

LECTURE #16

Thurs., Oct.25, 2007

Lecture topics & readings

# Today's class

- aromaticity & describing benzene: Ch. 14.1-8

## Before next class - important

- practice drawing resonance structures for aromatics (*e.g.*, furan, cyclopentadienyl anion, benzyl cation...)

# Next class

- rxns of benzene: Ch. 14 continued ...

	Midterm exam: Tues Oct 30 (some mult choice some written)
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(1)	everything to end of think



#### 14.1 The unusual stability of aromatic compounds



Benzene hydrogenation much less exothermic than "cyclohexatriene":

### 14.2-3 The criteria for aromaticity: Hückel's rule



Draw the resonance structures of: cyclopentadienyl anion



pK<sub>a</sub> = 15...

Normal for  $H-C_{sp3}$ ?

Aromaticity is "super-resonance" (not a technical term!)... & has profound effects on reactivity (see 14.5)

#### 14.4 Aromatic heterocyclic compounds: same rules, but...

If putting a lone pair into a p orbital would permit delocalization, atom will hybridize to allow it ⇒ aromaticity is strongly favourable!



Related aromatic heterocycles:



## 14.6-7 MOs help understand "4n+2 rule" (for general info)

- An aromatic compound = more stable than its localized-e<sup>-</sup> cyclic analog. 4n+2 π-electrons in an uninterrupted cyclic array
- An anti-aromatic compound = less stable than its localized-e<sup>-</sup> analog 4n  $\pi$ -electrons in an uninterrupted cyclic array

Frost's trick:  $\# \pi MOs = \#$  atoms in ring use vertex positions to estimate Es  $\rightarrow$  midline = nonbonding below = bonding



