

# Unit 5

## Polymers I

### Slide Color Codes

#### All Lectures



Required

Required

OK to Skip

#### Section Only

Useful

Not  
Examable

# Plastic Recycle Numbers



PETE



HDPE



V



LDPE



PP



PS

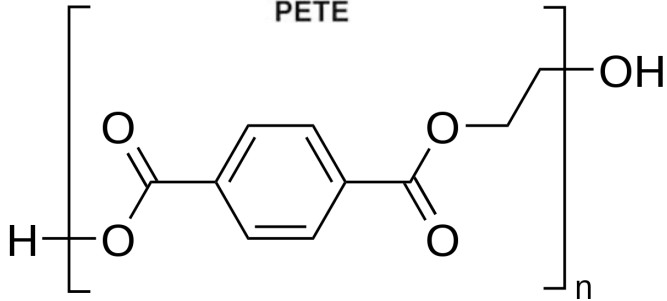


OTHER

# Manufactured Polymers



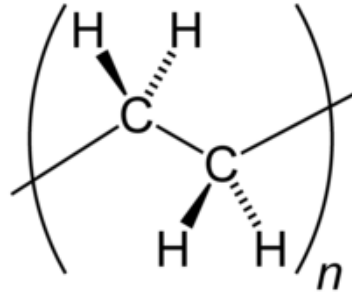
PETE



Polyethylene terephthalate  
(PETE)



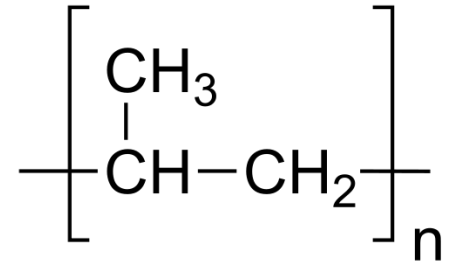
HDPE



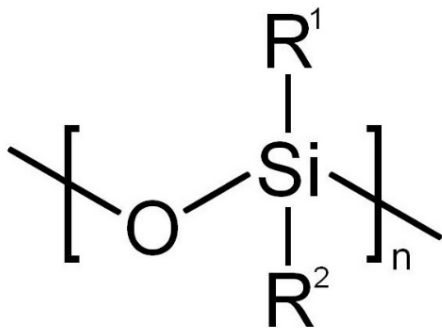
Polyethylene  
(HDPE, LDPE)



PP



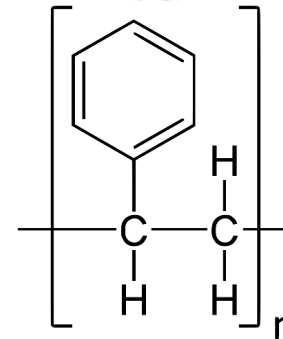
Polypropylene  
(PP)



Silicones

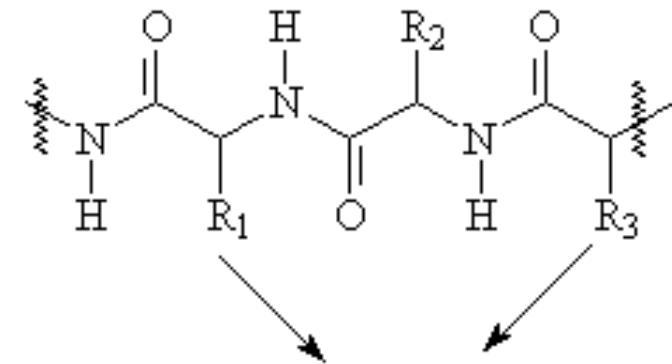


PS

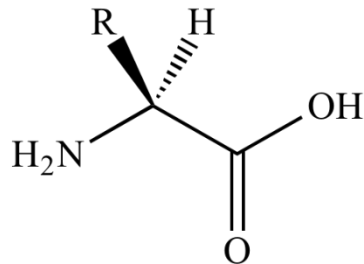


Polystyrene (PS)

# Natural Polymers - Proteins

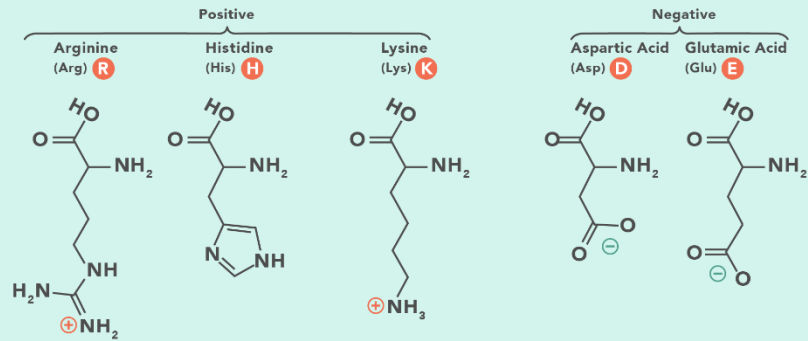


Alkyl chains specific to individual amino acids

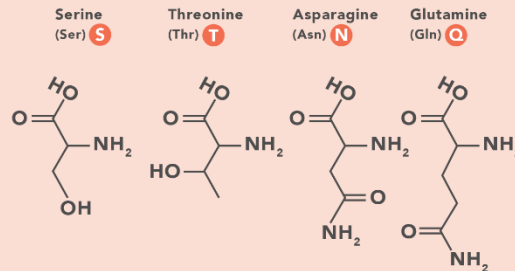


Amino acids are monomer building blocks for proteins

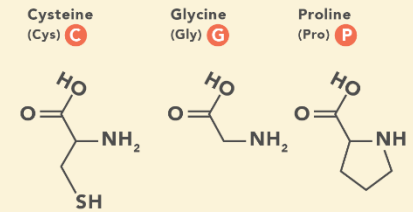
## A. Amino Acids with Electrically Charged Side Chains



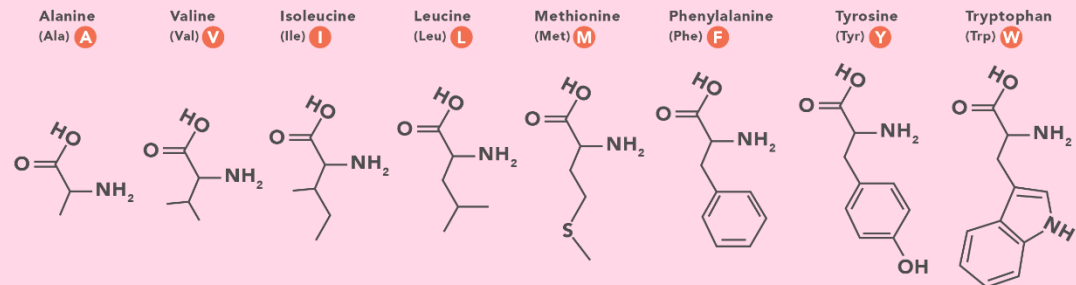
## B. Amino Acids with Polar Uncharged Side Chains



## C. Special Cases

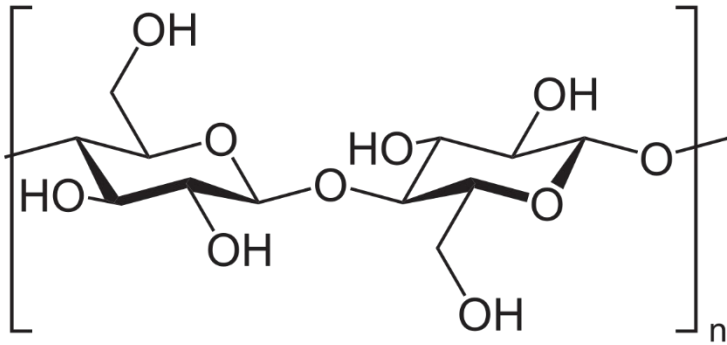


## D. Amino Acids with Hydrophobic Side Chains

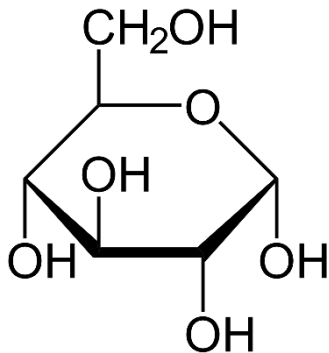


# Natural Polymers

Cellulose

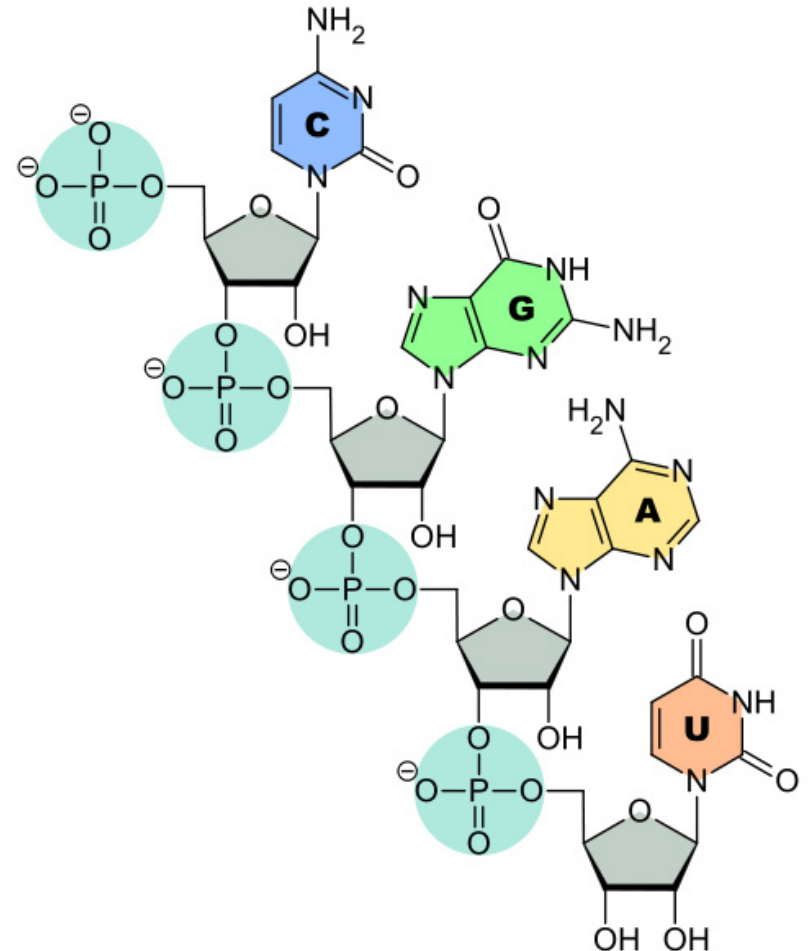


Glucose Monomer

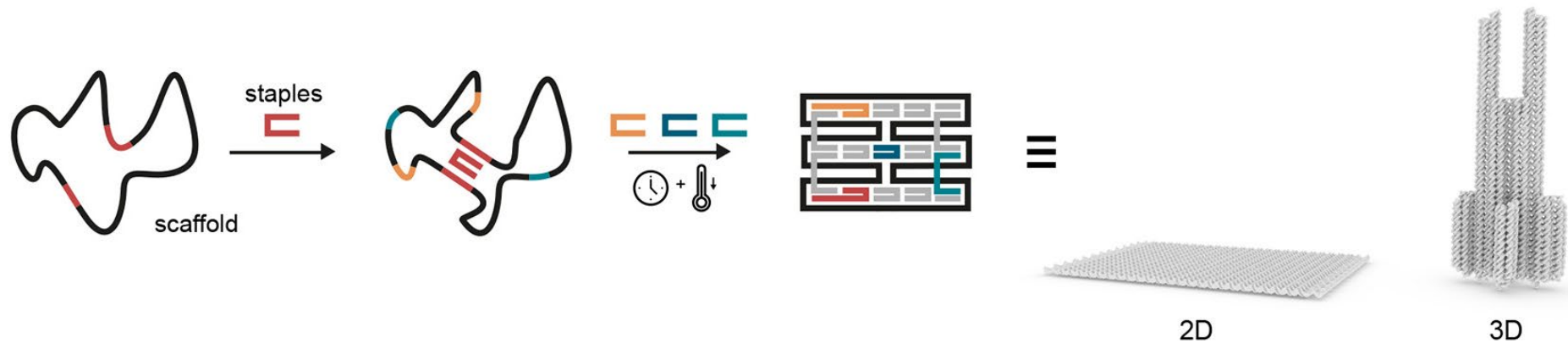


RNA (DNA)

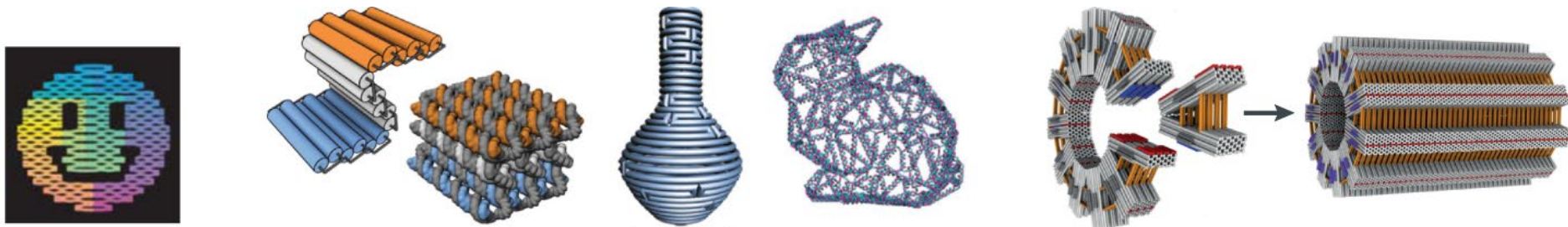
Unique monomer sequencing



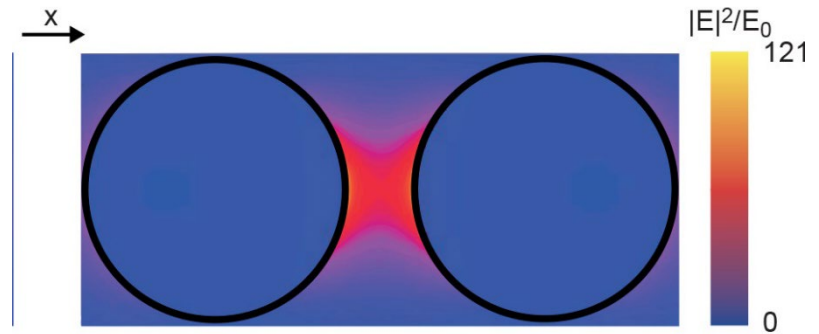
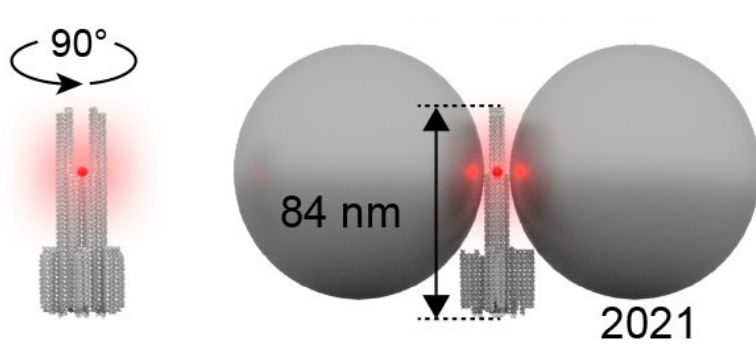
# DNA Origami - structures from DNA



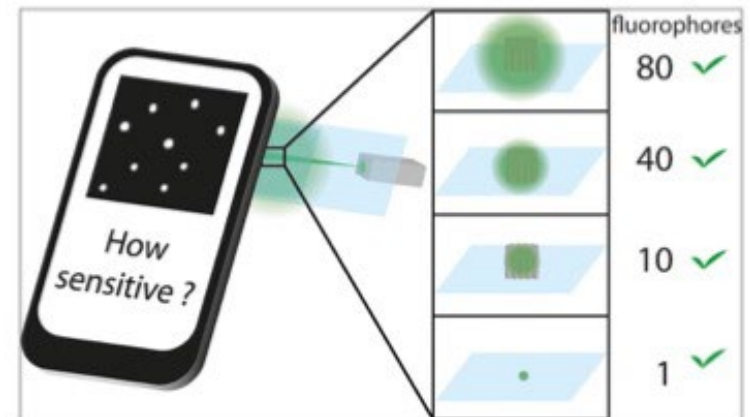
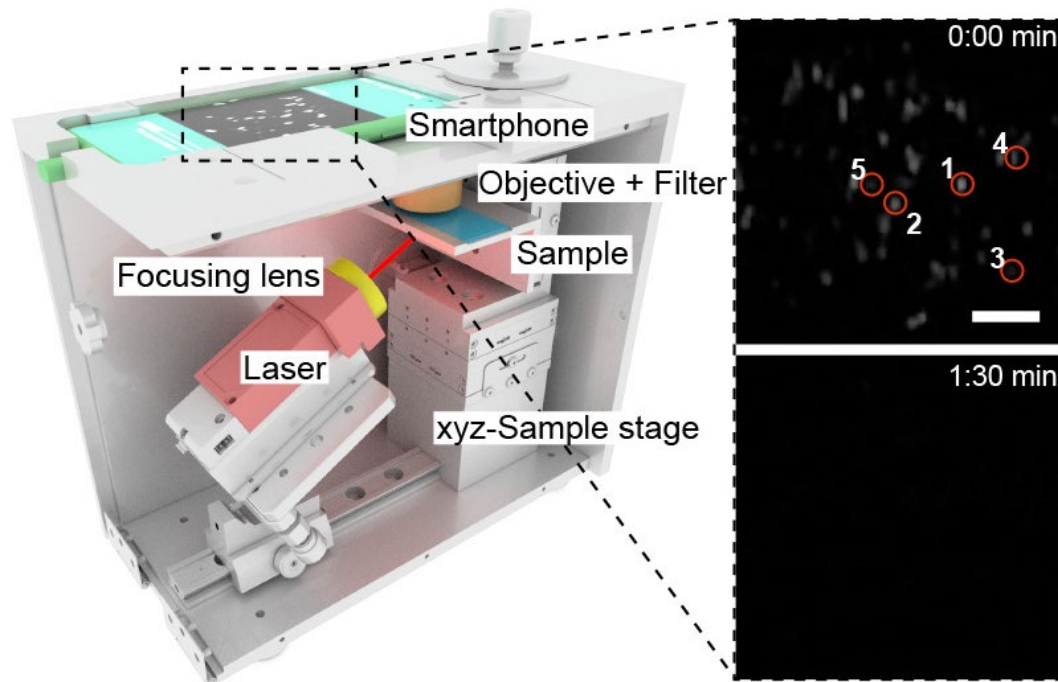
Due to specific pairing/interactions among DNA bases, nanoscale structures can be “programmed” using specialized computer software. Anyone can create DNA nanostructures that self-assemble in a wide variety of shapes, for applications in cell biology, photonics, quantum sensing and computing, and many other fields.



# Building nano-sensors with DNA



Electric field increases between quantum dots, increasing emitted light signal, making detection and diagnosis possible with smart phones.



*Nat. Commun.* **2021**, 12, 950

DOI: 10.1038/s41467-021-21238-9



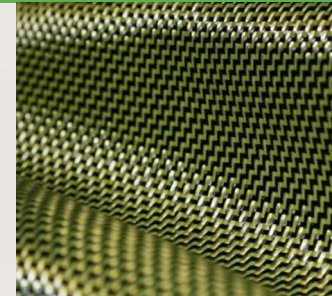
# Blueprint question



**LDPE**



**HDPE**



**Kevlar**



**Nylon**

**What factors need to be considered when designing polymers for various applications?**



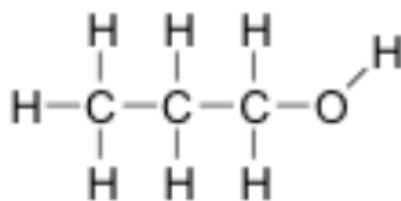
# Polymers – Learning objectives

- Draw and interpret line bond structures and condensed Lewis structures.
- Describe the growth of polymers through addition and condensation reactions and predict which of these processes is likely to be important for a given monomer.
- Predict the structure of the monomer involved in the formation of a given polymer.
- Identify the type and degree of polymerization and/or the by-products formed for a given polymer and/or monomer.
- Define the terms monomer, polymer, oligomer, molecular weight distribution, degree of polymerization, crosslinking and elastomers.
- Describe how polymer architecture, molecular weight, monomer type, and crosslinking affect polymer properties.

# Condensed Lewis structure

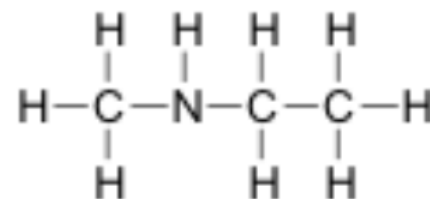
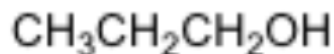
- Bonds are implied by grouping (lines not shown).
- Hydrogens are grouped with the atoms they are bonded to.
- Double or triple bonds are sometimes indicated but often omitted in basic condensed forms.
- Lone pairs are usually not shown.

