

# 19 Transition metals and coordination chemistry

## ※ Transition metals in general

### ✓ Importance

Cr	stainless steel
Mn	steelmaking
Pt, Pd	catalysts
Fe	transport of oxygen nitrogen fixation (Mo also)
Zn	catalyst in biological system
Co	vitamin B <sub>12</sub>

### ✓ Similarity within a period

adding inner d, f electrons: less effect on chemistry

↑ lanthanides and actinides

### ✓ Metallic

Ag	best heat conductor of heat and e <sup>-</sup>
Cu	the second

### ✓ Ionic compounds

often contain more than one oxidation state

### ✓ Forms complex ions

usually colored: electron transition between *d* orbitals  
often paramagnetic: contain unpaired electrons

✓ Electron configurations and oxidation states

The first row

	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn
	$4s^23d^1$	$4s^23d^2$						$4s^23d^8$		$4s^23d^{10}$
			$4s^13d^5$					$4s^13d^{10}$		
Oxid state	3+							2+		2+

Contain higher  
oxid states

Higher nuclear charge:  
less higher oxid states

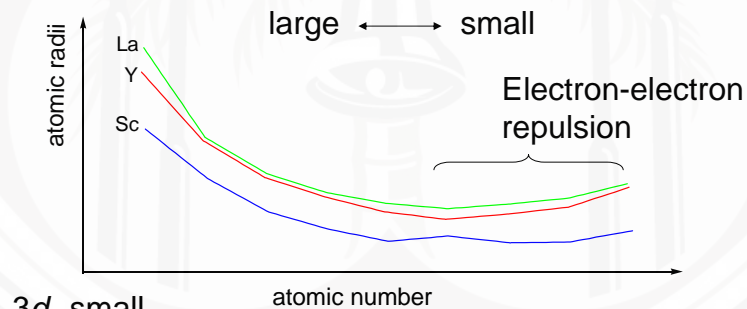
Ex. Mn: 2+, 3+, 4+, 7+

2+ is very common  
due to loss of two 4s electrons

✓ Oxidation potential

large ←————→ small  
↑ stronger reducing ability

✓ Size



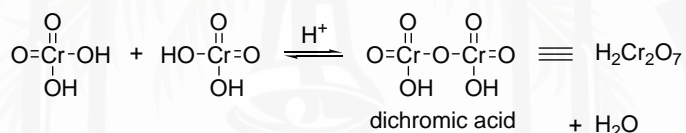
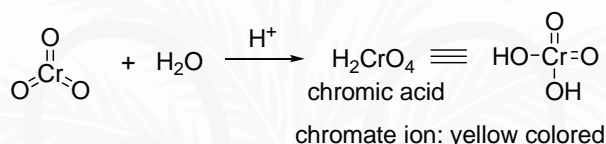
3d small  
4d large  
5d

big change

Similar: lanthanide contraction  
Filling inner 4f orbitals  
small effect on size  
Increasing nuclear charge  
offsets the increase of  $n$

※ The first-row transition metals

- ✓ Sc Rare
- ✓ Ti Low density and high strength  
Titanium oxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) – white paint  
TiCl<sub>4</sub> – a strong Lewis acid  
 $\text{TiCl}_4(l) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightarrow \text{TiO}_2(s) + 4\text{HCl}(g)$
- ✓ V Used mostly in alloys  
V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> used as catalyst
- ✓ Cr Used in steel making  
As oxidizing agent: CrO<sub>3</sub> (chromium trioxide)



dichromate ion: orange → Cr<sup>3+</sup>: green

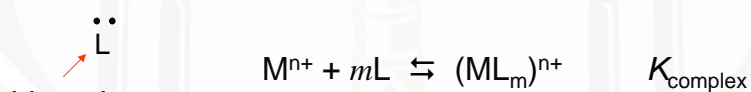
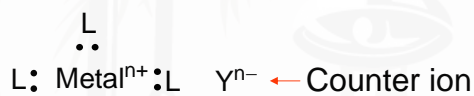
- ✓ Mn Used in steel making  
KMnO<sub>4</sub>: potassium permanganate (purple color)  
– strong oxidizing agent  
↓  
MnO<sub>2</sub> (brown ppt)
- ✓ Fe Oxidized easily – rust: Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
Fenton reaction:  
 $\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{OH}^- + \cdot\text{OH}$   
 $\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}^+ + \cdot\text{OOH}$

