



Georgian-German Science Bridge

Structure of Matter (SoM): Lecture 1: Atoms

October 15, 2013 | Hans Ströher (Forschungszentrum Jülich)



"MAKE EVERYTHING AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE, BUT NOT SIMPLER." Albert Einstein

15. September 2013





Lecture is only about these 4% ...

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CAN BE SUB-DIVIDED INTO

Elements

Atoms

 the smallest component of elements that still retain the properties of the element.

Mixtures

 physical combinations of elements & compounds, e.g. salt water (salt + water) that can be sparated by physical means such as evaporating the water to leave the salt

Compounds

 combinations of two or more elements that CAN be separated using chemical means - but not by physical means.

Molecules

The smallest part of a compound that still retains the properties of the compound (a CHEMICAL combination of two or more atoms)





Discovery of the Atom

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All matter is composed of **atoms**, the different kinds being known as **elements**. There are 114 (+ x) elements identified, but only a few dozen are found in biological systems.





Universe: Hydrogen and Helium





Abundances (Weight)

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All atoms are constructed similarly:

- There is a nucleus with protons (particles with a positive electrical charge, p) and neutrons (neutral particles, n). [Exception: H nucleus has no neutrons.]
- Shells of electrons (particles with negative charge) surround the nucleus. Neutrons and protons are approx. 1800 times heavier than electrons.
- In its elemental ("neutral") state, an atom has equal numbers of protons and electrons.
- The atomic number of an element is the number of protons in the nucleus. It determines the chemical nature of the element.
- The atomic mass of an element is (approximately) the sum of the masses of protons, neutrons, and electrons present.





Atom = Nucleus (n, p) + Electrons

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Discovery of the Electron (J. J. Thomson)

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Charge of the Electron (R. Millikan)

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Discovery of the Nucleus (E. Rutherford)

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Atoms can gain or lose **electrons** to become more stable. Such a charged atom is called an **ion**.

An atom that gains electrons becomes negatively charged and is an anion; an atom that loses electrons becomes positively charged and is a cation.

Atoms do not ordinarily gain or lose **protons** of the nucleus; note that this would change them into a **different element**. However, this can be enforced by nuclear reactions (also possible for **neutrons**).



			 → ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ 	
No. of protons	1	1	1	
No. of electrons	0	1	2	Legend
Charge	+1	0	-1	proton
Notation	H⁺	Н	H-	neutron
Classification	cation	neutral (not an ion)	anion	 electron

lon = # Protons + #' Electrons, where $\# \neq \#'$



The **number of neutrons** in the nucleus can vary over a narrow range for an element.

- The different forms have identical chemical properties but slightly different masses. They are isotopes. Some are stable, but others are unstable (radioactive isotopes).
- The different isotopes of an element are indicated by placing a superscript before the symbol, where the superscript is the sum of the protons and neutrons.

Example:

¹H, ²H, and ³H are the three isotopes of hydrogen, the first being by far the most common. ³H is not stable but "radioactive": it decays into ³He, an electron and an anti-neutrino (\rightarrow more later)





Isotopes = Atoms with equal # p, different # n





Radioluminescence

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The number of **electrons** in the outer shell of an element largely determines how it behaves chemically.

- Atoms with the same number of electrons in the outer shell show many similarities. This enables the construction of a periodic table of the elements.
- \rightarrow Why this is so, will be the subject of this lecture!



BANKS LOOP		S E					B		Contraction of the second			497 B	COMPANY SACRE					
1 H Hydrogen						Key												2 He Helium
3 Li Lithium	4 Be Beryllium	4 Be Symbol 5 6 7 8 9 B C N 0 F													F	10 Ne Neon		
11 Na ^{Sodium}	12 Mg Magnesium							7					13 Al Aluminum	14 Si Silicon	15 P Phosphorus	16 S ^{Sulfur}	17 Cl ^{Chlorine}	18 Ar Argon
19 K Potassium	20 Ca _{Calcium}		21 Sc Scandium	22 Ti ^{Titanium}	23 V Vanadium	24 Cr	25 Mn Manganese	26 Fe	27 CO	28 Ni _{Nickel}	29 Cu _{Copper}	30 Zn ^{Zinc}	31 Gallium	32 Ge Germanium	33 As Arsenic	34 Se Selenium	35 Br Bromine	36 Kr Krypton
37 Rb Rubidium	38 Sr Strontium		39 Y Yttrium	40 Zr ^{Zirconium}	41 Nb Niobium	42 Mo Molybdenum	43 TC Technetium	44 Ru Ruthenium	45 Rh Rhodium	46 Pd Palladium	47 Ag _{Silver}	48 Cd _{Cadmium}	49 In Indium	50 Sn ™	51 Sb Antimony	52 Te	53 I Iodine	54 Xe
55 CS _{Cesium}	56 Ba Barium	*	71 Lu	72 Hf _{Hafnium}	73 Ta Tantalum	74 W	75 Re	76 Os Osmium	77 Ir Iridium	78 Pt Platinum	79 Au _{Gold}	80 Hg ^{Mercury}	81 Tl Thallium	82 Pb	83 Bi ^{Bismuth}	84 Po Polonium	85 At Astatine	86 Rn Radon
87 Fr Francium	88 Ra _{Radium}	* *	103 Lr Lawrencium	104 Rf Rutherfordium	105 Db Dubnium	106 Sg _{Seaborgium}	107 Bh Bohrium	108 Hs Hassium	109 Mt Meitnerium	110 DS Darmstadtium	111 Rg Roentgenium	112 Cn Copernicium		114 Fl		116 LV Livermorium		

	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
*	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb
	Lanthanum	Cerium	Praseodymium	Neodymium	Promethium	Samarium	Europium	Gadolinium	Terbium	Dysprosium	Holmium	Erbium	Thulium	Ytterbium
*	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102
*	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No
	Actinium	Thorium	Protactinium	Uranium	Neptunium	Plutonium	Americium	Curium	Berkelium	Californium	Einsteinium	Fermium	Mendelevium	Nobelium

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Institut für Kernphysik (IKP)

Folie 20



Atoms join together by means of **bonds** to form **molecules**.







Molecules = Combinations of Atoms

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A pentacene molecule comprised of 22 carbon atoms and 14 hydrogen atoms observed with an atomic force microscope

A Picture of Atomic Bonds

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When we put a sample of an element into a flame, it will shine in a color; examples:



The atoms first become **excited**; when the relax, they emit, e.g., visible light, the color of which depends on the element:





When the light emitted from a excited atoms is passed through a prism, discrete bands of color at **specific wavelengths** are observed:





Examples:





The light emission spectrum of hydrogen (and other atoms) can be used to determine the **excitation energy levels** in the atom:





The atomic energy levels are **quantized**, i.e. the energies available to an atom do not form a continuum, but have discrete values:

Energy Quantization



The student can stop at any point on the ramp. Her distance from the ground changes continuously.



The student can stop only at certain points on a flight of stairs. Her distance from the ground is **quantized**.



The visible part of the light emitted from (or absorbed by) hydrogen was first investigated by **Johann Jakob Balmer** (1885):



He found the following **empirical relation** for the wavelengths λ of the spectral lines:

$$\lambda = A\left(\frac{n^2}{n^2 - 4}\right) = A\left(\frac{n^2}{n^2 - 2^2}\right).$$



Subsequently, other spectral lines were found both in the UV (smaller wavelengths) and in the IR (larger wavelengths):



In 1888, **Johannes Rydberg** presented a formula to describe all of them: 1 - (1 - 1)

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

Here, n_1 (= 1, 2, 3, ...) and n_2 are integers such that $n_1 < n_2$ (= $n_1 + 1$, ...); R is the so-called Rydberg-constant

 $R = 1.097 \times 10^7 / \text{m} (\text{or m}^{-1}).$

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"Series" $n_1 = 1$ $n_2 = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, ...$ Lyman $n_1 = 2$ $n_2 = 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, ...$ Balmer $n_1 = 3$ $n_2 = 4, 5, 6, 7, ...$ Paschen $n_1 = 4$ $n_2 = 5, 6, 7, ...$ Brackett $n_1 = 5$ $n_2 = 6, 7, ...$ Pfund $n_1 = 6$ $n_2 = 7, ...$ Humphreys

The Spectral Lines of Hydrogen

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The **Bohr model**, introduced by **Niels Bohr** in 1913, depicts the atom as small, positively charged nucleus surrounded by electrons that travel in circular orbits around the nucleus – similar in structure to the solar system, but with attraction provided by **electrostatic forces** rather than gravity.



The model's key success lay in **explaining the Rydberg formula** for the spectral emission lines of atomic hydrogen.

Key questions: (i) why does electron not "fall into" nucleus ? (ii) why are only certain energies allowed ?





Niels Bohr



N. Bohr proposed that electrons could only have certain *classical* motions:

The electrons can only orbit in certain discrete distances from the nucleus.



These orbits are associated with definite energies and are also called **energy shells** or **energy levels**. In these orbits, the electron's acceleration does not result in radiation and corresponding energy loss as required by classical electromagnetics.



N. Bohr proposed that electrons could only have certain *classical* motions:

Electrons can only gain and lose energy by jumping from one allowed orbit to another, absorbing or emitting electromagnetic radiation with a frequency v determined by the energy difference of the levels according to the *Planck relation*:





N. Bohr's final condition (the angular momentum is an integer multiple of \hbar) was reinterpreted in 1924 by **L. de Broglie** as a standing wave condition: the electron is described by a wave and a whole number of wavelengths must fit along the circumference of the electron's orbit:





The **Bohr-Sommerfeld model** (1916) was a refinement, still based on classical mechanics: it assumes that electrons orbit the nucleus in ellipses (like planets ...) and has two characteristic numbers (n, l):



Main avantage: it could explain the so-called **fine-structure** of the spectral lines, making use of relativistic corrections ...
Lecture 1 – Atoms – Light Emission







Fine structure of Balmer (H_{α}) line

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Things turn out to be (much) more complex ... and interesting !



