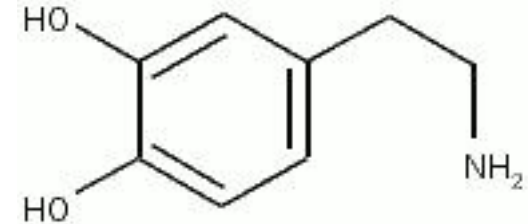
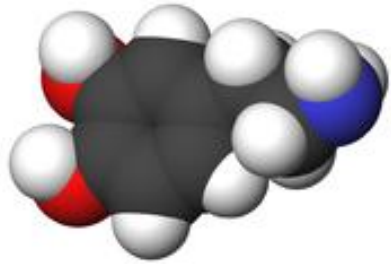


# Selective Sensing of Dopamine using a Nafion® coated Overoxidized Polypyrrole electrode.

Paul Moorhead, Carmel Breslin and Denise Rooney  
Department of Chemistry,  
National University of Ireland Maynooth,  
Co. Kildare,  
Ireland



# Introduction.

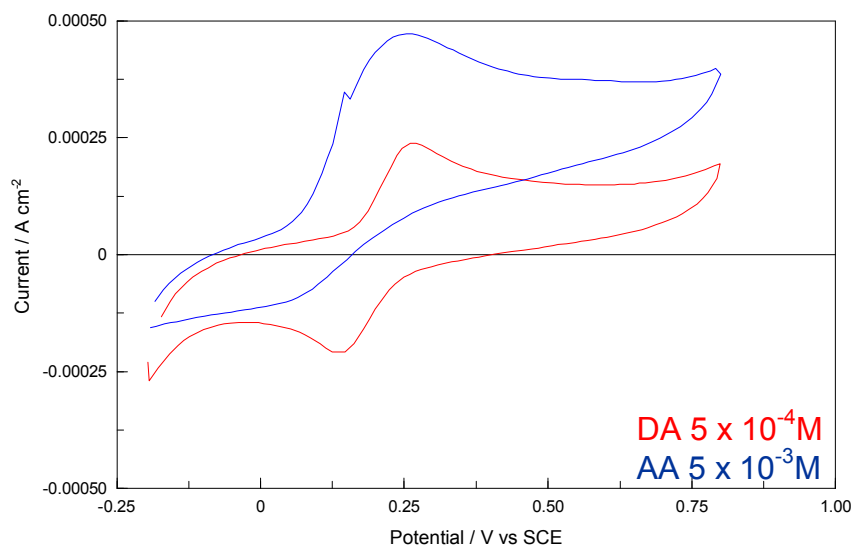


**Dopamine (DA) is an important neurotransmitter. Dopamine mediates the transmission of messages within the central nervous system, abnormal levels of dopamine are related to diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and Schizophrenia.**



## Introduction.

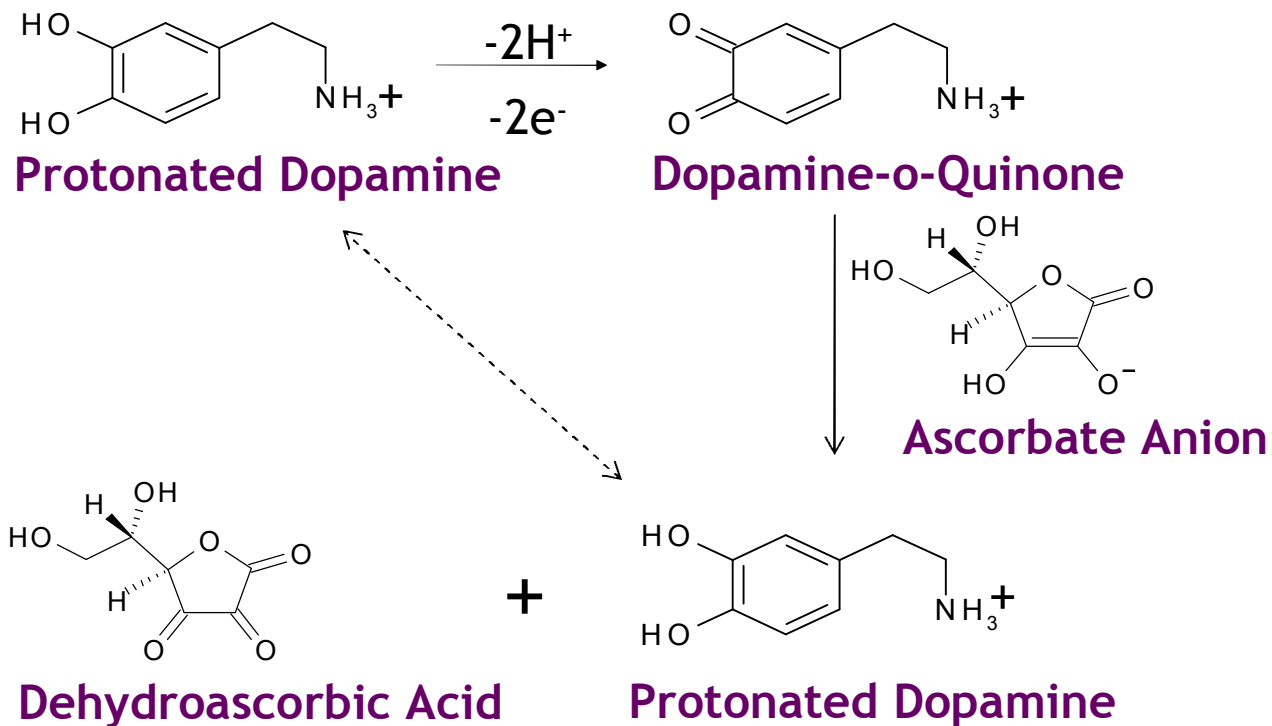
Dopamine is electrochemically active therefore the development of an electrochemical method that is capable of sensing dopamine has been at the forefront of much research.



However, the electrochemistry is made extremely difficult by the presence of interfering compounds, such as ascorbic acid which exist in in vivo at concentrations of over 100 times that of dopamine and the oxidation potentials overlap.



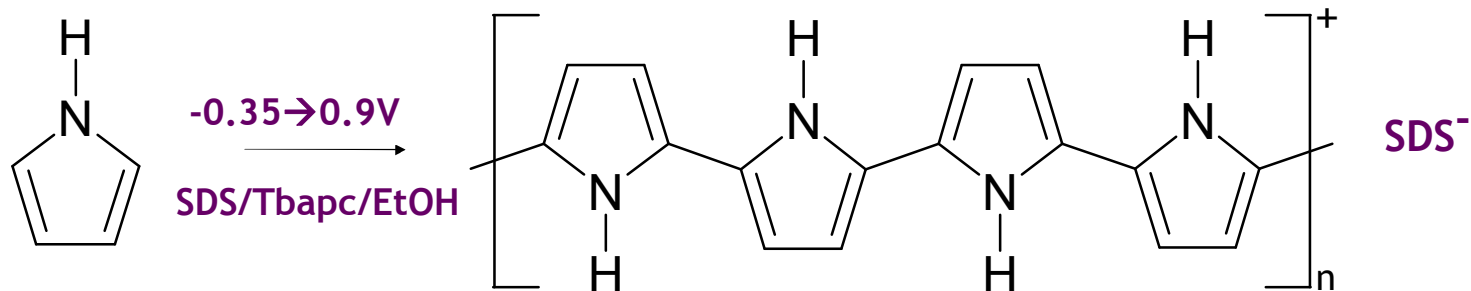
# Introduction.



**Dopamine-o-quinone can be chemically reduced by ascorbic acid to dopamine which can be re-oxidised at the electrode surface.**

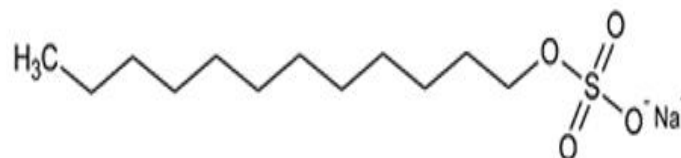
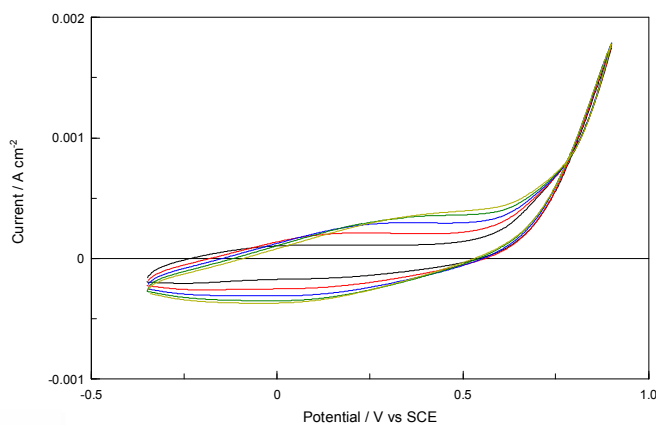


