

### 13. ELECTROLYTIC CELLS

These problems are intended to *supplement* the problems in the textbook, not *replace* them.

$E^\circ$ (V)	Half-Cell Reaction
+0.799	$\text{Ag}^+(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Ag}(s)$
+0.095	$\text{AgBr}(s) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Ag}(s) + \text{Br}^-(aq)$
-1.66	$\text{Al}^{3+}(aq) + 3e^- \rightarrow \text{Al}(s)$
+1.42	$\text{Au}^{3+}(aq) + 3e^- \rightarrow \text{Au}(s)$
-2.90	$\text{Ba}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Ba}(s)$
+1.065	$\text{Br}_2(l) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2\text{Br}^-(aq)$
+1.52	$2\text{BrO}_3^-(aq) + 12\text{H}^+(aq) + 10e^- \rightarrow \text{Br}_2(l) + 6\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
-0.403	$\text{Cd}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Cd}(s)$
+1.359	$\text{Cl}_2(g) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2\text{Cl}^-(aq)$
-0.277	$\text{Co}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Co}(s)$
+1.842	$\text{Co}^{3+}(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Co}^{2+}(aq)$
-0.74	$\text{Cr}^{3+}(aq) + 3e^- \rightarrow \text{Cr}(s)$
+1.33	$\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(aq) + 14\text{H}^+(aq) + 6e^- \rightarrow 2\text{Cr}^{3+}(aq) + 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
+0.337	$\text{Cu}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Cu}(s)$
+0.153	$\text{Cu}^{2+}(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Cu}^+(aq)$
+2.87	$\text{F}_2(g) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2\text{F}^-(aq)$
-0.440	$\text{Fe}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Fe}(s)$
+0.771	$\text{Fe}^{3+}(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}(aq)$
0.000	$2\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2(g)$
-0.83	$2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2(g) + 2\text{OH}^-(aq)$
+0.88	$\text{HO}_2^-(aq) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 2e^- \rightarrow 3\text{OH}^-(aq)$
+1.776	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2(aq) + 2\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
+0.536	$\text{I}_2(s) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2\text{I}^-(aq)$

$E^\circ$ (V)	Half-Cell Reaction
-3.05	$\text{Li}^+(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Li}(s)$
-2.37	$\text{Mg}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Mg}(s)$
-1.18	$\text{Mn}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}(s)$
+1.51	$\text{Mn}^{3+}(aq) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(aq)$
+1.23	$\text{MnO}_2(s) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(aq) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
+1.695	$\text{MnO}_4^-(aq) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 3e^- \rightarrow \text{MnO}_2(s) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
+1.51	$\text{MnO}_4^-(aq) + 8\text{H}^+(aq) + 5e^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}(aq) + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
-1.16	$\text{N}_2(g) + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 4e^- \rightarrow \text{N}_2\text{H}_4(aq) + 4\text{OH}^-(aq)$
+0.96	$\text{NO}_3^-(aq) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 3e^- \rightarrow \text{NO}(g) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
-0.28	$\text{Ni}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Ni}(s)$
+0.49	$\text{NiO}_2(s) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{OH})_2(s) + 2\text{OH}^-(aq)$
+1.23	$\text{O}_2(g) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 4e^- \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
+2.07	$\text{O}_3(g) + 2\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{O}_2(g) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
-0.126	$\text{Pb}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Pb}(s)$
+1.46	$\text{PbO}_2(s) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Pb}^{2+}(aq) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
+0.25	$\text{PbO}_2(s) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{PbO}(s) + 2\text{OH}^-(aq)$
+1.685	$\text{PbO}_2(s) + \text{HSO}_4^-(aq) + 3\text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{PbSO}_4(s) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
-0.356	$\text{PbSO}_4(s) + \text{H}^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Pb}(s) + \text{HSO}_4^-(aq)$
+1.20	$\text{Pt}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Pt}(s)$
-0.136	$\text{Sn}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Sn}(s)$
+0.45	$\text{SO}_2(aq) + 4\text{H}^+(aq) + 4e^- \rightarrow \text{S}(s) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$
-1.18	$\text{V}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{V}(s)$
-0.763	$\text{Zn}^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Zn}(s)$

#### Questions

For each of the following electrolytic cells...

- Determine the most likely anode half-reaction.
- Determine the most likely cathode half-reaction.
- Calculate  $E^\circ_{\text{cell}}$ .

- molten  $\text{BaBr}_2$  with two inert electrodes
- molten  $\text{LiF}$  with two inert electrodes
- molten  $\text{CuCl}_2$  with two inert electrodes
- aqueous  $\text{CoF}_2$  with two inert electrodes
- aqueous  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  in acidic solution with two inert electrodes
- aqueous  $\text{FeCl}_2$  in basic solution with one copper electrode and one inert electrode
- aqueous  $\text{MnI}_2$  in acidic solution with one  $\text{NiO}_2$  electrode and one inert electrode
- aqueous  $\text{AgNO}_3$  in acidic solution with one gold electrode and one platinum electrode

