Blocks on the periodic table

Atomic number: This is always a whole number. The periodic table is arranged by atomic number!

11

Na

Sodium

22.99

Element symbol: A one or two letter abbreviation for the name of the element. Sometimes, the abbreviation is based on a language OTHER THAN ENGLISH! (Example: Na is short for "natrium", the Latin name of sodium.)

Element name: Sometimes, this is left off of periodic tables, expecially small ones!

Atomic weight: This is a decimal number, but for radioactive elements it is replaced with a number in parenthesis.

88

Ra

Radium

(226)

For RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS - elements where the atomic nucleus breaks down, causing the atom to break apart - the MASS NUMBER of the most stable ISOTOPE is given in (parenthesis) instead of the atomic weightr!

CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS

- Dalton's theory does not mention this, but there is more than one way for atoms to come together to make chemical compounds!

- There are TWO common kinds of chemical compound, classified based on how the atoms in the compound are held together:
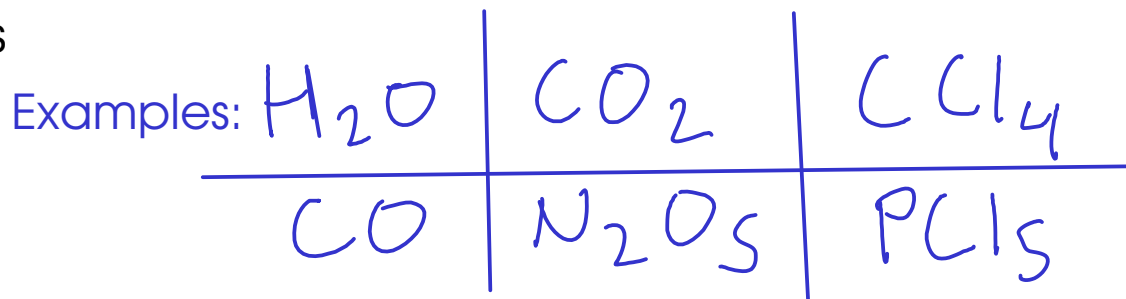
(1) MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

(2) IONIC COMPOUNDS

MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

- form when atoms SHARE outer electrons with each other. This results in a set of connected atoms called a MOLECULE
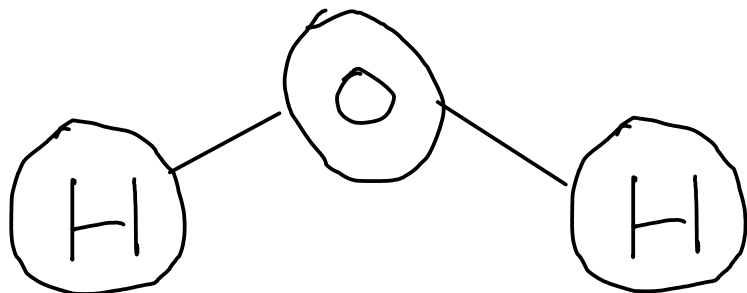
Stick figure of a water (H_2O) molecule

- usually form between nonmetals and other nonmetals or between nonmetals and metalloids

Examples:

H_2O	CO_2	CCl_4
CO	N_2O_5	PCl_5

CANDLE WAX is made up of molecular compounds

- some solid at room temperature. These solids tend to have low melting points.
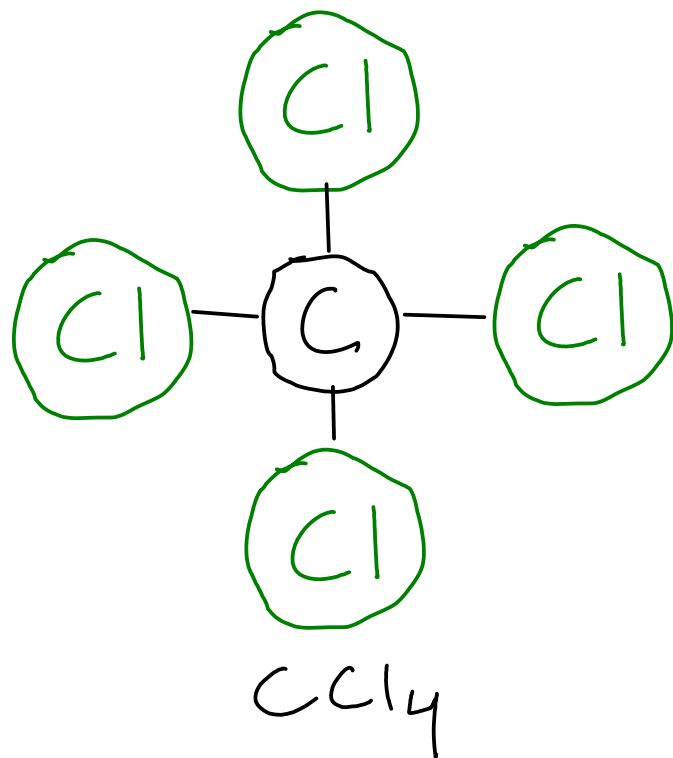
PCl_5 is a solid, $mp = 180°C$

