Theoretical Exam
For marking:

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April 22, 2022
Vilnius, Lithuania


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## Constants and Formulae

Avogadro's constant, $N_{\mathrm{A}}=6.0221 \times 10^{23} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$
Boltzmann constant, $k_{\mathrm{B}}=1.3807 \times 10^{-23} \mathrm{~J} \mathrm{~K}^{-1}$
Universal gas constant, $R=8.3145 \mathrm{~J} \mathrm{~K}^{-1} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}=0.08205 \mathrm{~atm} \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{~K}{ }^{-1} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$
Speed of light, $c=2.9979 \times 10^{8} \mathrm{~m} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$
Planck's constant, $h=6.6261 \times 10^{-34} \mathrm{~J}$ s
Faraday constant, $F=9.64853399 \times 10^{4} \mathrm{C}$
Mass of electron, $m_{e}=9.10938215 \times 10^{-31} \mathrm{~kg}$
Standard pressure, $P=1 \mathrm{bar}=10^{5} \mathrm{~Pa}$
Atmospheric pressure, $P_{\text {atm }}=1.01325 \times 10^{5} \mathrm{~Pa}=760 \mathrm{mmHg}=760$ torr
Zero of the Celsius scale, 273.15 K
1 picometer $(\mathrm{pm})=10^{-12} \mathrm{~m} ; 1 \AA=10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}$; nanometer $(\mathrm{nm})=10^{-9} \mathrm{~m}$
$1 \mathrm{eV}=1.6 \times 10^{-19} \mathrm{~J}$
$1 \mathrm{amu}=1.66053904 \times 10^{-27} \mathrm{~kg}$
Ideal gas equation: $\quad P V=n R T$
Enthalpy: $\quad H=U-P V$
Gibbs free energy: $\quad G=H-T S \quad \Delta G=\Delta G^{o}+R T \ln Q$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \qquad \Delta G^{o}=-R T \ln K=-n F E_{\text {cell }}^{o} \\
& \text { Entropy change: } \quad \Delta S=\frac{q_{r e v}}{T}, \text { where } q_{r e v} \text { is heat for the reversible process }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\Delta S=n R \ln \frac{V_{2}}{V_{1}} \text { (for isothermal expansion of an ideal gas) }
$$

Nernst equation: $\quad E=E^{o}+\frac{R T}{n F} \ln \frac{C_{o x}}{C_{r e d}}$
Energy of a photon: $E=\frac{h c}{\lambda} \quad$ Lambert-Beer law: $A=\log \frac{I_{0}}{I}=\varepsilon b C$
Integrated rate law
Zero order $\quad[\mathrm{A}]=[\mathrm{A}]_{0}-k t \quad$ First order $\quad \ln [\mathrm{A}]=\ln [\mathrm{A}]_{0}-k t$

Second order

$$
\frac{1}{[\mathrm{~A}]}=\frac{1}{[\mathrm{~A}]_{0}}+k t
$$

Arrhenius equation

$$
k=A e^{-E_{a} / R T}
$$

## Code <br> $\square$

## General Directions

- Write your student code on each page.
- You have 5 hours to work on the exam problems. Begin only when the START command is given.
- You must stop working when the STOP command is given.
- The official English version of this examination is available on request only for clarification.


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## Problem 1. Some chemistry of element $X$

Element $\mathbf{X}$ is very important to industry, where it is primarily used to manufacture semiconductor electronic devices and as an additive to lead alloys. Not long ago, different compounds of $\mathbf{X}$ were also used as pesticides and even as green pigments in paint, but these practices had to be abandoned due to the toxicity of $\mathbf{X}$. Various minerals of this element are present in the Earth's crust and the majority of them are found in China. One such mineral is tennantite, which consists of three elements $-\mathrm{Cu}, \mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$. Elements $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ can be found in groups 15 and 16 of the periodic table, respectively.

1) Identify the elements $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$ and determine the chemical formula of tennantite. Crystallographic data for the tennatite unit cell: lattice parameter $a=10.186 \AA$, number of formula units per unit cell $Z=2$, density $\rho=4.6479 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. Assume that the unit cell is cubic. Elemental composition by mass: $w_{\mathrm{Cu}}=51.56 \%, w_{\mathbf{x}}$ $=20.26 \%, w_{\mathbf{Y}}=28.18 \%$. ( 6 points)
```
X -
```

Y -

The chemical formula of tennantite is

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Let us consider the production of $\mathbf{X}$-containing compounds starting from this mineral.
Tennantite


