

Lecture 1:

I) Introduction to Battery and Fuel Cells:

A) What is an electrochemical cell?

B) Batteries (Energy and Power density, efficiency)

C) Fuel Cells (Phosphoric acid Fuel Cell, Alkaline Fuel Cell)

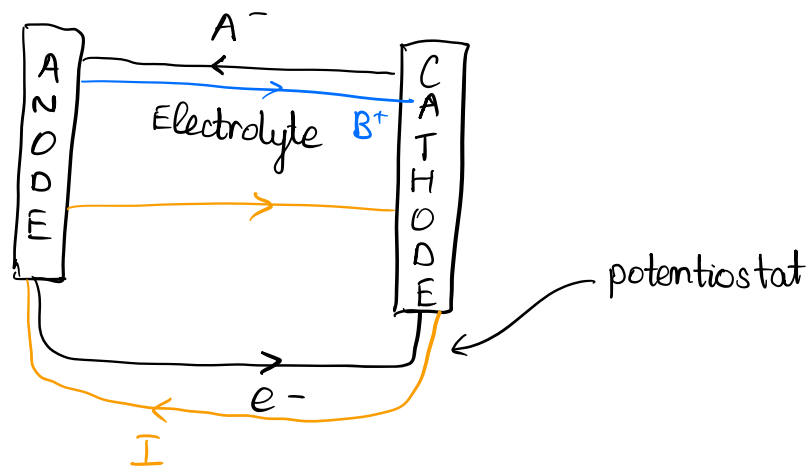
I) A) Electrochemical cell :

Components : Two electrodes (Cathode and Anode)
(WE and CE - if people want to study the kinetic at one electrode)

Electrolyte (flow of ions)

External conductor (flow of electrons)
↳ external circuits

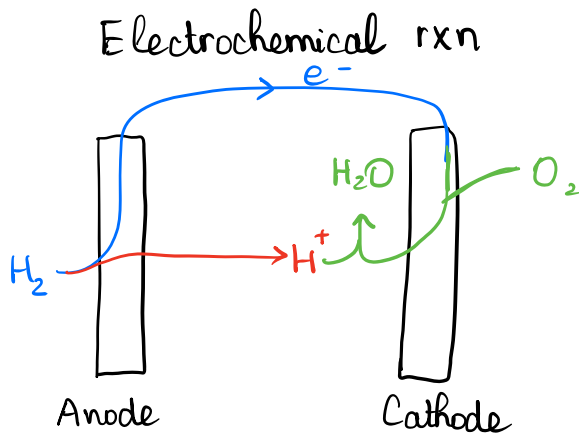
Representation :



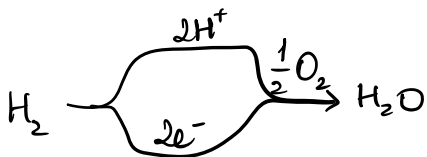
Electrode (mobile species: electrons) : conductivity 10^2 to 10^4 S/cm
e.g: Metal, semiconductor

Electrolyte (mobile species: ions, **NO electrons**) : conductivity 10^{-4} to 10^{-1} S/cm
e.g: dissociated salt, molten salt, polymer (Nafion, FAA).

