

# UNIT 5 - PAPER 2

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# UNIT 5 - PAPER 2

## CFT THEORY

1. Weak Crystal Field
2. Strong Crystal Field
3. Correlation Diagram
4. J.T Theorem



# UNIT - 5 | PAPER - 2

## CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY (CFT)



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# THEORIES FOR METAL - LIGAND BONDING IN COMPLEXES

There are three theories to explain the nature of bonding in transition metal complexes

1. Valence Bond Theory (VBT)
2. Crystal Field Theory (CFT)
3. Ligand Field Theory (LFT) or Molecular Orbital Theory (MOT)



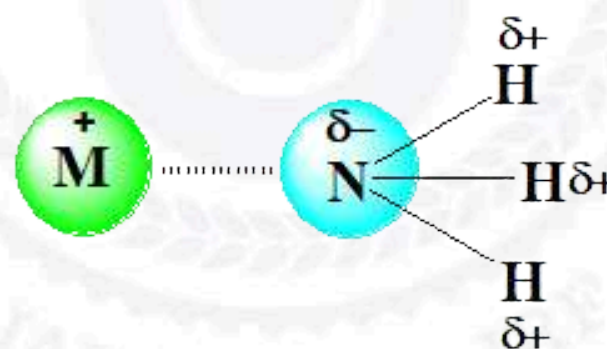


# CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY (CFT)

- Considers the bond between metal and ligand is ionic arising purely due to electrostatic interaction. Hence the theory is called as crystal field theory.
- If the ligand is anion then the metal has to be a cation and the force of attraction is due to opposite charges.



- If the ligand is neutral molecules like  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$  etc then the negative end of their dipoles are attached to the metal ion.



- Considers each ligands as point of negative charges.
- Metal – Ligand bond is not covalent i.e. there is no overlapping of orbitals.



The five d-orbitals in a free metal ion are degenerate i.e. same energy. When a complex is formed, the electrostatic field of the ligands destroy the degeneracy of these orbitals i.e. these orbitals now have different energies.

## d-orbital degenerate





# SHAPES OF D-ORBITALS

- In fact there are six d-orbitals with each having four lobes. These orbitals are  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  (Non-axial d-orbitals i.e. lie in between axis) and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ ,  $d_{z^2-x^2}$ ,  $d_{z^2-y^2}$  (Axial d-orbitals i.e. lie along the axis).
- But there are only five independent d-orbitals  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  (Non-axial d-orbitals) and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ ,  $d_{z^2}$  (Axial d-orbitals).
- The  $d_{z^2}$  is regarded as the linear combination of the  $d_{z^2-x^2}$  and  $d_{z^2-y^2}$  orbitals.





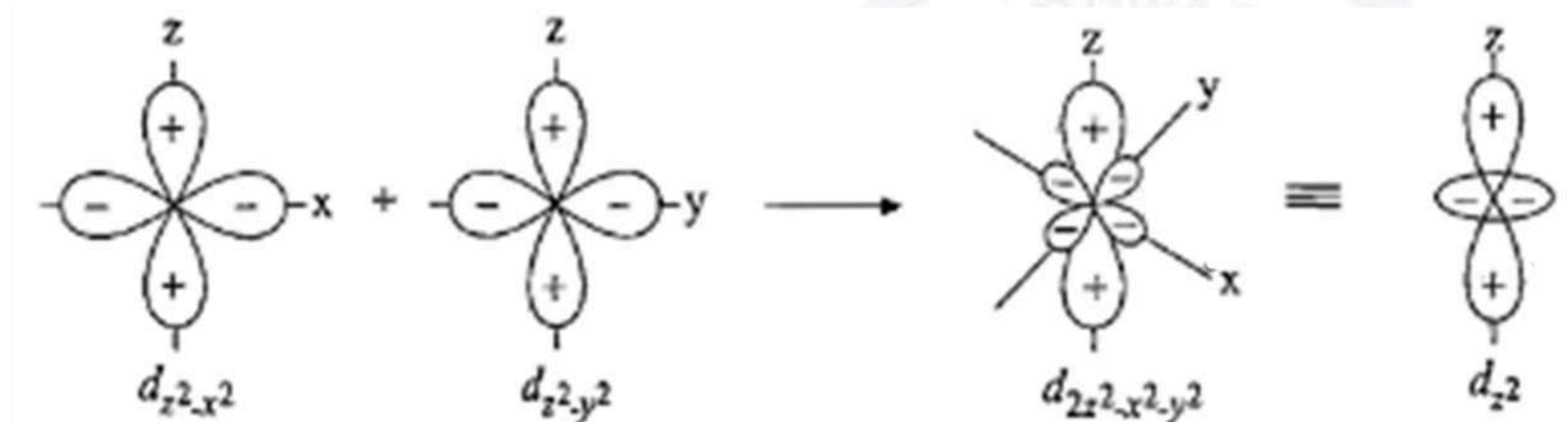
# SHAPES OF D-ORBITALS

- d- orbitals are present in the d-subshell for which  $n = 3, l = 2$  and  $m_l = -2, -1, 0, +1, +2$
- There are five orientations leads to five different orbitals  
 $m_l = (2l + 1) = (2 \times 2 + 1) = 5$
- These are  $d_{xy}, d_{yz}, d_{xz}$  (Non-axial d-orbitals) and  $d_{x^2-y^2}, d_{z^2}$  (Axial d-orbitals)





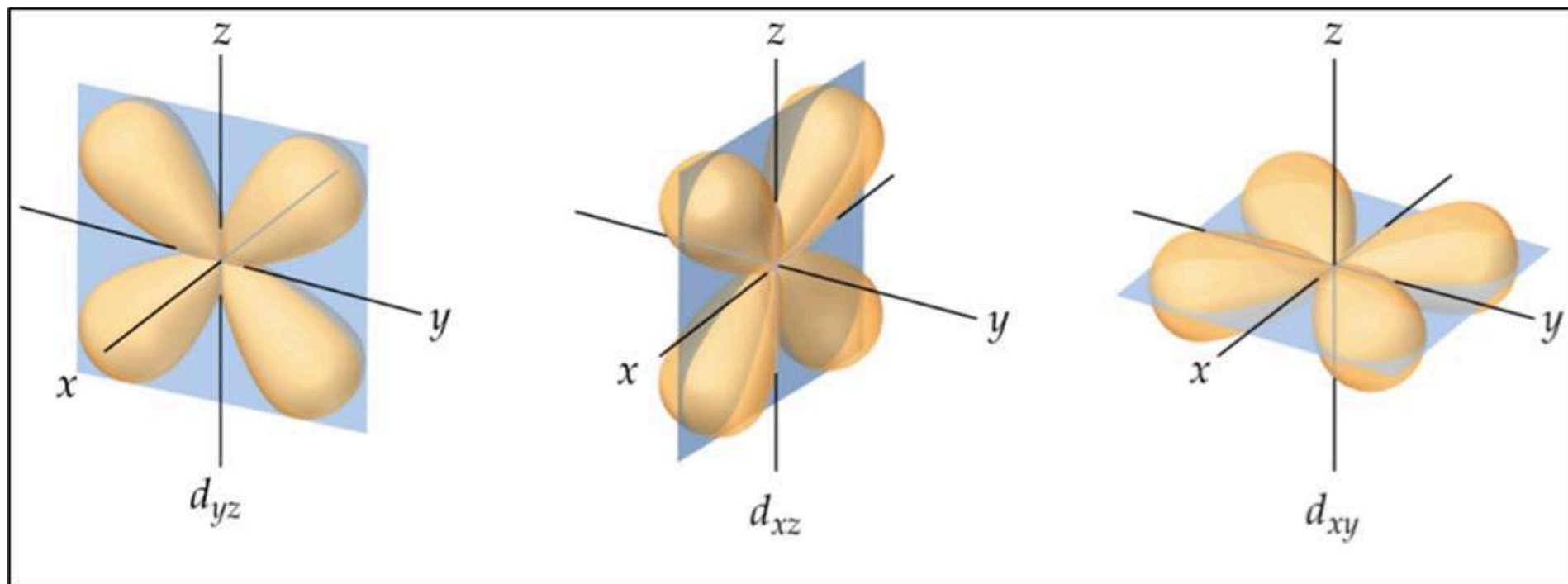
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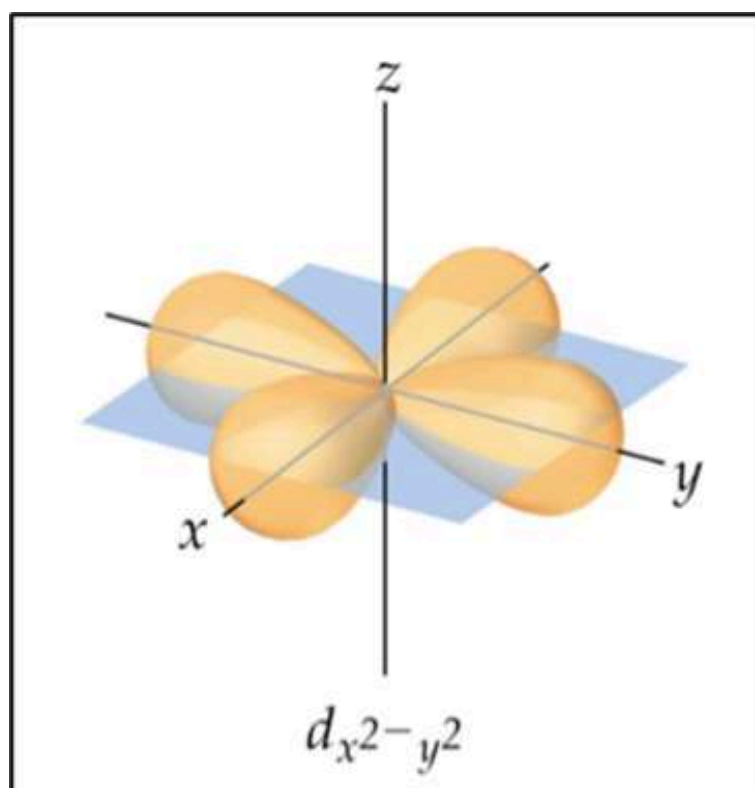




**Non-axial d-orbitals**

**Lobes = 4**

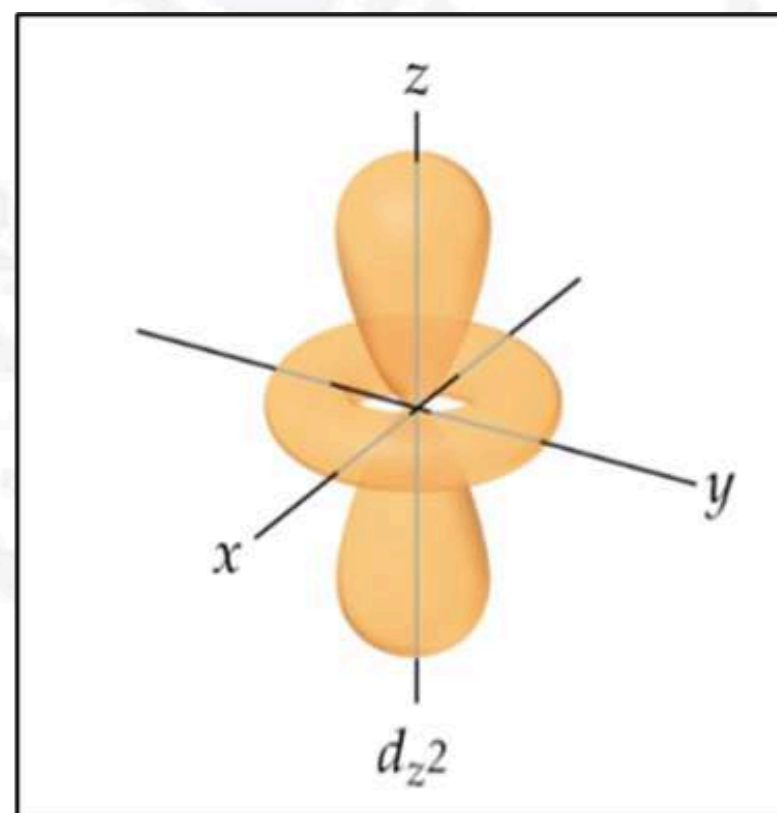
**Gerade (i)**



**Axial d-orbitals**

**Lobes = 4**

**Gerade (i)**



**Axial d-orbitals**

$$d_z^2 = d_z^2 \cdot x^2 + d_z^2 \cdot y^2$$

**Lobes = 8**

**Gerade (i)**

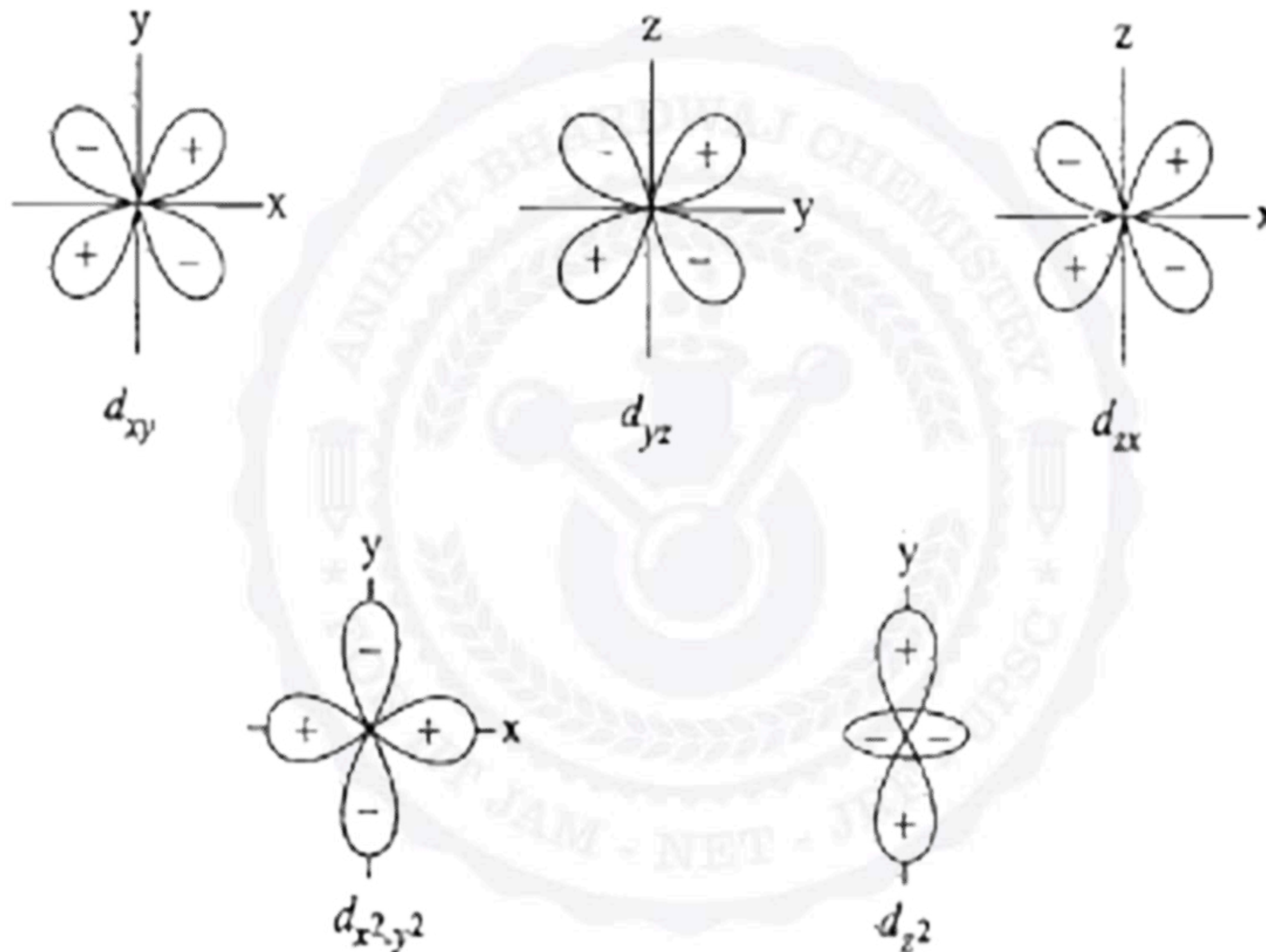


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All the five d-orbitals are gerade because the opposite lobes have inversion centre (centre of inversion) with respect to phase of wave functions.



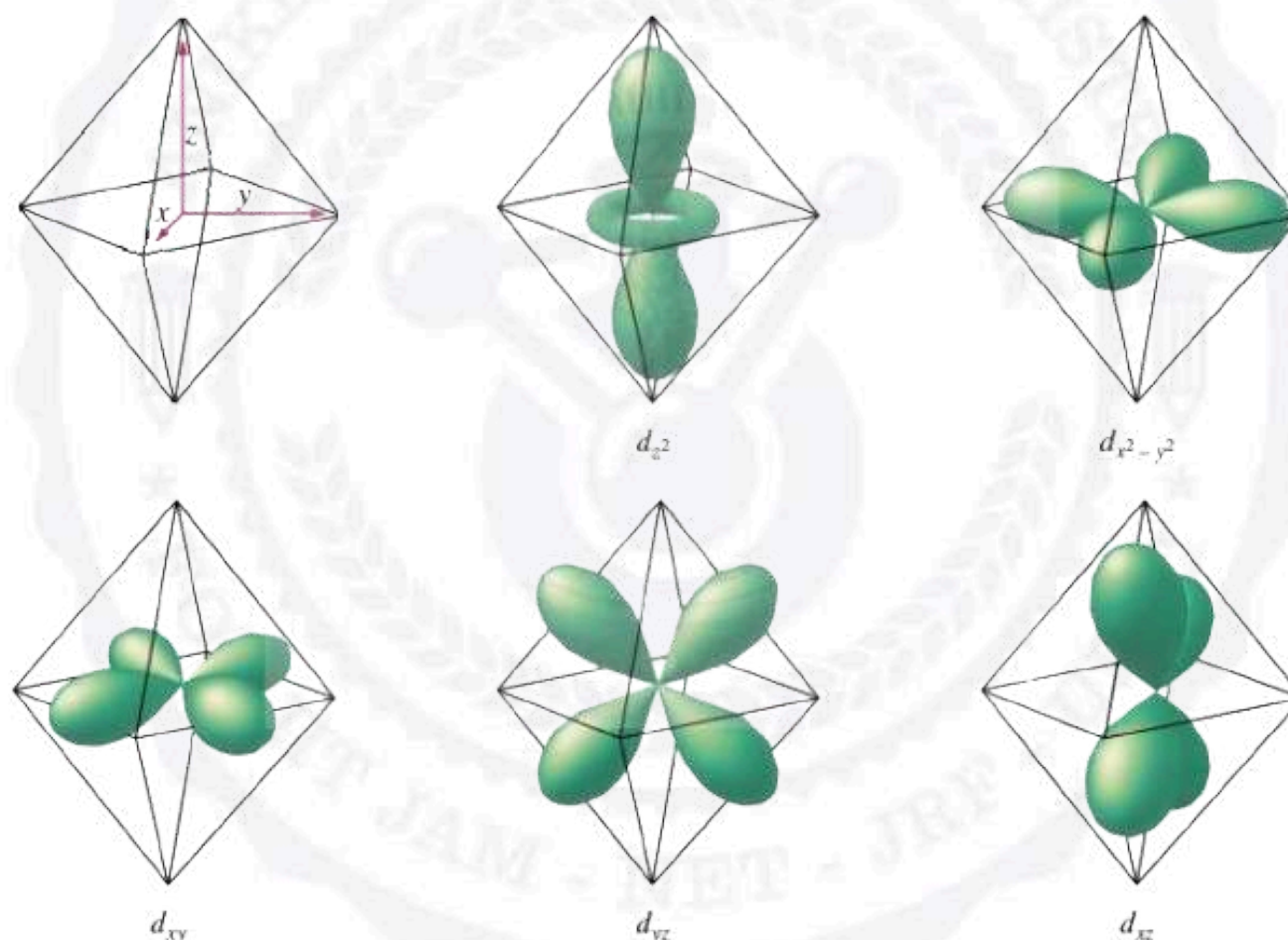
$d_{xy}$ : lobes lie in-between the x and the y axes.

$d_{xz}$ : lobes lie in-between the x and the z axes.

$d_{yz}$ : lobes lie in-between the y and the z axes.

$d_{x^2-y^2}$ : lobes lie on the x and y axes.

$d_{z^2}$ : there are two lobes on the z axes and there is a donut shape ring that lies on the xy plane around the other two lobes



- d-orbitals lying in the direction of the ligands are raised in energy more than those lying away from the ligands because of the repulsion between the d-electrons and the ligands.





# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING D-ORBITALS IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEX

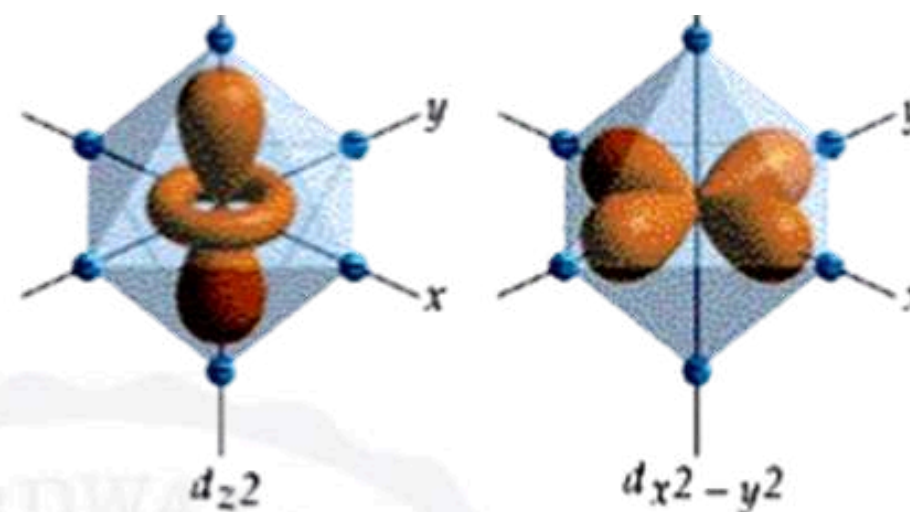
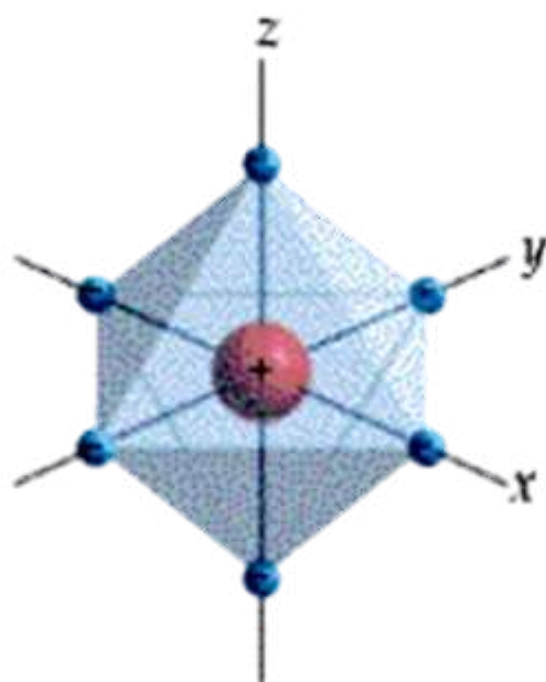
- In octahedral complexes, the ligands approach along the axes.
- The d-orbitals where electron density is oriented along the axes,  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ ,  $d_z^2$  are repelled much more by the ligands while the orbitals  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  having electron density oriented in between the axes are repelled lesser by the ligands.
- Two sets of orbitals  $e_g$  (doubly degenerate set) and  $t_{2g}$  (triply degenerate) are formed due the repulsion between metals and ligands orbitals.
- The energy gap between  $e_g$  and  $t_{2g}$  is called crystal field splitting energy and it is denoted by  $\Delta_o$  or  $\Delta_{oct}$  or  $10Dq$ , where  $\Delta$  represent Crystal field splitting energy, "o" in  $\Delta_o$  is for octahedral.

$E_g / e_g$  and  $T_{2g} / t_{2g}$  = Mulliken symbol

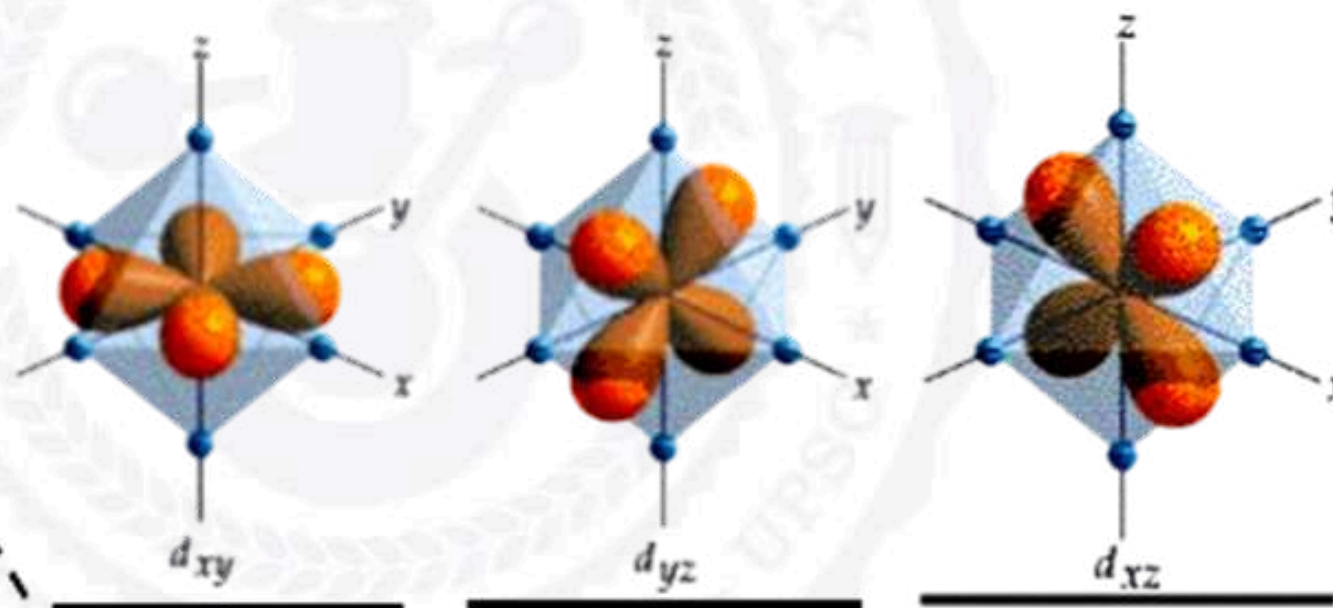




**Ligands  
approach  
metal**



**d-orbitals pointing directly at axis are  
affected most by electrostatic interaction**



**d-orbitals not pointing directly at axis are least**

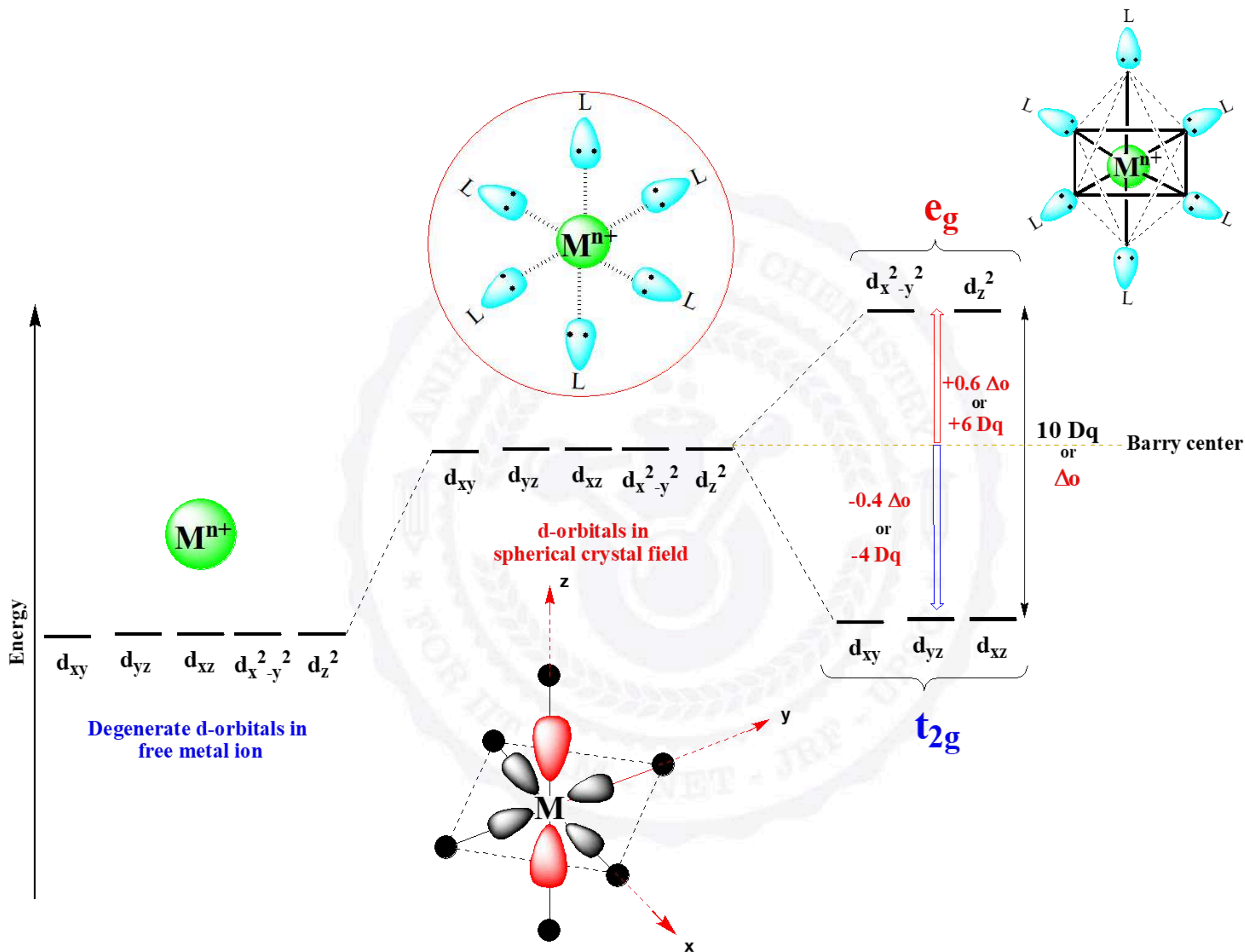
➤ Because the overall energy is maintained, the energy of the three  $t_{2g}$  orbitals are lowered or stabilised by  $0.4 \Delta_o$  and the energy of the two  $e_g$  orbitals are raised or repelled by  $0.6\Delta_o$  with respect to hypothetical the spherical crystal field or Bary Centre.



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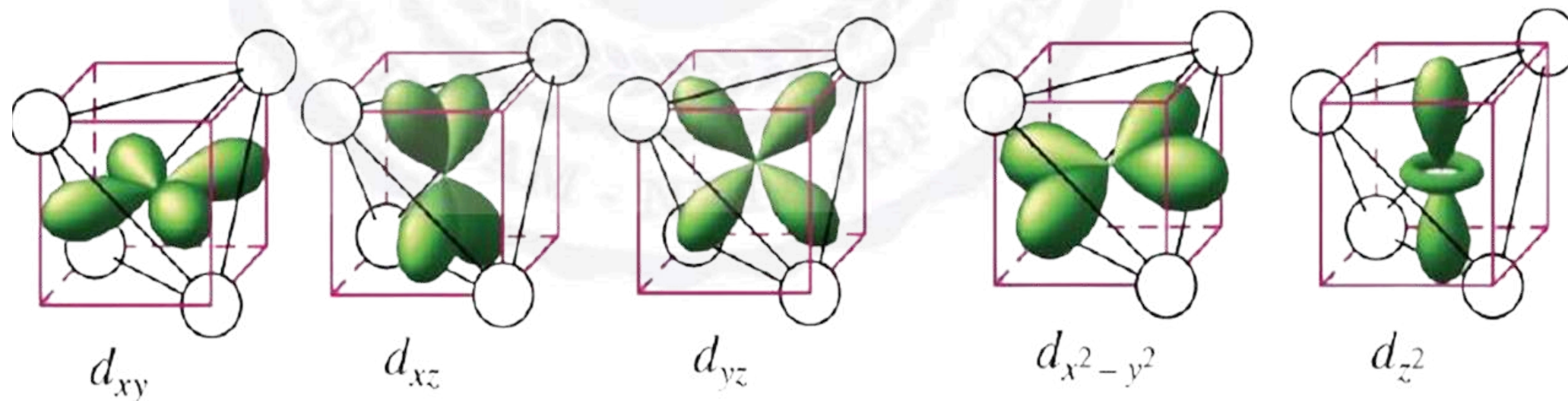






# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING D-ORBITALS IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEX

- In a tetrahedral complex, there are four ligands attached to the central metal.
- These ligands do not point directly to any of the d-orbitals of the metal but more closer to  $t_2$  set of orbitals ( $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ,  $d_{zx}$ ) than e orbitals ( $d_{x^2-y^2}$ ,  $d_{z^2}$ ) and therefore,  $t_2$  set of orbitals get repelled more than e orbitals.
- The g subscript is not used with  $t_2$  and e sets because the tetrahedral complexes have no inversion center.
- It can simply be stated that the d-orbital splitting diagram in tetrahedral complexes is just inverse of octahedral complexes.



Tetrahedral ( $T_d$ ) lacks a center of inversion

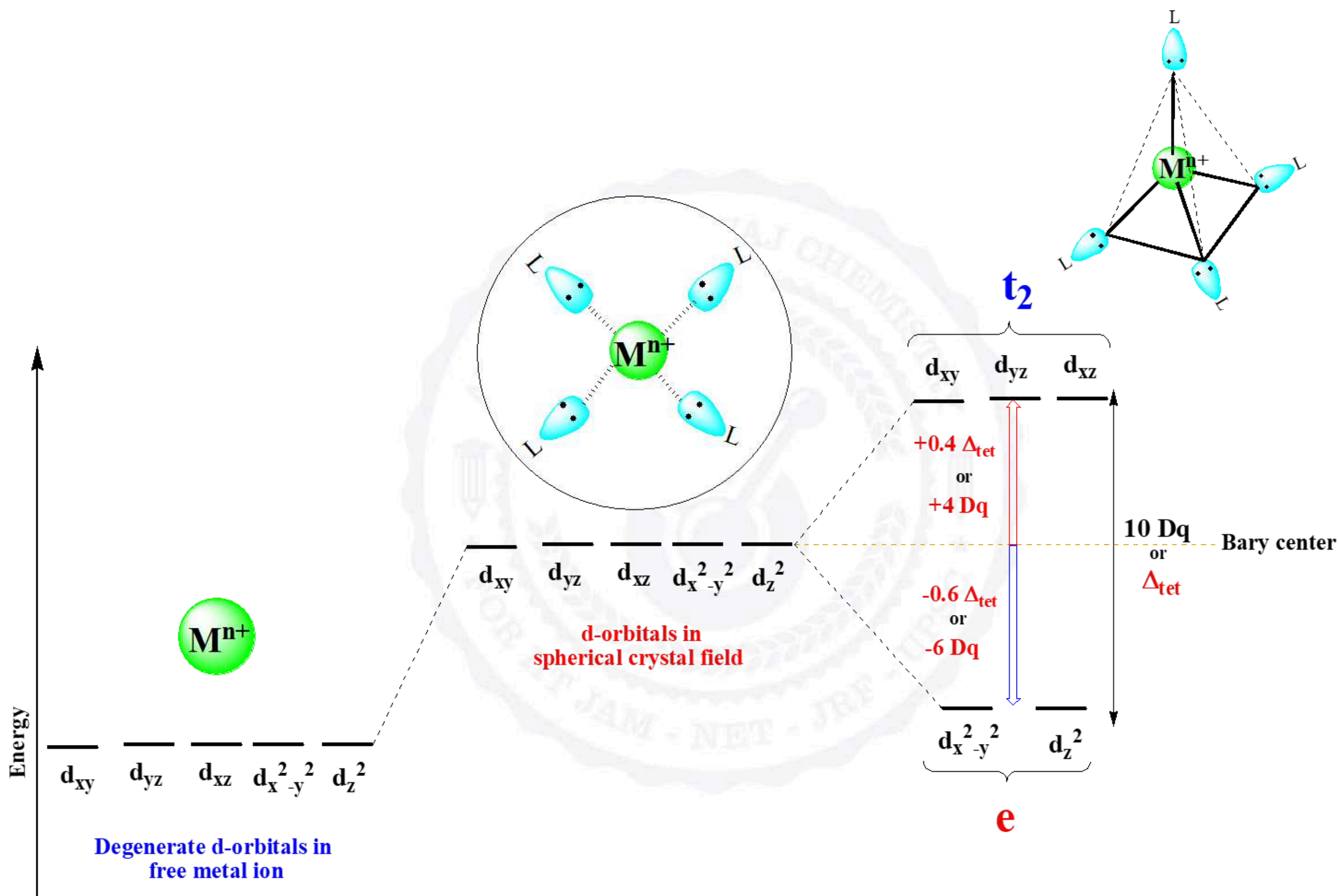




# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING D-ORBITALS IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEX

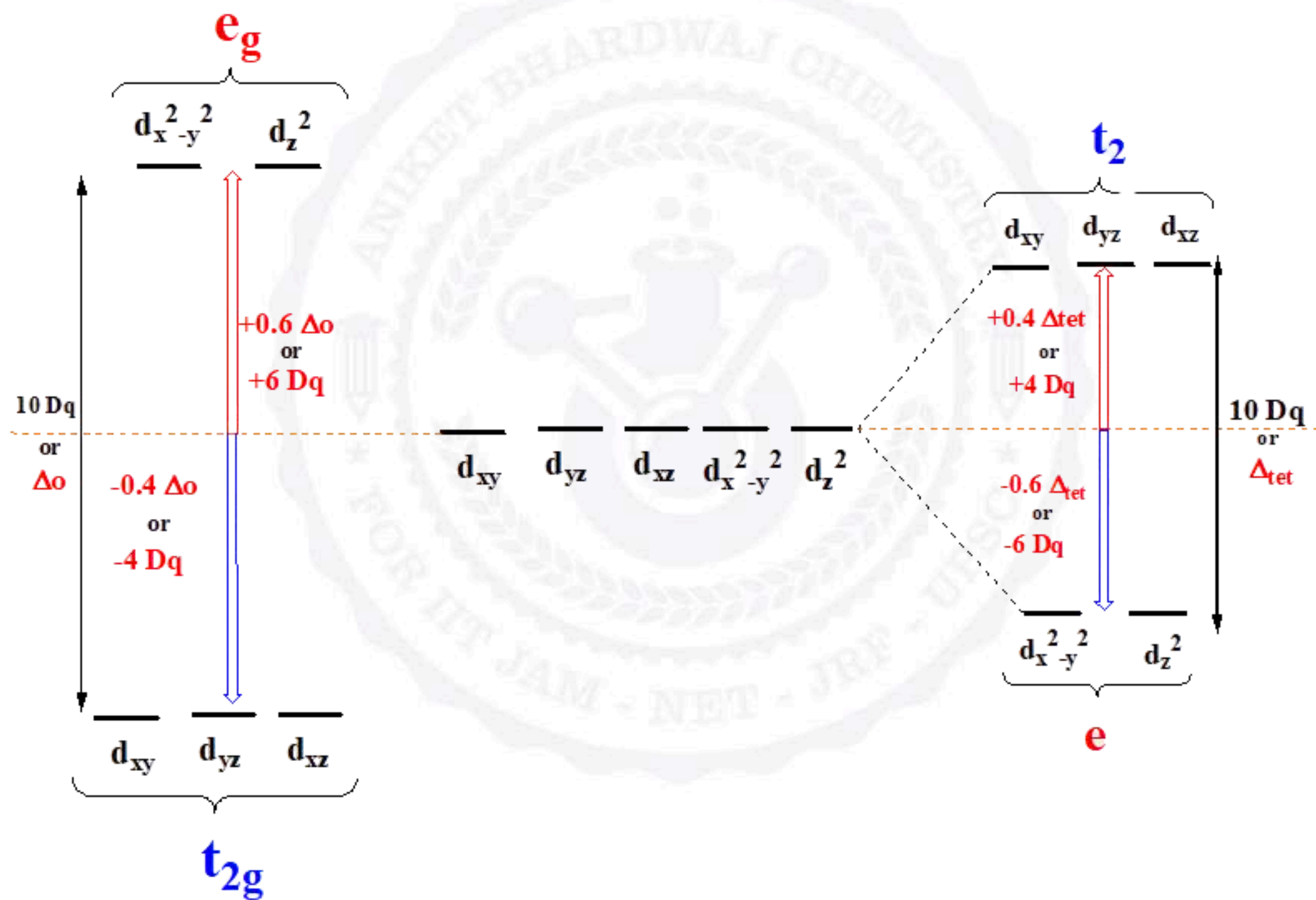
- Because the overall energy is maintained, the energy of the two e orbitals are lowered or stabilised by  $0.6 \Delta_t$  and the energy of the three  $t_2$  orbitals are raised or repelled by  $0.4 \Delta_t$  with respect to hypothetical the spherical crystal field or Bary Centre.
- The energy gap between  $t_2$  and e is called crystal field splitting energy and it is denoted by  $\Delta_t$  or  $\Delta_{tet}$  or  $10Dq$ ,  
where  $\Delta$  represent Crystal field splitting energy,  
"t" in  $\Delta_t$  is for tetrahedral.



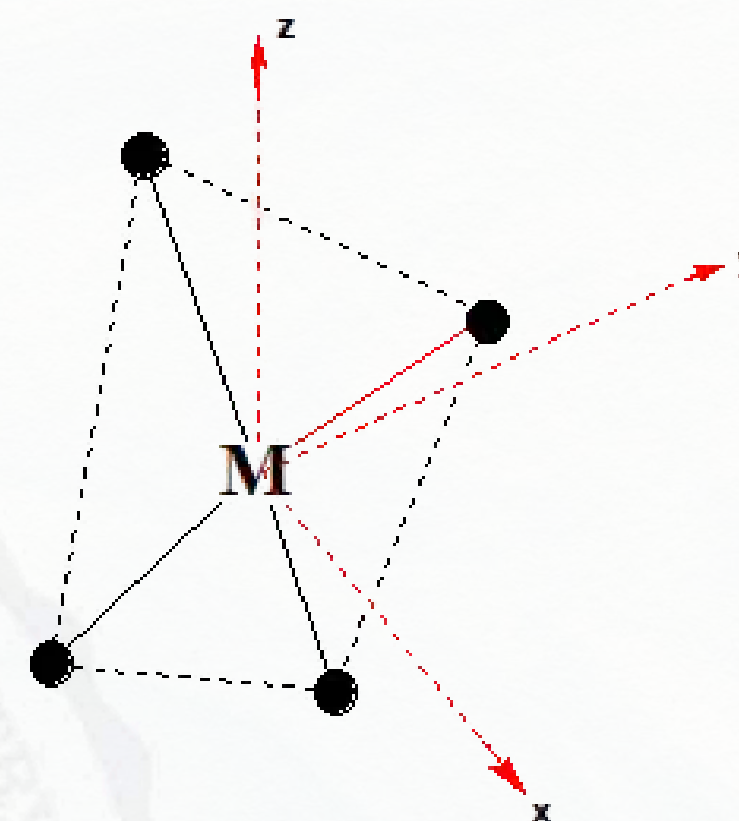
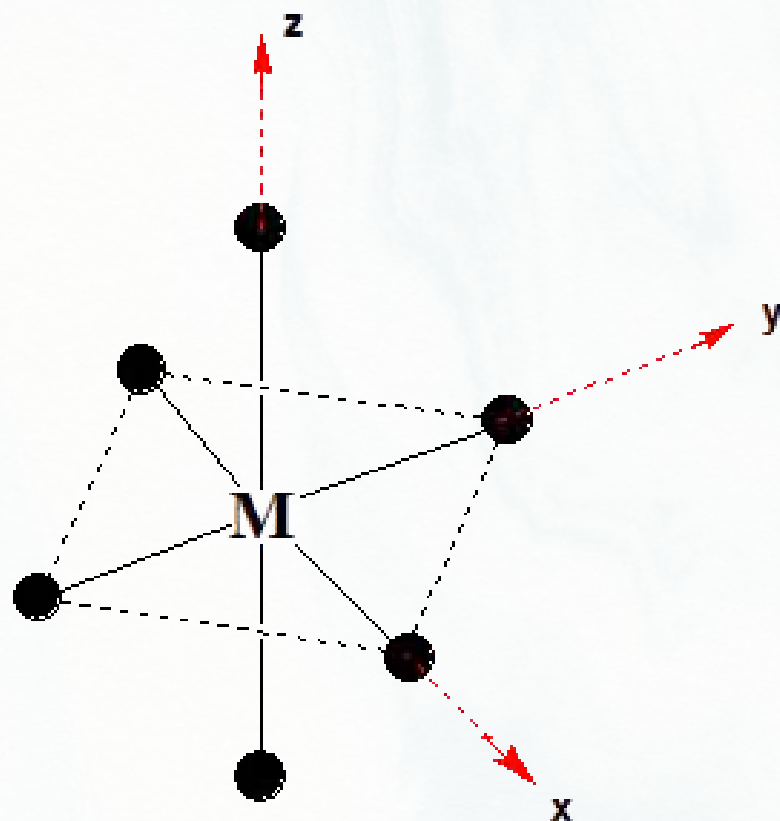




# COMPARISON OF CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING OF D-ORBITALS IN OCTAHEDRAL AND TETRAHEDRAL COMPLEX







- The splitting of energy levels in a tetrahedral field is less compare to an octahedral field of ligands due to the poor orbital overlap between the metal and the ligand orbitals.
- For most purposes the relationship may be represented as  $\Delta_t = 4/9 \Delta_o$  because
  - (i) The number of ligands in Td are 2/3 compared to octahedral complex.
  - (ii) The ligands in Td complex repel  $t_2$  orbitals 2/3 times less than the octahedral complex.

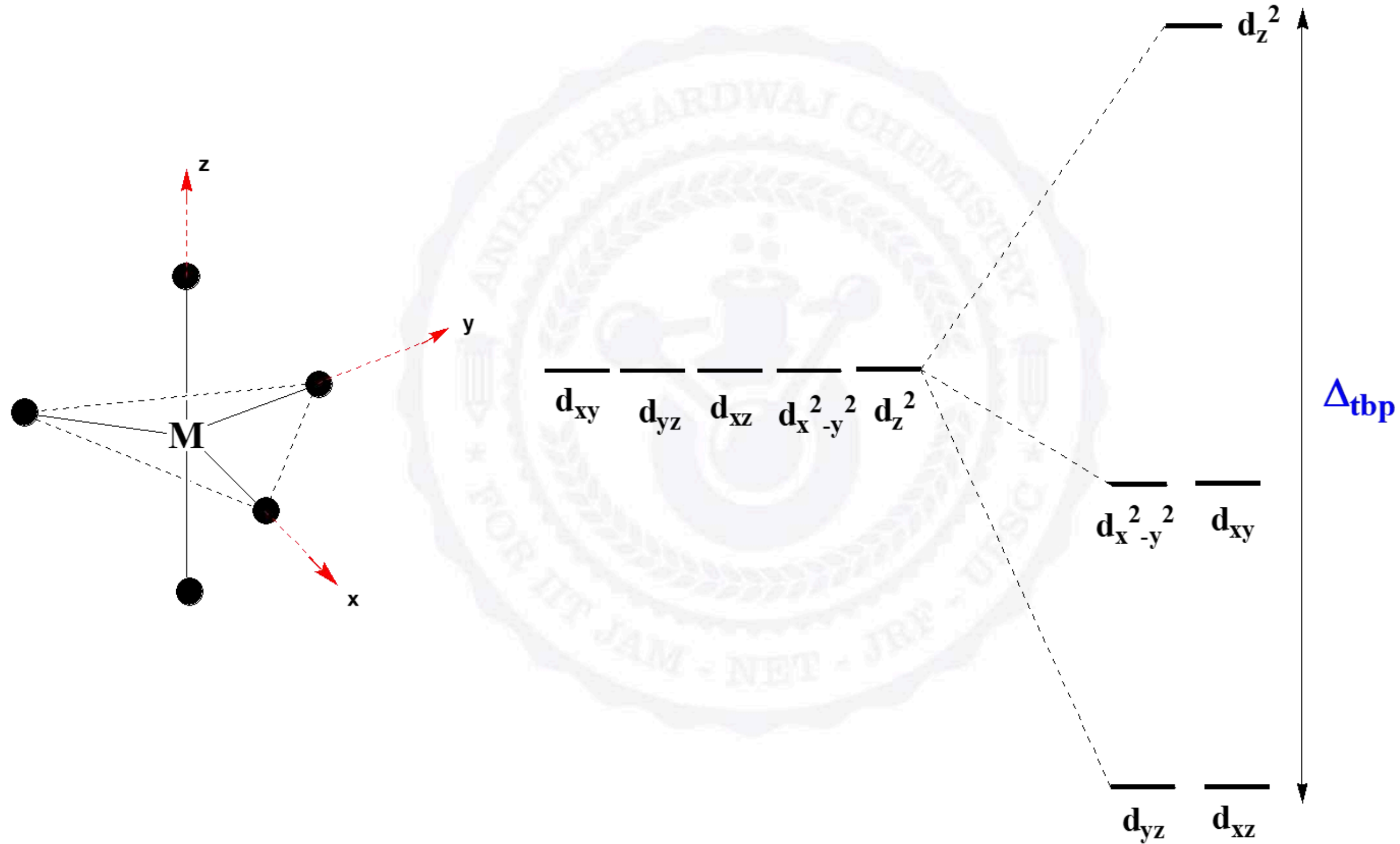
Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_t &= 2/3 \times 2/3 \times \Delta_o \\ &= 4/9 \Delta_o\end{aligned}$$





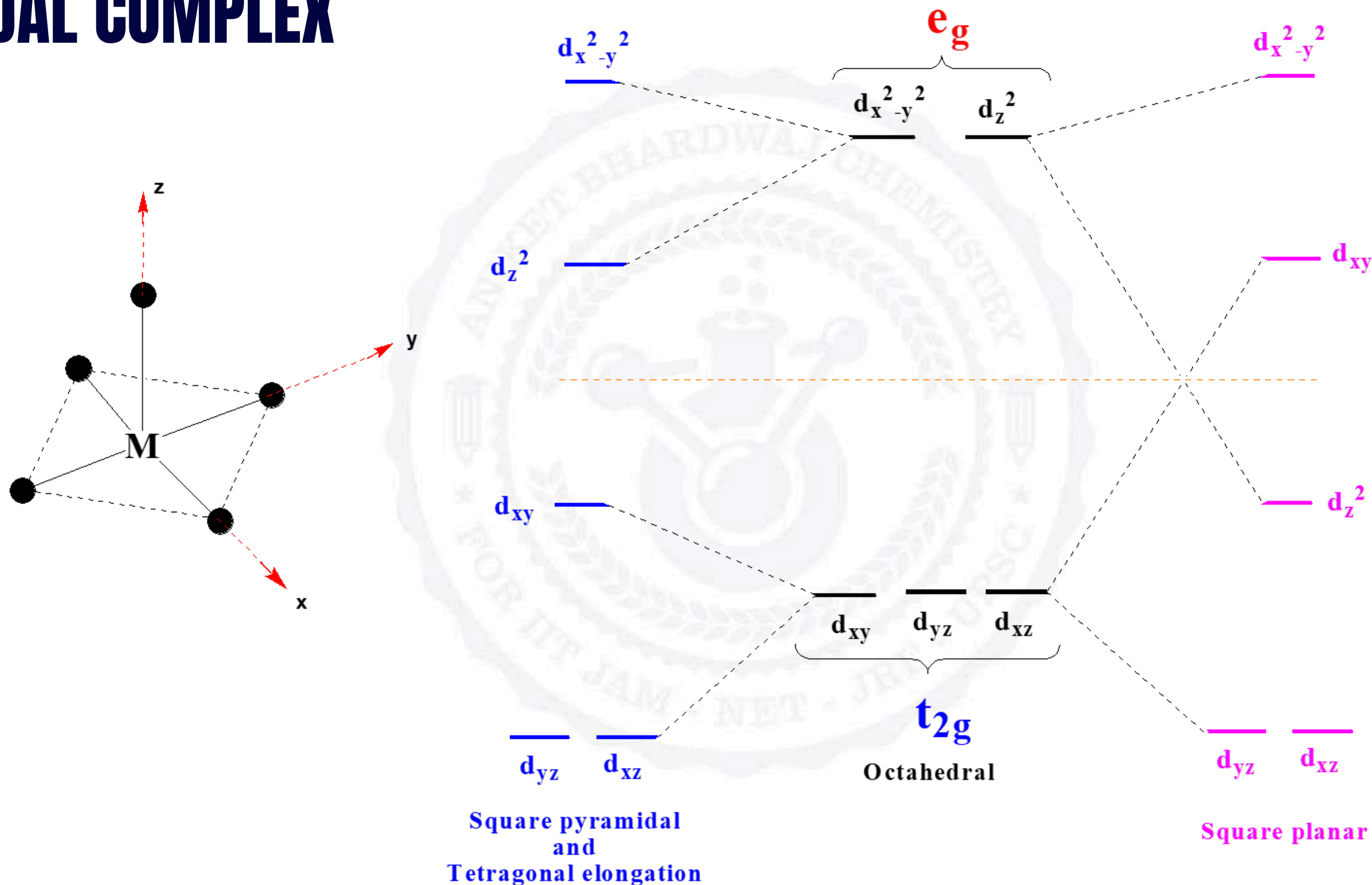
# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING OF D-ORBITALS IN TRIGONAL BIPYRAMIDAL COMPLEX



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# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING OF D-ORBITALS IN SQUARE PYRAMIDAL COMPLEX



