

# POLYHYDROXY COMPOUNDS

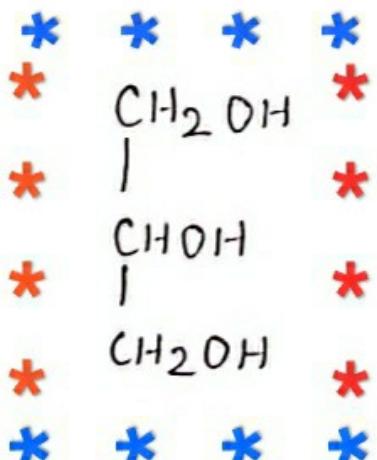
18/06/2021 Lecture-9 Deg-I (Hons.)

## Paper-II Group-B Chapter-3

### Trihydric Alcohol

- \* Alcohols containing three -OH groups are called Trihydric Alcohols or Triols.
- \* The introduction of the third -OH group in a diol molecule raises the boiling point by about 100°C, increasing the viscosity.
- \* An increase in the no. of -OH groups also enhances the H-bonding ability and association thereby raising the boiling point.

### GLYCEROL



Propan-1,2,3-triol (or 1,2,3-propanetriol)

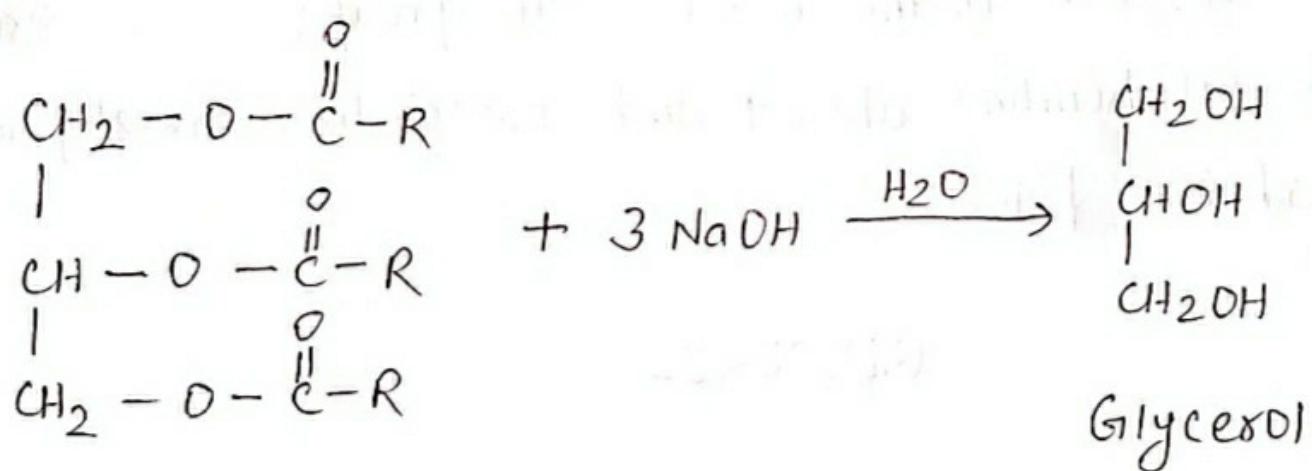
2.

# Manufacture

Glycerol can be prepared industrially by the following methods.

## 1. From Fats and Oils :-

Natural oils and fats are triesters of glycerol and long chain carboxylic acid (mainly palmitic, stearic, and oleic acid). On hydrolysis with alkali, the fats and oils produce glycerol and the salt of the long chain acids which are called soaps.



Fat or Oil

+ 3 RCOONa  
Soap

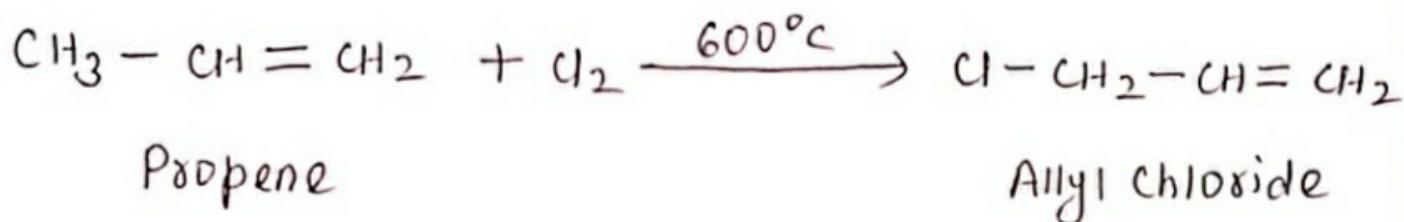
('R' must have 9 to 17 Carbon)

## 2. From Propene

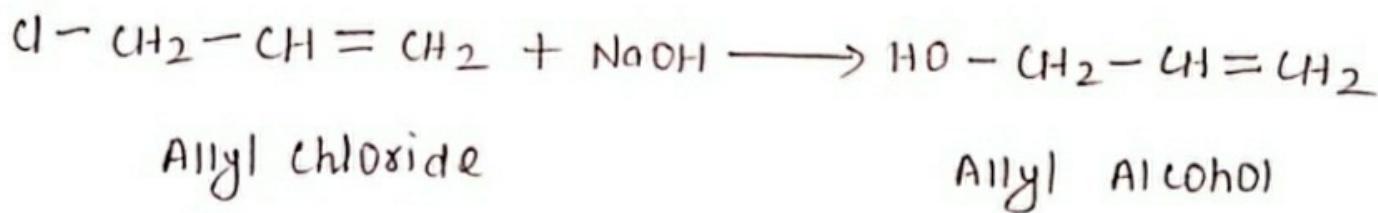
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- \* Glycerol is manufactured from propene obtained by the catalytic cracking of petroleum.
  - \* Following four steps are involved.

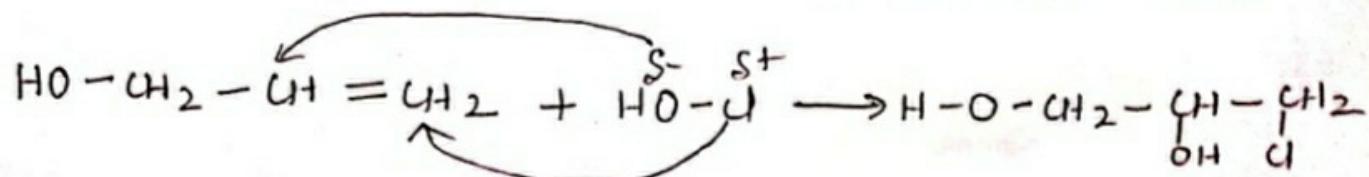
Step 1 Propene is treated with  $\text{Cl}_2$  at  $600^\circ\text{C}$  to give allyl chloride.



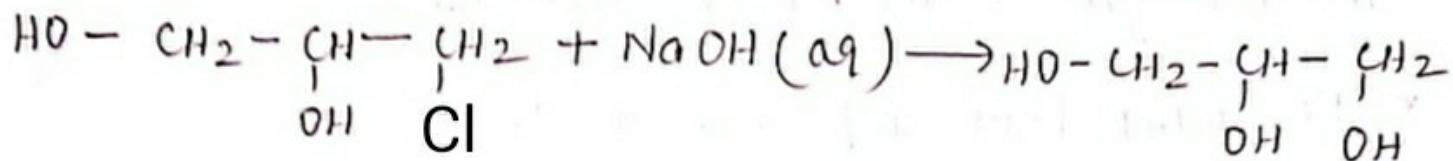
Step 2 Allyl chloride is treated with dil NaOH to give allyl alcohol.



Step 3 Allyl alcohol is treated with dilute hypochlorous acid to give a chlorohydrin. The addition of HCl to the carbon - carbon double bond takes place according to the Markownikov rule.



Step 4 The chlorohydrin is treated with aq. NaOH to yield glycerol.

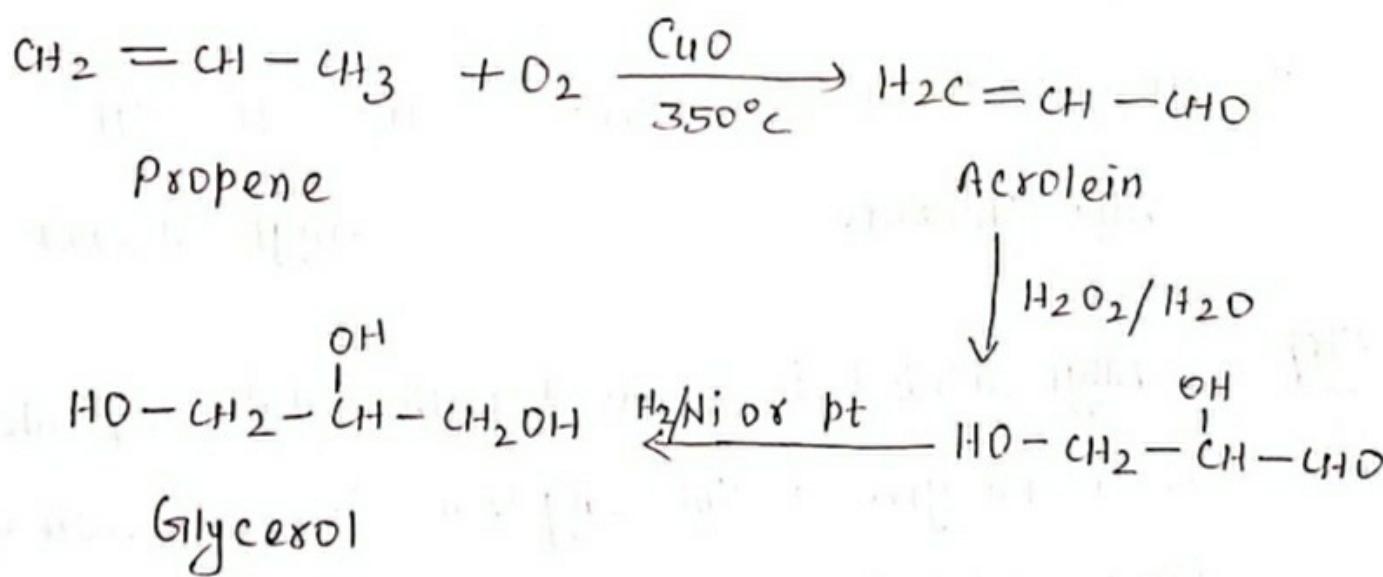


Glycerol- $\alpha$ -chlorhydrin      Glycerol

## Alternative Method

Propene may be oxidised with oxygen (air) in the presence of CuO at  $350^{\circ}\text{C}$  to give acrolein.

Acrolein is then treated with hydrogen peroxide followed by reduction to produce glycerol.



\* In a country like India where petroleum is not found in abundance, Propene required for the above synthesis may also be obtained from acetone of the wood distillation industry. //

## Manufacture Completed