Indian National Chemistry Olympiad 2018 Theory (3 hours)

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Question No	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Marks	20	25	21	19	22	107
Marks Obtained						
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Instructions for students

- Write your Name and Roll No. at the top of the first pages of all problems. •
- This examination paper consists of 30 pages of problems including answer boxes. •
- Kindly check that the booklet has all the pages. If not, report to the invigilator immediately.
- Adequate space has been provided in the answersheet for you to write/calculate your answers. In case • you need extra space to write, you may request for additional blank sheets from the invigilator. Remember to write your roll number on the extra sheets and get them attached to your answersheet.
- Use only a pen to write the answers in the answer boxes. Answers written in pencil will be • penalized.
- All answers must be written in the appropriate boxes. Anything written elsewhere will not be considered for assessment.
- You **must** show the main steps in the calculations.
- For objective type question, mark X in the correct box. Some of the objective questions may have more • than one correct answer.
- A copy of the Periodic Table of the Elements is provided at the back of this page.
- Do not leave the examination room until you are directed to do so.

Fundamental Constants

Avogadro number	$N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \ mol^{-1}$	Mass of electron	$m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Electronic charge	$e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} C$	Speed of light	$c = 2.998 \times 10^8 \ ms^{-1}$
Molar gas constant	$R = 8.314 \text{ J } \text{K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$	1 atomic mass unit	$(1u) = 1.660 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Density of mercury	$= 13.6 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$	Faraday constant	$F = 96485 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$



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Problem 1

20 Marks

Lead Acid Batteries

Part A: Electrochemical processes in a lead acid cell

Conventional lead acid batteries used in cars and invertors are the most common rechargeable batteries in the market. A rechargeable lead acid cell consists of a positive electrode of $Pb_{(s)}/PbO_{2(s)}$, and a negative electrode of $Pb_{(s)}$, both immersed in aqueous H_2SO_4 electrolyte.



Figure 1: Schematic of a conventional lead acid cell

Standard electrode potentials for some half-cell reactions at 298 K are given below.

Half-Cell Reaction	$E^{\mathbf{o}}(\mathbf{V})$
$PbO_{2(s)} + SO_4^{2^-}_{aq)} + 4H^+_{(aq)} + 2e^- \rightarrow PbSO_{4(s)} + 2H_2O_{(l)}$	+1.69
$PbO_{2(s)} + 4 H^{+}_{(aq)} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2 H_2O_{(l)}$	+1.46
$Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Pb_{(s)}$	-0.13
$PbSO_{4(s)} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Pb_{(s)} + SO_{4}^{2-}_{(aq)}$	-0.36

1.1 Write the half-cell reactions that take place at cathode and at anode in above cell during discharge at 298 K. Write the overall discharge reaction and calculate the E° of this cell.

Reaction at Cathode:

Reaction at Anode:

Overall discharge reaction

Molar Enthalpies of formation (H_f°) at 298 K of some species are given below.

Species	H_f^0 (kJ mol ⁻¹)
PbO _{2(s)}	-277.4
H ₂ O _(l)	-285.8
Pb ²⁺ (aq)	1.6
SO4 ²⁻ (aq)	-909.3
PbSO _{4(s)}	-920.0

1.2 Calculate the standard enthalpy change (ΔH_{rxn}°) and standard Gibbs energy change

 (ΔG_{rxn}°) for the overall discharge reaction of the cell in **1.1**.

In a galvanic cell, the chemical energy released during the discharge reaction drives the electrical work. The Gibbs energy change of the discharge reaction represents the maximum electrical work $w_{max(el)}$ that can be extracted from the cell during discharge.

 $W_{max(el)} = -\Delta G^{\circ}_{rxn}$

Maximum work is obtained when the cell is operated reversibly, i.e., at a very low current. Assume that the cell is designed to exchange heat with the surrounding to prevent overheating or overcooling.

1.3 For reversible operation of the cell at 298 K and all species in the cell in their standard states,

a) determine the amount of heat absorbed by the cell from the surrounding per mole of reaction as per the cell equation in **1.1**.

b) what fraction of $w_{max(el)}$ is obtained from the heat exchanged reversibly with the surroundings?