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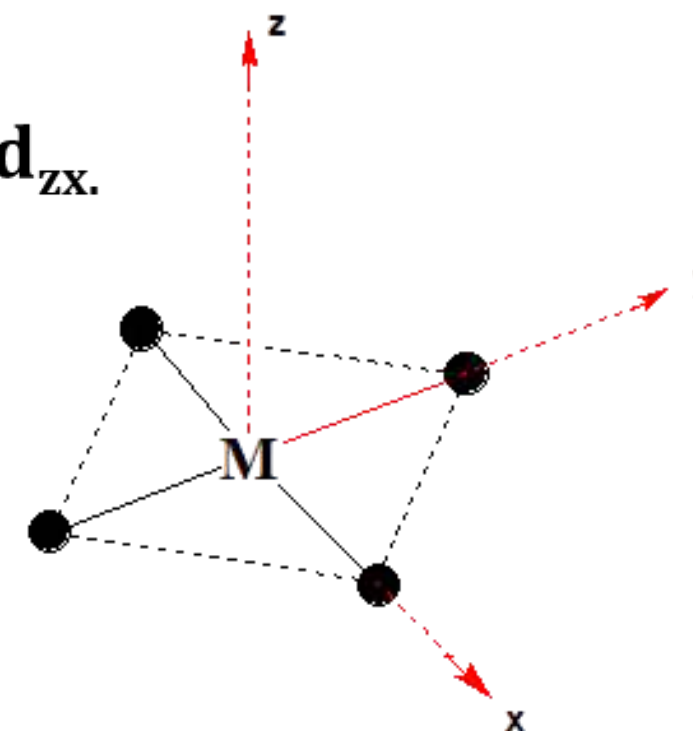


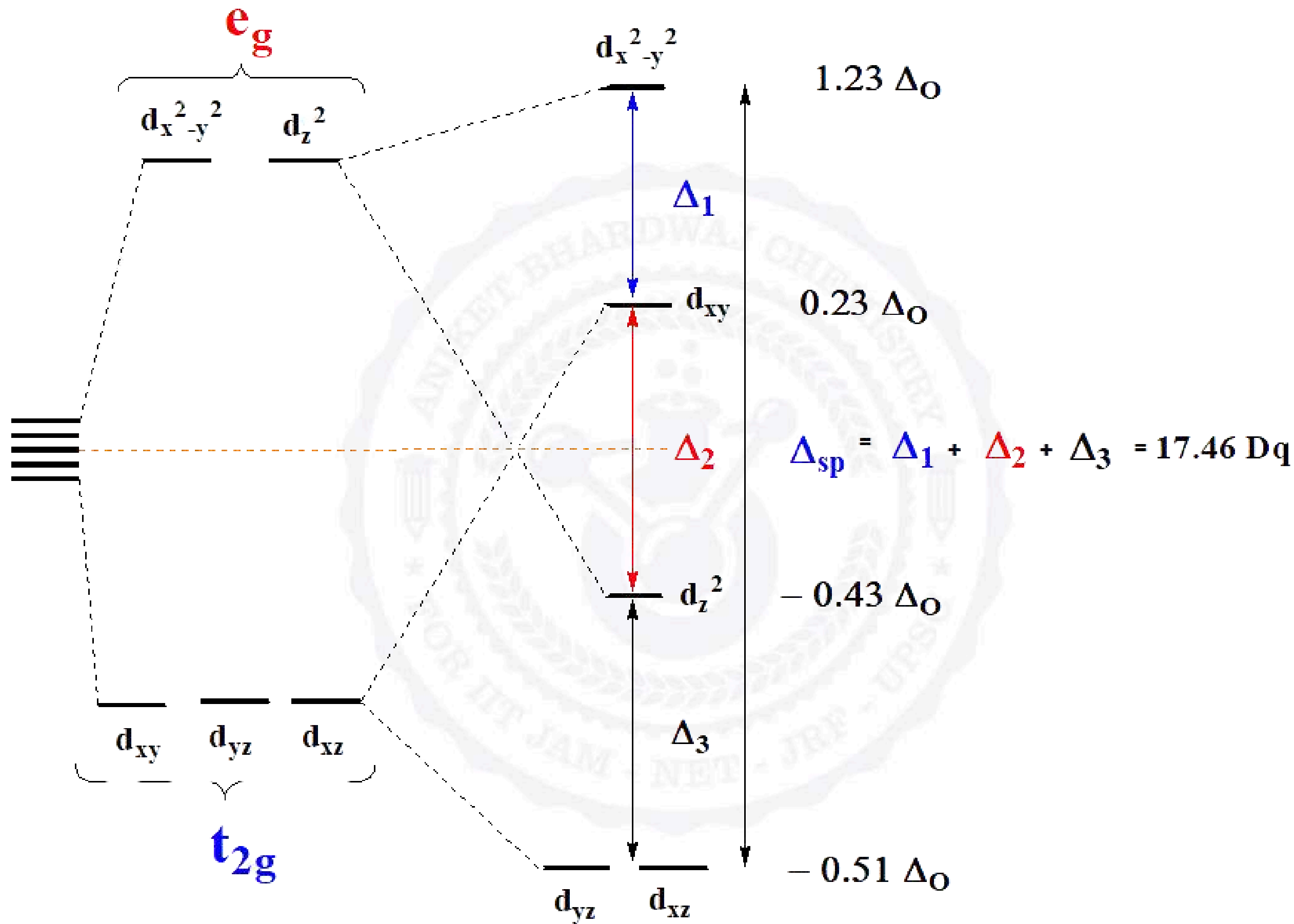


# CRYSTAL FIELD SPLITTING OF D-ORBITALS IN SQUARE PLANAR COMPLEX

- The removal of a pair of ligands from the z-axis of an octahedron leaves four ligands in the x-y plane.
- Therefore, the crystal field splitting diagram for square planar geometry can be derived from the octahedral diagram.
- The removal of the two ligands stabilizes the  $d_z^2$  level, leaving the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  level as the most destabilized.
- $d_{xy}$  orbital is closer to ligands hence its energy also increases than the  $d_{yz}$ ,  $d_{zx}$ .
- The spectroscopic results showed that

$$\Delta_{sp} = 1.74 \times \Delta_o \text{ (i.e. } \Delta_{sp} > \Delta_o \text{)}$$







# MAGNITUDE OF CFSE ( $\Delta$ ) WILL DEPEND ON :

Number of factors that affect the extent to which metal d-orbitals are split by ligands. The most important factors are listed below

## Metal factors

- (1) Oxidation state
- (2) Number of d-electrons
- (3) Nature of metal ion
- (4) Spin pairing energy

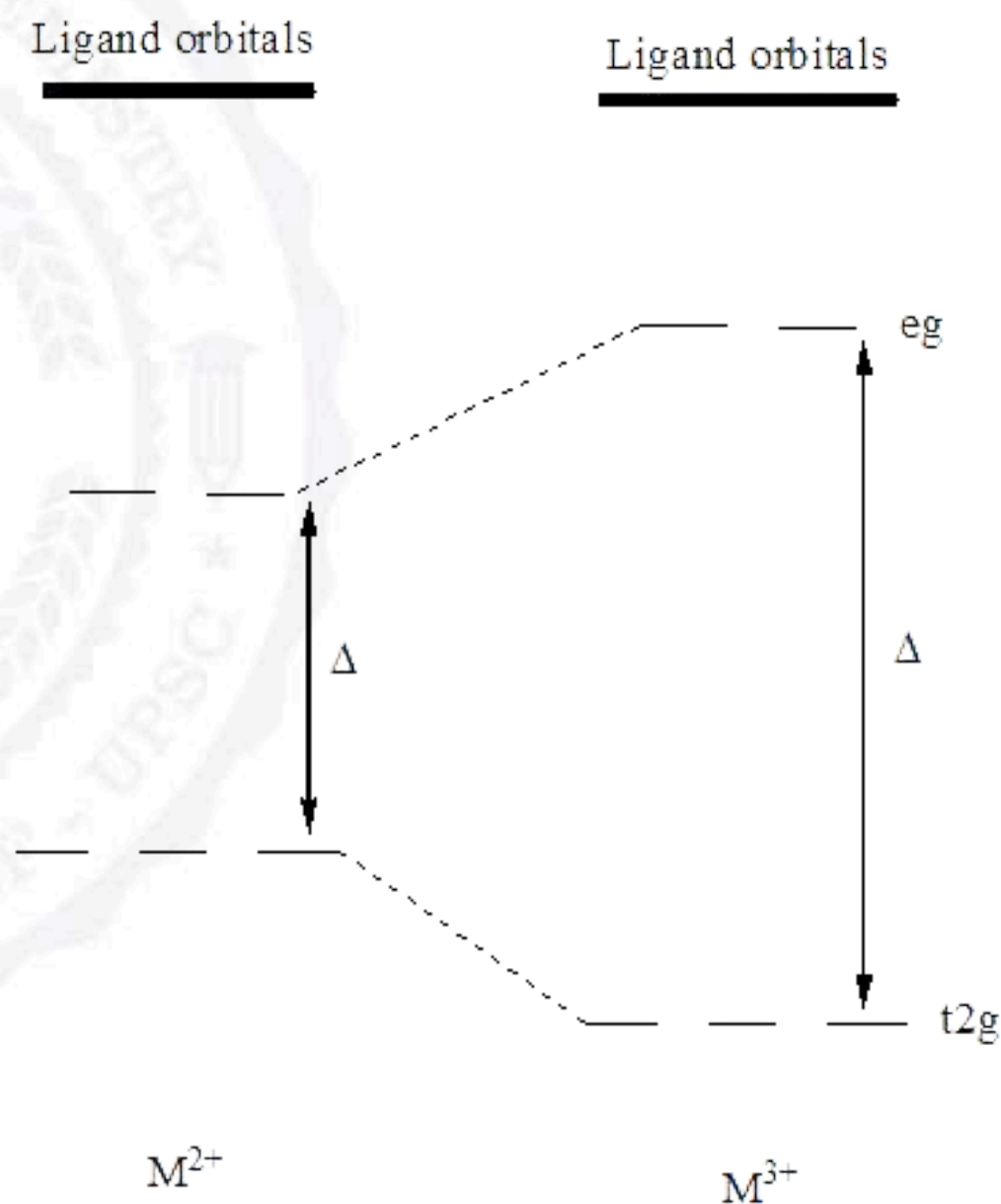
## Ligand factors

- (1) Ligand character
- (2) Number and Geometry of the Ligands



# 1. OXIDATION STATE

Higher the oxidation state of metal ion causes the ligands to approach more closely to it and therefore, the ligands causes more splitting of metal d-orbitals.



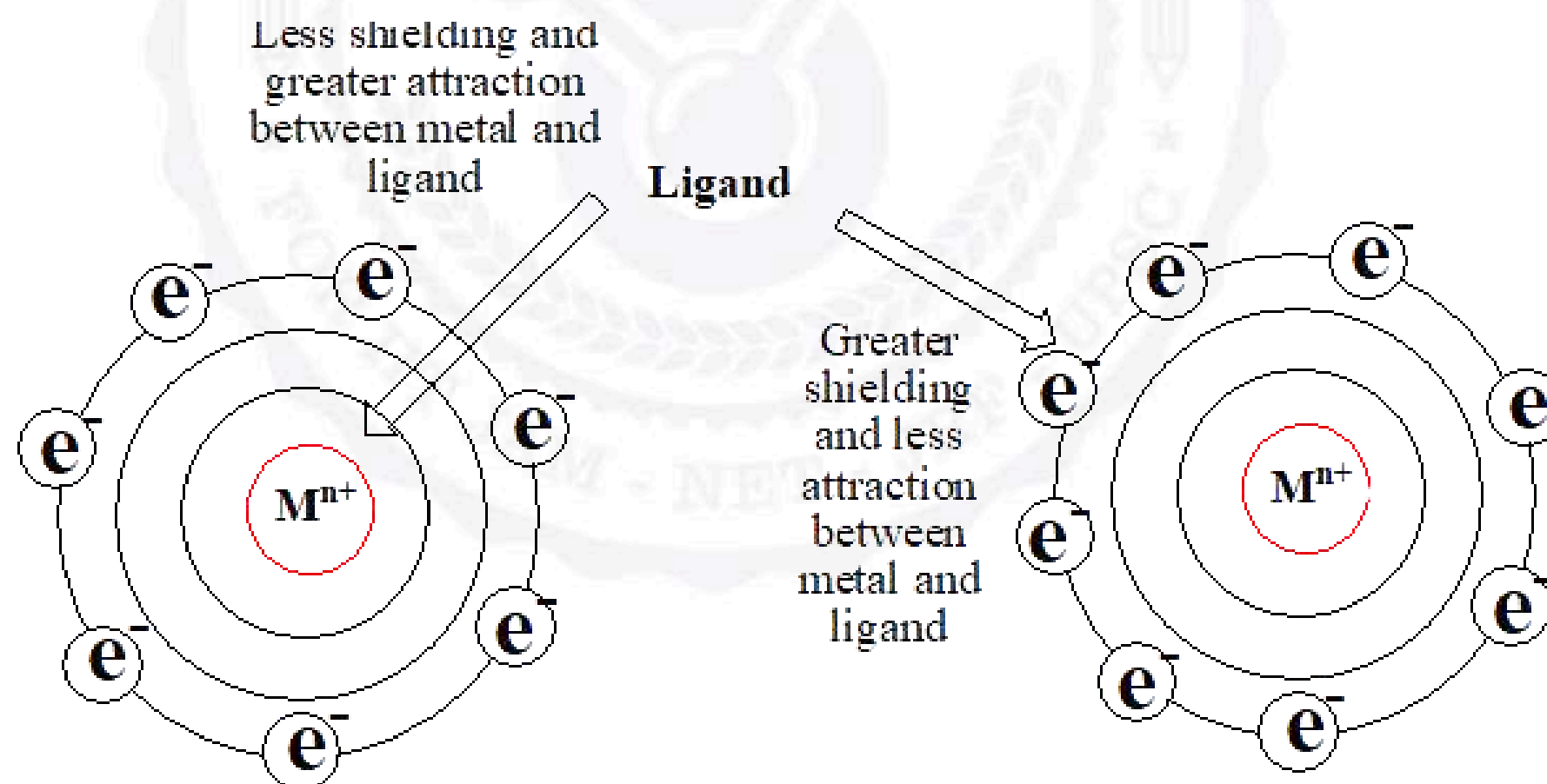


## 2. NUMBER OF D-ELECTRONS

For a given series of transition metal, complexes having metal cation with same oxidation state but with different number of electrons in d-orbitals, the magnitude of  $\Delta$  decreases with increase in number of d-electrons.

$$\Delta \propto \frac{1}{\text{Number of d-electrons}}$$

$[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$	$\Delta_o = 9200 \text{ cm}^{-1} (3d^7)$
$[\text{Ni}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$	$\Delta_o = 8500 \text{ cm}^{-1} (3d^8)$

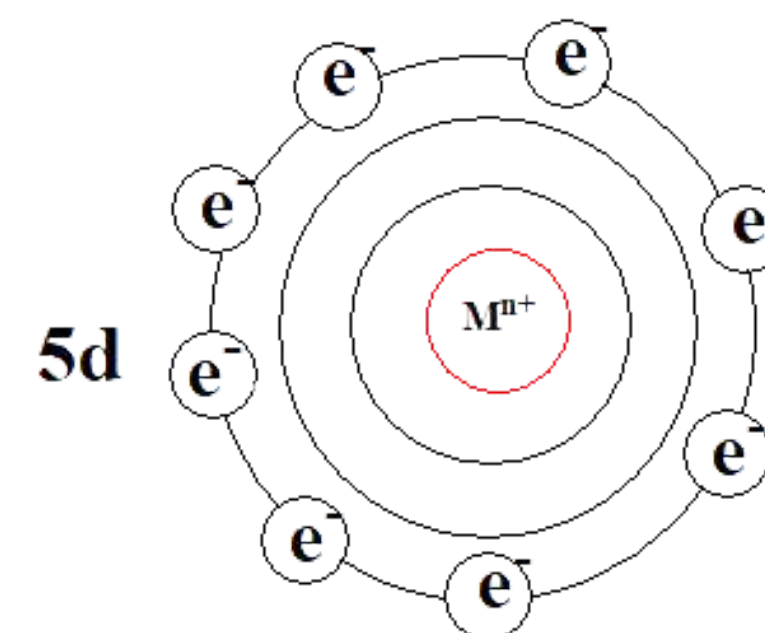
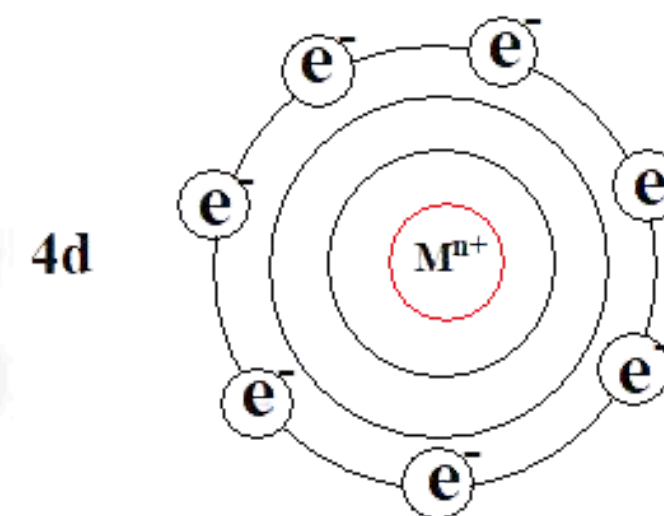
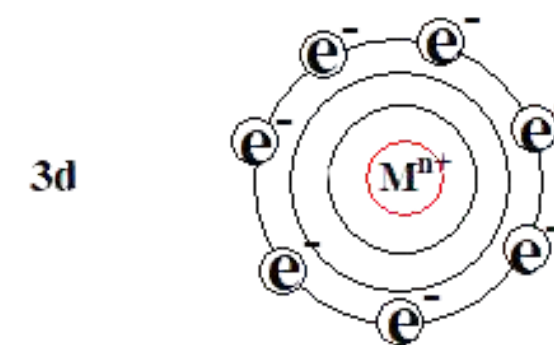


# 3. NATURE OF METAL ION

In complexes having the metal cation with same oxidation state, same number of d-electrons and the magnitude  $\Delta$  for analogues complexes within a given group increases about 30% to 50% from 3d to 4d and same amount from 4d to 5d.

(i) On moving 3d to 4d and 4d to 5d, the size of d-orbitals increases and electron density decreases therefore, ligands can approach metal with larger d-orbital more closely.

(ii) There is less steric hindrance around metal.





# 4. SPIN PAIRING ENERGY

Metal ion with higher pairing energy will have lower  $\Delta$ , whereas metal ion with lower pairing energy will have higher  $\Delta$ .

Metal factor summary affecting magnitude of CFSE ( $\Delta$ )

(1)  $\Delta \propto$  Oxidation state of Metal ion

(2)  $\Delta \propto \frac{1}{\text{Number of d-electrons}}$

(3)  $\Delta \propto$  Principal quantum number (n)

(4)  $\Delta \propto \frac{\text{Low Pairing energy}}{\text{High Pairing energy}}$



# SPIN PAIRING ENERGY (P)

Energy required to put two electrons in the same orbital

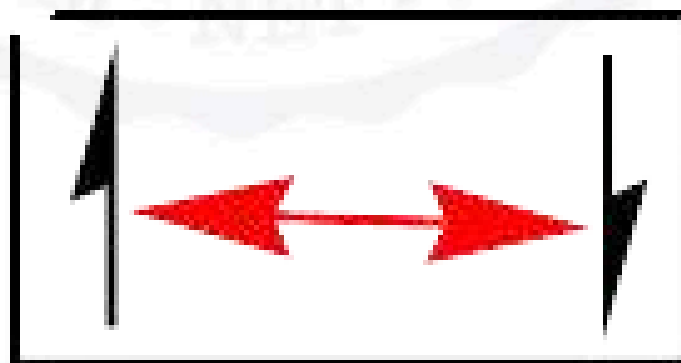
The electron pairing energy has two terms

1. Coulombic repulsion
2. Loss of exchange energy on pairing

1. **Coulombic repulsion** is caused by repulsion of electrons and it decreases down the group.

$$3d > 4d > 5d$$

Coulombic repulsion contribute to the destabilizing energy





# SPIN PAIRING ENERGY (P)

(2) Loss of exchange energy on pairing contributes to the stabilizing energy associated with two electrons having parallel spin.

Mathematically, exchange energy can be calculated using the following equation

$$E_{\text{exchange}} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

n = number of pairs of parallel spin electrons

How to calculate the loss of exchange energy for metal ion.

For example, consider  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ( $d^6$ ) and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ( $d^5$ ) in this case Fe prefers low spin whereas Mn prefer high spin and this is explained by considering the loss of exchange energy.



Fe<sup>2+</sup> (d<sup>6</sup>)



Degenerate



High spin

$$E_{\text{exchange}} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{5(5-1)}{2}$$

$$= 10$$



Low spin

$$E_{\text{exchange}} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{3(3-1)}{2} \right) \times 2$$

$$= 6$$

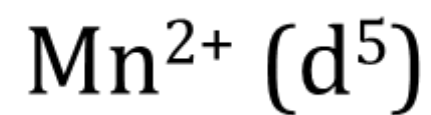
$$\text{Loss of exchange energy} = 10 - 6 = 4$$



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Degenerate



High spin

Low spin

$$E_{\text{exchange}} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{5(5-1)}{2}$$

$$= 10$$

$$E_{\text{exchange}} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{3(3-1)}{2} \right) + \left( \frac{2(2-1)}{2} \right)$$

$$= 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$\text{Loss of exchange energy} = 10 - 4 = 6$$

From the above calculation reveals that  $\text{Mn}^{2+} (\text{d}^5)$  has greater loss of exchange energy hence it has higher pairing energy therefore it prefers high spin instead of low spin.



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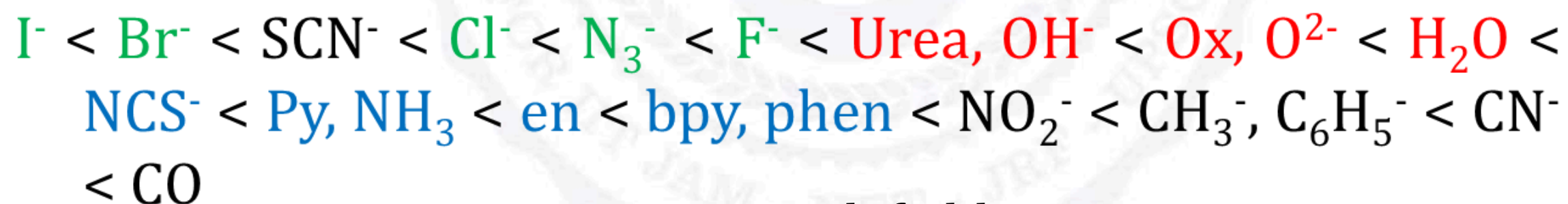
# 1. LIGAND CHARACTER

The ligands are classified as weak and strong field ligands.

Ligand which cause a small degree of splitting of d-orbital are called weak field ligands.

Ligand which cause large splitting of d-orbital are called strong field ligands.

The common ligands have been arranged in order of their increasing crystal field splitting power to cause splitting of d-orbitals from study of their effects on spectra of transition metal ions. This order usually called as Spectrochemical series.



X = Weak field

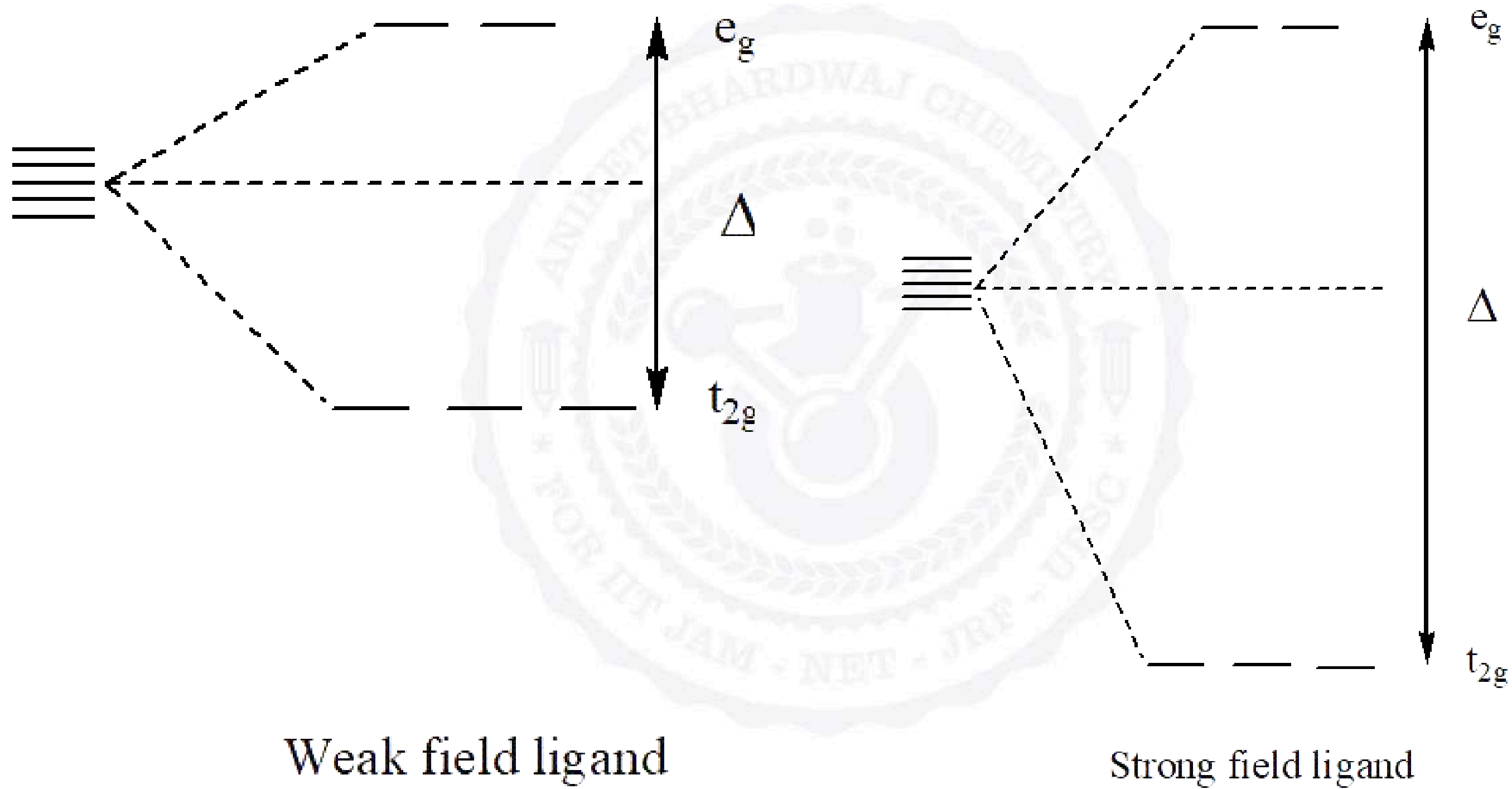
O = Middle

N = Strong

C = Very strong





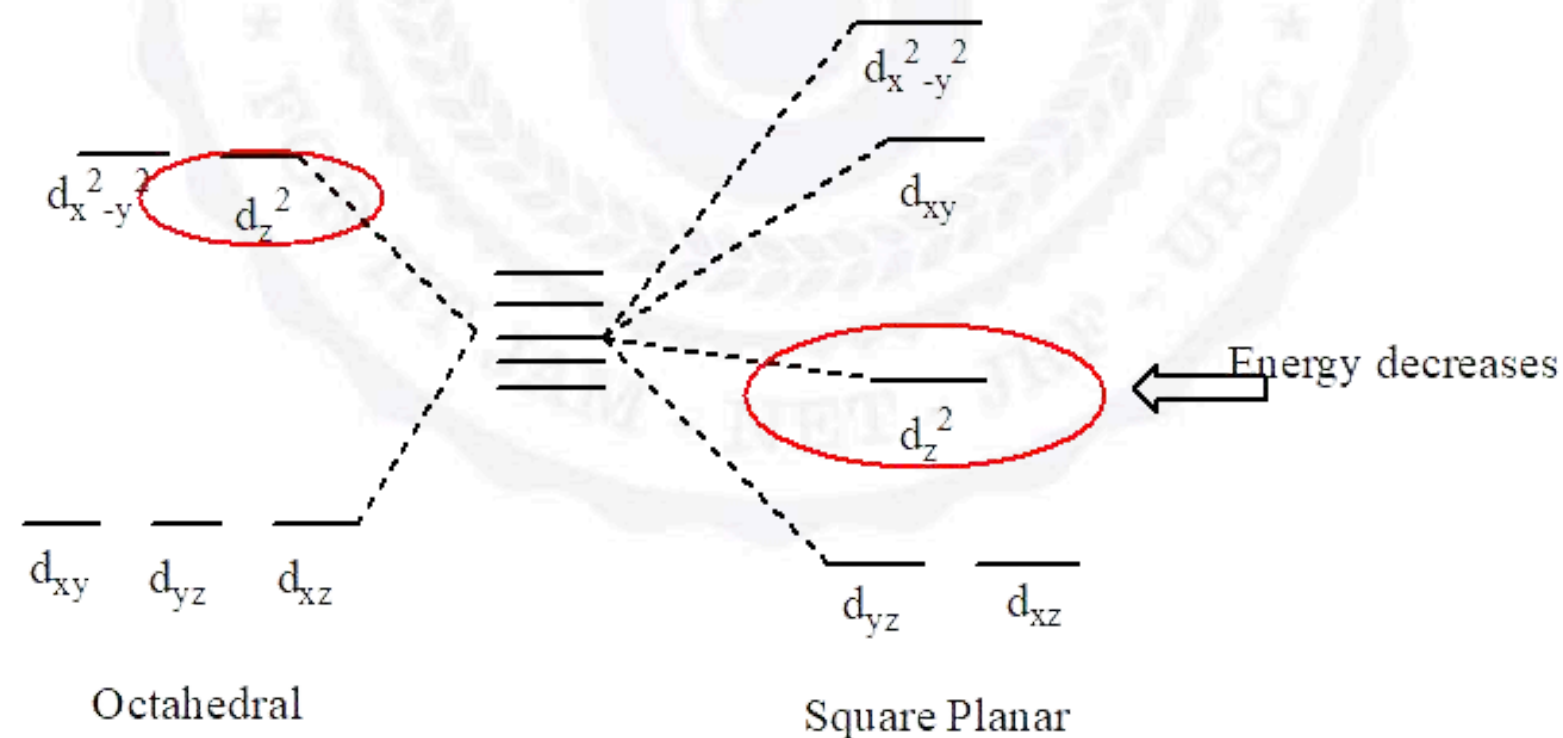


# NUMBER AND GEOMETRY OF THE LIGANDS

The magnitude of crystal field splitting increases with increase of the number of ligands. Hence, the crystal field splitting will follow the order

$$\Delta_{sp} > \Delta_{oct} > \Delta_{tet}$$

Though the number of ligands in square planar complex is smaller than octahedral, the magnitude of splitting is greater for square planar than octahedral because of the fact that square planar complex are formed by much strong ligands and also the two electrons in  $d_{z^2}$  orbital are stabilized.



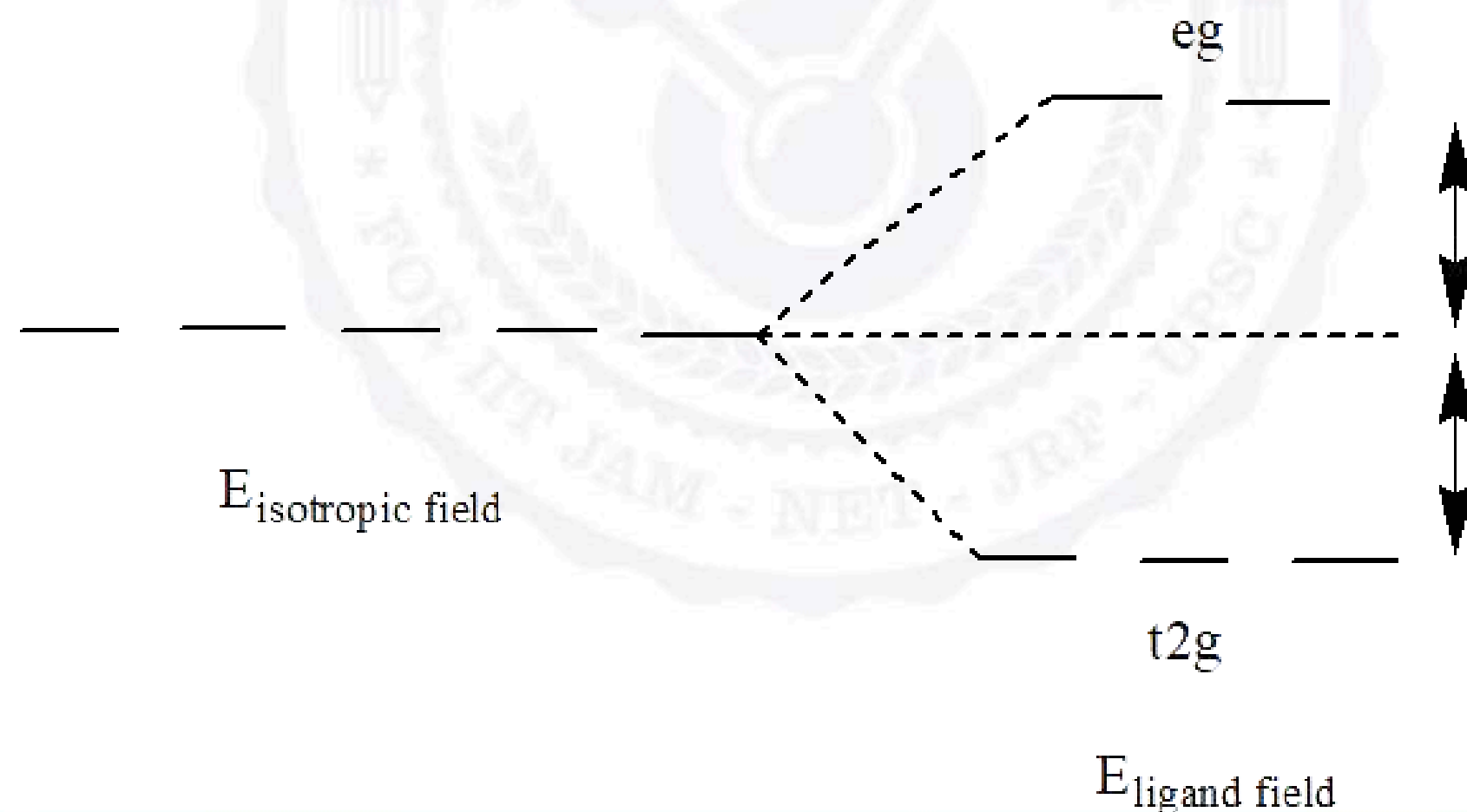


# CRYSTAL FIELD STABILIZATION ENERGY

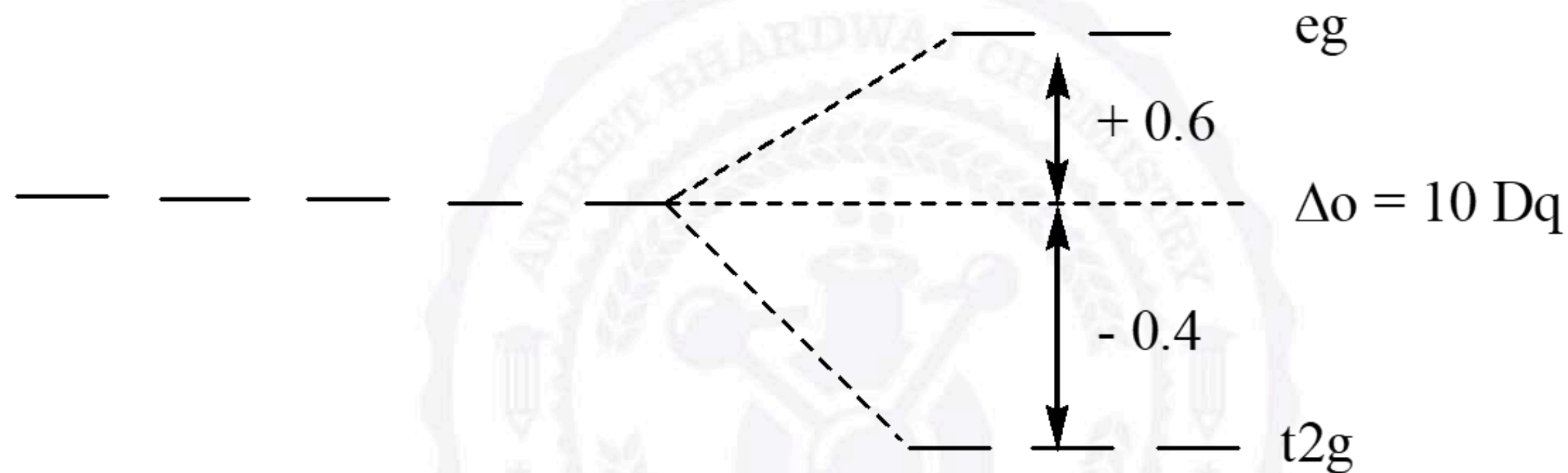
Crystal Field Stabilization Energy is defined as the difference in the energy of the electron configuration in the ligand field to the energy of the electronic configuration in the isotropic field.

$$\text{CFSE} = E_{\text{ligand field}} - E_{\text{isotropic field}}$$

$E_{\text{isotropic field}}$  = Number of electrons in degenerate d-orbital + Pairing energy



# CRYSTAL FIELD STABILIZATION ENERGY OF OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEXES WILL BE CALCULATED USING



$$\text{CFSE} = [-0.4 n_{t_{2g}} + 0.6 n_{e_g}] \Delta_o + mP$$

$n$  = number of electron present in  $t_{2g}$  and  $e_g$  orbital respectively

$m$  = number of pair of electrons



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# CRYSTAL FIELD STABILIZATION ENERGY OF TETRAHEDRAL COMPLEXES WILL BE CALCULATED USING

$$\text{CFSE} = [-0.6 n_e + 0.4 n_{t_2}] \Delta t$$

$n$  = number of electron present in  $e$  and  $t_2$  orbital respectively

$$\text{w.k.t } \Delta t = \frac{4}{9} \Delta_o$$

$$\text{CFSE} = [-0.6 n_e + 0.4 n_{t_2}] \times \frac{4}{9} \Delta_o$$

Crystal Field Stabilization Energy of Tetrahedral complexes simplified form in terms of Octahedral

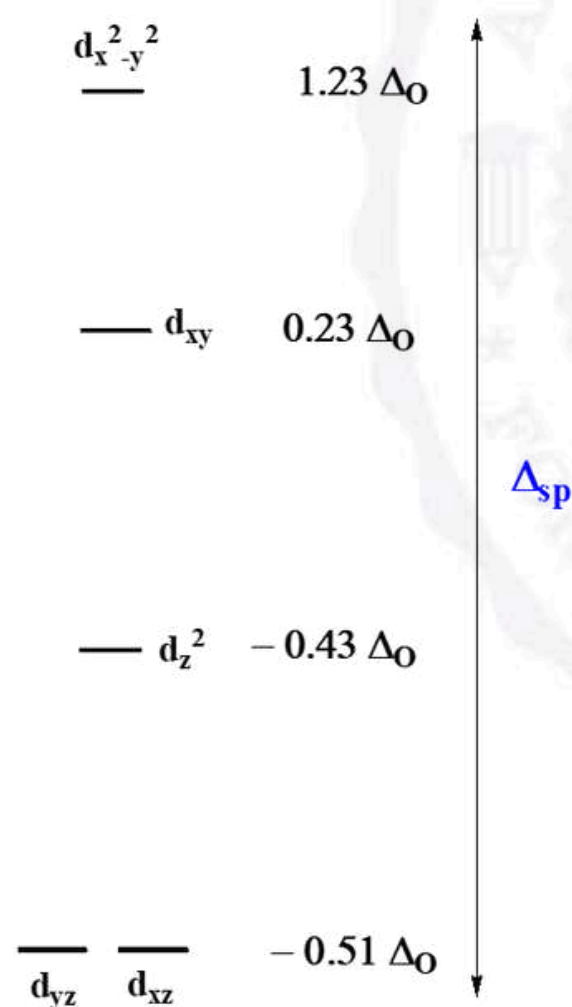
$$\text{CFSE} = [-0.27 n_e + 0.18 n_{t_2}] \Delta_o$$



# CRYSTAL FIELD STABILIZATION ENERGY OF SQUARE PLANAR COMPLEXES WILL BE CALCULATED USING

$$\text{CFSE} = (-0.51) (\# e) + (-0.42) (\# e) + (0.23) (\# e) + (1.23) (\# e) \Delta_{sp}$$

# e = number of electron present in each orbital respectively



w.k.t  $\Delta_{sp} = 1.74 \Delta_o$

$$\text{CFSE} = (-0.51) (\# e) + (-0.42) (\# e) + (0.23) (\# e) + (1.23) (\# e) \times 1.74 \Delta_o$$

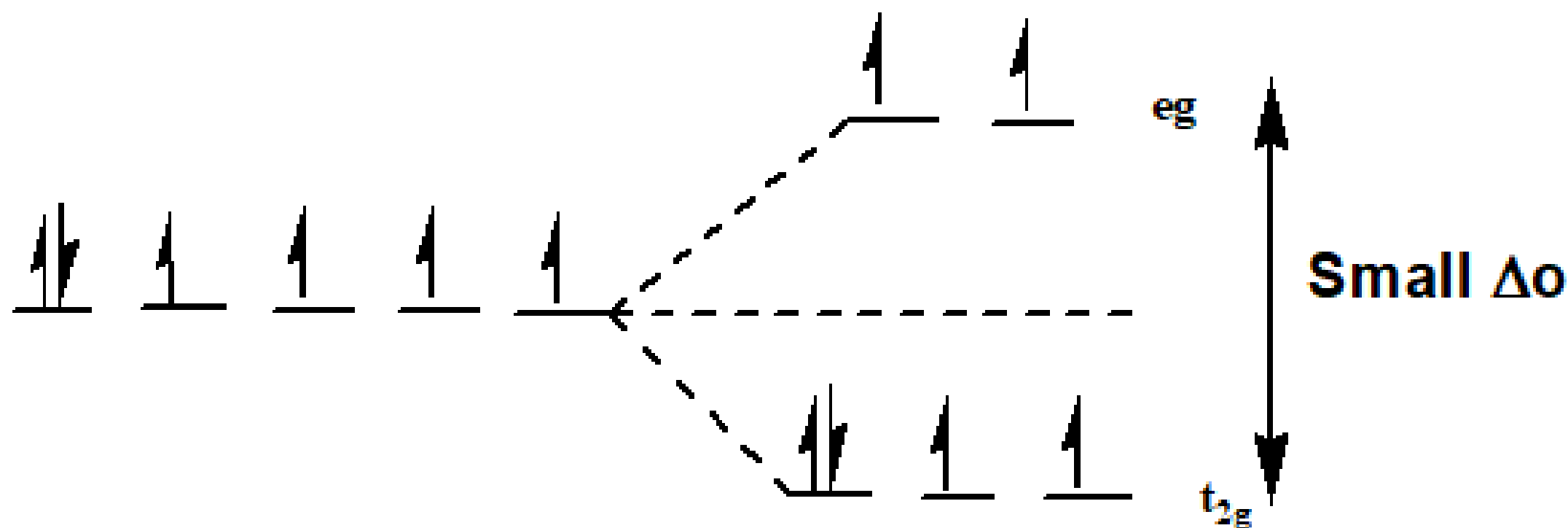




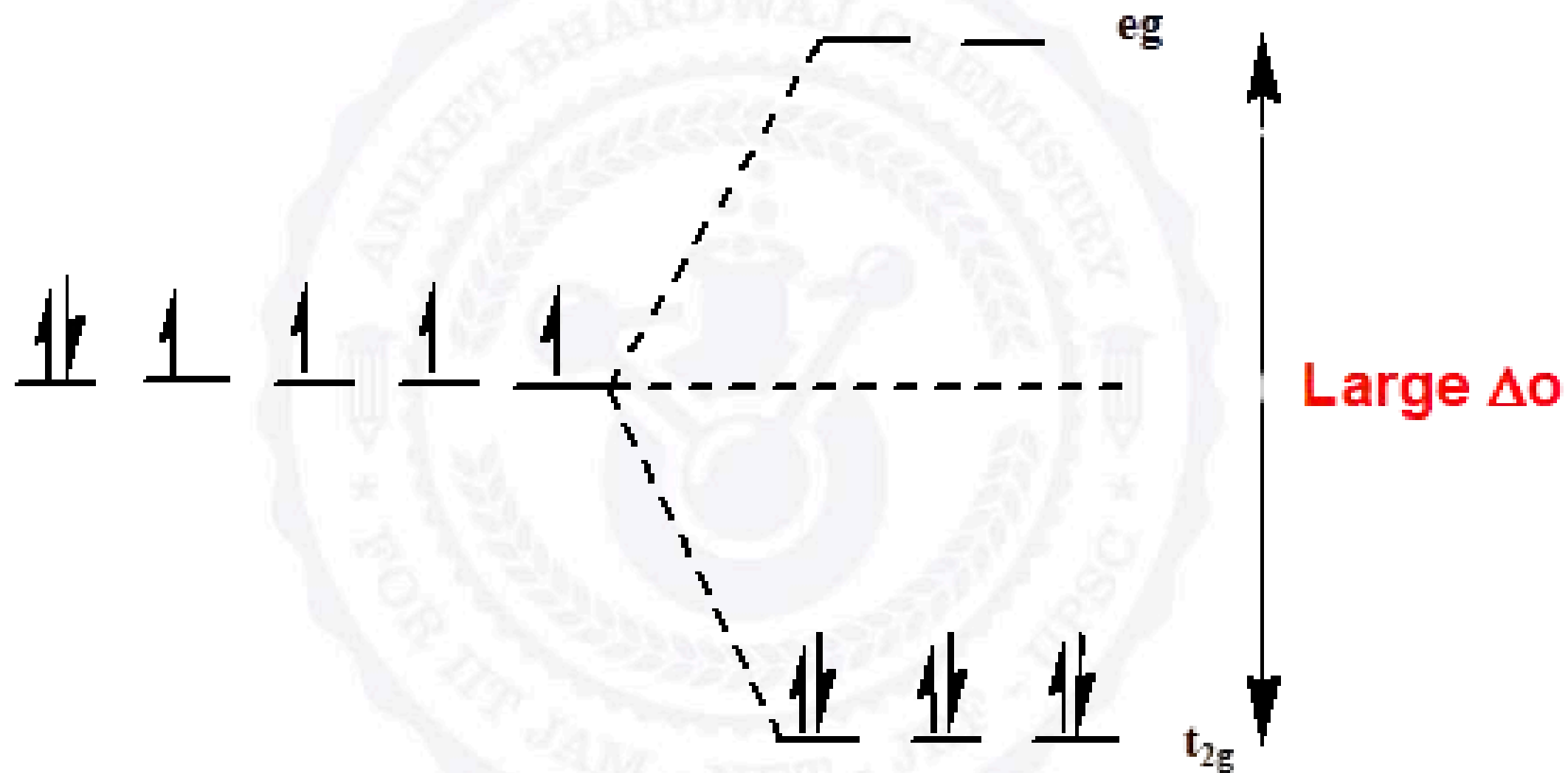
# DISTRIBUTION OF D-ELECTRONS IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEX

The distribution of d-electrons in  $t_{2g}$  and  $e_g$  orbitals takes place according to Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity i.e. pairing of electrons will occur only when each of five orbital is singly filled.

The complex having small value of  $\Delta_o$ , no pairing of electrons will take place i.e. Arrangement of d-electron remains as in free metal ion.



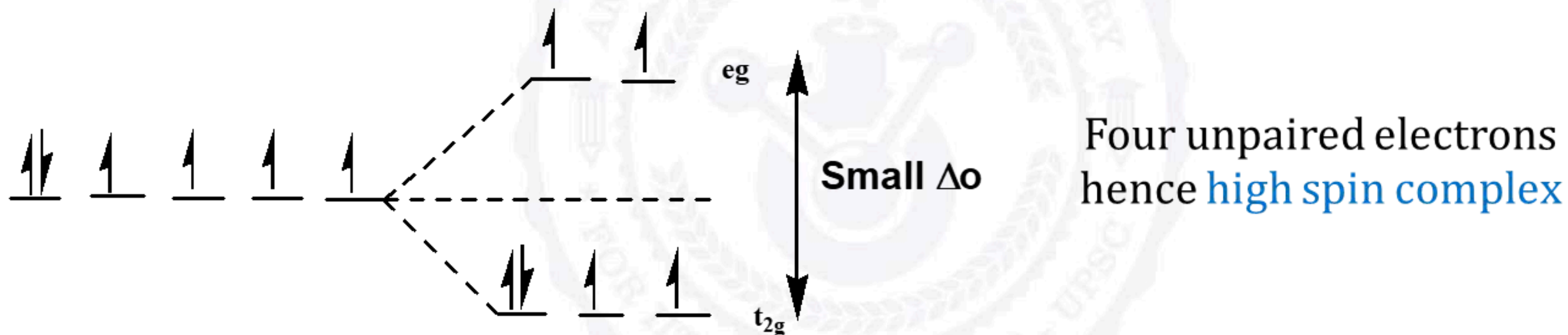
The complex having high value of  $\Delta_o$ , the distribution of electrons does not obey Hund's rule.





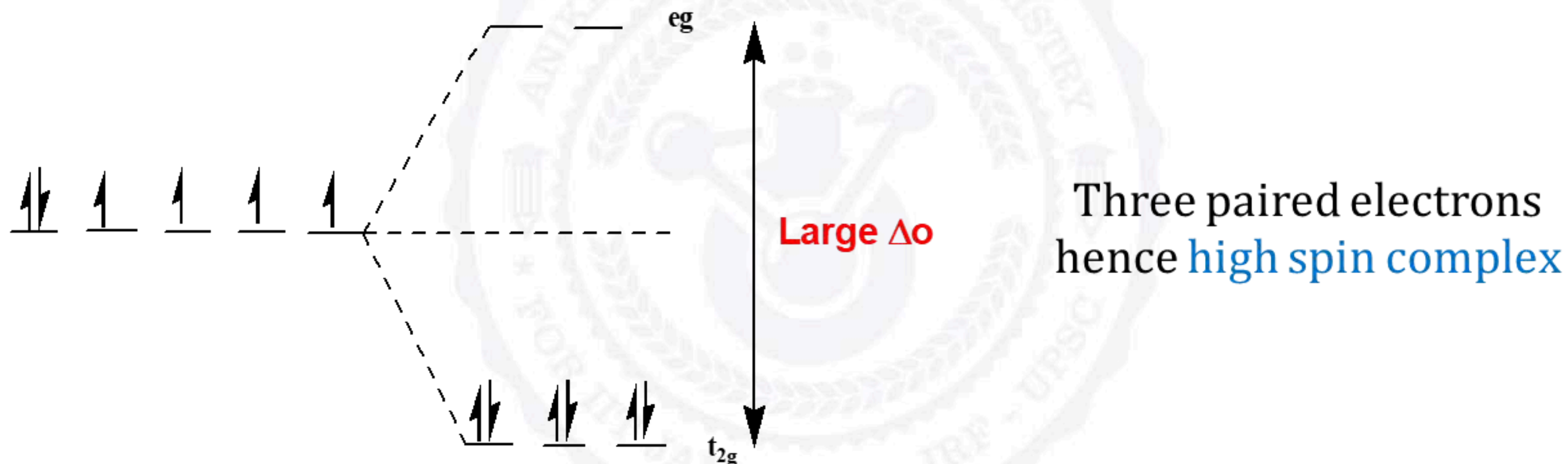
# WEAK FIELD OR HIGH SPIN OR SPIN FREE COMPLEXES

In weak field octahedral complex the value of  $\Delta_o$  is small and no pairing of d-electrons. These complexes have maximum number of unpaired electrons and are called high spin or spin free complexes.



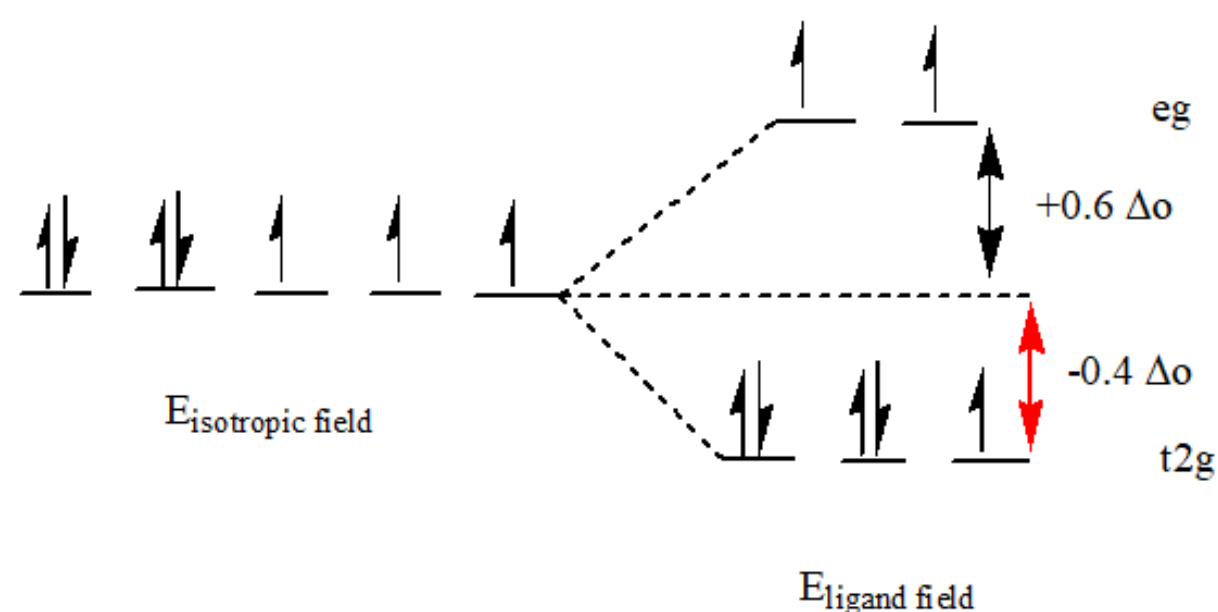
# STRONG FIELD OR LOW SPIN OR SPIN PAIRED COMPLEXES

In strong field octahedral complex the value of  $\Delta_o$  is large and pairing of d-electrons. These complexes have maximum number of paired electrons are called low spin or spin paired complexes.





