### **Chapter 2: Protecting the Ozone Layer**



Why do we need to protect the ozone layer?

Isn't ozone hazardous to human health?

Why is the ozone layer getting smaller?

What can we do (if anything) to help stop the depletion of our ozone layer?



#### The Dobson unit (or DU)

The unit measures the ozone in a column above a specific location on earth.

If the ozone in the column were compressed at specified conditions of temperature and pressure, it would form a layer.

A layer 1 mm thick corresponds to 100 DU.

#### **Ozone Formation**



Energy must be absorbed (endothermic) for this reaction to occur.

Ozone is an **allotropic** form of oxygen.

Allotrope - forms of the same element that differ in their chemical structure and therefore their properties.

<u>Element</u> oxygen carbon  $\frac{Allotropes}{O_2, O_3}$  graphite, diamond, buckminister fullerenes





Atmospheric pressure decreases with altitude.

#### Have you ever been in a plane landing in Denver, CO?

You may have experienced being thrust forward as the plane uses more energy to stop. There are fewer air molecules at that height, reducing the amount of friction, so a greater amount of energy is needed to stop the plane.

Why does it take longer to cook an egg in Denver than it does in New Orleans?

There is less air pressure at higher altitudes. Water boils when the vapor pressure of the water molecules exceeds that of the localized air pressure. Because there is less air pressure at higher altitudes, water boils at a temperature *less than* 100°C. More energy must be supplied (longer time) at a lower temperature to cook the egg.





The ozone layer is a region in the stratosphere with maximum. Max: 12000 ppb ozone concentration. 2.1

## Radiation from the sun covers a large range in the <u>electromagnetic spectrum</u>





2.4



Wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) = distance between successive peaks (nm). Frequency (v) = # of waves passing a fixed point per second<sub>4</sub>

The wavelength and frequency of electromagnetic radiation are related by:  $c = \lambda v$ 

where  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$  (the speed of light)

You can consider a ray of light as a 'stream of ' energy packets, too.

The energy of a "packet of energy" (= photon) of electromagnetic radiation is calculated by:

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$
 or  $E = hv$ 

where  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  J.s (Planck's constant)

Energy and frequency are *directly related* –higher frequency means higher energy.

Energy and wavelength are *inversely related* –higher wavelength means lesser energy.

What is the energy associated with a photon of light with a wavelength of 240 nm?

$$c = \lambda v$$

$$v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$
$$v = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \,\text{m/s}}{240 \,\text{nm}}$$

What is the energy associated with a photon of light with a wavelength of 240 nm?

$$E = hv$$
  

$$E = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \,\text{J/s}) (1.3 \times 10^{15} \,\text{s}^{-1})$$
  

$$E = 8.6 \times 10^{-19} \,\text{J}$$

UV radiation has sufficient energy to cause molecular bonds to break



These rays have varying energies. Energy of an 'energy packet' from a certain ray in inversely proportional to It's wave length.



<u>Short  $\lambda$  range</u>: includes UV (ultraviolet), X-rays, and gamma rays.

<u>Visible</u>:  $\lambda = 700-400 \text{ nm}$ 

Infrared (IR): longest of the visible spectrum; heat ray absorptions cause molecules to bend and stretch.

 $\underline{\text{Microwaves}}: \text{cause molecules} \ . \\ \text{to rotate}.$ 







Table 2.4	Types of UV Radiation			
Туре	Wavelength	Relative Energy	Comments	
UV-A	320-400 nm	Lowest energy	Least damaging and reaches the Earth's surface in greatest amount	
UV-B	280-320 nm	Higher energy than UV-A but less energetic than UV-C	More damaging than UV-A but less damaging than UV-C. Most UV-B is absorbed by O <sub>3</sub> in the stratosphere	
UV-C	200–280 nm	Highest energy	Most damaging but not a problem because it is totally absorbed by O <sub>2</sub> and O <sub>3</sub> in the stratosphere	



A least energetic, least damaging; reaches earth's surface.

C most energetic, least problematic;  $O_2$  in the atmosphere absorbs (consumes UV-C).

$$O_2 \xrightarrow{UV;\lambda < 240 \text{ nm UVC}} 20$$

**B** moderately energetic, absorbed by  $O_3$  in the stratosphere.

$$O_3 \xrightarrow{UV;\lambda < 320 \text{ nm, UVB}} O_2 + O$$

The Chapman Cycle



Any loss of  $O_3$  in the 'ozone layer' would disrupt the beneficial subcycle reducing the amount of  $O_3$  in the ozone layer. Such a loss allows the UV-B rays to reach the ground; leading to skin cancers etc.

