

## 4:2a The Role of Electrons in Bonding

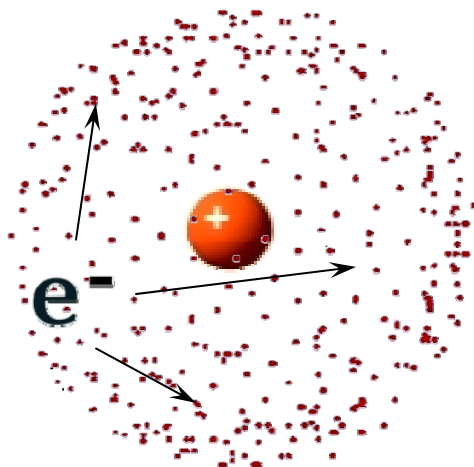
Last time we saw that atoms with unfilled orbitals have a tendency to gain or lose electrons in order to achieve a stable  $e^-$  configuration

### 2. COVALENT BONDS

A covalent bond occurs when two atoms **SHARE** a pair of electrons

## 4:2b The Role of Electrons in Bonding

Draw a hydrogen atom at this time

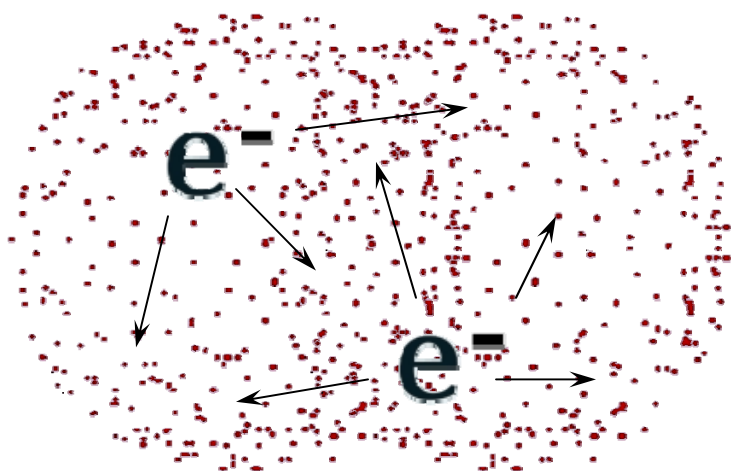
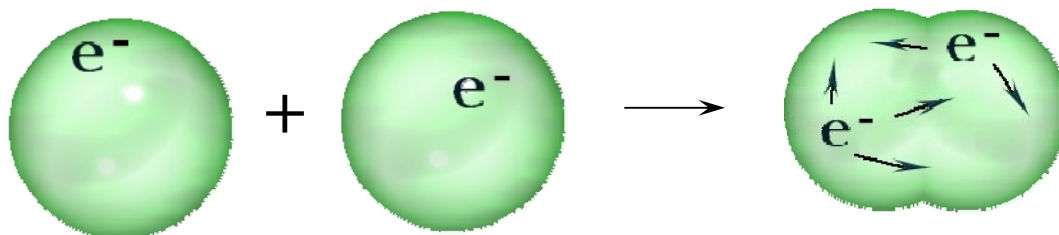


- Does hydrogen have a stable electron configuration?  
No:  $1s^1$  means its s-orbital is not filled
- What could hydrogen do to achieve a stable configuration like one of the inert gases?
- Which inert gas could hydrogen most easily emulate?

Helium:  $1s^2$

## 4:2c The Role of Electrons in Bonding

What if two hydrogens **share** a pair of electrons?



