T OPIC 11: ELECTROCHEMISTRY, PART B, **EXAMPLES, PART II** Day 126:

Voltaic Cells (Galvanic Cells)

Answer the following questions using the data from the Standard Reduction Potentials at 25°C.

a) Is Ni^{+2} (aq) capable of oxidizing Sr (s) to Sr^{+2} (aq), explain why.

b) Is $I^{-1}(aq)$ capable of reducing $Ag^{+1}(aq)$ to Ag(s), explain why. (recall, these reactions are NOT occurring in the same "container" (or chamber) – this is simply an exchange of electrons from one container to another - THIS IS NOT a single replacement reaction!

Yes, E^0 (for the reaction) has a positive value. When E^0 is positive, ΔG is negative (spontaneous). Don't get "worked up" that we have a metal with a non-metal. This is not a single replacement reaction -2 chambers!

2. In a galvanic cell the concentration of Sn^{+2} is changed from 1.0 M to a 0.33 M, and the concentration of Al^{+3} is changed from 1.0 M to a 0.47 M. Temperature is at 25°C.

First predict the oxidizing agent and the reducing agent for the spontaneous reaction in the cell. After that determine the anode and cathode for the galvanic cell.

$$2 (Al \rightarrow Al^{+3} + 3 e^{-1})$$
 $(+1.66 V)$ Oxidized, Reducing Agent
 $3 (Sn^{+2} + 2 e^{-1} \rightarrow Sn)$ $(-0.14 V)$ Reduced, Oxidizing Agent
 $+1.52 V$

The above half-reactions give the "Best" Voltage

b) Calculate the cell potential for the galvanic cell at *standard conditions* (use the Nernst Equation) Know STANDARD CONDITIONS: 25°C and the solutions begins at 1.0 molar!!!

@ 25
0
C: $E_{cell} = E_{cell}^{0} - \frac{0.0592 \text{ V}}{n} \log Q$; $Q = \frac{\left[Al^{+3}\right]^{2}}{\left[Sn^{+2}\right]^{3}}$

$$E_{cell} = (+1.52 V) - \left(\frac{0.0592 V}{(6)} \log \left(\frac{(1)^2}{(1)^3}\right)\right) = +1.52 V$$
; (Recall, $log \ 1 = 0$)

$$E_{cell} = +1.80 V - (0) = +1.80 V$$

b) Calculate the cell potential for the galvanic cell under the new concentrations (changed concentrations).

$$E_{cell} = (+1.52 V) - \left(\frac{0.0592 V}{(6)} \log \left(\frac{(0.47)^2}{(0.33)^3}\right)\right)$$

$$E_{cell} = (+1.52 V) - 0.07781 V = +1.51 V$$