


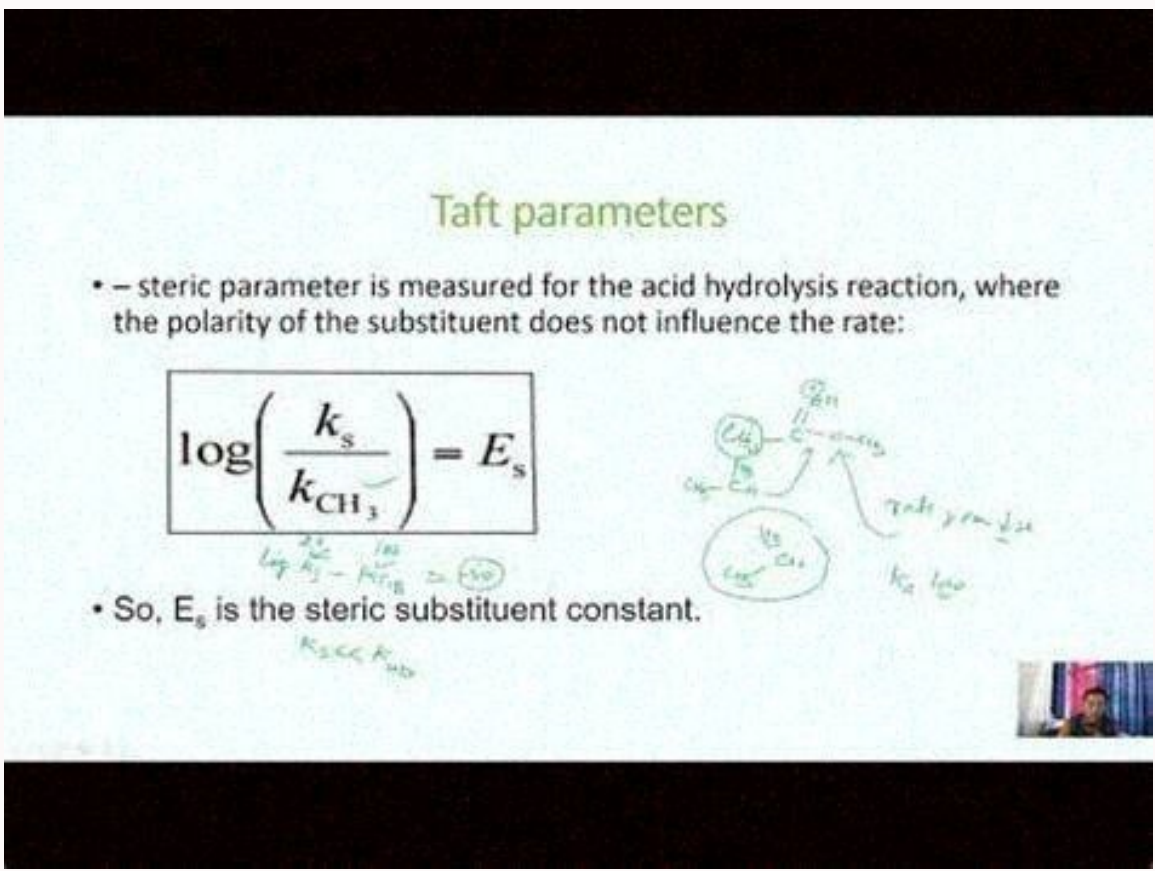
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What is taft equation.

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Substituent constants The starting point for the collection of the substituent constants is a chemical equilibrium for which the substituent constant is arbitrarily set to 1: the deprotonation of benzoic acid or benzene carboxylic acid (R and R' both H) in water at 25 °C. Scheme 1. Dissociation of benzoic acids. Substituent constants: para and meta substituted benzene rings.[3][needs update][6] Substituent para- effect meta- effect Dimethylamino -0.83 -0.211 Amino -0.66 -0.161 Butylamino -0.51 -0.34 Hydroxy -0.37 +0.12 Methoxy -0.268 +0.115 Ethoxy -0.25 +0.015 Methyl -0.170 -0.069 Trimethylsilyl -0.07 -0.04 None 0.000 0.000 Fluoro +0.062 +0.337 Chloro +0.227 +0.373 Bromo +0.232 +0.393 Iodo +0.276 +0.453 Ethoxycarbonyl +0.45 +0.37 Trifluoromethyl +0.54 +0.43 Cyano +0.66 +0.56 Nitro +0.778 +0.710 Having obtained a value for K₀, a series of benzoic acids, substituted benzoic acids (K) are now determined based on the same process, but now with variation of the para substituent—for instance, p-hydroxybenzoic acid (R=OH, R'=H) or p-aminobenzoic acid (R=NH₂, R'=H). These values, combined in the Hammett equation with K₀ and remembering that $\rho = 1$, give the para substituent constants, compiled in table 1 for amine, methoxy, ethoxy, dimethylamino, methyl, fluorine, bromine, chlorine, iodine, nitro and cyano substituents. Repeating this process for meta substituents affords the meta substituent constants. The ρ values displayed in the Table above reveal certain substituent effects. With $\rho = 1$, the group of substituents with increasing positive values—notably cyano and nitro—cause the equilibrium constant to increase compared to the hydrogen reference, meaning that the acidity of the carboxylic acid (depicted on the left of the equation) has increased. These substituents stabilize the negative charge on the carboxylate oxygen atom by an electron-withdrawing inductive effect (-I) and also by a negative mesomeric effect (-M). The next set of substituents are the halogens, for which the substituent effect is still positive but much more modest. The reason for this is that while the inductive effect is still negative, the mesomeric effect is positive, causing partial cancellation. The data also show that for these substituents, the meta effect is much larger than the para effect, due to the fact that the mesomeric effect is greatly reduced in a meta substituent. With meta substituents a carbon atom bearing the negative charge is further away from the carboxylic acid group (structure 2b).



Repeating the process with meta-substituents afford the meta substituent constants.

