

# Lecture B8

## Molecular Orbital Theory, Part 3

*Moving to the Suburbs*

# Molecular Orbital Theory - LCAO-MO

Robert S. Mulliken realized that a Linear Combination of Atomic Orbitals (LCAO) could be used to make a set of new Molecular Orbitals (MO). The energies of these new molecular orbitals could be calculated and then filled with valence electrons.



Robert S. Mulliken  
1896-1986

Mulliken received the 1966 Nobel Prize for his work.

MO energies come from **Quantum Mechanics**, of course!

$$\hat{H}|\Psi_n\rangle = E_n|\Psi_n\rangle$$

WHEN we solve the Schrödinger equation, we always obtain two things:

1. a set of eigenstates.
2. a set of eigenstate energies.

*If you are interested, please look up the "Hartree-Fock Method" and "Slater Determinants."*



D. R. Hartree  
1897-1958

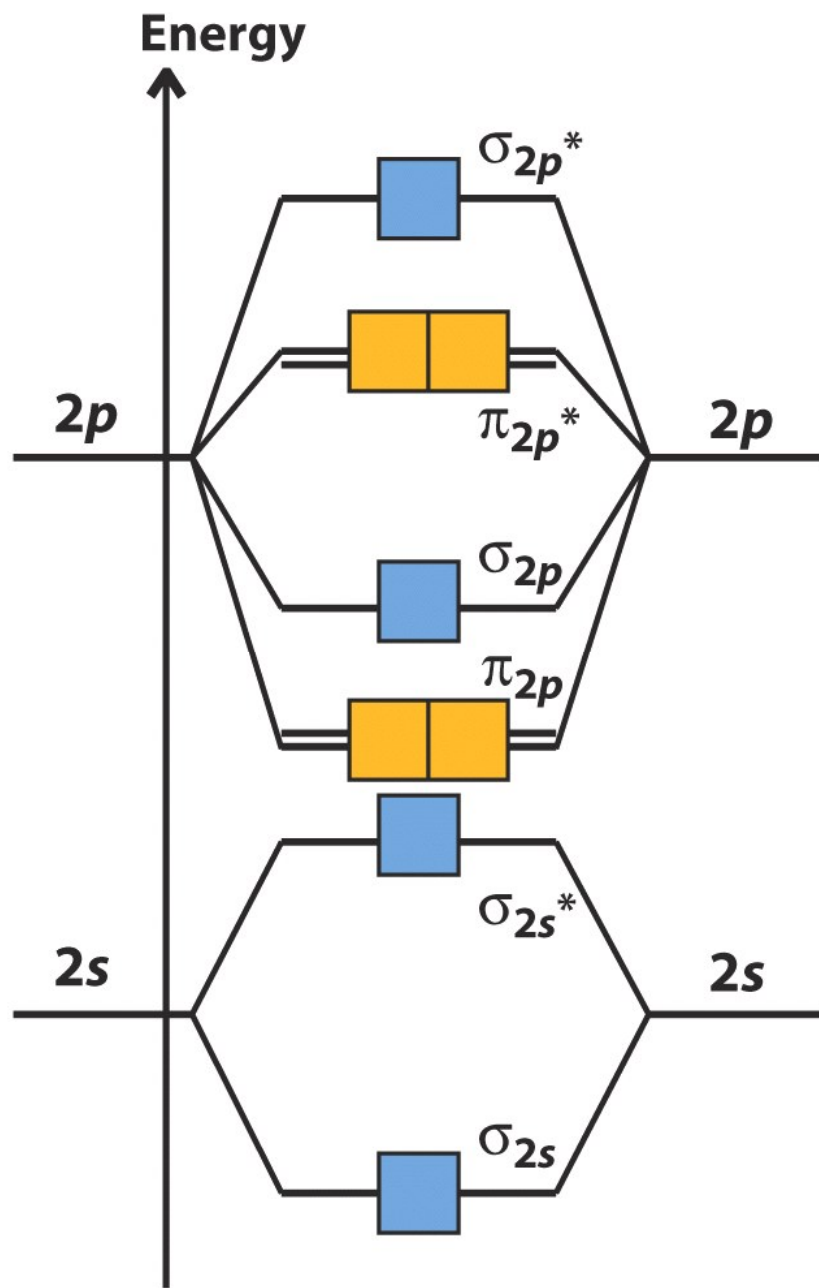


V.A. Fock  
1898-1974



J. C. Slater  
1900-1976

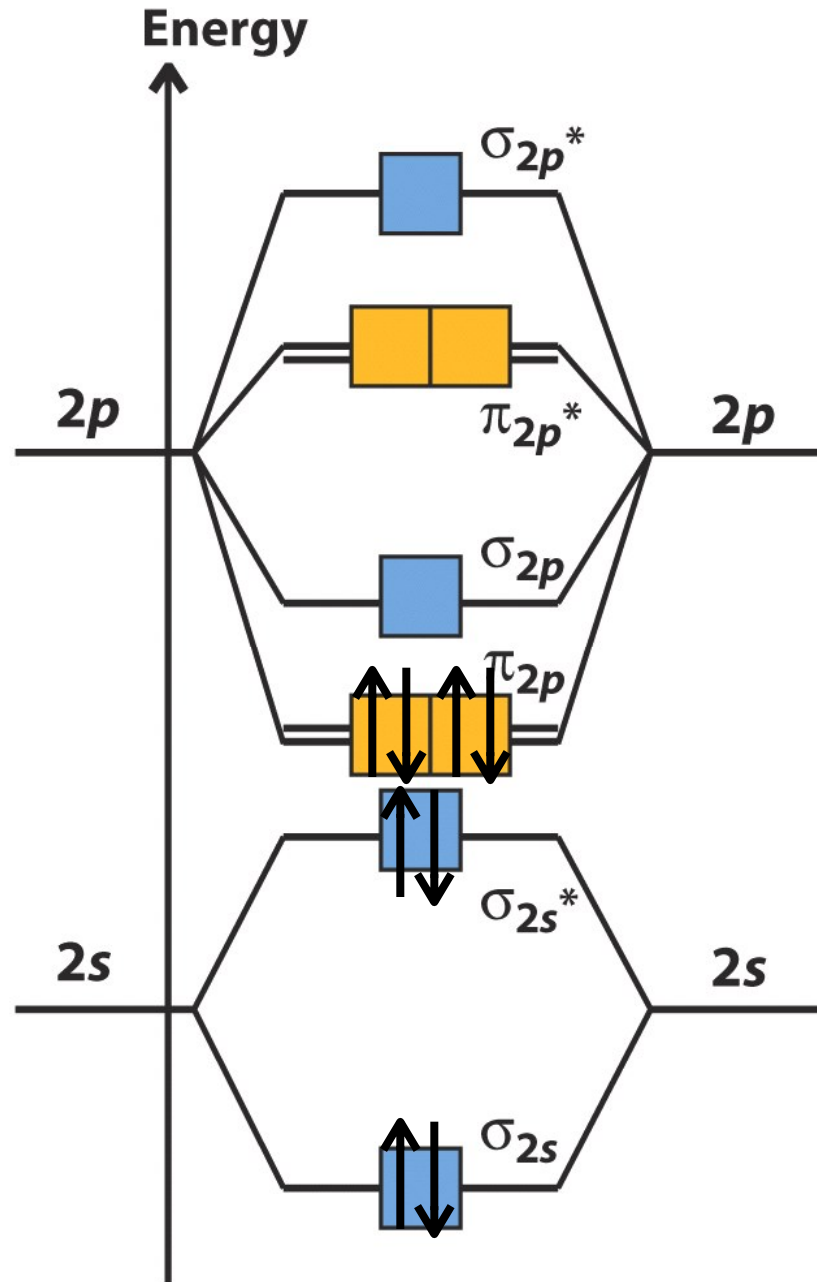
A final homonuclear example:  $C_2$  - Number of valence electrons?



For homonuclear diatomic molecules, you should be able to predict:

- I. Electron Configuration
- II. Bond Order
- III. Paramagnetic or Diamagnetic
- IV. Number of electrons in the HOMO
- V. Estimate (set limits on) the IP of the molecule

A final homonuclear example:  $C_2$  - 8 electrons  
- state ordering same as  $N_2$



A final example:  $C_2$  - 8 electrons - state ordering same as  $N_2$

We predict:

$$\text{bond order} = 1/2(6-2) = 2$$

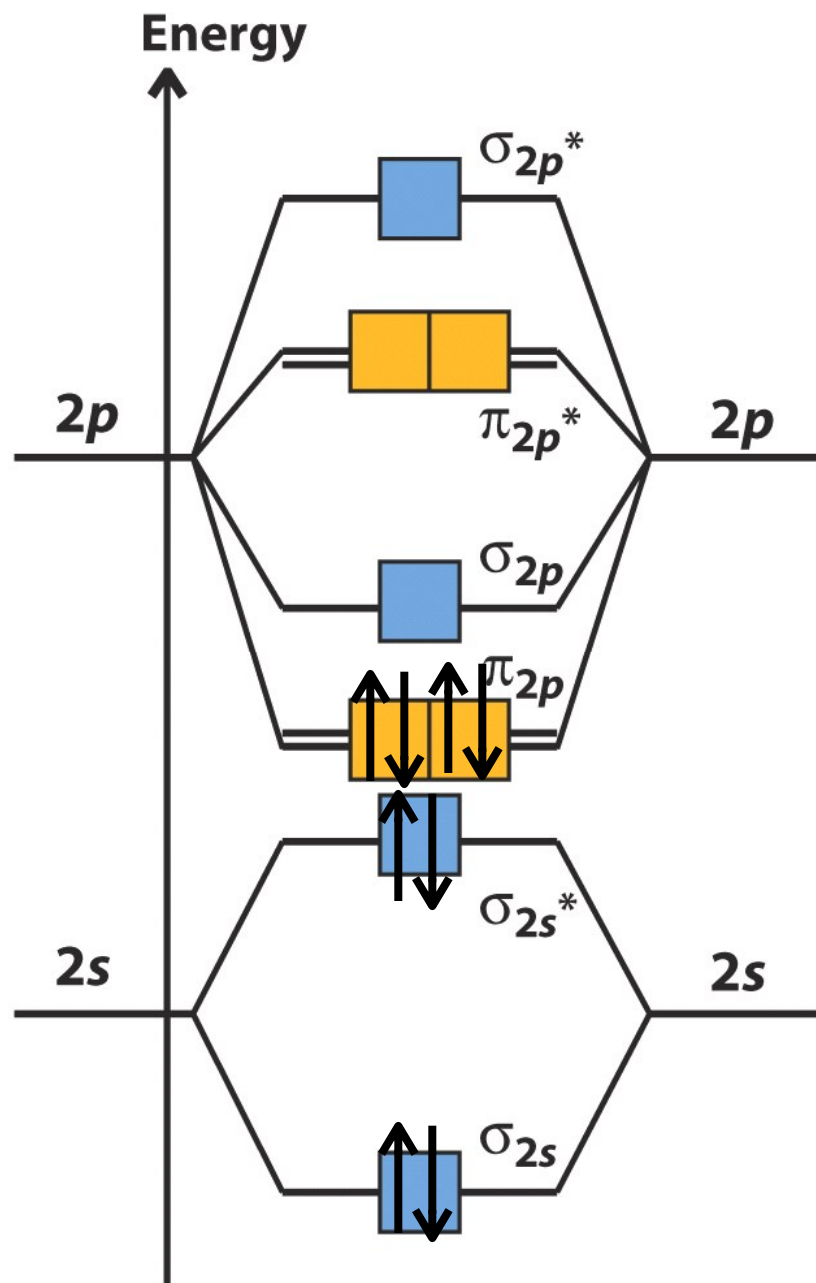
$C_2$  is diamagnetic

IP is greater than 11.26 eV

electron configuration is:



Four electrons in the HOMO



By the way, does  $C_2$  exist?



# By the way, does C<sub>2</sub> exist?

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 438:740–749, 1995 January 10

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## HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE OBSERVATIONS OF C<sub>2</sub> MOLECULES IN DIFFUSE INTERSTELLAR CLOUDS<sup>1</sup>

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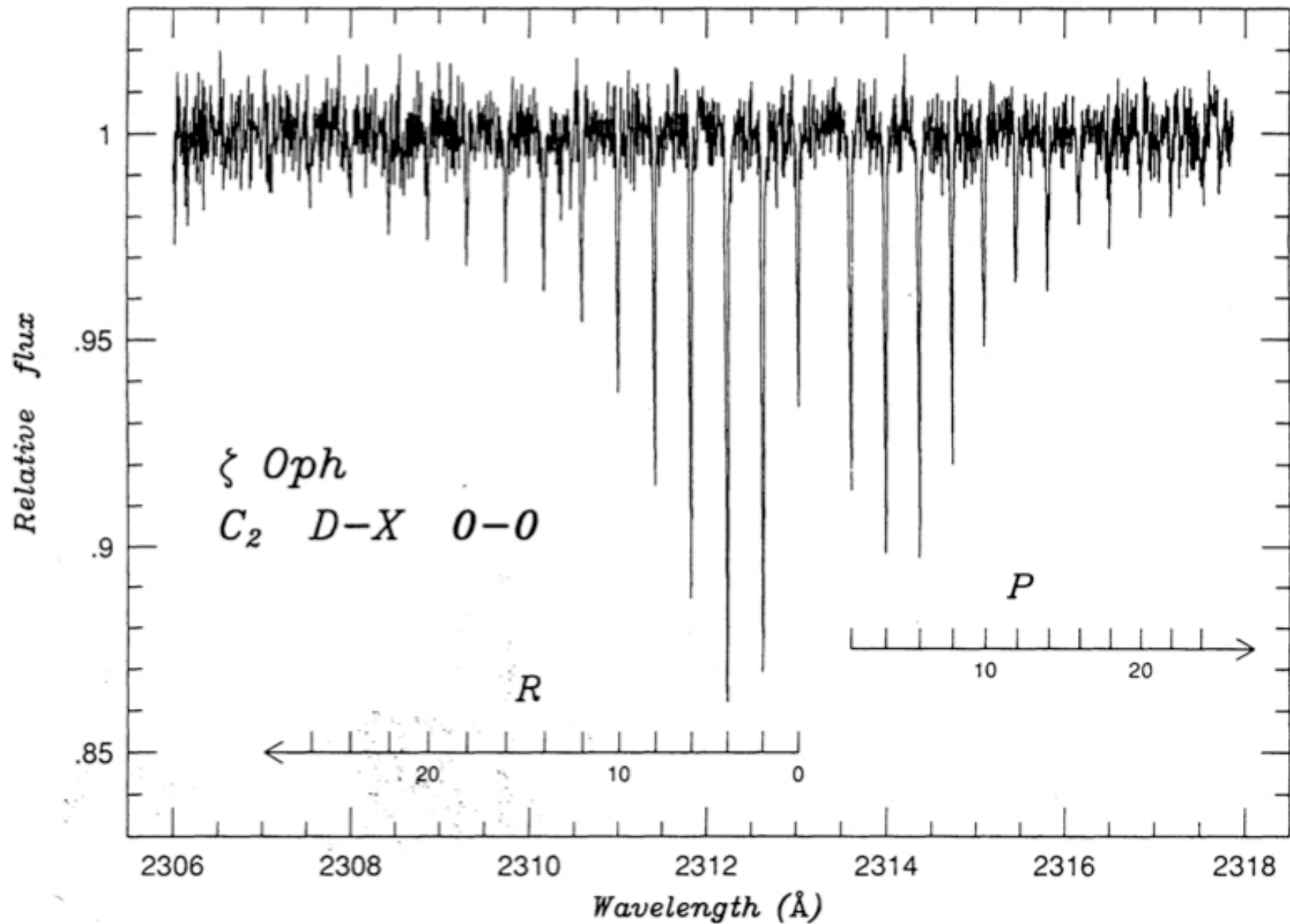
*Received 1994 March 30; accepted 1994 July 15*

### ABSTRACT

Interstellar C<sub>2</sub> *F*–*X* (1342 Å) and *D*–*X* (2313 Å) bands in the spectrum of ζ Oph were detected using the Goddard High-Resolution Spectrograph on the *Hubble Space Telescope*. The total C<sub>2</sub> column density is  $(1.79 \pm 0.06) 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  for an adopted *f*-value of 0.0545 for the 2313 Å band of the Mulliken (*D*–*X*) system. Relative *f*-values for the 0–0 *F*–*X*, 0–0 *D*–*X*, and 2–0 *A*–*X* (Phillips) bands are derived by combining ultraviolet and near-infrared spectra:  $f_{00}^{FX}/f_{00}^{DX} = 1.83 \pm 0.18$  and  $f_{20}^{AX}/f_{00}^{DX} = 0.0226 \pm 0.0029$ . For the Mulliken system, lines are detected up to a rotational level  $J'' = 24$ . The relative populations along the rotational ladder are shown to be consistent with the physical and environmental conditions suggested by other diagnostics. Interstellar C<sub>2</sub> molecules were detected towards ξ Per [ $N(\text{C}_2) = (0.80 \pm 0.23) 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ] but not towards β<sup>1</sup>, π, and ω<sup>1</sup> Sco [ $N(\text{C}_2) \leq 0.17 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ].

Yes it does -- in outer space!

Here's some of the "Mulliken bands" of interstellar  $C_2$



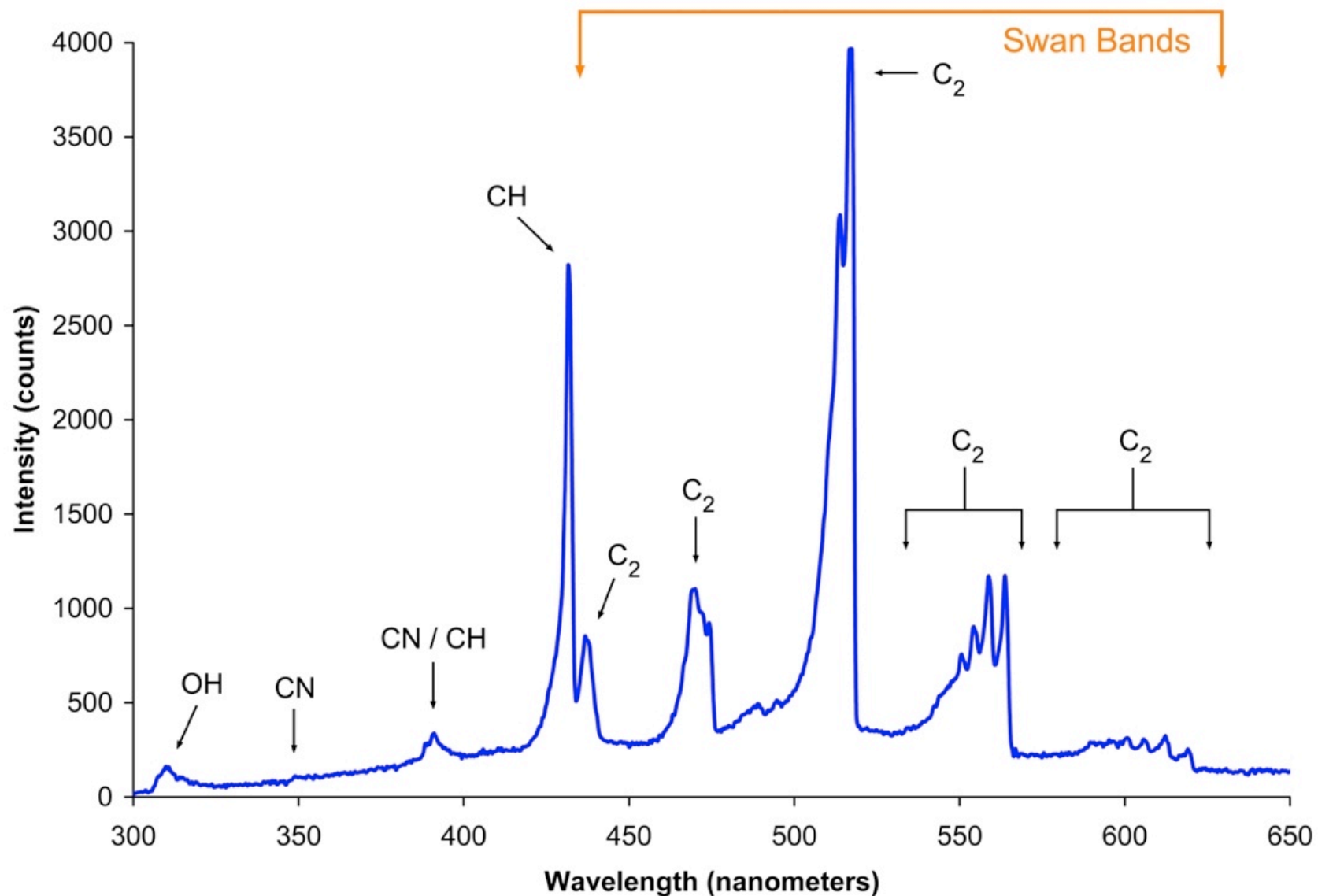
But  $C_2$  also exists inside your bunsen burner:

Swan bands are a characteristic of the spectra of carbon stars, comets and of burning hydrocarbon fuels. They are named for the Scottish physicist William Swan who first studied the spectral analysis of carbon  $C_2$  in 1856.



Identified as  $C_2$  by J. D. Shea in 1927:  
Phys. Rev. 30 (1927) 825–843.

The Swan bands are the blue emission lines in a Bunsen burner.



Spectrum of a blue flame from a pocket butane torch clearly showing non-continuum spectral emission. Spectrum taken by me using an Ocean Optics HR2000 spectrometer.

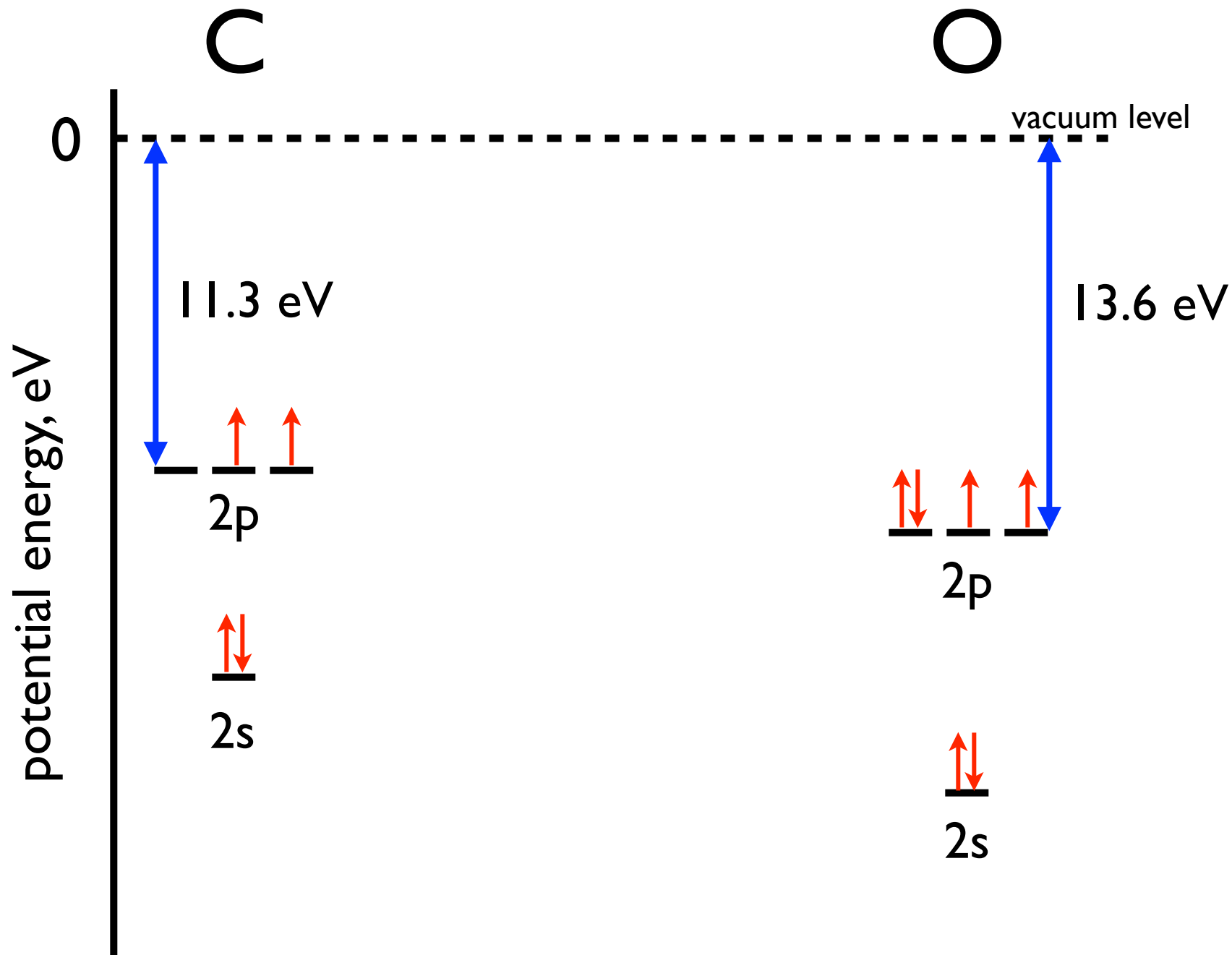
# Heteronuclear Diatomics

The fool-proof procedure for constructing energy correlation diagrams for heteronuclear diatomics:

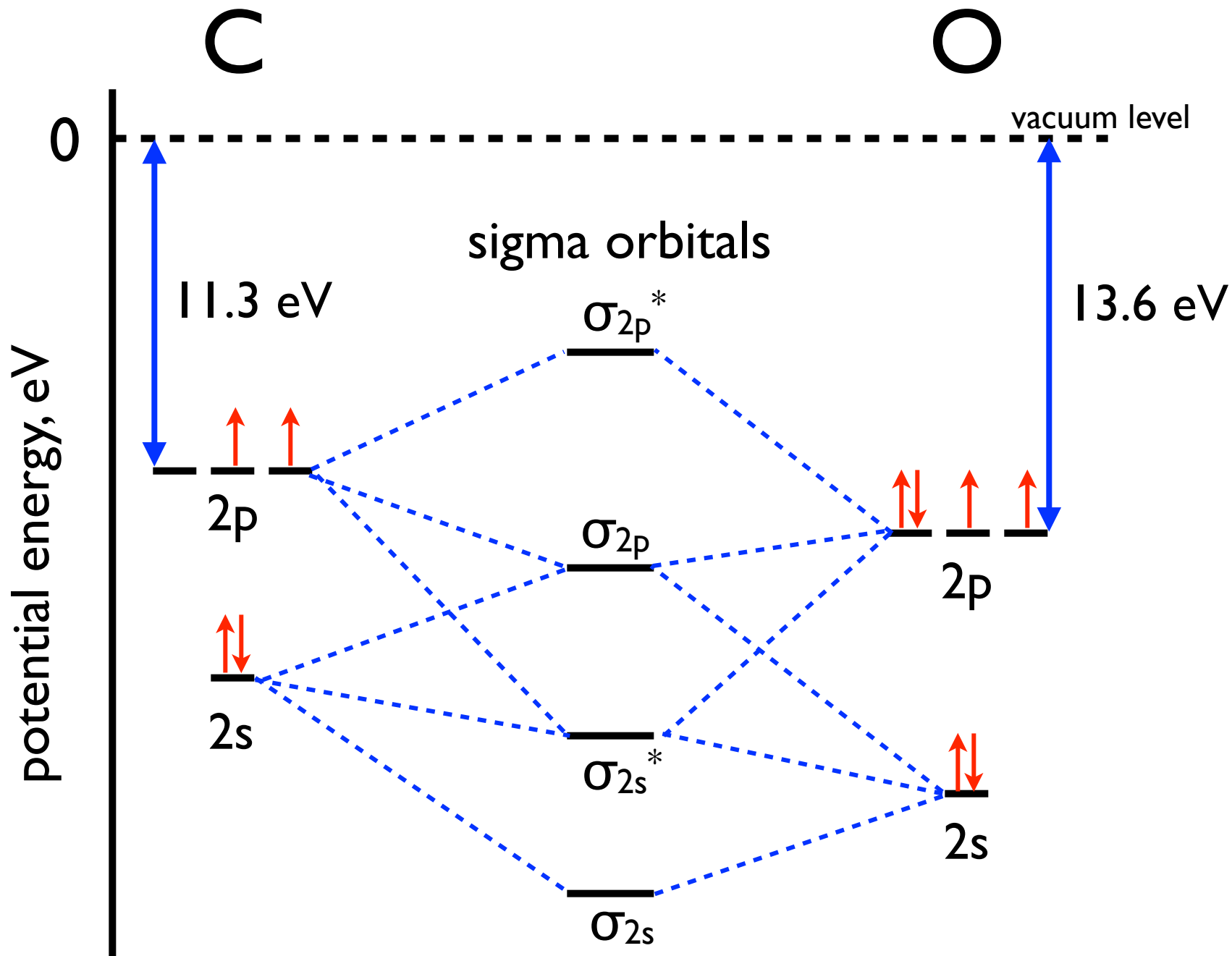
0. Draw the vacuum level.
1. Put the atomic orbitals for each bonding partner in your diagram. *Position the HAO based upon the IP of the atom.*
2. Draw in the energy levels for your MOs. *You'll need one for each atomic state.*
3. Fill them with electrons. *Make sure to follow Aufbau and Hund's rules.*

Easy as Toast!

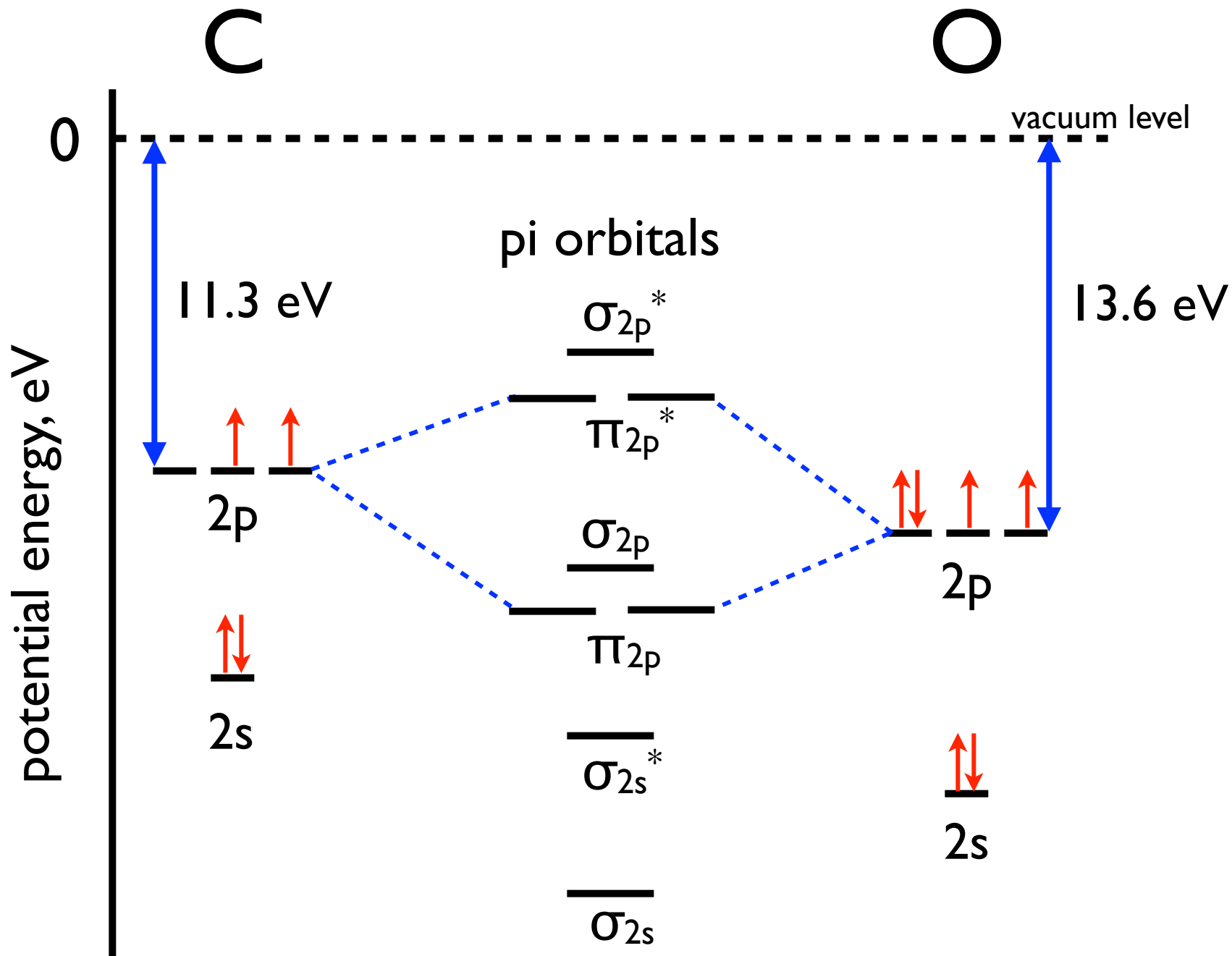
# A example: Carbon Monoxide (CO)



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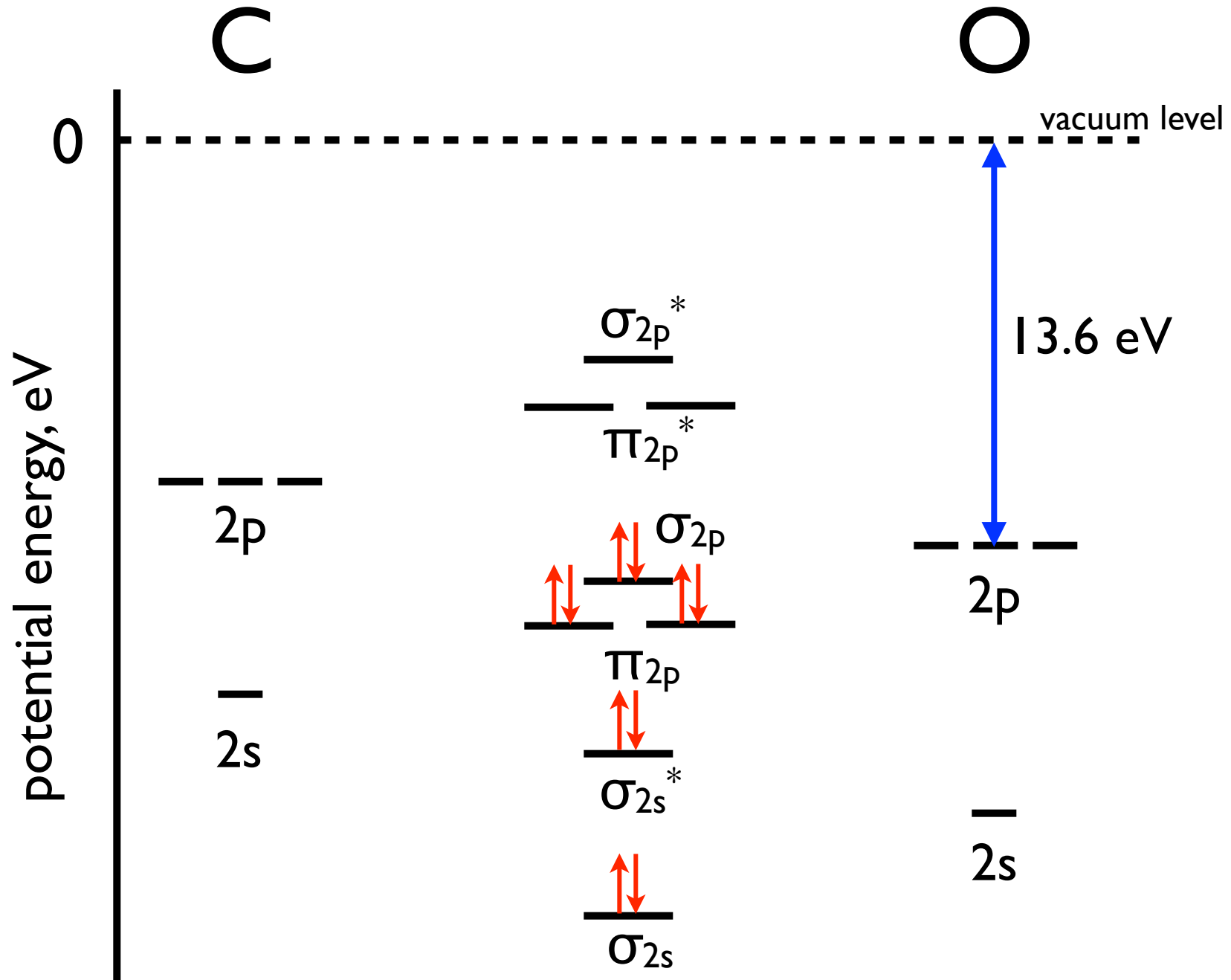


# An example: Carbon Monoxide (CO)





# An example: Carbon Monoxide (CO) - 10 valence electrons



So heteronuclear diatomic molecules are a bit more complicated, but still we can make predictions:

For CO:

bond order = **3.0**

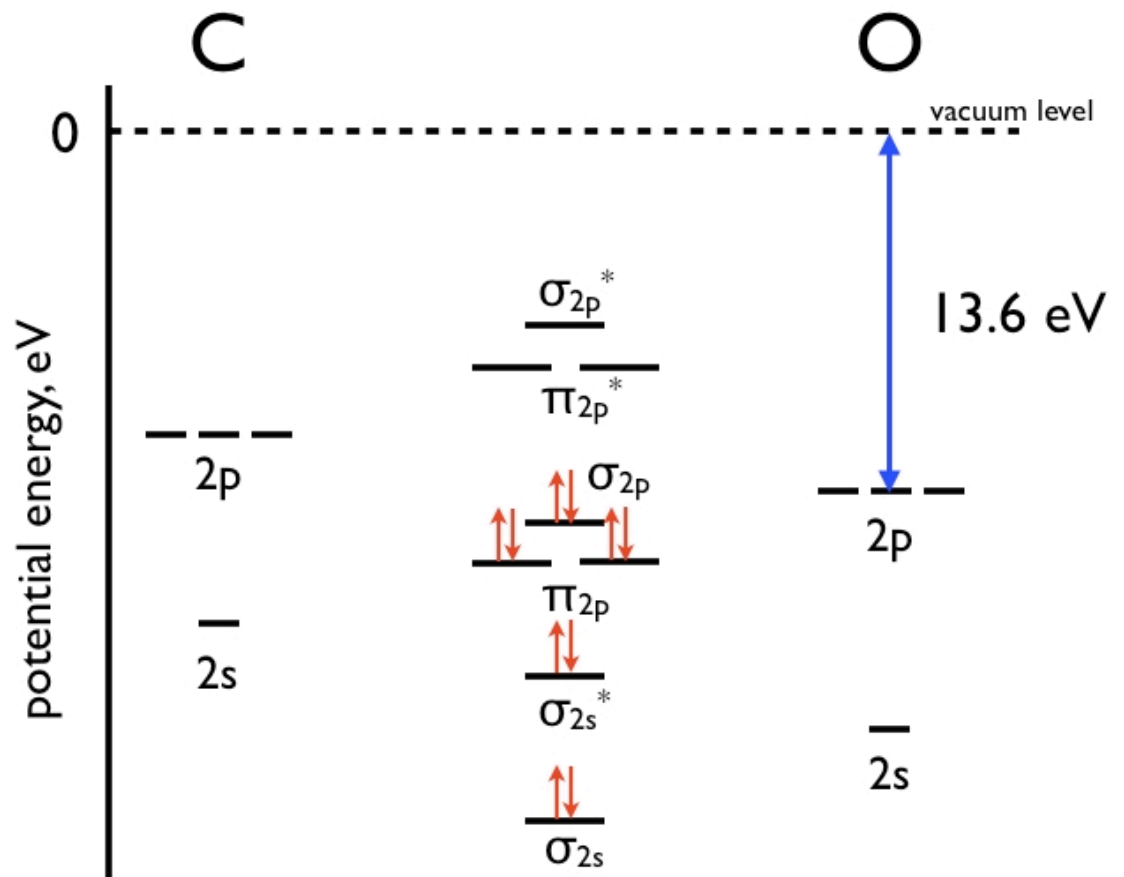
CO is **diamagnetic**

IP is greater than 13.6 eV  
(Actual is 14.0 eV)

Electron configuration is:

$\sigma_{2s}^2 \sigma_{2s}^{*2} \pi_{2p}^4 \sigma_{2p}^2$

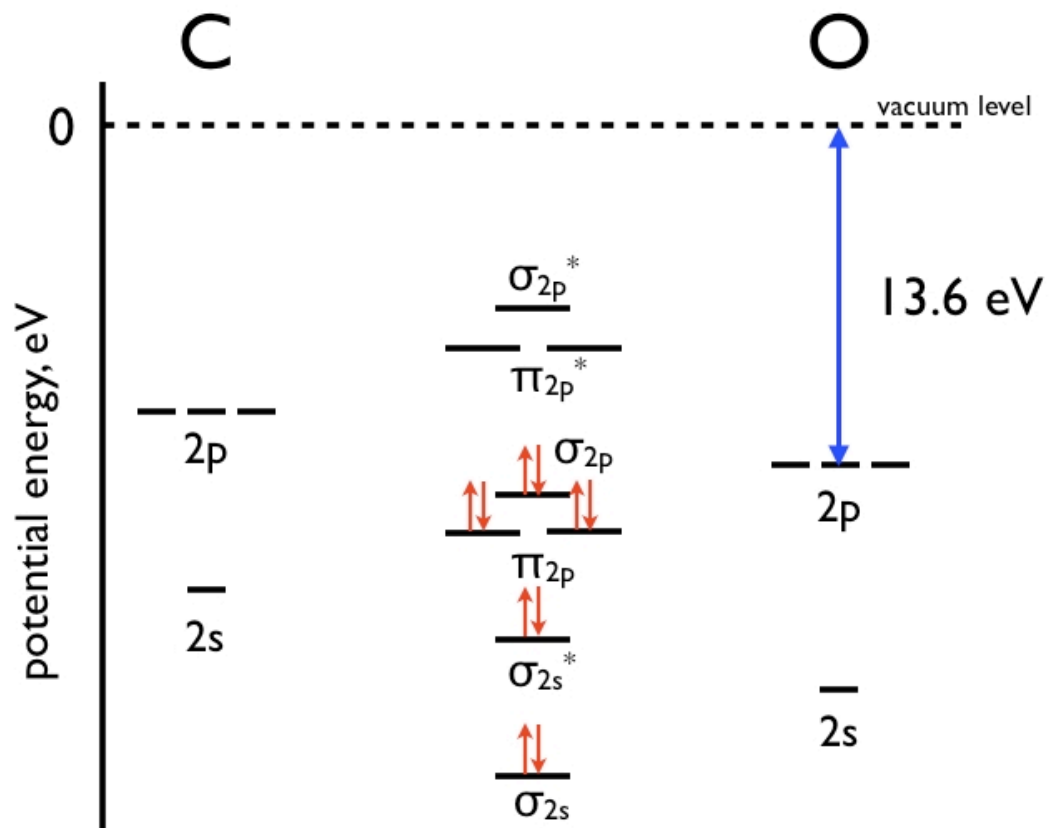
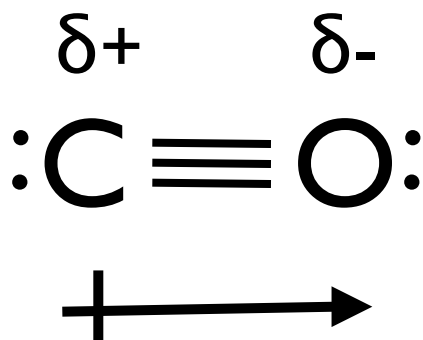
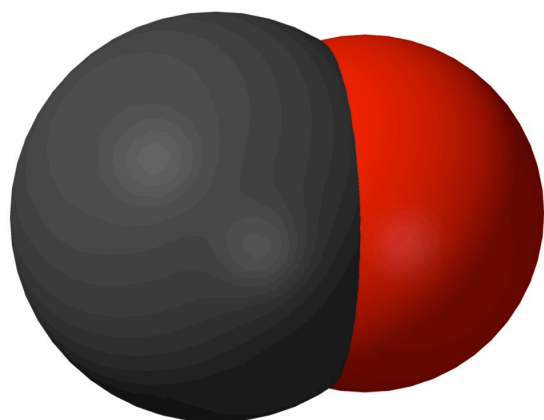
Two electrons in the HOMO



Some additional facts about CO:

Bond Length: 112.8 pm

Dipole Moment: 0.112D



Opposite of Lewis Dot Structure Formal Charge!

# Mulliken Population Analysis

THE JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS

OCTOBER, 1955

## Electronic Population Analysis on LCAO-MO Molecular Wave Functions.\* I

R. S. MULLIKEN

*Laboratory of Molecular Structure and Spectra, Department of Physics, The University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois*

(Received January 6, 1955)

Mulliken outlined a systematic method for obtaining quantitative information from the LCAO-MOs in terms of atomic populations (net and gross), overlap populations, promotion and the total charge on each atom.

In 1955.



Robert S. Mulliken  
1896-1986

## Mulliken Population Analysis

For a diatomic molecule AB, consider a molecular orbital  $\phi_{MO}$  that is made from a linear combination of two atomic orbitals, one from atom A, and one from atom B.

$$\phi_{MO} = c_A \psi_A + c_B \psi_B$$

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$$\phi_{MO} = c_A \psi_A + c_B \psi_B$$

The molecular orbital and both of the atomic orbitals are all normalized to a probability of one over all space:

$$\int \phi_{MO}^2 d\tau = 1 \quad \int \psi_A^2 d\tau = 1 \quad \int \psi_B^2 d\tau = 1$$

## Mulliken Population Analysis

The Born Interpretation states that  $\Phi^2$  is the probability density for the molecular orbital:

$$\phi_{MO}^2 = c_A^2 \psi_A^2 + 2c_A c_B \psi_A \psi_B + c_B^2 \psi_B^2$$

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$$\phi_{MO}^2 = c_A^2 \psi_A^2 + 2c_A c_B \psi_A \psi_B + c_B^2 \psi_B^2$$

If we integrate this equation to get the probability, we end up with three terms:

$$\int \phi_{MO}^2 d\tau = c_A^2 \int \psi_A^2 d\tau + 2c_A c_B \int \psi_A \psi_B d\tau + c_B^2 \int \psi_B^2 d\tau$$



## Mulliken Population Analysis

If we integrate this equation to get the probability, we end up with three terms:

$$\overset{\text{one}}{\int \phi_{MO}^2 d\tau} = c_A^2 \overset{\text{one}}{\int \psi_A^2 d\tau} + 2c_A c_B \int \psi_A \psi_B d\tau + c_B^2 \overset{\text{one}}{\int \psi_B^2 d\tau}$$

$$1 = c_A^2 + 2c_A c_B S_{AB} + c_B^2$$

where  $S_{AB}$  is called the overlap integral:

$$S_{AB} = \int \psi_A \psi_B d\tau$$

## Mulliken Population Analysis

If there are  $N$  electrons in the molecular orbital  $\Phi$ , then:

$$N = Nc_A^2 + 2Nc_Ac_BS_{AB} + Nc_B^2$$

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*"These three sub-populations may be likened to those of two cities and a (joint) suburb which lies between them."*

R. S. Mulliken

## Mulliken Population Analysis

### Gross Atomic Populations:

Mulliken also created **gross atomic populations** in which the charge in an orbital was assigned to either atom A or atom B. The overlap population was equally divided between the two atoms.

$$N = Nc_A^2 + 2Nc_Ac_BS_{AB} + Nc_B^2$$

$$N = \underbrace{Nc_A^2 + Nc_Ac_BS_{AB}}_{N(A)} + \underbrace{Nc_Ac_BS_{AB} + Nc_B^2}_{N(B)}$$

$$N = N(A) + N(B)$$

## Mulliken Population Analysis

### Gross Atomic Populations:

$$N = N(A) + N(B)$$

### Gross Atomic Charges:

Mulliken also created **gross atomic charges** by subtracting the gross atomic populations from the number of electrons originally in the atomic orbitals:  $N_0(A)$  and  $N_0(B)$ .

$$Q(A) = N_0(A) - N(A)$$

$$Q(B) = N_0(B) - N(B)$$

## Mulliken Population Analysis

All of the equations I have used were for one MO:

$$\phi_{MO} = c_A \psi_A + c_B \psi_B$$

$$N = Nc_A^2 + 2Nc_Ac_BS_{AB} + Nc_B^2$$

$$N = N(A) + N(B)$$

Mulliken generalized these equations to ALL of the MOs in a molecule. See the Handouts Section of the Chem H2A web page to download his 1955 paper.

R. S. Mulliken, J. Chem. Phys. **10** 1833-1840 (1955).



Mulliken did an example molecule: Carbon Monoxide!

He used the LCAO-MOs from someone else (Sahni):

TABLE I. Computed SCF-LCAO MOs for CO (by R. C. Sahni, reference 12).

