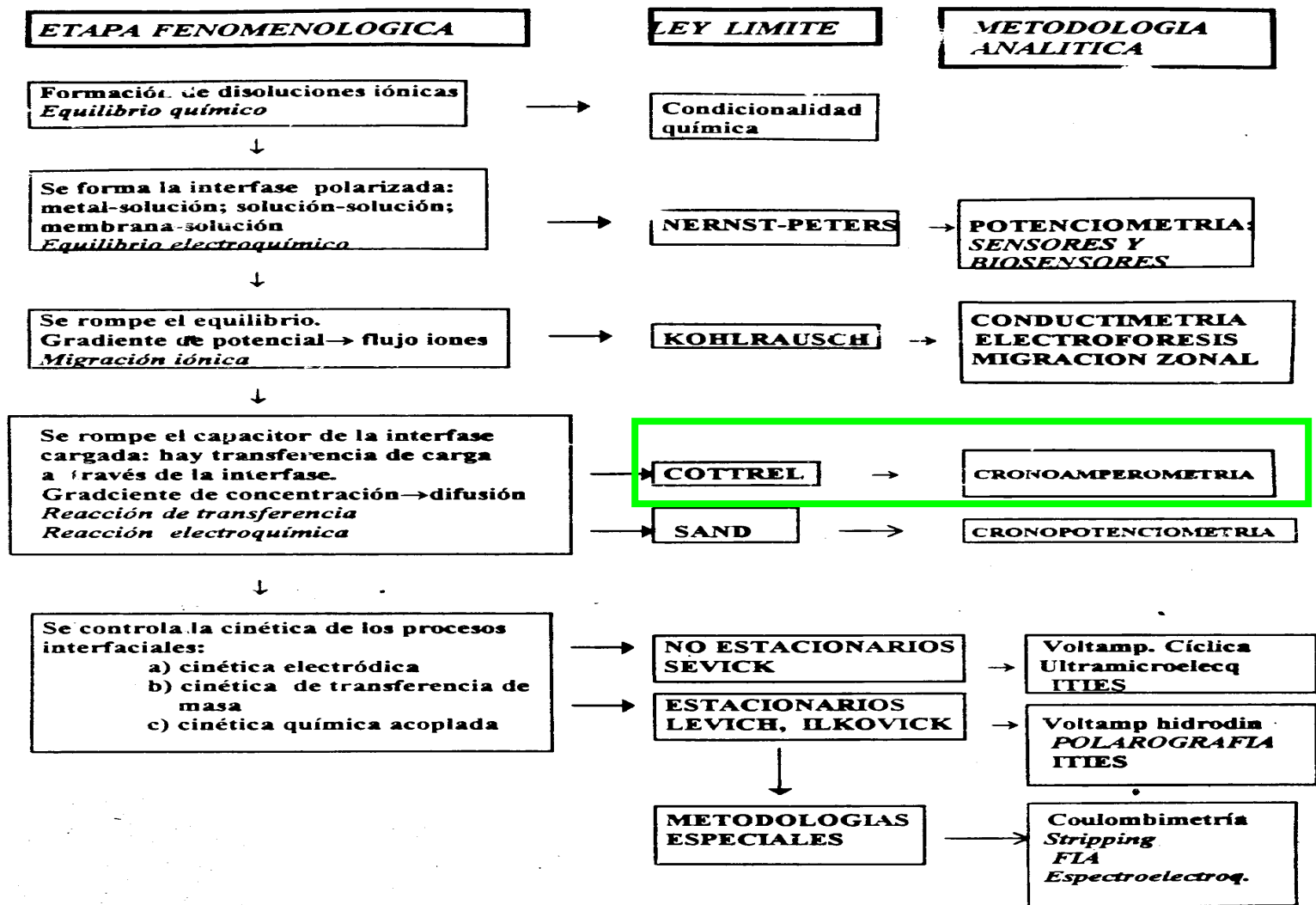
