

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Organic Chemistry

## Chapter 6:

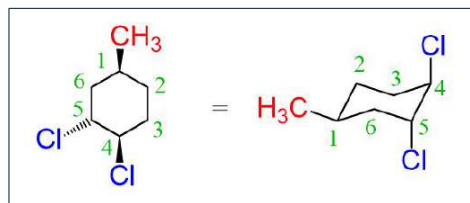
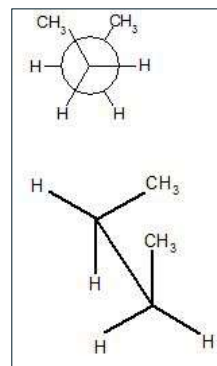
## Conformations

Alkanes, Chairs, and Newman  
Projections

## Chapter 6 Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. Describe the need for conformation analysis as it relates to alkanes.
2. Draw Newman Projections for various alkanes.
3. Rotate and assess stability of Newman Projections.
4. Draw chair conformations of cyclohexanes, including all axial and equatorial positions.
5. Flip and assess the stability of various chair conformations.



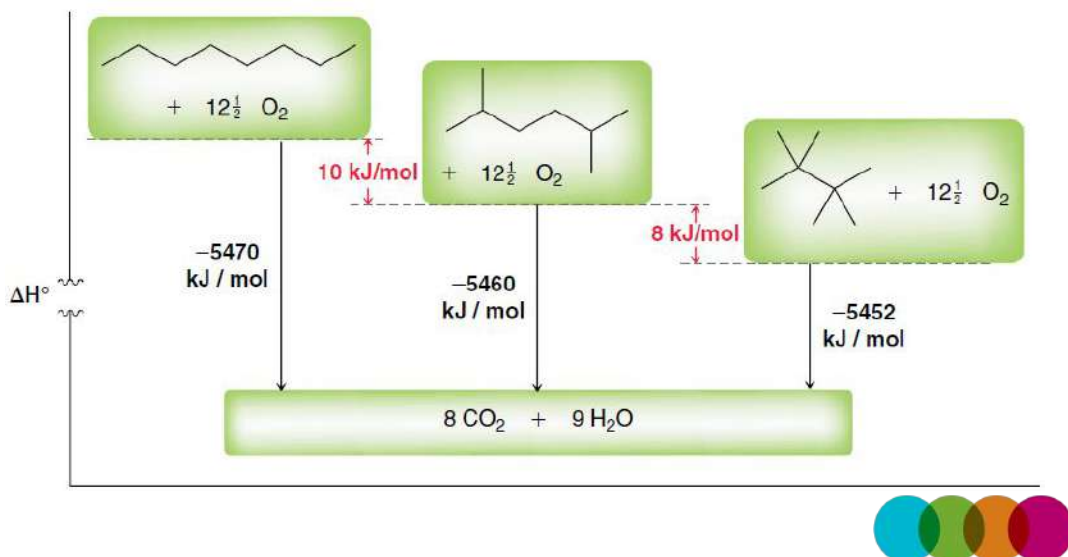
## 6.0 Relative Stability of Isomers

- To rationalize and predict the outcomes of chemical reactions, it is helpful to assess stability of compounds
- Remember: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ potential energy = \_\_\_\_\_ will be released upon reacting
- If you drove a car today, what chemical reaction with alkanes did you perform?
- What is the general reaction equation for a combustion?



## 6.0 Relative Stability of Isomers

- Compare the heats of combustion for 3 octane isomers



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## 6.0 Sources and Uses of Alkanes

- \_\_\_\_\_, which literally means \_\_\_\_\_ is the main source of alkanes
- Petroleum is a mixture of hundreds of hydrocarbons, mostly alkanes with varying numbers of carbons and varying degrees of branching
- The alkanes in petroleum with 5 to 12 carbons per molecule are most valuable, and they can be separated from the rest of the oil by distillation
- HOW does distillation work?



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## 6.0 Sources and Uses of Alkanes

- Table 4.5 shows the various components of petroleum

**TABLE 4.5** INDUSTRIAL USES OF PETROLEUM FRACTIONS

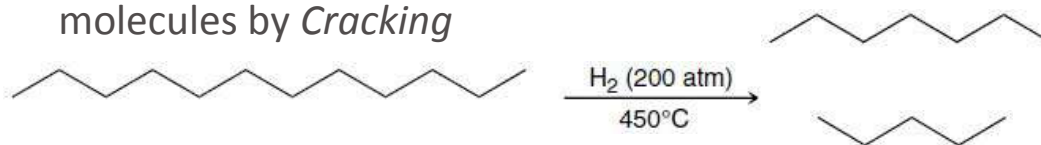
BOILING RANGE OF FRACTION (° C)	NUMBER OF CARBON ATOMS IN MOLECULES	USE
Below 20	C <sub>1</sub> – C <sub>4</sub>	Natural gas, petrochemicals, plastics
20 – 100	C <sub>5</sub> – C <sub>7</sub>	Solvents
40 – 200	C <sub>5</sub> – C <sub>12</sub>	Gasoline
175 – 300	C <sub>12</sub> – C <sub>18</sub>	Kerosene, jet fuel
275 – 400	C <sub>12</sub> and higher	Heating oil, diesel
Nonvolatile liquids	C <sub>20</sub> and higher	Lubricating oil, grease
Nonvolatile solids	C <sub>20</sub> and higher	Wax, asphalt, tar

- The gasoline fraction of crude oil only makes up about 19%



## 6.0 Sources and Uses of Alkanes

- Gasoline is a mixture of straight, branched, and aromatic hydrocarbons (5-12 carbons in size)
- Large alkanes can be broken down into smaller molecules by *Cracking*



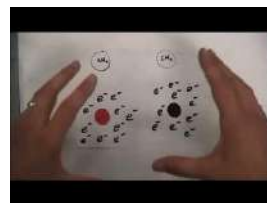
- Straight chain alkanes can be converted into branched alkanes and aromatic compounds through *Reforming*
- After using these processes, the yield of gasoline is about 47% rather than 19%



## 6.0 Sources and Uses of Alkanes

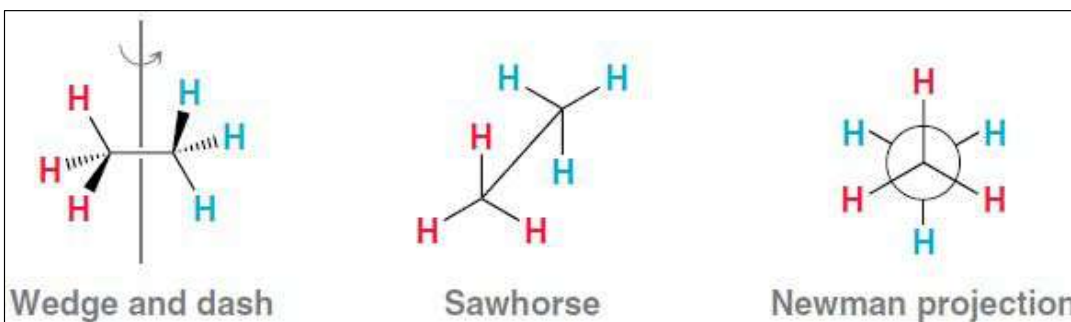
- At room temperature
  - Small alkanes with 1-4 carbons are gasses
  - Medium size alkanes with 5-12 carbons are liquids
  - Large alkanes with 13-20 carbons are oils
  - Extra large alkanes with 20-100 carbons are solids like tar and wax
  - Super-sized alkanes called polymers can have thousands or millions of carbon atoms in each molecule
- What type of properties would you expect such polymers to possess?
- Why? Consider London forces

