

- 1) Pb-Ca (0.1%) as the anode which inhibits the electrolysis of water.
- 2) a catalyst (eg. a mixture of 98% ceria (cerium oxide) & 2% Pt that combines the H_2 & O_2 produced during discharge back into water.

11/11 NICKEL-CADMIUM CELL

ANODE: spongy Cd

CATHODE: $Ni(OH)_3$ mixed with 20% graphite powder

ELECTROLYTE: conc soln of KOH (compatibility with various electrodes, good conductivity & low f.p.) 20-28% KOH.

SEPARATOR: Thin plastic pins/layers of cellulose felt.

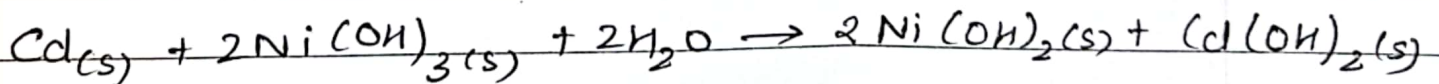
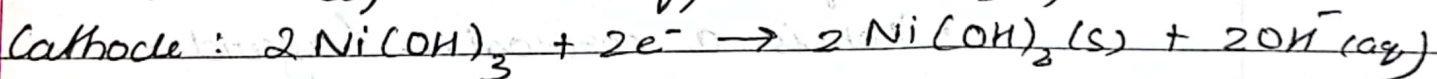
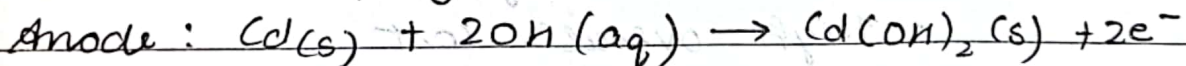
CONTAINER: Steel case.

CELL SCHEME: $Cd/Cd(OH)_2, KOH, Ni(OH)_2/Ni$

O.C.V = 1.25 V.

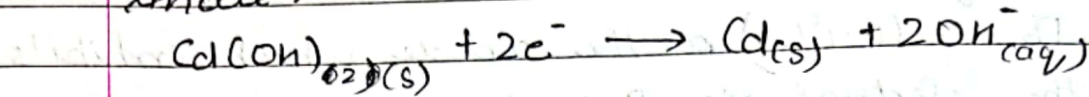
WORKING:

Discharging

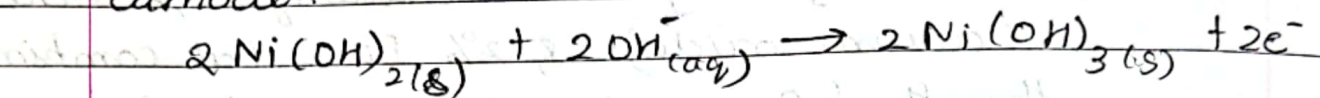


Charging reactions:

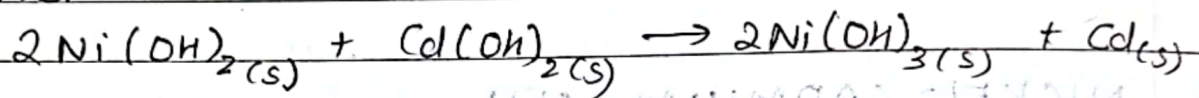
Anode:



Cathode:



Net:



Concentration of electrolyte does not change.

ADVANTAGES:

- Long cycle life
- Constant voltage 1.25V
- Long shelf life
- No gassing
- Long design life.
- Good performance at low temp.
- Produce large current (instantaneous)

DISADVANTAGES:

- Environmental pollution hazard.
- Increased weight
- High overall cost
- KOH is a corrosive hazardous chemical

LITHIUM-ION-CELLS

Cathode: lithiated Transition metal oxides are inserted. eg (LiCoO_2), (LiV_2O_5)

Anode: made up of graphite into which lithium ion is intercalated

Separators: polyolefin's (PP/PE/PP or just PE) using 3 to 8 μm layers with 50% porosity.

