

## II. Hydrolysis and Condensation of Non-silicates

### (Transition Metals and IIIA Metals)

- ◆ Hydrolysis: a process in which inorganic salt or metal organic precursor is dissolved in a liquid solvent (mainly water or water/alcohol mixture) to form ligands which are capable of forming polymer or crystalline particles
- ◆ Condensation: a process in which the ligands formed in the hydrolysis are linked to form larger molecules (or crystalline particles)
- ◆ Transition metals: metals with partially or completely filled “d” electron orbital
- ◆ IIIA Metals:  
metals with 1 electron in “p” orbital  
  
in comparison with silicon, these metals have: lower electronegativity,  
several coordination states → Greater chemical reactivity

Los Alamos National Laboratory Chemistry Division

Periodic Table of the Elements

transition metals

<b>1A</b>	<b>2A</b>																			<b>8A</b>
<b>H</b> hydrogen 1.008	<b>Be</b> beryllium 9.012																		<b>He</b> helium 4.003	
<b>Li</b> lithium 6.941																			<b>C</b> carbon 12.01	
<b>Na</b> sodium 22.99	<b>Mg</b> magnesium 24.31																		<b>N</b> nitrogen 14.01	
<b>K</b> potassium 39.10	<b>Ca</b> calcium 40.08	<b>Sc</b> scandium 44.96	<b>Ti</b> titanium 47.88	<b>V</b> vanadium 50.94	<b>Cr</b> chromium 52.00	<b>Mn</b> manganese 54.94	<b>Fe</b> iron 55.85	<b>Co</b> cobalt 58.93	<b>Ni</b> nickel 58.69	<b>Cu</b> copper 63.55	<b>Zn</b> zinc 65.39	<b>Ga</b> gallium 69.72	<b>Ge</b> germanium 72.58	<b>As</b> arsenic 74.92	<b>Se</b> selenium 78.96	<b>Br</b> bromine 80.00	<b>Kr</b> krypton 83.80			
<b>Rb</b> rubidium 85.47	<b>Sr</b> strontium 87.62	<b>Y</b> yttrium 88.91	<b>Zr</b> zirconium 91.22	<b>Nb</b> niobium 92.91	<b>Mo</b> molybdenum 95.94	<b>Tc</b> technetium (98)	<b>Ru</b> ruthenium 101.1	<b>Rh</b> rhodium 102.9	<b>Pd</b> palladium 106.4	<b>Ag</b> silver 107.9	<b>Cd</b> cadmium 112.4	<b>In</b> indium 114.8	<b>Sn</b> tin 118.7	<b>Sb</b> antimony 121.8	<b>Te</b> tellurium 127.6	<b>I</b> iodine 126.9	<b>Xe</b> xenon 131.3			
<b>Cs</b> cesium 132.9	<b>Ba</b> barium 137.3	<b>La*</b> <small>[Ar] 5s<sup>2</sup> d<sup>1</sup></small>	<b>Hf</b> hafnium 138.9	<b>Ta</b> tautium 138.9	<b>W</b> tantalum 180.9	<b>Re</b> rhenium 183.9	<b>Os</b> osmium 186.2	<b>Ir</b> iridium 190.2	<b>Pt</b> platinum 195.1	<b>Au</b> gold 197.0	<b>Hg</b> mercury 200.5	<b>Tl</b> thallium 204.4	<b>Pb</b> lead 207.2	<b>Bi</b> bismuth 208.9	<b>Po</b> polonium (209)	<b>At</b> astatine (210)	<b>Rn</b> radon (222)			
<b>Fr</b> francium (223)	<b>Ra</b> radium (226)	<b>Ac~</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small>	<b>Rf</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>2</sup></small>	<b>Db</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>3</sup></small>	<b>Sg</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>4</sup></small>	<b>Bh</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>5</sup></small>	<b>Hs</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>6</sup></small>	<b>Mt</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>7</sup></small>	<b>Ds</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>8</sup></small>	<b>Uuu</b> (272)	<b>Uub</b> (277)	<b>Uuo</b> (296)	<b>Uuh</b> (298)		<b>Uuo</b> (?)					

