#### Atomic structure 2



#### Chapter 3

Arrangement of electrons in an atom

## Learning Outcomes

- Emission and absorption spectra of the hydrogen atom .
- Balmer series in the emission spectrum as an example.
- Line spectra as evidence for energy levels.
- Energy sub-levels.
- Viewing of emission spectra of elements using a spectroscope or a spectrometer.

- Emission spectra known for hundreds of years
- Niels Bohr unlocked their secret
- Electrons orbiting in shells around the nucleus
- Won the 1922 Nobel Prize for Physics



#### Bohr

. 🜒 '



#### Niels Bohr

#### \*Bohr's theory

- Electrons revolve around nucleus in fixed paths called orbits.
- Orbits are called energy levels (shells)
- Defn:
- <u>An energy level</u> is the fixed energy of an electron
- Or
- Shell which electrons of equal energy can occupy.

- Energy levels are represented by letter n
- - called the Principal quantum number



n=1 nearest nucleus, lowest energy n=2 n=3 n=4 furthest from nucleus, highest energy

#### \*quantisation

 Electrons can have only certain particular values of energy



## \*Evidence for Energy Levels

- Came from Bohrs study of spectra
- There are 3 types of spectra
- 1. Continuous
- 2. Line Emission
- 3. Line Absorption

#### \*1.Continuous

- <u>A continuous spectrum</u> is produced when white light is split by a prism into colours
- Eg a rainbow is a continuous spectrum



#### **Continuous spectrum**

#### continuous spectrum

A Spectrum in which all wavelengths are present between certain limits.

## \*2. Line Emission spectra

- Light is emitted from atoms when they are supplied with energy.
- This energy can be in the form of *heat* eg the flame tests) or

#### electricity,

(in special lamps containing the element called discharge tubes)

• If this light is viewed, after passing through a prism, a series of lines can be seen.

#### Line emission spectrum



- <u>A line emission spectrum</u> is a series of coloured lines against a dark background, produced by passing light from a heated gas through a prism
- <u>A spectroscope</u> is an instrument used to analyse light emitted by elements.

 Each element has a unique line spectrum so they are used to identify elements in an unknown sample.



## \*Everday applications

- Street lights are discharge tubes containing sodium, they emit yellow light
- Fireworks contain metals which emit different colours when heated.

#### \*3. Line Absorption spectra

- Atoms can also absorb light.
- <u>A line absorption spectra</u> is produced when light passes through a gaseous element and some wavelengths of light are absorbed.
- It is a series of dark lines against a coloured background.

• The dark lines are at the same wavelengths as the coloured lines in the emission spectrum



## \*Atomic Absorption Spectrometry

- Each element has an unique absorption spectrum.
- This is the basis of Atomic Absorption spectrometry. (AAS)
- AAS is used to detect heavy metals in soil or water. Eg Lead

#### Comparing the spectra



#### Emission spectrum of Sun

#### **Solar Spectrum**







#### \*

## How Bohr explained line spectra of Hydrogen and used this as evidence for energy levels.

#### \*Bohr's Theory

- Electrons occupy fixed energy levels.
- □ An electron is normally in its lowest available energy level- called the ground state  $(E_1)$
- □ The electron can jump to a higher energy level, (E<sub>2</sub>), if it absorbs energy in form of heat, light or electricity.
- The energy absorbed must equal the energy difference between the ground and excited state.
- □ This excited state is unstable.
- □ The electron falls back to a lower level.

#### \*Bohr's Theory

- Energy is emitted as light of a specific frequency.
- The energy emitted (hf) corresponds to the energy difference between the 2 levels.  $(E_2 E_1)$
- □ It can be calculated using  $E_2$   $E_1$  = hf, where h is Planck's constant and f is frequency.
- This gives rise to light of a particular frequency and wavelength, which is seen as a line of a particular colour on the spectrum.

\*

What evidence do Line spectra provide for the existence of energy levels?

This is evidence for energy levels since only specific frequencies are emitted so electrons must be restricted to specific energy levels.

Note:

- Ground state = lowest energy state
- **Excited state** = higher energy state

Spectrum



## \*Why do different elements have unique spectra?

 Because each element has different electron configurations, giving rise to different electron jumps.

