

FAMSE: Fundamental Aspects of Material Science and Engineering

(Electro-)catalyst oxide materials – part I

Tong Li

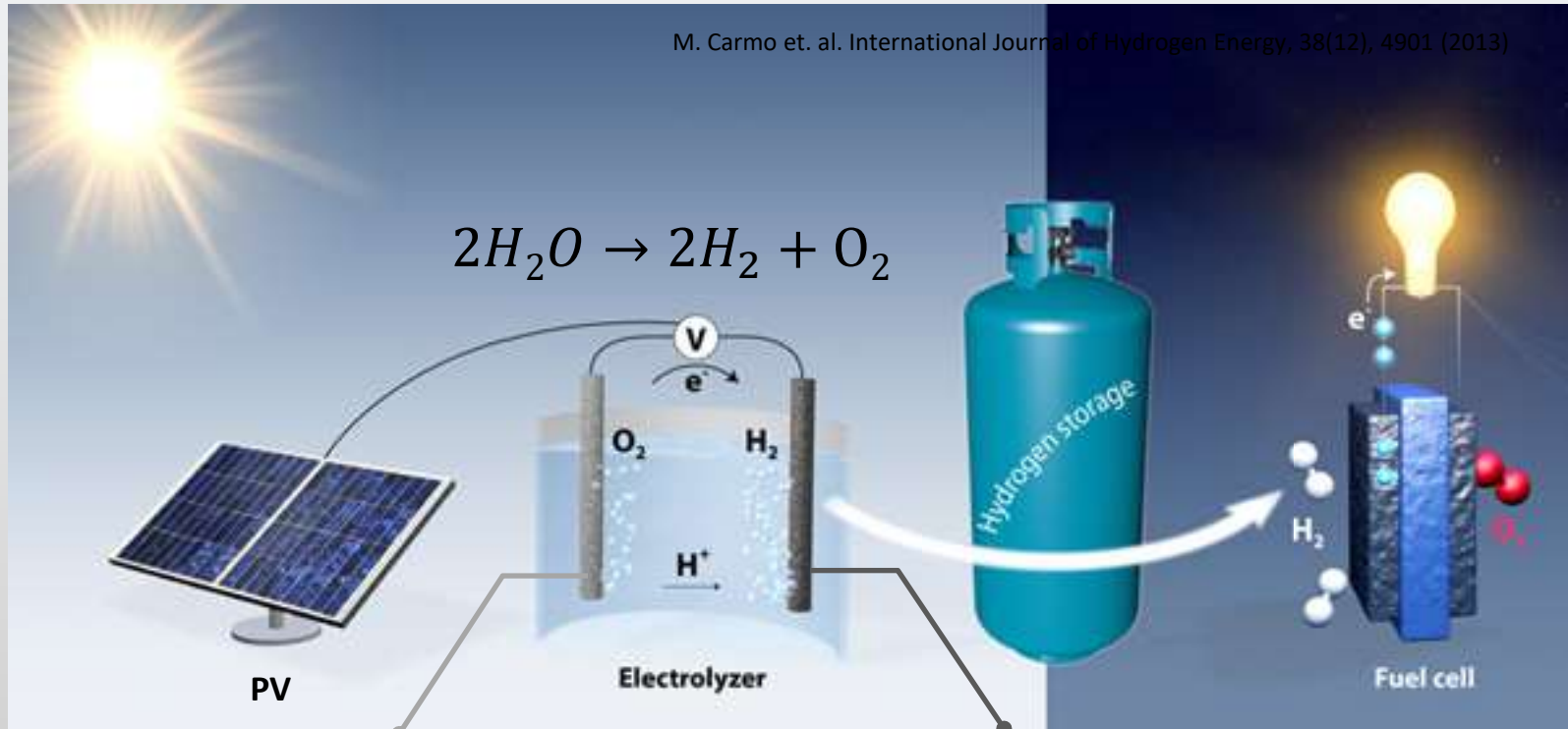
Atomic-scale Characterisation

Institute for Materials
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Ruhr-University Bochum

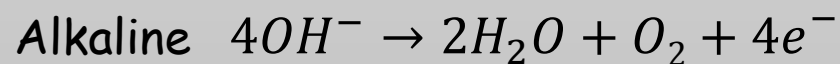


Sustainable energy cycle

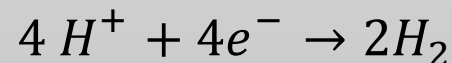
- Delivery energy using hydrogen to solve the negative effects of using hydrocarbon fuels



At anode:



At cathode:



Hydrogen Evolution Reaction (HER)

Oxygen Evolution Reaction (OER)

Structure of lectures

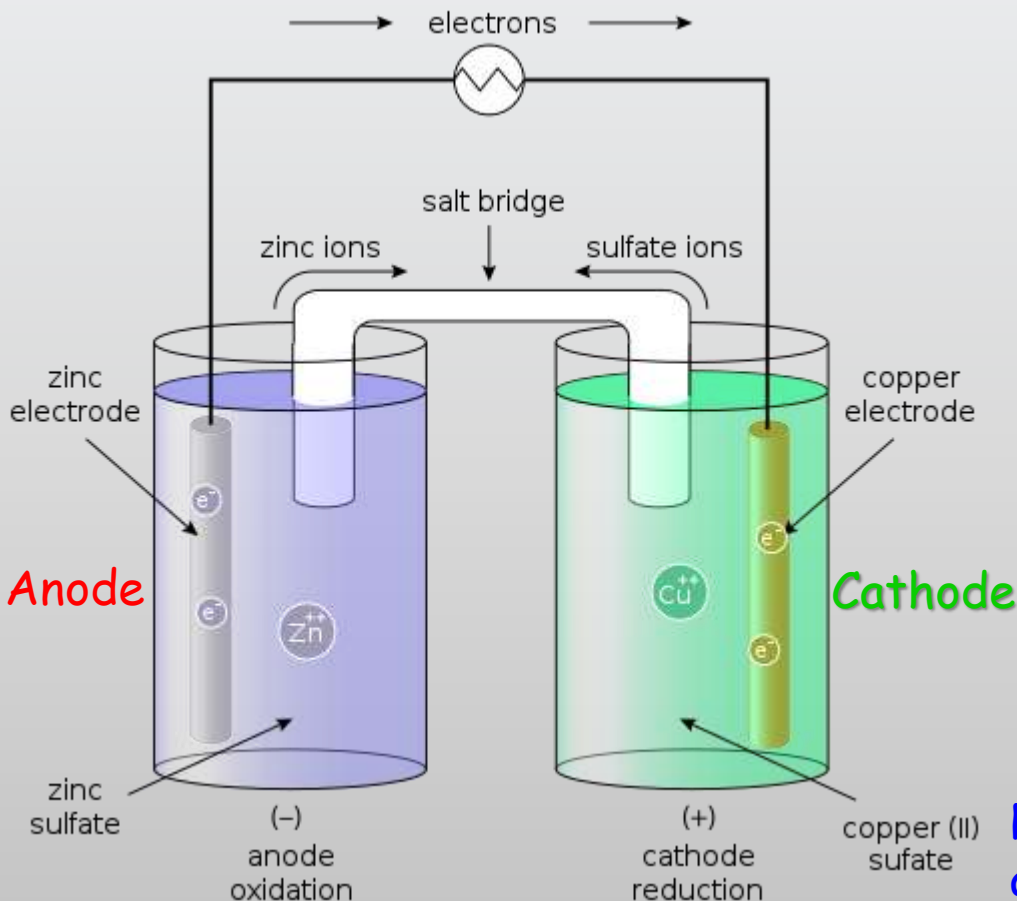
- Basics of electrochemical reactions
- (oxide) electrocatalyst
- Atomic and electronic structure
- Ionic bond
- Covalent bond
- Pauling's rule
- Oxide structure
- Descriptors of electrocatalysts' activity

Electrochemical reactions and electrocatalyst

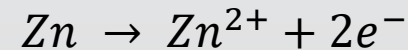
Applications of electrochemistry

Battery - first invented by Alessandro Volta (1745 - 1817)

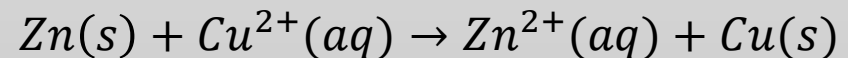
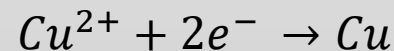
Voltaic cell: an electrochemical cell that uses a chemical reaction to produce electrical energy



**Anode: oxidation process
(losing electrons)**



**Cathode: reduction process
(gaining electrons)**



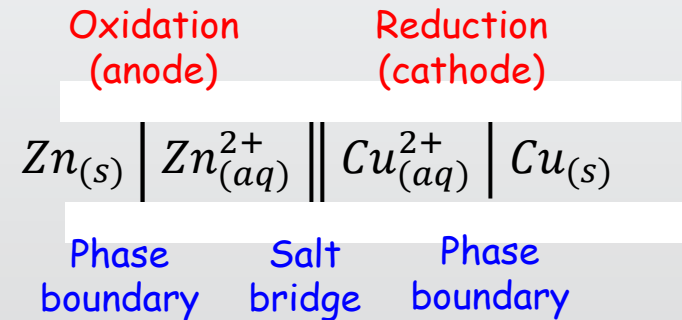
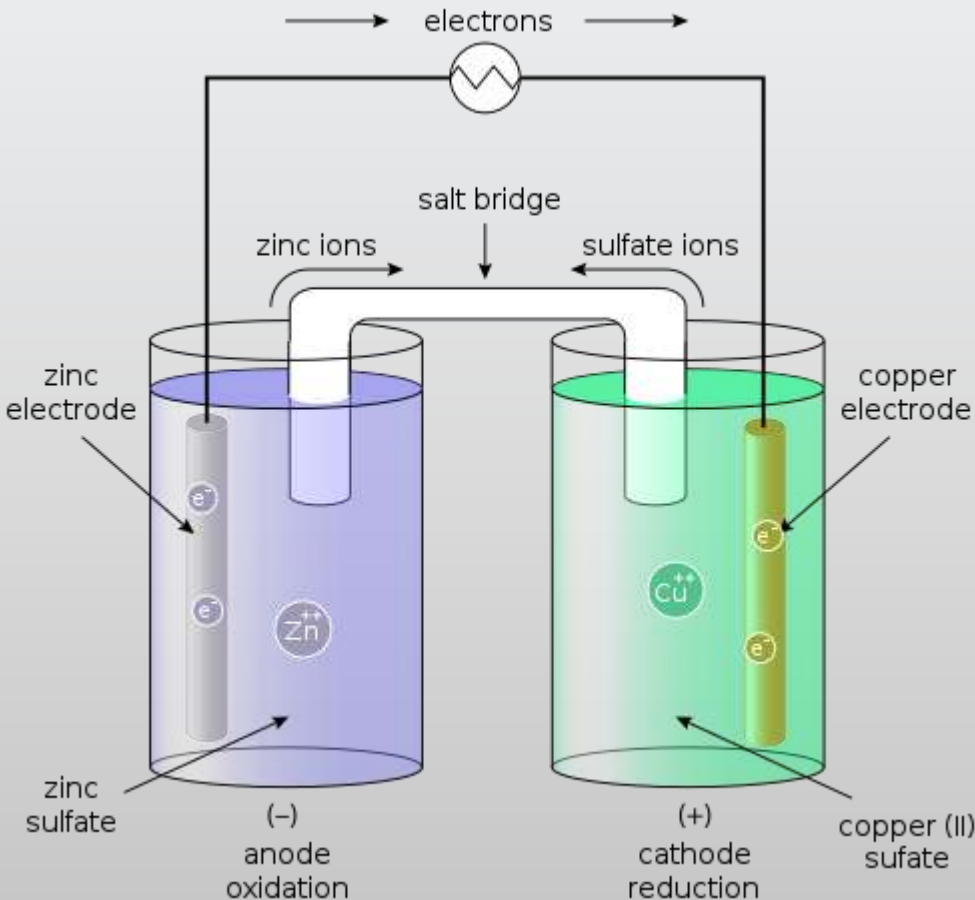
**Reducing
agent**

**Oxidizing
agent**

Applications of electrochemistry

Battery - first invented by Alessandro Volta (1745 - 1817)

Voltaic cell



- As electrons move from anode to cathode, ions travel through salt bridge
- Salt bridge is to maintain charge balance → Cations travel to cathode, anions travel to anode.

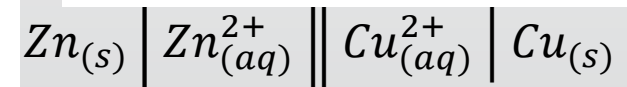
Standard reduction potential

- Standard reduction potential indicates the likelihood that a species to be reduced (measured at 298 K, 1 atm with 1 M solution (opposite to standard oxidation potential))

E_{red}° (V)	Reduction Half-Reaction
+2.87	$\text{F}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{F}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.51	$\text{MnO}_4^{-}(\text{aq}) + 8 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 5 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.36	$\text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cl}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.33	$\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 14 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 6 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.23	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 4 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.06	$\text{Br}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Br}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.96	$\text{NO}_3^{-}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{NO}(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+0.80	$\text{Ag}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Ag}(\text{s})$
+0.77	$\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
+0.68	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2(\text{aq})$
+0.59	$\text{MnO}_4^{-}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{MnO}_2(\text{s}) + 4 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.54	$\text{I}_2(\text{s}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{I}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.40	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 4 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 4 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.34	$\text{Cu}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{s})$
0	$2 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2(\text{g})$
-0.28	$\text{Ni}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{s})$
-0.44	$\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{s})$
-0.76	$\text{Zn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{s})$
-0.83	$2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
-1.66	$\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Al}(\text{s})$
-2.71	$\text{Na}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Na}(\text{s})$

Oxidation
(anode)

Reduction
(cathode)



Cell potential E_{cell}

$$E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{cathode}} - E_{\text{anode}}$$

What is E_{cell} ?

$$= 0.34 - (-0.76) = 1.1 \text{ V}$$

Gibbs free energy

$$\Delta G = qE = -nFE$$

where n is the number of moles of electrons and F is the Faraday constant (96485 C/mol)

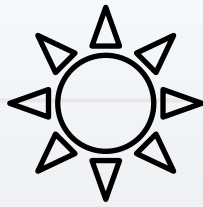
$$\Delta G^o = -nFE^o$$

Standard condition (1 atm, 298 K, concentration 1 mol/l)

$$\begin{aligned} E^o &= 1.1 \text{ V} \\ &= -2 \left(96485 \frac{\text{C}}{\text{mole}^-} \right) \left(\frac{1.1 \text{ J}}{\text{C}} \right) \\ &= -212.267 \text{ kJ/mol} \end{aligned}$$

**Spontaneous
reaction**

Cell potential is positive, ΔG is negative, so when E is negative, ΔG is positive

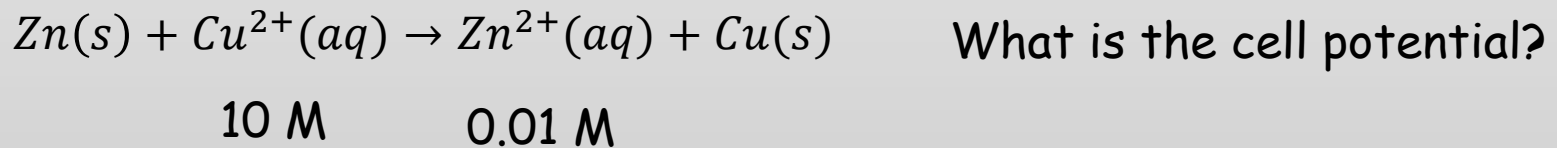


At non-standard conditions, what happens?

$$E = E^o - \frac{RT}{nF} \ln Q \quad Q = \text{concentration of products/reactants}$$

R: $8.314 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, $T = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, F is 96485 C/mol

$$E = E^o - \frac{0.0257}{n} \ln Q \quad E = E^o - \frac{0.05916}{n} \log Q$$



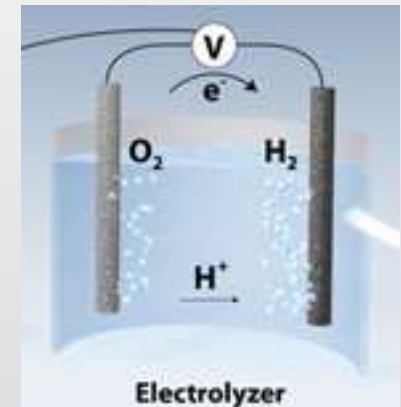
$$E = E^o - \frac{0.05916}{n} \log Q = 1.1 - \frac{0.0591}{2} \log \left(\frac{0.01}{10} \right) = 1.19 \text{ V}$$

→ Increasing the concentration of reactants or decreasing the concentration of products would increase the potential to a higher value → stronger driving force to drive the reaction to take place

Standard Nernstian potential of oxygen evolution reaction (OER)

E_{red}° (V)	Reduction Half-Reaction
+2.87	$\text{F}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{F}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.51	$\text{MnO}_4^{-}(\text{aq}) + 8 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 5 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.36	$\text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cl}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.33	$\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 14 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 6 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.23	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 4 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.06	$\text{Br}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Br}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.96	$\text{NO}_3^{-}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{NO}(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+0.80	$\text{Ag}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Ag}(\text{s})$
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+0.54	$\text{I}_2(\text{s}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{I}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.40	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 4 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 4 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.34	$\text{Cu}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{s})$
0	$2 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2(\text{g})$
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-0.83	$2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
-1.66	$\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Al}(\text{s})$
-2.71	$\text{Na}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Na}(\text{s})$

OER



Acidic solution

Cell potential E_{cell}

$$E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{cathode}} - E_{\text{anode}}$$

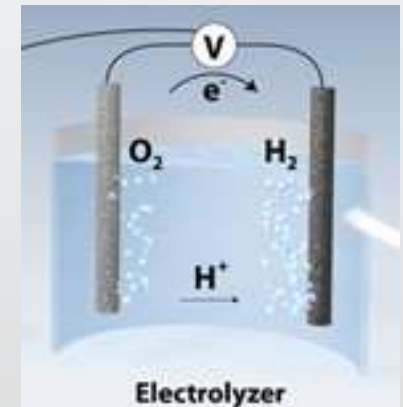
$$= 0 - (1.23) = -1.23 \text{ V}$$

M. Carmo et. al. International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, 38(12), 4901 (2013)

Standard Nernstian potential of oxygen evolution reaction (OER)

E_{red}° (V)	Reduction Half-Reaction
+2.87	$\text{F}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{F}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.51	$\text{MnO}_4^{-}(\text{aq}) + 8 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 5 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
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-1.66	$\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Al}(\text{s})$
-2.71	$\text{Na}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Na}(\text{s})$

OER



Alkaline solution

Cell potential E_{cell}

$$E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{cathode}} - E_{\text{anode}}$$

$$= -0.83 - (0.40) = -1.23 \text{ V}$$

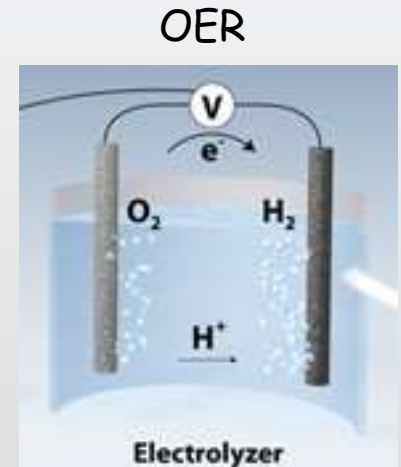
$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -nFE^{\circ}$$

Spontaneous or non-spontaneous?

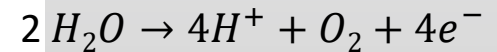
M. Carmo et. al. International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, 38(12), 4901 (2013)

Standard Nernstian potential of oxygen evolution reaction (OER)

E_{red}° (V)	Reduction Half-Reaction
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+1.51	$\text{MnO}_4^{-}(\text{aq}) + 8 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 5 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+1.36	$\text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cl}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+1.33	$\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 14 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 6 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
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+1.06	$\text{Br}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 2 \text{Br}^{-}(\text{aq})$
+0.96	$\text{NO}_3^{-}(\text{aq}) + 4 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{NO}(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$
+0.80	$\text{Ag}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Ag}(\text{s})$
+0.77	$\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
+0.68	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2(\text{aq})$
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+0.40	$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + 4 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow 4 \text{OH}^{-}(\text{aq})$
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0	$2 \text{H}^{+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{H}_2(\text{g})$
-0.28	$\text{Ni}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{s})$
-0.44	$\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{s})$
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-1.66	$\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3 \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Al}(\text{s})$
-2.71	$\text{Na}^{+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^{-} \longrightarrow \text{Na}(\text{s})$



At anode:



$$E_{\text{anode}}^{\circ} = -1.23 \text{ V}$$

Kinetically slow

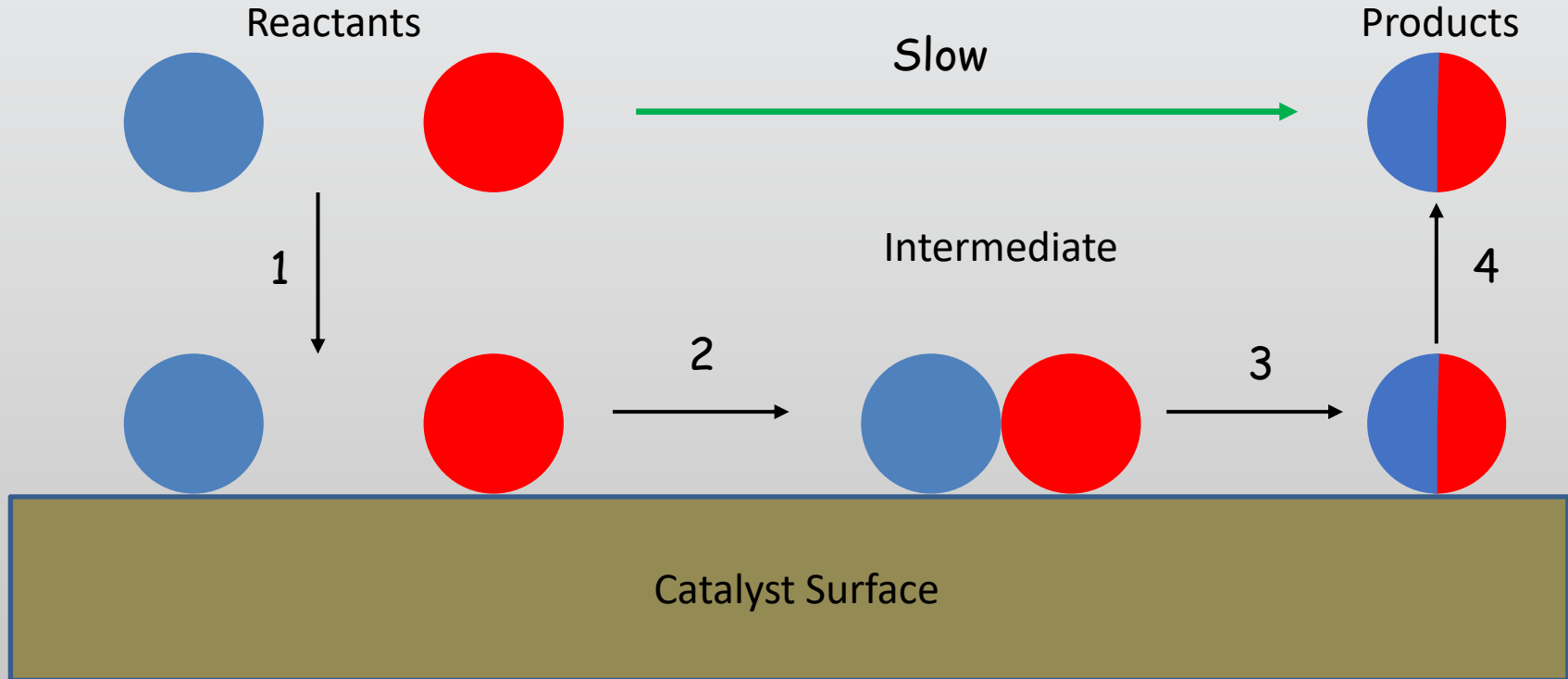
$$E_{\text{anode}} = E_{\text{anode}}^{\circ} + \eta_{\text{anode}}$$

↑
Overpotential

Oxide electrocatalysts

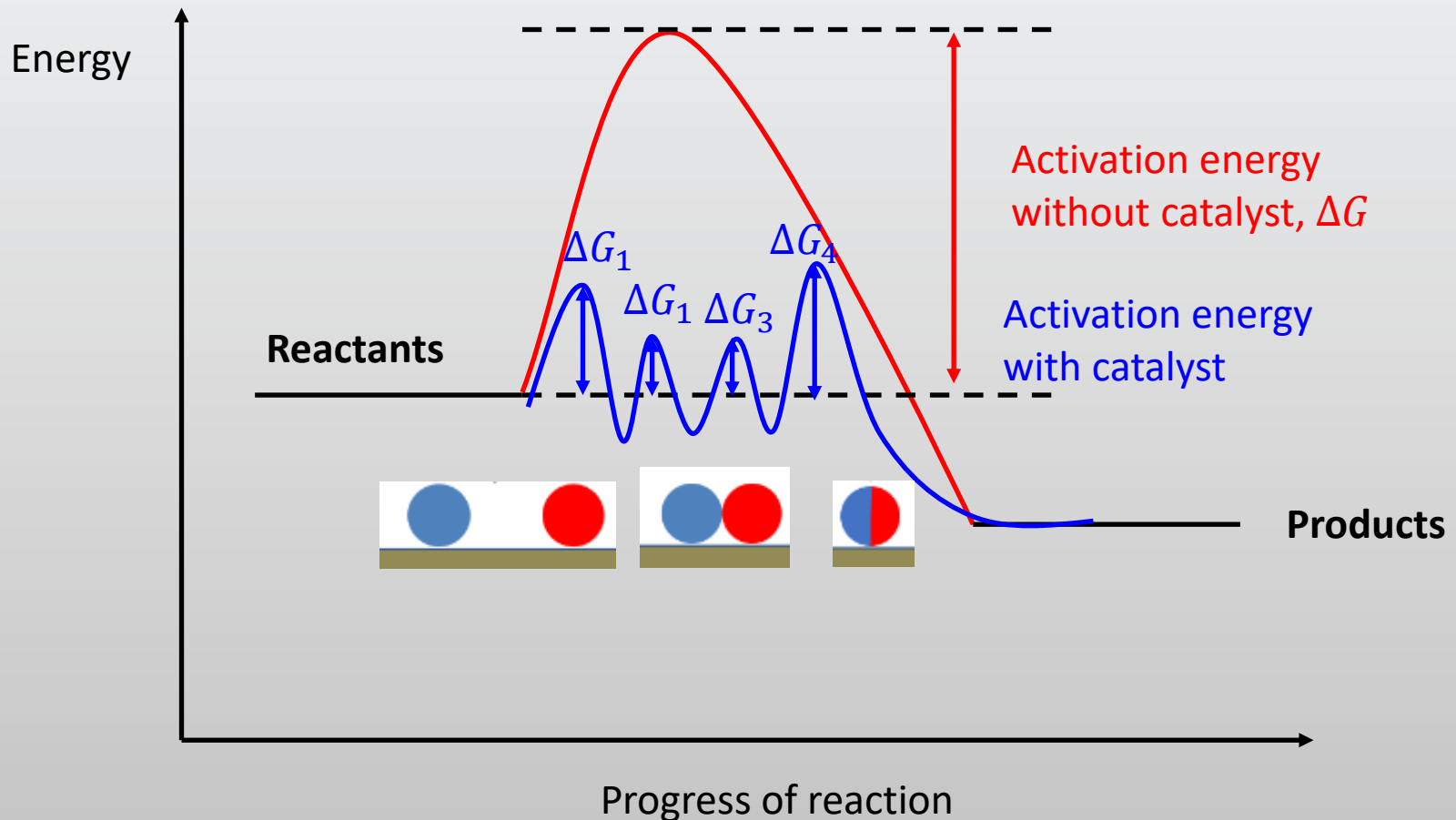
What is a catalyst?

- Catalysts are substances that can speed up/slow down chemical reactions.
- They can do this without being used up or chemically changed as the reactants turn into products.
- They have essentially the same structure and properties before and after a chemical reaction.



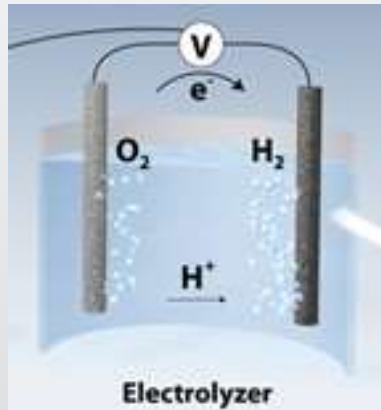
Why uses catalyst?

- Catalyst enables the reaction pathways that require lower activation energy
- It does not change the energy difference between the reactants and products

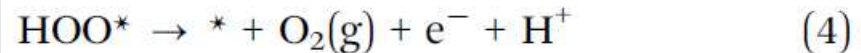
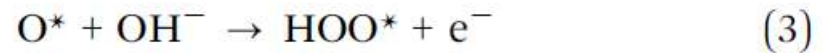
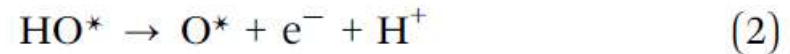
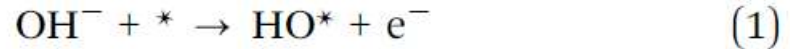
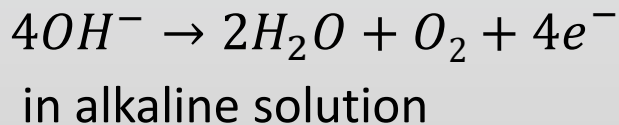


Oxygen evolution reaction

OER

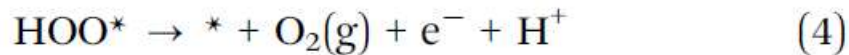
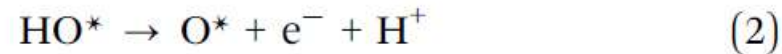
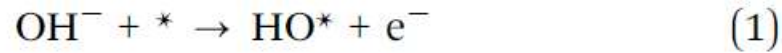


At anode:



- 1) In particular, OH⁻ first adsorbs on the surface O vacancy site (equation 1).
- 2) The adsorbed OH (OH* species) then undergoes subsequent deprotonation to form O*.
- 3) The following O-O bond formation step allows O* to react with another OH⁻ to form the HOO* intermediate.
- 4) In the final step, O₂ is evolved through the deprotonation of HOO* with regeneration of the active site

Subprocesses and Gibbs free energy change

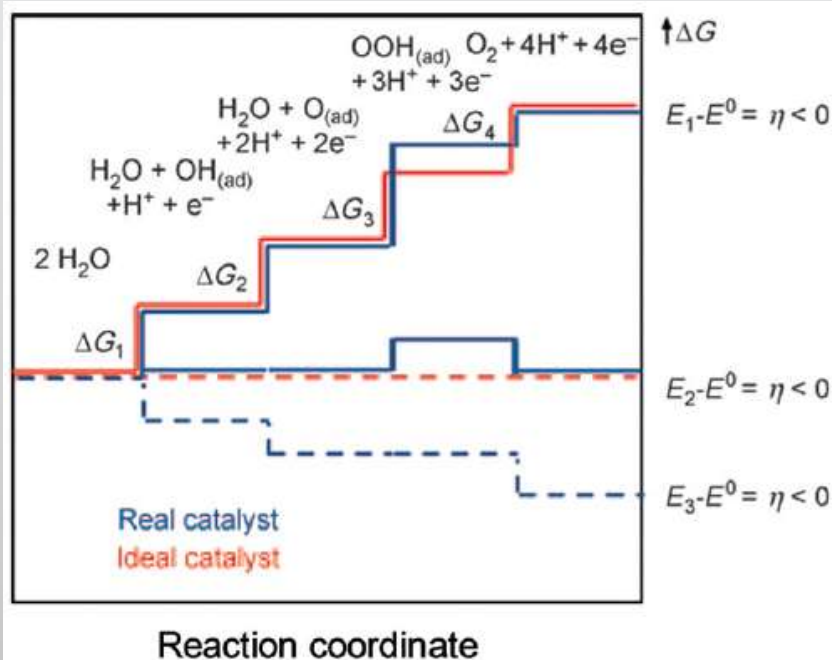


$$\Delta G_1 = \Delta G_{\text{HO}^*} - \Delta G_* + \frac{1}{2} G_{\text{H}_2(\text{g})} - eU$$

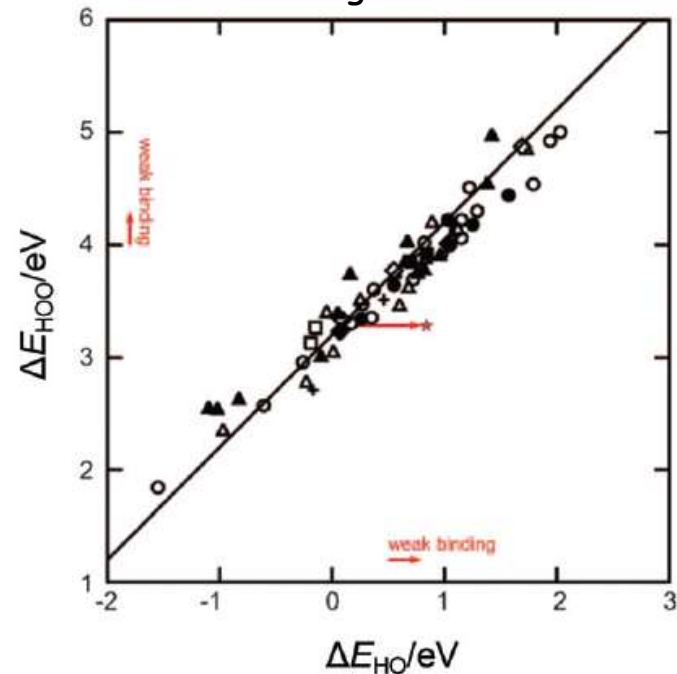
$$\Delta G_2 = \Delta G_{\text{O}^*} - \Delta G_{\text{HO}^*} + \frac{1}{2} G_{\text{H}_2(\text{g})} - eU$$

$$\Delta G_3 = \Delta G_{\text{HOO}^*} - \Delta G_{\text{O}^*} + \frac{1}{2} G_{\text{H}_2(\text{g})} - eU$$

$$\Delta G_4 = \Delta G_{\text{O}_2(\text{g})} + \Delta G_* - \Delta G_{\text{HOO}^*} + \frac{1}{2} G_{\text{H}_2(\text{g})} - eU$$

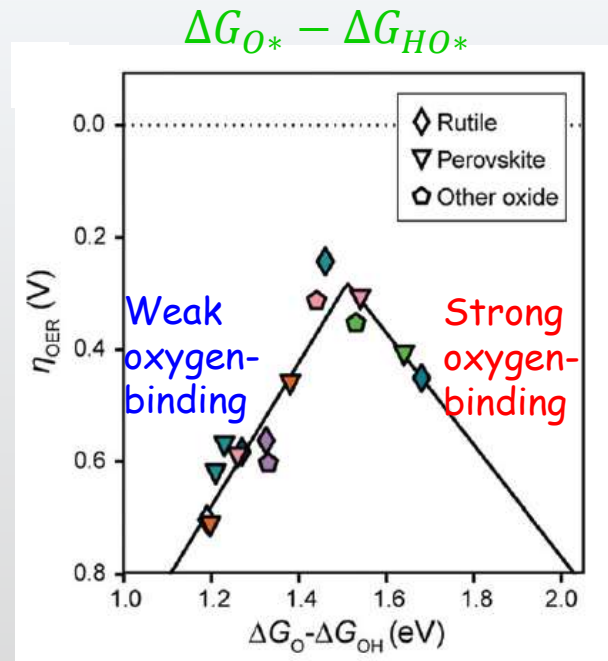


Scaling relation



$$(\Delta G_{\text{HOO}^*} - \Delta G_{\text{HO}^*}) = 3.2 \pm 0.2$$

Volcano plot



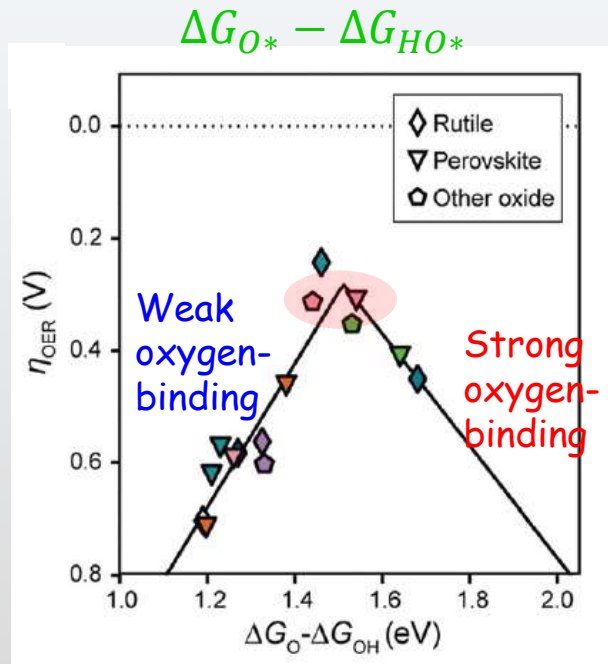
Sabatier principle:

- a) If the interaction is too weak, the molecule will fail to bind to the catalyst and no reaction will take place.
- b) if the interaction is too strong, the product fails to dissociate.

→ The interactions between the catalyst and the substrate should be neither too strong nor too weak

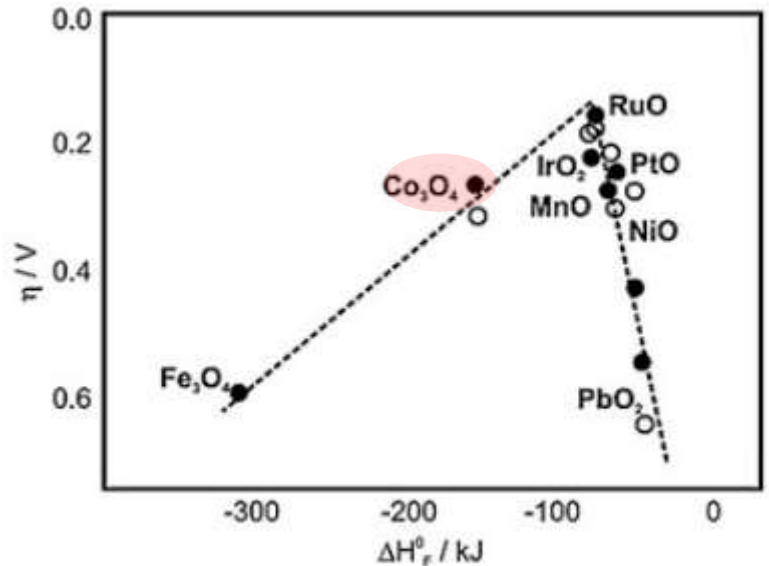
Paul Sabatier (1854-1941, France)

Perovskite ABO_3 & spinel oxides - AB_2O_4








Enthalpy of lower to higher oxidation oxide

Trasatti, J. Electroanal. Chem., 111(1980) 125-131



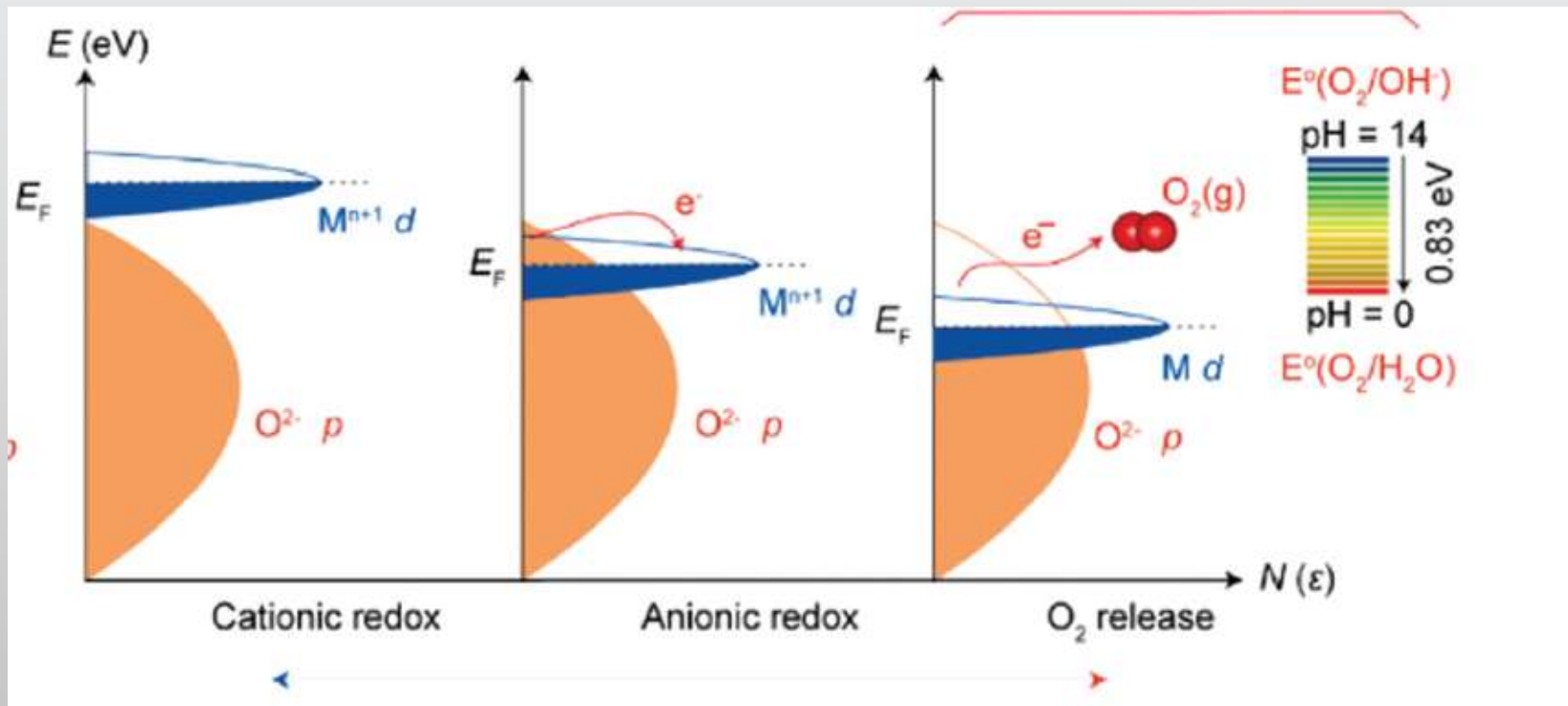
- IrO_2 and RuO_2 are active OER electrocatalysts in acidic media, but they are expensive
- Spinel and perovskites (ABO_3 , AB_2O_4) are promising
- Regulating the electronic structure can optimize the value of $\Delta G_{O^*} - \Delta G_{HO^*} \rightarrow$ substituting with foreign elements, creating vacancies, tuning the strain and engineering the interface

e_g orbital occupancy: The lower the e_g occupancy, the stronger the binding of oxygen

	$\text{Mn}^{3+} (3d^4)$	$\text{Mn}^{2+} (3d^5)$	$\text{Mn}^{4+} (3d^3)$
High spin	e_g 		
Low spin	e_g 		

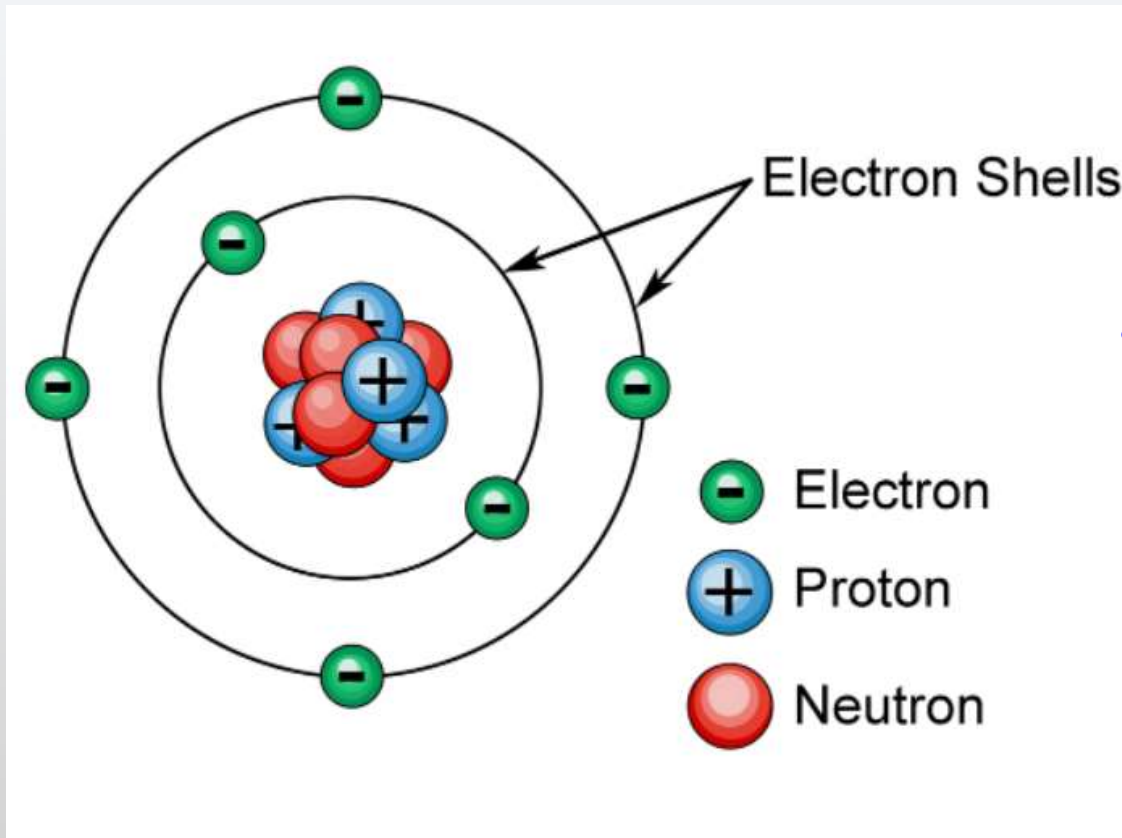
Metal-oxygen covalency

- Increasing the electronegativity of transition metal typically moves the metal d state close to O 2p state → decreasing the binding dissociation bonds of M-O → improving OER activity



Atomic/electronic structure of atoms

Atomic structure



- What is this element?
 - It contains 6 neutrons and 6 protons
 - It is orbited by 6 electrons

Atomic number (Z) = number of protons

Isotopes = protons + neutrons

Mass number (A) = sum of protons and neutrons

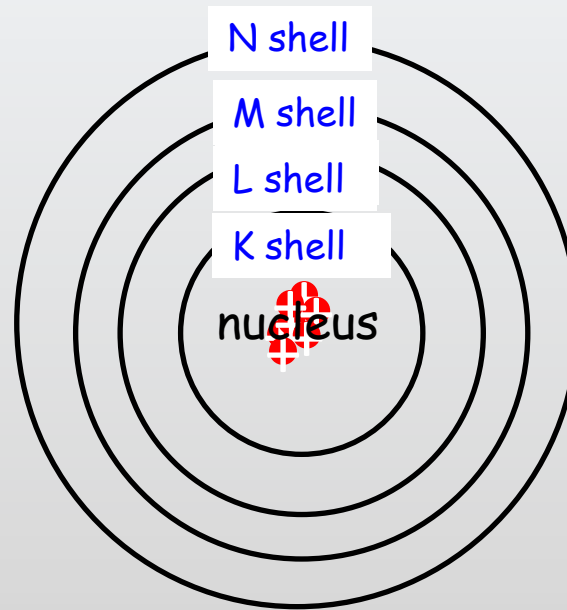
^{12}C = 98,89% (abundance)

^{13}C = 1,109%

^{14}C = 1 ppt (part per trillion)

Electron shells

- Electrons' orbit is quantized with a discrete level K, L, M, N is the principal quantum number n



- orbitals are the regions of space in which electrons are most likely to be found.

Second derivative
with respect to X

Schrodinger Wave Function

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial X^2} + \frac{8\pi^2 m}{h^2} (E - V) \psi = 0$$

Position

Energy

Potential energy

Wave function: the probability of finding electrons at certain energy levels within an atom

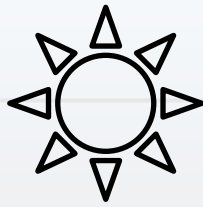
	Symbol	Possible values
Principal quantum number	n	1, 2, 3, 4, ... n
Angular momentum quantum number	l	0, 1, 2, 3, ... $(n-1)$
Magnetic quantum number	m_l	$-l, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, l$
Spin quantum number	m_s	$+1/2, -1/2$

- Principle quantum number n : energy of an electron and size of the orbital
- Angular momentum quantum number l : divides the shells into smaller groups of orbitals (subshells), 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \rightarrow s, p, d, f, g, h (the energy of subshell increases with l) \rightarrow determines shape of the orbital
- Magnetic quantum number m_l : orientation in space of an orbital of a given energy n and shape l (individual orbitals)
- Spin quantum number m_s : orientation of the spin axis of an electron (up or down)

Electrons in subshells

- Angular momentum quantum number s, p, d, f, g, h, i, j etc indicates the shapes of orbital

Sub - shell	l	Maximum electrons $2(2l+1)$
s	0	2
p	1	6
d	2	10
f	3	14



n	l (l = n-1)	M_l (-l, ...l)	Number of orbitals	Orbital name	Number of electrons 2(2l+1)
1	0	0	1	1s	2
2					
3					
4					

n	l (l = n-1)	M_l (-l, ...l)	Number of orbitals	Orbital name	Number of electrons 2(2l+1)
1	0	0	1	1s	2
2	0	0	1	2s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	2p	6
3	0	0	1	3s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	3p	6
	2	-2, -1, 0, 1, 2	5	3d	10
4	0	0	1	4s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	4p	6
	2	-2, -1, 0, 1, 2	5	4d	10
	3	-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3	7	4f	14

FAMSE: Fundamental Aspects of Material Science and Engineering

(Electro-)catalyst oxide materials – part II

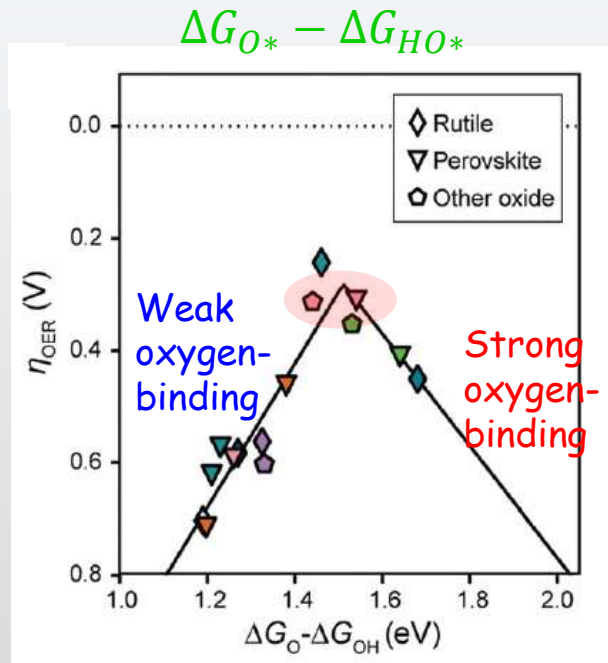
Tong Li

Atomic-scale Characterisation

Institute for Materials
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Ruhr-University Bochum

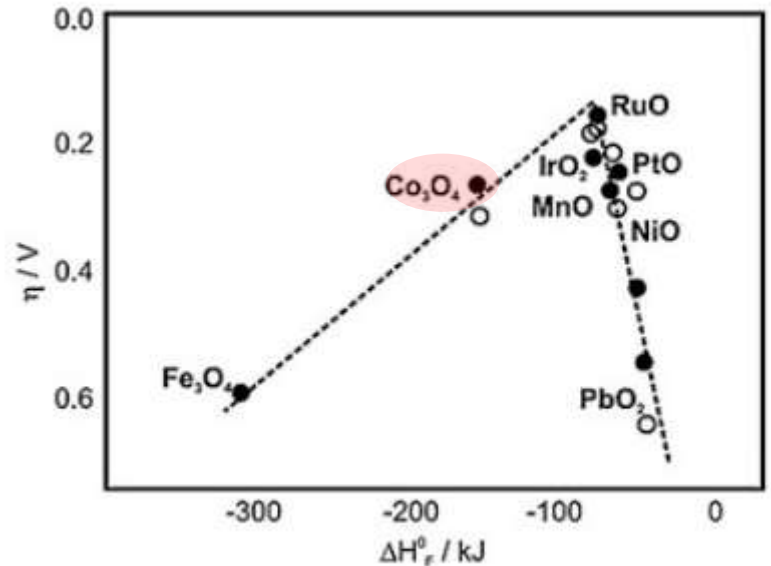


Perovskite ABO_3 & spinel oxides - AB_2O_4



Enthalpy of lower to higher oxidation oxide

Trasatti, J. Electroanal. Chem., 111(1980) 125-131



- IrO_2 and RuO_2 are active OER electrocatalysts in acidic media, but they are expensive
- Spinel and perovskites (ABO_3 , AB_2O_4) are promising
- Design strategies:
 - 1) e_g orbital occupancy \rightarrow the higher the e_g occupancy, the better OER activity
 - 2) Increasing metal-oxygen covalency \rightarrow improving OER activity, why?
 - 3) Substitution of foreign elements
 - 4) Tetrahedral and octahedral sites, which is more active for OER?

Electron orbitals

	Symbol	Possible values
Principal quantum number	n	1, 2, 3, 4, ... n
Angular momentum quantum number	l	0, 1, 2, 3, ... $(n-1)$
Magnetic quantum number	m_l	$-l, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, l$
Spin quantum number	m_s	$+1/2, -1/2$

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- Magnetic quantum number m_l : orientation in space of an orbital of a given energy n and shape l (individual orbitals)
- Spin quantum number m_s : orientation of the spin axis of an electron (up or down)

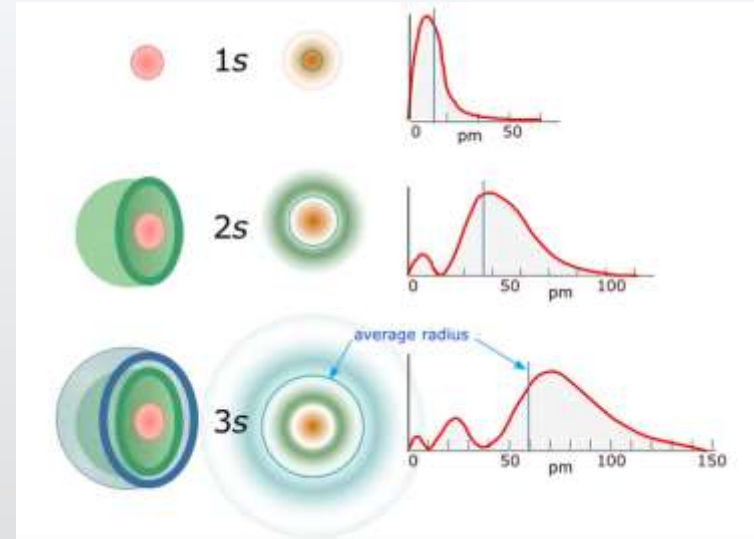
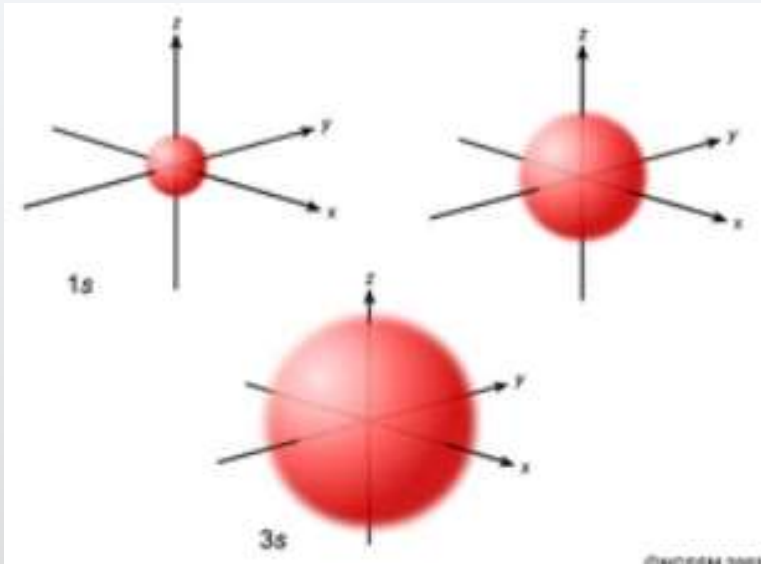
Principle
quantum
number

Angular
momentum
quantum
number

Magnetic
quantum
number

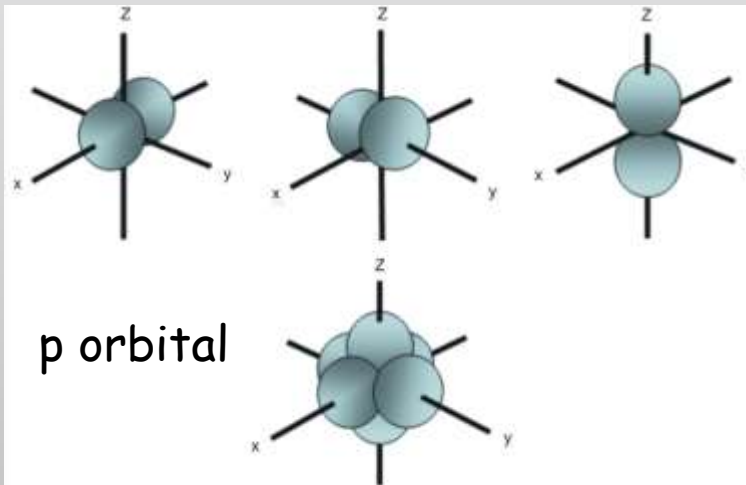
n	l ($l = n-1$)	M_l ($-l, \dots, l$)	Number of orbitals	Orbital name	Number of electrons $2(2l+1)$
1	0	0	1	1s	2
2	0	0	1	2s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	2p	6
3	0	0	1	3s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	3p	6
	2	-2, -1, 0, 1, 2	5	3d	10
4	0	0	1	4s	2
	1	-1, 0, 1	3	4p	6
	2	-2, -1, 0, 1, 2	5	4d	10
	3	-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3	7	4f	14

s, p orbitals

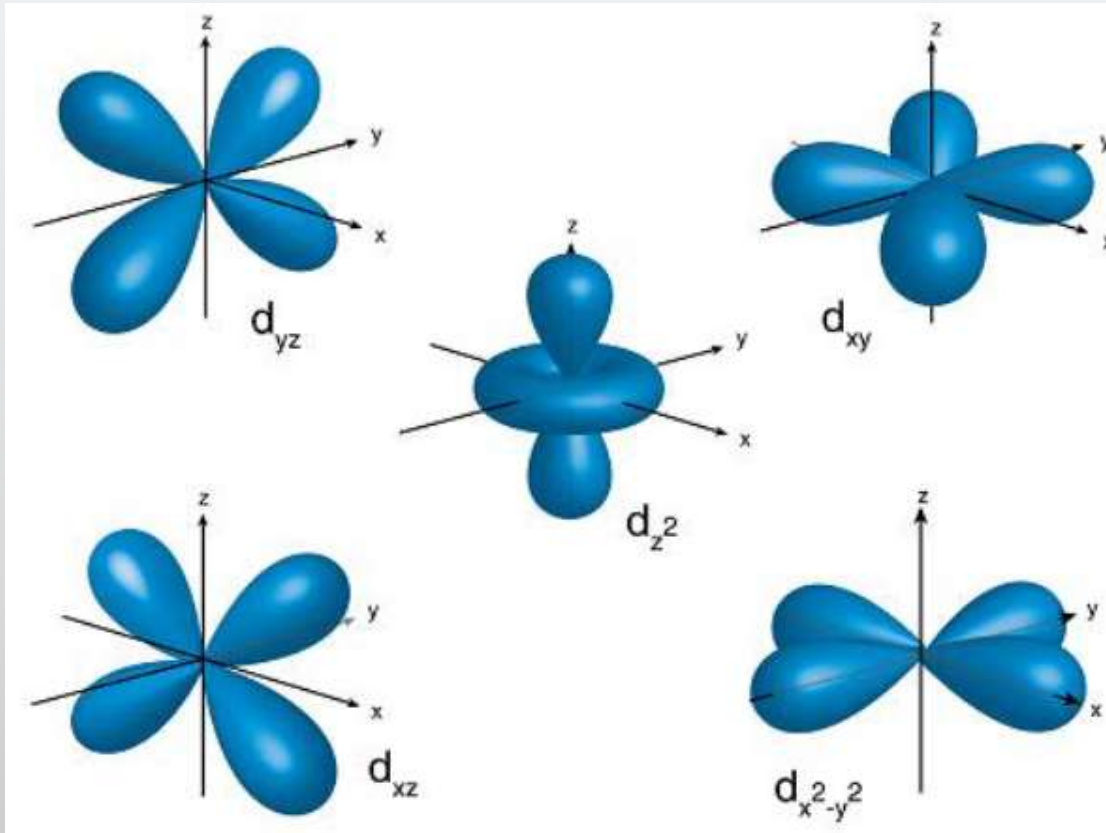


s orbitals: spherically symmetric around the nucleus of the atom. As energy level increases, the electrons are located further from nucleus

