

Exercise 11.1

Determine the irreducible representations of \mathcal{T}_d to which f-orbitals belong.

Solution 11.1

Firstly, the information of seven (un-normalized) f-orbitals is listed below and they are marked in my symbols.

angular function	f-orbital symfol	my symbol
$\sin \theta \cos \phi (5 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi - 3)$	$f_{x(5x^2-3r^2)}$ or f_{x^3}	f_1
$\sin \theta \sin \phi (5 \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi - 3)$	$f_{y(5y^2-3r^2)}$ or f_{y^3}	f_2
$5 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta$	$f_{z(5z^2-3r^2)}$ or f_{z^3}	f_3
$\sin \theta \cos \phi (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi)$	$f_{x(z^2-y^2)}$	f_4
$\sin \theta \sin \phi (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi)$	$f_{y(z^2-x^2)}$	f_5
$\sin^2 \theta \cos \phi \cos 2\phi$	$f_{z(x^2-y^2)}$	f_6
$\sin^2 \theta \cos \phi \sin 2\phi$	f_{xyz}	f_7

Then, the definition of all operation R is demonstrated below, and they are classified according to their classes. Note that $R(x', y', z')$ means that x, y, z are converted to x', y', z' , respectively.

- class E

There is only one element, i.e. identical operation E , which is $E(x, y, z)$.

- class C_3

There are 8 elements, whose information is listed below.

$C_{3xyz}(y, z, x)$	rotate $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $i + j + k$
$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z}}^{-1}(z, x, y)$	rotate $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $i + j + k$
$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z}}(y, \bar{z}, \bar{x})$	rotate $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $-i - j + k$
$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z}}^{-1}(\bar{z}, x, \bar{y})$	rotate $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $-i - j + k$
$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z}}(\bar{y}, \bar{z}, x)$	rotate $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $-i + j - k$
$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z}}^{-1}(z, \bar{x}, \bar{y})$	rotate $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $-i + j - k$
$C_{3x\bar{y}\bar{z}}(\bar{y}, z, \bar{x})$	rotate $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $i - j - k$
$C_{3x\bar{y}\bar{z}}^{-1}(\bar{z}, \bar{x}, y)$	rotate $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ clockwise around $i - j - k$

- class C_2

There are 3 elements, whose information is listed below.

$C_{2x}(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$	rotate π clockwise around x -axis
$C_{2y}(\bar{x}, y, \bar{z})$	rotate π clockwise around y -axis
$C_{2z}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, z)$	rotate π clockwise around z -axis

- class S_4

There are 6 elements, whose information is listed below.

$S_{4x}(\bar{x}, \bar{z}, y)$	rotate $\frac{\pi}{2}$ clockwise around x -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection
$S_{4x}^3(\bar{x}, z, \bar{y})$	rotate $\frac{3\pi}{2}$ clockwise around x -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection
$S_{4y}(z, \bar{y}, \bar{x})$	rotate $\frac{\pi}{2}$ clockwise around y -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection
$S_{4y}^3(\bar{z}, \bar{y}, x)$	rotate $\frac{3\pi}{2}$ clockwise around y -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection
$S_{4z}(\bar{y}, x, \bar{z})$	rotate $\frac{\pi}{2}$ clockwise around z -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection
$S_{4z}^3(y, \bar{x}, \bar{z})$	rotate $\frac{3\pi}{2}$ clockwise around z -axis and then perform horizontal mirror reflection

- class σ_d

There are 6 elements, whose information is listed below.

$\sigma_{d,yz}(x, z, y)$	perform mirror reflection about the $y - z = 0$ plane
$\sigma_{d,-yz}(x, \bar{z}, \bar{y})$	perform mirror reflection about the $y + z = 0$ plane
$\sigma_{d,xz}(z, y, x)$	perform mirror reflection about the $x - z = 0$ plane
$\sigma_{d,-xz}(\bar{z}, y, \bar{x})$	perform mirror reflection about the $x + z = 0$ plane
$\sigma_{d,xy}(y, x, z)$	perform mirror reflection about the $x - y = 0$ plane
$\sigma_{d,-xy}(\bar{y}, \bar{x}, z)$	perform mirror reflection about the $x + y = 0$ plane

Next, the result of the transformation of these orbitals under O_R is listed below.

