

Exercise 4.2a

Quantum Numbers

Name: _____

Date: _____ Per: _____

Each electron in an atom is described by four different **quantum numbers**. The first three (n, ℓ, m) specify the orbital of interest, and the fourth (s) specifies the spin of the electron.

- Principal Quantum Number (n):** ($n = 1, 2, 3, \text{etc.}$)
 - n = the **energy level** (shell) of the electron.
 - The total number of orbitals for a given n value is n^2 .
- Sublevel (Angular Momentum Quantum Number) (ℓ):** ($\ell = 0, \dots, n-1$)
 - ℓ = the **shape** of an orbital (s, p, d, f) $\rightarrow [s = 0, p = 1, d = 2, f = 3, g = 4, h = 5\dots]$
 - The energy of the subshell increases with ℓ ($s < p < d < f$).
- Magnetic Quantum Number (m):** ($m = -\ell, \dots, 0, \dots, +\ell$)
 - m = the individual **orbital** which hold the electrons.
 - There are $2\ell + 1$ orbitals in each subshell. The s subshell has only one orbital, the p subshell has three orbitals...
- Spin Quantum Number (s):** ($s = +\frac{1}{2}$ or $-\frac{1}{2}$)
 - s = the **spin** axis of an electron.
 - An electron can spin in only one of two directions (sometimes called *up* and *down*).

The **Pauli exclusion principle** states that *no two electrons in the same atom can have identical values for all four of their quantum numbers*. No more than two electrons can occupy the same orbital, and that two electrons in the same orbital must have opposite spins. Because an electron spins, it creates a magnetic field, which can be oriented in one of two directions. For two electrons in the same orbital, the spins must be opposite to each other; the spins are said to be paired. These substances are not attracted to magnets and are said to be diamagnetic. Atoms with more electrons that spin in one direction than another contain unpaired electrons. These substances *are* weakly attracted to magnets and are said to be paramagnetic.

- Draw the shapes of the sub-levels listed below.

$1s$	p	d
$2s$		

- Give the n and ℓ values for the following orbitals:

a. $1s$ _____e. $3p$ _____b. $3s$ _____f. $4d$ _____c. $2p$ _____g. $5p$ _____d. $4s$ _____h. $5f$ _____

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DIRECTIONS: Write the quantum numbers for the electrons shown in bold.

	1s	2s	2p			3s	3p			4s	3d					4p			Quantum Numbers
<i>n</i>	1	2					3			4	3					4			
<i>ℓ</i>	0	0	1			0	1			0	2					1			
<i>m</i>	0	0	-1	0	+1	0	-1	0	+1	0	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	-1	0	+1	
3.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑	↑	↑						
4.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑	↑	↑	↑					
5.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑	↑											
6.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑													
7.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑	↑		
8.	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑									

9. Circle any sets of quantum numbers that are unacceptable?

a. $n = 3, \ell = -2, m = 0, s = +\frac{1}{2}$

d. $n = 1, \ell = 0, m = -1, s = -\frac{1}{2}$

b. $n = 2, \ell = 2, m = -1, s = -\frac{1}{2}$

e. $n = 4, \ell = 2, m = -2, s = +\frac{1}{2}$

c. $n = 6, \ell = 2, m = -2, s = +\frac{1}{2}$

f. $n = 3, \ell = 3, m = 0, s = -\frac{1}{2}$

10. Circle any of the following that represent impossible combinations of n and ℓ :

a. 1p

c. 5f

b. 4s

d. 2d

DIRECTIONS: Identify the element whose highest energy electron would have the following four quantum numbers:

11. 3, 1, -1, +1/2 _____

12. 3, 2, +1, +1/2 _____

13. 2, 1, 0, -1/2 _____

14. 3, 2, -1, -1/2 _____

15. 2, 1, +1, -1/2 _____