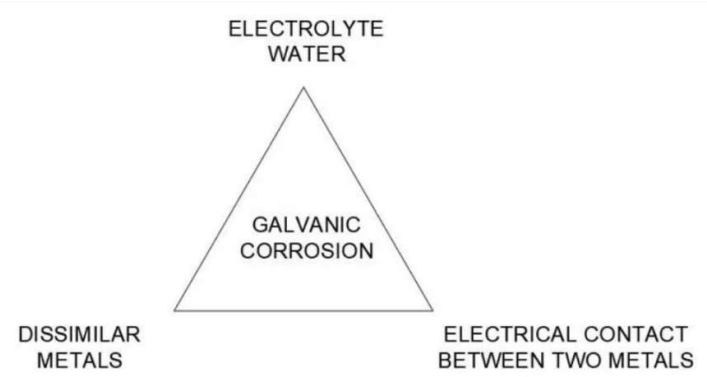

NEO
SUBSEA
DESIGN

METAL COMPATIBILITY

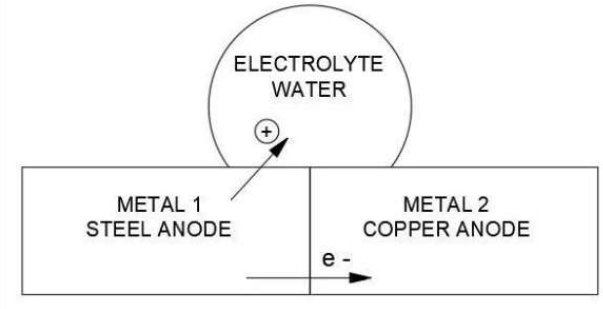
Principle of galvanic corrosion

Galvanic corrosion takes place in the presence of three different conditions:

- Two metals of different natures, with different oxidation-reduction potential
- The electrical contact between these two metals
- The presence of water acting as an electrolyte, coating the two metals



Reducing galvanic corrosion consists of eliminating one of these three conditions. However, it is impossible for us to eliminate the water or the nature of the metals in contact. It is possible for us to avoid electrical contact, we will see how. Some materials, such as iron, rust by themselves in water, this is self-corrosion and will not be detailed in what follows. We will focus on galvanic corrosion which is much more problematic. Galvanic corrosion is like a shorted battery. The term galvanic refers to an electric current flowing between two metals with movement of metal ions.



Metal 1 corroded is called anode: the steel releases metal ions (Fe2+ for example)

An electric current circulates between these two metals: Electrons.

The metal 2 which is charged with metal ions is the cathode.

The table below summarizes the metals that should be avoided.

Table of electrochemical couples	Pt (Platine)	Au (Gold)	Ti (Titane)	AISI 316L (passive stainless steel)	Ag (Silver)	Ni (Nickel)	Ni Cu 30 (Monel 400)	NiCr15 Fe8 (Inconel 600)	Cu55 Zn23 Ni22 (Arcap)	Cu (Copper)	Ai10 SN66 Pb34	Cu Zn34 (Brass)	Cu88 Sn12 (Bronze)	Sn (Tin)	Pb (Lead)	Al Cu Mg1 (Duralumin)	Soft steel	Al Si 10Mg (Alpax H)	Al 99.5 (Aluminium)	Hard steel	Al Mg5 (Duralinox)	ADC12 (Alliage Aluminium)	Cd (Cadmium)	Fe (Iron)	Cr (Chromium)	Al Mg S0.7 (Almasilium)	Sn 75 Zn25	Zn (Zinc)	Al PVD	Mg (Magnesium)
Pt (Platine)	0	130	250	250	350	430	430	430	450	570	600	650	770	800	840	940	1000	1065	1090	1095	1100	1100	1100	1105	1200	1200	1350	1400	1400	1900
Au (Gold)	130	0	110	110	220	300	300	300	320	410	470	520	610	670	710	810	870	935	960	965	970	970	970	975	1070	1070	1230	1270	1270	1820
Ti (Titane)	250	110	0	0	110	180	180	180	200	320	350	400	520	550	590	690	750	815	840	845	850	850	850	855	950	950	1100	1150	1150	1700
AISI 316L (passive stainless steel)	250	110	0	0	110	180	180	180	200	320	350	400	520	550	590	690	750	815	840	845	850	850	850	855	950	950	1100	1150	1150	1700
Ag (Silver)	350	220	100	100	0	80	80	80	100	220	250	300	420	450	490	590	650	715	740	745	750	750	750	755	850	850	1010	1050	1050	1600
Ni (Nickel)	430	300	180	180	80	0	0	0	20	110	170	220	340	370	410	510	570	635	660	665	670	670	670	675	770	770	930	970	970	1520
Ni Cu 30 (Monel 400)	430	300	180	180	80	0	0	0	20	110	170	220	340	370	410	510	570	635	660	665	670	670	670	675	770	770	930	970	970	1520
NiCr15 Fe8 (Inconel 600)	430	300	180	180	80	0	0	0	20	110	170	220	340	370	410	510	570	635	66	665	670	670	670	675	770	770	930	970	970	1520
Cu55 Zn23 Ni22 (Arcap)	450	320	200	200	100	20	20	20	0	120	150	200	320	350	380	490	550	615	640	645	650	650	650	655	750	750	910	950	950	1500
Cu (Copper)	570	440	320	320	220	140	140	140	120	0	30	80	200	230	270	370	430	495	520	525	530	530	530	535	630	630	780	830	830	1380
Ai10 SN66 Pb34	600	470	350	350	250	170	170	170	150	30	0	50	170	200	210	310	400	465	490	495	500	500	500	505	600	600	760	800	800	1350
Cu Zn34 (Brass)	650	520	400	400	300	220	220	220	200	80	50	0	120	150	190	290	350	415	410	445	450	450	450	455	550	550	710	750	750	1300
Cu88 Sn12 (Bronze)	770	640	520	520	420	340	340	340	320	200	170	120	0	30	70	170	230	295	320	325	330	330	330	335	430	430	590	630	630	1180
Sn (Tin)	800	670	550	550	450	370	370	370	350	230	200	150	30	0	40	140	200	265	290	295	300	300	300	305	400	400	560	600	600	1150
Pb (Lead)	840	710	590	590	490	410	410	410	380	270	240	190	70	40	0	100	160	225	250	255	260	260	260	265	360	360	520	660	560	1110
Al Cu Mg1 (Duralumin)	940	810	690	690	590	510	510	510	490	370	340	290	170	140	100	0	60	125	150	155	160	160	160	165	260	260	420	560	560	1010
Soft steel	1000	870	750	750	650	570	570	570	550	430	400	350	230	200	150	60	0	65	90	95	100	100	100	105	200	200	360	400	400	950
Al Si 10Mg (Alpax H)	1065	935	815	815	715	635	635	635	615	495	465	415	295	265	225	125	65	0	25	30	35	35	35	40	135	135	295	355	355	885
Al 99.5 (Aluminium)	1090	960	840	840	740	660	660	660	640	520	490	440	320	290	250	150	90	25	0	5	10	10	10	15	110	110	270	310	310	860
Hard steel	1095	965	845	845	745	665	665	665	645	525	495	445	325	295	255	155	95	30	5	0	5	5	5	10	105	105	265	305	305	855
Al Mg5 (Duralinox)	1100	970	850	850	750	670	670	670	650	530	500	450	330	300	260	160	100	35	10	5	0	0	0	5	100	100	260	300	300	850
ADC12 (Alliage Aluminium)	1100	970	850	850	750	670	670	670	650	530	500	450	330	300	260	160	100	35	10	5	0	0	0	5	100	100	260	300	300	850
Cd (Cadmium)	1100	970	850	850	750	670	670	670	650	530	500	450	330	300	260	160	100	35	10	5	0	0	0	5	100	100	260	300	300	850
Fe (Iron)	1105	975	855	855	755	675	675	675	655	535	505	455	335	305	265	165	105	40	15	10	5	5	5	0	95	95	255	295	295	845
Cr (Chromium)	1200	1070	950	950	850	770	770	770	750	630	600	550	430	400	380	260	200	135	110	105	100	100	100	95	0	0	160	200	200	750
Al Mg S0.7 (Almasilium)	1200	1070	950	950	850	770	770	770	750	630	600	550	430	400	380	260	200	135	110	105	100	100	100	95	0	0	160	200	200	750
Sn 75 Zn25	1350	1230	1110	1110	1010	930	930	930	910	790	760	710	590	650	520	420	360	295	270	265	260	260	260	225	160	160	0	40	40	590
Zn (Zinc)	1400	1270	1150	1150	1050	970	970	970	950	830	800	750	630	600	560	460	400	335	310	305	300	300	300	295	200	200	40	0	0	550
Zn Ai4 (Zamac 3)	1400	1270	1150	1150	1050	970	970	970	950	830	800	750	630	600	560	460	400	335	310	305	300	300	300	295	200	200	40	0	0	550
Al PVD	1400	1270	1150	1150	1050	970	970	970	950	830	800	750	630	600	560	460	400	335	310	305	300	300	300	295	200	200	40	0	0	550
Mg (Magnesium)	1900	1820	1700	1700	1600	1600	1600	1600	1520	1500	1390	1300	1180	1150	1110	1010	950	885	860	850	850	850	850	845	845	845	590	560	560	0

There is no noticeable appearance of corrosion when the value of the galvanic couple is less than 300mV

0 - 300mV

301 - 500mV

501 - 800 mV

> 800 mV