

Questions #35724

What does the prefix acet- stand for in chemistry. For example in: acetic acid, acetone, vinyl acetate e.t.c. There are many other including acetyl. But the thing I'm asking is what does acet- mean in all of them. Is it a functional group or something else. I want to know everything about it.

Answer:

Acetyl means a fragment $CH_3 - C(O) \cdot$ (radical), and it is present in all compounds that listed. And, the prefix acet- means that a compound contains acetyl fragment. It is used for organic compounds, inorganic ones usually contain $CH_3 - C(O) - O^-$ fragment, acetate (anion).