

50 years of nucleic acid electrochemistry

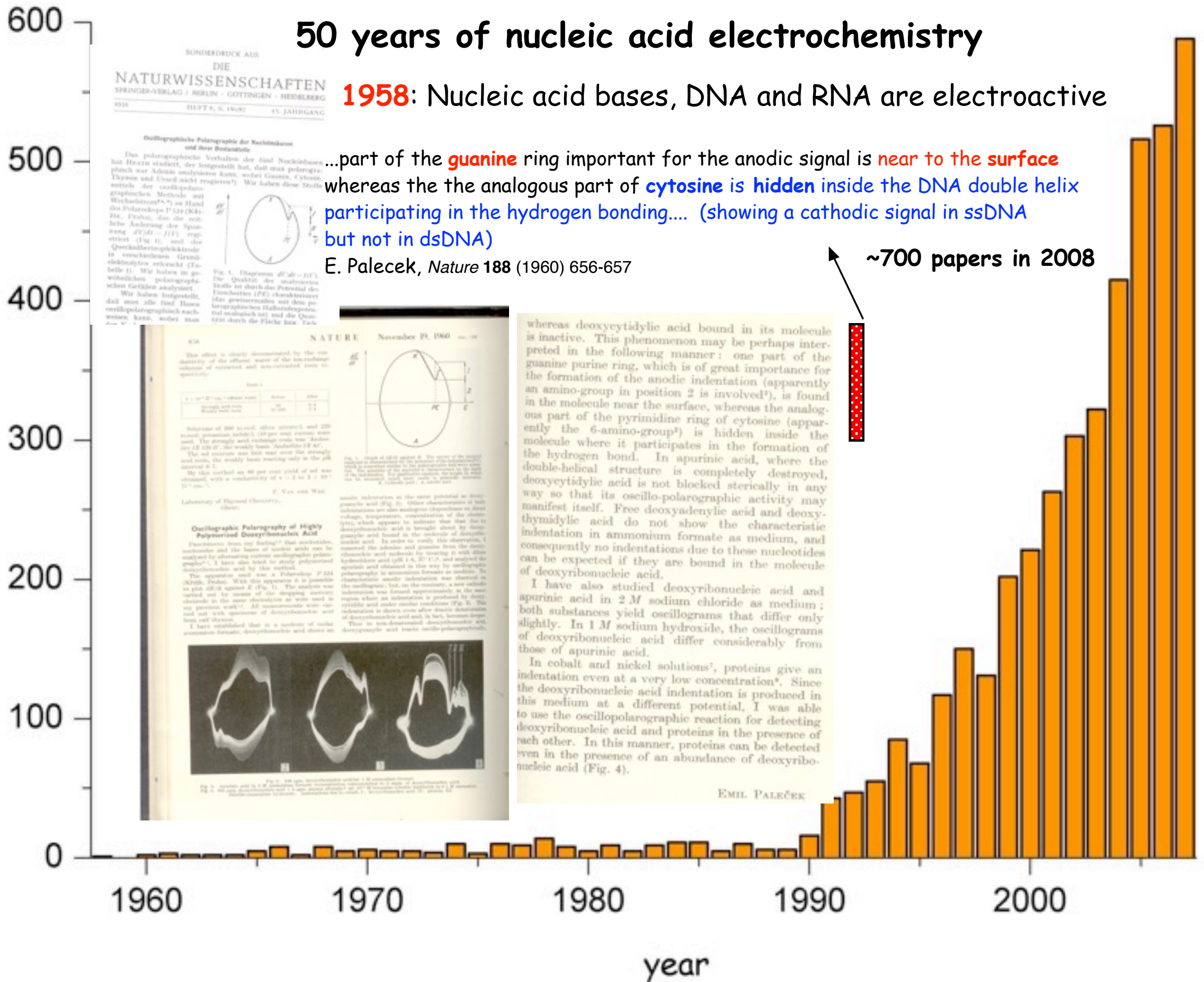
1958: Nucleic acid bases, DNA and RNA are electroactive

...part of the **guanine** ring important for the anodic signal is **near to the surface** whereas the the analogous part of **cytosine** is **hidden inside the DNA double helix** participating in the hydrogen bonding... (showing a cathodic signal in ssDNA but not in dsDNA)

E. Palecek, *Nature* 188 (1960) 656-657

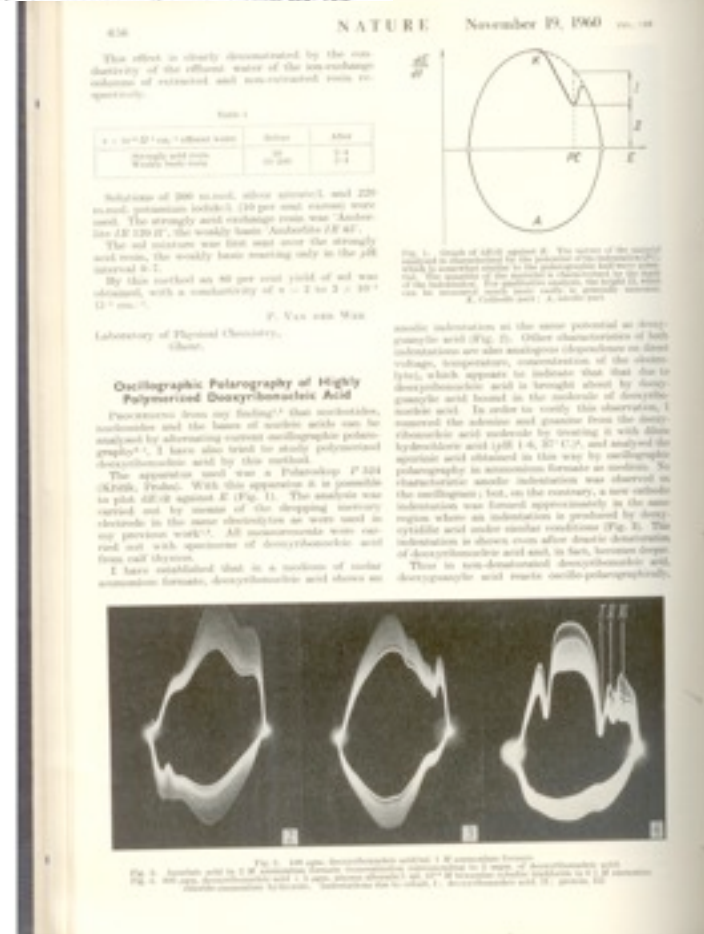
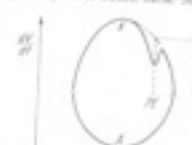
~700 papers in 2008

Number of publications



Oscillographische Polarographie der Nucleinsäuren und ihrer Bestandteile

Das polarographische Verhalten der fünf Nucleinsäuren hat HEATH studiert, der festgestellt hat, daß man polarographisch nur Adenin analysieren kann, während Guanin, Cytosin, Thymin und Uracil nicht reagieren! Wir haben diese Stoffe mittels der oszillographischen Methode mit Hochstromstrom (100 mA) an Hand des Polarograph P 224 (K.R.H. He. Prähler, das die zeitliche Änderung der Spannung $dV/dt = j(t)$ registriert (Fig. 1), und die Querschnittsdiagramme in verschiedenen Grundelektrolyten erforscht (Tabelle 1). Wir haben in gewöhnlichen polarographischen Geräten analysiert. Wir haben festgestellt, daß man alle fünf Basen oszillographisch nachweisen kann, wobei man

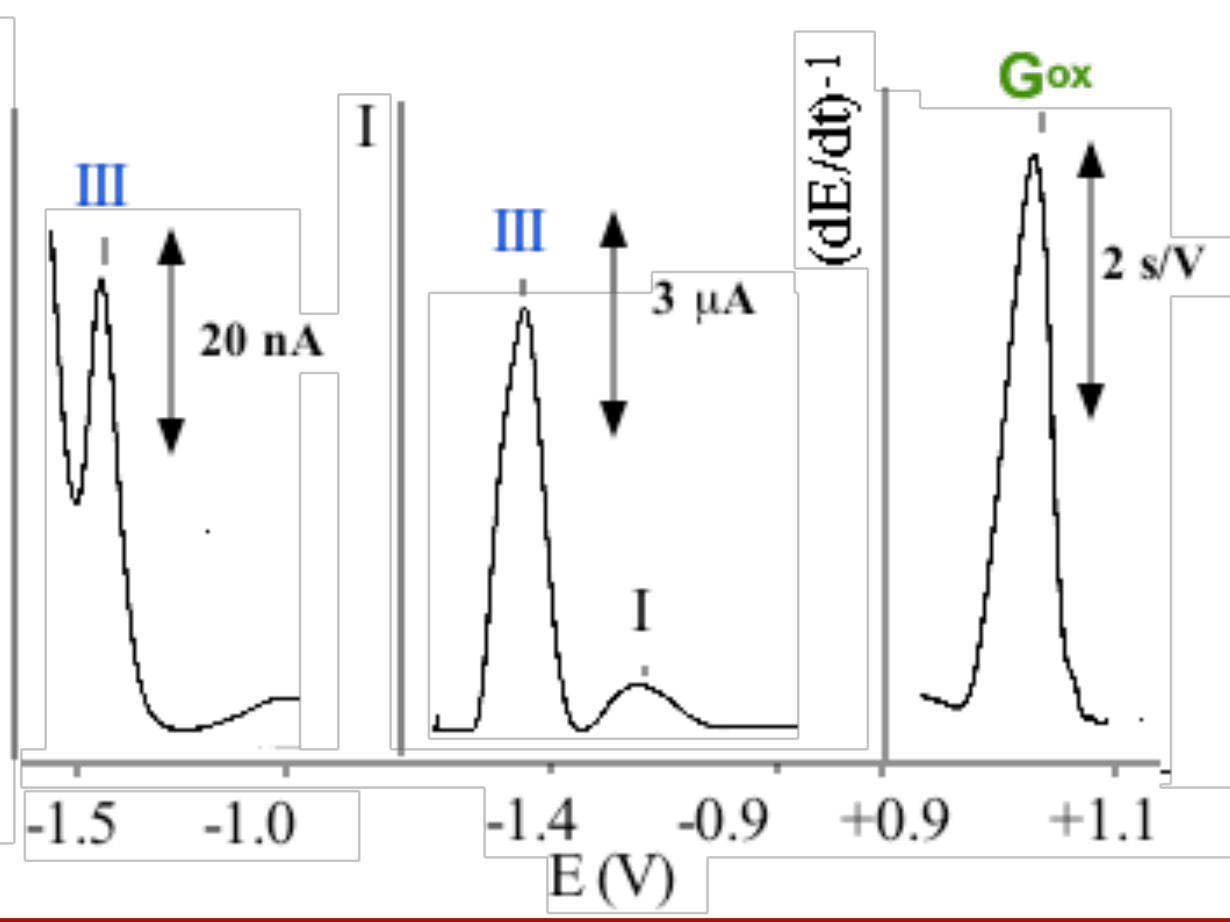
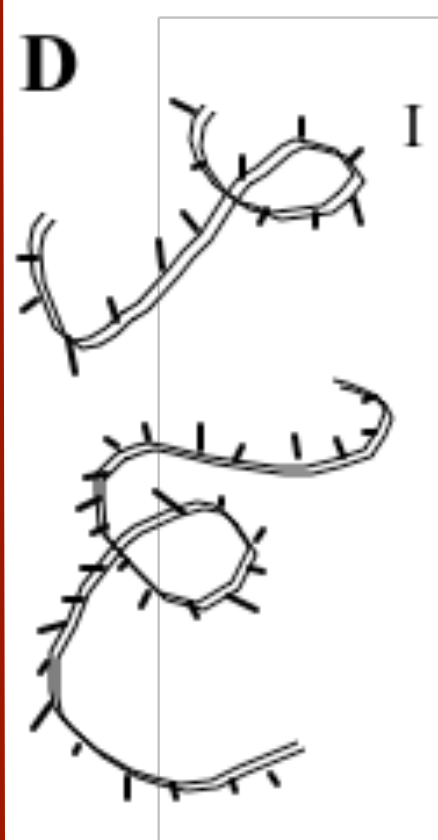
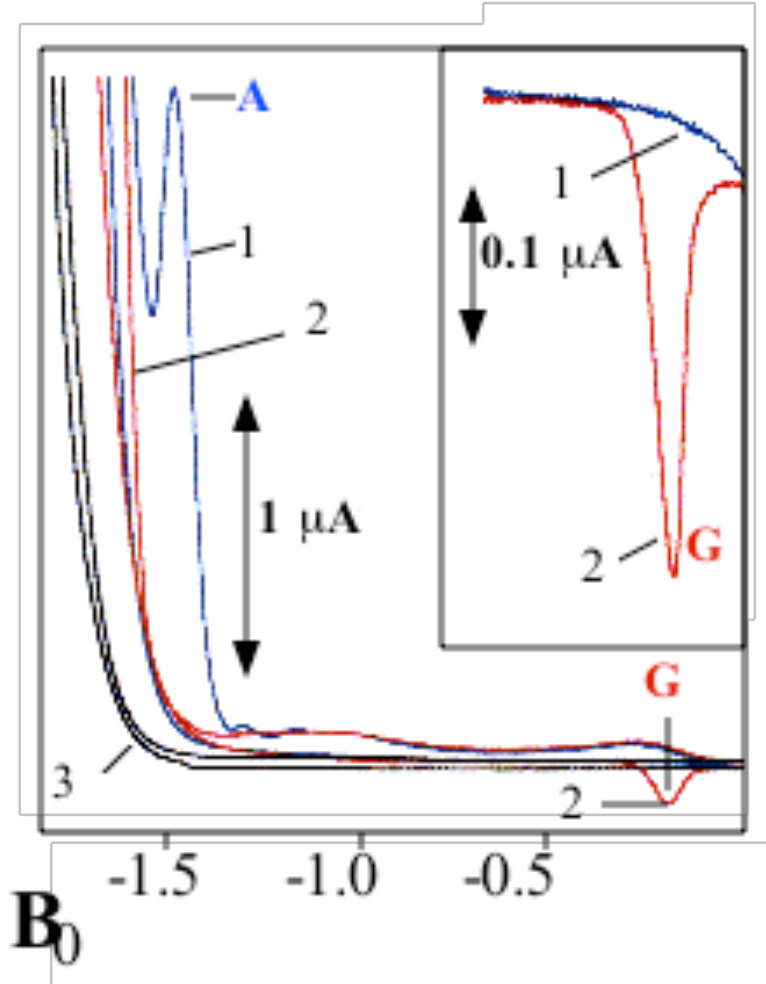
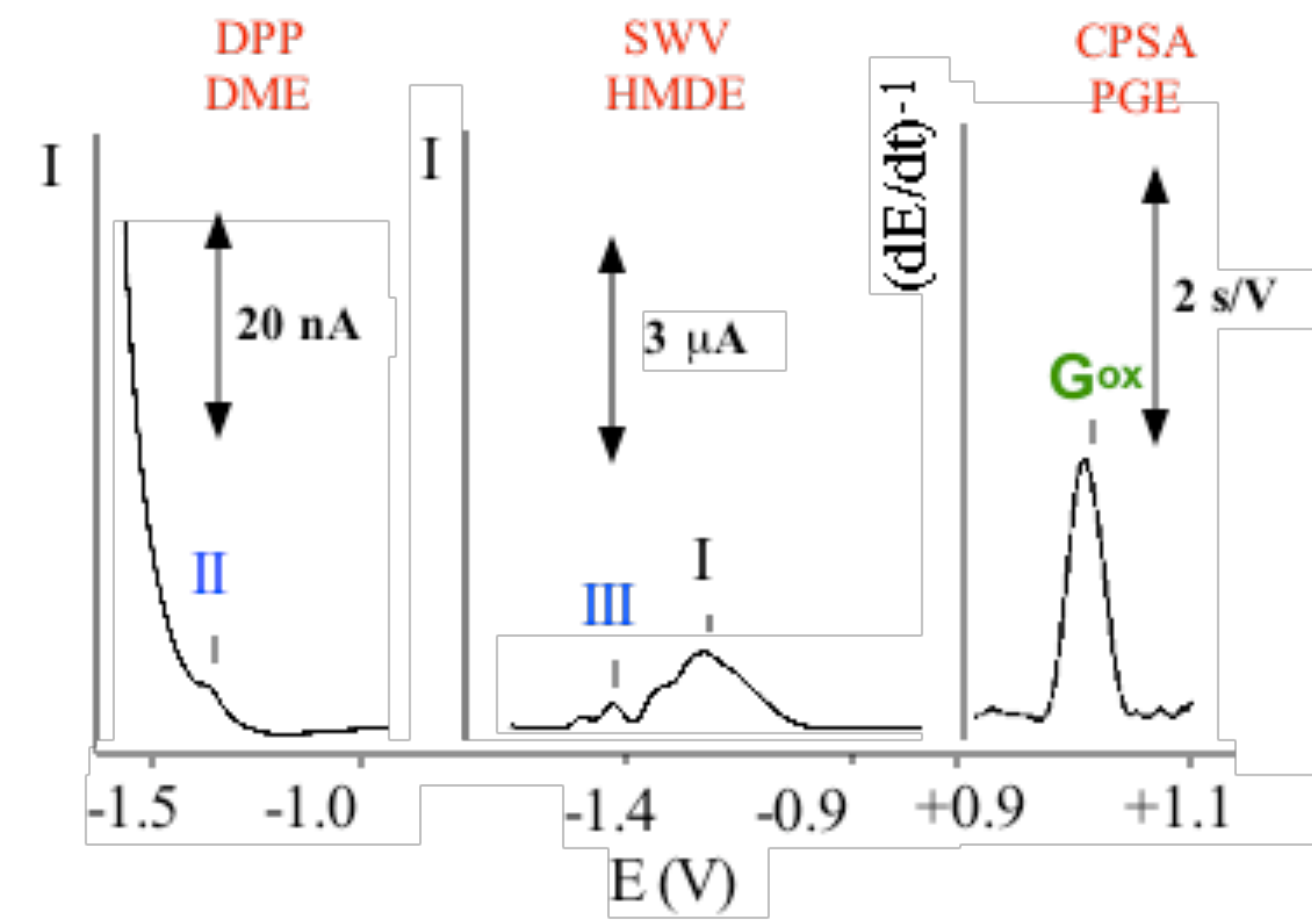
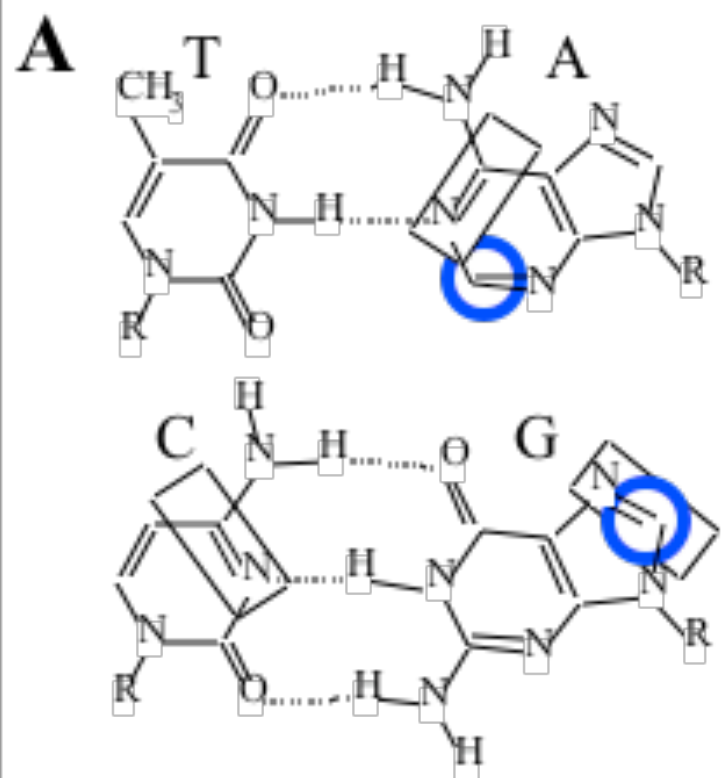


whereas deoxycytidylic acid bound in its molecule is inactive. This phenomenon may be perhaps interpreted in the following manner: one part of the guanine purine ring, which is of great importance for the formation of the anodic indentation (apparently an amino-group in position 2 is involved³), is found in the molecule near the surface, whereas the analogous part of the pyrimidine ring of cytosine (apparently the 6-amino-group³) is hidden inside the molecule where it participates in the formation of the hydrogen bond. In apurinic acid, where the double-helical structure is completely destroyed, deoxycytidylic acid is not blocked sterically in any way so that its oscillo-polarographic activity may manifest itself. Free deoxyadenylic acid and deoxythymidylic acid do not show the characteristic indentation in ammonium formate as medium, and consequently no indentations due to these nucleotides can be expected if they are bound in the molecule of deoxyribonucleic acid.