The two electrons thus orbit **BOTH** atomic nuclei, holding them together

When two atoms **SHARE** a pair of electrons, the bond that joins them is a **COVALENT** bond

## 4:2d The Role of Electrons in Bonding

**The bonds that we study include  
many important properties**

**Bond Distance**

**The distance between two centers**

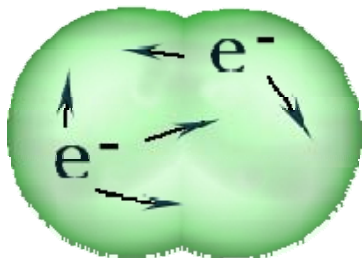
**Bond Strength**

**How much energy is  
required to break the bond?**

**Bond Polarity**

**Are the electrons shared equally between  
the two atoms (symmetrical), or is the  
electron density unsymmetrical?**

## 4:2e The Role of Electrons in Bonding



The covalent bond between two hydrogen atoms is perfectly symmetrical

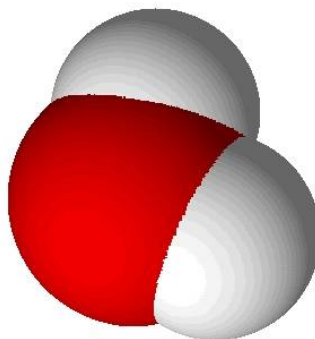
This is an example of a **NON-POLAR** covalent bond

Recall our demonstration the Immiscibility bottle

We saw that water is a polar molecule

It exhibits

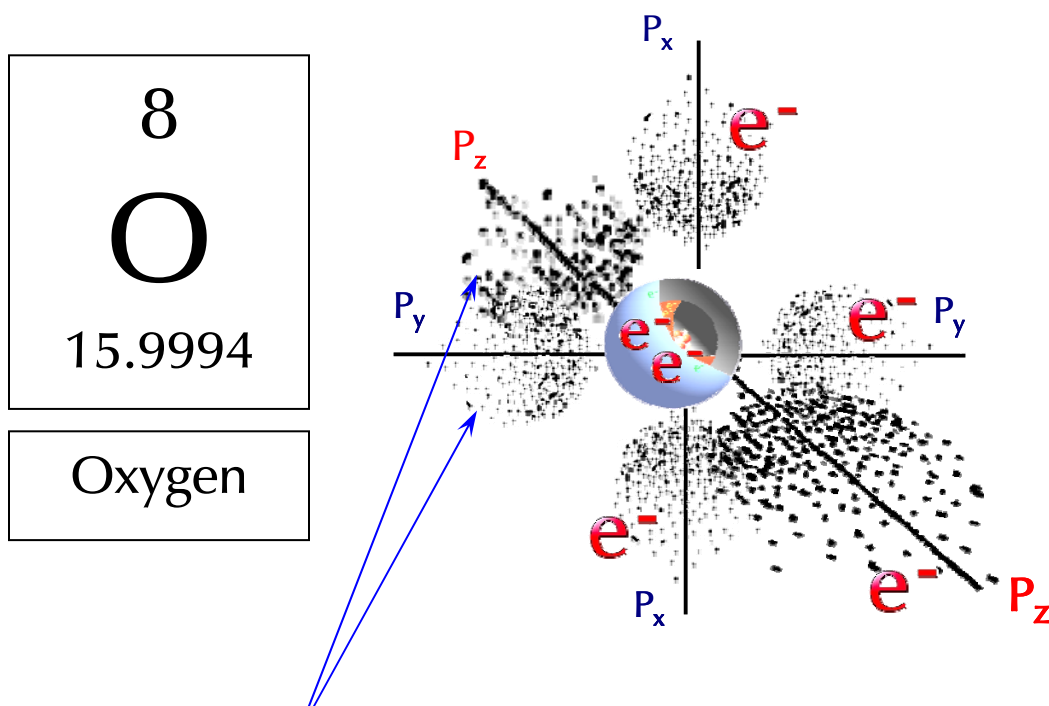
**POLAR COVALENT** bonds



The distribution of electrons (and charge) is **unsymmetrical** because the oxygen atom attracts the electrons more strongly

## 4:2f The Role of Electrons in Bonding

Draw an atom of oxygen at this time, showing all of its 2s and 2p orbitals and their electrons

