



LEAVING CERTIFICATE

# CHEMISTRY NOTES

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**PART A**

QUESTION	EXPERIMENT	PAGE
Question 1	Titrations	1
Question 2	Organic chemistry experiments	15
Question 3	Other experiments	26

**PART B**

UNIT		PAGE
1 – Periodic table and atomic structure	1.1 The periodic table	39
	1.2 The Atomic structure	42
	1.3 Radioactivity	46
	1.4 Electronic structure of atoms	49
	1.5 Oxidation and reduction	52
2 – Chemical bonding	2.1 Chemical compounds	55
	2.2 Ionic bonding	56
	2.3 Covalent bonding	58
	2.4 Electronegativity	60
	2.5 Shapes of molecules and intermolecular forces	60
	2.6 Oxidation numbers	64
3 – Stoichiometry	3.1 States of matter	67
	3.2 Gas laws	67
	3.3 The mole	69
	3.4 Chemical formulae	70
	3.5 Chemical equations	71
4 – Volumetric Analysis	4.1 Concentration of solutions	73
	4.2 Acids and bases	74
5 – Fuels and heats of reaction	5.1 Sources of hydrocarbons	78
	5.2 Structure of aliphatic carbons	78
	5.3 Aromatic hydrocarbons	83
	5.4 Exothermic and endothermic reactions	83
	5.5 Oil and its refining products	85
	5.6 Other chemical fuels	89

6 – Rates of reaction	6.1	Reaction rates	<b>90</b>
	6.2	Factors affecting rates of reaction	<b>90</b>
7 – Organic chemistry	7.1	Tetrahedral carbon	<b>95</b>
	7.2	Planar carbon	<b>99</b>
	7.3	Organic chemical reaction types	<b>106</b>
	7.4	Organic natural products	<b>117</b>
8 – Chemical Equilibrium	8.1	Chemical equilibrium	<b>118</b>
	8.2	Le Chatelier’s principle	<b>120</b>
9 – Environmental chemistry: water	9.1	pH scale	<b>122</b>
	9.2	Hardness in water	<b>126</b>
	9.3	Water treatment	<b>127</b>
	9.4	Water analysis	<b>130</b>

These notes are compiled based on the State Examinations Commission (SEC) syllabus with reference to teacher guidelines. All areas covered correlate with past exam papers (including 1990s) and some sample pre/mock papers. The “higher order questions” are designed to anticipate future questions which bring together multiple parts of the course to test understanding and reasoning. Marking schemes are also linked in to relevant parts with special attention on common student mistakes and how to achieve full marks in each question.

**The complete set of notes can be purchased on eBay**

**Search: H1 leaving cert chemistry notes**

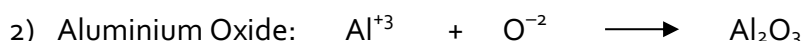
## Unit 2 – Chemical Bonding

### 2.1 Chemical Compounds

**A compound:** is a pure substance consisting of two or more different chemical elements that can only be separated into similar substances by chemical reactions

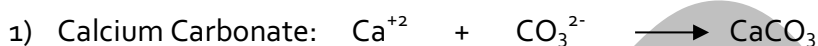
#### Simple Chemical Formulae

Examples:



#### Complex Ions

Examples:



Iron, a transitional metal, has varying valencies – iron (II) and iron (III)

#### Noble Gases

#### Reference unit 1 for chemical and physical properties

- Group 0/8
- All elements have a full outer shell (energy levels)
- As a result of **full energy levels** they are **very stable** and **unreactive (inert)**

#### Practical Uses of Noble Gases

Helium and argon do not form any compounds due to their unreactivity

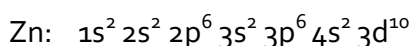
1. Helium is a much safer alternative to hydrogen e.g. balloons, blimps (both low densities, helium not flammable)
2. Electric light bulbs contain argon

#### Transition Metals

#### Elements 21 → 29 (Sc → Cu)

- Variable valency e.g. Iron(II) and iron (III)
- Produced coloured ions
- Often used as catalysts
- Form complex ions e.g. haemoglobin
- 2 electrons in outer shell ( $4s^2$ ) and incomplete  $3^{\text{rd}}$  shell

**Note:**



Forms  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions → Valency = 2

Group	Ions Formed
1	+1
2	+2
3	+3
4	-
5	-1
6	-2
7	-3
8	-

Ion	Formula
Carbonate	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$
Hydrogen Carbonate	$\text{HCO}_3^-$
Sulfate	$\text{SO}_4^{2-}$
Sulfite	$\text{SO}_3^{2-}$
Nitrate	$\text{NO}_3^-$
Nitrite	$\text{NO}_2^-$
Phosphate	$\text{PO}_4^{3-}$
Hydroxyl	$\text{OH}^-$
Ammonium	$\text{NH}_4^+$

Element	Valency
<b>Cu</b>	1,2
<b>Cr</b>	2,3,6
<b>Fe</b>	2,3,6
<b>Mg</b>	2,3,4,6,7