Lewis structures



||

Condensed structures



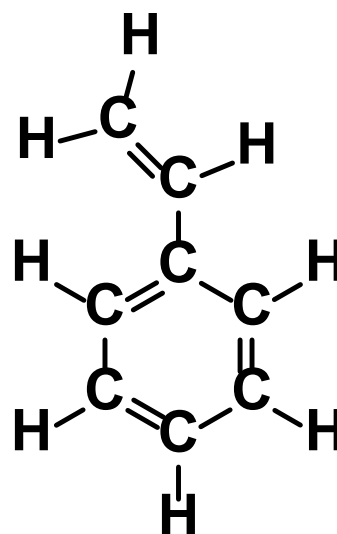
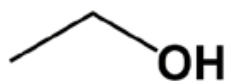
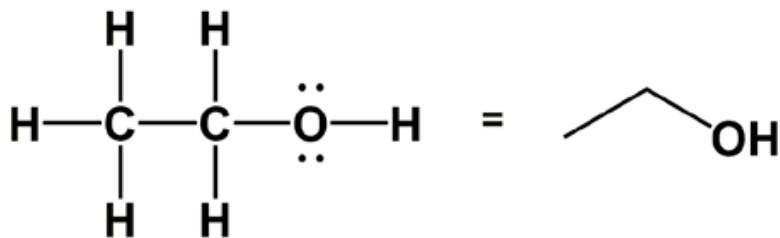
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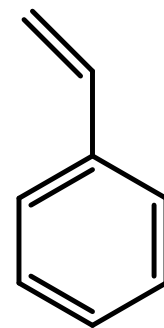
# Shorthand notation for organic molecules

Shorthand “**line**” notation for drawing organic molecules.

- ❑ Covalent bonds are drawn as lines.
- ❑ The end of each line indicates a carbon atom, unless otherwise specified.
- ❑ Each carbon atom has enough bonded H atoms to give it a formal charge of zero (i.e. a complete octet).
- ❑ Hydrogen atoms are only shown if they are bonded to an atom other than carbon.
- ❑ Lone pairs can be omitted.

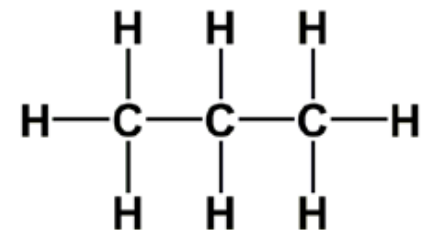
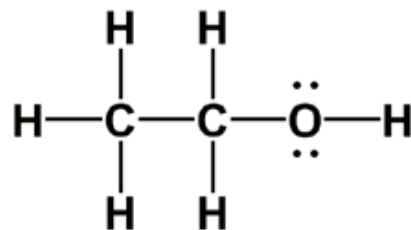
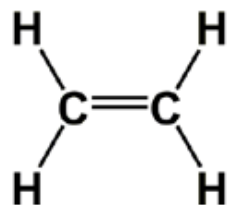


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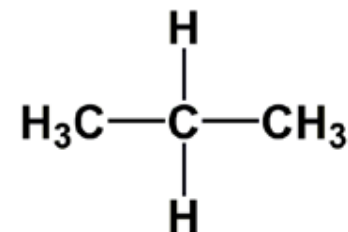
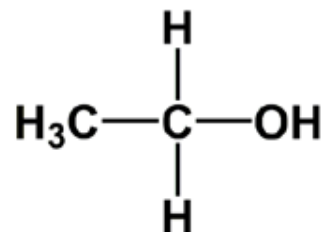
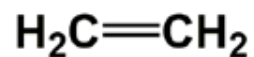


# Condensed structures

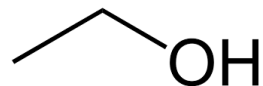
Lewis structure



Condensed  
Lewis structure

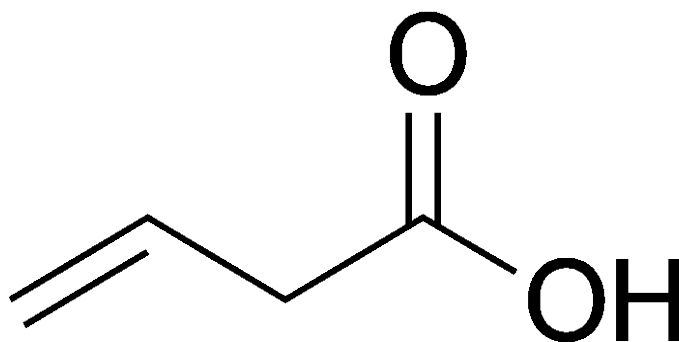


Line-bond  
structure



# Clicker Question

Identify the total number of hydrogen atoms in this molecule:



A) 4

B) 5

C) 6

D) 7

E) 8

# Clicker Question

Identify the total number of hydrogen atoms in this molecule:

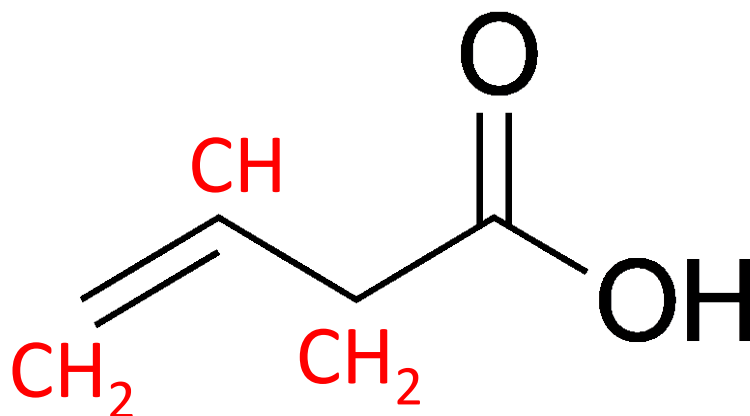
A) 4

B) 5

✓ C) 6

D) 7

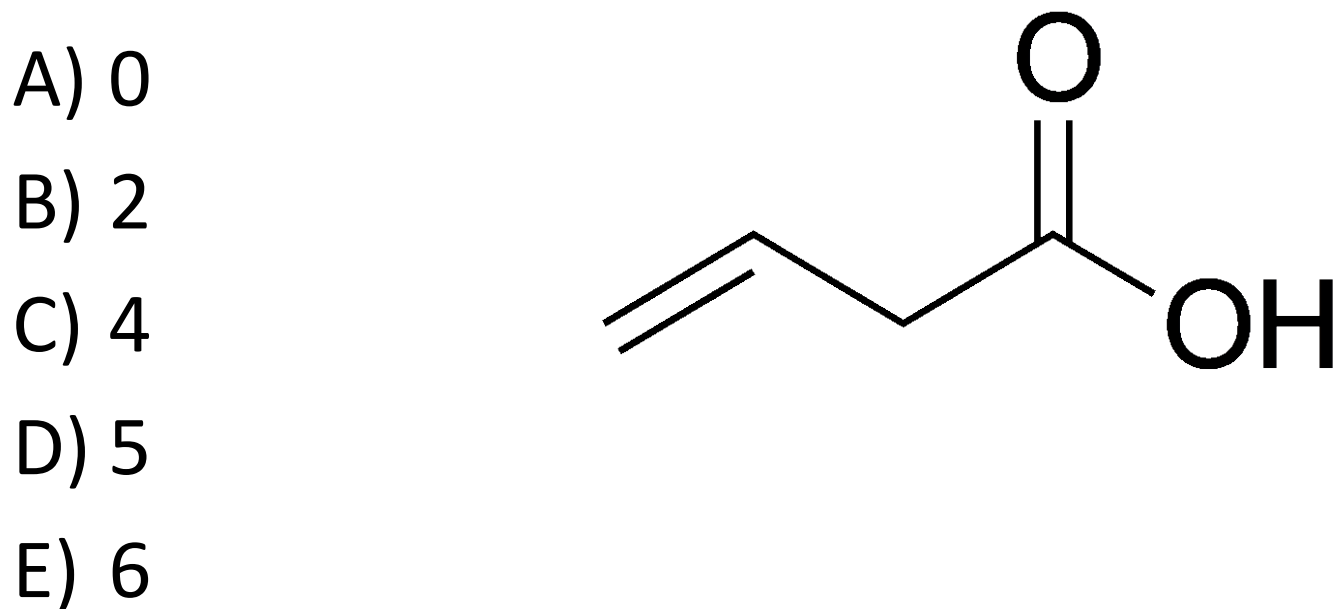
E) 8





## Clicker Question

Identify the number of pairs of lone pairs in this molecule:



# Clicker Question

Identify the number of pairs of lone pairs in this molecule:

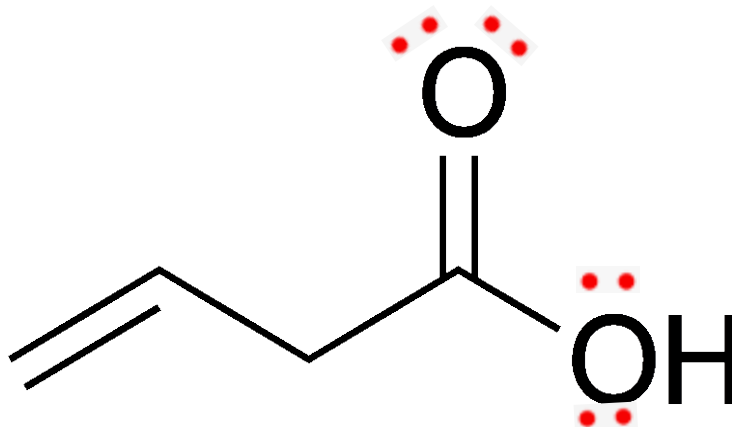
A) 0

B) 2

✓ C) 4

D) 5

E) 6



# Clicker Question

Identify the number of carbon atoms in this molecule:

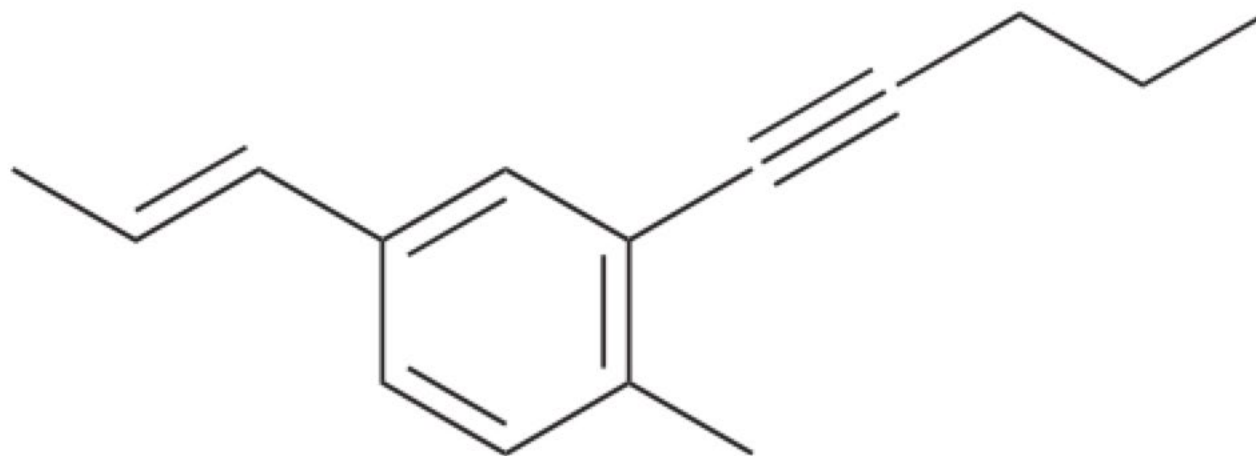
A) 12

B) 13

C) 14

D) 15

E) 16



# Clicker Question

Identify the number of carbon atoms in this molecule:

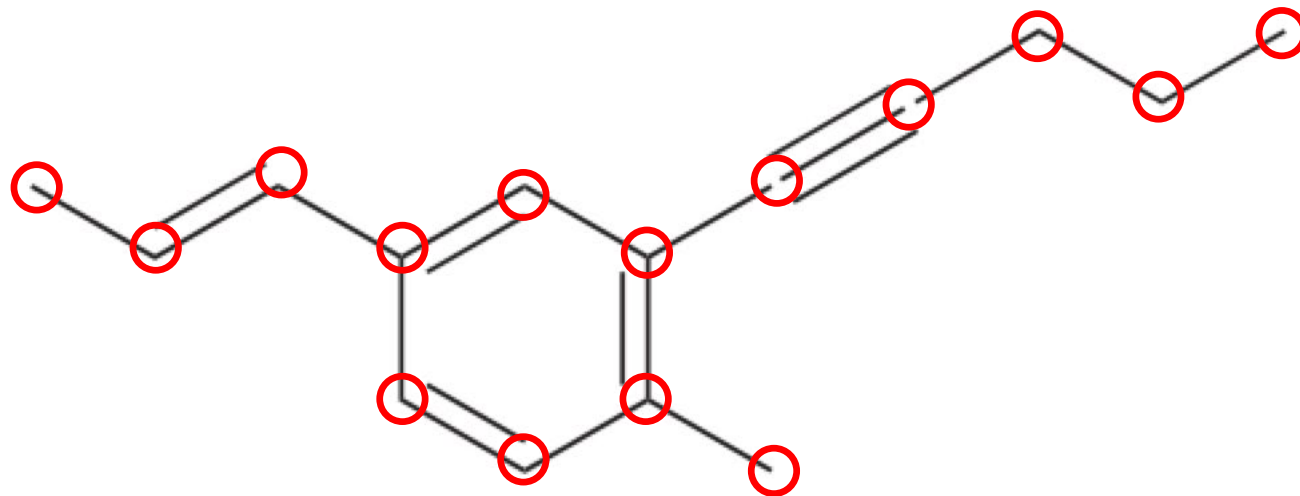
A) 12

B) 13

C) 14

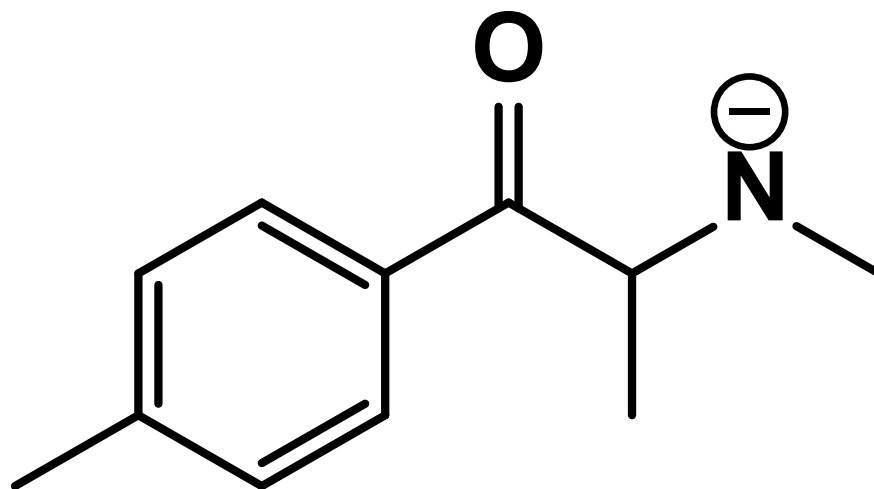
✓ D) 15

E) 16

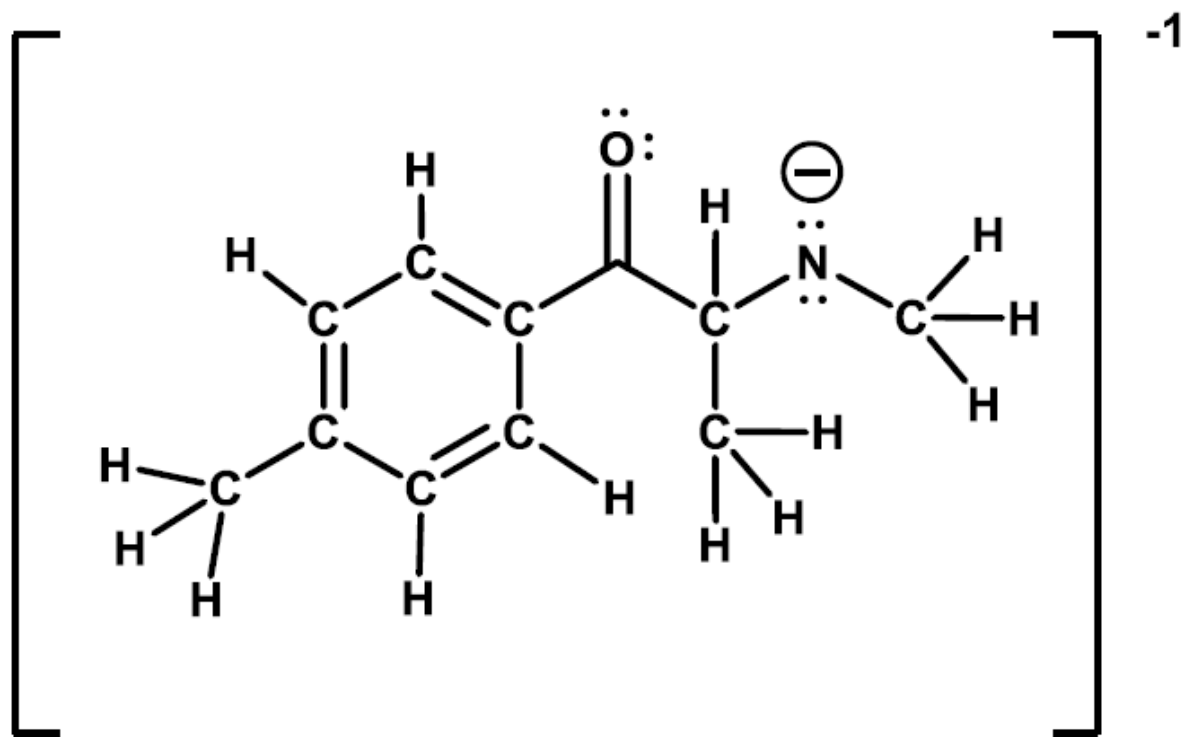
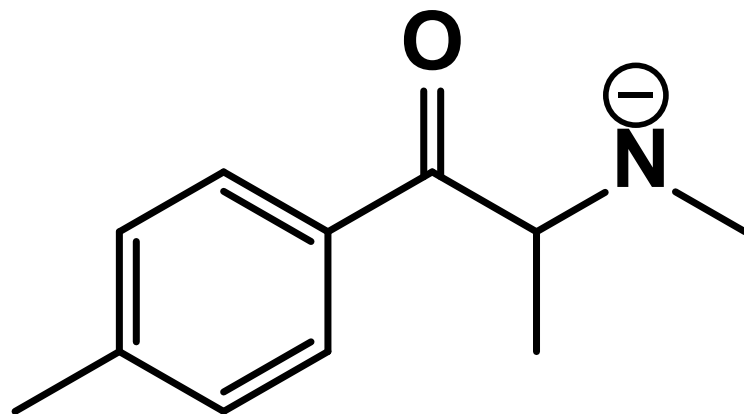


# Worksheet Question #1

Mephedrone is a stimulant that can produce similar effects as cocaine. Starting from the shorthand notation of the deprotonated form of mephedrone below, draw its complete Lewis structure.



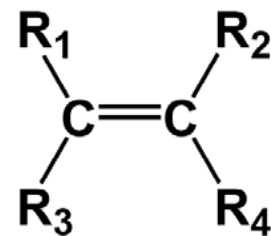
# Worksheet Question #1


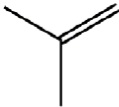




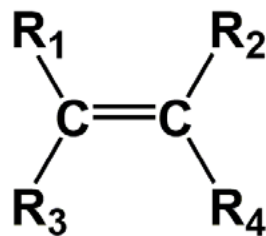
# Worksheet Question #2

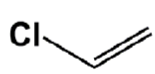
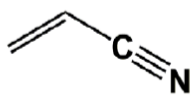
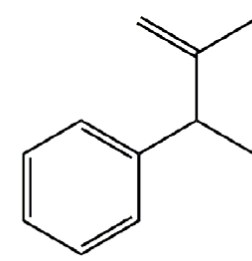
The molecules shown below can be used as monomers in a polymerization reaction. They can be drawn in the general form shown to the right. Complete the table below with the identity of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, and R<sub>4</sub>. The first two rows are filled as an example.



Monomer	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>
	H	H	H	H
	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H

# Worksheet Question #2

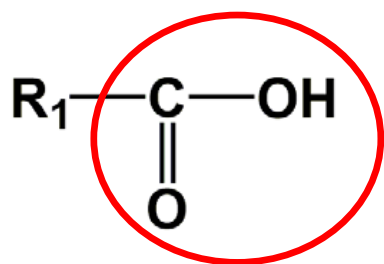


Monomer	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>
	Cl	H	H	H
	H	H	H	CN
	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	C(H)(CH <sub>3</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>

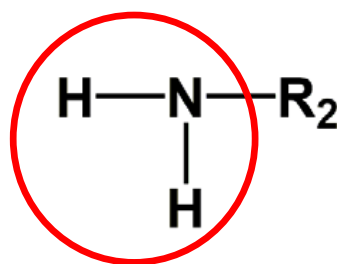
# Functional groups

- Moieties in a molecule that have characteristic properties such as reactivity.
- An “R” substituent denotes a part of a molecule that is not relevant to the reactivity being discussed.

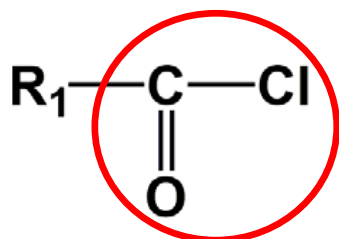
## End Groups



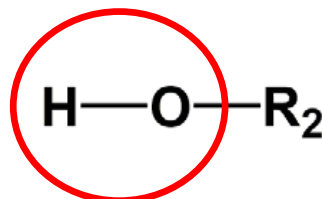
Carboxylic Acid



Amine

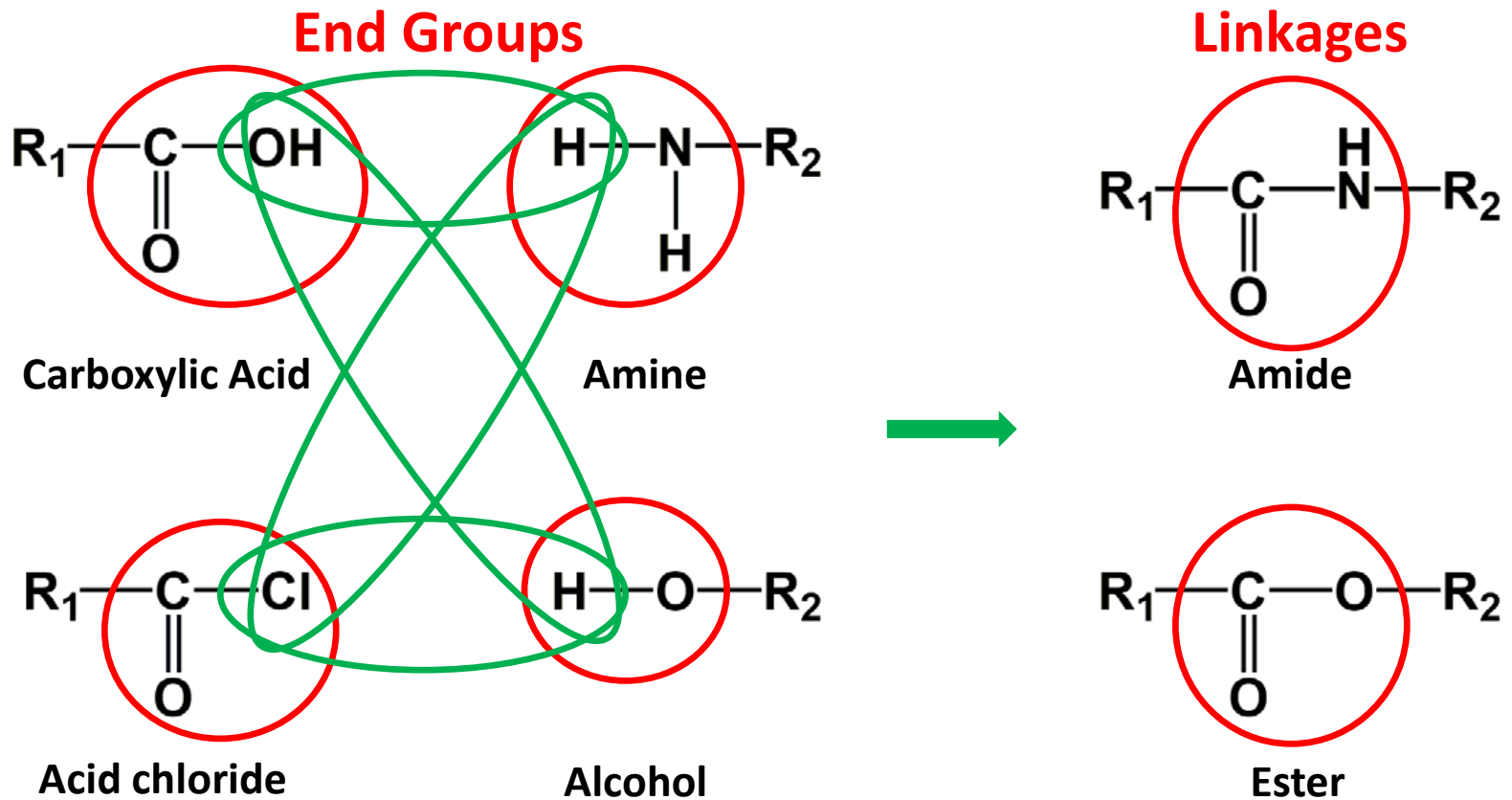


Acid chloride



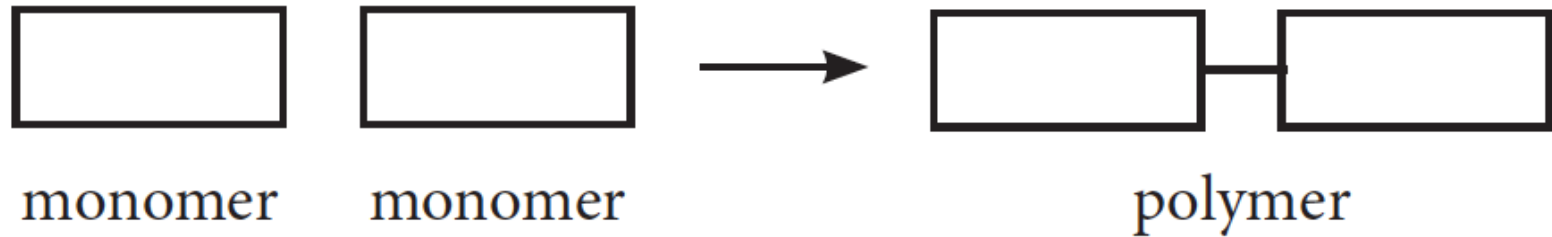
Alcohol

# Linkages



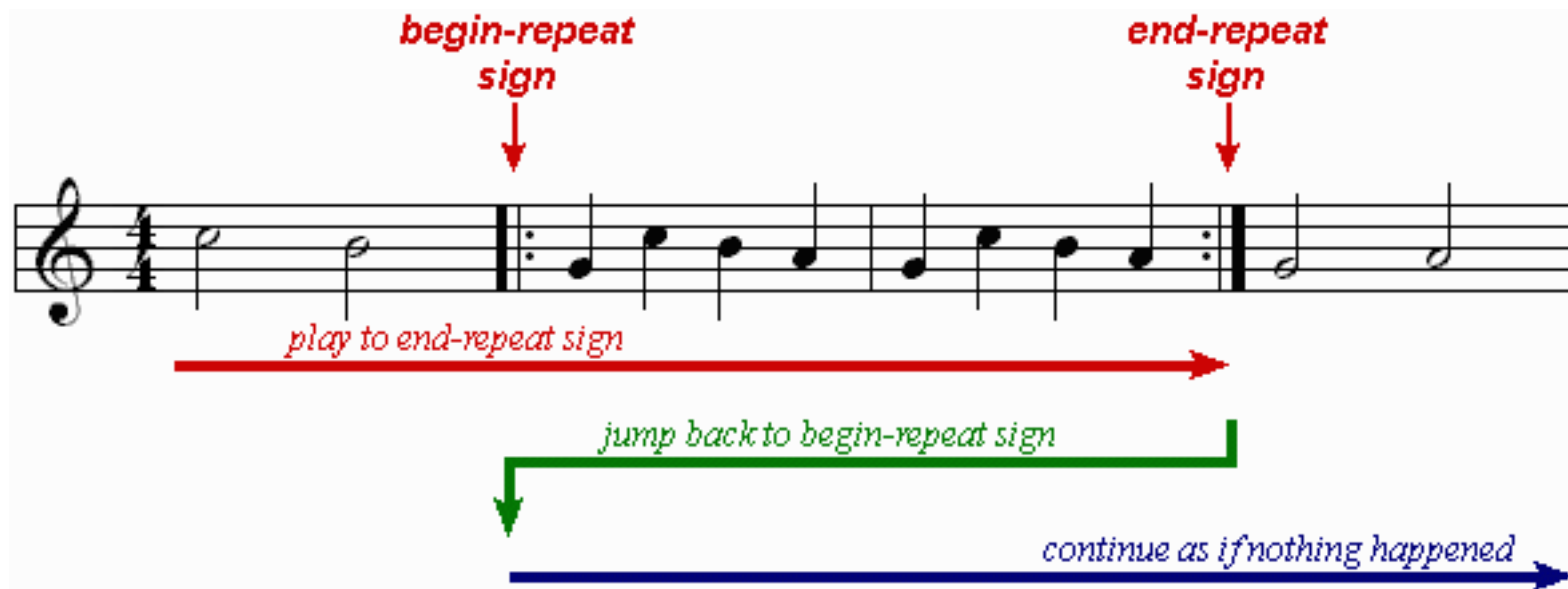
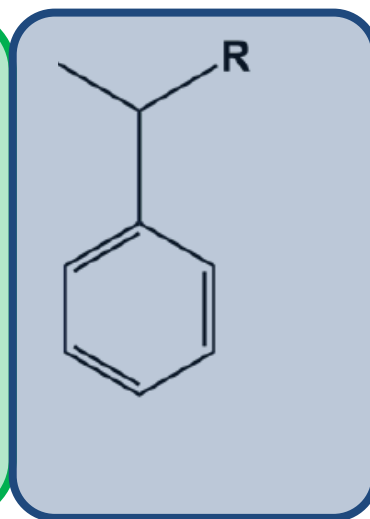
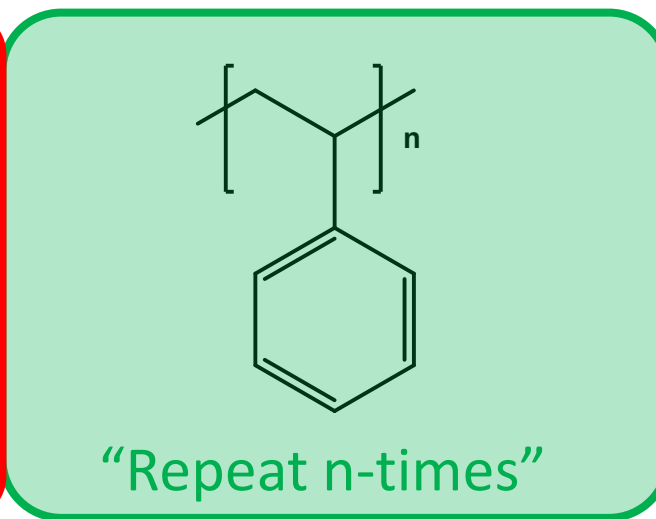
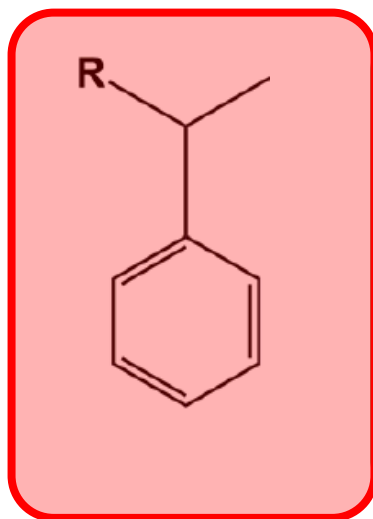
# Polymers

- A **polymer** is a macromolecule constructed by a sequential stringing together of smaller molecules called monomers.