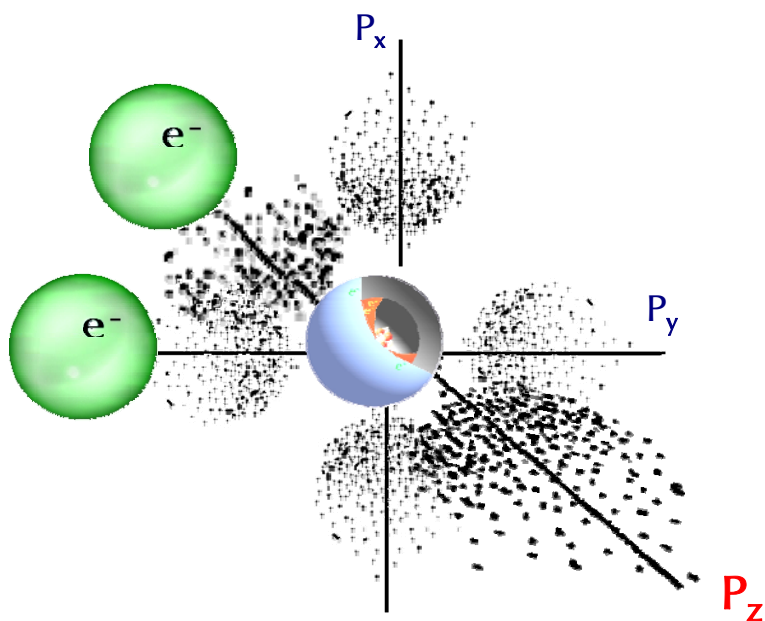


Notice that  $P_y$  and  $P_z$  are missing one electron each

**Can you predict which oxygen orbitals will share electrons with the two hydrogens?**

Answer: The  $P_y$  and  $P_z$  orbitals both need a second electron and will readily form covalent bonds with two H atoms

## 4:2g The Role of Electrons in Bonding



*Knowing that the P<sub>x</sub>, P<sub>y</sub>, and P<sub>z</sub> orbitals are all perpendicular to each other*

**can you predict the bond angle between the two hydrogens?**

( Which are shown here in green )

The expected bond angle is 90°, but the two hydrogens (both mildly positive) repel each other slightly resulting in an actual bond angle of about 104.5°

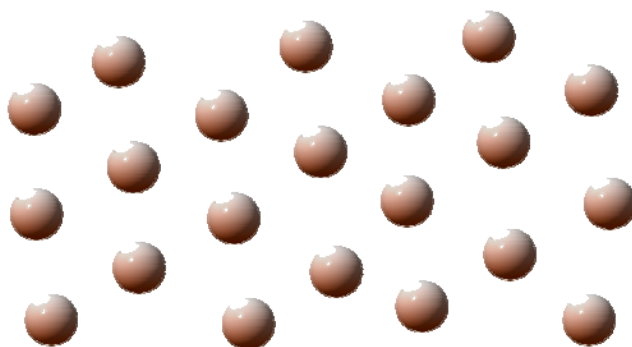
**What inert gas configuration does oxygen tend to emulate?**

Like that of NEON:  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6$

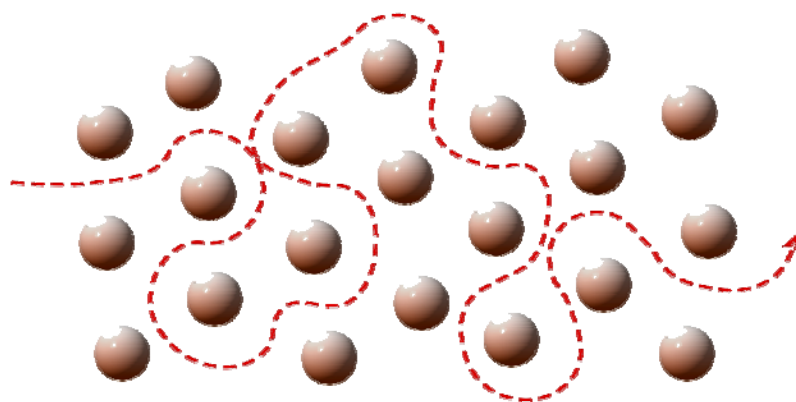
## 4:2h The Role of Electrons in Bonding

