e.g., that his readers should first learn to draw Lewis double-dot formulae and to apply the Gillespie–Nyholm model before being introduced to the concept of atomic and molecular orbitals. Very little mathematics is needed and instead many pictorial illustrations are given, including contour plots of MOs obtained from *ab-initio* calculations. The relation to experimental methods or results is pointed out whenever this is appropriate. Less space is devoted to conjugated π-electrons than one is accustomed to from other textbooks, but one reads something about puckered rings and there is a rather detailed chapter on complex ions, as well as a short consideration of molecular attractions.

The presentation is appealing and from the didactic point of view this is a good textbook. The price is such that a student can afford to buy it.

The pragmatic attitude of this book necessarily implies a trend to oversimplifications. A clear distinction between rigorous concepts and heuristic models is seldom made. The presentation of MO theory is so rudimentary that the reader has not even a chance to realize the limitations of the MO model. Some parts, such as Sect. 6.5.1 or the Hellmann–Feynman theorem and the Berlin model are even misleading.

I can recommend this textbook to beginners with little mathematical or physical background or to experimental chemists who want to gain some basic idea of theory. For individuals who want to work in theory, a more critical attitude is necessary from the very beginning.

W. Kutzelnigg, Bochum

Announcement

24th Annual Quantum Theory Conference

This conference will be held in St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands from September 30th to October 3rd, 1991.

The topic overlaps completely with the scope of this journal and also encourages contributions from physicists and mathematicians from which theoretical chemists might benefit.

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