## LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034



#### M.Sc. DEGREE EXAMINATION - CHEMISTRY

#### FOURTH SEMESTER - APRIL 2022

### PCH 4502 - ELECTROCHEMISTRY

Date: 17-06-2022	Dept. No.	Max. : 100 Marks
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# Time: 01:00 PM - 04:00 PM

### PART A

### Answer ALL questions.

 $10 \times 2 = 20 \text{ marks}$ 

- 1. Calculate the thickness of the ionic atmosphere for 0.1 M BaCl<sub>2</sub> solution in water at 298 K (The dielectric constant of water is 78.5).
- 2. Define the term solvation number.
- 3. What is a non-polarizable interface? Give an example.
- 4. What is sedimentation potential?
- 5. Prove that electrochemical reactions follow zero order kinetics.
- 6. Mention the condition for an electrode to show rectification behavior.
- 7. Write the Nernst equation as a function of pH for the following redox equilibrium

$$4H^+ + O_2 + 4e^- \rightleftharpoons 2H_2O$$
.

- 8. What is breakdown potential? Mention its significance?
- 9. How is the EMF of a battery influenced by the redox equilibrium?
- 10. How is the migration current eliminated in polarography?

#### **PART B**

## Answer ANY EIGHT questions.

 $8 \times 5 = 40 \text{ marks}$ 

- 11. How are ion-ion interactions correlated with activity co-efficient of a species? Mention the limitations of Debye-Hückel limiting law.
- 12. Write the expression to calculate hydration number of water using mobility method. For an electrical field of 0.05 Vm<sup>-1</sup> in an electrolytic solution, a drift velocity of 2 x 10<sup>9</sup> ms<sup>-1</sup> is observed for an ion. Calculate the absolute velocity.
- 13. Calculate the  $\Delta G^{o}$  and equilibrium constant for the cell at 298 K:

Pt | 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $I_2$  ||  $\mathrm{Fe}^{2^+}$ ,  $\mathrm{Fe}^{3^+}$ | Pt.  $E^0_{Fe^{3^+}/Fe^{2^+}} = 0.769 \ V$  ,  $E^0_{I_2/I^-} = 0.534 \ V$ 

- 14. Discuss the merits and demerits of a parallel-plate condenser model of a double layer.
- 15. Draw the Lippmann capillary electrometer and electrocapillary curve for  $q_m$  vs V. Mention their significances.
- 16. Discuss the modification of the Butler-Volmer equation at zero over potential.
- 17. The exchange current density of a certain electrode and its anodic symmetry factor are 0.80 m A cm<sup>-2</sup> and 0.504, respectively. Calculate the net current density at an over potential of -200mV.
- 18. Derive an expression for the anodic current density in a multistep electrochemical reaction.
- 19. Predict the values of anodic and cathodic transfer coefficients for the evolution of hydrogen in acidic solution having the following mechanism.

$$2M + 2e^{-} + 2H_3O^{+} \rightleftharpoons 2MH + 2H_2O \text{ (slow)}$$
  
 $2MH \rightleftharpoons 2M + H_2 \text{ (fast)}$ 

- 20. The Tafel equation for the evolution of oxygen in acidic medium was found to be  $i = i_0 e^{\frac{2(1-\beta)\eta F}{RT}}$ . Calculate the value of the slope for the plot of  $\eta$  vs log i (Given:  $\beta = \frac{1}{4}$ ).
- 21. What is over voltage? Explain phase and concentration over voltage.
- 22. How is polarography helpful in determining the stability of a complex.

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### **PART C**

### Answer ANY FOUR questions.

 $4 \times 10 = 40 \text{ marks}$ 

- 23. Derive the Debye-Hückel-Onsager equation for an uni-univalent electrolyte. Mention the limitations of this equation.
- 24. (a) Derive an expression for an electro-osmotic mobility.
  - (b) Explain the salient features of the Stern model of electrified interface.
- 25. (a) 2 molal NaCl solution in water has elevation in boiling point of 1.88 K. If K<sub>b</sub> for water is 0.52 K kg/mol, calculate the van't Hoff factor and degree of dissociation for NaCl.
  - (b) How will you discuss the kinetics of corrosion in different regions of the Pourbaix diagram of a metal?
- 26. (a) Explain the conditions for an electrochemical system to register equal and inequal currents anodically and cathodically.(6)
  - (b) The equilibrium constant for the reaction  $X + ne^- \rightleftharpoons Y$  is  $5.8 \times 10^{20}$  at 298 K. The equilibrium concentrations of X and Y are 0.4 and 0.6 M respectively. Calculate the number of electrons involved in the reaction (Given applied potential = 0.608 V). (4)
- 27. Dissolution of iron is found to have the following mechanism. Prove that the second step is the rate limiting step.

Fe + H<sub>2</sub>O 
$$\rightleftharpoons$$
 FeOH + H<sup>+</sup> + e<sup>-</sup>  
FeOH  $\rightleftharpoons$  FeOH<sup>+</sup> + e<sup>-</sup>  
FeOH<sup>+</sup> + H<sup>+</sup>  $\rightleftharpoons$  Fe<sup>2+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>O

- 28. (a) Explain the major differences between pulse and AC voltammetric techniques.
  - (b) What are Fuel cells? Discuss briefly the thermodynamics of Fuel cells. (5+5)

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