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TEMPERATURE EFFECT ON POLAROGRAPHIC BEHAVIOUR OF Co(II) and Zn(II) 2:1 COMPLEXES WITH PALUDRINE

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SUMMARY

The polarographic reduction of Zn(II) and Co(II) complexes with paludrine has been studied in moderated acid media. The Zn(II) 2:1 complex shows two well defined waves. The Co(II) 2:1 complex shows only one wave. Arrhenius activation energies, obtained from diffusion currents of np, dp, ac<sub>1</sub>, ac<sub>2</sub>, K<sub>1</sub> and K<sub>2</sub> polarograms, show that all cathodic and anodic processes are controlled by diffusion. The mechanism of these processes is proposed.

INTRODUCTION

The first published studies on polarography of biguanides were related to their complexes<sup>1,2</sup>. In order to reduce the biguanide group at the d.m.e., it is required that the nitrogen bridge between the biguanide plane is protonated at the electronic delocalization on the biguanide group thus lost, which makes them susceptible to saturation and reduction, producing the corresponding amino groups<sup>3-5</sup>.

In the present study, direct current (dc), normal(np) and differential pulse (dp), first (ac<sub>1</sub>) and second (ac<sub>2</sub>) armonic superimposed alternating current polarography and methods based on the Kalousek commutator are employed to elucidate the behaviour of 2:1 biguanide complexes on the d.m.e. of paludrine-cobalt and paludrine-zinc buffer aqueous solutions.

EXPERIMENTAL

Polarographic measurements were made with a Polarecord E-506 (Metrhom S.A.). A digital Radiometer pHmeter with a combined electrode enabled us to obtain a pH accuracy of +0.01 units. The temperature was kept constant to +0.1°C using a Heto 03T623 cryostat and a Heto 05E623 thermostat.

Table 3.- Temperature effect on the wave of paludrine 2:1 complex with Co(II).

(paludrine) =  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Co(II)) =  $3.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; pH = 5.03 ;  
 $t = 0.6$  s ;  $\Delta E_{\text{pulse}} = -20$  mV ;  $\Delta E_{\text{ac}} = 10$  mV ;  $\Phi = 0$  rad ;  
 $E_{\text{pb}}(K_1) = -1320$  mV ;  $E_{\text{pb}}(K_2) = -960$  mV ;  $f_k = 75$  Hz .

T( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	dc	np	K <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>2</sub>	ac <sub>1</sub>	dp	ac <sub>2</sub>
5.4	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	5.8	8.0	5.4	10.4	0.75	1.53
	n, n', n''	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1260	1264	1326	1286	1344	1276
9.8	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	6.2	8.6	6.4	11.1	0.85	1.68
	n, n', n''	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1254	1258	1326	1284	1340	1274
15.6	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	7.2	9.6	6.9	12.4	0.95	1.93
	n, n', n''	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.0
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1254	1258	1324	1276	1336	1270
20.6	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	8.2	11.0	8.1	14.2	1.08	2.25
	n, n', n''	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.0
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1250	1252	1322	1274	1332	1266
24.6	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	8.9	12.1	9.1	15.2	1.20	2.50
	n, n', n''	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.0
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1248	1252	1320	1274	1328	1264
30	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	10.0	13.7	9.7	17.2	1.35	2.83
	n, n', n''	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.0
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1246	1252	1320	1276	1328	1264
35.2	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	11.0	15.1	10.6	18.5	1.53	3.15
	n, n', n''	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.1
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1248	1252	1316	1274	1324	1264
40.4	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	12.3	16.7	11.6	20.2	1.73	3.53
	n, n', n''	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.1
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1248	1252	1318	1276	1324	1264
45.2	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	14.1	18.7	12.4	21.6	1.93	3.90
	n, n', n''	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.1
	-E <sub>1/2,p,i</sub> (mV)	1250	1254	1318	1276	1322	1286
					0.197	i <sub>1,p</sub> ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	
					0.8	n''P <sub>1</sub> (mV)	
					1283	E <sub>P1</sub> (mV)	
					1350	E <sub>P1</sub> (mV)	
					1378	E <sub>P2</sub> (mV)	

