

Flash Photolysis of Flavins. IV. Some Properties  
of the Lumiflavin Triplet State

**MASTER**

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ABSTRACT

Analysis of lumiflavin triplet state decay kinetics in aqueous solution has given the following results:  $k_1$  (first order decay) =  $670 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ,  $k_2$  (triplet-triplet quenching) =  $8.9 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ,  $k_3$  (triplet-ground state quenching) =  $3.7 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ . The EMN triplet decays mainly via intramolecular quenching by the ribityl side chain and triplet-ground state quenching. Ferricyanide and phenols are shown to be excellent quenchers of the flavin triplet (comparable to KI and  $\text{O}_2$ ). In the case of phenols, quenching occurs via hydroxyl hydrogen abstraction to generate flavin radical and phenoxy radical. Recombination of these radicals (by reverse hydrogen transfer) competes effectively with flavin radical disproportionation. The lumiflavin triplet is also able to abstract hydrogen from a ground state lumiflavin molecule (probably from the 10-methyl group). The radicals so generated can either recombine or undergo a buffer-catalyzed reaction leading to permanent bleaching. Evidence is presented for rapid

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oxidation of lumiflavin radical by both oxygen and ferricyanide. In dry non-polar solvents, lumiflavin triplet formation is prevented; addition of small amounts of water restores the ability to produce triplet state molecules. This is probably due to an effect of water on intersystem crossing.

### INTRODUCTION

The photochemical properties of riboflavin and its analogs have been widely studied (1), not only because of their intrinsic interest, but also because flavins have been implicated in a variety of photobiological phenomena such as phototropism (2), Euglena phototaxis (3,4) and chloroplast phototaxis (5). Although many investigations (6) have shown that the triplet state is an important photochemical intermediate, very little is known concerning its properties (7,8). The present investigation utilizes flash photolysis techniques to elucidate some of the kinetic and chemical behavior of the lumiflavin triplet. This compound was chosen to avoid complications arising from ribityl side chain photooxidation (1), although some evidence will be presented which demonstrates that the FMN triplet behaves qualitatively in a similar manner.

### EXPERIMENTAL

#### Materials

Lumiflavin was synthesized by the method of Guzzo and Tollin (9) and dried under high vacuum. FMN (riboflavin-5'-

phosphate dihydrate, Na salt, B Grade) was obtained from Calbiochem and used without further purification.

2,6 Dimethyl phenol and EDTA (disodium salt) were obtained from Eastman Organic Chemicals. Tyrosine, phenol, p-t-butyl phenol, 3,4 dimethyl phenol, and 2,3 naphthalenediol were reagent grade. Potassium ferricyanide and potassium iodide were Mallinckrodt A.R. grade. Analyzed reagent grade sucrose was supplied by Allied chemical.

Tert.-butyl acetate, D<sub>2</sub>O (99.5%) and 1,2-dichloroethane were obtained from Matheson, Coleman and Bell. Tert.-butyl acetate was washed with 5% Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution, then with saturated aqueous CaCl<sub>2</sub>, dried 3 times with CaCl<sub>2</sub> and distilled. 1,2-Dichloroethane was dried two times with CaCl<sub>2</sub> and then fractionally distilled from phosphorous pentoxide.

#### Deoxygenation of samples

Lumiflavin solutions were degassed on a high vacuum line ( $10^{-6}$  torr). The solution was placed in a bulb which was attached to a 10 cm cylindrical spectrophotometer cell through a teflon high vacuum valve. Six cycles of freezing, pumping and thawing removed all dissolved gases as was shown by reading the pressure with a McCleod gauge. The degassed solution was then transferred into the cell and the teflon valve closed. No air leakage through the valve was detectable even several hours after degassing.

Because of their high viscosity, sucrose solutions could not be degassed by the freezing and pumping method. Instead, they were deoxygenated by purging the solution for

45 minutes with nitrogen gas directly from a tank. No difference was observed in the results when the nitrogen was purified by passing over hot copper turnings.

#### Oxygen Measurements

The amount of oxygen in solution was measured by using a Yellow Springs Instrument Co. oxygen monitor (Model 55). The oxygen concentration was varied by passing a known mixture of nitrogen and oxygen through the solution in the spectrophotometer cell.

#### Flash Spectrophotometer

The flash photolysis apparatus was of conventional design. The flash source was a Xenon Corp. lamp (type FP-5). This was charged to 6-7KV using a 7.5  $\mu$ F Sangamo low inductance capacitor and fired by triggering an E, G and G model GP-22B ceramic-metal spark gap with an E, G and G model TM-11 trigger module and appropriate pulse circuitry. In order to improve the efficiency and reliability of firing of the flashtube, it was further triggered with an auxiliary Xenon Corp. trigger module (Model C) with a trigger wire wrapped around the tube. The flash duration was 25  $\mu$ sec (half decay time). In the measurement of decay kinetics, zero time was chosen to be 60-75  $\mu$ sec (depending on the wavelength of the measurement) to avoid flash artifacts. An infrared heat absorbing filter and a Corning CS 7-59 filter were mounted between the flashtube and the sample cell. The entire sample and flashtube compartment was cooled by forced air.

The monitoring beam was a Sylvania 650W tungsten-halogen lamp (120V, DVY) which was collimated to pass through the sample cell and filtered using a water-cooled infrared filter and appropriate band pass filters (usually Corning CS 3-70). A DC power supply was used for the monitoring lamp. The transmitted light passed through the sample cell into a Jarrel-Ash monochromator (Model 82-410) and onto the photomultiplier detector (RCA 4463, S-20 response). In order to reduce scattered light, a series of baffles was placed between sample and monochromator. The output from the phototube (50K load resistor) was fed into a Tektronix type 533 oscilloscope.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When lumiflavin solutions in phosphate buffer (pH=7.0) or distilled water are flashed, lumiflavin triplet and semiquinone (free radical) species (7) are formed (Fig. 1). The absorption spectra of these two materials overlap considerably in the visible region (10). However, the extinction coefficients of the triplet at 560 nm and that of radical at 680 nm are small and thus the 680 nm absorbance can be assumed to be primarily due to triplet and that at 560 nm due to radical. Typical oscilloscope traces at these two wavelengths are shown in Fig. 2. The transient observed at 560 nm decays by a second order process (Fig. 3) with a rate constant of  $1.1 \times 10^9 \text{ l mole}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ . This can be compared with a value of  $0.75 \times 10^9$  reported by Knowles and Roe (10).

The triplet, observed at 680 nm where there is no ground state or radical absorbance (11), does not decay by a first order process except at higher concentrations of lumiflavin. At lower concentrations of lumiflavin, the kinetics of triplet decay are mixed, although Knowles and Roe (10) report that the lumiflavin triplet decays to the ground state by a first order process with a rate constant of  $1.1 \times 10^4 \text{sec}^{-1}$ . However, this was determined on the basis of an analysis of a decay curve which was partly due to radical and partly to triplet. We have studied the triplet decay at 680 nm in solution as a function of the concentration of lumiflavin. At low concentrations of flavin, the triplet decay obeys the following rate law reasonably well,

$$-\frac{dc}{dt} = k_1 C_T + k_2 C_T^2 + k_3 C_T C_G \quad (1)$$

This type of equation was used by Linschitz and Sarkanen (12) to explain chlorophyll triplet decay in pyridine and benzene solutions. In this equation,

$k_1$  = first order radiative and radiationless rate constants for the triplet decay.

$k_2$  = rate constant for triplet-triplet quenching processes.

$k_3$  = rate constant for triplet-ground state quenching.

Values for these three rate constants were calculated by the method given by Linschitz and Sarkanen (12). Only



the essential terms needed for this analysis are defined here.

Let  $C_0$  = total flavin conc.

$C_T$  = conc. of flavin triplets

$C_G$  = conc. of ground state flavin.

Since  $\Delta A^{680} = \epsilon_T^{680} C_T l$ , where  $\epsilon_T^{680}$  = molar absorptivity of triplet at 680 nm (= 4600 as given by Knowles and Roe, ref. 10), and  $l$  = length of the cell (= 10 cm), we can re-write equation (1) as follows:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \ln \frac{\Delta A_0}{\Delta A} = a + b \Delta A \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

where  $\Delta A_0$  = change in absorbance measured  
60  $\mu$ sec. after the flash;

$$a = k_1 + k_3 C_0 \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

$$\text{and } b = \frac{k_2 - k_3}{\epsilon_T^{680} \cdot l}$$

The time-derivative in equation (2) is obtained by drawing tangents to a plot of  $\log (\Delta A_0/\Delta A)$  vs.  $t$ . The slopes are plotted against the corresponding  $\Delta A$  values giving a family of lines of constant slope but increasing intercept with increasing  $C_0$  which allow  $a$  and  $b$  to be determined (Fig. 4,A). The variation of  $a$  with  $C_0$  gives  $k_1$  and  $k_3$  (Fig. 4,B) and  $k_2$  can then be calculated from equation (4). The values of the three rate constants for lumiflavin in distilled water are as follows,

$$k_1 = 670 \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$k_2 = 8.9 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$\text{and } k_3 = 3.7 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

Rate constants of approximately equal value were obtained in 0.025 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.0. Note particularly the rather large values for the triplet-ground state quenching constant  $k_3$ . This would suggest that in those flavoproteins in which two flavin molecules are bound in close proximity to one another, triplet quenching would be quite effective.

