

# TRANSPORT PHENOMENA: CONDUCTIVITY OF ELECTROLYTIC SOLUTIONS. KOHLRAUSCH'S LAW AND OSTWÄLD'S LAW.

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# INDEX

1. AIM
2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND
3. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE
4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

# 1. AIM

- Determine the conductivity of different electrolytic solutions.
- Verify the validity of different theories for the case of strong and weak electrolytes.
- Obtain the dissociation constant for a weak electrolyte.

## 2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

- Electrolytes: substances that separate when in a solution (ions).
- If an electric field is applied, ions move towards the electrodes that have an opposite sign:
  - Cations -
  - Anions +
- Solutions of diluted electrolytes meet:

ley de Ohm:  $\vec{j} = k \cdot \vec{E}$

Electric field

Conductivity

Density

- Molar conductivity:  $\Lambda = \frac{k}{c}$

- Kohlrausch's law (strong electrolytes):

$$\Lambda = \Lambda^0 - b\sqrt{c}$$

Limiting molar conductivity:

$$\Lambda^0 = \nu_1 \lambda_1^0 + \nu_2 \lambda_2^0$$

- Ostwald's law of dilution :  
(weak electrolytes)

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^0} + \frac{c\Lambda}{K_c (\Lambda^0)^2}$$

or

$$\Lambda_{HAc}^0 = \Lambda_{KAc}^0 + \Lambda_{HCl}^0 - \Lambda_{KCl}^0$$

Different equations because of the dissociation of ions:

- Strong electrolytes → dissociate completely
- Weak electrolytes → dissociate partially. The degree of dissociation is given by:

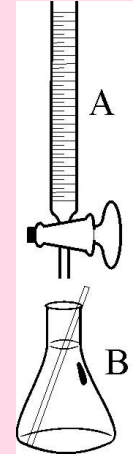
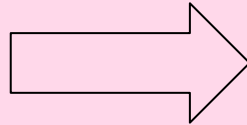
$$\alpha = \frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda^0}$$

# 3. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

1. Prepare NaOH solution:



100 cm<sup>3</sup> NaOH  
0,1 M



Normalise with  
KHFt (0.1 M)

## 2. Prepare the water



*Conductivity meter*

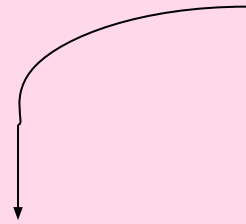
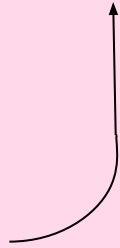
Measure the specific conductivity of the water that will be used to prepare the electrolyte solutions.

### 3. Prepare electrolyte solutions:



250mL  
acetic acid  
0,1M

100 mL	100 mL	100 mL	100 mL	100 mL
0,05 M	0,03 M	0,02 M	0,01 M	0,005M



100 mL	100 mL	100 mL	100 mL
0,05 M	0,03 M	0,02 M	0,01 M



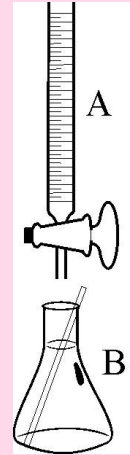
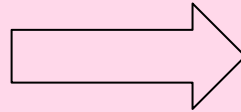
250mL HCl  
0,1M



### 3. Measure specific conductivity and normalise with NaOH:



Start from the most diluted solution.



A. NaOH

B.

1. Acetic acid 0,1M
2. HCl 0,1M

#### 4. Prepare KCl and CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>K solutions:



250mL KCl  
0,1M

100 mL	100 mL	100 mL	100 mL
0,05 M	0,025 M	0,01 M	0,005 M



250mL  
CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>K  
0,1M

100 mL	100 mL	100 mL	100 mL
0,05 M	0,025 M	0,01 M	0,005 M

## 5. Measure conductivity



Of all the KCl and CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>K solutions.

## 4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. <https://egela.ehu.eus/mod/resource/view.php?id=2016822>