



# Oxygen Molecular Orbitals

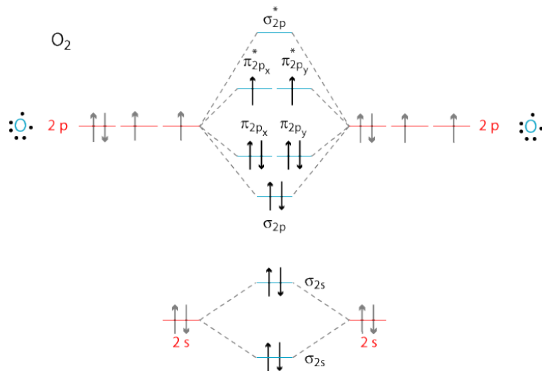
## Electronic States and

### Application to Cancer Therapy

#### ...and Appreciating Oxygen

# Appreciating Oxygen

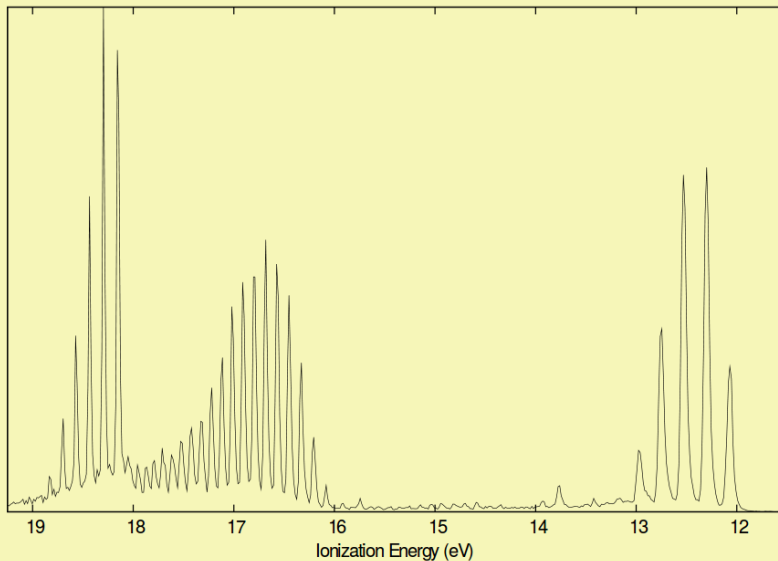
Hilton M. Weiss DOI: 10.1021/ed085p1218



Electron Configuration:  $(\sigma_{2s})^2 (\sigma_{2s}^*)^2 (\sigma_{2p})^2 (\pi_{2p})^4 (\pi_{2p}^*)^2$

Bond Order =  $\frac{1}{2} (2 - 2 + 2 + 4 - 2) = 2$  Double Bond

# O<sub>2</sub> Photoelectron Spectrum



## Jean-Pierre Puttemans and Georges Jannes, DOI: 10.1021/ed081p639.1

Jean-Pierre Puttemans and Georges Jannes, DOI: 10.1021/ed081p639.1

- Interesting example of electron distribution over degenerate levels
- MO model predicts the existence of three forms of oxygen, three electronic states
- Explains paramagnetic character of the ground state, a triplet state
- Triplet state:  $2S + 1 = 3$ , 2e in  $\pi^*$  orbitals with parallel spins according to Hund's rule



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- The energy order is surprising and opposed to common sense
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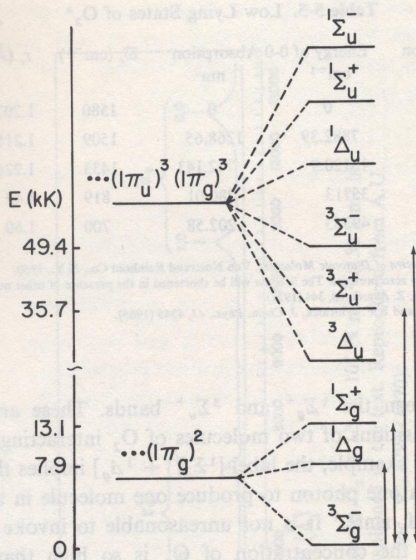


Fig. 5-16. State diagram of  $O_2$  showing the lowest energy observed transitions.