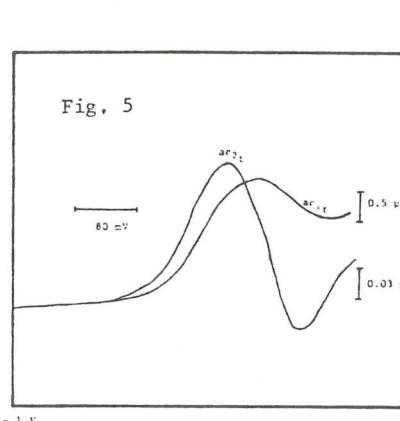
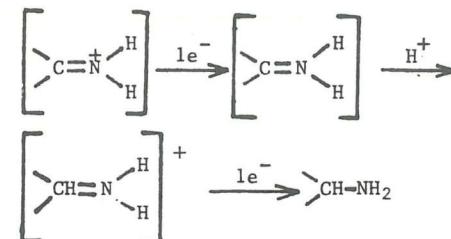


Fig. 5



The shape and heights of ac<sub>1</sub>, ac<sub>2</sub> and Kalousek's waves correspond to overlap of monoelectronic processes.

The reoxidation process of ions:

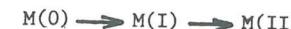


Fig. 5.- Alternating current polaro-

graphy of Co(II) 2:1 complex.

(paludrine) =  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Co(II)) =  $3.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; T = 298 K ; pH = 5.03 ;  
 $t = 0.6$  s ;  $\Delta E = 10$  mV ;  $\Phi = 0$  rad .

occurs analogously for free or complexed divalent M(II) ions.

Theoretical separations of  $\alpha_{ac}$  and  $\alpha_{ac}$  obtained from equations<sup>10</sup>:

$$n'' \approx n' \approx \alpha_{ac} = j_c - 1/2 \quad (5)$$

and

$$\alpha_{ac} = n - j_a + 1/2 \quad (6)$$

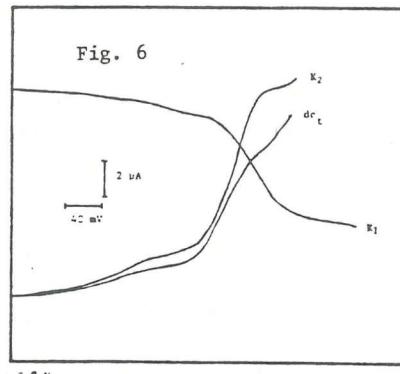


Fig. 6

Fig. 6.- Kalousek and dc polaro-

graphy of Co(II) 2:1 complex.

(paludrine) =  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Co(II)) =  $3.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; T = 298 K ; pH = 5.03 ;  
 $t = 0.6$  s ;  $E_{\text{pb}}(K_1) = -1320$  mV ;  $E_{\text{pb}}(K_2) = -960$  mV ;  $f_k = 75$  Hz .

respectively, for  $j_c = 1$  and  $j_a = 2$  differ from experimental values in the order of the double layer or Frumkin-Gierst effect<sup>11</sup> in the whole temperature interval.

On the other hand, when  $j_c = 1$ , for an E,E'Z mechanism, it is possible to use the following relation between the symmetry factor,  $\beta$ ,

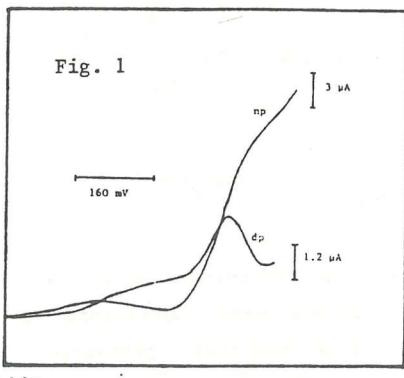


Fig. 1.- Pulse polarography of Zn(II) 2:1 complex. (paludrine)=  
=  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Zn(II))=  $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M;  
T= 298 K ; pH= 5.03 ; t= 0.6 s ;  
 $\Delta E$ = -20 mV .

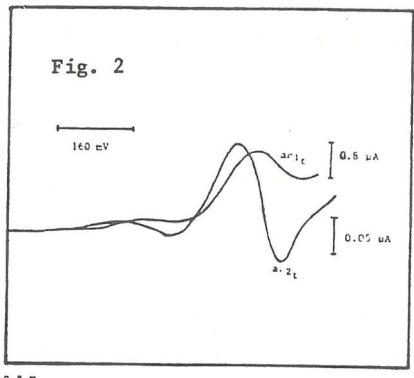


Fig. 2.- Alternating current polarography of Zn(II) 2:1 complex.  
(paludrine)=  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Zn(II))=  
=  $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; T= 298 K ; t= 0.6 s ;  
pH= 5.03 ;  $\Delta E$ = 10 mV ;  $\Phi$ = 0 rad.

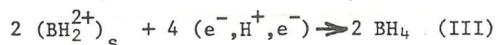
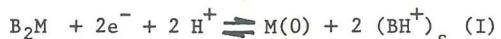
complexes of Zn(II),  $B_2M$ , the first wave would correspond to the reduction of the complexed cation, whereas the second wave would be associated to the biguanide group, B, on the electrode, such as it happens when only biguanide is in the medium. The fact that only one wave is recorded from Co(II) solutions, can be related to the fact that paludrine and Co(II) are reduced at the same zone of potentials<sup>7</sup> (Table 1).

The change in diffusion currents (or peak currents) were studied as a function of temperature from 5° to 45°C, and it was found that it can be expressed by the following Arrhenius equation<sup>8</sup> (Table 2 and Table 3):

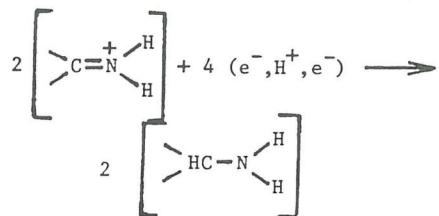
$$i_d = K \exp (-Q / RT) \quad (4)$$

#### MECHANISM

Therefore, the reduction mechanism of these complexes  $B_2M$  can be described in the following steps:



Also, the last step can be written in a more explicit form:



The paludrine (proguanil B.P.) was supplied by ICI Pharma S.A., the phenformine hydrochloride by Funk S.A.

The mercury flow was estimated to be  $2.63 \pm 0.03 \text{ mg.s}^{-1}$ .

Britton-Robinson acetate-phosphate-borate mixtures were prepared, adjusting the pH value with KOH. Ionic strength was adjusted to  $I= 0.5 \text{ M}$  adding  $KCl_{0.5}$ .

Limiting currents,  $i$ , were measured correcting graphically the charging current. Peak potentials values,  $E_{1/2}$ , and peak intensities,  $i_{np}$ , were measured directly over the polarograms.  $E_{1/2}$  values were obtained by semilogarithmic treatment of the waves. Also, the  $na_c$  cathodic values were obtained, corresponding to calculations based on dc polarograms under application of the expression<sup>9</sup> :

$$E = E_{1/2} - \frac{R T}{n a_c F} \ln \frac{i}{i_1 - i} \quad (1)$$

The  $na_a$  anodic values were obtained by the same semilogarithmic treatment from K<sub>a</sub> polarograms. At 25°C, the half-width of ac<sub>1</sub> and dp waves has a value close to

$$w_{1/2} = \frac{4 R T}{n' F} \ln (\sqrt{2} + 1) \quad (2)$$

wherein the  $n'$  parameter has analogous significance as  $na_c$ . Also, the peak-to-peak separation of ac<sub>2</sub> waves are a value close to

$$E_{P2} - E_{P1} = \frac{2 R T}{n'' F} \ln (2 + \sqrt{3}) \quad (3)$$

wherein the  $n''$  parameter has a theoretical similar significance as  $na_c$ . Measurement criteria are previously described for normal (np) and differential (dp) pulse waves<sup>3</sup>, ac<sub>1</sub> and ac<sub>2</sub> waves<sup>4</sup> and Kalousek polarograms<sup>5</sup>.

#### RESULTS

The polarograms obtained by different techniques show two waves in the case of complexes with Zn(II). whereas as only one wave is recorded from complexes paludrine-Co(II) (Fig. 1Fig. 6). In the case of

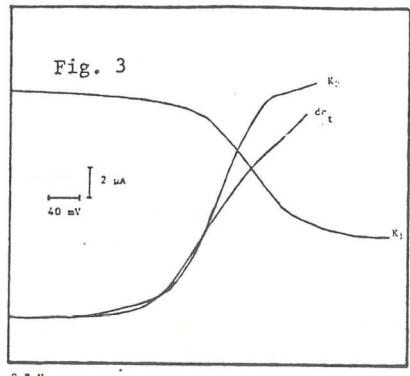


Fig. 3.- Kalousek and dc polarography of Zn(II) 2:1 complex. (paludrine)=  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Zn(II))=  $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M : T= 298 K : pH= 5.03; t= 0.6 s ;  $E_{pb}(K_1)$ = -1320 mV ;  $E_{pb}(K_2)$ = -960 mV ;  $f_k$ = 75 Hz .

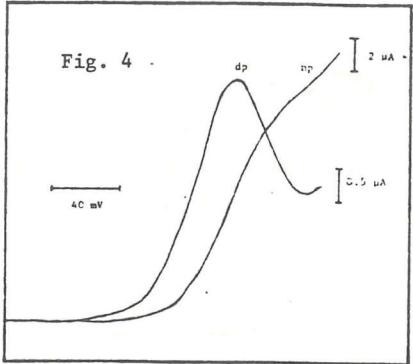


Fig. 4.- Pulse polarography of Co(II) 2:1 complex. (paludrine)=  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Co(II))=  $3.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; T= 298 K ; pH= 5.03 ; t= 0.6 s ;  $\Delta E$ = -20 mV .

All experimental results seem to agree with this mechanism:

a) It is observed that the  $E_p$  and  $E_{1/2}$  potentials of the second wave of the Zn 2:1 complex are the same than the corresponding to the reduction of the paludrine (Table 1). Also, values of  $n\alpha$  and morphology of quasi-diffusion waves are analogous.

b) The activation energy values,  $3 < Q < 4$  kcal. mol<sup>-1</sup>, which characterizes reduction processes associated with the second wave (Table 4).

c) The reduction wave's height of Zn(II) added to its ligands is of the same size of the one the Co(II) complex provides. In this case, electron transfers of the step (I) are produced at the same potentials of step (III).

The  $E_{1/2}$  or  $E_p$  variation on the temperature of cathodic processes point out higher entropic variation in the case of Zn(II) reduction than the one corresponding to the paludrine.

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRANSFER COEFFICIENTS

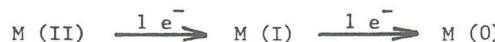
The  $n\alpha$ ,  $n'$  or  $n''$  values can be explained on the basis of a model of monoelectronic transfers coupled with chemical steps<sup>9</sup> or simply structural changes of interfaces<sup>10</sup>. Thus, the

Table 1.- Parameters of polarographic waves of paludrine and its 2:1 complex.

T= 25°C ; pH= 5.03 ; t= 0.6 s ;  $\Delta E_{pulse}$ = -20 mV ;  $\Delta E_{ac} = 10$  mV ;  $E_{pb}(K_1)$ = -1320 mV ;  $E_{pb}(K_2)$ = -960 mV ;  $f_k$ = 75 Hz ;  $\phi$ = 0 rad ; (paludrine)=  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Co(II))=  $3.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Zn(II))=  $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M .

	P	$P_{Zn}$	$P_{Co}$	
	Paludrine	a)	b)	
dc	$-E_{1/2}$ (mV)	1232	984	1248
	$n\alpha$	1.1	0.7	1.2
	$i_1$ (mA)	4.3	2.0	7.5
np	$-E_{1/2}$ (mV)	1236	996	1252
	$n\alpha$	1.3	0.7	1.3
	$i_1$ (mA)	5.7	2.7	10.4
$K_1$	$-E_{1/2}$ (mV)	1316	760	1312
	$n\alpha$	0.8	1.1	0.9
	$i_1$ (mA)	4.6	3.7	8.6
$K_2$	$-E_{1/2}$ (mV)	1250	1028	1276
	$n\alpha$	1.1	0.9	1.1
	$i_1$ (mA)	7.6	2.7	12.9
$ac_1$	$-E_p$ (mV)	1312	1088	1324
	$n'$	0.7	0.8	0.7
	$i_p$ (mA)	0.65	0.12	1.04
dp	$-E_p$ (mV)	1248	1024	1268
	$n'$	1.0	0.8	1.1
	$i_p$ (mA)	1.23	0.30	2.22
$ac_2$	$-E_i$ (mV)	1342	1100	1348
	$n''$	0.7	0.8	0.8
	$i_p$ (mA)	0.065	0.010	0.115
			0.137	

reduction of divalent cations can be simplified:



and also each azomethinic double bond of the diprotonated biguanide group

Table 2.- Temperature effect on two waves of paludrine 2:1 complexes with Zn(II).

(paludrine) =  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; (Zn(II)) =  $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M ; pH = 5.03 ;

$t=0.6$  s ;  $\Delta E_{\text{pulse}} = -20$  mV ;  $\Delta E_{\text{ac}} = 10$  mV ;  $\phi = 0$  rad ;

$E_{\text{pb}}(K_1) = -1320$  mV ;  $E_{\text{pb}}(K_2) = -960$  mV ;  $f_k = 75$  Hz .

a) first wave ; b) second wave.

T (°C)	$\alpha_r$	np	$K_1$	$K_2$	$\alpha_{r1}$		$\alpha_{r2}$	
					a) b)	a) b)	a) b)	a) b)
5	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	1.5 5.3	2.0 7.2	5.6	2.3 9.3	0.12 0.64	0.36 1.48	0.083 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.7 1.0	1.0 1.0	0.8	0.8 0.9	0.8 0.7	0.9 1.0	0.005 0.020 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	1040 1260	1044 1264	1320	1068 1284	1120 1344	1064 1272	1144 1364 $E_i$ (mV)
9.5	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	1.5 0.6	1.8 7.8	6.8	2.0 9.9	0.08 0.72	0.42 2.82	0.013 0.033 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.9 1.1	1.1 1.1	0.7	1.2 1.1	0.8 0.7	1.1 1.0	0.005 0.028 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	1024 1256	1036 1260	1316	1060 1280	1112 1340	1052 1264	1156 1360 $E_i$ (mV)
15.4	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	1.7 6.8	2.4 8.9	3.5 7.1	2.4 11.6	0.12 0.84	0.30 1.92	0.010 0.100 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.9 1.2	0.8 1.2	1.1 0.8	1.1 1.0	0.8 0.7	0.9 1.0	0.008 0.035 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	1016 1256	1024 1260	756 1316	1044 1280	1104 1340	1048 1272	1124 1356 $E_i$ (mV)
20.8	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	1.8 7.1	2.3 9.6	3.8 8.3	2.3 11.9	0.12 0.92	0.30 2.10	0.013 0.113 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.8 1.4	1.0 1.5	1.1 0.8	1.1 1.1	0.8 0.7	0.8 1.1	0.008 0.036 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	1000 1256	1008 1256	756 1316	1028 1280	1096 1336	1040 1268	1120 1356 $E_i$ (mV)
25	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	2.0 7.5	2.7 10.4	3.7 8.6	2.7 12.9	0.12 1.04	0.30 2.22	0.010 0.115 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.7 1.2	0.7 1.5	1.1 0.9	0.9 1.1	0.8 0.8	0.8 1.1	0.010 0.050 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	984 1248	996 1252	760 1312	1028 1276	1088 1324	1024 1268	1100 1348 $E_i$ (mV)
30.2	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	2.3 8.4	2.6 11.0	4.4 9.8	2.7 14.6	0.12 1.16	0.36 2.52	0.008 0.133 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.7 1.4	1.0 1.4	1.1 0.8	0.9 1.1	0.9 0.8	0.7 1.2	0.010 0.040 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	968 1248	984 1252	768 1324	1016 1276	1080 1328	1012 1268	1096 1352 $E_i$ (mV)
35.4	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	2.3 9.8	3.2 12.8	4.4 10.2	2.9 15.8	0.16 1.28	0.42 2.82	0.008 0.143 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.9 1.1	0.8 1.3	1.1 0.8	0.9 1.1	0.8 0.8	0.6 1.1	0.013 0.043 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	960 1252	968 1252	772 1320	1008 1276	1068 1324	988 1264	1084 1344 $E_i$ (mV)
41.2	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	2.6 10.7	3.5 14.4	4.4 10.5	2.9 17.0	0.16 1.52	0.48 3.18	0.008 0.163 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.8 1.2	0.8 1.5	1.0 1.3	0.9 0.9	0.7 0.8	0.6 1.3	0.010 0.043 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	940 1248	952 1256	772 1320	1000 1276	1064 1340	960 1264	1072 1352 $E_i$ (mV)
45.6	$i_{1,p}$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	2.7 12.0	3.0 15.8	3.1 11.7	2.4 18.5	0.16 1.60	0.48 3.48	0.008 0.165 $i_{p_1}(\mu\text{A})$
	$n_a, n'$	0.8 1.4	0.9 1.5	1.1 1.2	1.2 0.9	0.6 0.8	0.6 1.2	0.010 0.063 $i_{p_2}(\mu\text{A})$
	$-E_{1/2,p,i}$ (mV)	928 1240	944 1244	772 1316	992 1268	1016 1320	940 1256	1056 1350 $E_i$ (mV)

and the cathodic transfer coefficient,  $\alpha_c^{12}$  :

$$\alpha_c = \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) \left[ z \left( \frac{\phi_x}{\eta} + 1 \right) + \beta - 0.14 \right] \quad (7)$$

to determinate the number of water molecules displaced on the d.m.e. by each ion.

Replacing in equation (7)  $\beta = 1/2$ ,  $\phi_x/\eta \approx 0.19$  and  $z=2$  for the complexed Zn(II), it is obtained  $n=14$  molecules of water for each reduced ion. Then the form of Zn(II) reduced is the complexed 2:1  $\pi$ -electronic

Table 4.- Arrhenius activation energies of polarographic processes of paludrine and its

2:1 complexes. T = 25°C ; pH = 5.03 ; t = 0.6s ;  
 $\Delta E_{\text{pulse}} = -20$  mV ;  $\Delta E_{\text{ac}} = 10$  mV ;  $f_k = 75$  Hz ;  
 $E_{\text{pb}}(K_1) = -1320$  mV ;  $E_{\text{pb}}(K_2) = -960$  mV ;  $\phi = 0$  rad.

	P	$P_z\text{Zn}$	$P_z\text{Co}$
$\alpha_r$	a	-5.60	-5.11
	b	-2010.70	-1546.50
	r	-0.988	-0.992
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	4.00	3.40
np	a	-5.47	-4.94
	b	-1967.90	-1686.80
	r	-0.991	-0.994
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	3.90	3.30
$K_1$	a	-5.57	-5.60
	b	-2029.60	-1515.90
	r	-0.986	-0.986
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	4.10	3.00
$K_2$	a	-6.13	-5.48
	b	-1692.60	-1499.60
	r	-0.995	-0.996
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	3.40	3.00
$\alpha_{r1}$	a	-7.39	-6.69
	b	-2048.30	-2023.60
	r	-0.995	-0.999
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	4.10	4.00
$\alpha_{r2}$	a	-7.23	-5.86
	b	-1912.50	-1635.20
	r	-0.994	-0.998
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	3.80	3.70
	a	-11.90	-10.07
	b	-1608.50	-1597.50
	r	-0.992	-0.996
	Q(Kcal.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	3.20	3.20

system, since it is bigger<sup>1,2</sup> than the free Zn(II), which has  $n\alpha \approx 1.5^{10}$  and  $m \approx 8$  in the same experimental conditions.

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THE EFFECT OF ADATOMS ON THE REVERSIBILITY OF SOME REDOX COUPLES

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Abstract

Cyclic voltammetric studies were performed for six redox couples at a Pt electrode, in the absence and in the presence of Bi, Pb and Cd adatoms. Standard rate constants were evaluated for all the systems in the absence and in the presence of adatoms.

Whenever a catalytic effect was obtained the effect of coverage was studied in a quantitative way. It was found that the rate constant increases initially rapidly and then passes through a maximum or reaches a constant value, at coverages of the order of a monolayer. For all the systems the influence of the adatoms decreases in the order Bi > Pb > Cd.

Introduction

Heavy metals electrodeposited at an under potential (UPD) onto a Pt surface have shown to catalyse a number of electrochemical reactions. The subject has been reviewed by Adzic [1]. One somewhat surprising observation is that such adatom modified surfaces catalyse "simple" electron transfer reactions, as it has been demonstrated earlier by Adzic et al. [2] and recently by Kokkinidis [3].

Adzic and Despic [2] have found that the heterogeneous rate constants for the reactions of  $Ti^{3+}/Ti^{4+}$  and  $Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}$  couples at  $Au/Cu_{ads}$  and  $Au/Ag_{ads}$  electrodes were increased by almost an order of magnitude. Recently Schultze et al. [4] have studied the kinetics of the  $Ru(NH_3)_6^{2+} / Ru(NH_3)_6^{3+}$  couple at  $Pt/Tl_{ads}$  and  $Pt/Pb_{ads}$ . They found no effect on the exchange current densities due to the presence