The fragility of the ozone layer was recognized by an overwhelming majority of the worlds countries and steps were taken to minimize the man made factors leading to the depletion of the ozone concentration in the stratosphere following the <u>Precautionary Principle</u>.



Answer lies in the nature of atoms of elements and how atoms are held (bonded) together in molecules.

ozone molecule

Structure of the Atom:

Atom: heavy positively charged small region (nucleus) and a soft negatively charged large region.

Nucleus: protons (positive charge) + neutrons (both equally heavy particles): virtually all mass in nucleus.

Mass of Electron  $- (1/1800) \times \text{mass}$  of proton Charge of electron = equal and opposite to proton

#protons = # electrons ; atom overall neutral.



oxygen molecule

An electron in an orbit acquires the energy of the orbit of residence.

Energy of orbits increases with the radius.

Table 2.1	Properties of Subatomic Particles		
Particle	Relative Charge	Relative Mass	Actual Mass, kg
Proton	+1	1	$1.67 \times 10^{-27}$
Neutron	0	1	$1.67 \times 10^{-27}$
Electron	-1	0*	$9.11 \times 10^{-31}$

\* The relative mass of the electron is not actually zero, but is so small that it appears as zero when expressed to the nearest whole number.

	Atomic number (Z)
6 C	– The number of protons (nuclear charge)
C	(A – Number the protons and neutrons)
12.01	Atomic Mass
	– Mass of the protons and neutrons (amu)

Mass of the protons and neutrons (amu) 2.2





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The electrons in the outermost energy levels are called valence electrons.

The group number (of the representative elements) on the periodic table tells you the number of valence electrons.



# The electrons in the outermost energy levels are called **valence electrons**.

The valence electrons determine the properties of the elements.

Atoms with similar valence shell occupations behave similarly.

8 electrons in valence shell make it very stable – i.e. would like to stay or reach an 8 - electron environment; (stable octet)



**Isotopes** are two or more forms of the same element (same number of protons) whose atoms differ in number of neutrons, and hence in mass.

Isotopes of carbon: C-12, C-13, C-14 also written as: <sup>12</sup>C <sup>13</sup>C <sup>14</sup>C

Or more completely as:  ${}^{12}_{6}C$ ,  ${}^{13}_{6}C$ ,  ${}^{12}_{6}C$ 

2.2

Most matter exist as compounds – formed by bonding of elements.

Atoms of elements makes bonds with other atoms, so that they would acquire/mimic the stable octet (except for  $\rm H-in$  which case it is a duet)

Lewis structure of atoms:



#### Representing molecules with Lewis structures:

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Consider water, H<sub>2</sub>O:

1. Find sum of valence electrons:

1 O atom  $\times$  6 valence electrons per atom = 6

+ 2 H atoms  $\times$  1 valence electron per atom = <u>2</u>

8 valence electrons

• H

2. Arrange the electrons in pairs; use whatever electron pairs needed to connect the atoms, then distribute the remaining electron pairs so that the **octet rule** is satisfied:

2.3



2. Arrange the electrons in pairs; use whatever electron pairs needed to connect the atoms, then distribute the remaining electron pairs so that the **octet rule** is satisfied:

°≥₀.

\* :ò

Which molecule is easier to break?  $O_2 \text{ or } O_3$ ?

2.3

0,

2 bonds between O,O

More strong

Ô,

#### Representing molecules with Lewis structures:

Multiple bonds



Occasionally, a single Lewis structure does not adequately represent the true structure of a molecule, so we use **resonance forms**:



#### Representing molecules with Lewis structures:

<u>Typical valence/valency for selected atoms = the # of</u> <u>bonds an atom typically forms</u>

Element	Typical valence	Classification
H,	1	monovalent
X $(X=F, Cl, Br, I)$		
0	2	divalent
N	3	trivalent
С	4	tetravalent

# Lewis structures

1-1/2 bonds between O,O

 $O_3$ 

Less strong

- 1. Determine the sum of valence electrons.
- 2. Use a pair of electrons to form a bond between each pair of bonded atoms.
- 3. Arrange the remaining electrons to satisfy octet rule (duet rule for H).
- 4. Assign formal charges.

Formal charge = # v. e. - [# nonbonding e<sup>-</sup> +  $\frac{1}{2}$  bonding e<sup>-</sup>]

2.3

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x% loss of  $O_3$  would result in 2x% increase damage. Long days (closer to the equator) detrimental.

2.6

Table 02.05





#### **Biological Effects of Ultraviolet Radiation**

The consequences depend primarily on:

- 1. The energy of the radiation.
- 2. The exposure time.
- 3. The organism sensitivity

The most deadly form of skin cancer, **melanoma**, is linked with the intensity of UV radiation and the latitude at which you live.

An Australian product uses "smart bottle" technology; bottle color changes from white to **blue** when exposed to UV light.



