single bond in ethane neither completely free nor ( $2.6$  kJ/mol) completely restricted ( $> 100$  kJ/mol).

Torsional strain is the repulsion felt by bonding e<sup>s</sup> of one substituent as they pass the bonding electrons of another substituent.

→ Conformations of butane

Butane has three staggered conformations (one anti and two gauche). Anti is the most stable. In gauche conformer the largest substituents are adjacent to each other thus have steric hindrance. This steric strain in gauche conformer is called gauche interaction. In anti largest substituents are opposite to each other. Butane also have 3 eclipsed conformers (1 fully eclipsed and two eclipsed). All these eclipsed conformers have both torsional and steric

Relative stability order

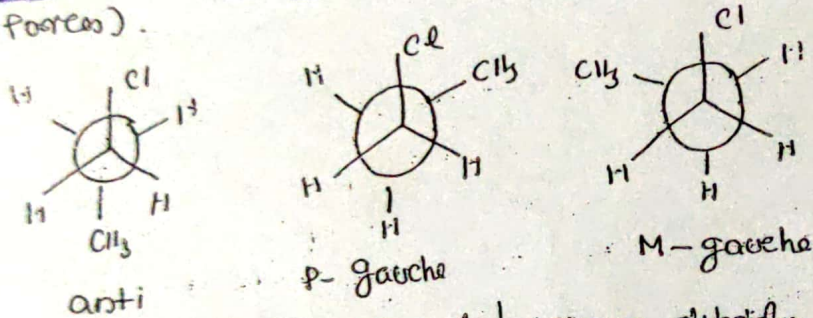
Anti > Gauche > eclipsed > Fully eclipsed

Two gauche forms of butane are conformational enantiomers while gauche and anti forms are conformational diastereomers

Conformations of halogenoalkanes - Nasipour

eg:  $\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{-X}$   $\text{X} = \text{F, Cl, Br}$  and  $\text{I}$

The torsional energy barrier is slightly higher (14-15 kJ/mol) from that of ethane (12.0 kJ/mol) due to increased steric effect of halogen group than hydrogen. In n-propyl chloride and n-butyl chloride the gauche conformers are predominated over anti form due to Van der Waals attractive forces (London forces).



n-propyl chloride | alkane dihalides

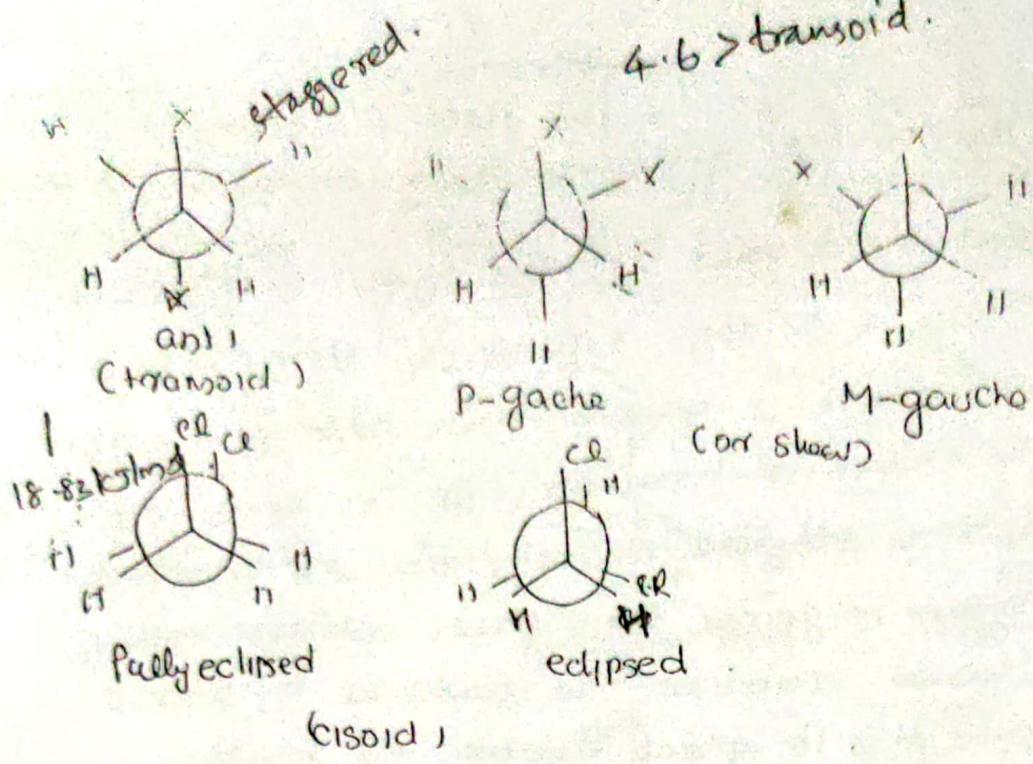
in the gaseous state at 25°C 1,2-dichloro and 1,2-dibromoethanes contain 73% and 85% of the anti conformers (it is 67% only in n-butane). The (higher stability) of the anti form in these dihalides, in comparison to that in n-butane is due to combined effect of steric fact (larger in Br than Cl) and an electronic interaction (dipole-dipole repulsion).

in the polar solvents, the electrostatic repulsion decreases considerably, due to high dielectric constant of the medium, and the ratio of gauche conformers increases than anti forms. The barrier height in

1,2-dichloroethane is ~ 12.5 kJ/mol similar to that in butane due to less (H/e) steric effect.

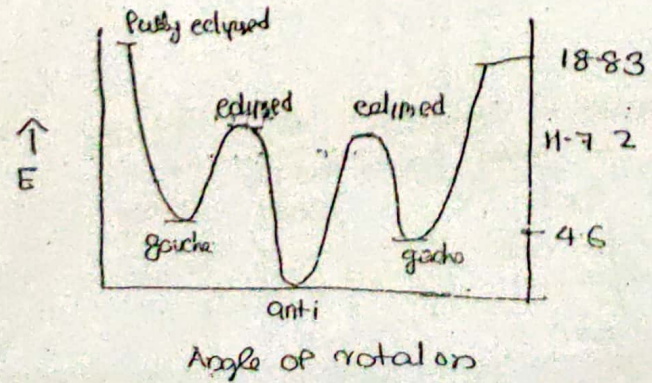
The changes in rotational energy are due to the gauche interaction. The energy difference between anti and gauche forms is about 2 kJ/mol. In polar solvents, the energy difference decreases due to the dielectric effect.

4.6 > transoid.

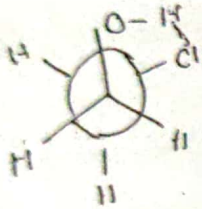


The potential energy of ethylene dichloride undergoes changes as like n-butane only. when one  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  group is rotated about the  $\text{C}-\text{C}$  bond with other  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ . at rest, there are two positions of minimum energy. One corresponds to the staggered (transoid or anti) form and other to the gauche (skew) form. The gauche conformer has  $\sim 4.6$   $\text{kJ/mol}$  <sup>more</sup> energy than anti form. The fully eclipsed (cisoid) form possesses about 18.83  $\text{kJ/mol}$  more energy than anti form. The ratio of the two forms varies with temp, only the staggered form is present at low temperature.

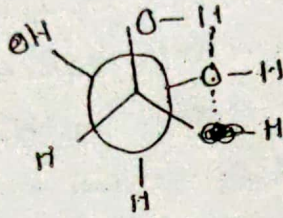
The stability is affected by dipole-dipole interaction and steric repulsion (H=0 in staggered form and maximum in eclipsed form).



Conformation and intramolecular hydrogen bonding  
 in  $\alpha$ -substituted ethanols of the type  $X-CH_2-CH_2-OH$   
 where  $X = OH, NH_2, F, Cl, Br, OCH_3, N(CH_3), M(CH_3)_2$  the  
 preferred conformation is gauche than anti and eclipsed  
 due to intramolecular H-bonding. eg: in case of  
 ethylene glycol and ethylene chlorohydrin intramolecular  
 H bonding is possible in gauche form and not in the  
 anti form. This would stabilise the molecule by about  
 $20-89 \text{ kJ/mol}$  and this is great enough to make  
 gauche form more stable than anti forms.



ethylene chlorohydrin



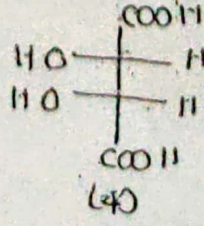
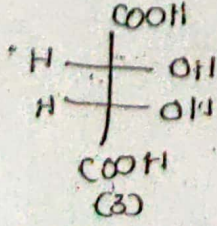
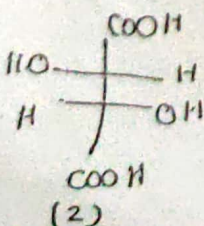
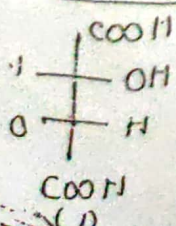
ethylene glycol

in eclipsed conformer the two group (donor and acceptor) are <sup>very</sup> close to each other, so van der Waals repulsive force come in to play and make the conformation unstable. The anti conformer with the two groups oppositely placed does not permit the formation of intramolecular H bond. The gauche conformation with torsion angle of  $60-70^\circ$  allows the interacting groups are ideally suitable for intramolecular H bonding.

problems - 120 - 132

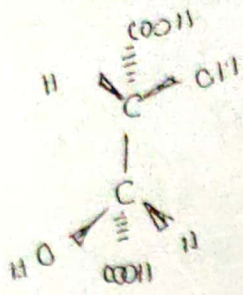
Conformation of tartaric acid - erythro and threo

Isomers

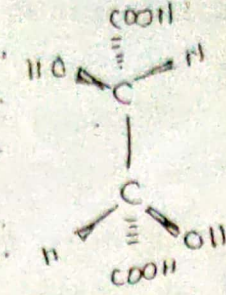


- Notes from SA Pna

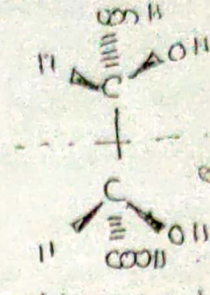
when formula (4) when rotated through  $180^\circ$  (in the plane of the paper) becomes identical with formula (3). Hence tartaric acid has three diff isomers (1), (2) and (3).