## Bonding and Valency

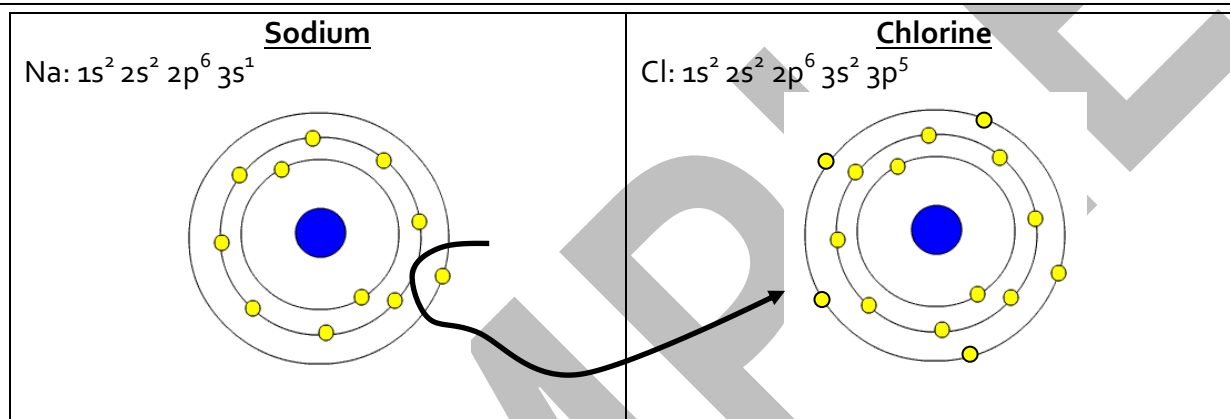
**Valency:** the number of bonds an atom of the element forms when it reacts

➤ **Note:** Valency is not the same as oxidation number (no charges)

COMPOUND	FORMULA	VALENCE	OXIDATION STATE
Hydrogen chloride	HCl	H=1 Cl=1	H= +1 Cl= -1
Chlorine	Cl <sub>2</sub>	Cl=1 Cl=1	Cl= +1 Cl= -1

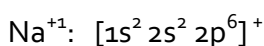
### Octet Rule:

Elements combine to form compounds and their atoms react in such a way as to achieve 8 electrons in their outer shell

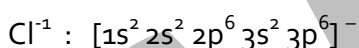


- Sodium has 1 electron in its outer shell/energy level
- Chlorine has 7 electrons in its outer shell/energy level
- When sodium and chlorine react: sodium loses its electron and chlorine gains it

New electronic configurations:



Sodium now has 8 electrons in outer shell – stable



Chlorine now has 8 electrons in outer shell – stable

### Limitations:

1. Does not work on the first four elements – impossible to gain/loses electrons
2. Hydrogen and lithium gain/lose to get to He but they are unlikely gain electrons to reach 8 electrons in the outer shell
3. Be and B have few electrons in their outer shell so it is unlikely that they will reach 8 electrons in the outer shell
4. “d-block” elements excluded

## 2.2 Ionic Bonding

### Intramolecular Bonding

Bonding **within** a molecule that holds that atoms together

Types of Intramolecular Bonding:

1. Ionic
2. Pure Covalent
3. Polar Covalent

Ionic Bonding

Electrostatic force of attraction between oppositely charged ions

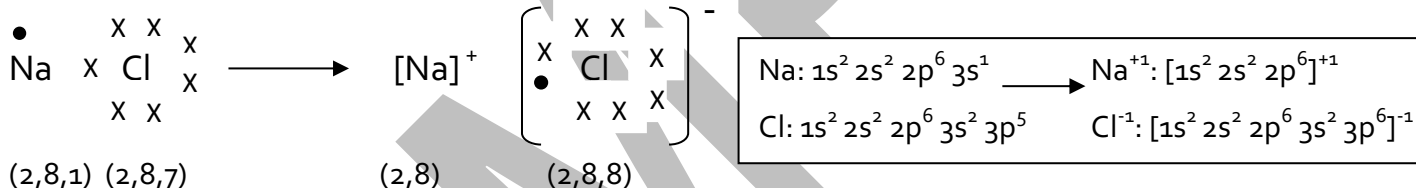
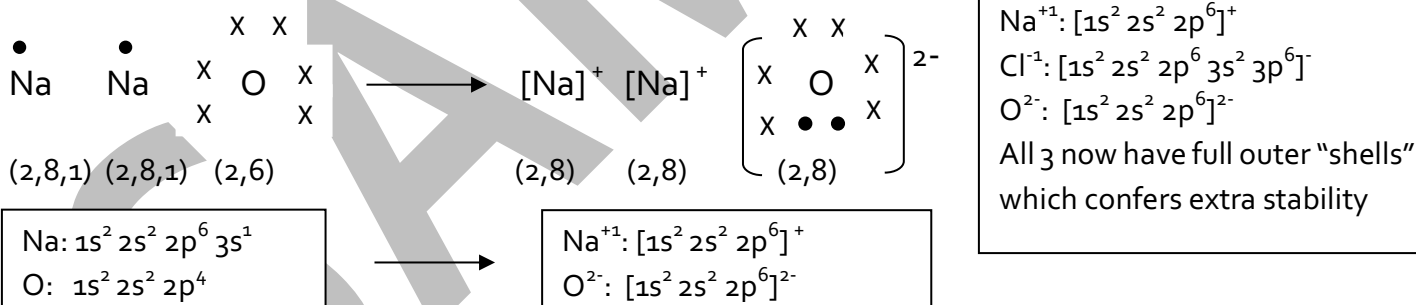
- Ions are formed due to transfer of electrons
- A bond involving transfer (loss and gain) of electrons – one molecule loses an electron; one molecule gains an electron
- Minute size of ions

