

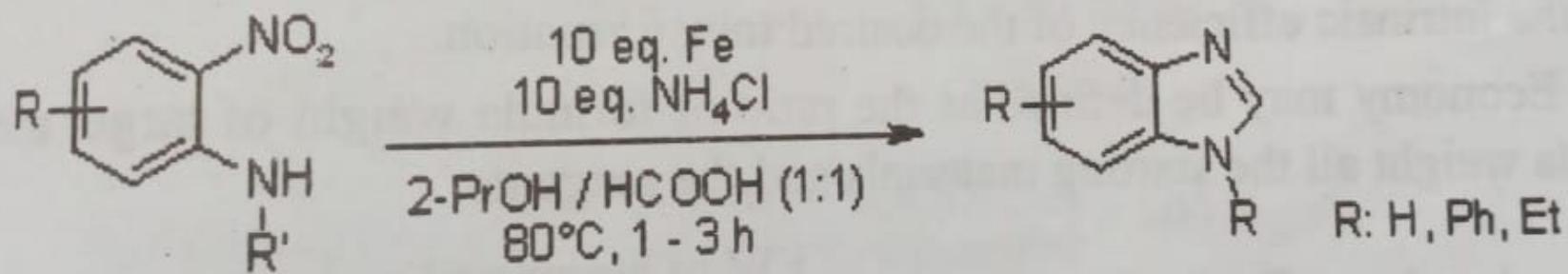
# SYNTHESIS OF BENZIMIDAZOLE

Alternative method with Atom Economy 77%.

### (E) SYNTHESIS OF BENZIMIDAZOLE :

**Benzimidazole** is a heterocyclic aromatic organic compound consisting of fusion of benzene and imidazole. They are bioactive. Many of the anthelmintic drugs belong to the benzimidazole class of compounds. Benzimidazole fungicides are available in the market. They act by binding to the fungal microtubules and stop hyphal growth. It also resists nuclear division. Several dyes are derived from benzimidazole.

#### Traditional synthesis of Benzimidazole



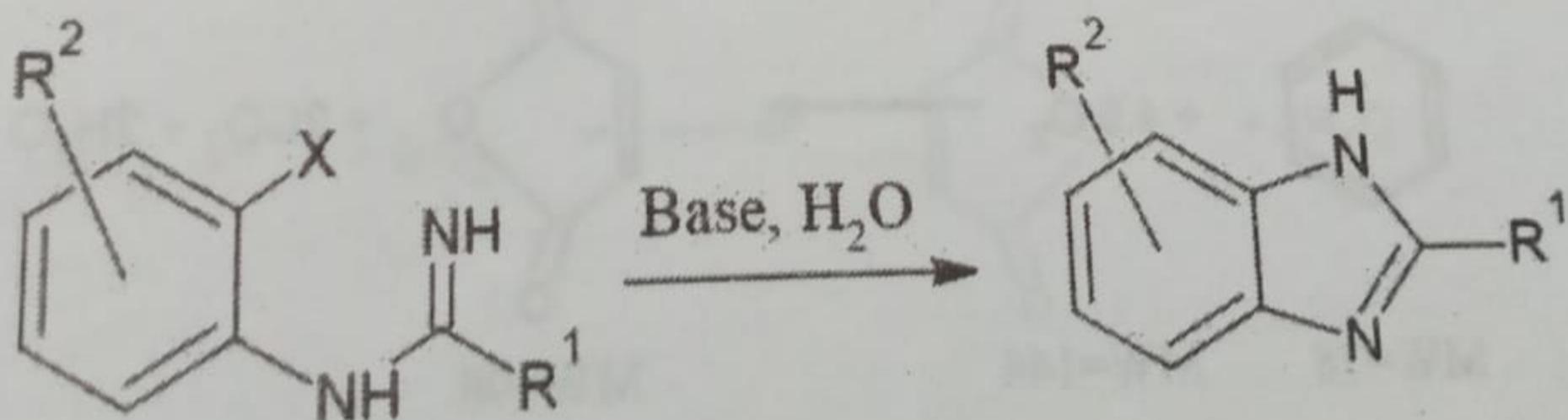
Aromatic and heteroaromatic 2-nitroamines can be converted into bicyclic 2-imidazoles. This synthesis employs formic acid, iron powder, and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl to reduce the nitro group, and effects the imidazole cyclization. This synthesis yields high-yield within one to two hours.

