

- 8 Asparagine and aspartic acid are two naturally occurring amino acids. Their structures and isoelectric points are shown in Table 8.1.

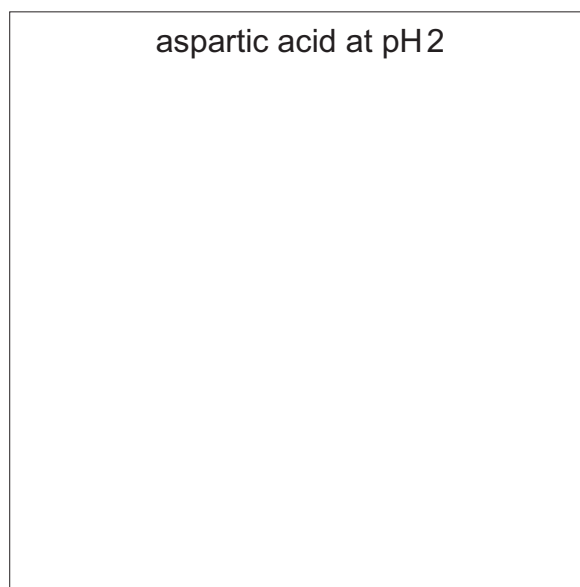
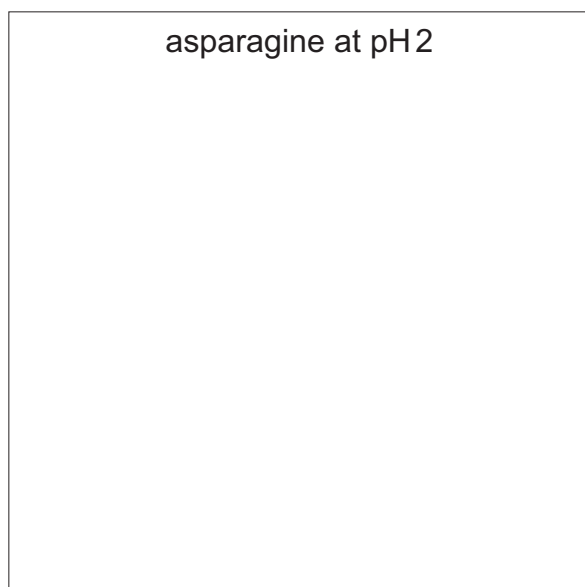
Table 8.1

amino acid	structure	isoelectric point
asparagine	$\text{HOOCCH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2$	5.41
aspartic acid	$\text{HOOCCH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}_2\text{COOH}$	2.77

- (a) Define isoelectric point.

.....
..... [1]

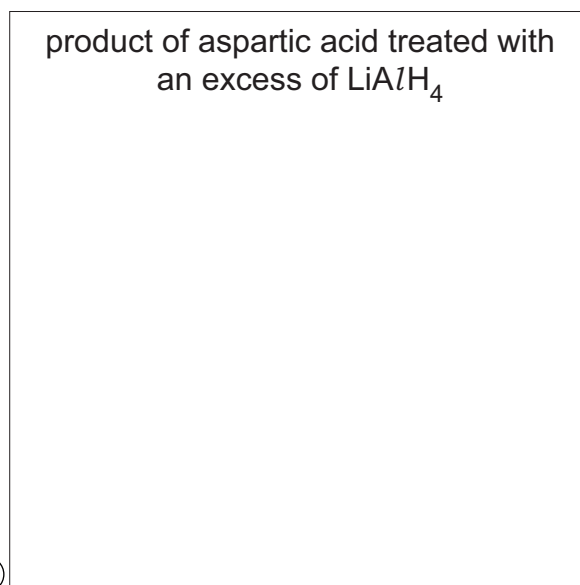
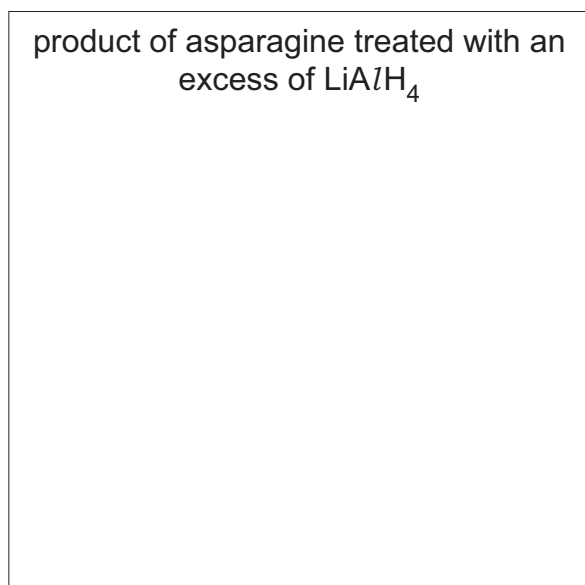
- (b) Draw the structures of asparagine and aspartic acid at pH 2.



[2]

- (c) Asparagine and aspartic acid are treated separately with an excess of LiAlH_4 .

Draw the structures of the organic products of these reactions.



①

[2]

- (d) Propanedioic acid, $\text{HOOCCH}_2\text{COOH}$, is treated with an excess of thionyl chloride, SOCl_2 . Propanedioyl chloride, $\text{ClOCCH}_2\text{COCl}$, is formed.

(i) Write an equation for this reaction.

..... [1]

- (ii) Propanedioyl chloride reacts with an excess of asparagine to form compound **G** with molecular formula $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_4\text{O}_8$.

Each molecule of compound **G** has four amide groups.

Draw the structure of compound **G**.

Compound **G**, $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_4\text{O}_8$

[2]

- (e) Asparagine is hydrolysed with an excess of hot NaOH(aq) .

Draw the structure of the organic product of this reaction.

[2]

- (f) A polymer can form from asparagine, $\text{HOOCCH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2$, as the only monomer.

Draw a length of the polymer chain containing **three** monomer residues.

Clearly label the repeat unit of the polymer on your diagram.

[3]

(g) Aspartic acid exists in two optically active forms.

- (i)** Plane polarised light is passed through pure samples of these two optically active forms in solutions of the same concentration.

Describe **two** similarities and **one** difference in their effect on the plane polarised light.

similarities

.....

difference

.....

[2]

- (ii)** Give the term used to describe a mixture of equal amounts of the two optically active forms.

..... [1]

[Total: 16]

Question 9 starts on page 20.

- 8 (a) Describe the difference in reactivity between ethanoyl chloride and chlorobenzene with water.

Explain your answer.

.....

.....

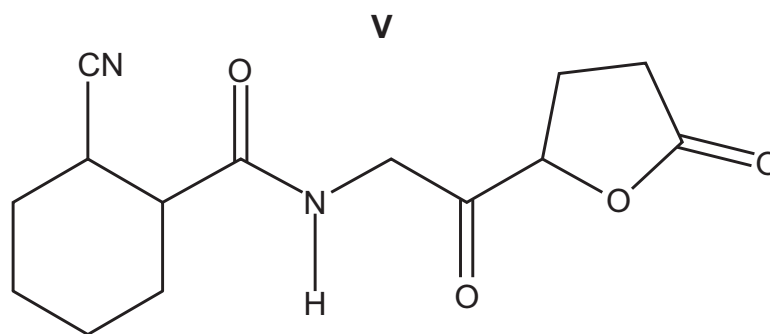
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..... [2]

- (b) The structure of compound **V** is shown.



- (i) Name all the functional groups in **V**.

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (ii) Deduce the number of possible optical isomers for **V**.

..... [1]

- (iii) Suggest **one** reason, other than better biological activity and lower dosage required, why it is beneficial to synthesise a single optical isomer of **V** for use as a drug.

.....

.....

..... [1]

(c) A sample of **V** is hydrolysed with an excess of hot aqueous alkali.

The products are isolated from the reaction mixture at pH 12.

Draw the structures of the **two** organic products of the **complete** alkaline hydrolysis of **V** in Fig. 8.1.

