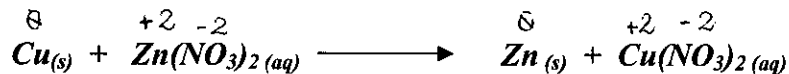


ELECTROCHEMISTRY

I. Introduction: What is Electrochemistry?

Demo: A Cu wire is placed in a solution of $Zn(NO_3)_2$.

A light bulb is placed into the solution.



1) What happens to copper as it goes from reactant to product?

* Cu became more positive (lost electrons).

2) What happened to zinc as it went from reactant to product? What do you think occurred in order for zinc ions to become solid zinc metal?

* Zn^{2+} became less positive (gained electrons), to become neutral.

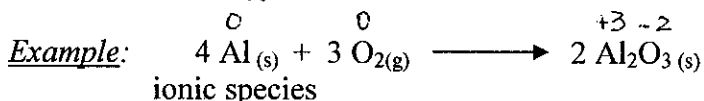
3) What happened to the intensity of the light bulb over time? Why do you think this occurred?

* Bulb's intensity will remain the same because the amount of e^- being transferred is $2 \div 2$.

Electrochemistry: looks at the movement of e^- in a given chemical rxn.

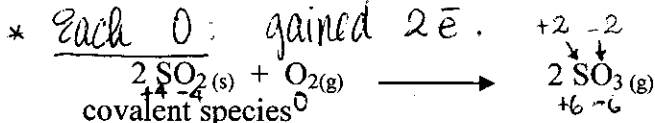
As the e^- are being transferred from one species to the next, these e^- are used as a source of electrical energy.

NOTE: When we think transfer of e^- , we think ionic solutions, but electrochemistry happens for **both** ionic and covalent solutions.



* Each Al: lost $3e^-$

* Each O: gained $2e^-$.



* Each S: lost $2e^-$

* Each O: gained $2e^-$ (The $O_{2(g)}$ is the oxygen that underwent reduction)

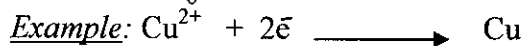
II. Electrochemical Reactions – Redox Reactions

• In any electrochemical rxn. there is a transfer of e^- from one species to another species.

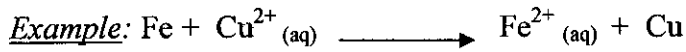
a) **Oxidation:** the loss of e^-



b) **Reduction:** gain of e^- (Reducing in positivity)



- For a redox rxn to occur, oxidation is always followed with reduction - REDOX RXN.



III. Oxidation Numbers:

- In order to understand which ion has been oxidized or reduced, we must be able to assign oxidation numbers to ions.

Oxidation Number: the true or apparent charge on an atom or ion.

Rules for Assigning Charge:

- Ox. # for neutral elements equal zero.
- Ox # for any elemental ion is its combining capacity. (Combining Capacity = Oxidation #)
- Oxygen: (O^{2-}) - Ox # = 2^-

EXCEPTION: (H_2O_2) - Ox # = -1

- Hydrogen: (H^+) - Ox # = 1^+

EXCEPTION: metallic hydrides (NaH) - Ox # = -1

- When assigning ox. # for a molecule, the more electronegative is assigned the negative charge.

b) Families 1, 2 have the same oxidation # as their combining capacity.

Example: a) Fe (neutral element) - Ox # = 0

b) Mg^{2+} (elemental ion) - Ox # = +2

c) Fe_2O_3 (compound):
 O: $3 \times 2^- = -6$
 Fe: $2 \times ? = +6$ (Charge per Fe ion = 3^+)
+3

Net Charge on Compound = 0

d) NO_3^{-1} : O: $3 \times 2^- = -6$
 N: $1 \times ? = +5$ (For ion to have net charge of 1^- , N must be 5^+)
+5

Net charge on ion = 1^-

e) H_2O_2 :
 O: $2 \times 1^- = -2$
 H: $2 \times 1^+ = +2$
Net charge: = 0 } The exception where Oxygen's oxidation # is (-1) .

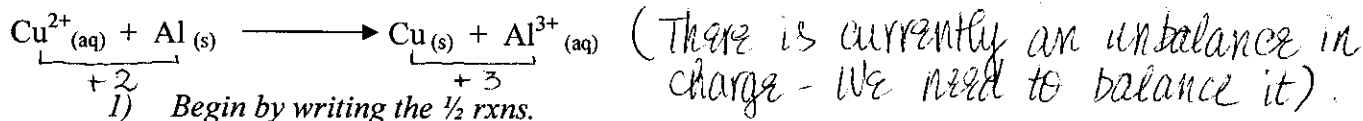
f) MgH_2 :
 H: $2 \times 1^- = -2$
 Mg: $1 \times 2^+ = +2$
Net Charge: 0 } Exception where Hydrogen's oxidation # is (-1)

IV. Balancing Redox Rxns:

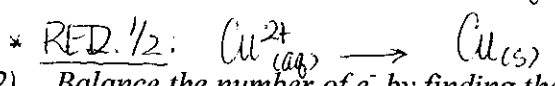
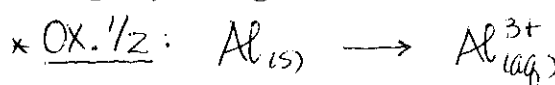
- Redox Rxn: has both oxidation + reduction
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Rxn: describes only one part of the redox rxn., either reduction part OR oxidation part.