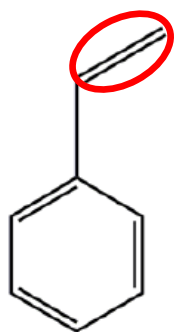
- We'll discuss two types of polymers:
  - **Condensation polymers**
  - **Addition polymers**

# Repeating units: musical analogy



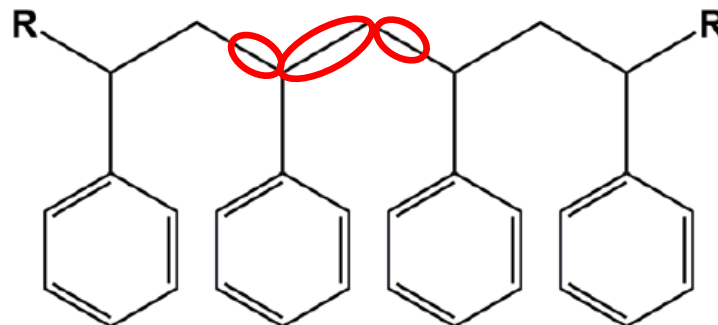


# Shorthand notation for polymers



Styrene

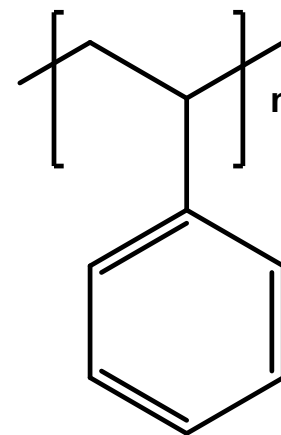
polymerization



Polystyrene



- Another **shorthand notation** for polystyrene, where n is the number of monomers that make up polystyrene. The end groups (R) are generally not shown.



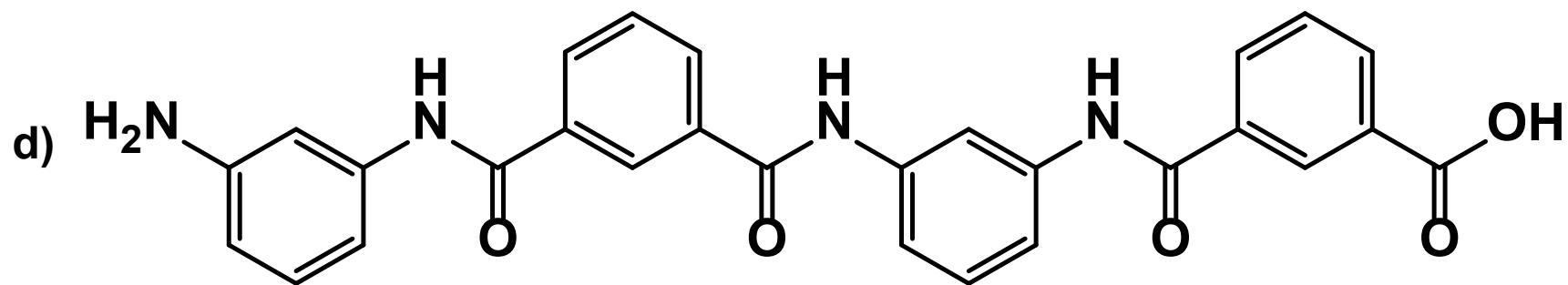
# Degree of polymerization

- The **degree of polymerization (DP)** is the number of repeat units in a polymer chain. For example:

Structure	DP
Dimer	2
Trimer	3
Tetramer	4
Pentamer	5
Oligomer	Small (typically 10s)
Polymer	Large (hundreds to millions)

# Clicker Question

What is the degree of polymerization for the given molecule?



a) 1

b) 2

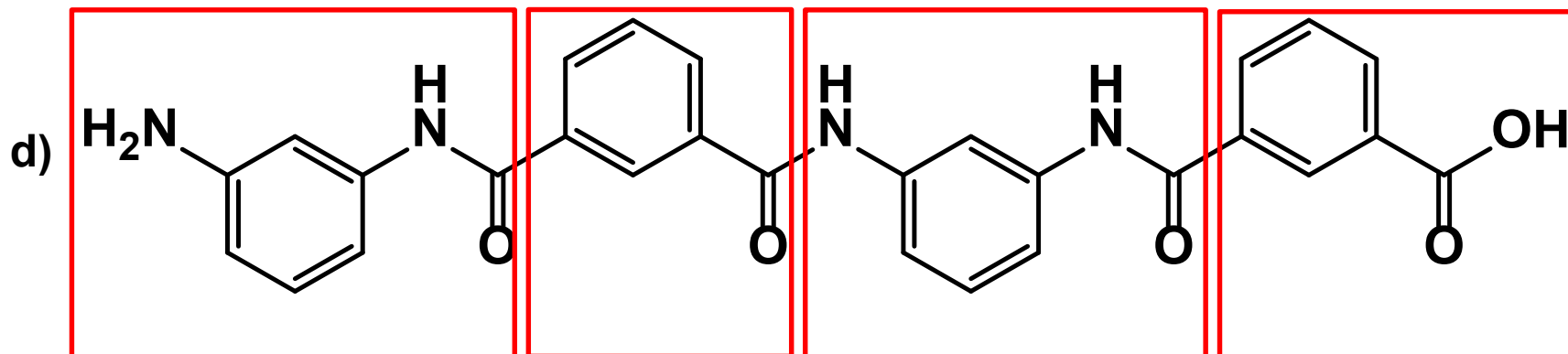
c) 3

d) 4

e) 5

# Clicker Question

What is the degree of polymerization for the given molecule?



a) 1

b) 2

c) 3

d) 4

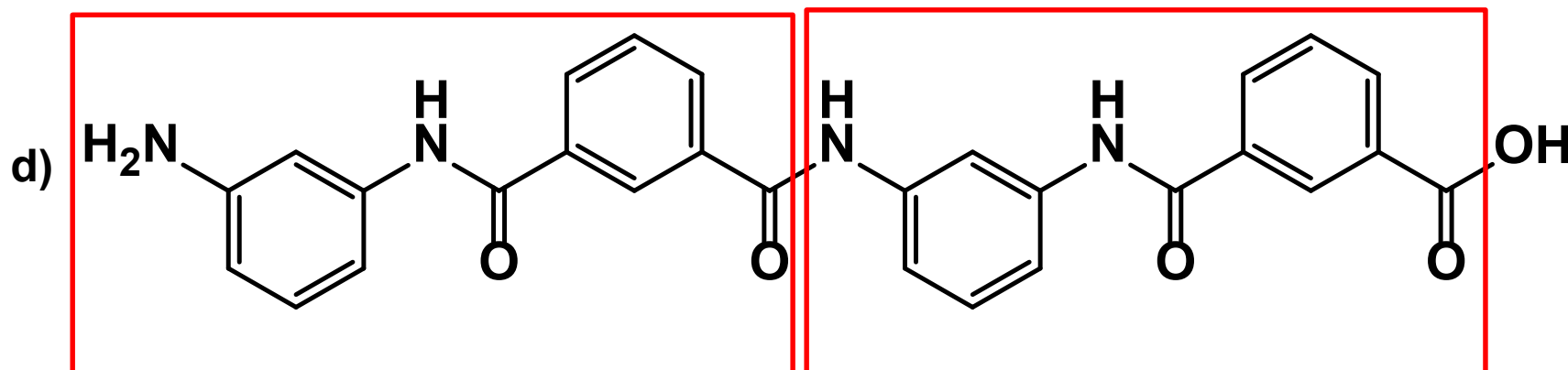
e) 5



Not repeating units

# Clicker Question

What is the degree of polymerization for the given molecule?



Repeating units

a) 1

✓ b) 2

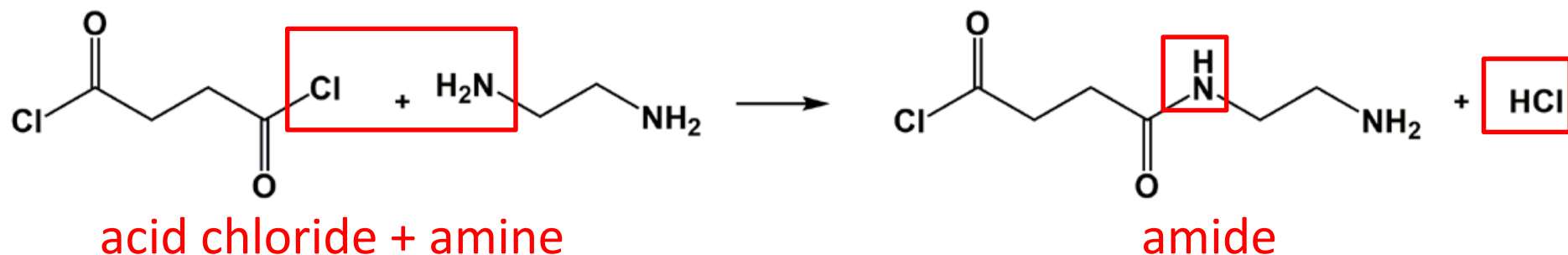
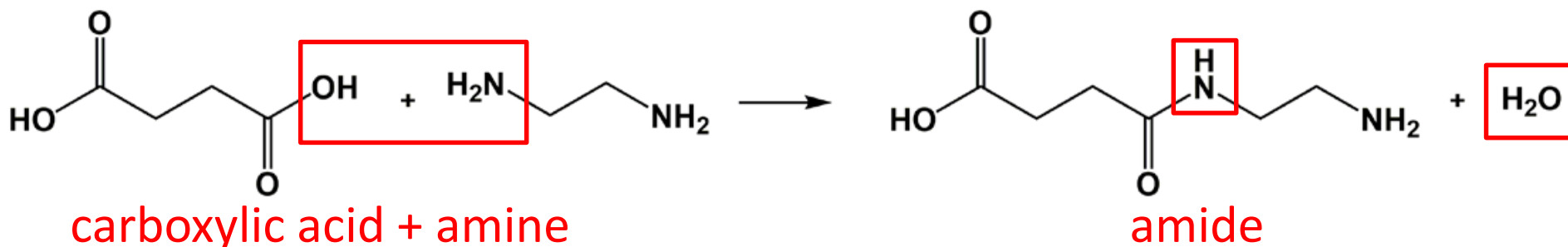
c) 3

