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# Membrane (Electric) Potentials

Professor Shane Ardo, Ph.D.  
University of California Irvine  
Department of Chemistry  
Monday, October 30, 2023

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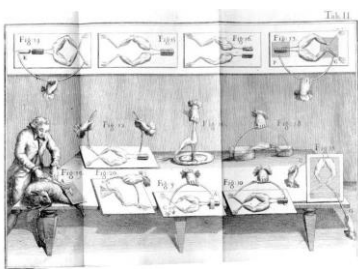
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## A Short History Lesson...

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Electrochemistry is associated with Luigi Galvani who discovered "animal electricity," while trying to Frankenstein frogs' legs (1791)



Physician, Physicist, Philosopher



Luigi Galvani (1737–1798) from Wiki

... now how is that electrochemistry?... what the electrons doing?

... well, this is mostly due to the ions... [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luigi\\_Galvani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luigi_Galvani)

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### Lecture Outline (40 min) – Membrane Electric Potentials

- Donnan potentials
- Liquid-junction potentials
- Membrane potentials
- pH meter
- Ion-selective electrodes

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Because differences in electrochemical potential ( $\bar{\mu}_i^{\circ}$ ) – think free energy – drive net mass transport (of unstirred solutions), mobile Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> partition between the membrane and the solution in compliance with their electrochemical potentials:

$$\mu_i^{\circ,m} + RT \ln \gamma_i^m + RT \ln c_i^m + z_i F \phi^m = \mu_i^{\circ,s} + RT \ln \gamma_i^s + RT \ln c_i^s + z_i F \phi^s$$

... Assuming that standard state chemical potentials ( $\mu_i^{\circ}$ ) are the same inside and outside of the membrane, we can easily solve for the ("Galvani" / inner) electric potential difference,  $\phi^m - \phi^s$

... which is also exactly what is required to calculate liquid-junction potentials!

$$\phi^m - \phi^s = \frac{RT}{z_i F} \ln \left( \frac{\gamma_i^s c_i^s}{\gamma_i^m c_i^m} \right) = E_{\text{Donnan}}$$

... so we can express  $E_{\text{Donnan}}$ , an equilibrium electric potential difference, in terms of any ion that has access to both the membrane and the solution:

$$E_{\text{Donnan}} = \frac{RT}{(1)F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{Na}^+}^s}{a_{\text{Na}^+}^m} \right) = \frac{RT}{(-1)F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^s}{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^m} \right)$$

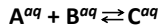
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... backing up... four thermodynamic equations with almost the same derivation.9

**Gibbs Free Energy (J)**

$$\Delta G^{\beta} = \Delta G^{\circ \beta} + RT \ln Q^{\beta} = \mu_C^{\beta} - \mu_A^{\beta} - \mu_B^{\beta}$$

**(Electro)Chemical Potential (J)**



$$\left( \frac{\partial \Delta G^{\beta}}{\partial n_i^{\beta}} \right)_{T_{\text{sys}}, P_{\text{sys}}, n_{j \neq i}^{\beta}} = \mu_i^{\beta} = \mu_i^{\circ \beta} + k_B T \ln a_i^{\beta} \quad Q = \frac{a_C}{a_A a_B} \approx \frac{[C]}{[A][B]}$$

**Nernst Potential (V)**

$$-\frac{\Delta G^{\beta}}{nF} = E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{cell}}^{\circ} - \frac{2.303RT}{nF} \log Q = E_{\text{red}} - E_{\text{ox}} \quad Q = \frac{Q_{\text{red}}}{Q_{\text{ox}}} \approx \frac{[A_{\text{red}}^-][B_{\text{ox}}^+]}{[A_{\text{red}}][B_{\text{ox}}]}$$

**Donnan Potential (V)**

$$E_{\text{mem}} = -\frac{2.303RT}{z_i F} \log \frac{a_{A^-}^{\beta}}{a_{A^-}^{\alpha}} \approx -\frac{59.2 \text{ mV}}{z_i} \log \frac{[A^-]_{\beta}}{[A^-]_{\alpha}}$$

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$$E_{\text{Donnan}} = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{Na}^+}^s}{a_{\text{Na}^+}^m} \right) = \ominus \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^s}{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^m} \right)$$

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But this has additional consequences not relevant to the other thermodynamic relations... divide both sides by RT/F and invert the argument of the "ln()" on the right to eliminate the negative sign, and we have...