In Fig. 5, the triplet decay rates at 680 nm for FMN and lumiflavin at low and high concentrations are compared. The FMN triplet decays to the ground state by a first order process at concentrations at which the lumiflavin decay is of mixed order. This is probably due to intramolecular self-quenching by the ribityl side chain, although intermolecular quenching is also occurring inasmuch as the rate of decay is concentration dependent. Note also that the lifetime of the FMN triplet at the lower concentrations is shorter than that of the lumiflavin triplet.

Tegner and Holmström (7) have calculated the rate constant for the reaction between triplet lumiflavin and iodide ion to be  $7 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ . Inasmuch as ferricyanide ion and phenols are also good triplet quenchers (Fig. 6), we have compared the effectiveness of triplet quenching by these compounds with KI in aqueous solution (Fig. 7). Using

the above value for the iodide quenching constant, we obtain values of  $5.7 \times 10^9$  and  $4.9 \times 10^9 \text{M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$  for ferricyanide and 2,6-dimethyl phenol, respectively.

Values of the triplet quenching constants for ferricyanide, dimethyl phenol and oxygen in 70% sucrose solution were directly determined.\* Except for altering viscosity, sucrose was found to be photochemically non-reactive. Triplet decay in sucrose solutions follows first order kinetics. The first order triplet and second order radical decay rate constants are viscosity dependent but do not follow the expected inverse proportionality to viscosity except at lower viscosities (Fig. 8). The rate of triplet decay is found to increase with increasing concentration of the quencher (Fig. 9,A). The quenching constants were calculated from the slope of a straight line obtained by plotting rate constants against quencher concentration (Fig. 9,B). The quenching constants in 70% sucrose for ferricyanide, 2,6-dimethyl phenol and oxygen are,  $2.4 \times 10^8$ ,  $1.2 \times 10^8$ , and  $1.3 \times 10^8 \text{M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$ , respectively. From these data, it is apparent that dimethyl phenol and ferricyanide quench the lumiflavin triplet as effectively as does oxygen. Thus, a tyrosyl side chain or perhaps non-heme iron in a flavoprotein would provide an efficient pathway for triplet degradation.

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\* The high viscosity of the sucrose solutions (321.6 centipoise) slows the reactions sufficiently to allow this type of measurement to be made over a wide range of quencher concentrations.

Lumiflavin solutions in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH=7.0) in vacuo undergo appreciable photobleaching (10). The absorption spectrum of such a solution, after about 20 flashes, does not return to its original shape and height when air is allowed into the sample cell (Fig. 10). This is probably due to lumichrome formation. At lower buffer concentrations, less photobleaching occurs.\* In distilled water (pH=7.0), permanent photobleaching after many flashes is minimal (5% or less). When phenols, such as 2,6-dimethyl phenol, tyrosine, p-tert. butyl phenol, 3,4-dimethyl phenol or 2,3-naphthalenediol, are present in 0.1M buffer, no permanent bleaching occurs. In the presence of these compounds, the triplet is completely quenched and the semiquinone yield is increased (Fig. 1). Radical decay is second order with a rate constant (with 2,6-dimethyl phenol) of  $1 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  (Fig. 3).

We have also observed (Fig. 11) that the presence of phenols in a solution of lumiflavin plus EDTA in phosphate buffer markedly reduces the extent of photoreduction to the fully-reduced form (which is due to disproportionation of lumiflavin radicals) and increases the radical yield.

If one measures the extent of decrease in absorbance at 445 nm induced by a single flash in lumiflavin solutions in distilled water, one finds the following: lumiflavin alone  $\approx 5\%$ , lumiflavin plus 2,6-dimethyl phenol  $\approx 9\%$ , and

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\* This is suggestive of buffer ion catalysis, particularly since the triplet decay is unaffected by buffer.

lumiflavin plus EDTA  $\approx 35\%$ . The amount of radical generated by the flash in the EDTA and phenol solutions were approximately equal.

The above results suggest that phenols can react with the lumiflavin triplet to generate lumiflavin radical and that decay occurs predominantly via a second order process which competes with disproportionation. Furthermore, the radical decay process in solutions of lumiflavin without an added reductant also proceeds partly via a second order process which does not involve formation of fully-reduced flavin.

In air-saturated solutions (0.1 M phosphate at pH=7.0) no transients can be seen in pure lumiflavin solutions (Fig. 8,B). This is undoubtedly due to triplet quenching by oxygen. However, the addition of 2,6 dimethyl phenol (or other phenols) causes the appearance of a semiquinone transient at 560 nm (Fig. 8,A), which decays more rapidly than in anaerobic solution and by first order kinetics (Fig. 12). The calculated second order rate constant ( $2.2 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ) is independent of the concentration of phenol, from about  $10^{-5} \text{ M}$  to  $10^{-2} \text{ M}$ , and also of phenol structure, thus demonstrating that the phenol is not participating in the decay process. Inasmuch as phenols are effective quenchers of the flavin triplet they can compete effectively with oxygen and thus radical formation can occur. The first order kinetics and more rapid rate of radical decay provide clear evidence for an oxidation of the lumiflavin radical by oxygen.

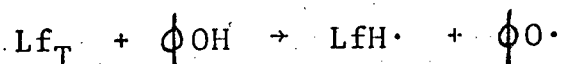
We are presently investigating this in more detail (see below for further comment):<sup>x</sup>

Potassium iodide quenching provides further support for the concept that radical formation, with and without phenols, proceeds via the lumiflavin triplet state. The results are shown in Fig. 13. Thus, KI reduces both the radical and triplet yields with lumiflavin alone (Fig. 13 A,B,C,D), at concentrations too low to measurably affect flavin fluorescence. In the presence of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M dimethyl phenol one has to go to a higher concentration of iodide ions for a marked reduction in the radical yield (Fig. 13, E,F,G,H), although one is still below the fluorescence quenching level.

We have also obtained evidence that the FMN triplet can react with phenols. The addition of  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M dimethyl phenol to  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M FMN in 0.025 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.0 causes the following changes to occur:

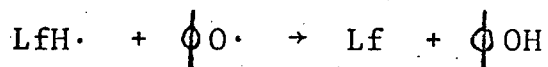
- a) photobleaching of the FMN (due to side chain oxidation) is almost completely prevented.
- b) the FMN radical yield is increased.
- c) the FMN triplet state is completely quenched.

It is necessary now to comment on the source of reducing equivalents for radical production in these systems. The phenol reaction is reasonably simple to explain. The fact that phenol itself is quite reactive suggests hydroxyl hydrogen abstraction generating a phenoxy radical:

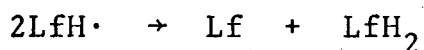


<sup>x</sup> The possibility remains open that the flavin anion radical is actually the reacting species, rather than the neutral radical. Measurements of the pH dependence, currently under way, should resolve this question.

The low absorptivity of phenoxy radicals and the fact that they absorb in the same region as does lumiflavin (13) precludes a direct observation of these species. The small amount of fully-reduced flavin formed suggests that lumiflavin radical decay proceeds mainly by recombination:



rather than by disproportionation:



This lends credence to the suggestion made above that  $\text{O}_2$  reacts directly with  $\text{LfH}\cdot$  (it is in principle possible, although unlikely in view of the kinetics, that the oxygen results are due to reaction with  $\text{LfH}_2$ ).

The large rate constant found for the reaction of lumiflavin triplet with ground state lumiflavin and the observation of buffer-catalyzed irreversible photobleaching of lumiflavin proceeding via the triplet state, suggest that lumiflavin radical formation in pure water occurs by intermolecular hydrogen abstraction.\* This probably occurs from the N-10 methyl group, inasmuch as we have observed that 10-methyl isoalloxazine produces comparable amounts of radical on flash excitation in water. Again, radical decay is partly via recombination, as evidenced by the small amount of photoreduction observed. As a further confirmation of an

\* The possibility of water oxidation was considered, but experiments using sodium formate (which is a good hydroxyl radical scavenger (14)) showed no effect on radical decay rates.

oxygen-lumiflavin radical reaction, we have made measurements with lumiflavin solutions without phenols containing very low concentrations of oxygen. Although the data are not very accurate because of the small signals, we observe a rapid first order decay of the lumiflavin radical (Fig. 12). Analysis of the decay kinetics gives a rate constant approximately equal to that obtained in the presence of dimethyl phenol ( $2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ).

Additional evidence that the 560 nm absorbing species generated with lumiflavin alone and with phenols is the same compound, namely  $\text{LfH}\cdot$ , is provided by observations made in the presence of ferricyanide. We find that the decay rate increases and changes from second order to first order kinetics (Fig. 14). The calculated second order rate constants are approximately the same for the two systems ( $3.8 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  with phenol and  $5.1 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  without phenol).

