

Read Chapter 14 (at least Sections 14.1, 14.2, and 14.3) and Chapter 3, answer the following problems, and indicate with whom you worked: \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Do problems 2.17, 2.18, 2.19, 13.7, 13.14, and 14.2 in Bard and Faulkner (B&F).
- (2) In Naegeli, Redepenning, & Anson, *Journal of Physical Chemistry*, 1986, 90, 6227 (see class website), redox-active molecules are embedded in Nafion-coated electrodes and their formal potentials are measured.
- Based on Figure 2, answer the following:
    - Why are the potentials called formal potentials and not standard potentials?
    - Explain why the formal potential for the reduction of the redox-active molecules in solution at a bare electrode becomes slightly more negative as the concentration of LiCl is increased?
    - When a Nafion-coated electrode is used, explain the cause of the LiCl concentration dependence to the formal potentials? (Assume that the Nafion was presoaked in an aqueous electrolyte containing a high concentration of LiCl in a large beaker.)
  - Based on Figure 4, where the ordinate axis should be labeled “fraction of protonated molecules,” answer the following:
    - What is the approximate  $pK_a$  of  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{pz-H}^+)]^{3+}$ , where pz is pyrazine and pz-H is protonated pz?
    - Why does  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{pz-H}^+)]^{3+}$  not deprotonate when it is incorporated into Nafion and the pH is varied? (Assume that the Nafion was presoaked in an aqueous electrolyte containing a high concentration of HCl in a large beaker.)
    - If the pH of the solution changed to 11 using NaOH, and the beaker is large, will  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{pz-H}^+)]^{3+}$  in Nafion deprotonate? Explain why or why not?
- (3) At steady-state, a human neuron has the following approximate distribution of ions across its cell membrane:

	<u>Inside (mM)</u>	<u>Outside (mM)</u>	<u>Relative permeability</u>
$\text{K}^+$	100	10	100
$\text{Na}^+$	10	100	1
$\text{Cl}^-$	10	100	10

Based on this information, answer the following:

- What is the resting potential of the membrane at physiological temperature (i.e. 98.6 °F)?
- When a nerve is stimulated by an action potential, voltage-sensitive sodium channels open up (wide) and the cell depolarizes to roughly +40 mV. However, due to charge neutrality, the concentrations of  $\text{Na}^+$  inside and outside of the cell change very little, and the small flux of sodium simply charges the membrane like a capacitor. What is the relative permeability of  $\text{Na}^+$  that caused this depolarization?
- This depolarization causes the  $\text{Na}^+$  channels (from part b) to close and another channel to open. If this results in a membrane potential that is slightly more negative than the resting potential (from part a), *could* the chloride *and/or* potassium channel have opened up (wide)? Explain your answer.