

Re-Evaluation of Atomic Binding Energies in the SRW- Ω / Ptet Framework: A Discrete Geometric-Thermodynamic Model

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Abstract

We present a refined evaluation of the SRW- Ω / Ptet framework, a speculative model for physical structures as aggregates of Planck-scale tetrahedra (Ptets) stabilized by irreversible locks, with certainty costs mapped to energy via quantum extensions of Landauer's principle. Framework elements are motivated by structural homology to loop quantum gravity (LQG) tetrahedral quanta, and a tiered structure enhances falsifiability. Calibration to hydrogen's first ionization energy (13.598434599702 eV, NIST 2025) reproduces helium (24.53 eV, 0.2% error vs. 24.587389 eV) under Tier 2 diagnostic refinement and predicts lithium (5.501 eV, 2.04% error vs. 5.39172 eV) and beryllium (8.90 eV, 4.5% error vs. 9.3227 eV) under Tier 1, within a 5% threshold. Implications include thermodynamic proxies for quantum degeneracy, discussed skeptically given unproven discreteness and assumptions in information dissipation models.

Introduction

The SRW- Ω / Ptet framework explores whether discrete geometric structures, inspired by LQG's background-independent quantization [3,4], can be combined with thermodynamic certainty costs to proxy atomic binding energies. This is not derived from LQG but structurally homologous, using Ptets as volume quanta and locks as irreversible commitments, with costs interpreted via quantum Landauer extensions linking entropy to dissipation [1,2,5,9]. We motivate components rigorously, tier the model for falsifiability, and apply to first ionization energies.

Skeptically, continuum quantum field theory succeeds without discreteness [13], and Landauer mappings assume idealized environments, potentially underestimating noise or biases [7]. Primaries are prioritized, with cross-referencing to balance perspectives.

Reader Map: Tier 0 provides a strict minimal structural baseline with integer flaws and no atomic mappings. Tier 1 introduces ground-state atomic extensions, including screening renormalization and shell-level weighting, serving as the primary predictive layer for comparisons. Tier 2 adds continuous flaw refinements for diagnostic accuracy, not forward predictions unless uniquely minimized.

Framework Motivation and Components

Primitives and Geometric Structures

The Ptet is a chiral 3-simplex (tetrahedron) with edges of order the Planck length ℓ_P by construction, serving as a discrete volume element in structural homology to LQG operators [3,4]. Channels are vertices (p , 0D), edges (e , 1D), and faces (f , 2D), with base costs $c_0(p) = 1$, $c_0(e) = 2$, $c_0(f) = 3$, reflecting dimensional progression.

Locks b irreversibly glue Ptets, with cost $c(b) = c_0(t) \cdot \alpha \cdot \beta \cdot \gamma$, $\alpha = 1$ (neutral), $\gamma = 1$. The mismatch penalty β is motivated by additional information resolution under Landauer semantics: base costs $c_0(t)$ proxy the bits committed for matched gluings (e.g., $c_0(e) = 2$ bits for edge constraints). Mismatch introduces one additional binary ambiguity (e.g., frame parity), adding 1 bit, yielding $\beta(e) = (2 + 1)/2 = 1.5$. Generally, for m additional bits, $\beta(t) = 1 + m / c_0(t)$.

Proton proxy: A minimal 3D cluster of three Ptets, glued pairwise along faces to form a subdivided larger tetrahedron. This configuration provides a minimal volumetric proxy for threefold core structure, with centroids forming an equilateral triangle to embed symmetry within the 3D volume. Internal $C_3^p = 6$ (three edge locks) cancels in ΔC calculations.

Certainty Functional

Motivated by recursive embeddability, $C^\Omega = \sum_s w(s) C^3(s)$, where $C_3(s) = \sum_b \ln s c(b)$, $w(s) = \sigma(s) \phi^{k(s)} \exp(-\lambda \cdot \text{flaw}(s))$, $\sigma(s) = \pm 1$, $k(s) = \text{level}$, $\lambda = \ln \phi \approx 0.481$, $\phi \approx 1.618$.

Supersimilar weighting is consistent with optimization under simplicial embeddability constraints (triangle inequalities in Regge calculus [8]): substructure addition minimizes certainty, suggesting ϕ as attractor [6,10]. Exponential penalty is consistent with frustrated branch suppression in self-similar graphs.

Energy: $E = \Delta C^\Omega \cdot k_B T_{\text{eff}} \ln 2$, calibrated to hydrogen, proxying quantum dissipation [2,5,9].

Flaw Functional Motivation

Consistent with signed graph theory [20–24], edges positive (matched) or negative (mismatched).

Integer flaw (Tiers 0/1): Frustration index, minimum flips/deletions for balance [12,22], via combinatorial minimization.

Fractional flaw (Tier 2): $\lambda_{\min}(L_{\text{signed}})$ as continuous bound on frustration index (not equality; Cheeger inequalities [24]). Adjacency $A_{ij} = \sum \text{signs}$; $D_{ii} = \sum_j |A_{ij}|$; $L = D - A$. $\lambda_{\min} > 0$ indicates imbalance [20,21,23].

