

## 9 • Bonding & Molecular Structure

---

### M O R E F R Q P R A C T I C E

1. Consider the molecules  $\text{PF}_3$  and  $\text{PF}_5$ .

(a) Draw the Lewis electron-dot structures for  $\text{PF}_3$  and  $\text{PF}_5$  and predict the molecular geometry of each.

(b) Is the  $\text{PF}_3$  molecule polar, or is it nonpolar? Explain.

(c) On the basis of bonding principles, predict whether each of the following compounds exists. In each case, explain your prediction.

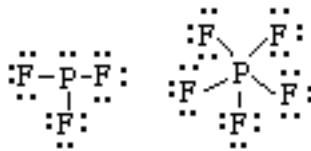
(i)  $\text{NF}_5$

(ii)  $\text{AsF}_5$

2. Answer the following questions using principles of chemical bonding and molecular structure.
- (a) Consider the carbon dioxide molecule,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and the carbonate ion,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ .
- (i) Draw the complete Lewis electron-dot structure for each species.
- (ii) Account for the fact that the carbon-oxygen bond length in  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  is greater than the carbon-oxygen bond length in  $\text{CO}_2$ .
- (b) Consider the molecules  $\text{CF}_4$  and  $\text{SF}_4$ .
- (i) Draw the complete Lewis electron-dot structure for each molecule.
- (ii) In terms of molecular geometry, account for the fact that the  $\text{CF}_4$  molecule is nonpolar, whereas the  $\text{SF}_4$  molecule is polar.

**Answer 1:**

(a)  $\text{PF}_3$  = tripod (pyramid);  $\text{PF}_5$  = trigonal bipyramid



(b) polar; net dipole moment toward the non-symmetrical position of the fluorines.

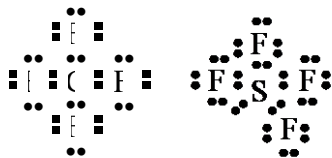
(c) (i)  $\text{NF}_5$  - doesn't exist, nitrogen can't hybridize to form the  $dsp^3$  orbitals and is also too small to accommodate 5 fluorine atoms around it.

(ii)  $\text{AsF}_5$  - does exist, arsenic can hybridize to form the  $dsp^3$  orbitals and is large enough to accommodate 5 fluorine atoms around it.

**Answer 2:**

(a) (i) , there are two other similar resonance structures for the carbonate ion.

(ii) the pi  $\text{O}=\text{C}$  double bond in  $\text{CO}_2$  is shorter than a single  $\text{O}-\text{C}$  resonance sigma-bond (all are identical and are about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  bond) found in a carbonate ion.



(b) (i)

(ii) in the tetrahedral  $\text{CF}_4$ , the polar  $\text{C}-\text{F}$  bonds are cancelled out by the equiangular pull of the 4 bonds. With an expanded octet and trigonal bipyramidal structure,  $\text{SF}_4$  has a pair of unbonded electrons at the center of the bipyramid, this gives a "seesaw" shape to the molecule and an uneven pull to the polar  $\text{S}-\text{F}$  bonds.

