

# Chapter 3

## Molecular symmetry and symmetry point group

### *Part B*

(ref. *Chemical Application of Group Theory*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., F.A. Cotton, by John Wiley & Sons, 1990.)



## § 3.5 Group representation Theory and irreducible representation of point groups

### 3.5.1 Representations of a point group:

#### reducible vs. irreducible

For a point group,

- Each element is a unique symmetry operation (operator).
- Each operation can be represented by a square matrix.
- These *matrices* constitute a **matrix group**, i.e., a matrix representation of this **point group**.

**Example:**  $C_i = \{E, i\}$  ~ a general point  $(x, y, z)$  in space.

$$\hat{i} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ -y \\ -z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{i} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

a matrix group



Example:  $C_i$  one unit vector  $x$

$$\hat{E}(x) = (1)(x) = (x) \quad \hat{i}(x) = (-1)(x) = (-x)$$

The corresponding matrix representation of  $C_i$  is  $\{(1), (-1)\}$

Q1: How many representations can be found for a particular group?

A large number, limited on our ingenuity in devising ways to generate them.

Q2: If we were to assign three small unit vectors directed along the x, y and z axes to each of the atoms in  $H_2O$  and write down the matrices representing the changes and interchanges of these upon the operations, what would be obtained?

A matrix representation consisting of four 9x9 matrices would be obtained upon operating on a column matrix  $(x_O, y_O, z_O, x_{H1}, y_{H1}, z_{H1}, x_{H2}, y_{H2}, z_{H2})$ .

Example:  $C_{2v}$  three unit vectors (x,y,z) or a general point

$\{E, C_2, \sigma_{xz}, \sigma_{yz}\}$

Principal axis: z-axis.

$$\hat{E} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{C}_2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ -y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{xz} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{yz} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

➡ a matrix representation of  $C_{2v}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{cccc} E & C_2 & \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \right\}$$

# Bases, representations and their dimensions



- **Dimension of a representation = The order of matrices.**
- **Different basis  $\rightarrow$  Different representation.**

**Example:  $C_{2v}$**  Basis  $\sim$  a general point or three unit vectors.

E	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

A 3-D rep.

**Simple basis: a translational vector as  $x$ ,  $y$ , or  $z$ , or a rotor  $R_z$**

Reduced to 1D matrices		irreducible representation					
x	[ 1] [-1] [ 1] [-1]	<i>1-D Reps.</i> 	$\Gamma_x =$	1	-1	1	-1
y	[ 1] [-1] [-1] [ 1]		$\Gamma_y =$	1	-1	-1	1
z	[ 1] [ 1] [ 1] [ 1]		$\Gamma_z =$	1	1	1	1
			$\Gamma_{Rz} =$	1	1	-1	-1

*1-D Reps.*

# Reducing of representations

- Suppose that we have a set of  $n$ -dimensional matrices,  $A, B, C, \dots$ , which form a representation of a group. These  $n$ -D matrices themselves constitute a matrix group  $\Gamma = \{A, B, \dots\}$ .
- If we make the same **similarity transformation** on each matrix, we obtain a new set of matrices, namely,

$$\begin{aligned} A' &= X^{-1}AX, \quad B' = X^{-1}BX, \\ C' &= X^{-1}CX, \quad \dots \end{aligned}$$

that forms a new matrix group:  $\Gamma' = \{A', B', C', \dots\}$

- $\Gamma'$  is also a representation of the group!

- It is provable that if any of the matrix (e.g.,  $\mathbf{A}'$ ) in  $\mathbf{\Gamma}'$  is a *block-factored* matrix, then all other matrices (e.g.,  $\mathbf{B}', \mathbf{C}', \dots$ ) in  $\mathbf{\Gamma}'$  are also blocked-factored.

$$\mathbf{A}' = \begin{bmatrix} [\mathbf{A}_1] & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & [\mathbf{A}_2] & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{A}_3] & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{A}_4] \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{B}' = \begin{bmatrix} [\mathbf{B}_1] & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & [\mathbf{B}_2] & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{B}_3] & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{B}_4] \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{C}' = \begin{bmatrix} [\mathbf{C}_1] & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & [\mathbf{C}_2] & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{C}_3] & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & [\mathbf{C}_4] \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

in which  $\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{A}_3 \dots$  are  $n_1, n_2, n_3 \dots$ -order submatrices with  $n = n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots$

- These  $n$ -order matrices can be simply expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}' &= \mathbf{A}_1 \oplus \mathbf{A}_2 \oplus \mathbf{A}_3 \oplus \dots, & \mathbf{B}' &= \mathbf{B}_1 \oplus \mathbf{B}_2 \oplus \mathbf{B}_3 \oplus \dots, \\ \mathbf{C}' &= \mathbf{C}_1 \oplus \mathbf{C}_2 \oplus \mathbf{C}_3 \oplus \dots, & & \dots \end{aligned}$$

(Direct sum of submatrices! )

- It is also provable that the various sets of submatrices,  $T_1=\{A_1, B_1, C_1 \dots\}$ ,  $T_2=\{A_2, B_2, C_2 \dots\}$ ,  $T_3=\{A_3, B_3, C_3 \dots\}$ , ..., are in themselves representations of the group.
- We then call the set of matrices  $\Gamma=\{A, B, C, \dots\}$  a reducible representation of the group, which breaks up into a direct sum of the representations, i.e.,  $\Gamma = T_1 \oplus T_2 \oplus T_3 \oplus \dots$
- If it is not possible to find a similarity transformation to reduce a representation in the above manner, the representation is said to be **irreducible**.
- The irreducible representations of a point group are mostly countable and of fundamental importance!





Example:  $C_{2v}$  Is this 3-D Rep. reducible?

Yes. These matrices are block-factored!

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 E & C_2 & \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{yz} \\
 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}$$

$\Gamma_{xyz}$

Reduced to 1D matrices					irreducible representation				
x	[ 1]	[-1]	[ 1]	[-1]	$\Gamma_x =$	1	-1	1	-1
y	[ 1]	[-1]	[-1]	[ 1]	$\Gamma_y =$	1	-1	-1	1
z	[ 1]	[ 1]	[ 1]	[ 1]	$\Gamma_z =$	1	1	1	1

$$\Gamma_{xyz} = \Gamma_x \oplus \Gamma_y \oplus \Gamma_z$$

The 3-D rep. is reduced to 3 1-D rep.

Point group  **$R$**   $R = \{R_A, R_B, R_C, \dots\}$  (symm. ops.)

Exerted on any set of bases

(e.g., AO's, MO's, vectors, rotations etc.)

**A matrix group,  $\Gamma = \{A, B, C, \dots\}$**

(a matrix rep. of group  **$R$** , dimension = order of the matrix)

Similarity transformations (reducing of a representation!)

**A block-factored matrix group,  $\Gamma' = \{A', B', C', \dots\}$**

( $A' = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \dots$ ,  $B' = B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus \dots$ ,  $C' = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \dots$ , ...) and  $\Gamma_1 = \{A_1, B_1, C_1, \dots\}$ ,  $\Gamma_2 = \{A_2, B_2, C_2, \dots\}$  ...  
&  $\Gamma' = \Gamma_1 \oplus \Gamma_2 \oplus \dots$

Direct sum of irreducible representations!

The irreducible representations of a point group are mostly countable and of fundamental importance!!!

The character table of a point group lists up all essential information of its irreducible representations.



## 3.5.2. Character Tables of Point Groups

### Example - point group $C_{2v}$

#### Character table

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$ $x^2, y^2, z^2$ $R_z$ $xy$ $x, R_y$ $xz$ $y, R_x$ $yz$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	

Frequently used basis,  
e.g., translation,  
rotation, and so on

Characters

Top line: point group

symmetry operations

order of group,  $h$  = number of symmetry operations

Symmetry species of irreducible representations.

# Characters & reducing representation!

- Character of a matrix  $A$ :  
(sum of its diagonal elements!)

$$\chi(A) = \sum_i a_{ii}(A)$$

$C_{2v}$

$\Gamma_{xyz}$

$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

3-D Rep.

$$\chi(E) = 3$$

$$\chi(C_2) = -1$$

$$\chi(\sigma_{xz}) = 1$$

$$\chi(\sigma_{yz}) = 1$$

Reduced to 1D matrices

x [ 1] [-1] [ 1] [-1]

y [ 1] [-1] [-1] [ 1]

z [ 1] [ 1] [ 1] [ 1]



	$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
$B_1$	1	-1	1	-1
$B_2$	1	-1	-1	1
$A_1$	1	1	1	1
$\Gamma_{xyz}$	3	-1	1	1

$$\Gamma_{xyz} = A_1 \oplus B_1 \oplus B_2$$

If  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \oplus \Gamma_2 \oplus \Gamma_3 \oplus \dots$ ,  $\chi_\Gamma(R) = \sum_i \chi_{\Gamma_i}(R)$

$\Gamma_i$ ---I.R.s

# Translations

Movements of whole molecule – represent by vectors

e.g. y vector      E operation       $y'$  (after operation) =  $y$

$C_2$        $y' = -y$  (i.e.  $y' = -1 \times y$ )

$\sigma_v(xz)$        $y' = -y$

$\sigma_v(yz)$        $y' = y$

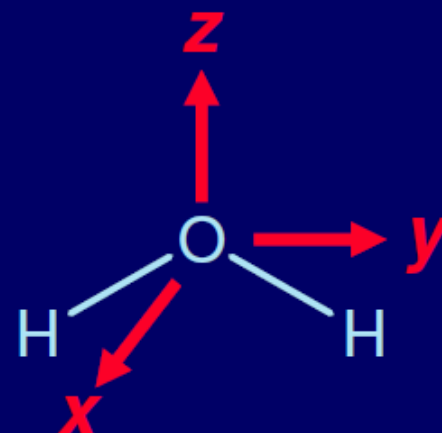
z vector      all operations       $z' = z$

x vector      E operation       $x' = x$

$C_2$        $x' = -x$

$\sigma_v(xz)$        $x' = x$

$\sigma_v(yz)$        $x' = -x$



# Translations

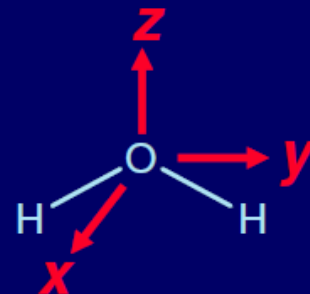
Consider effect of symmetry operation on the vector

Write +1 for no change, -1 for reversal

	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	
z vector	+1	+1	+1	+1	$A_1$
y	+1	-1	-1	+1	$B_2$
x	+1	-1	+1	-1	$B_1$

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1

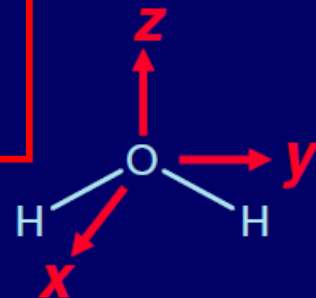
Labels  $A_1$  etc. are *symmetry species*; they summarise the effects of symmetry operations on the vectors.



# Rotations

Similarly for rotations of the molecules

	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	
z vector	+1	+1	+1	+1	$A_1$
y	+1	-1	-1	+1	$B_2$
x	+1	-1	+1	-1	$B_1$
$R_z$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$A_2$
$R_y$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$B_1$
$R_x$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$B_2$





# Characters

The numbers +1 and -1 are called *characters*.

The *character table* has all possible symmetry species for the *point group*. It is the same for all molecules belonging to the point group – e.g.  $C_{2v}$  for  $H_2O$ ,  $SiH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Fe(CO)_4Cl_2$ , etc.

Note: the character table lists the symmetry species for translations and rotations.

A,B show symmetry with respect to rotation.  
1,2 distinguish symmetry with respect to reflections

## Character table

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$

# Symmetry species: Mulliken symbols

$C_{3v}$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3\sigma_v$		
$A_1$	1	1	1	$z$	$x^2 + y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	1	1	-1	$R_z$	
$E$	2	-1	0	$(x, y)(R_x, R_y)$	$(x^2 - y^2, xy)(xz, yz)$

- All **1-D** irreducible reps. are labeled by either **A** or **B**, **2-D** irreducible rep. by **E**, **3-D** irreducible rep. by **T** and so on.
- **A**: symmetric with respect to  $C_n$  rotation, i.e.,  $\chi(C_n)=1$ .
- **B**: asymmetric with respect to  $C_n$  rotation, i.e.,  $\chi(C_n)=-1$ .
- Subscriptions **1** or **2** designates those symmetric or asymmetric with respect to a  $C_2 \perp$  or a  $\sigma_v$ .
- Subscripts **g** or **u** for universal **parity** or **disparity**.
- Superscripts ' or '' designates those symmetric or asymmetric with respect to  $\sigma_h$



### 3.5.3 The “Great Orthogonality Theorem” and Its Consequences

*Some notations:*

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$h$  – the order of a group;  $R$  – operations (elements) of a point group.

$l_i$  – the dimension of  $i$ th representation (i.e., the order of its matrices)

$\Gamma_i(R)_{mn}$  – the element in the  $m$ th row and  $n$ th column of the matrix corresponding to the operation  $R$  in the  $i$ th representation.

$$\sum_R [\Gamma_i(R)_{mn}][\Gamma_j(R)_{m'n'}]^* = \frac{h}{\sqrt{l_i l_j}} \delta_{ij} \delta_{mm'} \delta_{nn'}$$

It means that in the set of matrices constituting any one irreducible representation, any set of corresponding matrix elements, one from each matrix, behaves as the components of a vector in a  $h$ -dimensional space such that all these vectors are mutually orthogonal and each is normalized so that the square of its length is  $h/l_i$ .



# Five important rules

regarding irreducible representations and their characters:

**Rule 1** – the sum of the squares of the dimensions of the irreducible representations of a group is equal to the order of a group.

$$\sum_i l_i^2 = h$$

e.g., for  $C_{3v}$ ,

$$\sum_i l_i^2 = 1^2 + 1^2 + 2^2 = 6 = h$$

$C_{3v}$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3\sigma_v$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0

$$\because \chi_i(E) = l_i \Rightarrow \sum_i [\chi_i(E)]^2 = h$$

**Rule 2** – the sum of the square of the characters in any irreducible representation of a group equals  $h$ ,

$$\sum_R [\chi_i(R)]^2 = h$$

e.g.,  $A_2$  for  $C_{3v}$ ,  $1^2 + 2 \cdot 1^2 + 3 \cdot (-1)^2 = 6$

## Five important rules

**Rule 3** – the vectors whose components are the characters of two irreducible representations are orthogonal,

$$\sum_R [\chi_i(R)] [\chi_j(R)] = 0$$

e.g., The  $A_2$  and  $E$  I.R. of  $C_{3v}$  are orthogonal.

$$1(1 \cdot 2) + 2(1 \cdot (-1)) + 3((-1) \cdot 0) = 0$$

$C_{3v}$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3\sigma_v$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0

**Rule 4** – In a given representation, the characters of all matrices belonging to operations in the same class are identical.

**Rule 5** – the number of irreducible representations of a group is equal to the number of classes (of operations) in the group.

