

Paper 3 Section A Data Response (7) with worked answers

Compound **X** is a crystalline solid that occurs naturally in some fruits.

Analysis of pure Compound **X** shows that it contains 68.84% carbon, 4.96% hydrogen and 26.20% oxygen by mass.

The mass spectrum of Compound **X** shows a molecular ion peak with m/z = 122.

The low resolution ¹H NMR spectrum of Compound **X** shows two signals with an integration trace ratio of 5:1.

The infrared spectrum of Compound **X** shows a broad strong peak between 2500 and 3000 cm⁻¹ and a sharp peak at 1700 cm⁻¹.

(a) (i) Show that the molecular formula of Compound X is C₇H₆O₂. [2]

From the elemental analysis

Element	Amount / mol	Simplest ratio
Carbon	68.84/12.01 = 5.73	7
Hydrogen	4.96 / 1.01 = 4.91	6
Oxygen	26.2 / 16.00 = 1.64	2

The empirical formula is $C_7H_6O_2$ [1]

The molecular ion peak gives M as 122 g mol⁻¹ so the molecular formula is $C_7H_6O_2$ [1]

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 1.2 The mole & Avogadro's constant.)

(ii) State the information that can be deduced about the structure of Compound X from its ¹H NMR spectrum. [2]

The hydrogen atoms in the molecule exist in two different chemical environments. [1] Five H atoms are in the same environment and one is in a different environment. [1]

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 11.3 Spectroscopic identification of organic compounds.)





(iii) Deduce the molecular structure of Compound X. [1]

C₆H₅COOH. **[1]**

(C₆H₅COOH fits the mass spectral and ¹H NMR data. The IR data confirms this structure as the broad strong peak between 2500 and 3000 cm⁻¹ is due to -OH and the sharp peak at 1700 cm⁻¹ is due to C=O.

Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 11.3 Spectroscopic identification of organic compounds.)

(b) The value for the acid dissociation constant of Compound **X** is 6.31×10^{-5} . Using HX to represent Compound **X**, state the equation for the reaction of Compound **X** with water. [1]

$$HX(aq) + H_2O(I) \rightleftharpoons X^-(aq) + H_3O^+(aq) \text{ or } HX(aq) \rightleftharpoons X^-(aq) + H^+(aq)$$
 [1]

(Note that to gain the mark the equation must have reversible arrows as the value for the equilibrium constant shows that it is a weak acid.)

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 8.4 Strong & weak acids & bases.)

(c) The following table shows the solubility of Compound X in water at different temperatures:

Temperature / °C	Solubility / g dm ⁻³	
0	1.7	
18	2.7	
25	3.4	
40	5.5	
75	21.5	
100	56.3	

Suggest how an impure sample of Compound X could be purified in a school laboratory. [1]

Recrystallise Compound X from distilled water. [1]

(Dissolve in boiling water, filter to remove any insoluble impurities, leave to cool then filter off the crystals and wash with a little cold distilled water before drying.)

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 4.4 Intermolecular forces.)



- (d) Compound X reacts with propan-1-ol when warmed in the presence of a sulfuric acid catalyst. The inorganic product obtained in this reaction is water.
 - (i) State the name of the type of reaction that is taking place. [1]

Condensation or esterification [1]

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 10.2 Alcohols.)

(ii) Deduce the molecular formula of the organic product. [1]

 $C_7H_6O_2 + C_3H_8O \rightarrow H_2O + C_{10}H_{12}O_2$ so the molecular formula is $C_{10}H_{12}O_2$ [1]

(Underlying chemistry concepts can be found in 10.2 Alcohols.)