

any energy state, the wave function corresponding to that energy state contains all information about the electron. The wave function is a mathematical function whose value depends upon the coordinates of the electron in the atom and does not carry any physical meaning. Such wave functions of hydrogen or hydrogen like species with one electron are called **atomic orbitals**. Such wave functions pertaining to one-electron species are called one-electron systems. The probability of finding an electron at a point within an atom is proportional to the $|\psi|^2$ at that point. The quantum mechanical results of the hydrogen atom successfully predict all aspects of the hydrogen atom spectrum including some phenomena that could not be explained by the Bohr model.

Application of Schrödinger equation to multi-electron atoms presents a difficulty: the Schrödinger equation cannot be solved exactly for a multi-electron atom. This difficulty can be overcome by using approximate methods. Such calculations with the aid of modern computers show that orbitals in atoms other than hydrogen do not differ in any radical way from the hydrogen orbitals discussed above. The principal difference lies in the consequence of increased nuclear charge. Because of this all the orbitals are somewhat contracted. Further, as you shall see later (in subsections 2.6.3 and 2.6.4), unlike orbitals of hydrogen or hydrogen like species, whose energies depend only on the quantum number n , the energies of the orbitals in multi-electron atoms depend on quantum numbers n and l .

Important Features of the Quantum Mechanical Model of Atom

Quantum mechanical model of atom is the picture of the structure of the atom, which emerges from the application of the Schrödinger equation to atoms. The following are the important features of the quantum-mechanical model of atom:

1. The energy of electrons in atoms is quantized (i.e., can only have certain specific values), for example when electrons are bound to the nucleus in atoms.
2. The existence of quantized electronic energy levels is a direct result of the wave like properties of electrons and are allowed solutions of Schrödinger wave equation.
3. Both the exact position and exact velocity of an electron in an atom cannot be determined simultaneously (Heisenberg uncertainty principle). The path of an electron in an atom therefore, can never be determined or known accurately. That is why, as you shall see later on, one talks of only probability of finding the electron at different points in an atom.
4. **An atomic orbital is the wave function ψ for an electron in an atom.** Whenever an electron is described by a wave function, we say that the electron occupies that orbital. Since many such wave functions are possible for an electron, there are many atomic orbitals in an atom. These "one electron orbital wave functions" or orbitals form the basis of the electronic structure of atoms. In each orbital, the electron has a definite energy. An orbital cannot contain more than two electrons. In a multi-electron atom, the electrons are filled in various orbitals in the order of increasing energy. For each electron of a multi-electron atom, there shall, therefore, be an orbital wave function characteristic of the orbital it occupies. All the information about the electron in an atom is stored in its orbital wave function ψ and quantum mechanics makes it possible to extract this information out of ψ .
5. The probability of finding an electron at a point within an atom is proportional to the square of the orbital wave function i.e., $|\psi|^2$ at that point. $|\psi|^2$ is known as **probability density** and is always positive. **From the value of $|\psi|^2$ at different points within an atom, it is possible to predict the region around the nucleus where electron will most probably be found.**

2.6.1 Orbitals and Quantum Numbers

A large number of orbitals are possible in an atom. Qualitatively these orbitals can be

distinguished by their size, shape and orientation. An orbital of smaller size means there is more chance of finding the electron near the nucleus. Similarly shape and orientation mean that there is more probability of finding the electron along certain directions than along others. Atomic orbitals are precisely distinguished by what are known as quantum numbers. Each orbital is designated by three quantum numbers labelled as n , l and m_l .

The principal quantum number 'n' is a positive integer with value of $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. The principal quantum number determines the *size and to large extent the energy of the orbital*. For hydrogen atom and hydrogen like species (He^+ , Li^{2+} , etc.) energy and size of the orbital depends only on 'n'.

The principal quantum number also identifies the **shell**. With the increase in the value of 'n', the number of allowed orbital increases and **are given by 'n²'**. **All the orbitals of a given value of 'n' constitute a single shell of atom** and are represented by the following letters

$n = 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ \dots\dots\dots$

Shell = K L M N $\dots\dots\dots$

Size of an orbital increases with increase of principal quantum number 'n'. In other words the electron will be located away from the nucleus. Since energy is required in shifting away the negatively charged electron from the positively charged nucleus, the energy of the orbital will increase with increase of n .

Azimuthal quantum number. 'l' is also known as **orbital angular momentum or subsidiary quantum number**. It defines the three-dimensional shape of the orbital. For a given value of n , l can have n values ranging from 0 to $n - 1$, that is, for a given value of n , the possible value of l are : $l = 0, 1, 2, \dots\dots\dots (n-1)$

For example, when $n = 1$, value of l is only 0. For $n = 2$, the possible value of l can be 0 and 1. For $n = 3$, the possible l values are 0, 1 and 2.

Each shell consists of one or more **sub-shells or sub-levels**. The number of sub-shells in a principal shell is equal to the value of n .

For example in the first shell ($n = 1$), there is only one sub-shell which corresponds to $l = 0$. There are two sub-shells ($l = 0, 1$) in the second shell ($n = 2$), three ($l = 0, 1, 2$) in third shell ($n = 3$) and so on. Each sub-shell is assigned an azimuthal quantum number (l). Sub-shells corresponding to different values of l are represented by the following symbols.

Value for l : 0 1 2 3 4 5 $\dots\dots\dots$
notation for s p d f g h $\dots\dots\dots$
sub-shell

Table 2.4 shows the permissible values of 'l' for a given principal quantum number and the corresponding sub-shell notation.

Table 2.4 Subshell Notations

n	l	Subshell notation
1	0	1s
2	0	2s
2	1	2p
3	0	3s
3	1	3p
3	2	3d
4	0	4s
4	1	4p
4	2	4d
4	3	4f

Magnetic orbital quantum number. 'm_l' gives information about **the spatial orientation of the orbital with respect to standard set of co-ordinate axis**. For any **sub-shell (defined by 'l' value)** $2l+1$ values of m_l are possible and these values are given by :

$m_l = -l, -(l-1), -(l-2) \dots 0, 1 \dots (l-2), (l-1), l$

Thus for $l = 0$, the only permitted value of $m_l = 0$, [$2(0)+1 = 1$, one s orbital]. For $l = 1$, m_l can be $-1, 0$ and $+1$ [$2(1)+1 = 3$, three p orbitals]. For $l = 2$, $m_l = -2, -1, 0, +1$ and $+2$, [$2(2)+1 = 5$, five d orbitals]. It should be noted

that the values of m_l are derived from l and that the value of l are derived from n .

Each orbital in an atom, therefore, is defined by a set of values for n , l and m_l . An orbital described by the quantum numbers $n = 2$, $l = 1$, $m_l = 0$ is an orbital in the p sub-shell of the second shell. The following chart gives the relation between the subshell and the number of orbitals associated with it.

Value of l	0	1	2	3	4	5
Subshell notation	<i>s</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>
number of orbitals	1	3	5	7	9	11

Electron spin 's' : The three quantum numbers labelling an atomic orbital can be used equally well to define its energy, shape and orientation. But all these quantum numbers are not enough to explain the line spectra observed in the case of multi-electron atoms, that is, some of the lines actually occur in doublets (two lines closely spaced), triplets (three lines, closely spaced) etc. This suggests the presence of a few more energy levels than predicted by the three quantum numbers.

In 1925, George Uhlenbeck and Samuel Goudsmit proposed the presence of the fourth quantum number known as the **electron spin quantum number (m_s)**. An electron spins around its own axis, much in a similar way as earth spins around its own axis while revolving around the sun. In other words, an

electron has, besides charge and mass, intrinsic spin angular quantum number. Spin angular momentum of the electron — a vector quantity, can have two orientations relative to the chosen axis. These two orientations are distinguished by the spin quantum numbers m_s which can take the values of $+\frac{1}{2}$ or $-\frac{1}{2}$. These are called the **two spin states of the electron** and are normally represented by two arrows, \uparrow (spin up) and \downarrow (spin down). Two electrons that have different m_s values (one $+\frac{1}{2}$ and the other $-\frac{1}{2}$) are said to have opposite spins. An orbital cannot hold more than two electrons and these two electrons should have opposite spins.

To sum up, the four quantum numbers provide the following information :

- n defines the shell, determines the size of the orbital and also to a large extent the energy of the orbital.
- There are n subshells in the n^{th} shell. l identifies the subshell and determines the shape of the orbital (see section 2.6.2). There are $(2l+1)$ orbitals of each type in a subshell, that is, one s orbital ($l = 0$), three p orbitals ($l = 1$) and five d orbitals ($l = 2$) per subshell. To some extent l also determines the energy of the orbital in a multi-electron atom.
- m_l designates the orientation of the orbital. For a given value of l , m_l has $(2l+1)$ values,

Orbit, orbital and its importance

Orbit and orbital are not synonymous. An orbit, as proposed by Bohr, is a circular path around the nucleus in which an electron moves. A precise description of this path of the electron is impossible according to Heisenberg uncertainty principle. Bohr orbits, therefore, have no real meaning and their existence can never be demonstrated experimentally. An atomic orbital, on the other hand, is a quantum mechanical concept and refers to the one electron wave function ψ in an atom. It is characterized by three quantum numbers (n , l and m_l) and its value depends upon the coordinates of the electron. ψ has, by itself, no physical meaning. It is the square of the wave function i.e., $|\psi|^2$ which has a physical meaning. $|\psi|^2$ at any point in an atom gives the value of probability density at that point. Probability density ($|\psi|^2$) is the probability per unit volume and the product of $|\psi|^2$ and a small volume (called a volume element) yields the probability of finding the electron in that volume (the reason for specifying a small volume element is that $|\psi|^2$ varies from one region to another in space but its value can be assumed to be constant within a small volume element). The total probability of finding the electron in a given volume can then be calculated by the sum of all the products of $|\psi|^2$ and the corresponding volume elements. It is thus possible to get the probable distribution of an electron in an orbital.

the same as the number of orbitals per subshell. It means that the number of orbitals is equal to the number of ways in which they are oriented.

- iv) m_s refers to orientation of the spin of the electron.

Problem 2.17

What is the total number of orbitals associated with the principal quantum number $n = 3$?

Solution

For $n = 3$, the possible values of l are 0, 1 and 2. Thus there is one 3s orbital ($n = 3, l = 0$ and $m_l = 0$); there are three 3p orbitals ($n = 3, l = 1$ and $m_l = -1, 0, +1$); there are five 3d orbitals ($n = 3, l = 2$ and $m_l = -2, -1, 0, +1, +2$).

Therefore, the total number of orbitals is $1+3+5 = 9$

The same value can also be obtained by using the relation; number of orbitals $= n^2$, i.e. $3^2 = 9$.

Problem 2.18

Using s, p, d, f notations, describe the orbital with the following quantum numbers

- (a) $n = 2, l = 1$, (b) $n = 4, l = 0$, (c) $n = 5, l = 3$, (d) $n = 3, l = 2$

Solution

	n	l	orbital
a)	2	1	2p
b)	4	0	4s
c)	5	3	5f
d)	3	2	3d

2.6.2 Shapes of Atomic Orbitals

The orbital wave function or ψ for an electron in an atom has no physical meaning. It is simply a mathematical function of the coordinates of the electron. However, for different orbitals the plots of corresponding wave functions as a function of r (the distance from the nucleus) are different. Fig. 2.12(a), gives such plots for 1s ($n = 1, l = 0$) and 2s ($n = 2, l = 0$) orbitals.

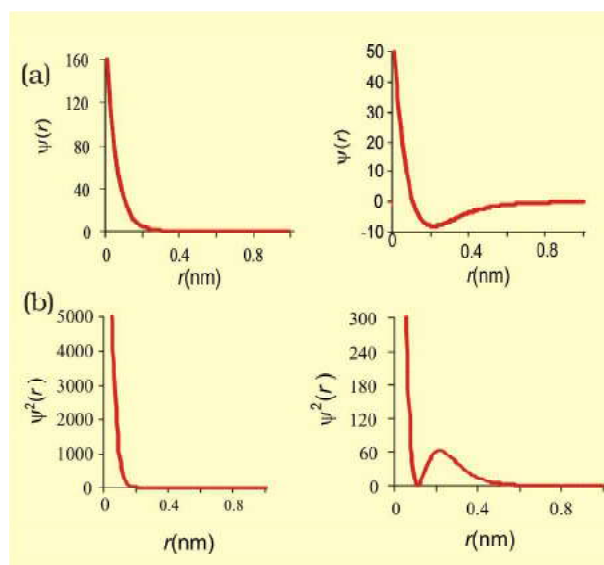


Fig. 2.12 The plots of (a) the orbital wave function $\psi(r)$; (b) the variation of probability density $\psi^2(r)$ as a function of distance r of the electron from the nucleus for 1s and 2s orbitals.

According to the German physicist, Max Born, the square of the wave function (i.e., ψ^2) at a point gives the probability density of the electron at that point. The variation of ψ^2 as a function of r for 1s and 2s orbitals is given in Fig. 2.12(b). Here again, you may note that the curves for 1s and 2s orbitals are different.

It may be noted that for 1s orbital the probability density is maximum at the nucleus and it decreases sharply as we move away from it. On the other hand, for 2s orbital the probability density first decreases sharply to zero and again starts increasing. After reaching a small maxima it decreases again and approaches zero as the value of r increases further. The region where this probability density function reduces to zero is called **nodal surfaces** or simply **nodes**. In general, it has been found that ns -orbital has $(n - 1)$ nodes, that is, number of nodes increases with increase of principal quantum number n . In other words, number of nodes for 2s orbital is one, two for 3s and so on.

These probability density variation can be visualised in terms of charge cloud diagrams [Fig. 2.13(a)]. In these diagrams, the density

of the dots in a region represents electron probability density in that region.

Boundary surface diagrams of constant probability density for different orbitals give a fairly good representation of the shapes of the orbitals. In this representation, a boundary surface or contour surface is drawn in space for an orbital on which the value of probability density $|\psi|^2$ is constant. In principle many such boundary surfaces may be possible. However, for a given orbital, only that boundary surface diagram of constant probability density* is taken to be good representation of the shape of the orbital which encloses a region or volume in which the probability of finding the electron is very high, say, 90%. The boundary surface diagram for 1s and 2s orbitals are given in Fig. 2.13(b). One may ask a question : Why do we not draw a boundary surface diagram, which bounds a region in which the probability of finding the electron is, 100 %? The answer to this question is that the probability density $|\psi|^2$ has always some value, however small it may be, at any finite distance from the nucleus. It is therefore, not possible to draw a boundary surface diagram of a rigid size in which the probability of finding the electron is 100%. Boundary surface diagram for a s orbital is actually a sphere centred on the nucleus. In two dimensions, this sphere looks like a circle. It encloses a region in which probability of finding the electron is about 90%.

Thus, we see that 1s and 2s orbitals are spherical in shape. In reality all the s-orbitals are spherically symmetric, that is, the probability of finding the electron at a given distance is equal in all the directions. It is also observed that the size of the s orbital increases with increase in n , that is, $4s > 3s > 2s > 1s$ and the electron is located further away from the nucleus as the principal quantum number increases.

Boundary surface diagrams for three 2p orbitals ($l = 1$) are shown in Fig. 2.14. In these diagrams, the nucleus is at the origin. Here, unlike s-orbitals, the boundary surface

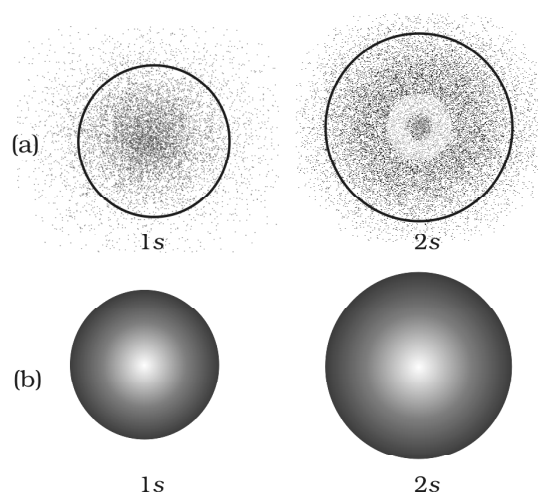


Fig. 2.13 (a) Probability density plots of 1s and 2s atomic orbitals. The density of the dots represents the probability density of finding the electron in that region. (b) Boundary surface diagram for 1s and 2s orbitals.

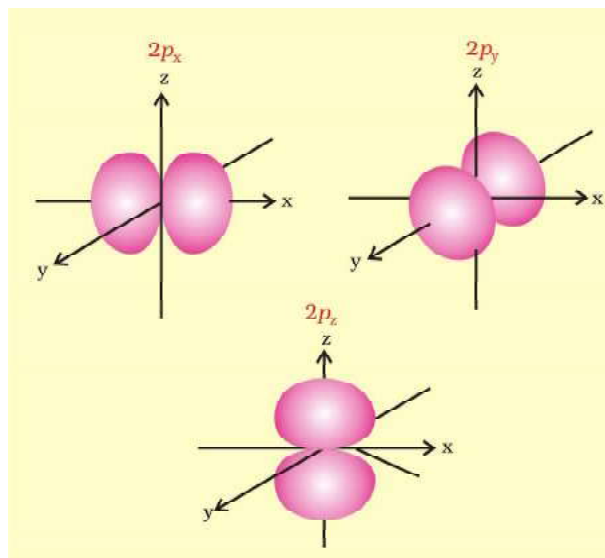


Fig. 2.14 Boundary surface diagrams of the three 2p orbitals.

diagrams are not spherical. Instead each p orbital consists of two sections called lobes that are on either side of the plane that passes through the nucleus. The probability density function is zero on the plane where the two lobes touch each other. The size, shape and

* If probability density $|\psi|^2$ is constant on a given surface, $|\psi|$ is also constant over the surface. The boundary surface for $|\psi|^2$ and $|\psi|$ are identical.

energy of the three orbitals are identical. They differ however, in the way the lobes are oriented. Since the lobes may be considered to lie along the x , y or z axis, they are given the designations $2p_x$, $2p_y$, and $2p_z$. It should be understood, however, that *there is no simple relation between the values of m_l (-1 , 0 and $+1$) and the x , y and z directions*. For our purpose, it is sufficient to remember that, because there are three possible values of m_l ,

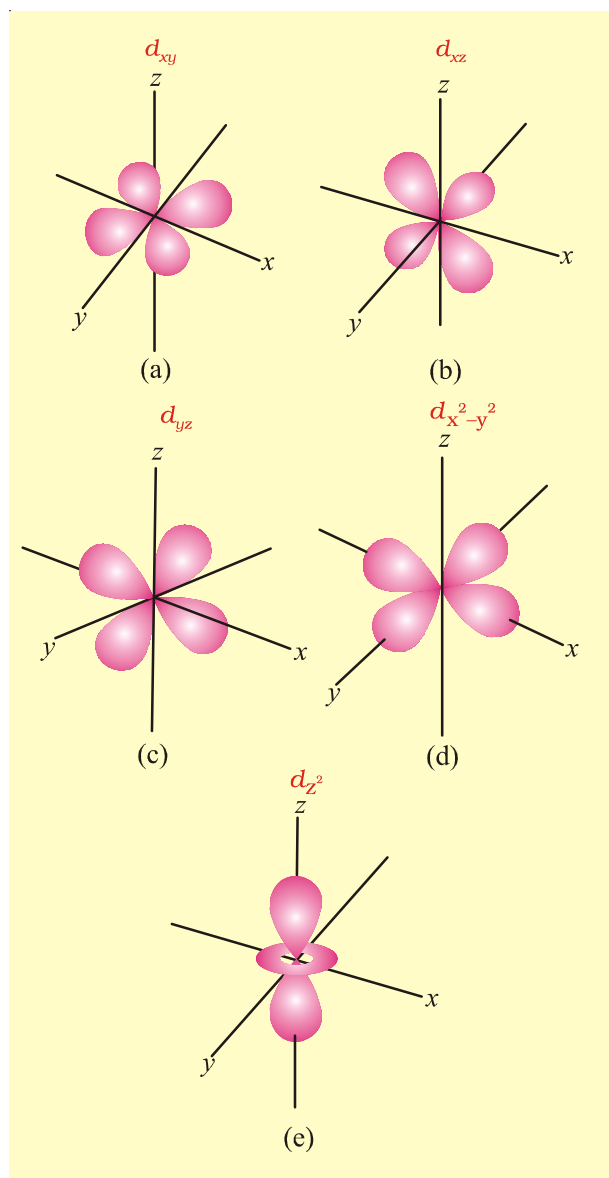


Fig. 2.15 Boundary surface diagrams of the five $3d$ orbitals.

there are, therefore, three p orbitals whose axes are mutually perpendicular. Like s orbitals, p orbitals increase in size and energy with increase in the principal quantum number and hence the order of the energy and size of various p orbitals is $4p > 3p > 2p$. Further, like s orbitals, the probability density functions for p -orbital also pass through value zero, besides at zero and infinite distance, as the distance from the nucleus increases. The number of nodes are given by the $n-2$, that is number of radial node is 1 for $3p$ orbital, two for $4p$ orbital and so on.

For $l = 2$, the orbital is known as d -orbital and the minimum value of principal quantum number (n) has to be 3. as the value of l cannot be greater than $n-1$. There are five m_l values (-2 , -1 , 0 , $+1$ and $+2$) for $l = 2$ and thus there are five d orbitals. The boundary surface diagram of d orbitals are shown in Fig. 2.15.

The five d -orbitals are designated as d_{xy} , d_{yz} , d_{xz} , $d_{x^2-y^2}$ and d_{z^2} . The shapes of the first four d -orbitals are similar to each other, where as that of the fifth one, d_{z^2} , is different from others, but all five $3d$ orbitals are equivalent in energy. The d orbitals for which n is greater than 3 ($4d$, $5d$...) also have shapes similar to $3d$ orbital, but differ in energy and size.

Besides the radial nodes (i.e., probability density function is zero), the probability density functions for the np and nd orbitals are zero at the plane (s), passing through the nucleus (origin). For example, in case of p_z orbital, xy -plane is a nodal plane, in case of d_{xy} orbital, there are two nodal planes passing through the origin and bisecting the xy plane containing z -axis. These are called angular nodes and number of angular nodes are given by ' l ', i.e., one angular node for p orbitals, two angular nodes for ' d ' orbitals and so on. **The total number of nodes are given by $(n-1)$, i.e., sum of l angular nodes and $(n-l-1)$ radial nodes.**

2.6.3 Energies of Orbitals

The energy of an electron in a hydrogen atom is determined solely by the principal quantum

number. Thus the energy of the orbitals in hydrogen atom increases as follows :

$$1s < 2s = 2p < 3s = 3p = 3d < 4s = 4p = 4d = 4f < \dots \quad (2.23)$$

and is depicted in Fig. 2.16. Although the shapes of $2s$ and $2p$ orbitals are different, an electron has the same energy when it is in the $2s$ orbital as when it is present in $2p$ orbital. The orbitals having the same energy are called **degenerate**. The $1s$ orbital in a hydrogen atom, as said earlier, corresponds to the most stable condition and is called the **ground state** and an electron residing in this orbital is most strongly held by the nucleus. An electron in the $2s$, $2p$ or higher orbitals in a hydrogen atom is in **excited state**.

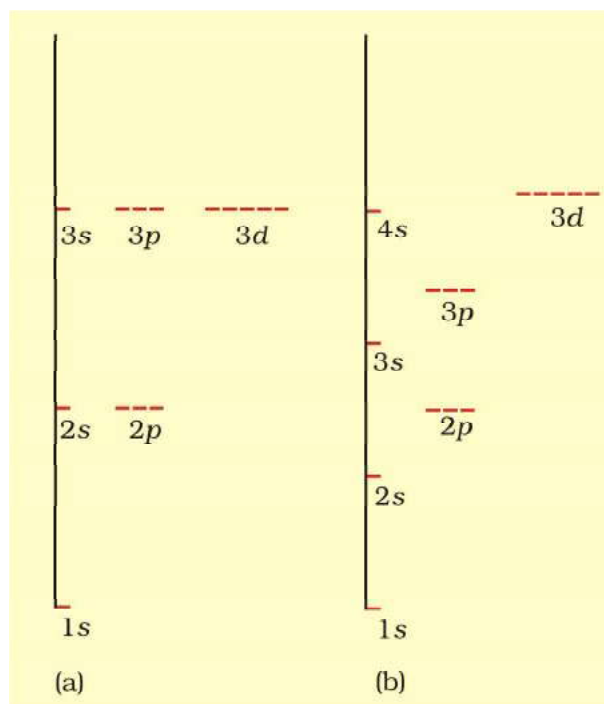


Fig. 2.16 Energy level diagrams for the few electronic shells of (a) hydrogen atom and (b) multi-electronic atoms. Note that orbitals for the same value of principal quantum number, have the same energies even for different azimuthal quantum number for hydrogen atom. In case of multi-electron atoms, orbitals with same principal quantum number possess different energies for different azimuthal quantum numbers.

The energy of an electron in a multi-electron atom, unlike that of the hydrogen atom, depends not only on its principal quantum number (shell), but also on its azimuthal quantum number (subshell). That is, for a given principal quantum number, $s, p, d, f \dots$ all have different energies. Within a given principal quantum number, the energy of orbitals increases in the order $s < p < d < f$. For higher energy levels, these differences are sufficiently pronounced and straggling of orbital energy may result, e.g., $4s < 3d$ and $6s < 5d$ and $4f < 6p$. The main reason for having different energies of the subshells is the mutual repulsion among the electrons in multi-electron atoms. The only electrical interaction present in hydrogen atom is the attraction between the negatively charged electron and the positively charged nucleus. In multi-electron atoms, besides the presence of attraction between the electron and nucleus, there are repulsion terms between every electron and other electrons present in the atom. Thus the stability of an electron in a multi-electron atom is because total attractive interactions are more than the repulsive interactions. In general, the repulsive interaction of the electrons in the outer shell with the electrons in the inner shell are more important. On the other hand, the attractive interactions of an electron increases with increase of positive charge (Ze) on the nucleus. Due to the presence of electrons in the inner shells, the electron in the outer shell will not experience the full positive charge of the nucleus (Ze). The effect will be lowered due to the partial screening of positive charge on the nucleus by the inner shell electrons. This is known as the **shielding of the outer shell electrons from the nucleus by the inner shell electrons**, and the net positive charge experienced by the outer electrons is known as **effective nuclear charge** ($Z_{\text{eff}} e$). Despite the shielding of the outer electrons from the nucleus by the inner shell electrons, the attractive force experienced by the outer shell electrons increases with increase of nuclear charge. In other words, the energy of interaction between, the nucleus and electron

(that is orbital energy) decreases (that is more negative) with the increase of atomic number (Z).

Both the attractive and repulsive interactions depend upon the shell and shape of the orbital in which the electron is present. For example electrons present in spherical shaped, s orbital shields the outer electrons from the nucleus more effectively as compared to electrons present in p orbital. Similarly electrons present in p orbitals shield the outer electrons from the nucleus more than the electrons present in d orbitals, even though all these orbitals are present in the same shell. Further within a shell, due to spherical shape of s orbital, the s orbital electron spends more time close to the nucleus in comparison to p orbital electron which spends more time in the vicinity of nucleus in comparison to d orbital electron. In other words, for a given shell (principal quantum number), the Z_{eff} experienced by the electron decreases with increase of azimuthal quantum number (l), that is, the *s orbital electron will be more tightly bound to the nucleus than p orbital electron which in turn will be better tightly bound than the d orbital electron.* The energy of electrons in s orbital will be lower (more negative) than that of p orbital electron which will have less energy than that of d orbital electron and so on. Since the extent of shielding from the nucleus is different for electrons in different orbitals, it leads to the splitting of energy levels within the same shell (or same principal quantum number), that is, energy of electron in an orbital, as mentioned earlier, depends upon the values of n and l . Mathematically, the dependence of energies of the orbitals on n and l are quite complicated but one simple rule is that, **the lower the value of $(n + l)$ for an orbital, the lower is its energy. If two orbitals have the same value of $(n + l)$, the orbital with lower value of n will have the lower energy.** The Table 2.5 illustrates the $(n + l)$ rule and Fig. 2.16 depicts the energy levels of multi-electrons atoms. It may be noted that different subshells of a particular shell have different energies in case of multi-electrons atoms. However, in hydrogen atom, these have

Table 2.5 Arrangement of Orbitals with Increasing Energy on the Basis of $(n+l)$ Rule

Orbital	Value of n	Value of l	Value of $(n + l)$	
1s	1	0	$1 + 0 = 1$	
2s	2	0	$2 + 0 = 2$	
2p	2	1	$2 + 1 = 3$	$2p$ ($n=2$) has lower energy than
3s	3	0	$3 + 0 = 3$	$3s$ ($n=3$)
3p	3	1	$3 + 1 = 4$	$3p$ ($n=3$) has lower energy than
4s	4	0	$4 + 0 = 4$	$4s$ ($n=4$)
3d	3	2	$3 + 2 = 5$	$3d$ ($n=3$) has lower energy than
4p	4	1	$4 + 1 = 5$	$4p$ ($n=4$)

the same energy. Lastly it may be mentioned here that **energies of the orbitals in the same subshell decrease with increase in the atomic number (Z_{eff})**. For example, energy of $2s$ orbital of hydrogen atom is greater than that of $2s$ orbital of lithium and that of lithium is greater than that of sodium and so on, that is, $E_{2s}(\text{H}) > E_{2s}(\text{Li}) > E_{2s}(\text{Na}) > E_{2s}(\text{K})$.

2.6.4 Filling of Orbitals in Atom

The filling of electrons into the orbitals of different atoms takes place according to the *aufbau* principle which is based on the Pauli's exclusion principle, the Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity and the relative energies of the orbitals.

Aufbau Principle

The word '*aufbau*' in German means 'building up'. The building up of orbitals means the

filling up of orbitals with electrons. The principle states : **In the ground state of the atoms, the orbitals are filled in order of their increasing energies.** In other words, electrons first occupy the lowest energy orbital available to them and enter into higher energy orbitals only after the lower energy orbitals are filled. As you have learnt above, energy of a given orbital depends upon effective nuclear charge and different type of orbitals are affected to different extent. Thus, there is no single ordering of energies of orbitals which will be universally correct for all atoms.

However, following order of energies of the orbitals is extremely useful:

1s, 2s, 2p, 3s, 3p, 4s, 3d, 4p, 5s, 4d, 5p, 4f, 5d, 6p, 7s...

The order may be remembered by using the method given in Fig. 2.17. Starting from

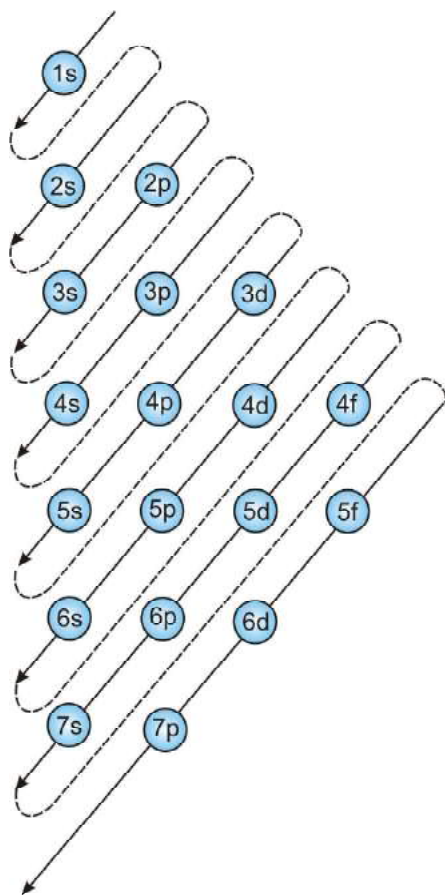


Fig.2.17 Order of filling of orbitals

the top, the direction of the arrows gives the order of filling of orbitals, that is starting from right top to bottom left. With respect to placement of outermost valence electrons, it is remarkably accurate for all atoms. For example, valence electron in potassium must choose between 3d and 4s orbitals and as predicted by this sequence, it is found in 4s orbital. The above order should be assumed to be a rough guide to the filling of energy levels. In many cases, the orbitals are similar in energy and small changes in atomic structure may bring about a change in the order of filling. Even then, the above series is a useful guide to the building of the electronic structure of an atom provided that it is remembered that exceptions may occur.

Pauli Exclusion Principle

The number of electrons to be filled in various orbitals is restricted by the exclusion principle, given by the Austrian scientist Wolfgang Pauli (1926). According to this principle : **No two electrons in an atom can have the same set of four quantum numbers.** Pauli exclusion principle can also be stated as : **"Only two electrons may exist in the same orbital and these electrons must have opposite spin."** This means that the two electrons can have the same value of three quantum numbers n , l and m_l , but must have the opposite spin quantum number. The restriction imposed by Pauli's exclusion principle on the number of electrons in an orbital helps in calculating the capacity of electrons to be present in any subshell. For example, subshell 1s comprises one orbital and thus the maximum number of electrons present in 1s subshell can be two, in p and d subshells, the maximum number of electrons can be 6 and 10 and so on. This can be summed up as : **the maximum number of electrons in the shell with principal quantum number n is equal to $2n^2$.**

Hund's Rule of Maximum Multiplicity

This rule deals with the filling of electrons into the orbitals belonging to the same subshell (that is, orbitals of equal energy, called

degenerate orbitals). It states : **pairing of electrons in the orbitals belonging to the same subshell (*p*, *d* or *f*) does not take place until each orbital belonging to that subshell has got one electron each i.e., it is singly occupied.**

Since there are three *p*, five *d* and seven *f* orbitals, therefore, the pairing of electrons will start in the *p*, *d* and *f* orbitals with the entry of 4th, 6th and 8th electron, respectively. It has been observed that half filled and fully filled degenerate set of orbitals acquire extra stability due to their symmetry (see Section, 2.6.7).

2.6.5 Electronic Configuration of Atoms

The distribution of electrons into orbitals of an atom is called its **electronic configuration**. If one keeps in mind the basic rules which govern the filling of different atomic orbitals, the electronic configurations of different atoms can be written very easily.

The electronic configuration of different atoms can be represented in two ways. For example :

(i) $s^a p^b d^c \dots$ notation

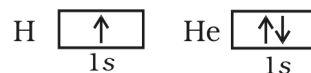
(ii) Orbital diagram



In the first notation, the subshell is represented by the respective letter symbol and the number of electrons present in the subshell is depicted, as the super script, like *a*, *b*, *c*, ... etc. The similar subshell represented for different shells is differentiated by writing the principal quantum number before the respective subshell. In the second notation each orbital of the subshell is represented by a box and the electron is represented by an arrow (\uparrow) a positive spin or an arrow (\downarrow) a negative spin. The advantage of second notation over the first is that it represents all the four quantum numbers.

The hydrogen atom has only one electron which goes in the orbital with the lowest energy, namely 1*s*. The electronic configuration of the hydrogen atom is 1*s*¹ meaning that it has one electron in the 1*s* orbital. The second electron in helium (He) can

also occupy the 1*s* orbital. Its configuration is, therefore, 1*s*². As mentioned above, the two electrons differ from each other with opposite spin, as can be seen from the orbital diagram.



The third electron of lithium (Li) is not allowed in the 1*s* orbital because of Pauli exclusion principle. It, therefore, takes the next available choice, namely the 2*s* orbital. The electronic configuration of Li is 1*s*²2*s*¹. The 2*s* orbital can accommodate one more electron. The configuration of beryllium (Be) atom is, therefore, 1*s*² 2*s*² (see Table 2.6, page 66 for the electronic configurations of elements).

In the next six elements—boron (B, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*¹), carbon (C, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*²), nitrogen (N, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*³), oxygen (O, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*⁴), fluorine (F, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*⁵) and neon (Ne, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*⁶), the 2*p* orbitals get progressively filled. This process is completed with the neon atom. The orbital picture of these elements can be represented as follows :

Li	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>
Be	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>
B	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>
C	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></div>
N	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>
O	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>
F	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">\uparrow</div>
Ne	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">$\uparrow\downarrow$</div>
	1 <i>s</i>	2 <i>s</i>	2 <i>p</i>		

The electronic configuration of the elements sodium (Na, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*⁶3*s*¹) to argon (Ar, 1*s*²2*s*²2*p*⁶3*s*²3*p*⁶), follow exactly the same pattern as the elements from lithium to neon with the difference that the 3*s* and 3*p* orbitals are getting filled now. This process can be simplified if we represent the total number of electrons in the first two shells by the name of element neon (Ne). The electronic configuration

of the elements from sodium to argon can be written as (Na, [Ne]3s¹) to (Ar, [Ne] 3s²3p⁶). The electrons in the completely filled shells are known as core electrons and the electrons that are added to the electronic shell with the highest principal quantum number are called **valence electrons**. For example, the electrons in Ne are the core electrons and the electrons from Na to Ar are the valence electrons. In potassium (K) and calcium (Ca), the 4s orbital, being lower in energy than the 3d orbitals, is occupied by one and two electrons respectively.

A new pattern is followed beginning with scandium (Sc). The 3d orbital, being lower in energy than the 4p orbital, is filled first. Consequently, in the next ten elements, scandium (Sc), titanium (Ti), vanadium (V), chromium (Cr), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), cobalt (Co), nickel (Ni), copper (Cu) and zinc (Zn), the five 3d orbitals are progressively occupied. We may be puzzled by the fact that chromium and copper have five and ten electrons in 3d orbitals rather than four and nine as their position would have indicated with two-electrons in the 4s orbital. The reason is that fully filled orbitals and half-filled orbitals have extra stability (that is, lower energy). Thus p³, p⁶, d⁵, d¹⁰, f⁷, f¹⁴ etc. configurations, which are either half-filled or fully filled, are more stable. Chromium and copper therefore adopt the d⁵ and d¹⁰ configuration (Section 2.6.7)[caution: exceptions do exist]

With the saturation of the 3d orbitals, the filling of the 4p orbital starts at gallium (Ga) and is complete at krypton (Kr). In the next eighteen elements from rubidium (Rb) to xenon (Xe), the pattern of filling the 5s, 4d and 5p orbitals are similar to that of 4s, 3d and 4p orbitals as discussed above. Then comes the turn of the 6s orbital. In caesium (Cs) and the barium (Ba), this orbital contains one and two electrons, respectively. Then from lanthanum (La) to mercury (Hg), the filling up of electrons takes place in 4f and 5d orbitals. After this,

filling of 6p, then 7s and finally 5f and 6d orbitals takes place. The elements after uranium (U) are all short-lived and all of them are produced artificially. The electronic configurations of the known elements (as determined by spectroscopic methods) are tabulated in Table 2.6 (page 66).

One may ask what is the utility of knowing the electron configuration? The modern approach to the chemistry, infact, depends almost entirely on electronic distribution to understand and explain chemical behaviour. For example, questions like why two or more atoms combine to form molecules, why some elements are metals while others are non-metals, why elements like helium and argon are not reactive but elements like the halogens are reactive, find simple explanation from the electronic configuration. These questions have no answer in the Daltonian model of atom. A detailed understanding of the electronic structure of atom is, therefore, very essential for getting an insight into the various aspects of modern chemical knowledge.

2.6.6 Stability of Completely Filled and Half Filled Subshells

The ground state electronic configuration of the atom of an element always corresponds to the state of the lowest total electronic energy. The electronic configurations of most of the atoms follow the basic rules given in Section 2.6.5. However, in certain elements such as Cu, or Cr, where the two subshells (4s and 3d) differ slightly in their energies, an electron shifts from a subshell of lower energy (4s) to a subshell of higher energy (3d), provided such a shift results in all orbitals of the subshell of higher energy getting either completely filled or half filled. The valence electronic configurations of Cr and Cu, therefore, are 3d⁵4s¹ and 3d¹⁰4s¹ respectively and not 3d⁴4s² and 3d⁹4s². It has been found that there is extra stability associated with these electronic configurations.

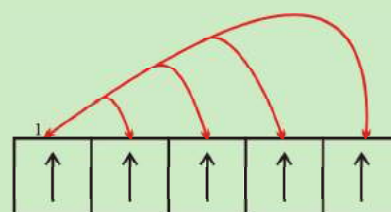
Causes of Stability of Completely Filled and Half-filled Subshells

The completely filled and completely half-filled subshells are stable due to the following reasons:

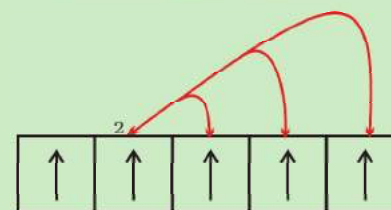
1. Symmetrical distribution of electrons: It is well known that symmetry leads to stability. The completely filled or half filled subshells have symmetrical distribution of electrons in them and are therefore more stable. Electrons in the same subshell (here $3d$) have equal energy but different spatial distribution. Consequently, their shielding of one-another is relatively small and the electrons are more strongly attracted by the nucleus.