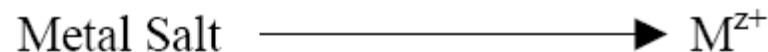
3A metals

Lanthanide Series*	<b>58 Ce</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>1</sup> 5d<sup>1</sup></small> cerium 140.1	<b>59 Pr</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>2</sup> 5d<sup>1</sup></small> praseodymium 140.9	<b>60 Nd</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>3</sup> 5d<sup>1</sup></small> neodymium 144.2	<b>61 Pm</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>5</sup></small> promethium (147)	<b>62 Sm</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>6</sup></small> samarium (150.4)	<b>63 Eu</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>7</sup></small> europium (152.0)	<b>64 Gd</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>7</sup> 5d<sup>1</sup></small> gadolinium 157.3	<b>65 Tb</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>8</sup></small> thulium 158.9	<b>66 Dy</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>9</sup> 5d<sup>1</sup></small> dysprosium 162.5	<b>67 Ho</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>10</sup></small> holmium 164.9	<b>68 Er</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>11</sup></small> erbium 167.3	<b>69 Tm</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>12</sup></small> thulium 168.9	<b>70 Yb</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>13</sup></small> ytterbium 173.0	<b>71 Lu</b> <small>[Xe] 4f<sup>14</sup></small> lutetium 175.0
Actinide Series-	<b>90 Th</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>2</sup></small> thorium 232.0	<b>91 Pa</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> protactinium (231)	<b>92 U</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> uranium (238)	<b>93 Np</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> neptunium (237)	<b>94 Pu</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> plutonium (242)	<b>95 Am</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> americium (243)	<b>96 Cm</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> curium (247)	<b>97 Bk</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> berkelium (249)	<b>98 Cf</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> californium (254)	<b>99 Es</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> einsteinium (253)	<b>100 Fm</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> fermium (253)	<b>101 Md</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> mendelevium (256)	<b>102 No</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> nobelium (254)	<b>103 Lr</b> <small>[Ra] 7s<sup>2</sup> 6d<sup>1</sup></small> lawrencium (257)

element names in **blue** are liquids at room temperature  
 element names in **red** are gases at room temperature  
 element names in **black** are solids at room temperature



◆ Hydrolysis of Inorganic Precursors



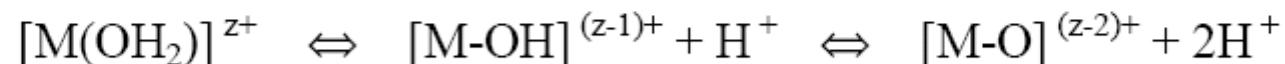
*dissolved in water*

$z$ : number of positive charge of the metal ion



*Solvated by water molecules*

The following equilibriums are established:

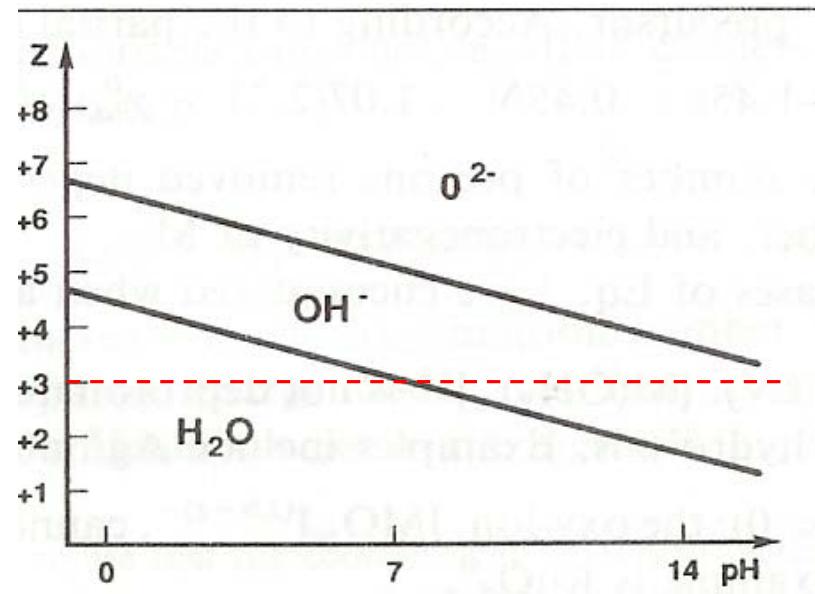


The equilibrium depends on acidity (or pH) of water as well as  $z$  of the metal ion