$\phi_i \backslash \chi_r$	$2s_O$	$2p\sigma_O$	$2s_C$	$2p\sigma_C$	$2p\pi_O$	$2p\pi_C$	calc $-\epsilon_i(\text{eV})$	obs $I_i(\text{eV})$
$3\sigma$	0.675	0.231	0.270	0.227			43.37	
$4\sigma$	0.718	-0.607	-0.493	-0.168			20.01	19.70
$1\pi$					0.8145	0.4162	15.97	16.58
$5\sigma$	0.187	-0.189	0.615	-0.763			13.37	14.01

Nomenclature: Mulliken just named the orbitals  $n\sigma$  or  $n\pi$ :

Ours:  $\sigma_{1s}^2 \sigma_{1s}^{*2} \sigma_{2s}^2 \sigma_{2s}^{*2} \pi_{2p}^4 \sigma_{2p}^2$

His:  $1\sigma^2 2\sigma^2 3\sigma^2 4\sigma^2 1\pi^2 5\sigma^2$

# Mulliken did an example molecule: Carbon Monoxide!

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Here are the highest energy occupied MOs:

$$5\sigma = 0.187\Psi_O(2s) - 0.189\Psi_O(2p\sigma) + 0.615\Psi_C(2s) - 0.763\Psi_C(2p\sigma)$$

$$1\pi = 0.8145\Psi_O(2p\pi) + 0.4162\Psi_C(2p\pi)$$

The sigma orbitals are all linear combinations of four orbitals; the pi orbitals of two.

# An example: CO

TABLE IV. Gross atomic populations and charges in CO (see Eqs. (6'), (7), (8)).

$\phi_i \backslash \chi_{rk}$	Partial populations $N(i; r_k)$						$N(i; O)$	$N(i; C)$	$N(i)$
	$2s_O$	$2p\sigma_O$	$2p\pi_O$	$2s_C$	$2p\sigma_C$	$2p\pi_C$			
$3\sigma$	1.207	0.178		0.333	0.282		1.385	0.615	2.000
$4\sigma$	0.627	0.985		0.386	0.002		1.612	0.388	2.000
$1\pi$			2.980			1.020	2.980	1.020	4.000
$5\sigma$	0.026	0.085		0.776	1.113		0.111	1.889	2.000
$N(r_k)$	1.860	1.248	2.980	1.495	1.397	1.020	$N(O)=$ 6.088	$N(C)=$ 3.912	$N=$ 10.000
$Q(r_k)$ in $e$ units	+0.140	-0.248	+0.020	+0.505	-0.397	-0.020	$Q(O)=$ -0.088	$Q(C)=$ +0.088	0.000

Using the atomic populations, we find:

On the Carbon( $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2$ ):  $1s^{2.00} 2s^{1.49} 2p^{2.42}$

On the Oxygen( $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$ ):  $1s^{2.00} 2s^{1.86} 2p^{4.23}$

Pauling was right: sp promotion and hybridization exists!

# An example: CO

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Using the gross atomic populations, we find:

Gross  
Charge

On the Carbon( $N_0 = 4$ ):  $N(C) = 3.912$

-0.088e

On the Oxygen( $N_0 = 6$ ):  $N(O) = 6.088$

+0.088e

The CO molecule has a small dipole moment in the direction of Oxygen.

# An example: CO

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Using the gross atomic populations, we find:

$1\pi$  orbital:  $N(C) = 1.020$ ;  $N(O) = 2.980$

*The  $\pi$  orbital sits primarily on the Oxygen atom ( $C^+O^-$  polarization).*

# An example: CO

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Using the gross atomic populations, we find:

$5\sigma$  orbital:  $N(C) = 1.889; N(O) = 0.111$

*The HOMO sits primarily on the Carbon atom ( $C-O^+$  polarization).*

CO forms strong bonds in metal complexes such as  $Fe(CO)_5$ .  
Bonding occurs through the Carbon atom end, but uses  $\pi^*$  orbitals.

# An example: CO

TABLE VII. Computed overlap populations for CO (see Eqs. (4)).

$\phi_i \backslash \chi_{rk}, \chi_{sl}$	Partial populations $n(i; r_k, s_l)$					$n(i)$	Change on Ionzn.	
	$2s_O, 2s_C$	$2s_O, 2p\sigma_C$	$2p\sigma_O, 2s_C$	$2p\sigma_O, 2p\sigma_C$	$2p\pi_O, 2p\pi_C$		calc $-\Delta n/n$	obsd $2\Delta r_e/r_e$
$3\sigma$	0.296	0.294	0.078	0.064		0.732		
$4\sigma$	-0.574	-0.232	0.376	0.124		-0.308	-0.151	+0.072
$1\pi$					0.654	0.654	+0.161	+0.206
$5\sigma$	0.186	-0.274	-0.146	0.174		-0.060	-0.029	-0.022
$n(r_k, s_l)$	-0.092	-0.212	0.308	0.362	0.654	$n =$ 1.018		

Using the overlap populations, we find:

$3\sigma$  ( $\sigma_{2s}$ ) overlap population = 0.732  
 $4\sigma$  ( $\sigma^*_{2s}$ ) overlap population = -0.308  
 $1\pi$  ( $\pi_{2p}$ ) overlap population = 0.654  
 $5\sigma$  ( $\sigma_{2p}$ ) overlap population = -0.060

$3\sigma$  and  $1\pi$  are bonding orbitals.

$4\sigma$  and  $5\sigma$  are nonbonding orbitals!

# An example: CO

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$5\sigma$  ( $\sigma_{2p}$ ) overlap population = -0.060

$\sigma$  overlap: 0.364

$\pi$  overlap: 0.654

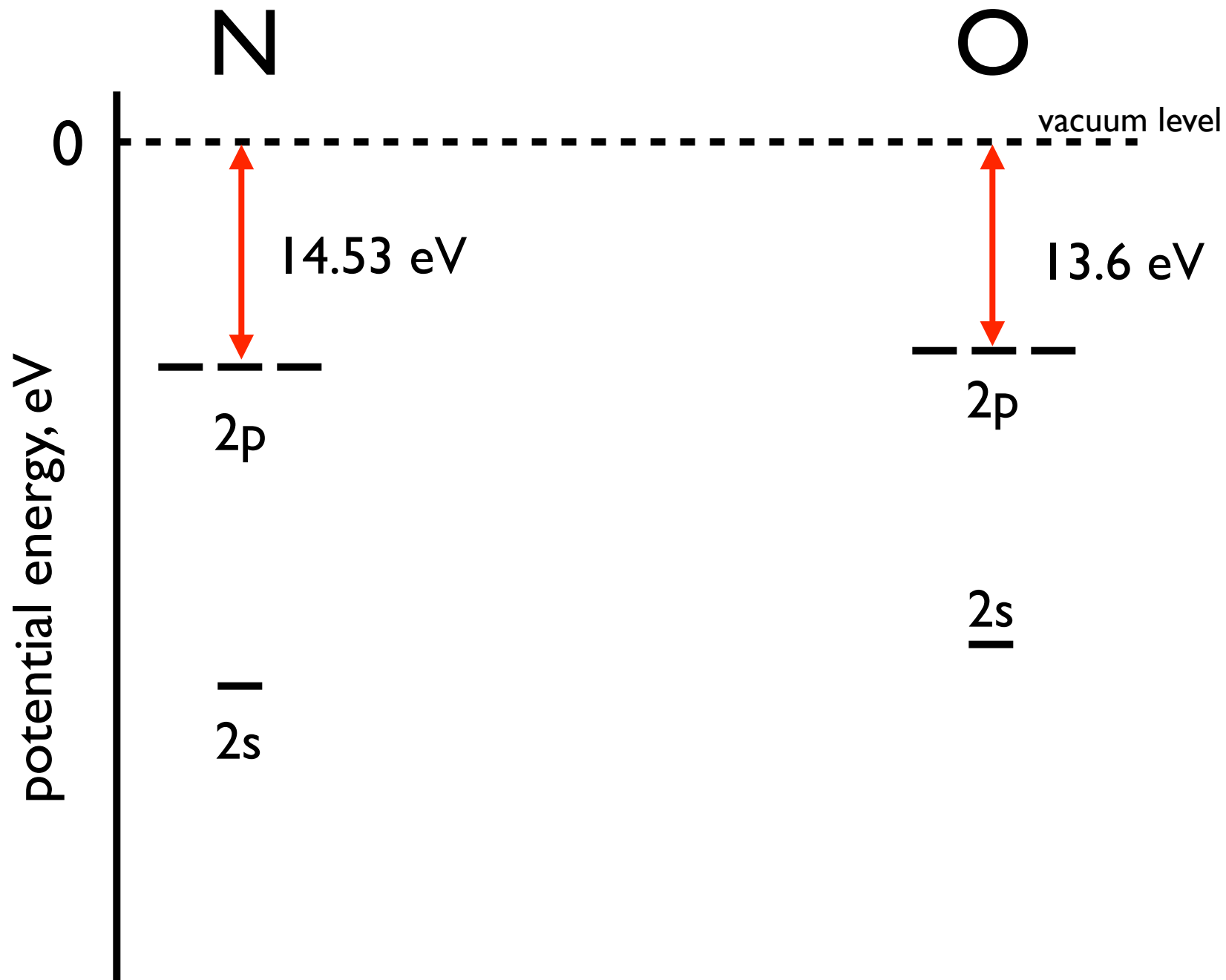
(1  $\sigma$  and 2  $\pi$  bonds)

Total overlap: 1.018 (80% of  $N_2 = 1.276$ )