A. Balancing Redox Reactions Using $\frac{1}{2}$ Rxn. Method

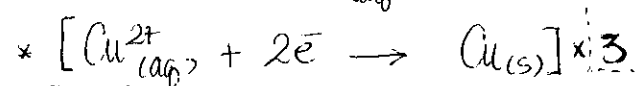
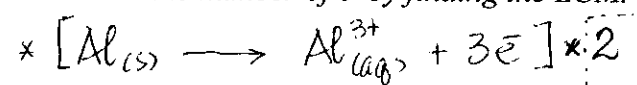
Example: Balance the following elementary redox rxn.



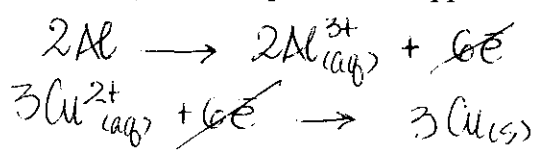
1) Begin by writing the $\frac{1}{2}$ rxns.



2) Balance the number of e^- by finding the LCM.

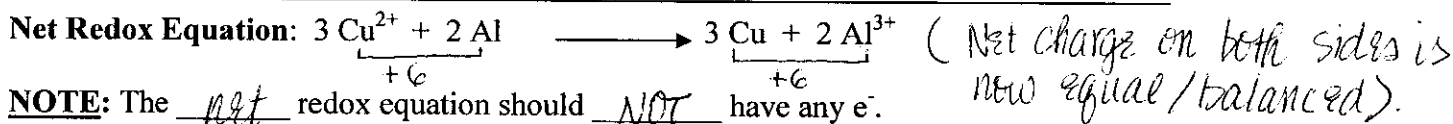


3) Cancel out any similar species that appear on OPPOSITE sides of the two equations:



* These # represent the total amount needed of each type of atom.

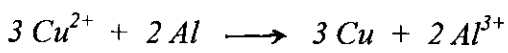
* Because total amount of e^- lost = total amount gained!
(LCM = 6)



NOTE: The net redox equation should NOT have any e^- .

TOTAL e^- LOST = TOTAL e^- GAINED

Some Terminology:



- Cu^{2+} : was reduced. Therefore, it acts an oxidizing agent.

* Substance that takes e^- from another species - thus oxidizing that species.

- Al: was oxidized. Therefore, it acts as a reducing agent

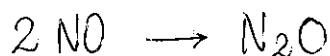
* Substance that gives its e^- to another species. Thus, a reducing agent reduces another species.

NOTE: Most redox rxns. require either an acidic or basic environment in order to occur.

1) Balancing 1/2 Reactions in Acidic Solutions:

Example: Balance the 1/2 rxn: $\text{NO} \longrightarrow \text{N}_2\text{O}$ (in acidic solution)

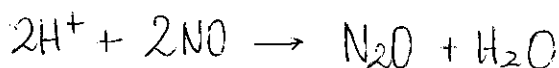
a) Balance all the species EXCEPT H or O



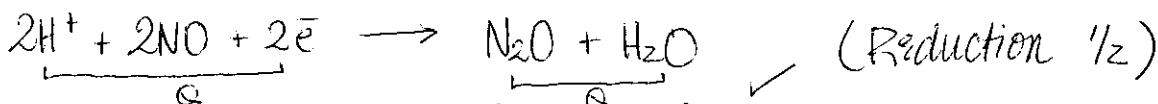
b) Balance the OXYGEN by adding H₂O molecules – (Acceptable because the rxn. is occurring in an aqueous environment.)



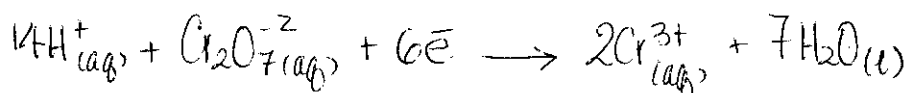
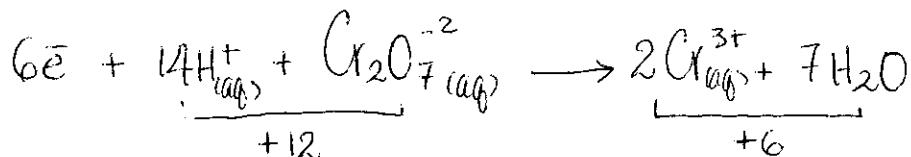
c) Balance the HYDROGEN last by adding H⁺ ions (Comes from the acidic solⁿ.)



d) Add e⁻ to balance the charges.



