



# **Electrochemical Methods**

**MCHV C5060**

**Libuše Trnková**

litrn@seznam.cz

# Outline

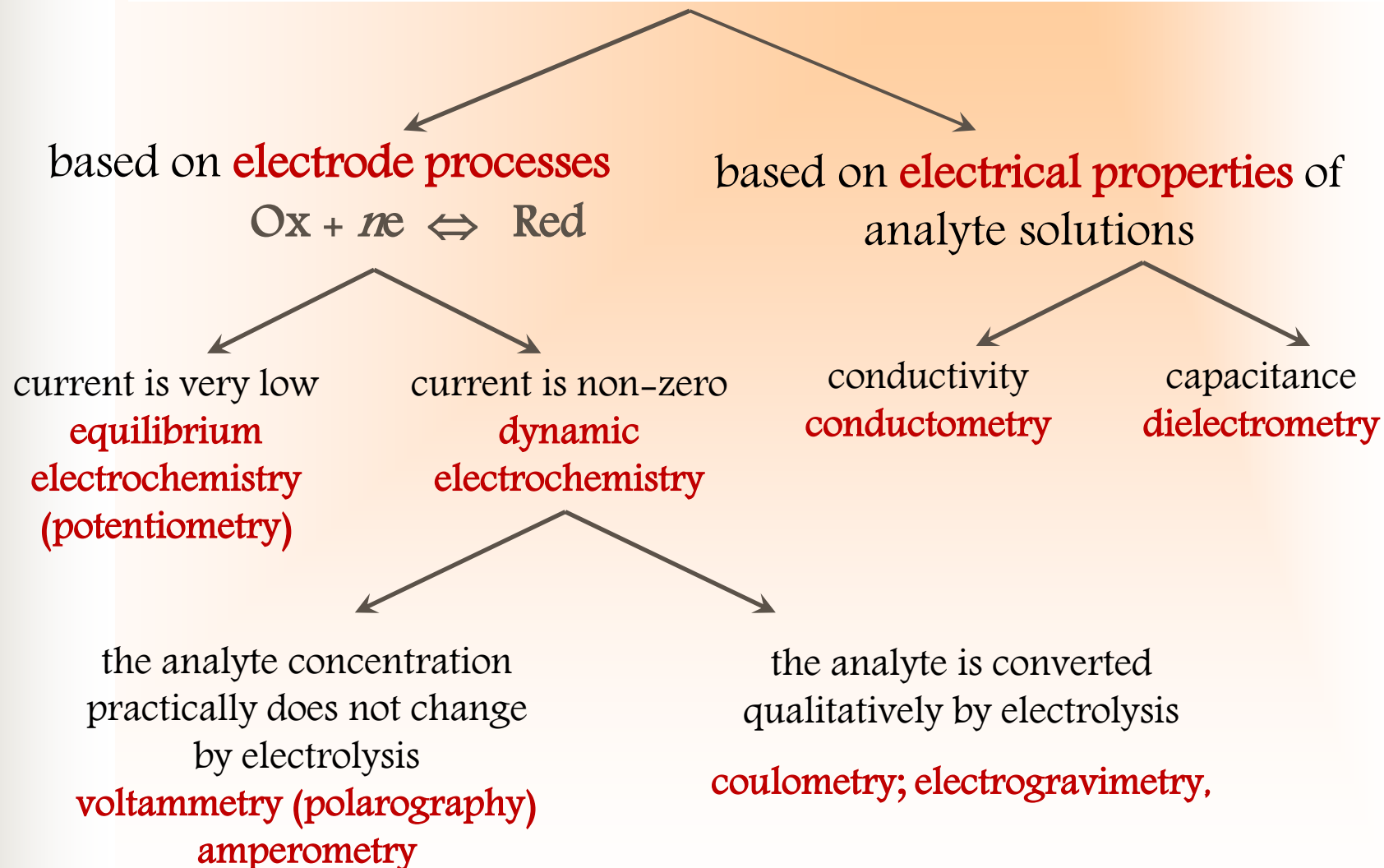
- **Introduction**
- **From Potentiometry (equilibrium) to Polarography and Voltammetry (dynamics)**  
Reduction and Oxidation, Redox Potentials, Overpotential, Electrode system, Cells, Reversibility and Irreversibility)
- **Electrochemical Methods (potentiostatic techniques)**  
(Voltammetry-CV, LSV, AC, NPV, DPV, SWV, Coulometry)  
Fundamentals and Application Basic Equations, Double Layer, Overpotential
- **Hyphenated Methods (with electroanalysis)**  
(EIS - Electrochemical impedance spectra, HPLC with ED  
SE – Spectroelectrochemistry, QCMB - Quarz Crystal  
Microbalance, AFM – Atomic Force Microscopy)

# Introduction

## Books and Monograph Series

1. A. J. Bard, *Electroanalytical Chemistry*, Marcel Dekker, N.Y. , 1970
2. J. Dvořák, J. Koryta: *Elektrochemie*, Academia, Praha, 1975
3. J. Zýka et al.: *Analytická příručka*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. SNTL, Praha, 1979
4. J. Koryta: *Iontově selektivní elektrody*, Academia, Praha, 1984
5. J. Wang: *Analytical Electrochemistry*, VCH Publishers, N.Y., 1984, 1994
6. Ch.M.A.Brett, A.M.O.Brett: *Electrochemistry*, Oxford, 1993
7. P. Klouda: *Moderní analytické metody*, P.K., Ostrava, 1994
8. J.O'M. Bockris, A.K.M.Reddy: *Modern Electrochemistry 1,2A,2B*, Plenum Press, N.Y. 1998
9. K. Markušová: *Elektrochemické metody*, PF UPJŠ, Košice, 2003
10. J. Barek, K. Štulík, F. Opekar: *Elektroanalytická chemie*, Uč. Texty UK, 2005
11. F. Scholtz: *Electroanalytical methods*, Spriner, Berlin/Heidelberg,2002.

# Distribution of EAM



# Introduction

## Some Terms - Potentiometry

- Galvanic cell
- Electrolytic cell
- Reduction
- Oxidation
- Half Reactions
- Redox Couple
- Anode
- Cathode
- Standard Electrode Potential

$$E_{redox} = E_{redox}^0 - \frac{RT}{zF} \ln Q$$



$$E_{redox} = E_{redox}^0 + \frac{RT}{zF} \ln \frac{a_{Ox}}{a_{Red}}$$

$$E_{redox}^0$$

**Nernst equation  
equilibrium**

equilibrium constant

$$\ln K = \frac{zFE_{redox}^0}{RT}$$

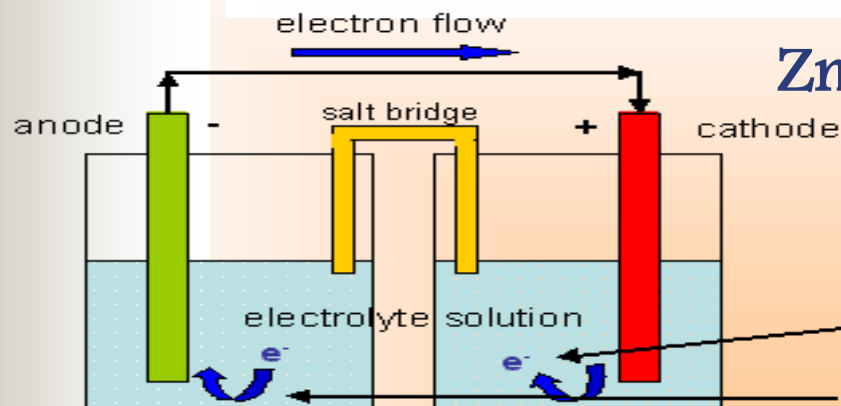
**electrochemical potential; thermodynamic functions ( $\Delta_r G$   $\Delta_r S$   $\Delta_r H$ )**  
**activity; activity coefficients, product of solubility, solubility**  
Ion selective electrodes, potentiometric titrations



# Electrochemical cells

## galvanic vs. electrolytic

### ELECTROCHEMICAL CELLS



$$E^\circ_{\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}} = -0.76\text{V}$$

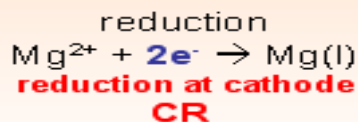
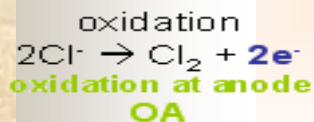
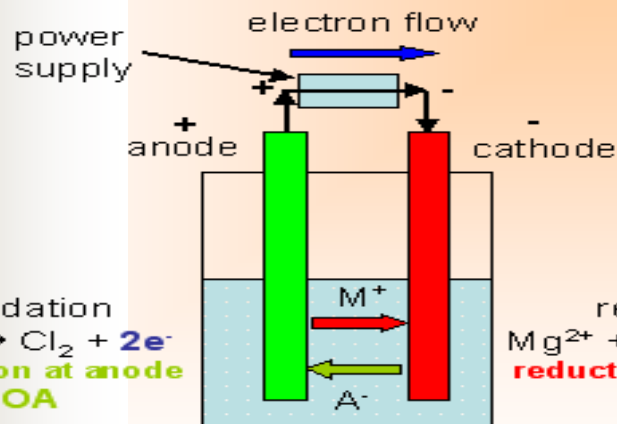
$$E^\circ_{\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Cu}} = +0.34\text{V}$$

### Galvanic Cell

Spontaneous rx. draw  $e^-$  into cell from cathode where reduction occurs and release them at anode where oxidation occurs



Example:

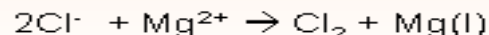


### Electrolytic Cell

Current supplied by external source drive nonspontaneous oxidation/reduction reaction.

Anode + and cathode -, opposite of galvanic cell

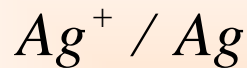
Example:



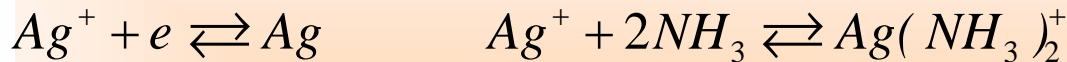
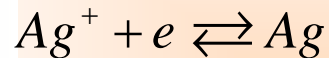
Cations ( $\text{M}^+$ ) move to cathode,  
Anion ( $\text{A}^-$ ) move to anode

# Potentiometry

## Potentiometry – sample



In aqueous solution of  $NH_3$



$$K_f = \frac{[Ag(NH_3)_2^+]}{[Ag^+][NH_3]^2} = 6.10^8 \quad \text{equilibrium constant}$$

Nernst equation  $E_{Ag} = E_{Ag^+/Ag}^0 + 0.059 \log [Ag^+]$

$$E_{Ag} = E_{Ag^+/Ag}^0 + 0.059 \log \frac{1}{K_f [NH_3]^2} + 0.059 \log [Ag(NH_3)_2^+]$$



The potential shift due to the complex agent

The determination of:

*(concentration or activity)*

- the constant complexity
- $NH_3$ , organic amines, other ligands

# Redox potentials

... to understand and predict the electrochemistry of the chemical reactions.

- **Standard electrode potential ( $E^{\circ}$  or  $E^{\ominus}$ )**
  - relative to a standard hydrogen electrode (SHE) with  $E^{\circ} = 0\text{V}$  ( $a = 1$ )
- **Normal redox potential ( $E_{normal}$  or  $E_n$ )**
  - relative to a normal hydrogen electrode (NHE - potential of a Pt electrode in 1 M acid solution, not  $a_{\text{H}^+} = 1$  (1,18M))
- **Absolute redox potential ( $E_{abs}$ )**  $E_{abs}^M = E_{SHE}^M + (4.44 \pm 0.02)\text{V}$ 
  - is the difference in electronic energy between a point inside the metal electrode (Fermi level) and a point outside the electrolyte (an electron at rest in a vacuum). The absolute electrode potential of SHE =  $4.44 \pm 0.02\text{V}$  at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$
- **Formal redox potential ( $E^{\circ'}$  or  $E^f$ )**  $\text{Ox} + z\text{e}^- = \text{Red}$

$$E = E^{\circ} - \frac{0.05916}{z} \log \frac{[\text{Red}][\gamma_{red}]}{[\text{Ox}][\gamma_{ox}]} = E^{\circ} - \underbrace{\frac{0.05916}{z} \log \frac{[\gamma_{red}]}{[\gamma_{ox}]}}_{E^{\circ'}} - \frac{0.05916}{z} \log \frac{[\text{Red}]}{[\text{Ox}]}$$

the effect of pH and ionic strength

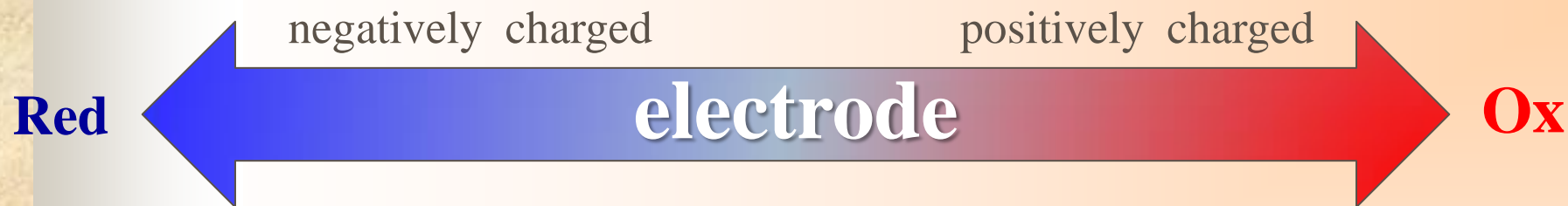


# POLAROGRAPHY/ VOLTAMMETRY

## Dynamic electrochemistry

- *Linear Sweep Voltammetry (LSV)*
- *Cyclic Voltammetry (CV)*
- *Normal Pulse Polarography/Voltammetry(NPP/NPV)*
- *Differential Pulse Polarography/Voltammetry(DPP/DPV)*
- *Square Wave Voltammetry (SWV)*
- *Alternating Current (AC) Polarography /Voltammetry*
- *Elimination Polarography (EP)*
- *Elimination Voltammetry with Linear Scan(EVLS)*

# Red-Ox in electrochemistry

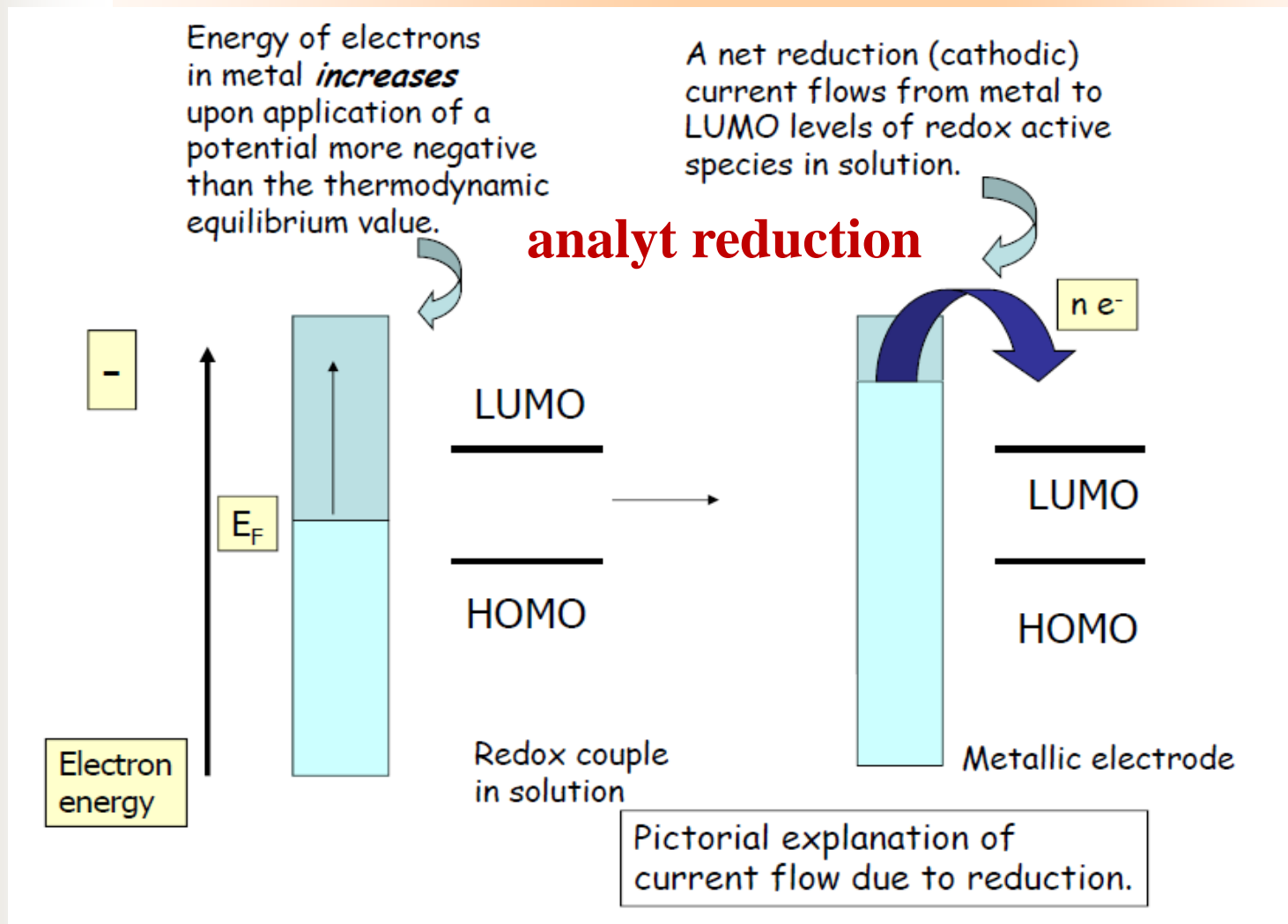


- the same reaction as in the chemistry? (often an analogous mechanism)  
**!!!** reaction **in a solution (homogeneous)** X **on a electrode surface (heterogeneous)**
- **continuous selection of potentials** (selectivity in the generation of intermediates / products)
- **continuous change of potential** (order of electron transfer)
- **acquisition of thermodynamic data** (potentials or energy, ox., red.,  $E_{1ox} - E_{1red}$ )
- **different rate of potential changes or their modulation in real time**  
reversibility, kinetics, precursor, parallel and subsequent reactions, mechanism

**new dimension – a newest and most exciting part of electrochemistry**

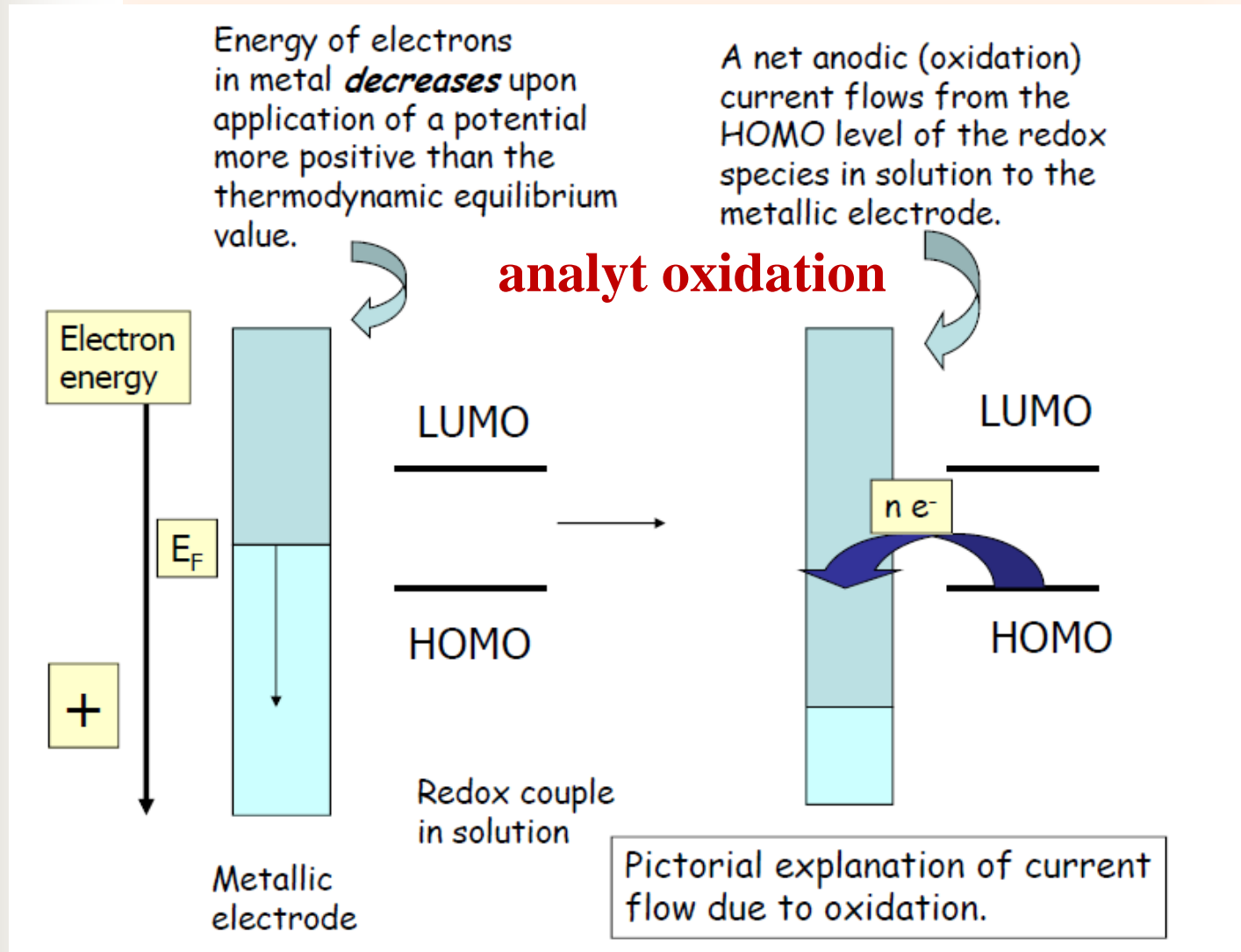
# Electrode kinetics – dynamics in EAM

the electrode acts as an electron source and is termed a cathode



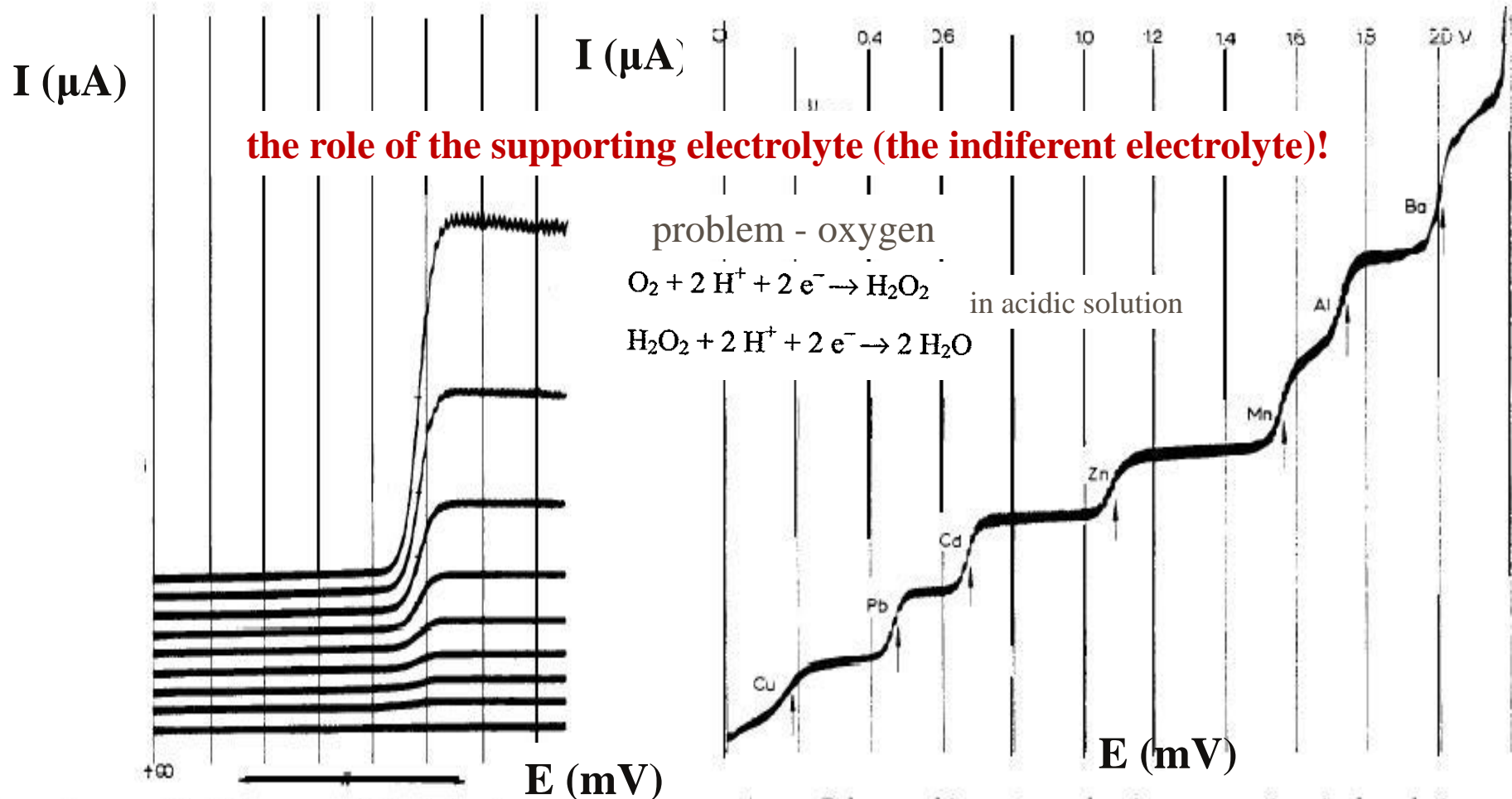
# Electrode kinetics – dynamics in EAM

the electrode acts as an electron sink and is termed an anode



# Polarography

## Historical polarograms



**the role of the supporting electrolyte (the indifferent electrolyte)!**

problem - oxygen  
 $\text{O}_2 + 2 \text{H}^+ + 2 \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$   
 in acidic solution  
 $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + 2 \text{H}^+ + 2 \text{e}^- \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Constancy of the half-wave potential in solution of various concentration  $\text{CdCl}_2$ .

Polarographic spectrum showing seven cations in the solution.



# History

## Jaroslav Heyrovský

*The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1959*

"for his discovery and development of the polarographic methods of analysis"

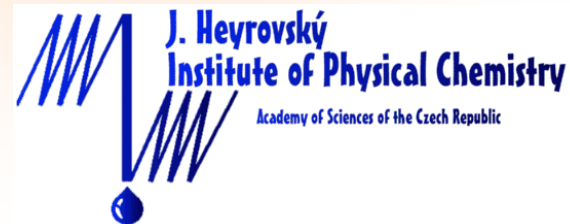
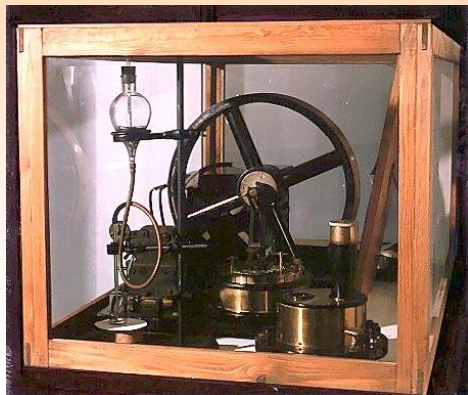
was an inventor of the polarographic method, father of electroanalytical chemistry. His contribution to electroanalytical chemistry can not be overestimated. All voltammetry methods used now in electroanalytical chemistry originate from polarography developed by him.



1890-1967



J. Heyrovský + M. Shikata (1924)

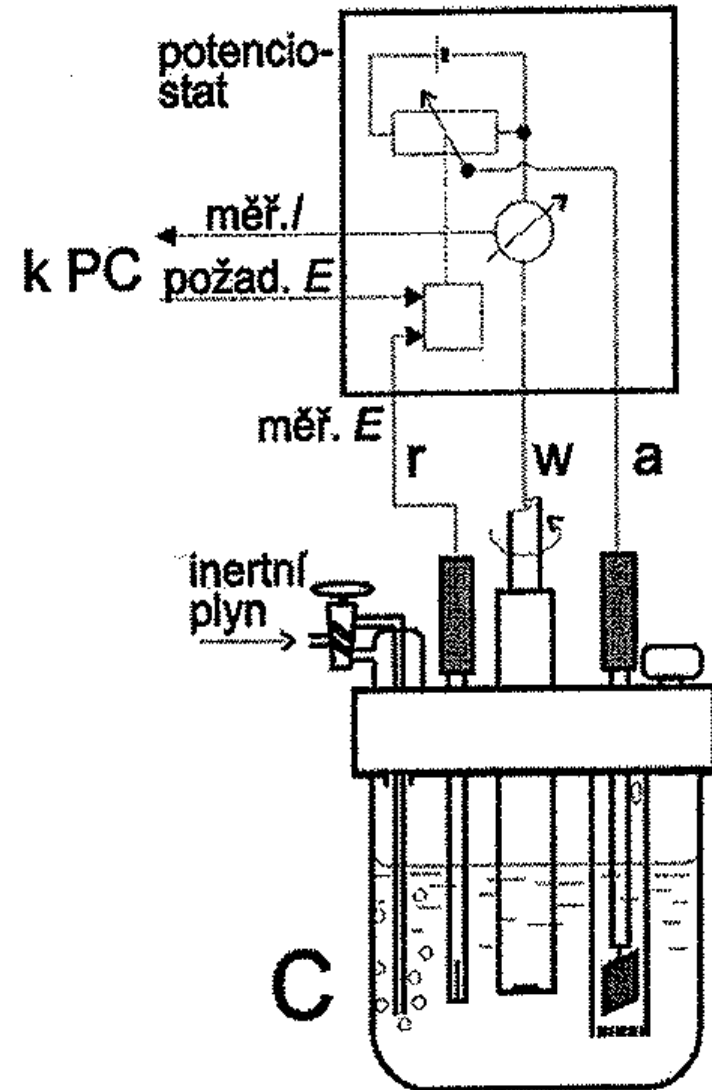
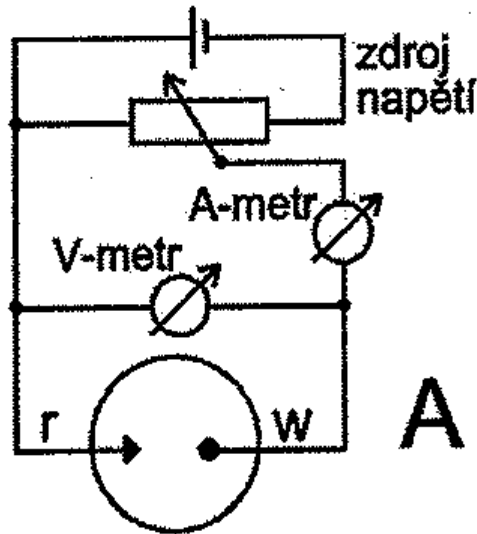


# Instrumentation, common techniques

## Two-electrode set

WE – working electrode

RE – reference electrode  
(an electrode of the II. type!)



## Three-electrode set

WE – working electrode

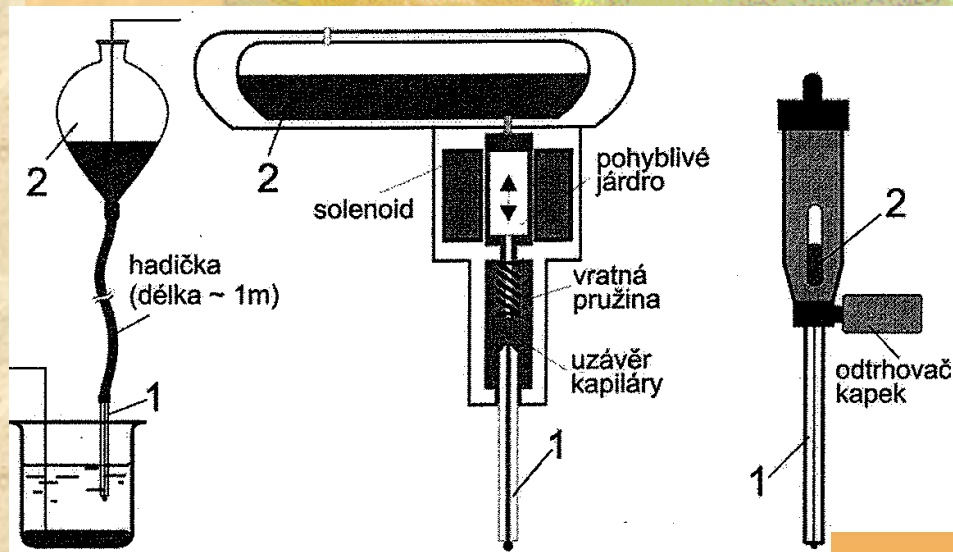
CE – counter electrode  
(auxiliary)

RE – reference electrode  
(an electrode of the II. type!)

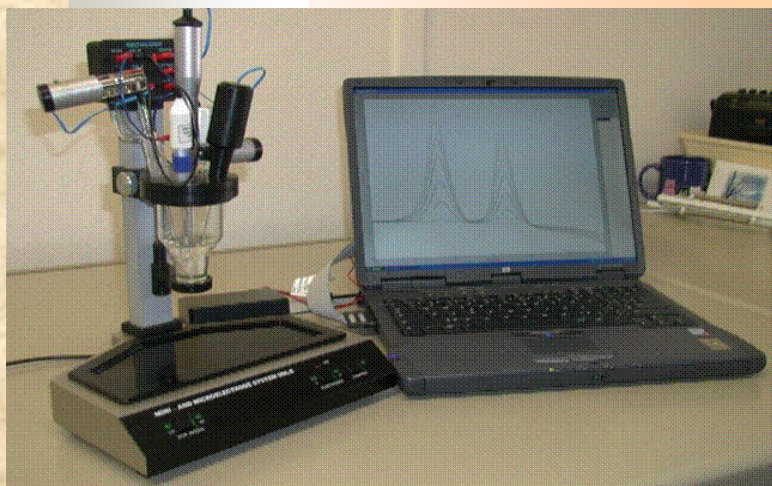
**Advantage of three-electrode set !**



# Instrumentation, common techniques



EcoTribo Polarograph  
Polaro Sensors - Eco Trend  
Prague, Czech Republic



# Instrumentation, common techniques

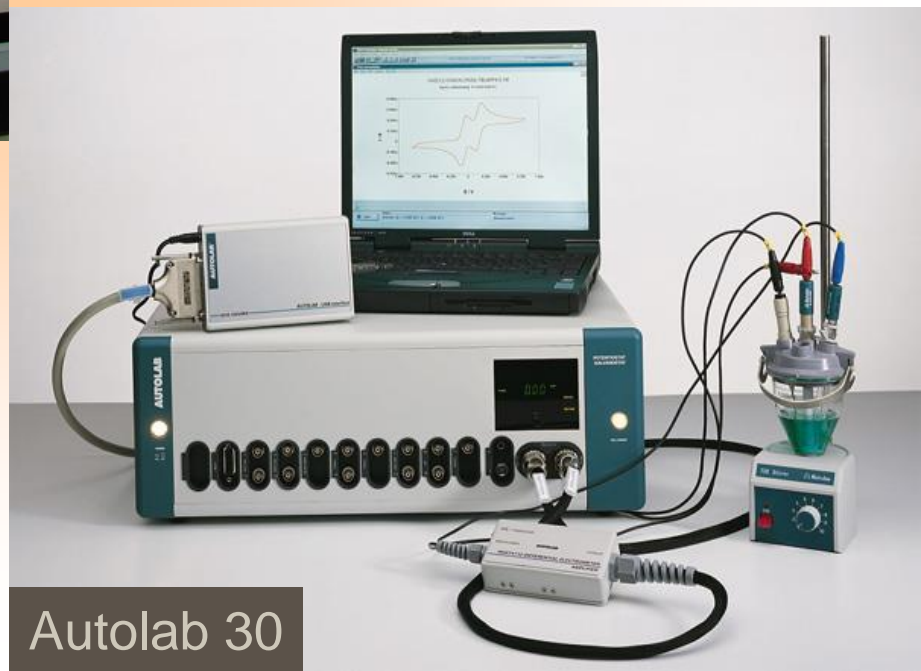


Autolab 20

Autolab  
Ecochemie  
Utrecht  
The Netherlands

VA-Stand 663  
Metrohm  
Zurich  
Switzerland

## Electrochemical analyzer AUTOLAB



Autolab 30

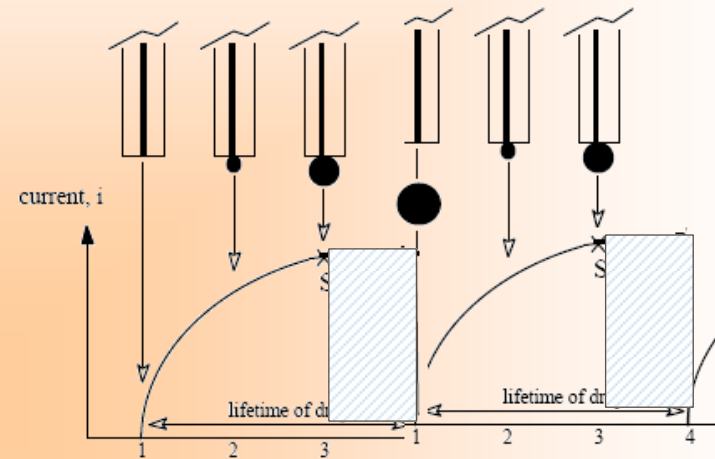
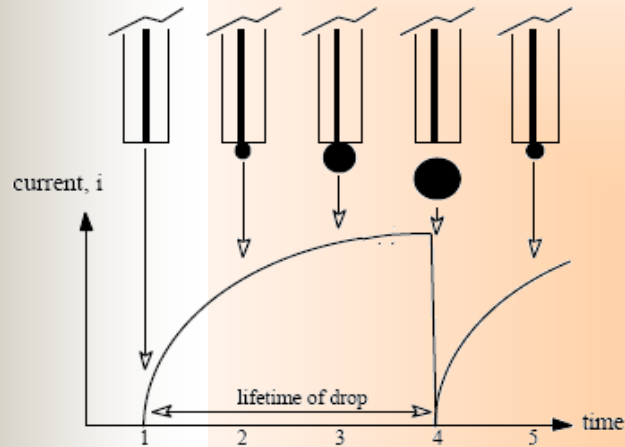


# Mercury electrode

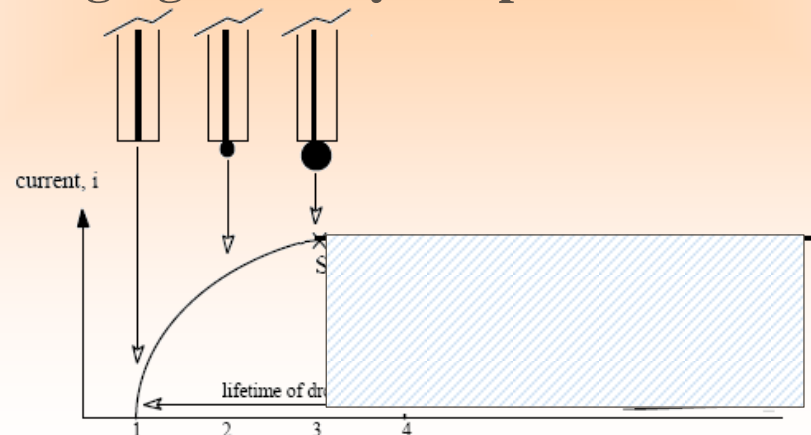


Dropping Mercury Electrode - **DME**

Static Mercury Drop Electrode - **SMDE**



Hanging Mercury Drop Electrode - **HMDE**



sampling window



# Mercury electrodes (DME, SMDE, HMDE)

Dropping Mercury Electrode - **DME**

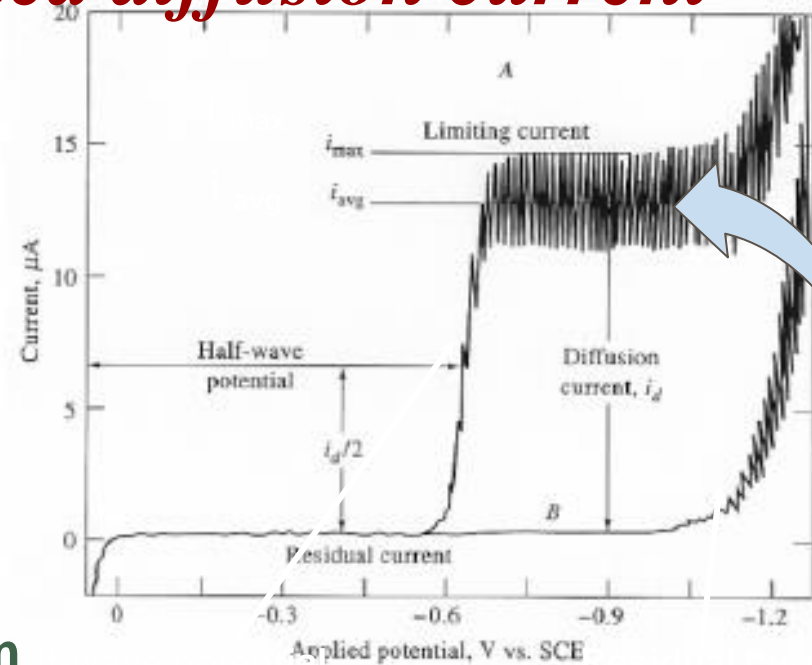
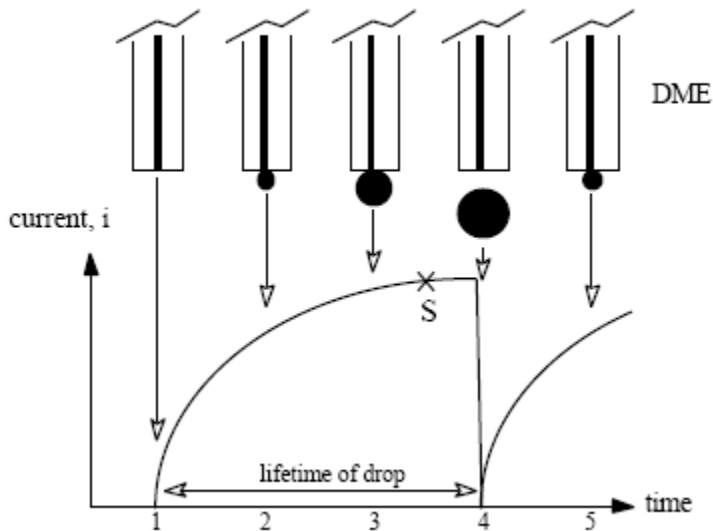
Static Mercury Drop Electrode - **SMDE**

Hanging Mercury Drop Electrode - **HMDE**

- ✎ its liquid state at ambient temperature, renewable surface
- ✎ high purity material availability
- ✎ high conductivity
- ✎ high surface tension
- ✎ high overvoltage potential for hydrogen
- ✎ hydrophobic surface
- ✎ Hg(I) ions form sparingly soluble salts with many anions
- ✎ inertness chemically at low potentials (because of its)
- ✎ formation of amalgams with numerous metals (stripping)
- ✎ microelectrodes (Hg drop diameter smaller than a millimeter)
- ✎ reduction and oxidation of many simple and complex ions speciation  
Ce(IV) + Ce(III), Cr(III)+Cr(II),Cr(IV)+Cr(III), Eu(III)+Eu(II),Fe(III)+Fe(II),Mo(VI)+Mo(V),  
Sn(IV)+Sn(II),Ti(IV)+Ti(III).....
- ✎ reduction and oxidation of numerous organic substances mechanism  
azo, carbonyl, sulphide nitro, quinone, heteroaromatic compounds

# Direct Current (DC) polarography

## Half-wave potential, limited diffusion current



- $\frac{1}{2}$  wave potential ( $E_{1/2}$ ) characteristic of  $\text{M}^{n+}$  ( $E$ )
- height of either average current maxima ( $i_{\text{avg}}$ ) or top current max ( $i_{\text{max}}$ ) is  $\sim$  analyte concentration
- $i_{\text{max}}$  is governed by:
  - rate of growth of DME  $>$  drop time ( $t$ , sec)
  - rate of mercury flow ( $m$ , mg/s)
  - diffusion coefficient of analyte ( $D$ ,  $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$ )
  - number of electrons in process ( $z$ )
  - analyte concentration ( $c$ , mol/ml)

### Ilkovič equations

$$(i_d)_{\text{max}} = 0.706 z D^{1/2} m^{2/3} t^{1/6} c$$

$$(i_d)_{\text{avg}} = 0.607 z D^{1/2} m^{2/3} t^{1/6} c$$



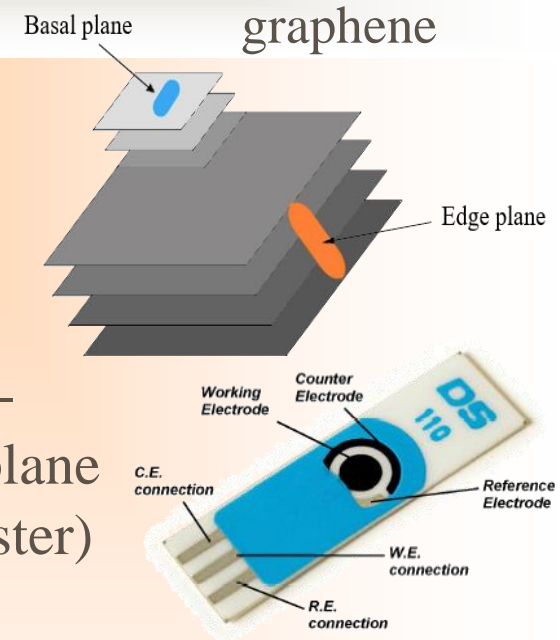
**Dionýz Ilkovič**

1907 -1980 Slovensko

# Electrode materials

- **Carbon electrodes**

- graphite of spectral quality
- glassy carbon (GC) or vitreous carbon (VC)
- graphite powder with liquid or solid binders
- carbon paste electrode
- carbon fibers, highly oriented pyrolytic graphite – HOPG (basal hexagonal and edge one, at the edge plane the electrode processes are usually much faster)
- paraffin impregnated graphite electrode (PIGE)



- **Optically transparent electrodes (spectroelectrochemistry)**

can be made by evaporating 10-100nm thick layers of Pt, Au, SnO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, Ag, Cu, Hg, C on glass or quartz substrates, grids

- metal, metal oxide, various forms of oligomers, polymers

Pt, Au Ag (Rh, Pd, Ge, Ga, Pb)

- WE has to be tested before an analyte is added
- oligomers and polymers can spoil the electrode surface (!!!)

