

**Warm Up:**

**Draw the electron dot structures  
for the following molecules:**

**Hydrochloric Acid: HCl**

**Thionyl chloride:  $\text{SOCl}_2$**  (S is in the center  
with O and each Cl bonded to the S)

Warm Up:

Draw the electron dot structures  
for:

chlorine

oxygen

acetylene ( $C_2H_2$ , bonds HCCH)

ethanol ( $CH_3CH_2OH$ , bonds  
C to C to O to H)

**Objective:**

**TSWBAT:**

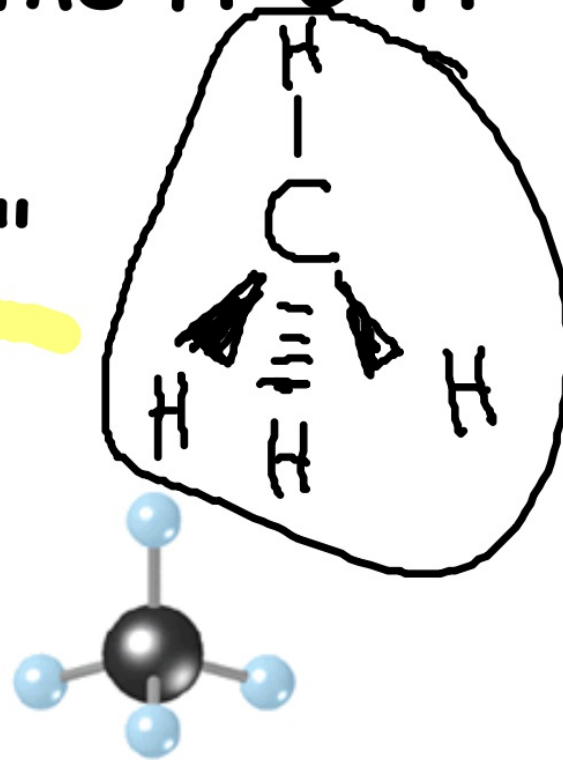
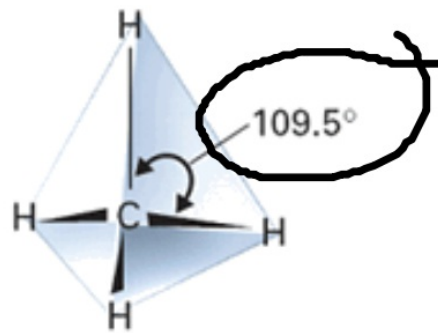
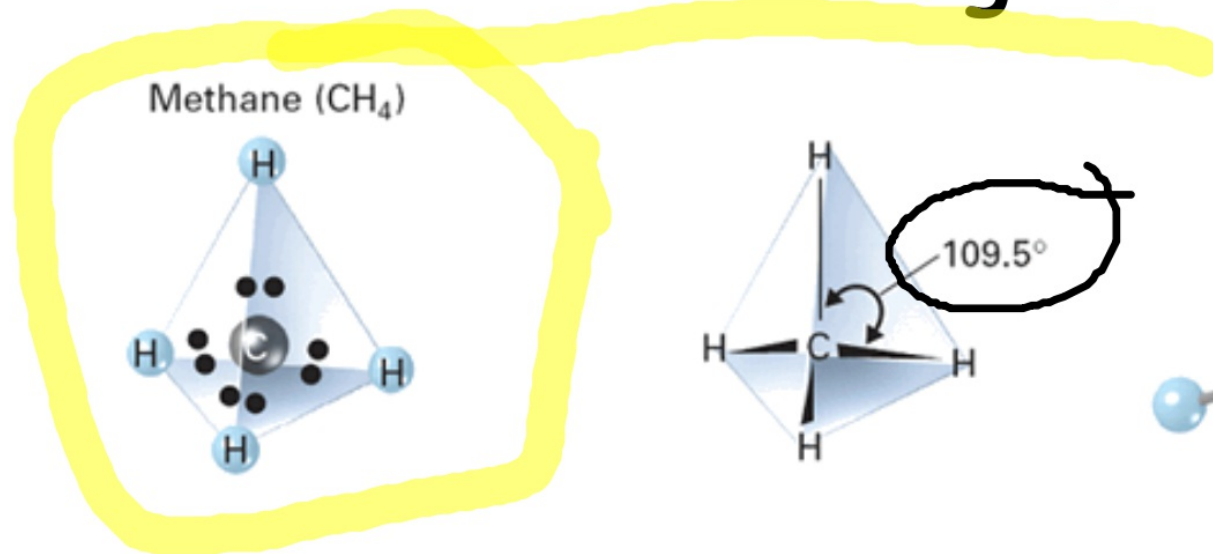
**Predict the three dimensional shape of covalent compounds based on VSEPR theory.**