### 3. METALLIC BONDING

In metals, we can imagine the atomic nuclei as islands in a sea of electrons



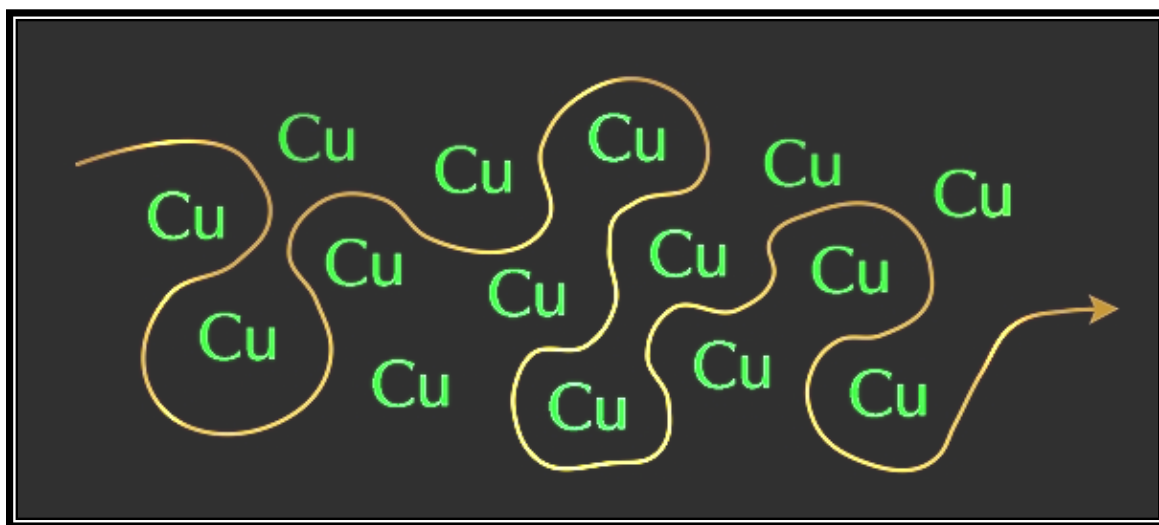
The nuclei are fixed in relative positions within the crystal, but the **OUTERMOST ELECTRONS** wander freely throughout the crystal



