Problem 1 (2 points)



Lone pair on N may donate to an empty p orbital of B on another molecule of aminoborane, leading to oligomers.







Paml

x H<sub>3</sub>B−NH<sub>3</sub> → 3x H<sub>2</sub> + (BN)<sub>x</sub> MW(H<sub>3</sub>B−NH<sub>3</sub>) = 30.87 g/mol MW(H<sub>2</sub>) = 2.02 g/mol 3(2.02)/30.87 = 19.6%

## Problem 2



Oxidation States: O<sup>-I</sup>, CI<sup>I</sup> C<sub>2h</sub>, achiral Bent oxygens; CI-O-CI angle <109.5° Closed Shell Methyl is always C<sup>-II</sup>, H<sup>I</sup> with a tetrahedral configuration; bond angles each around 109.5°



Tert butyl's is always center C<sup>I</sup>, methyl-C<sup>-III</sup>, H<sup>I</sup> with a tetrahedral configuration on all C and bond angles each around 109.5°



## Problem 3 (2 points)

A) The synthesis of polynitrogen compounds is of particular interest towards the development of new high-energy materials. Nitrogen-nitrogen single and double bonds are significantly weaker in energy compared with the triple bond in N<sub>2</sub>, leading to decomposition of polynitrogen compounds to N<sub>2</sub> to be very favorable. The N<sub>7</sub>O<sup>+</sup> ion has  $C_{2v}$  symmetry and features an N<sub>7</sub> chain. Draw at least three Lewis dot structures. Compound ( $C_2H_2N_3$ )NN( $N_3C_2H_2$ ) displays an N<sub>8</sub> chain and two five-membered rings. Draw at least two Lewis dot structures.

Lewis Dot Structures of [N<sub>7</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>



For more information, c.f. Christe et al. Inorg. Chem. 2010, 49, 1245.

Lewis Dot Structure of (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>)NN(N<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>)



For more information, c.f. Pang and coworkers, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 12172-12173.

B) The N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> cation can be prepared using the reaction below:  $[N_2F][SbF_6] + HN_3 \rightarrow [N_5][SbF_6] + HF$ 

Provide at least two Lewis dot structures for ions  $[N_2F]^+$  and  $[N_5]^+$ . Note that  $[N_5]^+$  consists of an N<sub>5</sub> chain. Provide an example of an abundant and stable neutral molecule isoelectronic to  $[N_2F]^+$ .

Lewis Dot Structures of [N<sub>2</sub>F]<sup>+</sup>

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

Lewis Dot Structures of [N<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (The top three are the major contributors):



Example of stable, neutral molecules isoelectronic to [N<sub>2</sub>F]<sup>+</sup>: CO<sub>2</sub>

C) The crystal structure of  $[N_5][Sb_2F_{11}]$  was reported in 2001 by Christe and coworkers (*JACS*, **2001**, 6308). The  $[N_5]^+$  ion reacts with reagents such as NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and Br<sub>2</sub>, as shown below. For each of the following reactions assign the oxidation states of each atom and indicate which is the oxidant and which is the reductant.

NO	+	[N <sub>5</sub> ][SbF <sub>6</sub> ]	───── [NO][SbF <sub>6</sub> ] +	$N_2$
N +2 O -2		N average +0.2 Sb +5 F -1	N +3 O -2 Sb +5	N 0
reductant		oxidant	F -1	
$Br_2$	+	[N <sub>5</sub> ][SbF <sub>6</sub> ]	→ [Br <sub>2</sub> ][SbF <sub>6</sub> ] +	$N_2$
Br 0		N average +0.2 Sb +5 F -1	Br average +0.5 Sb +5 F -1	N 0
reductant		oxidant		

D) One very high energy target molecule is  $N_5N_5$ , a theoretical salt consisting of the  $N_5^+$  cation and the cyclic  $N_5^-$  anion. Similar five-membered cyclic species, such as the cyclopentadienyl anion, are common ligands in organometallic chemistry. While  $N_5^-$  has only been detected in the gas phase, from high energy electrospray ionization of 4-pentazolyl-phenol, solid statecharacterization of the corresponding  $P_2N_3^-$  anion was reported by Velian and Cummins in 2015 (*Science*, **2015**, 1001). For each of the following cyclic compounds, draw at least two Lewis dot structures, predict if aromatic, and describe distortion from the idealized pentagonal geometry.



E) Also related to  $C_5H_5^-$ ,  $N_2S_3^{2+}$  and  $N_2Se_3^{2+}$  have been structurally characterized.  $N_2S_3^{2+}$  is prepared in the following reaction, in which none of the original N-S linkages are completely broken:

$$[SNS][AsF_6] + [NS][AsF_6] \rightarrow [N_2S_3][AsF_6]_2$$

For each of the cations in the equation above provide at least two Lewis dot structures.





Reference: Brooks et al. Inorg. Chem. 1994, 33, 6230

## Problem 4 (2 points)



НОМО-2 **(о)** 

Bonding in LiF is ionic due to the large energy difference between Li orbitals (-5.39 eV, 2s) and F orbitals (-40.17 eV, 2s and -18.65 eV, 2p). The lowest energy MOs contain contribution from the most electronegative atom F, while the highest energy MOs contain contributions from Li, the least electronegative atom.

Bonding in HF is more covalent due to the closer energy difference between H orbitals (-13.61 eV, 1s) and F orbitals: hence, there is more mixing in the MOs. In HCl, bonding is even more covalent that in HF, as the Cl orbitals (-25.23 eV, 3s, and -13.67 eV, 3p) are closer in energy to the H orbitals. While there is more mixing, the lowest energy orbitals still contain a larger contribution from the more electronegative atom Cl and the higher energy orbitals contain more contribution from H.



C) HOMO IN No IS LOWER ENERGY THAN IN BF ALSO, HOMO'S ARE SIMILAR TO BIN AD'S SO TREND IN DIATOMICS' IE SHOULD BE SIMILAR TO TREND IN IE FOR ELEMENTS

of) i is Nz ii is BF.

FOR II, LOWER ENERCY MOS CONTAIN MOSTLY CONTRIBUTION FROM ELECTRONES. F WHILE HIGHER MOS CONTAIN CONTRIBUTION FROM LESS ELECTRONES. B. E) HOME IN BF HAS A LARGE LODE ON B, WHERE N'Z HAS HOME THAT IS MORE DELOCALIZED => HOMO OF GF WILL BETTER OVERLAP WITH BH3.

BF HOMO IS ALSO HIGHER ENERGY AND MORE REACTIVE.

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