

# 6. Chalkogens

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*Group  
16 or VIA*

8 O	1772
16 S	<i>prehist.</i>
34 Se	1817
52 Te	1782
84 <i>Po</i>	1898
116 <i>Lv</i>	2000

*Chalkogens  
„ore creators“*

# 6.1 Occurrence

## The Chalkogens Exist in Elemental Form but Are Part of Many Ores As Well

### Oxygen (oxygenium)

*Latin: acidifier*



20.95% in air



Quartz

and many more

Silicates, aluminates, ...

### Sulphur (sulfur)

*Suel = Indoger.: schwelen*



Elemental



Pyrite



Lead glance



Zinc blende



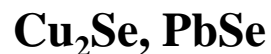
Copper pyrite



Zinnober

### Selenium (selena)

*Greek: moon*



Rare minerals

accommodate sulphur in sulphide ores

### Tellurium (tellus)

*Latin: earth*



Elemental

accommodates sulphur in sulphur ores



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## 6.2 Group Properties


**The Lighter Chalkogens (Sulphur and Oxygen) are Distinctively Non-Metals, whereas the Grey Selenium and Tellurium are Semi-Conductors**

	O <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>8</sub>	Se (grey)	Te
<b>Atomic number</b>	8	16	34	52
<b>Electronic-configuration</b>	[He] 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>4</sup>	[Ne] 3s <sup>2</sup> 3p <sup>4</sup>	[Ar] 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup> 4p <sup>4</sup>	[Kr] 4d <sup>10</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup> 5p <sup>4</sup>
<b>Electronegativity</b>	3.5	2.5	2.4	2.0
<b>Ionisation energy [eV]</b>	17.5	13.0	11.8	1.0
<b>Oxidation states</b>	-1, -2, +1, +2	-2, +2, +4, +6	-2, +4, +6	-2, +4, +6
<b>Non-metallic character</b>	decreases →			
<b>Formation of double bonds</b>	tendency decreases →			
<b>σ-formation enthalpy [kJ/mol]</b>	142	265	216	
<b>π-bonding enthalpy [kJ/mol]</b>	356	160	117	

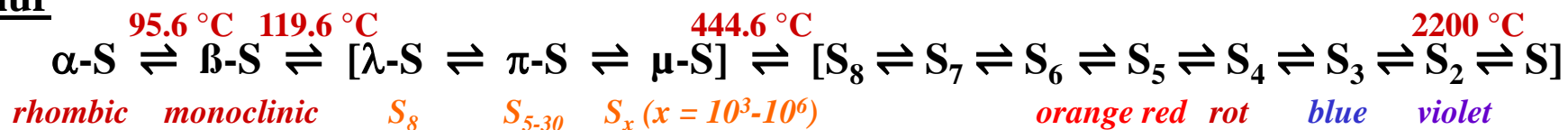
**For S, Se and Te, σ-bonds are more stable than π-bonds ⇒ formation of chains + cycles**

# 6.3 Physical Properties

## Sulphur and Selenium Exist in Numerous Modifications

	O <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>8</sub>		Se (grey)	Te
Colour	light blue	yellow		grey/red	brown
Melting point [°C]	-219	120		220	450
Boiling point [°C]	-183	445		685	1390
Diss. energy [kJ/mol]	499	430		308	225
Bon length X-X [pm]	132	208		430	486
X <sup>2-</sup> ionic radius [pm]	132	184		198	221

### Sulphur



### Selenium (6 modifications)

Grey hexagonal, metallic, Se<sub>∞</sub>  
 Black glass-like, large to extremely large Se-cycles  
 Red monoclinic, α-Se<sub>8</sub>, β-Se<sub>8</sub>, γ-Se<sub>8</sub>  
 Red amorphous, Se<sub>n</sub>

### Tellurium (1 modification)

hexagonal, metallic, Te<sub>∞</sub> (helical)

# 6.3 Physical Properties

## Allotropy and Polymorphism

Allotropy (Greek: transformation into something different) is a phenomenon, which describes the fact that a element can exist in different molecular dimensions

$O_2$ ,  $O_3$

$S_{20}$ ,  $S_{18}$ ,  $S_{12}$ ,  $S_8$ ,  $S_7$ ,  $S_6$

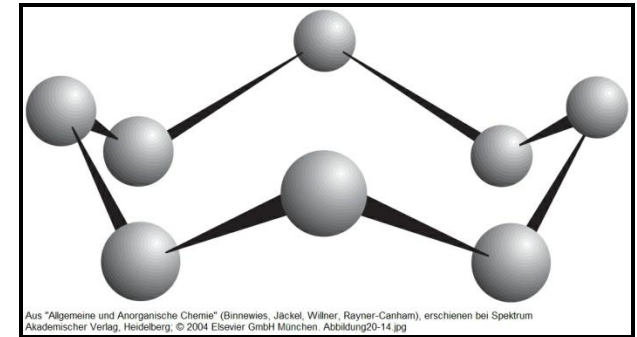
$Se_8$ ,  $Se_7$ ,  $Se_6$

Polymorphism (Greek: multiple forms) describes a feature of nature, that allows a chemical species, depending on the physical (p, T) surroundings, to take on different structures

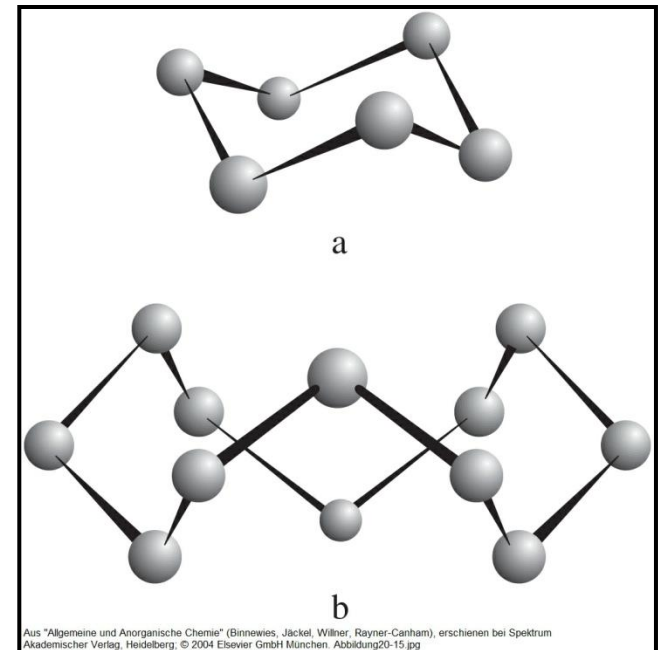
$\alpha$ - $S_8$       rhombic

$\beta$ - $S_8$       monoclinic

$S_8$  Ring



$S_6$  Ring (above),  $S_{12}$  Ring (below)



# 6.4 Synthesis and Production

## Technical Process

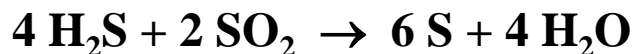
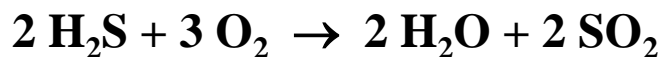
### Oxygen

Linde-Process (→ General Chemistry)

### Sulphur

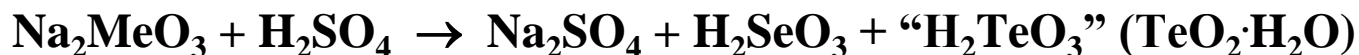
a) Frasch-Process (→ figures)

b) Claus-Process (from H<sub>2</sub>S in natural gas)

