

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

The following are rules for naming ionic compounds. These are basic rules, which allow for the naming of many, but not all ionic compounds.

This post is divided into the following sections:

[A] [Resource page of monatomic and polyatomic ions](#)

- (1) **Table I**      Table of Ions
- (2) **Table II**     Basic Rules for Naming Compounds
- (3) **Table III**    Table of Cations and Anions, Set #1
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1. In Section [A], I review the basics of using the Periodic Table for determining the charge for monatomic cations and anions.

For ionic compounds, metal atoms will lose electrons and non-metal atoms will gain electrons, thus forming charged ions (ref: Silberberg, Chemistry, 5th Edition, p. 60).

A Periodic Table has the elements sectioned into metals and non-metals. For metals in Group IA (Group 1) and Group IIA (Group 2), the ion that can be formed will have a charge that is the same as the group number, i.e.,  $\text{Na}^+$ , (Group 1) and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (Group 2) respectively and is based on the number of electrons that the element can lose to another element.

When using these elements for naming an ionic compound, retain the element name, e.g.,  $\text{Na}^+$  in an ionic compound would be sodium, refer to **Table II**.

For non-metals in Group IVA (Group 14), Group VA (Group 15), Group VIA (Group 16) and Group VIIA (Group 17), the ion that can be formed will have a charge that is equal to the group number *minus* 8, for example,  $\text{O}^{2-} = 6 - 8 = -2$  and  $\text{Cl}^- = 7 - 8 = -1$ , respectively and is based on the number of electrons that it can gain from another element. Using this rule, the **most negative** oxidation state is obtained and additionally, it is noted that these elements can have more than one oxidation state (ref: Silberberg, Chemistry, 5th Edition, p. 561).

When using these elements for naming an ionic compound, the non-metal element name ends in "ide", e.g., chlorine → chloride, refer to **Table II**.

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

1. It is also noted that the *most positive* oxidation state of the group A elements is equal to the group number, e.g., magnesium (Group 2) =  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (O.N. = +2). Carbon (Group 4) has at least two oxidation states, i.e.,  $\text{C}^{4-}$  {4 - 8 = -4, i.e. charge  $4^-$  or O.N. = -4} and O.N. = +4 {Group 4}. Likewise for nitrogen { $\text{N}^{3-}$ , 5-8 = -3, i.e. charge  $3^-$  or O.N. = -3} and O.N. = +5 *and* phosphorus { $\text{P}^{3-}$ , 5-8 = -3, i.e. charge  $3^-$  and O.N. = -3} and O.N. = +5 in Group 5. For sulfur: { $\text{S}^{2-}$ , 6-8 = -2, i.e. charge  $2^-$  and O.N. = -2} and O.N. = +6, Group 6.

The carbide ion (methanide),  $\text{C}^{4-}$ , is worth noting. Metal elements can form ionic compounds with carbon, e.g., beryllium carbide ( $\text{Be}_2\text{C}$ ) and aluminum carbide ( $\text{Al}_4\text{C}_3$ ). (ref: Mortimer, Chemistry, 5th Edition, p. 570).

Carbon can also form the acetylide ion ( $\text{C}_2^{2-}$ ), which can form ionic compounds with the Group 1 and Group 2 metals, e.g., calcium carbide ( $\text{CaC}_2$ ), {ref: Mortimer, p.570}.

For the polyatomic anions, I use the acronym **SCO** to help me remember the ions of **2-** charge from other ions of **1-** charge. Refer to **Table I (B)** and **III**.

For polyatomic anions that differ by one oxygen atom, the name of the ion ends in either "ate" or "ite", e.g.,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-} \rightarrow$  sulfate and  $\text{SO}_3^{2-} \rightarrow$  sulfite. Also, the prefix - suffix "per - ate" and hypo - ite" refer to ions that contain either 1 more oxygen than the "ate" ion or 1 less oxygen than the "ite" ion. These conventions are used for families that contain either 2 or 4 oxoanions.

2. **Table IV** provides some basic rules for naming ionic compounds.

Note: The oxidation state and oxidation number (O.N.) are the same term.

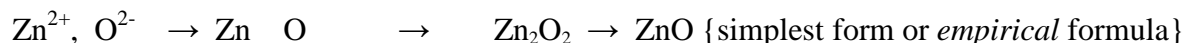
The ion with the higher charge has the suffix "ic" and the lower charge has the suffix "ous".

3. Section **[B]** reviews the cross-over rule for determining the formula of a compound, when the name of the compound is provided. For example, magnesium nitride:



Since magnesium has a charge of **2+**, nitrogen will be subscript **2**. Since nitride has a charge of **3-**, magnesium will be subscript **3**.

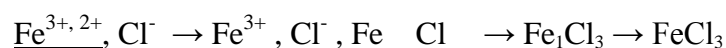
Furthermore, if the resulting subscripts are of *equal* numeric value, reduce the formula to its simplest form, e.g.,



4. Section **[C1]** reviews the procedure for naming ionic compounds with either one polyatomic anion (no brackets needed around the anion) or more than one polyatomic anion (brackets needed around the anion). Section **[C2]** provides some practise examples.

5. Section **[D]** reviews the procedure for determining the formula for an ionic compound which contains a metal ion that can have more than one charge (i.e., has more than one oxidation state), e.g.,

Iron (III) chloride:



Since iron can have two oxidation states, i.e., **3+** and **2+**, one has to refer to the name of the compound in order to proceed with the cross-over rule. In this case, the name indicates that the charge is **3+**, based on the Roman numeral III.

6. Section **[E]** reviews the procedure for determining the charge of an ion, if the formula is known.

7. Section **[F]** reviews the oxoacids / oxoanions for the elements Chlorine, Nitrogen, Sulfur and Phosphorous.

8. Sections **[G]** & **[H]** provide practise problems, with answers.

9. As indicated at various points in the text, the following references were used:

1. Silberberg, Chemistry, 5th Edition, 2009.
2. Mortimer, Chemistry, 5th Edition, 1983.
3. Harris, Quantitative Chemical Analysis, 7th Edition, 2007.

NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

[A] Resource page of monatomic and polyatomic ions

(1) Notes on Ions

1. Ions are divided into Cations & Anions

- monatomic – ions that contain only 1 atom, e.g., Na<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>
- polyatomic – ions that contain 2 or more atoms, e.g., NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>

2. Charges on Cations can be determined from the Group number on the Periodic Table

1. Group IA (Group 1) – has a charge of 1<sup>+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>
2. Group IIA (Group 2) – has a charge of 2<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>
3. The charge is based on the number of electrons that it can lose to another element.

3. Charges on Anions can be determined from the Group number on Periodic Table

1. Group IVA (Group 14) – has a charge of 4<sup>-</sup>, C<sup>4-</sup>; (ref: Mortimer, p.570; Silberberg, p.561)
2. Group VA (Group 15) – has a charge of 3<sup>-</sup>, N<sup>3-</sup>
3. Group VIA (Group 16) – has a charge of 2<sup>-</sup>, O<sup>2-</sup>
4. Group VIIA (Group 17) – has a charge of 1<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>
5. The charge is based on the number of electrons that it can gain from another element.

4. Oxoanions contain an element bonded to one or more oxygen atoms, e.g., NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, CrO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>

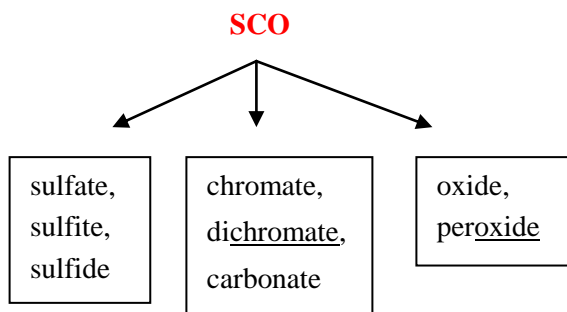
**Table I** Table of Ions

(most ions from Silberberg, p. 68, Table 2.5)

(A)	<u>Cations</u>	<u>Formula</u>	<u>Name</u>
	<b>1<sup>+</sup></b>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	ammonium

(B) Anions (**SCO**); Anions with a **2<sup>-</sup>** charge can be remembered using the acronym **SCO**,  
{sulfate/sulfite/sulfide//chromate/dichromate/carbonate//oxide/peroxide}

<b>2<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfate
		SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfite
		S <sup>2-</sup>	sulfide
<b>C</b>		CrO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	chromate
		Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	<u>dichromate</u>
		CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	carbonate
<b>O</b>		O <sup>2-</sup>	oxide
		O <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	<u>peroxide</u>