**Cations:** are positive ions formed when an atom loses electrons (lose of negative charge – more positive)

**Anions:** are negative ions formed when an atom gains electrons (gain of positive charge – more negative)

Representation of Ionic Bonds Using Dot and Cross ModelsSodium Chloride (NaCl)

Note: only outer shell electrons are represented!

Sodium Oxide (Na<sub>2</sub>O)Characteristics of Ionic Substances

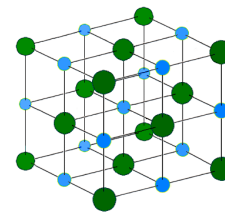
1. Do not conduct electricity in **solid form** as the ions cannot move
2. Can conduct electricity in **liquid/molten form** as the ions can move freely
  - Most ionic substances dissolve in water
3. Solids at room temperature
4. High melting and high boiling point
  - Strong forces between ions (intermolecular) mean a lot of energy is required to break them up

Ionic Materials in Everyday Life

1. Salt tablets to replace salt lost by sweat
2. Bleach – Sodium Hypochlorite

### Sodium Chloride Crystal Structure Between Molecules

- Electrostatic force of attraction between sodium and chloride ions is not just one to one but occurs in all directions around the ion
- Therefore, an ionic compound such as NaCl consists not just of a pair of ions but a network of ions held together in a regular and repeating pattern



## 2.3 Covalent Bonding

Bond formed due to **sharing of electrons**

- **No ions formed**
- Each pair of electrons shared is a single covalent bond

**Molecule:** 2 or more atoms chemically combined

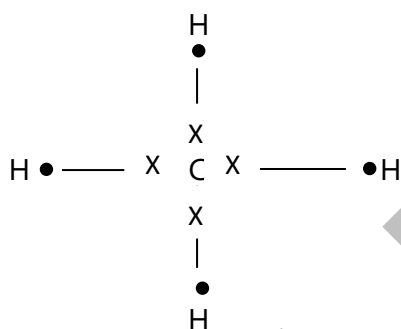
- Minute size

### Representation of Covalent Bonds Using Dot and Cross Models

#### Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)

CH<sub>4</sub> = for every C we need 4 H

C: 1s<sup>2</sup> 2s<sup>2</sup> 2p<sub>x</sub><sup>1</sup> 2p<sub>y</sub><sup>1</sup>    H: 1s<sup>1</sup>



#### Typical Exam Question:

##### Description of the bond:

- All bonds are single covalent bonds
- Carbon has 4 bond pairs and no lone pairs
- Hydrogen has 1 bond pair and no lone pairs

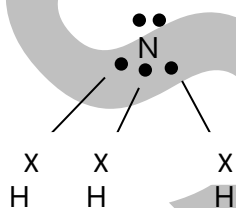
##### Rule for lone pairs:

Group 5 – 1 lone pair  
Group 6 – 2 lone pairs

**Bond pairs:** shared electrons involved in bonding (outer shell electrons)

**Lone pairs:** shared electrons not involved in bonding

#### Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)



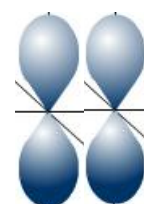
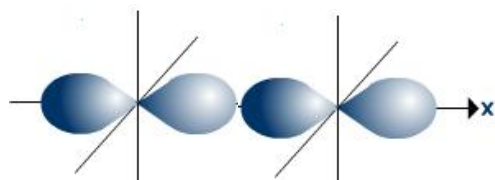
##### Description of the bond:

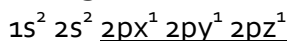
- All bonds are single covalent bonds
- Nitrogen has 3 bond pairs and 1 lone pair
- Each Hydrogen has 1 bond pair and no lone pairs

### Types of Covalent Bonds

**Sigma (σ) Bonds:** covalent, head on overlap of atomic orbitals

**Pi (π) Bonds:** covalent, side on overlap of P atomic orbitals



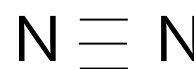
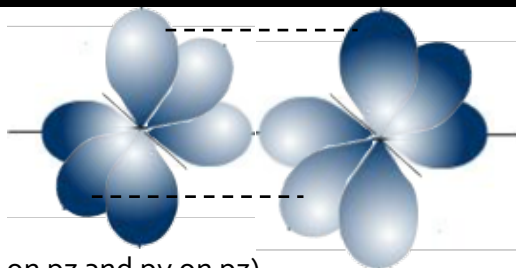
**Nitrogen**