Difference between electrochemical reaction and chemical reaction

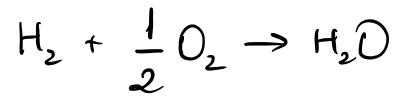


generate electricity



electron pass through potential difference between 2 electrodes

Chemical rxn

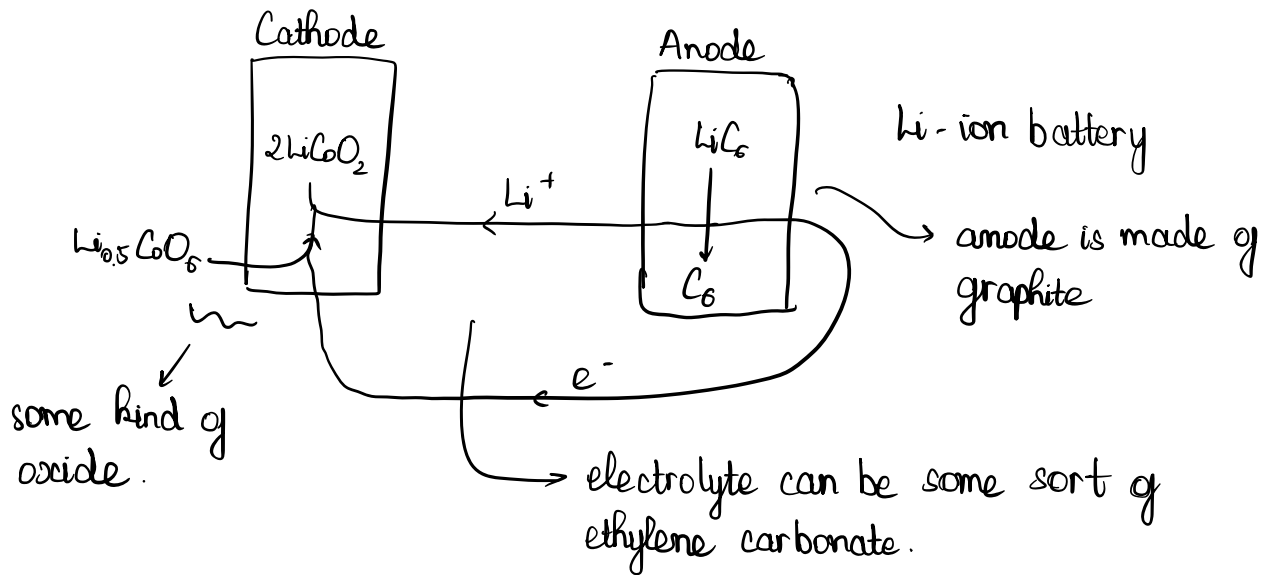
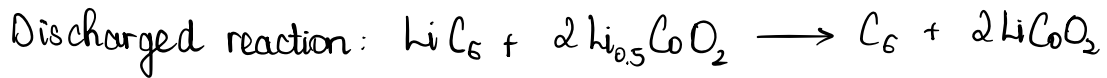


generate heat

electron pass through potential difference between two nuclei

B) Batteries:

A "self-contained" electrochemical device which stores electrical energy.



Primary → Non-rechargeable

Secondary → Rechargeable

Metric:

	Gravimetric	Volumetric
Capacity	$Q_g = \frac{Q}{m} = \frac{nF}{MW}$	$Q_v = \frac{Q}{V}$
Energy Density	$Q_g \cdot V$	$Q_v \cdot V$
Power Density	$i_g \cdot V$	$i_v \cdot V$

where $Q = n \cdot F \cdot N_m$
 \downarrow # electrons for each reactant
 \swarrow moles of reactant being consumed

$$\text{C-rate} = \frac{i}{Q} \quad \left[= \right] \quad \frac{1}{\text{time}}$$

\swarrow C/s
 \swarrow C

e.g: $3 \frac{1}{\text{hour}}$ means the cell is fully discharged in $\frac{1}{3}$ hour

Efficiency:

On a charge basis: $q_c = \frac{Q_d}{Q_c}$

\swarrow discharge
 \swarrow charge
] **Columbic Efficiency**

On an energy basis: $q_E = \frac{Q_d \cdot V_d}{Q_c \cdot V_c}$

Examples of battery:

Primary:

Battery	Anode	Cathode	reaction	U	Capacity (A.h/kg)
Levanche	Zn	MnO ₂	Zn + MnO ₂ → ZnO + Mn ₂ O ₃	1.6 V	224
Zinc - Air	Zn	O ₂	Zn + 1/2 O ₂ → ZnO	1.65 V	658
Li - MnO ₂	Li	MnO ₂	Li + MnO ₂ → LiMnO ₂	3.1 V	286

Secondary

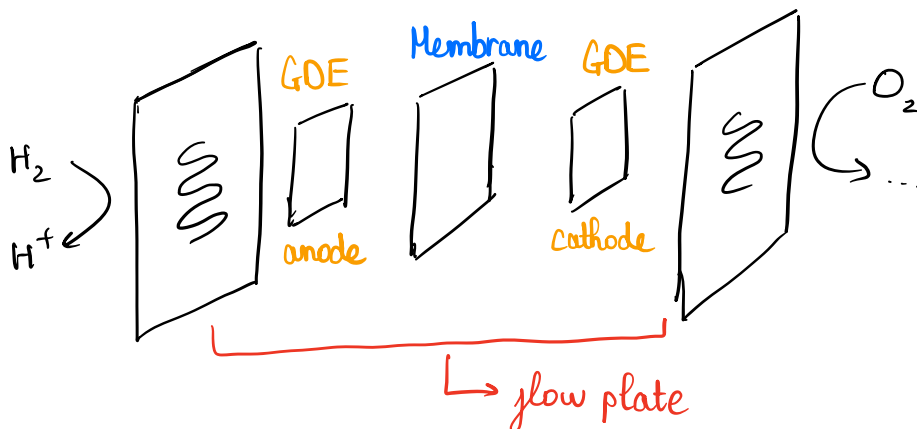
Battery	Anode	Cathode	reaction	U	Capacity (A.h/kg)
Lead acid	Pb	PbO ₂	$\text{PbO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{PbSO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	2.1 V	120
Nickel - Cadmium	Cd	NiOOH	$\text{Cd} + 2\text{NiOOH} \rightarrow \text{Ni(OH)}_2 + \text{Cd(OH)}_2$	1.35	181

