

# Molecular Orbitals in Inorganic Chemistry

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Rm 110F (MSRH)

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## Lecture 8 Outline

- your feedback!
- $\pi$ -back-donation
- ML<sub>6</sub> molecular orbitals
- a real example!

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almost finished!

## Your Feedback

- 87% have seen the web-site Great!
- what have been the easiest parts of the course?  
"stuff from last year"  
symmetry, assigning symmetry elements, using character tables  
MO diagram of diatomic, revision, water, first 2 lectures
- what have been the hardest parts of the course?  
quantum mechanics part  
Walsh diagrams, mixing  
energies: FO energy levels, estimating splitting, relative MO energies  
symmetry adapted orbitals  
deciphering the LCAO from "real" MOs  
assigning bonding/antibonding character  
constructing full MO diagram  
octahedral TM-MO diagram, complex MO diagrams with multiple fragments  
last two lectures

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## Your Feedback

- did you find the problems classes useful?  
92% YES!
- what did you like? Great!  
perfect!  
I work hard and in my own time to make good resources for you.  
very clear explanation on each part of building the MO diagram  
good to get the steps clear in my mind  
liked we attempt the answer ourselves first, then you presented the answer  
the immediate feedback was useful  
able to discuss hard questions with peers  
had a chance to ask questions
- how could they be improved?? Mixed opinion!  
go faster / go slower!  
would have liked to cover mixing, harder examples  

focus on fundamentals

 $\Rightarrow$ 

many harder problems with very good model answers

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## Feedback

### H<sub>3</sub> from problems class

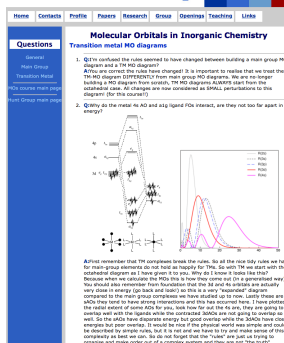
**Notes from an old lecture available on-line!**



more on FO energy levels and splitting  
practice helps

(updated for 2018)

1. the MO diagram of  $\text{BH}_3$ : model answers [pdf](#)
2. run a calculation to visualise the MOs of  $\text{BH}_3$  yourself
3. check it against literature: you will find first need to check this open, if your browser changes the extension it back so that it reads \*.fchk then file with open with gview or avogadro: [pov\\_b3lyp\\_cst\\_freq.fchk](#)  
[for homework see extra notes on orbital visualisation](#)
4. ~~the MO diagram for formaldehyde has been removed, this was on the mathematics/symmetry derivation of orbitals. This is well worth reading if you have the time!~~
5. old notes related to symmetry adapted orbitals
  - lecture notes [pdf](#)
  - in class problems [pdf](#)
  - self-study problems [pdf](#)
7. ~~the MO diagram for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and an article to discuss with your future in literature~~



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## Feedback

**all my old exams have extensive  
outline answers  
written for you!**

**I prioritise student questions**  
**p.hunt@imperial.ac.uk**



<h1 style="text-align: center;">Hunt Research Group</h1>						
<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Contacts</a>	<a href="#">Profiles</a>	<a href="#">Papers</a>	<a href="#">Research Groups</a>	<a href="#">Openings/Teaching</a>	<a href="#">Links</a>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">MOs in Inorganic Chemistry: The Exam</h2>						
<p><b>Use the slides for</b> to access lectures 1-6, the workshop, the problem class, and the question bank</p>						
<h3 style="text-align: center;">the EXAM</h3>						
<p>The course content changed since 2014</p> <p><b>WARNING:</b> Be aware to fully reflect the current course content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the derivation of symmetry adapted MOs has been removed</li> <li>• the reduction of symmetry adapted MOs has been removed</li> <li>• the interpretation of computed MOs has been added</li> <li>• M-H bonding has been added</li> <li>• there is a larger focus on TM complexes</li> </ul>						
<p><b>The format of the exam:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 1 (written): 45 minutes 1-12 marks</li> <li>• section (3) (choice): answer two out of three questions 4-6 marks each</li> <li>• marked out of a total of 20</li> </ul>						
<p>Most past papers are available from blackboard</p> <p>I particularly encourage you to read the <b>blackboard comments</b> from past papers, these are edited and are very useful!</p>						
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Examples with answers to work through</h3>						
<p>From the course so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.1</b> predict a representation table, determining the symmetry of orbitals, symmetry reductions, an old exam question drawing the symmetry elements of benzene finding and drawing all the symmetry elements for the tetrahedral point group</li> <li>• <b>Additional questions</b> on dactima (Cr, Co, Ni, Cu) focusing on bonding and mixing</li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.2</b> the energy diagram for the complex <math>[Ni(CO)_4]</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.3</b> review the workshop from last time (don't rely on just calculations, predict! Only 1-4 mark, but the MO diagrams for <math>[Ni(CO)_4]</math> and <math>[Ni(CO)_5]</math> MO diagrams of <math>Fe(CO)_5</math>, Walsh diagrams to describe trigonal bipyramidal <math>NiCl_4</math> including mixing, forming the MO diagrams for ligands, and computing the real orbitals of <math>Fe^0</math>, <math>Ni^0</math>, <math>Ir^0</math>, <math>Co^0</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.4</b> the MO diagram of <math>Br_2</math>, and computing the real orbitals of <math>Br^0</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.5</b> the MO diagram of <math>CF_4</math>, splitting energies, an advanced problem on the alpha fragment <math>C_2H_2</math> connecting with your <math>Qc</math> (nuclear theory) and computing the real orbitals of <math>PF_5</math> and <math>C_2H_2</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.6</b> the MO diagram of <math>AlCl_3</math> (old exam question) and the MO diagram of <math>I_2</math> (old exam question) and computing the real orbitals of <math>I_2^+</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.7</b> the energy diagram of <math>N_2</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.8</b> the energy diagram of <math>Fe(CO)_5</math> and <math>Fe(CO)_4</math> MOs, impure orbitals reduction</li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.9</b> explain other changes in the TM complexes, explain why <math>Ir^0</math> and <math>Ru^0</math> are appear relatively high in the spectrochemical series, construct the <math>\pi</math> ligand <math>FO</math> for <math>La-Lu</math> fragments, show the short-cut for determining symmetry labels, form the exam question for <math>Mn^{II}</math></li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.10</b> Examining end on a side on side bonding and explaining why <math>Fe(CO)_5</math> is stronger than <math>Ni(CO)_4</math> based on theory</li> <li>• <b>Ex.1.1.11</b> The energy diagram for <math>Co(CO)_4</math></li> </ul>						

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## Feedback

## Lecture 1: improper rotations, borazine, $\text{AH}_4$ molecule

## Lecture 2: BeH<sub>2</sub>, linear OH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>.

Problems class:  $\text{BH}_3$ ,  $\text{D}_{3h}$   $\text{NH}_3$ , Walsh diagram/mixing and  $\text{C}_{3v}$   $\text{NH}_3$  adduct  $\text{H}_3\text{B} \leftarrow \text{NH}_3$ 

**Lecture 3: HFH<sup>-</sup>, working with QM equations, Huckel allene anion (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sup>-</sup>**

**L3 Additional: advanced diatomics  $\text{CN}^-$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{N}_2$**

## Lecture 4: old exam questions $\text{H}_2\text{CN}^-$ , $\text{I}_3^-$

## Lecture 5: $\text{Mo}_2$ , degeneracy $dxz/dyz$ MOs, $S_4$ rotations $O_h$ , $S_6$ rotations $O_h$

Lecture 6: colour Ni complexes, H- & R- as ligands in TM complexes, generate  $L_6$ ,  $C_{4v}$  TM-MO diagram, descent in symmetry  $D_6 \rightarrow C_{3v}$ , cis- $ML_2(L')_4$  TM-MO diagram

