## **Operation O-Regen**

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### **Executive Summary**

Operation O-Regen is a project to determine the outcome of the reduction in the production of harmful chemicals that damage the O-zone environment. We will be using a Net Logo 3D Preview 5 model to show this happening. In our power point presentation we will be describing in explicit detail the process of O-zone destruction and recreation and the molecules involved in them. We will give details on where these compounds come from and what they are comprised of. Finally, we will tell our plan for replenishing the O-zone layer.

#### **Problem Statement**

The O-zone layer is comprised of O-zone (O<sub>3</sub>) molecules; it regenerates itself when UV radiation reacts with O<sub>2</sub> molecules that float into the O-zone layer by breaking them into individual oxygen atoms. When a single oxygen combines with an O<sub>2</sub> it creates O-zone. Unfortunately, it is destroyed by the same process but with different materials. When compounds such as CFCs, methane, sulfur dioxide, and dinitrogen monoxide float into the O-zone the UV radiation breaks them apart releasing toxic elements such as carbon, nitrous oxide, sulfur, and chlorine. The original compounds that carry the destructive ones into the O-zone are produced by volcanoes, fecal matter, cars, refrigerators, aerosols cans, pesticides, and other everyday appliances.

#### Method

First, we started out by researching the process in which o-zone is created and destroyed. After we processed the data that we had we began to implement the data into a model. At first we had problems deciding which programming language to write our model in so we agreed to disagree and Spenser did a StarLogo TNG model and Brendyn did a NetLogo model. Spenser's StarLogo TNG model focused directly on the atomic properties and relationships of the O-zone cycle. It doesn't focus on the production rate of the destructive molecules themselves nor does it depict the actual ratios of bad to good. Brendyn's NetLogo model focuses on the production rate and the atomic relationships, but doesn't accurately depict the actual ratios of bad to good. We decided to go with the NetLogo model because Spenser was having trouble finding the right code for the StarLogo TNG model to get working and Brendyn's model was friendlier to the eyes.

#### Results

The results that we have come up with by using our model are that because we cannot reduce the amount of harmful chemicals that are already in the O-zone at this point in time the O-zone would most likely regenerate at a slow pace and be back at its full health in a matter of

a few millennia. If the speed at which the harmful chemicals were being produced was to increase it would start to die off very fast once that rate hit a certain number. Also we found that if that rate were to stay at the same rate as it is today then the O-zone would deplete and probably be gone in around one millennia. Spenser hypothesizes that it would take 50 – 60 years for the O-zone to regenerate if production of the harmful chemicals ceased.

#### Conclusion

The conclusion that we came to is that at the current rate of production of the destructive molecules the O-zone would continue to deteriorate until it ceased to exist. If this rate increased it would continue to accelerate the depletion. However, even from there it could still grow back if the rate decreased and the O-zone would continue to grow because of the constant stream of oxygen and O<sup>2</sup> combining.

#### Achievement

Brendyn's greatest achievement is that he was successfully able to model the O-Zone depletion cycle using NetLogo. He did this using as accurate of numbers that we could without having the model overload and crash. This is a great achievement on his part. Spenser's greatest achievement for this year is successfully completing his second year of the Supercomputing Challenge. This is a giant step in the right direction for him.







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