## Structure 1.3

## IB CHEMISTRY SL



## Structure 1.3.1

## Understandings:

- Emission spectra are produced by atoms emitting photons when electrons in excited states return to lower energy levels.


## Learning outcome(s):

- Qualitatively describe the relationship between colour, wavelength, frequency and energy across the electromagnetic spectrum.
- Distinguish between a continuous and a line spectrum.


## The electromagnetic spectrum

- The electromagnetic spectrum is the range of wavelengths, or frequencies, of electromagnetic radiation.
- It extends from radio rays (low energy, long wavelength, low frequency) to gamma rays (high energy, short wavelength, high frequency).

- Higher energy corresponds to higher frequency and shorter wavelength.
- Lower energy corresponds to lower frequency and longer wavelength.


## Exercises:

1. Write the following in order of increasing energy.

UV, visible light, gamma rays, X-rays, microwaves, radio waves, infrared
2. Write the following in order of increasing wavelength.

UV, visible light, gamma rays, X-rays, microwaves, radio waves, infrared
3. Write the following in order of increasing frequency.

UV, visible light, gamma rays, X-rays, microwaves, radio waves, infrared
4. Write the following in order of increasing energy.

Orange, yellow, red, violet, green, indigo, blue
5. State the relationship between energy, frequency and wavelength.

## Line spectra

- The three types of line spectra are continuous, absorption, and emission spectra.


## Continuous spectrum



## Absorption spectrum



## Emission spectrum



- A continuous spectrum shows all the wavelengths, or frequencies, of visible light.
- An absorption spectrum shows black lines on a coloured background.
- An emission spectrum shows coloured lines on a black background.
- Each element has unique absorption and emission spectra and they can be used to identify unknown elements.


## Exercises



1. Classify the spectra above as absorption or emission spectra.
2. Describe the difference between the two spectra.

## How are line spectra produced?

- The Bohr model of the atom has the protons and neutrons located in the nucleus and the electrons located in energy levels around the nucleus.

- Electrons can only exist within the energy levels and electrons in the same energy level have the same amount of energy.
- Electrons can transition between energy levels by either absorbing or emitting specific amounts of energy.
- The energy is in the form of small packets of energy called photons.
- If an electron absorbs an exact amount of energy, it will transition to a higher energy level (for example from $n=1$ to $n=2$ ).
- If an electron emits an exact amount of energy, it will transition to a lower energy level (for example $n=4$ to $n=2$ ).


## Structure 1.3.2

## Understandings:

- The line emission spectrum of hydrogen provides evidence for the existence of electrons in discrete energy levels, which converge at higher energies.


## Learning outcome(s):

- Describe the emission spectrum of the hydrogen atom, including the relationships between the lines and energy transitions to the first, second and third energy levels.


## The hydrogen emission spectrum

- The hydrogen emission spectrum is shown below.


Electron transitions to
$n=1$ emit UV radiation

- Electron transitions to the first energy level ( $n=1$ ) release the highest amount of energy and are in the UV region of the electromagnetic spectrum.
- Electron transitions to the $n=2$ energy level emit energy that corresponds to the frequency, or wavelength of visible light.
- Electron transitions to the $n=3$ energy level emit energy in the infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum.
- The longer the arrow, the greater the amount of energy emitted (or absorbed).
- Higher energy corresponds to higher frequency and shorter wavelength.
- Lower energy corresponds to lower frequency and longer wavelength.


## Exercises:

1. What is absorbed when an electron transitions from a lower energy level to a higher energy level?
2. What is emitted when an electron transitions from a higher energy level to a lower energy level?
3. Do spectral lines converge at high energy or low energy?
4. Electron transitions to $n=1$ emit which type of electromagnetic radiation?
5. Electron transitions to $n=2$ emit which type of electromagnetic radiation?
6. Electron transitions to $n=3$ emit which type of electromagnetic radiation?

## Structure 1.3.3 and 1.3.4

## Understandings:

- The main energy level is given an integer number, $n$, and can hold a maximum of $2 n^{2}$ electrons (1.3.3).
- A more detailed model of the atom describes the division of the main energy level into $s, p, d$ and $f$ sublevels of successively higher energies (1.3.4).


## Learning outcome(s):

- Deduce the maximum number of electrons that can occupy each energy level (1.3.3).
- Recognize the shape and orientation of an s atomic orbital and the three p atomic orbitals (1.3.4).


## Electron configurations

- The Bohr model of the atom has the electrons located in energy levels (principal energy levels) which are assigned the letter $n$.

- $n=1$ is closest to the nucleus and has the lowest energy. As the value of $n$ increases, the energy also increases.
- Each main energy level can hold $2 n^{2}$ electrons.
- The main energy levels are divided into sub-levels: $s, p, d$ and $f$.
- The order in terms of energy of the sub-levels is: $s<p<d<f$ ( $s$ is lowest and $f$ is highest).

| Energy level | sub-level | maximum number of electrons in sublevel | maximum number of electrons in level |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $n=1$ | 1s | 2 | 2 |
| $n=2$ | 2s | 2 | 8 |
|  | 2p | 6 |  |
| $n=3$ | 3s | 2 | 18 |
|  | 3 p | 6 |  |
|  | 3d | 10 |  |
| $n=4$ | 4s | 2 | 32 |
|  | 4 p | 6 |  |
|  | 4d | 10 |  |
|  | 4 f | 14 |  |

## Exercise:

- The $n=1$ energy level can hold a maximum of $\qquad$ electrons.
- The $n=2$ energy level can hold a maximum of $\qquad$ electrons.
- The $n=3$ energy level can hold a maximum of $\qquad$ electrons.
- The $n=4$ energy level can hold a maximum of $\qquad$ electrons.