Exercise: Balance the 1/2 rxn.: $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-} \longrightarrow \text{Cr}^{3+}$ in acid

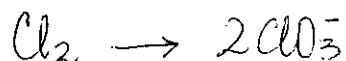


NOTE: Redox eqⁿs will often only show the NIE, meaning only those species that undergo rxn.

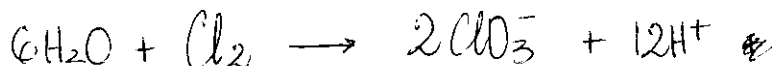
2) Balancing 1/2 Rxns. in Basic Solⁿs:

Example: Balance the 1/2 rxn: $\text{Cl}_2 \longrightarrow \text{ClO}_3^-$ in basic solution

a) Balance all other atoms except H and O.



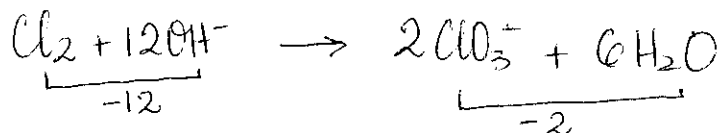
b) Balance oxygen atoms FIRST! using H₂O:



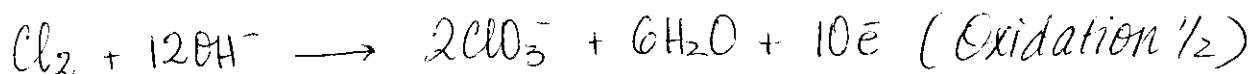
- d) Add the same # of OH^- as H^+ to both sides of the reaction.
Where there is both OH^- and H^+ on the same side of the equation, H_2O is formed.



- e) Subtract excess H_2O if they appear on opposite sides of the equation.

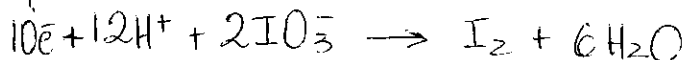
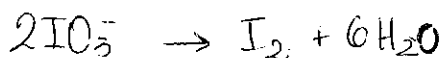
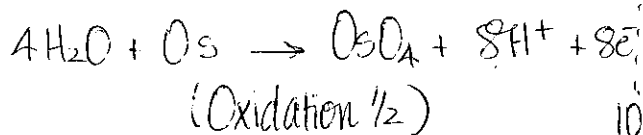
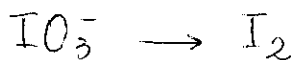
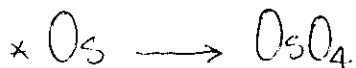


- f) Add \bar{e} to balance the charges.

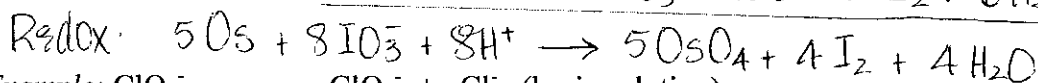
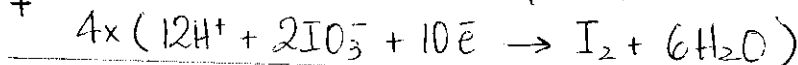
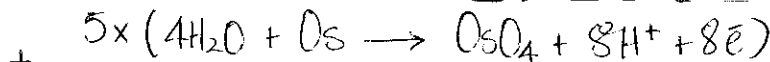


3) Balancing Redox Equations Using $\frac{1}{2}$ Rxn. Method

Example: $\text{Os} + \text{IO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{OsO}_4 + \text{I}_2$ (acid solution)

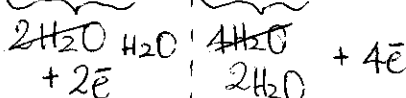
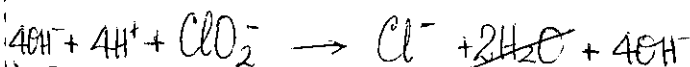
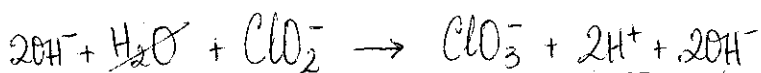
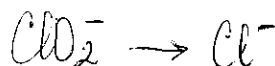


LCM of 8 & 10 = 40

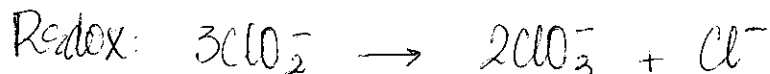
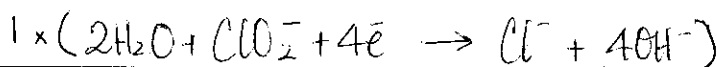
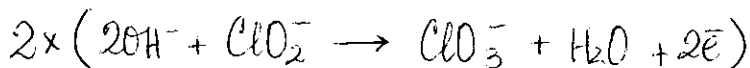