The concentration *c* of a species in a solution is related to its activity *a* as $a = \gamma \times c$, where γ is the activity coefficient. For highly concentrated solutions, the reaction quotient Q must be expressed in terms of activities of the species (i.e., $\gamma \neq 1$).

In commercial lead-acid batteries, highly concentrated H_2SO_4 (aq.) is used. Conventionally, the liquid and solid components in a chemical reaction are assumed to be in their 'standard states'

with activity as 1. However, due to the high concentration of sulfuric acid in the electrolyte, the activity of water also cannot be taken as 1.

1.4 For the discharge reaction of cell in 1.1, write the expression for the cell EMF in terms of activities of the species involved in the reaction. Consider H_2SO_4 (aq.) to be completely dissociated and assume that only solids are in their standard states.

The lead-acid cell is considered to be discharged when the current that can be drawn from it decreases below a certain value. Discharge is also accompanied by a decrease in H_2SO_4 concentration.

Activities of water and products of activities of relevant sulphuric acid species at 298 K in a lead acid cell are listed below at two concentrations of sulphuric acid.

No.	H ₂ SO ₄ Molality (m)	a _{H20}	$(a_{H^+})^2 \cdot (a_{S0_4^{2-}})$
1	1.00	0.9618	0.0018
2	5.00	0.7032	0.8847

1.5 Assuming the discharged and charged states correspond to 1.00 molal and 5.00 molal H₂SO₄, respectively, find the drop in the cell EMF values when it is discharged at 298 K.



Following are certain facts about the cell in Fig. 1.

- (i) PbSO₄(s) predominantly deposits on the electrodes and not in other parts of the cell.
- (ii) PbSO₄(s) deposits on both the electrodes.
- (iii) Resistivity of PbSO₄(s) deposits $(3 \times 10^9 \,\Omega \text{ cm})$ is much higher than that of PbO₂(s) $(2 \times 10^{-4} \,\Omega \text{ cm})$.
- (iv) Resistivity of PbO₂(s) $(2 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \text{ cm})$ is close to that of Pb(s) $(0.2 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \text{ cm})$.

1.6 Which of the above facts makes the cell rechargeable? (Write Statement number(s)

i - iv, as applicable)

Electrolysis of water may become a competing process during charging of the cell in Fig. 1. The relevant half-cell reactions are given below.

Half-Cell Reaction	$E^{\mathbf{o}}(\mathbf{V})$
$O_{2(g)} + 4 H^{+}_{(aq)} + 4 e^{-} \rightarrow 2 H_2O_{(l)}$	+1.23
$2 \operatorname{H}^{+}_{(aq)} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow \operatorname{H}_{2(g)}$	0.00

1.7 For the operation of the cell in Fig.1 at 298 K, indicate whether the given statement is correct or incorrect. (Mark **X** in the appropriate box)

Correct Incorrect

- a. During charging of this cell, positive terminal of the DC power source is connected to the electrode that gets reduced, and negative terminal to the electrode that gets oxidised.
- b. The EMF of the cell depends upon the amounts of the Pb species in the cell.
- c. After a long-time of the lead-acid cell overcharging, the evolution of oxygen on one terminal and that of hydrogen on the other terminal may result in the formation of an explosive mixture of gases.
- d. Upon completion of the charging process, oxygen starts to form on the negative electrodes.
- e. The total energy stored in the cell is limited by the moles of $Pb_{(s)}$ in the negative electrode or the moles of Pb^{4+} in the positive electrode, whichever amount is less.

A different type of lead-based galvanic cell is given below. This cell has methane-sulphonic acid in which Pb^{2+} has high solubility. The electrolyte consists of Pb^{2+} ions dissolved in aqueous CH_3SO_3H in a cell having two inert electrodes. When external power supply is connected to this cell, Pb^{2+} ions are reduced at one electrode and oxidized at the other electrode, with the products depositing on the respective electrodes.



1.8 Write the half-cell reactions that take place at cathode and at anode in the cell in Fig. 2 during discharge at 298 K. Write the overall discharge reaction and calculate the E° of this cell.

