

CHAPTER 2

ALKANES

2.1 Introduction

Alkanes are organic compounds containing carbon and hydrogen with single bonds only. We will include compounds which contain a C bonded to a halogen also (C1, F, Br, I); these compounds are frequently referred to as halogenated alkanes. Recall that the geometry around C-H single bonds is tetrahedral and that the bond angle is 109.5° , as shown for pentane below. Also remember that we can have free rotation around C-C single bonds.