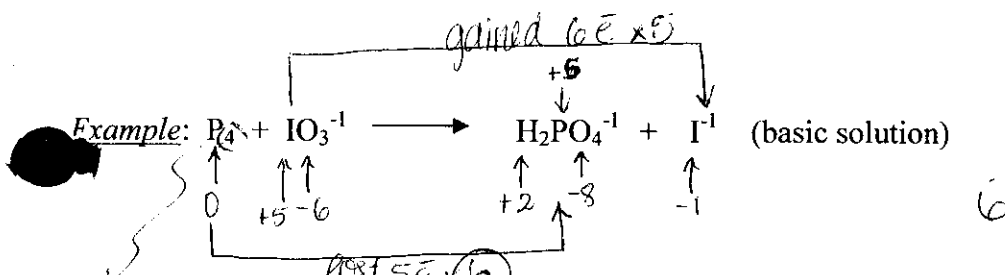
Example: $\text{ClO}_2^- \rightarrow \text{ClO}_3^- + \text{Cl}^-$ (basic solution)

Disproportionation Rxn.: a redox rxn. in which the same compound undergoes both oxidation and reduction.



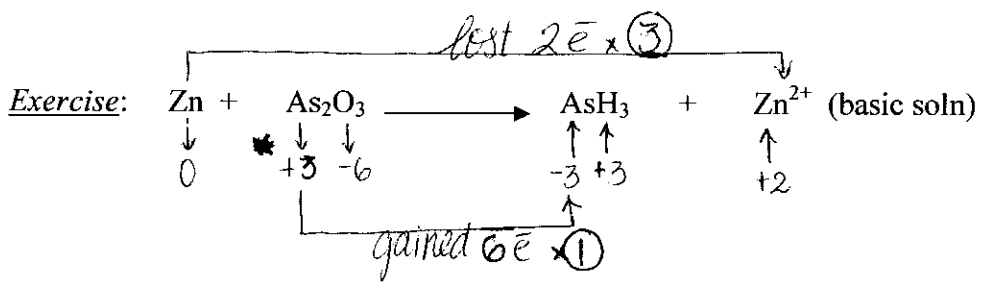
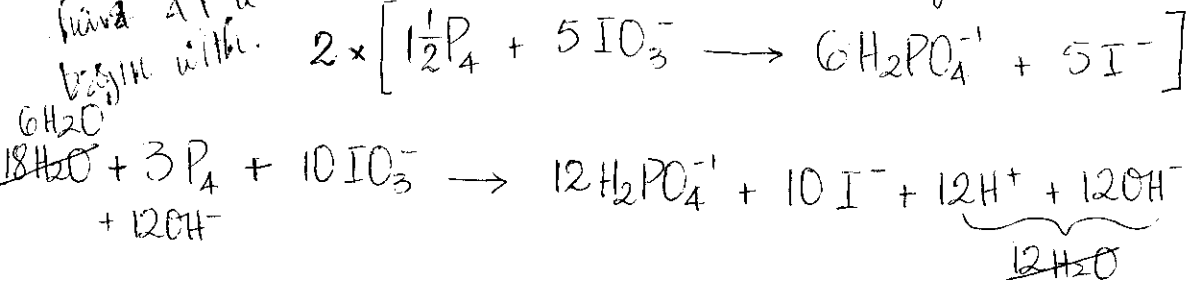
LCM of 2 & 4 = 4



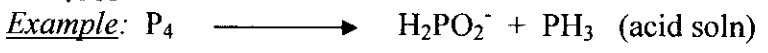
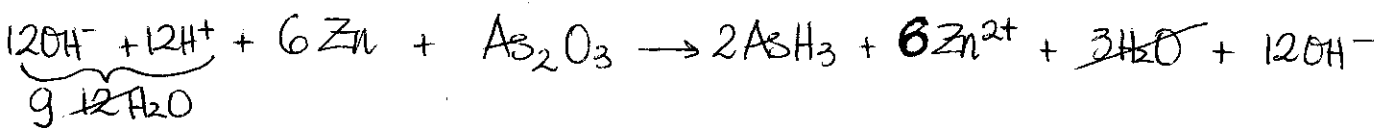
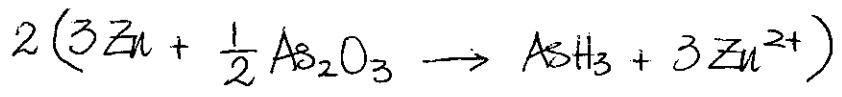


you already have 4 P to begin with.

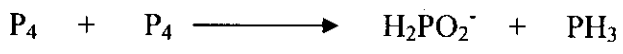
represents the total # of P atoms needed.



