

are obtained mostly from petroleum by a process called cracking. Unsaturated hydrocarbons are of two types (i) those containing Carbon-Carbon double bonds (alkenes) and (ii) those containing Carbon-Carbon triple bonds (alkynes)

1 Alkenes: \rightarrow An unsaturated hydrocarbon in which the two Carbon atoms are connected by a double bond is called an alkene.

The general formula of an alkene is C_nH_{2n} where n is the number of Carbon atoms in its one molecule.

(ii) Alkynes: \rightarrow An unsaturated hydrocarbon in which the two carbon atoms are connected by a triple bond is called an alkyne.

The general formula of alkynes is C_nH_{2n-2} where n is the number of carbon atom in one molecule of the alkyne.

(i) If an alkyne has 2 carbon atoms in its molecule then $n=2$ and its molecular formula will be $C_2H_{2 \times 2 - 2}$ or C_2H_2

(ii) If an alkyne has 3 carbon atoms in its molecule then $n=3$ and its molecular formula will be $C_3H_{2 \times 3 - 2}$ or C_3H_4