Determination of Adsorption Isotherms of Hydrogen on Titanium in Sulfuric Acid Solution Using the Phase-Shift Method and Correlation Constants

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The phase-shift method and correlation constants, i.e., the unique electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) techniques for studying the linear relationship between the behavior ($-\varphi$ vs E) of the phase shift (90° $\geq -\varphi \geq 0^{\circ}$) for the optimum intermediate frequency and that (θ vs E) of the fractional surface coverage $(0 \le \theta \le 1)$, have been proposed and verified to determine the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on noble metals (alloys) in aqueous solutions. On Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution, the Frumkin and Temkin adsorption isotherms (θ vs E), equilibrium constants ($K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta) \mod^{-1}$ for the Frumkin, and $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11}$ $exp(-11.2\theta)$ mol⁻¹ for the Temkin adsorption isotherm), interaction parameters (g = 6.6 for the Frumkin and g = 11.2 for the Temkin adsorption isotherm), rates of change of the standard free energy (r = 16.4kJ⋅mol⁻¹ for g = 6.6 and r = 27.8 kJ⋅mol⁻¹ for g = 11.2) of H with θ , and standard free energies [(63.2 ≤ $\Delta G_{\theta}^{0} \le 79.6$) kJ⋅mol⁻¹ for $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$ exp(-6.6 θ) mol⁻¹ and $0 \le \theta \le 1$ and (63.1 < $\Delta G_{\theta}^{0} < 79.6$) kJ·mol⁻¹ for $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \exp(-11.2\theta) \mod^{-1}$ and $0.2 \le \theta \le 0.8$ of H are determined using the phaseshift method and correlation constants. At $0.2 \le \theta \le 0.8$, the Temkin adsorption isotherm correlating with the Frumkin adsorption isotherm, and vice versa, is readily determined using the correlation constants. The two different adsorption isotherms appear to fit the same data regardless of their adsorption conditions. The phase-shift method and correlation constants are probably the most accurate, useful, and effective ways to determine the adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on highly corrosion-resistant metals in aqueous solutions.

Introduction

Titanium, titanium oxides, and titanium alloys have been widely used as implant materials due to their high corrosion resistances. Also, they have been extensively studied to use hydrogen storage materials, aerospace engineering materials, electrochemical solar energy conversion materials, etc.^{1–11} However, there is not much reliable information on the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic data on titanium in aqueous solutions.

On highly corrosion-resistant metals in aqueous solutions, it is preferable to consider the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms for H rather than equations of the electrode kinetics and thermodynamics for H because these adsorption isotherms are associated more directly with the atomic mechanism of H adsorption. Thus, there is a technological need for a simple, accurate, useful, and effective method to determine the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on highly corrosion-resistant metals in aqueous solutions.

Many scientific phenomena have been interpreted by their behaviors rather than by their natures. For example, the duality of light and electrons, i.e., the wave and particle behaviors, are well-known in science and have been applied in engineering. Note that these wave and particle behaviors are not contradictory to each other but complementary to each other. The phase-shift method and correlation constants are the unique electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) techniques for studying the linear relationship between the behavior ($-\varphi$ vs E) of the phase shift ($90^{\circ} \ge -\varphi \ge 0^{\circ}$) for the optimum intermediate frequency and that (θ vs E) of the fractional surface coverage ($0 \le \theta \le 1$) on noble metals (alloys) in aqueous solutions.^{12–25} The behavior (θ vs E) of the fractional surface coverage ($0 \le \theta \le 1$) is well-known as the Langmuir or the Frumkin adsorption isotherm. The phase-shift method and correlation constants are probably the most accurate, useful, and effective ways to determine the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on the noble metals (alloys) in aqueous solutions.

In practice, the theoretical derivation or the numerical calculation of a single equation for $-\varphi$ vs θ as a function of potential (*E*) and frequency (*f*) is complex due to the superposition of various effects that are inevitable on the noble metals (alloys) in aqueous solutions. This is the reason why the phase-shift method and correlation constants are necessary, useful, and effective. There are good theoretical grounds for the phase-shift method and correlation constants including interfacial electrochemistry, electrode kinetics, and EIS. New ideas, theories, and techniques must be rigorously tested, especially when unique or revolutionary, but only with pure logic and objectivity and through scientific methods and procedures. However, the arguments on the phase-shift method in the comments^{26,27} do not fulfill these criteria. The arguments are substantially attributed to the misunderstanding and confusion on the newly

