

Scientific Discourse

Chemistry Series

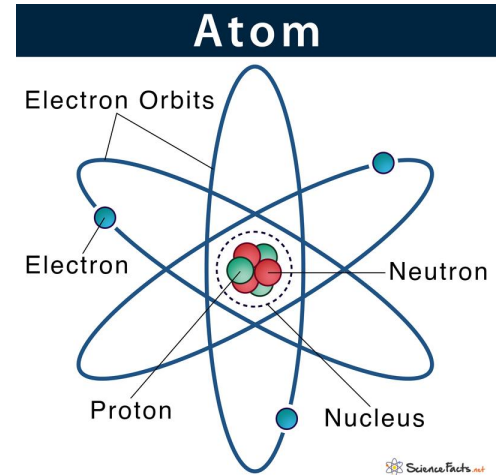
# 3-Atomic Orbitals

Sam K. Tahmassebi

# RECAP

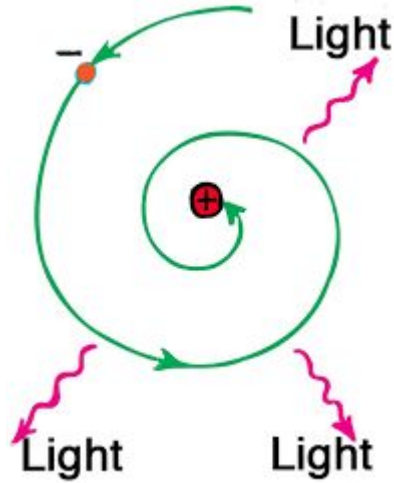
So far, the hero of our story has discovered that:

- Chemistry is the study of how new substance(s) is/are formed from old substance(s)
  - A substance is a molecule.
  - A substance is something that is made up of two or more atoms.
- The solar system model of the atom
  - Protons
    - Positively charged particles
    - Concentrated in the nucleus
    - The Sun
  - Electrons
    - Negatively charged particles
    - Surround the nucleus.
    - The Planets

