

**IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

**BSc and MSci DEGREES – JUNE 2013, for Internal Students of the  
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine**

**This paper is also taken for the relevant examination for the  
Associateship**

**INORGANIC CHEMISTRY IIB**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013, 14:00-16:15**

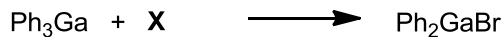
**PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS DEPARTMENTAL POLICY THAT  
THESE EXAM QUESTIONS MAY REQUIRE UNDERSTANDING OF  
ANY PRIOR CORE COURSE.**

**USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH  
QUESTION. WRITE YOUR CANDIDATE NUMBER ON  
EACH ANSWER BOOK.**

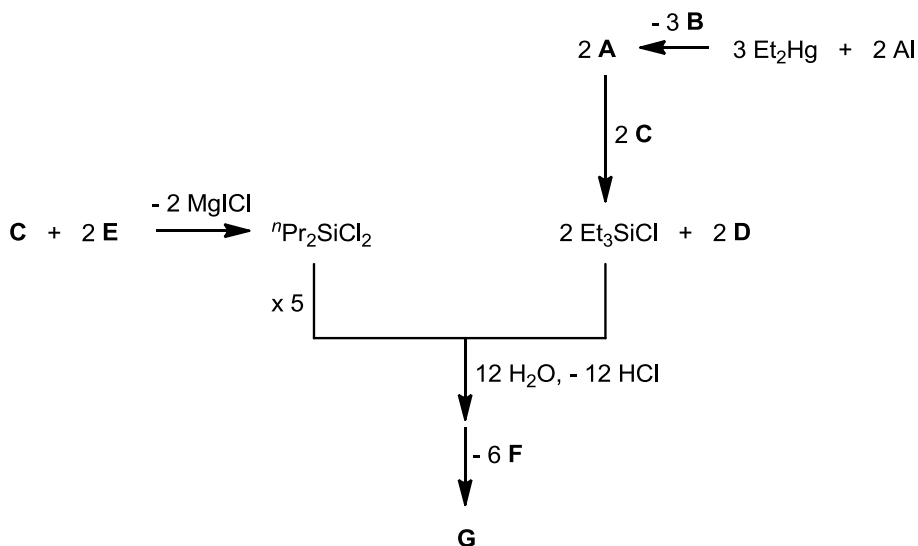
## 2.I2 – Main Group Chemistry

Answer part a) and any **TWO** of parts b), c) and d) of this question.

a) Answer **ALL** parts of this question.



- Identify **X** and **Y** in the reactions above and write balanced equations. What conditions are required for each reaction and why are they different? (3 marks)
- Illustrate, using a scheme, the species formed in the reaction of magnesium turnings with bromobenzene in diethyl ether solution. (2 marks)
- Write a balanced equation for the synthesis of  ${}^n\text{Bu}_3\text{As}$  by metathesis. What is the driving force for the reaction? (2 marks)
- Identify compounds **A** - **G** in the scheme below. All equations are balanced. (4 marks)



QUESTION CONTINUED OVERLEAF

b) Answer **BOTH** parts of this question.

Polyhedral carborane  $[\text{B}_3\text{CH}_8]^-$  shows two separate signals in its  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum, a doublet of doublets of doublets (ddd) and a doublet of triplets (dt).

- i) Predict the structural type of  $[\text{B}_3\text{CH}_8]^-$  and draw its structure. (4 marks)
- ii) Account for the observed NMR signals (Assume only  $^1J_{\text{BH}}$  coupling is observed). [NMR-active nuclei:  $^{11}\text{B}$  ( $I = 3/2$ , 80.42%)] (3 marks)

c) Answer **BOTH** parts of this question.

- i)  $^n\text{BuLi}$  exists as a tetramer in diethyl ether solution. What could be added to the solution to promote formation of a dimer structure? Justify your answer. (3 marks)
- ii) Sketch the tetramer and dimer structures and describe the type of bonding present in each. (4 marks)

d) Answer **ALL** parts of this question.

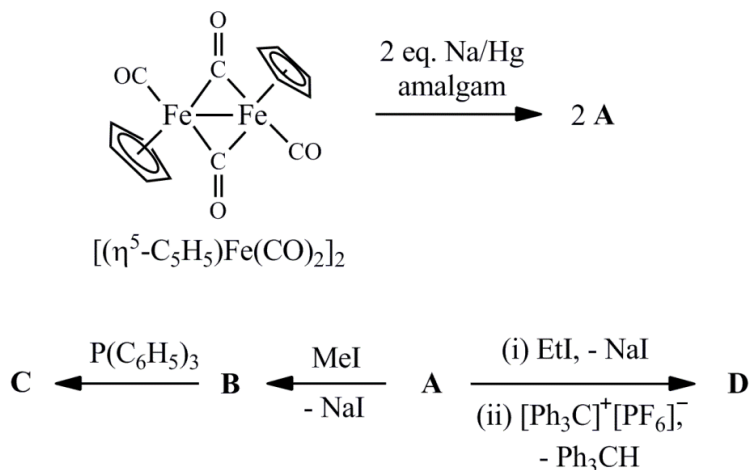
The reaction of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  with  $\text{BCl}_3$  or with  $\text{PCl}_5$  gives a six-membered ring in each case. The byproduct of both reactions is  $\text{HCl}$ .