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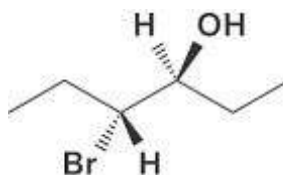
## 6.1 Newman Projections

- We know that \_\_\_\_\_
- Different rotational states are called \_\_\_\_\_
- 3D Rotational conformations are difficult to represent on a 2D paper. *It's useful to make a molecular model to help you visualize the structures*
- Here are three ways to represent ethane



# Review with Wedges and Dashes

1. It doesn't matter if the wedge is on the left or right
2. EACH tetrahedral carbon will have:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ straight bonds (in-plane of paper)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ wedge (coming towards you)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ dash (going away from you)
3. Sometimes we won't show all of the wedges/dashes, especially if they are H's attached to carbons

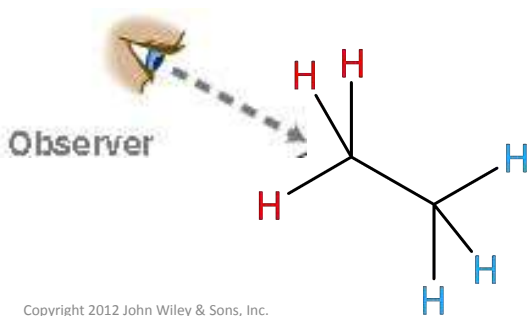


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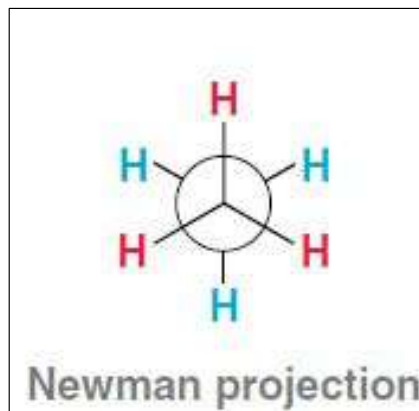
Wedge and dash

## 6.1 Newman Projections

- Look directly down the C-C single bond axis. This is where it is especially helpful to have a model
- The front carbon should eclipse the single bond and the carbon behind it
- Show the front carbon as a point and the back carbon as a large circle behind it

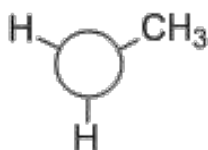


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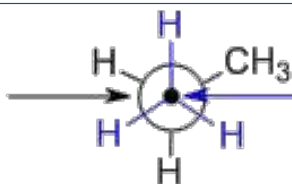


## 6.1 How to Draw Newman Projections

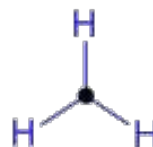
The "circle" defines the **back** carbon atom and the groups attached to it



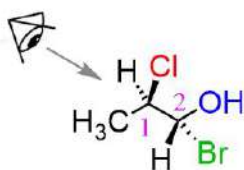
back carbon only



The "dot" defines the **front** carbon atom and the groups attached to it



front carbon only



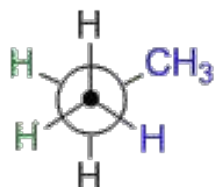
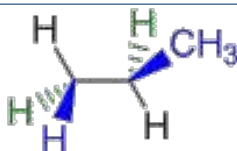
Newman



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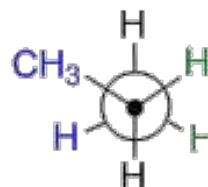
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### Newman Projections are all about PERSPECTIVE!



when viewed from the left  
(methyl group on back C  
and to the right)

remember **hashes**  
are in to the page  
(back) and **wedges**  
are out of the page  
(forward)



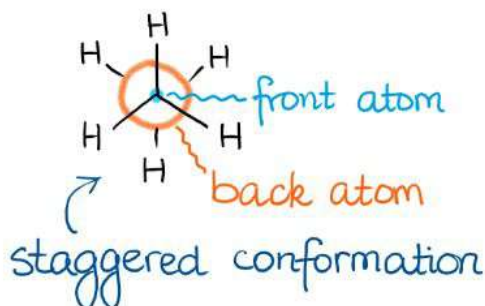
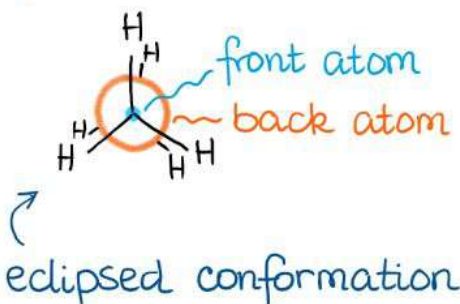
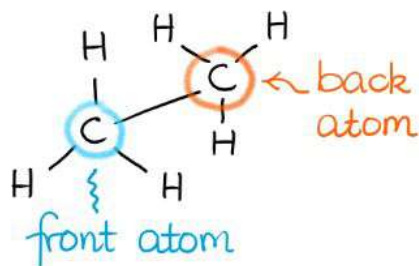
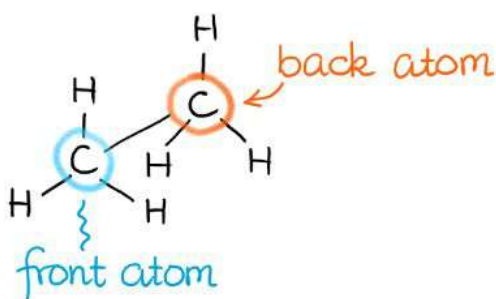
when viewed from the right  
(methyl group on the front  
C and to the left)



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There will usually be an arrow or eyes telling you which way to view your molecule from.



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## Short-Cuts we may see...

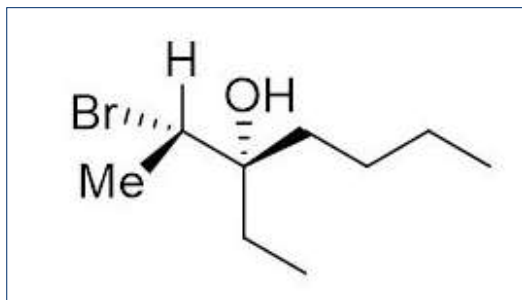
$\text{CH}_3$  = methyl = \_\_\_\_\_

$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$  = ethyl = \_\_\_\_\_

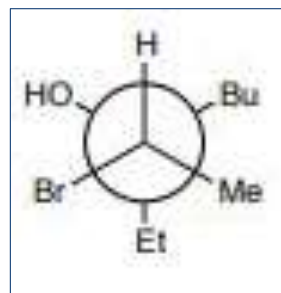
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$  = propyl = \_\_\_\_\_

$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$  = butyl = \_\_\_\_\_

*\*There are many more - just try to reason them out!*



This wedge/dash drawing is the same as the Newman Projection



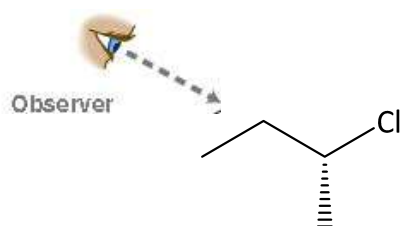
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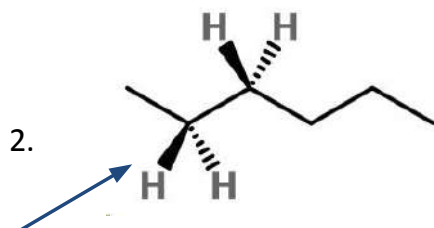
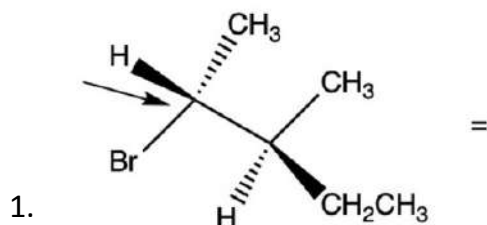
## 6.1 Newman Projections

- Draw a Newman projection for the following molecule



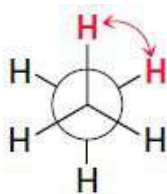
- How would it look if the observer were viewing it from the opposite direction?

Let's Practice! Draw the Newman projection as it is shown (don't rotate yet!)



## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- What is the angle between H atoms on the same carbon? In the Newman projection it looks like  $120^\circ$ .
- Does the angle affect stability? WHY? Think about areas of *high electron density repelling*
- The angle between H atoms on adjacent carbons is called a dihedral or \_\_\_\_\_ angle. It is  $60^\circ$  in the molecule below

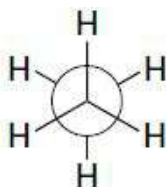


Dihedral angle =  $60^\circ$

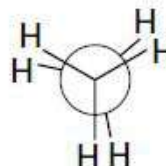


## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- If ethane were to rotate  $60^\circ$  about the C-C bond, the the H atoms on adjacent carbons eclipse one another
- Compare the stability of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ conformations based on the repulsion of areas of high electron density



Staggered conformation  
Lowest in energy

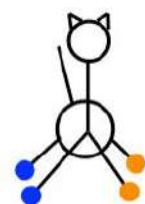


Eclipsed conformation  
Highest in energy

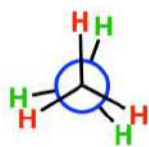
- What other conformations are possible?



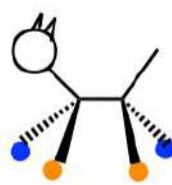
Sometimes the molecules given have an “eclipsed” formation.



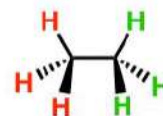
Front view



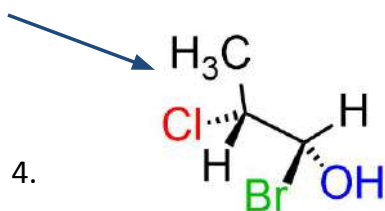
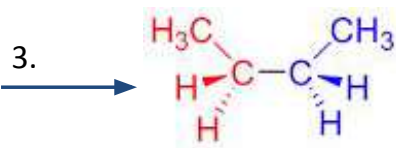
Eclipsed conformation  
(Newman projection)



Side view



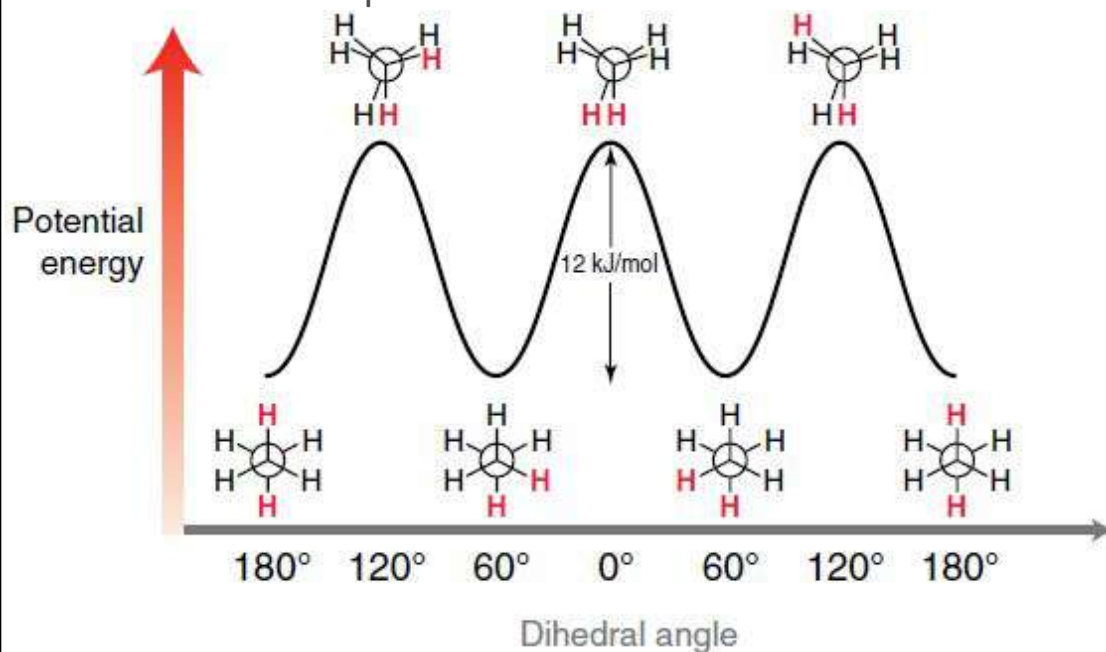
Eclipsed  
(side view)