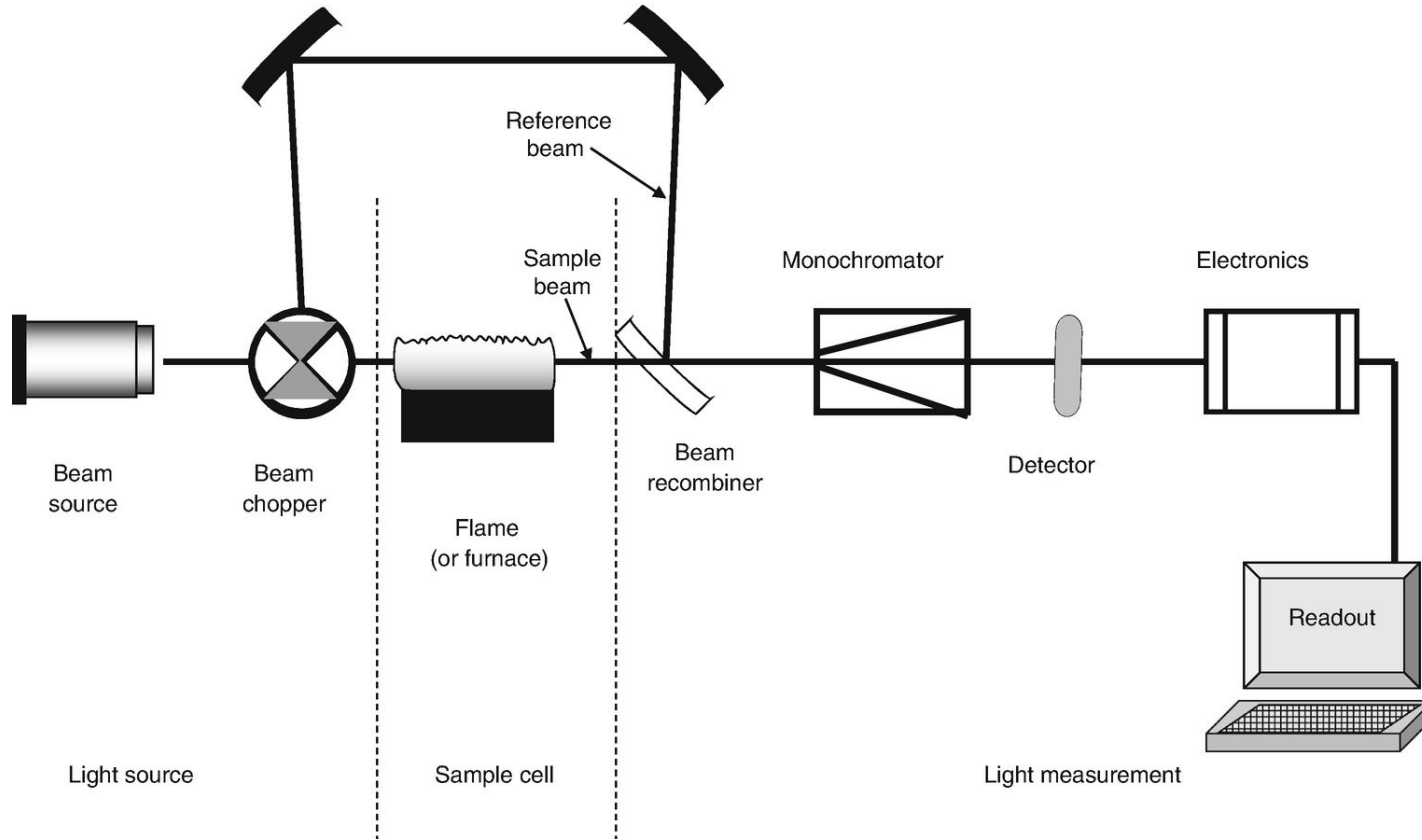


Slide 2

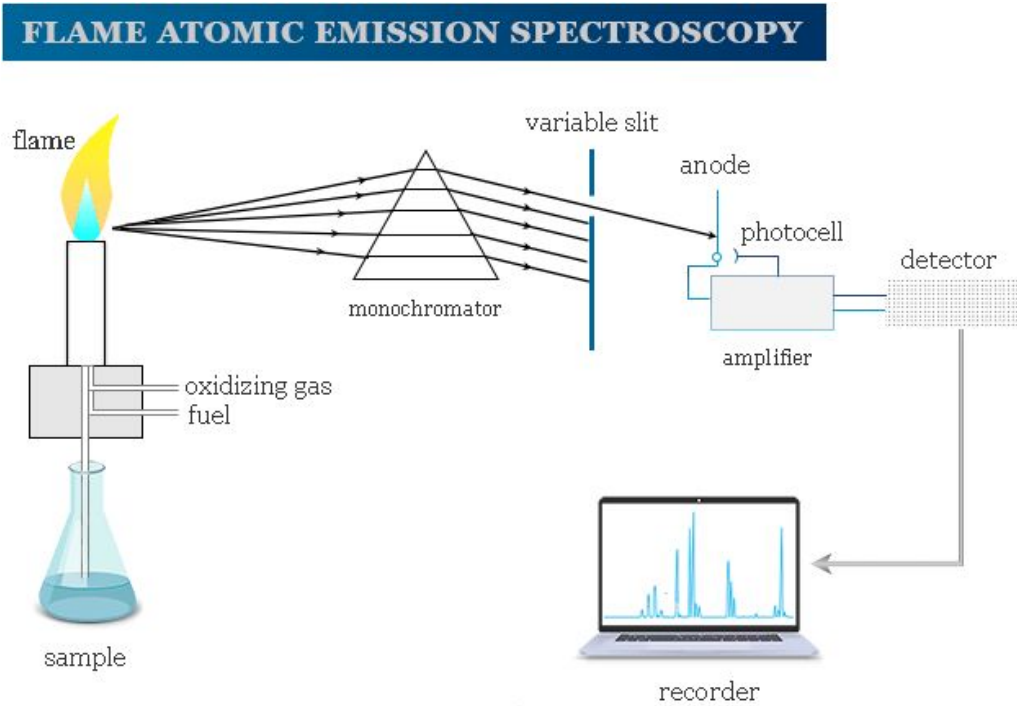
Why doesn't the electron spiral into the nucleus?