## What is CFSE for a high spin $d^7$ octahedral complex



$$E_{\text{isotropic field}} = 7 \times 0 + 2P = 2P$$

$$E_{\text{ligand field}} = (-0.4 \times 5 + 0.6 \times 2) \Delta_o + 2P = -0.8 \Delta_o + 2P$$

So, the CFSE is

$$\text{CFSE} = E_{\text{ligand field}} - E_{\text{isotropic field}}$$

$$= -0.8 \Delta_o + \cancel{2P} - \cancel{2P}$$

$$\boxed{\text{CFSE} = -0.8 \Delta_o}$$



## Octahedral CFSEs for $d^n$ configuration with pairing energy $P$

$d^n$	High-spin = weak field		Low-spin = strong field	
	Electronic configuration	CFSE	Electronic configuration	CFSE
$d^1$	$t_{2g}^1 e_g^0$	$-0.4\Delta_{oct}$		
$d^2$	$t_{2g}^2 e_g^0$	$-0.8\Delta_{oct}$		
$d^3$	$t_{2g}^3 e_g^0$	$-1.2\Delta_{oct}$		
$d^4$	$t_{2g}^3 e_g^1$	$-0.6\Delta_{oct}$	$t_{2g}^4 e_g^0$	$-1.6\Delta_{oct} + P$
$d^5$	$t_{2g}^3 e_g^2$	0	$t_{2g}^5 e_g^0$	$-2.0\Delta_{oct} + 2P$
$d^6$	$t_{2g}^4 e_g^2$	$-0.4\Delta_{oct}$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^0$	$-2.4\Delta_{oct} + 2P$
$d^7$	$t_{2g}^5 e_g^2$	$-0.8\Delta_{oct}$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^1$	$-1.8\Delta_{oct} + P$
$d^8$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^2$	$-1.2\Delta_{oct}$		
$d^9$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^3$	$-0.6\Delta_{oct}$		
$d^{10}$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^4$	0		

Table has been taken from Inorganic Chemistry by Catherine E. Housecroft and Alan G. Sharpe, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition





## Tetrahedral CFSEs for $d^n$ configuration

# of d-electrons	Tetrahedral CFSE	# of d-electrons	Tetrahedral CFSE
1	$-0.6 \Delta_t$	6	$-0.6 \Delta_t$
2	$-1.2 \Delta_t$	7	$-1.2 \Delta_t$
3	$-0.8 \Delta_t$	8	$-0.8 \Delta_t$
4	$-0.4 \Delta_t$	9	$-0.4 \Delta_t$
5	zero	10	zero



## PAIRING ENERGY

**IF  $\Delta O > P$ , FAVORS LOW SPIN COMPLEXES**

**IF  $\Delta O < P$ , FAVORS HIGH SPIN COMPLEXES**

**IF  $\Delta O = P$ , HIGH AND LOW SPIN COMPLEXES EQUALLY EXISTS**

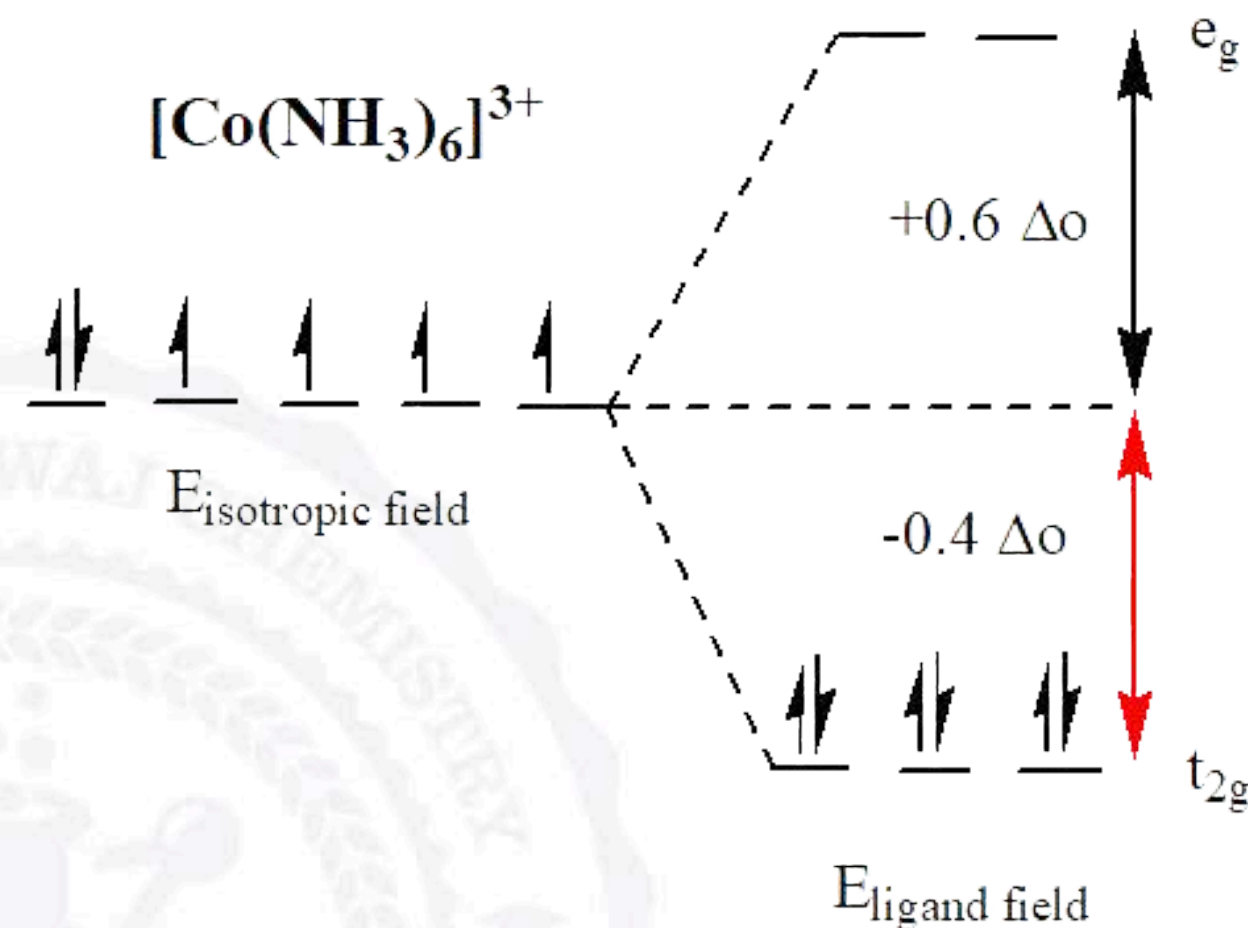


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**Calculate the CFSE of  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$  complex whose  $\Delta_o = 23000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $P = 21000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$**

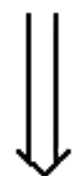


$$\Delta_o = 23000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$P = 21000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

Since

$$\Delta_o > P$$



Favors low spin complex

$$\text{CFSE} = (-0.4 \times n_{t_{2g}} + 0.6 \times n_{e_g}) \Delta_o + m \times P$$

$$\text{CFSE} = (-0.4 \times 6 + 0.6 \times 0) \Delta_o + 2 \times P$$

$$= (-2.4) 23000 + 2 \times 21000$$

$$= -55000 + 42000$$

$$\text{CFSE} = -13200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$



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**FOR COMPLEXES THE HIGH SPIN AND LOW SPIN WILL BE DECIDED ON THE BASIS OF  
LIGAND FIELD STRENGTH**

**FOR WEAK FIELD LIGANDS PAIRING ENERGY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED WITH CFSE**

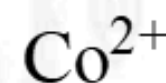
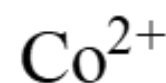
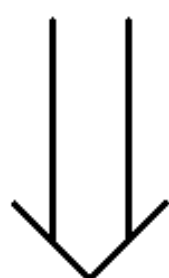
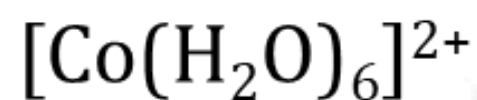
**WHEREAS FOR STRONG FIELD LIGANDS PAIRING ENERGY WILL BE CONSIDERED ALONG  
WITH CFSE**



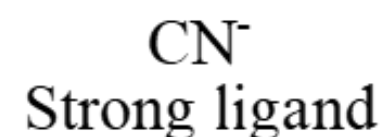
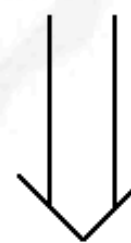
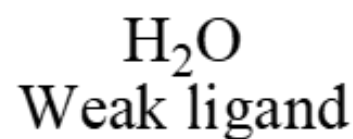


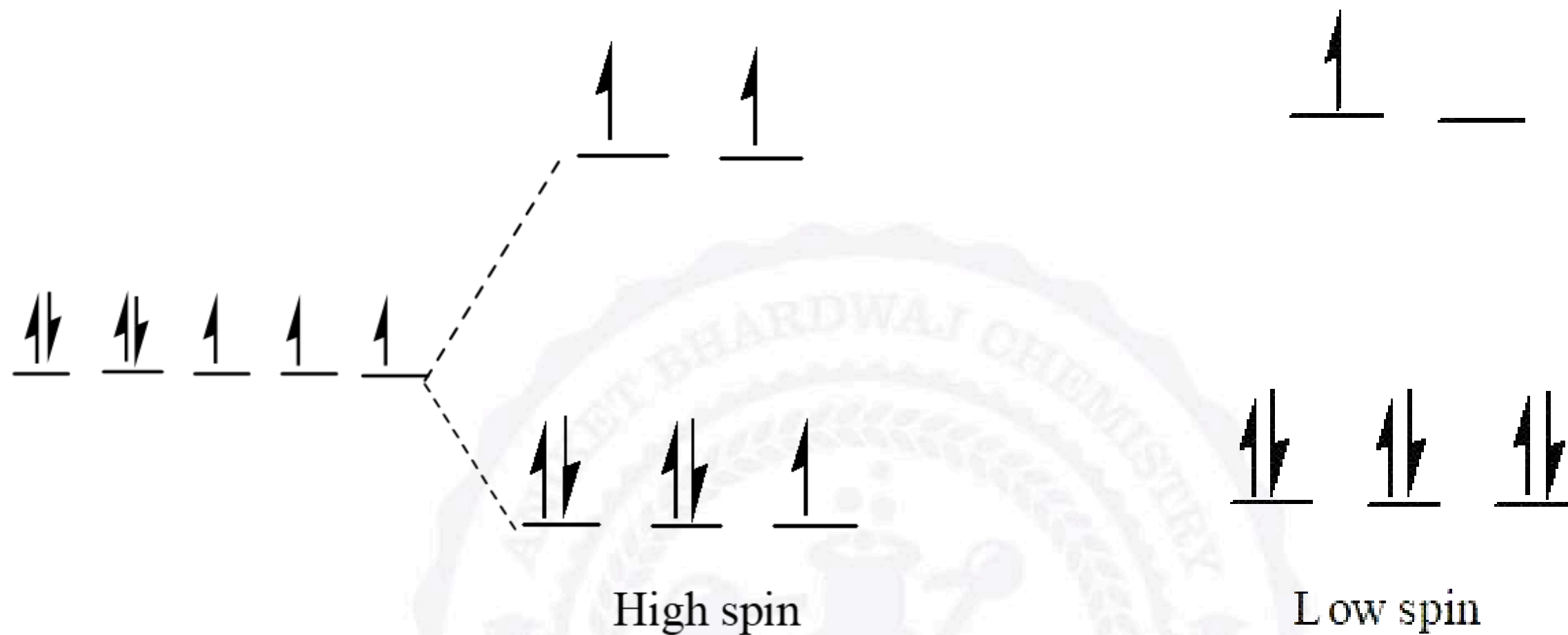
Consider for example two complexes  $[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  and  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$

Here in the above complexes we need to decide for which complex we need to add pairing energy along with CFSE will be decided by ligand field strength.



In both complexes Cobalt is in +2 oxidation state hence both will have same pairing energy. Hence ligand field strength will be considered.





$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{CFSE} &= (-0.4 \times 5 + 0.6 \times 2) \Delta_o \\
 &= -2.0 + 1.2 \Delta_o \\
 &= -0.8 \Delta_o
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Downarrow$   
 $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
 Weak ligand

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{CFSE} &= (-0.4 \times 6 + 0.6 \times 1) \Delta_o + 1P \\
 &= -2.4 + 0.6 \Delta_o + 1P \\
 &= -1.8 \Delta_o + P
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Downarrow$   
 $\text{CN}^-$   
 Strong ligand





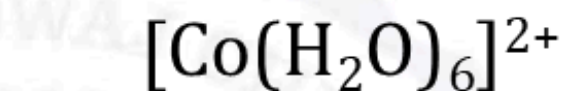
Given CFSE of  $[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  complex is  $7360 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Calculate the value of  $\Delta_o$  in KJ/mol.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{CFSE} &= (-0.4 \times 5 + 0.6 \times 2) \Delta_o \\ &= -2.0 + 1.2 \Delta_o \\ &= -0.8 \Delta_o\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{CFSE} = -0.8 \Delta_o$$

$$\frac{7360}{0.8} = \Delta_o$$

$$\Delta_o = 9200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$



High spin

$$1 \text{ KJ} = 83.7 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta_o = \frac{9200}{83.7}$$

$$\Delta_o = 109.91 \text{ KJ/mol}$$



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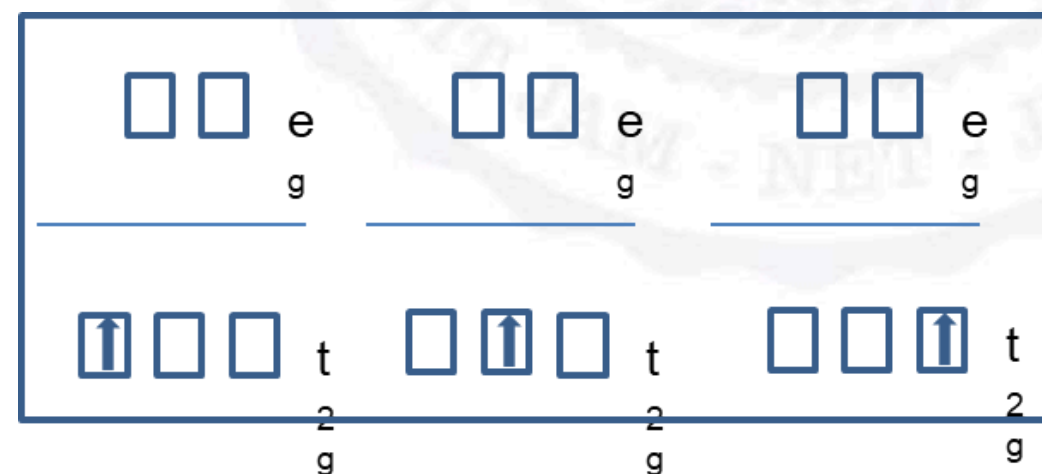
# TETRAGONAL DISTORTION OR JAHN-TELLER DISTORTION

A complex will be regular octahedron when the electronic rearrangement in  $t_{2g}$  and  $e_g$  orbital is symmetric. It is because of the fact that symmetrically arranged electrons will repel all the six ligands equally.

When either  $t_{2g}$  or  $e_g$  orbital are asymmetrically filled i.e. electronically degenerate, the regular octahedral geometry is not stable but it transforms into a distorted octahedral geometry.

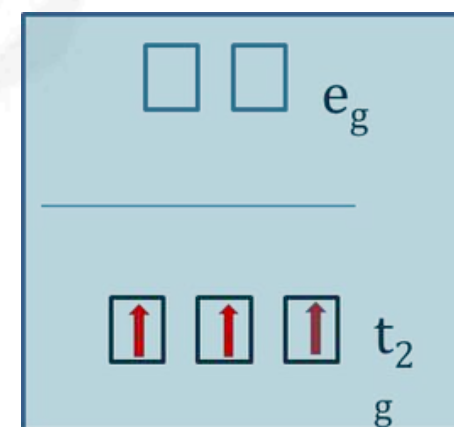
## Electronic Degeneracy : $t_{2g}^1$

Here there are three different ways by which the single electron can occupy the  $t_{2g}$  orbitals. There are three possible electronic configurations which are of the same energy. **Electronic degeneracy is present.**



## Electronic Degeneracy : $t_{2g}^3$

Here there is only one way by which the three electron can occupy the  $t_{2g}$  orbitals. So there is **no electronic degeneracy**





# JAHN-TELLER DISTORTION THEOREM

States that any non linear molecule in an electronically degenerate state is unstable and the molecule becomes distorted in such a way as to remove degeneracy, lower its symmetry and the energy.

Jahn-Teller distortion  $\propto$  Z - component

Order of Jahn-Teller distortion

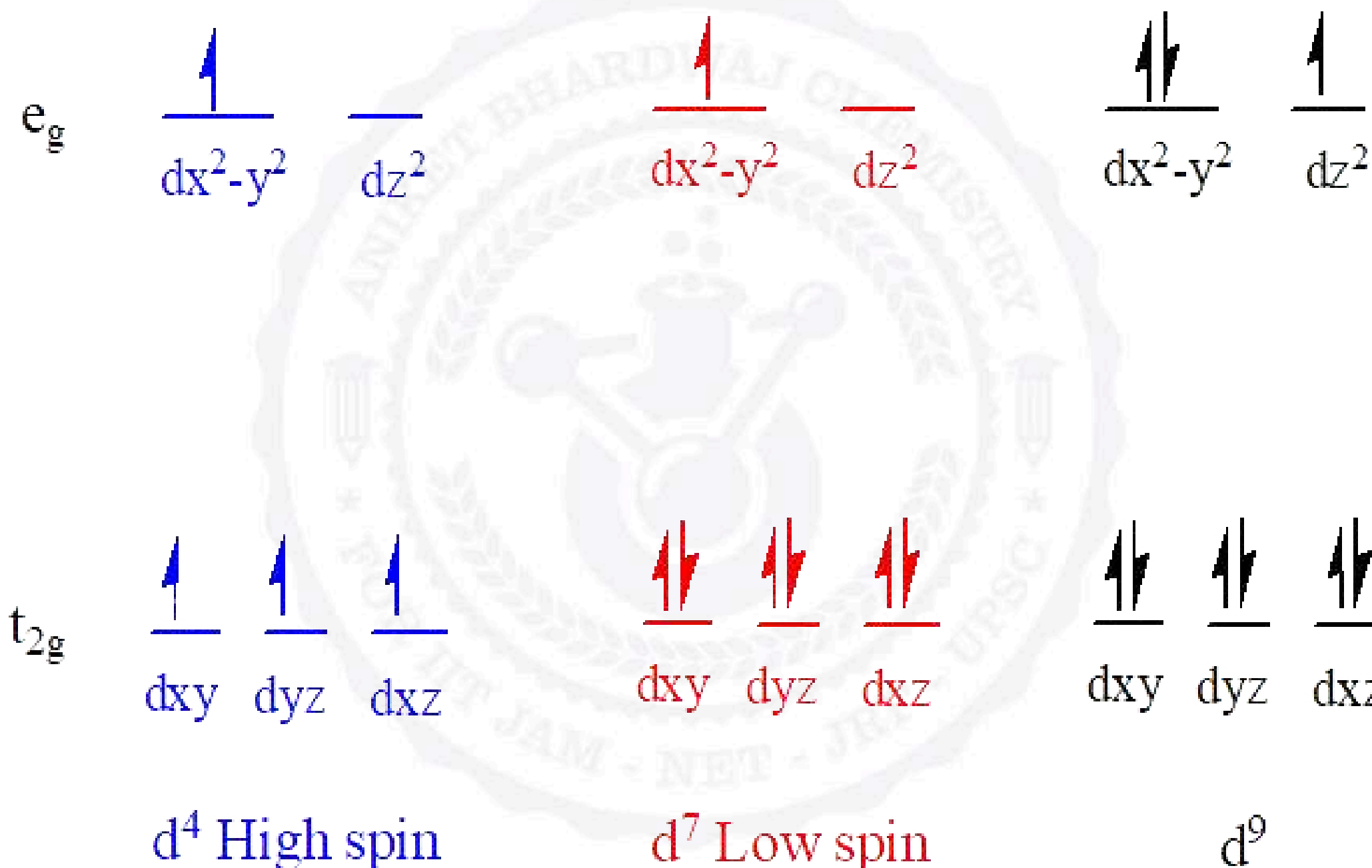
**Octahedral** > Square planar ~ Trigonal bipyramidal > Tetrahedral

Practically, distortion in the regular octahedral geometry is observed when eg orbitals which point directly at ligands, are asymmetrically filled.

The t<sub>2g</sub> orbitals do not point directly at ligands, asymmetrical filling of electrons in them does not give any observable distortion.

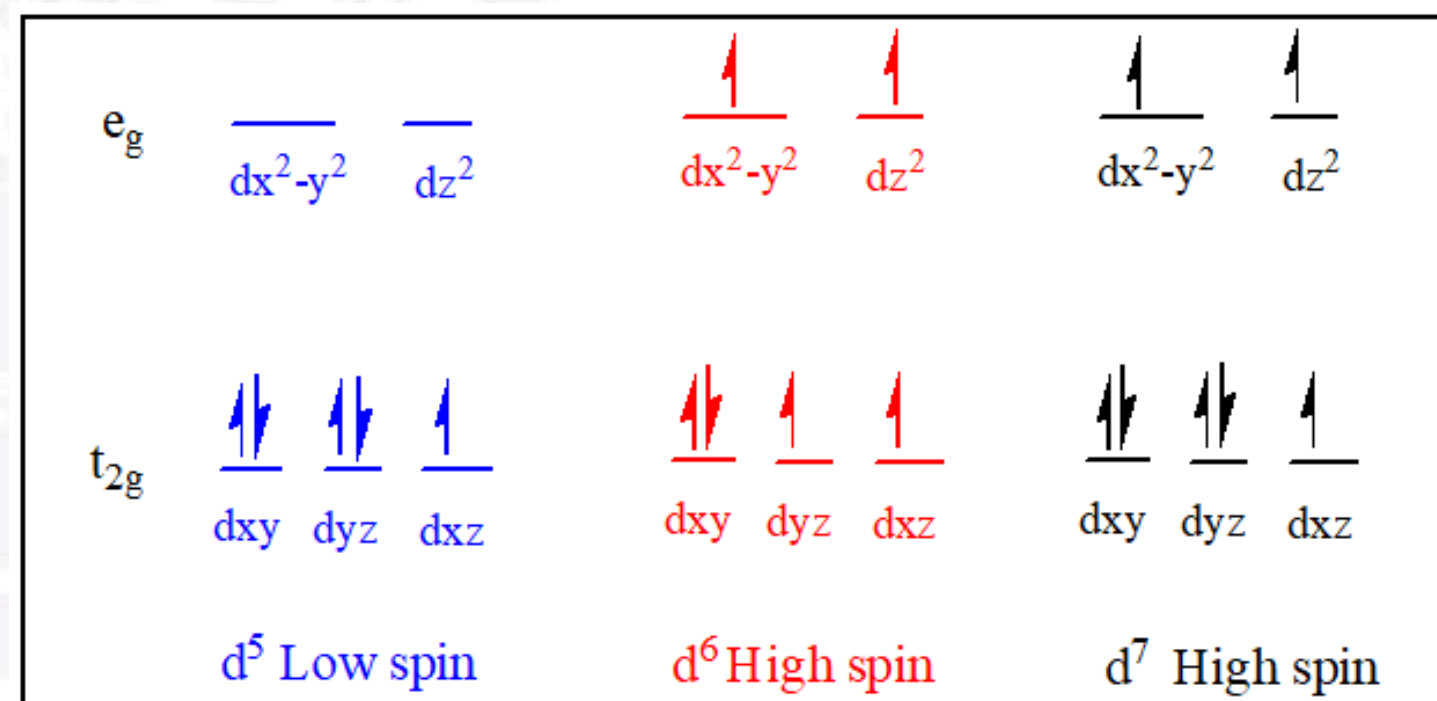
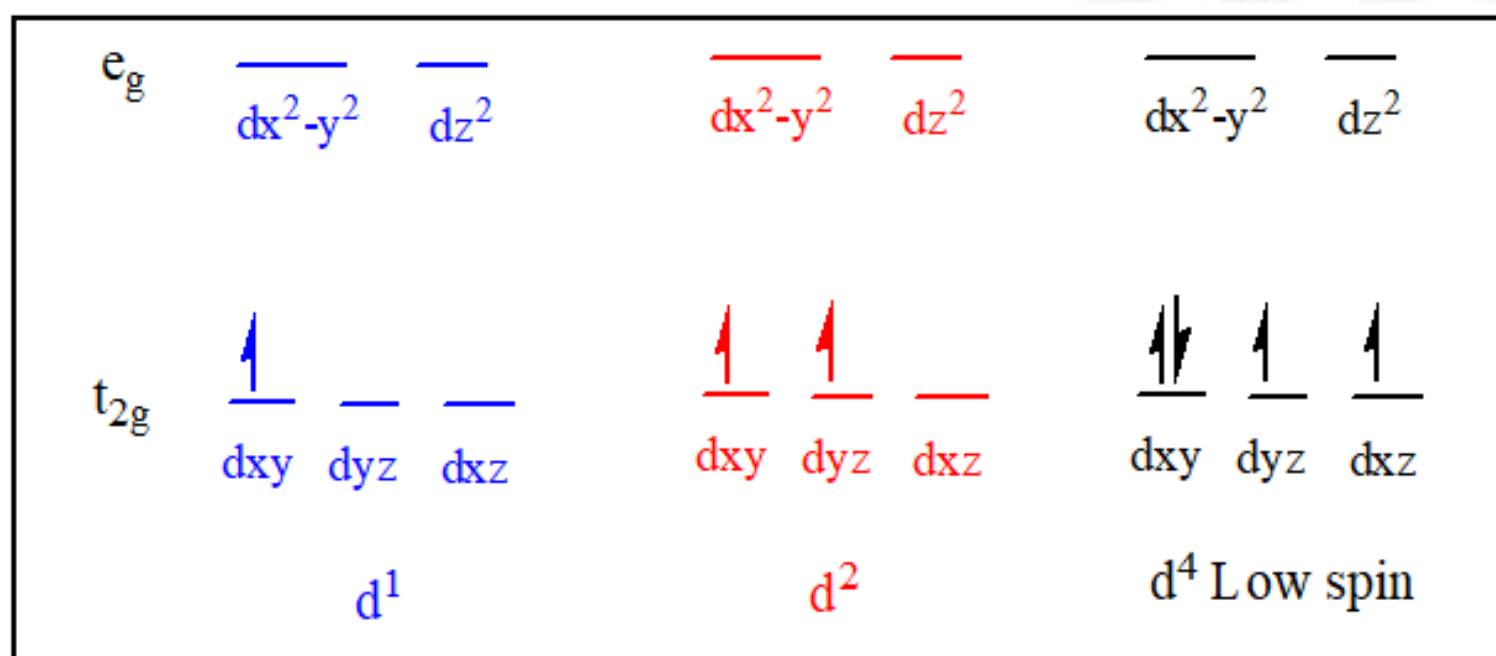


Considerable distortions are usually observed in **high spin  $d^4$** , **low spin  $d^7$**  and  $d^9$  configurations in the octahedral environment.





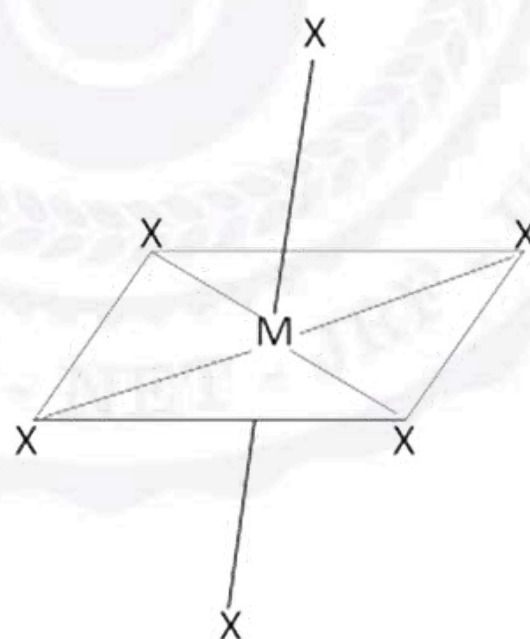
# CONFIGURATIONS SHOWING WEAK JAHN-TELLER DISTORTION



# Z-OUT & Z-IN JAHN-TELLER DISTORTION

The degeneracy of orbitals can be removed by lowering the symmetry of molecule. This can be achieved by either elongation of bonds along the z-axis (Z-out distortion) or by shortening the bonds along the z-axis (Z-in distortion). Thus an octahedrally symmetrical molecule is distorted to tetragonal geometry.

Z-out Jahn-Teller distortion: In this case, the energies of d-orbitals with z factor ( $d_z^2$ ,  $d_{xz}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ) are lowered since the bonds along the z-axis are elongated. This is the most preferred distortion and occurs in most of the cases, especially when the degeneracy occurs in eg level.



**Z-out distortion or Tetragonal elongation**



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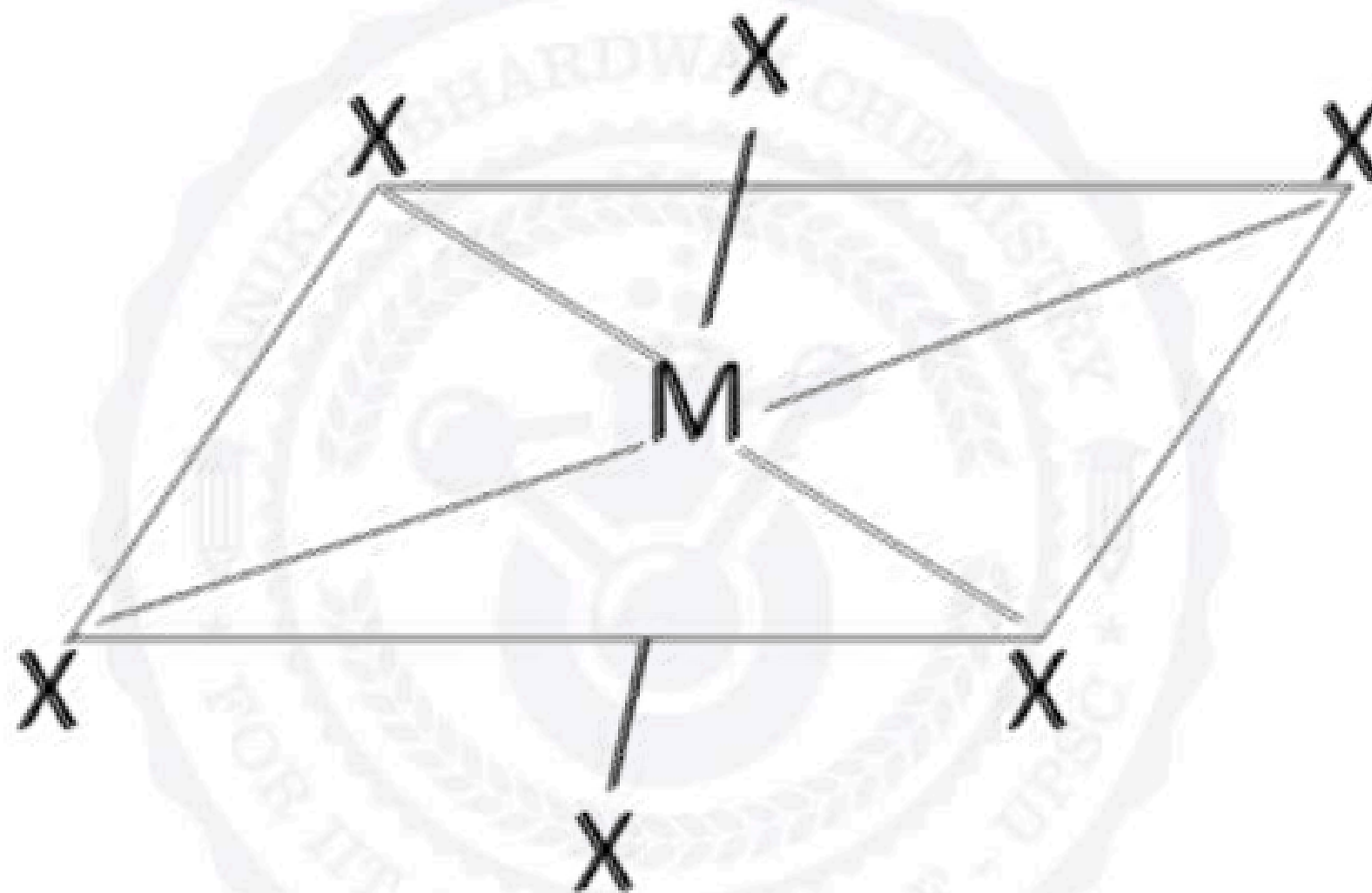
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Z-in Jahn-Teller distortion: In this case the energies of orbitals with z factor are increased since the bonds along the z-axis are shortened.



**Z-in distortion or Tetragonal elongation**



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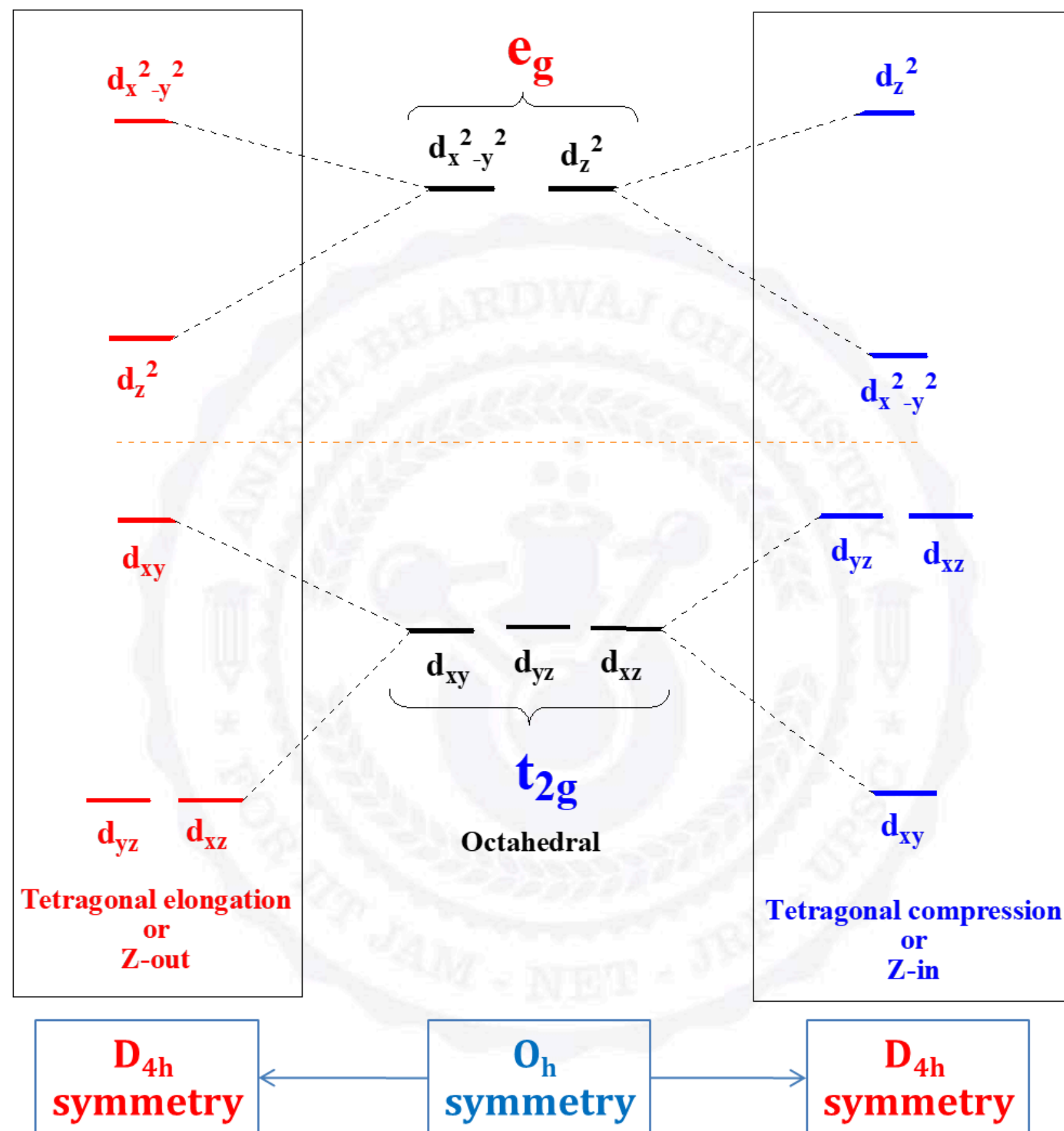
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# STATIC & DYNAMIC JAHN-TELLER DISTORTIONS

Static Jahn-Teller distortion: Some molecules show tetragonal shape under all conditions i.e., in solid state and in solution state; at lower and relatively higher temperatures. This is referred to as static Jahn-Teller distortion. It is observed when the degeneracy occurs in  $e_g$  orbitals. Hence, the distortion is strong and permanent.

Dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion: In some molecules, the distortion is not seen either due to random movements of bonds or else the distortion is so weak. However, the distortion can be seen by freezing the molecule at lower temperatures. This condition is referred to as dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion.

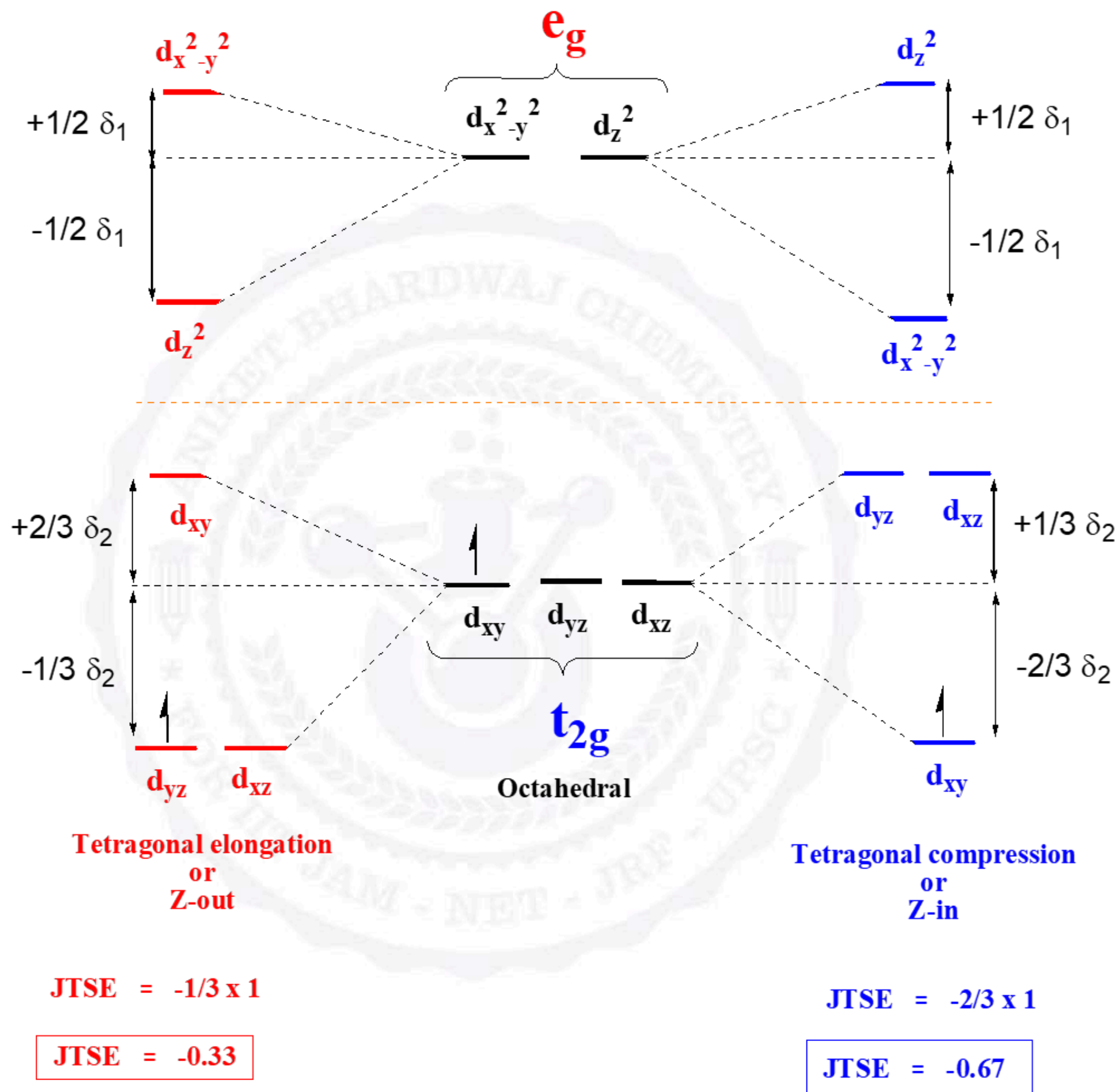
For example,  $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  complex ion shows dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion and appears octahedral. In this case, the distortion is small since the degeneracy occurs in  $t_{2g}$  orbitals.

$\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in the above complex is a high spin  $d^6$  system with  $t_{2g}^4 e_g^2$  configuration.



**$d^1$   
configuration  
undergoes  
Z-in  
Jahn-Teller  
distortion**

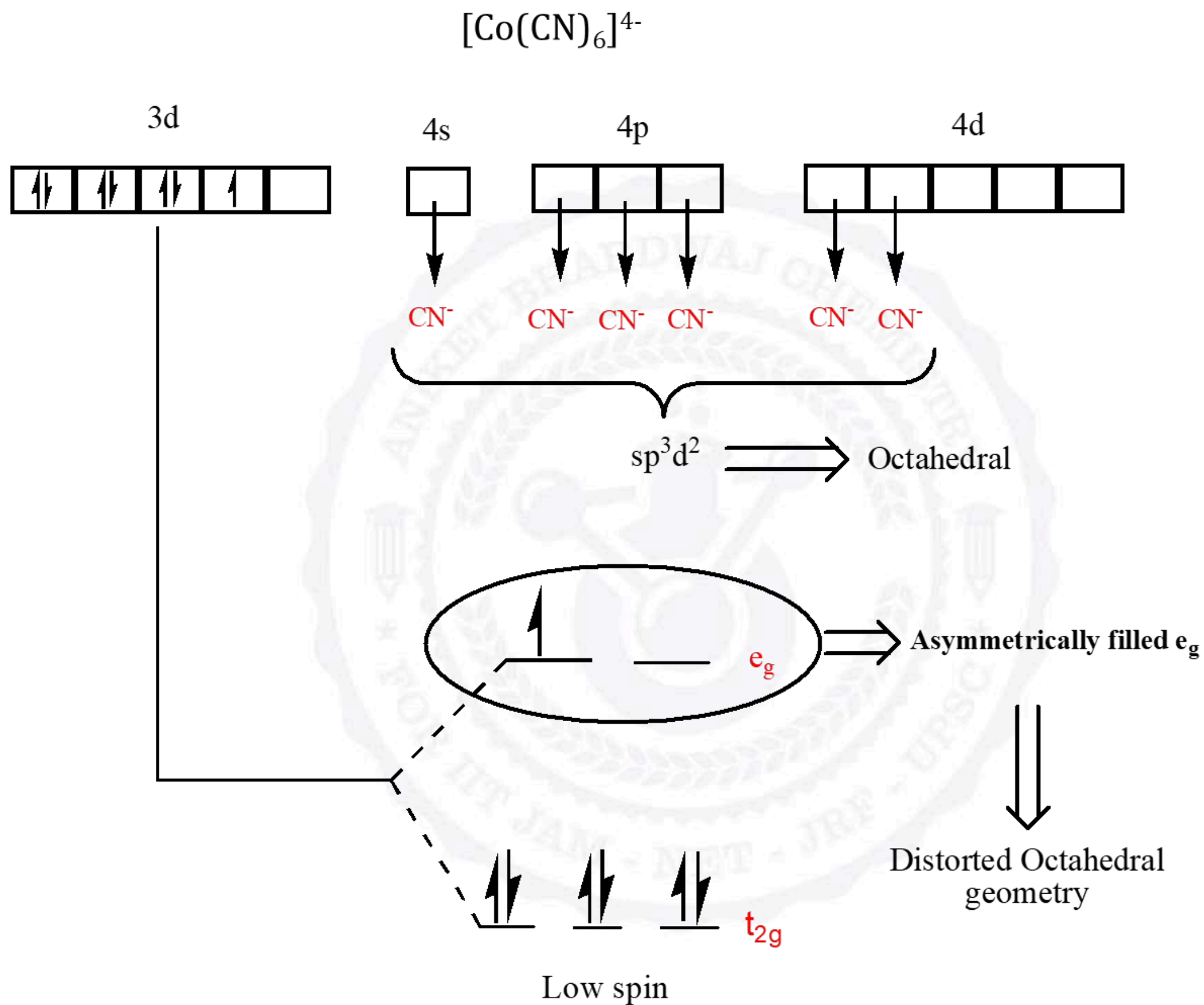
**Since JTSE for  
Z-in is greater  
than Z-out &  
also in Z-out  
case results in  
electronic  
degenerate  
state**



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# CONSEQUENCES OF JAHN-TELLER DISTORTIONS

## 1) Stability of $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ complexes

For a given ligand, the relative stability of complexes with dipositive ion of the first transition series follows the order

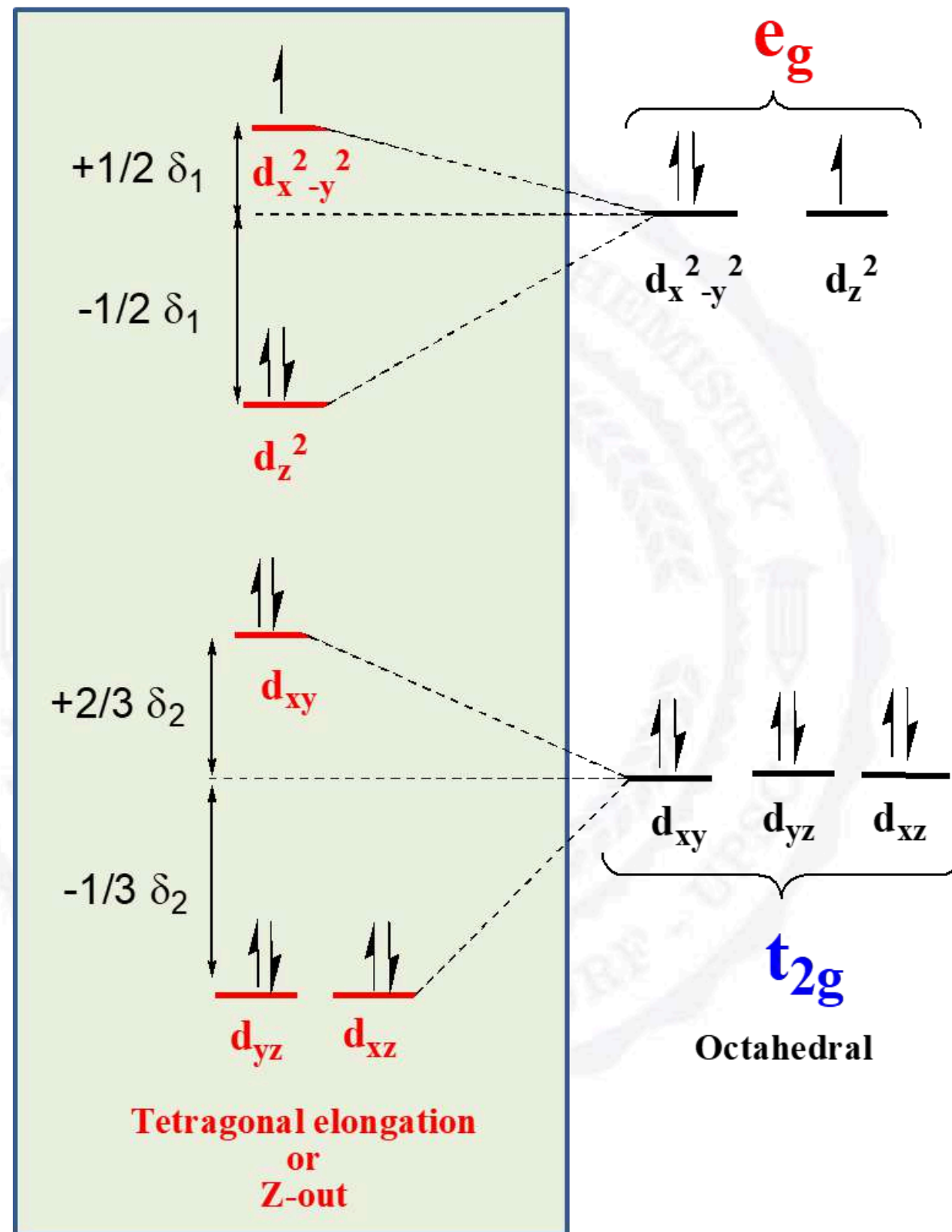


This series is called **Irving-Willian series**. The extra stability of  $\text{Cu(II)}$  complexes is due to Jahn-Teller distortion. During distortion two electrons are lowered in energy while one is raised.

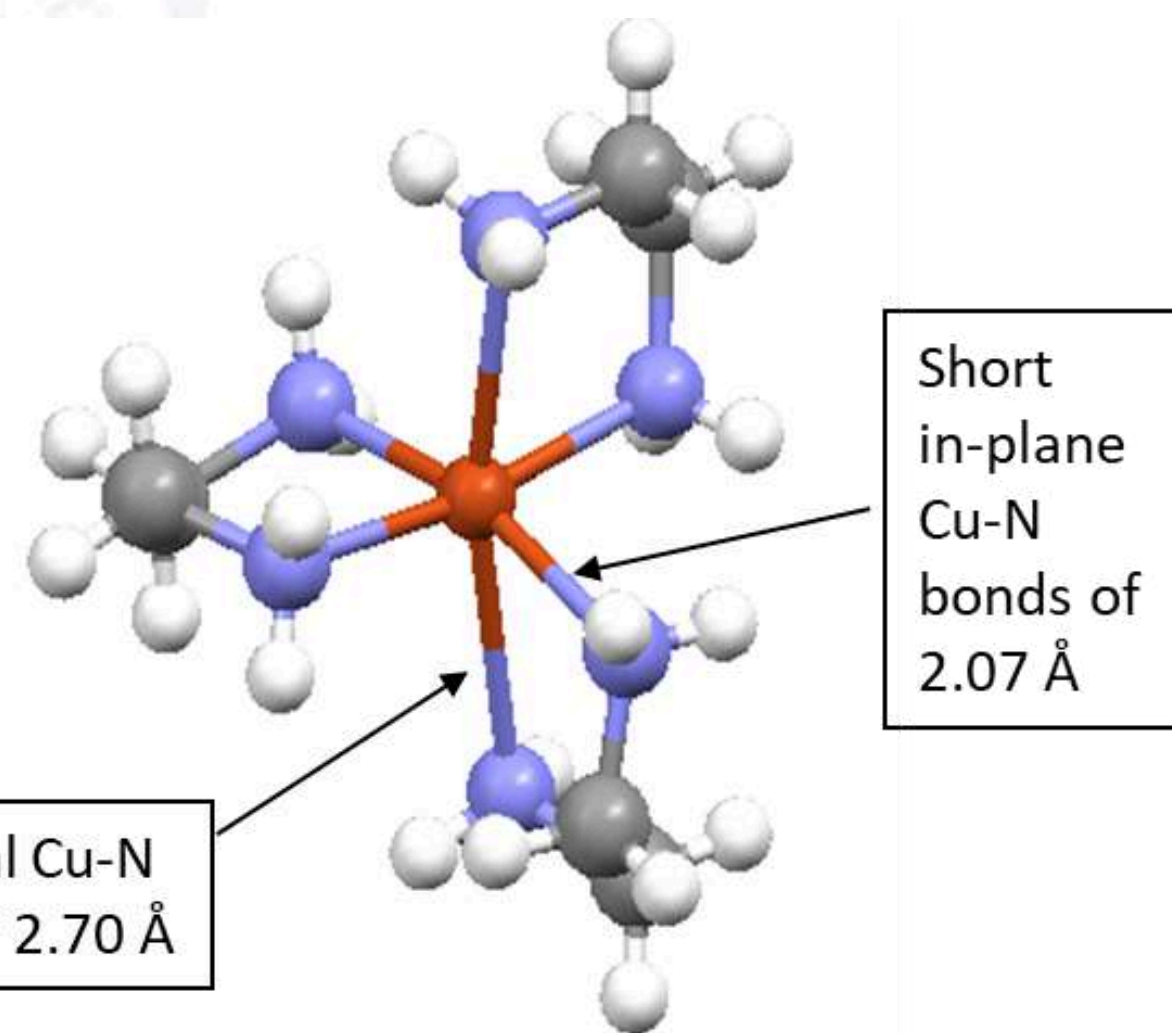
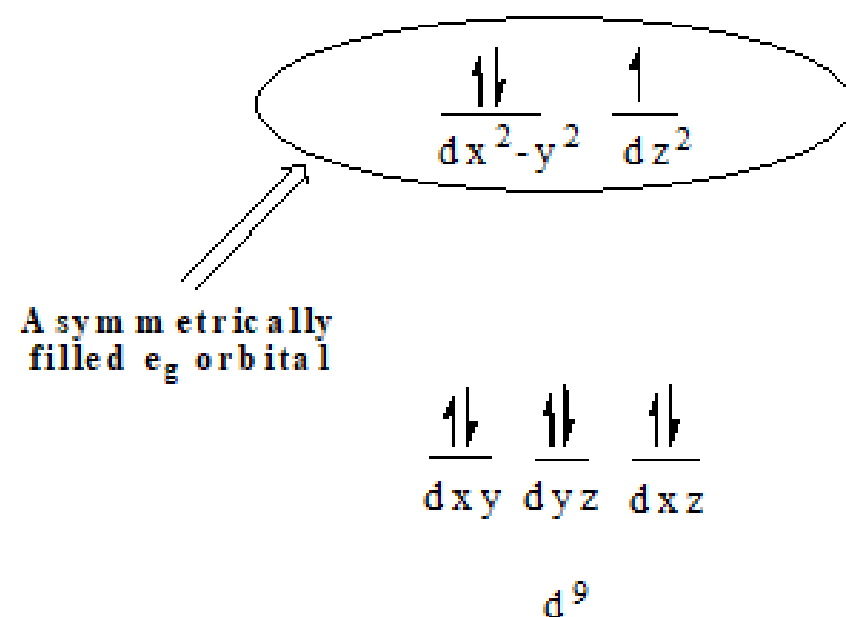
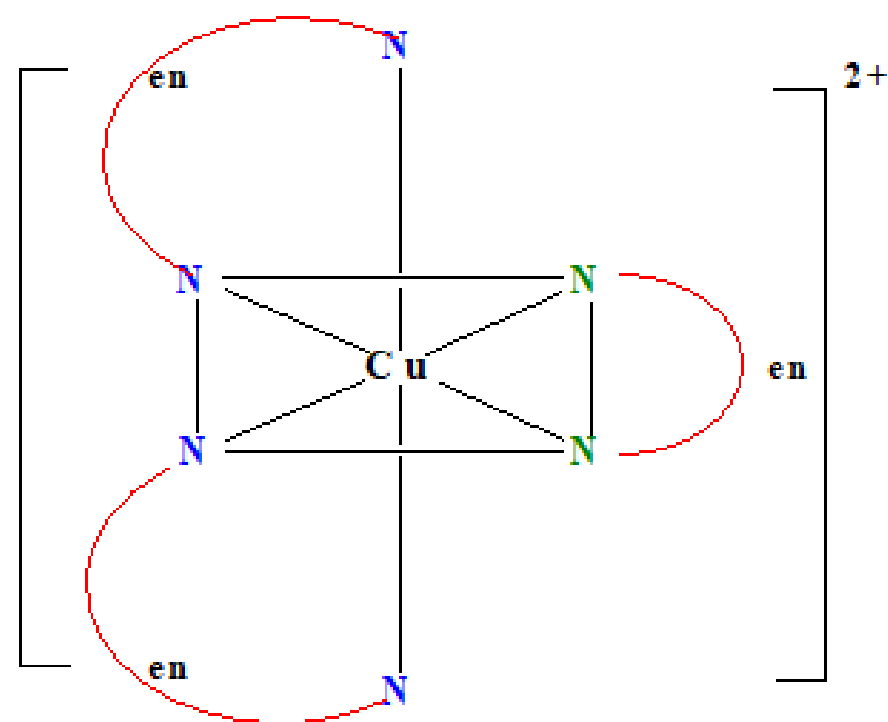




## Cu<sup>2+</sup> complexes

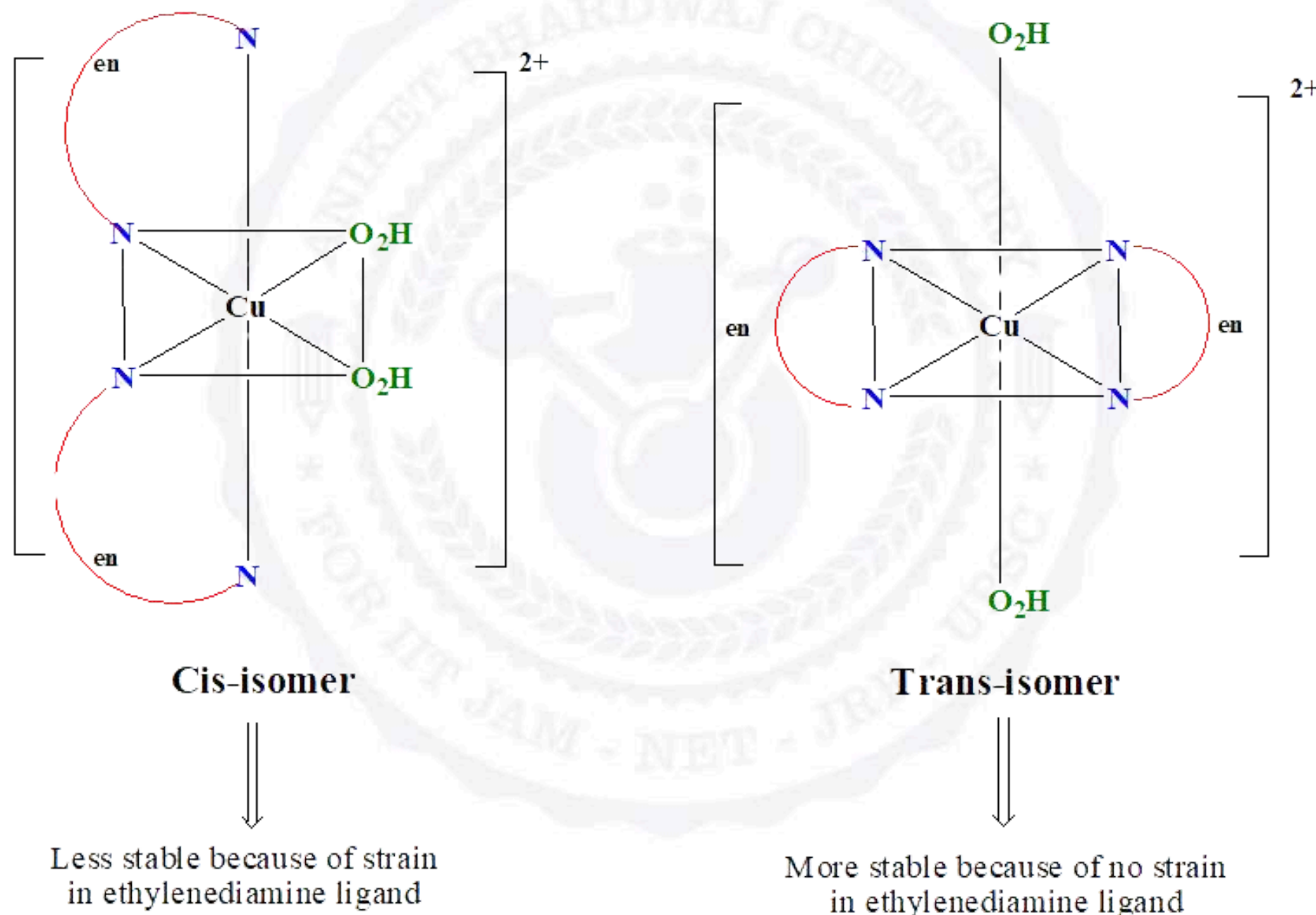


2) The complex  $[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$  is unstable due to Jahn-Teller distortion. It causes strain into ethylenediamine molecule attached along z-axis.

