

3.16 Oxidizing and Reducing Agents

- **Oxidizing agent** causes oxidation (removes electrons from the species being oxidized)
 - is the species being reduced
 - contains an element which undergoes a decrease in Ox# (reduction)
- **Reducing agent** causes reduction (supplies electrons to the species being reduced)
 - is the species being oxidized
 - contains an element which undergoes an increase in Ox# (oxidation)

• Identification of Ox/Red agents - need to examine the Ox# of all elements in the reaction **Example:** Identify the Ox. and Red. agents in the reaction of Cu with hot, concentrated H_2SO_4 . Cu(s) + 2H_2SO_4(aq,conc.) \rightarrow \rightarrow Cu²⁺ + SO₄²⁻ + SO₂(g) + 2H₂O(l) Cu(s) + 2H₂SO₄(aq,conc.) \rightarrow $_0$ +1 +6 -2 \rightarrow Cu²⁺ + SO₄²⁻ + SO₂(g) + 2H₂O(l) +2 +6 -2 +4 -2 +1 -2

 $Cu \Rightarrow 0 \text{ (in } Cu) \rightarrow +2 \text{ (in } Cu^{2+})$ $S \Rightarrow +6 \text{ (in } H_2SO_4) \rightarrow +4 \text{ (in } SO_2)$

 $\Rightarrow Cu \text{ is oxidized} \Rightarrow Cu \text{ is the reducing agent} \\ \Rightarrow S \text{ in } H_2SO_4 \text{ is reduced} \Rightarrow H_2SO_4 \text{ is the oxidizing agent} \\$

 \Rightarrow H₂SO₄ oxidizes Cu; Cu reduces H₂SO₄

3.17 Balancing Simple Redox Equations

- Charge balance in redox equations
 - electrons lost in oxidation must be gained in reduction
 - total charge of reactants must equal total charge of products

$$\begin{split} Zn(s) + Ag^+ &\rightarrow Zn^{2+} + Ag(s) \qquad \mathscr{P} \\ \text{the mass is balanced, but the charge is not balanced} \\ Zn(s) + 2Ag^+ &\rightarrow Zn^{2+} + 2Ag(s) \end{split}$$

Example:

• Write the net ionic equation for the oxidation of iodide ions to iodine by cerium(IV) ions which are reduced to cerium(III) ions.

$$\operatorname{Ce}^{4+} + \operatorname{I}^{-} \to \operatorname{Ce}^{3+} + \operatorname{I}_2(s)$$

⇒mass balance:

$$Ce^{4+} + 2I^- \rightarrow Ce^{3+} + I_2(s)$$

$$ce^+ 21 \rightarrow ce^+ +$$

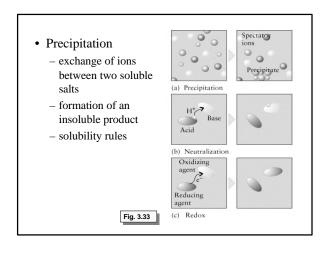
 \Rightarrow charge balance:

 $2Ce^{4+} + 2I^- \rightarrow 2Ce^{3+} + I_2(s)$

3.18 Classifying Reactions

• Redox

- change in Ox# of elements
- products
 - · carbon dioxide and water for combustion
 - · ionic compound for metal + nonmetal
- Neutralization
 - transfer of protons from an acid to a base
 - products are salt (cation from base, anion from acid) and/or water (sometimes gas formation)



• **Example:** Balance the equation of the reaction between ammonia gas and and copper(II) oxide with products nitrogen, copper and liquid water. Identify the reaction type. \Rightarrow skeletal equation: $NH_3(g) + CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + Cu(s) + H_2O(l) \quad \mathscr{I}$ \Rightarrow balanced equation:

 $2NH_3(g) + CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + Cu(s) + H_2O(l)$

 $2NH_3(g) + CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + Cu(s) + 3H_2O(l) \quad \mathscr{P}$ $2NH_3(g) + 3CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + Cu(s) + 3H_2O(l) \quad \mathscr{I}$ $2NH_3(g) + 3CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + 3Cu(s) + 3H_2O(l)$

⇒formation of elements (check Ox#):

$$2NH_3(g) + 3CuO(s) \rightarrow N_2(g) + 3Cu(s) + 3H_2O(l)$$
-3 +2 0 0
⇒change in (Ox#) → Redox reaction

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Example: Predict the products of the reaction between sodium carbonate and hydrobromic acid.

 \Rightarrow HBr is a strong acid, Na₂CO₃ is a salt \rightarrow probably a proton transfer reaction

 \Rightarrow Na₂CO₃ is a salt of a weak acid \rightarrow gas formation

 $2HBr(aq) + Na_2CO_3(aq) \rightarrow NaBr(aq) + H_2CO_3(aq)$

$$H_2CO_3(aq) \rightarrow CO_2(g) + H_2O(l)$$

$$\Rightarrow gas formation reaction 2HBr(aq) + Na_2CO_3(aq) \rightarrow 2NaBr(aq) + CO_2(g) + + H_2O(l) 2H^+ + 2Br^+ + 2Na^+ + CO_3^{-2-} \rightarrow 2Na^+ + 2Br^- + + CO_2(g) + H_2O(l) \Rightarrow net ionic equation: 2H^+ + CO_3^{-2-} \rightarrow CO_2(g) + H_2O(l) \Rightarrow consider the hydronium ions: 2H_3O^+ + CO_3^{-2-} \rightarrow CO_2(g) + 3H_2O(l)$$

Assignments:

- Homework: Chpt. 3/3, 5, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 45, 49, 51, 53, 59, 61, 73
- Student companion: 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6