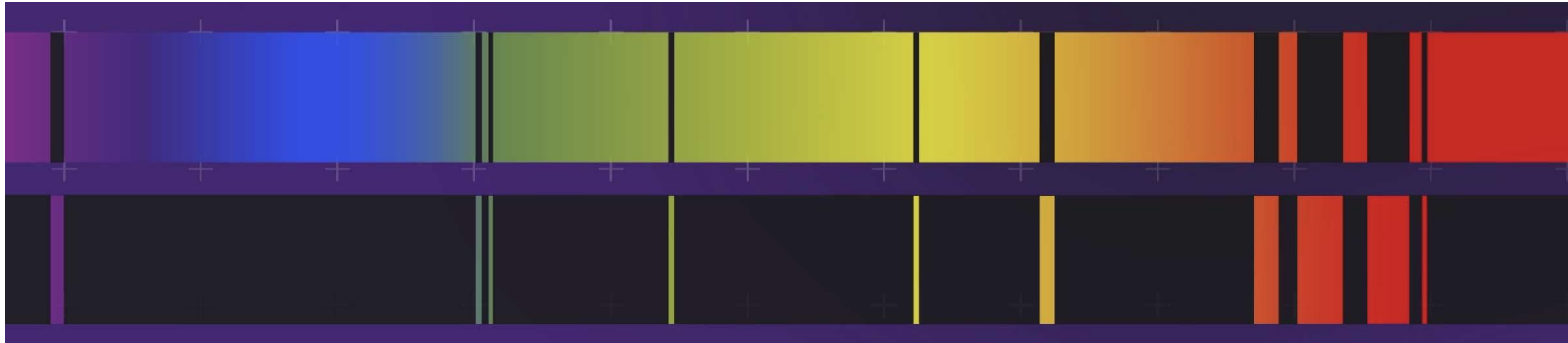
# Slide 3 Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy



Slide 4

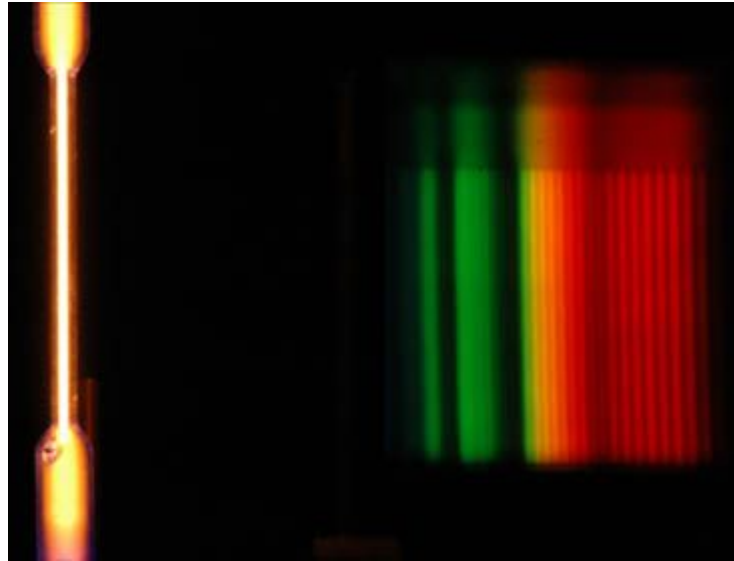


Slide 5



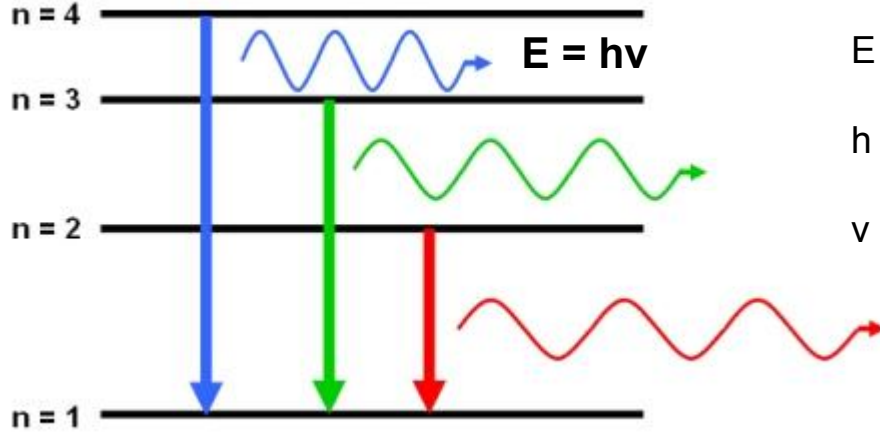
Spectrum of Neon

Slide 6



Spectrum of Nitrogen

Slide 7



$E = \text{energy } \text{m}^2 \text{ kg s}^{-2} = \text{joule}$

$h = \text{Planck's constant} = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg s}^{-1}$

$\nu = (\text{nu}) \text{ light frequency } \text{s}^{-1}$

- $h\nu$  is a discrete packet of energy.
- Each packet of energy has a discrete quantity of energy.
- A discrete quantity of something is a quantum of that thing.
- Hence, quantum mechanics.