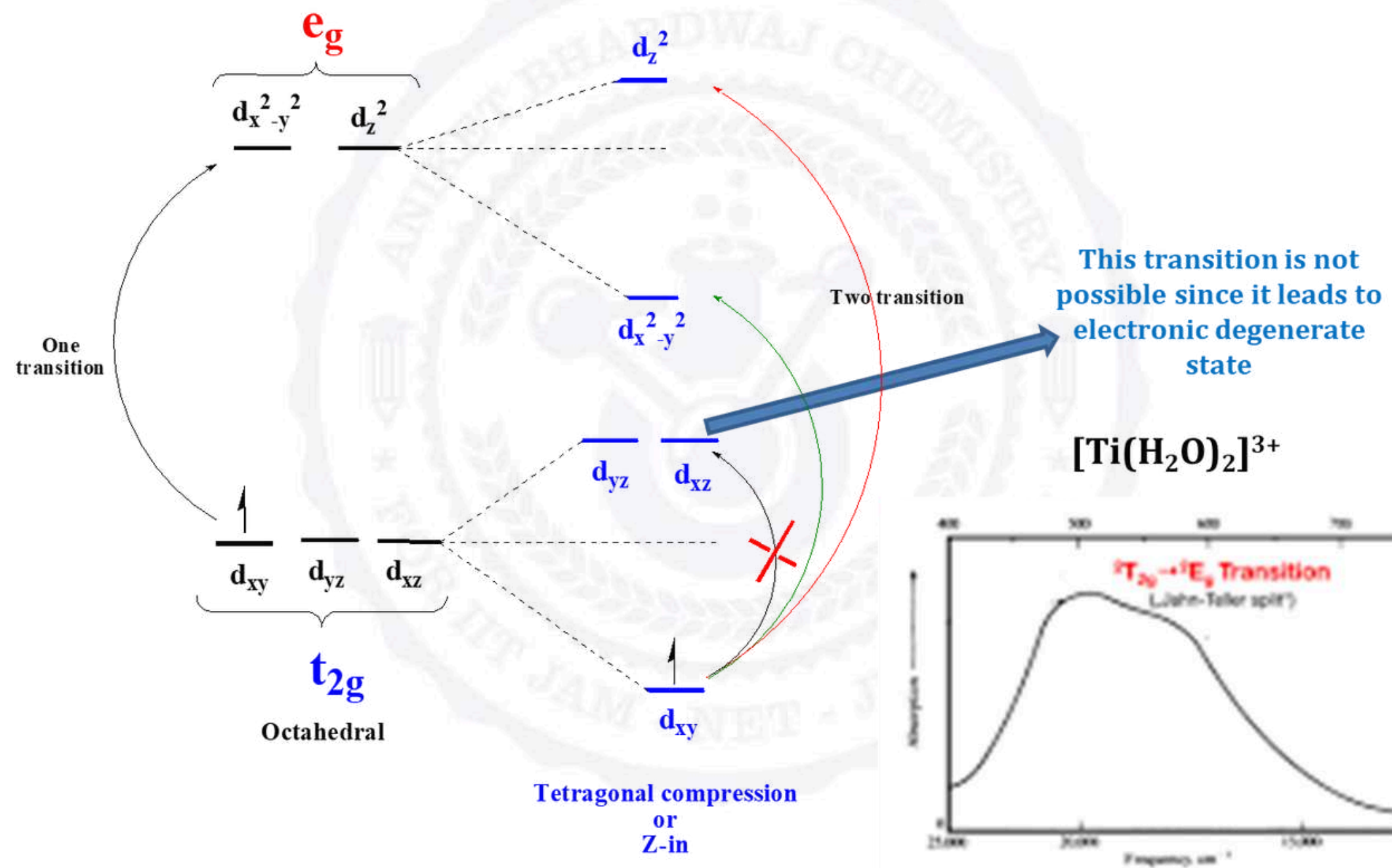




Similar manner trans-[Cu(en)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> is more stable than cis-[Cu(en)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> due to Jahn-Teller distortion. It causes strain into ethylenediamine molecule attached along z-axis in cis-isomer.



### 3) Splitting of absorption bands in the electronic spectra of complexes due to Jahn-Teller distortion.





#### 4) Disproportionation of Au (II) salts

Au (II) ion is less stable and undergoes disproportionation to Au (I) & Au (III) even though Cu (II) & Ag (II) are comparatively stable.

One may expect same stability since all are d9 system & undergoes Jahn-Teller distortion.

However, the  $\Delta$  value increases down the group. Hence, Au (II) ion reaches maximum and causes high destabilization of last electron in  $dx^2-y^2$ .

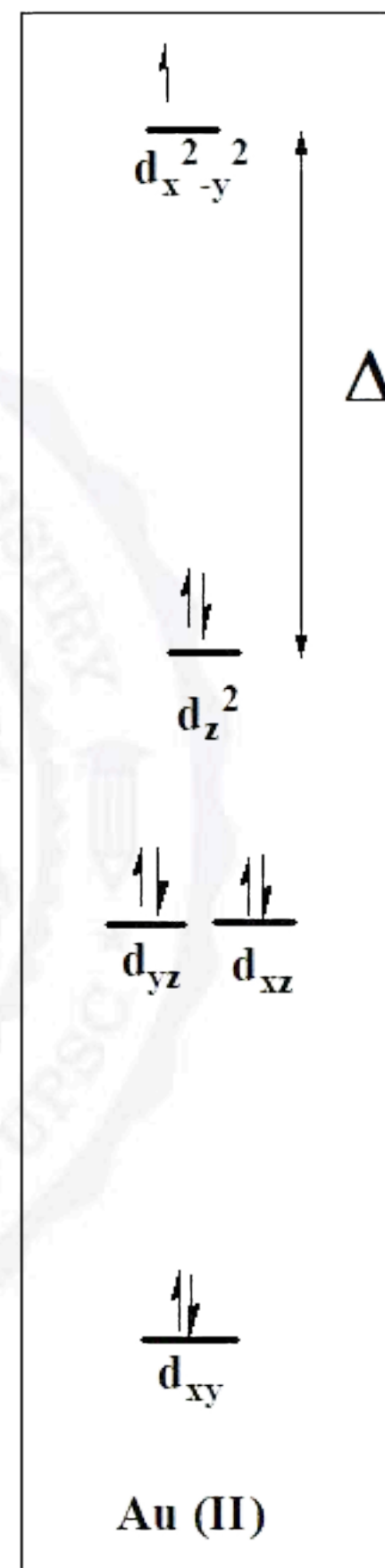
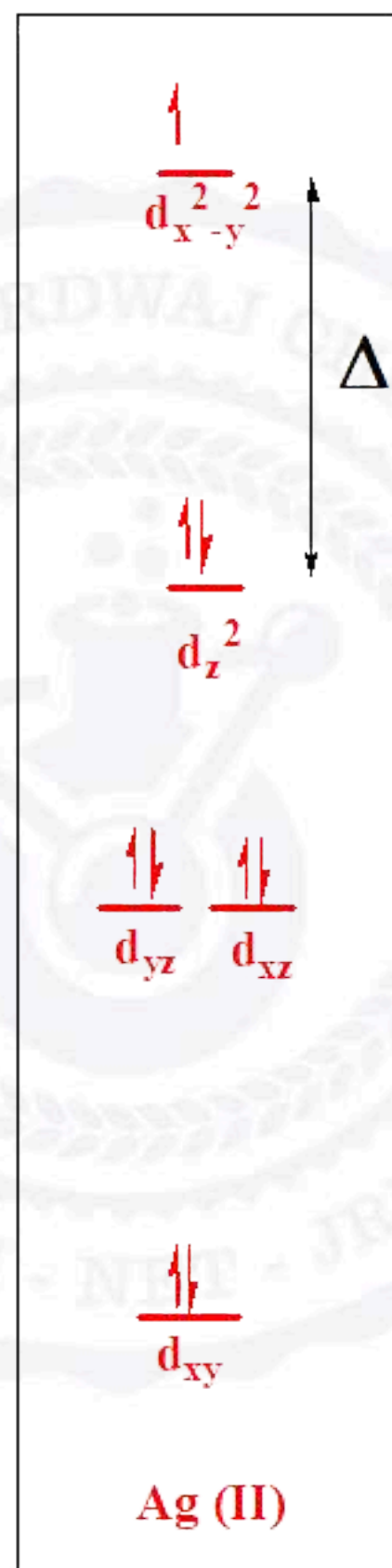
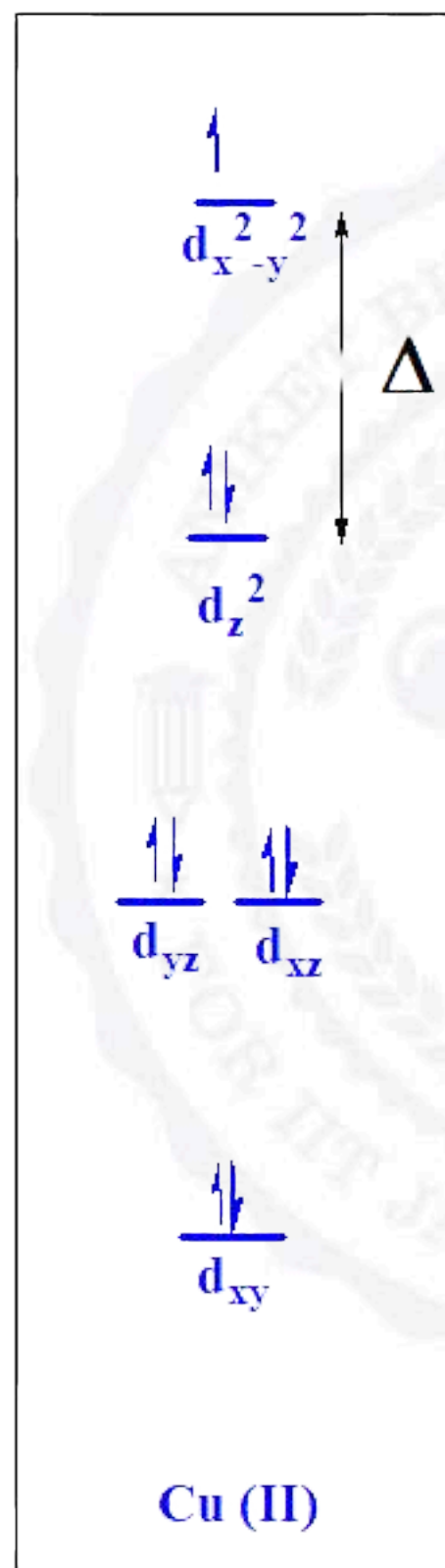
Therefore,

Au (II) either undergo

oxidation to Au (III) – d8 system

(or) reduction to Au (I)- d10 system.





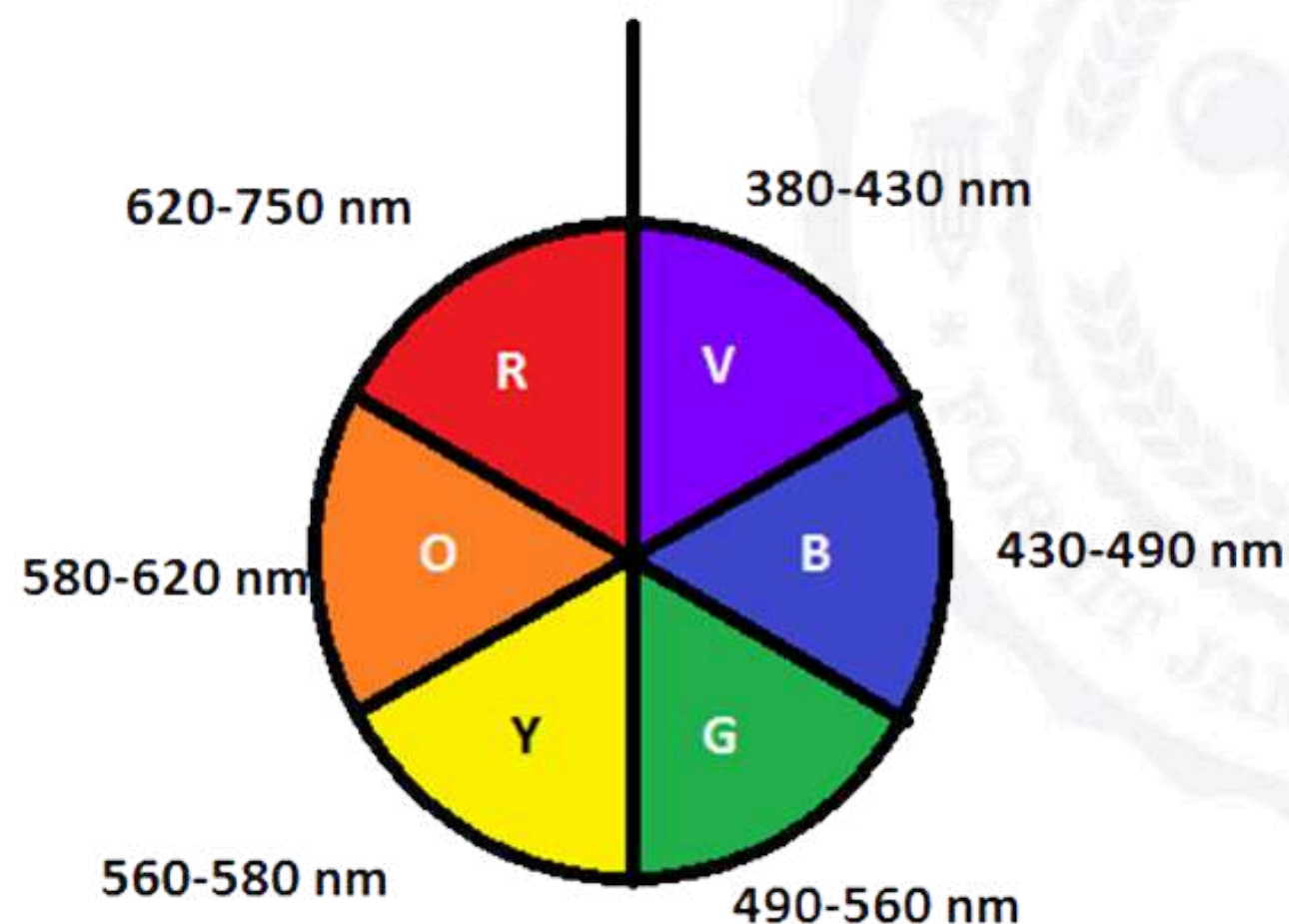
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# COLOR OF TRANSITION METAL COMPLEX AND CFT

Colors exhibited by transition-metal complexes are caused by excitation of an electron from a lower-energy d orbital to a higher-energy d orbital, which is called a d-d transition. For a photon to effect such a transition, its energy must be equal to the difference in energy between the two d orbitals, which depends on the magnitude of  $\Delta_o$ .



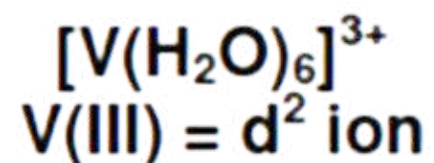
Colour of light absorbed	Approx. $\lambda$ ranges / nm	Colour of light transmitted
Red	700-620	Green
Orange	620-580	Blue
Yellow	580-560	Violet
Green	560-490	Red
Blue	490-430	Orange
Violet	430-380	Yellow



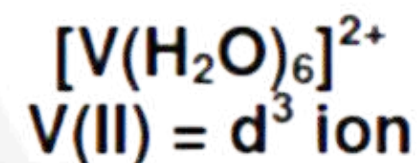
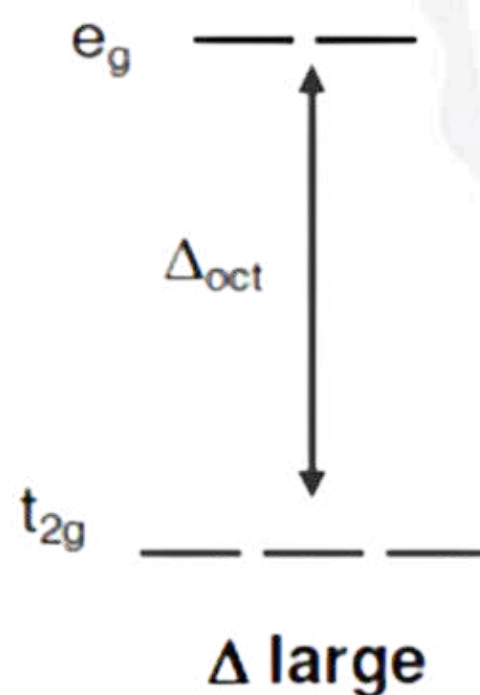


# COLOR DEPENDS ON OXIDATION STATE

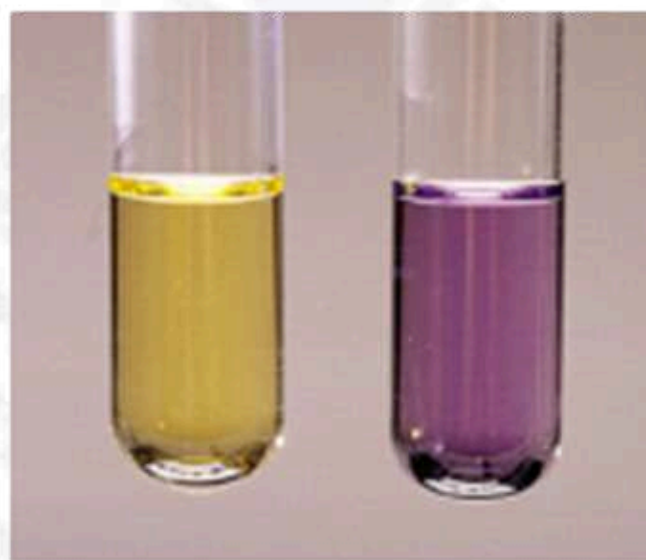
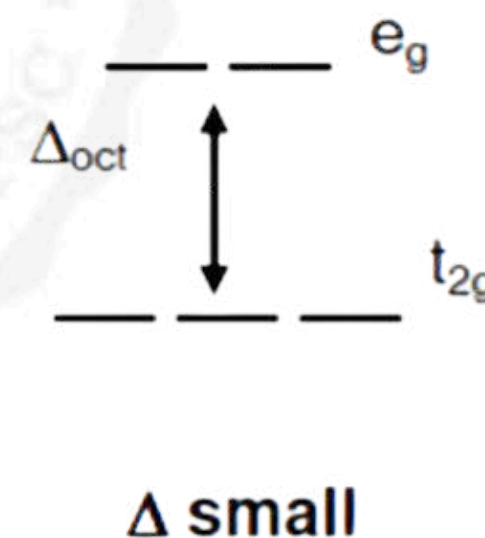
Different oxidation states of one metal can produce different colors



violet light absorbed  
complex appears yellow



yellow light absorbed  
complex appears violet



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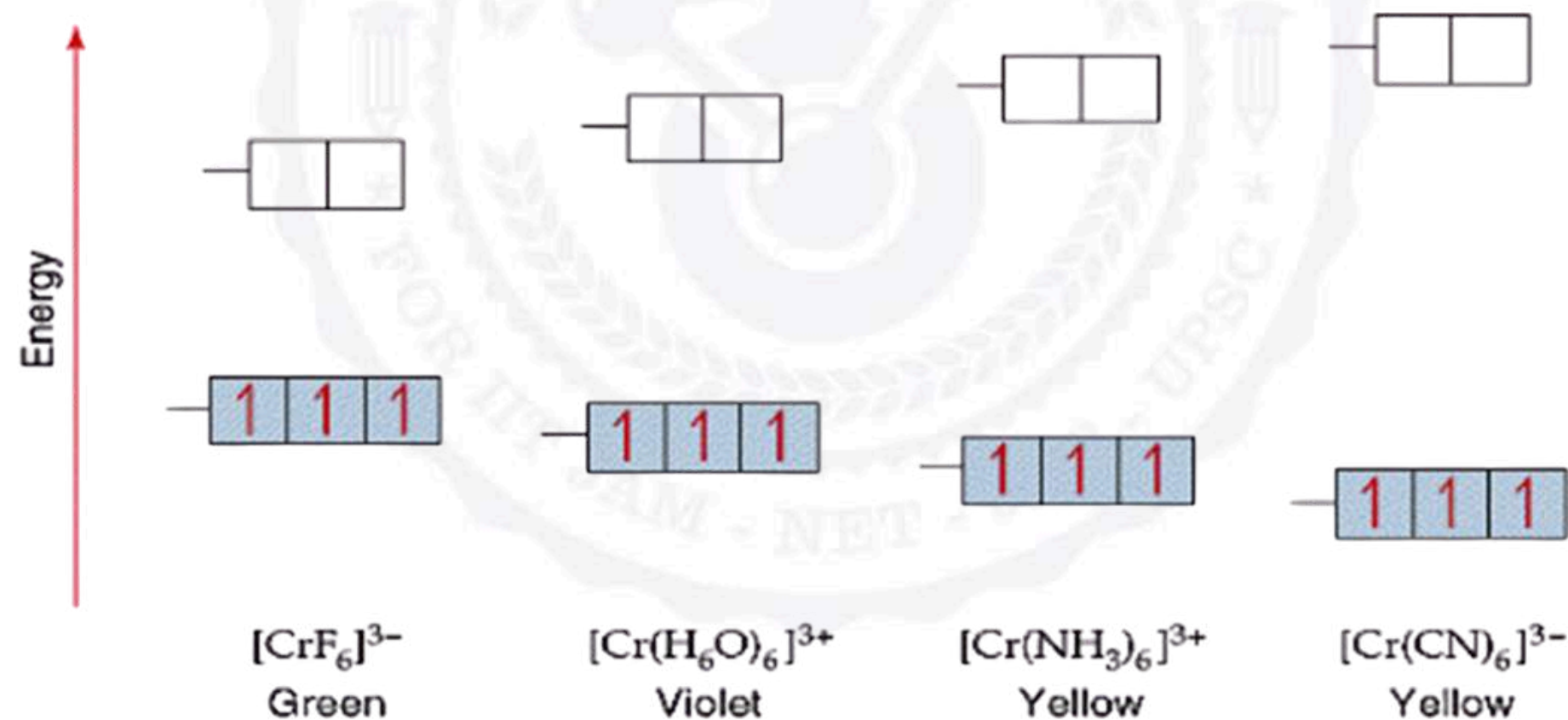




# COLOR DEPENDS ON LIGAND FIELD

The specific ligands coordinated to the metal center also influence the color of coordination complexes. Because the energy of a photon of light is inversely proportional to its wavelength, the color of a complex depends on the magnitude of  $\Delta_o$ .

Increasing ligand field strength



# SELECTION RULE

## 1. Laporte Selection Rule

Allowed transitions are those which occur between gerade to ungerade or ungerade to gerade orbitals

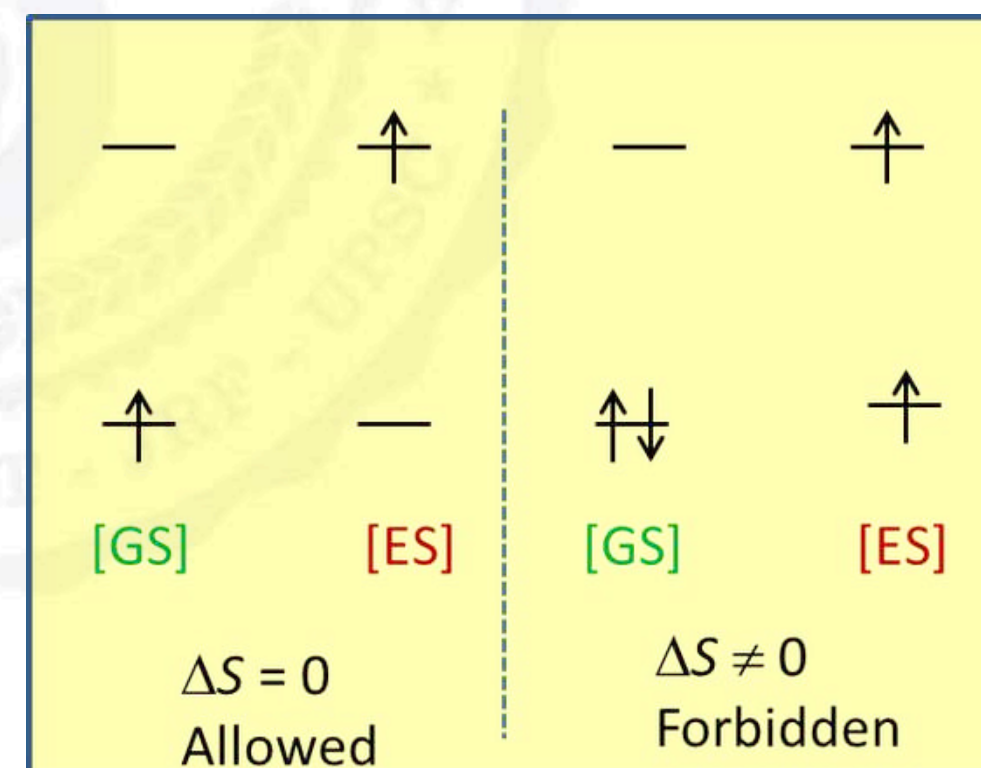
Allowed  
g      u & u      g

Not allowed (FORBIDDEN)  
g      g & u      u

Azimuthal quantum number can change only by  $\pm 1$  ( $\Delta l = \pm 1$ )

## 2. Spin Selection Rule

During an electronic transition, the electron should not change its spin  
According to this rule, any transition for which  $\Delta S = 0$  is allowed and  $\Delta S \neq 0$  is forbidden





# CLASSIFICATION OF INTENSITIES OF ELECTRONIC TRANSITIONS

Transition type	Example	Typical values of $\epsilon$ / dm <sup>3</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup>
Spin forbidden, Laporte forbidden (partly allowed by spin-orbit coupling)	[Mn(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup>	< 1
Spin allowed (octahedral complex), Laporte forbidden (partly allowed by vibronic coupling and d-p mixing)	[Co(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup>	1 - 10
Spin allowed (tetrahedral complex), Laporte allowed (but still retain some original character)	[CoCl <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>2-</sup>	10 - 1000
Spin allowed, Laporte allowed e.g. charge transfer bands	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	1000 - 50000



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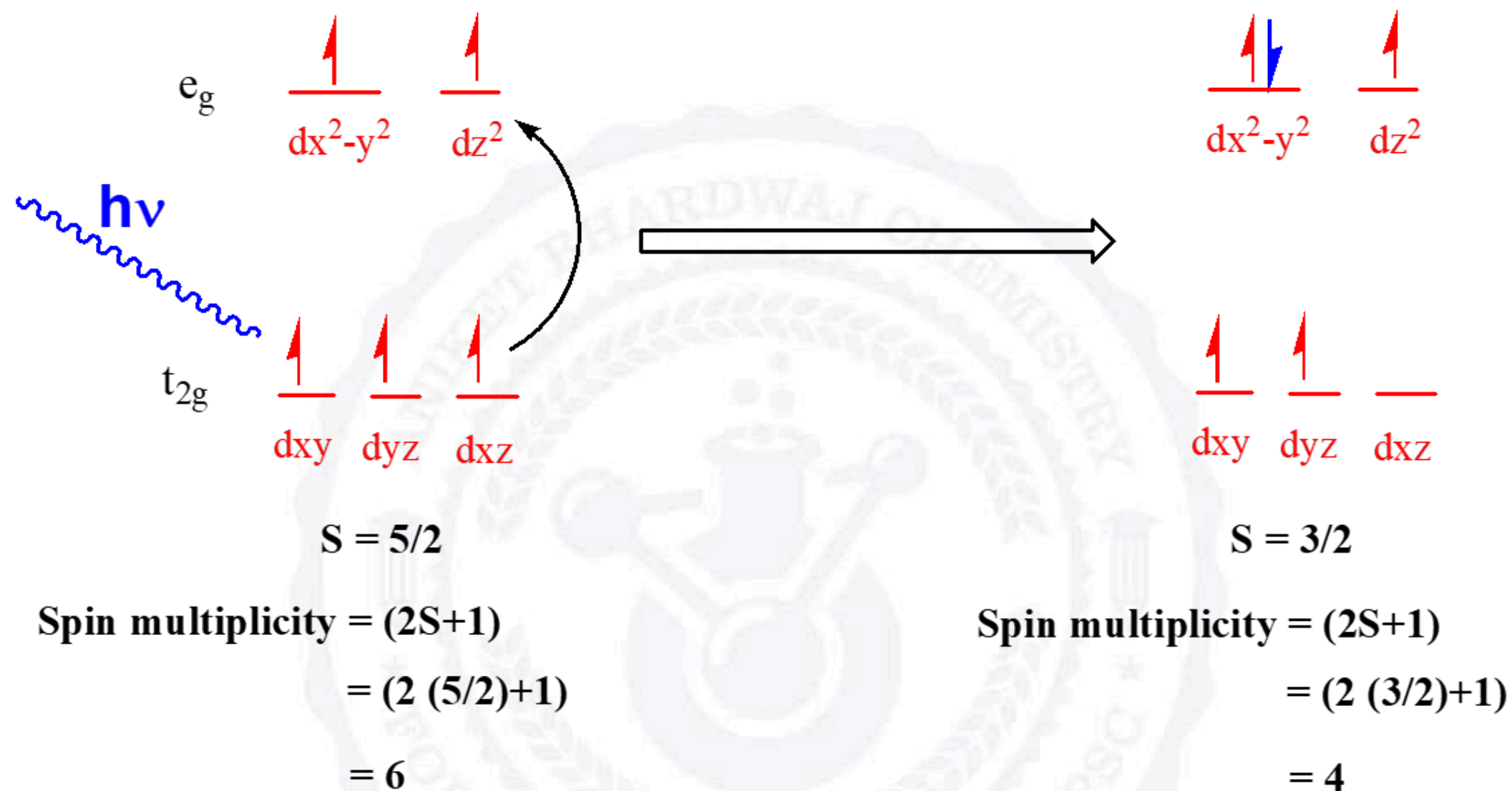
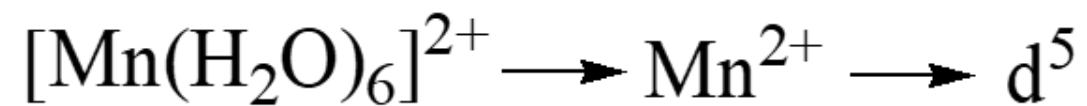
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$$\Delta S = 6 - 4 = 2$$

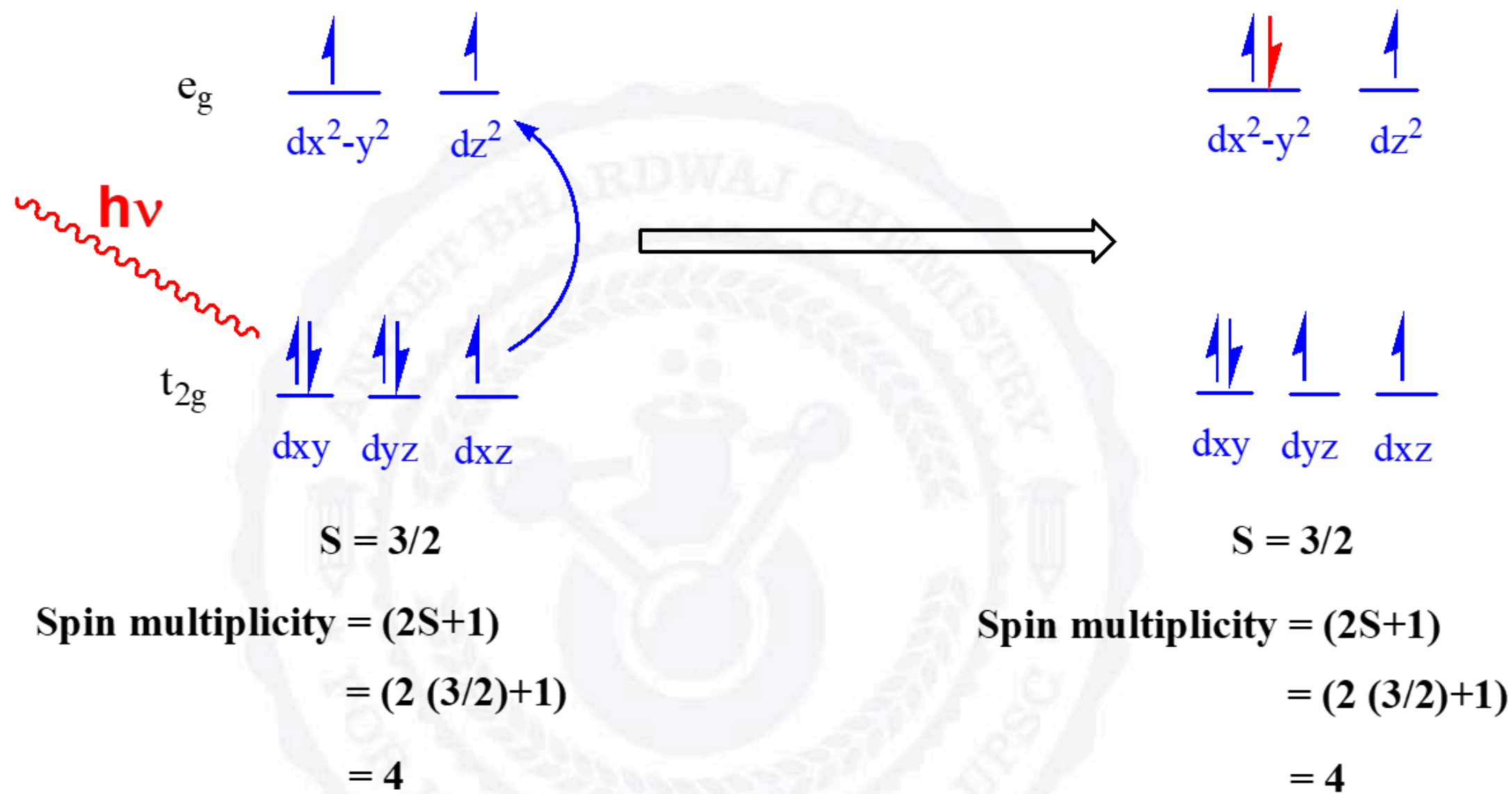
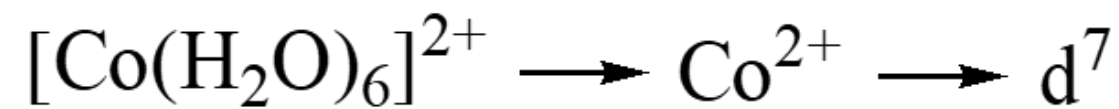
Due to spin-orbit coupling above transition is partly allowed. Hence, light pink color is observed

$\Delta S \neq 0 \longrightarrow$  Spin Forbidden

$g \not\rightarrow g \longrightarrow$  Laporte Forbidden







Due to vibronic coupling and d-p mixing above transition is partly allowed.

$$\Delta S = 4 - 4 = 0$$

$$\Delta S = 0$$

Spin Allowed



Laporte Forbidden



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# MAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF METAL COMPLEXES BY CFT

Magnetism is caused by moving charged electrical particles (Faraday, 1830s). These particles can be the current of electrons through an electric wire, or the movement of charged particles (protons and electrons) within an atom. These charged particles move much like planets in a solar system:

**Nucleus spin around its own axis, causing a very weak magnetic field.**

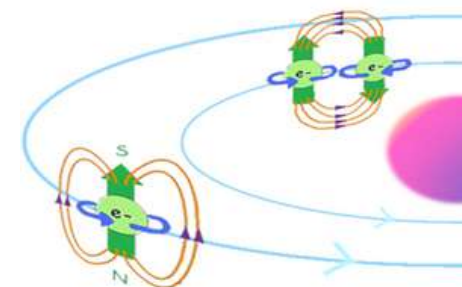
**Electrons orbit around the nucleus, causing a weak magnetic field.**

**Electrons spin around their own axis, causing a significant magnetic field .**

Spinning electrons generate the bulk of the magnetism in an atom. Within each orbit, electrons with opposite spins pair together, resulting in no net magnetic field. Therefore only unpaired electrons lead to magnetic moment

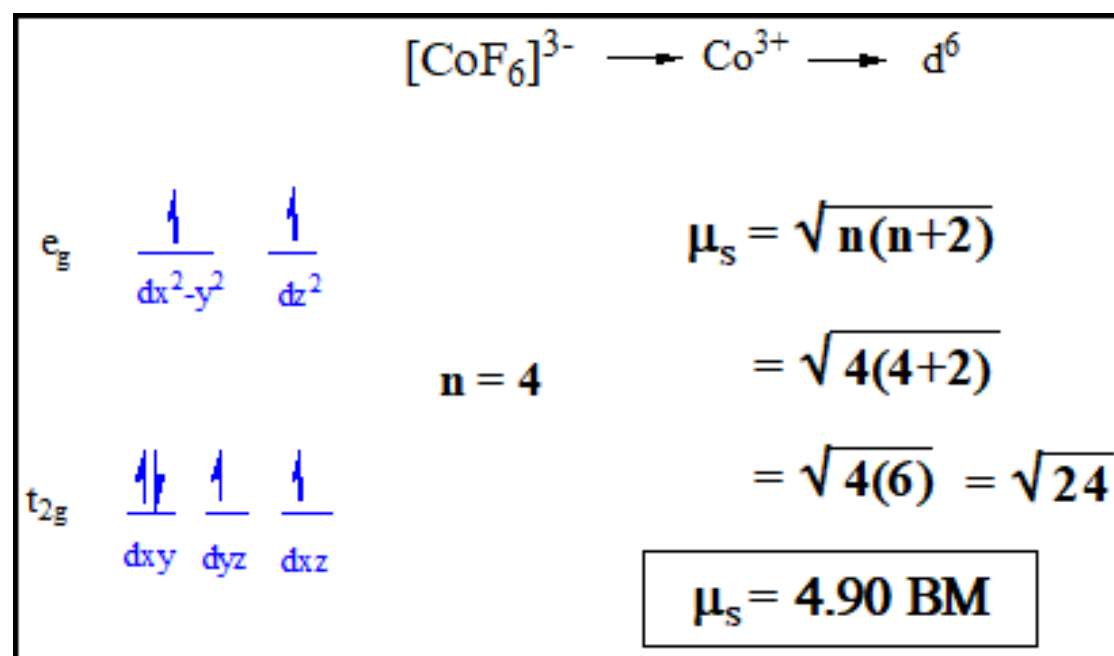
The spin-only formula ( $\mu_s$ )

$$\mu_s = \sqrt{n(n+2)}$$



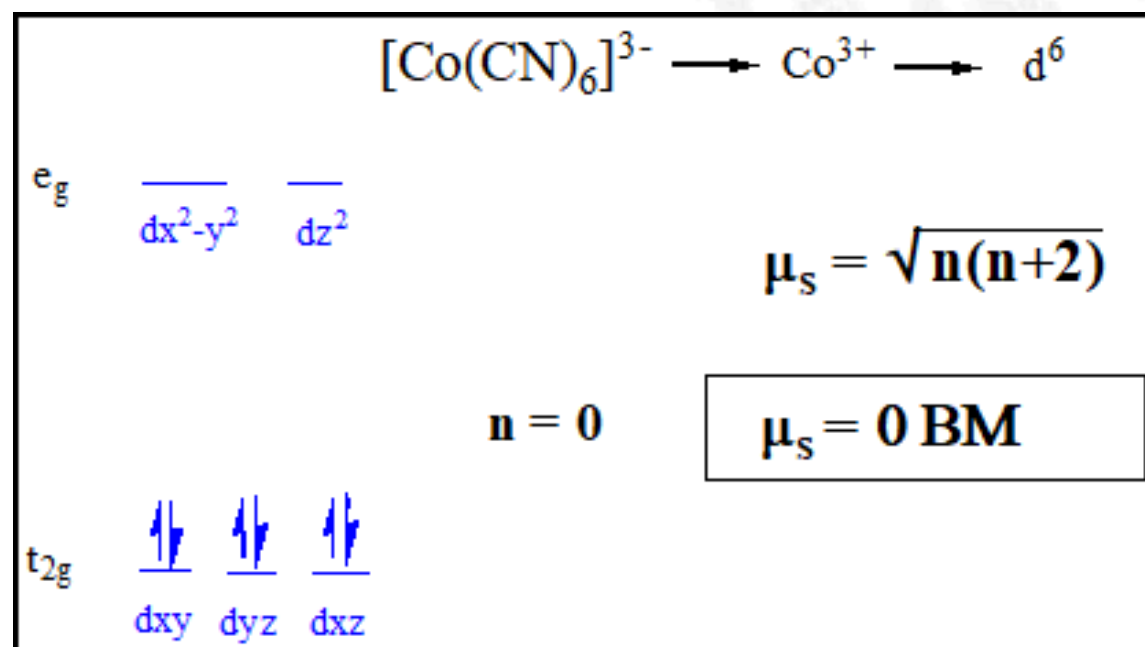


In the presence of weak field ligand, the complex has small value of  $\Delta_o$ . Hence, no pairing of electrons will take place i.e. Number of unpaired electrons are more and magnetic moment is greater.



Since F<sup>-</sup> is weak field ligand no pairing of electrons will take place.  
Hence, it is paramagnetic.

While in the presence of strong field ligand, the complex has large value of  $\Delta_o$ . Pairing of electrons will take place i.e. Number of unpaired electrons are less and magnetic moment is lesser.



Since CN<sup>-</sup> is strong field ligand pairing of electrons will take place.  
Hence, it is diamagnetic.



## Spin only formula

$$\mu_s = \sqrt{n(n+2)}$$

Used when separation energy levels are large

$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = g \sqrt{J(J+1)}$$

$$g = \frac{3}{2} + \left( \frac{S(S+1) - L(L+1)}{2J(J+1)} \right)$$

Van-Vleck formula used when separation energy levels are small

$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = \mu_{S+L} = \sqrt{4S(S+1) + L(L+1)}$$

Spin-orbit coupling equation applies only to ions having A or E ground term

$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = \mu_s \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha\lambda}{\Delta o} \right)$$

$\lambda$  = Spin-orbit coupling constant

$\alpha = 4$  for A ground term

$\alpha = 2$  for E ground term

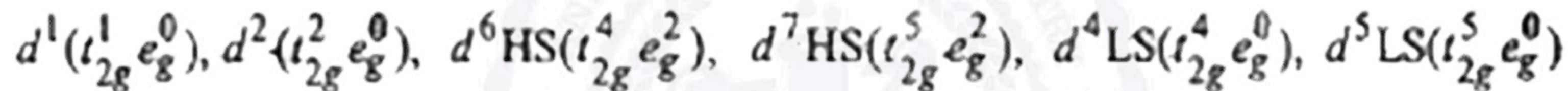




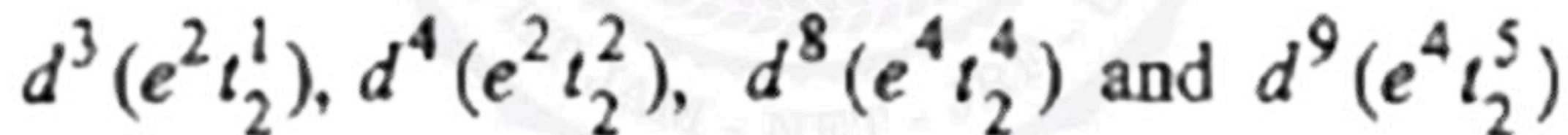
The orbital contribution is possible only when an orbital will transform into an equivalent orbitals by rotation. The  $t_{2g}$  orbitals can be transformed into each other by rotating about an axis by  $90^\circ$ .

**The configuration with  $t_{2g}^3$  and  $t_{2g}^6$  have no orbital contribution**

**In Octahedral complexes the following configurations make orbital contributions**



**In Tetrahedral complexes the following configurations make orbital contributions**



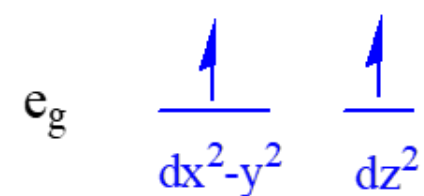
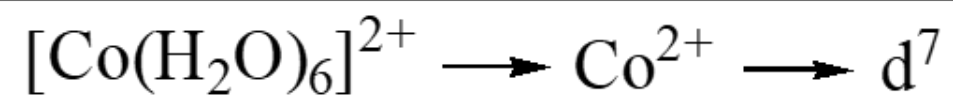
# MAGNETIC PROPERTIES: SPIN ONLY AND EFFECTIVE

The spin-only formula ( $\mu_s$ ) applies reasonably well to metal ions from the first row of transition metals: (units =  $\mu_B$ , Bohr-magnetons)

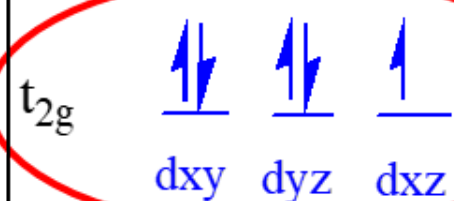
Metal ion	d <sup>n</sup> configuration	$\mu_s$ (calculated)	$\mu_{\text{eff}}$ (observed)
Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Sc <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>0</sup>	0	0
Ti <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>1</sup>	1.73	1.7-1.8
V <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>2</sup>	2.83	2.8-3.1
V <sup>2+</sup> , Cr <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>3</sup>	3.87	3.7-3.9
Cr <sup>2+</sup> , Mn <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>4</sup>	4.90	4.8-4.9
Mn <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>5</sup>	5.92	5.7-6.0
Fe <sup>2+</sup> , Co <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>6</sup>	4.90	5.0-5.6
Co <sup>2+</sup>	d <sup>7</sup>	3.87	4.3-5.2
Ni <sup>2+</sup>	d <sup>8</sup>	2.83	2.9-3.9
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	d <sup>9</sup>	1.73	1.9-2.1
Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Ga <sup>3+</sup>	d <sup>10</sup>	0	0







$n = 3$

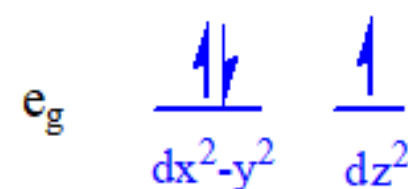
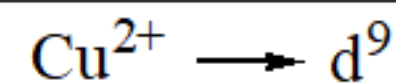


$$\begin{aligned} \mu_s &= \sqrt{n(n+2)} \\ &= \sqrt{3(3+2)} \\ &= \sqrt{3(5)} = \sqrt{15} \end{aligned}$$

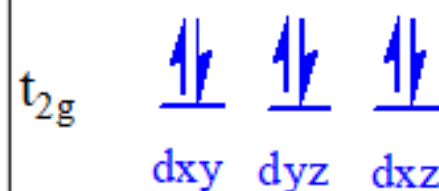
$$\mu_s = 3.87 \text{ BM}$$



**make orbital  
contributions to  
magnetic moment**



$n = 1$



$$\begin{aligned} \mu_s &= \sqrt{n(n+2)} \\ &= \sqrt{1(1+2)} \\ &= \sqrt{1(3)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mu_s = 1.73 \text{ BM}$$

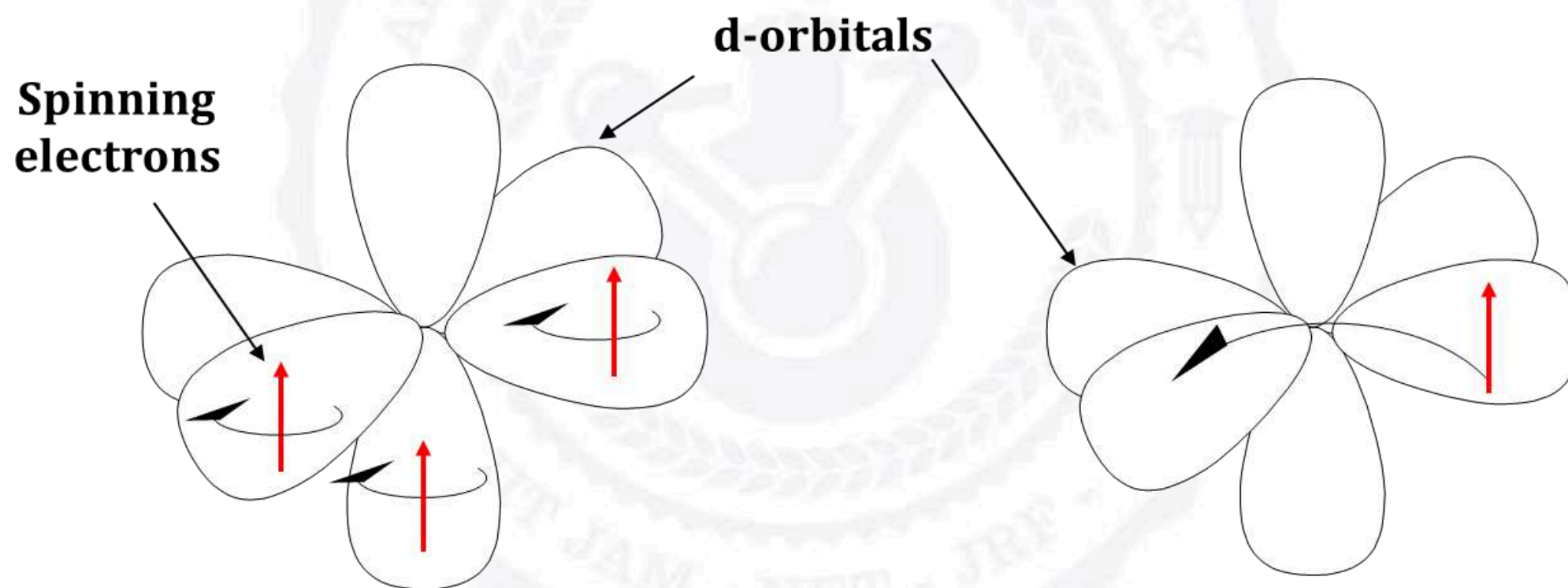


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# SPIN AND ORBITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO $\mu_{\text{eff}}$

For the first-row d-block metal ions the main contribution to magnetic susceptibility is from electron spin. However, there is also an orbital contribution (especially for the second and third row TM) from the motion of unpaired electrons from one d-orbital to another. This motion constitutes an electric current, and so creates a magnetic field.



