

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016

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TITLE OF PAPER: INORGANIC CHEMISTRY I  
COURSE NUMBER: C301  
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS  
INSTRUCTIONS: THERE ARE SIX (6) QUESTIONS.  
ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.  
EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25  
MARKS.

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A PERIODIC TABLE AND A TABLE OF CONSTANTS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH THIS EXAMINATION PAPER.

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL AUTHORISED TO DO SO BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR.

*"Marks will be awarded for method, clearly labelled diagrams, organization and presentation of thoughts in clear and concise language"*

### Question One

a) Name each of the following compounds:

- i)  $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}[\text{Cr}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$
- ii)  $[\text{Co}(\text{DMSO})_6]\text{SO}_4$
- iii)  $\text{K}_3[\text{TiCl}_6]$

[6]

b) Give the formula and draw **one possible** structure of each of the following:

- i) Bis(acetylacetonato)oxovanadium(IV)
- ii) Potassium tri- $\mu$ -chlorobis(trichloroferrate(III))

[6]

c) State the type of isomerism that may be exhibited by the following six-coordinate complexes, and draw structures of the isomers:

- i)  $\text{Cr}(\text{py})_3\text{Cl}_3$ , py= pyridine
- ii)  $\text{Ru}(\text{dien})\text{Br}_3$ , dien=  $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}_2$

[13]

### Question Two

a) When a solution of vanadate ion,  $\text{VO}_4^{3-}$ , is acidified with hydrochloric acid the complex ion,  $[\text{VO}_2\text{Cl}_4]^{3-}$ , is produced.

- i) Deduce the oxidation number and the number of d electrons of the vanadium ion in the complex
- ii) Write a balanced equation for the reaction
- iii) Assuming octahedral geometry, give two possible isomers for the complex ion
- iv) Use appropriate orbital diagrams to explain the nature of  $\pi$  bonding between the vanadium ion and any one of the oxo (i.e.,  $\text{O}^{2-}$ ) ligands.

[15]

b) The treatment of an aqueous solution of  $\text{NiCl}_2$  with  $\text{H}_2\text{NCH}(\text{Ph})\text{CH}(\text{Ph})\text{NH}_2$  gives a blue four-coordinate complex ( $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 3.30 \text{ BM}$ ) which, upon heating, forms a yellow diamagnetic four-coordinate compound. Suggest explanations for these observations.

[10]

### Question Three

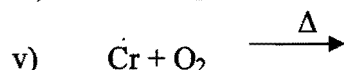
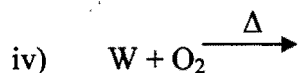
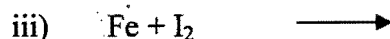
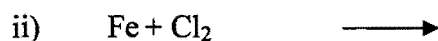
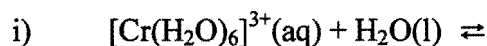
- a) Explain the following observations concerning electronic spectra
- i)  $[\text{FeCl}_4]^-$  and  $[\text{FeBr}_4]^-$  exhibit LMCT bands at 220 and 244 nm respectively [3]
  - ii)  $[\text{CrO}_4]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{MoO}_4]^{2-}$  exhibit LMCT bands at 373 and 225 nm respectively [3]
  - iii)  $[\text{Fe}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$  is expected to exhibit an MLCT band rather than an LMCT band [3]
- b) The electronic spectra of  $[\text{V}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$ ,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_1)_6]^{2+}$ ,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_2)_3]^{2+}$  and  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_3)_6]^{2+}$  show spin-allowed d-d absorption bands as shown in the table below.

Complex	Absorption band positions ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )		
	$\nu_1$	$\nu_2$	$\nu_3$
$[\text{V}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$	17400	25200	34500
$[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_1)_6]^{2+}$	10750	17500	28200
$[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_2)_3]^{2+}$	11000	18500	30000
$[\text{Ni}(\text{L}_3)_6]^{2+}$	8500	14000	25000

- i)  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$  and  $\text{L}_3$  in Ni(II) complexes are three different ligands one of which is  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or  $\text{NH}_3$  or ethylenediamine (en). Identify  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$  and  $\text{L}_3$ . Explain your answer. [5]
- ii) Use the  $d^8$  Tanabe-Sugano diagram (attached) to identify the transitions that correspond to the bands ( $\nu_1$ ,  $\nu_2$ ,  $\nu_3$ ) belonging to Ni(II) complexes. [4]
- iii) Use the  $d^8$  Tanabe-Sugano diagram (attached) to identify the transitions that correspond to the bands ( $\nu_1$ ,  $\nu_2$ ,  $\nu_3$ ) belonging to V(III) aqua complex. [5]
- iv) Among the three Ni(II) complexes, which one is expected to exhibit the most intense absorption bands? Explain your answer. [2]