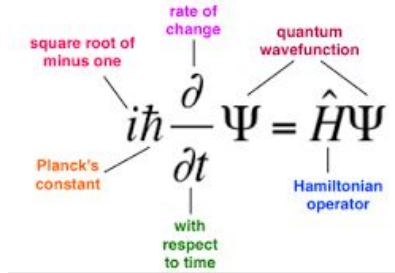
# Schrodinger's Equation

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(r) + V(r) \Psi(r) = E \Psi(r)$$

Basic Form

*Kinetic Energy* + *Potential Energy* = *Total Energy*

Time-Dependent Simplification



$$\hat{H} \Psi = E \Psi$$

Time-Independent Simplification

Hamiltonian Operator (Energy operator)
Energy eigenvalue

## Slide 9

- Schrodinger's equation is solved for psi ( $\Psi$ ).
- Psi ( $\Psi$ ) is a function of both time and space.
- It determines the shape of the wave function at any point in time and at any point in space.
- The shape of the wave function is related to the probability of the wave function existing at any point of time and at any point in space.
- The wave function is the same thing as the electron.

Orbital: space where the probability of finding the wave function (i.e., the electron) is  $\geq 50\%$ .

## Slide 10

- We can think of an orbital from different perspectives:
  - The energy level of an electron
  - The spatial position of the electron cloud
  - The probability of finding an electron

## Slide 11

- Shell: Collection of nearby energy states.
  - So far we have 7 shells
  
- Orbital: Energy states within each shell.
  - 
  - There are four orbital types: s, p, d, and f
  
  - Note: Mathematically we can have additional orbitals in case a lot more elements are discovered.

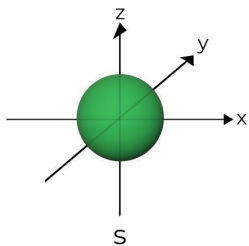
Slide 12

Shell	Orbital Types
1	s
2	s, p
3	s, p, d
4	s, p, d, f
5-7	s, p, d, f, ?

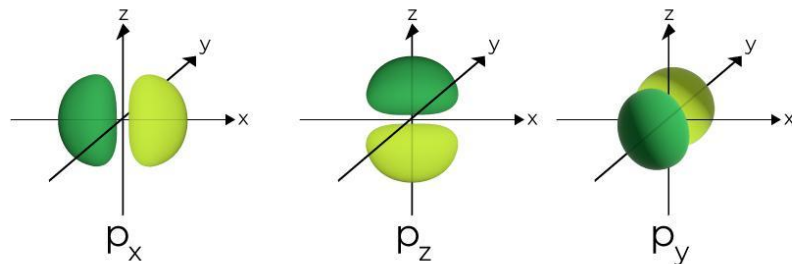
Orbital Type	Number of Orbital	Number of Electrons
s	1	2
p	3	6
d	5	10
f	7	14

Maximum of TWO electrons per each orbital.  
Hund's Rule.

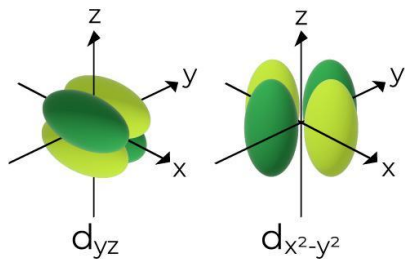
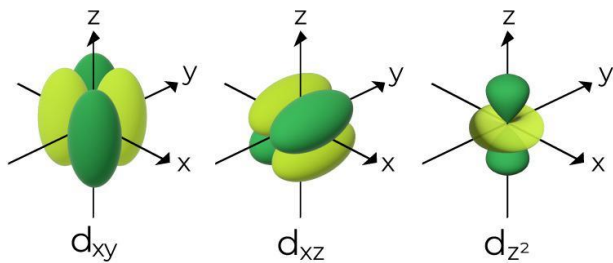
Slide 13A