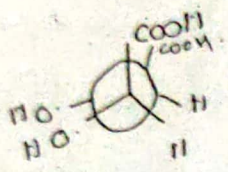
d-tartaric acid



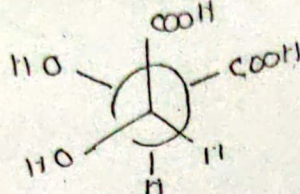
l-tartaric acid



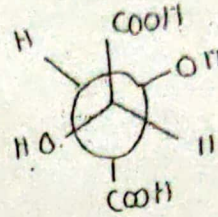
Meso-tartaric acid



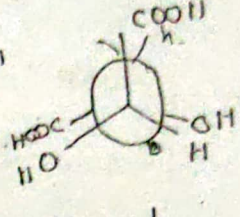
Fully eclipsed



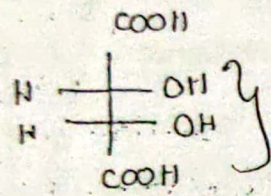
Gauche.



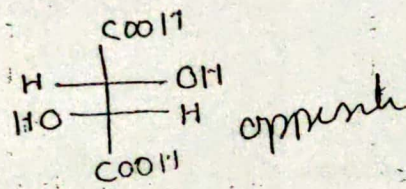
Anti



Eclipsed.

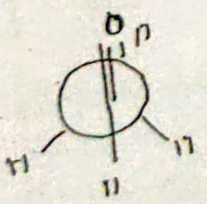
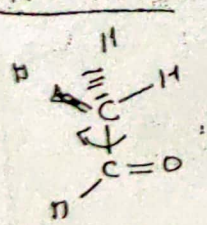


Erythro form



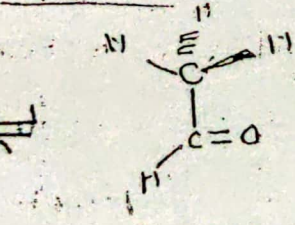
Threo form.

Conformation of Acetaldehyde

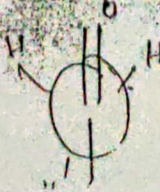


eclipsed

more stable

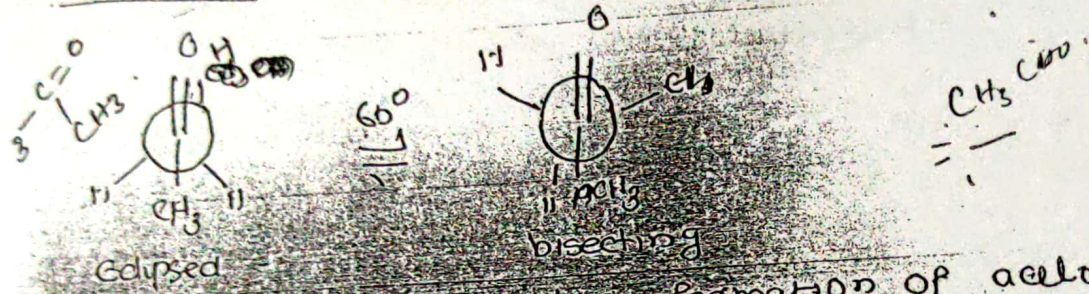


staggered (Bisecting)



a H single bond is connected to a double bond, the double bond at the other end. Acetaldehyde is more stable in the eclipsed conformation (actually the stable conformation has the methyl group rotated about 90 away from perfect eclipsing) than in the staggered one by 1.17 kcal/mol (4.9 kJ/mol) whereas staggered has high E, least stable.

Conformation of acrolein

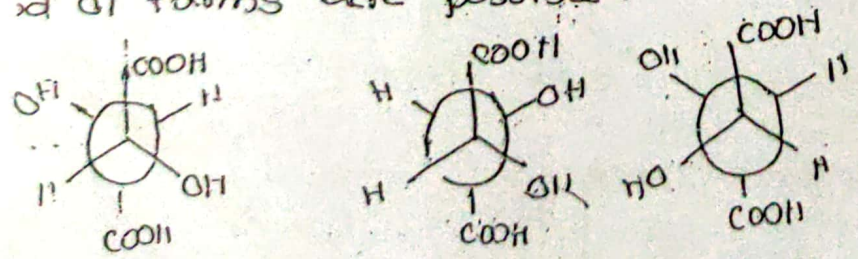


The preferred conformation of acrolein corresponds to that of acetaldehyde in that one hydrogen on each methyl group is eclipsed with the carbonyl oxygen. Similarly dimethyl ketone having conformation the one with both terminal methyl groups similarly eclipsed.

Acetone is more stable in eclipsed conformation than in the staggered conformation.

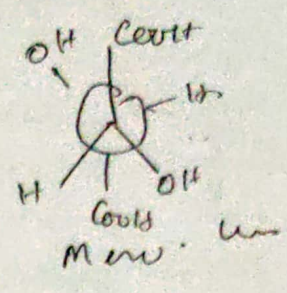
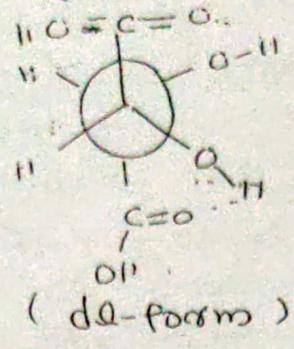
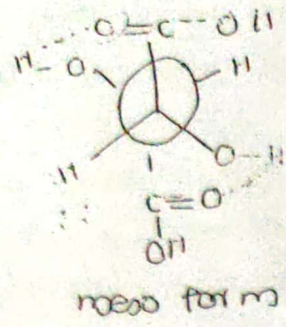
Conformation of tartaric acid - Kasim Ans note

In the case of tartaric acid meso and dl forms are possible.



hydrogen bonding is possible between  $>C=O$  group of  $COOH$

and OH group in the anti and gauche conformation. Thus the meso and dl forms are stable and exist.



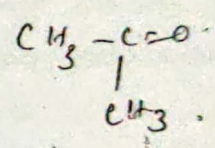
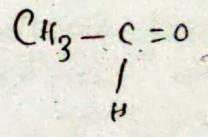
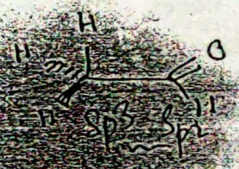
Meso tartaric acid has a plane of symmetry in eclipsed conformation and have centre of symmetry in staggered conformation.

Conformation of aldehydes and ketones - Corey and Sundberg

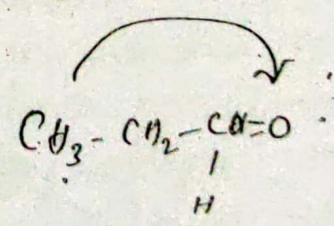
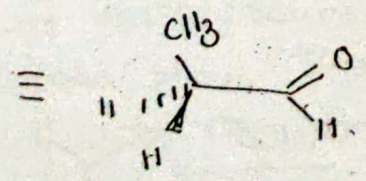
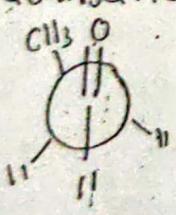
Rotation around an  $sp^3-sp^2$  bond in acetaldehyde, acetone, propionaldehyde etc leads infinite conformations in which eclipsed conformations are preferred over bisected conformation.



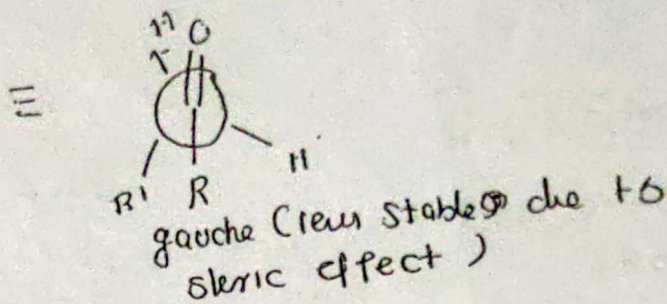
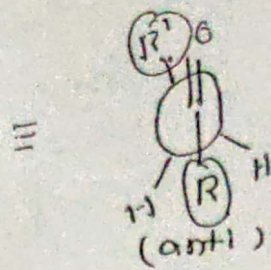
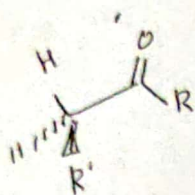
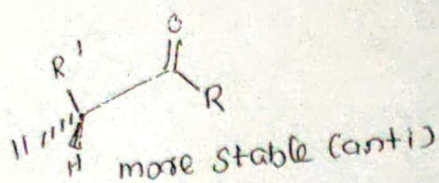
Acetaldehyde



In propionaldehyde, the methyl group rather than hydrogen, that is eclipsed with the carbonyl group is the most stable conformation.

