

# Optical Activity

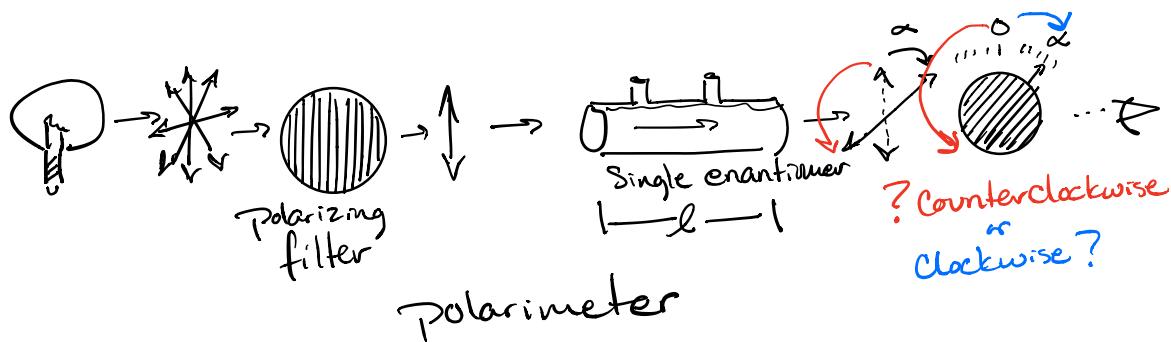
Chemical study

Last time we did Configuration

R & S      Cahn - Ingold - Prelog rules



Optical Activity  $\rightarrow$  Physical Property  
How molecule reacts w/  
Plane Polarized light



$$\text{Specific Rotation} = [\alpha]_D^T = \frac{\alpha}{C l}$$

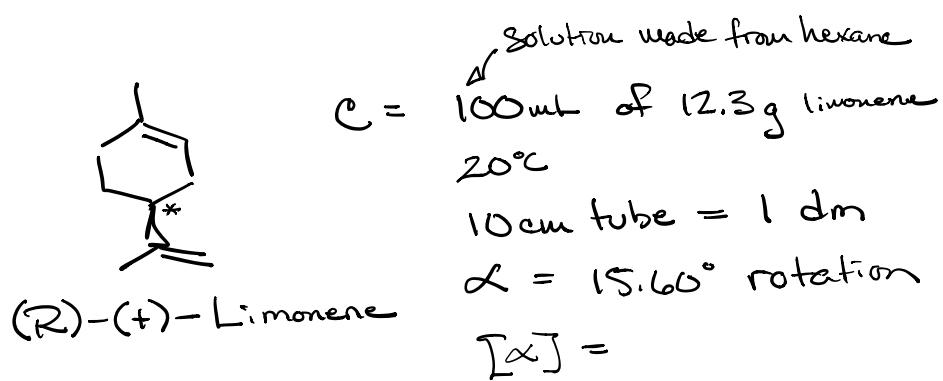
$\alpha$  = Observed rotation

C = Concentration g/ml

l = Path length in dm

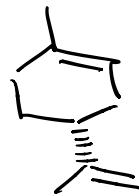
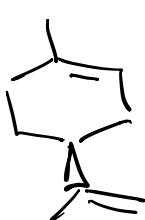
D = Sodium D line 589nm

T = °C



$$[\alpha]_D^{20} = \frac{15.60^\circ}{1 \text{ dm} \times \frac{12.30 \text{ g}}{100 \text{ ml}}} = 126.8^\circ \frac{\text{ml}}{\text{dm} \cdot \text{g}} (\text{C } 0.123; \text{ hexane})$$

$$[\alpha]_D^{20} = 126.8^\circ \text{ (C 0.123; hexane)}$$



$(R)$ - $(+)$ -Limonene     $(S)$ - $(-)$ -Limonene

Absolute Configuration

↑              ↑  
Configuration      Sign of Rotation  
of light

What is our measure of purity?

How do we know we have a pure sample?