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defined equivalent circuit for the phase-shift method, the simplified equivalent circuit for the optimum intermediate frequency response, the linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for the optimum intermediate frequency, etc. These rebuttals are clearly explained, stated, and summarized in the responses.^{28,29} The whole procedure of the phase-shift method and correlation constants for determining the adsorption iso-therms of hydrogen and hydroxide and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters is described elsewhere.²³

In this paper, we represent the Frumkin and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on Ti in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 aqueous solution using the phase-shift method and correlation constants. It appears that the phase-shift method and correlation constants are also useful and effective for determining the adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on highly corrosion-resistant metals in aqueous solutions.

Experimental Section

Preparations. Taking into account the H⁺ concentration and effects of the diffuse double layer and pH,³⁰ an acidic aqueous solution was prepared from H₂SO₄ (Sigma-Aldrich, reagent grade) with purified water (resistivity: > 18 M Ω ·cm) obtained from a Millipore system. The 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution (pH 0.33) was deaerated with 99.999 % purified nitrogen gas for 20 min before the experiments.

A standard three-electrode configuration was employed using a saturated calomel electrode (SCE) reference electrode and a titanium rod (Johnson Matthey, purity: 99.99 %, 3.175 mm diameter, estimated area: ca. 2.17 cm²) working electrode. The Ti rod was polished to a mirror finish with 0.05 μ m Al₂O₃ powders, ultrasonically cleaned in the purified water, and finally rinsed with acetone. A platinum wire (Johnson Matthey, purity: 99.95 %, 1.5 mm diameter) was used as the counter electrode.

Measurements. A cyclic voltammetry (CV) technique was used to achieve the steady state on Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution. The CV experiments were conducted for 50 cycles, a scan rate of 50 mV \cdot s⁻¹, and a scan potential of (0 to -1.0) V vs SCE. After the CV experiments, an EIS technique was used to study the relation between the phase-shift profile $(-\varphi \text{ vs } E)$ for the optimum intermediate frequency and the corresponding surface-coverage profile (θ vs E), i.e., the Langmuir, the Frumkin, or the Temkin adsorption isotherm. The EIS experiments were conducted at a scan frequency of $(10^4 \text{ to } 0.1) \text{ Hz}$, a single sine wave, an ac amplitude of 5 mV, and a dc potential of (0 to -1.1) V vs SCE for the H adsorption. Taking into account the concentration and temperature of 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution¹¹ and the corrosion potential of Ti in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 aqueous solution,³¹ the cathodic dissolution of Ti was not considered.

The CV experiments were performed using an EG & G PAR model 273A potentiostat controlled with the PAR model 270 software package. The EIS experiments were performed using the same apparatus in conjunction with a Schlumberger SI 1255 HF frequency response analyzer controlled with the PAR model 398 software package. To obtain comparable and reproducible results, all measurements were carried out using the same preparations, procedures, and conditions at room temperature. The international sign convention is used; i.e., cathodic currents and lagged phase shifts or angles are taken as negative. To clarify the hydrogen adsorption in the different aqueous solutions, all potentials are given in the reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) scale. The Gaussian and adsorption isotherm analyses were carried out using the Excel and Origin software packages.



Figure 1. (a) Numerically proposed equivalent circuit for an adsorption in refs 32 and 33, (b) experimentally proposed equivalent circuit for the phase-shift method, and (c) simplified equivalent circuit for the optimum intermediate frequency response. Equivalent circuit elements shown in Figure 1b are defined in this work.

Results and Discussion

Basic Concept and Description on the Phase-Shift Method. The equivalent circuit for the H adsorption on Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution, i.e., at the Ti/0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution interface, can be expressed as shown in Figure 1a.^{32–35} In Figure 1a, R_S is the aqueous solution resistance; R_{ϕ} is the faradaic resistance for the H adsorption; R_R is the faradaic resistance for the recombination reaction; C_{ϕ} is the pseudocapacitance for the H adsorption; and C_D is the double-layer capacitance. Note that R_{ϕ} depends on C_{ϕ} . Both R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} are not constant but dependent on potential (*E*) and fractional surface coverage (θ) and cannot be measured due to the superposition of various effects at the interface.