In dry 1,2-dichloroethane and dry tert.-butyl acetate, no triplet or radical signal is observed in degassed solutions (Fig. 15,A). However, when the solvent is shaken with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , a large triplet signal is observed (Fig. 15,B). In the latter case, the triplet decay is slightly faster. Similar results are observed with the radical signals although, because of irreversible photobleaching, the signal at 560 nm in the wet solvent was always associated with a very slowly decaying transient. This did not interfere with the observation of the triplet at 680 nm where no such slower



processes are observed. These results, when considered in relation to observations of increased fluorescence yields for flavins in non-polar solvents (15), suggest that the presence of water increases the rate constant for inter-system crossing from the singlet to the triplet manifolds of the flavin molecule. Thus, a non-polar environment for flavin in a flavoprotein would provide still another mechanism for preventing triplet state population.

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Legends for Figures

Fig. 1: Flash-induced difference spectra for degassed lumiflavin solutions ( $6 \times 10^{-6} \text{M}$ ) in distilled water (pH=7.0) with and without 2,6-dimethyl phenol ( $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$ ). Points were taken 150  $\mu\text{sec}$  after the flash in order to reduce possible contribution of the triplet state between 500 nm and 600 nm.

Fig. 2: Typical oscillograms observed at 680 nm (A) and 560 nm (B) upon flashing a  $6.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{M}$  lumiflavin solution in distilled water. Each division along the abscissa in (A) represents 50  $\mu\text{sec}$  and in (B) represents 200  $\mu\text{sec}$ . In (A), 7 divisions along the ordinate corresponds to a  $\Delta A$  of 0.31; in (B), 9 divisions along the ordinate corresponds to a  $\Delta A$  of 0.31.

Fig. 3: Second order plots of lumiflavin semiquinone decay obtained with lumiflavin alone <sup>(O)</sup> and with 2,6-dimethyl phenol <sup>(X)</sup> in distilled water. Data represent approximately 80% of decay curve.

$$[\text{lumiflavin}] = 6.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{M}$$

$$[2,6\text{-dimethyl phenol}] = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$$

Fig. 4: A - plot of  $d/dt \ln \Delta A_0 / \Delta A$  vs.  $\Delta A$  for various concentrations of lumiflavin in distilled water.

○  $1.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

x  $1.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

Δ  $0.61 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

†  $0.39 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

●  $0.25 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

B - Plot of intercepts from Fig. 4A vs. lumiflavin concentration.

Fig. 5: Semilog plots of triplet decay curves for lumiflavin and FMN in distilled water.

Fig. 6: Oscillograms observed at 560 nm for air-saturated solutions of lumiflavin in 0.025 M phosphate buffer (pH=7.0) with and without 2,6-dimethyl phenol.

A - [lumiflavin] =  $1.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$ ; [2,6 dimethyl phenol] =  $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$ .

B - [lumiflavin] =  $1.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

Time scale in A is 100  $\mu\text{sec}$  per division and in B is 200  $\mu\text{sec}$  per division.

Fig. 7: Effect of various quenching agents on lumiflavin triplet decay in 0.025M phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

[quencher] =  $1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

+ lumiflavin alone

● lumiflavin plus 2,6-dimethyl phenol

X lumiflavin plus ferricyanide

Δ lumiflavin plus KI

Fig. 8: Effect of viscosity of sucrose solutions on decay constants for lumiflavin triplet and semiquinone.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

Fig. 9: A - Effect of 2,6-dimethyl phenol concentration on lumiflavin triplet decay curves in 70% sucrose solution.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

- none
- $1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$
- ×  $5.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$
- ▽  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$
- △  $1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$
- +  $2.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$

B - Apparent first order rate constants for lumiflavin triplet decay in 70% sucrose vs. concentration of quencher.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

- × ferricyanide
- oxygen
- △ 2,6-dimethyl phenol

Fig.10: Absorption spectra of lumiflavin solutions in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH=7.0) before and after flashing.

- a) before flashing
- b) after 20 flashes
- c) after allowing air to enter cell

Fig.11: Amount of lumiflavin semiquinone generated by a single flash vs. number of flashes which sample has received. 0.1 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

- lumiflavin plus  $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$  EDTA and  $2 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$  tyrosine
- × lumiflavin plus  $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$  EDTA

Fig.12: Semilog plots of lumiflavin semiquinone decay curves in air-saturated solutions in distilled water containing various phenols ( $1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$ ) and for lumiflavin alone at low oxygen concentration ( $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$ ).

[lumiflavin] =  $1.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

- ▲ 3,4-dimethyl phenol
- + phenol
- tyrosine
- 2,3-naphthalenediol
- ⊙ 2,6-dimethyl phenol
- △ p-tert. butyl phenol
- lumiflavin alone (x2)

Fig.13: Effect of KI in the presence and absence of 2,6-dimethyl phenol on flash-induced transients at 560 nm and 680 nm in lumiflavin solutions in 0.025M phosphate buffer, pH=7.0. [lumiflavin] =  $1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$

- A - 560 nm - lumiflavin alone
- B - 680 nm - lumiflavin alone
- C - 560 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$  KI
- D - 680 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$  KI
- E - 560 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  2,6-dimethyl phenol
- F - 680 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  2,6-dimethyl phenol
- G - 560 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  2,6-dimethyl phenol and  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  KI
- H - 680 nm - lumiflavin plus  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  2,6-dimethyl phenol and  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}$  KI

Fig.14: First order plots of lumiflavin semiquinone decay in the presence of ferricyanide with and without 2,6-dimethyl phenol in 0.025M phosphate buffer,

pH=7.0.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M

× lumiflavin plus  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M 2,6-dimethyl phenol  
and  $4 \times 10^{-5}$  M ferricyanide

⊙ lumiflavin plus  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M ferricyanide

Fig.15: Flash-induced transients at 680 nm for lumiflavin  
in dry and wet dichloroethane.

[lumiflavin] =  $1.6 \times 10^{-5}$  M

Time scale is 50  $\mu$ sec per division

A - dry

B - shaken with water

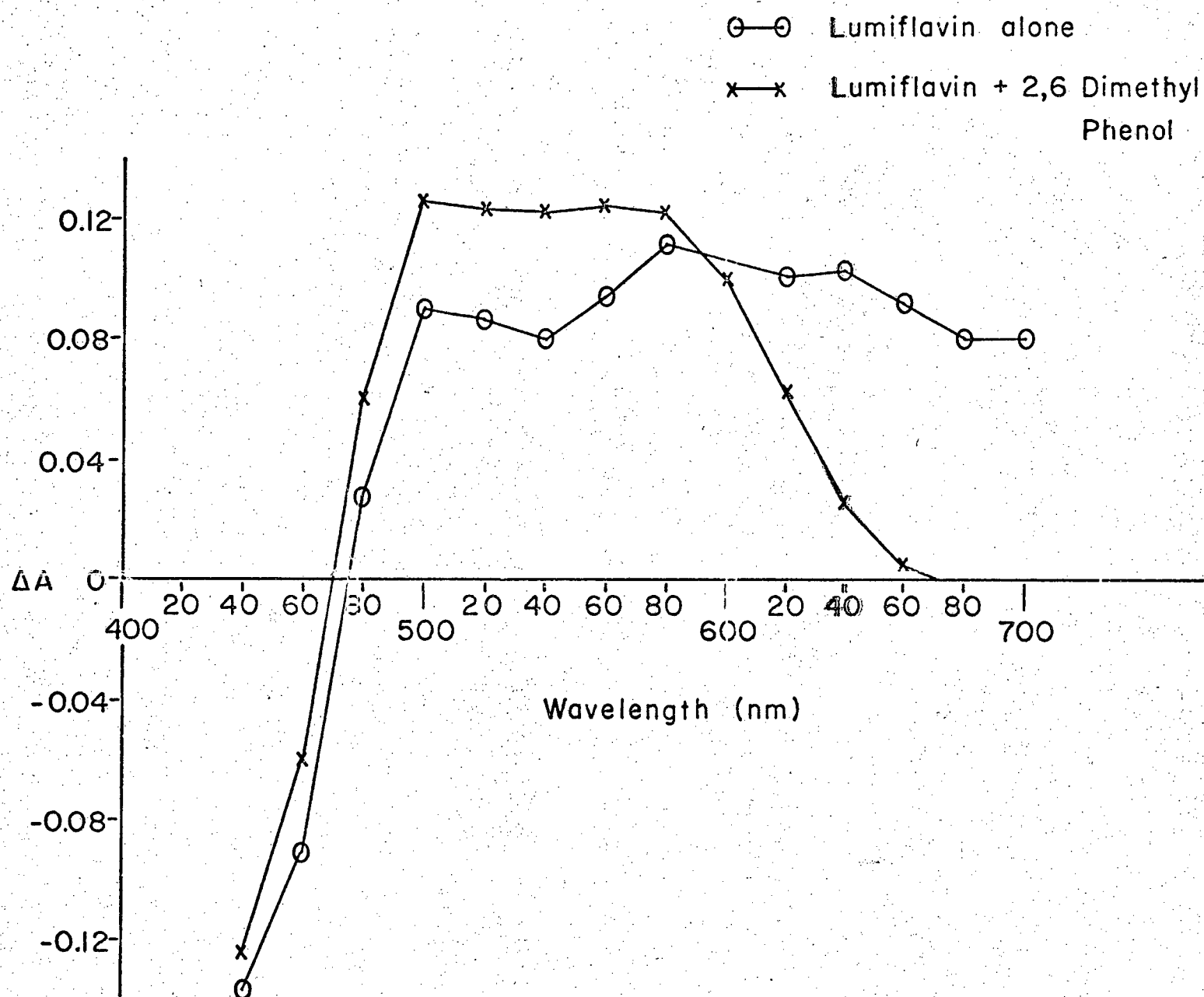
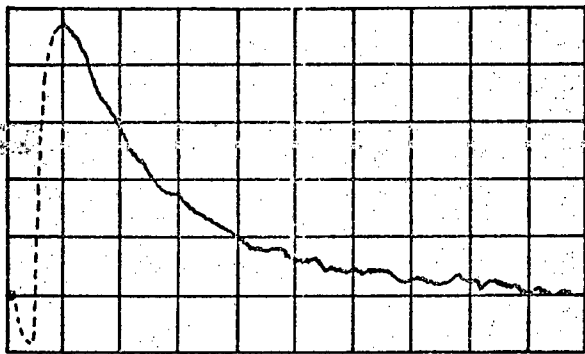
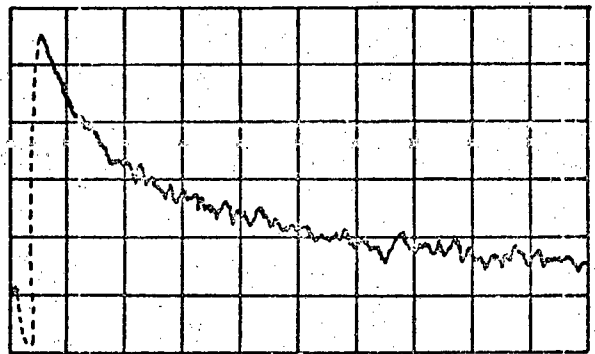