(C)	<u>Anions</u>	<u>Formula</u>	<u>Name</u>
	<b>1<sup>-</sup></b>	MnO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	permanganate
		CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>-</sup>	acetate
		OH <sup>-</sup>	hydroxide
		HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	bisulfate
		HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	bisulfite
		HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	bicarbonate
		perchlorate	ClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>
		chlorate	ClO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
		chlorite	ClO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>
		hypochlorite	ClO <sup>-</sup>
		nitrate	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
		nitrite	NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>

(D) Ions ending in “-ate” & “-ite”, indicating 1 less oxygen atom

SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfate
SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfite
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	nitrate
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	nitrite
ClO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	chlorate
ClO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	chlorite

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

**Table II** Table of Cations and Anions, Set #1

Cations	Formula	Name
<b>1<sup>+</sup></b>	Li <sup>+</sup>	Lithium
	Na <sup>+</sup>	Sodium
	K <sup>+</sup>	Potassium
	Cs <sup>+</sup>	Cesium
<b>2<sup>+</sup></b>	Be <sup>2+</sup>	Beryllium
	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	Magnesium
	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Calcium
	Sr <sup>2+</sup>	Strontium
	Ba <sup>2+</sup>	Barium
<b>Anions</b>		
<b>4<sup>-</sup></b>	C <sup>4-</sup>	carbide (methanide)
<b>3<sup>-</sup></b>	N <sup>3-</sup>	nitride
	P <sup>3-</sup>	phosphide
<b>2<sup>-</sup></b>	O <sup>2-</sup>	oxide
	S <sup>2-</sup>	sulfide
<b>1<sup>-</sup></b>	F <sup>-</sup>	fluoride
	Cl <sup>-</sup>	chloride
	Br <sup>-</sup>	bromide
	I <sup>-</sup>	iodide

**Table III** Table of Cations and Anions, Set #2

Cations	Formula	Name
<b>1<sup>+</sup></b>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	ammonium
<b>Anions</b>		
<b>2<sup>-</sup></b> <b>SCO</b>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfate
	SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	sulfite
	CrO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	chromate
	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	dichromate
	CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	carbonate
	C <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	carbide (acetylide)
	O <sup>2-</sup>	oxide
	O <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	peroxide
<b>1<sup>-</sup></b>	MnO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	permanganate
	CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>-</sup>	acetate
	HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	bisulfate
	OH <sup>-</sup>	hydroxide

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

**Table IV** Basic Rules for Naming Compounds

Substance	Name	Formula
(1) Element	Name of element, e.g. silver (Ag), copper (Cu) molecular elements (ref: Silberberg, 5th Ed, p92)	Symbol, e.g., Ag, Cu; Molecular elements: H <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> , O <sub>2</sub> , F <sub>2</sub> , Cl <sub>2</sub> , Br <sub>2</sub> , I <sub>2</sub> as diatomic molecules
(2) Monatomic <sup>*</sup> cations (* ref: Silberberg, p. 60)	Name of the element followed by the term "ion", e.g. sodium ion.  If element has more than 1 charge, element name is followed by ion charge in Roman numerals	Symbol of element followed by superscript to indicate charge, Na <sup>+</sup> ion.  Chromium (II) or Chromium (III).
(3) Polyatomic cations	Ammonium ion	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>
(4) Monatomic anions	Name of element changed to end in "-ide", bromine → bromide oxygen → oxide nitrogen → nitride; carbon → carbide	Symbol of element followed by a superscript to indicate charge: Br <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>2-</sup> , N <sup>3-</sup> , C <sup>4-</sup>
(5) Polyatomic anions, (2 oxoanions in family)	Oxoanions with <i>more</i> oxygen atoms - "-ate". Oxoanions with <i>fewer</i> oxygen atoms - "-ite".	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> = sulfate; NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> = nitrate SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> = sulfite; NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> = nitrite
(6) Polyatomic anions, (4 oxoanions in family, Silberberg, p. 68) O.N. - Mortimer, p. 361	perchlorate – ion with the <i>most</i> oxygen atoms chlorate – <i>one fewer</i> oxygen atoms chlorite – <i>two fewer</i> oxygen atoms hypochlorite – ion with the <i>least</i> oxygen atoms	ClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> , [O.N. = +7] ClO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , [O.N. = +5] ClO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> , [O.N. = +3] ClO <sup>-</sup> , [O.N. = +1]
(7) Polyatomic anions	hydroxide & cyanide	OH <sup>-</sup> & CN <sup>-</sup>
(8) Ionic compounds	Name comes from the metal element and the non-metal element.	NaCl – Sodium chloride
(9) Binary & ternary ionic compounds	Binary – compounds containing 2 elements, Ternary – compounds containing 3 elements, at least 1 metal and non-metal. Name comes from metal & non-metal or polyatomic anion.	KCl KNO <sub>3</sub>
(10) Aqueous acids  (binary acids)	Prefix "hydro-" followed by the name of the second element and ends in "-ic".	Hydrochloric – HCl Hydrofluoric – HF Hydroiodic – HI
(12) Aqueous acids  (Oxoacid) (ternary acids)  higher charge ends in "ic" lower charge ends in "ous"	Composed of hydrogen, a non-metal and oxygen. The name comes from the middle element and is changed to end in "-ic", e.g., chlorine → chloric, nitrogen → nitric	Chloric – HClO <sub>3</sub> Nitric – HNO <sub>3</sub> , [O.N. = +5] Nitrous – HNO <sub>2</sub> , [O.N. = +3] Sulfuric – H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , [O.N. = +6] Sulfurous – H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> , [O.N. = +4] Carbonic – H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> Phosphoric – H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>
(13) Other anions  [oxidation state of Mn] [O.N.]	(i) SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , sulfate → HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> , hydrogen sulfate or bisulfate (ii) SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , sulfite → HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , hydrogen sulfite or bisulfite (iii) CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , carbonate → HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , hydrogen carbonate or bicarbonate (iv) MnO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> , permanganate, [Mn = +7]; MnO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , manganate, [Mn = +6], Silberberg, p.1028.	