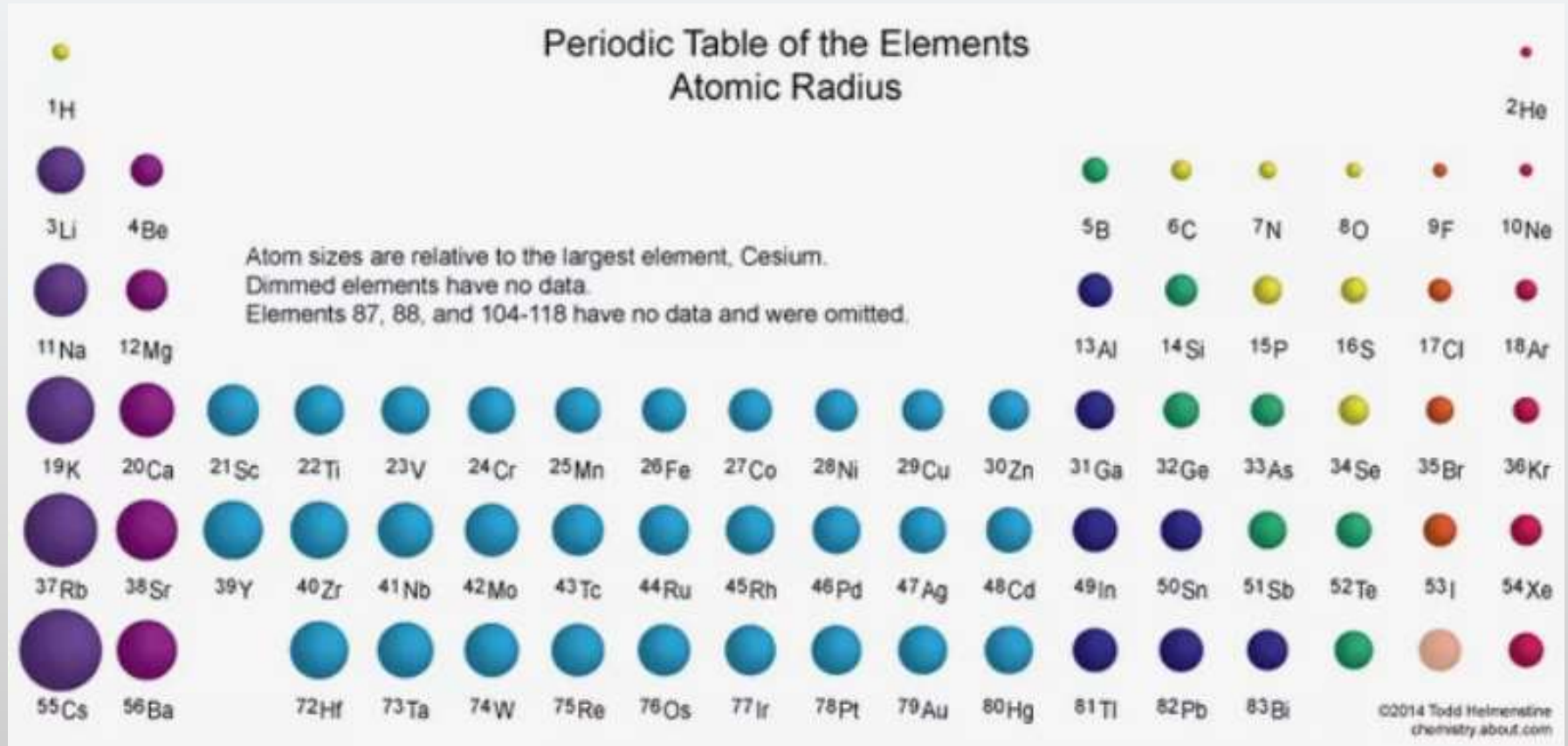
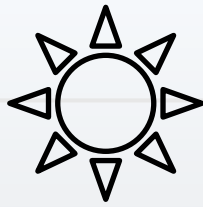
p orbitals: three equivalent p orbitals p_x , p_y and p_z . the p orbitals starts to appear at the 2nd energy level, called $2p_x$, $2p_y$, $2p_z$.



d orbitals



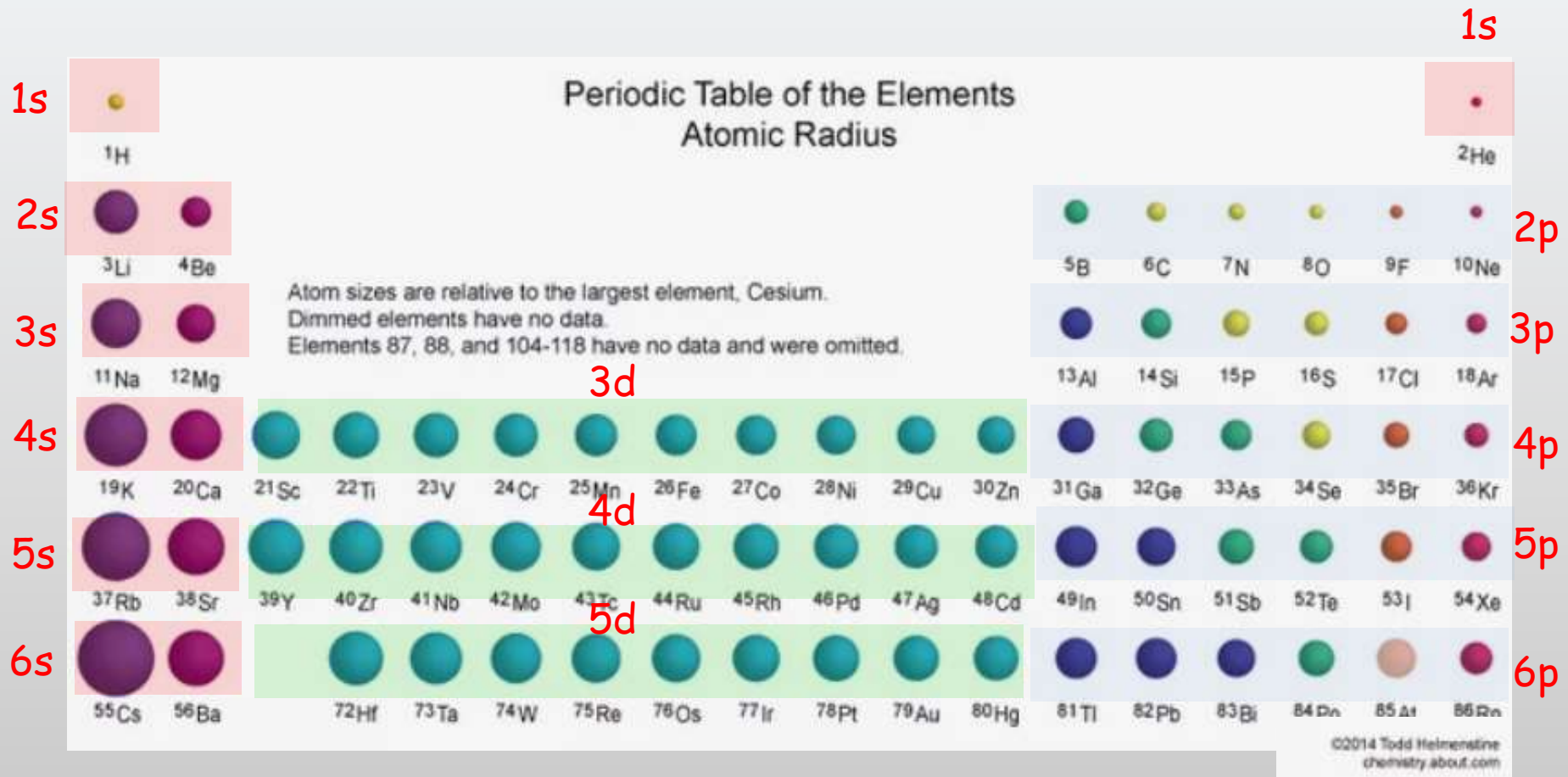
- d orbitals $\rightarrow 3d_{xy}, 3d_{xz}, 3d_{yz}, 3d_{x^2-y^2}, 3d_{z^2}$
- $3d_{xy}, 3d_{xz}, 3d_{yz}$ indicate that the orbitals lie in the x-y, x-z and y-z planes; each orbital has four lobes and each lobe points between the axes
- $3d_{x^2-y^2}$, manifest the lobes points along the axes
- $3d_{z^2}$ looks like p orbital wearing a doughnut around its waist
- d orbital appears at the third energy level



n	l (l = n-1)	M _l (-l, ..., l)	Number of orbitals	Orbital name	Number of electrons 2(2l+1)	
1	n = 1	1s		1s	2	2
2	n = 2	2s, 2p		2s	2	8
				2p	6	
3	n = 3	3s, 3p, 3d		3s	2	8
	n = 4	4s, 4p, 4d, 4f		3p	6	
	n = 5	5s, 5p, 5d, 5f		3d	10	10
4	n = 6	6s, 6p, 6d		4s	2	2
	n = 7	7s, 7p		4p	6	6
				4d	10	
				4f	14	

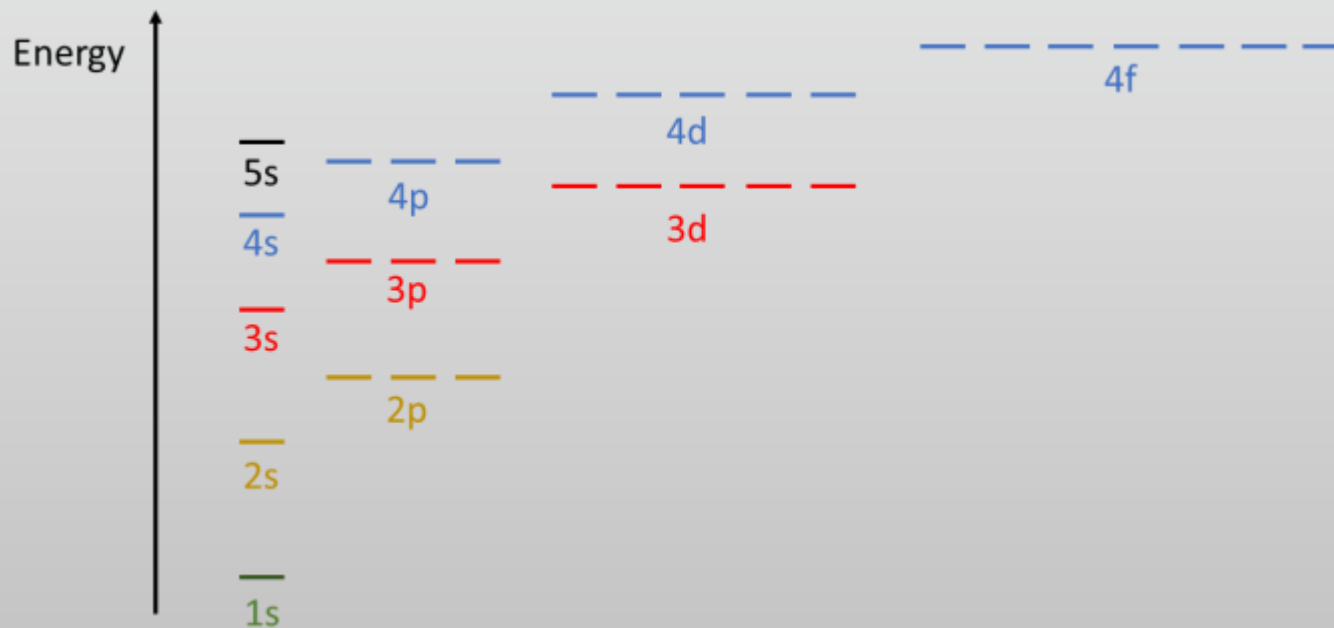
(arrows indicate the next shell that should be filled by electrons)

Periodic Table

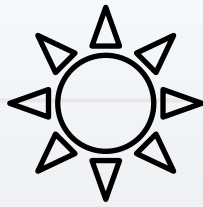


Orbital energy levels & electron filling principle

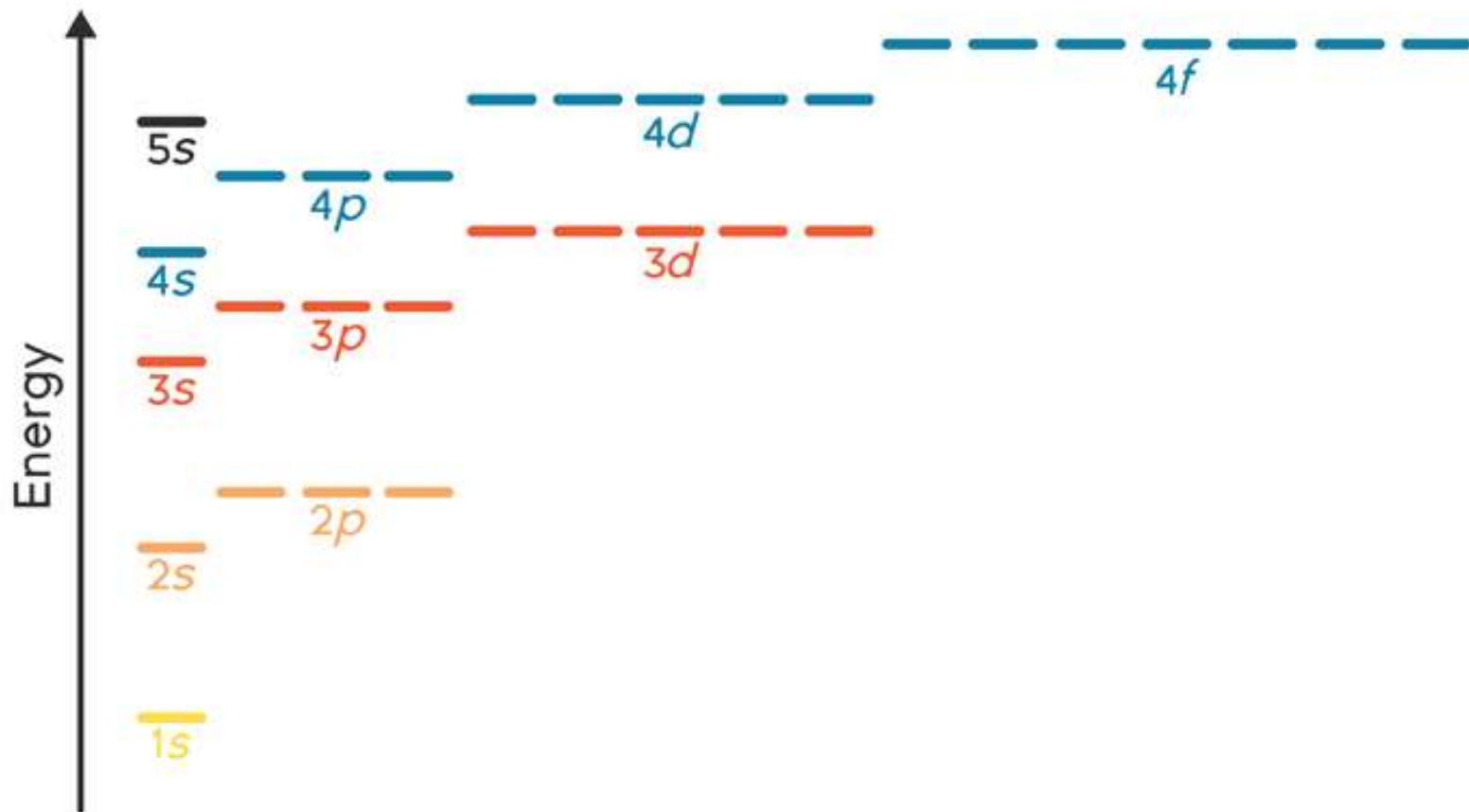
- 1) Aufbau principle: electrons fill subshells of the lowest available energy, followed by the subshells with higher energy
- 2) Hund's rule: if multiple orbital of the same energy are available, electrons occupy different orbital singly before any are occupied doubly
- 3) Pauli exclusion principle: electron that occupy the same orbital must have different spins



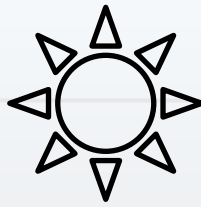
Electronic configuration of S



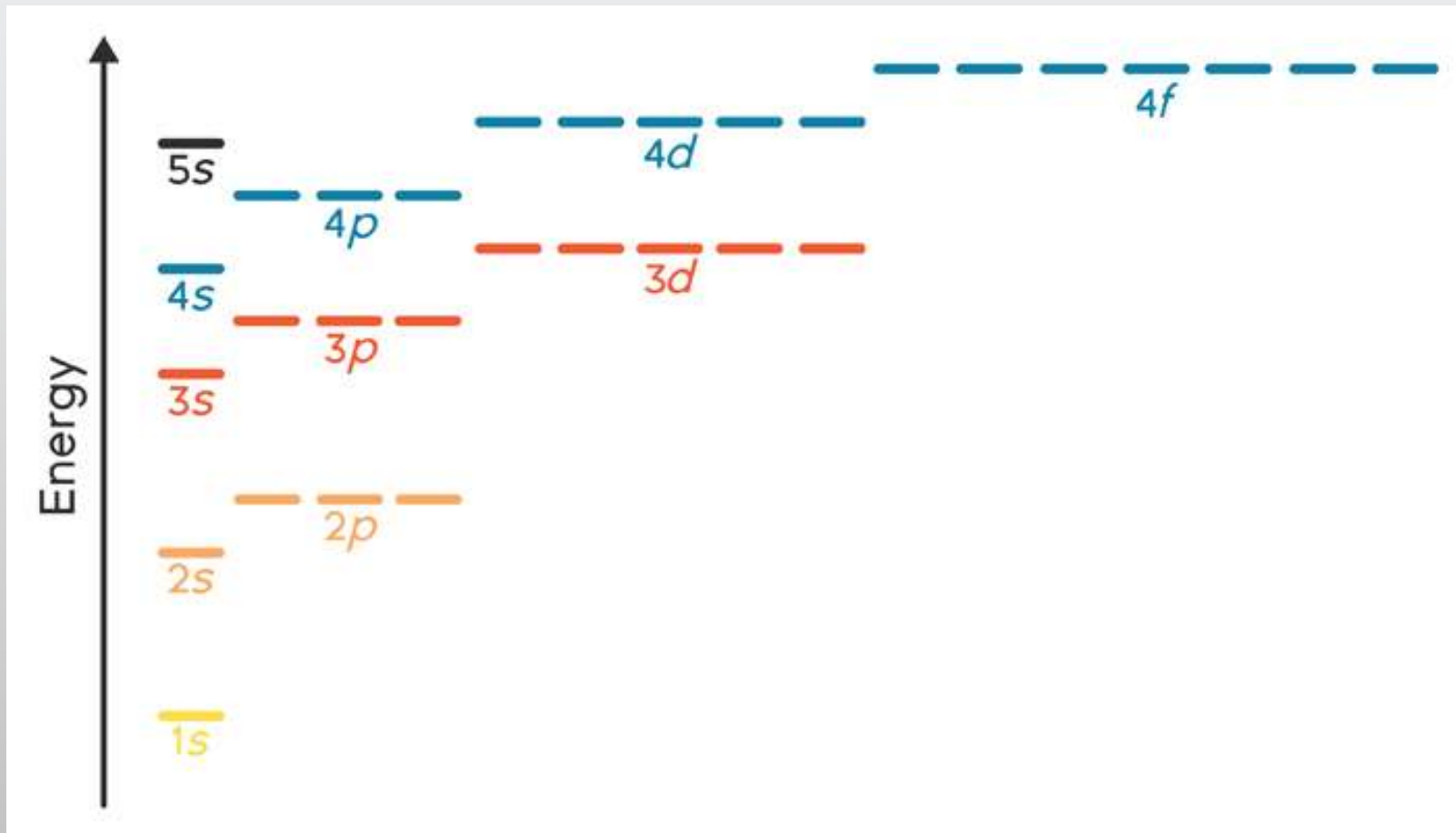
S: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^4$



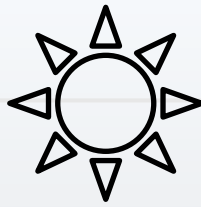
Electronic configuration of Co



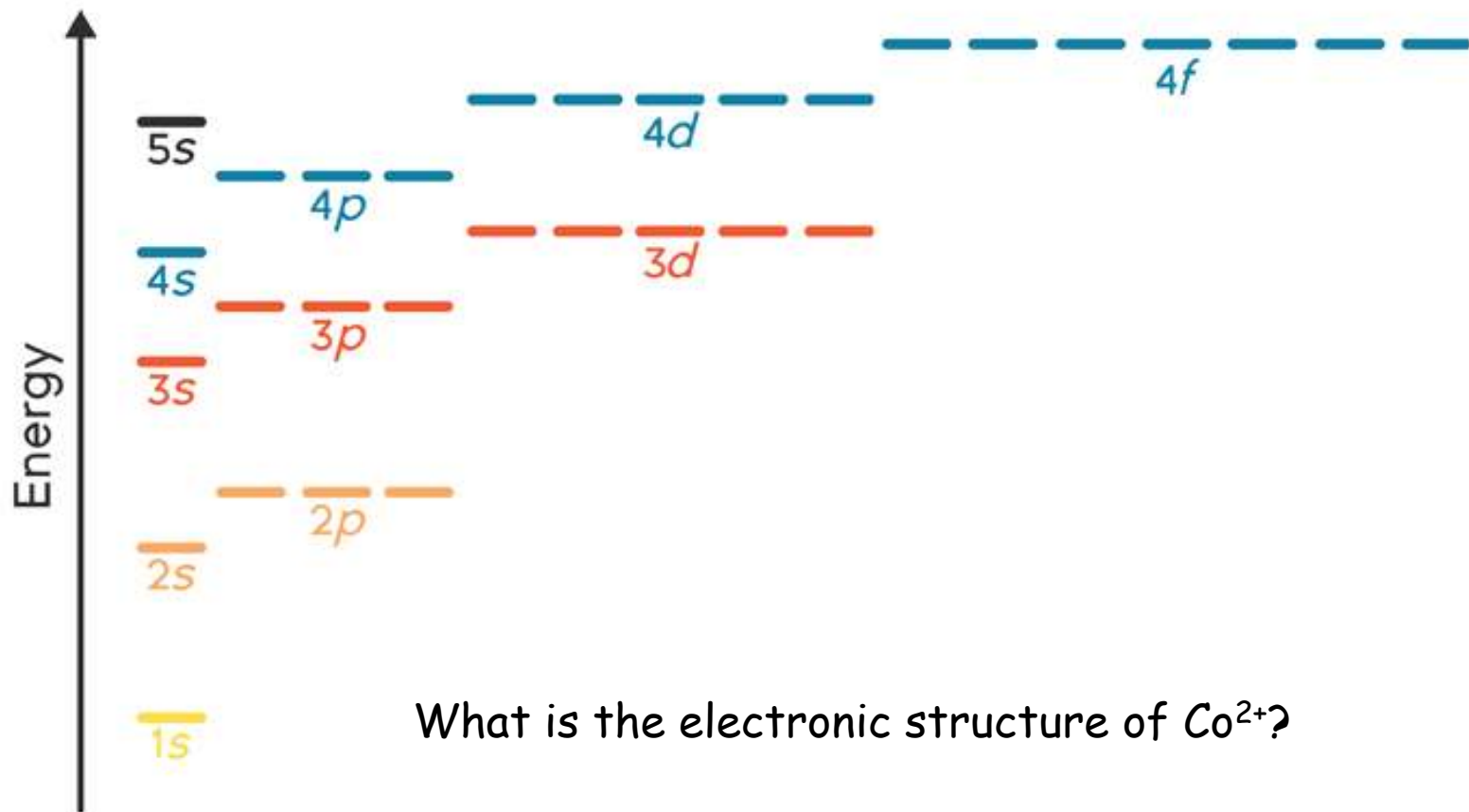
Co: 1s 2s 2p 3s 3p 4s 3d



Electronic configuration of Co^{2+}

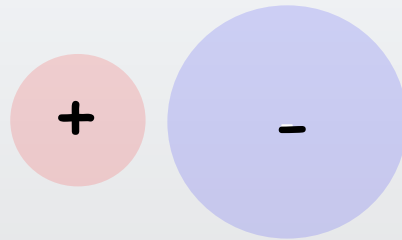


Co: 1s 2s 2p 3s 3p 4s 3d

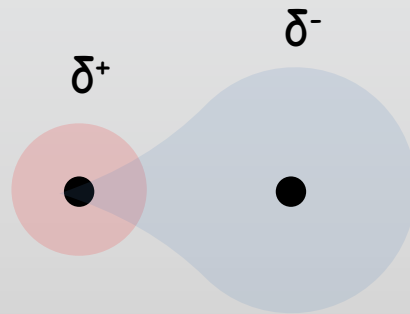


What is the electronic structure of Co^{2+} ?

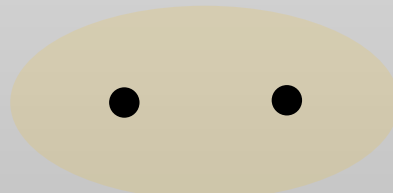
Chemical bonds



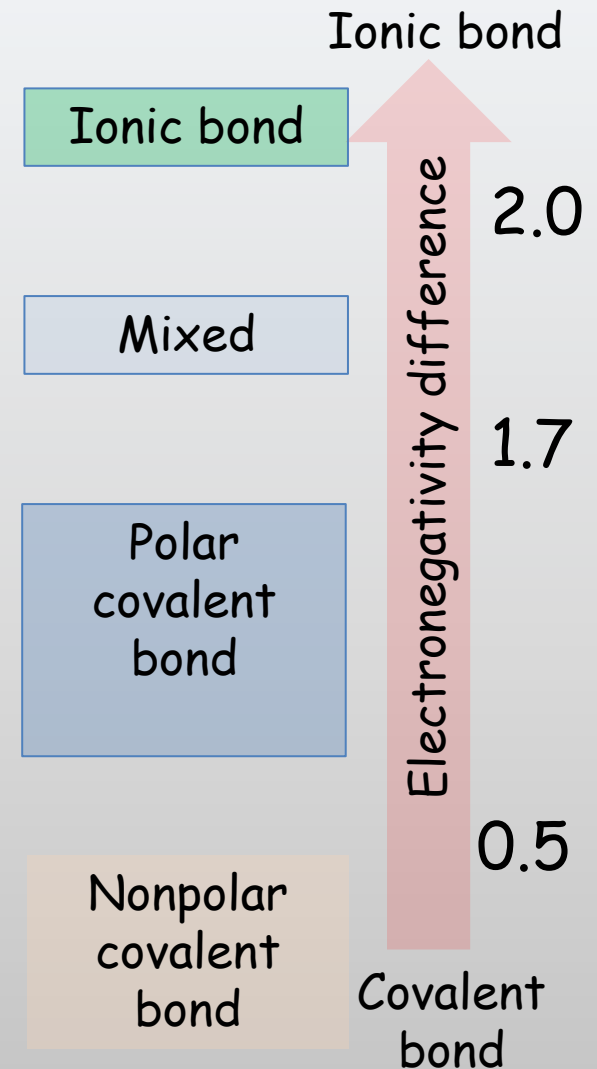
No sharing of electrons



Unequal sharing of electrons



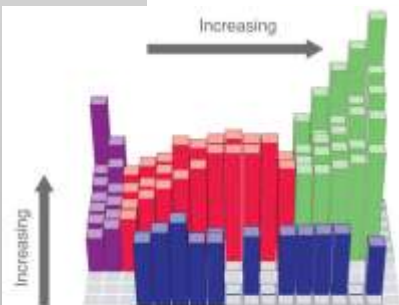
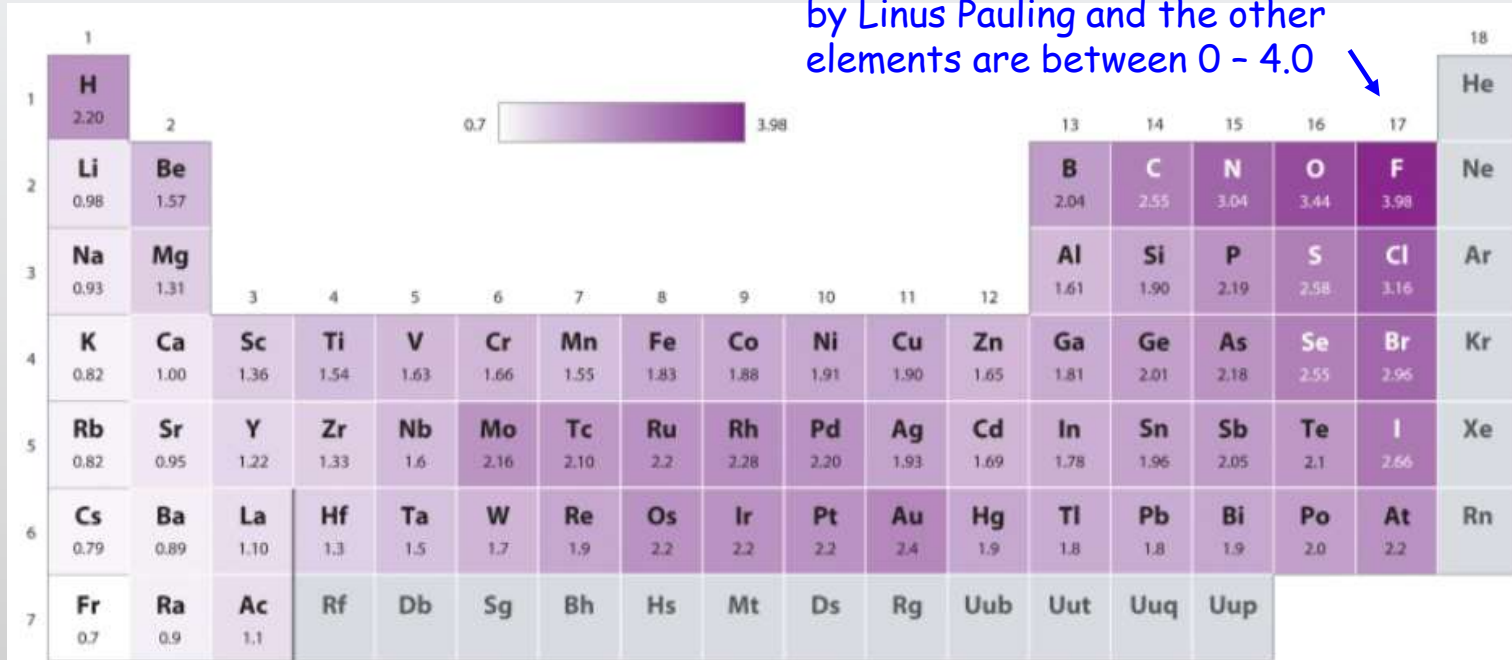
Equal sharing of electrons



Electronegativity χ

- The tendency or ability of the atoms to attract electrons from the other elements (electron acceptor)

F is arbitrarily set at 4.0 (3.98)
by Linus Pauling and the other
elements are between 0 - 4.0



Ce 1.12	Pr 1.13	Nd 1.14	Pm	Sm 1.17	Eu	Gd 1.20	Tb	Dy 1.22	Ho 1.23	Er 1.24	Tm 1.25	Yb	Lu 1.0
Th 1.3	Pa 1.5	U 1.7	Np 1.3	Pu 1.3	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

