

Indoor	Air Pollutant Gases
Gas Carbon dioxide CO ₂	Emission Sources Metabolic activity, combustion, garage exhaust, tobacco smoke
Carbon monoxide	Boilers, gas or kerosene heaters, gas stoves, wood stoves, fireplaces, tobacco smoke, garage exhaust, outdoor air
Nitrogen dioxide	Outdoor air, garage exhaust, kerosene and gas space heaters, wood stoves, gas stoves, tobacco smoke
Ozone O ₃	Outdoor air, photocopy machines, electrostatic air cleaners
Ü	Table 9.3

Indoor Air Pollutant Gases

Emission Sources
Outdoor air, kerosene space heaters, gas stoves, and coal appliances Gas Sulfur dioxide SO₂ Formaldehyde Particleboard, insulation, furnishings, paneling, plywood, carpets, ceiling tile, НСНО tobacco smoke Volatile org. carbon Adhesives, solvents, building materials, combustion appliances, paints, varnishes, VOC tobacco smoke, room deodorizers, cooking, carpets, furniture, draperies Radon Soils Table 9.3 Rn

Sick Building Syndrome

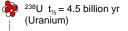
The term "sick building syndrome" is used to describe situations in which building occupants experience acute health and comfort effects that appear to be linked to time spent in a building.



Causes of sick building syndrome:

- Inadequate ventilation
- Chemical contaminants from indoor sources (adhesives, carpeting, copy machines, cleaning agents)
- Chemical contaminants from outdoor sources
- Biological contaminants (Bacteria, molds, pollen, and viruses are types of biological contaminants)

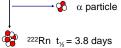
Radon



50% Uranium remains from the formation of earth

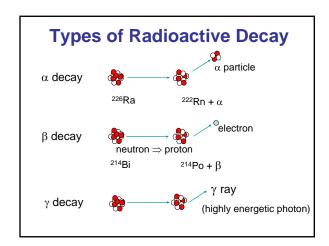
²²⁶Ra t_½ = 1622 yr (Radium)

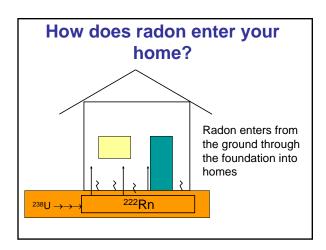
both Uranium and Radium are in the ground

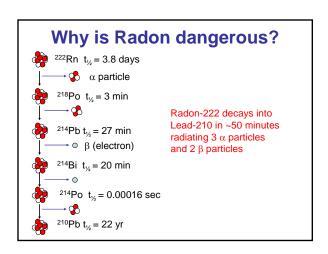


Radon:

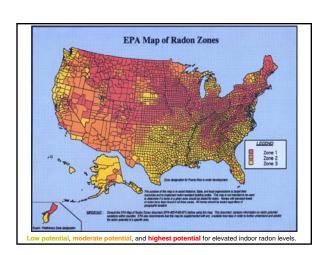
is a gas that can escape the ground and enter homes it attaches to particles which can be deposited in the lung

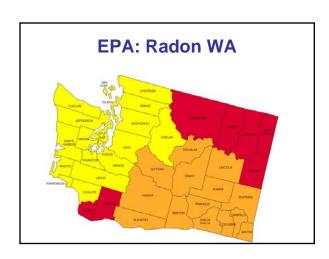


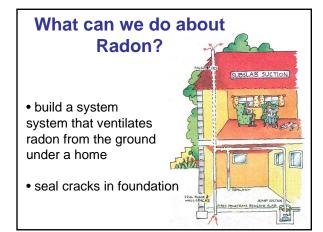




Health Effects of Radon Radon attaches to particles that get deposited in the lung → radon decays in the lung → radioactive decays (ionizing radiation) destroys lung tissue → Lung Cancer Radon is Estimated to Cause Thousands of Cancer Deaths in the U.S. Each Year







Indoor	Air Pollutant Particles
Particle Allergens	Emission Sources House dust, domestic animals, insects, pollen
Asbestos	Fire retardant materials, insulation
Fungal spores	Soil, plants, foodstuffs, internal surfaces
Bacteria, viruses	People, animals, plants, air conditioners
PAHs Polyaeromatic hydrocarbons	Fuel combustion, tobacco smoke
Other	Resuspension, tobacco smoke, wood stoves, fireplaces, outdoor air

