

Is $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ Formed in the $O+O_3$, $H+O_3$, and $NO+O_3$ Reactions?

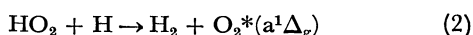
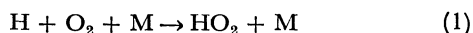
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An attempt was made to detect $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ in the reactions of $O+O_3$, $H+O_3$, and $NO+O_3$ using a photoionization mass spectrometer. No significant signals for $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ were observed in these reactions. From the results, it is concluded that less than 0.06, 0.001, and 0.002 of the reactive collisions result in the production of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ in the reactions of $O+O_3$, $H+O_3$ and $NO+O_3$ respectively, all at 298 K. The failure to observed $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ in these reactions was discussed by means of correlation diagrams and GVB model representations.

Recently, the observation of the singlet oxygen formed in the reaction of hydrogen atoms with molecular oxygen was reported in our laboratory.¹⁾ In this system it was determined that the singlet oxygen was produced by the reaction of hydrogen atoms with hydroperoxyl radicals, which had themselves been formed by the recombination reaction of hydrogen atoms with molecular oxygen:



A photoionization mass spectrometer was used to detect the singlet oxygen. When an argon lamp with a LiF window is used as a light source to photoionize the molecules, singlet oxygen can be photoionized by the argon resonance lines (11.83 and 11.62 eV), but ground-state molecular oxygen can not be ionized by these lines,^{1,2)} since the ionization potential for ground-state molecular oxygen is 12.06 eV, and the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ and $O_2^*(b^1\Sigma_g^+)$ states are 0.98 and 1.63 eV higher than the ground-state respectively. The detection sensitivity of the photoionization mass spectrometer to singlet oxygen is quite high in comparison with the photometric detection by means of the forbidden $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g) \rightarrow O_2(X^3\Sigma_g^-)$ transition. The detection limit is about 10^9 – 10^{10} molecules cm^{-3} for singlet oxygen in the reactor under good conditions (very low background signals and in the absence of the large signals around mass 32). Further, when photoionization mass spectrometry was used to detect singlet oxygen, the interference by the chemiluminescence in the reaction system was eliminated. For example, in the $H+O_2$ reaction system, singlet oxygen in the $a^1\Delta_g$ state could not be observed by the photometric method,³⁾ since the emission from $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ was overlapped by the strong chemiluminescence by HO_2 . Therefore, photoionization mass spectrometry is a useful method to detect singlet oxygen in the chemiluminescent reaction system.

The reactions of $O+O_3$, $H+O_3$ and $NO+O_3$ can produce singlet oxygen according to the exothermicity and the spin correlation of the reactions. Nevertheless, this possibility has been ignored.⁴⁾ In this work, the fractions for the formation of singlet oxygen in the above reactions were determined by the use of the photoionization mass spectrometer; it seemed that this would be useful because strong chemiluminescence by OH and NO_2 has been observed in the near-IR region in all the above reactions except the $O+O_3$ reaction. After that, the reaction processes will be discussed using correlation diagrams and GVB model representations.

Experimental

The experimental set-up of the fast-flow reactor is shown in Fig. 1. The photoionization mass spectrometer coupled to the fast-flow reactor is as has been described previously.⁵⁾ The inner diameter of the cylindrical Pyrex reactor tube is 12.6 mm, and the length of the reaction zone can be varied from 10 to 200 mm by sliding the inlet tube (4 mm o.d.) in an O-ring seal. Ozone enters the main flow through six radially directed holes at the end of the inlet tube.

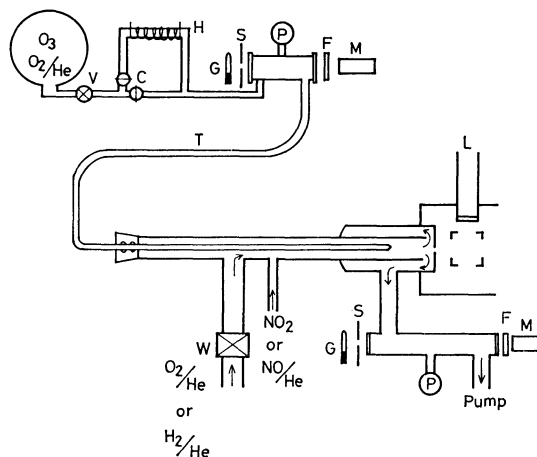


Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of the fast-flow reactor for the reactions of O, H, and NO with O_3 .

V: Variable leak, C: Teflon stopcock, H: heater, G: Hg lamp, S: slit P: MKS baratron gauge, F: filter M: photomultiplier L: Ar lamp, T: Teflon tube, W: microwave cavity.

