

# Important Questions on Acid and Base Chemistry





8. According to HSAB principle, which of the following stable complexes are formed by  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  &  $\text{Pd}^{2+}$  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  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  and  $\text{Me}_3\text{P}$  with the metal ions  $\text{Be}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Pd}^{2+}$ , 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  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  with  $\text{Be}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Me}_3\text{P}$  with  $\text{Pd}^{2+}$ .  
D. The binding is stronger for  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  with  $\text{Pd}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Me}_3\text{P}$  with  $\text{Be}^{2+}$ .
10. Which of the following is not true regarding  $\text{H}[\text{B}(\text{HSO}_4)_4]$ ?
- A. It is a stronger acid than  $\text{HSO}_3\text{F}$ .  
B. It acts as a strong acid in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .  
C. It can be prepared by dissolving boric acid in oleum.  
D. It cannot be titrated against  $\text{KHSO}_4$ .

### 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  $\text{Ag}^+$  is the softest acid among  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

**Solution 3.**  $\text{AgI}_2^-$  is stable but  $\text{AgF}_2^-$  does not exist. Since  $\text{Ag}^+$  is a soft acid,  $\text{F}^-$  is a hard base, and  $\text{I}^-$  is a soft base. Hence,  $\text{AgI}_2$  (soft acid + soft base) is a stable complex and  $\text{AgF}_2^-$  (soft acid + hard base) does not exist.

Similarly, it is found that  $\text{CoF}_6^{-3}$  (hard acid + hard base) is more stable than  $\text{CoI}_6^{-3}$  (hard acid + soft base).

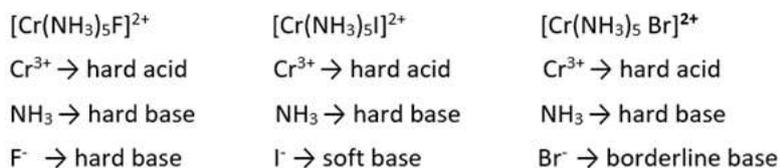
**Solution 4.** A high specific conductance of liquid  $\text{BrF}_3$  indicates that it ionises as:



$\text{SbF}_5$  acts as an acid in liquid  $\text{BrF}_3$  because it increases the concentration of  $\text{BrF}_2^+$  ions as shown-



**Solution 5.**



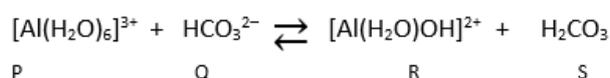
According to the HSAB principle, hard acid interacts with hard base to form a stable complex, so in complex I, all ligands are hard base, and metal is also hard, so, it will form a stable complex than others. In II, the hard metal ion interacts with hard base  $\text{NH}_3$  and soft base  $\text{I}^-$  so, it forms less stable complex than I and III while in III, the hard metal ion interacts with hard base  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{Br}^-$  which is border line base, so, it is stable than II.

So, the stability order will be as follows:

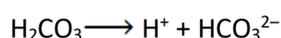
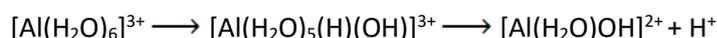
I>III>II

**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.

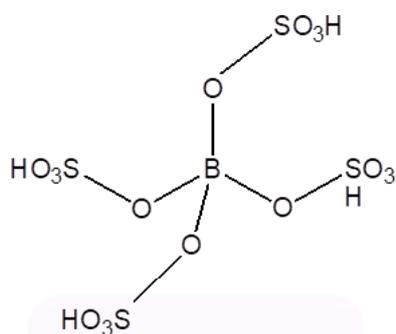
**Solution 8.** According to the HSAB principle, soft acid prefers to bind with a soft base, and hard acid prefers to bind with a hard base.  $[\text{SCN}]^-$  is an ambidentate ligand. It coordinates through S-atoms to form complex  $[\text{Pd}(\text{SCN})_4]^{-2}$  because  $\text{Pd}^{2+}$  is a soft acid that prefers to bind with soft S atoms. Whereas with  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , 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.  $\text{NMe}_3$  is a hard ligand while  $\text{PMe}_3$  is a soft ligand. Therefore,  $\text{NMe}_3$  binds with hard acid (metal ion)  $\text{Be}^{++}$  and  $\text{PMe}_3$  binds with soft acid (metal ion)  $\text{Pd}^{++}$ .

**Solution 10.** It is a superacid stronger than  $\text{HSO}_3\text{F}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ . It can be prepared with the help of reaction:



Conductometric titration against Strong base  $\text{KHSO}_4$ :



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