# Illustration of the Five important rules

**Example** – Direct construction of the character table of  $C_{2v}$

- **Four** classes of elements/operations:  $\{E, C_2, \sigma', \sigma''\}$  &  $h=4$
- **Rule 5**  $\rightarrow$  Four I.R.

• **Rule 1**  $\rightarrow \sum l_i^2 = h = 4 \rightarrow l_{1-4} = 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{ 1-D I.R.}$

• *There is always an all-symmetric representation,*

$$\Gamma_1 \sum_R [\chi_1(R)]^2 = h = 4 \text{ \& } \chi_1(R) = 1$$

• *Other 1-D I.R.,  $\chi_i(E) = 1$*

$$\because \sum_R [\chi_i(R)]^2 = h \Rightarrow \chi_i(R) = \pm 1$$

• *Each of them is orthogonal to  $\Gamma_1$  (rule3)*

$$\Rightarrow \sum_R \chi_i(R) \chi_1(R) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  Two  $\chi_i(R) = 1$ , two  $\chi_i(R) = -1$ !

• *If necessary, define the symmetry species (Mulliken symbols).*

$C_{2v}$	$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma'$	$\sigma''$
$A_1$	1	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1	-1
$B_1$	1	-1	1	-1
$B_2$	1	-1	-1	1

# Illustration of the Five important rules

**Example** – Direct construction of the character table of  $C_{3v}$

- **Three** classes of elements/operations:  $\{E, 2C_3, 3\sigma_v\}$  &  $h=6$
- **Rule 5**  $\rightarrow$  **Three** I.R.s
- **Rule 1**  $\rightarrow l_1^2 + l_2^2 + l_3^2 = 6 \rightarrow l_1 = l_2 = 1, l_3 = 2$
- &  $\chi_1(E) = \chi_2(E) = 1, \chi_3(E) = 2$
- *There is always an all-symmetric 1-D I.R.*

$C_{3v}$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3\sigma_v$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0

$$\chi_1(E) = \chi_1(C_3) = \chi_1(\sigma_v) = 1 \quad (\Gamma_1 = A_1)$$

- *Another 1-D I.R.  $\Gamma_2$  should follow rules 2 & 3.*

$$\sum_R [\chi_2(R)]^2 = h \quad \left| \quad \sum_R \chi_2(R) \chi_1(R) = 0 \right. \quad \rightarrow \chi_2(C_3) = 1, \chi_2(\sigma_v) = -1$$

- *Similarly for the 2-D I.R.  $\Gamma_3$ ,  $\rightarrow \chi_3(C_3) = -1, \chi_3(\sigma_v) = 0$*
- *If necessary, define the symmetry species (Mulliken symbols).*

# *An important practical relationship*

Between any reducible representation and the I.R.s,

$$\chi(R) = \sum_j a_j \chi_j(R)$$

The number of times that the  $j$ th I.R. occurs in a red. REP.

**Character of a matrix corresponding to operation  $R$  in a red. REP.**

Character of a matrix corresponding to operation  $R$  in the  $j$ th I.R..

$$\Rightarrow \sum_R \chi_i(R) \chi(R) = \sum_R \chi_i(R) \sum_j a_j \chi_j(R) = \sum_R a_i [\chi_i(R)]^2 = h a_i$$

$$\Rightarrow a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_R \chi(R) \chi_i(R)$$

**Rule 3**

**Rule 1**

This relationship thus provides an easy way for reducing a representation of a group.



### 3.5.3 Symmetry of molecular properties & Application of the representation theory of group

- Translations and rotations can be assigned to symmetry species (of irreducible representations).
- So can other molecular properties, including molecular vibrations, hybrid orbitals, molecular orbitals and so on.
- The theory of molecular symmetry & point group facilitates the construction of hybrid orbitals, symmetry adapted MO's, and analyses of molecular vibrations etc.

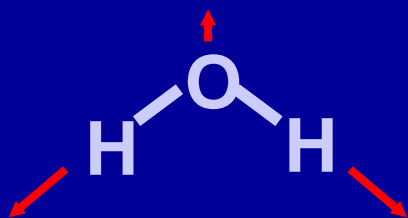


# 1. Vibrational spectroscopy

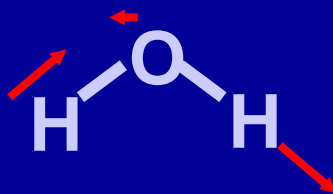
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The normal vibrations (or normal modes of vibrations) of a molecule are the bases of I.R.s of the point group it belongs to.

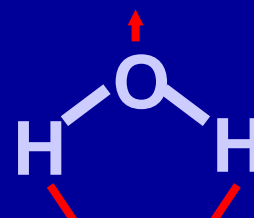
\*  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  has  $(3N-6)=3$  normal modes of vibration!



$A_1$  IR active



$B_1$  IR active



$A_1$  IR active

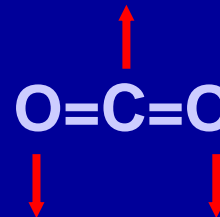
\*  $\text{CO}_2$  has 3 normal modes of vibration



Infra-red inactive!  
no dipole change!



IR active



IR active

**The Number of active modes tells us about symmetry!**

## IR – active:

The vibrations that induce a change in dipole moment.

- A *IR-active* vibration and a component of *molecular dipole moment* (i.e., vectors **x**, **y**, **z**) belong to the same symmetry species.

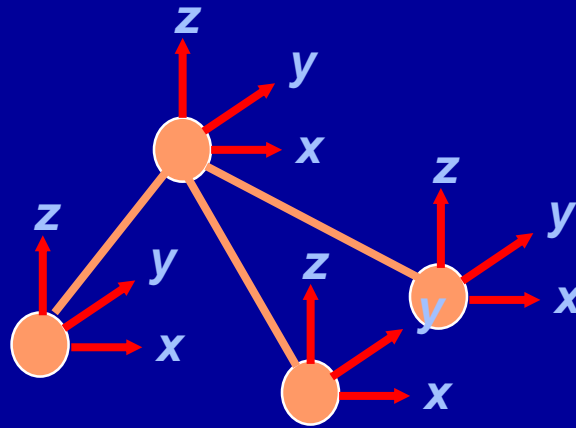
## Raman – active:

The vibrations that induce a change in polarizability.

- A *Raman-active* vibration and a component of *molecular polarizability* (i.e., **x<sup>2</sup>**, **y<sup>2</sup>**, **z<sup>2</sup>**, **xy**, **yz**, **xz** and **x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup>** etc.) belong to the same symmetry species.



# Molecular vibrations - number of modes



Each atom can move independently in  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  directions.

$3N$  degrees of freedom for a  $N$ -atom molecule.

If atoms fixed, there are: 3 translational degrees

3 rotational degrees

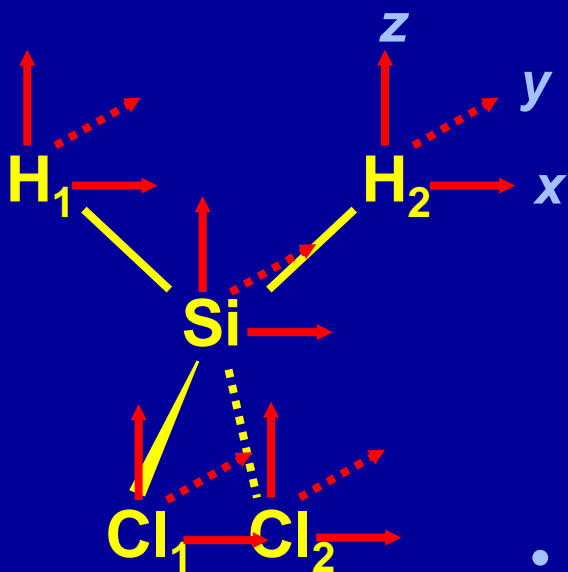
and the rest  $(3N-6)$  are vibrational modes

# No. of modes of each symmetry species

Example -  $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

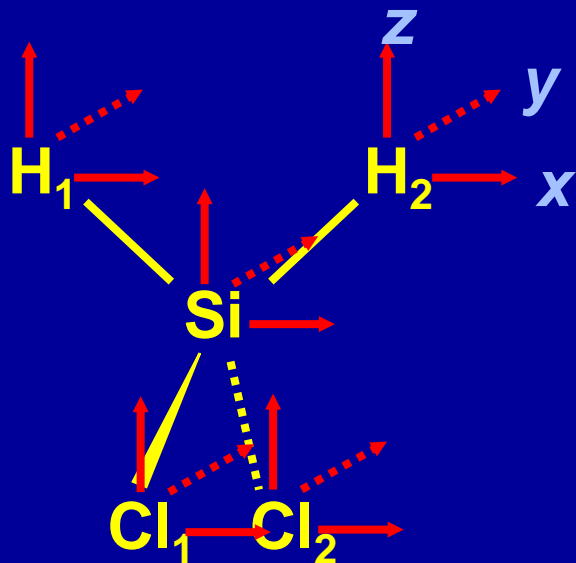
Point group  $C_{2v}$

## Character table



$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$

- Draw  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  vectors on all atoms.
- Perform symmetry operations.
- Count +1, -1, 0 if vector transforms to itself, minus itself, or moves.



## Character table

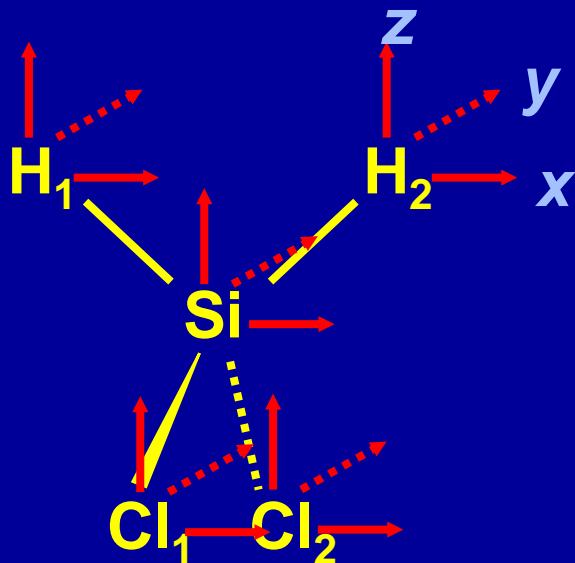
$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$

## Operation E

Si atom	x transforms into Si x	count +1
	y transforms into Si y	count +1
	z transforms into Si z	count +1
		total +3

Same for other 4 atoms

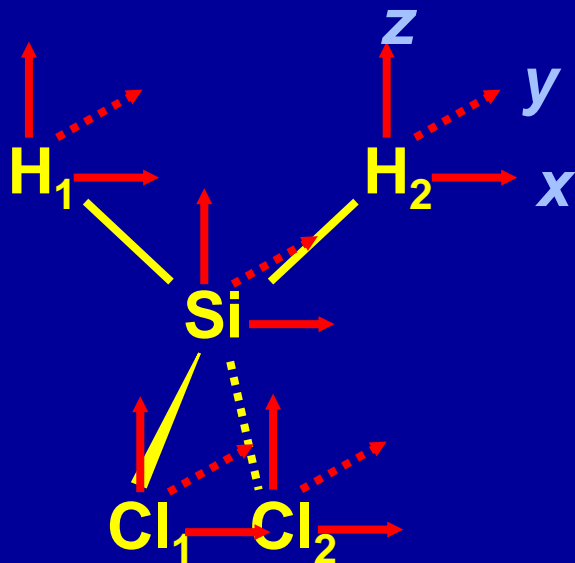
**grand total +15**



## Character table

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$

Operation $C_2$	Si atom	x transforms into Si -x	count -1
		y transforms into Si -y	count -1
		z transforms into Si z	count +1
			total -1
$H_1$ and $H_2$ move - swap places			count 0
$Cl_1$ and $Cl_2$ swap places			count 0
grand total -1			



## Character table

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$		
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$	
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$	
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$	
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$	

Operation  $\sigma_v(xz)$  Si atom

x transforms into Si x      count +1

y transforms into Si -y      count -1

z transforms into Si z      count +1

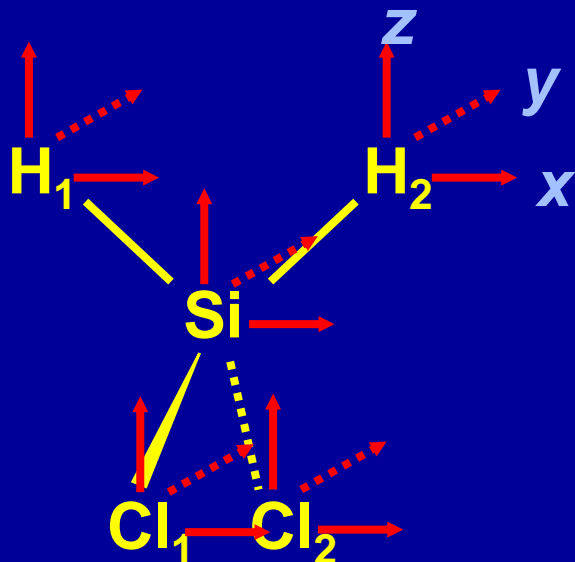
total +1

$H_1$  and  $H_2$  also lie in xz plane, and behave as Si      count +1 each

$Cl_1$  and  $Cl_2$  swap places      count 0

**grand total +3**





## Character table

$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$

Operation  $\sigma_v(yz)$  Si atom

x transforms into Si -x

count -1

y transforms into Si y

count +1

z transforms into Si z

count +1

total +1

$H_1$  and  $H_2$  swap places

count 0

$Cl_1$  and  $Cl_2$  also lie in yz plane, and behave as Si

count +1 each

**grand total +3**

# No. of modes of each symmetry species

Example -  $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

Point group  $\text{C}_{2v}$

Overall we have:

E	$\text{C}_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$
+15	-1	+3	+3

This is the *reducible representation* of the point group on the basis of the set of  $3N$  ( $=15$ ) atomic displacement vectors.