d) 4

e) 5

# Condensation Polymers – Amide linkage

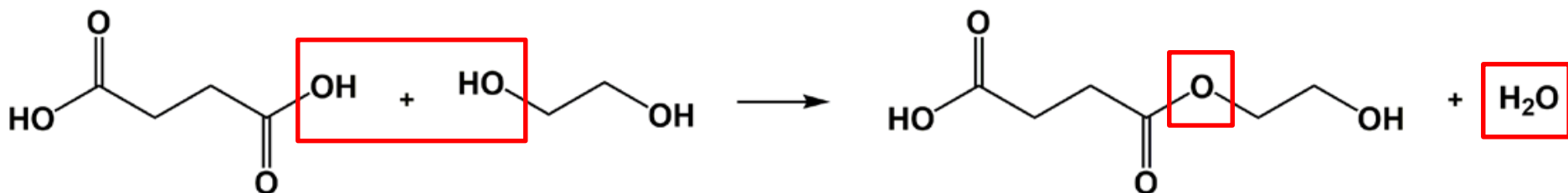
- Two monomers join together to form a polymer and a small molecule byproduct (water or hydrochloric acid).
- Condensation monomers have two reactive sites.
- An **amide linkage** is formed when carboxylic acids OR an acid chloride react with amines.
- The amide linkage repeats along backbone of polymer.





# Condensation Polymers – Ester linkage

- An **ester linkage** is formed when carboxylic acid OR an acid chloride reacts with alcohols.
- The ester linkage repeats along the backbone of the polymer.



carboxylic acid + alcohol

Ester



acid chloride + alcohol

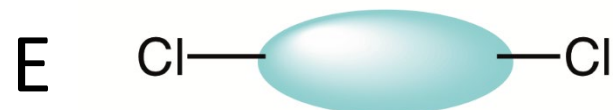
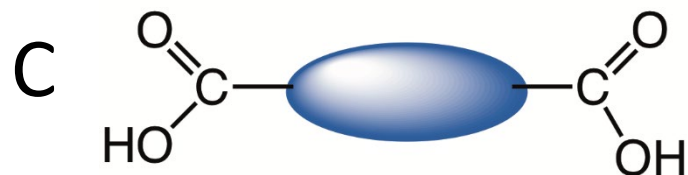
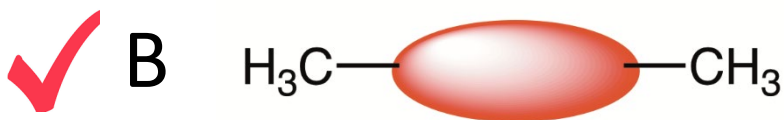
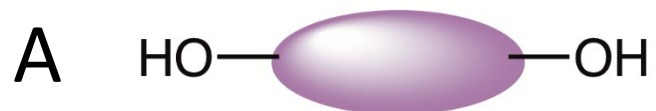
Ester

# Summary of condensation polymer reactivity

Reactant 1	Reactant 2	Polymer linkage	Small molecule
Carboxylic acid	Amine	Amide	Water
Acid chloride	Amine	Amide	HCl
Carboxylic acid	Alcohol	Ester	Water
Acid chloride	Alcohol	Ester	HCl

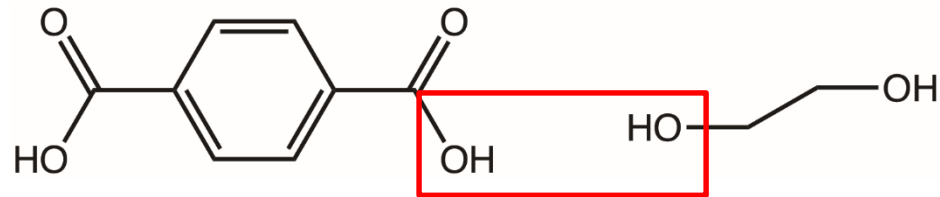
# Clicker

Which cannot be a monomer for a condensation polymerization reaction?



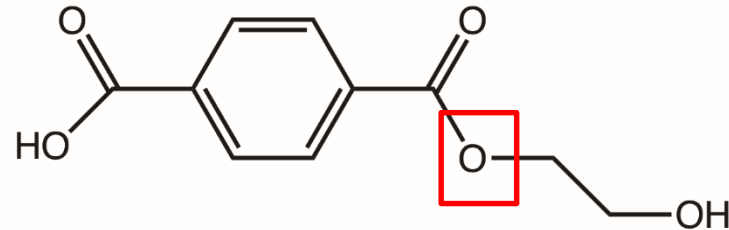
# Condensation polymer growth

Terephthalic Acid + Ethylene glycol



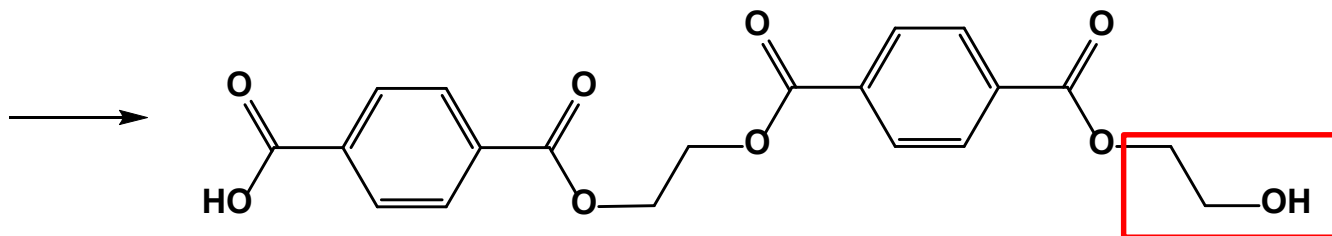
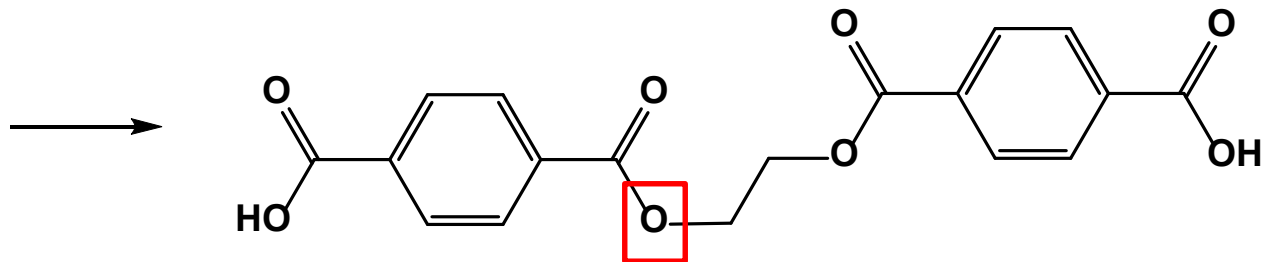
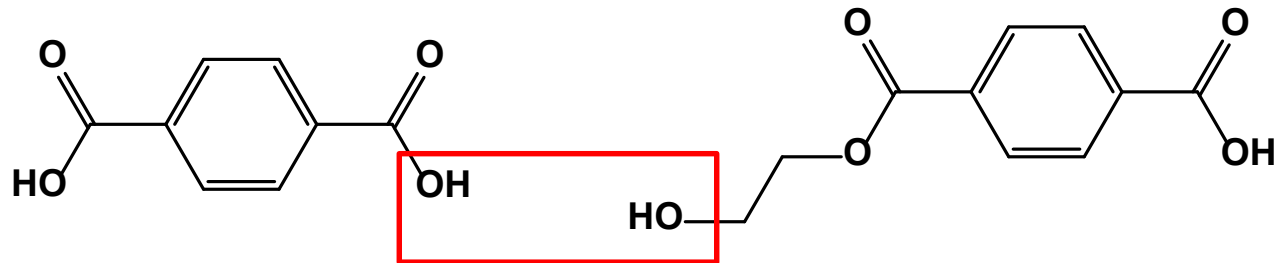
Carboxylic Acid

Alcohol



Linkage: Ester bond ( $-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$ )

# Condensation polymer growth

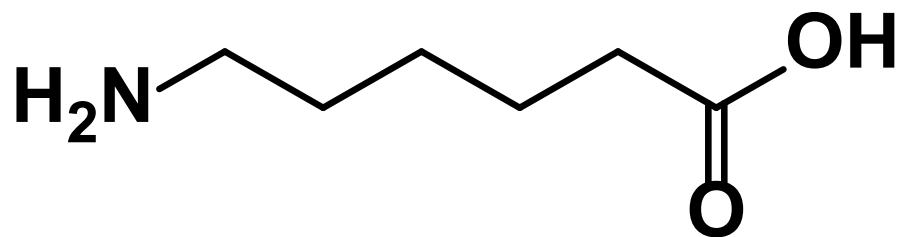


→ Polyethylene Terephthalate (PETE)



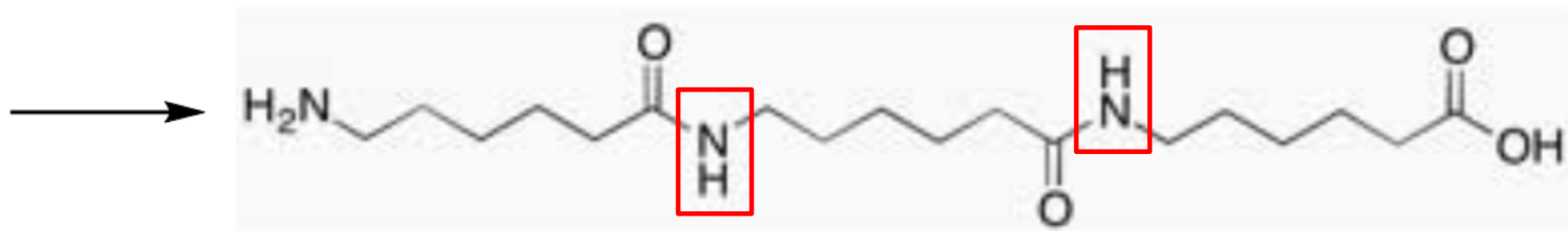
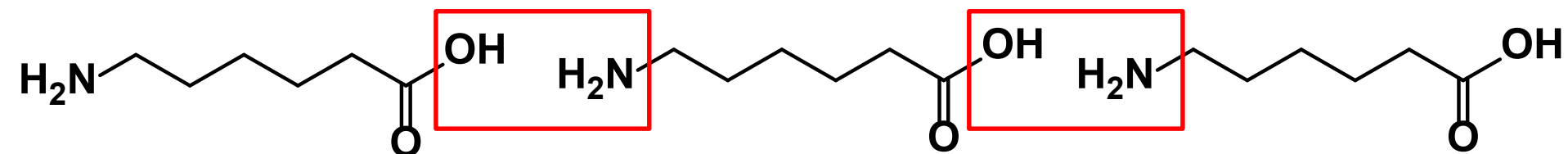
# Worksheet Question #3

Draw the structure of the **trimer** and of a polymer resulting from the condensation of the monomer below.



