CH 302 Spring 2008 Worksheet 10b: More Advanced Electrochemistry Problems

1. (a) Calculate the mass of copper metal produced at the cathode during the passage of 2.50 amps of current through a solution of copper (II) sulfate for 50.0 minutes.

 $\begin{array}{rcl} Cu^{2^+} &+& 2e^- &\to & Cu & (reduction/cathode) \\ 1 \ mol && 2(6.02 \ x \ 10^{23})e^- \ 1 \ mol & \\ 63.5 \ g && 2(9.65 \ x \ 10^4 C) && 63.5g \\ 50.0 \ min \ x \ (60s/1 \ min) \ x \ (2.50 C/s) = 7.50 \ x \ 10^3 C \\ 7.50 \ x \ 10^3 C \ x \ (1 \ mol \ e^-/9.65 \ x \ 10^4 C) \ x \ (63.5 \ g \ Cu/2 \ mol \ e^-) = 2.47 \ g \ Cu \\ \end{array}$

(b) What volume of oxygen gas (measured at STP) is produced by the oxidation of water at the anode in the electrolysis of copper(II) sulfate in part (a)?

2. What is the E° for the following electrochemical cell where Zn is the cathode? Zn | Zn²⁺ (1.0 M) || Fe²⁺ (1.0 M) | Fe E° (Zn) = -0.76 E° (Fe) = -0.44 $E_{cell} = E^{\circ}_{cathode} - E^{\circ}_{anode} = -0.76 - (-0.44) = -0.32$

3. For the electrolysis of molten sodium bromide, write the two half-reactions and show write which electrode at which each occurs (cathode or anode).

Two half-reactions: $Na^+ + 1e^- \rightarrow Na$ and $2Br^- \rightarrow Br_2 + 2e^-$ Oxidation occurs at the anode, so the $2Br^- \rightarrow Br_2 + 2e^-$ reaction is at the anode, and Reduction occurs at the cathode, so $Na^+ + 1e^- \rightarrow Na$ is at the cathode.

4. Calulate the potential, *E*, for the Fe³⁺/ Fe²⁺ electrode when the concentration of Fe²⁺ is exactly five times that of Fe³⁺.

$$Fe^{3^+} + e^- \rightarrow Fe^{2^+}$$

 $E^\circ = +0.771 V$
 $Q = [Red]^{y}/[Ox]^x = [Fe^{2^+}]/[Fe^{3^+}] = 5[Fe^{3^+}]/[Fe^{3^+}] = 5$
 $E = E^\circ - 0.0592/n^*logQ = +0.771 - 0.0592/1^*log5 = (0.771-0.041)V = 0.730 V$

5. At standard conditions, will chromium (III) ions, Cr^{3+} , oxidize metallic copper to copper (II) ions, Cu^{2+} , or will Cu^{2+} ozidize metallic chromium to Cr^{3+} ions? Write the cell reaction and calculate E°_{cell} for the spontaneous reaction.

 $Cu^{2^{+}} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Cu \qquad E^{\circ} = 0.337$ $Cr^{3^{+}} + 3e^{-} \rightarrow Cr \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.74$ $\frac{E^{\circ}}{3(Cu^{2^{+}} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Cu)} \qquad +0.337 V$ $\frac{2(Cr \rightarrow Cr^{3^{+}} + 3e^{-})}{2Cr + 3 Cu^{2^{+}} \rightarrow 2Cr^{3^{+}} + 3Cu} \qquad E^{\circ}_{cell} = 1.08 V$ $Cu^{2^{+}} \text{ ions spontaneously oxidize metallic } Cr \text{ to } Cr^{3^{+}} \text{ ions and are reduced to metallic}$

Cu²⁺ ions spontaneously oxidize metallic Cr to Cr³⁺ ions and are reduced to metallic Cu.

6. In an acidic solution at standard conditions, will tin(IV) ions, Sn^{4+} , oxidize gaseous nitrogen oxide, NO, to nitrate ions, NO₃⁻, or will NO₃⁻ ozidize Sn²⁺ to Sn⁴⁺ ions? Write the cell reaction and calculate E°_{cell} for the spontaneous reaction.

