

Study of no. of stereoisomers :-

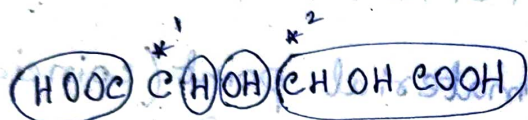
If a molecule have -

(1) n different chiral centres, the no. of stereoisomers = 2^n

* * * * *, if A, B, C, D chiral then centre atom also be chiral i.e. * * * * * = 2^5

(2) If stereocentres are not different (this type of system is said degenerate system)

Ex: tartaric acid is AA system.



two different chiral centres are substituted identically i.e. AA system.

ABA → these are non-degenerate system (these are non identically substituted).

ABBA, ABCBA, ABCCBA, ABCDCBA, etc. are other system.

(1) If n is even :-

i. No. of chiral isomers (optically active) = 2^{n-1}

ii. No. of meso (i.e. achiral) = $2^{\frac{n-2}{2}}$

Total no. of stereoisomers = $2^{n-1} + 2^{\frac{n-2}{2}}$

(2) If n is odd :- ($m = n$)

i. No. of stereoisomers including active and meso = 2^m

ii. No. of meso = $2^{\frac{m-1}{2}}$

Total no. of active or chiral isomers = $2^m - 2^{\frac{m-1}{2}}$

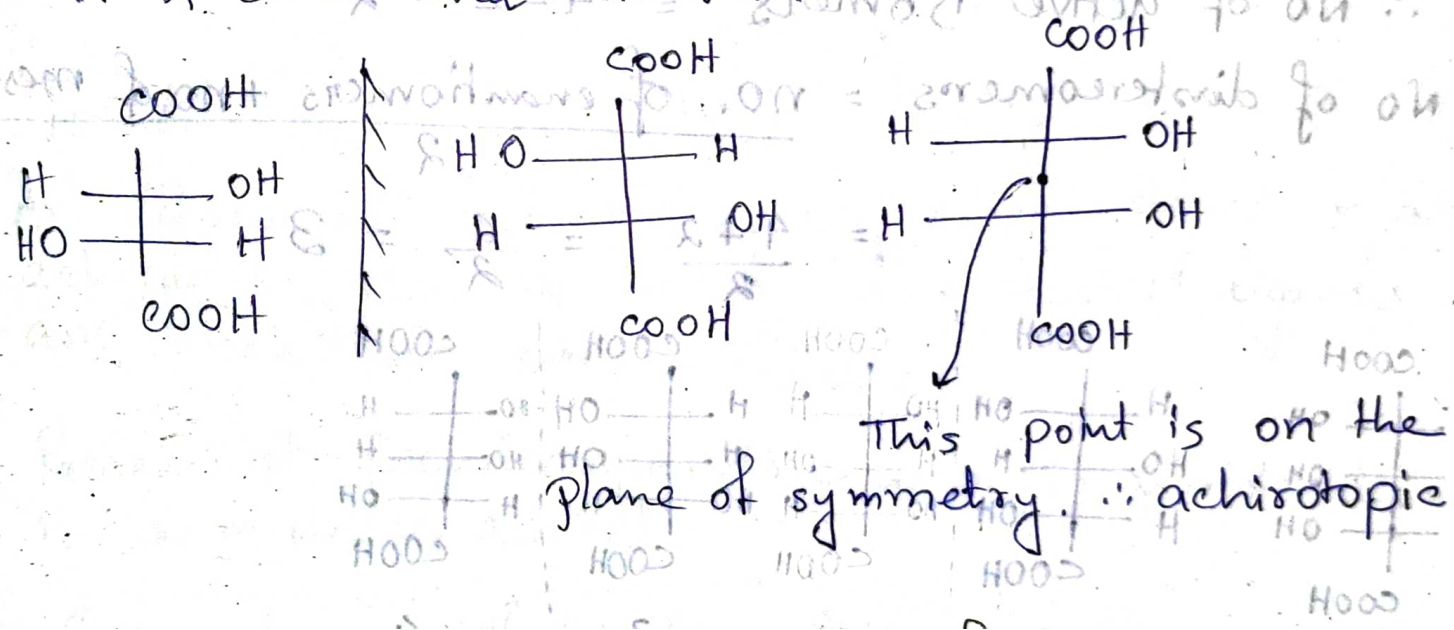
① AA system :-



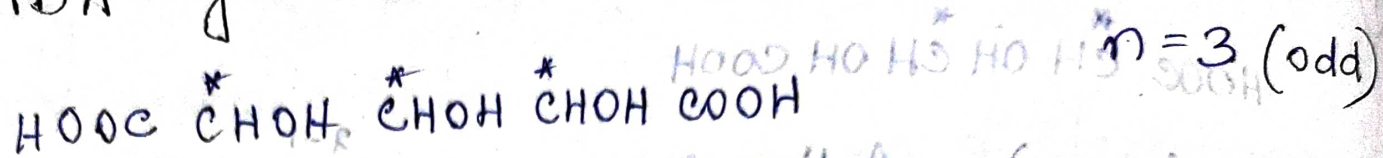
$n = 2$ (even) Active isomers = $2^n = 2^2 = 4$

No. of meso = $2^{\frac{n-2}{2}} = 2^{\frac{2-2}{2}} = 2^0 = 1$

∴ 2 chiral and 1 achiral



② ABA system :-

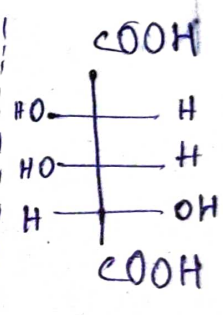
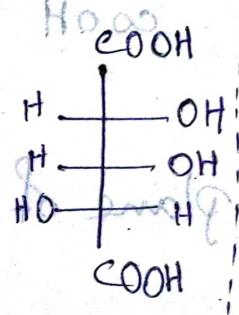
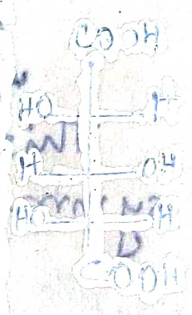
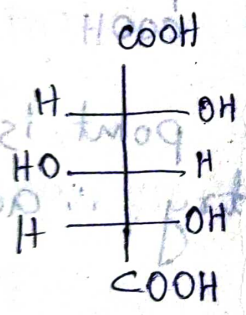
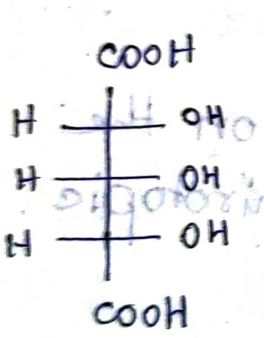


\therefore no. of stereo isomers = $2^3 = 8$ (total)

no. of meso = $2^{\frac{3-1}{2}} = 2$

\therefore No of active isomers = $8 - 2 = 6$

\therefore No of diastereomers = no. of enantiomers + no. of meso



1 2 3 4
 enantiomer