CRC handbook of chemistry and physics

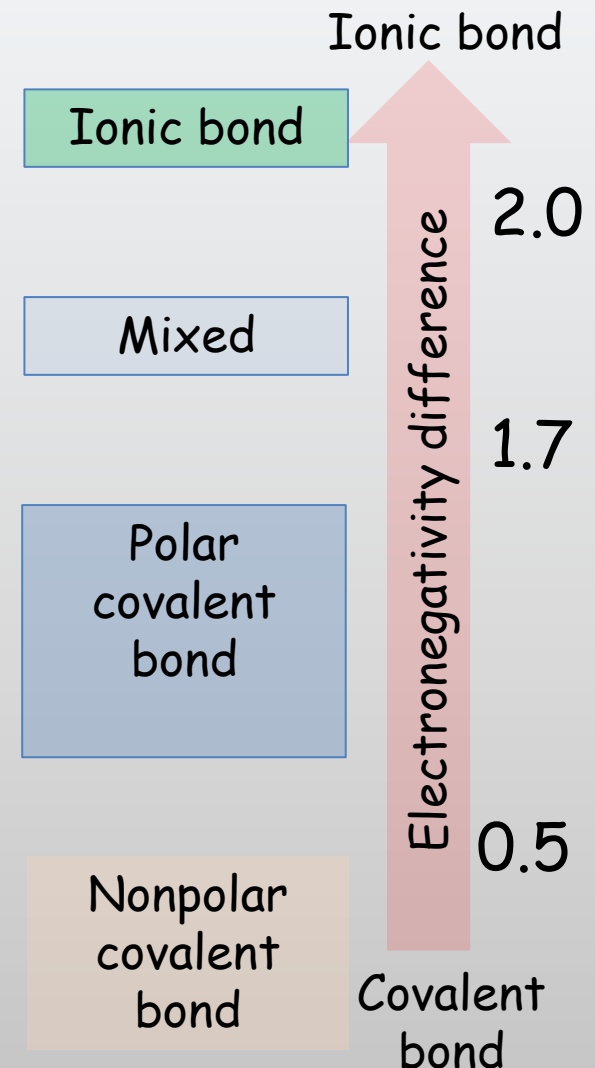
Chemical bonds

➤ Chemical bonds → electronegativity

a) Difference in electronegativity $> 2 \rightarrow$ ionic bond \rightarrow electrostatic attraction and forming ionic bond

b) Difference in electronegativity < 1.7 , no electrons are stolen but the electrons are shared between nucleus

- Polar covalent bond (difference in electronegativity > 0.5) \rightarrow electron density towards to the one who has higher electronegativity \rightarrow slight electron excess in one element compared to the other
- Nonpolar covalent bond (difference in electronegativity < 0.5) \rightarrow electrons are shared more evenly, the atoms have no partial charges

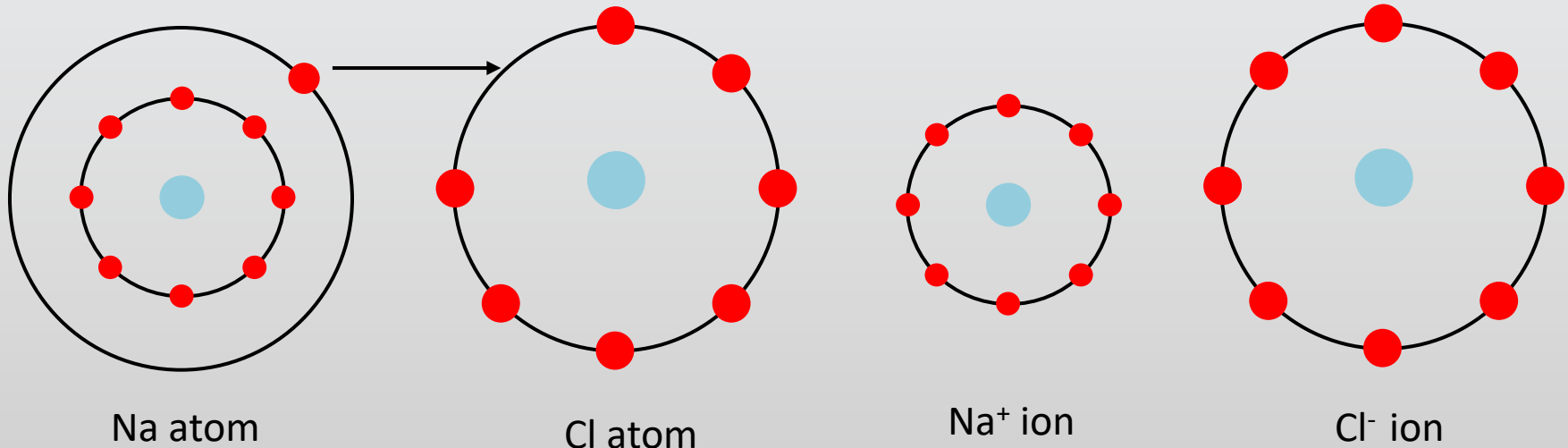


Ionic bond

Ionic bond

➤ Chemical bonds → electronegativity

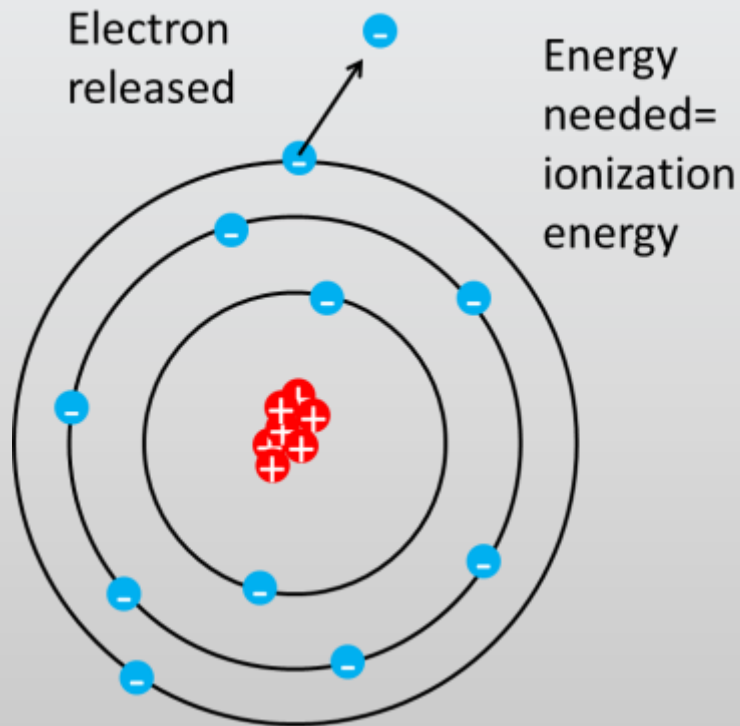
a) Difference in electronegativity $> 2 \rightarrow$ ionic bond \rightarrow electrostatic attraction and forming ionic bond



➤ Ionic bonding results from the transfer of electrons \rightarrow making the ionic compound stable due to the **electrostatic attraction** between positive and negative ions

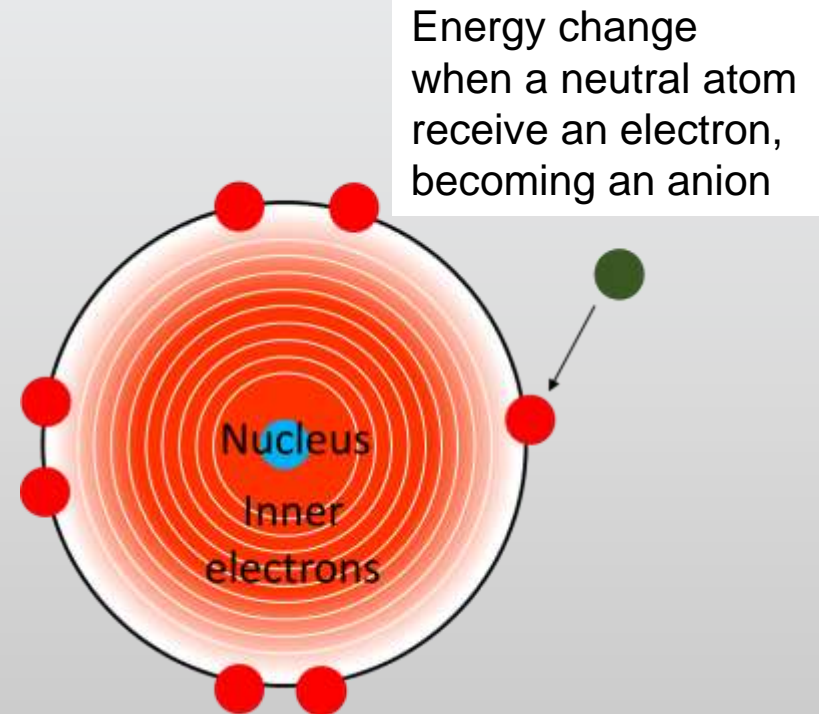
Most oxides have ionic character which involves **exchange of electrons**

Ionization energy



Remove an electron → cation

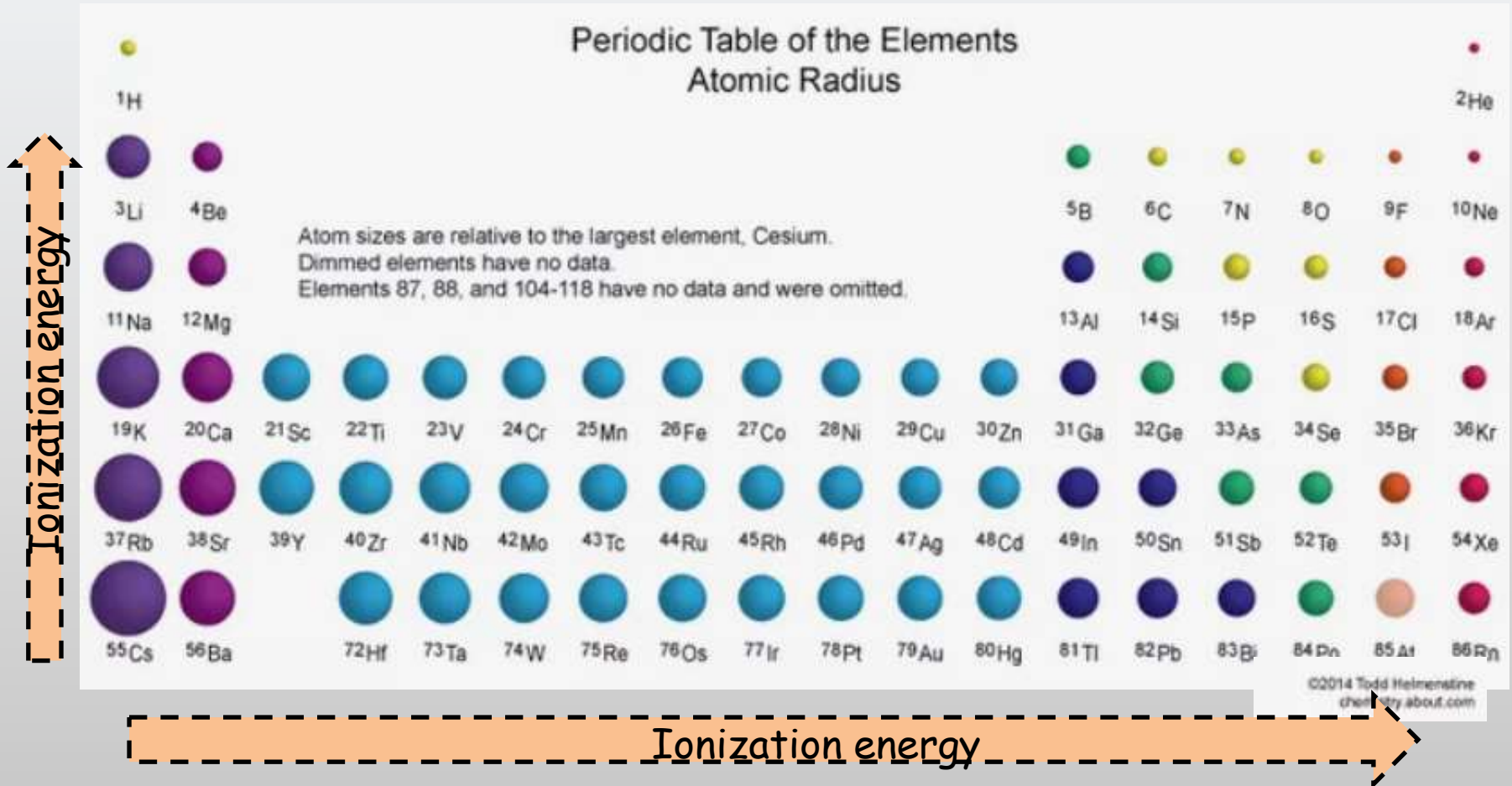
Electron affinity



Accept an electron → anion

Ionization energy

- Energy required to remove an electron from an atom

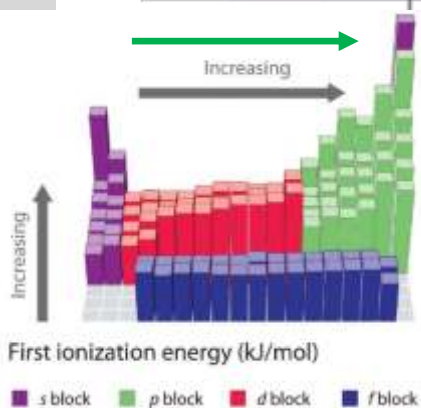
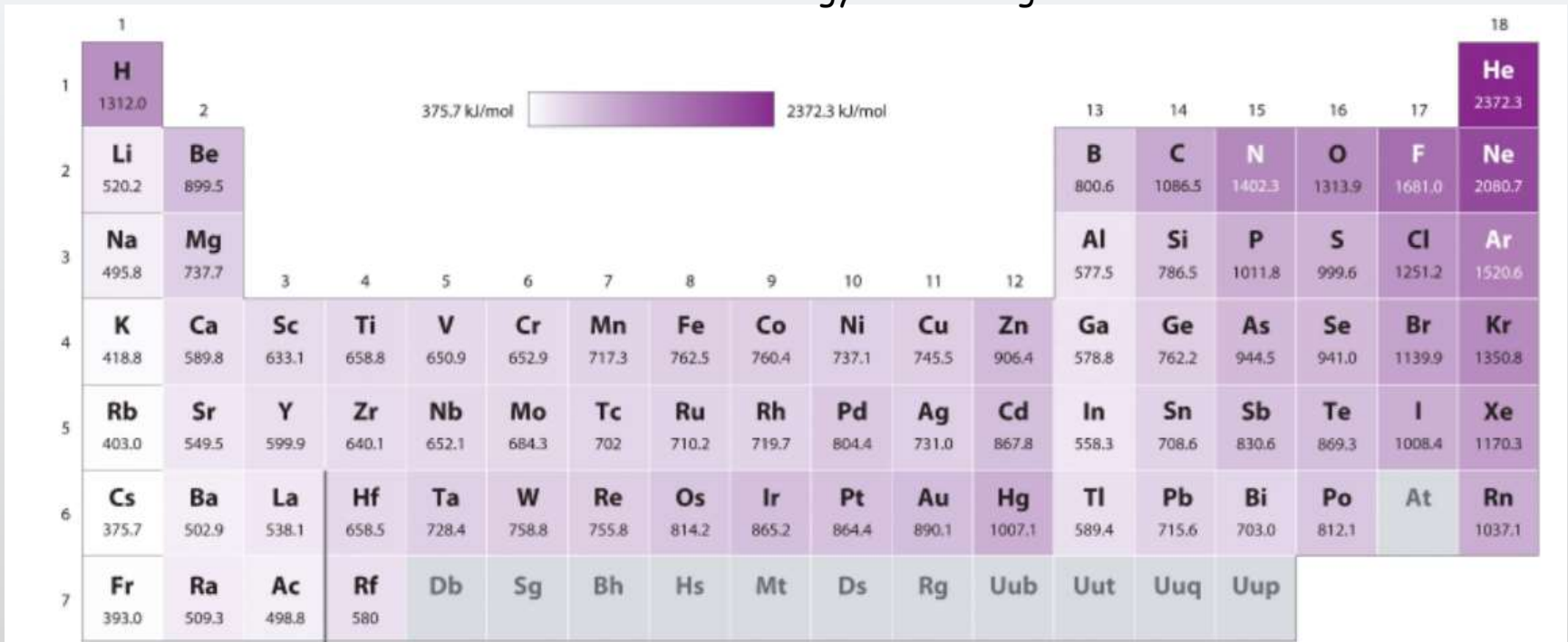


Coulomb's law gives the electrostatic forces between e.g., protons and electrons :

$$F = k \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r^2}$$

Ionization energy

How does the d orbital energy level change?

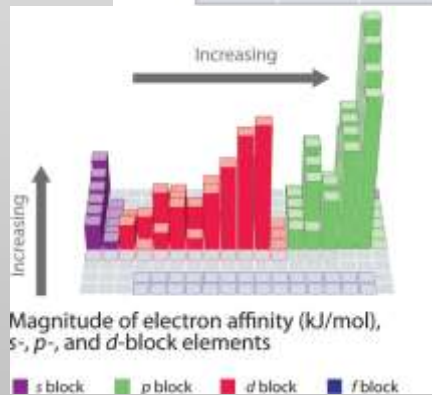
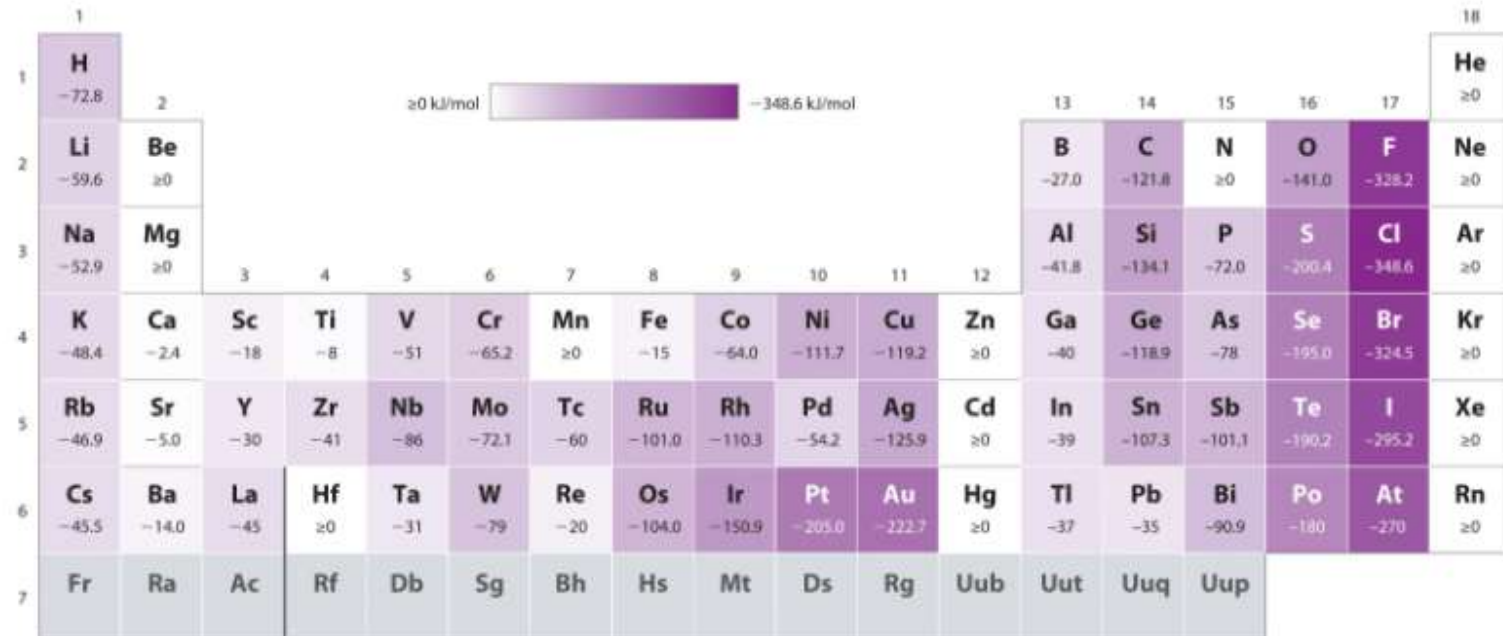


Pr 528.1	Nd 533.1	Pm 538.6	Sm 544.5	Eu 547.1	Gd 593.4	Tb 565.8	Dy 573.0	Ho 581.0	Er 589.3	Tm 596.7	Yb 603.4	Lu 523.5
Pa 568	U 597.6	Np 604.5	Pu 581.4	Am 576.4	Cm 578.1	Bk 598.0	Cf 606.1	Es 619	Fm 627	Md 635	No 642	Lr 472.8

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Electron affinity

- Electron affinity is the change in energy of a neutral atom when an electron is added to the atom to form a negative ion



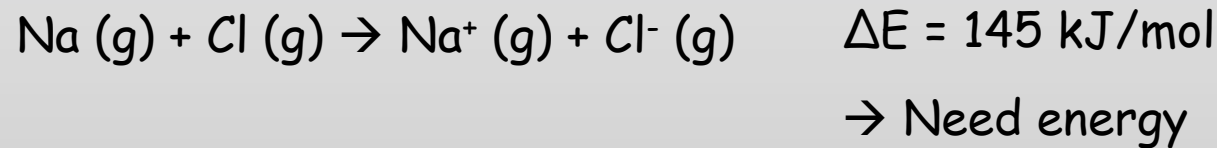
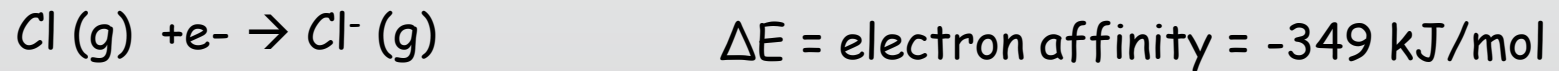
Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

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Ionic bond energy

How to calculate ionic bond energy?

e.g., Formation of NaCl from neutral Na and Cl atoms



!! The electronic attraction between Na^+ and Cl^-

Ionic bond energy

Using Coulomb's law, the Coulombic potential energy is:

$$E_{potential} = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

z = ion charges
 r = separation distance between ions
 ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space
 e = charge of an electron

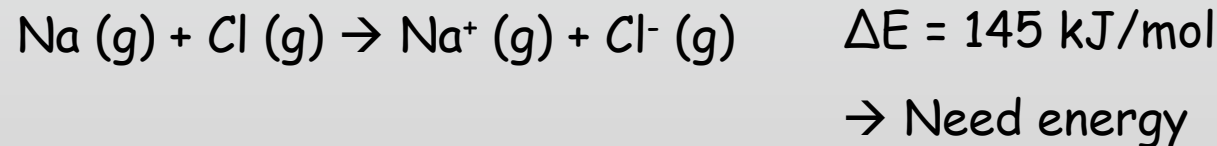
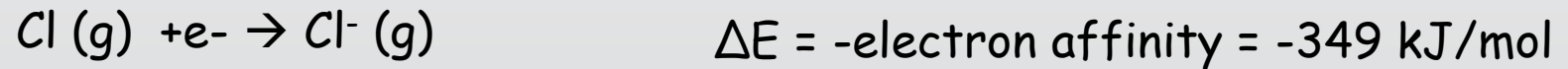
For NaCl, $r = 2.36 \text{ \AA}$, $e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$, $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{Jm}$,
Avogadro's constant = $6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

What is the Coulomb potential (unit: kJ/mol)?

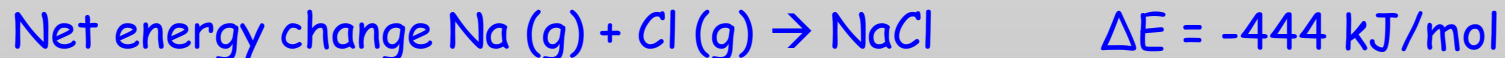
$$E_{potential} = \frac{(+1)(-1)(1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})^2}{4 \times 3.14 \times 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1} \times 2.34 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}} \times \frac{\text{kJ}}{1000} \times \frac{6.022 \times 10^{23}}{\text{mol}} = -589 \text{ kJ}$$

Ionic bond energy

- Ionic bond
- e.g., Formation of NaCl from neutral Na and Cl atoms



!! The electronic attraction between Na^+ and Cl^- is -589 kJ/mol



→ Favored reaction

$\Delta E_{\text{measured}} = -411 \text{ kJ/mol}$

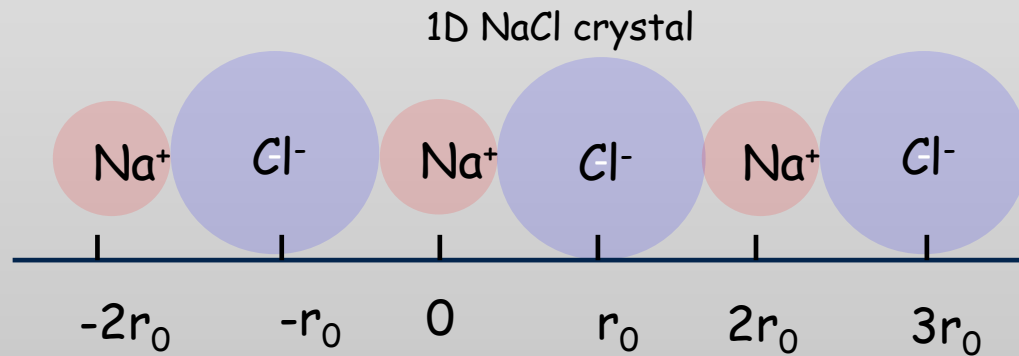
Ionic bond energy

Using Coulomb's law, the Coulombic potential energy is:

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z = ion charges
 r = separation distance between ions
 ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space
 e = charge of an electron

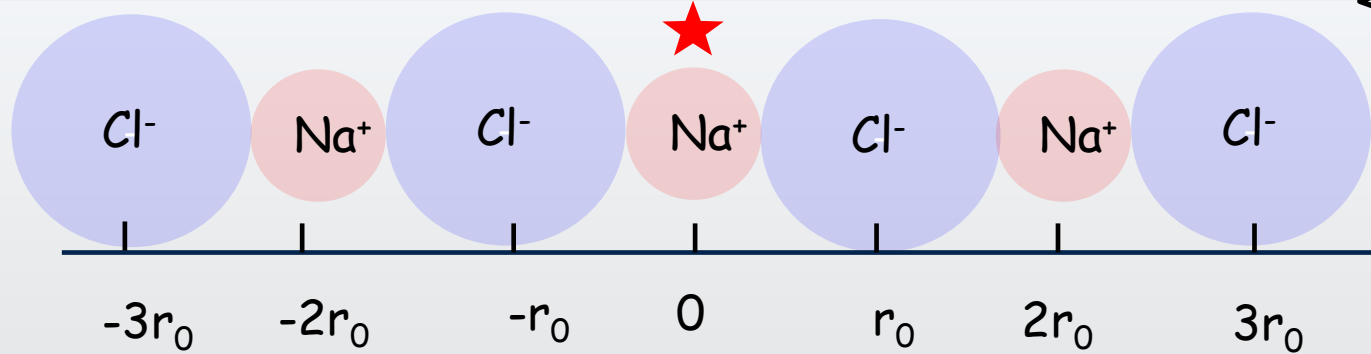
Madelung constant \rightarrow accounts for short-range and long-range geometric facets of forces between two interacting species



Madelung constant



1D NaCl crystal



Based on : $E_{pot} = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$

z = ion charges

r = separation distance between ions

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space

1) First nearest neighbor of Na^+ : $E_1 = \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} + \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} = \frac{-2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0}$

2) Second nearest neighbor of Na^+ : $E_2 = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 2r_0} + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 2r_0} = \frac{2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 2r_0}$

3) Third nearest neighbor of Na^+ : $E_2 = \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 3r_0} + \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 3r_0} = -\frac{2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 3r_0}$

...

...