Each N shares 3 electrons

1 sigma bond (head on head)

2 pi bonds (side on side – dashed lines, pz on pz and py on py)

1 lone pair (not shown –  $2s^2$ ;  $1s^2$  2 electrons not represented as only the outer shell is represented)

**Non-Polar (Pure) Covalent Bonding**

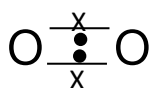
Bond formed due to equal sharing of electrons

- No partial charges formed

➤ The majority of non-polar covalent bonds occur in diatomic elements

➤ Other examples include Methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ )

**Example:  $\text{O}_2$**



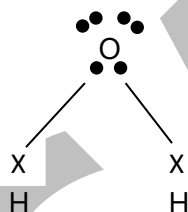
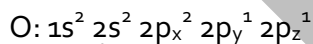
1 bond pairs and 2 lone pairs are on each oxygen (not shown)

Since electronegativity of the 2 oxygen are equal no partial charges are formed and the electrons are shared equally

**Polar Covalent Bonding**

Bond formed due to unequal sharing of bonding electrons

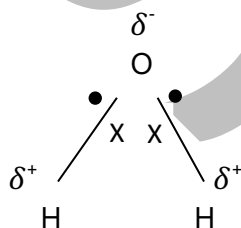
✓ Partial positive ( $\delta^+$ ) and partial negative ( $\delta^-$ ) charges formed

 **$\text{H}_2\text{O}$** 

$\text{H}^+, \text{O}^{2-}$  i.e. for every O we need 2 H

**But** this representation is not the reality.

Oxygen has a higher electronegativity value than hydrogen leaving the following representation: see later



[See notes 2.4 for electronegativity]

**Characteristics of Covalent Substances**

1. Gases/Liquids at room temperature
2. Low boiling and melting points (due to weak intermolecular forces)
3. Do not conduct electricity
4. Insoluble in water



Everyday Materials – Syllabus Examples

<u>Polar:</u>	<u>Non-Polar:</u>
1. Petrol	1. Water
2. Cooking oil	2. Glucose

**2.4 Electronegativity**

The relative attraction of an atom for a shared pair of electrons in a covalent bond

Trends

Across a period: Increase

- Decreasing atomic radius
- Increase in effective nuclear charge (more electrons)

Reference: Log Book pg 81

Down a group: Decrease

- Increasing atomic radius
- Increase in nuclear charge but this is offset by screening effect

Prediction of Bond Type Using Electronegativity Differences

Value	Bond Type
< 1.7	Polar Covalent
> 1.7	Ionic
≈ 0 (0-0.4)	Non-Polar Covalent

Example: H<sub>2</sub>O

Electronegativity values: H = 2.20 and O = 3.44

O – H (oxygen minus hydrogen)

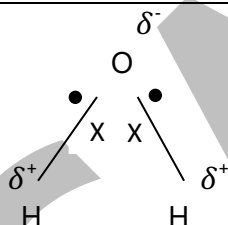
$$3.44 - 2.20$$

$$1.24$$

∴ H<sub>2</sub>O is Polar Covalent

Note:

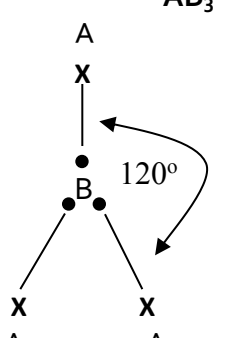
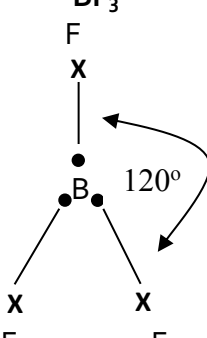
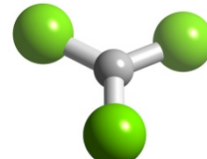
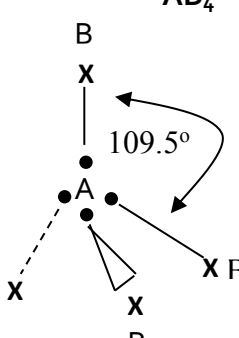
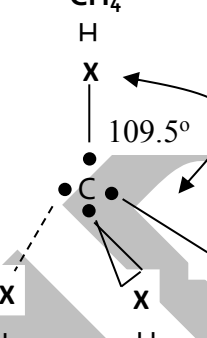
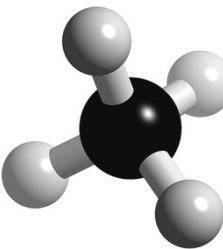
Only take one atom of each element and subtract them from each other



- ✓ H<sub>2</sub>O is polar covalent
- ✓ Unequal sharing of electrons
- ✓ Pair of electrons closer to the oxygen, matching electronegativity values

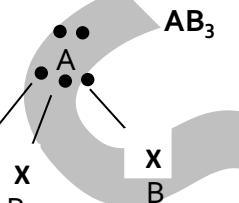
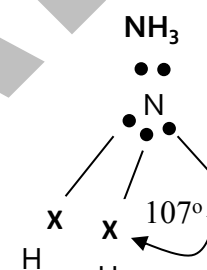
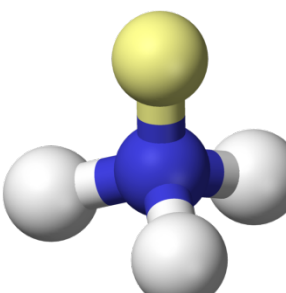
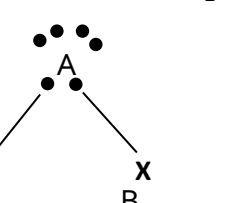
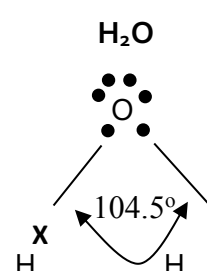
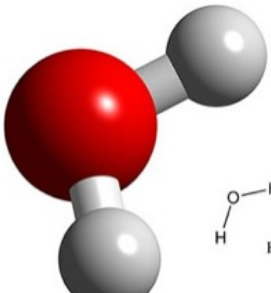
**2.5 Shapes of Molecules and Intermolecular Forces**Simple Molecules

GENERAL SHAPE	EXAMPLES	3-D IMAGE
<p><u>LINEAR</u> 2 Bond Pairs AB<sub>2</sub></p>	<p>BeH<sub>2</sub></p>	

<p><b>TRIGONAL PLANAR</b> 3 Bond Pairs <b>AB<sub>3</sub></b></p> 	<p><b>BF<sub>3</sub></b></p> 	
<p><b>TETRAHEDRAL</b> 4 Bond Pairs <b>AB<sub>4</sub></b></p> 	<p><b>CH<sub>4</sub></b></p> 	

**Complex Molecules**

**Electron pair repulsion theory:** the electrons pairs in the valence (outer) shell of the central atom repel each other and end up as far apart as geometrically possible

GENERAL SHAPE	EXAMPLES	3-D
<p><b>PYRAMIDAL</b> 3 Bond Pairs + 1 Lone Pair <b>AB<sub>3</sub></b></p>  <p>A has to be in group 5 - 1 lone pair</p>	<p><b>NH<sub>3</sub></b></p> 	
<p><b>V-SHAPED</b> 2 Bond Pairs + 2 Lone Pairs <b>AB<sub>2</sub></b></p>  <p>A has to be in group 6- 2 lone pairs</p>	<p><b>H<sub>2</sub>O</b></p> 	

Using Electron Pair Repulsion Theory to Explain Shapes of Molecules

**Typical Exam Question** – example: Describe the shape of ammonia

1. N has **3 bonding** and **1 non-bonding** (lone) pair (Each H has 1 bond pair)
2. The bond arrangement causes the shape of the molecule to be **pyramidal**

Electron Pair Repulsion TheoryBond Angles

1. AB<sub>3</sub> with no lone pairs has a bond angle of 120°  
AB<sub>3</sub> with 1 lone pair has a bond angle of 107°
2. AB<sub>2</sub> with no lone pairs has bond angle of 180°  
AB<sub>2</sub> with 2 lone pairs has bond angle of 104.5°

Theory

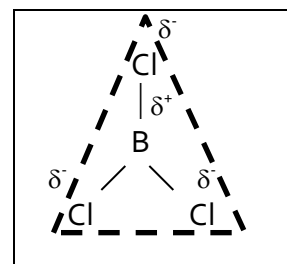
- Lone pairs have greater repulsion of each other – i.e. lone pair in contact with lone pair will produce the greatest repulsion, followed by lone pair in contact with bond pair and finally the weakest, bond pair in contact with bond pair
- L.P:L.P > L.P:B.P > B.P:B.P (Repulsion) \*\*
- Lone pair wants to get as far apart as geometrically possible from each other pushing bonds closer together \*\*

\*\* Both points are required to get full marks

Relationship between Symmetry and Polarity in a Molecule

B – Cl

- Electronegativity difference = 1.12
- Therefore one may assume it is polar
- However, BCl<sub>3</sub> is actually non-polar
- This is due to unequal sharing of electrons between B and Cl (i.e. polarity) cancels due to symmetry of molecule
- Centres of positive and negative charges coincide
- BCl<sub>3</sub> has a trigonal planar shape which has symmetry

Intermolecular Forces

Attractive/Repulsive attractive forces between molecules

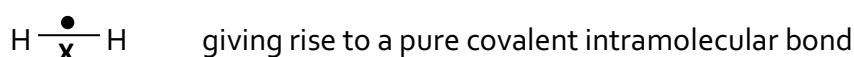
Types of Intermolecular Forces:

1. Van der Waal's forces
2. Dipole-dipole
3. Hydrogen Bonding

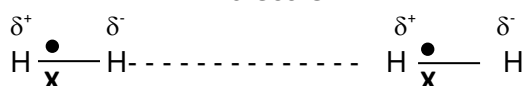
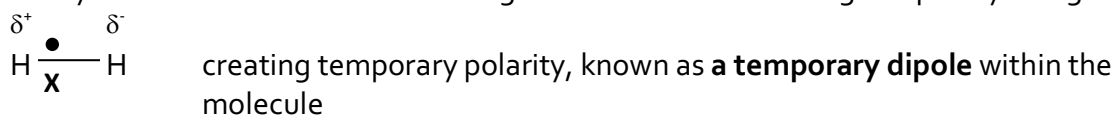
Van der Waal's Forces

Very weak intermolecular forces

Up until now H<sub>2</sub> was represented as:



But, in reality the 2 electrons in H<sub>2</sub> are moving from side to side creating temporary charges



The greater number of electrons in a molecule, the greater number of possible temporary dipoles, and therefore the greater intermolecular attraction

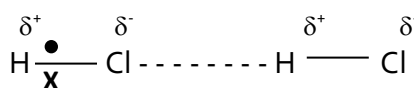
This means that Van der Waal's forces increase with an increasing size of molecule – i.e. bigger molecule has more electrons

These weak intermolecular forces increase the boiling point with the more temporary dipoles

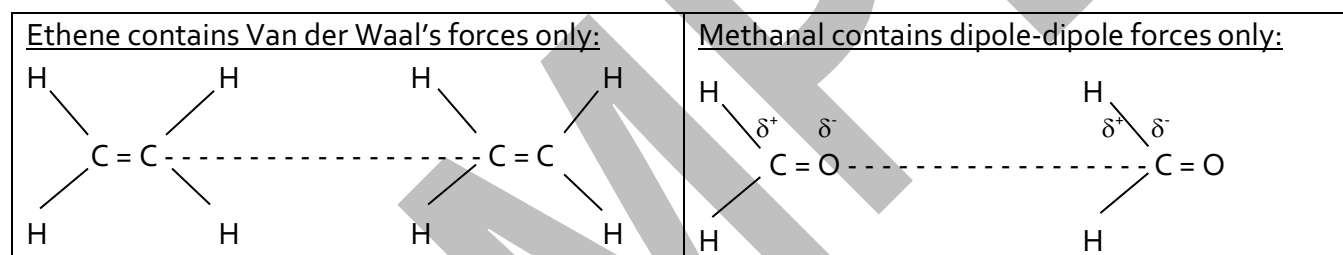
**E.g. Oxygen (16 electrons) has a much higher boiling point than Hydrogen (1 electron) – *syllabus***

### Dipole-dipole

- Intermolecular forces between polar molecules
- Differ from Van der Waal's forces **by permanent dipoles due to the polarity** of the molecule



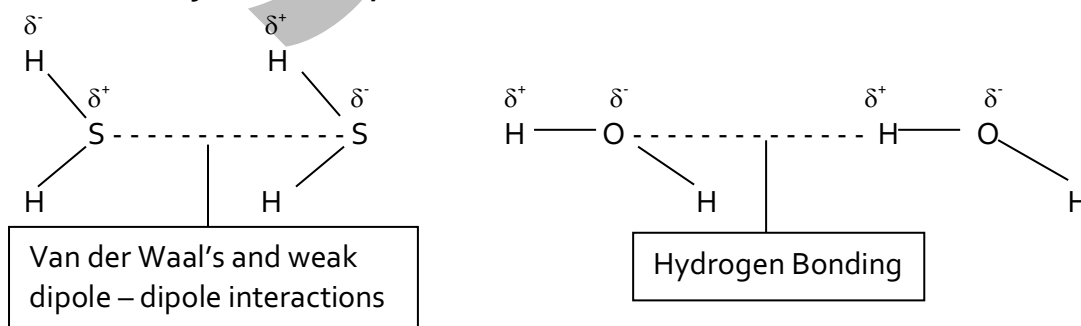
- Due to permanent dipole the boiling point of molecules with dipole-dipole interactions are much higher than molecules with Van der Waal
- ***Syllabus*: Ethene C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (Mr=28) should have similar boiling point to Methanal HCHO (Mr=30), however Methanal has a much higher boiling point due to stronger intermolecular bonding**



### Hydrogen Bonding

**Intermolecular attraction** involving a slightly positive hydrogen atom bonded to a **small highly** electronegative element such as F, O or N

