

Answer all questions in the booklet(s) provided. A point group flow chart, periodic table and other information are attached. Please write your name on each booklet used. You have 3 hours.

[15] Question 1

- Determine the possible microstates for  $2p^3$  electronic configuration and arrange them in a microstate table ( $M_L$  vs.  $M_S$ ). (10 marks)
- Determine the terms for the  $2p^3$  configuration. (3 marks)
- List the terms from *lowest* (ground state) to *highest* energy. (2 marks)

[12] Question 2

Determine the *symmetry elements* and *point group* for (4 marks each):

- $CS_2$
- $cis-[FeCl_4Br_2]^{3-}$
- $\Lambda-[Co(en)_3]^{2+}$  (en = ethylenediamine)

[10] Question 3

- Use VSEPR theory to draw and then predict the *actually geometry* of a)  $SbF_4^-$  and b)  $SeF_3^+$  (3 marks each)
- Explain the trend in the following set of bond angles:  $NCl_3$  ( $\angle Cl-N-Cl = 107.1^\circ$ ),  $NF_3$  ( $\angle F-N-F = 102.3^\circ$ ),  $PCl_3$  ( $\angle Cl-P-Cl = 100.3^\circ$ ), and  $PF_3$  ( $\angle F-P-F = 97.7^\circ$ ). (4 marks)

[8] Question 4

Glycine has the structure  $NH_2CH_2C(=O)OH$ . It can lose a proton from the carboxyl group and form chelate rings bonded through the N and the deprotonated O atom. Draw out all the possible isomers of tris(glycinato)cobalt(III).

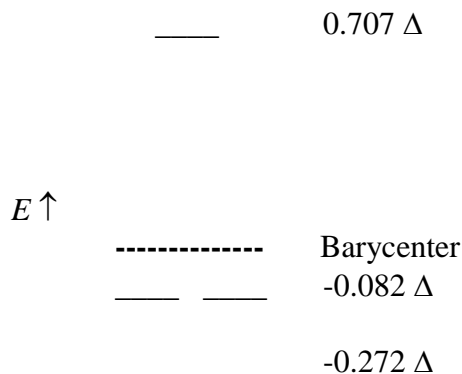
[14] Question 5

(Use of the attached Tanabe-Sugano diagrams may help in answering the following).

- Why is  $[MnBr_6]^{4-}$  essentially colourless?
- List all the spin-allowed transitions (originating from the ground-state) for  $[Co(CN)_6]^{3-}$ .
- Why is the nephelauxetic parameter,  $\beta$ , significantly smaller for  $[CoBr_6]^{3-}$  than for  $[CoF_6]^{3-}$ ?
- What is the ground-state term symbol for: i) As ii)  $Os^{2+}$  iii)  $[Fe(CN)_6]^{3-}$

[13] **Question 6**

The splitting diagram for a trigonal bipyramidal (tbp) crystal field is given below. (The z-axis is coincident with the  $C_3$  axis of the trigonal bipyramid).



- Redraw the splitting diagram above in your booklets and label the energy levels with the appropriate  $d$  orbitals. (5 marks)
- Calculate the LFSE for a  $d^3$  (low-spin) and a  $d^7$  (high-spin) ion using the above diagram. (4 marks)
- For which *high-spin* and which *low-spin*  $d$  configurations is a Jahn-Teller distortion ***theoretically*** possible for a trigonal bipyramidal structure. Use the above splitting diagram to determine this. (4 marks)

[8] **Question 7**

- Label the following transitions as either: spin-forbidden, Laporte forbidden, Laporte allowed, ligand-to-metal charge transfer (LMCT) or metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT). Choose the most *appropriate* label. There is only **one** label for each transition! (Copy into your exam book).



- Rank the above transitions in order from weakest to strongest in intensity. (3 marks)

**[9] Question 8**

- a) The ligand field splitting energies,  $\Delta$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), are listed below for a series of cobalt compounds and a series of chromium compounds. Explain the two trends thoroughly. (7 marks)

i) Complex	$\Delta$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	ii) Complex	$\Delta$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$	22,900	$[\text{CrF}_6]^{3-}$	15,000
$[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{2+}$	10,200	$[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$	17,400
$[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_4]^{2+}$	5,900	$[\text{CrF}_6]^{2-}$	22,000
		$[\text{Cr}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$	26,600

- b) Briefly explain why far more tetrahedral complexes have *high-spin* configurations than octahedral complexes. (2 marks)

**[11] Question 9**

- a) Derive the splitting pattern (you do not need to fully draw it) and determine the total number of lines in the EPR spectrum of  $\text{Cs}_4[\text{LaF}_6]$ . (unpaired electron on La) (4 marks)

(NOTE: for La,  $I = 7/2$ ; for F,  $I = 1/2$ ; and for Cs,  $I = 7/2$ )

- b) The experimental magnetic moments of four manganese complexes are given below. Write down the electronic configurations (in terms of  $t_{2g}$  and  $e_g$  orbitals in an octahedral field) that is consistent with the data and state whether the complexes are high spin or low spin. (4 marks)

<u>Complex</u>	<u><math>\mu_{\text{exp}}</math> (B.M.)</u>
$[\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$	1.8
$[\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$	3.2
$[\text{Mn}(\text{NCS})_6]^{4-}$	6.1
$[\text{Mn}(\text{acac})_3]$	5.0

- c) Suggest an electronic structure (configuration and geometry) for the complex  $[(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5\text{FeNO}]^{2+}$  that is consistent with a  $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 3.9$  BM. (3 marks)