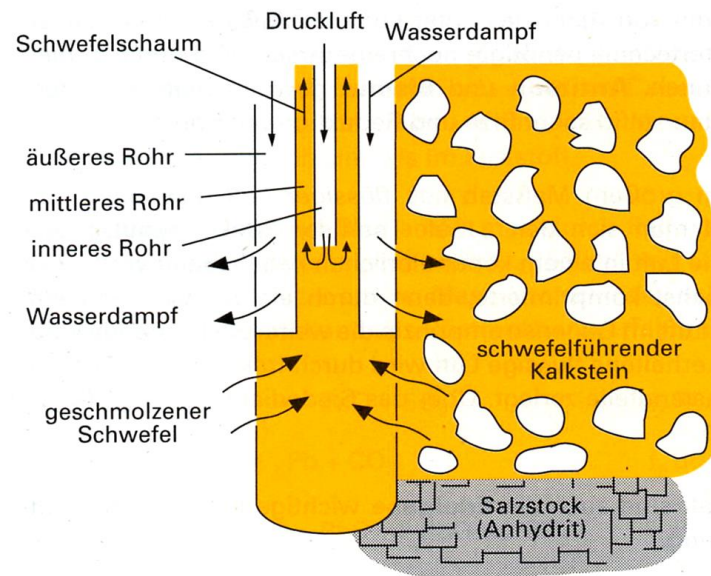


### Selenium/Tellurium

From anode slime, which arises during the electrolytic refinement of Cu:



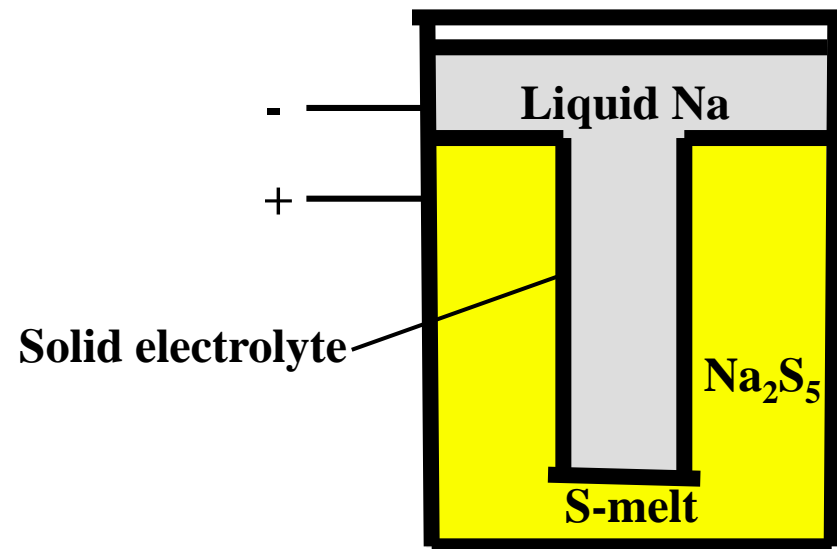
## Production of elemental sulphur by the Frasch-Process



# 6.5 Applications

## Sulphur and Its Compounds

- $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  production ( $\rightarrow$  presentations)
- Vulcanisation of natural rubber
- Production of matches, gun powder, and fireworks
- Na-S-batteries  
Negative pole:  $2 \text{Na} \rightarrow 2 \text{Na}^+ + 2 \text{e}^-$   
Positive pole:  $5/8 \text{S}_8 + 2 \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{S}_5^{2-}$   
Solid electrolyte:  $\text{NaAl}_{11}\text{O}_{17}$  ( $\beta$ -alumina)



- Production of coloured pigments

Cadmium yellow  $\text{CdS}$

Realgar  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$

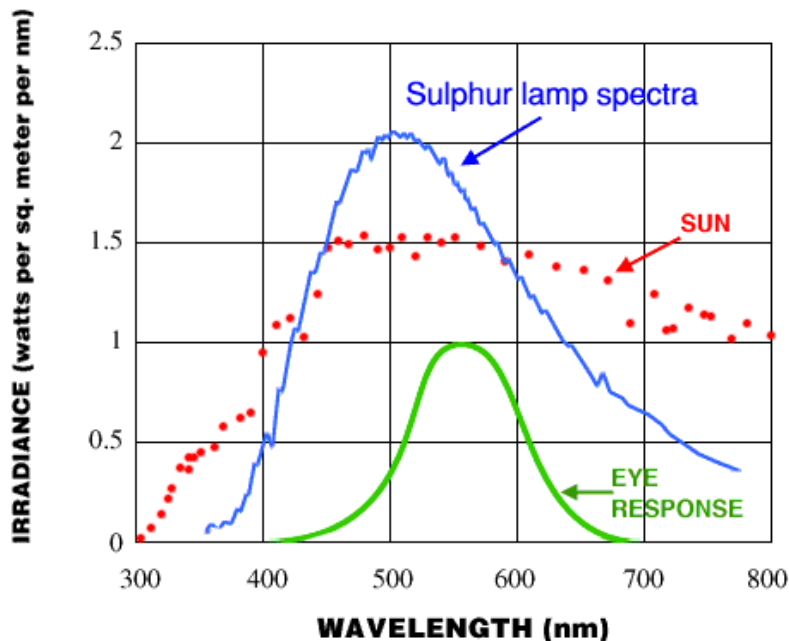
Zinnober  $\text{HgS}$

Ultramarine  $\text{Na}_4\text{Al}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{12}\text{S}_3$



# 6.5 Exkursus: The Sulphur Lamp

**In 1990, a Company Named “Fusionlighting” Managed to Build a Discharge Lamp on Basis of a Molecular ( $S_4 - S_8$ ) Sulphur Discharge for the First Time**



**Light source with extremely high luminous flux 140000 lm (~ 40 fluorescent tubes) and (almost) perfectly white light (band emission of  $S_8$ ,  $S_7$ ,  $S_6$ ,  $S_5$ ,... molecules)**

**Efficacy: comparable to fluorescent tubes (ca. 100 lm/W)**

**Problem: incoupling of energy → electrode-free lamp with microwave generator (2.45 GHz)**



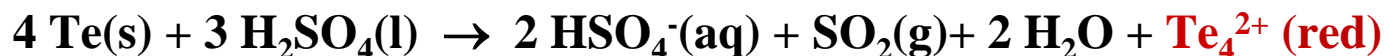
# 6.5 Applications

## Selenium and Tellurium

- **Grey Selenium and Tellurium are semi-conductors**
  - **Diodes: rectifier**
  - **Photoconductivity: photodiodes, solar cells**
  - **Grey Se: no conductivity in the dark  $\Rightarrow$  Xerography (photocopying process)**
- **S, Se, and Te form a gapless series of mixed crystals with  $\text{Zn}^{2+} \Rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{S,Se,Te})$  and  $\text{Cd}(\text{S,Se,Te})$** 
  - **NIR-detectors**
  - **NIR-LEDs**
- **Selenides are used as colour and luminescence pigments**
  - **Addition of CdSe into glass: ruby-red colouring**
  - **$\text{Zn}(\text{S,Se})\text{:Cu} \Rightarrow$  coloured luminescence pigments in cathode ray tubes and electroluminescence light sources**
- **Tellurium is used in metallurgy**

# 6.6 Chalkogen Cations

**Heating of Sulphur, Selenium or Tellurium in Concentrated Sulphuric Acid or Oleum Leads to Strongly Coloured Solutions, because of the Formation of Cations**

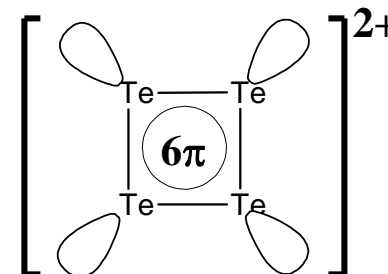
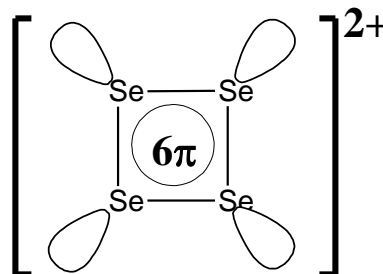
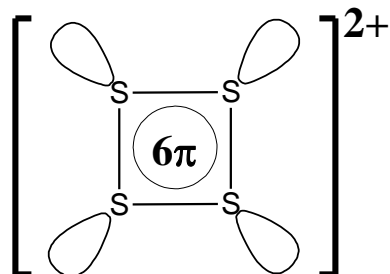