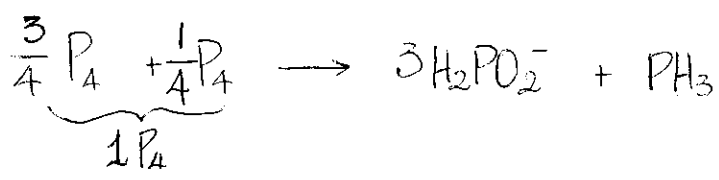
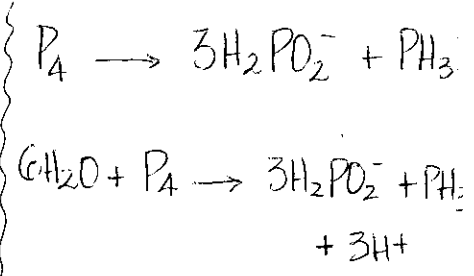
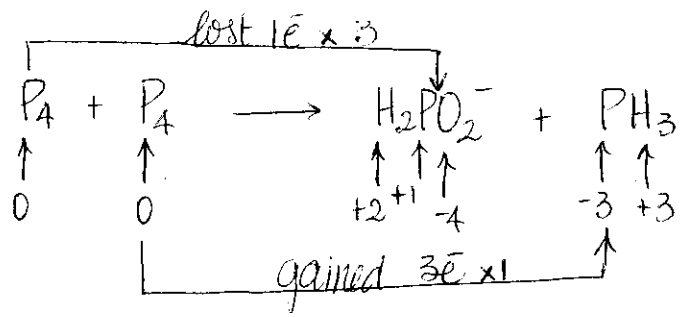
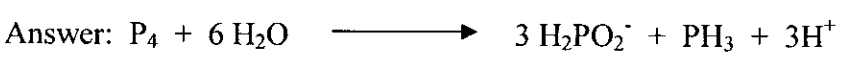
* Always look @ oxidation # for one atom.



1) Disproportionation Redox Rxn. Rewrite the equation:



2) All other steps follow the usual rules for assigning oxidation number and balancing.



V. Reduction Potential – Redox Reactions and Energy

- One of the most practical uses for electrochemical reactions is to harness the energy produced by the reaction in the form of electrons.

There are two types of redox reactions:

- Spontaneous reactions - those that proceed without external energetic help. These reactions produce electricity.
- Non-spontaneous reactions - Those that do **not** react spontaneously. These require energy in order to react.

A. Determining Whether a Reaction is Spontaneous:

- Redox rxns. which are spontaneous generate energy. This electricity is measured in volts.
- The greater the amount of voltage produced by a reaction, the more spontaneous that reaction is. (ie. The more (+) the E^0 is, the more spontaneous the reaction).

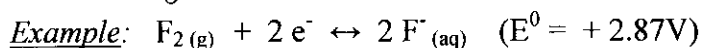
Standard Reduction Potential (E^0):

- All species are considered from the view point of its ability to be reduced.
- The reference species upon which all other species are compared to is the reduction of H^+ ion in solution.

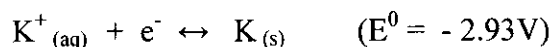


- Conditions of a *standard system*:
 - Each reacting specie is 1M in solution.
 - Temperature is 25°C.
 - Pressure is 1atm.

NOTE: The more willing a species is willing to be reduced against H_2 gas, (the stronger it is as an oxidizing agent), the more (+) the E^0 .



vs.



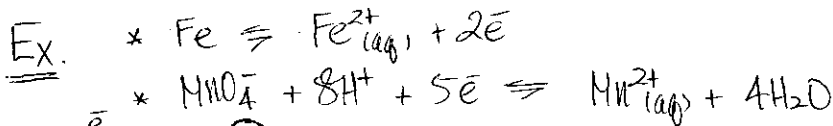
Example: Will 1M nitric acid dissolve gold metal to form 1M Au^{3+} ions in solution?



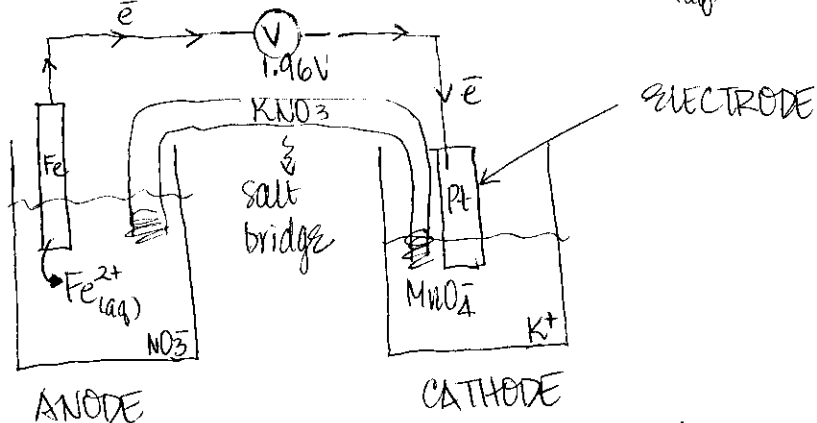
VI. Spontaneous Redox Reactions:

- Spontaneous reactions produce electrical energy to run objects.

