

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY FINAL EXAMINATION**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009**

---

**TITLE OF PAPER:            INORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

**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.**

---

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

**NON-PROGRAMMABLE ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS MAY  
BE USED**

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

### Question One

a) Give the IUPAC name for each of the following:

- i)  $K_3[Co(NO_2)_6]$
- ii)  $[Cr(en)_3][Cr(Ox)_3]$
- iii)  $[Cl_3W(\mu-Cl)_3WCl_3](ClO_4)_3$
- iv)  $W(CH_2CH_3)_6$

[6 mks]

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

- i) Sodium pentacyanonitrosylferrate(II) dihydrate
- ii) Potassium pentachloronitrosmate(IV)
- iii) Tetraammineaquacobalt(III)- $\mu$ -cyanobromotetracyanocobaltate(III)

[6 mks]

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

- i)  $[Pt(en)_2Cl_2]Br_2$
- ii)  $Pd(bpy)(NCS)_2$
- iii)  $Rh(acac)_3$

[13 mks]

### Question Two

a) A monomeric complex of cobalt gave the following result on analysis:

Species	Co	NH <sub>3</sub>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> O
%, by mass	21.24	24.77	12.81	34.65	?

The compound is diamagnetic and contains no other groups or elements, except that water might be present.

- i) Using the above data, calculate the formula of the compound
- ii) Check if there is any water present. If water is present, what is the final formula of the compound?
- iii) Sketch the structures of all possible isomers

[8 mks]

b) The value of  $\mu_{eff}$  for  $[CoF_6]^{3-}$  is 5.63 BM. Explain why this value does not agree with the value of magnetic moment calculated from the spin-only formula.

[6 mks]

- c) Explain why under the influence of an octahedral field, the energies of the d orbitals are raised or lowered. With respect to what are orbital energies raised or lowered? [7 mks]
- d) What is the expected ordering of  $\Delta_o$  for  $[\text{Fe}(\text{OH}_2)_6]^{2+}$ ,  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$  and  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$ ? Rationalize your answer. [4 mks]

### Question Three

- a) A reaction of *trans*- $[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)_2(\text{Ph})\text{Cl}]$  with thiourea, tu, in methanol follows a two-term rate law with

$$k_{\text{obs}} = k_1 + k_2[\text{tu}]$$

Give a plausible mechanism for the reaction. Suggest how the values of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  may be obtained.

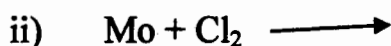
[8 mks]

- b)  $[\text{V}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$  has absorption bands at 17800, 25700 and 34500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Using the Tanabe-Sugano diagram for a  $d^2$  configuration, estimate values of  $\Delta_o$  and B for this complex.

[17 mks]

### Question Four

- a) Complete and balance the following reactions:



[4 mks]

- b) Sketch the structures of chromium(II) acetate and copper(II) acetate and comment on any unusual features they have. [6 mks]

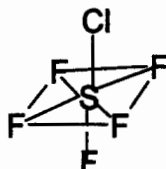
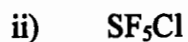
- c) Explain each of the following:
- i)  $\text{TiO}_2$  is white but  $\text{TiCl}_3$  is violet  
[4 mks]
  - ii) Physical and chemical properties of Zr and Hf are much more similar than the properties of Zr and Ti  
[4 mks]
- d) Write a balanced reaction equation to depict what happens when the pH of a solution containing  $[\text{VO}_4]^{3-}$  ions is gradually reduced.  
[3 mks]
- e) Write equations to show the reaction of  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  with sulfuric acid  
[4 mks]

### Question Five

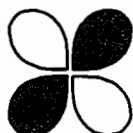
- a) Starting with  $[\text{Rh}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]$  and chloride ion,  $\text{Cl}^-$ , suggest a method for preparing each of the following:
- i) *trans*- $[\text{RhCl}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4]^+$
  - ii) *mer*- $[\text{RhCl}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]$
  - iii) *trans*- $[\text{RhCl}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^-$   
[7 mks]
- b)  $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  has a peak which is slightly split around 1000 nm. By using the appropriate Tanabe-Sugano diagram, account for the likely origin of this absorption. Then account for the splitting of the absorption band  
[8 mks]
- c) Discuss, with examples (one for each), the difference between outer-sphere and inner-sphere mechanisms. State what is meant by a self-exchange mechanism.  
[7 mks]
- d) What reason can you suggest for the sequence  $\text{Co} > \text{Rh} > \text{Ir}$  in the rates of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  exchange of  $[\text{M}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$  ions?  
[3 mks]

## Question Six

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



iv)  $d_{xy}$  orbital (whose shape is sketched below)

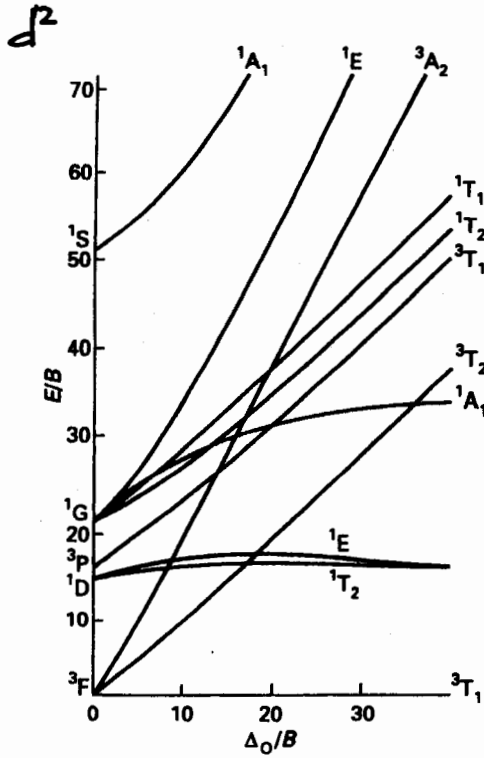


[12 mks]

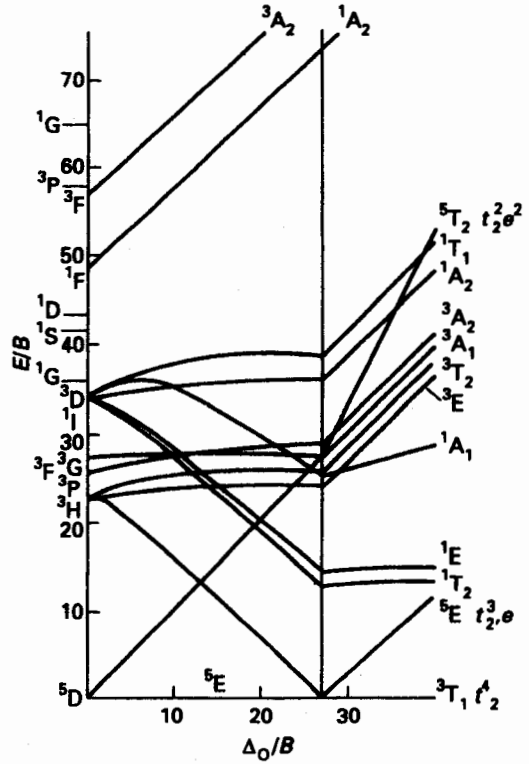
b) Determine the symmetries of CO stretching modes for the complex  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5\text{X}]$  (which has  $\text{C}_{4v}$  point group). Which of the modes are IR active? Which ones are Raman active?

[13 mks]