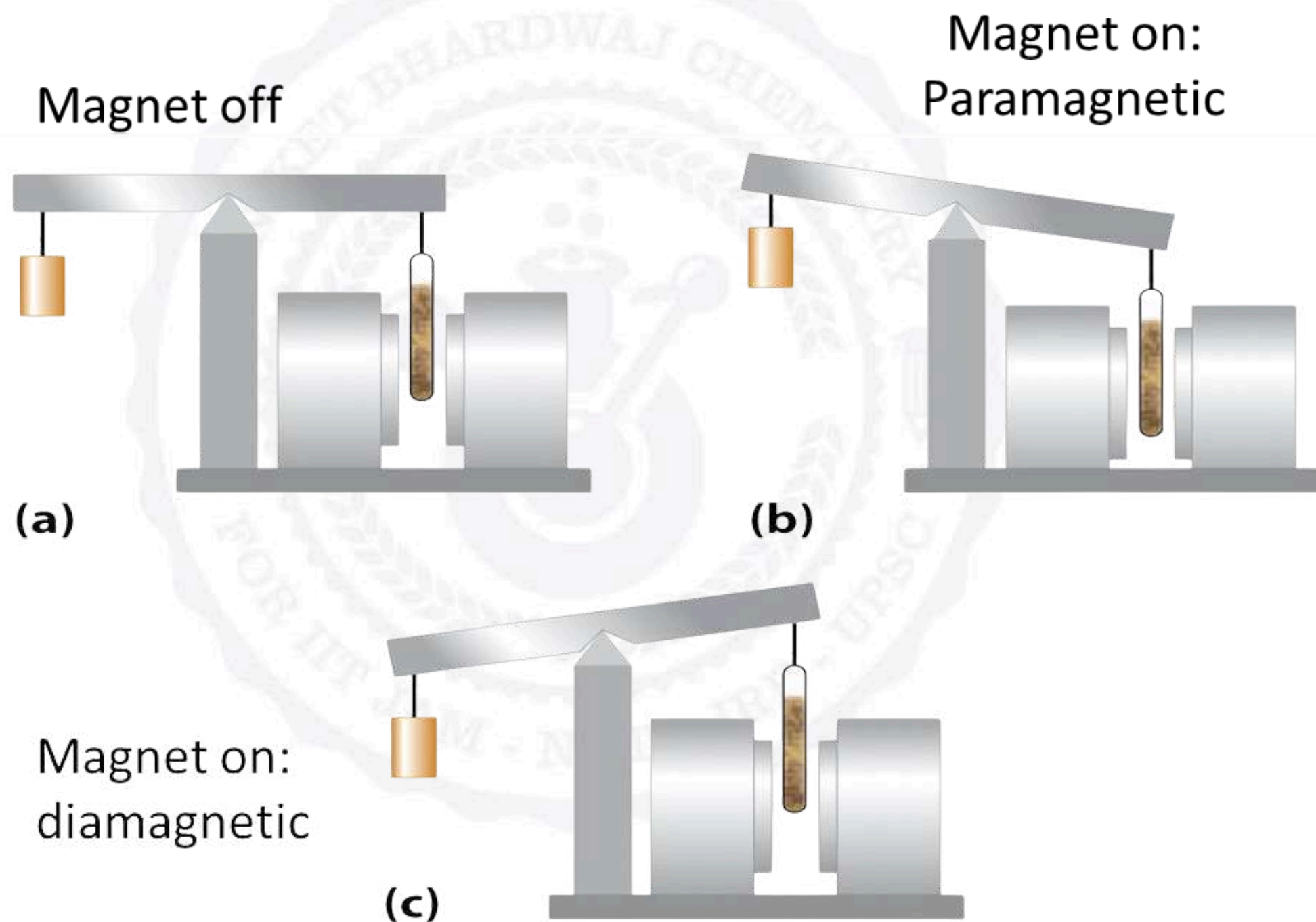
Spin contribution - electrons are spinning creating an electric current and hence a magnetic field

Orbital contribution - electrons move from one orbital to another creating a current and hence a magnetic field





# GOUY BALANCE USED TO MEASURE THE MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITIES



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# CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY TO EXPLAIN OBSERVED PROPERTIES OF COMPLEXES:

## VARIATION OF SOME PHYSICAL PROPERTIES ACROSS A PERIOD:

1. Lattice energy of transition metal ions in a complex
2. Ionic radii of transition metal ions in a complex
3. Enthalpy of hydration of transition metal ions
4. Site preference of Spinel and Inverse spinels

**Lattice Energy:** Energy released when one mole of an ionic solid is formed from isolated gaseous ions.

Calculated theoretically using the  
Born- Lande Equation

$$U_o = \frac{A N Z^+ Z^- e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_o r_o} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

Where

A = Madelung constant ( related to the geomet

N = Avogadro's number

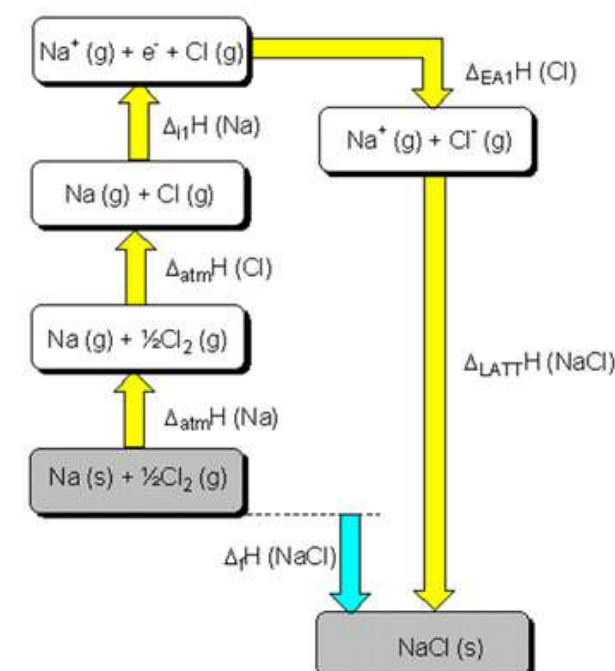
Z= Charge on the M<sup>+</sup> and M<sup>-</sup> ions

$\epsilon_o$  = permittivity of free space

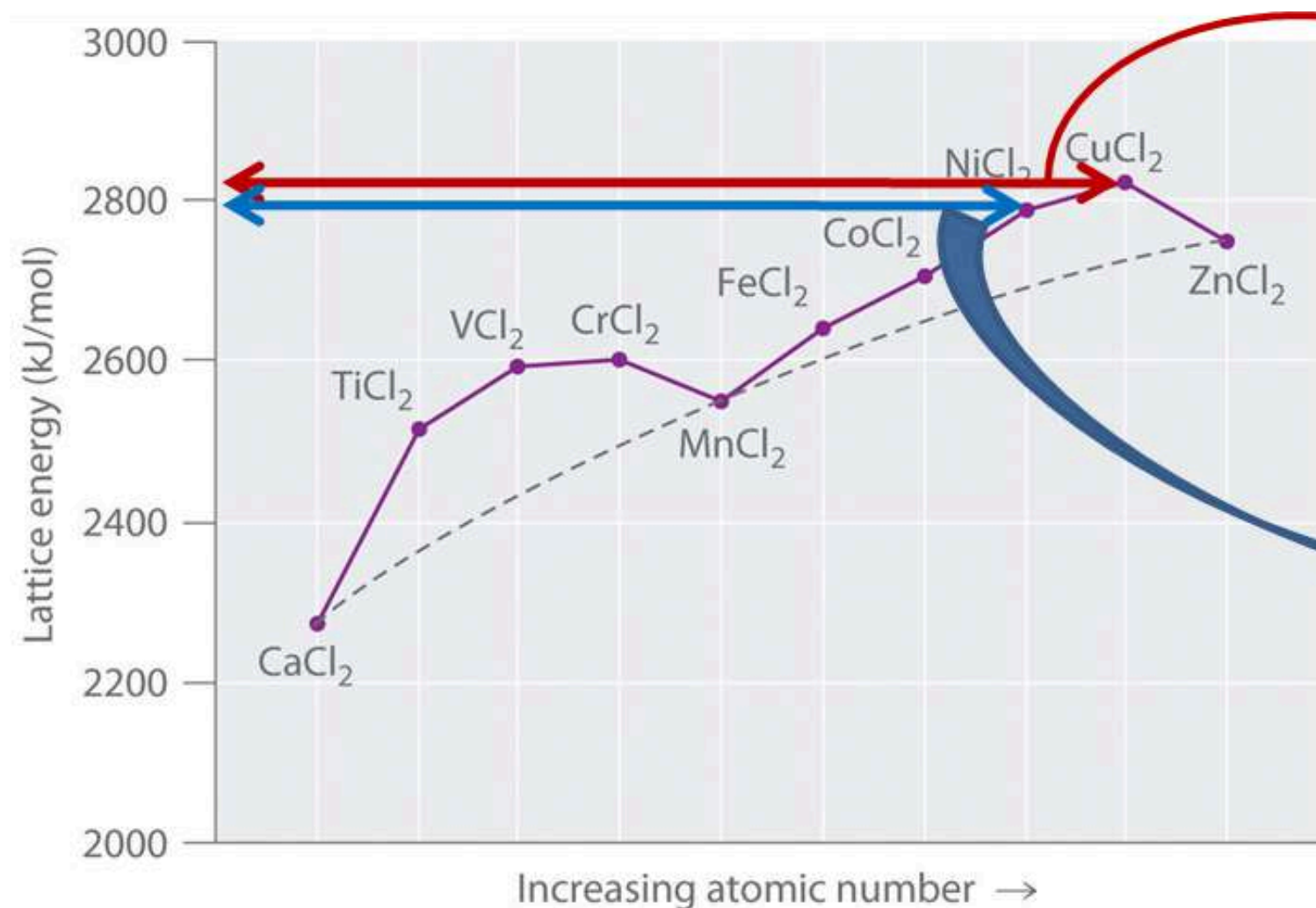
$r_o$  = distance to the closest ion

n= Born exponent (a number between 5 and 12)

Experimentally determined using  
the Born- Haber cycle







$$LE_{\text{obs}} = LE_{\text{cal}} + \text{CFSE} + \text{JTSE}$$

$$LE_{\text{obs}} = LE_{\text{cal}} + \text{CFSE}$$

- According to the Born – Lande Equation one can expect a smooth increase in lattice energies as we go from left to right due to decrease in ionic radius of the metal ions.
- As anticipated a smooth curve is not seen: instead a double hump shaped curve is obtained
- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ( $d^0$ ),  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ( $d^5$  HS) and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ( $d^{10}$ ) which in common have  $\text{CFSE} = 0$  lie almost on the expected line.
- Ions such as  $\text{V}^{2+}$  which show high CFSE in a weak field situation with high lattice energy values show significant deviation from the calculated lattice energies.

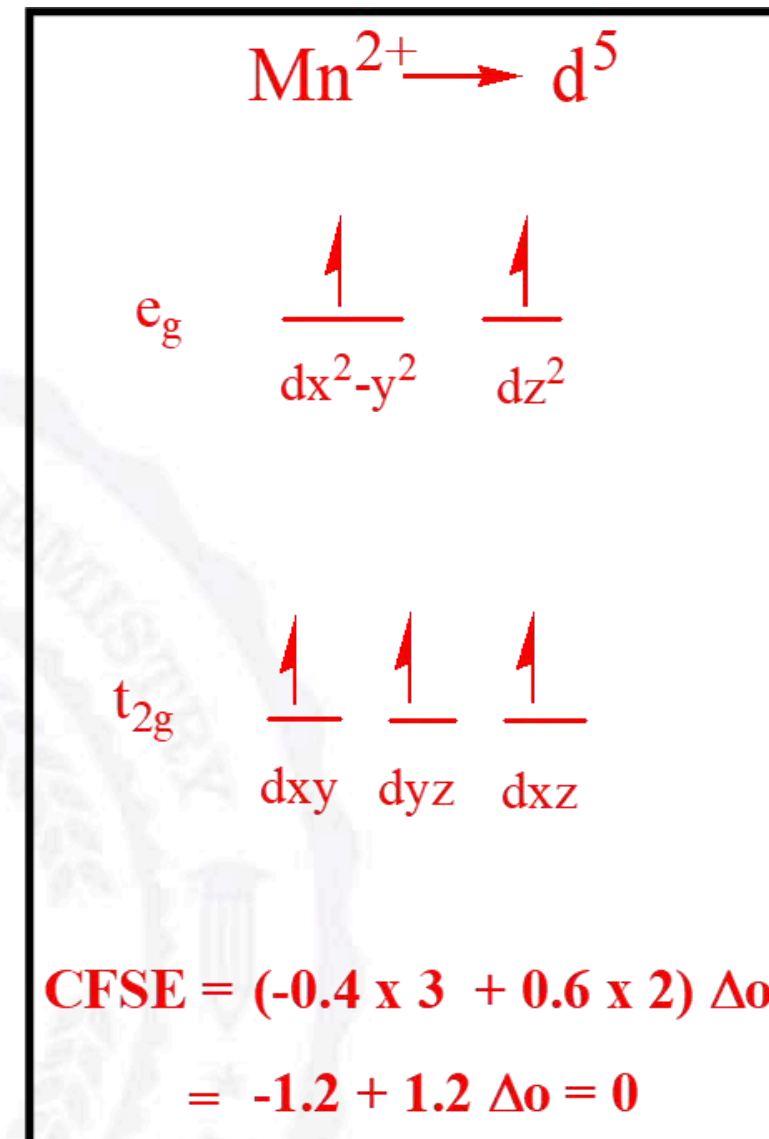
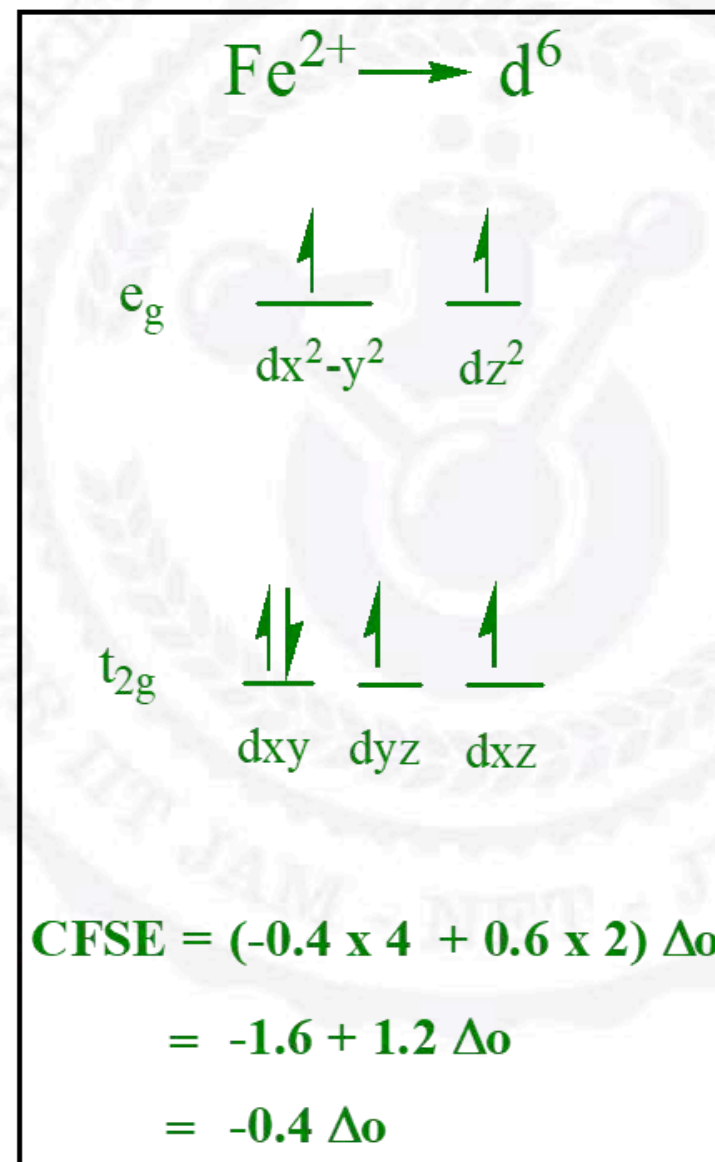
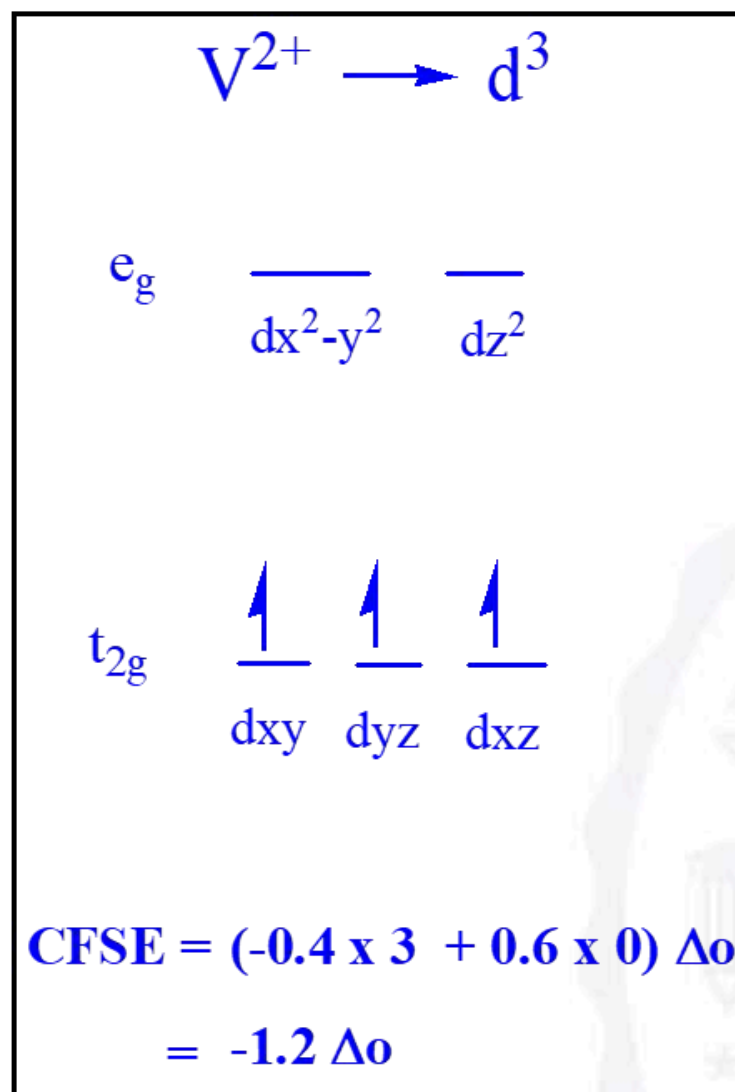


For $d^0$	→	CFSE = 0
For $d^1$ - $d^3$	→	CFSE increases
For $d^4$ - $d^5$	→	CFSE decreases
For $d^5$	→	CFSE = 0
For $d^6$ - $d^8$	→	CFSE increases
For $d^9$ - $d^{10}$	→	CFSE decreases
For $d^{10}$	→	CFSE = 0

**Lattice energy  $\propto$  CFSE**







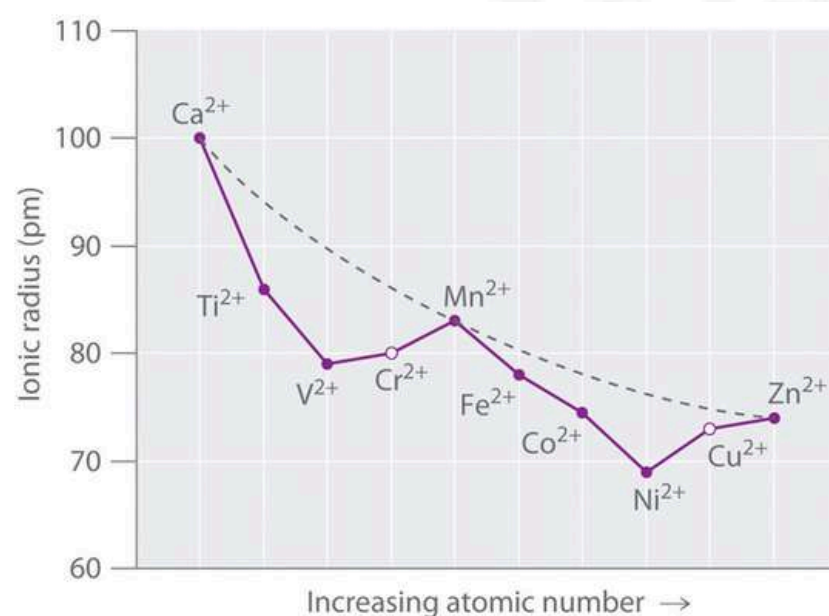
# IONIC RADII

One can expect decrease the ionic radii of the  $M^{2+}$  ions smoothly from  $Ca^{2+}$  to  $Zn^{2+}$  due to the increase in nuclear charge

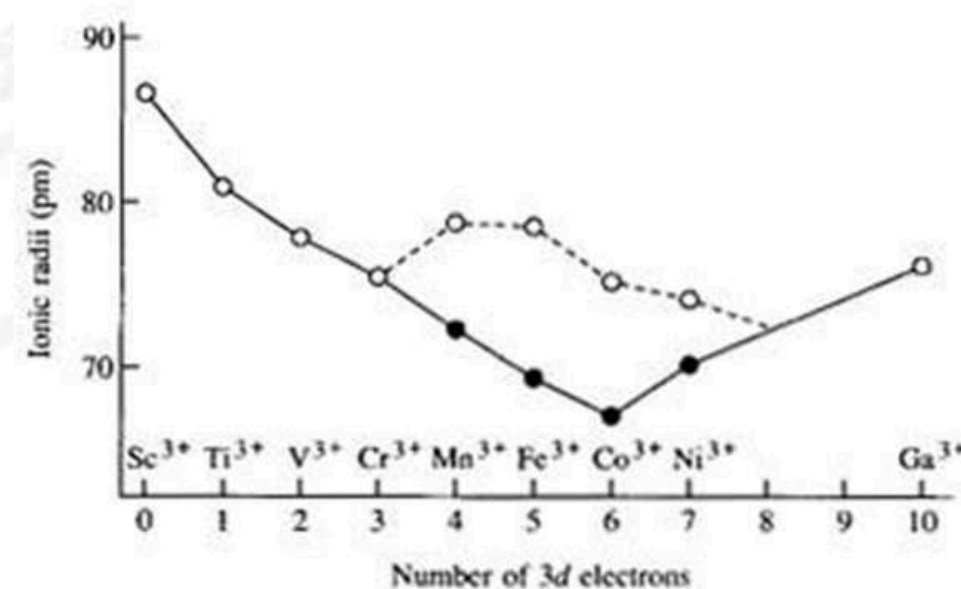
But the plot shown below (left) for weak field ligands indicate that the expected regular decrease is absent expect for  $Ca^{2+}$ ,  $Mn^{2+}$  and  $Zn^{2+}$

For strong field ligands like  $CN^-$  a different trend in variation is observed with a steady decrease till  $d^6 (t_{2g}^6)$

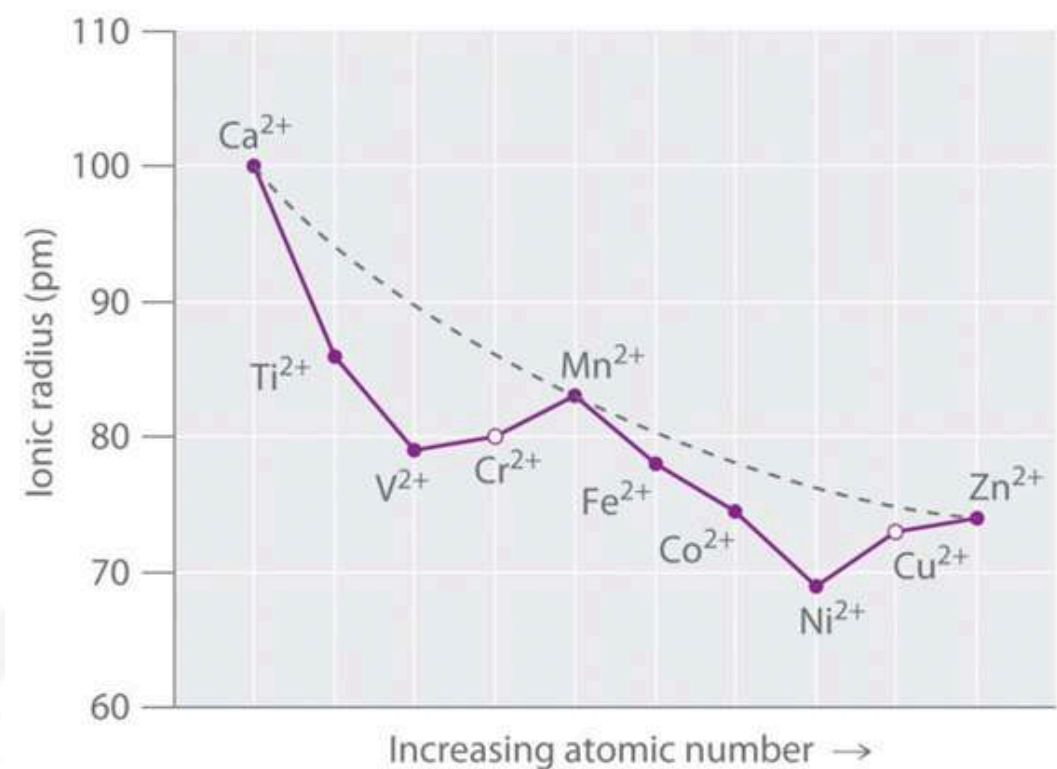
**Weak field ligand**



**$M^{3+}$  ionic radii**







Why does the ionic radii decrease and then increase?

Ti<sup>2+</sup> (d<sup>2</sup>) electron occupies only t<sub>2g</sub>

V<sup>2+</sup> (d<sup>3</sup>) electrons occupy only t<sub>2g</sub>

Cr<sup>2+</sup> (d<sup>4</sup>HS) electrons start occupying the e<sub>g</sub> orbitals. As the e<sub>g</sub> orbitals point directly towards the ligands, the repulsion between the metal electrons and ligand electrons will be higher than normal leading to the eventual increase in the ionic radius.

In the case of strong field ligand such as cyanide there will be a steady decrease in ionic radii till t<sub>2g</sub><sup>6</sup> is reached.

The same trend is observed also for M<sup>3+</sup> transition metal complexes

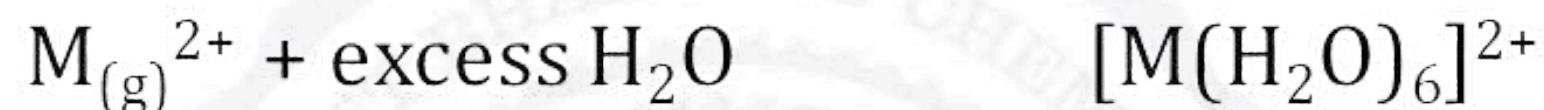


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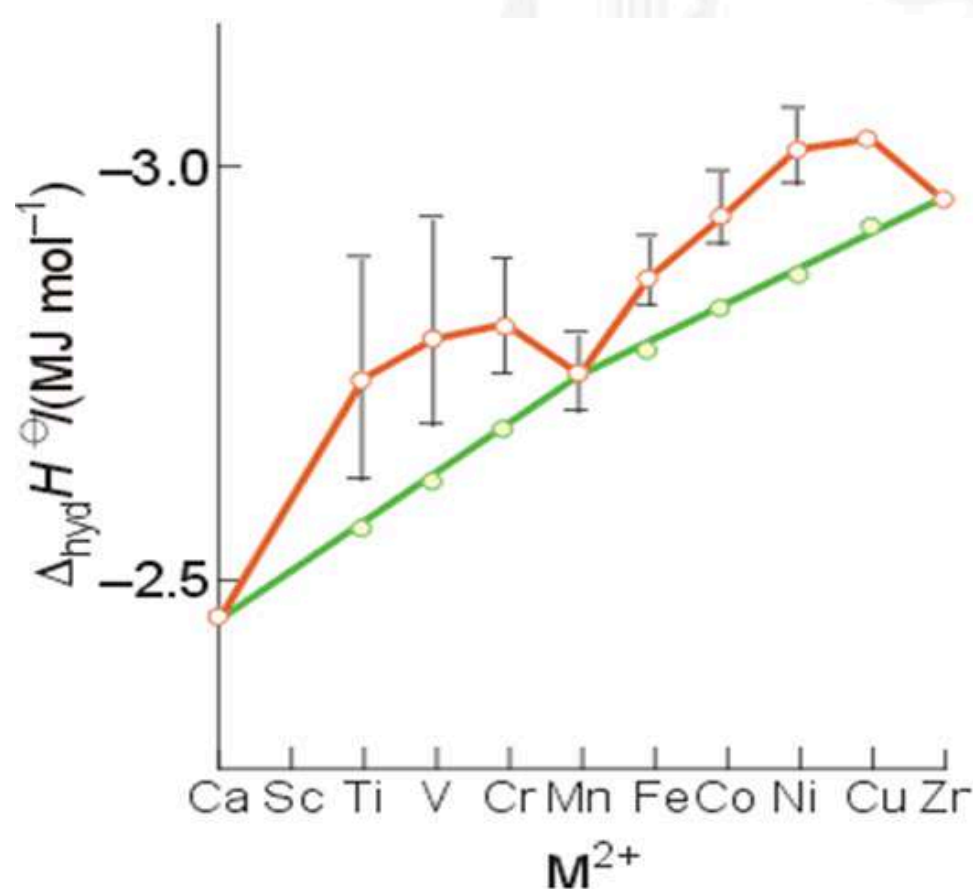


## Enthalpy of hydration of transition metal ions

The amount of energy released when a mole of the ion dissolves in a large amount of water forming an infinite dilute solution in the process.



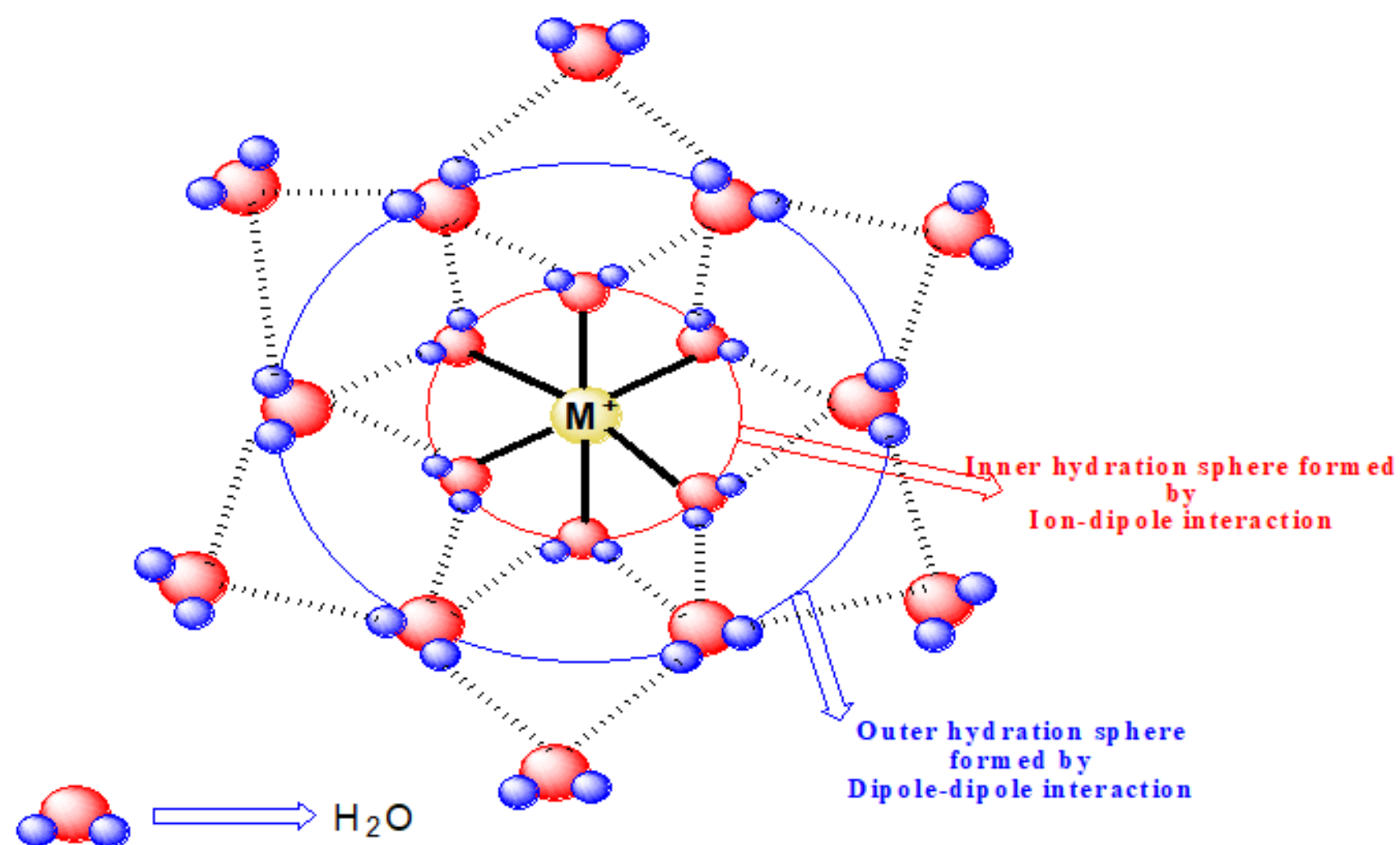
Higher the charge on the ions and smaller the size, more exothermic will be the hydration energy. So it is expected to increase smoothly on going from left to right of the transition metals (**green line in the graph**)



The heats of hydration show two “humps” consistent with the expected CFSE for the metal ions. The values for d<sub>5</sub> and d<sub>10</sub> are the same as expected with a CFSE equal to 0.







In the case of alkali and alkaline metal ions the enthalpy of hydration

$$\Delta_{\text{hyd}}H = E_{\text{Inner}} + E_{\text{Outer}}$$

In the case of transition metal ions the enthalpy of hydration due to formation of octahedral complex

$$\Delta_{\text{hyd}}H = E_{\text{Inner}} + E_{\text{Outer}} + \text{CFSE}$$



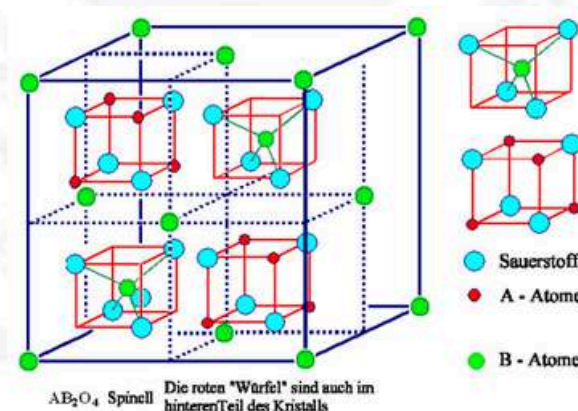
# Site preference of Spinel and Inverse Spinel

**Spinel** are a class of crystalline solids of the general formula  $AB_2O_4$  ( $A^{II}B^{III}_2O_4$ ) where

A = Main group (Group IIA)  
Or  
transition metal ion in the  
+2 oxidation state

B = main group (Group IIIA)  
Or  
transition metal ion in the  
+3 oxidation state

The weak field oxide ions provide a cubic close-packed lattice.  
In one unit cell of  $AB_2O_4$  there are 8 tetrahedral and 4 octahedral holes



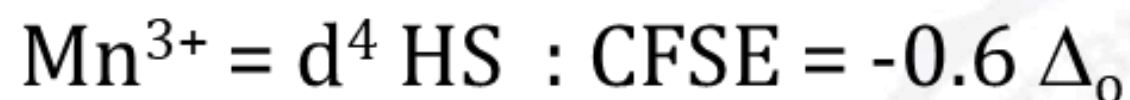
**If A and B of  $AB_2O_4$  are both s or p block elements (e.g.  $MgAl_2O_4$ ) it always show Spinel structure.**







$\text{O}^{2-}$  = a weak field ligand

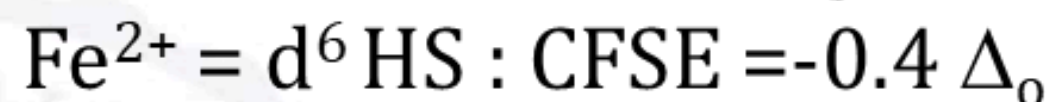


$\text{Mn}^{2+}$  by exchanging positions with  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$  in an octahedral hole is **not going to gain** any extra crystal field stabilization energy. While  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$  by being in the octahedral hole will have CFSE.

Therefore  $\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4$  will be  
**Normal Spinel**



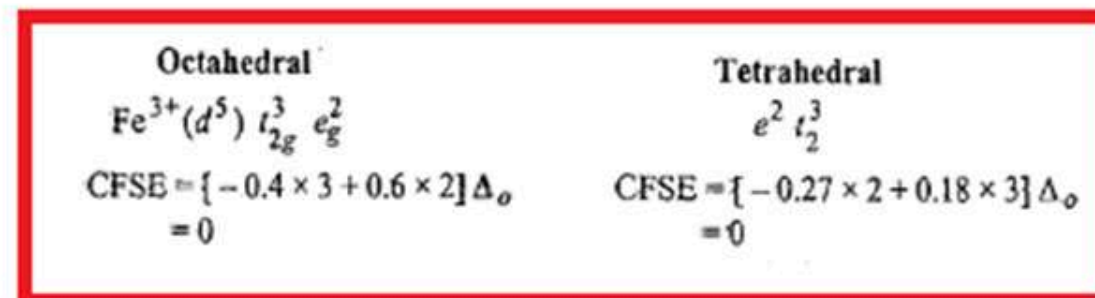
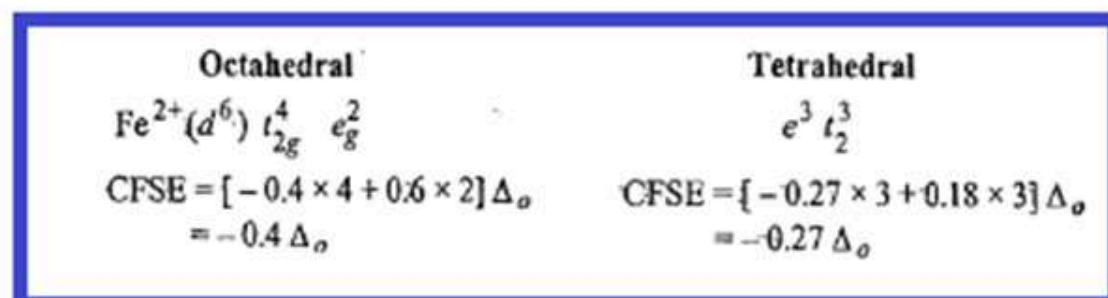
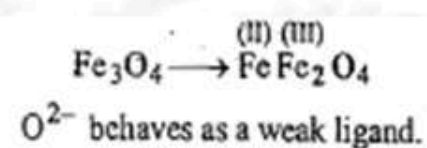
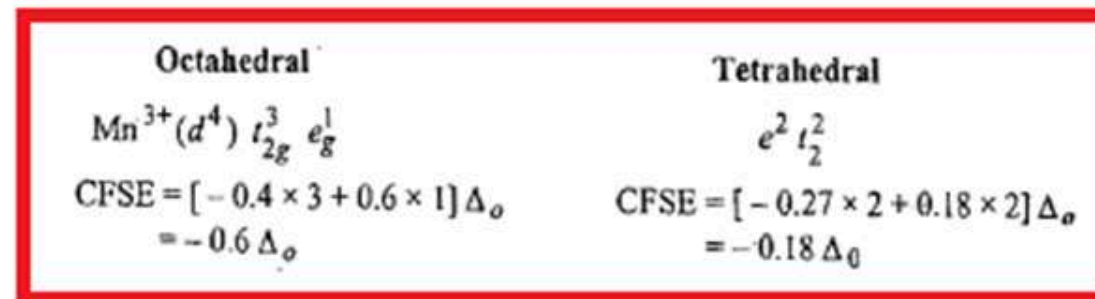
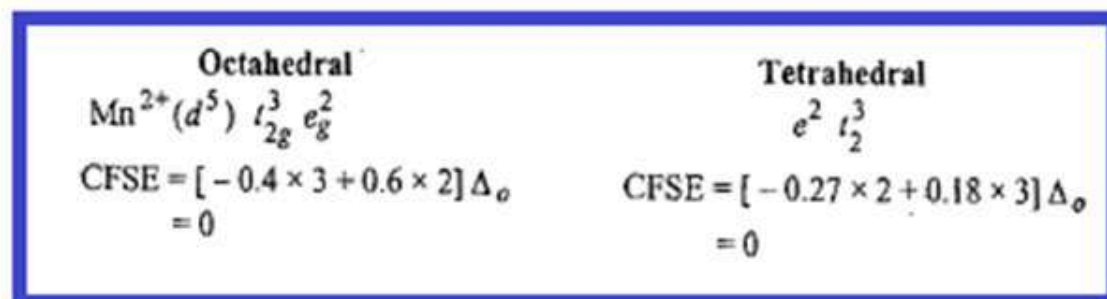
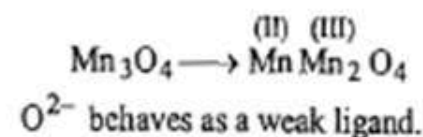
$\text{O}^{2-}$  = a weak field ligand



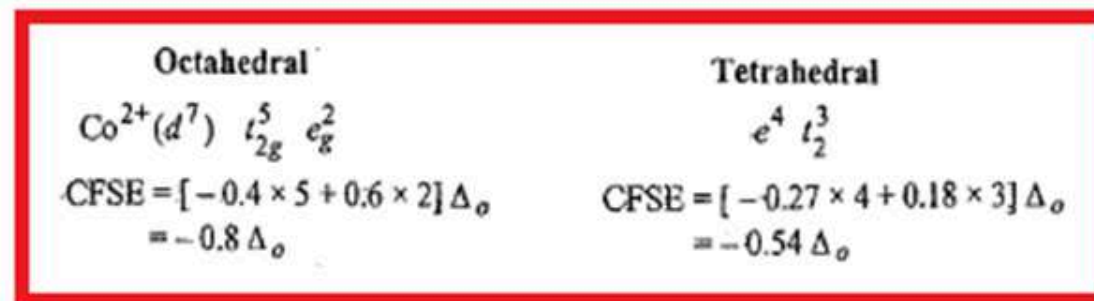
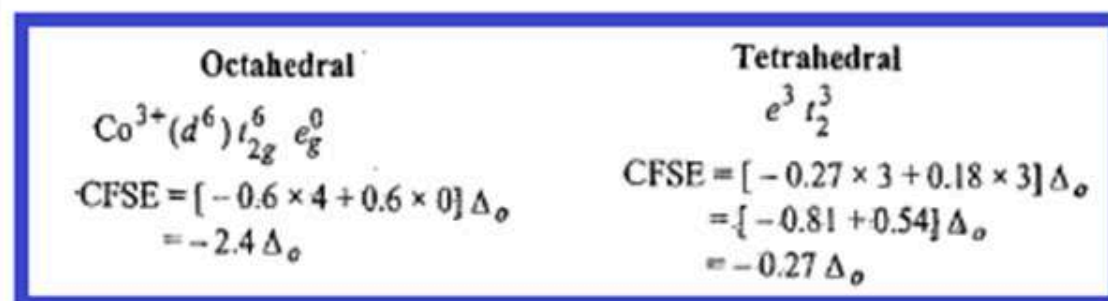
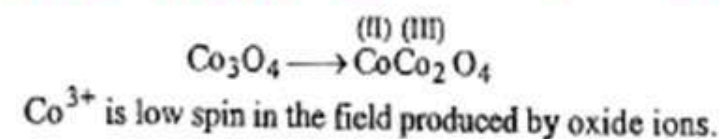
$\text{Fe}^{2+}$  by exchanging positions with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  to an octahedral hole is going to gain extra crystal field stabilization energy. While  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  by being in the octahedral hole will not have any CFSE.

Therefore  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  will be  
**Inverse Spinel**





**$\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  always form Normal spinel**





# ADVANTAGES OF CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY

1. Explains colors of complexes.
2. Explains magnetic properties of complexes ( without knowing hybridization) and temperature dependence of magnetic moments.
3. Classifies ligands as weak and strong.
4. Explains anomalies in physical properties of metal complexes.
5. Explains distortion in shape observed for some metal complexes.



# DISADVANTAGES OF CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY

1. Evidences for the presence of covalent bonding (orbital overlap) in metal complexes have been disregarded.
2. Cannot predict shape of complexes (since not based on hybridization).
3. Charge Transfer spectra not explained by CFT alone.



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# UNIT - 5 | PAPER - 2

## VALENCE BOND THEORY (VBT)



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# THEORIES FOR METAL - LIGAND BONDING IN COMPLEXES

There are three theories to explain the nature of bonding in transition metal complexes

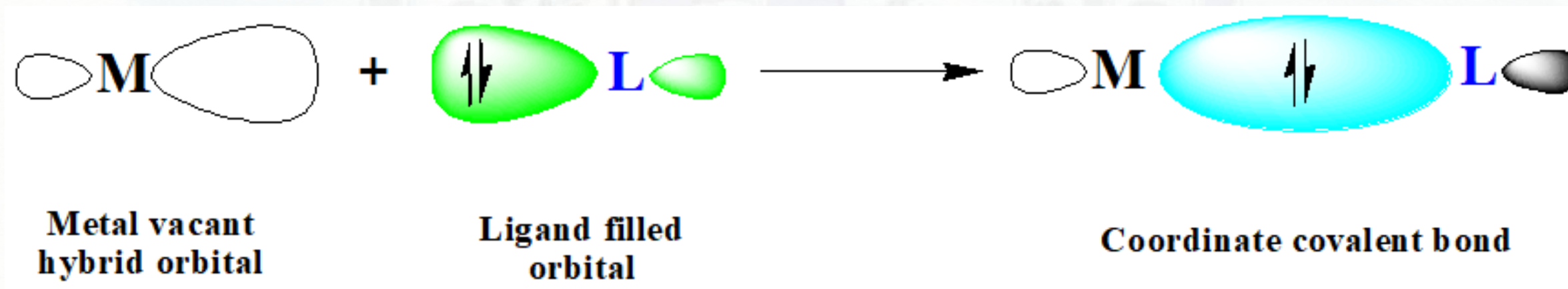
1. Valence Bond Theory (VBT)
2. Crystal Field Theory (CFT)
3. Ligand Field Theory (LFT) or Molecular Orbital Theory (MOT)





# VALENCE BOND THEORY (VBT)

- The central metal ion or atom provides vacant hybrid orbitals of equivalent energy.
- The bonding in metal complexes arises when a filled ligand orbital overlaps with vacant hybrid orbital of metal ion or atom to form a coordinate covalent bond.



- The magnetic moment (i.e. number of unpaired electrons) and the coordination number of the metal cation or atom decide the hybridization and geometry of the complex.





The ligands are classified into two categories

(i) Strong ligands like  $\text{CN}^-$ ,  $\text{CO}$  etc.

(ii) Weak ligands like  $\text{F}^-$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ , oxygen containing ligands.

Strong ligands have tendency to pair up the d-electrons of metal ion or atom. Other the other hand, weak ligands do not have the tendency to pair up the d-electrons.

The bond formed between metal and strong ligands is considered to be covalent whereas with weak ligands it forms ionic bond.

In Octahedral complexes, the metal ion is either  $d^2sp^3$  or  $sp^3d^2$  hybridized. The d-orbitals involved in  $d^2sp^3$  hybridization belong to the inner shell i.e.  $(n-1)$  d-orbital and these complexes are called as inner orbital complexes and are more stable. The d-orbitals involved in  $sp^3d^2$  hybridization belong to the outer most shell i.e.  $n$  d-orbital and these complexes are called as outer orbital complexes and are less stable.

The complexes having one or more unpaired electrons are paramagnetic and the complexes having only paired electrons are diamagnetic.





$$\mu_{\text{spin only}} = \sqrt{n(n+2)} \text{ BM}$$

$n$  = Number of unpaired electrons

Coordination number	Type of hybridization	Geometry
2	sp	Linear
4	sp <sup>3</sup>	Tetrahedral
4	dsp <sup>2</sup>	Square planar
6	d <sup>2</sup> sp <sup>3</sup>	Octahedral (Inner orbital)
6	sp <sup>3</sup> d <sup>2</sup>	Octahedral (Outer orbital)



$$\mu_{\text{spin only}} = \sqrt{n(n+2)} \text{ BM}$$

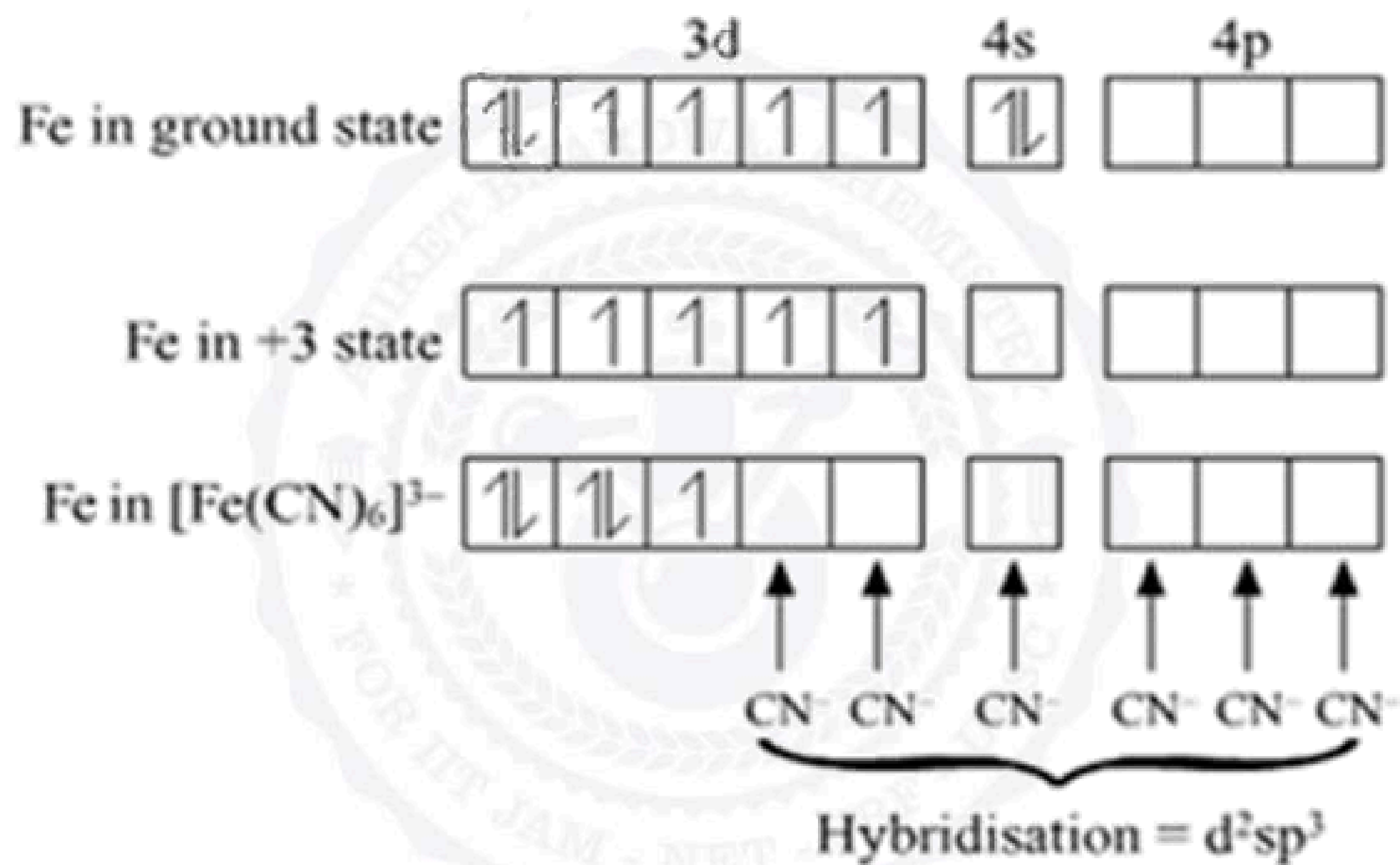
$n$  = Number of unpaired electrons

Coordination number	Type of hybridization	Geometry
2	sp	Linear
4	sp <sup>3</sup>	Tetrahedral
4	dsp <sup>2</sup>	Square planar
6	d <sup>2</sup> sp <sup>3</sup>	Octahedral (Inner orbital)
6	sp <sup>3</sup> d <sup>2</sup>	Octahedral (Outer orbital)





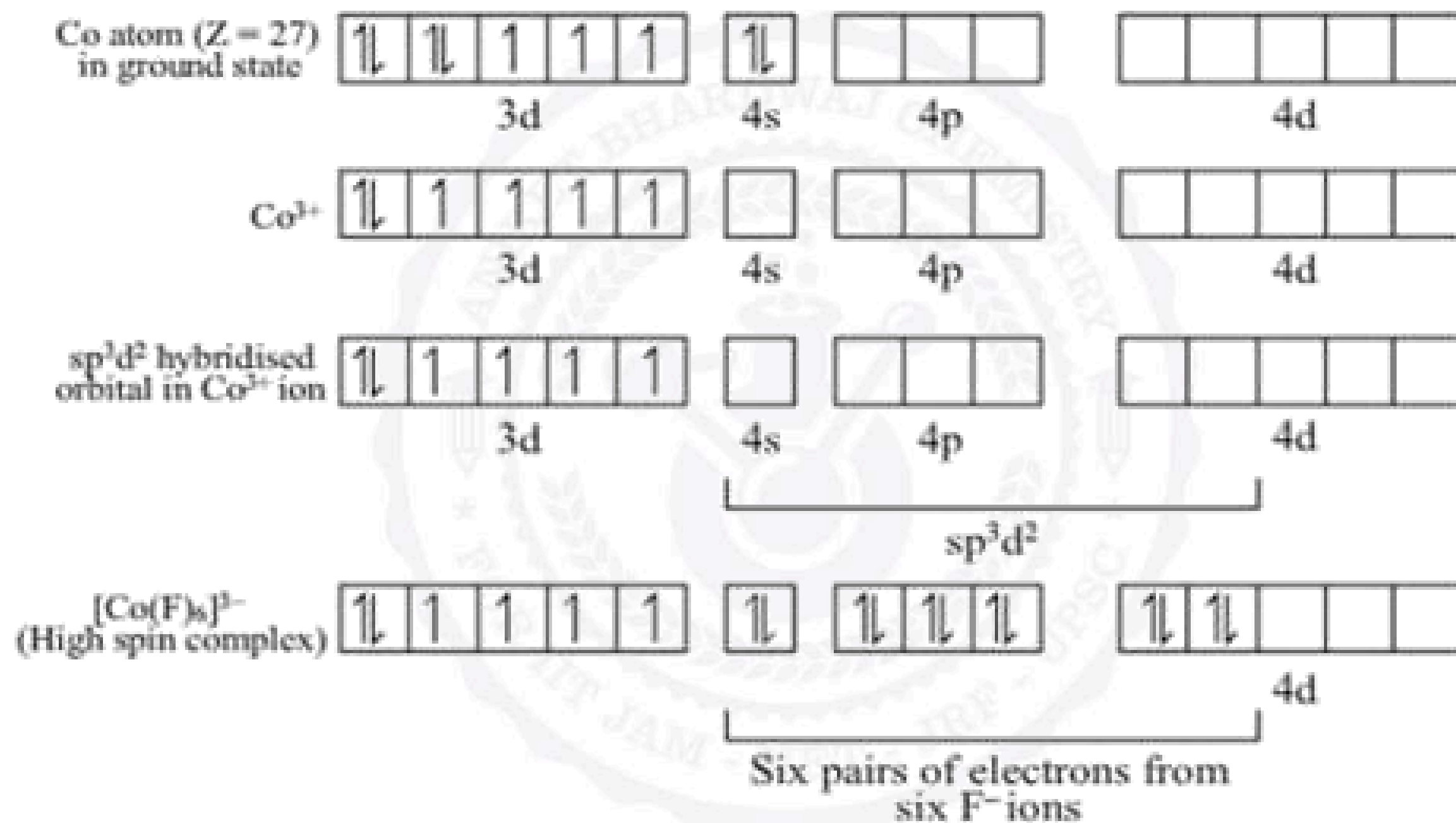
# $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$ complex



Inner orbital paramagnetic octahedral complex



# $[\text{Co}(\text{F})_6]^{3-}$ complex



Outer orbital paramagnetic octahedral complex



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# LIMITATIONS OF VBT

- It could not explain the nature of ligands i.e. which ligand is strong and weak.
- It could not explain why the pairing of electrons occurs in the presence of strong ligands.
- It could not explain the effect of temperature on magnetic moment and also it could not explain why the experimental value of magnetic moment is greater than the calculated in some complexes.
- It could not explain the distortion in some octahedral complexes.
- It fails to explain the color and electronic spectra of complexes.
- It fails to explain reaction rates and mechanism of reactions of complexes.
- It fails to explain why some complexes are high spin and others are low spin.