Electrochemical Cells (Galvanic Cells or Voltaic Cells):



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E^\circ : 0.45\text{V} \\ E^\circ : 1.51\text{V} \end{array} \right\} E^\circ_{\text{total}} = 1.96\text{V}$$



* Mass of $\text{Fe}_{(s)}$ solid decreases over time.

* Excess Fe^{2+} are balanced out in charge by the NO_3^- from the salt bridge.

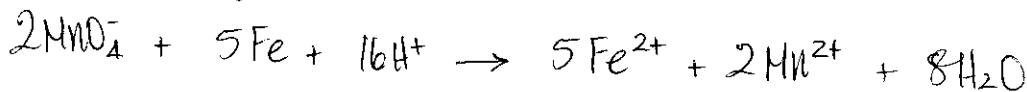
* Pt electrode is inert; its only job is to hold e^- for $\text{MnO}_4^-(\text{aq})$ to reduce onto.

Porous Disc/Salt Bridge: serves to absorb the ions in solution as oxidation or reduction takes place. The porous nature serves as the conduit to promote redox to occur.

Electrode: site for ions to reduce onto. The electrode may or may not be reactive.

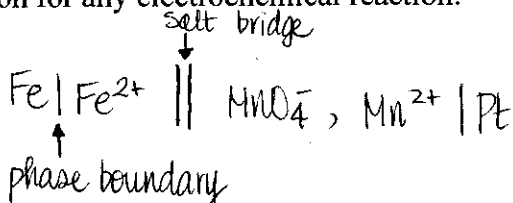
Anode: site of oxidation. e^- travels Away from anode.

Cathode: site of reduction.

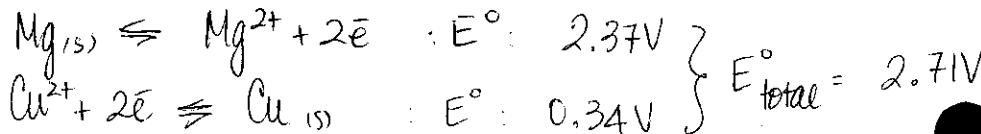
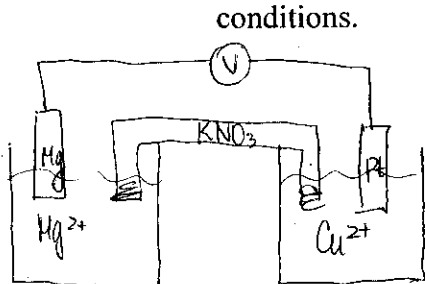


Line Notation:

- Short hand notation for any electrochemical reaction:

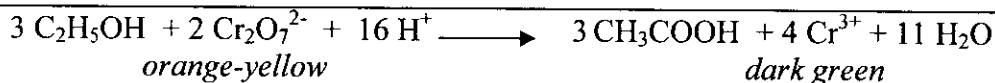


Example: Draw an electrochemical cell for the redox reaction between Mg and Cu^{2+} under standard conditions.



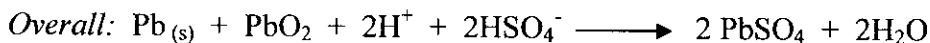
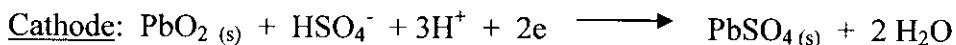
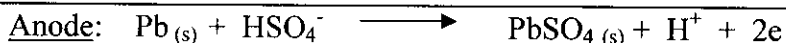
A. Applications of Electrochemical Cells:

1) The Breathalyzer:



- Blood vessels lie closely to the alveoli in the lungs.
- Exchange of alcohol vapours from the blood vessels to the lungs is easily accomplished.
- The higher the content of alcohol, the greener the breathalyzer instrument shows!

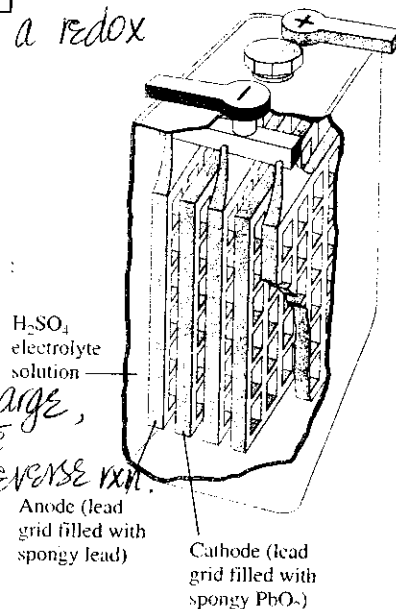
2) Car Batteries:



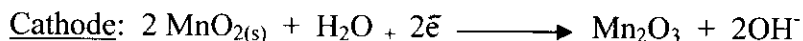
- Above rxn. occurs when battery is discharging - Spontaneously reacting to produce electrical energy.
- As rxn. proceeds, the solid PbSO₄ product starts to accumulate onto the 2 electrodes (Pb and PbO₂).
- To recharge the battery, an electrical source is applied to the battery, forcing e back onto the solid PbSO₄, thus forcing the rxn. in reverse.
- The battery still eventually dies because the PbSO₄ flakes off over time, falling into the acidic solution.

undergoing a redox rxn.

