

Molecular Geometry Model Lab; SC1d, SC3e

Introduction: Explaining the shapes of molecules is important in understanding how molecules react. The valence shell electron pair repulsion (VSEPR) model is based on the premise that in order to attain the lowest energy scenario, electron pairs around the central atom will position themselves to allow for maximum separation. The purpose of this lab is to construct a series of compounds using the VSEPR model and to use your model to determine the type of bonding and the geometry around each central atom. During this lab you will 1). Construct a series of compounds, using the VSEPR model, 2). Relate each constructed model to the electron dot structure around the central atom, 3). Describe and name the molecular geometry of each model. 4). Work to complete a table that details the intermolecular forces between different compounds.

Procedure: 1). For each of the molecules or ions, determine the number of lone pairs and bonded pairs around the central atom by drawing the Lewis Dot Structure. Remember that double and triple bonds count as one effective pair (or cloud) each around the central atom. 2). Build a model for each compound or ion using the Molymod sets. Arrange the atoms to maximize the distance between all the electron pairs. Remember that lone pair electrons cause more repulsion than electrons between atoms. 3). Describe the structure you have created based on your “shape sheet”. 4). Estimate the angle between the atoms attached to the central atom.

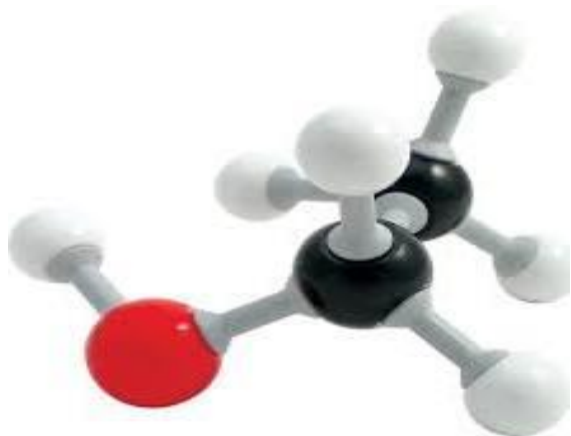
Molymod Instructions:

1). Please do not open bags that contain items that will not be utilized during this lab.

2). Make sure that you read the table to the right to determine the color scheme for various elements and bond types. Note that elements may vary in the number of holes they have depending on the bond types.

3). It is imperative that you do not misplace any of these contents. Make sure to check the floors and sinks to ensure all materials are returned upon completion of the lab.

4). The medium grey links are single covalent bonds. The long, flexible grey links are used for double or triple bonds. You will not be using the purple bonds during this lab.



Qty.	Element	Colour	Holes
6	Carbon (C)	Black	4
14	Hydrogen (H)	White	1
1	Boron (B)	Beige	3
1	Nitrogen (N)	Blue	3
2	Nitrogen (N)	Blue	4
6	Oxygen (O)	Red	2
1	Oxygen (O)	Red	4
1	Sulphur (S)	Yellow	2
1	Sulphur (S)	Yellow	6
1	Phosphorus (P)	Purple	5
1	Phosphorus (P)	Purple	3
6	Halogen (Cl,F)	Green	1
2	Metal (Na)	Grey	1
2	Metal (Ca,Mg)	Grey	2
1	Metal (Be)	Grey	2
1	Metal (Al)	Grey	3
1	Metal (Si, Cu)	Grey	4
1	Metal	Grey	6
1	** sp3	Beige	4
1	** dsp3	Beige	5
1	** d2sp3	Beige	6
3	Lone pair electron cloud		
Qty.	Links		
20	Medium	Grey	
12	Long flex.	Grey	
5	Medium	Purple	

Purpose: to construct a series of compounds using the VSEPR model and to use your model to determine the type of bonding and the geometry around each central atom.

Data Table: Molecular Geometry of Molecules and Ions

***Remember that when counting effective pairs around the central atom, single, double, and triple bonds count as one each. (Example: A central atom that has one triple bond and one single bond would have a total of 2 effective pairs.)

Molecule or Ion	Number of lone pairs on central atom	Total number of effective pairs around central atom	Arrangement of electrons based on number of effective pairs	Angle between bonds around central atom	Geometry (shape) of molecule
HCN					
CO ₂					
H ₂ O					
NH ₃					
O ₃					
CCl ₄					
PH ₃					
NO ₃ ⁻					
SO ₂					
NH ₄ ⁺					

Intermolecular Forces (Podcast Bonding 8-9)

Substance #1	Predominant Intermolecular Force	Substance #2	Predominant Intermolecular Force	Substance with Higher Boiling Point
(a) HCl(g)		I ₂		
(b) CH ₃ F		CH ₃ OH		
(c) H ₂ O		H ₂ S		
(d) SiO ₂		SO ₂		
(e) Fe		Kr		
(f) CH ₃ OH		CuO		
(g) NH ₃		CH ₄		

Draw the Lewis dot structures in the spaces provided. Additionally, you may choose to place each built model into the spaces provided, or create your own table and then take a picture to insert into your final lab report.

HCN	CO ₂
H ₂ O	NH ₃
O ₃	CCl ₄
PH ₃	NO ₃ ⁻
SO ₂	NH ₄ ⁺