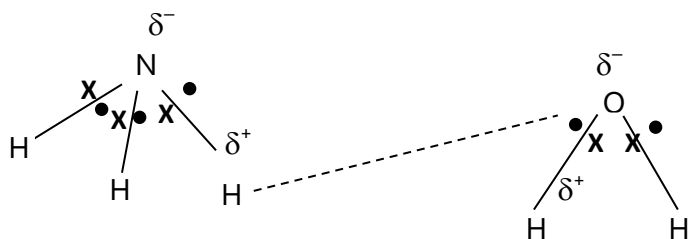
- Hydrogen bonding is the strongest form of intermolecular bonding
- This is because the **molecules are highly polar**
- E.g. in water molecules, O – H is highly polar (large electronegativity value)
- **H<sub>2</sub>S should have a higher boiling point to water due to greater relative molecular mass. But since the H – S bond is less polar than the O – H bond in water it has a much lower boiling point than water – *syllabus example***



H<sub>2</sub>S has an electronegativity difference of 0.38 which means it is between polar and non-polar

Application of Knowledge: Dissolving Properties

Ammonia and Water:

Process

- The slightly negative O in water bonds with the H in ammonia
- The slightly negative N in ammonia bonds with H in water
- Breaking of hydrogen bonds in water
- Forming of hydrogen bonds between ammonia and water

**Note:** Even though both compounds contain hydrogen bonding, water has a much higher boiling point because of larger electronegativity difference in the OH bond than the NH bond of ammonia

**2012: state how bonding in PH<sub>3</sub> differs from NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, HCl**

- PH<sub>3</sub> = non-polar
- NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, HCl = polar

*Reason for this difference in bonding?*

- Tiny electronegativity difference in PH<sub>3</sub>
- Large electronegativity difference in the others
- As the bonding type gets stronger:
  - Increase in boiling point
  - Increase in melting point

2.6 Oxidation Numbers

**Oxidation Numbers:** The charge that an atom appears to have when the electrons are distributed according to certain rules

Rules for Oxidation Numbers

1. Free elements have oxidation number of 0
  - e.g. N<sub>2</sub>
2. The sum of the oxidation numbers is 0
  - H<sub>2</sub>O
  - $2(+1) - 2 = 0$
3. The oxidation number of a simple ion is equal to the charge of the ion (see 2.1 for ions)
  - Cl<sup>-</sup> = -1
4. The sum of the oxidation numbers of all atoms in a complex ion is equal to the charge on the ion
  - (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) = -1
5. **Hydrogen has an oxidation number of +1 in its compounds, except in metallic hydrides (hydrogen + metal) where it is -1**

6. Oxygen has an oxidation number of  $-2$  in its compounds, except in hydrogen peroxide where it is  $-1$ , and when bonded to fluorine, where it is  $+2$

Can check which element is more electronegative in log tables. The more electronegative element is assigned oxidation numbers first.

### Naming of Transition Metal Compounds

➤ **Note:** If 2 elements only in a compounds, we use the prefix *-ide*; *-ide* ending means no oxygen

Sample questions:

What is the systematic name of  $\text{FeCl}_3$ ?

Iron (II) chloride

What is the formula of iron (III) sulfate-9-water?

$\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $9\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4^{2-})_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$

### Oxidation and Reduction in Terms of Oxidation Numbers

**Oxidation:** is an increase in oxidation number – loss of electrons

Oxidation

**Reduction:** is a decrease in oxidation number – gain of electrons

Is

Loss

**Oxidising Agent:** is a substance that cause reduction

Reduction

**Reducing Agent:** is a substance that cause oxidation

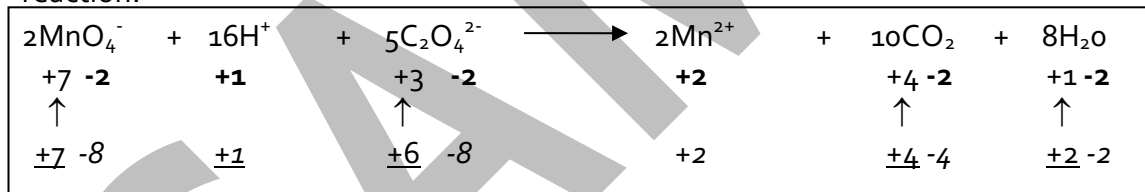
Is

➤ Bleaches as examples of oxidising agents (e.g.  $\text{NaOCl}$ ) or reducing agents (e.g.  $\text{SO}_2$ )

Gain

Example:

What is (a) oxidised (b) reduced (c) the oxidising agent (d) the reducing agent in the following redox reaction?