In interfacial electrochemistry, electrode kinetics, and EIS,³²⁻⁴¹ a unique feature of R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} attaining maximum values at θ = 0.5, decreasing symmetrically with E at other values of θ , approaching minimum values at $\theta \approx 0$ and 1, and attaining minimum values at $\theta = 0$ and 1 is well-known. However, the linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs E and θ vs E due to the unique feature and combination of R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency has never been studied in the conventional methods. At the optimum intermediate frequency, the normalized change rate of $-\varphi$ vs E, i.e., $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$, corresponds to that of θ vs *E*, i.e., $\Delta \theta / \Delta E$, and vice versa. Both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are maximized at $\theta \approx 0.5$, decrease symmetrically with E at other values of θ , and are minimized at $\theta \approx 0$ and 1. This linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs E and θ vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency is the basic concept of the phase-shift method and has been experimentally and consistently verified.^{12–25} Note that this is the unique feature and combination of R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency, i.e., the phase-shift profile $(-\varphi \text{ vs } E)$ of the phase shift $(90^\circ \ge -\varphi \ge 0^\circ)$ for the optimum intermediate frequency. Also, this is a unique feature of the Langmuir or the Frumkin adsorption isotherm, i.e., the surface-coverage profile (θ vs E)

of θ ($0 \le \theta \le 1$). The numerical derivation of C_{ϕ} from the Langmuir or the Frumkin adsorption isotherm is described elsewhere.^{32,33} In electrosorption, θ is a function of E.^{36,37} The Langmuir and Frumkin adsorption isotherms describe the dependence of θ on E.^{38–41} However, as stated above, both R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} cannot be measured due to the superposition of various effects. This is the reason why the phase-shift method is unique, useful, and effective. These aspects are discussed in more detail later.

Taking into account the superposition of various effects (relaxation time effects, real surface area problems, surface absorption and diffusion processes, inhomogeneous and lateral interaction effects, specific adsorption effects, etc.) that are inevitable under the EIS measurements, we define the equivalent circuit elements shown in Figure 1b. R_S is the aqueous solution resistance; R_F is the real resistance due to the faradaic resistance (R_{ϕ}) and superposition of various effects; R_P is the real resistance (R_{ϕ}) and superposition of various effects; R_P is the real capacitance due to the pseudocapacitance (C_{ϕ}) and superposition of various effects; and C_D is the double-layer capacitance. Note that both R_F and C_P are not constant but dependent on E and θ and can be measured.

The frequency response of the equivalent circuit for all frequencies shown in Figure 1b is essential for verifying the unique feature and combination of R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency, i.e., the linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs E and θ vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency. At very low frequencies, the equivalent circuit for all frequencies shown in Figure 1b can be expressed as a series circuit of R_S , R_F , and R_P . At very high frequencies, the equivalent circuit for all frequencies shown in Figure 1b can be expressed as a series circuit of $R_{\rm S}$ and $C_{\rm D}$. At the optimum intermediate frequency and for a wide range of θ , the equivalent circuit for all frequencies shown in Figure 1b can be simplified as the series circuit of R_S, R_F, and C_P shown in Figure 1c. However, note that the simplified equivalent circuit shown in Figure 1c is not for the change of the H adsorption itself but only the optimum intermediate frequency response.

The impedance (Z) of the simplified equivalent circuit shown in Figure 1c and the corresponding lagged phase shift $(-\varphi)$ are given by

$$Z = (R_{\rm S} + R_{\rm F}) - j/\omega C_{\rm P} \tag{1}$$

$$-\varphi = \tan^{-1}[1/\omega(R_{\rm S} + R_{\rm F})C_{\rm P}] \tag{2}$$

 $R_{\rm F} \gg R_{\rm S}$ and $C_{\rm P} \gg C_{\rm D}$ (for a wide range of θ)

$$R_{\rm P} \gg 1/\omega C_{\rm P}, R_{\rm F} \propto R_{\phi} \text{ and } C_{\rm P} \propto C_{\phi}$$
 (3)

where *j* is an operator and is equal to the square root of -1, i.e., $j^2 = -1$; $\omega (= 2\pi f)$ is the angular frequency; *f* is the optimum intermediate frequency; and $\theta (0 \le \theta \le 1)$ is the fractional surface coverage of H. For a wide range of θ , the measured values of R_F and C_P are much greater than those of R_S and C_D , respectively. Therefore, $-\varphi$ described in eq 2 is substantially determined by the combination of R_F and C_P .