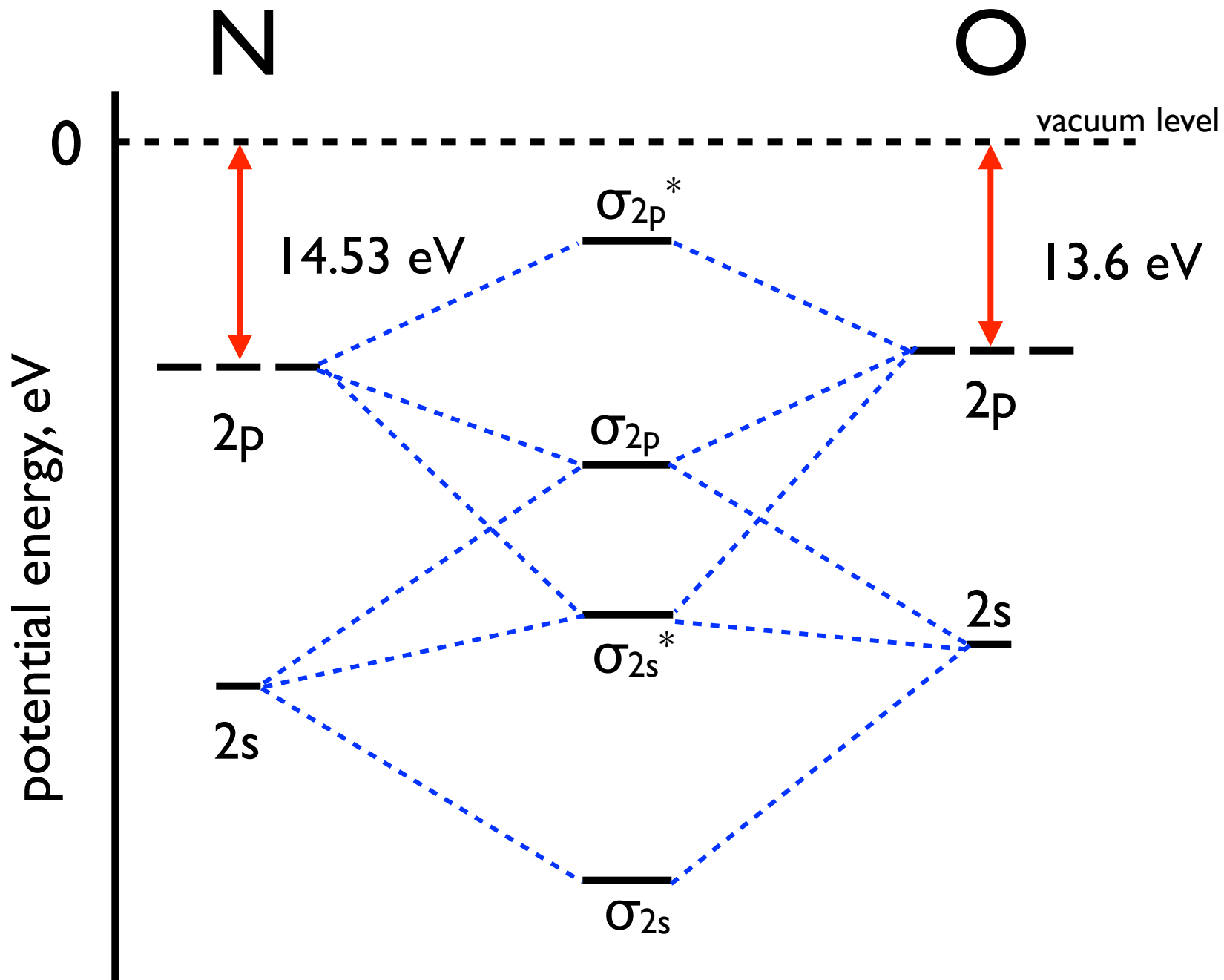
a triple bond



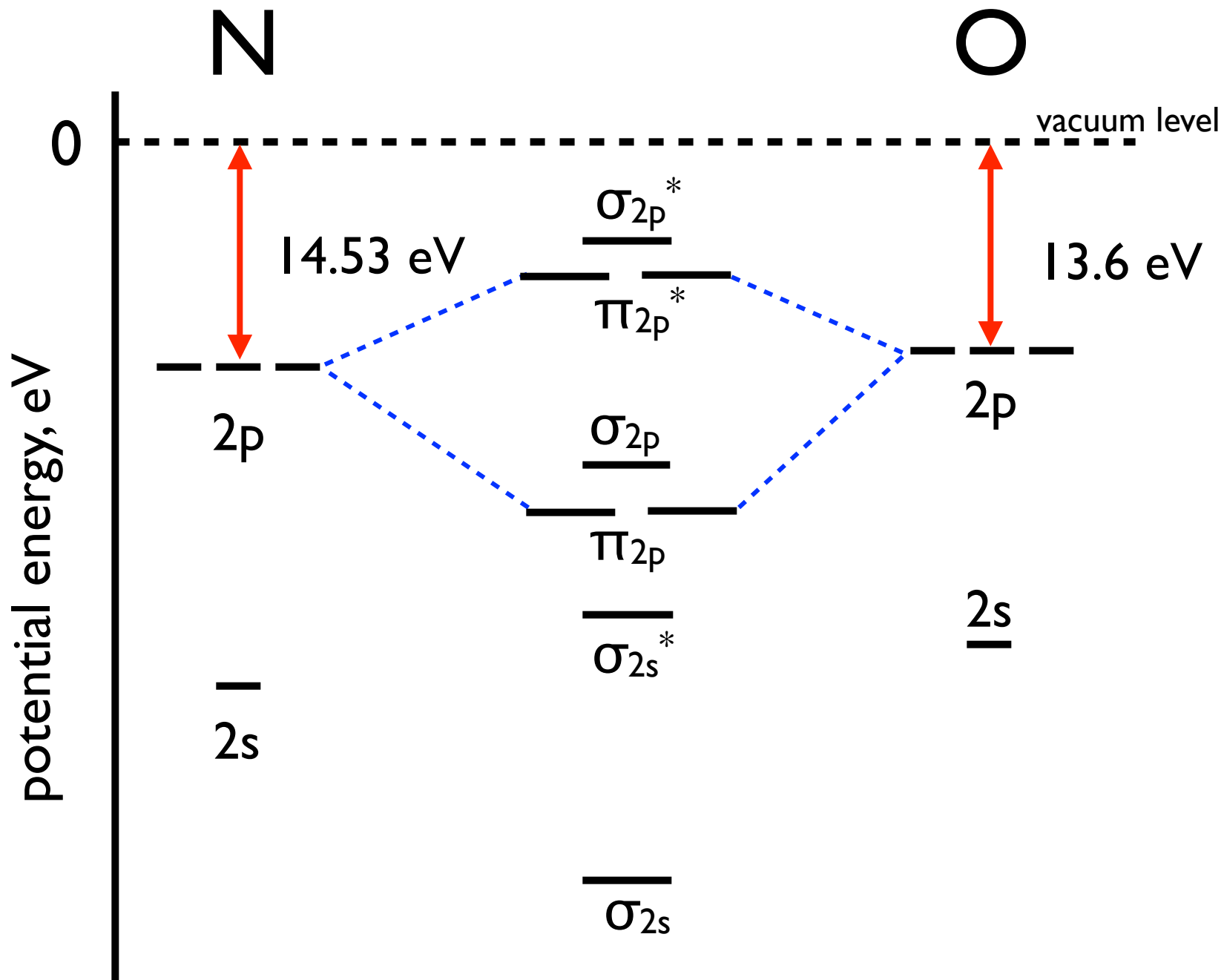
# A final example: Nitric Monoxide (NO)



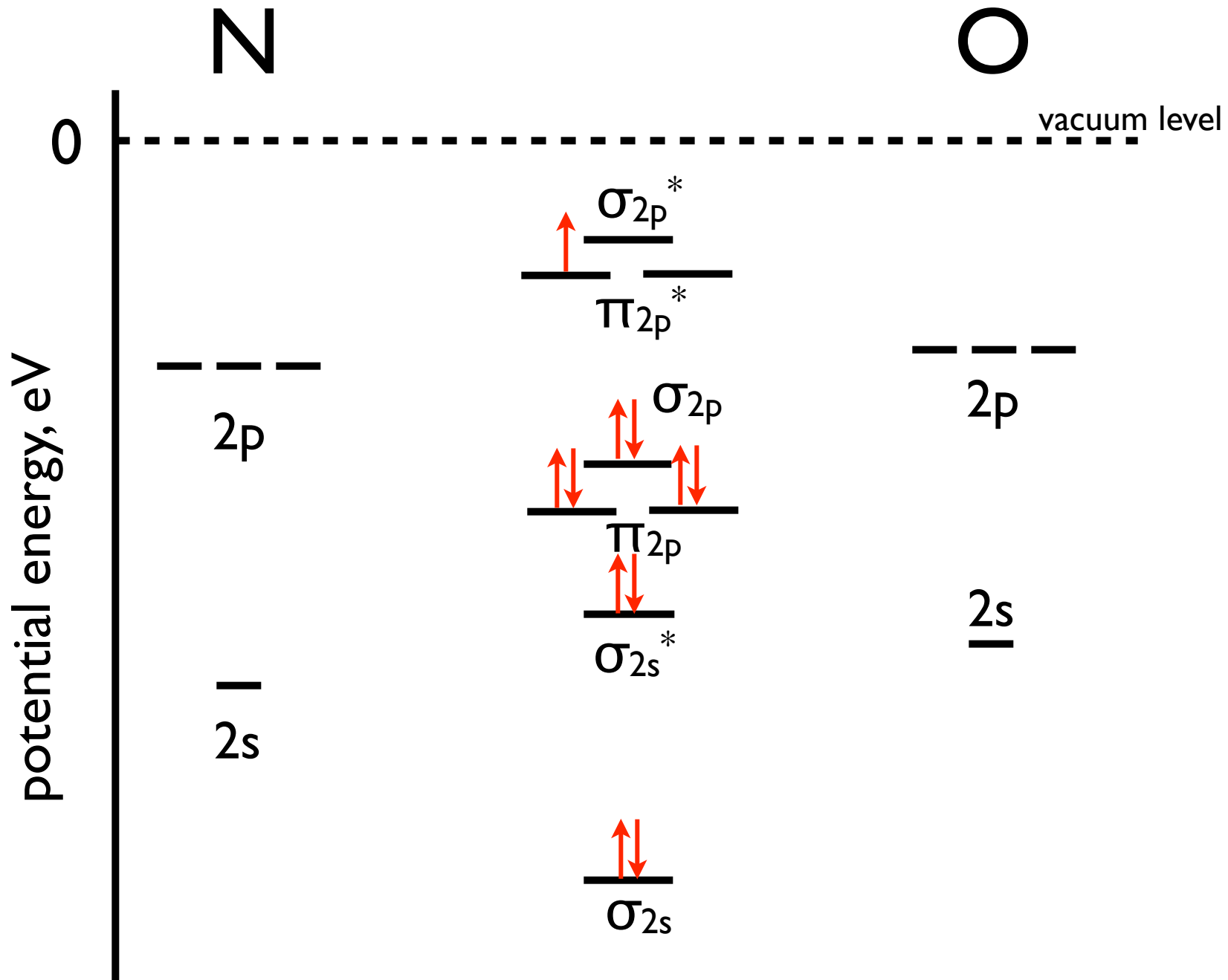
# A final example: Nitric Monoxide (NO)