# UNIT - 5 | PAPER - 2

## LIGAND FIELD THEORY (LFT)



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# INTRODUCTION

The physical measurements such as electron spin resonance (ESR), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), nuclear quadrupole resonance (NQR) and Racah parameters calculations from electronic spectra give evidence in favor of covalent bonding in coordination compounds.

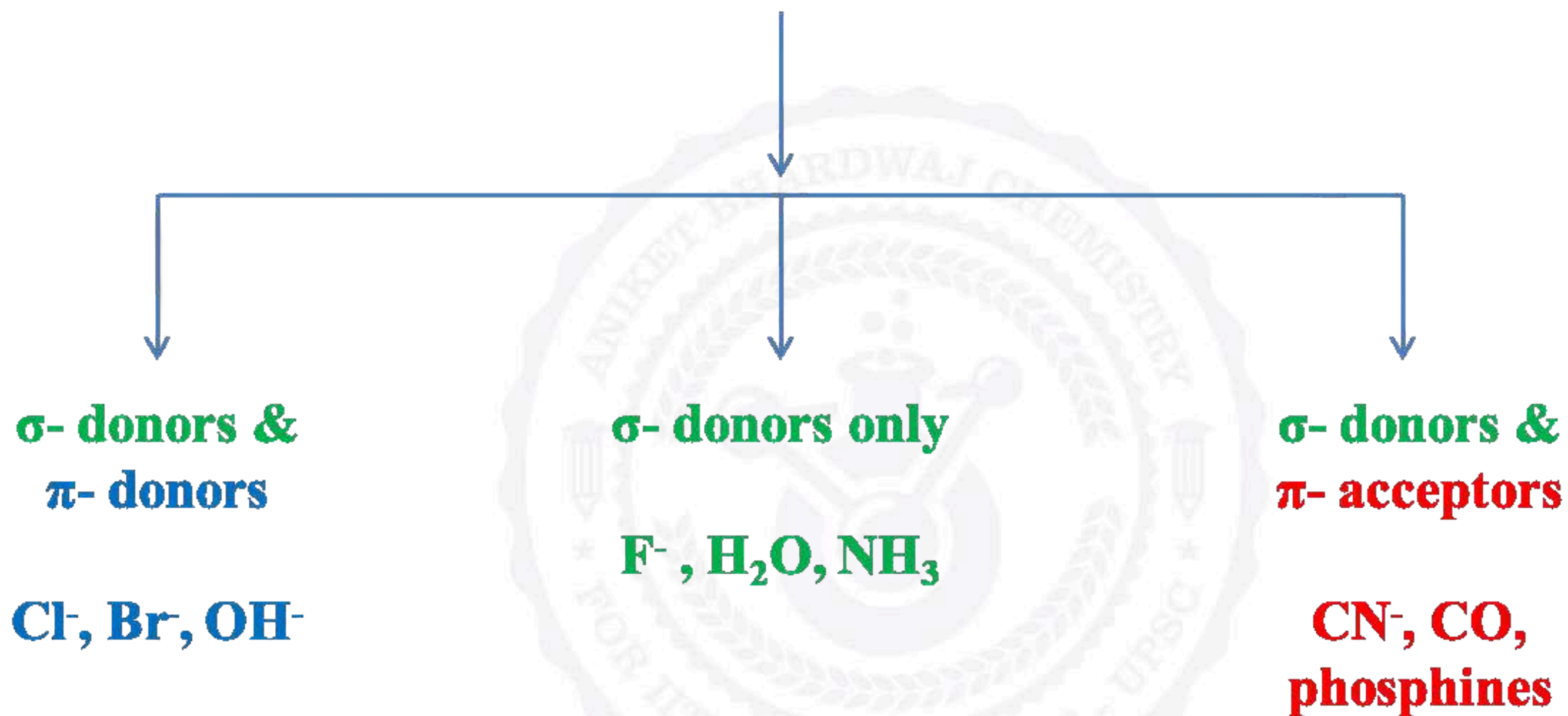
Crystal field theory (CFT) only includes ionic interactions whereas Molecular orbital theory (MOT) developed and applied only to non metal compounds.

But ligand field theory combines both to explain bonding in transition metal coordination compounds.

According to LFT, the covalent bonds between metal and ligands are formed by the linear combination of the metal atomic orbitals (AOs) and ligand group orbitals (LGOs).

The symmetries of LGOs must match the symmetries of the metal AOs for positive overlapping.







# SIGMA BONDING IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEXES

In octahedral complexes, the ligands approach the metal cation along x-, y- and z-axes. Therefore, LGOs will overlap with metal orbitals orienting along the axes to form sigma bonds.

The metal ion has one ns, three np and five (n-1) d-orbitals with following symmetries.

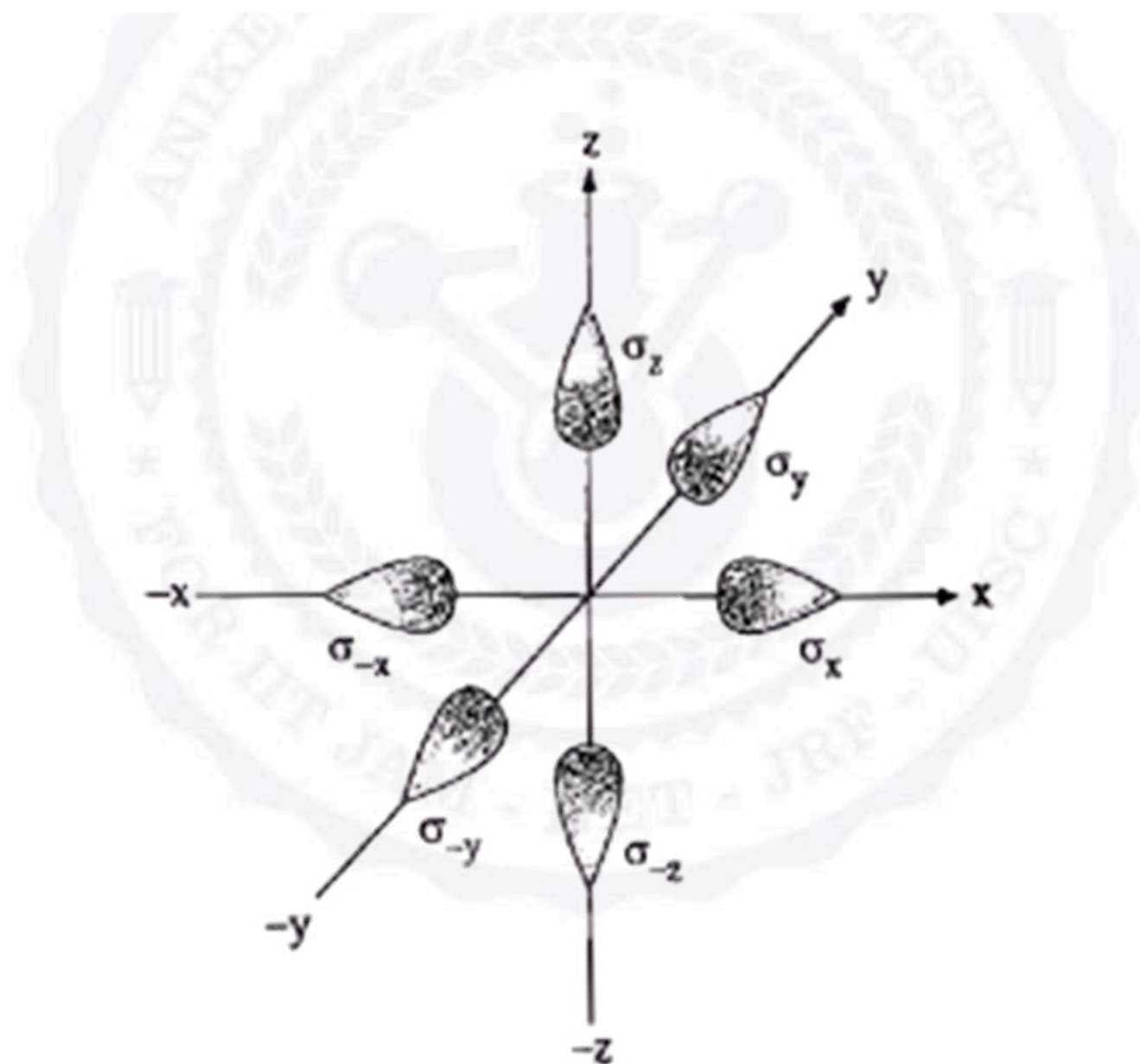
Metal orbital	Symmetry
$s$	$a_{1g}$
$p_x, p_y, p_z$	$t_{1u}$
$d_{xy}, d_{yz}, d_{zx}$	$t_{2g}$
$d_{x^2-y^2}, d_{z^2}$	$e_g$



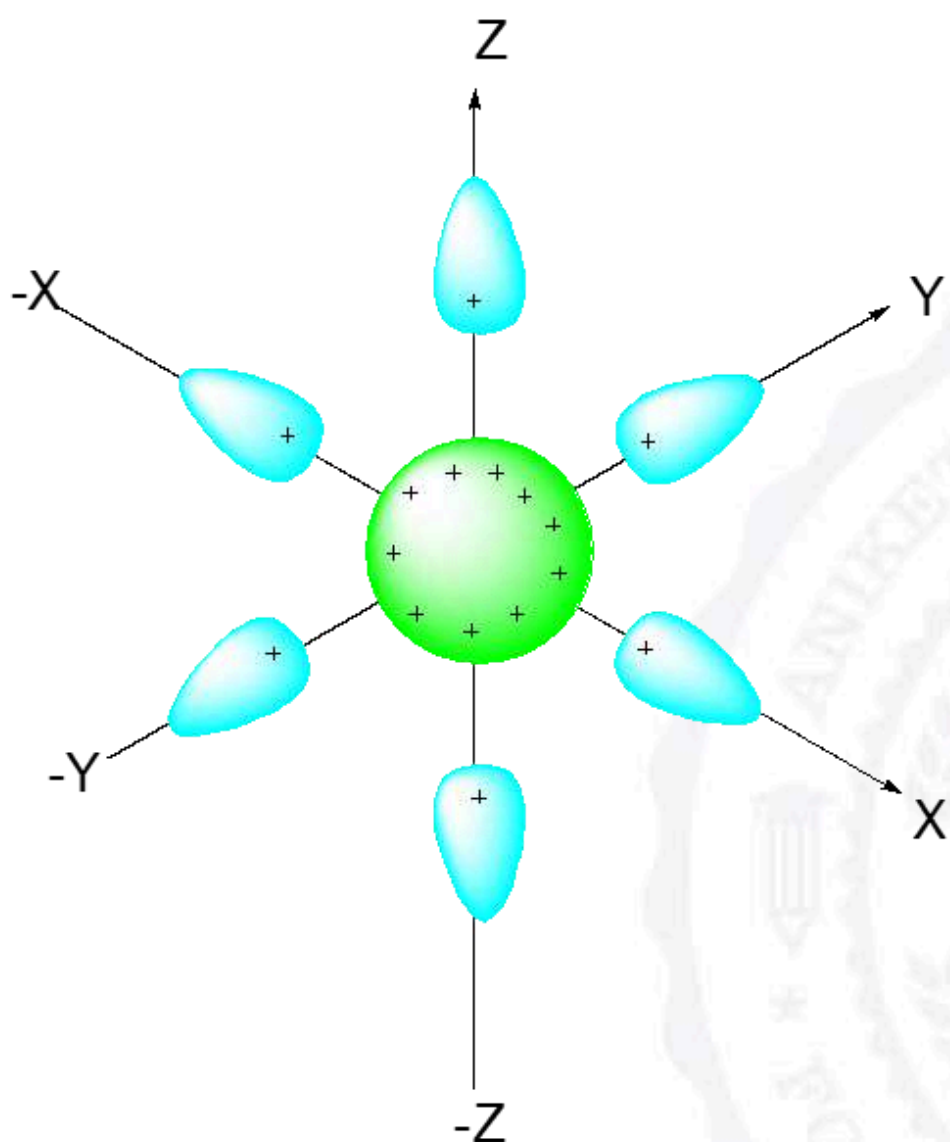
Since  $a_{1g}$  orbital is spherical in shape therefore, it can overlap with LGOs on all axes.

The  $t_{1u}$  and  $e_g$  point along the axes can form sigma bonds overlapping with LGOs.

The  $t_{2g}$  orbitals lie in between the axes, hence these orbitals are not capable to overlap with LGOs to form sigma bonds.

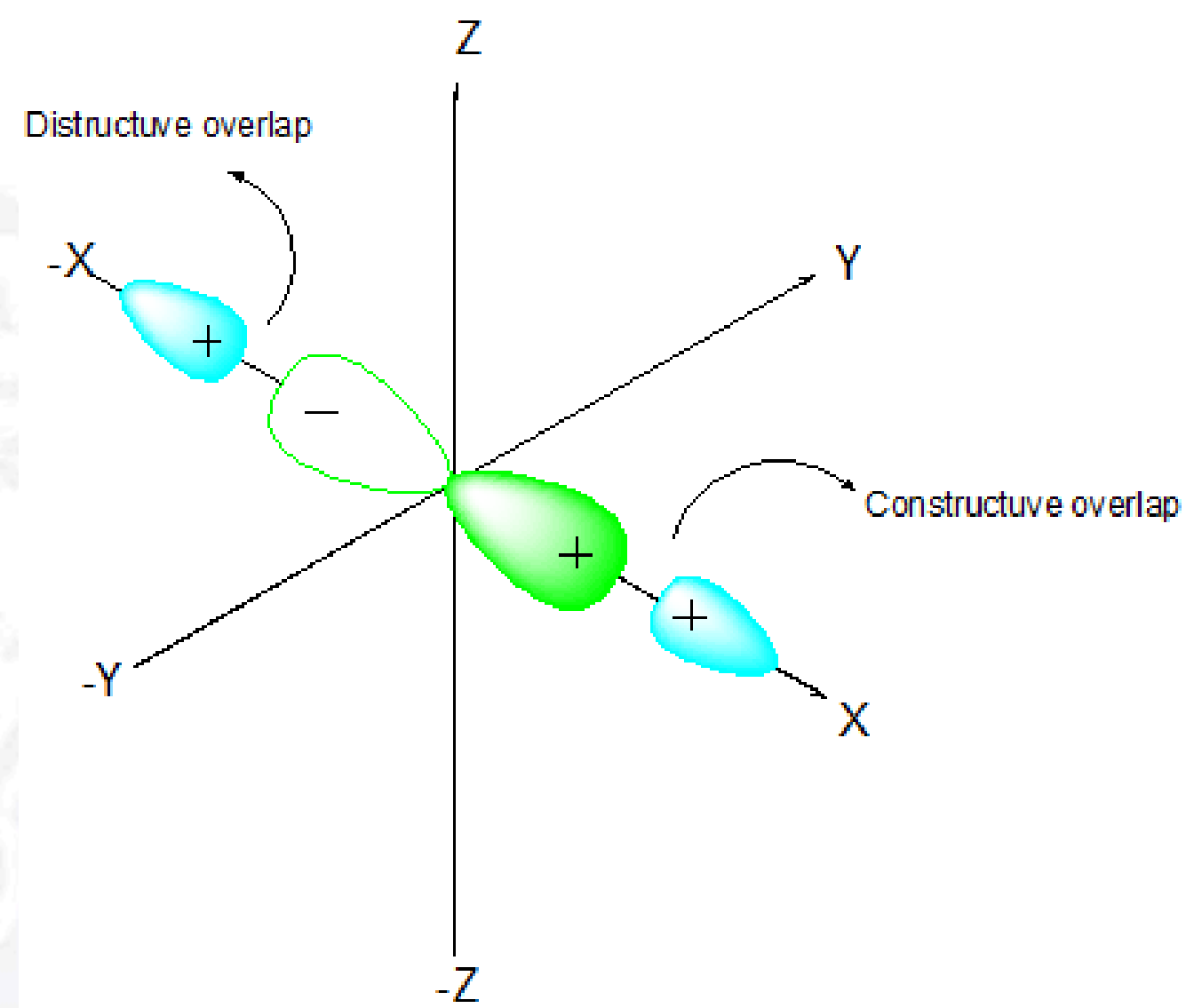






**S – orbital of metal overlap with LGOs  
with  $a_{1g}$  symmetry**

$$\Sigma_{a_{1g}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\sigma_x + \sigma_{-x} + \sigma_y + \sigma_{-y} + \sigma_z + \sigma_{-z}) \quad a_{1g}$$



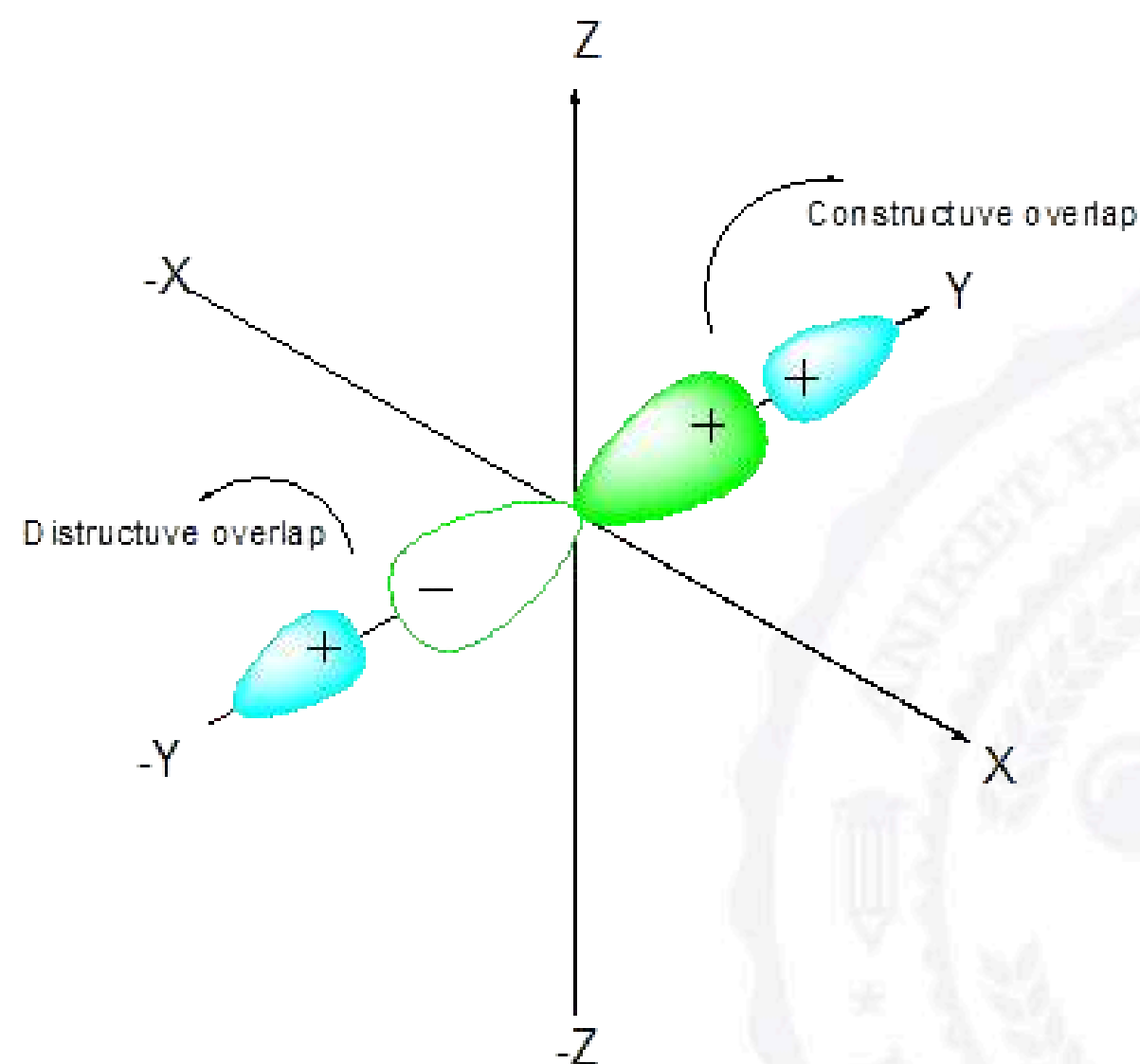
**$p_x$  – orbital of metal overlap with  
LGOs with  $t_{1u}$  symmetry**

$$\Sigma_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_x - \sigma_{-x})$$



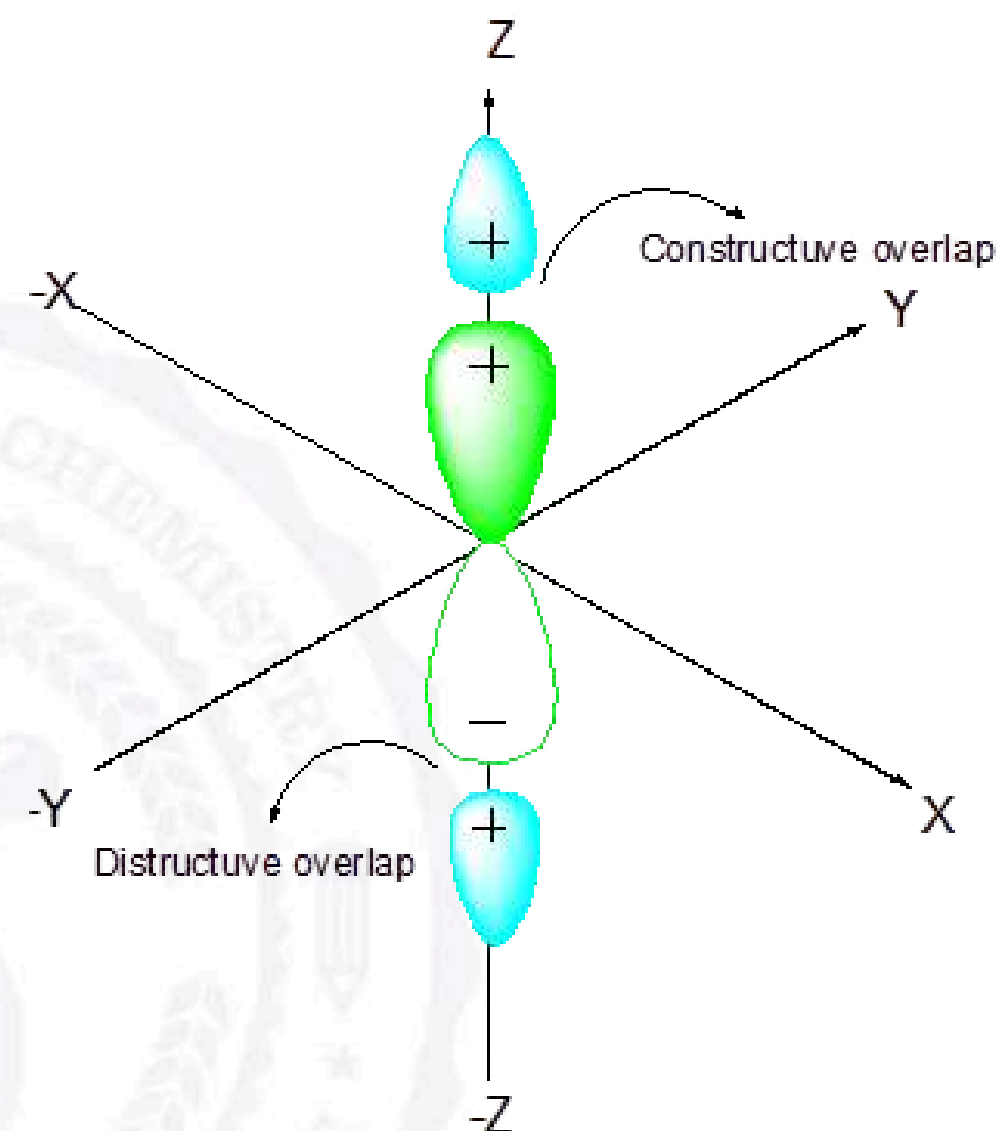
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$p_y$  – orbital of metal overlap with  
LGOs with  $t_{1u}$  symmetry

$$\Sigma_y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_y - \sigma_{-y})$$



$p_z$  – orbital of metal overlap with  
LGOs with  $t_{1u}$  symmetry

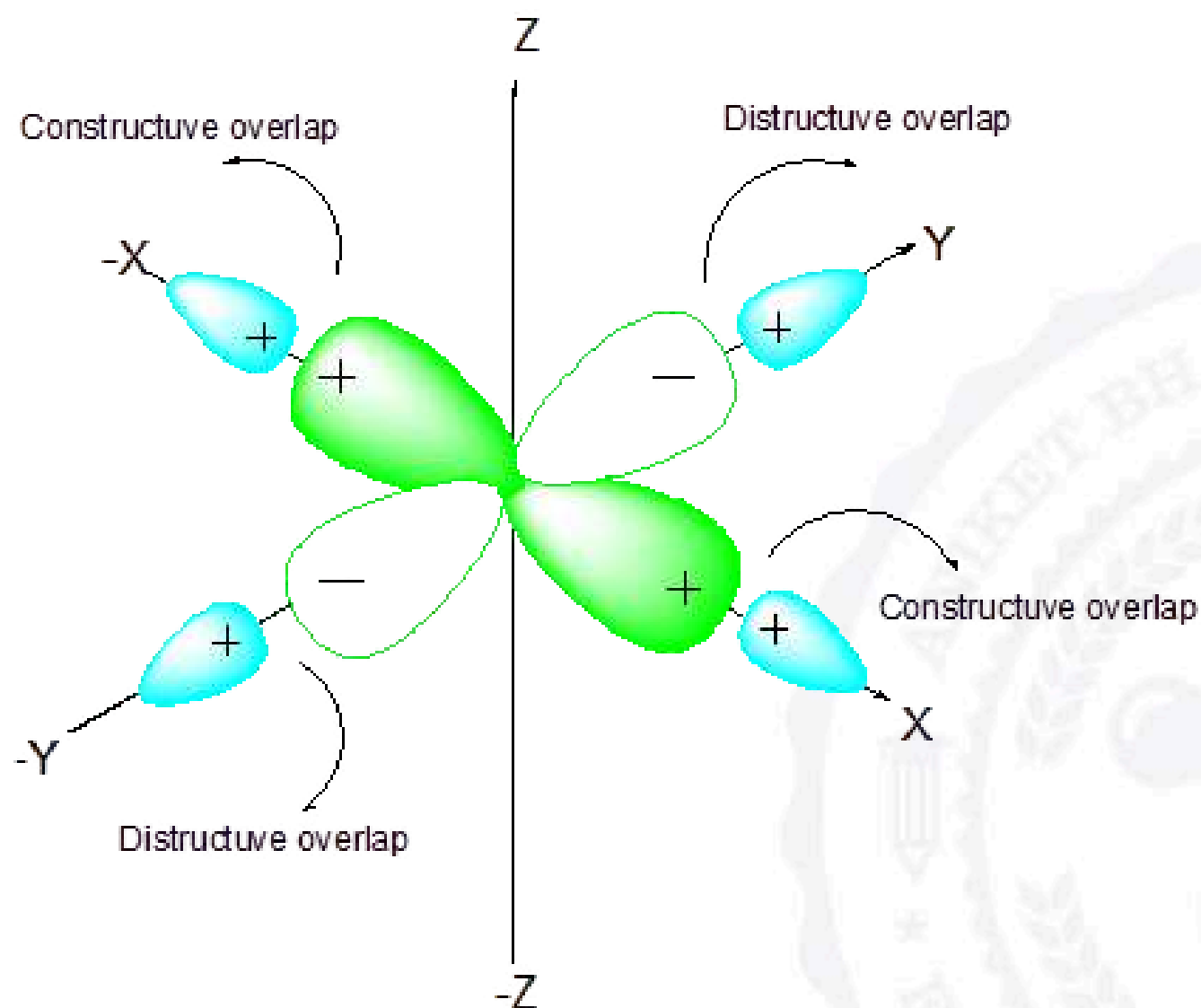
$$\Sigma_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_z - \sigma_{-z})$$



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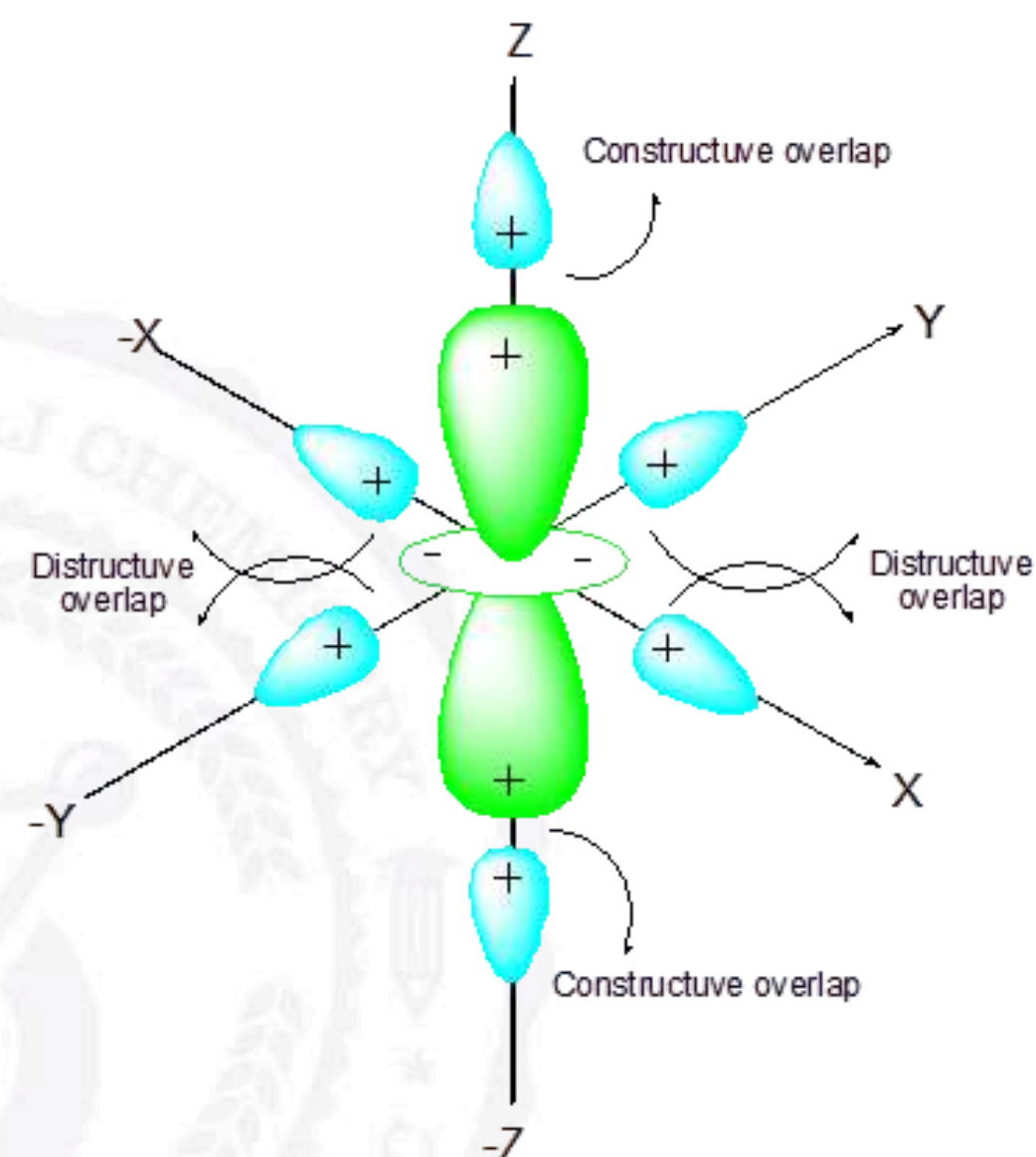






**$d_{x^2-y^2}$  – orbital of metal overlap  
with LGOs with  $e_g$  symmetry**

$$\Sigma_{x^2-y^2} = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_x + \sigma_{-x} - \sigma_y - \sigma_{-y})$$



**$d_z^2$  – orbital of metal overlap  
with LGOs with  $e_g$  symmetry**

$$\Sigma_{z^2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (2\sigma_z + 2\sigma_{-z} - \sigma_x - \sigma_{-x} - \sigma_y - \sigma_{-y})$$



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**s – orbital of metal overlap with LGOs with  $a_{1g}$  symmetry to give  
One bonding  $a_{1g}$  and one anti-bonding  $a_{1g}^*$  molecular orbitals**

**Three degenerate  $p_x, p_y, p_z$  – orbitals of metal overlap with LGOs with  $t_{1u}$  symmetry to give  
three degenerate bonding  $t_{1u}$  and three degenerate anti-bonding  $t_{1u}^*$  molecular orbitals**

**Doubly degenerate  $e_g$  set of orbitals of metal overlap with LGOs with  $e_g$  symmetry to give  
two degenerate bonding  $e_g$  and two degenerate anti-bonding  $e_g^*$  molecular orbitals**

**Therefore, there are six bonding and six anti-bonding molecular orbitals along with three degenerate metal  $t_{2g}$  orbitals as non bonding orbitals.**

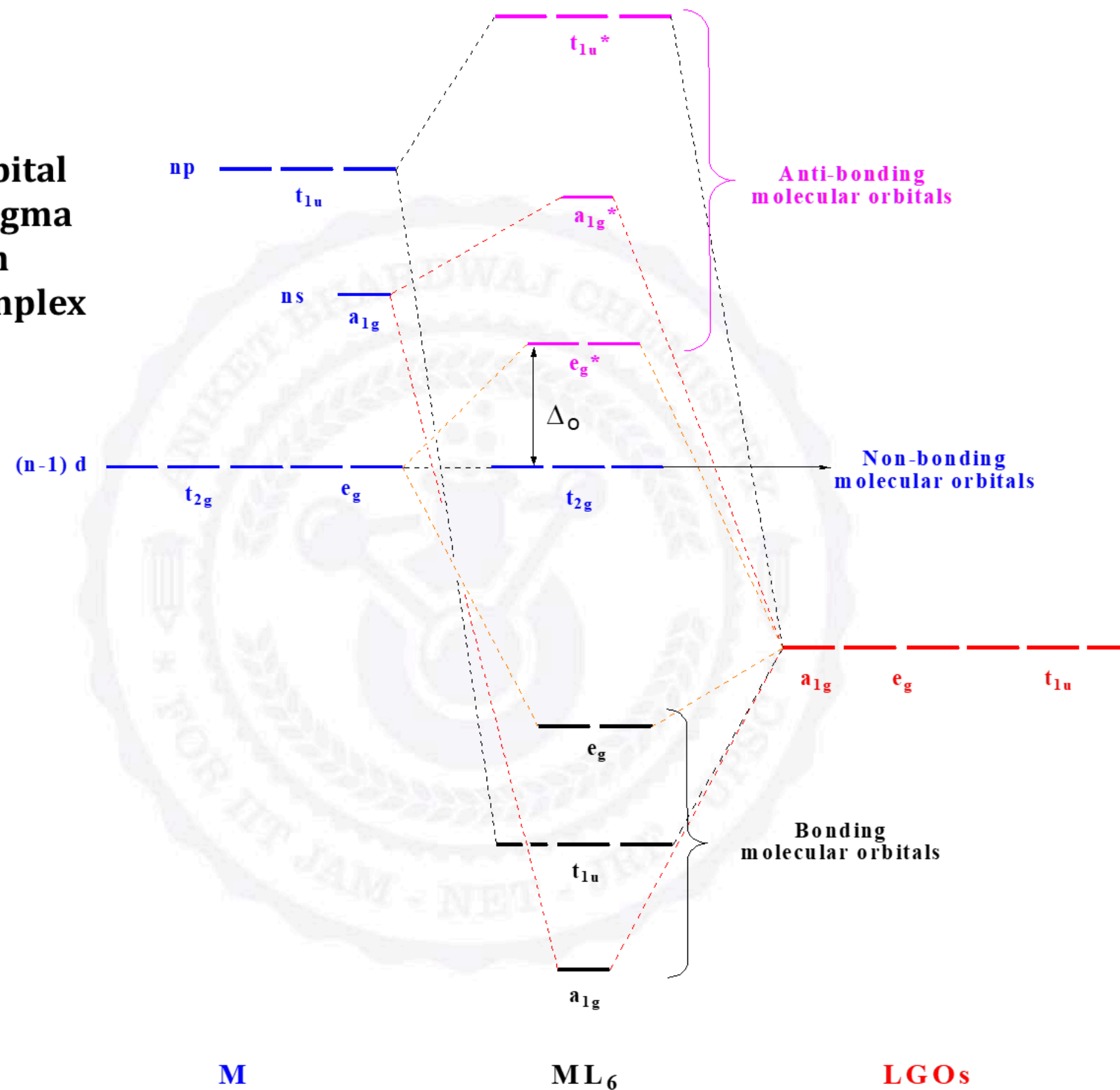
**In an octahedral complex, there are total of  $12 + d^n$  electrons to be placed in molecular orbitals.**

**$d^n$  = Number of metal d-electrons**





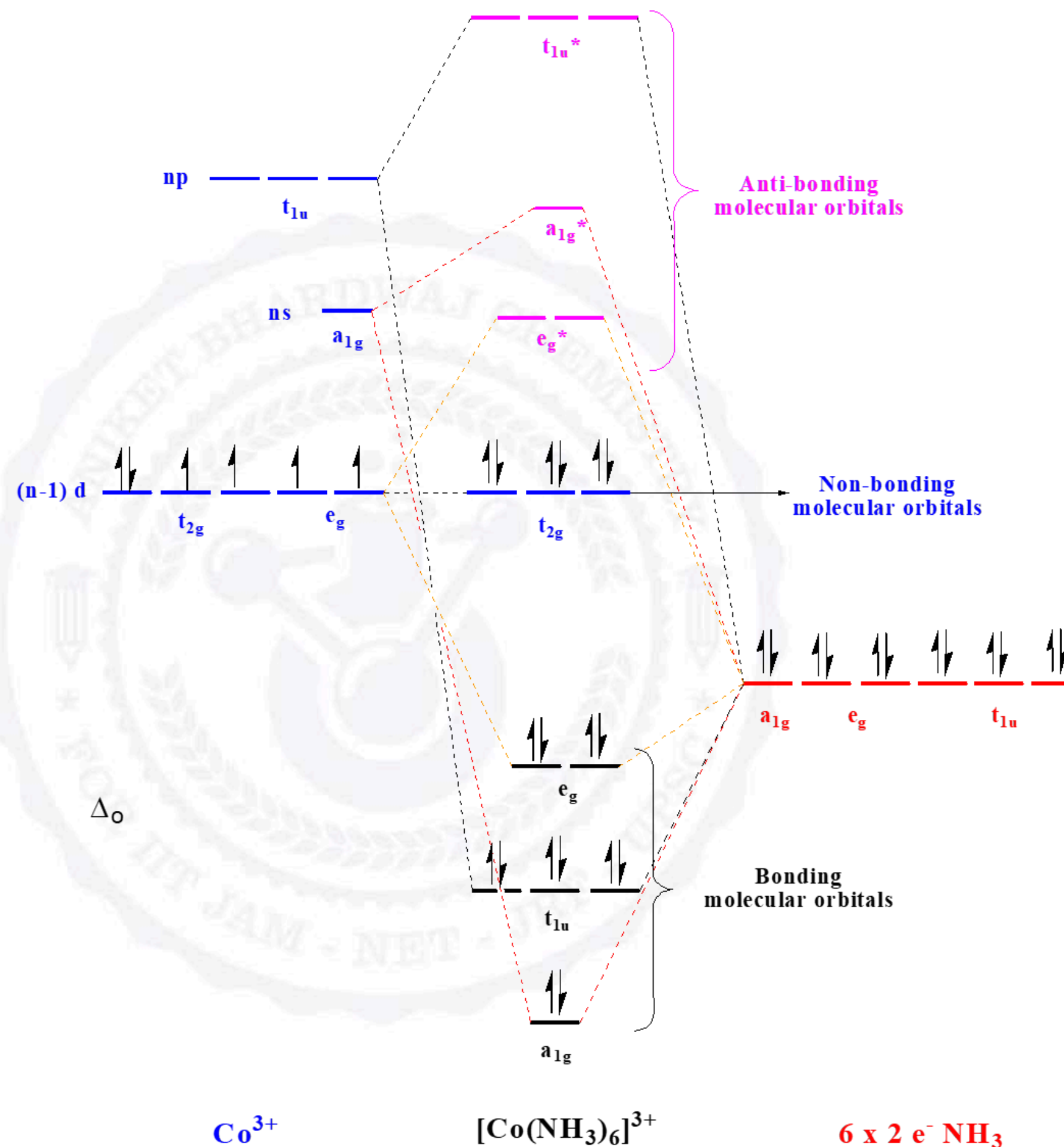
**Molecular orbital  
diagram for sigma  
bonding in  
octahedral complex**



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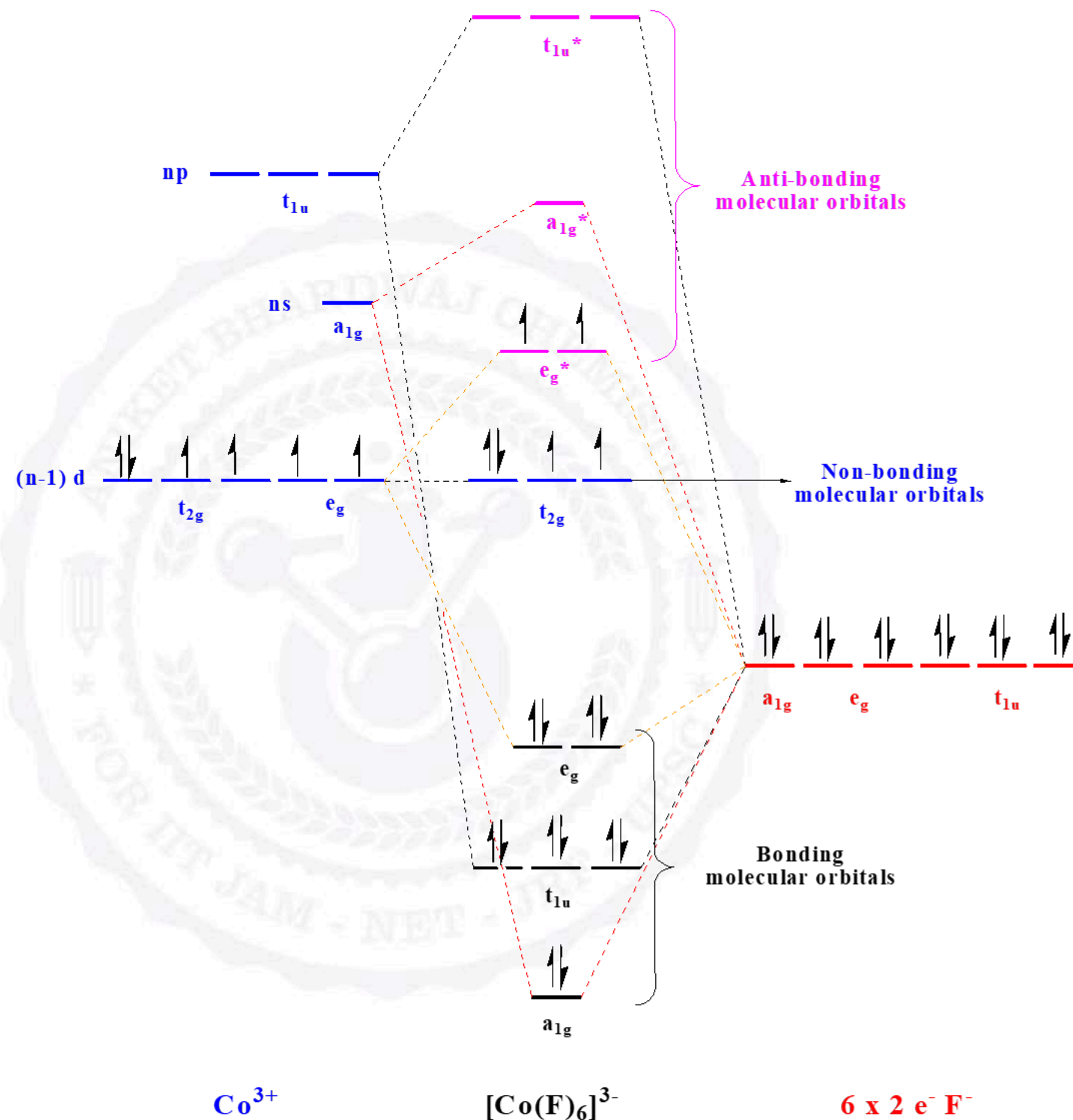


$[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$   
 $\text{Co}^{3+} - d^6$   
 $12 + 6 = 18$   
 electrons to be  
 placed in  
 molecular  
 orbitals and it is  
 low spin  
 complex since  $\Delta_o$   
 is large





**[Co(F)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>3-</sup>**  
**Co<sup>3+</sup> - d<sup>6</sup>**  
**12 + 6 = 18**  
**electrons to be**  
**placed in**  
**molecular**  
**orbitals and it is**  
**high spin**  
**complex since Δ<sub>o</sub>**  
**is small**



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# PI - BONDING IN OCTAHEDRAL COMPLEXES

In addition to metal ligand sigma interactions, many ligands which have orbitals with  $\pi$ -symmetry with respect to octahedral axes are capable of forming  $\pi$ -bonding interaction with the metal ion.

In octahedral complex there are 12 ligand group orbitals capable of  $\pi$ -interactions. These LGOs belongs to four symmetry classes:  $t_{1g}$ ,  $t_{2g}$ ,  $t_{1u}$  and  $t_{2u}$ .

Metal ion in octahedral complex has  $t_{1u}$  and  $t_{2g}$  symmetry orbitals for  $\pi$ -bonding. The  $t_{1g}$  and  $t_{2u}$  ligand group orbitals are non bonding because there are no metal orbitals of these symmetries.

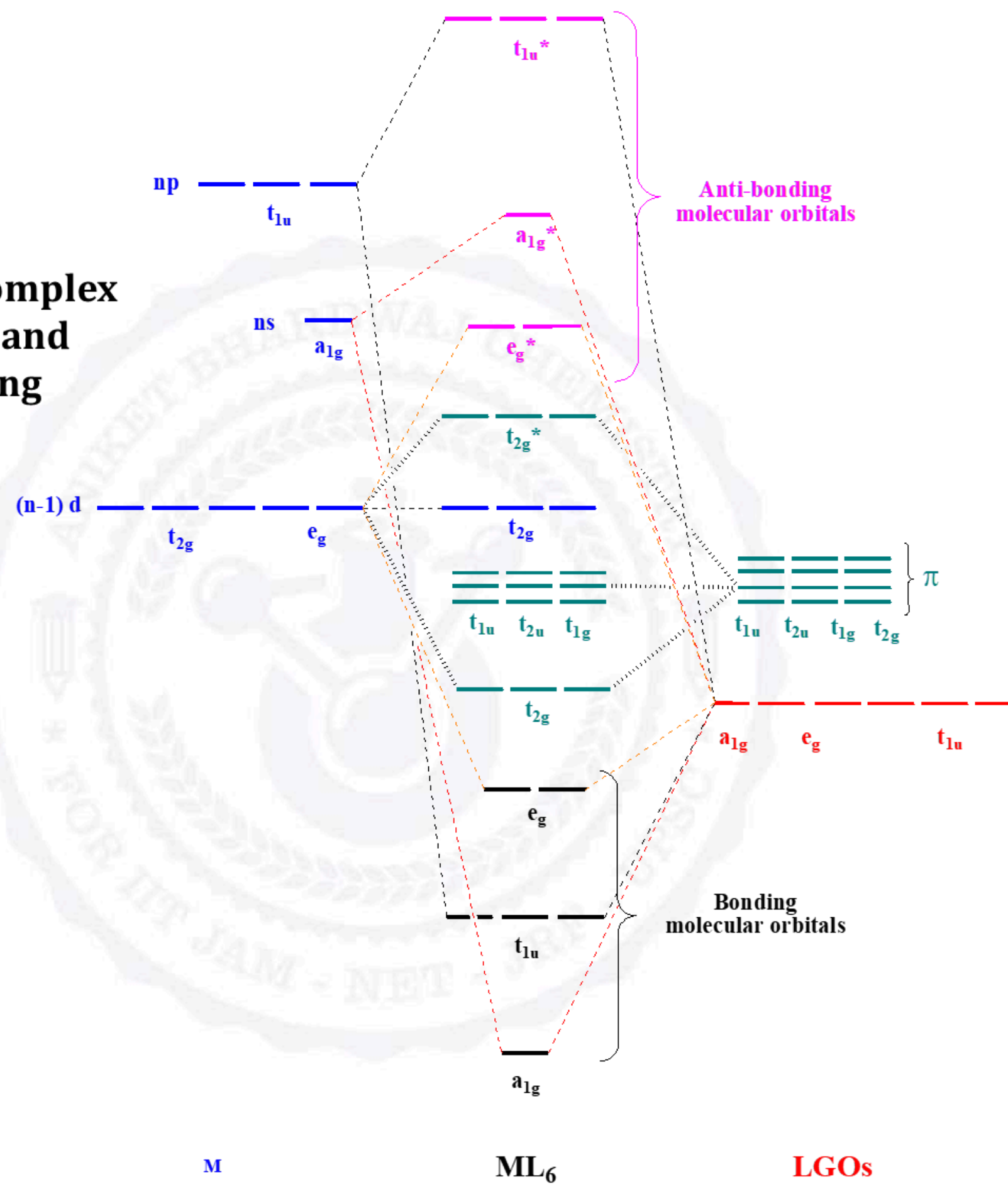
Since  $t_{1u}$  symmetry orbitals already involved in sigma bonding hence these orbitals are unavailable for  $\pi$ -bonding.

Therefore,  $t_{2g}$  LGOs and metal orbital of same symmetry can form three degenerate bonding  $t_{2g}$  and three degenerate anti-bonding  $t_{2g}^*$  molecular orbitals.





