

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION May 2018**

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**TITLE OF PAPER: COORDINATION CHEMISTRY**

**COURSE NUMBER: CHE322**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

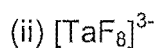
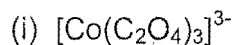
**INSTRUCTIONS: THERE ARE SIX (6) QUESTIONS.  
ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.  
EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25 MARKS.**

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**A PERIODIC TABLE AND OTHER USEFUL DATA HAVE BEEN  
PROVIDED WITH THIS EXAMINATION PAPER.**

### Question One

a) Name the following complexes:



[4]

b) Write formula for the following complexes:

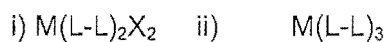
(i) Dinitratotetraamminecobalt(III) sulphate

(ii) Trihydridotris(triphenylphosphine)ruthenium(III)

(iii)  $\mu$ -hydroxobis[pentaamminechromium(III)] chloride

[6]

c) Show with drawings the enantiomorphs (i.e., optical isomers) of the "octahedral" complexes given below, where L-L is a bidentate ligand and X is a monodentate ligand.



[8]

d) Show how the experimental determination of the number of geometric isomers of  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_4\text{Cl}_2]^+$  would enable you to demonstrate that the coordination geometry is octahedral and not trigonal prismatic

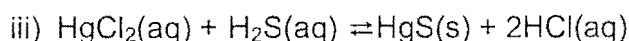
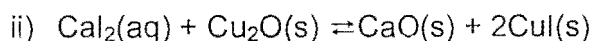
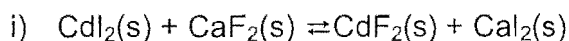
[7]

### Question Two

a) With the help of suitable diagrams, explain how phosphines ( $\text{R}_3\text{P}$ ) and phosphine oxides ( $\text{R}_3\text{P}=\text{O}$ ) differ considerably in the way they function as ligands

[6]

b) Predict whether the equilibrium constant for each of the following reactions is expected to favour the forward reaction or the reverse reaction. Explain.



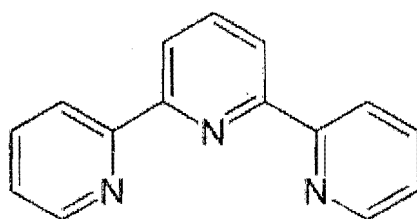
[6]

c) Give two examples, together with Lewis structures, of each of the following:

- i) Monodentate ligands with oxygen as the donor atom
- ii) Monodentate ligands with nitrogen as the donor atom
- iii) Chelating ligands
- iv) Macrocyclic ligands containing at least four N donor atoms
- v) Crown ether ligands

[10]

d) Consider a ligand **L** whose structure is shown below.



Given that the formula of the complex is  $[\text{Cu}(\text{CN})(\text{L})]$ , draw the structure of the complex.

[3]

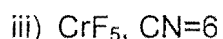
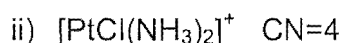
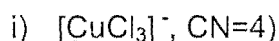
### Question Three

a) Which member of each pair would you expect to be more stable? Explain your answer:

- i)  $[\text{PtCl}_4]^{2-}$  or  $[\text{PtF}_4]^{2-}$
- ii)  $[\text{Al}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$  or  $[\text{Al}(\text{PR}_3)_6]^{3+}$
- iii)  $\text{Me}_3\text{B.PMe}_3$  or  $\text{Me}_3\text{B.PC}_6\text{H}_{11}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{11}$  = cyclohexyl radical

[6]

b) The following species have coordination numbers that are different from the ones suggested by their formulas. For each of the species, draw the structure that gives rise to the correct coordination number (given).

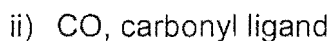
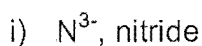


[6]

b) Calculate the CFSE for each of the two complexes,  $[\text{Mn}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  and  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$ . Justify your assumptions of high-spin or low-spin in each case.

[7]

c) Classify each of the following species as pi-acceptor or pi-donor ligands. For each case use suitable orbital diagrams to illustrate how  $\pi$  bonding between the ligand and a Lewis acid takes place.



[6]

#### Question Four

a) Copper(II) complexes are typically blue with one visible absorption band in their electronic spectra whereas copper(I) complexes are generally colourless. Explain. Assign spectroscopic labels to the states involved in the transition for an octahedral  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  complex. Your answer should include electronic configurations of Cu(I) and Cu(II) ions.

