Electro-Oxidation of Ciclopirox Olamine at a Glassy Carbon Electrode.

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Abstract- The electro-oxidation of Ciclopiroxolamine (CPO) has been studied at a bare glassy carbon electrode (GCE) in sodium hydroxide medium using the cyclic voltammetric technique (CV). The GCE shows an intensified electro-chemical response towards the CPO by showing one oxidation peak in sodium hydroxide media. The effect of pH, concentration, scan rates and surfactant were studied at the GCE. The limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation (LOQ) of CPO were detected. The anodic peak potential ($E_p$), anodic peak current ($i_p$) was characterized. The electro-oxidation process was diffusion controlled.

Keyword - Ciclopirox olamine Cyclic voltammetry, Glassy carbon electrode, Heterogeneous rate constant, Electro-oxidation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Ciclopirox olamine (CPO), 6-cyclohexyl-1-hydroxy-4-methylpyridine-2(1H)-one-2-hydroxyethyl)amino(1:1) (Fig.1) is used to treat fungal infections such as athletes feet and ring worms etc., It is most useful against Pityriasis[1]. It has a high potential disinfectant effect with less toxicity and strong osmolarity.

![Fig.1. Structure of CPO](image)

Various analytical procedures for the estimation of CPO using HPLC [5-6], microbial methods[8-9], pharmacokinetics[7-8], polarographic methods[9-10], and capillary chromatography[11] have been established. These methods are allows the generation of more microbes and presence of more colony forming units, contamination of the growth can occur, it doesn’t allow the generation of obligate microorganisms. Investigations of the redox behavior of biologically occurring compounds through electrochemical techniques have the potential leading to detailed understanding of biological redox species of these compounds. Voltametric techniques are sensitive techniques and these are much used to know the electrochemical behaviour of such compounds [12-14].

In this paper a simple and sensitive procedure to study the electrochemical behaviour of CPO at GCE is presented and it under goes electro-oxidation at pH-4 sodium acetate-acetic acid buffer.

II. EXPERIMENTAL

A. Reagents and Chemicals

Standard stock solution of CPO was prepared as follows 0.05g of CPO is dissolved in 0.1 M sodium hydroxide solution. During CV experiment, different known strength of CPO. were prepared by diluting the stock solution of CPO in the background electrolyte (pH-4 Sodium acetate- Acetic acid buffer).

B. Apparatus and Procedure

The electrochemical experiments were performed with CV Instrument,EA-201 Electro Analyser and were performed in a 20ml glass cell with a 3mm diameter GCE as the working electrode ,a platinum wire as counter electrode and Hg/HgCl2 electrode as reference electrode. All experiments were performed at an encompassed temperature of 25 ± 0.2°C. The GCE is rubbed to make the electrode to free from from dust using 0.3µ aluminium oxide powder before each experiment. After rubbing, the electrode was washed completely with
distilled water. After this mechanical treatment, the GCE was placed in 0.1M NaOH electrolyte and various CV graphs were recorded until a consistent baseline graph was obtained.

The surface area dimension of the GCE was calculated using 10mM K₄[Fe(CN)₆] in 0.1M KNO₃ by recording the current voltage curve. From the cyclic voltammetric peak current (38.2µA) and the diffusion coefficient of [Fe(CN)₆]⁴⁻, the area of the electrode was calculated [15-16] by using the equation.

$$I_{pa} = \frac{(2.69 \times 10^5) n^{3/2} A D^{1/2} v^{1/2} C_{\text{o*}}}{1/2}$$  \(1\)

where, \(n\)=number of electrons transferred, \(A\)=surface area of the GCE, \(D\)=diffusion coefficient (6.538x10⁻⁶ cm²s⁻¹), \(v\)=sweep rate (0.02Vs⁻¹) and \(C_{\text{o*}}\)=concentration of electro active species (10mM). The surface area of the electrode was found to be 0.0392 cm².