We reduce it to the *irreducible representations*, using a formula



# Reduce the reducible representation

Formula is

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_R g_R \cdot \chi(R) \cdot \chi_i(R)$$

Character table

$C_{2v}$	$1E$	$1C_2$	$1\sigma_v(xz)$	$1\sigma_v(yz)$		$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$
Red. Rep. $\Gamma$	15	-1	3	3		

$$\text{No. of } A_1 \text{ motions} = 1/4 [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1] = 5$$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

## Character table

$C_{2v}$	1E	1C <sub>2</sub>	1σ <sub>v</sub> (xz)	1σ <sub>v</sub> (yz)		$h = 4$
A <sub>1</sub>	+1	+1	+1	+1	z	x <sup>2</sup> , y <sup>2</sup> , z <sup>2</sup>
A <sub>2</sub>	+1	+1	-1	-1	R <sub>z</sub>	xy
B <sub>1</sub>	+1	-1	+1	-1	x, R <sub>y</sub>	xz
B <sub>2</sub>	+1	-1	-1	+1	y, R <sub>x</sub>	yz
Red. Rep. Γ	15	-1	3	3		

$$\text{No. of } A_1 \text{ motions} = \frac{1}{4} [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1] = 5$$

$$\text{No. of } A_2 \text{ motions} = \frac{1}{4} [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1)] = 2$$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

### Character table

$C_{2v}$	1E	1C <sub>2</sub>	1σ <sub>v</sub> (xz)	1σ <sub>v</sub> (yz)	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$
<i>Red. Rep. <math>\Gamma</math></i>	<b>15</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>		

$$\text{No. of } A_1 \text{ motions} = 1/4 [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1] = 5$$

$$\text{No. of } A_2 \text{ motions} = 1/4 [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1)] = 2$$

$$\text{No. of } B_1 \text{ motions} = 1/4 [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1)] = 4$$

$$\text{No. of } B_2 \text{ motions} = 1/4 [1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1] = 4$$



# Translations, rotations, vibrations

*Symmetry species* of all motions are:-

$5A_1 \oplus 2A_2 \oplus 4B_1 \oplus 4B_2$  - the *irreducible representation*

- 3 of these are *translations* of the whole molecule
- 3 are *rotations*
- Symmetry species of translations are given by vectors (*x, y, z*) in the character table.
- Symmetry species of rotations are given by *R<sub>x</sub>*, *R<sub>y</sub>* and *R<sub>z</sub>* in the character table.

# Translations, rotations, vibrations

*Symmetry species* of all motions are:-

*Translations* are:-

*Rotations* are:-

- so *vibrations* are:-

$$5A_1 + 2A_2 + 4B_1 + 4B_2$$

$A_1$

$+ B_1$

$+ B_2$

$A_2$

$+ B_1$

$+ B_2$

$$4A_1 + A_2 + 2B_1 + 2B_2$$

## Character table

$C_{2v}$

$1E$

$1C_2$

$1\sigma_v(xz)$

$1\sigma_v(yz)$

$h = 4$

$A_1$

+1

+1

+1

+1

$z$

$x^2, y^2, z^2$

$A_2$

+1

+1

-1

-1

$R_z$

$xy$

$B_1$

+1

-1

+1

-1

$x, R_y$

$xz$

$B_2$

+1

-1

-1

+1

$y, R_x$

$yz$

# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

*Symmetry species* of vibrations

are:-  $4A_1 + A_2 + 2B_1 + 2B_2$

What does each of these modes look like?

**Two rules**

- (i) there is 1 stretching vibration per bond
- (ii) must treat symmetry-related atoms together



# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

## Two rules

- (i) there is 1 stretching vibration per bond
- (ii) we must treat symmetry-related atoms together

We therefore have:-

**two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiCl}_2$  group

**two** of the  $\text{SiH}_2$  group

The remaining **five** modes must be deformations  
(angle bending vibrations)

# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

We therefore have:-

**two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiCl}_2$  group

We can stretch the two Si-Cl bonds

together *in phase*

**Why?**

or together *out of phase*

hint: 1) use the two Si-Cl bond stretching as basis

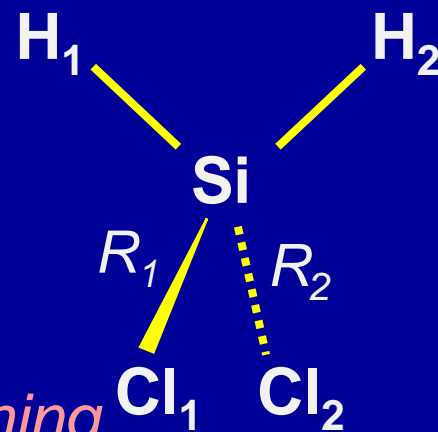
set:  $E \quad C_2 \quad \sigma_{xz} \quad \sigma_{yz}$

$$\Gamma_{2\text{SiH}} \quad 2 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 2 \rightarrow \Gamma_{2\text{SiH}} = A_1 + B_2$$

2) Use the projection operator to work on  $R_1$ :

$A_1$  stretching =  $(R_1 + R_2)/2$  *symmetric stretching*

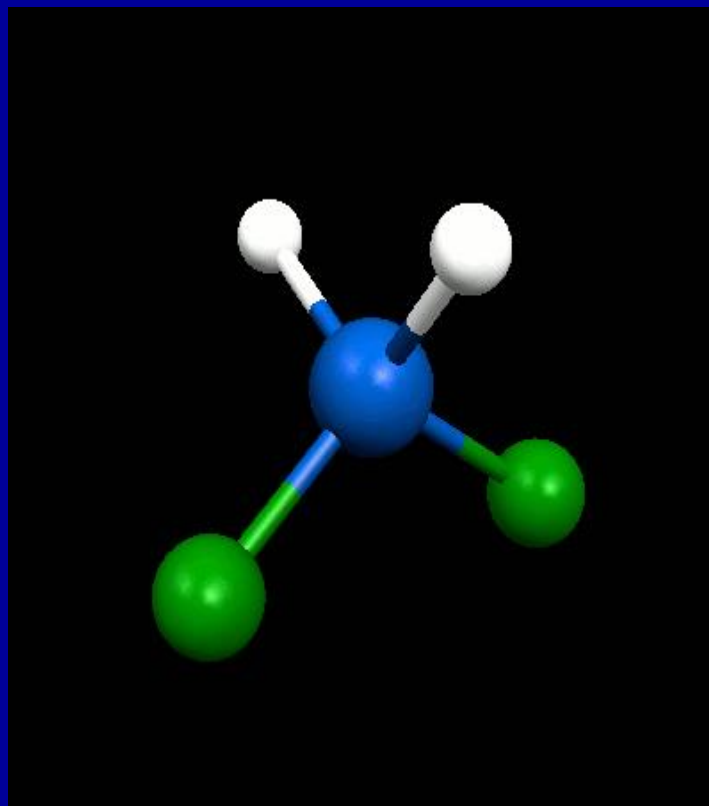
$B_2$  stretching =  $(R_1 - R_2)/2$  *anti-symmetric stretching*



Is vibration symmetrical with respect to each symmetry operation?

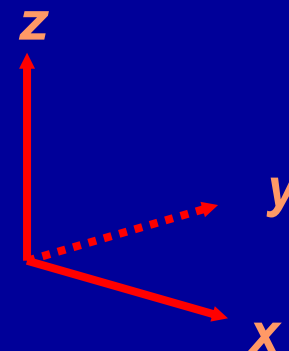
- if yes +1, if no -1

$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	+1	+1	+1



From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $A_1$

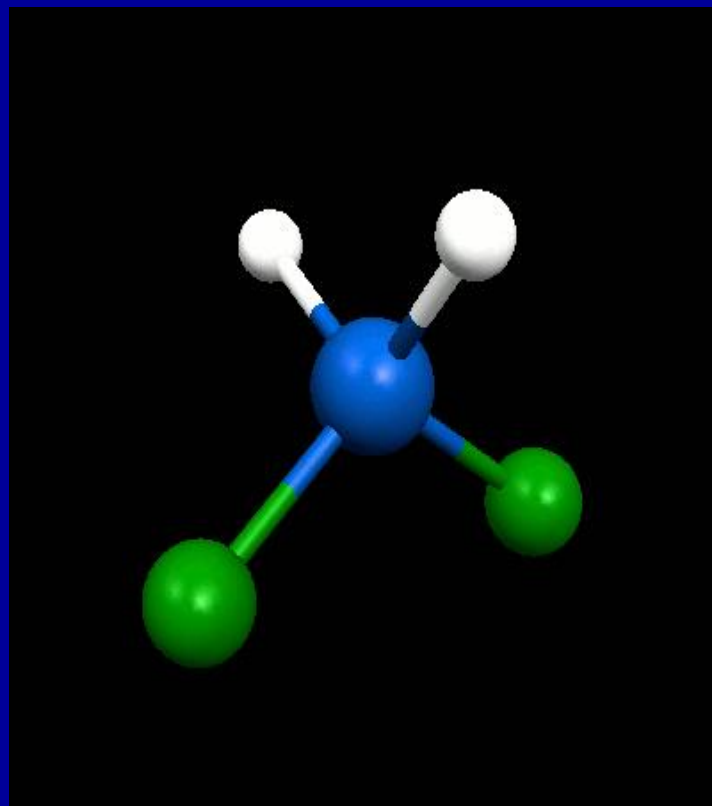
We call the **mode of vibration**  $\nu_{\text{sym}} \text{SiCl}_2$



Is vibration symmetrical  
with respect to each  
symmetry operation?

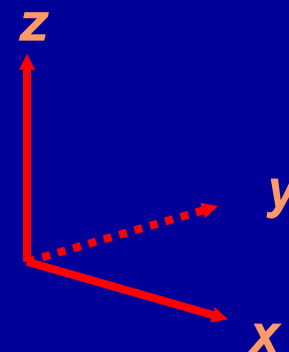
- if yes +1, if no -1

$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	-1	-1	+1



From the character table,  
this belongs to the  
**symmetry species  $B_2$**

We call the **mode of  
vibration  $\nu_{\text{asym}}$   $\text{SiCl}_2$**



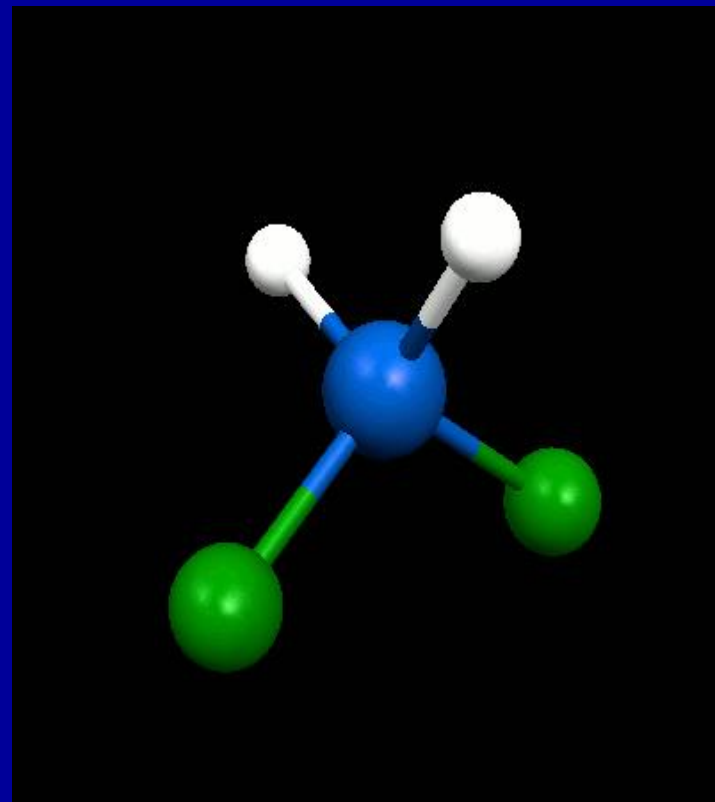
# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

We therefore have:-

**two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiCl}_2$  group  
and **two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiH}_2$  group

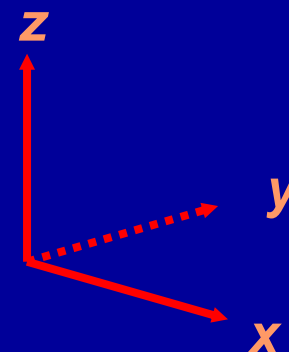
We can stretch the two Si-H bonds  
together *in phase*  
or together *out of phase*

$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	+1	+1	+1

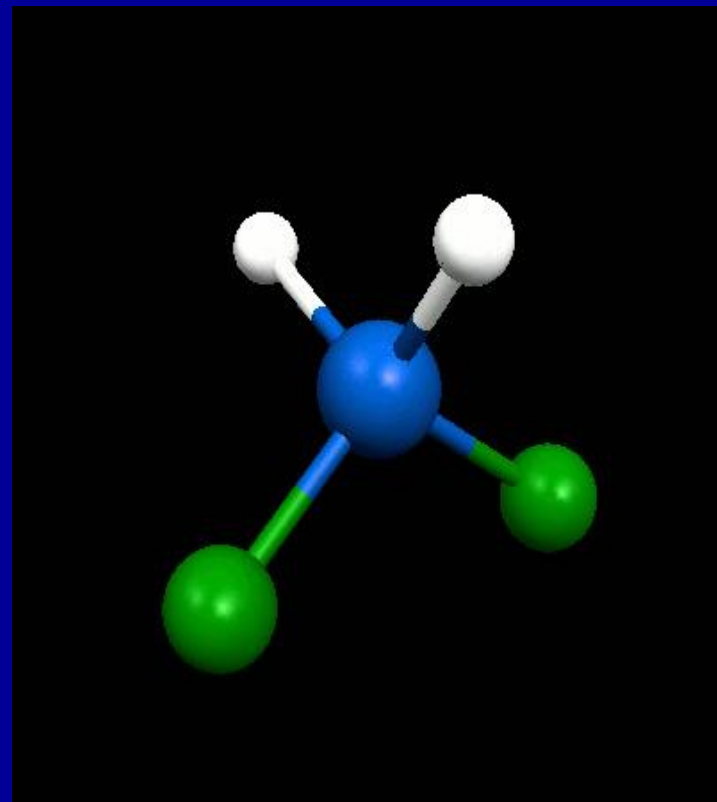


From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $A_1$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\nu_{\text{sym}} \text{SiH}_2$

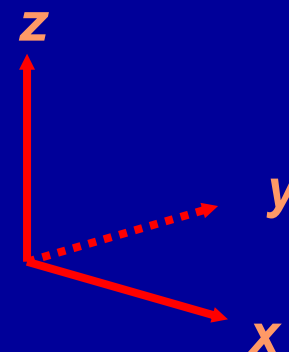


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	-1	+1	-1



From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $B_1$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\nu_{\text{asym}} \text{SiH}_2$



# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

We now have:-

**two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiCl}_2$  group

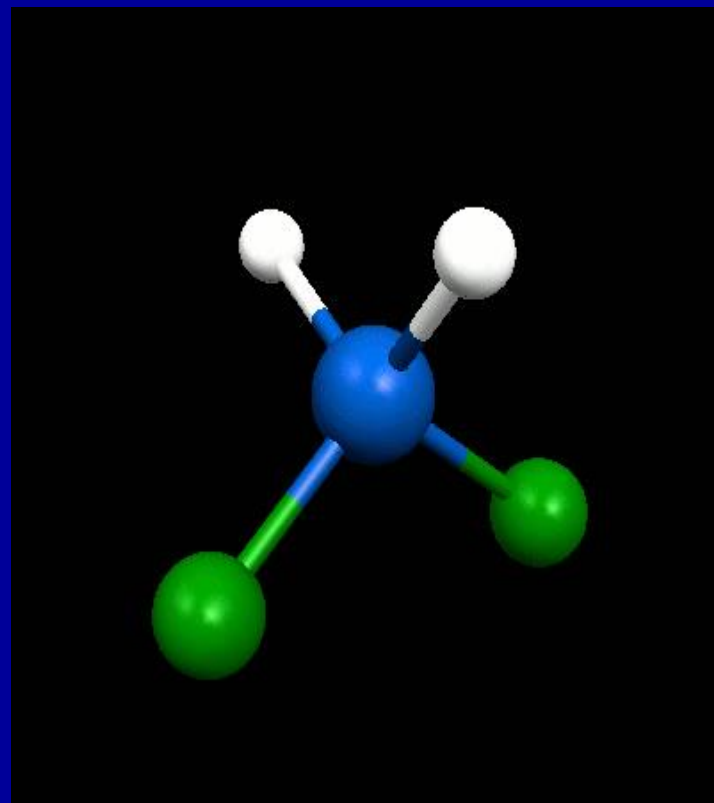
**two** of the  $\text{SiH}_2$  group

The remaining **five** modes must be deformations  
(angle bending vibrations)