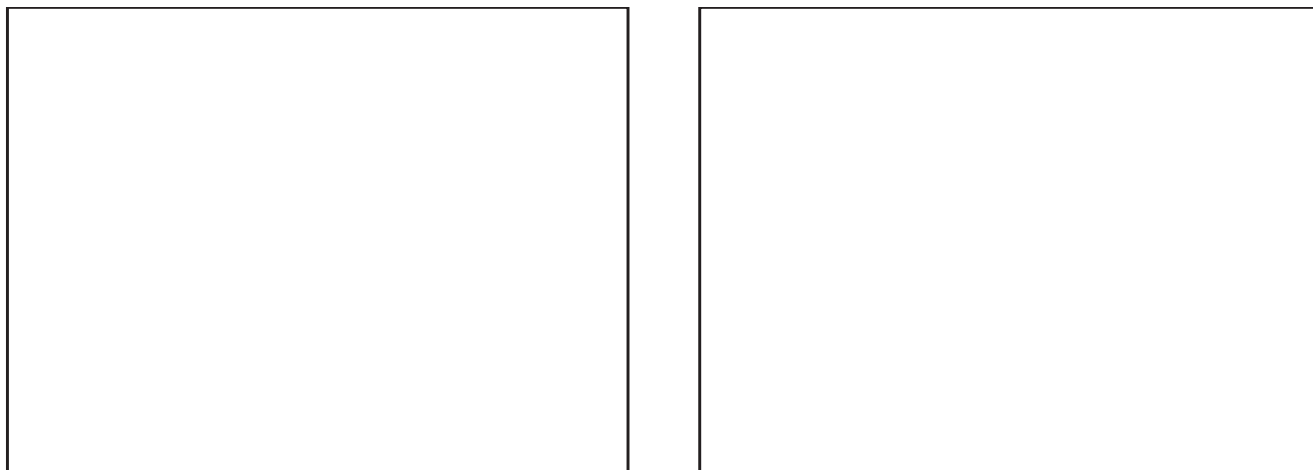


Fig. 8.1

[3]

- (d) A polypeptide formed from four amino acids, **A**, **B**, **C** and **D**, is completely hydrolysed and then analysed by gas–liquid chromatography.

The chromatogram produced is shown in Fig. 8.2.

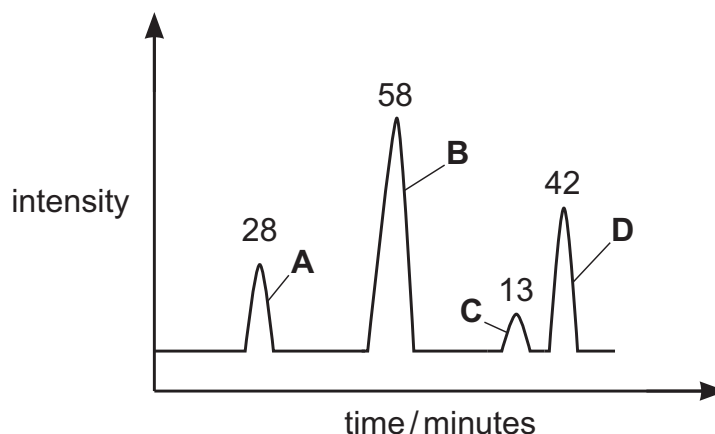


Fig. 8.2

The number above each peak represents the area under the peak.

The area under each peak is proportional to the mass of the respective amino acid in the mixture.

- (i) Calculate the percentage by mass of amino acid **A** in the original mixture.

percentage by mass of amino acid **A** = [1]

- (ii) The retention time for amino acid **D** is the longest.

Explain why **D** has a longer retention time than the **other** amino acids **A**, **B** and **C**.

.....
.....
.....
..... [1]

[Total: 11]

Important values, constants and standards

molar gas constant	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Faraday constant	$F = 9.65 \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
Avogadro constant	$L = 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
electronic charge	$e = -1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
molar volume of gas	$V_m = 22.4 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at s.t.p. (101 kPa and 273 K) $V_m = 24.0 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at room conditions
ionic product of water	$K_w = 1.00 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6}$ (at 298 K (25 °C))
specific heat capacity of water	$c = 4.18 \text{ kJ kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ (4.18 J g ⁻¹ K ⁻¹)