Thermal decomposition of tennantite leads to another mineral A with a highly symmetric structure, which consists of $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ only. During the reaction, $\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathbf{Y}$ and vapours of $\mathbf{Y}$ are formed as by-products. Further oxidation of $\mathbf{A}$ leads to oxide $\mathbf{B}(w \mathbf{x}=75.7 \%)$, which is a starting material for synthesis of almost all $\mathbf{X}$ containing compounds. Compound $\mathbf{C}$ reacts with $\mathrm{SbF}_{5}$ in a 1:1 ratio to give salt $\mathbf{D}$ with an $\mathbf{X}$-containing cation and $\mathbf{S b}$-containing anion. $\mathbf{J}$, the anti-addition product of $\mathbf{F}$ to acetylene, is an organo- $\mathbf{X}$ compound known as Lewisite that has been manufactured for use in chemical weapons. In the reaction $\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$, sodium borohydride acts as a hydride donor. $\mathbf{K}$ is a semiconductor. $\mathbf{H}\left(w_{\mathrm{C}}=21.26 \%, w_{\mathrm{H}}=5.35 \%, w_{\mathbf{x}}=66.31\right.$ $\%, w_{0}=7.08 \%$ ) is otherwise known as cacodyl oxide to obtain which potassium acetate has to react with B. During the course of the reaction, evolution of a gas is observed and a potassium salt is formed as a byproduct. 2 equivalents of the cacodylic acid $\mathbf{I}$ are obtained by oxidising 1 equivalent of $\mathbf{H}$.

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2) a) Identify the formulas of A-G and $\mathbf{K}$ (9 points)

| A | B | C |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| D | E | F |
| G | K | Space for corrections |

b) draw the structures of compounds $\mathbf{H}-\mathbf{J}$. (6 points)

| H | $\mathbf{I}$ | $\mathbf{J}$ |
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$\square \square$
3) Write down balanced equations for all aforementioned reactions. (11 points)

| Reaction |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| Tennantite $\rightarrow$ A |  |
| A $\rightarrow$ B |  |
| B $\rightarrow$ C |  |
| C $\rightarrow$ D |  |
| C $\rightarrow$ E |  |
| B $\rightarrow$ F |  |
| F $\rightarrow$ G |  |
| F $\rightarrow$ J |  |
| G $\rightarrow$ K |  |
|  |  |
| H |  |

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Similarly to heavy metal poisoning, patients having been in contact with $\mathbf{J}$ can be given chelation therapy. A famous example of a covalent drug used specifically in the case of Lewisite poisoning is 2,3-dimercaptopropan-1-ol, also known as British anti-Lewisite (BAL).
4) Draw the structures of BAL and the product formed in its reaction with $\mathbf{J}$. Molar mass of the product is $M=258.62 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$. (3 points)

| BAL | BAL-Lewisite adduct |
| :--- | :--- |
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5) Using VSEPR theory, determine the geometries of the cation and anion of D. (2 points)

Geometry of the anion of compound $\mathbf{D}$ is

Geometry of the cation of compound $\mathbf{D}$ is

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy is useful beyond organic chemistry and can also be used in the study of inorganic species, although this can sometimes be more complicated due to line-broadening effects of quadrupolar nuclei (i.e nuclei with a spin quantum number $I$ greater than $1 / 2$ ). Just like for protons $(I=1 / 2)$ in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra of organic molecules, the number of lines in a multiplet can be predicted for any other NMR-active nucleus using the equation: $2 n I+1$, where $n$ is the number of coupling nuclei. The natural abundances of ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}(I=1 / 2)$ and $\mathbf{X}(I=3 / 2)$ are $100 \%$. Two NMR-active nuclei of antimony exist: ${ }^{121} \mathrm{Sb}(I=5 / 2)$ and ${ }^{123} \mathrm{Sb}(I=7 / 2)$. The natural abundances of ${ }^{121} \mathrm{Sb}$ and ${ }^{123} \mathrm{Sb}$ are $57.25 \%$ and $42.75 \%$, respectively. In the following questions, assume that any anisotropies resulting from cation-anion interactions average out over the experiment time course and only through-bond couplings are observed.

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6) For solution-state NMR spectra of $\mathbf{D}$, predict the number of resonances and their theoretical splitting patterns in the a) ${ }^{121} \mathrm{Sb}$ NMR spectrum, b) $\mathbf{X}$ NMR spectrum and $\left.\mathbf{c}\right){ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR spectrum. In your assignments, include the ratios of peak intensities for any multiplets as predicted by Pascal's triangle. NB! There is no need to include integrals or any approximate chemical shifts. (8 points)

| Nucleus | No. of resonances in the <br> NMR spectrum | Multiplicities and peak intensity ratios |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| ${ }^{121} \mathrm{Sb}$ |  |  |
| $\mathbf{X}$ |  |  |
| ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ |  |  |

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## Problem 2. Thermodynamics of electrochemical $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ capture

The electrochemical $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ capture is a promising technique for direct air capture, allowing to capture $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ from the atmosphere and then release it in pure concentrated form for further application. In this task, we will look at the electrochemical (Part I) and thermodynamical (Part II) basis for the capture process. Even though the text from Part I is relevant to Part II, Part II can be attempted without any results from Part I.

## Part I - EMCS in the solution

One of the simplest systems is the electrochemically
 mediated complexation separation (EMCS), where the redox-active adsorbent is activated for the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ capture at the cathode, while at the anode it is deactivated and releases $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$. A more specific case is the EMCS in the solution, where the adsorbate is dissolved directly in the solution.

In the capture process, the first step is an electrochemical reaction

$$
\mathrm{A}(\mathrm{aq})+m e^{-} \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{A}^{m-}(\mathrm{aq})
$$

1. Using the Nernst equation write an expression for the reduction half-cell potential $E$.
$\square$
Further the reduced $\mathrm{A}^{m-}$ is capturing $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$

$$
\mathrm{A}^{m-}(\mathrm{aq})+m \mathrm{CO}_{2}(\mathrm{~g}) \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{A}\left(\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)_{\mathrm{m}}{ }^{m-}(\mathrm{aq})
$$

2. Write an expression for the equilibrium constant $K$ for the given reaction, assuming the reference pressure $P_{0}$ to be 1 .
$\square$
For convenience we can define total adsorbent concentration - $A_{0}$ :

$$
A_{0}=[\mathrm{A}]+\left[\mathrm{A}^{m-}\right]+\left[\mathrm{A}\left(\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)_{m^{m-}}\right]
$$

And activated fraction $x_{A^{\prime}}$ :

$$
x_{\mathrm{A}^{\prime}}=\left(\left[\mathrm{A}^{m-}\right]+\left[\mathrm{A}\left(\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)_{m^{m}}{ }^{m-}\right]\right) / A_{0}
$$

We are now equipped to separate expression for half-cell potential $E$ into terms related to activated fraction and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure:

$$
E=E^{0}+R T / m F \cdot f_{1}\left(x_{\mathrm{A}^{\prime}}\right)+R T / m F \cdot f_{2}\left(K P_{\mathrm{Co}_{2}}{ }^{m}\right)
$$

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3. Find expressions for $f_{1}\left(x_{\mathrm{A}^{\prime}}\right)$ and $f_{2}\left(K \mathrm{CO}_{2}{ }^{m}\right)$.

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Now if we define $E_{0}$ to be potential when no $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is present $\left(P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}=0\right)$, we can consider deviation potential $E^{\mathrm{dev}}$ observed at different $P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ :

$$
E^{\mathrm{dev}}=E\left(P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}\right)-E_{0}
$$

4. Write an expression for $E^{\mathrm{dev}}$ in this case.
(In case you could not do the previous question, provide the answer using $f_{1}\left(x_{\mathrm{A}^{\prime}}\right)$ and $f_{2}\left(K P_{\mathrm{CO}_{2}}{ }^{m}\right)$ )
$\square$

## Part II - Thermodynamical analysis (

To calculate the work needed to perform the capture-release cycle we have to consider a diagram analogous to that of the $p$ - $V$ diagram known from classical thermodynamics. However, in this case, we consider a diagram $E^{\text {dev }}$ vs. $\alpha$ (state of charge, which describes the relative amount of reduced species).
To construct this diagram, we must first understand the relation between total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ content ( $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$, normalised with respect to A initial concentration) and partial pressure of $\mathrm{CO}_{2}\left(\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{CO} 2}\right)$, which is given by the relation:

$$
x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}=\alpha \cdot K P_{\mathrm{CO} 2} /\left(1+K P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}\right)+\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{h}, \mathrm{CO} 2}^{\prime} P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}
$$

The first term in the sum describes $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ which is bound to the reduced form of A , where $\alpha$ is the state of charge, which in the ECMS case coincides with the activated fraction $x_{A^{\prime}}$ defined before. The second term, however, describes the part of $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ that is dissolved in the solution, where $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{h}, \mathrm{CO} 2}$ is normalised Henry constant.
In a specific example, let's assume that $K=500, P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}=1$ bar and $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{h}, \mathrm{CO} 2}=0.05 \mathrm{bar}^{-1}$.
5. Calculate the total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ content $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ for cases $\alpha=0.25$ and $\alpha=0.75$.
$\square$
During the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ adsorption and desorption cycle, there are three types of thermodynamic pathways possible:

- Constant state of charge - $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is adsorbed or released from A with no electrochemical reaction happening.
- Constant total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ concentration - During the reduction/oxidation process the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ in the solution adsorbs to the reduced species/adsorbed $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is released into the solution, while the total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ concentration remains constant.
- Constant $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ partial pressure - the external pressure is kept constant, therefore while the capture/release happens the total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ concentration and state of charge change, while the partial pressure is constant.
The following plot shows the diagram of $E^{\mathrm{dev}}$ vs. $\alpha$. Solid lines indicate constant total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ concentration ( $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ is constant), and dashed lines indicate constant $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ partial pressure ( $P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ is constant). The labelled points A-F show special points during the capture-release cycle, which will be described later. Note, that you have already calculated the $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ for points $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{E}$ in question 5 (or, if you haven't, the precise values are not of particular interest).