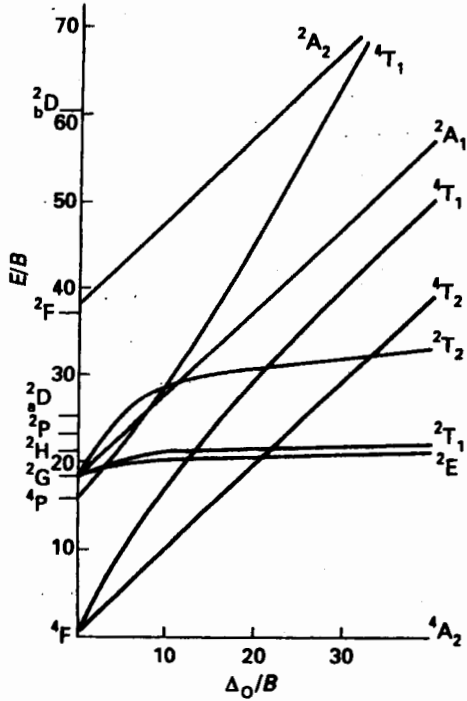
1.  $d^2$  with  $C = 4.42B$



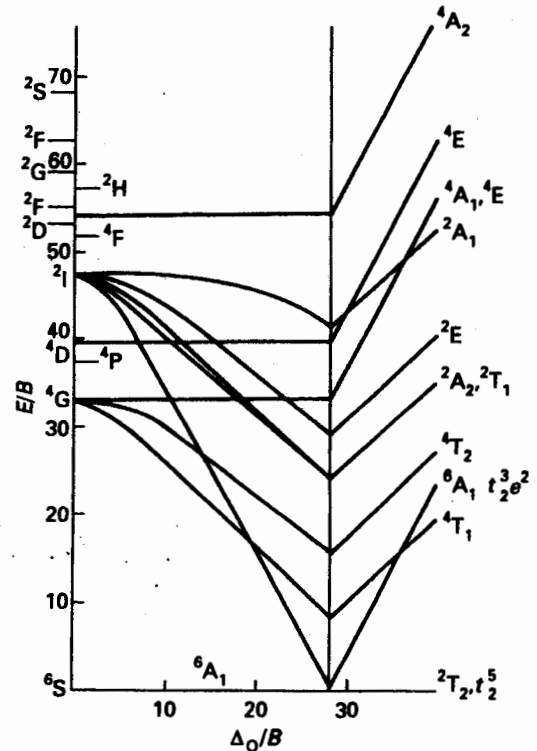
3.  $d^4$  with  $C = 4.61B$



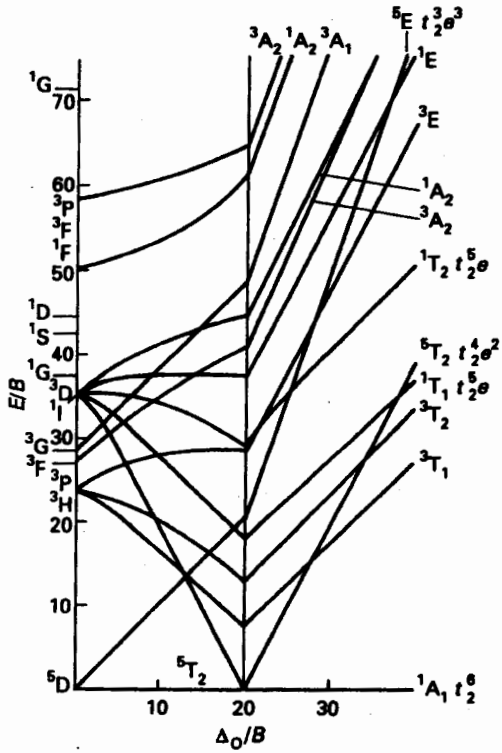
2.  $d^3$  with  $C = 4.5B$



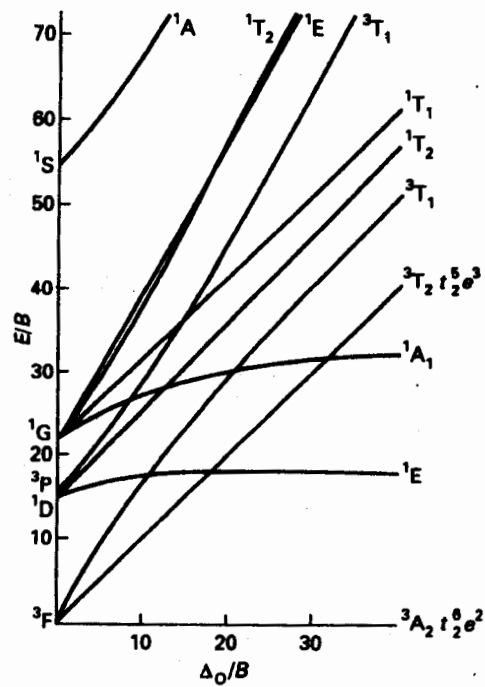
4.  $d^5$  with  $C = 4.477B$



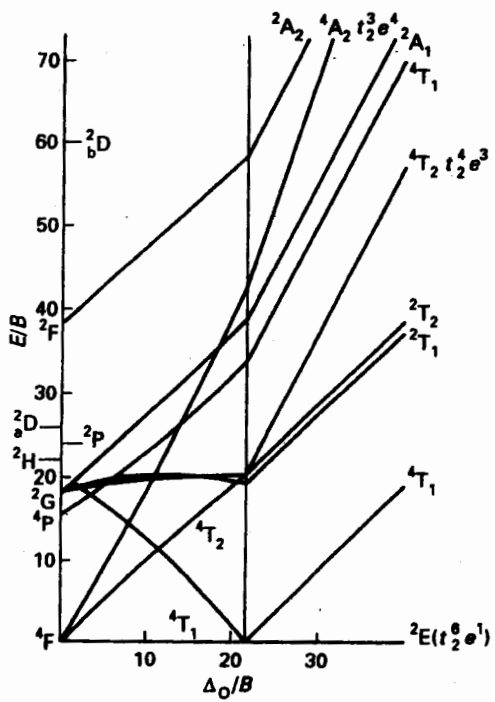
5.  $d^6$  with  $C = 4.8B$



7.  $d^8$  with  $C = 4.709B$



6.  $d^7$  with  $C = 4.633B$



$C_{4v}$ ( $4mm$ )	E	$2C_4$	$C_2$	$2\sigma_v$	$2\sigma_d$	$h = 8$
$A_1$	1	1	1	1	1	$z$ $x^2 + y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	1	1	1	-1	-1	$R_z$
$B_1$	1	-1	1	1	-1	$x^2 - y^2$
$B_2$	1	-1	1	-1	1	$xy$
E	2	0	-2	0	0	$(x, y)$ ( $R_x, R_y$ ) ( $zx, yz$ )



# Periodic Table of the Elements

GROUP																18			
1																2			
1	2													13	14	15	16	17	18
H 1.0079	He 4.0026													B 10.811	C 12.011	N 14.007	O 15.999	F 18.998	Ne 20.180
3	4													13	14	15	16	17	18
Li 6.941	Be 9.0122													Al 26.982	Si 28.086	P 30.974	S 32.066	Cl 35.453	Ar 39.948
11	12													13	14	15	16	17	18
Na 22.990	Mg 24.305													Al 26.982	Si 28.086	P 30.974	S 32.066	Cl 35.453	Ar 39.948
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
K 39.098	Ca 40.078	Sc 44.956	Ti 47.867	V 50.942	Cr 51.996	Mn 54.938	Fe 55.845	Co 58.933	Ni 58.693	Cu 63.546	Zn 65.39	Ga 69.723	Ge 72.61	As 74.922	Se 78.96	Br 79.904	Kr 83.80		
