Curiosity: What does a power source change?

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An electrolytic cell keeps the redox labels from a galvanic cell: oxidation at anode and reduction at cathode. What changes is the role of the external source. Its negative terminal delivers electrons to the cathode, while its positive terminal removes electrons from the anode, driving the stated transfer.

The electrical input lets us connect a measured charge to an electron count. That calculation can predict an ideal amount of transferred material from a supplied reaction ratio. It still does not guarantee how a real apparatus behaves, because solution composition, competing reactions, resistance, and operating conditions matter.