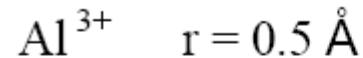
M-(OH<sub>2</sub>)      “Aquo”

M-OH      “Hydroxo”

M=O      “Oxo”



(e.g.) Hydrolysis of AlCl<sub>3</sub>



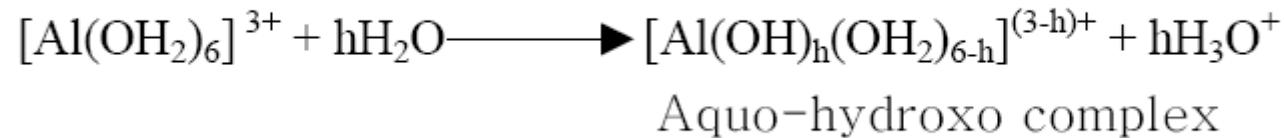
N = 6 (coordination number)

$$z = 3$$

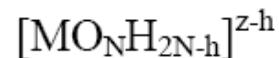
At pH=3



Increasing pH (> 3)



## General Formula for the Ligands



N: coordination number of water molecules

h: molar ratio (water:metal) of hydrolysis

Table 1

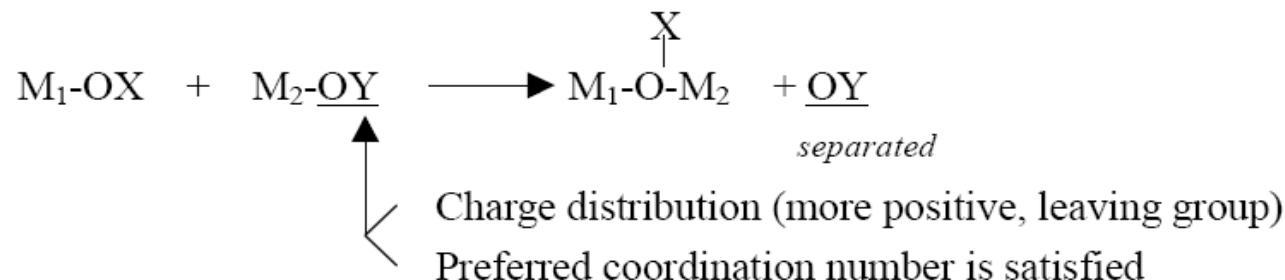
h	Ligand	Charge Distrib. $\delta$ (on $\text{H}_{2\text{N}-\text{h}}$ )	Nucleo- philicity	Conden. Mechanism	
				$S_N$	$A_N$
$h = 0$	Aquo $[\text{M}(\text{OH}_2)_N]^{+Z}$	+	Leaving group	No	No
$0 < h < N$	Complex Aquo-Hydroxo			Yes	Yes
$h = N$	Hydroxo $[\text{M}(\text{OH})_N]^{+Z-N}$			Yes	Yes
$N < h < 2N$	Complex Hydro-oxo			Yes	Yes
$h = 2N$	Oxo $[\text{MO}_N]^{+Z-2N}$	-	Nucleophile	No	Yes*

\* at least one of the reactant species is coordinatively unsaturated ( $N < Z$ )

Ligand with large nucleophilicity  $\Rightarrow$  nucleophile

Ligand with small nucleophilicity  $\Rightarrow$  leaving groups

## CONDENSATION AFTER HYDROLYSIS OF INORGANIC PRECURSOR

◆ Nucleophilic Substitution ( $S_N$ )

