

## INORGANIC NOMENCLATURE I<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Periodic table

#### a. What elements do these symbols stand for?

Mn B Mg W Pb Sb I Sn K Au Fe Ag

#### b. Listening exercises

Explain the symbols below:

- What do they stand for?
- What do they mean?
- What is an alternative way of using them?

Uub Uut Uuq Uup Uuh Uus Uuo

Watch the first video and answer the following questions:

1. What element is the professor speaking about?
2. He has mentioned a controversy that was linked to the symbol of the element.  
What was the controversy based on?
3. Who/What institution made the final decision regarding the symbol?
4. According to the professor, what role did lead play in the element synthesis?
5. Could you describe the process of the element decay as explained in the video?

Watch the second video and try to explain the meaning of the following facts / dates / expressions within the context of the talk:

114

December 2011

Plutonium

Fljorov

30th May 2012

Dubna

memorial

Russian

discussion period

bombardment

Follow up question: Why does such an element need a symbol?

## 2. Types of chemical nomenclature

### A. Trivial names

Hg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> - mercurous chloride (systematic - mercury (II) chloride)

- H<sub>2</sub>O (*water*, not dihydrogen oxide)/
- H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (*hydrogen peroxide*, not dihydrogen dioxide)
- H<sub>2</sub>S (*hydrogen sulfide*, not dihydrogen sulfide)
- NH<sub>3</sub> (*ammonia*, not nitrogen trihydride)
- NO (*nitric oxide*, not nitrogen monoxide)
- N<sub>2</sub>O (*nitrous oxide*, not dinitrogen oxide)
- CH<sub>4</sub> (*methane*, not carbon tetrahydride)

### B. Popular names

Chemical substances that are employed in the home, the arts, or in industry have acquired traditional or “popular” names that are still in wide use.

popular name	chemical name	formula
borax	sodium tetraborate decahydrate	Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> · 10H <sub>2</sub> O
calomel	mercury(I) chloride	Hg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
milk of magnesia	magnesium hydroxide	Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>
muriatic acid	hydrochloric acid	HCl(aq)
oil of vitriol	sulfuric acid	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>
saltpeter	sodium nitrate	NaNO <sub>3</sub>
slaked lime	calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>

### C. Systematic nomenclature:

- compositional
- substitutive
- additive

Example: PCl<sub>3</sub>

- compositional: **phosphorus trichloride**
- substitutive: **trichlorophosphane**
- additive: **trichloridophosphorus**

### 3. Chemical nomenclature of

- ions
- binary compounds
- ternary compounds

### 4. IONS

#### a. CATIONS

##### i. monoatomic: name of the element and charge

- Na<sup>+</sup>** sodium (1+), /n a plus/, sodium ion, univalent positive sodium ion,  
**H<sup>+</sup>** hydrogen (1+), /h plus/, hydrogen ion, univalent positive hydrogen ion,  
**Cu<sup>2+</sup>** copper (2+), /c u two plus/, copper ion, divalent positive copper ion, copper (II) ion  
**Cr<sup>3+</sup>** chromium (3+), /c r three plus/, chromium ion, trivalent positive chromium ion,

Some of the metallic ions are multivalent, meaning that they can exhibit more than one electric charge. For these there are systematic names that use Roman numerals and endings *-ous* and *-ic* to denote the lower and higher charges, respectively. In cases where more than 2 charge values are possible, the systematic names are used.