# Manufacturing the electrode.



Pyrrole

Polypyrrole



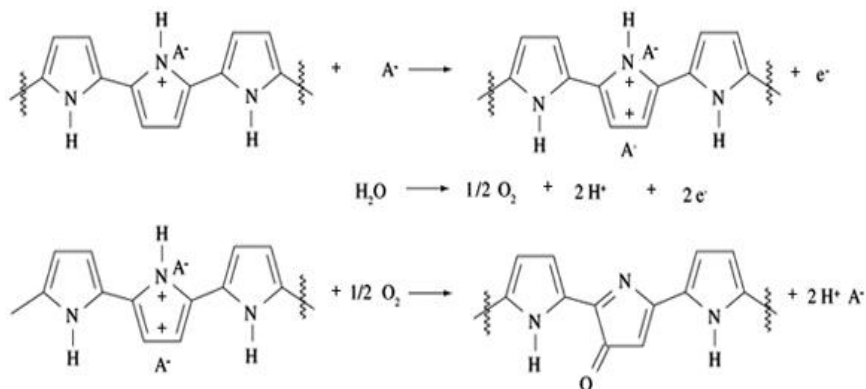
Sodium Dodecyl sulfate  
(SDS)



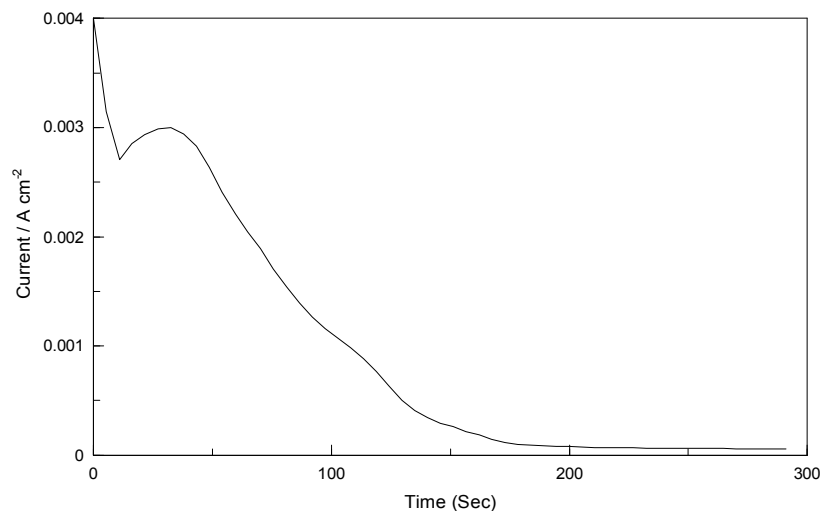
Tetrabutylammonium perchlorate  
(Tbapc)



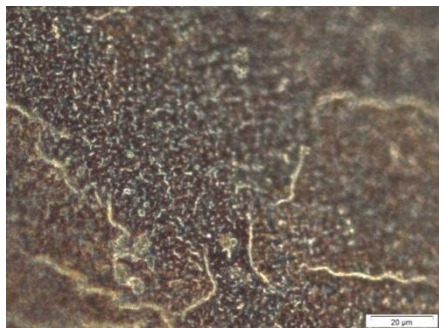
## Manufacturing the electrode.



Reactions that occur during the overoxidation of the polypyrrole.



Overoxidation of polypyrrole @ 1.0 V.

