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# TOPIC 2.3 - 2.5: CHEMICAL BONDING

THE ABOUT

# CHAPTER ANALYSIS



TIME

- Important chapter, will always be tested
- 2 **key** concepts



EXAM

- Commonly tested, especially for Section A
- Tested as together with other chapters  
→ Atomic Structure, Chemical Equations



WEIGHTAGE

- Medium overall weightage
- Constitute to **4.5%** of marks for past 5 year papers

# ELEMENTS, COMPOUNDS, MIXTURE

	Elements	Compound	Mixture
Formation	Naturally found	Combined using chemical methods	Combined using physical methods
Separation technique	Cannot be separated further	Separation by chemical methods (Decomposition, electrolysis, reduction with carbon)	Separation by physical methods (separation techniques)
Composition	Exist by itself or in diatomic molecule form for gases such as H <sub>2</sub> or O <sub>2</sub> .	Fixed ratio	Any ratio
Melting Point / Boiling Point	Fixed MP & BP	Fixed MP & BP	Melts and boils over a range of temperature

**\*A compound is a subset of a molecule, but a molecule does not need to be a compound.**

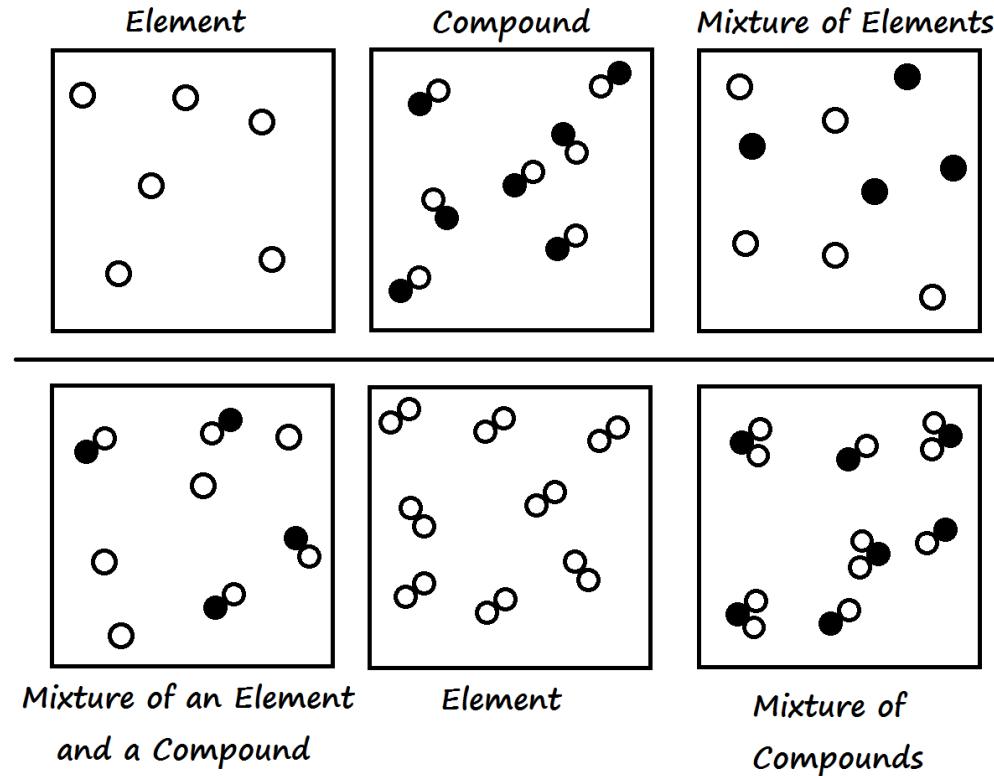
Definition of a molecule is when **2 or more atoms** chemically combined.

An **element** can also exist as a diatomic **molecule**. (N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>)

A **compound** is defined as **2 or more elements chemically combined**, hence a compound must be a molecule.

Understanding  
the term  
'molecule'

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## MUST KNOW

# BASICS

## Why are chemical bonds formed?

Atoms of elements strive for **stability** by achieving a **stable electronic configuration (2,8,8)**. This is by forming chemical bonds with other atoms.

The formation of chemical bonds can be done by **transferring electrons, sharing electrons or forming a metal lattice**.

Non-metal atoms, such as the Group VII halogens, would form **ionic bonds** with metal atoms. They can also form **covalent bonds** with other non-metal atoms.

Metal atoms can also form **metallic bonds** with other metal atoms.



# COVALENT

# IONIC

## 2 types of bonds

Understand all 2 types of bond to master this chapter while paying special attention to **keywords** you must include in your answers.

For each type of bond, you must be able to explain:

- How the bond is formed
- The dot-&-cross diagram
- The structure
- Physical properties (with explanations)



KEY CONCEPT

# IONIC BONDS

**METAL ION** + **NON-METAL ION**

## GIANT IONIC LATTICE STRUCTURE



Recall:

**Cation:** positively charged ion  
 → t = '+' sign, positive

**Anion:** negatively charged ion  
 → n = negative

## KEY CONCEPT

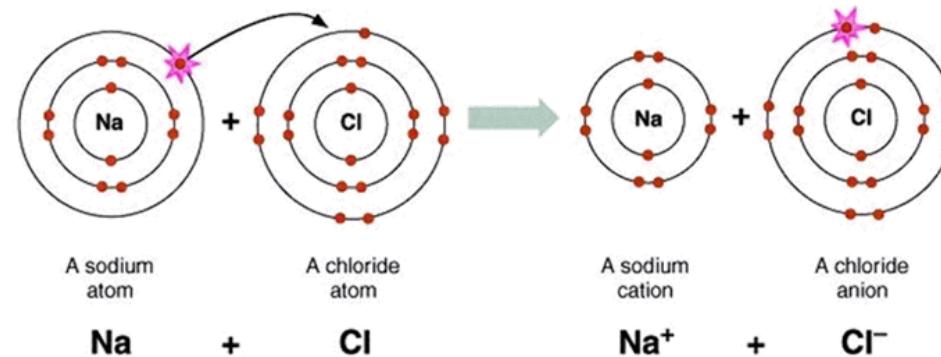
# IONIC BONDS

Ionic bonds are formed between **metals** and **non-metals**.

The **transfer of electron** from the metal to the non-metal would allow both atoms to have **complete valence shells** and to **attain a stable electronic configuration**.

The metal would become a **cation** while the non-metal would become the **anion**.

Ionic bond **formed** is the **forces of attraction between oppositely charged ions**.



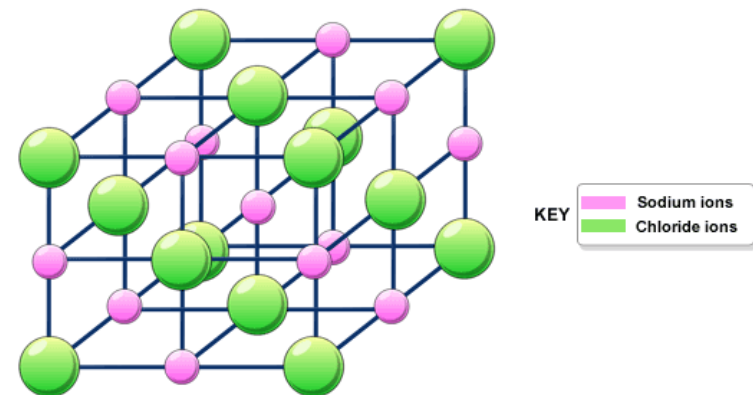


# GIANT IONIC LATTICE STRUCTURE

## GIANT IONIC LATTICE STRUCTURE

Ionic compounds have a **giant ionic lattice structure** that is held together by strong **electrostatic forces of attraction between oppositely charged ions**.

*Naming convention: (Cation)(Anion) eg: Sodium Chloride*



## ADVANCED

# giant ionic lattice

## Physical properties

- High MP & BP
- Soluble in water
- Able to conduct electricity in molten & aqueous state
- Poor conductor of heat
- Not volatile (does not evaporate easily)
- Strong

## High melting and boiling points

Ionic compounds usually have **high melting and boiling points**. (<1000 Degree Celsius)

These ions are held together by **strong ionic bonds** which **require a huge amount of energy to overcome**.

## Solubility

Ionic compounds are **soluble in water** because the partially charged (polar) water molecules can attract the ions, causing disruption to the ionic lattice structure.

This results in the ions separating and dissolving in the solution.

## Electrical conductivity

To conduct electricity, there needs to be the presence of **mobile charge carriers**.

In its solid state, as the ions are all held tightly in place, **ionic compounds in solid state do not have the ability to conduct electricity**.

However, when **in molten or aqueous state**, the ions are able to move freely, able to act as mobile charge carriers to **conduct electricity**.



# COVALENT BONDS

## SIMPLE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE



## KEY CONCEPT

# COVALENT BONDS

Covalent bonds are formed between **non-metal & non-metal atoms**.

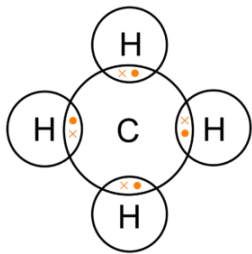
A covalent bond is defined as the **electrostatic force of attraction between the nuclei of the atoms and the shared electrons**.

To attain a stable electronic configuration, the two atoms **share their valence electrons** so that they can both attain stable and full valence shells.

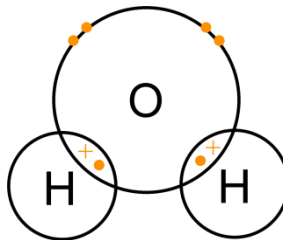
Covalent bond is formed from the sharing of electrons.

## Examples:

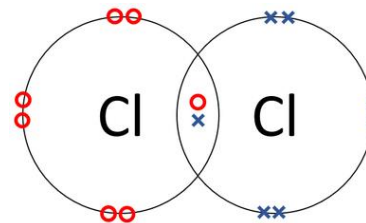
Methane Compound:

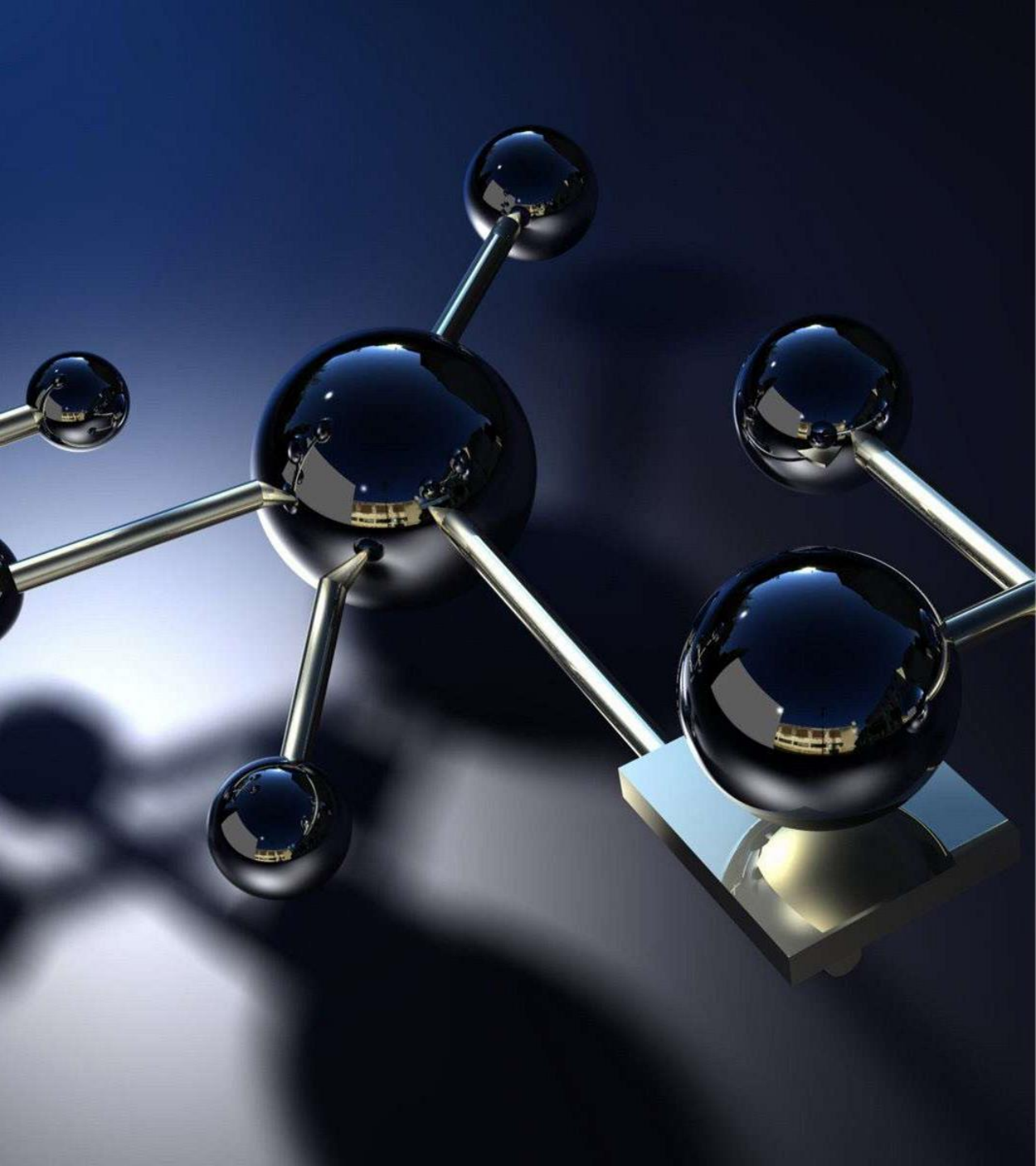


Water Compound:



Chlorine molecule:





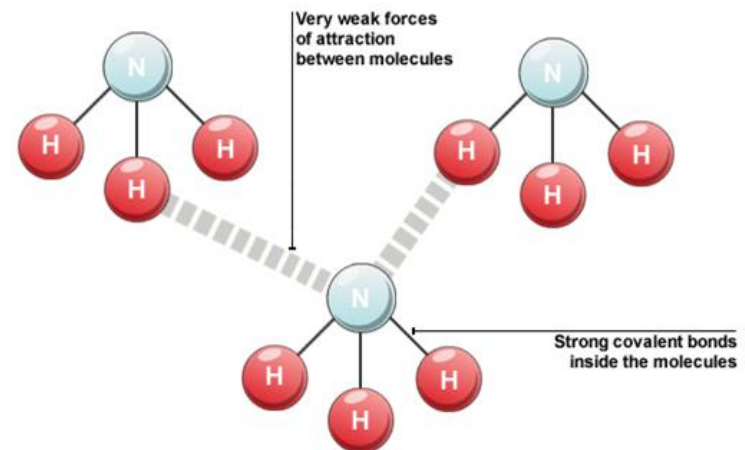
## SIMPLE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE

Covalent compounds that are made up of small, discrete molecules have simple molecular structures.

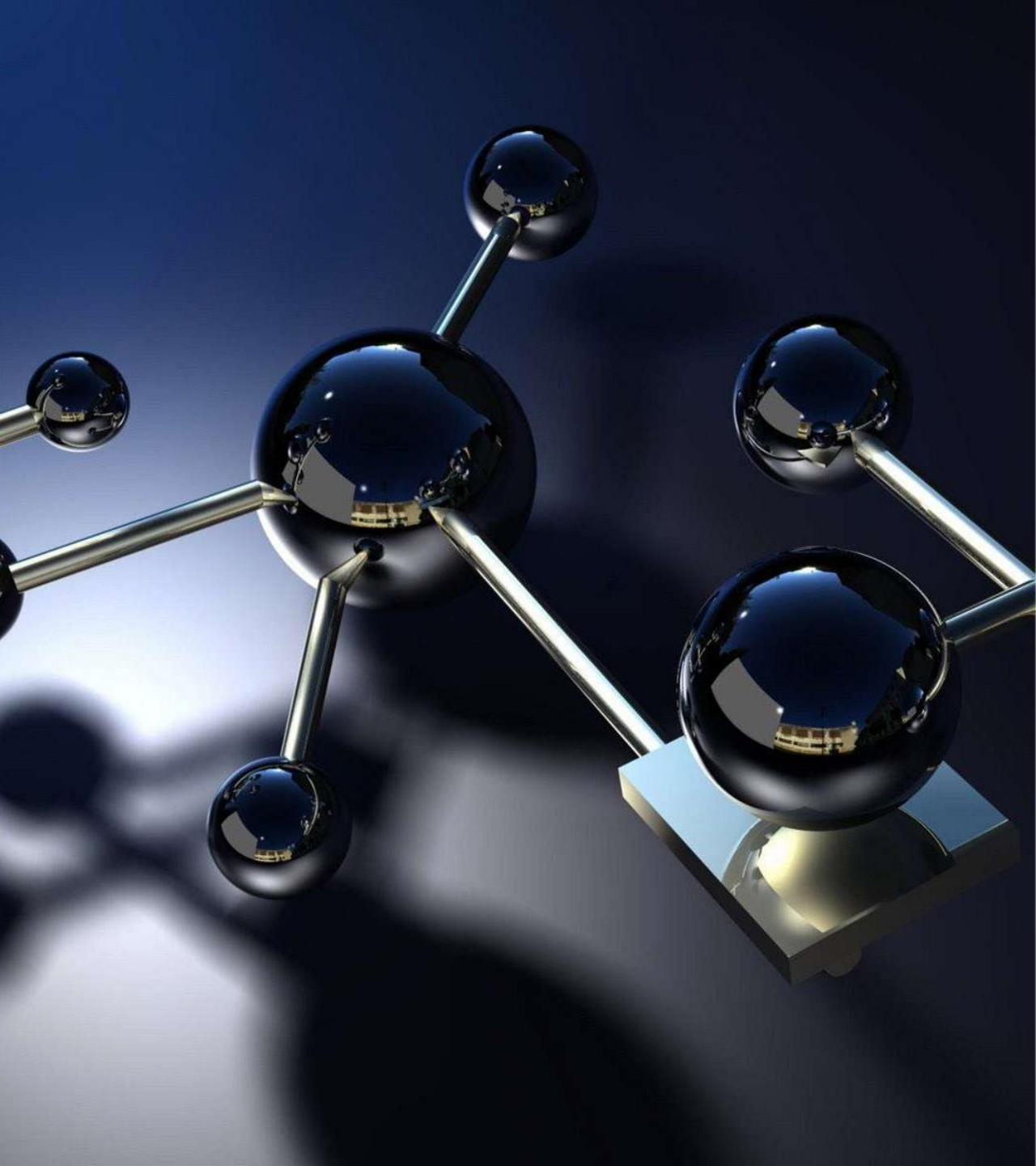
Between the small molecules, they are held together by **weak intermolecular forces of attraction**, AKA *van der Waals' forces*.

