

# Supporting Information for Electron Transfer and Conductance Quantum

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## 1 Materials and Methods

Polycrystalline Gold Disk Electrodes (GDE) (METROHM, 2 mm diameter) were cleaned following the IUPAC procedure (1). After cleaning procedure the GDE is immersed in a 1 mM 11-ferrocenyl-undecanethiol (Sigma-Aldrich) ethanolic solution (for 12 h at room temperature). Electrodes were then rinsed with ethanol and water and dried under nitrogen prior to immersion in the electrochemical cell (a 5 mL volume compartment cell with the functionalized GDE working electrode, an Ag|AgCl reference and a platinum gauze counter electrode). Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) measurements were carried out using a PC controlled AUTOLAB potentiostat PGSTAT30 equipped with an ADC750 and a FRA (Frequency Response Analyser) module. AC frequencies ranged from 1 MHz to 10 mHz, with an amplitude of 10 mV. All EIS data were checked regarding compliance with the constraints of linear systems theory by Kramers-Kronig using the appropriate routine of the FRA AUTOLAB software. Supporting electrolyte was 100 mM tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (Sigma Aldrich) in dichloromethane (Sigma Aldrich).

The electrolyte was de-oxygenated with bubbling argon and surface purging for the dura-

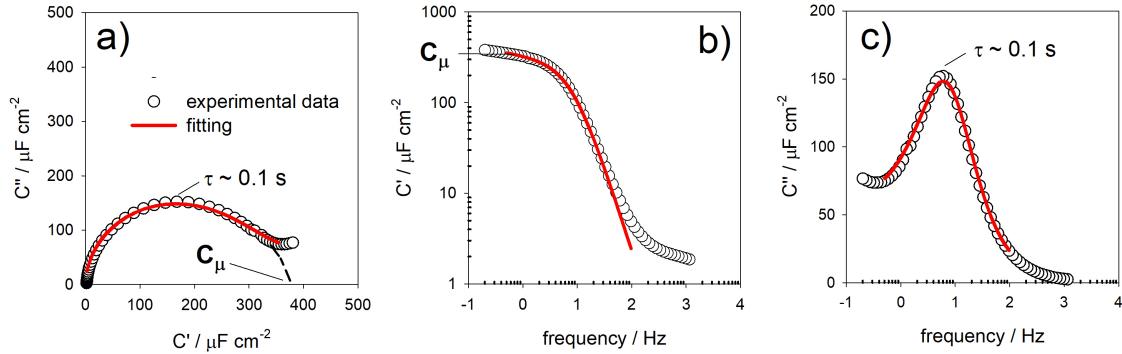


Figure 1: (a) Nyquist capacitive plot, being (b) and (c) Bode capacitive diagrams of  $C^*(\omega)$ . This type of capacitive spectra corresponds to the average response of the molecular ensemble and provides the values of  $C_\mu$  and  $\tau$  from where  $G$  can be obtained from the relationship  $k = G/C_\mu$ .  $C_\mu$  can be obtained at the lower frequency as the diameter of the semicircle in (a) or in (b) as shown.  $\tau$  is the product of  $R_{ct}$  and  $C_\mu$  and  $k = \tau^{-1} = G/C_\mu$ , where  $G = 1/R_{ct}$ .

tion of the experiment. The obtained complex impedance  $Z^*(\omega)$  function was converted into complex capacitance  $C^*(\omega)$  using the following relationship  $C^*(\omega) = 1/j\omega Z^*(\omega)$  in which  $\omega$  is the angular frequency and  $j = \sqrt{-1}$  the imaginary number. An example of data obtained at the formal potential ( $E_F$ ) is exemplified in Figure 1 of this support information document from where  $k$ ,  $G$  and  $C_\mu$  were obtained, as a function of the electrode potential, as shown in the main text. The  $k$ ,  $G$  and  $C_\mu$  values can be obtained by either graphical analysis or alternatively by a mathematical fitting of data to an equivalent resistive-capacitive  $RC$  circuit. The later is exemplified in Figure 1 (observe the red line curve as the fitting of the RC-model to the experimental data points).

## References and Notes

1. S. Trasatti, *Pure and Applied Chemistry* **63**, 711 (1991).