

Cyclic Voltammetry

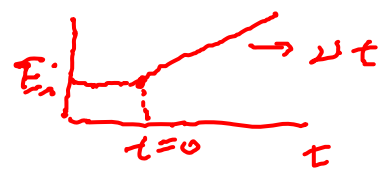
Bing Joe Hwang

$$E \rightarrow (c) \quad i \uparrow$$

$$E_f \uparrow \quad E_r \downarrow$$

$$O + n e = R$$

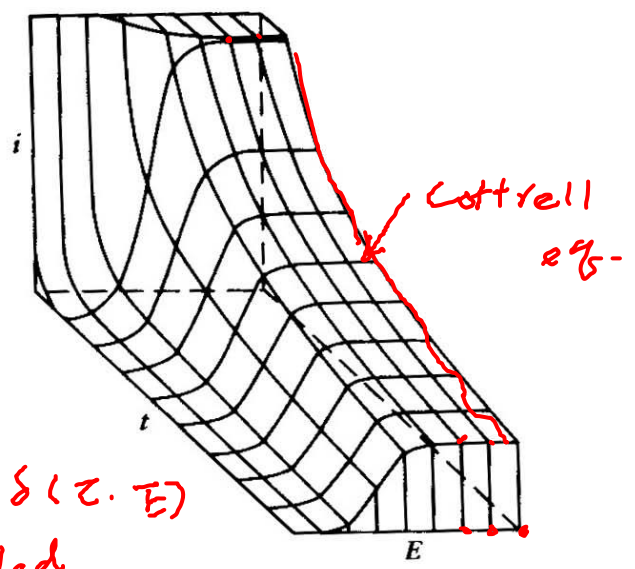
potential sweep
 $E = f(x)$



$$E = E_i + vt$$

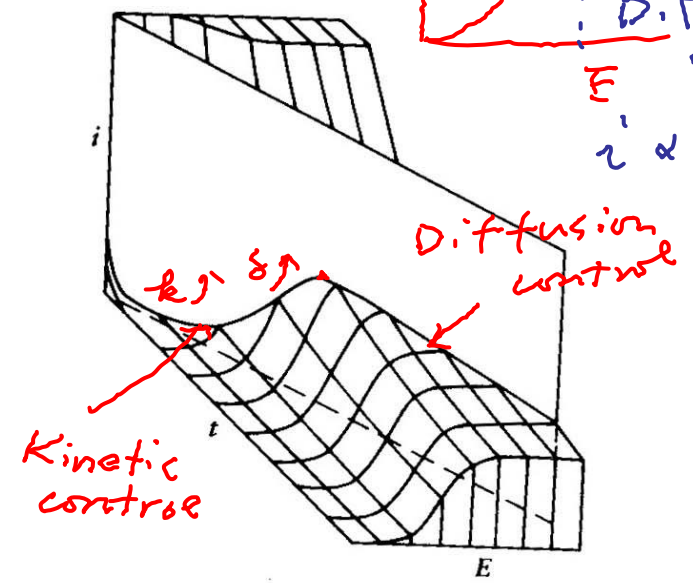


$$i \propto m_0 C_0^* \frac{D}{\delta}$$



$\delta(z, E)$
 sampled current
 z

(a)



(b)

Figure 6.1.1

(a) Representation of a portion of the $i-t-E$ surface for a nernstian reaction. Potential axis is in units of $60/n$ mV. (b) Linear potential sweep across this surface. [Reprinted with permission from W. H. Reinmuth, *Anal. Chem.*, **32**, 1509 (1960). Copyright 1960, American Chemical Society.]

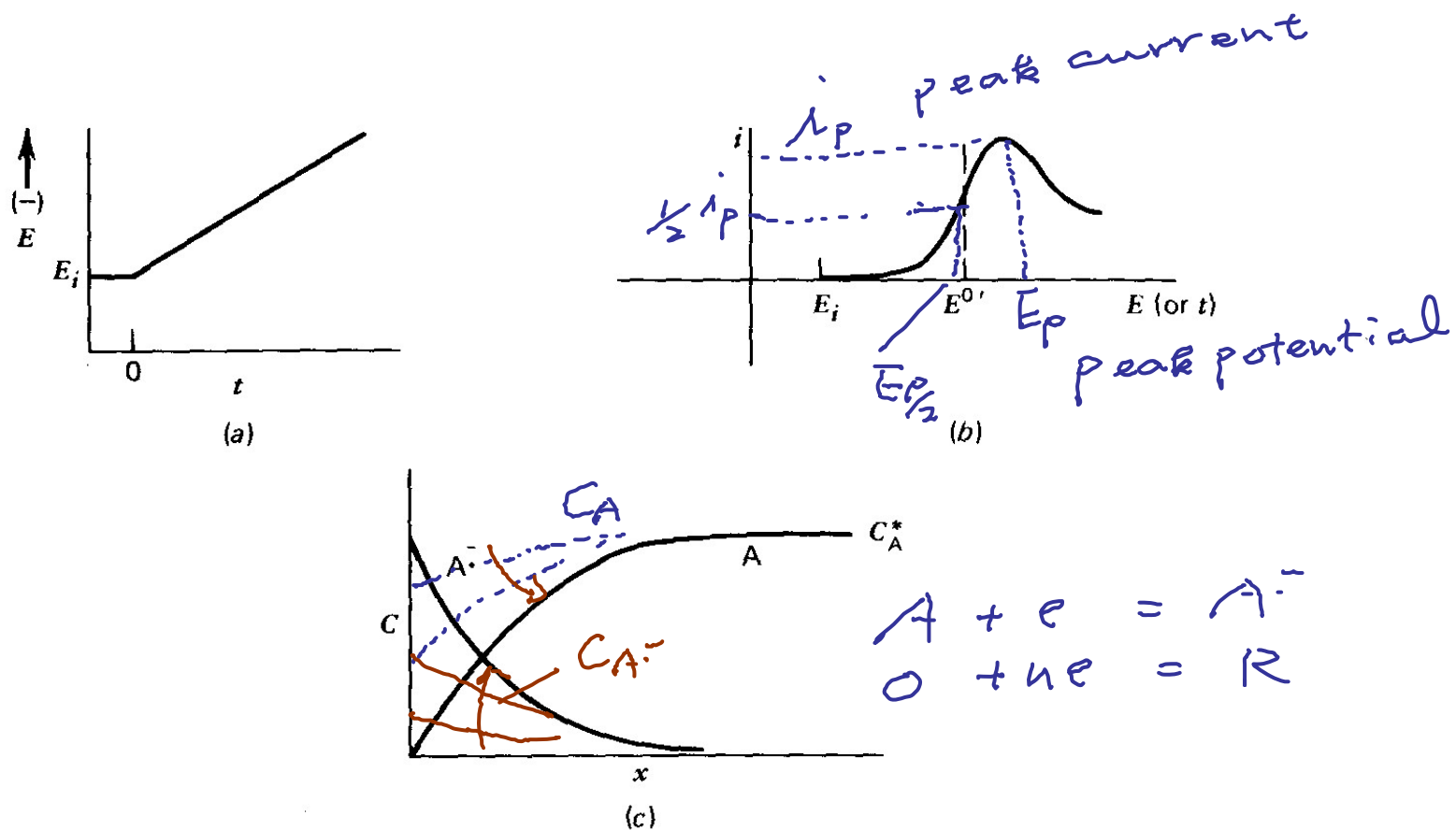


Figure 6.1.2

(a) Linear potential sweep or ramp starting at E_i . (b) Resulting i - E curve. (c) Concentration profiles of A and A^- for potentials beyond E_p .

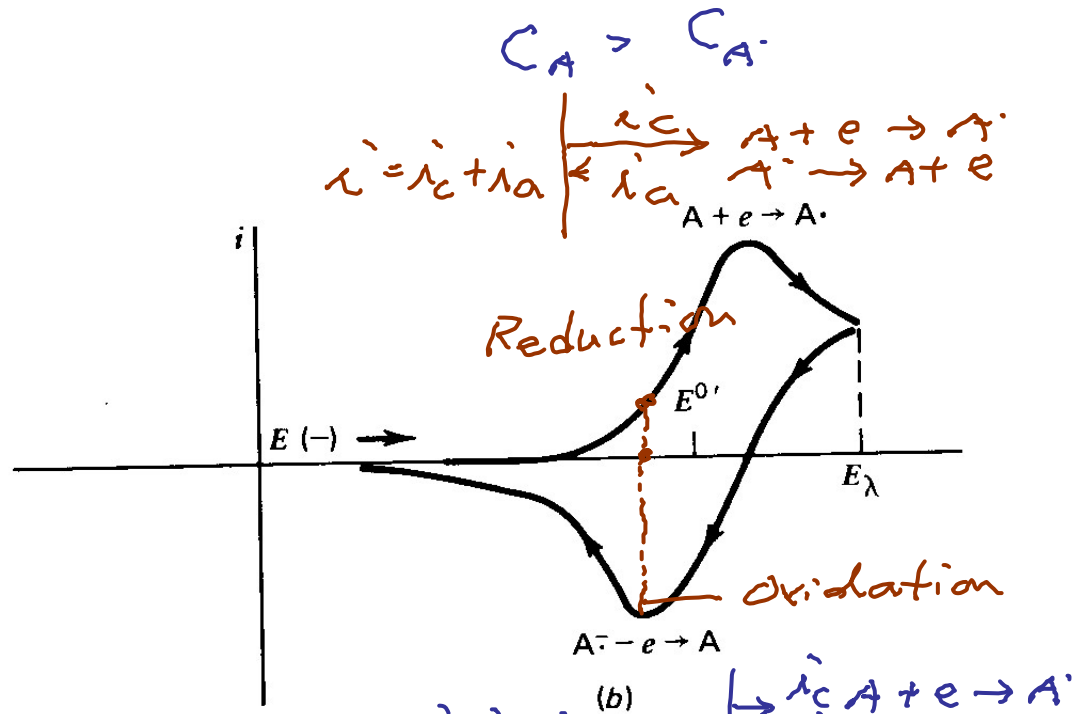
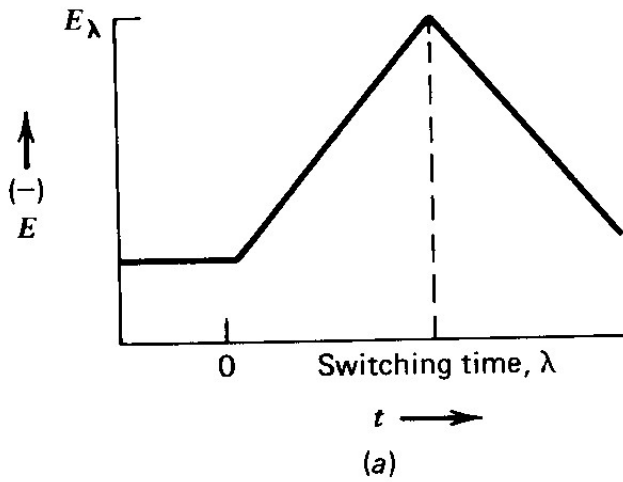
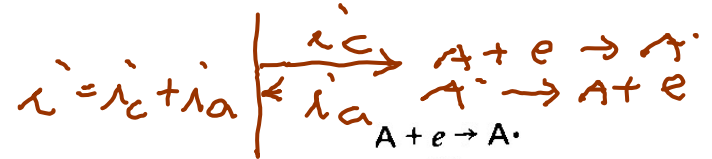


Figure 6.1.3

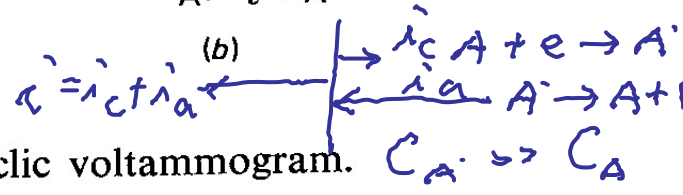
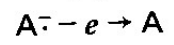
(a) Cyclic potential sweep. (b) Resulting cyclic voltammogram.

$$C_A > C_{A^{\cdot-}}$$



Reduction

Oxidation



6.2 Nernstian rxn

$$E = E_i - \underbrace{\nu t}_{\substack{\text{sweep rate} \\ \text{scan rate}}} \quad \text{V/s} \cdot \text{mV/s}$$

B.C.2

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{C_o(c.t)}{C_R(c.t)} &= \exp\left[\frac{nF}{RT} (E - E^{o'})\right] \\ &= \exp\left[\frac{nF}{RT} (E_i - \nu t - E^{o'})\right] \\ &= \Theta \exp\left(-\frac{nF}{RT} \nu t\right) = \Theta e^{-\sigma t} \\ &\quad \text{"} \exp\left(\frac{nF}{RT} (E_i - E^{o'})\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{nF}{RT} \nu$$

$$i = nFA C_o^* (\pi D_o \sigma)^{1/2} \underline{\underline{\chi(\sigma t)}}$$

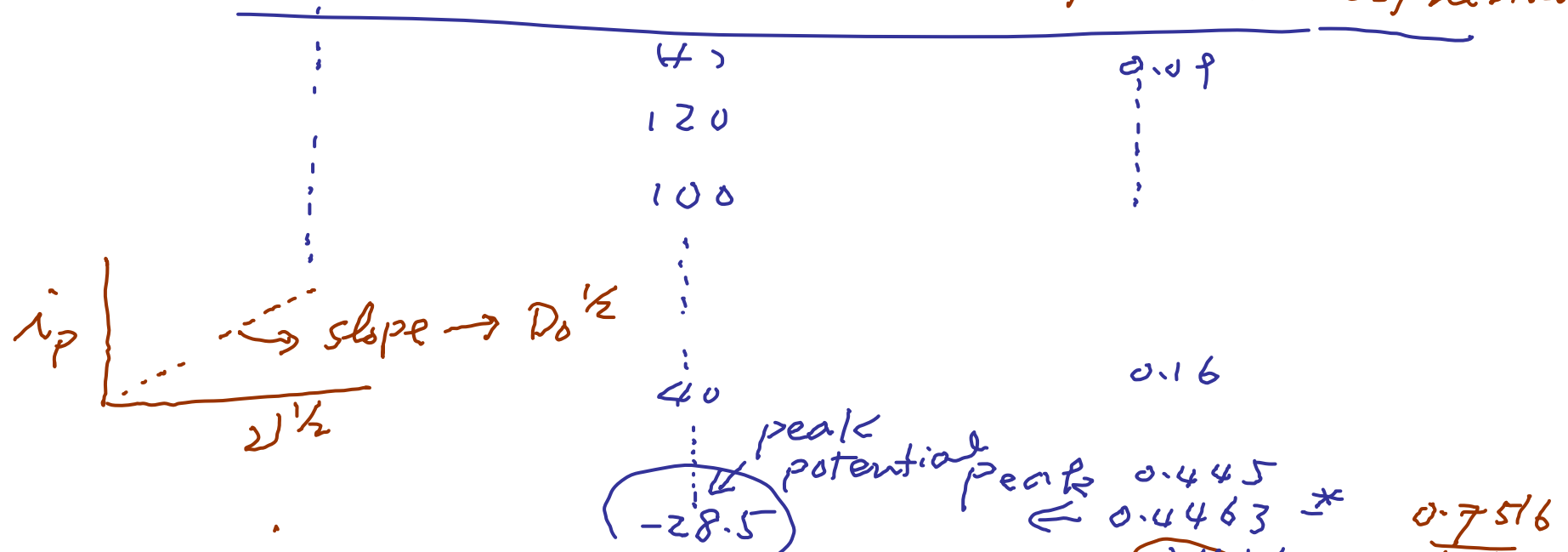
Table 6.2.1



$$i = nFA C_0^* (\pi D_0 \nu)^{1/2} \chi(\nu t)$$

$$i_p = nFA C_0^* (D_0 \nu)^{1/2} \cdot 0.4463 \quad 6.2.18$$

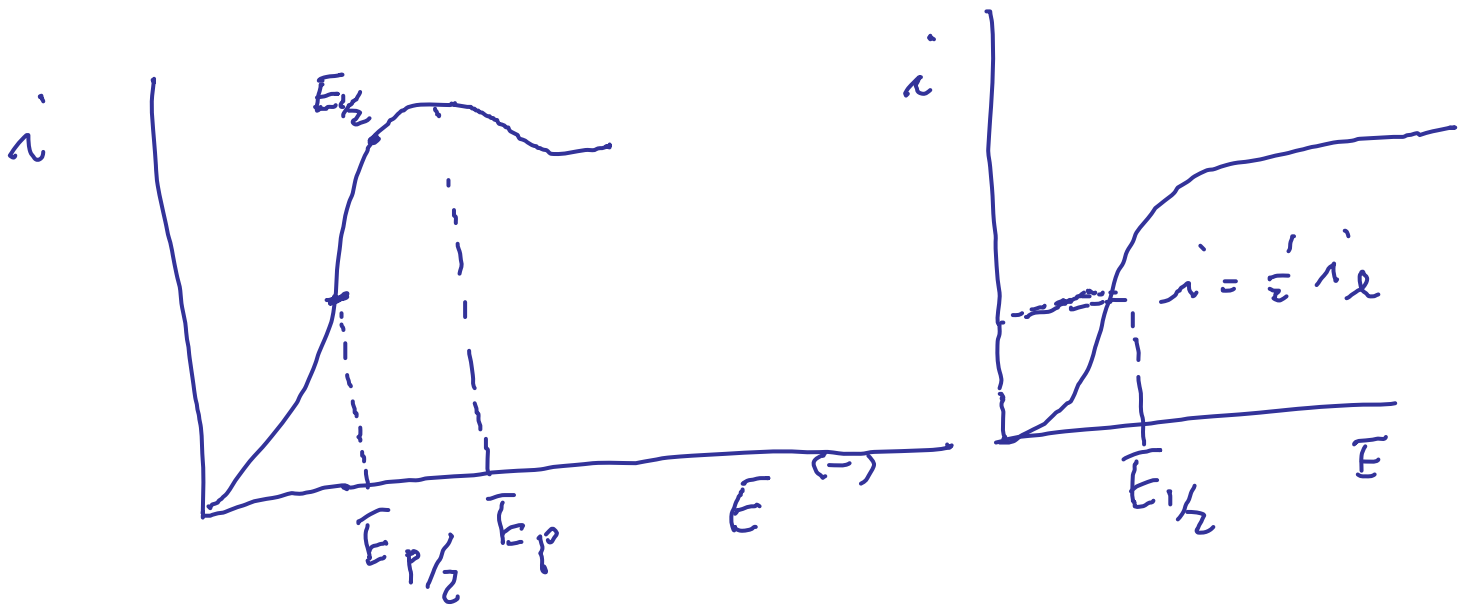
| $\frac{n(E - E_{1/2})}{RT/F}$ | $n(E - E_{1/2})$ mV at 25°C | $\pi^{1/2} \chi(\nu t)$ (planar) | $\phi(\nu t)$ (spherical) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|



$$i_p = 0.4463 \cdot \left(\frac{F^3}{RT}\right)^{1/2} n^{3/2} A D_0^{1/2} C_0^* \nu^{1/2}$$

$$E_p - E_{1/2} = \pm \frac{28.5}{n} \text{ mV at } 25^\circ\text{C} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \text{Cathodic scan} \\ + \text{Anodic scan} \end{array} \right.$$

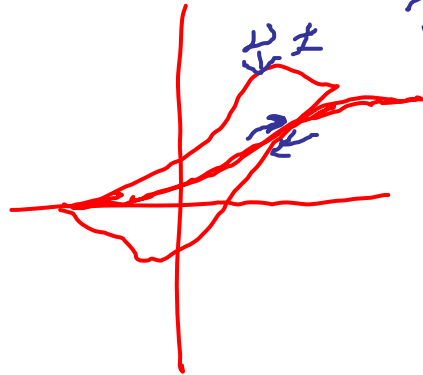
$$E_p - E_{1/2} = \frac{28.0}{n} \text{ mV at } 25^\circ\text{C}$$



$$|E_p - E_{p/2}| = \frac{56.5}{n} \text{ mV at } 25^\circ\text{C}$$

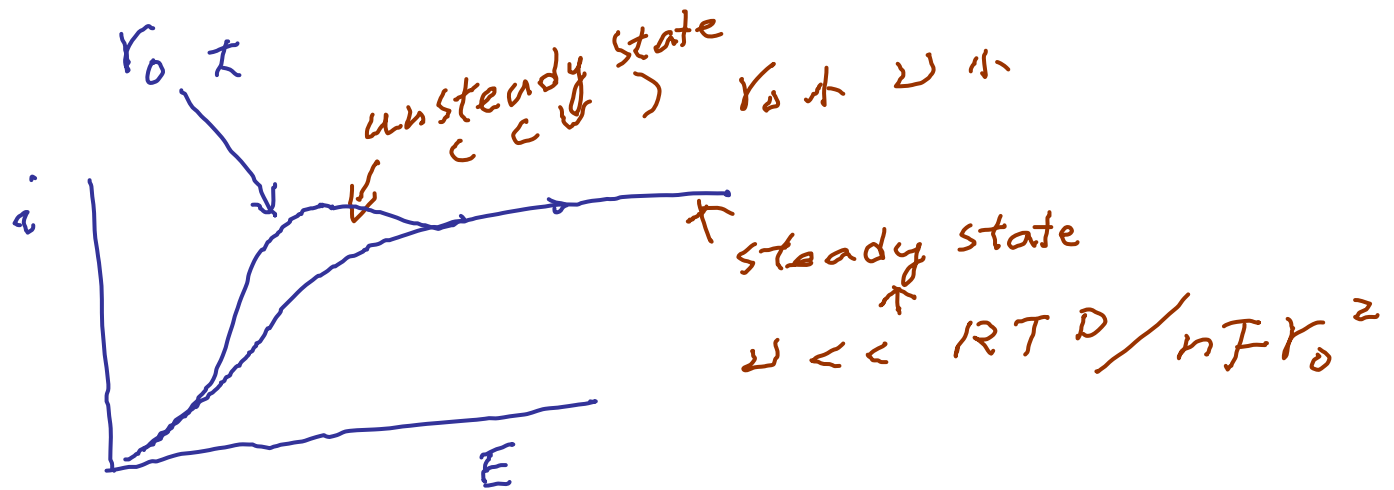
6.2.3 Spherical electrodes & UMEs

UMEs



$$i = i(\text{plane}) + \frac{nFA D_0 C_0^* \phi(\sigma t)}{r_0}$$

$$= nFA C_0^* (\pi D_0 \sigma)^{1/2} \chi(\sigma t) + \frac{\quad}{r_0}$$



6.2 Nernstian Systems

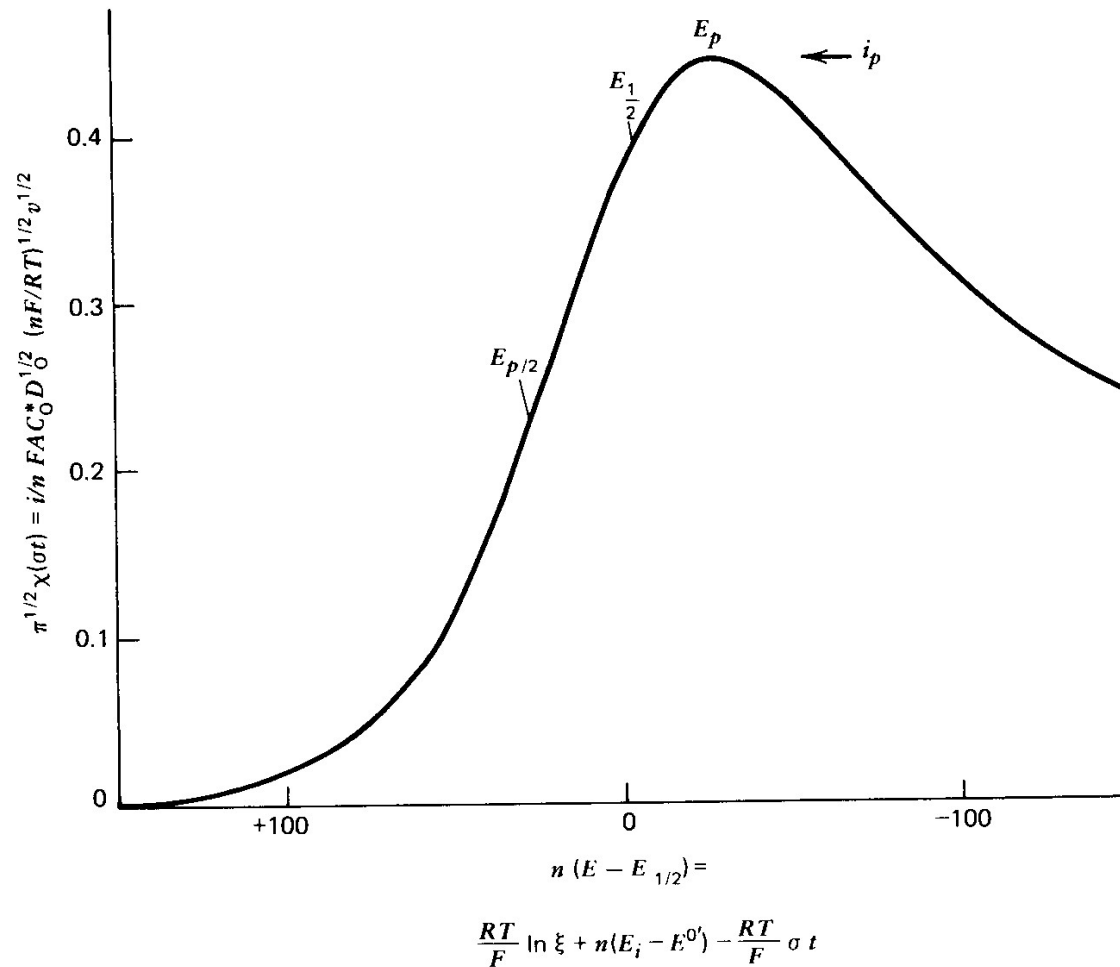


Figure 6.2.1

Linear potential sweep voltammogram in terms of dimensionless current function.

Table 6.2.1

Current Functions $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(\sigma t)$ for Reversible Charge Transfer (3)^a

| $(E - E_{1/2})n^b$ mV | $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(\sigma t)$ | $\phi(\sigma t)$ | $(E - E_{1/2})n^b$ mV | $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(\sigma t)$ | $\phi(\sigma t)$ |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 120 | 0.009 | 0.008 | -5 | 0.400 | 0.548 |
| 100 | 0.020 | 0.019 | -10 | 0.418 | 0.596 |
| 80 | 0.042 | 0.041 | -15 | 0.432 | 0.641 |
| 60 | 0.084 | 0.087 | -20 | 0.441 | 0.685 |
| 50 | 0.117 | 0.124 | -25 | 0.445 | 0.725 |
| 45 | 0.138 | 0.146 | -28.50 | 0.4463 | 0.7516 |
| 40 | 0.160 | 0.173 | -30 | 0.446 | 0.763 |
| 35 | 0.185 | 0.208 | -35 | 0.443 | 0.796 |
| 30 | 0.211 | 0.236 | -40 | 0.438 | 0.826 |
| 25 | 0.240 | 0.273 | -50 | 0.421 | 0.875 |
| 20 | 0.269 | 0.314 | -60 | 0.399 | 0.912 |
| 15 | 0.298 | 0.357 | -80 | 0.353 | 0.957 |
| 10 | 0.328 | 0.403 | -100 | 0.312 | 0.980 |
| 5 | 0.355 | 0.451 | -120 | 0.280 | 0.991 |
| 0 | 0.380 | 0.499 | -150 | 0.245 | 0.997 |

^a To calculate the current:

1. $i = i(\text{plane}) + i(\text{spherical correction})$.
2. $i = nFA\sqrt{\sigma D_0}C_0^*\sqrt{\pi}\chi(\sigma t) + nFAD_0C_0^*(1/r_0)\phi(\sigma t)$.
3. $i = 602 n^{3/2}A\sqrt{D_0v}C_0^*[\sqrt{\pi}\chi(\sigma t) + 0.160(\sqrt{D_0}/r_0\sqrt{nv})\phi(\sigma t)]$ amperes at 25°. Units for step 3 are: A , cm²; D_0 , cm²/sec; v , V/sec; C_0^* , moles/liter; r_0 , cm.

^b $E_{1/2} = E^{0'} + (RT/nF) \ln(D_R/D_O)^{1/2}$

For reversible redox couples

$$1. i_p = 0.4463nFAC_O^*(nF/RT)^{1/2}v^{1/2}D_O^{1/2}$$
$$= 2.69 \times 10^5 n^{3/2} A D_O^{1/2} v^{1/2} C_O^*$$

$$2. E_p - E_{p/2} = 2.2 (RT/nF) = 56.6/n \text{ mV at } 25^\circ\text{C}$$

$$3. E_p = E_{O/R}^{\circ'} - 0.0285/n \text{ V (independent of } v)$$

$$4. i_p = i_{p'} - i_{\text{background}}; i_{p'} : \text{measured peak current}$$

Double-layer Capacitance

$$C_d = \frac{Q}{V}; Q = C_d \cdot V$$

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = C_d \frac{dV}{dt}$$

$$|i_c| = A \cdot C_d \cdot \nu = -2(d)$$

$$\frac{N |i_c|}{S i_p} = \frac{C_d \nu^{1/2} \cdot 10^{-5}}{2.69 n^{3/2} D_0^{1/2} C_0^*}$$

$$\frac{S}{N} \propto \frac{1}{\nu^{1/2}} \cdot C_0^*$$

$$i_p \propto \nu^{1/2}$$

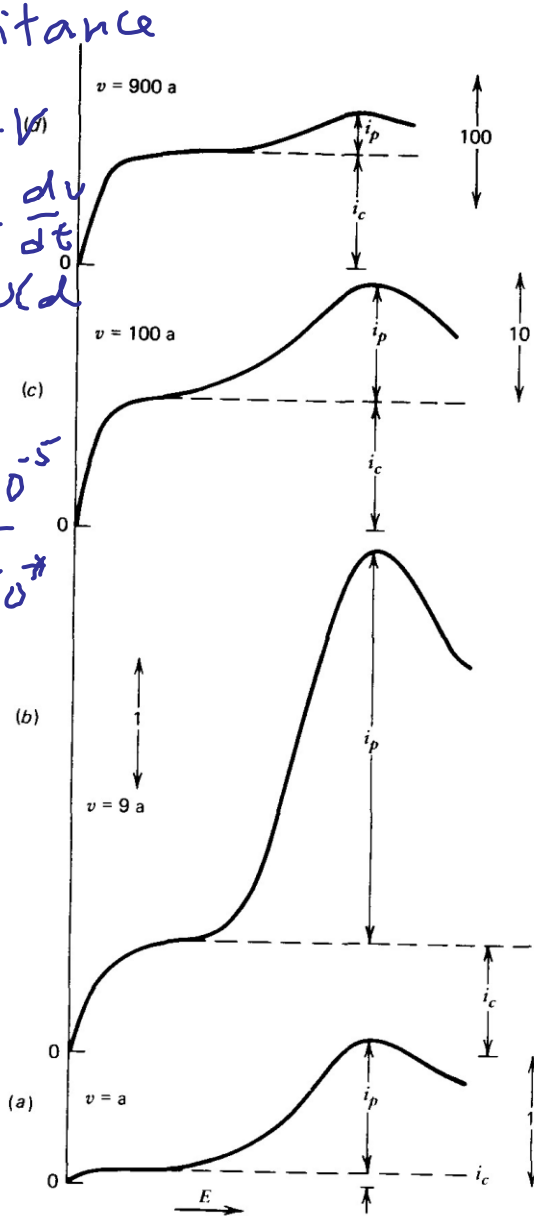


Figure 6.2.2

Effect of double-layer charging at different sweep rates on linear potential sweep voltammogram. Curves are plotted with the assumption that C_d is independent of E . The magnitude of the charging current, i_c , and the faradaic peak current, i_p , is shown. Note that the current scale in (c) is $10 \times$ and in (d) is $100 \times$ that in (a) and (b).

$$E = E_i - \nu t$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\nu$$

• IR drop effect
 $i R_u$

$$E = E_{\text{applied}} + i R_u$$

$$-580 \quad -600 \quad +100$$

\Rightarrow IR compensation

• Time const.

$$\underline{R_u C_d} \Rightarrow 1 \text{ ms}$$

G.3 Totally irreversible rxns.

B.C.2 $\textcircled{1} \text{FA} = D_0 \left(\frac{\partial C_0(x,t)}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{x=0} = k_{ef} C_0(0,t)$
 \uparrow
 $f(E)$

$$k_{ef} = k_{f,i} e^{bt} = k_{f,i} e^{\alpha f v t}$$

$$k_{f,i} = k^0 \exp\left[-\alpha f (E_i - E^0)\right]$$

$$i = \textcircled{1} \text{FA} C_0^* (\pi D_0 b)^{1/2} \underline{\chi(bt)}$$

$$i_p = \frac{\alpha^{1/2} A C_0^* D_0^{1/2} v^{1/2}}{\pi^{1/2} X} (\phi(bt))_{\max} \quad 0.4958$$

$E_p = f(v)$
 $\Rightarrow i_p$

$\Rightarrow |E_p - E_{p/2}| = 47.7 \text{ mV at } 25^\circ \text{C}$
 $\alpha \leftarrow \text{Kinetic parameters}$

Table 6.3.1
Current Functions $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(bt)$ for Irreversible Charge Transfer
(3)^{a,b}



Dimensionless potential

| Potential, mV | $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(bt)$ | $\phi(bt)$ | Potential, mV | $\sqrt{\pi}\chi(bt)$ | $\phi(bt)$ |
|---------------|----------------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|------------|
| 160 | 0.003 | | 15 | 0.437 | 0.323 |
| 140 | 0.008 | | 10 | 0.462 | 0.396 |
| 120 | 0.016 | | 5 | 0.480 | 0.482 |
| 110 | 0.024 | | 0 | 0.492 | 0.600 |
| 100 | 0.035 | | -5 | 0.496 | 0.685 |
| 90 | 0.050 | | -5.34 | 0.4958 | 0.694 |
| 80 | 0.073 | 0.004 | -10 | 0.493 | 0.755 |
| 70 | 0.104 | 0.010 | -15 | 0.485 | 0.823 |
| 60 | 0.145 | 0.021 | -20 | 0.472 | 0.895 |
| 50 | 0.199 | 0.042 | -25 | 0.457 | 0.952 |
| 40 | 0.264 | 0.083 | -30 | 0.441 | 0.992 |
| 35 | 0.300 | 0.115 | -35 | 0.423 | 1.00 |
| 30 | 0.337 | 0.154 | -40 | 0.406 | |
| 25 | 0.372 | 0.199 | -50 | 0.374 | |
| 20 | 0.406 | 0.253 | -70 | 0.323 | |

$$(\alpha F/kT)(E - E^{o'}) + \ln[(\pi D_0 b)^{1/2}/k^0] \propto f^2$$

$E_p = f^2(\omega)$
reversible

$E_p = E_{1/2}$
 $\uparrow \neq f(\omega)$
 (steady state)
 $E_p \neq f(\omega)$

^a The potential scale is $(E - E^{o'})\alpha n_a + (RT/F) \ln \sqrt{\pi D_0 b}/k^0$.

^b To calculate the current:

- $i = i(\text{plane}) + i(\text{spherical correction})$.
- $i = nFA\sqrt{bD_0}C_0^*\sqrt{\pi}\chi(bt) + nFAD_0C_0^*(1/r_0)\phi(bt)$.
- $i = 602 n(\alpha n_a)^{1/2} A \sqrt{D_0 v} C_0^* [\sqrt{\pi}\chi(bt)] + 0.160(\sqrt{D_0}/r_0 \sqrt{\alpha n_a v})\phi(bt)$ (at 25°).

Units for step 3 are the same as in Table 6.2.1.

6.4 Quasi-reversible Systems

(general solution)

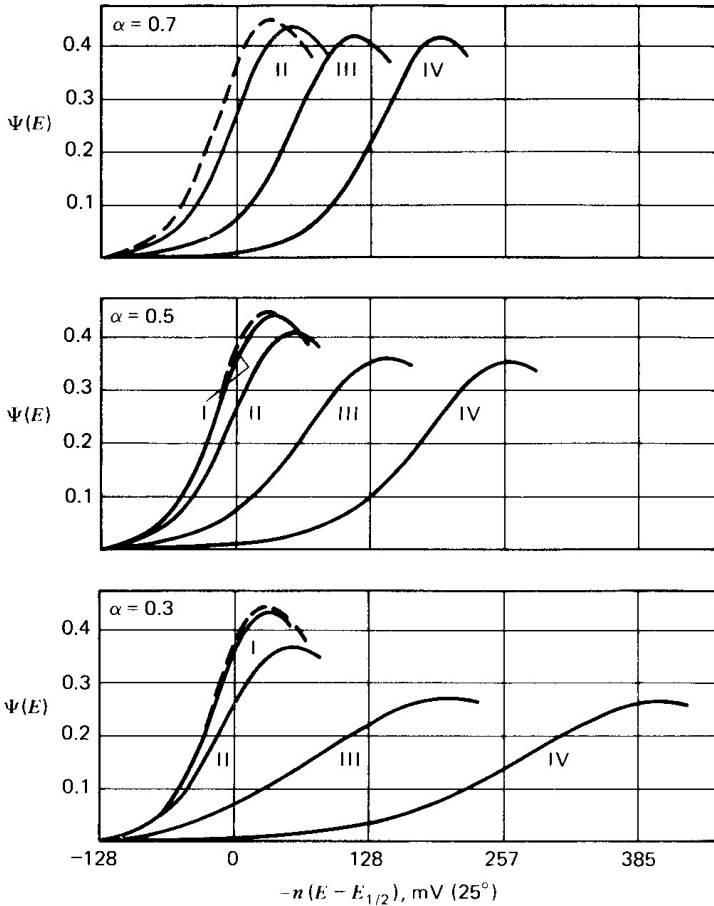


Figure 6.4.1

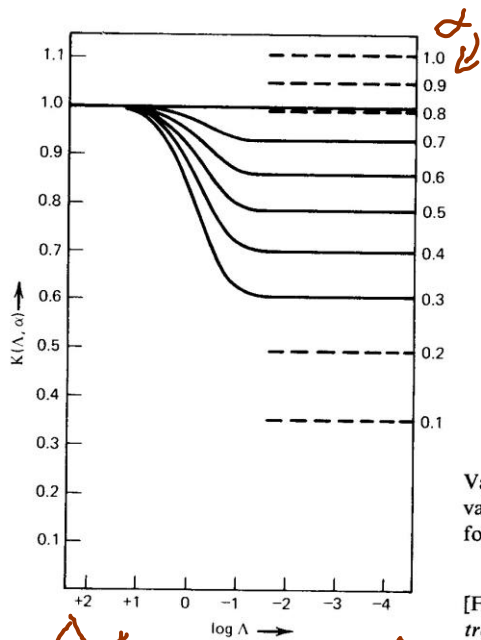
Variation of quasi-reversible current function, $\Psi(E)$, for different values of α (0.7, 0.5, 0.3, as indicated) and the following values of Λ : I, $\Lambda = 10$; II, $\Lambda = 1$; III, $\Lambda = 0.1$; IV, $\Lambda = 10^{-2}$. Dashed curve is for a reversible reaction.

$$\Psi(E) = \frac{i}{nFA C_0^* D_0^{1/2} (nF/RT)^{1/2} v^{1/2}}$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{k^0}{D^{1/2} (nF/RT)^{1/2} v^{1/2}} \quad (\text{for } D_0 = D_R = D)$$

[From H. Matsuda and Y. Ayabe, *Z. Elektrochem.*, **59**, 494 (1955), with permission.]

B.C.2
 $D_0 \left(\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{x=0} = k^0 e^{-\alpha f(E-E^0)}$
 $[C_0(t) - C_R(t) \cdot e^{f(E-E^0)}]$
 $\Lambda = \frac{k^0}{(D_0^{1-\alpha} D_R^\alpha f v)^{1/2}} \begin{cases} \Lambda \rightarrow \infty \\ \rightarrow \text{reversible} \\ \Lambda \rightarrow 0 \\ \rightarrow \text{irreversible} \end{cases}$
 if $D_0 = D_R$
 $\Lambda = \frac{k^0}{(D f v)^{1/2}}$
 $i = nFA D_0^{1/2} C_0^* f v^{1/2} \Psi(E)$
 $i_p = i_p(R_{qv}) \cdot K(\Lambda, \alpha)$



$$i_p = i_p(\text{rev}) \cdot K(\Lambda, \alpha)$$

Figure 6.4.2

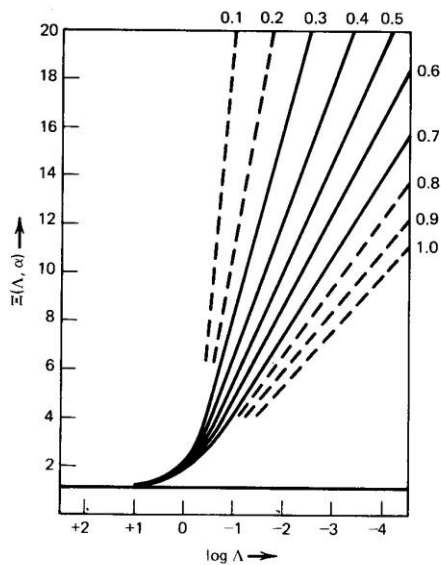
Variation of $K(\Lambda, \alpha)$ with Λ for different values of α . Dashed lines show functions for totally irreversible reaction.

$$K(\Lambda, \alpha) = i_p/i_p(\text{rev})$$

[From H. Matsuda and Y. Ayabe, *Z. Electrochem.*, **59**, 494 (1955), with permission.]