# Electrode materials

## • Chemically modified electrodes *preliminary step or in situ*

*it is difficult to  
give a definition  
of ChME*

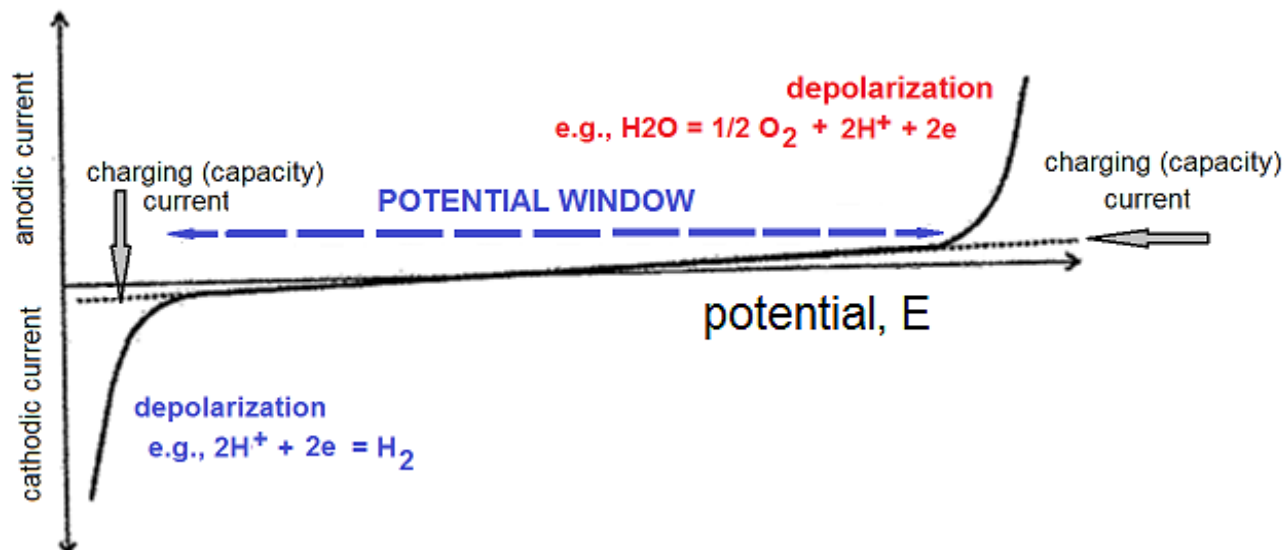
modified by:

- **adsorption** (quinhydron, trioctylphosphine oxide, PAA oxime on GC)
- **chemical reaction** (substituted silanes, metal porphyrins on CE)
- **formation of polymer film** ( Nafion containing dicyclohexyl-18-crown-6ether, polypyrrole-N-carbodithionate)
- **preconcentration** of analytes by complex-formation reactions  
ion exchange or ion extraction  
adsorptive accumulation (AdTS technique)
- **electrocatalysis** – attached the ET mediators which accelerate electrode reactions. The catalyst is regenerated by the fast and reversible electrode reaction, it is better to incorporate catalyst into a polymer or copolymer film.



# Potential window

## *Instrumentation, common techniques*

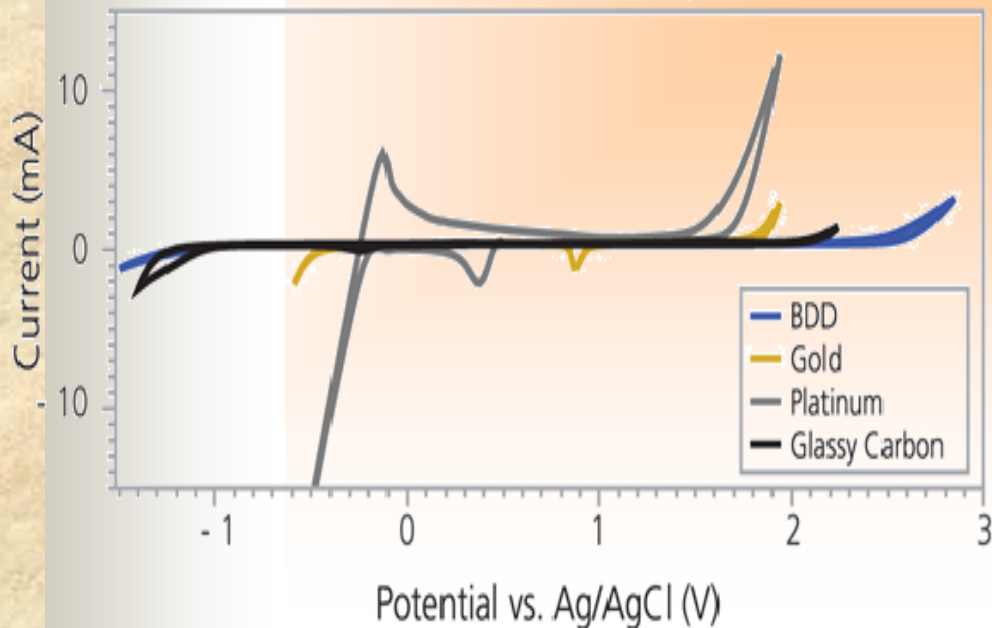
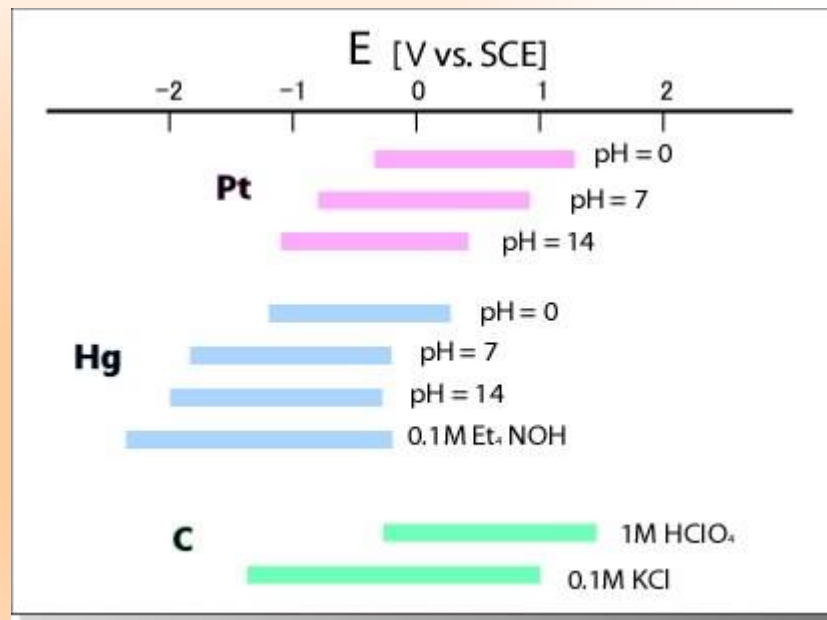
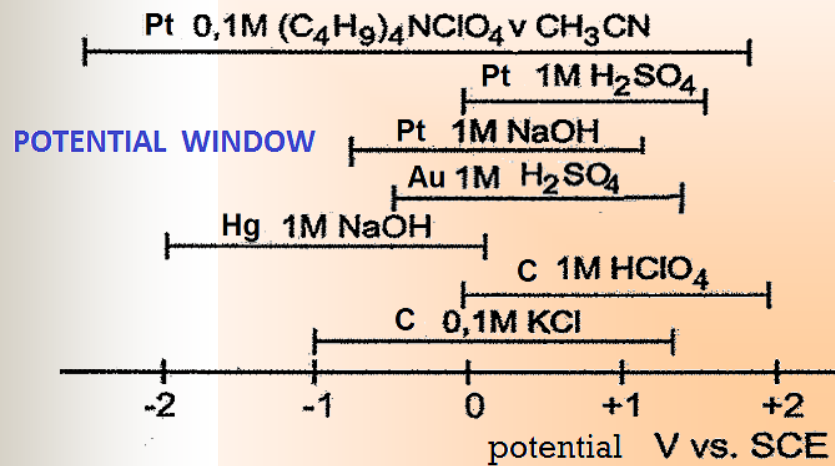


solution	cathodic part	anodic part
aqueous	reduction of $\text{H}^+$ (pH dependence)	oxidation of water oxidation of the electrode material ( $\text{Hg} = \text{Hg}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^-$ )
non-aqueous	reduction of cations of electrolytes (e.g., $-\text{R}_4\text{N}^+$ , $\text{Li}^+$ )	oxidation of electrode material oxidation of trace amount of water oxidation of supporting electrolyte components



# Potential window

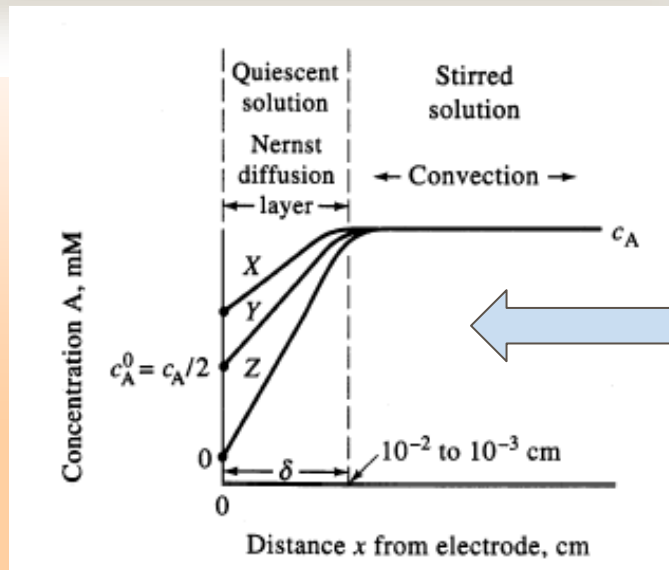
for different electrodes and supporting electrolyte



Platinum – Pt  
 Carbon – C  
 Gold - Au  
 Diamond - BDD

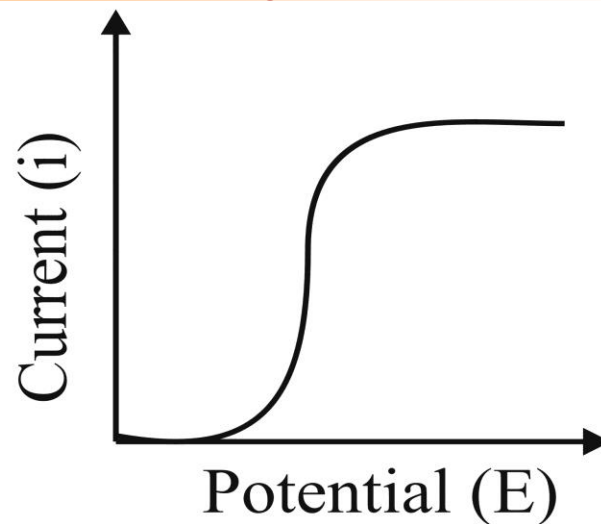
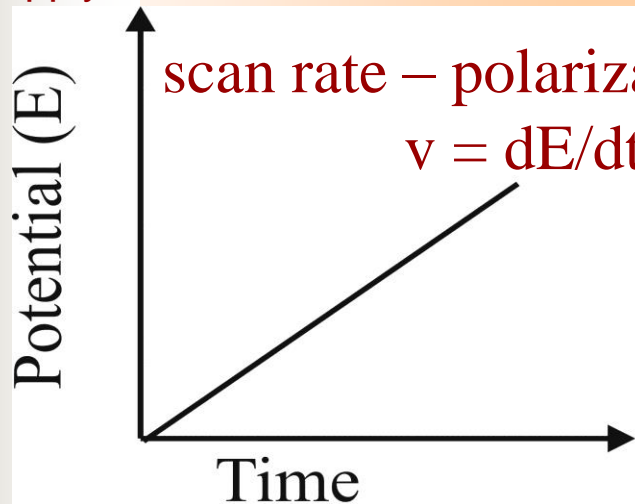
# Direct Current (DC) polarography

Apply  
Potential  
 $E \ll E^{\circ}$

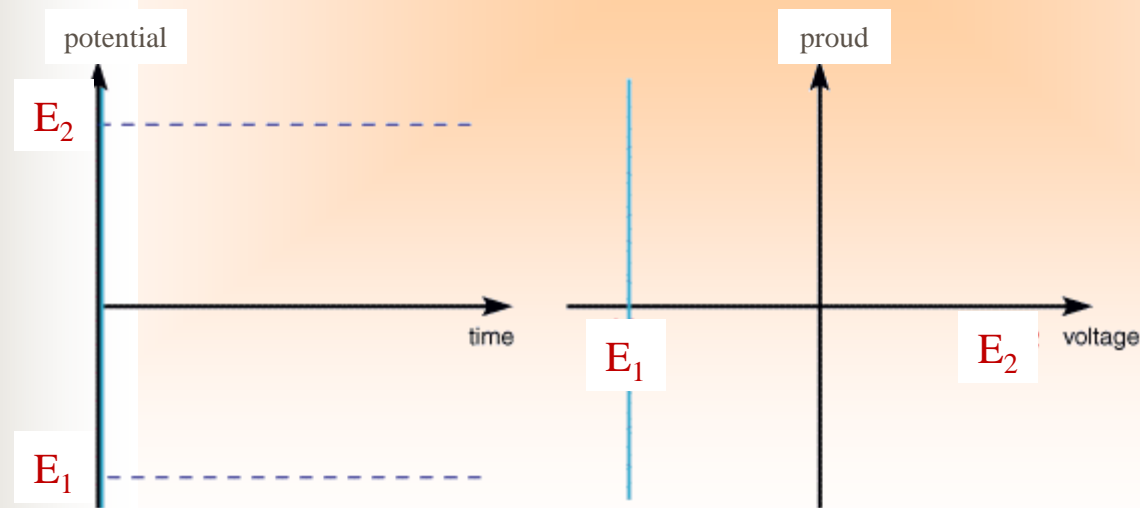
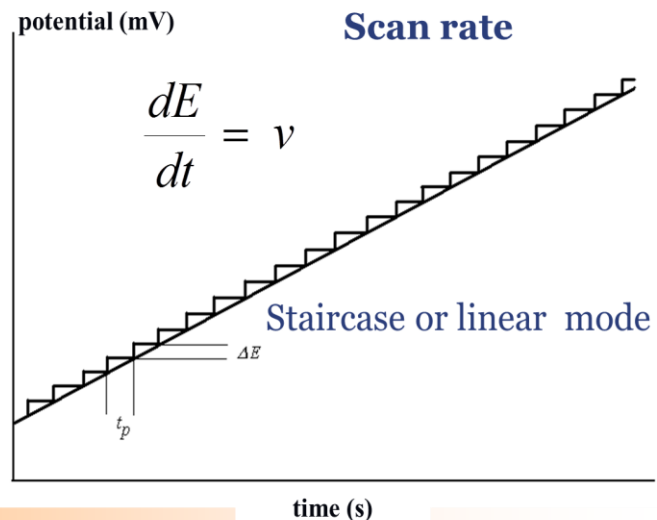
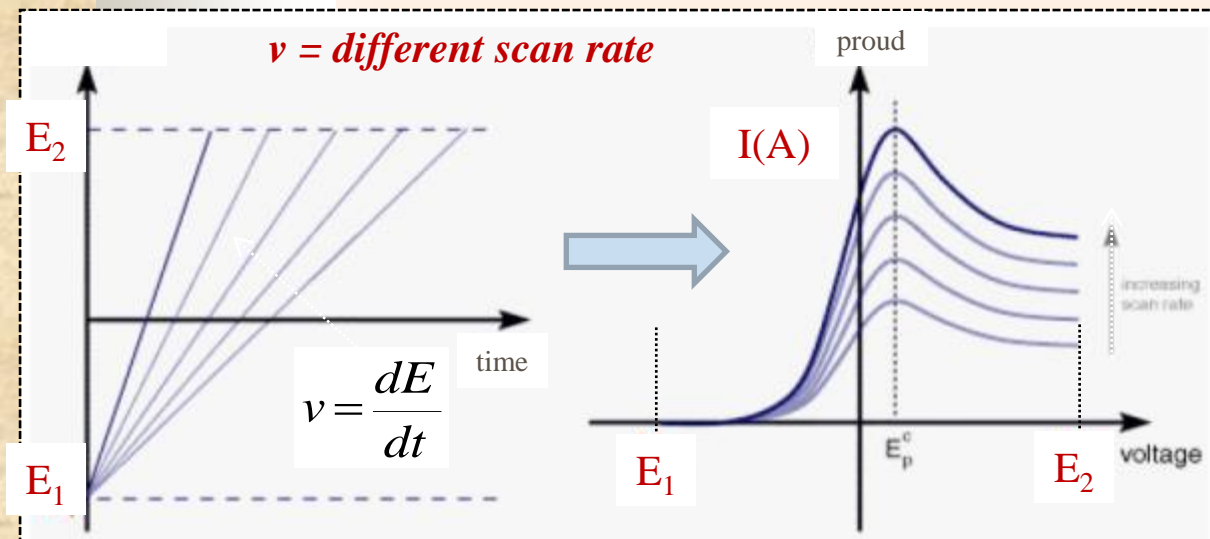


Apply Linear Potential with Time

Observed Current Changes with Applied Potential



# Linear sweep voltammetry (LSV)



**Oxidation**

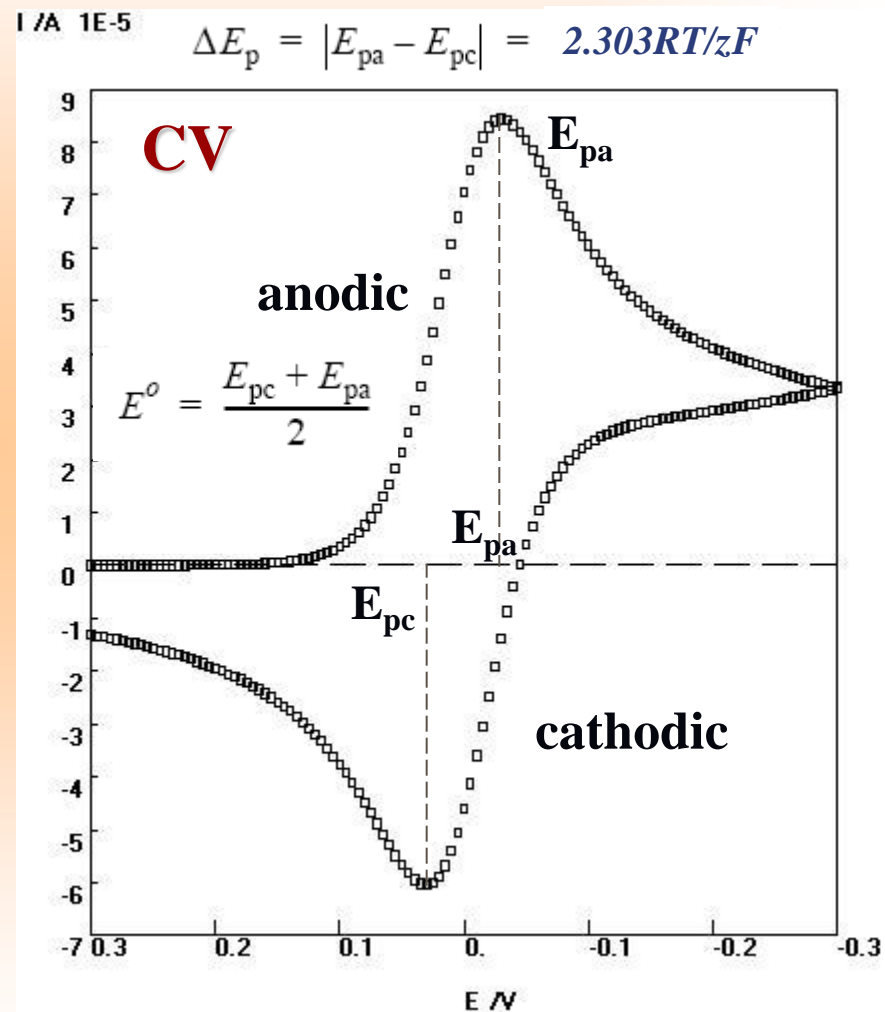
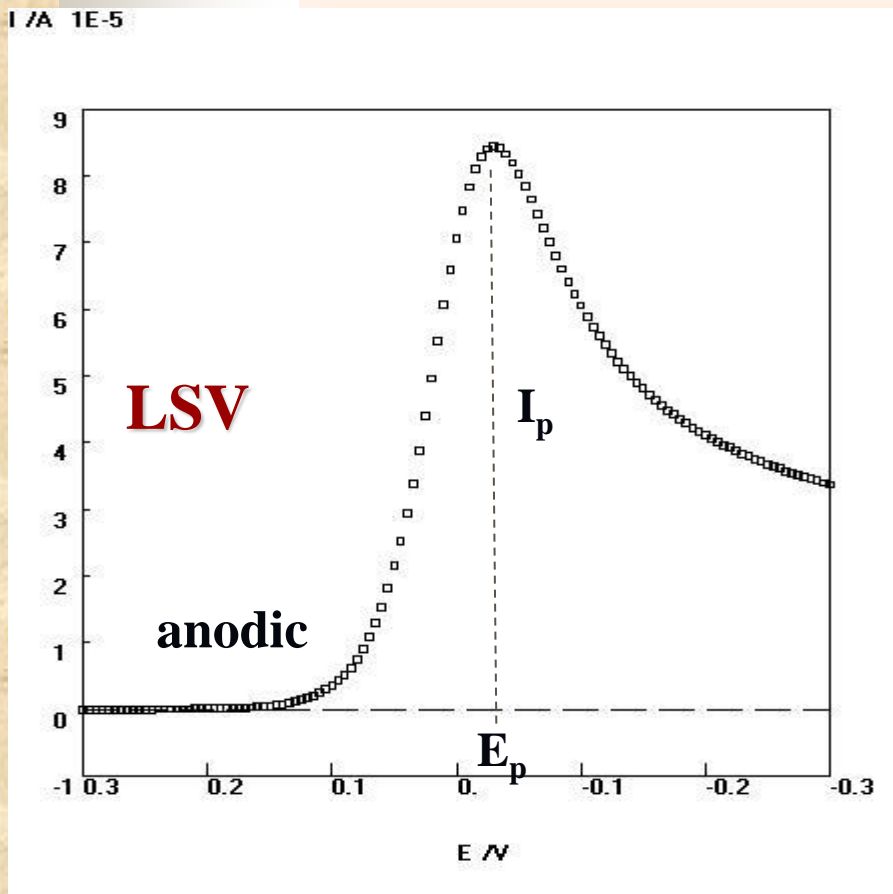
**Electron Transfer (ET)**

**Reduction**

# Voltammetry

## Linear sweep (LSV)

## Cyclic (CV)



## Randles-Sevcik equations

$$I_p = \text{const.} \cdot z^{2/3} A D^{1/2} c_{\text{bulk}} v^{1/2}$$

diffusion control

const. – according to the dimension of parameters, including also  $F$ ,  $D$  – the diffusion coefficient,  $A$  – the electrode surface



# Cyclic and linear sweep voltammetry

- heterogenous kinetics ( $\Delta G^\ddagger \sim$  activation in electron transfer  $\sim$  Arrhenius  $\sim$  exp. function)
- I-E curves (exp. dependence)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{activation overpotential} \\ \eta &= E_{\text{polarization}} - E_{\text{equilibrium}} \end{aligned}$$

$$j = j_0 \left\{ \exp \left[ \frac{(1 - \alpha) z F \eta}{RT} \right] - \exp \left[ - \frac{\alpha z F \eta}{RT} \right] \right\}$$

**Butler- Volmer equation for electrode process,**  
where **rds** is charge transfer

*j* - current density , *j*<sub>0</sub> - exchange current density,  $\alpha$  - charge transfer coefficient

- I-E curves under both overpotential
- fast ET  $\sim$  Nernst equation

*diffusion overpotential*

$$J = -D \frac{dc_{\text{electrode}}}{dx}$$

*J*- flux of matter, *D* -diffusion coefficient

# Direct Current (DC) polarography

$$E = E_c^o + \frac{RT}{zF} \ln \frac{\kappa_{Red}}{\kappa_{Ox}} + \frac{RT}{zF} \ln \frac{j_{dl} - j}{j}$$

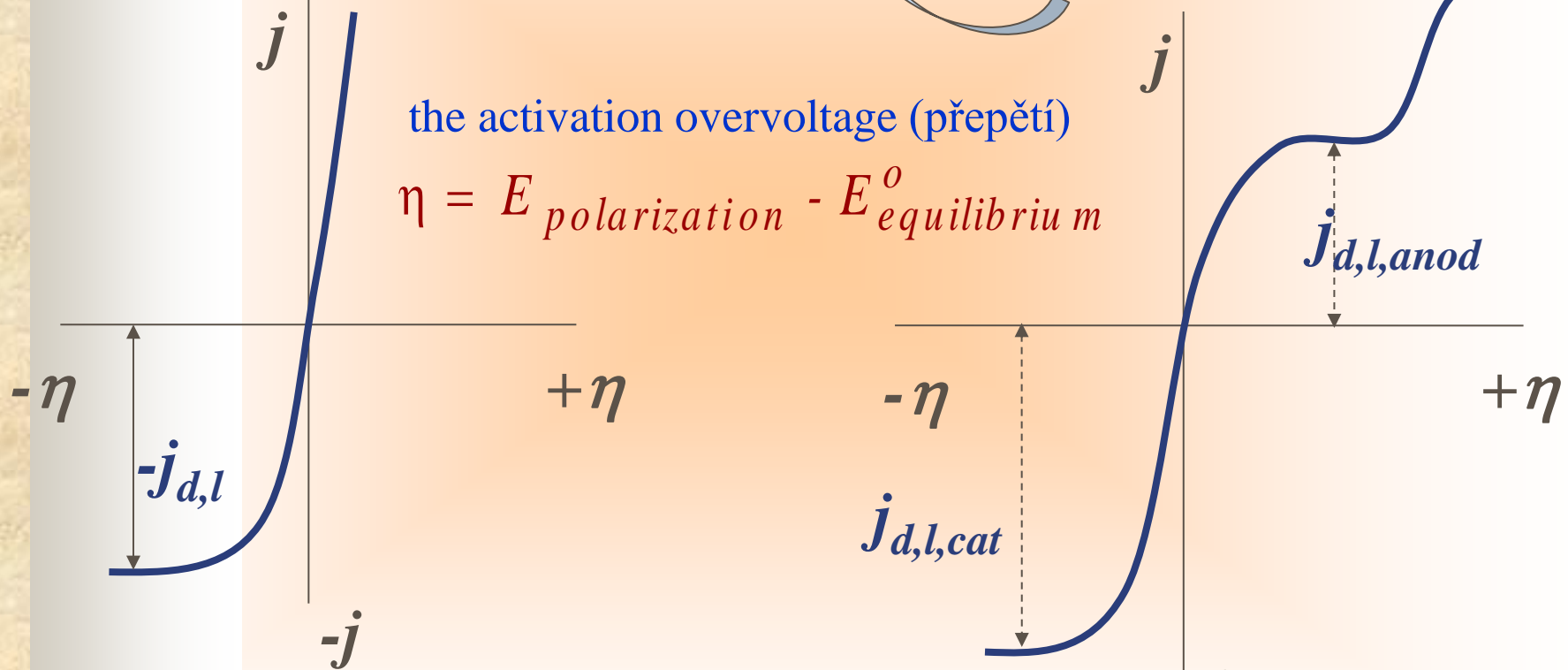
$$\kappa_{Ox} = \frac{zF D_{Ox}}{\delta_{Ox}}$$

without diffusion controll

with diffusion controll

the activation overvoltage (přepětí)

$$\eta = E_{polarization} - E_{equilibrium}^o$$



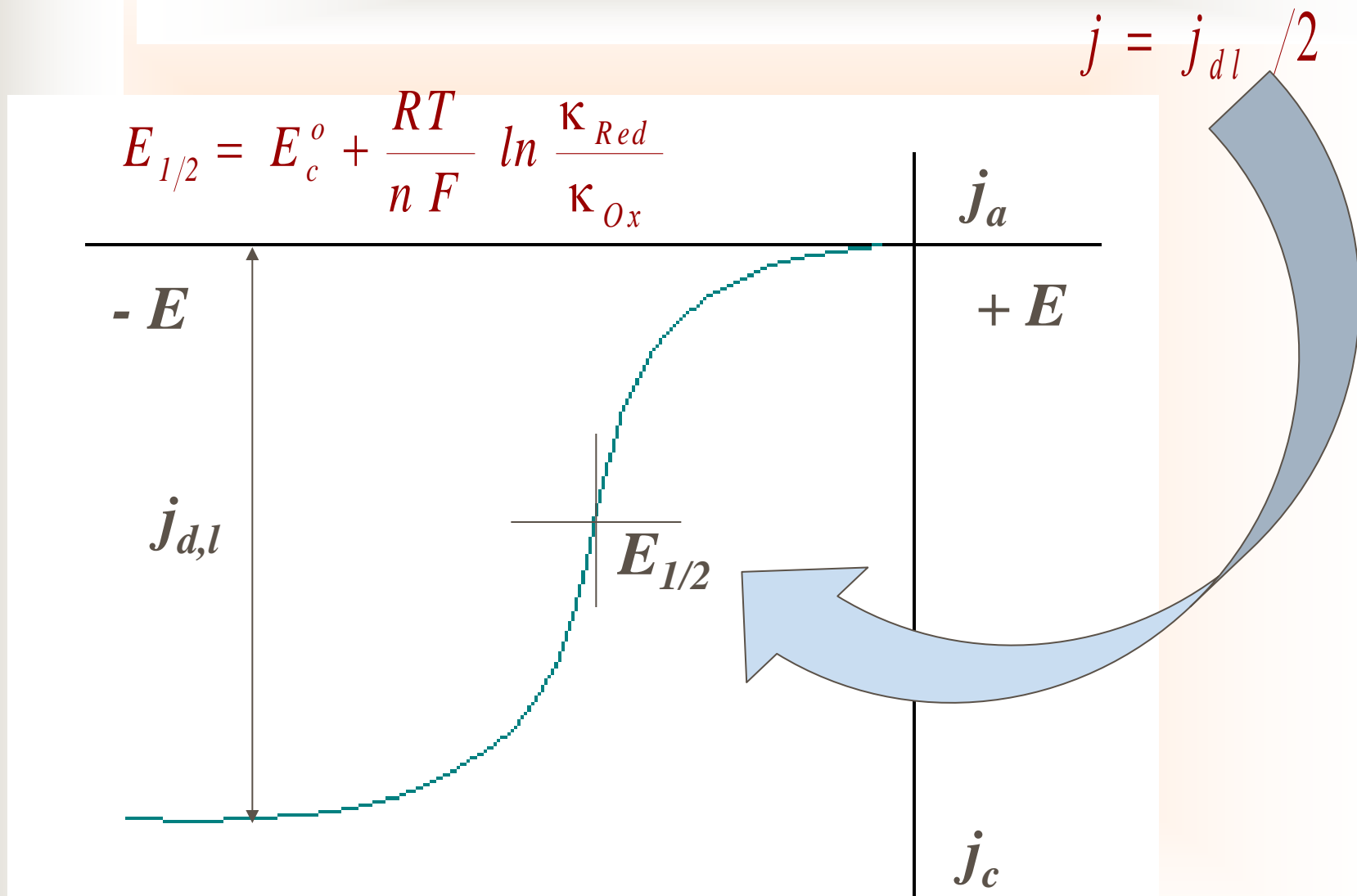
the concentration  
overvoltage

limit currents

$$\kappa_{Red} = \frac{zF D_{Red}}{\delta_{Red}}$$

Polarization curves for diffusion controlled processes

# Direct Current (DC) polarography



Diffusion overpotential – polarography/voltammetry

# Voltammetry

## General Uses of Voltammetric Techniques

- Determination of org.and inorg.compounds in aqueous and nonaq.solutions
- Study of structures of organic and inorganic compounds
- Determination **adsorption processes** on surfaces
- Determination **electron transfer** and **reaction mechanisms**
- Measurement of kinetic rates and constants
- Determination of **thermodynamic properties of solvated species**
- Fundamental studies of oxidation and reduction processes in various media
- Determination of **complexation and coordination values**
- Determination of equilibrium **protonation constants**
- **Electrochemical sensors**

## Common Applications

- Quantitative determination of pharmaceutical compounds
- Determination of metal ion concentrations in water to sub-parts-per-billion levels
- Determination of redox potentials
- Detection of eluted analytes in HPLC and flow injection analysis
- Determination of number of electrons in redox reactions
- Kinetic and mechanistic studies of reactions

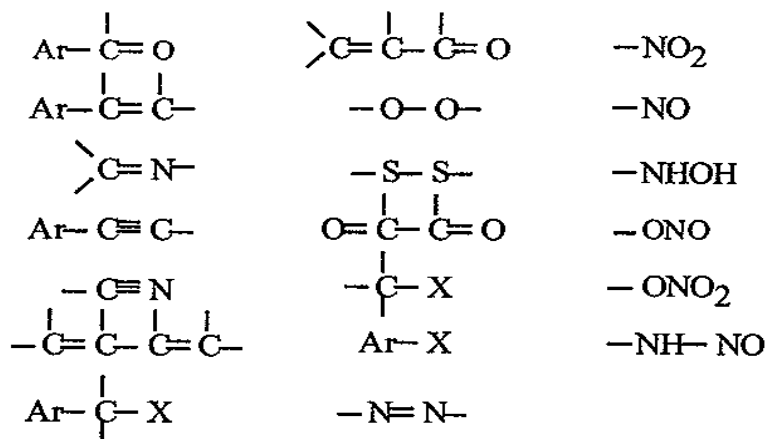


# Voltammetry

## Analytical applications

Skupiny projevující se katodickou vlnou

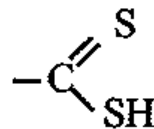
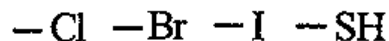
aldehydy, ketony:



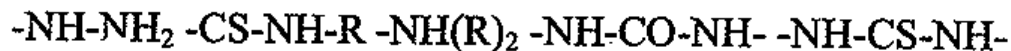
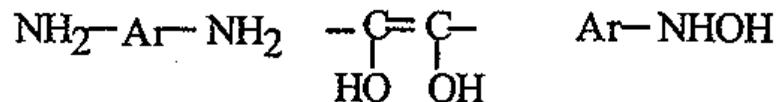
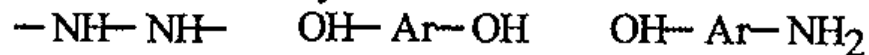
heterocyklické sloučeniny (O,S,N), alkaloidy, vitaminy, hormony, steroidy, sacharidy

Skupiny projevující se anodickou vlnou

skupiny reagující se rtuťí:



oxidovatelné látky:

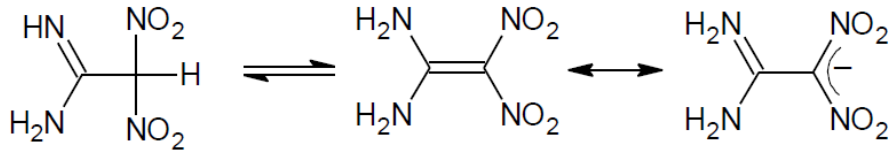
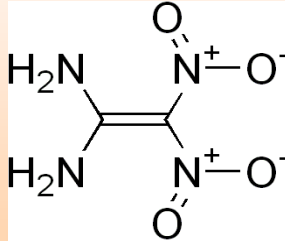


# Mechanistic study (example)

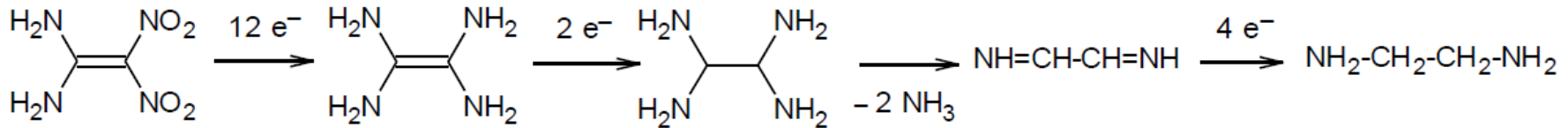
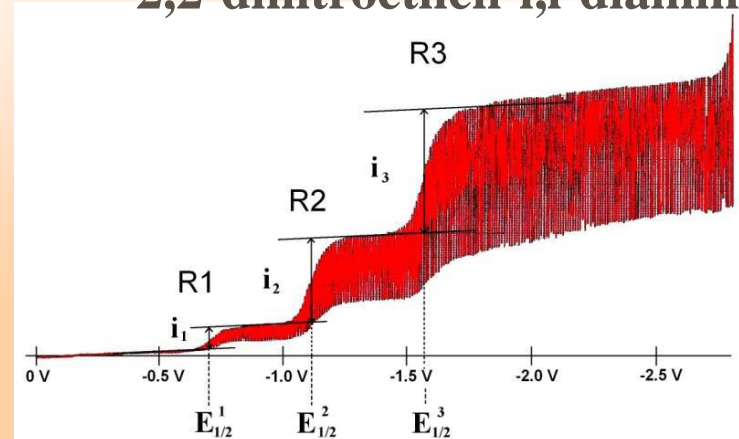
## Reduction of nitro- compounds

geminální diamin

**FOX-7**

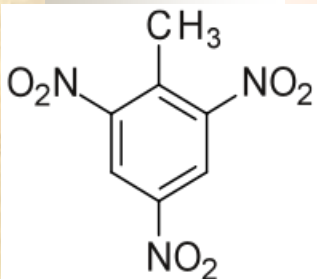


2,2-dinitroethen-1,1-diamin



**TNT**

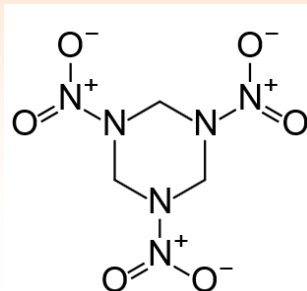
trinitrotoluen



**RDX**

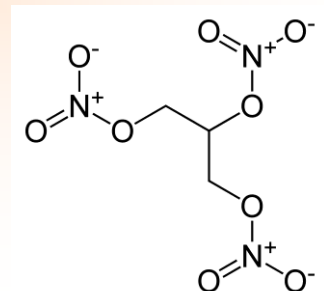
Research Department Formula X

1,3,5-trinitroperhydro-1,3,5-triazine



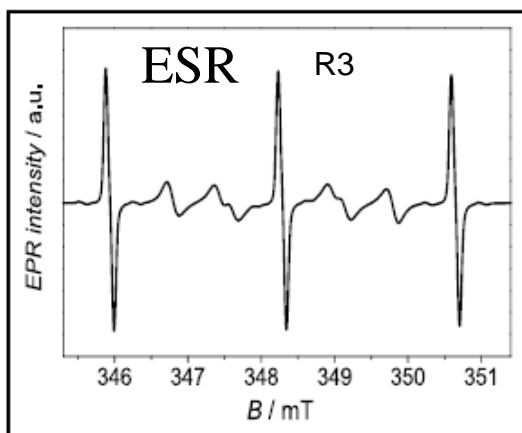
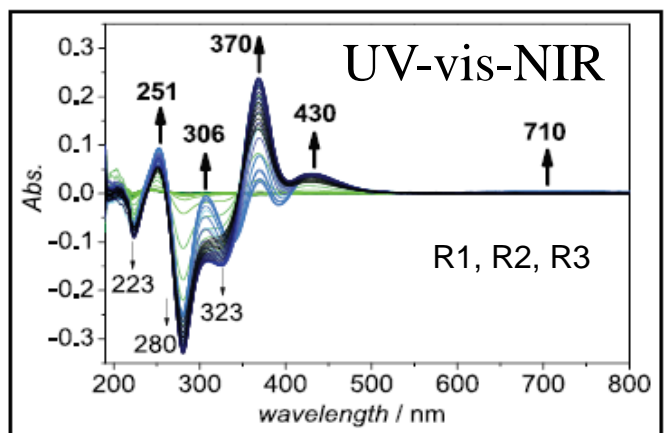
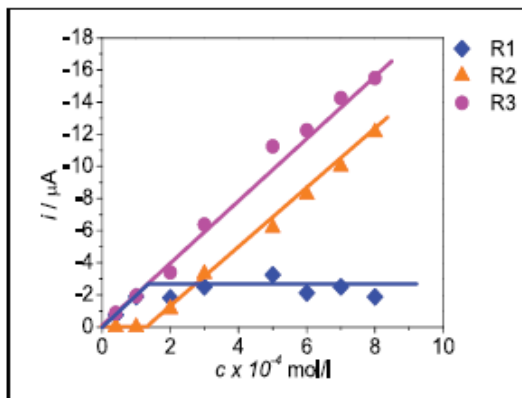
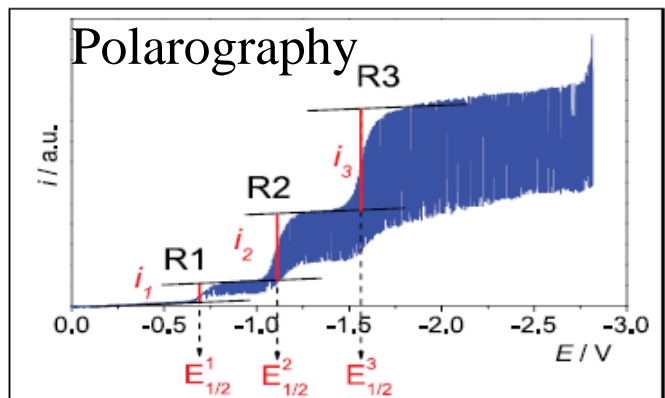
**nitroglycerin**

propan-1,2,3-triyl-trinitrát



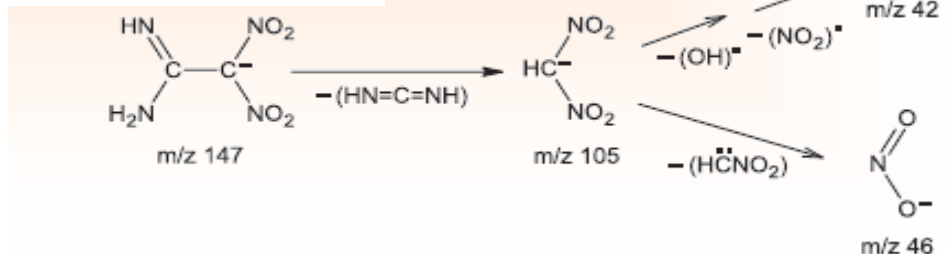
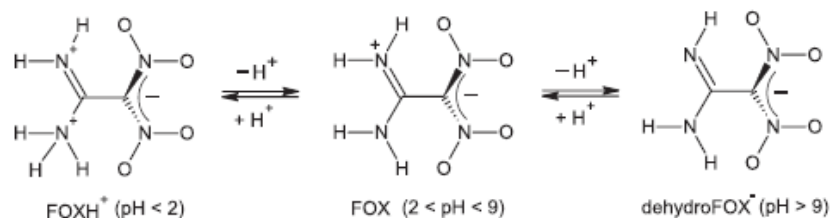
# Voltammetric and spectral experiment

## Mechanistic study - reduction of FOX-7



*J Phys Org Chem.* 2020;e4046.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/poc.4046>

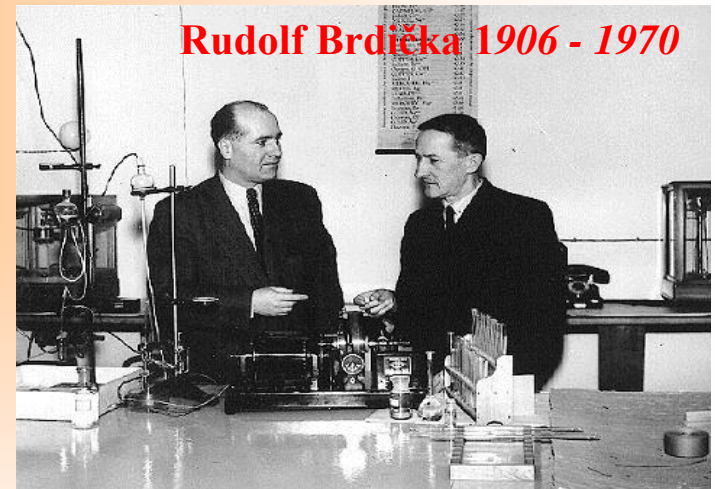
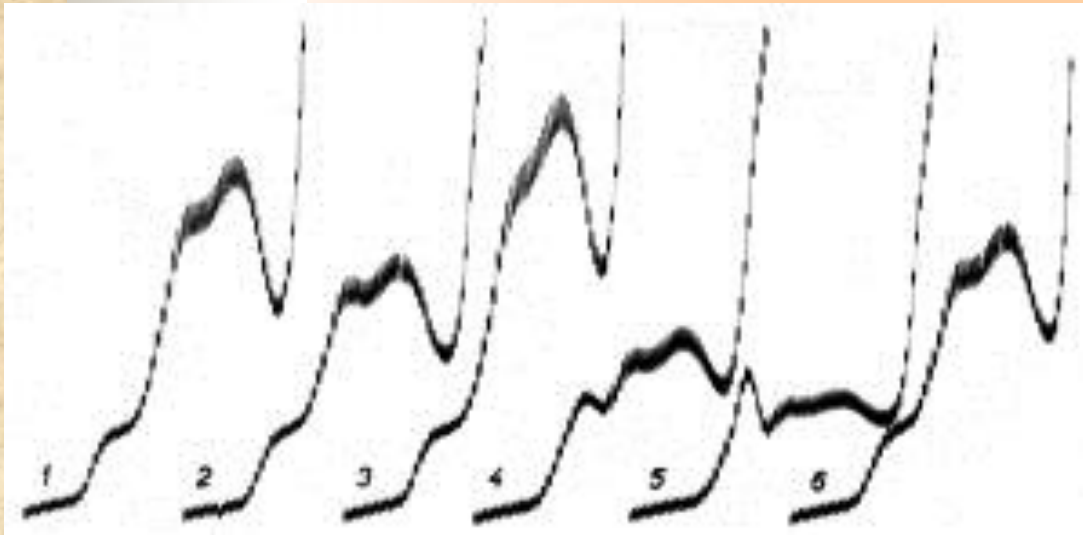
- electrochemistry - electroactive groups)
- electronics(push-pull)
- structure (mesomeric forms, protonation/ deprotonation forms, tautomerism, changing geometry, and planarity)



# Voltammetry

## Brdička reaction

*Heyrovskys's second assistant, Dr. Rudolf Brdicka, discovered a sensitive catalytic hydrogen-evolution reaction of proteins: in buffer solutions of pH about 9, containing ions of cobalt, proteins yield a prominent catalytic "double-wave"; this polarographic reaction was used in many countries over several decades as a diagnostic tool in treatment of cancer*

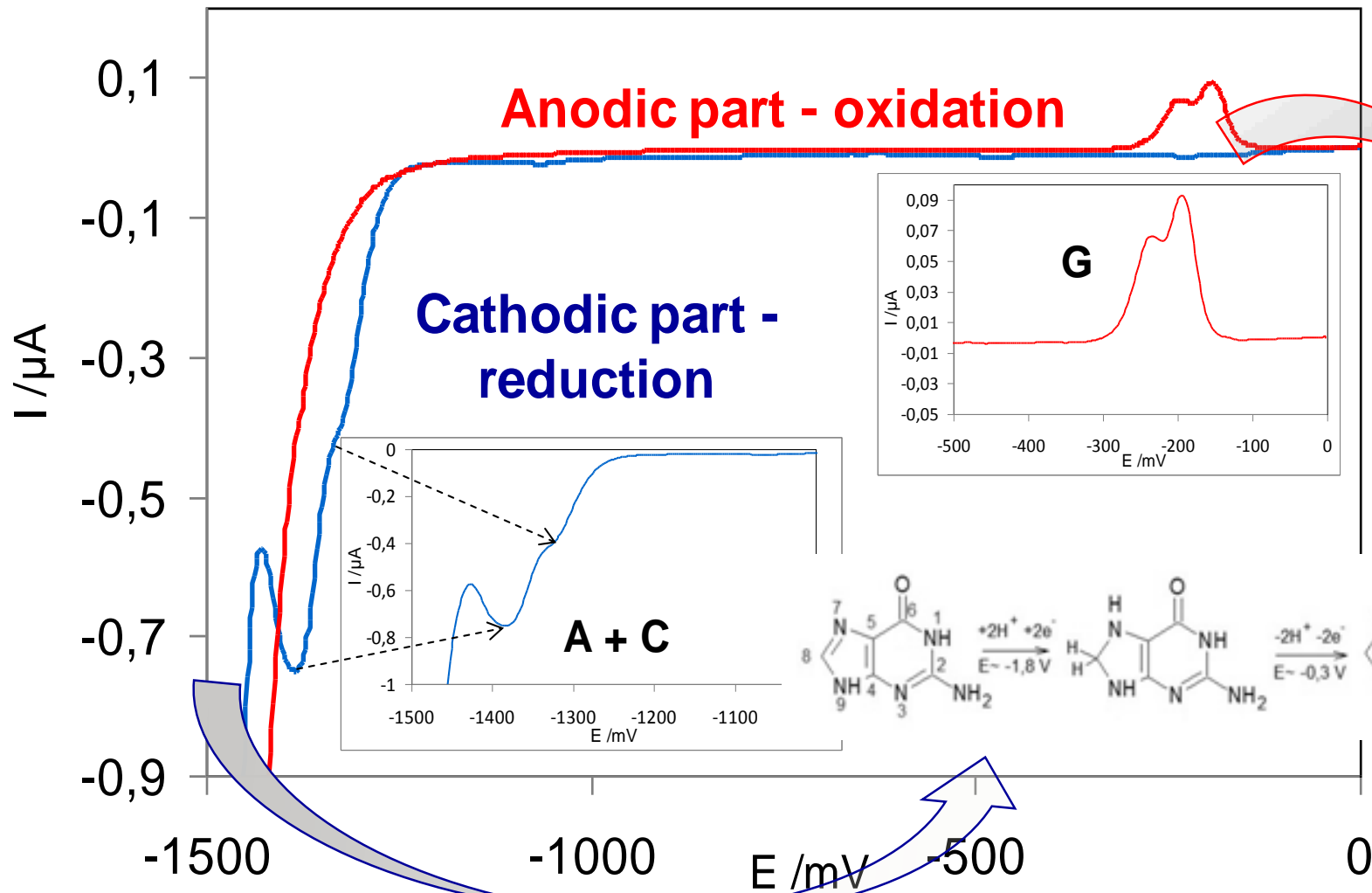


*Polarographic "Brdicka reaction" of blood sera of different patients with following diagnoses: 1) status febrilis 2) tumor hepatis susp 3) ca. ventriculi susp 4) normal serum 5) cirrhosis hepatic 6) atherosclerosis.*

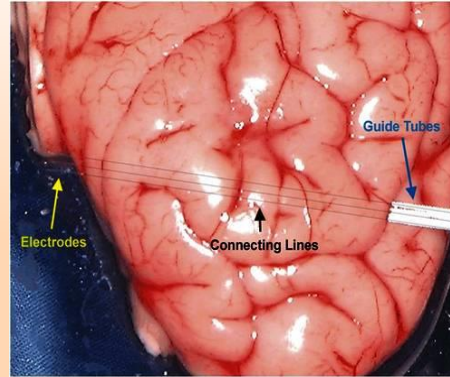
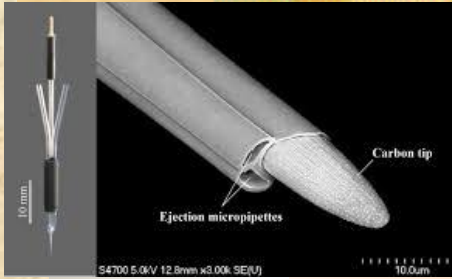


# Cyclic Voltammetry

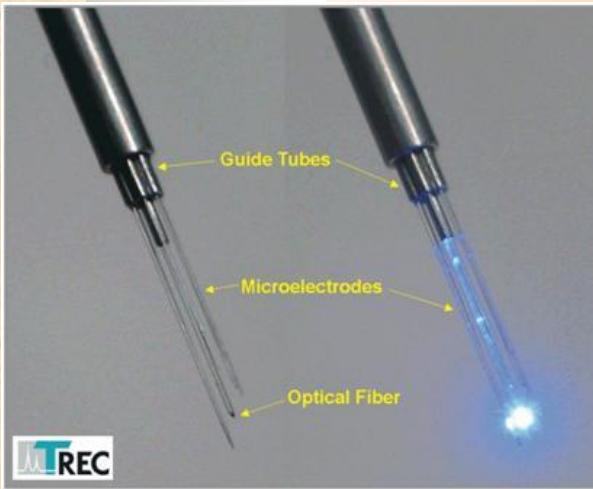
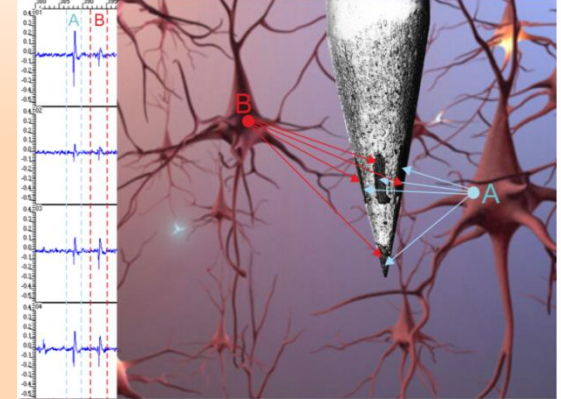
Applications – mechanism of the electrode process



# Microelectrodes



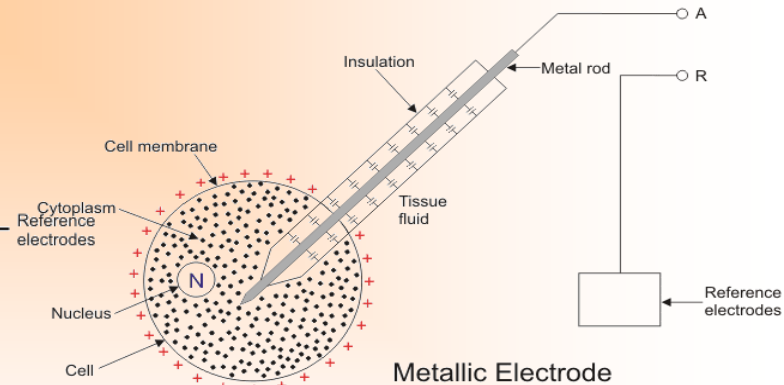
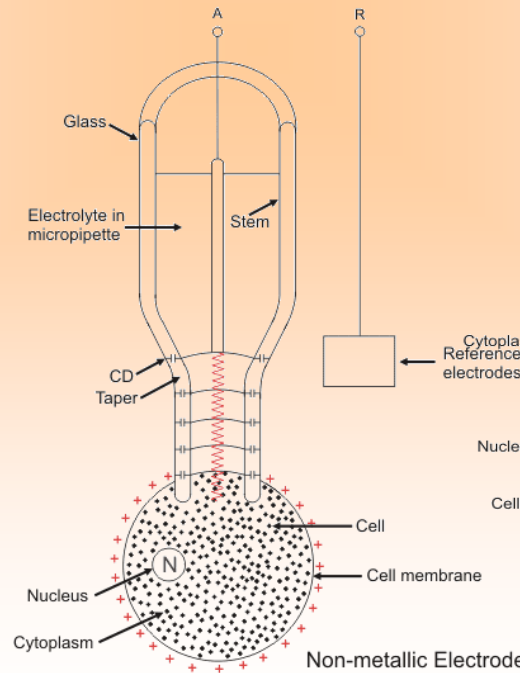
## Neural Electrode Arrays



How do currents flow through electrodes?

Steady state of spherical diffusion.

$$I_d = \frac{zFADc_\infty}{r_0} = 2\pi zFr_0Dc_\infty$$

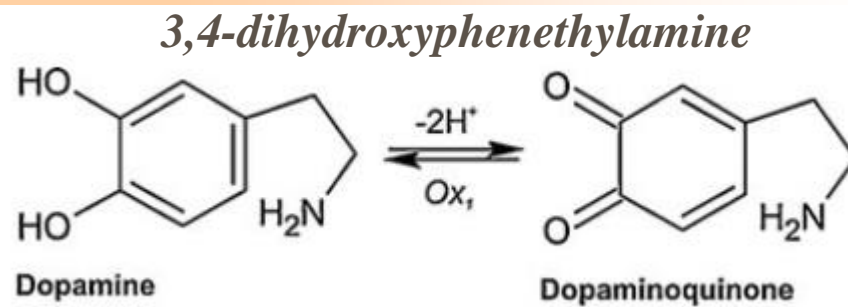
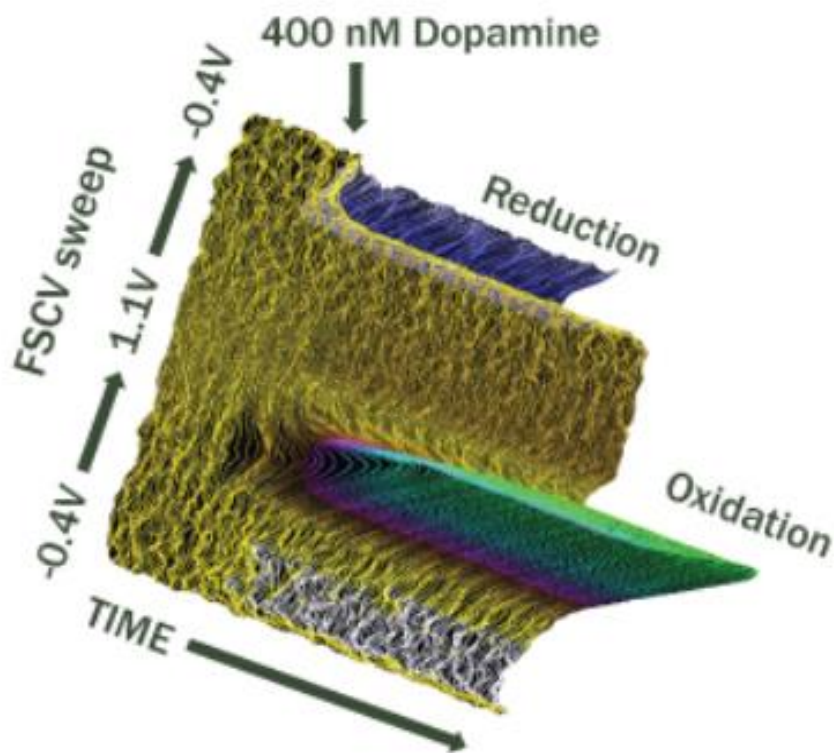


$$A = 2\pi r_0^2$$

# Fast Cyclic Voltammetry (FCV)

## *microelectrodes*

Biogenic amine levels are detected by rapidly cycling a voltage across an implanted carbon fiber sensor and measuring the resultant current. Our systems can measure spontaneous sub-second neurotransmitter release events while conducting detailed behavioral studies. Both the wireless and tethered systems sweep from 250 to 400 V/s in a user-selectable range spanning -1.1 to +1.3 V. All systems have built-in support for controlling an external stimulus.



Important roles in the brain and body  
Neurotransmitter  
Brain dopamine pathways  
(neuromodulatory) are involved in motor  
control and controlling the release of  
various hormones.



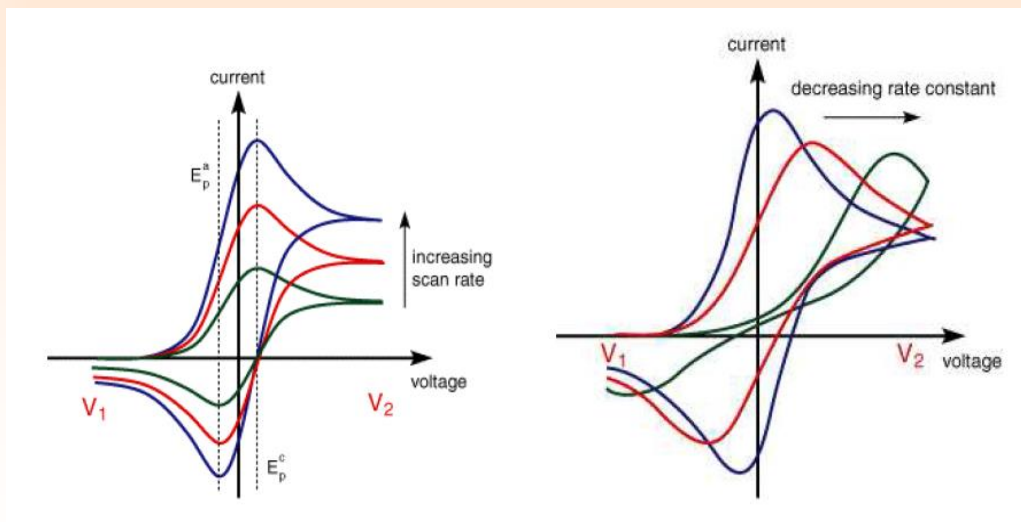
# Voltammetry

## Applications – kinetics

### Heterogeneous rate constant $k_h$ and $k_h^0$



ET



**Dependence on parameters (E, solvent, electrode, pH, I, adsorption...)**



# Direct Current (DC) Voltammetry

## Randles-Ševčík equation

$$I_p = 2.686 * 10^5 z^{3/2} AD^{1/2} v^{1/2} c$$

peak height

$$I_p \text{ (A) } A \text{ (cm}^2\text{)}, D \text{ (cm}^2\text{.s}^{-1}\text{)}, v \text{ (V.s}^{-1}\text{)}, \\ c \text{ (in solution) (mol.cm}^{-3}\text{)}$$

diffusion control



## or Delahay equation

current

$$I_p = 2.686 * 10^5 (\alpha z)^{3/2} AD^{1/2} v^{1/2} c$$

current density

$$i_p = \frac{I_p}{A} \text{ or } j_p = \frac{I_p}{A}$$

**Calibration redox couples:**

$D$  ( $\text{cm}^2\text{.s}^{-1}$ ) (1°C, i.e., 1.7%)

$[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-/4-}$

dopamine

$[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{2+/3+}$

ferrocene

# Voltammetry

## Capacity (charging) current $I_c$

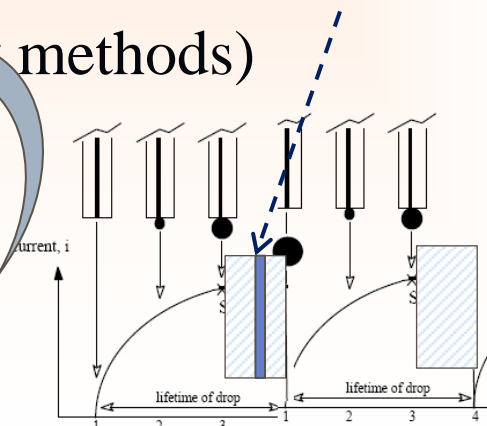
- the electric double layer charging (as a capacitance)
- $I_{capacity}$  ( $I_c$ ) - the connection with surface tension (important  $E_{pzc}$  - zero charge potential: the charges are balanced at the interface (electrode/electrolyte))
- each Hg drop is recharged
- $I_c = f(E)$  is not linear and its time dependence:

$$I_c = \frac{E}{R_s} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{R_s C_{dl}}\right)$$

## Elimination of $I_c$

- 1) SMDE – electronically controlled mercury drop; sampled technique (tast methods - vzorkovací)
- 2) Application of pulse methods (non – stationary methods)
- 3) AC voltammetry (phase shift between  $I_c$  and  $I_f$ )
- 4) Elimination methods (software approaches)

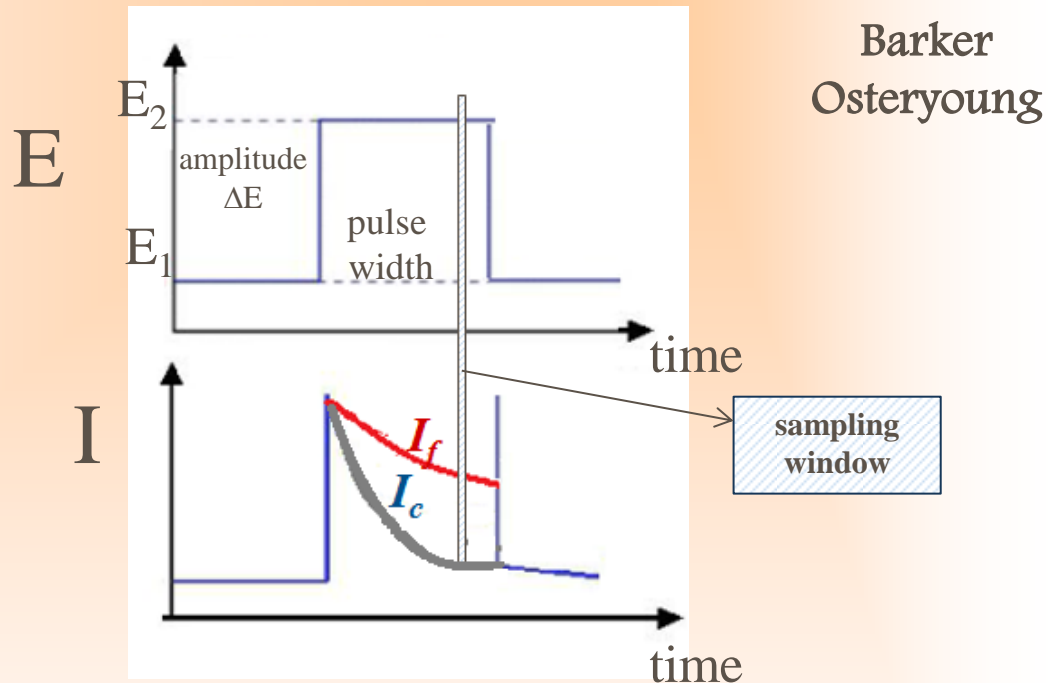
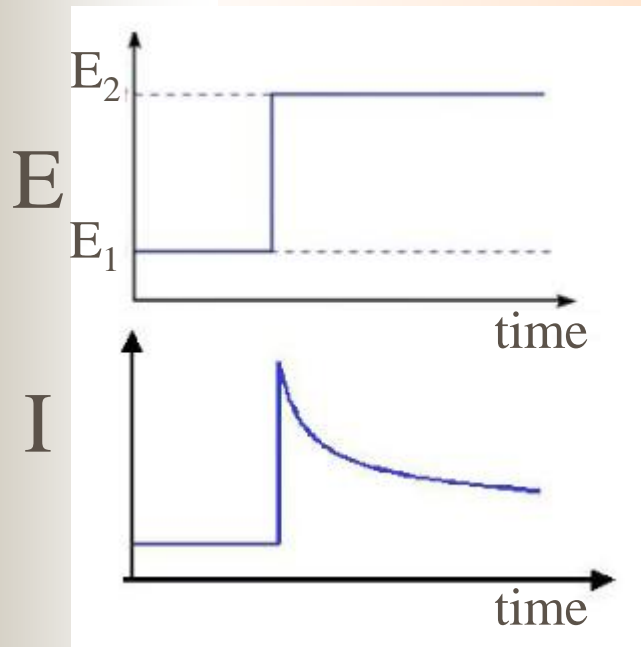
the measured quantity is a function of time



Pozn.: tast - vzorkovací

# Voltammetry

## Staircase technique, pulse techniques



Barker  
Osteryoung

- perturbation
- measurement during short time (sampling)

In the pulse a capacity current decays faster than a faradaic current (electron transfer)

$$I_{faradaic}(t) = \frac{zFAD^{1/2}c}{(\pi t)^{1/2}}$$

Cottrell

$$I_{charging} = \frac{\Delta E}{R_s} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{R_s C_{dl}}\right)$$

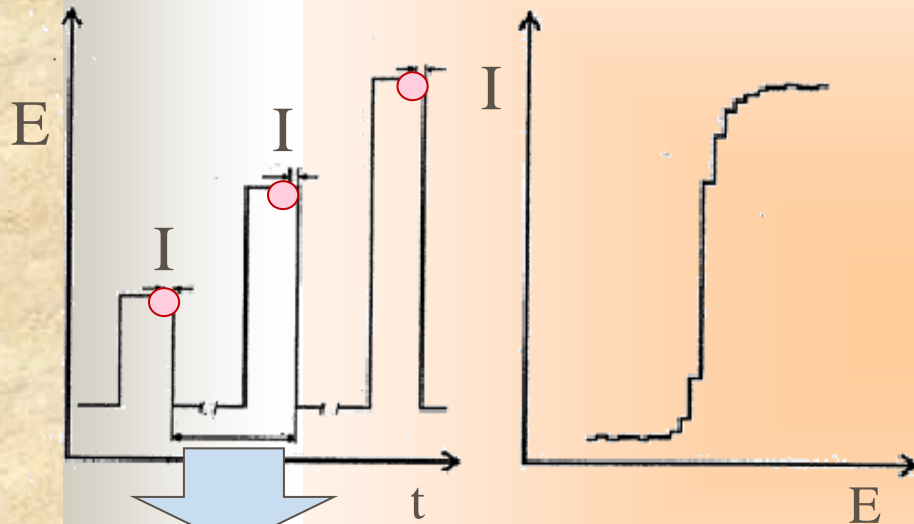
**Parameters:**

- Pulse amplitude (mV)
- Pulse width (ms)
- Sample period (ms)
- Pulse period (s)

$R_s C_{dl}$  time constant ( $5RC \sim 30\text{ms} \sim 0.68\%$  drop of  $I_c$ )

# Pulse Polarography (Voltammetry)

## Normal pulse (NPP, NPV)



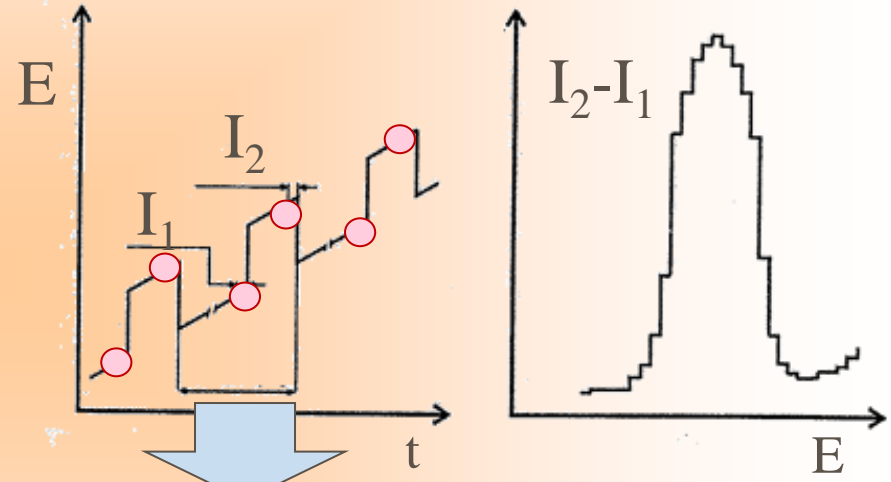
pulse period  
(drop time)

$$I_{NPP} = \frac{zFAD^{1/2}c}{\sqrt{\pi t_m}}$$

**Cottrell equation  
or Cottrell factor**

$t_m$  time after application of the pulse where the current is sampled

## Differential pulse (DPP, DPV)



pulse period  
(drop time)

$$I_{DPP} = \frac{zFAD^{1/2}c}{\sqrt{\pi t_m}} \left( \frac{1-\sigma}{1+\sigma} \right)$$

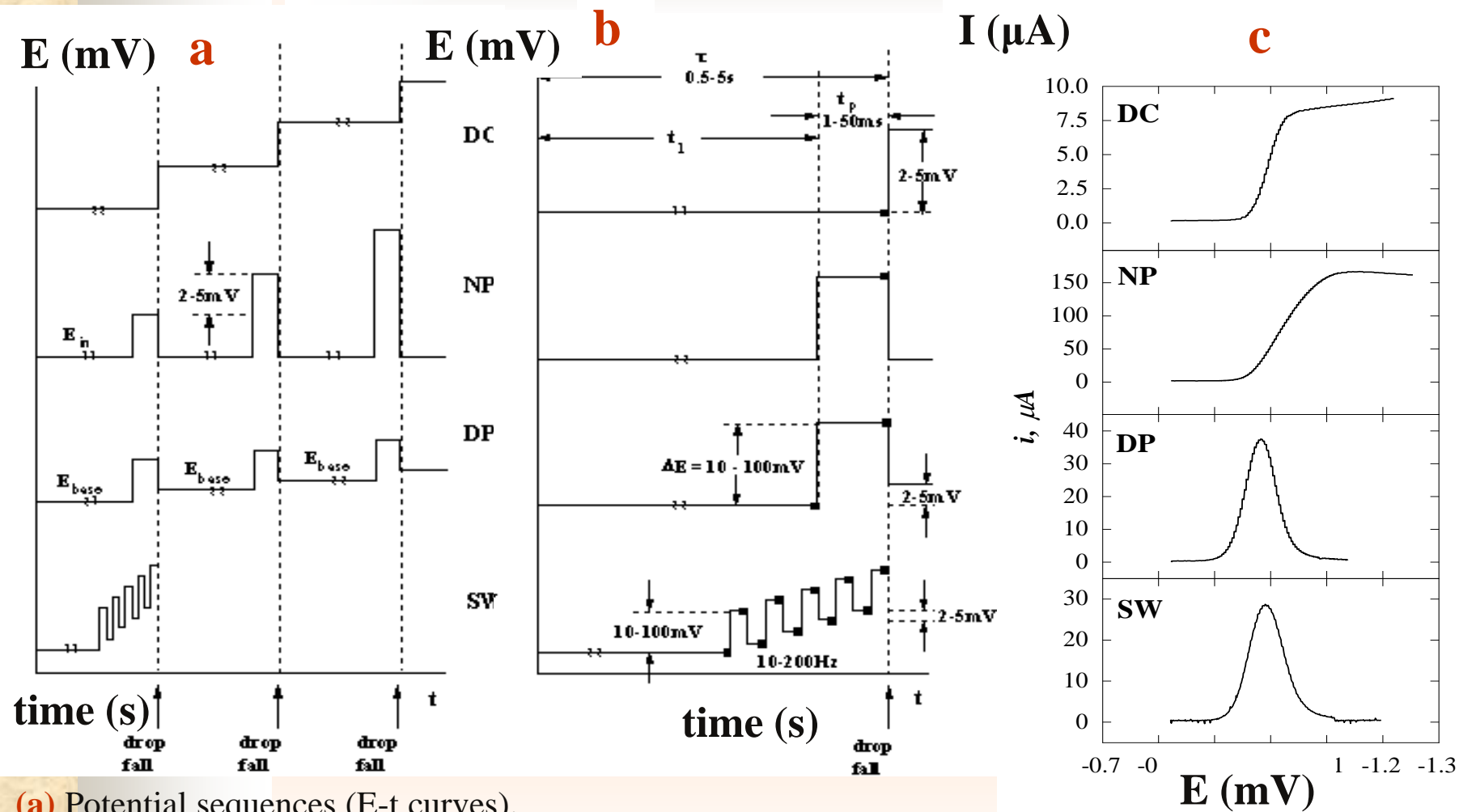
$$\sigma = \exp \left[ \left( \frac{zf}{RT} \right) \left( \frac{\Delta E}{2} \right) \right]$$

$\Delta E$ ...pulse amplitude  
 $f$ ...frequency



# Pulse and square wave voltammetry

## Perturbation by pulses



(a) Potential sequences (E-t curves).

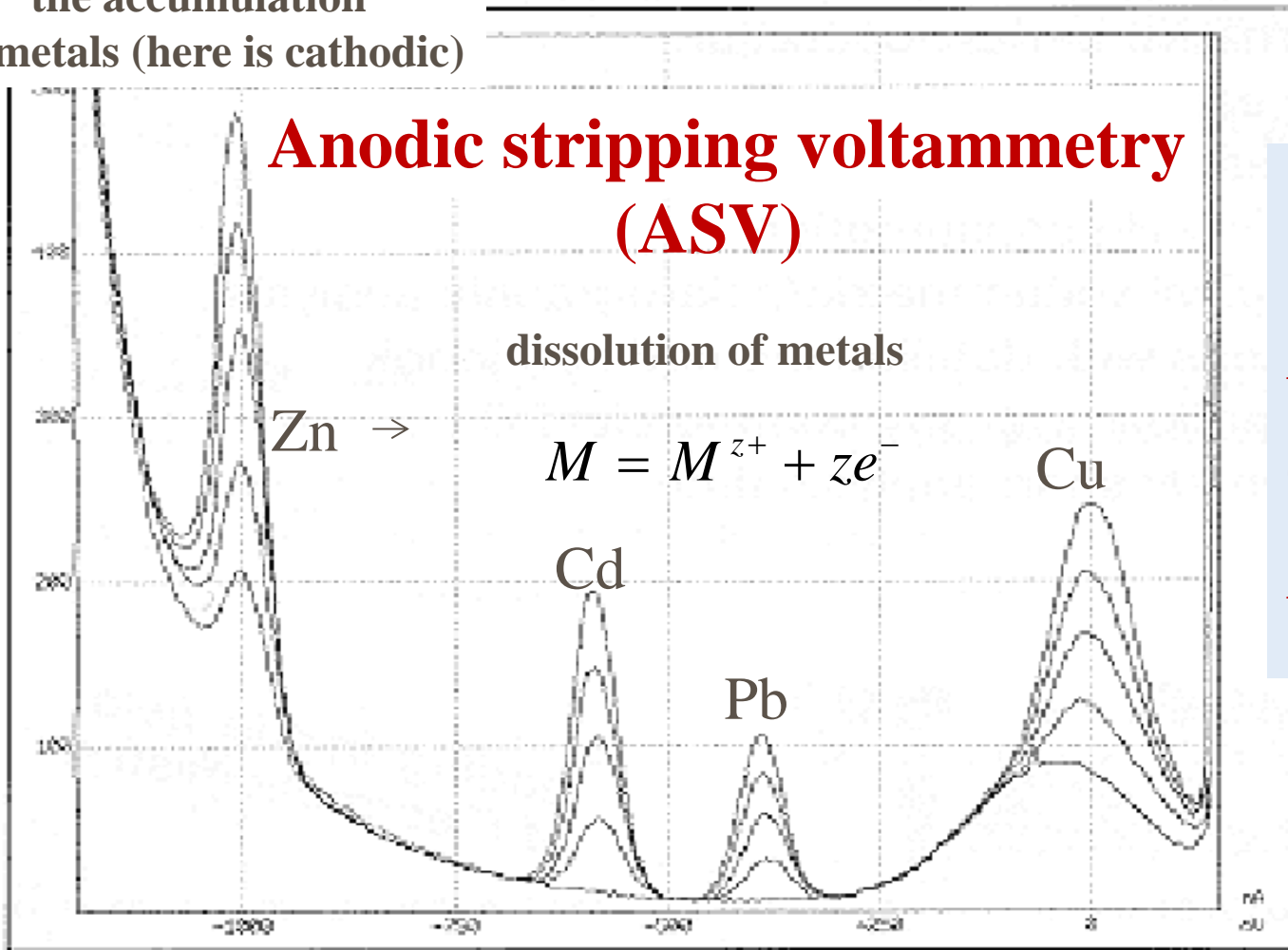
(b) Potential sequence on one drop (■ tast).

(c) Current-potential curves for  $1\text{ mM Zn}^{2+}$  in  $1\text{ M KNO}_3$ .

DC:  $\tau = 2\text{ s}$ ; NP:  $\tau = 2\text{ s}$ ,  $t_p = 5\text{ ms}$ ; DP:  $\tau = 2\text{ s}$ ,  $t_p = 5\text{ ms}$ ;  $\Delta E_p = 20\text{ mV}$ ; SW:  $\Delta E_p = 20\text{ mV}$ ,  $f = 100\text{ Hz}$ .

# DPV with stripping

the accumulation  
of metals (here is cathodic)



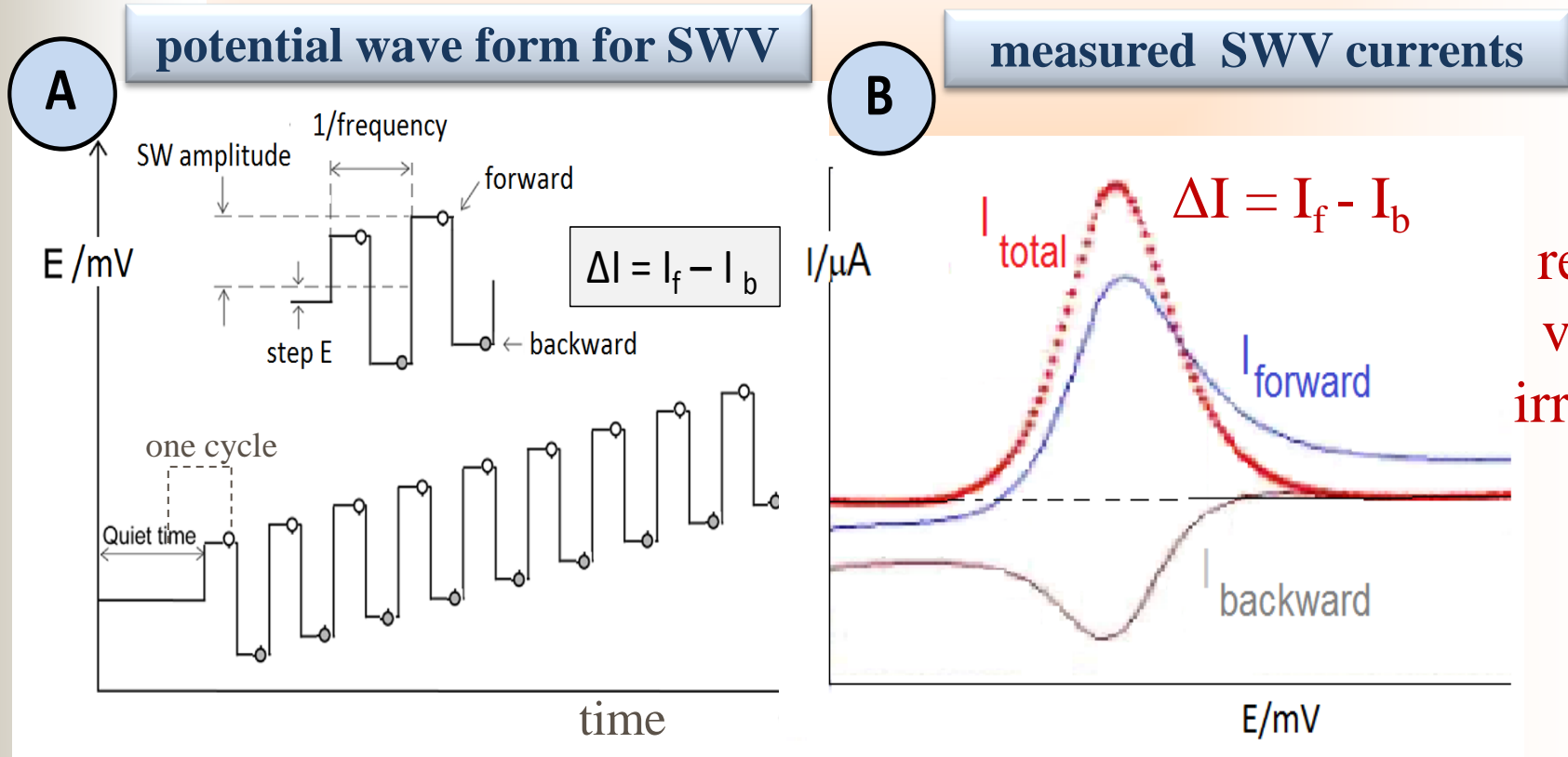
Improving DPV by  
the stripping  
mode:

- Anodic stripping (ASV)**
- Cathodic stripping (CSV)**
- Adsorptive stripping (AdSV)**

*The example above shows the simultaneous determination of Zn , Cd, Pb and Cu using standard addition*

# Square Wave Voltammetry (SWV)

Ramaley&Krause and Osteryoung&O'Dea



$$\Delta I_{DPP} = \frac{nFAD^{1/2}c}{\sqrt{\pi t_m}} \Delta \Psi$$

$\Delta I$  – differential current peak value

$\Delta \Psi$  – dimensionless parameter which gauges the peak height in SWV relative to the limiting response in normal pulse voltammetry

**Cottrell factor**

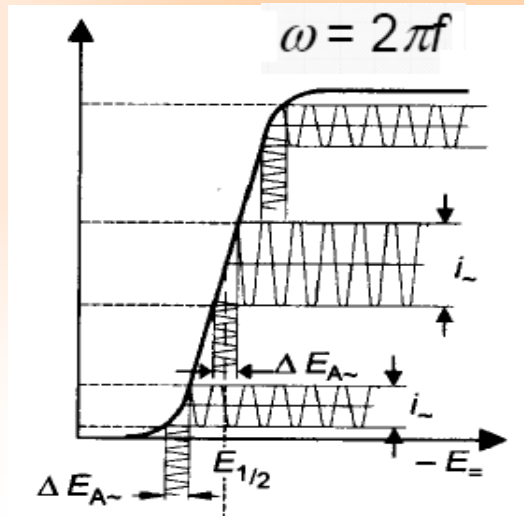
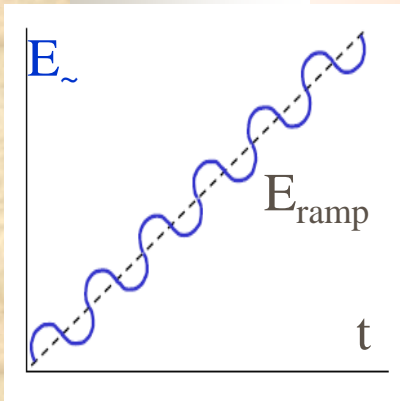
$$\sigma = \exp\left[\left(\frac{zF}{RT}\right)\left(\frac{\Delta E}{2}\right)\right] \left(\frac{1-\sigma}{1+\sigma}\right)$$

# Alternating Current (AC) Voltammetry

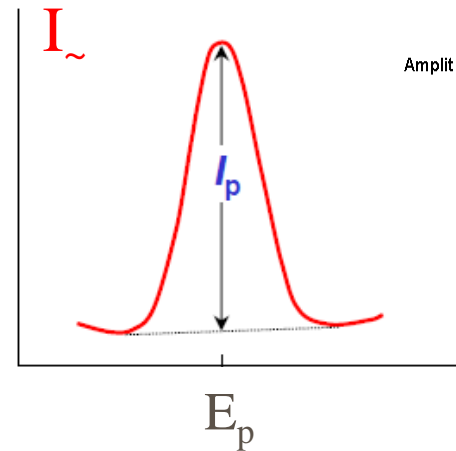
- the application of a sinusoidally oscillating voltage; alternating potential usually has a frequency of 50-200 Hz and 5-50 mV amplitude
- the AC signal causes a perturbation in the surface concentration
- an electrochemical process, mass transport, chemical and adsorption steps and electron transfer
- electric double layer EDL
- adsorption (nucleation) studies, study of surface active compounds (PAL)

## the suppression of a capacity current

- 1) phase sensitive AC current regulation (the faradaic current component is phase shifted by  $\pi/4$  compared to the input potential, the capacity current component by  $\pi/2$ )
- 2) using the second harmonic current component (the frequency  $2f$ )

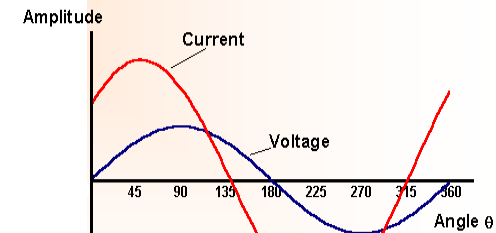


$$I_p = \frac{z^2 F^2}{4RT} A \Delta E (\omega D)^{1/2} c$$



reversible system

$$W_{1/2} = 3.52 \frac{RT}{zF}$$

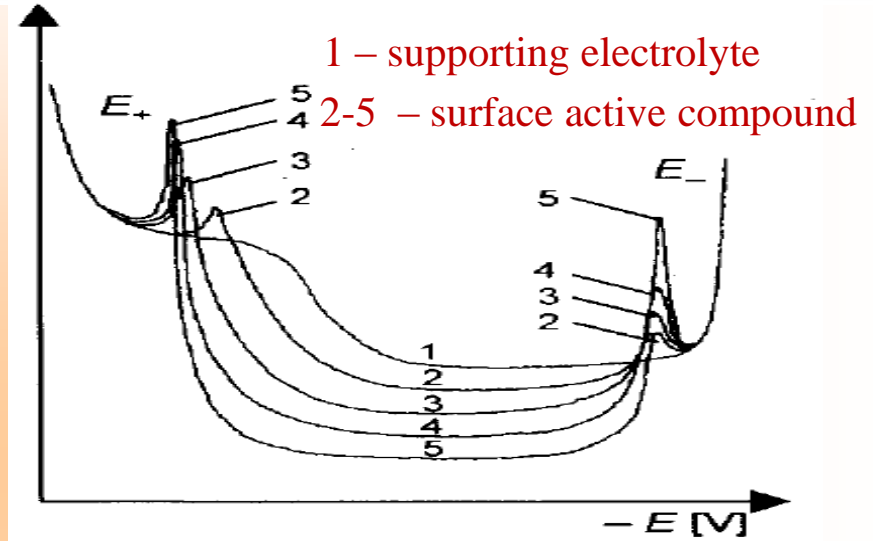
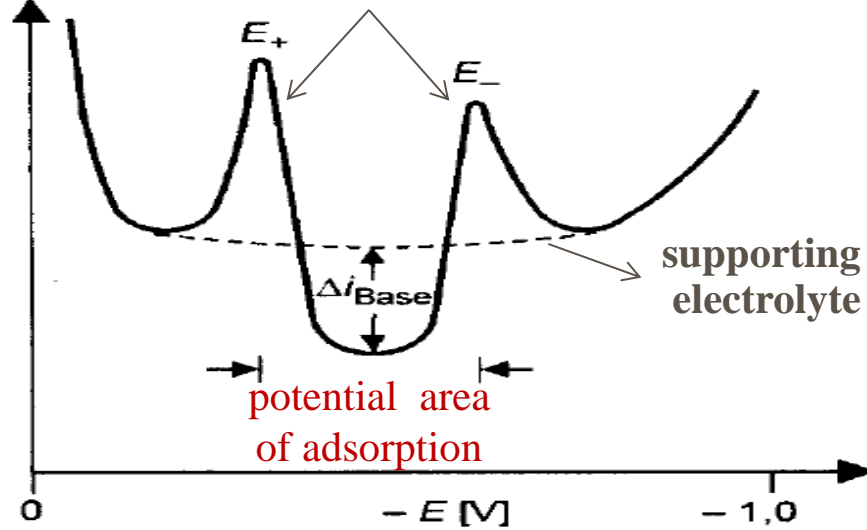




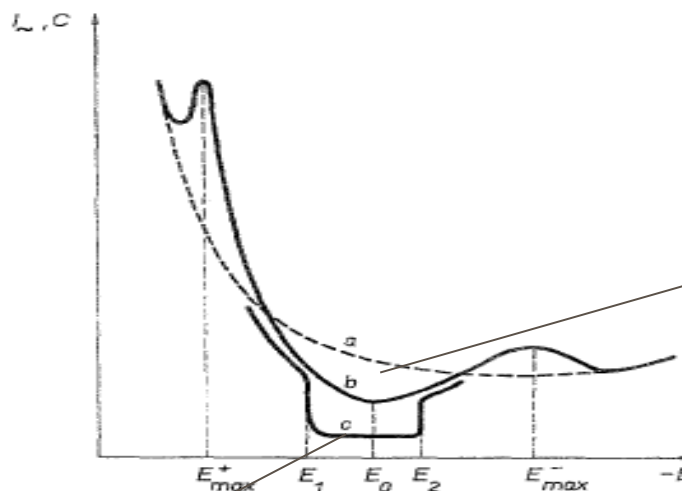
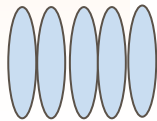
# Alternating Current (AC) Voltammetry

## Tensammetry

adsorption/desorption peaks



Adsorption/desorption of biomacromolecules involved in catalytic hydrogen evolution (Emil Paleček)



Adsorption of Nucleosides on Mercury Surface (Vladimír Vetterl)



non-stacked molecules

„phase transition“

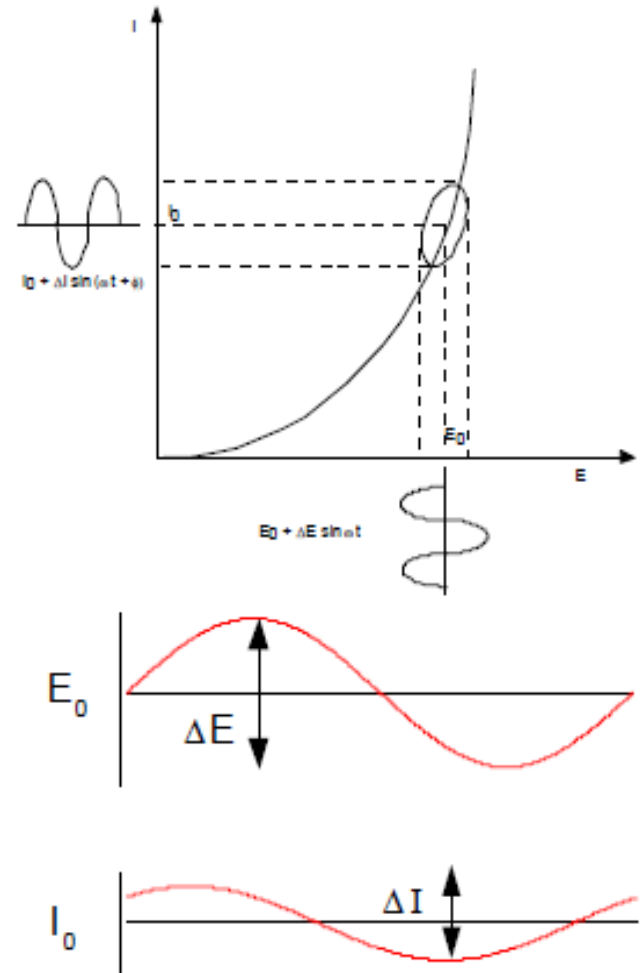
pits – stacking interactions of adsorbed molecules

# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy

## EIS

corrosion  
electrodeposition,  
electrodissolution, passivity  
SAM  
diffusion of ions across  
membranes semiconductor  
interfaces

The fundamental approach of all impedance methods is to apply a **small amplitude sinusoidal excitation signal**



# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

## Principles of EIS measurements

Taylor series expansion for the current is given by

$$\Delta I = \left( \frac{dI}{dE} \right)_{E_0, I_0} \Delta E + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d^2 I}{dE^2} \right)_{E_0, I_0} \Delta E^2 + \dots$$

If the magnitude of the perturbing signal  $\Delta E$  is small, then the higher order terms can be assumed to be negligible. The impedance of the system can then be calculated using Ohm's law:

$$Z(\omega) = \frac{\Delta E(\omega)}{\Delta I(\omega)} \quad Z(\omega) \text{ is impedance} = f(\omega)$$

frequency range of 100kHz – 0.1Hz

# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

## Electrode system - model

$$\frac{1}{Z} = \frac{1}{R_{ct}} + \frac{1}{1/j\omega C_{dl}} = \frac{1}{R_{ct}} + j\omega C_{dl}$$

$$Z = R_e + \frac{R_{ct}}{1 + j\omega C_{dl} R_{ct}}$$

$$Z = \frac{R_{ct}}{1 + j\omega C_{dl} R_{ct}}$$

$Z = \text{impedance}$

$R = \text{resistance}$

$X = \text{reactance}$

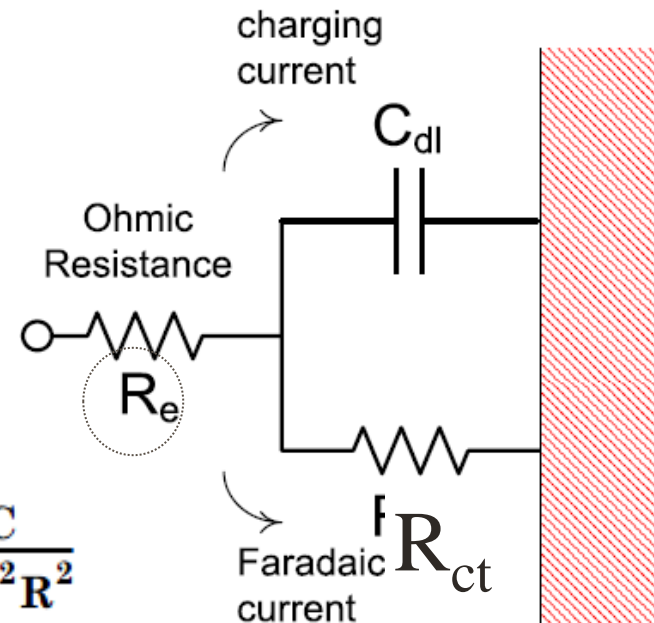
induktance  $L$     capacitance  $C$

$$Z_{real} = R_e + \frac{R_{ct}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{dl}^2 R_{ct}^2}$$

$$Z_{im} = \frac{R_{ct}^2 C_{dl} \omega}{1 + \omega^2 C_{dl}^2 R_{ct}^2}$$

$$|Z| = \sqrt{R^2 + X^2}$$

## Electrical Analogues



The impedance of a parallel combination

$$Z = \frac{R}{1 + C^2 \omega^2 R^2} - j \cdot \frac{R^2 \omega C}{1 + C^2 \omega^2 R^2}$$



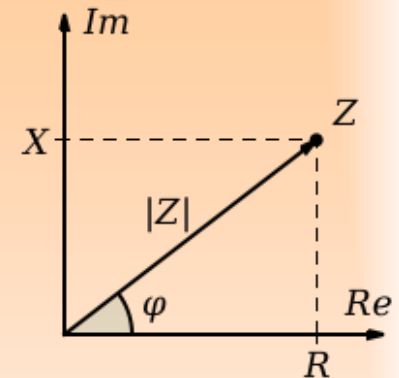
# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

## EIS plots

In cartesian co-ordinates  $Z(\omega) = Z_r(\omega) + jZ_j(\omega)$

In polar co-ordinates  $Z(\omega) = |Z(\omega)| e^{j\phi}$

magnitude of the impedance  $\leftarrow$   $|Z(\omega)|$   $\rightarrow$  phase shift  $\phi$



$$Z(t) = \frac{E(t)}{I(t)} = \frac{E_0 \cos(\omega t)}{I_0 \cos(\omega t - \phi)} = Z_0 \frac{\cos(\omega t)}{\cos(\omega t - \phi)}$$

The plot of the imaginary part against the real part of impedance - Nyquist plot.

The shape of the curve is important in making qualitative interpretations of the data.

The disadvantage of the Nyquist representation is that one loses the frequency dimension of the data. One way of overcoming this problem is by labelling

the frequencies on the curve. The absolute value of impedance and the phase shifts are plotted as a function of frequency in two different plots giving a Bode plot. The relationship between the two ways of representing the data is as follows:

# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

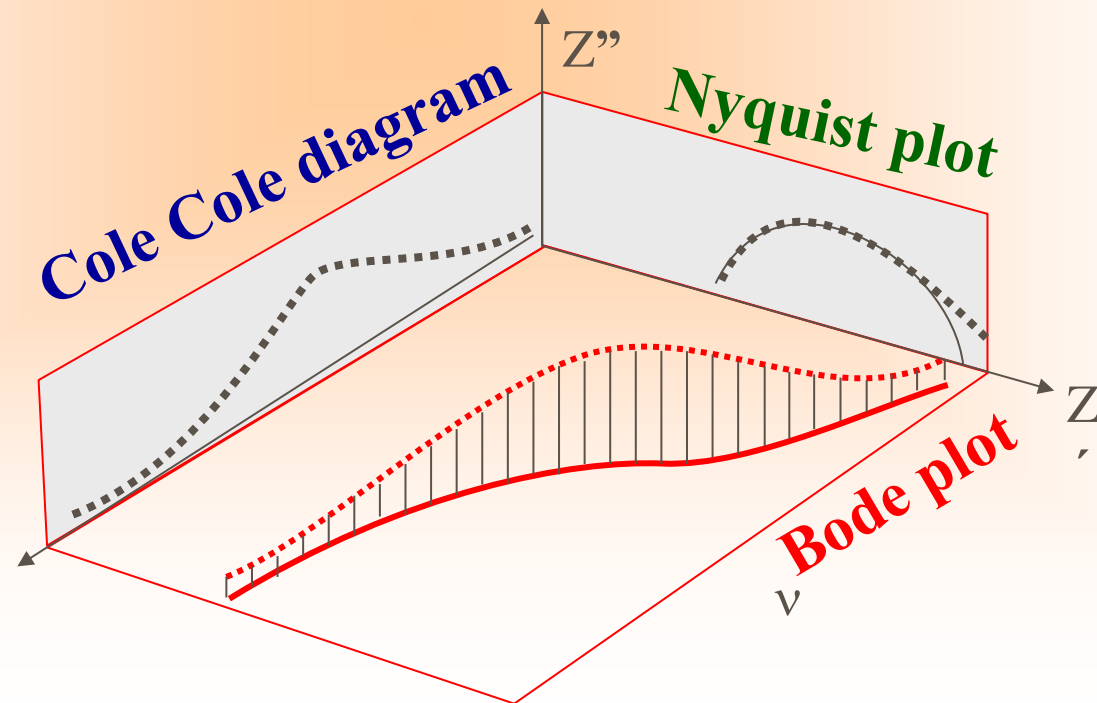
## The different views on impedance data

The absolute value of  $Z$  and the phase shifts are plotted as a function of frequency in two different plots giving a **Bode plot**

The impedance data are the red points.

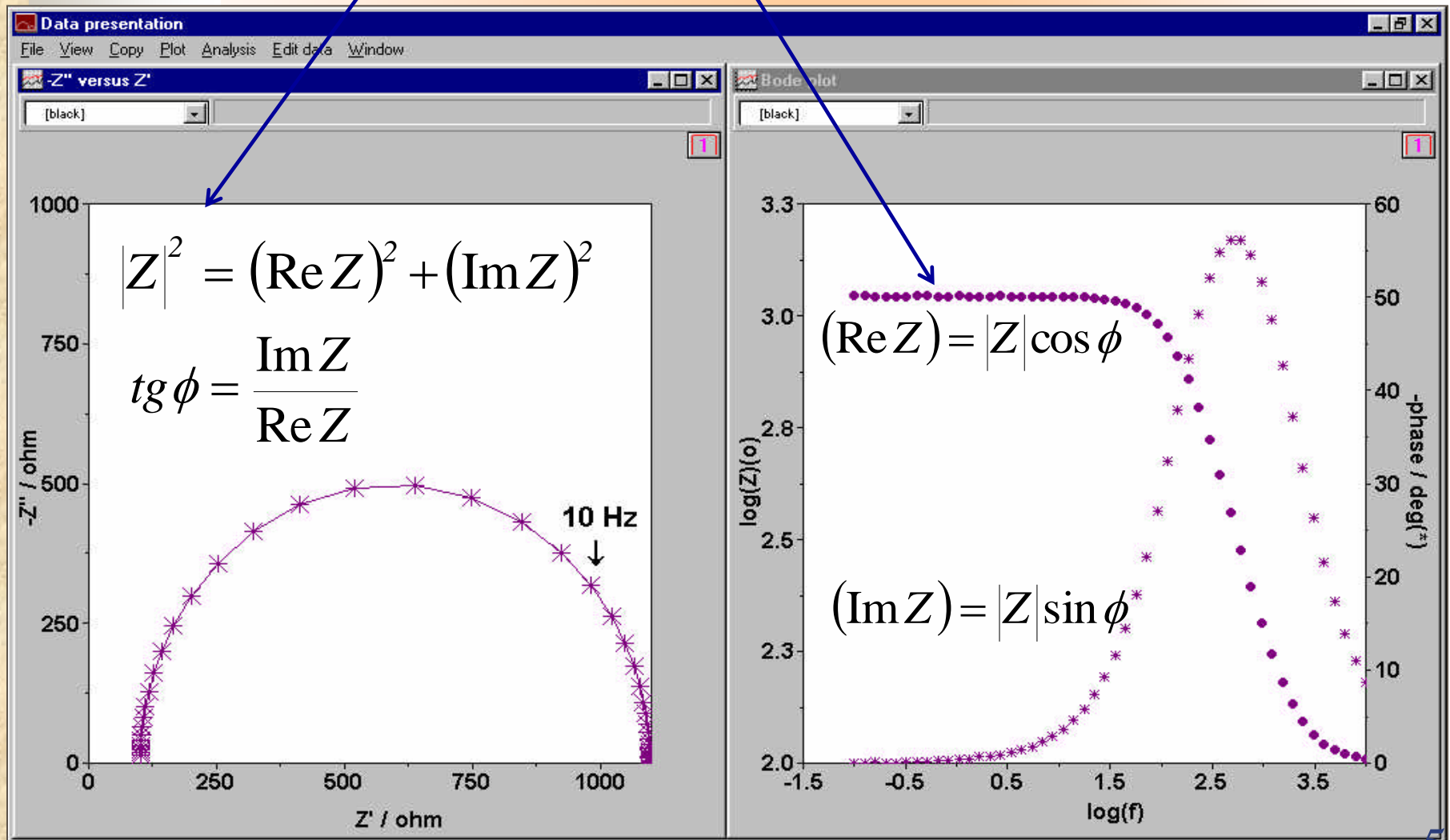
Their projection onto the  $Z''$ - $Z'$  plane is called the **Nyquist plot**

The projection onto the  $Z''$ - $\nu$  plane is called the **Cole Cole diagram**



# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

## Nyquist and Bode plot



# EIS: experiment parameters

## *FRA parameters or settings*

1. AC mode (single sine or multi sine)
2. perturbation (sine wave) amplitude (10 mV)
3. Open Circuit Potential (OCP)
4. three electrode set
5. frequency range (1MHz – 0.1Hz)
6. frequency distribution (linearly, logarithmically or with a square root distribution)

$$Z_R = R$$

$$Z_C = -\frac{j}{\omega C}$$

$$Z_L = j\omega L$$

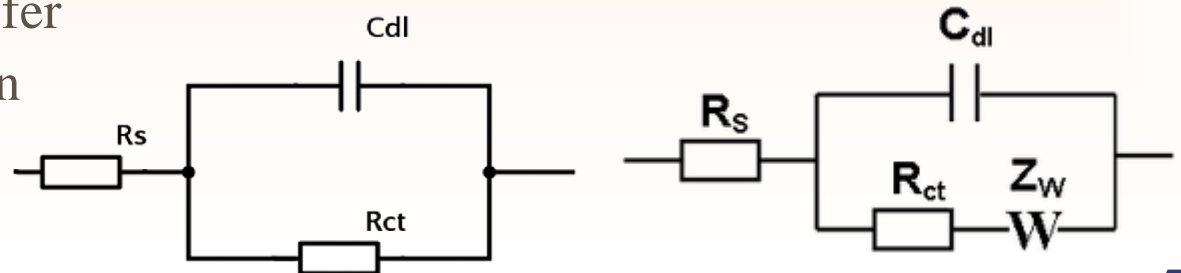
## *Output parameters from circuit models*

$C_{dl}$  capacitance of double layer

$R_{ct}$  resistance of electron transfer

$R_s$  or  $R_{\Omega}$  resistance of solution

## Randles circuit



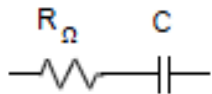


# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

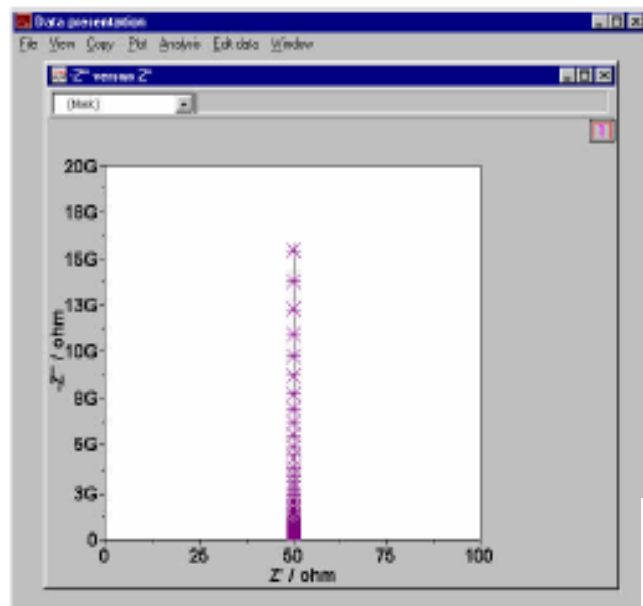
## equivalent circuit models

### Model 1

A resistance and a capacitance in series

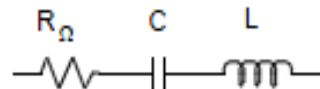


Model 1 can be used, for example, to model a metal with an undamaged high impedance coating.

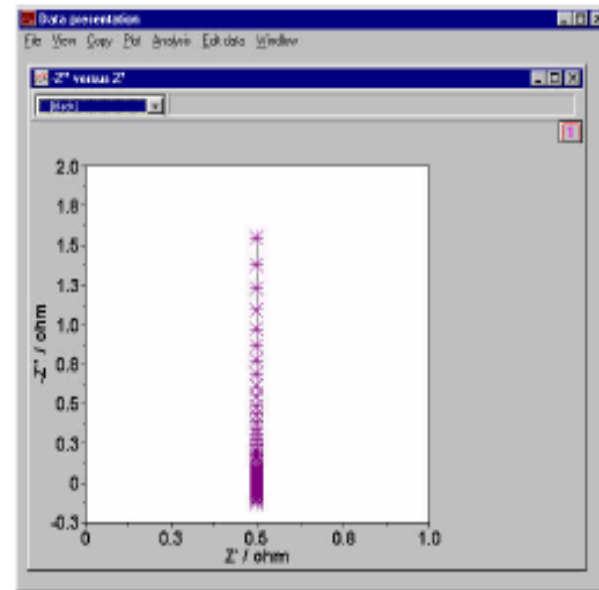


### Model 2

A resistance, a capacitance and an inductance in series



Model 2 can be used to model the response of a supercapacitor.

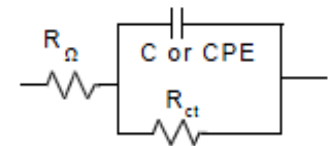


The impedance of a parallel combination

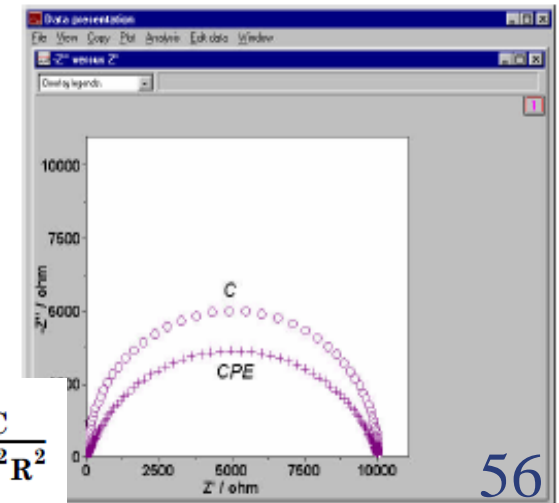
$$Z = \frac{R}{1 + C^2 \omega^2 R^2} - i \cdot \frac{R^2 \omega C}{1 + C^2 \omega^2 R^2}$$

### Model 3

A resistance and a capacitance in parallel (Randles circuit)



The Randles circuit is one of the simplest and most common cell models. It includes a solution resistance, a double layer capacitor or a CPE and a polarization resistance. It is used to model corrosion processes and is often the starting point for other more complex models.

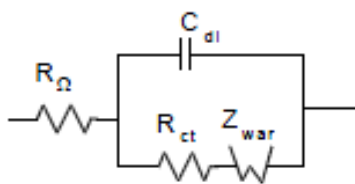


# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy EIS

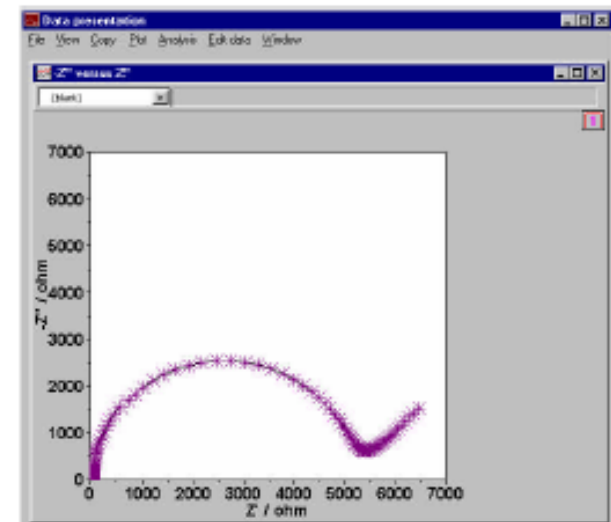
## equivalent circuit models

### Model 4

Mixed kinetic and diffusion control

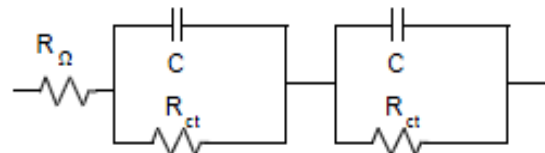


Model 4 can be used to describe electrode processes when both kinetics and diffusion are important.

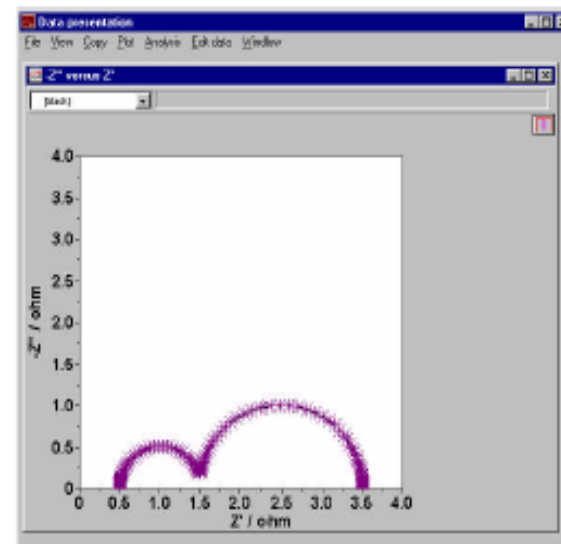


### Model 5

Two Randles circuits in series



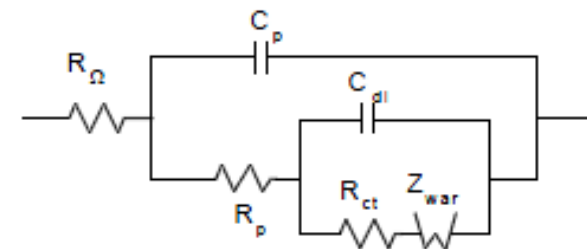
Model 5 can be used, for example, to model the response of batteries.



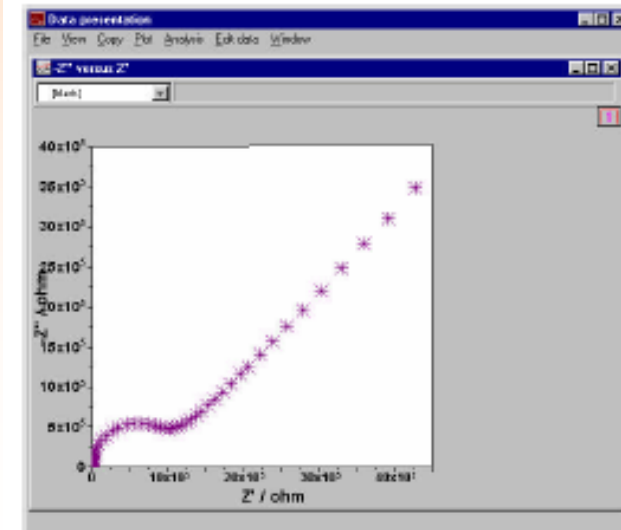
e.g., porous electrodes

### Model 6

A complex circuit



Model 6 can be used, for example, to describe the impedance of an organic coating on a metal substrate in contact with an electrolyte.





# Hyphenated methods (HEM)

## *Complementary or Related Techniques*

*in-situ*

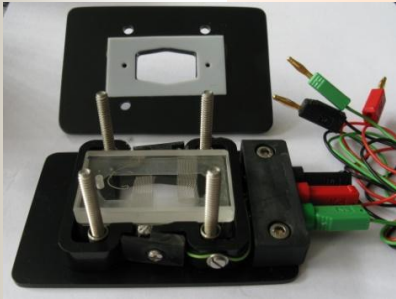
*Other electroanalytical techniques may provide additional or preliminary information*

- **Spectroelectrochemistry SE:** Simultaneous use of spectroscopic methods can identify species undergoing reaction, *in-situ study*.
- **EQCMB (EQCNB) with CV** *in situ* the study of layers on electrode surfaces together with cyclic voltammetry
- **HPLC - ED** Liquid chromatography is often used to separate individual analytes before analysis.
- **EC - AFM** *in situ* the study of layers on electrode surfaces by means of microscopy.

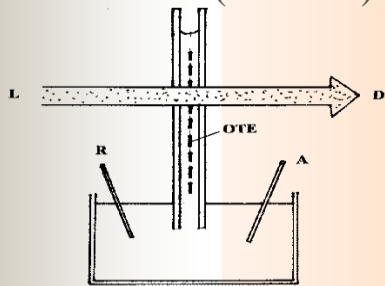
# Spectroelectrochemistry

an experimental method that combines an electrochemical measurement coupled to an:

- *in situ* spectroscopical measurement (UV-Vis, IR, ESR, NMR)
- *ex situ* spectroscopical measurement (LEED, AES, XPS, AFM)



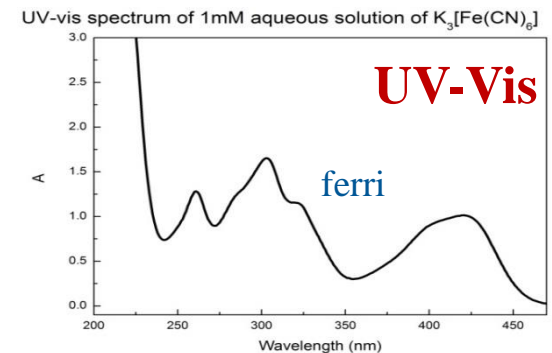
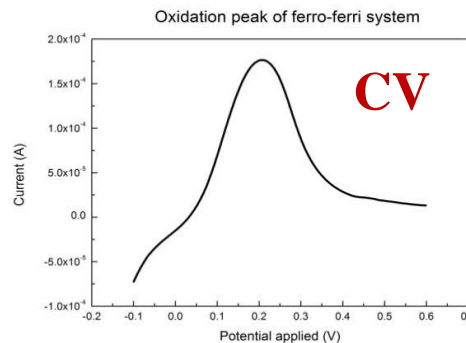
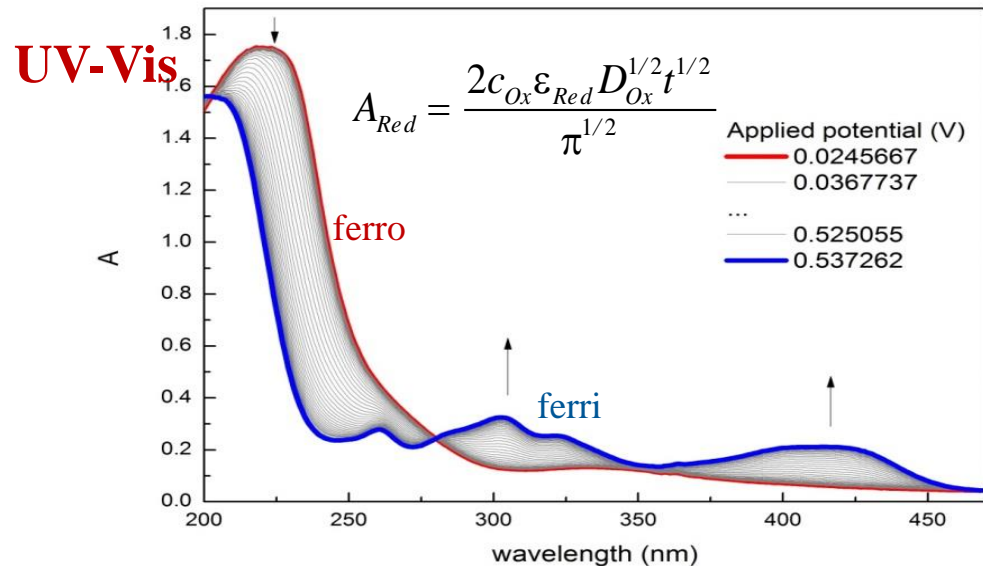
Optically Transparent Thin Layer Electrochemical (OTTLE) Cell



## Applications

- mechanism
- kinetics
- $E^{0'}$ ,  $z$ :  $\log (A_{Ox}/A_{red}) = f(E)$
- $dA/dt = f(E)$
- selectivity in complex reactions

Spectroelectrochemical oxidation of 0.02 M  $K_4[Fe(CN)_6]$  to  $K_3[Fe(CN)_6]$  in 0.1 M KCl





# Spectroelectrochemistry

UV-Vis

$$A_{Red} = \frac{2c_{Ox}\epsilon_{Red}D_{Ox}^{1/2}t^{1/2}}{\pi^{1/2}}$$

diffusion of **Ox** to the electrode -  
the absorbance  $A_{red}$  as a function  
of time can be observed

$$A_{Ox} = \frac{2c_{Red}\epsilon_{Ox}D_{Red}^{1/2}t^{1/2}}{\pi^{1/2}}$$

diffusion of **Red** to the electrode -  
the absorbance  $A_{Ox}$  as a function of  
time can be observed

$$A = f(t^{1/2})$$



**Applications**

*kinetics and mechanism of electrode processes*

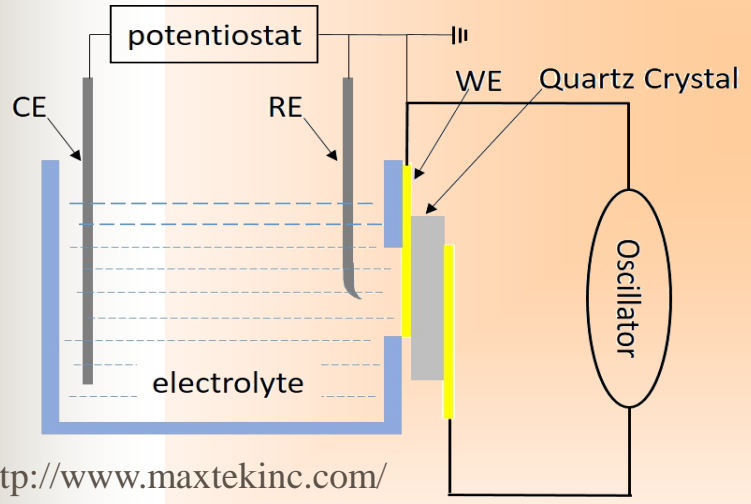
- *formal redox potentials:  $E^{0'}$ , z:  $\log(A_{Ox}/A_{red}) = f(E)$*
- *evaluation as the derivative function:  $dA/dt = f(E)$  (greater accuracy)*
- *selectivity in complex reactions* (not affected by capacity)

# (EQCM)

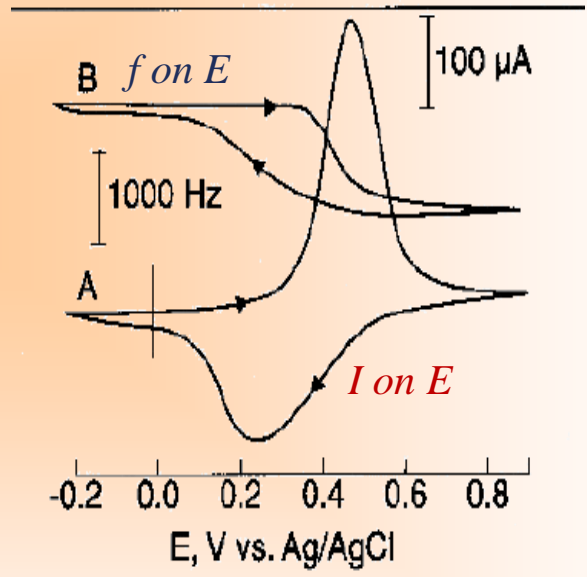
# Electrochemical Quartz Crystal Microbalance

- A mass variation ( $\Delta m$ ) per unit area ( $A$ ) by measuring the change in frequency ( $f$ ) of a quartz crystal resonator
- The resonance is disturbed by the addition or removal of a small mass due to oxide growth/decay or film deposition at the surface of the acoustic resonator.

## Quartz crystal the heart of the QCM



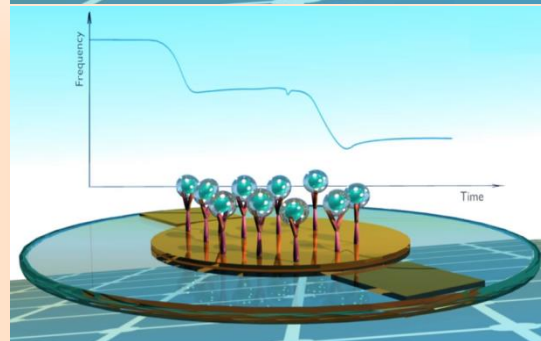
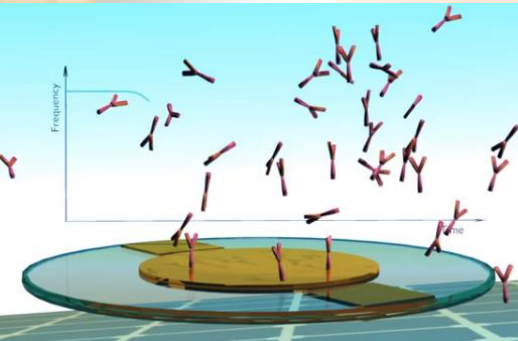
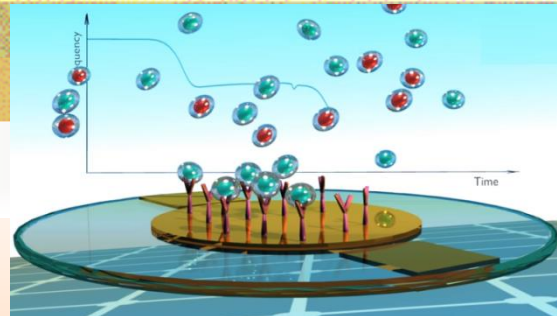
<http://www.maxtekinc.com/>  
<http://chinstruments.com>



## Piezoelectric effect (brothers Curie – 1880)

Some crystal could produce electricity when pressure is applied in certain crystallographic directions.

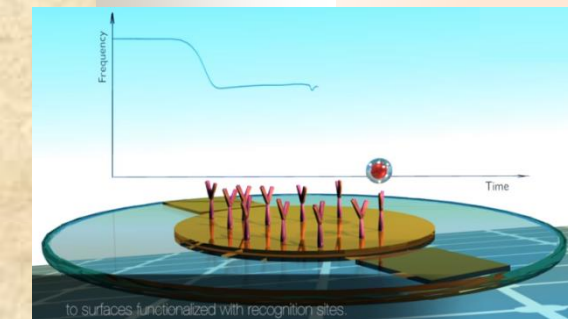
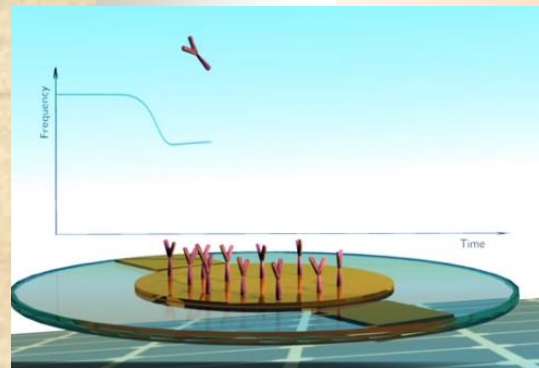
- sensitivity – 0.1-1 ng/cm<sup>2</sup>
- the calibration is necessary ( $C_f$ )



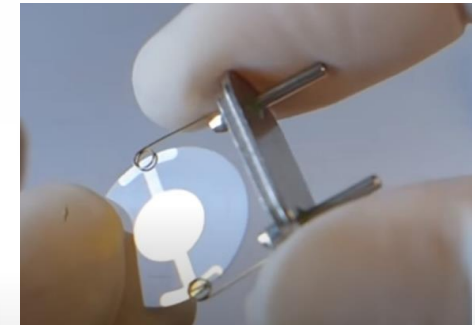
# QCM or QCN

- Surface film mass
- Thickness
- Viscoelasticity
- Surface roughness
- Kinetics time dependence

## Applications



- *Thin film thickness*
- *Electrochemistry of interfacial processes at electrode surfaces*
- *Biotechnology*
- *Functionalized surface*
  - Creation of selective surfaces
  - Lipid membranes
  - Polymer coatings
  - Reactive surfaces
  - Gas sensors
  - Immunosensors
- *Thin film formation*
- *Surfactant research*
  - Surfactant interactions with surfaces
  - Effectiveness of surfactants
- *Drug research*
- *Liquid Plating & Etching*
- *In situ monitoring of lubricant and petroleum properties*





# Quartz crystal microbalance and nanobalance (QCM, QCN)

A mass variation ( $\Delta m$ ) per unit area ( $A$ ) by measuring the change in frequency ( $f$ ) of a quartz crystal resonator Günter Sauerbrey\_(1959)

## Sauerbrey equation

$$\Delta f = - \frac{2 f_0^2}{A \sqrt{\rho_q \mu_q}} \Delta m$$

where  $f_0$  is the resonant frequency (Hz),  $\Delta f$  is frequency change (Hz),  $\Delta m$  is mass change (g),  $A$  is piezoelectrically active crystal area (Area between electrodes in  $\text{cm}^2$ ),  $\rho_q$  is density of quartz ( $2.643 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ) and  $\mu_q$  is the shear modulus of quartz for AT-cut crystal ( $2.947 \times 10^{11} \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$ ).

Faraday:

$$\Delta m = \frac{M}{zF} Q = \frac{M}{zF} I t$$

$$\Delta f = - C_f \Delta m$$

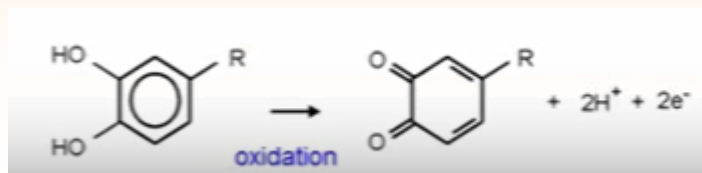
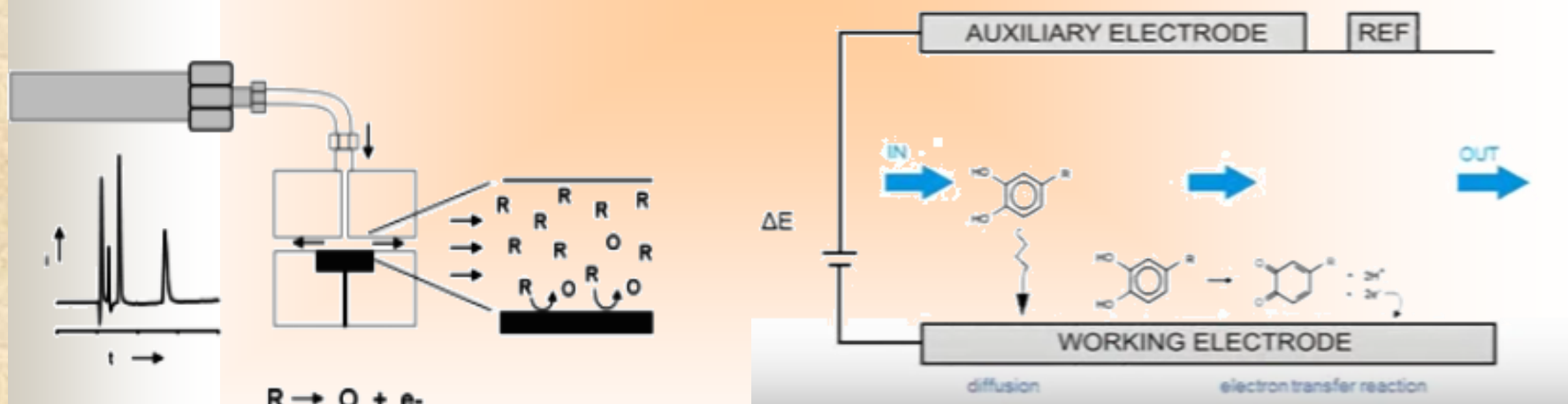
- thin and rigid film
- sensitivity –  $0.1\text{-}1 \text{ ng/cm}^2$
- for vacuum or for gas phase (correction)  
(in water - decrease in  $f \sim 750\text{Hz}$ )
- the calibration is necessary ( $C_f$ )

polyvinylferrocene



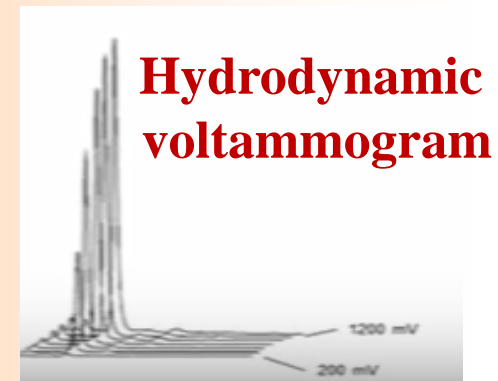
# HPLC with Electrochemical Detection (ECD)

- An extremely selective and sensitive detection technique that is applied in a number of analyses such as the neurotransmitters (dopamine, serotonin and noradrenalin – neurotransmitter analyzer). In combination with the proper electronics, ECD has an enormous linear dynamic range of more than 6 orders of magnitude (50 pmol/L - 100 μmol/L).
- Amperometric electrochemical detection (hydrodynamic mode)
- Interest: electrochemical detectors; electrochemical flow cells; electrodes (carbon); electroactive compounds

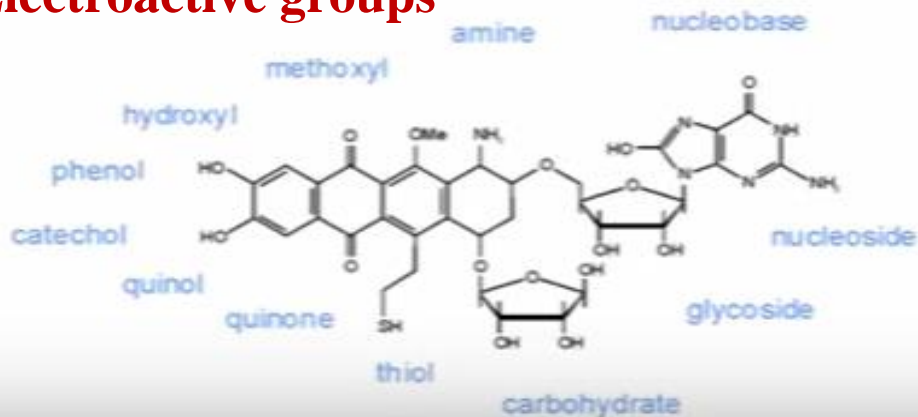


# HPLC with Electrochemical Detection (ECD)

- DC or pulse mode; S/N ratio; optimal  $E$ , (low  $E$  – no signals, high  $E$  – interference and noise)
- Difference between UV-Vis detection and ECD  
Lambert-Beer equation vs. Cottrell equation  
 $absorbance \approx \epsilon_{\lambda} d c$        $current \approx \frac{zFAc\sqrt{D}}{\sqrt{\pi t}}$
- Applications: 1) neurotransmitter (in blood and brain)  
2) vitamins, carbohydrates (in food)  
3) phenols (in environmental samples)



## Electroactive groups



## Applications



## Electrochemical Atomic Field Microscopy

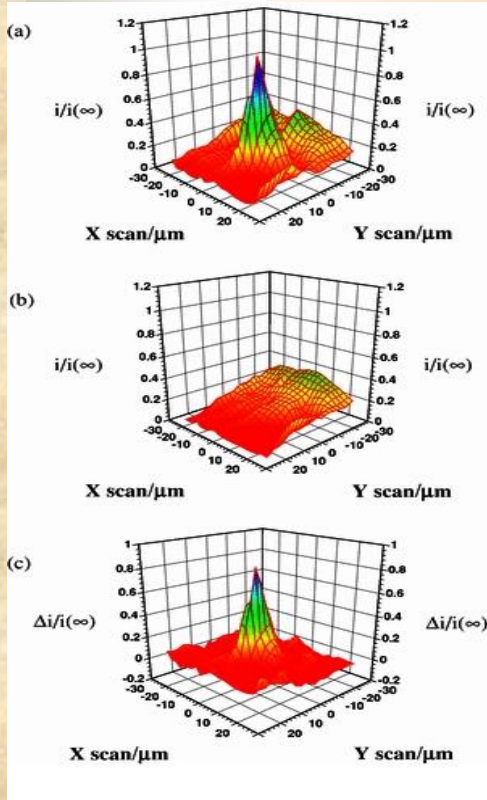
- combines atomic force microscopy (AFM) together with electrochemical measurements
- allows to perform *in-situ* AFM measurements in an electrochemical cell, in order to investigate the actual changes in the electrode surface morphology during electrochemical reactions (increasing interest, „gnome“)
- AFM apparatus is integrated with a three electrode electrochemical cell
- The AFM probe is monitored: surface changes as a function of time, when a potential is applied to the sample.
- Several electrochemical experiments (CV, DPV); E is applied to the tip, with respect to a suitable RE, to drive the process of interest at the tip and the current that flows is typically amplified by a current-to-voltage converter
- During the potential sweeping, the current flows through the sample and the morphology is monitored.



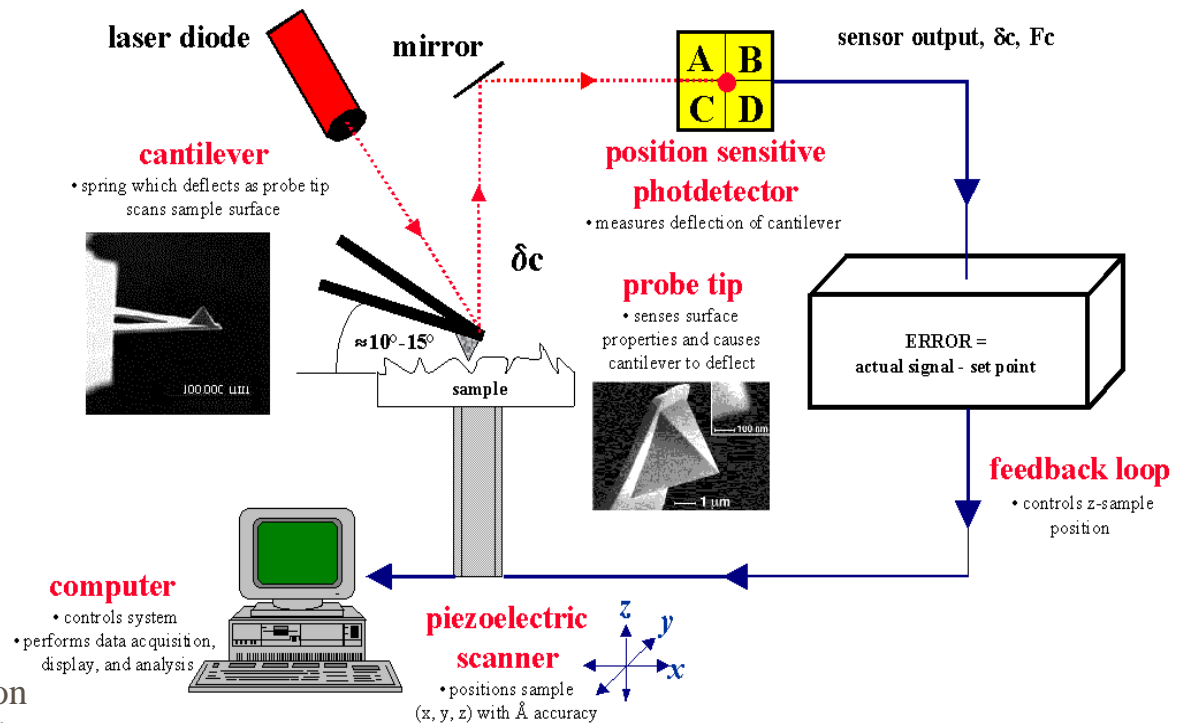
# Electrochemical Atomic Field Microscopy

Scanning electrochemical microscopy: principles and applications to biophysical systems: Martin A Edwards et al 2006 *Physiol. Meas.* 27 R63 doi:10.1088/0967-3334/27/12/R01

## EC-AFM



## Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) : General Components and Their Functions



transport-limited current for the one-electron oxidation of ferrocyanide as a function of tip position under pressure); dentin - substrate



# Confucius

Slyšel jsem a zapomněl jsem.

Viděl jsem a pamatuji si.

Dělal jsem a pochopil jsem.

(Confucius)

I hear and I forget.

I see and I remember.

I do and I understand.

(Confucius)

"Co slyším, to zapomenu. Co vidím, si pamatuji. Co si vyzkouším, tomu rozumím."



551 BC – 479 BC

Moral philosophy  
Social philosophy  
Ethics