#### Green Synthesis of Benzimidazole:

... be synthesized through a carbon-nitro

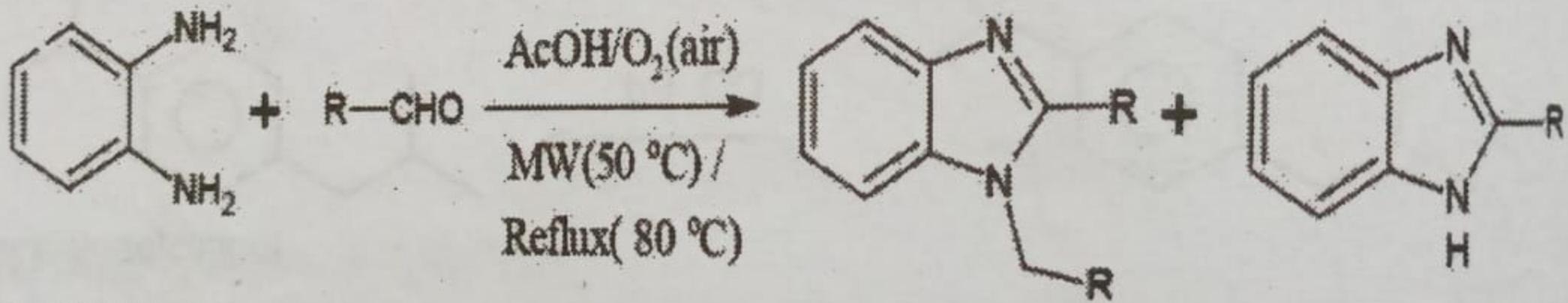
## **Green Synthesis of Benzimidazole:**

(i) The benzimidazole ring system can be synthesized through a carbon-nitrogen cross-coupling reaction in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$  in water at  $100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 30h. The intermolecular cyclization of N-(2-iodoaryl) benzamide provides benzimidazole derivatives in moderate to high yields. The procedure occurs exclusively in water and doesn't require the use of any additional reagent/catalyst. The methodology is highly valuable from both environmental and economic points of view.



The green route occurs exclusively in water, and there is no need of any reagent catalyst.

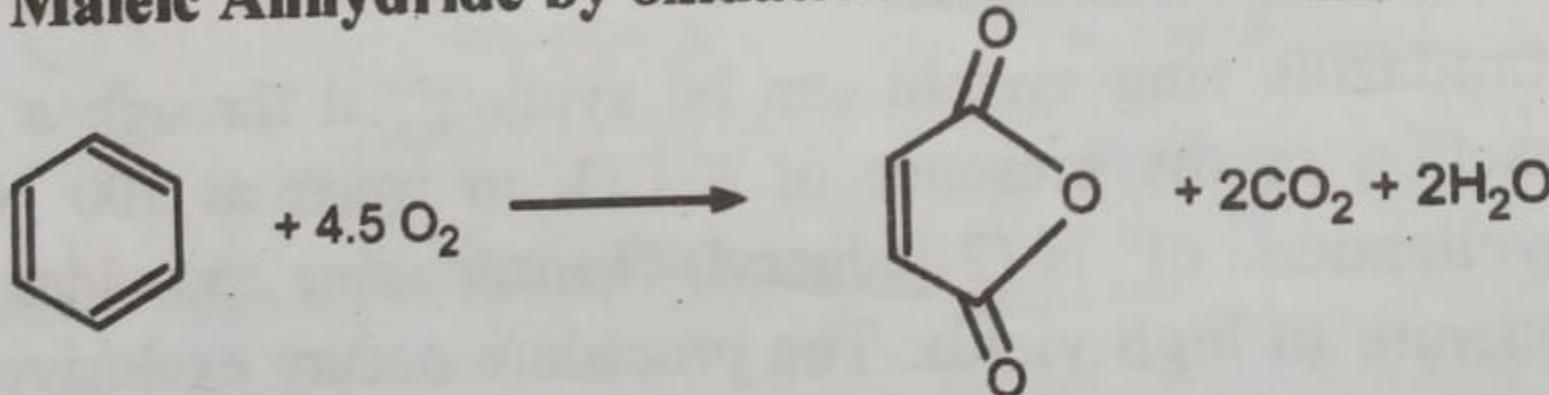
(ii) The benzimidazoles can also be synthesized by condensation of phenylenediamine with aldehydes promoted by acetic acid under microwave. The reaction doesn't involve any hazardous solvent. It is a mild and eco-friendly synthesis, requires less reaction time and high yields of the products.



