## **Final Review**

## AOSC 433/633 & CHEM 433

**Ross Salawitch** 

Class Web Site: http://www.atmos.umd.edu/~rjs/class/spr2017

#### 11 May 2017

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## **Final Exam**

- Wednesday, 17 May, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- This room
- Format similar to prior exams
- "Virtual conversation"
- Closed book, no notes, no calculator
- Backbone of course remains the lectures
- Entire course will be covered on the final exam
- Please ask if you think a question requires clarification
- If you have an exam either right before or right after this exam, please let me know ASAP

## **Course Logistics**



#### Chemistry in Context : Applying Chemistry to Society, 7/e

American Chemical Society (ACS) Catherine H. Middlecamp, University of Wisconsin--Madison Steven W. Keller, University of Missouri--Columbia Karen L. Anderson, Madison Area Technical College Anne K. Bentley, Lewis & Clark College Michael C. Cann, University of Scranton Jamie P. Ellis, The Scripps Research Institute

The author team truly benefitted from the expertise of a wider community. We extend our thanks to the following individuals for the technical expertise they provided to us in preparing the manuscript:

Mark E. Anderson, University of Wisconsin–Madison David Argentar, Sun Edge, LLC Marion O'Leary, Carnegie Institution for Science Ross Salawitch, University of Maryland Kenneth A. Walz, Madison Area Technical College

- If you've rented, *please bring with you to final exam, on Wed 17 May, 10:30 am* (this room)
- Thurs lecture will be class review

## **Class Material** in the News

#### Saturday April 29, 2017

Scientists discover oil sands pollution significantly under-reported

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A scarecrowlies in a tailings pond in front of the Suncor oil sands extraction facility near the town of Fort McMurray in Alberta. (Mark Raiston/AIP // /Getty Images) In Canada, when it comes to figuring out how much pollution the oil sands emit, the government relies on industry to report their own numbers. That's how policies get made and regulations are formed, but it turns out the oil sands companies have been significantly underestimating the level of a certain type of pollution they emit.

Back in 2013, researchers gathered their own data by flying above and around four different oil sands facilities at different altitudes. Dr. Shao-Meng Li, a senior research scientist for Environment and Climate Change Canada and lead author of the study, says he found the oil sands producers were emitting two to four-and-a-half times more volatile organic compounds than they had reported. Those are gaseous organic compounds that can be toxic for human and environmental health.

http://www.cbc.ca/radio/quirks/plastic-eating-worms-dolphin-sex-and-nuclear-fusion-1.4086846/scientists-discover-oil-sands-pollution-significantly-under-reported-1.4086942

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## **Class Material in the News**

#### WE'RE DONE

#### West Virginia's biggest utility just told the governor burning more coal is "not going to happen"

West Virginia is coal country. And so, given Trump's promise to "put our [coal] miners back to work," it's no surprise that the state's Democratic governor Jim Justice wants his state's biggest utility to burn more of it.

But Chris Beam, president of Appalachian Power, the state's largest utility, has some bad news.

Beam told the governor—a farmer and coal mogul himself—that all new power generation would likely come from wind, solar, and natural gas. "The governor asked me, 'I'd like you to burn more coal,'" Beam said according to the West Virginia Gazette-Mail. "Well, we don't have any more coal plants. We're not going to build any more coal plants. That's not going to happen."

This isn't an issue of pollution controls, however; Customers and economics are driving today's energy agenda. Beam says the debate over climate change, and the role of coal in it, is essentially over. Appalachian Power's parent company AEP believes the regulation of carbon dioxide is inevitable. In the coming decades, renewable energy and natural gas are poised to dominate the fuel mix. "We're past that argument as a company," Beam said.





https://qz.com/970595/w-virginias-biggest-utility-appalachian-power-just-told-the-states-governor-jim-justice-that-burning-more-coal-is-not-going-happen-becausecustomers-dont-want-it/?utm\_source=fark&utm\_medium=website&utm\_content=link&ICID=ref\_fark

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## **Class Material in the News**



#### Iceland begins radical 'Thor' experiment to produce geothermal energy from magma

- \$100m project could produce 10 times more energy than conventional well
- Would enable Iceland to export more energy
- Could revive a plan to build a power cable from Iceland to Britain

By MARK PRIGG 😏 and AFP AND REUTERS REPORTERS PUBLISHED: 12:57 EDT, 5 May 2017 | UPDATED: 13:27 EDT, 5 May 2017



Engineer Albert Albertsson says Iceland's geothermal well could generate five to 10 times more power than a conventional well

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If successful, the experimental project could produce up to 10 times more energy than an existing conventional gas or oil well, by generating electricity from the heat stored inside the earth: in this case, volcanic areas.

Launched in August last year, the drilling was completed on January 25, reaching a record-breaking depth of 4,659 metres (nearly 3 miles).

At this depth, engineers hope to access hot liquids under extreme pressure and at temperatures of 427 degrees C (800 F), creating steam that turns a turbine to generate clean electricity.

'We expect to get five to 10 times more power from the well than a conventional well today,' said Albert Albertsson, an engineer at the Icelandic energy company HS Orka, involved in the drilling project.

To supply electricity and hot water to a city like Reykjavik with 212,000 inhabitants, 'we would need 30-35 conventional high temperature wells' compared to only three or five supercritical wells, says Albertsson.

#### http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-4477944/Iceland-begins-Thor-magma-energy-experiment.html

# Make America's Buildings Great Again

- Step 1: Take stock of what we already have
- Step 2: Make America's Buildings Great Again!
- Step 3: Replace fossil fuel power plants with renewable resources

Make America's

**Buildings Great** 

Again

Tyler Boyle

# America's Energy Plan

Goals of Energy Plan:

- 1. Improve air quality by decreasing emissions
- 2. Increase energy independence
- 3. Reduce impact on climate change

Efficiency	Small Scale Renewable Energies
Increase tax incentives for energy audits and improvements.	Require that new constructions in cities implement relevant renewable energy systems
Require that all buildings built using any federal funds are LEED certified.	Provide incentives for installation on existing buildings.
Perform energy audits and improvements on all federal buildings.	Implement net metering laws across the country.

# America's Energy Plan

#### Large Scale

Strictly regulate emissions on existing coal power plants and put tight restrictions on proposed building of new ones.

Tighten regulations on drilling for natural gas and provide tax incentives for procurement by natural means.

Perform regional analysis for implementation of renewable technologies.

Expand offshore wind and eliminate offshore drilling.

Incentivize multi-use lands: grazing land with turbines, with ranchers/farmers receiving credits for some of the electricity generated.

Fund research into renewable energies and climate science.

The answer to creating an economy based on renewable energy is not going to come from one technology alone, it must be a combination of increasing the efficiency of the way we currently use power and implementing renewable energy solutions on both the small and large scale.

Hannah Russell

# Sustainable Energy Plan



- Tesla's gigafactory
  - 100 needed worldwide to remove fossil fuels from energy equation
  - My plan: 5 gigafactories must be constructed and operational by the year 2035
  - decrease the cost of lithium ion batteries for cars and powerwall generators (via mass production)
  - Powerwall provides backup power during utility outages charges via solar power

- Collectively, automobiles on the road must have an average gas mileage of 65mpg by the year 2080
  - 75% of cars sold must be hydrogen-powered or electric by 2050 and 100% by 2070
  - Hydrogen production must be done using water electrolysis (cleanest source – only produces hydrogen and oxygen), powered by renewable sources (excluding nuclear, as hydrogen is explosive)

#### **Justin Hicks**

# **EXAMPLE 1 Communities**

A transition in our energy system has the potential to eliminate jobs in the fossil fuel industry, but creates even more good-paying jobs; to reduce job loss, we will:

- Expand the "Just Transition" framework described in the Paris Climate Agreement
  - Workers in today's energy sector will receive education and training required to carry out the tasks that come with sustainable energy; their pensions and health care benefits are preserved

#### **Justin Hicks**

Of the "nine ways to cool the planet" discussed in the IEEE article, which of these seems most appealing to you? Briefly state why.



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#### 12

#### Pacala and Socolow: CO<sub>2</sub> Stabilization Wedges

Humanity already possesses the fundamental scientific, technical, and industrial know-how to solve the carbon and climate problem for the next half-century. A portfolio of technologies now exists to meet the world's energy needs over the next 50 years and limit atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> to a trajectory that avoids a doubling of the preindustrial concentration. Every element in this portfolio has passed beyond the laboratory bench and demonstration project; many are already implemented somewhere at full industrial scale. Although no element is a credible candidate for doing the entire job (or even half the job) by itself, the portfolio as a whole is large enough that not every element has to be used.



