

Aim: How is the empirical formula related to the molecular formula?

1) To obtain the EF from the MF, just simplify the ratio of atoms.

<u>Molecular Formula</u>		<u>Empirical Formula</u>
actual # atoms		simplest ratio
N ₂ O ₄	DIVIDE	NO ₂
C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₆	=====>	CH ₂ O
*H ₂ O		H ₂ O

* The MF and the EF are the same for H₂O because this ratio can't be simplified any further.

2) Going in reverse direction, just multiply by a whole number, "n".

?????	MULTIPLY	
	<=====	CH

C₂H₂, C₃H₃, C₄H₄, etc...
There are many possibilities.

EF x n = MF

In other words, **the molecular formula is a multiple of the empirical formula**. And, the same applies for the masses.

For example,

$$\text{CH} = 12 + 1 = 13 \quad \text{CH} \times 2 = \text{C}_2\text{H}_2 = 2(12) + 2(1) = 26$$

So, to narrow it down to one of many molecular formulas they have to give you a molecular mass.

For example,

Given: empirical formula = CH and molecular mass = 78

Find: molecular formula

1st) CH 12+1=13	2nd) 78/13=6	3rd) CH x 6 = C₆H₆
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Go to handout.

EF \Leftrightarrow MF

1) The empirical formula of a compound is CH_2 and its molecular mass is 70. What is the molecular formula of the compound?

- 1) C_2H_4 2) C_3H_4 3) C_4H_{10} 4) C_5H_{10}

1st) $12 + 2 = 14$
 2nd) $\frac{70}{14} = 5$
 $5(\text{CH}_2) = \text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}$

2) What is the molecular formula of a compound that has a molecular mass of 92 and an empirical formula of NO_2 ?

- 1) NO_2 2) N_2O_4 3) N_3O_6 4) N_4O_8

1st) $14 + 32 = 46$
 2nd) $92 / 46 = 2$
 3rd) $2(\text{NO}_2) = \text{N}_2\text{O}_4$

3) The empirical formula of a compound is C_2H_3 and its molecular mass is 54. What is the molecular formula of the compound?

- 1) C_2H_4 2) C_4H_6 3) C_4H_8 4) C_6H_{10}

1st) $24 + 3 = 27$
 2nd) $54 / 27 = 2$
 3rd) $2(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3) = \text{C}_4\text{H}_6$

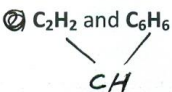
4) The empirical formula of a compound is CH . Its molecular mass could be

- 1) 21 2) 40 3) 51 4) 78

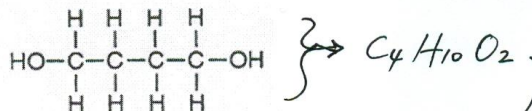
$12 + 1 = 13$
 $6 \times 13 = 78$

5) Which pair of compounds has the same empirical formula?

- 1) CH_3OH and $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ 2) C_2H_6 and C_3H_8
 3) C_2H_2 and C_6H_6 4) CH_3CHO and CH_3COOH



6) Given the structural formula:



What is the empirical formula of this compound?

- 1) $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_4$ 2) $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ 3) CH_3O 4) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}$

7) The molecular formula of a compound is represented by X_3Y_6 . What is the empirical formula of this compound?

- 1) X_2Y 2) XY_2 3) XY_3 4) X_3Y

$\frac{\text{X}_3}{3} / \frac{\text{Y}_6}{3} \rightarrow \text{XY}_2$