2. Exchange Energy : The stabilizing effect arises whenever two or more electrons with the same spin are present in the degenerate orbitals of a subshell. These electrons tend to exchange their positions and the energy released due to this exchange is called exchange energy. The number of exchanges that can take place is maximum when the subshell is either half filled or completely filled (Fig. 2.18). As a result the exchange energy is maximum and so is the stability.

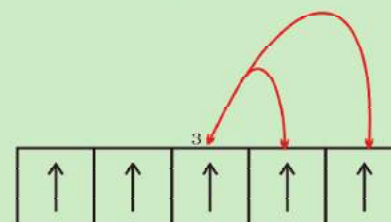
You may note that the exchange energy is at the basis of Hund's rule that electrons which enter orbitals of equal energy have parallel spins as far as possible. In other words, the extra stability of half-filled and completely filled subshell is due to: (i) relatively small shielding, (ii) smaller coulombic repulsion energy, and (iii) larger exchange energy. Details about the exchange energy will be dealt with in higher classes.



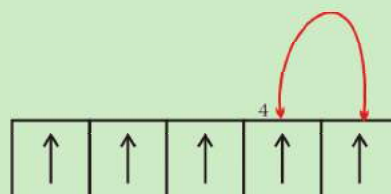
4 exchange by electron 1



3 exchange by electron 2



2 exchange by electron 3



1 exchange by electron 4

Fig. 2.18 Possible exchange for a d^5 configuration

Table 2.6 Electronic Configurations of the Elements

Element Z	1s	2s	2p	3s	3p	3d	4s	4p	4d	4f	5s	5p	5d	5f	6s	6p	6d	7s
H 1	1																	
He 2	2																	
Li 3	2	1																
Be 4	2	2																
B 5	2	2	1															
C 6	2	2	2															
N 7	2	2	3															
O 8	2	2	4															
F 9	2	2	5															
Ne 10	2	2	6															
Na 11	2	2	6	1														
Mg 12	2	2	6	2														
Al 13	2	2	6	2	1													
Si 14	2	2	6	2	2													
P 15	2	2	6	2	3													
S 16	2	2	6	2	4													
Cl 17	2	2	6	2	5													
Ar 18	2	2	6	2	6													
K 19	2	2	6	2	6		1											
Ca 20	2	2	6	2	6		2											
Sc 21	2	2	6	2	6	1	2											
Ti 22	2	2	6	2	6	2	2											
V 23	2	2	6	2	6	3	2											
Cr* 24	2	2	6	2	6	5	1											
Mn 25	2	2	6	2	6	5	2											
Fe 26	2	2	6	2	6	6	2											
Co 27	2	2	6	2	6	7	2											
Ni 28	2	2	6	2	6	8	2											
Cu* 29	2	2	6	2	6	10	1											
Zn 30	2	2	6	2	6	10	2											
Ga 31	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	1										
Ge 32	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	2										
As 33	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	3										
Se 34	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	4										
Br 35	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	5										
Kr 36	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6										
Rb 37	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6			1							
Sr 38	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6			2							
Y 39	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	1		2							
Zr 40	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	2		2							
Nb* 41	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	4		1							
Mo* 42	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	5		1							
Tc 43	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	5		2							
Ru* 44	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	7		1							
Rh* 45	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	8		1							
Pd* 46	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10									
Ag* 47	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		1							
Cd 48	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2							
In 49	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	1						
Sn 50	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	2						
Sb 51	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	3						
Te 52	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	4						
I 53	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	5						
Xe 54	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	6						

* Elements with exceptional electronic configurations

Element Z	1s	2s	2p	3s	3p	3d	4s	4p	4d	4f	5s	5p	5d	5f	6s	6p	6d	7s
Cs 55	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	6			1			
Ba 56	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	6			2			
La* 57	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10		2	6	1		2			
Ce* 58	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	2	2	6			2			
Pr 59	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	3	2	6			2			
Nd 60	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	4	2	6			2			
Pm 61	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	5	2	6			2			
Sm 62	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	6	2	6			2			
Eu 63	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	7	2	6			2			
Gd* 64	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	7	2	6	1		2			
Tb 65	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	9	2	6			2			
Dy 66	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	10	2	6			2			
Ho 67	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	11	2	6			2			
Er 68	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	12	2	6			2			
Tm 69	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	13	2	6			2			
Yb 70	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6			2			
Lu 71	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	1		2			
Hf 72	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	2		2			
Ta 73	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	3		2			
W 74	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	4		2			
Re 75	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	5		2			
Os 76	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	6		2			
Ir 77	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	7		2			
Pt* 78	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	9		1			
Au* 79	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		1			
Hg 80	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2			
Tl 81	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	1		
Pb 82	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	2		
Bi 83	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	3		
Po 84	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	4		
At 85	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	5		
Rn 86	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	6		
Fr 87	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	6		1
Ra 88	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	6		2
Ac 89	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	6	1	2
Th 90	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10		2	6	2	2
Pa 91	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	2	2	6	1	2
U 92	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	3	2	6	1	2
Np 93	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	4	2	6	1	2
Pu 94	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	6	2	6		2
Am 95	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	7	2	6		2
Cm 96	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	7	2	6	1	2
Bk 97	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	8	2	6	1	2
Cf 98	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	10	2	6		2
Es 99	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	11	2	6		2
Fm 100	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	12	2	6		2
Md 101	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	13	2	6		2
No 102	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6		2
Lr 103	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6	1	2
Rf 104	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	10	2	6	2	2
Db 105	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	11	2	6	3	2
Sg 106	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	12	2	6	4	2
Bh 107	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	13	2	6	5	2
Hs 108	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6	6	2
Mt 109	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6	7	2
Ds 110	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6	8	2
Rg** 111	2	2	6	2	6	10	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	14	2	6	10	1

** Elements with atomic number 112 and above have been reported but not yet fully authenticated and named.

SUMMARY

Atoms are the building blocks of elements. They are the smallest parts of an element that chemically react. The first atomic theory, proposed by John Dalton in 1808, regarded atom as the ultimate indivisible particle of matter. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, it was proved experimentally that atoms are divisible and consist of three fundamental particles: **electrons**, **protons** and **neutrons**. The discovery of sub-atomic particles led to the proposal of various atomic models to explain the structure of atom.

Thomson in 1898 proposed that an atom consists of uniform sphere of positive electricity with electrons embedded into it. This model in which mass of the atom is considered to be evenly spread over the atom was proved wrong by Rutherford's famous alpha-particle scattering experiment in 1909. Rutherford concluded that atom is made of a tiny positively charged **nucleus**, at its centre with electrons revolving around it in **circular orbits**.

Rutherford model, which resembles the solar system, was no doubt an improvement over **Thomson model** but it could not account for the stability of the atom i.e., why the electron does not fall into the nucleus. Further, it was also silent about the electronic structure of atoms i.e., about the distribution and relative energies of electrons around the nucleus. The difficulties of the Rutherford model were overcome by Niels Bohr in 1913 in his model of the hydrogen atom. Bohr postulated that electron moves around the nucleus in circular orbits. Only certain orbits can exist and each orbit corresponds to a specific energy. Bohr calculated the energy of electron in various orbits and for each orbit predicted the distance between the electron and nucleus. **Bohr model**, though offering a satisfactory model for explaining the spectra of the hydrogen atom, could not explain the spectra of multi-electron atoms. The reason for this was soon discovered. In Bohr model, an electron is regarded as a charged particle moving in a well defined circular orbit about the nucleus. The wave character of the electron is ignored in Bohr's theory. An orbit is a clearly defined path and this path can completely be defined only if both the exact position and the exact velocity of the electron at the same time are known. This is not possible according to the Heisenberg uncertainty principle. Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, therefore, not only ignores the dual behaviour of electron but also contradicts **Heisenberg uncertainty principle**.

Erwin Schrödinger, in 1926, proposed an equation called Schrödinger equation to describe the electron distributions in space and the allowed energy levels in atoms. This equation incorporates de Broglie's concept of **wave-particle duality** and is consistent with Heisenberg uncertainty principle. When Schrödinger equation is solved for the electron in a hydrogen atom, the solution gives the possible energy states the electron can occupy [and the corresponding wave function(s) (ψ) (which in fact are the mathematical functions) of the electron associated with each energy state]. These quantized energy states and corresponding wave functions which are characterized by a set of three quantum numbers (**principal quantum number n** , **azimuthal quantum number l** and **magnetic quantum number m**) arise as a natural consequence in the solution of the Schrödinger equation. The restrictions on the values of these three quantum numbers also come naturally from this solution. The quantum mechanical model of the hydrogen atom successfully predicts all aspects of the hydrogen atom spectrum including some phenomena that could not be explained by the Bohr model.

According to the quantum mechanical model of the atom, the electron distribution of an atom containing a number of electrons is divided into **shells**. The shells, in turn, are thought to consist of one or more **subshells** and subshells are assumed to be composed of one or more orbitals, which the electrons occupy. While for hydrogen and hydrogen like systems (such as He^+ , Li^{2+} etc.) all the orbitals within a given shell have same energy, the energy of the orbitals in a multi-electron atom depends upon the values of n and l . The lower the value of $(n + l)$ for an orbital, the lower is its energy. If two orbitals have the same $(n + l)$ value, the orbital with lower value of n has the lower energy. In an atom many such orbitals are possible and electrons are filled in those orbitals in order of increasing energy in

accordance with **Pauli exclusion principle** (no two electrons in an atom can have the same set of four quantum numbers) and **Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity** (pairing of electrons in the orbitals belonging to the same subshell does not take place until each orbital belonging to that subshell has got one electron each, i.e., is singly occupied). This forms the basis of the electronic structure of atoms.

EXERCISES

- 2.1 (i) Calculate the number of electrons which will together weigh one gram.
(ii) Calculate the mass and charge of one mole of electrons.
- 2.2 (i) Calculate the total number of electrons present in one mole of methane.
(ii) Find (a) the total number and (b) the total mass of neutrons in 7 mg of ^{14}C . (Assume that mass of a neutron = 1.675×10^{-27} kg).
(iii) Find (a) the total number and (b) the total mass of protons in 34 mg of NH_3 at STP.
Will the answer change if the temperature and pressure are changed ?
- 2.3 How many neutrons and protons are there in the following nuclei ?
 $^{13}_6\text{C}$, $^{16}_8\text{O}$, $^{24}_{12}\text{Mg}$, $^{56}_{26}\text{Fe}$, $^{88}_{38}\text{Sr}$
- 2.4 Write the complete symbol for the atom with the given atomic number (Z) and atomic mass (A)
(i) $Z = 17$, $A = 35$.
(ii) $Z = 92$, $A = 233$.
(iii) $Z = 4$, $A = 9$.
- 2.5 Yellow light emitted from a sodium lamp has a wavelength (λ) of 580 nm. Calculate the frequency (ν) and wavenumber ($\bar{\nu}$) of the yellow light.
- 2.6 Find energy of each of the photons which
(i) correspond to light of frequency 3×10^{15} Hz.
(ii) have wavelength of 0.50 Å.
- 2.7 Calculate the wavelength, frequency and wavenumber of a light wave whose period is 2.0×10^{-10} s.
- 2.8 What is the number of photons of light with a wavelength of 4000 pm that provide 1 J of energy?
- 2.9 A photon of wavelength 4×10^{-7} m strikes on metal surface, the work function of the metal being 2.13 eV. Calculate (i) the energy of the photon (eV), (ii) the kinetic energy of the emission, and (iii) the velocity of the photoelectron ($1 \text{ eV} = 1.6020 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$).
- 2.10 Electromagnetic radiation of wavelength 242 nm is just sufficient to ionise the sodium atom. Calculate the ionisation energy of sodium in kJ mol^{-1} .
- 2.11 A 25 watt bulb emits monochromatic yellow light of wavelength of 0.57 μm . Calculate the rate of emission of quanta per second.
- 2.12 Electrons are emitted with zero velocity from a metal surface when it is exposed to radiation of wavelength 6800 Å. Calculate threshold frequency (ν_0) and work function (W_0) of the metal.
- 2.13 What is the wavelength of light emitted when the electron in a hydrogen atom undergoes transition from an energy level with $n = 4$ to an energy level with $n = 2$?

- 2.14 How much energy is required to ionise a H atom if the electron occupies $n = 5$ orbit? Compare your answer with the ionization enthalpy of H atom (energy required to remove the electron from $n = 1$ orbit).
- 2.15 What is the maximum number of emission lines when the excited electron of a H atom in $n = 6$ drops to the ground state?
- 2.16 (i) The energy associated with the first orbit in the hydrogen atom is $-2.18 \times 10^{-18} \text{ J atom}^{-1}$. What is the energy associated with the fifth orbit?
(ii) Calculate the radius of Bohr's fifth orbit for hydrogen atom.
- 2.17 Calculate the wavenumber for the longest wavelength transition in the Balmer series of atomic hydrogen.
- 2.18 What is the energy in joules, required to shift the electron of the hydrogen atom from the first Bohr orbit to the fifth Bohr orbit and what is the wavelength of the light emitted when the electron returns to the ground state? The ground state electron energy is $-2.18 \times 10^{-11} \text{ ergs}$.
- 2.19 The electron energy in hydrogen atom is given by $E_n = (-2.18 \times 10^{-18})/n^2 \text{ J}$. Calculate the energy required to remove an electron completely from the $n = 2$ orbit. What is the longest wavelength of light in cm that can be used to cause this transition?
- 2.20 Calculate the wavelength of an electron moving with a velocity of $2.05 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$.
- 2.21 The mass of an electron is $9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$. If its K.E. is $3.0 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J}$, calculate its wavelength.
- 2.22 Which of the following are isoelectronic species i.e., those having the same number of electrons?
 $\text{Na}^+, \text{K}^+, \text{Mg}^{2+}, \text{Ca}^{2+}, \text{S}^{2-}, \text{Ar}$.
- 2.23 (i) Write the electronic configurations of the following ions: (a) H^- (b) Na^+ (c) O^{2-} (d) F^-
(ii) What are the atomic numbers of elements whose outermost electrons are represented by (a) $3s^1$ (b) $2p^3$ and (c) $3p^5$?
(iii) Which atoms are indicated by the following configurations?
(a) $[\text{He}] 2s^1$ (b) $[\text{Ne}] 3s^2 3p^3$ (c) $[\text{Ar}] 4s^2 3d^1$.
- 2.24 What is the lowest value of n that allows g orbitals to exist?
- 2.25 An electron is in one of the $3d$ orbitals. Give the possible values of n , l and m_l for this electron.
- 2.26 An atom of an element contains 29 electrons and 35 neutrons. Deduce (i) the number of protons and (ii) the electronic configuration of the element.
- 2.27 Give the number of electrons in the species H_2^+ , H_2 and O_2^+
- 2.28 (i) An atomic orbital has $n = 3$. What are the possible values of l and m_l ?
(ii) List the quantum numbers (m_l and l) of electrons for $3d$ orbital.
(iii) Which of the following orbitals are possible?
 $1p, 2s, 2p$ and $3f$
- 2.29 Using s, p, d notations, describe the orbital with the following quantum numbers.
(a) $n=1, l=0$; (b) $n = 3; l=1$ (c) $n = 4; l=2$; (d) $n=4; l=3$.
- 2.30 Explain, giving reasons, which of the following sets of quantum numbers are not possible.
- | | | | | |
|-----|----------|----------|------------|-----------------------|
| (a) | $n = 0,$ | $l = 0,$ | $m_l = 0,$ | $m_s = + \frac{1}{2}$ |
| (b) | $n = 1,$ | $l = 0,$ | $m_l = 0,$ | $m_s = - \frac{1}{2}$ |
| (c) | $n = 1,$ | $l = 1,$ | $m_l = 0,$ | $m_s = + \frac{1}{2}$ |
| (d) | $n = 2,$ | $l = 1,$ | $m_l = 0,$ | $m_s = - \frac{1}{2}$ |

- (e) $n = 3, \quad l = 3, \quad m_l = -3, \quad m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$
 (f) $n = 3, \quad l = 1, \quad m_l = 0, \quad m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$
- 2.31 How many electrons in an atom may have the following quantum numbers?
 (a) $n = 4, m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$ (b) $n = 3, l = 0$
- 2.32 Show that the circumference of the Bohr orbit for the hydrogen atom is an integral multiple of the de Broglie wavelength associated with the electron revolving around the orbit.
- 2.33 What transition in the hydrogen spectrum would have the same wavelength as the Balmer transition $n = 4$ to $n = 2$ of He^+ spectrum ?
- 2.34 Calculate the energy required for the process
 $\text{He}^+(g) \rightarrow \text{He}^{2+}(g) + e^-$
 The ionization energy for the H atom in the ground state is $2.18 \times 10^{-18} \text{ J atom}^{-1}$
- 2.35 If the diameter of a carbon atom is 0.15 nm, calculate the number of carbon atoms which can be placed side by side in a straight line across length of scale of length 20 cm long.
- 2.36 2×10^8 atoms of carbon are arranged side by side. Calculate the radius of carbon atom if the length of this arrangement is 2.4 cm.
- 2.37 The diameter of zinc atom is 2.6 Å. Calculate (a) radius of zinc atom in pm and (b) number of atoms present in a length of 1.6 cm if the zinc atoms are arranged side by side lengthwise.
- 2.38 A certain particle carries $2.5 \times 10^{-16} \text{ C}$ of static electric charge. Calculate the number of electrons present in it.
- 2.39 In Milikan's experiment, static electric charge on the oil drops has been obtained by shining X-rays. If the static electric charge on the oil drop is $-1.282 \times 10^{-18} \text{ C}$, calculate the number of electrons present on it.
- 2.40 In Rutherford's experiment, generally the thin foil of heavy atoms, like gold, platinum etc. have been used to be bombarded by the α -particles. If the thin foil of light atoms like aluminium etc. is used, what difference would be observed from the above results ?
- 2.41 Symbols ${}^{79}_{35}\text{Br}$ and ${}^{79}\text{Br}$ can be written, whereas symbols ${}^{35}_{79}\text{Br}$ and ${}^{35}\text{Br}$ are not acceptable. Answer briefly.
- 2.42 An element with mass number 81 contains 31.7% more neutrons as compared to protons. Assign the atomic symbol.
- 2.43 An ion with mass number 37 possesses one unit of negative charge. If the ion contains 11.1% more neutrons than the electrons, find the symbol of the ion.
- 2.44 An ion with mass number 56 contains 3 units of positive charge and 30.4% more neutrons than electrons. Assign the symbol to this ion.
- 2.45 Arrange the following type of radiations in increasing order of frequency: (a) radiation from microwave oven (b) amber light from traffic signal (c) radiation from FM radio (d) cosmic rays from outer space and (e) X-rays.
- 2.46 Nitrogen laser produces a radiation at a wavelength of 337.1 nm. If the number of photons emitted is 5.6×10^{24} , calculate the power of this laser.
- 2.47 Neon gas is generally used in the sign boards. If it emits strongly at 616 nm, calculate (a) the frequency of emission, (b) distance traveled by this radiation in 30 s (c) energy of quantum and (d) number of quanta present if it produces 2 J of energy.

