

# Counting the electrons and Interpreting CO stretching frequencies and phosphine complexes

**Exercise 1:** Count the valence electrons on the metal atom for a)  $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6]$ ; b)  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4]^{2-}$ ; c)  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PEt}_3)]$ ; d)  $[\text{Rh}(\text{Me})(\text{CO})_2(\text{PPh}_3)]$ .

**Exercise 2:** Count the valence electrons on the metal atom for a)  $[\text{Co}_2(\text{CO})_8]$ ; b)  $[\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9]$ .

**Exercise 3:** Which of the two isoelectronic compounds  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_6]$  and  $[\text{V}(\text{CO})_6]^-$  will have the higher CO stretching frequency and why?

**Exercise 4:** Which of the two chromium compounds  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{PEt}_3)]$  and  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{PPh}_3)]$  will have the lower CO stretching frequency and why? And which will have a shorter M-C bond?

# Interpreting CO stretching frequencies and phosphine complexes

**Exercise 5:** Which of the two iron compounds  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5]$  and  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PEt}_3)]$  will have the higher CO stretching frequency and why? And which will have the longest M-C bond?

**Exercise 6:** Provide plausible reasons for the differences in IR wavenumbers between each of the following pairs: a)  $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PF}_3)_3]$  2040, 1991  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  versus  $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PMe}_3)_3]$  1945, 1851  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; b)  $[\text{MnCp}(\text{CO})_3]$  2023, 1939  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  versus  $[\text{MnCp}^*(\text{CO})_3]$  2017, 1928  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

## Determining the structure of a carbonyl from IR data

**Exercise 7:** The complex  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$  has one very strong IR absorption band at  $1189 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and two other very weak bands in the CO stretching region. The  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$  of  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_6]$  is at  $2000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . a) Why in this compound is lower? b) What is the probable structure of this compound?

**Exercise 8:** The complex  $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{CO})_2]$ , a carbonyl of a third row M(II) metal, shows  $\nu_{\text{CO}} = 2175 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .  $[\text{W}(\text{Cp})_2(\text{CO})_2]$ , another third row M(II) carbonyl, shows  $\nu_{\text{CO}} = 1872$  and  $1955 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . What do these differences indicate in terms of M-CO bonding?