What is in cigarette smoke?			
in mg/cigarette	(with filter)		
Component	Mainstream	Sidestream	
Tar Nicotine CO Formaldehyde Phenols Toluene benzopyrene	10.2 0.46 18.3 0.23 0.11 0.00025	34.5 1.27 86.3 1.44 0.6 0.6 0.001	

Some health effects of tobacco smoke

Mouth, nose, throat cancer in mouth, tongue,

sinus, larynx, loss of taste and smell lung cancer, coughing, asthma attacks

Pulmonary tract lung cancer, coughing, asth Cardiovascular tractrestricted blood supply to internal

organs → coronary, pulmonary heart

disease, congestive heart failure

strokes

Skin premature aging

In 1990 estimated death due to smoking

lung cancer cardiovascular diseases other pulmonary diseases 30000 80000 80000

Comparison of Indoor with Outdoor Standards

Outdoor California Standard (ppmv) (ppmv) 9.5 (8-h) 9 (8-h)

Nitrogen dioxide 1 (15-m) 0.053 (annual) 0.25 (1-h)

Indoor

(ppmv)

35

Gas

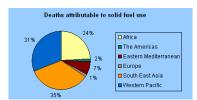
Carbon monoxide

Ozone 0.1 0.08 (8-h) 0.09 (1-h)

Outdoor standards tougher to protect entire population. Outdoor standards for $NO_2(g)$ tougher since ozone forms outdoors, but not indoors, from $NO_2(g)$.

Table 9.4

Deaths Attributed to Solid Fuel Use



http://www.who.int/indoorair/health_impacts/burden_regional/en/index.html

More than 3 billion people world wide depend on solid fuels for their energy needs.

Removing Indoor Air Pollution after Emission?

House plants (NASA Plant Studies):

• Show that some house plants can absorb common indoor air pollutants such as formaldehyde, benzene, and carbon monoxide (CO)

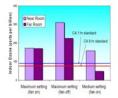


- Pollutant removal thought to occur from soil bacteria, rather than from the plant itself
- Critics argue that the rate of removal may not be sufficient, and that other methods (such as ventilation) are more effective

Air Cleaners (Ozone Generators)

Ozone (O₃) air generators are NOT recommended

Manufacturers can refer to ozone as "activated oxygen" or "energized oxygen". The claim is that ozone can react with pollutants such as particles, mold, and viruses cleaning the air. In fact this is not an effective way to remove these pollutants, except at very high (extremely unsafe) concentrations of ozone.



http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/ozone_gen_fact_sheet-a.pdf

Ionizers and electrostatic precipitators can emit ozone as a by product, but at levels lower than ozone generators.

No government agency has the authority to fully regulate such devices.

For a list of air cleaners to avoid, and to find safe air cleaners, go to:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/ozone.htm

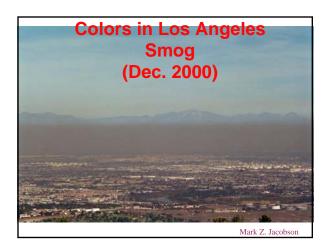
Example of an air cleaner (ozone generator) that is NOT recommended:

http://www.air-zone.com/

London Smog of 1952 Top period Top Deaths Top period Top Deaths T

Fog + smoke from coal burning Worst single pollution episode in the UK. December 5-8 1952: 4,000 people died, another 8,000 died in the weeks-months that followed





The Chemistry of Ozone (O₃) Formation

O₃, in both the stratosphere and troposphere, forms from the following reaction:

 $O + O_2 + M \rightarrow O_3 + M$

where M = inert "third body" (such as N_2) that absorbs excess energy from the reaction of O and O_2

There is plenty of ${\rm O}_2$ everywhere in the atmosphere (21%). The key is how "atomic oxygen" (O) forms. The difference between how stratospheric and tropospheric ${\rm O}_3$ forms is how O ("atomic oxygen") is generated.

Generation of atomic oxygen in the stratosphere (10-50 km altitude)

Atomic oxygen (O) in the stratosphere is generated from photolysis of ${\rm O}_2$. "Photolysis" means that sunlight breaks apart a molecule.

 O_2 + sunlight (UV) \rightarrow O + O

This photolysis reaction requires ultraviolet (UV) light. There is not enough UV light in the troposphere for this reaction to be significant.

