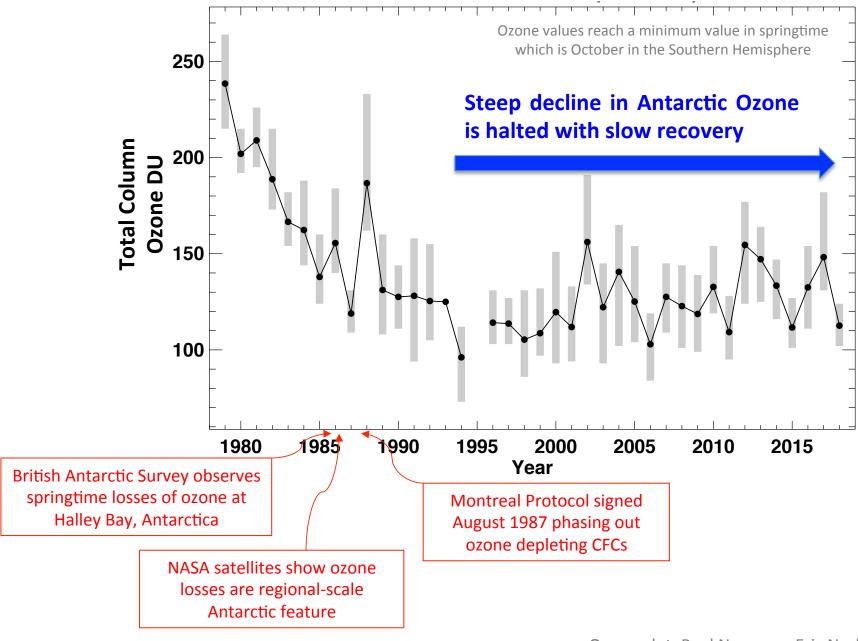
Southern Hemisphere minimum Ozone in October



Dobson Unit (DU) is related to the number of ozone molecules there are in a column of atmosphere

Ozone plot: Paul Newman, Eric Nash, Richard McPeters, Steve Pawson (NASA/GSFC)

Excerpt from Opinion page of Washington Post, March 13, 2015

By George P. Shultz, Secretary of State under Ronald Reagan

... I am also impressed by an experience I had in the mid-1980s. Many scientists thought the ozone layer was shrinking. There were doubters, but everyone agreed that if it happened, the result would be a catastrophe. Under these circumstances, President Ronald Reagan thought it best not to argue too much with the doubters but include them in the provision of an insurance policy. With the very real potential for serious harm, U.S. industry turned on its entrepreneurial juices, and the Du Pont company developed a set of replacements for the chemicals implicated in the problem along a reasonable time frame and at a reasonable cost. It came up with something that could be done then — not some aspirational plan for 2050. Action is better than aspiration. As matters turned out, the action worked and became the basis for the Montreal Protocol, widely regarded as the world's most successful environmental treaty. In retrospect, the scientists who were worried were right, and the Montreal Protocol came along in the nick of time. Reagan called it a "magnificent achievement."

Later in the opinion piece Mr. Shultz advocates for a Carbon Tax.