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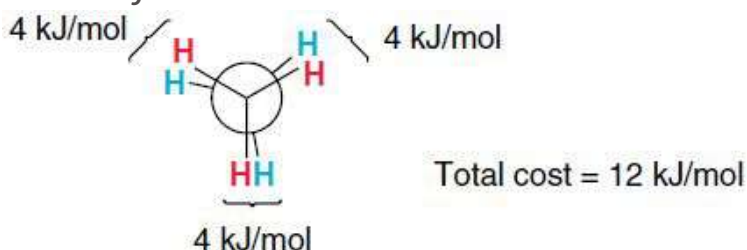
## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- Consider a complete 360° rotation about the C-C bond



## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- The difference in energy between the staggered and eclipsed conformations is called **torsional strain**
- With a difference of 12 kJ/mol in stability, at room temperature, 99% of the molecules will be in the staggered conformation

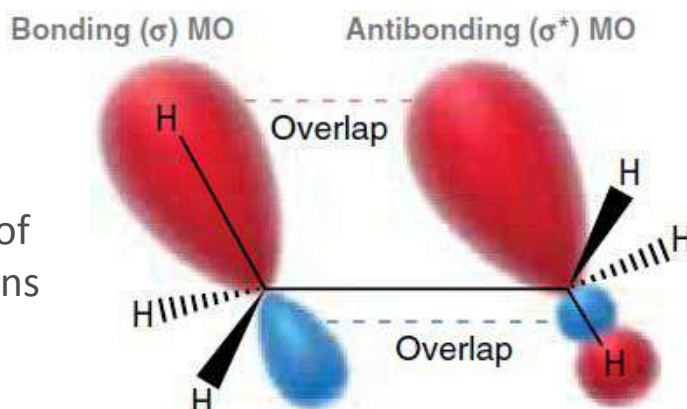


- How would the ratio change at a higher temperature?



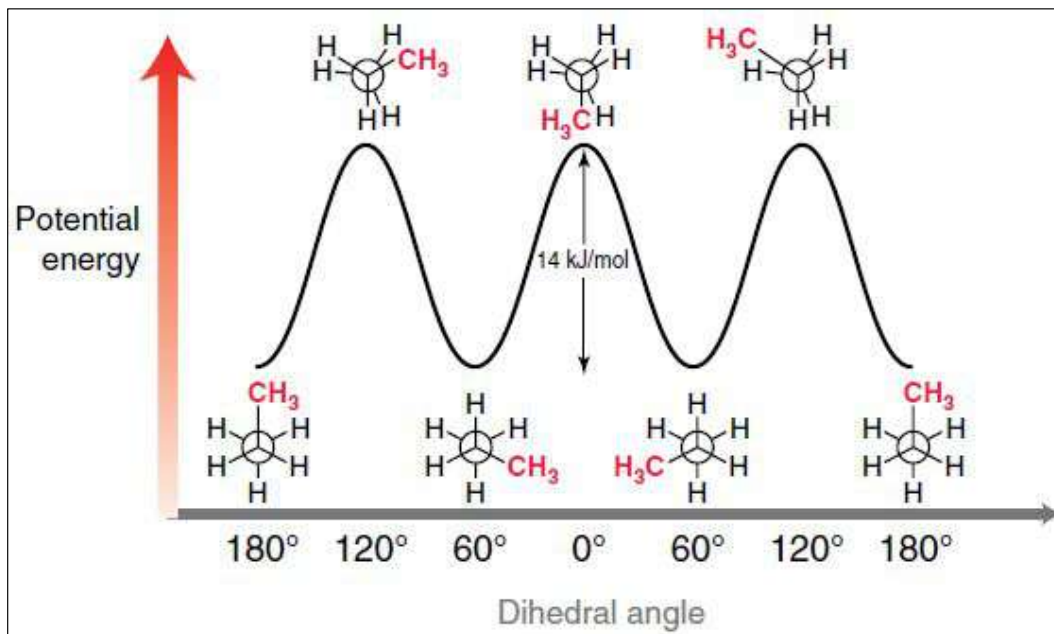
## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- Torsional strain** can also be explained using molecular orbital theory
- In the staggered conformation, the bonding and antibonding MOs of neighboring carbons overlap



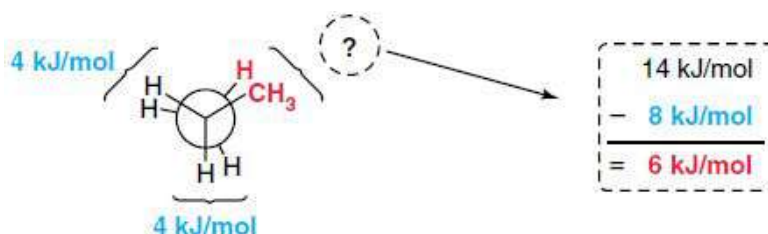
## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- The analysis of **torsional strain** for propane shows a very similar situation



## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- The **torsional strain** for propane is 14 kJ/mol, which is 2 kJ/mol more than for ethane
- If each H-----H eclipsing interaction costs 4 kJ/mol of stability, that total can be subtracted from the total 14 kJ/mol to calculate the contribution of a CH<sub>3</sub>-----H eclipsing interaction



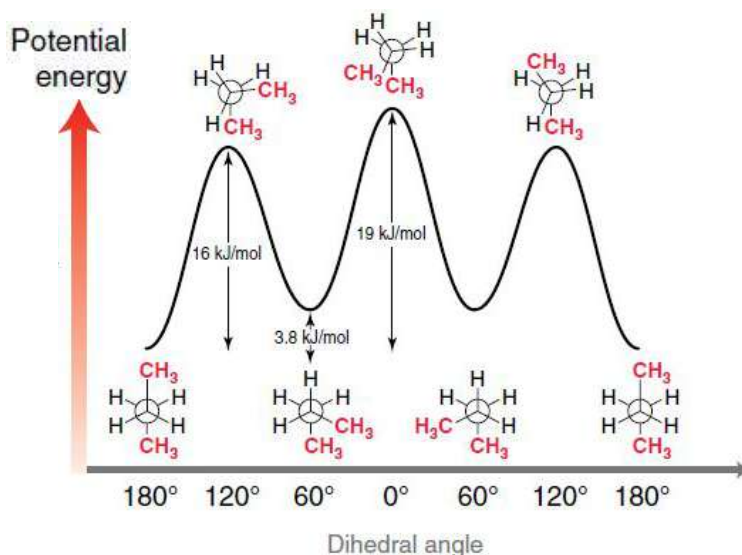
- Practice with conceptual checkpoint 4.19



## 6.2 Butane's Conformations

- The analysis of **torsional strain** for butane shows more variation

- Note that there are multiple staggered conformations and multiple eclipsed conformations



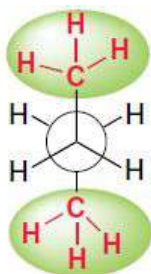
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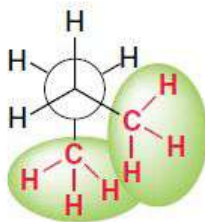
## 6.2 Butane's Conformations

- The stability of the different staggered conformations differs by 3.8 kJ/mol
- The anti conformation has less steric hindrance.



Anti

Methyl groups are farthest apart



Gauche

Methyl groups experience a gauche interaction



Gauche

Methyl groups experience a gauche interaction

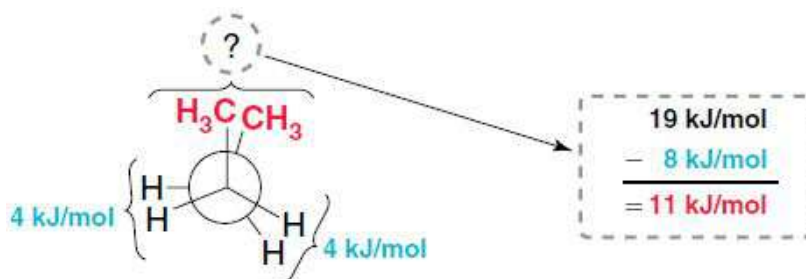
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## 6.2 Butane's Conformations

- The least stable conformation results when the methyl groups eclipse one another



- Each CH<sub>3</sub>-----CH<sub>3</sub> **eclipsing** interaction accounts for 11 kJ/mol of energy (torsional and steric strain).

## 6.2 Butane's Conformations

- The values in table 4.6 can be used to predict relative energies for various conformations

\*We don't have to do this for regular points in HS!

INTERACTION	TYPE OF STRAIN	ENERGY COST
 H—H Eclipsed	Torsional strain	4 (KJ/MOL)
 CH <sub>3</sub> —H Eclipsed	Torsional strain	6
 CH <sub>3</sub> —CH <sub>3</sub> Eclipsed	Torsional strain + steric hindrance	11
 CH <sub>3</sub> —CH <sub>3</sub> Gauche	Steric hindrance	3.8

## 6.2 Rotational Conformations

- Draw a Newman projection for the highest and lowest energy conformations for 2,2,3,5,5-pentamethylhexane from C3 to C4. (*you will have to rotate the bonds*)

### Recap the Stability of Newman Projections

Staggered		Eclipsed
Anti	Gauche	
Most Stable	Stable	Least Stable



# Extra Practice

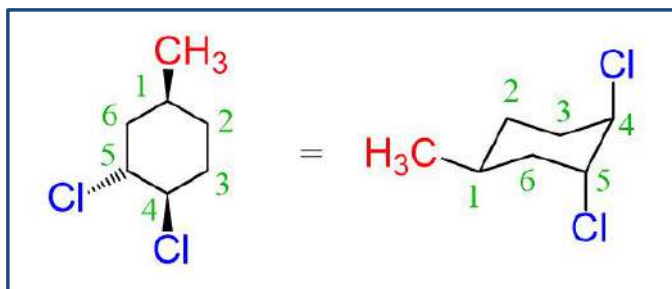
**Draw Newman projections for each of the following situations.**

1. The highest energy conformation of 3-methylnonane along the C4 to C5 bond axis
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The lowest energy conformation of trans-1-bromo-2-methylhexane along the C1 to C2 axis



# Chapter 6 - Part II

## Chair Conformations



Intro Crash Course Organic  
Chemistry Video for cycloalkanes

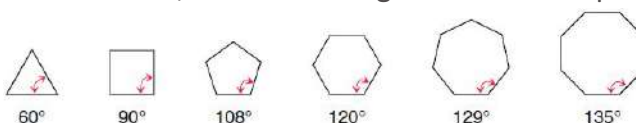


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### 6.3 Cyclic Alkanes

- Carbon atoms in alkanes are  $sp^3$  hybridized
  - What bond angles are optimal for such carbons?
- If **cycloalkanes were flat**, what bond angles would be expected?



- To optimize the bond angles, most cycloalkanes are NOT flat in their most stable conformation

- Build a cyclohexane without the hydrogens**

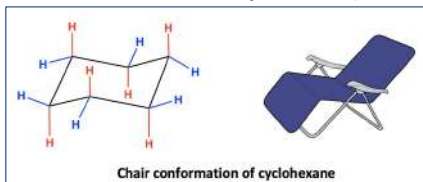
- Why are heats of combustion reported per  $CH_2$  group?
- Considering the data in the table which ring has the least **ring strain**?

CYCLOALKANE	NUMBER OF $CH_2$ GROUPS	HEAT OF COMBUSTION PER $CH_2$ GROUP (KJ / MOL)
Cyclopropane	3	697
Cyclobutane	4	680
Cyclopentane	5	658
Cyclohexane	6	653
Cycloheptane	7	657
Cyclooctane	8	658
Cyclononane	9	659
Cyclodecane	10	659
Cycloundecane	11	661
Cyclododecane	12	654

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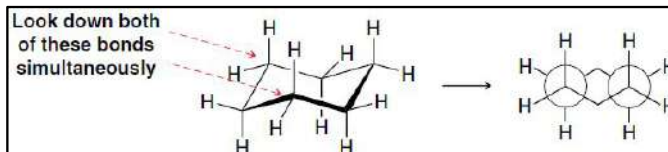
## 6.3 Cyclohexane

- Cyclohexane is considered to have ZERO ring strain in its optimal conformation, \_\_\_\_\_
- 1. No angle strain - angles must be  $109.5^\circ$
- 2. No torsional strain - all adjacent C-H bonds must be \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ are vertical, \_\_\_\_\_ go around the outside like the equator. (or a tutu!)



- Chairs can be drawn like 2 Newman Projections, but we don't often do this in HS organic chemistry.
- Add the H's on to your carbon cyclohexane to create the chair. Look down the planes like in the picture below:

Chairs & Newman Projections

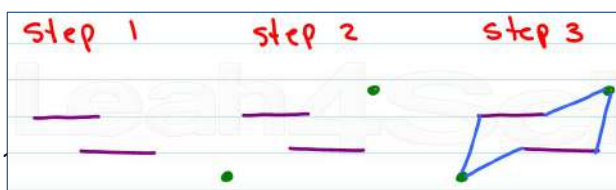


## 6.3 Drawing Chairs

- It is critical to draw a CHAIR properly.** Use three sets of parallel lines
- Let's Practice in the space below! *Draw at least 6 chairs!*

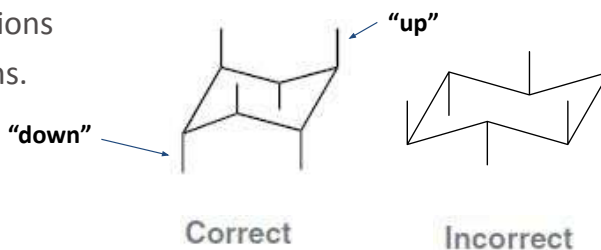


You can also use this "hack" to draw your "forward" chairs!



