## \#3: Role of electronic structure in bonding among atoms <br> ***Bridging Length Scales ${ }^{* * *}$ - A constant reminder

-By and large, the elastic modulus, $E$ (units GPa, also $\mathrm{J} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$ ) is related to the "spring constant" that is the stiffness of the bonds between neighboring atoms.


Therefore, the basic question is what the nature of the force-displacement curve is when atomic bonds are stretched.

- Atoms are a very small nucleus surrounded by a very large cloud of electrons. This cloud may have a spherical shape or it may have lobes - typically four.
-The nature of the bonding is determined by how the electron clouds interact with nearest neighbors (to a first approximation)
-Above depends on "electron affinity" that is the desire of atoms to draw in electrons, or share electrons with their neighbors. This property is called the electronegativity (EN) - higher EN means that atoms have greater affinity to share or grab electrons from their neighbors


## Topics for this Lecture

(i) Simple description of the electronic cloud of single atoms and its relationship to the periodic table. The electron orbitals.
(ii) Relationship among atoms (like copper or carbon) or atom-pairs (as in NaCL) from the point of view of sharing the electrons and thus create bonds. Metallic, ionic and covalent bonding
(iii) The possible nature of the Force, Displacement relationship when the bonds are stretched.

## The Periodic Table


-The shape of the electron clouds. The electrons form clouds around the nucleus in orbitals, called s, p, d etc.
-The " $s$ " orbital is full when it has two electrons, and the p orbital when it has 6 electrons, and the " d " shell when it has 10 electrons. Therefore 2, 8 and 18 electrons mark significant threshold in electron-electron interactions. The electrons may have spin up or spin down which can double these numbers.
-The $s$ and $p$ orbitals can hybridize to create 4 lobe shaped orbitals aligned symmetrically with respect to the nucleus. Since the total number of orbitals for $s$ and $p$ are 8 , each lobe can contain 2 electrons.

Explore the chemical elements through this periodic table


The standard form of the periodic table shown here includes periods (shown horizontally) and groups (shown vertically). The properties of elements in groups are similar in some respects to each other.

Please note that,
i. The first row has two elements since 2 electrons fill the s orbital
ii. The second and third rows have eight elements corresponding to filling of $s$ and $p$ orbitals; they are called main group elements
iii. Further down the d orbitals, and even further down, f orbitals start to fill up

## The origin of bonds amongst atoms

The sharing of electrons amongst neighboring atoms determines the strength of the bond they form with each other. For example consider the sodium atom and the chlorine atoms. The sodium atom an one electron in its outer most shell while chlorine and 7 (as given by their position in the periodic table). Therefore both atoms can complete their orbitals by the sodium donating and the chlorine accepting one electron. This exchange forms the bond.
The $\mathrm{Na}+/ \mathrm{Cl}$ - is called an ionic bond. But there can be other kinds of electron sharing, but always driven by the desire of atoms to have complete shell around them.

For example in metals, consider Na as an example, each atom can give up one electron to have a complete shell. This donation of electron forms a continuum which is the source of metallic bonding.

Another possibility is that electrons can be shared in time, with an electron spending half its time with one atom and the other half with the neighboring atom. This is common in sp hybridized atoms. Each lobe on its own has one electron but by sharing it, and its neighbor can have two electrons (but half the time). The four lobes then add up to eight electrons which is a full shell. However, note that the lobes must overlap to have this form of bonding, which is called covalent bonding. It is self evident that covalent bonding will have directional character.

Remember that the ionic, metallic and covalent bonding as described above are ideal cases or models. In reality the bonds can be a mixture of any two of them. For example it can be partly ionic and partly covalent. This flexibility can be made quantitative by consideration of electronegativity.