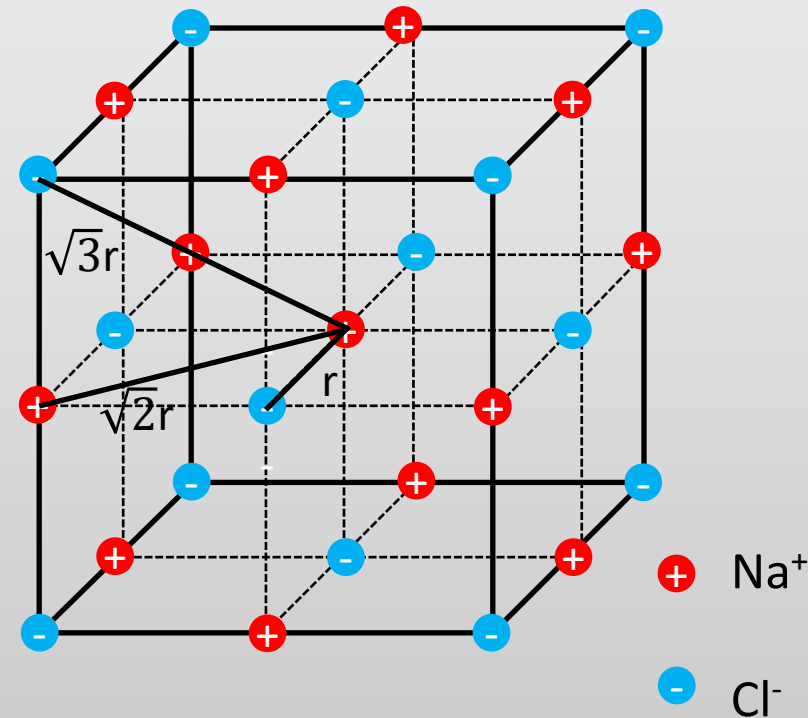
Total energy:

$$E = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} \left[2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots \right) \right]$$

$2\ln 2 \rightarrow$ Madelung constant

Madelung constant

3D NaCl crystal



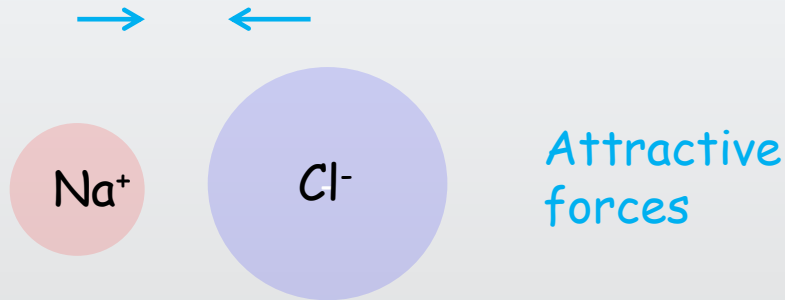
- 1) First nearest neighbors: 6 Cl^- at r_0
- 2) Second nearest neighbors: 12 Na^+ at $\frac{r_0}{\sqrt{2}}$
- 3) Third nearest neighbors; 8 Cl^- at $\frac{r_0}{\sqrt{3}}$

...

$$E = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} \left[\frac{6}{1} - \frac{12}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{8}{\sqrt{3}} + \dots \right]$$

↓
1.74756 for NaCl

Ionic bond energy



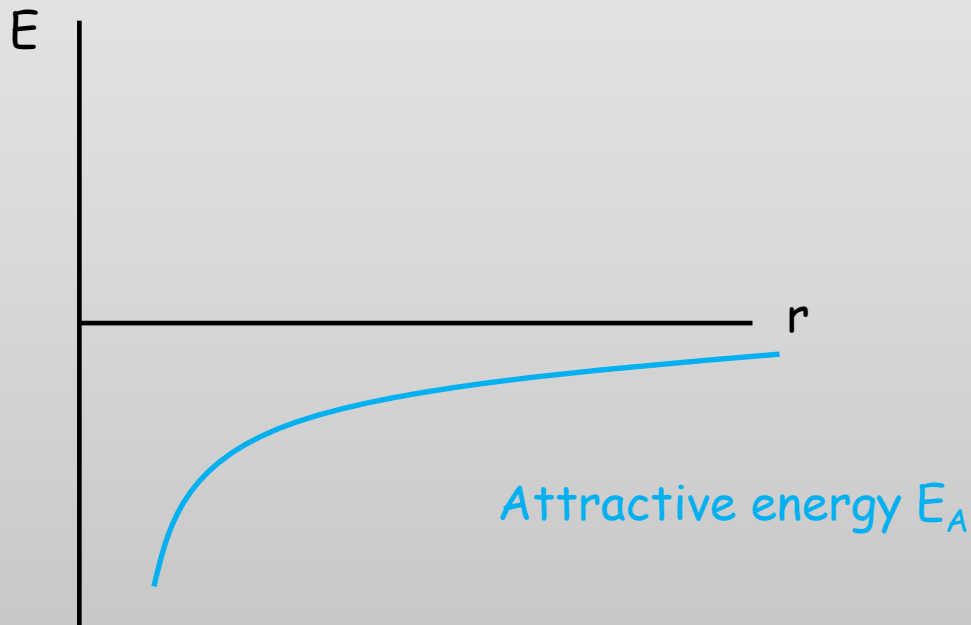
a) Using Coulomb's law, the Coulombic potential energy is:

$$E_A = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

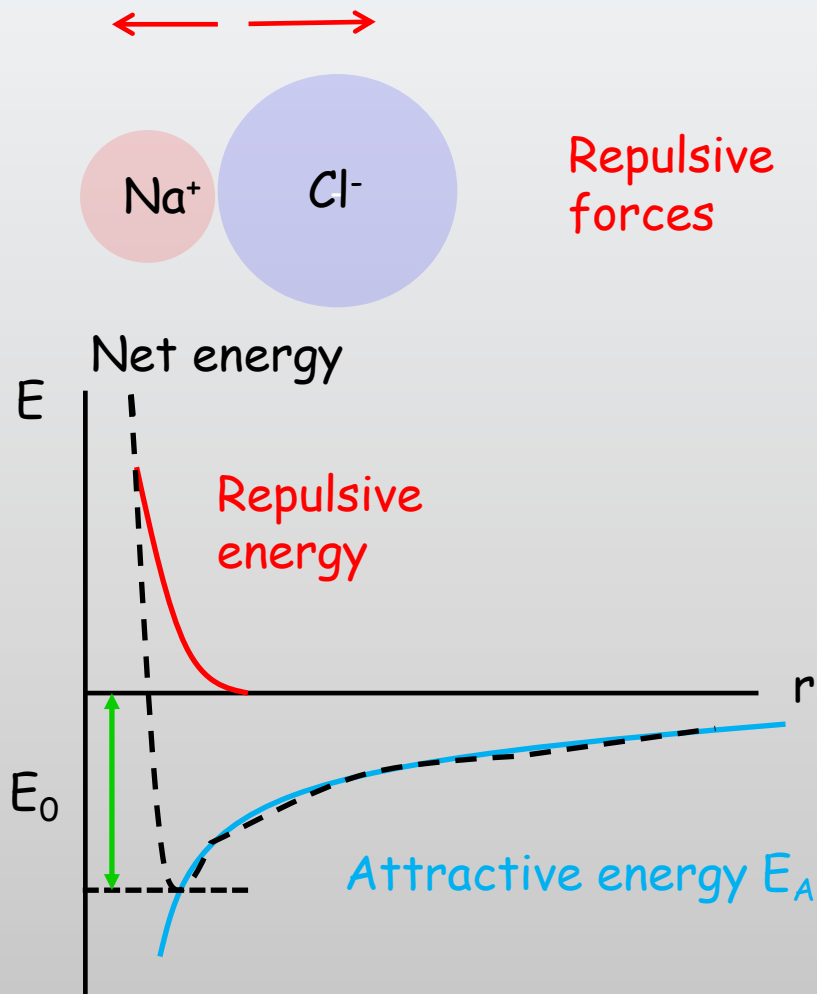
z = ion charges

r = separation distance between ions

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space



Ionic bond energy



a) Using Coulomb's law, the Coulombic potential energy is:

$$E_A = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

z = ion charges

r = separation distance between ions

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space

b) Born equation to consider the repulsive forces due to two charged species being in proximity:

$$E_r = \frac{B}{r^n}$$

B = constant

n = born exponent, between 6-12, depending on the principal quantum number

Ionic bond energy

$$E_{net} = E_A + E_r = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} + \frac{B}{r^n}$$

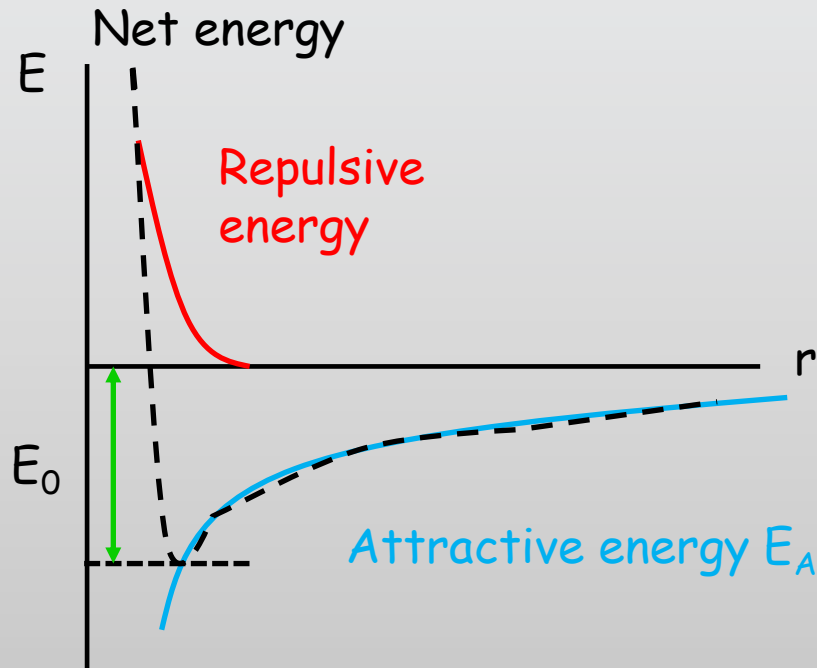
z = ion charges

r = separation distance between ions

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space

B = constant

n = born exponent, between 6-12



The constant B from Borne equation can be estimated by the minimum energy level

$$E_{bond} = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

Considering Madelung constant α ,

$$E_{sum} = \frac{z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \alpha$$

Lattice energy

For a mol of crystalline solid,

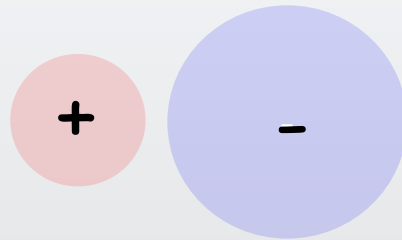
lattice energy = E bond energy × Madelung constant × Avogadro constant

$$E_{sum} = \frac{N_A z_1 z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \alpha$$

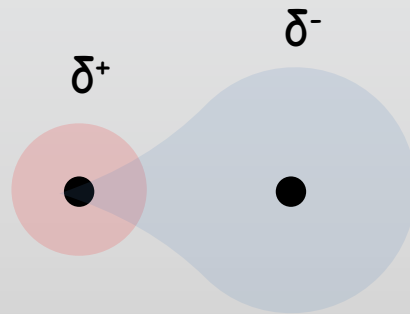


- N_A : Avogadro constant
- α : Madelung constant for a lattice
- z_1 and z_2 are the charge numbers of cation and anion
- e is elemental charge, $1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
- ϵ_0 is permittivity of free space
- r_0 is the distance to the closest ion
- n is the born exponent

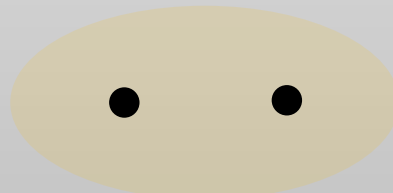
Chemical bonds



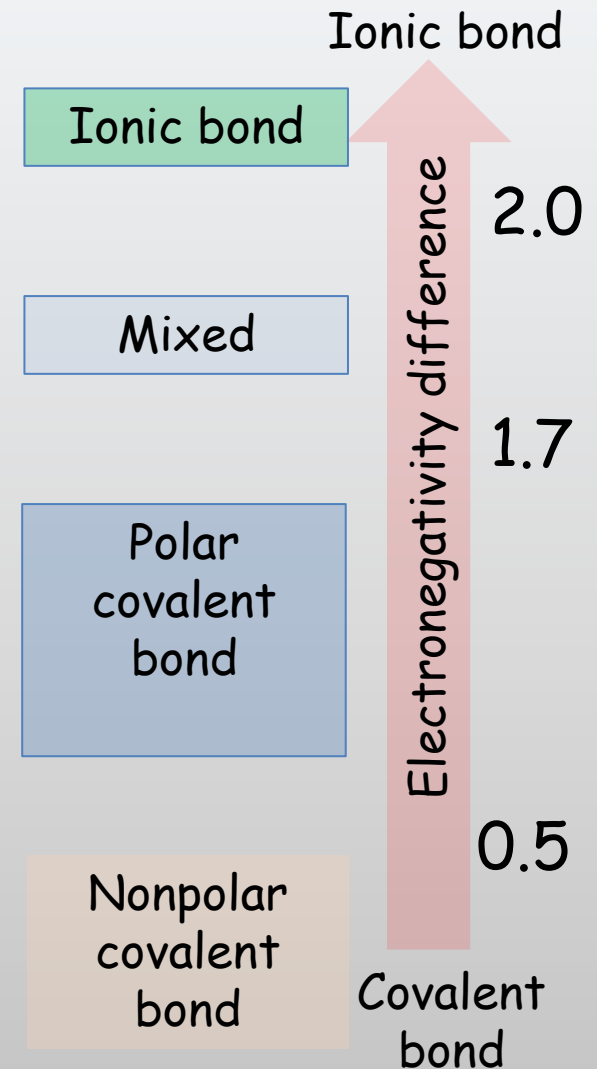
No sharing of electrons



Unequal sharing of electrons



Equal sharing of electrons



No clear cut! Degree of ionic character

Fraction of ionic character can be calculated by electronegativity values:

$$IC = 1 - \exp[-0.25(X_M - X_X)^2]$$

X is the electronegativities of the element in a compound MX

Periodic table showing electronegativity values (X) for elements. The color scale ranges from 0.7 (light purple) to 3.98 (dark purple).

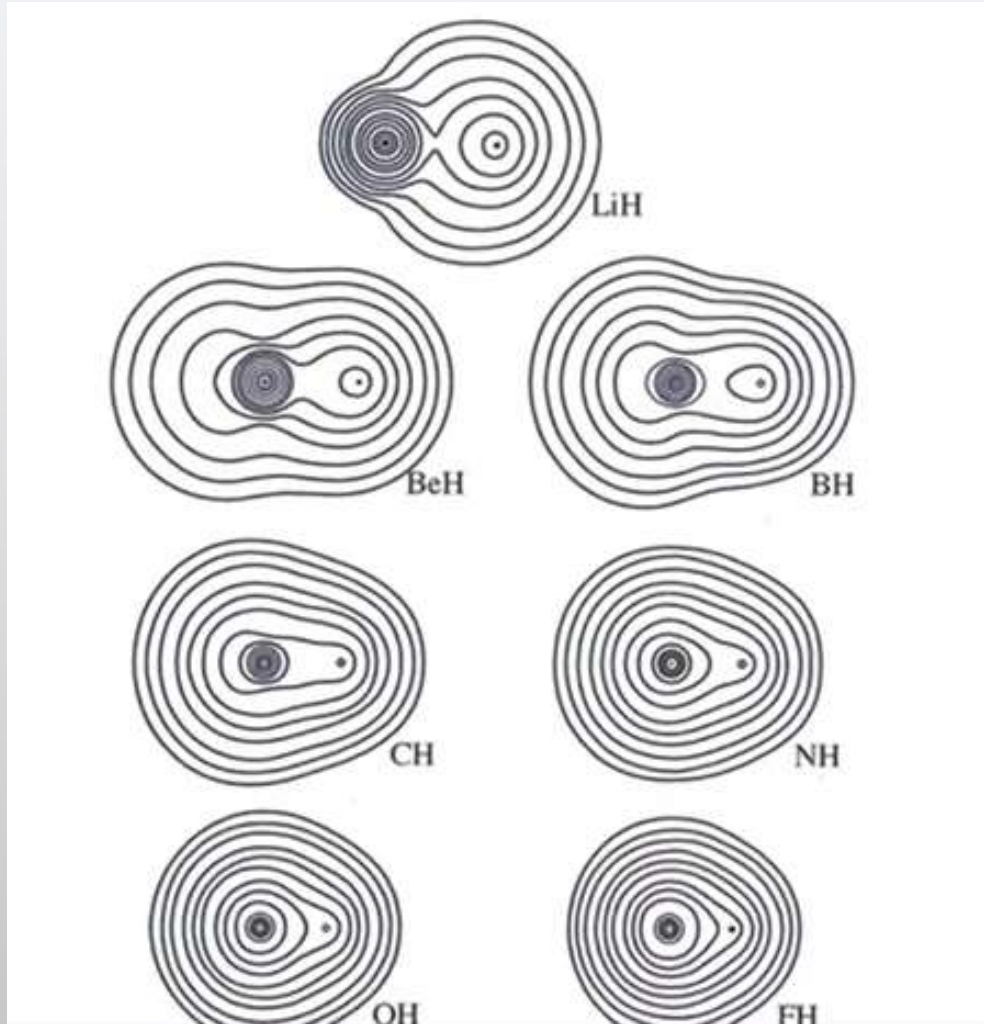
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
H 2.20																	He
Li 0.98	Be 1.57											B 2.04	C 2.55	N 3.04	O 3.44	F 3.98	Ne
Na 0.93	Mg 1.31											Al 1.61	Si 1.90	P 2.19	S 2.58	Cl 3.16	Ar
K 0.82	Ca 1.00	Sc 1.36	Ti 1.54	V 1.63	Cr 1.66	Mn 1.55	Fe 1.83	Co 1.88	Ni 1.91	Cu 1.90	Zn 1.65	Ga 1.81	Ge 2.01	As 2.18	Se 2.55	Br 2.96	Kr
Rb 0.82	Sr 0.95	Y 1.22	Zr 1.33	Nb 1.6	Mo 2.16	Tc 2.10	Ru 2.2	Rh 2.28	Pd 2.20	Ag 1.93	Cd 1.69	In 1.78	Sn 1.96	Sb 2.05	Te 2.1	I 2.66	Xe
Cs 0.79	Ba 0.89	La 1.10	Hf 1.3	Ta 1.5	W 1.7	Re 1.9	Os 2.2	Ir 2.2	Pt 2.2	Au 2.4	Hg 1.9	Tl 1.8	Pb 1.8	Bi 1.9	Po 2.0	At 2.2	Rn
Fr 0.7	Ra 0.9	Ac 1.1	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Uub	Uut	Uuq	Uup			
Lanthanides		Ce 1.12	Pr 1.13	Nd 1.14	Pm	Sm 1.17	Eu	Gd 1.20	Tb	Dy 1.22	Ho 1.23	Er 1.24	Tm 1.25	Yb	Lu 1.0		
Actinides		Th 1.3	Pa 1.5	U 1.7	Np 1.3	Pu 1.3	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr		

For NaCl

IC = 0,67 or 67% → this compound is 2/3 ionic (a fair degree of covalent bonding)

Covalent bond

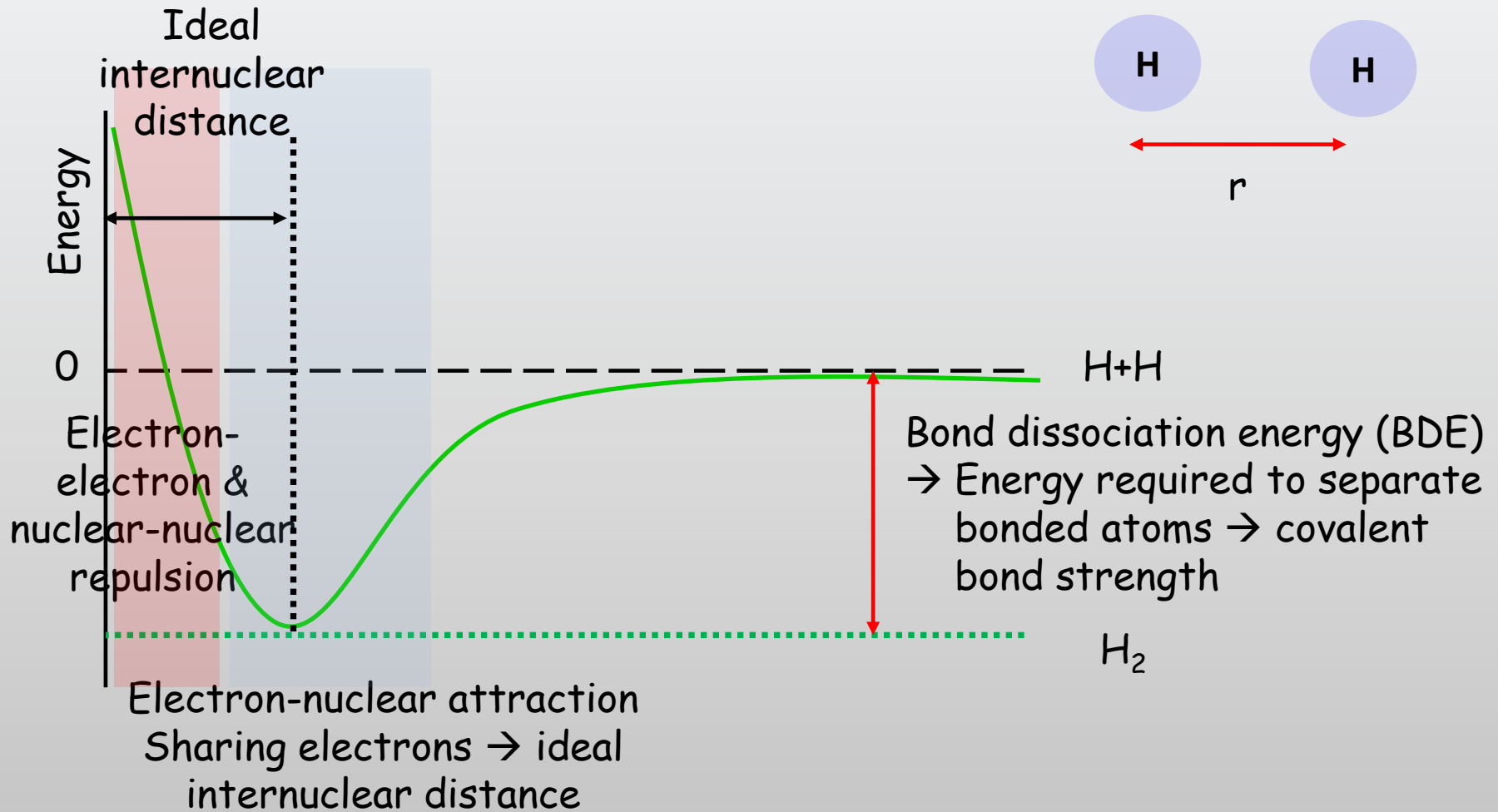
Covalent bond



Electrons shared and
spend more time
between nucleus →
molecular orbital

Covalent bond - valence bond theory

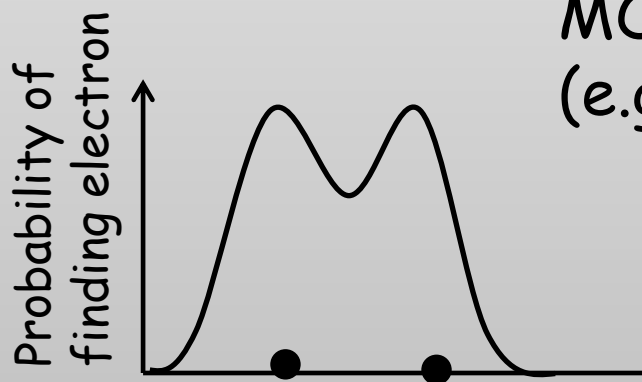
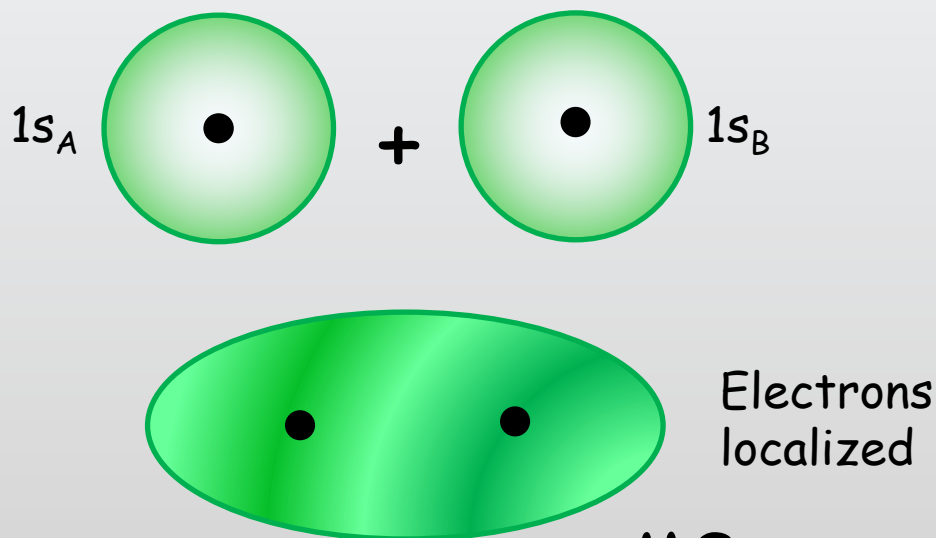
- Covalent bond: a pair of electrons shared between two atoms



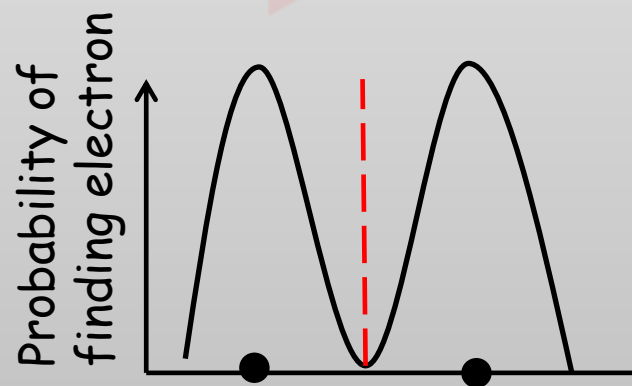
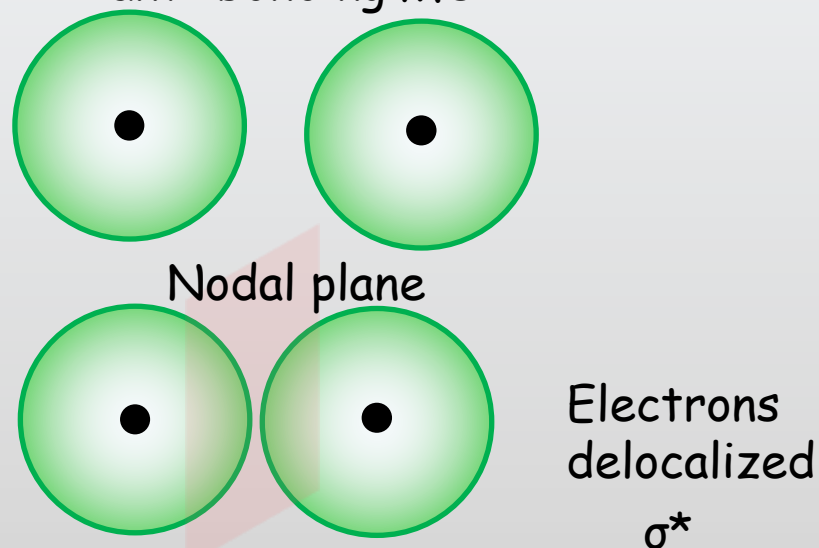
Molecular orbitals (MO)

Combination of **atomic orbitals** (AO) gives rise to **molecular orbitals** (MO)

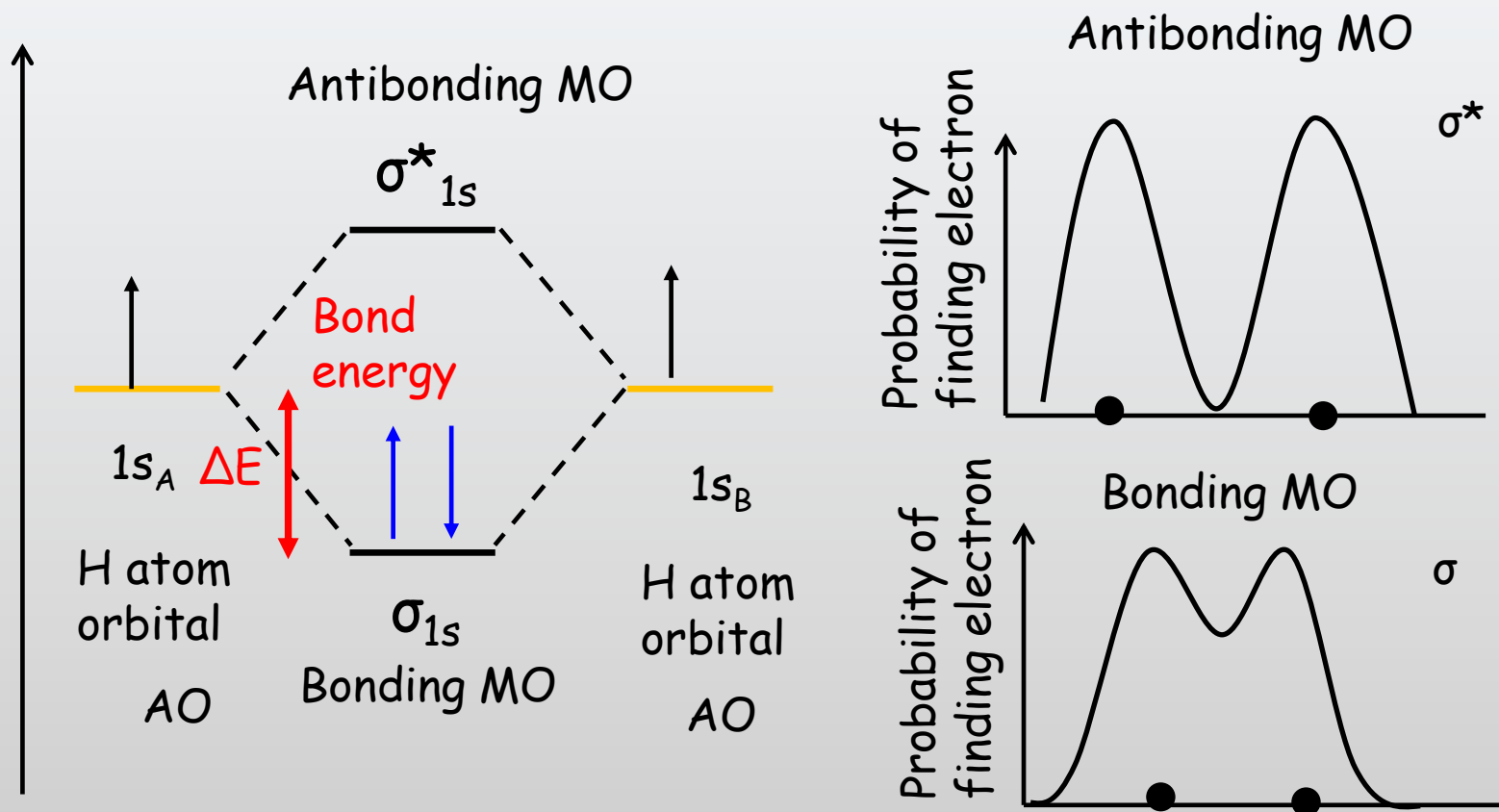
Constructive interference of AOs →
Bonding MO



Destructive interference
→ anti-bonding MO



Molecular orbitals (MO)

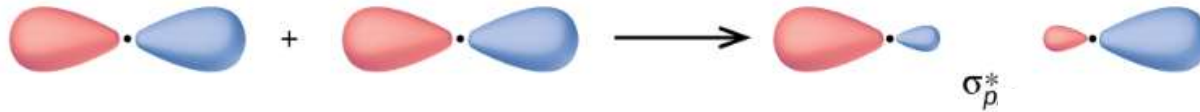


Anti-bonding molecular orbitals are less stable and have higher energy

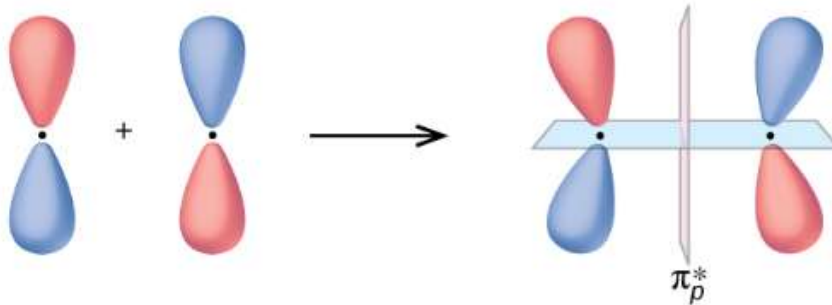
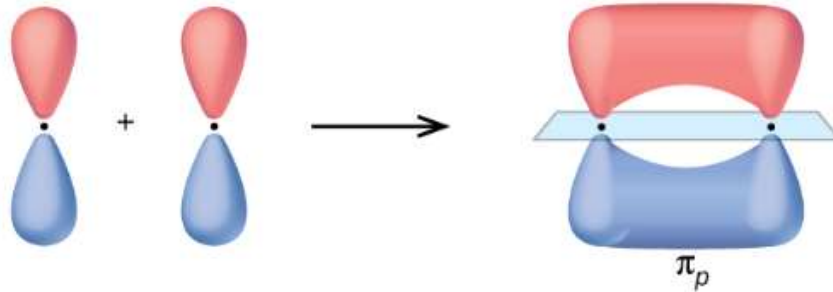
Bond order = $\frac{1}{2}(\text{No. of bonding electrons} - \text{No. of anti-bonding electrons})$