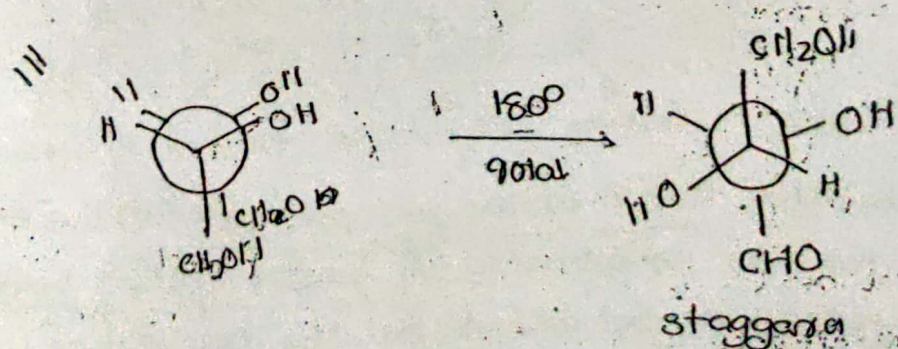
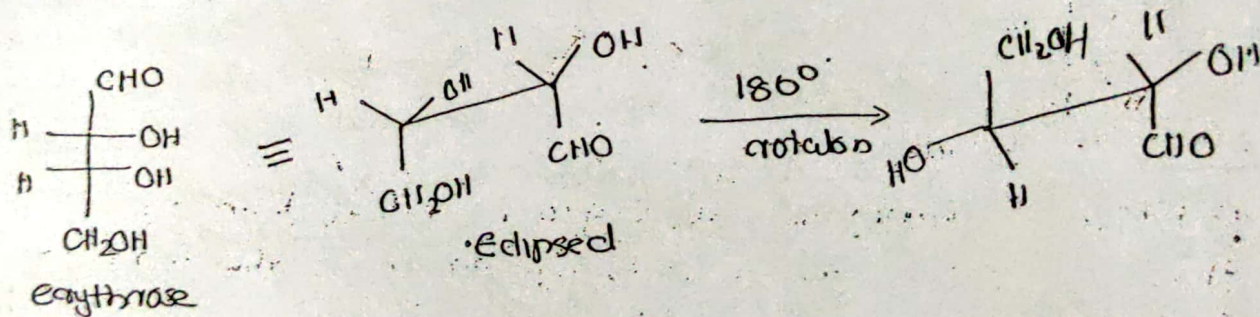


Ketones (acetone) also favor eclipsed conformation. The preference is for the conformation in which alkyl group rather than hydrogen is eclipsed with the carbonyl group bec<sup>2</sup> this conformation allows the two alkyl groups to be anti rather than gauche with respect to other carbonyl substituents.



conversion of Fischer projection in to Sawhorse and Newman formula - and vice versa - Jagadamba Singh

Fischer projection represents eclipsed conformation of the molecule, so it can be directly converted in to eclipsed sawhorse or Newman formula. The rotation of front carbon of sawhorse or Newman by 180° gives more stable staggered sawhorse and Newman formula. The reverse process can also be done.



Conformations of cycloalkanes - Jagadamba Singh, Chakraborty, Kalsi  
 Compds with three and four membered are not as stable as compds with five and six membered



Rings. According to Baeyer strain theory the instability of these small ring compounds is due to angle strain (strain induced in a molecule when the bond angles are forced to deviate from the desired tetrahedral bond angle of  $109.5^\circ$ ). According to this theory when open chain organic compound having the normal bond angle is converted into cyclic compound, there is deviation from the normal tetrahedral angle leading to the development of a strain in the molecule. Baeyer assumed the rings are planar. The angle of deviation for different rings are given below.

	Angle strain
cyclopropane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 60)^\circ = 24.75^\circ$
cyclobutane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 90)^\circ = 9.75^\circ$
cyclopentane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 108)^\circ = 0.75$
cyclohexane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 120)^\circ = -5.25^\circ$
cycloheptane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 128.58)^\circ = -9.54$
cyclooctane	$\frac{1}{2} (109.5 - 135)^\circ = -12.75^\circ$

$\frac{109.5}{2} = 54.75$

+ve value = bond angles are compressed  
 -ve value = bond angles are expanded.

According to Baeyer strain theory cyclopentane is more stable than cyclohexane, but in practice it is not so. The mistake that Baeyer made was to assume that all cyclic compounds are planar. In real sense only cyclopropane is planar and the other cycloalkanes are not.

According to theory of strainless ring cyclic compounds twist and bend in order to achieve a final structure, which minimises the following three kinds of strain that can destabilise a cyclic compound.

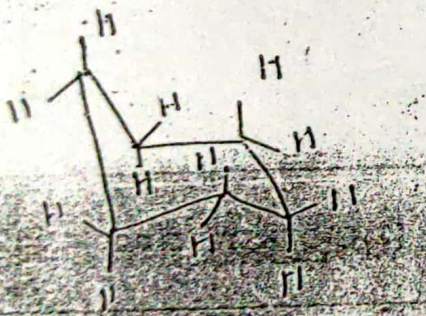
Angle strain (Baeyer strain) - this results when the bond angle is different from the desired tetrahedral bond angle of  $109.5^\circ$ .

Torsional strain (Pitzer strain) - this is caused by repulsion of the bonding  $\sigma$  (sigma-electron) of one substituent with bonding  $\sigma$ s of another substituent on the adjacent atom.

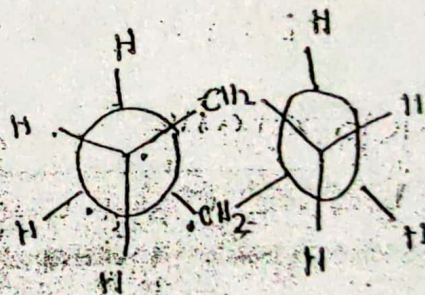
Steric strain (Van der Waals strain) - caused by the steric crowding of atoms or groups which approach each other too closely in the structure.

### Conformations of cyclohexane

Conner (1890) proposed that cyclohexane and other rings are not planar, but they are puckered in such a way that all the angles are tetrahedral and thus the rings are strainless. Cyclohexane exists in two forms which readily undergo interconversion by rotation about single bonds. (boat and chair forms)



Chair conformation.



Staggered Newman projection of the chair conformation

### Chair Form

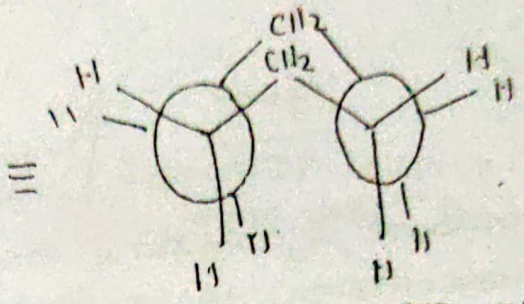
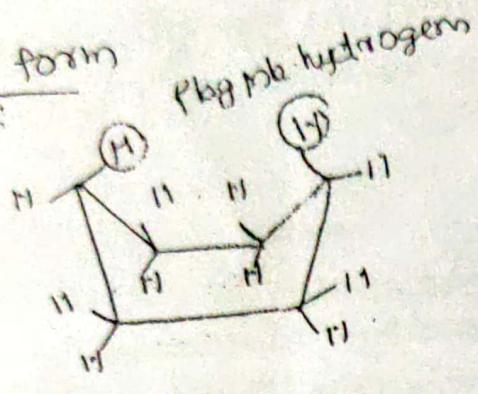
Free from angle strain, torsional strain and steric strain. All C-H bonds are staggered thus torsional strain minimized.

gauche butane like interaction b/w neighboring ethylene groups lead to steric strain.

and angles are not exactly  $109.5^\circ$  but  $111^\circ$  value is due to that in cyclic alkanes.

- The dihedral angles are not exactly  $60^\circ$  but  $56^\circ$  cause slight flattening of the ring
- The structure has  $C_2$ ,  $S_6$  axis and centre of symmetry.

Boat form

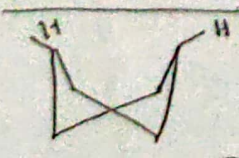


Eclipsed Newman projection of the boat conformation.

- has  $C_2$  axis and 2  $\sigma$  planes.
- There is complete eclipsing of the hydrogens attached to the carbon atom and thus have two eclipsed butane type orbits. This results torsional strain
- There is steric repulsion b/w the two hydrogens (flagpole hydrogen) pointing towards each other at C1 and C4 and lying only  $1.83 \text{ \AA}$  apart. This causes the steric strain.
- free from angle strain

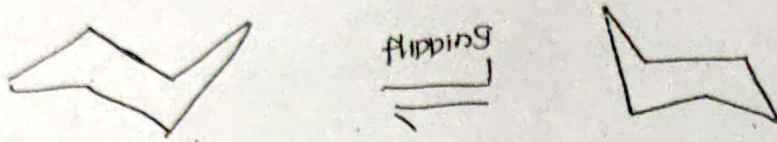
Thus the chair conformation (rigid) is more stable than boat conformation. The energy barrier for the interconversion is  $10.8 \text{ kcal/mol}$  ( $42 \text{ kJ/mol}$ ). Thus conformers cannot be separated, however at room temperature most of the cyclohexane molecule (99.9%) exist in the most stable chair conformation.