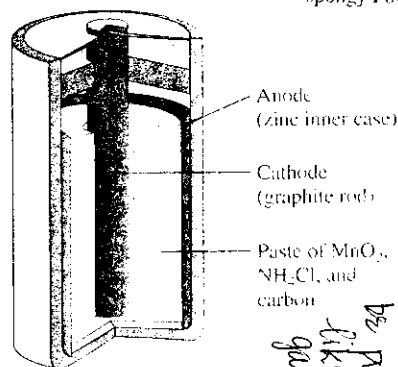
ALTERNATOR: generator that generates charge, providing e⁻ for the reverse rxn.



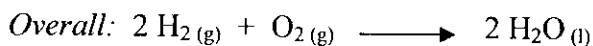
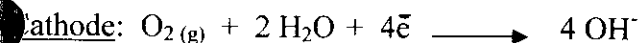
3) Alkaline Dry Cell (Duracel or Energizer):



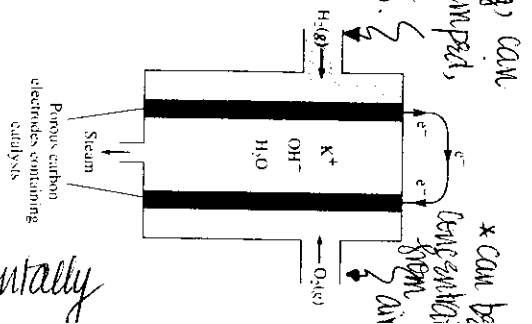
- Electrolyte (catalyst) is basic - therefore, alkaline name.
- Zn is the liner on the battery wall.
- MnO₂ is a paste that fills the battery's shell -
- Electrode for the MnO₂ is a **Carbon Rod** (Electrode is inert purposely, so that it doesn't react with Zn. Carbon's job is to house reduced electrons)



4) Fuel Cells:



** product is environmentally friendly*

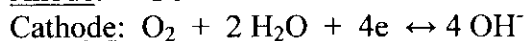
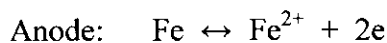


- The unique feature of a fuel cell is that the reactants for the anode and cathode (or the "fuels" of the rxn.) are continuously replenished.
- The rxn. is efficient and produces environmentally friendly by-products.
- This is why it is a popular choice for "fueling" the cars of the future.

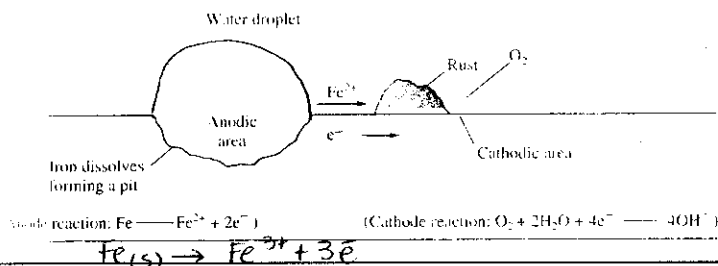
Redox in Nature: Corrosion

- Most metals do not exist in their natural states when found in nature. They exist as ores - The oxidized form of the metal.
- Almost all metals (except Al, Ag, Pt) are more oxidizable than O_2 and H_2O .

NOTE: "Rusting" only applies to Fe metal
Corrosion = oxidation of all metals.



- * Solid Fe will ionize in the presence of H_2O .
- * The oxidized Fe^{2+} will provide e^- for the reduction of $O_2(g)$.
- * The resulting reduction of O_2 to O^{2-} in H_2O creates $OH^-(aq)$.
- * The solid brown rust is $Fe(OH)_2(s)$.



Preventing Corrosion:

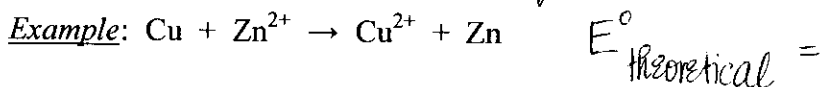
- 1) Galvanizing:** process of coating a metal with a top coat of a more reactive metal. The more reactive metal will oxidize first, leaving an oxidized top coat that prevents further corrosion. (Eg. Zn coated iron or Zn coated steel).
- 2) Alloying:** where more readily oxidized metals are mixed in with another metal. The mixture is meant to lower the reduction potential to near 0V. (Eg. Stainless steel has Fe and C in its mixture).
- 3) Cathodic Protection:** where a more oxidizable metal is "sacrificed" to be oxidized first, leaving the other metal protected.
 - * Galvanizing is a way of cathodically protecting a metal.

VII. Non-spontaneous Redox Reactions

- Reactions that require energy input in order to proceed.

Electrolytic Cells:

- Electrolysis:** the process of supplying electrical energy to induce a redox rxn. to happen.
Electro-potential is negative.