Examples:

Cu <sup>+</sup>	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	Fe <sup>2+</sup>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	* Hg <sub>2</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	Sn <sup>2+</sup>	Sn <sup>4+</sup>
copper(I)	copper(II)	iron(II)	iron(III)	mercury(I)	mercury(II)	tin(II)	tin(IV)
cuprous	cupric	ferrous	ferric	mercurous	mercuric	stannous	stannic

**Fe<sup>2+</sup>** /Fe two plus/, iron (2+), iron (II), ferrous ion, divalent positive iron ion

**Fe<sup>3+</sup>** /Fe three plus/, iron (3+), iron (III), ferric ion, trivalent positive iron ion

##### ii. homopolyatomic:

**Hg<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup>** /h g two two plus/, mercury (I) ion, mercurous ion,

**O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>** dioxygen (1+)

**S<sub>4</sub><sup>2+</sup>** tetrasulphur (2+)

**Bi<sub>5</sub><sup>4+</sup>** pentabismuth (4+)

**H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>** trihydrogen (1+)

**Li<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup>** dilithium (1+)

$\text{N}_5^+$  pentanitrogen (1+)

$\text{Na}_2^+$  disodium (1+)

$\text{P}_2^+$  diphosphorus (1+)

$\text{Si}_2^+$  disilicon (1+)

**iii. heteropolyatomic:** can follow rules for substitutive nomenclature, or non-systematic names; frequent suffix **-ium**

$\text{NH}_4^+$  ammonium (non-systematic)

$\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  - oxidanium (substitutive) or oxonium (non-systematic)

$\text{PH}_4^+$  phosphanium (substitutive)

## b. ANIONS

### i. compositional nomenclature (-ide)

$\text{I}_3^-$  triiodide (1-)

$\text{O}_2^{2-}$  dioxide (2-)

**ii. substitutive** (anions based on the removal of hydrogen (1+), end **in -ide**)

$\text{MeNH}^-$  methanaminide

**iii. additive** (end in **-ate**)

$\text{PS}_4^{3-}$  tetrasulfidophosphate (3-)

Rules for adding suffix **-ide**:

1. added directly to the name of the element (xenon**ide**, nickel**ide**, argon**ide**...)
2. original ending in the name of the element is substituted with **-ide**:

chlorine – chlor**ide**

carbon – carb**ide**

sodium – sod**ide**

nitrogen – nitr**ide**

boron – bor**ide**

astatine – astat**ide**

silicon – silic**ide**

sulphur -

phosphorus –

iodine -

calcium -

hydrogen –

bromine -

arsenic -

helium –

tungsten -

mercury -

3. ending **-ide** is added to a Latin-based word

silver – argent**ide**

gold – aur**ide**

copper – cupr**ide**

iron – ferr**ide**

lead – plumb**ide**

tin – stann**ide**

**Complete these sentences.**

- a) The chemical symbol for the calcium ion is \_\_\_\_\_
- b) The chemical symbol for the fluoride ion is \_\_\_\_\_
- c) The chemical symbol for the ammonium ion is \_\_\_\_\_
- d) The chemical symbol for the magnesium ion is \_\_\_\_\_
- e) The chemical symbol for the sodium ion is \_\_\_\_\_
- f) The chemical symbol for the aluminium ion is \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. BINARY COMPOUNDS

### a) METALS WITH A FIXED CHARGE (just one oxidation state)

Salts of oxo-acids, metal oxides and other binary compounds.

**- metal + nonmetal with -ide [ aid ]**

Examples: **NaCl - sodium chloride** (Czech equivalent chlorid sodný – notice the difference in order of elements)

NaCl	sodium <i>chloride</i>
ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	zinc <i>chloride</i>
CaC <sub>2</sub>	calcium <i>carbide</i>
MgS	magnesium <i>sulphide</i>
Ca <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	calcium <i>nitride</i>
K <sub>2</sub> O	potassium <i>oxide</i>
ZnO	zinc <i>oxide</i>
CaO	calcium <i>oxide</i>

**Write the chemical formulae of the following compounds:**

- a) sodium fluoride
- b) silicon carbide
- c) aluminium chloride
- d) calcium nitride
- e) zinc oxide

**Write the names of these compounds:**

a)  $\text{Na}_2\text{C}$  \_\_\_\_\_

b)  $\text{BaS}$  \_\_\_\_\_

c)  $\text{CaCl}_2$  \_\_\_\_\_

d)  $\text{Mg}_3\text{N}_2$  \_\_\_\_\_

e)  $\text{CaF}_2$  \_\_\_\_\_

f)  $\text{CaO}$  \_\_\_\_\_

**b) METALS WITH A NON-FIXED CHARGE (occur in more than one oxidation state)**

Metal oxides and other binary compounds with a non-fixed charge.