Figures 2a and b show the profiles of R_F vs E and C_P vs E for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz), respectively. Figure 2a shows that R_F is smaller than R_{ϕ} because the left side of the real resistance profile (R_F vs E) is lower than the right side of the real resistance profile (R_F vs E). Figure 2b shows



Figure 2. Profiles of the real circuit elements (R_F, C_P) vs *E* for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz). RHE: reversible hydrogen electrode. •, measured values. (a) Real resistance profile $(R_F \text{ vs } E)$ and (b) real capacitance profile $(C_P \text{ vs } E)$.

that $C_{\rm P}$ is greater than C_{ϕ} because the real capacitance profile $(C_{\rm P} \text{ vs } E)$ increases from the right side to the left side, i.e., toward more negative potentials. This is attributed to the reciprocal property of $R_{\rm F}$ and $C_{\rm P}$ due to the superposition of various effects. The nature of $R_{\rm F}$ is inversely proportional to the concentration of charged species (H⁺) due to the superposition of various effects, but the nature of $C_{\rm P}$ is proportional to the concentration of charged species (H⁺) due to the superposition of various effects. However, note that the real resistance profile (R_F vs E) shown in Figure 2a has a peak. But, the real capacitance profile ($C_{\rm P}$ vs E) shown in Figure 2b has no peak. This is also attributed to the reciprocal property of $R_{\rm F}$ and $C_{\rm P}$ due to the superposition of various effects. Consequently, one can interpret that the superposition of various effects of $R_{\rm F}$ and $C_{\rm P}$ in eq 2 is canceled out or compensated together, and so the combination of $R_{\rm F}$ and $C_{\rm P}$ is equivalent to that of R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} .

Figure 3 compares the Nyquist impedance plots (Z_{IM} vs Z_{RE}) for different potentials (*E*). In this figure, Z_{IM} and Z_{RE} refer to the imaginary and real parts of the impedance (*Z*), respectively. The values of ω (= $2\pi f$), which are not shown in Figure 3, increase from the outside, i.e., 0.1 Hz, to the origin of the Z_{IM} and Z_{RE} axes, i.e., 10⁴ Hz. Note that Z_{IM} and Z_{RE} are not constant but dependent on *E* and θ , i.e., the H adsorption. Figures 3f–i show that the intermediate frequency loops appear at negatively high potentials. It seems to be related to the cathodic H₂ evolution and/or the cathodic dissolution of Ti.^{11,31,33–35}

Figure 4 compares the phase-shift curves $(-\varphi \text{ vs } \log f)$ for the different potentials (*E*). Note that $-\varphi \text{ vs } \log f$ shown in Figure 4 corresponds to Z_{IM} vs Z_{RE} shown in Figure 3 and vice versa. The intermediate frequency, i.e., a vertical solid line (5.012 Hz) on $-\varphi \text{ vs } \log f$ shown in Figure 4, can be set as the



Figure 3. Comparison of the Nyquist impedance plots (Z_{IM} vs Z_{RE}) for different potentials. •, measured values. Single sine wave; scan frequency: (10⁴ to 0.1) Hz; ac amplitude: 5 mV; dc potential: (a) -0.209 V, (b) -0.259 V, (c) -0.309 V, (d) -0.409 V, (e) -0.509 V, (f) -0.609 V, (g) -0.709 V, (h) -0.809 V, and (i) -0.859 V vs RHE. All frequencies increase from the outside (0.1 Hz) to the origin of Z_{IM} and Z_{RE} axes (10⁴ Hz).



Figure 4. Comparison of the phase-shift curves $(-\varphi \text{ vs } \log f)$ for different potentials. •, measured values. Vertical solid line: 5.012 Hz; single sine wave; scan frequency: $(10^4 \text{ to } 0.1)$ Hz; ac amplitude: 5 mV; dc potential: (a) -0.209 V, (b) -0.259 V, (c) -0.309 V, (d) -0.409 V, (e) -0.509 V, (f) -0.609 V, (g) -0.709 V, (h) -0.809 V, and (i) -0.859 V vs RHE.

optimum intermediate frequency for $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E*. At the maximum lagged phase shift (81.8°) shown in Figure 4a, it appears that the H adsorption and superposition of various effects are minimized due to the low potential (-0.209 V vs RHE), i.e., $\theta \approx 0$. Note that θ is a function of *E*. At $\theta \approx 0$, $1/\omega C_P$ is much greater than $(R_S + R_F)$ (see Figure 3a). In eqs 1 to 3, *Z* is substantially determined by $1/\omega C_P$, i.e., Z_{IM} , and so $-\varphi$ has a maximum value of $\leq 90^\circ$. For a pure capacitor, $-\varphi$ is 90°. Both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are minimized due to R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} approaching minimum values at $\theta \approx 0$. At the minimum



Figure 5. Comparison of the phase-shift profiles $(-\varphi \text{ vs } E)$ for five different frequencies. Measured values: \Box , 0.1 Hz; \blacktriangle , 3.162 Hz; \blacksquare , 5.012 Hz; \blacktriangledown , 10 Hz; \bigcirc , 50.12 Hz. The optimum intermediate frequency is 5.012 Hz (\blacksquare).



Figure 6. Comparison of the surface-coverage profiles (θ vs *E*) for five different frequencies. Measured values: \Box , 0.1 Hz; \blacktriangle , 3.162 Hz; \blacksquare , 5.012 Hz; \blacktriangledown , 10 Hz; \bigcirc , 50.12 Hz. The optimum intermediate frequency is 5.012 Hz (\blacksquare).

lagged phase shift (0.7°) shown in Figure 4i, it appears that the H adsorption and superposition of various effects are maximized or almost saturated due to the high potential (-0.859 V vs RHE), i.e., $\theta \approx 1$. At $\theta \approx 1$, $(R_{\rm S} + R_{\rm F})$ is much greater than $1/\omega C_{\rm P}$ (see Figure 3i). In eqs 1 to 3, Z is substantially determined by $(R_{\rm S} + R_{\rm F})$, i.e., $Z_{\rm RE}$, and so $-\varphi$ has a minimum value of $\geq 0^{\circ}$. For a pure resistor, $-\varphi$ is 0°. Both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are also minimized due to R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} approaching minimum values at $\theta \approx 1$. At the medium lagged phase shift (46.1°) shown in Figure 4e, i.e., at the intermediate potential (-0.509 V vs RHE), it appears that both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are maximized due to R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} approaching maximum values at $\theta \approx 0.5$. At other lagged phase shifts (79.7° to 2.0°) shown in Figures 4c, d, f, and g, i.e., at other potentials (-0.309 V, -0.409 V, -0.609 V, and -0.709 V vs RHE), it appears that both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta \theta / \Delta E$ decrease symmetrically with E due to R_{ϕ} and C_{ϕ} decreasing symmetrically with E at other values of θ .

On the basis of $-\varphi$ vs log *f* shown in Figure 4, the linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for the optimum intermediate frequency,^{12–25} and the unique feature of electrosorption,^{36,37} the basic concept and description on the phase-shift method are summarized in Table 1. Table 1 shows the changes of $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz) with 50 mV increment changes in negative potential (*E*). These changes of $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for 5.012 Hz are plotted in Figures 5 and 6, respectively. The changes of $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for other frequencies (0.1 Hz, 3.162 Hz, 10 Hz, 50.12 Hz) plotted in Figures 5 and 6, respectively, are also

Table 1. Measured Values of the Phase Shift $(-\varphi)$ for the Optimum Intermediate Frequency (5.012 Hz), the Estimated Fractional Surface Coverage (θ) of H, and the Normalized Change Rates ($\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$, $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$)

| E/V vs RHE | $-\varphi/\text{deg}$ | $\theta \; (0 \leq \theta \leq 1)$ | $\Delta(-\varphi), \Delta\theta/\Delta E$ |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| -0.209 | 81.8 | pprox 0 | _ |
| -0.259 | 81.2 | 0.007398 | 0.096178 |
| -0.309 | 79.7 | 0.025894 | 0.240444 |
| -0.359 | 76.6 | 0.064118 | 0.496917 |
| -0.409 | 71.8 | 0.123305 | 0.769420 |
| -0.459 | 62.4 | 0.239211 | 1.506782 |
| -0.509 | 46.1 | 0.440197 | 2.612824 |
| -0.559 | 26.7 | 0.679408 | 3.109741 |
| -0.609 | 12.7 | 0.852035 | 2.244143 |
| -0.659 | 5.1 | 0.945746 | 1.218249 |
| -0.709 | 2.0 | 0.983970 | 0.496917 |
| -0.759 | 1.1 | 0.995068 | 0.144266 |
| -0.809 | 0.8 | 0.998767 | 0.048089 |
| -0.859 | 0.7 | ≈ 1 | 0.016030 |

obtained through the same procedures summarized in Table 1. Note that θ vs *E* shown in Figure 6 corresponds to $-\varphi$ vs *E* shown in Figure 5 and vice versa.