element	E	C_{3xyz}	C_{3xyz}^{-1}	$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}z}$	$C_{3\bar{x}\bar{y}z}^{-1}$	$C_{3\bar{x}y\bar{z}}$	$C_{3\bar{x}y\bar{z}}^{-1}$	$C_{3xy\bar{z}}$	$C_{3xy\bar{z}}^{-1}$	C_{2x}	C_{2y}	C_{2z}
f_1	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_2	$-f_3$	$-f_3$	$-f_2$	f_3	$-f_2$	f_1	$-f_1$	$-f_1$
f_4	f_4	$-f_5$	$-f_6$	$-f_5$	f_6	f_5	$-f_6$	f_5	f_6	f_4	$-f_4$	$-f_4$
f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7
element	S_{4x}	S_{4x}^3	S_{4y}	S_{4y}^3	S_{4z}	S_{4z}^3	$\sigma_{d,yz}$	$\sigma_{d,-yz}$	$\sigma_{d,xz}$	$\sigma_{d,-xz}$	$\sigma_{d,xy}$	$\sigma_{d,-xy}$
f_1	$-f_1$	$-f_1$	f_3	$-f_3$	$-f_2$	f_2	f_1	f_1	f_3	$-f_3$	f_2	$-f_2$
f_4	f_4	f_4	f_6	$-f_6$	$-f_5$	f_5	$-f_4$	$-f_4$	f_6	$-f_6$	f_5	$-f_5$
f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7	f_7

Here, we check the character table of the point group \mathcal{T}_d ,

\mathcal{T}_d	E	$8C_3$	$3C_2$	$6S_4$	$6\sigma_d$	
A_1	1	1	1	1	1	$x^2 + y^2 + z^2$
A_2	1	1	1	-1	-1	
E	2	-1	2	0	0	$(2z^2 - x^2 - y^2, x^2 - y^2)$
T_1	3	0	-1	1	-1	(R_x, R_y, R_z)
T_2	3	0	-1	-1	1	(x, y, z) (xy, xz, yz)

and we find the character below for Γ^{rmhyb} for the \mathcal{T}_d point group.

\mathcal{T}_d	E	$8C_3$	$3C_2$	$6S_4$	$6\sigma_d$
$\chi^{\text{hyb}}(C_i)$	7	1	-1	1	1

We can calculate the reduction of representation Γ^{hyb} ,

$$\begin{aligned}
a_1 &= \frac{1}{24} [1 \times 7 \times 1 + 8 \times 1 \times 1 + 3 \times (-1) \times 1 + 6 \times 1 \times 1 + 6 \times 1 \times 1] = 1, \\
a_2 &= \frac{1}{24} [1 \times 7 \times 1 + 8 \times 1 \times 1 + 3 \times (-1) \times 1 + 6 \times 1 \times (-1) + 6 \times 1 \times (-1)] = 0, \\
e &= \frac{1}{24} [1 \times 7 \times 2 + 8 \times 1 \times (-1) + 3 \times (-1) \times 2 + 6 \times 1 \times 0 + 6 \times 1 \times 0] = 0, \\
t_1 &= \frac{1}{24} [1 \times 7 \times 3 + 8 \times 1 \times 0 + 3 \times (-1) \times (-1) + 6 \times 1 \times 1 + 6 \times 1 \times (-1)] = 1, \\
t_2 &= \frac{1}{24} [1 \times 7 \times 3 + 8 \times 1 \times 0 + 3 \times (-1) \times (-1) + 6 \times 1 \times (-1) + 6 \times 1 \times 1] = 1,
\end{aligned}$$

and we obtain

$$\Gamma^{\text{hyb}} = \Gamma^{A_1} \oplus \Gamma^{T_1} \oplus \Gamma^{T_2}. \quad (11.1)$$

For simplification, we summarize the operations of the same classes.

\mathcal{T}_d	O_E	$\sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}}$	$\sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}}$	$\sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}}$	$\sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}$
f_1	f_1	0	$-f_1$	$-2f_1$	$2f_1$
f_4	f_4	0	$-f_4$	$2f_4$	$-2f_4$
f_7	f_7	$8f_7$	$3f_7$	$6f_7$	$6f_7$

$$\begin{aligned}
P^{A_1} f_1 &= (1 \times O_E + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}) f_1 = 0, \\
P^{A_2} f_1 &= (1 \times O_E + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}) f_1 = 0, \\
P^E f_1 &= (2 \times O_E + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}} + 2 \times \sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}} + 0 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}} + 0 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}) f_1 = 0, \\
P^{T_1} f_1 &= (3 \times O_E + 0 \times \sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}) f_1 = 0, \\
P^{T_2} f_1 &= (3 \times O_E + 0 \times \sum_{k=1}^8 O_{C_{3k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^3 O_{C_{2k}} + (-1) \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{S_{4k}} + 1 \times \sum_{k=1}^6 O_{\sigma_{d,k}}) f_1 = 8f_1.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, f_1 belongs to T_2 , which is a three-dimensional irreducible representation. With

$$C_{3xyz}f_1 = f_2, \quad C_{3xyz}^{-1}f_1 = f_3,$$

we conclude that f_1, f_2 and f_3 belong to T_2 .

