Marks

A chelate is a ligand with more than one donor atom that can bond to the same metal ion.

Draw all possible isomers of $[CoCl_2(en)_2]$. en = ethylenediamine = $NH_2CH_2CH_2NH_2$

cis and trans geometric isomers are possible. The cis-isomer can exist as non-superimposable mirror images (enantiomers).

• Explain briefly why the $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$ cation has a K_a of 6×10^{-3} M, whilst the $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$ cation has a K_a of 4×10^{-9} M.

The Fe^{3+} ion has a higher charge and is smaller than the Fe^{2+} ion – it has a higher charge density. The higher charge density withdraws electron density from the oxygen and leading to a more polarised O–H bonds that are more easily broken.

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