Twist boat conformation

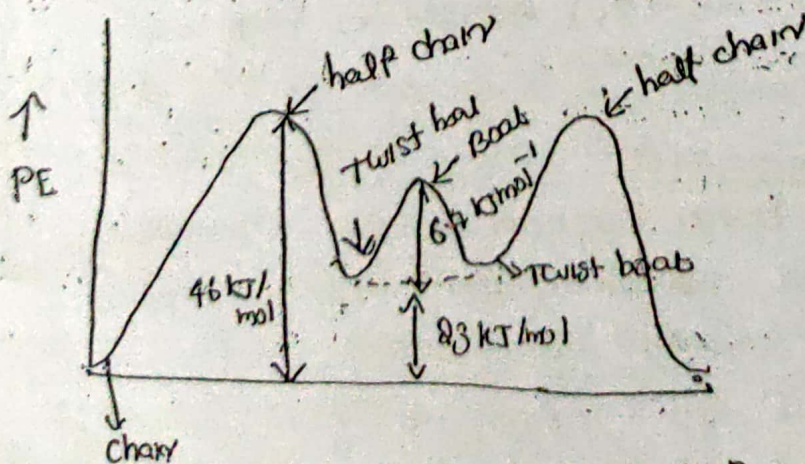
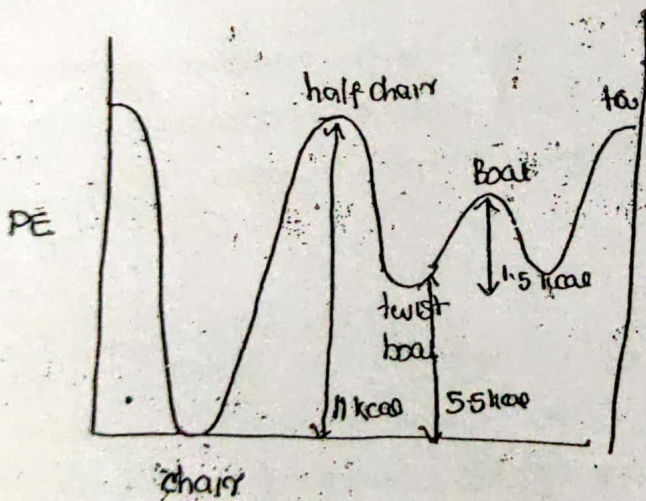


In twist boat conformations flagpole hydrogens are moved apart. The torsional and steric strains are minimized.

In chair conformation of cyclohexane 6 hydrogens are held by bonds which are perpendicular to the average plane of the ring - these are axial bonds. The other six bonds holding hydrogens in the average plane of the ring are called equatorial bonds.



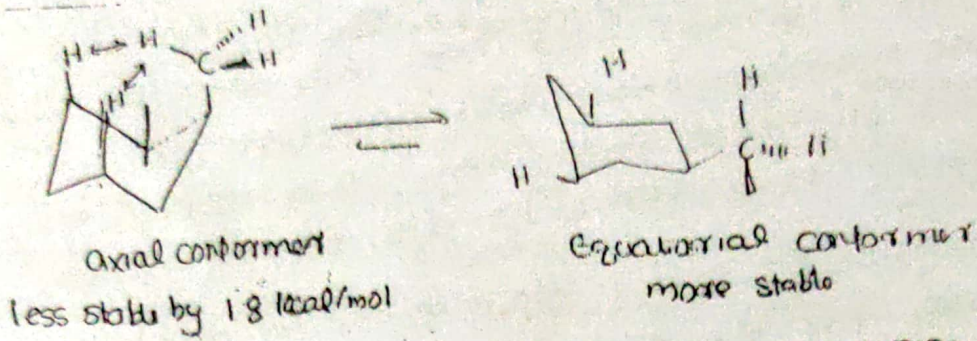
At room temperature, cyclohexane rapidly interconverts (flips) to mirror image chair conformation (then all axial bonds become equatorial and all equatorial becomes axial). At room temperature all hydrogens are equivalent because of rapid flipping. The axial and equatorial hydrogens can be differentiated as two sets of protons at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  due to slow ring flip.



chair > twist boat > Boat > half chair

Half chair has highest energy, it is associated with approx. torsional, steric as well as angle strain (angle strain is absent or others)

### Conformation of methylcyclohexane - Kalsi



In methylcyclohexane, the methyl group occupies either equatorial or an axial position

→ in axial conformer, the axial methyl substituent is close to other two axial hydrogens on the same side of the molecule. Thus in axial conformer, 1,3-diaxial interaction due to steric repulsion b/w methyl group and axial hydrogens results the conformer less stable.

→ Two gauche butane interactions b/w the axial methyl group and the two ring C-C bonds destabilize the axial conformer, while no such interaction exist when the methyl group is equatorial.

→ at room temp 95% of methylcyclohexane exist as equatorial and 5% as axial.

→ axial and equatorial conformers are not non-superimposable mirror images thus are conformational diastereomers.

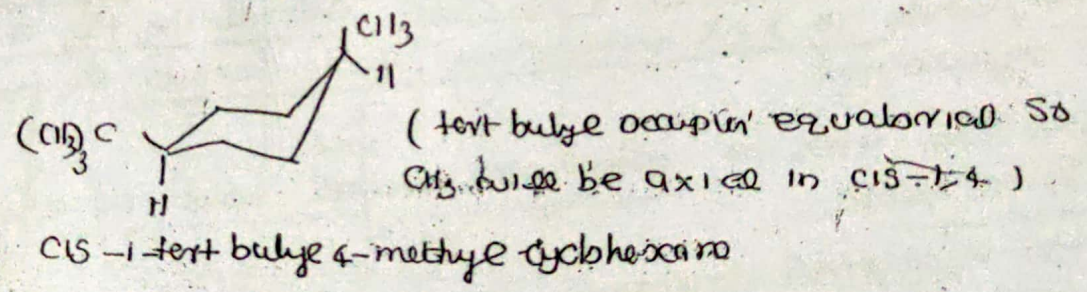
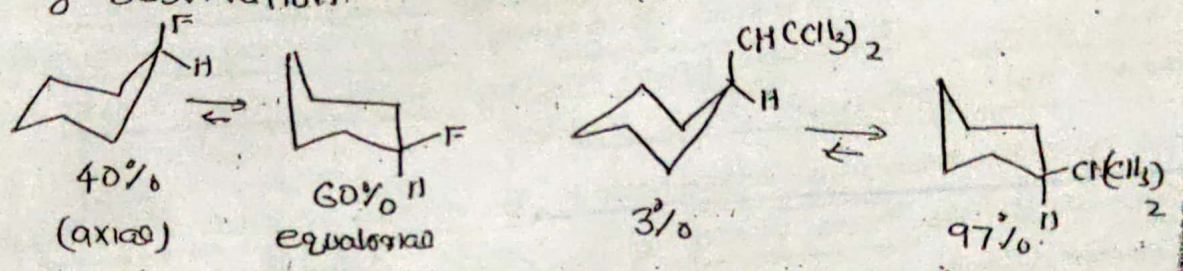
### Conformation of tert-Butylcyclohexane

Tert-butyl group is still larger group than methyl group thus the 1,3-diaxial interaction responsible for the destabilizing gauche interactions will be further magnified. 99.9% of tert-butylcyclohexane is maintained in the equatorial form thus the tert-butyl group is used to lock the conformation. The tert-butyl group is referred as 'anchoring group', and the resulting conformers are said conformationally biased (biased).



→ ethyl and methyl propyl groups can be rotated, so that a hydrogen is pointed back over the ring to interact with the axial hydrogens, thus their effective steric bulk is not much different from that of a methyl group, but t-butyl group causes severe 1,3-diaxial interaction.

→ The halogens F, Cl, Br, and I do not differ much in their preferences for the equatorial position, because a halogen does not require much space (F and Cl are nearly similar size), C-X bond distance also rises with size of halogen (F < Cl < Br < I). Thus we can account for following observation:



Conformation of disubstituted cyclohexanes

In general disubstituted cyclohexanes the conformation containing both the substituents in equatorial positions will be the preferred conformation, or when this is possible the conformation with bulkier substituent in equatorial position will be the preferred conformation.

Disubstituted cyclohexanes - Nasipuri

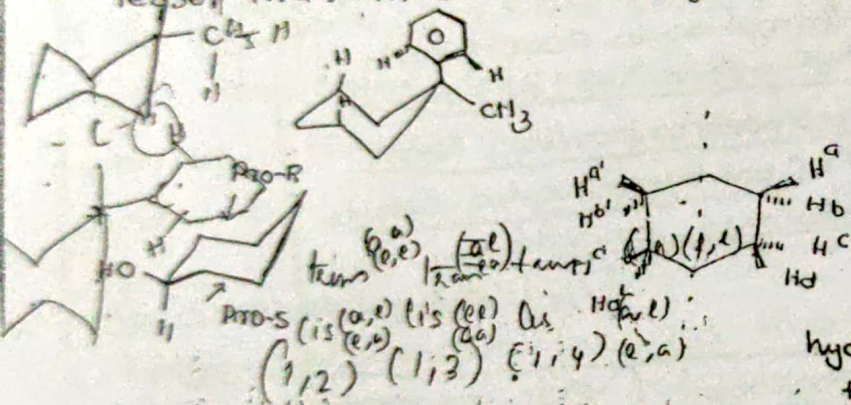
Disubstituted cyclohexanes do not exhibit any configurational isomerism but exist in two interconvertible forms by separated by ring inversion energy barrier.



$X = X = \text{topomers}$   
 $X \neq Y = \text{diastereomers}$

when  $X = Y$  as in 1,1-dimethylcyclohexane, the two conformations are identical (topomers) while  $X \neq Y$  as in 1-methylcyclohexanol, the two conformations are diastereomers and present in unequal amounts. The conformation with the bulkier substituent in the equatorial position often predominates. eg 1-methylcyclohexanol exist as 70:30 (70% equatorial methyl, 30% axial methyl).