As with stretches, we must treat symmetry-related atoms together

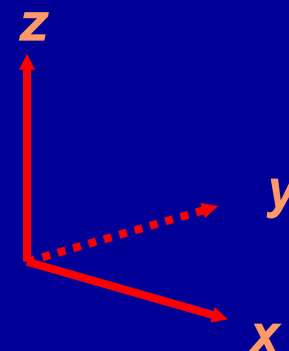


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	+1	+1	+1

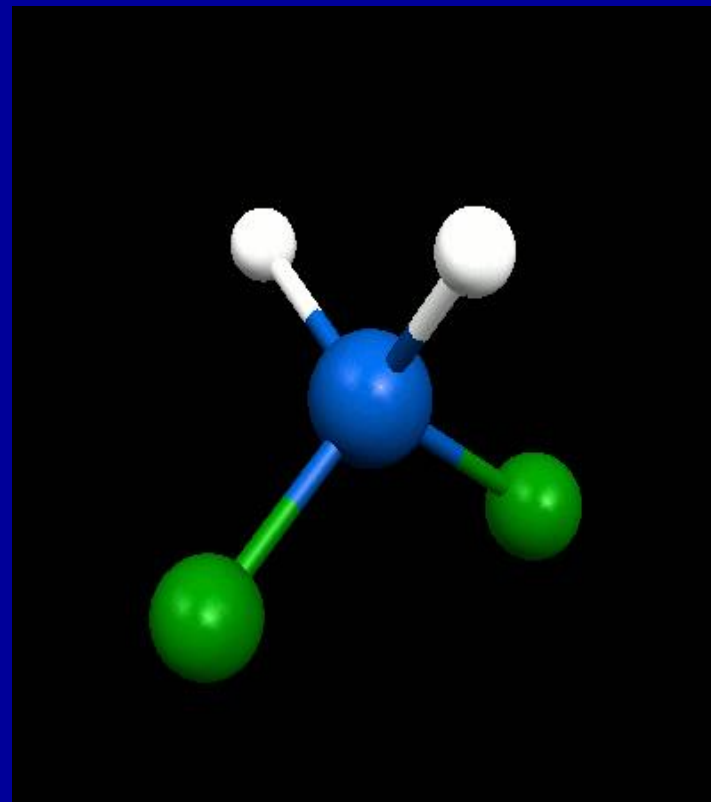


From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $A_1$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\delta_{\text{sym}}$   $\text{SiCl}_2$  (or  $\text{SiCl}_2$  scissors)

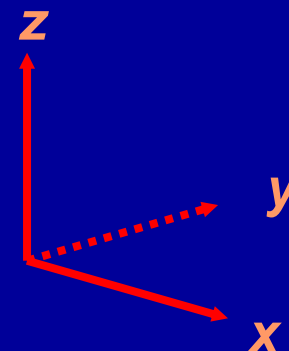


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	+1	+1	+1

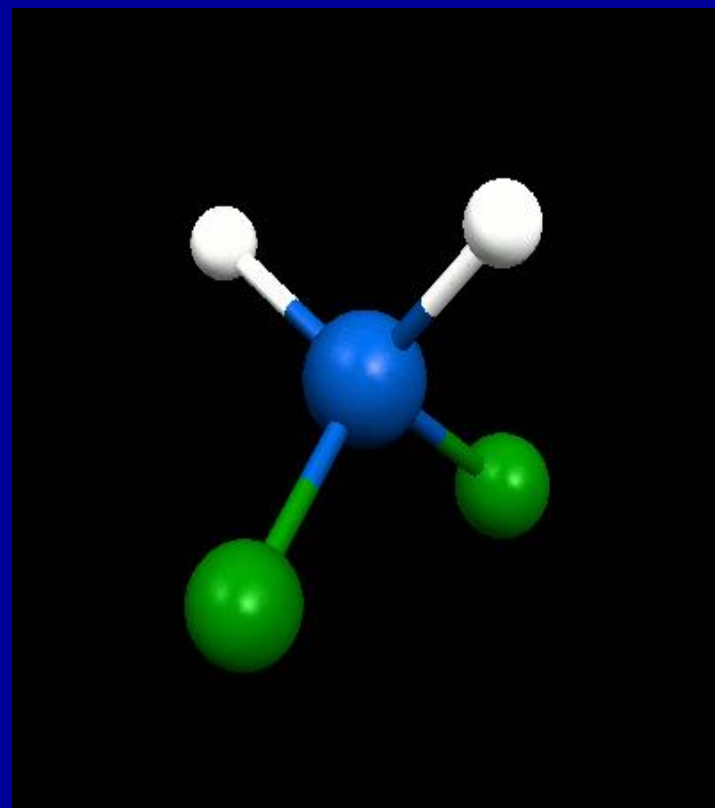


From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $A_1$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\delta_{\text{sym}} \text{SiH}_2$  (or  $\text{SiH}_2$  scissors)

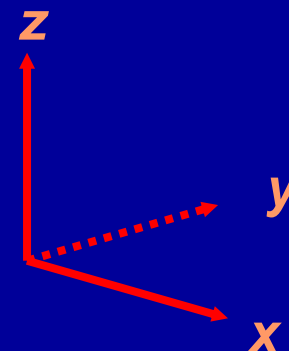


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	-1	+1	-1

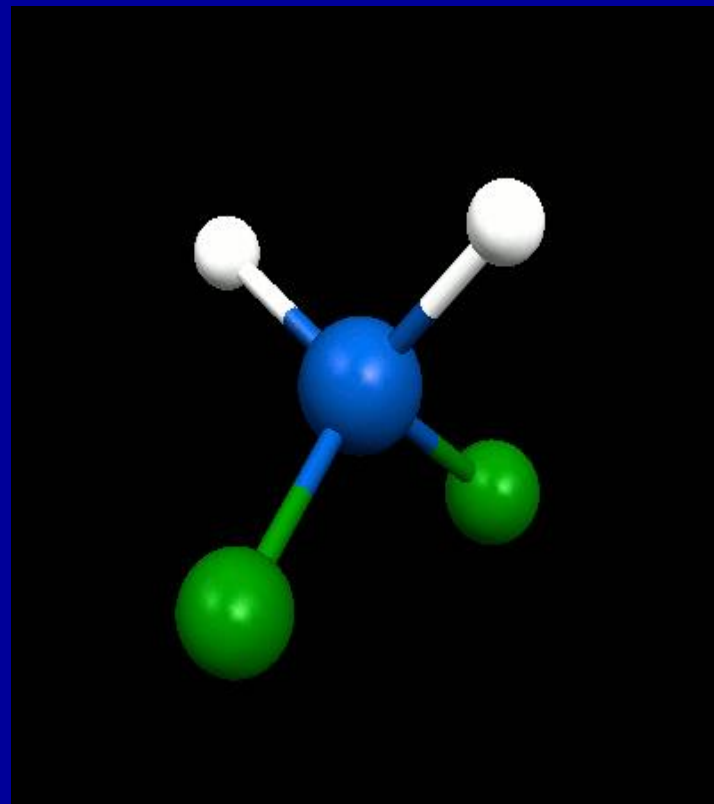


From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $B_1$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\omega$   $\text{SiH}_2$  (or  $\text{SiH}_2$  wag)

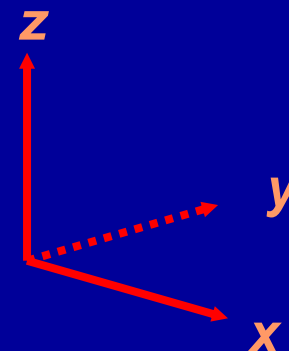


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	-1	-1	+1

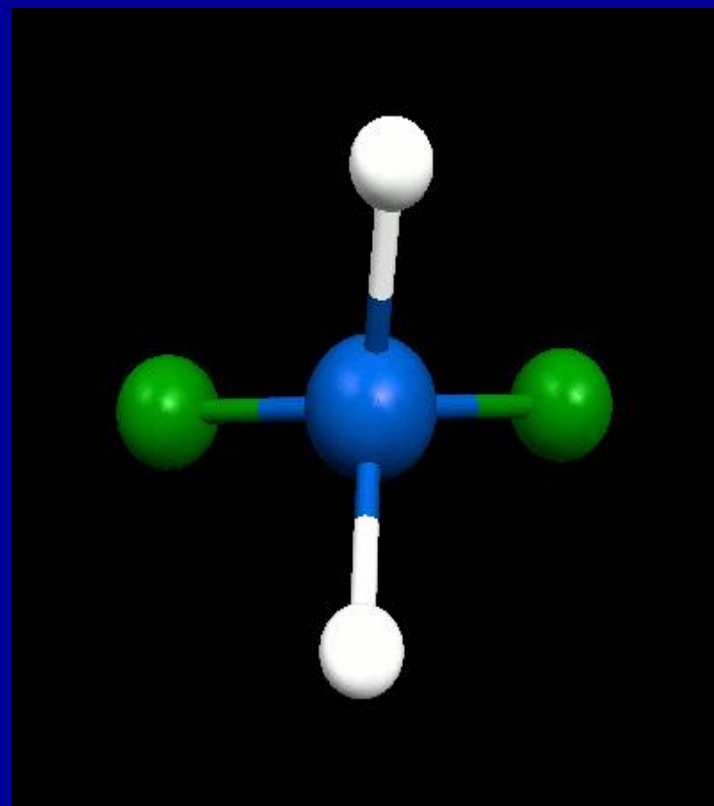


From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $B_2$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\rho$   $\text{SiH}_2$  (or  $\text{SiH}_2$  rock)

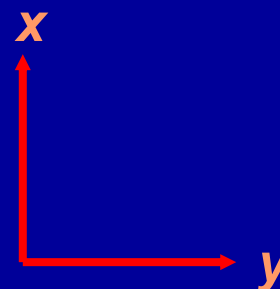


$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_{xz}$	$\sigma_{yz}$
+1	+1	-1	-1



From the character table, this belongs to the **symmetry species**  $A_2$

We call the **mode of vibration**  $\tau$   $\text{SiH}_2$  (or  $\text{SiH}_2$  twist)



# Vibrational modes of $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

Overall, we now have:-

**two** stretching modes of the  $\text{SiCl}_2$  group

$$A_1 + B_2$$

**two** of the  $\text{SiH}_2$  group

$$A_1 + B_1$$

**five** deformation modes

$$2A_1 + A_2 + B_1 + B_2$$

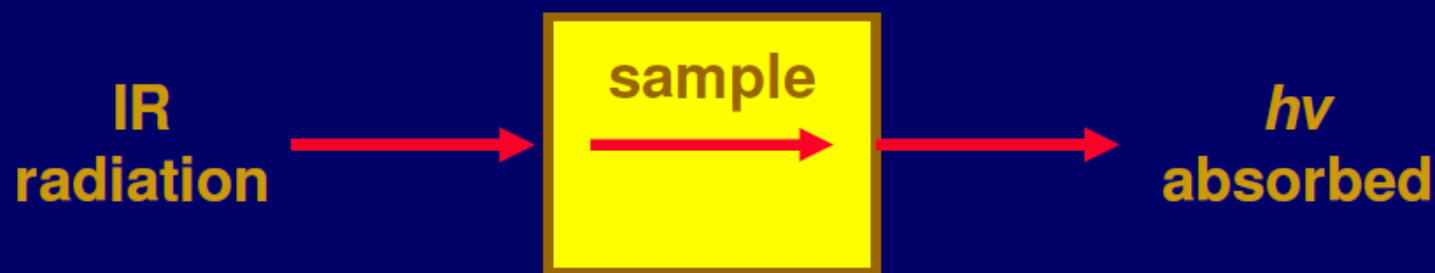
Together, these account for all the modes we expect:

$$4A_1 + A_2 + 2B_1 + 2B_2$$

# Observing vibrations

## Infra-red spectroscopy

Process – quantum of energy is absorbed by exciting a vibration  
– may also increase or decrease rotational energy



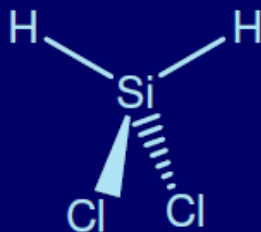
Activity – absorption possible if and only if the vibration involves a dipole change

# Observing vibrations

## Infra-red spectroscopy

Consider symmetry properties of dipoles  $\mu_x$ ,  $\mu_y$  and  $\mu_z$

e.g.  $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$



$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$

- Dipoles are vectors, with same symmetry properties as  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ . In this case,  $\mu_z$  has  $A_1$  symmetry.
- Those  $A_1$  vibrations involve dipole changes along the  $z$  axis and so all  $A_1$  modes must be **infra-red active**.

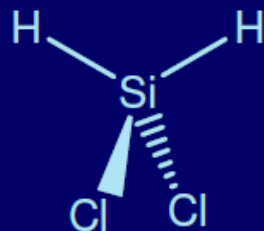


# Observing vibrations

## Infra-red spectroscopy

Consider symmetry properties of dipoles  $\mu_x$ ,  $\mu_y$  and  $\mu_z$

e.g.  $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$



$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$

- Similarly  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  modes involve dipole changes along  $x$  and  $y$  axes, and so must be *infra-red active*.
- $A_2$  modes cannot involve dipole changes, and are *infra-red inactive*.
- For any point group, no more than **3** IR-active symmetry species

# Observing vibrations

## Infra-red spectroscopy

### Example 1: $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

$$\Gamma_{\text{vib}} = 4A_1 + A_2 + 2B_1 + 2B_2$$

4                      + 2           + 2 active modes

8 absorption bands in IR spectrum

### Example 2: $\text{XeOF}_4$

$$\Gamma_{\text{vib}} = 3A_1 + 2B_1 + B_2 + 3E$$

3                                      + 3 active modes

6 absorption bands in IR spectrum

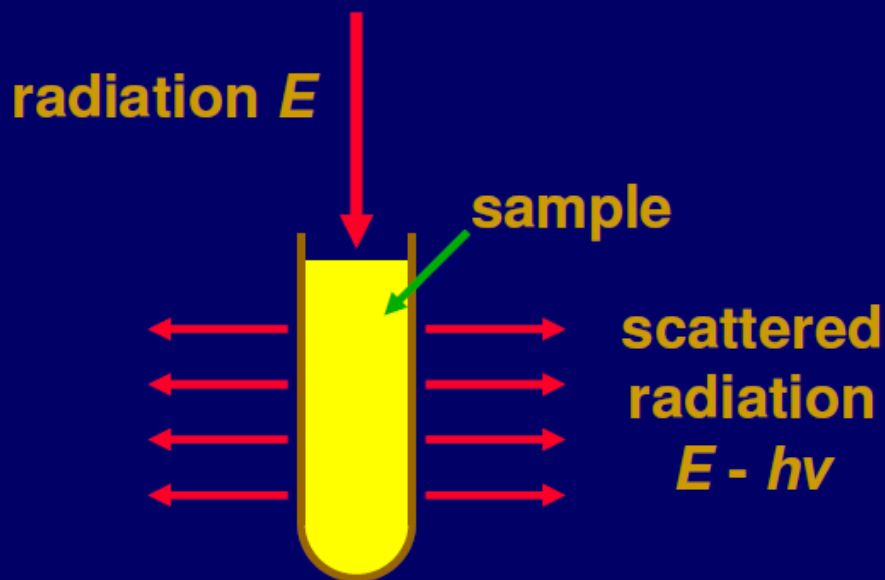
#### Character table

$C_{4v}$	E	$2C_4$	$C_2$	$2\sigma_v$	$2\sigma_v'$	$h = 8$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2 + y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	+1	-1		$x^2 - y^2$
$B_2$	+1	-1	+1	-1	+1		$xy$
E	+2	0	-2	0	0	$(x, y) (R_x, R_y)$	$(xz, yz)$

# Observing vibrations

## Raman spectroscopy

Process – large quantum of energy  $E$  is scattered with energy  $E - h\nu$



Sample usually liquid, occasionally solid or gas

Activity – vibrational mode active if and only if it involves a polarisability change

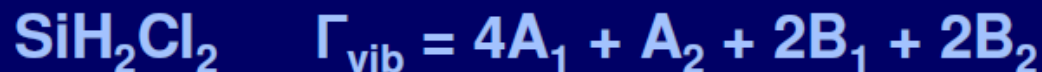
# Observing vibrations

## Raman spectroscopy

Dipoles are vectors -  $\mu_x$  etc. – symmetry properties as  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$

Polarisabilities are tensors –  $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{xy}$  etc. – properties as  $xx$ ,  $xy$

- listed in final column of character table



$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$	
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$	$x^2, y^2, z^2$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$	$xy$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$	$xz$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$	$yz$

## 2. Molecular orbitals (wavefunctions) as the bases of irreducible representations of molecular point group.

### Symmetry of wavefunctions of a molecule

Symmetry Operation  $R$  on Schrödinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}\psi_i = E_i\psi_i \xrightarrow{R} R\hat{H}\psi_i = RE_i\psi_i$$



$$\hat{H}R\psi_i = E_iR\psi_i \longleftarrow R\hat{H}R^{-1}R\psi_i = E_iR\psi_i$$



$R\psi_i$  is also an eigenfunction of  $\hat{H}$ , with the same eigenvalue  $E_i$  as  $\psi_i$  corresponds to.

# Symmetry of wavefunctions

- If eigenvalue  $E_i$  is not degenerate, as  $\psi_i$  is normalized, it requires

$$R \psi_i = c \psi_i = \pm 1 \psi_i$$

in order that  $R\psi_i$  is also normalized.

- Hence, by applying each of the operations of the group to an eigenfunction  $\psi_i$  with a nondegenerate eigenvalue, we generate a 1-D representation of the group with each matrix,  $\Gamma_i(R)$ , equal to  $\pm 1$ .
- That is, each of the nondegenerate eigenfunctions is a basis of a 1-D I.R. of the very group!

# Symmetry of wavefunctions

If the eigenvalue  $E_i$  is  $k$ -fold degenerate with the eigenfunctions  $\{\psi_{i1}, \psi_{i2}, \dots, \psi_{ik}\}$ ,

$$\hat{H}\psi_{im} = E_i\psi_{im} \xrightarrow{R} \hat{H}R\psi_{im} = E_iR\psi_{im}$$

where  $R\psi_{im}$  may be a linear combination of  $\psi_{ij}$  ( $j=1,2,\dots,k$ ).

$$R\psi_{im} = \sum_{j=1}^k r_{jm}\psi_{ij} \xrightarrow{\quad} R \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{i1} \\ \psi_{i2} \\ \dots \\ \psi_{ik} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \dots & r_{1k} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & \dots & r_{2k} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ r_{k1} & r_{k2} & \dots & r_{kk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{i1} \\ \psi_{i2} \\ \dots \\ \psi_{ik} \end{bmatrix}$$

That is, the set of eigenfunctions  $\{\psi_{i1}, \psi_{i2}, \dots, \psi_{ik}\}$  is a basis for this  $k$ -dimensional irreducible representation!

# Symmetry of wavefunctions

In LCAO approach of MO theory, each of the MOs can be express as

$$\psi = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \phi_i \quad (\text{AOs: } \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n)$$

So we need to solve the secular equation

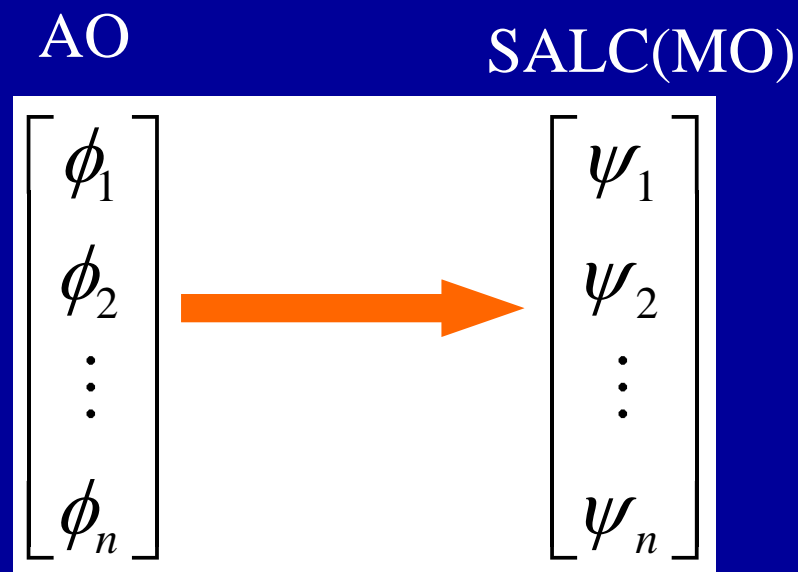
$$\sum_{i=1}^n c_i (H_{ri} - ES_{ri}) = 0 \quad (r = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} H_{11} - ES_{11} & H_{12} - ES_{12} & \cdots & H_{1n} - ES_{1n} \\ H_{21} - ES_{21} & H_{22} - ES_{22} & \cdots & H_{2n} - ES_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{n1} - ES_{n1} & H_{n2} - ES_{n2} & \cdots & H_{nn} - ES_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

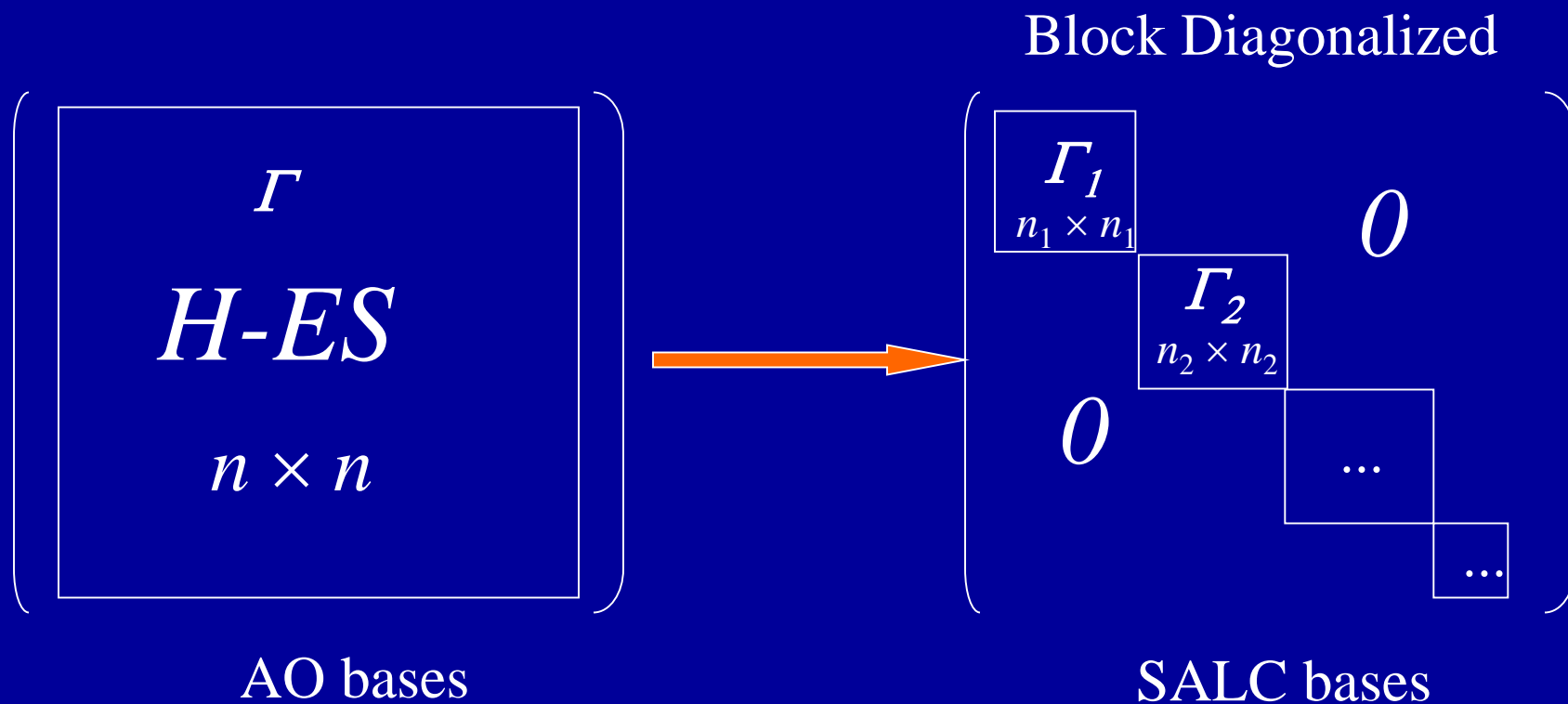


# Symmetry of wavefunctions

We can transform the original bases of AO's into Linear Combinations of AO's which have the same properties of some I.R.s (**Symmetry Adapted Linear Combination**), therefore the **Secular Equation** is **block-diagonalized**.



# Symmetry of wavefunctions



$$\Gamma = n_1 \Gamma_1 \oplus n_2 \Gamma_2 \oplus \dots$$

# Symmetry of wavefunctions

**Step 1** Obtain the REP spanned by a set of AO basis  
(normally called **basis set!**)

**Step 2** Reduce the REP spanned by the AO basis.  
Obtain the  $n_i$ 's for each **I.R.**

**Step 3** Construct  $n_i$  SALCs for each **I.R.**.

**Step 4** Transform the hamiltonian matrix into block  
diagonalized form, and solve it.

Symmetry greatly facilitates the computations!

# Use Projection operator to construct SALCs

- Projection operator:

$$\hat{P}^j = \frac{l_j}{h} \sum_R \chi_j(R) \hat{R}$$

*j*-th I.R. of the group

derived from the “*great orthogonality theorem*”.

- A non-normalized **SALC** can be constructed from AO-basis set by using the formula:

$$\Psi_{SALC}^j = \hat{P}^j \phi_i = \frac{l_j}{h} \sum_R \chi_j(R) \hat{R} \phi_i$$

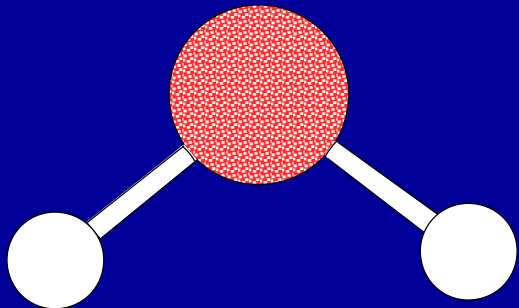
An AO from the set of AO bases.

# Example 1: $\text{H}_2\text{O}$

LCAO with the following atomic orbitals

O:  $2s; 2p_x, 2p_y, 2p_z$

2H:  $1s_a, 1s_b$

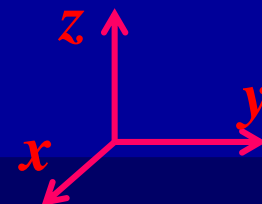


*Symmetry:*  $C_{2v}$

First classify these AOs according to symmetry!

- Neglecting the O 1s orbital/electrons.

# H<sub>2</sub>O



e.g.  $p_z$  orbital on O  
atom of H<sub>2</sub>O

Unchanged by all  
operations



$C_{2v}$	$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	
	+1	+1	+1	+1	$A_1$

$p_y$  orbital



+1	-1	-1	+1	$B_2$
----	----	----	----	-------

## Character Table

$C_{2v}$	$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_v$	$\sigma_v'$	
$A_1$	1	1	1	1	$z$
$A_2$	1	1	-1	-1	$xy$
$B_1$	1	-1	1	-1	$x, xz$
$B_2$	1	-1	-1	1	$y, yz$

## Symmetry of AOs from Oxygen

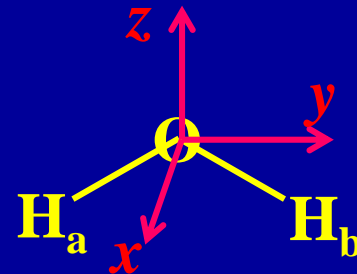
$A_1$  :  $2s, 2p_z$

$B_1$  :  $2p_x$

$B_2$  :  $2p_y$

2H:  $1s_a, 1s_b$

Symmetry Reduction of 2-D Basis Set  $\{1s_a, 1s_b\}$



$C_{2v}$	$E$	$C_2$	$\sigma_v$	$\sigma_v'$	
$A_1$	1	1	1	1	$z$
$A_2$	1	1	-1	-1	$xy$
$B_1$	1	-1	1	-1	$x, xz$
$B_2$	1	-1	-1	1	$y, yz$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_R g_R \cdot \chi(R) \cdot \chi_i(R)$$

$$\Gamma \quad \quad \quad 2 \quad \quad 0 \quad \quad 0 \quad \quad 2$$

$$n_{A_1} = (1 \times 2 + 1 \times 0 + 1 \times 0 + 1 \times 2) / 4 = 1$$

$$n_{B_1} = 0 \text{ \& } n_{A_2} = 0$$

$$n_{B_2} = (1 \times 2 - 1 \times 0 - 1 \times 0 + 1 \times 2) / 4 = 1$$

$$\therefore \Gamma = A_1 \oplus B_2$$

→ Two 1-D I.R.s

# SALC - Symmetry Adapted Linear Combination of AOs

For this trivial problem, it is very simple. We intuitively determined the new basis as

$$A_1: \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1s_A + 1s_B) \quad + \quad +$$

$$B_2: \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1s_A - 1s_B) \quad - \quad +$$

For more complicated problem, the projection operator can be used to construct SALC of AOs. Plz confirm the above two SALCs by using the projection operator.



