

7.9: Spin-orbit coupling:

$$\vec{L} = \sum_i \vec{\ell}_i \quad \vec{S} = \sum_i \vec{s}_i \quad \vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$

Russell-Saunders coupling assumes that coupling interactions between the electrons are stronger than between individual spin angular momenta and orbital angular momenta.

Otherwise:
$$\vec{J} = \sum_i \vec{j}_i = \sum_i (\vec{\ell}_i + \vec{s}_i) = \text{j-j coupling}$$

Russell-Saunders Term Symbols: used to designate electron energy states in multielectron atoms

$$2S+1 L_J$$

The degeneracy of ^{2S+1}L energy level
 $g_{LS} = (2S+1)(2L+1)$

a) Total Orbital Angular Momentum

$$\begin{aligned} L &= 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & \dots \\ &= S & P & D & F & G & H & I & J & K & \dots \end{aligned}$$

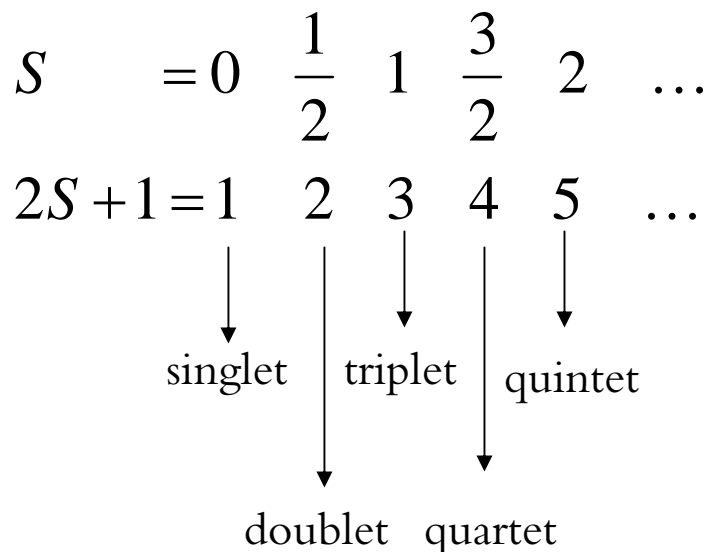
Compare with H-atom:

$$\begin{aligned} \ell &= 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & \dots \\ &= s & p & d & f & g & h & i & j & k & \dots \end{aligned}$$

Similar: In H-atom these are states which correspond to a unique one-electron configuration. In multielectron atoms one electron configuration can give rise to many terms.

b.) Total Spin Angular Momentum

Gives rise to $(2S+1)$ multiplicity of states.



c.) Atomic states with common L and S values are said to belong to the same term

For example:

2S	2P	2D
$L = 0$	$L = 1$	$L = 2$
$S = \frac{1}{2}$	$S = \frac{1}{2}$	$S = \frac{1}{2}$

d.) Total angular momentum determines level

$$2S+1 L_J$$

States belonging to the same term and same level have approximately the same energy, although spin-orbit interactions cause small but measurable shifts.

e.) Pauli Exclusion Principle (PEP)

Equivalent electrons have same n, ℓ

Particles with half-integer spins are **FERMIONS**

Particles with integer spins are **BOSONS**

Wave functions describing a system of fermions must be **antisymmetric** with respect to interchange of any pair of fermions.

The implication of this is that no two wave functions can have the same set of quantum numbers.

Wave functions describing a system of bosons must be **symmetric** with respect to interchange of any pair of bosons.

The implication of this is that any and all wave functions can have the same set of quantum numbers.

Consider **two non-equivalent p electrons**: configuration = $(np^1)(n'p^1)$. Since $n \neq n'$, the Pauli principle is not a factor here. Therefore we can use what we've learnt from the Clebsch-Gordon series to derive terms and levels.

$$\ell_1 = 1, s_1 = \frac{1}{2}; \ell_2 = 1, s_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$L = (\ell_1 + \ell_2) \rightarrow |\ell_1 - \ell_2| = (1 + 1) \rightarrow |1 - 1| = 2, 1, 0$$

$$S = (s_1 + s_2) \rightarrow |s_1 - s_2| = \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \rightarrow \left| \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right| = 1, 0$$

$$(2S + 1) = 3, 1$$

$$J = (L + S) \rightarrow |L - S| = (2 + 1) \rightarrow |2 - 1| = 3, 2, 1$$

$$= (2 + 0) \rightarrow |2 - 0| = 2$$

$$= (1 + 1) \rightarrow |1 - 1| = 2, 1, 0$$

$$= (1 + 0) \rightarrow |1 - 0| = 1$$

$$= (0 + 1) \rightarrow |0 - 1| = 1$$

$$= (0 + 0) \rightarrow |0 - 0| = 0$$

Terms and levels are:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}^3D_{3,2,1} & {}^3P_{2,1,0} & {}^3S_1 \\ {}^1D_2 & {}^1P_1 & {}^1S_0 \end{array}$$

Six terms, 10 levels for one electron configuration.

