

Updated: 9 March 2020 [Print version](#)

CEE 680: Water Chemistry

Lecture #28
Coordination Chemistry: Hydrolysis and Simple Complexes
(Stumm & Morgan, Chapt.6: pg.281-289)
Benjamin; Chapter 8.1-8.6

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Stability Constants

• Martell & Smith, 1977:
Critical Stability Constants

- Vol. 1: Amino Acids
- Vol. 2: Amines
- • Vol. 3: Other Organic Ligands
- • Vol. 4: Inorganic Complexes
- Vol. 5: Supplement

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II. CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

HO₂COO₂H

C, H, O, Metal ion	Equilibrium	Ethanedioic acid (oxalic acid)			ΔH 25° ± 0	ΔS 25° ± 0
		Log K 25° ± 0.1	Log K 25° ± 1.0	Log K 25° ± 0		
H ⁺	HL/H.L	3.82 ± 0.04	3.55 ± 0.02	4.266 ± 0.001	1.60 ± 0.06	25.1
	H ₂ L/H.L.H	3.55 ^b ± 0.05		3.80 ^e	0.52 ^c	18.0 ^f
	H ₂ L/H.L.H	1.04 ± 0.10	1.04 ± 0.04	1.252	0.9 ± 0.1	
		1.02 ^b ± 0.03		1.26 ^e		
K ⁺	ML/M.L					-0.8 ⁿ
Ba ²⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	4.08 ^h	3.55			
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	5.38 ^h	5.40			
Mg ²⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	2.76 ^h				3.43 ⁿ
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	4.24				
Ca ²⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂		1.66			3.00 ⁿ
	M ₂ /M.L ₂		2.69			
Sr ²⁺	MHL/M.HL	1.38				1.84
	M(HL) ₂ /M.(HL) ₂	1.8				
Ba ²⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂		1.25			2.54 ⁿ
	M ₂ /M.L ₂		1.90			
Sc ³⁺	MHL/M.HL	1.11				1.57
	M(HL) ₂ /M.(HL) ₂	1.7				
Ba ²⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂					2.31 ⁿ
	M ₂ /M.L ₂					
Y ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	8.74 ^f	6.86 ^j			
	M ₂ /M.L ₂		11.31 ^j			
	M ₃ /M.L ₃		14.32 ^j			
	M ₄ /M.L ₄		16.70 ^j			
La ³⁺	MHL/M.HL	7.36 ^f				
	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	5.46				
Ce ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	9.29				
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	4.71	4.3			
Ce ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	7.83	7.9			
	M ₂ /M.L ₂		10.3			
	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	4.90	4.49 ^j			6.52
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	8.26	7.91 ^j			10.48
Pm ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂					
	M ₂ /M.L ₂					
	M ₃ /M.L ₃					
	M ₄ /M.L ₄					
Eu ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	5.18				
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	8.78				
Eu ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂	5.36	5.04 ^j - 0.1			
	M ₂ /M.L ₂	9.04	8.70 ^j ± 0.1			
	M ₃ /M.L ₃		11.45 ^j - 0.2			
	M ₄ /M.L ₄		13.09 ^j			
Gd ³⁺	ML ₂ /M.L ₂			7.01		

^b 25°, 0.5; ^c 25°, 1.0; ^e 25°, 3.0; ^h 20°, 0.1; ^j 20°, 1.0; ⁿ 18°, 0; ^f 25°, 0.05

		HO ₂ CCO ₂ H				
		Ethanedioic acid (oxalic acid)				
C ₂ H ₂ O ₄		Log K	Log K	Log K	ΔH	H ₂ L
Metal	Equilibrium	25°, 0.1	25°, 1.0	25°, 0	25°, 0	25°, 0
ion						
H ⁺	HL/H.L	3.82 ±0.04	3.55 ±0.02	4.266 ±0.001	1.60 ±0.06	25.1
		3.55 ^b ±0.05		3.80 ^e	0.52 ^c	18.0 ^c
	H ₂ L/HL.H	1.04 ±0.10	1.04 ±0.04	1.252	0.9 ±0.1	
		1.02 ^b ±0.03		1.26 ^e		
K ⁺	ML/M.L			-0.8 ⁿ		
Be ²⁺	ML/M.L	4.08 ^h	3.55			
	ML ₂ /M.L ²	5.38 ^h	5.40			
Mg ²⁺	ML/M.L	2.76 ^h		3.43 ⁿ		
	ML ₂ /M.L ²	4.24				
Ca ²⁺	ML/M.L		1.66	3.00 ⁿ		
	ML ₂ /M.L ²		2.69			
	MHL/M.HL	1.38		1.84		
	M(HL) ₂ /M.(HL) ²	1.8				
Sr ²⁺	ML/M.L		1.25	2.54 ⁿ		
	ML ₂ /M.L ²		1.90			
	MHL/M.HL	1.11		1.57		
	M(HL) ₂ /M.(HL) ²	1.7				
Ba ²⁺	ML/M.L			2.31 ⁿ		
Sc ³⁺	ML/M.L	8.74 ^r	6.86 ^j			
	ML ₂ /M.L ²		11.31 ^j			
	ML ₃ /M.L ³		14.32 ^j			
	ML ₄ /M.L ⁴		16.70 ^j			

Sources: Stumm & Morgan, 3rd Ed.