	Cathodic:
	Anodic:
	Overall Discharge reaction:
1.9	For the cell in Fig. 2, indicate whether the given statements are true or false
	(Mark X in the appropriate box). True False
a.	Assuming that the volume of the electrolyte in this cell is kept constant,
	the pH of the electrolyte decreases during discharge of the cell.
b.	The EMF of the cell increases with increasing Pb^{2+} ion concentration in

the cell electrolyte. The energy stored in the cell depends on the total amount of the Pb c. species in the cell.

Part B: Re-using spent batteries from cars and inverters

Recently a team of scientists showed that electrolyte for the lead acid cell in Figure 2 can be obtained by recycling the electrodes of a car battery. For this, the positive and negative plates of the spent battery (Fig.1) are thoroughly washed, separately dried and crushed into powders. Addition of excess aqueous methanesulfonic acid to these powders yields the electrolyte for the new lead acid cell (Fig.2).

Write balanced equations for the reactions involved in this conversion. 1.10



Some small-scale recyclers recover metallic Pb_(s) from the electrodes of spent car batteries and throw away the $PbSO_4(s)$ slurry from the cell. It has been shown that a compound X useful for fabricating Pb-based thin film solar cells can be obtained from the slurry without high energy inputs. For this synthesis, the PbSO₄(s) slurry is stirred overnight with a near-saturated solution of salt **A**. This yields a white precipitate **B**, which is collected by filtration.

1.11 Upon heating in a test tube, A decomposes into three colourless gases: an acidic gas, a basic gas and a neutral gas. Inserting a burning stick inside the test tube extinguished it, while a rod dipped in HCl brought close to the mouth of test tube generates white fumes. Identify A and hence B.

Next, a weak monoprotic acid C is used to dissolve **B**. 150 mg sample of C is completely neutralised by 25 mL of 0.1 M NaOH solution.

1.12 Calculate the molar mass of **C**. Identify **C**.

1.13 When excess of a halide salt that is used for treatment of hyper-thyroidism is added to the solution above, the yellow salt **X** precipitates out. Identify **X**.

Problem 2

25 marks

When Rain meets the Soil

Part I: The fragrance of soil

When rain falls on soil after a dry period, a sweet earthy smell is produced known as the fragrance of first rain, which can be detected by camels even at a distance of 50 km. This scent has been captured in an increasingly famous scent "*mitti ka itir*" produced in Kannauj, India. This smell is due to the compounds geosmin (\mathbf{A}) and methyl-isoborneol (\mathbf{B}) produced by the actinobacteria present in soils.

On combustion, 0.455 g of 'A' yields 1.318 g of CO₂.

2.1 Calculate the percentage of carbon in 'A'. Show the calculations involved.

'A' undergoes **dehydration** easily under acidic condition to form an odourless **hydrocarbon** Argosmin **'C'**. 0.455g of **A** reacts with sodium to liberate hydrogen gas which occupies 28.01 cm³ at STP.

2.2 Calculate the empirical formula of A. Show the calculations involved.

C undergoes ozonolysis giving a single compound \mathbf{D} which is further converted to \mathbf{E} as follows.

$$\mathbf{C} \xrightarrow{\text{i. O}_3, (1 \text{ eq.})} \mathbf{D} \xrightarrow{\text{i. NaOH - I}_2} \mathbf{E}$$

ii. H₂O, Zn

E can be synthesized by another route using cyclohexane-1,2-dione as shown below.

2.3 Draw the structures of the intermediate compounds and hence of E in the boxes provided.



2.5 A has three chiral centres. Draw all possible structural isomers of A consistent with the above information. (no stereo isomers are required)

The Cactaceae (cactus) family of plants grows in extremely hot and dry conditions and contain the compound dehydrogeosmin ' \mathbf{F} ', which has ten times more odour than geosmin. It is believed to play a significant role in pollination in these plants.

F is converted to **A** by addition of one mole of H_2 . The ozonolysis product of **F** gives a red precipitate with Fehling's' solution but does not give yellow precipitate with NaOH – I_2 .

The dehydration product of \mathbf{F} , when subjected to ozonolysis gives the following products:



 \mathbf{X} also does not give yellow precipitate with NaOH – I₂.