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [B] CROSSOVER RULE

1. Magnesium nitride



2. Potassium chromate



3. Calcium bromide



4. Cesium sulfide



5. Zinc oxide



{note: when reduced to simplest form, this represents the *empirical* formula}

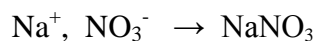
NOTE: If the subscript is 1, do not include it in the formula.

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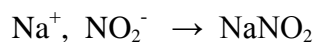
### [C1] NAMING COMPOUNDS WITH POLYATOMIC ANIONS

Examples with only one polyatomic anion; thus, no brackets needed.

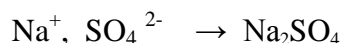
1. Sodium nitrate



2. Sodium nitrite

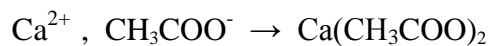


3. Sodium sulfate

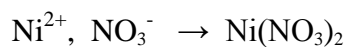


Examples where there is more than one polyatomic anion; thus, need brackets surrounding the anion.

4. Calcium acetate



5. Nickel (II) nitrate



NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

[C2] NAMING COMPOUNDS WITH POLYATOMIC ANIONS - practise questions

- Sodium carbonate  
 $\text{Na}^+, \text{CO}_3^{2-} \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$
  - Potassium permanganate  
 $\text{K}^+, \text{MnO}_4^- \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{KMnO}_4$
  - Sodium sulfite  
 $\text{Na}^+, \text{SO}_3^{2-} \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$
  - Potassium dichromate  
 $\text{K}^+, \text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-} \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$
  - Nickel (II) nitrite  
 $\text{Ni}^{2+}, \text{NO}_2^- \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{Ni}(\text{NO}_2)_2$
  - Nickel (III) nitrite  
 $\text{Ni}^{3+}, \text{NO}_2^- \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \hspace{10em} \text{Ni}(\text{NO}_2)_3$
- 

[D] NAMING COMPOUNDS WITH MULTIPLE OXIDATION STATES

- Iron (III) chloride  
 $\underline{\text{Fe}^{3+, 2+}}, \text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Fe} \_ \text{Cl} \_ \rightarrow \text{Fe}_1\text{Cl}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCl}_3$
- Chromium (III) sulfide  
 $\underline{\text{Cr}^{3+, 2+}}, \text{S}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cr}^{3+}, \text{S}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cr} \_ \text{S} \_ \rightarrow \text{Cr}_2\text{S}_3$
- Tin (II) fluoride, (stannous fluoride)  
 $\underline{\text{Sn}^{4+, 2+}}, \text{F}^- \rightarrow \text{Sn}^{2+}, \text{F}^- \rightarrow \text{Sn} \_ \text{F} \_ \rightarrow \text{Sn}_1\text{F}_2 \rightarrow \text{SnF}_2$
- Iron (III) oxide, (ferrous oxide)  
 $\underline{\text{Fe}^{3+, 2+}}, \text{O}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{O}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Fe} \_ \text{O} \_ \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$
- Chromium (II) sulfide  
 $\underline{\text{Cr}^{3+, 2+}}, \text{S}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cr}^{2+}, \text{S}^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cr} \_ \text{S} \_ \rightarrow \text{Cr}_2\text{S}_2 \rightarrow \text{CrS} \text{ {note: reduce to simplest form}}$

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## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [E1] DETERMING CHARGE FOR AN ION

1.  $\text{Cr}_2\text{S}_3$  - what is the charge on the Cr ion?

