

Chem 001A Notes

Week 4

Danny Topete

October 20th, 2025

1 Monday Lecture: Oct 20th

1.1 Emissions Spectra and the Bohr Model

- We are now struggling with the emission spectrum of atoms to solve that question
- Every atom or molecule has a discrete emission spectrum
- They are unique to each atom, treat them as a bar code
- Then Rydberg Equation developed a formula to predict the emission spectrum of atomic hydrogen:

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R \left(\frac{1}{n_1^2} - \frac{1}{n_2^2} \right)$$

- Including Rydberg's constant to make it make sense
 - Postulate Bohr model to figure out the spectrum model
1. Called hydrogen atoms to only allow certain energy levels, called **stationary states**.
 2. Atom does not radiate energy while in a stationary state. (violation of classical physics)
 3. Atom changes to another stationary state (another orbit) only by absorbing or emitting a photon. Energy of photon ($h\nu$)...
- There is something about how atoms absorb photon to increase in energy level
 - When they emit the photon, they decrease a level of energy (as observed in emission spectrum)

- Assuming this is actually happens, you can explain the emission spectrum, hence, why it is a postulate
- The energy level can be calculated as

$$E = \text{const}(\frac{1}{n_{final}^2} - \frac{1}{n_{init}^2})$$

- Looks a lot like Rydberg's equation

$$\Delta E = E_{final} - E_{init}$$

1.2 Limitations of Bohr Model

- Only predicts transition energies for atoms

$$E = -2.18 \times 10^{-18} J \frac{Z^2}{n^2}$$

- This model requires quantum mechanics to fully understand the gaps

1.3 Quant description of hydrogen

- Going from Bohr model of "Orbits" → Quantum model of "Orbitals"
- $F = ma = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$, "position function" $x(t)$
This is a differential equation (I mean, both of them are). This is a time domain
- Wave Function, Ψ . $H\psi = E\psi$
This is a frequency domain
- When it comes to these, there is an infinite number of solutions
- Orbitals can be identified using combination of three integers called quantum numbers
- Each orbital has a mathematically defined shape
- Each orbital has a probabilistic "location" (?)
- n = Principle Quantum Number
 $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, \infty$
- L = Angular Momentum quantum number
 $L = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$
- m_L = Magnetic Quantum Number $-l, -l+1, \dots, 0, \dots, l-1, l$
- Go to office hours to solve these differential equations
- When it comes for the # of orbitals, $2l+1 = \#$ of orbitals
- $l = n-1, 0, -1, +1$

1.4 Terms and definitions for QUant

- **Shell:** Given value of principle quantum number n . There are inf # of shells labelled $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$
- **Subshell:** each shell divided into subshells, determined by angular momentum quantum number l . For given shell with principle quantum number n , there are $n - 1$ different subshells. Associated with each subshell is a letter designation.

(n, l, m_l)	Orbital Name	# of orbitals
$(2, 0, m_l)$	2s	1
$(2, 1, m_l)$	2p	3
$(4, 2, m_l)$	4d	5
$(4, 3, 1)$	4f	1

Table 1: Orbital Information

- Electrons go down, orbitals are in a square
- Electrons have some mass, they have a charge
- Electrons also have a spin
- We had no idea where mass came from until a few years ago.
Mass comes from the large hydron collider, and with sufficient energy. We get the Higgs field (Higgs boson). Particles interacting with the Higgs field makes mass.
- Spin exists, and use these properties to figure out how to put electrons into orbitals