# A final example: Nitric Monoxide (NO)



A final example: Nitric Monoxide (NO) - 11 electrons



# A final example: Nitric Monoxide (NO) - 11 electrons

For NO:

bond order = **2.5**

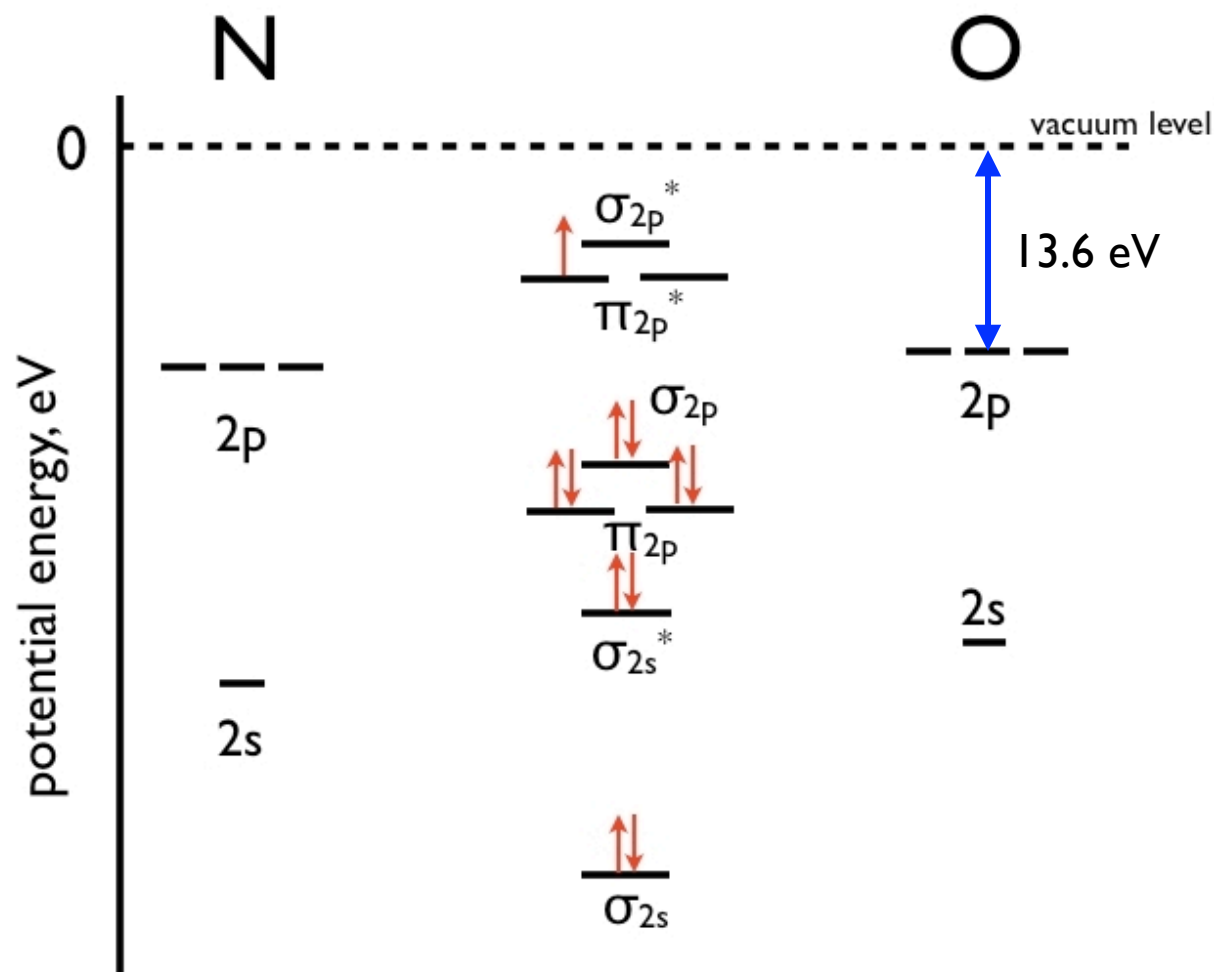
NO is **paramagnetic**

IP is less than 13.6 eV

Electron configuration is:

$\sigma_{2s}^2 \sigma_{2s}^{*2} \pi_{2p}^4 \sigma_{2p}^2 \pi_{2p}^{*1}$

One electron in the HOMO



The fool-proof procedure for constructing energy correlation diagrams:

0. Draw the vacuum level.
1. Put the atomic orbitals for each bonding partner in your diagram. *Position the HAO based upon the IP of the atom.*
2. Draw in the energy levels for your MOs. *You'll need one for each atomic state.*
3. Fill them with electrons. *Make sure to follow Aufbau and Hund's rules.*

Easy as Toast!

## Another example: H<sub>2</sub>O

TABLE II. Computed SCF-LCAO MOs for H<sub>2</sub>O (by Ellison and Shull, reference 16).

$\phi_i \backslash \chi_r$	$1s_O$	$2s_O$	$2pz_O$	$a_1(H_1)$	$2py_O$	$b_2(H_2)$	$2px_O$	calc $-\epsilon_i(\text{ev})$	obs $I_i(\text{v})$
$1a_1$	1.0002	0.0163	0.0024	-0.0039				557.3	
$2a_1$	-0.029	0.845	0.133	0.208				36.2	
$1b_2$					0.543	0.613		18.6	16.2
$3a_1$	-0.026	-0.461	0.827	0.393				13.2	14.5
$1b_1$							1.000	11.8	12.56

Nomenclature: Mulliken includes 1s MOs:

Ours (8 electrons):  $1a_1^2 1b_2^2 2a_1^2 1b_1^2$

His (10 electrons):  $1a_1^2 2a_1^2 1b_2^2 3a_1^2 1b_1^2$

## Another example: H<sub>2</sub>O

TABLE V. Gross atomic populations and charges in H<sub>2</sub>O (see Eqs. (6'), (7), (8)).<sup>a</sup>

$\phi_i \backslash \chi_{rk}$	$1s_O$	$2s_O$	Partial populations $N(i; r_k)$			$a_1(H_2)$	$b_2(H_2)$	$N(i; O)$	$N(i; H_2)$	$N(i)$
			$2pz_O$	$2py_O$	$2px_O$					
$1a_1$	2.0002	0.0005	0.0000			-0.0005		2.0007	-0.0005	2.000
$2a_1$	0.0008	1.638	0.049			0.309		1.688	0.309	1.997
$1b_2$				0.918			1.080	0.918	1.080	1.998
$3a_1$	-0.0001	0.209	1.534			0.257		1.743	0.257	2.000
$1b_1$					2.000			2.000		2.000
$N(r_k)$	2.0009	1.847	1.583	0.918	2.000	0.565	1.080	$N(O)=$ 8.349	$N(H_2)=$ 1.645	$N=$ 9.995
$Q(r_k)$ in $e$ units	0.00	+0.15	-0.58	+0.08	0.00	+0.43	-0.08	$Q(O)=$ -0.35	$Q(H_2)=$ +0.35	0.00

Using the gross atomic populations, we find:

atomic populations: Oxygen:  $1s^{2.00}2s^{1.85}2p^{4.50}$

Hydrogens (each):  $1s^{0.82}$



## Another example: H<sub>2</sub>O

TABLE V. Gross atomic populations and charges in H<sub>2</sub>O (see Eqs. (6'), (7), (8)).<sup>a</sup>

$\phi_i \backslash X r_k$	$1s_O$	$2s_O$	Partial populations $N(i; r_k)$			$a_1(H_2)$	$b_2(H_2)$	$N(i; O)$	$N(i; H_2)$	$N(i)$
			$2p_{zO}$	$2p_{yO}$	$2p_{xO}$					
$1a_1$	2.0002	0.0005	0.0000			-0.0005		2.0007	-0.0005	2.000
$2a_1$	0.0008	1.638	0.049			0.309		1.688	0.309	1.997
$1b_2$				0.918			1.080	0.918	1.080	1.998
$3a_1$	-0.0001	0.209	1.534			0.257		1.743	0.257	2.000
$1b_1$					2.000			2.000		2.000
$N(r_k)$	2.0009	1.847	1.583	0.918	2.000	0.565	1.080	$N(O)=$ 8.349	$N(H_2)=$ 1.645	$N=$ 9.995
$Q(r_k)$ in $e$ units	0.00	+0.15	-0.58	+0.08	0.00	+0.43	-0.08	$Q(O)=$ -0.35	$Q(H_2)=$ +0.35	0.00

Using the gross atomic populations, we find:

Gross  
Charge

On the Oxygen ( $N_O = 8$ ):  $N(O) = 8.349$

-0.35e

On the Hydrogens ( $N_O = 2$ ):  $N(H_2) = 1.645$

+0.35e

## Another example: H<sub>2</sub>O

TABLE VIII. Computed overlap populations for H<sub>2</sub>O (see Eqs. (4)).

$\chi_{rk}, \chi_{sl}$ $\phi_i$	Partial populations $n(i; r_k, s_l)$					$n(i)$
	$1s_O, a_1(H_2)$	$2s_O, a_1(H_2)$	$2pz_O, a_1(H_2)$	$2py_O, b_2(H_2)$	$1s_a(H), 1s_b(H)$	
$1a_1$	-0.0012	0.000	0.000		0.000	-0.001
$2a_1$	-0.0018	0.419	0.028		0.024	+0.469
$1b_2$				0.658	-0.450	+0.208
$3a_1$	-0.0030	-0.432	0.332		0.084	-0.019
$1b_1$						0.000
$n(r_k, s_l)$	-0.0060	-0.013	0.360	0.658	-0.342	$n =$ 0.657

Bonding occurs through the  $2a_1$  and  $1b_2$  orbitals. The higher energy  $3a_1$  and  $1b_1$  do not contribute to the bonding.