

Past-paper walk-through

Alkenes ■ 14.2

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 9701/11 N25 Q27 ■ 1 mark
- 9701/12 N25 Q27 ■ 1 mark
- 9701/12 N25 Q28 ■ 1 mark
- 9701/12 N25 Q29 ■ 1 mark
- 9701/14 N25 Q29 ■ 1 mark
- 9701/21 N25 Q4 ■ 15 marks

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 27

9701/11 N25 ■ Q27 ■ 1 mark

27 Which intermediate ion forms in the greatest amount during the addition of HBr to propene?

- A** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}^+\text{CH}_3$
- B** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2^+$
- C** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}^-\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$
- D** $\text{CH}_3\text{CHBrCH}_2^-$

Solution 27

Answer: **A**

Why

- H^+ adds so as to leave the more stable carbocation.
- On propene that is the *secondary* cation $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}^+\text{CH}_3$, stabilised by two alkyl groups.
- The primary cation is far less stable, so much less of it forms.

Question 27

9701/12 N25 ■ Q27 ■ 1 mark

27 What is the major product when 2-methylpent-2-ene reacts with hydrogen bromide?

- A** 1-bromo-2-methylpentane
- B** 2-bromo-2-methylpentane
- C** 3-bromo-2-methylpentane
- D** 4-bromo-2-methylpentane

Solution 27

Answer: **B**

Why

- Markovnikov: the bromine ends up on the carbon that gives the more stable carbocation.
- Adding H^+ to C3 leaves a *tertiary* cation at C2.
- Br^- then attacks there, giving 2-bromo-2-methylpentane.

Question 28

9701/12 N25 ■ Q28 ■ 1 mark

28 Pent-2-ene is reacted with cold, dilute, acidified manganate(VII) ions.

What is the major product?

- A** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_3$
- B** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COCOCH}_3$
- C** a mixture of $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ and $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_3$
- D** $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COOH}$ and CH_3COOH

Solution 28

Answer: **A**

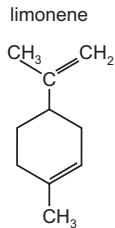
Why

- Cold, dilute manganate(VII) adds two OH groups across the $C=C$.
- Pent-2-ene therefore gives the 2,3-diol.
- Hot concentrated conditions would break the $C=C$ right open and give carboxylic acids instead.

Question 29

9701/12 N25 ■ Q29 ■ 1 mark

29 Limonene is an oil formed in the peel of citrus fruits.



Which product is formed when an excess of bromine, Br₂(l), reacts with limonene at room temperature in the dark?

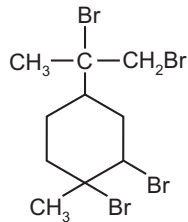
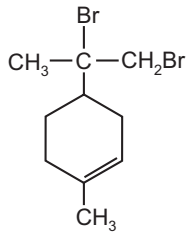
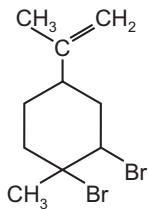
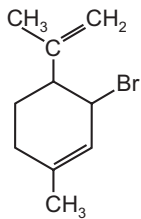
A

B

C

D

Question 29



Solution 29

Answer: **D**

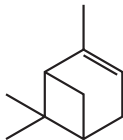
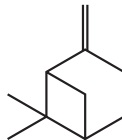
Why

- In the dark there is no free-radical substitution, so bromine simply adds across $C=C$.
- Limonene has two $C=C$ bonds, one in the ring and one in the side chain.
- With bromine in excess both add, so four bromine atoms are taken up.

Question 29

9701/14 N25 ■ Q29 ■ 1 mark

29 Pinenes are unsaturated compounds. The structures of two pinenes are shown.

 α -pinene β -pinene

A mixture of these two pinenes reacts with hot concentrated acidified KMnO_4 .

What are the molecular formulae of the organic products?

Question 29

- A** $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{14}\text{O}$ and $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3$
- B** $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{14}\text{O}$ and $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_4$
- C** $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$ and $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3$
- D** $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$ and $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_4$

Solution 29

Answer: **A**

Why

- Hot concentrated manganate(VII) cleaves each $\text{C}=\text{C}$ completely.
- A carbon of the $\text{C}=\text{C}$ that carries an alkyl group becomes a ketone; one carrying a hydrogen becomes a carboxylic acid.
- The two pinenes have their double bonds in different places, so their products have different formulae.