  - S (sulfide) has a charge of  $2^-$ ,
  - since there are 3 sulfide ions =  $3 \times (-2) = -6$
  - formula charge = 0; thus, cation = 6
  - $\text{Cr}^{x+} + \text{Cr}^{x+}$ :  $x + x = 6$ ,  $2x = 6$ , thus  $x = 3$
  - Cr has a charge of  $3^+$   
{Cr can be either  $3^+$  or  $2^+$ }
2.  $\text{FeCl}_3$  - what is the charge on the Fe ion?

  - Cl (chloride) has a charge of  $1^-$ ,
  - since there are 3 chloride ions =  $3 \times (-1) = -3$
  - formula charge = 0; thus, cation = 3
  - $\text{Fe}^{x+}$  :  $x = 3$ ,
  - Fe has a charge of  $+3$ .  
{Fe can be either  $3^+$  or  $2^+$ }
3.  $\text{Ni}_2\text{O}_3$  - what is the charge on the Ni ion?

  - O (oxide) has a charge of  $2^-$ ,
  - since there are 3 oxide ions =  $3 \times (-2) = -6$
  - formula charge = 0; thus, cation = 6
  - $\text{Ni}^{x+} + \text{Ni}^{x+}$ :  $x + x = 6$ ,  $2x = 6$ , thus  $x = 3$
  - Ni has a charge of  $3^+$   
{Ni can be either  $3^+$  or  $2^+$ }
4.  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  - what is the charge on the Ni ion?

  - $\text{NO}_3$  (nitrate) has a charge of  $1^-$ ,
  - since there are 3 nitrate ions =  $3 \times (-1) = -3$
  - formula charge = 0; thus, cation = 3
  - $\text{Ni}^{x+}$ :  $x = 3$
  - Ni has a charge of  $3^+$   
{Ni can be either  $3^+$  or  $2^+$ }

### [E2] COMMON NAME FOR IONS WITH MORE THAN ONE OXIDATION STATE

Cations	Formula	Name
iron (III)	$\text{Fe}^{3+}$	ferric
iron (II)	$\text{Fe}^{2+}$	ferrous
chromium (III)	$\text{Cr}^{3+}$	chromic
chromium (II)	$\text{Cr}^{2+}$	chromous
copper (II)	$\text{Cu}^{2+}$	cupric
copper (I)	$\text{Cu}^+$	cuprous

As a guide to remember the charges, the charges for each ion are listed in decreasing order.





## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

 [F1] TERNARY ACIDS, (OXOANIONS, OXOACIDS)

Current terminology refers to **oxoanions** & **oxoacids** (ref: Silberberg, p. 68-70).

Older terminology used the terms oxyanions & oxyacids (ref: Mortimer, p. 294).

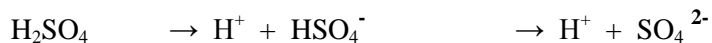
Anion prefix / suffix	Acid prefix / suffix	Acid formula/name
per – ate perchlorate ( $\text{ClO}_4^-$ )	per – ic perchloric	$\text{HClO}_4$ Perchloric acid
– ate chlorate ( $\text{ClO}_3^-$ )	– ic chloric	$\text{HClO}_3$ Chloric acid
– ite chlorite ( $\text{ClO}_2^-$ )	– ous chlorous	$\text{HClO}_2$ Chlorous acid
hypo – ite hypochlorite ( $\text{ClO}^-$ )	hypo – ous hypochlorous	$\text{HClO}$ Hypochlorous acid
– ate nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ )	– ic nitric	$\text{HNO}_3$ Nitric acid
– ite nitrite ( $\text{NO}_2^-$ )	– ous nitrous	$\text{HNO}_2$ Nitrous acid
– ate sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ )	– ic – sulfuric	$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ Sulfuric acid
– ite sulfite ( $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ )	– ous – sulfurous	$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$ Sulfurous acid
– ate phosphate ( $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ )	– ic – phosphoric	$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ Phosphoric acid
– ite phosphite ( $\text{HPO}_3^{2-}$ )	– ous – phosphorous	$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_3$ Phosphorous acid <sup>(1)</sup>
hypo – ite hypophosphite ( $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_2^-$ )	hypo – ous – hypophosphorous	$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_2$ Hypophosphorous acid <sup>(2)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> Reference: Silberberg, p. 602, phosphite ion ( $\text{HPO}_3^{2-}$ )

<sup>(2)</sup> Reference: Mortimer, p. 559.