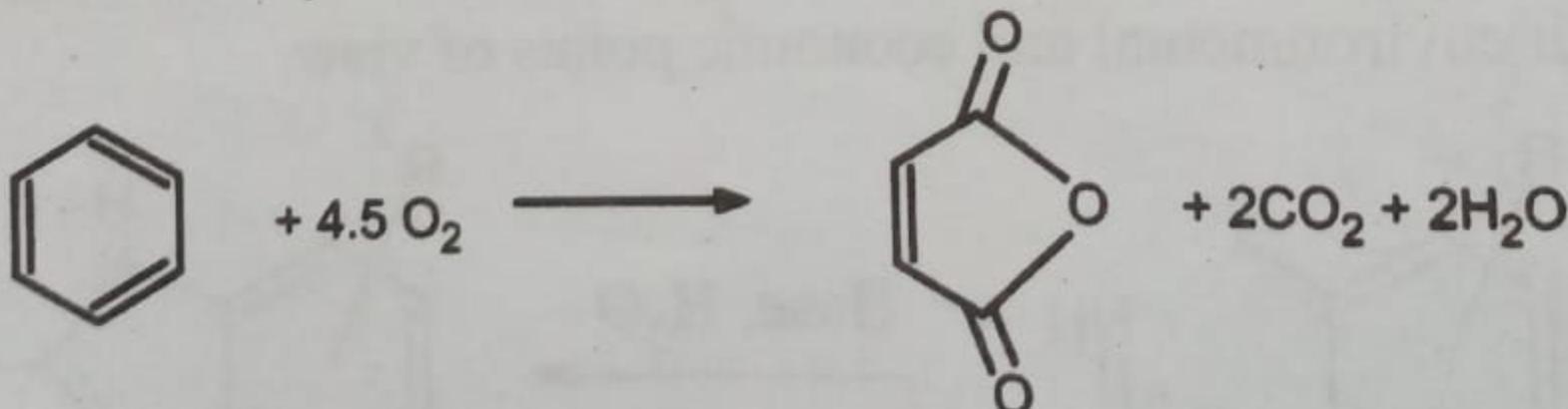
## NUMERICALS BASED ON ATOM ECONOMY:

1. Calculate percentage economy for the following reaction:  
Synthesis of Maleic Anhydride by oxidation of benzene

[May 08, 10, Dec. 2012]



Solution :



MW=78

MW=144

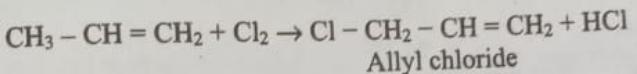
MW=98

$$\begin{aligned}\% \text{Atom Economy} &= \frac{\text{MW of product}}{\text{Total MW of reactant}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{98}{78 + 144} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{98}{222} \times 100 \\ &= 44.1\%\end{aligned}$$

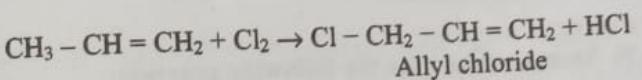
**Ans. % Atom Economy = 44.1**

3. Calculate the % Atom economy for the following reaction with respect to Allyl Chloride.

[Dec. 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2018, May 2019]



Solution :



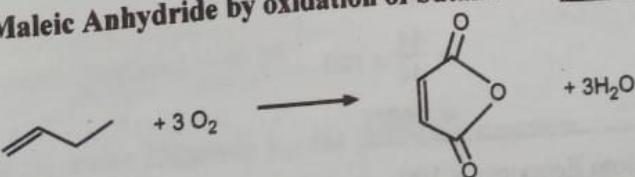
MW=42                  MW=71                  MW=76.5

$$\begin{aligned}\% \text{Atom Economy} &= \frac{\text{MW of product}}{\text{Total MW of reactant}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{76.5}{42 + 71} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{76.5}{113} \times 100 \\ &= 67.69\%\end{aligned}$$

**Ans. % Atom Economy = 67.69%**

3. Calculate percentage economy for the following reaction:  
Synthesis of Maleic Anhydride by oxidation of butane.

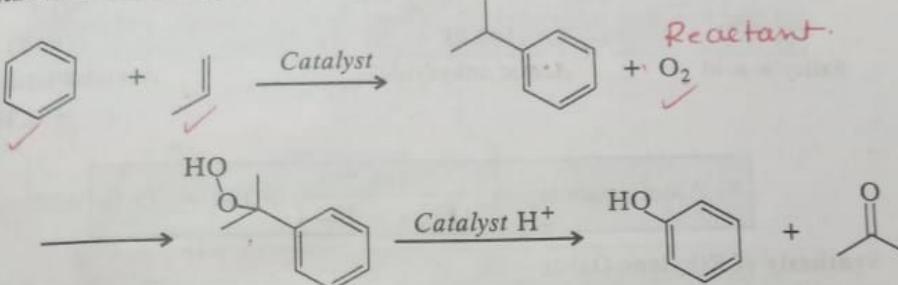
[May 2009, Dec. 2009]



% Atom economy =  $\Sigma$  (Molecular weight of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, NaOH)

$$\boxed{\% \text{ Atom economy} = 0.4353 \text{ or } 43.53\%}$$

i) Synthesis of phenol (greener route)

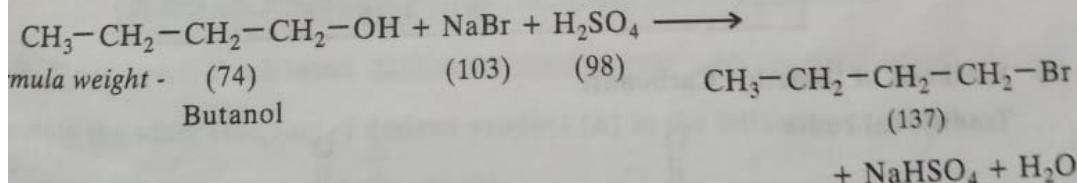


The synthesis of phenol and acetone via cumene production from benzene and propene.