# VSEPR Theory

This acronym stands for "Valence Shell Electron Pair Repulsion" Theory

How does VSEPR theory help predict shapes of molecules?

X-ray crystallography shows that the hydrogens in a methane molecule are at the four corners of a geometric solid. All of the H-C-H angles are  $109.5^\circ$ , the "Tetrahedral Angle."



## VSEPR Theory

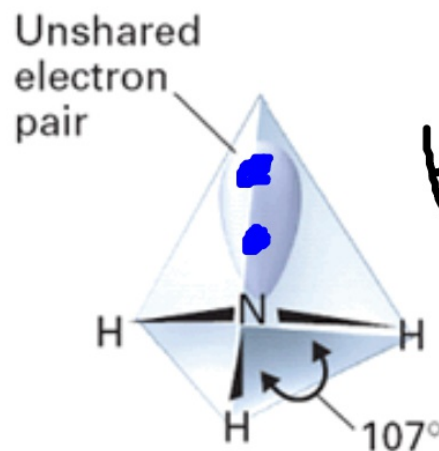
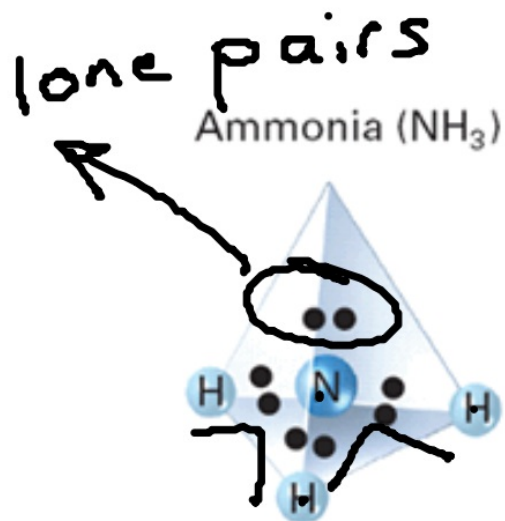
The valence-shell electron-pair repulsion theory, or *VSEPR theory*, explains **why** methane arranges itself into a tetrahedron.

According to VSEPR theory, the **repulsion** between electron pairs causes molecular shapes to adjust so that the valence-electron pairs stay as **far apart** as possible.

Very important concept- this is **WHY** molecules adopt the shapes we find in nature.

## VSEPR Theory

The measured H—N—H bond angle is only 107°.