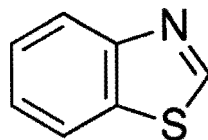
### Question Four

a) Complete and balance the following reactions:



[10]

b) Reaction of mercury(II) iodide,  $\text{HgI}_2$ , with benzothiazole leads to the formation of a complex of formula  $\text{HgI}_2 \cdot \text{L}_2$ , where L=benzothiazole. The structure of benzothiazole is shown below. Give sketches of three isomers that the complex may exhibit. Which isomer is expected to be the most stable? Explain your answer. [7]



c) The common minerals of copper and nickel contain copper sulphides and nickel sulphides. In contrast, aluminium is obtained from the oxide,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , and calcium from the carbonate,  $\text{CaCO}_3$ . Can these observations be explained in terms of hardness? Explain. [4]

d) Of the metals cadmium, chromium, lead, strontium and palladium, which might be expected to occur in mineral form as oxides and which as sulphides? Explain [4]

### Question Five

a) Define and give one example or illustration of each of the following

- i) Anation reaction
- ii) Self-exchange electron transfer reaction

[6]

b) Consider the reaction



where X is the leaving group and Y is the entering group. Use appropriate reaction equations to illustrate the two possible limiting mechanisms.

[4]

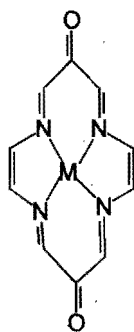
c) Give expressions for the two principal sets of equilibrium constants ( $K_i$ 's and  $\beta_i$ 's) for the formation of a series of complexes  $[M(H_2O)_3L]^{2+}$ ,  $[M(H_2O)_2L_2]^{2+}$ , and  $[M(H_2O)L_3]^{2+}$  (in aqueous solution) starting with  $[M(H_2O)_4]^{2+}$ , where L is a monodentate neutral ligand. How are  $K_i$ 's related to  $\beta_i$ 's for  $i=1, 2, 3, 4$ ?

[15]

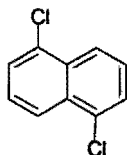
### Question Six

a) With the help of the flow-chart (Decision Tree) which is provided, determine the point group for each of the following:

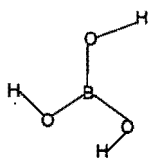
i)



ii) 1,5-dichloronaphthalene

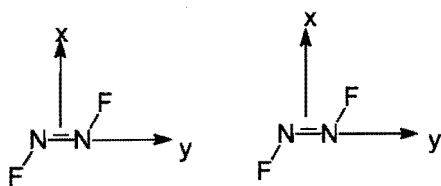


iii) Boric acid,  $B(OH)_3$



[9]

b) Consider *trans*- $N_2F_2$ . The molecule has a planar nonlinear structure as shown below. It belongs to the point group  $C_{2h}$ . [Note: The  $z$  axis is perpendicular to the  $xy$  plane which coincides with the molecular plane. Also the  $z$  axis coincides with  $C_2$  axis].



Let the two N-F bond stretches ( $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ) constitute one basis set and let the N=N bond stretch ( $r_3$ ) constitute another basis set. Now answer the questions that follow.

- i) Determine the reducible representation arising from the basis set ( $r_1, r_2$ ). Then determine the symmetries of the corresponding stretching (N-F) vibrational modes
- ii) Apply the same procedure as in i) to the basis set ( $r_3$ ).
- iii) Which of the bands are both IR active and Raman active.
- iv) Derive the SALCs for each of the vibrational modes in i) and ii) above, and sketch the results.

[16]

## Fundamental Physical Constants (six significant figures)

Avogadro's number	$N_A = 6.02214 \times 10^{23} / \text{mol}$
atomic mass unit	$\text{amu} = 1.66054 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
charge of the electron (or proton)	$e = 1.60218 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Faraday constant	$F = 9.64853 \times 10^4 \text{ C/mol}$
mass of the electron	$m_e = 9.10939 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
mass of the neutron	$m_n = 1.67493 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
mass of the proton	$m_p = 1.67262 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Planck's constant	$h = 6.62607 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$
speed of light in a vacuum	$c = 2.99792 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
standard acceleration of gravity	$g = 9.80665 \text{ m/s}^2$
universal gas constant	$R = 8.31447 \text{ J}/(\text{mol}\cdot\text{K})$ $= 8.20578 \times 10^{-2} (\text{atm}\cdot\text{L})/(\text{mol}\cdot\text{K})$

$$\text{Rydberg constant} = 1.097 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

### SI Unit Prefixes

p	n	$\mu$	m	c	d	k	M	G
pico-	nano-	micro-	milli-	centi-	deci-	kilo-	mega-	giga-
$10^{-12}$	$10^{-9}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^3$	$10^6$	$10^9$

## Conversions and Relationships

### Length

SI unit: meter, m	
1 km	= 1000 m
	= 0.62 mile (mi)
1 inch (in)	= 2.54 cm
1 m	= 1.094 yards (yd)
1 pm	= $10^{-12} \text{ m} = 0.01 \text{ \AA}$

### Volume

SI unit: cubic meter, $\text{m}^3$	
1 $\text{dm}^3$	= $10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$
	= 1 liter (L)
	= 1.057 quarts (qt)
1 $\text{cm}^3$	= 1 mL
1 $\text{m}^3$	= 35.3 $\text{ft}^3$

### Pressure

SI unit: pascal, Pa	
1 Pa	= $1 \text{ N/m}^2$
	= $1 \text{ kg/m}\cdot\text{s}^2$
1 atm	= $1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$
	= 760 torr
1 bar	= $1 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$

### Mass

SI unit: kilogram, kg	
1 kg	= $10^3 \text{ g}$
	= 2.205 lb
1 metric ton (t)	= $10^3 \text{ kg}$

### Energy

SI unit: joule, J	
1 J	= $1 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2$
	= 1 coulomb-volt (1 C·V)
1 cal	= 4.184 J
1 eV	= $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$

### Math relationships

	$\pi = 3.1416$
volume of sphere	$= \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$
volume of cylinder	$= \pi r^2 h$

### Temperature

SI unit: kelvin, K	
0 K	= $-273.15^\circ\text{C}$
mp of $\text{H}_2\text{O}$	= $0^\circ\text{C}$ (273.15 K)
bp of $\text{H}_2\text{O}$	= $100^\circ\text{C}$ (373.15 K)
T (K)	= $T (^\circ\text{C}) + 273.15$
T ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )	= $[T (^\circ\text{F}) - 32] \frac{5}{9}$
T ( $^\circ\text{F}$ )	= $\frac{9}{5}T (^\circ\text{C}) + 32$

C3D1

# Table of hard, intermediate and soft Acids and Bases

	Ligands (Lewis bases)	Metal centres (Lewis acids)
Hard; class (a)	$F^-$ , $Cl^-$ , $H_2O$ , $ROH$ , $R_2O$ , $[OH]^-$ , $[RO]^-$ , $[RCO_2]^-$ , $[CO_3]^{2-}$ , $[NO_3]^-$ , $[PO_4]^{3-}$ , $[SO_4]^{2-}$ , $[ClO_4]^-$ , $[ox]^{2-}$ , $NH_3$ , $RNH_2$	$Li^+$ , $Na^+$ , $K^+$ , $Rb^+$ , $Be^{2+}$ , $Mg^{2+}$ , $Ca^{2+}$ , $Sr^{2+}$ , $Sn^{2+}$ , $Mn^{2+}$ , $Zn^{2+}$ , $Al^{3+}$ , $Ga^{3+}$ , $In^{3+}$ , $Sc^{3+}$ , $Cr^{3+}$ , $Fe^{3+}$ , $Co^{3+}$ , $Y^{3+}$ , $Th^{4+}$ , $Pu^{4+}$ , $Ti^{4+}$ , $Zr^{4+}$ , $[VO]^{2+}$ , $[VO_2]^+$
Soft; class (b)	$I^-$ , $H^-$ , $R^-$ , $[CN]^-$ (C-bound), $CO$ (C-bound), $RNC$ , $RSH$ , $R_2S$ , $[RS]^-$ , $[SCN]^-$ (S-bound), $R_3P$ , $R_3As$ , $R_3Sb$ , alkenes, arenes	Zero oxidation state metal centres, $Tl^+$ , $Cu^+$ , $Ag^+$ , $Au^+$ , $[Hg_2]^{2+}$ , $Hg^{2+}$ , $Cd^{2+}$ , $Pd^{2+}$ , $Pt^{2+}$ , $Tl^{3+}$
Intermediate	$Br^-$ , $[N_3]^-$ , $py$ , $[SCN]^-$ (N-bound), $ArNH_2$ , $[NO_2]^-$ , $[SO_3]^{2-}$	$Pb^{2+}$ , $Fe^{2+}$ , $Co^{2+}$ , $Ni^{2+}$ , $Cu^{2+}$ , $Os^{2+}$ , $Ru^{3+}$ , $Rh^{3+}$ , $Ir^{3+}$