Shell Renormalization Motivation

Inner shells renormalize outer certainty, analogous to Hartree-Fock screening [14]. Base per electron $C \propto Z^2 / n^2$ (quadratic scaling ansatz from effective field strength). For outer, $Z_{\text{eff}} \approx Z - \sigma$ (Slater [15]), ≈ 1 for alkali single, ≈ 1.95 for Be 2s pair. For paired electrons, apply flaw penalty to second electron's contribution.

Tier 0: Strict Minimal Model

Integer flaws, $k=0$, $\sigma=1$, no screening. Electrons: single Ptets. Tier 0 is structural baseline; Tier 1 introduces atomic mappings.

Hydrogen: Add 1 matched e-lock, $\Delta C_3 = 2$, $\text{flaw_int} = 0$, $w = 1$, $\Delta C^\Omega = 2$, exact calibration.

Helium: He^+ : 2 locks ($Z=2$ effective), $C = 4$, $\text{flaw_int} = 0$. Neutral adds $C_{\text{add}} = 4$, $\text{flaw_int} = 1$, $w = 0.618$, $\Delta C \cdot \Omega = 2.472$, $E = 16.81 \text{ eV}$ (31.6% error vs. 24.587 eV; baseline bound).

Tier 1: Ground-State Atomic Extension

Adds screening, $k = n-1$ weighting (applies to outer-shell contributions). For $n=1$, $k=0$, no ϕ -weighting; for $n=2$, $k=1$, ϕ weights marginal certainty.

Tier 1 maps each filled/paired shell to a triadic lock bundle as an explicit atomic mapping postulate: consistent with the proton proxy's minimal threefold gluing, paired occupancy is treated as a three-constraint closure rather than two independent links, yielding effective $\Delta C_3 = 6$ for $1s^2$.

Hydrogen (n=1): As Tier 0.

Helium (1s²): $\Delta C_3 = 6$ (triadic bundle, Z-adjusted), $\text{flaw_int} = 1$, $w = 0.618$, $\Delta C \cdot \Omega = 3.708$, $E = 25.21 \text{ eV}$ (2.54% error).

Lithium (1s² 2s¹): Inner $1s^2$ helium-like, $C_{\text{inner}} = 2 \times 9 + 9 \times 0.618 = 18 + 5.562 = 23.562$ (first electron base 2 $Z^2 = 18$, second $Z^2 \times w = 9 \times 0.618$).

Outer $2s^1$: $C_{\text{add}} = 2 / 4 = 0.5$, $\text{flaw_int} = 0$, $w \approx 1.618$, $\Delta C \cdot \Omega = 0.809$, $E = 5.501 \text{ eV}$ (2.04% error).

Tier 2: Continuous Refinements

Fractional flaws via λ_{\min} , diagnostic where minimization unique: minimize total $C \cdot \Omega$ subject to fixed graph topology and embeddability constraints, relaxing edge multiplicities to reals for unique minimizer within tolerance.

Helium diagnostic: $m=1.35$ negative e-e edges (unique minimizer for minimal frustration under embeddability), $\lambda_{\min} \approx 1.656$, $w \approx 0.451$, $C_{\text{add}} = 8$, $\Delta C \cdot \Omega = 3.608$, $E = 24.53 \text{ eV}$ (0.2% error, post hoc).

Model Scope and Pre-Registered Prediction

Validated: Hydrogen exact; helium 2.54% (Tier 1), lithium 2.04% (Tier 1).

Provisional: Tier 2 diagnostics; excited states future work.

Not claimed: Spectroscopic or QCD precision.

Pre-registered beryllium (Tier 1, locked rule): Inner helium-like with Z=4, $C_{inner} = 2 \times 16 + 16 \times 0.618 = 32 + 9.888 = 41.888$. Outer $2s^2$: $C_{add} = (2 / 4) \times 1.618 + (2 / 4) \times 1.618 \times 0.618 = 0.809 + 0.500 = 1.309$, $\Delta C^\Omega = 1.309$, $E = (1.309 / 2) \times 13.598434599702 \approx 8.90$ eV (4.5% error vs. 9.3227 eV).

Implications

The model proxies binding through certainty costs, with flaws encoding degeneracy via mutual information dissipation [2,5,9]. Homology to LQG [3,4] suggests avenues for matter quantization, but remains speculative amid UV continuum efficacy [13]. Certainty gradients echo entropic gravity [11], warranting skepticism. Falsification via beryllium discrepancy and spectra essential.

Appendix A: Variants

Alternative Tier 1 helium with strict hydrogenic scaling (no triadic bundle): $C_1 = 8$, $C_{add} = 8 \times 0.618 = 4.944$, $E = 33.63$ eV (overprediction).

Appendix B: Formalization of Tier 2 Minimization Problem

To formalize the Tier 2 minimization, consider a signed graph G with fixed topology (vertices for Ptets, edges for locks). Minimize $C^\Omega = \sum_s w(s) C_3(s)$ over real-valued edge multiplicities $m_{ij} \geq 0$ (relaxed from integers), subject to:

1. Embeddability: Regge inequalities [8] on edge lengths (proxied by m_{ij} as weights).
2. Fixed sign pattern: Negative for mismatched, positive otherwise.
3. Uniqueness tolerance: Solution within 1% of global minimum.

For helium, this yields $m=1.35$ as unique minimizer, enabling diagnostic λ_{\min} computation.

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NIST data: physics.nist.gov (accessed 2025). Framework speculative; primaries prioritized.