

Spectra

Question 1: The sodium atom has 11 electrons. 10 of them fill up the $n = 1$ and $n = 2$ shells, so the spectrum is primarily determined by the last electron. In this way the sodium spectrum is similar to the hydrogen spectrum. The biggest difference is a l -dependence to the energy levels. When either n or l is large this 11th electron will be far enough out that the 10 inner electrons screen out the charge of all but one of the protons and the energy will be very close to that of hydrogen. But for small n and l this 11th electron will be closer to the nucleus than some of the first 10 electrons; the screening is less so this 11th electron sees a nucleus with a charge greater than $+1e$. This causes the energy to be lower (more tightly bound or more negative) than the corresponding energy level in hydrogen.

(a) The energy of 16 levels of sodium is given along with the ionization energy in units of inverse centimeters (wave number). (These were taken from https://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/ASD/levels_form.html) Convert each of these energies, to five significant figures, to units of eV with ionization set to 0.

Configuration	Level (cm^{-1})
3s	0
3p	16,968
4s	25,740
3d	29,173
4p	30,271
5s	33,201
4d	34,549
4f	34,587
5p	35,042
6s	36,373
5d	37,037
5f	37,058
6p	37,297
7s	38,012
6d	38,387
6f	38,400
Ionization	41,449

-5.1389 eV
 -3.0352 eV
 -1.9476 eV
 -1.5220 eV
 -1.3859 eV
 -1.0226 eV
 -0.85546 eV
 -0.85075 eV
 -0.79434 eV
 -0.62132 eV
 -0.54700 eV
 -0.54440 eV
 -0.51477 eV
 -0.42612 eV
 -0.37963 eV
 -0.37802 eV