- 2.48 In astronomical observations, signals observed from the distant stars are generally weak. If the photon detector receives a total of 3.15×10^{-18} J from the radiations of 600 nm, calculate the number of photons received by the detector.
- 2.49 Lifetimes of the molecules in the excited states are often measured by using pulsed radiation source of duration nearly in the nano second range. If the radiation source has the duration of 2 ns and the number of photons emitted during the pulse source is 2.5×10^{15} , calculate the energy of the source.
- 2.50 The longest wavelength doublet absorption transition is observed at 589 and 589.6 nm. Calculate the frequency of each transition and energy difference between two excited states.
- 2.51 The work function for caesium atom is 1.9 eV. Calculate (a) the threshold wavelength and (b) the threshold frequency of the radiation. If the caesium element is irradiated with a wavelength 500 nm, calculate the kinetic energy and the velocity of the ejected photoelectron.
- 2.52 Following results are observed when sodium metal is irradiated with different wavelengths. Calculate (a) threshold wavelength and, (b) Planck's constant.
- | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| λ (nm) | 500 | 450 | 400 |
| $\nu \times 10^{-5}$ (cm s ⁻¹) | 2.55 | 4.35 | 5.35 |
- 2.53 The ejection of the photoelectron from the silver metal in the photoelectric effect experiment can be stopped by applying the voltage of 0.35 V when the radiation 256.7 nm is used. Calculate the work function for silver metal.
- 2.54 If the photon of the wavelength 150 pm strikes an atom and one of its inner bound electrons is ejected out with a velocity of 1.5×10^7 m s⁻¹, calculate the energy with which it is bound to the nucleus.
- 2.55 Emission transitions in the Paschen series end at orbit $n = 3$ and start from orbit n and can be represented as $\nu = 3.29 \times 10^{15}$ (Hz) $[1/3^2 - 1/n^2]$. Calculate the value of n if the transition is observed at 1285 nm. Find the region of the spectrum.
- 2.56 Calculate the wavelength for the emission transition if it starts from the orbit having radius 1.3225 nm and ends at 211.6 pm. Name the series to which this transition belongs and the region of the spectrum.
- 2.57 Dual behaviour of matter proposed by de Broglie led to the discovery of electron microscope often used for the highly magnified images of biological molecules and other type of material. If the velocity of the electron in this microscope is 1.6×10^6 ms⁻¹, calculate de Broglie wavelength associated with this electron.
- 2.58 Similar to electron diffraction, neutron diffraction microscope is also used for the determination of the structure of molecules. If the wavelength used here is 800 pm, calculate the characteristic velocity associated with the neutron.
- 2.59 If the velocity of the electron in Bohr's first orbit is 2.19×10^6 ms⁻¹, calculate the de Broglie wavelength associated with it.
- 2.60 The velocity associated with a proton moving in a potential difference of 1000 V is 4.37×10^5 ms⁻¹. If the hockey ball of mass 0.1 kg is moving with this velocity, calculate the wavelength associated with this velocity.
- 2.61 If the position of the electron is measured within an accuracy of ± 0.002 nm, calculate the uncertainty in the momentum of the electron. Suppose the momentum of the electron is $h/4\pi m \times 0.05$ nm, is there any problem in defining this value.
- 2.62 The quantum numbers of six electrons are given below. Arrange them in order of increasing energies. If any of these combination(s) has/have the same energy lists:
1. $n = 4, l = 2, m_l = -2, m_s = -1/2$
 2. $n = 3, l = 2, m_l = 1, m_s = +1/2$

3. $n = 4, l = 1, m_l = 0, m_s = +1/2$
 4. $n = 3, l = 2, m_l = -2, m_s = -1/2$
 5. $n = 3, l = 1, m_l = -1, m_s = +1/2$
 6. $n = 4, l = 1, m_l = 0, m_s = +1/2$
- 2.63 The bromine atom possesses 35 electrons. It contains 6 electrons in $2p$ orbital, 6 electrons in $3p$ orbital and 5 electron in $4p$ orbital. Which of these electron experiences the lowest effective nuclear charge ?
- 2.64 Among the following pairs of orbitals which orbital will experience the larger effective nuclear charge? (i) $2s$ and $3s$, (ii) $4d$ and $4f$, (iii) $3d$ and $3p$.
- 2.65 The unpaired electrons in Al and Si are present in $3p$ orbital. Which electrons will experience more effective nuclear charge from the nucleus ?
- 2.66 Indicate the number of unpaired electrons in : (a) P, (b) Si, (c) Cr, (d) Fe and (e) Kr.
- 2.67 (a) How many subshells are associated with $n = 4$? (b) How many electrons will be present in the subshells having m_s value of $-1/2$ for $n = 4$?

CLASSIFICATION OF ELEMENTS AND PERIODICITY IN PROPERTIES

Objectives

After studying this Unit, you will be able to

- appreciate how the concept of grouping elements in accordance to their properties led to the development of Periodic Table;
- understand the Periodic Law;
- understand the significance of atomic number and electronic configuration as the basis for periodic classification;
- name the elements with $Z > 100$ according to IUPAC nomenclature;
- classify elements into *s*, *p*, *d*, *f* blocks and learn their main characteristics;
- recognise the periodic trends in physical and chemical properties of elements;
- compare the reactivity of elements and correlate it with their occurrence in nature;
- explain the relationship between ionization enthalpy and metallic character;
- use scientific vocabulary appropriately to communicate ideas related to certain important properties of atoms e.g., atomic/ionic radii, ionization enthalpy, electron gain enthalpy, electronegativity, valence of elements.

The Periodic Table is arguably the most important concept in chemistry, both in principle and in practice. It is the everyday support for students, it suggests new avenues of research to professionals, and it provides a succinct organization of the whole of chemistry. It is a remarkable demonstration of the fact that the chemical elements are not a random cluster of entities but instead display trends and lie together in families. An awareness of the Periodic Table is essential to anyone who wishes to disentangle the world and see how it is built up from the fundamental building blocks of the chemistry, the chemical elements.

Glenn T. Seaborg

In this Unit, we will study the historical development of the Periodic Table as it stands today and the Modern Periodic Law. We will also learn how the periodic classification follows as a logical consequence of the electronic configuration of atoms. Finally, we shall examine some of the periodic trends in the physical and chemical properties of the elements.

3.1 WHY DO WE NEED TO CLASSIFY ELEMENTS ?

We know by now that the elements are the basic units of all types of matter. In 1800, only 31 elements were known. By 1865, the number of identified elements had more than doubled to 63. At present 114 elements are known. Of them, the recently discovered elements are man-made. Efforts to synthesise new elements are continuing. With such a large number of elements it is very difficult to study individually the chemistry of all these elements and their innumerable compounds individually. To ease out this problem, scientists searched for a systematic way to organise their knowledge by classifying the elements. Not only that it would rationalize known chemical facts about elements, but even predict new ones for undertaking further study.

3.2 GENESIS OF PERIODIC CLASSIFICATION

Classification of elements into groups and development of Periodic Law and Periodic Table are the consequences of systematising the knowledge gained by a number of scientists through their observations and experiments. The German chemist, Johann Dobereiner in early 1800's was the first to consider the idea of trends among properties of elements. By 1829 he noted a similarity among the physical and chemical properties of several groups of three elements (**Triads**). In each case, he noticed that the middle element of each of the **Triads** had an atomic weight about half way between the atomic weights of the other two (Table 3.1). Also the properties of the middle element were in between those of the other

chemist, John Alexander Newlands in 1865 profounded the **Law of Octaves**. He arranged the elements in increasing order of their atomic weights and noted that every eighth element had properties similar to the first element (Table 3.2). The relationship was just like every eighth note that resembles the first in octaves of music. Newlands's Law of Octaves seemed to be true only for elements up to calcium. Although his idea was not widely accepted at that time, he, for his work, was later awarded Davy Medal in 1887 by the Royal Society, London.

The Periodic Law, as we know it today owes its development to the Russian chemist, Dmitri Mendeleev (1834-1907) and the German chemist, Lothar Meyer (1830-1895). Working independently, both the chemists in 1869

Table 3.1 Dobereiner's Triads

Element	Atomic weight	Element	Atomic weight	Element	Atomic weight
Li	7	Ca	40	Cl	35.5
Na	23	Sr	88	Br	80
K	39	Ba	137	I	127

two members. Since Dobereiner's relationship, referred to as the **Law of Triads**, seemed to work only for a few elements, it was dismissed as coincidence. The next reported attempt to classify elements was made by a French geologist, A.E.B. de Chancourtois in 1862. He arranged the then known elements in order of increasing atomic weights and made a cylindrical table of elements to display the periodic recurrence of properties. This also did not attract much attention. The English

proposed that on arranging elements in the increasing order of their atomic weights, similarities appear in physical and chemical properties at regular intervals. Lothar Meyer plotted the physical properties such as atomic volume, melting point and boiling point against atomic weight and obtained a periodically repeated pattern. Unlike Newlands, Lothar Meyer observed a change in length of that repeating pattern. By 1868, Lothar Meyer had developed a table of the

Table 3.2 Newlands' Octaves

Element	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
At. wt.	7	9	11	12	14	16	19
Element	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl
At. wt.	23	24	27	29	31	32	35.5
Element	K	Ca					
At. wt.	39	40					

elements that closely resembles the Modern Periodic Table. However, his work was not published until after the work of Dmitri Mendeleev, the scientist who is generally credited with the development of the Modern Periodic Table.

While Dobereiner initiated the study of periodic relationship, it was Mendeleev who was responsible for publishing the Periodic Law for the first time. It states as follows :

The properties of the elements are a periodic function of their atomic weights.

Mendeleev arranged elements in horizontal rows and vertical columns of a table in order of their increasing atomic weights in such a way that the elements with similar properties occupied the same vertical column or group. Mendeleev's system of classifying elements was more elaborate than that of Lothar Meyer's. He fully recognized the significance of periodicity and used broader range of physical and chemical properties to classify the elements. In particular, Mendeleev relied on the similarities in the empirical formulas and properties of the compounds formed by the elements. He realized that some of the elements did not fit in with his scheme of classification if the order of atomic weight was strictly followed. He ignored the order of atomic

weights, thinking that the atomic measurements might be incorrect, and placed the elements with similar properties together. For example, iodine with lower atomic weight than that of tellurium (Group VI) was placed in Group VII along with fluorine, chlorine, bromine because of similarities in properties (Fig. 3.1). At the same time, keeping his primary aim of arranging the elements of similar properties in the same group, he proposed that some of the elements were still undiscovered and, therefore, left several gaps in the table. For example, both gallium and germanium were unknown at the time Mendeleev published his Periodic Table. He left the gap under aluminium and a gap under silicon, and called these elements **Eka-Aluminium** and **Eka-Silicon**. Mendeleev predicted not only the existence of gallium and germanium, but also described some of their general physical properties. These elements were discovered later. Some of the properties predicted by Mendeleev for these elements and those found experimentally are listed in Table 3.3.

The boldness of Mendeleev's quantitative predictions and their eventual success made him and his Periodic Table famous. Mendeleev's Periodic Table published in 1905 is shown in Fig. 3.1.

Table 3.3 Mendeleev's Predictions for the Elements Eka-aluminium (Gallium) and Eka-silicon (Germanium)

Property	Eka-aluminium (predicted)	Gallium (found)	Eka-silicon (predicted)	Germanium (found)
Atomic weight	68	70	72	72.6
Density / (g/cm ³)	5.9	5.94	5.5	5.36
Melting point /K	Low	302.93	High	1231
Formula of oxide	E ₂ O ₃	Ga ₂ O ₃	EO ₂	GeO ₂
Formula of chloride	ECl ₃	GaCl ₃	ECl ₄	GeCl ₄

PERIODIC SYSTEM OF THE ELEMENTS IN GROUPS AND SERIES

SERIES	GROUPS OF ELEMENTS										
	0	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII		
1	Helium He 4.0	Hydrogen H 1.008	-	Boron B 11.0	Carbon C 12.0	Nitrogen N 14.04	Oxygen O 16.00	Fluorine F 19.0	Cobalt Co 59	Nickel Ni 59	
2		Lithium Li 7.03	-	Aluminium Al 27.0	Silicon Si 28.4	Phosphorus P 31.0	Sulphur S 32.06	Chlorine Cl 35.45			
3		Neon Ne 19.9	Sodium Na 23.5	Magnesium Mg 24.3	Gallium Ga 70.0	Germanium Ge 72.3	Arsenic As 75	Selenium Se 79			Bromine Br 79.95
4	Argon Ar 38	Potassium K 39.1	Calcium Ca 40.1	Scandium Sc 44.1	Titanium Ti 48.1	Vanadium V 51.4	Chromium Cr 52.1	Manganese Mn 55.0	Iron Fe 55.9	(Cu)	
5		Copper Cu 63.6	Zinc Zn 65.4	Gallium Ga 70.0	Germanium Ge 72.3	Arsenic As 75	Selenium Se 79	Bromine Br 79.95			
6	Krypton Kr 81.8	Rubidium Rb 85.4	Strontium Sr 87.6	Yttrium Y 89.0	Zirconium Zr 90.6	Niobium Nb 94.0	Molybdenum Mo 96.0	-	Ruthenium Ru 101.7	Rhodium Rh 103.0	
7		Silver Ag 107.9	Cadmium Cd 112.4	Indium In 114.0	Tin Sn 119.0	Antimony Sb 120.0	Tellurium Te 127.6	Iodine I 126.9			Palladium Pd 106.5
8	Xenon Xe 128	Caesium Cs 132.9	Barium Ba 137.4	Lanthanum La 139	Cerium Ce 140	-	-	-	Osmium Os 191	Iridium Ir 193	
9		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			Platinum Pt 194.9
10	-	Gold Au 197.2	Mercury Hg 200.0	Thallium Tl 204.1	Lead Pb 206.9	Tantalum Ta 183	Tungsten W 184	-	Osmium Os 191	Iridium Ir 193	
11						Bismuth Bi 208	-	-			
12	-	-	Radium Ra 224	-	Thorium Th 232	-	Uranium U 239	-	-	-	
	R	R ₂ O	RO	R ₂ O ₃	RO ₂ RH ₄	HIGHER GASEOUS HYDROGEN COMPOUNDS RH ₃			HIGHER SALINE OXIDES RO ₃ RH ₂		RO ₄

Fig. 3.1 Mendeleev's Periodic Table published earlier

Dmitri Mendeleev was born in Tobolsk, Siberia in Russia. After his father's death, the family moved to St. Petersburg. He received his Master's degree in Chemistry in 1856 and the doctoral degree in 1865. He taught at the University of St. Petersburg where he was appointed Professor of General Chemistry in 1867. Preliminary work for his great textbook "Principles of Chemistry" led Mendeleev to propose the **Periodic Law** and to construct his **Periodic Table** of elements. At that time, the structure of atom was unknown and Mendeleev's idea to consider that the properties of the elements were in some way related to their atomic masses was a very imaginative one. To place certain elements into the correct group from the point of view of their chemical properties, Mendeleev reversed the order of some pairs of elements and asserted that their atomic masses were incorrect. Mendeleev also had the foresight to leave gaps in the Periodic Table for elements unknown at that time and predict their properties from the trends that he observed among the properties of related elements. Mendeleev's predictions were proved to be astonishingly correct when these elements were discovered later.



**Dmitri Ivanovich
Mendeleev
(1834-1907)**

Mendeleev's Periodic Law spurred several areas of research during the subsequent decades. The discovery of the first two noble gases helium and argon in 1890 suggested the possibility that there must be other similar elements to fill an entire family. This idea led Ramsay to his successful search for krypton and xenon. Work on the radioactive decay series for uranium and thorium in the early years of twentieth century was also guided by the Periodic Table.

Mendeleev was a versatile genius. He worked on many problems connected with Russia's natural resources. He invented an accurate barometer. In 1890, he resigned from the Professorship. He was appointed as the Director of the Bureau of Weights and Measures. He continued to carry out important research work in many areas until his death in 1907.

You will notice from the modern Period Table (Fig. 3.2) that Mendeleev's name has been immortalized by naming the element with atomic number 101, as Mendelevium. This name was proposed by American scientist Glenn T. Seaborg, the discoverer of this element, "in recognition of the pioneering role of the great Russian Chemist who was the first to use the periodic system of elements to predict the chemical properties of undiscovered elements, a principle which has been the key to the discovery of nearly all the transuranium elements".

3.3 MODERN PERIODIC LAW AND THE PRESENT FORM OF THE PERIODIC TABLE

We must bear in mind that when Mendeleev developed his **Periodic Table**, chemists knew nothing about the internal structure of atom. However, the beginning of the 20th century witnessed profound developments in theories about sub-atomic particles. In 1913, the English physicist, Henry Moseley observed regularities in the characteristic *X-ray spectra* of the elements. A plot of $\sqrt{\nu}$ (where ν is frequency of X-rays emitted) against atomic number (Z) gave a straight line and not the plot of $\sqrt{\nu}$ vs atomic mass. He thereby showed that the atomic number is a more fundamental property of an element than its atomic mass. **Mendeleev's Periodic Law** was, therefore, accordingly modified. This is known as the **Modern Periodic Law** and can be stated as :

The physical and chemical properties of the elements are periodic functions of their atomic numbers.

The **Periodic Law** revealed important analogies among the 94 naturally occurring elements (neptunium and plutonium like actinium and protoactinium are also found in pitch blende – an ore of uranium). It stimulated renewed interest in Inorganic Chemistry and has carried into the present with the creation of artificially produced short-lived elements.

You may recall that the atomic number is equal to the nuclear charge (*i.e.*, number of protons) or the number of electrons in a neutral atom. It is then easy to visualize the significance of quantum numbers and electronic configurations in periodicity of elements. In fact, it is now recognized that the Periodic Law is essentially the consequence of the periodic variation in electronic configurations, which indeed determine the physical and chemical properties of elements and their compounds.

Numerous forms of Periodic Table have been devised from time to time. Some forms emphasise chemical reactions and valence, whereas others stress the electronic configuration of elements. A modern version, the so-called “**long form**” of the **Periodic Table** of the elements (Fig. 3.2), is the most convenient and widely used. The horizontal rows (which Mendeleev called **series**) are called **periods** and the vertical columns, **groups**. Elements having similar outer electronic configurations in their atoms are arranged in vertical columns, referred to as **groups** or **families**. According to the recommendation of International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), the groups are numbered from 1 to 18 replacing the older notation of groups IA ... VIIA, VIII, IB ... VIIB and 0.

There are altogether seven periods. The period number corresponds to the highest principal quantum number (n) of the elements in the period. The first period contains 2 elements. The subsequent periods consists of 8, 8, 18, 18 and 32 elements, respectively. The seventh period is incomplete and like the sixth period would have a theoretical maximum (on the basis of quantum numbers) of 32 elements. In this form of the Periodic Table, 14 elements of both sixth and seventh periods (lanthanoids and actinoids, respectively) are placed in separate panels at the bottom*.

3.4 NOMENCLATURE OF ELEMENTS WITH ATOMIC NUMBERS > 100

The naming of the new elements had been traditionally the privilege of the discoverer (or discoverers) and the suggested name was ratified by the IUPAC. In recent years this has led to some controversy. The new elements with very high atomic numbers are so unstable that only minute quantities, sometimes only a few atoms of them are obtained. Their synthesis and characterisation, therefore, require highly

* Glenn T. Seaborg's work in the middle of the 20th century starting with the discovery of plutonium in 1940, followed by those of all the transuranium elements from 94 to 102 led to reconfiguration of the periodic table placing the actinoids below the lanthanoids. In 1951, Seaborg was awarded the **Nobel Prize** in chemistry for his work. Element 106 has been named Seaborgium (Sg) in his honour.

f- Inner transition elements

Lanthanoids		Actinoids	
58	Ce	90	Th
59	Pr	91	Pa
60	Nd	92	U
61	Pm	93	Np
62	Sm	94	Pu
63	Eu	95	Am
64	Gd	96	Cm
65	Tb	97	Bk
66	Dy	98	Cf
67	Ho	99	Es
68	Er	100	Fm
69	Tm	101	Md
70	Yb	102	No
71	Lu	103	Lr

Fig. 3.2 Long form of the Periodic Table of the Elements with their atomic numbers and ground state outer electronic configurations. The groups are numbered 1-18 in accordance with the 1984 IUPAC recommendations. This notation replaces the old numbering scheme of IA-VIIA, VIII, IB-VIIB and 0 for the elements.

sophisticated costly equipment and laboratory. Such work is carried out with competitive spirit only in some laboratories in the world. Scientists, before collecting the reliable data on the new element, at times get tempted to claim for its discovery. For example, both American and Soviet scientists claimed credit for discovering element 104. The Americans named it Rutherfordium whereas Soviets named it Kurchatovium. To avoid such problems, the IUPAC has made recommendation that until a new element's discovery is proved, and its name is officially recognised, a systematic nomenclature be derived directly from the atomic number of the element using the numerical roots for 0 and numbers 1-9. These are shown in Table 3.4. The roots are put together in order of digits

which make up the atomic number and "ium" is added at the end. The IUPAC names for elements with Z above 100 are shown in Table 3.5.