Pacala and Socolow, Science, 2004 (Aux reading, Lecture 18)

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## Pacala and Socolow: CO<sub>2</sub> Stabilization Wedges

Action	Details
Economy-wide carbon-intensity reduction (emissions/\$GDP)	Energy efficiency and conservation Increase reduction by additional 0.15% per year (e.g., increase U.S. goal of 1.96% reduction per year to 2.11% per year)
1. Efficient vehicles	Increase fuel economy for 2 billion cars from 30 to 60 mpg
2. Reduced use of vehicles	Decrease car travel for 2 billion 30-mpg cars from 10,000 to 5000 miles per year
3. Efficient buildings	Cut carbon emissions by one-fourth in buildings and appliances projected for 2054
4. Efficient baseload coal plants	Produce twice today's coal power output at 60% instead of 40% efficiency (compared with 32% today)
5. Gas baseload power for coal baseload power	Replace 1400 GW 50%-efficient coal plants with gas plants (four times the current production of gas-based power)
	CO <sub>2</sub> Capture and Storage (CCS)
<ol> <li>Capture CO<sub>2</sub> at baseload power plant</li> </ol>	Introduce CCS at 800 GW coal or 1600 GW natural gas (compared with 1060 GW coal in 1999)
7. Capture CO <sub>2</sub> at H <sub>2</sub> plant	Introduce CCS at plants producing 250 MtH <sub>2</sub> /year from coal or 500 MtH <sub>2</sub> /year from natural gas (compared with 40 MtH <sub>2</sub> /year today from all sources)
<ol> <li>Capture CO<sub>2</sub> at coal-to-synfuels plant</li> </ol>	Introduce CCS at synfuels plants producing 30 million barrels a day from coal (200 times Sasol), if half of feedstock carbon is available for capture
Geological storage	Create 3500 Sleipners

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## Pacala and Socolow: CO<sub>2</sub> Stabilization Wedges

Action	Details
	Nuclear fission
9. Nuclear power for coal power	Add 700 GW (twice the current capacity)
10. Wind power for coal power	<i>Renewable electricity and fuels</i> Add 2 million 1-MW-peak windmills (50 times the current capacity) "occupying" 30 × 10 <sup>6</sup> ha, on land or offshore
11. PV power for coal power	Add 2000 GW-peak PV (700 times the current capacity) on 2 $ imes$ 10 $^6$ ha
<ol> <li>Wind H<sub>2</sub> in fuel-cell car for gasoline in hybrid car</li> </ol>	Add 4 million 1-MW-peak windmills (100 times the current capacity)
13. Biomass fuel for fossil fuel	Add 100 times the current Brazil or U.S. ethanol production, with the use of 250 $\times$ 10 <sup>6</sup> ha (one-sixth of world cropland)
<ul> <li>14. Reduced deforestation, plus reforestation, afforestation, and new plantations.</li> <li>15. Conservation tillage</li> </ul>	Forests and agricultural soils Decrease tropical deforestation to zero instead of 0.5 GtC/year, and establish 300 Mha of new tree plantations (twice the current rate) Apply to all cropland (10 times the current usage)

## **Greenhouse Effect**



FAQ 1.3, Figure 1. An idealised model of the natural greenhouse effect. See text for explanation.

#### What is the "most important" GHG?

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## **Radiative Forcing**



#### Figure 1.4 Paris Climate Agreement: Beacon of Hope

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## **Radiative Forcing**



FAQ 1.1, Figure 1. Estimate of the Earth's annual and global mean energy balance. Over the long term, the amount of incoming solar radiation absorbed by the Earth and atmosphere is balanced by the Earth and atmosphere releasing the same amount of outgoing longwave radiation. About half of the incoming solar radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface. This energy is transferred to the atmosphere by warming the air in contact with the surface (thermals), by evapotranspiration and by longwave radiation that is absorbed by clouds and greenhouse gases. The atmosphere in turn radiates longwave energy back to Earth as well as out to space. Source: Kiehl and Trenberth (1997).

Question 1.1, IPCC, 2007

#### Radiative Forcing of Climate is Change in Energy reaching the lower atmosphere (surface to tropopause) as GHGs rise. "Back Radiation" is most important term.

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## Connection Between GHG Abundance and Surface T

How much does  $\Delta F$  change when  $CO_2$  changes?

$$\Delta F \approx 5.35 \text{ W/m}^2 \ln \left(\frac{\text{CO}_2^{\text{Final}}}{\text{CO}_2^{\text{Initial}}}\right)$$

Changes in  $\Delta F$  can be caused by changes in chemical composition (GHGs), aerosol loading, as well as surface albedo, H<sub>2</sub>O, & cloud feedback

$$\Delta T = \frac{1 + feedbacks}{\lambda_{P}} \left( \Delta F_{CO2} + \Delta F_{CH4+N2O} + \Delta F_{OTHER GHGs} + \Delta F_{AEROSOLS} \right)$$

where

$$\lambda_{\rm P} = 3.2 \ {\rm W} \ {\rm m}^{-2} \ {}^{\circ}{\rm C}^{-1}$$

Climate models that consider water vapor & lapse rate (LR) feedback find:  $feedback_{H20 \& LR} = 0.45$ 

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## **GWP – Global Warming Potential**



where:

 $a_{CH4}$  = Radiative Efficiency (W m<sup>-2</sup> ppb<sup>-1</sup>) due to an increase in CH<sub>4</sub>

 $a_{CO2}$  = Radiative Efficiency (W m<sup>-2</sup> ppb<sup>-1</sup>) due to an increase in CO<sub>2</sub>

 $CH_4(t)$  = time-dependent response to an instantaneous release of a pulse of  $CH_4$ 

 $CO_2(t)$  = time-dependent response to an instantaneous release of a pulse of  $CO_2$ 

## GWP – Global Warming Potential

#### SAR: Second Assessment Report (issued in 1995)

Table TS.2. Lifetimes, radiative efficiencies and direct (except for CH<sub>4</sub>) global warming potentials (GWP) relative to CO<sub>2</sub>. {Table 2.14}

Industrial Designation				Global Warming Potential for Given Time Horizon			
or Common Name (years)	Chemical Formula	Lifetime (years)	Efficiency (W m <sup>-2</sup> ppb <sup>-1)</sup>	SAR‡ (100-yr)	20-yr	100-yr	500-yr
Carbon dioxide	CO <sub>2</sub>	See below <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup> 1.4x10 <sup>−5</sup>	1	1	1	1
Methane⁰	CH <sub>4</sub>	12°	3.7x10-₄	21	72	25	7.6
Nitrous oxide	N <sub>2</sub> O	114	3.03x10 <sup>-3</sup>	310	289	298	153

Notes:

<sup>‡</sup> SAR refers to the IPCC Second Assessment Report (1995) used for reporting under the UNFCCC.

<sup>a</sup> The CO<sub>2</sub> response function used in this report is based on the revised version of the Bern Carbon cycle model used in Chapter 10 of this report (Bern2.5CC; Joos et al. 2001) using a background CO<sub>2</sub> concentration value of 378 ppm. The decay of a pulse of CO<sub>2</sub> with time t is given by

 $a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{3} a_i \cdot e^{-t/\tau_i}$  where  $a_0 = 0.217$ ,  $a_1 = 0.259$ ,  $a_2 = 0.338$ ,  $a_3 = 0.186$ ,  $\tau_1 = 172.9$  years,  $\tau_2 = 18.51$  years, and  $\tau_3 = 1.186$  years, for t < 1,000 years.

- <sup>b</sup> The radiative efficiency of CO<sub>2</sub> is calculated using the IPCC (1990) simplified expression as revised in the TAR, with an updated background concentration value of 378 ppm and a perturbation of +1 ppm (see Section 2.10.2).
- <sup>c</sup> The perturbation lifetime for CH<sub>4</sub> is 12 years as in the TAR (see also Section 7.4). The GWP for CH<sub>4</sub> includes indirect effects from enhancements of ozone and stratospheric water vapour (see Section 2.10).

from IPCC 2007 "Physical Science Basis"

#### Time constant of 172.9 years dominates

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## **GWP – Global Warming Potential**

GHG	IPCC (1995)	IPCC (2001)	IPCC (2007)	IPCC (2013)
100 Year Time	e Horizon			
CH <sub>4</sub>	21	23	25	28, 34*
N <sub>2</sub> O	310	296	298	265, 298*
20 Year Time Horizon				
CH <sub>4</sub>	56	62	72	84, 86*
N <sub>2</sub> O	280	275	289	264, 268*
*Allowing for carbon cycle feedback				

## Table 1.1Paris Climate Agreement: Beacon of Hope

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where

 $\lambda_{\rm BB} = 3.21 \,{\rm W} \,{\rm m}^{-2} \,/\,^{\circ}{\rm C}$  $1+\gamma = \{1 - \Sigma(\text{Feedback Parameters}) / \lambda_{BB}\}^{-1}$ NAA RF = net RF due to anthropogenic aerosols **SOD** = Stratospheric optical depth

**TSI** = Total solar irradiance

**ENSO = Multivariate El Niño South. Osc Index** 

 $Q_{OCEAN}$  = Export of heat, atmos. to ocean  $= \Omega (1+\gamma) \{ (GHG RF_{i,72}) +$  $(NAA RF_{i-72})$ 

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rather than later

to ocean

**Export of heat from atmosphere** 

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## Arctic Sea Ice: Canary of Climate Chnage



Source: http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews

Arctic sea ice extent for Sep 2016 was 4.72 million square kilometers (1.82 million square miles). Magenta line shows the 1981 to 2010 median extent of sea ice; black cross indicates North Pole.

#### The Ozone Hole may have shielded the Antarctic from warming



Simulated and observed changes in surface temperature (K) and winds from 1969 to 2000, averaged over December to May.

Gillett and Thompson, Science, 2003

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## **Ozone Depletion and Halocarbons**

#### Table Q7-1. Atmospheric Lifetimes and Ozone Depletion Potentials of some halogen source & HFC substitute gases.

Gas	Atmospheric Lifetime (years)	Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP) <sup>c</sup>	
Halogen source gases			
Chlorine gases			~
CFC-11	45	1	
CFC-12	100	0.82	
CFC-113	85	0.85	
Carbon tetrachloride (CCl <sub>4</sub> )	26	0.82	
HCFCs	1–17	0.01-0.12	
Methyl chloroform (CH <sub>3</sub> CCl <sub>3</sub> )	5	0.16	
Methyl chloride (CH <sub>3</sub> Cl)	1	0.02	
Bromine gases			
Halon-1301	65	15.9	
Halon-1211	16	7.9	
Methyl bromide (CH <sub>3</sub> Br)	0.8	0.66	
Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)			
HFC-134a	13.4	0	
HFC-23	222	0	

ODP (species "i") =

global loss of  $O_3$  due to unit mass emission of "*i*" global loss of  $O_3$  due to unit mass emission of CFC-11

$$\approx (\alpha \ n_{\rm Br} + n_{\rm Cl}) \ \frac{\tau_i}{\tau_{\rm CFC-11}} \ \frac{MW_{\rm CFC-11}}{MW_i} \ \frac{1}{3}$$

where :

au is the global atmospheric lifetime

MW is the molecular weight

n is the number of chlorine or bromine atoms

 $\alpha$  is the effectiveness of ozone loss by bromine relative to ozone loss by chlorine

 $\alpha = 60$ 

Halons (anthropogenic halocarbons containing <u>bromine</u>) much worse for ozone than CFCs (anthropogenic halocarbons containing <u>chlorine</u>)

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## Heterogeneous Chemistry, Mid-Latitude vs Polar Regions

a) What type of aerosol particles are present in the mid-latitude stratosphere?

b) What heterogeneous chemical reaction occurs on the aerosol particles present in the mid-latitude stratosphere and how is CIO affected by this reaction?

c) What type of particles are present in the polar stratosphere during winter?

- d) What is the effect of these particles on the chemical composition of the polar stratosphere Scientists have shown that chemical reactions occurring on the surface of these particles convert species such as and (that do not depleted ozone) and that do not cause harm to the ozone layer in the dark of winter.
- e) Following the return of sunlight, significant levels of what radical compound builds up inside the Antarctic stratosphere, leading to rapid loss of ozone?
- f) Why does the ozone hole occur only over Antarctica?

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## Climate and Chemistry Coupling

Scientists have long known that rising GHGs leads to cooling of the stratosphere, due to direct radiative effects

The stratosphere has been cooling past several decades in a manner broadly consistent with theory:



Figure 4–11, WMO/UNEP (2011)

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## Future Trends, Upper Stratospheric Ozone



Oman et al., JGR, 2010

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## Future Trends, Upper Stratospheric Ozone



Oman et al., JGR, 2010

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## Arctic Ozone 2011 in Context of Prior Years



#### One Atmosphere – One Photochemistry

#### **Stratosphere**

HO<sub>2</sub> formation:  $OH + O_3 \rightarrow HO_2 + O_2$  $HO_2$  loss:  $HO_2 + O_3 \rightarrow OH + 2 O_2$  $O_3 + O_3 \rightarrow 3 O_2$ Net:

#### Troposphere





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## **Tropospheric Ozone Production**

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathrm{CO} + \mathrm{OH} \ \rightarrow \mathrm{CO}_2 + \mathrm{H} \\ \mathrm{H} + \mathrm{O}_2 + \mathrm{M} \ \rightarrow \mathrm{HO}_2 + \mathrm{M} \\ \mathrm{HO}_2 + \mathrm{NO} \ \rightarrow \mathrm{OH} + \mathrm{NO}_2 \\ \mathrm{NO}_2 + \mathrm{hv} \ \rightarrow \mathrm{OH} + \mathrm{NO}_2 \\ \mathrm{O} + \mathrm{O}_2 + \mathrm{M} \ \rightarrow \mathrm{O}_3 + \mathrm{M} \end{array}$ 

Net:  $CO + 2 O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + O_3$ 

"Chain Mechanism" for production of ozone

Initiation: O<sub>3</sub> photolysis giving O(<sup>1</sup>D), followed by H<sub>2</sub>O+O(<sup>1</sup>D) → 2OH as well as emission of CO & NO<sub>x</sub> from combustion of fossil fuels
Termination: HO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> → H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> +O<sub>2</sub> or OH + NO<sub>2</sub> + M → HNO<sub>3</sub> + M
Propagation: HO<sub>2</sub> + NO
Ozone Production "limited" by k[HO<sub>2</sub>][NO] (propagation term)
High NO<sub>x</sub> (NO+NO<sub>2</sub>) forces termination via production of HNO<sub>3</sub>.
In this case, as NO<sub>x</sub> rises, OH and HO<sub>2</sub> (HO<sub>x</sub>) fall

 $\Rightarrow$  what happens to O<sub>3</sub> production ?

#### Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



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# Day-to-day meteorology (weather!) affects severity and duration of pollution episodes



http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/BJH%20-%20Basics%20on%20Ozone%20Transport.ppt

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http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfjps/1400/FIG07\_014A.jpg

http://www.fas.org/irp/imint/docs/rst/Sect14/jet\_stream.jpg

Subtropical Jet: where poleward descending branch of the Hadley Circulation meets the equatorward descending of the Ferrel Cell

Area of high pressure, fair weather, low rainfall: conductive to high ozone

#### Poleward expansion of the sub-tropical jet:

- Number of days Subtropical Jet within 150 miles of Baltimore has increased by ~50% between 1979 and 2003 due to "frontal movement"
- Driving force: weakening of the equator to pole temperature gradient, caused by more rapid warming at high latitudes compared to tropics

## Our Favorite Air Pollutants 🙂

Species	Source	Consequence
CO <sub>2</sub>		
CH <sub>4</sub>		
N <sub>2</sub> O		
NO <sub>x</sub>		
SO <sub>2</sub>		
Soot		
CFCs		
Halons		
CH <sub>3</sub> Br		
HFCs		

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## **Final Statements**

We're on the path:

#### United States electricity Net generation for all sectors, monthly

thousand megawatthours



## but how do we extend the transition away from fossil fuels to more sectors, and move more quickly?

It is difficult for people living now, who have become accustomed to the steady exponential growth in the consumption of energy from fossil fuels, to realize how transitory the fossil fuel epoch will eventually prove to be when it is viewed over a longer span of human history

> M. King Hubbert, Scientific American, 1971 as quoted in foreword of *When Oil Peaked* by Kenneth S. Deffeyes

In many ways, fossil fuels should be considered as a gift from nature, which have allowed mankind to reach unprecedented levels of development. They served us well, but now – due to their finite nature – must be replaced by more sustainable sources of energy.

Olah et al., Beyond Oil and Gas: The Methanol Economy, 2009.