Now consider two equivalent p electrons: electron configuration is $(np)^2$

Here the Pauli Exclusion Principle is important. To see why set up a table as shown:

$m_{\ell}(1)$	$m_{\ell}(2)$	$m_s(1)$	$m_s(2)$	M_L	M_S	Comment
1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	1	\times PEP
1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	2	0	
1	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	0	\times same as line above
1	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	2	-1	\times PEP
1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	
1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	
1	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	
1	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	-1	
1	-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	
1	-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	
1	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	
1	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	
0	-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	-1	1	
0	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	-1	0	
0	-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-1	0	
0	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-1	-1	
0	1					\times same as 1 0
-1	1					\times same as 1 - 1
0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	
0	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	\times same as above
-1	-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-2	0	
-1	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	-2	0	\times same as above
0	0	$\pm \frac{1}{2}$	$\pm \frac{1}{2}$			\times PEP
-1	-1	$\pm \frac{1}{2}$	$\pm \frac{1}{2}$			\times PEP

Construct a Slater Diagram

M_L		M_S	\rightarrow	<u>-1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>+1</u>
$+2$						
$+1$						
0						
-1						
-2						

$$= \begin{pmatrix} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ | & | & | \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} | \\ | \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= {}^1D + {}^3P + {}^1S$$

$$\Rightarrow L = 2 \quad 1 \quad 0$$

$$S = 0 \quad 1 \quad 0$$

$$J = 2 \quad 2, 1, 0 \quad 0$$

$$\text{Parity} = (-1)^{\sum_{i=1}^2 \ell_i} = (-1)^{\ell_1 + \ell_2} = (-1)^{1+1} = (-1)^2 = +1$$

All states are gerade (even)
regardless of L.

Given that we can determine terms from a configuration, how do we order them by energy?

Two options:

- 1.) Do a high level quantum mechanical calculation: involved
- 2.) Make an intelligent guess. We can do this by invoking **Hund's Rules**

Warning:



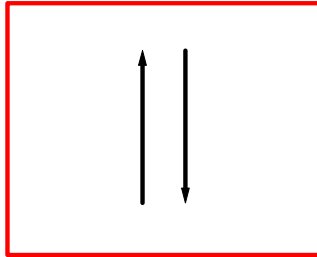
Very approximate and only valid for ground state configurations. Also presumes L-S coupling is valid



Hund's Rule #1: States of highest spin multiplicity ($2S+1$) lies lowest in energy.

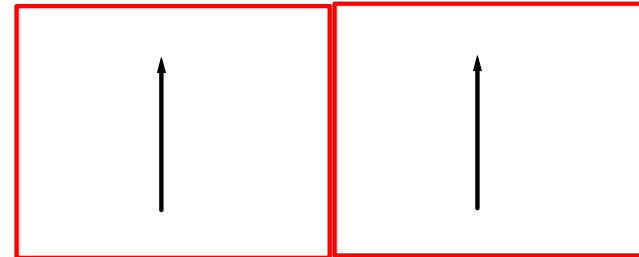
The explanation of the rule lies in the effects of the **spin-spin interaction**.

S = 0



- same orbital
- electrons closer together
- more $e^- - e^-$ repulsion

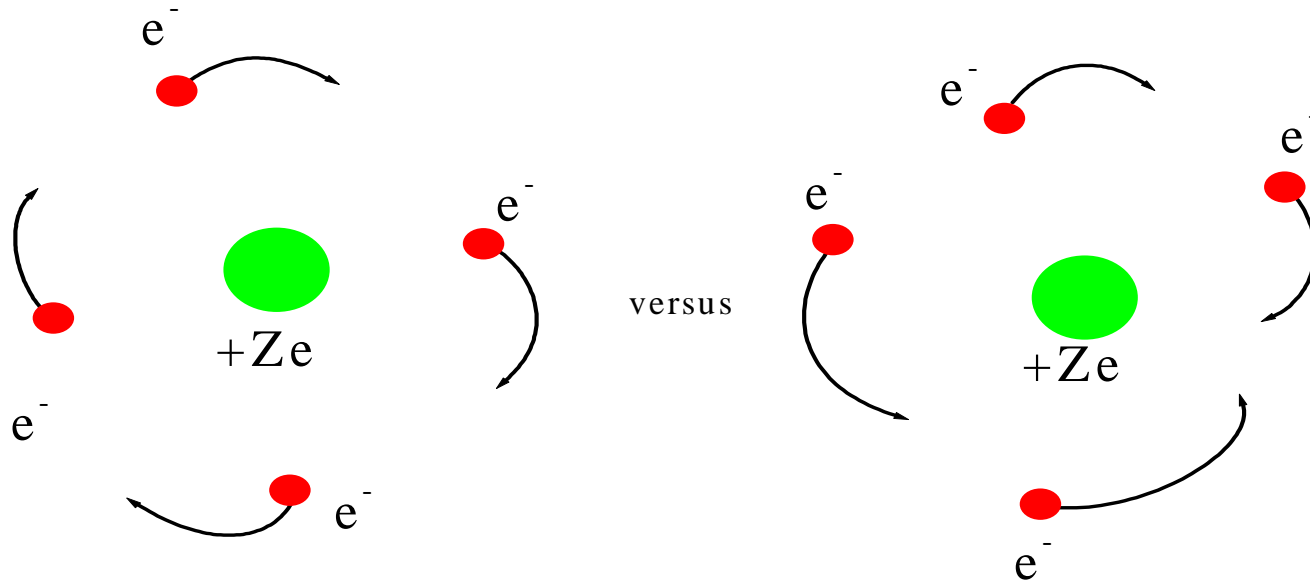
S = 1



versus

- different spatially oriented orbitals
- electrons are farther apart
- less $e^- - e^-$ repulsion

Hund's Rule #2: For a given S (or $2S+1$) the state of highest L lies lowest in energy.



- higher L ; that is electrons “orbit” in same direction and keep out of each other’s way.
- minimizes $e^- - e^-$ repulsions.

- lower L ; that is, some electrons “orbit” in the opposite direction to others and therefore can not avoid each other
- increased $e^- - e^-$ repulsions.