## Structure 1.3.5

## Understandings:

- Each orbital has a defined energy state for a given electron configuration and chemical environment, and can hold two electrons of opposite spin.
- Sublevels contain a fixed number of orbitals, regions of space where there is a high probability of finding an electron.


## Learning outcome(s):

- Apply the Aufbau principle, Hund's rule and the Pauli exclusion principle to deduce electron configurations for atoms and ions up to $Z=36$.


## Additional notes:

- Full electron configurations and condensed electron configurations using the noble gas core should be covered.
- Orbital diagrams, i.e. arrow-in-box diagrams, should be used to represent the filling and relative energy of orbitals.
- The electron configurations of Cr and Cu as exceptions should be covered.


## Atomic orbitals

- Atomic orbitals describe the probability of finding an electron in an area of space.
- They represent the region around the nucleus where there is a $95 \%$ chance of finding an electron.


## s atomic orbitals

- s orbitals are spherical in shape and can hold a maximum of two electrons.



## p atomic orbitals

- A p orbital is like two identical balloons tied together at the centre (dumbbell shaped).
- The p sub-level contains three p orbitals of equal energy (degenerate orbitals) and can hold a maximum of six electrons.




## d and fatomic orbitals

- The d sub-level contains five degenerate d orbitals and can hold a maximum of 10 electrons.
- The f sub-level contains seven degenerate $f$ orbitals and can hold a maximum of 14 electrons.
- Students are not required to know the shapes of $d$ and $f$ atomic orbitals.


## The Aufbau Principle

- The Aufbau Principle states that electrons are placed into orbitals of lowest energy first.
- The following diagram shows the sub-levels in order of increasing energy.
- Note the overlap between the 4s and 3d sub-levels.

- The filling of the sub-levels follows the pattern below.



## Electron spin and the Pauli Exclusion Principle

- The Pauli Exclusion Principle states that no two electrons in the same orbital can have the same quantum number.
- This means that no more than two electrons can occupy an orbital and they must spin in opposite directions.
- Electrons and their spins are represented by single-headed arrows (1 or l).


## Hund's rule

- Hund's rule states that if more than one degenerate orbital in a sub-level is available, electrons occupy separate orbitals with parallel spins.
- Always fill orbitals of equal energy with one electron first and then add the second electron once each orbital has one electron in it.


## Writing electron configurations

- Electron configurations show how electrons are arranged in sub-levels.
- The first number shows the main energy level (or principal quantum number).
- The letter shows the sub-level (s, p, d or f).
- The number in superscript shows the number of electrons in the sub-level.


Condensed electron configurations

| Notation | Electron configuration (core electrons) |
| :---: | :---: |
| $[\mathrm{He}]$ | $1 s^{2}$ |
| $[\mathrm{Ne}]$ | $1 s^{2} 2 s^{2} 2 p^{6}$ |
| $[\mathrm{Ar}]$ | $1 s^{2} 2 s^{2} 2 p^{6} 3 s^{2} 3 p^{6}$ |
| $[\mathrm{Kr}]$ | $1 s^{2} 2 s^{2} 2 p^{6} 3 s^{2} 3 p^{6} 4 s^{2} 3 d^{10} 4 p^{6}$ |

Example: the full and condensed electron configurations of rubidium ( Rb ) are shown below.

- $R b 1 s^{2} 2 s^{2} 2 p^{6} 3 s^{2} 3 p^{6} 4 s^{2} 3 d^{10} 4 p^{6} 5 s^{1}$
- $\mathrm{Rb}[\mathrm{Kr}] 5 \mathrm{~s}^{1}$


## Exercises:

1. Write full electron configurations for the following atoms:
1) He
2) Ar
3) Li
4) Ca
5) $B$
6) Ti
7) C
8) Mn
9) O
10) Ni
11) Ne
12) Zn
13) Na
14) Ge
15) Al
16) Se
17) $P$
18) Br
19) Cl
20) Kr
2. Write condensed electron configurations for the following atoms.
1) Li
2) Mg
3) S
4) Ca
5) Ga

## Electron configurations of ions

- Note that First row d-block elements (Sc to Zn ) lose their 4 s electrons first when they form ions.

Write the condensed electron configuration for the $\mathrm{Ni}^{2+}$ ion.

Write the condensed electron configuration for the $\mathrm{Mn}^{2+i o n}$.

Exercise: write condensed electron configurations for the following ions:

1) $\mathrm{Na}^{+}$
2) $\mathrm{S}^{2-}$
3) $\mathrm{Ca}^{2+}$
4) $\mathrm{Cr}^{3+}$
5) $\mathrm{Cu}^{+}$

## Exceptions to the Aufbau principle: copper (Cu) and chromium (Cr)

Chromium Z=24

- The abbreviated electron configuration for the Cr atom is:

Copper $Z=29$

- The abbreviated electron configuration for the Cu atom is:


## Orbital diagrams - arrows in boxes

- Boxes can be used to represent the atomic orbitals with single headed arrows used to represent the spinning electrons.
- Recall that electrons fill orbitals according to Hund's rule and the Pauli exclusion principle; an orbital can hold a maximum of two electrons which must have opposite spins, 1 or $l$, and degenerate orbitals are filled singly before being doubly occupied.


## Exercises:

1. Draw arrows in boxes (orbital diagrams) for the first 7 elements below:
H

He
Li


$\square$
$\square$
$\square$
$\square$
Be
Boron
$\square$

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Carbon
$\square$
$\square$
$\square$

2. Draw orbital diagrams for the following showing only the 4 s and 3 d sub-levels.

1. Ca
2. V
3. Mn
4. $\mathrm{Cr}^{3+}$
5. $\mathrm{Cu}^{2+}$
