

Problem Set #10

CHEM101A: General College Chemistry

Donald Aingworth

October 24, 2025

10 Topic E Problem 23

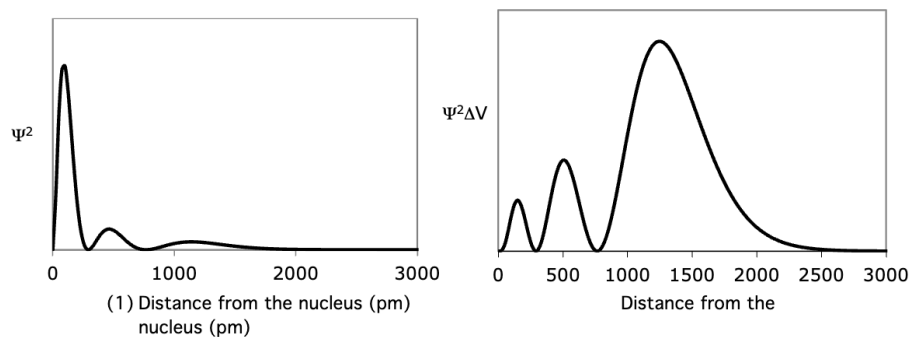
What are the possible values of m_ℓ and m_s for a 4f electron?

11 Topic E Problem 24

Explain why it is impossible for an orbital to have $n = 3$ and $\ell = 3$. (Hint: think about what these numbers are telling you about nodes.)

12 Topic E Problem 25

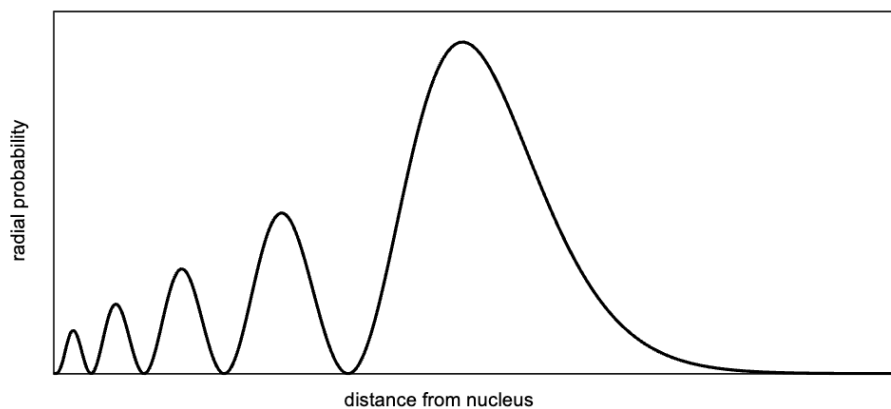
The two graphs below show the electron density and radial probability for an atomic orbital. (Both graphs show the same orbital.) Use the graphs to answer questions a through e below.



- Which graph is the electron density plot?
- What is the most probable distance between the electron and the nucleus for this orbital? (You will need to estimate it from one of the graphs.)
- How many radial nodes does this orbital have? How can you tell?
- Does this orbital have any angular nodes? How can you tell?
- If $n = 4$ for this orbital, what orbital is it?

13 Topic E Problem 26

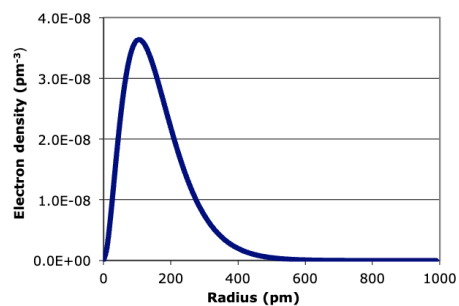
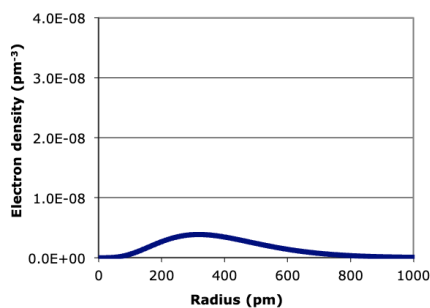
The radial probability plot below is for a p orbital. What type of p orbital is it (2p, 3p, 4p, etc.)? Explain your reasoning.



