CH1012

Tutorial 4 Answers

1.

geometric cis trans cis – linkage isomer trans – linkage isomer

geometric trans

20

NH3

NH3

NH3

20

NH3

20

NH3

20

Cis

cis

cis – optical isomer

2. Assign the oxidation state of carbon in the following compounds: $C_{diamond}$ NaHCO₃ C_2F_2

0 -1 = C + 1 - (3*-2) + 1(by defn.) C = +IV

3. Determine if the following reactions are redox or metathesis reactions, explain your decision.

For redox reaction(s) identify the oxidised and reduced species.

(ii)
$$Ca(OH)_2(s) + H^+(aq) \rightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + H_2O$$
 - metathesis driving force formation of the weak electrolyte water.

4. Balance the following redox equation in acidic solution, show all the steps in your working.

5. What is the **spectrochemical series** and how does this series help us understand the colour of transition metal complexes?

The spectrochemical series is a ranking of ligands in relation to the ability of the ligand to split the energy of the d-orbitals (the crystal field splitting energy Δ), weak field ligands show a small splitting and strong field ligands a large splitting.

$$\label{eq:continuous} \begin{split} Cl^- < &F^- < OH^- < H_2O < NH_3 < en < NO_2^- < CN^- < CO \\ weak field, small \Delta & strong field, large \Delta \\ long &\lambda \ absorbed & short &\lambda \ absorbed \end{split}$$

The crystal field splitting energy Δ results from the increase in the energies of the dz^2 and dx^2 - y^2 orbitals of the 5 x d orbitals as ligands approach the isolated metal ion (where all 5 orbital are of the same energy). The triply degenerate set of orbitals at lower energy is called the t_{2g} set and the doubly degenerate set e_g .

The energy separating the t_{2g} and e_g sets is called the crystal splitting energy Δ .

Light absorption occurs in the TM complexes as an electron is excited from the t_{2g} to e_g sets of orbitals. Ligands influence the size of Δ and therefore the colours of the complexes.

The spectrochemical series then effectively relates the colour of complexes to the field strength of the ligands and the size of Δ .