The Quantum Mechanical Model

Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle

- 1920s: The exact position of an electron can never be known.
- Determining both the position and path of an electron is impossible.
- Can only determine an electron's most probable location using a mathematical model.

Quantum Mechanics

- Each energy level has sublevels where an electron can exist.
- Sublevels contain *"orbitals"* that describe the *most probable location of an electron*.
- The shape of orbitals is determined by a 90% probability of finding an electron.









s orbital

p orbitals

Electron Filling Rules

- 1. <u>Aufbau Principle</u>: Electrons are normally in the lowest energy orbital available.
- 2. <u>Pauli Exclusion Principle</u>: Maximum two electrons in any one orbital (with opposite spins).
- Hund's Rule: All orbitals in a sublevel must have one electron before the second electron is added.



Steps for determining electron configurations

- 1. Determine # of e⁻ in element/ion
- 2. Fill orbitals according to e- filling rules
- 3. Verify your answer by checking and counting superscripts

Electron Configuration of Nitrogen



Orbital Diagram of Nitrogen (circles and lines OR boxes and arrows)



Practice 1

Write the electron configuration for magnesium (Mg).

To be completed in class! (leave 2-3 lines)

How many unpaired electrons?

Practice 2

Write the electron configuration and indicate the number of unpaired electrons for fluorine (F).

To be completed in class! (leave 2-3 lines)

Practice 3

Write the electron configuration and indicate the number of unpaired electrons for nickel (Ni).

To be completed in class! (leave 2-3 lines)