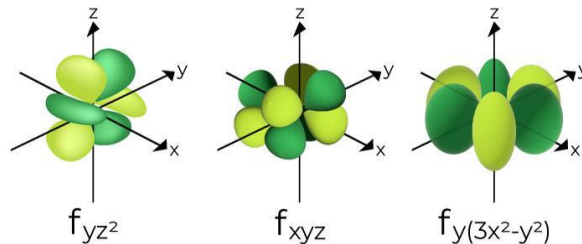
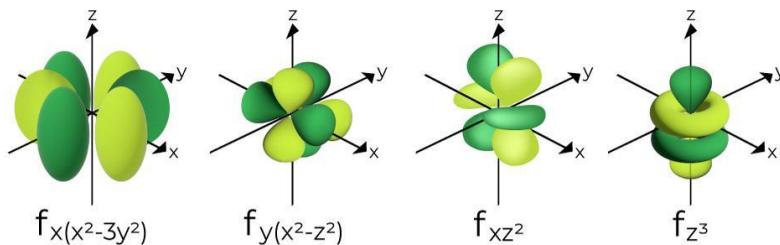
Shape of s-orbital



Shape of p-orbital

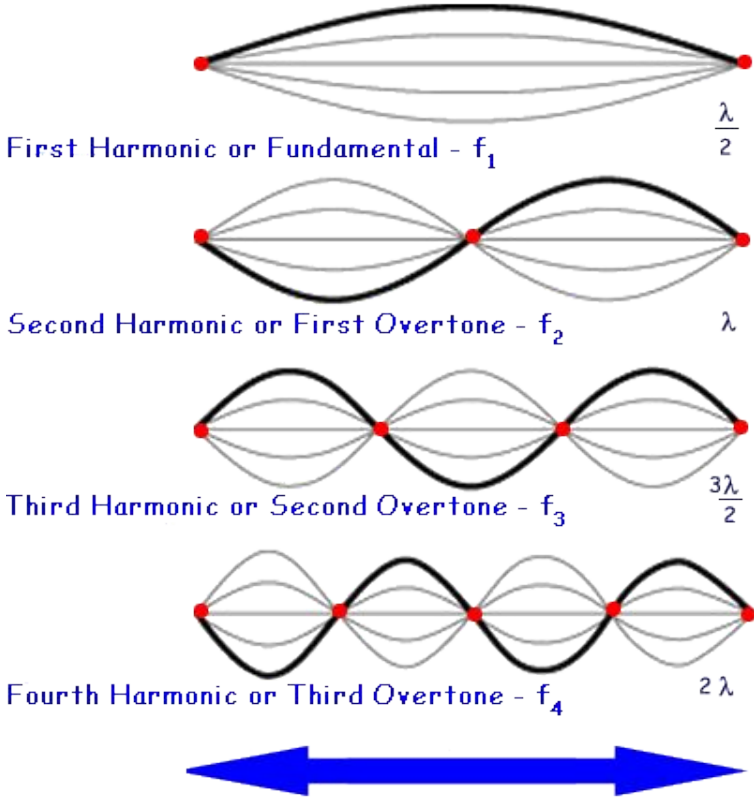


Shape of d-orbital

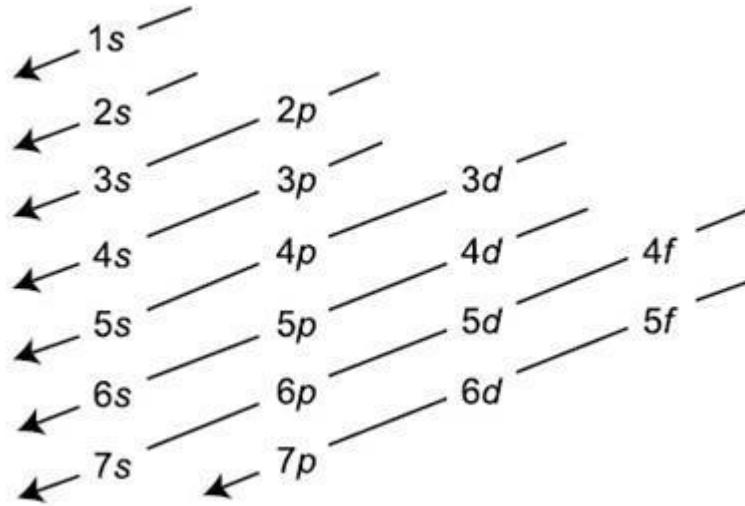


Shape of f-orbital

Slide 13B



Slide 14



The Aufbau Principle: Gives us the relative energies of orbitals in **a hydrogenic shell model** (single proton, single atom, gas phase, in vacuum).

- Flawed. Fails for d and f block elements.
- Only works well for hydrogen.
- It has been significantly modified since the introduction of supercomputers.
  - Originally developed by Bohr and Pauli using a slide rule!
- Still used as a teaching tool.