Table A6.1. (Continued)

		OH	CO ₃ ²⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	Cl ⁻	Br ⁻	F ⁻	NH ₃		
Al ³⁺	AlL	9.0						AlL	7.0	
	AlL ₂	18.7					AlL ₂	12.6		
	AlL ₃	27.0					AlL ₃	16.7		
	AlL ₄	33.0					AlL ₄	19.1		
	AlL ₅ s	42.1								
Fe ³⁺	FeL	11.8		FeL	4.0	FeL	1.5	FeL	0.6	
	FeL ₂	22.3		FeL ₂	5.4	FeL ₂	2.1	FeL ₂	6.0	
	FeL ₄	34.4						FeL ₂	10.6	
	FeL ₂ s	25.0						FeL ₃	13.7	
	FeL ₁ s	42.7								
Mn ²⁺	MnL	3.4	MnHL	12.1	MnL	2.3	MnL	0.6	MnL	1.3
	MnL ₂	5.8	MnL ₂ s	10.4					MnL ₂	1.5
	MnL ₃	7.2								
	MnL ₄	7.7								
	MnL ₂ s	12.8								
Fe ²⁺	FeL	4.5	FeL ₂ s	10.7	FeL	2.2		FeL	1.4	
	FeL ₂	7.4								
	FeL ₃	11.0								
	FeL ₂ s	15.1								
Co ²⁺	CoL	4.3	CoL ₂ s	10.0	CoL	2.4	CoL	0.5	CoL	1.0
	CoL ₂	9.2							CoL ₂	2.0
	CoL ₃	10.5							CoL ₃	3.5
	CoL ₂ s	15.7							CoL ₄	4.4
Ni ²⁺	NiL	4.1	NiL ₂ s	6.9	NiL	2.3	NiL	0.6	NiL	1.1
	NiL ₂	9.0							NiL ₂	2.7
	NiL ₃	12.0							NiL ₃	4.9
	NiL ₄ s	17.2							NiL ₄	6.6
									NiL ₄	7.7
									NiL ₄	8.3

• Pg. 326

• From Morel & Hering, 1993

Sources: Stumm & Morgan, 2nd Ed.

• Pg. 242

242 TABLE 5.1 (continued)

	Symbol for Equilibrium Constants	log <i>K</i> at 25°C	<i>I</i>
$\alpha\text{-Al(OH)}_3(\text{s}) + 3\text{H}^+ = \text{Al}^{3+} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$*K_{s0}$	8.5	0
$\text{Al(OH)}_3(\text{amorph}) + 3\text{H}^+ = \text{Al}^{3+} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$*K_{s0}$	10.8	0
$\text{CuO}(\text{s}) + 2\text{H}^+ = \text{Cu}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$*K_{s0}$	7.65	0
$\text{Cu}^{2+} + \text{OH}^- = \text{CuOH}^+$	K_1	6.0 (18°C)	0
$\text{Cu}^{2+} + 2\text{OH}^- = \text{Cu(OH)}_2$	K_2	12.8	1
$2\text{Cu}^{2+} + 2\text{OH}^- = \text{Cu}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2+}$	K_{22}	17.0 (18°C)	0
$\text{Cu}^{2+} + 3\text{OH}^- = \text{Cu(OH)}_3^-$	K_3	15.2	0
$\text{Cu}^{2+} + 4\text{OH}^- = \text{Cu(OH)}_4^{2-}$	K_4	16.1	0
$\text{Zn}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{ZnOH}^+ + \text{H}^+$	$*K_1$	-8.96	0
$\text{Zn}^{2+} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Zn(OH)}_2 + 2\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_2$	-16.9	0
$\text{Zn}^{2+} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Zn(OH)}_3^- + 3\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_3$	-28.4	0
$\text{Zn}^{2+} + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Zn(OH)}_4^{2-} + 4\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_4$	-41.2	0
$\text{ZnO} + 2\text{H}^+ = \text{Zn}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$*K_{s0}$	11.14	0
$\text{Zn(OH)}_2(\text{amorph}) + 2\text{H}^+ = \text{Zn}^{2+} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$*K_{s0}$	12.45	0
$\text{Cd}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{CdOH}^+ + \text{H}^+$	$*K_1$	-10.1	0
$\text{Cd}^{2+} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Cd(OH)}_2(\text{aq}) + 2\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_2$	-20.4	0
$\text{Cd}^{2+} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Cd(OH)}_3^- + 3\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_3$	< -33.3	0
$\text{Cd}^{2+} + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Cd(OH)}_4^{2-} + 4\text{H}^+$	$*\beta_4$	-47.4	0