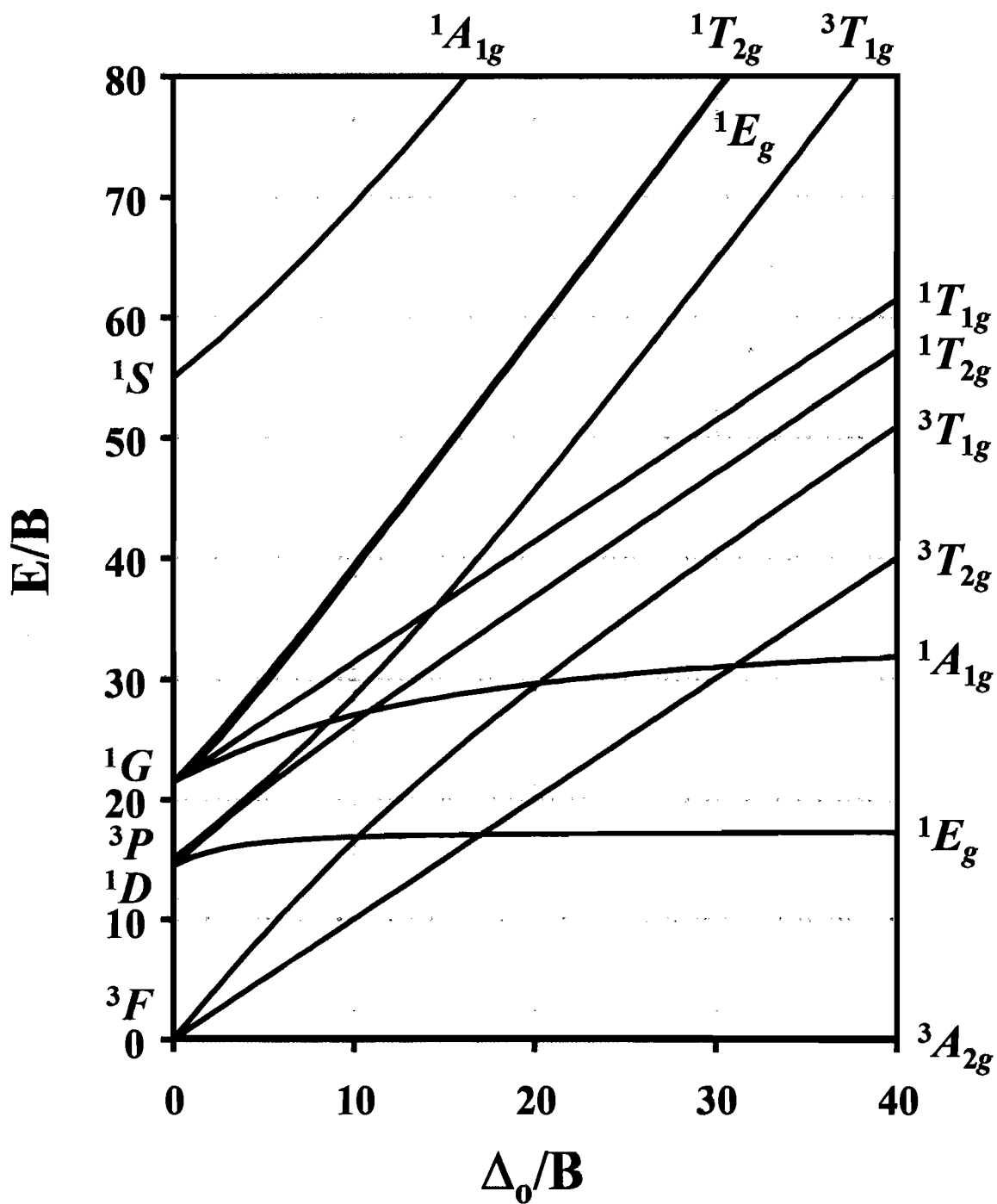
## Character Table for $C_{2h}$ Point Group

$C_{2h}$	$E$	$C_2$	$i$	$\sigma_h$		
$A_g$	1	1	1	1	$R_z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2, xy$
$B_g$	1	-1	1	-1	$R_x, R_y$	$xz, yz$
$A_u$	1	1	-1	-1	$z$	
$B_u$	1	-1	-1	1	$x, y$	



C301

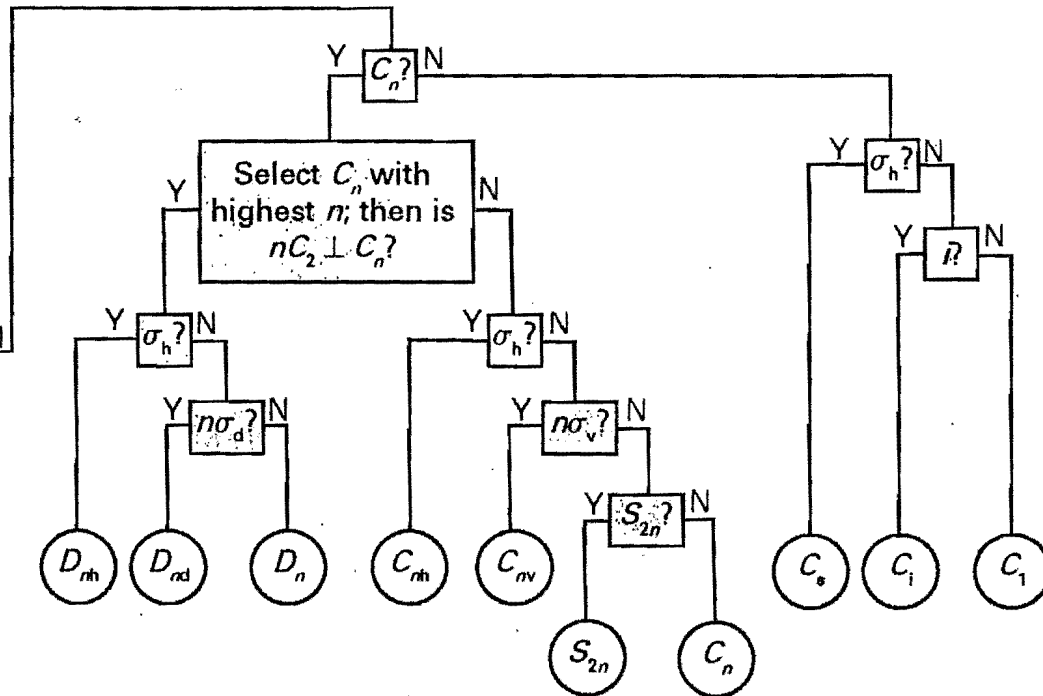
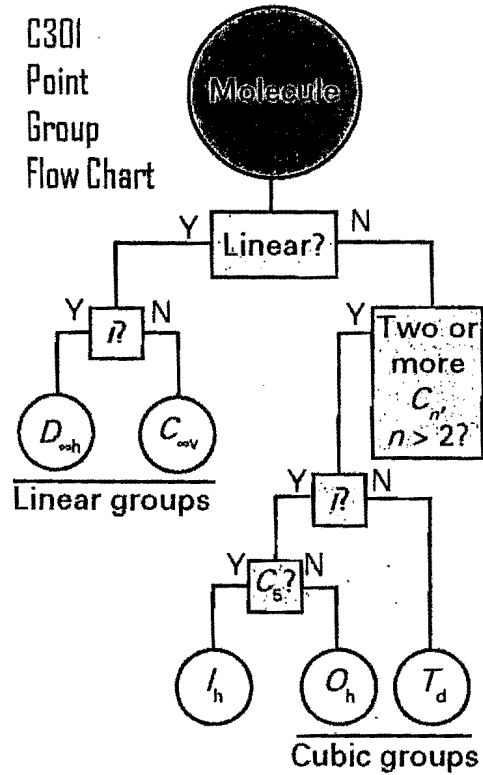
# $d^8$ Tanabe-Sugano Diagram



