CHEM-457 PS4 Solutions

1. MF&T #6.1

	Acid	Base	Definition
a.	$AlBr_3$	Br ⁻	Lewis
b.	HClO ₄	CH ₃ CN	Lewis, Brønsted-Lowry
c.	Ni ²⁺	NH ₃	Lewis
d.	ClF	NH_3	Lewis
e.	so ₂	ClO ₃	Lewis
f.	HF	C ₃ H ₇ COOH	Lewis, Brønsted-Lowry

MF&T #6.2

	Acid	Base	Definition
a.	XeO_2	OH ⁻	Lewis

This is not a Brønsted-Lowry reaction since the product connectivity is [XeO₃(OH)]⁻.

- b. Pt XeF₄ Lewis
- ${\rm c.} \qquad \qquad {\rm H_2SeO_4} \qquad \qquad {\rm C_2H_5OH} \qquad {\rm Lewis, \, Brønsted\text{-}Lowry}$
- d. [CH₃Hg(H₂O)]⁺ SH⁻ Lewis

This reaction likely occurs via the following steps:

$$\begin{split} & [\mathrm{CH_3Hg(H_2O)}]^+ + \mathrm{SH}^- \rightarrow [\mathrm{CH_3Hg(SH)}] + \mathrm{H_2O} \\ & [\mathrm{CH_3Hg(SH)}] + \mathrm{H_2O} \rightarrow [\mathrm{CH_3HgS}]^- + \mathrm{H_3O}^+ \end{split}$$

While a Brønsted-Lowry reaction occurs in the second step, the species listed in Problem 6.2d are involved in the initial Lewis acid-base reaction.

- e. CH₃COOH (benzyl)₃N Lewis, Brønsted-Lowry
- f. HCl SO₂ Lewis

MF&T #6.30

CsI and LiF fit Basalo's principle that ions of similar size and equal (but opposite) charge form the least soluble salts. CsF and LiI have ionic sizes that are very different, and they do not fit as well into an ionic lattice. In addition, CsI and LiF are soft—soft and hard—hard combinations, which combine better than the hard—soft LiI and soft—hard CsF.

MF&T #6.34

- a. TeH₂ is the strongest acid, because Te is more electronegative than either Sn or Sb. Therefore, the hydrogen is more positive and acidic.
- b. NH₃ is the strongest base because N is more electronegative than either P or Sb.
- c. (CH₃)₃N is the strongest base in the gas phase because the methyl groups contribute electron density to the nitrogen. In solution, the order is scrambled, probably due to solvation (Section 6.3.6).
- d. 4-Methylpyridine > pyridine > 2-methylpyridine. Again, the methyl group adds electron density to the N. However, with methyl in the 2 position, steric hindrance makes bonding to BMe₃ more difficult.

MF&T #6.37

 $BF_3 > B(CH_3)_3 > B(C_2H_5)_3 > B(C_6H_2(CH_3)_3)_3$ Alkyl groups are electron-donating and increase the electron density on B and reduce the attraction for the lone pair of NH₃. The bulky mesityl groups render $B(C_6H_2(CH_3)_3)_3$ less Lewis acidic on the basis of the steric hindrance introduced when these boron centers adopt the required tetrahedral geometry upon complexation of NH₃.

MF&T #6.38

- a. CH₃NH₂ is a stronger base on the basis of the electron-releasing ability of the methyl group.
- b. Although 2-methylpyridine is the stronger base with smaller acid molecules, the methyl group interferes with adduct formation with trimethylboron (F-strain) and the pyridine-trimethylboron dative bond is stronger.
- c. Trimethylboron forms a stronger adduct with ammonia because the three phenyl rings of triphenylboron cannot bend back readily to allow the boron to become tetrahedral (B-strain).

MF&T #6.42

- a. As the Lewis acids BF₃ and BCl₃ interact with NH₃, the geometry around boron changes from planar to trigonal pyramidal; however, in accord with the LCP model the nonbonded F···F and Cl···Cl distances are nearly constant, suggesting that these atoms remain in contact with each other. Because these nonbonded distances remain essentially constant, the boron-halogen distance must increase as the distortion from trigonal geometry occurs. Because of the strength of the B-F bond, a consequence of the large electronegativity difference between B and F and the small size of the fluorine atom, more energy is required to distort BF₃ from planarity than to similarly distort BCl₃. (Calculations in support of this argument are presented in the reference.) The consequence of this energy requirement is that BF₃ is a weaker Lewis base than BCl₃ toward NH₃. The article does not address the relative Lewis basicity of BBr₃, but a similar argument could apply for this compound.
- b. This article does not consider the LCP model but focuses on ab initio calculations on the adducts X₃B-NH₃. These calculations show a higher B-N bond dissociation energy in the BCl₃ adduct than in the BF₃ adduct. Although many factors are involved, an important issue is that BCl₃ has a lower energy LUMO that is able to interact more strongly with the donor orbital of NH₃, giving a stronger covalent interaction (and stronger B-N bond) in Cl₃B-NH₃.

2. Al³⁺ is acidic:
$$[Al(H_2O)_6]^{3+} + H_2O = [Al(H_2O)_5(OH)]^{2+} + H_3O^+$$

The hydronium ions react with the basic bicarbonate to form CO₂:

$$H_3O^+(aq) + HCO_3^-(aq) \rightarrow 2 H_2O (1) + CO_2 (g)$$

With pK_a values of 5.0 for $[Al(H_2O)_6]^{3+}$, 6.4 for H_2CO_3 , and 2.0 for HSO_4^- , the pH is about 3, low enough to convert the bicarbonate to CO_2 .





