

## Atomic Structure and Coulomb's Law

**Atomic Theory:** Matter is anything that has mass and takes up space.

→ All matter is made up of atoms.

### Structure of the Atom

The atom can be divided into two regions: the nucleus and the electron cloud.

1. The nucleus is a very small region near the center of an atom that is positively charged.
2. The e<sup>-</sup> cloud is a very large region that surrounds the nucleus and is negatively charged.

It consists mostly of empty space.

### The Three Subatomic Particles

Particle	Symbol	Approximate Relative Mass	Relative Charge	Location in Atom
Proton	p <sup>+</sup>	1	1+	Inside nucleus
Neutron	n	1	0	Inside nucleus
Electron	e <sup>-</sup>	0.000545	1-	Outside nucleus

\*Note: the unit of mass for atomic particles is the atomic mass unit (amu)

→ 1 amu = one-twelfth the mass of a carbon atom containing six protons and six neutrons.

### Isotopes

What are isotopes? Atoms of the same element, but different mass

This means the number of protons is the same, and the number of neutrons is different.

→ Mass of an isotope = # protons + # neutrons

Two ways to write isotopes:

Type	hyphen-notation	VS	isotope notation/ nuclide symbol
Definition	name-mass		mass # atomic # Symbol
Example	carbon-12		$^{12}_6\text{C}$

Let's Practice with Tasty Isotopes! Complete the chart below.

Hyphen notation	Isotope Notation	Mass #	Atomic #	Protons	Neutrons	Electrons
boron-10	$^{10}_5\text{B}$	10	5	5	5	5
phosphorus-30	$^{30}_{15}\text{P}$	30	15	15	15	15
Zinc-66	$^{66}_{30}\text{Zn}$	66	30	30	36	30

Directions: Consider the following sets of isotopes and then explain the similarities and differences between *each* set.

## Set I



Similarities: Same #  $p^+$ ,  $e^-$  (6)

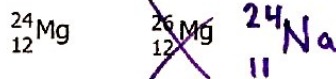
$\Rightarrow$  same element

Differences:

6 vs. 7  $n^0$

$\Rightarrow$  different mass

## Set II



Similarities:

same mass  $\Rightarrow$

same # particles in nucleus ( $p^+ + n^0$ )

Differences:

different element

$\Rightarrow$  different # of  $p^+$

### Understanding the Periodic Table

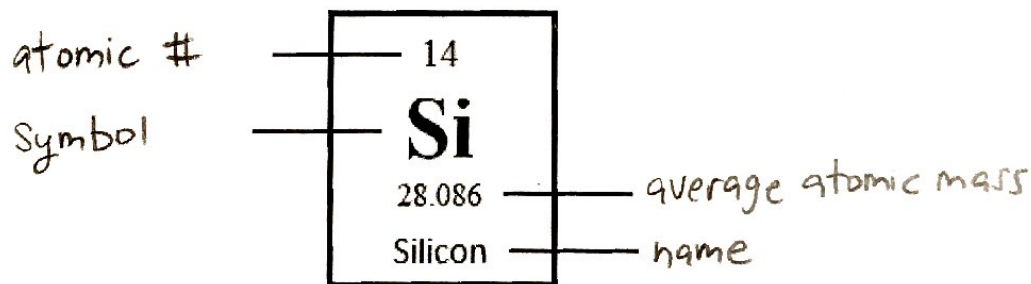
**Atomic Number:** the number that tells you the identity of the element; number of  $p^+$

**Average Atomic Mass:** average mass of all of the element's isotopes

- To find the mass of a SPECIFIC (isotope) atom, you must add up the protons + neutrons

**Symbol:** shortened element name; starts with a CAPITAL letter

**Name:** the identity of an atom (NOT a proper noun = not capitalized in sentences! ☺)



Directions: Complete the following table using your knowledge of atomic structure.

Element	Hyphen notation	Atomic Number	Number of Protons	Number of Neutrons	Number of Electrons	Mass Number
${}^1_1\text{H}$	hydrogen-1	1	1	0	1	1
${}^{35}_{17}\text{Cl}$	chlorine-35	17	17	18	17	35
${}^{60}_{27}\text{Co}$	cobalt-60	27	27	33	27	60

**Coulomb's Law:** fundamental relationship between electrostatic attraction and repulsion.

- It applies to charged particles, magnets, gravitation, etc.
- In chemistry, we are most interested in energy of attraction or repulsion between Subatomic particles the

$$\text{Coulomb's Law: } E \propto \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r}$$

E = energy of attraction or repulsion between particles

$Q_1$  = charge of first particle

$Q_2$  = charge of second particle

r = distance between charged particles

In short:

- Energy of attraction/repulsion ↑ as the magnitudes (sizes) of the charges ↑
- Energy of attraction/repulsion ↓ as the distance between the charges ↑

**Thought question:** will an electron be more attracted to the nucleus of a hydrogen atom or a helium atom, and why?

He! He has 2 p<sup>+</sup> while H has only 1 p<sup>+</sup>: ↑ + means - (e<sup>-</sup>) will be more attracted.

#### Coulomb's Law Practice



1. Which set of particles shown the left will experience:

- the greatest attraction to each other? b)
- the greatest repulsion from each other? d)

2. The particles in (a) will experience \_\_\_\_\_ attraction to each other than the particles in (c) because:

- greater, the distance between them is less.
- smaller, the distance between them is less.
- the same, distance is irrelevant to force of attraction.

3. The particles shown above in (a) will experience \_\_\_\_\_ attraction to each other than the particles in (b) because:

- greater, the nucleus has one proton instead of two.
- smaller, the nucleus has one proton instead of two.
- the same, charge is irrelevant to force of attraction.

4. An electron would be most attracted to the nucleus of which element? (assuming same distance apart)  
*in the lowest energy level*

- lithium = 3 p<sup>+</sup>
- sodium = 11 p<sup>+</sup>
- potassium = 19 p<sup>+</sup>
- rubidium = 37 p<sup>+</sup>

5. A proton would be least repulsed by the nucleus of which element?

- helium = 2 p<sup>+</sup>
- neon = 10 p<sup>+</sup>
- argon = 18 p<sup>+</sup>
- krypton = 36 p<sup>+</sup>