## 6.3 Drawing Axial Positions

- SIX of the atoms attached to the chair are **axial**. Axial groups point straight up and down alternating around the ring. *Mrs. H likes to start with what she calls "carbon #1" it is vertically "up".*
- Practice drawing 3 chairs with axial positions in the space below
  - there are 3 axial "up" positions
  - and 3 axial "down" positions.



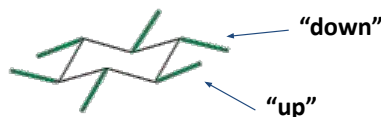
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## 6.3 Drawing Equatorial Positions

- SIX of the atoms attached to the chair are **equatorial**. Equatorial substituents are positioned at angles parallel to the sets of parallel lines making up the chair itself. *Mrs. H likes to start with what she calls "carbon #1" it is equatorial "down", it will alternate between "up" and "down" just like the axial positions.*



- Practice drawing 3 chairs with equatorial positions in the space below
  - there are 3 equatorial "up" positions
  - and 3 equatorial "down" positions.

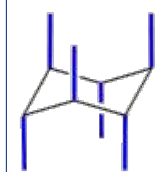


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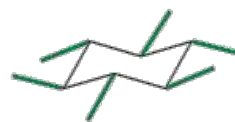
## 6.3 Putting it all together

1. Start by drawing your chair shape, making sure to watch your parallel lines!
2. Then add all the axial positions, alternating "up, down, up, etc"
3. Then all the equatorial position, this time starting with "down, up, down etc."

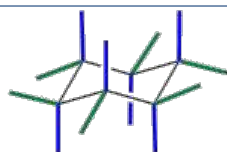
Now it is your turn! Draw out 2 chairs with all the axial and equatorial positions labeled!



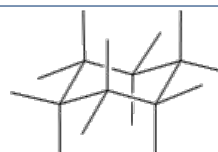
axial positions



equatorial positions



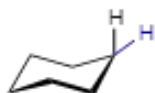
axial & equatorial positions



typical drawing showing all the axial and equatorial positions. Each C looks tetrahedral

## 6.3 Mistakes to Avoid

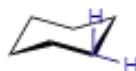
1. Make sure your outside lines are parallel.
2. Axial lines should be vertical!
3. Equatorial lines will be parallel with other lines in the structure of your chair.
4. EACH carbon will have an "up" and "down" position that alternates between axial and equatorial



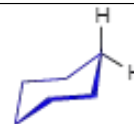
**Incorrect.**  
Equatorial bond should be down and out.



**Incorrect.**  
Axial bond should be straight up.



**Incorrect.**  
Axial bond should be straight down, equatorial bond should be up and out.



**Incorrect.**  
Ring should be tilted slightly.  
*YouTuber Leah4Sci draws them like this - it's technically ok, but try to avoid it!*

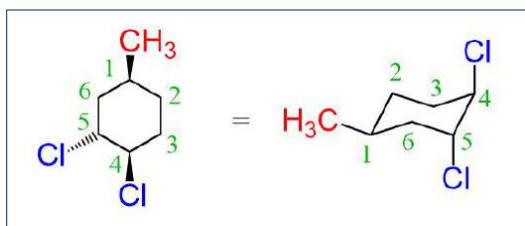
Video tutorial for drawing/labeling chairs. Note: It also shows the flipped chair towards the end!



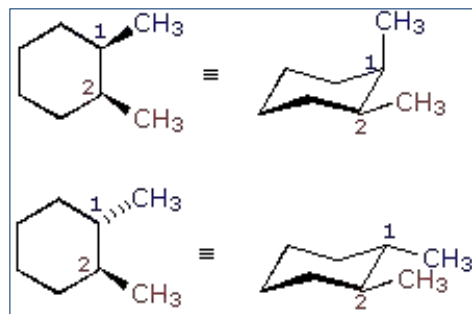
**READ Pages 115-118 in the Klein Packet (Section 6.3)**

## 6.4 Placing Groups on the Chair

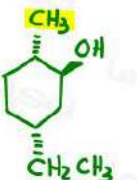
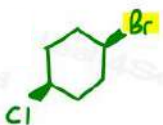
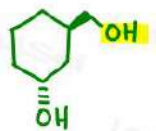
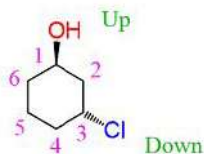
1. \_\_\_\_\_ are coming towards us on the paper, these will be in an "\_\_\_\_" position.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ are going into the plane of the paper, these will be in a "\_\_\_\_" position
3. You can actually start at any carbon, but Mrs. H. likes to always reference the top carbon on the cyclohexane as the top right on the ring as carbon #1 and move clockwise. (They aren't the same numbers as we use in naming - we could rotate this around!)
4. You only need to show the axial & equatorial positions of the carbons that have "stuff" on them.



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## 6.4 Practice Making a Cyclohexane into a Chair

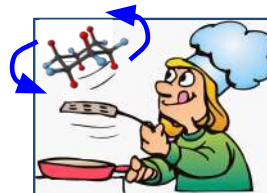


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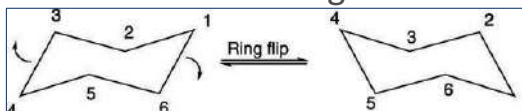
**READ** Pages 118-122  
in the Klein Packet  
(Section 6.4) and  
complete **practice**  
**problems 6.15-6.21**

## 6.5 Ring Flipping

- Flipping a chair is not like flipping a pancake. Flipping a chair is the result of C-C single bonds rotating **ONLY**.



- It is actually more of a “shimmy” or “shift”
- Notice the slant or direction of the ring has shifted.

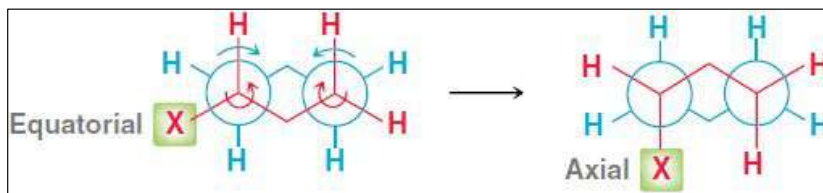


- Practice drawing 2 of the flipped (reversed) rings below!

