A benzylic carbocation is a resonance-stabilized carbocation in each of the two equally stable major resonance forms of which the formal charge of +1 is on a benzylic carbon.

eg:

The lightest benzylic carbocation 1 is called the benzyl carbocation.

see also primary benzylic carbocation, secondary benzylic carbocation, tertiary benzylic carbocation

Contributors

- Gamini Gunawardena from the OChemPal site (Utah Valley University)