PHY100 — Recitation #5

1) In the Bohr model of the atom, what happens to the electron when the atom absorbs a photon?

What happens to the electron when the atom emits a photon?





Imagine the atom in the scheme on the left has four different states (orbits) in which the electron can exist. Below you can see a graphical representation of the electron energy in each possible state ($E_1 < E_2 < E_3 < E_4$)

a) In terms of E_1 , E_2 , E_3 and E_4 , what is the energy of the most energetic photon emitted by this atom?

b) In terms of E_1 , E_2 , E_3 and E_4 , what is the energy of the least energetic photon emitted by this atom?

Now use the values of the energies given and the fact that $h=6.6 \times 10^{-34}$ Js (or 4.1×10^{-21} MeVs):

c) What is the highest frequency light emitted by this atom?

d) What is the lowest frequency light emitted by this atom?

Look on p196 of Hobson to determine the region of the electromagnetic spectrum where light of this frequency would be found.

I know the - sign in the energies on the left is weird! It means the electron is bound by the atom: think of scale as offset from zero 1



2) Imagine an atom has 3 possible energy states in which the electron could exist.

How many spectral lines could be emitted by this atom?



3) Imagine an atom has 4 possible energy states in which the electron could exist.

How many spectral lines could be emitted by this atom?

4) When you calculate the energy of a multi-electron atom using a full-blown quantum mechanical treatment, the atom is most stable if it has all the possible quantum states in its outermost energy level filled.

We saw in class the allowed energy levels of the electrons in the atom were a solution of the Schrodinger equation. And that these are the first few, called: 1s, 2s, 2p, 3s, 3p, etc... in order of ascending energy:





- a) How can you tell the number of protons in each element listed?
- b) Elements are defined primarily by their chemical characteristics. What do I mean by this?
- c) Considering atoms with Z=1 (Hydrogen = H) through Z=18 (Argon=Ar), which elements would you expect to be most stable (least chemically reactive)?
- d) Can you determine the number of neutrons for each element listed in the periodic table?
- e) Do you think the number of neutrons in an atom's nucleus has an effect on its chemical characteristics? Why?
- f) Which atom would you expect to be larger... Z=10 (Neon=Ne) or Z=18 (Argon=Ar)?

- 5) Hydrogen (Z=1, H) reacts with chlorine (Z=17, Cl) to form Hydrogen chloride molecules which consist of 1 H and 1 Cl atom, written as HCl.
- a) From what you know about quantum stability and its dependence on the electron configuration (how the electrons fill the available orbitals), can you motivate why H and Cl join in a 1-to-1 ratio?
- b) What other atoms would you expect to join with chlorine in a 1-to-1 ratio in a chemical reaction?
- c) What do you suppose might be the ratio of Magnesium (Mg) to Chlorine (Cl) after a chemical reaction?