

Wavefunctions and Probabilities

Single-electron-orbital (or just orbital) spatial probability density:

$$|\phi_j(x_i, y_i, z_i)|^2 \equiv \wp_j(x_i, y_i, z_i)$$

The squared amplitude of the single-electron-orbital is equal to the probability density to find the electron which occupies the j -th orbital at the point x_i, y_i, z_i .

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_j(x_i, y_i, z_i) &\equiv A_j(x_i, y_i, z_i) \cdot e^{i\varphi_j(x_i, y_i, z_i)} & \phi \in \mathbb{C} & \quad A, \varphi, \wp \in \mathbb{R} \\ \wp_j(x_i, y_i, z_i) &= A_j^2(x_i, y_i, z_i)\end{aligned}$$

The phase, φ , comes into play in quantum interference effects, such as in bonding- and anti-bonding molecular orbitals.

N -electron joint probability density:

$$|\Psi(x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, \dots, x_N, y_N, z_N, m_s(1), m_s(2), \dots, m_s(N))|^2 \equiv \wp(x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, \dots, x_N, y_N, z_N, m_s(1), m_s(2), \dots, m_s(N))$$

The squared amplitude of the N -electron wavefunction is equal to the joint probability density to find one electron at the point x_1, y_1, z_1 with spin $m_s(1)$, another at x_2, y_2, z_2 with spin $m_s(2)$, and so on for N electrons until the last one is at x_N, y_N, z_N with spin $m_s(N)$.

Spatial probability density of the charge:

$$\rho(x_i, y_i, z_i) \equiv \rho(\mathbf{r}_i) \equiv \sum_{m_s(1)} \cdots \sum_{m_s(i)} \cdots \sum_{m_s(N)} \int d\mathbf{r}_1 \cdots \int \mathbf{r}_{i-1} \int \mathbf{r}_{i+1} \cdots \int \mathbf{r}_N \cdot \wp(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, m_s(1), \dots, m_s(i), \dots, m_s(N))$$

The probability to density find any electron from a system of N electrons at the point $\mathbf{r}_i \equiv (x_i, y_i, z_i)$ with any spin, $m_s(i)$ is calculated by integrating over all space for the $N - 1$ other electrons and summing over all possible spins.

Spatial probability of the charge:

$$dP(x_i, y_i, z_i) = \rho(x_i, y_i, z_i) dx_i dy_i dz_i$$

The differential probability to find any electron of an N -electron system in the volume of the box centered around the point (x_i, y_i, z_i) with sides of length dx_i, dy_i and dz_i is equal to the volume of the box multiplied by the probability density near the center of the box.

Spatial charge density:

$$\rho_e(x_i, y_i, z_i) = eN\rho(x_i, y_i, z_i)$$

The density of charge in an N -electron system at the point (x_i, y_i, z_i) is the product of the probability density of the N -electron wavefunction at that point and the total system charge ($e \cdot N$).