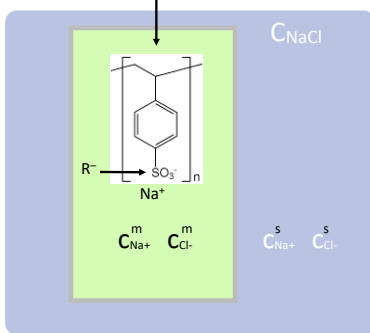
$$\frac{a_{\text{Na}^+}^s}{a_{\text{Na}^+}^m} = \frac{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^m}{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^s}$$

... or...

$$a_{\text{Na}^+}^s a_{\text{Cl}^-}^s = a_{\text{Na}^+}^m a_{\text{Cl}^-}^m$$

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... recall the scenario we are analyzing... 11  
 ... with R<sup>-</sup> representing the fixed charges...  
 a film of poly(styrene sulfonate)



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$$a_{Na^+}^s a_{Cl^-}^s = a_{Na^+}^m a_{Cl^-}^m$$

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... if these are dilute electrolytes, we can neglect activity coefficients...

$$c_{Na^+}^s c_{Cl^-}^s = c_{Na^+}^m c_{Cl^-}^m \quad (1)$$

now, there is an additional constraint: the bulk of the solution and the bulk of the membrane must be *electrically neutral*:

$$c_{Na^+}^s = c_{Cl^-}^s \quad (2) \quad c_{Na^+}^m = c_{Cl^-}^m + c_{R^-}^m \quad (3)$$

... these 3 simple equations also teach us about **Donnan exclusion** as follows...

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... **Donnan exclusion** is described by an equation that is quadratic in c<sub>Cl<sup>-</sup></sub><sup>s</sup>... 13

$$(1) \quad c_{Na^+}^s c_{Cl^-}^s = c_{Na^+}^m c_{Cl^-}^m$$

↓  
because in solution, c<sub>Na<sup>+</sup></sub> = c<sub>Cl<sup>-</sup></sub>, of course!

$$(2) \quad c_{Na^+}^s = c_{Cl^-}^s$$

$$(c_{Cl^-}^s)^2$$

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... **Donnan exclusion** is described by an equation that is quadratic in  $c_{Cl^-}^m$ ... 14

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \quad & c_{Na^+}^s + c_{Cl^-}^s = c_{Na^+}^m + c_{Cl^-}^m \\
 (2) \quad & c_{Na^+}^s = c_{Cl^-}^s \\
 (3) \quad & c_{Na^+}^m = c_{Cl^-}^m + c_{R^-}^m
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (c_{Cl^-}^s)^2 &= (c_{Cl^-}^m)^2 + c_{R^-}^m c_{Cl^-}^m \\
 0 &= (c_{Cl^-}^m)^2 + c_{R^-}^m c_{Cl^-}^m - (c_{Cl^-}^s)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$a$ 
 $x^2$ 
 $b$ 
 $x$ 
 $c$

... use the quadratic formula to solve for  $c_{Cl^-}^m$ , and one gets...

$$c_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{-c_{R^-}^m + \sqrt{(c_{R^-}^m)^2 + 4(c_{Cl^-}^s)^2}}{2} = \frac{c_{R^-}^m}{2} \left( \sqrt{1 + 4 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2} - 1 \right)$$

14

$$c_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{-c_{R^-}^m + \sqrt{(c_{R^-}^m)^2 + 4(c_{Cl^-}^s)^2}}{2} = \frac{c_{R^-}^m}{2} \left( \sqrt{1 + 4 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2} - 1 \right)$$

if  $c_{Cl^-}^s \ll c_{R^-}^m$  (which is the typical case of interest), then...

$$\sqrt{1 + 4 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2} \approx 1 + 2 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2$$

(Taylor/Maclaurin series expansion to the first 3 (or 4) terms)

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$$c_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{-c_{R^-}^m + \sqrt{(c_{R^-}^m)^2 + 4(c_{Cl^-}^s)^2}}{2} = \frac{c_{R^-}^m}{2} \left( \sqrt{1 + 4 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2} - 1 \right)$$

if  $c_{Cl^-}^s \ll c_{R^-}^m$  (which is the typical case of interest), then...

$$\sqrt{1 + 4 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2} \approx 1 + 2 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2$$

$$c_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{c_{R^-}^m}{2} \left( 1 + 2 \left( \frac{c_{Cl^-}^s}{c_{R^-}^m} \right)^2 - 1 \right) = \frac{(c_{Cl^-}^s)^2}{c_{R^-}^m}$$

... fixed charge sites are responsible for the *electrostatic exclusion* of mobile "like" charges (co-ions) from a membrane, cell, etc. This is **Donnan Exclusion**.

... the larger is  $c_{R^-}^m$ , the smaller is  $c_{Cl^-}^m$

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... so how excluded is excluded?

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... is  $C_{Cl^-}^s \ll C_{R^-}^m$  a reasonable assumption? What is  $C_{R^-}^m$ ?

... well, for Nafion 117, the sulfonate concentration is 1.13 M...  
 ... for CR61 AZL from Ionics, the sulfonate concentration is 1.6 M...

so, as an example, if  $C_{Cl^-}^s = 0.1 \text{ M}$ ...

$$C_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{(C_{Cl^-}^s)^2}{C_{R^-}^m} = \frac{(0.1)^2}{1.0} = 0.01 \text{ M}$$

... but what if  $C_{Cl^-}^s$  is also large...  
 (e.g. 0.6 M, like in ocean water)?  
 ... **no more Donnan Exclusion!**

... an order of magnitude lower than  $C_{Cl^-}^s$ ... *rather* excluded... and thus rather selective!

Source: Torben Smith Sørensen, *Surface Chemistry and Electrochemistry of Membranes*, CRC Press, 1999 ISBN 0824719220, 9780824719227

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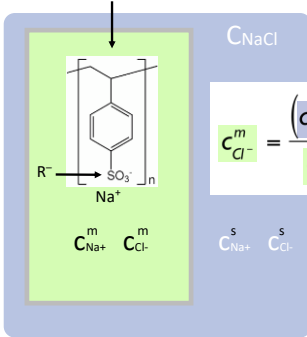
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17

... that was simple... but is there an even clearer result from this derivation? 18

a film of poly(styrene sulfonate)



... okay, so as usual, there is a lot of (simple) math to get us to a short-and-sweet approximate equation that helps us predict what will happen in an experiment, but...

$$C_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{(C_{Cl^-}^s)^2}{C_{R^-}^m} = \frac{\log = -1}{\log = 0} \frac{(0.1)^2}{1.0} = 0.01 \text{ M} \quad \log = -2$$

... this time, it is very simple to quantify the effect of interfacial equilibration that leads to Donnan exclusion... conceptually!

... the equation results in simple opposing orders-of-magnitude concentration differences for  $C_{Na+}$  and  $C_{Cl-}$ !... think log-scale

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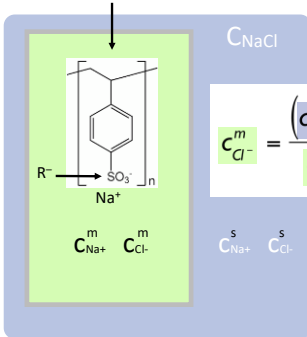
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18

... that was simple... but is there an even clearer result from this derivation? 19

a film of poly(styrene sulfonate)



... okay, so as usual, there is a lot of (simple) math to get us to a short-and-sweet approximate equation that helps us predict what will happen in an experiment, but...

$$C_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{(C_{Cl^-}^s)^2}{C_{R^-}^m} = \frac{\log = -3}{\log = -1} \frac{(0.001)^2}{0.1} = ??? \text{ M} \quad \log = ?$$

... this time, it is very simple to quantify the effect of interfacial equilibration that leads to Donnan exclusion... conceptually!

