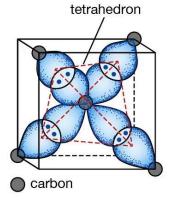
Chemical bonding in crystalline solids

ionic bond

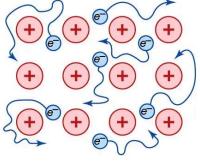
An idealized ionic (or electrovalent) bonding of oppositely charged ions.

covalent bond



Covalent bonds involve electron sharing, such as between these carbon atoms when they form a diamond.

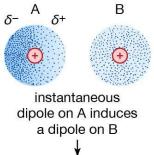
metallic bond

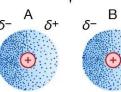


metallic structure, showing possible electron (e-) paths around the nuclei of metal atoms (represented as spheres with a positive charge)

Metallic bonding can be thought of as a cloud of positively charged ions immersed in a cloud of valence electrons.

van der Waals bond





weak dipole attraction of van der Waals bond

Neutral molecules may be held together by a weak electric force known as the van der Waals bond.

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