Reconciling the constants: Al(OH)₃

- S&M:3rd Edition

- $Al_3(s) \quad 10^{33.5}$ ←

$$\frac{Al_3(s)}{Al \cdot L^3} = 10^{33.5}$$

- S&M:2nd Edition

- $\alpha-Al(OH)_3(s) + 3H^+ = Al^{+3} + 3 H_2O$

- $*K_{so} \quad 8.5$ ←

$$10^{-33.5} = [Al^{+3}][OH^-]^3 = [Al^{+3}] \frac{K_w^3}{[H^+]^3}$$

$$[Al^{+3}] = 10^{-33.5} (10^{-14})^3 [H^+]^3$$

$$\log [Al^{+3}] = 8.5 - 3pH$$

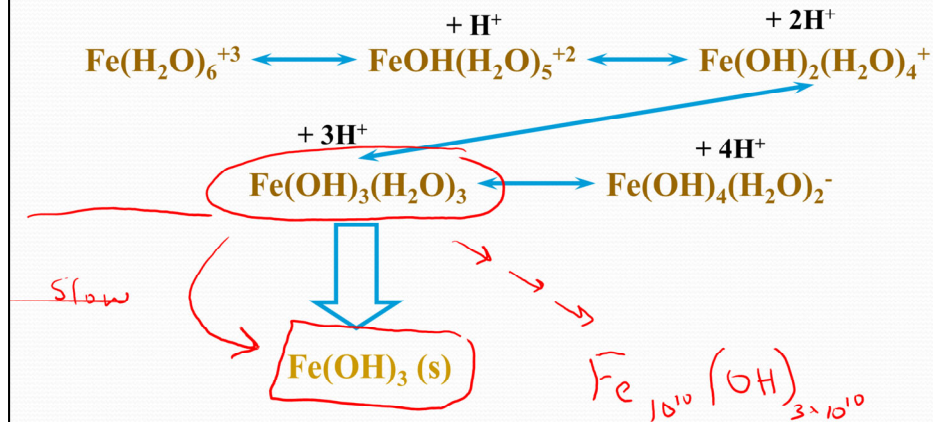
$$10^{8.5} = \frac{[Al^{+3}]}{[H^+]^3}$$

