

Question 17 (3 marks)

Explain why alkanes and their corresponding alkenes have similar physical properties, but very different chemical properties.

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Because when alkenes react, they have a double bond which is easily broken. This means other molecules or atoms are easily added.

Alkanes on the other hand don't have any double bonds so do not quite as easily react.

They have similar physical properties because they have very similar molecular weights and both are non-polar.