14 Topic E Problem 27

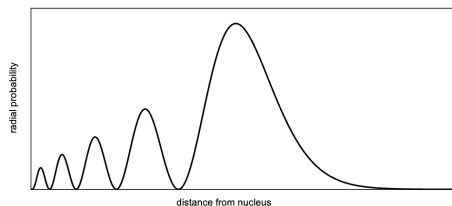
One of the electron density graphs below is for a 2p orbital and one is for a 3d orbital.

- Which one is which? Explain your answer.
- Explain why both of these graphs show just one “hump” (i.e. there is no place where the graph goes to zero).
- Explain why both of these graphs start at the origin.
- Give two examples of orbitals whose electron density plots would not start at the origin, and explain your answer.



15 Topic E Problem 28

A partial energy diagram for lithium (Li) is shown below. Answer questions a through d, using the information on this diagram and your understanding of emission spectra. This is a review problem.



1. Calculate ΔE for the $2p \rightarrow 2s$ transition in lithium, in kJ/mol.
2. Calculate the wavelength of light emitted during the $2p \rightarrow 2s$ transition, in nm.
3. When the outer electron undergoes a $5p \rightarrow 2s$ transition, the atom emits 256nm light. Calculate the energy of the 5p orbital, in kJ/mol.

16 Topic E Problem 29

Write ground-state electron configurations for the following atoms and ions. You may use inert gas abbreviations (for example, $[\text{Ne}]3s^1$ instead of $1s^22s^22p^63s^1$).

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Rb | 4. S^{2-} | 7. Co |
| 2. Rb^+ | 5. Cd | 8. Co^{2+} |
| 3. S | 6. Cd^{2+} | 9. Co^{3+} |

17 Topic E Problem 30

- a) Which has the higher energy in a hydrogen atom, the 3s orbital or the $3p_x$ orbital?
- b) Which has the higher energy in a phosphorus atom, the 3s orbital or the $3p_x$ orbital?
- c) Which has the higher energy in a hydrogen atom, the 4s or the 3dxy orbital?
- d) Which has the higher energy in a Mn atom, the 4s or the 3dxy orbital?
- e) Which has the higher energy in a Mn^{2+} ion, the 4s or the 3dxy orbital?

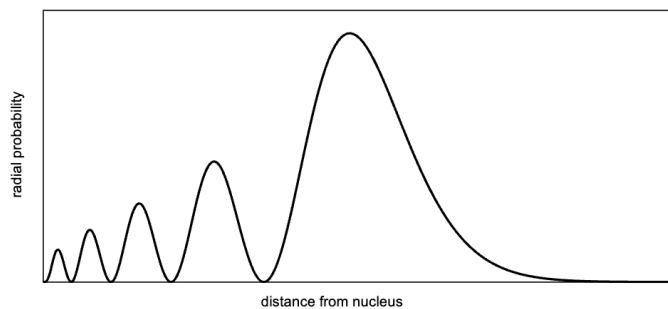
18 Topic E Problem 31

Which of the following configurations are ground states, which are excited states, and which are impossible configurations for an uncharged lithium atom?

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. $1s^3$ | 3. $1s^2 2s^1$ | 5. $1s^2 87f^1$ |
| 2. $1s^2 1p^1$ | 4. $1s^2 2p^1$ | |

19 Topic E Problem 32

One possible electron configuration for an oxygen atom is $[\text{He}]2s^22p^4$. Which of the following orbital energy diagrams represent the ground state, which represent excited states, and which represent impossible arrangements for the 2p electrons in an uncharged oxygen atom?



20 Topic E Problem 33

Draw orbital energy diagrams for the 3d and 4s orbitals in the ground states of the following atoms. Do not show any other orbitals (but include arrows for the electrons).

a) Mn

b) Ni

c) Mn^{2+}

21 Topic E Problem 34

Which ground-state atoms in period 4 (elements 19 through 36) have...