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6. Calculate the partial pressure $P_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ at point C .
(In case you could not calculate $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}$ in the previous question, use a value $x_{\mathrm{CO} 2}=0.35$ )


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The release-capture system can be considered in two extremes. In both cases, the initial state of charge is 0.25 , during adsorption, the partial pressure of the feed stream is 0.15 bar, and adsorption continues until the state of charge is 0.75 . At the release stage, the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is released in a pure stream with a partial pressure of 1 bar.

## Four-stage system:

1. As the absorbent is activated, i.e., the state of charge increases, while the total $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ concentration remains constant.
2. The activated absorbent is contacted with the feed gas until the partial pressure of the feed gas is reached.
3. The absorbent is deactivated as the state of charge decreases. In the end, the free CO 2 in the solution is at a partial pressure of 10 bar.
4. $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is removed by desorption as a gas in the flash tank at a pressure of 1 bar

Two-stage system:

1. The adsorbent is activated and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is captured at the same time.
2. The adsorbent is deactivated and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ is released at the same time.
3. Assign all the described steps with points shown in the $E^{\text {dev }}$ vs. $\alpha$ diagram.
(In the form: 1. X to Y )
Four-stage system:
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 

Two-stage system:
1.
2.

The work required to perform the capture-release cycle is described as the area enclosed by the cycle in the $E^{\text {dev }}$ vs. $\alpha$ diagram.
8. Tick the correct answer, consistent with your answer to the previous part.
$\square$ - Four-stage system requires less work.
$\square$ - Two-stage system requires less work.

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## Problem 3. Solution $\neq$ liquid

We are used to use term "solution" in the context of liquid materials. But solid solutions also exist. In solid solutions different atoms or ions form compounds with different stoichiometric composition, but the crystal lattice remains the same.
Ferrochrome has empirical formula $\mathrm{Fe}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{Cr}_{1-\mathrm{x}}$ ( x - non-integer value). Both iron and chromium form bodycentered cubic (BCC) crystal lattice, therefore their solid solution has the same lattice if a certain amount of iron atoms are substituted by chromium atoms in nodes of crystal lattice.
One ferrochrome cubic cell and five planar projections, perpendicular to z axis, are shown in Fig. 1.


Fig. 1 Cubic cell of ferrochrome and its five planar projections along z axis.

1. Assuming that the cubic cell given in Fig. 1 corresponds to the composition of whole material, calculate the x value in empirical formula $\mathrm{Fe}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{Cr}_{1-\mathrm{x}}$.

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2. The lattice parameter of the cell given in Fig. 1 is 576 picometers. Calculate the density of ferrochrome. Express the answer in $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{cm}^{-3}$ dimensions.

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3. The experimental ferrochrome density value differs by $5 \%$ compared with the result you've calculated in question 2 . Which of the following statements can explain such a difference? Circle correct answer letter(s)

| a) | Additional Fe or Cr atoms can be intercalated in octahedral or tetrahedral voids of the lattice |
| :--- | :--- |
| b) | Formation of vacancies in nodes of crystal lattice |
| c) | Because of random distribution of Fe and Cr atoms in the lattice one cubic cell does not ideally <br> correspond to the actual composition of material |
| d) | Chemical interactions between Fe and Cr cause the significant change of metallic radii of Fe and Cr <br> atoms |
| e) | In solid solutions lattice parameter values fluctuates significantly |

Ionic solid solutions can be obtained by combining two or more ionic compounds. Substituting cations or anions of different charges in the lattice gives rise to peculiar physical properties of such material. Forsterite is a mineral which has empirical formula $\mathrm{Mg}_{2} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$. Silicon is covalently bound to oxygen atoms and magnesium ions occupy octahedral holes in orthorhombic lattice. Reaction between forsterite and lanthanum (III) oxide yields $\mathrm{La}_{x} \mathrm{Mg}_{y} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$ solid solution and one more byproduct, which contains no lanthanum.