Similarly, we note

$$P^{A_1}f_4 = 0, \quad P^{A_2}f_4 = 0, \quad P^E f_4 = 0, \quad P^{T_1}f_4 = 8f_4, \quad P^{T_2}f_4 = 0.$$

So f_4 belongs to T_1 . Besides, with

$$C_{3xyz}f_4 = -f_5, \quad C_{3xyz}^{-1}f_4 = -f_6,$$

we can also conclude that f_4, f_5 and f_6 belong to the same three-dimensional irreducible representation T_1 .

$$P^{A_1}f_7 = 24f_7, \quad P^{A_2}f_7 = 0, \quad P^E f_7 = 0, \quad P^{T_1}f_7 = 0, \quad P^{T_2}f_7 = 0.$$

Thus, we conclude that f_7 belongs to the one-dimensional irreducible representation A_1 .

In conclusion, we find

- $f_1 \equiv f_{x(5x^2-3r^2)}$, $f_2 \equiv f_{y(5y^2-3r^2)}$ and $f_3 \equiv f_{z(5z^2-3r^2)}$ belong to the three-dimensional irreducible representation T_2 ,
- $f_4 \equiv f_{x(z^2-y^2)}$, $f_5 \equiv f_{y(z^2-x^2)}$ and $f_6 \equiv f_{z(x^2-y^2)}$ belong to the three-dimensional irreducible representation T_1 ,
- $f_7 \equiv f_{xyz}$ belongs to the one-dimensional irreducible representation A_1 .

Exercise 11.2

Show that for a molecule of octahedral symmetry the σ -bonding hybrid orbitals on the central atom are composed of six atomic orbitals: s, p_x, p_y, p_z, d_{z²} and d_{x²-y²}.

Solution 11.2

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\mathcal{O}_h	E	$8C_3$	$3C_2$	$6C_4$	$6C'_2$	i	$8S_6$	$3\sigma_h$	$6S_4$	$6\sigma_d$	
A_{1g}	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$x^2 + y^2 + z^2$
A_{2g}	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1	
E_g	2	-1	2	0	0	2	-1	2	0	0	$(2z^2 - x^2 - y^2, x^2 - y^2)$
T_{1g}	3	0	-1	1	-1	3	0	-1	1	-1	(R_x, R_y, R_z)
T_{2g}	3	0	-1	-1	1	3	0	-1	-1	1	(xy, xz, yz)
A_{1u}	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	
$4 A_{2u}$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	
E_u	2	-1	2	0	0	-2	1	-2	0	0	
T_{1u}	3	0	-1	1	-1	-3	0	1	-1	1	(x, y, z)
T_{2u}	3	0	-1	-1	1	-3	0	1	1	-1	

Exercise 11.3

Determine what type of π -bonding hybrid orbitals can be formed for the square planar AB_4 molecule which belongs to the \mathcal{D}_{4h} point group.

Solution 11.3

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\mathcal{D}_{4h}	E	$2C_4$	C_2	$2C'_2$	$2C''_2$	i	$2S_4$	σ_h	$2\sigma_v$	$2\sigma_d$		
A_{1g}	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		$x^2 + y^2, z^2$
A_{2g}	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1	R_z	
B_{1g}	1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1		$x^2 - y^2$
B_{2g}	1	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1		xy
E_g	2	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-2	0	0	(R_x, R_y)	(xz, yz)
A_{1u}	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1		
A_{2u}	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	z	
B_{1u}	1	-1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1		
B_{2u}	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1		
E_u	2	0	-2	0	0	-2	0	2	0	0	(x, y)	

Exercise 11.4

Show that for the square planar AB_4 molecule a possible set of four σ -hybrid orbitals on A is composed of the atomic orbitals: s, $d_{x^2-y^2}$, p_x , and p_y . Find explicit expressions for the four hybrid orbitals.

Solution 11.4

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