



# Double Bond Equivalent

## DOUBLE BOND EQUIVALENTS (DBE) OR HYDROGEN DEFICIENCY INDEX OR DEGREES OF UNSATURATION

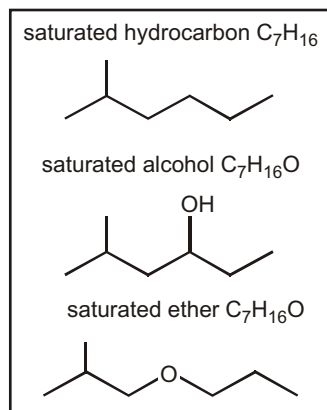
DBE help in the search for a structure

### HOW TO CALCULATE DBE

Hello students! Have problems with calculating DBE ? No worries! Here is the tutorial which will help you step by step. Hopefully after reading this tutorial, you can calculate DBE faster and more accurately.

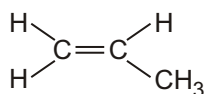
#### If DBE = 0

1. Ethylene,  $C_2H_6$  is a saturated acyclic alkane and it does not have any bond or ring, so DBE = 0.

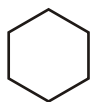


#### If DBE = 1

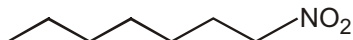
2. Propylene,  $C_3H_6$ , contains a pi bond, so DBE = 1.



Propylene  
DBE = 1



Cyclohexane  
DBE = 1

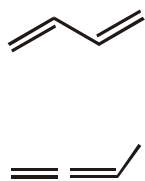


$C_7H_{15}NO_2$  = one DBE

### If DBE = 2

3. Propylene,  $C_4H_6$  DBE = 2. There are several ways for a compound to possess two degrees of unsaturation : two double bonds, or two rings, or one double bond and one ring, or one triple bond. Let's explore all of these possibilities for  $C_4H_6$  :

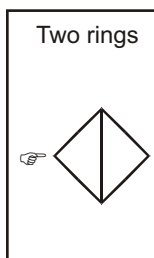
Two double bonds



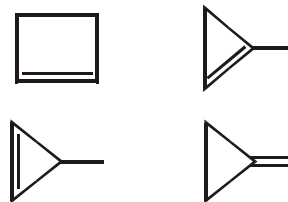
One triple bond



Two rings

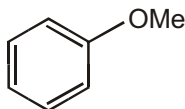


One ring and one double bond

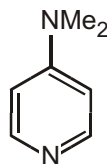


These are all of the possible constitutional isomers for  $C_4H_6$ . With this in mind, let's expand our skills set. Let's explore how to calculate the DBE when other elements are present in the molecular formula.

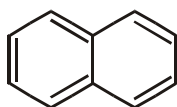
A benzene ring contains four DBE.



$C_6H_8O$  = four DBE



$C_7H_{10}N_2$  = four DBE



only count two rings in this structure 5 pi bonds + 2 rings = > DBE = 5 + 2 = 7

## HOW TO CALCULATE THE DBE IF WE DO NOT KNOW THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHEMICALS?

All the problems we have ever met talk about the organic chemicals which only contain carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, and halogens. Therefore, people summarized a DBE formula for our convenience.

$$\text{DBE} = C - \frac{H}{2} + \frac{N}{2} + 1$$

In this formula, C means the number of carbon. H means the number of hydrogen and X is number of halogen. N means the number of the nitrogen.

Let's apply the formula to the chemicals that we mentioned before.

Ethylene ( $C_2H_4$ ) : DBE

C	H	N					
2	4	0	1	2	0	1	0

Propylene ( $C_3H_6$ ) : DBE

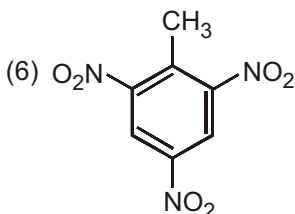
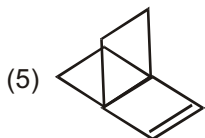
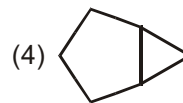
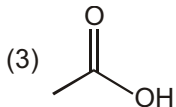
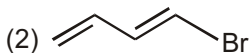
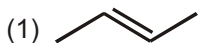
C	H	N					
3	6	0	1	3	0	1	1

Cyclohexane ( $C_6H_{12}$ ) : DBE

C	H	N					
6	12	0	1	6	0	1	1

**Solved Example**

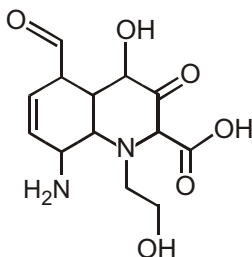
► Look at the chemical structure below and calculate the DBE.