# O<sub>2</sub> Excited State Lifetimes

**Table 5-5. Low Lying States of O<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>**

| State                                    | Configuration   | Energy of 0-0 Absorption<br>cm <sup>-1</sup> | Absorption<br>nm | $\bar{\omega}_e$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | $r_e$ (Å) | Lifetime (s) <sup>b</sup> |
|--|---|--|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| <sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup> | (π <sub>u</sub> ) <sup>4</sup> (π <sub>g</sub> ) <sup>2</sup> | 0  | 0                | 1580                                 | 1.2074    | —                         |
| <sup>1</sup> Δ <sub>g</sub>              | (π <sub>u</sub> ) <sup>4</sup> (π <sub>g</sub> ) <sup>2</sup> | 7882.39                                      | 1268.65          | 1509                                 | 1.2155    | 2700 <sup>c</sup>         |
| <sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup> | (π <sub>u</sub> ) <sup>4</sup> (π <sub>g</sub> ) <sup>2</sup> | 13120.9                                      | 762.143          | 1433                                 | 1.2268    | 7.1 <sup>d</sup>          |
| <sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup> | (π <sub>u</sub> ) <sup>3</sup> (π <sub>g</sub> ) <sup>3</sup> | 35713  | 280.01           | 819                                  | 1.42      | —                         |
| <sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>-</sup> | (π <sub>u</sub> ) <sup>3</sup> (π <sub>g</sub> ) <sup>3</sup> | 49363  | 202.58           | 700                                  | 1.60      | —                         |

<sup>a</sup> Data from G. Herzberg, *Spectra of Diatomic Molecules*, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., N.Y., 1950.

<sup>b</sup> Lifetimes are extrapolated to zero pressure. The lifetime will be shortened in the presence of other matter.

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# Photodynamic Therapy

The sensitization of cancer cells to light, DOI: 10.1021/ed076p592

- Photodynamic therapy (PDT) takes advantage of light, oxygen, and a drug (photosensitizer)
- The drug preferentially localizes in rapidly growing (malignant) cells
- Typical drugs for PDT are hematoporphyrin derivative, Hpd, and its active component, Photofrin II
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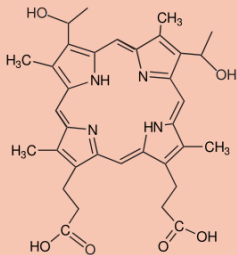


Figure 1. Hematoporphyrin

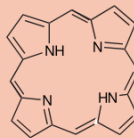


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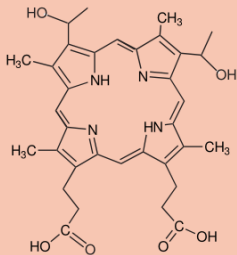


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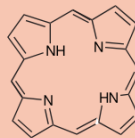


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- The energy of  $S_1$  can be lost in a variety of ways, as shown in a Jablonski diagram
- It may fluoresce or transfer its energy to surrounding molecules
- If  $S_1$  engages in electron transfer with a biological molecule, the photosensitizer will be bleached unproductively (Type I photoprocess)
- $S_1$  can also undergo intersystem crossing to an excited triplet state  $T_1$ ;  $T_1$  can then either phosphoresce, or react with triplet oxygen,  $^3O_2$ , to return to the ground state while making singlet oxygen ( $^1\Delta_g$  state)

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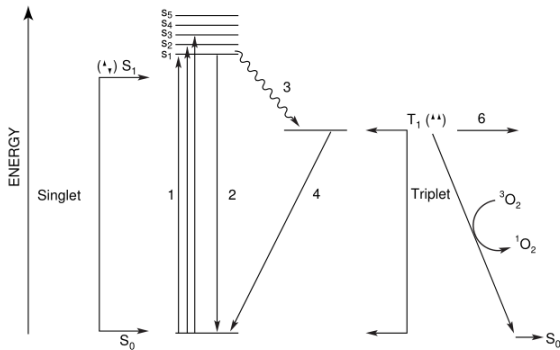
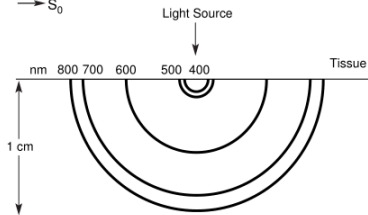


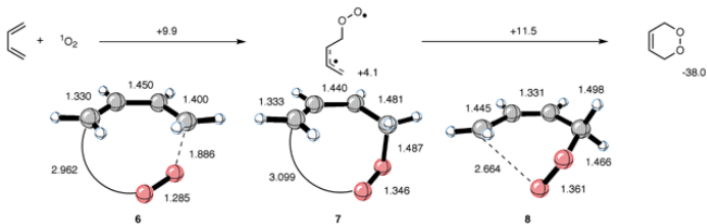
Figure 3. Modified Jablonski diagram for a typical photosensitizer showing: 1= Absorption of Light; 2= Fluorescence; 3= Intersystem Crossing; 4= Phosphorescence; 5= Production of Singlet Oxygen (Type II Photoprocess); 6= Hydrogen or Electron Transfer (Type I Photoprocess). A Jablonski diagram is a simplified representation of the electronic energy levels and radiative transitions of a molecule.