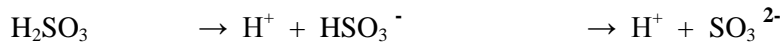
 [F2] ACIDS OF SULFUR: The oxoanions of sulfur.

Sulfuric acid (O.N. of sulfur = +6, Mortimer, p. 531)



sulfuric acid  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+ +$  hydrogen sulfate  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+ +$  sulfate (Mortimer, p.533)

Sulfurous acid (O.N. of sulfur = +4; Mortimer p. 529)



sulfurous acid  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+ +$  hydrogen sulfite  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+ +$  sulfite (Mortimer, p.529)

Peroxy acids: Sulfur.

An acid that contains a peroxide group ( $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$ ) is termed a peroxy acid (Mortimer, p. 534).

(i)  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$  (peroxydisulfuric acid), which contains the peroxydisulfate ion ( $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ ) (Mortimer, p. 535).

$\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$  may also be termed *persulfate* (Harris, p. 335).

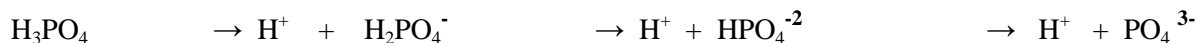
(ii) Hydrolysis of peroxydisulfuric acid yields  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_5$  (peroxymonosulfuric acid) (Mortimer, p. 535).

Thiosulfate  $\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-}$ , which is oxidized to tetrathionate  $\text{S}_4\text{O}_6^{2-}$  (Mortimer, p. 535-536).

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

[F3] ACIDS OF PHOSPHORUS: The oxoanions of phosphorous.

Phosphoric acid (O.N. of phosphorus = +5, Mortimer, p. 556)



phosphoric acid  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+$  + dihydrogen phosphate  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+$  + hydrogen phosphate  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+$  + phosphate  
(Silberberg, p.602)

Phosphorous acid (O.N. of phosphorus = +3, Mortimer, p.559)



phosphorous  $\rightarrow 2\text{H}^+$  + phosphite

Hypophosphorous acid (O.N. of phosphorus = +1, Mortimer, p.559)



hypophosphorous  $\rightarrow \text{H}^+$  + hypophosphite

- Note: (i) The naming of the phosphorus oxoanions are based on the scheme reported in Silberberg, p. 602, i.e., phosphite ion ( $\text{HPO}_3^{2-}$ ), as well as Mortimer, p. 548, hypophosphite ( $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_2^-$ ). *Current naming conventions may be different.*
- (ii) For phosphorus acid, only two of the hydrogens are dissociable and the 3rd hydrogen is bonded to the phosphorous atom; thus, is not dissociable (not acidic).
- (iii) For hypophosphorus acid, only one of the hydrogens is dissociable and the other two hydrogen atoms are bonded to the phosphorous atom; thus, is not dissociable (not acidic).
- (iv) O.N. based on Mortimer, p. 362.
- 

[F4] OXIDATION NUMBER (O.N.)

The O.N. and oxidation state are equivalent terms and refers to the charge that an atom would have if the electrons are *completely transferred* to another atom(s).

For a monatomic ion, the O.N. is equal to the ion charge, e.g.,  $\text{Na}^+$ , O.N. = +1;  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , O.N. = +2.

For polyatomic ions, the sum of the O.N. for all atoms must equal the charge for the ion, e.g.,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ : since oxygen is -2, then  $-2 \times 3 = -6$ . Therefore  $-6 + \text{N} = -1$ , thus,  $\text{N} = -1 + 6 = +5$ . Therefore, the O.N. for nitrogen is +5.

