Chemistry 2.5 Organic Chemistry

Isomerism

Isomers

- Isomers are molecules that has the same composition but arranged differently either by different bonding order or different position in space
- There are two types of isomers
 - Structural isomers- different bonding order
 - Stereo-isomers- different position in space
 - Geometric isomers
 - Optical isomers (level 3)

Structural isomers

- Molecules which have the same atom composition (molecular formula) but atoms are arranged in different order (structural formula).
- Example



Stereo-isomers

- Molecules have the same atoms to atoms arrangement but different positions in space.
- Their condensed structural formulae will be the same but their structural formulae will be different.
- There are two forms of steroisomers
 - Geometric (cis- and trans)
 - Optical (level 3)

Geometric isomers

 Also called *cis- trans-* isomers, are caused by the **rigidity** of the double bond in alkene.



Geometric isomers requirements

- The compound must have a C=C double bond.
- Each carbon of the double bond must have two different groups attached to it.



Example

• All the possible structural isomer of C_4H_8



Geometric isomer of C₄H₈



cis but-2-ene

trans but-2-ene