## 6 – Electrochemistry

1] A spontaneous electrochemical cell would have which of the following?<sup>1</sup>

- a)  $E_{cell} = 0$
- b)  $E_{cell} > 0$
- c)  $E_{cell} < 0$
- d)  $E_{cell} \leq 0$
- e)  $E_{cell} \ge 0$

2] The purpose of a reference electrode is to \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>2</sup>

3] Which of the following species is the strongest reducing agent?<sup>3</sup>

 $A + e^{-} = A^{-}$  $E^{0} = 0.500$  Volts $A^{-} + e^{-} = A^{2-}$  $E^{0} = 0.000$  volts $A^{2-} + e^{-} = A^{3-}$  $E^{0} = -0.500$  volts

4] What is  $E^0$  for the following half reaction if  $E^0$  for <sup>4</sup>

 $Zn^{2+} + 2e^{-} = Zn(s)$  is -0.762 V?  $\frac{1}{2}Zn^{2+} + e^{-} = \frac{1}{2}Zn(s)$ 

5] What is E<sup>0</sup><sub>cell</sub> for the following reaction? <sup>5</sup>

 $2Na(s) + 2H^+ = 2Na^+ + H_2(g)$   $Na^+ + e^- = Na(s)$   $E^0 = -2.7143 V$  $2H^+ + 2e^- = H_2(g)$   $E^0 = 0.0000 V$ 

6] If A +  $e^{-}$  = B has  $E^{0}$  = 0.775 V then the  $E^{0}$  for 2A + 2 $e^{-}$  = 2B is . <sup>6</sup>

7] The reductions take place at which electrode?<sup>7</sup>

8] The standard cell potential for the following is <sup>8</sup>

 $\begin{aligned} & Fe(s)/Fe^{2+}(aq)//Sn^{2+}(aq)/Sn(s) \\ & Fe^{2+}+2e^-=Fe(s) \\ & Sn^{2+}+2e^-=Sn(s) \\ & E^0=-0.141 \ V \end{aligned}$ 

9] The  $E^0$  for the following is <sup>9</sup>

 $FeCO_3(s) + 2e^- = Fe(s) + CO_3^{2-}$  $E^0 = ?$  $Fe^{2+} + 2e^- = Fe(s)$  $E^0 = -0.44 V$  $K_{sp} \{FeCO_3(s)\} = 2.1e-11$ 

10] What is  $E_{cell}^0$  for the reaction below <sup>10</sup>

$$\begin{split} F_2 + 2Fe^{2+} &= 2F^- + 2Fe^{3+} \\ F_2 + 2e^- &= 2F^- & E^0_{red} &= 2.890 \text{ V} \\ Fe^{3+} + e^- &= Fe^{2+} & E^0_{red} &= 0.771 \text{ V} \end{split}$$

11] What is  $E^{0}_{cell}$  for the reaction below? <sup>11</sup> Hg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>(s) + 2e- = 2Hg(l) + SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> Hg<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> + 2e<sup>-</sup> = 2Hg(l)  $E^{0}_{red}$  = 0.796 V Hg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>(s) = Hg<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> + SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> K<sub>sp</sub> = 7.4e-7

12] What is the half reaction reduction potential for 1.00e-5 M H<sup>+</sup>?  $^{12}$ 

13] Which of the following species is the strongest reducing agent?<sup>13</sup>

| A+ + e- = A             | E <sup>0</sup> = 0.75 V  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| B + e- = B <sup>-</sup> | $E^0 = 0.25 V$           |
| $D^{2+} + e^- = D^+$    | E <sup>0</sup> = -0.50 V |

14] Calculate the standard state cell potential for the following. <sup>14</sup>  $Cu(s)/Cu^{2+}(aq)//K^{+}(aq)/K(s)$ 

15] What is the standard state reduction potential for the following reaction? <sup>15</sup>

 $AgBr(s) + e^{-} = Ag(s) + Br^{-}$   $Ag^{+} + e^{-} = Ag(s)$   $E^{0} = 0.799 V$  $AgBr(s) = Ag^{+} + Br^{-}$   $K_{sp} = 5.0e-13$ 

16] Calculate E<sub>cell</sub> and K for this reaction. Pt/Cr<sup>3+</sup>(2.00e-4M), Cr<sup>2+</sup>(1.00e-3M)//Pb<sup>2+</sup>(6.50e-2M)/Pb. <sup>16</sup>

17] What is E for the following if Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration is 0.50 M? <sup>17</sup> AgCl(s) +  $e^- = Ag(s) + Cl^ E^0 = 0.222 V$ 

18] Calculate  $E^0$  for <sup>18</sup> Ni(CN)<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>(aq) + 2e<sup>-</sup> = Ni(s) + 4 CN<sup>-</sup> Given Ni<sup>2+</sup> + 2e<sup>-</sup> = Ni(s)  $E^0$  = -0.250 V  $\beta$  {Ni(CN)<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>} = 1.0e22

19] What is the Ksp of AgCl given: <sup>19</sup>

 $Ag^+ + e^- = Ag(s)$  $E^0 = 0.799 V$  $AgCl(s) + e^- = Ag(s) + Cl^ E^0 = 0.222 V$ Note that 2.303RT/nF = 0.0592 V.

