
voltametric studies of some azo compounds and schiffbases and their corrosion prevention

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The present thesis includes three chapters, introduction, experimental and results and discussion. In the first chapter, a literature survey of the previous studies on the polarographic behaviour of both azo dyes and Schiff bases. It includes also the potentiometric studies on azo-compounds and Schiff bases and their complexes with different metal ions. Also the studies on corrosion inhibition of carbon steel are included. The experimental part (chapter II) includes preparation of the azo-dye and Schiff bases compounds derived from 2-amino-3-hydroxy pyridine, instruments and solutions which were used for the measurements using different techniques. Chapter (III) includes the results and discussion and it consists of three parts: Part (A): It includes the results and data obtained from polarographic studies of the azo dye and Schiff base compounds in aqueous buffer solutions of different pH values (2-12) containing 10% (v/v) ethanol for azo-dyes (first series) and Schiff bases (second series). The polarographic behaviour of azo compounds of the first series (Ia-e) and Schiff bases of second series (IIa-e) exhibited a single polarographic wave within the entire pH compounds Ib and Ie. Generally, the limiting current (i_l) of the reduction waves of azo compounds is considered to be almost pH independent, revealing that the total number of electrons consumed in the reduction process is the same in both acidic and alkaline solutions. But for Schiff base, the wave height in acidic solutions is almost twice that in alkaline ones, i.e., the reduction process of Schiff bases involve 4 electrons in acid solutions and 2 electrons in alkaline medium. On the other hand, the half-wave potential of the waves get shifted to more negative potentials on increasing pH of the electrolysis medium denoting that hydrogen ions are consumed in the reduction process. The plots of the half-wave potential ($E_{1/2}$) vs. pH for all the compounds give satisfactory linear correlations consisting of one segment except Ie consist of two segments, the breaks occurred at pH = 5.31. The effect of mercury height on the limiting current denoted that the reduction process of all compounds is mainly diffusion controlled with some adsorption contribution, since the values of the exponent x in the relation ($i_l = K h^x$) equal to 0.4-0.8 for first series (Ia-e) and 0.35-0.79 for the second series (IIa-e). Logarithmic analysis of the polarographic waves using the fundamental equation of polarography confirmed the irreversibility nature of the waves. The plots of E_d vs. $\log [i/(i_d - i)]$ give linear correlations. From the slopes of these plots, values of the transfer coefficient (α) were calculated and found to be less than unity at $n = 2$. The number of protons (ZH^+) participating in the rate determining step was determined from slopes

of logarithmic analysis and those of $E_{1/2}$ -pH curves and found to be one for all depolarizers in both acidic and alkaline solutions, i.e. the rate-determining step involved two electrons ($n_a = 2.0$) and one proton ($ZH^+ = 1.0$). The kinetic parameters of the electrode reaction; the rate constant ($K_{of,h}$) and the activation energy (ΔG^*) were evaluated from DC-polarographic measurements. The obtained results revealed that the values of $K_{of,h}$ are found to be decreased and subsequently the activation energy (ΔG^*) increased on increasing pH of the electrolysis medium, which denoted the more irreversible nature of reduction process on going from acidic to alkaline part of the pH range. Effect of substituents on $E_{1/2}$ was considered, and the plots of $E_{1/2}$ as a function of Hammett substituent constant (ρ_x) at pH values 5.0 and 9.0 showed linear correlations with positive slopes. Generally, it was found that the electron withdrawing group (m-NO₂) shifts the $E_{1/2}$ to less negative value i.e., accelerates the reduction process, whereas electron-donating groups (p-CH₃, p-OCH₃, p-N(CH₃)₃) shift the $E_{1/2}$ to more negative values, i.e. retard the reduction process. The diffusion coefficient values of the depolarizers of series I & II and the total number of electrons consumed in the overall reduction process were determined using Ilkovic equation. The results obtained revealed that the reduction process of the azo compounds (Ia-e) consumed 4 electrons / depolarizer molecule, except for