- many are liquids or gases at room temperature

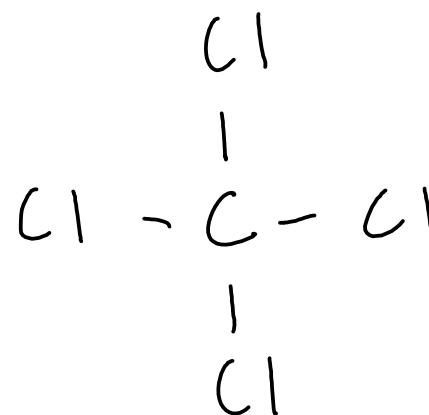H_2O, CCl_4 = liquids CO, CO_2, N_2O_5 = gases

MOLECULAR FORMULAS

- formula of a molecular compound represents the EXACT NUMBER OF ATOMS OF EACH ELEMENT in a single molecule of the compound

Example: Each molecule of CCl_4 contains exactly one carbon atom and four chlorine atoms

Cl

Cl — C — Cl

"ball and stick" model

Cl
|
Cl — C — Cl
|
Cl

Structural formula: shows how atoms are connected in a molecule

IONIC COMPOUNDS

- formed when atoms TRANSFER ELECTRONS between each other forming charged atoms, called IONS.

Two kinds of ions:

cation

(1) CATIONS: formed when an atom LOSES one or more electrons.

- overall, a cation has a POSITIVE charge, because it has more protons in the nucleus than electrons in the electron cloud

- usually formed by METALS, but occasionally hydrogen will also form a cation

(2) ANIONS: formed when an atom GAINS one or more electrons

- overall, an anion has a NEGATIVE charge, because it has more electrons in the electron cloud than protons in the nucleus

- usually formed by NONMETALS

IONIC COMPOUNDS

- USUALLY form from metals combining with nonmetals, or from metals combining with metalloids

Examples: $NaCl$ $MgCl_2$ $NaOH$

$Ca(OH)_2$ Na_2CO_3

Fe_2O_3 FeO
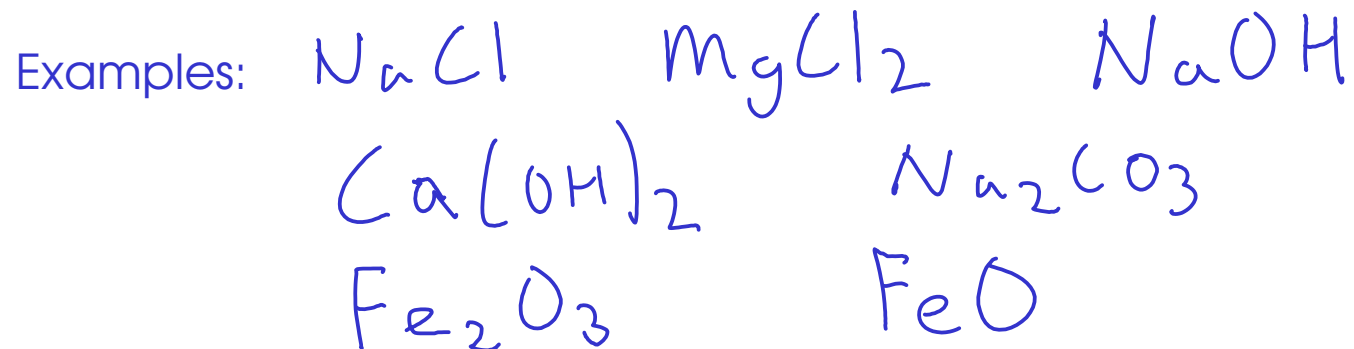
- almost always solid at room temperature, and usually have relatively high melting points

All of the above are solids at room temperature. NaCl has a melting point of 801°C.