Question 4

9701/21 N25 ■ Q4 ■ 15 marks

- 4 Fig. 4.1 shows a possible synthesis of propene, C_3H_6 .

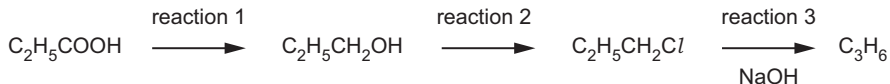


Fig. 4.1

- (a) (i) Identify the type of reaction that occurs in reaction 1.

Question 4

- (ii) Suggest a suitable reagent for reaction 2.

Question 4

(iii) Reaction 3 is an elimination reaction.

Write an equation for this reaction and identify the solvent and conditions used.

Question 4

Question 4

[2]

(iv) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ can be directly converted to C_3H_6 .

Suggest the reagent and conditions for this conversion.

Question 4

(b) Under suitable conditions, propene polymerises to form poly(propene).

Poly(propene) exhibits stereoisomerism.

(i) Identify the type of polymerisation that forms poly(propene) from propene.

Question 4

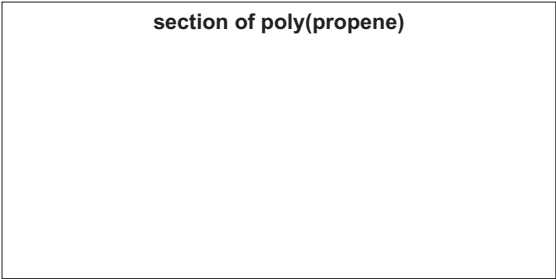
(ii) Define stereoisomerism.

Question 4

- (iii) Draw a section of poly(propene), showing **two** repeat units.

Use your diagram to identify the type of stereoisomerism shown by poly(propene).
Explain your answer.

section of poly(propene)



Question 4

[3]

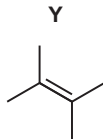
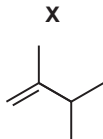
(iv) State **two** difficulties associated with the disposal of poly(propene).

Question 4

Question 4

[2]

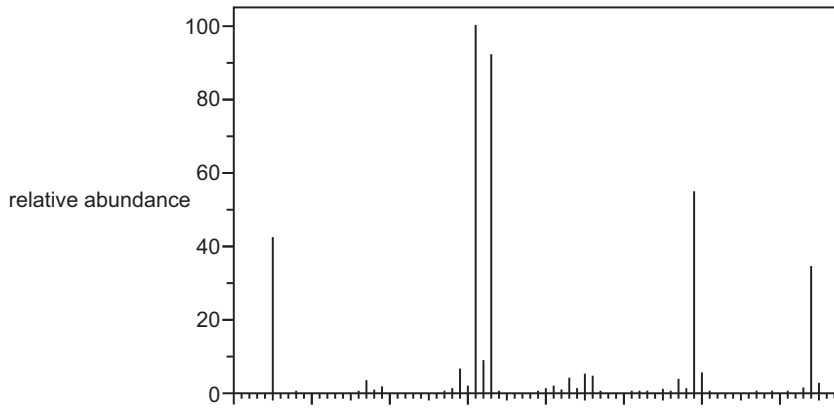
(c) Under different conditions, two molecules of propene can combine to form compounds **X** and **Y**.



(i) Name **X**.

Question 4

(ii) Fig. 4.2 shows the mass spectrum of either compound **X** or compound **Y**.



Question 4

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

Question 4



Fig. 4.2

Identify which of **X** and **Y** gives this mass spectrum.

Give **one** reason for your answer, referring to the fragmentation pattern.

Question 4

- (iii) The molecular ion peak in the spectrum in Fig. 4.2 has relative abundance 34.7.
- Calculate the relative abundance of the $[M+1]^+$ peak in this spectrum.

Question 4

[Total: 16] -

Important values, constants and standards

molar gas constant	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Faraday constant	$F = 9.65 \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
Avogadro constant	$L = 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
electronic charge	$e = -1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
molar volume of gas	$V_m = 22.4 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at s.t.p. (101 kPa and 273 K) $V_m = 24.0 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at room conditions
ionic product of water	$K_w = 1.00 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6}$ (at 298 K (25 °C))
specific heat capacity of water	$c = 4.18 \text{ kJ kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ (4.18 J g ⁻¹ K ⁻¹)

18	2	He helium 4.0	10	Ne neon 20.2	18	Ar argon 39.9	36	Kr krypton 83.8	54	Xe xenon 131.3	86	Rn radon -	118	Og oganeson -
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Question 4

The Periodic Table of Elements

Group

Key	1	
	atomic number	element symbol
	name	relative atomic mass
	1	H hydrogen 1.0

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
23 V vanadium 50.9	24 Cr chromium 52.0	25 Mn manganese 54.9	26 Fe iron 55.8	27 Co cobalt 58.9	28 Ni nickel 58.7	29 Cu copper 63.5
41 Nb niobium 92.9	42 Mo molybdenum 95.9	43 Tc technetium —	44 Ru ruthenium 101.1	45 Rh rhodium 102.9	46 Pd palladium 106.4	47 Ag silver 107.9
73 Ta tantalum 180.9	74 W tungsten 183.8	75 Re rhenium 186.2	76 Os osmium 190.2	77 Ir iridium 192.2	78 Pt platinum 195.1	79 Au gold 197.0
105 Db dubnium —	106 Sg seaborgium —	107 Bh bohrium —	108 Hs hassium —	109 Mt meitnerium —	110 Ds darmstadtium —	111 Rg roentgenium —

59	60	61	62	63	64	65
Pr praseodymium 140.9	Nd neodymium 144.2	Pm promethium —	Sm samarium 150.4	Eu europium 152.0	Gd gadolinium 157.3	Tb terbium 158.9
91 Pa protactinium 231.0	92 U uranium 238.0	93 Np neptunium —	94 Pu plutonium —	95 Am americium —	96 Cm curium —	97 Bk berkelium —

Question 4

1	2			
3	4	at re		
Li lithium 6.9	Be beryllium 9.0			
11	12	3	4	
Na sodium 23.0	Mg magnesium 24.3			
19	20	21	22	
K potassium 39.1	Ca calcium 40.1	Sc scandium 45.0	Ti titanium 47.9	
37	38	39	40	
Rb rubidium 85.5	Sr strontium 87.6	Y yttrium 88.9	Zr zirconium 91.2	
55	56	57–71	72	
Cs caesium 132.9	Ba barium 137.3	lanthanoids		Hf hafnium 178.5
87	88	89–103	104	
Fr francium –	Ra radium –	actinoids	Rf rutherfordium –	

lanthanoids

57	58
La lanthanum 138.9	Ce cerium 140.1
89	90
Ac actinium –	Th thorium 232.0

actinoids

Solution 4

(a)(i)

Mark scheme

- reduction
- 1

Solution 4

(a)(ii)

Mark scheme

- PCl_5 / PCl_3 / SOCl_2
- OR KCl / NaCl AND conc. H_2SO_4 / conc. H_3PO_4
- 1 (M1)
- $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2\text{Cl} + \text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{C}_3\text{H}_6 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{NaCl}$ (M2)
- ethanol (solvent) AND heat / reflux
- 2

Solution 4

(a)(iv)

Mark scheme

- conc. H_2SO_4 OR conc. H_3PO_4 OR Al_2O_3 AND heat
- 1

Solution 4

(b)(i)

Mark scheme

- addition
- 1

Solution 4

(b)(ii)

Mark scheme

- M1 (molecules that have the) same structural formula (and same molecular formula) **M2**
- but different 3D / spatial arrangement of atoms / groups
- 2

Solution 4

(b)(iii)

Mark scheme

- M2 optical isomerism **M3**
- the methylated carbon has four different groups attached
- 3

Solution 4

(b)(iv)

Mark scheme

- M1 non-biodegradability **M2**
- harmful combustion products
- 2

Solution 4

(c)(i)

Mark scheme

- 2,3-dimethylbut-1-ene
- 1
- 9701/21
- October/November 2025

Solution 4

(c)(ii) Mark scheme

- (The spectrum is of) X
- AND
- 41 is $[\text{CH}_2=\text{CCH}_3]^+$ / 41 is C_3H_5^+
- OR 43 is $[\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3]^+$ / 43 is C_3H_7^+
- OR X would NOT have significant peak at 54 / $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C}=\text{C}^+]$ / C_4H_6^+
- OR X would NOT have significant peak at 42 due to $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C}^+]$ / C_3H_6^+
- 1

Solution 4

(c)(iii)

Mark scheme

- $([M+1]^+ / 34.7 \times 100 / 1.1 = 6)$

$$M+1^+ = 2.29$$

- 1