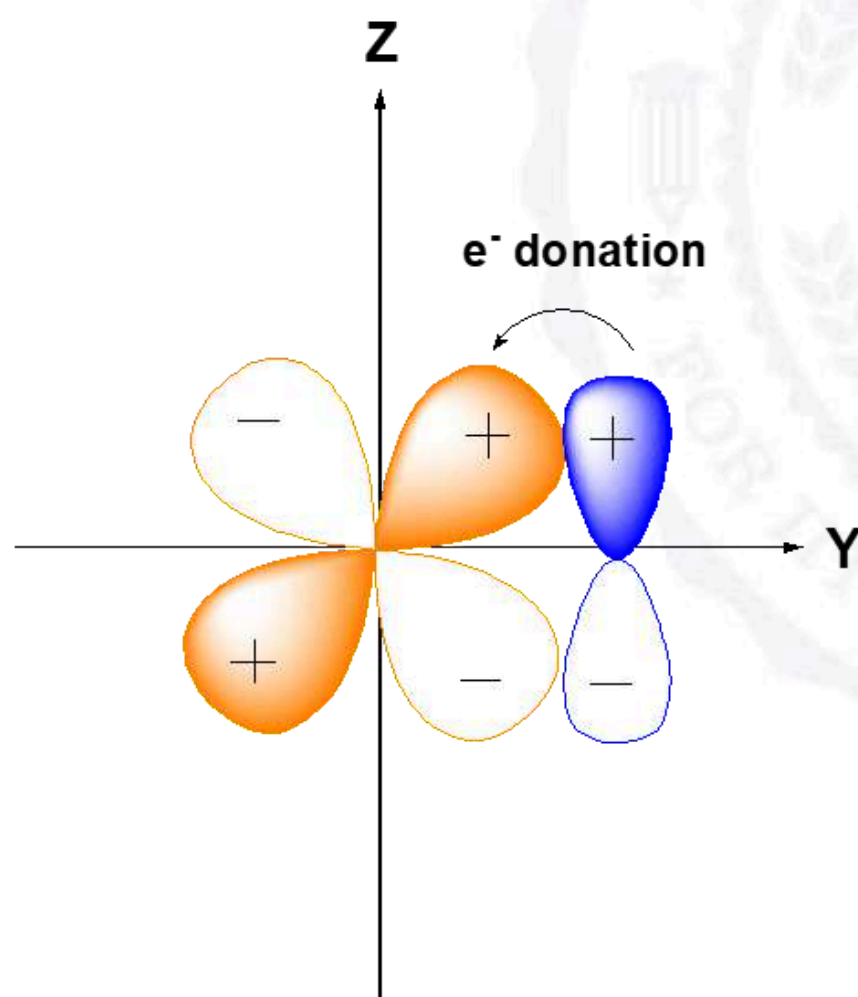
**MOT for Oh complex  
with sigma and  
Pi - bonding**



In octahedral complexes the LGOs corresponding to  $t_{2g}$  symmetry may form four types of  $\pi$ - interactions

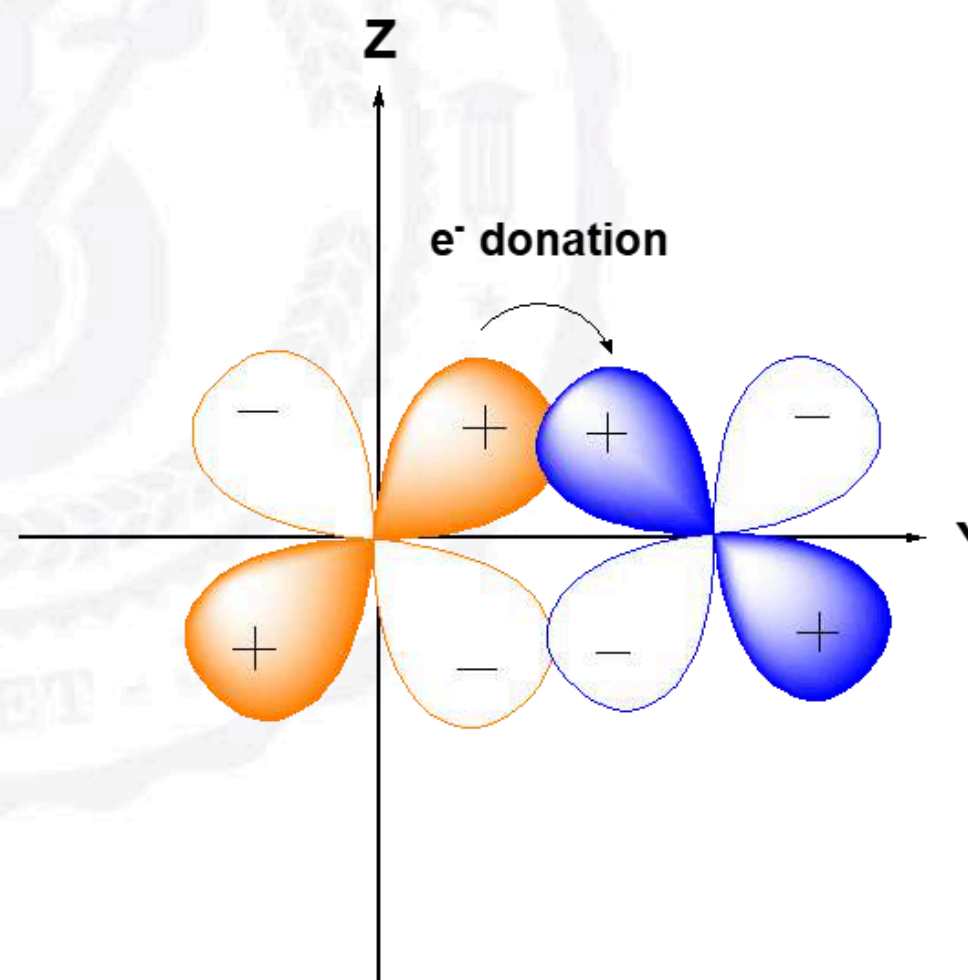
(i)  $d\pi - p\pi$  = are formed by donation of electrons from  $p\pi$  orbitals of ligands to empty  $d\pi$  orbitals of the metal.

Example:  $F^-$ ,  $Cl^-$ ,  $Br^-$ ,  $I^-$



(ii)  $d\pi - d\pi$  = formed by overlap of filled d-orbital with empty d-orbital of ligands.

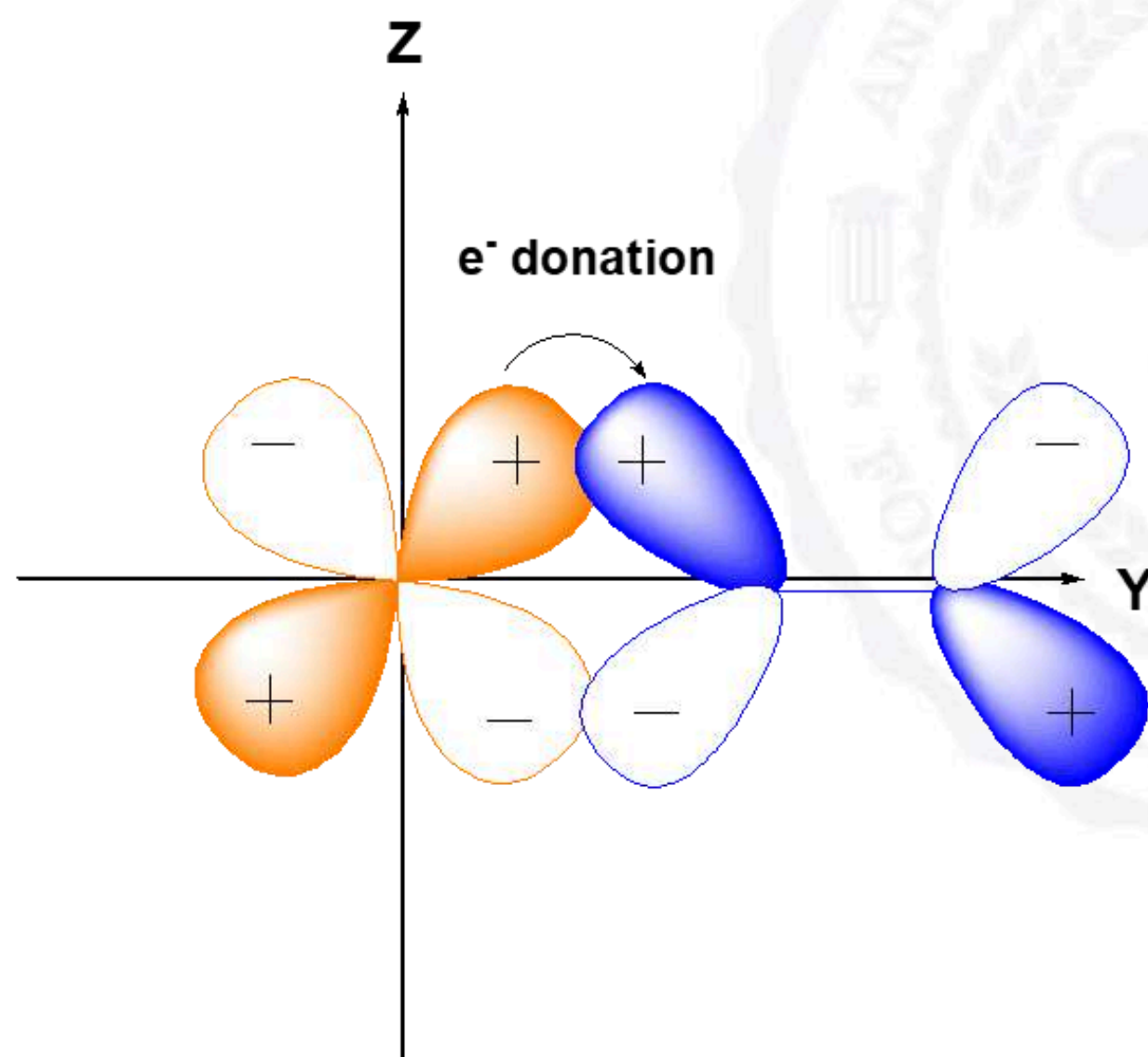
Example:  $R_3P$ ,  $R_2S$





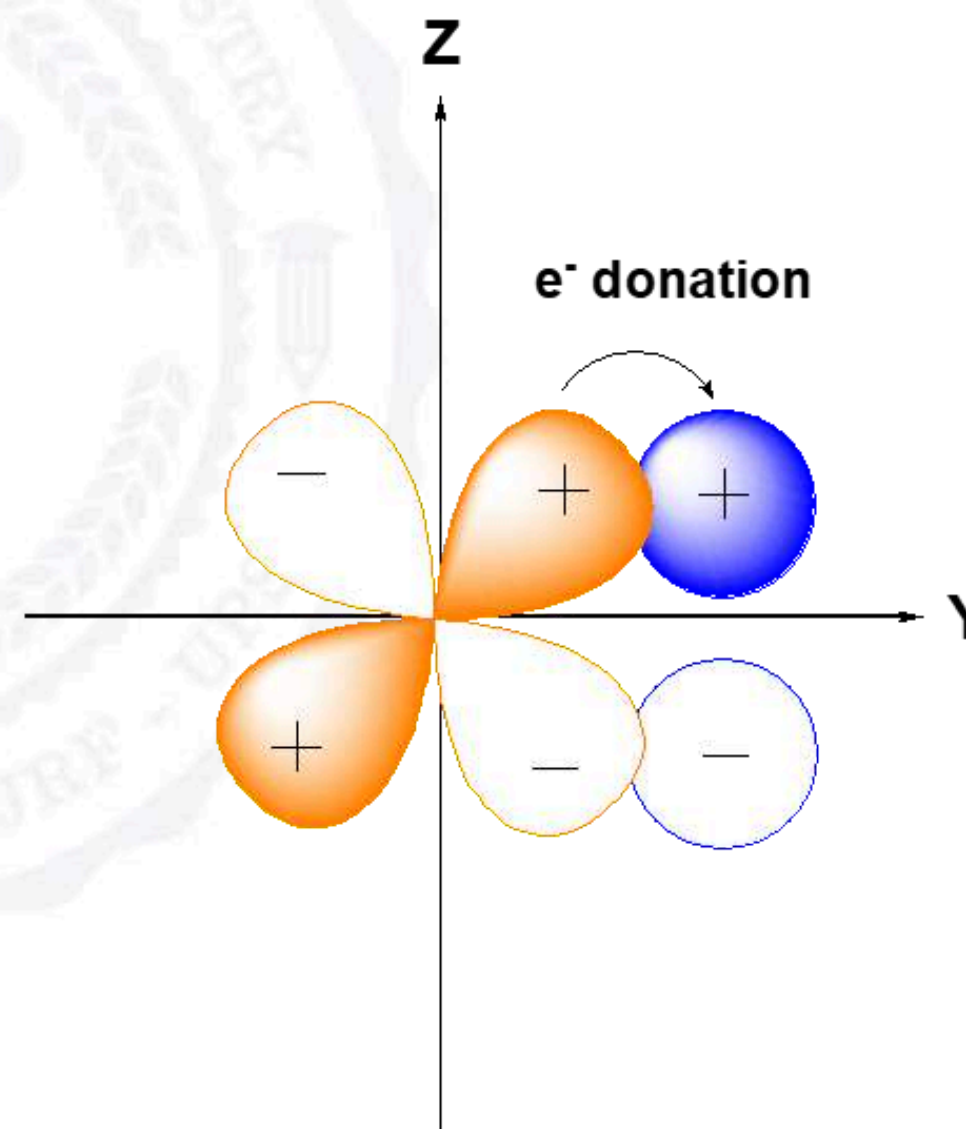
(iii)  $d\pi - \pi^*$  = formed when filled d-orbital of metal overlap with the empty  $\pi^*$  anti-bonding of the ligands.

Example: CO,  $\text{CN}^-$

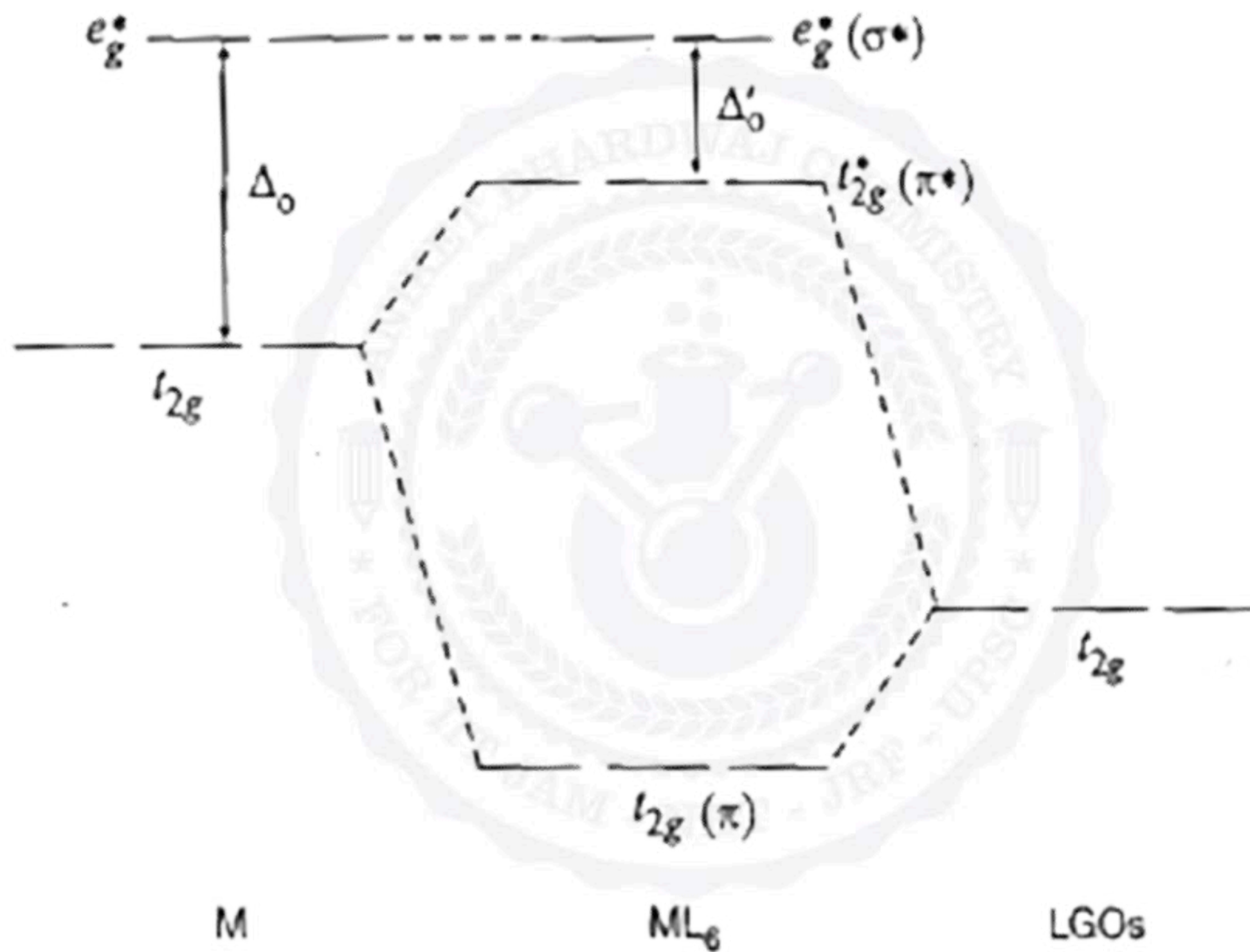


(iv)  $d\pi - \sigma^*$  = formed when filled d-orbital of metal overlap with the empty  $\sigma^*$  anti-bonding of the ligands.

Example:  $\text{H}_2$ , alkene

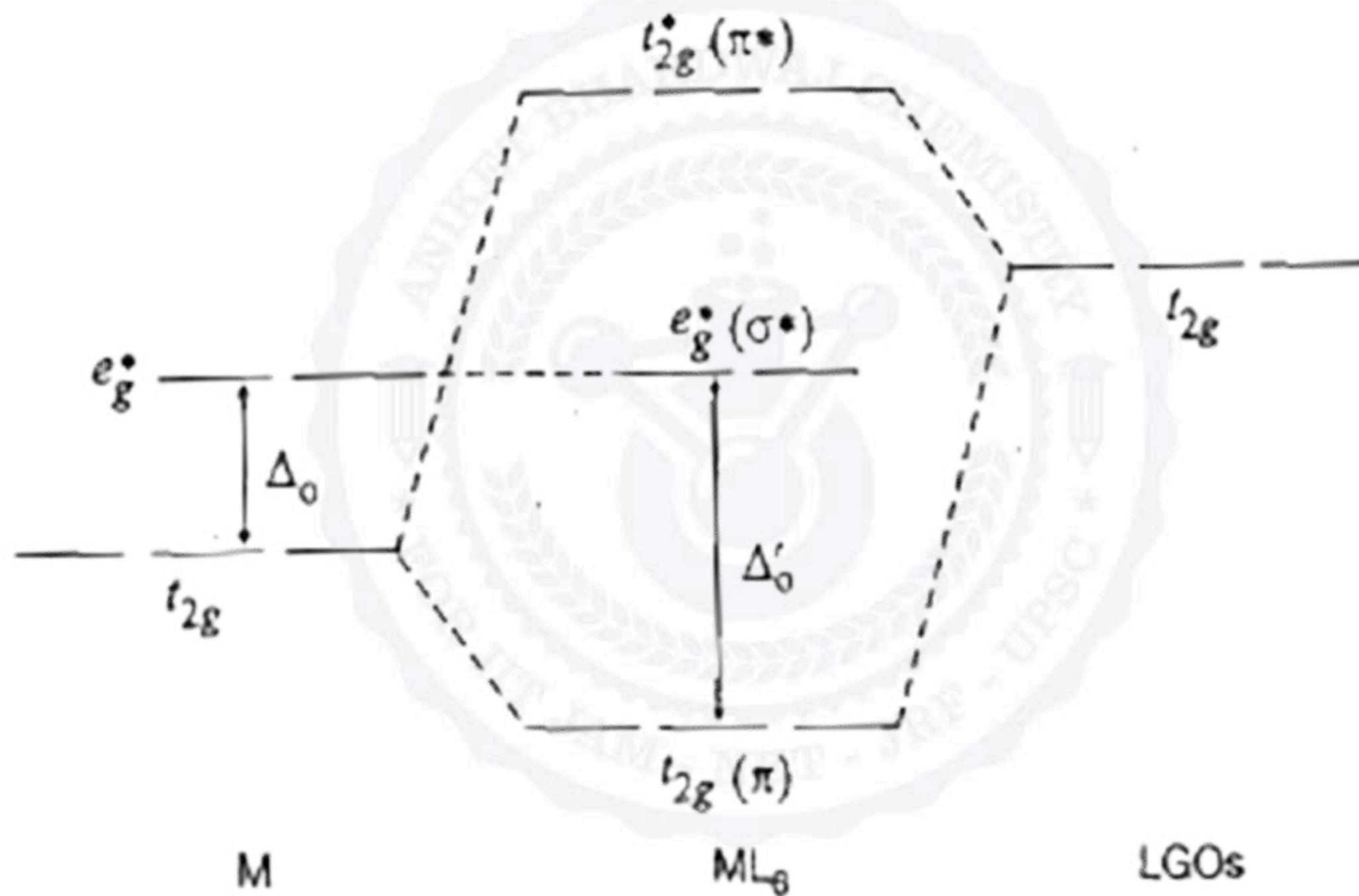


## Molecular orbital diagram for pi bonding in octahedral complex with pi-donor ligands

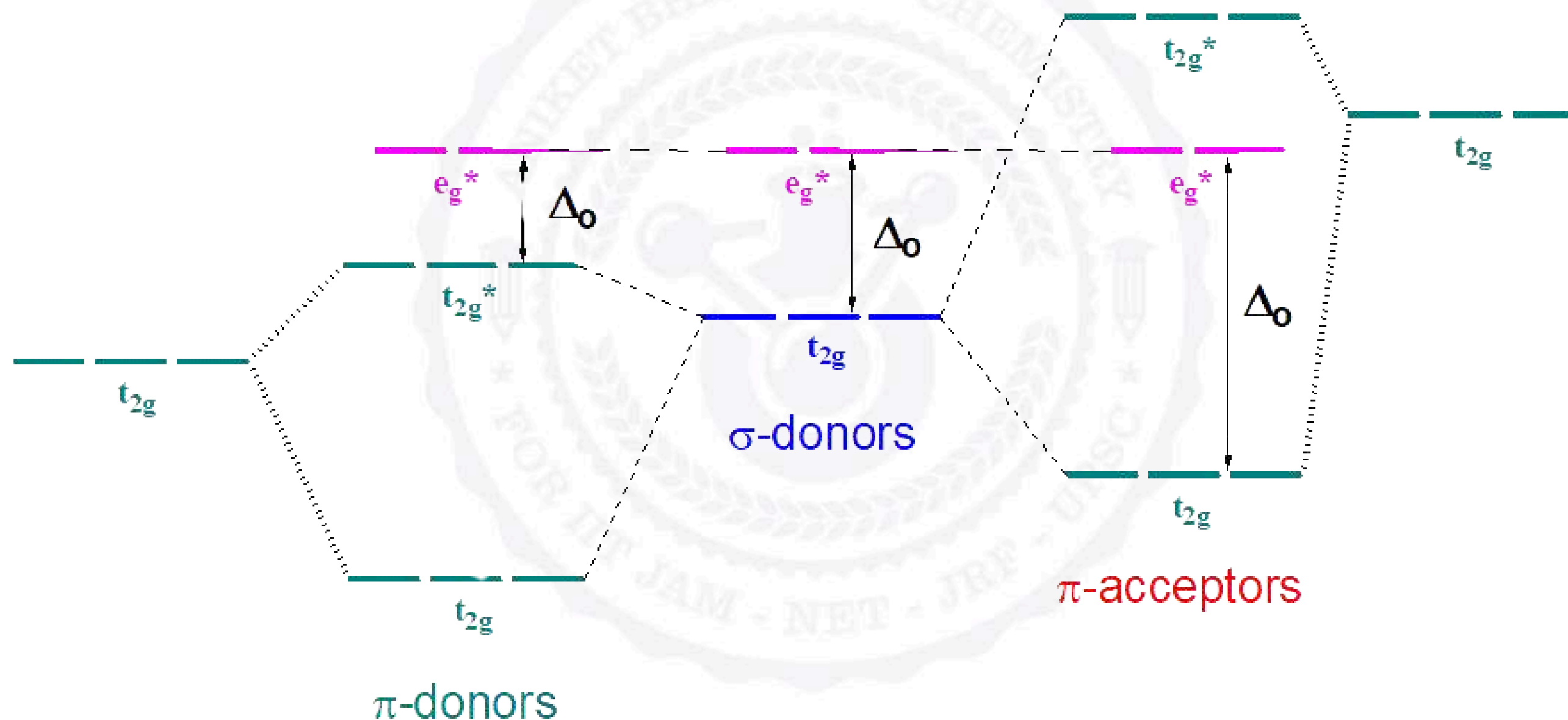




## Molecular orbital diagram for pi bonding in octahedral complex with pi-acceptor ligands



# Comparison of Molecular orbital diagram for pi bonding in octahedral complex with Pi-donor, sigma-donor and pi-acceptor ligands





# SIGMA BONDING IN TETRAHEDRAL COMPLEXES

For a tetrahedral  $ML_4$  complex, the metal s and p-orbitals have  $a_1$  and  $t_2$  symmetries respectively.

The  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  &  $d_{yz}$  orbitals have  $t_2$  and  $d_z^2$  &  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  have e symmetry.

Both p-orbitals and  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  &  $d_{yz}$  orbitals have same symmetry i.e.  $t_2$ .

*It is due to the fact that the p-orbitals hybridized with s-orbitals for  $sp^3$  hybridization and  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  &  $d_{yz}$  orbitals hybridized with s-orbitals form  $sd^3$  hybridization. Both  $sp^3$  and  $sd^3$  have tetrahedral geometry.*

Of the four LGOs, one has  $a_1$  and three have  $t_2$  symmetries.

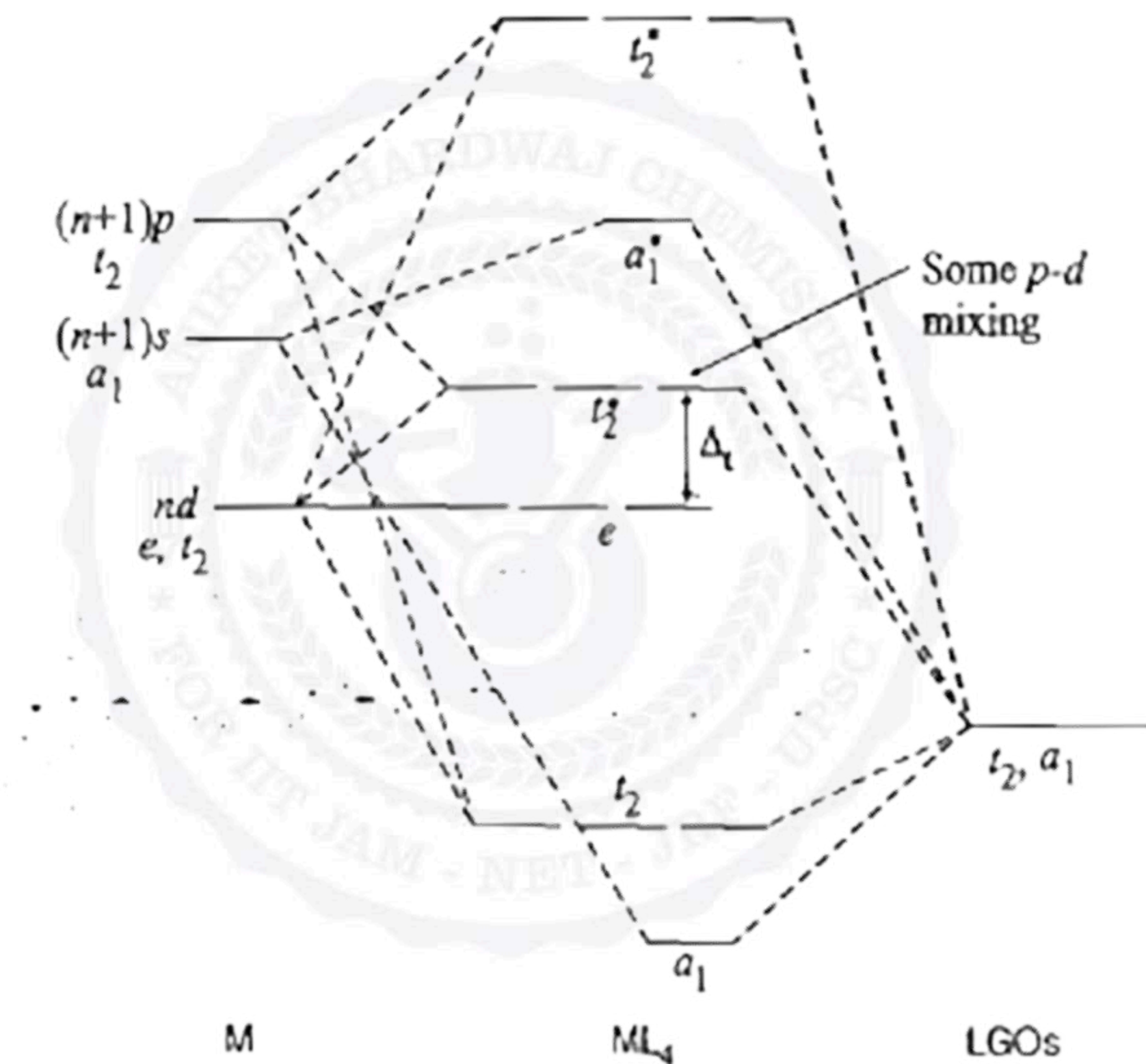
The  $a_1$  symmetry LGO interact with  $a_1$  orbital of metal to give one bonding and one antibonding MO.

$t_2$  LGOs interact with both sets of metal orbitals (p and  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  &  $d_{yz}$ ) to give one bonding and two antibonding Mos.

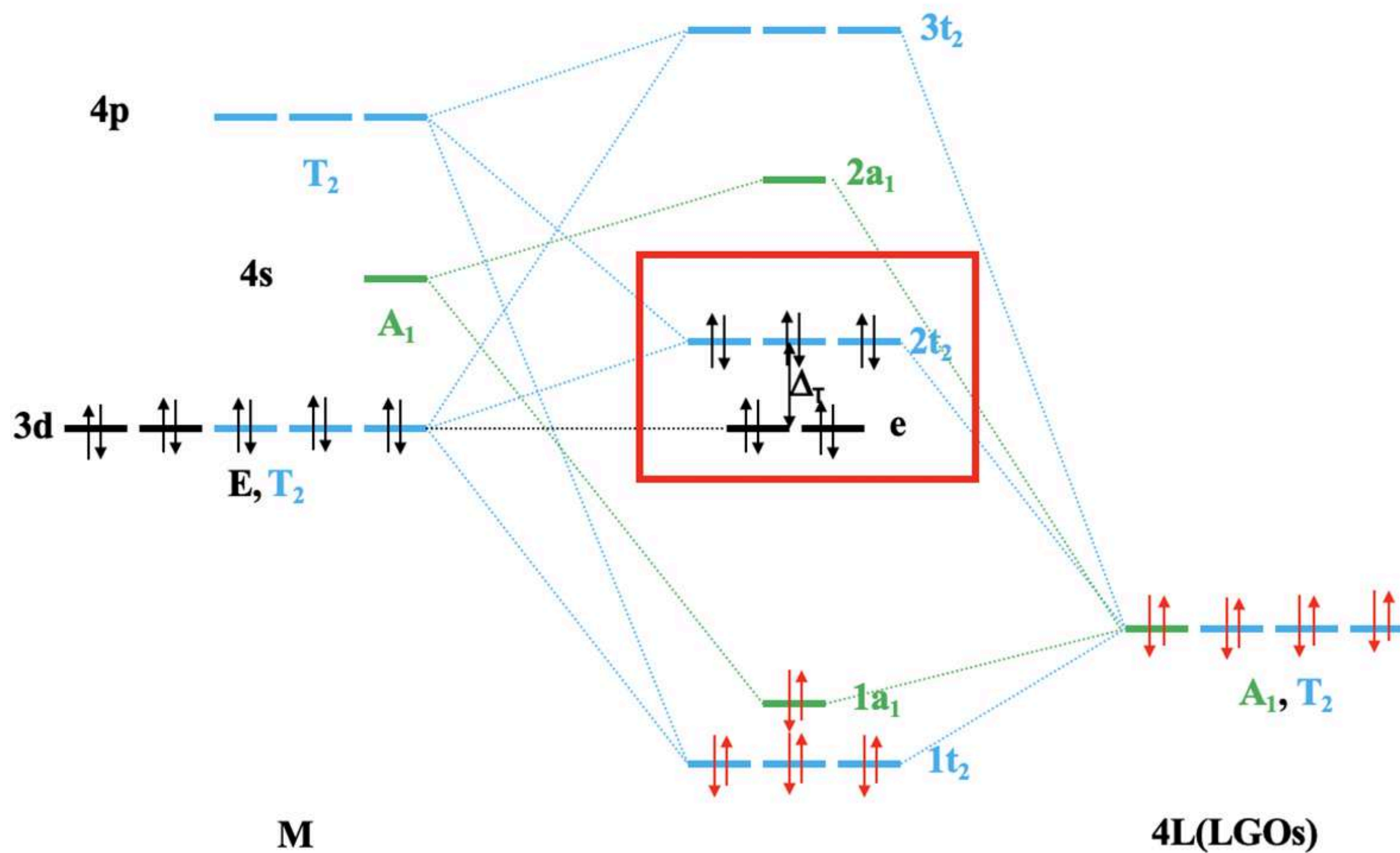
In tetrahedral complex, the metal e set of orbitals remain as non bonding.



# Molecular orbital diagram for sigma bonding in tetrahedral complex

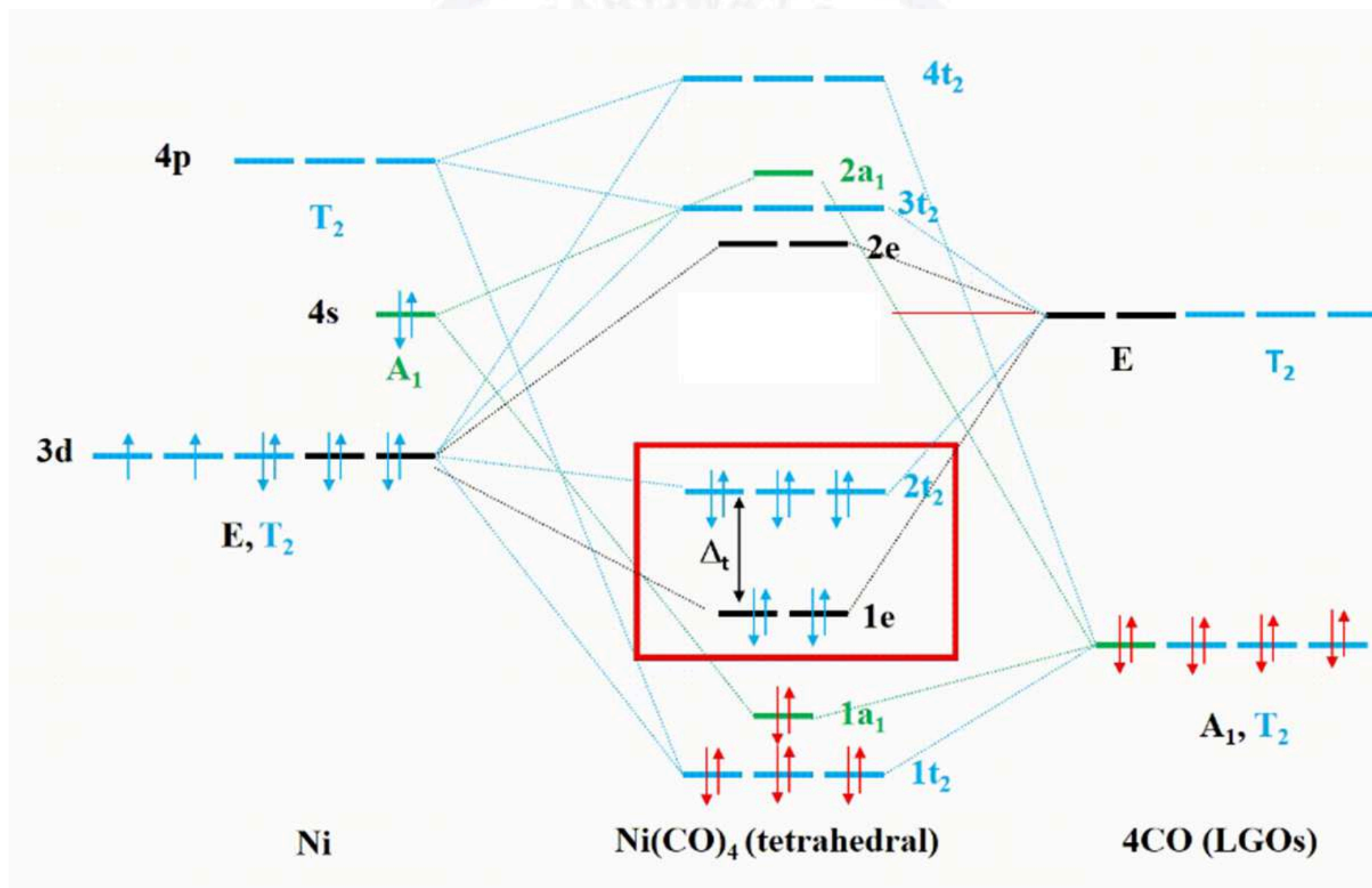






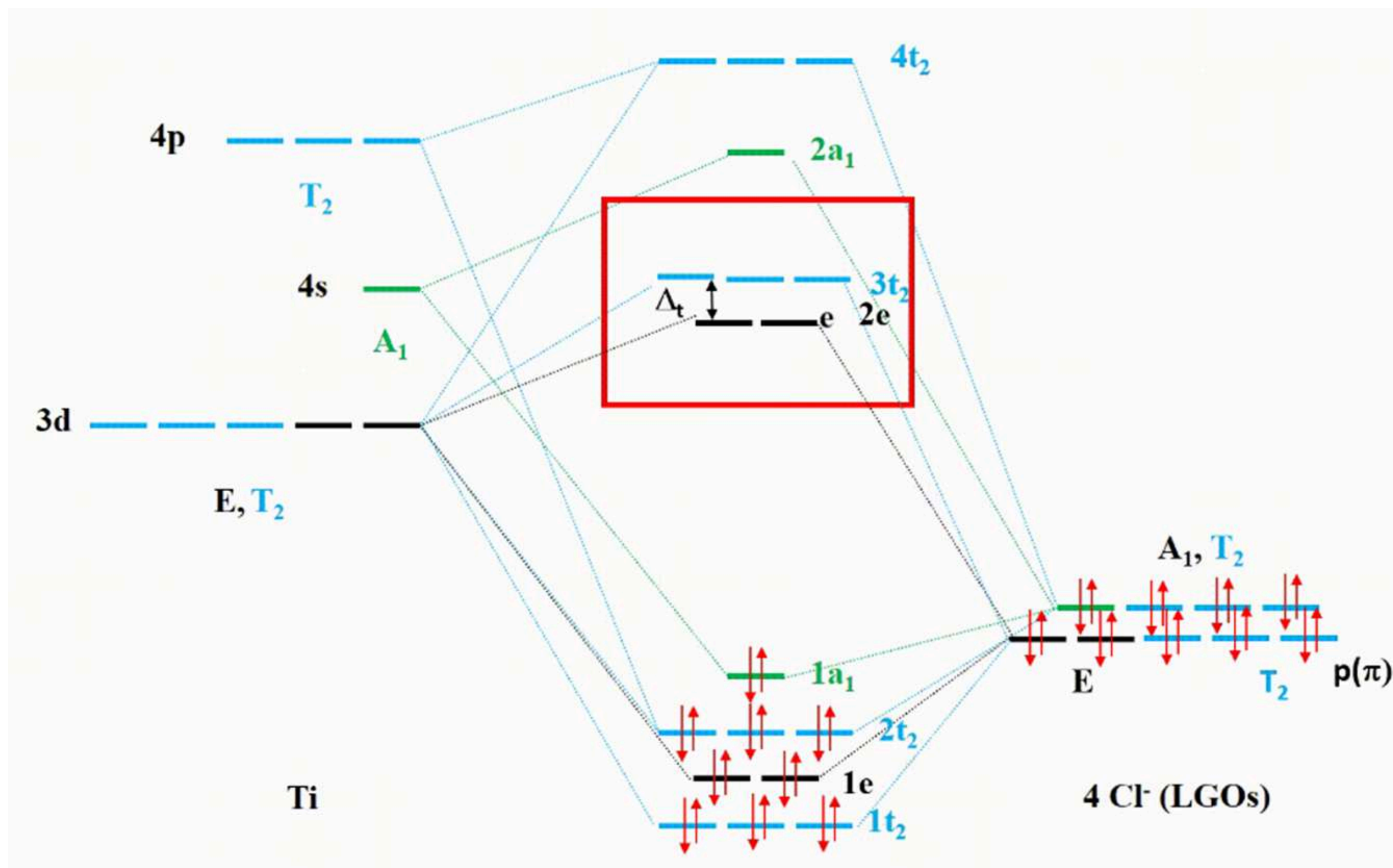
## Molecular orbital diagram for pi bonding in tetrahedral complex with pi-acceptor ligand

In tetrahedral complex there are 08 ligand group orbitals capable of  $\pi$ -interactions. These LGOs belong to three symmetry classes: e,  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .





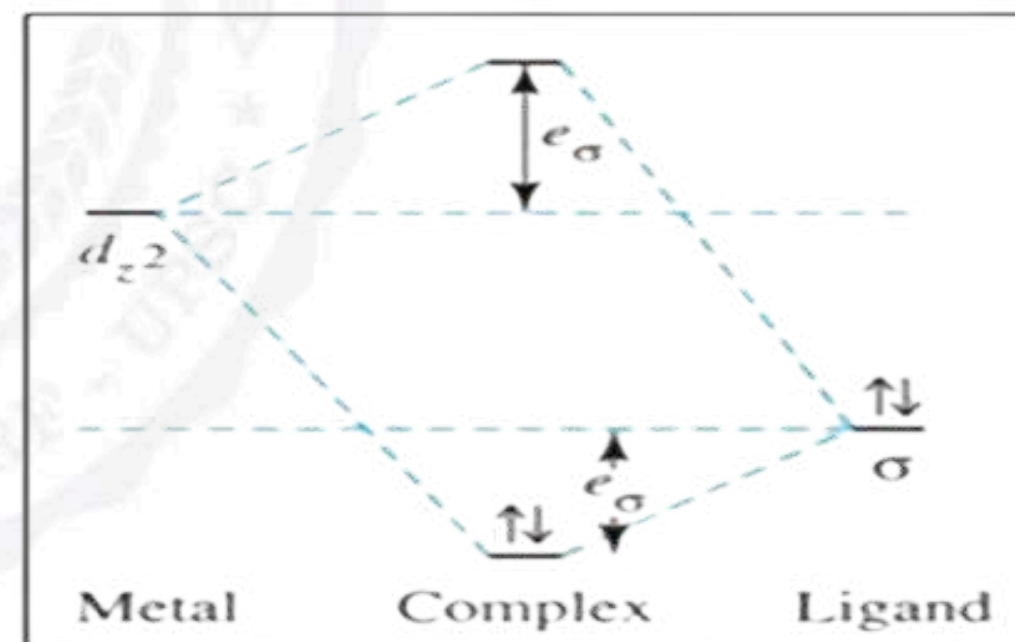
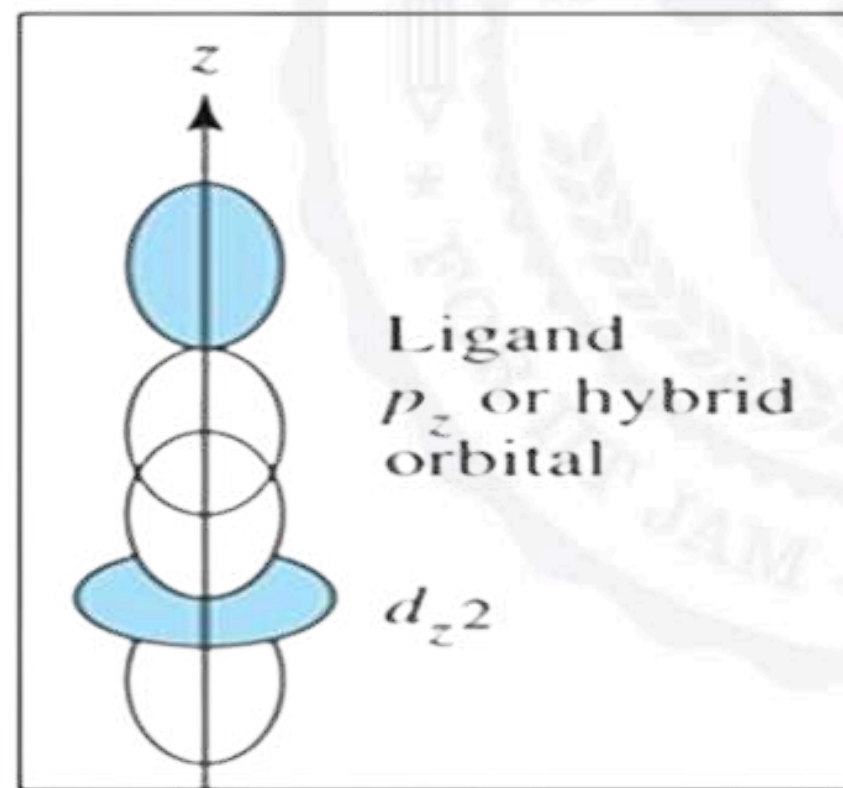
## Molecular orbital diagram for pi bonding in tetrahedral complex with pi-donor ligand



# ANGULAR OVERLAP METHOD (AOM)

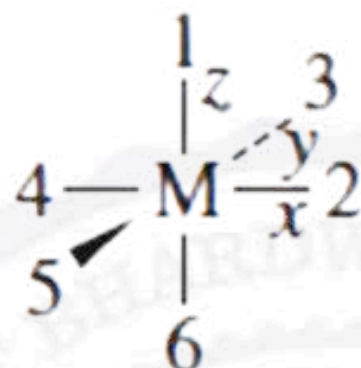
This theory estimates the bonding strength and energies according to the ability of frontier orbitals from ligands to overlap with the valence d-orbitals of metal.

The main consideration for orbital interactions is the direction / positions of d-orbitals and ligand orbitals in space. That is overlap depends strongly on the angles of the orbitals.





## Octahedral Positlons



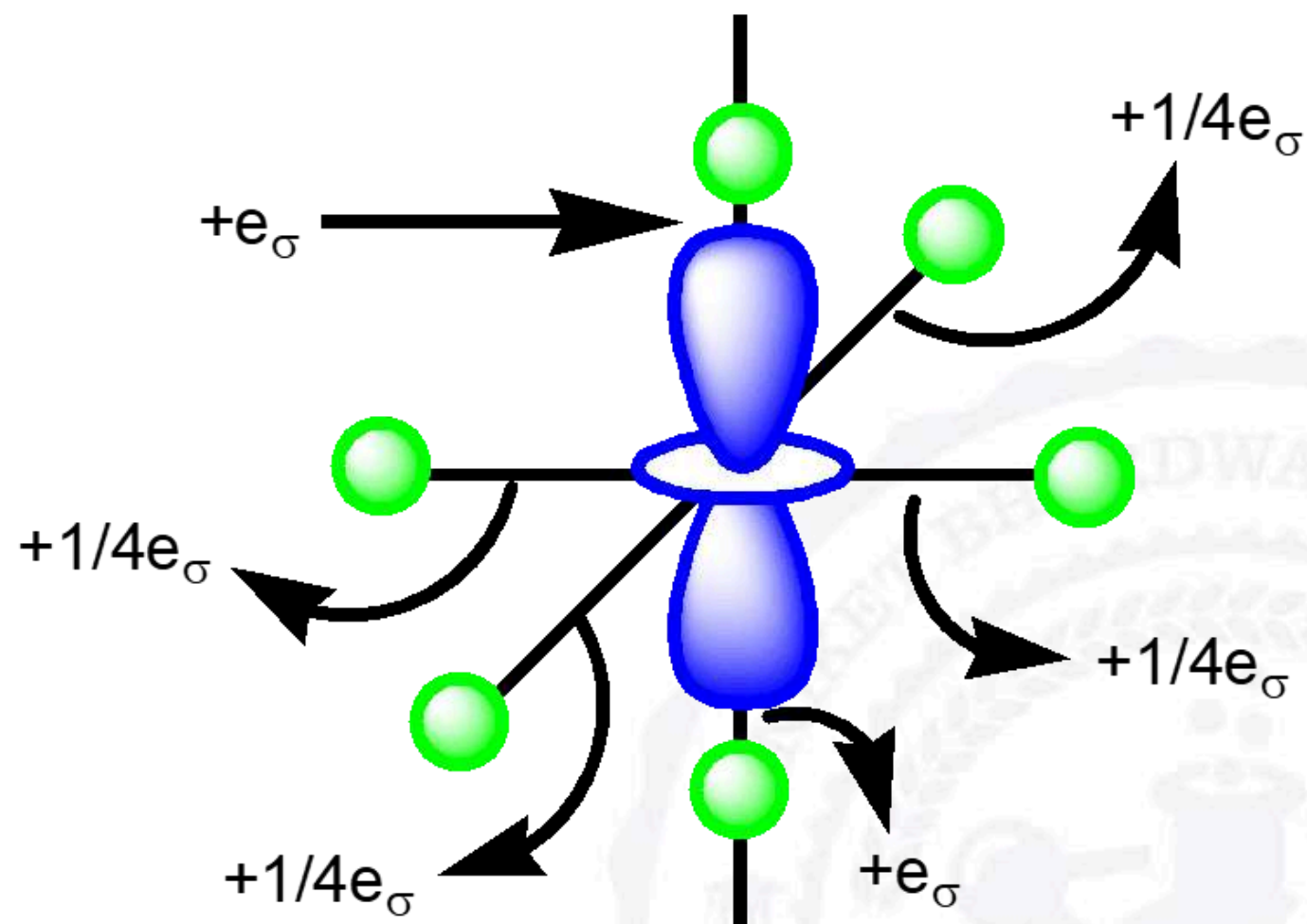
### Ligand Positions for Coordination Geometries

CN	Shape	Positlons
6	Octahedral	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

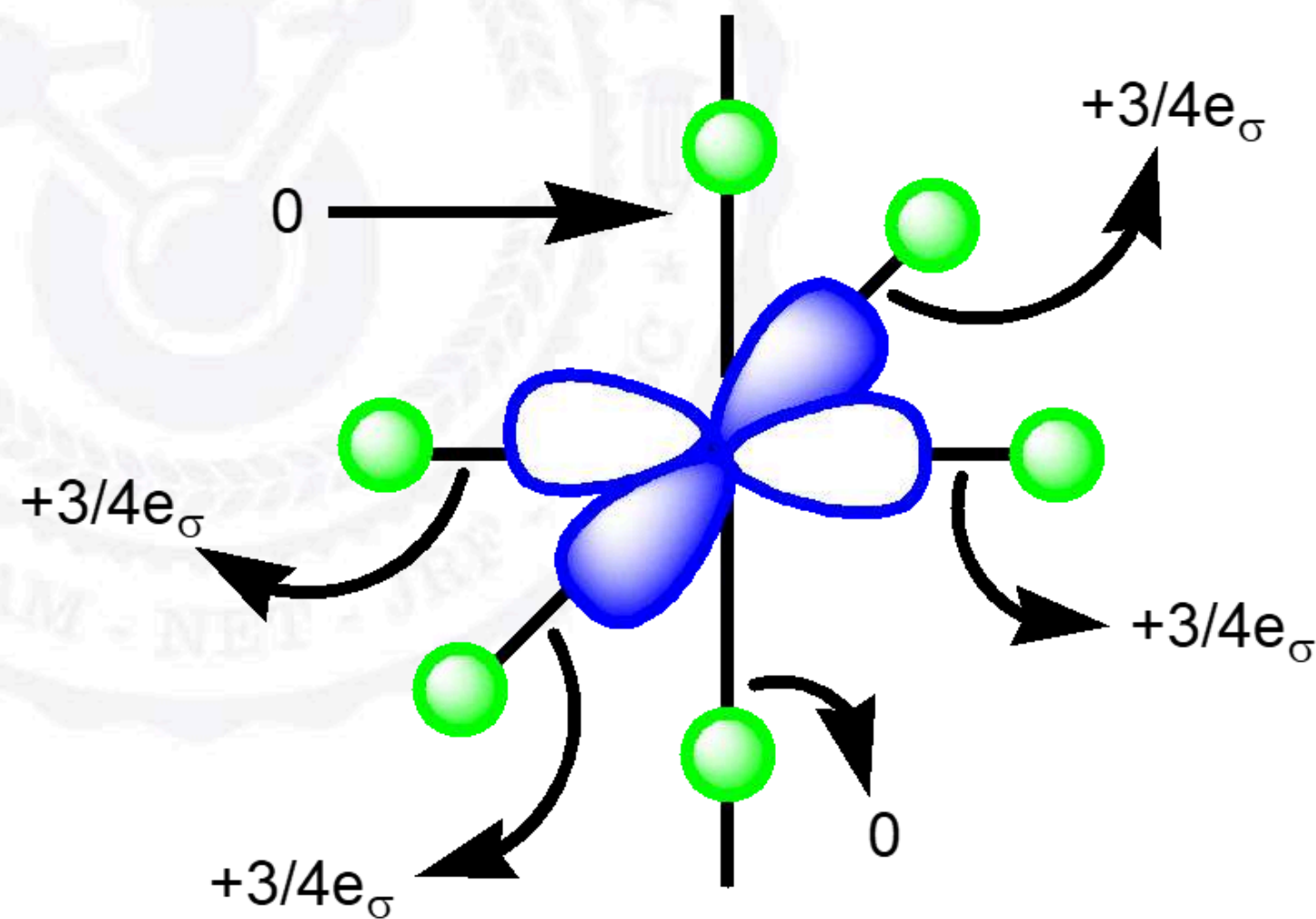
### Sigma Interactions (in units of $e_{\sigma}$ ) Metal $d$ Orbital

Ligand Positlon	$z^2$	$x^2-y^2$	$xy$	$xz$	$yz$
1	1	0	0	0	0
2	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0
3	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0
4	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0
5	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0
6	1	0	0	0	0





Remember for an octahedral complex in the sigma only case the  $d_{z^2}$  and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  orbitals interact with ligands.