Electrolyte: 1M solution of a lithium salt in an organic solvent.

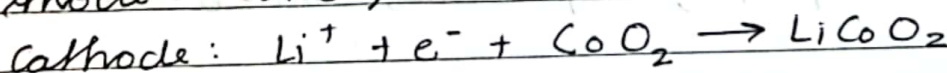
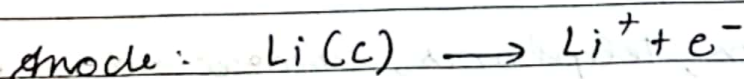
eg 1) Lithium hexafluorophosphate (LiPF_6) in the solvent propylene carbonate.

2) Lithium tetrafluoroborate (LiBF_4) in a solvent ethylene carbonate.

Lithium metal is never used in Li-ion cells. It works based on the swing effect.

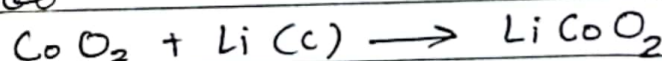
DISCHARGE REACTION.

The main principle is based on the movement of lithium ions between anode and cathode through the electrolyte occurs during discharge.

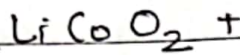
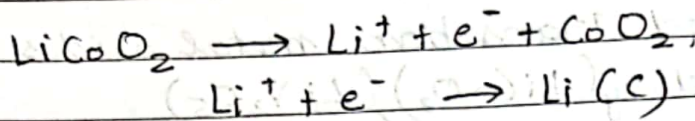


The overall reaction.

~~Co~~



CHARGING.



ADVANTAGES

- Designed to overcome safety problems
- long cycle life
- Small light & provide high energy density
- Can be operated in a wide temp range (Good at low temps)
- High average voltage
- Li highest oxidation potential
- High energy density due to low stoichiometric mass

DISADVANTAGES

- Poor charge retention
- Self discharge rate is about 10% per month
- High cost

APPLICATIONS-

• Laptops, telephones, camerecorders etc.

FUEL CELLS

A fuel cell is a galvanic cell in which chemical energy of a fuel-oxidant system is converted directly into electrical energy in a continuous-electrochemical process.

Scheme:

Fuel ; electrode / electrolyte / electrode / oxidant

- The reactants (ie fuel + oxidant) are constantly supplied from outside and products are removed at the same rate.

Anode:

Fuel + Oxygen \rightarrow Oxidation products + ne^-

Cathode:

Oxidant + $ne^- \rightarrow$ Reduction products

REQUIREMENTS.

- Electrodes: Must be stable porous and a good conductor.
- Catalyst: Porous electrode must be impregnated with catalyst like Pt, Pd, Ag or Ni to enhance otherwise slow reactions.
- Temperature: Optimum
- Electrolyte: Fairly concentrated.

ADVANTAGES.

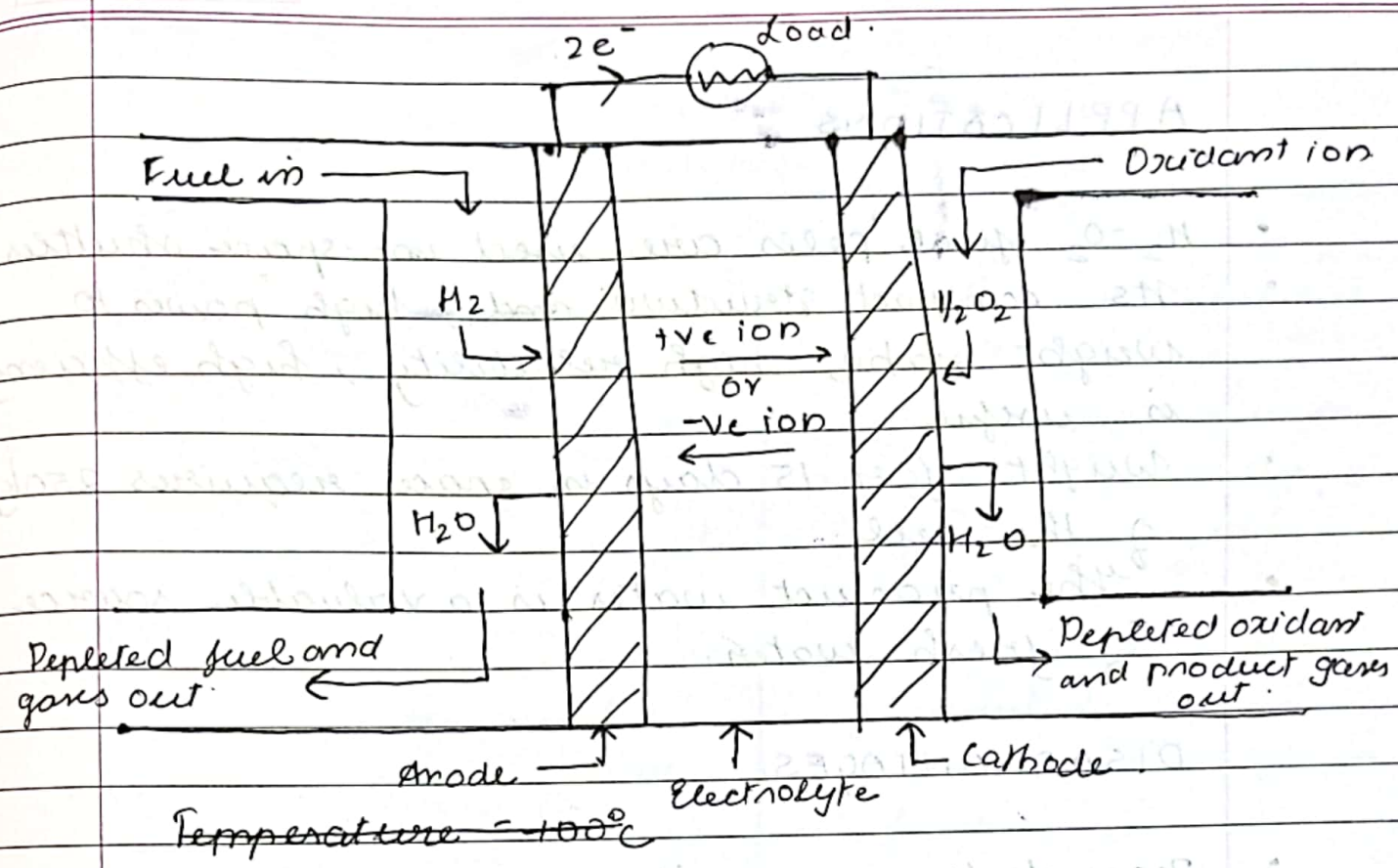
- High efficiency of the energy conversion process.
- Silent process.
- No moving parts and so elimination of wear and tear.
- Absence of harmful waste products.
- No need of changing

APPLICATIONS

- Used as energy source in space shuttles.
- Used in small scale applications in submarines and other military vehicles.
- Suitable in places where environmental pollution and noise are objectionable.

LIMITATIONS

- Cost of power is high as result of the cost of electrodes and catalysts.
- Fuels in the form of gases H_2 and O_2 need to be stored in tanks under high pressure.
- Power output is moderate.
- They are sensitive to fuel contaminants such as CO , H_2S , NH_3 & halides depending on the fuel cell.