Figure 1





A



B

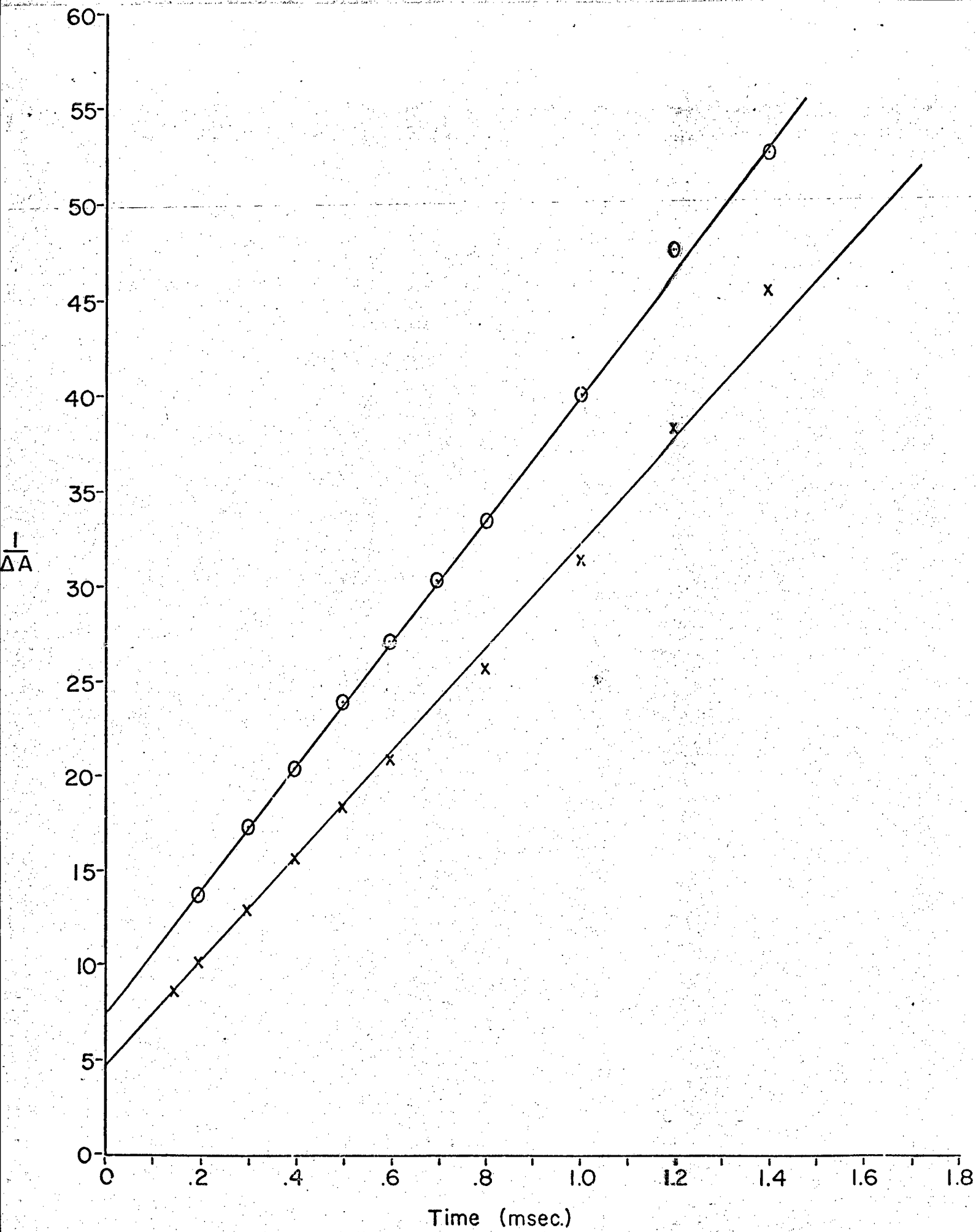


FIG. 3

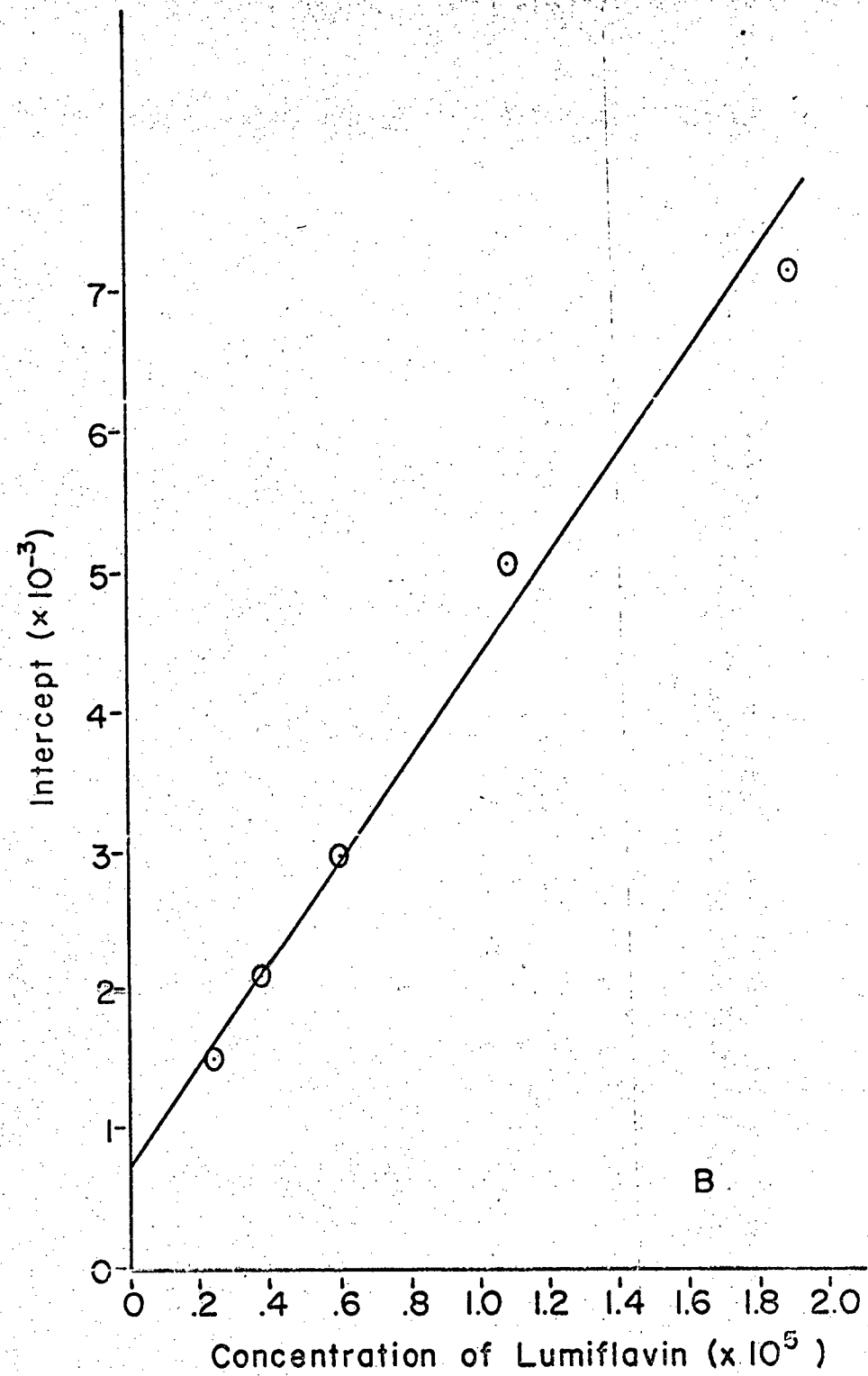
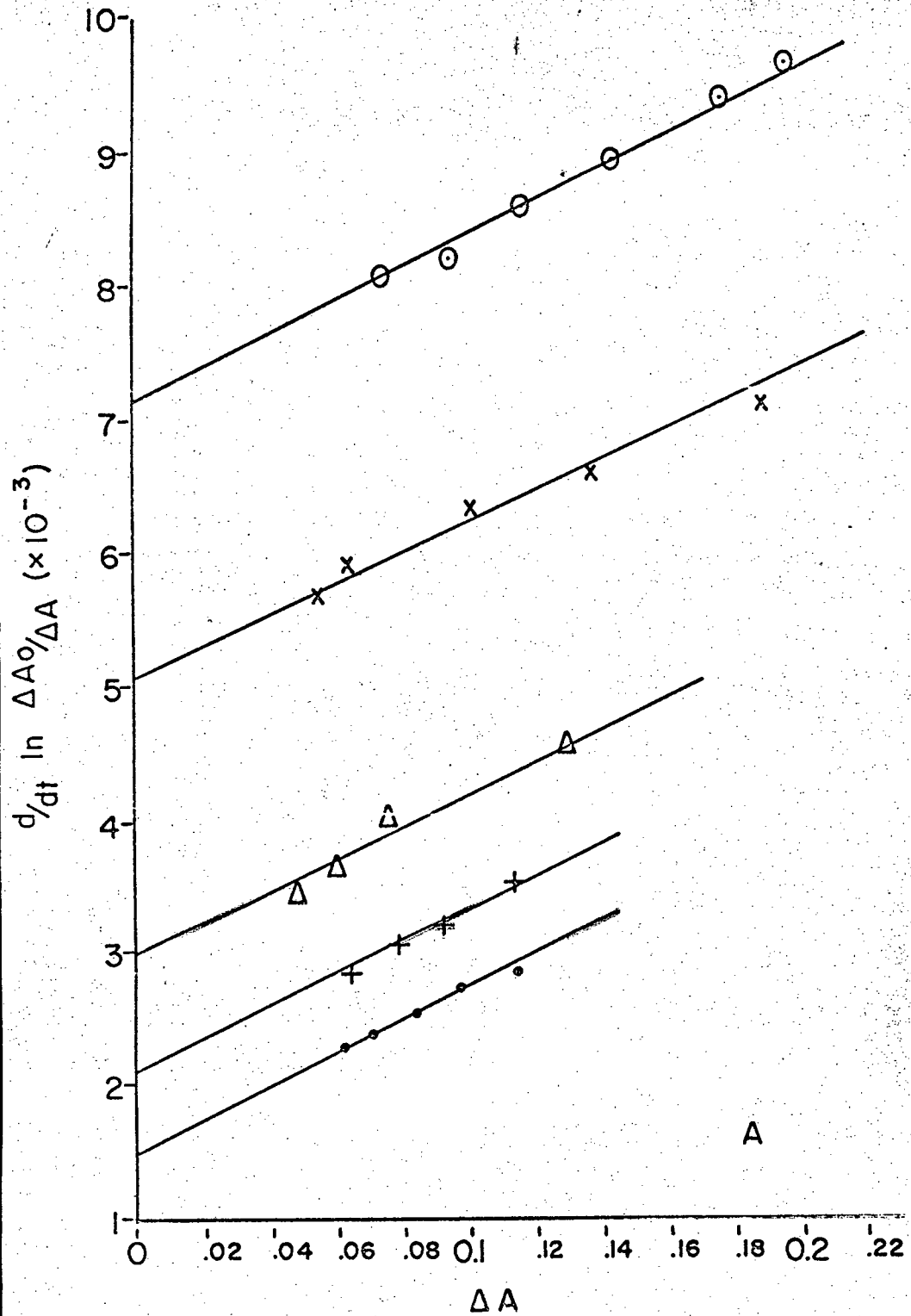