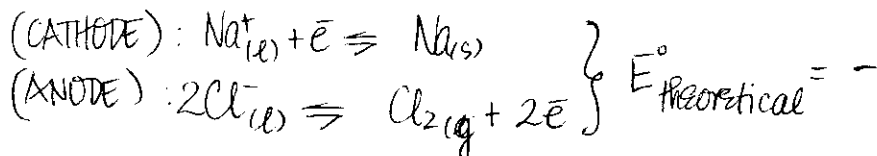
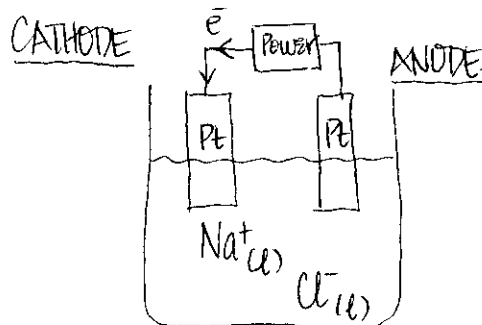


There are 3 types of electrolytic cells:

- Type 1:** (melted) molten salt.
Electrodes are inert.
- Type 2:** Aqueous solution.
Electrodes are inert.
- Type 3:** Aqueous solutions
Electrodes may be reactive.

a) Type 1:

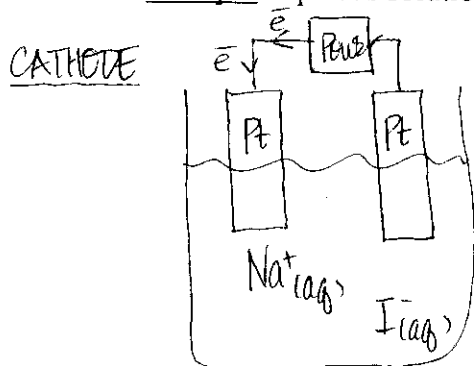
Example: molten NaCl and platinum electrodes



- No separation of reactants is required because we are not harnessing the \bar{e} as in a spontaneous rxn.
- No salt bridge required because no circuit is needed
Also, no balancing of excess ions are required.

b) Type 2:

Example: aqueous solution of NaI. Electrode is platinum.

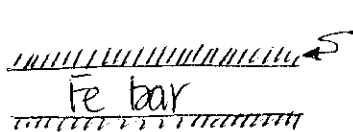


Possible Reactants: $\text{Na}^+_{(aq)}$, $\text{I}^-_{(aq)}$, $\text{H}_2\text{O}_{(l)}$

c) Type 3: Electroplating (Plating):

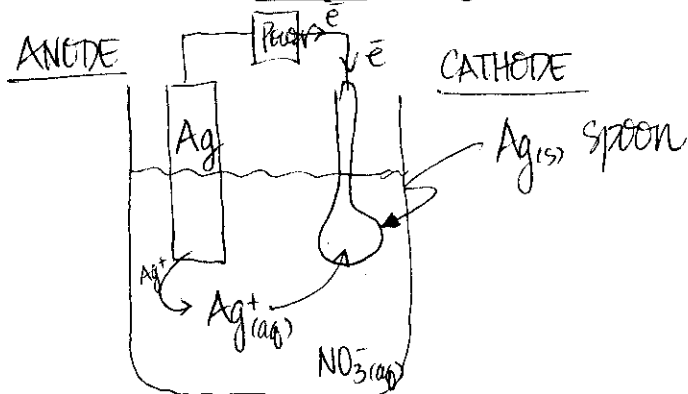
Method is used to force a metal to reduce onto another surface.

This method is used extensively in galvanizing. (Also in jewelry plating).

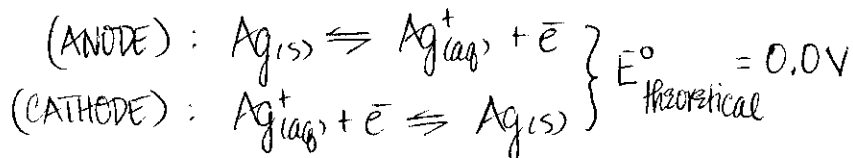


* Galvanizing process where we wish to force Zn^{2+} to reduce onto $Fe(s)$

Example: Plating more silver onto a tarnished silver spoon.



* Possible Reactants: $Ag^+(aq)$, $Ag(s)$, H_2O .



Other examples include making "tin" cans, "chrome" mags/rims.

A. Factors Affecting Yield in an Electrolytic Process:

1) The amount of electrons or charge flowing through the system. The more charge or e^- running through, the more reduction can occur.

Amount of charge is measured in Coulombs.

2) The charge on the ion. The more e^- needed for the redox reaction, the longer it will take for the reaction to be fully completed.



* Reduction of F_2 will take longer to occur than Ag^+ because reduction of F_2 requires $2e^-$.

3) Amount of time given for the electrolysis to occur.