- as solids, do not conduct electricity. If dissolved in water (some do not dissolve significantly in water), will form a solution that conducts electricity.

IONIC COMPOUNDS

- ionic compounds are held together by ELECTROSTATIC INTERACTIONS

(in other words, the attraction between oppositely charged ions!)
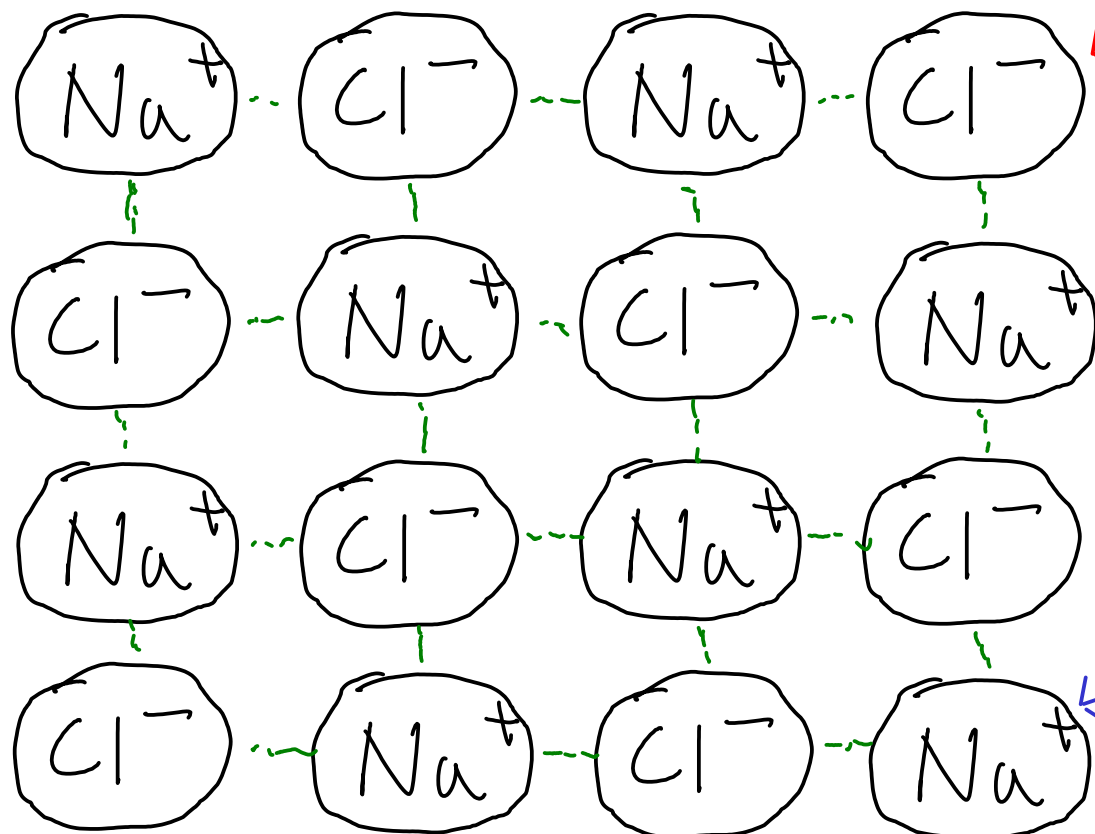
Each chloride ion is strongly attracted to ALL of the sodium ions surrounding it!

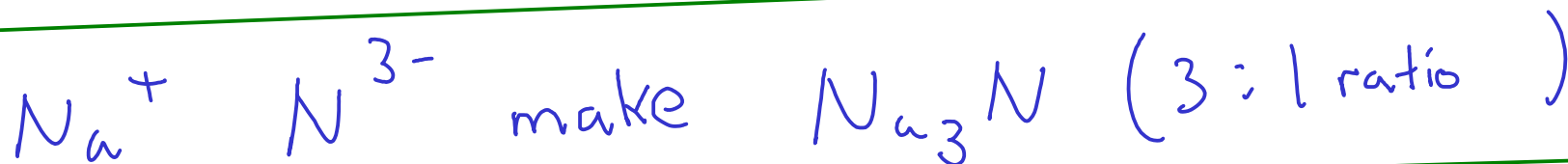Each sodium ion is strongly attracted to ALL of the chlorine atoms surrounding it!