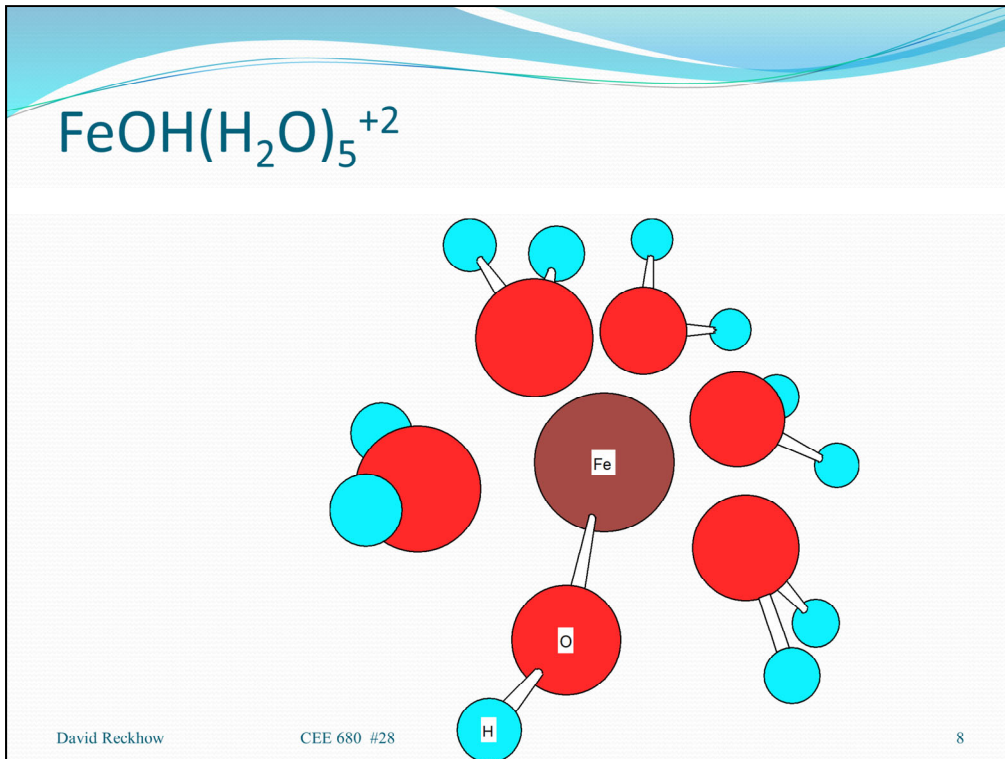
$$[Al^{+3}] = 10^{8.5} [H^+]^3$$

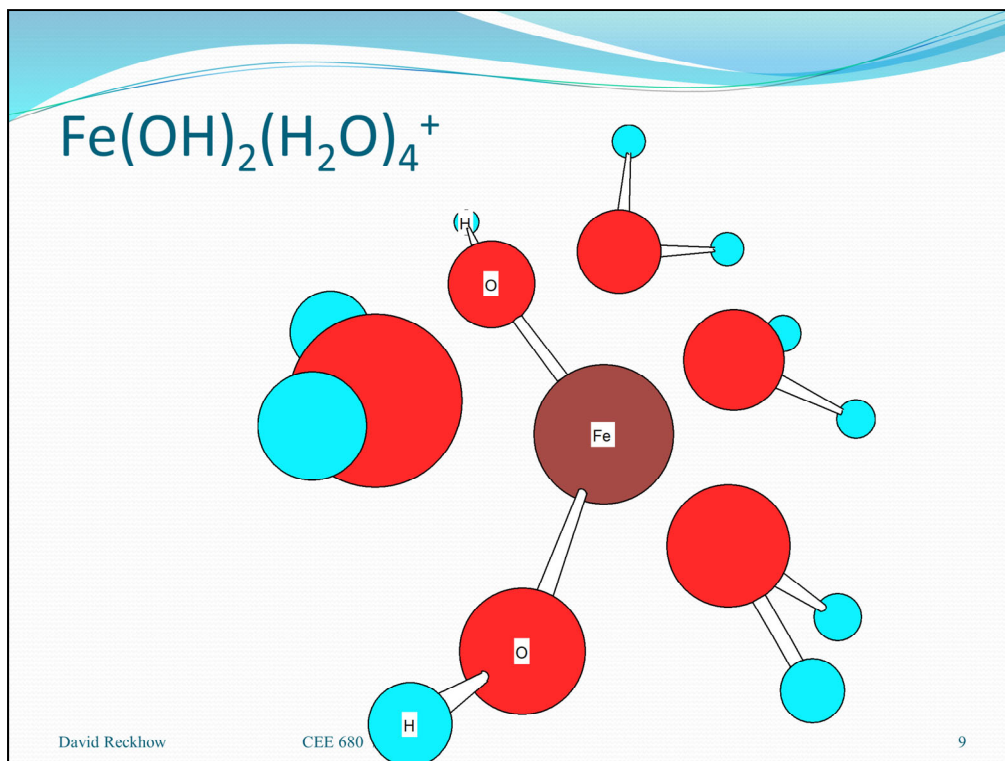
$$\log [Al^{+3}] = 8.5 - 3pH$$

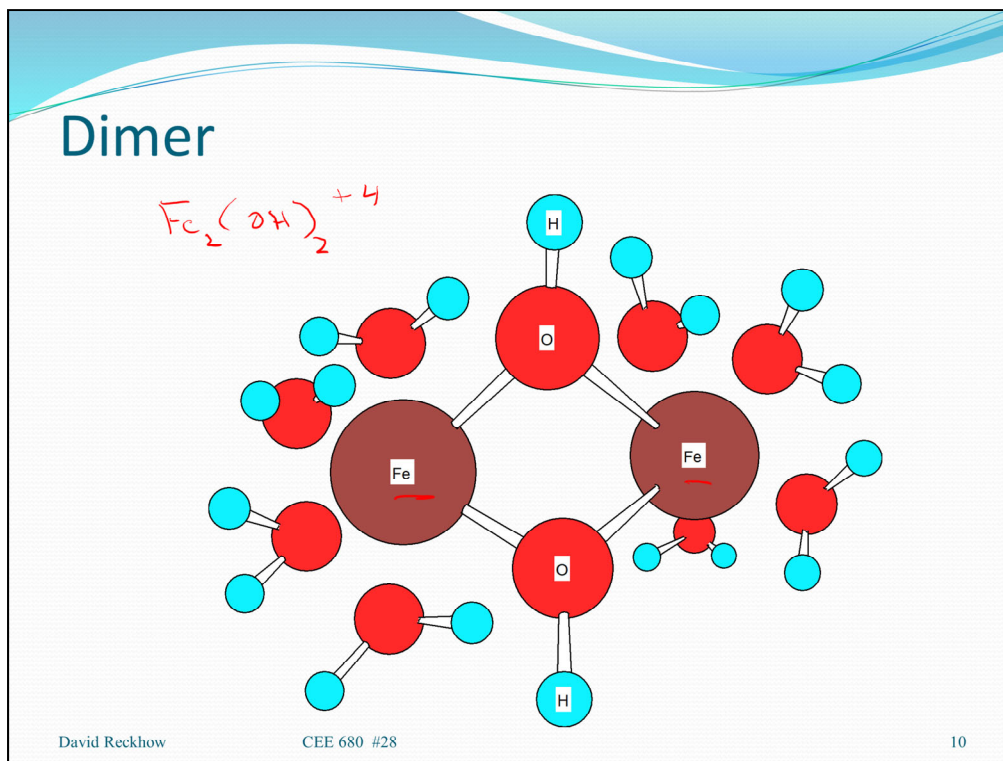
Metal Hydrolysis

- Case for iron



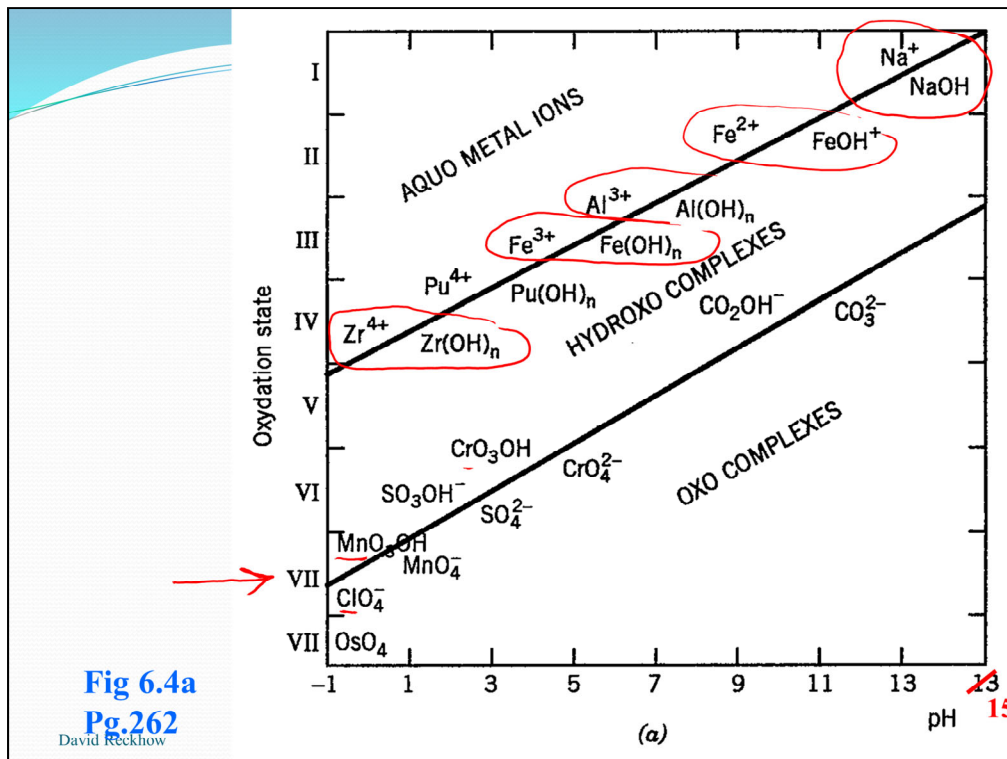






Metals and acidity

- Metals increase the acidity of water
 - Greater as:
 - Metal charge increases
 - Metal radius decreases
 - As acidity increases, the predominant species progresses down the list
 - Aquo ion
 - Hydroxo complex
 - Hydroxy-oxo complex
 - Oxo complex
- Handwritten notes:* Red arrows point from the Hydroxo complex to the Hydroxy-oxo complex, and from the Hydroxy-oxo complex to the Oxo complex. To the right of these arrows is the handwritten text $pH \sim 3$.

