Contents

Preface v

1 Simple bonding schemes 1

1.1 Introduction 1

1.2 Lewis structures of atoms 2

1.3 Lewis covalent bonds 2

1.4 Ionic structures 11

1.5 Metallic structures 13

1.6 Summary 16

1.7 Exercises and problems 16

2 Atomic structure 17

2.1 Introduction 17

2.2 Historical aspects of atomic structure 17

2.3 The Bohr model of the atom 19

2.4 From orbits to orbitals 26

2.5 Building-up principle for many-electron atoms 39

2.6 Electronic structure and the periodic table 43

2.7 Summary 46

2.8 Exercises and problems 47

3 Diatomic molecules 48

3.1 Introduction 48

3.2 Overlap of 1s orbitals and the simplest diatomic molecule: H_2^+ 48

3.3 Energy level diagrams of H_2 and related diatomic compounds 54

3.4 Bonding in *p*-block homodiatomic molecules 56

3.5 More on bonding in *p*-block homodiatomic molecules 61

3.6 Bond lengths, orders, and strengths 69

3.7 Heterodiatomic molecules 70

3.8 Summary 74

3.9 Exercises and problems 75

4 Molecular geometry: VSEPR 76

4.1 Introduction 76

4.2 The VSEPR model 76

4.3 Molecules containing single bonds only 79

4.4 Molecules containing multiple bonds 86
4.5 VSEPR and more than six electron pairs 89
4.6 *d*-Block metal systems 90
4.7 Summary 90
4.8 Exercises and problems 91

5 Hybrid orbital description of bonding 92
5.1 Introduction 92
5.2 Hydrogen 92
5.3 Hybridization: linear systems 93
5.4 Hybridization: trigonal systems 96
5.5 Hybridization: tetrahedral systems 99
5.6 Hybridization: use of *d*-orbitals 100
5.7 Benzene 102
5.8 Summary 103
5.9 Exercises and problems 103

6 The molecular orbital approach and polyatomic molecules 104
6.1 Introduction 104
6.2 Triatomic molecules EX_2 104
6.3 Tetraatomic molecules EX_3 111
6.4 Five- and six-centred molecular orbitals 113
6.5 Summary 116
6.6 Exercises and problems 116

Reading list 117
Glossary 118
Index 120