Figure 4. The relationship of the depth of penetration of light into a tumor and the wavelength of the light. Scattering and absorption are the predominant factors in limiting the penetration of light into the tumor. The depth of penetration doubles when the wavelength of light is increased from 550 to 630 nm (where Photofrin II is activated) and from 630 to 700 nm. Beyond 700 nm, the depth of penetration by light only increases another 10% by shifting into the infrared region (1, 2).



# Diels-Alder Reactions of Singlet Oxygen

Andrew G. Leach and K. N. Houk, DOI: 10.1039/B111251C



**Scheme 3** CASSCF(10,8)/6-31G\* optimised geometries and MCQDPT2 energetics for the Diels-Alder reaction between singlet oxygen and butadiene.<sup>18</sup> The energy for each species is given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> relative to reactants.

$$\Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} = \text{products} - \text{reactants}$$

subtract sum of bonds broken  
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to find the enthalpic driving force

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Hilton M. Weiss DOI: 10.1021/ed085p1218

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- Thus, in a chemical sense, the oxygen molecule is the energy source
- The other “fuels” are merely vehicles to allow oxygen to form strong bonds in the combustion products
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- The heat of combustion of any organic molecule can be calculated approximately by merely balancing the reaction and determining how many moles of oxygen are consumed
- For example, oxidation of methane uses two moles of  $\text{O}_2$  per mole of  $\text{CH}_4$  releasing ca.  $2 \times 460 = 920 \text{ kJ/mol}$  of *methane*
- The experimental heat of combustion of methane is 890 kJ/mol
- Glucose combines with 6  $\text{O}_2$  for complete conversion to  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  so  $6 \times 460 = 2760 \text{ kJ}$
- The experimental value is 2801 kJ/mol of *glucose*

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**Table 1. Enthalpy Calculated from the Amount of Oxygen Used**

| Compound     | Moles of O <sub>2</sub> | $\Delta H^\circ / (\text{kJ mol}^{-1})$ |       | Error (%) |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|-------|-----------|
|              |                         | Calc                                    | Exp   |           |
| Methane      | 2.0                     | -920                                    | -890  | 3.4       |
| Octane       | 12.5                    | -5750                                   | -5452 | 5.5       |
| Methanol     | 1.5                     | -690                                    | -726  | 5.0       |
| Ethanol      | 3.0                     | -1380                                   | -1367 | 1.0       |
| Benzoic Acid | 7.5                     | -3450                                   | -3227 | 6.9       |
| Sucrose      | 12.0                    | -5520                                   | -5644 | 2.2       |
| Thiophene    | 6.0                     | -2760                                   | -2805 | 1.6       |

NOTE: The experimental data is from ref 2.



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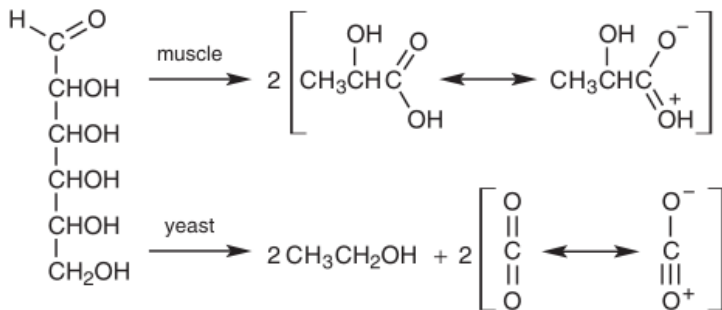
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Scheme 1. Balanced equations of the anaerobic metabolism of glucose.

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- Methane is abundant on many planets and moons far from the sun
- Free oxygen is found on none of them
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- While earthly “fuels” may result from the sun’s energy, it is really the  $O_2$  molecules generated during photosynthesis that trap the energy of the sun and facilitate life on earth

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- It is surprising that so many hydrocarbons can survive their constant exposure to  $O_2$
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- Its two unpaired electrons have the same spin, so the first step of any reaction with a closed-shell molecule must generate two radical products with the same spin
- These are usually high-energy intermediates so their formation is slow
- Once reaction is initiated, subsequent reactions continue the chain leading to  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Antioxidants function by forming stable radical products

# Oxygen Molecular Orbitals

## Electronic States and

### Application to Cancer Therapy

#### ...and Appreciating Oxygen