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[G1] PRACTISE PROBLEMS

(1) Provide the formula or name for the following:

- (i) Cadmium sulfide (cadmium is a transition element - most stable oxidation state +2)
- (ii) Magnesium flouride
- (iii) Zinc oxide (zinc is a transition element - most stable oxidation state +2)
- (iv)  $\text{BaSO}_4$
- (v) KCl
- (vi)  $\text{Na}_3\text{N}$
- (vii) Sodium peroxide
- (viii) Calcium nitride

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [G1] PRACTISE PROBLEMS, continued,

- (ix) Barium hydroxide
- (x) Sodium hypochlorite { main component in bleach }
- (xi) LiOH
- (2) Provide the formula or name for the following (crossover rule):
- (i) Ammonium carbonate
- (ii) Sodium hydrogen phosphate
- (iii)  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CrO}_4)_3$
- (iv) Sodium manganate
- (v) Calcium sulfate (commercial product - Drierite, a drying agent, Harris, p. 31)
- (vi) Magnesium oxide
- (3) Provide the formula or name for the following (cations with multiple charges - multivalent):
- (i) Iron (II) sulfide , (ferrous sulfide)
- (ii) Iron (II) carbonate
- (iii) Lead (IV) oxide
- (iv)  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$
- (v) Chromous chloride
- (4) Provide the formula or name for the following (polyatomic anions):
- (i) Calcium hydroxide
- (ii) Barium chromate
- (iii)  $\text{BaSO}_4$
- (iv)  $\text{CaCO}_3$
- (v) Cupric sulfate
- (vi)  $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$
- (vii) Magnesium perchlorate (a drying agent, Harris, p. 31)
- (viii) Ammonium nitrate
- 

### [G2] Answers to problems in G1

- (1) Provide the formula or name for the following:
- (i) Cadmium sulfide                      CdS
- (ii) Magnesium fluoride                      MgF<sub>2</sub>
- (iii) Zinc oxide                              ZnO
- (iv)  $\text{BaSO}_4$                               Barium sulfate
- (v) KCl                                      Potassium chloride
- (vi)  $\text{Na}_3\text{N}$                               sodium nitride

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [G2] Answers to problems in G1

- |        |                              |                          |
|--------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (vii)  | Sodium peroxide              | $\text{Na}_2\text{O}_2$  |
| (viii) | Calcium nitride              | $\text{Ca}_3\text{N}_2$  |
| (ix)   | Barium hydroxide             | $\text{Ba}(\text{OH})_2$ |
| (x)    | Sodium hypochlorite {bleach} | $\text{NaClO}$           |
| (xi)   | $\text{LiOH}$                | Lithium hydroxide        |
- (2) Provide the formula or name for the following (crossover rule):
- |       |                               |   |
|-------|-------------------------------|---|
| (i)   | Ammonium carbonate            | $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  |
| (ii)  | Sodium hydrogen phosphate     | $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$   |
| (iii) | $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CrO}_4)_3$ | Iron (III) chromate, (ferric chromate)                                |
| (iv)  | Sodium manganate              | $\text{Na}_2\text{MnO}_4$ (forms a green coloured ion, Harris, p.336) |
| (v)   | Calcium sulfate               | $\text{CaSO}_4$   |
| (vi)  | Magnesium oxide               | $\text{MgO}$  |
- (3) Provide the formula or name for the following (cations with multiple charges - multivalent):
- |       |                       |                                   |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (i)   | Iron (II) sulfide     | $\text{FeS}$                      |
| (ii)  | Iron (II) carbonate   | $\text{FeCO}_3$                   |
| (iii) | Lead (IV) oxide       | $\text{PbO}_2$                    |
| (iv)  | $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ | Copper (I) oxide, (cuprous oxide) |
| (v)   | Chromous chloride     | $\text{CrCl}_2$                   |
- (4) Provide the formula or name for the following (polyatomic anions):
- |        |                                      |                              |
|--------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (i)    | Calcium hydroxide                    | $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$     |
| (ii)   | Barium chromate                      | $\text{BaCrO}_4$             |
| (iii)  | $\text{BaSO}_4$                      | Barium sulfate               |
| (iv)   | $\text{CaCO}_3$                      | Calcium carbonate            |
| (v)    | Cupric sulfate                       | $\text{CuSO}_4$              |
| (vi)   | $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$             | Potassium hydrogen phosphate |
| (vii)  | Magnesium perchlorate (drying agent) | $\text{Mg}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$  |
| (viii) | Ammonium nitrate                     | $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$     |
- 

### [H1] PRACTISE PROBLEMS, part 2

- (1) Provide the formula or name for the following:
- |       |                   |
|-------|-------------------|
| (i)   | Sodium chloride   |
| (ii)  | Magnesium sulfide |
| (iii) | Sodium oxide      |
| (iv)  | $\text{CaF}_2$    |

