Consider the molecule CH₂Cl₂.

- (a) Is CH₂Cl₂ a polar or nonpolar molecule?
- (b) Draw the Lewis structure.
- (c) What is the shape and hybridization of the C atom in CH₂Cl₂?
- (a) Polar because the bond dipoles do not cancel out completely.
- (b) Lewis structure:









(c) Because the carbon has a steric number SN = 4 and no lone pairs the geometry is tetrahedral. The hybridization of the carbon atom is sp^3 .