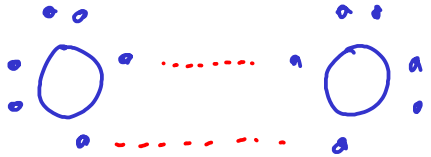
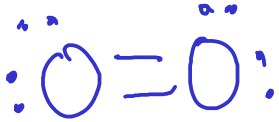
Let's look at OXYGEN ...



We know that oxygen exists in air as the diatomic molecule O_2

The oxygen atoms share TWO pairs of electrons. This is called a DOUBLE BOND

OR



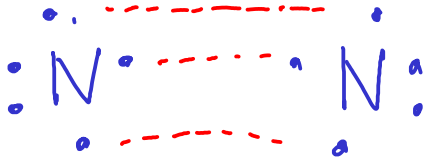
Each oxygen atom has a share in eight electrons!

A few notes on the double bond:

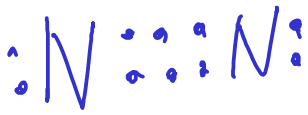
1. - For atoms to share more than one pair of electrons, they have to move closer to one another than they would if they were only sharing one pair of electrons. This BOND DISTANCE is measurable!

2. - It takes more energy to break a double bond between two atoms than it would to break a single bond between the same two atoms. This BOND ENERGY is also measurable!

Let's look at NITROGEN ...



We know that nitrogen exists in air as the diatomic molecule N_2.



OR

The nitrogen atoms share THREE pairs of electrons. This is called a TRIPLE BOND

Nitrogen gas is fairly inert ... it's hard to break the triple bond in nitrogen gas apart!

A few notes on the triple bond:

1. - For atoms to share three pairs of electrons, they have to move closer to one another than they would if they were sharing one or two pairs of electrons. Triple bonds have the shortest BOND DISTANCE of all covalent bonds.

2. - It takes more energy to break a triple bond between two atoms than it would to break either a single or double bond between the same two atoms. The triple bond has the largest BOND ENERGY of all three kinds of covalent bonds.

SO FAR, we've seen that ...

1. Atoms may share one, two, or three pairs of electrons.

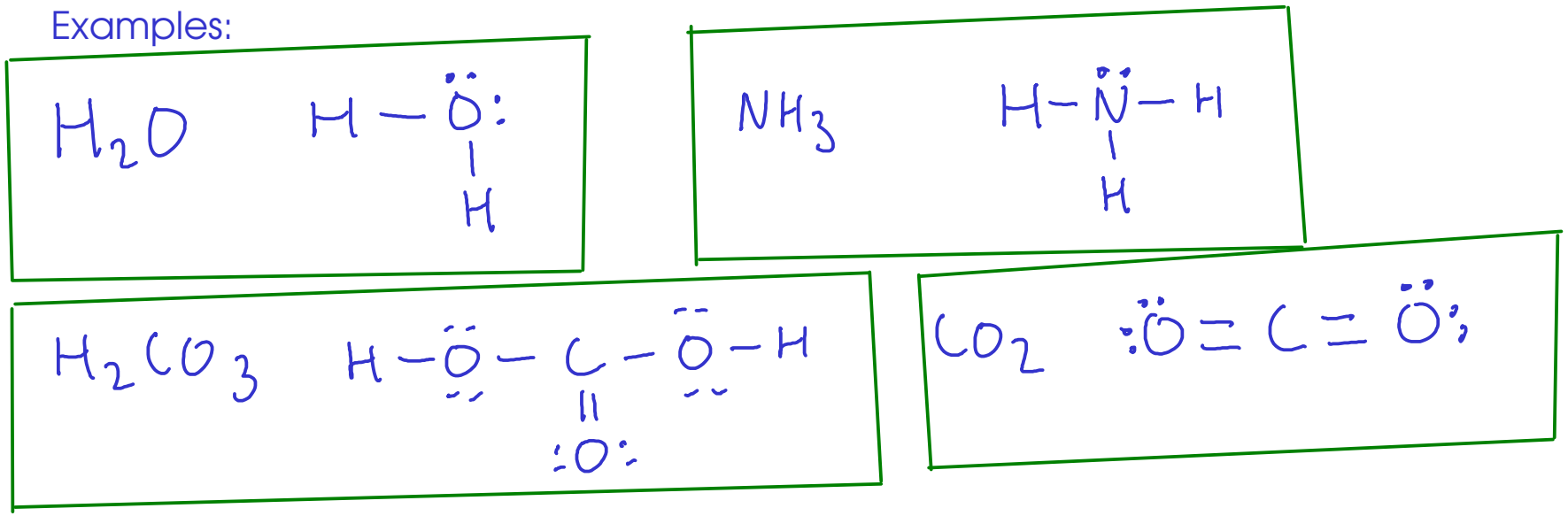
2. Atoms will usually share enough electrons so that each atom ends up with a share in EIGHT electrons - the "octet rule"

   - HYDROGEN will only end up with two electrons!