C) Fuel Cells:

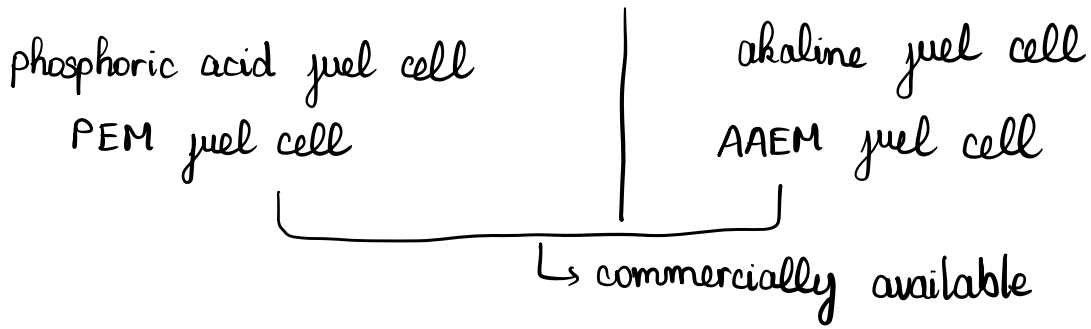
An electrochemical cell which converts chemical energy of a fuel into electricity → Not "self-contained" device

Typically O₂ and H₂/CH₃OH/N-based substances
→ Harness energy from oxidation reaction

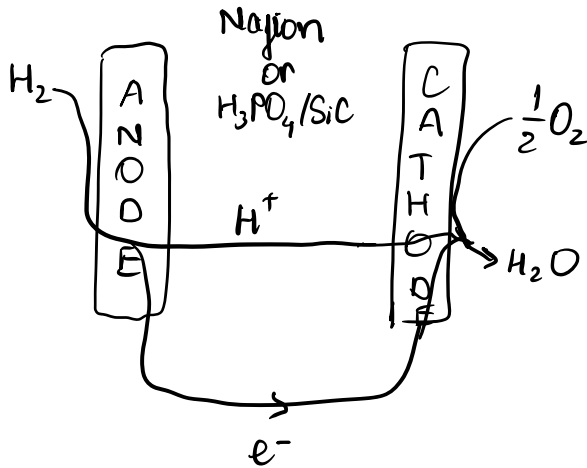
Example: H₂/O₂ fuel cell



H_2/O_2 fuel cell can operate in acid or basic conditions



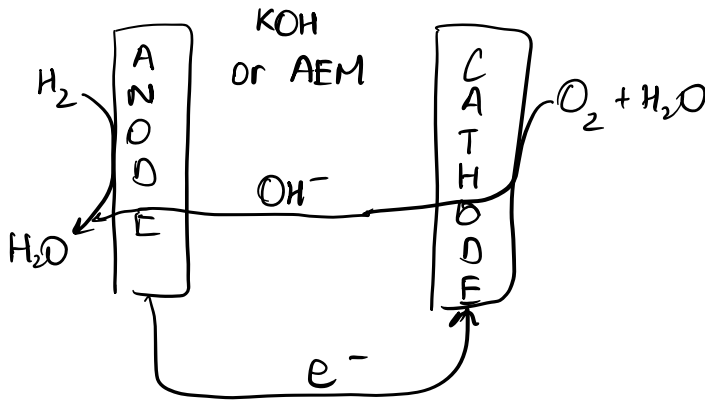
Acid condition:



GDE is typically made up of Pt/C on carbon cloth.

Disadvantage: ORR is slow in acidic condition

Basic condition:



GDE can be non-precious metal

Disadvantage: AEM has low ionic conductivity
 CO_2 accumulation if O_2 is taken from ambient air