In 1-phenylmethyl-1-phenylcyclohexane, the conformer with axial phenyl and equatorial methyl is preferred over the other, the reason is that when phenyl group is in axial position 1,3-diaxial interactions is lesser than that when methyl group

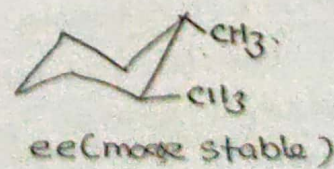
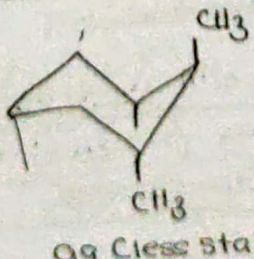
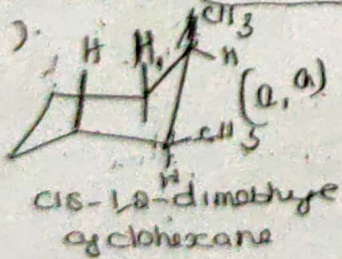


$H^a, H^{a'}$ ,  $H^b, H^b'$   
 $H^c, H^{c'}$ ,  $H^d, H^{d'}$  are enantiotopic. The other  $CH_2$  group exhibit non-equivalent geminal hydrogen which are diastereotopic.

1,2-(Disubstituted) cyclohexanes

- Jagadamba singh, kalsi

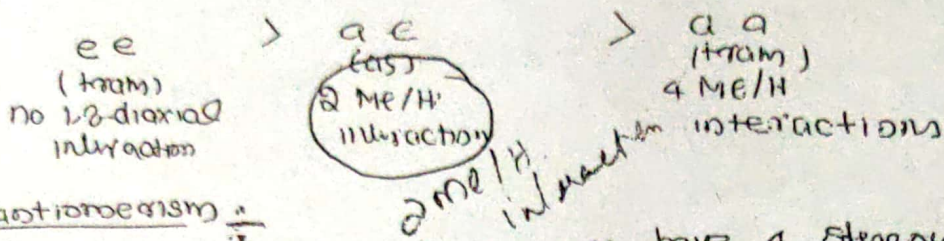
For 1,2-dimethylcyclohexane, two forms are possible cis (1a, 2e or 1e, 2a) and trans (1a, 2a or 1e, 2e).



In cis-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane, there is one axial methyl group which causes two 1,3-diaxial methyl-hydrogen

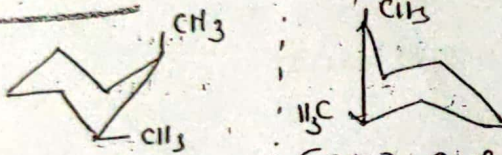
dimethyl  
 (1,1) - X Condig. → Conformation  
 (1,2) - CH<sub>2</sub> - 2a' - 1,2  
 (1,1) - axial - 1,2 (1,2)

interactions causing strain in trans ee 1,2 dimethylcyclohexane is more stable than ac (ee) then the stability order.



Enantiomerism

It has two chiral centres hence could have 4 stereoisomers but actually only has three. cis 1,2-dimethylcyclohexane molecule is not superimposable on its mirror image but the molecule and mirror image are readily interconvertible. hence is difficult to measure optical activity (non-resolvable atomic modifications). It is not a meso compd



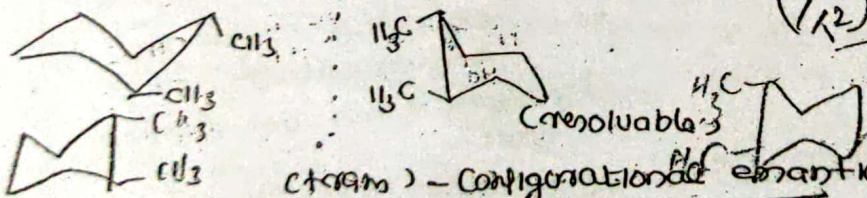
(twins in planar form)

(non-resolvable) it shows a meso 1,2-D compd

(cis)-conformational enantiomers

The trans 1,2-dimethylcyclohexane (ee) molecule

and its mirror image are not superimposable, hence constitute an enantiomeric pair. (not interconverted easily: ee to aa). They are configurational enantiomers



(trans)-configurational enantiomers

(1,2) same configuration

Cis - non-resolvable

trans - resolvable

= 4 st

1,2-dim

is ach

hexane

is a pair

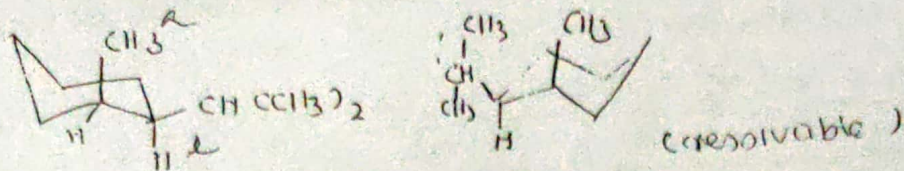
cis and trans are part of configurational diastereomers, but exist as conformational enantiomers, whereas trans exist as configurational enantiomers.

Case the two substituents in a 1,2-disubstituted cyclohexane are different, then both (cis) as well as (trans) isomers are stable. The bulkier groups predominantly occupies axial position

1-isopropyl-2-methylcyclohexanes

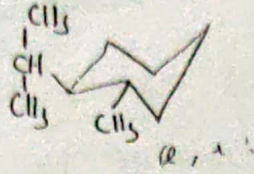
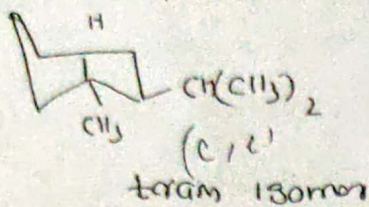
(1,2) different configuration cis - trans resolvable





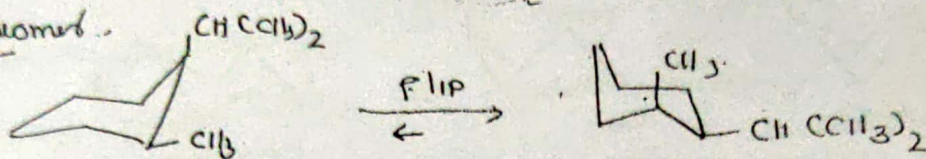
cis-1-isopropyl-2-methylcyclohexane

meso



Configurational  
enantiomers

The isomers which result by ring flip is conformational diastereomers.



1,3-Disubstituted cyclohexanes

cis isomer (aa - less stable) or ee (more stable)

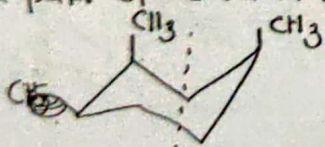
trans isomer (ae or ea)

For 1,3-dimethylcyclohexane, the order of stability

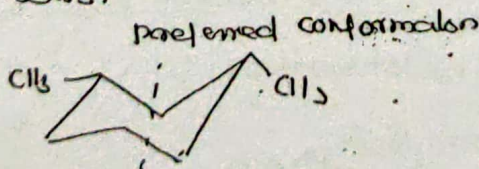
ee > ae > aa  
 cis > trans > cis  
 (more stable)

1,3-dimethylcyclohexane has two chiral centres, hence 2<sup>2</sup> = 4 stereoisomers are possible, but only 3, bec<sup>2</sup> cis-

1,3-dimethylcyclohexane has a plane of symmetry and is achiral (meso compd). The trans 1,3-dimethylcyclohexane does not have plane of symmetry and exist as a pair of enantiomers.



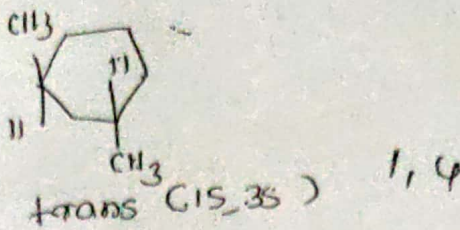
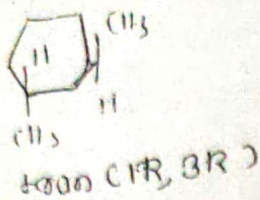
cis (achiral)



trans (achiral) → meso compd



trans (chiral) - exist as pair of enantiomers

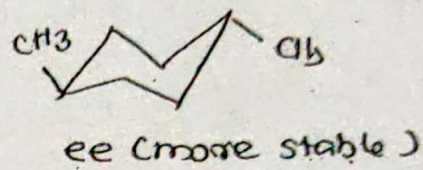
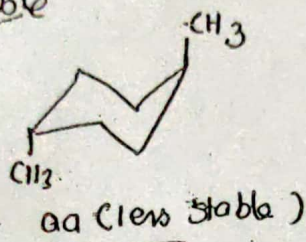
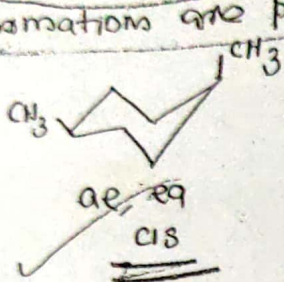


trans (1,2) (a,a)

cis (1,2) (e,e)

1,4-disubstituted cyclohexanes same as (1,2)

In the case of 1,4-disubstituted cyclohexanes (with identical substituents) one cis and two trans conformations are possible



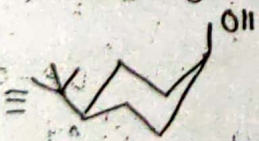
$ee > ae > aa$

Both cis and trans forms have a plane of symmetry hence optically inactive. Thus 1,4-dimethylcyclohexane does not have any chiral centre. (exist as cis-trans diastereomers)

t-butyl groups - locking group - clayden, creeves

t-butyl group always prefer an equatorial position in a ring (not axial)

eg: cis-4-t-butylcyclohexanol (1,4-isomer)



In the cis diastereomer, the hydroxyl group is forced in to an axial position because of bulky t-butyl group

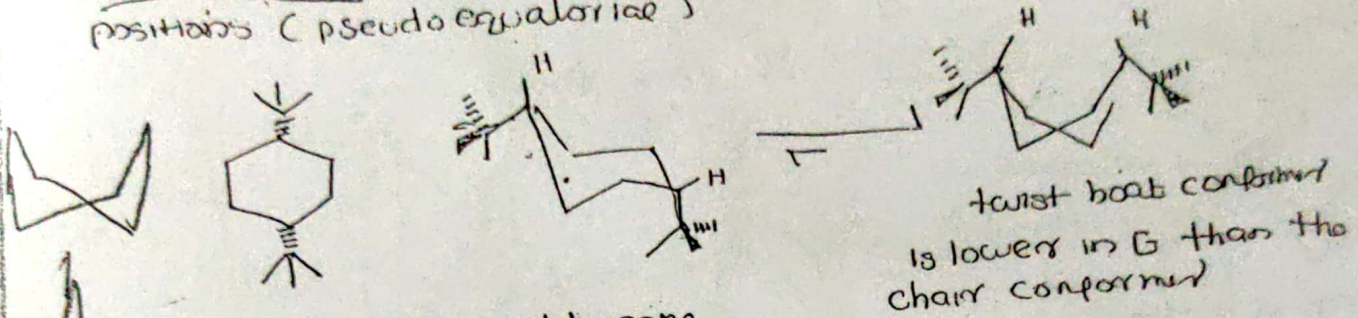
trans-4-t-butylcyclohexanol



In the trans diastereomer, the hydroxyl group is forced in to an equatorial position (means it will not come in axial position). So it will have only ee conformer not aa one

cis-1,4 di-t-butylcyclohexane

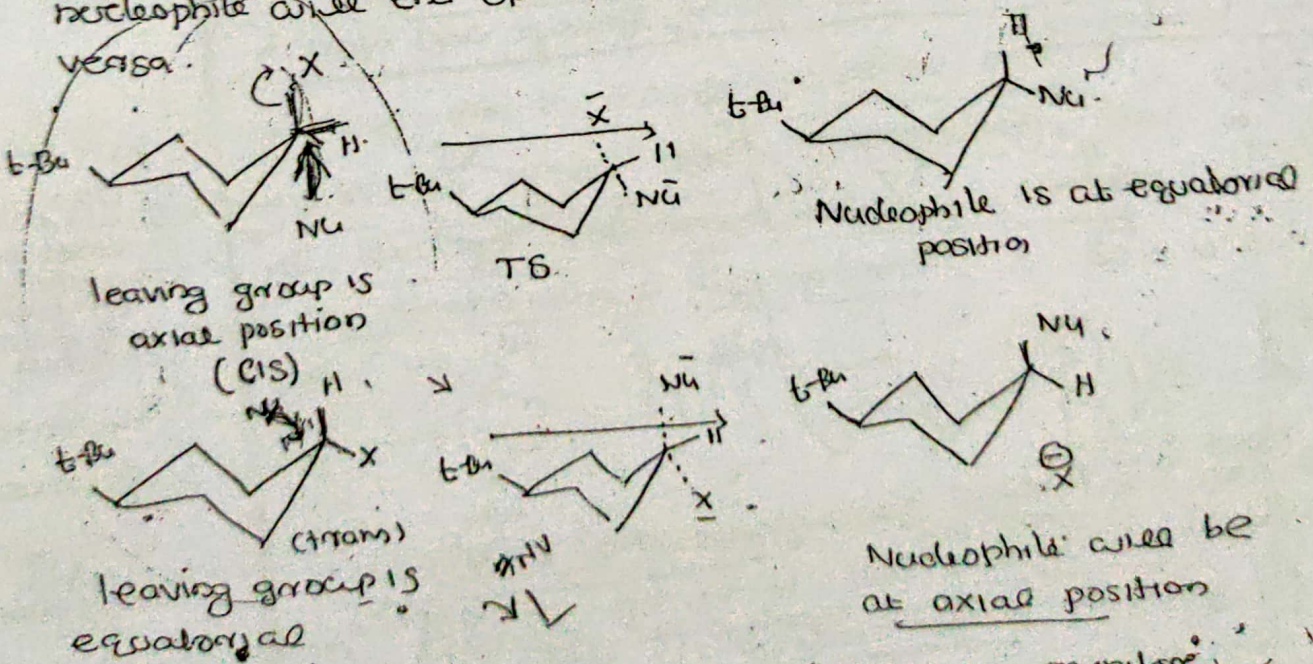
an axial t-butyl group is really very unfavourable. In cis-1,4-di-t-butylcyclohexane, one t-butyl group would be forced axial if the compd existed in a chair conformation. To avoid this the compound prefers to pucker in to a twist boat so that the two large groups can both be in equatorial positions (pseudo-equatorial).



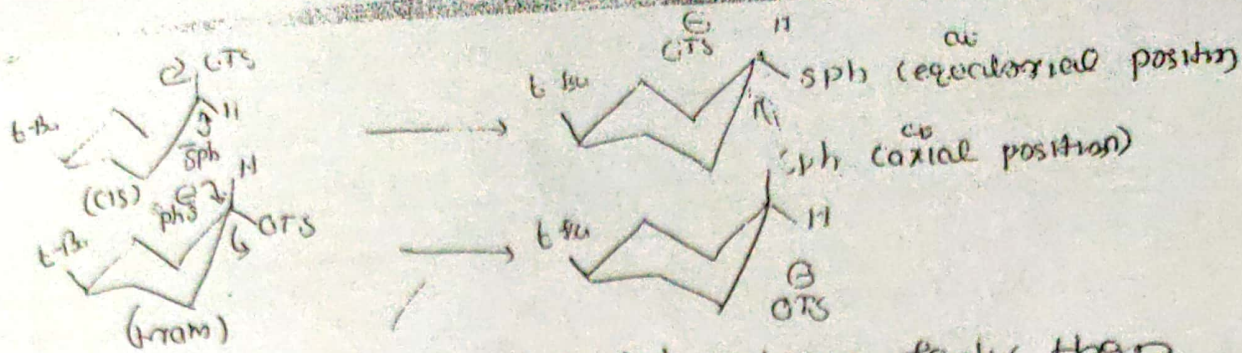
cis-1,4 di-t-butylcyclohexane

So here t-butyl group locks the conformation. ✓

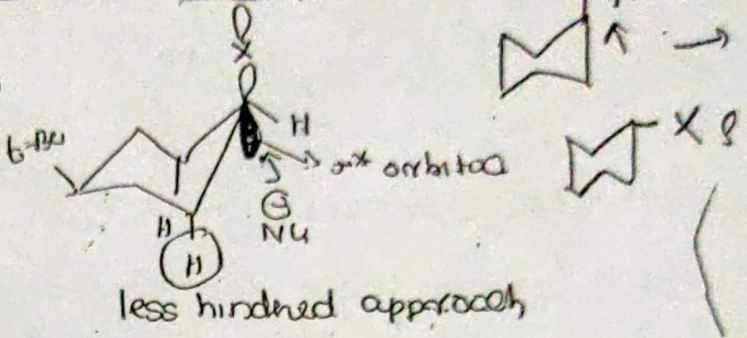
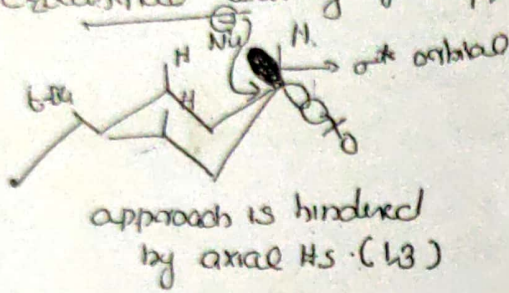
Reactivity difference when t-butyl group is present  
 we know <sup>TS</sup> SN2 reaction is involved an inversion of config at the carbon centre. If the conformation of the molecule is fixed by a locking group like t-butyl group in SN2 rxn, if the leaving group is axial incoming nucleophile will end up in equatorial position and vice-versa.