-  $\text{Bp}$  or  $\text{Mp}$

- Chromatography TLC or Column or GC

- Spectroscopy IR, NMR, Mass Spec

work for regular Compounds

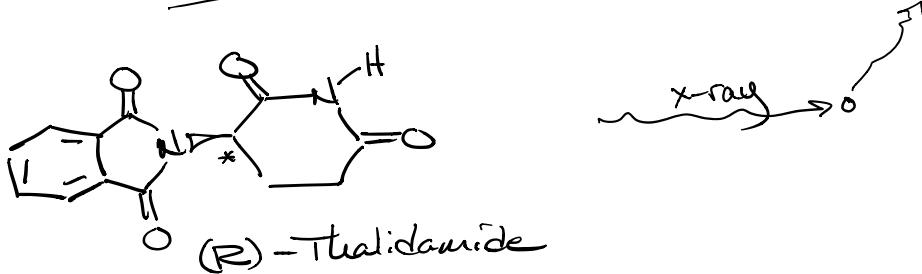
Enantiomers have all factors the same

Have Same  $\text{Mp}$  &  $\text{Bp}$

Have Same Polarity Chromatography

Have Same Structure (atom connectivity)  
~~Spectroscopy~~

Leaves only Optical Activity



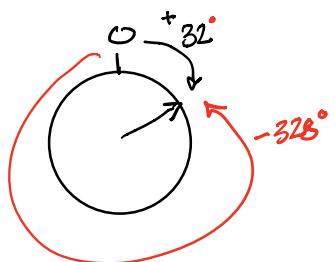
What if the molecule is new, Never before measured,  
how do we know if + or -?

\* Molecule  $23.2\text{ g} / 100\text{ mL MeOH}$

$20^\circ\text{C}$

1 dm tube

$$\alpha = 32^\circ \text{ or } -328^\circ$$



Consider running Polarimeter again cutting  
the conc. in half

$23.2\text{ g} / 200\text{ mL}$

1 dm tube

$20^\circ\text{C}$

$$[\alpha]_D^T = \frac{\alpha}{c l}$$

*Observed Rotation*

$$[\alpha]_D^T = \frac{\alpha}{\frac{1}{2} c l}$$

Same

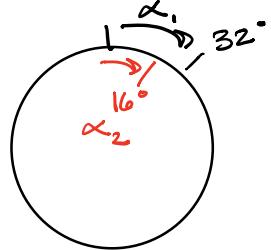
$$\frac{\alpha_2}{\frac{1}{2} c l} = \frac{\alpha_1}{c l}$$

$$\frac{\alpha_2}{\frac{1}{2}} = \alpha_1$$

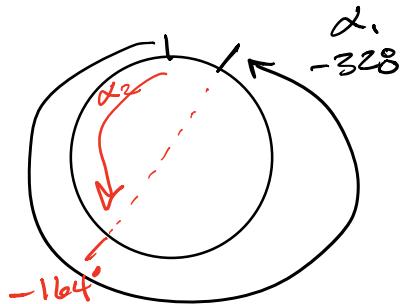
$$2\alpha_2 = \alpha_1$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_1$$

if Rotation was +



if Rotation was -



### Enantiomeric Excess

Single isomer = Enantiomerically pure = Optically Pure

50/50 mixture = Racemic  $\Rightarrow$  non-optically active mixture  
mixture will not rotate light

$\alpha = 0^\circ$   $(+)$  &  $(-)$  cancelling

non-Racemic - Excess of one isomer over the other

% ee = % Enantiomeric excess

The amount of enantiomeric excess can be calculated in a number of ways:

Using observed optical activity

$$\% \text{ee} = \frac{|\text{observed } \alpha|}{|\alpha \text{ pure enantiomer}|} \times 100$$

Ex  $\frac{50^\circ}{100^\circ} \times 100 = 50\% \text{ ee}$

Using %

$$\% \text{ee} = |\% R - \% S|$$

Using Moles

$$\% \text{ee} = \frac{|\text{Moles}_R - \text{Moles}_S|}{\text{Moles}_R + \text{Moles}_S} \times 100$$

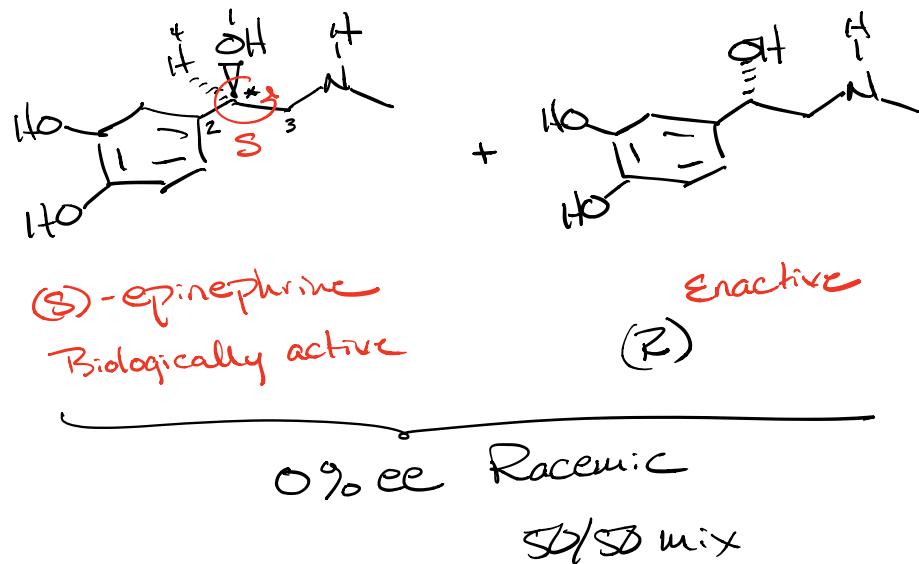
Thus

Mixture 75% R & 25% S

$$\% \text{ee} = |75\% R - 25\% S| = 50\% \text{ ee}$$

$$5\% \text{ee} = |52.5\% R - 47.5\% S| = 5\% \text{ ee of R}$$

of the + isomer

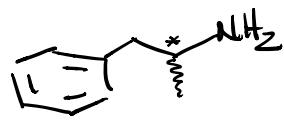


Enantioselective  $\rightarrow$  Chemical Run that make more of 1 isomer than other

Resolution  $\rightarrow$  the process of isolating single isomers from a racemic mixture

## Chiral Resolution

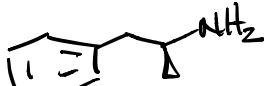
Racemic Mixture amphetamine



out

in

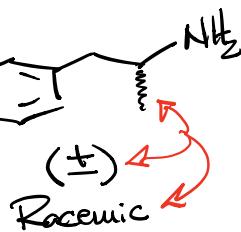
both (Racemic at stereocenter)



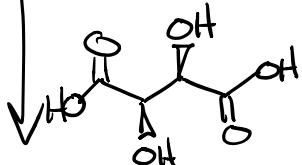
(S)-(+)-amphetamine S0/S0



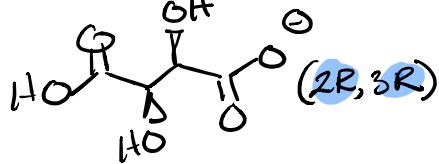
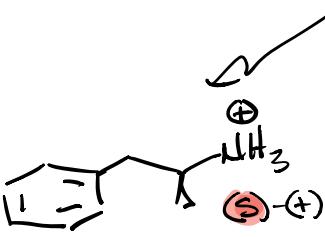
(R)-(-)-amphetamine



Resolving Agent

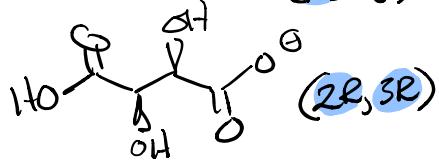
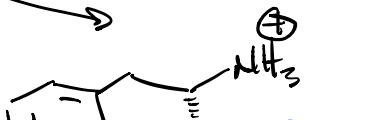


(2R,3R)-(+)-Tartaric Acid



Salt Complex

$[(S) + (2R,3R)]_{(aq)}$



$[(R) + (2R,3R)]_{(S)}$

Relationship between salts  
Enantiomers or Diastereomers?

Diastereomeric Salts

## Stereochemical Symbols & Meanings

+ - Rotations of light

d l dextrorotatory = + Levorotatory = -

R S Configuration based on Cahn-Ingold-Prelog

D L Used for Sugars & Amino acids

(Small Caps)

