

# MANY-ELECTRON ATOMS

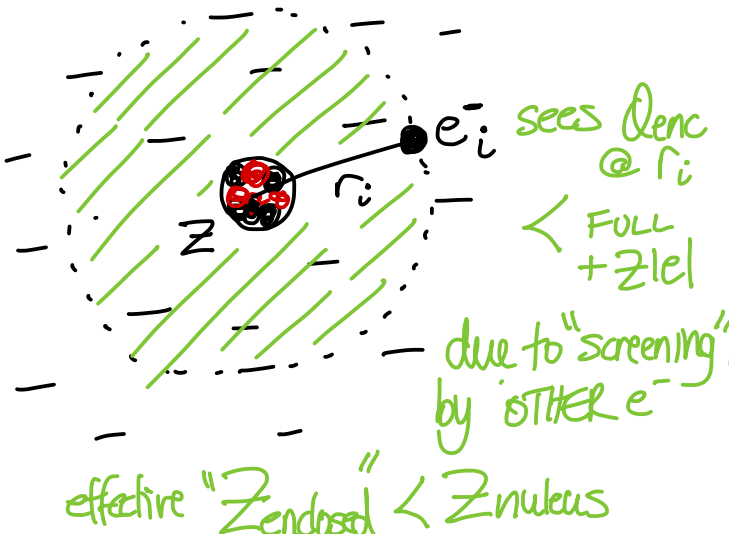
## Central Field Approx $\neq$ $V_{ee}$

for multi  $e^-$  atoms

$$H = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \frac{\hat{p}_i^2}{2m}}_{H_{\text{Bohr}}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_i}}_{V_{ee}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \sum_{j>i}^{N_e} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}}_{\text{REPULSION betw } e^- \text{ pairs}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \vec{s}_i \cdot \vec{l}_i}_{V_{s-o}}$$

+  $V_{\text{relativ}}$   
 +  $V_{\text{Lamb shift}}$   
 +  $V_{\text{hyperfine}}$

$V_{ee}$ : SCREENING effect



Approximate:  
 $H = T - \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \frac{Z_{\text{screened}} e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_i} + V_{ee \text{ residual}}$   
 where  $Z_{scr} < Z$   
 screened single-electron potential =  
central field approx  
 a.k.a. mean-field approx

left-over  $V_{ee}^{\text{residual}} \ll V_{ee} \ll$   
 $\therefore$  more tractable

⊙ screening explains FILLING ORDER of shells:  
 In multi- $e^-$  atoms, shells filled by order of increasing  $(n+l)$

$$E_n^{\text{Bohr}} \sim -\frac{1}{n^2} \dots E_n \uparrow \text{ with } n \quad \therefore \begin{array}{l} n=1 \text{ filled first} \\ n=2 \text{ " next} \\ \text{etc...} \end{array}$$

(less negative)

... add screening effect:  $\langle r \rangle$  of an  $e^-$  in state  $(n, l)$   
 grows with  $l \uparrow$  (centrifugal effect)  
 $\therefore$  amount of screening grows with  $l \uparrow$   
 $\therefore$  higher  $E$  = weaker binding with  $l \uparrow$

$\Rightarrow$  rule of thumb:  $E_{n,l} \uparrow$  with  $\sim (n+l)$

⊙ Closed shells = all states occupied

For each shell  $\equiv$  a given  $(n, l)$   $\exists$  a finite # of states  $(m_l, m_s)$

e.g. s-shells:  $m_s = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $m_l = 0 \rightarrow 2$  STATES

p-shells:  $m_s = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $m_l = -1, 0, +1 \rightarrow 6$  STATES

Filled shells are built from PAIRS with SAME  $m_l \neq$  diff.  $m_s$

e.g.  $1s^2$ :  $|gs\rangle = |0, 0\rangle_{m_l, m_{l2}} | \uparrow \downarrow \rangle_{m_s, m_{s2}} = |0 \uparrow 0 \downarrow\rangle_{1, 2}$

anti-symmetrize: swap every pair of pcle indices & subtract:  $- |0, 0\rangle | \downarrow \uparrow \rangle$

$$|gs\rangle = A \left[ |00\rangle |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |00\rangle |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right]$$

antisymmetrized for full 1s shell

↑  
norm. factor

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |00\rangle \left[ |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right]$$

spatial SYMMETRIC × spin ANTI-SYMMETRIC

What is term symbol  $2S+1 L_J$  ? ... what is total  $S$  ? → the  $S=0$  singlet

In general, every pair of electrons with the same spatial q.nos will have  $S_{\text{pair}}=0$

} closed shells are composed of such pairs

∴ they have

TOTAL  $S=0$   
TOTAL  $L=0$

... similarly,

# LS Coupling scheme a.k.a. Russel-Saunders scheme

For all but heaviest atoms,  
good q. nos for multi- $e^-$  atoms are APPROXIMATELY

$$L = \text{total OAM} = \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \vec{l}_i \right|$$

$$S = \text{total SPIN} = \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \vec{s}_i \right|$$

when  $\downarrow$   
spin-orbit  
term  $V_{s-o}$   
ignorable,  
i.e.  $\ll V_{\text{Coul}} + V_{ee}$

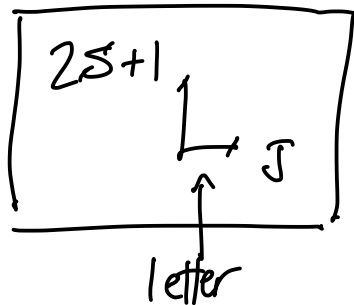
and  $J = \text{total AM} = |\vec{L} + \vec{S}| \leftarrow \text{not approx!}$

• no  $\vec{L}_{\text{EXT}}$  on atom?

•  $\mathcal{L}$  /  $\mathcal{H}$  spherically symmetric  $\equiv$  unchanged by global rotation

(FYI: when  $V_{s-o} \ll V_{ee}$ , use "jj coupling scheme")

In LS scheme, term symbol describing state of multi- $e^-$  atom is



# ① HUND RULES

Which  $2s+1 L_J$  states have LOWEST ENERGY?

ie. finding ground state

Recall:  $V_{ee} \gg V_{s-o}$  for all but heaviest atoms

①  $S$  maximized:  $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$  aligned as much as poss.

Symm.  $X$  when  $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$  aligned  $\rightarrow \Psi_A \rightarrow$  REPULSIVE exchange force, keeps ee apart

both minimize  $V_{ee}$

②  $L$  maximized

max  $L$ :  $\uparrow l_1$   $\uparrow l_2$  electrons meet less than  $\uparrow l_1$   $\downarrow l_2$

③  $J$  minimized for shells that are  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$  full maximized " " " "  $> \frac{1}{2}$  full

$V_{s-o} \sim \vec{l} \cdot \vec{s}$  smallest when  $l \uparrow s \downarrow$  anti-aligned  $\rightarrow$  minimize  $|\vec{j}| = |\vec{l} + \vec{s}|$

minimizes  $V_{s-o}$

④ Apply sequentially: ① then ② then ③