$\Lambda \propto \frac{v}{D}$

$\Lambda \propto \frac{v}{D}$



$$E_p - E_p = \Delta(\Lambda, \alpha) \left(\frac{RT}{nF} \right)$$

$$= 26 \Delta(\Lambda, \alpha) \text{ at } 25^\circ\text{C}$$

$$E_p - E_{1/2} = -\frac{RT}{nF} \Xi(\Lambda, \alpha)$$

Figure 6.4.3

Variation of $\Xi(\Lambda, \alpha)$ with Λ for different values of α . Dashed lines show functions for totally irreversible reaction.

$$\Xi(\Lambda, \alpha) = -(E_p - E_{1/2}) \frac{nF}{RT}$$

[From H. Matsuda and Y. Ayabe, *Z. Electrochem.*, **59**, 494 (1955), with permission.]

$\Lambda \geq 15$ ($k^0 \geq 0.3 \text{ v}^{1/2}$) reversible

$\Lambda \leq 10$ ($k^0 \leq 2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ v}^{1/2}$) Totally irreversible
 cm/s

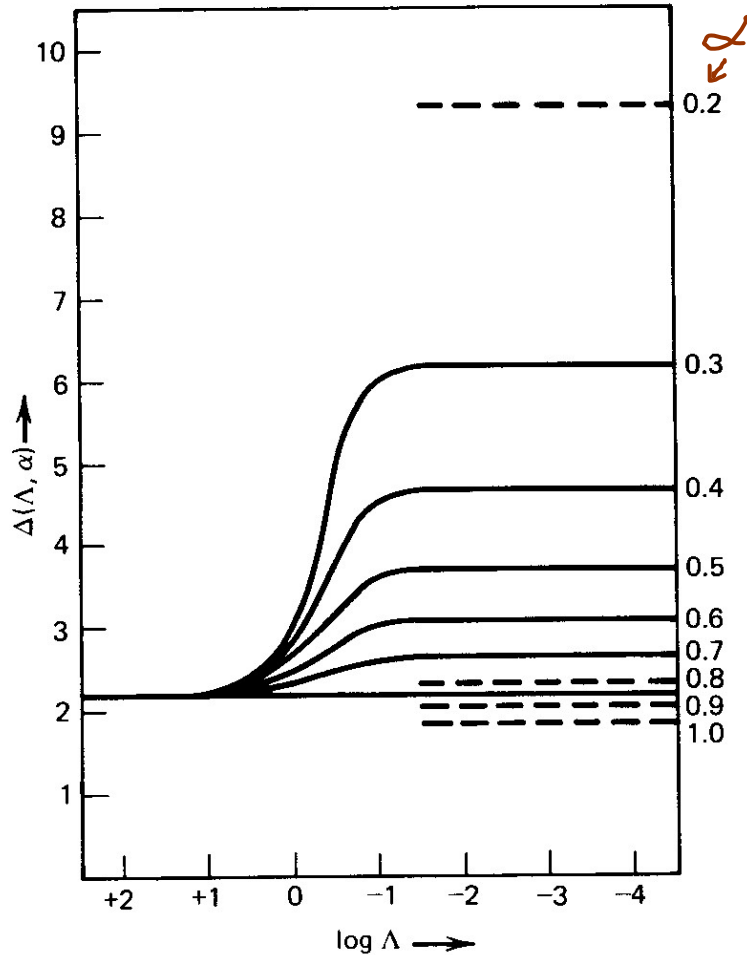


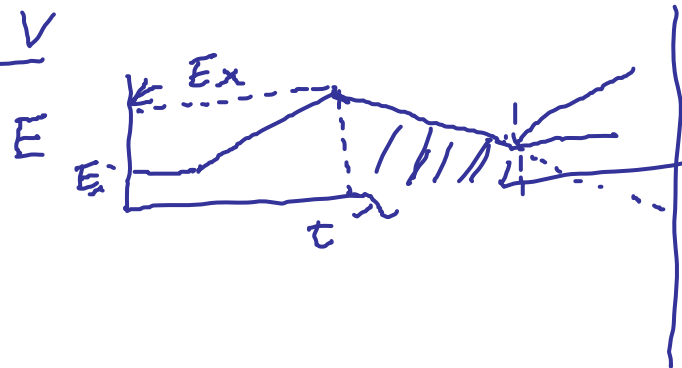
Figure 6.4.4

Variation of $\Delta(\Lambda, \alpha)$ with Λ and α . Dashed lines show values for totally irreversible reactions.

$$\Delta(\Lambda, \alpha) = (E_{p/2} - E_p) \frac{nF}{RT}$$

[From H. Matsuda and Y. Ayabe, *Z. Elektrochem.*, **59**, 494 (1955), with permission.]

6.5 CV



$$0 \leq t \leq \lambda$$

$$t \geq \lambda$$

$$E = E_{\lambda} - v t$$

$$E = (E_{\lambda} - v \lambda) + v(t - \lambda)$$

$$E_{\lambda}$$

$$= E_{\lambda} - 2v\lambda + v t$$

$$s(t) = e^{\sigma t - 2\sigma \lambda}$$

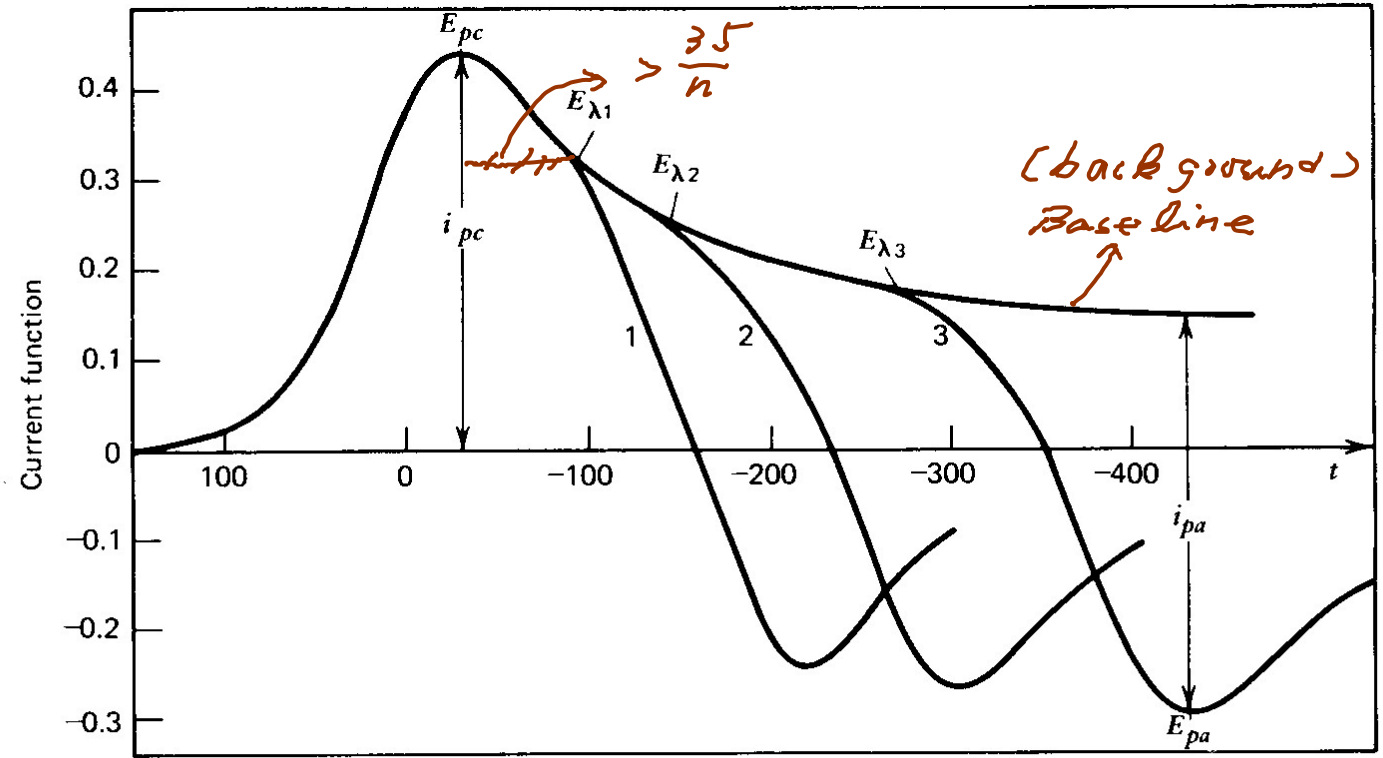


Figure 6.5.1

Cyclic voltammograms for reversal at different E_{λ} values with presentations as they appear on a strip-chart recorder ($i-t$ curves).

$$\frac{\dot{i}_{pa}}{i_{pc}} = \frac{(\dot{i}_{pa})_0}{i_{pc}} + \frac{0.485(\dot{i}_{sp})_0}{i_{pc}} + 0.086$$

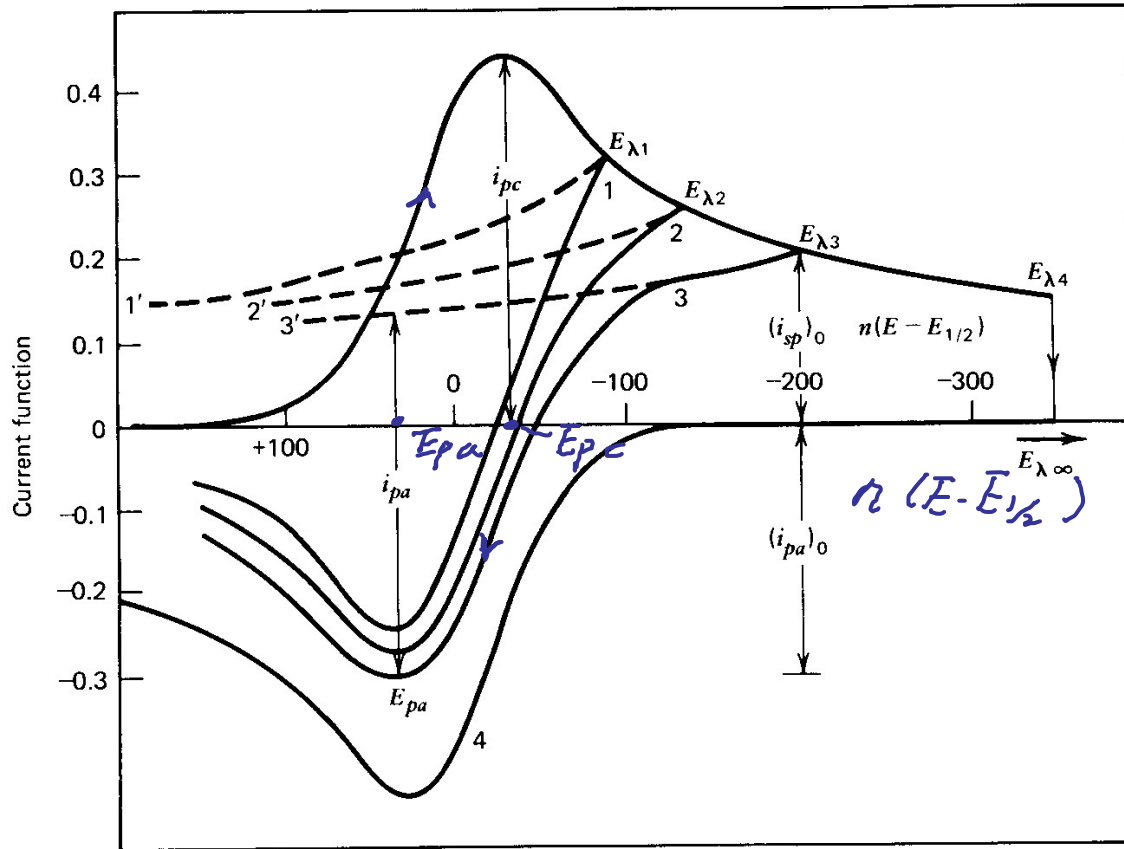


Figure 6.5.2

Cyclic voltammograms under the same conditions as in Figure 6.5.1 with presentations as they appear on X-Y recorder (i - E curves). E_λ of (1) $E_{1/2} - 90/n$; (2) $E_{1/2} - 130/n$; (3) $E_{1/2} - 200/n$ mV; (4) for potential held at $E_{\lambda 4}$ until the cathodic current decays to zero. [This curve results from reflection of the cathodic i - E curve through the E axis and then through the $n(E - E_{1/2}) = 0$ line. The curves in (1), (2), and (3) result by addition of this curve to the decaying current of the cathodic i - E curve.]

Table 6.5.1
Separation of Peak Potentials
for a Nernstian Wave as a
Function of E_λ ^a

| $n(E_{pc} - E_\lambda)$ (mV) | $n(E_{pa} - E_{pc})$ (mV) |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 71.5 | 60.5 |
| 121.5 | 59.2 |
| 171.5 | 58.3 |
| 271.5 | 57.8 |
| ∞ | 57.0 |

^a Adapted from Reference 3.

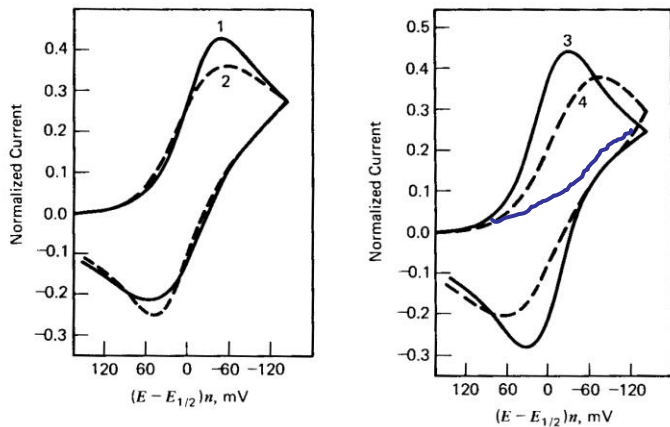


Figure 6.5.3

Theoretical cyclic voltammograms showing effect of ψ and α on curve shape. Curve 1: — $\psi = 0.5$, $\alpha = 0.7$. Curve 2: ···· $\psi = 0.5$, $\alpha = 0.3$. Curve 3: — $\psi = 7.0$, $\alpha = 0.5$. Curve 4: ···· $\psi = 0.25$, $\alpha = 0.5$. [Reprinted with permission from R. S. Nicholson, *Anal. Chem.*, 37, 1351 (1965). Copyright 1965, American Chemical Society.]

Table 6.5.2
Variation of Peak Potential Separation (ΔE_p)
with Kinetic Parameter
 ψ (9)^a

| ψ | $n(E_{pa} - E_{pc})^b$ mV |
|--------|------------------------------|
| 20 | 61 |
| 7 | 63 |
| 6 | 64 |
| 5 | 65 |
| 4 | 66 |
| 3 | 68 |
| 2 | 72 |
| 1 | 84 |
| 0.75 | 92 |
| 0.50 | 105 |
| 0.35 | 121 |
| 0.25 | 141 |
| 0.10 | 212 |

(reversible))

(irreversible))

^a For $E_\lambda = E_p - 112.5/n$ and $\alpha = 0.5$, ψ is defined in equation 6.5.5.

^b $T = 25^\circ\text{C}$.

6-6. Multiple components,
charge transfer rxns.

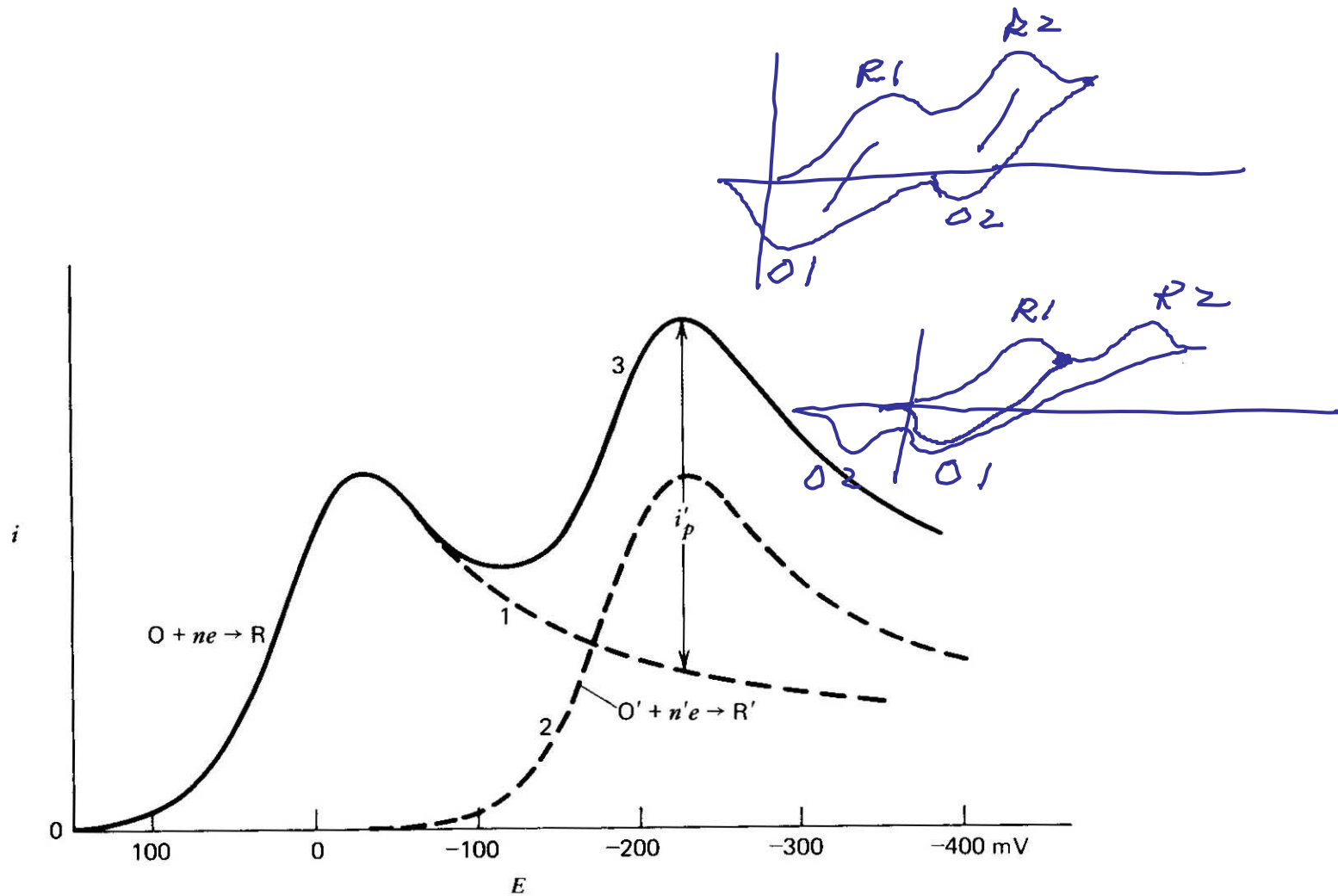


Figure 6.6.1

Voltammograms for solutions of (1) O alone; (2) O' alone and, (3) mixture of O and O',
with $n = n'$, $C_O^* = C_{O'}^*$, and $D_O = D_{O'}$.

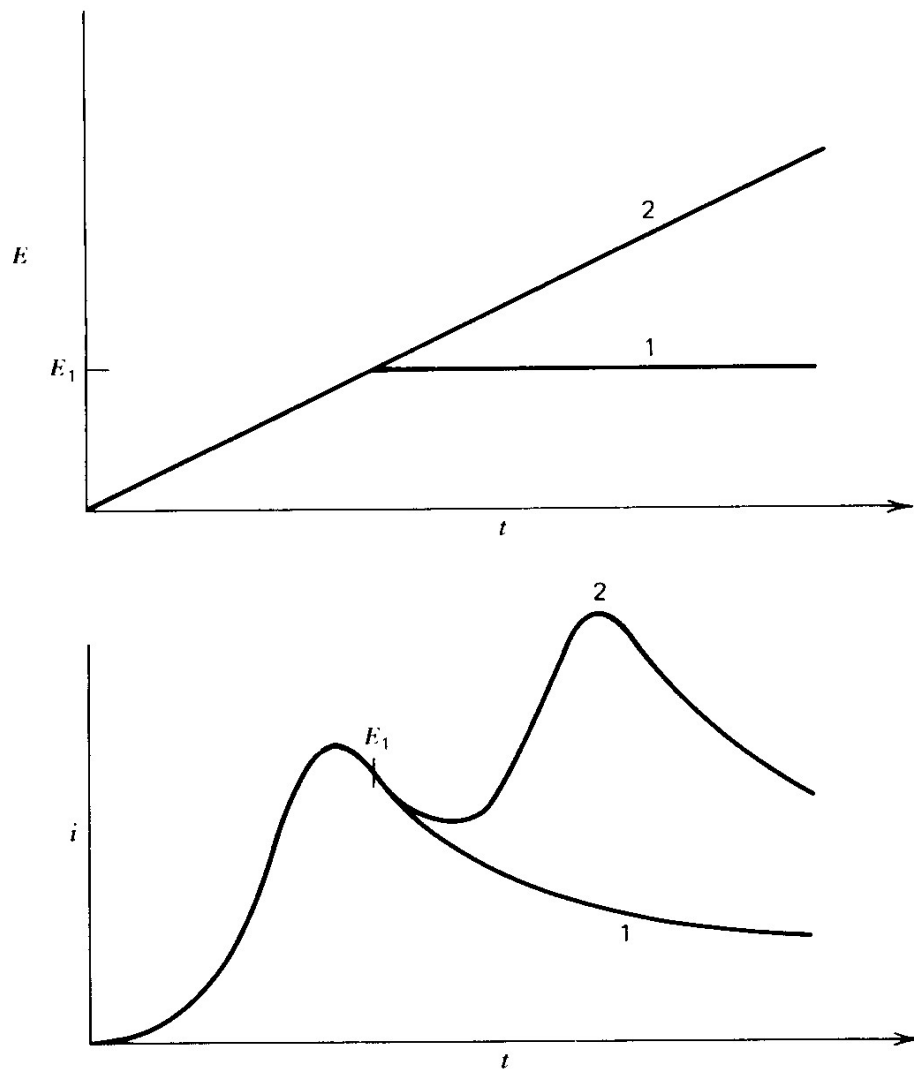


Figure 6.6.2

Method for obtaining baseline for measurement of i'_p of second wave. *Upper curves:* potential programs. *Lower curves:* resulting voltammograms with curve 1 potential stopped at E_1 , curve 2 potential scan continued. System as in Figure 6.6.1.

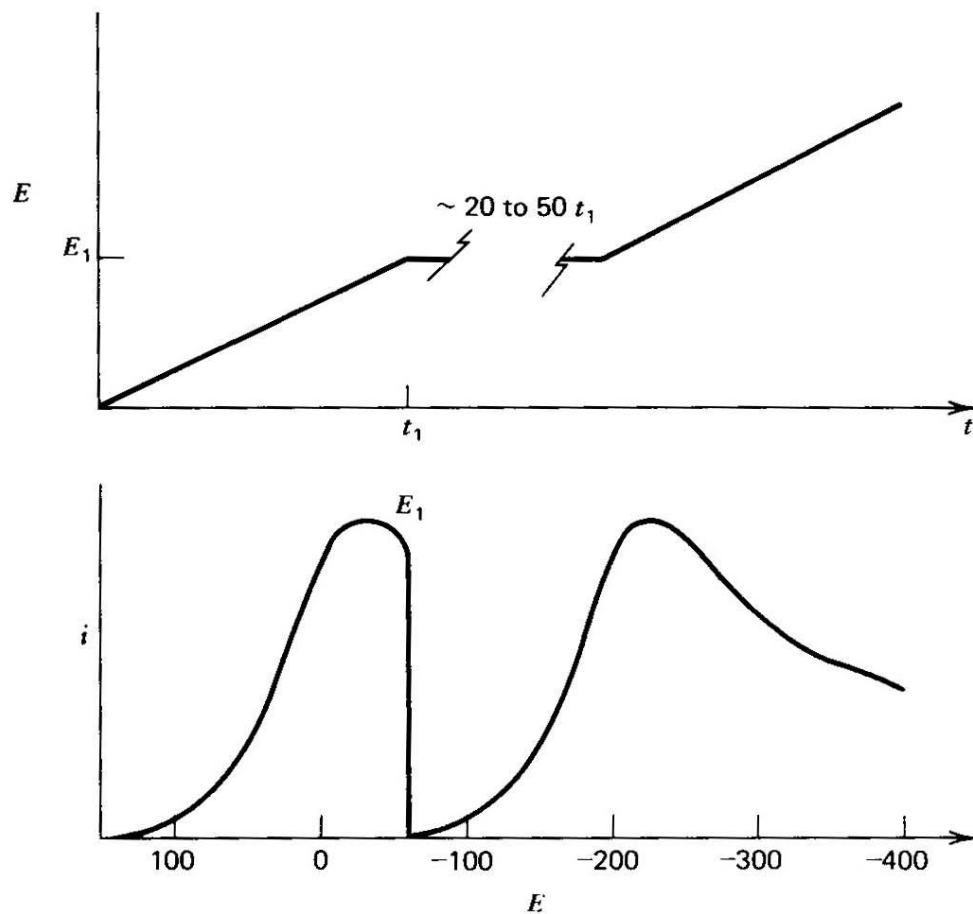


Figure 6.6.3.

Method of allowing current of first wave to decay before scanning second wave. *Upper curve*: potential program. *Lower curve*: resulting voltammogram. System as in Figure 6.6.1.

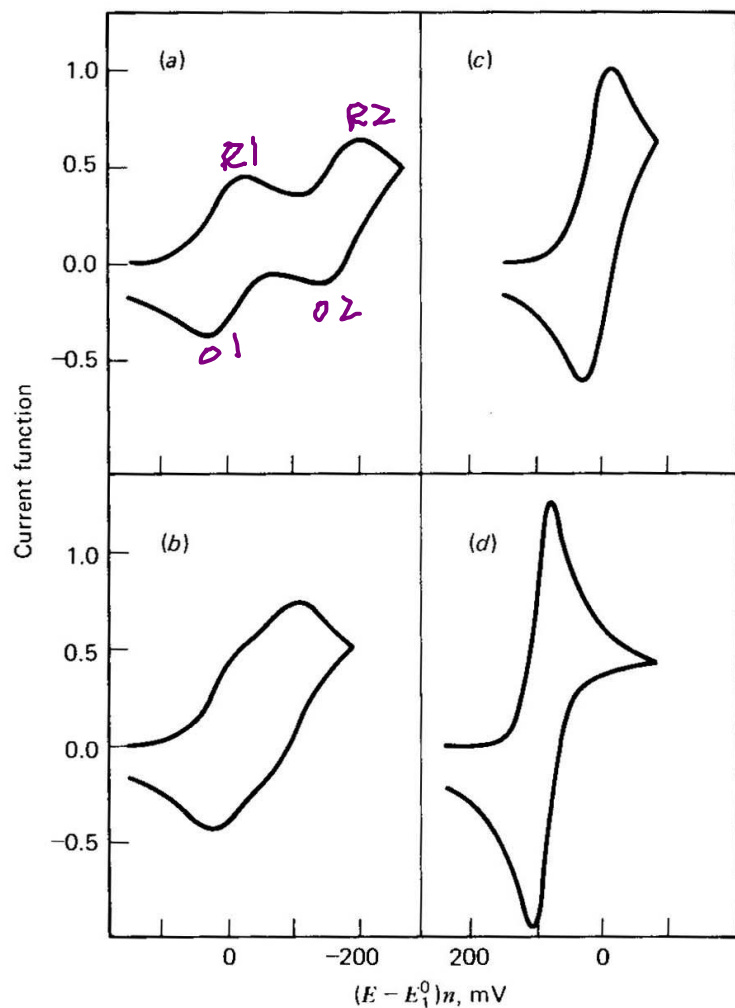
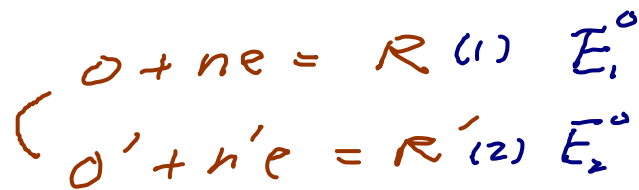


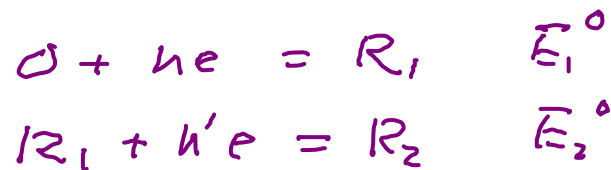
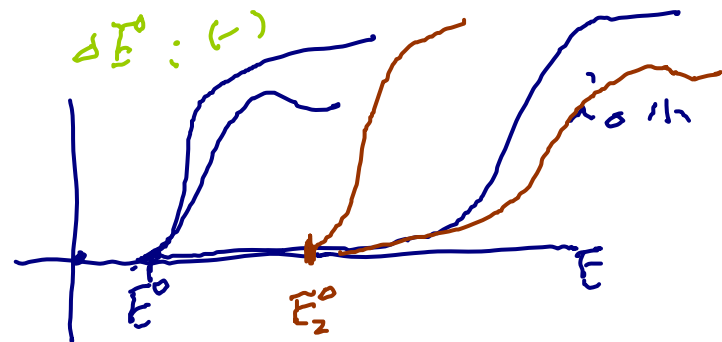
Figure 6.6.4

Cyclic voltammograms for a reversible two-step system. Current function is analogous to $\chi(z)$ defined in (6.2.16). $n_2/n_1 = 1.0$. (a) $\Delta E^0 = -180$ mV. (b) $\Delta E^0 = -90$ mV. (c) $\Delta E^0 = 0$ mV. (d) $\Delta E^0 = 180$ mV. [Reprinted with permission from D. S. Polcyn and I. Shain, *Anal. Chem.*, **38**, 370 (1966). Copyright 1966, American Chemical Society.]