Hydrogen and oxygen atoms were produced in a microwave discharge (2450 MHz) in a helium mixture. The concentrations of both atoms were determined by titration with NO_2 according to the $H+NO_2 \rightarrow OH+NO$, and $O+NO_2 \rightarrow NO+O_2$ reactions, using the signals for NO at mass 30 as an indicator of the titration endpoint. NO_2 was added at a point 200 mm upstream from the sampling pinhole (the reaction time is about 10 ms under total pressure of 4 Torr (1 Torr = 133.3 Pa)). The method of determining the hydrogen-atom concentration is as has been described previously.⁵⁾ The known partial pressures of NO were added to calibrate the instrument sensitivity, typically about 2×10^4 counts/s for 1 mTorr of NO when two new argon lamps were used. Since the intensity of the argon lamps decreased slowly as a result of the origination of a color center in the LiF windows, the lamps were changed every 20 h. The measurements were then done between 10 to 20 h after the start of the discharge

of the new lamps, because in this period the intensity of the lamp was fairly stable.

The total and partial pressures of the gases were measured with an MKS Baratron gauge and were corrected to the values at the pinhole, considering the effect of the small pressure drop down the reactor tube.⁵⁾ Furthermore, the partial pressures of each component gas were corrected by means of the flow equation.⁵⁾ The linear-flow velocity, as measured with a bubble meter, was 16.5 m s^{-1} at 2 Torr, 19.9 m s^{-1} at 4 Torr, and 21.4 m s^{-1} at 6 Torr at 298 K. In this case, the flow in the flow tube, F (Torr l s⁻¹), as a function of the total pressure, P (Torr), was given by this equation: $F(P) = 0.192 + 2.001P + 0.0919P^2$. In this study, experiments were done under a total pressure of about 4 Torr.

The gases, H_2 (Nippon Sanso, 99.9999%), O_2 (Nippon Sanso, 99.99%), He (Nippon Sanso, 99.9999%), and NO_2 (Matheson, 99.5%), were used without further purification. The NO (Matheson, 99.0%) was purified by passing it through a column of Ascarite and was then distilled bulb-to-bulb using liquid nitrogen traps. After this purification, the amount of NO_2 present in this purified NO was less than 0.01%.⁵⁾ The ozone was prepared from a commercial ozonizer and was trapped on 500 grams of liquid nitrogen-cooled silica gel (5–10 mesh). After pumping, the adsorbed mixture of O_3 and O_2 on silica gel was heated up to room temperature and stored in a 50-l flask with a helium diluent. The mixture obtained usually consisted of 2–10% ozone and 10–20% oxygen in helium. The concentration of ozone was measured by absorption photometry at positions upstream and downstream of the flow reactor using a quartz cell, a Hg lamp coupled with a 2540 Å filter, and a photomultiplier.

The ozone was added to the reactor through a movable inlet. The measurements were done in both the presence and absence of ozone. In the case without O_3 , the mixture of O_3 – O_2 –He was passed through a heated quartz tube (about 800 °C). In this case, the ozone was decomposed completely and converted to O_2 (no O atoms or no O_3 were detected by mass spectrometry and UV absorption). Switching the conditions with ozone and without ozone by means of Teflon stopcocks, the change in the signal at mass 32 was measured. The concentration of O_2 which was contained initially in the O_3 – O_2 –He mixture, $[O_2]_i$, was determined as follows. The O_3 – O_2 –He mixture was passed through the heated quartz tube. Under the condition without ozone, molecular oxygen was reacted with hydrogen atoms, and the singlet oxygen was produced as has been described before. Since the fraction of Reaction 2 in the total reaction of $HO_2 + H$ was determined¹⁾ to be 0.015 ± 0.003 , the concentration of O_2 ,

$$[O_2] = [O_2]_i + 3/2[O_3], \quad (\text{I})$$

could be calculated using the rate constant for Reaction 1, the concentration of the hydrogen atoms, the total pressure, the reaction time, and the concentration of the singlet oxygen produced:

$$[O_2] = \frac{[O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)]}{0.015 k_1 [H] t}, \quad (\text{II})$$

where it is assumed that the rate for Reaction 2 is very rapid and that the concentration of HO_2 is in a steady-state concentration.¹⁾ When the value for $[O_2]$ is determined, the $[O_2]_i$ can be calculated by means of Eq. I.

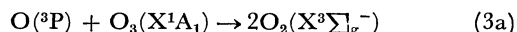
The flowing gases were sprayed through a conical Pyrex pinhole (0.2 mm in diameter) into the ionization region of a quadrupole mass spectrometer, where a collimated light beam from a microwave-powered discharge lamp was intersected. In this work, an argon lamp with a LiF window was used photoionize the molecules. The concentration of singlet

oxygen was calculated from the relative ionization cross section for NO and $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by means of argon-resonance lines,⁶⁾ i.e., $\sigma_{O_2^*}/\sigma_{NO} = 0.5$. Since the sensitivity of NO to this instrument is 2×10^4 counts/s for 1 mTorr of NO , 10^{-4} mTorr of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ could theoretically be detected.

