

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
MAIN EXAMINATION 2018/2019

TITLE OF PAPER: **ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY**

COURSE NUMBER: **CHE422**

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

INSTRUCTIONS: **ANSWER QUESTION ONE (TOTAL 40 MARKS) AND ANY TWO OTHER QUESTIONS (EACH QUESTION IS 30 MARKS)**

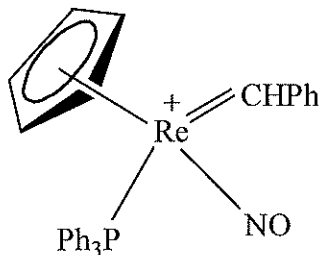
A PERIODIC TABLE HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH THIS EXAMINATION PAPER.

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

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) [40 Marks]

(a) (i) Give the electron count for each metal centre of the following species:

- (1) $\text{Ir}(\text{CO})(\text{NO})(\text{PPh}_3)_2$
- (2) $[\text{PtCl}_3(\eta^2\text{-H}_2\text{C}=\text{CH}_2)]^-$
- (3)



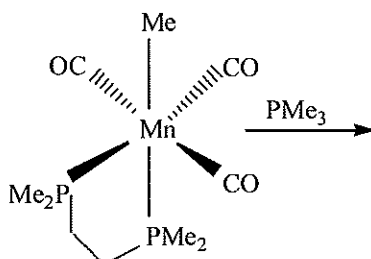
[3]

(ii) Assign the oxidation state of each metal, M. Assuming the 18-electron rule applies, identify the second row transition metal.

- (1) $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)(\eta^4\text{-C}_5\text{H}_6)\text{M}]^+$
- (2) $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PMe}_3)]^-$
- (3) $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)(\eta^1\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)_2\text{M}$ (16-electron complex) [6]

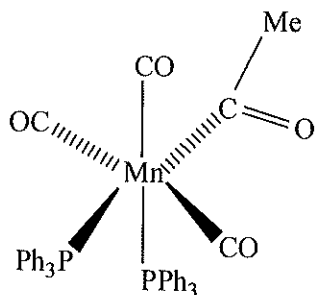
(iii) What charge, z, would be necessary for $[(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)\text{V}(\text{CNMe})_5]^z$ to obey the 18-electron rule? [1]

(b) (i) Predict the product of the following reaction and show the structure. Note that the product includes all the atoms of the original complex and of the PMe_3 . Describe in as much detail as you can its $\nu(\text{CO})$ IR spectrum. [6]



(ii) Rationalise the observation that on going from $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ to $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5(\text{PPh}_3)_2$, absorptions in the IR spectrum at 2025 and 2000 cm^{-1} are replaced by bands at 1944, 1886 and 1881 cm^{-1} . [4]

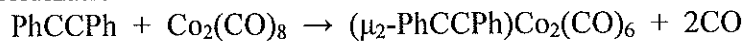
- (c) (i) Sketch the products of the reaction when the following complex loses
 (1) one PPh_3
 (2) one CO [4]



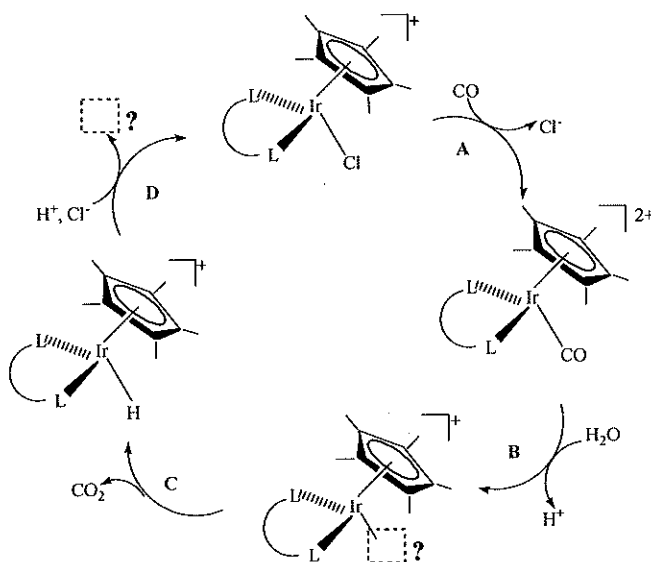
- (ii) Draw the structures of the three complexes $(\text{cyclo-C}_7\text{H}_7)\text{Co}(\text{CO})_n$ ($n = 1, 2$ and 3) assuming that the complexes obey the 18-electron rule. [6]
- (d) (i) Propose the main steps in the catalytic cycle for the conversion of pent-1-ene to hexanal using $\text{HCo}(\text{CO})_4$ as the catalyst precursor. [7]
- (ii) Predict giving reason(s) the influence of an increase in the CO partial pressure above a certain threshold on the rate of the reaction (d)(i) above. [3]

QUESTION TWO [30 Marks]