#### **Types of electromagnetic radiation:**



#### \*Balmer Series

- In the emission spectrum of hydrogen,
- the series of lines in the <u>visible</u> region are called the <u>Balmer</u> <u>series:</u>
- They are due to electrons falling back to the n=2 shell from higher levels.





#### **\*Balmer Series**

Note that the first (red) line in the Balmer series is due to electrons falling from the n=3 to the n=2.

The second (green) line is due to electrons falling from the n=4 to the n=2 and so on.



#### \*Flame Test experiment

- Metals emit characteristic colours of light when their atoms are excited.
- Method
- Dip soaked wooden splint in the salt to be tested.
- Hold the splint in the blue flame.
- Note the colour produced.

#### \*Flame Test results

#### <u>Metal</u>

#### <u>Colour</u>

• Sodium (Na)

- Lithium (Li)
- Potassium (K)
- Copper (Cu)
- Calcium (Ca)
- Barium (Ba)
- Strontium (Sr)

Yellow

Pink/Red

Lilac

Blue-Green

Pink

Green

Red/Orange

\*Why are different colours produced by metals in flame tests?

Different metal atoms have different electron arrangements so they emit different frequencies of light. They have different spectra also.

## \*Limitations of Bohr's theory

- Bohr's theory had to be modified because:
- It only worked for simple atoms such as H.
- Electrons were found to have wave nature (by De Broglie).
- <u>Heisenberg's uncertainty principle</u> proposed that it is impossible to measure the exact position and velocity of an electron simultaneously.
- Energy sub-levels were discovered.

#### \*De Broglie

 Discovered that electrons have wave
characteristics.



Electrons were both particles and waves

Same for all sub-atomic particles

Matter exists as particles and waves at the same time.

Called wave particle duality.





#### Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle



erner

"One cannot simultaneously determine both the position and momentum of an electron."

You can find out where the electron is, but not where it is going.

#### **OR**...

You can find out where the electron is going, but not where it is!

## \*Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle

- States that:
- It is not possible to measure the position and velocity of an electron at the same time.

## \*Discovery of sub-levels

- Magnification of lines in spectra revealed that some lines were made up of finer lines close together- called the Zeeman effect
- Each main level has sub-levels in it.
- Defn:
- <u>An energy sub-level</u> is a sub-division of an energy level which consists of orbitals of equal energy.

- There are 4 types of sublevels, s, p, d and f.
- The number of sublevels in a main energy level is the same as the value of n for the main energy level.
- n = 1 so there is 1 sub-level only, an s
  - n = 2 so there are 2 sub-levels, an s and p
- n = 3 so there are 3 sub-levels, an s, p and d
- n = 4 so there are 4 sub-levels, an s, p, d and f

MAIN ENERGY LEVEL	KINDS OF SUBLEVELS
1	15
2	2s, 2p
3	3s, 3p, 3d
4	4s, 4p, 4d, 4f
5	5s, 5p, 5d, 5f

- Energy of sub-levels  $s \rightarrow p \rightarrow d$
- S is lower in energy than p and so on.



#### The Bohr Model of the Atom



I pictured electrons orbiting the nucleus much like planets orbiting the sun.

But I was wrong! They're more like bees around a hive



WRONG!!!

#### Electron cloud model- Schrodinger



- Heisenberg's uncertainty principle meant that electrons could not be moving with a certain speed in fixed orbits from the nucleus.
- The location of the electron could only be given as a **probability** of it being within a certain space inside the atom.
- The notion of orbits was replaced by orbitals

#### \*Atomic Orbitals

#### • Defn:

 A region around the nucleus where there is a high probability of finding an electron.



## \*Schrodinger solved wave equations and discovered shapes of orbitals.



Spherical cloud

•Cloud becomes less dense as distance from nucleus increases •Size of atoms very small - electron never found more than 100 pm away from pycleus •Higher the energy of the s-orbital, bigger the diameter of the boundary surface

## \*Shapes of Orbitals

- S orbitals are Spherical.
- 1s is closer to the nucleus and lower in energy than 2s.



#### 1s



#### 2s



## \*P-orbitals are dumb-bell shaped 3 types exist- Px, Py, Pz



#### **P-orbitals**



## The "p" orbital is dumb belled shaped and each P sub level is made of three "p" orbitals.



#### 2p



# 3d



#### **Electrons moving**



#### Electron paths