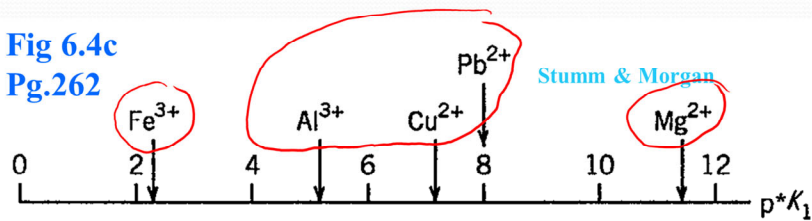


* K_1

$$*K_1 = \frac{[Zn(OH)^+][H^+]}{[Zn^{+2}]}$$

- A measure of the extent/strength of hydrolysis
 - The first hydrolysis constant pK_1 of an aqua metal ion is dependent on the ionic charge and radius of the metal ion. The pK_1 values of the aqua metal ions, studied here at 25°C follow, the order:
 - Pb (7.8) ~ Cu (8.0) < Zn (8.96) < Co (9.85) < Ni (9.86) < Ag (11.1)
- Barauh et al., 2014 [J. Geochem]

Fig 6.4c
Pg.262



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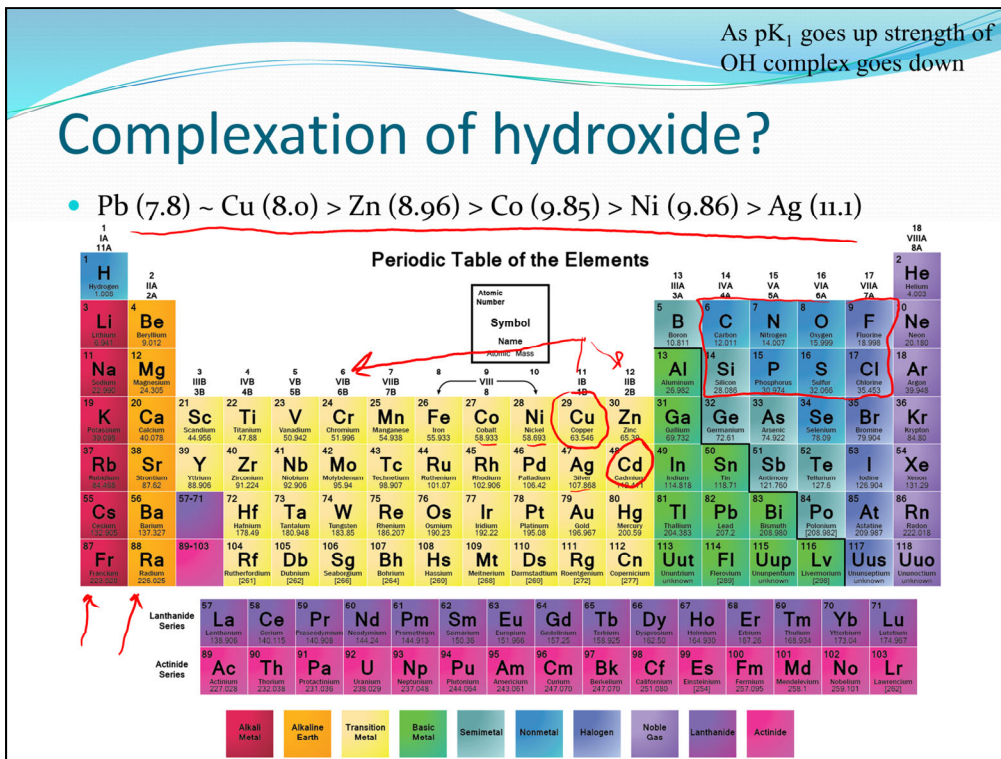
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As pK_1 goes up strength of OH complex goes down

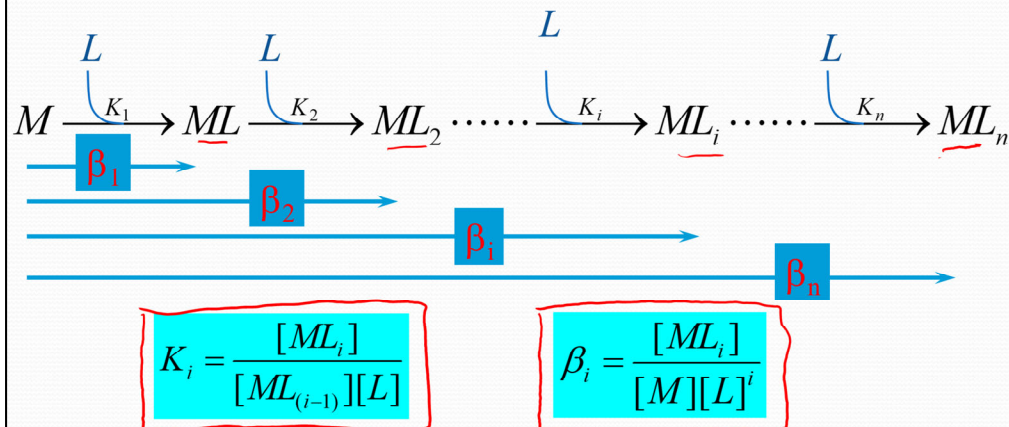
Complexation of hydroxide?