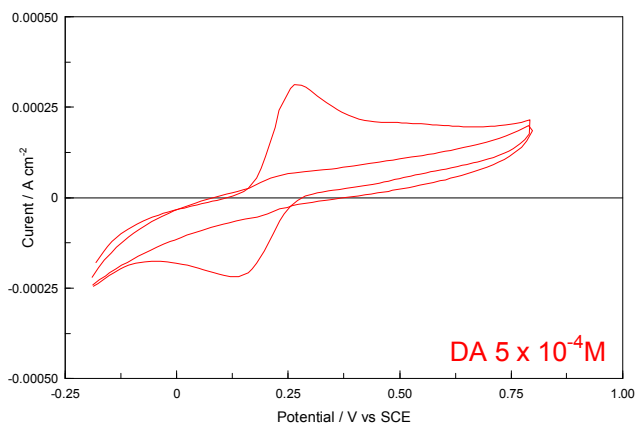


There are 2 reasons for overoxidising the polymer-

- the polymer goes from a positive to neutral.
- it reduces the background currents, allowing for greater sensitivity.

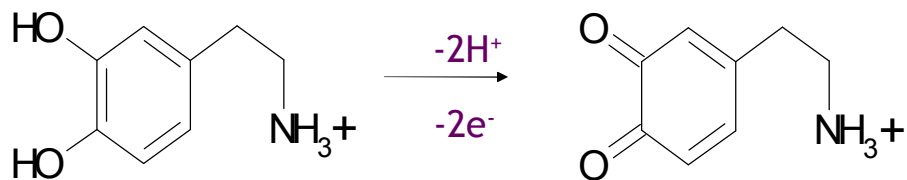


# The role of SDS within the polymer.



SDS  
Tbpac /  $\text{ClO}_4^-$

## The Oxidation of Dopamine

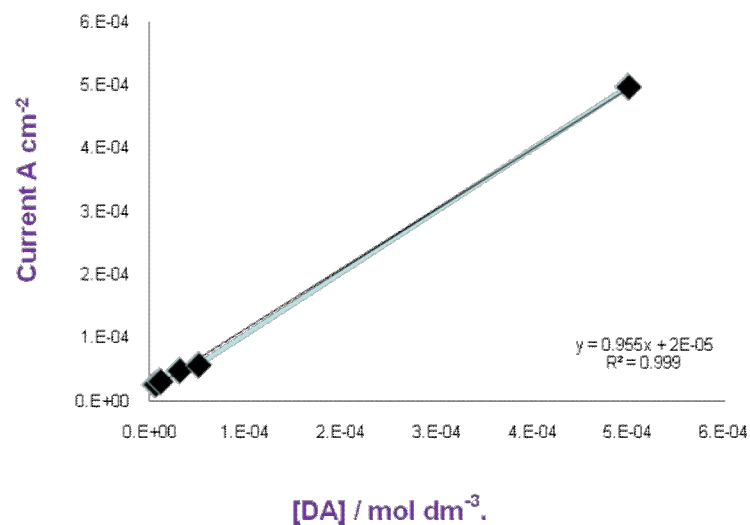
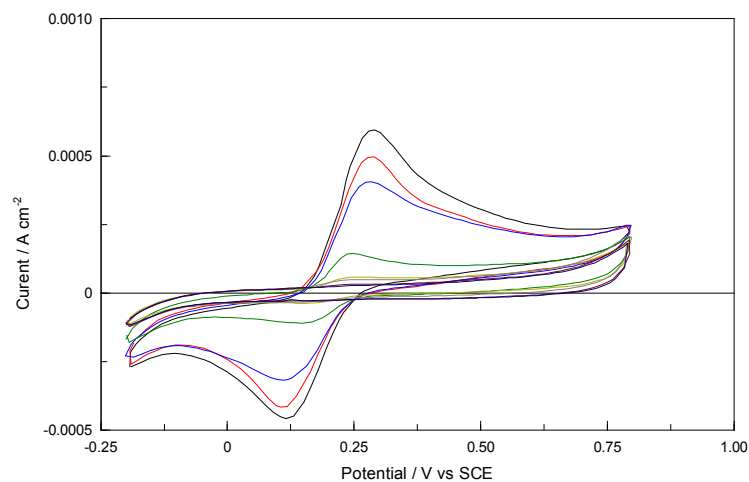


