Question:

A Cr(s)|Cr3 (aq)||Fe3 (aq)|Fe(s) galvanic cell has a standard cell potential of 0.700 V. Calculate the Gibbs free energy change at 25 °C when 2.20 g of iron is deposited. Assume the concentrations in the cell remain at the standard state values of 1 M through the entire deposition process.

delta G=? J

Calculate the maximum amount of work done by the cell on its surroundings.

wmax=? J

Solution:

There is a reaction:

 $Cr(s) + Fe^{3+}(aq) \rightarrow Cr^{3+}(aq) + Fe(s); \xi^{\circ}=0.700V$

ΔG° = -nF ξ°,

Where

n is number of moles of electrons: $n = 3 \times \frac{2.20g}{55.86\frac{g}{mol}} = 0.118$ mol;

F is the Faraday constant: $F = 96.485 \frac{C}{mol}$;

 ξ° is the standard cell potential: $\xi^{\circ} = 0.700 V = 0.700 \frac{J}{c}$

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -0.118 \text{ mol} \times 96485 \frac{\text{C}}{\text{mol}} \times 0.700 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{C}} = -7.97 \times 10^3 \text{ J}$$

For a galvanic cell,

 $w_{max} = \Delta G^{\circ} = -7.97 \times 10^3 \text{ J}$

Answer:

 $-7.97 \times 10^{3} \text{ J}$

 -7.97×10^3 J.

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