- $Pb(7.8) \sim Cu(8.0) > Zn(8.96) > Co(9.85) > Ni(9.86) > Ag(11.1)$



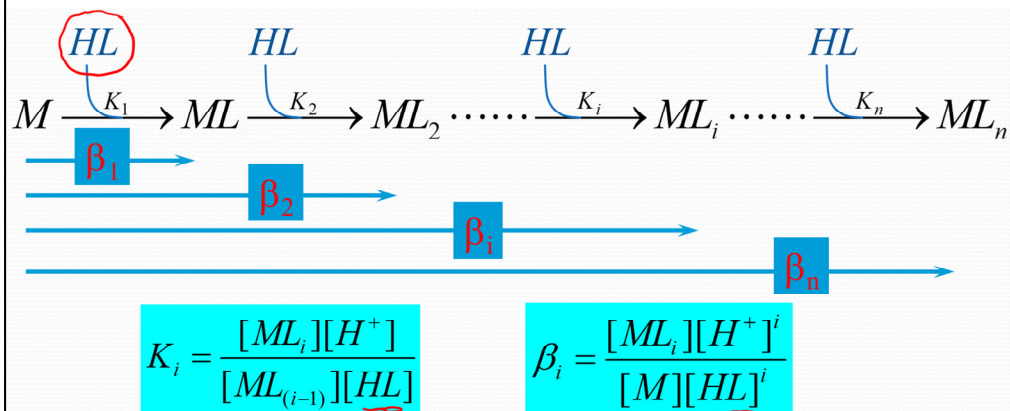
Stability Constants

- Addition of a Ligand



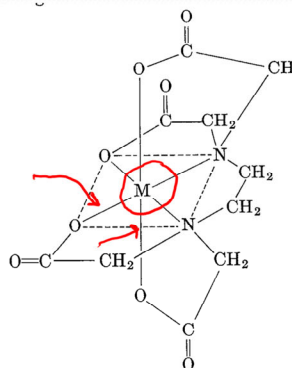
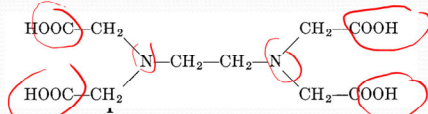
Stability Constants

- Addition of protonated Ligands



EDTA

- Hexadentate Ligand
 - Ethylenediamine Tetraacetic Acid
 - Free form
 - Interest to Env. Eng.
 - Used in pollutant analysis
 - Model for NOM
 - Used for controlling scale
 - Huang et al., 2000 [JEED 126:10:919]

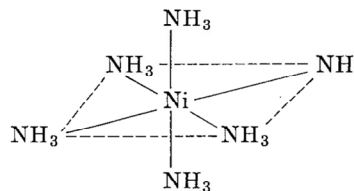


From: Butler, 1964

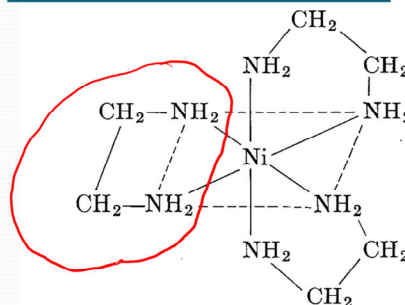
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- Ni-hexammine
- Tris(ethylene) diamine nickel (II)



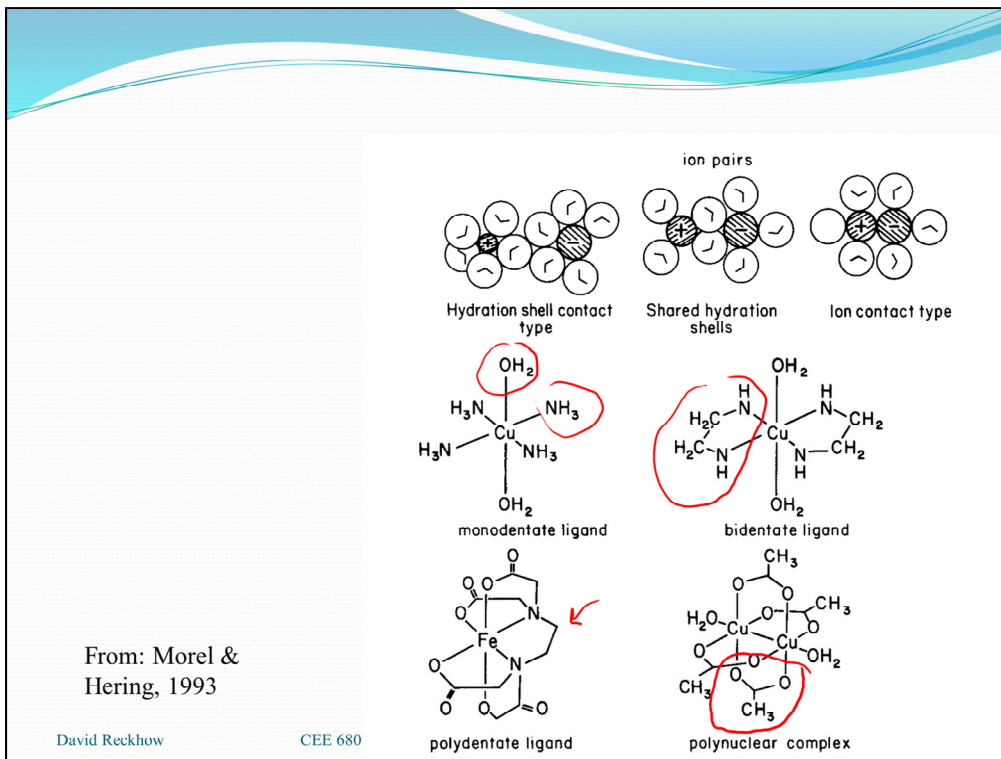
n tris(ethylene diamine) nickel (II),



Butler, 1964; pg.374

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Development of alpha

- Recall:

$$\beta_2 = K_1 K_2 = \frac{[Zn(OH)_2]}{[Zn^{+2}][OH^-]^2}$$

$$\beta_i = \frac{[ML_i]}{[M][L]^i}$$

- So:

$$\beta_2 = \frac{[ML_2]}{[M][L]^2}$$

$$\beta_3 = \frac{[ML_3]}{[M][L]^3}$$

$$\frac{[ML_2]}{[M]} = \beta_2 [L]^2$$

and

$$\frac{[ML_3]}{[M]} = \beta_3 [L]^3$$

Etc.

Alpha (cont.)

- Now let's define, and alpha value

- And $\alpha_0 \equiv \frac{[M]}{C_M} = \frac{[M]}{[M] + [ML] + [ML_2] + \dots + [ML_n]}$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_0 &\equiv \frac{[M]}{C_M} = \left(\frac{[M] + [ML] + [ML_2] + \dots + [ML_n]}{[M]} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left(\frac{[M]}{[M]} + \frac{[ML]}{[M]} + \frac{[ML_2]}{[M]} + \dots + \frac{[ML_n]}{[M]} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left(1 + \beta_1[L] + \beta_2[L]^2 + \dots + \beta_n[L]^n \right)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{[ML_2]}{[M][L]^2}$$

$$\frac{[ML_2]}{[M]} = \beta_2[L]^2$$

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Alpha (cont.)

- Now other alpha's can be determined

$$\alpha_1 \equiv \frac{[ML]}{C_M} = \frac{[M][ML]}{C_M [M]}$$

$$= \alpha_0 \beta_1 [L]$$

- And

$$\alpha_2 \equiv \frac{[ML_2]}{C_M} = \frac{[M][ML_2]}{C_M [M]}$$

$$= \alpha_0 \beta_2 [L]^2$$

- So in general

$$\alpha_n \equiv \frac{[ML_n]}{C_M} = \alpha_0 \beta_n [L]^n$$

$$\beta_1 = \frac{[ML]}{[M][L]}$$

$$\frac{[ML]}{[M]} = \beta_1 [L]$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{[ML_2]}{[M][L]^2}$$

$$\frac{[ML_2]}{[M]} = \beta_2 [L]^2$$


Summary

- In summary:

$$\alpha_0 \equiv \frac{[M]}{C_M} = \left(1 + \beta_1[L] + \beta_2[L]^2 + \dots + \beta_n[L]^n\right)^{-1}$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha_n \equiv \frac{[ML_n]}{C_M} = \alpha_0 \beta_n [L]^n$$

- So if we know $[L]$ and the β 's we can determine the entire speciation of the metal
- This is analogous to the α 's of the acid/base systems
 - Where if you know $[H^+]$ and the α 's, you can determine the entire acid/base speciation



- To next lecture

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