C301

**DECISION TREE**

C301  
Point  
Group  
Flow Chart



# PERIODIC TABLE OF THE ELEMENTS

## GROUPS

PERIODS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	IA	IIA	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIIIB	VIII			IB	IIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA
<b>1</b>	1.008 <b>H</b> 1																	4.003 <b>He</b> 2
<b>2</b>	6.941 <b>Li</b> 3	9.012 <b>Be</b> 4											10.811 <b>B</b> 5	12.011 <b>C</b> 6	14.007 <b>N</b> 7	15.999 <b>O</b> 8	18.998 <b>F</b> 9	20.180 <b>Ne</b> 10
<b>3</b>	22.990 <b>Na</b> 11	24.305 <b>Mg</b> 12	<b>TRANSITION ELEMENTS</b>										26.982 <b>Al</b> 13	28.0855 <b>Si</b> 14	30.9738 <b>P</b> 15	32.06 <b>S</b> 16	35.453 <b>Cl</b> 17	39.948 <b>Ar</b> 18
<b>4</b>	39.0983 <b>K</b> 19	40.078 <b>Ca</b> 20	44.956 <b>Sc</b> 21	47.88 <b>Ti</b> 22	50.9415 <b>V</b> 23	51.996 <b>Cr</b> 24	54.938 <b>Mn</b> 25	55.847 <b>Fe</b> 26	58.933 <b>Co</b> 27	58.69 <b>Ni</b> 28	63.546 <b>Cu</b> 29	65.39 <b>Zn</b> 30	69.723 <b>Ga</b> 31	72.61 <b>Ge</b> 32	74.922 <b>As</b> 33	78.96 <b>Se</b> 34	79.904 <b>Br</b> 35	83.80 <b>Kr</b> 36
<b>5</b>	85.468 <b>Rb</b> 37	87.62 <b>Sr</b> 38	88.906 <b>Y</b> 39	91.224 <b>Zr</b> 40	92.9064 <b>Nb</b> 41	95.94 <b>Mo</b> 42	98.907 <b>Tc</b> 43	101.07 <b>Ru</b> 44	102.906 <b>Rh</b> 45	106.42 <b>Pd</b> 46	107.868 <b>Ag</b> 47	112.41 <b>Cd</b> 48	114.82 <b>In</b> 49	118.71 <b>Sn</b> 50	121.75 <b>Sb</b> 51	127.60 <b>Te</b> 52	126.904 <b>I</b> 53	131.29 <b>Xe</b> 54
<b>6</b>	132.905 <b>Cs</b> 55	137.33 <b>Ba</b> 56	138.906 <b>*La</b> 57	178.49 <b>Hf</b> 72	180.948 <b>Ta</b> 73	183.85 <b>W</b> 74	186.207 <b>Re</b> 75	190.2 <b>Os</b> 76	192.22 <b>Ir</b> 77	195.08 <b>Pt</b> 78	196.967 <b>Au</b> 79	200.59 <b>Hg</b> 80	204.383 <b>Tl</b> 81	207.2 <b>Pb</b> 82	208.980 <b>Bi</b> 83	(209) <b>Po</b> 84	(210) <b>At</b> 85	(222) <b>Rn</b> 86
<b>7</b>	(223) <b>Fr</b> 87	226.025 <b>Ra</b> 88	(227) <b>**Ac</b> 89	(261) <b>Rf</b> 104	(262) <b>Ha</b> 105	(263) <b>Unh</b> 106	(262) <b>Uns</b> 107	(265) <b>Uno</b> 108	(266) <b>Une</b> 109									

\* Lanthanide series

\*\* Actinide series

140.115 <b>Ce</b> 58	140.908 <b>Pr</b> 59	144.24 <b>Nd</b> 60	(145) <b>Pm</b> 61	150.36 <b>Sm</b> 62	151.96 <b>Eu</b> 63	157.25 <b>Gd</b> 64	158.925 <b>Tb</b> 65	162.50 <b>Dy</b> 66	164.930 <b>Ho</b> 67	167.26 <b>Er</b> 68	168.934 <b>Tm</b> 69	173.04 <b>Yb</b> 70	174.967 <b>Lu</b> 71
232.038 <b>Th</b> 90	231.036 <b>Pa</b> 91	238.029 <b>U</b> 92	237.048 <b>Np</b> 93	(244) <b>Pu</b> 94	(243) <b>Am</b> 95	(247) <b>Cm</b> 96	(247) <b>Bk</b> 97	(251) <b>Cf</b> 98	(252) <b>Es</b> 99	(257) <b>Fm</b> 100	(258) <b>Md</b> 101	(259) <b>No</b> 102	(260) <b>Lr</b> 103

Numbers below the symbol of the element indicates the atomic numbers. Atomic masses, above the symbol of the element, are based on the assigned relative atomic mass of <sup>12</sup>C = exactly 12; ( ) indicates the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life.

SOURCE: International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, I. Mills, ed., *Quantities, Units, and Symbols in Physical Chemistry*, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Boston, 1988, pp 86-98.