⇒ Selenium and Tellurium analytics

## Known cyclic chalkogen cations



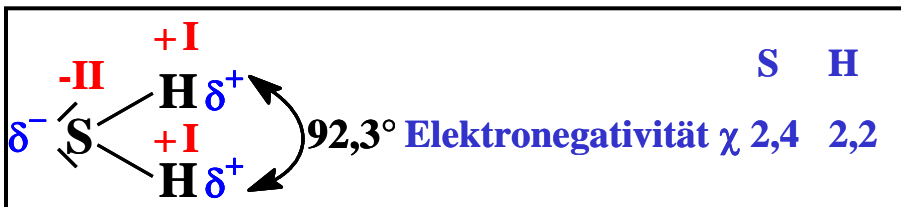
(transparent)



# 6.7 Chalkogen Hydrogen Compounds

**H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>Se and H<sub>2</sub>Te Are Highly Toxic, Badly Reeking (Rotten Eggs: H<sub>2</sub>S, Rotten Radish: H<sub>2</sub>Se) Gases. The Toxicity of H<sub>2</sub>S Can Be Traced Back to the Blockage of Fe in Haemoglobin**

	H <sub>2</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub> S	H <sub>2</sub> Se	H <sub>2</sub> Te	
Melting point [°C]	0	-86	-64	-51	
Boiling point [°C]	100	-61	-42	-2	no H-bonds
Formation enthalpy [kJ/mol]		-285	-20	78	143
TLV-value [mg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	-	15	0.2	0.1	
Bonding angle	104.5°	92°	91°	90°	almost exclusively p-orbitals



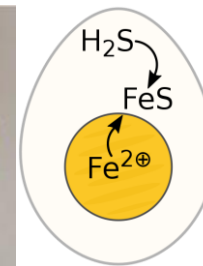
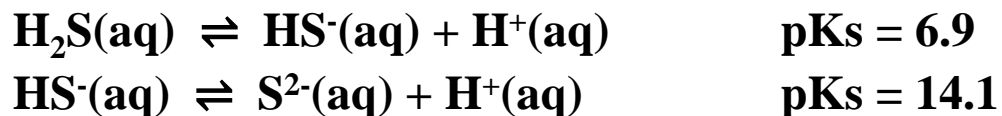
Technical production: from the elements (high purity H<sub>2</sub>S):  $\text{H}_2 + 1/8 \text{S}_8 \xrightarrow[\text{catalyst}]{600\text{ }^\circ\text{C}} \text{H}_2\text{S}$

Synthesis at the lab:

- Kippsch' Apparatus:  $\text{FeS (in poles of pieces)} + 2 \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{FeCl}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{S}$
- Hydrolysis of thioacetamide:  $\text{H}_3\text{C-CS-NH}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_3\text{C-CO-NH}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{S}$
- Hydrolysis of thiourea at 90 °C:  $\text{H}_2\text{N-CS-NH}_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{S} + 2 \text{NH}_3$

# 6.7 Chalkogen Hydrogen Compounds

## H<sub>2</sub>S Forms Hydrogen Sulphides and Sulphides with a Number of Cations



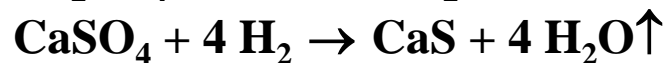
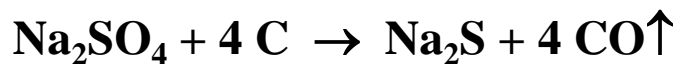
Poorly soluble metal sulphides precipitate in acidic solution

→ As<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, SnS, HgS, PbS, Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, CuS, CdS (H<sub>2</sub>S-group)

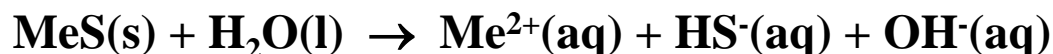
More readily soluble metal sulphides precipitate not until the solution is ammoniacal:

→ MnS, FeS, CoS, NiS, ZnS ((NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S-group)

Readily soluble metal sulphides can be synthesised by solid state reactions:



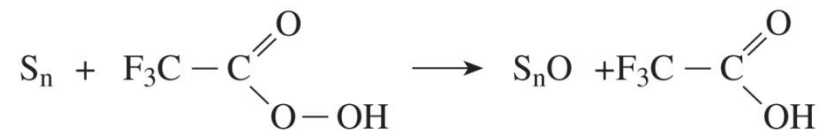
Alkaline metal and earth alkaline metal sulphides react readily with water:



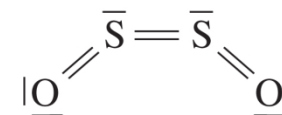
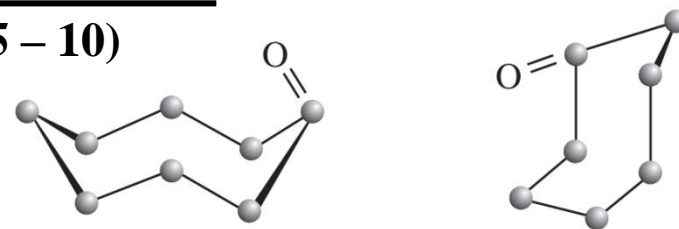
# 6.8 Chalkogen Oxides

## Oxides of Sulphur

### Overview



Oxidation state	Name	Molecular formula
< +1	<i>suboxides</i> poly sulphur monoxides	$S_n\text{O}$ (n = 5 – 10)
< +1	heptasulphur dioxide	$S_7\text{O}_2$
+1	disulphur monoxide	$S_2\text{O}$
+2	<b>sulphur monoxide</b>	<b>SO</b>
+2	disulphur dioxide	$S_2\text{O}_2$
+4	<b>sulphur dioxide</b>	<b>SO<sub>2</sub></b>
+6	<b>sulphur trioxide</b>	<b>SO<sub>3</sub></b>
+6	sulphur tetroxide	SO <sub>4</sub>
+6	poly sulphur peroxides	(SO <sub>3-4</sub> ) <sub>n</sub>



# 6.8 Chalkogen Oxides

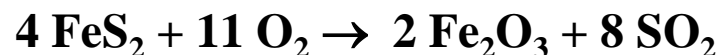
## Sulphur Dioxide SO<sub>2</sub>

### Synthesis

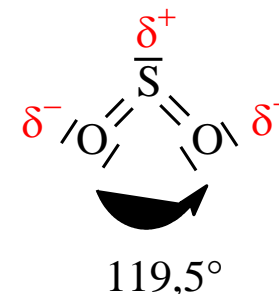
- Combustion of sulphur



- Roasting of sulphide ores



gewinkelt



polares Molekül

### Properties

- TLV-value: 5 ppm
- High solubility in water: 40 l SO<sub>2</sub> in 1 l H<sub>2</sub>O at room temperature
- Solution reacts slightly acidic:  $\text{SO}_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{HSO}_3^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$   
 $\text{HSO}_3^- + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{SO}_3^{2-} + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$
- Hypothetic sulphurous acid H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> can not be isolated
- In conc. SO<sub>2</sub>-solution, disulphite ions form by condensation:  
 $2 \text{HSO}_3^- \rightleftharpoons \text{S}_2\text{O}_5^{2-} (\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Acts as a reducing agent in aqueous solution:  
 $\text{SO}_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{SO}_4^{2-} + 4 \text{H}^+ + 2 \text{e}^-$
- Salts: Hydrogen sulphites HSO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and sulphites SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>

pKs = 1.8  
pKs = 7.0

# 6.8 Chalkogen Oxides

## Sulphur Dioxide SO<sub>2</sub>

### Application as preservative

SO<sub>2</sub> is highly cytotoxic

- ⇒ to exterminate microorganisms
- ⇒ 100 ppm SO<sub>2</sub> suffice to suppress the reproduction of unwanted yeasts (sulphurisation of wine)

SO<sub>2</sub> prevents oxidation

- ⇒ preserves the colour of fruits and vegetables
- ⇒ keeps peeled potatoes white

### Role as environmental toxin

about 300 millions of tons of SO<sub>2</sub> escape into the earth's atmosphere every year, and form sulphuric acid (droplets) there

### Approved preservatives

E220	sulphur dioxide
E221	sodium sulphite
E222	sodium hydrogen sulphite
E223	sodium disulphite
E224	potassium disulphite
E226	calcium disulphite
E227	calcium hydrogen sulphite
E228	potassium hydrogen sulphite

Inorganic substances	Share upon the acidity of the precipitate [in %]
SO <sub>2</sub> → H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	83
NO, NO <sub>2</sub> → HNO <sub>3</sub>	12
HCl	5

# 6.8 Chalkogen Oxides

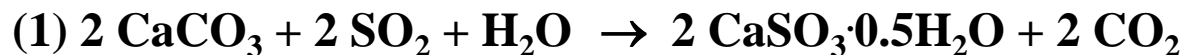
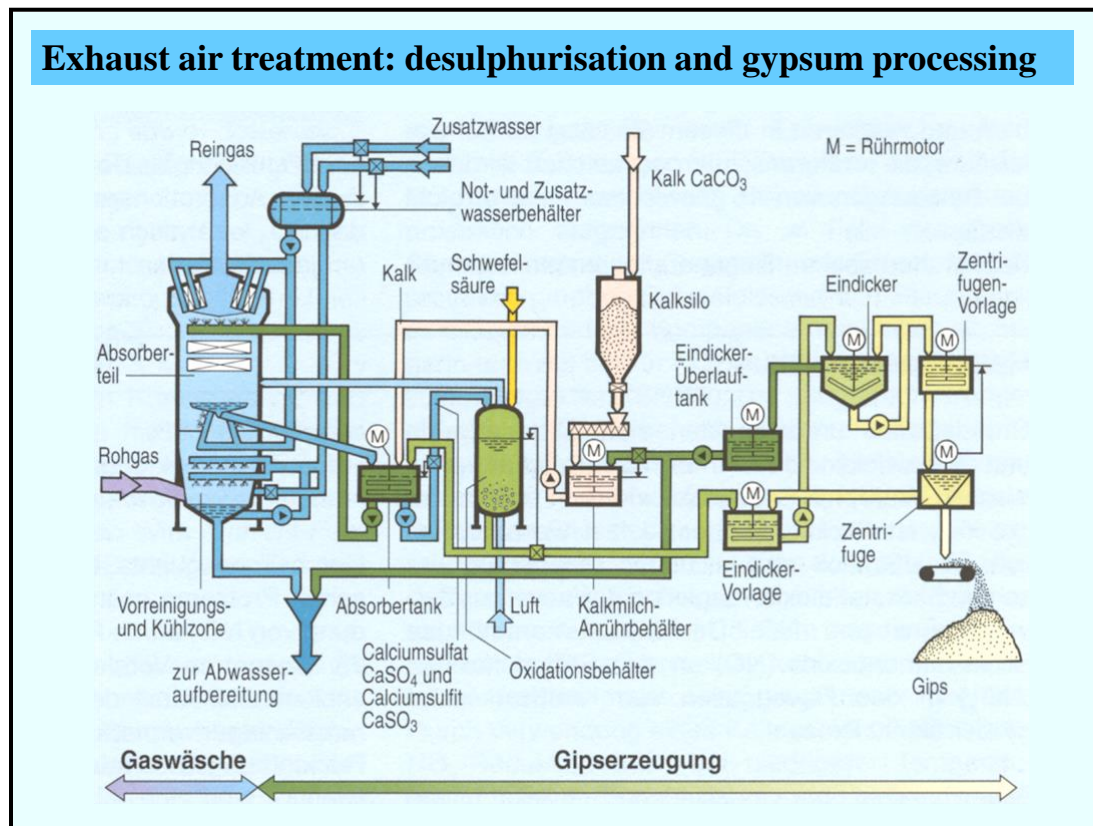
## Sulphur Dioxide SO<sub>2</sub>

### Desulphurisation

(1) During the limestone process CaCO<sub>3</sub> (lime) reacts with SO<sub>2</sub> from the flue gases.

(2) Within the oxidation zone, i.e. in the oxidation vessel, gypsum is formed under the addition of air.

### Exhaust air treatment: desulphurisation and gypsum processing



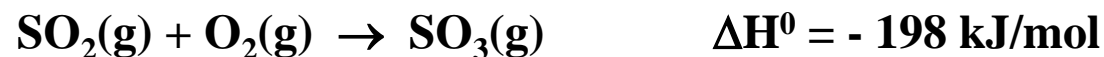


# 6.8 Chalkogen Oxides

## Sulphur Trioxide $\text{SO}_3$

### Synthesis

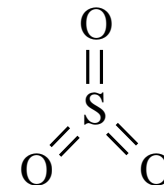
- Catalytic oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$



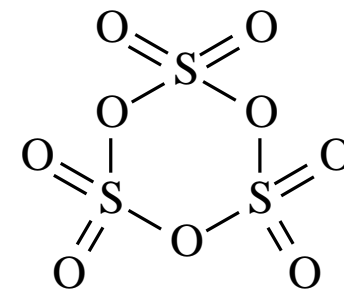
( $\rightarrow$  presentations)

### Properties

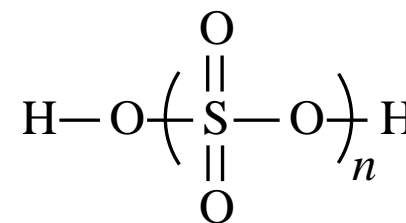
- $\text{SO}_3$  is a solid under standard conditions
- It exist in various modifications:  
the monomer only exists in the gas phase in balance with  $\text{S}_3\text{O}_9$  molecules (trimeres of  $\text{SO}_3$ ):  $3 \text{SO}_3(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons \text{S}_3\text{O}_9(\text{g})$
- Below room temperature, it is transformed into more stable, asbestos-like modifications ( $\beta\text{-SO}_3$ ,  $\alpha\text{-SO}_3$ )
- $\text{SO}_3$  is highly reactive and forms sulphuric acid together with water:  
 $\text{SO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$



$\gamma\text{-SO}_3$



$\beta\text{-SO}_3$



# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Oxo Acids of Sulphur

Acid	Name	Ox. State at S	Anion	Name
$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_2$	sulphoxylic acid	+2	$\text{SO}_2^{2-}$	sulphoxylate
$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$	sulphurous acid	+4	$\text{SO}_3^{2-}$	sulphite
$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$	sulphuric acid	+6	$\text{SO}_4^{2-}$	sulphate
$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_5$	peroxo monosulphuric acid	+6	$\text{HOOSO}_3^-$	peroxo monosulphate
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$	thio sulphuric acid	+4, 0	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-}$	thiosulphate
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$	dithionous acid	+3	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$	dithionit
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$	disulphurous acid	+3, +5	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_5^{2-}$	disulphite
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_6$	dithionic acid	+5	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_6^{2-}$	dithionate
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_7$	disulphuric acid	+6	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}$	disulphate
$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$	peroxo disulphuric acid	+6	$\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$	peroxo disulphate

- Available as pure compounds: sulphuric acid, disulphuric acid, peroxo sulphuric acid, peroxo disulphuric acid, thiosulphuric acid
- With the exception of peroxo monosulphuric acid, all oxo acids of sulphur are dibasic

# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

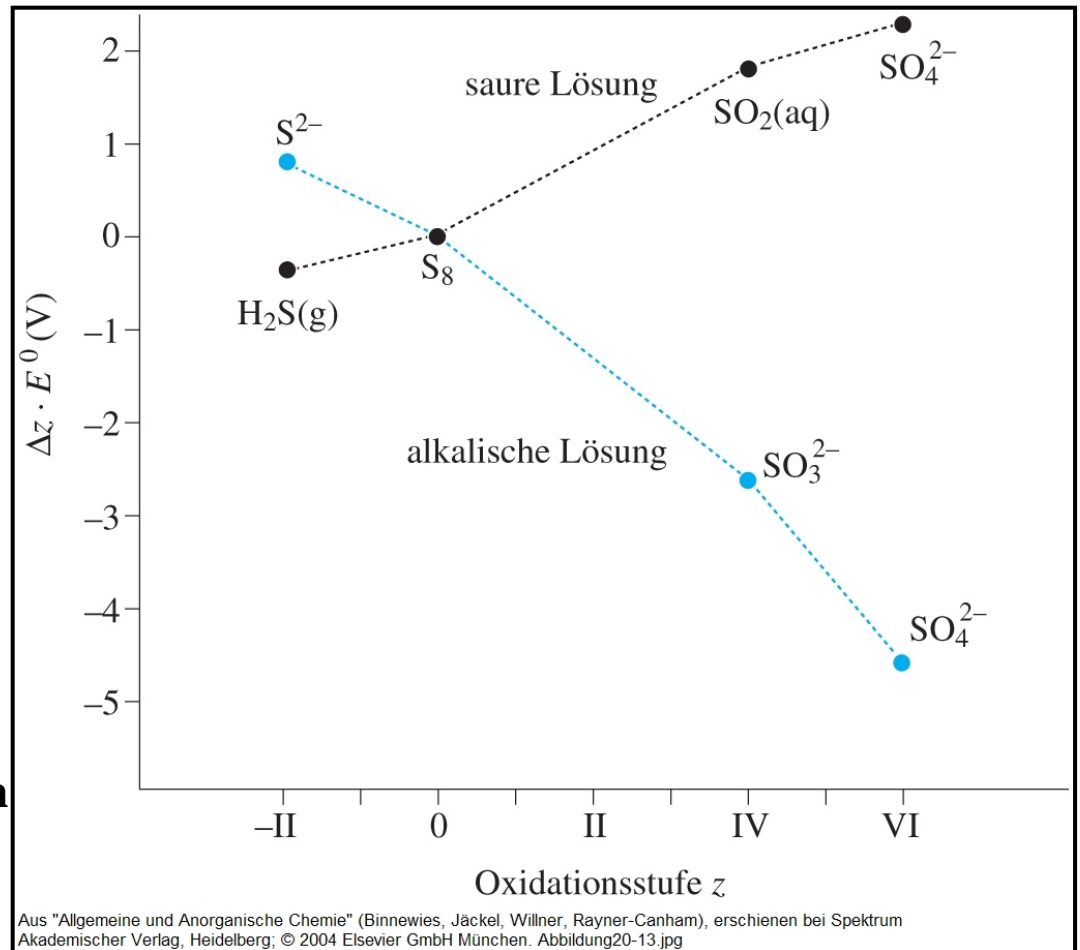
## Frost Diagram of Sulphur in Acidic and Alkaline Solution

⇒ Plot of  $\Delta z \cdot E^0$  versus the oxidation states according to **Arthur Frost 1951**

**1. Slight increase in acidic solution shows, that  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is only mildly oxidising**

**2. In alkaline solution,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is the most stable species**

**3. Elemental sulphur is reduced in acidic solution and is oxidised in alkaline surroundings. The sulphide ion is a strong reducing agent in alkaline solution**



# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Sulphuric Acid, $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and Disulphuric Acid, $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_7$

### Synthesis

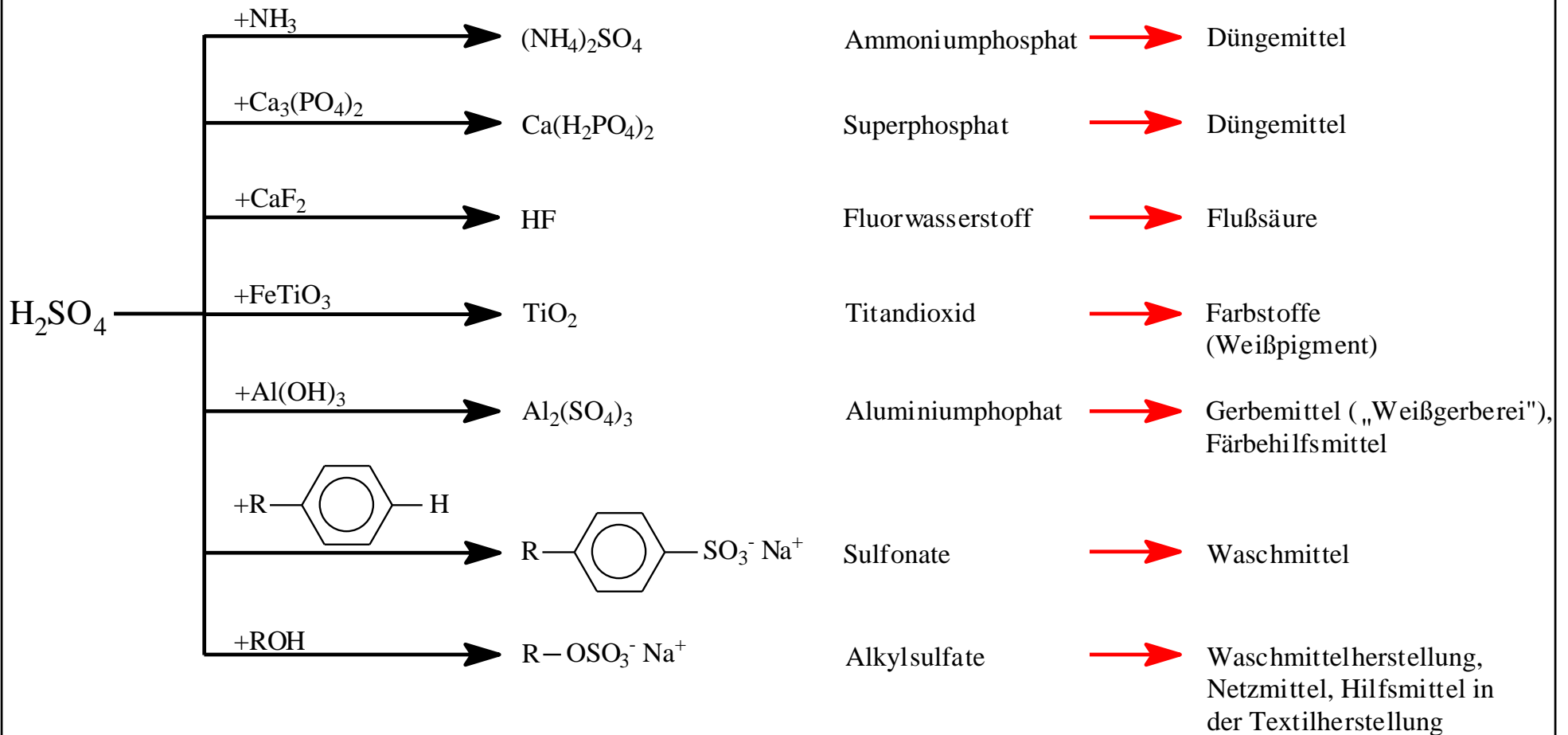
1. Lead chamber process (outdated → presentations)
2. Double contact process (→ presentations)

### Properties

- $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{SO}_3 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_7$  und  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_7 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$
- Properties of the acid:  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{HSO}_4^-$  (hydrogen sulphates)  
 $\text{HSO}_4^- + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (sulphates)
- Dehydrating:  $\text{C}_m\text{H}_{2n}\text{O}_n \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4} m \text{C} + n \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (→ desiccant)  
 $\text{HNO}_3 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NO}_2^+ + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + 2 \text{HSO}_4^-$  (→ nitration acid)
- Oxidising agent:  $\text{Cu} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{CuSO}_4 + \text{SO}_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Sulphonating agent:  $\text{CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_5 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-SO}_3\text{H} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$   
(toluene) (toluene sulphonic acid)

# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

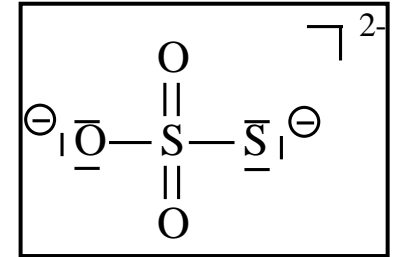
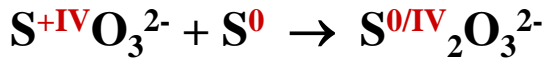
## Applications of Sulphuric Acid



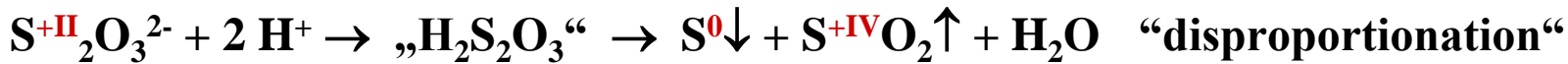
# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Thiosulphate, $S_2O_3^{2-}$ , and Thiosulphuric Acid „ $H_2S_2O_3$ “

Synthesis: refluxing of sulphur in  $SO_3^{2-}$ -solution



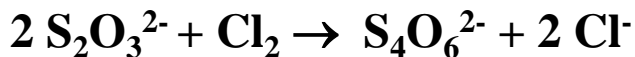
Detection of thiosulphate:



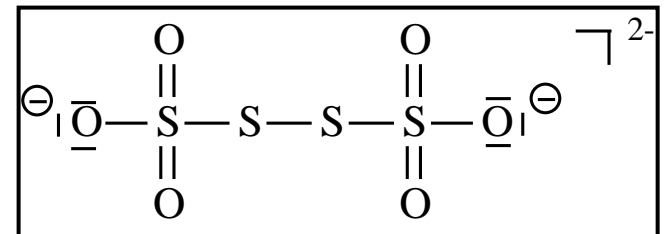
Reactions with  $Ag^+$  ( $Na_2S_2O_3$  as fixing salt in b/w photography):  $2 AgBr \rightarrow 2 Ag^0 + Br_2$



Reaction as reducing agent (antichlor in bleach industry):



Reaction with  $I_2$  (iodometric analysis):



# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Selenium Dioxide, $\text{SeO}_2$ , and Selenious Acid, $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_3$

### Synthesis

- Combustion of selenium



- Oxidation of Se with  $\text{HNO}_3$

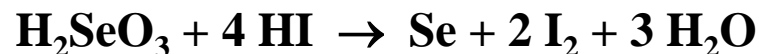
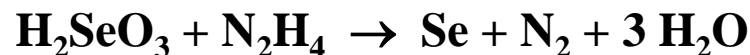
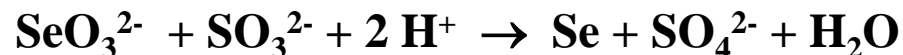


- In water, selenious acid is formed

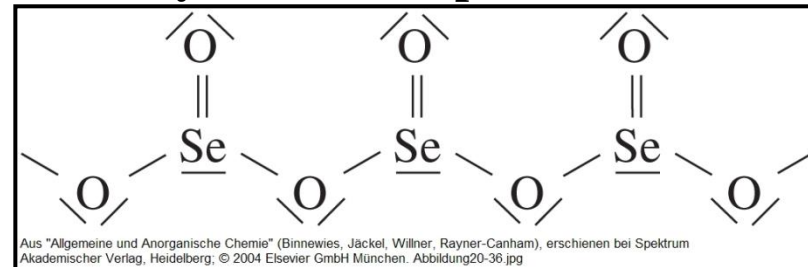


### Properties

- $\text{SeO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_3$  are stronger oxidising agents as  $\text{SO}_2$  and “ $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$ ”



### Polymer in solid phase Phase



# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Selenium Trioxide, $\text{SeO}_3$ , and Selenic Acid, $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4$

### Synthesis

- Reaction of von selenious acid with hydrogen peroxide  
$$\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- Dehydration of  $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4$  with  $\text{P}_4\text{O}_{10}$  leads to  $\text{SeO}_3$   
$$\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4 \rightarrow \text{SeO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- In water, selenic acid is formed, again  
$$\text{SeO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4 \text{ (can be isolated as transparent crystals)}$$

### Properties

- $\text{SeO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4$  are extremely strong oxidising agents  
$$2 \text{Au} + 6 \text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Au}_2(\text{SeO}_4)_3 + 3 \text{H}_2\text{SeO}_3 + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
  
(with Ag, Pd, and Pt also)
- A mixture of  $\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4$  and HCl releases activated chlorine (similar to aqua regia)  
$$\text{H}_2\text{SeO}_4 + 2 \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SeO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2 \text{Cl}\cdot$$



# 6.9 Oxo Acids of the Chalkogens

## Tellurium Oxides and Ortho-Telluric Acid, $\text{H}_6\text{TeO}_6$

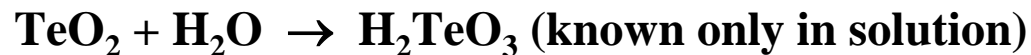
### Synthesis

- **Combustion of tellurium:**



$\text{TeO}_2$  is isostructural to  $\text{TiO}_2$   
(layer structure: rutile type)

- **In water, telluric acid is formed**



- **Telluric acid is formed, when strong oxidising agents react with elemental tellurium**

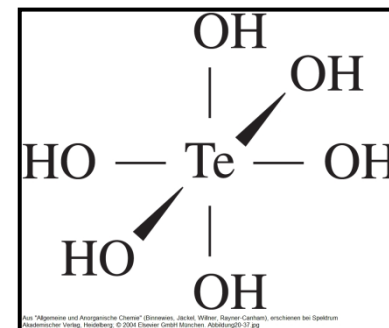


$\text{TeO}_3$  is formed upon heating of telluric acid



### Properties

- **In telluric acid, tellurium is octahedrally coordinated**
- **Telluric acid is a weak acid!**
- **$\text{TeO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_6\text{TeO}_6$  are extremely strong oxidising agents**



# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

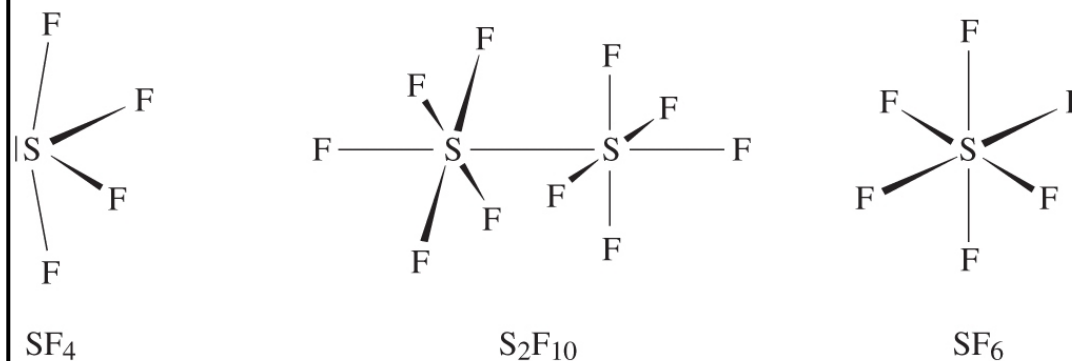
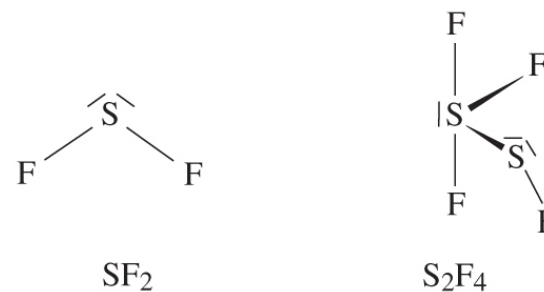
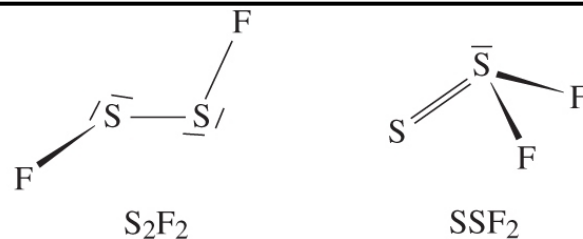
## Overview

Oxidation state	Compound	X = F	X = Cl	X = Br
VI	$SX_6$	transparent gas	-	-
V	$X_5S-SX_5$	transparent liquid	-	-
IV	$SX_4$	transparent gas	transparent liquid.	-
II	$SX_2$	transparent gas	red liquid	-
	$S_2X_4$	transparent liquid	-	-
I	$XSSX$	transparent gas	yellow liquid	deep red liquid
	$SSX_2$	transparent gas		
< I	$S_nX_2$ (n > 2)	-	yellow to orange/ red oils	deep red oils

# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

## Structures of Binary Sulphur Halides

$SX_6$	octahedral
$S_2X_{10}$	corner connected octahedrals
$SX_4$	rocker-like
$SX_2$	angled
$S_2X_4$	-
$S_2F_2$	dihedral
$SSF_2$	trigonal pyramidal

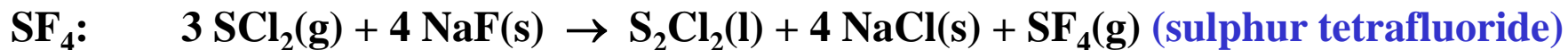


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# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

## Sulphur Fluorides

### Syntheses



**S<sub>2</sub>F<sub>10</sub>:**      **Forms as a secondary phase during synthesis of SF<sub>6</sub> synthesis**

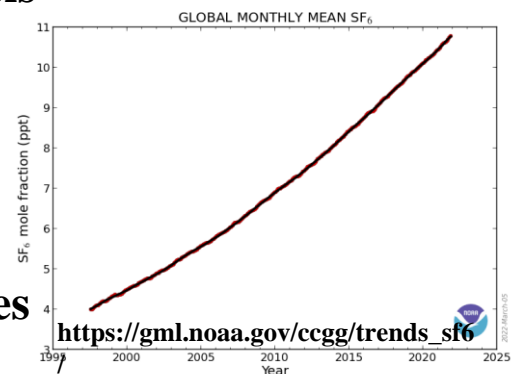
### Properties and applications of SF<sub>6</sub>

**SF<sub>6</sub> reacts sluggishly and is a good insulator**

⇒ **Insulator gas in high voltage facilities**

⇒ **Filling gas for soles of shoes, multiple-glazed windows and car tires**

⇒ **Atmospheric research (trace gas tracing)**



**Problem: SF<sub>6</sub> is a highly effective green house gas, i.e. 23900 times more effective than CO<sub>2</sub>!**  
**(lifetime in atmosphere ~ 3000 a)**

# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

## Sulphur Chlorides

### Dichloro disulphane S<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

- $\text{S(l)} + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{S}_2\text{Cl}_2(\text{l})$
- Due to its high solubility for sulphur, S<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> is used for the vulcanisation of rubber (Goodyear 1837)



### Sulphur dichlorid SCl<sub>2</sub>

- $\text{S}_2\text{Cl}_2(\text{l}) + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow 2 \text{SCl}_2(\text{l})$  (is catalysed by I<sub>2</sub>)
- Together with ethylene it forms the infamous mustard gas (war gas during WW I)  
 $\text{SCl}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{C}_2\text{H}_4(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{S}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl})_2(\text{l})$

### Sulphur tetrachloride SCl<sub>4</sub>

- $\text{SCl}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{SCl}_4(\text{l})$
- Only stable at low temperatures and easily decomposes to SCl<sub>2</sub> and Cl<sub>2</sub>
- Together with Lewis acids SCl<sub>4</sub> (SCl<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup> in solids) forms stable salts  
 $\text{SCl}_4(\text{s}) + \text{AlCl}_3(\text{s}) \rightarrow \text{SCl}_3^+\text{AlCl}_4^-(\text{s})$

# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

## Sulphur Halide Oxides

### Thionyle halides SOX<sub>2</sub> (X = F, Cl, Br)

- $\text{SO}_2(\text{g}) + \text{PCl}_5(\text{s}) \rightarrow \text{SOCl}_2(\text{l}) + \text{POCl}_3(\text{l})$
- $\text{SCl}_2(\text{l}) + \text{SO}_3(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{SOCl}_2(\text{l}) + \text{SO}_2(\text{g})$
  
- $\text{SOCl}_2(\text{l}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \rightarrow \text{SO}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{HCl}(\text{g})$
- $3 \text{SOCl}_2(\text{l}) + 2 \text{SbF}_3(\text{s}) \rightarrow 3 \text{SOF}_2(\text{g}) + 2 \text{SbCl}_3(\text{s})$

### Sulphuryl halides SO<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub> (X = F, Cl)

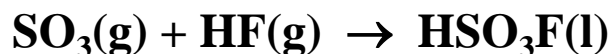
- Sulphuryl fluoride  
 $\text{SF}_6(\text{g}) + 2 \text{SO}_3(\text{g}) \rightarrow 3 \text{SO}_2\text{F}_2(\text{l})$
  
- Sulphuryl chloride  
 $\text{SO}_2(\text{g}) + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{SO}_2\text{Cl}_2(\text{l})$

**SOCl<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> are used as chlorinating agents, whilst SO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> is relatively inert**

# 6.10 Chalkogen Halides

## Halo Sulphuric Acids: Can Formally Be Derived Through the Substitution of a OH Group by a Halide Atom in Sulphuric Acid

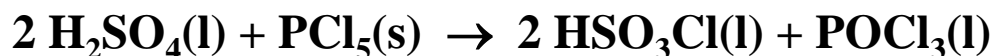
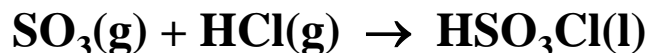
### Fluoro sulphuric acid (fluoro sulphonic acid)



#### Application as:

- Fluorinating agent ( $\rightarrow$  organic chemistry)
- Extremely strong acid:  $\text{pK}_s = -15.0!$
- Sulphonating agent ( $\rightarrow$  organic chemistry)
- Super acid: mixture of  $\text{SbF}_5 + \text{HSO}_3\text{F}$        $\text{pK}_s = -26.5$  (for a mixture with 90%  $\text{SbF}_5$ )

### Chloro sulphuric acid (chloro sulphonic acid)



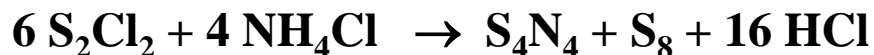
#### Application as:

- Strong sulphonating agent ( $\rightarrow$  organic chemistry)

# 6.11 Sulphur Nitrogen Compounds

## Tetra Sulphur Tetrantride

### Synthesis

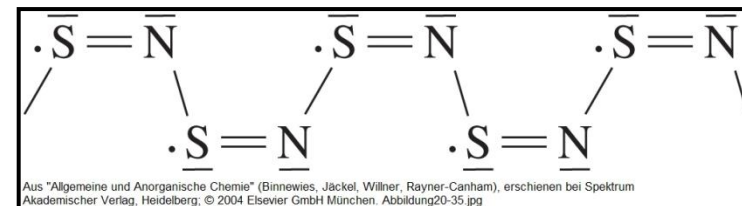
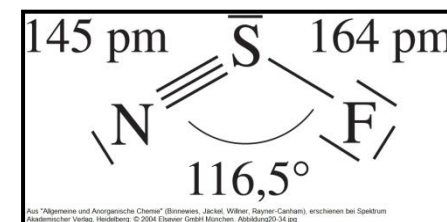
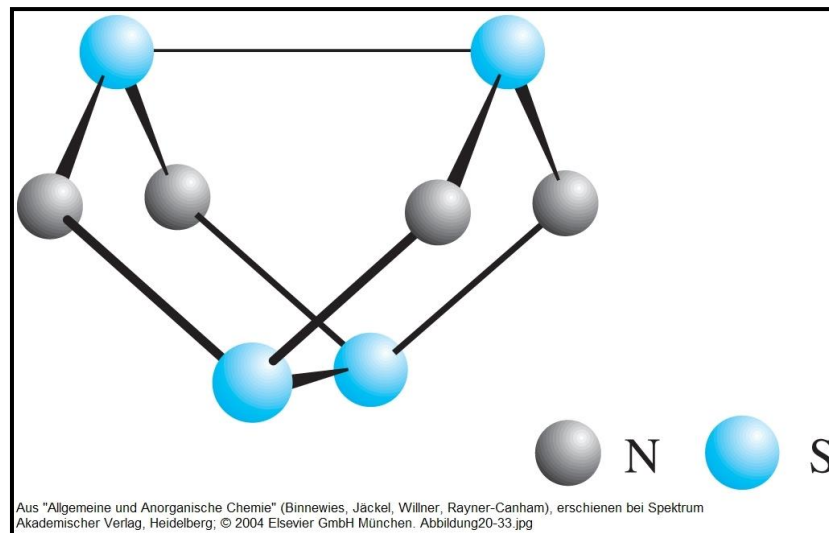
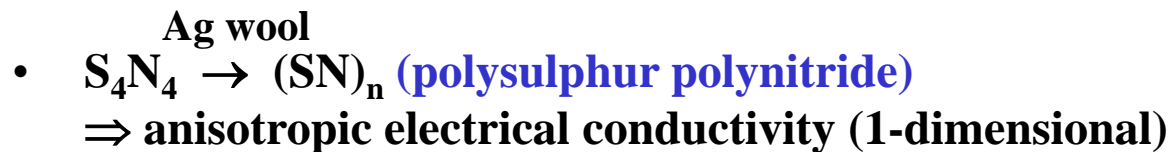
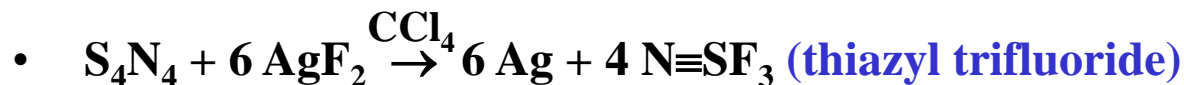
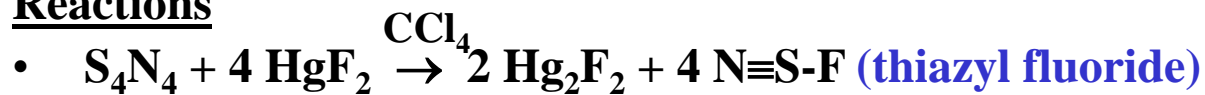


