

# Lecture #6. Fall, 2012

## Electrochemical Energy Engineering

### Double layer structure & adsorption (Ch. 13)

Thermodynamics of the double layer

Experimental evaluation of surface excesses & electrical parameters

Models for double layer structure

Helmholtz model

Gouy-Chapman theory

Stern's modification

Specific adsorption

Studies at solid electrodes

Double layer at solids

Single-crystal electrode surfaces

Solid metal-solution interface

Extent & rate of specific adsorption

Nature of specific adsorption

Adsorption isotherms

Rate of adsorption

Effect of adsorption of electroinactive species

Double layer effects on electrode reaction rates

## Thermodynamics of the double layer

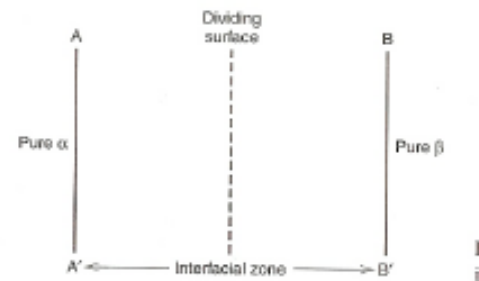
### Gibbs adsorption isotherm

Suppose an interface of surface area  $A$  separating two phases,  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$

→ interfacial zone ( $\sim 100 \text{ \AA}$ )

→ *excesses* and *deficiencies*

in the concentration of components



Surface excess (in # of moles of any species)

$$n_i^\sigma = n_i^S - n_i^R$$

$n_i^\sigma$ : excess quantity (any extensive variable, e.g., electrochemical free energy),

$n_i^S$  &  $n_i^R$ : # of moles of species  $i$  in interfacial region for actual & reference systems

### Electrochemical free energy

For the reference system,  $\bar{G}^R = \bar{G}^R(T, P, n_i^R)$

For the actual system,  $\bar{G}^S = \bar{G}^S(T, P, A, n_i^S)$

$$d\bar{G}^R = (\partial \bar{G}^R / \partial T) dT + (\partial \bar{G}^R / \partial P) dP + \sum (\partial \bar{G}^R / \partial n_i^R) dn_i^R$$

$$d\bar{G}^S = (\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial T) dT + (\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial P) dP + (\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial A) dA + \sum (\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial n_i^S) dn_i^S$$

At const  $T$  &  $P \rightarrow 1^{\text{st}}$  two terms can be dropped

$(\partial \bar{G}^R / \partial n_i^R) = \bar{\mu}_i$  (electrochemical potential)  $\rightarrow$  const at equilibrium

$$\bar{\mu}_i = (\partial \bar{G}^R / \partial n_i^R) = (\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial n_i^S)$$

$(\partial \bar{G}^S / \partial A) = \gamma$  (surface tension): a measure of the energy required to produce a unit area of new surface

Differential *excess free energy*

$$\begin{aligned} d\bar{G}^\sigma &= d\bar{G}^S - d\bar{G}^R = \gamma dA + \sum \bar{\mu}_i d(n_i^S - n_i^R) \\ d\bar{G}^\sigma &= \gamma dA + \sum \bar{\mu}_i dn_i^\sigma \end{aligned}$$

Euler's theorem for variables,  $A$  and  $n_i$  (const  $T$  and  $P$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{G}^\sigma &= (\partial \bar{G}^\sigma / \partial A)A + \sum (\partial \bar{G}^\sigma / \partial n_i^\sigma) n_i^\sigma \\ \bar{G}^\sigma &= \gamma A + \sum \bar{\mu}_i n_i^\sigma \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow d\bar{G}^\sigma = \gamma dA + \sum \bar{\mu}_i dn_i^\sigma + A d\gamma + \sum n_i^\sigma d\bar{\mu}_i$$

$$A d\gamma + \sum n_i^\sigma d\bar{\mu}_i = 0$$

*Surface excess concentration*,  $\Gamma_i = n_i^\sigma / A$  (excesses per unit area of surface)

$$-d\gamma = \sum \Gamma_i d\bar{\mu}_i$$

Gibbs adsorption isotherm: importance of surface tension for interfacial structure

## Electrocapillary equation

Consider



M: neutral species

Gibbs adsorption isotherm; components of Hg electrode, ions, neutral

$$-d\gamma = (\Gamma_{\text{Hg}} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Hg}} + \Gamma_e d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Hg}}) + (\Gamma_{\text{K}^+} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{K}^+} + \Gamma_{\text{Cl}^-} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-}) + (\Gamma_{\text{M}} d\bar{\mu}^{\text{M}} + \Gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}})$$

$\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Hg}}$ : electrons in the mercury phase

Some linkages:

$$\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Hg}} = \bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}}$$

$$\bar{\mu}_{\text{KCl}} = \mu_{\text{KCl}} = \bar{\mu}_{\text{K}^+} + \bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-}$$

$$\bar{\mu}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = \mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$$

$$\bar{\mu}_{\text{M}} = \mu_{\text{M}}$$

$$d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Hg}} = d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Hg}}^0 = 0$$

$$-d\gamma = \Gamma_e d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}} + (\Gamma_{\text{K}^+} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{KCl}} - \Gamma_{\text{K}^+} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-} + \Gamma_{\text{Cl}^-} d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-}) + (\Gamma_{\text{M}} d\mu_{\text{M}} + \Gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} d\mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}})$$

From the equilibrium at the reference interface

$$\bar{\mu}_{\text{AgCl}} + \bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}'} = \bar{\mu}_{\text{Ag}} + \bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-}$$

Since  $d\bar{\mu}_{\text{AgCl}} = d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Ag}} = 0$ ,  $d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}'} = d\bar{\mu}_{\text{Cl}^-}$

$$-d\gamma = \Gamma_e d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}} - (\Gamma_{\text{K}^+} - \Gamma_{\text{Cl}^-}) d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}'} + \Gamma_{\text{K}^+} d\mu_{\text{KCl}} + \Gamma_{\text{M}} d\mu_{\text{M}} + \Gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} d\mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$$

Excess charge density on the metallic side of the interface

$$\sigma^{\text{M}} = -F\Gamma_e$$

Opposite charge density on the solution side

$$\sigma^{\text{S}} = -\sigma^{\text{M}} = F(\Gamma_{\text{K}^+} - \Gamma_{\text{Cl}^-})$$

$$d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}} - d\bar{\mu}_e^{\text{Cu}'} = -F d(\phi^{\text{Cu}} - \phi^{\text{Cu}'}) = -F dE_-$$

$E_-$ : potential of the mercury electrode with respect to the reference

$$-d\gamma = \sigma^{\text{M}} dE_- + \Gamma_{\text{K}^+} d\mu_{\text{KCl}} + \Gamma_{\text{M}} d\mu_{\text{M}} + \Gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} d\mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$$

Gibbs-Duhem relation at const T and P

$$\sum X_i d\mu_i = 0$$

$X_i$ : mole fraction

$$X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} d\mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} + X_{\text{KCl}} d\mu_{\text{KCl}} + X_{\text{M}} d\mu_{\text{M}} = 0$$

Remove  $d\mu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$

$$-d\gamma = \sigma^M dE_- + [\Gamma_{K^+} - (X_{KCl}/X_{H_2O})\Gamma_{H_2O}]d\mu_{KCl} + [\Gamma_M - (X_M/X_{H_2O})\Gamma_{H_2O}]d\mu_M$$

*Relative surface excess*: measurable parameters

$$\Gamma_{K+(H_2O)} = \Gamma_{K^+} - (X_{KCl}/X_{H_2O})\Gamma_{H_2O}$$

$$\Gamma_{M(H_2O)} = \Gamma_M - (X_M/X_{H_2O})\Gamma_{H_2O}$$

Cannot measure absolute surface excess of  $K^+$ , but only excess relative to water  
e.g., zero excess: same mole ratio of adsorption of  $K^+$  and  $H_2O$

positive excess:  $K^+ > H_2O$

Water: reference component

Dilute solutions: negligible  $(X_i/X_s)\Gamma_s$

Electrocapillary equation

$$-d\gamma = \sigma^M dE_- + \Gamma_{K+(H_2O)}d\mu_{KCl} + \Gamma_{M(H_2O)}d\mu_M$$

→ all measurable parameters

## Experimental evaluation of surface excesses & electrical parameters

### Electrocapillarity and the DME

For DME,

$$t_{\max} = 2\pi r_c \gamma / mg$$

$t_{\max}$ : drop lifetime

→  $t_{\max}$  vs.  $E$  has same shape as the electrocapillary curve

### Excess charge and capacitance

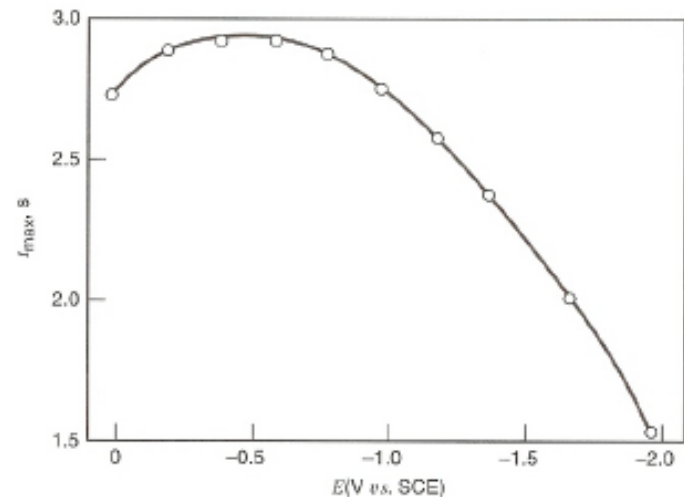
From electrocapillary equation,

$$\sigma^M = (\partial \gamma / \partial E_-)_{\mu \text{KCl}, \mu M}$$

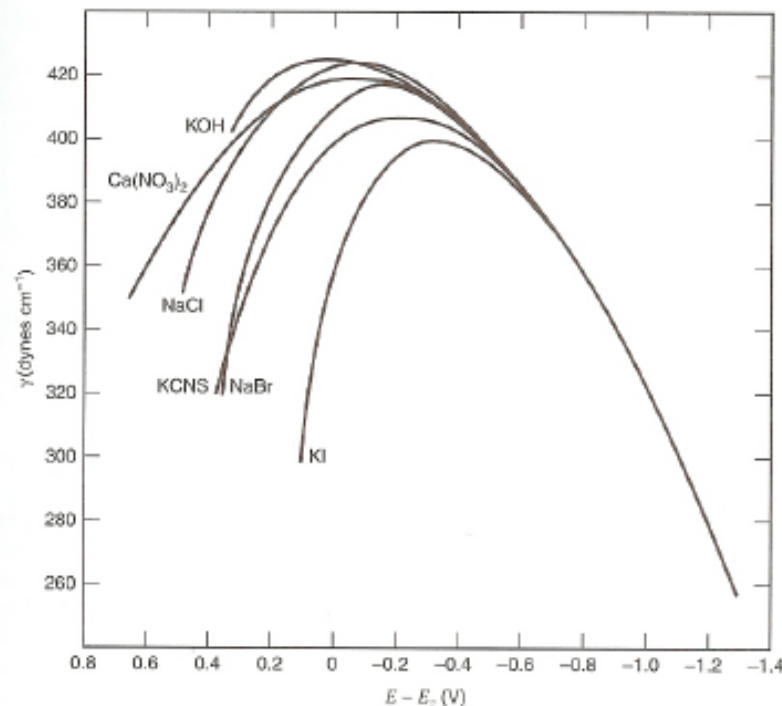
the excess charge on the electrode

→ slope of electrocapillary curve at any  $E$

Drop time of a DME in 0.1 M KCl vs.  $E$



## Electrocapillary curve in different electrolyte

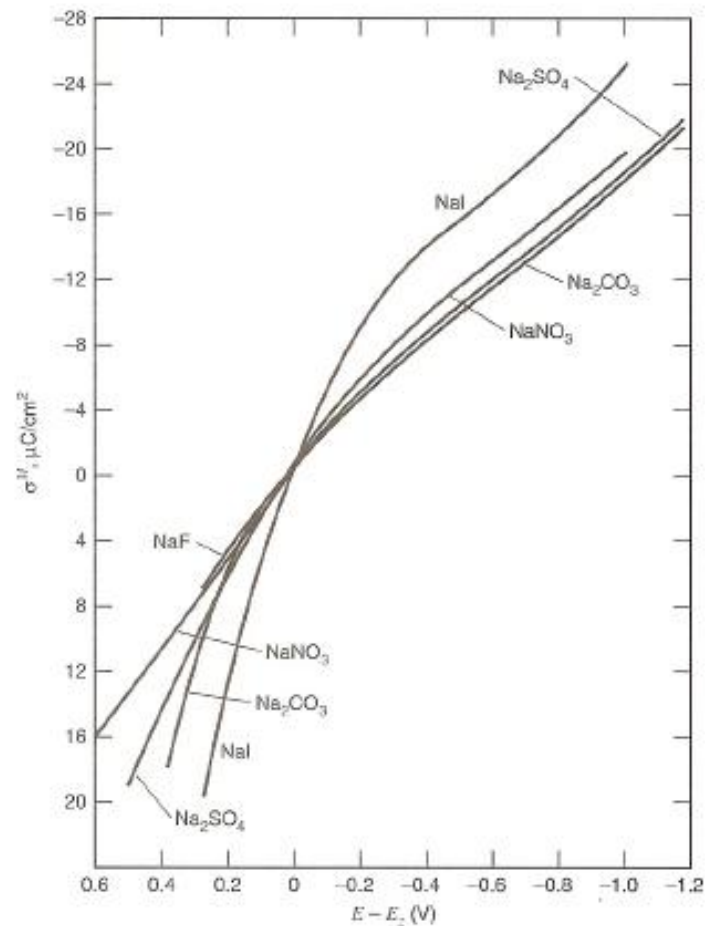


- the existence of a maximum in surface tension
- potential at maximum: “electrocapillary maximum (ECM)”
- curve slope = 0 at ECM → **“potential of zero charge” (PZC)**  
 $\sigma^M = \sigma^S = 0$

At more negative potentials  $\rightarrow$  the electrode surface has a negative excess charge

At more positive potentials  $\rightarrow$  positive surface charge

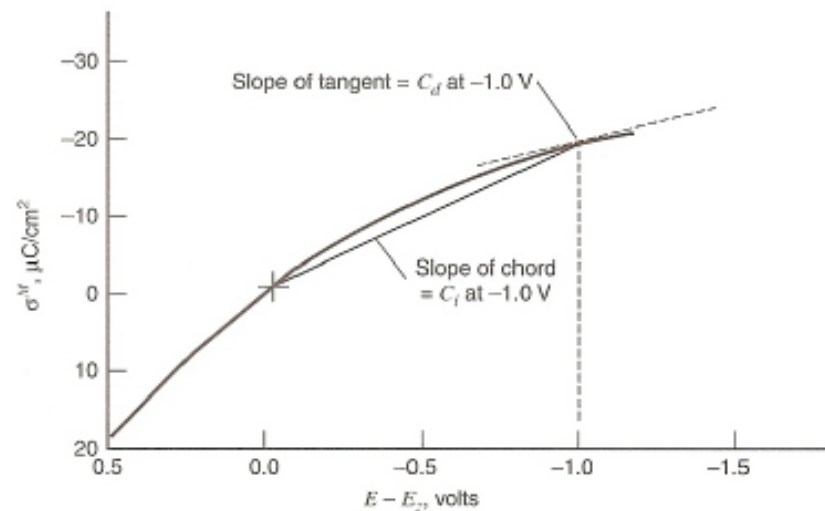
$\rightarrow$  Plots of surface charge can be made by differentiating electrocapillary curves



The capacitance of the interface  $\rightarrow$  its ability to store charge in response to a perturbation in potential

$$C_d = (\partial \sigma^M / \partial E)$$

Differential capacitance: the slope of the plot of  $\sigma^M$  vs.  $E$



Integral capacitance,  $C_i$  (or  $K$ ): ratio of total charge density ( $\sigma^M$ ) at potential  $E$  to the total potential difference

$$C_i = \sigma^M / (E - E_Z)$$

$E_Z$ : PZC

$$C_i = \int C_d dE / \int dE$$

Average of  $C_d$  over the potential range from  $E_z$  to  $E$

Differential capacitance is the more useful quantity, in part it is precisely measurable by impedance techniques

Capacitance can be obtained from the electrocapillary curves by double differentiation

$$\gamma = \iint C_d dE$$

### Relative surface excesses

From electrocapillary equation, relative surface excess of  $K^+$  at the interface

$$\Gamma_{K+(H_2O)} = -(\partial \gamma / \partial \mu_{KCl})_{E, \mu}$$

Since  $\mu_{KCl} = \mu_{KCl}^0 + RT \ln a_{KCl}$

$$\Gamma_{K+(H_2O)} = -(1/RT)(\partial \gamma / \partial \ln a_{KCl})_{E, \mu M}$$

→ relative surface excess  $\Gamma_{K+(H_2O)}$  at any potential  $E$ - by measuring surface tension for several KCl activities (at const  $M$ )

Relative surface excess of  $\text{Cl}^-$ : from the charge balance ( $\sigma^S = -\sigma^M = F(\Gamma_{\text{K}^+} - \Gamma_{\text{Cl}^-})$ )

Fig. 13.2.9: relative surface excess of 0.1 M KF in contact with mercury

At potentials positive of  $E_Z \rightarrow$  surface excess of  $\text{K}^+$ : negative  $\rightarrow \text{K}^+$  conc in the interface is smaller than in the bulk (reverse for  $\text{Cl}^-$ )

At potentials negative of  $E_Z \rightarrow$  opposite

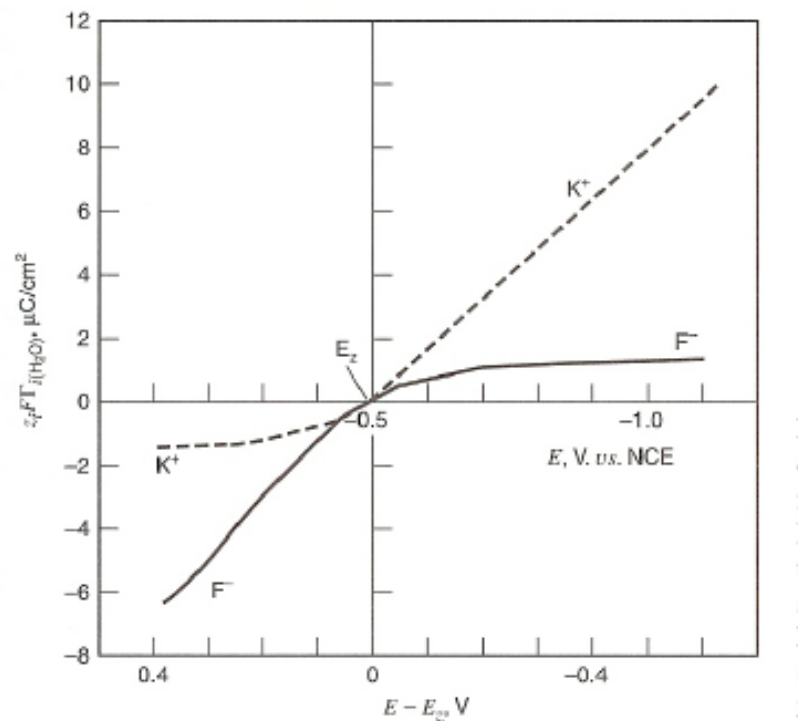
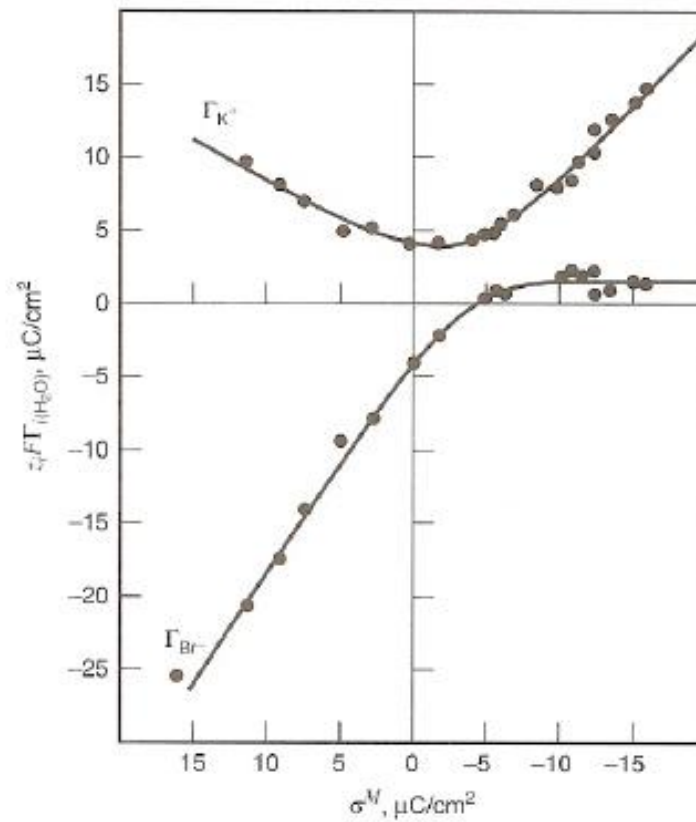


Fig. 13.2.6: 0.1 M KBr

At potentials positive of  $E_Z$  (i.e., for  $\sigma^M > 0$ )  $\rightarrow$  surface excess of  $K^+$ : positive  $\rightarrow$  specific adsorption of  $Br^-$  on mercury



## Models for double layer structure

### The Helmholtz model

Two sheets of charge, having opposite polarity, separated by a distance of molecular order → equivalent to a parallel-plate capacitor

Relation of stored charge density,  $\sigma$ , and voltage drop  $V$  between the plate

$$\sigma = (\epsilon\epsilon_0/d)V$$

$\epsilon$ : dielectric const of the medium,  $\epsilon_0$ : permittivity of free space,  $d$ : spacing

Differential capacitance

$$\partial\sigma/\partial V = C_d = \epsilon\epsilon_0/d$$

Weakness of this model: predict  $C_d$  is const

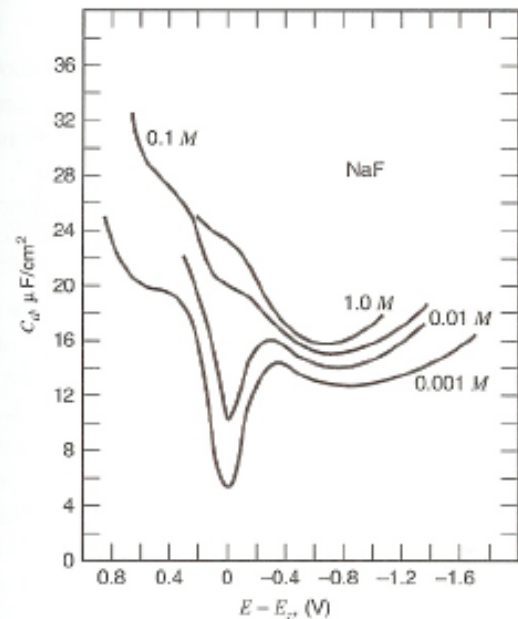
e.g., Fig. 13.3.1

Differential capacitance vs.  $E$

in Hg/NaF interface

→ potential dependence

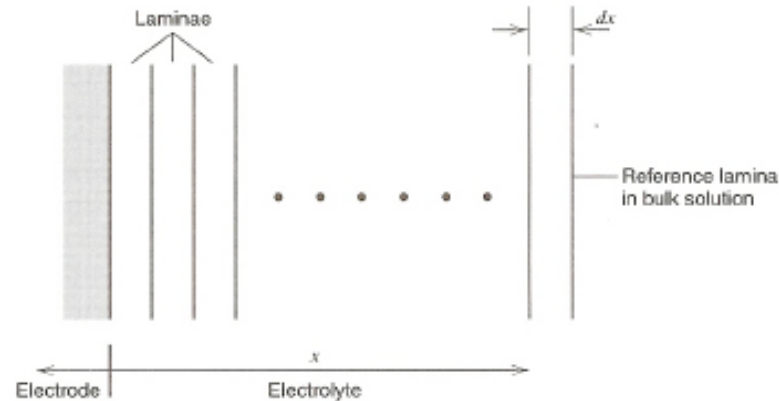
→ more sophisticated model needed



## The Gouy-Chapman theory

Charge on the electrode is confined to the surface

Charge in the solution: *diffusion layer*



Population in any lamina (number concentration of species)

$$n_i = n_i^0 \exp(-z_i e \phi / kT)$$

$n_i^0$ : bulk concentration,  $\phi$ : electrostatic potential ( $\phi$  measured with respect to the bulk)

Total charge per unit volume in any lamina

$$\rho(x) = \sum n_i z_i e = \sum n_i^0 z_i e \exp(-z_i e \phi / kT)$$

$\rho(x)$  is related to the potential at distance  $x$  by the Poisson equation

$$\rho(x) = -\epsilon\epsilon_0(d^2\phi/dx^2)$$

Poisson-Boltzmann equation

$$d^2\phi/dx^2 = -(e/\epsilon\epsilon_0)\sum n_i^0 z_i \exp(-z_i e\phi/kT)$$

$$d^2\phi/dx^2 = (1/2)(d/d\phi)(d\phi/dx)^2$$

$$\rightarrow (d\phi/dx)^2 = (2kT/\epsilon\epsilon_0)\sum n_i^0 [\exp(-z_i e\phi/kT) - 1]$$

For  $z:z$  electrolyte  $d\phi/dx = -(8kTn^0/\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2} \sinh(ze\phi/2kT)$

(a) Potential profile in the diffusion layer

$\phi_0$ : potential at  $x = 0$  relative to the bulk solution

= potential drop across the diffusion layer

$$\tanh(ze\phi/4kT)/\tanh(ze\phi_0/4kT) = e^{-\kappa x}$$

Where

$$\kappa = (2n^0 z^2 e^2 / \epsilon\epsilon_0 kT)^{1/2}$$

For dilute aqueous solution ( $\epsilon = 78.49$ ) at  $25^\circ\text{C}$

$$\kappa = (3.29 \times 10^7) zC^{*1/2}$$

$C^*$ : bulk  $z:z$  electrolyte conc in mol/L,  $\kappa$ :  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Potential profile for several different  $\phi_0$ : potential decay away from the surface

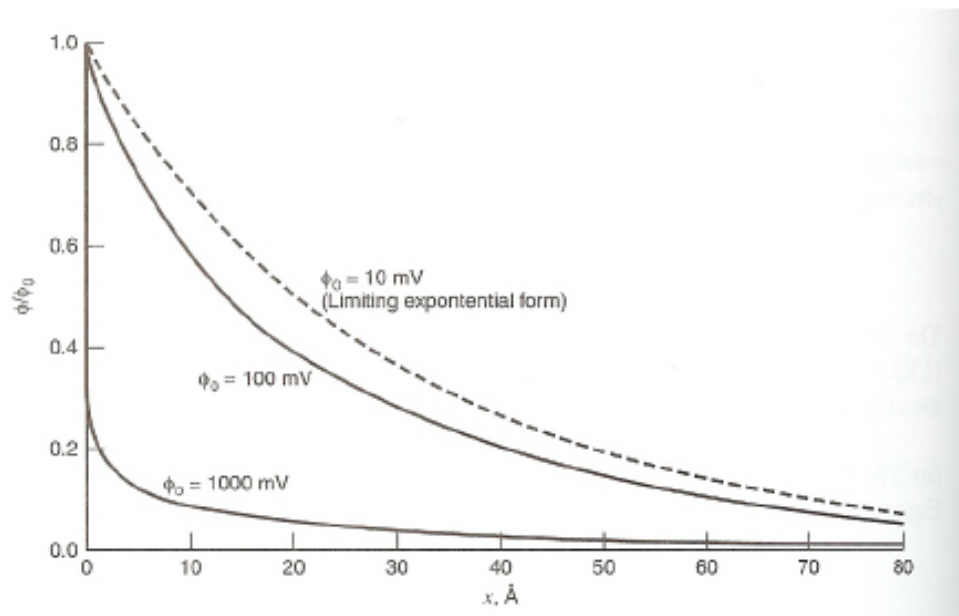
At large  $\phi_0$  (a highly charged electrode), the drop is precipitous because the diffusion layer is relatively compact

As  $\phi_0$  smaller, the decline is more gradual

If  $\phi_0$  is sufficiently low ( $\tanh(z e \phi / k T) \sim z e \phi / k T$ )

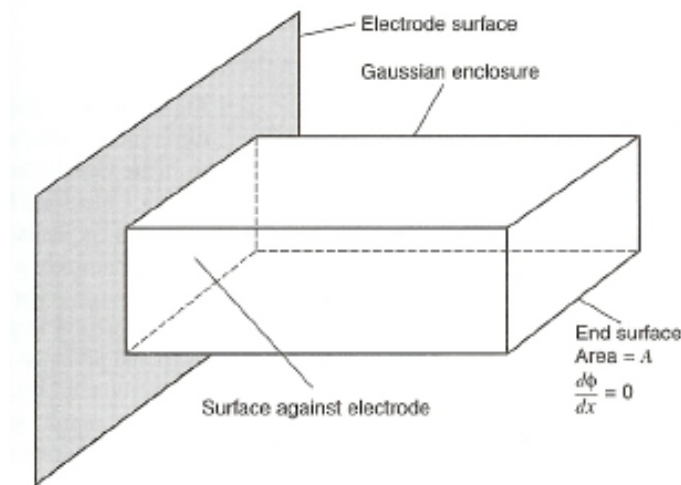
$$\phi / \phi_0 = e^{-\kappa x}$$

Good approximation for  $\phi_0 \leq 50/z$  mV at 25°C



Reciprocal of  $\kappa$ : unit of distance and characterizes the spatial decay of potential  
 → kind of characteristic thickness of the diffusion layer  
 → thicker as conc of electrolyte falls

(b) Relation between  $\sigma^M$  and  $\phi$   
 Suppose Gaussian surface



| $C^*(M)^b$ | $1/\kappa(\text{\AA})$ |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1          | 3.0                    |
| $10^{-1}$  | 9.6                    |
| $10^{-2}$  | 30.4                   |
| $10^{-3}$  | 96.2                   |
| $10^{-4}$  | 304                    |

Gauss law, charge

$$q = \epsilon \epsilon_0 \int_{\text{surface}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

$$= \epsilon \epsilon_0 A (d\phi/dx)_{x=0}$$

Using  $q/A = \sigma^S$  and  $d\phi/dx = -(8kTn^0/\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2} \sinh(ze\phi/2kT)$

$$\sigma^S = -\sigma^M = (8kTn^0\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2}\sinh(ze\phi_0/2kT)$$

For dilute solution at 25°C

$$\sigma^M = 11.7C^{*1/2}\sinh(19.5z\phi_0)$$

Where  $C^*$  is in mol/L for  $\sigma^M$  in  $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$

(c) Differential capacitance

$$C_d = d\sigma^M/d\phi_0 = (2z^2e^2\epsilon\epsilon_0n^0/kT)^{1/2}\cosh(ze\phi_0/2kT)$$

For dilute aqueous solutions at 25°C

$$C_d = 228zC^{*1/2}\cosh(19.5z\phi_0)$$

where  $C_d$  is in  $\mu\text{F}/\text{cm}^2$

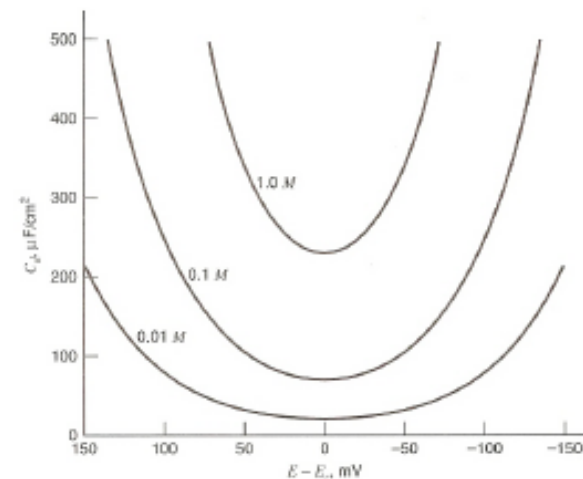
Predicted plot (V-shape) vs. observed one

i) low conc & near PZC에서만 유사

ii) 실험치가 예측치보다 훨씬 작음

→ need better theory!

Smaller in experiment than in prediction



## Stern's modification

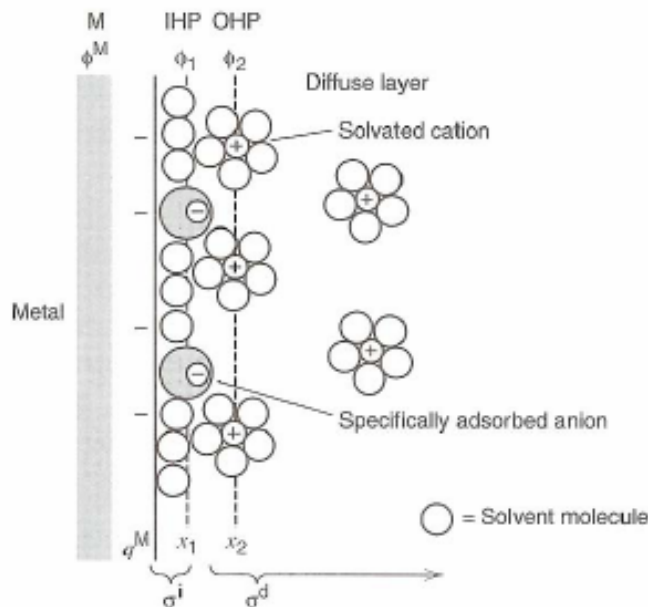
Gouy-Chapman model: unlimited rise in differential capacitance with  $\phi_0$

→ ions are not restricted with respect to location in solution phase

(point charge can approach the surface arbitrarily closely)

→ not realistic: ions have a finite size & cannot approach the surface any closer than the ionic radius. If solvated, larger radius. Solvent layer should be considered

$X_2$ : outer Helmholtz plane (OHP)



**Figure 1.2.3** Proposed model of the double-layer region under conditions where anions are specifically adsorbed.

Poisson-Boltzmann equation for  $x \geq x_2$

$$\tanh(ze\phi/4kT)/\tanh(ze\phi_2/4kT) = e^{-\kappa(x-x_2)}$$

Where  $\phi_2$  is the potential at  $x_2$

Field strength at  $x_2$ ,  $(d\phi/dx)_{x=x_2} = -(8kTn^0/\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2}\sinh(ze\phi_2/2kT)$

Total potential drop across the double layer

$$\phi_0 = \phi_2 - (d\phi/dx)_{x=x_2}x_2$$

$$\sigma^M = -\sigma^S = -\epsilon\epsilon_0(d\phi/dx)_{x=x_2} = (8kTn^0\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2}\sinh(ze\phi_2/2kT)$$

$$\sigma^M = (8kTn^0\epsilon\epsilon_0)^{1/2}\sinh[ze/2kT(\phi_0 - \sigma^M x_2/\epsilon\epsilon_0)]$$

Differential capacitance

$$C_d = d\sigma^M/d\phi_0 = (2z^2e^2\epsilon\epsilon_0n^0/kT)^{1/2}\cosh(ze\phi_2/2kT)/[1 + (x_2/\epsilon\epsilon_0)(2\epsilon\epsilon_0z^2e^2n^0/kT)^{1/2}\cosh(ze\phi_2/2kT)]$$

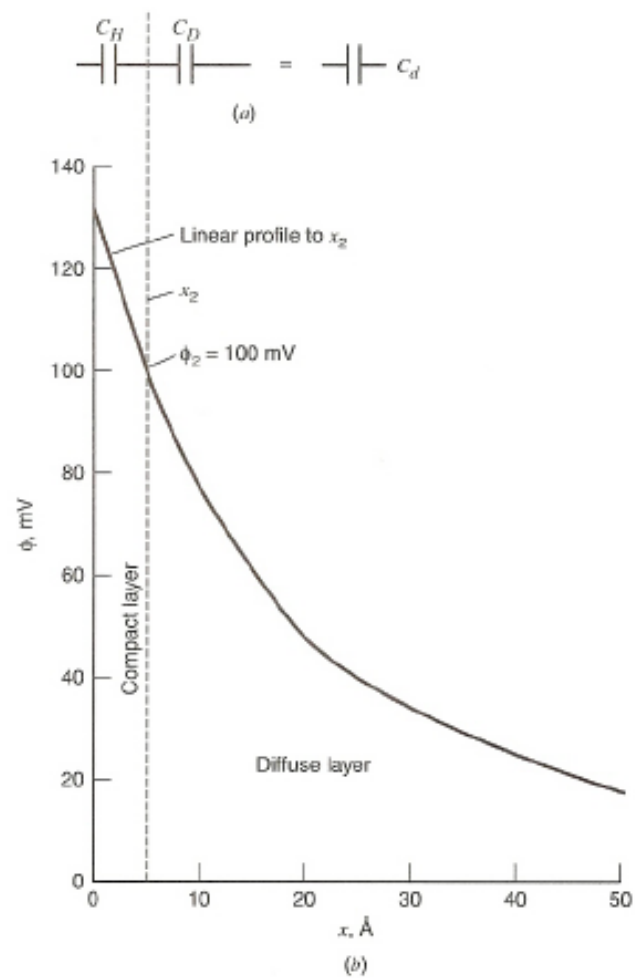
$$1/C_d = x_2/\epsilon\epsilon_0 + 1/[(2\epsilon\epsilon_0z^2e^2n^0/kT)^{1/2}\cosh(ze\phi_2/2kT)]$$

Two components

$$1/C_d = 1/C_H + 1/C_D$$

$C_D$ : capacitance of the charge at OHP,  $C_D$ : truly diffuse charge

## Gouy-Chapman-Stern model

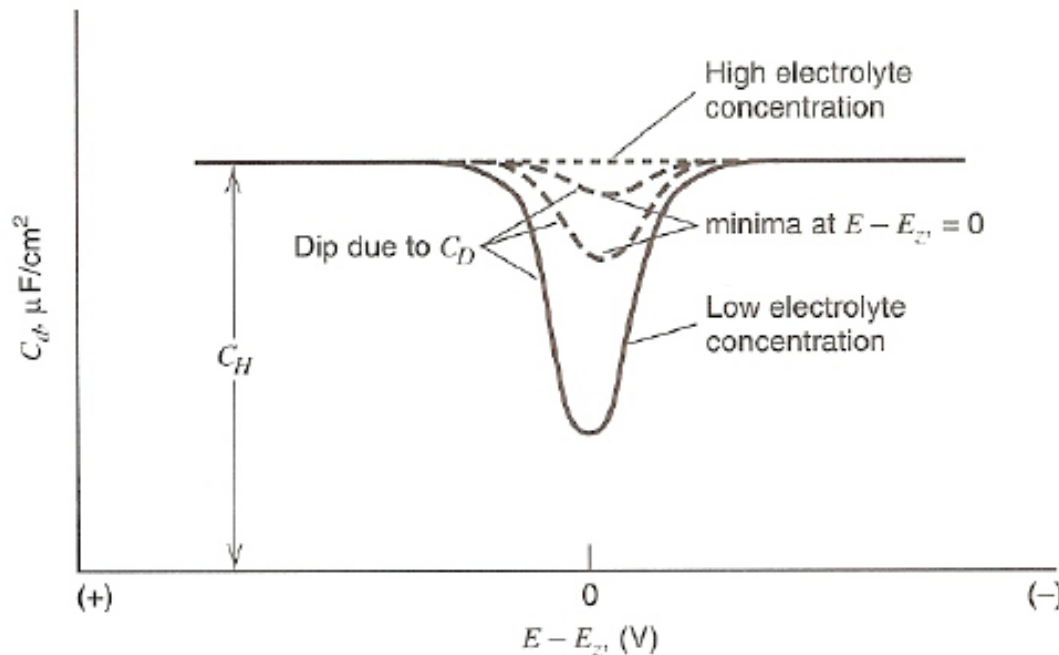


$C_H$ : independent of potential

$C_D$ : varies in V-shaped depending potential

$C_d$ : V-shaped near PZC with low electrolyte conc (characteristic of  $C_D$ )

At large electrolyte conc or large polarization  $\rightarrow C_D$  is so large  $\rightarrow C_H$   
 $\rightarrow$  Gouy-Chapman-Stern (GCS) model



## Specific adsorption

Fig.13.2.2

Potential more negative than PZC: decline & same regardless composition (GCS model)

Potential more positive than PZC: depend specifically on the composition

→ specific adsorption of anions: their center: *inner Helmholtz plane* (IHP),  $x_1$

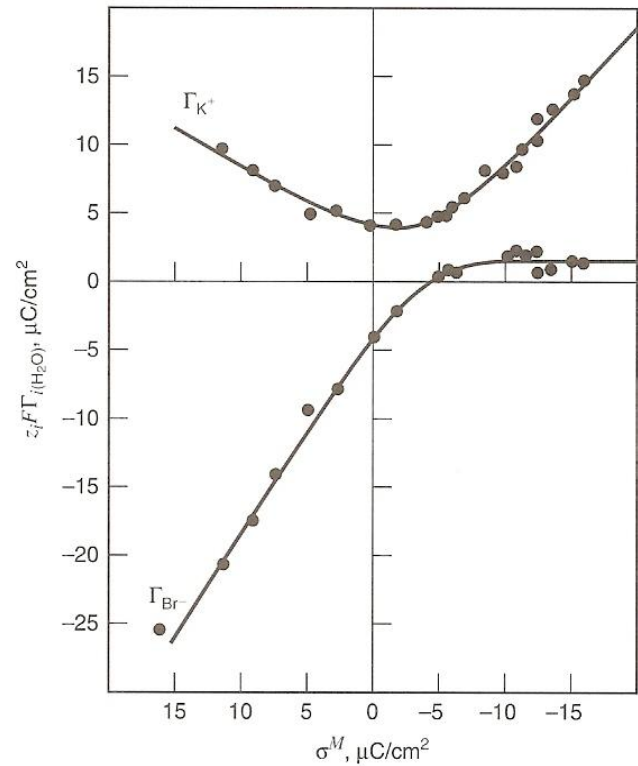
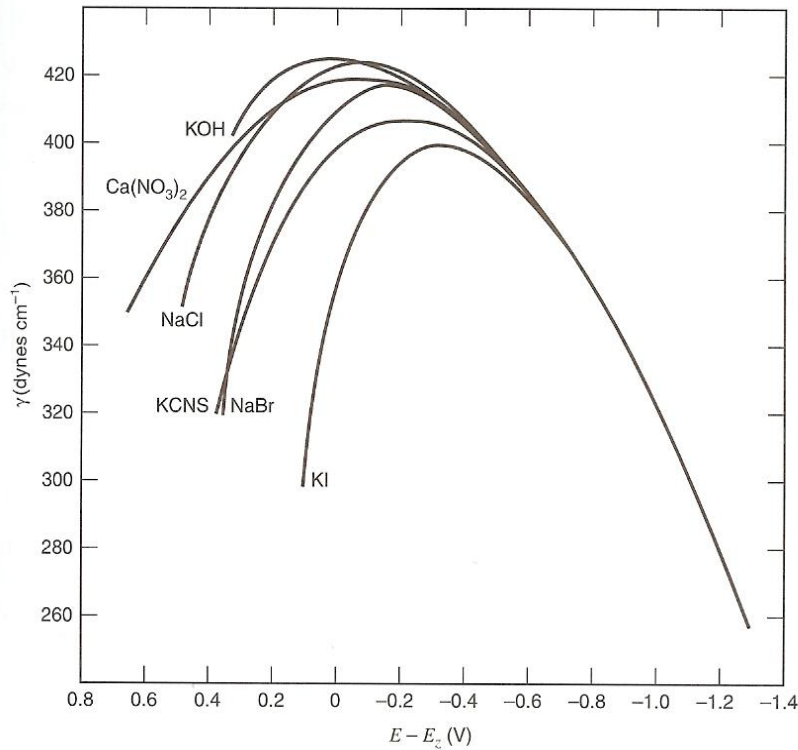


Fig.13.2.6 Br

- (i) Specifically adsorbed ion  $\rightarrow$  considering the slopes of  $z_i F \Gamma_{i(\text{H}_2\text{O})}$  vs.  $\sigma^M$
- $$\sigma^M = -[F \Gamma_{\text{K}^+(\text{H}_2\text{O})} - F \Gamma_{\text{Br}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})}]$$

In the absence of specific adsorption: charge on the electrode is counterbalanced by the excess of one ion and a deficiency of the other (Fig.13.2.5)

$\rightarrow$  Fig. 13.2.6: more positive than PZC  $\rightarrow$  superequivalent adsorption of bromide (considering slopes & compare with Fig. 13.2.5)

- (ii) Esin-Markov effect: shift in PZC with change in electrolyte conc

Table by “Grahame”

$\rightarrow$  shift : linear with  $\ln[\text{activity}]$

$\rightarrow$  slope: Esin-Markov coefficient at  $\sigma^M = 0$

(non-specific adsorption: EM coeff = 0)

$$(1/RT)(\partial E_{\pm} / \partial \ln a_{\text{salt}})_{\sigma^M} = (\partial E_{\pm} / \partial \mu_{\text{salt}})_{\sigma^M}$$

| Electrolyte | Concentration,<br>$M$ | $E_z$ ,<br>V vs. NCE <sup>b</sup> |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| NaF         | 1.0                   | -0.472                            |
|             | 0.1                   | -0.472                            |
|             | 0.01                  | -0.480                            |
|             | 0.001                 | -0.482                            |
| NaCl        | 1.0                   | -0.556                            |
|             | 0.3                   | -0.524                            |
|             | 0.1                   | -0.505                            |
| KBr         | 1.0                   | -0.65                             |
|             | 0.1                   | -0.58                             |
|             | 0.01                  | -0.54                             |
| KI          | 1.0                   | -0.82                             |
|             | 0.1                   | -0.72                             |
|             | 0.01                  | -0.66                             |
|             | 0.001                 | -0.59                             |

## Studies at solid electrodes

### Double layer at solids

### Most measurements on mercury

→ solid electrode: difficulty to reproduce same & clean surface, not atomically smooth...

### Well-defined single crystal electrode surfaces

Different crystal faces exhibit different properties (e.g., PZC, work function..)

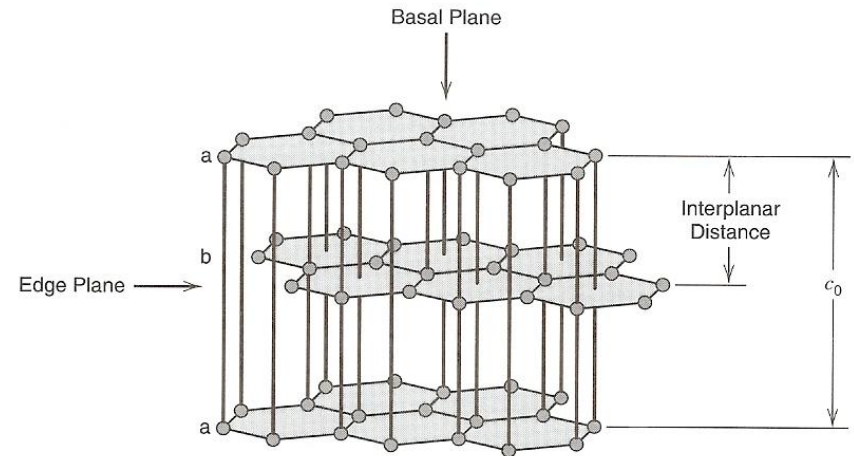
Pt, Pd, Ag, Ni, Cu: FCC crystal structures

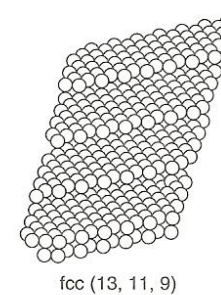
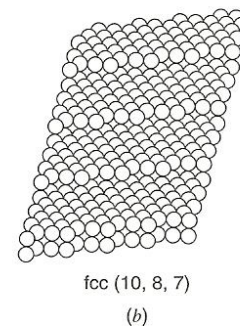
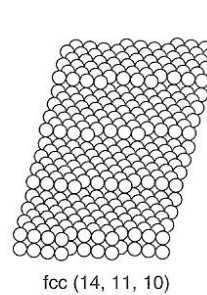
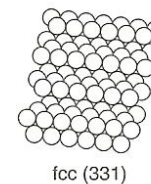
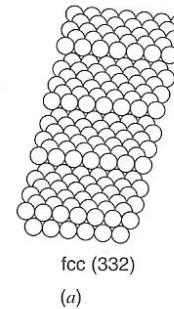
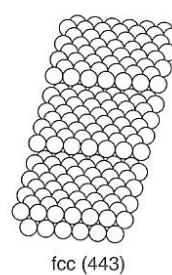
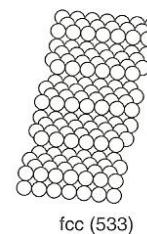
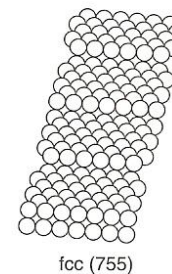
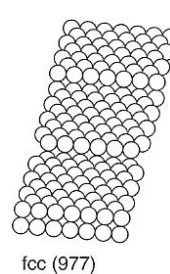
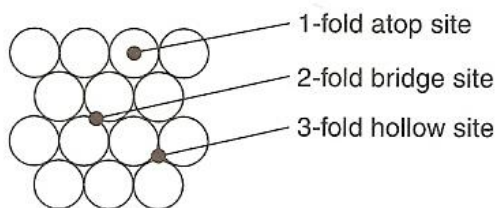
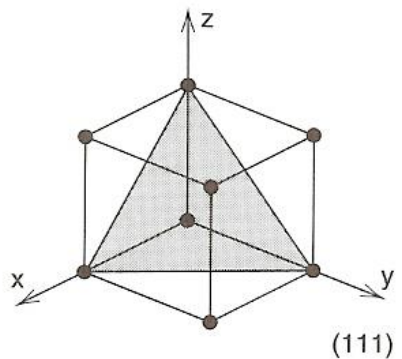
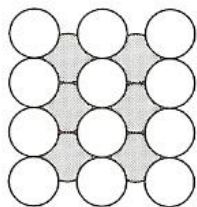
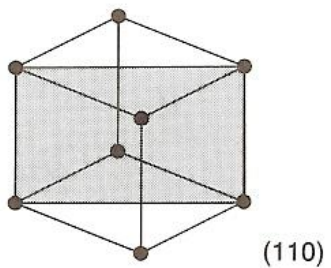
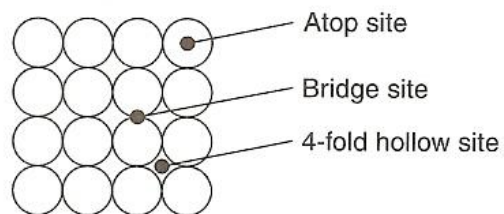
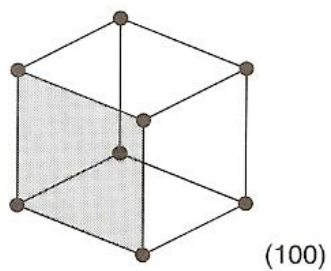
→ low-index crystal faces: stable, polishable

→ higher-index planes: more edges, step & kink sites

Reconstruction: minimize surface energy

Carbon: highly oriented pyrolytic graphite  
(HOPG)





Face-centered cubic (FCC) structure

## Potential of zero charge

**Table 1.** Potentials of zero charge of sp metals,  $E_{\sigma=0}$  (V) vs. the standard hydrogen electrode (SHE).<sup>a</sup>

| Hg    | Sb    | Bi    | Bi(111) | Sn    | Pb    | In    | In(Ga) | Tl    | Tl(Ga) | Ga    | Cd    | Zn    |
|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| -0.19 | -0.17 | -0.38 | -0.41   | -0.39 | -0.60 | -0.65 | -0.67  | -0.71 | -0.69  | -0.69 | -0.75 | -0.91 |

<sup>a</sup>The uncertainty varies mostly between 0.01 and 0.02 V, but it is higher for d metals and lower (0.001 V) for Hg. (Reproduced from Trasatti and Lust (1999)<sup>[16]</sup> by permission of Plenum.)

**Table 2.** Potentials of zero charge of sd metals,  $E_{\sigma=0}$  (V) vs. SHE.<sup>a</sup>

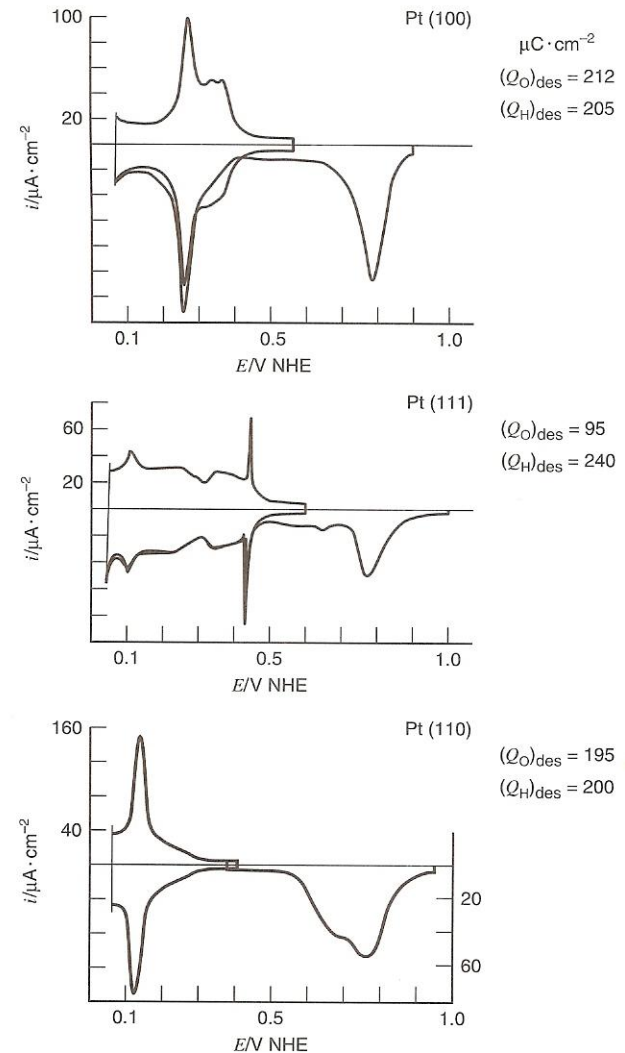
| Ag    | Ag(111) | Ag(100) | Ag(110) | Au   | Au(111) | Au(100) | Au(110) | Cu    | Cu(110) |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| -0.70 | -0.45   | -0.62   | -0.74   | 0.20 | 0.56    | 0.32    | 0.20    | -0.64 | -0.69   |

<sup>a</sup>As per Table 1.

**cf. Pt: 0.18 V, Ni: -0.33 V**

Different crystal faces exhibit different properties (e.g., PZC, work function..)  
 e.g., PZC on Ag(111) (-0.69 V vs. SCE), Ag(110) (-0.98 V),  
 → -0.8 V: carry negative charge in (111), positive charge in (110)

Different catalytic & adsorption properties  
 e.g., different CV in Pt (0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)

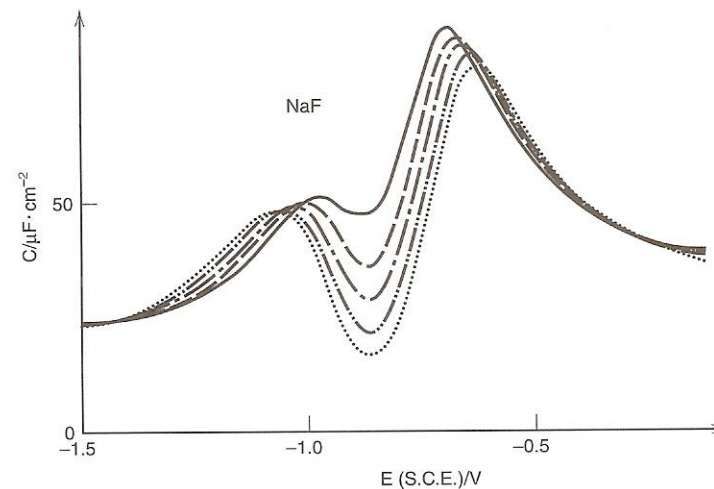
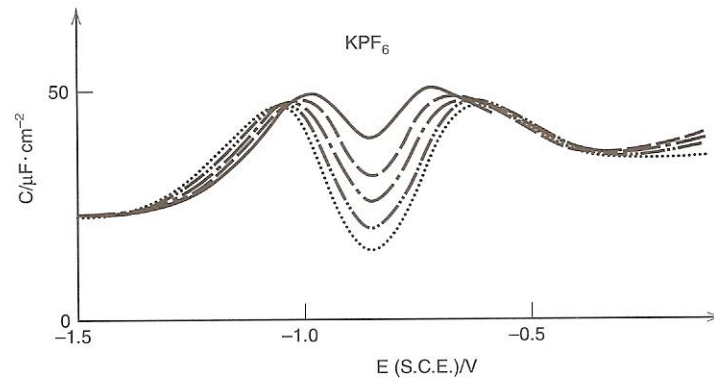


## Solid metal-solution interface

Information on PZC & interface from capacitance measurements

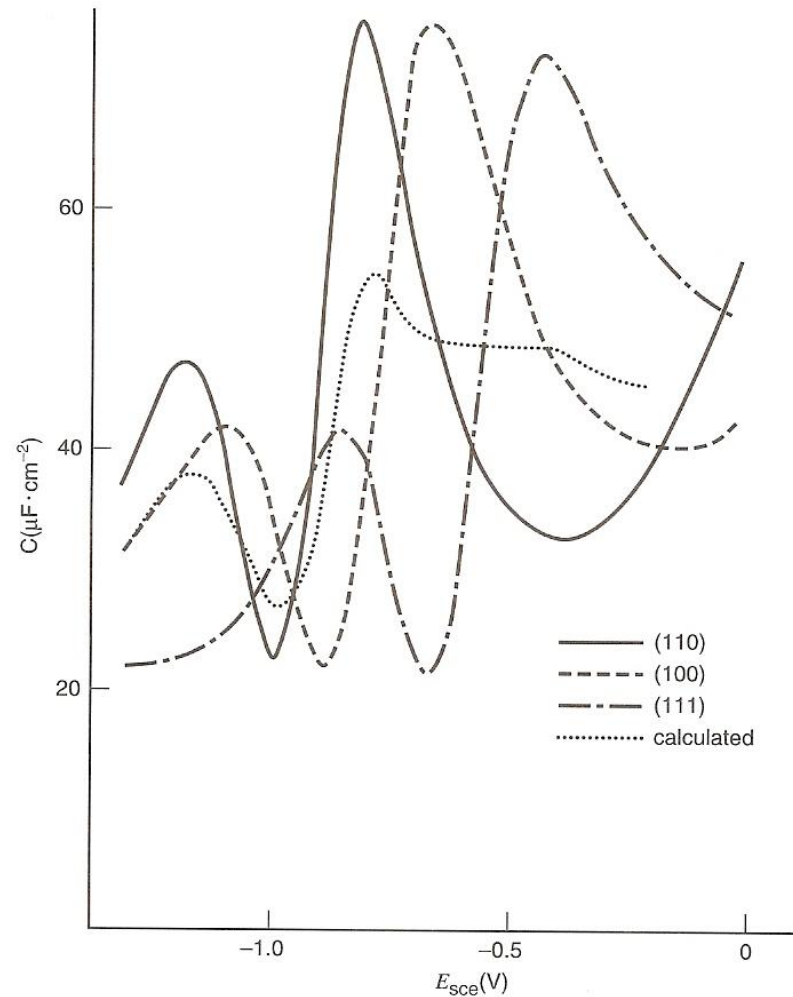
Capacitance curves for Ag(100) at different conc of  $\text{KPF}_6$  and NaF  
(top to bottom 100, 40, 20, 10, and 5 mM)

Independence of min in capacitance  $\rightarrow$  weakly specifically adsorbed on Ag  
PZC from capacitance minimum



PZC depends upon crystal faces (e.g., Ag)

calculated: polycrystalline (46% (110), 23% (100), 31% (111))

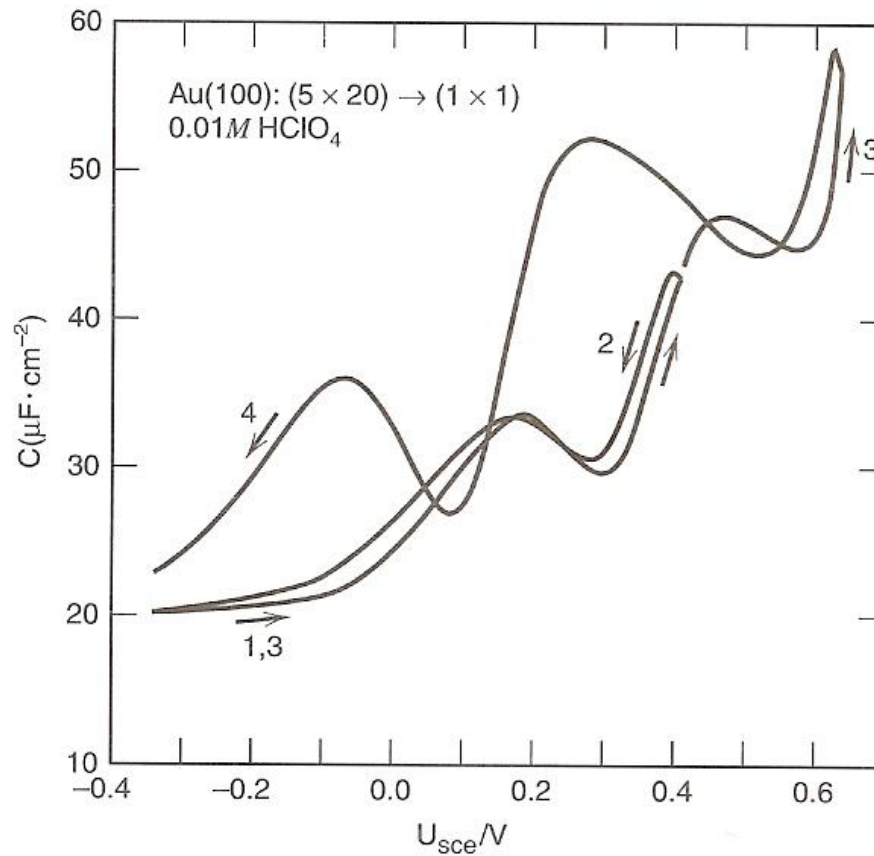


Another complication: surface reconstruction

Au(100): reconstructed ( $5 \times 20$ ) during flame heating

$< +0.5$  V: maintained ( $5 \times 20$ )

$\sim +0.7$  V: converted to original (100)



## Extent and rate of specific adsorption

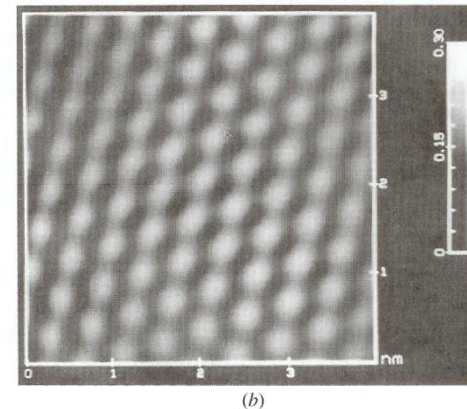
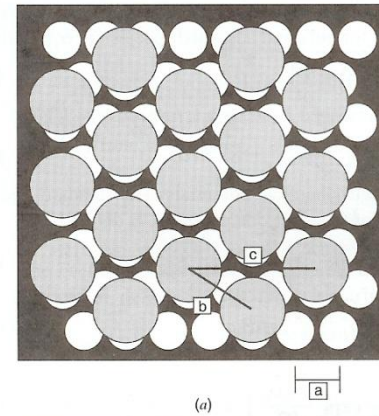
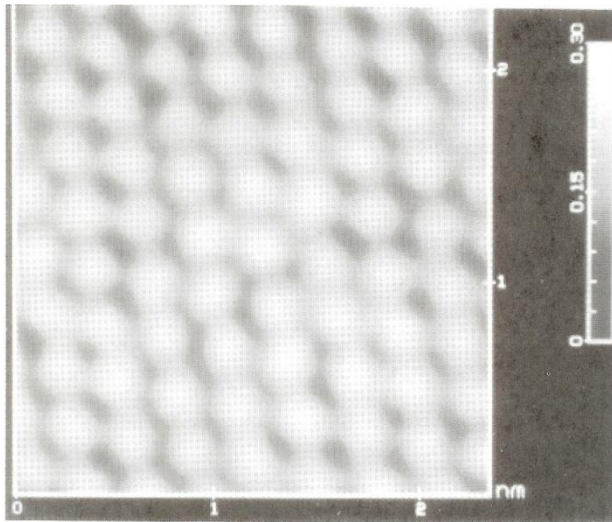
### Nature and extent of specific adsorption

*Commensurate*: molecules adsorb in exact corresponding pattern with surface atoms  
e.g.,  $1.5 \times 10^{15}$  Au atoms/cm<sup>2</sup> on Au(111), spacing 2.9 Å

→ if adsorbate atoms on atop sites: (1 x 1) superlattice ( $2.5 \times 10^{-9}$  mol/cm<sup>2</sup>)

Iodine or 4-aminothiophenol:  $(\sqrt{30} \times \sqrt{30})R30^\circ \rightarrow 1/3$  Au ( $8.3 \times 10^{-10}$  mol/cm<sup>2</sup>)

Lower coverage for larger molecules



Roughness factor: actual area/projected area ( $\sim 1.5 - 2$  for smooth electrode)

## Adsorption isotherms

Equal electrochemical potentials for bulk & adsorbed species  $i$  at equilibrium

$$\mu_i^A = \mu_i^b$$
$$\mu_i^{0,A} + RT \ln a_i^A = \mu_i^{0,b} + RT \ln a_i^b$$

Standard free energy of adsorption

$$\Delta G_i^0 = \mu_i^{0,A} - \mu_i^{0,b}$$
$$a_i^A = a_i^b e^{-\Delta G_i^0/RT} = \beta_i a_i^b$$
$$\beta_i = \exp(-\Delta G_i^0/RT)$$

Where

### Langmuir isotherm

Assumption:

- (a) No interactions between the adsorbed species on the electrode surface
- (b) No heterogeneity of the surface
- (c) At high bulk activities, saturation coverage of the electrode by adsorbate (e.g., to form a monolayer) of amount of  $\Gamma_s$

$$\Gamma_i/(\Gamma_s - \Gamma_i) = \beta_i a_i^b$$

Fractional coverage,  $\theta = \Gamma_i/\Gamma_s$

$$\theta/(1 - \theta) = \beta_i a_i^b$$

$$\Gamma_i = \Gamma_s \beta_i C_i / (1 + \beta_i C_i)$$

If two species i & j are adsorbed competitively,

$$\Gamma_i = \Gamma_{i,s} \beta_i C_i / (1 + \beta_i + \beta_j)$$

$$\Gamma_j = \Gamma_{j,s} \beta_j C_j / (1 + \beta_i + \beta_j)$$

### Logarithmic Temkin isotherm

Interactions between adsorbed species

$$\Gamma_i = (RT/2g) \ln(\beta_i a_i^b) \quad (0.2 < \theta < 0.8)$$

### Frumkin isotherm

Electrochemical free energy of adsorption is linearly related to  $\Gamma_i$

$$\Delta G_i^0(\text{Frumkin}) = \Delta G_i^0(\text{Langmuir}) - 2g\Gamma_i$$

$$\beta_i a_i^b = [\Gamma_i / (\Gamma_s - \Gamma_i)] \exp(-2g\Gamma_i / RT)$$

$g$ : J/mol per mol/cm<sup>2</sup> → increased coverage changes the adsorption E of i

Positive  $g$ : interactions between adsorbed molecules are attractive

Negative  $g$ : repulsive interactions

As  $g \rightarrow 0$ , Frumkin isotherm approaches the Langmuir isotherm

## Rate of adsorption

When  $\beta_i C_i \ll 1$ ,

$$\Gamma_i = \Gamma_s \beta_i C_i = b_i C_i$$

Where  $b_i = \beta_i \Gamma_s$

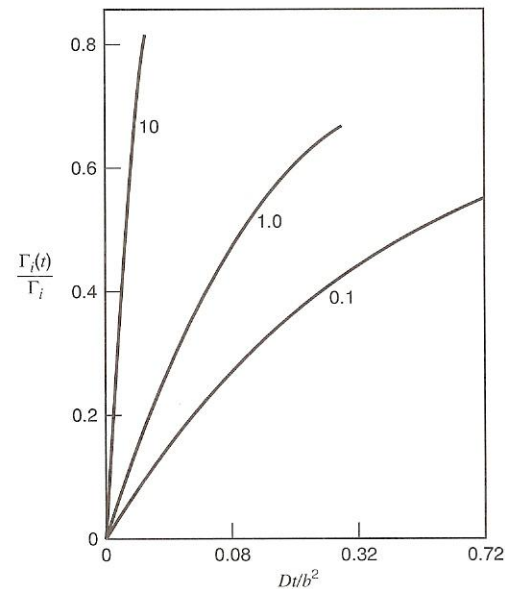
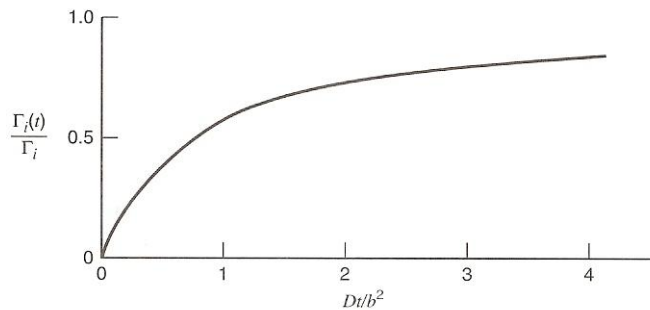
$$\Gamma_i(t) = b_i C_i(0, t)$$

$$C_i(x, 0) = C_i^*, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C_i(x, t) = C_i^*$$

$$\Gamma_i(t) = \int_0^x D_i [\partial C_i(x, t) / \partial x]_{x=0} dt$$

$$\rightarrow \Gamma_i(t) / \Gamma_i = 1 - \exp(D_i t / b_i^2) \operatorname{erfc}[(D_i t)^{1/2} / b_i]$$

$\Gamma_i(t) / \Gamma_i$  is independent of  $C_i^*$ , but actually depend on.



$bC^*/\Gamma_s$

## Effect of adsorption of electroinactive species

→ such adsorption inhibit (or poison) an electrode reaction or accelerate the electrode reaction (e.g., hydrogen or oxygen)

$$k^0 = k_{\theta=0}^0(1 - \theta) + k_c^0\theta$$

Where  $k_{\theta=0}^0$  is the standard rate const at the bare surface &  $k_c^0$  that at the filmed portions

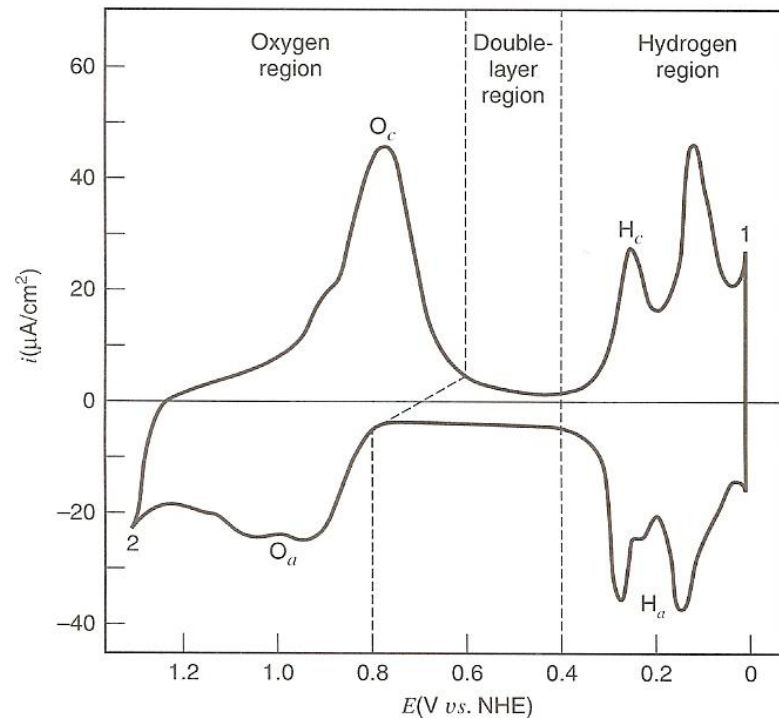
For completer blockage by the film,  $k_c^0 = 0$

For catalysis by the filmed area,  $k_c^0 > k_{\theta=0}^0$

Effect of adsorbed substances

Hydrogen & oxygen

CO & organics



## Summary

Electrochemical potential ( $\mu_i$ ) =  $(\partial G / \partial n_i)$ : const at equilibrium

Surface tension ( $\gamma$ ) =  $(\partial G / \partial A)$ : a measure of the energy required to produce a unit area of new surface

Surface excess concentration ( $\Gamma_i$ ) =  $n_i / A$ : excess per unit area of surface

Gibbs adsorption isotherm:  $-d\gamma = \sum \gamma_i d\mu_i$  for general interface

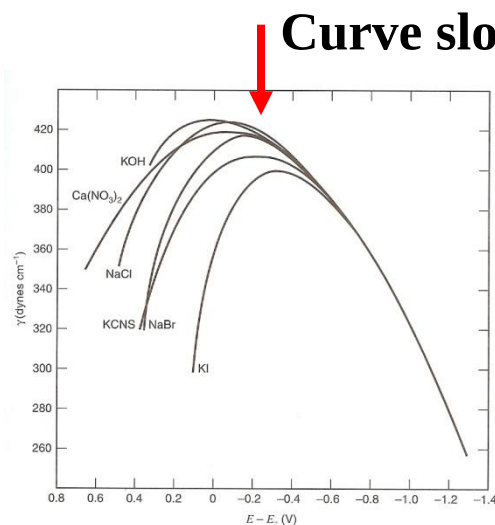
Electrocapillary equation:  $-d\gamma = \sigma^M dE + \sum \Gamma_i d\mu_i$

for electrochemical interface

The excess charge density on the metallic side of interface:  $\sigma^M = -\sigma^S$

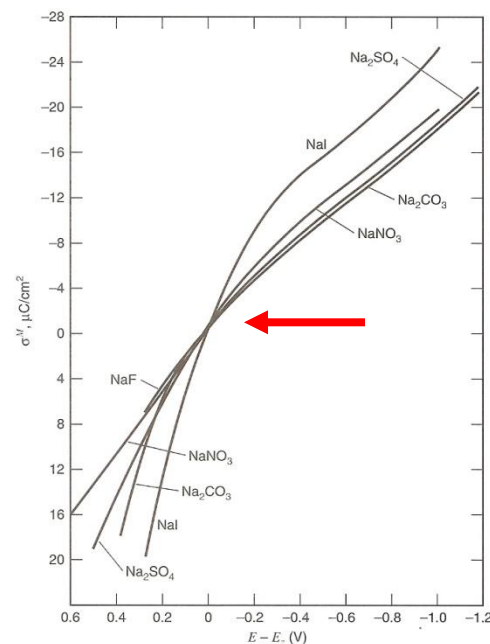
→ surface tension ( $\gamma$ ) vs. charge density:  $\sigma^M = -(\partial \gamma / \partial E)_\mu$

Surface tension ( $\gamma$ ) vs. charge density:  $\sigma^M = (\partial\gamma/\partial E)_\mu$

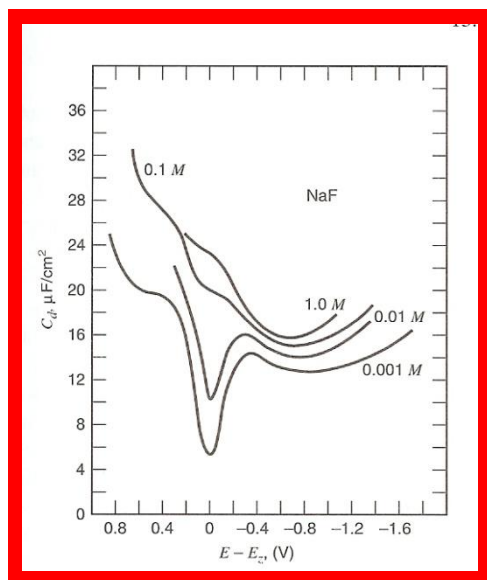


Curve slope = 0: “potential of zero charge”(pzc)  
 $\sigma^M = \sigma^S = 0$

- excess charge



Exp.



$$C_d = (\partial\sigma^M / \partial E)$$