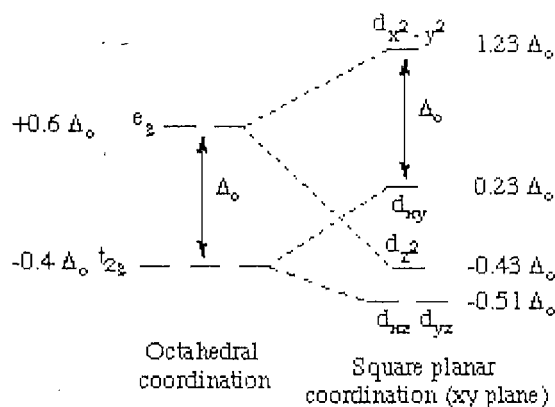
[10]

b) Aqueous solutions of  $[\text{Cr}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]^{3-}$  show absorptions at 17 400, and 23 600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and a third band which occurs well into the ultraviolet. Use a suitable Tanabe-Sugano diagram to estimate values of B and  $\Delta_o$  for the complex.

[10]

c) Complexes  $[\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$  and  $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$  are paramagnetic and diamagnetic, respectively. What does this tell you about their structures? With the help of the diagram given below, explain how you arrive at your answer.

[5]



### Question Five

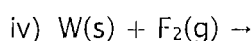
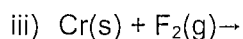
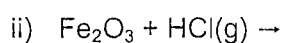
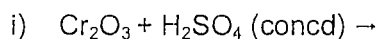
a) The pentacyanocobaltate(II) ion,  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5]^{3-}$ , is a catalyst for the conversion of  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5\text{-NCS}]^{3-}$  (where  $\text{NCS}^-$  is N-bonded) to  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5\text{-SCN}]^{3-}$  (where  $\text{NCS}^-$  is S-bonded) by an inner-sphere electron transfer mechanism. Show all the necessary steps for this reaction.

[10]

b) Consider intensities of absorption bands for isomers of a transition metal complex. Two isomers of an octahedral  $\text{Co(III)}$  complex,  $\text{ML}_4\text{X}_2$ , believed to be cis- and trans-isomers A and B respectively, give the following spectral features. Each of them gives two absorption bands in the visible region. The two bands of isomer A are symmetrical and poorly resolved with molar absorptivity,  $\epsilon=60\text{-}80$ . Those of isomer B are of much lower intensity and well resolved. Draw structures of the two isomers and explain the differences in their spectral features.

[7]

c) Balance the following reactions:



[8]

Question Six

- a) Consider the elements Sc, Cr, Mn and Fe
- i) Write the electron configuration for each of the elements [8]
  - ii) Give the group oxidation number for each element [2]
  - iii) Briefly, discuss the stability of group oxidation states for these elements. [4]
  - iv) Titanium(IV) halides,  $TiX_4$  ( $X=F, Cl, Br, I$ ) have all been prepared. On the other hand, for manganese (IV), only  $MnF_4$  has been prepared; preparation of the rest ( $X = Cl, Br, I$ ) has been unsuccessful. Explain. [5]
- b) Consider a solution containing the following ions:  $Hg^{2+}(aq)$ ,  $Cu^+(aq)$ ,  $Cr^{3+}(aq)$ , and  $Fe^{3+}(aq)$ . Give the resulting reaction equations (one for each) upon addition of an aqueous **basic** solution of sodium sulphide,  $Na_2S$ . [Note: An aqueous basic solution of a sulphide contains the ions  $OH^-(aq)$  and  $HS^-(aq)$ ] [6]

END OF EXAMINATION



# CHE 322

## 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
1	1.008 <b>H</b> 1																	4.003 <b>He</b> 2
2	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
3	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
4	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
5	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
6	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
7	(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									

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

\* Lanthanide series

\*\* Actinide series

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.



# CHE322 TABLES

**TABLE 6-9**  
Hard and soft bases

Hard bases	Borderline bases	Soft bases
F <sup>-</sup> , (Cl <sup>-</sup> )	Br <sup>-</sup>	H <sup>-</sup>
H <sub>2</sub> O, OH <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>2-</sup>		I <sup>-</sup>
ROH, RO <sup>-</sup> , R <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>-</sup>		H <sub>2</sub> S, HS <sup>-</sup> , S <sup>2-</sup>
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , ClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> , N <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	RSH, RS <sup>-</sup> , R <sub>2</sub> S
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	SCN <sup>-</sup> , CN <sup>-</sup> , RNC, CO
NH <sub>3</sub> , RNH <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NH <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N, N <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>
		R <sub>3</sub> P, (RO) <sub>3</sub> P, R <sub>1</sub> As
		C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>

SOURCE: Adapted from R. G. Pearson, *J. Chem. Educ.*, 1968, 45, 581.

