

Ecological problems





**Atmospheric
pollution
raises
problems of
several types.**

**First, there are local
problems due to the
production of smoke
and offensive gases
by factories.**



Secondly, there are regional problems created by industrial agglomerations



which may spread the same harmful effects over whole areas.

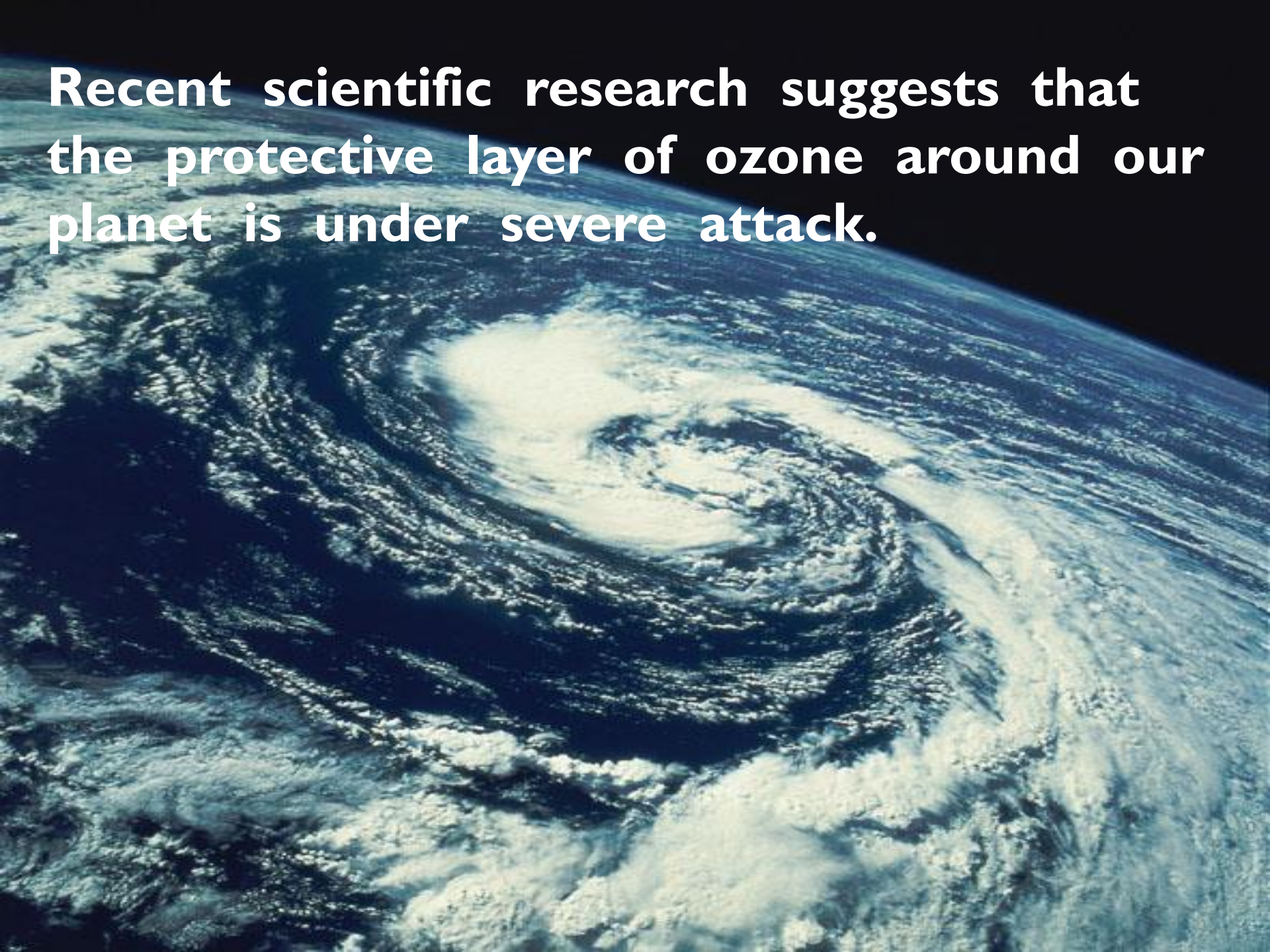
Thirdly, there are some types of pollution, such as those arising from nuclear explosives, which cover a considerable portion of the globe.






And lastly, there appeared one more type of pollution which is threatening the globe as a whole.