- Assign oxidation numbers according to previous rules – **in bold**
- Now account for number of elements in compounds – *in italic* e.g.  $\text{O}_4$  – oxygen has oxidation number of  $-2$  but since there is  $4$  of them it becomes  $-8$  (note: ignore number of moles e.g.  $4\text{O}_4$  is still  $-8$ )
- Work out oxidation numbers for the rest of the compound noting the overall charge – underlined e.g.  $\text{CO}_2$ , O:  $-2 \times 2 = -4$  therefore C must have  $+4$  charge as the overall charge of  $\text{CO}_2$  is neutral;  $\text{MnO}_4^-$ , O:  $-2 \times 4 = -8$  therefore M must have  **$+7$  and not  $+8$**  because the **overall charge of  $\text{MnO}_4^-$  is  $-1$**
- Assign individual molecule oxidation numbers; e.g.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - O:  $-2 \times 1 = -2$ , H:  $+2$  (overall charge is neutral) but since there is  $2\text{H}$  ( $\text{H}_2$ ) molecules **each individual H has  $+1$**  – represented by arrows

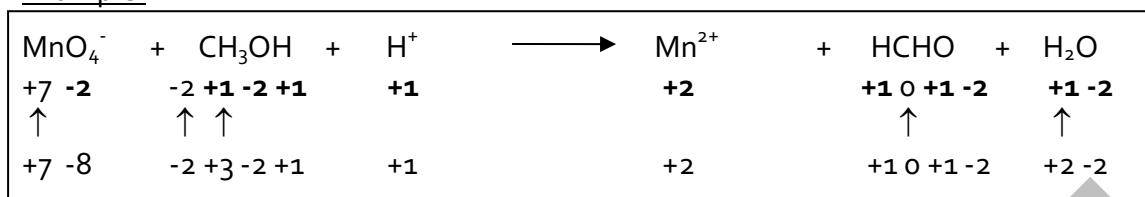
Mn:  $+7 \rightarrow +2$  **Gain of 5 electrons (5 negative charges)** – REDUCED therefore OXIDISING AGENT

C:  $+3 \rightarrow +4$  Loss of 1 electron (**1 negative charge**) – OXIDISED therefore REDUING AGENT

Balancing Redox Equations Using Oxidation Numbers

We use the "ratio" method to solve equations that cannot be balanced by inspection

Example:



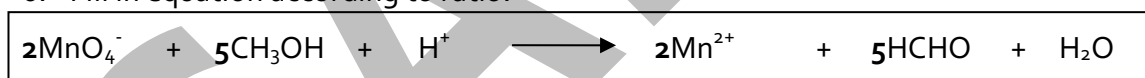
- Assign oxidation numbers according to previous rules – **in bold**
- Now account for number of elements in compounds – *in italic* e.g.  $\text{O}_4$  – oxygen has oxidation number of -2 but since there is 4 of them it becomes -8 (note: ignore number of moles e.g.  $4\text{O}_4$  is still -8)
- Work out oxidation numbers for the rest of the compound noting the overall charge – underlined e.g.  $\text{CO}_2$ , O:  $-2 \times 2 = -4$  therefore C must have +4 charge as the overall charge of  $\text{CO}_2$  is neutral;  $\text{MnO}_4^-$ , O:  $-2 \times 4 = -8$  therefore M must have **+7 and not +8** because the **overall charge of  $\text{MnO}_4^-$  is -1**
- Assign individual molecule oxidation numbers; e.g.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - O:  $-2 \times 1 = -2$ , H: +2 (overall charge is neutral) but since there is 2H ( $\text{H}_2$ ) molecules **each individual H has +1** – represented by arrows
  - $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ : H:  $+1 \times 1 = +1$ , H<sub>3</sub>:  $+1 \times 3 = +3$ , O:  $-2 \times 1 = -2$  – charge so far is  $+4 - 2 = +2$  → therefore C must be -2 to make overall charge 0

Mn:  $+7 \rightarrow +2$  **Gain of 5 electrons (5 negative charges)** – REDUCED therefore OXIDISING AGENT

C:  $-2 \rightarrow 0$  Loss of 2 electron (**2 negative charges**) – OXIDISED therefore REDUING AGENT ↙

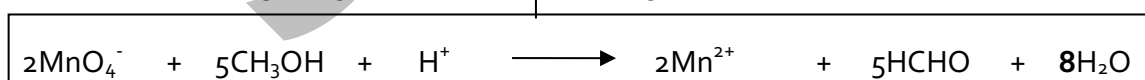
- Assign a ratio Mn : C - i.e. for every 2 Mn there is 5 C (reverse numbers to get ratio)  
2 : 5

- Fill in equation according to ratio:



- Balance equation – count each element on each side of the equation:

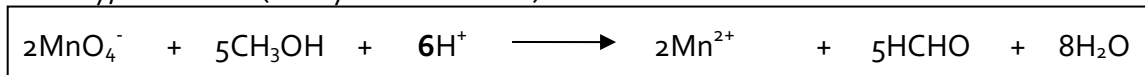
Mn:	2	= 2	2	= 2	Balanced
O:	$8(2 \times 4) + 5$	= 13	$5(5 \times 1) + 1$	= 6	
C:	5	= 5	5	= 5	Balanced
H:	$21(3 + 1 \times 5) + 1$	= 21	$12(5 \times 2) + 1 \times 2$	= 12	



$8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  – O now balanced 13 on each side

This changes H - left side remains as 21, **right side now is 26**

Finally, balance H (always leave to last!) –  **$6\text{H}^+$**



**Now count each element again to ensure all balance)**