   - Some other atoms may end up with more or less than eight electrons. Exceptions to the octet rule are covered in Chapter 9.

NOW, how could we come up with dot structures for some more complicated (and therefore, more interesting) molecules?

Examples:



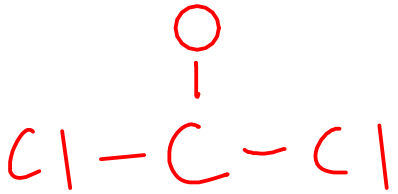
DRAWING DOT STRUCTURES FOR SIMPLE MOLECULES

$COCl_2$

C : 4
O : 6
Cl : 7 x 2
24

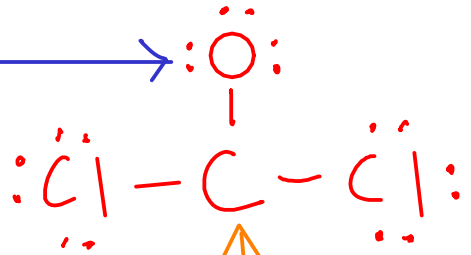
1. Count valence electrons

2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds



Choose carbon as the central atom, and draw skeleton

3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.

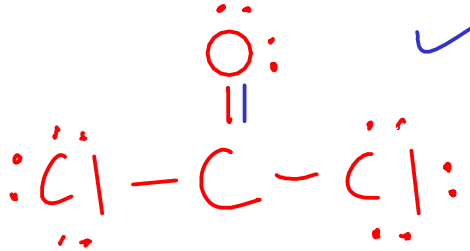


Distribute electrons - have to stop here because we've used all 24!

Carbon only has six electrons!

We'll pick OXYGEN to share two pairs of electrons. It's likely to be able to share two pairs since it needs to gain two electrons anyway!

4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.



This structure looks better - all atoms have a share in the correct number of electrons!

1. Count valence electrons

2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds

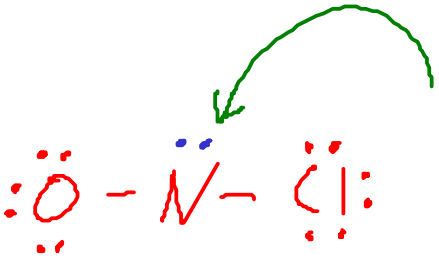
3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.

4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.

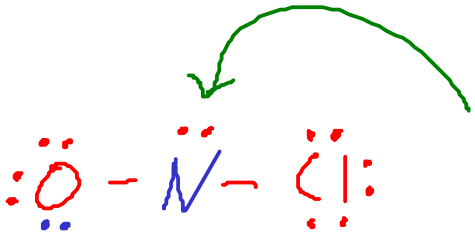
NOCl

N : 5 x 1
O : 6 x 1
Cl : 7 x 1
16 e⁻

We use NITROGEN as the central atom, since it needs to gain 3 electrons (more that O or Cl), thus it's likely to share more.



We ran out of "space" on the outer atoms, so we put the last pair onto the central nitrogen.



Only six electrons on NITROGEN, so we use two electrons we'd originally assigned to oxygen to form a DOUBLE BOND.

1. Count valence electrons

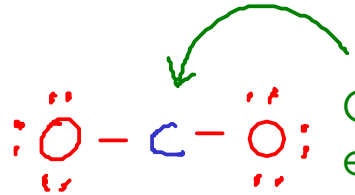
2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds

3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.

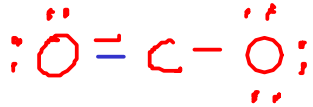
4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.

CO_2

C: 4
O: 6 x 2
16 e⁻

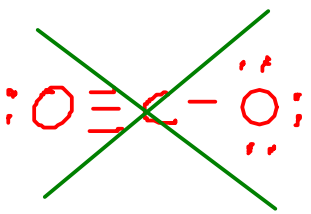


Carbon has a share in only FOUR electrons (same as before bonding?)



Adding one double bond gives carbon a share in SIX electrons!

Giving the other oxygen atom a double bond gives carbon a share in EIGHT electrons



These two oxygen atoms SHOULD bond the same way to the carbon center. They are identical atoms in an identical environment.