2.6 Draw the structure of **F** and hence **A**.



The compound 'B' can be synthesized by the following route.

2.7 Draw structures for G and H in the boxes provided.



 $K_{a1} = 4.3 \times 10^{-7}$

 $K_{a2} = 4.8 \times 10^{-11}$

Part II: If the rain is acidic,...

As the water in clouds and rain drops equilibrates with atmosphere, it dissolves gases from the atmosphere. Usually, rain is slightly acidic because of dissolved CO_2 leading to a pH sometime as low as 5.6. The acidity of rain water in industrial areas is higher with pH as low as 3.5 to even 2 in some regions.

Natural water bodies often have carbonates of Na^+ , K^+ , Ca^{2+} , and Mg^{2+} , dissolved from carbonate rocks, whose buffering action neutralizes acid in the rain. This buffering mechanism is important for sustaining aquatic life.

The carbonate buffer system is composed of various species and the equilibria between these species are governed by the following reactions.

$$\operatorname{CO}_2(\mathbf{g}) \rightleftharpoons \operatorname{CO}_2(\mathbf{aq})$$

 $CO_2(aq) + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_2CO_3(aq)$

 $H_2CO_3(aq) + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+(aq) + HCO_3^-(aq)$ $HCO_3^-(aq) + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+(aq) + CO_3^{2-}(aq)$

The ability of a buffer to resist change in pH depends on the total concentration of the buffering species as well as their concentration ratio. Buffer capacity of a given solution is defined as the number of moles of a strong acid or a strong base that changes the pH of 1 L of the buffer by 1 unit.

A laboratory experiment was designed to simulate the buffering action of carbonate solutions, in which 300 mL of 0.004 M Na_2CO_3 solution was titrated against sulphuric acid and the following graph was obtained.



- **2.8** Based on the graph, answer the following questions:a. For what pH range(s), we **cannot** obtain buffers based on carbonate species?
 - b. What volume of 0.03 M H_2SO_4 would change the pH of 1 L 0.004 M Na_2CO_3 by 1 unit.

- c. Buffer capacity of a Na₂CO₃ solution would
 - i) Increase with the concentration of $Na_2CO_3(aq)$
 - ii) Remain unaffected by the concentration of $Na_2CO_3(aq)$
 - iii) Decrease with the concentration of Na₂CO₃(aq)

Next, let us do some simple calculations to understand the buffering action of a $CaCO_3$ solution. A saturated solution of $CaCO_3$ (solubility = 1.1×10^{-4} M) was prepared in distilled water. Assume that the distilled water was free of any dissolved gases and any other cations.

2.9 Calculate the pH of the saturated $CaCO_3$ solution. (Hint: amount of H_2CO_3 (aq) formed under these conditions would be negligible.)



2.10 Determine what volume of $0.03 \text{ M H}_2\text{SO}_4$ would be required to lower the pH of 300 mL of saturated CaCO₃ solution by 1unit. Assume that the volume change of the CaCO₃ solution due to acid addition is small.

2.11	If the saturated solution of $CaCO_3$ is in contact with excess solid $CaCO_3$, the buffer capacity of this system would be (Mark X in the appropriate box) a. same as that of the saturated solution.	er
	b. more than that of the saturated solution.	
	c. lower than that of the saturated solution.	
0 10	$C_{\text{restrict}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2$	0
2.12	Comparing the saturated solutions of MgCO ₃ ($K_{sp} = 6.8 \times 10^{-6}$) and CaCO ₃ ($K_{sp} = 2 \times 10^{-9}$), the correct statements is (Mark X in the appropriate box)	.ð
	a. Buffer capacities of both the solutions are equal	
	b. Buffer capacity of MgCO ₃ solution will be more than that of CaCO ₃	
	c. Buffer capacity of CaCO ₃ solution will be more than that of MgCO ₃	

- **2.13** Among Na_2CO_3 , $MgCO_3$, and $CaCO_3$, identify the salts that fit the following descriptions and write the formula in the boxes provided.
 - (i) For equal volumes of saturated solutions of the three salts taken separately, solution of this salt will provide the best buffering action against acid.
 - (ii) After heavy rains, this salt is found only in dissolved forms in water bodies, no deposits are found in soils.
 - (iii)In regions receiving very high rainfall annually, deposits of this salt remain for centuries, and provide a major source of carbonate buffering against acidic rain for the longest period of time.