(e.g.) Formation of Dimer

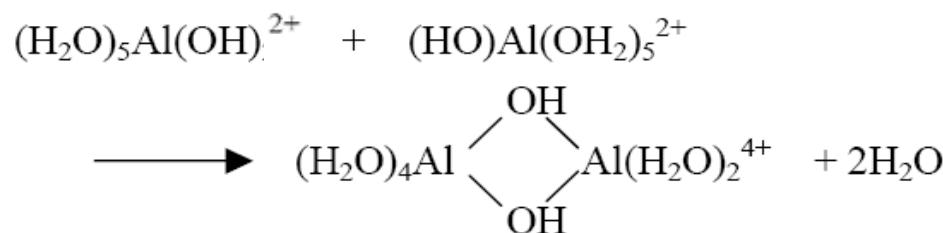
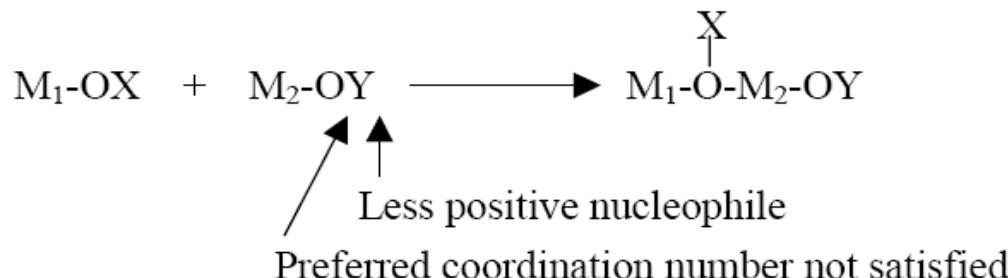
◆ Nucleophilic Addition ( $A_N$ )

Table 2

Condensation Process	Mechanism (see Table 1)	Conditions	Kinetics
Olation “-OH-“ bridge formed	$S_N$	Preferred coordination satisfied	Rate ↑ As $z \downarrow$ & size ↑
Oxolation “-O-“ bridge formed	$A_N$	Coordination unsatisfied	Rapid
Two-step $M-QH + M-OH$	$A_N/S_N$	Oxohydroxy ligands	slower

$$\begin{array}{c} M-QH + M-OH \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ M-O-M-OH \\ | \\ H \\ \downarrow \\ M-O-M + H_2O \end{array}$$

In the hydrolysis/condensation process, whether precipitation or gelation occurs, or whether polymeric sol or particulate sol is formed depends on:

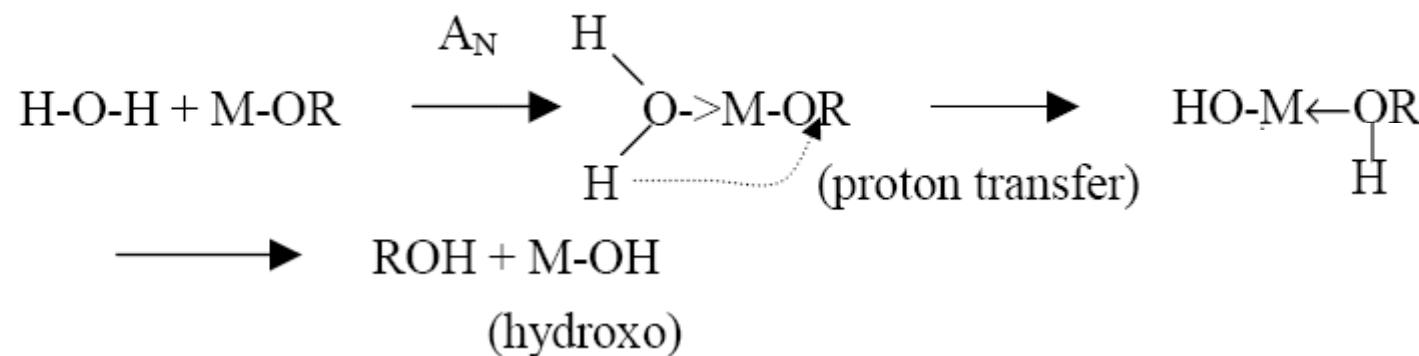
- ✓ precursor properties
- ✓ temperature
- ✓ condensation kinetics

- ✓ pH
- ✓ speed of mixing
- ✓ solvent: water/alcohol ratio

# HYDROLYSIS AND CONDENSATION OF METAL ALKOXIDE PRECURSORS

$M(OR)_Z$ : Very reactive due to the presence of highly electronegative “OR” group  
Stabilizing M in its highest oxidation state, susceptible to nucleophilic attack

### Hydrolysis



## Condensation

(a) Alcoxolation:



(b) Oxolation:

