

HYBRIDIZATION

A linear combination of the orbitals of same atom is called "hybridization". The combination of n-atomic orbitals of an atom generates 'n' hybrid orbitals.

The hybrid orbitals have better directional properties and can form stronger bonds.

The important consideration is that.

- I. The hybrid orbitals must be equivalent, which means that a symmetry operation of the molecule can transform one hybrid orbital into another
- II. It must be normalized
- III. It must be orthogonal

s-p hybridization

the combination of **one** 2s and **one** 2p orbital, giving two hybrid orbitals Ψ_1 and Ψ_2 may be expressed as.

$$\Psi_1 = a_1 \Psi_{2s} + b_1 \Psi_{2p} \quad (1)$$

$$\Psi_2 = a_2 \Psi_{2s} + b_2 \Psi_{2p} \quad (2)$$

The values of the linear combination coefficient a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2 may be determined by the following considerations.

- I. Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 are normalized
- II. Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 are orthogonal, and
- III. Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 are equivalent

From Ist condition (normalization)

$$\begin{aligned} \int \Psi_1^2 d\tau &= a_1^2 \int \Psi_{2s}^2 d\tau + b_1^2 \int \Psi_{2p}^2 d\tau + 2a_1b_1 \int \Psi_{2s}\Psi_{2p} d\tau = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow a_1^2 + b_1^2 = 1 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \Psi_2^2 d\tau &= a_2^2 \int \Psi_{2s}^2 d\tau + b_2^2 \int \Psi_{2p}^2 d\tau + 2a_2b_2 \int \Psi_{2s}\Psi_{2p} d\tau = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow a_2^2 + b_2^2 = 1 \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

From (ii) condition (orthogonality)

$$\begin{aligned} \int \Psi_1 \Psi_2 d\tau &= \int (a_1 \Psi_{2s} + b_1 \Psi_{2p}) (a_2 \Psi_{2s} + b_2 \Psi_{2p}) d\tau = 0 \\ \Rightarrow a_1 a_2 \int \Psi_{2s}^2 d\tau + a_1 b_2 \int \Psi_{2s} \Psi_{2p} d\tau + b_1 a_2 \int \Psi_{2p} \Psi_{2s} d\tau + b_1 b_2 \int \Psi_{2p}^2 d\tau &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Since the s-orbital is spherically symmetrical and the two hybrid orbitals Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 are equivalent, the share of 's' function is equal in both Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 i.e.

$$a_1^2 = a_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } a_1 = a_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (6)$$

Then from equation (3) we have

$$a_1^2 + b_1^2 = 1$$

We have

$$\frac{1}{2} + b_1^2 = 1$$

Or

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (7)$$

So that,

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\Psi_{2s} + \Psi_{2p}) \quad (8)$$

Further from equation (5)

$$a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 = 0$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b_2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \Rightarrow b_2 &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Therefore

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\Psi_{2s} - \Psi_{2p}) \quad (10)$$

Where Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 are given by equations (8) and (10) represent two sp-hybrid orbitals.

Directional characteristics of s-p hybrid orbitals can be determined as follows.

Using the normalized $f_2(\theta) \times f_3(\phi)$ i.e $Y(\theta, \phi)$ for 2s and 2p- orbitals and choosing $2p_z$, for example, as 2p orbital, we get the two sp-hybrid orbitals as:

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} + \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta \right]$$

and

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} - \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta \right] \quad (11)$$

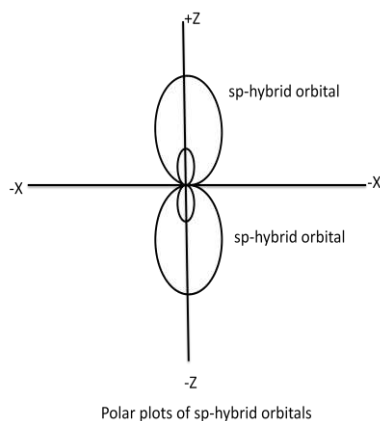
Taking out the factor $\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$, we get the functions which determine the directions of the two hybrid orbitals

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [1 + \sqrt{3} \cos \theta]$$

and

$$f_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [1 - \sqrt{3} \cos \theta] \quad (12)$$

The function f_1 & f_2 are maximum for $\theta = 0$ (i.e in the +z direction) and $\theta = \pi$ (i.e in the -z direction) respectively. The value of maximum in either case is $\frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}} = 1.932$, which is greater than that for the pure 2s orbital ($f = 1$) or a 2p orbital ($f = \sqrt{3} = 1.732$). While the simple p_z – orbital is directed along both +z and -z directions, an sp-hybrid orbital is directed towards only either +z or -z and the angle between the two being 180° . The polar plots of f_1 and f_2 for various values of θ are shown below.