107°

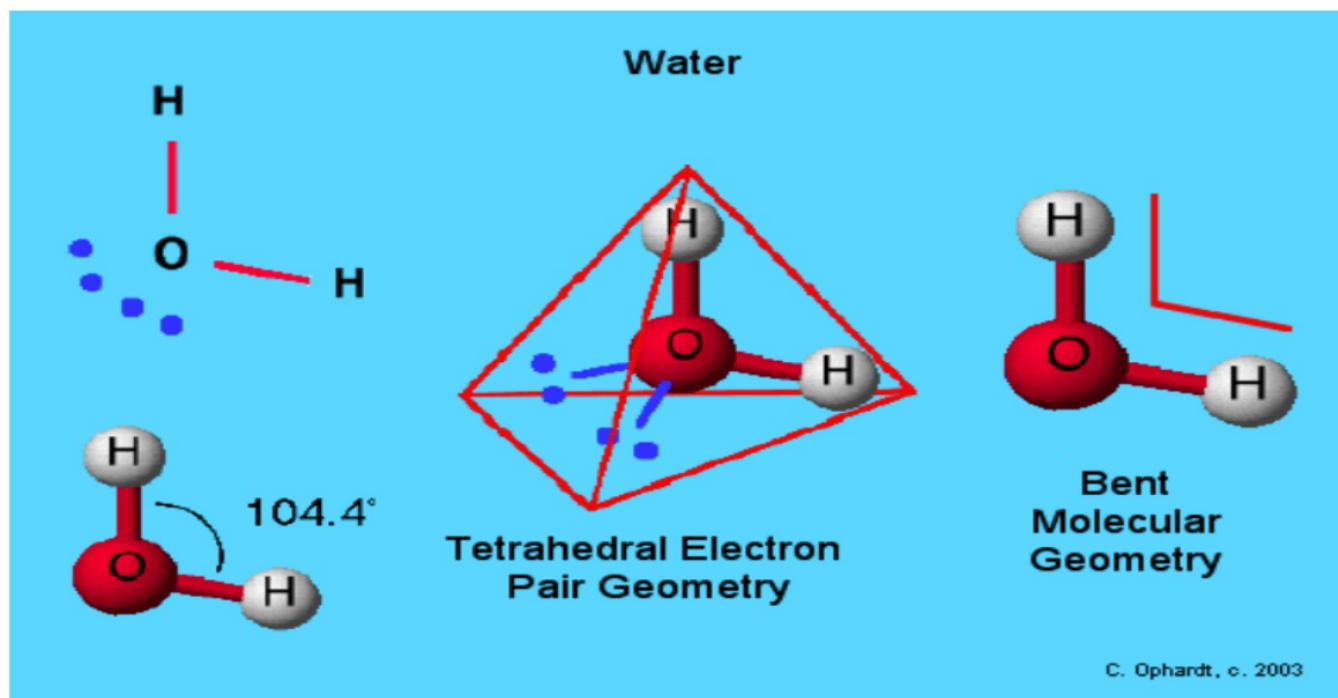
Pyramidal

Compare this to the bond angle in methane: 109.5°



## VSEPR Theory

The measured bond angle in water is about  $105^\circ$ .



Compare this to methane ( $109.5^\circ$ )

Compare also to ammonia ( $107^\circ$ )

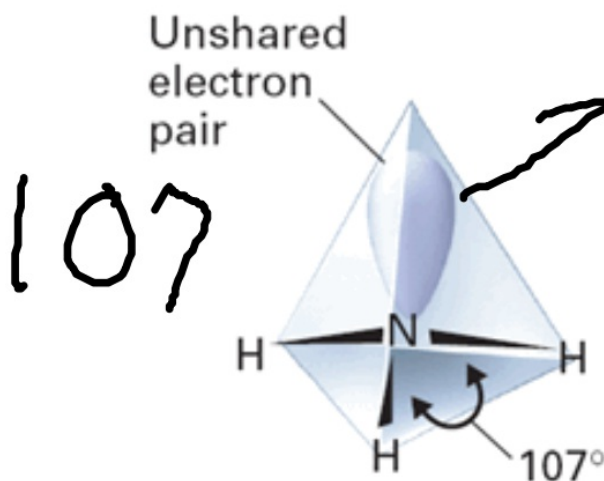
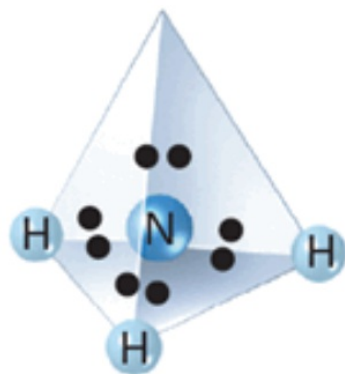
## VSEPR Theory

The 3D shape of the carbon dioxide molecule is "linear."

