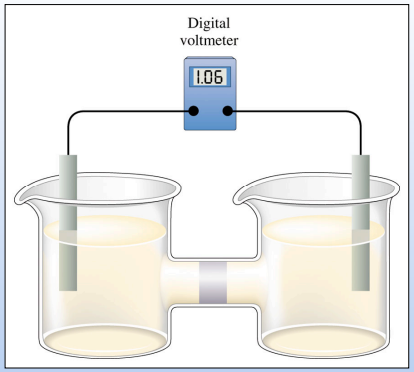
Today

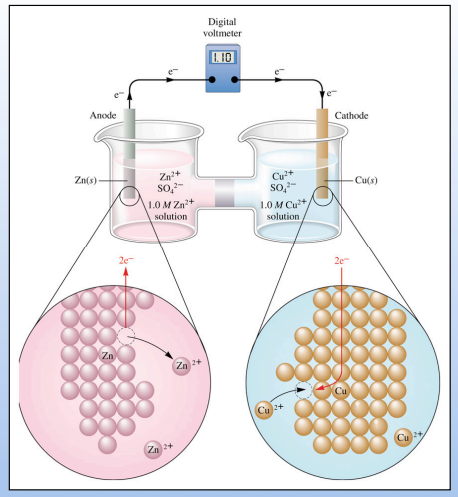
Standard Potentials

Figuring out which way the electrons "want to go"



Voltmeter measures the voltage (or potential) across the anode and the cathode

If the voltage is positive then electrons will flow from anode to cathode



Oxidation
$Zn \rightarrow Zn^{2+} + 2\ e^-$

Reduction
$Cu^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Cu$

Shorthand notation for electrochemical cell (Ecell)

Anode

$Zn \rightarrow Zn^{2+} + 2e^-$

Saltbridge

Cathode

$Cu^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Cu$

$Zn \mid Zn^{2+} \parallel Cu^{2+} \mid Cu$

In the following Ecell, what is being reduced?

$Zn(s) \mid Zn^{2+} \parallel H^+ \mid H_2\ (g)$

A. Zn (s)

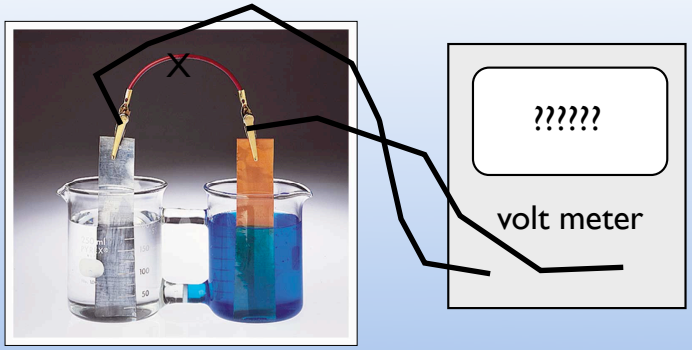
B. Zn^{2+} (aq)

C. H^+ (aq)

D. H_2 (g)

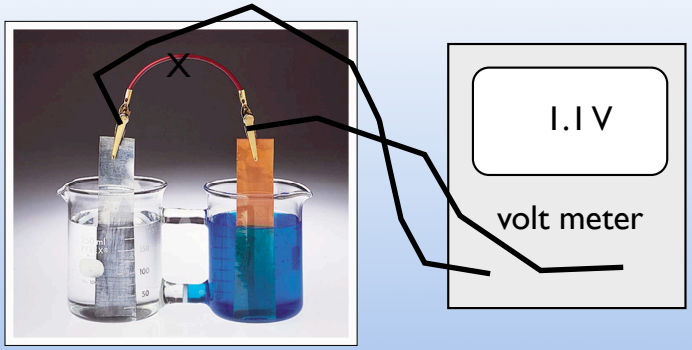
Reduction reaction at the cathode
H^+ is reduced to H_2 (g)

How can we figure out the voltage across and electrochemical cell?



The voltage (potential) depends on the concentrations of the solutions

We'll look at standard concentrations



1 M Zn^{2+} (aq) and 1 M Cu^{2+} (aq)
(note this is ridiculously concentrated)

Potential is the result of potential for both the oxidation and reduction reaction

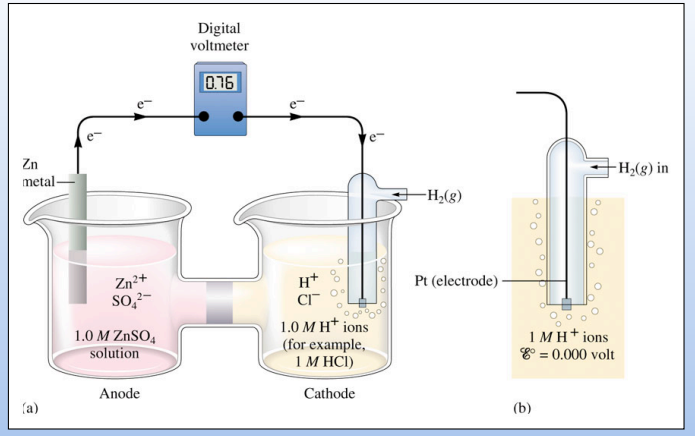
We can't go measuring every possible combination of reactions in the world

We need another standard

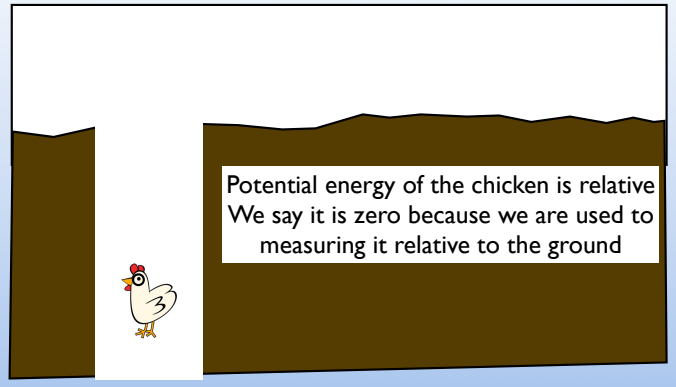
We'll choose this reaction

$2H^+ + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g)$

This will be our "zero"

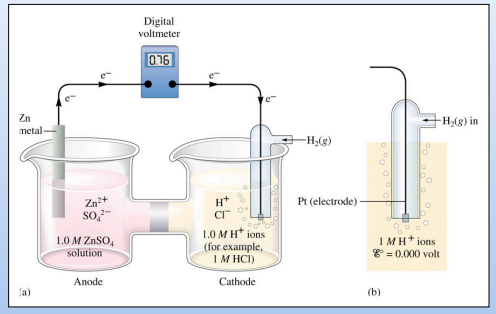


Electrical potential is potential energy
We need to measure it relative to something



But clearly it is not zero relative to the center of the earth

We define a standard half cell potential as the potential of that reaction in an electrochemical cell with a cathode of $2H^+ + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g)$



So for $Zn(s) \longrightarrow Zn^{2+} + 2e^-$ $E°$ is 0.76 V

Standard Reduction Potentials

We write all standard potentials as reduction reactions

$2H^+(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2(g)$ $\quad E° = 0.0\,V$ by definition

$Zn(s) \rightarrow Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2e^-$ $\quad E° = +0.76V$

$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow Zn(s)$ $\quad E° = -0.76V$

This is the standard reduction potential for $Zn^{2+} \mid Zn(s)$

TABLE 11.1 Standard Reduction Potentials at 25°C (298 K) for Many Common Half-reactions