These weak intermolecular forces can be overcome easily, hence they have **low melting and boiling points**.

However, atoms within the molecules itself are held together by strong covalent bonds.





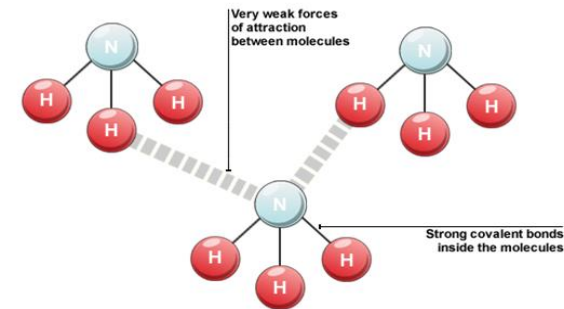


## SIMPLE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE

For example, ammonia has a simple molecular structure.

These ammonia molecules experience **weak intermolecular forces of attraction between other ammonia molecules**. Hence, they have low melting point & boiling point.

**HOWEVER**, within the ammonia molecules are **strong covalent bonds** that holds together a single nitrogen atom and three hydrogen atoms.



## TAKE NOTE!

Are covalent bonds strong? **Yes, very strong.**

Then why the low MP & BP? Because it is the weak **intermolecular forces that are being overcome**.

For example, it is easy to change the state of water (melting/boiling) but **extremely difficult to break a water molecule back into the individual hydrogen and oxygen atoms**, as that would involve breaking the strong covalent bonds.

**Covalent bonds & intermolecular forces of attraction are different things!!!**



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# simple molecular structure

## Physical properties

- Low MP & BP (usually exist as gas or liquid state at rtp)
- Insoluble in water
- Unable to conduct electricity in any state
- Poor conductors of heat
- Highly Volatile

## Low melting and boiling points

The molecules are held together by **weak intermolecular forces of attraction**.

Melting or boiling only requires the breaking of the weak intermolecular forces between molecules, and not breaking the covalent bonds within the molecule itself.

Hence, **little energy is needed to overcome the weak intermolecular forces**, resulting in low melting and boiling points.

## Solubility

Most simple molecular substances **are soluble in organic (non-polar) solvents**.

Simple molecular substances are **insoluble in water**.

## Electrical conductivity & Thermal conductivity

Simple molecular substances **are unable to conduct electricity** due to the absence of mobile charged carriers (electrons or ions).

They are also **poor conductors of heat**.

For more notes & learning materials, visit:  
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