- i) Identify and draw the two different rings formed. (3 marks)
- ii) With diagrams, describe how multiple bonding occurs in each of the two rings. What are the structural effects of delocalised multiple bonding and how are these observed? (3 marks)
- iii) The phosphorus-nitrogen ring can form a polymer when heated. Draw the product formed by the reaction of this polymer with  $\text{EtOLi}$ . (1 mark)

## 2.13 – Transition Metal, Coordination and Organometallic Chemistry

Answer part a) **AND** part b) and **EITHER** part c) **OR** part d) of this question.

a) Answer **ALL** parts of this question.



**A** is a highly air-sensitive salt which dissolves in THF as a 1:1 electrolyte. It displays two  $\nu(\text{CO})$  bands in its infrared spectrum at  $2015 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1910 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**B** shows *only* two singlets in its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum at 4.6 ppm and 0.1 ppm (5:3 ratio respectively) and two  $\nu(\text{CO})$  bands in its infrared spectrum at *ca.*  $2000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

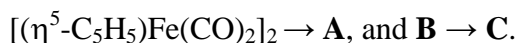
**C** is a monometallic species which shows three resonances in its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum at 7.1 ppm (multiplet), 5.1 ppm (singlet) and 2.1 ppm (singlet) with relative integration 15:5:3, respectively. The infrared spectrum displays two  $\nu(\text{CO})$  bands at  $2000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1680 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**D** is a salt containing an inorganic anion. The mass spectrum of the cation shows a main peak at  $m/z = 204.8$  and further peaks at  $m/z = 176.8$ ,  $148.8$ , and  $120.8$ .

- i) Identify the organometallic products **A** to **D** in the reaction sequence above and draw their structures, paying particular attention to the 18-electron rule. In each case give justification to your answer using the characterisation data provided for the compounds. All equations in the scheme are balanced.

(8 marks)

- ii) Name the type of reaction represented by transformations



[NMR-active nuclei:  $^1\text{H}$  ( $I = 1/2$ , 100 %)]

[Atomic masses: Fe = 55.8; C = 12.0; H = 1.0; O = 16.0]

(1 mark)

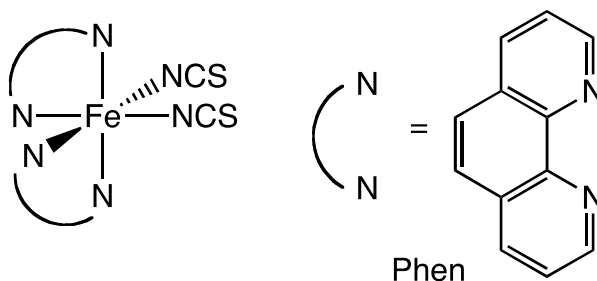
QUESTION CONTINUED OVERLEAF

b) Answer **BOTH** parts of this question.

- i) Define the 'lanthanide contraction' and explain how it affects the sizes of the metallic radii in the third row d-block elements relative to the second row.  
(4 marks)
- ii) Sketch the change in d-orbital splitting when an octahedral complex rearranges to a trigonal prismatic structure.  
(4 marks)

c) Answer **BOTH** parts of this question.

- i) Describe the features of spin crossover complexes that could make them useful as molecular switches.  
(4 marks)