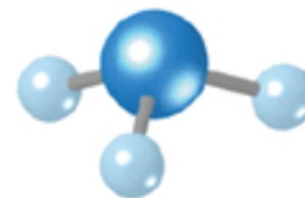


Ammonia is "pyramidal":

**b** Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)



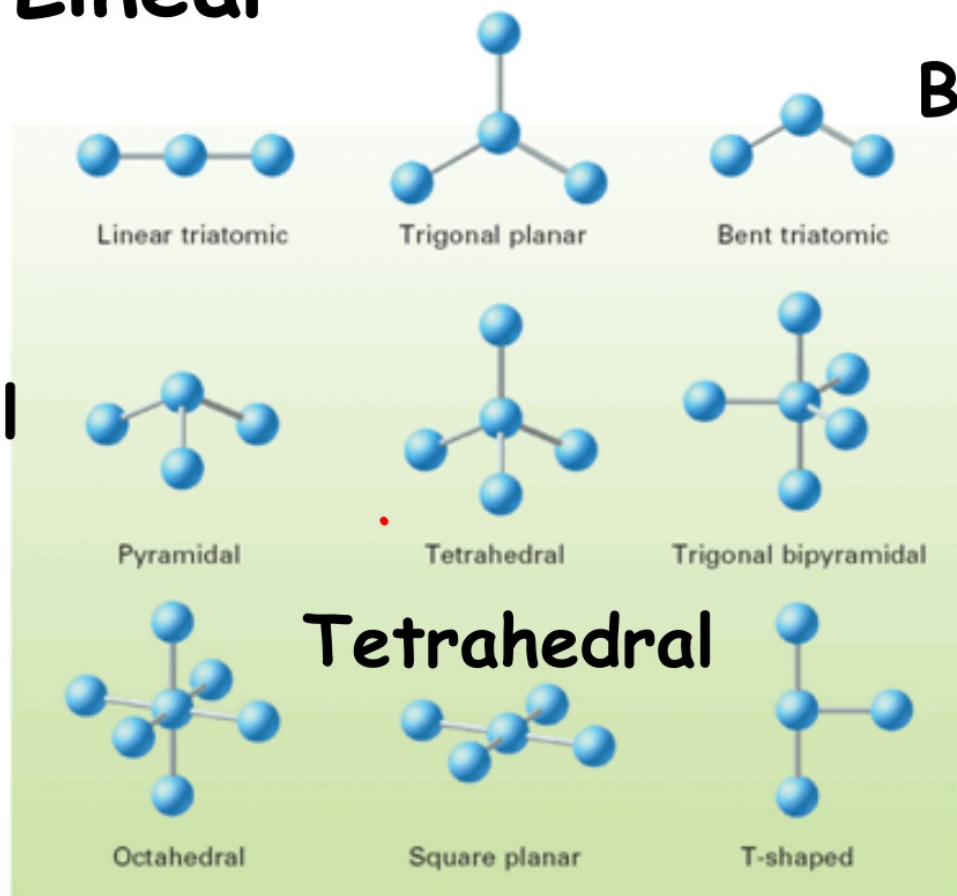
*invisible*



## VSEPR Theory

Nine Possible Molecular Shapes (p. 233 text)

Linear Trigonal Planar (flat)



Bent triatomic  
↙-shaped

Pyramidal

Tetrahedral

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for:

chlorine

oxygen

acetylene ( $C_2H_2$ , bonds HCCH)

ethanol ( $CH_3CH_2OH$ , bonds  
C to C to O to H)

## Learning Check:

VSEPR theory enables prediction of 3-D molecular shape because the valence electron pairs

1. are attracted to each other.
2. form molecules with only four possible shapes.
3. stay as far apart as possible.
4. always form tetrahedral shapes.

Warm Up

Draw the electron dot structures of:

HBr

**Objectives:**

**TSWBAT**

**Predict the covalent bonding and molecular shapes of simple molecules using Lewis Dot Structures and VSEPR Theory**

**Show the electron dot structure and  
predict the 3D shape:(p. 233)**

**CO<sub>2</sub> (Carbon dioxide)**