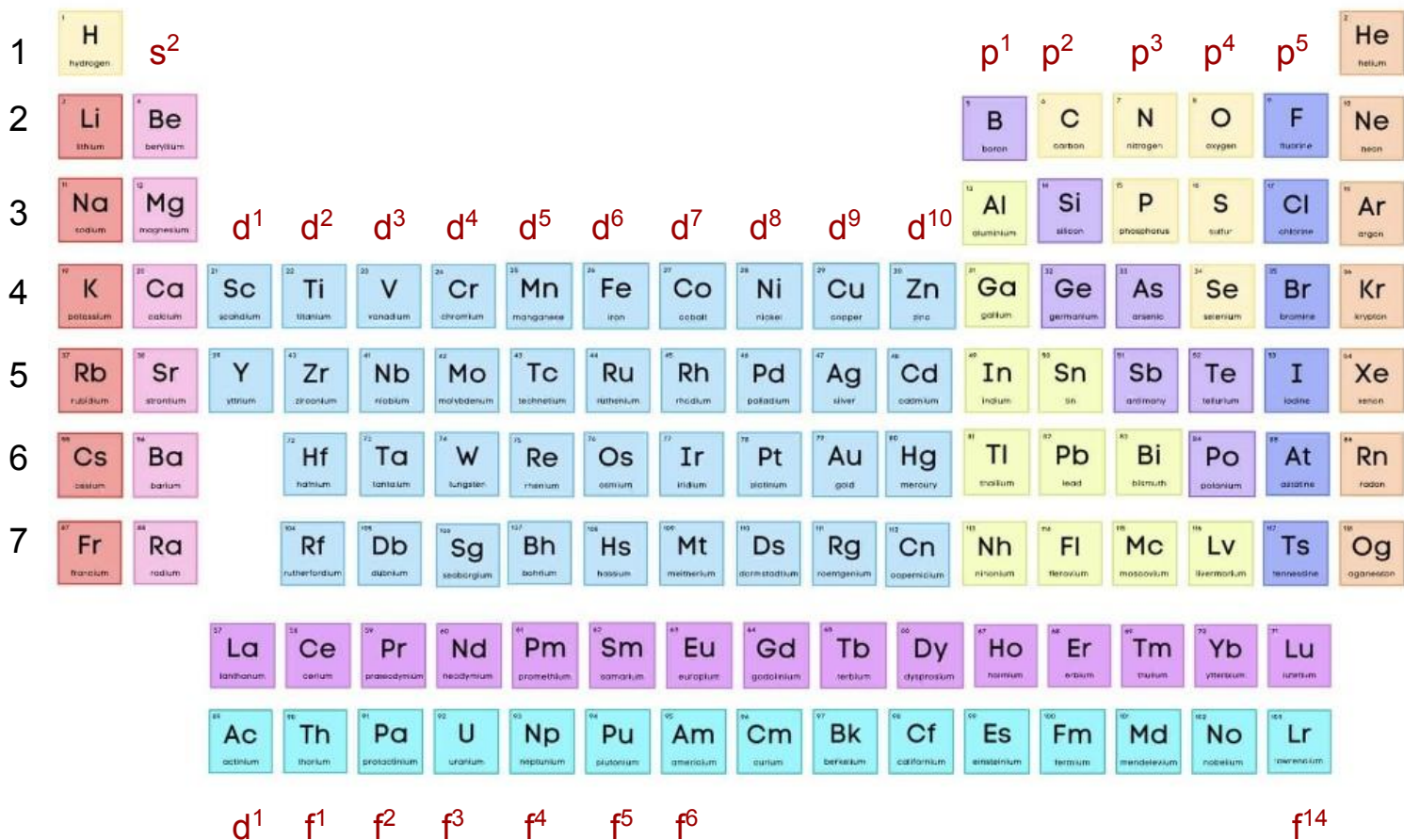


Slide 15

$s^1$

Helium is  $1s^2$  and not  $1p^6$ .

$p^6$



## Slide 16

### Take away lessons:

- The shapes of orbitals are graphic representation of the 50% probability space for finding electrons.
- Chemists approximate that electrons are clouds represented by orbitals.
- Different orbitals have different energy levels.
- Each orbital can have a maximum of two electrons.

### Next time:

- The Octet Rule
- Hybridization
- Molecular orbitals
- Molecular geometry