→ Bond order indicates the number of covalent bond

Molecular orbitals (MO) of p orbitals



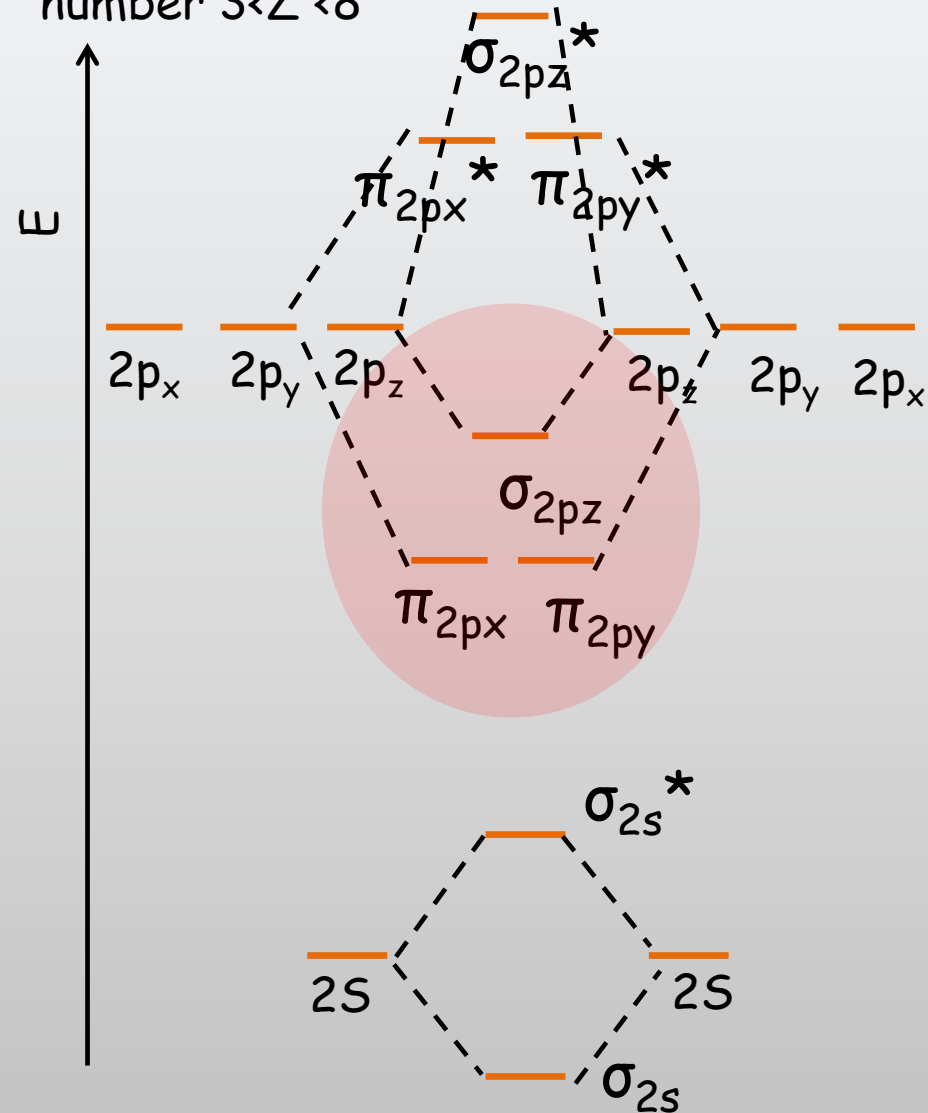
σ bond are formed by end-to-end overlapping of atomic orbitals (**stronger** \rightarrow electrons along the axis of nucleus of atoms)



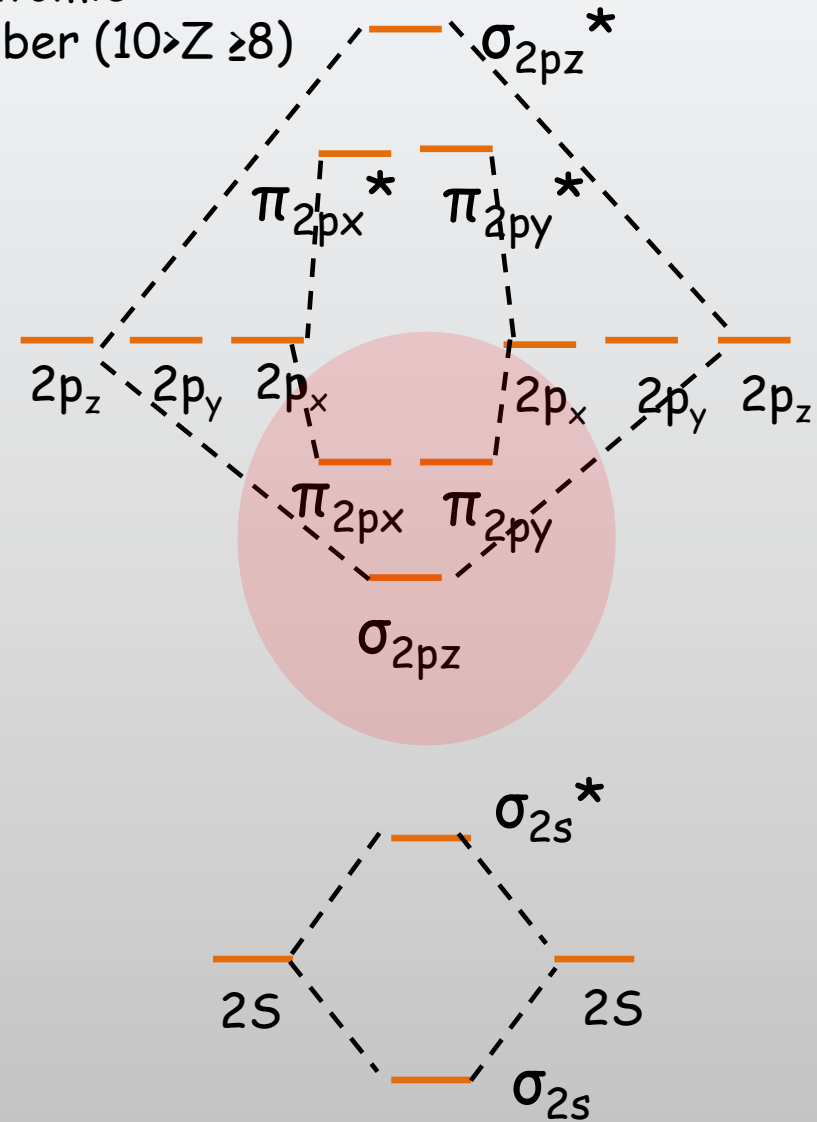
π bond are formed by lateral (x, y) overlapping of atom orbital (unhybridized p orbitals) (**weaker** \rightarrow electrons concentrate above or below the axis of nucleus of atoms)

Molecular orbitals (MO)

If atomic number $3 < Z < 8$



If atomic number $(10 > Z \geq 8)$



Covalent bond strength

Bond	Bond Energy (kJ)	Bond	Bond Energy	Bond	Bond Energy
H-H	436	C-S	260	F-Cl	255
H-C	415	C-Cl	330	F-Br	235
H-N	390	C-Br	275	Si-Si	230
H-O	464	C-I	240	Si-P	215
H-F	569	N-N	160	Si-S	225
H-Si	395	N=N	418	Si-Cl	359
H-P	320	N≡N	946	Si-Br	290
H-S	340	N-O	200	Si-I	215
H-Cl	432	N-F	270	P-P	215
H-Br	370	N-P	210	P-S	230
H-I	295	N-Cl	200	P-Cl	330
C-C	345	N-Br	245	P-Br	270
C=C	611	O-O	140	P-I	215
C≡C	837	O=O	498	S-S	215
C-N	290	O-F	160	S-Cl	250
C=N	615	O-Si	370	S-Br	215
C≡N	891	O-P	350	Cl-Cl	243
C-O	350	O-Cl	205	Cl-Br	220
C=O	741	O-I	200	Cl-I	210
C≡O	1080	F-F	160	Br-Br	190
C-F	439	F-Si	540	Br-I	180
C-Si	360	F-P	489	I-I	150
C-P	265	F-S	285		

Bond strength is quantified by bond dissociation energy (BDE)

→ the energy required to break a specific covalent bond in one mole of gaseous molecules

→ E.g., $\text{H}_2 (\text{g}) \rightarrow 2\text{H} (\text{g}) \quad \Delta H^\circ = 436 \text{ kJ}$

→ When one bonds to various atoms in a group, the bond strength typically decreases as we move down to the group

→ Triple bond > double bond > single bond

Hybridization

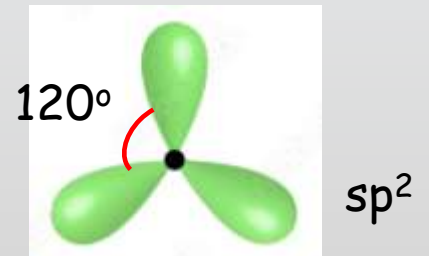
Hybridization model explains molecules with double or triple bonds

s

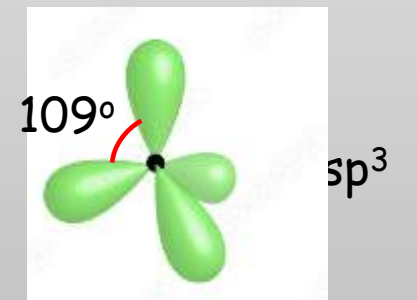
p orbital

sp

sp

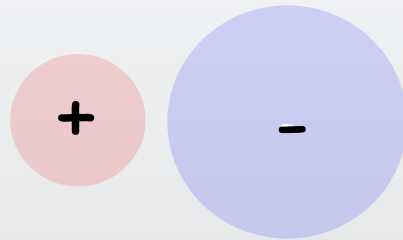


sp²

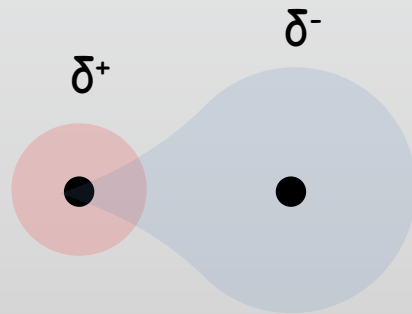


sp³

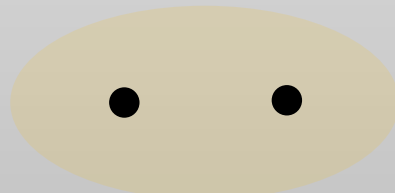
Chemical bonds



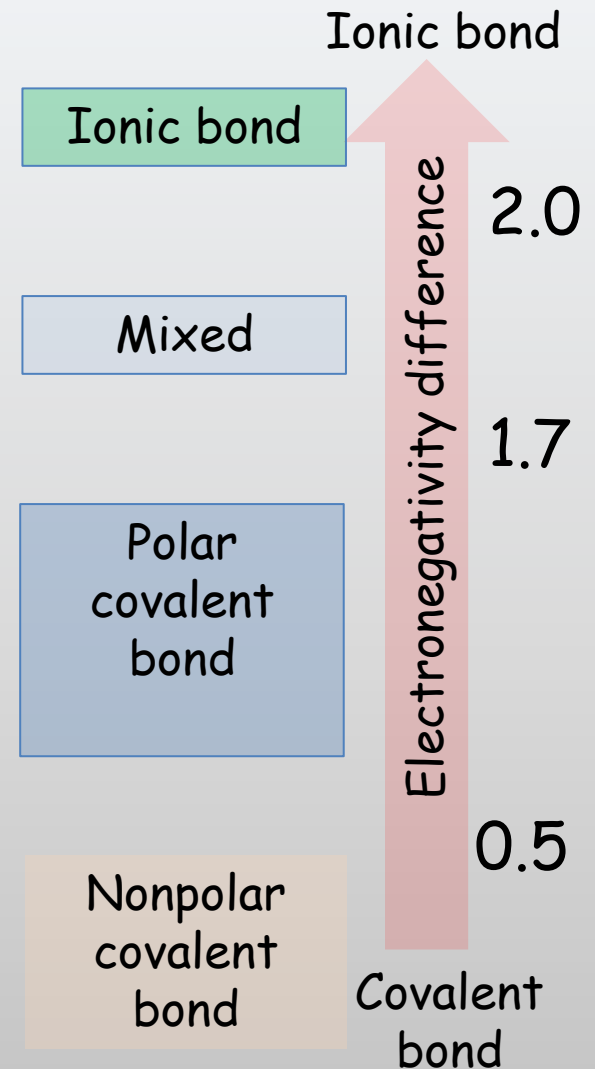
No sharing of electrons



Unequal sharing of electrons

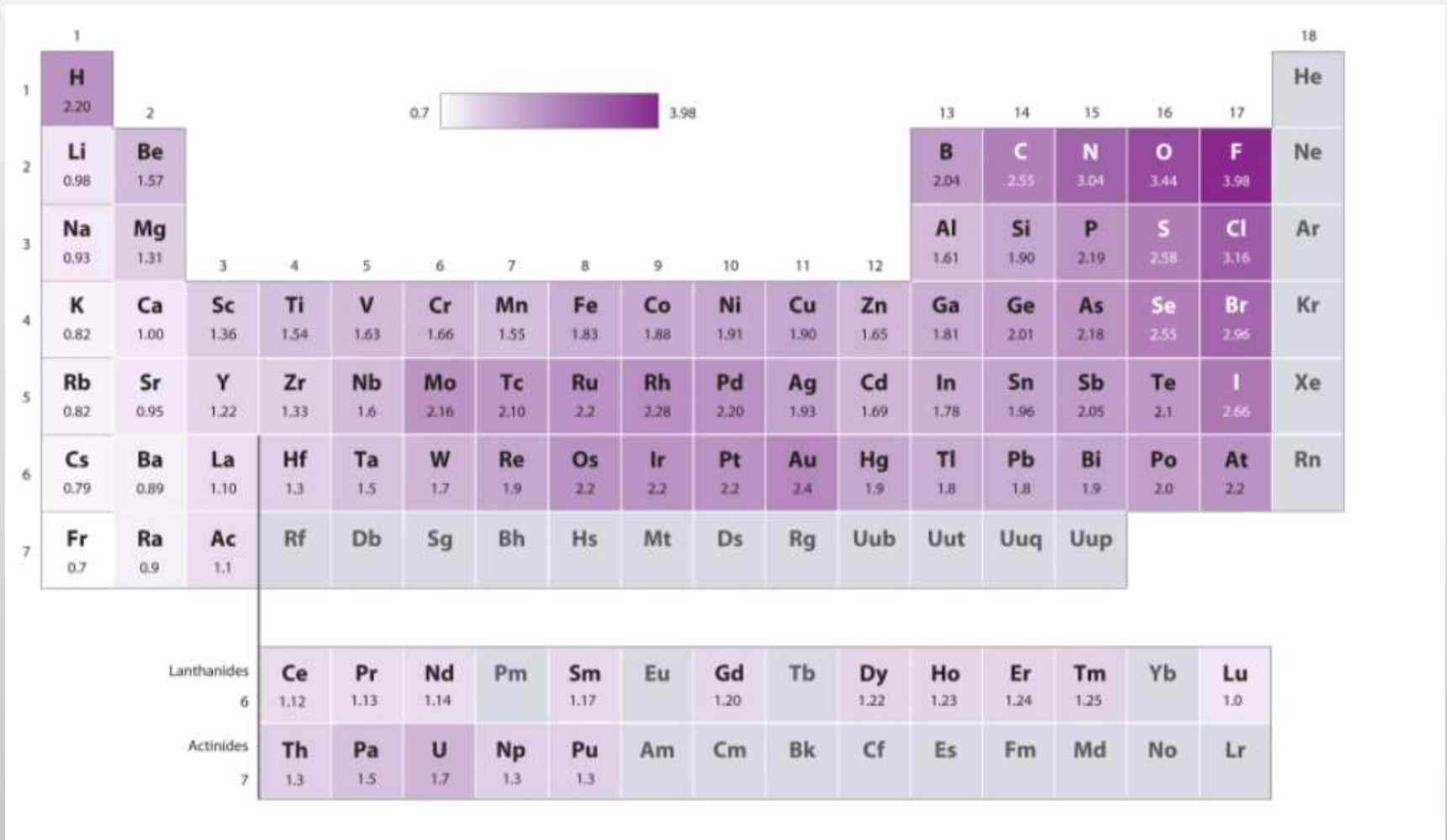


Equal sharing of electrons



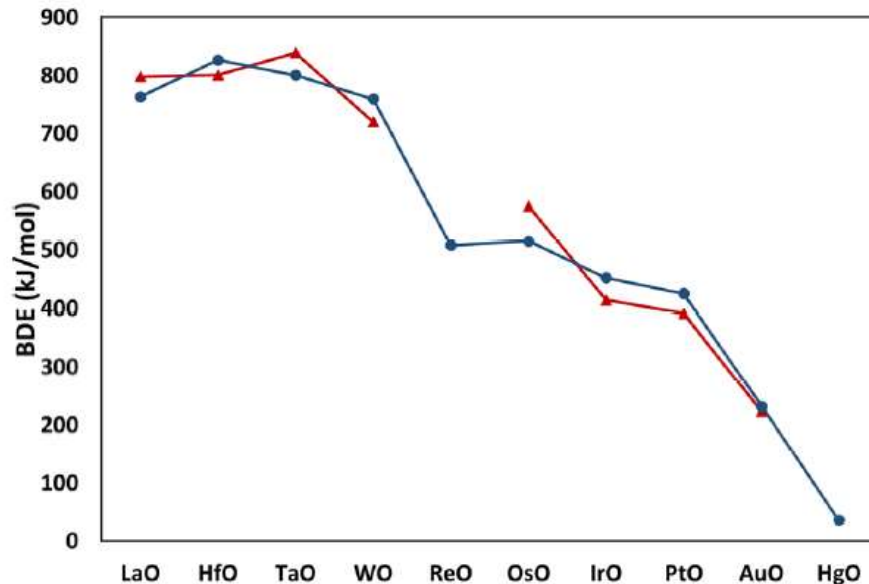
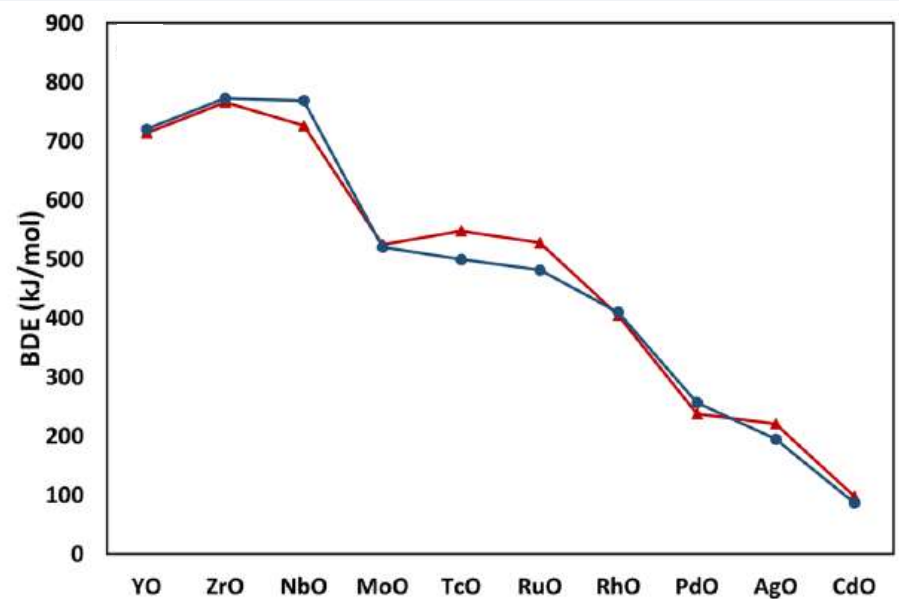
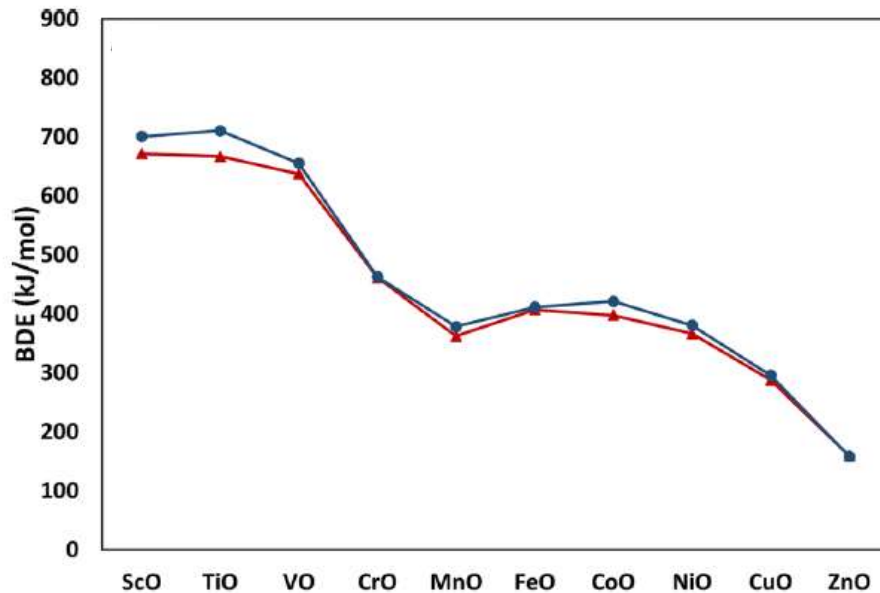
Electronegativity

- What kind of Co-O, Fe-O and Ni-O bond?
- What is the trend in bond strength among Co-O, Fe-O and Ni-O?



CRC handbook of chemistry and physics

M-O bond strength (bond dissociation energy)

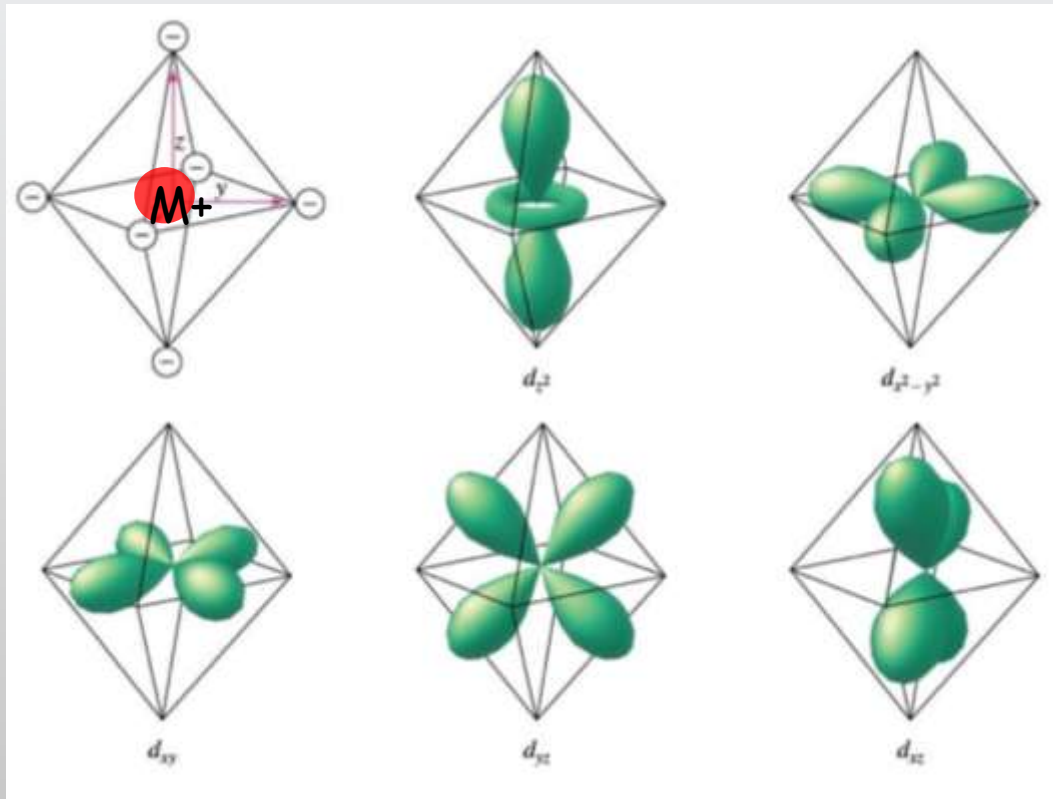


- Increasing the electronegativity towards the right in the transition metal series, M-O strength decreases
- The element with the lowest electronegativity should have the largest interaction with oxygen

Moltved and Kepp, J. Phys. Chem. C 2019, 123, 18432

Crystal field theory

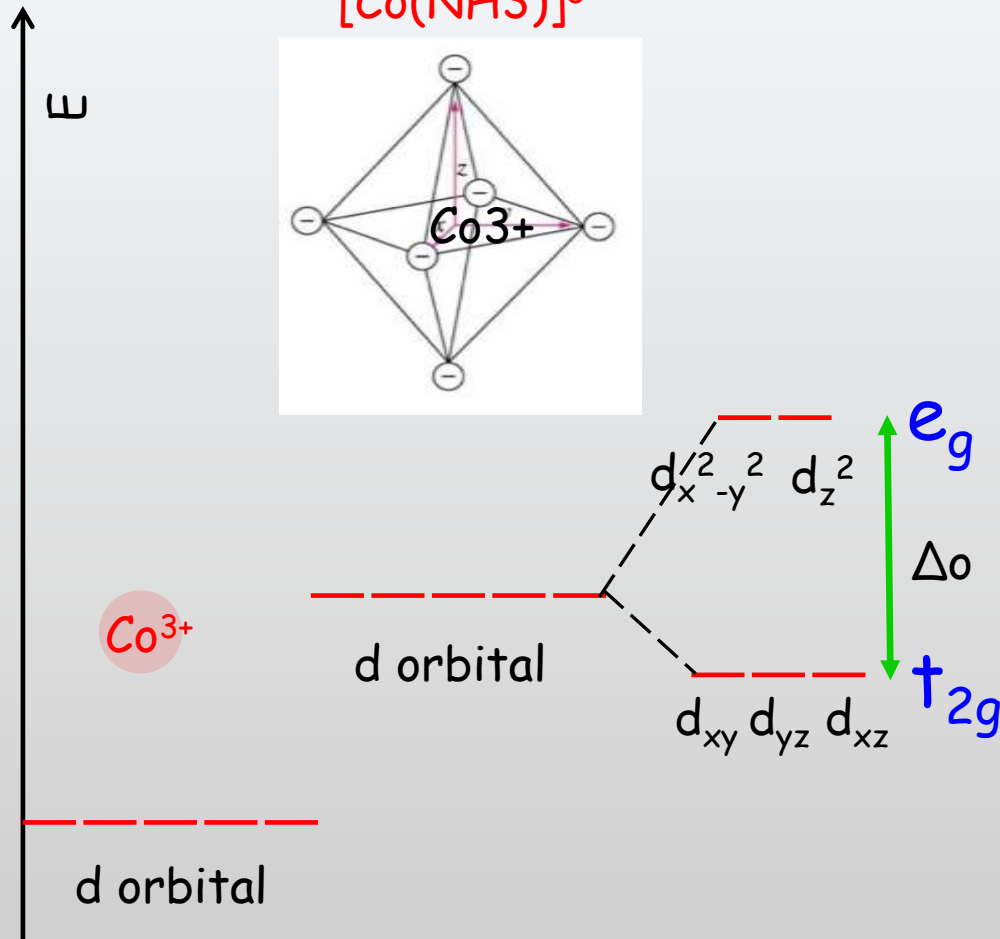
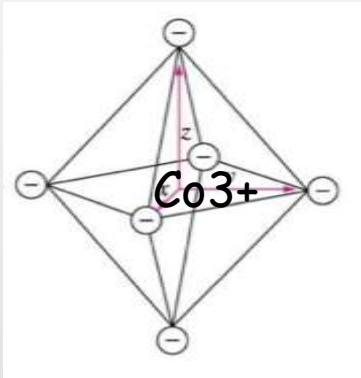
- Crystal field theory: metal ion and set of ligands can be treated as charged particles (neglect the covalent bond defined by valence bond theory, instead, it is simply electrostatic or ionic)
 - attraction: between positive ion and negative ligand
 - repulsion: d electrons of metals and surrounding negative ligand



1) Stronger repulsion $\rightarrow d_{z^2}$ and $d_{x^2-y^2}$ orbitals are destabilized

2) Less repulsion $\rightarrow d_{xy}, d_{xz}, d_{yz}$ are stabilized by the same amount

Octahedral crystal field splitting diagram



→ ligand are negative charges can be repulsive to the d orbital

→ the energy levels of metal's d orbital are altered from those in the free metal ions

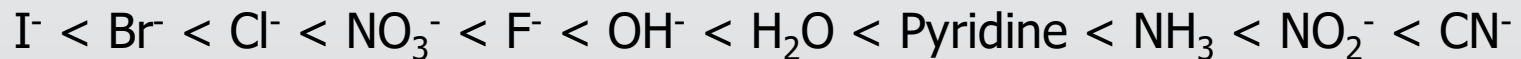
→ some experience more opposition from d orbital electrons than others because of the geometric structure of molecules

→ such electrostatic environment create a splitting of d orbital

Δ_o : octahedral crystal field splitting energy

Spectrochemical series

- Ligand determines the splitting energy → Ligands that produce a large splitting are called **strong field** ligands, and those that produce a small splitting are called **weak field** ligands