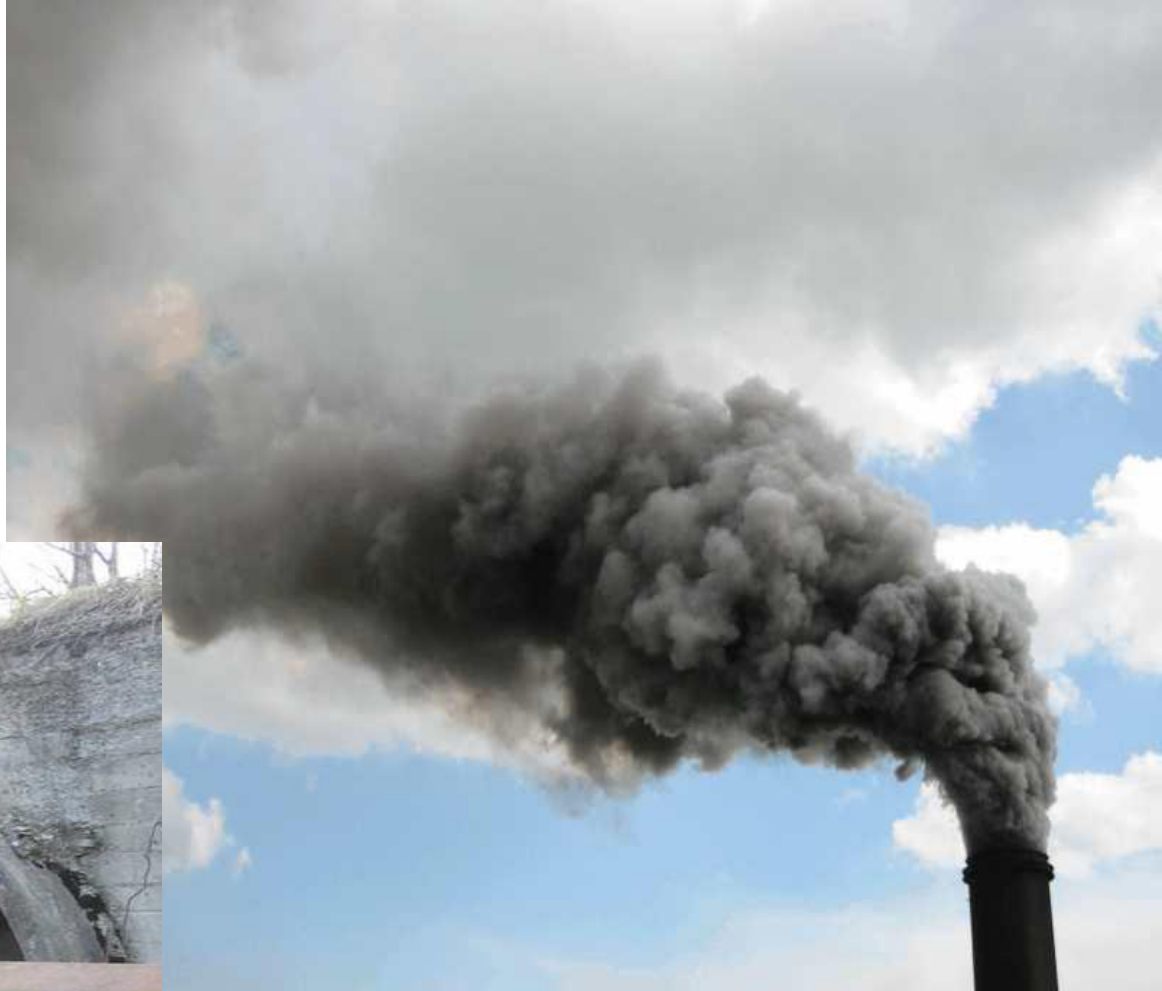
Recent scientific research suggests that the protective layer of ozone around our planet is under severe attack.



A pair of hands is shown holding a small, translucent globe of the Earth. The globe is held in the center, with the hands cupping it from the sides and bottom. The globe shows the continents and oceans in a light green and blue color scheme. The background is a plain, light color, possibly white or light yellow, which makes the hands and the globe stand out. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the smooth surface of the globe.

Alarm bells were sounded in 1982 when researchers in the Antarctic first identified a yawning hole over the Antarctic where the ozone layer is thinnest.

The major cause of this weakening of the ozone layer is believed to be the increasing



amount of harmful chemicals that are being released into the atmosphere by humankind.

Environmentalists and scientists point out that a further one per cent drop in the overall ozone layer can cause an increase of skin cancer.





The appearance of the **Antarctic hole** has intensified the search for a cause. **Strong evidence** now suggests that it is the growing industrial use of chlorine compounds called **chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)** which is responsible. **CFC** is a propellant gas commonly used in aerosol sprays, air cooling systems in fridges and air-conditioning.



Researchers suggest that the level of **CFCs** in the atmosphere

is actually increasing by 5 per cent each year.



Since 1969 the ozone level has fallen by 3 per cent over the densely populated cities of the US,

Canada and Europe and by 4 per cent over Australia and New Zealand.



A group of people, mostly women, are gathered outdoors for a protest or demonstration. They are holding a large white banner with black text. The banner reads: "Защита природы - главная задача каждого из нас!". The people are dressed in casual to semi-formal attire, including sweaters, jackets, and blouses. The background shows a cloudy sky and some greenery.

**Защита природы -
главная задача каждого из нас!**