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54		
Rb 85.468	Sr 87.62	Y 88.906	Zr 91.224	Nb 92.906	Mo 95.94	Tc 98.906*	Ru 101.07	Rh 102.91	Pd 106.42	Ag 107.87	Cd 112.41	In 114.82	Sn 118.71	Sb 121.76	Te 127.60	I 126.90	Xe 131.29		
55	56	57	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86		
Cs 132.91	Ba 137.33	La 138.91	*Hf 178.49	Ta 180.95	W 183.84	Re 186.21	Os 190.23	Ir 192.22	Pt 195.08	Au 196.97	Hg 200.59	Tl 204.38	Pb 207.2	Bi 208.98	Po 209.98*	At 209.99*	Rn 222.02*		
87	88	89	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112								
Fr 223.02	Ra 226.03*	Ac 227.03	*Rf (261)	Db (262)	Sg (266)	Bh (262)	Hs (269)	Mt (266)	(273)	(272)	(294)								

\*Lanthanide series

58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
Ce 140.12	Pr 140.91	Nd 144.24	Pm 146.92*	Sm 150.36	Eu 151.96	Gd 157.25	Tb 158.93	Dy 162.50	Ho 164.93	Er 167.26	Tm 168.93	Yb 173.04	Lu 174.97

Actinide series

90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
Th 232.04	Pa 231.04*	U 238.03	Np 237.05*	Pu 239.05*	Am 241.06*	Cm 244.06*	Bk 249.08*	Cf 252.08*	Es 252.08*	Fm 257.10*	Md 258.10*	No 259.10*	Lr 262.11*

Note: Atomic masses shown here are the 1993 IUPAC values with a maximum of five significant figures (T. B. Coppen *et al.*, *Inorg. Chim. Acta* 1994, 217, 217). An asterisk indicates the mass of a commonly known radioisotope. Numbers in parentheses are the mass numbers of the corresponding longer-lived isotopes.