

T. NIEDERHOFFER¹, H. LANCASHIRE¹ and A. VANHOESTENBERGHE²

1 University College London, London, UK 2 King's College London, London, UK

INTRODUCTION

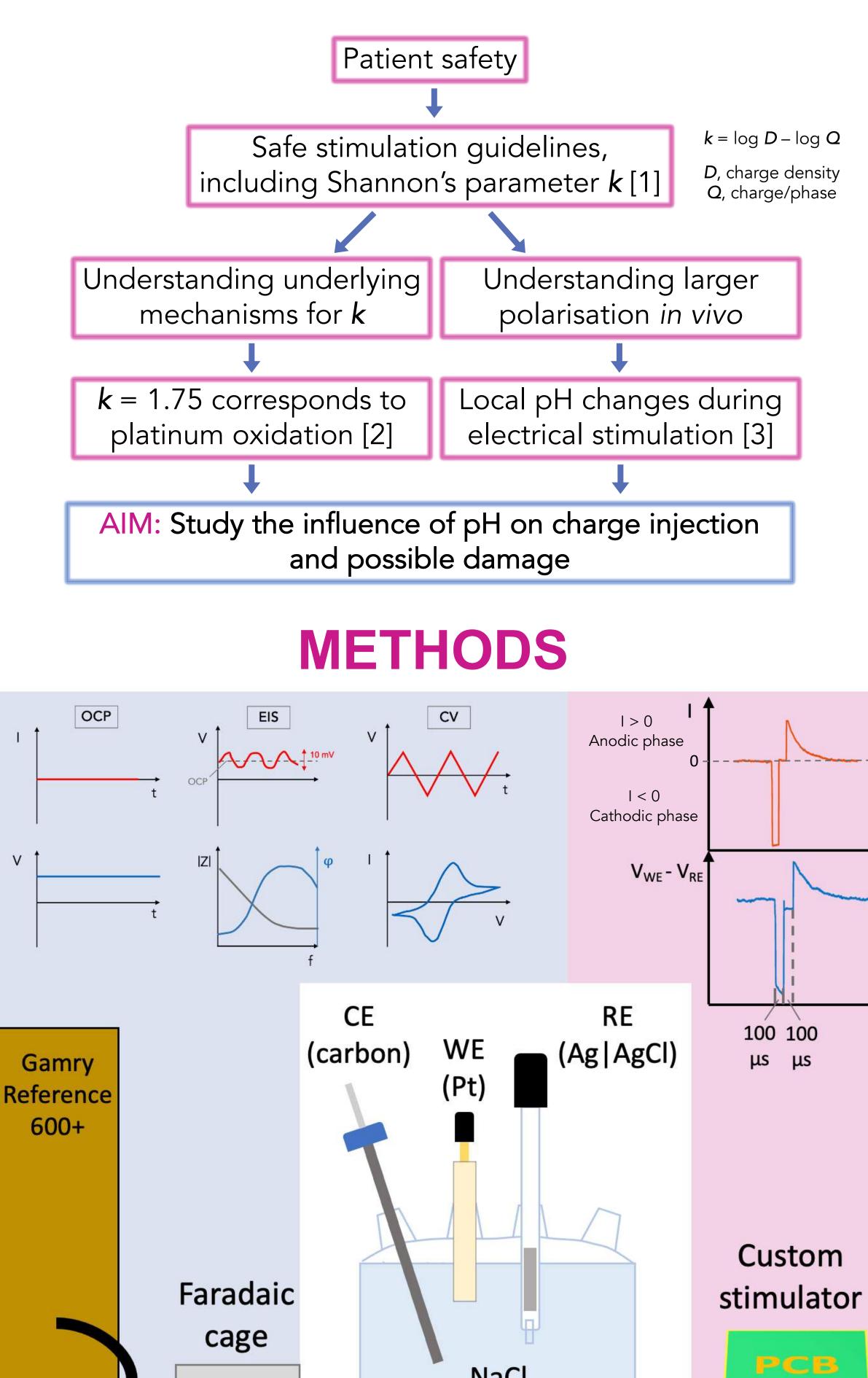


Figure A: Experimental setup scheme. The blue area represents the electrochemical testing part, the pink area represents the stimulation part. After electrochemical tests, a train of 1000 pulses was applied and the working electrode potential was recorded on an oscilloscope.

NaCl

pH adjusted with HCl / NaOH

Unsafe Stimulation Correlates with Oxide Reduction Onset in Unbuffered Saline

RESULTS

- Potential ratcheting was observed for every solution (fig. B).
- ♦ **pH 1**: at $k \ge 1.75$, the anodic potential entered an oxidation peak region, and the cathodic potential reached the second reduction peak (fig. C).
- ◆ pH 4, 6 & 10: at k ≥ 1.66, the cathodic potential entered the main oxide reduction peak, marking a plateau. The anodic potential remained stable/decreased with k and abruptly increased at $k \ge 1.85$ for pH 4 and $k \ge 1.66$ for pH 6 & 10 past the platinum oxidation peak (fig. C).
- PH 12: anodic potential remained stable in the oxide formation peak and cathodic potential decreased abruptly at $k \ge 1.55$, entering the main oxide reduction peak, and decreased slightly at higher *k* (fig. C).
- CV (fig. E) and EIS (fig. F) were similar for 4≤pH≤10, due to local pH changes at the electrode surface. pH 12 had similar peaks on CV and slightly lower EIS modulus. **pH 1** EIS and CV profiles were noticeably different; the oxide reduction peak split into 2 distinct peaks.

REFERENCES

1 **R.V. Shannon**. A model of safe levels for electrical stimulation. IEEE Transactions on biomedical engineering, 39(4):424–426, 1992.

2 D.W. Kumsa et al. Electron transfer processes occurring on platinum neural stimulating electrodes: pulsing experiments for cathodic-first/charge-balanced/biphasic pulses for 0.566 \leq k \geq 2.3 in oxygenated and deoxygenated sulfuric acid. Journal of Neural Engineering, 13(5):056001, 2016

3 C.L. Ballestrasse et al. Calculations of the pH changes produced in body tissue by a spherical stimulation electrode. Annals of biomedical engineering, 13(5), 405-424, 1985.

CONTACT

TN: thomas.niederhoffer.19@ucl.ac.uk HL: <u>h.lancashire@ucl.ac.uk</u>