### Properties

- Orange crystals  
(delocalised  $\pi$ -bonds)
- Explosive upon shock or heating



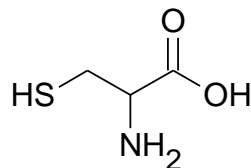
### Reactions



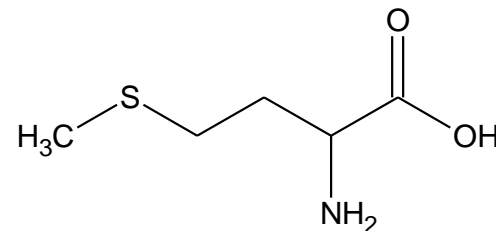


# 6.12 Biological Aspects

## Sulphur



**Cysteine**

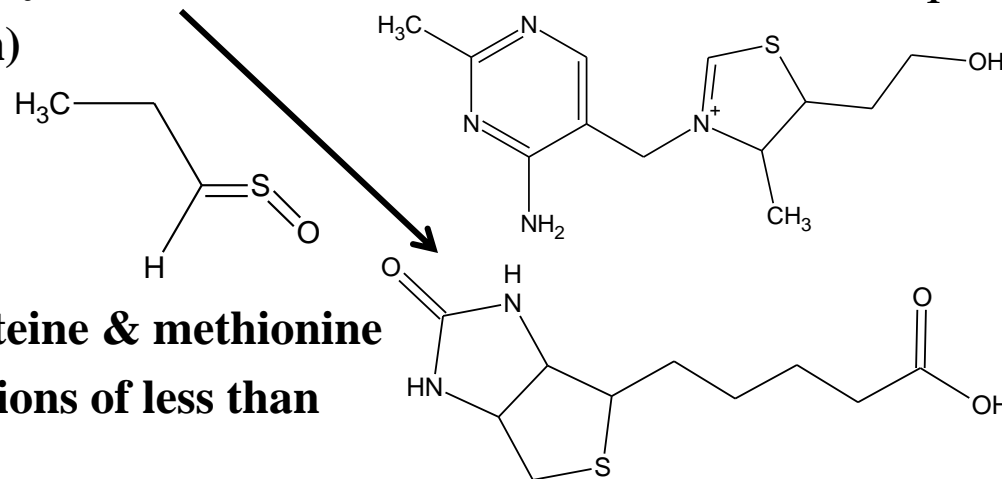


**Methionine**

- S containing amino acids:
- Formation of disulphide bridges through oxidation of –SH groups
- Further S containing biomolecules: Coenzyme biotin (vitamin H), thiamine (vitamin B<sub>1</sub>)
- Sulphonamides (penicillin, cephalosporin)
- Irritant in onions → **1-sulphin propane**

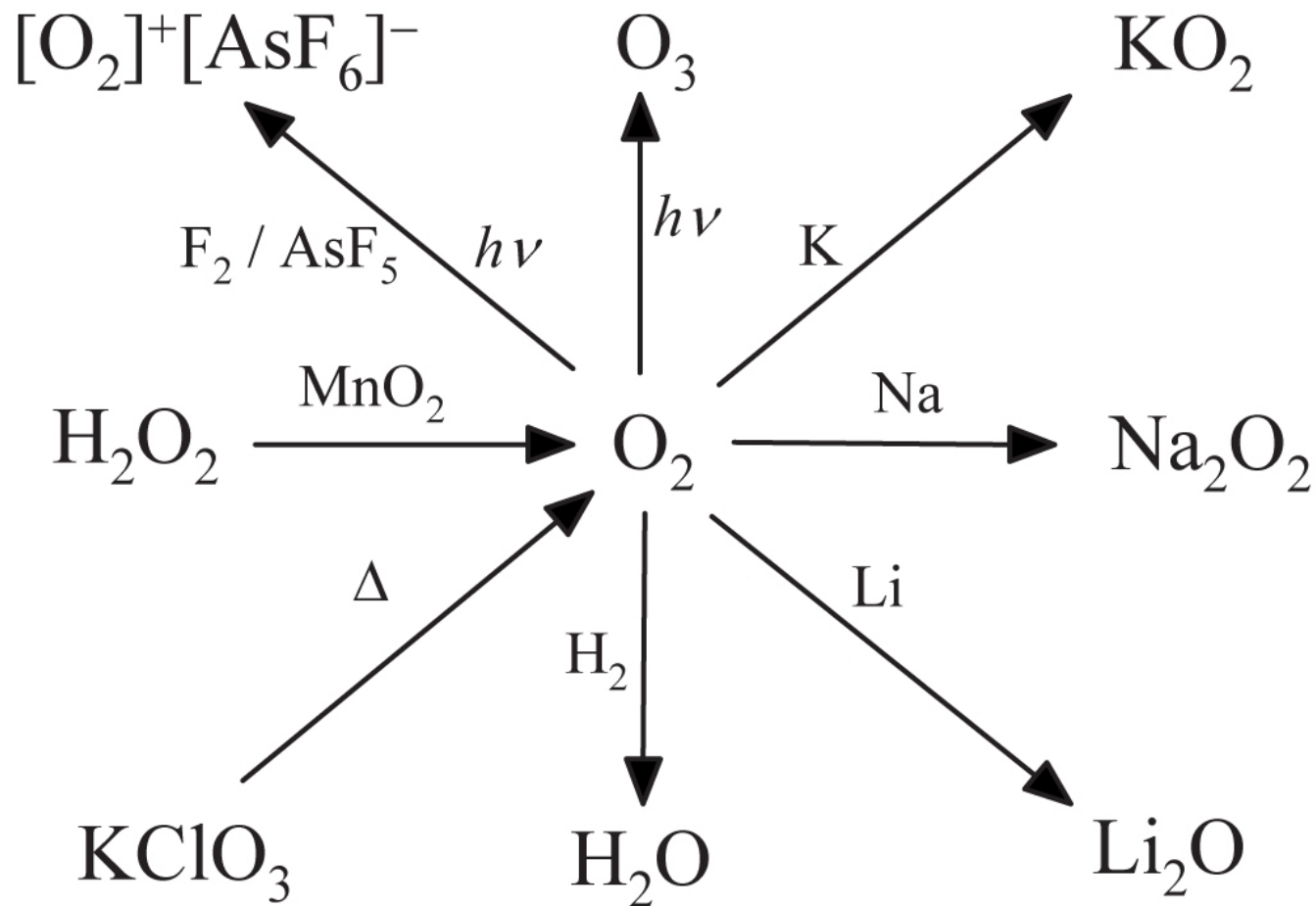
## Selenium

- Se containing amino acids: selenium cysteine & methionine
- Selenium deficiency occurs at concentrations of less than **0.05 mg/kg Se** in daily nutrition
- Selenium compounds are responsible for the elimination of peroxides in the cytoplasm



# Overview Oxygen Chemistry

**Oxidation States: -II, -I, 0, (+I, +II)**



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# Overview Sulphur Chemistry

**Oxidation States: -II, -I, 0, +I, +II, +III, +IV, +V, +VI**

