

Q4-1: All of the following reduction reactions could occur on the surface of an electrode. For which of the reactions do you think a microbial catalyst would be beneficial? Why?

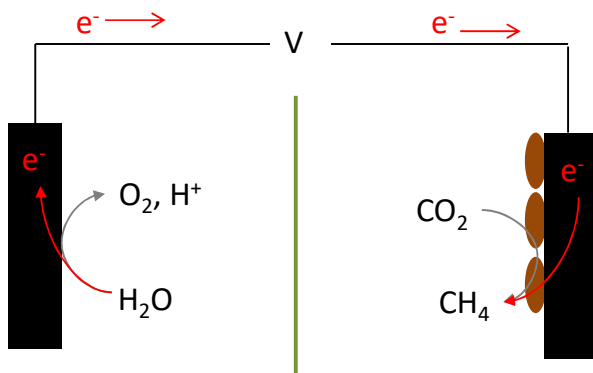
- a)  $\text{Cd}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{s})$
- b)  $\text{O}_2 + 2\text{e}^- + 2\text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$
- c)  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{COO}^- + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 3\text{CO}_2 + 14\text{e}^- + 13\text{H}^+$
- d)  $2\text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}_2 + 2\text{e}^-$
- e)  $\text{H}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^-$

Q4-2: Assume the standard reduction potential (at pH 7) for  $\text{NAD}^+/\text{NADH}$  is -0.32 V. What is the actual reduction potential if the ratio inside the microbial cells is (assume 25°C):

- a)  $\text{NAD}^+/\text{NADH} = 100$
- b)  $\text{NAD}^+/\text{NADH} = 1/100$

Q4-3: Consider a microbial electrolysis cell with an abiotic water-oxidizing anode and a biological methane-producing cathode operating at pH 7. Assume we get renewable energy from wind power, which on average produces 200 kW.

- a) How many moles of  $\text{CH}_4$  could be produced in 1 day if the cathode had an overpotential of 0.5 V, the anode had an overpotential of 0.8 V, and the ohmic resistance was negligible?
- b) How large surface area of the cathode is needed if the current density is 12 A/m<sup>2</sup>?



Q4-4: Do a literature search. Write a half-page summary of an article relevant for your research topic. The article should involve electrochemistry in some form.