Protonated Dopamine

Dopamine-o-Quinone



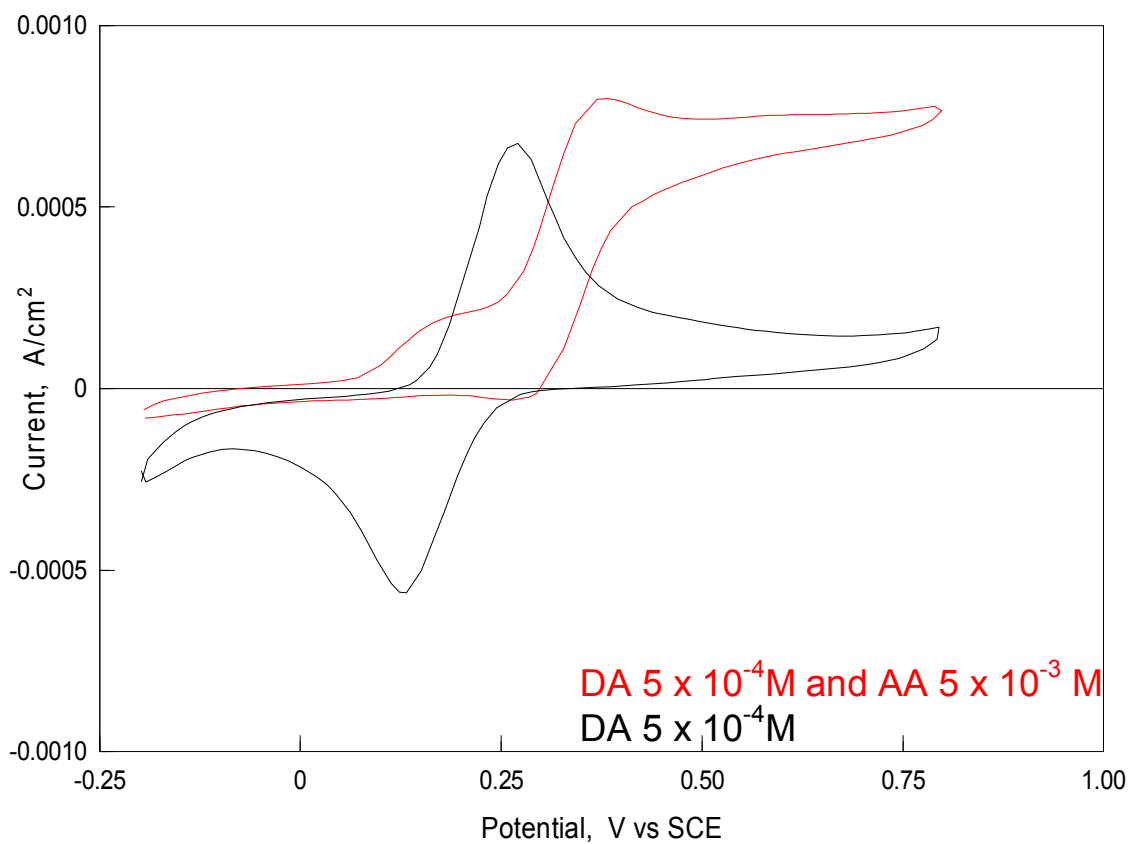
# Concentration of Dopamine.