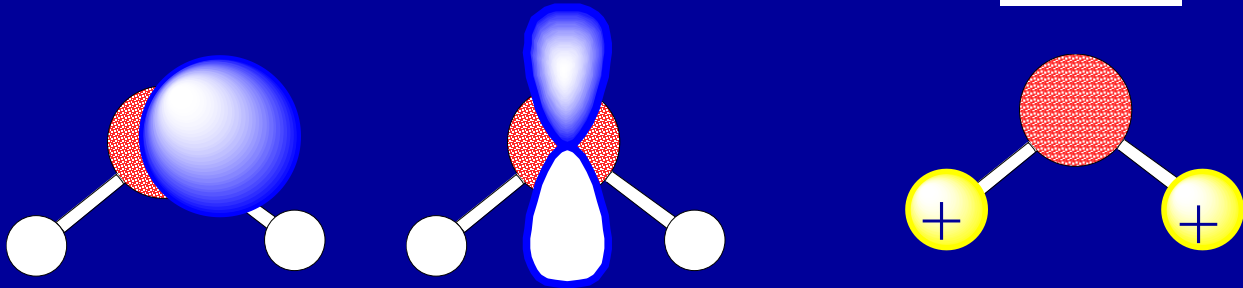
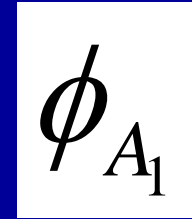


## $A_1$ symmetry AOs or SALCs for LCAO

$A_1:$

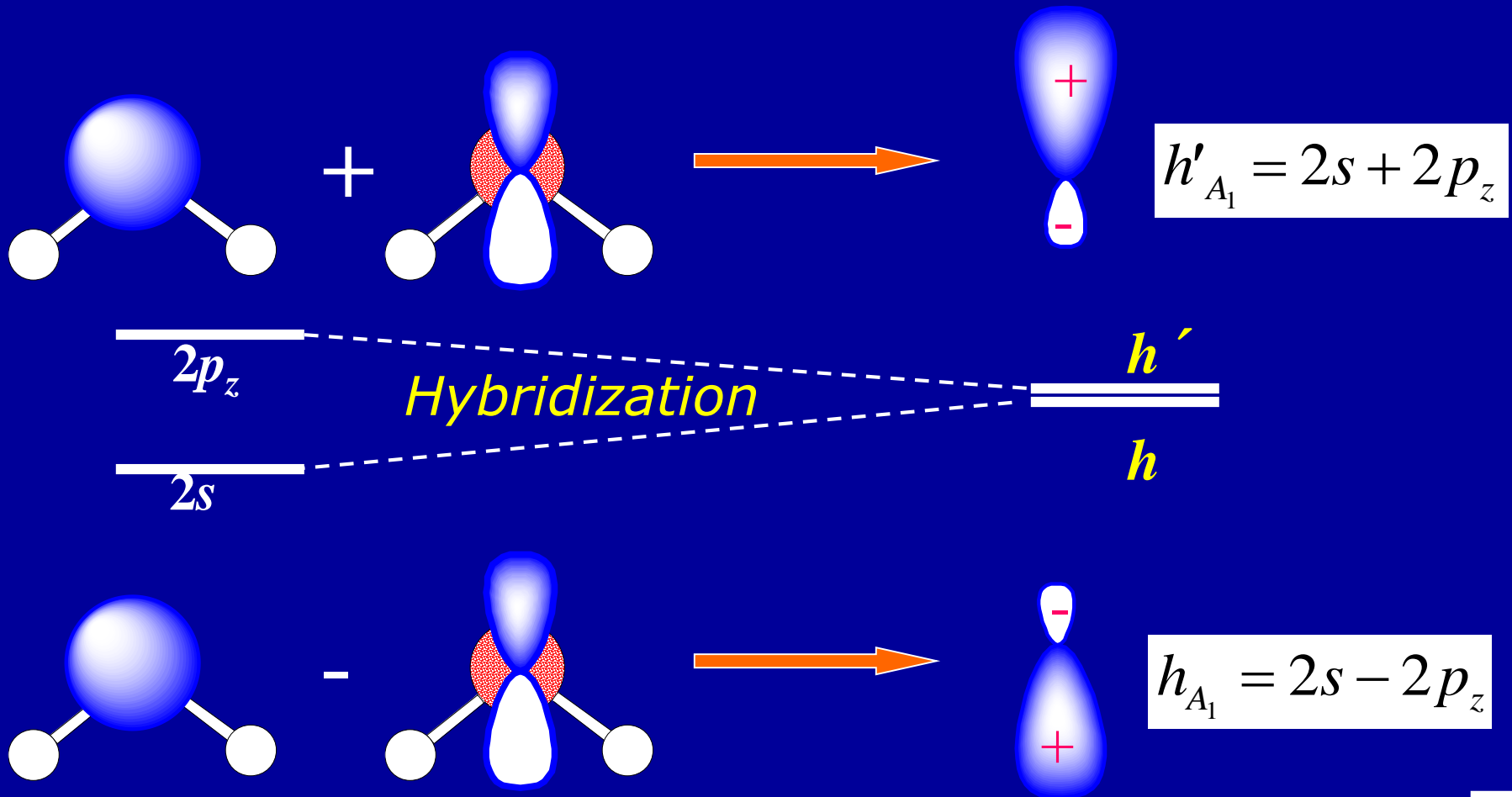
O2s,

O2p<sub>z</sub>

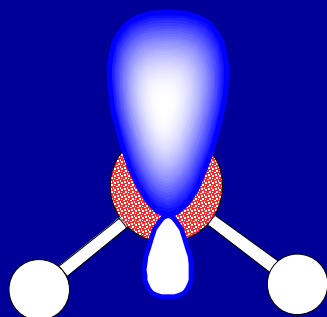


- Both AOs of the O atom can interact with the SALC of H 1s AOs.
- Hybridization of the two AOs of O atom is needed!

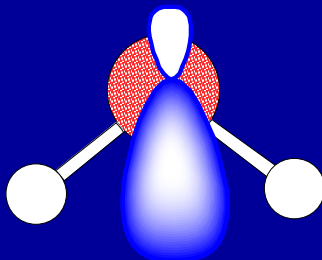
# H<sub>2</sub>O- Hybridization of Oxygen's 2s and 2p<sub>z</sub>



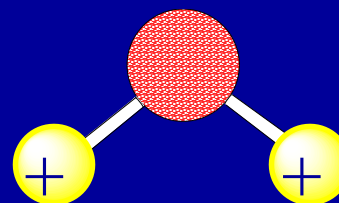
# H<sub>2</sub>O- Hybridization of Oxygen's 2s and 2p<sub>z</sub>



$h'$



$h$



$\phi_{A_1}$

$$\int h'^* \phi_{A_1} d\tau$$

**Small**, not effective bonding

$$\int h^* \phi_{A_1} d\tau$$

**Large**, effective bonding

# H<sub>2</sub>O- Chemical Bonding in A<sub>1</sub> REP

$$0 < \lambda_i < 1$$

$$h'_{A_1} = 2s + 2p_z$$

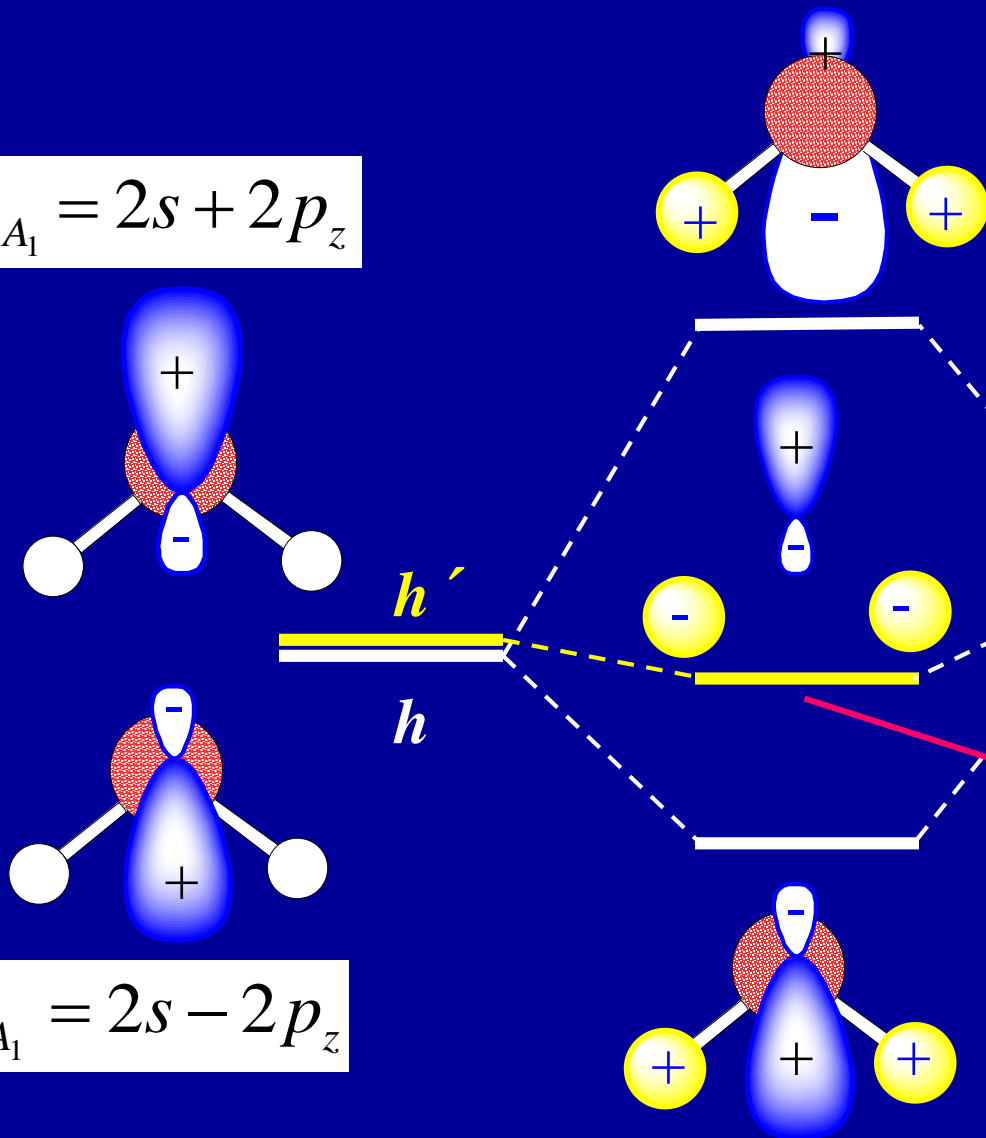
$$\lambda_3 h_{A_1} - \phi_{A_1} \quad \text{Anti-bonding!}$$

$$\phi_{A_1} = 1s_a + 1s_b$$

$$h'_{A_1} - \lambda_2 \phi_{A_1} \quad \text{Weakly bonding/ almost nonbonding}$$

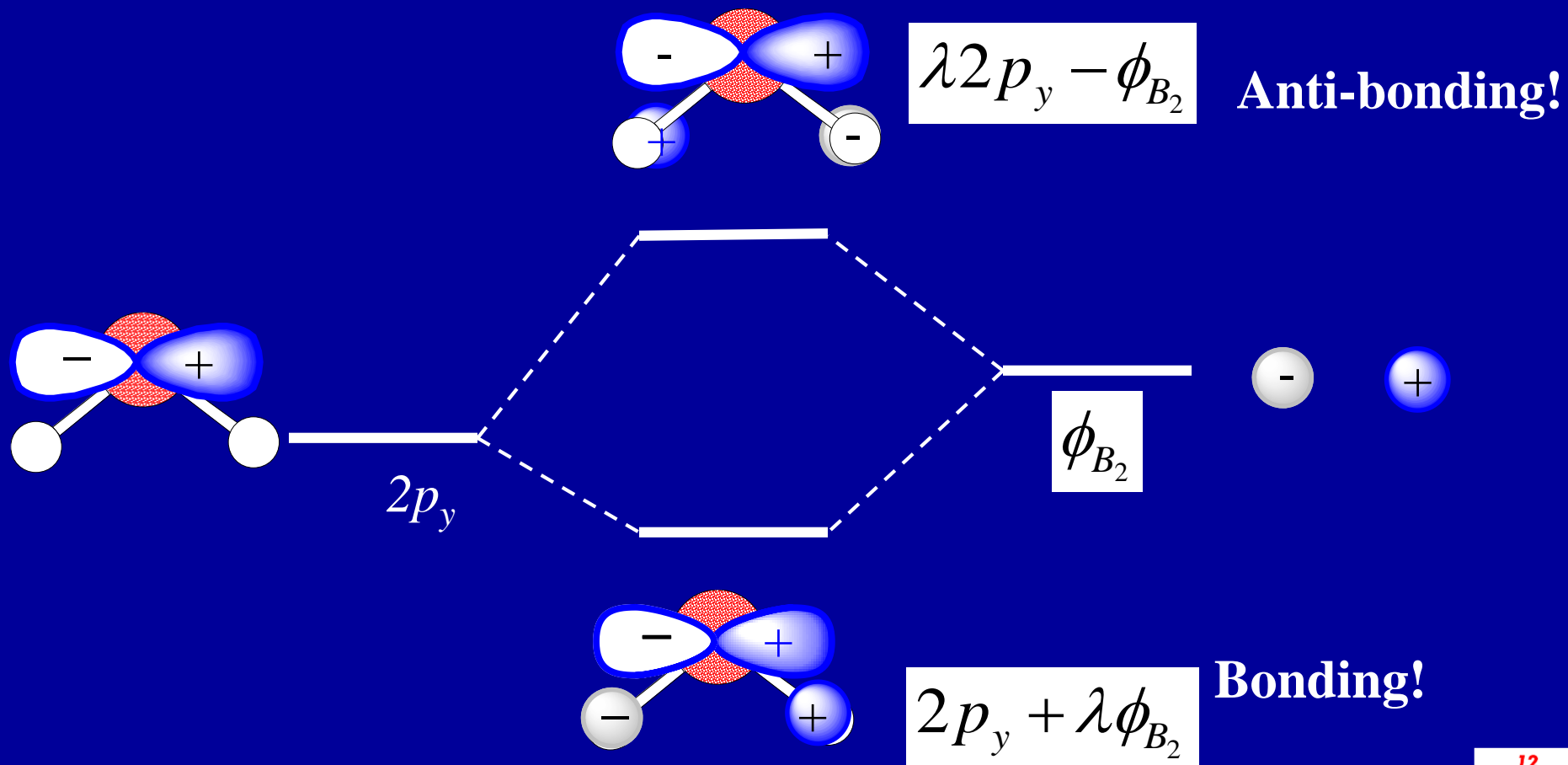
$$h_{A_1} + \lambda_1 \phi_{A_1} \quad \text{Strongly Bonding!}$$

