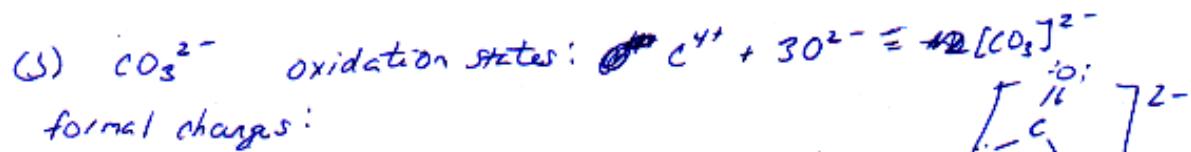
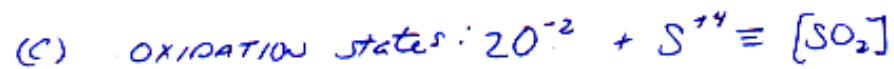


atom	Valence e ⁻	- nonbonding e ⁻	$\frac{1}{2} \times$ bonding e ⁻	= formal charge
N	5	0	$\frac{1}{2} \times 8$	+1
-O:	6	6	$\frac{1}{2} \times 2$	-1
=O:	6	4	$\frac{1}{2} \times 4$	0



atom	VE	NBE	$\frac{1}{2} BE$	= formal charge
C	4	0	$\frac{1}{2} \times 8$	0
-O	6	6	$\frac{1}{2} \times 2$	-1
=O	6	4	$\frac{1}{2} \times 4$	0



formal charges:

atom	VE	NBE	$\frac{1}{2} BE$	= FC
S	6	2	$\frac{1}{2} \times 6$	+1
-O	6	6	$\frac{1}{2} \times 2$	-7
=O	6	4	$\frac{1}{2} \times 4$	0

note, the sum of formal charges adds up to the total charge on the ion.

also, all ~~of~~ these Lewis structures can be drawn in several ~~of~~ equivalent ways, called resonance.

For example:

