Worksheet 17 - Intermolecular Forces

Chemical bonds are intramolecular forces and hold atoms together as molecules. The forces that hold molecules together in the liquid and solid states are called intermolecular forces.

Intermolecular forces (IMF) can be qualitatively ranked using Coulomb's Law:

\[ \text{force} \propto \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r} \]

where \( Q_1 \) and \( Q_2 \) are charges and \( r \) is the distance between them.

The obvious consequences of this relationship are that:

- the bigger the charges, the stronger the interaction
- the closer the charges, the stronger the interaction

The charges in chemical species can be classified as:

1. **ionic** - full positive and negative charges resulting from oxidation (loss of electron to form a cation) or reduction (gain of electron resulting in an anion).

2. **dipole** - partial positive of negative charges, resulting for polarized bonds in which there is unequal sharing of valence electrons. This arises when electronegative elements (O, N, halogens) are bonded to less electronegative species. **Molecular geometry** also plays a role in determining the net dipole moment of a molecule.

3. **London Dispersion Forces (LDF)** - instantaneous dipole moments resulting from the motion of electrons in an atom or molecule. All atoms and molecules possess LDF, which increase with the number of electrons in the molecule, and its shape. These are very small, very short lived charges.

1. List all types of IMF which would be exhibited between the pairs of species shown below?

   a) \( \text{O}=\text{C} =\text{O} \) and \( \text{O}=\text{C} =\text{O} \)

   b) \( \text{H}-\text{C}\equiv\text{H} \) and \( \text{Na}^+ \)

   c) \( \text{H}-\text{C}\equiv\text{H} \) and \( \text{H}-\text{C}\equiv\text{H} \)
There is one type of dipole-dipole interaction which is especially strong. It is called a hydrogen bond (H-bond). The partial negative charge (\(\delta^-\)) comes from one of the electronegative elements F, O or N. These are called H-bond acceptors. The partial positive charge (\(\delta^+\)) comes from an H bonded directly to one of these elements (O-H, N-H, O-H). These are called H-bond donors. Both a donor and an acceptor are needed to form an H-bond. These are stronger IMF than dipole-dipole interactions, but not as strong as ion-dipole interactions.

2. Which of the following pairs of compounds can form H-bonds? For those that can, mark the position of the partial positive (\(\delta^+\)) and negative (\(\delta^-\)) charges in the molecules and indicate where the H-bonds will form. For those that can't form H-bonds, describe the strongest IMF available to that pair of compounds.

a) \(\text{H-O-H} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{H-H}\)

b) \(\text{H-O-H} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{H-O-H}\)

c) \(\text{H-C-H} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{H-O-H}\)

d) \(\text{H-C-H} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{H-C-OH}\)

e) \(\text{H-O-H} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{H-N-H}\)
3. What is the nature of the major attractive IMF in the following molecules? Please draw a Lewis structure and determine the shape of each molecule.

   a) I₂ d) HF
   b) MgO e) HCl
   c) CH₃CN

It requires energy to pull molecules apart in going from the solid to liquid to gaseous states. The stronger the IMF, the more energy must be added, the higher the phase transition temperature will be.

4. Which of the following substances is most likely to exist as a crystalline solid at room temperature? Of the gases, which would be the hardest to condense to a liquid under pressure?

   a) HF d) SO₂
   b) PCl₃ e) F₂
   c) FeCl₂

5. Which of the following is expected to have the highest boiling point? Which is expected to have the lowest?

   a) CO₂ b) Ar c) CF₄
   d) LiCl e) SiF₄
In general, be careful when comparing molecules with very different structures and/or molecular weights. For example, H₂O is a liquid at room temperature and I₂ is a solid. This doesn't mean that H-bonding, in general, is weaker than LDF. It's just that the structures are too different to compare.

6. Give an explanation in terms of IMF for the following differences in boiling point.
   a) HF (20°C) and HCl (-85°C)
   b) CHCl₃ (61°C) and CHBr₃ (150°C)
   c) Br₂ (59°C) and ICl (97°C)

7. Indicate which of the following properties will increase, decrease or remain unaffected by an increase in the strength of the intermolecular forces?
   a) vapor pressure (pressure of gas above a liquid sample in a closed container)
   b) normal boiling point (boiling point at 1 atmosphere pressure)
   c) heat of vaporization (heat requires to take a liquid sample to the gaseous phase)
   d) surface tension (adhesion of molecules)