... the equation results in simple opposing orders-of-magnitude concentration differences for  $C_{Na+}$  and  $C_{Cl-}$ !... think log-scale

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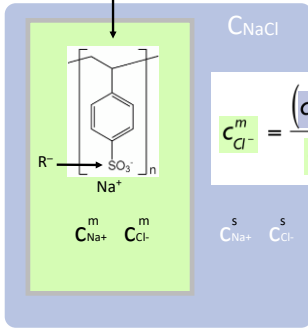
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19

... that was simple... but is there an even clearer result from this derivation? 20

a film of poly(styrene sulfonate)



... okay, so as usual, there is a lot of (simple) math to get us to a short-and-sweet approximate equation that helps us predict what will happen in an experiment, but...

$$C_{Cl^-}^m = \frac{(C_{Cl^-}^s)^2}{C_{R^-}^m} = \frac{(0.001)^2}{0.1} = 10 \mu M$$

$\log = -3$   
 $\log = -1$  ... super simple!  
 $\log = -5$

... this time, it is very simple to quantify the effect of interfacial equilibration that leads to Donnan exclusion... conceptually!

... the equation results in simple opposing orders-of-magnitude concentration differences for  $C_{Na^+}$  and  $C_{Cl^-}$ !... think log-scale

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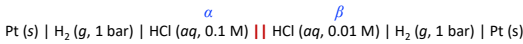
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example: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{cell}$  and  $E_{mem}$ ? 21



- ... does this have a liquid junction or a Donnan potential?
- ... it depends on what the middle lines are...
- ... assume they represent a poly(styrene sulfonate) (PSS) film...

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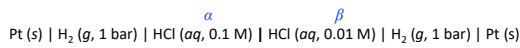
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21

example: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{cell}$  and  $E_{mem}$ ? 22



- ... does this have a liquid junction or a Donnan potential? **Donnan!**

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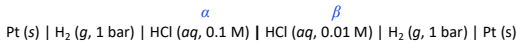
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22

example: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{\text{cell}}$  and  $E_{\text{mem}}$ ? 23

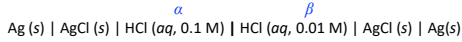


$$E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{Nernst}} + E_{\text{mem}} = E^{\circ} - \frac{RT}{2F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{H}_2}^{\beta} a_{\text{H}^+}^{\alpha 2}}{a_{\text{H}^+}^{\beta 2} a_{\text{H}_2}^{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\alpha}}{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\beta}} \right)$$

Nernst potential
Donnan potential

$$E_{\text{cell}} = -\frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{H}^+}^{\alpha}}{a_{\text{H}^+}^{\beta}} \right) + \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\alpha}}{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\beta}} \right) = 0 \text{ mV}$$

... so what is  $E_{\text{Nernst}}$  and what is  $E_{\text{mem}}$ ?  $E_{\text{Nernst}} \approx -60 \text{ mV}$ ;  $E_{\text{mem}} \approx +60 \text{ mV}$



$$E_{\text{cell}} = -\frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^{\beta}}{a_{\text{Cl}^-}^{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\alpha}}{a_{\text{HCl}}^{\beta}} \right) = 120 \text{ mV!}$$

... this is your lab!

... so what is  $E_{\text{Nernst}}$  and what is  $E_{\text{mem}}$ ?  $E_{\text{Nernst}} \approx +60 \text{ mV}$ ;  $E_{\text{mem}} \approx +60 \text{ mV}$

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Images from this amazing pre-lab video for your next lab... thanks, Leanna! 24

**Part A: Ion exchanging hydrogen/potassium ions into cation-exchange membranes and chloride ions into an anion-exchange membrane**

$\text{AgCl} + e^- \rightleftharpoons \text{Ag} + \text{Cl}^-$   
 $E_{\text{Nernst}} = E^{\circ} - 60 \text{ mV} \cdot \log([\text{Cl}^-])$

$E_{\text{Nernst,Ag}} = E^{\circ} - 60 \text{ mV} \cdot \log(0.1 \text{ M})$   
 $= E^{\circ} - 60 \text{ mV} \cdot (-1)$   
 $= E^{\circ} + 60 \text{ mV}$

$E_{\text{Nernst,Cl}} = E^{\circ} - 60 \text{ mV} \cdot \log(0.01 \text{ M})$   
 $= E^{\circ} - 60 \text{ mV} \cdot (-2)$   
 $= E^{\circ} + 120 \text{ mV}$

$E_{\text{Nernst,Ag-Cl}} = [E^{\circ} + 60 \text{ mV}] - [E^{\circ} + 120 \text{ mV}] = -60 \text{ mV}$

24

And a screenshot of the lab document... makes sense, right? 25

off excess salt species: (i) immerse the Ag/AgCl wires directly into the aqueous HCl electrolytes, followed by (ii) immerse the Ag/AgCl wires into the "fritted tubes" containing aqueous saturated KCl and gently immerse these into the aqueous HCl electrolytes so that they do not touch the membrane or agitate the solution much.

Measurement #	Compartment #1, HCl	Compartment #2, HCl
B/B'1	100 mM	100 mM
B/B'2	"	10 mM
B/B'3	"	1 mM
B/B'4	"	0.1 mM

Part C: Determining liquid-junction potentials across a cation-exchange membrane formed due to various salts

**Tools/materials needed:** Either (a) two-cuvette electrochemical cell and small clamps or (b) an H-cell; two "fritted" aqueous Ag/AgCl (saturated with KCl) reference electrodes, Parafilm, protonated Nafion membrane, scissors, hole punch, aqueous solutions of 100 mM salt (HCl, KOH, KCl, NaCl)

- Using your protonated Nafion membrane from part B, repeat the experiments in Part B, 2, ii only for the following aqueous concentrations of salt on each side of the Nafion membrane.

Measurement #	Compartment #1	Compartment #2
C1	100 mM HCl	100 mM KOH
C2	"	100 mM KCl
C3	100 mM NaCl	"

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Lecture Outline (30 min) – Membrane Electric Potentials

- Donnan potentials
- **Liquid-junction potentials**
- **Membrane potentials**
- **pH meter**
- **Ion-selective electrodes**

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Two general *liquid junctions* that electrochemists care about (the most)... 27

an SCE

an ISE (for nitrate ions)




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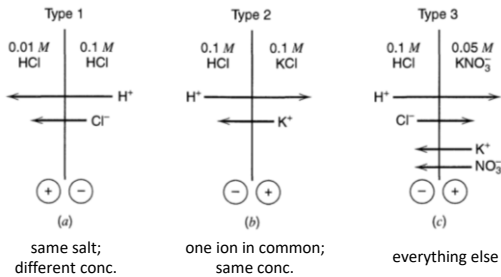
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... *liquid junctions*:

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when two ionic solutions are separated across an interface that prevents bulk mixing of the ions, but has ionic permeability, a potential (drop) develops called the *liquid junction potential*.



Bard & Faulkner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Wiley, 2001, Figure 2.3.2

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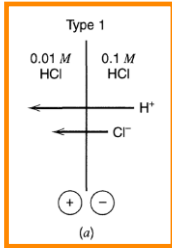
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- ... example "1":
- starting at the side with larger ion concentration
  - the ion with the larger mobility will impart its charge to the opposite side of the junction

29



same salt;  
different conc.

Bard & Faulkner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Wiley, 2001, Figure 2.3.2

... conceptually, let's think about a condition in the limit where  $H^+$  transports much faster than  $Cl^-$ ...

... as  $H^+$  diffuses down its concentration gradient, an electrostatic force is exerted on  $Cl^-$  to pull it along by migration/drift (at a larger flux) while at the same time slowing down transport of  $H^+$

... this happens until both  $H^+$  and  $Cl^-$  have the same flux for transport and at which time the system has attained steady state and has generated a maximum liquid-junction potential.

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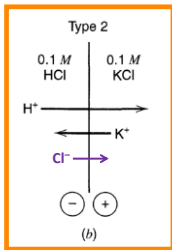
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29

- ... example "2":
- compare dissimilar ions (cations or anions)
  - the ion with the larger mobility will impart its charge to the opposite side of the junction

30



one ion in common;  
same conc.

Bard & Faulkner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Wiley, 2001, Figure 2.3.2

... let's walk through how this one works too...

... the sign of the liquid-junction potential is obvious for Types 1 and 2 (but not Type 3) based on the mobilities of the individual ions...

... and so, when in doubt, think logically about the sign of the potential to verify answers...

... and yes,  $Cl^-$  will migrate/drift based on the electric potential formed by cation transport

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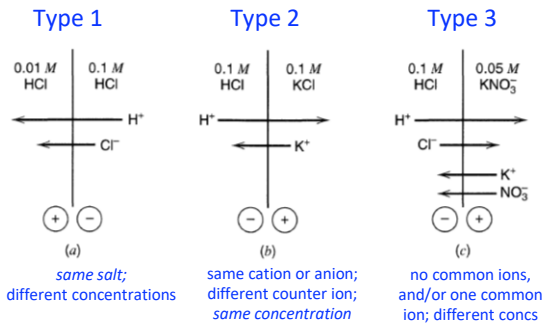
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we use *transport/transference numbers*, which describe **transport kinetics**, to determine the liquid-junction potential... using mobilities/diffusion coefficients found in lookup tables (for derivations, see B&F, pp. 70 – 72)...

31



same salt;  
different concentrations

same cation or anion;  
different counter ion;  
same concentration

no common ions,  
and/or one common  
ion; different concs

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31

we use *transport/transference numbers*, which describe **transport kinetics**, 32 to determine the liquid-junction potential... using mobilities/diffusion coefficients found in lookup tables (for derivations, see B&F, pp. 70 – 72)...

Type 1 
$$E_j = (\phi^\beta - \phi^\alpha) = (t_+ - t_-) \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{a(\alpha)}{a(\beta)}$$
 ... use the activity of the entire salt

Type 2 
$$E_j = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\alpha)}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\beta)}$$
 ... use the conductivity due to all ions, even the common one (with a few assumptions, pg. 72)

... sign depends on the charge of the dissimilar ion:  
 (+) when cations are dissimilar, and (-) when anions are dissimilar

Type 3 
$$E_j = \frac{\sum_i \frac{|z_i| u_i}{z_i} [C_i(\beta) - C_i(\alpha)]}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i [C_i(\beta) - C_i(\alpha)]} \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\alpha)}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\beta)}$$
  
 the Henderson Eq. (with a few assumptions, pg. 72)

... as written, these equations calculate  $E_j$  at  $\beta$  vs  $\alpha$

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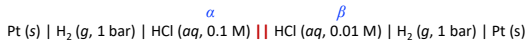
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32

Example, **AGAIN**: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{cell}$  and  $E_{mem}$ ? 33



- ... does this have a liquid junction or a Donnan potential?
- ... it depends on what the **middle lines** are...
- ... assume they represent a single porous glass frit (not PSS)...

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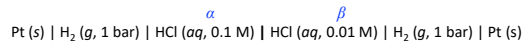
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33

Example, **AGAIN**: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{cell}$  and  $E_{mem}$ ? 34



- ... does this have a liquid junction or a Donnan potential? **LJ!**

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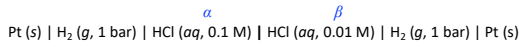
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34

Example, **AGAIN**: Given the following two RHE REs, calculate  $E_{\text{cell}}$  and  $E_{\text{mem}}$ ? 35



$$E_{\text{cell}} = E_{\text{Nernst}} + E_{\text{mem}} = E^\circ - \frac{RT}{2F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{H}_2}^\beta a_{\text{H}^+}^{\alpha, 2}}{a_{\text{H}^+}^\beta a_{\text{H}_2}^\alpha} \right) + (t_+ - t_-) \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{HCl}}^\alpha}{a_{\text{HCl}}^\beta} \right)$$

Nernst potential
Liquid-Junction potential

$$E_{\text{cell}} = -\frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{H}^+}^\alpha}{a_{\text{H}^+}^\beta} \right) + (t_+ - t_-) \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{a_{\text{HCl}}^\alpha}{a_{\text{HCl}}^\beta} \right)$$

...  $t_{\pm}$  are transport/transference numbers...  
 ... the fraction of the current carried by each ion

$$E_{\text{cell}} = 0.05916 \log \left( \frac{a_{\text{H}^+}^\alpha}{a_{\text{H}^+}^\beta} \right) (-1 + (0.83 - 0.17))$$

$$E_{\text{cell}} = 0.05916 \log \left( \frac{0.1}{0.01} \right) (-1 + 0.66) = -0.0201 \approx -20 \text{ mV}$$

... so what is  $E_{\text{Nernst}}$  and what is  $E_{\text{mem}}$ ?  $E_{\text{Nernst}} \approx -60 \text{ mV}$ ;  $E_{\text{mem}} \approx +40 \text{ mV}$

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**Lecture Outline (40 min) – Membrane Electric Potentials**

- Donnan potentials
- Liquid-junction potentials
- Membrane potentials
- pH meter
- Ion-selective electrodes

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So, in summary, we've learned **five** equations for junction potentials... 37

... why do they all include "kinetic" transport properties?

Donnan  $E_m = \frac{RT}{z_i F} \ln \frac{a_1^{(\alpha)}}{a_2^{(\beta)}}$  ← the only model that, with one salt and one interface, definitely equilibrates

LJ, Type 1  $E_j = (\phi^\beta - \phi^\alpha) = (t_+ - t_-) \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{a^{(\alpha)}}{a^{(\beta)}}$

LJ, Type 2  $E_j = \pm \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\alpha)}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\beta)}$

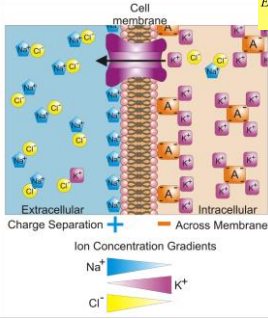
LJ, Type 3 (Henderson)  $E_j = \frac{\sum_i \frac{|z_i| u_i}{z_i} [C_i(\beta) - C_i(\alpha)]}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i [C_i(\beta) - C_i(\alpha)]} \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\alpha)}{\sum_i |z_i| u_i C_i(\beta)}$

Goldman (GHK)  $E_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{\sum_i^N P_{M_i^+} [M_i^+]_{\text{out}} + \sum_j^M P_{A_j^-} [A_j^-]_{\text{in}}}{\sum_i^N P_{M_i^+} [M_i^+]_{\text{in}} + \sum_j^M P_{A_j^-} [A_j^-]_{\text{out}}} \right)$

... that math looks ugly... what is that last equation?... who is a Biology major?

37

... what about "the fifth" equation? 38  
 ... it's the Goldman-(Hodgkin-(Huxley)-Katz) equation...  
 ... and describes nonequilibrium membrane potentials, like in cells and neurons!



$$E_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{\sum_i^N P_{M_i^+} [M_i^+]_{out} + \sum_j^M P_{A_j^-} [A_j^-]_{in}}{\sum_i^N P_{M_i^+} [M_i^+]_{in} + \sum_j^M P_{A_j^-} [A_j^-]_{out}} \right)$$

permeabilities

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Membrane\\_potential](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Membrane_potential)

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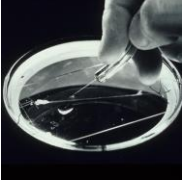
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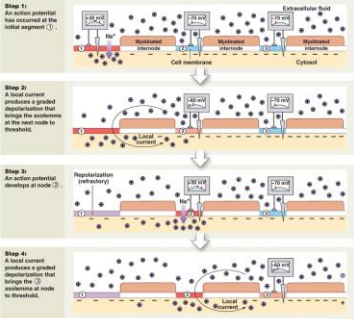
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38

... initially discovered experimentally using squid giant axons (diameter = 0.5 mm)... 39



The events that occur in saltatory propagation



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squid\\_giant\\_axon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squid_giant_axon)

[www.highlands.edu/academics/divisions/scipe/biology/faculty/harden/2121/notes/nervous.htm](http://www.highlands.edu/academics/divisions/scipe/biology/faculty/harden/2121/notes/nervous.htm)

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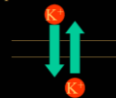
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39

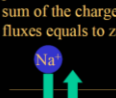
for steady (trans)membrane potential zero net charge flux is required

zero net flux for each permeable ion:



thermodynamic equilibrium potential  
 •Donnan potential  
 •Equilibrium potential,  
 Nernst equation

non-zero net flux of permeable ions but sum of the charge fluxes equals to zero



•Goldman-Hodgkin-Katz  
 voltage equation

<http://biophys.med.umidub.hu/old/pharmacy/Donnan%20angol2009.pdf>

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40

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Lecture Outline (40 min) – Membrane Electric Potentials

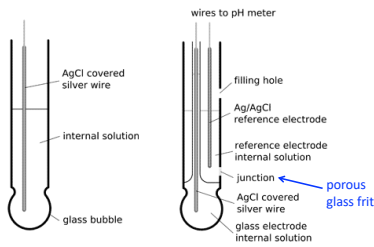
- Donnan potentials
- Liquid-junction potentials
- Membrane potentials
- **pH meter**
- **Ion-selective electrodes**

41

... the **glass pH electrode** is exceptional in many ways...

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Chemist, Inventor, Investor, Philanthropist



Arnold Orville Beckman (1900 – 2004) from Wiki

a thin glass membrane transports cations with high selectivity...

... the potential across the thin glass membrane is measured in a buffered internal solution versus a second reference electrode

43

... protons do not traverse across the glass membrane... their concentration at the glass surfaces is coupled to the concentration of Na<sup>+</sup> in the glass, so like before, **two (Donnan) equilibria exist** (one at each interface), not one!

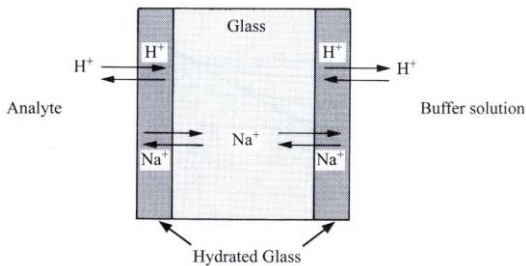


Fig. 2.25 Ionic equilibria in a glass electrode.

44

... protons do not traverse across the glass membrane... their concentration at the glass surfaces is coupled to the concentration of Na<sup>+</sup> in the glass, so like before, **two (Donnan) equilibria exist** (one at each interface), not one!

$$E_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{a_{H^+}^\alpha + a_{H^+}^{m'}}{a_{H^+}^\beta + a_{H^+}^{m''}} \quad (\text{Donnan Term})$$

$$+ \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{(u_{Na^+}/u_{H^+})a_{Na^+}^{m'} + a_{H^+}^{m'}}{(u_{Na^+}/u_{H^+})a_{Na^+}^{m''} + a_{H^+}^{m''}} \quad (\text{Diffusion term})$$

What type of LJ is this?  
Type 2!

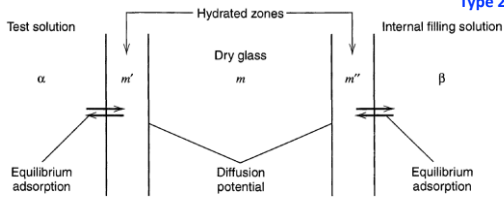


Figure 2.4.3 Model for treating the membrane potential across a glass barrier.

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Lecture Outline (40 min) – Membrane Electric Potentials

- Donnan potentials
- Liquid-junction potentials
- Membrane potentials
- pH meter
- Ion-selective electrodes

... Prof. Ardo, those potentiometric data were neat... how did you learn it all?

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