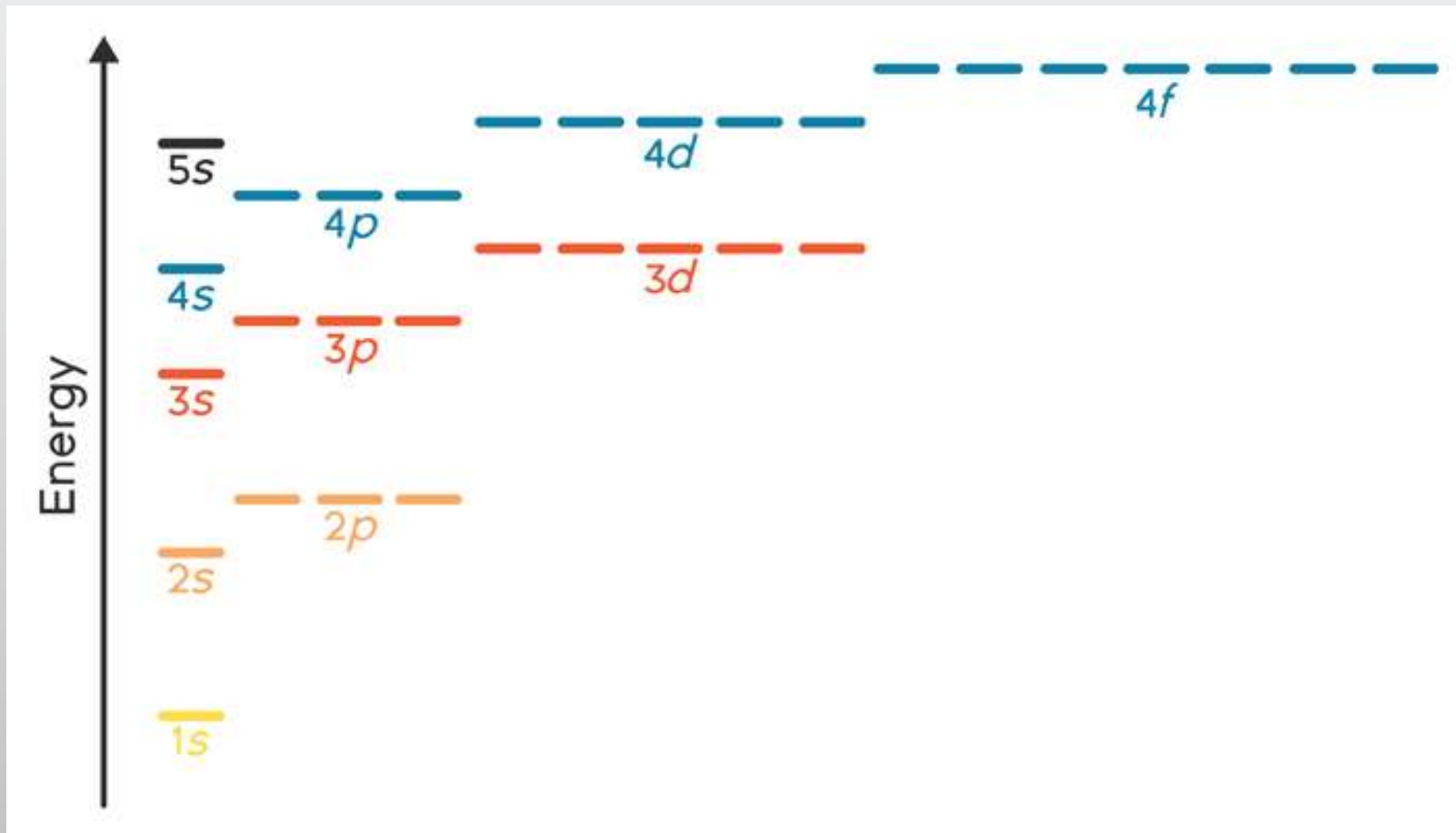
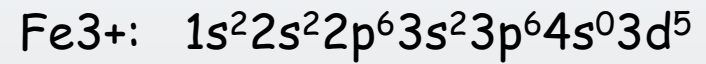
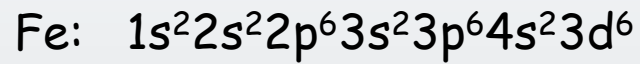
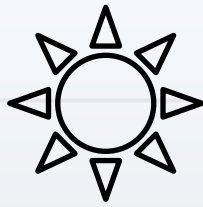


Weak field ligand

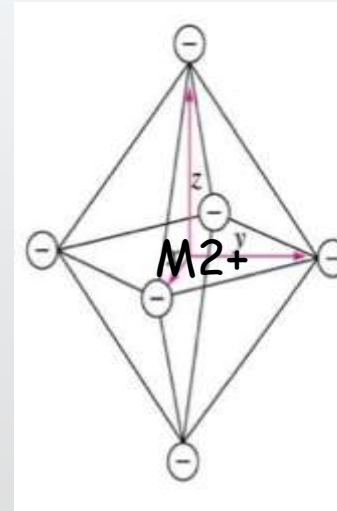
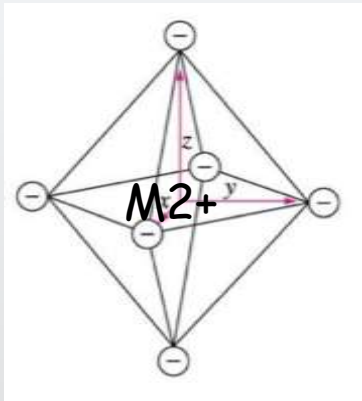
Small field
splitting
energy Δ_o

Strong field ligand

Large field
splitting
energy Δ_o



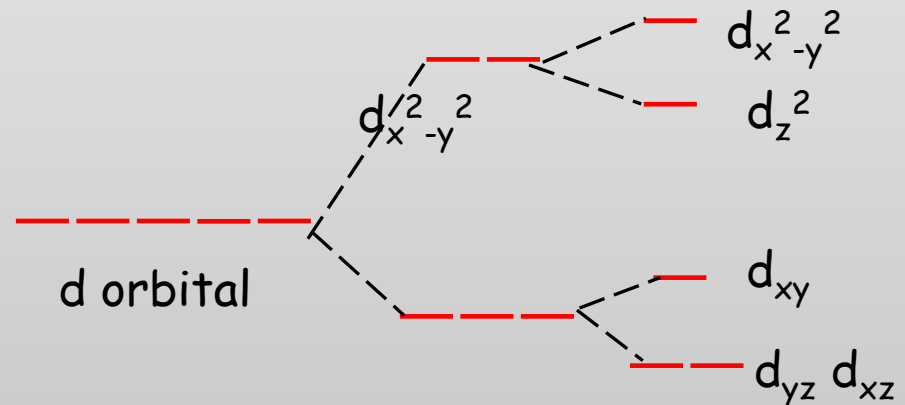
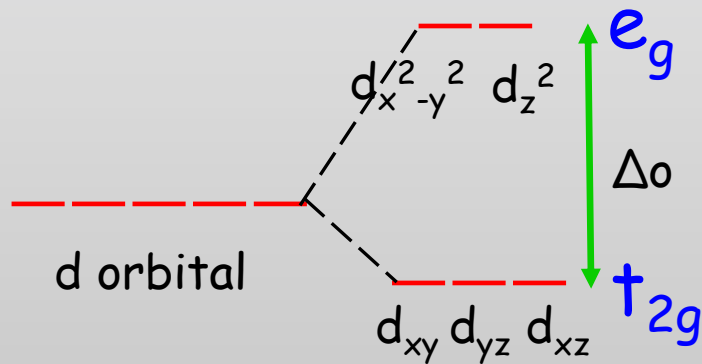
Jahn Teller effect



Elongation Jahn-Teller distortion

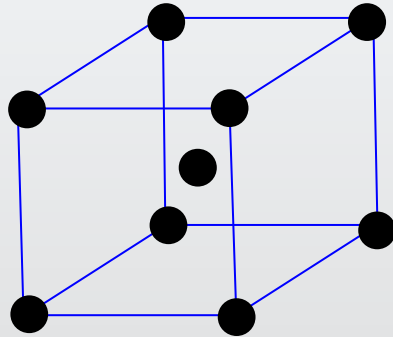
→ Increase the $d_{x^2-y^2}$ and d_{xy} orbital energy

→ Elongation lower the repulsion and increase the complex stability through distortion

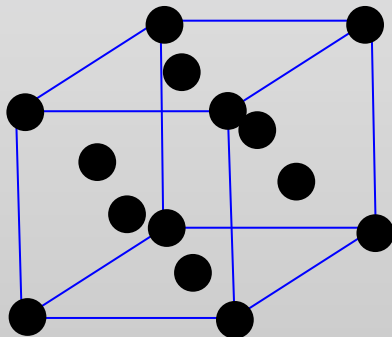


Crystal structure of oxides

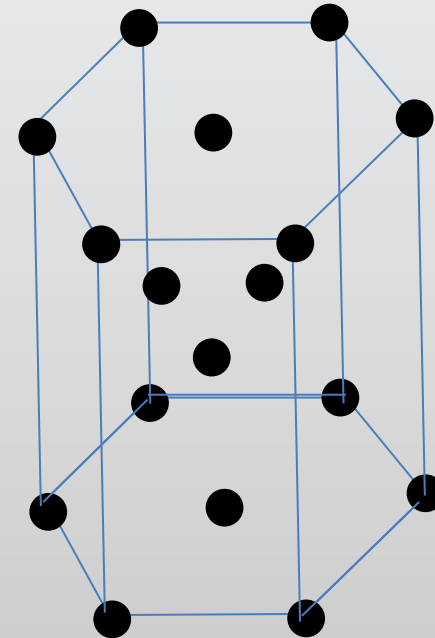
Closed packed sites



Body
centered
cubic (BCC)



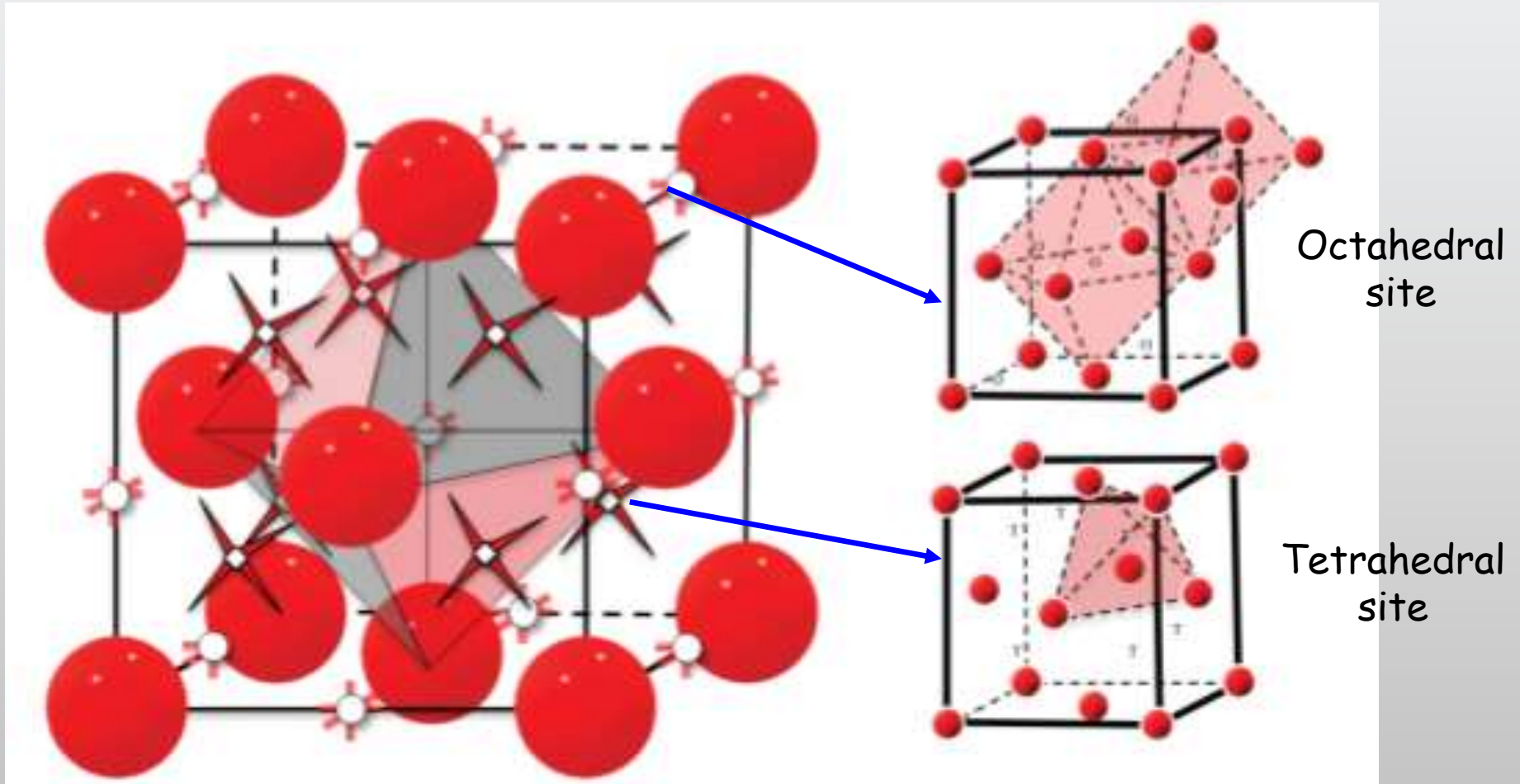
Face
centered
cubic (FCC)



Hexagonal
close
packing
(HCP)

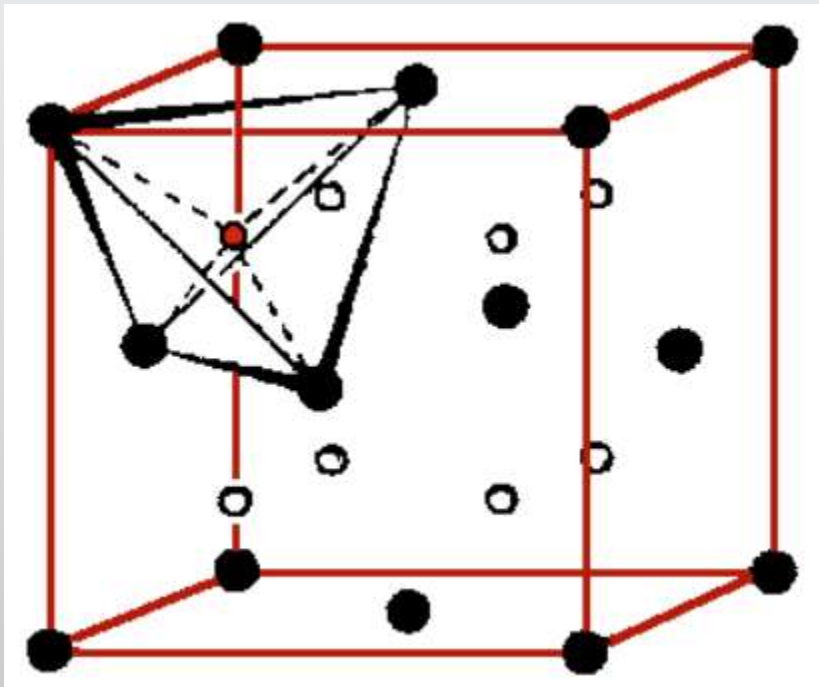
Interstitial sites

Anions: closed packed arrangement
Cations: interstitial sites

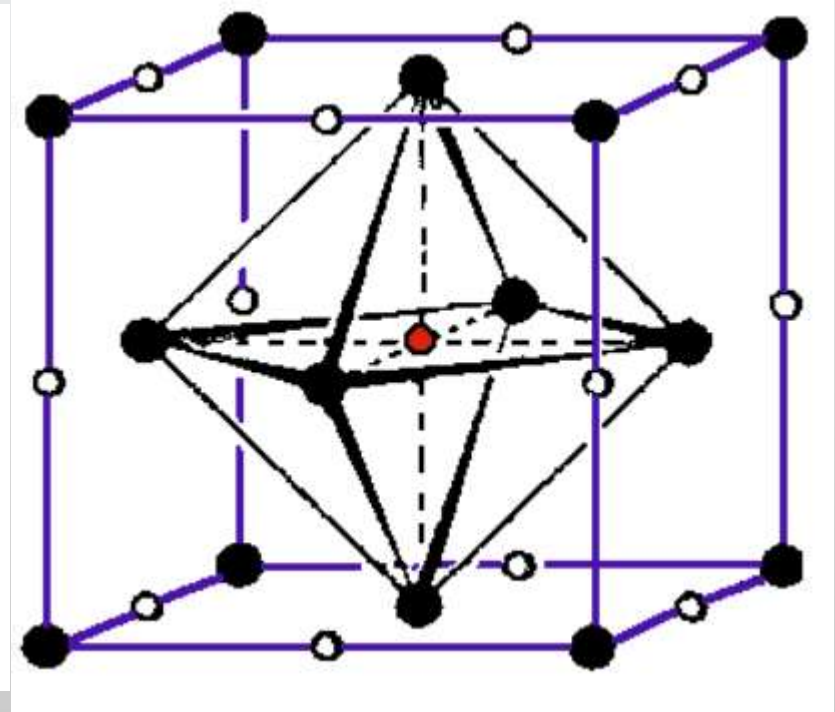


Interstitial sites

FCC contains 8 tetrahedral sites and 4 octahedral sites ($12/4 + 1$)

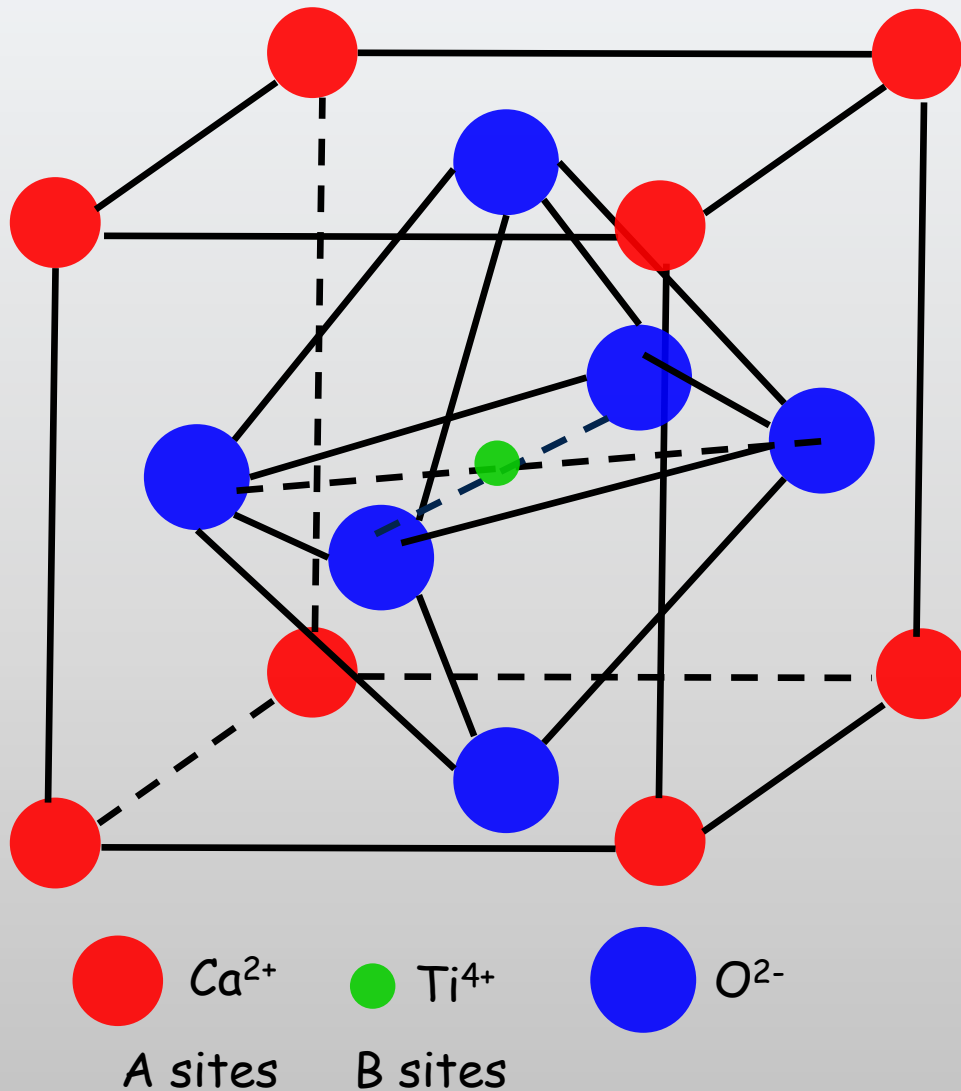


Tetrahedral sites



Octahedral sites

ABO_3 ($LaCoO_3$, $CaTiO_3$ etc)



Anions and A site cations form FCC arrangement

B site occupies the octahedral sites

A site coordination: 12

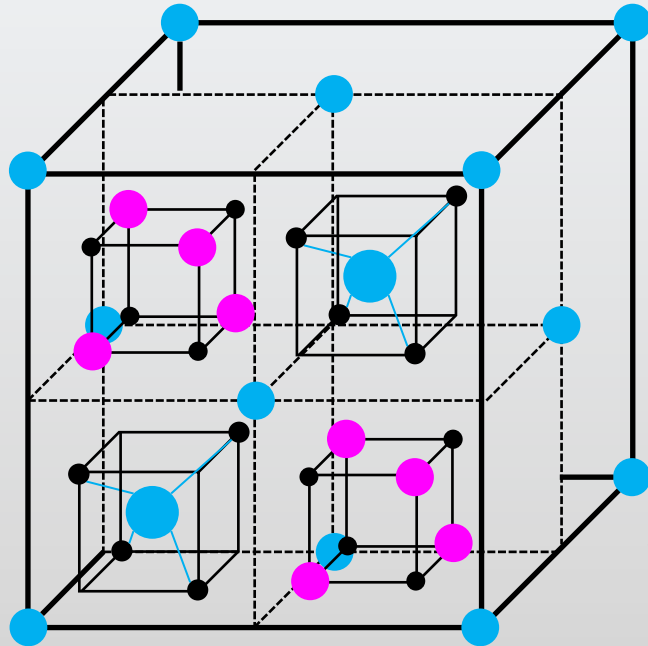
B site coordination: 6

1 out of 4 octahedral sites is filled

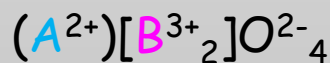
Spinel structure AB_2O_4

Oxygen on the lattice sites, and A and B cations are in the interstitial sites

Normal spinel



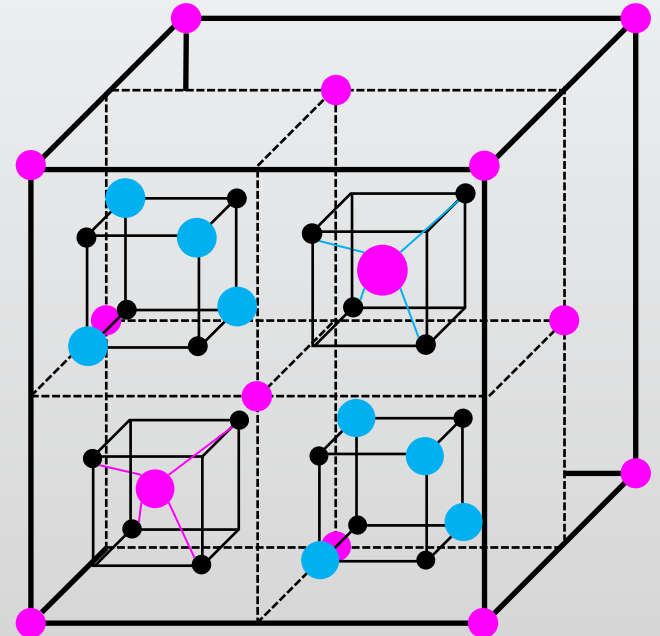
Normal spinel



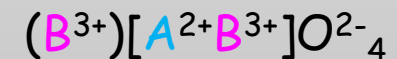
(): tetrahedral sites

[]: octahedral sites

Inverse spinel



Inverse spinel



A cation is larger than B cation
→ A goes to larger octahedral sites

Intermediate spinel

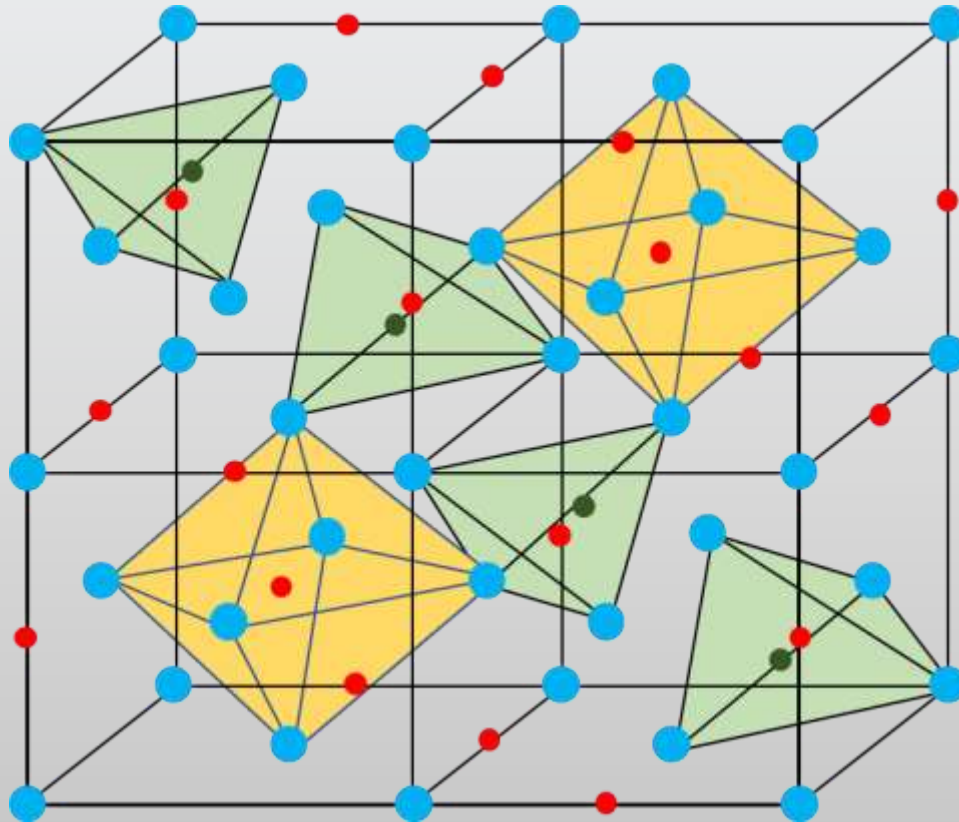


Λ is degree of inversion

Spinel structure AB_2O_4

A cations in 2
tetrahedral sites
and B cations 1,5
octahedral sites

A cations in 0
tetrahedral sites
and B cations 2,5
octahedral sites



1/8 of the
tetrahedral sites of $\frac{1}{2}$
octahedral sites

O^{2-}

B^{3+}

A^{2+}

Defects in oxides

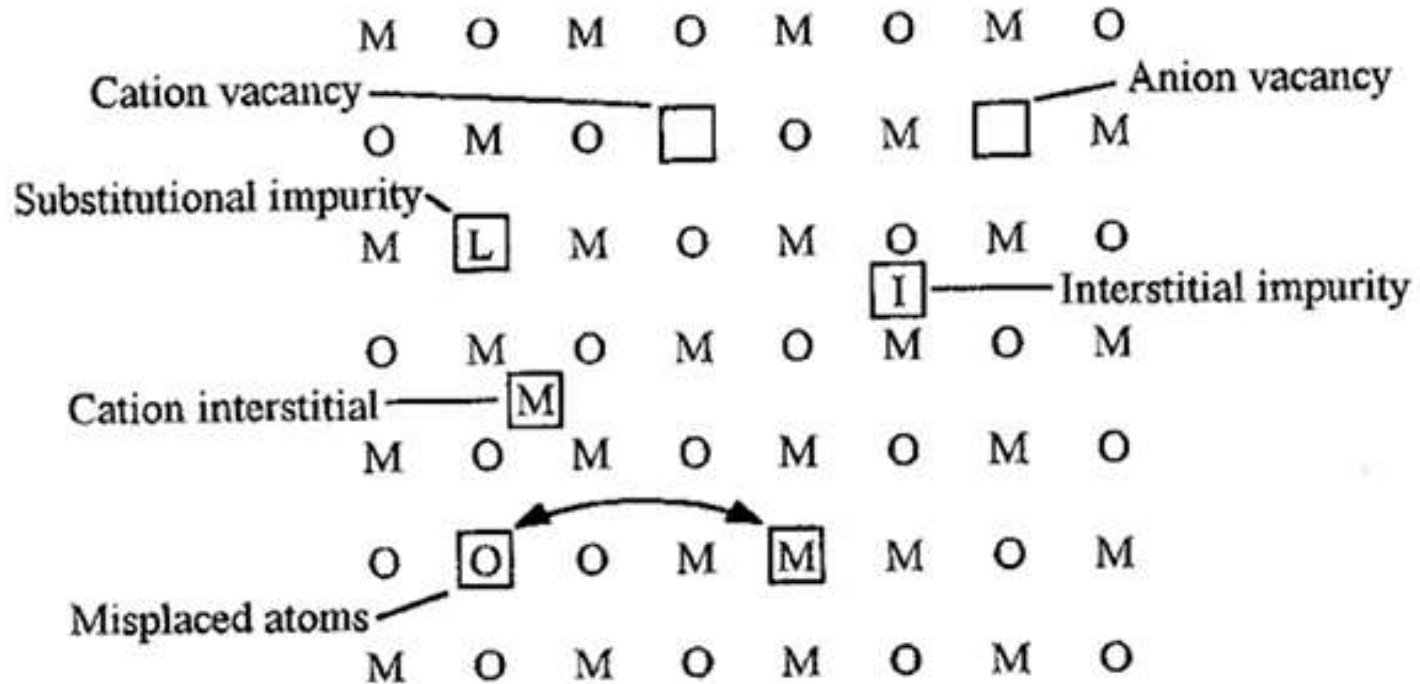
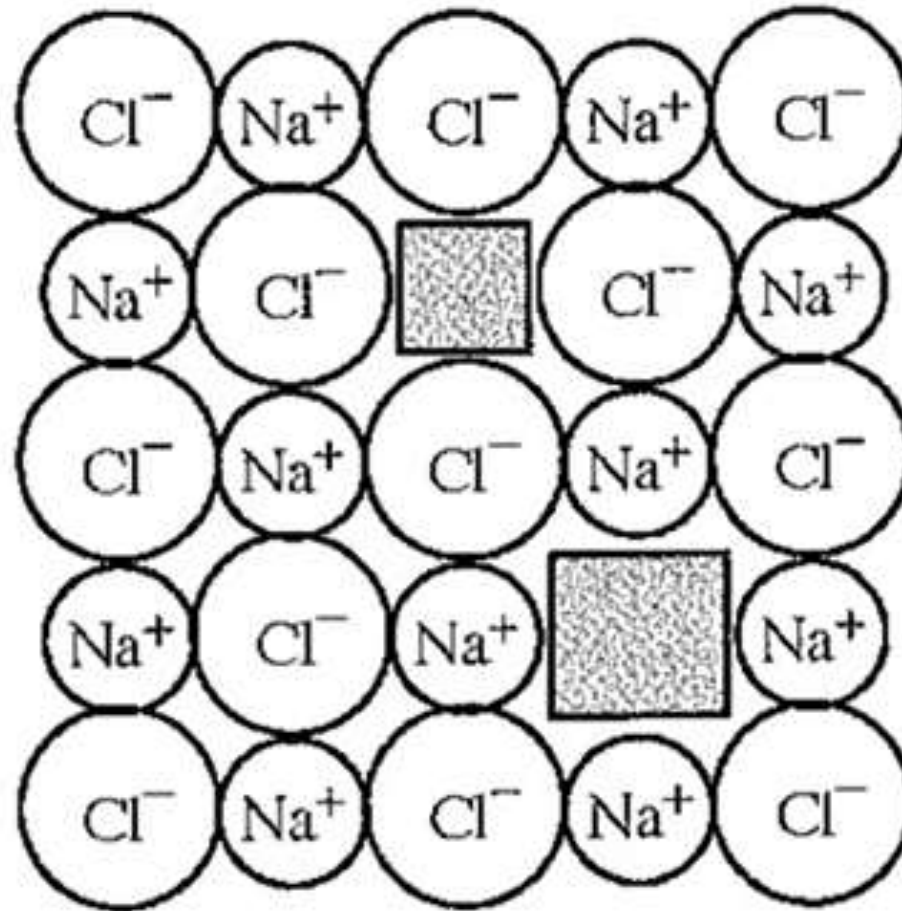


Figure 6.1 Various types of defects typically found in ceramics. Misplaced atoms can only occur in covalent ceramics due to charge considerations.