# Worksheet Question #3

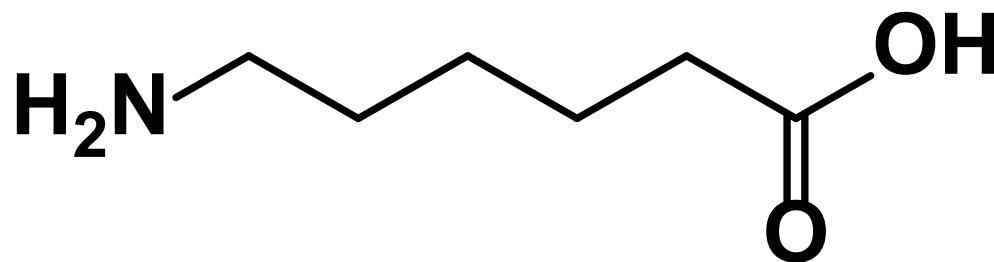
Draw the structure of the **trimer** and of a polymer resulting from the condensation of the monomer below.



Amide Linkages

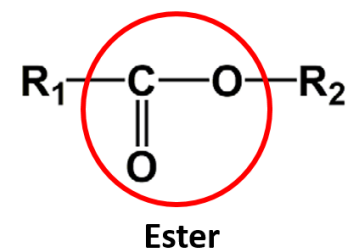
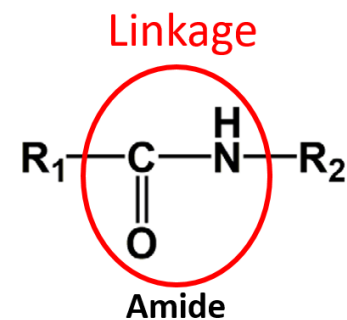
## Worksheet Question #3 (Clicker)

Draw the structure of the **trimer** and of a polymer resulting from the condensation of the monomer below. Name the linkage.



What kind of linkage will be formed?

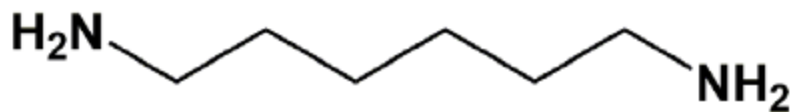
- a) Ester
- ✓ b) Amide



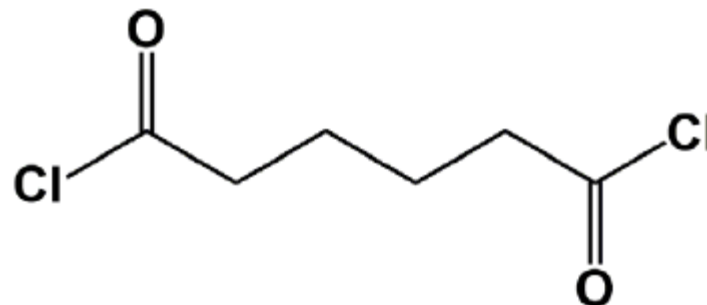


# Worksheet Question #4 – GOOD QUESTION

**Nylon** is a polymer that can be prepared by the reaction of sebacoyl chloride and 1,6-diaminohexane.



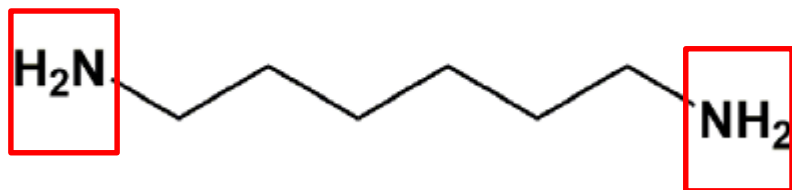
1,6-diaminohexane



Sebacoyl chloride

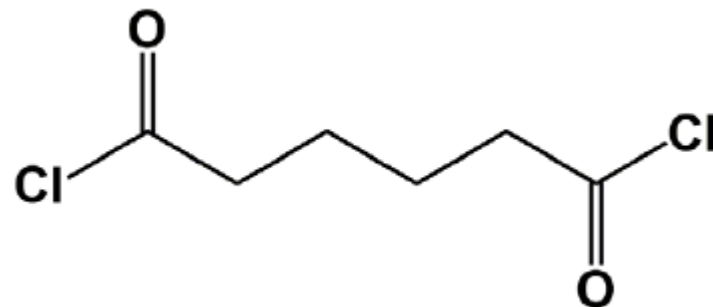
# Worksheet Question #4 – GOOD QUESTION

- (a) A mixture of sebacoyl chloride in hexanes and 1,6-diaminohexane in water forms a biphasic mixture (a mixture with two layers). Provide possible reasons for this explanation.



1,6-diaminohexane

highly soluble in water  
(hydrogen bonds)

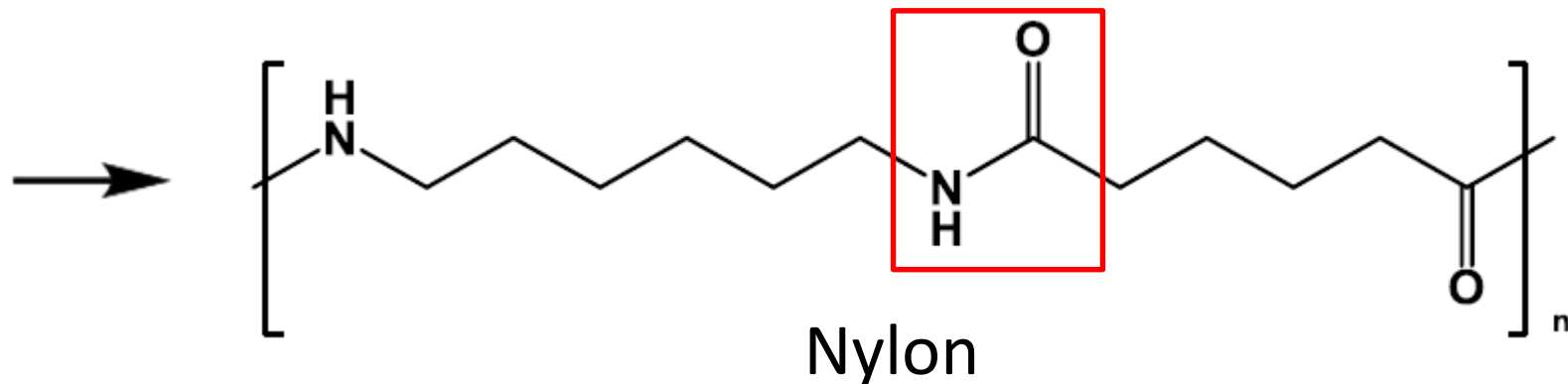
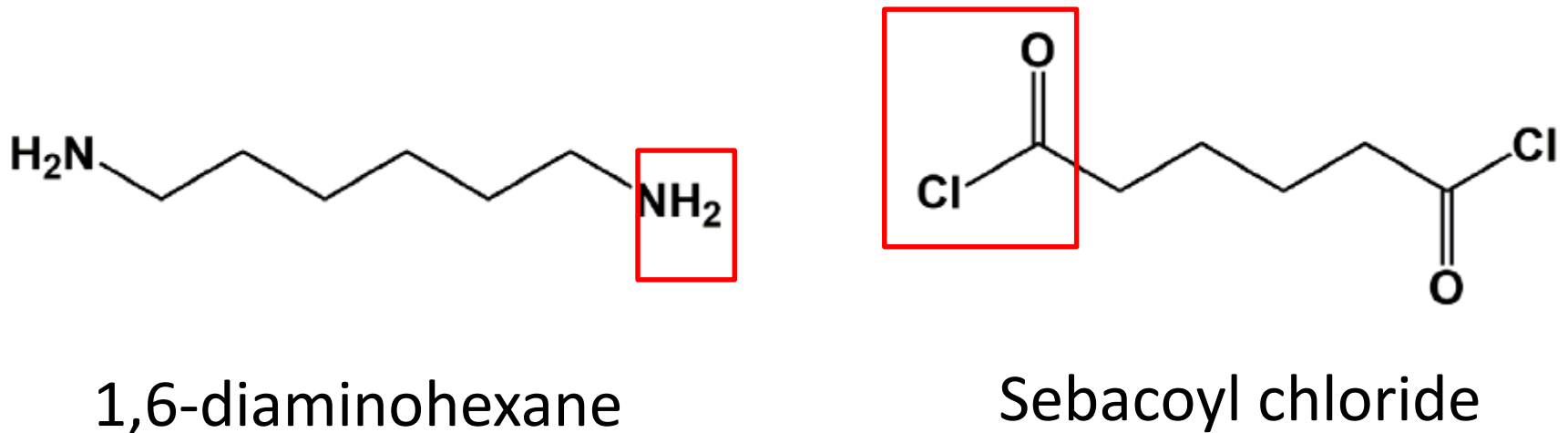


Sebacoyl chloride

insoluble in water

# Worksheet Question #4 – GOOD QUESTION

(b) Draw the product(s) of the reaction between sebacoyl chloride and 1,6-diaminohexane. Where does the reaction take place? Explain.



# Worksheet Question #4 – GOOD QUESTION

(b) Draw the product(s) of the reaction between sebacoyl chloride and 1,6-diaminohexane. Where does the reaction take place? Explain.

a) Bottom layer

b) Top layer

✓ c) At the interface

