

TABLE 7 Boiling Points and Bonding Types

Bonding type	Substance	bp (1 atm, °C)
Nonpolar-covalent (molecular)	H ₂	-253
	O ₂	-183
	Cl ₂	-34
	Br ₂	59
	CH ₄	-164
	CCl ₄	77
	C ₆ H ₆	80
Polar-covalent (molecular)	PH ₃	-88
	NH ₃	-33
	H ₂ S	-61
	H ₂ O	100
	HF	20
	HCl	-85
	ICl	97
Ionic	NaCl	1413
	MgF ₂	2239
Metallic	Cu	2567
	Fe	2750
	W	5660

CAREERS in Chemistry

Computational Chemist

Computational chemistry is the study of molecules, their properties, and the interaction between molecules using mathematical equations that are based on the laws of quantum mechanics and which describe the motion of the electrons. Today, widely-available software packages exist that allow chemists to solve these equations for molecules under study.

Computational chemists combine their expertise in mathematics, their computer skills, and their love of chemistry. Computational chemistry has been used in industry to aid in the discovery of new pharmaceutical drugs and of new catalysts. Computational chemists are employed in all areas of chemistry and work closely with experimental chemists.

Molecular Polarity and Dipole-Dipole Forces

The strongest intermolecular forces exist between polar molecules. Polar molecules act as tiny dipoles because of their uneven charge distribution. A **dipole** is created by equal but opposite charges that are separated by a short distance. The direction of a dipole is from the dipole's positive pole to its negative pole. A dipole is represented by an arrow with a head pointing toward the negative pole and a crossed tail situated at the positive pole. The dipole created by a hydrogen chloride molecule, which has its negative end at the more electronegative chlorine atom, is indicated as follows.



The negative region in one polar molecule attracts the positive region in adjacent molecules, and so on throughout a liquid or solid. The forces of attraction between polar molecules are known as *dipole-dipole forces*. These forces are short-range forces, acting only between nearby molecules. The effect of dipole-dipole forces is reflected, for example, by the significant difference between the boiling points of iodine chloride, I-Cl, and bromine, Br-Br. The boiling point of polar iodine chloride is 97°C, whereas that of nonpolar bromine is only 59°C. The dipole-dipole forces responsible for the relatively high boiling point of ICl are illustrated schematically in **Figure 25**.