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## 6.5 More About Ring Flipping

- The Newman projection below shows how flipping occurs **ONLY** through rotating bonds and how it will affect the axial or equatorial position of the substituent

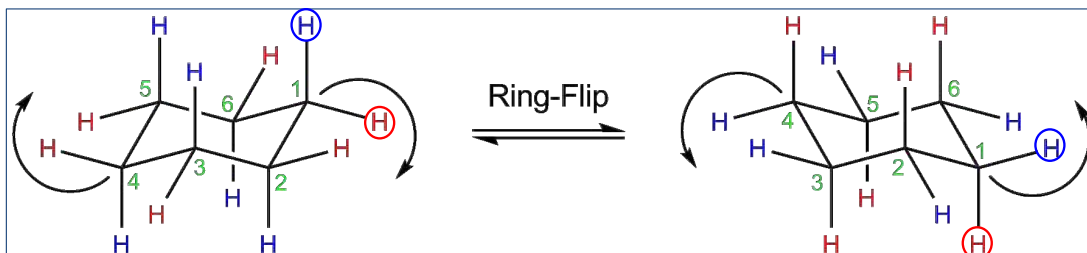


- Such flipping is **MUCH** easier to see with a handheld model. Try it yourself! (*Make the substituents alternating colors of white and green*)
- What happens when you flip the ring to your equatorial and axial positions?*
- What about the up/down aspect?)*

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## 6.5 Ring Flipping

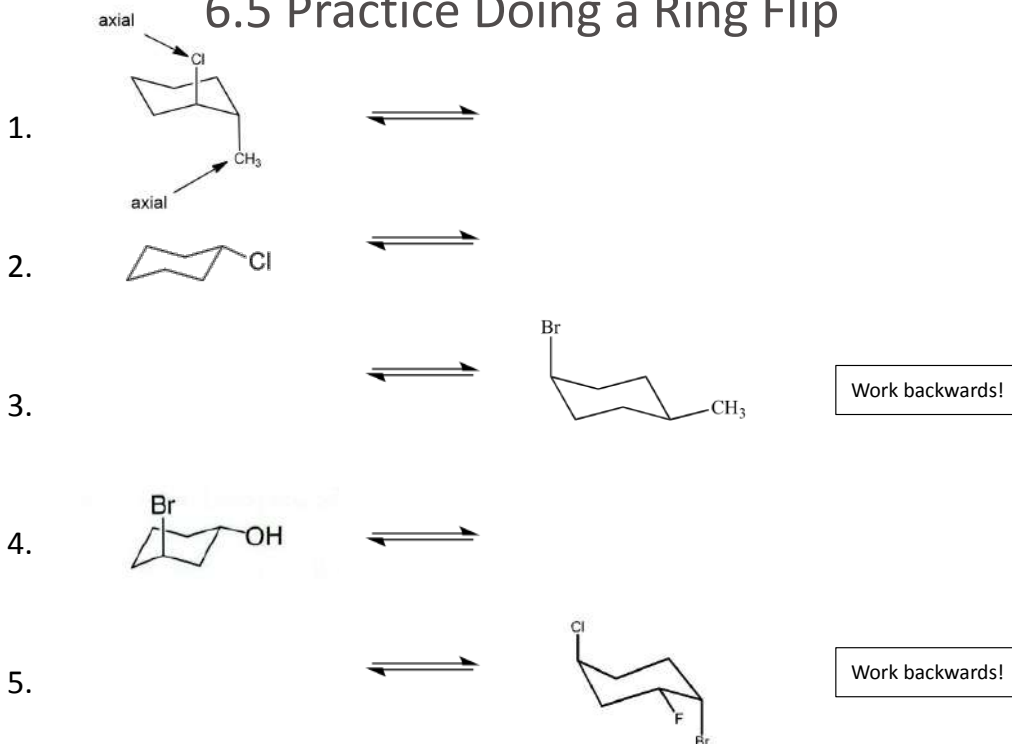
- We have to learn the equatorial and axial positions of the flipped chair as well.
- Notice that only the concept of axial/equatorial is switching. the “up/down” terminology stays the same!**



- Practice drawing 2 of the flipped (reversed) rings below with all of the axial/equatorial positions drawn!*

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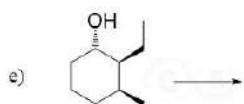
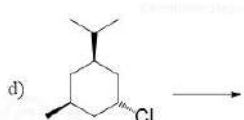
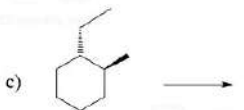
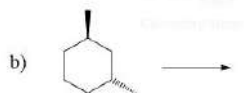
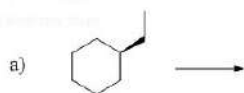
## 6.5 Practice Doing a Ring Flip



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## 6.5 Practice Making Both Chairs

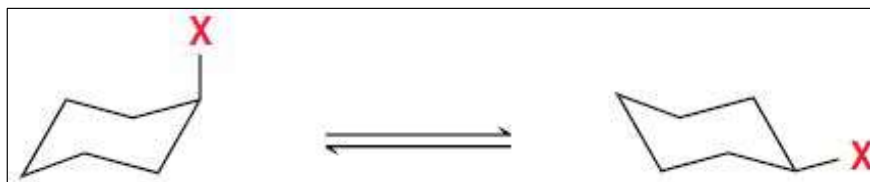


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**READ Pages 118-123**  
in the Klein Packet  
(Section 6.5) and  
complete **practice**  
**problems 6.22-6.36**

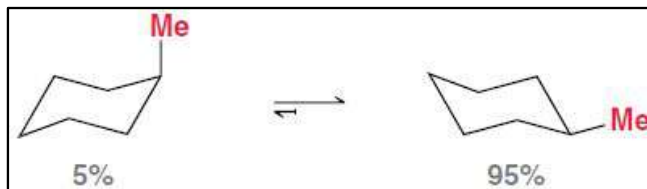
## 6.6 Comparing the Stability of Chairs

- The vast majority of cyclohexane molecules will exist in the chair conformation at any given moment. WHY?
- When energy (45 kJ/mol) is available, it can **flip** from one chair form to another.
  - Why do you think energy is needed? (*Think of spontaneous things in nature!*)
  - Which "position" (axial or equatorial) do you think is more "comfortable" for the substituent?



## 6.6 Comparing the Stability of Chairs

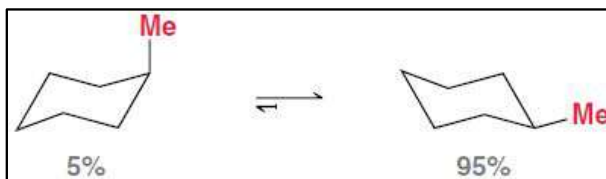
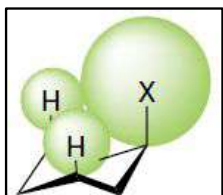
- If both versions of the CHAIR were equally stable, you would have a 50/50 mixture of axial/equatorial
- Consider methylcyclohexane



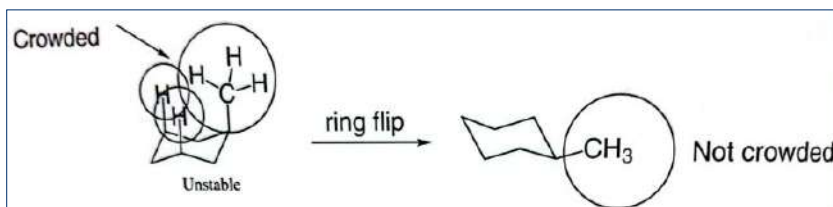
- Why does the equatorial chair dominate the equilibrium?
- Does the axial substituent cause additional angle or torsional strain?

## 6.6 Comparing the Stability of Chairs

- The axial substituent causes additional steric strain

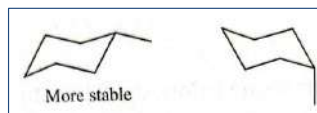


- Such steric crowding is called “**diaxial strain**”, specifically, the molecule above has “1,3-diaxial strain”. WHY?
  - This “strain” can also be called “**steric hindrance**”
  - you may have to “flip” the ring to see which conformation will be present the most.

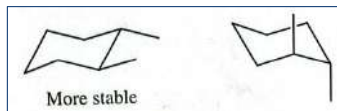


## 6.6 Comparing the Stability of Chairs

- If you have one group on the ring, the more stable chair will have it in the equatorial position.



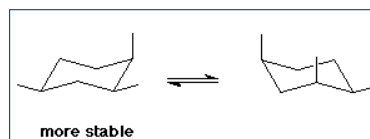
- If you have 2 groups on the ring, its most stable when both groups are in the equatorial position...



- If **both** can't be in the **equatorial position**, the larger of the two groups will be more stable in the equatorial position.



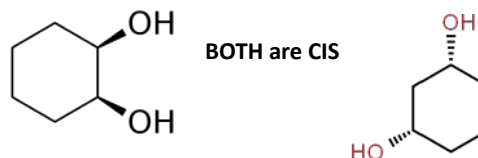
- If you have more than 2 groups, use the same logic we used above!



**PRACTICE:** Go back to where you drew out both chairs on the previous slides for section 6.5 (#1-5 and a-e), **circle the more stable chairs**. If there is a tie, explain why! Then, read Klein packet pages 129-133 (section 6.6) and answer questions 6.38-6.45.

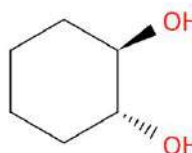
## 6.7 Don't be Confused by Nomenclature

- Some nomenclature can be confusing. We will see terms like "cis and trans" when we don't have double bonds.
- When we have 2 groups **both** "up" or **both** "down", we say they are **cis** to each other.



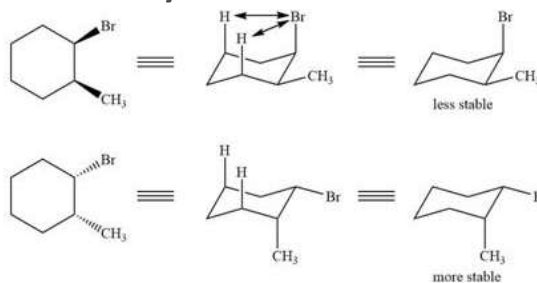
- When we have 2 groups and **one** is "up" and the **other** "down", we say they are **trans** to each other.

- Axial/equatorial does not matter here!
  - Remember -ane- means all single bonds



## 6.7 Don't be Confused by Nomenclature

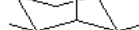
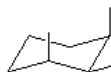
- Cis and Trans can be used for cyclohexanes that have more than just 2 groups



- In these examples the groups are all cis to each other: they would all be on wedges (or dashes - not shown)

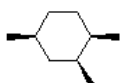
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all-cis-1,2,3-



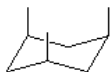
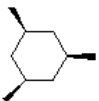
more stable

all-cis-1,2,4-



more stable

all-cis-1,3,5-



more stable

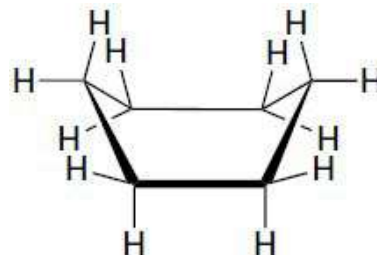
## 6.7 Don't be Confused by Nomenclature Practice

- Determine if the cis or trans conformation of para-dibromocyclohexane would be more stable. (*Hint: you will want to draw each possibility out, don't forget about the flipped rings! Once you "get it" you won't have to do as much work!*)

## More types of Conformations for Cyclohexanes

- Other conformations of hexane exist but are a bit less stable. Consider **THE BOAT**

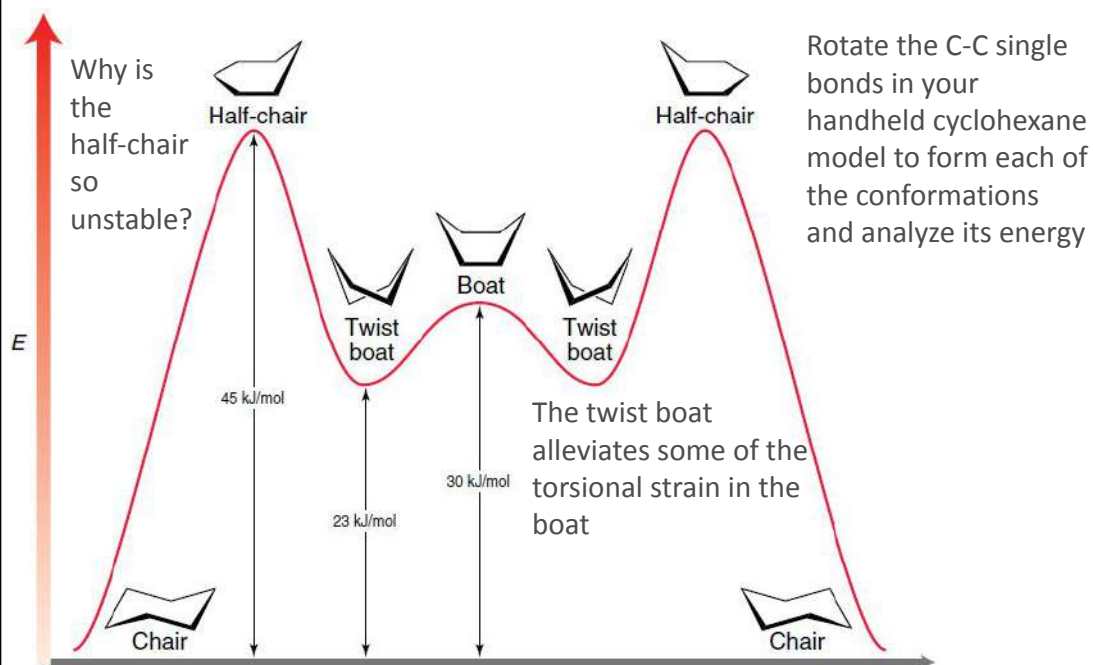
- No angle strain - angles are  $109.5^\circ$
- Torsional strain.
  - Use a molecular model to identify all four pairs of eclipsing C-H bonds
  - Draw a Newman projection that illustrates the torsional strain
- Steric strain – flagpole interactions.  
WHERE?



- Why is this conformation called the BOAT?
- You can create a cyclohexane model and create the conformations.

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## Cyclohexane Conformations



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