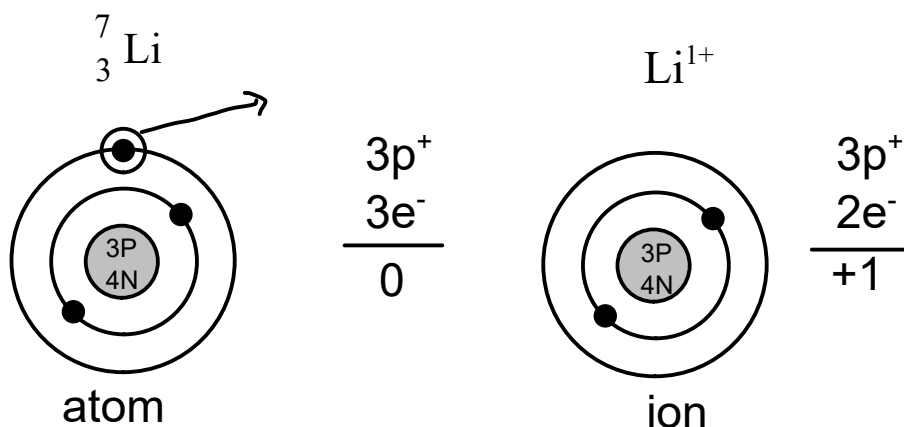


Ions

Atoms may lose or gain electrons to form ions in which the number of electrons is different from the number of protons. The numerical value of the electric charge of an ion with a plus (+) or minus (-) sign is called ionic charge.

Metals tend to lose electrons to produce cations (positive ions).

Happy Cation⁺



Nonmetals tend to gain electrons to produce anions (negative ions).

Angry Anion⁻

