

### **quaternary ammonium compounds**

Derivatives of ammonium compounds,  $\text{NH}_4^+\text{Y}^-$ , in which all four of the hydrogens bonded to nitrogen have been replaced with *hydrocarbyl* groups. Compounds having a carbon–nitrogen double bond (i.e.  $\text{R}_2\text{C}=\text{N}^+\text{R}_2\text{Y}^-$ ) are more accurately called *iminium compounds*. e.g.  $[(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{N}]^+\text{OH}^-$ , tetramethylammonium hydroxide.

See *onium compounds*.

1995, 67, 1361