 $Sn^{4+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Sn^{2+}$ $NO_{3}^{-} + 4H^{+} + 3e^{-} \rightarrow NO + 2H_{2}O$ $E^{\circ} = +0.15$ $E^{\circ} = +0.96$ E°

 $\begin{array}{ll} 2(\mathrm{NO_3}^- + 4\mathrm{H}^+ + 3\mathrm{e}^- \rightarrow \mathrm{NO} + 2\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}) & +0.96\mathrm{V} \\ \underline{3(\mathrm{Sn}^{2+} \rightarrow \mathrm{Sn}^{4+} + 2\mathrm{e}^-)} & -0.15\mathrm{V} \\ 2\mathrm{NO_3}^- + 8\mathrm{H}^+ + 3\mathrm{Sn}^{2+} \rightarrow 3\mathrm{Sn}^{4+} + 4\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O} + 2\mathrm{NO} & E^\circ_{\mathrm{cell}} = +0.81\mathrm{V} \\ \mathrm{Nitrate\ ions\ spontaneously\ oxidize\ tin(\mathrm{II})\ ions\ to\ tin(\mathrm{IV})\ ions\ and\ are\ reduced\ to\ nitrogen\ oxide\ in\ acidic\ solution.} \end{array}$

7. Calculate the Gibbs free energy change, ΔG° , in J/mol at 25°C for the following reaction:

 $3 \operatorname{Sn}^{4+} + 2\operatorname{Cr} \to 3\operatorname{Sn}^{2+} + 2\operatorname{Cr}^{3+}$ $\operatorname{Sn}^{4+} + 2e^{-} \to \operatorname{Sn}^{2+} E^{\circ} = +0.15 \qquad \operatorname{Cr}^{3+} + 3e^{-} \to \operatorname{Cr} E^{\circ} = -0.74$ E° $3(\operatorname{Sn}^{4+} + 2e^{-} \to \operatorname{Sn}^{2+}) \qquad +0.15V$ $2(\operatorname{Cr} \to \operatorname{Cr}^{3+} + 3e^{-}) \qquad -(-0.74V)$ $3\operatorname{Sn}^{4+} + 2\operatorname{Cr} \to 3\operatorname{Sn}^{2+} + 2\operatorname{Cr}^{3+} \qquad E^{\circ}_{cell} = 0.89V$ $\Delta G^{\circ} = -nF E^{\circ}_{cell} = -(6 \text{ mol } e^{-}/\text{mol } rxn)(9.65x \ 10^{4} \text{ J/V.mol } e^{-})(+0.89V)$ $= -5.2 \ x \ 10^{5} \text{ J/mol } rxn$

8. Use the standard cell potential to calculate the value of the equilibrium constant, K, at 25°C for the following reaction.

 $2Cu + PtCl_{6}^{2-} \rightarrow 2Cu^{+} + PtCl_{4}^{2-} + Cl^{-}$ $Cu^{+} + e^{-} \rightarrow Cu; \ E^{\circ} = 0.521V \text{ and } PtCl_{6}^{2-} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow PtCl_{4}^{2-} + 2Cl^{-}; \ E^{\circ} = +0.68V$ E° $2(Cu \rightarrow Cu^{+} + e^{-}) - (+0.521V)$ $PtCl_{6}^{2-} + 2Cu \rightarrow PtCl_{4}^{2-} + 2Cl^{-} + 0.68V$ $PtCl_{6}^{2-} + 2Cu \rightarrow PtCl_{4}^{2-} + 2Cl^{-} + 2Cu^{+} E^{\circ}_{cell} = +0.16V$ $InK = -nF E^{\circ}_{cell}/RT = (2)(9.65x \ 10^{4} \text{ J/V.mol } e^{-})(0.16V)/(8.314\text{ J/mol.K})(298\text{ K}) = 12.5$ $K = e^{12.5} = 2.7 \ x \ 10^{5}$ 9. The following cell is maintained at 25°C. One half-cell consists of a

chlorine/chloride, Cl₂/Cl⁻, electrode with the partial pressure of Cl₂= 0.100 atm and [Cl-] = 0.100 M. The other half-cell involves the MnO_4^{-}/Mn^{2+} couple in acidic solution with $[MnO_{4^-}] = 0.100 \text{ M}$, $[Mn^{2^+}] = 0.100 \text{ M}$, and $[H^+] = 0.100 \text{ M}$. Apply the Nernst equation to the overall cell reaction to determine the cell potential for this cell.