

Chemistry of Fluorine

BSc.
Part II (H)

Fluorine is a chemical element with the symbol F and atomic number 9. It is the lightest halogen and exists as a highly toxic pale yellow diatomic gas at standard conditions. As the most electronegative element, it is extremely reactive, as it reacts with all other elements, except for noble gases and helium.

Among the elements, fluorine ranks 21st in universal abundance and 13th in terrestrial abundance. Fluorite the primary natural source of fluoride which gave the element its name, was first described in 1783 as it was added to metal ores to lower their melting points for smelting. The Latin verb *fluere* meaning