- ✓ Co Relatively rare; used in steel making  
CoSO<sub>4</sub>: dark blue
- ✓ Ni Abundant; good conductor  
Resist to corrosion – used in plating
- ✓ Cu Good conductor; resistant to corrosion  

$$3\text{Cu}(s) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + \text{SO}_2(g) + 2\text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{Cu}_3(\text{OH})_4\text{SO}_4(s)$$

basic copper sulfate  
銅綠
- Cu(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub><sup>2+</sup>: blue color
- ✓ Zn Used as reducing agent and plating

※ Coordination compounds



Ligand

using lone electron pair to form a bond to a metal ion

Donor atom

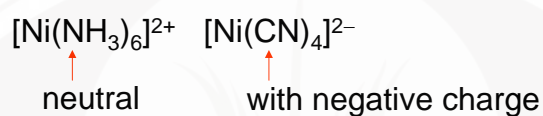
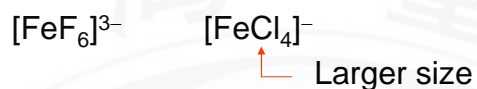
atom of the ligand bound to the metal ion

Coordination number

the number of donor atoms

Ex. [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>Cl]Cl<sub>2</sub>: Co<sup>3+</sup> has a coordination # of 6

For the same metal  
 coordination number varies  
 depends on size and nature of the ligand  
 4 and 6 are the most common



✓ Geometry

coordination 4: tetrahedral or square planar

More common →

↑  
 $d^8$ : Pt(II), Au(III)  
 $d^9$ : Cu(II)

coordination 6: octahedral

◎ Ligands

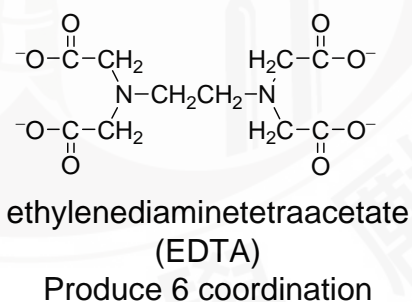
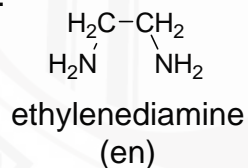
Monodentate ligand (單牙配基): forms one bond

Bidentate ligand: forms two bonds

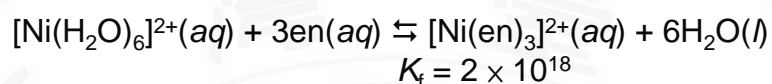
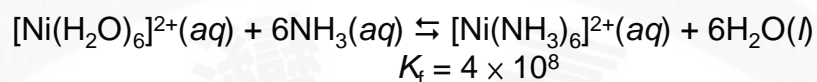
Polydentate ligand

} chelates (螯合物)

Ex.



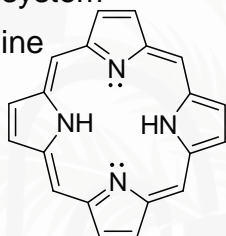
Chelating agents form more stable complexes



- ✓ Use: sequester metal ions
- complex metal ions in hard water
- remove  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$

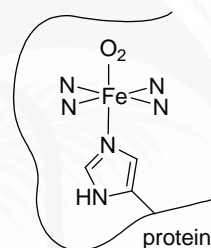
- ✓ Living system

Porphine



Heme:  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$

Chlorophyll:  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$



### © Nomenclature

Ex.  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$   
pentaamminechlorocobalt(III) chloride

Rules


- Cation before anion
- Ligands before metal (in formula: metal first)  
arrange in alphabetical order  
(prefix does not count)

- Anionic ligands end in O

$\text{N}_3^-$	azido
$\text{Br}^-$	bromo
$\text{OH}^-$	hydroxo
$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$	carbonato
$\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$	oxalato
$\text{CN}^-$	cyano

Neutral

$\text{NH}_3$	ammine
$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	aqua
$\text{CO}$	carbonyl
$\text{NO}$	nitrosyl

	pyridine
---	----------

- Oxidation number in ( )
- Prefix
 

mono	1
di	2
tri	3
tetra	4
penta	5
hexa	6
- With complicated ligand name
 

bis( )	2
tris( )	3
tetrakis( )	4

Ex.  $[\text{Co}(\text{en})_3]\text{Cl}_3$  tris(ethylenediamine)cobalt(III) chloride

- Complex is anion: end in -ate

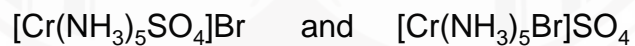
Ex.  $\text{K}_4[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$  potassium hexacyanoferrate(II)

### ※ Isomerism

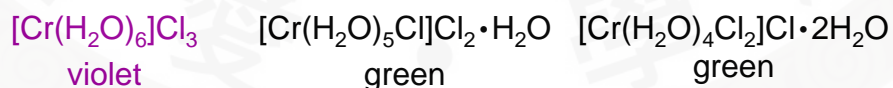
- Structural isomerism: different bonding
- Stereoisomerism: different space arrangement

#### ◎ Structural isomerism

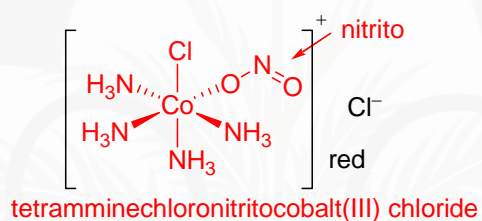
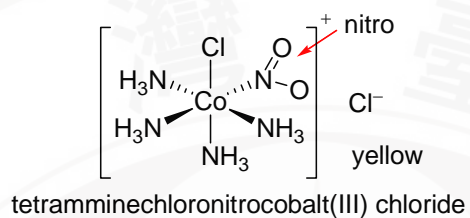
- ✓ Coordination isomerism



Ex.  $\text{CrCl}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6$

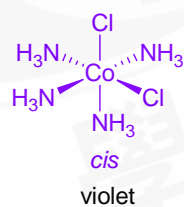
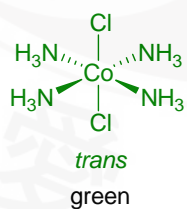
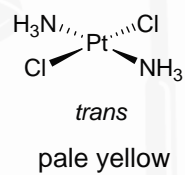
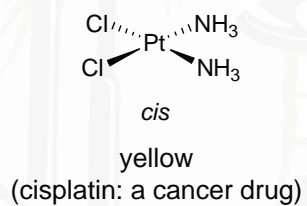


✓ Linkage isomerism



◎ Stereoisomerism

✓ Geometrical isomers



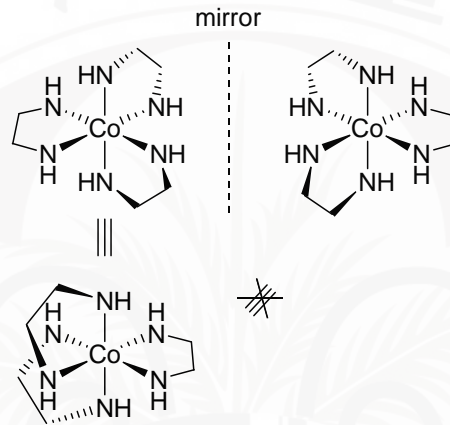


✓ Optical isomers

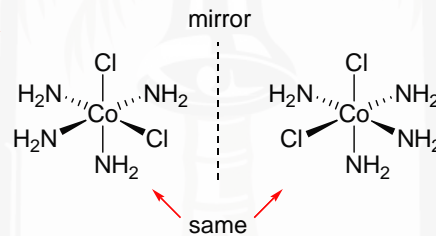
Enantiomers (對掌體; 鏡像異構)