2.7

Table 2.5	The UV Index	
Exposure Category	Index	Tips to Avoid Harmful Exposure to UV
LOW	< 2	Wear sunglasses on bright days. Be aware that snow and water can reflect the Sun's rays. If you burn easily, cover up and use sunscreen.
MODERATE	3-5	Take precautions, such as covering up, if you will be outside. Stay in shade near midday when the Sun is strongest.
HIGH	6-7	Protect against sunburn. Reduce time in the Sun between 10 AM and 4 MM. Cover up, wear a hat and sunglasses, and use sunscreen.
VERY HIGH	8-10	Take extra precautions against sunburn, as unprotected skin will be damaged and can burn quickly. Minimize Sun exposure between 10 w and 4 m. Otherwise, seek shade, cover up, wear a hat and sunglasses, and use sunscreen.
EXTREME	11+	Take all precautions against sunburn, as unprotected skin can burn in minutes. Be aware that white sand and other bright surfaces reflect UV and will increase UV exposure. Avoid the Sun between 10 aw and 4 sm. Seek shade, cover up, wear a hat and sunglasses, and use sunscreen.

Ozone concentration - non uniform in the stratosphere

#### Reading assignment: Section 2.7 p. 82 -





Ozone production is dependent on intensity of sunlight.

Distance, angle of rays, angle of earth with respect to rays (seasonal), sun-spots and also wind in stratosphere.



#### Materials & Processes reducing the O<sub>3</sub> Concentrations (natural):

Water vapor in stratosphere:

light

 $H_2O \rightarrow H^{\bullet} + OH^{\bullet}$  Highly reactive free radicals consume  $O_3$  converting to  $O_2$ .

(soil, bacteria)  $N_2O + O^{\bullet} \rightarrow 2NO^{\bullet}$  consumes  $O^{\bullet}$  reducing O<sup>•</sup> (i.e. O) needed to produce ozone.

#### Materials & Processes reducing the O<sub>3</sub> Concentrations (man-made):

Chlorofluorocarbons; CFC (C, F, Cl)

Very stable substances (non toxic; boiling point  $-10 \rightarrow$ -30°C; chemically inert/hard to break C-F,C-Cl bonds) non-flammable, cheap, would last for long periods of time in the troposphere.

Reaches the ozone layer eventually.

Halons (C, Br; F and/or Cl but no H) Similar to CFC's.

#### Used in:

Refrigeration Air conditioning Foaming agent Propellant (aerosols)

Very stable substances, non-flammable, cheap, would *last for long periods of time in the troposphere*.

Eventually enters the ozone layer.

#### How CFCs Interact with Ozone



First, UV radiation breaks a carbon-halogen bond:

hv (λ < 220 nm) + 
$$(Cl_2F_2) \rightarrow CClF_2 + (Cl)$$
 (free radicals)

The chlorine radical attacks an O3 molecule:



Experimental analyses show that as ClO<sup>•</sup> concentrations increase, ozone concentration decreases (Antarctica).



Other chlorinated compounds from natural sources do exist e.g CIONO<sub>2</sub> and HCl.

Unlike CFCs they are water soluble so hardly reaches the stratosphere due to rain.

Wherever HF is found there is HCl in the stratosphere implicating CFCs.

Antarctic Seasonal Ozone Depletion



#### Antarctic Seasonal Ozone Depletion



June-Sept. lower hemisphere coldest and darkest, -90°C.

Ice crystals in PSCs acts as a catalyst in the formation of very reactive HOCl and  $Cl_2$  on the ice crystal surface from otherwise *less harmful* ClONO<sub>2</sub> and HCl.

End of Sept. sun comes up initiating Cl<sup>•</sup> formation and triggering  $O_3$  depleting reactions.









Montreal Protocol - 1987









#### Chemical feature of HCFC.

Less C-Cl bonds, lowering the stability and their' lifetime in troposphere. Increase C- H bonds. Replace C-Cl with C-H.

This lowers the desirable characters of these materials that made it so useful in air-conditioning and refrigeration.

low chemical stability, more flammable due to presence of higher proportion of H.

HCFCs would be phased out as well.

#### Hydrofluorocarbons, HFCs

Replaces HCFCs



HFC-125

HFC-32

HFCs are however is a green house gas (next chapter).





http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Future\_ozone\_layer\_concentrations.jpg

#### Ozone Layer: Wikipedia posting with a NASA animation

NASA *projections* of stratospheric ozone concentrations *if* chlorofluorocarbons had not been banned

#### Ozone hole can close by 2050

The hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica may close within 50 years, as the level of destructive ozone-depleting CFCs in the atmosphere would decline if the Montreal protocols were followed other factors increase in greenhouse