$$h_{A_1} = 2s - 2p_z$$

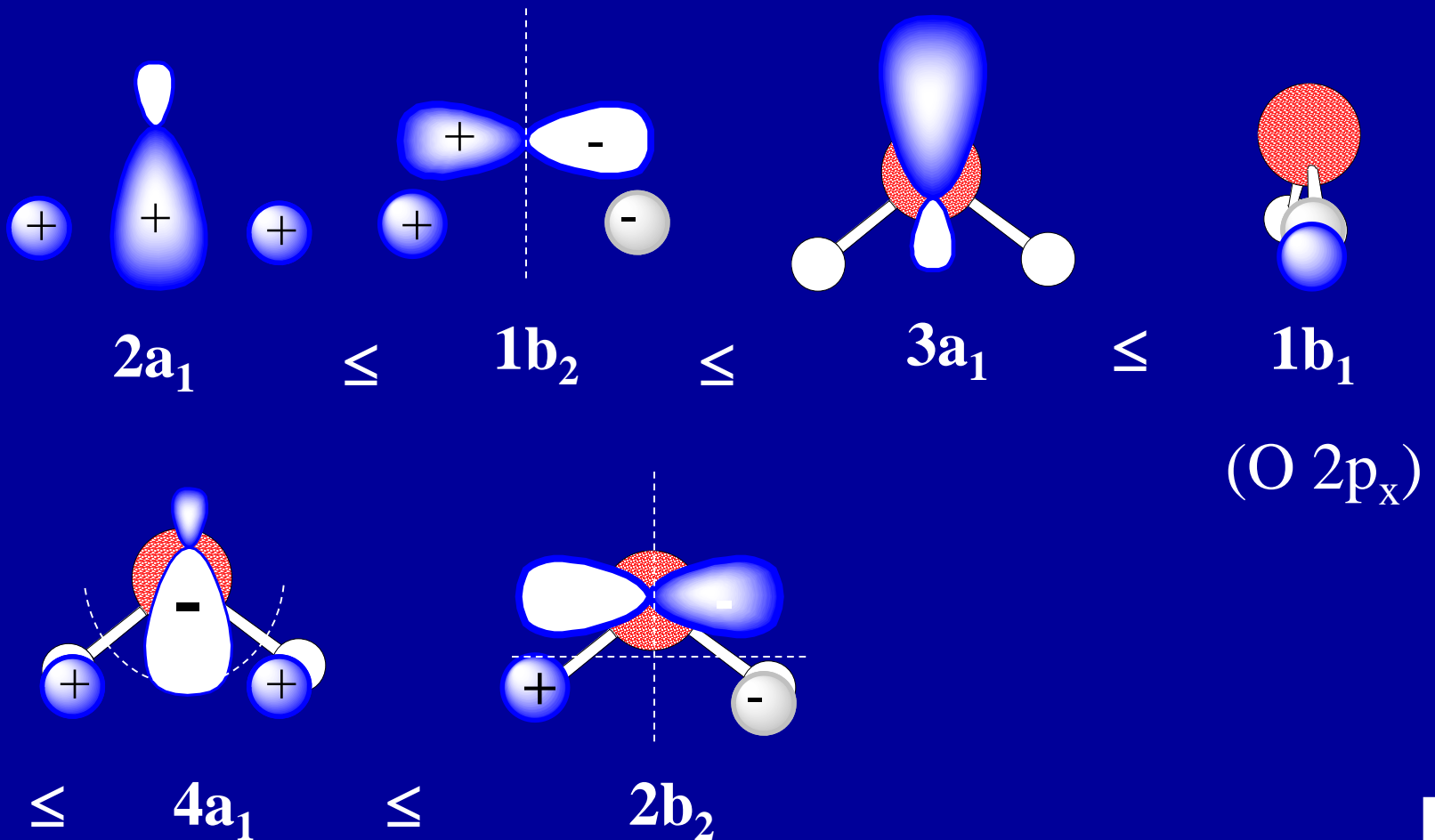


# H<sub>2</sub>O- Chemical Bonding in B<sub>2</sub> REP

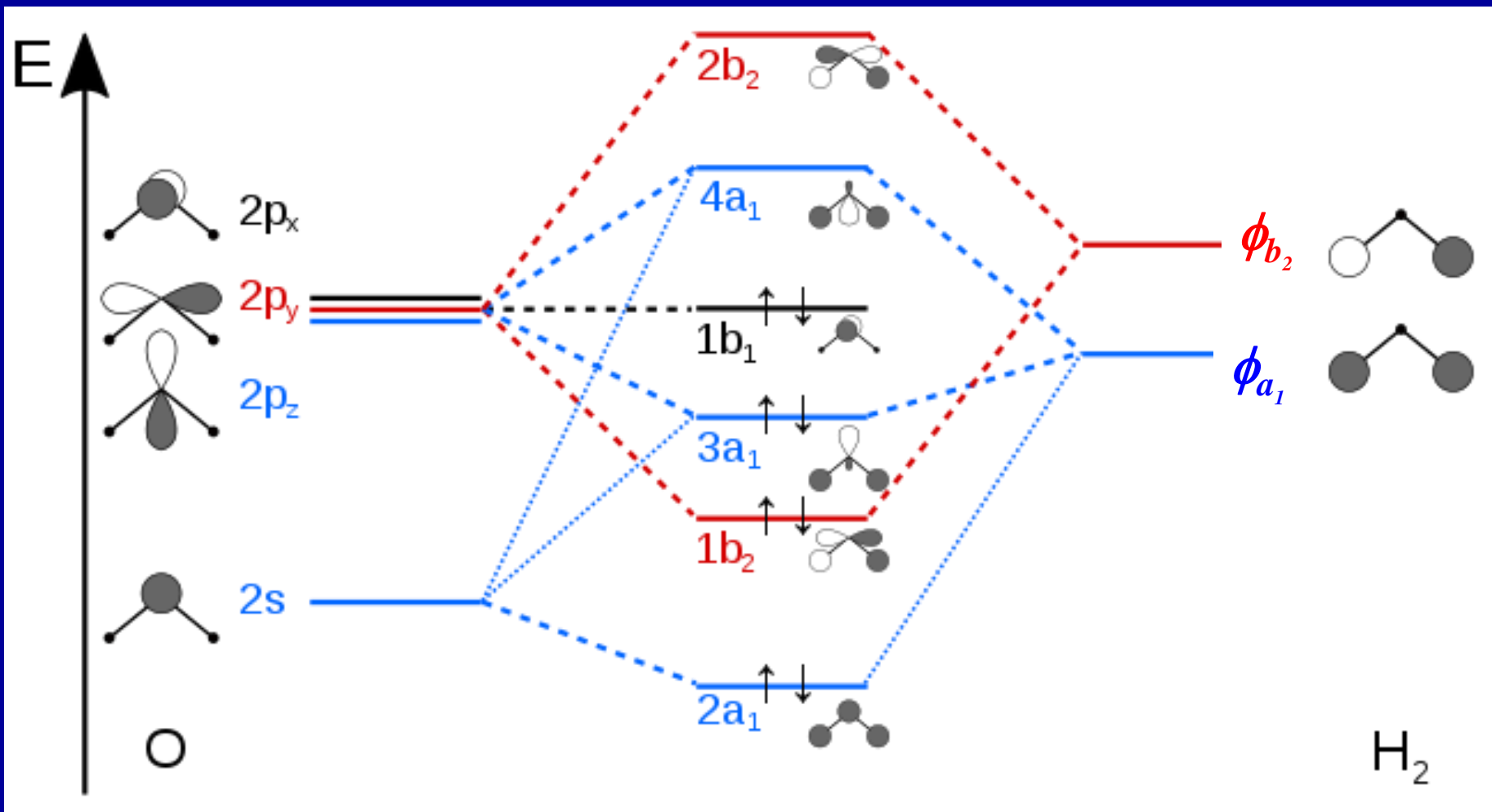
$$0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$$



# H<sub>2</sub>O- Summary on Molecular Energy Level Sequences



# H<sub>2</sub>O- Summary on Chemical Bonding

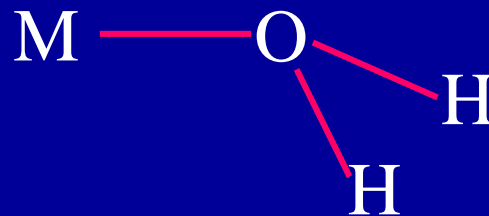
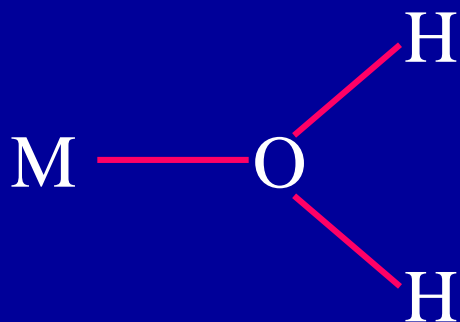


The lowest energy transitions are broad at **7.61** and **9.36 eV** for the **4a<sub>1</sub>←1b<sub>1</sub>** and **4a<sub>1</sub>←3a<sub>1</sub>** transitions respectively for the gas phase and at **8.09** and **9.74 eV** in the liquid.

*J. Chem. Phys.*, **130** (2009) 084501 & 125(2006) 184501.

# Questions

- For  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , which two MOs of its MO model can be regarded as equivalence of the two lone pairs of its VB model?
- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  can form hydrated cations with metal cations in aqueous solution. However, it is seldom to find the  $\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  bonding in the coplanar manner. Why?





## Example 2: $\pi$ -MOs of $C_3H_3$ ( $D_{3h}$ )

$$\Psi = \sum_i c_i \phi_i$$

( $\phi = p_\pi = p_z$ )

$D_{3h}$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C_2$	$\sigma_h$	$2S_3$	$3\sigma_v$
$A'_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1
$A'_2$	1	1	-1	1	1	-1
$E'$	2	-1	0	2	-1	0
$A''_1$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$A''_2$	1	1	-1	-1	-1	1
$E''$	2	-1	0	-2	1	0
$\Gamma$	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Basis set

$\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\}$

Step 1: get the REP.

Reducible!

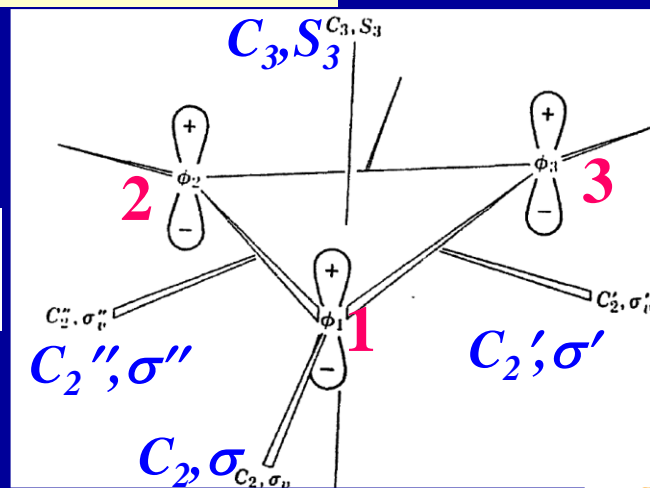
- Step 2: By applying to **all** I.R.s, we have

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

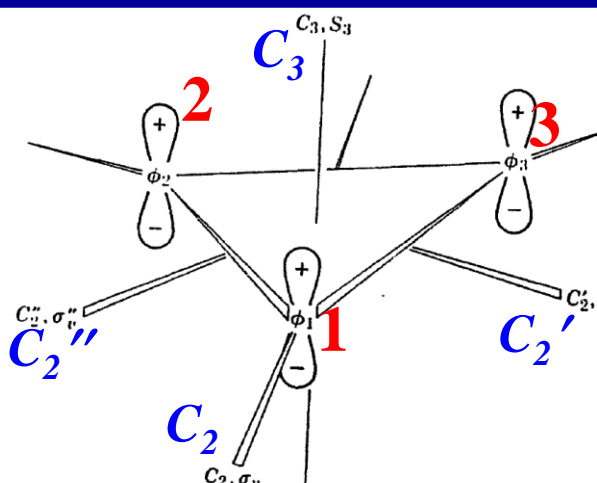
$$\Gamma = A_2'' \oplus E''$$

- Step 3: use projection operator to obtain SALCs. (a bit tedious!)

$$\hat{P}^{\Gamma_i} \phi_1 = \frac{l_i}{h} \sum_R \chi_i(\hat{R}) \hat{R} \phi_1$$



To save time, use subgroup  $D_3$



sym. op.  $\rightarrow$  count **1, -1, 0** if an AO transforms to itself, minus itself or moves.

$D_3$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C'_2$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0
$\Gamma_\pi$	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1</b>

Basis set  $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\}$

Now reduce  $\Gamma_\pi$  by using the formula,

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

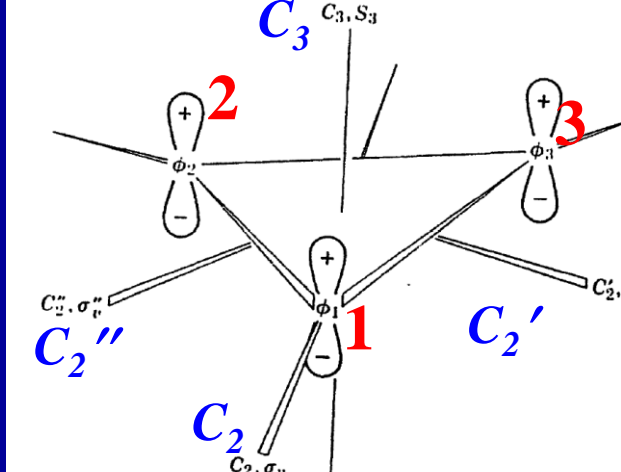
$$a_{A_1} = \frac{1}{6} \{3 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (0 \cdot 1) + 3 \cdot (-1) \cdot 1\} = 0$$

$$a_{A_2} = \frac{1}{6} \{3 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (0 \cdot 1) + 3 \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1)\} = 1$$

$$a_E = \frac{1}{6} \{3 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 0 \cdot (-1) + 3 \cdot (-1) \cdot 0\} = 1$$



$$\Gamma_\pi = A_2 \oplus E$$



	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C_2'$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0
$\Gamma_\pi$	3	0	-1

Basis set

$\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\}$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

$$\Gamma_\pi = A_2 \oplus E$$

- Now use the projection operator to derive the SALCs (MOs).

$$\hat{P}^{\Gamma_i} \phi_1 = \frac{l_i}{h} \sum_R \chi_i(\hat{R}) \hat{R} \phi_1$$

$$\hat{P}^{A_2} \phi_1 = \frac{l_{A_2}}{h} \sum_R \chi_{A_2}(\hat{R}) \hat{R} \phi_1 = \frac{1}{6} (E\phi_1 + C_3^1\phi_1 + C_3^2\phi_1 - C_2\phi_1 - C_2'\phi_1 - C_2''\phi_1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} (\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 + \phi_1 + \phi_3 + \phi_2)$$

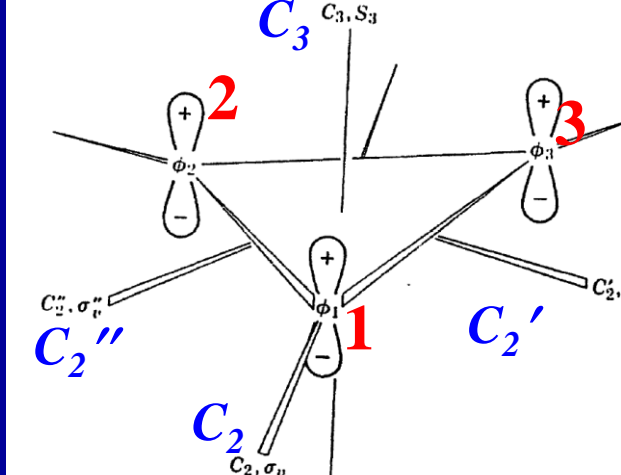
$$= \frac{1}{3} (\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3) \quad (\text{not normalized yet!})$$

suppose  $\int \phi_i \phi_j d\tau \approx \delta_{ij}$

Hückel approx.