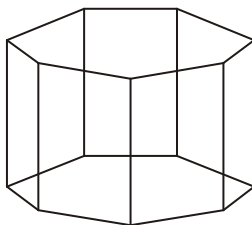
- Ans.** (1) One pi bond. DBE = 1  
 (2) Two pi bond. DBE = 2  
 (3) One pi bond. DBE = 1  
 (4) Two rings. DBE = 2  
 (5) One pi bonds and three rings. DBE = 4  
 (6) Three pi bonds and one ring in the middle and three pi bonds on substituents. DBE = 7 exercise

**EXERCISE****SINGLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

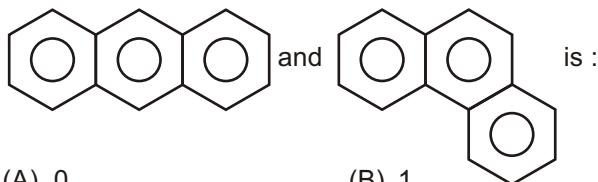
1. Find the sum of total number of different Functional groups and Double bond equivalent (DBE) value.



- (A) 12 (B) 13 (C) 14 (D) 15
2. What is the Index of Hydrogen Deficiency (I.H.D) or Double Bond Equivalent (D.B.E.) for the following compound?

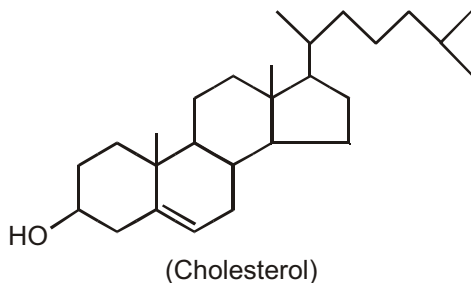


- (A) 6 (B) 7 (C) 8 (D) 9
3. The difference in Double Bond Equivalent (DBE) value between



- (A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3

4. What is the correct molecular formula of following compound :



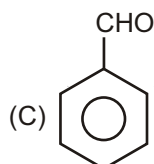
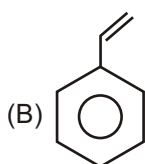
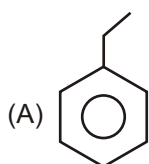
(A)  $C_{27}H_{46}O$

(B)  $C_{25}H_{42}O$

(C)  $C_{28}H_{46}O$

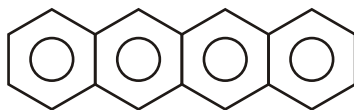
(D)  $C_{23}H_{40}O$

5. Which of following compound. has D.B.E is 5 :



(D) Both (B) & (C)

6. Number of p-bond present in given compound is

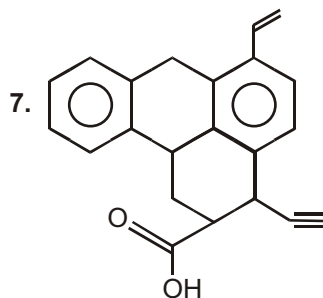


(A) 8

(B) 9

(C) 10

(D) 12



D.B. E of above compound is :