Mirror images but not superimposable

(Compounds with this property are chiral (掌性的))



achiral



(contain a plane of symmetry: must be achiral)

Properties of enantiomers

Most physical and chemical properties are the same

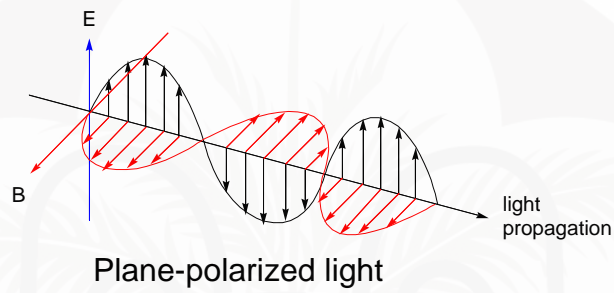
Rotate **plane polarized light** in different direction

平面偏極光

◎ Plane-polarized light?

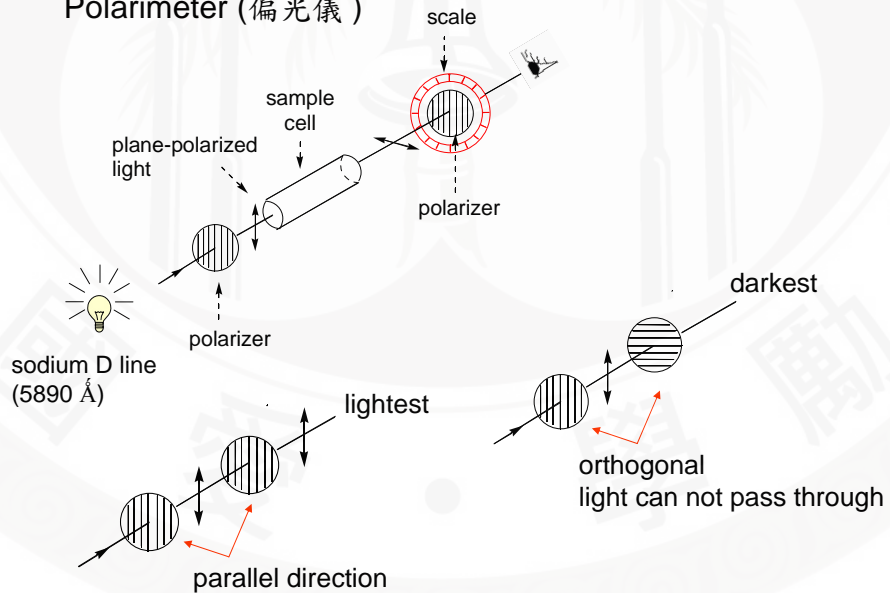
Ordinary light

— composed of an infinite # of plane polarized light

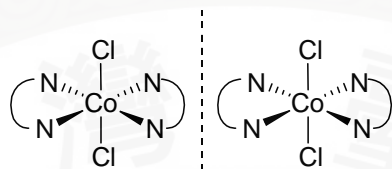


Plane-polarized light

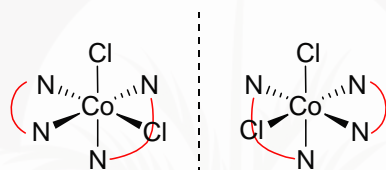
Polarimeter (偏光儀)



Ex.



same molecule



enantiomeric

※ Magnetic properties

- ✓ One electron  
Possesses magnetic moment
- ✓ Two paired electron  
Magnetic moment cancelled  
⇒ diamagnetic ← Repelled in a magnetic field
- ✓ With isolated unpaired electrons – paramagnetic  
○ ○ ○ in a magnetic field: align with the field  
→ net attractive  
○ ○ ○  
○ ○ ○
- ✓ With interactive unpaired electrons – ferromagnetic  
⊖ ⊖ ⊖ The most stable form: align in the same direction  
⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Interact strongly with magnetic field  
⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Can form permanent magnet (Fe, Co, Ni)