There are no "molecules" in ionic compounds - in the sense that you can't point to a discrete unit of atoms that are connected to only each other

IONIC FORMULAS

- since there are no "molecules", an ionic formula cannot describe how many and what kinds of atoms are in a molecule!

- all ionic compounds are observed to be (overall) electrically neutral, so the IONS they contain must be present in such a way that the charges BALANCE EACH OTHER

    - an ionic formula gives the SMALLEST WHOLE NUMBER RATIO OF CATION TO ANION in the ionic compound
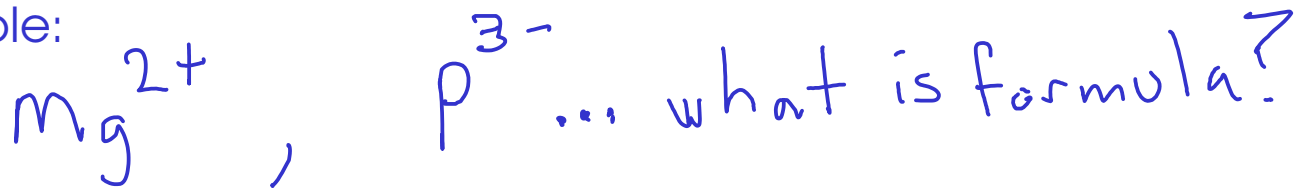
Na^+ Cl^- make $NaCl$ (1:1 ratio)

Ca^{2+} Cl^- make $CaCl_2$ (1:2 ratio)

Na^+ N^{3-} make Na_3N (3:1 ratio)

Fe^{3+} O^{2-} make Fe_2O_3 (2:3 ratio)

WRITING AN IONIC FORMULA

- if you know the ions that make up a compound, all you need to do is find the smallest ratio of cation to anion the compound needs to have an overall charge of zero
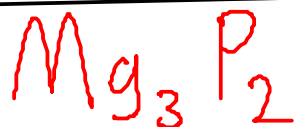
Example:

$$Mg^{2+}, \quad P^{3-} \ldots \text{ what is formula?}$$

$$Mg^{2+}$$

← more − than +, so add more Mg^{2+}, 1

$$P^{3-}$$ ← more + than −, so add P^{3-}

$$Mg^{2+}$$ ← more − than +, so add Mg^{2+}

$$Mg_3 P_2$$

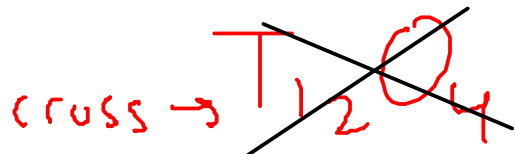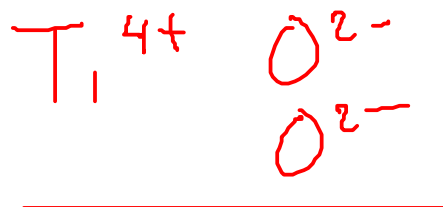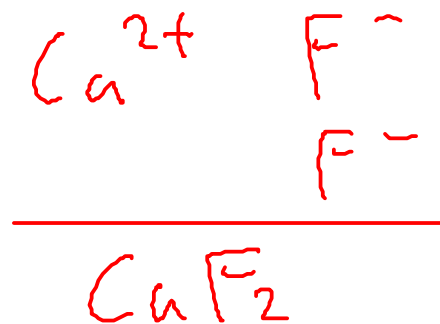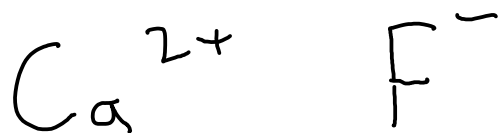] In the final formula, don't write the charges on the ions!

* Remember, ionic compounds are written with the SMALLEST whole-number ratio!

Ionic formulas are ALWAYS written with the cation first, and the anion second!

Cross method: $$Mg^{2+} \, P^{3-} \rightarrow Mg_3 P_2$$

More examples:

Ca^{2+} F^-

Ca^{2+} F^-
F^-
———————
CaF_2

→ Ti^{4+} O^{2-}

cross → Ti_2O_4 ⟶ $Ti O_2$

Ti^{4+} O^{2-}
O^{2-}
———————
$Ti O_2$

K^+ N^{3-}

K^+ N^{3-}
K^+
K^+
———————
K_3N