

class - B.Sc. Part I (Subsidiary)
Subject - Chemistry
Paper - Subsidiary (Gr. C)
Topic - Glycerol
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Alcohol [GLYCEROL]

Trihydric alcohol or Triols :-

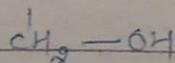
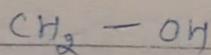
Alcohol containing three '-OH' group are called the trihydric alcohols or triols. The most important member of the class is glycerol or 1,2,3 propanetriol.

Glycerol or 1,2,3 propanetriol (CH₂OH)₃

It is a trihydric alcohol the name of glycerol or glycerine was derived from the word glycerol means sweet. Its IUPAC name is 1,2,3 propanetriol. Since, it could be considered as trihydroxy derivative of propane.

It occurs in almost all natural animal fats and vegetable oils as the glyceryl ester of higher organic acids.

Structure :-



1,2,3 propanetriol (Prop-1:2:3 triol)

Manufacture :- Glycerol can be prepared industrially by the following methods :-

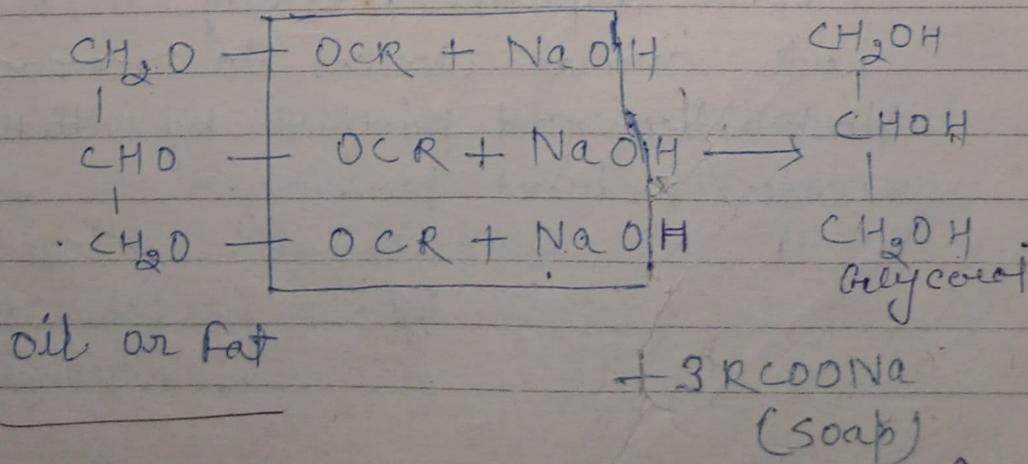
(i) By the hydrolysis of oils and fats :-

For the formation of Soap and Candle, oils and fats are hydrolysed and as a by product, glycerol is formed. It is extracted by following methods.

(a) Glycerol from Soap manufacture :-

Soap \rightarrow Higher fatty acid (Palmitic acid, steric acid, Oleic acid) of sodium salt are known as soap.

For the preparation of soap, fats and oils are hydrolysed with caustic alkalies. By the hydrolysis higher fatty acids of sodium and potassium salt are precipitated which are soap. For the fully precipitation, sodium chloride is added and the remaining solution is known as spentlye. Spentlye contains 3-5% glycerol, alkalis, sodium chloride, soluble soap and other impurities.



Recovery of Glycerol from Spentlye

Spentlye is taken in a settling tank and set ~~free~~ to settle down impurities.

Then it is filtered and placed in another tank known as treating tank and treated with aluminium sulphate and ^{alum} by which soluble soap is precipitated. A little amount of hydrochloric acid is added to it for neutralising alkali present in it.

Now this mixture solution is introduced with filter press by a pump.

Now, in this solution glycerol with sodium chloride is present which are introduced with vacuum pans under reduced pressure vapour. As well as concentration increased, crystals of sodium chloride begins to separate which are separated.

In the solution now about 80% glycerol is present containing colour impurities. Finally it is treated with animal charcoal to remove colour impurities and purified by distillation under reduced pressure.