Chemguide - questions

COMPLEX IONS - SHAPES

1. What shapes are the following ions? In each case, name the shape, and draw a diagram showing the shape. Make clear what sort of bonding is involved.

a) $[AlF_6]^{3-1}$

b) [CuCl₄]²⁻

- c) $[Cu(NH_3)_4(H_2O)_2]^{2+}$
- d) $[Co(NH_3)_6]^{2+}$
- 2. a) Cisplatin is an anticancer drug with the formula $Pt(NH_3)_2Cl_2$. Draw the structure for cisplatin and name its shape.

b) Cisplatin has a geometric isomer. Draw the structure of that as well and name its shape.

3. Octahedral complexes involving bidentate ligands such as 1,2-diaminoethane or ethanedioate (oxalate) ions have optical isomers. A simplified diagram of one such complex of a metal M (omitting the charge on the ion and concentrating on the important bits of the ligands - the lone pairs) looks like this:



- a) Redraw this structure, and then draw its optical isomer.
- b)Why do these structures have optical isomers?