

## Inorganic Chemistry Cumulative Exam

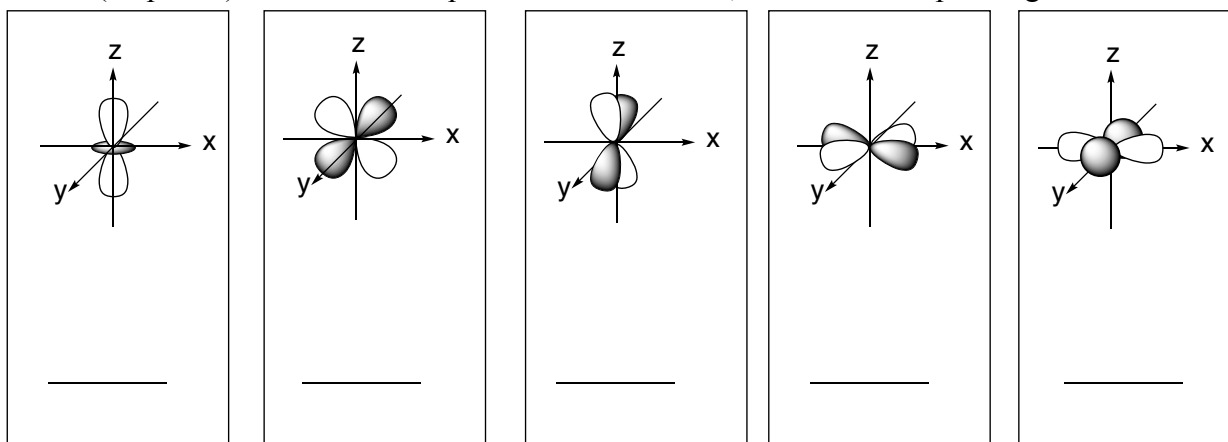
February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Andy I. Nguyen

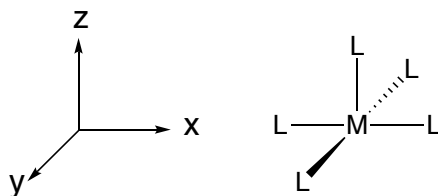
**Note:** A periodic table is provided with this exam

**Note:** 50/100 points correct to pass

1. (20 points) Underneath the picture of each orbital, write its corresponding name.

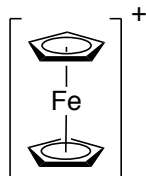


2. A **square-pyramidal**  $ML_5$  complex (L = arbitrary sigma-bonding ligand) is shown below. The Cartesian axes are shown for reference.



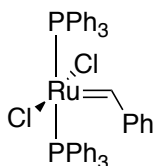
- a. (4 point) What is the point group of this molecule? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. (16 points) Draw the ligand field splitting diagram (only use meta  $d$  orbitals and ligand  $s$  orbital) and the associated molecular orbitals (including bonding, non-bonding, and anti-bonding interactions). *If a group of orbitals are the same energy, draw it clearly.*

3. Ferrocenium ion is shown below:



- (4 points) What is the formal oxidation state of Fe? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) How many *d* electrons does Fe have in this oxidation state? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) What is the electron-count of Fe in this complex? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) What is the point group (as-drawn in *eclipsed* conformation)? \_\_\_\_\_

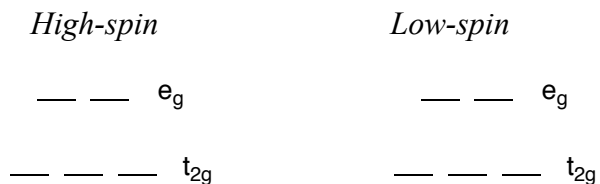
4. Grubb's catalyst is shown below:



- (4 points) What is the formal oxidation state of Ru? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) How many *d* electrons does Ru have in this oxidation state? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) What is the electron-count of Ru in this complex? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) What is the point group? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Consider a  $d^5$  octahedral metal ion.

- (8 points) Fill in the crystal field splitting diagrams for low- and high-spin configurations.



- (4 points) What is the spin value, *S*, of the high-spin state? \_\_\_\_\_
- (4 points) What is the spin value, *S*, of the low-spin state? \_\_\_\_\_

6. (6 points) Octahedral complexes of  $\text{Co}^{+3}$  are exceptionally slow at exchanging their bound ligands for other ligands, often being referred to as inert complexes. Explain, using ligand field arguments.
7. (6 points) Despite possessing identical electron counts and oxidation states,  $[\text{NiCl}_4]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{PtCl}_4]^{2-}$  have very different molecular geometries, with the former being tetrahedral and the latter being square-planar. Explain, using ligand field diagrams and steric arguments.

8. **Extra Credit (10 points, no partial credit).** If you have a sample that you believe to be  $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(2,2'\text{-bipyridine})\text{Cl}$  (see structure below), besides crystallography, explain what combination of techniques you could use to identify its composition and structure? *An acceptable answer must address how the elemental composition, ligand identities, and symmetry are measured, and how the interpretation of these data converge onto a single structure.*