Sensitivity is  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M DA



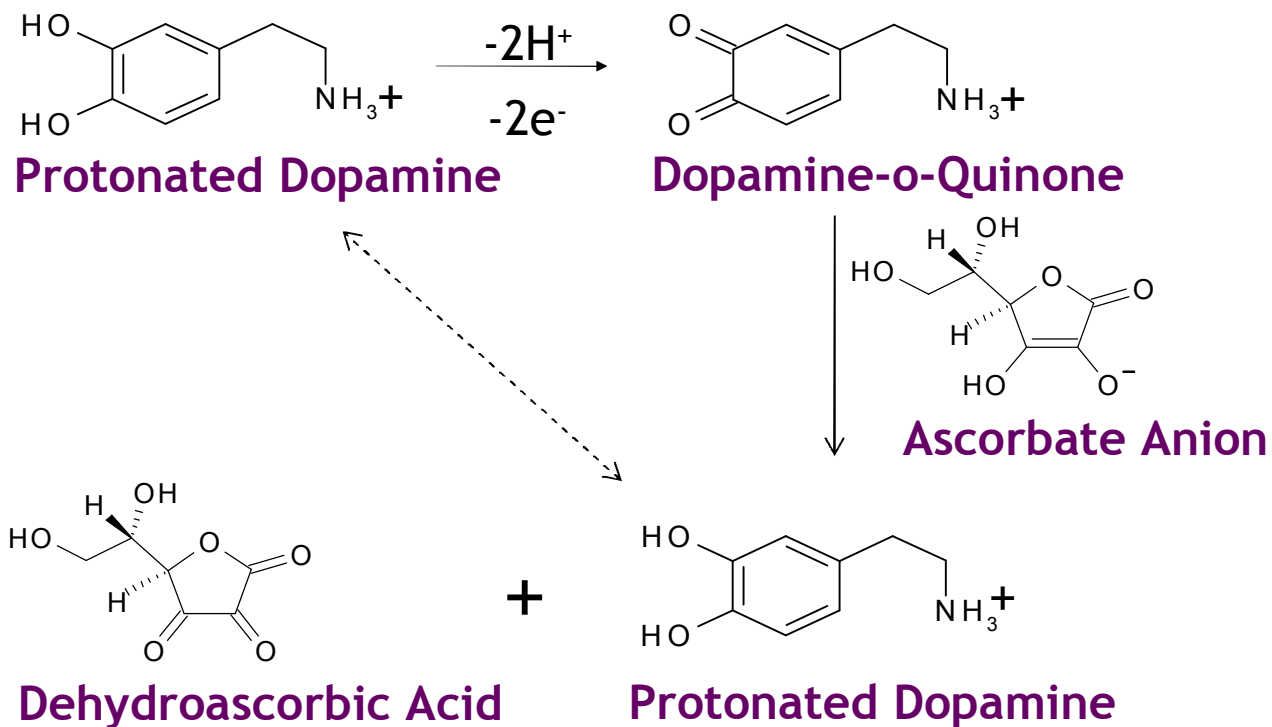
## Influence of Ascorbic acid.



AA interference  
with the DA signal.

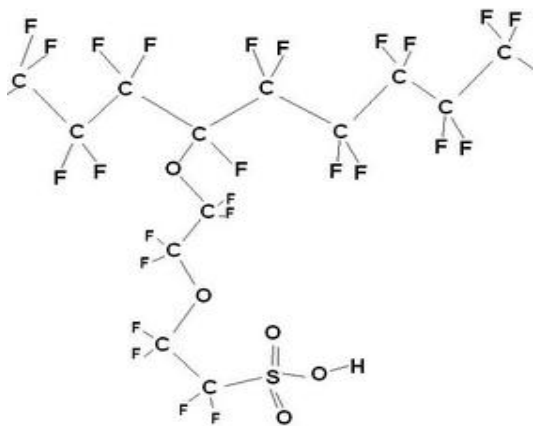


# Introduction.



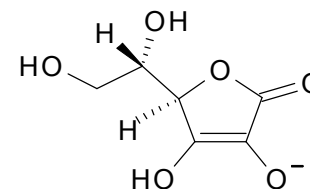
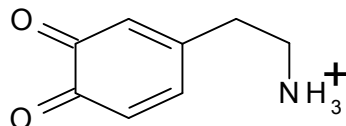
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# Nafion®