**TABLE 6-10**  
Hard and soft acids

Hard acids	Borderline acids	Soft acids
H <sup>+</sup> , Li <sup>+</sup> , Na <sup>+</sup> , K <sup>+</sup>	Fe <sup>2+</sup> , Co <sup>2+</sup> , Ni <sup>2+</sup> , Cu <sup>2+</sup> , Zn <sup>2+</sup>	Co(CN) <sub>5</sub> <sup>3-</sup> , Pd <sup>2+</sup> , Pt <sup>2+</sup> , Pt <sup>4+</sup>
Be <sup>2+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Sr <sup>2+</sup>		BH <sub>3</sub> , Ti <sup>+</sup> , Tl(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>
BF <sub>3</sub> , BCl <sub>3</sub> , B(OR) <sub>3</sub>	B(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
Al <sup>3+</sup> , Al(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> , AlCl <sub>3</sub> , AlH <sub>3</sub>		Ga(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> , GaCl <sub>3</sub> , GaBr <sub>3</sub> , GaI <sub>3</sub>
Sc <sup>3+</sup> , Ga <sup>3+</sup> , In <sup>3+</sup> , La <sup>3+</sup>	GaH <sub>3</sub>	Cu <sup>+</sup> , Ag <sup>+</sup> , Au <sup>+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Hg <sup>+</sup>
Cr <sup>3+</sup> , Mn <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>3+</sup> , Co <sup>3+</sup>	Rh <sup>3+</sup> , Ir <sup>3+</sup> , Ru <sup>3+</sup> , Os <sup>2+</sup>	Hg <sup>2+</sup> , CH <sub>3</sub> Hg <sup>+</sup>
CO <sub>2</sub> , RCO <sup>+</sup> , CH <sub>3</sub> Sn <sup>3+</sup> , (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn <sup>2+</sup>	R <sub>3</sub> C <sup>+</sup> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> <sup>+</sup> , Sn <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	CH <sub>2</sub> , carbenes
N <sup>3+</sup> , RPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> , ROPO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> , As <sup>3+</sup>	NO <sup>+</sup> , Sb <sup>3+</sup> , Bi <sup>3+</sup>	
SO <sub>3</sub> , RSO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> , ROSO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	SO <sub>2</sub>	
Ions with oxidation states of 4 or higher		Br <sub>2</sub> , I <sub>2</sub>
HX (hydrogen-bonding molecules)		Metals with zero oxidation state
		π acceptors:
		trinitrobenzene,
		chloroanil,
		quinones,
		tetracyanoethylene, etc.

SOURCE: Adapted from R. G. Pearson, *J. Chem. Educ.*, 1968, 45, 581.

## PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

Speed of light in a vacuum	$c_0$	$2.99792458 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Permittivity of a vacuum	$\epsilon_0$	$8.854187816 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$
	$4\pi\epsilon_0$	$1.11264 \times 10^{-10} \text{ C}^2 \text{ N}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2}$
Planck constant	$h$	$6.6260755(40) \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
Elementary charge	$e$	$1.60217733(49) \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Avogadro constant	$N_A$	$6.0221367(36) \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Boltzmann constant	$k$	$1.380658(12) \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$
Gas constant	$R$	$8.314510(70) \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Bohr radius	$a_0$	$5.29177249(24) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$
Rydberg constant	$R_{\infty}$	$1.0973731534 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$ (infinite nuclear mass)
	$\checkmark R_H$	$1.09677759 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$ (proton nuclear mass)
Bohr magneton	$\mu_B$	$9.2740154(31) \times 10^{-24} \text{ J T}^{-1}$
	$\pi$	3.14159265359
Faraday constant	$F$	$9.6485309(29) \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
Atomic mass unit	$m_u$	$1.6605402(10) \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Mass of the electron	$m_e$	$9.1093897(54) \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ or $5.48579903(13) \times 10^{-4} m_u$
Mass of the proton	$m_p$	$1.007276470(12) m_u$
Mass of the neutron	$m_n$	$1.008664904(14) m_u$
Mass of the deuteron	$m_d$	$2.013553214(24) m_u$
Mass of the triton	$m_t$	$3.01550071(4) m_u$
Mass of the $\alpha$ -particle	$m_\alpha$	$4.001506170(50) m_u$