The ions formed by photoionization were accelerated and focused into a quadrupole mass filter (UTi Model 100C). After mass selection, the ions were counted by means of a Daly-type detector⁷⁾ operated at -20 kV , a thin aluminum-coated plastic scintillator, and pulse-counting electronics (Canberra, Multichannel Analyzer, Omega-1). A working pressure of 2×10^{-5} Torr or less was maintained in the vacuum can by means of a 1200-l s⁻¹ oil-diffusion pump with a liquid nitrogen trap. All the measurements were done at room temperature, $298 \pm 3 \text{ K}$.

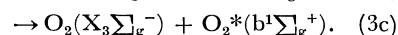
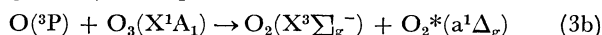
Results and Discussion

1) $O + O_3$ Reaction. The reaction of atomic oxygen with ozone is known to produce two ground-state oxygen molecules:



$$\Delta H = -93.7 \text{ kcal/mol.}$$

The vibrational excitation of ground-state oxygen⁷⁾ has been observed in levels up to $v=20$ or up to $v=25$ due to the exothermicity of Reaction 3a. However, the existence of singlet oxygen ($a^1\Delta_g$ and $b^1\Sigma_g^+$) has never been observed, although the processes to form $O_2(X^3\Sigma_g^-) + O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ or $O_2^*(b^1\Sigma_g^+)$ are accessible energetically and spin-allowed:



Measurements of the signals at mass number 32 were made by the addition of ozone to the oxygen atoms/He flow, which was produced in the microwave discharge of the O_2 /He mixture. In this case, singlet oxygen was produced initially through the microwave discharge of the O_2 /He mixture. This singlet oxygen initially produced disturbs the measurement of the signals at $m/e=32$ as a background. Therefore, measurements under the conditions of a high concentration of oxygen atoms and a low singlet-oxygen concentration in the

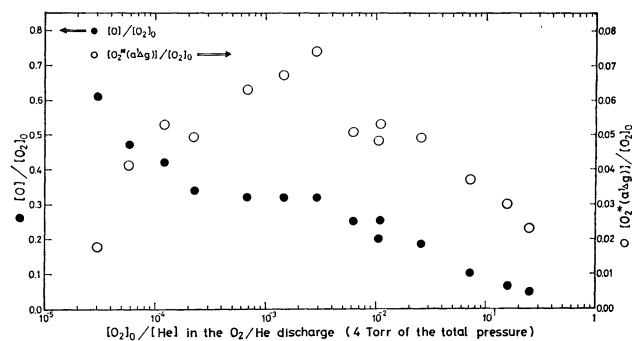


Fig. 2. The ratio of oxygen atoms produced to the initial concentration of O_2 in the O_2 /He discharge, $[O]/[O_2]_0$ (●), and the ratio of singlet oxygen produced to the initial concentration of O_2 in the O_2 /He discharge, $[O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)]/[O_2]_0$ (○), are plotted against the $[O_2]_0/[He]$ in the O_2 /He mixture. Discharge was done at total pressure of 4 Torr.

O_2/He discharge were desired. The concentrations of the oxygen atoms and singlet oxygen produced in the discharge were measured under a variety of ratios of O_2 to He in the O_2/He discharge. Figure 2 shows that the absolute concentrations of both the oxygen atoms and the singlet oxygen increased at higher values of $[O_2]_0/[He]$, but the ratio of the concentration of the oxygen atoms produced to the initial concentration of O_2 is larger at lower values of $[O_2]_0/[He]$ (*i.e.*, oxygen atoms were produced effectively at a low "initial concentration of O_2 ," $[O_2]_0$). On the other hand, the ratio of the concentration of the singlet oxygen produced to the initial concentration of O_2 is smaller at lower values of $[O_2]_0/[He]$. The value of $[O_2^*]/[O_2]_0$ then passed through a maximum and, after that, decreased as the value of $[O_2]_0/[He]$ in increased. This decrease can be explained by the quenching of the singlet oxygen by oxygen atoms and ozone because the mixture of O_2 and He is discharged very far upstream of the reactor and the contact time of the discharged gases is about 50 ms. According to the results shown in Fig. 2, the condition of a low $[O_2]_0/[He]$ ratio should be good for measurement because the ratio of the atomic oxygen to the singlet oxygen formed is the largest.

The mass spectra measured in the $O+O_3$ reaction system are shown in Fig. 3. As is shown in Fig. 3, the singlet oxygen was produced in the O_2/He discharge and the increment of the signal at $m/e=32$ was not clear when ozone was added. The signal observed at $m/e=30$ may be the signal for NO, which is produced by the nitrogen present in the O_2/He mixture as an impurity. The small signal at $m/e=32$ when only the O_3-O_2-He mixture was introduced ((d) in Fig. 3) can be explained by the surface ionization in the ionization chamber. The mass spectrometer was fixed at $m/e=32$, and the signals at $m/e=32$ were accumulated. The results are shown in Table 1. In this case, measurements were

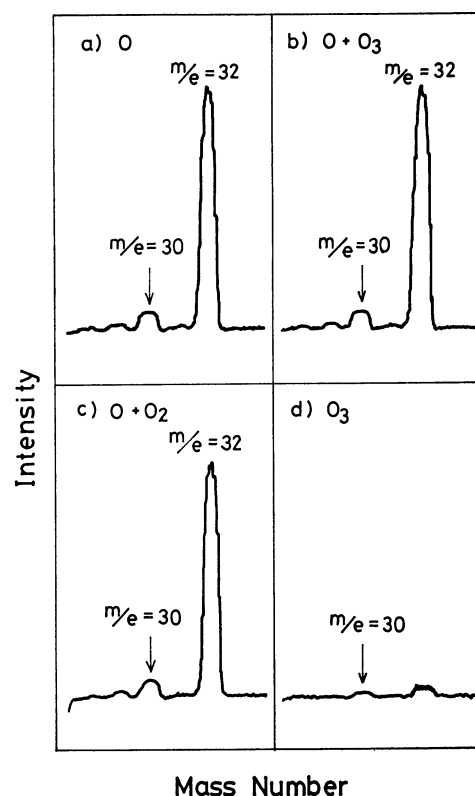


Fig. 3. Mass spectra in the $O+O_3$ reaction system. a): Only O_2/He discharge. b): O_3-O_2-He mixture was added to the O_2/He discharge. c): O_3-O_2-He mixture was passed through the heated quartz tube. Ozone was converted to O_2 . d): Discharge was turned off. Only O_3-O_2-He mixture flowed. Conditions: total pressure=4.032 Torr, $[O]_0=4.6$ mTorr $[O_3]=28.6$ mTorr, reaction time = 10.05 ms.

TABLE 1. RESULTS IN THE MEASUREMENT OF THE SIGNALS AT $m/e=32$ IN THE $O+O_3$ REACTION

Conditions				Signals at $m/e=32$ counts/5 s (\pm was derived from the standard deviation in the 50 measurements)		
O_2 /He discharge	Sensitivity of NO for 1 mTorr of NO	Reaction time (ms)	O_3 - O_2 -He Mixture added	O_2 /He Discharge	Addition of O_3 (O_3 - O_2 -He mixture)	O_3 converted to O_2 (O_2 -He mixture)
[a]						
Total pressure, 4.043 Torr			Total: 338 mTorr	d. 207.3 \pm 18.1	d. 216.3 \pm 19.4	d. 216.7 \pm 16.2
$[O_2]_0$ 0.16 mTorr	18326 counts/s	10.05	$[O_3]$ 29.4 mTorr	nd. 69.7 \pm 10.0	nd. 84.2 \pm 9.7	nd. 74.9 \pm 8.4
$[O]_0$ 0.095 mTorr			$[O_2]_1$ 62.5 mTorr	d.—nd. 137.6 \pm 12.4	d.—nd. 132.1 \pm 11.9	d.—nd. 141.8 \pm 10.6
$O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ 0.003 mTorr						
[b]						
Total pressure, 4.032 Torr			Total: 329 mTorr	d. 37638.9 \pm 390.6	d. 37496.2 \pm 370.3	d. 37594.4 \pm 353.5
$[O_2]_0$ 13.8 mTorr	17458 counts/s	10.05	$[O_3]$ 28.6 mTorr	nd. 103.3 \pm 9.9	nd. 135.1 \pm 11.1	nd. 111.3 \pm 8.5
$[O]_0$ 4.6 mTorr			$[O_2]_1$ 60.9 mTorr	d.—nd. 37535.6 \pm 389.5	d.—nd. 37361.1 \pm 369.0	d.—nd. 37483.1 \pm 352.3
$O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ 0.86 mTorr						

As has been mentioned before, vibrationally excited ground-state oxygen molecules were observed in the flash-photolysis absorption experiment.⁷⁾ According to the measurement by McGrath and Norrish,⁷⁾ the maximum in the population distribution of vibrationally excited O_2 is when $v=12, 13$, or 14 , and both higher and lower levels have progressively lower populations. However, since the absorption cross-section in the Schumann-Runge band system in O_2 is smaller at lower v levels, population distributions lower than $v=11$ could not be measured in their observation. The energy for $v=12, 13$, or 14 is about a half of the exothermic energy for the $O+O_3$ reaction, $3a$, that is about 4 eV. Therefore, the formation of singlet oxygen is energetically acceptable except when the two oxygen molecules formed in Reaction $3a$ are equally vibrationally excited. The minimal-state correlation diagrams when all atoms lie on a plane (Cs symmetry), and when $O(^3P)$ approaches O_3 on the plane which bisects the O_3 bond angle, are shown in Fig. 4. In these cases, the correla-