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [H1] PRACTISE PROBLEMS, part 2

- (v) CuBr
  - (vi) ZnO
  - (vii) Na<sub>3</sub>P
  - (viii) Sodium nitrite
  - (ix) Sodium thiosulfate
  - (x) Potassium permanganate
  - (xi) Calcium carbonate
  - (xii) Sodium bisulfate
  - (xiii) Sodium perchlorate
  - (xiv) Calcium hydroxide
- (2) Provide the formula or name for the following (crossover rule):
- (ii) Magnesium nitride
  - (iv) Ba<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>
  - (v) MgO
  - (vi) Be<sub>3</sub>P<sub>2</sub>
  - (vii) CaO
  - (viii) FeO
- (3) Provide the formula or name for the following (cations with multiple charges - multivalent):
- (i) Iron (II) hydroxide
  - (ii) Copper (II) carbonate
  - (iii) CuS
  - (iv) Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
  - (v) Cobalt (II) sulfide
  - (vi) Cu<sub>2</sub>S
- (4) Provide the formula or name for the following (polyatomic anions):
- (i) Sodium nitrate
  - (ii) Sodium sulfate
  - (iii) Magnesium acetate
  - (iv) Ni(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>
  - (v) Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>
  - (vi) K<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>
  - (vii) Sodium bicarbonate
  - (viii) Sodium hydrogen phosphate

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [H1] PRACTISE PROBLEMS, part 2

(ix) Magnesium nitrate

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### [H2] Answers to H1, part 2

(1) Provide the formula or name for the following:

- |        |                        |   |
|--------|------------------------|---|
| (i)    | Sodium chloride        | NaCl  |
| (ii)   | Magnesium sulfide      | MgS   |
| (iii)  | Sodium oxide           | Na <sub>2</sub> O                             |
| (iv)   | CaF <sub>2</sub>       | Calcium fluoride                              |
| (v)    | CuBr                   | Copper (I) bromide                            |
| (vi)   | ZnO                    | Zinc oxide                                    |
| (vii)  | Na <sub>3</sub> P      | Sodium phosphide                              |
| (viii) | Sodium nitrite         | NaNO <sub>2</sub>                             |
| (ix)   | Sodium thiosulfate     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| (x)    | Potassium permanganate | KMNO <sub>4</sub>                             |
| (xi)   | Calcium carbonate      | CaCO <sub>3</sub>                             |
| (xii)  | Sodium bisulfate       | NaHSO <sub>4</sub>                            |
| (xiii) | Sodium perchlorate     | NaClO <sub>4</sub>                            |
| (xiv)  | Calcium hydroxide      | Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>                           |

(2) Provide the formula or name for the following (crossover rule):

- |        |                                |                                |
|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (ii)   | Magnesium nitride              | Mg <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> |
| (iv)   | Ba <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> | Barium nitride                 |
| (v)    | MgO                            | Magnesium oxide                |
| (vi)   | Be <sub>3</sub> P <sub>2</sub> | Beryllium phosphide            |
| (vii)  | CaO                            | Calcium oxide                  |
| (viii) | FeO                            | Iron (II) oxide, Ferrous oxide |

(3) Provide the formula or name for the following (cations with multiple charges - multivalent):

- |       |                                |                     |
|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| (i)   | Iron (II) hydroxide            | Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub> |
| (ii)  | Copper (II) carbonate          | CuCO <sub>3</sub>   |
| (iii) | CuS                            | Copper (II) sulfide |
| (iv)  | Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | Iron (III) oxide    |
| (v)   | Cobalt (II) sulfide            | CoS                 |
| (vi)  | Cu <sub>2</sub> S              | Copper (I) sulfide  |

## NOTES FOR NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

### [H2] Answers to H1 , part 2

(4) Provide the formula or name for the following (cations with multiple charges - multivalent):

- |        |                                   |                                      |
|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (i)    | Sodium nitrate                    | $\text{NaNO}_3$                      |
| (ii)   | Sodium sulfate                    | $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$             |
| (iii)  | Magnesium acetate                 | $\text{Mg}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2$ |
| (iv)   | $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2$        | Nickel (II) nitrate                  |
| (v)    | $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$          | Sodium carbonate                     |
| (vi)   | $\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$ | Potassium dichromate                 |
| (vii)  | Sodium bicarbonate                | $\text{NaHCO}_3$                     |
| (viii) | Sodium hydrogen phosphate         | $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$            |
| (ix)   | Magnesium nitrate                 | $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2$           |

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