**2 methods of nomenclature:**

- **IUPAC nomenclature**, Roman numeral expresses **oxidation state**

$\text{FeO}$	iron <b>(II)</b> <i>oxide</i>
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	iron <b>(III)</b> <i>oxide</i>
$\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$	copper <b>(I)</b> <i>sulfide</i>
$\text{CuS}$	copper <b>(II)</b> <i>sulfide</i>
$\text{FeCl}_2$	iron <b>(II)</b> <i>chloride</i>
$\text{FeCl}_3$	iron <b>(III)</b> <i>chloride</i>

- **trivial names**

- suffix <b>-ous</b>	- indicates <b>lower</b> oxidation state
- suffix <b>-ic</b>	- indicates <b>higher</b> oxidation state

Example:

$\text{FeO}$	<i>ferrous</i> oxide	<b>(lower</b> oxidation state)
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	<i>ferric</i> oxide	<b>(higher</b> oxidation state)
$\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$	<i>cuprous</i> sulfide	
$\text{CuS}$	<i>cupric</i> sulfide	

mercuric chloride and mercurous chloride are chlorides of mercury  
arsenic oxide and arsenous oxide are oxides of arsenic  
plumbic iodide and plumbous iodide are iodides of lead  
stannic bromide and stannous bromide are bromides of tin, etc

**Important note:** These suffixes have no absolute meaning. They just indicate the lower and the higher valence. Thus e.g. -ic means a valence of 2 in the case of copper and 3 in the case of iron. It is for this reason that Roman numerals are used.

### c) NON-METALS (trivial names)

Greek prefixes indicate the number of atoms of the element in the compound:

**mono-, di-[dai], tri-[trai], tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona-, deca-**

**+ -ide**

Examples:

$\text{NO}_2$  nitrogen **dioxide** = nitrogen (IV) oxide (1 atom of nitrogen, 2 atoms of oxygen)

$\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  **dinitrogen tetroxide** = dimer of Nit. (IV) oxide

$\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  **dinitrogen pentoxide** = nitrogen (V) oxide

$\text{CO}$  carbon **monoxide**

$\text{CO}_2$  carbon **dioxide**

$\text{P}_2\text{O}_3$  **(di)phosphorus trioxide**

$\text{OsO}_4$  osmium **tetroxide**

$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  **diphosphorus pentoxide**

$\text{PCl}_3$  phosphorus **trichloride**

$\text{CCl}_4$  carbon **tetrachloride**

$\text{CS}_2$  carbon **disulfide**

c) **PEROXIDES** (An oxide containing more oxygen than some other oxide of the same element).

$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  hydrogen peroxide

$\text{Na}_2\text{O}_2$  sodium peroxide

*Write the formulae of the following binary molecular compounds:*

nitrogen monoxide \_\_\_\_\_

dichlorine monoxide \_\_\_\_\_

dinitrogen monoxide \_\_\_\_\_

tetraphosphorus decoxide \_\_\_\_\_

sulfur trioxide \_\_\_\_\_

oxygen difluoride \_\_\_\_\_

iron (II) sulphide \_\_\_\_\_

sodium peroxide \_\_\_\_\_

iron (III) sulphide \_\_\_\_\_

*Write the names for the following formulae:*

$\text{PI}_3$

$\text{CaO}$

$\text{SbF}_5$

$\text{ZnCl}_2$

$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$

$\text{FeCl}_2$

$\text{SO}_3$

$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

$\text{FeCl}_3$

$\text{SCl}_2$

**Sources:** 1. Adapted from Andrea Rozkošná's lesson plan.