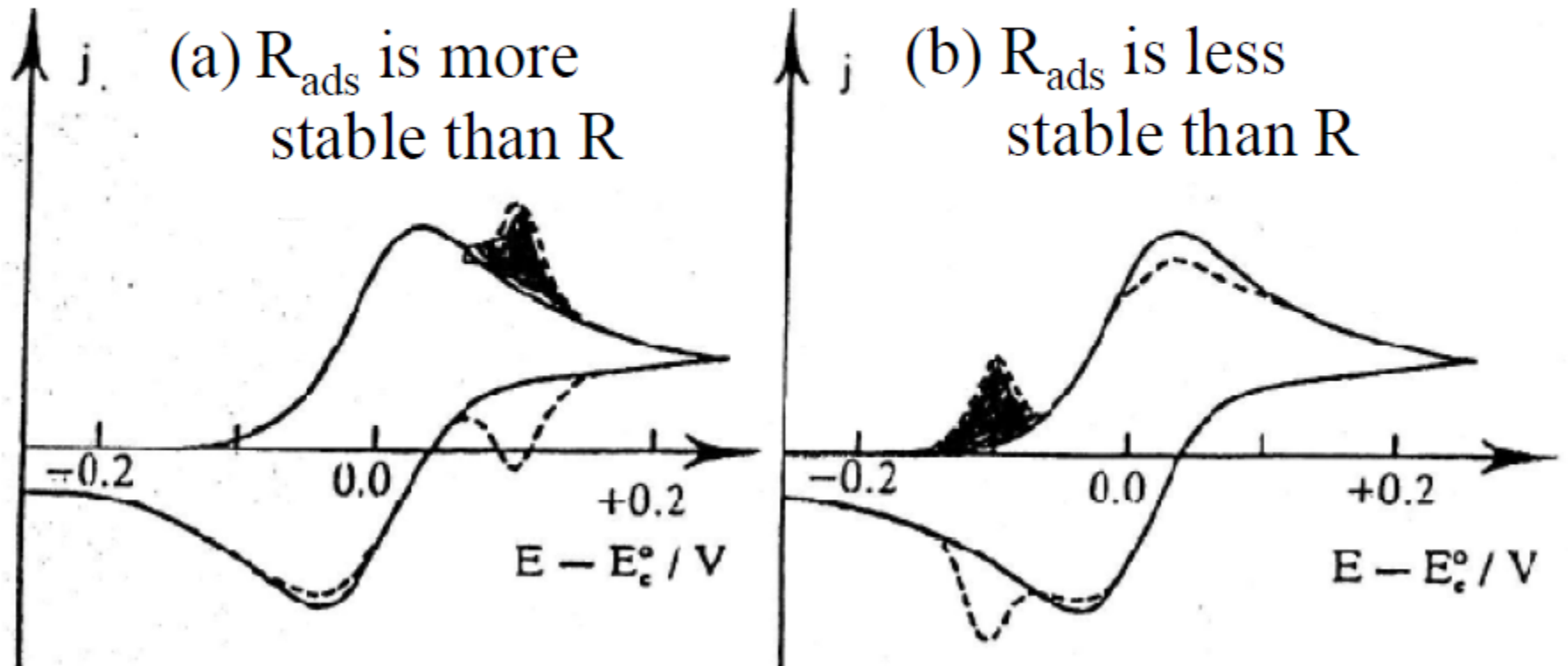


$$\Delta E^0 = E_2^0 - E_1^0$$

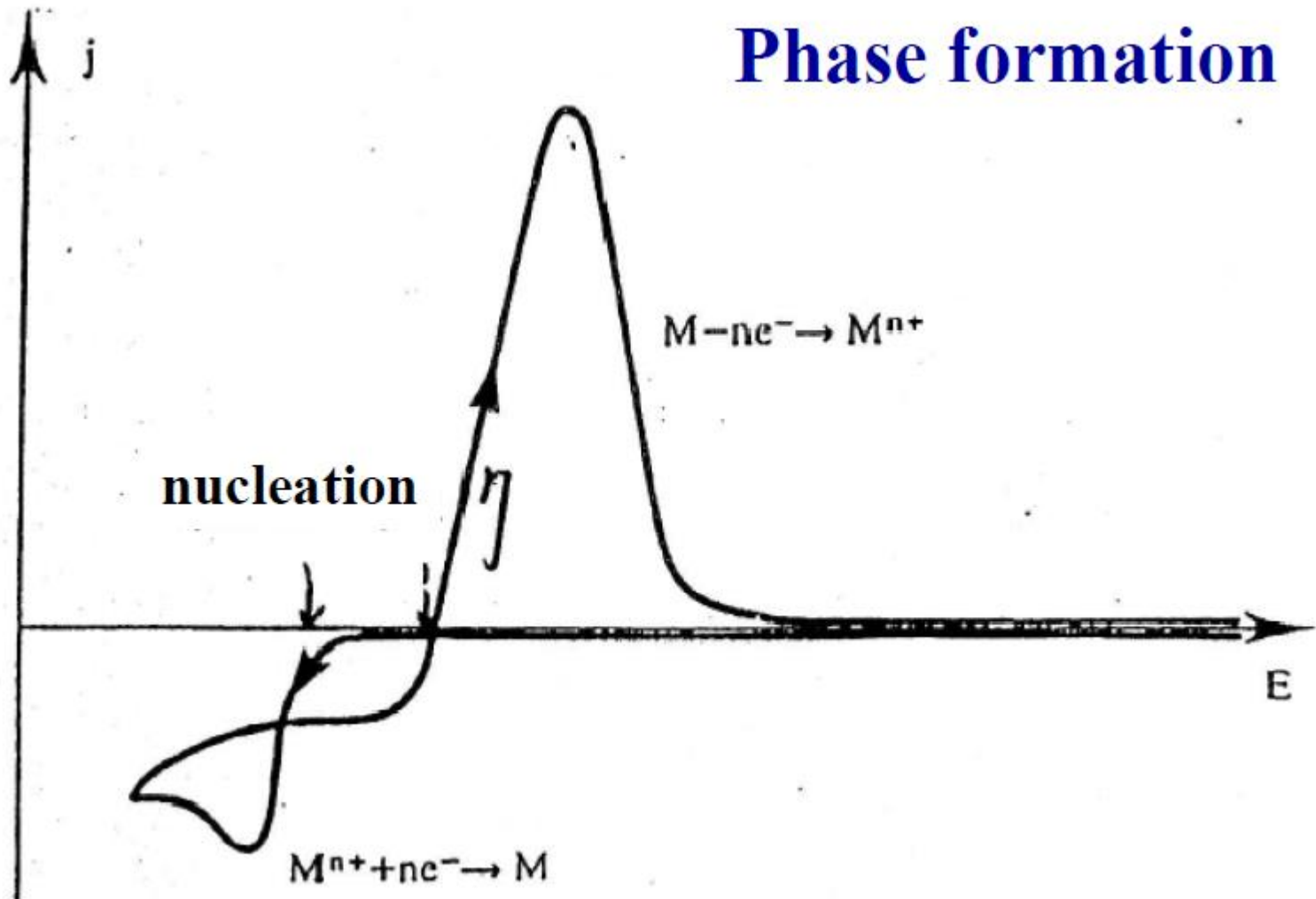
$$\Delta E^0 : (-)$$



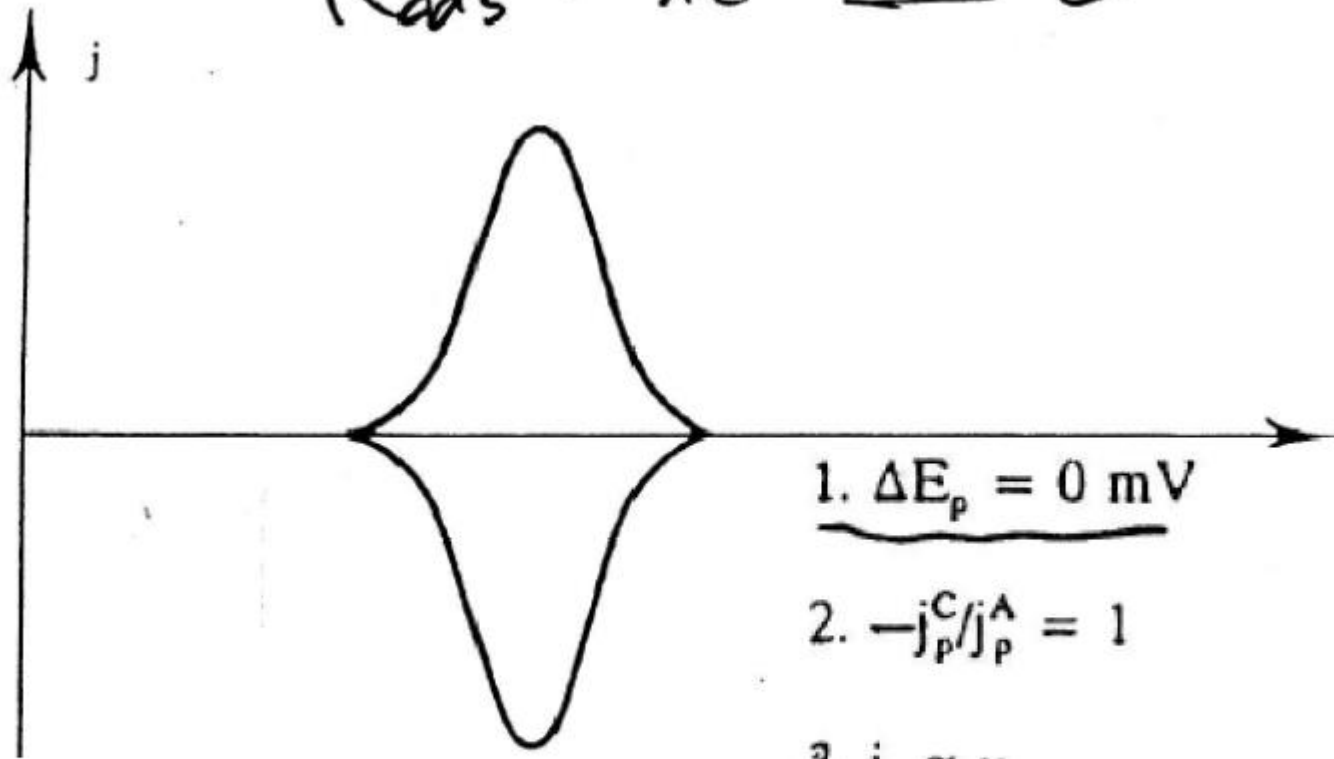
O adsorbed on electrode



Phase formation



$$R_{ads} - n e^{-} \rightleftharpoons 0$$



1. $\Delta E_p = 0 \text{ mV}$

2. $-j_p^C/j_p^A = 1$

3. $j_p \propto v$

4. E_p are independent of v

5. $q_A = q_C \leq q_{\text{monolayer}}$

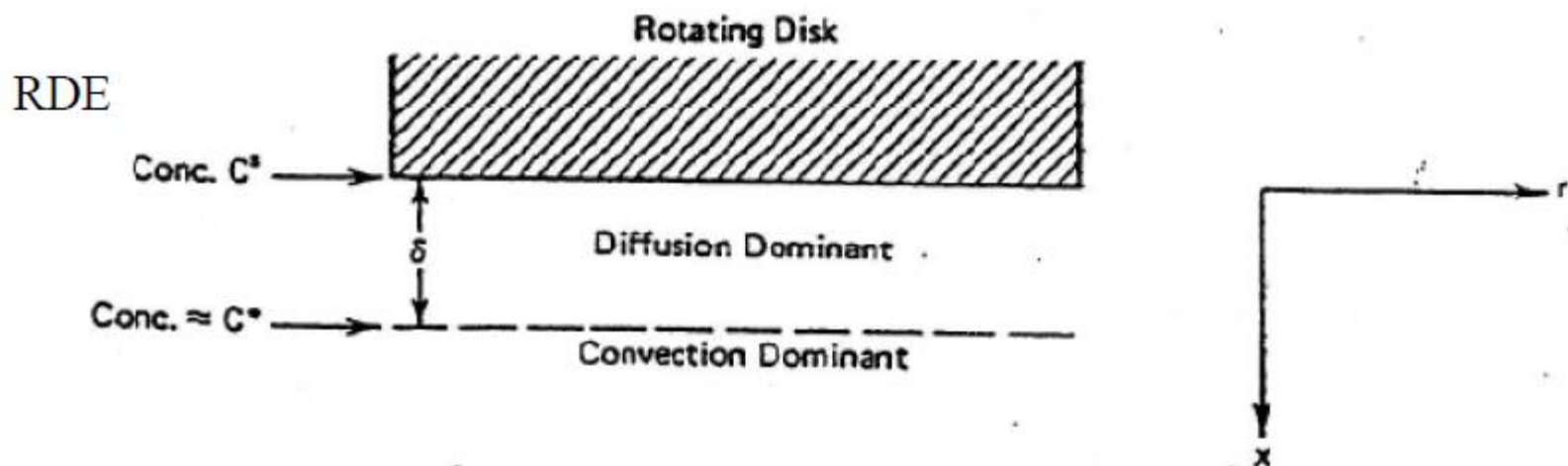
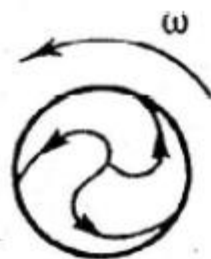
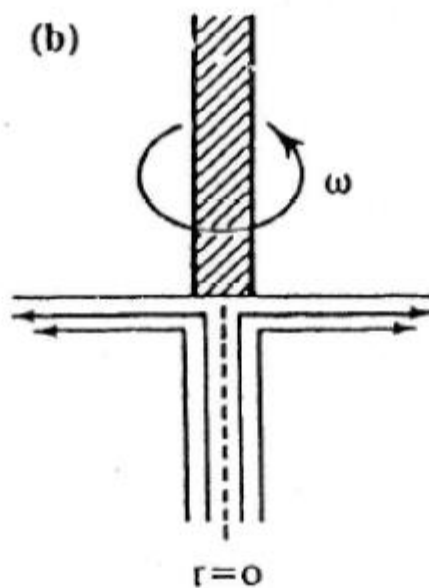


Figure 11-3. Model for convective diffusion.

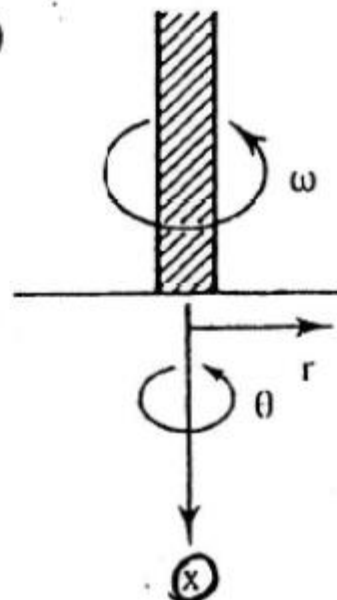
(a)



(b)



(c)



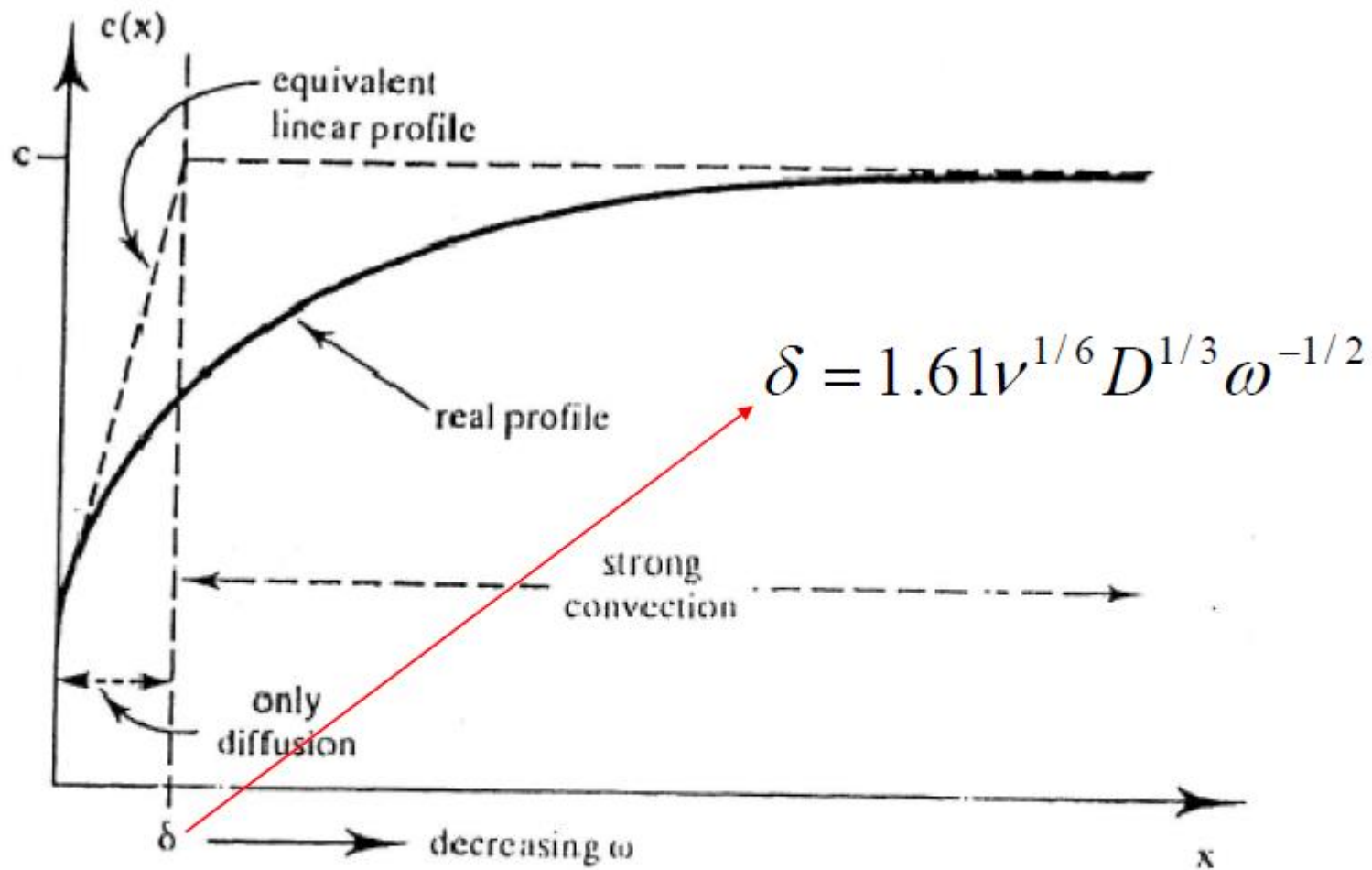


Figure 6.7 Concentration profile for the electroactive species using the concept of a Nernst boundary layer.

$$i_L = nFD \left(\frac{dC}{dx} \right)_{x=0} = nFD \frac{C}{\delta}$$

$$= 0.62nFD^{2/3} C \nu^{-1/6} \omega^{1/2}$$

C = solution concentration, mol/cm³

i_L = limiting current, A

ν = kinematic viscosity of the fluid, cm²/s

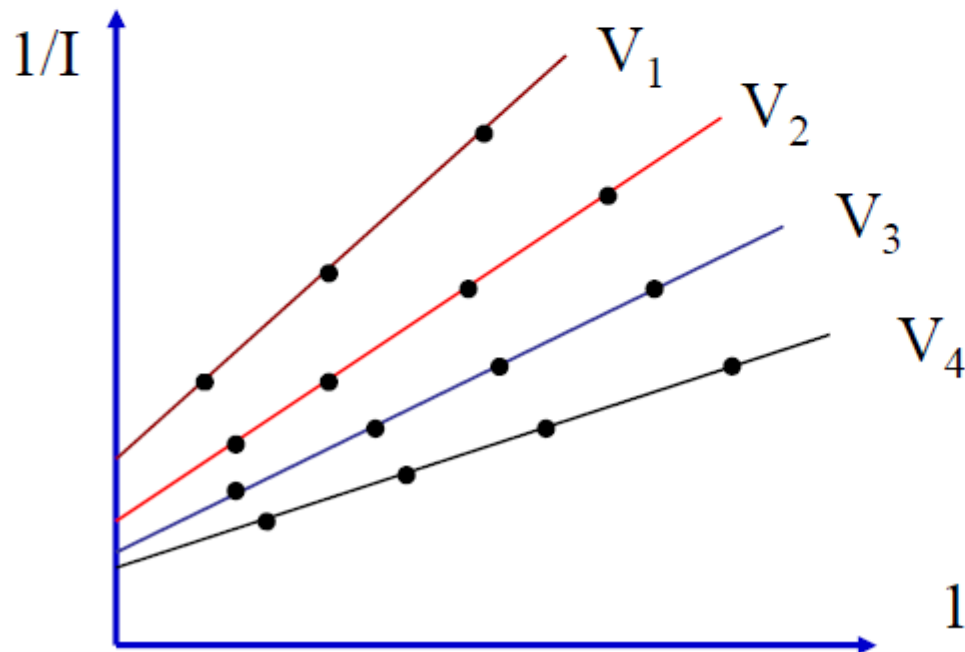
ω = angular velocity of the disk ($\omega = 2\pi N$, $N = \text{rps}$)

(Levich eqn.)

Koutecky-Levich plots

$$\frac{1}{I} = \frac{1}{nFAk_{et}C} + \frac{1.61\nu^{1/6}}{nFACD^{2/3}} \frac{1}{\omega^{1/2}}$$

As $\omega \rightarrow \infty$, $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{I} = \frac{1}{nFAk_{et}C}$



The intercept of y (i.e., $1/I$) is only dependent upon the rate of electron transfer (i.e., E)
 \Rightarrow get the Tafel plot to obtain I_0 and α

The RRDE

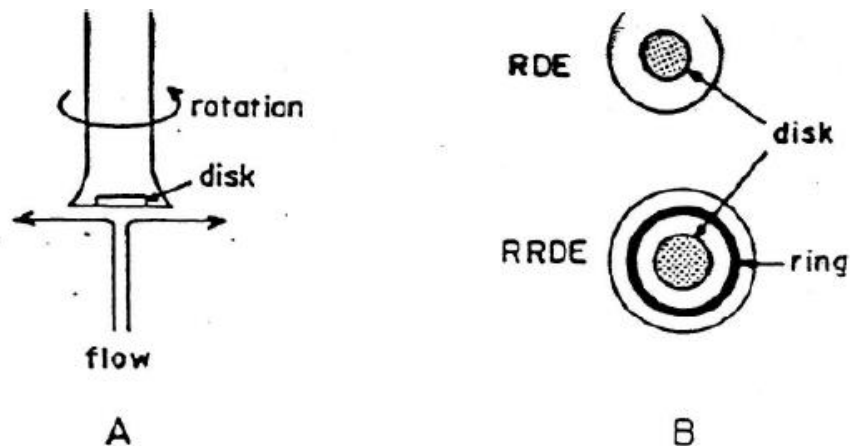


Figure 3.39 (A) Rotating-disk electrode with hydrodynamic flow pattern. (B) Bottom view of rotating-disk electrode (RDE) and rotating ring-disk electrode (RRDE).

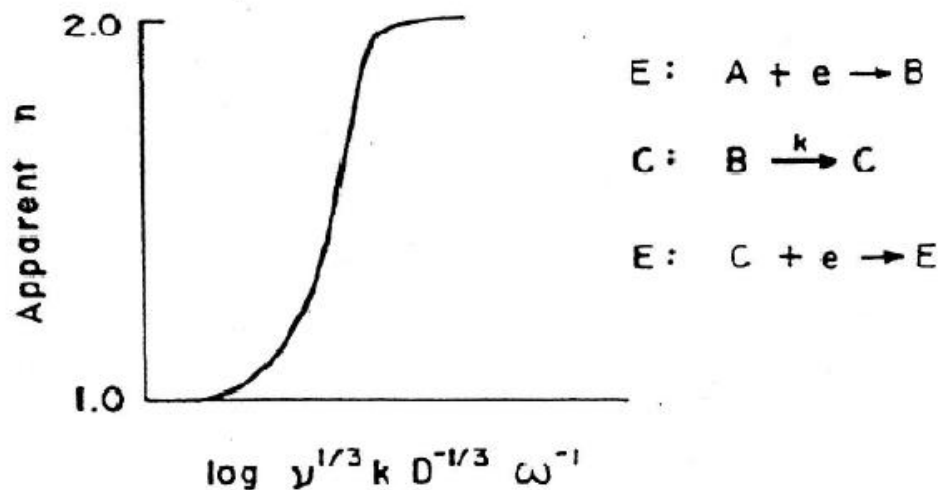
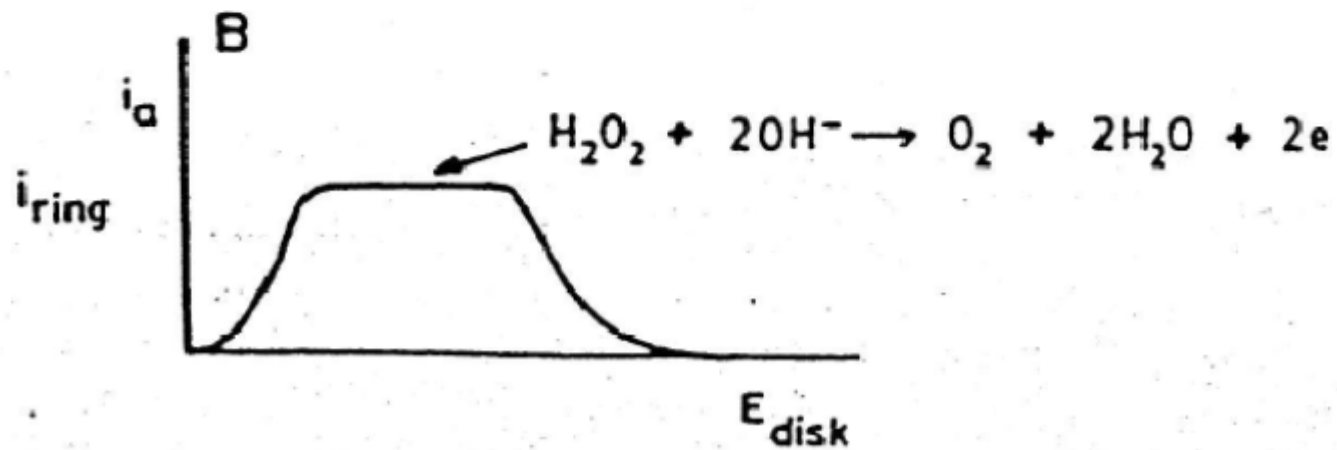
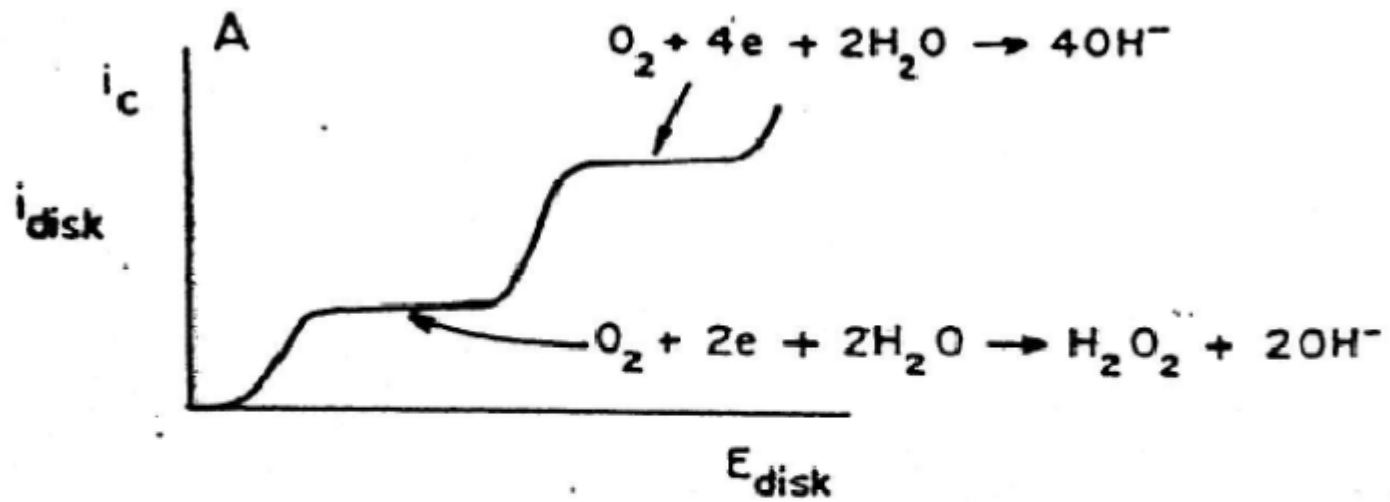
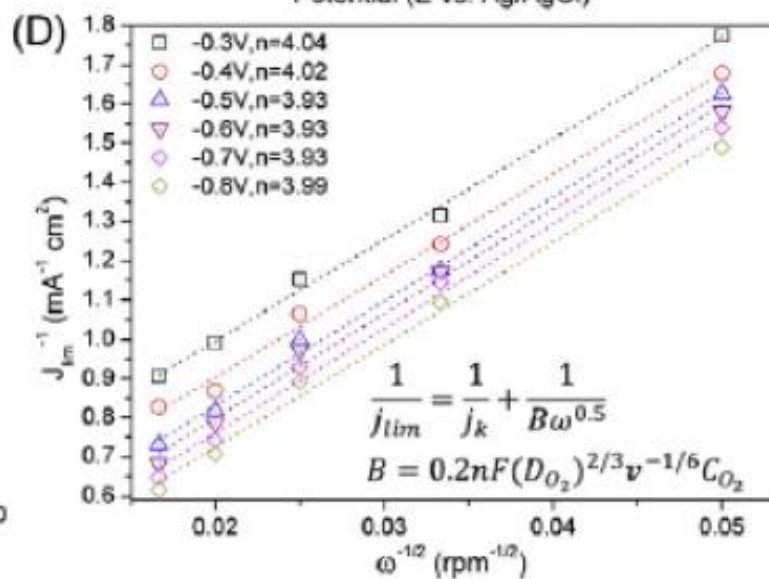
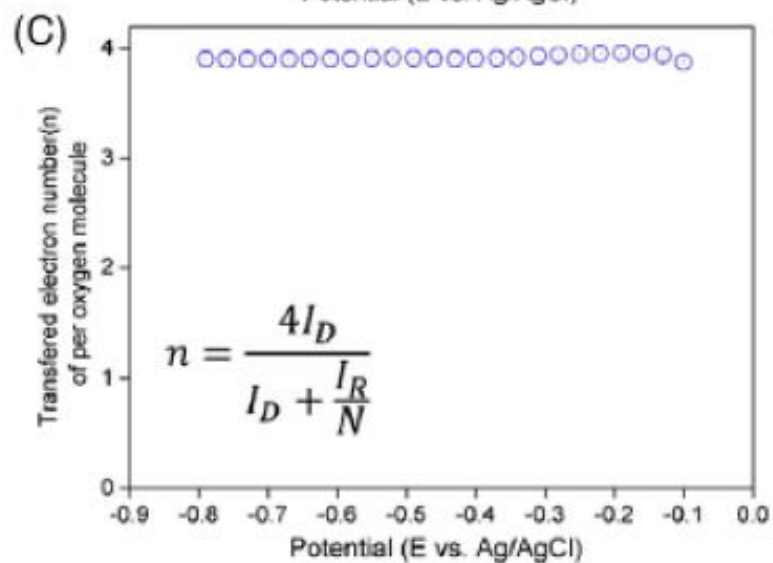
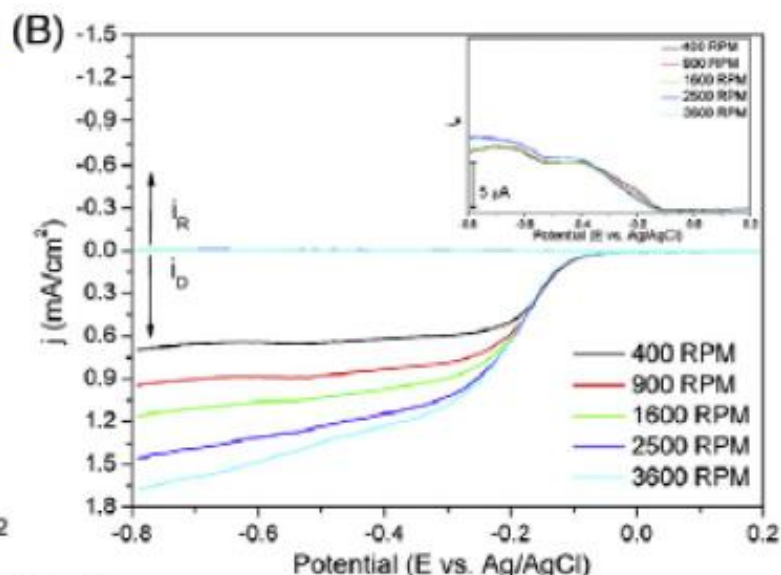
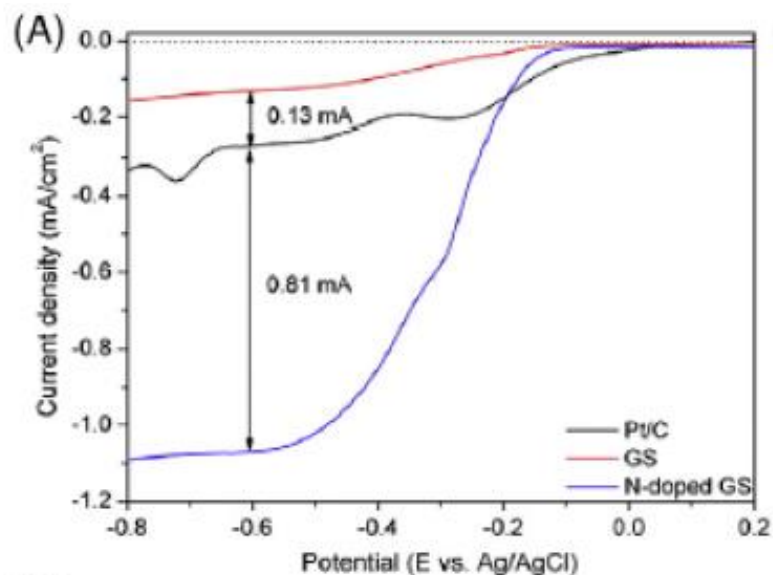


Figure 3.40 Variation in "apparent n " as a function of angular velocity of an RDE for the ECE mechanism.

The ORR on RRDE





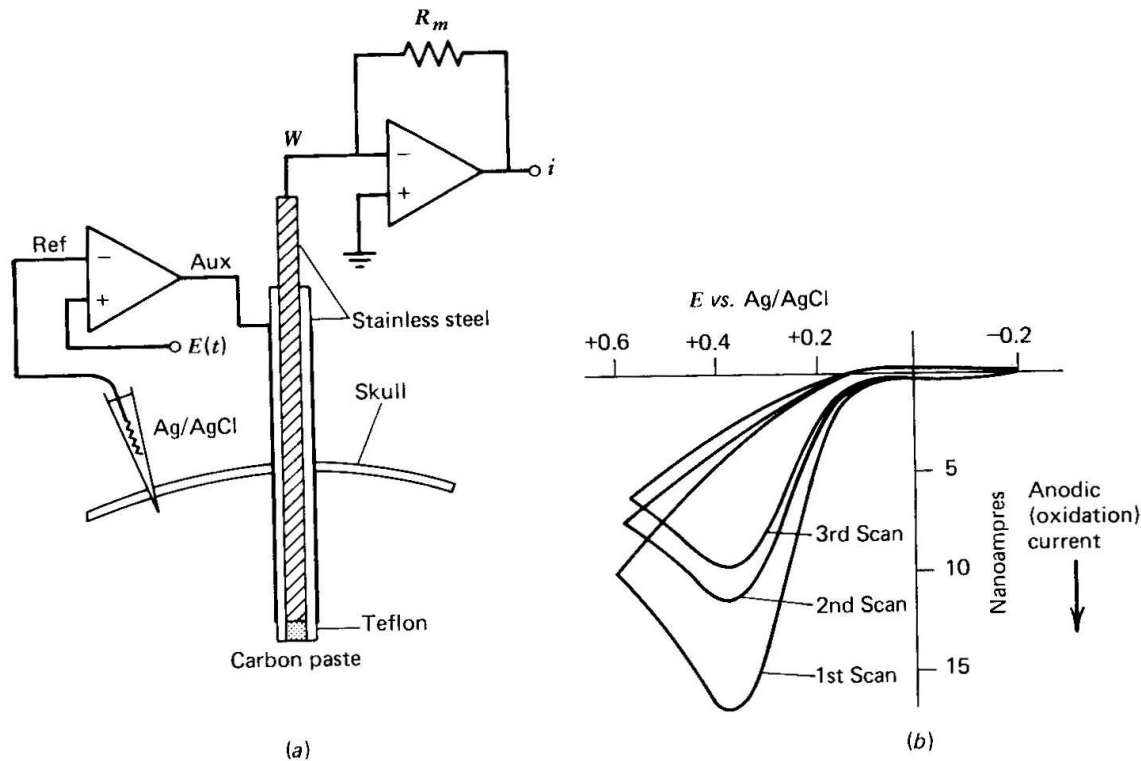


Figure 6.6.5

Application of cyclic voltammetry to *in vivo* analysis in brain tissue. (a) Carbon paste working electrode, stainless steel auxiliary electrode (18-gauge cannula), Ag/AgCl reference electrode, and other apparatus for voltammetric measurements. (b) Cyclic voltammogram for ascorbic acid oxidation at C-paste electrode positioned in the caudate nucleus of an anesthetized rat. [From P. T. Kissinger, J. B. Hart, and R. N. Adams, *Brain Res.*, **55**, 20 (1973), with permission.]