Figure 4

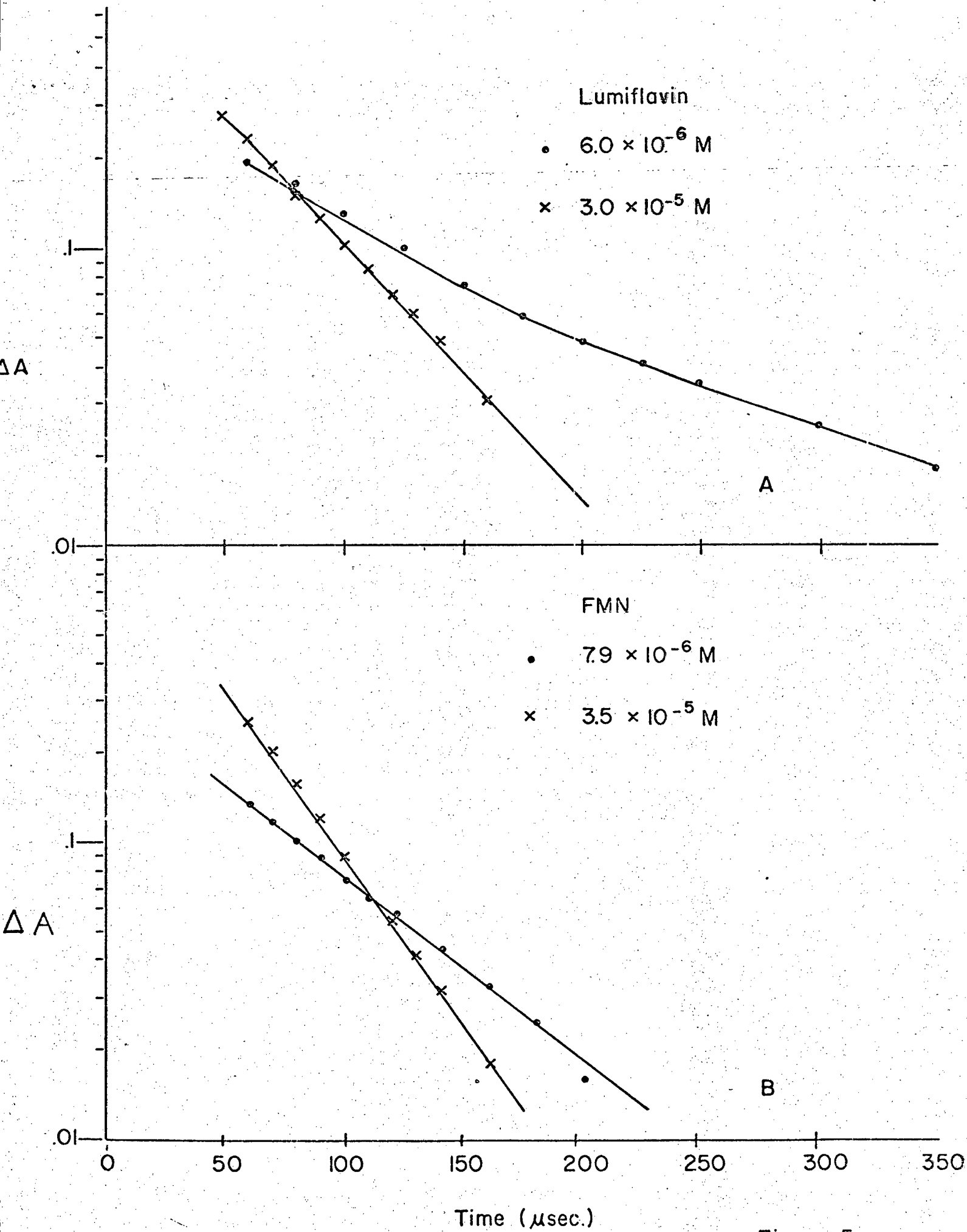
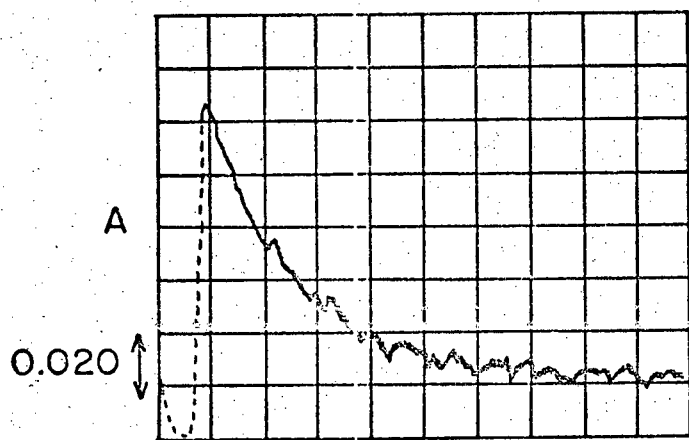
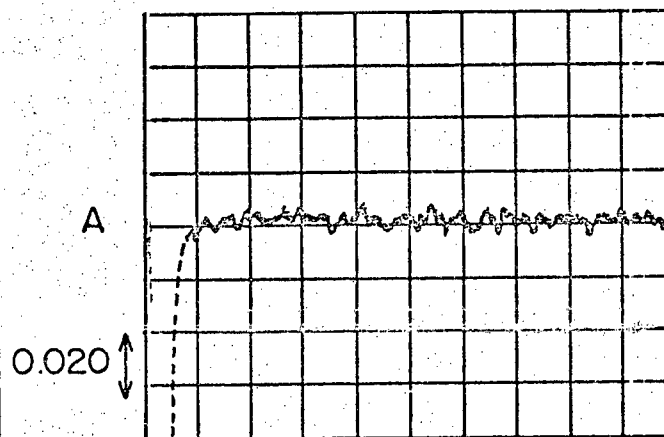