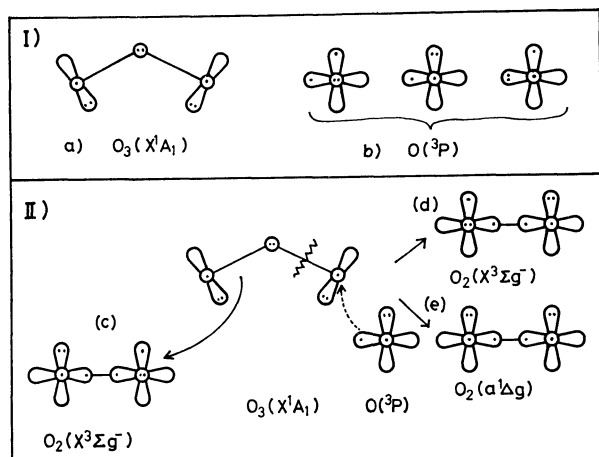
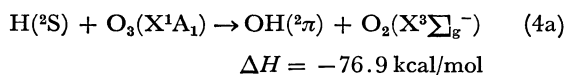


Fig. 5. GVB model representation in the $\text{O} + \text{O}_3$ reaction system.

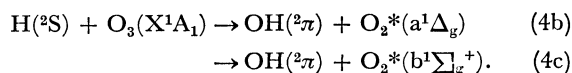
tions with other upper states are abridged. As is shown in Fig. 4, the formation of the $a^1\Delta_g$ -state molecular oxygen is possible in both the coplanar and bisecting plane models.

According to the valence-bond model which was explained by Goddard,¹⁵⁾ ground-state ozone and atomic oxygen are represented by (a) and (b) respectively in Fig. 5 (I). Figure 5 (II) shows the case in which an $\text{O}(^3P)$ approaches the side oxygen atom of ozone perpendicular to the ozone plane and in which each p-orbital having one electron makes a σ -bond. According to Goddard, this mechanism probably occurs in the lowest energy. In this case, O_4 in the transition state has no symmetry (C_1). When this O_4 complex is cleaved into two oxygen molecules, the electronic state of the O_2 on the left-hand side is in the ground state ($^3\Sigma_g^-$), while the O_2 in the right-hand side is the ground state (d) or the $a^1\Delta_g$ state (e). However, the O-O bond distance is expected to be shorter for the states with three oxygen π electrons than for those with four π electrons. This means that the energy of O_4 of the state of three π electrons is lower than that of four electrons. Therefore, (d) in Case (II), the formation of the ground-state O_2 , should give the lowest energy to the O_4 complex. It can be considered that the energy of the transition-state complex of O_4 is lowest in the case of the formation of two ground-state molecular oxygens (probably vibrationally excited) after cleavage.

2) $\text{H} + \text{O}_3$ Reaction. This reaction is wellknown as the source of the vibrationally excited OH radicals. Recent work¹⁶⁾ has shown that the OH-product vibrational distribution peaks strongly in the highest accessible vibrational level, $v=9$, and that the mean fractions of the total energy entering the vibration and rotation in the OH are $\langle f'v \rangle \approx 0.90$ and $\langle f'r \rangle \approx 0.03$.



However, OH is distributed in the lower levels, although it has progressively lower populations. Therefore, it is possible that singlet oxygen can be formed due to the exothermicity:



There have been no reports on the singlet oxygen produced in the reaction of $\text{H} + \text{O}_3$. Measurements of the signals at mass number 32 were attempted by the method described above. The mass spectra measured in the $\text{H} + \text{O}_3$ reaction system are shown in Fig. 6. As is shown in Fig. 6, the signals at mass 32 are not changed in the $\text{H} + \text{O}_3 + \text{O}_2$ and $\text{H} + \text{O}_2$ systems (O_3/O_2 was passed through the heater). The signals at mass 32 measured under a variety of O_3/O_2 concentrations are shown in Fig. 7. As is shown in Fig. 7, the signals for mass 32 did not increase in the presence of ozone. In this case, 4.6% of an O_3/O_2 mixture (without He as a diluent) was added. The concentration of ozone in the O_3/O_2 mixture and the absolute concentration of

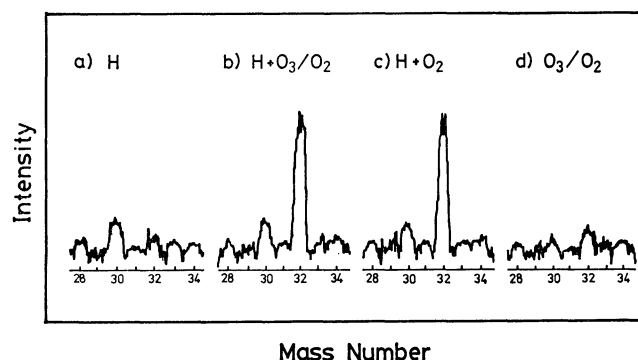


Fig. 6. Mass spectra in the $\text{H} + \text{O}_3$ reaction system. a): Only H_2/He discharge. b): O_3/O_2 mixture was added to the H_2/He discharge. c): O_3/O_2 mixture was passed through the heated quartz tube. Ozone was converted to O_2 . d): Discharge was turned off. Only O_3/O_2 mixture flowed. Conditions: total pressure=4.6 Torr, $[\text{H}] = 8.69$ mTorr, $\text{O}_3 + \text{O}_2 = 52$ mTorr, $\text{O}_3/\text{O}_2 = 7.5\%$, reaction time=6.1 ms.

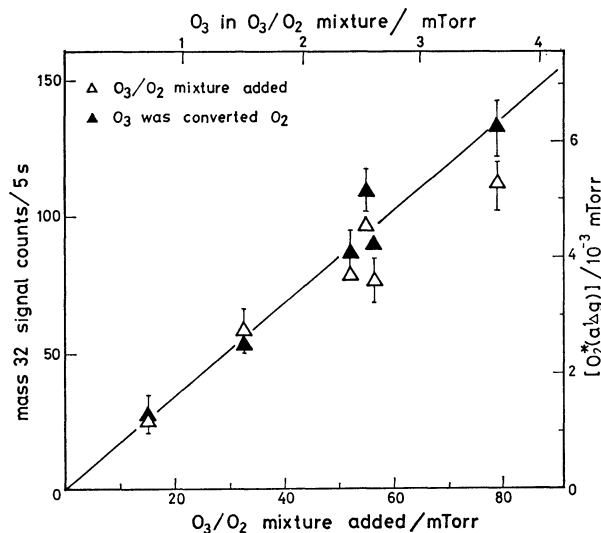


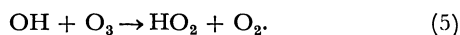
Fig. 7. Signals at $m/e=32$ vs. O_3/O_2 mixture added. Δ : Signals when O_3/O_2 mixture was added, \blacktriangle : signals when O_3/O_2 mixture was passed through the heated quartz tube. Conditions: total pressure=4.44 Torr, $[\text{H}] = 11.95$ mTorr, reaction time=6.08 ms.

$O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$, as calculated from the sensitivity of NO, are shown in Fig. 7. When O₃ was converted to O₂ through the heater, the increase in the pressure of the O₃/O₂ mixture was about 2% (O₃→3/2O₂). This is negligibly small compared with the counting error. The lack of increase in the signals for $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ in the presence of ozone showed that the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ was formed only by Reactions 1 and 2. The absolute value for $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ agreed well with that of a previous work,¹⁾ in which the fraction of Reaction 2 was about 0.015 of the total reaction of HO₂+H.

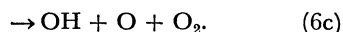
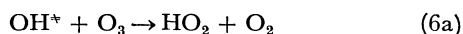
The deactivation of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by O₂ and O₃ can be neglected during the contact time of this work, 6.08 ms. The deactivation rate constant of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by hydrogen atoms has been reported to be 2.5×10^{-14} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹¹⁷⁾. This rate was also slow enough to neglect under those conditions, [H]=11.95 mTorr. The deactivation rate of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by OH is unknown. However, the nearly linear increase in the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ signal in the presence of O₃ in Fig. 7 shows that the deactivation of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by OH does not affect the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ signals.

The rate constant for Reaction 1 previously reported¹⁸⁾ is 1.57×10^{-32} cm⁶ molecule⁻² s⁻¹ (M=He). This means that the second-order rate for Reaction 1 is 2.3×10^{-15} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹ under 4.44 Torr of He. On the other hand, the rate for Reaction 4 is very rapid. The rate constant for Reaction 4 was reported most recently¹⁹⁾ to be 2.8×10^{-11} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹ at 300 K. Therefore, the ozone should be consumed completely in the reactor under these experimental conditions, and the concentration of hydrogen atoms to react with O₂ might decrease with the addition of O₃. This effect is evident in Fig. 7. As is shown in Fig. 7, since the increment in the 1×10^{-3} mTorr of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ should be detectable in both the presence and absence of O₃, it was concluded that the fraction of the formation of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$, Reaction 4b, in the total reaction of H+O₃ must be less than 0.001.

The reaction of OH with O₃ produces HO₂:



The rate constant for Reaction 5 reported most recently²⁰⁾ is 8.2×10^{-14} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹ at 298 K. Three possible reaction paths have been suggested²¹⁾ for the reaction of vibrationally excited OH with O₃:



The reactions of OH^{*} ($v=2-9$) with O₃ have been shown to proceed with rate constants of $(2-11) \times 10^{-12}$ cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹²¹⁾. These rates for Reaction 5 and 6 are not fast enough to compete with Reaction 4 under these experimental conditions ([H]≫[O₃]).

