CHEMISTRY STUDY MATERIALS FOR CLASS 12 (NCERT BASED NOTES OF CHAPTER – 7) GANESH KUMAR DATE:- 27/07/2021

The p-Block Elements

Oxoacids of Phosphorus: Phosphorus forms a number of oxoacids.

1. H₃PO₂ [Hypophosphorus Acid (Phosphinic Acid)]

It is prepared by heating white phosphorus with concentrated NaOH solution followed by passing through cation exchange resin.

 $P_4 + 3NaOH + 3H_2O \rightarrow PH_3 + 3NaH_2 PO_2$ (sodium hypophosphite)

$$NaH_2PO_2 + H^+ - Resin \rightarrow H_3PO_2 + Na^+ - Resin$$

Structure:



It is a strong reducing agent due to the presence of a P-H bond. It is monobasic even though it contains three hydrogen atoms. This is because the hydrogen atoms directly bonded to the P atom will not dissociate.

2. H₃PO₃ [Orthophosphorus Acid (Phosphonic Acid)]

It is prepared by the action of water on P_2O_3

 $P_2O_3 + H_2O \rightarrow H_3PO_3$

It is dibasic because of the presence of two –OH groups.

Structure:



3. H₄P₂O₅ [Pyrophosphorus Acid]

It is prepared by the action of H₃PO₃ on PCl₃

 $PCl_3 + 5H_3PO_3 \rightarrow 3 H_4P_2O_5 + 3HCl$

It is also dibasic because of the presence of two –OH groups.

4. H₄P₂O₆ [Hypophosphoric Acid]

It is prepared by the action of an alkali on red Phosphorus followed by passing through cation exchange resin.

 $2P + NaOH + H_2O {\longrightarrow} Na_2H_2P_2O_6$

 $Na_2H_2P_2O_6 + 2H^+ - Resin \rightarrow H_4P_2O_6 + 2Na^+ - Resin$

It is a tetra basic acid.

Structure:



5. H₃PO₄ [Orthophosphoric Acid]

It is obtained by the action of water on phosphorus pentoxide (P_4O_{10})

 $P_4O_{10} + 6 \text{ H}_2O \rightarrow 4 \text{ H}_3PO_4$

It is also called Phosphoric acid. It's a tribasic acid and has a tetrahedral shape.

Structure:



6. H₄P₂O₇ [Pyrophosphoric Acid]

It is obtained by heating Phosphoric acid at about 250° c.

 $2 H_3 PO_4 \rightarrow H_4 P_2 O_7$. It's a tetra basic acid.

Structure:



7. (HPO₃)_n [Metaphosphoric acid]

It is obtained by heating phosphorus acid with Br₂ vapours in a sealed tube.

 $H_3PO_3 + Br_2 \rightarrow HPO_3 + 2HBr$

Structure: It exists as a trimer or a polymer as follows:



The oxoacids of phosphorus in +3 oxidation state undergo Disproportionation (i.e. simultaneously oxidised and reduced). For example, orthophophorous acid (or phosphorous acid) on heating disproportionate to give orthophosphoric acid (phosphoric acid) and phosphine.

 $4H_3PO_3 \longrightarrow 3H_3PO_4 + PH_3$

Group 16 Elements

The members of this group are oxygen (O), sulphur (S), selenium (Se), tellurium (Te) and polonium (Po). They are also called Chalcogens (means ore producing). Oxygen and sulphur are non-metals, selenium and tellurium are metalloids, while polonium is a radioactive metal. Ionisation enthalpy of these elements decreases down the group. It is due to increase in size. However, the elements of this group have lower ionisation enthalpy values compared to those of Group15 elements. This is due to the fact that Group 15 elements have extra stable half-filled p orbitals electronic configurations.

Oxygen atom has less negative electron gain enthalpy than sulphur because of the compact nature of its shells due to which the electronic repulsion is greater.

.**Oxidation states**: The elements of Group 16 exhibit a number of oxidation states (-2,+2,+4 & +6). The stability of -2 oxidation state decreases down the group. Since electronegativity of oxygen is very high, it shows only -2 oxidation state (except in the case of OF₂ where its oxidation state is + 2). Other elements of the group exhibit + 2, + 4 & + 6 oxidation states. But + 4 and + 6 are more common. Sulphur, selenium and tellurium usually show + 4 oxidation state in their compounds with oxygen and + 6 with fluorine. Down the group, the stability of + 6 oxidation state decreases and that of + 4 oxidation state increases (due to inert pair effect).

| Elements:- | 0 | Oxidation States | | | |
|--------------|----|-------------------------|----|----|-----|
| | | S | Se | Te | Po |
| Atomic No.:- | 8 | 16 | 34 | 52 | 84 |
| | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 | |
| | | +6 | +6 | +6 | +6 |
| | | +4 | +4 | +4 | + 4 |
| | | +2 | +2 | +2 | +2 |

- **Notes:-**1. Due to non-metallic (O and S) and metalloidic (Se and Te) nature O, S, Se and Te show negative oxidation state (-2)
 - 2. Due to absence of d- sub-shell, non-metallic nature and high En values (anomalous property) "O" shows -2 oxidation state only.
 - 3. Due to presence of vacant d- sub shell, non-metallic nature and more electronegative value "S" shows variables oxidation states.
 - 4. Due to inert pair effect "Se, Te and Po" show variables oxidation states.

Anomalous properties of oxygen

Oxygen differs from the rest of the members of this group due to its smaller size, high electro negativity, high ionisation enthalpy and non-availability of *d* orbitals. Some of the anomalous properties shown by oxygen are:

1. Oxygen has the ability to form $p\pi$ - $p\pi$ multiple bonds with itself and with other elements like C and O. Other elements of this group do not form $p\pi$ - $p\pi$ bonds.

- 2. Oxygen exists as a diatomic molecule with a triple bond (one *s* and two *p*) between the two atoms. So its bond enthalpy is very high. While other elements of this group are poly atomic with single bonds.
- 3. The double O = O bond is weak. So the catenation tendency is weaker in oxygen.
- Due to the absence of *d* orbitals in its valence shell, the maximum covalency of oxygen is two
- 5. Oxygen cannot form $d\pi$ – $p\pi$ bond. While Sulphur and selenium can form $d\pi$ – $d\pi$ bond with transition metals.

Hydrides of 16th group elements

All the elements of Group 16 form hydrides of the type H_2E (E = S, Se, Te, Po). Their acidic character increases from H_2O to H_2Te . This is due to the decrease in bond (H–E) dissociation enthalpy down the group. So the thermal stability also decreases down the group. All the hydrides except water possess reducing property and this character increases from H_2S to H_2Te .
