

## Types of Organometallic compounds :

four types

Ionic

covalent

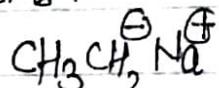
(Bicentric bielectronic)

Trans.

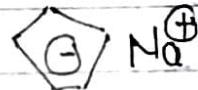
electron deficient

I. Ionic organometallic compounds : primarily formed by the electroactive metals of Groups I & II.

- The metal is present in the cationic form  $M^{n+}$  and the group is carbonion.
- The  $-ve$  charge of carbonion can either be localized on particular carbon atom or can be delocalized over carbon atoms.



Localized  $-ve$  charge



Delocalised  $-ve$  charge.

→ Ionic organometallic compounds are typically ionic and insoluble in non-polar solvents.

→ They occur in crystalline form when pure & their structure depends upon the stability of the anion nature & if it is in the crystal.

→ Ionic organometallic compounds are readily hydrolysed



Butyl sodium.

Butan-ol.

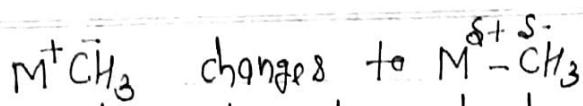
→ The reactivity of ionic organometallic compounds depends on the stability of the anion.

## 2. Covalent Organometallic compounds (Bicentric bi-electronic)

- Most simplest & most studied, that contain a classical covalent bond shared by metal & organic sp<sup>2</sup> pach contributing a single electron.
- These compounds are readily formed by representative elements of gp 13, 14 & 15 in addition to elements of gp 12 i.e. Zn, Cd & Hg.
- Covalent organometallic compounds are insoluble in water but are readily soluble in organic solvents.
- These compounds display the properties of typical organic compounds. e.g. They are volatile & soluble in organic solvents.  
e.g.  $(C_2H_5)_4Pb$ ,  $(CH_3)_2Hg$ ,  $(C_2H_5)_2Zn$ ,  $(CH_3)_4Si$ ,  $(CH_3)_2Al$  etc.
- presence of electron-attracting substituents in organic group ↑s the stability of M-C bond in covalent organometallic compounds.
- Thus compounds, containing M-CF<sub>3</sub> & M-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub> bonds are more stable thermally than their non-fluorinated analogs.

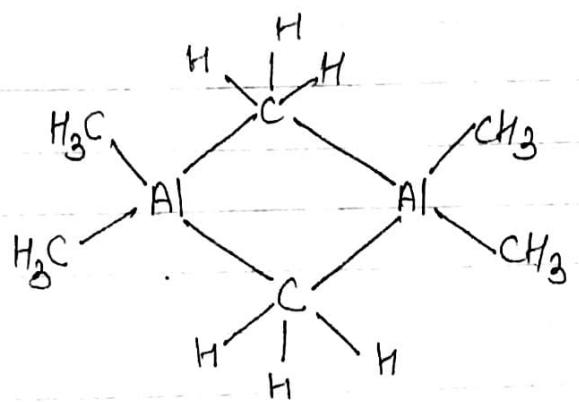
## 3. Electron deficient Organometallic Compounds

- formed by Be, Li, Mg & Al.
- All these metals form very strongly polarizing cations cations with a very high charge to radius ratio & and it polarizes the electron density away from the anion i.e. it polarizes the anion.)
- As a result, the charge separation in the compound M+CH<sub>3</sub>↑<sub>res</sub> & a polar covalent bond results.

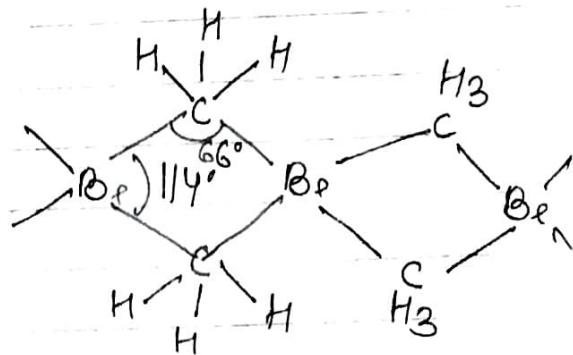


→ such covalent but polar structures have a tendency to associat. strongly that lead to the formation of polymeric structures.

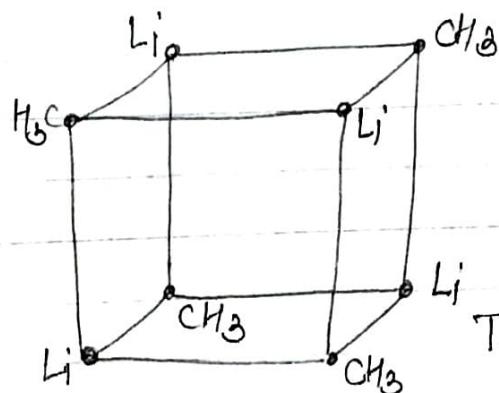
e.g.



Dimeric  $[Al(CCH_3)_3]_2$



Polymeric  $[B_p(CCH_3)_2]_n$



Tetrameric methyl lithium  $(CH_3Li)_4$

#### 4. Transition metal organometallic Compounds

In these compounds, the transition metal forms bonds between to more than one carbon atoms of the same organic compou

→ This type of bonding is of considerable importance in transition metal chemistry.

→ The interaction primarily occurs between the  $\pi$ -orbitals of the appropriate p or d-orbitals of the transition metal atom.

# Bonding in Organometallic Compounds

## 1. Ionic Bonding

- Observed in organometallic compounds of alkali & alkaline earth metals.
- Ionic Organometallic compounds are highly reactive & undergo easy hydrolysis as well as oxidation in air.

## 2.5. Covalent Bonding

- Observed in organometallic compounds of main gp as well as some transition metals e.g.  $Ti(CH_3)_4$ ,  $(CH_3)_5Nb$ ,  $W(CH_3)_6$  etc.
- But these are highly unstable.

## 3. Multiple Covalent Bonds

## 6. Covalent Bonding

organometallic compounds containing 6-covalent bonds are thermodynamically stable

- The compounds with weak M-C bonds (e.g.  $CdR_2$ ,  $HgR_2$ ,  $RbBR_3$ ) readily pyrolyse with the deposition of the metal. These compounds are thermodynamically unstable w.r.t. their decomposition to metals & hydrocarbons.

- Most of the transition metal carbon 6-bonded organometallic compounds are kinetically unstable.
- This basically arises on account of the availability of the empty lower energy inner d-orbitals on the metals. This explains why  $Mg_2Ti$  is stable upto  $500^\circ C$  whereas  $Mg_2Ti$  undergoes spontaneous decomposition at room temperature.
- The instability of these compounds arise from the incomplete occupation of d-orbitals.
- When electron pairs donated by  $\pi$ -acceptor ligand (e.g.  $CO$ ,  $PR_3$ ,  $C_5H_5$ ) fill the d-orbitals, the kinetic stability of the

compounds is considerably increased. Thus  $Ti(CH_3)_4$  is unstable at R.T., but  $(\pi-C_5H_5)_2TiR_2$  alkyls are stable.

In brief organometallic compounds of transition elements are kinetically unstable but thermodynamically stable.

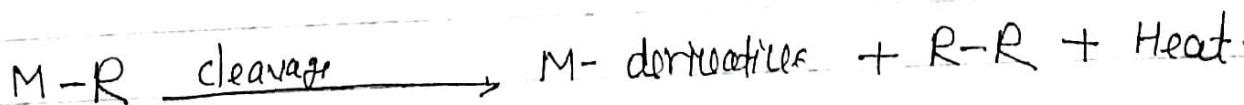
ctors Responsible for kinetic instability of transition metal s- bonded organometallic compounds.

formation of Reactive species due to M-C bond cleavage.  
The reactive species can combine either with each other or with a solvent to give chain  $Rx^n$ 's resulting in exothermic  $Rx^n$ 's.

In contrast other metal inorganic compounds containing  $M-OH_2$ ,  $M-NR_2$  &  $M-X$  ( $X =$  halogen) upon cleavage of M-L bond provide less reactive species such as  $H_2O$ ,  $NR_2^-$  or  $X^6$  respectively.

C cleavage products form strong bonds. Cleavage of M-C bond in organometallic compounds result in reactive species which combine among themselves and form strong bonds such as C-C, C-O, C-N & C-X etc depending upon the nature of the organometallic compounds.

The formation of strong bonds is always accompanied with the release of energy & consequently thermodynamically favoured.



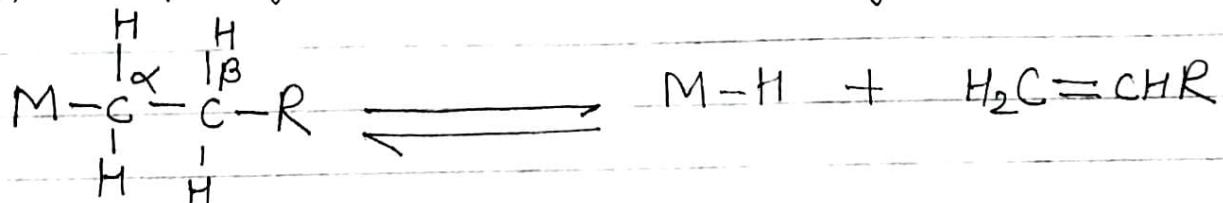
The main factor affecting the kinetic stability of organometallic alkyl compound is the activation energy required for the cleavage  $Rx^n$ .

If the activation energy is low, the organometallic compound will be unstable.

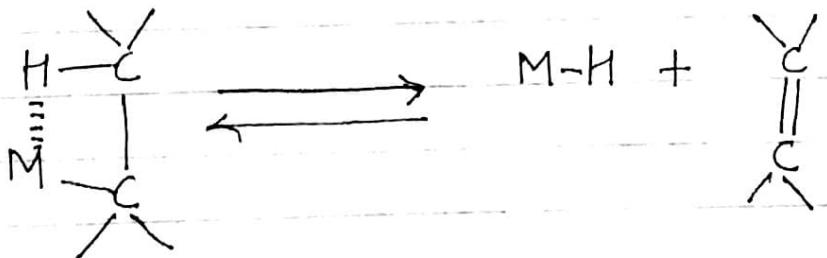
However, if the activation energy is large, the organometallic compound will be stable even if the overall decomposition  $R_x^n$  has a strongly favourable free energy change i.e.  $- \Delta G^\circ$ .

(iii) Hydrogen transfer from alkyl to metal  $\circ$

Alkyl organometallic compounds with higher alkyl groups are now unstable in case these contain H at the  $\beta$ -carbon. In fact, the presence of H at the  $\beta$ -carbon provides an additional pathway for the decomposition of metal-alkyls into metal hydride & olefin according as:



This  $R_x^n$  occurs becaz the metal atom & the  $\beta$  carbon position themselves in such a way that leads to the elimination of  $\beta$ -hydrogen as.



In fact,  $\beta$ -elimination provides a low energy pathway for the organic group to be eliminated as an olefin with the formation of metal hydride.

- When  $\beta$ -elimination is not possible becoz of the structure of organic group as in case of  $M-CH_3$ ,  $M-CH_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{O}$  or  $M-CH_2-\text{SiMe}_3$  the 6-covalent compounds of transition metals are stabilized.

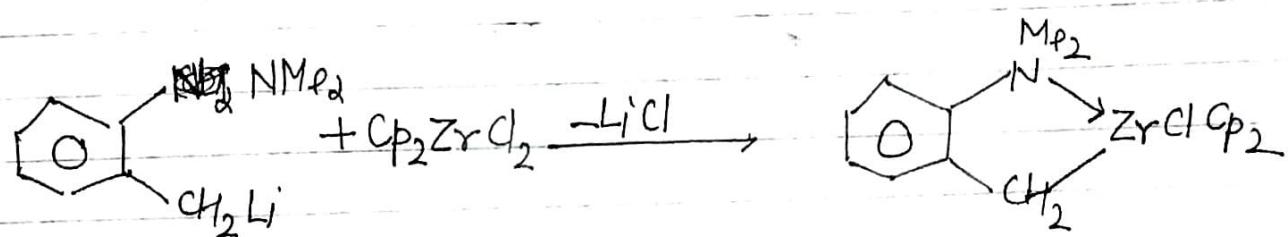
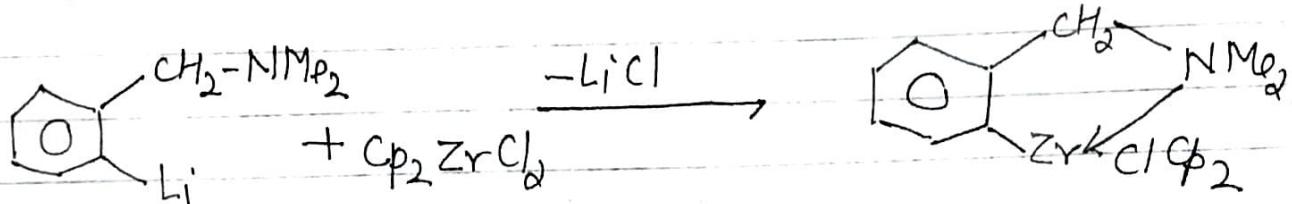
factor which Increase the stability of metal-alkyl complex.

1. Absence of  $\beta$ -elimination.

2. Increase in the coordination number.

→ stability of metal-alkyls is significantly increased by incorporating  $\pi$ -acid ligands such as  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{R}_3\text{P}$ , cyclopentadienyl

3. Chelation :



4: Delocalization of -ve charge on carbon : In most of the M- $\sigma$  bond there is a polarity ( $M^{st}-C^{s-}$ ) due to the difference in the electronegativity value b/w metal atom & the carbon atom.

These compounds can be stabilized by delocalizing the -ve charge of the carbon. As a result polyhalogenated especially perfluorinated gbs ( $CF_3$ ) are more stable than the analogous non-halogenated gbs. It means  $M-CF_3$  bonds are more stable than  $M-CH_3$  bonds.

→ similarly, aromatic gbs should form more stable compounds than aliphatic compounds.

### 3. Metal Carbon Multiple Bonding $\frac{1}{2}$