The angle between two hybrid orbital is calculated using the relation.

$$\cos \theta = - \frac{s \text{ character of hybrid orbital}}{1 - s \text{ character of hybrid orbital}}$$

sp-hybridization is responsible for linear structure of acetylene

sp² – HYBRIDIZATION

Wave function of *sp²* hybrid orbitals

For the three hybrid orbitals, we may write

$$\Psi_1 = a_1\Psi_s + b_1\Psi_{p_x} + c_1\Psi_{p_y}$$

$$\Psi_2 = a_2\Psi_s + b_2\Psi_{p_x} + c_2\Psi_{p_y}$$

$$\Psi_3 = a_3\Psi_s + b_3\Psi_{p_x} + c_3\Psi_{p_y}$$

- i. Since the charge density of s orbital is equally divided among the three hybrid orbitals, we get

$$a_1^2 = a_2^2 = a_3^2 = \frac{1}{3} \text{ i.e } a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

- ii. If we assume Ψ_1 to point towards x-axis, then the contribution of p_y orbital in this will be zero, i.e

$$c_1 = 0$$

- iii. Normalization condition of Ψ_1 gives

$$a_1^2 + b_1^2 = 1$$

Since $a_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ we get

$$b_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$$

- iv. Orthogonal conditions of Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 and Ψ_1 & Ψ_3 gives

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 = 0$$

$$a_1a_3 + b_1b_3 = 0$$

Hence

$$b_2 = -\frac{a_1a_2}{b_1} = -\frac{1/3}{\sqrt{2/3}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$b_3 = -\frac{a_1a_3}{b_1} = -\frac{1/3}{\sqrt{2/3}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$

- v. Normalization condition of Ψ_2 gives $a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2 = 1$

Hence

$$c_2^2 = 1 - (a_2^2 + b_2^2) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } c_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

- vi. Normalization condition of Ψ_3 gives

$$a_3^2 + b_3^2 + c_3^2 = 1$$

$$c_3^2 = 1 - (a_3^2 + b_3^2) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } c_3 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

(For Ψ_2 and Ψ_3 to be different, we take the minus root of c_3)

Hence three functions are

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Psi_s + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \Psi_{p_x} \quad (1)$$

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Psi_s - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \Psi_{p_x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Psi_{p_y} \quad (2)$$

$$\Psi_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Psi_s - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \Psi_{p_x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Psi_{p_y} \quad (3)$$

Angle between the hybrid orbitals

Utilizing the expressions

$$p_z = \sqrt{3} \cos \theta$$

$$p_x = \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi$$

$$p_y = \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi$$

(Where θ is the angle which radius vector makes with z-axis and Ψ is the angle which the projection of radius vector in xy plane makes with x-axis)

we get,

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi$$

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi$$

$$\Psi_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi$$

Since the p_z orbital does not appear in the equation (1)-(3), we may conclude that all three orbitals lie in the xy-plane for which angle θ is equal to 90° . thus, the above relation become

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + 2 \cos \Psi \quad (4)$$

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \Psi + \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \sin \Psi \quad (5)$$

$$\Psi_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \Psi - \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \sin \Psi \quad (6)$$

Let Ψ_1 have its maximum on x-axis. In order to find the direction of maximum of Ψ_2 , we equate

$\frac{d\Psi_2}{d\Psi} = 0$. Thus, we have

$$\frac{d\Psi_2}{d\Psi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin \Psi + \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \Psi = 0$$

Or

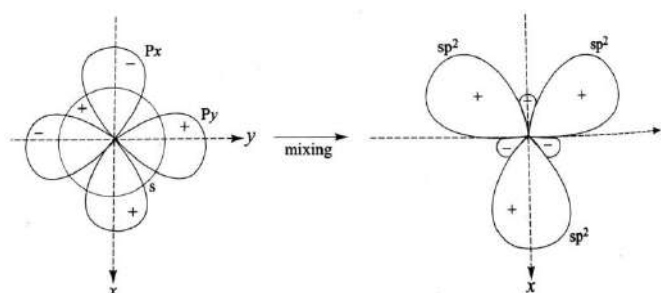
$$\tan \Psi = -\sqrt{3/2} \cdot \sqrt{2} = -\sqrt{3} = -1.7322$$

Hence $\Psi = 120^\circ$

Thus the three hybrid orbitals are inclined at an angle of 120° with each other.

Shape of the hybrid orbitals

The function Ψ_1 will have its maximum, say on x-axis, for which $\Psi = 0$. This maximum relative to s-orbital has a value of $1 + \sqrt{2} = 2.414$. In comparison to p_x orbital ($\theta = 90^\circ, \Psi = 0$, maximum = 1.732), the sp^2 orbital is better in overlapping with the orbital of another atom. The function Ψ_1, Ψ_2 & Ψ_3 when plotted against different values of Ψ give the orbitals as shown in the following figure.