I have also studied deoxyribonucleic acid and apurinic acid in 2 M sodium chloride as medium; both substances yield oscillograms that differ only slightly. In 1 M sodium hydroxide, the oscillograms of deoxyribonucleic acid differ considerably from those of apurinic acid.

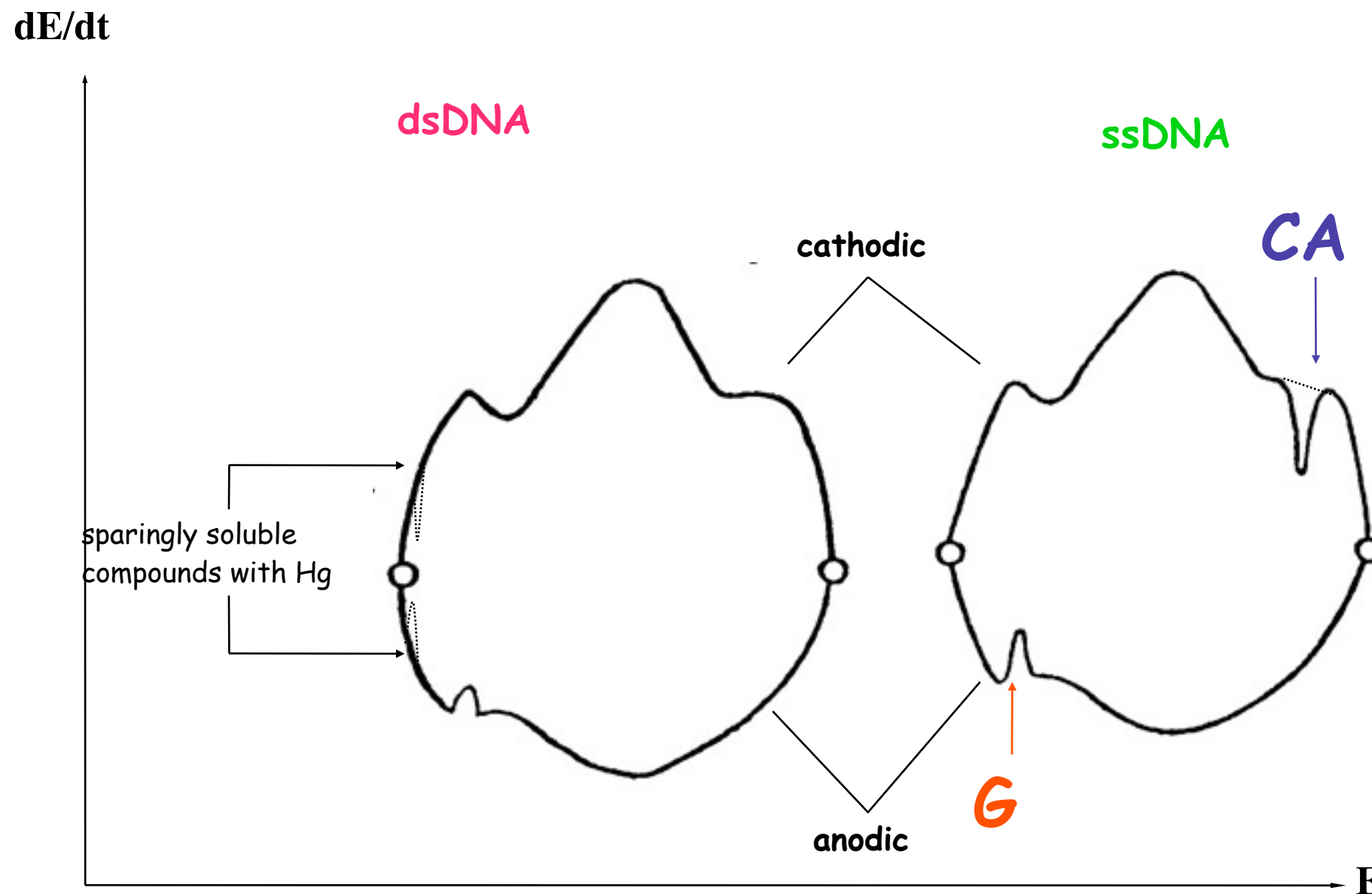
In cobalt and nickel solutions⁷, proteins give an indentation even at a very low concentration⁸. Since the deoxyribonucleic acid indentation is produced in this medium at a different potential, I was able to use the oscillographic reaction for detecting deoxyribonucleic acid and proteins in the presence of each other. In this manner, proteins can be detected even in the presence of an abundance of deoxyribonucleic acid (Fig. 4).

EMIL PALEČEK



OSCILLOGRAPHIC POLAROGRAPHY

At controlled alternating current (constant current chronopotentiometry)



LITERATURE in 1958: **Adenine** is polarographically **reducible** at strongly acid pH while **other NA bases** as well as **DNA** are **inactive**

J.N.Davidson and E.Chargraff: *The Nucleic Acids*, Vol. 1, Academic Press, New York 1955

Palecek E.: Oszillographische *Polarographie der Nucleinsäuren und ihrer Bestandteile*; *Naturwiss.* 45 (1958), 186

Palecek E.: *Oscillographic polarography of highly polymerized deoxyribonucleic acid*; *Nature* 188 (1960), 656

J. Heyrovsky invented **POLAROGRAPHY** in 1922.

After 37 years he was awarded a Nobel Prize

In difference to most of the electrochemists I met in the 1960's and 1970's, **J Heyrovsky was interested** in nucleic acids and he greatly stimulated my polarographic studies of DNA

J Heyrovsky S Ochoa A Kornberg

Nobel Prizes 1959



J. Heyrovsky



D.c. polarography vs. oscillopolarography (OP)

Why d.c. polarography was rather poor in DNA analysis?

- (a) no DNA accumulation at the electrode
- (b) DNA adsorption at negatively charged DME ($\sim -1.4V$) compared to open current potential in OP

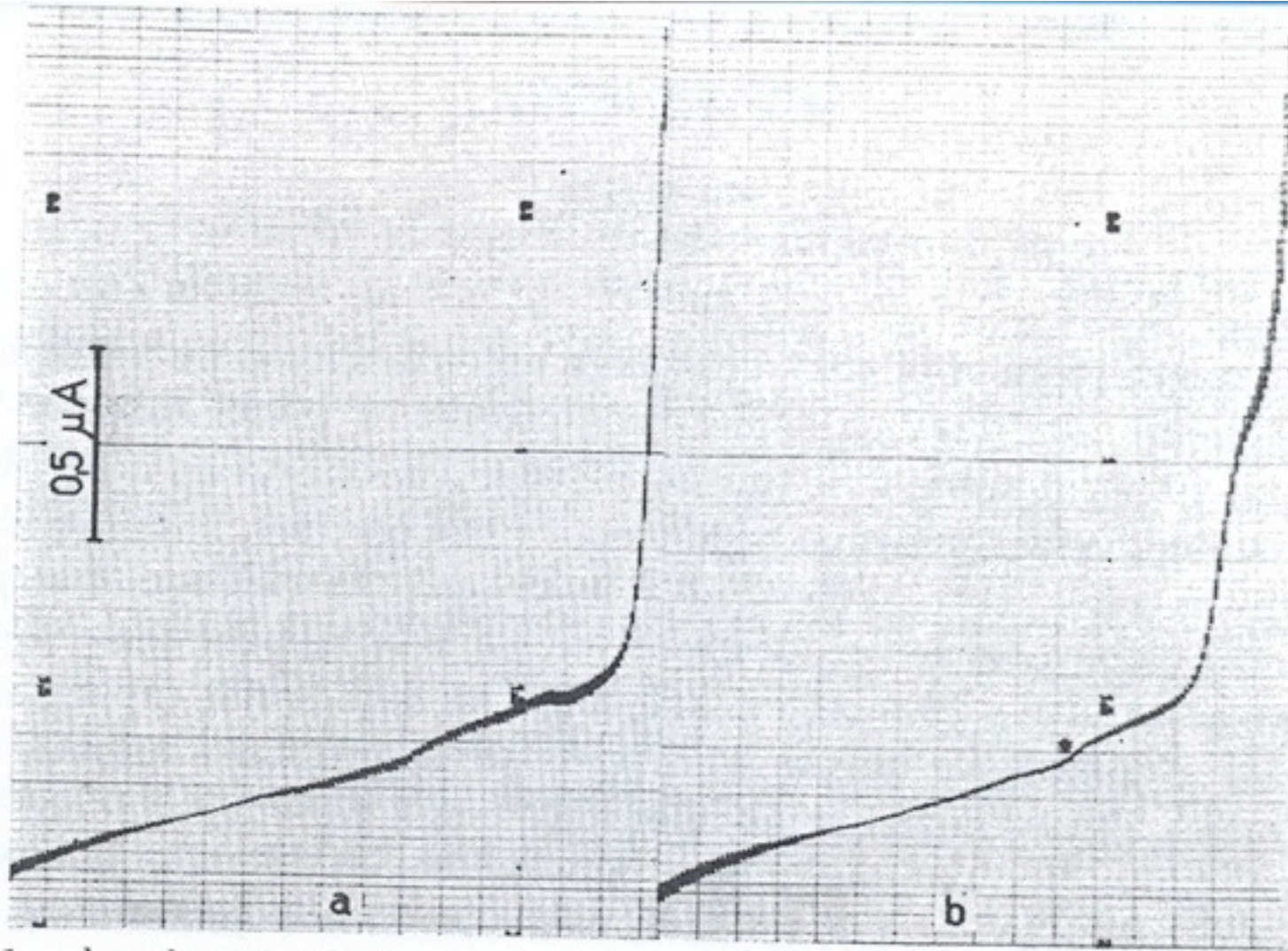


Fig. 1. dc polarograms of native and denatured calf thymus DNA: (a) native DNA at a concentration of $500 \mu\text{g/ml}$ in $0.5M$ ammonium formate with $0.1M$ sodium phosphate (pH 7.0); (b) denatured DNA at a concentration of $500 \mu\text{g/ml}$ in $0.5M$ ammonium formate with $0.1M$ sodium phosphate (pH 7.0). DNA was denatured by heat at the concentration of $666 \mu\text{g/ml}$ in $0.007M$ NaCl with 0.7 mM citrate. Both curves start at 0.0 V , $100 \text{ mV/scale unit}$, capillary I, saturated calomel electrode.

In 1960 when I published my NATURE paper on electrochemistry of DNA I obtained invitations from 3 eminent US scientists:

J. Marmur - Harvard Univ.

L. Grossman - Brandeis Univ.

J. Fresco - Princeton Univ.

To work in their laboratories as a postdoc

In 1960 new techniques were sought to study DNA Denaturation and Renaturation. To those working with DNA Oscillographic Polarography (OP) appeared as a very attractive tool. Invented by J. Heyrovsky, it was fast and simple, showing large differences between the signals of native and denatured DNA. The instrument for OP was produced only in Czechoslovakia.

I accepted the invitation by Julius Marmur but for more than two years I was not allowed to leave Czechoslovakia. In the meantime JM moved from Harvard to Brandeis Univ. By the end of November 1962 I finally got my exit visa and with Heyrovsky Letter of Recommendation in my pocket I went to the plane just 24 hours before expiration of my US visa. Before my departure I sent my OP instrument by air to Boston. It arrived after 9 months completely broken. Instead of OP I had to use ultracentrifuges and microbiological methods.

Julius Marmur discovered DNA Renaturation/Hybridization and proposed (in JMB) a new method of DNA isolation which was widely applied. His paper was quoted > 9000x.



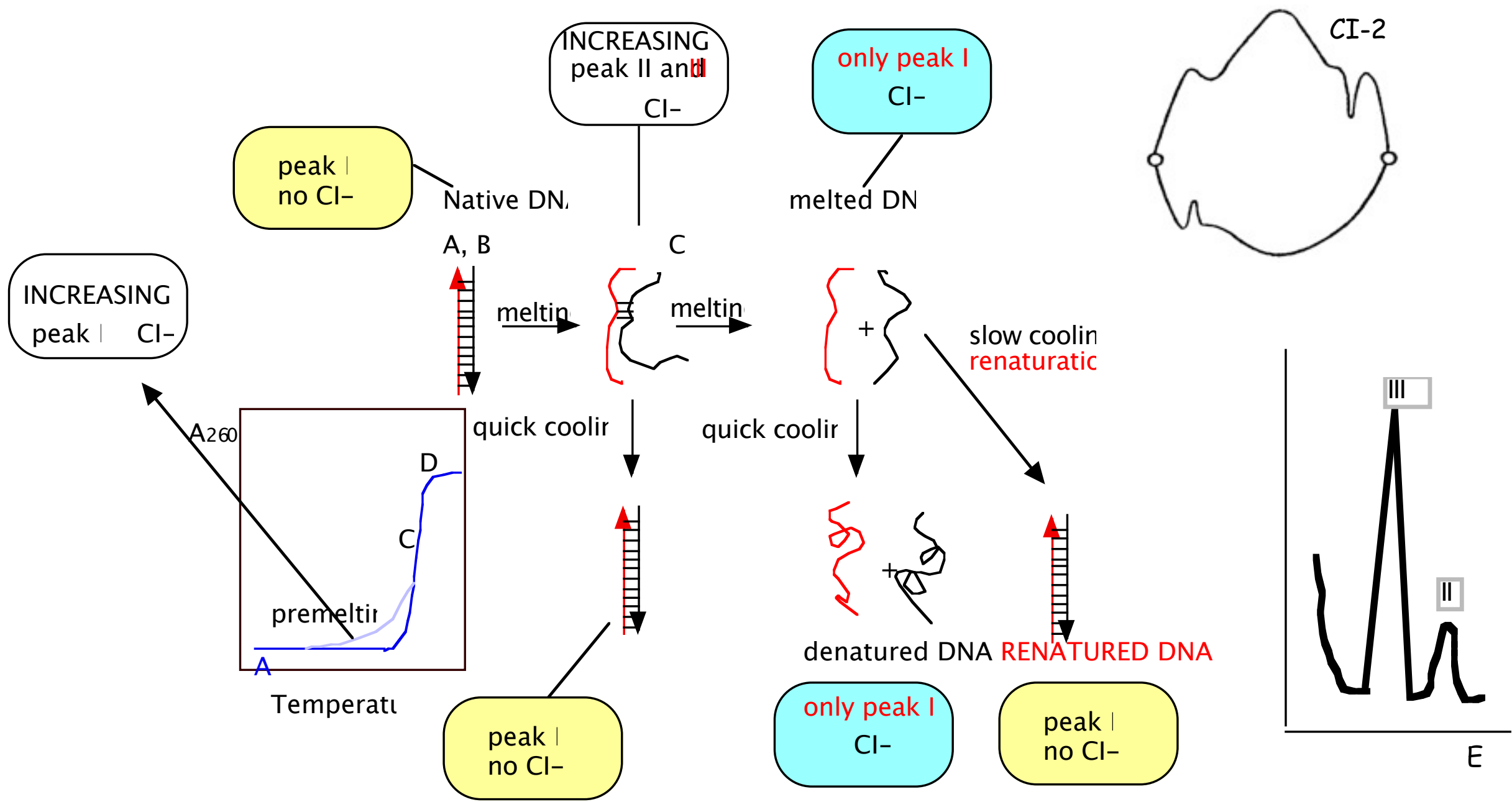
J M at the 40th Anniversary of the Discovery of the DNA Double Helix

At the end of my stay at Brandeis I did some OP experiments which I finished in Brno and published in J. Mol. Biol. in 1965 and 1966.

Reprinted from COLD SPRING HARBOR SYMPOSIA ON QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY
Volume XXVIII, 1963
Printed in U.S.A.

**Specificity of the Complementary RNA Formed by
Bacillus subtilis Infected with Bacteriophage SP8**

J. MARMUR*, C. M. GREENSPAN, E. PALECEK, F. M. KAHAN†, J. LEVINE, and M. MANDEL‡
Graduate Department of Biochemistry, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts



DNA Premelting and Polymorphy of the DNA Double Helix

Before my departure to the US I observed **Changes in the polarographic behavior of DNA far below the denaturation temperature.** These changes were later called **DNA Premelting**

J. Mol. Biol.
20 (1966) 263-281

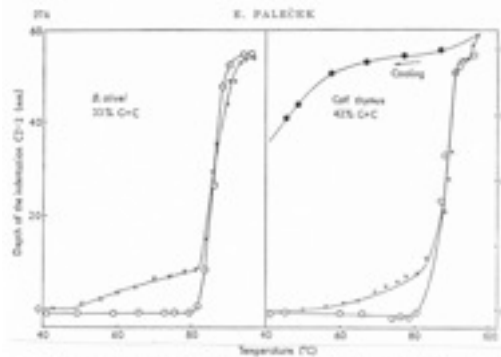


FIG. 11. Thermal transition of DNA's with varying guanine plus cytosine content followed by polarographic and spectrophotometric methods. DNA at a concentration of 100 µg/ml. in 0.05 M ammonium formate plus 0.02 M sodium phosphate (pH 7.0). —○—○—○—, identity at 300 mµ; —●—●—●—, identity at 254 mµ. The rate of cooling was 1 to 2°C per min. Unpaired nucleotides, fast curve (bottom); DNA GC content taken from Marmur & Doty (1962) and Marmur, Reenan & Levine (1963).

POLAROGRAPHIC BEHAVIOR OF dsDNA
At room and premelting temperature **depended on DNA nucleotide SEQUENCE**

What the people said

Before 1980

No doubt that this **electrochemistry must produce artifacts** because we know well that the **DNA double helix has a unique structure INDEPENDENT** of the nucleotide **SEQUENCE**

B. subtilis and B. brevis DNAs have the same G+C content and different nucleotide sequence

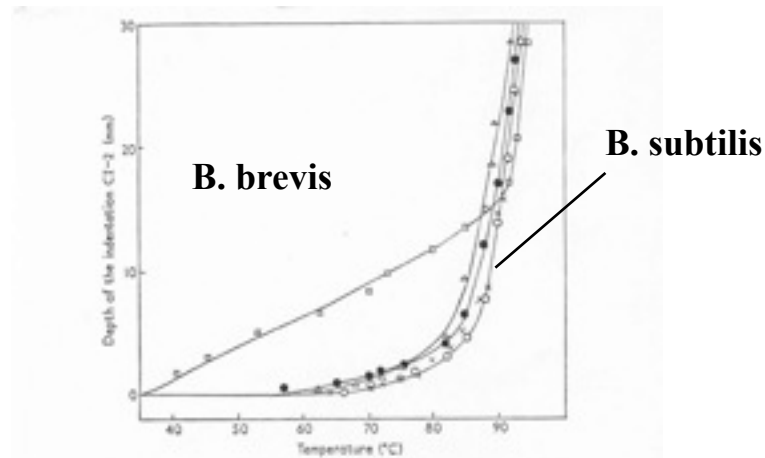
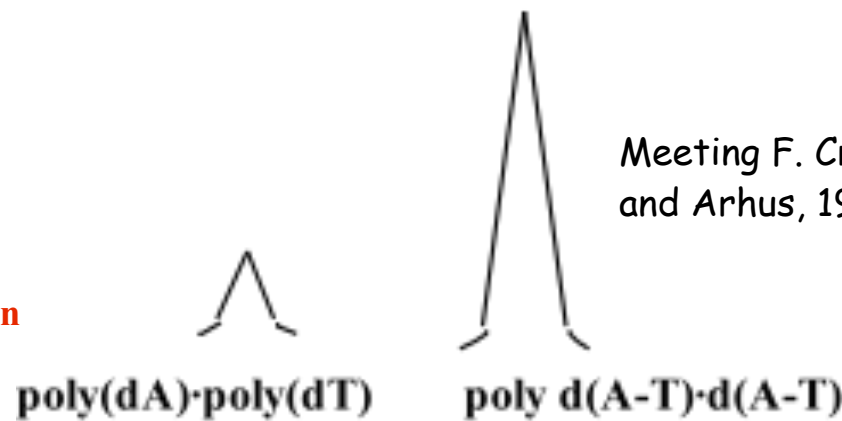


FIG. 12. Thermal transition of DNA's isolated from bacteria of the genus *Bacillus*. DNA at a concentration of 100 µg/ml. in 0.05 M ammonium formate plus 0.02 M sodium phosphate (pH 7.0). —●—●—●—, *B. subtilis* 168; —×—×—×—, *B. subtilis*; —○—○—○—, *B. subtilis* var. *niger*; —△—△—△—, *B. subtilis* var. *sterilis*; —□—□—□—, *B. brevis* (ATCC 9599). F 224 polaroscope, dropping mercury electrode polarized with repeated cycles of a.c. The measurements were carried out in the laboratory of Prof. J. Marmur, Department of Biochemistry, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., U.S.A.



Meeting F. Crick in Copenhagen and Arhus, 1977 (B. Clark)

December 3, 1976

Professor Emil Palecek
Institute of Biophysics
Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences
Brno 12, Kralovopolska 135
Czechoslovakia

Dear Professor Palecek,

I do apologise for taking so long to reply to your letter of September 29 and the very interesting review you sent with it. Unfortunately I myself will not be able to attend the Symposium you plan for September, 1977 and my Cambridge colleague Aaron Klug tells me that he too is unable to be present. Had you considered the possibility of asking Dr. Hank Sobell? He has just published in *PNAS* an account of the other (base-paired) kink and has ideas about premelting conformations. I have no idea whether he would be able to come but should you wish to invite him his address is: Department of Chemistry, The University of Rochester, River Station, Rochester, New York 14627.

Yours sincerely,

Francis Crick

F. H. C. Crick
Perkauf Foundation Visiting Professor

FNCC:lt

RENATURATION OF RNA AS DETECTED BY DPP Time dependence

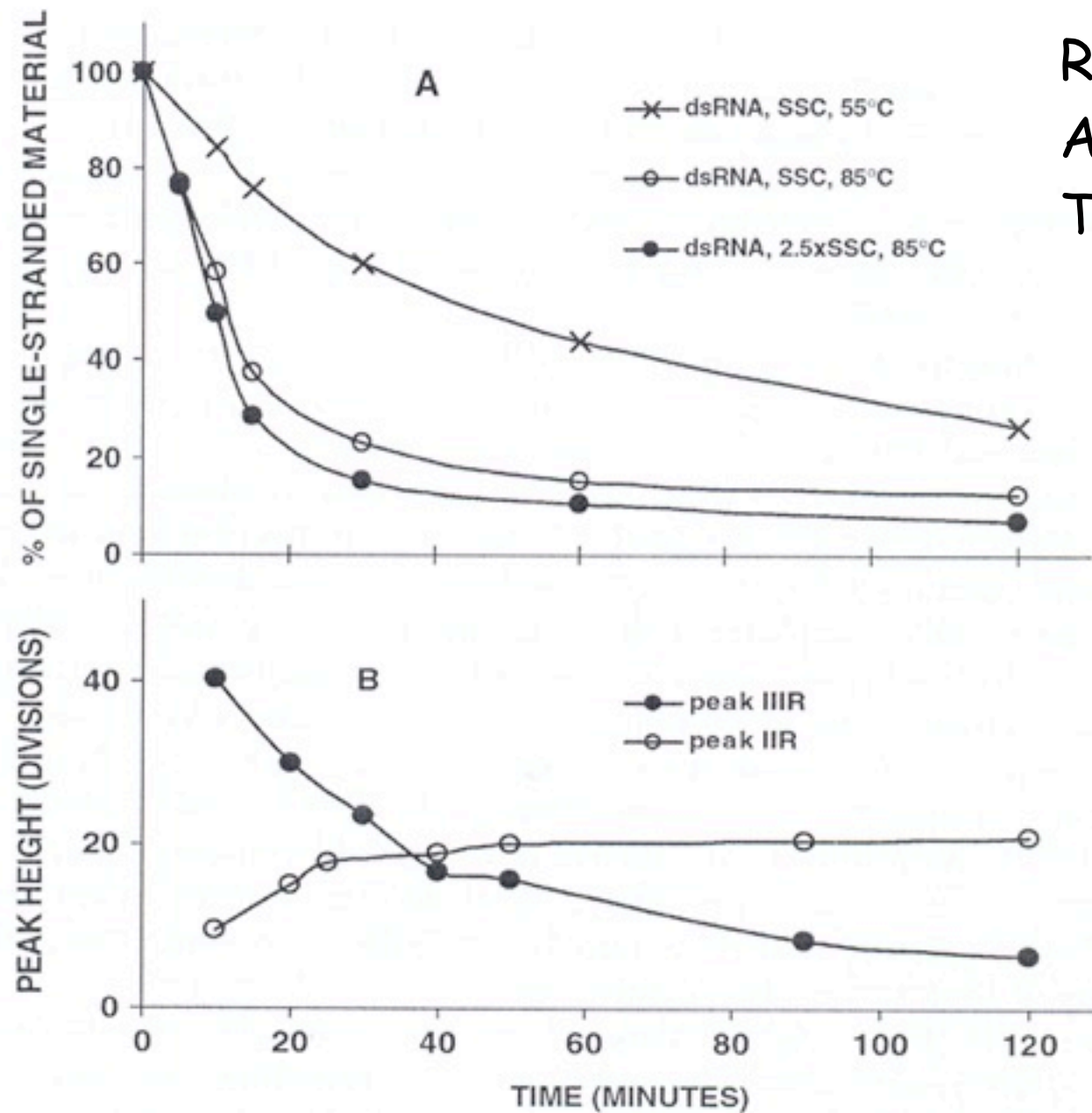
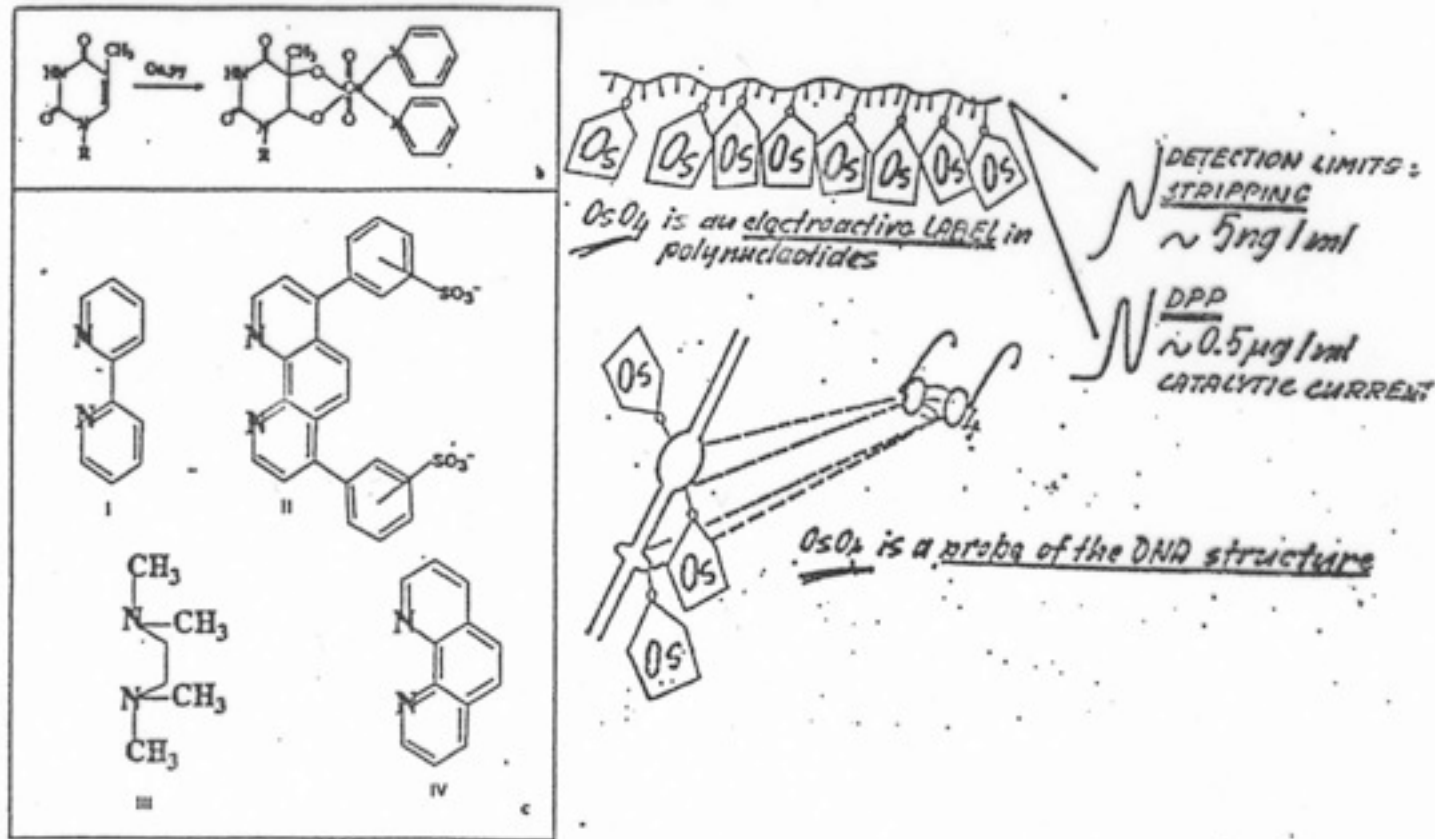


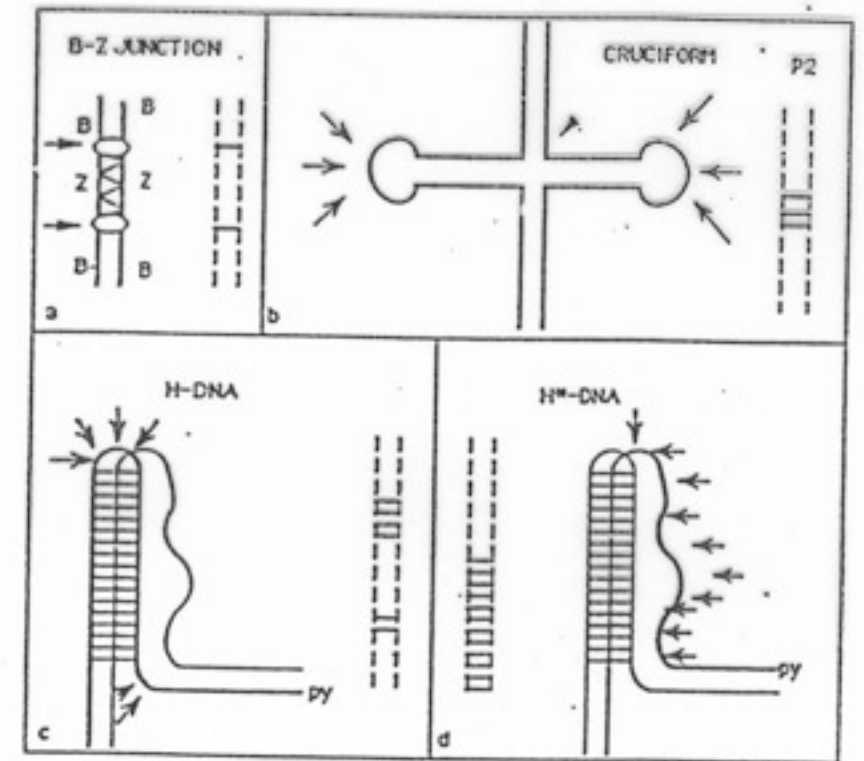
Fig. 10. Time-course of renaturation of phage f2 dsRNA. (A) Thermally denatured ssRNA was incubated (●—●) at 85°C in 2.5 × sodium saline citrate (SSC) or (o—o) at 85°C in SSC, and (x—x) at 55°C. Samples were withdrawn in time intervals given in the graph and quickly cooled. DPP measurements were performed at room temperature at a RNA concentration of 3.2 μg/mL in 0.3 M ammonium formate with 0.2 M sodium acetate, pH 5.6; PAR 174. (B) (o—o) peak IIR. (●—●) peak IIIR. ssRNA (108 μg/mL) in 0.01 × SSC was heated for 6 min at 100°C. Then it was placed into a thermostated polarographic vessel with the same volume of 0.6 M ammonium formate with 0.2 M sodium phosphate, pH 7, preheated to 58°C. The pulse polarograms were measured at 58°C in times given in the graph. Southern-Harwell A 3100, amplifier sensitivity 1/8. Adapted from Palecek and Doskocil (1974). Copyright 1974, with permission from Academic Press.

Probing of DNA structure with osmium tetroxide complexes



We developed methods of **chemical probing of the DNA structure** based on osmium tetroxide complexes (Os,L). Some of the Os,L complexes react with single-stranded DNA but not with the double-stranded B-DNA.

In the beginning of the 1980's Os,L complexes were the **first electroactive labels** covalently bound to DNA. These complexes produced catalytic signals at Hg electrodes allowing **determination of DNA at subnanomolar concentrations**



These methods yielded information about the **distorted and single-stranded regions** in the DNA double helix **at single-nucleotide resolution**. DNA probed both **in vitro** and **directly in cells**.

Critical Reviews in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 26(2):151-226 (1991)

Local Supercoil-Stabilized DNA Structures

E. Paleček

Max-Planck Institut für Biophysikalische Chemie, Göttingen, BRD and Institute of Biophysics, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, 61265 Brno, CSFR

[17] Probing of DNA Structure in Cells with Osmium Tetroxide-2,2'-Bipyridine

By EMIL PALEČEK

Firsts in Electrochemistry of Nucleic Acids during the initial three decades

1958 DNA and RNA and all free bases are electrotructive

1960-61 assignment of DNA electrochemical signals to bases, relation between the DNA structure and electrochemical responses

1961 adsorption (ac impedance) studies of DNA (IR Miller, Rehovot)

1962-66 DNA premelting, denaturation, renaturation/hybridization detected electrochemically, traces of single stranded DNA determined in native dsDNA. Nucleotide sequence affects dsDNA responses

1965 Association of bases at the electrode surface (V. Vetterl)

1966 application of pulse polarography to DNA studies

1967 detection of DNA damage

1967-68 Weak interactions of low m.w. compounds with DNA (P.J. Hilsson, M.J. Simons, Harrow, UK and H. Berg, Jena)

1974 DNA is unwound at the electrode surface under certain conditions (EP and H.W. Nürnberg, Jülich, independently)

1976 Evidence for polymorphy of the DNA double-helical structure

For two decades only mercury electrodes were used in NA electrochemistry

1978 Solid (carbon) electrodes introduced in nucleic acid research (V. Brabec and G. Dryhurst, Norman)

1980 Determination of bases at nanomolar concentrations by cathodic stripping

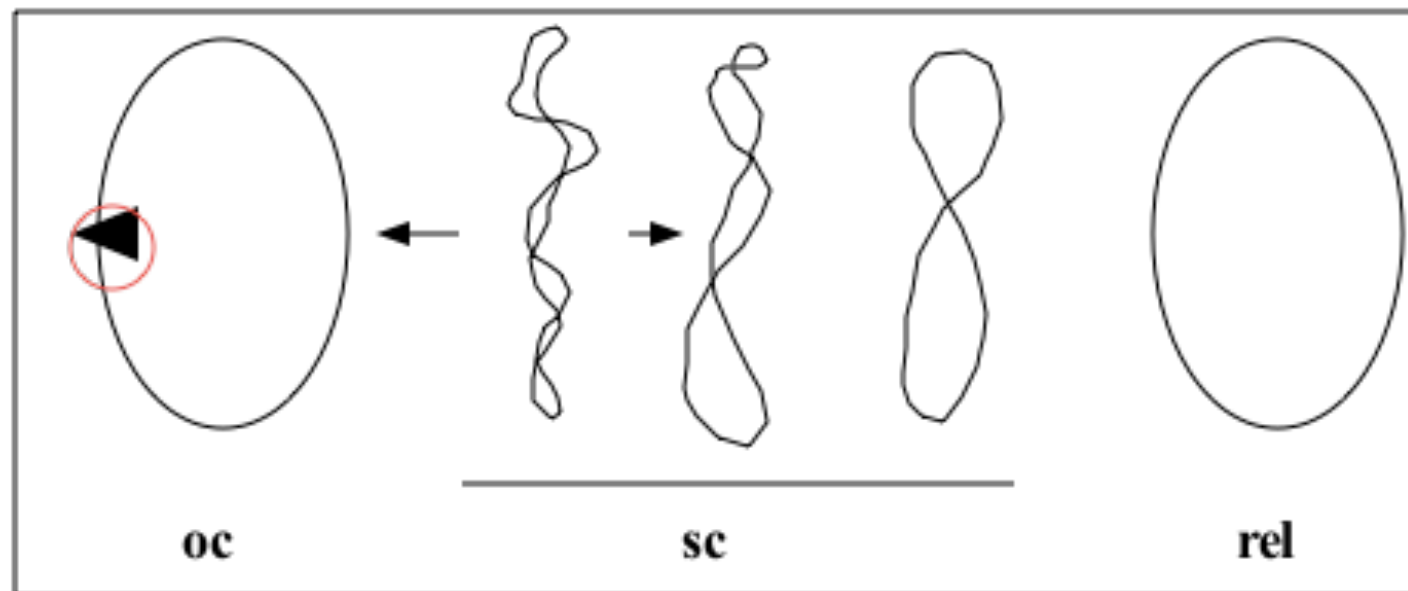
1981-83 Electroactive markers covalently bound to DNA

1986-88 DNA-modified electrodes

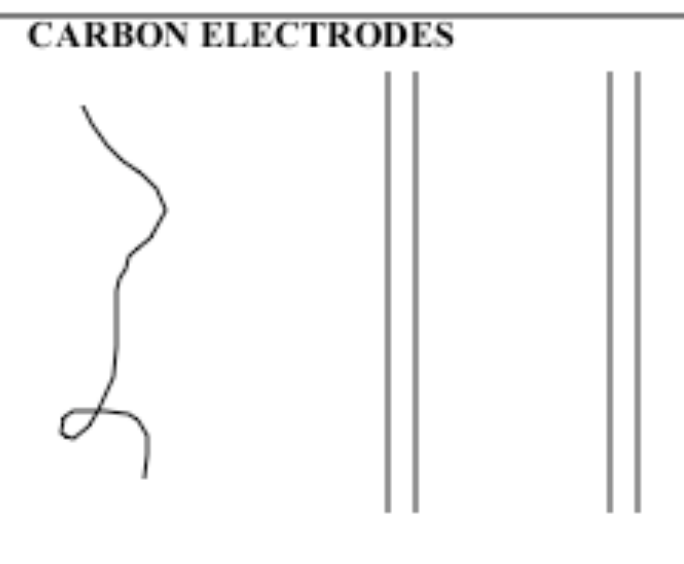
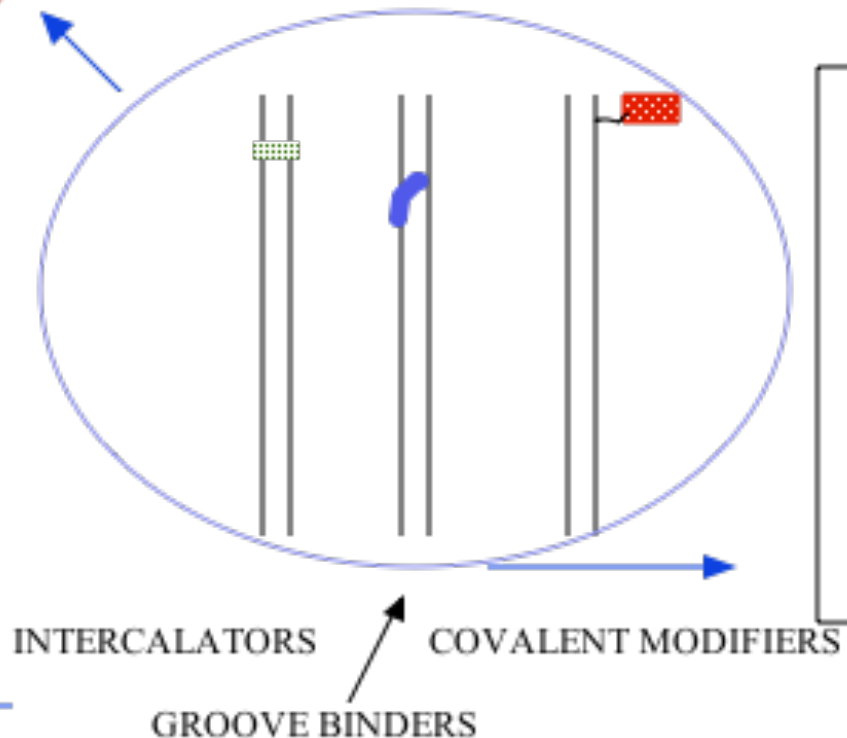
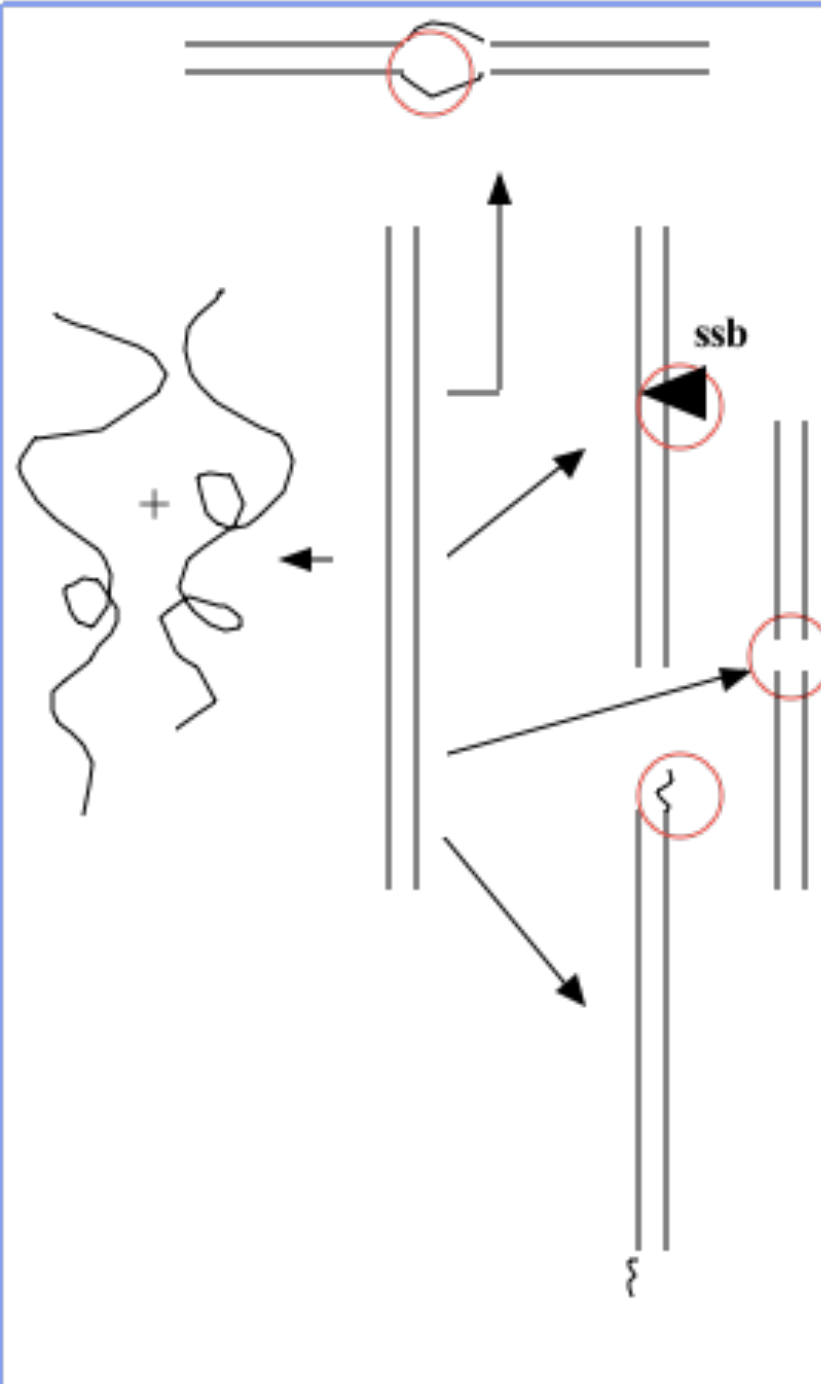
Results obtained at: IBP, Brno or elsewhere (author's name is given); the results which have been utilized in the DNA sensor development are in blue

ELECTROCHEMICAL METHODS RECOGNIZE SMALL CHANGES IN DNA STRUCTURE AND DETERMINE TRACES OF IMPURITIES IN DNA SAMPLES

MERCURY ELECTRODES ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE



DETERMINATION OF TRACES (< 1%) OF



DNA unwinding at negatively charged surfaces

native denatured

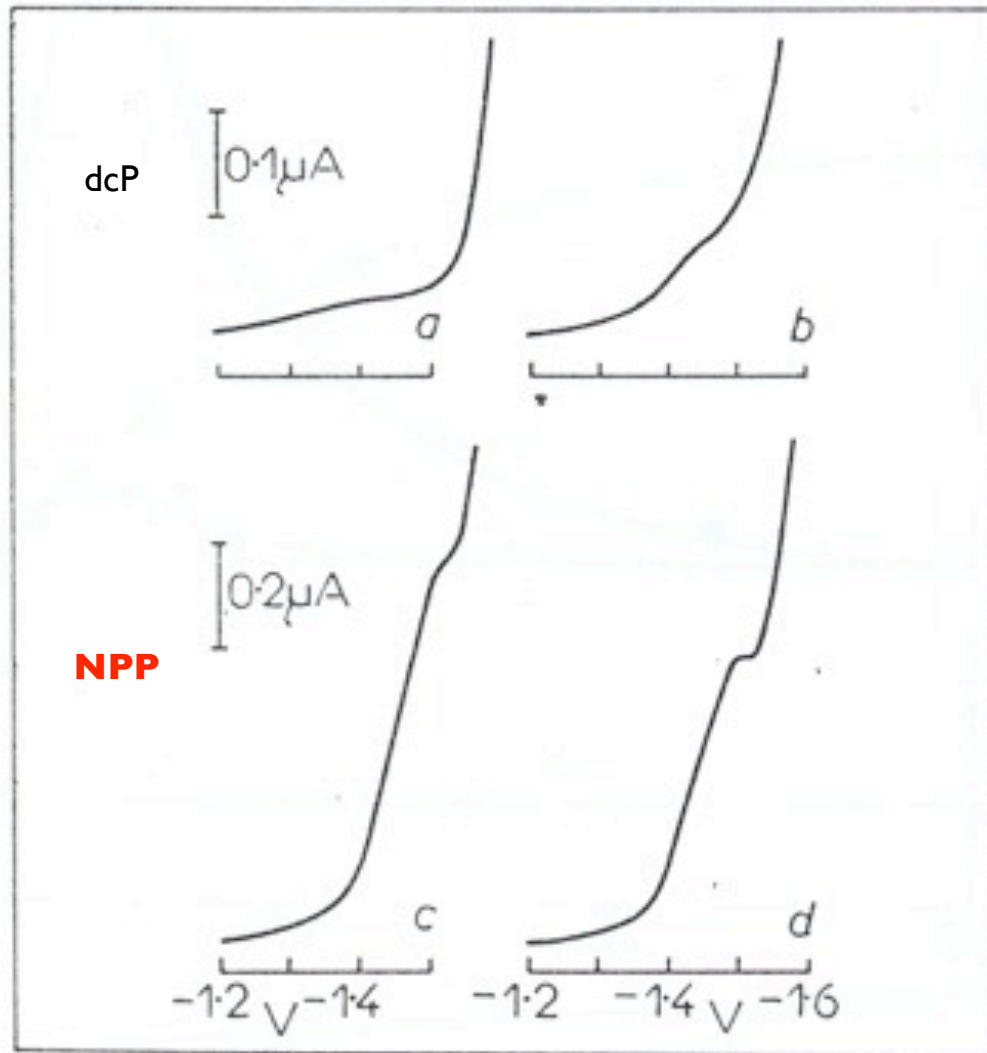


FIG. 1

Polarograms of Native and Denatured DNA

Upper curves: current-sampled d.c. polarography; lower curves: normal pulse polarography. *a*, *c* native DNA 500 μg/ml; *b*, *d* denatured DNA 50 μg/ml. 0.6M ammonium formate with 0.1M sodium phosphate pH 6.8.

PAR 174.

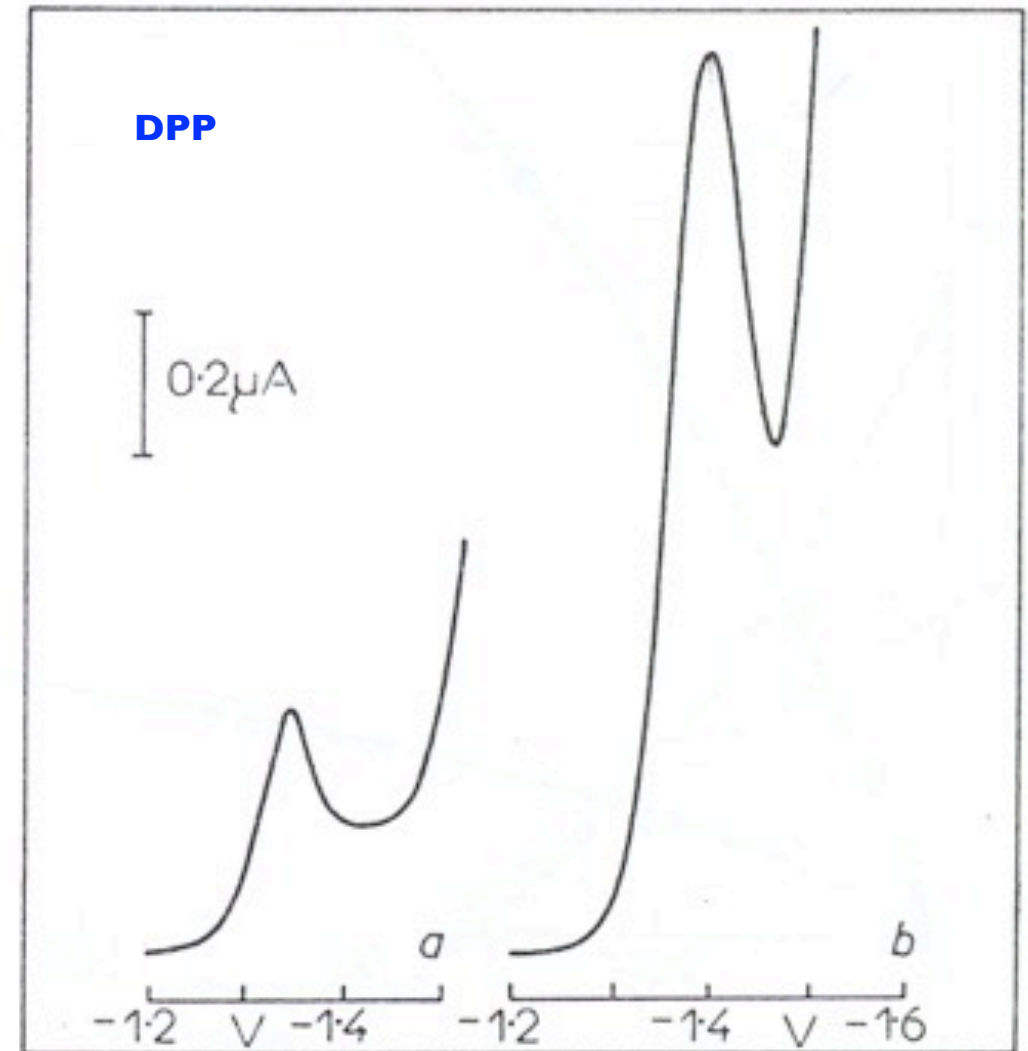
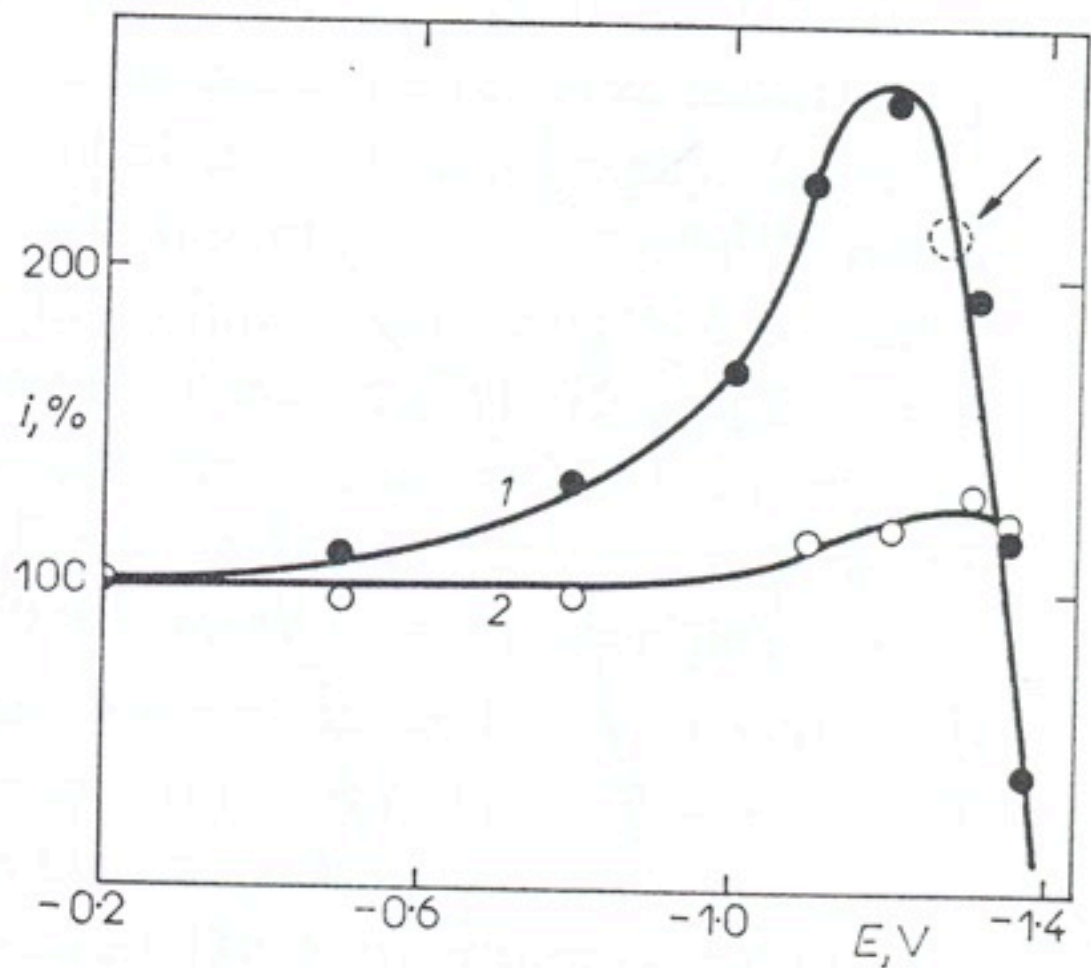


FIG. 2

Derivative Pulse Polarograms of Native and Denatured DNA

a Native DNA 500 μg/ml; *b* denatured DNA 50 μg/ml. Other conditions as in Fig. 1.

1974



In native DNA its NPP responses depended on the initial potential, E_i

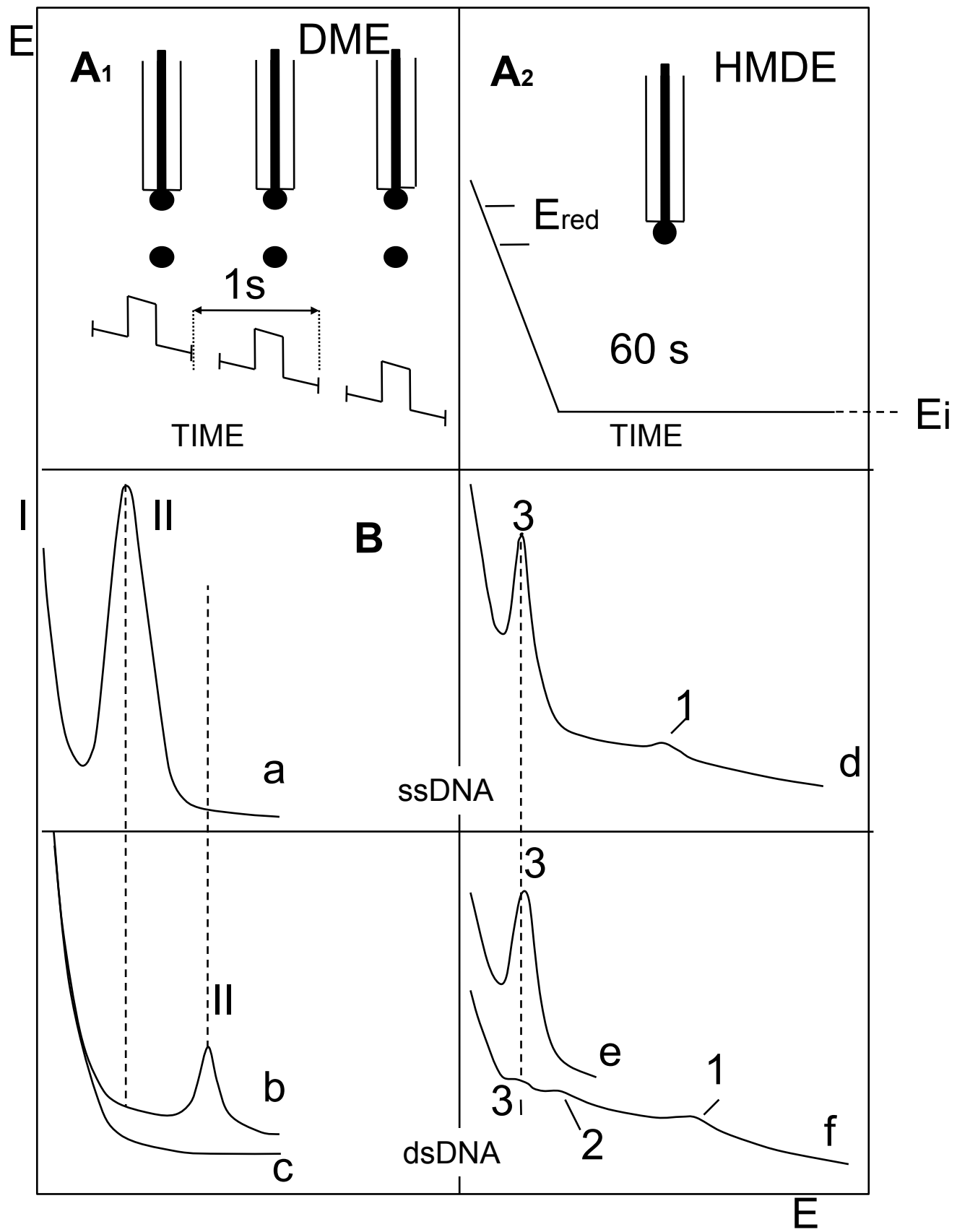
FIG. 4

Dependence of the Normal Pulse-Polarographic Wave Height of DNA on Starting Potential

1 Native DNA 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$; 2 denatured DNA 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. The wave heights of native and denatured DNA at a starting potential of $-0.2 V$ were taken as 100%. Scan range 1.5 V, other conditions as in Fig. 1.

SIGNAL APPLIED

RESPONSE OBTAINED



Effect of pH on DNA unwinding

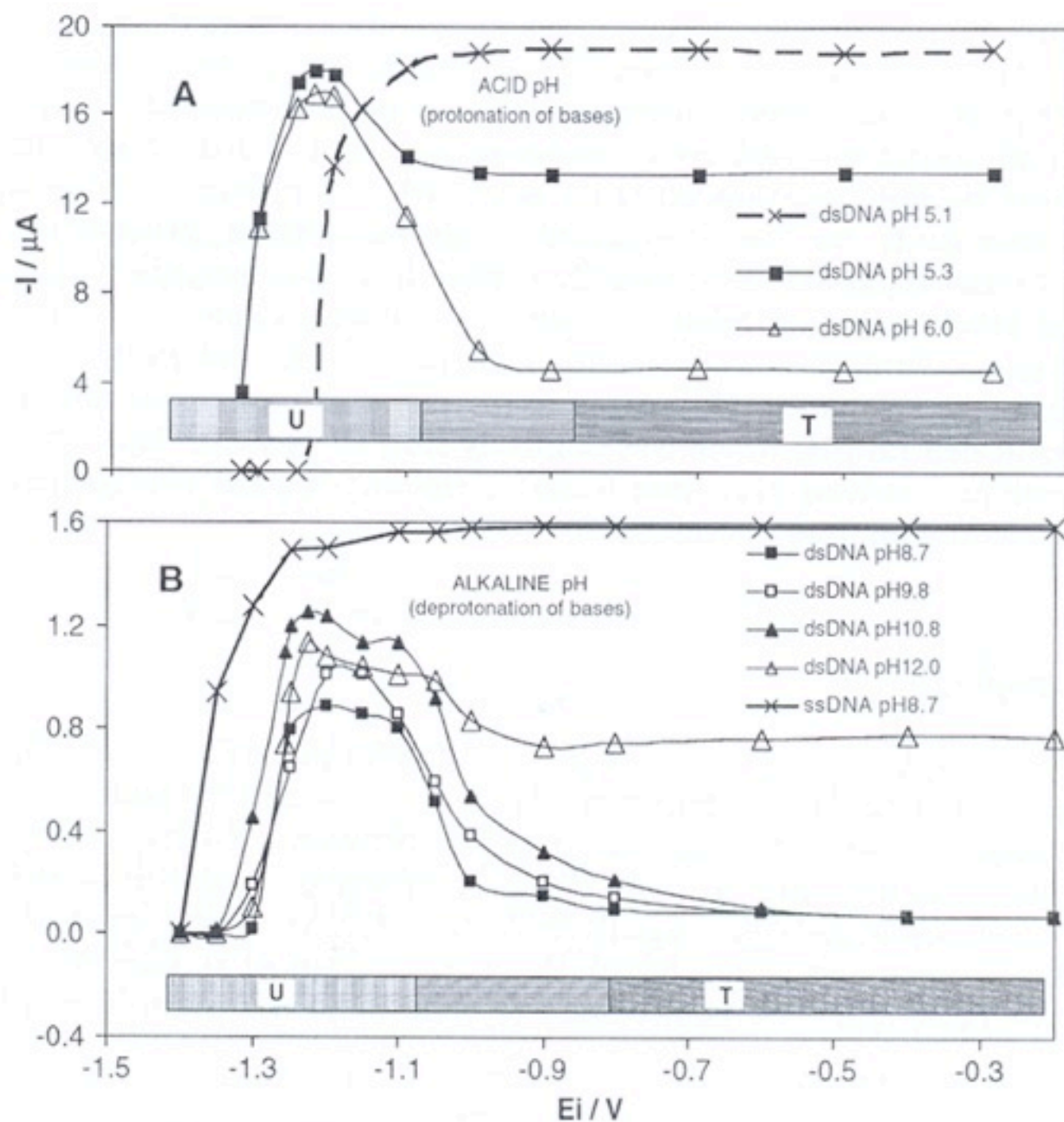


Fig. 17. Dependence of the height of the DNA voltammetric peak 3 on initial potential E_i ; (A) at acid pHs. dsDNA at concentration of $420\ \mu\text{g/mL}$: $\triangle-\triangle$, pH 6.0; $\blacksquare-\blacksquare$, pH 5.3; $x-x$, pH 5.1. The graphical indication of the region T and U is valid only for the curve of dsDNA at pH 6.0. (B) at alkaline pH's. dsDNA: $\blacksquare-\blacksquare$, pH 8.7; $\square-\square$, pH 9.8; $\blacktriangle-\blacktriangle$, pH 10.8; $\triangle-\triangle$, pH 12.0. ssDNA: $x-x$, pH 8.7. PAR 174, DME, LSV, scan rate 5 V/s, waiting time 60 s. Potentials were measured against SCE. Adapted from Brabec and Palecek (1976b) and Palecek (1983). Copyright 1976, with permission from John Wiley and Sons Ltd.

Effect of nucleotide sequence on DNA unwinding

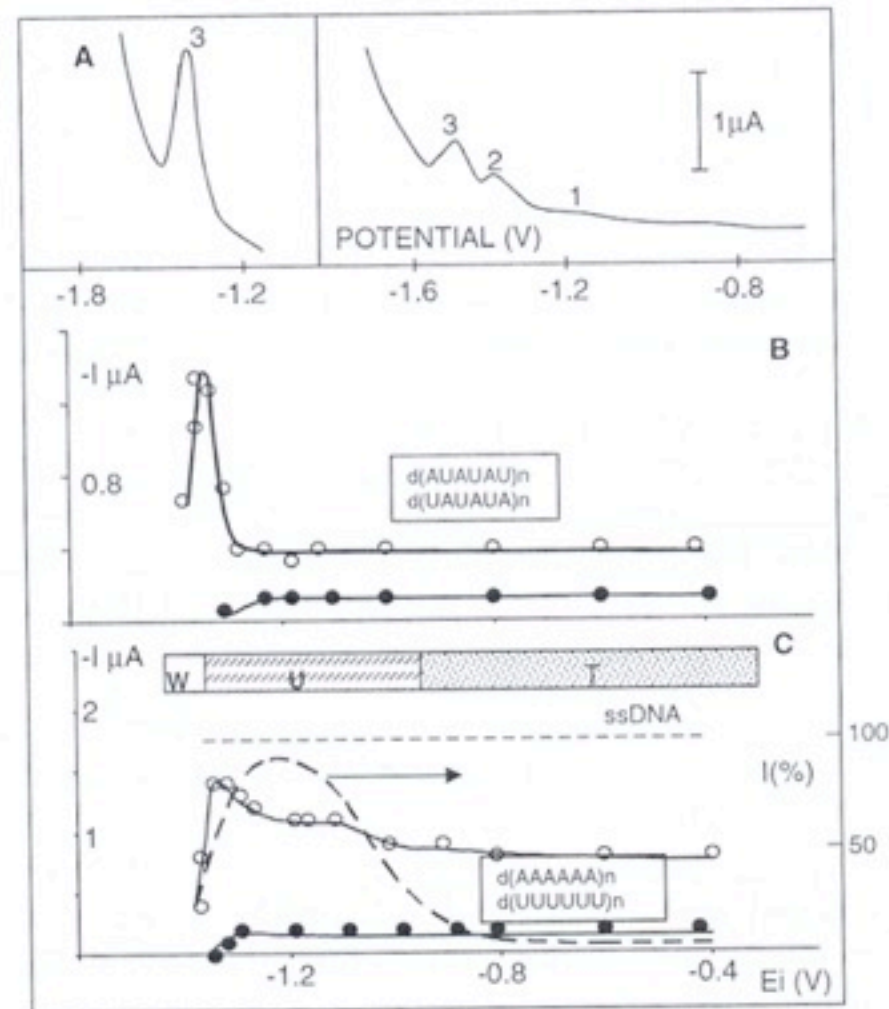
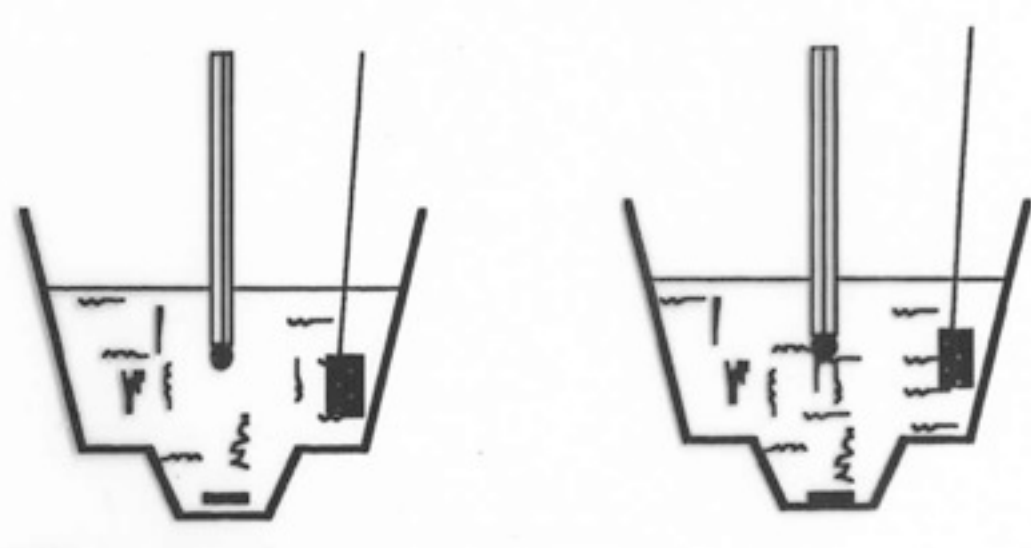


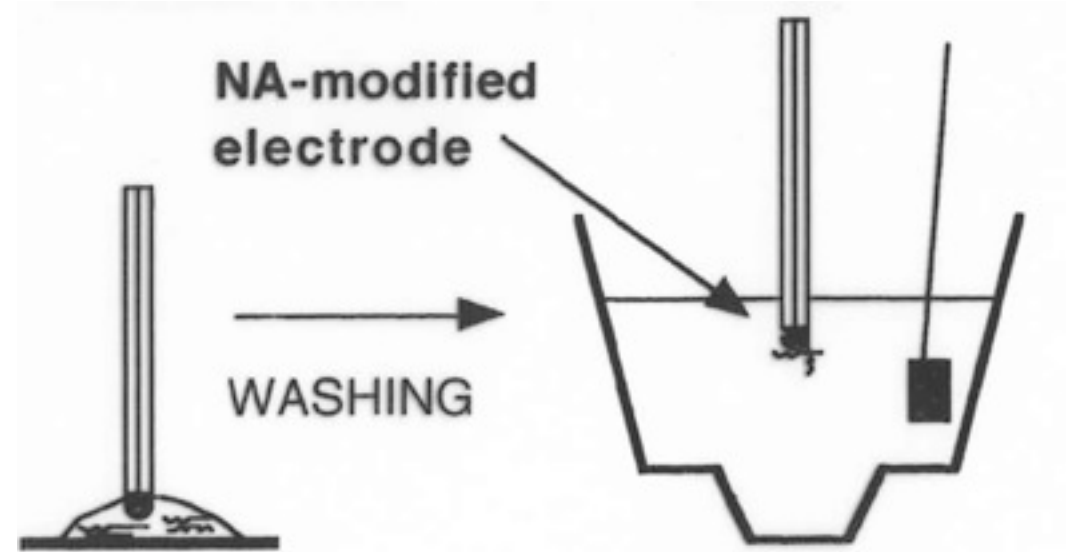
Fig. 16. Dependence of the voltammetric behavior of biosynthetic polynucleotides with different nucleotide sequences on the initial potential (E_i). (A): voltammetric peaks of poly (dA-dU)·poly (dA-dU). $E_i = -0.6$ V (left), $E_i = -1.35$ V (right); (B): ●—●, peak 2; ○—○, peak 3; (C): poly (rA)·poly (rU), ●—●, peak 2; ○—○, peak 3; ----, calf thymus DNA (data extracted from Paleček and Kwee (1979), peak height expressed in percents of the height of peak of thermally denatured DNA. DNA at a concentration of $100\ \mu\text{g/mL}$, concentration of other polynucleotides was 5×10^{-5} M (related to phosphorus content). Background electrolyte: 0.3 M ammonium formate with 0.05 M sodium phosphate (pH 6.9). HMDE, scan rate 0.5 V/s, waiting time 60 s. U is the potential region in which relatively slow opening of the DNA double helix occurs, involving an appreciable part of the molecule (provided the time of DNA interaction with the electrode is sufficiently long). T is the potential region where fast opening of the DNA double helix takes place; it is limited to several percents of the molecule in the vicinity of certain anomalies in the DNA primary structure (e.g. single-strand breaks). W is the potential region where no changes in the DNA conformation were detected. Potentials were measured against SCE. Reproduced from Jelen and Paleček (1985). Copyright 1985, with permission from the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

ADSORPTIVE STRIPPING



NA is in the electrolytic cell and accumulates at the electrode surface during waiting

ADSORPTIVE TRANSFER STRIPPING



NA is attached to the electrode from a small drop of solution (3-10 μ l)

NA is at the electrode but the electrolytic cell contains only blank electrolyte

In 1986 we proposed **Adsorptive Transfer Stripping Voltammetry (AdTSV)** based on easy preparation of DNA-modified electrodes

AdTSV has many advantages over conventional voltammetry of NAs:

- 1) Volumes of the analyte can be reduced to few microliters
- 2) NAs can be immobilized at the electrode surface from media not suitable for the voltammetric analysis
- 3) Low m.w. compounds (interfering with conventional electrochemical analysis of NAs) can be washed away
- 4) Interactions of NAs immobilized at the surface with proteins and other substances in solution and influence of the surface charge on NA properties and interactions can be studied, etc.

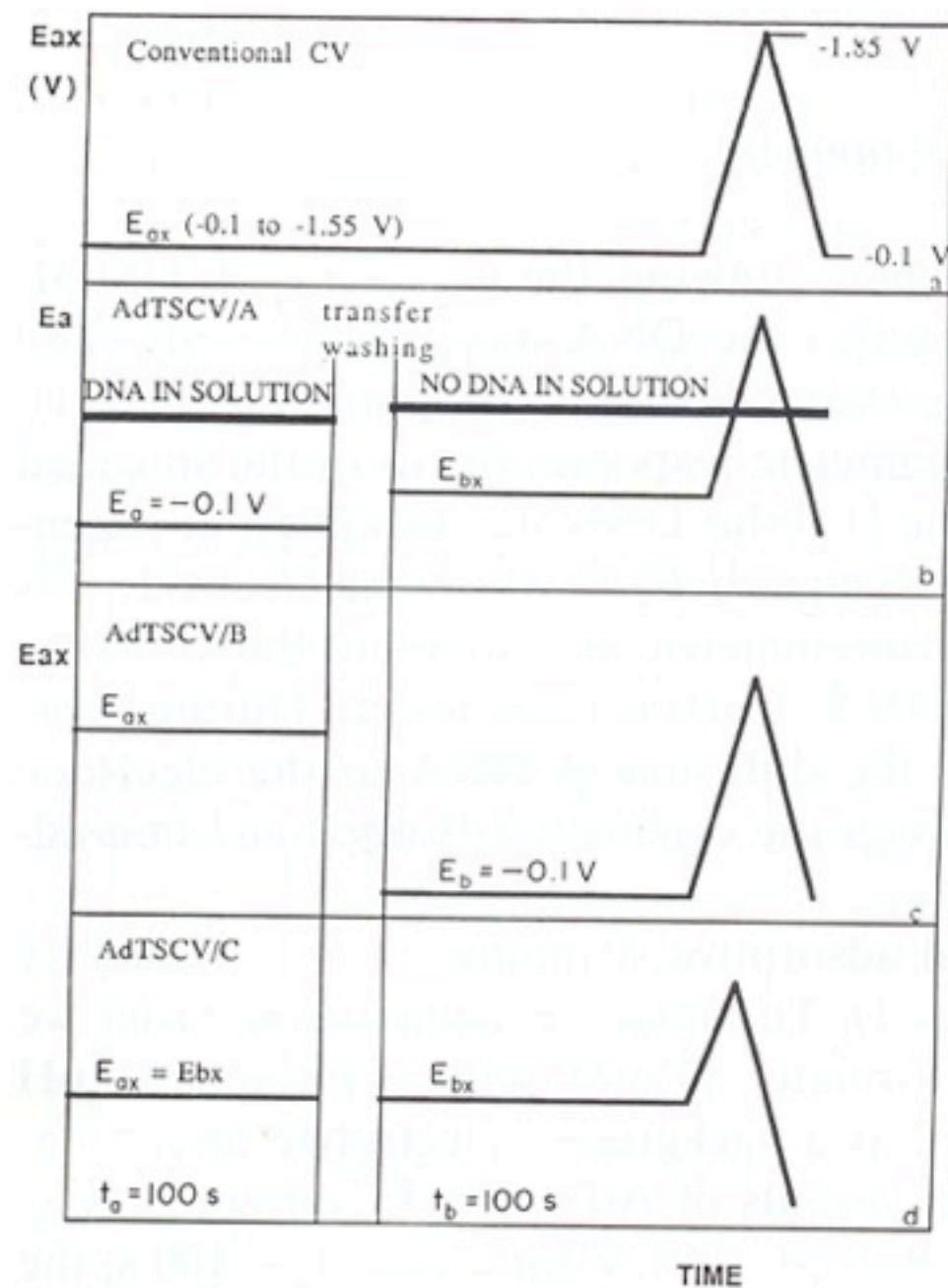


Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of HMDE polarization in (a) conventional (adsorptive stripping) CV and (b–d) variants A, B and C of AdTSCV. (b) AdTSCV variant A: the HMDE charged to a potential $E = -0.1$ V was immersed in a DNA solution for a time $t = 100$ s, the electrode was then washed and transferred to the background electrolyte (0.3 M ammonium formate with 50 mM sodium phosphate, pH 6.9 not containing DNA, medium 0). A potential E (varying in the range between -0.1 V and -1.55 V) was then applied to the HMDE for $t = 100$ s followed by a triangular voltage sweep in the cathodic direction from E to -1.85 V and back in the anodic direction to -0.1 V. (c) AdTSCV variant B: this variant differs from variant A in that DNA is adsorbed at potentials E (varying between -0.1 V and -1.55 V) and kept in medium 0 at $E = -0.1$ V. (d) AdTSCV variant C: in contrast to variant B both potentials E_{ax} and E_{bx} were variable but they were always the same in a given experiment. This variant thus resembles conventional CV (a) where the HMDE was kept for $t_a = 200$ s at the potential E_{ax} followed by CV measurements during which the electrode was immersed in the DNA solution.

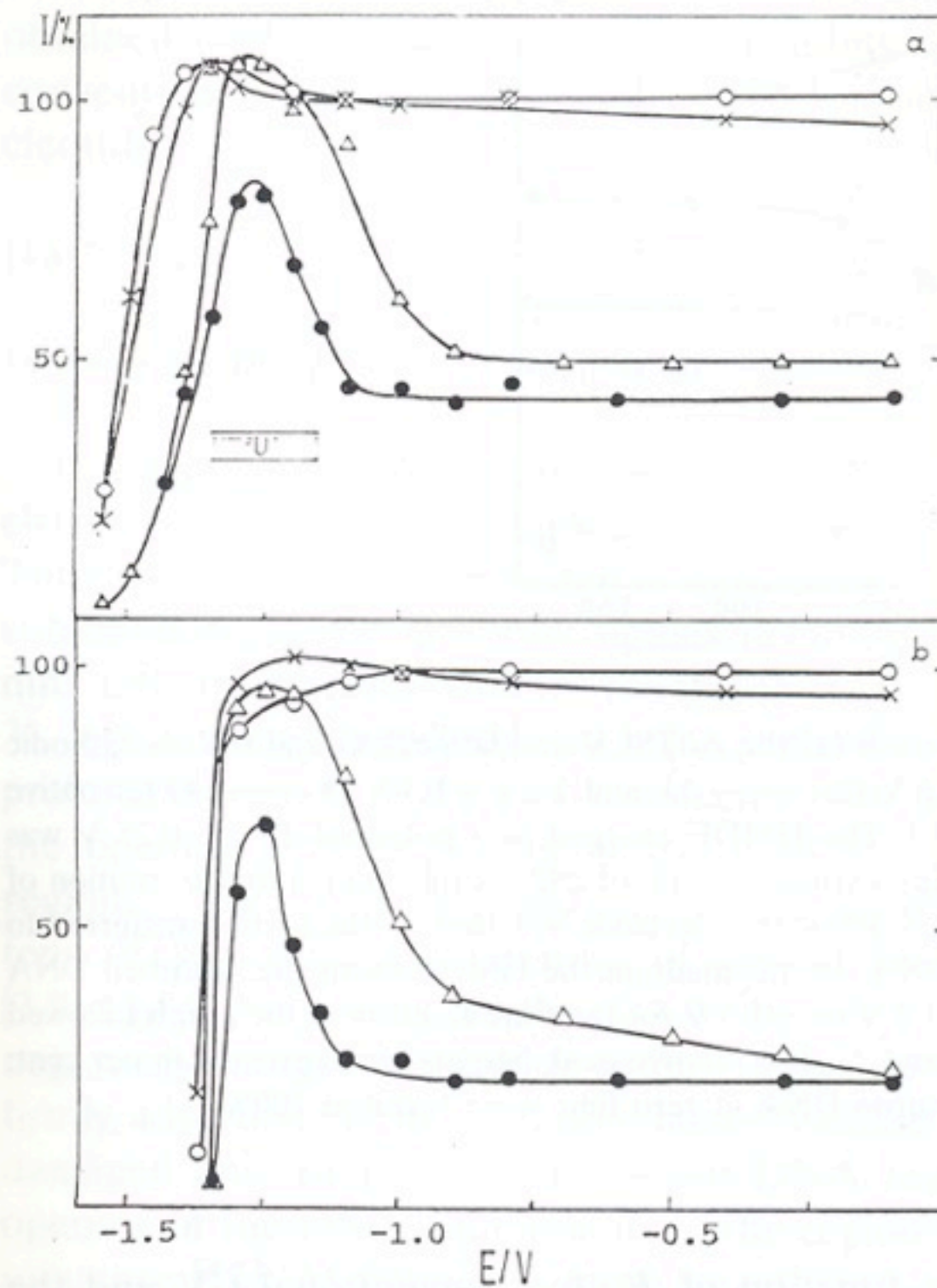


Fig. 5. The dependence of the relative peak heights of (a) the anodic peak G and (b) the cathodic peak AC of native (Δ — Δ , \bullet — \bullet) and denatured (\times — \times , \circ — \circ) DNA on the HMDE potential obtained by conventional CV (Δ — Δ , \circ — \circ) and by AdTSCV variant A (\bullet — \bullet , \times — \times) (for details see Figs. 1 and 2). The relative peak heights are expressed in per cent; the height of the peak of thermally denatured DNA obtained by conventional CV at $E_a = -0.1$ V was taken as 100%. Region U is shown for AdTSCV variant A.

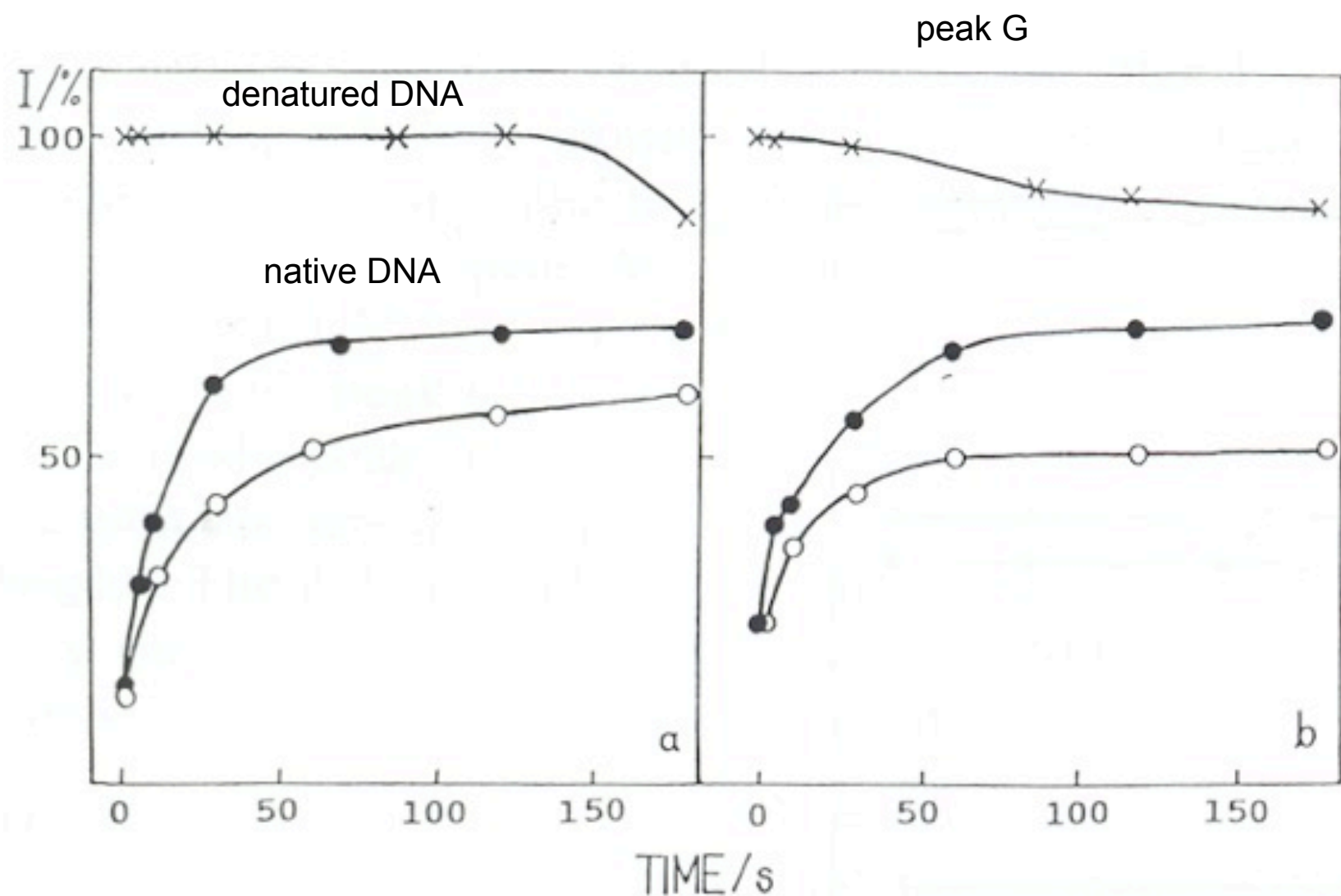
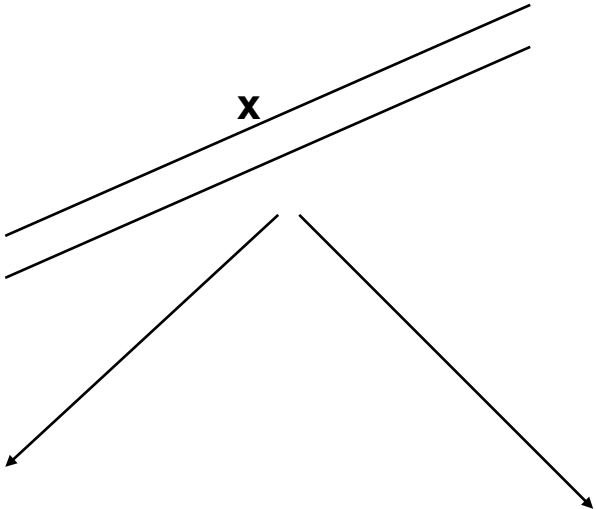


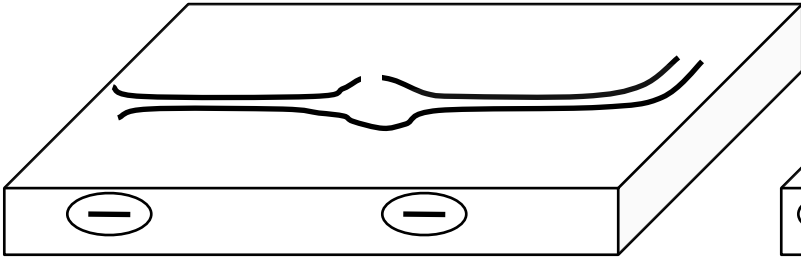
Fig. 6. The dependence of the relative heights of (a) the AdTSCV anodic peak G and (b) the cathodic peak AC on time t_b at potentials $E_b = -1.2$ V (\circ — \circ), and $E_b = -1.3$ V (\bullet — \bullet) for native DNA and for denatured DNA (\times — \times). The HMDE charged to a potential $E_a = -0.25$ V was immersed into the solution of native DNA (at a concentration of $292 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$) or into the solution of denatured DNA ($140 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$) for a time $t_b = 100$ s; the electrode was then washed and transferred to the background electrolyte not containing DNA. In this medium the HMDE (with the adsorbed DNA layer) was exposed to the potentials $E_b = -1.2$ V or -1.3 V for the time t_b given in the graph followed by CV measurement (for details see Figs. 1 and 2). The relative peak heights are expressed in per cent; the heights of peaks AC and G of the denatured DNA at zero time were taken as 100%.

Scheme 1

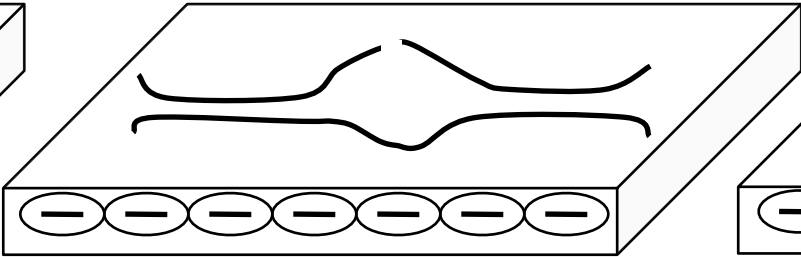


Potential region T

Potential region U (around -1.2 V)

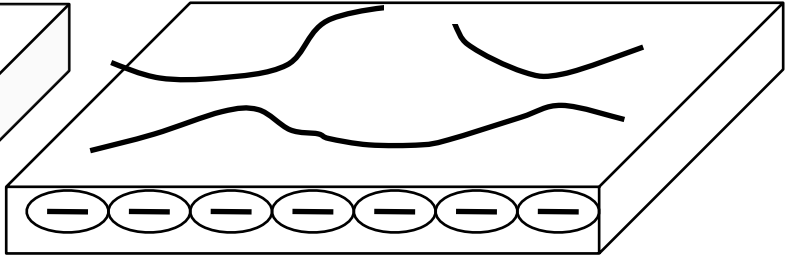


A



(first seconds)

B

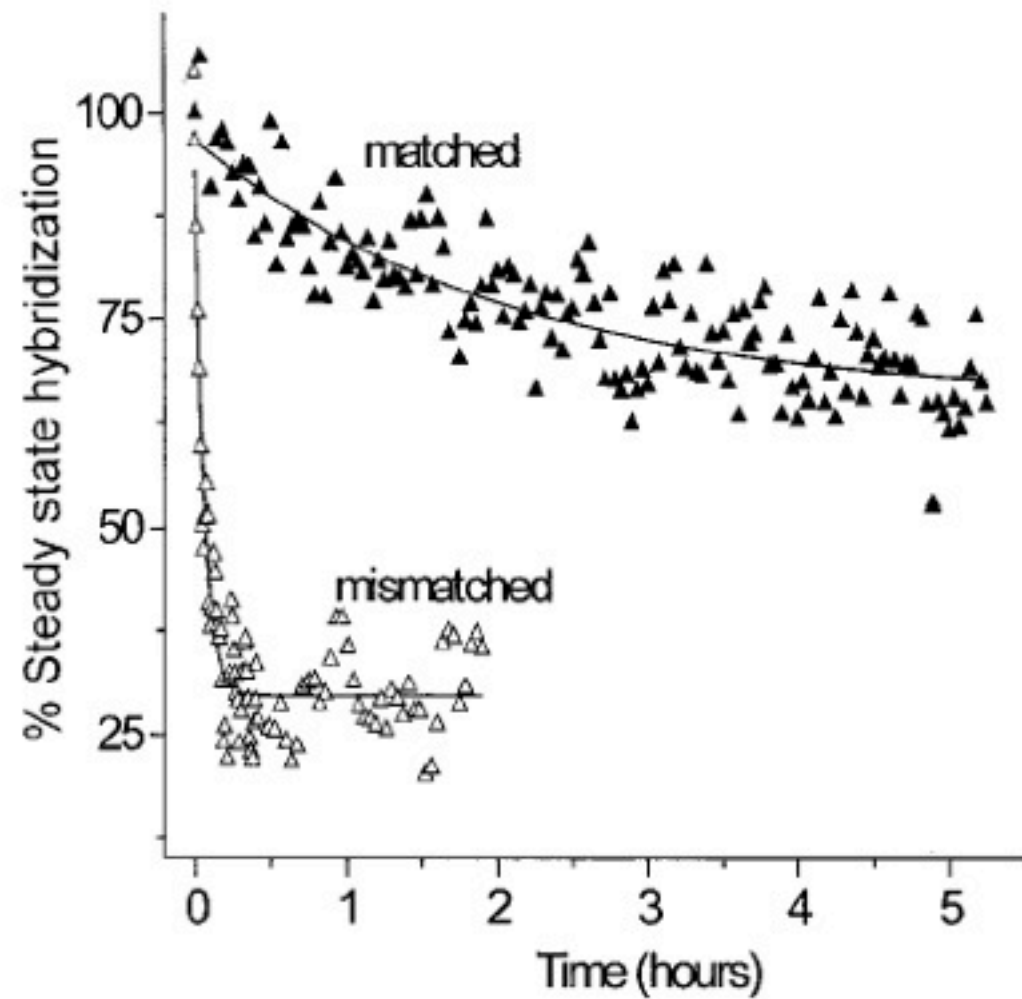


(tens of seconds)

C

Figure 19

DNA unwinding at negatively charged Au surfaces was recently observed by R. Georgiadis et al. and applied in DNA sensors



Heaton RJ, Peterson AW, Georgiadis RM, PNAS 98 (2001) 3701

IFFY stories

On this day 50 years ago, Watson and Crick published their double-helix theory. **But, what if...**

By Steve Mirsky (2003)

"I am now astonished that I began work on the triple helix structure, rather than on the double helix," wrote [Linus Pauling](#) in the April 26, 1974 issue of Nature.

In February 1953, [Pauling proposed a triple helix structure](#) for DNA in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). He had been working with [only a few blurry X-ray crystallographic images from the 1930s and one from 1947](#).

If history's helix had turned slightly differently, however, perhaps the following timeline might be more than mere musing...

August 15, 1952: [Linus Pauling](#) (finally allowed to travel to England by a US State Department that thinks the words "chemist" and "communist" are too close for comfort) [visits King's College London and sees Rosalind Franklin's X-ray crystallographs](#). He immediately [rules out a triple helical structure](#) for DNA and [concentrates on](#) determining the nature of what is undoubtedly a [double helix](#).

February 1953: [Pauling and Corey describes the DNA double helix structure in PNAS](#)

A PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR THE NUCLEIC ACIDS

BY LINUS PAULING AND ROBERT B. COREY

GATES AND CRELLIN LABORATORIES OF CHEMISTRY,* CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Communicated December 31, 1952

92

CHEMISTRY: PAULING AND COREY

PROC. N. A. S.

which are involved in ester linkages. This distortion of the phosphate group from the regular tetrahedral configuration is not supported by direct experimental evidence; unfortunately no precise structure determinations have been made of any phosphate di-esters. The distortion, which corresponds to a larger amount of double bond character for the inner oxygen atoms than for the oxygen atoms involved in the ester linkages, is a reason-

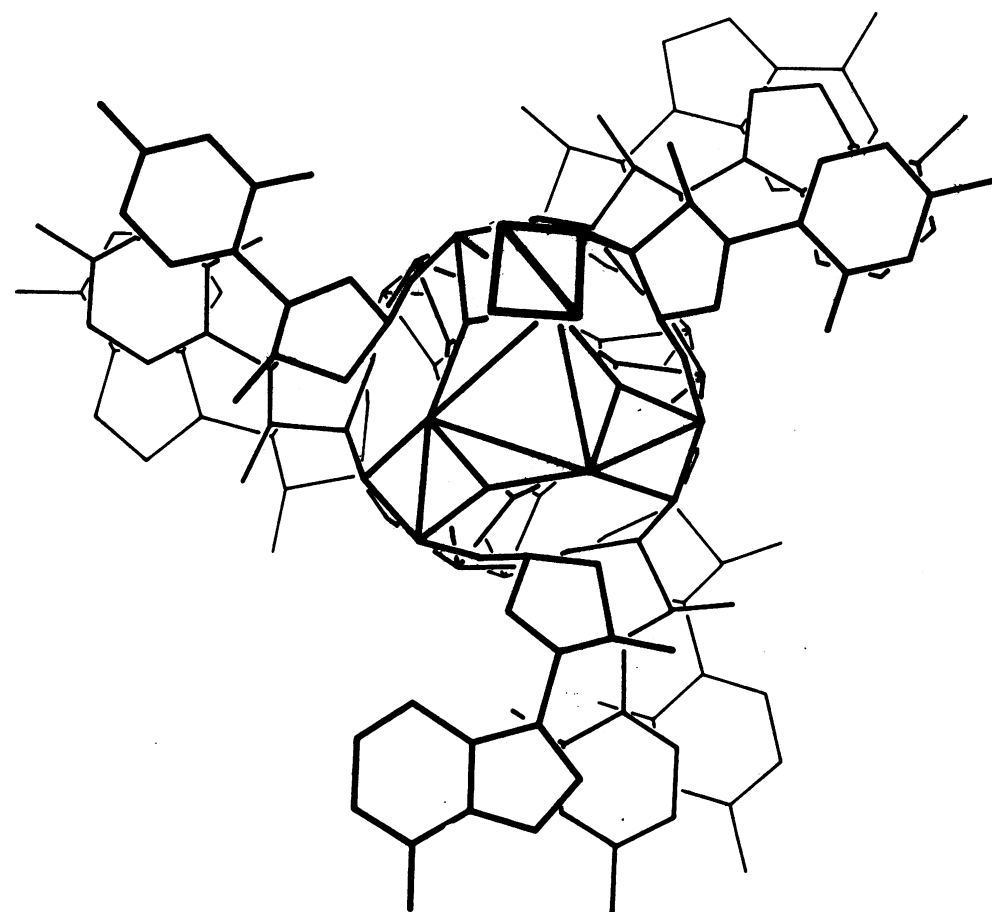


FIGURE 6

Plan of the nucleic acid structure, showing several nucleotide residues.

Triple helix

with bases on the outside and
sugar-phosphate backbone in the
interior of the molecule

My IFFY story:

If L. PAULING had in his lab an oscillopolarograph in 1952 he would never proposed this structure.

Polarography clearly showed that bases must be hidden in the interior of native DNA molecule and become accessible when DNA is denatured

SUMMARY

Electroactivity of nucleic acids was discovered about 50 years ago. Reduction of bases at Hg electrodes is particularly sensitive to changes in DNA structure. The course of DNA and RNA denaturation and renaturation can be easily traced by electrochemical methods.

At present electrochemistry of nucleic acids is a booming field, particularly because it is expected that **sensors for DNA hybridization** and for **DNA damage** will become important tools in biomedicine and other regions of practical life in the 21st century.

DNA-modified electrodes can be easily prepared; microL volumes of DNA are sufficient for its analysis but miniaturization of electrodes decreases these volumes to nL. Sensitivity of the analysis has greatly increased in recent years.

Chemie, struktura a interakce nukleových kyselin

2008-09 3.EP/6. PŘEDNÁŠKA 22.10.08

Fyzikální vlastnosti a izolace DNA

Denaturace, renaturace a hybridizace DNA

Biosyntetické polynukleotidy

Fyzikální vlastnosti DNA

Studium fyz. vlastností DNA *in vitro* vyžaduje její izolaci z buněk či virů do zřed. vodných roztoků, v nichž nejsou přítomny ostatní celulární komponenty. Takto ztrácíme sice informace o jejich uspořádání *in vivo* (interakce s RNA, bílkovinami, atd.) - získáváme však možnost zodpovědět jiné otázky jako m. v., sekundární struktura ap.

Izolace DNA - pokrok v poznání vlastností DNA postupoval souběžně s pokrokem izolačních technik. Např. zjištění lámavosti dlouhých molekul DNA díky působení střížných sil (shear degradation) - čím větší molekula, tím snadnější degradace (vyfouknutí 1 ml roztoku pipetou o průměru 0,25mm za 2 s zlomí DNA T_2 na poloviny. Při vysoké konce. (500 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) DNA je možnost zlomení menší. Začátkem 60 let byl vypracovány metody umožňující izolaci nedegradované DNA T_2 a T_4 ($130 \cdot 10^6$). Tyto DNA se pak staly standardem pro kalibraci metod stanovení mol. hmotnosti DNA.

Důležitým krokem při izolaci DNA je odstranění bílkovin: vysoká konc. solí, detergent, CHCl_3 - isoamyl, emulsifikace, proteasy a fenolová extrakce. CHCl_3 -opakované třepání, degradace; lepší je fenol - DNA o m.v. blízké celému chromosomu *E.coli* ($\sim 10^9$) - nebezpečí znečištění fenolu peroxidy (destilace).

Izolace DNA z bakteriofága

- purifikace fága diferenční centrifugací a/nebo v grad CsCl
- deproteinace (většinou fenolem)

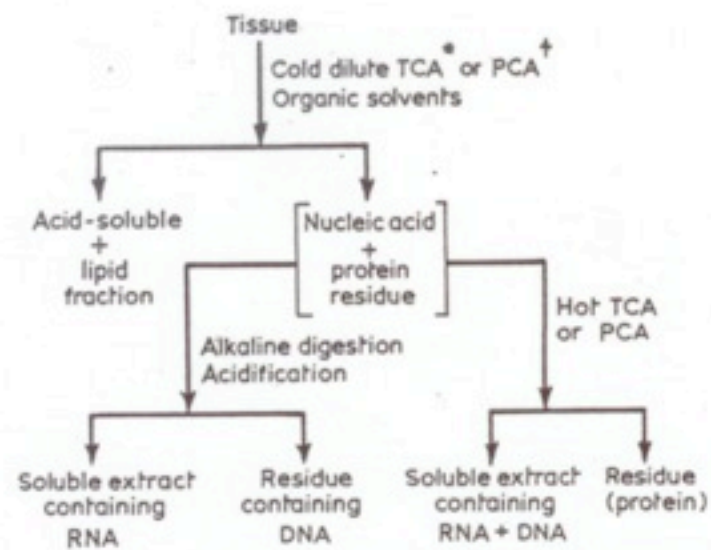
Dnes nejčastěji je používána plasmidová DNA.

Stupeň čistoty a volba metody izolace jsou velmi závislé na účelu, ke kterému má být DNA použita.

V posledních letech jsou k dispozici komerčně dostupné kolonky využívající imobilizaci DNA na pevném podkladu. K separaci DNA jsou rovněž používány magnetické kuličky (magnetic beads)

konec 7.10.09

**IZOLACE
DEGRADOVANÝCH NA**



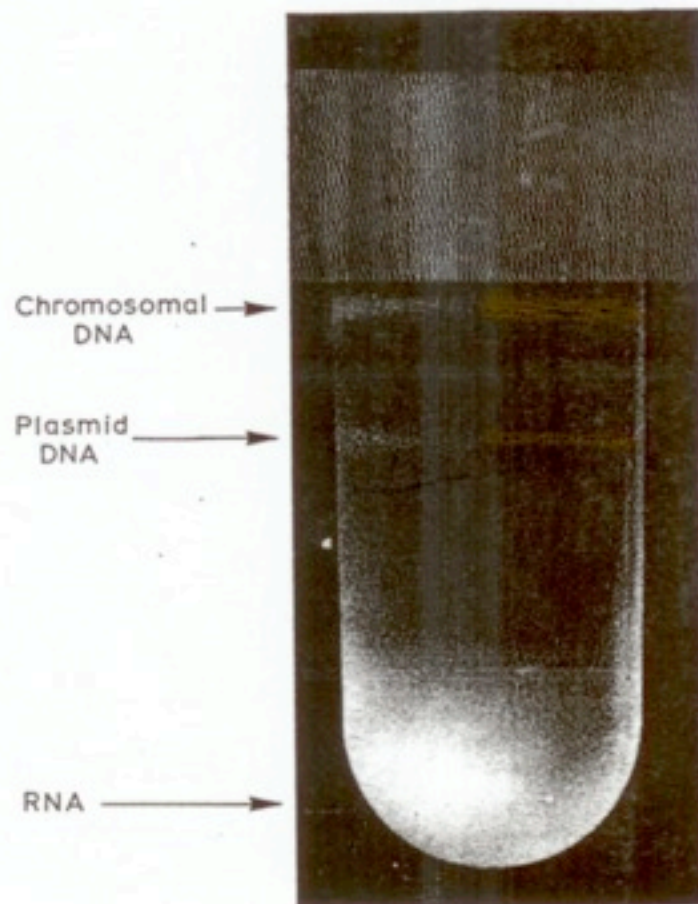
Extraction and fractionation of nucleic acids from tissues. *TCA – trichloroacetic acid, †PCA – perchloric acid.

IZOLACE INTAKTNÍ DNA

J. Marmur

- a. z virů a bakteriofágů
- b. z bakterií
- c. z eukaryotních buněk

Plasmidová DNA



Separation of closed-circular DNA of plasmid pBR322 from *E. coli* chromosomal DNA by isopycnic ultracentrifugation in a CsCl density gradient in the presence of ethidium bromide. The band marked 'chromosomal DNA' may also contain nicked plasmid DNA molecules.

J. MARMUR, Harvard Univ./Brandeis Univ., Boston, Mass.

Izolace DNA z bakterií: 1. lysa buněk

- a) mechanicky
- b) enzymaticky (lysozym)
- c) detergenty (SDS)

2. deproteinace

- a) CHCl_3
- b) fenol
- c) enzymaticky
- d) ultracentrifugace v grad CsCl

3. odstranění RNA

- a) enzymaticky (RNasa)
- b) diferenční srážení
- c) ultracentrifugace v grad CsCl

Jednotlivé kroky při izolaci DNA jsou často kombinovány se srážením etanolem

4. dialyza

Dnes jsou k dispozici komerčně dostupné přípravky (většinou různé druhy kolonek) pro izolaci DNA z prokaryotních i eukaryotních buněk, které jsou vhodné zejména pro rutinní, seriové izolace DNA

A Procedure for the Isolation of Deoxyribonucleic Acid from Micro-organisms †

J. MARMUR‡

Department of Chemistry, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

(Received 6 December 1960)

A method has been described for the isolation of DNA from micro-organisms which yields stable, biologically active, highly polymerized preparations relatively free from protein and RNA. Alternative methods of cell disruption and DNA isolation have been described and compared. DNA capable of transforming homologous strains has been used to test various steps in the procedure and preparations have been obtained possessing high specific activities. Representative samples have been characterized for their thermal stability and sedimentation behaviour.

1. Introduction

To facilitate the study of the biological, chemical and physical properties of DNA it is necessary to obtain the material in a native, highly polymerized state. Several procedures have described the isolation of DNA from selected groups of micro-organisms (Hotchkiss, 1957; Zamenhof, Reiner, DeGiovanni & Rich, 1956; Chargaff, 1955). However, no detailed account is available for the isolation of DNA from a diverse group of micro-organisms. The reason for this is that micro-organisms vary greatly

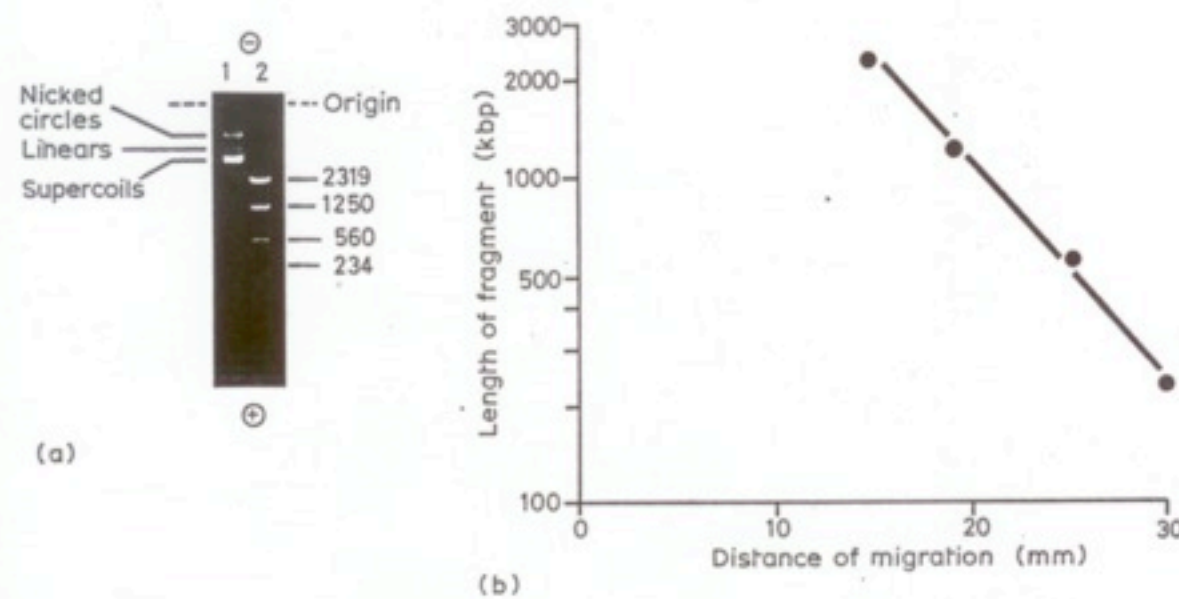
Characterize your DNA sample:

ds x ss, **circular** x linear

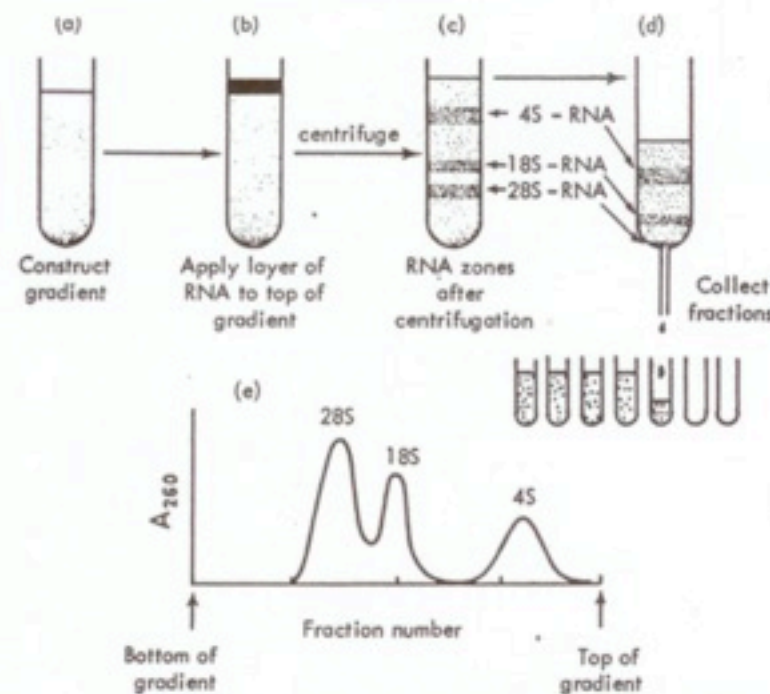
circular: **nicked**, oc; covalently closed, cc, cd

linear: cohesive or blunt ends
number of base pairs,

purity: protein, RNA content
analytical methods



Agarose gel electrophoresis of DNA. (a) Separation of: 1, different forms of DNA of plasmid pBR322; 2, fragments of DNA (lengths indicated in kbp) derived from plasmid pBR322 by double-digestion with restriction endonuclease *Bam* HI and *Bgl* I; (b) Plot of length of DNA fragment (log scale) against distance of migration (linear scale) of data from (a) 2, illustrating linear relationship.



Rate zonal centrifugation of RNA through a sucrose density gradient. A sucrose density gradient is constructed in a centrifuge tube (a) and the RNA solution applied as a layer on top (b). During ultracentrifugation the main components of the RNA separate into zones, primarily on the basis of molecular weight (c). These zones may be recovered by puncturing the bottom of the tube and collecting different fractions in separate tubes (d). The separated RNAs may be visualized and quantitated by measurement of the absorbance at 260 nm (e). Steps (d) and (e) may be conveniently combined by pumping the gradient through the flow-cell of a recording spectrophotometer.

Síly ovlivňující konformaci DNA

a) Elektrostatické síly podmíněné ionizací.

V rozmezí pH 5-9, kdy nedochází ve větším stupni k ionizaci bazí je, DNA **aniontovým polyelektrolytem - polyaniontem**, díky záporným nábojům, které nesou fosfátové skupiny). V roztocích solí jsou záporné náboje vystíněny kladnými náboji kationtů (např. Na⁺), které vytvářejí kolem každého záporného náboje iontovou atmosféru. Jestliže je koncentrace kationtů nízká, nabývá na významu odpuzování fosfátových skupin. U **dvoušroubovicové DNA** se toto odpuzování stává faktorem ovlivňujícím významně vlastnosti molekul teprve **při iontových silách nižších než 0,1. Při velmi nízkých iontových silách** (kolem 10⁻⁴ - 10⁻⁵) jsou odpudivé síly již tak velké, že mohou zapříčinit **zhroucení dvoušroubovicové struktury** (denaturaci). **Jednořetězcová DNA** (a podobně i RNA) je velmi **citlivá** ke změnám v koncentraci iontů již **při iontových silách nižších jak 1,0**; snižování iontové síly vede ke zvětšování prostoru zaujímaného polynukleotidovým řetězcem.

b) Síly plynoucí z vertikálního uspořádání bazí

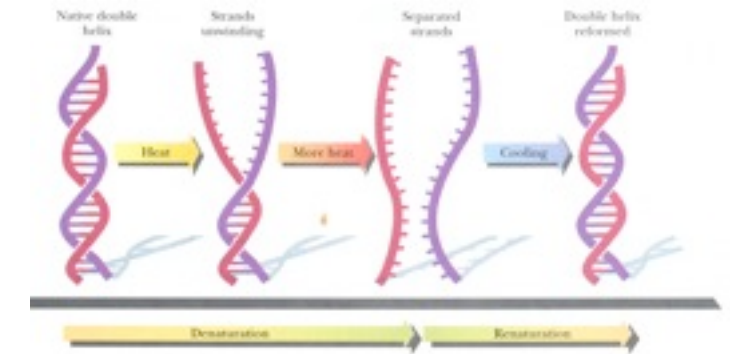
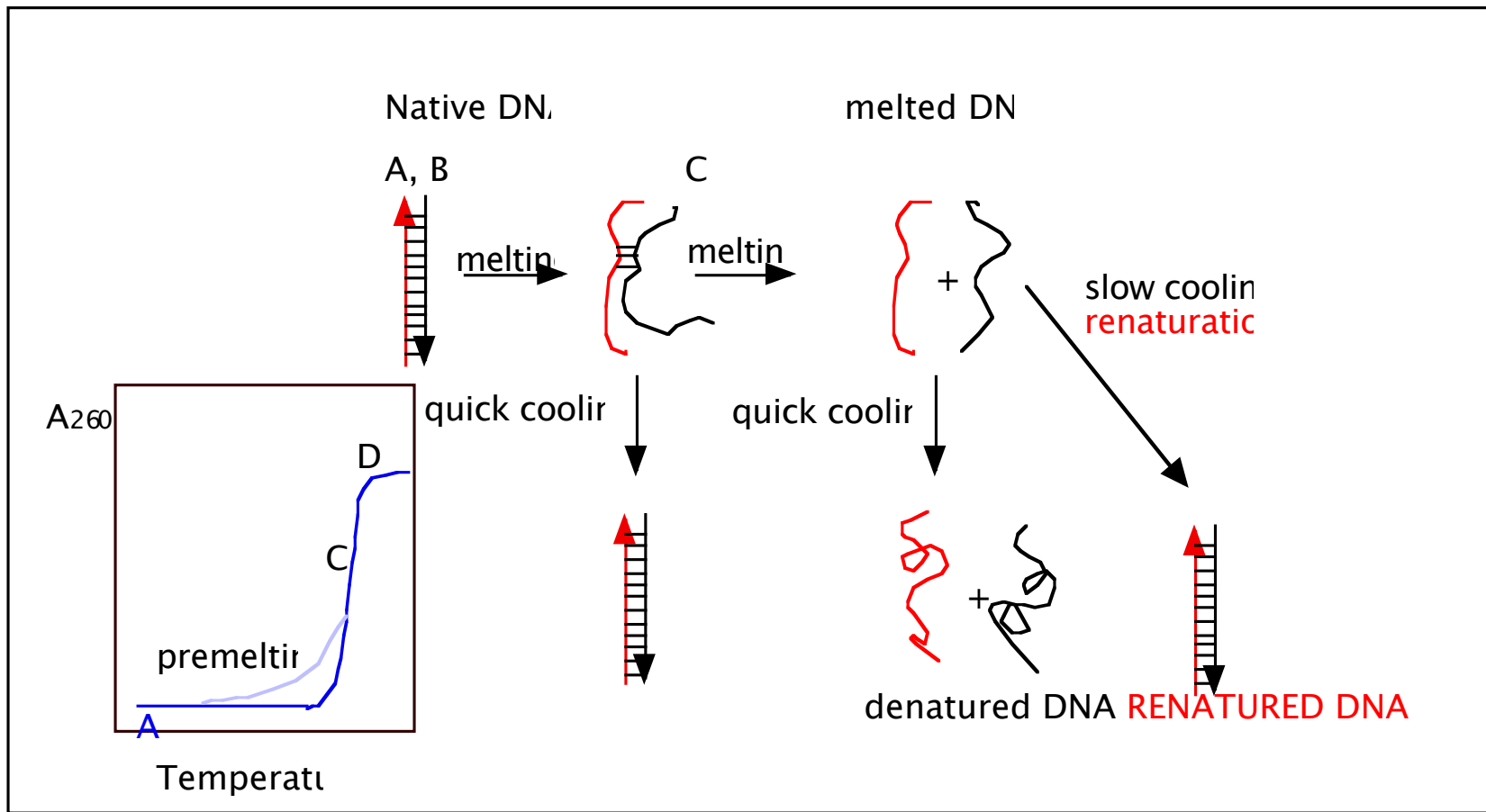
(vrstvení bazí, stacking). Síly působící mezi bazemi pravidelně uspořádanými ve dvojité šroubovici jsou zejména interakce typu dipól - dipól, dipól - indukovaný dipól a Londonovy síly. Existují teoreticky odvozené důkazy, že **tyto síly jsou postačující pro stabilizaci šroubovice**; jejich volná energie odpovídá asi -7 kcal na mól párů bazí. Naproti tomu volná energie vodíkových můstků činí asi -3 kcal pro (G.C) a -2 kcal pro (A.T) pár (na mól párů bazí).

c) Vodíkové vazby (můstky) - představují **jediný známý způsob zajišťující specifitu párování bazí**. Jsou tedy součástí mechanismu jímž DNA realizuje svoji biologickou funkci. Zpočátku se o nich soudilo, že jsou nejdůležitějším činitelem pro stabilitu dvojité šroubovice; experimentálně i teoreticky bylo však dokázáno, že tomu tak není.

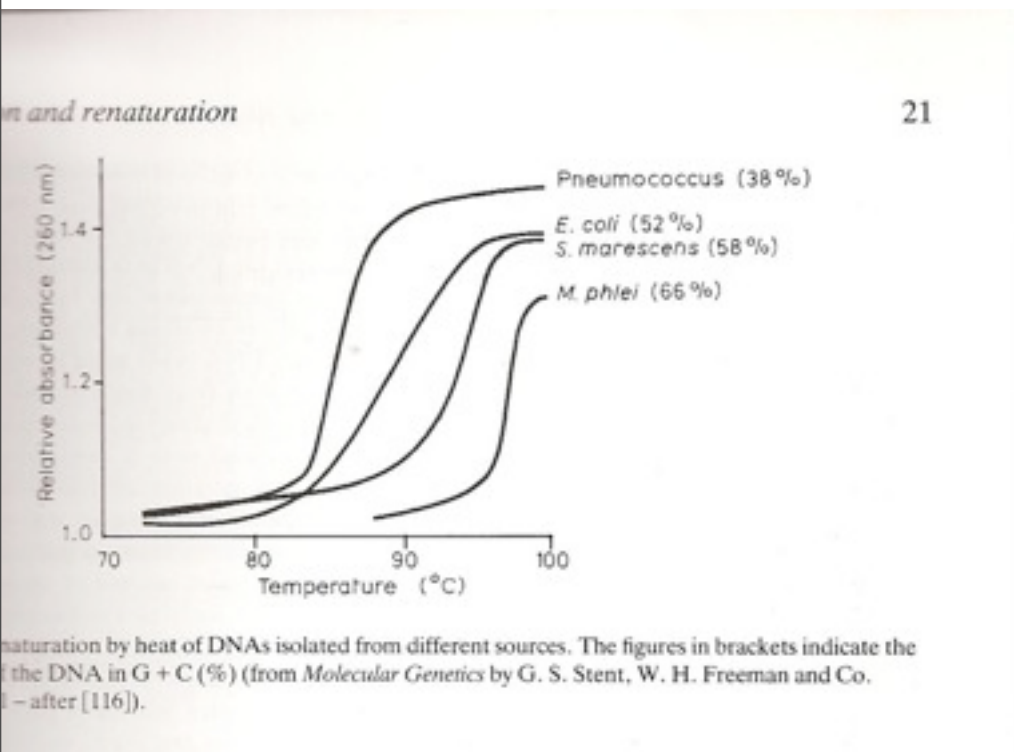
d) Hydrofobní síly - tento termín se týká **stability dvoušroubovicové DNA plynoucí z její architektury**: **polární skupiny jsou na povrchu**, zatímco **hydrofobní baze jsou uvnitř** molekuly a mají větší tendenci interagovat mezi sebou nežli s molekulami vody. Toto uspořádání **stabilizuje** tedy dvoušroubovicovou molekulu DNA **ve vodním prostředí**. Je známo, že molekula DNA je ve vodném roztoku obklopena **hydratační vrstvou**, která hraje významnou úlohu ve stabilizaci dvojité šroubovice. Podrobné znalosti o této hydratační vrstvě jsou nyní získávány zejména díky výsledkům rtg. strukturní analýzy krystalů DNA.

Denaturation x degradation
aggregation
renaturation/hybridization

DNA DENATURATION and RENATURATION/HYBRIDIZATION



J. Marmur and P. Doty



STRAND SEPARATION AND SPECIFIC RECOMBINATION IN DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACIDS: BIOLOGICAL STUDIES

BY J. MARMUR AND D. LANE

CONANT LABORATORY, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Communicated by Paul Doty, February 25, 1960

It is clear that the correlation between the structure of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and its function as a genetic determinant could be greatly increased if a means could be found of separating and reforming the two complementary strands. In this and the succeeding paper¹ some success along these lines is reported. This paper will deal with the evidence provided by employing the transforming activity of DNA from *Diplococcus pneumoniae* while the succeeding paper¹ will summarize physical chemical evidence for strand separation and reunion.

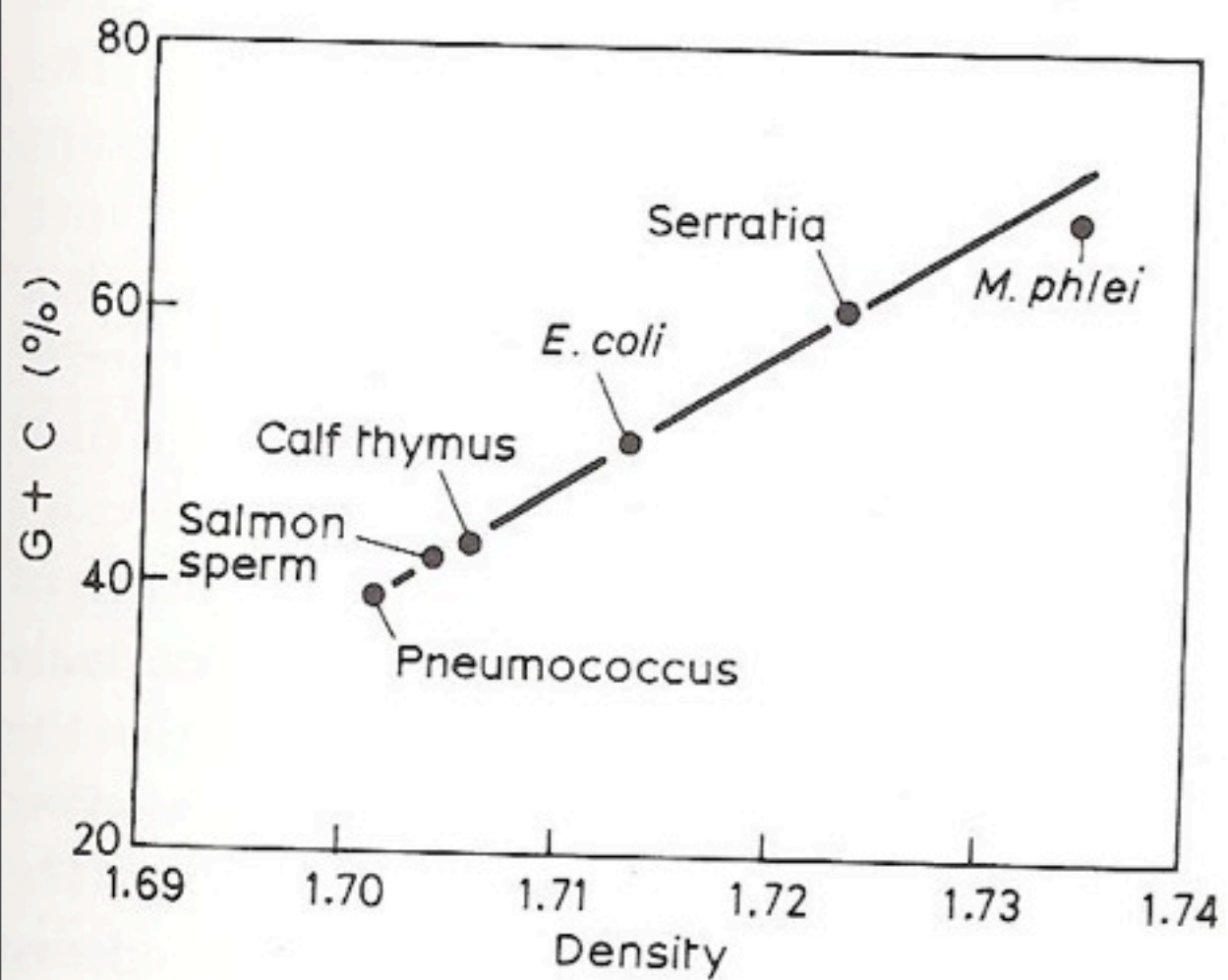


Fig. 2.21 Relationship of density to content of guanine plus cytosine in DNAs from various sources [64].

Source of DNA	Percentage (G + C)
<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> (malarial parasite)	19
<i>Dictyostelium</i> (slime mould)	22
<i>M. pyogenes</i>	34
Vaccinia virus	36
<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	37
<i>B. megaterium</i>	38
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	39
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	39
Calf thymus	40
Rat liver	40
Bull sperm	41
<i>Diplococcus pneumoniae</i>	42
Wheatgerm	43
Chicken liver	43
Mouse spleen	44
Salmon sperm	44
<i>B. subtilis</i>	44
T1 phage	46
<i>E. coli</i>	51
T7 phage	51
T3 phage	53
<i>Neurospora crassa</i>	54
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	68
<i>Sarcina lutea</i>	72
<i>Micrococcus luteus</i>	72
Herpes simplex virus	72
<i>Mycobacterium phlei</i>	73

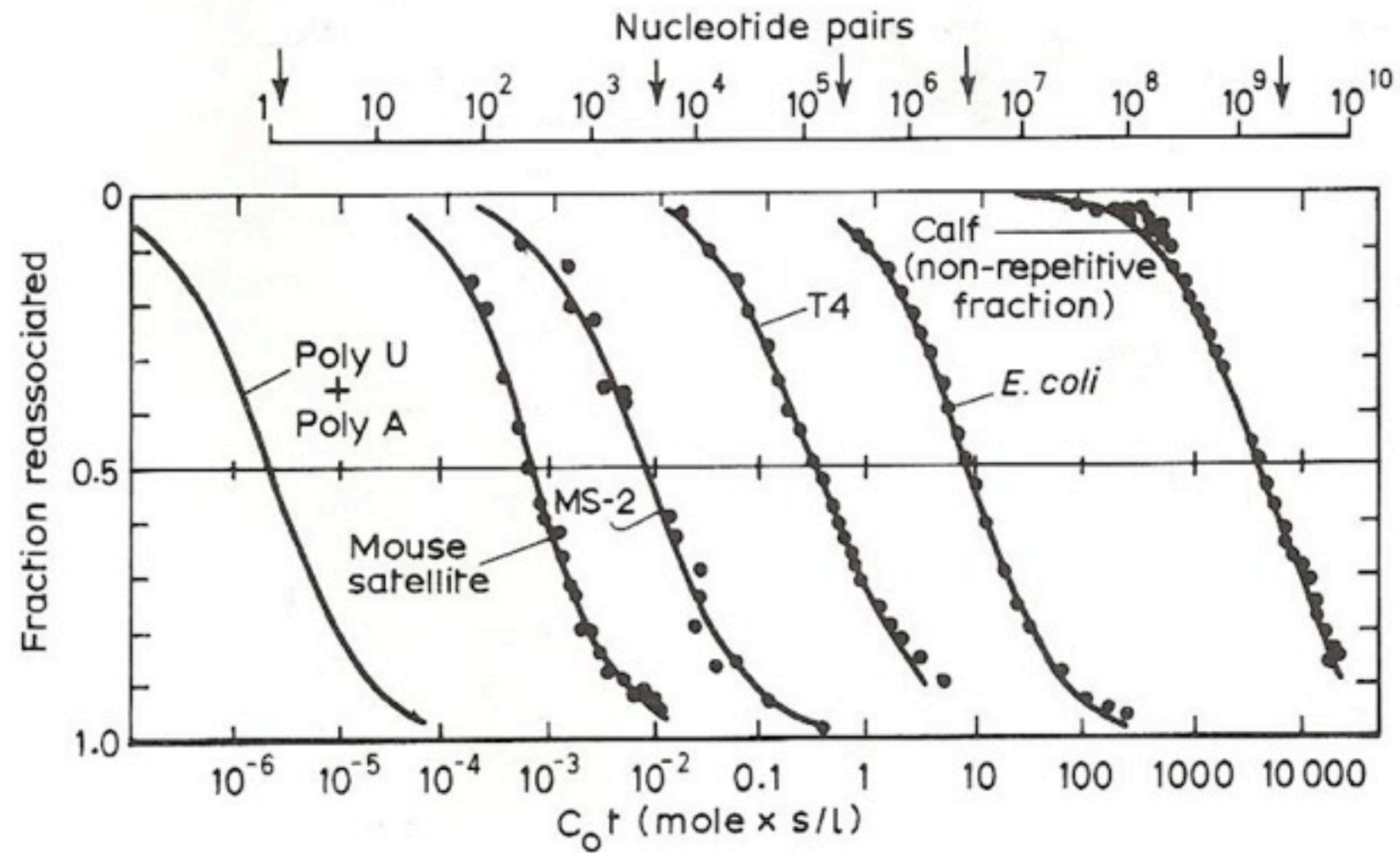


Fig. 2.20 The rate of reassociation of double-stranded polynucleotides from various sources showing how the rate decreases with the complexity of the organism and its genome (from [60]).

DNA renaturation/reassociation depends on the concentration of the DNA molecules and the time allowed for reassociation. Often imperfect matches may be formed which must again dissociate to allow the strands to align correctly. C_0t value of DNA is defined as the initial concentration C_0 in moles nucleotides per Litre multiplied by time t in seconds. C_0t reflects complexity of DNA. Methods: S1, hydroxyapatite - dsDNA binds more strongly

Microbiologist, biochemist and molecular biologist

Julius Marmur - discovered renaturation of DNA

22 March, 1926 Bialystok (Poland) - 20 May, 1996 New York, NY

Oswald Avery 1944 - DNA is a genetic material

(Rockefeller Institute, New York, NY)



Rollin D. Hotchkiss



Julius Marmur



1993

Syntetické oligonukleotidy
Dr. L. Havran, 1. předn.

Biosyntetické polynukleotidy -

modely pro výzkum fyzikálních a chemických vlastností a struktury nukleových kyselin

POLYRIBONUKLEOTIDY

byly syntetizovány většinou pomocí polynukleotid fosforylázy, která polymerizuje nukleotid-5'-difosfáty (při čemž se uvolňuje anorganický fosfát)

Po počáteční syntetické fázi, dochází k rovnováze mezi syntézou a degradací (fosforolýzou) a vytvářejí se polymery s poměrně malým rozptylem délek

Polynukleotid fosforyláza polymerizuje mnohá analoga nukleosid difosfátů jako 2'-O-metyl-, 2'-chloro-, 2'-fluoro- a dokonce i arabinonukleosid-5'-difosfáty a nukleotid difosfáty s různě modifikovanými bazemi.

Nukleosidy mající konformaci *syn*- (např. 8-bromoguanosin) polymerizovány nejsou. Enzym vyžaduje konformaci cukru 3'-endo.

Tento enzym nevyžaduje pro svoji funkci matrici (někdy očko/primer).
Vhodný zejména pro syntézu homopolynukleotidů.
Heteropolymery mají náhodnou sekvenci nukleotidů.

Příprava polynukleotidů s definovanou sekvencí nukleotidů vyžaduje RNA-polymerázu (závislou na DNA) nebo DNA-polymerázu (pro syntézu polydeoxyribonukleotidů)

Důležité modely vlivu sekvence nukleotidů na vlastnosti DNA

nukleosid-**difosfáty**
nevyžaduje primer ani matrici

nukleosid-**trifosfáty**

Use the checkboxes to select records for output. See the sidebar for options.

1. **MARMUR J**
PROCEDURE FOR ISOLATION OF DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID FROM MICRO-ORGANISMS
 JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY 3 (2): 208& 1961
 Times Cited: [9234](#)
2. **MARMUR J, DOTY P**
DETERMINATION OF BASE COMPOSITION OF DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID FROM ITS THERMAL DENATURATION TEMPERATURE
 JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY 5 (1): 109& 1962
 Times Cited: [3210](#)
3. SCHILDKRAUT CL, DOTY P, **MARMUR J**
DETERMINATION OF BASE COMPOSITION OF DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID FROM ITS BUOYANT DENSITY IN CSCL
 JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY 4 (5): 430& 1962
 Times Cited: [1619](#)
4. **MARMUR J, DOTY P**
HETEROGENEITY IN DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACIDS .1. DEPENDENCE ON COMPOSITION OF THE CONFIGURATIONAL STABILITY OF DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACIDS
 NATURE 183 (4673): 1427-1429 1959
 Times Cited: [427](#)
-
9. **MARMUR J, LANE D**
STRAND SEPARATION AND SPECIFIC RECOMBINATION IN DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACIDS - BIOLOGICAL STUDIES
 PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 46 (4): 453-461 1960
 Times Cited: [246](#)

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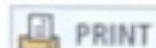
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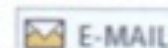
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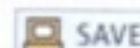
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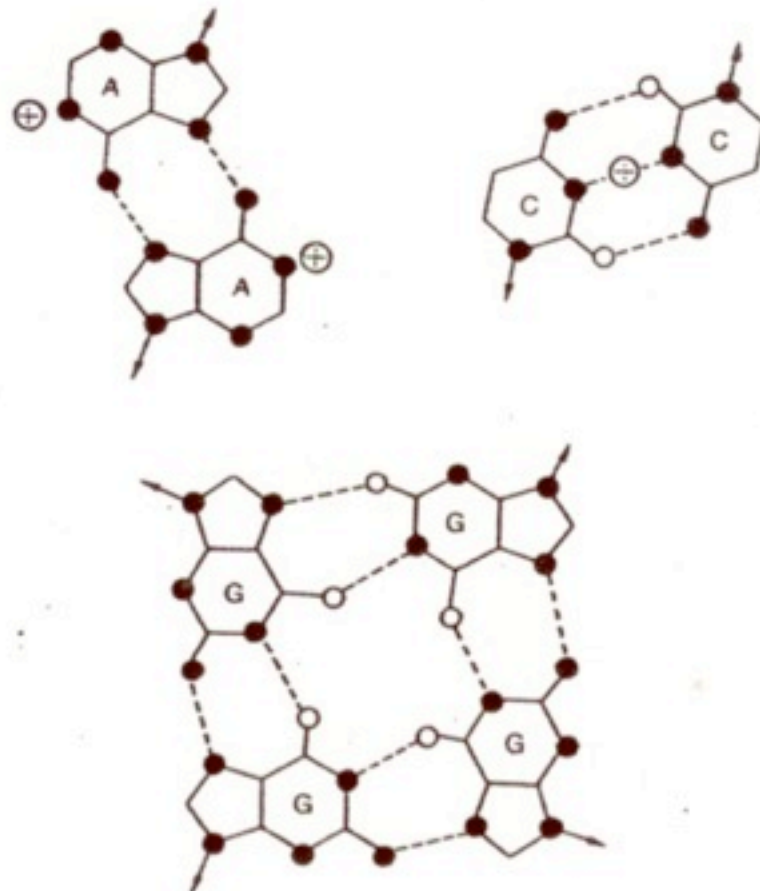
Homopolynukleotidy

Poly(U) a poly(dT) při pokojové teplotě mají málo výraznou sekundární strukturu, při vyšší teplotě tuto strukturu ztrácejí

Poly(C) v kyselém prostředí tvoří dvojřetězovou protonizovanou strukturu s paralelními řetězci. V neutrálním prostředí tvoří jednořetězovou strukturu stabilizovanou vertikálním vrstvením bází (stacking)

Poly(A) tvoří v kyselém prostředí dvojřetězovou strukturu s paralelními řetězci (podobně jako poly(C)). Párování bází je ve struktuře poly(A) zajištěno jinak než v poly(C). V neutrálním prostředí má poly(A) strukturu jednořetězovou.

Poly(G) a poly(I) tvoří čtyřvláknové struktury



poly(A)
poly(rC)
poly(dG)
poly(U)
poly(rT)

Polynukleotidové komplexy

Smícháním polynukleotidů (za vhodných iontových podmínek) vznikají dvou- a víceřetězové komplexy

Poly(A)·poly(U) tato dvojitá šroubovice vzniká při fyziologické iontové síle za nepřítomnosti Mg^{2+} . Při vyšších iontových silách může vzniknout trojřetězová struktura poly(A)·poly(U)·poly(U) [poly(A)·2 poly(U)] (Hoogsteen)

Poly(G)·poly(C), poly(I)·poly(C) tyto dvojitě šroubovice vznikají při neutrálním pH. V kyselém prostředí se tvoří trojřetězové struktury poly(G)·poly(C)·poly(C⁺) v nichž je jeden řetězec poly(C) protonizovaný. Podobně interaguje i poly(C) s poly(I)

Tyto interakce jsou silně závislé na iontové síle

Studium vlastností biosyntetických polynukleotidů přineslo v minulosti důležité informace o vztazích mezi sekvencí nukleotidů a strukturou DNA a RNA, např.:

$t_m: (rI)·(rC) > (rI)·(dC) > (dI)·(dC) > (dI)·(rC)$

poly(dI-dC) a poly(dG-dC) jsou stabilnější nežli odpovídající komplexy homopolynukleotidů

Směsné křivky:

