Atomic Physics

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Periodic table of elements



Schroedinger's Equation for multielectron Atoms



$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \left[\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right] -U(r)\Psi(r,\theta,\phi) = E \Psi(r,\theta,\phi)$$

Solutions give energy levels that are clustered in "shells"





Pauli exclusion principle

Only one electron per quantum state

Once a quantum state is occupied additional electrons are *excluded*



Lithium

Periodic table of elements



Chemical properties depend upon the outermost shell configuration



Periodic table of elements



Atoms combine to form *molecules* by filling outer shells



Atoms combine to form molecules by filling outer shells





Periodic table revisited



Quantum theory & Atomic spectra







Continuum Spectrum



Emission Line Spectrum



Absorption Line Spectrum



Spectra are atomic "signatures"



Decoding atomic spectra





1924 Otto Laporte

Allowed quantum states are either even or odd



Laporte rule is a consequence of Left-Right symmetry of Nature



Left ↔ Right symmetry = "Parity" symmetry

1963 Nobel Physics prize "for the discovery and application of fundamental symmetry principles"

L AR AR ± = ytira9 = 9 Baseball Football



Field (& rules) of football are parity symmetric



Rules of baseball are not parity symmetric

Even & Odd quantum functions

Even Function









Atomic red shifts



Laser

- Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation -



Laser

- Light Amplification by <u>Stimulated</u> Emission of Radiation -



Exactly in phase