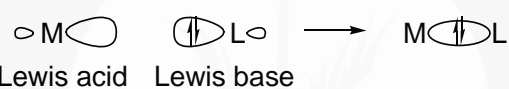
※ Bonding in complex ion

- ◎ The localized electron model  
based on the valence bond theory

M-L

↑  
— Considered as covalent bond

Can be viewed as



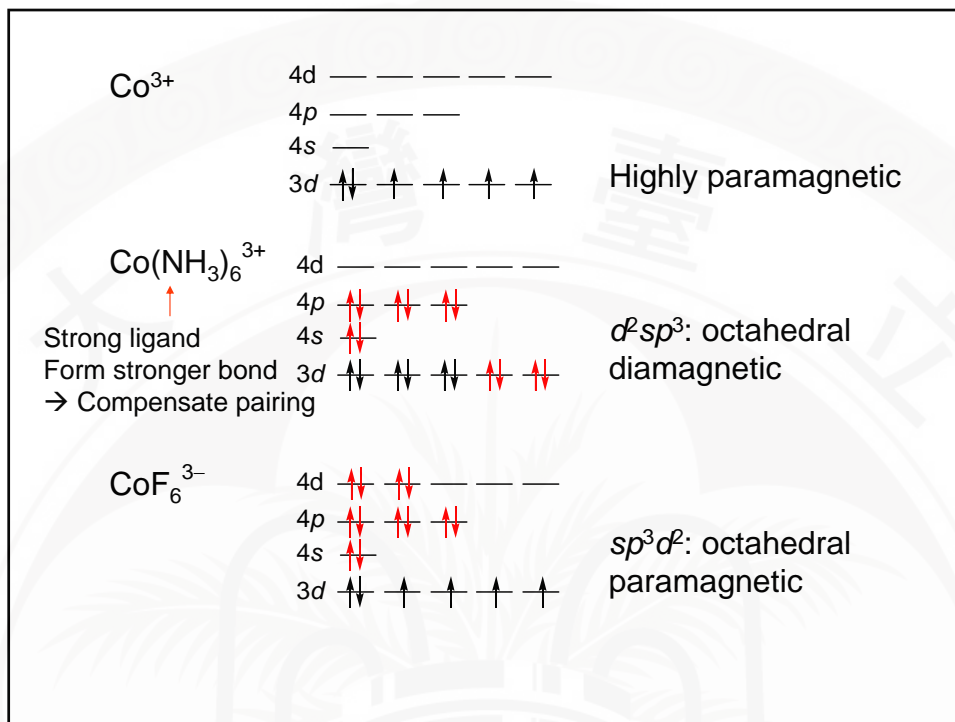
Number of hybridized metal orbitals = Number of ligands

Ex.  $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$  coordination # = 6  
→  $d^2sp^3$   
→ octahedral

$\text{CoCl}_4^{2-}$  coordination # = 4  
→  $sp^3$   
→ tetrahedral

$\text{Ni}(\text{CN})_4^{2-}$  coordination # = 4  
→  $dsp^2$   
→ square planar

$\text{Ag}(\text{NH}_3)_2^+$  coordination # = 2  
→  $sp$   
→ linear



© The crystal field model

A theory developed for the energy relationships of ions in crystals – focuses on the energies of  $d$  orbitals

Color and magnetic properties of transition metals: related to  $d$  orbitals

Interaction between ions and ligands:

Electronic attraction and repulsion

Only ionic bonding is considered

Interaction of  $L$  e-s and the  $M$  ion is **NOT** considered

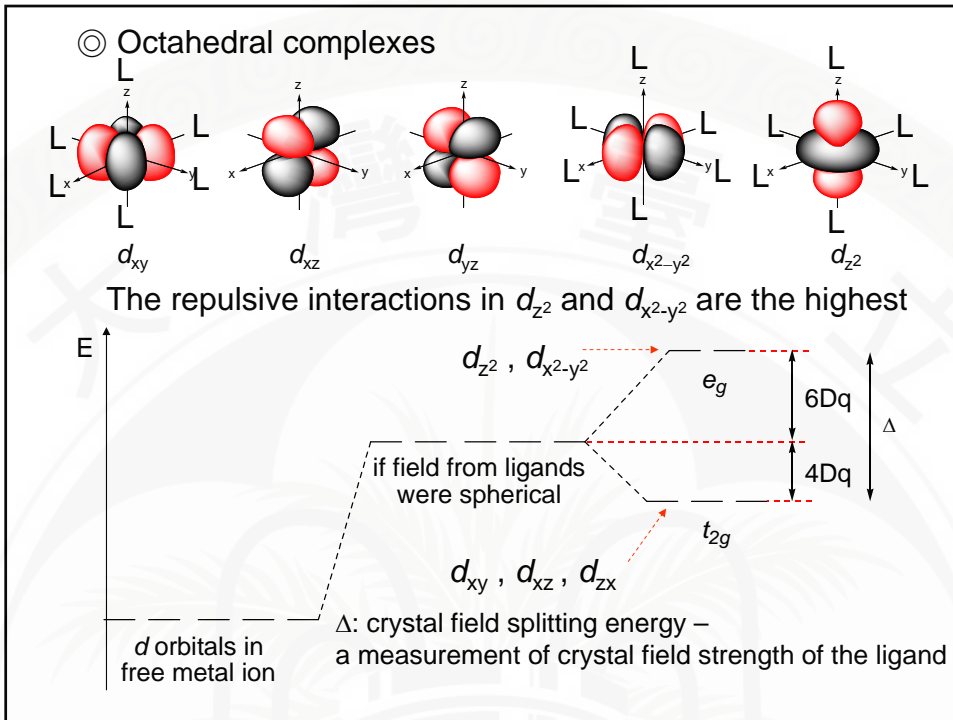
Five  $d$  orbitals

same  $E$  when not used in bonding

When ligands approach

repulsions occur between

ligand electrons and  $d$  orbital electrons



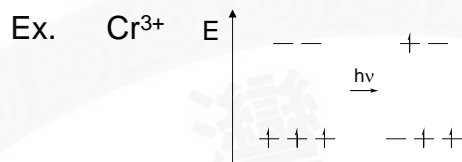
Ex.	$\text{Co}^{3+}$	Strong field (large $\Delta$ )	Weak field (small $\Delta$ )
		<p>E ↑</p> <p>— —</p> <p>↑ ↑ ↑</p>	<p>↑ ↑</p> <p>↑ ↑ ↑</p>
		Low spin	High spin

Spectrochemical series

$\text{CN}^- > \text{NO}_2^- > \text{en} > \text{NH}_3 > \text{H}_2\text{O} > \text{OH}^- > \text{F}^- > \text{Cl}^- > \text{Br}^- > \text{I}^-$

Strong field ligands	→ low spin complex	Weak field ligands
Strong field ligand	→ low spin complex	
Weak field ligand	→ high spin complex	

⇒  $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$ : diamagnetic    $\text{CoF}_6^{3-}$ : paramagnetic



$[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]\text{Cl}_3$  violet  
weaker L  $\rightarrow$  smaller  $\Delta$   $\rightarrow$  absorbs longer wavelength

$[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6]\text{Cl}_3$  yellow  
stronger L  $\rightarrow$  larger  $\Delta$   $\rightarrow$  absorbs shorter wavelength

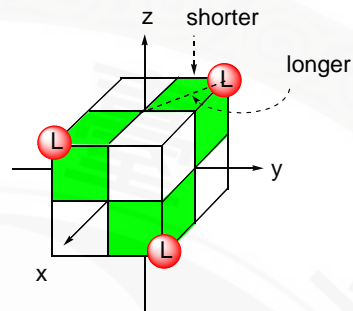
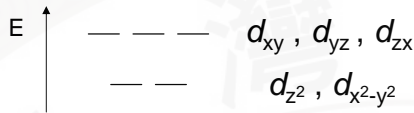
absorbed $\lambda$ (nm)	absorbed color	transmitted color
400	violet	greenish yellow
450	blue	yellow
570	yellow-green	violet
650	red	green