Normalization

$$\Psi^{A_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3)$$



	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C_2'$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0
$\Gamma_\pi$	3	0	-1

Basis set

$\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\}$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_c g_c \cdot \chi(c) \cdot \chi_i(c)$$

$$\Gamma_\pi = A_2 \oplus E$$

For one of the E-type MOs, we have

$$\hat{P}^E \phi_1 = \frac{l_E}{h} \sum_R \chi_E(\hat{R}) \hat{R} \phi_1 = \frac{2}{6} (2E\phi_1 - C_3^1\phi_1 - C_3^2\phi_1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} (2\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

$$\Psi_1^E = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (2\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

Normalization

- Using orthogonality and normalization, we have

$$\Psi_2^E = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

Yet not simple!

## Another way to derive the third MO:

**Step 1.** Find an operation to convert the second wavefunction into a nonequivalent one (not +/- of the original one). A  $C_3$  operation works well. Then we have

$$C_3^1 \Psi_1^E = (2\phi_2 - \phi_3 - \phi_1)$$

**Step 2.** A linear combination of this new one and the original one gives rise to

$$C_3^1 \Psi_1^E + A \bullet \Psi_1^E = (2\phi_2 - \phi_3 - \phi_1) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(2\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2}(\phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

  
normalization

$$\Psi_2^E = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

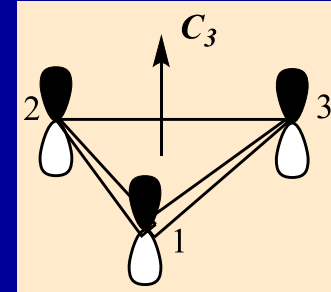
For high-symmetry molecules that have degenerate MOs pertaining to 2- or 3-D I.R.s, it is more convenient to make use of cyclic group REP!

# A general simplification

- Further reducing the symmetry to  $C_3$  subgroup, a cyclic group.  
(\* I.R.s of a cyclic group can sometimes have complex characters.)

$C_3$	$E$	$C_3$	$C_3^2$
$A$	1	1	1
$E$	$\begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{Bmatrix}$	$\begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon^* \end{Bmatrix}$	$\begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon^* \\ \epsilon \end{Bmatrix}$

$$\epsilon = e^{2\pi i/3}$$



$$\Gamma_\pi$$

$$3$$

$$0$$

$$0$$

$$\Gamma_\pi = A \oplus E$$

$$\hat{P}^{\Gamma_i} \phi_1 = \frac{l_i}{h} \sum_R \chi_i(\hat{R}) \hat{R} \phi_1$$

$$\hat{P}^A \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^A \hat{R} \phi_1 = E \phi_1 + C_3^1 \phi_1 + C_3^2 \phi_1 = \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3$$

$$\hat{P}^{E(1)} \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^{E(1)} \hat{R} \phi_1 = \phi_1 + \epsilon C_3^1 \phi_1 + \epsilon^* C_3^2 \phi_1 = \phi_1 + \epsilon \phi_2 + \epsilon^* \phi_3$$

$$\hat{P}^{E(2)} \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^{E(2)} \hat{R} \phi_1 = \phi_1 + \epsilon^* \phi_2 + \epsilon \phi_3$$

$$\Psi_1^A = A\hat{P}^A\phi_1$$

$$= A(\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3)$$

**A for normalization!**

*(Note that the Hückel approximation is used in the normalization of these MOs!)*

$$\text{define } \int \phi_i \phi_j d\tau \approx \delta_{ij}$$

$$\Psi_1^E = A(\hat{P}^{E(1)}\phi_1 + \hat{P}^{E(2)}\phi_1)$$

$$= A(2\phi_1 + 2\cos(\frac{2\pi}{3})\phi_2 + 2\cos(\frac{2\pi}{3})\phi_3) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(2\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

$$\Psi_2^E = A(\hat{P}^{E(1)}\phi_1 - \hat{P}^{E(2)}\phi_1)$$

$$= Ai(2\sin(\frac{2\pi}{3})\phi_2 - 2\sin(\frac{2\pi}{3})\phi_3) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_2 - \phi_3)$$

*Now Let's return to the  $D_{3h}$  point group. we can prove that  $\Psi_1^A$  belongs to  $A_2''$ , and  $\{\Psi_1^E, \Psi_2^E\}$  belongs to  $E''$ .*

# Example 2: $C_6H_6$ $D_{6h} \rightarrow C_6$ Basis set $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_6\}$

$C_6$	$E$	$C_6$	$C_3$	$C_2$	$C_3^2$	$C_6^5$		$\varepsilon = \exp(2\pi i/6)$
$A$	$1$	$1$	$1$	$1$	$1$	$1$	$z, R_z$	$x^2+y^2, z^2$
$B$	$1$	$-1$	$1$	$-1$	$1$	$-1$		
$E_1$	$1$	$\varepsilon$	$-\varepsilon$	$-1$	$-\varepsilon$	$\varepsilon^*$	$(x, y)$	$(xz, yz)$
	$1$	$\varepsilon^*$	$-\varepsilon$	$-1$	$-\varepsilon^*$	$\varepsilon$	$(R_x, R_y)$	
$E_2$	$1$	$-\varepsilon^*$	$-\varepsilon$	$1$	$-\varepsilon^*$	$-\varepsilon$		$(x^2-y^2, xy)$
	$1$	$-\varepsilon$	$-\varepsilon^*$	$1$	$-\varepsilon$	$-\varepsilon^*$		

$$\Gamma_\pi \quad 6 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0$$

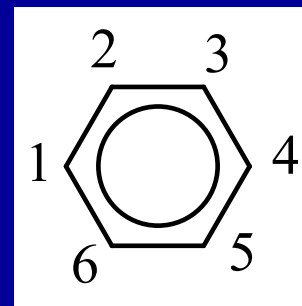
$$\Gamma_\pi = A \oplus B \oplus E_1 \oplus E_2$$

$$\hat{P}^A \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^A \hat{R} \phi_1 = E \phi_1 + C_6^1 \phi_1 + C_6^2 \phi_1 + C_6^3 \phi_1 + C_6^4 \phi_1 + C_6^5 \phi_1$$

$$= \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 + \phi_4 + \phi_5 + \phi_6 \Rightarrow \Psi^A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 + \phi_4 + \phi_5 + \phi_6)$$

$$\hat{P}^B \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^B \hat{R} \phi_1 = E \phi_1 - C_6^1 \phi_1 + C_6^2 \phi_1 - C_6^3 \phi_1 + C_6^4 \phi_1 - C_6^5 \phi_1$$

$$= \phi_1 - \phi_2 + \phi_3 - \phi_4 + \phi_5 - \phi_6 \Rightarrow \Psi^B = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\phi_1 - \phi_2 + \phi_3 - \phi_4 + \phi_5 - \phi_6)$$



$$\phi_i = p_\pi$$







C <sub>6</sub>	E	C <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup>	C <sub>6</sub> <sup>5</sup>		ε = exp(2πi/6)
A	1	1	1	1	1	1	z, R <sub>z</sub>	x <sup>2</sup> +y <sup>2</sup> , z <sup>2</sup>
B	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1		
E <sub>1</sub>	1	ε	-ε	-1	-ε	ε*	(x, y)	(xz, yz)
	1	ε*	-ε	-1	-ε*	ε	(R <sub>x</sub> , R <sub>y</sub> )	
E <sub>2</sub>	1	-ε*	-ε	1	-ε*	-ε		(x <sup>2</sup> -y <sup>2</sup> , xy)
	1	-ε	-ε*	1	-ε	-ε*		
Γ <sub>π</sub>	6	0	0	0	0	0	Γ <sub>π</sub> = A ⊕ B ⊕ E <sub>1</sub> ⊕ E <sub>2</sub>	

$$\hat{P}^{E_1(1)} \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^{E_1(1)} \hat{R} \phi_1 = E \phi_1 + \varepsilon C_6^1 \phi_1 - \varepsilon^* C_6^2 \phi_1 - C_6^3 \phi_1 - \varepsilon C_6^4 \phi_1 + \varepsilon^* C_6^5 \phi_1$$

$$= \phi_1 + \varepsilon \phi_2 - \varepsilon^* \phi_3 - \phi_4 - \varepsilon \phi_5 + \varepsilon^* \phi_6$$

$$\hat{P}^{E_1(2)} \phi_1 \approx \sum_R \chi(\hat{R})^{E_1(2)} \hat{R} \phi_1 = E \phi_1 + \varepsilon^* C_6^1 \phi_1 - \varepsilon C_6^2 \phi_1 - C_6^3 \phi_1 - \varepsilon^* C_6^4 \phi_1 + \varepsilon C_6^5 \phi_1$$

$$= \phi_1 + \varepsilon^* \phi_2 - \varepsilon \phi_3 - \phi_4 - \varepsilon^* \phi_5 + \varepsilon \phi_6$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi^{E_1}(1) &= A(\hat{P}^{E_1(1)}\phi_1 + \hat{P}^{E_1(2)}\phi_1) = 2A(\phi_1 + \cos(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_2 - \cos(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_3 - \phi_4 - \cos(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_5 + \cos(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_6) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}}(2\phi_1 + \phi_2 - \phi_3 - 2\phi_4 - \phi_5 + \phi_6)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi^{E_1}(2) &= A(\hat{P}^{E_1(1)}\phi_1 - \hat{P}^{E_1(2)}\phi_1) = 2Ai(-\sin(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_2 - \sin(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_3 + \sin(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_5 + \sin(\frac{\pi}{3})\phi_6) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\phi_2 + \phi_3 - \phi_5 - \phi_6)\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\Psi^{E_2}(1) = A(\phi_5 + \phi_6) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}}(2\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3 + 2\phi_4 - \phi_5 + \phi_6)$$

$$\Psi^{E_2}(2) = A(\phi_5 - \phi_6)/i = \frac{1}{2}(-\phi_2 + \phi_3 - \phi_5 + \phi_6)$$

## Assignments:

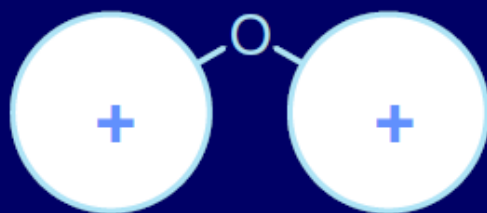
- Please figure out all the normal vibrations of  $\text{NH}_3$  and discern whether they are IR- or Raman-active!
- Construct the  $\pi$ -MOs of Naphthalene with the  $p_\pi$  AOs of carbon atoms.

**The End of Chapter 3!**

# Characters for more than one object or action

We can make representations of several things

e.g. H 1s orbitals  
in H<sub>2</sub>O



orbital 1

orbital 2

E operation

orbital 1' = orbital 1

orbital 2' = orbital 2

$$E \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Rightarrow E = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Each is unchanged (= 1 x itself), so the character is 2

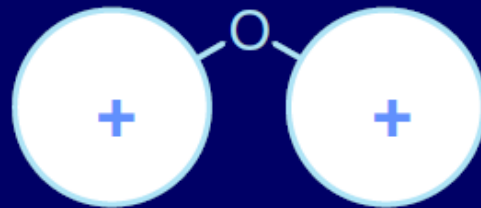
[ Strictly speaking the character is the **trace** (sum of diagonal terms) of the **transformation matrix**.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} ]$$

# Characters for more than one object or action

## Representations of several things

e.g. H 1s orbitals  
in H<sub>2</sub>O



orbital 1      orbital 2

C<sub>2</sub> operation

orbital 1' = orbital 2

orbital 2' = orbital 1

$$C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1s_2 \\ 1s_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Rightarrow C_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

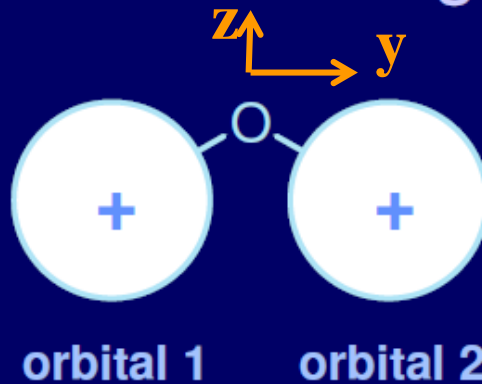
There is no contribution from the old orbital 1 to the new one (= 0 x itself), so the character is 0

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{The trace of the transformation} \\ \text{matrix is zero.} \end{array} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

# Characters for more than one object or action

## Representations of several things

e.g. H 1s orbitals in H<sub>2</sub>O



E operation

character is +2

C<sub>2</sub>

0

σ<sub>v</sub>(xz)

0

σ<sub>v</sub>(yz)

+2

so overall:

**C<sub>2v</sub>**

**E**

**C<sub>2</sub>**

**σ<sub>v</sub>(xz) σ<sub>v</sub>(yz)**

+2

0

0

+2

$$\sigma_{xz} \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1s_2 \\ 1s_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_{xz} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi(\sigma_{xz})=0$$

$$\sigma_{yz} \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1s_1 \\ 1s_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_{yz} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi(\sigma_{yz})=2$$

This the *reducible representation* of the set of 2 orbitals.

# Reducible representations

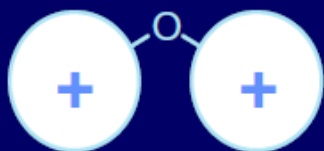
This set of characters does not appear in the character table  
- but it can always be expressed as a sum of lines

## Character table

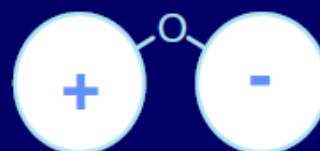
$C_{2v}$	E	$C_2$	$\sigma_v(xz)$	$\sigma_v(yz)$	$h = 4$
$A_1$	+1	+1	+1	+1	$z$
$A_2$	+1	+1	-1	-1	$R_z$
$B_1$	+1	-1	+1	-1	$x, R_y$
$B_2$	+1	-1	-1	+1	$y, R_x$

Must be an A and a B  
to make the second  
number = 0

Must then be  $A_1 + B_2$  to  
make final number = 2



$A_1$  is the symmetric combination



$B_2$  is the asymmetric combination

$A_1 + B_2$  is the *irreducible representation* of the two orbitals