DETERMINING THE FORMULA OF AN IONIC COMPOUND FROM THE NAME

- The name of an ionic compound is made of the names of the CATION and ANION in the compound.

- To get the FORMULA, you must figure out the SMALLEST RATIO of cation to anion that makes the charges balance out

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Examples:

iron(III) carbonate

Fe^{3+} CO_3^{2-}

Fe^{3+} CO_3^{2-}

CO_3^{2-}

$Fe_2(CO_3)_3$

potassium sulfide

K^+ S^{2-}

K_2S

calcium bromide

Ca^{2+} Br^-

Br^-

$CaBr_2$

DETERMINING IONIC FORMULAS

sodium sulfate

$Na^+ \quad SO_4^{2-}$

Na^+

Na_2SO_4

strontium oxide

$Sr^{2+} \quad O^{2-}$

SrO

tin(II) phosphate

$Sn^{2+} \quad PO_4^{3-}$

$Sn_3(PO_4)_2$

chromium(III) nitrate

$Cr^{3+} \quad NO_3^-$

NO_3^-

NO_3^-

$Cr(NO_3)_3$

barium hydroxide

$Ba^{2+} \quad OH^-$

OH^-

$Ba(OH)_2$

~~$BaOH_2$~~

titanium(IV) chloride

$Ti^{4+} \quad Cl^-$

$TiCl_4$

Don't forget the parenthesis when you have MORE THAN ONE of a polyatomic ion - watch HYDROXIDE and CYANIDE ions!

HYDRATES

- many ionic compounds are formed by crystallizing the compound from water. Sometimes, this causes water molecules to become part of the crystal structure.

- This water is present in a definite ratio to the ions in the compound. Can be removed by heating, but will NOT evaporate if the compound is left standing.

ex: $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$

water molecules per formula unit of compound

dot indicates that the water is weakly bound to the ionic compound

- many DESSICANTS are hydrates that have had their water molecules driven off. They will slowly reabsorb water from the air (and keep the environment in a dessicator at a low humidity)

- Hydrates are named using the name of the ionic compound, and a Greek prefix in front of the word "hydrate" to indicate how many water molecules are associated

Cu^{2+} SO_4^{2-}

copper (II) sulfate pentahydrate

Why "copper(II)"?

MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

- There are several kinds of molecular compound. We will learn to name two simple but important classes

1 BINARY MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

- molecular compounds containing only two elements

2 ACIDS

- molecular compounds that dissolve in water to release H^+ ions
- corrosive to metals (react with many to produce hydrogen gas)
- contact hazard: can cause chemical burns to eyes and skin
- sour taste
- turn litmus indicator RED
- two kinds of acids:

Usually from Group VIIA

1 BINARY ACIDS

- contain hydrogen and one other element

2 OXYACIDS

- contain hydrogen, OXYGEN, and another element

BINARY MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

- Named based on the elements they contain, plus prefixes to indicate the number of atoms of each element in each molecule

1 FIRST ELEMENT

- Add a GREEK PREFIX to the name of the element.
- Omit the "MONO-" (1) prefix if there is only one atom of the first element

2 SECOND ELEMENT

- Add a GREEK PREFIX to the STEM NAME of the element
- Add the suffix "-ide" (as if you were naming an anion)
- DO NOT omit the "mono-" prefix if there is only one atom of the second element

SEE COURSE WEB SITE FOR A LIST OF GREEK PREFIXES!
THESE ARE THE SAME PREFIXES USED FOR THE HYDRATES!

BINARY MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

Examples:

BF_3
boron trifluoride

Cl_2O_7
dichlorine heptaoxide

CO
carbon monoxide

CO_2
carbon dioxide

*Note: metalloids like boron behave chemically like nonmetals do.

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carbon tetrachloride
CCl_4

dihydrogen monoxide
H_2O

dinitrogen tetrafluoride
N_2F_4

$MgCl_2$: MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE (and not magnesium dischloride). Why? This one is an ionic compound, and is named with the system we discussed earlier for ionics.

How do we tell? Generally, metal/nonmetal compounds are ionic

ACIDS

1 BINARY ACIDS

- named after the element (other than hydrogen) they contain
- common binary acids include a Group VIIA element
- named: "Hydro-" + STEM NAME OF ELEMENT+ "-ic acid"

Four common binary acids

- HF : hydrofluoric acid * dissolves glass!
- HCl : hydrochloric acid * most common binary acid!
- HBr : hydrobromic acid
- HI : hydroiodic acid

ACIDS

2 OXYACIDS

- Easy to think about as HYDROGEN IONS combined with POLYATOMIC IONS

- These acids are not true ionic compounds, but they interact with water to PRODUCE ions!

- named based on the polyatomic ion they contain, with an ending change:

1 - ions ending in -ATE form acids ending in -IC

2 - ions ending in -ITE form acids ending in -OUS

sulfATE

H_2SO_4

sulfuric acid

phosphATE

H_3PO_4

phosphoric acid

sulfITE

H_2SO_3

sulfurous acid

nitrate

HNO_3

nitric acid