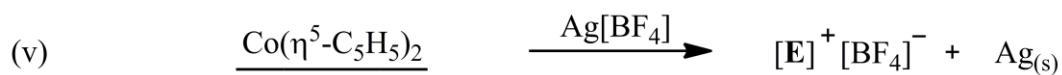
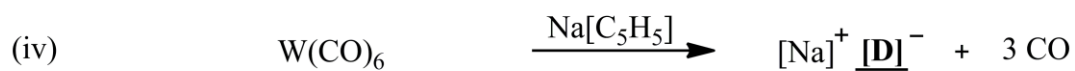
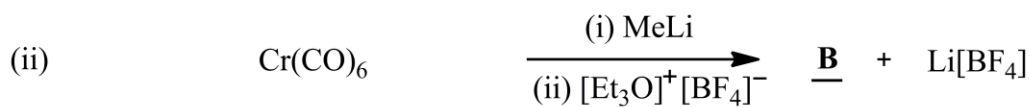
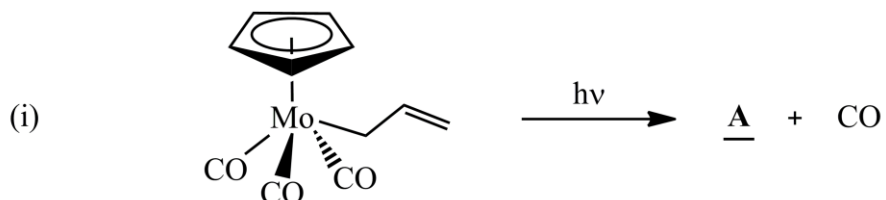


- ii) [Fe(Phen)<sub>2</sub>(NCS)<sub>2</sub>] shown above displays an abrupt spin crossover at 175 K. Sketch the spin transition curve for this complex and calculate its spin-only magnetic moment  $\mu_{\text{so}}$  at 200 K. Comment on any difference you might expect between the spin-only magnetic moment and the experimentally determined  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  value at this temperature.  
(4 marks)

QUESTION CONTINUED OVERLEAF

d) For **FOUR** of the following reactions i)-v)

Identify the unknown compound by drawing a full structural formula. For the **underlined** compound give the formal oxidation state **and** valence electron count of the metal centre. All equations are balanced.

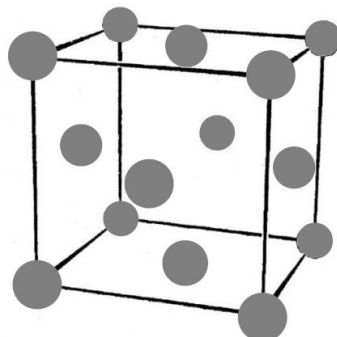


(8 marks)

## 2.I4 – Crystal and Molecular Architecture

Answer part a) and **EITHER** part b) **OR** part c) of this question.

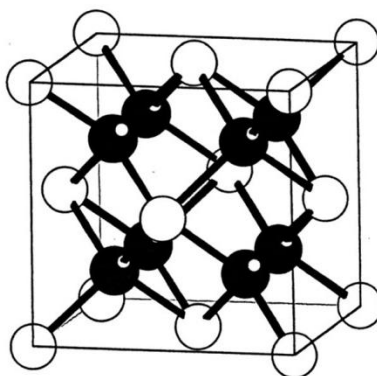
a) Answer **ALL** parts.



- i) Identify the generic structure above, giving the lattice type it adopts. Draw a fully labelled plan view of the structure, assuming only one atom type. Indicate which atoms are on lattice points.  
(4 marks)
- ii) What is the stacking sequence of the close packed layers? What is the coordination number of the metal atoms in this structure? Give an example of a metal which adopts this structure (apart from silver).  
(3 marks)
- iii) Show the location of one octahedral hole and one tetrahedral hole on your plan view.  
(2 marks)
- iv) Metallic silver adopts the structure shown above and has a lattice constant ( $a$ ) of  $4.07 \text{ \AA}$ . Calculate the volume occupied by a silver atom in the structure.  
(3 marks)
- v) Calculate the density of silver in  $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ . Atomic mass of silver is 107.9.  
(3 marks)

QUESTION CONTINUED OVERLEAF

b) Answer **ALL** parts of this question.



- i) Draw a fully labelled plan view of the structure of  $\text{CeO}_2$  shown above and state the type of structure. (3 marks)
- ii) Determine how many formula units are in the unit cell and the coordination numbers of the cerium and oxide ions. (2 marks)
- iii) Calculate the shortest separation between the centres of the cations and anions in Å. The lattice constant ( $a$ ) is 5.41 Å. (2 marks)
- iv) Draw a fully labelled plan view of the alternative unit cell which has oxide ions at the corners. (3 marks)

c) Answer **ALL** parts of this question.

- i) Describe the two types of solid solution. (2 marks)
- ii) Draw the *Halite* structure in plan view. X-ray diffraction shows that the edge of the unit cell of  $\text{NiO}$  (which has the *Halite* structure) is 4.17 Å. Experimental density determination gives a value of  $6.67 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ . Based on these data, rationalise the presence or absence of any defects. Atomic masses:  $\text{Ni} = 58.7$ ,  $\text{O} = 16.0$ . (5 marks)
- iii) Doping  $\text{NiO}$  with  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  in air results in one lithium ion per unit cell. Indicate on your plan view from part ii) any changes that have occurred, other than addition of a lithium ion. (3 marks)