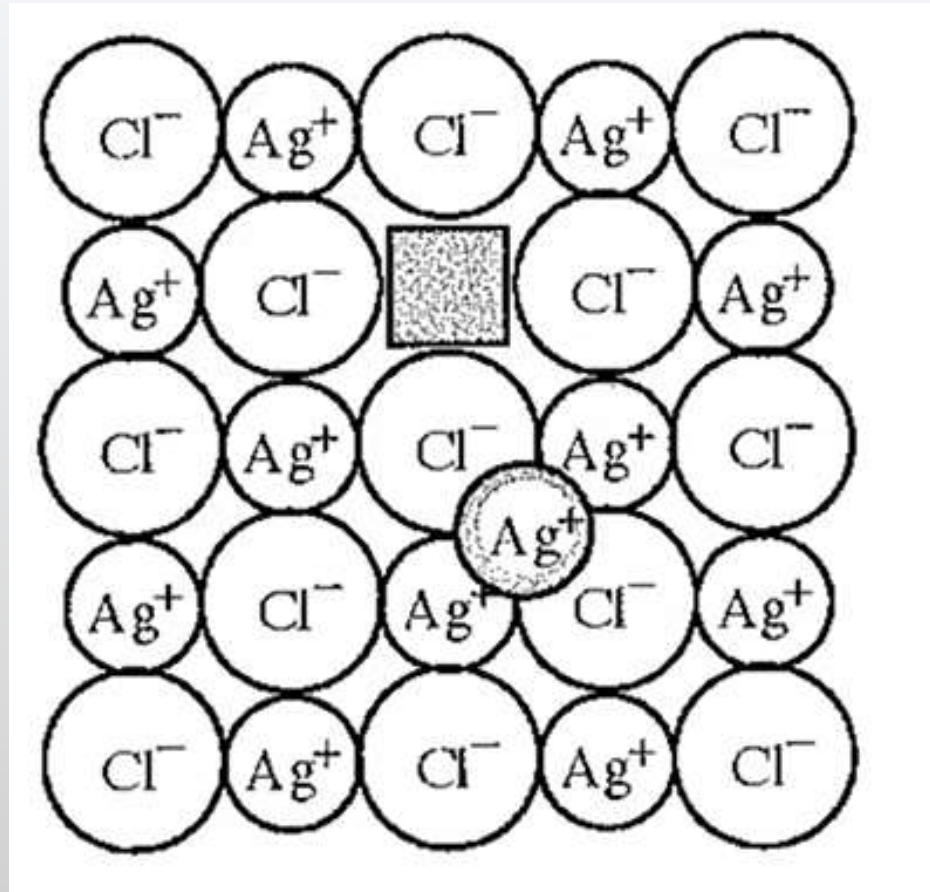
Charges are associated → neutralized charges

Schottky defects



- charge-equivalent number of vacancies formed on each sublattice
- Remove a formula unit (remove +1 and -1 charges, that is charge equilibrium numbers)

Frenkel defects

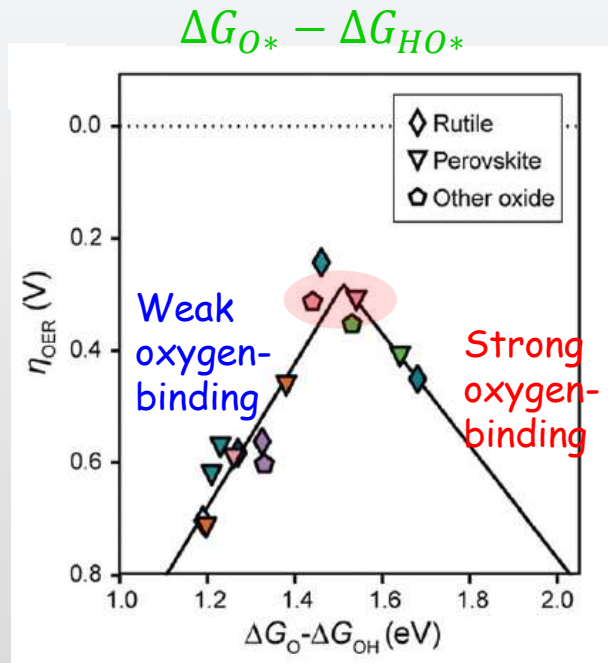


→ Ion vacancy on a regular lattice site migrates to interstitial site

e.g., Ag^+ leaves the lattice site and moves to the interstitial site

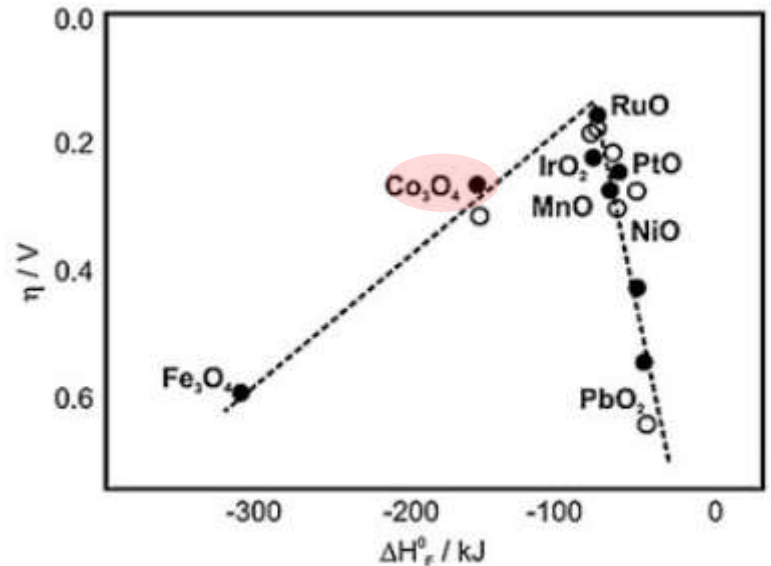
electrocatalysts' design - descriptors

Perovskite ABO_3 & spinel oxides - AB_2O_4

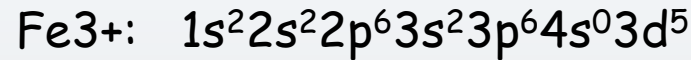
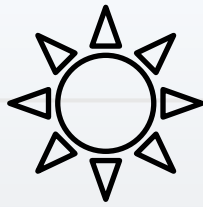


Enthalpy of lower to higher oxidation oxide

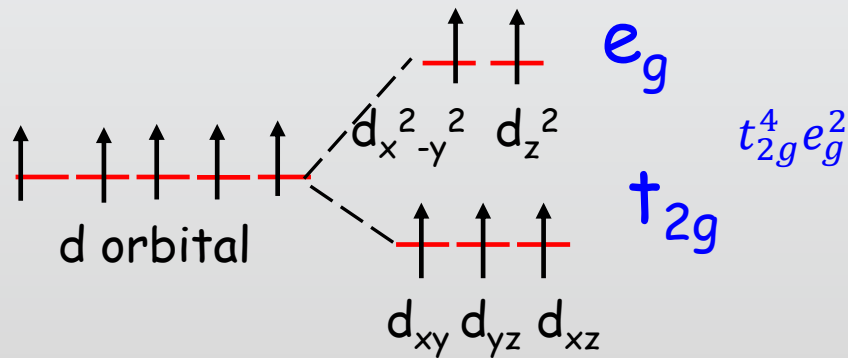
Trasatti, J. Electroanal. Chem., 111(1980) 125-131



- Spinel and perovskites (ABO_3 , AB_2O_4) are promising
- Design strategies:
 - 1) e_g orbital occupancy → the higher the e_g occupancy, the better OER activity
 - 2) Increasing metal-oxygen covalency → improving OER activity, why?
 - 3) Substitution of foreign elements
 - 4) Tetrahedral and octahedral sites, which is more active for OER?

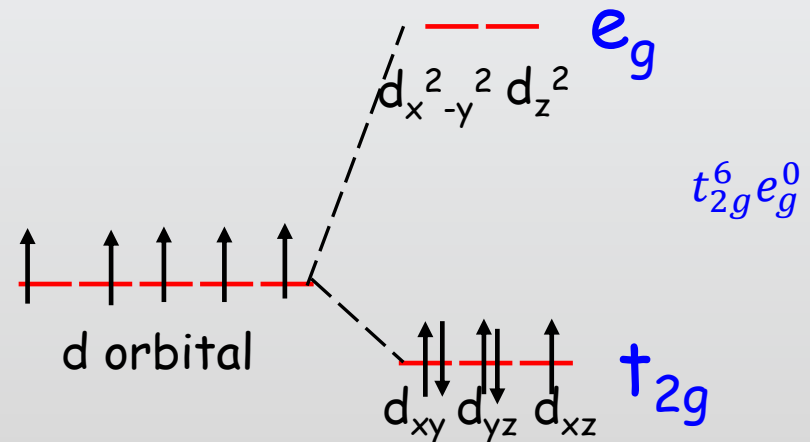


Weak ligand: $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$



$\Delta_o < \text{pairing energy}$
(high spin complex \rightarrow maximum
number of unpaired electrons)

Strong ligand: $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$



$\Delta_o > \text{pairing energy}$
(low spin complex \rightarrow
minimum number of unpaired
electrons)

e_g orbital occupancy/spin state of M-O oxides

- high spin state \rightarrow lower the adsorption energy \rightarrow better OER activity

Doping/strain engineering etc

	$\text{Cr}^{3+} (3d^3)$	$\text{Mn}^{3+} (3d^4)$	$\text{Fe}^{3+} (3d^5)$	$\text{Co}^{3+} (3d^6)$	$\text{Ni}^{3+} (3d^7)$
High spin		e_g \uparrow — $t_{2g}^3 e_g^1$ t_{2g} $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$	$\uparrow \uparrow$ — $t_{2g}^3 e_g^2$ $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$	$\uparrow \uparrow$ — $t_{2g}^4 e_g^2$ $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow$	$\uparrow \uparrow$ — $t_{2g}^5 e_g^2$ $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow$
Low spin	e_g — — $t_{2g}^3 e_g^0$ t_{2g} $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$	$t_{2g}^4 e_g^0$ $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow$	$t_{2g}^5 e_g^0$ $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^0$ $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^1$ \uparrow — $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow$

e_g orbital occupancy

- Substitution with cations with different valences or electronegativities or the creation of oxygen vacancies can effectively tailor the 3d electron occupancy and oxidation state of octahedral metal centers
- E.g., $\text{CaMnO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaMnO}_{2.4}$ (removing lattice oxygen) what would change?? What is d coordination of Mn?

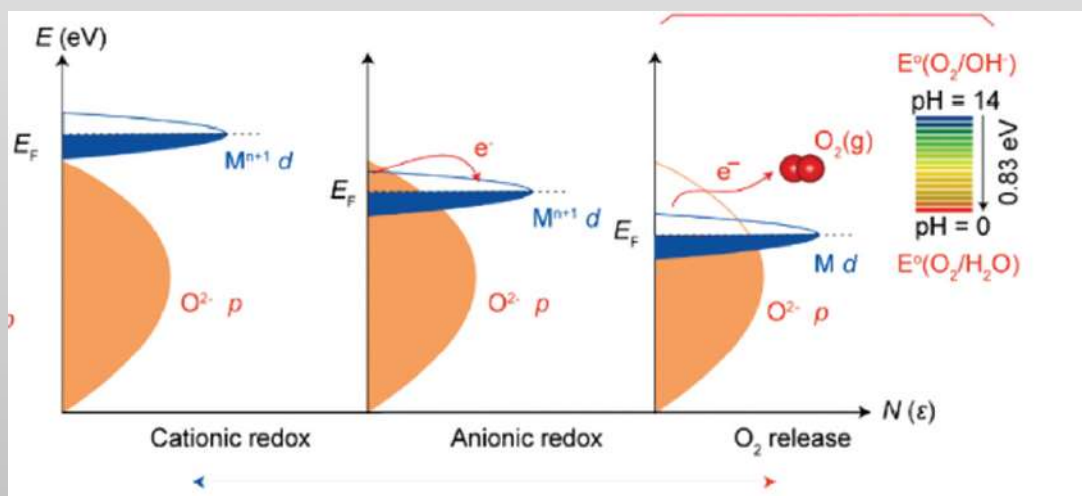
→ changing oxidation state and spin state of Mn from Mn^{4+} ($3d^3$) to high-spin-state Mn^{3+} ($3d^4$)

→ the e_g electron of 1 would decrease adsorption strength for intermediates **better OER activity**

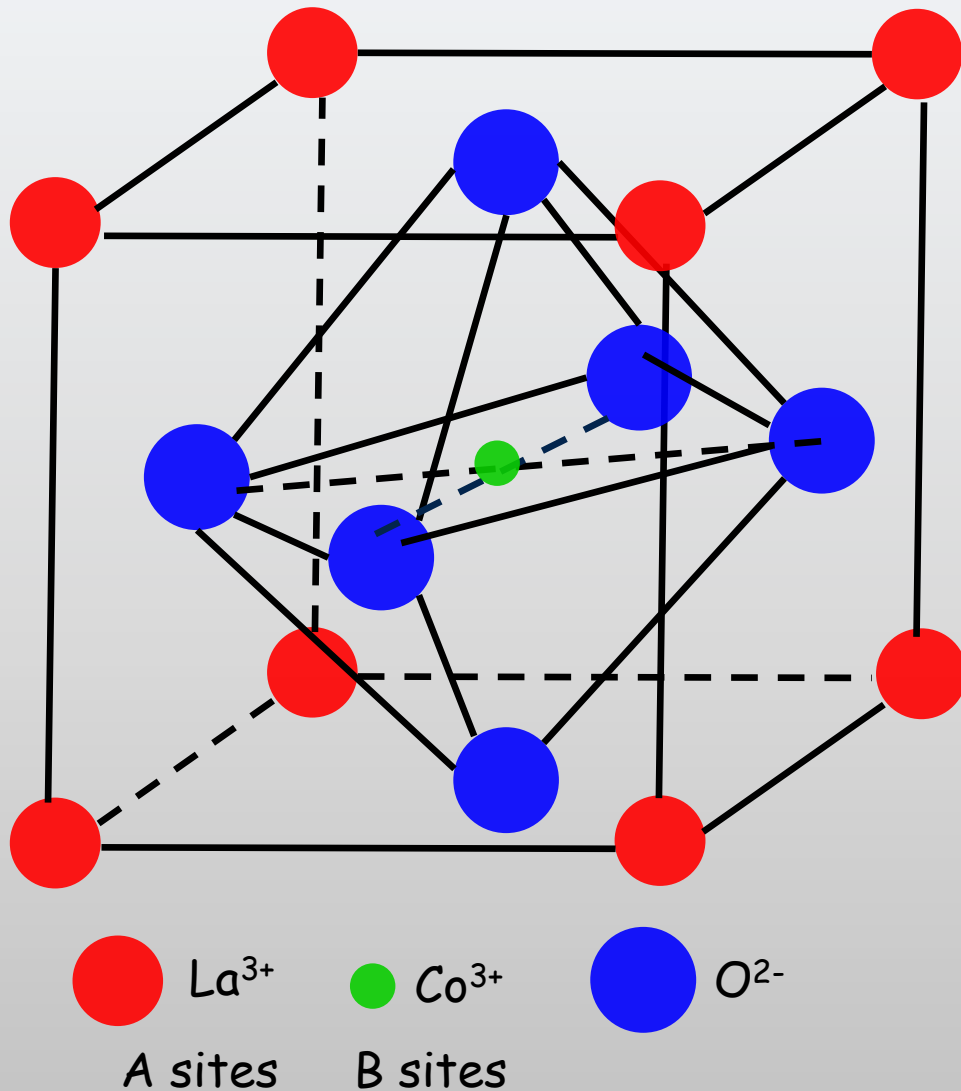
	$\text{Mn}^{3+} (3d^4)$	$\text{Mn}^{4+} (3d^3)$
High spin	e_g — — t_{2g} — — —	
Low spin	e_g — — t_{2g} — — —	<div style="text-align: center;"> — — ↑ ↑ ↑ </div>

Metal-oxygen covalency

- e_g orbital occupancy of a metal cation is based on the crystal field theory
- Oxides have both ionic and covalent nature of bonding → metal-oxygen covalency descriptor to consider the sharing electrons along the metal-oxygen bond
- Increasing the electronegativity of transition metal typically moves the metal d state close to O 2p state → decreasing the binding dissociation bonds of M-O → improving OER activity



Substitution of foreign elements in perovskites

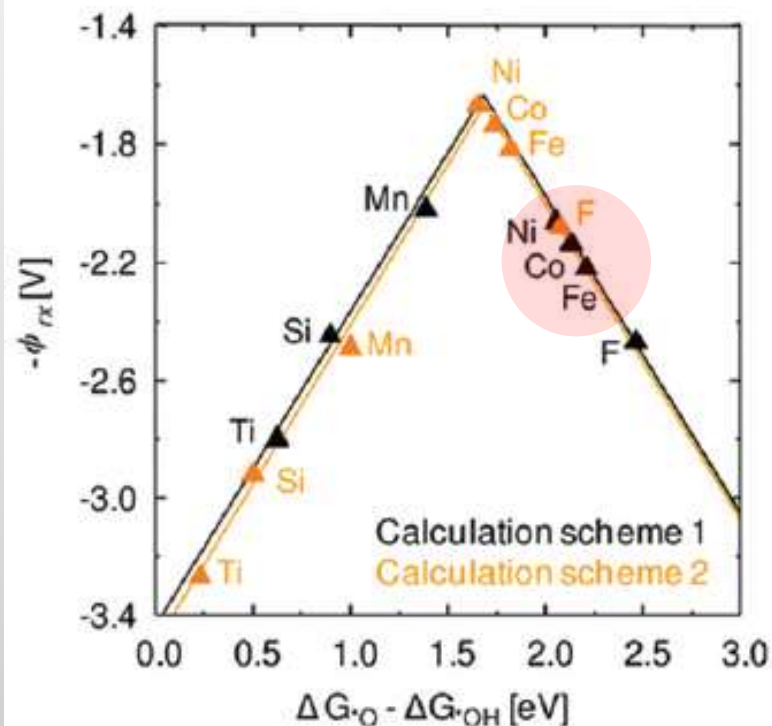


Replace La^{3+} with Ca^{2+} ,
what would change?

- Oxygen vacancy
- Electron holes by moving one electron away from Co

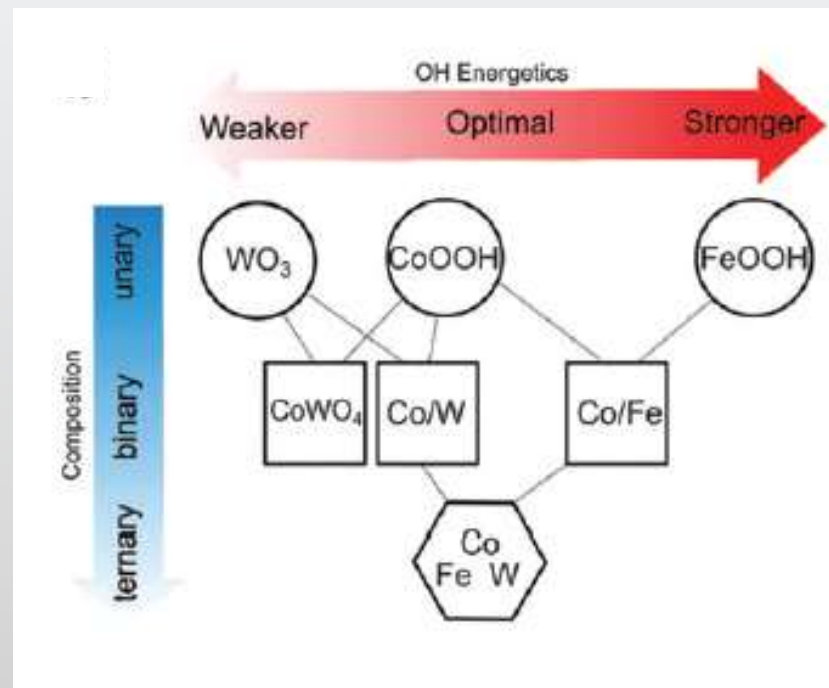
Substitution of foreign elements in spinels

Reaction potential versus binding energy difference of $\Delta G_{O*} - \Delta G_{HO*}$



By replacing Fe with Co or Ni leads to a slightly lower oxygen binding energies

Liao et al. JACS, 2012, 134,13296-13309



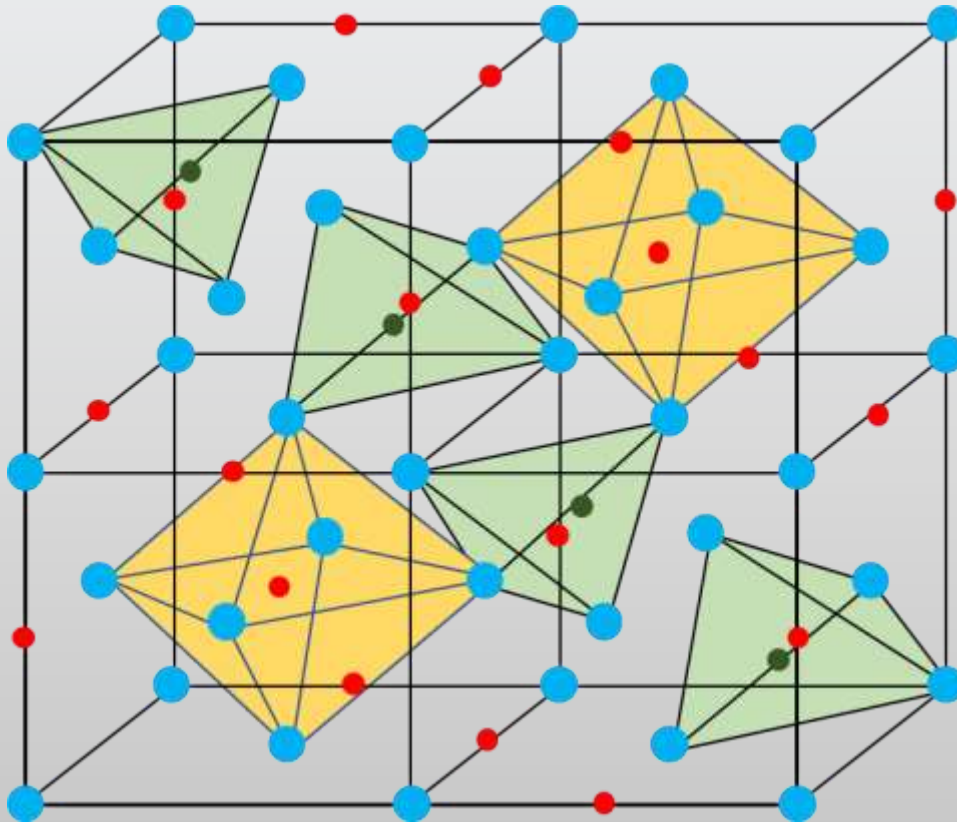
ternary oxyhydroxides with the optimized binding energy

Zhang et al. Science, 2016, 352, 333-337

Tetrahedral or octahedral sites?

A cations in 2
tetrahedral sites
and B cations 1,5
octahedral sites

A cations in 0
tetrahedral sites
and B cations 2,5
octahedral sites



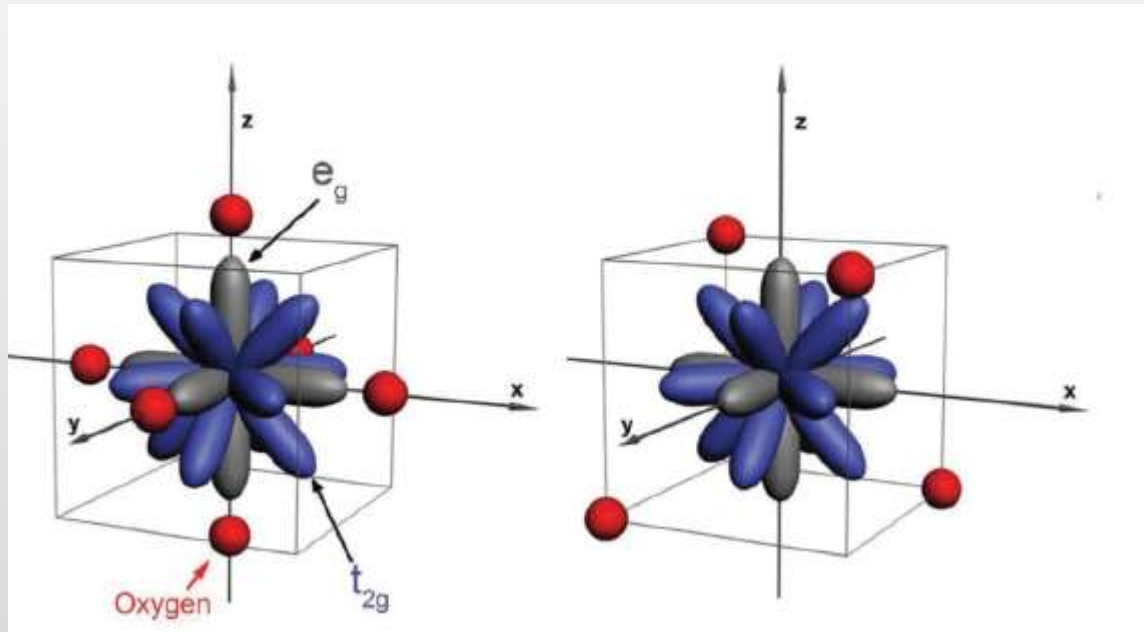
1/8 of the
tetrahedral sites of $\frac{1}{2}$
octahedral sites

O^{2-}

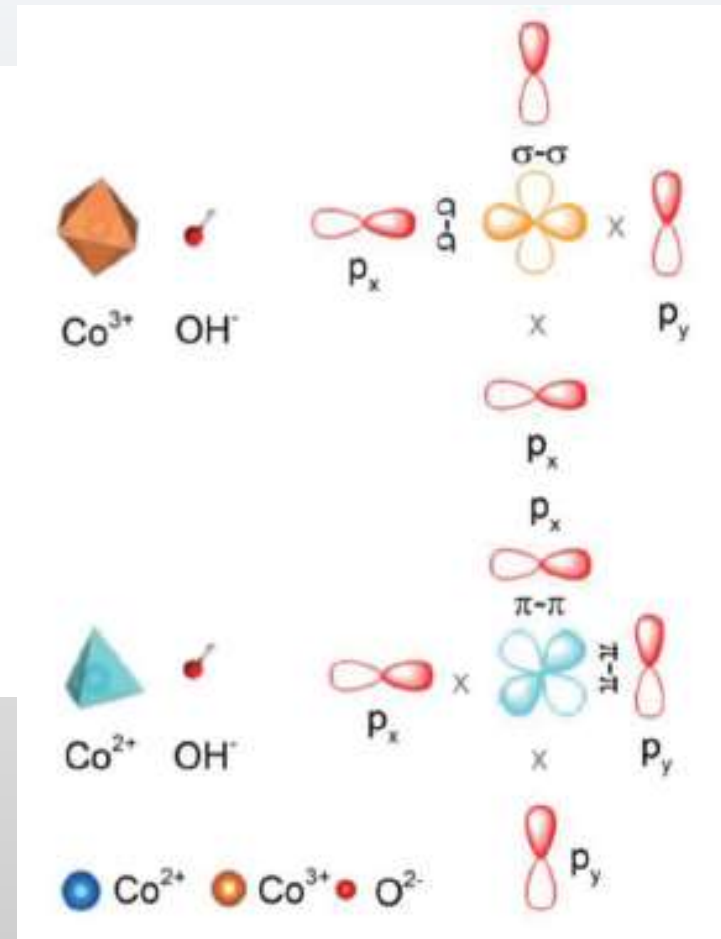
B^{3+}

A^{2+}

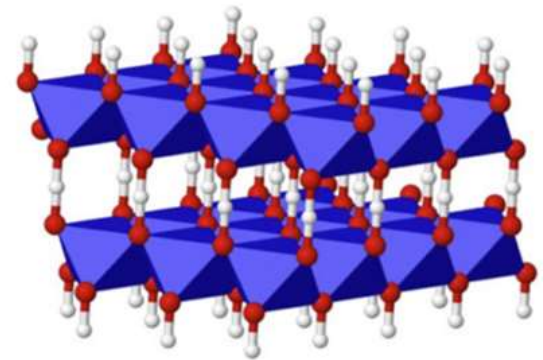
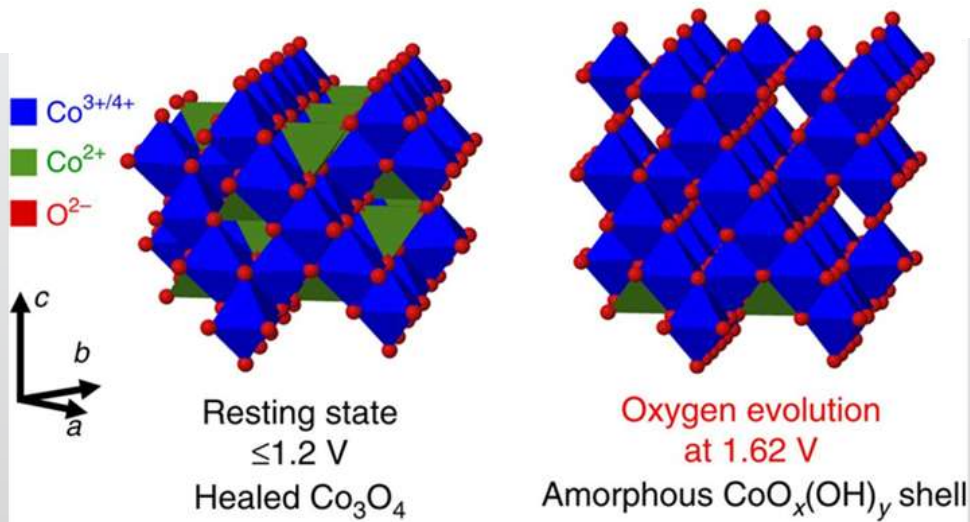
Tetrahedral or octahedral sites



Interaction between the octahedral TM and O is more effective than the tetrahedral TM-O interaction.



Active intermediate species



CoOOH

Co^{2+} at Tetrahedral sites \rightarrow active $\text{CoO}_x(\text{OH})_y$ species \rightarrow OER activity

- Fundamental of Ceramics
- Introduction to Ceramics