Figure 5



A



B

FIG. 6

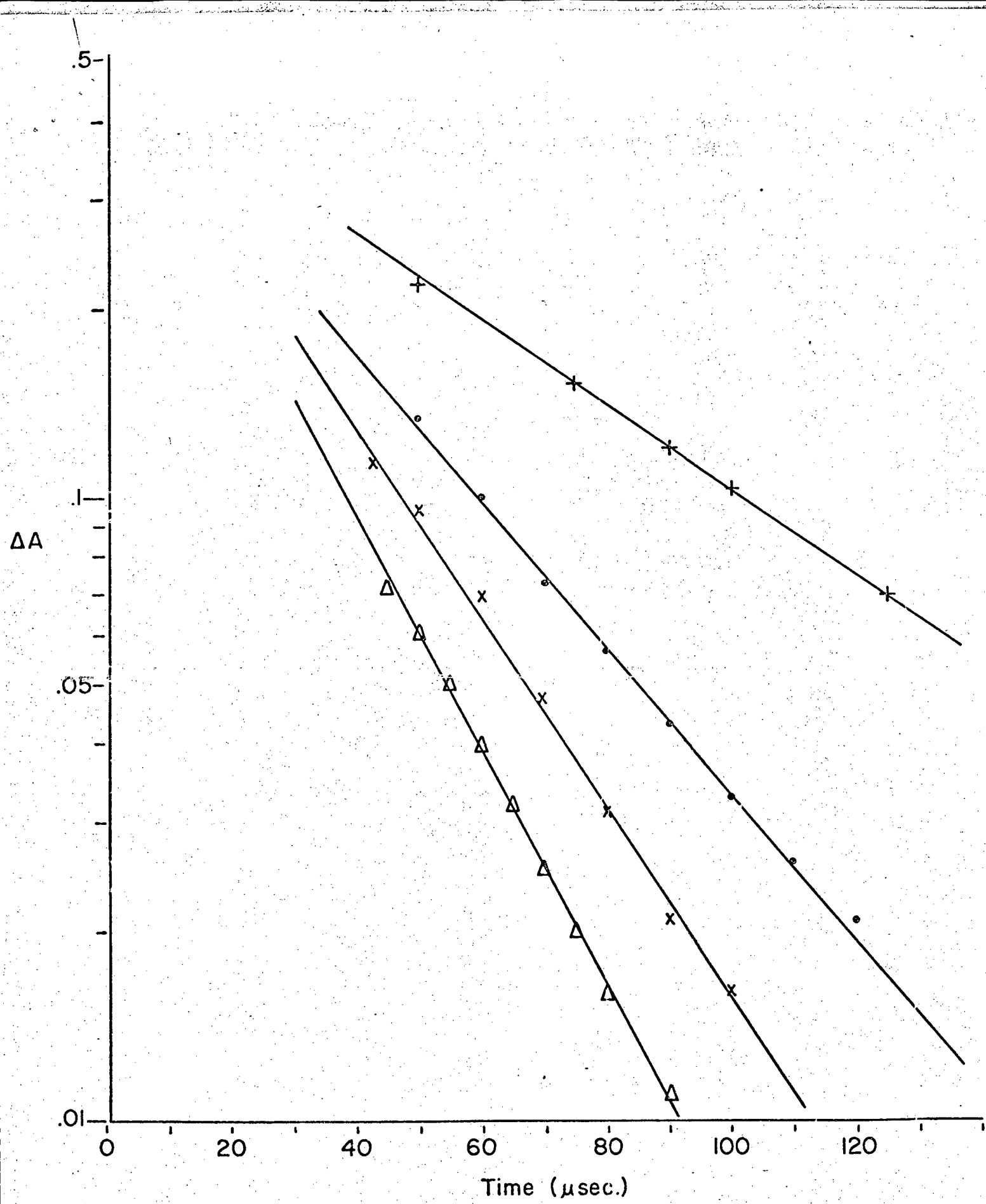
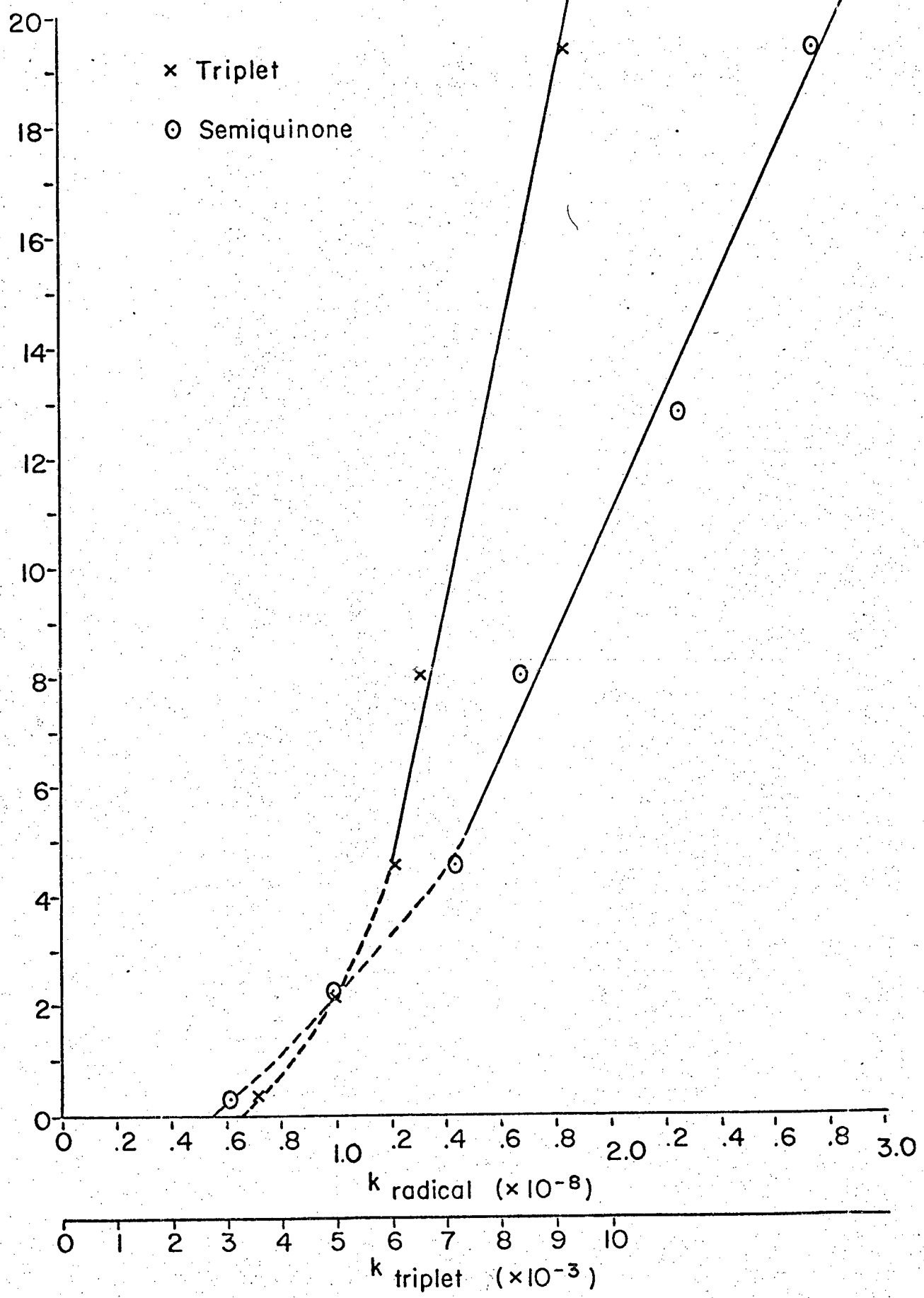
