

H<sub>2</sub> molecule: the electronic wavefunction is a function of 6 electron coordinates + two spin coordinates  
 The wavefunction can be approximately written as a product of two 1-electron wavefunctions. This neglects correlation of the electron motion due to Coulomb repulsion and Pauli exclusion.

Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = \hat{h}_1 + \hat{h}_2 + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}} + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$

↙ e-e repulsion
↙ nuclear repulsion

$$\hat{h}_i = \frac{1}{2m_e} \hat{p}_i^2 - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{iA}} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{iB}}$$

Molecular orbitals:

Instead of using an atomic basis of 1s<sub>A</sub> and 1s<sub>B</sub>, use what we learned from H<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> and start with the basis set of σ and σ\* functions that are ± combinations of 1s<sub>A</sub> and 1s<sub>B</sub>