Table 3.4 Notation for IUPAC Nomenclature of Elements

Digit	Name	Abbreviation
0	nil	n
1	un	u
2	bi	b
3	tri	t
4	quad	q
5	pent	p
6	hex	h
7	sept	s
8	oct	o
9	enn	e

Table 3.5 Nomenclature of Elements with Atomic Number Above 100

Atomic Number	Name according to IUPAC nomenclature	Symbol	IUPAC Official Name	IUPAC Symbol
101	Unnilunium	Unu	Mendelevium	Md
102	Unnilbium	Unb	Nobelium	No
103	Unniltrium	Unt	Lawrencium	Lr
104	Unnilquadium	Unq	Rutherfordium	Rf
105	Unnilpentium	Unp	Dubnium	Db
106	Unnilhexium	Unh	Seaborgium	Sg
107	Unnilseptium	Uns	Bohrium	Bh
108	Unniloctium	Uno	Hassium	Hs
109	Unnilennium	Une	Meitnerium	Mt
110	Ununmillium	Uun	Darmstadtium	Ds
111	Unununnium	Uuu	Rontgenium	Rg
112	Ununbium	Uub	Copernicium	Cn
113	Ununtrium	Uut	Nihonium	Nh
114	Ununquadium	Uuq	Flerovium	Fl
115	Ununpentium	Uup	Moscovium	Mc
116	Ununhexium	Uuh	Livermorium	Lv
117	Ununseptium	Uus	Tennessine	Ts
118	Ununoctium	Uuo	Oganesson	Og

Thus, the new element first gets a temporary name, with symbol consisting of three letters. Later permanent name and symbol are given by a vote of IUPAC representatives from each country. The permanent name might reflect the country (or state of the country) in which the element was discovered, or pay tribute to a notable scientist. As of now, elements with atomic numbers up to 118 have been discovered. Official names of all elements have been announced by IUPAC.

Problem 3.1

What would be the IUPAC name and symbol for the element with atomic number 120?

Solution

From Table 3.4, the roots for 1, 2 and 0 are un, bi and nil, respectively. Hence, the symbol and the name respectively are Ubn and unbinilium.

3.5 ELECTRONIC CONFIGURATIONS OF ELEMENTS AND THE PERIODIC TABLE

In the preceding unit we have learnt that an electron in an atom is characterised by a set of four quantum numbers, and the principal quantum number (n) defines the main energy level known as **shell**. We have also studied about the filling of electrons into different subshells, also referred to as **orbitals** (s , p , d , f) in an atom. The distribution of electrons into orbitals of an atom is called its **electronic configuration**. An element's location in the Periodic Table reflects the quantum numbers of the last orbital filled. In this section we will observe a direct connection between the electronic configurations of the elements and the long form of the Periodic Table.

(a) Electronic Configurations in Periods

The period indicates the value of n for the outermost or valence shell. In other words, successive period in the Periodic Table is associated with the filling of the next higher principal energy level ($n = 1$, $n = 2$, etc.). It can

be readily seen that the number of elements in each period is twice the number of atomic **orbitals** available in the energy level that is being filled. The first period ($n = 1$) starts with the filling of the lowest level ($1s$) and therefore has two elements — hydrogen ($1s^1$) and helium ($1s^2$) when the first shell (K) is completed. The second period ($n = 2$) starts with lithium and the third electron enters the $2s$ orbital. The next element, beryllium has four electrons and has the electronic configuration $1s^2 2s^2$. Starting from the next element boron, the $2p$ orbitals are filled with electrons when the L shell is completed at neon ($2s^2 2p^6$). Thus there are 8 elements in the second period. The third period ($n = 3$) begins at sodium, and the added electron enters a $3s$ orbital. Successive filling of $3s$ and $3p$ orbitals gives rise to the third period of 8 elements from sodium to argon. The fourth period ($n = 4$) starts at potassium, and the added electrons fill up the $4s$ orbital. Now you may note that before the $4p$ orbital is filled, filling up of $3d$ orbitals becomes energetically favourable and we come across the so called **3d transition series** of elements. This starts from scandium ($Z = 21$) which has the electronic configuration $3d^1 4s^2$. The $3d$ orbitals are filled at zinc ($Z = 30$) with electronic configuration $3d^{10} 4s^2$. The fourth period ends at krypton with the filling up of the $4p$ orbitals. Altogether we have 18 elements in this fourth period. The fifth period ($n = 5$) beginning with rubidium is similar to the fourth period and contains the **4d transition series** starting at yttrium ($Z = 39$). This period ends at xenon with the filling up of the $5p$ orbitals. The sixth period ($n = 6$) contains 32 elements and successive electrons enter $6s$, $4f$, $5d$ and $6p$ orbitals, in the order — filling up of the $4f$ orbitals begins with cerium ($Z = 58$) and ends at lutetium ($Z = 71$) to give the **4f-inner transition series** which is called the **lanthanoid series**. The seventh period ($n = 7$) is similar to the sixth period with the successive filling up of the $7s$, $5f$, $6d$ and $7p$ orbitals and includes most of the man-made radioactive elements. This period will end at the element with atomic number 118 which would belong to the noble gas family. Filling up of the $5f$ orbitals after actinium ($Z = 89$) gives the **5f-inner transition**

series known as the **actinoid series**. The 4f- and 5f-**inner transition series** of elements are placed separately in the Periodic Table to maintain its structure and to preserve the principle of classification by keeping elements with similar properties in a single column.

Problem 3.2

How would you justify the presence of 18 elements in the 5th period of the Periodic Table?

Solution

When $n = 5$, $l = 0, 1, 2, 3$. The order in which the energy of the available orbitals 4d, 5s and 5p increases is $5s < 4d < 5p$. The total number of orbitals available are 9. The maximum number of electrons that can be accommodated is 18; and therefore 18 elements are there in the 5th period.

(b) Groupwise Electronic Configurations

Elements in the same vertical column or group have similar valence shell electronic configurations, the same number of electrons in the outer orbitals, and similar properties. For example, the Group 1 elements (alkali metals) all have ns^1 valence shell electronic configuration as shown below.

Atomic number	Symbol	Electronic configuration
3	Li	$1s^2 2s^1$ (or) [He] $2s^1$
11	Na	$1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1$ (or) [Ne] $3s^1$
19	K	$1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 4s^1$ (or) [Ar] $4s^1$
37	Rb	$1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^{10} 4s^2 4p^6 5s^1$ (or) [Kr] $5s^1$
55	Cs	$1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^{10} 4s^2 4p^6 4d^{10} 5s^2 5p^6 6s^1$ (or) [Xe] $6s^1$
87	Fr	[Rn] $7s^1$

Thus it can be seen that the properties of an element have periodic dependence upon its atomic number and not on relative atomic mass.

3.6 ELECTRONIC CONFIGURATIONS AND TYPES OF ELEMENTS: s-, p-, d-, f- BLOCKS

The *aufbau* (build up) principle and the electronic configuration of atoms provide a

theoretical foundation for the periodic classification. The elements in a vertical column of the Periodic Table constitute a group or family and exhibit similar chemical behaviour. This similarity arises because these elements have the same number and same distribution of electrons in their outermost orbitals. We can classify the elements into four blocks *viz.*, **s-block**, **p-block**, **d-block** and **f-block** depending on the type of atomic orbitals that are being filled with electrons. This is illustrated in Fig. 3.3. We notice two exceptions to this categorisation. Strictly, helium belongs to the s-block but its positioning in the p-block along with other group 18 elements is justified because it has a completely filled valence shell ($1s^2$) and as a result, exhibits properties characteristic of other noble gases. The other exception is hydrogen. It has only one s-electron and hence can be placed in group 1 (alkali metals). It can also gain an electron to achieve a noble gas arrangement and hence it can behave similar to a group 17 (halogen family) elements. Because it is a special case, we shall place hydrogen separately at the top of the Periodic Table as shown in Fig. 3.2 and Fig. 3.3. We will briefly discuss the salient features of the four types of elements marked in

the Periodic Table. More about these elements will be discussed later. During the description of their features certain terminology has been used which has been classified in section 3.7.

3.6.1 The s-Block Elements

The elements of Group 1 (alkali metals) and Group 2 (alkaline earth metals) which have ns^1

s-BLOCK		p-BLOCK																					
1s	2	13	14	15	16	17	18																
2s	Li	Be															He						
3s	Na	Mg															Ne						
4s	K	Ca															Ar						
5s	Rb	Sr															Kr						
6s	Cs	Ba															Xe						
7s	Fr	Ra															Rn						

d-BLOCK																	
3d	4d	5d	6d	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn							
	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd							
	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg							
	Ac	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn							

f-BLOCK																	
Lanthanoids 4f		Actinoids 5f															
Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu				
Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr				

Fig. 3.3 The types of elements in the Periodic Table based on the orbitals that are being filled. Also shown is the broad division of elements into METALS (), NON-METALS () and METALLOIDS ().

and ns^2 outermost electronic configuration belong to the **s-Block Elements**. They are all reactive metals with low ionization enthalpies. They lose the outermost electron(s) readily to form $1+$ ion (in the case of alkali metals) or $2+$ ion (in the case of alkaline earth metals). The metallic character and the reactivity increase as we go down the group. Because of high reactivity they are never found pure in nature. The compounds of the s-block elements, with the exception of those of lithium and beryllium are predominantly ionic.

3.6.2 The p-Block Elements

The **p-Block Elements** comprise those belonging to Group 13 to 18 and these together with the **s-Block Elements** are called the **Representative Elements or Main Group Elements**. The outermost electronic configuration varies from ns^2np^1 to ns^2np^6 in each period. At the end of each period is a noble gas element with a closed valence shell ns^2np^6 configuration. All the orbitals in the valence shell of the **noble gases** are completely filled by electrons and it is very difficult to alter this stable arrangement by the addition or removal of electrons. The noble gases thus exhibit very low chemical reactivity. Preceding the noble gas family are two chemically important groups of non-metals. They are the **halogens** (Group 17) and the **chalcogens** (Group 16). These two groups of elements have highly negative electron gain enthalpies and readily add one or two electrons respectively to attain the stable noble gas configuration. The non-metallic character increases as we move from left to right across a period and metallic character increases as we go down the group.

3.6.3 The d-Block Elements (Transition Elements)

These are the elements of Group 3 to 12 in the centre of the Periodic Table. These are characterised by the filling of inner d orbitals by electrons and are therefore referred to as **d-Block Elements**. These elements have the general outer electronic configuration $(n-1)d^{1-10}ns^{0-2}$. They are all metals. They mostly form coloured ions, exhibit variable valence (oxidation states), paramagnetism and oftenly

used as catalysts. However, Zn, Cd and Hg which have the electronic configuration, $(n-1)d^{10}ns^2$ do not show most of the properties of transition elements. In a way, transition metals form a bridge between the chemically active metals of s-block elements and the less active elements of Groups 13 and 14 and thus take their familiar name "**Transition Elements**".

3.6.4 The f-Block Elements (Inner-Transition Elements)

The two rows of elements at the bottom of the Periodic Table, called the **Lanthanoids**, Ce($Z = 58$) – Lu($Z = 71$) and **Actinoids**, Th($Z = 90$) – Lr ($Z = 103$) are characterised by the outer electronic configuration $(n-2)f^{1-14}(n-1)d^{0-1}ns^2$. The last electron added to each element is filled in f -orbital. These two series of elements are hence called the **Inner-Transition Elements (f-Block Elements)**. They are all metals. Within each series, the properties of the elements are quite similar. The chemistry of the early actinoids is more complicated than the corresponding lanthanoids, due to the large number of oxidation states possible for these actinoid elements. Actinoid elements are radioactive. Many of the actinoid elements have been made only in nanogram quantities or even less by nuclear reactions and their chemistry is not fully studied. The elements after uranium are called **Transuranium Elements**.

Problem 3.3

The elements $Z = 117$ and 120 have not yet been discovered. In which family / group would you place these elements and also give the electronic configuration in each case.

Solution

We see from Fig. 3.2, that element with $Z = 117$, would belong to the halogen family (Group 17) and the electronic configuration would be $[Rn] 5f^{14}6d^{10}7s^27p^5$. The element with $Z = 120$, will be placed in Group 2 (alkaline earth metals), and will have the electronic configuration $[Uuo]8s^2$.

3.6.5 Metals, Non-metals and Metalloids

In addition to displaying the classification of elements into **s**-, **p**-, **d**-, and **f**blocks, Fig. 3.3 shows another broad classification of elements based on their properties. The elements can be divided into **Metals** and **Non-Metals**. Metals comprise more than 78% of all known elements and appear on the left side of the **Periodic Table**. Metals are usually solids at room temperature [mercury is an exception; gallium and caesium also have very low melting points (303K and 302K, respectively)]. Metals usually have high melting and boiling points. They are good conductors of heat and electricity. They are malleable (can be flattened into thin sheets by hammering) and ductile (can be drawn into wires). In contrast, non-metals are located at the top right hand side of the **Periodic Table**. In fact, in a horizontal row, the property of elements change from metallic on the left to non-metallic on the right. Non-metals are usually solids or gases at room temperature with low melting and boiling points (boron and carbon are exceptions). They are poor conductors of heat and electricity. Most non-metallic solids are brittle and are neither malleable nor ductile. The elements become more metallic as we go down a group; the non-metallic character increases as one goes from left to right across the **Periodic Table**. The change from metallic to non-metallic character is not abrupt as shown by the thick zig-zag line in Fig. 3.3. The elements (e.g., silicon, germanium, arsenic, antimony and tellurium) bordering this line and running diagonally across the **Periodic Table** show properties that are characteristic of both metals and non-metals. These elements are called **Semi-metals** or **Metalloids**.

Problem 3.4

Considering the atomic number and position in the periodic table, arrange the following elements in the increasing order of metallic character : Si, Be, Mg, Na, P.

Solution

Metallic character increases down a group and decreases along a period as we move

from left to right. Hence the order of increasing metallic character is: $P < Si < Be < Mg < Na$.

3.7 PERIODIC TRENDS IN PROPERTIES OF ELEMENTS

There are many observable patterns in the physical and chemical properties of elements as we descend in a group or move across a period in the Periodic Table. For example, within a period, chemical reactivity tends to be high in Group 1 metals, lower in elements towards the middle of the table, and increases to a maximum in the Group 17 non-metals. Likewise within a group of representative metals (say alkali metals) reactivity increases on moving down the group, whereas within a group of non-metals (say halogens), reactivity decreases down the group. But why do the properties of elements follow these trends? And how can we explain periodicity? To answer these questions, we must look into the theories of atomic structure and properties of the atom. In this section we shall discuss the periodic trends in certain physical and chemical properties and try to explain them in terms of number of electrons and energy levels.

3.7.1 Trends in Physical Properties

There are numerous physical properties of elements such as melting and boiling points, heats of fusion and vaporization, energy of atomization, etc. which show periodic variations. However, we shall discuss the periodic trends with respect to atomic and ionic radii, ionization enthalpy, electron gain enthalpy and electronegativity.

(a) Atomic Radius

You can very well imagine that finding the size of an atom is a lot more complicated than measuring the radius of a ball. Do you know why? Firstly, because the size of an atom ($\sim 1.2 \text{ \AA}$ i.e., $1.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$ in radius) is very small. Secondly, since the electron cloud surrounding the atom does not have a sharp boundary, the determination of the atomic size cannot be precise. In other words, there is no

practical way by which the size of an individual atom can be measured. However, an estimate of the atomic size can be made by knowing the distance between the atoms in the combined state. One practical approach to estimate the size of an atom of a non-metallic element is to measure the distance between two atoms when they are bound together by a single bond in a covalent molecule and from this value, the “**Covalent Radius**” of the element can be calculated. For example, the bond distance in the chlorine molecule (Cl_2) is 198 pm and half this distance (99 pm), is taken as the atomic radius of chlorine. For metals, we define the term “**Metallic Radius**” which is taken as half the internuclear distance separating the metal cores in the metallic crystal. For example, the distance between two adjacent copper atoms in solid copper is 256 pm; hence the metallic radius of copper is assigned a value of 128 pm. For simplicity, in this book, we use the term **Atomic Radius** to refer to both covalent or metallic radius depending on whether the element is a non-metal or a metal. Atomic radii can be measured by X-ray or other spectroscopic methods.

The atomic radii of a few elements are listed in Table 3.6. Two trends are obvious. We can

explain these trends in terms of nuclear charge and energy level. The atomic size generally decreases across a period as illustrated in Fig. 3.4(a) for the elements of the second period. It is because within the period the outer electrons are in the same valence shell and the effective nuclear charge increases as the atomic number increases resulting in the increased attraction of electrons to the nucleus. Within a family or vertical column of the **periodic table**, the atomic radius increases regularly with atomic number as illustrated in Fig. 3.4(b). For alkali metals and halogens, as we descend the groups, the principal quantum number (n) increases and the valence electrons are farther from the nucleus. This happens because the inner energy levels are filled with electrons, which serve to shield the outer electrons from the pull of the nucleus. Consequently the size of the atom increases as reflected in the atomic radii.

Note that the atomic radii of noble gases are not considered here. Being monoatomic, their (non-bonded radii) values are very large. In fact radii of noble gases should be compared not with the covalent radii but with the van der Waals radii of other elements.

Table 3.6(a) Atomic Radii/pm Across the Periods

Atom (Period II)	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
Atomic radius	152	111	88	77	74	66	64
Atom (Period III)	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl
Atomic radius	186	160	143	117	110	104	99

Table 3.6(b) Atomic Radii/pm Down a Family

Atom (Group I)	Atomic Radius	Atom (Group 17)	Atomic Radius
Li	152	F	64
Na	186	Cl	99
K	231	Br	114
Rb	244	I	133
Cs	262	At	140

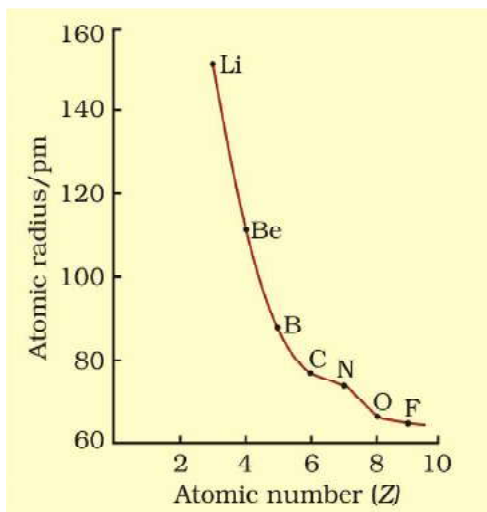


Fig. 3.4 (a) Variation of atomic radius with atomic number across the second period

(b) Ionic Radius

The removal of an electron from an atom results in the formation of a **cation**, whereas gain of an electron leads to an **anion**. The ionic radii can be estimated by measuring the distances between cations and anions in ionic crystals. In general, the ionic radii of elements exhibit the same trend as the atomic radii. A cation is smaller than its parent atom because it has fewer electrons while its nuclear charge remains the same. The size of an anion will be larger than that of the parent atom because the addition of one or more electrons would result in increased repulsion among the electrons and a decrease in effective nuclear charge. For example, the ionic radius of fluoride ion (F^-) is 136 pm whereas the atomic radius of fluorine is only 64 pm. On the other hand, the atomic radius of sodium is 186 pm compared to the ionic radius of 95 pm for Na^+ .

When we find some atoms and ions which contain the same number of electrons, we call them **isoelectronic species***. For example, O^{2-} , F^- , Na^+ and Mg^{2+} have the same number of electrons (10). Their radii would be different because of their different nuclear charges. The cation with the greater positive charge will have a smaller radius because of the greater

* Two or more species with same number of atoms, same number of valence electrons and same structure, regardless of the nature of elements involved.

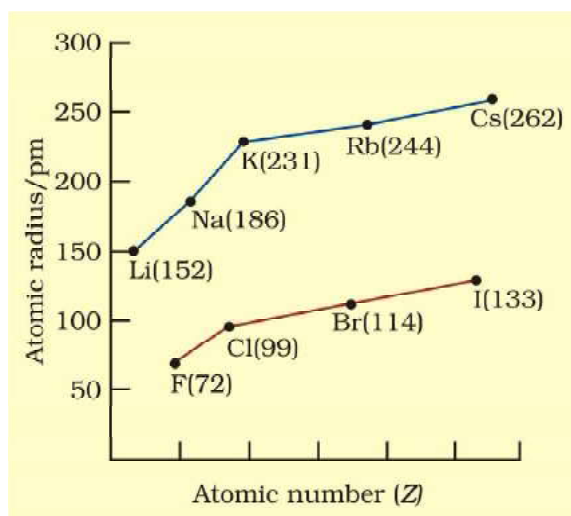


Fig. 3.4 (b) Variation of atomic radius with atomic number for alkali metals and halogens

attraction of the electrons to the nucleus. Anion with the greater negative charge will have the larger radius. In this case, the net repulsion of the electrons will outweigh the nuclear charge and the ion will expand in size.