Note: For a given ligand  
As charge on the metal ion increases  
 $\rightarrow$  weak-field ligand may become strong field  
(M-L distance smaller)

Ex.  $\text{NH}_3$  is a weak ligand for  $\text{Co}^{2+}$   
but a strong field ligand for  $\text{Co}^{3+}$

$\uparrow$   
Drawn closer  
 $\rightarrow$  Larger repulsion

© Tetrahedral crystal field

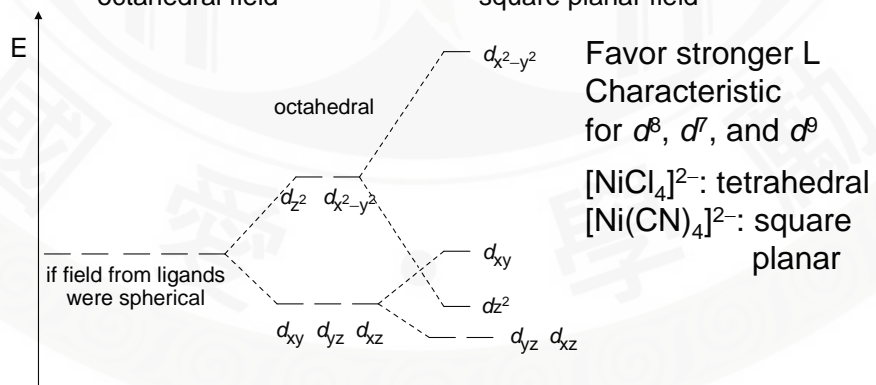
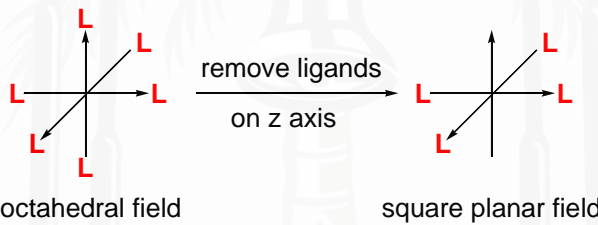


None of the 3d orbitals points to the ligands

$\Delta$  is smaller than octahedral field  
 → Always high spin

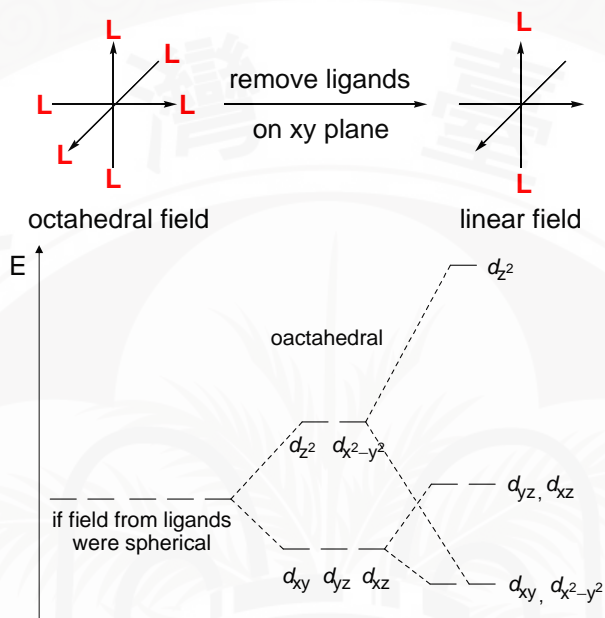
Tetrahedral complexes are more likely for nontransition metals and transition metals with no crystal field stabilization ( $d^0$ , high spin  $d^5$ , and  $d^{10}$ )  
 Ex.  $\text{TiCl}_4$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_4^-$ ,  $\text{ZnCl}_4^{2-}$

© Square planar field





© Linear field



※ The MO model

Considering octahedral complex,  $ML_6^{n+}$

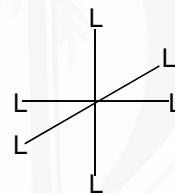
- $s$  overlaps with all Ls

$p_x, p_y, p_z$  each overlaps with two Ls

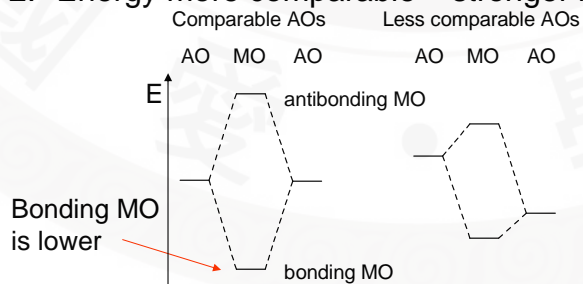
$d_{z^2}$  overlaps with all Ls

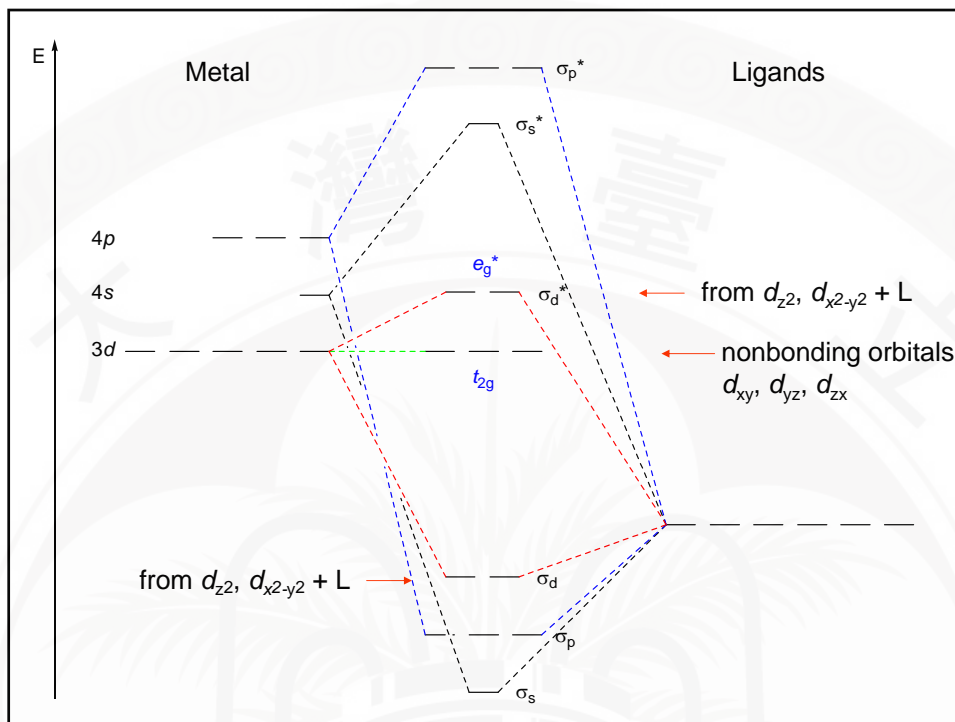
$d_{x^2-y^2}$  overlaps with four Ls

$d_{xy}, d_{yz}, d_{zx}$  have no overlaps with Ls



2. Energy more comparable – stronger interaction





With strong electron withdrawing ligands

- ⇒ Ligand orbitals have lower E
- ⇒ Less comparable with metal ion orbitals
- ⇒  $e_g^*$  is lower ( $t_{2g}$  stays at the same level)
- ⇒  $\Delta$  is smaller
- ⇒ Higher spin

Ex.  $\text{CoF}_6^{3-}$   
fluorine has lower energy level

- ⇒ small  $\Delta$
- ⇒ high spin

$\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$   
 $\text{NH}_3$  has higher lone pair orbitals

- ⇒ better interaction
- ⇒ higher  $e_g^*$ , larger  $\Delta$
- ⇒ low spin

※ Biological importance

Transition metals easily undergo oxid. and red.  
electron transfer  
transport and storage of  $O_2$   
as catalysts and drugs

Iron in cytochrome c  
(細胞色素)