Lecture 1 – Atoms – Bohr Model



In order to fully understand the hydrogen atom, one needs (relativistic) **quantum mechanics** (which is beyond the scope of this lecture);

- The Bohr model does not always fully respect the "Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle", which states that the position of the electron and its momentum cannot be known with arbitrary precision simultaneously.
- The electron exhibits an internal characteristics called "spin", and an associated "spin magnetic moment", which provides two different states (energies) in any magnetic field.
- The same holds true for the proton (and neutron); all of them are called "fermions".
- The space, in which a hydrogen atom sits, is never empty, but it contains particle-antiparticle pairs, which interact, e.g., with the electron.







The intrinsic magnetic field of the electron due to its spin interacts with the magnetic field of the electron caused by its orbital motion (spinorbit interaction):

 \rightarrow spectral lines are split into two ("doublets").

Fine structure of hydrogen





Lamb Shift \rightarrow Quantum-Electrodynamics

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"Complete" hydrogen spectrum

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Lecture 1 – Atoms – Light Emission



Stellar Light Distribution



21 cm HI Distribution



21 cm hydrogen line in the universe

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Hydrogen in an external magnetic or electric fields: new effects

Applied field	Field strength	Effect	
Magnetic	weak strong	Zeeman Paschen-Back	
Electric	all	Stark	

E.g.: When an external magnetic field is applied, sharp spectral lines of hydrogen split into multiple closely spaced lines. First observed by **Pieter Zeeman** in 1896, this splitting is attributed to the interaction between the external magnetic field and the magnetic field associated with the orbital angular momentum of the electron.





Zeeman splitting (B-field)

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Breit-Rabi diagram

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Hydrogen and Anti-Hydrogen

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Atoms with **more than one electron** ... will be even more complex and complicated; the most simple cases are:

atoms, which have lost all but one electron ("hydrogen-like ions") e.g.:



atoms, which have only one electron in the outermost electron shell ("alkali atoms")

e.g.;



Lecture 1 – Atoms – Light Emission





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Lecture 1 – Atoms – Light Emission





Aurora Borealis (Northern Light)

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Nature's plan to build the (chemical) elements:

The most important constraint is the "Pauli Exclusion Principle" after **Wolfgang Pauli**:

No two "fermions" can exists in identical quantum states.

Applied to atoms, this principle has most profound consequences:

No two **electrons** in an atom can have identical quantum numbers.

There are the following **four quantum numbers**:

Name	Symbol	Allowed values
Principal quantum number	n	1, 2, 3,
Angular momentum	l	0, 1, 2,, n - 1
Angular momentum projection	m_l	$-l, -l + 1,, -1, 0, 1,, l - 1, l (or 0, \pm 1, \pm 2,, \pm l)$
Spin ^[1]	S	1/2(electrons)
Spin projection	m _s	-1/2, +1/2

Table 30.1 Atomic Quantum Numbers



		m Number, n = 1				n Number,	n = 2
n <i>E</i> 1 O 1 O		m s + 1/2 - 1/2	n 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	<i>e</i> 0 1 1 1 1 1	me 0 -1 -1 0 1 1	ms + 1/2 - 1/2 + 1/2 - 1/2 + 1/2 - 1/2 + 1/2 - 1/2 - 1/2	
element H He Li	Z 1 2 3	configuration 1s 1s ² 1s ² 2s	Li Be B C N	;	3 4 5 6 7	1s ² 2s 1s ² 2s ² 1s ² 2s ² 2p 1s ² 2s ² 2p ² 1s ² 2s ² 2p ³	

"Aufbau" Principle (I)





"Aufbau" Principle (II)

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"Aufbau" Principle (III)

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"Aufbau" Principle (IV)

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Chemical Properties

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Molecules, Crystals, ...

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Lecture 1 – Atoms – Summary



Atoms are the building blocks of matter; they are not fundamental but comprised of **electrons** (atomic shell) and a **nucleus** (with protons and neutrons);

Much about the **structure of atoms** has been learned from the **light** (emitted or absorbed by them), and from the structure, deep insight has been obtained about the basic underlying physics;

The **number of protons** in the nucleus fixes the **chemical element**. The **atomic shell** (structure) largely determines the characteristics of the elements, e.g., their **chemical properties**;

With the help of the **Pauli (Exclusion) Principle**, the Table of Elements can be constructed.

→ Why does the Table of Elements end ? → Next lecture!





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