	Reactants		Target		Waste	
	Empirical formula	Molecular weight	Atoms utilized	Molecular weight	Atoms unutilized	Molecular weight
	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	78.12	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	77.11	H	1.01
	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	42.09	H	1.01	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	41.08
	O <sub>2</sub>	32.00	O	16.00	O	16.00
Total	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	152.21	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	94.12	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	58.09

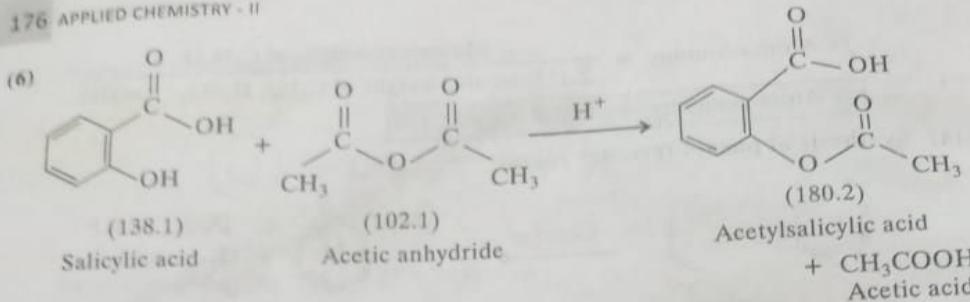
$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{\text{Molecular weight of C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}}{\Sigma (\text{Molecular weight of C}_6\text{H}_6, \text{C}_3\text{H}_6, \text{O}_2)}$$

$$\boxed{\% \text{ Atom economy} = 0.6184 \text{ or } 61.84\%}$$



$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{\text{Molecular weight of desired product}}{\text{Molecular weight of reactants}} \times 100$$

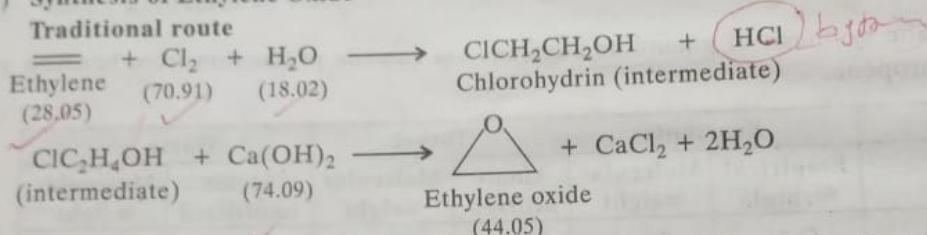
$$\boxed{\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{137}{275} \times 100 = 50\% \quad 77.10}$$



$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{180.2}{138.1 + 102.1} \times 100 = 75\%$$

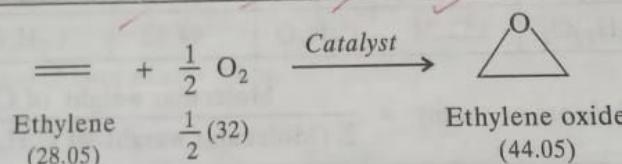
(7) Synthesis of Ethylene Oxide

Traditional route



$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{44.05}{74.09 + 70.91 + 28.05 + 18.02} \times 100 = 23.05\%$$

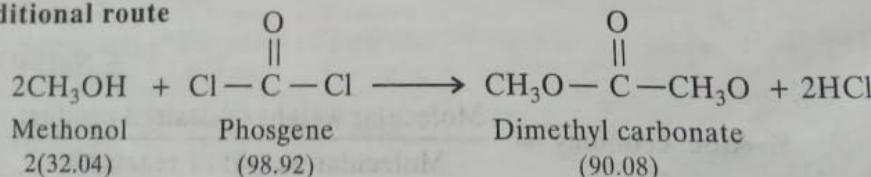
Greener route



$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{44.05}{28.05 + 16} \times 100 = 100\%$$

(8) Synthesis of Dimethyl Carbonate

Traditional route



$$\% \text{ Atom economy} = \frac{90.08}{2(32.04) + 98.92} \times 100 = 55.26\%$$