PROTEIN-FILM VOLTAMMETRY-ELECTROCHEMICAL SPECTROSCOPY FOR PROBING THE REDOX FEATURES OF BIOCATALYSTS

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HINBE

Electrode surface



Substrates, inhibitors, ligands, metal ions etc.

electrons at controlled potential



Figure 2. Cyclic voltammetric response from a film of adsorbed protein containing a single redox active centre undergoing reversible electron transfer.

Protein functions



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- Structural muscle, skin, hair
- Signalling insulin, growth hormone, EPO
- Catalysts enzymes
- Immunity antibodies
- Regulation DNA-binding proteins
- Poisons toxins in snakes/spiders etc
- Transport hemoglobin







Special group of Proteins are the Enzymes

- Almost all enzymes are Proteins (tertiary and quaternary structures)
- Act as Catalyst to accelerates a reaction
- Not permanently changed in the process



Enzymes work by weakening chemical bonds of the Substrates (reactants) which lowers activation energy



Many of the natural enzymes contain a *redox-active center* that exchanges electrons with a specific **substrate**









If we get insight into the Enzyme-Substrate electron-exchange reaction, than we can get access to valuable thermodynamic and kinetic parameters relevant to the enzymatic reaction studied



We can get access to:

Michaelis constant, relevant thermodynamics and kinetics parameters
order of the reaction
conditions affecting the enzymatic reaction
possible inhibitors
specificity of the enzymatic reaction
effects of inhibitors...
CREATING ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS!!!

-...

Whenever we want to study the redox chemistry of the ENZYMES we meet **big troubles**.



Performing electrochemistry on such bulky molecules is not an easy task

Various hindrances appear, mainly linked to the POOR WATER SOLUBILIT and INSTABILITY OF THE PROTEINS.

Physical phenomena-adsorption, precipitation... limit significantly the performances of the electrochemical methods applied





A NEW APPROACH emerged recently to study the features of the Redox enzymes. The method is called-**PROTEIN-FILM VOLTAMMETRY** (PFV)



Figure 1. The PFV concept. An electrode takes the role of redox partner to a protein of interest adsorbed on its surface.

EQUIPMENT FOR PFV







Protocol of performing PFV EXPERIMENTS:



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Enzyme is adsorbed on working (commonly Graphite) Electrode <u>LESS THAN 10 FEMTOMOLE OF ENZYME</u> is addressed, and numerous consecutive experiments can be conducted on same sample.





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solution



ANOTHER APPROACH:

self-assembling (adsorption) of the enzymes from the Water solution to the electrode surface (mainly graphite electrode)





Scenarios for achieving electron transfers between the working electrode and the redox protein As an instrumental output we get a CYCLIC (or SQUARE-WAVE-SW) voltammogram typical for *surface confined* redox processes.

The features of the voltammograms: (*mid-peak potential* E_p , *peak-to-peak separation*, *peak current* I_p , *half-peak width* $\Delta E_{p/2}$

hide valuable set of kinetic and thermodynamic parameters of the redox enzyme studied







In order to overcome this problem, and to facilitate the electron transfer between the electrode and the redox protein, one usually plays around with the electrode material or with modification of the electrode surface

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1. First choice: To test electrodes made from various Materials having much ordered structure and much **Better conductivity than the common electrodes** such as glassy carbon electrode or some other **Carbon-type electrodes**



In the last few years, <u>GRAPHENE</u> emerged as a very promising material for designing electrode materials

Its has very good electrical conductivity, a big surface area that allows various functional groups to be attached on it







Graphene exhibits excellent electron transfer promoting ability for some enzymes and excellent catalytic behavior toward small biomolecules such as H_2O_2 , , NADH, which makes graphene extremely attractive for <u>enzyme-based</u> <u>biosensors</u>, e.g. glucose biosensors and ethanol biosensors



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Another promising electrode material is the Highly Oriented Pyrolitic Graphite (HOPG)

NANOPARTICLES (especially carbon nanotubes) are one of the most excited choices for modifying the electrode materials







By attaching a given protein on the surface of Carbon Nanotubes modified-electrode we get so-called BIOHYBRID ELECTRODES-especially useful for studying the Redox enzymes





Especially attractive in the last few years are THE GRAPHENE-BASED NANO-MATERIALS



LINKERS-BASED PROTEIN-FILM VOLTAMMETRY



<u>LINKERS</u>-small lipophilic or amphiphilic compounds adsorbed on the surface of the working electrode, serving as <u>docking sites</u> for the redox enzymes





Electrode potential (mV vs SHE)

APPLICATIONS of PFV



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- What kind of redox proteins can be studied with PFV?
- -Hydrogenases
- -Peroxidases
- -<u>Heam-containing proteins (</u>catalase, hemoglobin, Myoglobin, Cytochrome P450...
- -Enzymes with quinone moieties...

1. Obtaining Energy by using PFV methodology





Ni-Fe hydrogenase is a type of hydrogenase that is an oxidative enzyme that activates reversibly molecular hydrogen in prokaryotes

Active site of





Fe-only hydrogenase NiFe-hydrogenase

An additional O-ligand is present in inactive states

Structure of [NiFe]-hydrogenase from *Desulfovibrio gigas*

[4Fe-4S]_{dist}

α-Subunit(containsthe activesite)

β-Subunit (contains the electron relay)

Other [NiFe]-hydrogenases have similar sequences or spectroscopic properties

[**3Fe-4S**]

 H_2

H+

[4Fe-4S]_{prox}

$H_2(g) + O_2(g) \rightarrow H_2O(liq) \quad \Delta H = -286 \text{ kJ/mol}$ specific enthalpy -143 kJ/gram H_2

Hydrogen is the fuel for the future!!!

NASA uses hydrogen fuel to launch the space shuttles.











An interesting scenario for obtaining O2 at the anode for getting energy by electrochemical enzymatic Reaction is via the Photosystem II (PS II) And Hydrogenases redox transofrmation

Photosystem II (or water-plastoquinone oxidoreductase)

Investigating hydrogenases by protein film voltammetry



Protein Film Voltammetry: Catalytic action can produce a large current with characteristic dependence on potential







Preparing the film: Stationary PGE electrode is potential-cycled in dilute H2ase solution (< 1 μ M) (in this case *D.gigas* NiFe enzyme)



'100%- Bio' hydrogen fuel cell : no chemical catalysts

laccase (Cu enzyme) on PGE electrode



2. Designing Bio-sensors by using PFV

-Principles of working:



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Principle of Electrochemical Biosensors in PFV



Catalytic regenerative mechanism in PFV





Biosensor based on PFV for penicillin detection

Glucose Oxidase

Glucose Biosensor based on pFV









Anal. Chem., 2003, 75, 4565-4571.



Detection of Nitrites/Nitrates anions by PFV set-up In most of the PFV studies, the authors have explored haemcontaining proteins as catalase, hemoglobin and myoglobin, cytochrome P450 and horseradish peroxidase as platforms for the detection of oxygen, reactiveoxygen species, hydrogen peroxide, trichloroacetic acid, nitrites...



the enzymes used as a platform for ROS detection are sensitive to rather big concentrations of the substrates (i.e., the enzyme sensors can work only in the concentration regions of ROS of over 50 μ M), which make their use for the direct detection of ROS in the cells quite limited.

THEORY OF SOME COMMON REDOX REACTIONS IN PFV

The theory of PFV

almost fully complies with the theory of surface confined redox reactions

By making the theoretical models in PFV we get insights into the

-redox mechanism of a given enzyme studied

-thermodynamics and kinetic parameters relevant to the electron transfer reaction

- thermodynamics and kinetic parameters relevant to the eventual chemical reactions





Simple surface electrode reaction k_{sur}, α_a $R_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons O_{(ads)} + ne^-$

$$C_r E$$
 mechanism
 $Y_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons R_{(ads)}; R_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons O_{(ads)} + ne^{-1}$
Keq.



$$\mathbf{R}_{(\mathrm{ads})} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{O}_{(\mathrm{ads})} + n \mathbf{e}^{-}; \mathbf{O}_{(\mathrm{ads})} \xrightarrow{k_{\mathrm{f}}} \mathbf{Y}_{(\mathrm{ads})}$$

EC' catalytic mechanism

 $\mathbf{R}_{(\mathrm{ads})} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{O}_{(\mathrm{ads})} + n\mathbf{e}^{-}; \mathbf{O}_{(\mathrm{ads})} \xrightarrow{k_{\mathrm{f}}} \mathbf{R}_{(\mathrm{ads})}$

Two-step mechanism (EE) $A_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons B_{(ads)} + n_1 e^- \rightleftharpoons C_{(ads)} + n_2 e^-$



Surface redox reaction-Reactant and the product of the redox reaction remain firmly Adsorbed on the electrode surfaceno diffusion effects are considered

ECE mechanism

$$\begin{array}{c} \kappa_{\rm f} \\ R1_{\rm (ads)} \rightleftharpoons O1_{\rm (ads)} + ne^{-}; O1_{\rm (ads)} \xrightarrow{\kappa_{\rm f}} R2_{\rm (ads)} \\ R2_{\rm (ads)} \rightleftharpoons O2_{\rm (ads)} + ne^{-} \end{array}$$



-scan rate





Cyclic voltammograms of an EE Mechanism in PFV Effect of different kinetics of both redox steps

This mechanism holds for PFV in which the redox center of the enzyme is some multivalent cation (Mo, V, Cr, Cu,

ECE mechanism



EC' catalytic mechanism

A(ads) +ne- $\leftrightarrow \mathbf{R}_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{O}_{(ads)} + ne^{-}; \mathbf{O}_{(ads)} \xrightarrow{k_{f}} \mathbf{R}_{(ads)} \xrightarrow{+Y} \mathbf{R}_{(ads)}$





Obtained by increasing concentration of the substrate







Effect of the *chemical parameter* to the features of the SW voltammograms by the *EC* (electrochemical-chemical) surface redox reaction



$$\mathbf{R}_{(ads)} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{O}_{(ads)} + n\mathbf{e}^{-}; \mathbf{O}_{(ads)} \xrightarrow{k_{\mathbf{f}}} \mathbf{R}_{(ads)}$$





E-C-E Reaction mechanismtwo electron transfer steps coupled by a chemical reaction in SWV



Methods to determine the kinetics od the electron transfer step in square-wave voltammetry



Outlooks for the future of the Protein-film voltammetry

-challenges that remain:

to find suitable electrode material for many proteins

to overcome insulating protein features of many proteins

to enlarge potential window available

new strategies for studying novel proteins (up to now, about 80 different proteins are studied by PFV methodology)

Designing new types of Nanoparticles-inevitable for PFV

Designing reliable **biosensors**



Potential window of some common electrodes in used in PFV



Relevant Literature about Recent Theories in PFV

<u>1. Rubin Gulaboski, Ivan Bogeski, Valentin Mirčeski, Stephanie Saul, Bastian Pasieka, Haleh</u> <u>H. Haeri, Marina Stefova, Jasmina Petreska Stanoeva, Saša Mitrev, Markus Hoth, Reinhard</u> <u>Kappl</u>, "Hydroxylated derivatives of dimethoxy-1,4-benzoquinone as redox switchable earthalkaline metal ligands and radical scavengers" *Nature Scientific Reports*, 3 (2013) 1-8,

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 R. Gulaboski, M. Lovric, V. Mirceski, I. Bogeski, M. Hoth, <u>A new rapid and simple method to</u> determine the kinetics of electrode reactions of biologically relevant compounds from the half-peak width of the square-wave voltammograms., *Biophys. Chem.* 138 (2008) 130-137.

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8. R. Gulaboski, <u>Surface ECE mechanism in protein film voltammetry—a theoretical study under</u> conditions of square-wave voltammetry, J. Solid State Electrochem. 13 (2009) 1015-1024

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Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP)





Tapping mode atomic force microscopy (AFM) image of HRP film