Nafion®

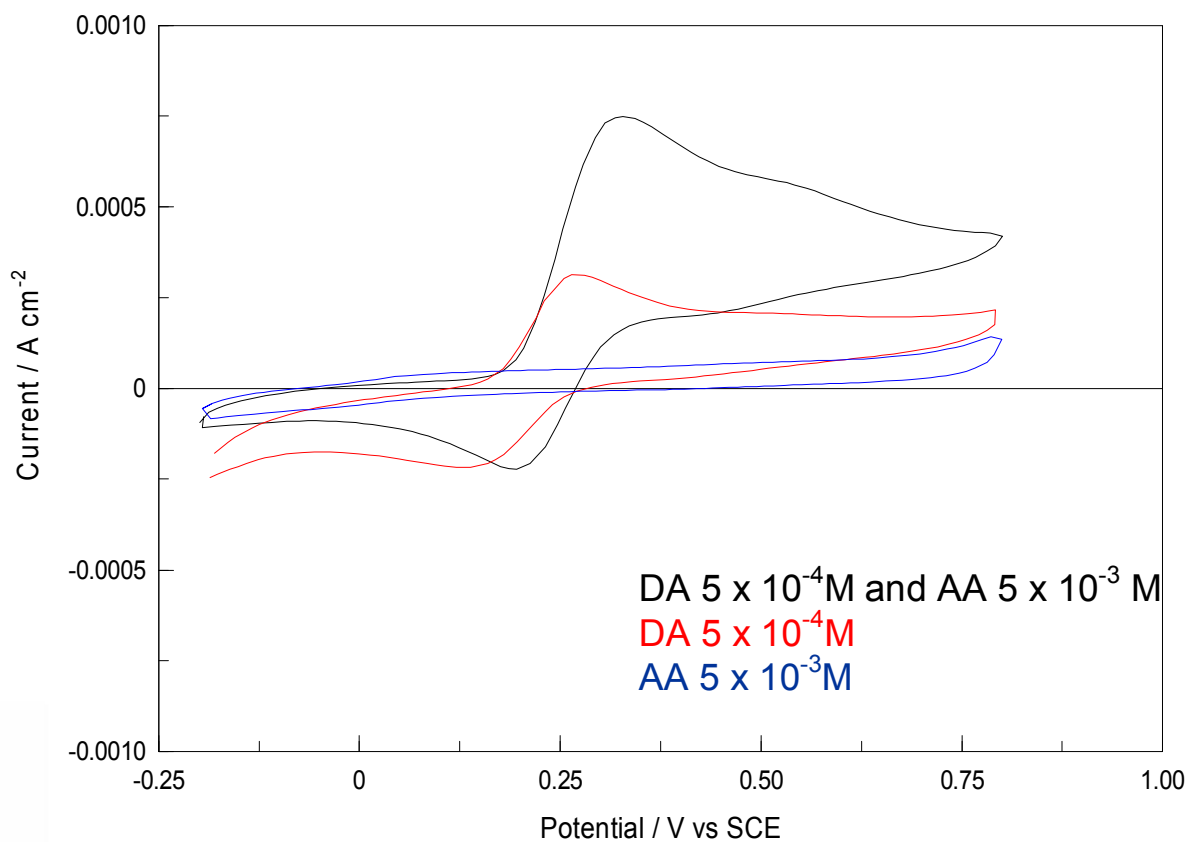
The chemical basis of Nafion's superior conductive properties remain a focus of research. Protons on the SO<sub>3</sub>H (sulfonic acid) groups move from one acid site to another. Pores allow movement of cations but the membranes do not conduct anions or electrons.



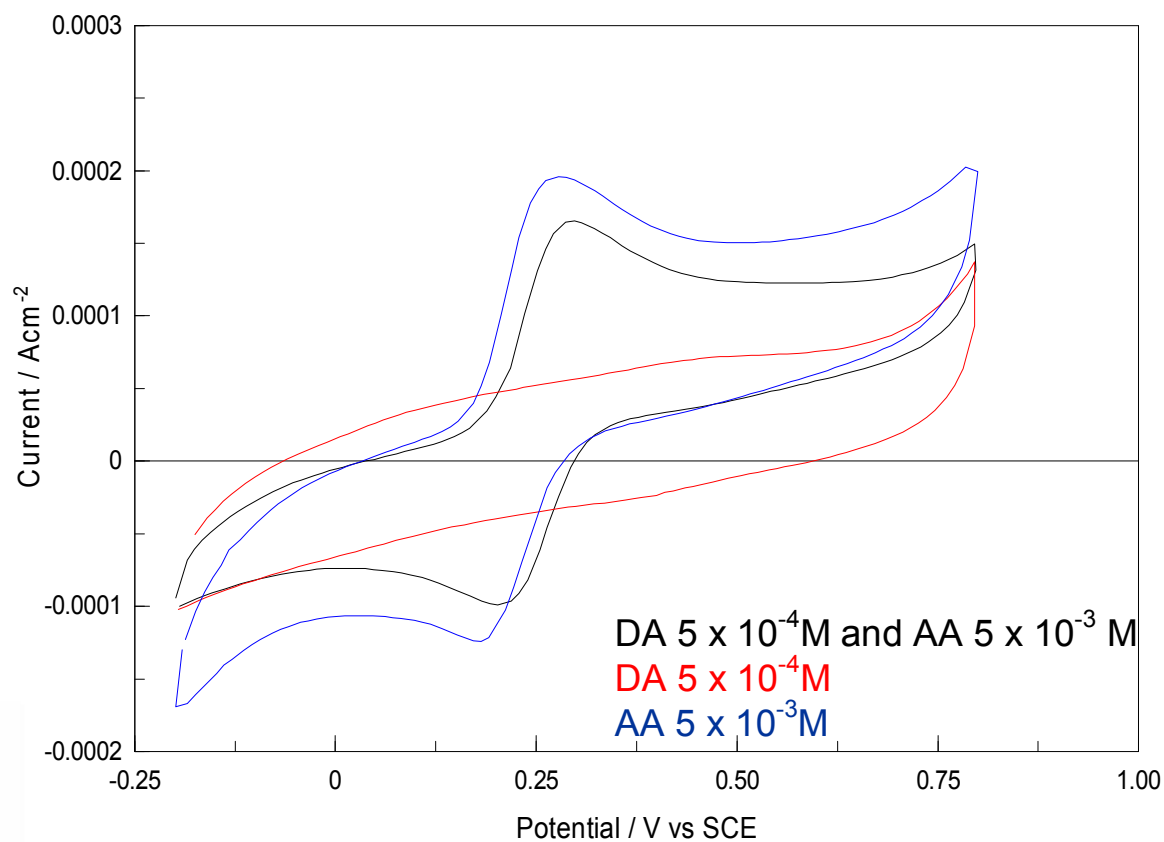
Ion-selective Nafion® is used to block out the anionic (-ve charged) Ascorbic acid and attract the cationic (+ve charged) dopamine.



# Polymer electrode without Nafion® coating



## Polymer electrode with Nafion® coating



## Future work

**Incorporating Au nanoparticles – ongoing**

**Considering other large dopants – SDS**

**Refining the application of Nafion®.**



# My thanks to



NUI MAYNOOTH

Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

Prof. Carmel Breslin  
Dr. Denise Rooney  
And All Postgraduate and Postdoctoral  
Researchers in Maynooth



NUI MAYNOOTH

Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

# Centre of Applied Science for Health

The Centre of Applied Science for Health  
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Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007 - 2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
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EUROPEAN UNION  
STRUCTURAL FUNDS



HEA

Higher Education Authority  
An tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas



NUI MAYNOOTH  
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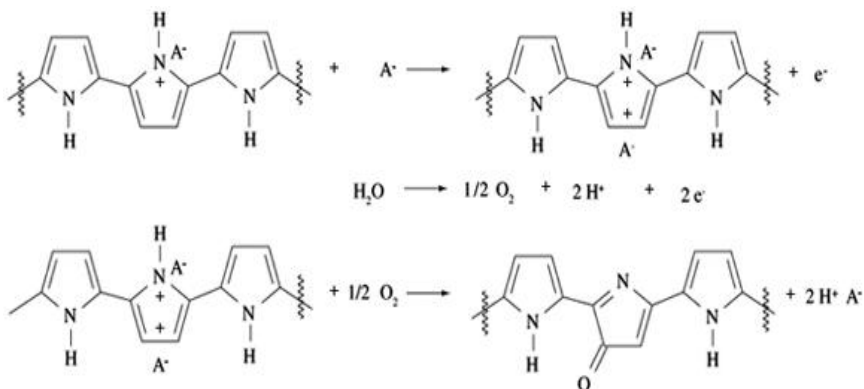
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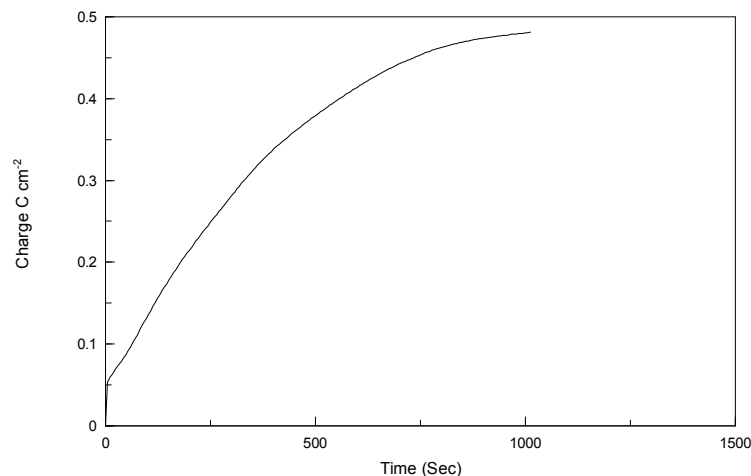
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