Problem 3.5

Which of the following species will have the largest and the smallest size?

Mg, Mg^{2+} , Al, Al^{3+} .

Solution

Atomic radii decrease across a period. Cations are smaller than their parent atoms. Among isoelectronic species, the one with the larger positive nuclear charge will have a smaller radius.

Hence the largest species is Mg; the smallest one is Al^{3+} .

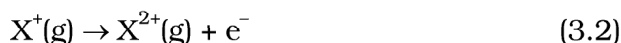
(c) Ionization Enthalpy

A quantitative measure of the tendency of an element to lose electron is given by its **Ionization Enthalpy**. It represents the energy required to remove an electron from an isolated gaseous atom (X) in its ground state. In other words, the first ionization enthalpy for an

element X is the enthalpy change ($\Delta_i H$) for the reaction depicted in equation 3.1.



The ionization enthalpy is expressed in units of kJ mol^{-1} . We can define the second ionization enthalpy as the energy required to remove the second most loosely bound electron; it is the energy required to carry out the reaction shown in equation 3.2.



Energy is always required to remove electrons from an atom and hence ionization enthalpies are always positive. The second ionization enthalpy will be higher than the first ionization enthalpy because it is more difficult to remove an electron from a positively charged ion than from a neutral atom. In the same way the third ionization enthalpy will be higher than the second and so on. The term “ionization enthalpy”, if not qualified, is taken as the first ionization enthalpy.

The first ionization enthalpies of elements having atomic numbers up to 60 are plotted in Fig. 3.5. The periodicity of the graph is quite striking. You will find maxima at the noble gases which have closed electron shells and very stable electron configurations. On the other hand, minima occur at the alkali metals and their low ionization enthalpies can be correlated

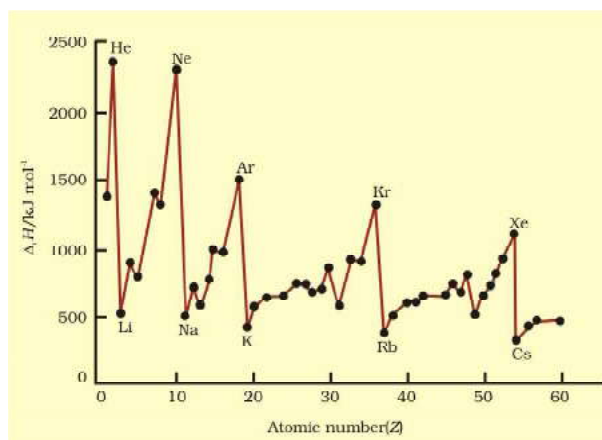
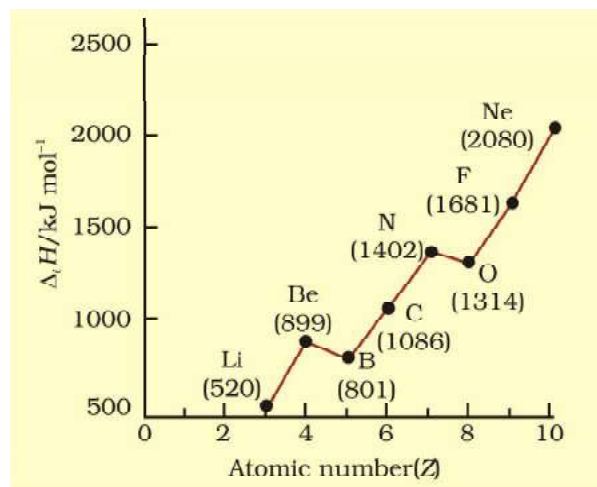
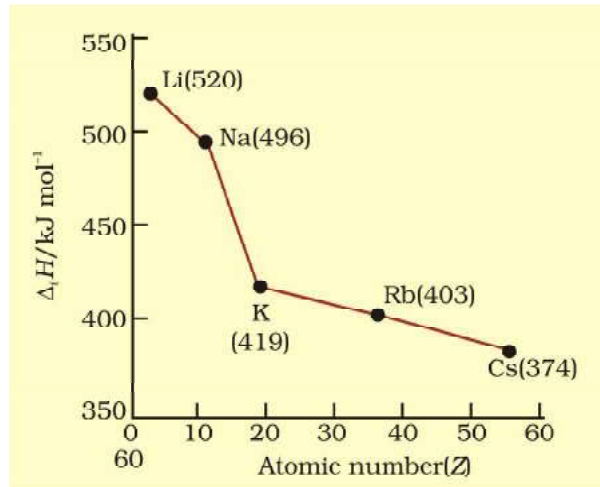


Fig. 3.5 Variation of first ionization enthalpies ($\Delta_i H$) with atomic number for elements with $Z = 1$ to 60

with their high reactivity. In addition, you will notice two trends the first ionization enthalpy generally increases as we go across a period and decreases as we descend in a group. These trends are illustrated in Figs. 3.6(a) and 3.6(b) respectively for the elements of the second period and the first group of the periodic table. You will appreciate that the ionization enthalpy and atomic radius are closely related properties. To understand these trends, we have to consider two factors : (i) the attraction of electrons towards the nucleus, and (ii) the repulsion of electrons from each other. The effective nuclear charge experienced by a valence electron in an atom will be less than



3.6 (a)



3.6 (b)

Fig. 3.6(a) First ionization enthalpies ($\Delta_i H$) of elements of the second period as a function of atomic number (Z) and **Fig. 3.6(b)** $\Delta_i H$ of alkali metals as a function of Z .

the actual charge on the nucleus because of “**shielding**” or “**screening**” of the valence electron from the nucleus by the intervening core electrons. For example, the 2s electron in lithium is shielded from the nucleus by the inner core of 1s electrons. As a result, the valence electron experiences a net positive charge which is less than the actual charge of +3. In general, shielding is effective when the orbitals in the inner shells are completely filled. This situation occurs in the case of alkali metals which have single outermost *ns*-electron preceded by a noble gas electronic configuration.

When we move from lithium to fluorine across the second period, successive electrons are added to orbitals in the same principal quantum level and the shielding of the nuclear charge by the inner core of electrons does not increase very much to compensate for the increased attraction of the electron to the nucleus. Thus, across a period, increasing nuclear charge outweighs the shielding. Consequently, the outermost electrons are held more and more tightly and the ionization enthalpy increases across a period. As we go down a group, the outermost electron being increasingly farther from the nucleus, there is an increased shielding of the nuclear charge by the electrons in the inner levels. In this case, increase in shielding outweighs the increasing nuclear charge and the removal of the outermost electron requires less energy down a group.

From Fig. 3.6(a), you will also notice that the first ionization enthalpy of boron ($Z = 5$) is slightly less than that of beryllium ($Z = 4$) even though the former has a greater nuclear charge. When we consider the same principal quantum level, an *s*-electron is attracted to the nucleus more than a *p*-electron. In beryllium, the electron removed during the ionization is an *s*-electron whereas the electron removed during ionization of boron is a *p*-electron. The penetration of a 2s-electron to the nucleus is more than that of a 2*p*-electron; hence the 2*p* electron of boron is more shielded from the nucleus by the inner core of electrons than the 2s electrons of beryllium. Therefore, it is easier

to remove the 2*p*-electron from boron compared to the removal of a 2s-electron from beryllium. Thus, boron has a smaller first ionization enthalpy than beryllium. Another “anomaly” is the smaller first ionization enthalpy of oxygen compared to nitrogen. This arises because in the nitrogen atom, three 2*p*-electrons reside in different atomic orbitals (Hund’s rule) whereas in the oxygen atom, two of the four 2*p*-electrons must occupy the same 2*p*-orbital resulting in an increased electron-electron repulsion. Consequently, it is easier to remove the fourth 2*p*-electron from oxygen than it is, to remove one of the three 2*p*-electrons from nitrogen.

Problem 3.6

The first ionization enthalpy ($\Delta_i H$) values of the third period elements, Na, Mg and Si are respectively 496, 737 and 786 kJ mol⁻¹. Predict whether the first $\Delta_i H$ value for Al will be more close to 575 or 760 kJ mol⁻¹? Justify your answer.

Solution

It will be more close to 575 kJ mol⁻¹. The value for Al should be lower than that of Mg because of effective shielding of 3*p* electrons from the nucleus by 3*s*-electrons.

(d) Electron Gain Enthalpy

When an electron is added to a neutral gaseous atom (X) to convert it into a negative ion, the enthalpy change accompanying the process is defined as the **Electron Gain Enthalpy** ($\Delta_{eg} H$). Electron gain enthalpy provides a measure of the ease with which an atom adds an electron to form anion as represented by equation 3.3.



Depending on the element, the process of adding an electron to the atom can be either endothermic or exothermic. For many elements energy is released when an electron is added to the atom and the electron gain enthalpy is negative. For example, group 17 elements (the halogens) have very high negative electron gain enthalpies because they can attain stable noble gas electronic configurations by picking up an electron. On the other hand, noble gases have

Table 3.7 Electron Gain Enthalpies* / (kJ mol⁻¹) of Some Main Group Elements

Group 1	$\Delta_{eg}H$	Group 16	$\Delta_{eg}H$	Group 17	$\Delta_{eg}H$	Group 0	$\Delta_{eg}H$
H	- 73					He	+ 48
Li	- 60	O	- 141	F	- 328	Ne	+ 116
Na	- 53	S	- 200	Cl	- 349	Ar	+ 96
K	- 48	Se	- 195	Br	- 325	Kr	+ 96
Rb	- 47	Te	- 190	I	- 295	Xe	+ 77
Cs	- 46	Po	- 174	At	- 270	Rn	+ 68

large positive electron gain enthalpies because the electron has to enter the next higher principal quantum level leading to a very unstable electronic configuration. It may be noted that electron gain enthalpies have large negative values toward the upper right of the periodic table preceding the noble gases.

The variation in electron gain enthalpies of elements is less systematic than for ionization enthalpies. As a general rule, electron gain enthalpy becomes more negative with increase in the atomic number across a period. The effective nuclear charge increases from left to right across a period and consequently it will be easier to add an electron to a smaller atom since the added electron on an average would be closer to the positively charged nucleus. We should also expect electron gain enthalpy to become less negative as we go down a group because the size of the atom increases and the added electron would be farther from the nucleus. This is generally the case (Table 3.7). However, electron gain enthalpy of O or F is less negative than that of the succeeding element. This is because when an electron is added to O or F, the added electron goes to the smaller $n = 2$ quantum level and suffers significant repulsion from the other electrons present in this level. For the $n = 3$ quantum level (S or Cl), the added electron occupies a larger region of space and the electron-electron repulsion is much less.

Problem 3.7

Which of the following will have the most negative electron gain enthalpy and which the least negative?

P, S, Cl, F.

Explain your answer.

Solution

Electron gain enthalpy generally becomes more negative across a period as we move from left to right. Within a group, electron gain enthalpy becomes less negative down a group. However, adding an electron to the $2p$ -orbital leads to greater repulsion than adding an electron to the larger $3p$ -orbital. Hence the element with most negative electron gain enthalpy is chlorine; the one with the least negative electron gain enthalpy is phosphorus.

(e) Electronegativity

A qualitative measure of the ability of an atom in a **chemical compound** to attract shared electrons to itself is called **electronegativity**. Unlike ionization enthalpy and electron gain enthalpy, it is not a measureable quantity. However, a number of numerical scales of electronegativity of elements viz., Pauling scale, Mulliken-Jaffe scale, Allred-Rochow scale have been developed. The one which is the most

* In many books, the negative of the enthalpy change for the process depicted in equation 3.3 is defined as the **ELECTRON AFFINITY** (A_e) of the atom under consideration. If energy is released when an electron is added to an atom, the electron affinity is taken as positive, contrary to thermodynamic convention. If energy has to be supplied to add an electron to an atom, then the electron affinity of the atom is assigned a negative sign. However, electron affinity is defined as absolute zero and, therefore at any other temperature (T) heat capacities of the reactants and the products have to be taken into account in $\Delta_{eg}H = -A_e - 5/2 RT$.

widely used is the Pauling scale. Linus Pauling, an American scientist, in 1922 assigned arbitrarily a value of 4.0 to fluorine, the element considered to have the greatest ability to attract electrons. Approximate values for the electronegativity of a few elements are given in Table 3.8(a)

The electronegativity of any given element is not constant; it varies depending on the element to which it is bound. Though it is not a measurable quantity, it does provide a means of predicting the nature of force that holds a pair of atoms together – a relationship that you will explore later.

Electronegativity generally increases across a period from left to right (say from lithium to fluorine) and decrease down a group (say from fluorine to astatine) in the periodic table. How can these trends be explained? Can the electronegativity be related to atomic radii, which tend to decrease across each period from left to right, but increase down each group? The attraction between the outer (or valence)

electrons and the nucleus increases as the atomic radius decreases in a period. The electronegativity also increases. On the same account electronegativity values decrease with the increase in atomic radii down a group. The trend is similar to that of ionization enthalpy.

Knowing the relationship between electronegativity and atomic radius, can you now visualise the relationship between electronegativity and non-metallic properties?

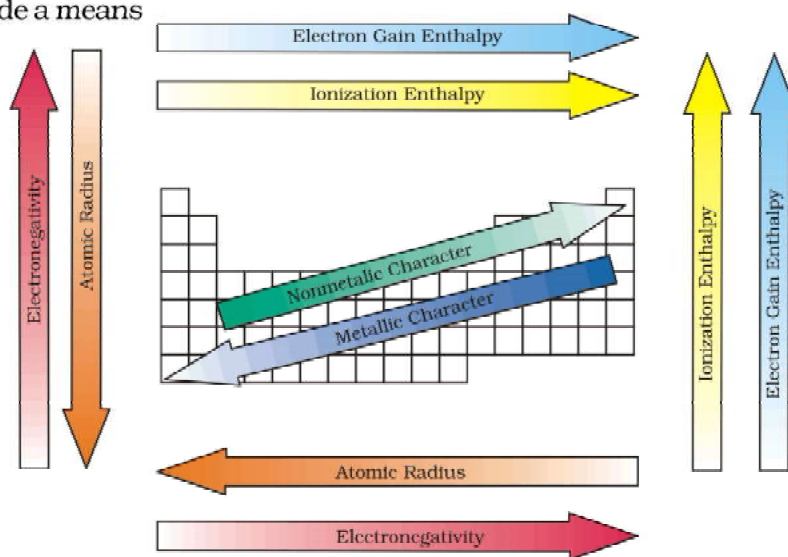


Fig. 3.7 The periodic trends of elements in the periodic table

Table 3.8(a) Electronegativity Values (on Pauling scale) Across the Periods

Atom (Period II)	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
Electronegativity	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0
Atom (Period III)	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl
Electronegativity	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.5	3.0

Table 3.8(b) Electronegativity Values (on Pauling scale) Down a Family

Atom (Group I)	Electronegativity Value	Atom (Group 17)	Electronegativity Value
Li	1.0	F	4.0
Na	0.9	Cl	3.0
K	0.8	Br	2.8
Rb	0.8	I	2.5
Cs	0.7	At	2.2

Non-metallic elements have strong tendency to gain electrons. Therefore, electronegativity is directly related to that non-metallic properties of elements. It can be further extended to say that the electronegativity is inversely related to the metallic properties of elements. Thus, the increase in electronegativities across a period is accompanied by an increase in non-metallic properties (or decrease in metallic properties) of elements. Similarly, the decrease in electronegativity down a group is accompanied by a decrease in non-metallic properties (or increase in metallic properties) of elements.

All these periodic trends are summarised in figure 3.7.

3.7.2 Periodic Trends in Chemical Properties

Most of the trends in chemical properties of elements, such as diagonal relationships, inert pair effect, effects of lanthanoid contraction etc. will be dealt with along the discussion of each group in later units. In this section we shall study the periodicity of the valence state shown by elements and the anomalous properties of the second period elements (from lithium to fluorine).

(a) Periodicity of Valence or Oxidation States

The valence is the most characteristic property of the elements and can be understood in terms of their electronic configurations. The valence of representative elements is usually (though not necessarily) equal to the number of electrons in the outermost orbitals and / or equal to eight minus the number of outermost electrons as shown below.

Nowadays the term oxidation state is frequently used for valence. Consider the two oxygen containing compounds: OF_2 and Na_2O . The order of electronegativity of the three elements involved in these compounds is $\text{F} > \text{O} > \text{Na}$. Each of the atoms of fluorine, with outer

electronic configuration $2s^2 2p^5$, shares one electron with oxygen in the OF_2 molecule. Being highest electronegative element, fluorine is given oxidation state -1 . Since there are two fluorine atoms in this molecule, oxygen with outer electronic configuration $2s^2 2p^4$ shares two electrons with fluorine atoms and thereby exhibits oxidation state $+2$. In Na_2O , oxygen being more electronegative accepts two electrons, one from each of the two sodium atoms and, thus, shows oxidation state -2 . On the other hand sodium with electronic configuration $3s^1$ loses one electron to oxygen and is given oxidation state $+1$. Thus, the oxidation state of an element in a particular compound can be defined as the charge acquired by its atom on the basis of electronegative consideration from other atoms in the molecule.

Problem 3.8

Using the Periodic Table, predict the formulas of compounds which might be formed by the following pairs of elements; (a) silicon and bromine (b) aluminium and sulphur.

Solution

- (a) Silicon is group 14 element with a valence of 4; bromine belongs to the halogen family with a valence of 1. Hence the formula of the compound formed would be SiBr_4 .
- (b) Aluminium belongs to group 13 with a valence of 3; sulphur belongs to group 16 elements with a valence of 2. Hence, the formula of the compound formed would be Al_2S_3 .

Some periodic trends observed in the valence of elements (hydrides and oxides) are shown in Table 3.9. Other such periodic trends which occur in the chemical behaviour of the elements are discussed elsewhere in this book.

Group	1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18
Number of valence electron	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Valence	1	2	3	4	3,5	2,6	1,7	0,8

Table 3.9 Periodic Trends in Valence of Elements as shown by the Formulas of Their Compounds

Group	1	2	13	14	15	16	17
Formula of hydride	LiH	CaH ₂	B ₂ H ₆	CH ₄	NH ₃	H ₂ O	HF
	NaH		AlH ₃	SiH ₄	PH ₃	H ₂ S	HCl
	KH			GeH ₄	AsH ₃	H ₂ Se	HBr
				SnH ₄	SbH ₃	H ₂ Te	HI
Formula of oxide	Li ₂ O	MgO	B ₂ O ₃	CO ₂	N ₂ O ₃ , N ₂ O ₅		–
	Na ₂ O	CaO	Al ₂ O ₃	SiO ₂	P ₄ O ₆ , P ₄ O ₁₀	SO ₃	Cl ₂ O ₇
	K ₂ O	SrO	Ga ₂ O ₃	GeO ₂	As ₂ O ₃ , As ₂ O ₅	SeO ₃	–
		BaO	In ₂ O ₃	SnO ₂	Sb ₂ O ₃ , Sb ₂ O ₅	TeO ₃	–
				PbO ₂	Bi ₂ O ₃ –	–	

There are many elements which exhibit variable valence. This is particularly characteristic of transition elements and actinoids, which we shall study later.

(b) Anomalous Properties of Second Period Elements

The first element of each of the groups 1 (lithium) and 2 (beryllium) and groups 13–17 (boron to fluorine) differs in many respects from the other members of their respective group. For example, lithium unlike other alkali metals, and beryllium unlike other alkaline earth metals, form compounds with pronounced covalent character; the other members of these groups predominantly form ionic compounds. In fact the behaviour of lithium and beryllium is more similar with the second element of the

following group i.e., magnesium and aluminium, respectively. This sort of similarity is commonly referred to as **diagonal relationship** in the periodic properties.