- (a) (i) Alkynes readily bridge M–M bonds, in which case they act as 2-electron donors to each metal. Sketch the product of the reaction below, indicating the hybridization of the C atoms. [4]



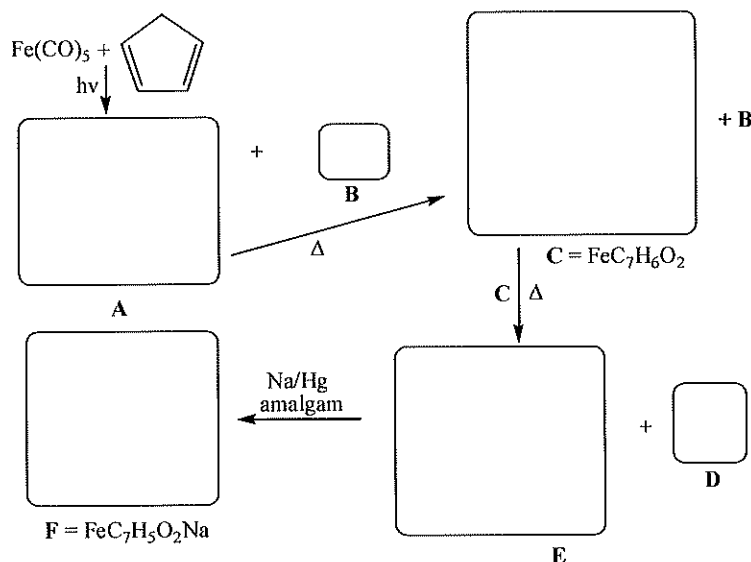
- (ii) The M–P distance in $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\text{PEt}_3)_2$ is 221.8 pm and the P–C distance is 184.6 pm. The corresponding distances in $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\text{PEt}_3)_2]^+$ are 223 pm and 182.9 pm. Account for the changes in these distances as the former complex is oxidised. [4]
- (b) (i) Inspect the catalytic cycle below. Give the species in the two boxes (marked with “?”) and describe each of the steps A–D in as much detail as possible. [8]



- (ii) Which of the following constitute genuine examples of catalysis and which do not? Justify your answers.
- (1) The addition of H_2 to C_2H_4 when the mixture is brought into contact with finely divided platinum.
 - (2) The reaction of a H_2/O_2 gas mixture when an electrical arc is struck.
 - (3) The combination of N_2 gas with lithium metal to produce Li_3N , which then reacts with H_2O to produce NH_3 and LiOH . [6]
- (c) (i) Suggest products in the following reactions:
- (1) $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3\text{PCH}_3]^+\text{Br}^-$ with $\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{Li}$ ($^n\text{BuLi}$)
 - (2) $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)_2\text{Fe}$ with $\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{Li}$ ($^n\text{BuLi}$) [4]
- (ii) For the pair of complexes given below, predict which one will be more reactive towards *oxidative addition* of H_2 . Justify your choice. [4]
- $\text{RhCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ or $\text{RhCl}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)_2$

QUESTION THREE [30 Marks]

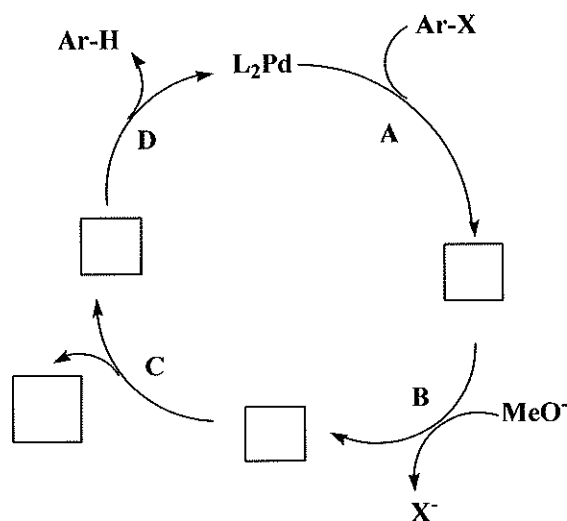
- (a) (i) $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6$ undergoes substitution reactions with phosphine ligands, but the reaction never proceeds further than the $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PR}_3)_3$ stage. If the phosphines are very bulky, the phosphines are arranged *mer*, but otherwise are always *fac*. Explain these two observations. [4]
- (ii) The product of reaction between PtCl_2 and CO at high pressure and 200°C has a molecular weight of 322. Find the formula and suggest possible isomers. [6]
- (b) (i) NO^+ is isoelectronic with CO and often replaces CO in substitution reactions, so it might seem the reaction below is favourable. Comment on whether the process is likely. [4]
- $$\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6 + \text{NOBF}_4 \rightarrow [\text{Mo}(\text{NO})_6][\text{BF}_4]_6 + 6\text{CO}$$
- (ii) Write balanced equations for the following reaction types: [4]
- (1) $(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2)_3\text{Ga} + \text{CH}_3\text{OH} \rightarrow$
- (2) $\text{Al}_2(\text{CH}_3)_6 + \text{N}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3 \rightarrow$
- (c) Irradiating $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ with UV light in the presence of cyclopentadiene results in the formation of **A** and colourless gas **B**. **A** has four different ^1H NMR environments in a 2:2:1:1 ratio. Heating **A** further results in the release of more **B** to make **C**, having the formula $\text{FeC}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$. Molecule **C** reacts rapidly with itself at room temperature to eliminate colourless gas **D**, forming solid **E**. Compound **E** has two strong IR bands, one near 1850 cm^{-1} , the other near 2000 cm^{-1} . Treatment of **E** with Na/Hg amalgam generates solid **F** of empirical formula $\text{FeC}_7\text{H}_5\text{O}_2\text{Na}$. Draw structures of **A** to **F** indicated by the boxes in scheme below. [12]



