

Answer on Question #44878 – Chemistry – Inorganic Chemistry

Question

What is the tendency of an atom to attract towards itself the shared electron pair of a bond in which it is involved?

Answer

The tendency of an atom to attract towards itself the shared electron pair of a bond in which it is involved is called **electronegativity**.

Electronegativity is just a relative electron tendency and it has no specific units. Electronegativity is related to size of atom and effective nuclear charge. Atom with small size and high nuclear charge has high electronegativity due to the strong pull exerted on shared electron pair by the nucleus. Atom with great size and low nuclear charge has low electronegativity as its nucleus does not exert a strong attractive force on shared electron pair.