What are the reasons for the different chemical behaviour of the first member of a group of elements in the **s-** and **p-blocks** compared to that of the subsequent members in the same group? The anomalous behaviour is attributed to their small size, large charge/radius ratio and high electronegativity of the elements. In addition, the first member of group has only four valence orbitals (2s and 2p) available for bonding, whereas the second member of the groups have nine valence orbitals (3s, 3p, 3d). As a consequence of this, the maximum covalency of the first member of each group is 4 (e.g., boron can only form

Property	Element		
Metallic radius M/ pm	Li	Be	B
	152	111	88
	Na	Mg	Al
	186	160	143
Ionic radius M ⁺ / pm	Li	Be	
	76	31	
	Na	Mg	
	102	72	

[BF₄][–], whereas the other members of the groups can expand their valence shell to accommodate more than four pairs of electrons e.g., aluminium [AlF₆]^{3–} forms). Furthermore, the first member of p-block elements displays greater ability to form p_π – p_π multiple bonds to itself (e.g., C = C, C ≡ C, N = N, N ≡ N) and to other second period elements (e.g., C = O, C = N, C ≡ N, N = O) compared to subsequent members of the same group.

Problem 3.9

Are the oxidation state and covalency of Al in $[\text{AlCl}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5]^{2+}$ same ?

Solution

No. The oxidation state of Al is +3 and the covalency is 6.

3.7.3 Periodic Trends and Chemical Reactivity

We have observed the periodic trends in certain fundamental properties such as atomic and ionic radii, ionization enthalpy, electron gain enthalpy and valence. We know by now that the periodicity is related to electronic configuration. That is, all chemical and physical properties are a manifestation of the electronic configuration of elements. We shall now try to explore relationships between these fundamental properties of elements with their chemical reactivity.

The atomic and ionic radii, as we know, generally decrease in a period from left to right. As a consequence, the ionization enthalpies generally increase (with some exceptions as outlined in section 3.7.1(a)) and electron gain enthalpies become more negative across a period. In other words, the ionization enthalpy of the extreme left element in a period is the least and the electron gain enthalpy of the element on the extreme right is the highest negative (note : noble gases having completely filled shells have rather positive electron gain enthalpy values). This results into high chemical reactivity at the two extremes and the lowest in the centre. Thus, the maximum chemical reactivity at the extreme left (among alkali metals) is exhibited by the loss of an electron leading to the formation of a cation and at the extreme right (among halogens) shown by the gain of an electron forming an anion. This property can be related with the reducing and oxidizing behaviour of the elements which you will learn later. However, here it can be directly related to the metallic and non-metallic character of elements. Thus, the metallic character of an element, which is highest at the extremely left decreases and the

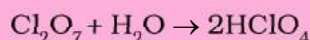
non-metallic character increases while moving from left to right across the period. The chemical reactivity of an element can be best shown by its reactions with oxygen and halogens. Here, we shall consider the reaction of the elements with oxygen only. Elements on two extremes of a period easily combine with oxygen to form oxides. The normal oxide formed by the element on extreme left is the most basic (e.g., Na_2O), whereas that formed by the element on extreme right is the most acidic (e.g., Cl_2O_7). Oxides of elements in the centre are amphoteric (e.g., Al_2O_3 , As_2O_3) or neutral (e.g., CO , NO , N_2O). Amphoteric oxides behave as acidic with bases and as basic with acids, whereas neutral oxides have no acidic or basic properties.

Problem 3.10

Show by a chemical reaction with water that Na_2O is a basic oxide and Cl_2O_7 is an acidic oxide.

Solution

Na_2O with water forms a strong base whereas Cl_2O_7 forms strong acid.



Their basic or acidic nature can be qualitatively tested with litmus paper.

Among transition metals (3d series), the change in atomic radii is much smaller as compared to those of representative elements across the period. The change in atomic radii is still smaller among inner-transition metals (4f series). The ionization enthalpies are intermediate between those of s- and p-blocks. As a consequence, they are less electropositive than group 1 and 2 metals.

In a group, the increase in atomic and ionic radii with increase in atomic number generally results in a gradual decrease in ionization enthalpies and a regular decrease (with exception in some third period elements as shown in section 3.7.1(d)) in electron gain enthalpies in the case of main group elements.

Thus, the metallic character increases down the group and non-metallic character decreases. This trend can be related with their reducing and oxidizing property which you

will learn later. In the case of transition elements, however, a reverse trend is observed. This can be explained in terms of atomic size and ionization enthalpy.

SUMMARY

In this Unit, you have studied the development of the **Periodic Law** and the **Periodic Table**. Mendeleev's **Periodic Table** was based on atomic masses. Modern **Periodic Table** arranges the elements in the order of their atomic numbers in seven horizontal rows (**periods**) and eighteen vertical columns (**groups** or **families**). Atomic numbers in a period are consecutive, whereas in a group they increase in a pattern. Elements of the same group have similar **valence shell** electronic configuration and, therefore, exhibit similar chemical properties. However, the elements of the same period have incrementally increasing number of electrons from left to right, and, therefore, have different valencies. Four types of elements can be recognized in the periodic table on the basis of their electronic configurations. These are **s-block**, **p-block**, **d-block** and **f-block** elements. **Hydrogen** with one electron in the 1s orbital occupies a unique position in the periodic table. **Metals** comprise more than seventy eight per cent of the known elements. **Non-metals**, which are located at the top of the periodic table, are less than twenty in number. Elements which lie at the border line between metals and non-metals (e.g., Si, Ge, As) are called **metalloids** or **semi-metals**. Metallic character increases with increasing atomic number in a group whereas decreases from left to right in a period. The physical and chemical properties of elements vary periodically with their atomic numbers.

Periodic trends are observed in **atomic sizes**, **ionization enthalpies**, **electron gain enthalpies**, **electronegativity** and **valence**. The atomic radii decrease while going from left to right in a period and increase with atomic number in a group. Ionization enthalpies generally increase across a period and decrease down a group. Electronegativity also shows a similar trend. Electron gain enthalpies, in general, become more negative across a period and less negative down a group. There is some periodicity in valence, for example, among representative elements, the valence is either equal to the number of electrons in the outermost orbitals or eight minus this number. **Chemical reactivity** is highest at the two extremes of a period and is lowest in the centre. The reactivity on the left extreme of a period is because of the ease of electron loss (or low ionization enthalpy). Highly reactive elements do not occur in nature in free state; they usually occur in the combined form. Oxides formed of the elements on the left are basic and of the elements on the right are acidic in nature. Oxides of elements in the centre are amphoteric or neutral.

EXERCISES

- 3.1 What is the basic theme of organisation in the periodic table?
- 3.2 Which important property did Mendeleev use to classify the elements in his periodic table and did he stick to that?
- 3.3 What is the basic difference in approach between the Mendeleev's Periodic Law and the Modern Periodic Law?
- 3.4 On the basis of quantum numbers, justify that the sixth period of the periodic table should have 32 elements.

- 3.5 In terms of period and group where would you locate the element with $Z=114$?
- 3.6 Write the atomic number of the element present in the third period and seventeenth group of the periodic table.
- 3.7 Which element do you think would have been named by
(i) Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory
(ii) Seaborg's group?
- 3.8 Why do elements in the same group have similar physical and chemical properties?
- 3.9 What does atomic radius and ionic radius really mean to you?
- 3.10 How do atomic radius vary in a period and in a group? How do you explain the variation?
- 3.11 What do you understand by isoelectronic species? Name a species that will be isoelectronic with each of the following atoms or ions.
(i) F^- (ii) Ar (iii) Mg^{2+} (iv) Rb^+
- 3.12 Consider the following species :
 N^{3-} , O^{2-} , F^- , Na^+ , Mg^{2+} and Al^{3+}
(a) What is common in them?
(b) Arrange them in the order of increasing ionic radii.
- 3.13 Explain why cation are smaller and anions larger in radii than their parent atoms?
- 3.14 What is the significance of the terms — 'isolated gaseous atom' and 'ground state' while defining the ionization enthalpy and electron gain enthalpy?
Hint : Requirements for comparison purposes.
- 3.15 Energy of an electron in the ground state of the hydrogen atom is $-2.18 \times 10^{-18} J$. Calculate the ionization enthalpy of atomic hydrogen in terms of $J \text{ mol}^{-1}$.
Hint: Apply the idea of mole concept to derive the answer.
- 3.16 Among the second period elements the actual ionization enthalpies are in the order $Li < B < Be < C < O < N < F < Ne$.
Explain why
(i) Be has higher $\Delta_i H$ than B
(ii) O has lower $\Delta_i H$ than N and F?
- 3.17 How would you explain the fact that the first ionization enthalpy of sodium is lower than that of magnesium but its second ionization enthalpy is higher than that of magnesium?
- 3.18 What are the various factors due to which the ionization enthalpy of the main group elements tends to decrease down a group?
- 3.19 The first ionization enthalpy values (in kJ mol^{-1}) of group 13 elements are :
B Al Ga In Tl
801 577 579 558 589
How would you explain this deviation from the general trend ?
- 3.20 Which of the following pairs of elements would have a more negative electron gain enthalpy?
(i) O or F (ii) F or Cl
- 3.21 Would you expect the second electron gain enthalpy of O as positive, more negative or less negative than the first? Justify your answer.
- 3.22 What is the basic difference between the terms electron gain enthalpy and electronegativity?
- 3.23 How would you react to the statement that the electronegativity of N on Pauling scale is 3.0 in all the nitrogen compounds?

- 3.24 Describe the theory associated with the radius of an atom as it
 (a) gains an electron
 (b) loses an electron
- 3.25 Would you expect the first ionization enthalpies for two isotopes of the same element to be the same or different? Justify your answer.
- 3.26 What are the major differences between metals and non-metals?
- 3.27 Use the periodic table to answer the following questions.
 (a) Identify an element with five electrons in the outer subshell.
 (b) Identify an element that would tend to lose two electrons.
 (c) Identify an element that would tend to gain two electrons.
 (d) Identify the group having metal, non-metal, liquid as well as gas at the room temperature.
- 3.28 The increasing order of reactivity among group 1 elements is $\text{Li} < \text{Na} < \text{K} < \text{Rb} < \text{Cs}$ whereas that among group 17 elements is $\text{F} > \text{Cl} > \text{Br} > \text{I}$. Explain.
- 3.29 Write the general outer electronic configuration of *s*-, *p*-, *d*- and *f*-block elements.
- 3.30 Assign the position of the element having outer electronic configuration
 (i) ns^2np^4 for $n=3$ (ii) $(n-1)d^2ns^2$ for $n=4$, and (iii) $(n-2)f^7(n-1)d^1ns^2$ for $n=6$, in the periodic table.
- 3.31 The first ($\Delta_i H_1$) and the second ($\Delta_i H_2$) ionization enthalpies (in kJ mol^{-1}) and the ($\Delta_{eq} H$) electron gain enthalpy (in kJ mol^{-1}) of a few elements are given below:

Elements	ΔH_1	ΔH_2	$\Delta_{eq} H$
I	520	7300	-60
II	419	3051	-48
III	1681	3374	-328
IV	1008	1846	-295
V	2372	5251	+48
VI	738	1451	-40

Which of the above elements is likely to be :

- (a) the least reactive element.
 (b) the most reactive metal.
 (c) the most reactive non-metal.
 (d) the least reactive non-metal.
 (e) the metal which can form a stable binary halide of the formula MX_2 ($\text{X}=\text{halogen}$).
 (f) the metal which can form a predominantly stable covalent halide of the formula MX ($\text{X}=\text{halogen}$)?
- 3.32 Predict the formulas of the stable binary compounds that would be formed by the combination of the following pairs of elements.
 (a) Lithium and oxygen (b) Magnesium and nitrogen
 (c) Aluminium and iodine (d) Silicon and oxygen
 (e) Phosphorus and fluorine (f) Element 71 and fluorine
- 3.33 In the modern periodic table, the period indicates the value of :
 (a) atomic number
 (b) atomic mass
 (c) principal quantum number
 (d) azimuthal quantum number.
- 3.34 Which of the following statements related to the modern periodic table is incorrect?
 (a) The *p*-block has 6 columns, because a maximum of 6 electrons can occupy all the orbitals in a *p*-shell.

- (b) The *d*-block has 8 columns, because a maximum of 8 electrons can occupy all the orbitals in a *d*-subshell.
 - (c) Each block contains a number of columns equal to the number of electrons that can occupy that subshell.
 - (d) The block indicates value of azimuthal quantum number (*l*) for the last subshell that received electrons in building up the electronic configuration.
- 3.35 Anything that influences the valence electrons will affect the chemistry of the element. Which one of the following factors does not affect the valence shell?
- (a) Valence principal quantum number (*n*)
 - (b) Nuclear charge (*Z*)
 - (c) Nuclear mass
 - (d) Number of core electrons.
- 3.36 The size of isoelectronic species — F^- , Ne and Na^+ is affected by
- (a) nuclear charge (*Z*)
 - (b) valence principal quantum number (*n*)
 - (c) electron-electron interaction in the outer orbitals
 - (d) none of the factors because their size is the same.
- 3.37 Which one of the following statements is incorrect in relation to ionization enthalpy?
- (a) Ionization enthalpy increases for each successive electron.
 - (b) The greatest increase in ionization enthalpy is experienced on removal of electron from core noble gas configuration.
 - (c) End of valence electrons is marked by a big jump in ionization enthalpy.
 - (d) Removal of electron from orbitals bearing lower *n* value is easier than from orbital having higher *n* value.
- 3.38 Considering the elements B, Al, Mg, and K, the correct order of their metallic character is :
- (a) $B > Al > Mg > K$
 - (b) $Al > Mg > B > K$
 - (c) $Mg > Al > K > B$
 - (d) $K > Mg > Al > B$
- 3.39 Considering the elements B, C, N, F, and Si, the correct order of their non-metallic character is :
- (a) $B > C > Si > N > F$
 - (b) $Si > C > B > N > F$
 - (c) $F > N > C > B > Si$
 - (d) $F > N > C > Si > B$
- 3.40 Considering the elements F, Cl, O and N, the correct order of their chemical reactivity in terms of oxidizing property is :
- (a) $F > Cl > O > N$
 - (b) $F > O > Cl > N$
 - (c) $Cl > F > O > N$
 - (d) $O > F > N > Cl$

CHEMICAL BONDING AND MOLECULAR STRUCTURE

Objectives

After studying this Unit, you will be able to

- understand Kössel-Lewis approach to chemical bonding;
- explain the octet rule and its limitations, draw Lewis structures of simple molecules;
- explain the formation of different types of bonds;
- describe the VSEPR theory and predict the geometry of simple molecules;
- explain the valence bond approach for the formation of covalent bonds;
- predict the directional properties of covalent bonds;
- explain the different types of hybridisation involving *s*, *p* and *d* orbitals and draw shapes of simple covalent molecules;
- describe the molecular orbital theory of homonuclear diatomic molecules;
- explain the concept of hydrogen bond.

Scientists are constantly discovering new compounds, orderly arranging the facts about them, trying to explain with the existing knowledge, organising to modify the earlier views or evolve theories for explaining the newly observed facts.

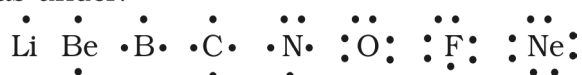
Matter is made up of one or different type of elements. Under normal conditions no other element exists as an independent atom in nature, except noble gases. However, a group of atoms is found to exist together as one species having characteristic properties. Such a group of atoms is called a molecule. Obviously there must be some force which holds these constituent atoms together in the molecules. **The attractive force which holds various constituents (atoms, ions, etc.) together in different chemical species is called a chemical bond.** Since the formation of chemical compounds takes place as a result of combination of atoms of various elements in different ways, it raises many questions. Why do atoms combine? Why are only certain combinations possible? Why do some atoms combine while certain others do not? Why do molecules possess definite shapes? To answer such questions different theories and concepts have been put forward from time to time. These are Kössel-Lewis approach, Valence Shell Electron Pair Repulsion (VSEPR) Theory, Valence Bond (VB) Theory and Molecular Orbital (MO) Theory. The evolution of various theories of valence and the interpretation of the nature of chemical bonds have closely been related to the developments in the understanding of the structure of atom, the electronic configuration of elements and the periodic table. Every system tends to be more stable and bonding is nature's way of lowering the energy of the system to attain stability.

4.1 KÖSSEL-LEWIS APPROACH TO CHEMICAL BONDING

In order to explain the formation of chemical bond in terms of electrons, a number of attempts were made, but it was only in 1916 when Kössel and Lewis succeeded independently in giving a satisfactory explanation. They were the first to provide some logical explanation of valence which was based on the inertness of noble gases.

Lewis pictured the atom in terms of a positively charged 'Kernel' (the nucleus plus the inner electrons) and the outer shell that could accommodate a maximum of eight electrons. He, further assumed that these eight electrons occupy the corners of a cube which surround the 'Kernel'. Thus the single outer shell electron of sodium would occupy one corner of the cube, while in the case of a noble gas all the eight corners would be occupied. This octet of electrons, represents a particularly stable electronic arrangement. **Lewis postulated that atoms achieve the stable octet when they are linked by chemical bonds.** In the case of sodium and chlorine, this can happen by the transfer of an electron from sodium to chlorine thereby giving the Na^+ and Cl^- ions. In the case of other molecules like Cl_2 , H_2 , F_2 , etc., the bond is formed by the sharing of a pair of electrons between the atoms. In the process each atom attains a **stable outer octet of electrons.**

Lewis Symbols: In the formation of a molecule, only the outer shell electrons take part in chemical combination and they are known as **valence electrons**. The inner shell electrons are well protected and are generally not involved in the combination process. G.N. Lewis, an American chemist introduced simple notations to represent valence electrons in an atom. These notations are called **Lewis symbols**. For example, the Lewis symbols for the elements of second period are as under:



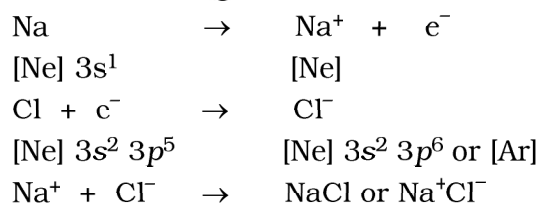
Significance of Lewis Symbols : The number of dots around the symbol represents

the number of valence electrons. This number of valence electrons helps to calculate the common or **group valence** of the element. The group valence of the elements is generally either equal to the number of dots in Lewis symbols or 8 minus the number of dots or valence electrons.

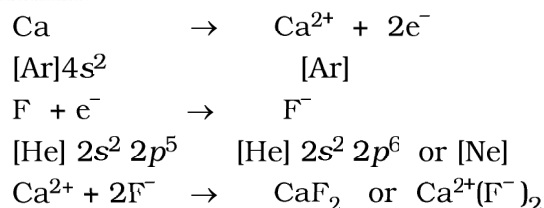
Kössel, in relation to chemical bonding, drew attention to the following facts:

- In the periodic table, the highly electronegative halogens and the highly electropositive alkali metals are separated by the noble gases;
- The formation of a negative ion from a halogen atom and a positive ion from an alkali metal atom is associated with the gain and loss of an electron by the respective atoms;
- The negative and positive ions thus formed attain stable noble gas electronic configurations. The noble gases (with the exception of helium which has a duplet of electrons) have a particularly stable outer shell configuration of eight (octet) electrons, ns^2np^6 .
- The negative and positive ions are stabilized by electrostatic attraction.

For example, the formation of NaCl from sodium and chlorine, according to the above scheme, can be explained as:



Similarly the formation of CaF_2 may be shown as:



The bond formed, as a result of the electrostatic attraction between the positive and negative ions was termed as

the electrovalent bond. The electrovalence is thus equal to the number of unit charge(s) on the ion. Thus, calcium is assigned a positive electrovalence of two, while chlorine a negative electrovalence of one.

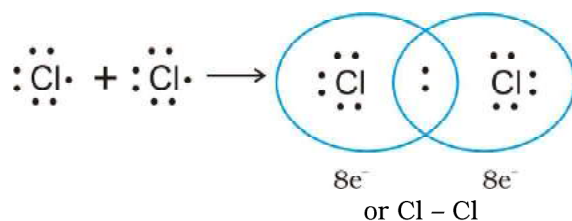
Kössel's postulations provide the basis for the modern concepts regarding ion-formation by electron transfer and the formation of ionic crystalline compounds. His views have proved to be of great value in the understanding and systematisation of the ionic compounds. At the same time he did recognise the fact that a large number of compounds did not fit into these concepts.

4.1.1 Octet Rule

Kössel and Lewis in 1916 developed an important theory of chemical combination between atoms known as **electronic theory of chemical bonding**. According to this, atoms can combine either by transfer of valence electrons from one atom to another (gaining or losing) or by sharing of valence electrons in order to have an octet in their valence shells. This is known as **octet rule**.