## Electronegativity

Electronegativity is a quantity that was developed by Pauling based upon his experience of bonding among atoms. It gives a number for electron affinity that is The periodic table gives a qualitative understanding of the preference of atoms to donate or to accept electrons. Thus, atoms have a varying degree of affinity to draw electrons to themselves. This nature of atoms was given a quantitative value, called electronegativity, by Pauling and is given in the following table:

## Electronegativity of Elements

|  |  |  |  |  |  | H |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Li | Be | B |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | C | N | O | F |
| 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 4.0 |
| Na | Mg | Al |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Si | P | S | Cl |
| 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.8 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| K | Ca | Sc | Ti | V | Cr | Mn | Fe | Co | Ni | Cu | Zn | Ga | Ge | As | Se | Br |
| 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.4 | 2.8 |
| Rb | Sr | Y | Zr | Nb | Mo | Tc | Ru | Rh | Pd | Ag | Cd | In | Sn | Sb | Te | I |
| 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.5 |
| Cs | Ba | La-Lu | Hf | Ta | W | Re | Os | Ir | Pt | Au | Hg | Tl | Pb | Bi | Po | At |
| 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.0-1.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 17 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.2 |
| Fr | Ra | Ac | Th | Pa | U | Np-No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4-1.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The values of electronegativity are consistent with the examples of chemical bonding in metals, carbon and NaCl for example. The metals yield electrons and oxygen accepts them. Thus oxygen has a higher electronegativity than metals-a value of 3.5 relative to those of the metals, which lies between 1 and 2 . We now ask the significance of the difference between the electronegativity values between two different metals and oxygen. For instance, the difference between the electronegativities of Ca and O is $3.5-1.0=2.5$ while the difference between Zr and O is $3.5-1.4=2.1$. We will return to this question after reconsidering the discussion of ionic and covalent bonding.

In a purely ionic bond, the electron transfers completely from one atom to another. For example, if the $\mathrm{Ca}-\mathrm{O}$ bond were to be purely ionic, then two electrons from Ca will move over entirely to the oxygen atom, giving a whole charge of +2 to the Ca atom and -2 to the oxygen atom. However, electrons are not stationary entities, which are either all in one place or the
other. Rather, they are constantly orbiting the nucleus of the atom. When an ionic bond forms, the electrons can choose to spend a greater amount of time with one atom than the other. Thus, the transfer of electron is a probability rather than a certainty. This fact leads to the concept of the degree of ionicity of a bond. The electronegativity series gives a value to the ionic character via the following equation:

$$
I_{C}=1-\exp \left[1-\frac{\left(\chi_{A}-\chi_{B}\right)^{2}}{4}\right]
$$

where $I_{C}$ is the amount of ionic character of the bond A-B, and where $\chi_{A}$ and $\chi_{B}$ are the electronegativity of atoms A and B. Note that $I_{C}$ ranges from zero, when $\chi_{A}=\chi_{B}$ (therefore bonds between like atoms are entirely non-ionic), to one when the difference becomes very large. Note that $\left(\left.\right|_{A}-\left.\right|_{B}\right)$ is always calculated in such a way that it is always a positive quantity, that is, $x_{A}$ always has the higher value of electronegativity. Equation 2.3 is highly non-linear, that is, small changes in the electronegativity can have a large effect on ionicity. Therefore, it is useful to have a numerical table of the predictions, which are given in the table on the next page.
We are now able to say that the bond between Zr and O is about $67 \%$ ionic while that between Ca and O is nearly $80 \%$ ionic. In general, bonds are more than $50 \%$ ionic if the difference in the electronegativity between the atoms is greater than 1.7.

The relationship between the difference in the electronegativity between two
atoms A and B , and the ionic character of the bond between then.

| $x_{\mathrm{A}}-x_{\mathrm{B}}$ | Amount of ionic <br> Character (\%) | $x_{\mathrm{A}}-x_{\mathrm{B}}$ | Amount of ionic <br> Character (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.2 | 1 | 1.8 | 55 |
| .4 | 4 | 2.0 | 63 |
| .6 | 9 | 2.2 | 70 |
| .8 | 15 | 2.4 | 76 |
| 1.0 | 22 | 2.6 | 82 |
| 1.2 | 30 | 2.8 | 86 |
| 1.4 | 39 | 3.0 | 89 |
| 1.6 | 47 | 3.2 | 92 |

## (iii) Polar nature of bonds (the dipole moment)

Molecules and crystals are often described qualitatively as being polar or non-polar. Being polar means that a single molecule has a net dipole moment. In a crystal it means that a large aggregate of atoms have a net dipole moment.
Therefore a molecule by itself may have a dipole moment but when in a crystal of a certain structure the dipole moments of individual bonds cancel leaving a net value of zero dipole moment.


The dipole moment is given the units of D (Debyes or $\mu$ ).
A charge of 1 electron separated by $100 \mathrm{pm}(=1$ Angstrom) has a dipole moment of 4.803 Debye $(\mu)$