In the correlation in the reaction of H(²S)+O₃(X¹A₁), the ground states OH(X²π)+O₂(X³Σ_g⁻), can be correlated through the ²A'-state HO₃ complex (in both Cs planar and Cs bisecting complex) to the H(²S)+O₃(X¹A₁). However the OH(X²π)+O₂^{*}(a¹Δ_g) or O₂^{*}(b¹Σ_g⁺) can not be correlated to it. This fact is consistent with the finding of this experiment in which

the production of singlet oxygen can not be observed and is a result of the production of highly vibrationally excited OH radicals.¹⁶⁾

3) NO+O₃ Reaction. The reaction of NO+O₃ is well known to emit the so-called "air afterglow" by means of the NO₂ formed, and this chemiluminescent reaction has been used by the chemiluminescent NO_x analyzer:



$$\Delta H = -47.74 \text{ kcal/mol.}$$

In this case, the reaction produces visible and infrared emissions from electronically (²B₂, ²A₂) and vibrationally excited ground-state NO₂.²²⁾ Recent works using seeded beams^{23,24)} suggest that the cross-section of this chemiluminescent reaction increases very rapidly with an increase in the collision energy and is influenced by the electronic fine-structure states of NO ($\pi_{1/2}$, $\pi_{3/2}$). The enhancement of the reaction rate and chemiluminescence in this reaction by selective vibrational excitation with IR lasers has also been investigated.²⁵⁾

A puzzling feature of the reaction is the failure to observe excited O₂^{*}(a¹Δ_g) and O₂^{*}(b¹Σ_g⁺), energetically accessible and favored by the correlation diagram, since O₂^{*}(a¹Δ_g) lies lower than any other excited states of NO₂. The failure to observe O₂^{*}(a¹Δ_g) has also been reported by Gauthier and Snelling²⁶⁾ in the reaction of O₃ with NO, where no a¹Δ_g emission was detected, and places an upper limit of 0.003 on the fraction of reactive collisions. A re-examination to observe

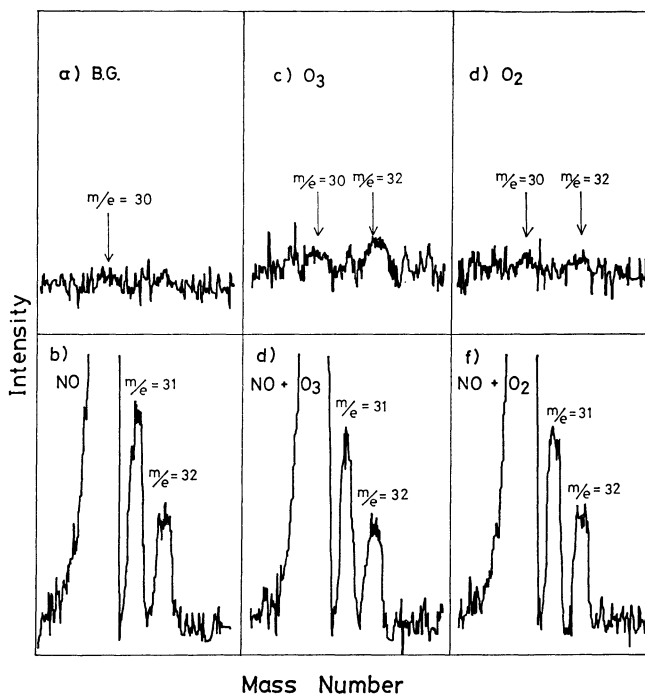


Fig. 8. Mass spectra in the NO+O₃ reaction system. a) Background. b) Only NO flowed. c) Only O₃-O₂-He mixture flowed. d) NO+O₃-O₂-He mixture. e) O₃-O₂-He mixture passed through the heated quartz tube. f) NO+O₃-O₂-He mixture passed through the heated quartz tube. Conditions: total pressure=3.8 Torr, [O₃]=18.2 mTorr, [NO]=2.3 mTorr, [O₂]_i=56.31 mTorr, reaction time=10.05 ms.

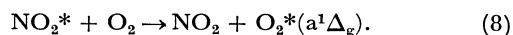
TABLE 2. SIGNALS AT $m/e=32$ IN THE O_3+NO REACTION SYSTEM UNDER THESE CONDITIONS
 TOTAL PRESSURES=3.782 Torr, $[O_3]=18.23$ mTorr, $[NO]=2.30$ mTorr,
 $[O_2]_i=56.31$ mTorr, REACTION TIME=10.05 ms

Run	Condition	Mass 32 signal, counts/5 s averaged over 128 measurements	
A	Background	28.9 ± 8.9	
B	Only O_3	31.7 ± 9.1	
C	Only O_2 (through heater)	30.2 ± 9.8	
D	Only NO	615.5 ± 27.8	
E	O_3+NO	561.2 ± 21.7	E-B= 529.5 ± 20.5
F	O_2+NO (through heater)	566.2 ± 25.7	F-C= 535.9 ± 24.3

$O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ was undertaken in the reaction of O_3+NO by means of the photoionization mass spectrometer used in this study.

The mass spectra measured in the $NO+O_3$ reaction system are shown in Fig. 8. The signals at $m/e=32$ are overlapped by the isotope signals of NO. The signals accumulated at $m/e=32$ are shown in Table 2. The difference between the signals in the O_3+NO (E-B) and O_2+NO (F-C) reactions is -6.44 counts/5s, which means that the increment in the signal at $m/e=32$ can not be observed in the O_3+NO reaction. The rate constant for Reaction 7 reported most recently²⁷ is $1.80 \times 10^{-14} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 298 K. Therefore, the O_2 formed in Reaction 7 can be calculated to be $k_7[NO][O_3]t=0.250$ mTorr under the conditions listed in Table 2. On the other hand, 30 counts/5 s of the increment of the signal should be detectable under the conditions listed in Table 2 if $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ is produced. The 30 counts/5 s of the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ signal can be calculated to be 4.8×10^{-4} mTorr because of the sensitivity of NO, 2.5×10^4 counts/s for 1 mTorr. Therefore, the fraction for the formation of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ in the total reaction of O_3+NO should be less than 0.002.

