

Important Questions on Acid and Base Chemistry



8. According to HSAB principle, which of the following stable complexes are formed by Co^{2+} & Pd^{2+} ions?
- A. $[\text{Pd}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{NCS})_4]^{-2}$ B. $[\text{Pd}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$
C. $[\text{Pd}(\text{NCS})_4]^{-2}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{NCS})_4]^{-2}$ D. $[\text{Pd}(\text{NCS})_4]^{-2}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$
9. When it comes to the bonding of the ligands Me_3N and Me_3P with the metal ions Be^{2+} and Pd^{2+} , the accurate statement is,
- A. The ligands bind equally strong with both the metal ions as they are dicationic.
B. The ligands bind equally strong with both the metal ions as both the ligands are pyramidal.
C. The binding is stronger for Me_3N with Be^{2+} and Me_3P with Pd^{2+} .
D. The binding is stronger for Me_3N with Pd^{2+} and Me_3P with Be^{2+} .
10. Which of the following is not true regarding $\text{H}[\text{B}(\text{HSO}_4)_4]$?
- A. It is a stronger acid than HSO_3F .
B. It acts as a strong acid in H_2SO_4 .
C. It can be prepared by dissolving boric acid in oleum.
D. It cannot be titrated against KHSO_4 .

Answer Key

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. A | 2. D | 3. B | 4. A | 5. D |
| 6. C | 7. A | 8. A | 9. C | 10. D |

Solutions

Solution 1:

Anion acceptors are acidic and anion donors are bases.

Solution 2: Soft acids are larger and more polarizable, Hence Ag^+ is the softest acid among Al^{3+} , Li^{3+} and Ca^{2+} .

Solution 3. AgI_2^- is stable but AgF_2^- does not exist. Since Ag^+ is a soft acid, F^- is a hard base, and I^- is a soft base. Hence, AgI_2 (soft acid + soft base) is a stable complex and AgF_2^- (soft acid + hard base) does not exist.

Similarly, it is found that CoF_6^{-3} (hard acid + hard base) is more stable than CoI_6^{-3} (hard acid + soft base).

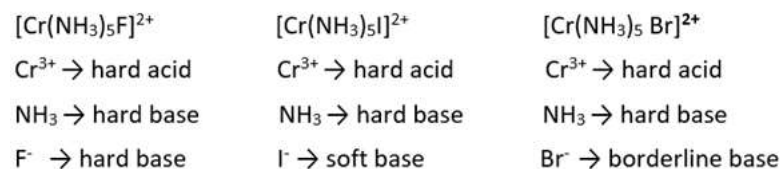
Solution 4. A high specific conductance of liquid BrF_3 indicates that it ionises as:



SbF_5 acts as an acid in liquid BrF_3 because it increases the concentration of BrF_2^+ ions as shown-



Solution 5.



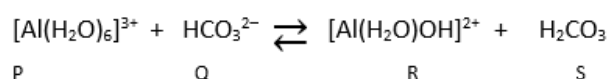
According to the HSAB principle, hard acid interacts with hard base to form a stable complex, so in complex I, all ligands are hard base, and metal is also hard, so, it will form a stable complex than others. In II, the hard metal ion interacts with hard base NH_3 and soft base I^- so, it forms less stable complex than I and III while in III, the hard metal ion interacts with hard base NH_3 and Br^- which is border line base, so, it is stable than II.

So, the stability order will be as follows:

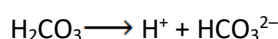
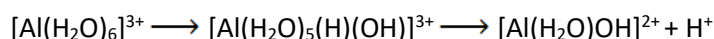
I>III>II

Solution 6. Lewis acids are electron deficient species. If species contain more deficient central atoms then its Lewis acidic strength is very high. F is an electron withdrawing group due to which it will make B more deficient but on the other hand, it decreases the deficiency by back bonding. While H is unable to do such a back bonding due to absence of lone pair. Me is an electron releasing group, thus making the boron least electron deficient.

Solution 7.



Bronsted – Lowry acid: A species that can donate a proton to another molecule.

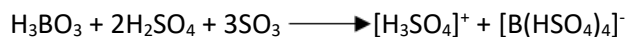


∴ P and S are Bronsted Lowry acid.

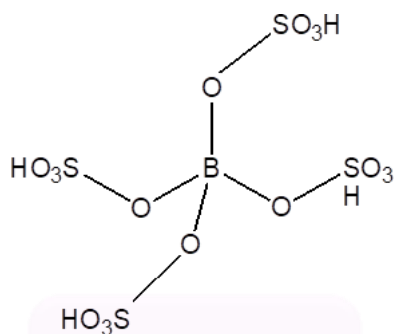
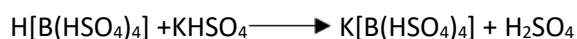
Solution 8. According to the HSAB principle, soft acid prefers to bind with a soft base, and hard acid prefers to bind with a hard base. $[\text{SCN}]^-$ is an ambidentate ligand. It coordinates through S-atoms to form complex $[\text{Pd}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$ because Pd^{2+} is a soft acid that prefers to bind with soft S atoms. Whereas with Co^{2+} , a hard acid prefers to bind with a hard N-atom to form complex $[\text{Co}(\text{NCS})_4]^{-2}$.

Solution 9. According to Pearson's HSAB principle, hard acids prefer binding to the hard bases to give ionic complexes, whereas the soft acids prefer binding to soft bases to give covalent complexes. NMe_3 is a hard ligand while PMe_3 is a soft ligand. Therefore, NMe_3 binds with hard acid (metal ion) Be^{++} and PMe_3 binds with soft acid (metal ion) Pd^{++} .

Solution 10. It is a superacid stronger than HSO_3F and H_2SO_4 . It can be prepared with the help of reaction:



Conductometric titration against Strong base KHSO_4 :



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