Figure 7 shows the normalized change rates of $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs E, i.e., $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$, for the five different frequencies. In Figure 7, $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are plotted based on $-\varphi$ vs E and θ vs E shown in Figures 5 and 6, respectively. In Figure 7c, both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ are maximized at $\theta \approx 0.5$, decrease symmetrically with E at other values of θ , and are minimized at $\theta \approx 0$ and 1. The Gaussian profile shown in Figure 7c is plotted based on both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz) summarized in Table 1. Similarly, the Gaussian profiles for 0.1 Hz, 3.162 Hz, 10 Hz, and 50.12 Hz shown in Figures 7a, b, d, and e, respectively, are plotted through the same procedures summarized in Table 1. Note that the Gaussian profile shown in Figure 7c is the unique feature of the Frumkin adsorption isotherm (θ vs E). Table 1 also shows that both $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$ for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz) are exactly the same.

Finally, one can conclude that the discussions on Z and $-\varphi$ described in eqs 1 to 3 and Table 1, the reciprocal property and compensation of $R_{\rm F}$ and $C_{\rm P}$ in eq 2, the determination of the optimum intermediate frequency for $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* shown in Figures 4 to 7, and the linear relationship between $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E* for the optimum intermediate frequency are valid and correct.

Frumkin, Langmuir, and Temkin Adsorption Isotherms. The derivation and interpretation of the practical forms of the electrochemical Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms are described elsewhere.^{38–41} The Frumkin adsorption isotherm assumes that the surface is inhomogeneous or that the lateral interaction effect is not negligible. The Frumkin adsorption isotherm (θ vs *E*) of H can be expressed as follows³⁸

$$[\theta/(1-\theta)]\exp(g\theta) = K_{o}C_{H^{+}}[\exp(-EF/RT)] \qquad (4)$$

$$g = r/RT \tag{5}$$

$$K = K_0 \exp(-g\theta) \tag{6}$$

where θ ($0 \le \theta \le 1$) is the fractional surface coverage of H; *g* is the interaction parameter for the Frumkin adsorption isotherm; K_0 is the equilibrium constant for H at g = 0; C_{H^+} is the H⁺ concentration in the bulk solution; *E* is the negative potential;

F is Faraday's constant; *R* is the gas constant; *T* is the absolute temperature; *r* is the rate of change of the standard free energy of H with θ ; and *K* is the equilibrium constant for H. The dimension of *K* is described elsewhere.⁴² Note that g = 0 in eqs 4 to 6 implies the Langmuir adsorption isotherm. For the Langmuir adsorption isotherm, the inhomogeneous and lateral interaction effects on the H adsorption are negligible.

For the H adsorption on Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution, the numerically calculated Frumkin adsorption isotherms using eq 4 are shown in Figure 8. Figures 8a, b, and c show the three numerically calculated Frumkin adsorption isotherms corresponding to g = 0, 6.6, and 13.2 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, respectively. Note that the Frumkin adsorption isotherm (θ vs E) shown in Figure 8b is linearly related to the phase-shift profile $(-\varphi \text{ vs } E)$ for the optimum intermediate frequency (5.012 Hz) shown in Figure 5. In Figure 8b, one infers that $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$ $exp(-6.6\theta)$ mol⁻¹ for the Frumkin adsorption isotherm is correctly applicable to the H adsorption. Using eq 5, r is 16.4 kJ·mol⁻¹. In Figure 8a, g = 0 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ implies the Langmuir adsorption isotherm, i.e., $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ mol}^{-1}$. Note that the value of K_0 for Ti is $\sim 10^5$ to 10^8 times less than that for the noble metals (alloys).^{12,13,15-25} Regarding the H adsorption, Ti is a highly corrosion-resistant metal in aqueous solutions but is not a suitable metal itself for the cathodic H_2 evolution in aqueous solutions.