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4. Write chemical formula of byproduct.
5. Express index $y$ as a function of $x$.
6. When $\mathrm{La}^{3+}$ ions substitute $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ ions, a certain concentration of vacancies are formed. Vacancies influence electrical conductivity of ionic solid solution. Which electric charge transfer mechanism occurs in $\mathrm{La}_{x} \mathrm{Mg}_{y} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$ solid solution? Circle one correct answer letter.

| a) | $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ node |
| :--- | :--- |
| b) | $\mathrm{La}^{3+}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{La}^{3+}$ node |
| c) | $\mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ node |
| d) | $\mathrm{O}^{2-}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{O}^{2-}$ node |
| e) | $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ or $\mathrm{La}^{3+}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ or $\mathrm{La}^{3+}$ node |
| f) | $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{La}^{3+}$ or $\mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{La}^{3+}$ or $\mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ node |
| g) | $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{La}^{3+}, \mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ or $\mathrm{O}^{2-}$ migrates to the vacancy, a new vacancy is formed in $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{La}^{3+}, \mathrm{Si}^{4+}$ or $\mathrm{O}^{2-}$ <br> node |
| h) | Free electrons migrate from vacancy to vacancy |

7. By performing electrical conductivity measurements it was calculated that concentration of vacancies in lanthanum-doped forsterite is $6.2 \cdot 10^{17} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. Density of the material is $3.223 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. One unit cell contains one silicon and four oxygen atoms. Calculate index $x$ in formula $\mathrm{La}_{x} \mathrm{Mg}_{y} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$ by assuming that all vacancies are formed because of $\mathrm{La}^{3+}-\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ exchange.

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Cations can intercalate in ionic compounds via different mechanisms. For example, ferrous oxide FeO can react with lithium oxide $\mathrm{Li}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ to yield a solid solution $\mathrm{Li}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{Fe}_{1-\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{O}$. During the reaction, a fraction of iron atoms oxidize to +3 oxidation state. One of the simplest methods to analyze the composition of such solid solution is electrochemical $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+} / \mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ ratio determination. We denote the ratio $r=\frac{n\left(\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}\right)}{n\left(\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}\right)}$, where $n\left(\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}\right)$ ir $n\left(\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}\right)$ are molar amounts of $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ and $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ respectively. Reciprocal values of empirical formula index $x$ and ratio $r$ are related linearly ( $a$ and $b$ - integer numbers):

$$
\frac{1}{x}=a \cdot \frac{1}{r}+b
$$

8. Calculate values $a$ and $b$.

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When $\mathrm{Li}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{Fe}_{1-\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{O}$ is dissolved in non-oxidizing acid, an excess of sodium cyanide is added to bind all iron atoms to $\left[\mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}\right]^{4-}$ and $\left[\mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}\right]^{3-}$ complex ions. Two electrodes are immersed in this solution: a working Pt electrode and reference $\mathrm{AgCl} \mid \mathrm{Ag}, \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$electrode, filled with saturated KCl solution. 0.092 V potential difference is measured at the starting moment of experiment, then an increase of $\left[\mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}\right]^{4-}$ concentration was observed. Redox potentials at 298 K and 1 bar are:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{AgCl}(s)+e^{-} \rightarrow A g(s)+\mathrm{Cl}^{-}(a q) \quad E=E^{\circ}\left(\mathrm{Ag}, \mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right)-\frac{R T}{F} \ln \ln \left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {saturated }}=+0.197 \mathrm{~V} \\
{\left[\mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}\right]^{3-}(a q)+e^{-} \rightarrow\left[\mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}\right]^{4-}(a q) \quad E^{\circ}=+0.370 \mathrm{~V}}
\end{gathered}
$$

9. Calculate the ratio $r$ and index $x$ from electrochemical measurement data.

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Organic solid solutions are attractive because of their optical properties. For instance, pbromobenzaldehyde derivatives weakly phosphoresce (emit light) in crystalline state. But if pbromobenzaldehyde derivative (A) is co-crystallized with 1,4-dibromobenzene (B), a solid phosphorescent solution forms. B molecules interrupt interactions between A molecules and does not allow for vibrational relaxation of excited $\mathbf{A}$ molecules. This solid solution has primitive orthorhombic structure, where nodes can be occupied by either $\mathbf{A}$ or $\mathbf{B}$ (Fig. 2 (a)).
A simple kinetic model can be used to estimate phosphorescence intensity I of the material:

$$
I=\frac{C N \cdot k_{p h}}{k_{p h} \cdot r_{0}^{2}+k_{v i b} \cdot \sum_{i} \quad\left(C N_{i}^{2} \cdot r_{i}^{2}\right)}
$$

$C N$ - coordination number, defining average count of $\mathbf{A}$ molecules around selected $\mathbf{A}$ molecule. $k_{p h}$ and $k_{v i b}$ are phosphorescence and vibrational relaxation rate constants, $r_{0}$ is a constant and $C N_{i}$ are average counts of $\mathbf{A}$ molecules, that are at a specific $r_{i}$ distance from selected $\mathbf{A}$ molecule. $r_{0}$ and $r_{i}$ must be expressed in angstrems ( $\AA$ ) and $C N, C N_{i}$ and $r_{i}$ values should be considered only for the first coordination shell (nearest atoms, Fig. 2 (b)).

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Fig. 2 (a) Primitive orthorhombic cell with parameters $a, b, c$ and nodal positions marked as red balls; (b) if yellow molecule is the selected one, blue molecules are in the first coordination shell.
10. Show that for orthorhombic lattice with different unit cell lengths $a, b, c$ phosphorescence intensity can be calculated using formula below.

$$
I=\frac{9 \cdot C N \cdot k_{p h}}{9 \cdot k_{p h} \cdot r_{0}^{2}+k_{v i b} \cdot C N^{2} \cdot\left(a^{2}+b^{2}+c^{2}\right)}
$$

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11. Solid solution $\mathbf{X}$ is prepared by co-crystallising $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ in ratio $n(A): n(B)=1: 1$. Solid solution $\mathbf{Y}$ is prepared by co-crystallising $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ in ratio $n(A): n(B)=2: 1$. $\mathbf{X}$ phosphoresce 1.25 times more intensely than $\mathbf{Y}$. Calculate the length of the diagonal of orthorhombic unit cell, if $\frac{k_{p h}}{k_{v i b}} \approx$ $10^{-4}$ and $r_{0} \approx 710 \AA$.

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## Problem 4. Kinetics

The following reaction that proceeds via an unknown mechanism:

$$
\begin{equation*}
A+2 B \longrightarrow A B_{2} \tag{0}
\end{equation*}
$$

1. Assume that reaction (0) proceeds in a second-order fashion in relation to $[B]$.
2. 3. Select ALL appropriate mechanisms which are consistent with the assumption given in $\mathbf{1}$.

Note: notations "slow" and "fast" show that a said reaction step is proceeding in a slow and fast manner, respectively.
(a) $A+B \longrightarrow A B \quad$ slow

$$
A B+B \longrightarrow A B_{2} \quad \text { fast }
$$

(b) $B+B \longrightarrow B_{2} \quad$ slow

$$
A+B_{2} \longrightarrow A B_{2} \quad \text { fast }
$$

(c) $A+B \longrightarrow A B \quad$ fast $A B+B \longrightarrow A B_{2} \quad$ slow
(d) $A+A \longrightarrow A_{2}$ slow

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
B+B \longrightarrow B_{2} & \text { slow } \\
A_{2}+B_{2} \longrightarrow A B_{2}+A & \text { fast }
\end{array}
$$

$\square$ Mechanism (a)
$\square$ Mechanism (b)
$\square$ Mechanism (c)
$\square$ Mechanism (d)

## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

1. 2. Select ALL graphs that could depict the relationship between $[B]$ and both $t$, time, or $r$, rate of reaction ( 0 ), and are consistent with the assumption given in $\mathbf{1}$. Assume a constant state for $[A]$.
(a)

(b)

(c)

$t$
(d)

[B]
(e)

(f)


| $\square$ Graph (a) | $\square$ Graph (d) |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ Graph (b) | $\square$ Graph (e) |
| $\square$ Graph (c) | $\square$ Graph (f) |

In reality, reaction (0) proceeds via the mechanism given below:

$$
\begin{gather*}
A+B \underset{\mathrm{k}_{-1}}{\stackrel{\mathrm{k}_{1}}{\rightleftharpoons}} \mathrm{AB}  \tag{1}\\
A B+B \stackrel{\mathrm{k}_{2}}{\rightleftharpoons} A B_{2} \tag{2}
\end{gather*}
$$

2. For each condition listed below, determine whether the rate-limiting step of the mechanism presented above is step (1), step (2) or neither. Assume that $[A]$ and $[B]$ are much greater than $[A B]$ and [ $A B_{2}$ ].
2.1. $k_{1} \gg k_{-1} ; k_{2} \gg k_{1}$
2.2. $k_{1} \gg k_{-1} ; k_{2} \ll k_{1}$
2.3. $k_{1} \gg k_{-1} ; k_{2} \cong k_{1}$
2.4. $k_{1} \cong k_{-1} ; k_{2} \ll k_{1}$

## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Condition 2. 1. | Step (1) $\square$ | Step (2) $\square$ | Neither $\square$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Condition 2. 2. | Step (1) $\square$ | Step (2) $\square$ | Neither $\square$ |
| Condition 2. 3. | Step (1) $\square$ | Step (2) $\square$ | Neither $\square$ |
| Condition 2. 4. | Step (1) $\square$ | Step (2) $\square$ | Neither $\square$ |

Unknown amounts of reagents $A$ and $B$ were added together to a container under conditions that favor reaction (0).
3. At time $t=t_{1}$, the concentration of intermediate $A B$ has become constant, i.e. $[A B]=[A B]_{\text {const }}$, and the concentration of reagent $A$ has reached a certain value, i.e. $[A]=[A]_{1}$.
3. 1. Express the ratio of the rate constants, namely $\frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}$, using terms $[A]_{1}$ and $[A B]_{\text {const }}$. Assume that $k_{1}, k_{2} \gg k_{-1}$.

$$
\frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}=
$$

## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

4. At time $t=t_{2}$, and at a different temperature, a certain amount of reagent $C$ was added into the mixture. $C$ interacts with intermediate $A B$ via the following reaction:

$$
\begin{equation*}
A B+C \xrightarrow{\mathrm{k}_{3}} A B C \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The experimental rate of production of $A B C, r$, can be expressed as $r=k_{o b s} \cdot a$, where $k_{o b s}$ is the observed rate constant for the production of $A B C$, and $a$ is a product of concentration(s) of certain compound(s).
4. 1. Assuming that under given conditions steps (1) and (2) proceed much slower than step (3), show that the observed rate constant, $k_{\text {obs }}$, is approximately equal to rate constant $k_{1}$.
$\square$

The temperature of the mixture was increased to a certain value, at which rate constants $k_{2}$ and $k_{3}$ became equal.

## Code

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| :--- | :--- | :--- |

4. 2. Using signs $>,<$ and/or $\cong$, denote the relationship between reactions' (2) and (3) Arrhenius prefactors, $A_{2}$ and $A_{3}$, and activation energies, $E_{a 2}$ and $E_{a 3}$, respectively. Assume that Arrhenius pre-factors and activation energies of these reactions are independent of temperature.

| $A_{2} \square A_{3}$ | $E_{a 2} \square E_{a 3}$ |
| :---: | :---: |

5. Certain amounts of $B, C$ and $A B$ were added to a container under conditions that favor only reactions (2) and (3). Assume, that the initial concentration of $A B,[A B]_{0}$, is much greater than initial concentrations of both $B,[B]_{0}$, and $C,[C]_{0}$.

At time $t=t_{3}$, concentrations of compounds $A B_{2}$ and $A B C$ were measured and their values were found to be equal.
5. 1. Express the ratio of initial concentrations of $B$ and $C$, namely $\frac{[B]_{0}}{[C]_{0}}$, in terms of $[A B]_{0}, k_{2}, k_{3}$ and $t_{3}$.

## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

$$
\frac{[B]_{0}}{[C]_{0}}=
$$

5. 2. Calculate the ratio of the rates of reactions (2) and (3), namely $\frac{r_{2}}{r_{3}}$, at time $t=t_{3}$, where $[A B]_{0}=$ $1.20 \cdot 10^{-3} \mathrm{~mol} \cdot \mathrm{~L}^{-1}, \quad k_{2}=1.40 \cdot 10^{-3} \mathrm{~L} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{~s}^{-1}, \quad k_{3}=5.60 \cdot 10^{-4} \mathrm{~L} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ and $t_{3}=$ $2.50 \cdot 10^{3} \mathrm{~s}$.

## Code

$$
\frac{r_{2}}{r_{3}}=
$$

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |

## Problem 5. Total synthesis of (-)-Colombiasin A

10 points
(-)-Colombiasin A is a marine natural product first isolated from a species of coral found off the coast of San Andres island, Colombia. Following the initial reported total synthesis and structural assignment by K. C. Nicolaou and co-workers in 2001, Colombiasin A and structurally closely related compounds have been prepared via numerous different synthetic approaches. Construction of the carbon skeleton poses in this case some rather unique challenges to the synthetic chemist. Most notably, the two adjacent quaternary carbons central to Colombiasin A's carbacycles have been recognised as some of the most challenging aspects of building this natural product.


## (-)-Colombiasin A

In this task, you will follow the approach of D. C. Harrowven and co-workers, which starts off simple, yet concludes in a spectacular fashion. The synthesis begins from enantiomerically pure dihydrocarvone. In the first half of the sequence, a number of simple transformations eventually lead to an $E / Z$ mixture of conjugated diene $\mathbf{E}$. The stereochemical configurations of compounds $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ have been provided in the scheme below. In reaction $\mathrm{C} \rightarrow \mathrm{D}$, a partial reduction occurs over steps 2 i$)$-ii). It is also known that both $\mathbf{C}$ and $\mathbf{D}$ contain a secondary hydroxyl group.


## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

1) Draw the structures of $\mathbf{A}-\mathbf{E}$, taking stereochemistry into account. (9 points)

| A | B | C |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| D | E | Space for corrections |

2) From the list below, tick the most suitable solvent for the reaction $\mathbf{C}+\mathrm{NaCN}$. (2 points)

- $n$-hexane
- toluene
- $\mathrm{NH}_{3}(\mathrm{l})$
- 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE)
- dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO)
- kefir
- $1: 1 \mathrm{MeOH} / \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with $5 \% \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$

3) Sketch the reaction mechanism for transformation $\mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{E}$ and clearly indicate the three by-products formed in progress. You may abbreviate parts of molecule(s) irrelevant to this transformation. Hint: the reaction proceeds via an anionic spirocyclic intermediate. Spiro compounds are molecules, which contain at least two ring systems with only a single common atom. (8 points)

## Code

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| :--- | :--- | :--- |

4) Explain briefly, with reference to relevant ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H}}$ coupling constants, how the $E / Z$ isomeric ratio of compound $\mathbf{E}$ could be estimated by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectroscopy. (3 points)
$\square$

## Code

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| :--- | :--- | :--- |

In the next part of the synthesis, the $E / Z$ mixture of compound $\mathbf{E}$ is first oxidised into $\mathbf{F}$ and subsequently, with the aid of catalytic $\mathrm{I}_{2}$, converted into stereochemically pure $\mathbf{G}$. Compound $\mathbf{G}$ is then subjected to an interesting sequence of reactions. First, an alkenyllithium species is formed in situ from $\mathbf{G}$ via a Shapiro reaction, which then undergoes a nucleophilic addition to compound $\mathbf{X}$. Following aqueous work-up, the $\alpha$-hydroxy ketone $\mathbf{H}$ is obtained. Hint: the first step in the Shapiro reaction is formation of a hydrazone via condensation.



Information about compound $\mathbf{X}$ :

- Elemental composition: C-64.27 \%; H-7.19 \%; O-28.54 \%.
- ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 2.19(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.62(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}) \mathrm{ppm}$. NB! The listed integrals are relative not absolute.
- ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 199.9,195.9,192.8,182.7,87.5,28.7,9.3 \mathrm{ppm}$.
- Selected IR spectroscopic data: $v_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right)-1799,1748,1584,1395$.

5) Identify the four low molecular weight by-products formed in step $\mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}$. (2 points)

## Code

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| :--- | :--- | :--- |

6) Draw the structures of $\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}$, compound $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{H}$, taking stereochemistry into account where applicable. (8 points)

| $\mathbf{F}$ | G |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{X}$ |  | $\mathbf{H}$ |

Continued on the next page...

## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

The total synthesis of (-)-Colombiasin A from dihydrocarvone culminates in an impressive cascade, which proceeds from $\mathbf{H}$ to $\mathbf{K}$ via intermediates $\mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{J}$. In the very last steps, a [4+2] cycloaddition furnishes the ( - )-Colombiasin $\mathbf{A}$ core and deprotection using $\mathrm{BF}_{3}$ etherate reveals the target molecule.

7) Draw the structures of I-L in the boxes above, taking stereochemistry into account. (8 points)

## Code

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| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Problem 6. Chiral Pool

Chiral pool is a collection of enantiopure (thus chiral), cheap
compounds that could be used as starting materials in synthesis, creating chiral ligands, reagents etc. One of the most popular members of the chiral pool is a terpene Carvone. In this problem we will take a look at a synthesis of sesquiterpene lactone 8epigosheimin, that utilizes ( $S$ )-carvone (A) as a source of chirality.




Note, that:

- PPTS is a weakly acidic catalyst
- In the reaction $\mathbf{G} \square \mathbf{H}$, zinc is required to create an organometallic species


## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

1.Determine the structures of compounds $\mathbf{B}-\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{F}-\mathbf{H}$. (15 points)

| B | F |
| :--- | :--- |
| C | G |
| D |  |

The reagent $\mathbf{X}$ could be obtained in many ways. In the scheme below, two of the most popular routes are shown.


## Code

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra of $\mathbf{X 2}: 6.08(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 5.63(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.30(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.97(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$.
2.Determine the structures of compounds $\mathbf{X 1}, \mathbf{X 2}$ and $\mathbf{X 3}$. (6 points)

| X1 | X2 |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| X3 | You can draw something nice here |
|  |  |

3.Propose a mechanism for the synthesis of $\mathbf{X 1}$. (3 points)
$\square$
4.Propose a reagent(-s) to obtain $\mathbf{X}$ from $\mathbf{X 1}$ in one step. (2 points)
$\square$

The endgame of the synthesis was planned through a Swern oxidation followed by cyclization to obtain the 8 -epigosheimin ( $\mathbf{K}$ ). During the oxidation, an isomer $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{1}$ was formed instead of the necessary $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{2}$. Although the endgame was quite short, in order to prove the absolute configuration, a different route was taken (through $\mathbf{L}$ ).

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |



Note, that $\mathrm{Ti}(\mathrm{IV})$ salts are strong, oxophilic Lewis acids.
5.Determine the structures of compounds $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{L}-\mathbf{O}$. (10 points)

| J1 | N |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| L | [O] |
| [M] |  |

## Code

6. Choose (from the set of conditions below) the appropriate conditions for the transformation of $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{2}$ to $\mathbf{K}$. (2 points)
$\square$ nBuLi, diethylamine
$\square \mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, toluene, reflux
$\square \mathrm{BF}_{3} \cdot \mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$\square \mathrm{NaOH}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$
$\square \mathrm{NaClO}, \mathrm{NaH}_{2} \mathrm{PO}_{4}, \mathrm{tBuOH} / \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