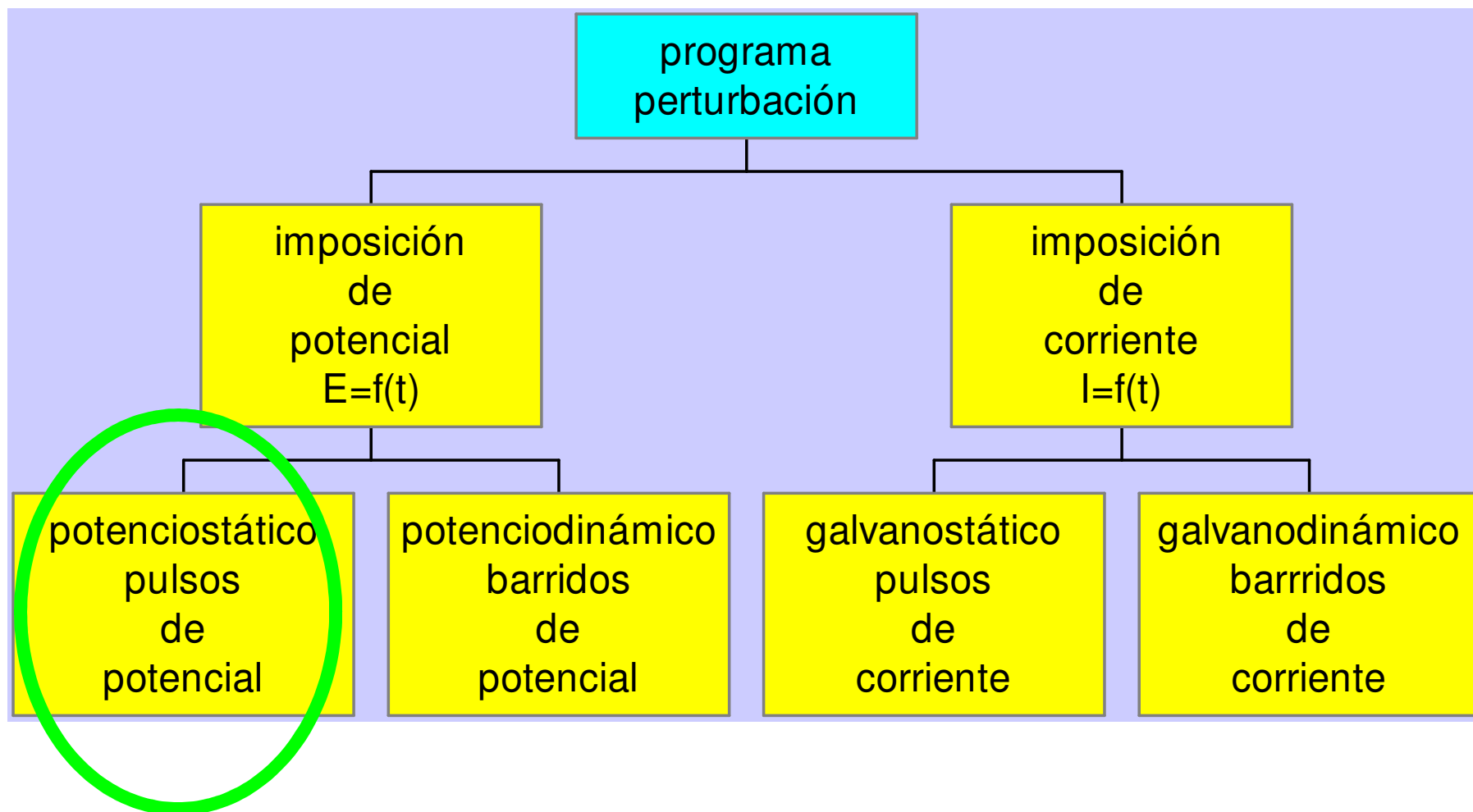


# Cronoamperometría: Ecuación de Cottrell



**ESQUEMA FENOMENOLOGICO PARA LA ENSEÑANZA DE LA ELECTROQUÍMICA ANALÍTICA**  
 Candidato a Doctor Alejandro Baeza

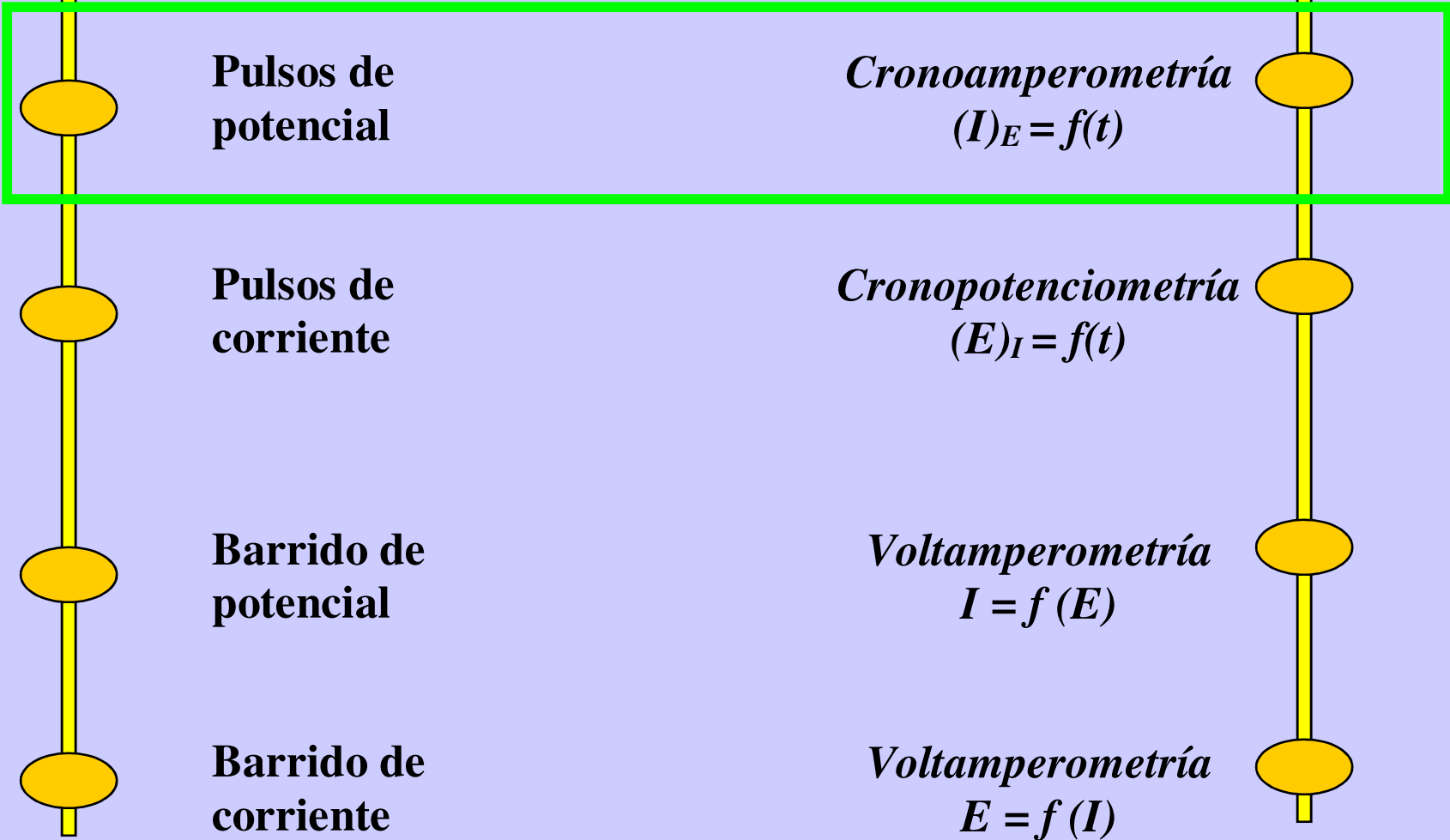


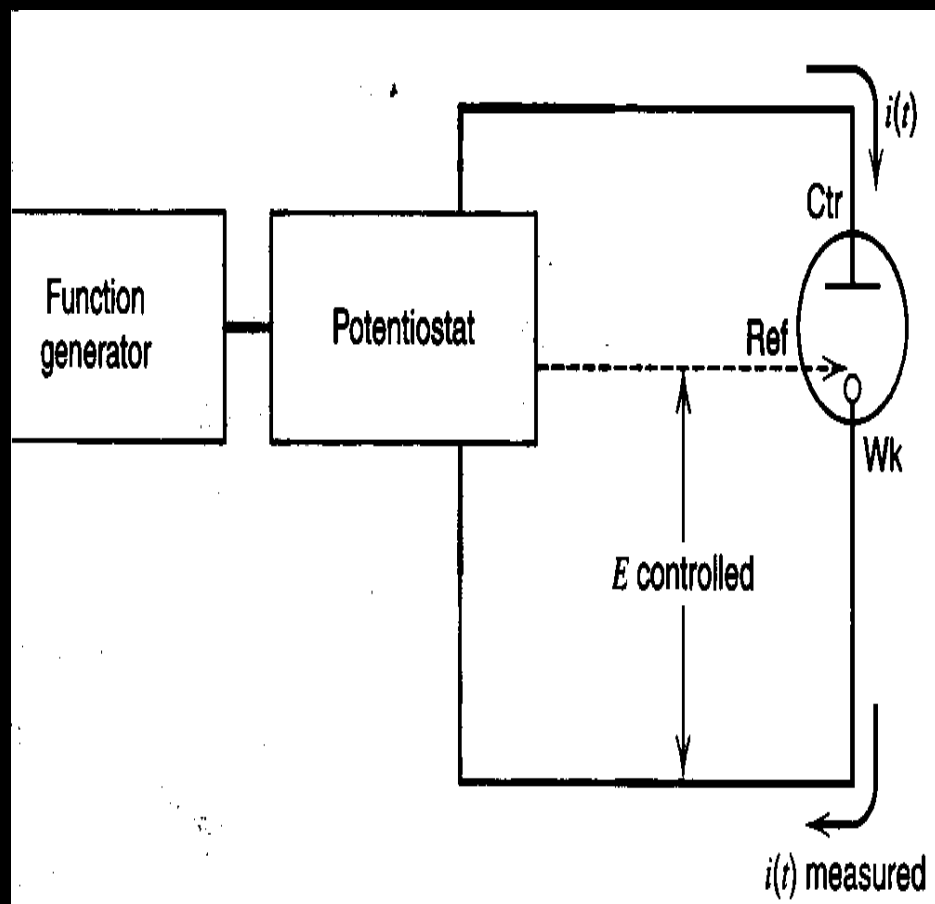


Programa  
perturbación

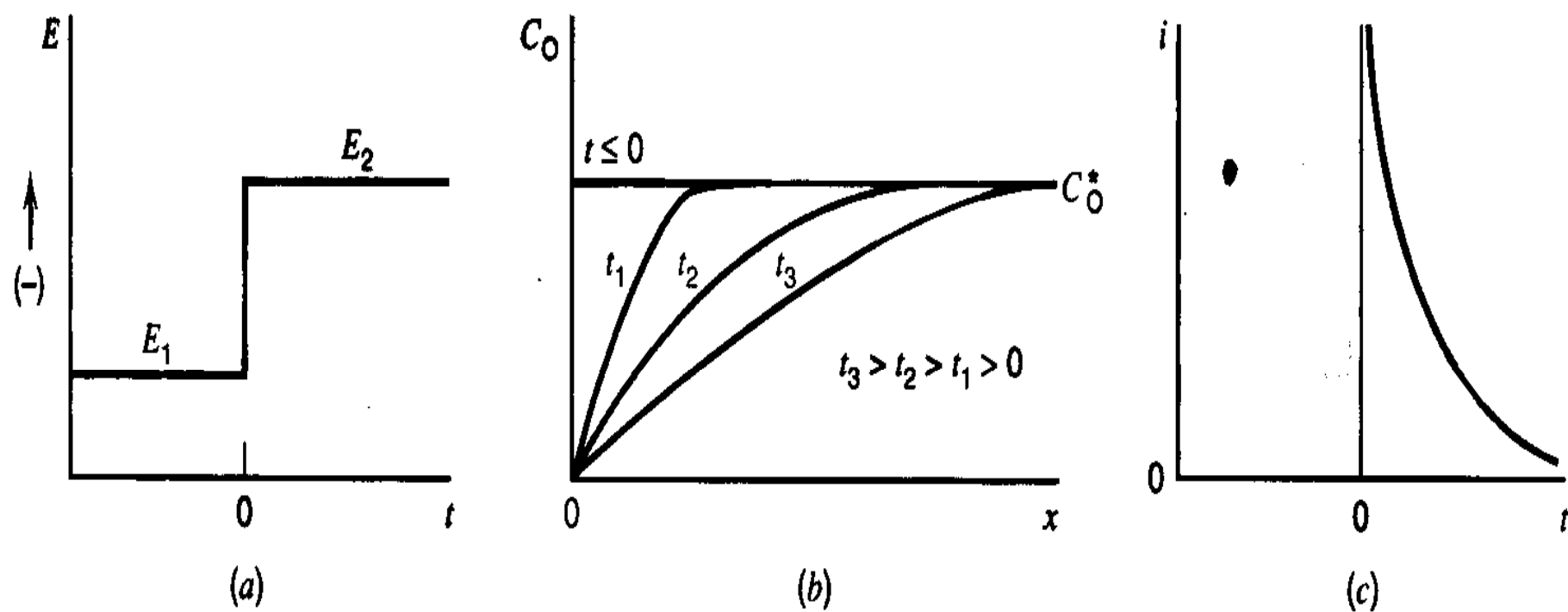


Patrón de  
Respuesta

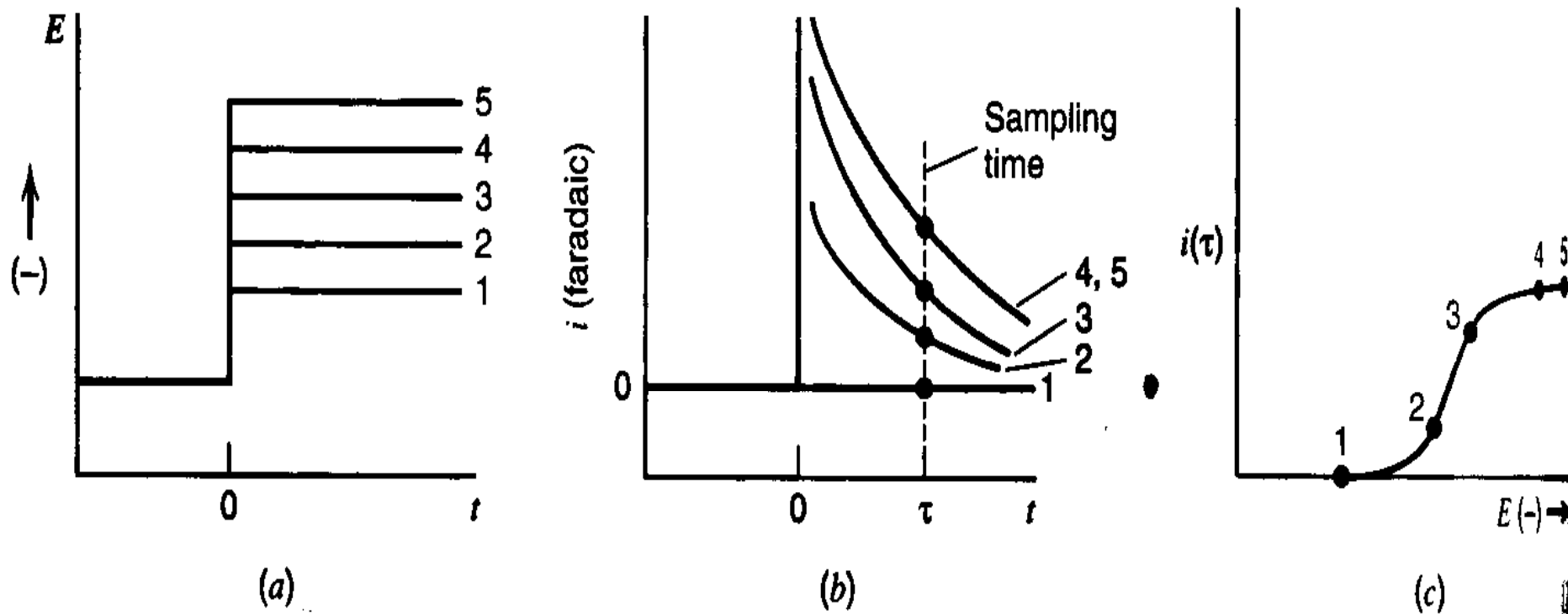




**Figure 5.1.1**  
Experimental arrangement  
for controlled-potential  
experiments.



**Figure 5.1.2** (a) Waveform for a step experiment in which species O is electroinactive at  $E_1$ , but is reduced at a diffusion-limited rate at  $E_2$ . (b) Concentration profiles for various times into the experiment (c) Current flow vs. time



**Figure 5.1.3** Sampled-current voltammetry. (a) Step waveforms applied in a series of experiments. (b) Current-time curves observed in response to the steps. (c) Sampled-current voltammogram.

## ► 5.2 POTENTIAL STEP UNDER DIFFUSION CONTROL

### 5.2.1 A Planar Electrode

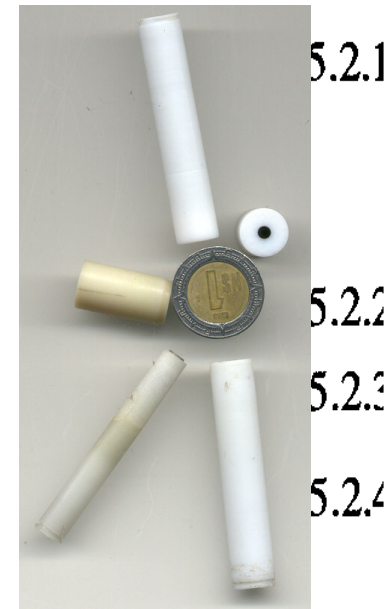
#### (a) *Solution of the Diffusion Equation*

The calculation of the diffusion-limited current,  $i_d$ , and the concentration profile,  $C_O(x, t)$  involves the solution of the linear diffusion equation:

$$\frac{\partial C_O(x, t)}{\partial t} = D_O \frac{\partial^2 C_O(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

under the boundary conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} C_O(x, 0) &= C_O^* \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} C_O(x, t) &= C_O^* \\ C_O(0, t) &= 0 \quad (\text{for } t > 0) \end{aligned}$$





$$\bar{C}_O(x, s) = \frac{C_O^*}{s} + A(s) e^{-\sqrt{s/D_O}x} \quad (5.2.4)$$

By applying the third condition, (5.2.4), the function  $A(s)$  can be evaluated, and the  $\bar{C}_O(x, s)$  can be inverted to obtain the concentration profile for species O. Transforming (5.2.4) gives

$$\bar{C}_O(0, s) = 0 \quad (5.2.5)$$

which implies that

$$\bar{C}_O(x, s) = \frac{C_O^*}{s} - \frac{C_O^*}{s} e^{-\sqrt{s/D_O}x} \quad (5.2.6)$$

In Chapter 4, we saw that the flux at the electrode surface is proportional to the current specifically,

$$-J_O(0, t) = \frac{i(t)}{nFA} = D_O \left[ \frac{\partial C_O(x, t)}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0} \quad (5.2.7)$$

which is transformed to

$$\frac{\bar{i}(s)}{nFA} = D_O \left[ \frac{\partial \bar{C}_O(x, s)}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0} \quad (5.2.8)$$

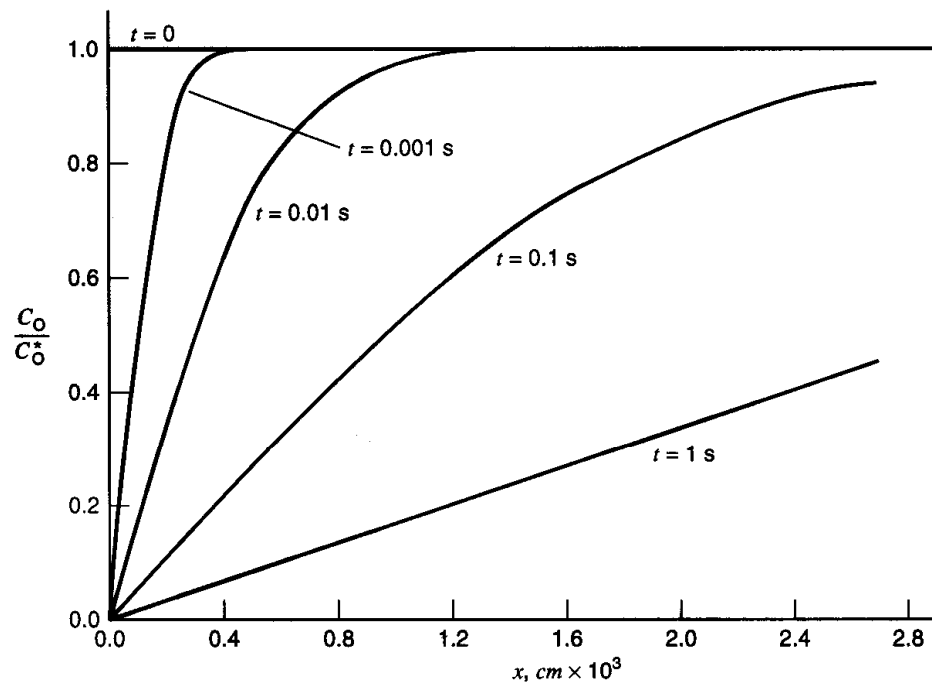
The derivative in (5.2.9) can be evaluated from (5.2.7). Substitution yields

$$\bar{i}(s) = \frac{nFAD_O^{1/2}C_O^*}{s^{1/2}} \quad (5.2.10)$$

and inversion produces the current-time response

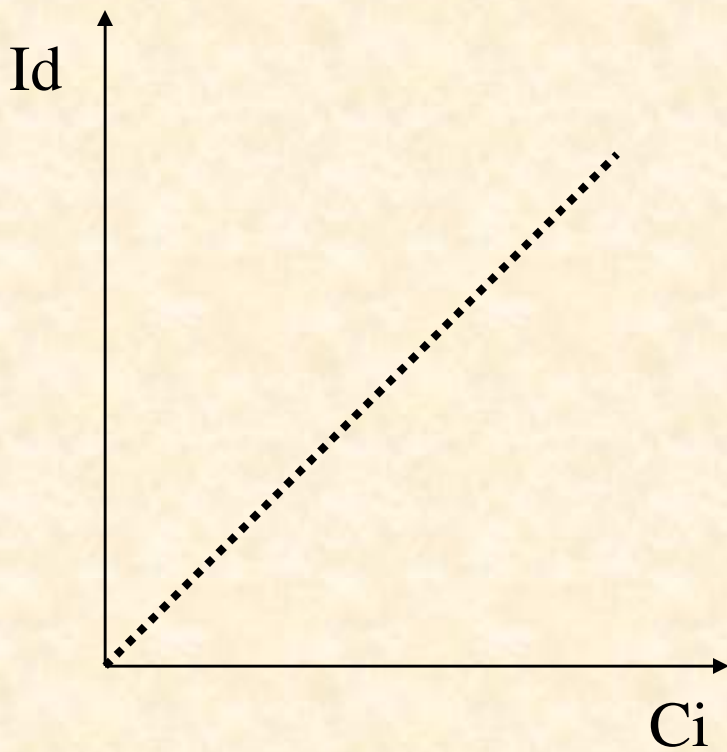
$$i(t) = i_d(t) = \frac{nFAD_0^{1/2}C_0^*}{\pi^{1/2}t^{1/2}} \quad (5.2.11)$$

164 ► Chapter 5. Basic Potential Step Methods

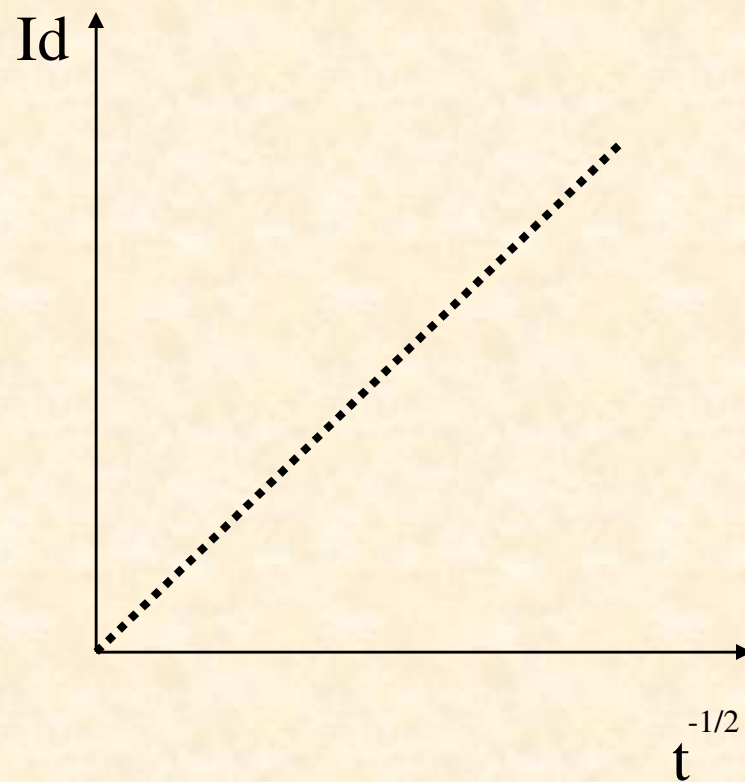


**Figure 5.2.1** Concentration profiles for several times after the start of a Cottrell experiment.  $D_0 = 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$  FQ UNAM Alejandro Baeza 2007

*(curva de calibración:  
Electroanálisis)*



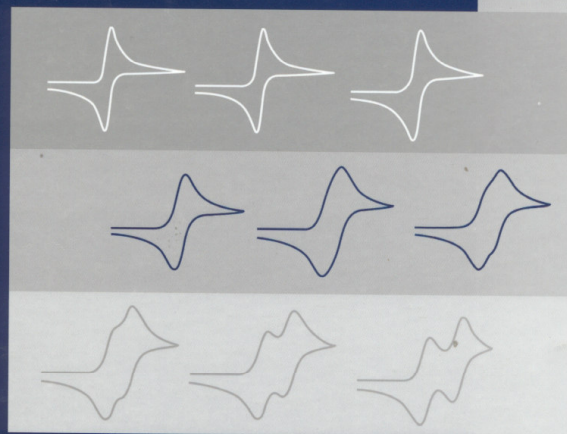
*Determinación de  $n$ ,  $e^-$ ,  
 $D_0$ ,  $A$ .*



ELECTROCHEMICAL  
METHODS

Fundamentals  
and  
Applications

SECOND EDITION



ALLEN J. BARD

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2001

# COTTRELL

$$i = \frac{nFAD^{1/2}C}{\sqrt{\pi t}}$$



Frederick Gardner Cottrell (1877-1948) is best known to electrochemists for the "Cottrell equation\*". His primary source of fame is as the inventor of electrostatic precipitators for removal of suspended particles from gases. These devices are widely used for abatement of pollution by smoke from power plants and dust from cement kilns and other industrial sources.

Cottrell was born in Oakland, California. He received a B.S. in chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley in 1896 and a Ph.D. from the University of Leipzig in 1902. He was an instructor of chemistry at the University of California, a chief physical chemist of the U.S. Bureau of Mines, chairman of the division of chemistry and chemical technology of the National Research Council, and director of the Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory.

In 1912, he founded the Research Corporation. This nonprofit foundation, for the advancement of science, secured and developed over 750 patents.

Cottrell played a part in the development of a process for separation of helium from natural gas. He also had a role in establishing the synthetic ammonia industry in the United States during attempts to perfect a process for formation of nitric oxide at high temperatures.

## Ejercicio de aplicación.

El ácido ascórbico se oxida sobre microelectrodos de carbón de acuerdo a las siguientes condiciones:

$$V_0 = 3 \text{ mL}; C_0 = 10 \text{ mM}; d = 0.2 \text{ cm}; I_r = 2 \mu\text{A};$$

$$I_T = 28 \mu\text{A}$$

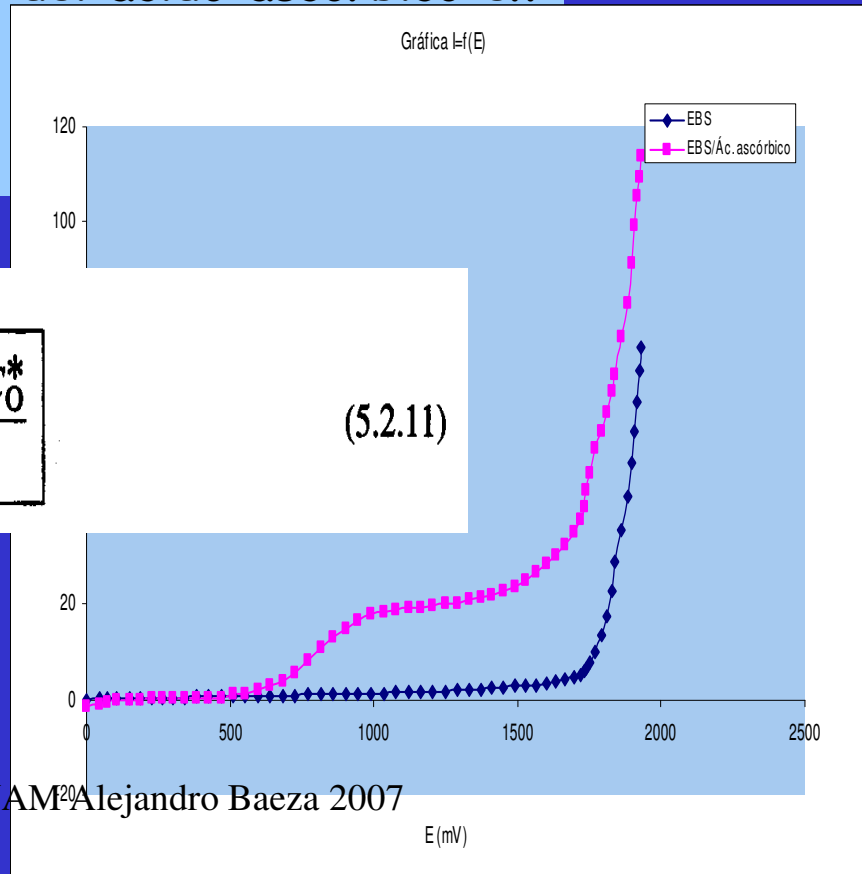
tiempo de muestreo: 3' segundos,  $E_{\text{muestreo}} = 1300 \text{ mV}$ .

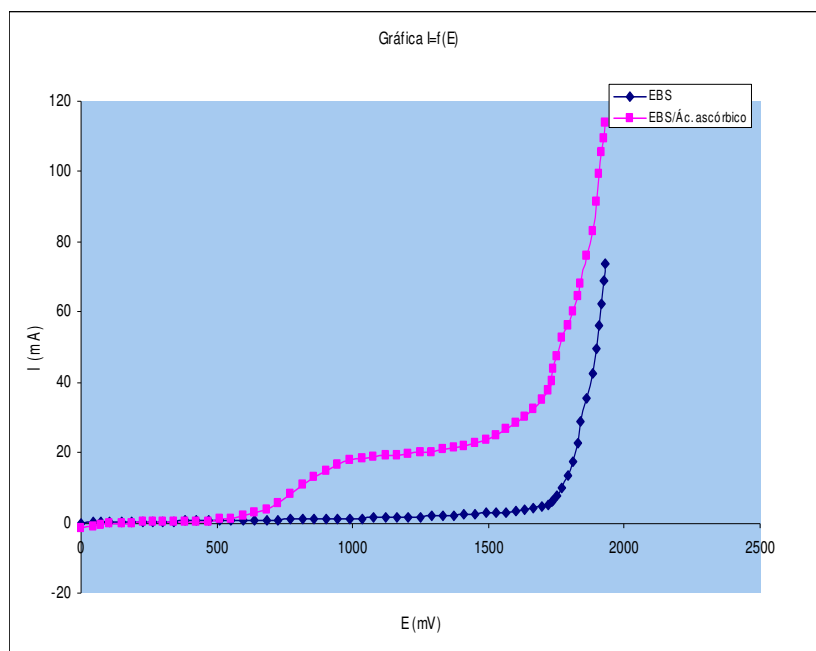
Calcular el coeficiente de difusión del ácido ascórbico en el medio de reacción (EBS pH=4).

Nota:  $F = 96,500 \text{ C/mol}$

and inversion produces the current-time response

$$i(t) = i_d(t) = \frac{nFAD_0^{1/2}C_0^*}{\pi^{1/2}t^{1/2}} \quad (5.2.11)$$





$$D_o = 1.79 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$$