The atomic oxygen (O) then reacts with abundant O_2 to produce O_3 :

 $O + O_2 + M \rightarrow O_3 + M$

Generation of atomic oxygen in the troposphere (0-10 km altitude)

Atomic oxygen (O) in the troposphere is generated from photolysis of NO₂. "Photolysis" means that sunlight breaks apart a molecule.

NO₂ + sunlight (visible) → NO + O

This photolysis reaction requires visible light. There is plenty of visible light in the troposphere during the day (or else we could not see).

The atomic oxygen (O) then reacts with abundant O_2 to produce O_3 :

 $\mathsf{O} + \mathsf{O_2} + \mathsf{M} \to \mathsf{O_3} + \mathsf{M}$

Generation of NO₂

Now we know that we need ${\rm NO}_2$ to generate tropospheric ${\rm O}_3$. So how do we get ${\rm NO}_2$?

 ${
m NO}_2$ is formed by oxidizing NO. NO is emitted directly from the tailpipe of our cars. NO is oxidized by ${
m HO}_2$ or ${
m RO}_2$.

$$NO + HO_2 \rightarrow NO_2 + OH$$

or

 $NO + RO_2 \rightarrow NO_2 + RO$

So how do we get HO_2 and RO_2 ?

Generation of HO₂ and RO₂

 ${\rm HO_2}$ forms from the oxidation of CO. CO is emitted from the tailpipes of our cars.

CO + OH ("hydroxyl radical") \rightarrow CO₂ + H H + O₂ \rightarrow HO₂

 ${
m RO}_2$ forms from the oxidation of hydrocarbons (HC or RH). Hydrocarbons have many sources, such as motor vehicles, solvents, and plants.

RH + OH ("hydroxyl radical") \rightarrow R + H₂O R + O₂ \rightarrow RO₂

Summary of O₃ formation in the troposphere

There are 3 steps in the chemistry of tropospheric ${\rm O_3}$ formation:

1) Formation of HO₂ (a) or RO₂ (b):

(a)CO + OH \rightarrow CO₂ + H

(b) RH + OH \rightarrow R + H₂O

 $H + O_2 \rightarrow HO_2$

 $R + O_2 \rightarrow RO_2$

2) Conversion of NO to NO₂:

 $HO_2 + NO \rightarrow NO_2 + OH$

or $RO_2 + NO \rightarrow NO_2 + OHv$

2) Photolysis of NO_2 to generate atomic oxygen:

 NO_2 + sunlight (visible) \rightarrow NO + O

Atomic oxygen (O) then reacts with molecular oxygen (O $_2$) to form O $_3$:

 $O + O_2 + M \rightarrow O_3 + M$

Is the air clean or dirty?

Air Quality standards

National primary ambient air standards:

Levels of air quality which the Administrator (of EPA) judges are necessary, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health.

National secondary ambient air standards: Levels of air quality which the Administrator (of EPA) judges are necessary to protect the <u>public welfare</u> (visibility, animals, crops, buildings) from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant.

National Primary Air Quality Standards

Ozone
1 hour average
8 hour average

120 ppbv (not to be exceeded more than once/year) 75 ppbv (not to be exceeded more than 4x/year)

1 hour average 8 hour average

35 ppmv (not to be exceeded more than once/year)

53 ppbv

annual average
SO₂
24 hour average

140 ppbv 1.5 μg/m³

Quarterly average PM₁₀
24 hour average
PM_{2.5}
24 hour average

 $150 \ \mu g/m^3$

35 μg/m³

Air Quality Index (AQI)

A numerical scale vs. air quality criteria, normalized for the different pollutants, scale of 0-500

AQI	Scale relative to standard	Example: O ₃ mixing ratio
50	Half standard	37.5 ppbv
100	Standard	75 ppbv
150	50% larger than standard	112.5 ppbv
200	Factor of 2 larger than standard	150 ppbv
300	Factor of 3 larger than standard	225 ppbv
500	Factor of 5 larger than standard	475 ppbv

For 75 ppbv 8-hour standard

1	1

	Air Quality Index (AQI)				
AQI		Health warnings			
0-50	Good	None			
51-100	Moderate	Sensitive people should limit outdoor exertion.			
101- 150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should limit outdoor exertion.			
151- 200	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should avoid outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoo			
201- 300	Very unhealthy Stage-1 episode (200-275) Stage-2 episode (275-400)	exertion, Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else especially children, should limit outdoor			
301- 500	Hazardous Stage-3 episode (>400)	exertion. Everyone should avoid all outdoor exertion			