20] Calculate  $E_{cell}$  for Cd(s)/[CdCl<sub>2</sub>](aq) = 1.0 M//[AgNO<sub>3</sub>](aq) = 1.0 M/Ag(s) <sup>20</sup>

a] 1.201 V b] -1.201 V c] 0.566 V d] 0.997 V e] -0.566 V

21] Calculate the standard potential for the following half-reaction, given the  $K_{sp}$  for Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub> is 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup> and the standard potential for Pd<sup>2+</sup> + 2e<sup>-</sup> = Pd(s) is 0.915 V.<sup>21</sup>

 $Pd(OH)_2(s) + 2e^- = Pd(s) + 2OH$ 

22] Explain what  $E^{0}$  is and why is it preferred over  $E^{0}$  in biochemistry? <sup>22</sup>

23] Calculate  $E^{0'}$  for  $H_2C_2O_4 + 2H^+ + 2e^- = 2HCO_2H$   $E^0 = 0.204 V^{23}$ 

Answers

1 b

 $^2$  To provide a stable potential in which the electrode reaction can be compared to 2H\*(aq) + 2e- = H\_2(g) E^0 = 0.00 V

<sup>3</sup> A<sup>3-</sup>

4 -0.762 V

<sup>5</sup> E<sup>0</sup><sub>cell</sub> = 0.0000 – (-2.7143) V

<sup>6</sup> 0.775 V

<sup>7</sup> Cathode

<sup>8</sup> E = -0.141 –(-0.44) = 0.30 V

 $^{9}$  E = -0.44 – (0.0592/2) log 1/K<sub>sp</sub> = -0.756 V

<sup>10</sup> Ecell = Ecath – Eanod = 2.890 – 0.771 = **2.119 V** 

<sup>11</sup> E =  $0.796 - 0.0592/2 \log 1/[Hg_2^{2+}]$ 

 $K_{sp} = 7.4e-7 = [Hg_2^{2+}][SO_4^{2-}]$ 

 $[Hg_2^{2+}] = 7.4e-7/[SO_4^{2-}]$ 

E = 0.796 – 0.0592/2 log [SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>]/7.4e-7 = **0.615 V** 

 $^{12}$  E = E<sup>0</sup> – 0.0592 log 1/[H<sup>+</sup>] = 0.0000 – 0.0592 log 1/[1.00e-5] = -0.296 V

<sup>13</sup> D+

 $^{14}$  E<sub>cell</sub> = E<sub>cath</sub> – E<sub>anod</sub> = -2.936 – 0.339 = -3.275 V Use your book's table of standard reduction potentials.

<sup>15</sup> E = E<sup>0</sup>(Ag<sup>+</sup>/Ag) – 0.0592 log 1/[Ag<sup>+</sup>]  
Realize that 
$$K_{sp} = [Ag^+] [Br^-]$$
  
 $[Ag^+] = K_{sp} / [Br^-]$  sub into Nernst Eqn above  
 $E = E^0(Ag^+/Ag) - 0.0592 \log [Br^-]/K_{sp} let [Br^-] = 1$  for standard state conditions  
 $E^0 = 0.799 - 0.0592 \log 1/5.00e-13 = 0.0708 V$ 

<sup>16</sup> Pt/Cr<sup>3+</sup>(2.00e-4M), Cr<sup>2+</sup>(1.00e-3M)//Pb<sup>2+</sup>(6.50e-2M)/Pb

$$E_{cath} = -0.126 - (0.0592/2) \log 1/6.5e-2 = -0.161 V$$

 $E_{anod} = -0.408 - 0.0592 \log (1.00e-3/2.00e-4) = -0.449 V$ 

 $E_{cell} = -0.161 - (-0.449) = 0.288 V$ 

 $E^{0}_{cell} = -0.126 - (-0.408) = 0.282$ 

 $\Delta G^0 = -nFE^0 = -2*96484*0.282 = -5.44e4 J$ 

 $\Delta G^0$  = -RT lnK

 $\ln K = -\Delta G^0 / RT = -(-5.44e4 J) / 8.314 * 298K$ 

K = 3.43e9

 $^{17}$  E = E<sup>0</sup> - 0.0592 log [Cl<sup>-</sup>] = 0.222 - 0.0592 log (0.50) = 0.240 V