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Electro-oxidation of CPO

The oxidative behaviour of CPO at a GCE was studied by cyclic voltammetry (CV) in 0.1M NaOH as supporting electrolyte in pH-4 buffer of Sodium acetate -Acetic acid. In the studied potential range, the oxidative peak for buffer was not observed. The CV graph obtained for 0.44mM CPO solution at a scan rate \(v=100\text{mVs}^{-1}\) (Fig.2) shows one anodic peak that occur at \(E_p=0.75\text{ V}\). On scanning in the reverse direction, no reduction peak was observed, showing that the CPO undergoes oxidation only and hence it is an irreversible process. When the drug is subjected to several scans, it is observed that there is decrease in the oxidation current. This observation may be due to its adsorption of oxidative product of CPO on the surface of GCE (Fig.3). However, for CV experiment, the first scan was used.

![Cyclic voltammogram obtained for 0.44mM CPO on GCE in 0.1M NaOH: (a) Ciclopirox olamine and (b) blank at \(v=100\text{mVs}^{-1}\).](image1)

![Successive cyclic voltammograms obtained for 0.44Mm CPO on GCE: (1) first, (2) second and (3) third scan at \(v=50\text{mVs}^{-1}\).](image2)
B. Effect of scan rate

The effect of rate of scan on the anodic oxidation of CPO was studied at a concentration of 0.44mM in 0.1 M NaOH in pH-4 Sodium acetate Acetic acid buffer. A log-log plot of peak current versus scan rate will give a slope = 0.5 for diffusion and 1 for adsorption [17]. In all scanning the oxidation peak current was directly related to the square root of the scan rate. In such situation, the electro-oxidation phenomenon was Diffusion controlled. A linear relationship was observed between log ip and log \( \nu \) (Fig.4) corresponding to the equation: \[ \log i_{pa} (\mu A) = \log \nu + 0.2517 \], where \( \nu \) is in mVs\(^{-1}\). The slope of 0.539 is close to the theoretically expected value of 0.5 for a purely diffusion-controlled current [16]. The graph of \( i_{pa} / \nu^{1/2} \) vs log \( \nu \) shows that as the peak current increases along with sweep rate (Fig.5). This type of trend indicated that GCE surface has some adsorption issues.

![Graph showing the relationship between peak current and scan rate](image)

**Fig. 4.** Variation of the logarithm of peak current with the logarithm of the sweep rate for 0.44mM CPO.

The Ep of the oxidative signal was also dependent on scan rate. The graph of Ep vs log \( \nu \) was linear having a correlation coefficient of 0.9746 (Fig.6) and this behavior was consistent with the Electrochemical behaviour of the reaction. The relation between Ep and \( \nu \) can be shown by the equation, \[ E_{pa}(\nu) = 0.27 \log \nu + 0.81 \].

![Graph showing the relationship between Ep and scan rate](image)

**Fig. 5.** Dependence of ip/\( \nu^{1/2} \) on log for 0.44 mM CPO at GCE.
C. Effect of Concentration

A plot of log Ip vs different strengths of CPO shows linearity (Fig.7), indicating further that the interaction of drug with GCE surface is observed through diffusion method [16], with correlation coefficient 0.929. The linear relation expressing dependence of Ip on strength of CPO within limit between 0.44-1mM.

The LOD and LOQ were obtained from the signal current using the relation LOD=3S/M and LOQ=10S/M Where, S is the standard deviation and M is the slope (sensitivity) of calibration graph. The limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ) of CPO were calculated as 4.303 µM and 14.34 µM respectively. Related statistical data of were taken from five calibration graphs (n=5).

D. Effect of Temperature

The influence of temperature on electro-oxidation of CPO was performed at five temperatures (298-318K). Cyclic voltammograms of mixture of CPO (0.44mM) and 0.1 M NaOH in pH-4 Sodium acetate Acetic acid buffer (0.1M) were recorded at respective temperatures. The oxidation peak current increased linearly (Fig.8) with correlation coefficient 0.9658. The heterogeneous rate constants (k_o) were calculated at various temperatures by using the equation(3):

\[ i_{p}= k_0 (0.227) n F A C_0 \exp \{-\alpha n a (Ep-E)\} \]  

\[ \alpha = \frac{0.048}{E_p-E_{p/2}} \]  

where, \( E_p \) = peak potential (V), \( C_0 \) = initial concentration of CPO (mM), \( F \) = Faraday constant, \( A \) = Area of the electrode, \( n \) = number of electrons involved in the process, \( E_{p/2} \) = half-wave potential, \( E_p \) = peak potential, and \( E_{p/2} \) = half-wave potential, \( R \) = gas constant, and \( T \) = temperature (K).

\[ E_p = E_{p/2} + 1.09RT/nF \]
The Calculated heterogeneous $k_0$ values are tabulated in Table I. The energy of activation ($E_a$) was evaluated from the Arrhenius graph of log $k_0$ versus $1/T$, which was linear with the slope = -4288.24. (Fig.8). The other thermodynamic activation values were calculated from this Energy of activation value and are tabulated in Table II. The less value of $\Delta H^\#$ indicates the electro-oxidative process of CPO might be taking place through physical adsorption. The more $-ve$ $\Delta S^\#$ value indicates the oxidation of CPO at electrode might be taking place via the formation of an activated adsorbed complex [18] before the products are formed. Such adsorbed intermediate complex is organized than reactant molecules itself.

**TABLE I.** Calculated heterogeneous rate constants at 303 to 323 K for 0.44M CPO with scan rate 100mVs$^{-1}$ at GCE.

| Temperature in K | $i_P/\mu A$ | $k_0 \times 10^5$ cm s$^{-1}$ |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 303              | 0.16        | 0.090                         |
| 308              | 0.45        | 0.097                         |
| 313              | 1.42        | 0.308                         |
| 318              | 2.45        | 0.525                         |
| 323              | 2.51        | 0.530                         |

**TABLE II.** Calculated thermodynamic activation parameters for the electro-oxidation of 0.44mM CPO at GCE.

| Activation parameter | Values  |
|----------------------|---------|
| $E_a$ (kJ mol$^{-1}$) | 8.319   |
| $\Delta H^\#$ (kJ mol$^{-1}$) | 5.7578 |
| $\Delta S^\#$ (JK$^{-1}$ mol$^{-1}$) | -317.03 |
| $\Delta G^\#$ (kJ mol$^{-1}$) | 97.69   |

Fig. 8. Observed dependence of $i_P$ on temperature for 0.44mM CPO
E. Influence of pH

CV was used to identify the dependence of pH value in the CPO at the GCE. The experiment on variation of pH was made between 3.7 to 5.6 in 0.1M Sodium acetate, acetic acid buffer solution at a scan rate of 100mV/s. at pH 4 Ep was found to be high and then EPa values were decreasing with pH as given in Fig. (9). So pH 4.0 was selected for further experiments.

F. Influence of SDS Surfactant

Surfactants in small quantities can exhibit a strong effect on the electrode process. Adsorption of such surfactants may hinder the electrode process, causes the obstacles while in CV graphs, and bring changes in the signal to more negative(-VE) potentials[19]. It clearly shows that the concentration of surfactants exhibits remarkable enhancement effect on the ipa of CPO. However, the ipa of CPO is closely related to the different amount of SDS(1-5ml). The oxidation and ipa enhances greatly as surfactants concentration was increased from 1uL to 5 mL, the background current gradually increases while increasing the surfactants concentration. The graph of concentration vs. current shows linearity with correlation coefficient, SDS=0.942 Fig.(10).
IV. CONCLUSION

The presence of CPO at a GCE was established and studied for the first time. The process was irreversible at a high potential on a GCE. It is one of the best alternatives for the analytical determination of CPO because it is simple, fast, and inexpensive. Furthermore, this CV analysis method can be adopted for pharmacokinetic studies, also clinical and quality control laboratories.

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