# Heterocyclic compound Lec 1

Lec. Doctor Yahya saad yaseen Heterocyclic compounds are those where one or more atom(s) of the ring are

heteroatoms, for example, N, O, S, P, As, Se, B, and so on (Greek word "heteros"

means different). More than half of the known organic compounds are heterocyclic

compounds. These are widely distributed in nature, and many of them are of fundamental

importance for life processes. For example, nucleic acid bases containing

purines and pyrimidines; hemoglobin and chlorophyll contain ing porphyrin rings;

essential dietary ingredients containing vitamins B1, B2, B3, B6, and ascorbic acid;

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three essential amino acids, namely, histidine, proline, and tryptophan; almost all the

- drugs and pharmaceuticals; and many natural products like alkaloids, carbohydrates,
- and plant pigments. All these compounds contain hetero ring(s) in their molecules.
- These are the reasons why a great deal of recent research work is concerned with the
- methods of synthesis of hetero rings and studying their properties.

## **Common structural types of heterocycles**

The heterocyclic with the structures analogous to that of benzene but with a heteroatom

replacing at least one carbon atom of the benzene ring are called aromatic

heterocycles, for example, pyridine. There are other analogous heterocycles where

more than one carbon atom of the benzene ring are replaced by heteroatoms, for

example, pyridazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, 1,2,3-triazine, 1,2,4-triazine, 1,3,5-triazine,

and 1,2,4,5-tetrazine.



- All of the above heterocycles are six-atom, six-pi electron aromatic heterocycles.
- There are five-atom, six-pi electron aromatic heterocycles, for example, pyrrole,
- furan, and thiophene contain only one heteroatom in the ring system, and oxazole,
- thiazole, isothiazole, 1H-pyrazole, 1H-imidazole, and 1H-tetrazole contain two
- heteroatoms in the ring.







There are fused-ring system aromatic heterocycles. For example, quinoline, isoquinoline, cinnoline, quinazoline, quinoxaline, phthalazine, indole, isoindole, and benzimidazole.



Besides the above fully unsaturated aromatic heterocycles, there are other nonaromatic smallring heterocyclic compounds that may be either partially or fully saturated. In these heterocyclic compounds, there is no possibility of cyclic delocalization of *p*-electrons for which they lack

any aromatic character

These small-ring heterocycles suffer from considerable angle strain. For example, pyrrolidine, tetrahydrofuran, thiolan, pyran, aziridine, oxiran, azetidine, oxetan, and so on, are fully saturated heterocycles and dihydropyrrole, azirine, oxetene, and so on, are partially saturated heterocycles.







Oxiran



Fully saturated nonaromatic heterocycles







Thiolan

Oxetene

Partially saturated nonaromatic heterocycles

Pyran

Aziridine

NH

### Nomenclature of heterocyclic compounds

Monocyclic compounds are named by prefixing the name that indicates the nature of the heteroatom. For example, nitrogen n aza, sulfur n thia, oxygen n oxa, silicon n sila, phosphorus n phospha, and boron n bora.

The size of the ring of monocyclic compounds is indicated by appropriate suffixing for each ring size.

The suffixing depends on the nature of the heteroatom—nitrogen-containing heterocycles and heterocycles without nitrogen are suffixed in different but distinct

ways. The suffixing of aromatic (fully unsaturated) and nonaromatic (fully or partially

sat urated) heterocycles have different but related suffixes.

An example will help to understand the method of naming a heterocyclic compound.

## N (fully unsaturated nitrogen-containing three-membered heterocycle)

H

Azirine Prefix: az-Suffix: -irine (fully unsaturated threemembered heterocycle without a nitrogen atom)

Н

(fully saturated nitrogen containing three-membered heterocycle)

(fully saturated threemembered heterocycle without a nitrogen atom) Oxiren Prefix: ox-Suffix: -iren

Aziridine Prefix: az-Suffix: -iridine

Oxiran Prefix: ox-Suffix: -iran

	Nitrogen present		Nitrogen absent	
Number of ring members	Fully unsaturated (suffix)	Fully saturated (suffix)	Fully unsaturated (suffix)	Fully saturated (suffix)
3	-irine	-iridine	-iren	-iran
	NH Azirine	NH Aziridine	O Oxiren	O Oxiran
4	-ete	-etidine	-et	-etan
12274	NH Azete	NH Azetidine	O Oxet	O Oxetan
5	-ole NH Azole	-olidine NH Azolidine	-ole	-olan
6	-ine	-perhydroine	-in	-ane
	Azine	NH Perhydroazine	⊕O Oxin	Oxane

In a monocyclic compound, numbering starts from the heteroatom and moves in the direction where the substituent gets lower location. For example,



For monocyclic compounds having more than one heteroatom, the priority of the heteroatoms is decided as follows:

- If the group number of the heteroatoms are different, the atom of the higher group number gets higher preference, for example, O (Gr. vi) > N (Gr. v)
- If the group number of the heteroatoms are same, then the lighter atom is preferred, for example, O (atomic mass 16) > S (atomic mass 32)



 $\int_{0}^{4} \int_{0}^{3} Me$ 

5-Methyl-1,3-oxazole

2-Methyl-1,4-thiaoxin

For fused-ring heterocycles, the heterocyclic ring having maximum number of rings

with a simple name is chosen. If more than one heterorings are present, then the

nitrogen containing ring is given preference. For heterorings having no nitrogen, the

order of preference is decided by the above mentioned two rules (1) and (2). When

the parent heteroring is chosen, its name is prefixed by the name of the ring fused

with it, for example, benzo-, naphtho-.

The structure is now written with the greatest number of rings in horizontal

position, and the other nonhorizontal rings are written at the right of the horizontal

row and above it.

To distinguish isomers, the peripheral sides of the parent compound are lettered

as a, b, c . . . , and so on, beginning with "a" for the side C1—C2, "b" for C2—C3 . . . , and

so on. The numbering of the parent ring is done in such a way that the side undergoing

fusion gets the *lowest alphabet*. For example heterocycle isoquinoline ring should

be numbered as follows:



The naphthalene ring is numbered as follows:



Therefore, the name of the isomer



is naphtho[3,2-h]isoquinoline. Another example is given below.



In the above compound, the heteroring is



The compound is, therefore, naphthothiazole. To identify the fused side, the lettering is done as follows:

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