

POLAR MOLECULES

POLAR MOLECULES

Recall: by subtracting electronegativities, the bond type can be determined.

1.8 and above	1.7 and below	
Ionic Bond	Covalent Bond	
	0.0 - 0.4	0.5 - 1.7
	Pure Covalent	Polar Covalent

Polar Covalent molecules still share electrons but not evenly. This results in electrons spending more time orbiting one atom verses the other; creating a slight pole or charge.

Ex: Consider the chemical bond between carbon and chlorine:



Since chlorine has a stronger hold on the electrons, a slightly negative charge is created around the chlorine (δ -), and because the electrons spend less time around the carbon, a slightly positive charge is created (δ ⁺).





POLAR MOLECULES

Ex: Consider the chemical bonds in a water molecule:



These slight charges, or poles, will have an effect on the chemical properties of the molecule (*Ex: Hydrogen Bonding*).

Hydrogen Bonding exists because neighbouring water molecules attract each other because of the slight charges that exist at the poles of the molecule. This hydrogen bonding gives compounds like water the ability to stick together (surface tension).



This "Stickyness" is what keeps the molecules in close proximity to one another (like a liquid) but not fixed (like in a solid). As such, polar molecules are often liquids at room temperature.



