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# TiO<sub>2</sub> modified carbon paste sensor for voltammetric analysis and chemometric optimization approach of amlodipine in commercial formulation

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Abstract A new square wave adsorptive stripping voltammetric (SWAdSV) approach using experimental design and optimization methodology was developed for the quantitative estimation of amlodipine (AMP) in pharmaceutical tablets. To this end, a new carbon paste electrode (CPE) system was fabricated using titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) nanoparticles to get very well-defined oxidation peak current of AMP under the optimized conditions. Optimal electrochemical conditions for three factor variables, the pH, the accumulation potential, and the accumulation time, were obtained by applying a  $3^3$ full factorial design and optimization technique to the oxidation of AMP on the TiO<sub>2</sub> modified CPE (TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE) system. The numerical values of the optimal voltammetric parameters consisting of the pH, accumulation potential, and accumulation time were found to be 5.69, 562.30 mV, and 64.30 s for the analysis of AMP in samples, respectively. The newly developed voltammetric method for the determination of AMP offers a linear relationship between the peak current and concentration in the range of  $1.0 \times 10^{-8} - 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M with the correlation coefficient (r=0.9990) and the detection limit  $(LOD = 2.97 \times 10^{-9} M)$ . The lifetime of prepared electrode was also tested, and the current intensity of AMP was nearly stable at least 2 months by using TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE. The validity of

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<sup>3</sup> Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Analytical Chemistry, Ankara University, 06100 Ankara, Turkey the method was tested by analyzing standard samples containing the analyzed compound. Under optimized and validated experimental conditions, the proposed method was successfully applied for the quantitative analysis of AMP in commercial tablets.

**Keywords** Amlodipine  $\cdot$  Carbon paste electrode  $\cdot$  TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles  $\cdot$  Chemometry

# Introduction

Amlodipine, (3-ethyl 5-methyl-2-[2-aminoethoxy-methoxy]-4-(o-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydro-6-methyl-3,5pyridinedicarboxylate monobenzene sulfonate), is a dihydropyridine derivative acting as a calcium channel antagonist. It is effectively used in the treatment of hypertension, chronic stable angina, and certain types of vasospastic angina [1–3]. It may be used alone or in combination with other active compounds [4]. The quantification of amlodipine (AMP) in pharmaceutical preparations is very important to reach a high-quality drug regime for human health.

In recent years, nanoparticles were found to contribute a lot to the quality of sensing devices. In voltammetric studies, these particles have been used as electrode modifiers to improve mass transport, high-effective surface area, catalytic efficiency, etc. In this context, titanium dioxide ( $TiO_2$ ) is one of the most versatile and flexible nanoparticle used as a modifier. This material is optically transparent and has a high surface area as well as good biocompatibility and relatively good conductivity.  $TiO_2$  nanoparticles have been incorporated with other compounds such as graphite and carbon nanotubes to make modified electrodes in the electrochemical analysis of some biologically important compounds. These particles provide

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more active sites at the electrode surface so as to improve the sensitivity of the electrode [5-8].

Several different analytical methods were reported for the determination of AMP in pharmaceutical and biological samples. Among these, high performance liquid chromatography [9], thin layer chromatography [10], gas chromatography [11], LC/MS systems [12], ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometry [13], and capillary electrophoresis [14] are the ones used extensively. Notwithstanding that these methods have high selectivity and sensitivity, they are expensive, require highly specialized stuff, and also time-consuming. Spectrophotometric methods, for example, may not give desirable analysis results due to the spectral interference of several pharmaceutical excipients. In this regard, the voltammetric techniques play an important role in the analysis of drugs to overcome the drawbacks of the analytical methods mentioned above.

Particularly, electrochemical stripping methods have been used for the accumulation of the analyte on the working electrode surface [15]. This preconcentration procedure is an advantage of the electrochemical stripping methods for the analysis of the analyzed compounds at low concentration levels in samples. This indicates that electroanalytical stripping methods are a powerful technique for the selective and sensitive analysis with low cost [16–21].

Carbon paste electrodes (CPEs) have extensive use in the various branches of the chemistry. They can be prepared in a quick and easy way and offer an easily renewable and reproducible surface and a low residual current [22, 23]. A number of sensors are based on CPEs, and these electrodes are used for the voltammetric analysis in the electrochemical studies. They have been found useful for the selective deposition of analytes at electrode surfaces.

The electrochemical factors such as pH, accumulation potential, and accumulation time are known to have a profound effect on the waveform and the intensity of the peak current of voltammetric signals. A usual strategy in electrochemical investigations is the optimization of one-factor i.e pH, which is varied, when other factors i.e accumulation potential and accumulation time are kept constant. Then other factories varied in the same manner, and optimum set of conditions is approached. This procedure is called one-factor optimization. This approach is far from being ideal for the establishment of the most suitable set of conditions, because the mutual dependence of changing factors is not taken into account.

Other experimental design models were developed for the establishment of optimum conditions. Among them are the so-called full factorial design and fractional factorial design [24]. In this work, we follow the former approach.

Preliminary trials indicated that the  $TiO_2$ -modified CPE (TiO\_2-CPE) electrode system was appropriate to obtain sensitive and accurate voltammetric signals for AMP. To identify the best set of pH, accumulation potential, and accumulation

time, a  $3^3$  full factorial design was applied. Voltammetric stripping analysis of AMP was then carried out under the specified set of conditions. The results found were compared with the literature data based on other methods of analysis, and our results were found to compare well with other data.

# **Experimental section**

### **Reagents and solutions**

All of the chemical substances used were of reagent grade and were used without further purification. All solutions were prepared with ultra pure water obtained from a Human Power  $\Gamma^+$ , Ultra Pure Water System. Nitrogen (99.999 %) was purged through the system to remove the dissolved oxygen.

A commercial pharmaceutical product Exforge film tablet containing 5.0 mg AMP equivalent to 6.95 mg AMP besylate, produced by BAYER Pharm. Company, was analyzed. Active compound (amlodipine besylate) was kindly denoted by Exforge film tablet.  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M stock solution of AMP was prepared by dissolving the appropriate amount of standard AMP in methanol (Merck analytical reagent grade).

Britton-Robinson (BR) buffer solutions (0.04 M) were prepared by mixing boric acid (Merck), acetic acid (Merck), and phosphoric acid (Merck), and exact pH values of solutions were adjusted by adding 0.2 M sodium hydroxide.

# Apparatus

Square wave adsorptive stripping voltammetry was performed by a CH Instruments Electrochemical Workstation CHI660C connected to a C4 Cell Stand. A three electrode combination system consisted of a  $TiO_2$  nanoparticles based on carbon paste working electrode, a platinum wire auxiliary electrode (CHI 115), and a Ag/AgCl reference electrode (CHI 111) was used.

Electrochemical impedance spectra (EIS) were also carried out by a CHI660C in the medium of BR buffer solution at pH 5.69. The impedance measurements were recorded at an opencircuit voltage with the frequency range of  $0.1-10^5$  Hz.

pH measurements were carried out using a Hanna HI 2211 pH/ORP meter calibrated with potassium hydrogen phthalate (pH 4.13) and sodium bicarbonate (pH 8.20) buffer solutions.

# Preparation of working electrode

For comparative purposes, CPE and TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE were prepared. To prepare CPE, optimum ratio of the masses of graphite powder and paraffin oil was achieved by trial. For the modification of CPE with TiO<sub>2</sub>, optimum proportion of TiO<sub>2</sub>+ graphite powder+paraffin oil was mixed in a mortar and ground for 10 min. Both bare and TiO<sub>2</sub>-modified pastes were packed into the hole of the electrode body, and the electric contact was made with a copper wire in the center of the rod. The surface of the paste was polished with a piece of polishing cloth until it had a shiny appearance.

#### Assay procedure for the determination of AMP in tablets

Ten commercial tablets were weighed and grounded in a mortar. From this mixture, a sample equivalent to one tablet was dissolved in methanol in a 100-mL volumetric flask, and then the solution was shaken for 20 min, using electronic agitator. After filtration procedure, an appropriate volume of the filtrated sample solution was transferred into working cell, and the volume was completed by using BR buffer (pH 5.69). Voltammograms of the resulting sample solution were plotted. This assay procedure was repeated six times.

# **Result and discussion**

An optimized and validated voltammetric method was developed for the quantitative analysis of AMP in tablets. The variables (pH, accumulation potential, and accumulation time) were optimized to get an optimum signal on the TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE electrode. Based on the conditions optimized, a new square wave adsorptive stripping voltammetric (SWAdSV) method was developed. The details of the experimental work are described below.

# **Electrochemical behavior of AMP**

 $(0.1-10^5 \text{ Hz})$ 

Cyclic voltammetry is a very useful method for the analysis of redox process, e.g., the evaluation of electron transfer kinetics and the investigation of the reversibility of the reactions. In

this context, we recorded the CV voltammograms of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M AMP on CPE and TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE systems for monitoring electrochemical behavior of bare and modified systems as indicated in Fig. 1.

As can be seen in Fig. 1a, a well-defined oxidation peak was observed at about 800 mV (vs Ag/AgCl) at both CPE and TiO2-CPE which corresponds to the oxidation of electroactive (1,4-dihydropyridine) group [22]. No reduction peak was observed in the reverse scan. The peak intensity increases linearly with the increasing concentration of AMP which indicates that the peak is related to the oxidation of the analyte (Fig. 6). Higher peak currents were obtained with TiO2-CPE in comparison with bare CPE. This finding demonstrates that TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE is more sensitive than bare CPE (Fig. 1a).

EIS was also used to characterize the electrode modification process, and it indicated a decrease on the interfacial electron transfer resistance at the electrode surface. Quantitatively, the Nyquist plots (Fig. 1b) yielded  $R_{ct}$  values of  $2.51 \times 10^6$  and  $4.42 \times 10^5 \Omega$  for CPE and TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE, respectively. The results show that the TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles effectively increase the electron-transfer rate between the electrode surface and AMP.

The influence of the scan rate on the anodic peak potential and anodic peak current at TiO2-CPE was investigated using  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M AMP. The scan rate was changed in the range of 10-3000 mVs<sup>-1</sup>. The peak potential shifted to more anodic values with increasing scan rate (Fig. 2). This behavior indicates that the oxidation process is irreversible. The plot of logip vs logv was found to be linear with a slope of 0.634 between the scan rates tested (inset in Fig. 2). This result confirmed that the electrode process is controlled by adsorption behavior under diffusion conditions [25].

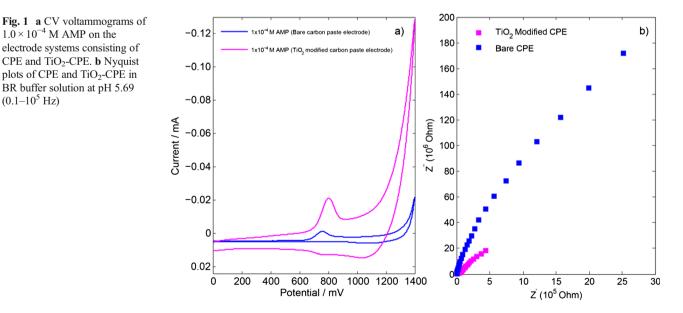
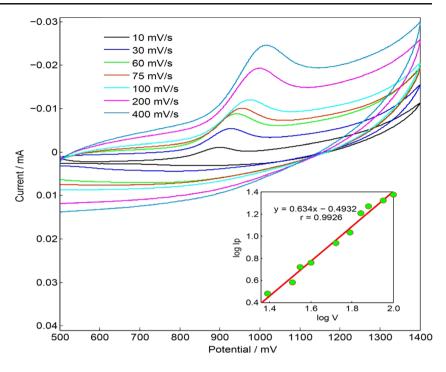


Fig. 2 CV voltammograms of AMP at different scan rates using TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE (C<sub>AMP</sub> 1.0 × 10<sup>-4</sup> M, pH 5.69). *Inset* is the variation of  $logi_p$  vs logv



Effect of pH, accumulation potential, and accumulation time

In the preliminary experimental studies, six individual pH values in the range 2.0–7.0 were tested to identify the scale of the pH factor in the experimental domain. Cyclic voltammograms were recorded, and the variation of the peak current vs pH value was shown in the inset of Fig. 3. From the CV voltammograms, the variation of the peak current was observed in the pH range of 2.0–6.0. Figure 3 indicates that a slightly acidic medium is suitable for this work.

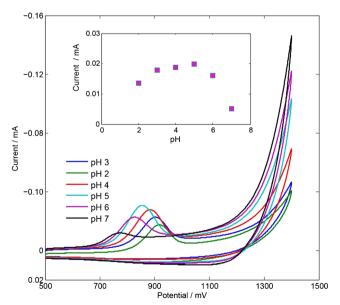


Fig. 3 The variation of the peak current at different pH values (C<sub>AMP</sub>  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M)

In a similar manner, preliminary trial assays were carried out to find the effective ranges of the accumulation potential and accumulation time at an AMP concentration of  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M by SWAdSV (Fig. 4). The recorded SWAdS voltammograms indicated that the accumulation potentials and accumulation times in the respective ranges of 0.0– 600.0 mV and 0.0–200.0 s are appropriate for the full factor analysis.

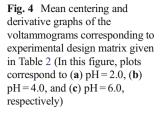
# Experimental design and optimization

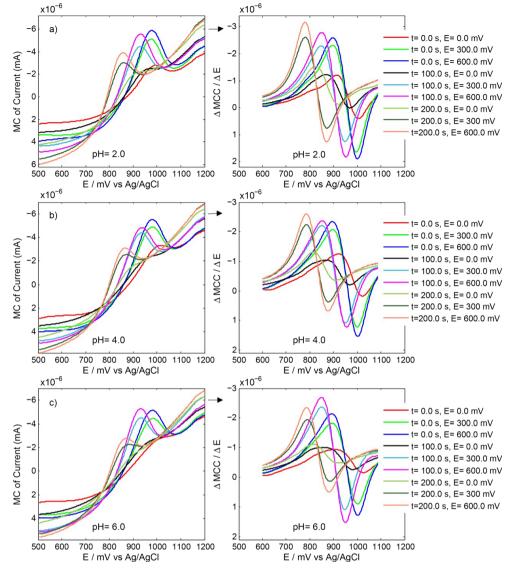
Experimental design and optimization methodology has been used to examine the relationship between experimental factor variables and the corresponding response variables. To this end, several designs such as full/fractional factorial designs, central composite, Box-Behnken, Doehlert, and mixture designs have been used. From the least square regression of the independent factor variables and their responses in the used design, the following second order polynomial equation was derived:

$$y = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3 + b_4 x_1^2 + b_5 x_2^2 + b_6 x_3^2 + b_7 x_1 x_2 + b_8 x_1 x_3 + b_9 x_2$$
(1)

Here, y is the response variable,  $b_0$  is the intercept of the equation,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,...,  $b_9$  are the coefficients,  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  are the factor variables, and the products  $x_1x_2$ ,  $x_1x_3$ , and  $x_2x_3$  represent the interactions of the factor variables.

After evaluating the preliminary experiments, trial values of the accumulation potential  $(x_1, mV)$ , accumulation time





 $(x_2, s)$ , and pH  $(x_3)$  were selected as independent factor variables in the 3<sup>3</sup> full factorial design. In Table 1, the actual and coded values of factor variables with three different levels, e.g., high (+1), medium (0), and low (-1), were listed.

Using the factor variables and the corresponding factor levels, the three factor-three level full factorial design was prepared and depicted in Table 2. The

 Table 1
 Independent factor variables and their coded and actual values used for experimental design

Level	Experimental factors			
	$pH(x_1)$	Accumulation potential $(x_2)$	Accumulation time $(x_3)$	
-1	2	0	0	
0	4	300	100	
1	6	600	200	

voltammograms of the design matrix consisting of the 27 runs and SWAdSV plots were recorded in the range 500-1200 mV. In order to measure the exact values of the peak currents of voltammograms, the mean centering (MC) and the derivative technique were applied to all the voltammograms of the design samples for the scaling of the data of the original voltammograms. In Fig. 4, the mean centered voltammograms and their corresponding derivative plots were presented for the design samples at the pH values employed. As can be seen in this figure, the mean centering and derivative techniques were provided to allow a better evaluation of the design voltammograms and to observe the variation of the response variable. After the mean centering treatment of original voltammograms corresponding to the samples in Table 2, the first derivative of the mean centered voltammograms was obtained and depicted in

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Fig. 4. This derivative procedure was denoted as  $\Delta MCC/\Delta E$ . As described above, the values of  $\Delta MCC/\Delta E$  peak to peak responses were measured to obtain the observed responses as indicated in Table 2.

In the experimental design and optimization approach, significance test was applied for the presence and absence of the effects of factors and their interaction on the analytical response ( $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E peak to peak of the current peak). The results of significance test for each factor and factor interactions are illustrated in Table 3. As can be seen in this table, higher *t* values and low *P* values for the studied factors and their interactions were obtained. These values indicate a very strong effect of the factors (pH, accumulation time, and accumulation potential) on the response, which correspond to  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E peak to peak of the current peak. As a consequence, these results indicate that the selected factors, pH, accumulation time,

 Table 2
 Full factorial three factors—three-level design and response surface study

Run order	$(x_1)$	( <i>x</i> <sub>2</sub> )	( <i>x</i> <sub>3</sub> )	Peak to peak response ( $\Delta MCC/\Delta E$ )	
_				Observed	Predicted
1	-1	-1	-1	1.6898	1.7490
2	-1	0	-1	3.7359	3.6398
3	-1	1	-1	4.2189	4.2341
4	0	-1	-1	1.1966	1.1277
5	0	0	-1	2.9413	2.9346
6	0	1	-1	3.4327	3.4450
7	1	-1	-1	1.0761	1.1125
8	1	0	-1	2.8093	2.8354
9	1	1	-1	3.2393	3.2618
10	-1	-1	0	1.7893	1.8057
11	-1	0	0	3.7939	3.7683
12	-1	1	0	4.3353	4.4345
13	0	-1	0	1.0361	1.1261
14	0	0	0	3.0492	3.0047
15	0	1	0	3.5992	3.5869
16	1	-1	0	1.0755	1.0525
17	1	0	0	2.8972	2.8472
18	1	1	0	3.3957	3.3455
19	-1	-1	1	1.2681	1.2784
20	-1	0	1	3.3112	3.3128
21	-1	1	1	4.1311	4.0508
22	0	-1	1	0.5648	0.5404
23	0	0	1	2.5364	2.4909
24	0	1	1	3.0449	3.1449
25	1	-1	1	0.5043	0.4084
26	1	0	1	2.0344	2.2750
27	1	1	1	2.9514	2.8450

 Table 3
 Significance testing of the regression coefficient terms

	Coefficients	t stat	P value
Intercept	3.0047	63.99449	>0.0000
$x_1$	-0.4606	-21.18945	>0.0000
<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub>	1.2304	56.61086	>0.0000
<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	-0.2219	-10.2076	>0.0000
$x_1^2$	0.3030	8.049549	>0.0000
$x_{2}^{2}$	-0.6482	-17.21948	>0.0000
$x_{3}^{2}$	-0.2920	-7.756828	>0.0000
$x_1 x_2$	-0.0840	-3.153968	>0.0058
$x_1 x_3$	-0.0584	-2.192595	>0.0425
<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub> <i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	0.0718	2.69795	>0.0152

and accumulation potential, are good enough to make a better decision for finding the real optimal experimental conditions.

Significance test was applied to the coefficient parameters of the regression modeling, and then results are summarized in Table 3. Taking into account the large t values and the corresponding low P values, the terms of the factors considered and factor interactions prove to have a very strong effect on the oxidation of AMP.

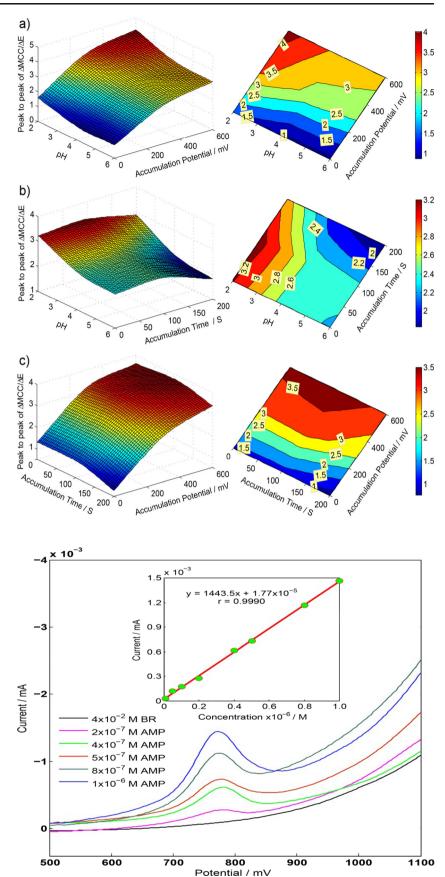
In order to observe the effects of the factor interactions, the surface graphs and their corresponding counter plots of the studied factors were obtained from the relationship between pH-accumulation potential vs peak to peak  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E, pH-accumulation time vs peak to peak, and accumulation time-accumulation potential vs peak to peak  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E in Fig. 5.

# Determination of AMP in commercial sample

Standard series of AMP in the concentration range of  $8.0 \times 10^{-9} - 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M were prepared, and SWAdS voltammograms were recorded under the optimum parameters found by the chemometric method. Voltammograms were shown for the five different concentrations of AMP in Fig. 6. The linear calibration curve was plotted, and a perfect linearity was found between the concentration range of  $1.0 \times 10^{-8} - 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M. The correlation coefficient (*r*) was 0.9990 (inset in Fig. 6). The statistical results of regression analysis are listed in Table 5.

#### Validity of the optimized voltammetric method

Validation of an analytical method is the process by which it is established that the performance characteristic of the method meets the requirements for the intended analytical applications. The elements required for method validation are Fig. 5 Surface graphs and their corresponding counter plots based on the relationship between (a) pH and accumulation potential vs  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E, (b) pH and accumulation time vs  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E, (c) and accumulation time and accumulation potential vs  $\Delta$ MCC/ $\Delta$ E



**Fig. 6** SWAdS voltammograms and calibration graph of AMP (*inset*: calibration graph)

Method	Electrode type	pH/medium	Working range	LUD/LUQ	Transmidder	
DPV	GCE under a) rotating b) stationary conditions	5.5 0.2 M KCL, 0.1 M phosphate buffer	$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$ -9.78 × 10 <sup>-6</sup> M	a) 9.78 × 10 <sup>-6</sup> M b) 1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> M / a) 2.94 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> M	Tablets	[20]
First derivative of	GCE	5.0 BR buffer	$4.0\times 10^{-6} - 1.0\times 10^{-4}~{\rm M}$	b) $5.38 \times 10^{-9}$ M $8.01 \times 10^{-7}$ M/2.67 × $10^{-6}$ M	Pharmaceutical dosage forms	[21]
DPV	CPE	2.0 BR buffer	$4.12\times 10^{-8}5.65\times 10^{-8}~\text{M}$	$8.84  imes 10^{-8}$ M	Pharmaceutical preparations	[26]
ADPV	MWCNTsGPE	6.0 BR buffer	$6.11 \times 10^{-6} - 2.45 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$	$2.45 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$	Commercial tablets	[27]
SWV	Boron-doped diamond electrode	5.0 BR buffer	$4.97 \times 10^{-7} - 2.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$	$7.64 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Synthetic urine sample	[28]
DPV	Boron-doped diamond	5.0 BR buffer	$2.0 \times 10^{-7} - 6.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$	$7.0 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Pharmaceutical tablets and	[29]
DPV	GCE	5.0 BR buffer	$1.0 \times 10^{-6} - 3.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$	$3.1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M/1.03} \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$	Tablet and serum samples	[30]
SWV	MWCNTsPE	6.0 BR buffer and CTAB	$5.8 \times 10^{-7}$ - $5.9 \times 10^{-6}$ M	$4.9 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Pharmaceutical formulations	[31]
AdSWASV	GCE modified with TiO <sub>2</sub>	5.69 BR buffer	$1.0 \times 10^{-8} - 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ M	$2.97 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M}/9.90 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M}$	Tablet	This work

 Table 4
 Mentioned studies

 Table 5
 The statistical results of regression analysis

Method	SWAdSV
Peak potential, mV	800.0
Slope, M (nA.L/mol)	1.44
Regression coefficient, $R^2$	0.999
Linear working range (M)	$1.0 \times 10^{-8} - 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$
LOD, M <sup>a</sup>	$2.97 \times 10^{-9}$
LOQ, M <sup>a</sup>	$9.90 \times 10^{-9}$
Reproducibility of peak current, RSD % $(n=5)$	5.00
Reproducibility of peak potential, RSD % $(n=5)$	0.56

<sup>a</sup> In the confidence limit of % 95, T=2.57 for N=5 for the determination of limit of quantification, and limit of detection RSD is the relative standard deviation of five replications

linearity range, limits of detection and quantification, accuracy, precision, reproducibility, etc.

Limit of defection (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ) values were calculated using the relations LOD=3 s/m and LOQ=10 s/m, s being the standard deviation of selected working concentration and m being the slope of calibration curve. By using related equations, LOD and LOQ were calculated to be  $2.97 \times 10^{-9}$  and  $9.90 \times 10^{-9}$ , respectively.

It so appears that the method developed is superior to existing electrochemical methods performed in the acidic pH medium. Comparing the mentioned studies in Table 4, the present study provides lower limit of detection and wider linear concentration range in the acidic pH values.

The reproducibility of peak current (RSD %=5.00) and the reproducibility of peak potential (RSD %=0.56) were calculated. The obtained values indicate a good precision for the newly developed method. Experiments were replicated five times, and the average values of the results are illustrated in Table 5.

In the studies relating to recovery, the accuracy of the optimized method was tested by analyzing commercial tablet samples. Mean recovery results and the relative standard deviation are given in Table 6. According to the recovery results, a good accuracy and precision were found for the analysis of AMP in samples by the newly developed method.

Table 6	Mean recovery results and the relative standard deviation

Sample	Tablet value, mg	Found, mg	Mean r ecovery, % <sup>a</sup>	RSD, %
AMP	5.0	5.12, 5.02, 5.20, 4.97, 4.96, 5.05	101.00	2.04

<sup>a</sup> Each film-coated tablet contains 6.94 mg amlodipine besylate equivalent to 5 mg amlodipine base

# Lifetime and interference studies for TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE

In total, 90 different records of the peak current of AMP  $(1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  were taken in a period of 3 months by using the CV method, and the findings were used to test the lifetime of the newly prepared TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE system. During the lifetime test, the electrode was kept in methanol at room temperature. The percent decrease in the AMP peak currents was calculated for each measurement. At the end of the trial period, the peak current intensity was found to have been retained at about 95 % of its departure value. This indicated that the TiO<sub>2</sub>-CPE system should better be renewed after 2 months.

In order to investigate the effect of the matrix materials in commercial pharmaceutical samples on the voltammetric response, studies were performed by adding extra AMP into samples for recovery tests. The results are depicted in Table 6. It can be seen that the recovery ranges between 101.0 and 102.4 %. Consequently, we concluded that the commercial excipients have little interference on the results obtained by the method developed.

# Conclusions

In this study, a new electrode system consisting of  $TiO_2$ -CPE was developed for the analysis of AMP in samples.

In the next step, the application of the 3<sup>3</sup> factorial design for finding optimal voltammetric conditions, accumulation potential, accumulation time, and pH, provided higher peak current with well-defined waveform for the oxidation of AMP on the modified electrode and for the determination of AMP in tablets. After the method validation procedure, the developed and optimized voltammetric method gave us successful assay results for the quantitative evaluation of AMP in the commercial dosage form.

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