Lecture 7: interpreting  $\Delta_{\text{oct}}$ , the  $\text{O}^{2-}$  ligand in TM-complexes, dAO interactions  $\text{O}_2$  end on and  $\text{O}_2$  side, full MO diagrams  $\text{O}_2$  end on and side on,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as ligand, cis and trans  $[\text{CoCl}_2(\text{NH}_3)_4]$  + colour changes and MO-diagrams,  $\text{ML}_4\text{X}_2$  X=pi-donor ligand MO-diagram

## Tutorial 2: dAO interactions N<sub>2</sub> end on & side on, comparison with CO

## Problems class1: BH<sub>3</sub> MOs

## Problems class2: square planar TM-complex MO

**New problems! given on "The Exam and More Examples" page:  $\text{MgCl}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{PH}_3\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_4$**

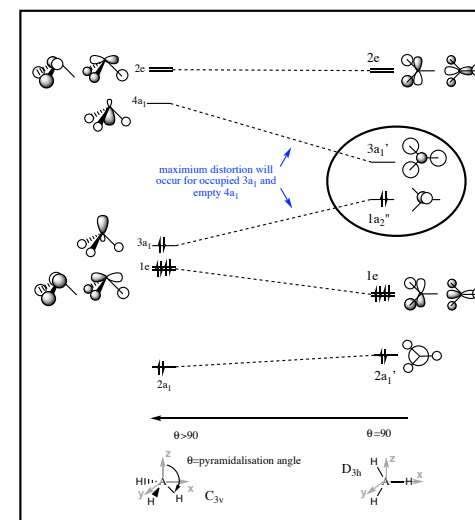
**all with extensive  
model answers!**

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## Feedback



example in L2 problems  
start with  $\text{NH}_3$  trigonal planar  
H to fold down to form  $\text{C}_{3v}$   
trigonal pyramidal  $\text{NH}_3$   
change in point group, so  
change in symmetry labels  
use  $\text{C}_{3v}$  character table

 $1a_2''$   $p_z$ -like  $\rightarrow a_1$ 
$$3a_1' \rightarrow a_1$$


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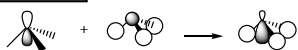
## Feedback

### Mixing

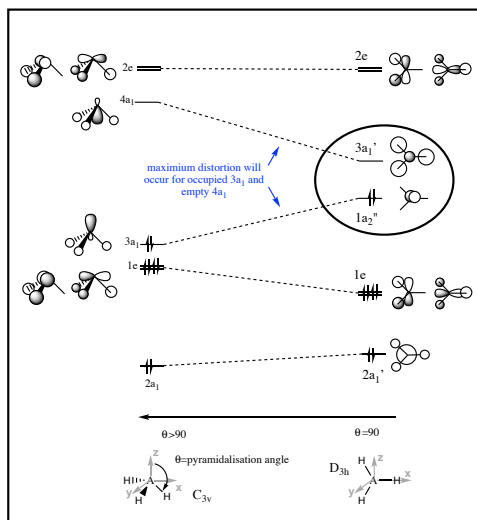
use rules for mixing!  
one occupied one unoccupied  
HOMO-LUMO region  
close in energy  
same symmetry (NOT same pair)  
overall stabilisation

"mix the orbitals"

once as is



once one orbital phase inverted



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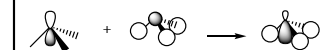
## Feedback

### Mixing

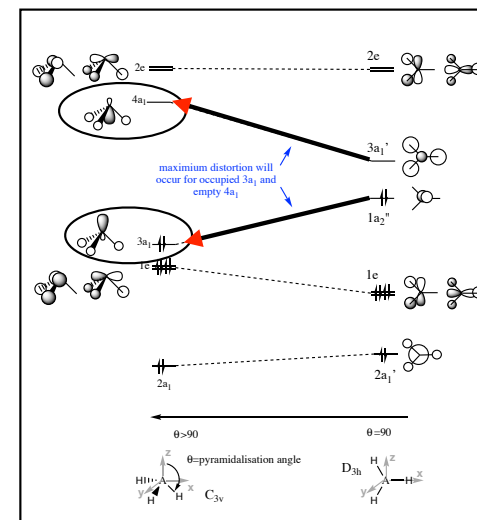
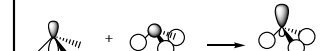
use rules for mixing!  
"mix the orbitals"

identify which is stabilised and  
which is destabilised

more  
antibonding



more  
bonding



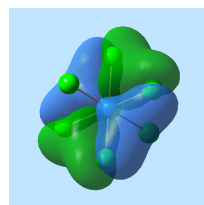
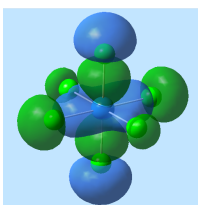
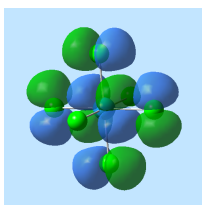
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## Real MOs

### practice!

[WCl<sub>6</sub>]

draw the LCAOs that match  
these real MOs



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## Feedback

Try some of the  
molecules in the  
"computational  
examples" on the web

Make your own  
questions!

pick a simple molecule, create a  
MO diagram  
do a calculation, does it match  
your MO diagram?



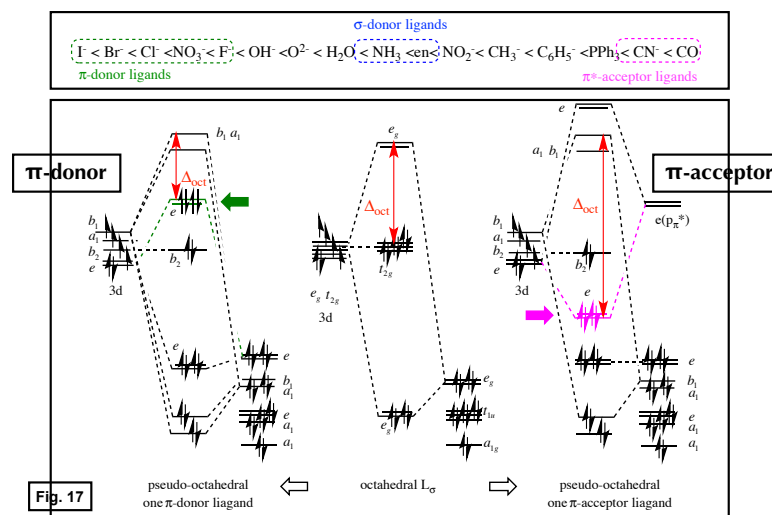
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## Lecture 8 Outline

- your feedback!
- $\pi$ -back-donation
- ML<sub>6</sub> molecular orbitals
- a real example!