**Answer the following questions.**

9. a. Calculate the mass of magnesium formed by electrolysis of molten  $\text{MgCl}_2$  by a current of  $7.6 \times 10^3$  A flowing for 24 hours. Assume the electrolytic cell is 85% efficient.
- b. What is the energy requirement for this electrolysis if the applied emf is 2.80 V? Express the answer in terms of kilowatt-hour per kg of magnesium formed.
10. a. Calculate the mass of aluminum formed by electrolysis of molten  $\text{AlF}_3$  by a current of  $5.95 \times 10^5$  A flowing for 15.5 hours. Assume the electrolytic cell is 75.0% efficient.
- b. What is the energy requirement for this electrolysis if the applied emf is 2.25 V? Express the answer in terms of kilowatt-hour per kg of aluminum formed.
11. a. Calculate the mass of nickel formed by electrolysis of molten  $\text{NiBr}_2$  by a current of  $6.8 \times 10^4$  A flowing for 18 hours. Assume the electrolytic cell is 80.0% efficient.
- b. What is the energy requirement for this electrolysis if the applied emf is 0.50 V? Express the answer in terms of kilowatt-hour per kg of nickel formed.
12. A  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  solution is electrolyzed in a cell with 80.0% efficiency.
- a. If the current is 155 A, then what mass of lead is plated out after 4.00 days?
- b. What current is required to plate out 1.00 pound of lead in 24.0 hours?
13. A  $\text{Cl}^-$  solution is electrolyzed in a cell with 70.0% efficiency.
- a. If the current is 17.5 A, then after 2.00 hours what volume of chlorine gas is collected at STP?
- b. What current is required to produce 5.00 L of chlorine gas at STP in 90.0 minutes?
14. Calcium metal can be obtained by the electrolysis of molten  $\text{CaCl}_2$  at a voltage of 3.2 V.
- a. How many joules of electrical energy are required to obtain 12.0 pounds of calcium? Assume 95% efficiency.
- b. What is the cost of this energy at a rate of 12.5¢ per kilowatt-hour?
15. Lithium metal can be obtained by the electrolysis of molten  $\text{LiCl}$  at a voltage of 4.5 V.
- a. How many joules of electrical energy are required to obtain 1 metric ton of lithium? Assume 80% efficiency.
- b. What is the cost of this energy at a rate of 12.5¢ per kilowatt-hour?
16. A solution containing iron ions was electrolyzed with a 0.75 A current for 30.0 minutes and 0.3906 g of iron was deposited on the cathode. What was the charge on the iron ion? Assume 100% efficiency.

**Answers**

If you cannot figure out how to get the correct answer, go to your instructor, Science Tutoring Center, etc.  
The Faraday constant was taken to be 96,485 C/mol.

1. a.  $2 \text{Br}^-(l) \rightarrow \text{Br}_2(l) + 2 e^-$                       b.  $\text{Ba}^{2+}(l) + 2 e^- \rightarrow \text{Ba}(l)$                       c. -3.97 V
2. a.  $2 \text{F}^-(l) \rightarrow \text{F}_2(g) + 2 e^-$                       b.  $\text{Li}^+(l) + e^- \rightarrow \text{Li}(l)$                       c. -5.92 V

3. a.  $2 \text{Cl}^-(l) \rightarrow \text{Cl}_2(g) + 2 e^-$                       b.  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(l) + 2 e^- \rightarrow \text{Cu}(l)$                       c.  $-1.022 \text{ V}$
4. a.  $2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightarrow \text{O}_2(g) + 4 \text{H}^+(aq) + 4 e^-$     b.  $\text{Co}^{2+}(aq) + 2 e^- \rightarrow \text{Co}(s)$                       c.  $-1.51 \text{ V}$
5. a.  $2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightarrow \text{O}_2(g) + 4 \text{H}^+(aq) + 4 e^-$   
 b.  $\text{NO}_3^-(aq) + 4 \text{H}^+(aq) + 3 e^- \rightarrow \text{NO}(g) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$   
 c.  $-0.27 \text{ V}$
6. a.  $\text{Cu}(s) \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{2+}(aq) + 2 e^-$                       b.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}(aq) + 2 e^- \rightarrow \text{Fe}(s)$                       c.  $-0.777 \text{ V}$
7. a.  $2 \text{I}^-(aq) \rightarrow \text{I}_2(s) + 2 e^-$   
 b.  $\text{NiO}_2(s) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) + 2 e^- \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{OH})_2(s) + 2 \text{OH}^-(aq)$   
 c.  $-0.05 \text{ V}$
8. a.  $\text{Pt}(s) \rightarrow \text{Pt}^{2+}(aq) + 2 e^-$   
 b.  $\text{NO}_3^-(aq) + 4 \text{H}^+(aq) + 3 e^- \rightarrow \text{NO}(g) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$   
 c.  $-0.24 \text{ V}$
9. a.  $7.0 \times 10^4 \text{ g}$     b.  $7.3 \text{ kwh per kg Mg}$
10. a.  $2.32 \times 10^6 \text{ g Al}$                                       b.  $8.94 \text{ kwh per kg Al}$
11. a.  $1.1 \times 10^6 \text{ g Ni}$                                       b.  $0.56 \text{ kwh per kg Ni}$
12. a.  $4.60 \times 10^4 \text{ g Pb}$                                       b.  $6.11 \text{ A}$
13. a.  $10.2 \text{ L Cl}_2 \text{ at STP}$                                       b.  $11.4 \text{ A}$
14. a.  $8.8 \times 10^7 \text{ J}$     b.  $\$3.1$
15. a.  $7.8 \times 10^{10} \text{ J}$     b.  $\$2700$
16.  $+2$