(A) 12

(B) 13

(C) 14

(D) 15

8. D.B.E of  $(C_7H_5O_2)$  is :

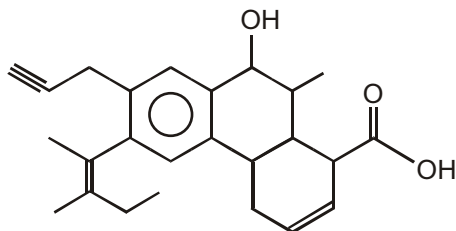
(A) 3

(B) 5

(C) 5.5

(D) 4.5

9. How many degrees of unsaturation are there the following compound?



(A) 6

(B) 7

(C) 10

(D) 11

10. How many elements of unsaturation are implied by the molecular formula  $C_6H_{12}$ ?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
11. How many elements of unsaturation are implied by the molecular formula  $C_5H_8O$ ?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
12. How many elements of unsaturation are implied by the molecular formula  $C_7H_{11}Cl$ ?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
13. How many elements of unsaturation are implied by the molecular formula  $C_5H_5NO_2$ ?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
14. How many elements of unsaturation are implied by the molecular formula  $C_8H_{11}N$ ?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
15. Consider molecules with the formula  $C_{10}H_{16}$ . Which of the following structural features are not possible within this set of molecules?  
(A) 2 triple bonds (B) 1 ring and 1 triple bond  
(C) 2 rings and 1 double bond (D) 2 double bonds and 1 ring  
(E) 3 double bonds
16. A newly isolated natural product was found to have the molecular formula  $C_{15}H_{28}O_2$ . By hydrogenating a sample of the compound, it was determined to possess one  $\pi$ -bond. How many rings are present in the compound?  
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3  
(E) 4
17. Which of the following molecular formulas corresponds to a monocyclic saturated compound?  
(A)  $C_6H_6$  (B)  $C_3H_7Br$  (C)  $C_3H_7N$  (D)  $C_3H_8O$   
(E)  $C_3H_8O$

### **MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

1. Which of the following statements applies to  $C_{10}H_{14}O_2$  compound?  
(A) It may have 2 double bonds and 2 rings. (B) It may have 3 double bond and Oxygen ring.  
(C) It may have 1 triple bond and 2 rings. (D) It may have zero double bond and 3 rings

### **UNSOLVED EXAMPLE**

1. How many hydrogens does each of the following compounds have?  
(a)  $C_8H_7O_2$ , has two rings and one double bond  
(b)  $C_7H_7N$ , has two double bonds  
(c)  $C_9H_7NO$ , has one ring and three double bonds

2. Calculate the degree of unsaturation in each of the following formulas :

(a) Cholesterol,  $C_{27}H_{46}O$

(b) DDT,  $C_{14}H_9Cl_5$

(c) Prostaglandin  $E_1$ ,  $C_{20}H_{34}O_5$

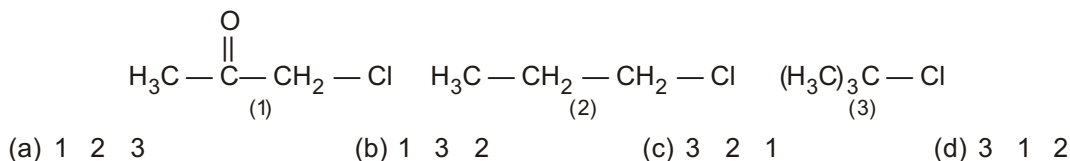
(d) Caffeine,  $C_8H_{10}N_4O_2$

(e) Cortisone,  $C_{21}H_{28}O_5$

(f) Atropine,  $C_{17}H_{23}NO_3$

## SUBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. The order of  $S_N1$  reactivity in aqueous acetic acid solution for the compounds :

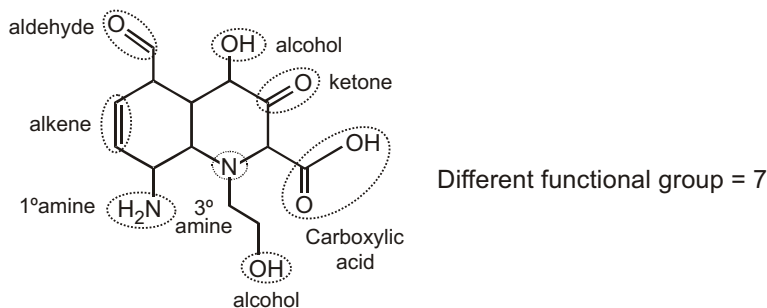


## Answer

### Single Choice Questions

1. (B)      2. (C)      3. (A)      4. (A)      5. (D)      6. (B)      7. (C)      8. (C)  
 9. (D)      10. (B)      11. (C)      12. (C)      13. (E)      14. (E)      15. (A)      16. (B)  
 17. (C)

1. D.B.E. value = 6



2. The molecular formula of the compound shown is  $C_{14}H_{14}$  D.B.E. value (14 1) 14 / 2 8

3. D.B.E. of both anthracene & phenanthrene is 10.

4. Calculate DBE value of given compound DBE value of given compound is 5

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. (A, B, C)

$$C_{10}H_{14}O_2, \text{ DBE } (C \ 1) \quad \frac{H \ X \ N}{2}$$

DBE (4) means = 2 double bonds + 2 rings  
 = 1 triple bond + 2 rings

### Unsolved Example

1. (a) 12                      (b) 13                      (c) 13  
 2. (a) 5                      (b) 8                      (c) 4                      (d) 6  
 (e) 8                      (f) 7

### Subjective Type Questions

1. (c)