Acidic rain in regions lacking sufficient buffering substances lead to acidification of the water bodies, which is often detected by the loss of the sweet smell of geosmin from the region.

Problem 3

21 Marks

Hydrogen Bonding and Water of Crystallization

Part 1

Water is the most abundant molecule on the earth's surface. Water makes a major fraction of the mass of the biological as well as many non-biological entities. Water is liquid at room temperature because of extensive intermolecular hydrogen-bonding. A molecule containing H covalently bonded to an electronegative atom is known as a hydrogen bond donor, whereas a molecule with electron-rich atom which makes H-bond with an H atom is known as a hydrogen bond acceptor.

3.1 Identify the molecules in the figure below which would act as H-bond donors, H-bond acceptors or both (write the corresponding number/s in the box/es)



Hydrogen bond is represented by a dotted line (----) while a covalent bond is represented by a solid line. For some compounds, intermolecular H-bonding leads to formation of porous frameworks with specific pore sizes. Such frameworks can be used to selectively trap small molecules like NH₃, CH₄, SO₂, etc. in an atmosphere.

Xenon is a modern anaesthetic that has been successfully used in surgeries, which shows its ability to interact with other molecules. One challenge with this use is high cost of production, and ease of storage and transport. Interestingly, Xe can be reversibly trapped in porous three-dimensional frameworks of molecules such as water, quinol, etc, held together by H-bonds.

Slow evaporation of an aqueous solution of p-quinol saturated with Xe yields crystal of p-quinol framework. X-ray crystallography of these crystals indicates six p-quinols organized around one Xe atom. The phenyl rings in p-quinols are in cyclic arrangement positioned alternately above and below a plane. This arrangement generates hexagonal cavities in the structure.

The unit cell for Xe-encapsulated p-quinol crystal is shown below. Two molecules of p-quinol are centered at two opposite face centers, 8 molecules are centered at the edge centers, while the rest are inside the cell body.



A view of the above unit cell as seen along the c-axis is given in the box below, with C, O, and Xe atoms labelled (H atoms are not labelled in the structure).



3.2 Show the hydrogen bonds that define the hexagonal cavities in the structure given below.

3.3 By referring to the unit cell diagrams given above, calculate the number of *p*-quinol molecules and the number of Xe atoms present per unit cell. Show the steps involved in arriving at the answer.

The cell parameters for the above unit cell are: a = 16.58 Å, b = 16.58 Å, c = 5.42 Å, $\alpha = \beta = 90^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 120^{\circ}$.

3.4 Determine the density of this crystal (in kg m⁻³), assuming all the hexagonal cavities in the crystal are occupied by Xe atoms.



3.5 If all the hexagonal cavities in the crystal are occupied by Xe atoms, calculate the volume that Xe trapped in 1 cm³ of *p*-quinol framework would occupy when released at 298 K and 1 atm.



Part B: Water of crystallization

Water of crystallization is the amount of water necessary for certain salts to crystallize from their solutions. Studies have shown that water of crystallization forms bonds with the ions of the salt and stabilizes the crystal structure. This water also affects the shapes and colour of their crystals.

Blue-green crystals of CuCl₂.2H₂O on heating lose water giving brown coloured anhydrous salt. The unit cell of anhydrous CuCl₂ is shown below where each copper is in square planar coordination and all Cu-Cl distances are equal.





Cu²⁺ ions.

When $CuCl_2$ is exposed to moisture, water enters the space between the ions forming **CuCl_2.2H_2O**. The water molecules induce many changes such as shift of Cu-Cl units with respect to each other and changes in Cu-Cl distances. CuCl_2.2H_2O crystallizes in an end-centered orthorhombic lattice stabilized by hydrogen bonds. The Cu²⁺ ions occupy all the vertices and centres of two opposite faces.

The following table shows four possible framework positions of Cl^- ions with respect to Cu^{2+} ions. Out of the four frameworks given, three are not observed because of one or more of the following reasons:

- I. The structure would have high inter-ionic repulsions, which cannot be effectively minimized by the two molecules of water per Cu^{2+} ion.
- **II**. The cell shown is not a unit cell because it cannot be repeated to generate a lattice.

III. The ratio of $Cu^{2+}:Cl^{-}$ ions is not 1:2 per unit cell.

3.7 Identify the impossible frameworks by writing the correct reasoning statement (give number **I**, **II** or **III**) against the structure. In the correct framework, show water molecules with appropriate bonds with the ions present.





Materials which can store and release thermal energy by absorbing water molecules are promising heat storage systems. Salts like $CuCl_2.2H_2O$ can be dehydrated by keeping in the sunlight, which is an endothermic process. The anhydrous salts then can be used to heat a room by exposure to water vapours. These salt-based devices can be dehydrated and hydrated again and again.

In search of a thermal energy storage material, a student checked the amount of energy released by anhydrous $CuCl_2$ on exposure to water. The student added 2.5 g anhydrous $CuCl_2$ to 50 mL water (initially at 25°C) in a covered polystyrene cup and noted 3.2°C rise in temperature.

3.8 Assuming that the polystyrene cup is a closed and thermally insulated system and the specific heat of water (with dissolved salts) is 4.18 J $^{\circ}C^{-1}g^{-1}$, calculate the amount of heat released (enthalpy of hydration) by anhydrous CuCl₂ in kJ mol⁻¹.



3.9 To heat a given room in winter for one night, 6,000 kJ of energy is used. Determine the amount of anhydrous CuCl₂ (in kg) required to be stored in the rechargeable device to achieve this amount of heating.

d) 1° Amino

Problem 4

Lignin

Lignin is a biopolymer that constitutes 15 - 40% of the dry weight of plants. Its major function is to provide structural support to the plant. Lignin has the potential of yielding several industrially important chemicals, a concept known as Bio refinery (similar to petroleum refinery). A major challenge in this conversion is the depolymerization of lignin. A representative structure of lignin is:



e) Lactone

Direct chemical depolymerization of lignin is a difficult process. Oxidized forms of lignin can be depolymerized, but it is expensive and involves hazardous reagents. In 2014, a group led by an American scientist Shannon S. Stahl showed that formic acid in the presence of sodium formate can be used efficiently to depolymerize the oxidized forms of lignin. To understand the mechanism of this process, model compounds **D** and **E** that represent structural units of lignin and oxidized lignin, respectively, were prepared. Following scheme illustrates the synthesis of **D**.





f) 2° Alcohol

19 Marks

4.2 Identify structures of **B**, **C** and **D**.



D on oxidation using CrO_3/H_2SO_4 gave an unexpected product **E** and two minor products. **E** gives no reaction with Tollen's reagent or with saturated NaHCO₃.



Both model compounds D and E were treated with excess formic acid in the presence of aqueous sodium formate at room temperature to give products F and G, respectively.

4.4 Identify structures of F and G.





On heating with excess formic acid in aqueous sodium formate at 110 °C, **D** gave only **F**, whereas, **E** gave a mixture of **G**, **H**, **I**, and **J**. For this reaction of **E** at 110°C, variation in the amounts of **E**, **G**, and **J** over time is presented in **Plot 1**.

When **G** was heated with formic acid in aqueous sodium formate to 110° C, **H**, **I** and **J** were obtained. For this reaction, variation in the amounts of **G**, **H** and **J** with time are given in **Plot 2**. The rates of formation of **I** and **J** were same.

4.5 Identify the curves corresponding to **E**, **G** and **J** in **Plots 1**, and for **J** in **Plot 2**. (Write the appropriate letter in the corresponding boxes in the plots)



- **4.6** From the curve for **H** in **plot 2**, we can infer that
 - i) \mathbf{H} is formed at a very low rate.
 - ii) ${\bf H}$ is formed by the reaction of ${\bf G}$ and ${\bf J}.$
 - iii) \mathbf{H} is in equilibrium with \mathbf{G} .
 - iv) ${\bf H}$ is formed as well as consumed during the reaction.

(Mark X in the correct box/es)



C-H bond and its Deuterium analogue, C-D bond, differ in their bond energies. This difference in bond energies also affects the rate of reactions where these bonds are involved. A new sample of compound **E** was prepared by substituting a Deuterium in place of Hydrogen at the chiral carbon in **E**. This substitution decreased the rate of reaction of **E** with formic acid/sodium formate at 110 $^{\circ}$ C.

- **4.7** Choose the correct inference of the reaction of **E** with formic acid/sodium formate at 110 ^oC. (Mark **X** against the correct option/s)
 - a) The rate decreased because the bond energy of C-H bond is more than of C-D bond
 - b) A change in rate due to Deuterium substitution suggests breaking of a C-H bond during the reaction and it is the rate determining step
 - c) The change in rate suggests that the rate determining step involves a base.
 - d) The change in rate suggests a protonation/deuteration step by formic acid and it is the rate determining step.

Among H, I & J, compound H decolorized acidic KMnO₄ solution and compound J gave a positive test with aqueous ferric chloride. I gives the iodoform test.





- **4.9** The major conclusion/s of the above studies with model compounds **D** and **E** is/are: (Mark **X** in the correct box/es)
 - a) Depolymerisation of oxidized lignin is via cleavage of C-C bonds in -c c units.
 - b) Oxidized lignin undergoes depolymerisation by formic acid/sodium formate by cleavage of ether linkages.
 - c) Selective oxidation of 2° alcohol groups on lignin is essential for an efficient depolymerisation reaction by formic acid/sodium formate.
 - d) Every C-O bond cleavage consumes one molecule of formic acid

A naturally occurring popular flavor compound **K** used initially by Aztecs in Central America was introduced to the Europeans in 1520. In later periods, 90% of the supply of this compound was sourced from a plant cultivated in Madagascar. It was also produced from small molecules obtained from waste lignin from the paper industry. Currently, >99% of **K** is produced using petrochemicals.

Protocatechualdehyde with dimethyl sulphate in the presence of NaOH gives **K** along with **L** and **M**. In this reaction, the product ratios can be controlled by the reaction conditions. With excess of NaOH and excess of dimethyl sulfate, product **L** was formed exclusively.



Protocatechualdehyde

4.10 Identify L.



When one equivalent of NaOH and one equivalent of dimethyl sulphate were used, \mathbf{K} was formed in 87% yield. The same reaction when carried out with excess of NaOH and only one equivalent of dimethyl sulfate, \mathbf{M} was formed in 95% yield.

4.11 Identify K and M.



Plants use phenylalanine to make several small aromatic organic molecules which are later used in the formation of the lignin framework. Some of these small molecules get attached to the carbohydrates in the cell wall. Compounds \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{S} shown below are formed as a result of sunlight induced photochemical reaction of \mathbf{P} .

R and **S** were chemically synthesized by the following scheme. Air oxidation of **N** in presence of an acid gave **O**.



Problem 5 2

22 marks

Keto-Enol Tautomerism: Kinetics and Thermodynamics

Two compounds having the same molecular formula but different structural arrangement of atoms in molecules are known as structural isomers, e.g., C_2H_6O represents both ethyl alcohol and dimethyl ether. One form of structural isomerism is tautomerism, in which the same molecule dynamically interconverts between two or more structural forms. Carbonyl compounds exhibit keto-enol tautomerism, represented as follows:



5.1 For the following compound, write the possible tautomers.



Many carbonyl compounds with acidic alpha hydrogen are important for industrial synthesis of many chemicals. Ethyl acetoacetate (EAA), i.e., ethyl-3-oxo butanoate is one such widely used compound. In solution, EAA is an equilibrium mixture of the keto and an enol form.

5.2 Draw the structures of possible enol forms for EAA and identify the most stable enol form.



The most stable enol form is observed experimentally. To study the kinetics of the following reaction, a detailed experiment was conducted.

EAA(Keto)
$$\stackrel{k_{\rm F}}{\longleftarrow}$$
 EAA(Enol) (1)

Four flasks (**A** - **D**) were taken, each containing 25 mL solution **S** of EAA (15 g L⁻¹) in anhydrous methanol. The flasks were maintained at 20 °C throughout this study. Excess of freshly prepared bromine solution in methanol (25 mL) at 20°C was added rapidly to each flask at t = 0 s. The enol form reacts extremely rapidly with bromine while the keto form does not. This reaction results in an acidic solution. Bromination of enol is a very fast reaction compared to the enolization of EAA. The mono-brominated ester formed is stable and doesn't react further under these reaction conditions.

5.3 Write the balanced chemical equation for the reaction that would take place on addition of bromine to solution **S**.

Excess of 2,4,4-trimethyl-1-pentene was added rapidly to flasks **A**, **B**, **C** and **D** at t = 10, 40, 75, and 100 s, respectively.

5.4 The 2,4,4-trimethyl-1-pentene added will (Mark **X** in the appropriate box(es)) (i) increase the rate of keto to enol conversion.

- (ii) consume unreacted bromine.
- (iii) react with monobrominated ester and hence ensure complete bromination of EAA.

(iv) stop the enolization reaction.

After addition of 2,4,4-trimethyl-1-pentene, about 10 mL of 10% aqueous KI solution was added to each of the flasks $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D}$ and allowed to stand for 30 minutes. The reaction mixture was still acidic. During this time, brominated ester is converted back to EAA. Then, the liberated iodine is titrated with 0.1 M sodium thiosulphate solution using starch indicator. Assume that there is no reaction between iodine and any form of EAA.

5.5 Write the balanced equation of the reaction for the liberation of iodine.

5.6 Write the balanced equation for reaction of iodine with sodium thiosulphate.





Following volumes of sodium thiosulphate solution were consumed in titration with the solutions in the flasks \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{B} and \mathbf{C} at 20 °C.

Flask	Volume of $Na_2S_2O_3$ solution used (mL)
А	3.78
В	4.02
С	4.30

5.7 From this data, find n_{keto}, the number of moles of keto form of EAA at the time of addition of 2,4,4-trimethyl-1-pentene, for the flasks A, B and C. Show detailed calculations for flask A. You may assume volumes to be additive during mixing of solutions in this experiment.



The following graph indicates the plot of $-\ln(n_{keto})$ versus time (*t*). Point corresponding to flask **D** is indicated on the graph.



5.8 Plot the values corresponding to flasks A, B and C in the graph above. Using the graph, find the following for conversion of EAA (keto) to EAA (enol) in reaction (1).a. The order of the reaction.

b. Rate constant $k_{\rm F}$ for the reaction.

c. Equilibrium constant K_{eq} for the reaction. Report the answer upto 5 significant figures.



When the above experiment was carried out at 40°C, the values of K_F and K_{eq} were found to be $5.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and 0.06272, respectively.

5.9 Using the above information, find the values of ΔH° (in kJ mol⁻¹) and ΔS° (in kJ mol⁻¹ K⁻¹) for the enolization reaction (1). Assume ΔH° and ΔS° to be independent of temperature. Show necessary calculations.



Reaction kinetics is very important for the industrial use of a reaction, as the reaction rates affect the time in which a certain amount of product can be synthesised. This time of production in turn affects the cost of the final product.

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An industrialist has 8.5 kg of EAA and hopes to produce compound **Y** (Molar mass = 174 g), which is obtained in equimolar amount from the Enol form of EAA.

EAA (Keto)
$$\stackrel{k_{\rm F}}{\longleftarrow}$$
 EAA(Enol) $\stackrel{k'}{\longrightarrow}$ Y

5.10 For what value of k', the industrialist would obtain a certain amount of **Y** in minimum amount of time? (Mark **X** in the appropriate box(es))

(i)
$$k' \approx 0$$
 (ii) $k' \rightarrow \text{infinity}$

5.11 The industrialist did not know the value of k', but wanted to know the minimum time that would be required to produce 10 kg of **Y** using the available EAA in methanol as solvent at 40°C. Estimate this time assuming that (i) the kinetics of the enolization reaction of EAA in this large scale reaction is same as determined in the laboratory experiment described above and (ii) other effects such as changes in temperature and solution volume during the progress of reaction are negligible.



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