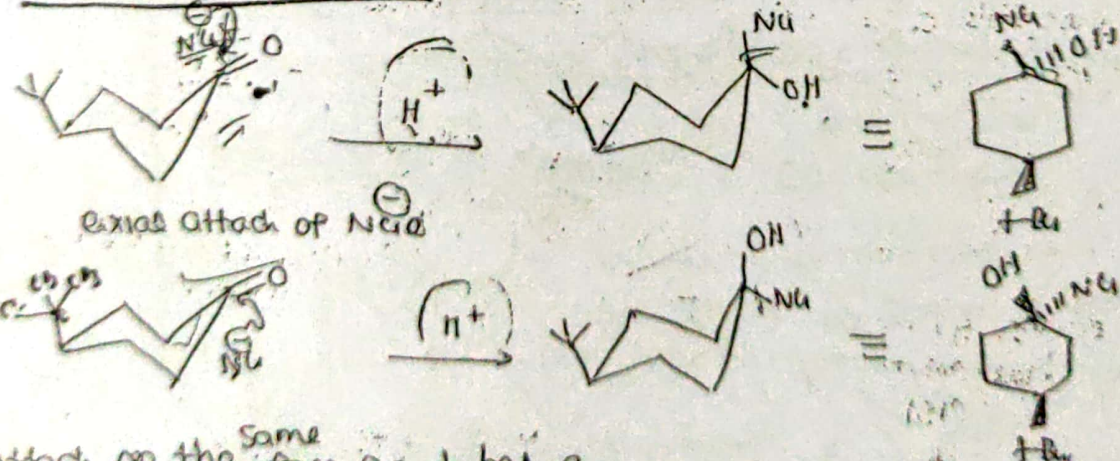
As the t-Bu group locks the conformation in to equatorial position the pdct formed depends on the position of lea. in SN2 rxn



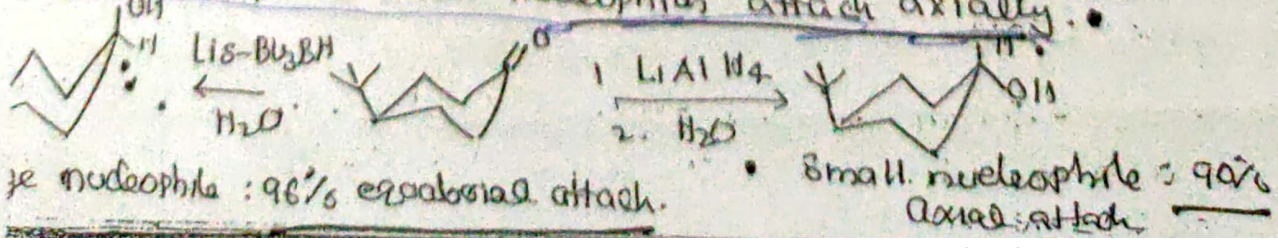
axial leaving group is substituted 21 times faster than equatorial leaving group.



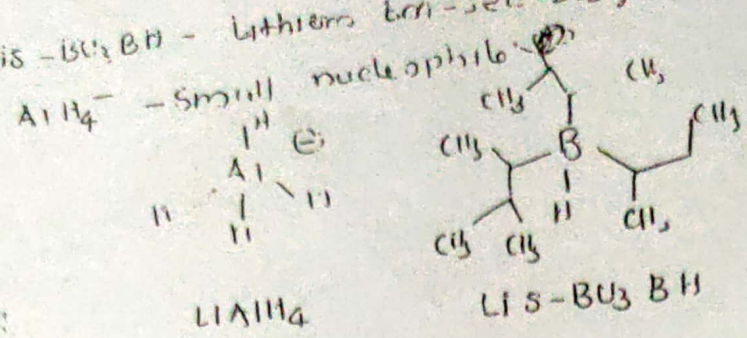
Faster axial substn is mainly due to direction of approach of the nucleophile. The nucleophile must attack the  $\sigma^*$  orbital of leaving group, that is directly behind C-X bond. In the case of equatorial attack, this line of attack is hindered by the axial hydrogens. For an axial leaving group the direction of attack is parallel with the axial hydrogens, anti-periplanar to the leaving group and approach is much less hindered.



Attack on the same face as t-butyl group leaves the nucleophile axial and attack on opposite face leaves the nucleophile equatorial. [In general large nucleophiles attack equatorially, and small nucleophiles attack axially.]



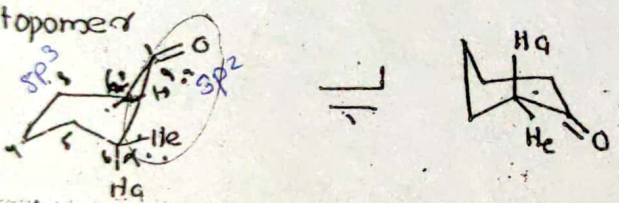
LiS-BU<sub>3</sub>BH - lithium *tert*-sec-butyl borohydride



Conformation of cyclohexanone - Alkyl ketone effect - Kalsi

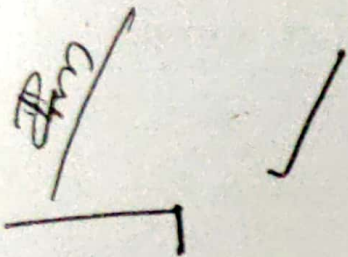
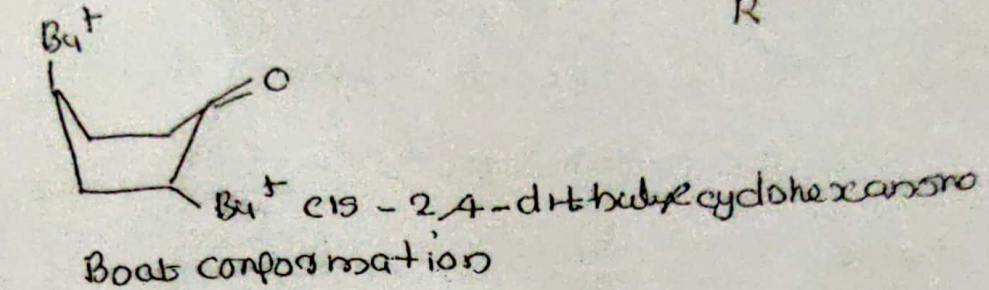
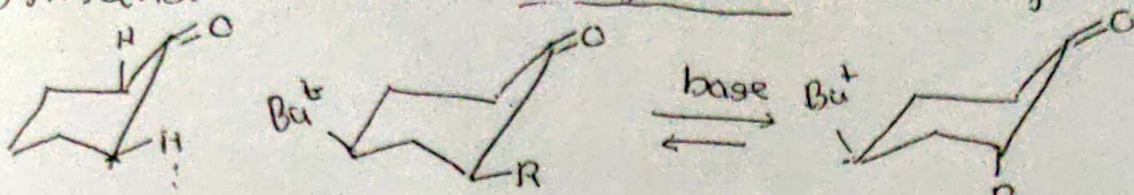
Unlike cyclohexane, the ring in cyclohexanone

is buckled slightly from the chair structure in order to accommodate the trigonal carbon (C-C-C bond angle = 120°). Thus the equatorial hydrogens on the α-carbon (C<sub>2</sub>) are almost eclipsed with the carbonyl oxygen. An thus an equatorial substituent destabilized due to steric repulsion. (When C-2 or C-6 H is replaced by alkyl group, this repulsion operates well) In the absence of any complicating factor, cyclohexanone exist almost 99% in the chair form, which on inversion gives a topomer

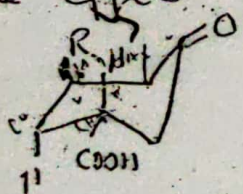


This destabilization decreases the energy difference between the axial and equatorial conformers when compared to those in cyclohexane. This decrease is termed as α-alkyl ketone effect, which is measured by the difference in  $-A_{ax}^0R$  in cyclohexane and  $-A_{eq}^0R$  in cyclohexanone. One can consider the effect in α-alkyl-4-*t*-butylcyclohexanone. when R = CH<sub>3</sub>, the difference is negligible, bec<sup>z</sup> CH<sub>3</sub> group in equatorial position will not experience any appreciable steric repulsion with the C=O group. Also eclipsing CH<sub>3</sub> with C=O is electronically favourable like the case of propanal. with increase in size R = C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> a value around 8 kJ/mol is obtained for

the alkyl ketone effect. When  $R = 1\text{-Pr}$  value =  $7.4 \text{ kJ/mol}$   
 when  $R = t\text{-butyl}$  the molecule adopts largely boat conformation to avoid  $t\text{-butyl}/C=O$  eclipsing.

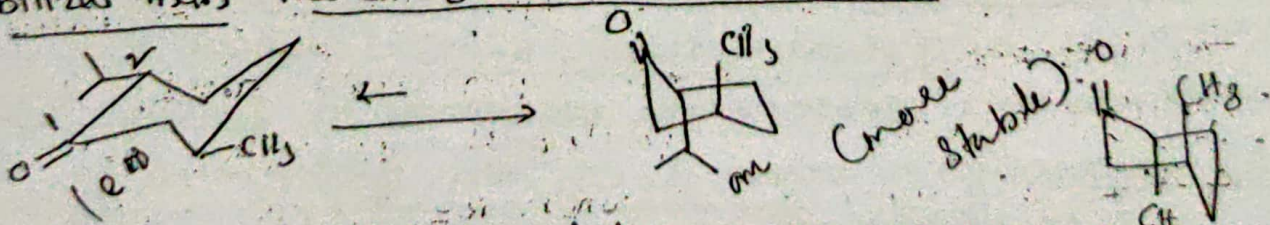


In the case of a  $\beta$ -alkylcyclohexanone one 1,3-interaction between axial R group and axial H is missing. This is equivalent to one butane-gauche interaction ( $3.75 \text{ kJ/mol}$ ) when  $R = \text{CH}_3$ . This decrease -  $A_{\text{ax}}$  value of R is termed as  $\beta$ -alkyl ketone effect.



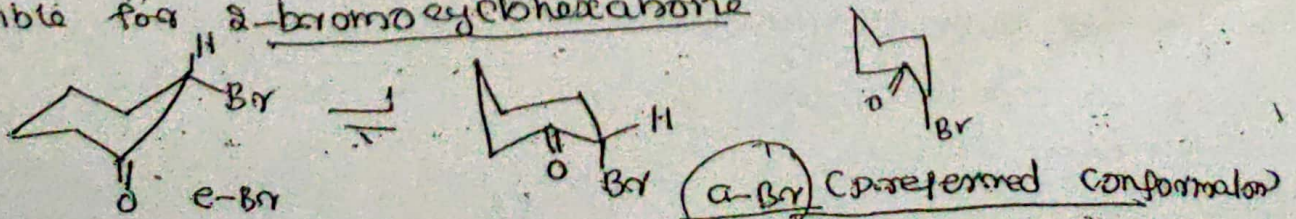
Equivalents in terms of equatorial position

In the case of menthone the  $\delta$ -isopropyl ketone effect and the  $\beta$ -methyl ketone effect are cooperating and consequently, the diaxial conformer is much more stabilized than the diequatorial conformer.



Conformation of  $\alpha$ -Halocyclohexanone - Nasipour (1968)

The following two chair forms are possible for  $\alpha$ -bromocyclohexanone



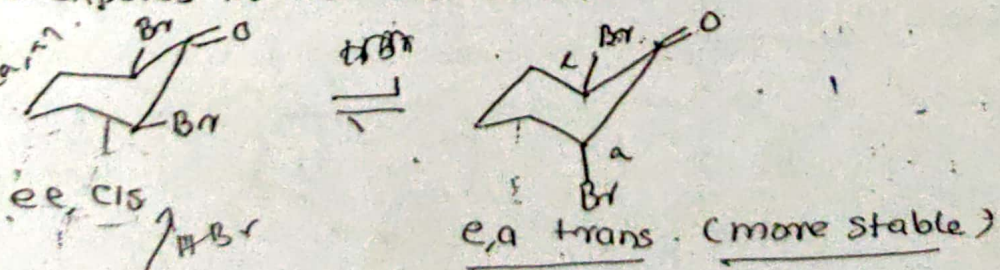
The  $\text{C-Br}$  and  $\text{C=O}$  bonds are both strongly polar. In addition to the steric interaction in the equatorial conformer due to partial eclipsing there also exist a dipole-dipole interaction b/w the two almost parallel dipole  $\text{C-X}$  and  $\text{C=O}$ . When the bromine is axial the dipolar interaction is minimum. Thus a-Br is preferred conformation. When however other substituents are present, the 1,3-diaxial interaction may become so large, that it outweighs the dipolar effect and the bromine would now be equatorial. For example in the case of 2-bromo-4,4-dimethylcyclohexanone, the e-Br conformation is preferred one.

Since the dipole-dipole interaction is solvent dependent, the population of the conformers is affected by the solvent polarity. eg: 2-bromo-4-t-butylcyclohexanone 78% A

in  $\text{CCl}_4$  (solvent of low polarity) = 78% axial isomer

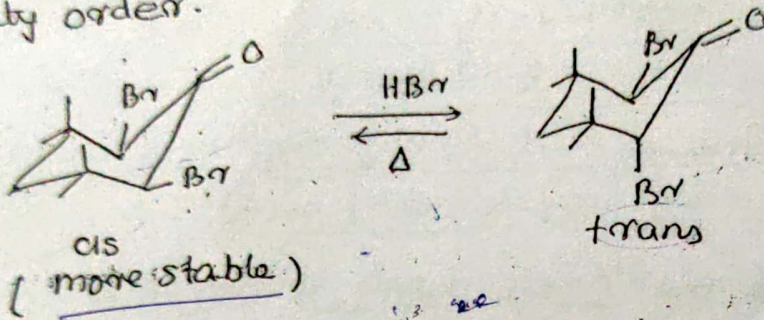
in dioxane (solvent of high polarity) = 63% axial isomer

→ in the case of cis and trans isomers of 2,6-dibromocyclohexanone reacting with HBr giving predominantly the trans isomer (more stable). In trans isomer, the repulsion of  $\text{C-Br}$  and  $\text{C=O}$  dipoles prefer an orthogonal arrangement, rather than all parallel arrangement of the three dipoles in the cis isomer.



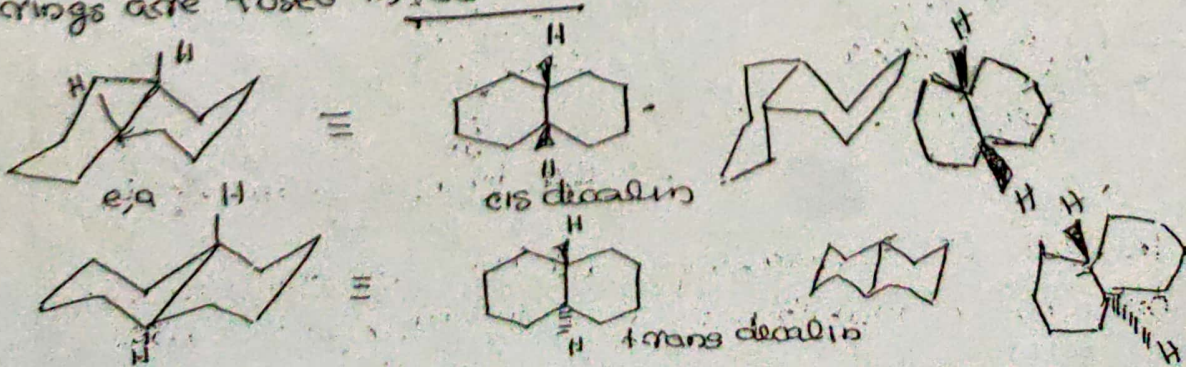
in 3,5-tetramethyl-2,6-dibromocyclohexanone on similar equilibration with HBr give mainly #

cis isomer. This can be explained by steric effect according to which the presence bulky axial group on one side of the ring causes some deformation by opening of the axial bonds. This in turn causes a pinching of the axial groups or H's on the other side of the ring. As a result axial bromine in trans isomer will have more severe synaxial interaction with axial hydrogen at 4<sup>th</sup> position, which reverses the stability order.



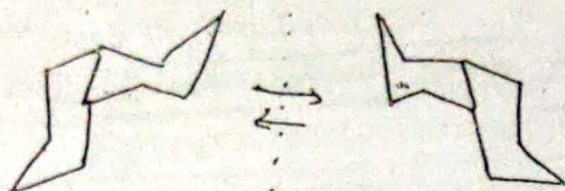
### Conformation of fused rings - Decalins

Decalin (bicyclo [4,4,0] decane) exist in two diastereoisomeric forms cis and trans decalins, depending on the way in which the two cyclohexane rings are fused together. In both the diastereoisomers of decalin, the two cyclohexane rings are joined together in the chair conformation. Since the decalin is analogous to a 1,2-disubstituted cyclohexane, in the cis isomer the two cyclohexane rings are fused together in ea form (equatorial bond of one ring is fused with the axial bond of the other), while in the trans isomer, the two rings are fused in ee form.





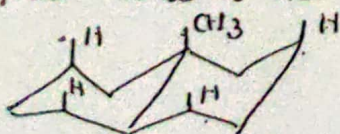
In cis decalin the ring fusion involves one bond, hence is flexible and exist in two forms which are inter convertible as a result of conformational flipping. cis decalin is dissymmetric in both conformation which are non superimposable mirror images of each other. Because of rapid ring flipping b/w these forms the compound is a non-resolvable di pair.



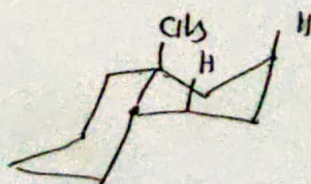
two enantiomeric conformations

Since trans decalin involves two equatorial bonds for the ring fusion, it is a rigid molecule and cannot undergo conformational flipping. i.e. it cannot be converted into a conformation, which also does not exist in decalin type of fused ring compounds. Trans decalin has a centre of symmetry and therefore, optically inactive.

cis-decalin has three more gauche butane like interaction than trans decalin. hence trans decalin is more stable than the cis by  $2.7 \text{ kcal/mole}$ . [In the case of substituted decalin, substituents located at the fusion points of the two rings (angular position) are axial with respect to one ring, while equatorial with respect to other in cis-decalin. On the other hand in the case of trans decalin, the angular substituents are axial with respect to both the rings.

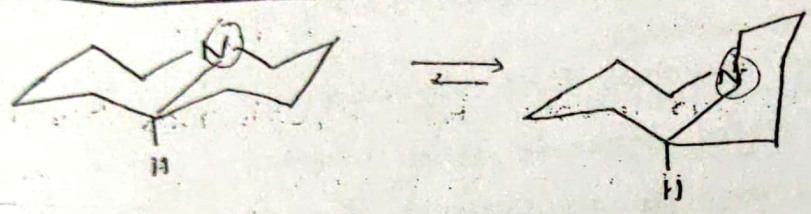


There are 4 sets of 1,3-diaxial interactions involving the bulky methyl group and axial hydrogens



Only two sets of 1,3-diaxial interaction with the methyl group.

- When angular methyl group is introduced, the cis form becomes slightly more stable than trans form, bec<sup>2</sup> in trans form more 1,3-diaxial interactions are there.
- Rotation about C-C bond cannot bring about interconversion of cis and trans decalin. The barriers to interconversion of cis and trans decalin can be decreased by heteroatom subst<sup>n</sup> in some cases eg: in azadecalin. The rapid interconversion of the cis and trans forms in azo decalin is bec<sup>2</sup> of easy inversion of config<sup>n</sup> at nitrogen. Thus when nitrogen occupies at bridge head position cis and trans forms cannot be isolated



Answer 9