At intermediate values of θ , i.e., $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$, the pre-exponential term, $[\theta/(1 - \theta)]$, varies little with θ compared to the variation of the exponential term, $\exp(g\theta)$ (see eq 4). Under the approximate conditions, the Temkin adsorption isotherm can be simply derived from the Frumkin adsorption isotherm. The Temkin adsorption isotherm (θ vs E) of H can be expressed as follows³⁸

$$\exp(g\theta) = K_{0}C_{\mathrm{H}^{+}}[\exp(-EF/RT)]$$
(7)

Figure 9 shows the determination of the Temkin adsorption isotherm correlating with the Frumkin adsorption isotherm shown in Figure 8b. Figures 9a, b, and c show the three numerically calculated Temkin adsorption isotherms corresponding to g = 0, 11.2, and 22.4 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, respectively. In Figure 9b, the numerically calculated Temkin adsorption isotherm using eq 7 is $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ exp}(-11.2\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$. Using eq 5, *r* is 27.8 kJ·mol⁻¹. Note that the Temkin adsorption isotherm shown in Figure 9b is only valid and effective at $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$.

Correlation Constants between the Adsorption Isotherms. As previously described, the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption conditions are different from each other. Only one adsorption isotherm is determined based on the relevant experimental results (see Figure 8). However, as shown in Figure 9, the two different adsorption isotherms, i.e., the Temkin and Frumkin adsorption isotherms, appear to fit the same data at $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$. It has been experimentally and consistently verified using the phase-shift method and correlation constants.^{20,22–25} Note that these aspects are not contradictory to each other but complementary to each other.

At $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$, the Langmuir adsorption isotherms are always parallel to each other.^{15,18–20,24,38–41} This implies that the slopes of the Langmuir adsorption isotherms are all the same at this region. In other words, the value of g for the Temkin adsorption isotherm correlating with the Langmuir adsorption isotherm is the same. The value of g for the Temkin adsorption isotherm is ca. 4.6 greater than that for the correlating Langmuir adsorption isotherm.^{20,22–25} Note that the Langmuir and Temkin



Figure 7. Comparison of the normalized change rates of $-\varphi$ vs *E* and θ vs *E*, $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$ and $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$, for five different frequencies. –, Fitted Gaussian profiles: \bigcirc , $\Delta(-\varphi)/\Delta E$; \bullet , $\Delta\theta/\Delta E$. (a) 0.1 Hz, (b) 3.162 Hz, (c) 5.012 Hz, (d) 10 Hz, and (e) 50.12 Hz. The optimum intermediate frequency is 5.012 Hz.

adsorption isotherms are correlated with each other even though their adsorption conditions are different. Similarly, one can interpret that the value of g for the Temkin adsorption isotherm is ca. 4.6 greater than that for the correlating Frumkin adsorption isotherm (see Figure 9) because the value of g for the Frumkin adsorption isotherm is determined referred to that for the Langmuir adsorption isotherm, i.e., g = 0 (see Figure 8).^{14,22-25,38-41} However, for the reliable correlation between the Temkin and Langmuir or Frumkin adsorption isotherms, a wide range of K is more reasonable. In other words, the value of g should be determined at $\theta \approx 0.2$ and 0.8. In addition, one can confirm that the value of K_0 for the Temkin adsorption isotherm is ca. 10 times greater than that (K or K_0) for the correlating Langmuir or Frumkin adsorption isotherm (see Figure 9).^{20,22-25}

Finally, one can conclude that these numbers, ca. 10 times and 4.6, can be taken as correlation constants between the Temkin and Langmuir or Frumkin adsorption isotherms. The Temkin adsorption isotherm correlating with the Langmuir or the Frumkin adsorption isotherm, and vice versa, is readily determined using the correlation constants.

Standard Free Energy of Adsorption. The standard free energy of H is given by the difference between the standard molar Gibbs free energy of H and that of a number of water molecules on the adsorption sites of the electrode surface. Under the Frumkin adsorption conditions, the relation between the equilibrium constant (*K*) and the standard free energy (ΔG_{θ}^{0}) of H is given as follows^{37,38}

$$2.3RT\log K = -\Delta G_{\theta}^{\ 0} \tag{8}$$

On Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution, using eqs 6 and 8, ΔG_{θ}^{0} of H is (63.2 $\leq \Delta G_{\theta}^{0} \leq$ 79.6) kJ·mol⁻¹ for (8.3·10⁻¹² \geq $K \geq 1.1 \cdot 10^{-14}$) mol⁻¹, i.e., $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta)$ mol⁻¹ and $0 \leq \theta \leq 1$. The standard free energies (ΔG_{θ}^{0}) of H and the equilibrium constants (*K*) for the Frumkin and Temkin adsorption isotherms (θ vs *E*) of H are summarized in Table 2.



Figure 8. Comparison of the experimental and fitted data for the Frumkin adsorption isotherms (θ vs *E*). \blacksquare , Experimental data. –, Calculated values using eq 4. (a) g = 0, (b) g = 6.6, and (c) g = 13.2 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$ mol⁻¹. Using eqs 4 to 6: (a) g = 0 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$ mol⁻¹ is the Langmuir adsorption isotherm, i.e., $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$ mol⁻¹.



Figure 9. Comparison of the experimentally determined Frumkin adsorption isotherm and three fitted Temkin adsorption isotherms (θ vs *E*). **III**, Experimental data. –, Calculated values using eq 4 (Frumkin adsorption isotherm). (a) g = 0, (b) g = 11.2, and (c) g = 22.4 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ mol}^{-1}$. The Temkin adsorption isotherm, (b) g = 11.2 for $K_0 = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, i.e., $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ exp}(-11.2\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$, is only valid and effective at $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$.

Table 2. Comparison of the Standard Free Energies (ΔG_{θ}^{0}) of H and the Equilibrium Constants (*K*) for the Frumkin and Temkin Adsorption Isotherms (θ vs *E*) of H

| adsorption isotherm | $\Delta G_{\theta}^{0}/\mathrm{kJ}$ ·mol ⁻¹ | K/mol^{-1} | θ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Frumkin ^a Temkin ^b | $\begin{array}{l} 63.2 \leq \Delta {G_{\theta}}^0 \leq 79.6 \\ 63.1 < \Delta {G_{\theta}}^0 < 79.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l} 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \geq K \geq 1.1 \cdot 10^{-14} \\ 8.8 \cdot 10^{-12} > K > 1.1 \cdot 10^{-14} \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq \theta \leq 1 \\ 0.2 < \theta < 0.8 \end{array}$ |

 ${}^{a}K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$ (see Figure 8b). ${}^{b}K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \exp(-11.2\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$ (see Figure 9b). The Temkin adsorption isotherm is only valid and effective at $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$.

Conclusions

The phase-shift method and correlation constants, i.e., the unique electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) techniques for studying the linear relationship between the behavior $(-\varphi \text{ vs } E)$ of the phase shift $(90^{\circ} \ge -\varphi \ge 0^{\circ})$ for the optimum intermediate frequency and that $(\theta \text{ vs } E)$ of the fractional surface coverage $(0 \le \theta \le 1)$, have been proposed and verified to determine the Langmuir, Frumkin, and Temkin adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on the noble metals (alloys) in aqueous solutions.

On Ti in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ aqueous solution, the Frumkin and Temkin adsorption isotherms (θ vs *E*), equilibrium constants

 $(K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta) \mod^{-1}$ for the Frumkin and $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \exp(-11.2\theta) \mod^{-1}$ for the Temkin adsorption isotherm), interaction parameters (g = 6.6 for the Frumkin and g = 11.2 for the Temkin adsorption isotherm), rates of change of the standard free energy ($r = 16.4 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ for g = 6.6 and $r = 27.8 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ for g = 11.2) of H with θ , and standard free energies ($(63.2 \le \Delta G_{\theta}^{0} \le 79.6) \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ for $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta) \mod^{-1}$ and $0 \le \theta \le 1$ and ($63.1 < \Delta G_{\theta}^{0} < 79.6$) kJ·mol⁻¹ for $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \exp(-11.2\theta) \mod^{-1}$ and $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$) of H are determined using the phase-shift method and correlation constants.

At $0.2 < \theta < 0.8$, the Temkin adsorption isotherm, $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \exp(-11.2\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$, correlating with the Frumkin adsorption isotherm, $K = 8.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(-6.6\theta) \text{ mol}^{-1}$, and vice versa, is readily determined using the correlation constants. The two different adsorption isotherms appear to fit the same data regardless of their adsorption conditions.

The phase-shift method and correlation constants are probably the most accurate, useful, and effective ways to determine the adsorption isotherms of H and related electrode kinetic and thermodynamic parameters on highly corrosion-resistant metals in aqueous solutions.

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