HYDROGEN CELL \updownarrow

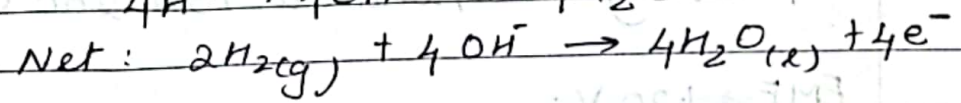
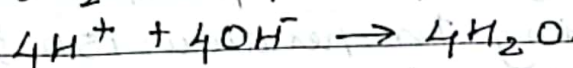
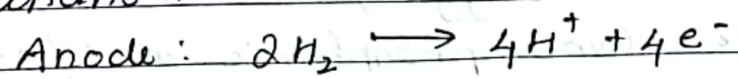
Anode: Porous graphite electrodes impregnated with finely divided Ni or Pt/Pd.

Cathode: Porous graphite electrodes impregnated with finely divided NiO or Pt/Pd.

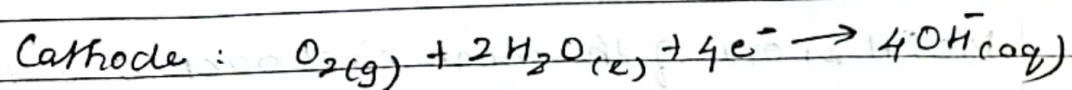
Electrolyte: 35-50% KOH held in asbestos matrix.

Operating temp: 90°C .

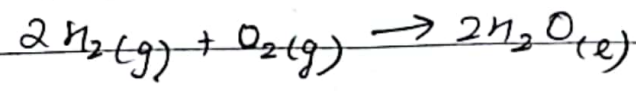
Reactions:



(Water must be removed from the cell and O_2 must be pure)



Net Reaction:



APPLICATIONS

- H_2-O_2 fuel cells are used in space shuttles.
- Its compact structure and high power to weight ratio, high reliability, high efficiency is useful.
- Weight for 15 days in space requires 250kg of the cell.
- The product water is a valuable source of fresh water.

DISADVANTAGES.

- Degradation or malfunction of components limits practical operating life.
- High initial cost because of noble metals.

CH_3OH-O_2 FUEL CELL

- Both electrodes: Made of porous Ni plate impregnated with finely divided Pt.
- Fuel: methyl alcohol
- Oxidant: Pure oxygen/air.
- Electrolyte: Conc. phosphoric acid / Ag, KOH .
- Operating Temperature: $150-200^\circ C$.

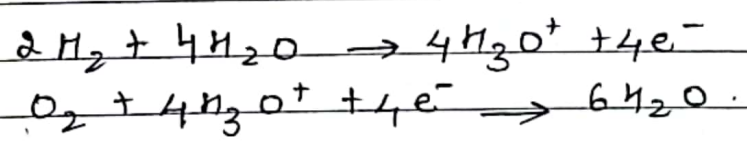
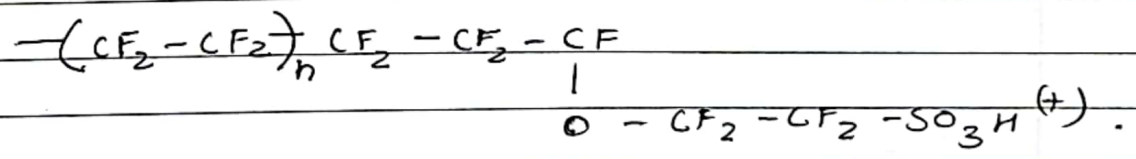
EMF = 1.20 V.

$MeOH$ is one of the most electroactive organic fuels in

DIFFERENCES

	Galvanic Cells.	Fuel Cells.
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stores chemical energy The reactants form an integral part of it These conditions are not required. Pollutants are generated after their useful life. Cannot produce power from fuels Limited life span in use Useful as portable power supplies No problem of removal of reaction products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not store chemical energy Reactants are fed from outside continuously. Need expensive noble catalysts. No pollutants are generated. Produces power from fuels. Never becomes dead. Useful for long term electricity generation. Reaction products must be continuously removed.

Proton
Re Membrane



It requires critical water management because rate of formation of water is greater than rate of removal.