Half-reaction	$\mathscr{E}°$ (V)	Half-reaction	$\mathscr{E}°$ (V)
$F_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2F^-$	2.87	$O_2 + 2H_2O + 4e^- \rightarrow 4OH^-$	0.40
$Ag^{2+} + e^- \rightarrow Ag^+$	1.99	$Cu^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Cu$	0.34
$Co^{3+} + e^- \rightarrow Co^{2+}$	1.82	$Hg_2Cl_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2Hg + 2Cl^-$	0.27
$H_2O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$	1.78	$AgCl + e^- \rightarrow Ag + Cl^-$	0.22
$Ce^{4+} + e^- \rightarrow Ce^{3+}$	1.70	$SO_4^{2-} + 4H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2SO_3 + H_2O$	0.20
$PbO_2 + 4H^+ + SO_4^{2-} + 2e^- \rightarrow PbSO_4 + 2H_2O$	1.69	$Cu^{2+} + e^- \rightarrow Cu^+$	0.16
$MnO_4^- + 4H^+ + 3e^- \rightarrow MnO_2 + 2H_2O$	1.68	$2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2$	0.00
$IO_4^- + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow IO_3^- + H_2O$	1.60	$Fe^{3+} + 3e^- \rightarrow Fe$	−0.036
$MnO_4^- + 8H^+ + 5e^- \rightarrow Mn^{2+} + 4H_2O$	1.51	$Pb^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Pb$	−0.13
$Au^{3+} + 3e^- \rightarrow Au$	1.50	$Sn^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Sn$	−0.14
$PbO_2 + 4H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow Pb^{2+} + 2H_2O$	1.46	$Ni^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Ni$	−0.23
$Cl_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2Cl^-$	1.36	$PbSO_4 + 2e^- \rightarrow Pb + SO_4^{2-}$	−0.35
$Cr_2O_7^{2-} + 14H^+ + 6e^- \rightarrow 2Cr^{3+} + 7H_2O$	1.33	$Cd^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Cd$	−0.40
$O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$	1.23	$Fe^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Fe$	−0.44
$MnO_2 + 4H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow Mn^{2+} + 2H_2O$	1.21	$Cr^{3+} + e^- \rightarrow Cr^{2+}$	−0.50
$IO_3^- + 6H^+ + 5e^- \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}I_2 + 3H_2O$	1.20	$Cr^{3+} + 3e^- \rightarrow Cr$	−0.73
$Br_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2Br^-$	1.09	$Zn^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Zn$	−0.76
$VO_2^+ + 2H^+ + e^- \rightarrow VO^{2+} + H_2O$	1.00	$2H_2O + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2 + 2OH^-$	−0.83
$AuCl_4^- + 3e^- \rightarrow Au + 4Cl^-$	0.99	$Mn^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Mn$	−1.18
$NO_3^- + 4H^+ + 3e^- \rightarrow NO + 2H_2O$	0.96	$Al^{3+} + 3e^- \rightarrow Al$	−1.66
$ClO_3^- + e^- \rightarrow ClO_2^-$	0.954	$H_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2H^-$	−2.23
$2Hg^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Hg_2^{2+}$	0.91	$Mg^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Mg$	−2.37
$Ag^+ + e^- \rightarrow Ag$	0.80	$La^{3+} + 3e^- \rightarrow La$	−2.37
$Hg_2^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow 2Hg$	0.80	$Na^+ + e^- \rightarrow Na$	−2.71
$Fe^{3+} + e^- \rightarrow Fe^{2+}$	0.77	$Ca^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Ca$	−2.76
$O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2O_2$	0.68	$Ba^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Ba$	−2.90
$MnO_4^- + e^- \rightarrow MnO_4^{2-}$	0.56	$K^+ + e^- \rightarrow K$	−2.92
$I_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2I^-$	0.54	$Li^+ + e^- \rightarrow Li$	−3.05
$Cu^+ + e^- \rightarrow Cu$	0.52		

TABLE 20.1 Standard Reduction Potentials in Water at 25°C

Standard Potential (V)	Reduction Half-Reaction
+2.87	$F_2(g) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2F^-(aq)$
+1.51	$MnO_4^-(aq) + 8H^+(aq) + 5e^- \longrightarrow Mn^{2+}(aq) + 4H_2O(l)$
+1.36	$Cl_2(g) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2Cl^-(aq)$
+1.33	$Cr_2O_7^{2-}(aq) + 14H^+(aq) + 6e^- \longrightarrow 2Cr^{3+}(aq) + 7H_2O(l)$
+1.23	$O_2(g) + 4H^+(aq) + 4e^- \longrightarrow 2H_2O(l)$
+1.06	$Br_2(l) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2Br^-(aq)$
+0.96	$NO_3^-(aq) + 4H^+(aq) + 3e^- \longrightarrow NO(g) + H_2O(l)$
+0.80	$Ag^+(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Ag(s)$
+0.77	$Fe^{3+}(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Fe^{2+}(aq)$
+0.68	$O_2(g) + 2H^+(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2O_2(aq)$
+0.59	$MnO_4^-(aq) + 2H_2O(l) + 3e^- \longrightarrow MnO_2(s) + 4OH^-(aq)$
+0.54	$I_2(s) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2I^-(aq)$
+0.40	$O_2(g) + 2H_2O(l) + 4e^- \longrightarrow 4OH^-(aq)$
+0.34	$Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Cu(s)$
0	$2H^+(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g)$
−0.28	$Ni^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Ni(s)$
−0.44	$Fe^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Fe(s)$
−0.76	$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Zn(s)$
−0.83	$2H_2O(l) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g) + 2OH^-(aq)$
−1.66	$Al^{3+}(aq) + 3e^- \longrightarrow Al(s)$
−2.71	$Na^+(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Na(s)$
−3.05	$Li^+(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Li(s)$

Easy to reduce (Strongest oxidizing agents)

Easy to oxidize (strongest reducing agents)

Given the following standard reduction potentials which is easier to oxidize?

$Zn^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Zn(s)$ $\quad E° = -0.76$
$Fe^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Fe(s)$ $\quad E° = -0.44$

A. Zn(s) ← the more negative the reduction potential the easier it is to oxidize

B. Fe(s)

C. they are the same

How do we the potential for the standard cell?

$Zn \mid Zn^{2+} \parallel Cu^{2+} \mid Cu$

Need half reactions for anode and cathode

Anode

$Zn^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Zn(s) \quad E°_{anode} = -0.76$

Cathode

$Cu^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow Cu(s) \quad E°_{cathode} = +0.34$

$E°_{cell} = E°_{cathode} - E°_{anode} = (0.34) - (-0.76) = +1.10\,V$

POSITIVE POTENTIAL IS SPONTANEOUS REACTION AS WRITTEN
(you could make a battery)

A moment to think again about
Free Energy
and Standard Free Energy

E° and ΔG° are related!

Measuring the cell potential is measuring the "chemical potential" or Gibb's free energy

We need to "convert" from volts to J

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+1.23	$O_2(g) + 4H^+(aq) + 4e^- \longrightarrow 2H_2O(l)$
+1.06	$Br_2(l) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2Br^-(aq)$
+0.96	$NO_3^-(aq) + 4H^+(aq) + 3e^- \longrightarrow NO(g) + H_2O(l)$
+0.80	$Ag^+(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Ag(s)$
+0.77	$Fe^{3+}(aq) + e^- \longrightarrow Fe^{2+}(aq)$
+0.68	$O_2(g) + 2H^+(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2O_2(aq)$
+0.59	$MnO_4^-(aq) + 2H_2O(l) + 3e^- \longrightarrow MnO_2(s) + 4OH^-(aq)$
+0.54	$I_2(s) + 2e^- \longrightarrow 2I^-(aq)$
+0.40	$O_2(g) + 2H_2O(l) + 4e^- \longrightarrow 4OH^-(aq)$
+0.34	$Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Cu(s)$
0	$2H^+(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g)$
−0.28	$Ni^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Ni(s)$
−0.44	$Fe^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Fe(s)$
−0.76	$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2e^- \longrightarrow Zn(s)$
−0.83	$2H_2O(l) + 2e^- \longrightarrow H_2(g) + 2OH^-(aq)$
−1.66	$Al^{3+}(aq) + 3e^- \longrightarrow Al(s)$
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