- a) no unpaired electrons?
- b) two unpaired electrons?

22 Topic E Problem 35

Draw an orbital energy diagram for the following configurations.

1. An atom that has the configuration $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$ and is diamagnetic.
2. An atom that has the configuration $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$ and is paramagnetic.

23 Topic E Problem 36

Which of the following configurations must be paramagnetic, which could be paramagnetic, and which cannot possibly be paramagnetic (i.e. they must be diamagnetic)?

Ne $3s$

Ne $3s^2$

Ne $3s^23p$

Ne $3s^23p^2$

24 Topic E Problem 37

- a) How many electrons have $n = 4$ in a ground-state atom of technetium (Tc)?
- b) How many electrons have $\ell = 1$ in a ground-state atom of arsenic (As)?
- c) How many electrons have $m_\ell = 1$ in a ground-state atom of krypton (Kr)?
- d) How many electrons have $m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$ in a ground-state atom of radium (Ra)?
- e) What is the maximum number of electrons that could have $m_\ell = 2$ in a ground-state atom of iron?
- f) What is the minimum number of electrons that could have $m_s = \frac{1}{2}$ in a ground-state atom of oxygen?

25 Topic E Problem 38

Explain each of the following observations. Explanations such as “Ca is larger than Mg because atoms get larger as you down a column of the periodic table” are not acceptable; you must tell me why this trend occurs.

- a) The atomic radius of Na is larger than the atomic radius of Mg.
- b) The atomic radius of K is larger than the atomic radius of Na.
- c) The ionic radius of S^{2-} is larger than the ionic radius of Cl^- .
- d) The ionic radius of Zr^{3+} is larger than the ionic radius of Zr^{4+} .

26 Topic E Problem 39

Arrange the elements Al, Ga, Ne, and S in order of increasing ionization energy (i.e. from lowest to highest). You should not need to look up the ionization energies to answer this question.

27 Topic E Problem 40

The list below shows the ionization energies for elements 36 through 40, in kJ/mol:

Element 36: 1351	Element 38: 549	Element 40: 640
Element 37: 403	Element 39: 600	

- a) Explain why the ionization energies increase as you go from element 37 to element 40.
- b) Explain why the ionization energy drops dramatically as you go from element 36 to element 37.
- c) Would you expect the ionization energy of element 35 to be lower than 1351 kJ/mol, or higher than 1351 kJ/mol?

28 Topic E Problem 41

An element in period 3 (elements 10 through 18) has the following ionization energies. Identify the element. Note: IE 1 is the energy required to remove the first electron, IE 2 is the energy required to remove the second electron, etc.

IE 1 = 787 kJ/mol	IE 3 = 3232 kJ/mol	IE 5 = 16,091 kJ/mol
IE 2 = 1577 kJ/mol	IE 4 = 4356 kJ/mol	IE 6 = 19,805 kJ/mol

29 Topic E Problem 42

The ionization energy of chlorine is 1251 kJ/mol. Based on this value, which of the following conclusions is reasonable? Select the correct statement, and fill in the blank with the correct orbital name.

- a) The energy of the ____ orbital(s) in chlorine is 1251 kJ/mol.
- b) The energy of the ____ orbital(s) in chlorine is -1251 kJ/mol.

Contents

10 Topic E Problem 23	2
11 Topic E Problem 24	3
12 Topic E Problem 25	4
13 Topic E Problem 26	5
14 Topic E Problem 27	6
15 Topic E Problem 28	7
16 Topic E Problem 29	8
17 Topic E Problem 30	9
18 Topic E Problem 31	10
19 Topic E Problem 32	11
20 Topic E Problem 33	12
21 Topic E Problem 34	13
22 Topic E Problem 35	14
23 Topic E Problem 36	15
24 Topic E Problem 37	16
25 Topic E Problem 38	17
26 Topic E Problem 39	18
27 Topic E Problem 40	19
28 Topic E Problem 41	20
29 Topic E Problem 42	21