4.1.2 Covalent Bond

Langmuir (1919) refined the Lewis postulations by abandoning the idea of the stationary cubical arrangement of the octet, and by introducing the term **covalent bond**. The Lewis-Langmuir theory can be understood by considering the formation of the chlorine molecule, Cl_2 . The Cl atom with electronic configuration, $[\text{Ne}]3s^2 3p^5$, is one electron short of the argon configuration. The formation of the Cl_2 molecule can be understood in terms of the sharing of a pair of electrons between the two chlorine atoms, each chlorine atom contributing one electron to the shared pair. In the process both



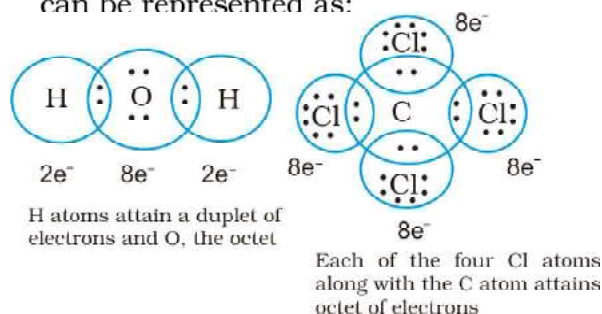
Covalent bond between two Cl atoms

chlorine atoms attain the outer shell octet of the nearest noble gas (i.e., argon).

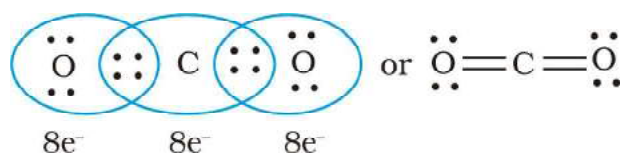
The dots represent electrons. Such structures are referred to as Lewis dot structures.

The Lewis dot structures can be written for other molecules also, in which the combining atoms may be identical or different. The important conditions being that:

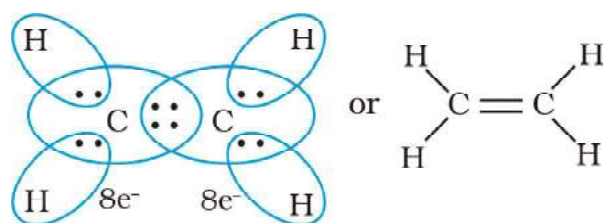
- Each bond is formed as a result of sharing of an electron pair between the atoms.
- Each combining atom contributes at least one electron to the shared pair.
- The combining atoms attain the outer-shell noble gas configurations as a result of the sharing of electrons.
- Thus in water and carbon tetrachloride molecules, formation of covalent bonds can be represented as:



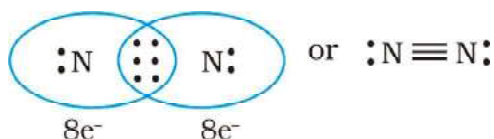
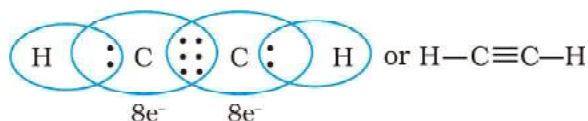
Thus, when two atoms share one electron pair they are said to be joined by a single covalent bond. In many compounds we have **multiple bonds** between atoms. The formation of multiple bonds envisages sharing of more than one electron pair between two atoms. **If two atoms share two pairs of electrons, the covalent bond between them is called a double bond.** For example, in the carbon dioxide molecule, we have two double bonds between the carbon and oxygen atoms. Similarly in ethene molecule the two carbon atoms are joined by a double bond.



Double bonds in CO_2 molecule

 C_2H_4 molecule

When combining atoms share three electron pairs as in the case of two nitrogen atoms in the N_2 molecule and the two carbon atoms in the ethyne molecule, a triple bond is formed.

 N_2 molecule C_2H_2 molecule

4.1.3 Lewis Representation of Simple Molecules (the Lewis Structures)

The Lewis dot structures provide a picture of bonding in molecules and ions in terms of the shared pairs of electrons and the octet rule. While such a picture may not explain the bonding and behaviour of a molecule completely, it does help in understanding the formation and properties of a molecule to a large extent. Writing of Lewis dot structures of molecules is, therefore, very useful. The Lewis dot structures can be written by adopting the following steps:

- The total number of electrons required for writing the structures are obtained by adding the valence electrons of the combining atoms. For example, in the CH_4 molecule there are eight valence electrons available for bonding (4 from carbon and 4 from the four hydrogen atoms).
- For anions, each negative charge would mean addition of one electron. For cations, each positive charge would result

in subtraction of one electron from the total number of valence electrons. For example, for the CO_3^{2-} ion, the two negative charges indicate that there are two additional electrons than those provided by the neutral atoms. For NH_4^+ ion, one positive charge indicates the loss of one electron from the group of neutral atoms.

- Knowing the chemical symbols of the combining atoms and having knowledge of the skeletal structure of the compound (known or guessed intelligently), it is easy to distribute the total number of electrons as bonding shared pairs between the atoms in proportion to the total bonds.
- In general the least electronegative atom occupies the central position in the molecule/ion. For example in the NF_3 and CO_3^{2-} , nitrogen and carbon are the central atoms whereas fluorine and oxygen occupy the terminal positions.
- After accounting for the shared pairs of electrons for single bonds, the remaining electron pairs are either utilized for multiple bonding or remain as the lone pairs. The basic requirement being that each bonded atom gets an octet of electrons.

Lewis representations of a few molecules/ions are given in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 The Lewis Representation of Some Molecules

Molecule/Ion	Lewis Representation	
H_2	$H : H^*$	$H - H$
O_2	$:\ddot{O}::\ddot{O}:$	$:\ddot{O}=\ddot{O}:$
O_3	$\begin{array}{c} \ddot{O}^+ \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{O}::\ddot{O}: \\ \vdots \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \ddot{O}^+ \\ \parallel \\ :\ddot{O}-\ddot{O}: \\ \vdots \end{array}$
NF_3	$\begin{array}{c} :\ddot{F}: \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{N}::\ddot{F}: \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{F}: \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} :\ddot{F}-\ddot{N}-\ddot{F}: \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{F}: \end{array}$
CO_3^{2-}	$\left[\begin{array}{c} :\ddot{O}: \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{O}::\ddot{C}::\ddot{O}: \\ \vdots \end{array} \right]^{2-}$	$\left[\begin{array}{c} :\ddot{O}: \\ \parallel \\ :\ddot{O}-\ddot{C}-\ddot{O}: \\ \vdots \end{array} \right]^{2-}$
HNO_3	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ :\ddot{O}::\ddot{N}::\ddot{O}:H \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{O}: \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \ddot{O}=\ddot{N}-\ddot{O}-H \\ \vdots \\ :\ddot{O}: \end{array}$

* Each H atom attains the configuration of helium (a duplet of electrons)

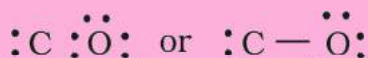
Write the Lewis dot structure of CO molecule.

Solution

Step 1. Count the total number of valence electrons of carbon and oxygen atoms. The outer (valence) shell configurations of carbon and oxygen atoms are: $2s^2 2p^2$ and $2s^2 2p^4$, respectively. The valence electrons available are $4 + 6 = 10$.

Step 2. The skeletal structure of CO is written as: C O

Step 3. Draw a single bond (one shared electron pair) between C and O and complete the octet on O, the remaining two electrons are the lone pair on C.



This does not complete the octet on carbon and hence we have to resort to multiple bonding (in this case a triple bond) between C and O atoms. This satisfies the octet rule condition for both atoms.

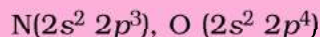


Problem 4.2

Write the Lewis structure of the nitrite ion, NO_2^- .

Solution

Step 1. Count the total number of valence electrons of the nitrogen atom, the oxygen atoms and the additional one negative charge (equal to one electron).



$$5 + (2 \times 6) + 1 = 18 \text{ electrons}$$

Step 2. The skeletal structure of NO_2^- is written as: O N O

Step 3. Draw a single bond (one shared electron pair) between the nitrogen and each of the oxygen atoms completing the

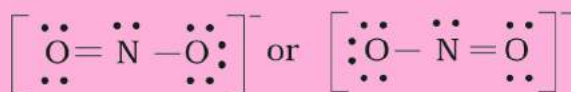
octets on oxygen atoms. This, however, does not complete the octet on nitrogen if the remaining two electrons constitute lone pair on it.



Hence we have to resort to multiple bonding between nitrogen and one of the oxygen atoms (in this case a double bond). This leads to the following Lewis dot structures.



or



4.1.4 Formal Charge

Lewis dot structures, in general, do not represent the actual shapes of the molecules. In case of polyatomic ions, the net charge is possessed by the ion as a whole and not by a particular atom. It is, however, feasible to assign a formal charge on each atom. The formal charge of an atom in a polyatomic molecule or ion may be defined as the difference between the number of valence electrons of that atom in an isolated or free state and the number of electrons assigned to that atom in the Lewis structure. It is expressed as :

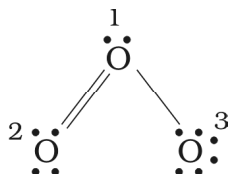
Formal charge (F.C.)
on an atom in a Lewis
structure

=

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{total number of valence} \\ \text{electrons in the free} \\ \text{atom} \end{array} \right] - \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{total number of non} \\ \text{bonding (lone pair)} \\ \text{electrons} \end{array} \right] - (1/2) \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{total number of} \\ \text{bonding (shared)} \\ \text{electrons} \end{array} \right]$$

The counting is based on the assumption that the atom in the molecule owns one electron of each shared pair and both the electrons of a lone pair.

Let us consider the ozone molecule (O_3). The Lewis structure of O_3 may be drawn as :



The atoms have been numbered as 1, 2 and 3. The formal charge on:

- The central O atom marked 1

$$= 6 - 2 - \frac{1}{2}(6) = +1$$

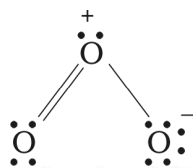
- The end O atom marked 2

$$= 6 - 4 - \frac{1}{2}(4) = 0$$

- The end O atom marked 3

$$= 6 - 6 - \frac{1}{2}(2) = -1$$

Hence, we represent O_3 along with the formal charges as follows:



We must understand that formal charges do not indicate real charge separation within the molecule. Indicating the charges on the atoms in the Lewis structure only helps in keeping track of the valence electrons in the molecule. Formal charges help in the selection of the lowest energy structure from a number of possible Lewis structures for a given species. **Generally the lowest energy structure is the one with the smallest formal charges on the atoms. The formal charge is a factor based on a pure covalent view of bonding in which electron pairs are shared equally by neighbouring atoms.**

4.1.5 Limitations of the Octet Rule

The octet rule, though useful, is not universal. It is quite useful for understanding the structures of most of the organic compounds and it applies mainly to the second period elements of the periodic table. There are three types of exceptions to the octet rule.

The incomplete octet of the central atom

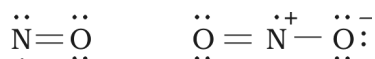
In some compounds, the number of electrons surrounding the central atom is less than eight. This is especially the case with elements having less than four valence electrons. Examples are $LiCl$, BeH_2 and BCl_3 .



Li , Be and B have 1, 2 and 3 valence electrons only. Some other such compounds are $AlCl_3$ and BF_3 .

Odd-electron molecules

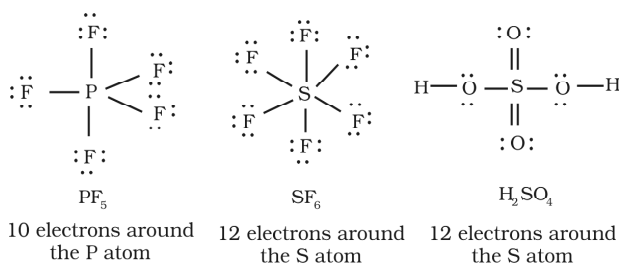
In molecules with an odd number of electrons like nitric oxide, NO and nitrogen dioxide, NO_2 , the octet rule is not satisfied for all the atoms



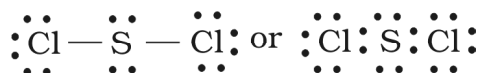
The expanded octet

Elements in and beyond the third period of the periodic table have, apart from 3s and 3p orbitals, 3d orbitals also available for bonding. In a number of compounds of these elements there are more than eight valence electrons around the central atom. This is termed as the expanded octet. Obviously the octet rule does not apply in such cases.

Some of the examples of such compounds are: PF_5 , SF_6 , H_2SO_4 and a number of coordination compounds.



Interestingly, sulphur also forms many compounds in which the octet rule is obeyed. In sulphur dichloride, the S atom has an octet of electrons around it.



Other drawbacks of the octet theory

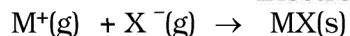
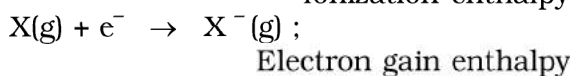
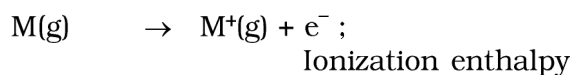
- It is clear that octet rule is based upon the chemical inertness of noble gases. However, some noble gases (for example xenon and krypton) also combine with oxygen and fluorine to form a number of compounds like XeF_2 , KrF_2 , XeOF_2 etc.,
- This theory does not account for the shape of molecules.
- It does not explain the relative stability of the molecules being totally silent about the energy of a molecule.

4.2 IONIC OR ELECTROVALENT BOND

From the Kössel and Lewis treatment of the formation of an ionic bond, it follows that the formation of ionic compounds would primarily depend upon:

- The ease of formation of the positive and negative ions from the respective neutral atoms;
- The arrangement of the positive and negative ions in the solid, that is, the lattice of the crystalline compound.

The formation of a positive ion involves ionization, i.e., removal of electron(s) from the neutral atom and that of the negative ion involves the addition of electron(s) to the neutral atom.

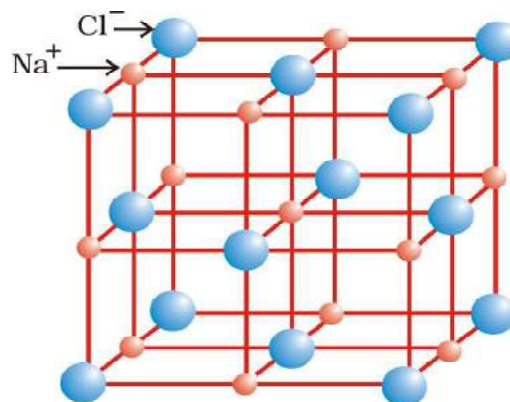


The **electron gain enthalpy**, $\Delta_{eg}H$, is the enthalpy change (Unit 3), when a gas phase atom in its ground state gains an electron. The electron gain process may be exothermic or endothermic. The ionization, on the other hand, is always endothermic. Electron affinity, is the negative of the energy change accompanying electron gain.

Obviously ionic bonds will be formed more easily between elements with comparatively low ionization enthalpies and elements with comparatively high negative value of electron gain enthalpy.

Most ionic compounds have cations derived from metallic elements and anions from non-metallic elements. The ammonium ion, NH_4^+ (made up of two non-metallic elements) is an exception. It forms the cation of a number of ionic compounds.

Ionic compounds in the crystalline state consist of orderly three-dimensional arrangements of cations and anions held together by coulombic interaction energies. These compounds crystallise in different crystal structures determined by the size of the ions, their packing arrangements and other factors. The crystal structure of sodium chloride, NaCl (rock salt), for example is shown below.



Rock salt structure

In ionic solids, the sum of the electron gain enthalpy and the ionization enthalpy may be positive but still the crystal structure gets stabilized due to the energy released in the formation of the crystal lattice. For example: the ionization enthalpy for $\text{Na}^+(\text{g})$ formation from Na(g) is $495.8 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$; while the electron gain enthalpy for the change $\text{Cl(g)} + \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}^-(\text{g})$ is, $-348.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ only. The sum of the two, $147.1 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ is more than compensated for by the enthalpy of lattice formation of NaCl(s) (-788 kJ mol^{-1}). Therefore, the energy released in the

processes is more than the energy absorbed. **Thus a qualitative measure of the stability of an ionic compound is provided by its enthalpy of lattice formation and not simply by achieving octet of electrons around the ionic species in gaseous state.**

Since lattice enthalpy plays a key role in the formation of ionic compounds, it is important that we learn more about it.

4.2.1 Lattice Enthalpy

The Lattice Enthalpy of an ionic solid is defined as the energy required to completely separate one mole of a solid ionic compound into gaseous constituent ions. For example, the lattice enthalpy of NaCl is 788 kJ mol^{-1} . This means that 788 kJ of energy is required to separate one mole of solid NaCl into one mole of Na^+ (g) and one mole of Cl^- (g) to an infinite distance.

This process involves both the attractive forces between ions of opposite charges and the repulsive forces between ions of like charge. The solid crystal being three-dimensional; it is not possible to calculate lattice enthalpy directly from the interaction of forces of attraction and repulsion only. Factors associated with the crystal geometry have to be included.

4.3 BOND PARAMETERS

4.3.1 Bond Length

Bond length is defined as the equilibrium distance between the nuclei of two bonded atoms in a molecule. Bond lengths are measured by spectroscopic, X-ray diffraction and electron-diffraction techniques about which you will learn in higher classes. Each atom of the bonded pair contributes to the bond length (Fig. 4.1). In the case of a covalent bond, the contribution from each atom is called the covalent radius of that atom.

The covalent radius is measured approximately as the radius of an atom's core which is in contact with the core of an adjacent atom in a bonded situation. The covalent radius is half of the distance between two similar atoms joined by a

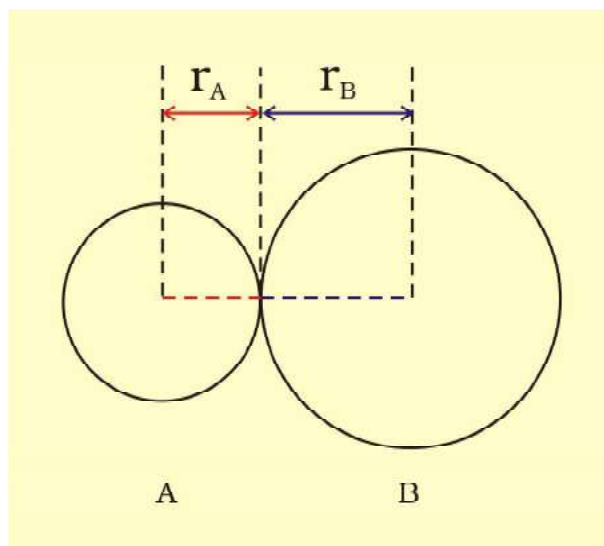


Fig. 4.1 The bond length in a covalent molecule AB.

$R = r_A + r_B$ (R is the bond length and r_A and r_B are the covalent radii of atoms A and B respectively)

covalent bond in the same molecule. **The van der Waals radius represents the overall size of the atom which includes its valence shell in a nonbonded situation.** Further, the van der Waals radius is half of the distance between two similar atoms in separate molecules in a solid. Covalent and van der Waals radii of chlorine are depicted in Fig.4.2

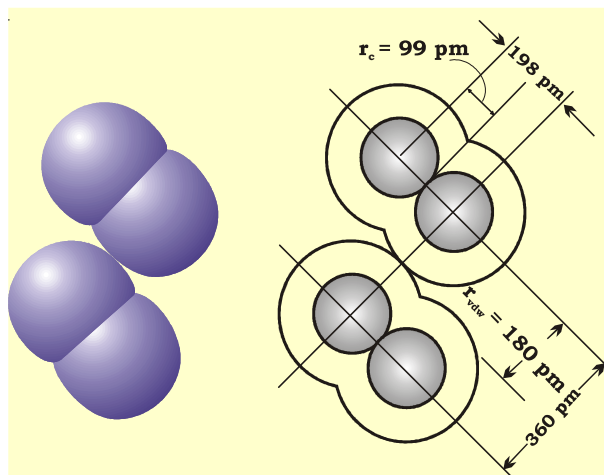


Fig. 4.2 Covalent and van der Waals radii in a chlorine molecule. The inner circles correspond to the size of the chlorine atom (r_{vdw} and r_c are van der Waals and covalent radii respectively).