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## Summary for $\Delta_{\text{oct}}$

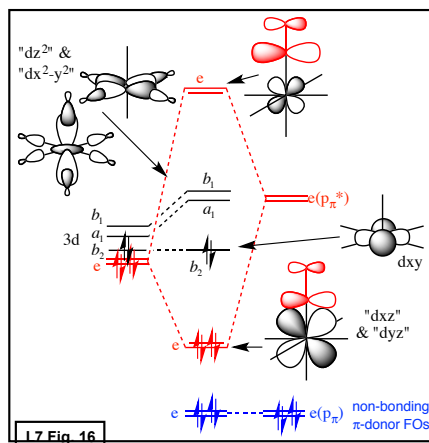


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## $\pi$ -Acceptor Ligands

### backdonation

formally e are in the dAO of M  
 when the MO is formed they are  
 shared with  $\pi^*$ -orbitals of L  
 e are "back-donated" into L



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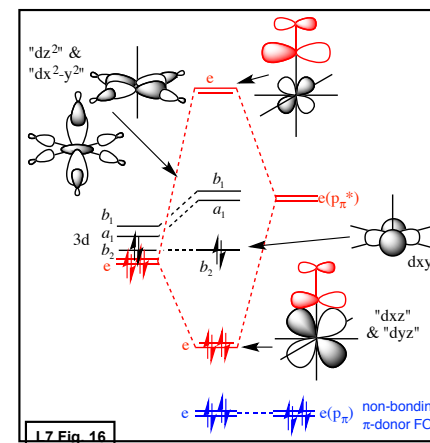
## $\pi$ -Acceptor Ligands

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### stretching vibration of CO is sensitive to the amount of backdonation

other good donor L means M has a  
 greater ability to backdonate  
 increased occupation L  $\pi^*$ -orbitals  
 reduced bond order in L  
 increased bond order M-L bond!  
 reduction in C-O stretch frequency  
 gives measure of  $\sigma$ -donor and  $\pi$ -  
 acceptor ability of other L



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## π-Acceptor Ligands

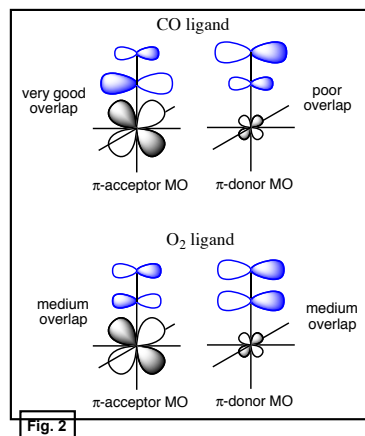
### for a strong interaction

small  $\Delta\epsilon$   
large  $S_{ij}$   
large  $H_{ij}$

### consider overlap for different π-acceptor ligands

CO large contribution on C atom for π-acceptor FOs  $\Rightarrow$  strong M-L interaction  
 $N_2$  and  $O_2$  homonuclear so FO contributions are the same size  $\Rightarrow$  weaker M-L interaction

Important!



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## π-Acceptor Ligands

### ligands of the form E<sub>2</sub>

can bind end-on or side-on  
end-on generally favoured

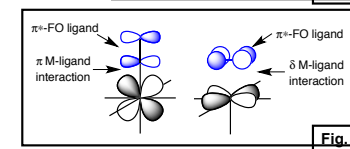
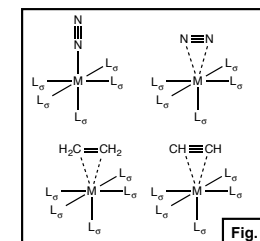
### multiple bonds

alkenes and alkynes  
have to bind side-on  
use π and π\* FOs (see L7)

### careful

distinguish between internal ligand bonding and M-L bond  
remember "σ-π-δ-" are not strict but refer to rotation about the local bond

Important!

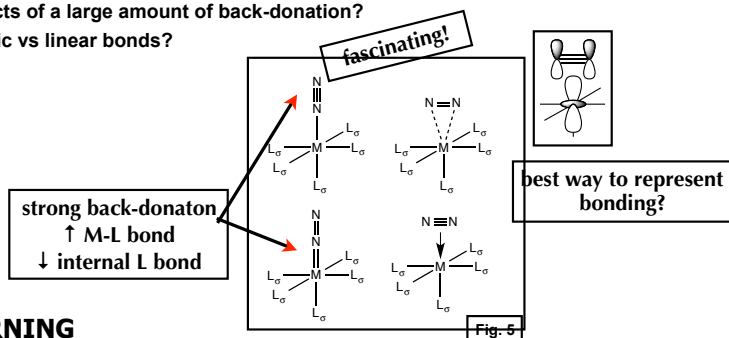


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## π-Acceptor Ligands

### how to describe the bonding?

traditional oxidation state ideas break down!  
effects of a large amount of back-donation?  
cyclic vs linear bonds?



### WARNING

bonding is complex  
MOs are only part of the story!!  
"quantum" contributions such as Pauli repulsion

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## Six π-donor or π-acceptor Ligands

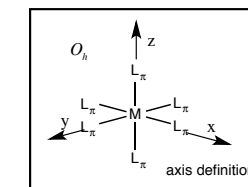
### octahedral

### same process!

symmetry is  $O_h$   
start from σ-framework  
NO new symmetry

### new orbitals

π-donor: "new" FOs: 6 ligands  $2\pi$  each = total 12 FOs  
π-acceptor: 12 additional FOs  
π-donor: a set  $t_{1g}+t_{1u}+t_{2g}+t_{2u}$   
π-acceptor: a second set  $t_{1g}+t_{1u}+t_{2g}+t_{2u}$   
ONLY  $t_{2g}$  can interact  $t_{1g}+t_{1u}+t_{2u}$  remain non-bonding  
pictures of active  $t_{2g}$  FOs next slide



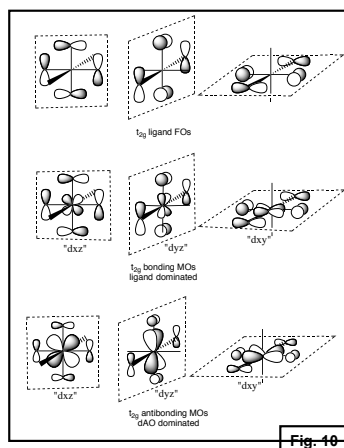
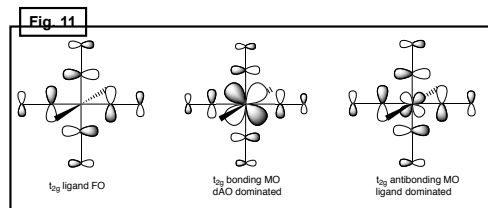
"one of each" T symmetry in  $O_h$

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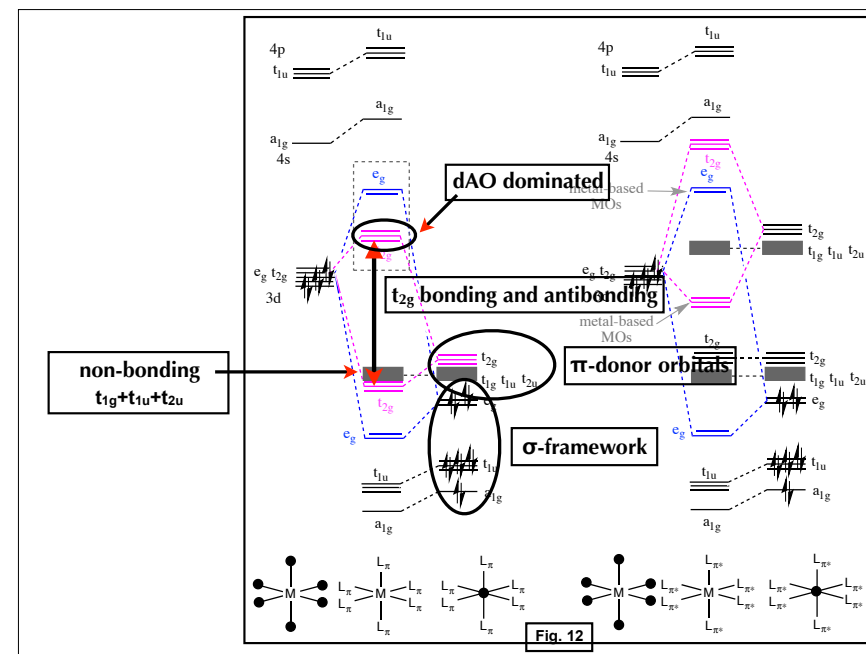
# Six $\pi$ -donor or $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

what do the MOs look like?

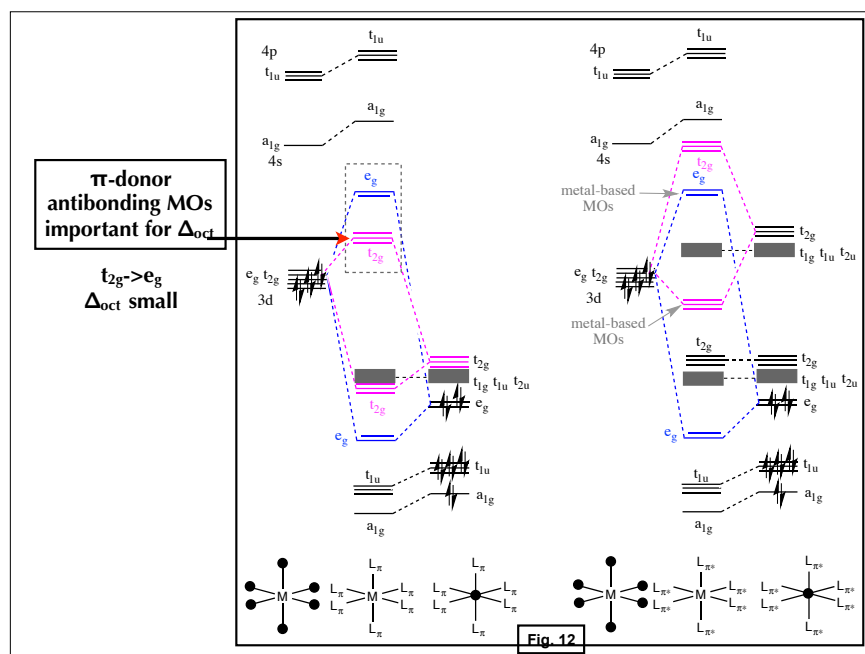
you don't need to be able to reproduce these for the exam!



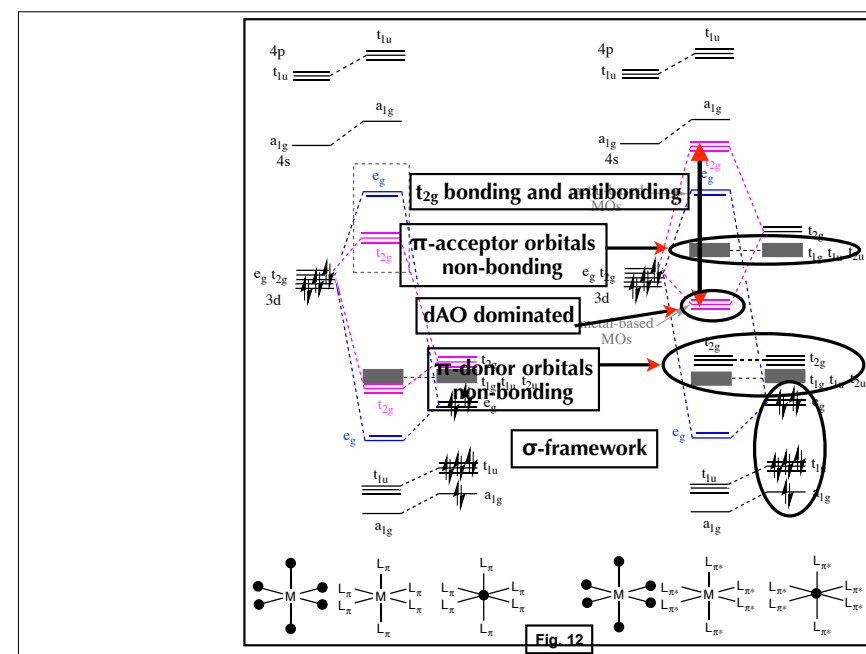
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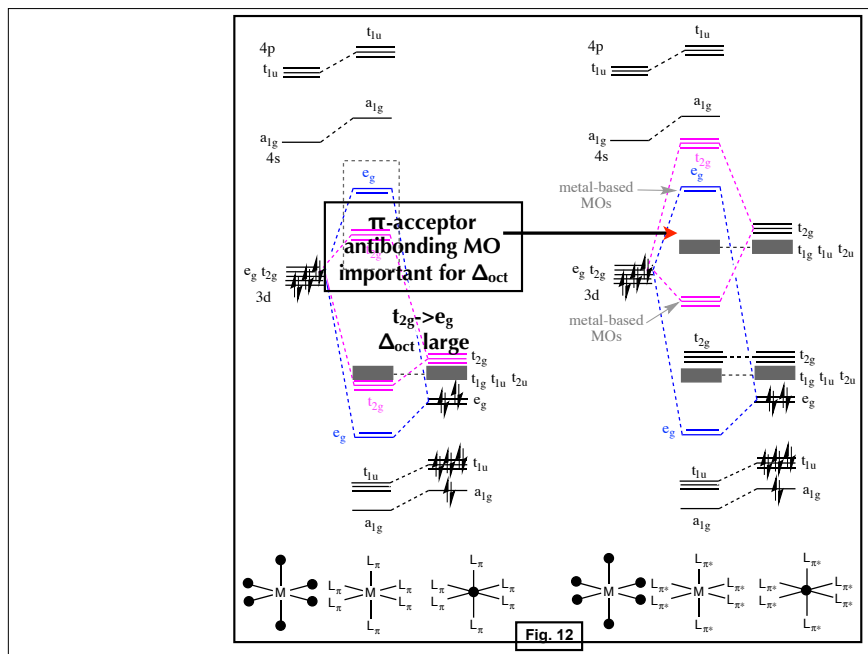
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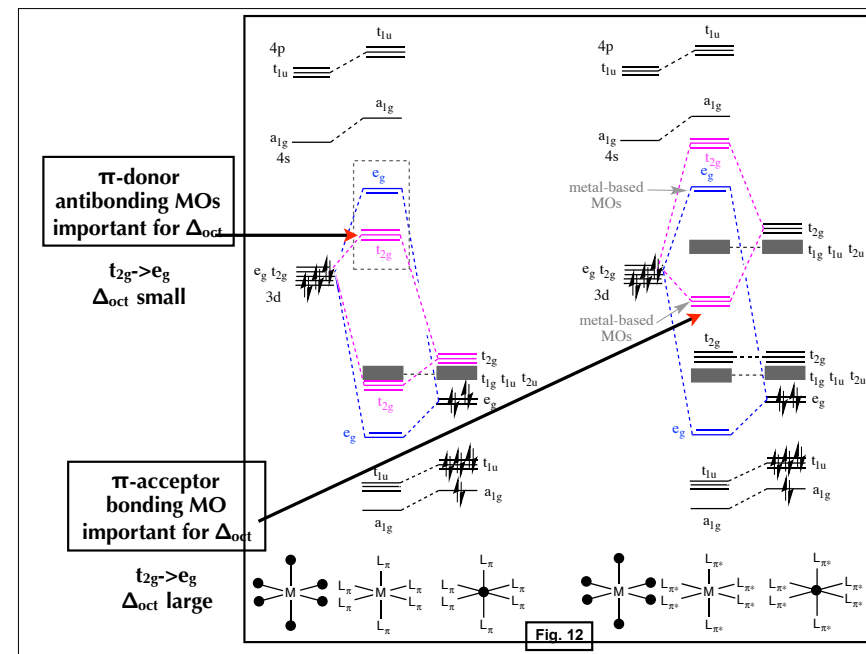
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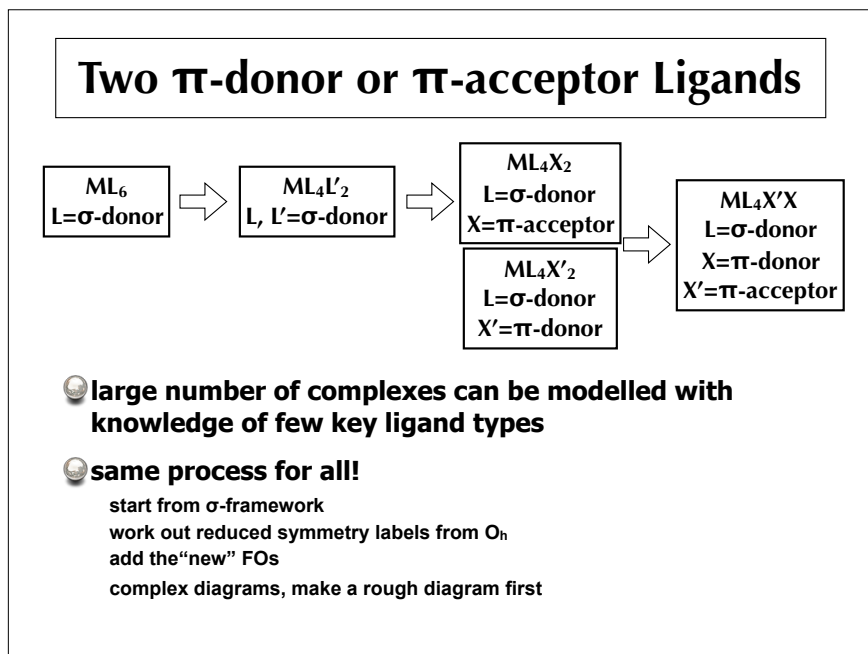
24



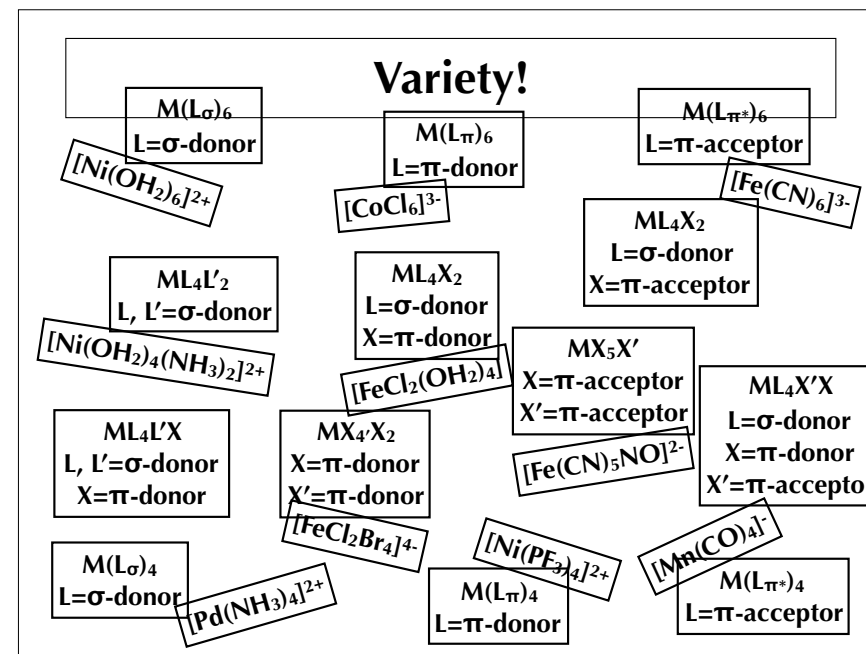
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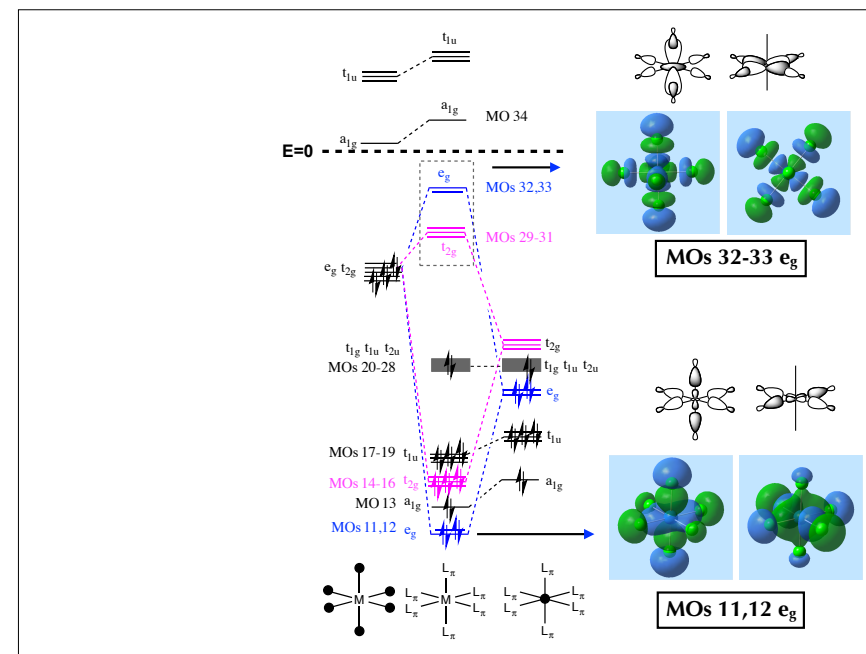
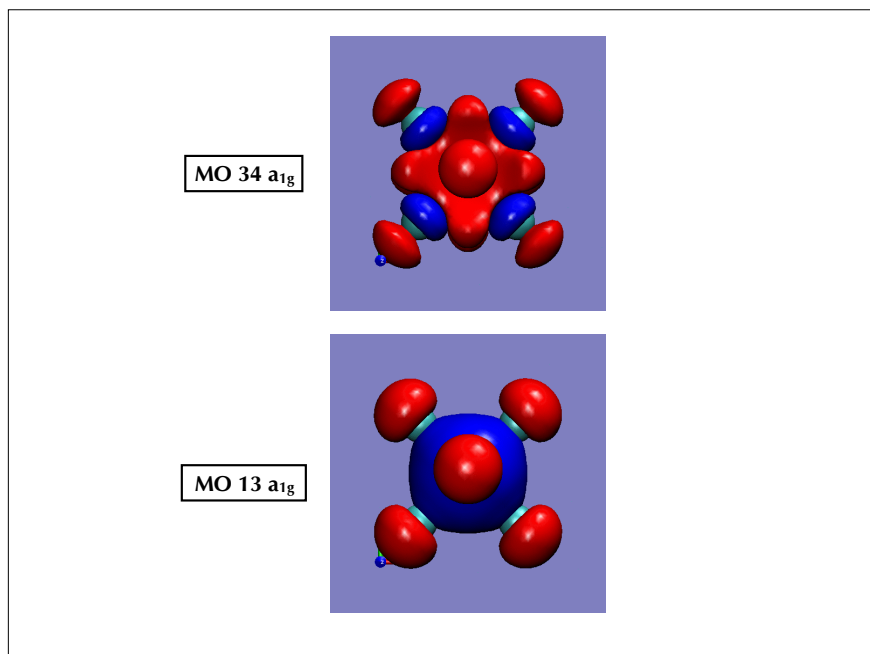
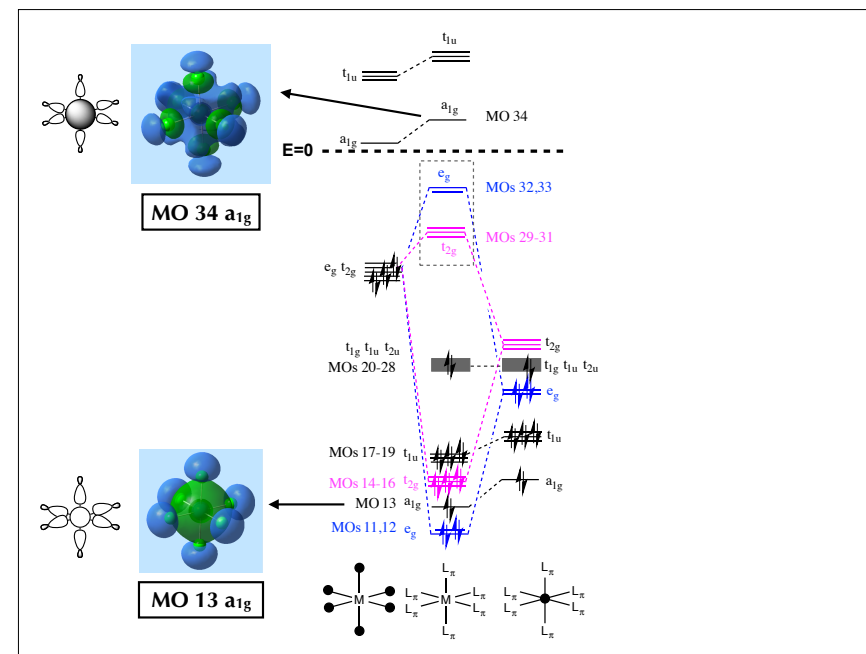
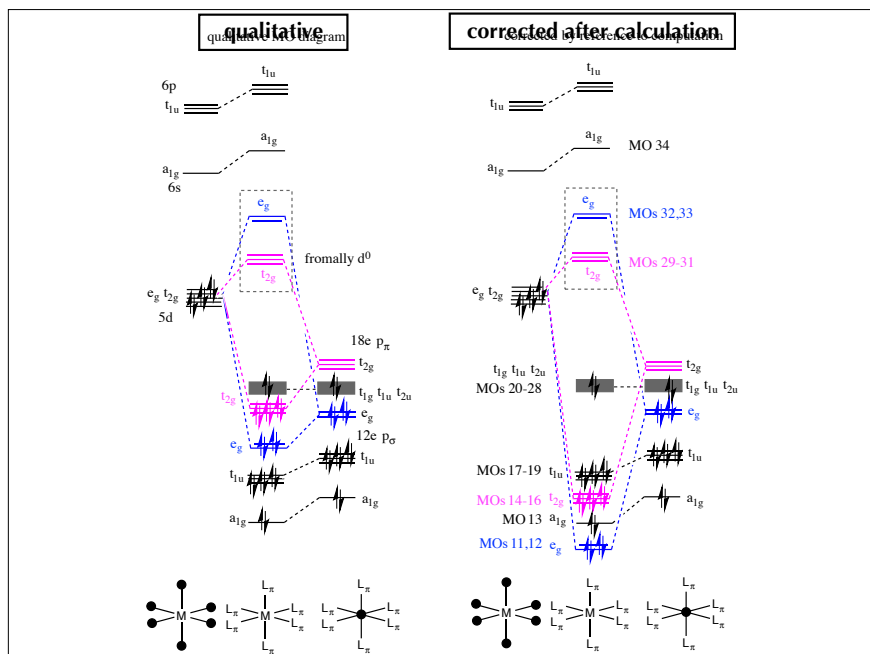
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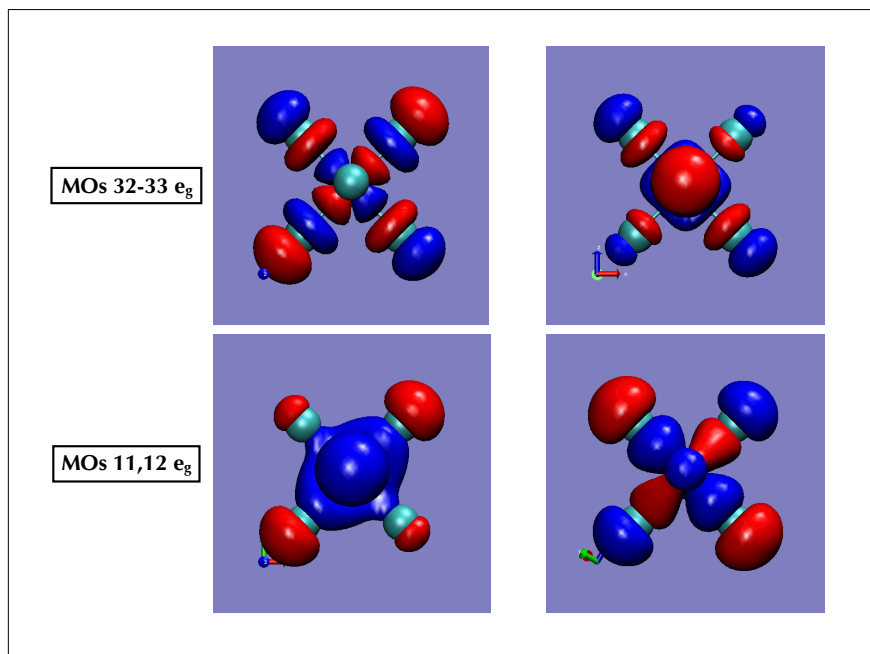


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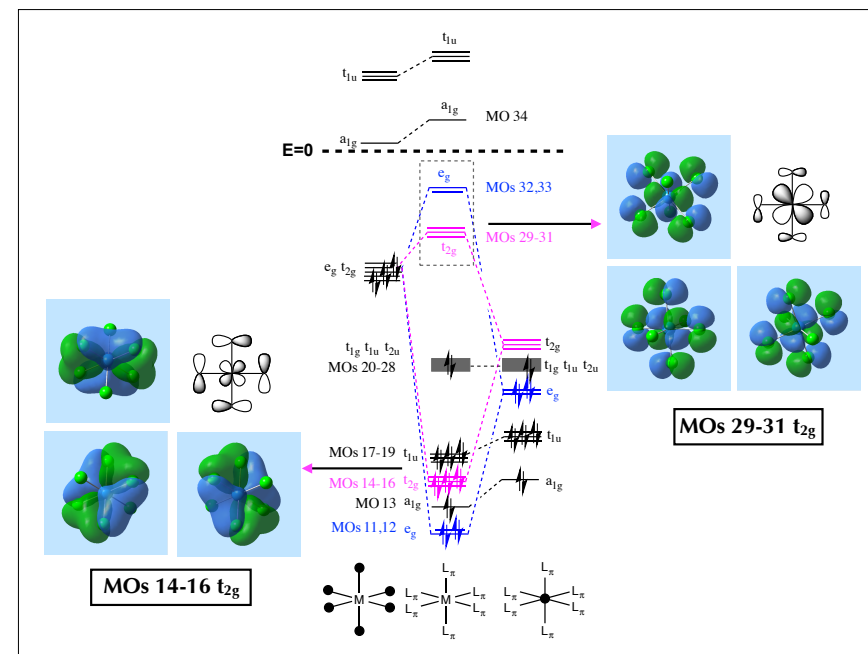


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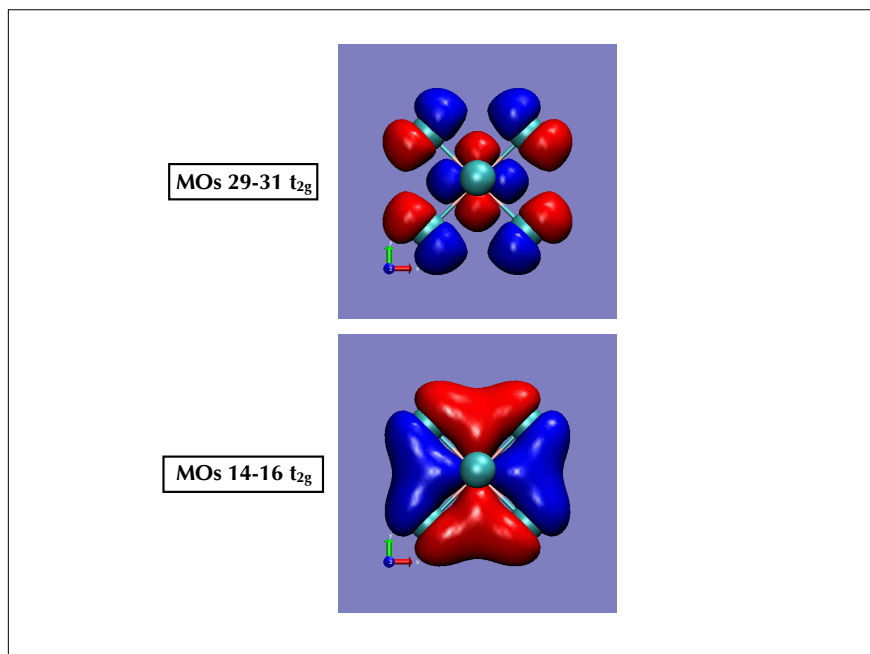




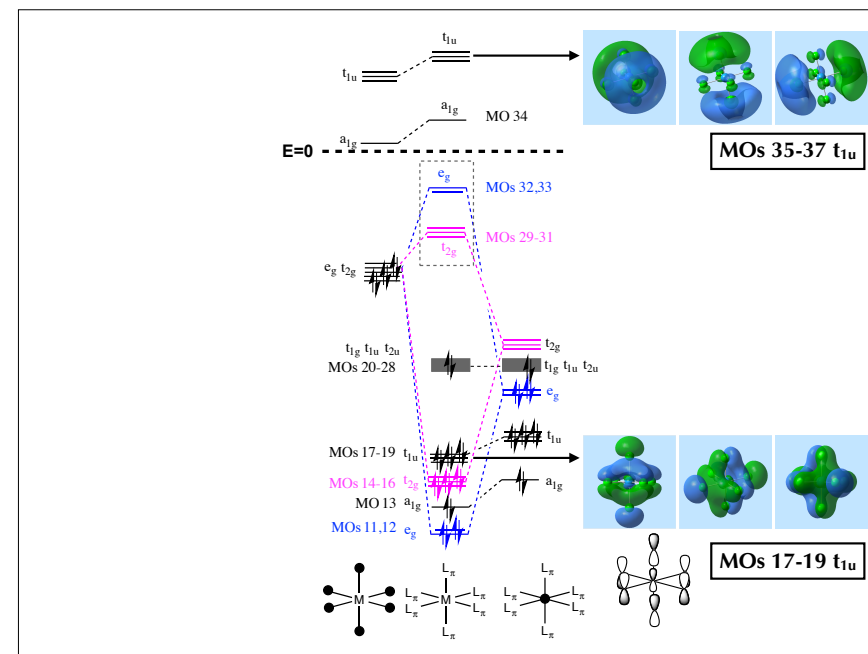
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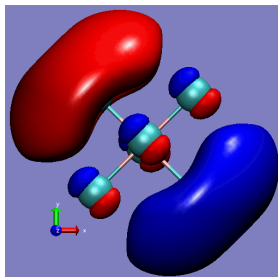


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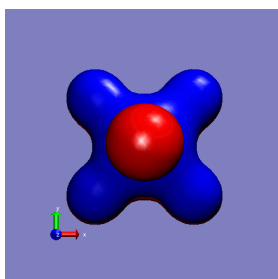


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MOs 35-37  $t_{1u}$



MOs 17-19  $t_{1u}$

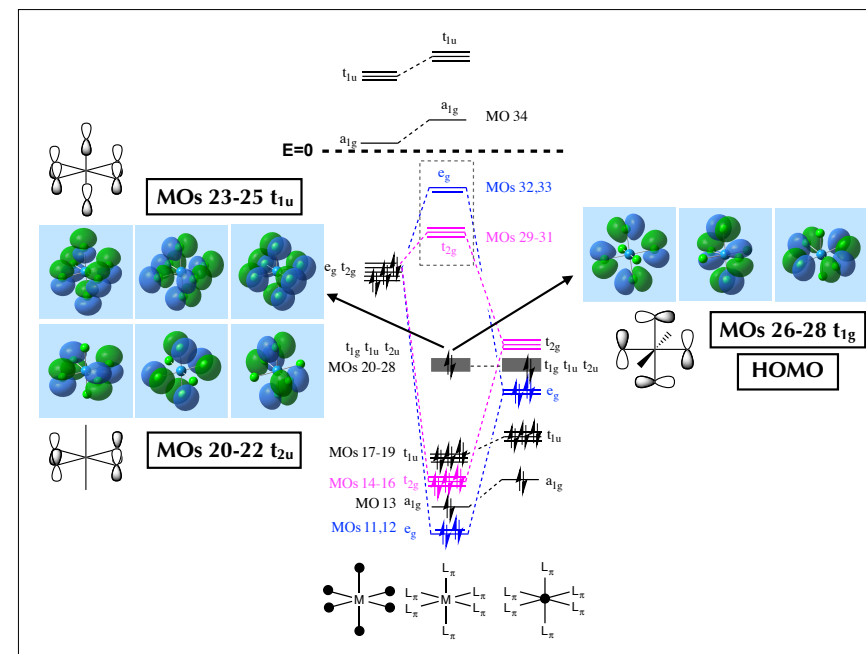


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## Key Points

- be able to discuss back-bonding and ligand orientation in relation to orbital overlap and energy match of FOs
- be able to draw energy level diagrams TM complex with one or two  $\pi$ -donor and  $\pi$ -acceptor (trans) ligands
- be able to draw and describe the important MOs
- be able to draw energy level diagrams for octahedral and square planar complexes with all  $\pi$ -bonding ligands
- be able to discuss key features of these diagrams, especially relating to character of MOs and  $\Delta_{oct}$

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## Finally

See my web-site

notes AND slides  
link to panopto when it becomes available  
optional background support for beginners  
optional material to take you a little further  
links to interesting people and web-sites  
links to relevant research papers on MOs  
model answers!!

<http://www.huntresearchgroup.org.uk/>



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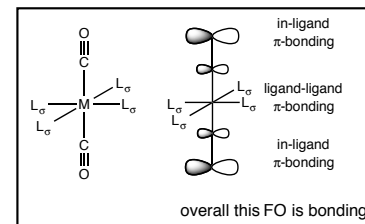
## Extras

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## In-Class Activity

complexes can have more than one  $\pi$ -donor or  $\pi$ -acceptor ligand

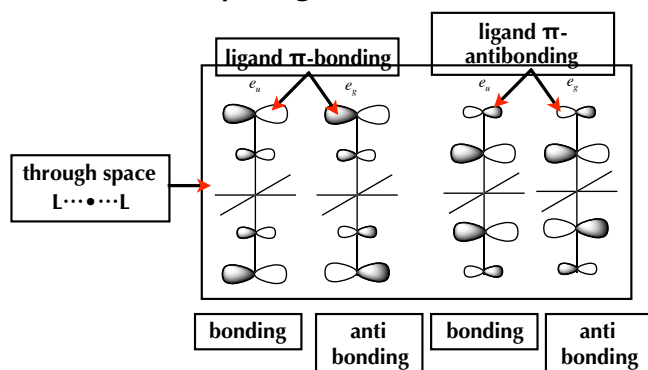
draw the bonding and antibonding combinations of the  $\pi$  and  $\pi^*$  ligand FOs



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## In-Class Activity

complexes can have more than one  $\pi$ -donor or  $\pi$ -acceptor ligand

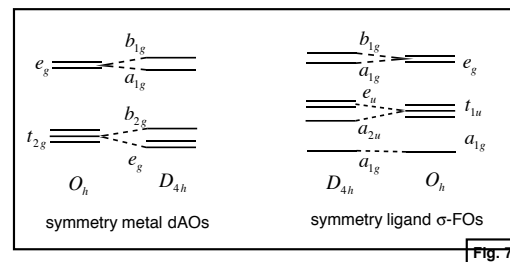
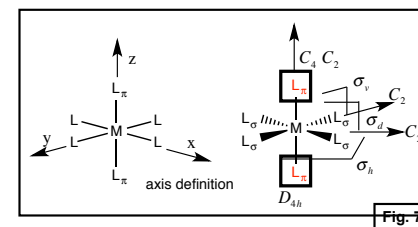


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## Two $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

same process!

symmetry is reduced from  $O_h$  to  $D_{4h}$   
determine new symmetry of the FOs



use the short-cuts!

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 **same process!**

draw in  $\sigma$ -framework

**black**

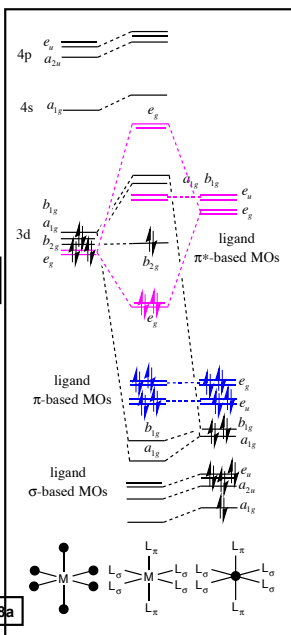


Fig. 8a

## Two $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

 **same process!**

### Add in the “new” orbitals

**$\pi$  -bonding remain non-bonding**

**blue**

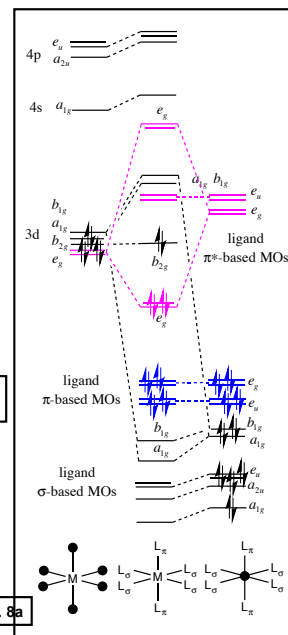


Fig. 8

## Two $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

 **same process!**

### Add in the “new” orbitals

$\pi$  -bonding remain non-bonding

**blue**

**$\pi^*$ -antibonding above the TM dAOs  
(as with single CO ligand)**

pink

**work out the interactions**

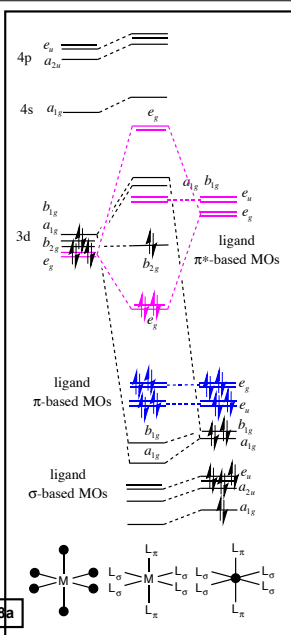


Fig. 8a

## Two $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

 **focus on the important MOs**

Diagram illustrating the formation of  $\pi^*$  and  $\pi$ -based molecular orbitals in a complex. The diagram shows the interaction of metal 3d orbitals ( $b_{1g}$ ,  $a_{1g}$ ,  $b_{2g}$ ,  $e_g$ ) with ligand orbitals ( $e_u$ ,  $e_g$ ) to form  $\pi^*$ -based MOs ( $a_{1g}$ ,  $b_{1g}$ ) and  $\pi$ -based MOs ( $e_g$ ,  $e_u$ ). The  $\pi^*$ -based MOs are labeled " $dz^2$ " and " $dx^2-y^2$ ", and the  $\pi$ -based MOs are labeled " $dyz$ " and " $dxz$ ".

Fig. 8I

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## Two $\pi$ -acceptor Ligands

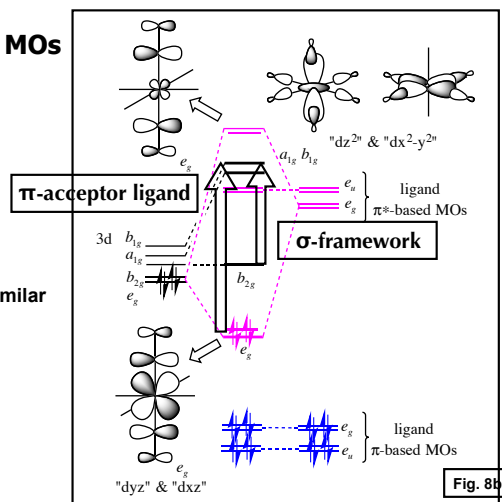
### focus on the important MOs

those of the d manifold  
include antibonding " $e_g$ " MOs  
add the " $t_{2g}$ " MOs  
size matters!

### consider $\Delta_{oct}$

$\sigma$ -framework  
 $\pi$ -ligands

$\Delta_{oct}$  two  $\pi$ -acceptors is very similar  
to single  $\pi$ -acceptor ligand

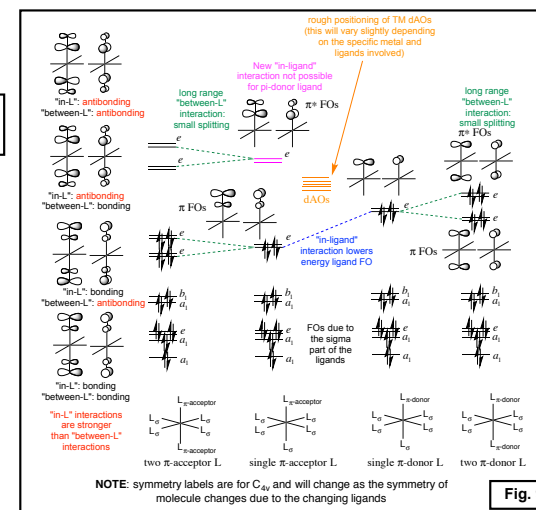


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## Summary Diagram

generated in response to  
student feedback 2014

use for revision



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