EXPERIMENTALLY: We find that the two oxygen atoms are the same distance from the center, so they should be the same kind of bond

1. Count valence electrons

2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds

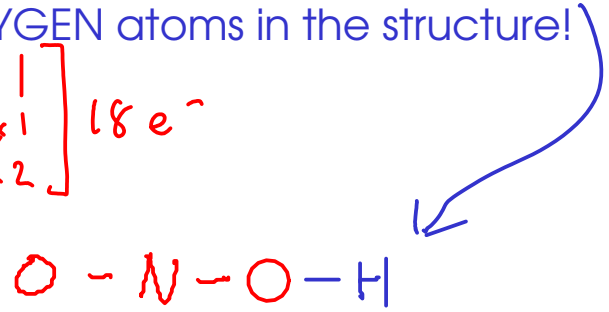
3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.

4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.

HNO_2 "nitrous acid"

In oxyacids, the acidic hydrogen atoms are attached to OXYGEN atoms in the structure!

H: 1 x 1
N: 5 x 1
O: 6 x 2
18 e⁻



But N has a share in only SIX!

A DOT STRUCTURE FOR A LARGER MOLECULE

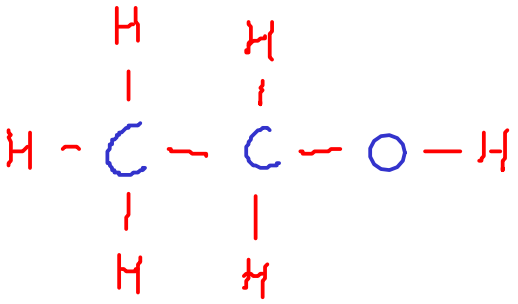
CH_3CH_2OH ETHANOL!

C : 4 x 2 = 8
H : 1 x 6 = 6
O : 6 x 1 = 6
| 20

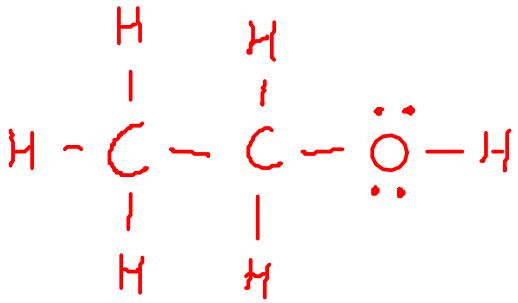
This formula gives us a hint to the structure of the molecule. Ethanol has THREE centers: the two carbon atoms and the oxygen atom.

1. Count valence electrons

2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds



3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.



4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.

A DOT STRUCTURE FOR A MOLECULE WITH DELOCALIZED BONDS

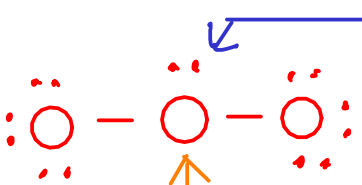
O: 3 x 6 = 18

O_3 (OZONE)

See text, 9.7 p 350-352

1. Count valence electrons

2. Pick central atom and draw skeletal structure
   - central atom is usually the one that needs to gain the most electrons!
   - skeletal structure has all atoms connected to center with single bonds



3. Distribute remaining valence electrons around structure, outer atoms first. Follow octet rule until you run out of electrons.

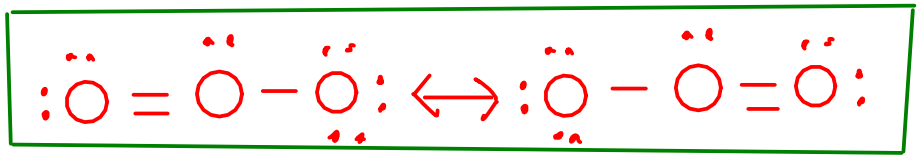
All atoms have a share in eight electrons here.

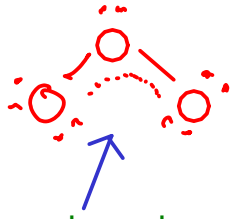
4. Check octet rule - each atom should have a share in 8 electrons (H gets 2). if not, make double or triple bonds.

This structure suggests that one of the outer oxygen atoms is closer to the central oxygen atom than the other one!

Experimentally, we observe that both outer oxygen atoms are the SAME distance from the center.

In the molecule, electrons are actually being shared between ALL THREE oxygen atoms. This is a DELOCALIZED bond!





These are RESONANCE structures. The real structure is an "average" of these two. The "double bond"'s electrons are shared between all three oxygen atoms!