**Example:  $[M(NH_3)_6]^{3+}$**

**a) Only sigma interactions are possible with  $NH_3$  ligands**

**b) Lone pair of electrons can be thought of as isolated in N  $p_z$  orbital**

**c) Metal d-orbitals**

**i) Add the values of interactions down the column**

**ii)  $d_z^2 = (2 \times 1) + (4 \times 1/4) = 3e_\sigma$**

**iii)  $d_x^2 - y^2 = (2 \times 0) + (4 \times 3/4) = 3e_\sigma$**

**iv)  $d_{xy}, d_{xz}, d_{yz} = 0$  (no interactions with the ligands)**

**d) Ligand orbitals**

**i) Total interactions with the metal d-orbitals across the row**

**ii) Ligand #1 & #6 =  $(1 \times 1) + 0 = 1e_\sigma$**

**iii) Ligand #2, #3, #4 & #5 =  $(1 \times 1/4) + (1 \times 3/4) = 1e_\sigma$**

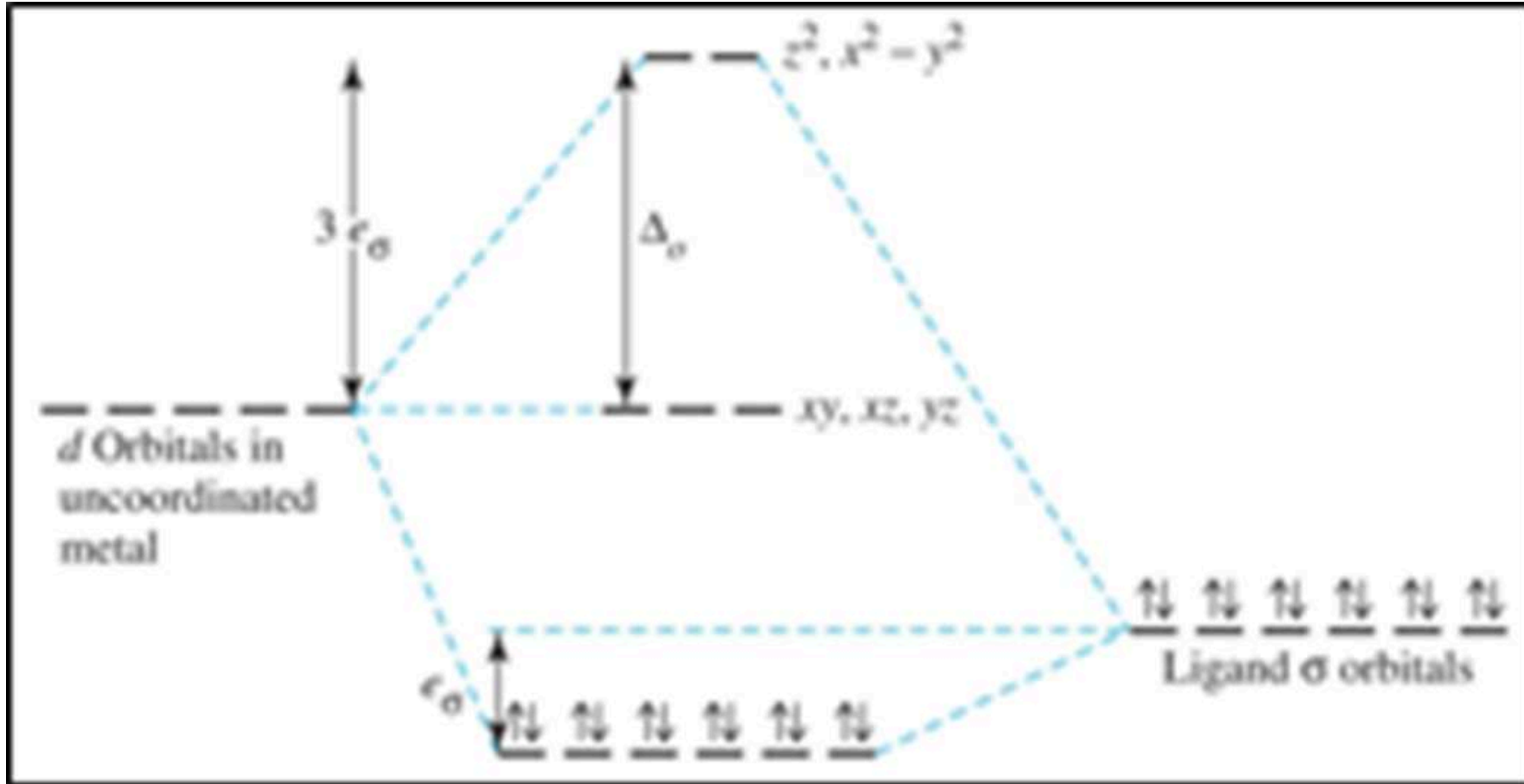
**e) Result**

**i) Same pattern as LFT**

**ii) 2 d-orbitals energy are raised**

**iii) 3 d-orbitals energy are unchanged.**

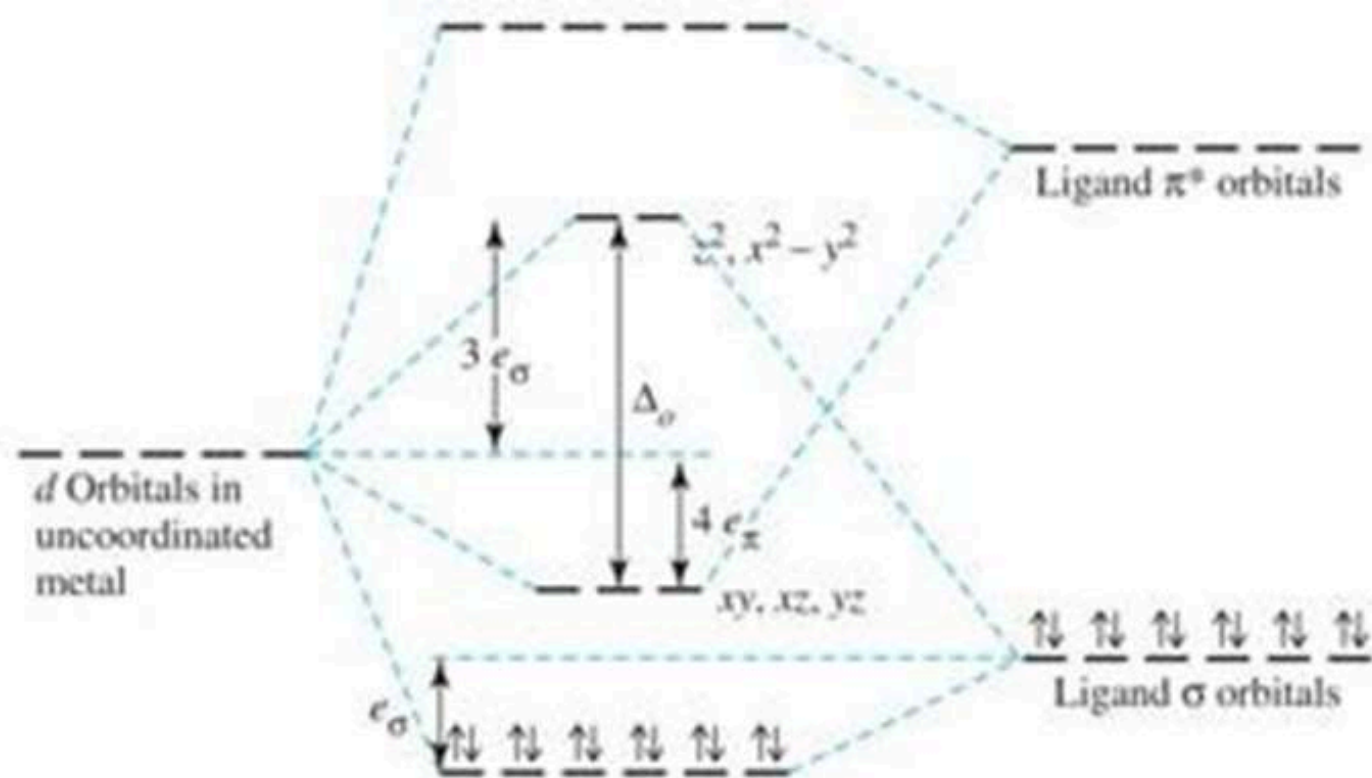






## Pi-acceptor interactions in octahedral complex

- pi-acceptor has empty p or pi MOs
- Strongest overlap is between  $d_{xy}$  and  $\pi^*$
- $\pi^*$  is higher in energy than the  $d_{xy}$ . Hence, it becomes stabilized.
- $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$ ,  $d_{yz}$  all are stabilized by  $-4e_{\pi}$
- $d_{z^2}$  and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  are unaffected.
- $e_{\pi} < e_{\sigma}$
- $3e_{\sigma} + 4e_{\pi} = \Delta_o$

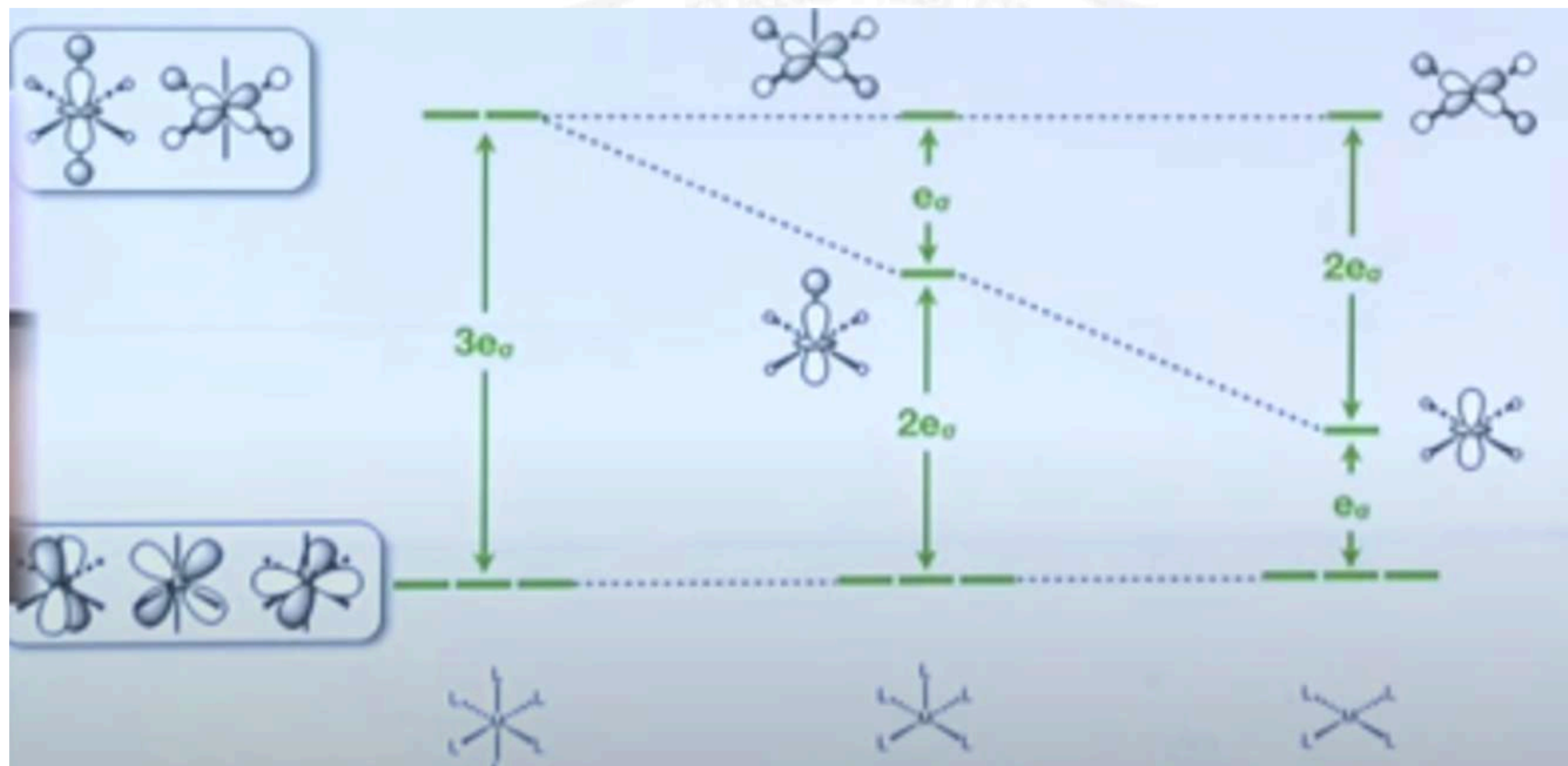


Pi Interactions (all in units of  $e_{\pi}$ )  
Metal  $d$  Orbital

Ligand Position	$z^2$	$x^2 - y^2$	$xy$	$xz$	$yz$
1	0	0	0	1	1
2	0	0	1	1	0
3	0	0	1	0	1
4	0	0	1	1	0
5	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	1	1



The usefulness of the AOM is that it gives a good approximation of the energies of the metal d orbitals in different coordination geometries.

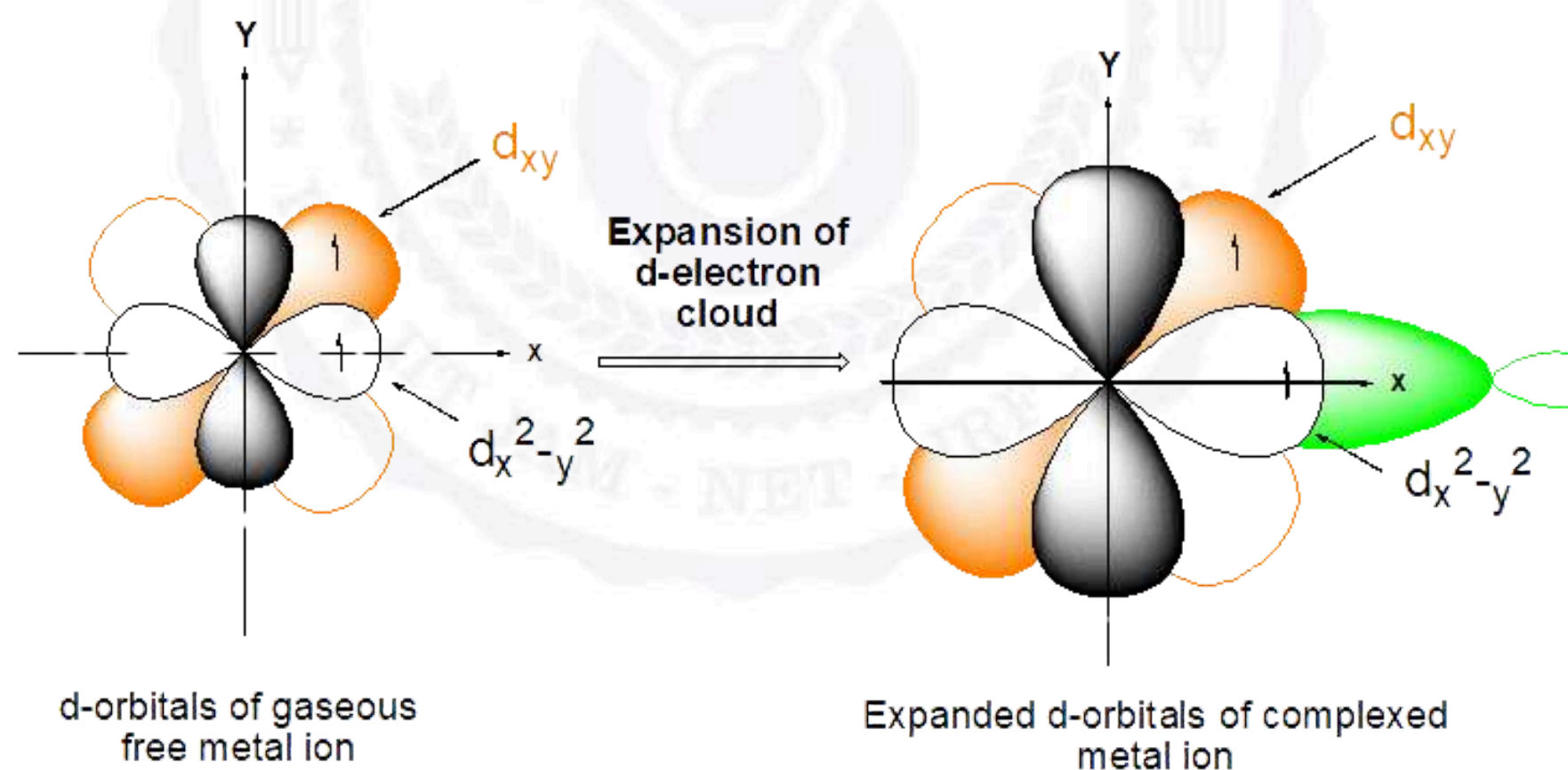




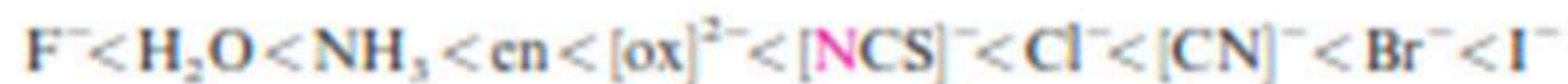
# EVIDENCE FOR METAL--LIGAND COVALENT BONDING

In metal complexes, there is evidence for sharing of electrons between metal and ligand.

In metal complexes, due to formation of M-L bond d-electron cloud of metal ion expands leading to decrease in interelectronic repulsion and that the effective size of the metal orbitals has increased. This is the nephelauxetic effect.



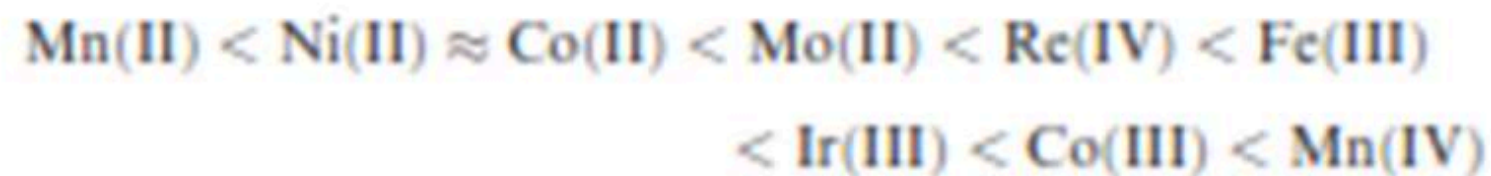
For complexes with a common metal ion, it is found that the nephelauxetic effect of ligands varies according to a series independent of metal ion:



increasing nephelauxetic effect

Increase in covalent character  
Increase in size  
Increase in soft character

A nephelauxetic series for metal ions (independent of ligands) is as follows:



increasing nephelauxetic effect

Increase in covalent character  
Decrease in size





The nephelauxetic effect can be parameterized and the values shown in the table were used to estimate the reduction in electron-electron repulsion upon formation of complex.

Metal ion	$k$	Ligands	$h$
Co(III)	0.35	6 Br <sup>-</sup>	2.3
Rh(III)	0.28	6 Cl <sup>-</sup>	2.0
Co(II)	0.24	6 [CN] <sup>-</sup>	2.0
Fe(III)	0.24	3 en	1.5
Cr(III)	0.21	6 NH <sub>3</sub>	1.4
Ni(II)	0.12	6 H <sub>2</sub> O	1.0
Mn(II)	0.07	6 F <sup>-</sup>	0.8

$$\frac{B_o - B}{B_o} \approx h_{\text{ligands}} \times k_{\text{metal ion}}$$

$B$  = Interelectronic repulsion in the complex is the Racah parameter

$B_o$  = Interelectronic repulsion in the gaseous  $M^{n+}$  ion.

Nephelauxetic effect  $\propto h_{\text{ligands}} \propto k_{\text{metal ion}}$



Estimate the reduction in the interelectronic repulsion in going from the gaseous  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ion to  $[\text{FeF}_6]^{3-}$ .

Reduction in the interelectronic repulsion

$$\frac{B_0 - B}{B_0} \approx h_{\text{ligands}} \times k_{\text{metal ion}}$$
$$\approx 0.8 \times 0.24$$
$$\approx 0.192 \approx 19 \%$$

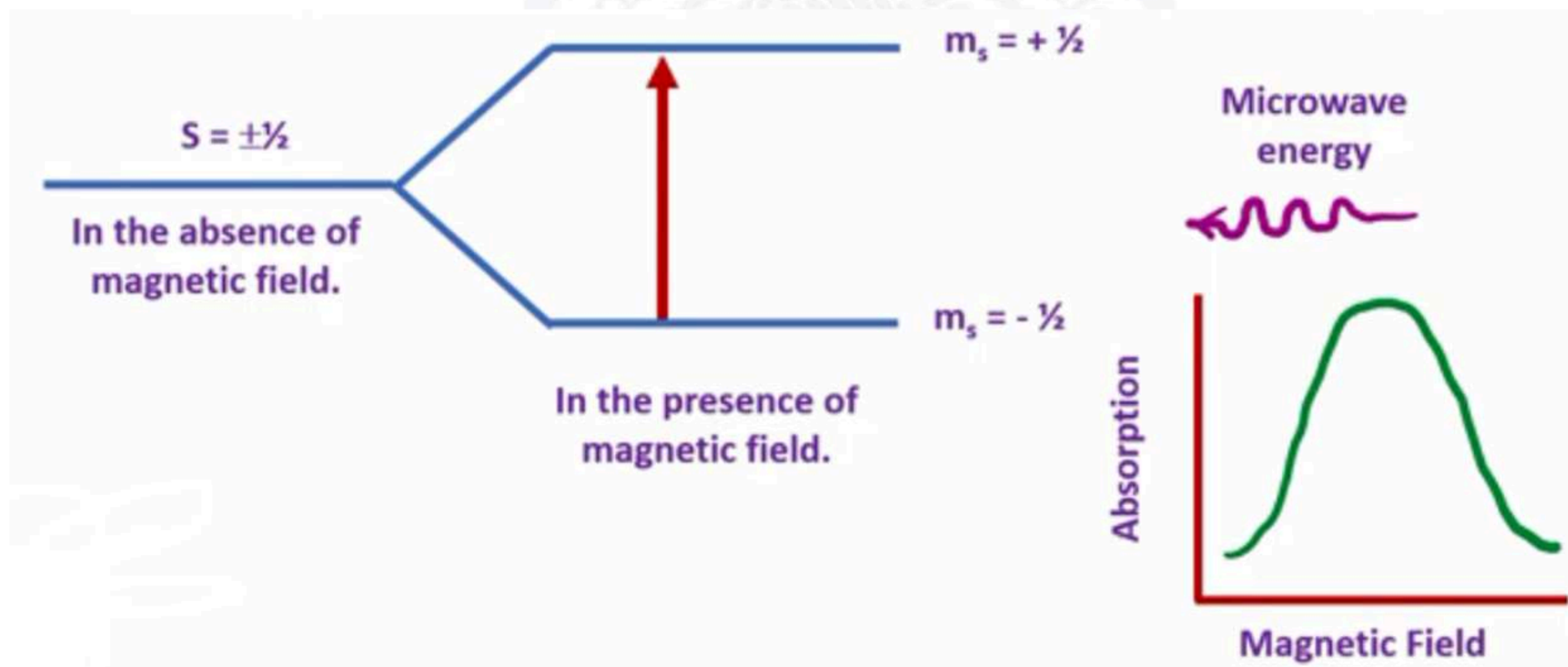
Therefore, the reduction in the interelectronic repulsion in going from the gaseous  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ion to  $[\text{FeF}_6]^{3-}$  is 19 %.





# EVIDENCE FOR METAL-LIGAND COVALENT BONDING

Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) spectroscopy a branch of absorption spectroscopy in which molecule having unpaired electrons absorb microwave radiation.

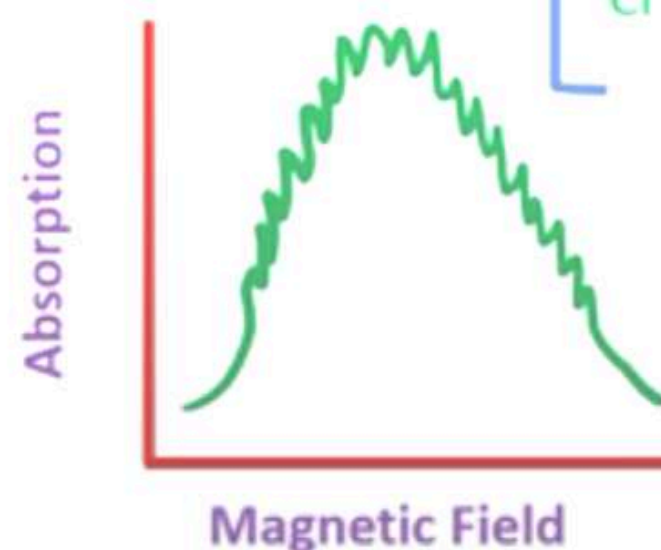
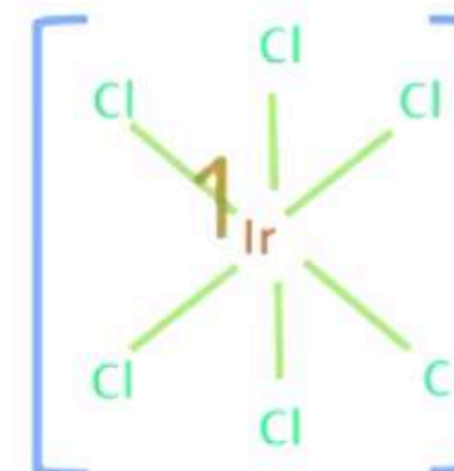


If a metal ion carrying an unpaired electron is linked to a ligand containing nuclei with nuclear spin quantum number  $I \neq 0$ , then hyperfine splitting is observed showing that the orbital occupied by the electron has both metal and ligand character, i.e. there is metal-ligand covalent bonding.



$\text{Ir} = 5d^7 6s^2$  (Outer electrons)

$$\begin{aligned} X + (-6) &= -2 \\ X &= +4 \end{aligned}$$



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# UNIT - 5-4 | PAPER - 2

## J.T THEOREM



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# WHAT IS ELECTRONICALLY DEGENERATE STATE?

An electronically degenerate state represents the availability of more than one degenerate orbitals for an electron. In this condition the degenerate orbitals are said to be asymmetrically occupied

E.g. In octahedral symmetry, the  $d^1$  configuration is said to be electronically degenerate since three  $t_{2g}$  orbitals with same energy are available for the electron to occupy. In this condition, the degenerate orbitals are also said to be asymmetrically occupied by electrons.



Electronically degenerate state of  $d^1$  configuration.

The lone electron may occupy any of the degenerate  $t_{2g}$  orbitals.





Whereas the  $d^3$  configuration in octahedral geometry is non-degenerate and symmetric. It is not possible to put two electrons in one orbital, which is against of Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity.



Only one arrangement for  $d^3$  configuration is possible according to Hund's rule.



In the electronically degenerate state, the orbitals are said to be asymmetrically occupied and hence get more energy. Therefore, the system tries to get rid of extra energy by lowering the overall symmetry of the molecule i.e., undergoing distortion, which is otherwise known as Jahn Teller distortion (effect).

E.g. In case of octahedral  $d^9$  configuration, the last electron may occupy either  $d_{z^2}$  or  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  orbitals of  $e_g$  set. If it occupies  $d_{z^2}$  orbital, most of the electron density will be concentrated between the metal and the two ligands on the z axis. Thus, there will be greater electrostatic repulsion associated with these ligands than with the other four on xy plane. This asymmetric distribution of the electron density may increase the overall energy of the system. To get rid of this, the complex suffers elongation of bonds on z-axis and thus lowers the symmetry.

Conversely, occupation of the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  orbital would lead to elongation of bonds along the x and y axes.

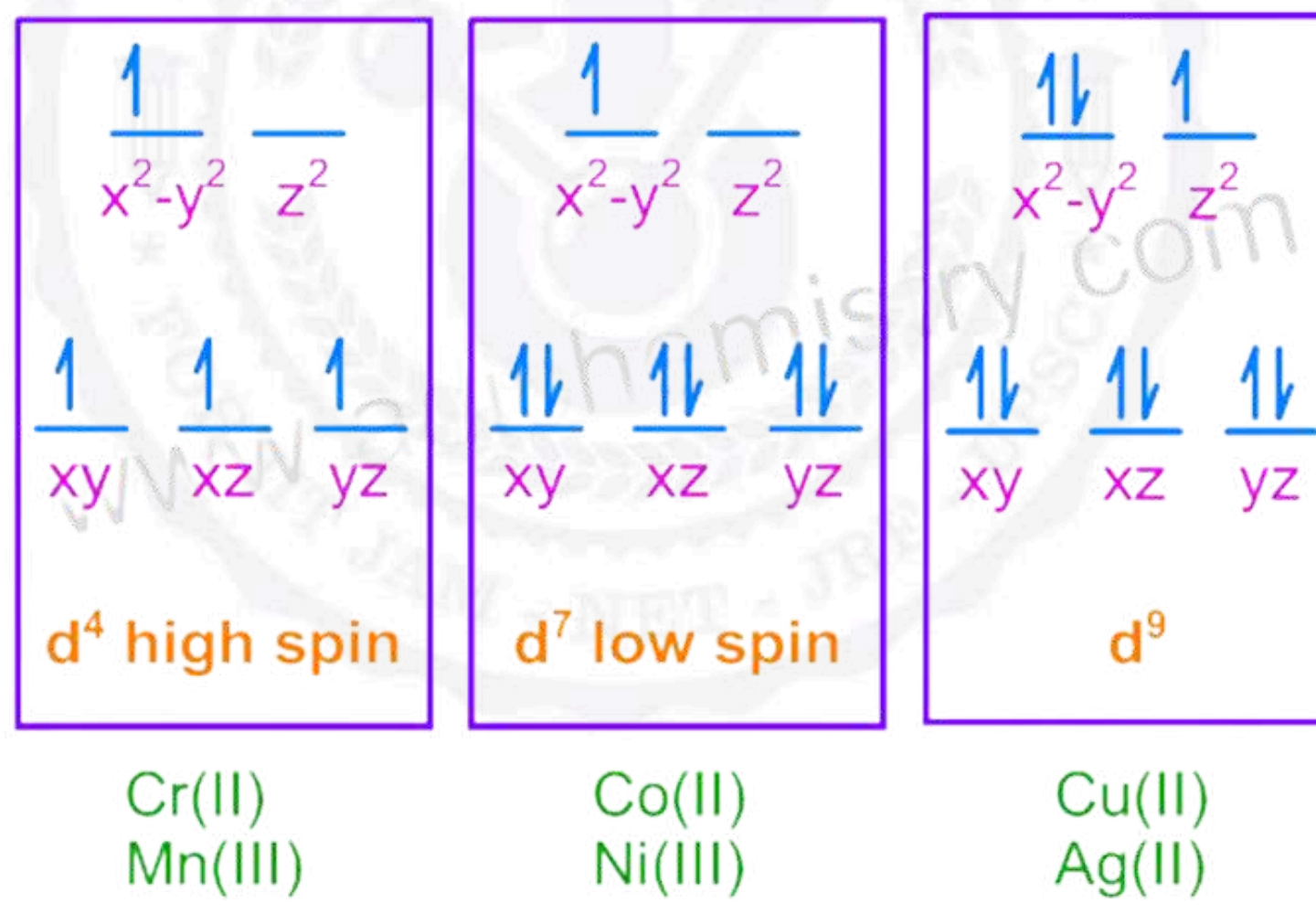




\*The Jahn Teller effect is mostly observed in octahedral environments. Theoretically, the electronic degeneracy in octahedral symmetry is possible in all the configurations except  $d^3$ ,  $d^8$ ,  $d^{10}$ , high spin  $d^5$ , and low spin  $d^6$  configurations.

However, considerable distortions are usually observed in **high spin  $d^4$** , **low spin  $d^7$** , and  **$d^9$**  configurations in the octahedral environment. It is because the Jahn Teller distortion is usually significant for asymmetrically occupied  $e_g$  orbitals since they are directed towards the ligands and the energy gain is considerably more.

### Configurations with significant JT distortions

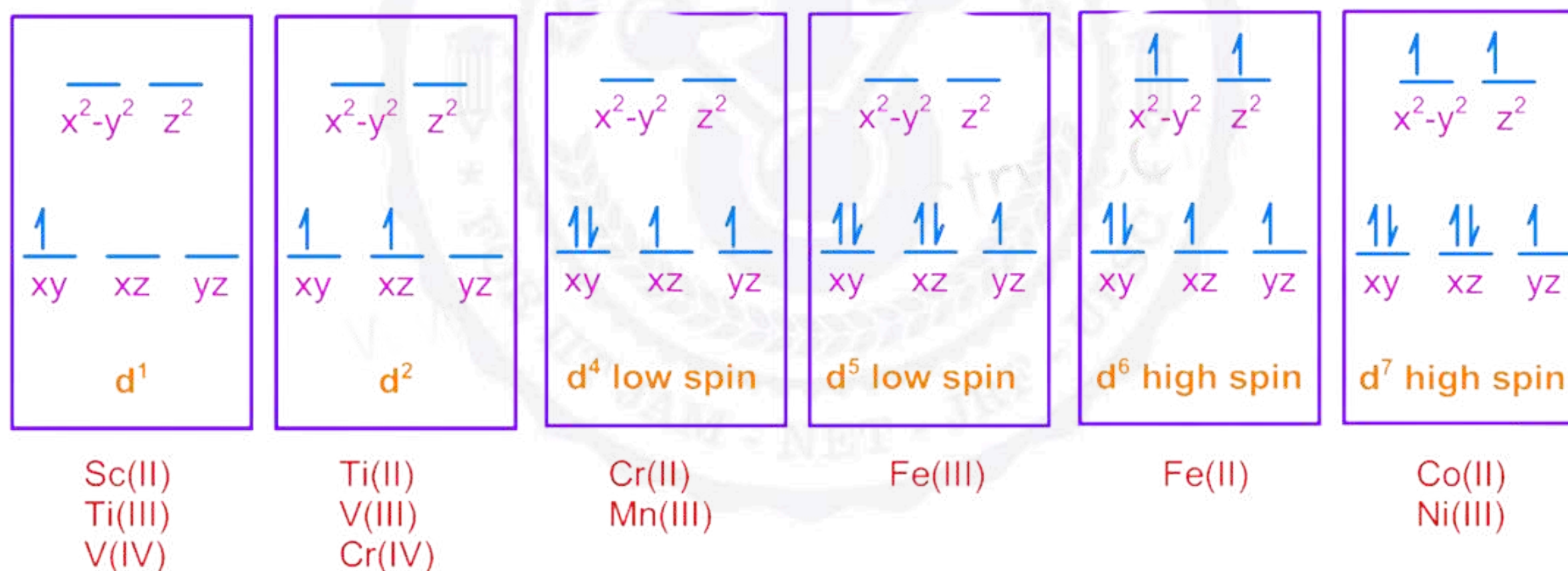


\*In case of unevenly occupied  $t_{2g}$  orbitals, the Jahn Teller distortion is very weak since the  $t_{2g}$  set does not point directly at the ligands and therefore the energy gain is much less.

E.g.  $d^1$ ;  $d^2$ ; low spin  $d^4$  &  $d^5$ ; high spin  $d^7$  &  $d^7$  configurations.

Because of same reason, the *tetrahedral complexes also do not exhibit Jahn-Teller distortion*. Again, in this case also the ligands are not pointing towards the orbitals directly and hence there is less stabilization to be gained upon distortion.

Configurations showing weak JT distortions





The degeneracy of orbitals can be removed by lowering the symmetry of molecule. This can be achieved by either elongation of bonds along the z-axis (Z-out distortion) or by shortening the bonds along the z-axis (Z-in distortion). Thus an octahedrally symmetrical molecule is distorted to tetragonal geometry.

**Z-out Jahn-Teller distortion:** In this case, the energies of d-orbitals with z factor (i.e.,  $d_{z^2}$ ,  $d_{xz}$ ,  $d_{yz}$ ) are *lowered* since the bonds along the z-axis are elongated. This is the most preferred distortion and occurs in most of the cases, especially when the degeneracy occurs in  $e_g$  level.

E.g. Usually the octahedral  $d^2$ ,  $d^4$  high spin,  $d^7$  low spin,  $d^8$  low spin &  $d^9$  configurations show the z-out distortion.

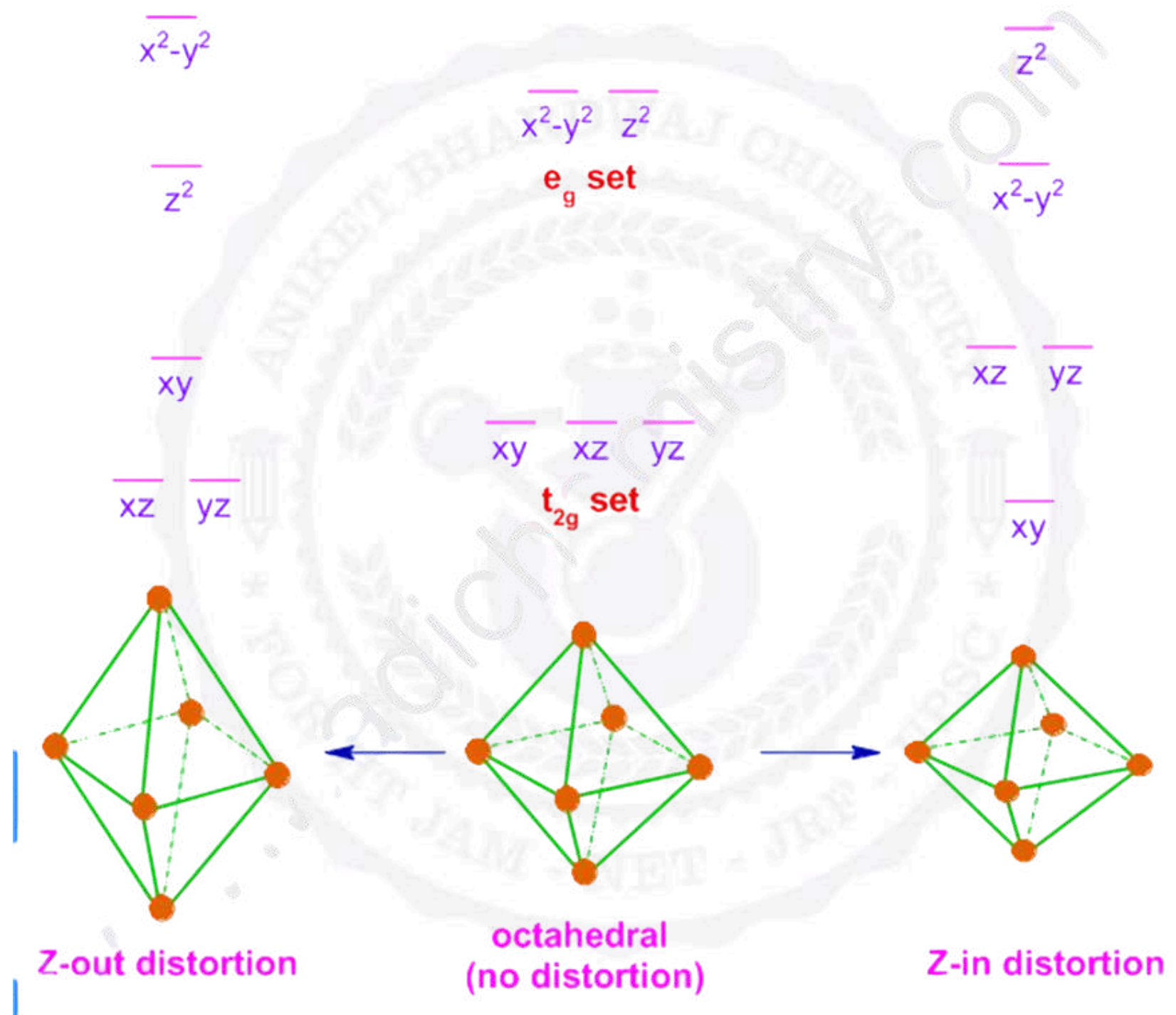
Theoretically it is not possible to predict the type of distortion that occurs when the degeneracy occurs in  $e_g$  level. However it is observed that z-out distortion is more preferred.

**Z-in Jahn-Teller distortion:** In this case the energies of orbitals with z factor are *increased* since the bonds along the z-axis are shortened. This type of distortion is observed in case of octahedral  $d^1$  configuration. The only electron will now occupy the  $d_{xy}$  orbital with lower energy.

E.g. The octahedral  $d^1$  configurations like Ti(III) in  $[\text{Ti}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$  can show z-in distortion (theoretically?). In this case, the z-out distortion do not remove the degeneracy since even after distortion there are still two degenerate orbitals i.e.,  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$  available for the electron to occupy. See the following diagram.



Also remember that the Jahn-Teller theorem does **NOT** predict how large a distortion should occur.





**Static Jahn-Teller distortion:** Some molecules show tetragonal shape under all conditions i.e., in solid state and in solution state; at lower and relatively higher temperatures. This is referred to as static Jahn-Teller distortion. It is observed when the degeneracy occurs in  $e_g$  orbitals. Hence the distortion is strong and permanent.

**Dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion:** In some molecules, the distortion is not seen either due to random movements of bonds which does not allow the measurement within a time frame or else the distortion is so weak as to be negligible. However, the distortion can be seen by freezing the molecule at lower temperatures. This condition is referred to as dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion.

E.g.

1). The complexes of the type  $M_2\text{PbCu}(\text{NO}_2)_6$  show dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion. Here,  $M =$  K, Rb, Cs, Tl;

They show tetragonal symmetry at lower temperatures due to static Jahn-Teller distortion. But at higher temperatures, these molecules appear octahedral due to the dynamic Jahn-Teller effect.

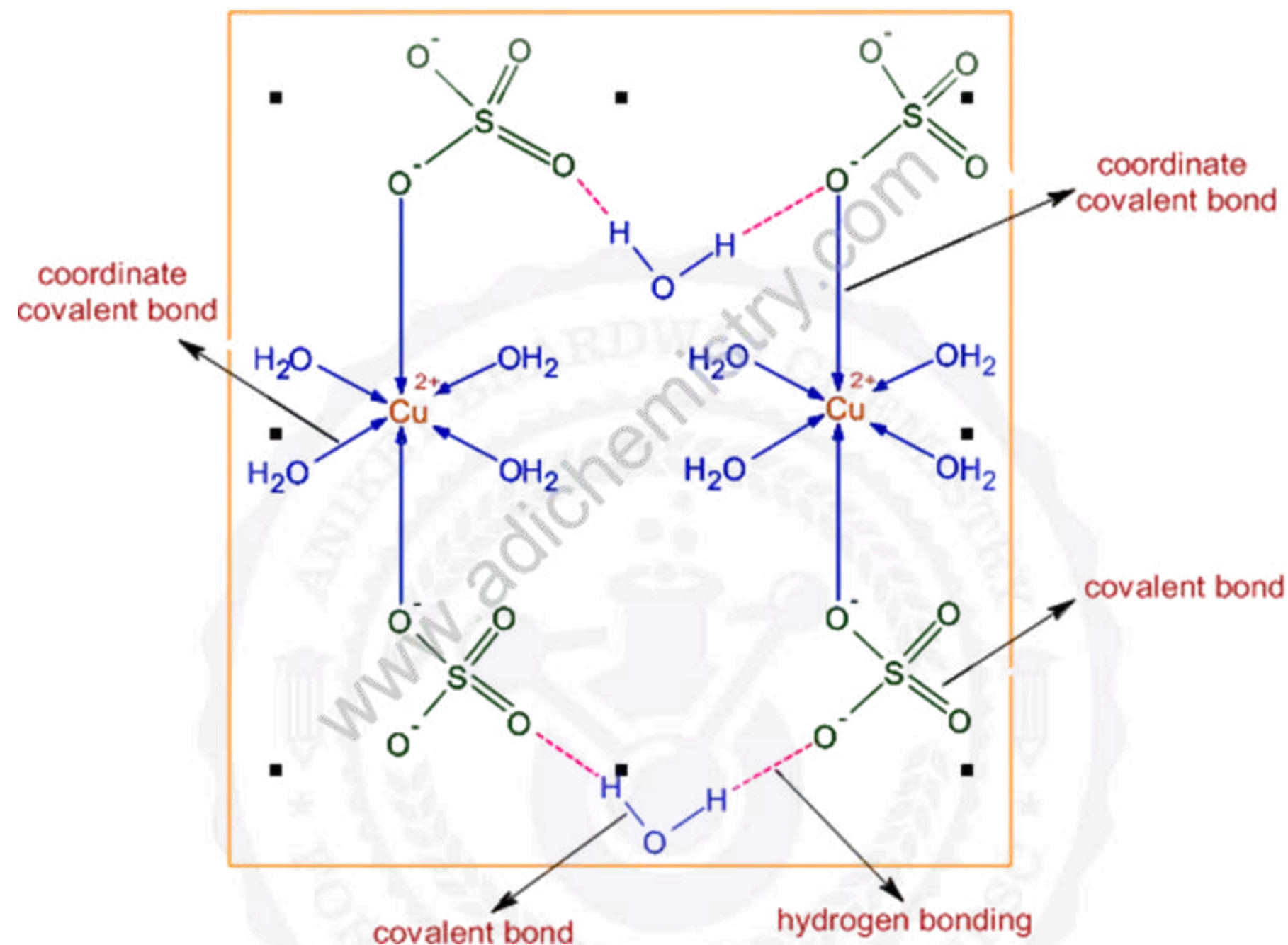


## 1. Jahn-Teller distortion in complexes formed by Cu(II) ions:

- (a) **Tetragonal structure of Cu(II) complexes:** The Cu(II) ion is a  $d^9$  system and expected to show Jahn-Teller distortion and depart considerably from octahedral geometry. The Cu(II) ion in the *aqueous medium* is surrounded by six water molecules in tetragonal geometry i.e., four of which are at the corners of square plane and are at shorter distances with stronger interactions, whereas, the remaining two are weakly interacting with the metal ion at distant axial positions.
- (b) **Structure of hydrated copper(II) sulphate,  $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and other Cu(II) complexes:** In the *solid*  $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the copper ion is surrounded by four water molecules in square planar geometry. There are also weak interactions with the sulphate ions in the axial positions. The 5th water molecule is hydrogen bonded to the sulphate ion. That means the two water molecules on the axial positions are completely eliminated and substituted by sulphate ions while forming the solid.







Note: Due to interactions with these ligands, the d orbitals are split into different energy levels, which makes d-d transitions possible. It absorbs red color and transmits blue color during the d-d transition. But upon heating, all the water molecules are lost, which makes all the d orbitals degenerate again. Hence the anhydrous  $\text{CuSO}_4$  is colorless.





(c) **Extra stability of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ions:** The relative stabilities of complexes formed by high spin divalent first row transition metal ions is given by Irving-Williams series. The stability order is shown below:



The extra stability of Cu(II) ion can be explained by taking into account of Jahn-Teller distortion of this  $d^9$  ion.

(d) **Other examples:** Because of Jahn-Teller distortion:

\* In the crystalline  $\text{KCuF}_3$ , the two Cu-F distances are at  $1.96 \text{ \AA}$  and the remaining four Cu-F distances are at  $2.07 \text{ \AA}$ . It is a case of Z-compression.

\* In  $[\text{Cu}(\text{hfacac})_2(\text{bipy})]$ , there are two short Cu-O bonds and two long Cu-O bonds. (where hfacac = hexafluoroacetylacetonate anion; bipy = 2,2'-bipyridine). It is an example for Z-out distortion

\* Cu(II) cannot form  $[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$  since JT distortion brings strain into the ethylene diamine molecule that is added along z-axis. Hence only  $[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$  is formed.





## 2) The splitting of absorption bands in the UV-VIS spectra of complexes due to Jahn-Teller distortion:

E.g. The absorption band in the electronic spectrum of aqueous Ti(III), a  $d^1$  octahedral system, is not symmetric but rather shows a distinct broad shoulder. It is because of Jahn-Teller distortion.

The Jahn-Teller distortion is negligible in case of degenerate  $t_{2g}$  orbitals in the ground state. Hence no distortion in the ground state. But when the electron gets excited, the configuration now becomes  $t_{2g}^2 e_g^1$ , which is again degenerate. Hence in the excited state, the Jahn Teller distortion is possible. Now the promotion of electron may occur to either of the two non degenerate  $e_g$  orbitals, the  $d_{z^2}$  and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ . Thus, two transitions are possible. But a shoulder appears since the energy difference between two transitions is small.

## 3) Coordinatively labile nature of [Cr(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> & [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>:

The [Cr(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> undergoes substitution easily since the Cr(II) ion is a high spin  $d^4$  system with one electron in the  $e_g$  orbital. Hence it is electronically degenerate and shows Jahn-Teller distortion. Hence the hydrated Cr(II) ion is coordinatively labile.



On the same lines, the easy substitution of  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{2+}$  by water molecules can be explained. In this case the Co(II) ion is coordinatively labile since it is a low spin octahedral  $d^7$  ion which is degenerate in  $e_g$  set. Hence it undergoes J-T distortion and is labile.

#### 4) Disproportionation of Au(II) salts:

Au(II) ion is less stable and undergoes disproportionation to Au(I) and Au(III) even though the Cu(II) and Ag(II) ions are comparatively more stable. One may expect same stability since all are  $d^9$  systems and undergo the Jahn-Teller distortion.

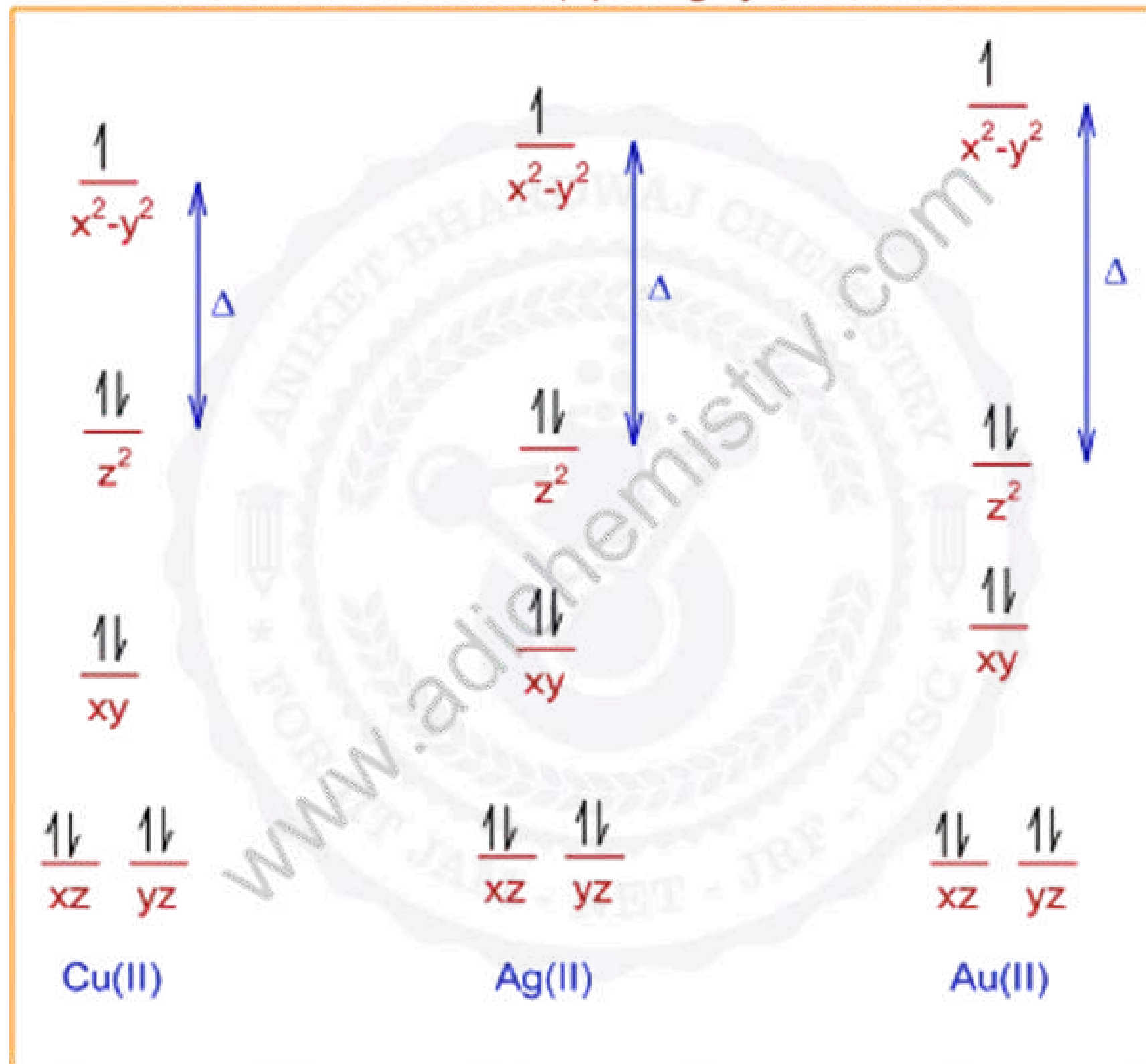
However, the  $\Delta$  value increase down the group. Hence, in Au(II) ion, it reaches a maximum, which causes high destabilization of the last electron, which is now occupying the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ . This makes Au(II) reactive, which may undergo either oxidation to Au(III), a  $d^8$  system or reduction to Au(I), a  $d^{10}$  system.

The  $d^8$  system, Au(III) is stable as the electron from the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  is removed. Mostly it prefers square planar geometry and more stable than both Au(II) and Au(I). The  $d^{10}$  system, Au(I) favors mostly linear geometry with coordination number = 2. |





The  $\Delta$  value increases from Cu(II) to Au(II). Therefore the last electron in Au(II) is highly destabilized.



Question-Why do the  $d^9$  systems usually not undergo complete distortion to square planar geometry?

Answer: Usually, the  $d^9$  systems are tetragonal with elongated bonds on z-axis and do not undergo complete distortion to square planar. It is because the last electron will be placed in highly destabilized  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  if they get square planar geometry. But the low spin  $d^8$  complexes may undergo complete distortion to square planar geometry.

Question-1: Which metal complex ion is expected to be subject to a Jahn-telle distortion?

- A)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$
- B)  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$
- C)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$
- D)  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$

Answer: A





**Question-2: Which of the following does not show octahedral geometry,**

- 1)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{CN})_4]^{2+}$
- 2)  $\text{XeF}_4$
- 3)  $[\text{NiCl}_4]^{2-}$
- 4) All

**Answer: 4**

**Question-3: Strong Jahn-teller distortion is not observed for octahedral complexes of:**

- 1)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$
- 2) Low spin  $\text{Cr}^{2+}$
- 3) High spin  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$
- 4) High spin  $\text{Cr}^{2+}$

**Answer: 2**



**Question-4: Which of the following shows strong Jahn teller distortion?**

- 1)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$
- 2) High spin  $\text{Co}^{2+}$
- 3)  $\text{Ti}^{2+}$
- 4) Low spin  $\text{Co}^{2+}$

**Answer: 4**

**Question-5: Jahn teller effect is not observed in high spin complexes of:**

- A)  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$
- B)  $\text{Cr}^{2+}$
- C)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$
- D)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$

**Answer: A**





**Question-6: Which metal complex ion is expected to be subject to a Jahn teller distortion?**

- 1) Low spin  $\text{Co}^{2+}$
- 2) High spin  $\text{Cr}^{2+}$
- 3)  $\text{Ti}^{2+}$
- 4) All

**Answer: 4**

**Question-7: Which of the following d-configuration shows strong distortion from octahedral geometry?**

- 1)  $d^1$
- 2)  $d^2$
- 3)  $d^9$
- 4) None

**Answer: 3**



**Question-8: Why does the absorption spectrum of aqueous  $[\text{Ti}(\text{OH}_2)_6]^{3+}$  exhibit a broad band with a shoulder?**

- 1) Due to Jahn-Teller distortion in the ground state
- 2) Due to Compton effect
- 3) Due to ~~jahn~~ Jahn-Teller distortion in the excited state
- 4) Due to square planar geometry

**Answer: 3**



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