The deactivation of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by NO and NO_2 have been reported¹⁴) to be very slow, 4.5×10^{-17} and $5.0 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ respectively. Therefore, the quenching of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ by the reacting gases can be neglected. It has been suggested^{2,28}) that $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ can be formed in the energy-transfer reaction by electronically excited NO_2 with O_2 .



According to a report by Clough and Thrush,²²) the formation of electronically excited NO_2 emitting light shorter than 875 nm is 6.5% of the total reaction of $NO+O_3$ at 300 K. Jones and Bayes²³) have determined the efficiency for Reaction 8, which decreases from 3.5 to 0.5% as the NO_2 excitation wavelength increases from 420 to 620 nm. Therefore, if NO_2^* is quenched completely only by O_2 , the amount of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ formed by Reaction 8 should be less than 0.002 of the total reaction of $NO+O_3$. Therefore, it is reasonable that the $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ produced in Reaction 8 could not be detected in this study. The above finding that less than 0.002 of the $NO+O_3$ reactive collisions result in the production of $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ is in good agreement with the result by Gauthier and Snelling.²⁶)

Redpath, Menzinger, and Carrington²³) preferred

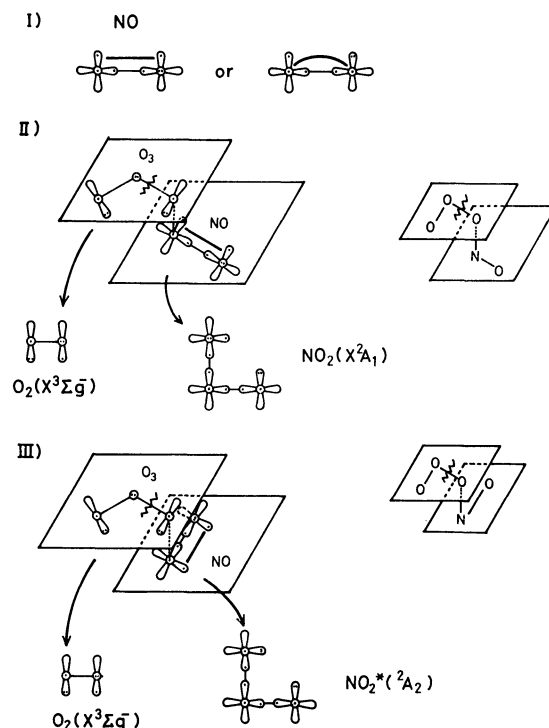


Fig. 9. GVB model representation in the $NO+O_3$ reaction system.

the bisecting-plane model in the $NO+O_3$ reaction, in which the NO approaches O_3 on the plane bisecting the O_3 -bond angle (Cs symmetry); the formation of electronically excited NO_2 rather than the energetically preferred $O_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ can be explained by this model. However, the reaction on such a bisecting plane requires a very high energy, since ozone has the form of Ia) in Fig. 5.

According to the GVB-model representation, the NO molecule is shown by I) in Fig. 9. The cases in which O_3 reacts with NO with the lowest energy are Cases (II) and (III) in Fig. 9. In these cases, NO approaches the side oxygen atom of O_3 parallel to the ozone plane and makes a N-O σ -bond perpendicular to the ozone plane. After this stage, the NO_4 complex cleavages to O_2 and NO_2 . Two types of NO_2 are produced: NO_2 with 4π electrons, Case (II), corresponds to $NO_2(X^2A_1)$ and $NO_2^*(^2B_2)$, and that having 3π electrons, Case (III), corresponds to $NO_2^*(^2A_2)$ and $NO_2^*(^2B_1)$. Since it can be expected that molecules with a lower energy are predominantly produced, the

NO_2 formed in Case (II) should be in the ground state ($^2\text{A}_1$) while that in Case (III) should be in the $^2\text{A}_2$ state. On the other hand, the O_2 formed is in the ground state in both cases.

The formation of electronically excited NO_2^* rather than the energetically preferred $\text{O}_2^*(a^1\Delta_g)$ can be explained by the GVB-model representation. However, the formation of the $^2\text{B}_1$ and the $^2\text{B}_2$ states of NO_2 can not be explained thus. It might be possible that the $^2\text{B}_1$ and the $^2\text{B}_2$ states of NO_2 are populated by vibronic interaction²⁹⁾ with the $^2\text{A}_1$ and the $^2\text{A}_2$ states of the NO_2 produced initially after the O_2 has departed.

Further exact theoretical calculations are needed in order to clarify these reactions.

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