sp^3 – HYBRIDIZATION

Wave function of sp^3 hybrid orbitals

For the four hybrid orbitals, we may write

$$\Psi_1 = a_1\Psi_S + b_1\Psi_{p_x} + c_1\Psi_{p_y} + d_1\Psi_{p_z}$$

$$\Psi_2 = a_2\Psi_S + b_2\Psi_{p_x} + c_2\Psi_{p_y} + d_2\Psi_{p_z}$$

$$\Psi_3 = a_3\Psi_S + b_3\Psi_{p_x} + c_3\Psi_{p_y} + d_3\Psi_{p_z}$$

$$\Psi_4 = a_4\Psi_S + b_4\Psi_{p_x} + c_4\Psi_{p_y} + d_4\Psi_{p_z}$$

- i. Since the charge density of s orbital is to be distributed equally over all the four orbitals, we get

$$a_1^2 = a_2^2 = a_3^2 = a_4^2 = \frac{1}{4} \text{ i.e } a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4 = \frac{1}{2}$$

- ii. Let us develop Ψ_1 on the x-axis. It is obvious that the combination of Ψ_{p_x} & Ψ_{p_z} in the function Ψ_1 will be zero and hence we may write

$$c_1 = 0 \text{ and } d_1 = 0$$

- iii. Normalization condition of Ψ_1 gives

$$a_1^2 = b_1^2 = 1 \text{ or } b_1^2 = 1 - a_1^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Hence

$$b_1 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

- iv. Orthogonal conditions of Ψ_1 and Ψ_2 , Ψ_1 and Ψ_3 , and Ψ_1 & Ψ_4 gives

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 = 0$$

$$a_1a_3 + b_1b_3 = 0$$

$$a_1a_4 + b_1b_4 = 0$$

Hence

$$b_2 = b_3 = b_4 = -\frac{a_1 a_2}{b_1} = -\frac{1/4}{\sqrt{3}/2} = -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}$$

- v. We assume that Ψ_2 lies on xz-plane. Hence the contribution of p_y in Ψ will be zero i.e
 $c_2 = 0$

- vi. Normalization condition of Ψ_2 gives $a_2^2 + b_2^2 + d_2^2 = 1$
Hence

$$d_2^2 = 1 - (a_2^2 + b_2^2) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12}\right) = 1 - \frac{1}{3} \text{ or } d_2^2 = \frac{2}{3}$$

- vii. Orthogonal conditions of Ψ_2 and Ψ_3 , and Ψ_2 & Ψ_4 gives
 $a_2 a_3 + b_2 b_3 + d_2 d_3 = 0$
 $a_2 a_4 + b_2 b_4 + d_2 d_4 = 0$

Hence

$$d_3 = d_4 = -\frac{a_2 a_3 + b_2 b_3}{d_2} = -\frac{1/4 + 1/12}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$

- viii. Normalization condition of Ψ_3 gives

$$a_3^2 + b_3^2 + c_3^2 + d_3^2 = 1$$

i.e

$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12} + c_3^2 + \frac{1}{6} = 1$$

$$c_3^2 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } c_3 = +\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

- ix. For the normalization condition of Ψ_4 , we take

$$c_4 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Hence the four functions are

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{2}\Psi_s + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\Psi_{p_x}$$

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{2}\Psi_s - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\Psi_{p_x} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Psi_{p_z}$$

$$\Psi_3 = \frac{1}{2}\Psi_s - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\Psi_{p_x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\Psi_{p_y} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\Psi_{p_z}$$

$$\Psi_4 = \frac{1}{2}\Psi_s - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\Psi_{p_x} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\Psi_{p_y} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\Psi_{p_z}$$

Angle between the hybrid orbitals

Utilizing the expression

$$p_z = \sqrt{3} \cos \theta$$

$$p_x = \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi$$

$$p_y = \sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi$$

we get,

$$\Psi_1 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi)$$

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi) + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} (\sqrt{3} \cos \theta)$$

$$\Psi_3 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\sqrt{3} \cos \theta)$$

$$\Psi_4 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \cos \Psi) - \frac{1}{2} (\sqrt{3} \sin \theta \sin \Psi) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\sqrt{3} \cos \theta)$$

Let Ψ_1 have its maximum on x-axis, for $\theta=90^\circ$ & $\Psi=0^\circ$. Thus, the relative magnitude of Ψ_1 on x-axis

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2} = 2$$

This may be compared with the value of 1.732 of the p_z orbital.

We have assumed the function Ψ_2 to lie on the xz-plane. We take $\Psi=180^\circ$ for this plane. Substituting this value of Ψ in Ψ_2 , we get

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \theta + \sqrt{2} \cos \theta$$

Setting $\frac{d\Psi_2}{d\theta} = 0$, we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \cos \theta - \sqrt{2} \sin \theta = 0$$

Or

$$\tan \theta = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{2.828} = 0.354$$

Hence $\theta = 19^\circ 28'$

Since θ is the angle between the axis of Ψ_2 and the z-axis, the angle between the axes of Ψ_1 & Ψ_2 is $90^\circ + 19^\circ 28' = 109^\circ 28'$.

The spatial arrangement of the four hybrid angles is tetrahedral.

Shape of the hybrid orbitals

Is given in the following diagram.