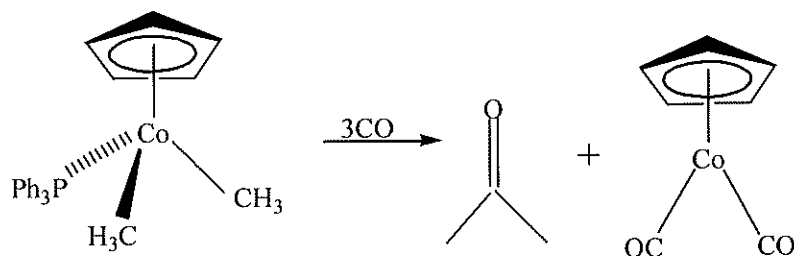
QUESTION FOUR [30 Marks]

- (a) (i) Explain the following: The *cis* isomer of $(PPh_3)_2Pd(CH_2CH_3)_2$ decomposes immediately to give butane, but the *trans* isomer produces a 1:1 mixture of ethene and ethane. [4]
- (ii) $Ru(CO)_3L_2$, where $L = PPh_3$ reacts with CH_3I as shown:

$$Ru(CO)_3L_2 + CH_3I \rightarrow cis-Ru(CO)_2(L_2)(CH_3)(I) + CO$$
 The product features CH_3I oxidatively added *cis* (C and I have very similar electronegativities). The reaction mechanism involves two steps.
 (1) After counting the electrons in $Ru(CO)_3L_2$, what is the first step in the mechanism?
 (2) What is the second step?
 (3) Sketch the transition state in the second step. [6]
- (b) Examine the scheme below ($L =$ phosphine i.e. PR_3). Give appropriate structures and give electron counts and oxidation states for all palladium complexes. Name reactions **A**, **B**, **C** and **D**. [10]



- (c) Suggest a plausible mechanism for the following reaction: [10]



PERIODIC TABLE OF 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	VII	VIII	VIII	X	IB	IIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA
1	H 1																	He 2
2	Li 3	Be 4												C 6	N 7	O 8	F 9	Ne 10
3	Na 11	Mg 12											Al 13	Si 14	P 15	S 16	Cl 17	Ar 18
TRANSITION ELEMENTS																		
4	K 19	Ca 20	Sc 21	Ti 22	V 23	Cr 24	Mn 25	Fe 26	Co 27	Ni 28	Cu 29	Zn 30	Ga 31	Ge 32	As 33	Se 34	Br 35	Kr 36
5	Rb 37	Sr 38	Y 39	Zr 40	Nb 41	Mo 42	Tc 43	Ru 44	Rh 45	Pd 46	Ag 47	Cd 48	In 49	Sn 50	Sb 51	Te 52	I 53	Xe 54
6	Cs 55	Ba 56	*La 57	Hf 72	Ta 73	W 74	Re 75	Os 76	Ir 77	Pt 78	Au 79	Hg 80	Tl 81	Pb 82	Bi 83	Po 84	At 85	Rn 86
7	Fr 87	Ra 88	**Ac 89	Rf 104	Ha 105	Uuh 106	Uus 107	Uuo 108	Uue 109	Uun 110								

Atomic mass
Symbol
Atomic No.

10.811	12.011	14.007	15.999	18.998	20.180
B 5	C 6	N 7	O 8	F 9	Ne 10
26.982	28.086	30.974	32.06	35.453	39.948
Al 13	Si 14	P 15	S 16	Cl 17	Ar 18

*Lanthanide Series

**Actinide Series

140.12	140.91	144.24	(145)	150.36	151.96	157.25	158.93	162.50	164.93	167.26	168.93	173.04	174.97
Ce 58	Pr 59	Nd 60	Pm 61	Sm 62	Eu 63	Gd 64	Tb 65	Dy 66	Ho 67	Er 68	Tm 69	Yb 70	Lu 71
232.04	231.04	238.03	237.05	(244)	(243)	(247)	(247)	(251)	(252)	(257)	(258)	(259)	(260)
Th 90	Pa 91	U 92	Np 93	Pu 94	Am 95	Cm 96	Bk 97	Cf 98	Es 99	Fm 100	Md 101	No 102	Lr 103

() indicates the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life.