<sup>18</sup> E =  $-0.250 - (0.0592/2) \log 1/[Ni^{2+}]$ 

 $\beta \{Ni(CN)_4^-\} = 1.0e22 = [Ni(CN)_4^-] / [Ni^{2+}][CN^-]^4$ 

 $[CN^{-}]^{4}1.0e22/[Ni(CN)_{4}^{-}] = 1/[Ni^{2+}]$ 

 $E = -0.250 - (0.0592/2) \log \{ [CN^{-}]^{4} 1.0e22 / [Ni(CN)_{4}^{-}] \}$ 

 $E^0 = -0.250 - (0.0592/2) \log 1.0e22$ 

 $E^0 = -0.90 V$ 

<sup>19</sup> rxn: AgCl(s) = Ag<sup>+</sup> + Cl<sup>-</sup> add the following

 $Ag(s) = Ag^{+} + e^{-}$   $E^{0} = 0.799 V$ 

 $AgCl(s) + e - = Ag(s) + Cl^{-}$   $E^{0} = 0.222 V$ 

E<sub>cell</sub> = 0.222 – 0.799 V = -0.577 V

 $\Delta G = -RT \ln Ksp = -nFE$ 

Ksp = 10^(-0.577/0.0592) = 1.79e-10

<sup>20</sup> Anode: Cd = Cd<sup>2+</sup> + 2e-  $E^0$  = -0.402 V

Cathode  $Ag^+ + e^- = Ag(s)$   $E^0 = 0.799 V$ 

All at 1M concentration

 $E_{cell} = E_{cell}^{0} = E_{cath} - E_{anod} = 0.799 - (-0.402) V = 1.201 V$ 

<sup>21</sup> E =  $E^{0}_{Pd2+/Pd}$  - (0.0592 / 2) log 1 / [Pd<sup>2+</sup>] K<sub>sp</sub> = 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup> = [Pd<sup>2+</sup>][OH<sup>-</sup>]<sup>2</sup> [Pd<sup>2+</sup>] = 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup> / [OH<sup>-</sup>]<sup>2</sup> Standard potential conditions [OH<sup>-</sup>] = 1.0 M [Pd<sup>2+</sup>] = 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup> E =  $E^{0}_{Pd2+/Pd}$  - (0.0592 / 2) log 1 / 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup> E = 0.915 V - (0.0592 / 2) log 1 / 3.0 x 10<sup>-28</sup>

 $E^{0}_{Pd(OH-)2/Pd} = -0.100 V$ 

 $^{22}\,\text{E}^{0\prime}$  is the conditional from of  $\text{E}^0$  where it is assumed that the pH is 7 rather than 0. See discussion in text

 $^{23}$  H<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> is oxalic acid and HCO<sub>2</sub>H is formic acid.

$$E = E^{0} - \frac{0.0592}{n} \log Q$$
$$E = 0.204 - \frac{0.0592}{2} \log \frac{[HCO_{2}H]^{2}}{[H^{+}]^{2}[H_{2}C_{2}O_{4}]}$$

#1 assume pH 7 and all else 1 M

First method is an approximation:

$$E^{0} = 0.204 - \frac{0.0592}{2} \log \frac{1}{[10^{-7}]^2} = -0.210V$$

We must consider that the  $[HCO_2H]$  and the  $[H_2C_2O_4]$  are involved in hydrolysis reactions. The relative concentrations of each are described as:

$$\alpha_{HCO_{2}H} = \frac{[HCO_{2}H]}{F_{HCO_{2}H}} = \frac{[H^{+}]}{K_{a} + [H^{+}]} \qquad [HCO_{2}H] = \frac{[H^{+}]F_{HCO_{2}H}}{K_{a} + [H^{+}]}$$
$$[H_{2}C_{2}O_{4}] = \frac{[H^{+}]^{2}F_{H_{2}C_{2}O_{4}}}{K_{a1}K_{a2} + K_{a1}[H^{+}] + [H^{+}]^{2}}$$

#1 now becomes

$$E = 0.204 - \frac{0.0592}{2} \log \frac{\left(\frac{[H^+]F_{HCO_2H}}{K_a + [H^+]}\right)^2}{[H^+]^2 \left(\frac{[H^+]^2 F_{H_2C_2O_4}}{K_{a1}K_{a2} + K_{a1}[H^+] + [H^+]^2}\right)}$$

 $[H^+]$  = 1e7 exact, K<sub>a</sub> = 1.80e-4, K<sub>a1</sub> = 5.60e-2, K<sub>a2</sub> = 5.42e-5, F = 1 M exact

E<sup>0</sup>' = -0.268 V