first circling one nucleus and then another

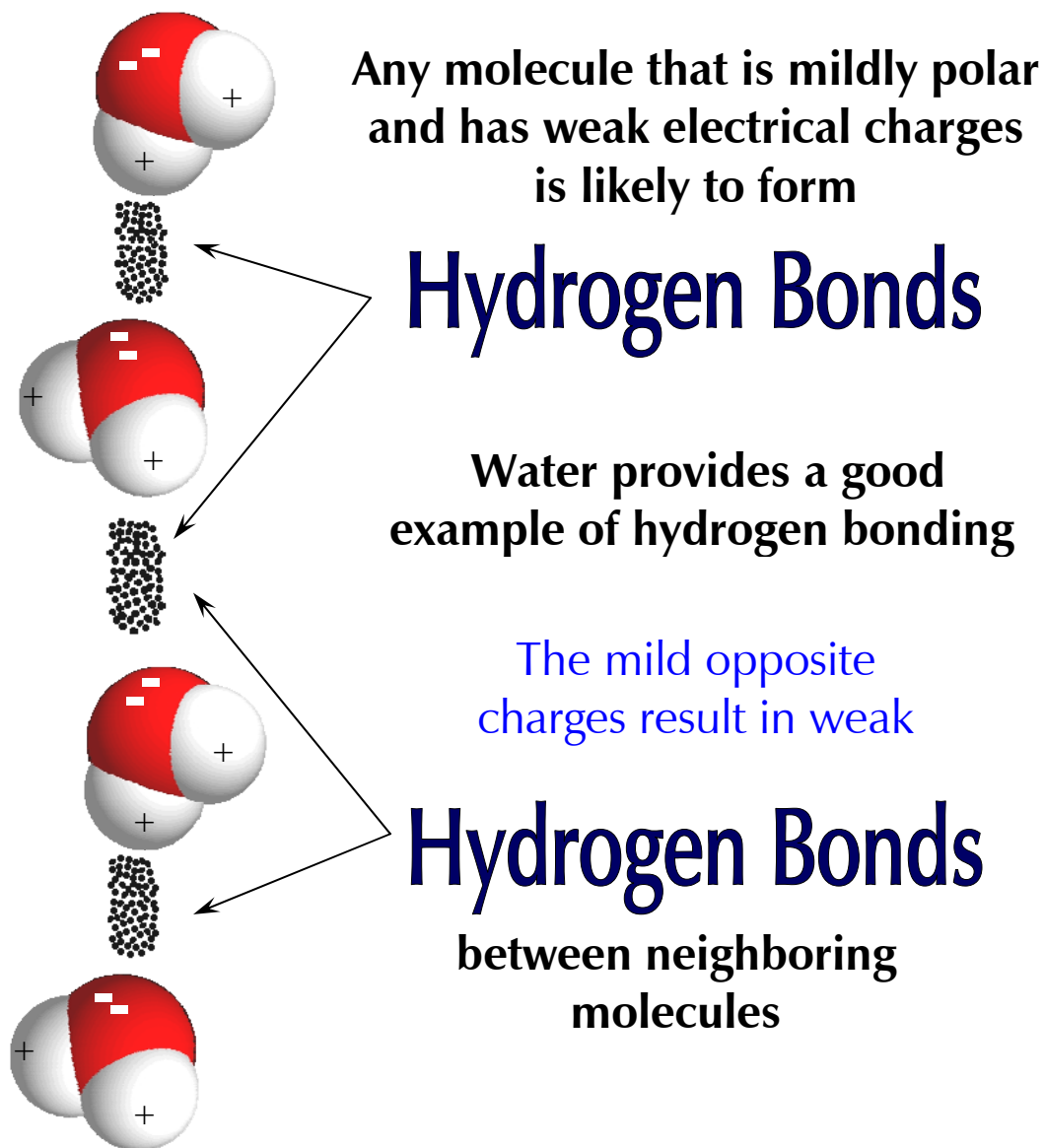


## 4:2i The Role of Electrons in Bonding



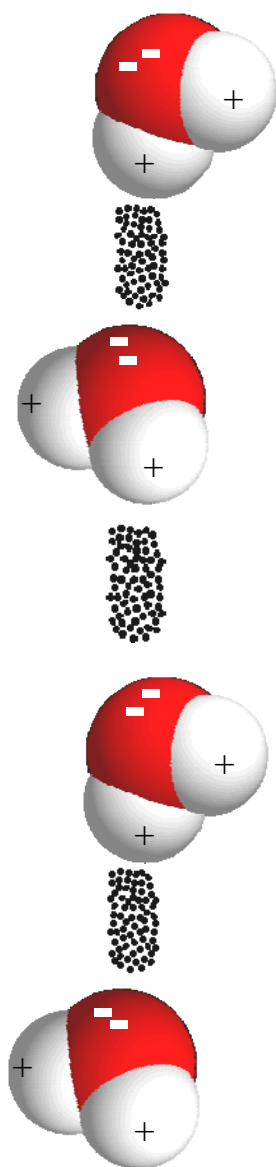
- **Metallic bonding is unique because of the *mobility* of the outermost electrons**
- *Metals have a weak hold on their outermost electrons and tend to lose them easily*
- *Since *electricity involves the flow of electrons*, this model of an electron sea helps us understand why metals are good **conductors***
- *Metals can be drawn into wire (**ductility**) and flattened into thin sheets (**malleability**) because these enveloping electrons act somewhat like a glue, holding all the nuclei together*

## 4:2J The Role of Electrons in Bonding



## 4:2K The Role of Electrons in Bonding

# About Hydrogen Bonds



1. They do not join atoms together  
They join **molecules** together
2. They are **very weak** bonds  
and are broken very easily
3. When broken, however, new ones  
**form again** almost immediately

Hydrogen bonds in earth's oceans  
**help moderate earth's climate**

Water's hydrogen bonds **absorb the sun's heat** and then break –  
-- only to instantly form again

It is easy for cells to temporarily  
**separate two strands of DNA**  
because the strands are held  
together by weak hydrogen bonds

This allows cells to **access , use and copy the genetic information**  
encoded in their DNA