

# The Pauli exclusion Principle

Statement: No two electrons in an atom exist in the same quantum state. The four quantum numbers  $n, l, m_l, m_s$  determine the state of an electron completely. Hence the principle may be stated as No two electrons in an isolated atom may have the same four quantum numbers.

## Explanation:

The principle implies that each electron in an atom must have a different set of quantum numbers,  $n, l, m_l$  and  $m_s$ . If two electrons have all their quantum numbers identical, then one of those two electrons would be excluded from entering into the constitution of the atom. Hence the name "exclusion principle".

## Application

This principle enables us to calculate the number of electrons that can occupy a given subshell.

consider K-shell.

$n=1, l=0$  and  $m_l=0$  and  $s=1/2, m_s$  can either be  $+1/2$  or  $-1/2$ . Hence K-shell will have 2 electrons. (ie) electron 1 with quantum numbers  $n=1, l=0, m_l=0$  and  $m_s=1/2$  and electron 2 with quantum numbers  $n=1, l=0, m_l=0$  and  $m_s=-1/2$ .

If there were a third electron, its quantum numbers will be identical

with those of the first or second which is against Pauli's exclusion principle. The K-shell is therefore completed or closed with two electrons.

## 2) For L-shell

\*  $n = 2, l = 0 \text{ or } 1$

\* For  $n = 2, l = 0, m_l$  must be zero and  $m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$ . Hence there can be two electrons in the subshell.

\* For  $n = 2, l = 1, m_l$  must have three values i.e.  $-1, 0, +1$  therefore for each value of  $m_l, m_s$  can have ~~three~~ <sup>either</sup>  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$  Hence there will be six possible values for the quantum numbers characterizing the ~~subshell~~ <sup>electron</sup>. Therefore, the maximum number of electrons in this subshell is 6.

The L-shell has two subshells [ $n = 2, l = 0$ ] and [ $n = 2, l = 1$ ] is therefore, completed when it contains  $2 + 6 = 8$  electrons.

## (3) For M-shell

$n = 3, l = 0, 1, 2$  [as  $l$  takes values  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ]

\*  $n = 3, l = 0, m_l = 0, \therefore m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$  } 2 values

$n = 3, l = 1, m_l = -1, 0, +1$  [as  $m_l$  takes values  $-l$  to  $+l$ ]

$\therefore m_l = -1, m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$  }  
 $m_l = 0, m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$  }  
 $m_l = +1, m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2}$  } 6 values for  $m_s$ .

$n = 3, l = 2, m_l = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2$  [as  $m_l$  takes values from  $-l$  to  $l$ ]

$m_l = -2$	$m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$	} 10 electrons for $m_s$
$m_l = -1$	$m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$	
$m_l = 0$	$m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$	
$m_l = 1$	$m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$	
$m_l = 2$	$m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$	

∴ for M shell = 2 + 6 + 10 = 18 electrons.

xx For N shell

$n = 4, l = 0, 1, 2, 3$  [ $l = n - 1$  values]

$m_l = 0, m_s = +1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$  (2 electrons) [ $l = 0$ ]

For  $l = 1, m_l$  takes 3 values [ $-1, 0, +1$ ]

$m_l = -1$	$2 e^-$ ( $+1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$ )	} 6 electrons
$m_l = 0$	$2 e^-$ ( $+1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$ )	
$m_l = +1$	$2 e^-$ ( $+1/2 \text{ and } -1/2$ )	

For  $l = 2$

$m_l$  takes  $(-2, -1, 0, 1, 2)$  (5 values)

$m_l = -2$	2 electrons	} 10 electrons
$m_l = -1$	2 electrons	
$m_l = 0$	2 electrons	
$m_l = 1$	2 electrons	
$m_l = 2$	2 electrons	

By

For  $l = 3, m_l$  takes  $(-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3)$

takes 7 values.

when $m_l = -3$	$\frac{1}{2} \uparrow -\frac{1}{2}$	$2e^-$	} 14 $e^-$
$m_l = -2$	"	$2e^-$	
$m_l = -1$	"	$2e^-$	
$m_l = 0$	"	$2e^-$	
$m_l = 1$	"	$2e^-$	
$m_l = 2$	"	$2e^-$	
$m_l = 3$	"	$2e^-$	

$\therefore$  N shell has

$$2 + 6 + 10 + 14 = 32 \text{ electrons}$$

Similarly in the  $n^{\text{th}}$  shell there are

(i)  $n$  sub shells corresponding to the values  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, (n-1)$  of  $l$ . The maximum number of electrons in a sub shell is given by with the given value of  $l$  is  $2(2l+1)$ .

orbital quantum number ( $l$ )  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$   
 Possible no. of electron states  $2, 6, 10, 14, 18, \dots$   
 Subshell symbol  $s, p, d, f, g, \dots$

(ii) The number of electrons that can be accommodated in a shell with principal quantum number  $n =$  sum of electrons in the constituent  $n$  sub-shells.

$$= \sum_{l=0}^{l=n-1} 2(l+1) = 2 \sum_{l=0}^{l=n-1} (2l+1)$$

$$= 2 [1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + [2(n-1)+1]] = 2n^2$$

The following table shows the distribution of electrons according to this scheme.

shell symbol	K	L	M	N	O
quantum number (n)	1	2	3	4	5
no of electrons ( $2n^2$ )	2	8	18	32	50

The distribution of electrons in the various states (shells and subshells) according to the exclusion principle is given in the following table.

n	l	$m_l$	$m_s$	Number of e <sup>-</sup> in sub shells with spectroscopic notation	Total number of electrons in shell = $2n^2$
1	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	2 1s <sup>2</sup>	2
2	0, 1	0	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	2 2s <sup>2</sup>	8
2	1	-1, 0, +1	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	6 2p <sup>6</sup>	
3	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	2 3s <sup>2</sup>	18
3	1	-1, 0, +1	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	6 3p <sup>6</sup>	
3	2	-2, -1, 0, +1, +2	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	10 3d <sup>10</sup>	
4	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	2 4s <sup>2</sup>	32
4	1	-1, 0, +1	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	6 4p <sup>6</sup>	
4	2	-2, -1, 0, +1, +2	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	10 4d <sup>10</sup>	
4	3	-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3	$\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$	14 4f <sup>14</sup>	

# The periodic classification of elements.

## The periodic table:

The periodic table is an arrangement of different elements that exist in nature, based on their chemical properties and atomic numbers.

Elements with similar properties form the groups shown columns in the table. Thus group I consists of hydrogen plus the alkali metals, all of which are extremely active chemically and all of which have valence of  $+1$ . group VII consists of the halogens that have valence of  $-1$ . group VIII consists of the inert gases which are chemically inactive.

The horizontal rows are called periods. As we go from left to right in the same period, the chemical and physical properties of the elements vary gradually as the atomic number increases. Since the atomic number gives also the number of electrons in the atom. It follows that the atoms of successive elements in the periodic table are formed by the addition of one more electron at each step.

We have already seen the arrangement of electrons in an atom by applying Pauli's exclusion principle. The notion of electron shells and subshells fits perfectly into the pattern of the periodic table. The total orbital and spin angular momenta of the electrons in a closed subshell are zero. The electrons in a closed shell

are all very tightly bound, since the positive nuclear charge is large relative to the negative charge of the inner shielding electrons. Since an atom containing only closed shells has no dipole moment, it does not attract other electrons and its electrons, cannot be readily detached. We see that atoms like the inert gases and the inert gases all turn out to have closed shell electron configurations.

Those atoms which have a single electron in their outermost shell, tend to lose this electron. Hydrogen and the alkali metals are in this category and accordingly have valences of +1. Atoms whose outer shell lack a single electron for being closed, tend to acquire such an electron, which accounts for the chemical behaviour of the halogens. It is clear that the chemical and physical properties of an atom are determined by the number and arrangement of the electron in the outermost-shell and not by the total number of electrons in the atom. In this manner the similarities of the members of various groups of the periodic table may be accounted for.

examples

The electronic configuration of an atom is the distribution of electrons in various subshells around the nucleus of the atom.

Small letters used to represent the values of  $l$  as

$$l = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \dots$$

subshells  $\rightarrow s, p, d, f, g, h \dots$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, 4 \dots \text{etc.}$$

shell - K, L, M, N etc

Hydrogen (Atomic number  $(Z) = 1$ )

$$n = 1, \therefore l = 0, m_l = 0 \text{ \& } m_s = +\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } -\frac{1}{2}$$

Symbolic representation is  $1s^1$   $[n l^{m_l} m_s]$

This belongs to K shell it requires one more electron to be completed. Hence atomic hydrogen is very active chemically.

Helium ( $Z = 2$ )

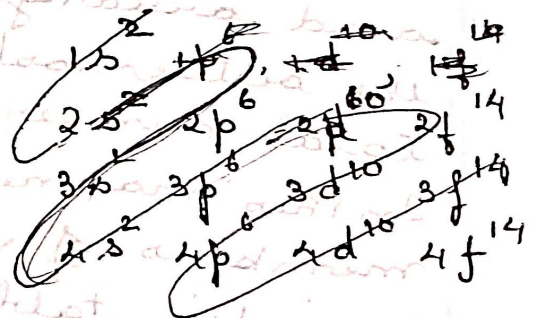
$$n = 1, l = 0, m_l = 0 \text{ \& } m_s = +\frac{1}{2} \text{ \& } -\frac{1}{2}$$

$1s^2$  - symbolic representation. This belongs to K shell and it is completed or closed as it has stable configuration.

Lithium ( $Z = 3$ )

$$n = 1, l = 0$$

$$1s^2 2s^1$$



Beryllium ( $Z = 4$ )

$$1s^2 2s^2$$

Boron ( $Z = 5$ )

$$1s^2 2s^2 2p^1$$

Carbon ( $Z = 6$ )  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2$



- Nitrogen (Z = 7) -  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^3$
- Carbon (Z = 6) -  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2$
- Oxygen (Z = 8) -  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$
- Fluorine (Z = 9) -  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^5$
- Neon (Z = 10) -  $1s^2, 2s^2, 3p^6$
- Sodium (Z = 11) -  $1s^2, 2s^2, 3p^6, 3s^1$
- Magnesium (Z = 12) -  $1s^2, 2s^2, 3p^6, 3s^2$
- Aluminium (Z = 13) -  $1s^2, 2s^2, 3p^6, 3s^2, 3p^1$