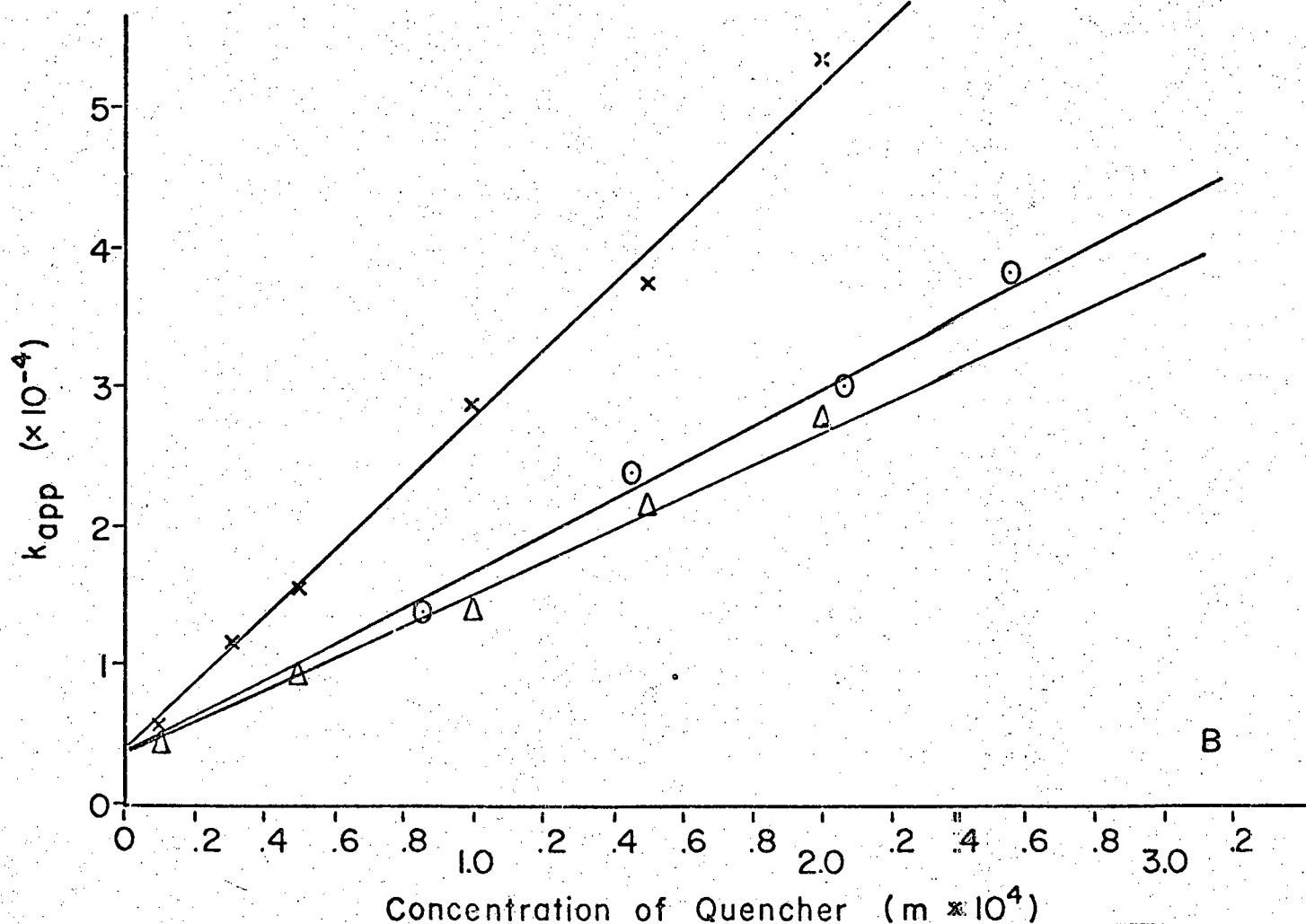
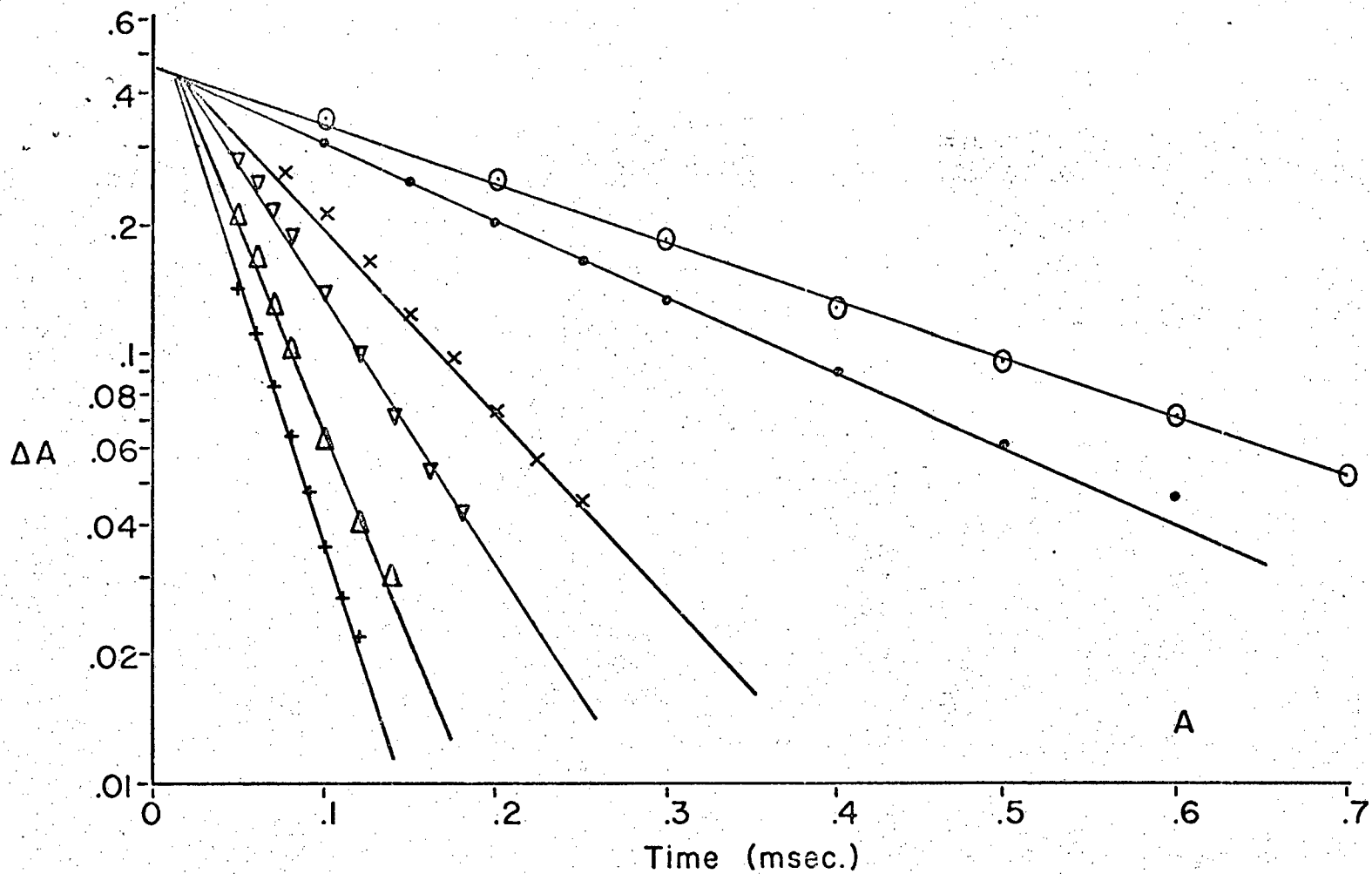


FIG. 7

$\frac{1}{\text{Viscosity}}$   
(poise<sup>-1</sup>)

x Triplet  
o Semiquinone







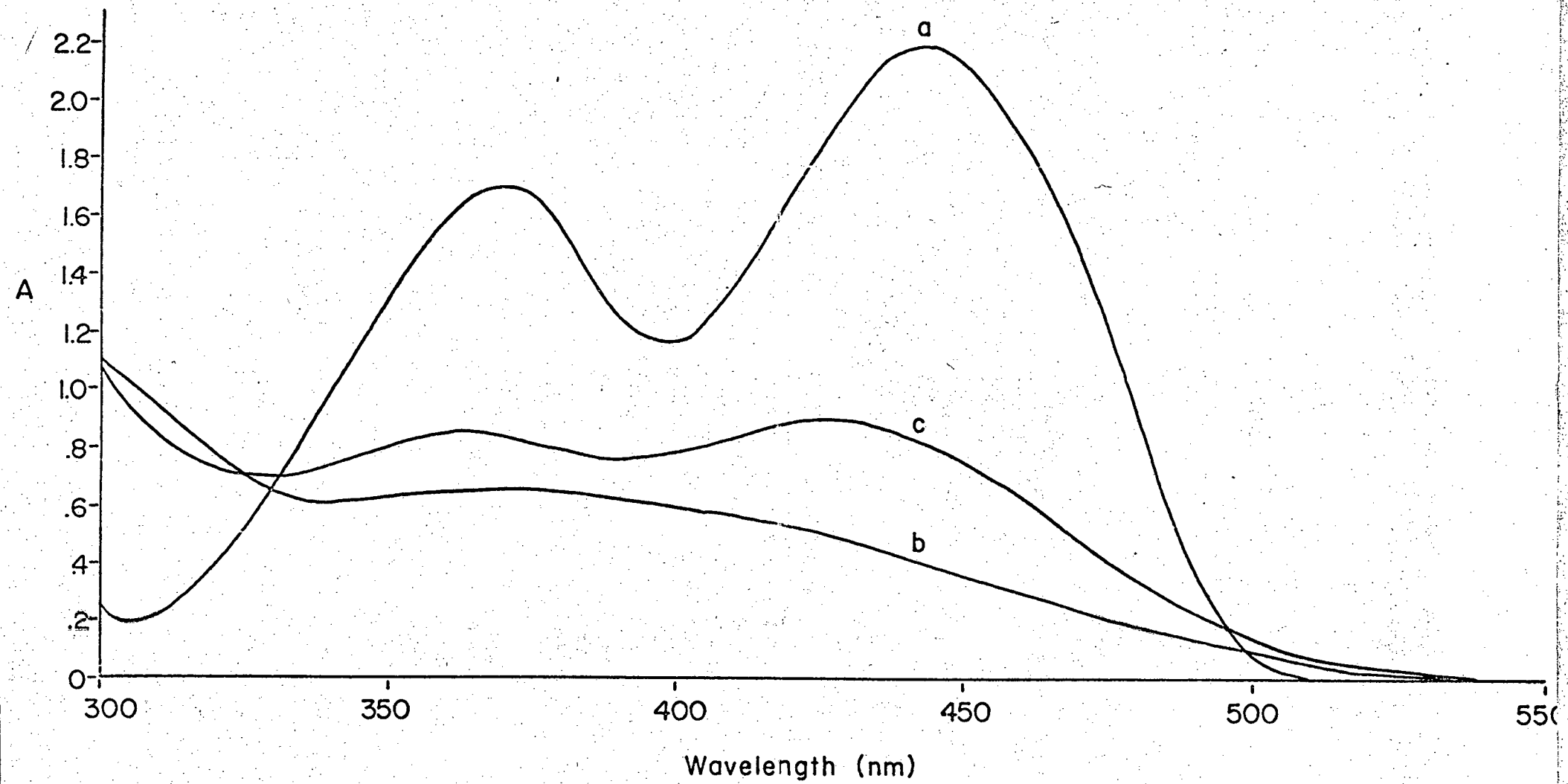


Figure 10

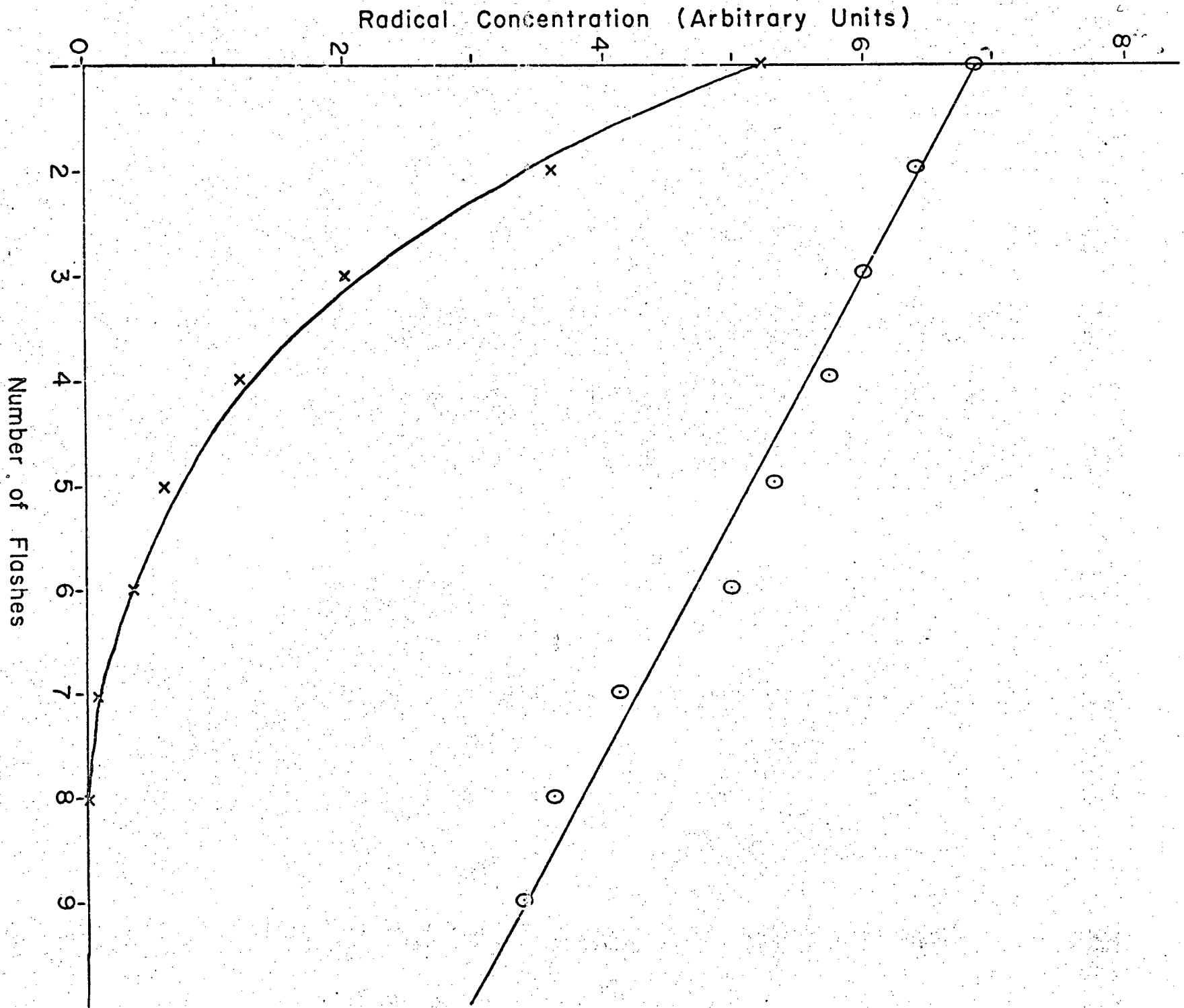
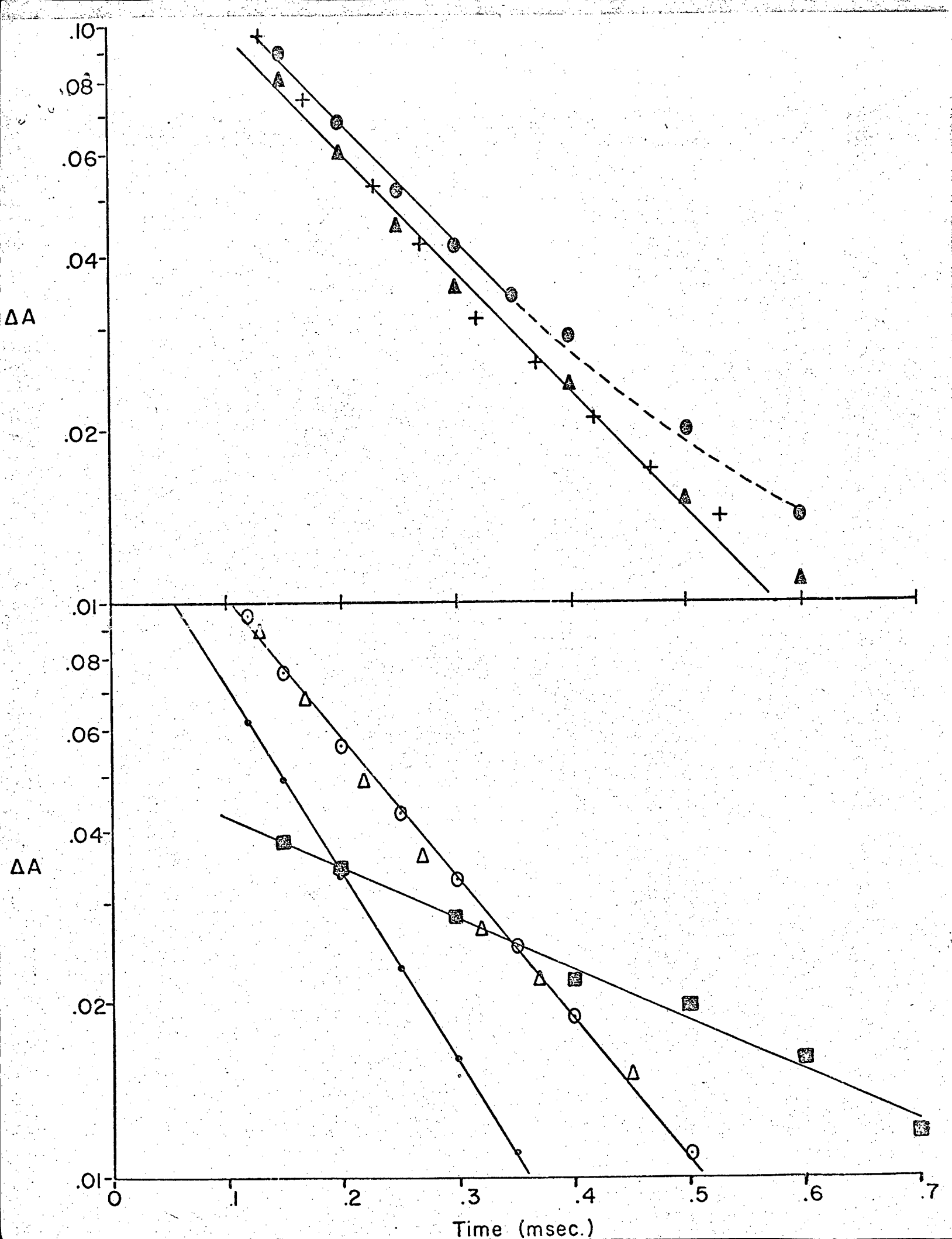
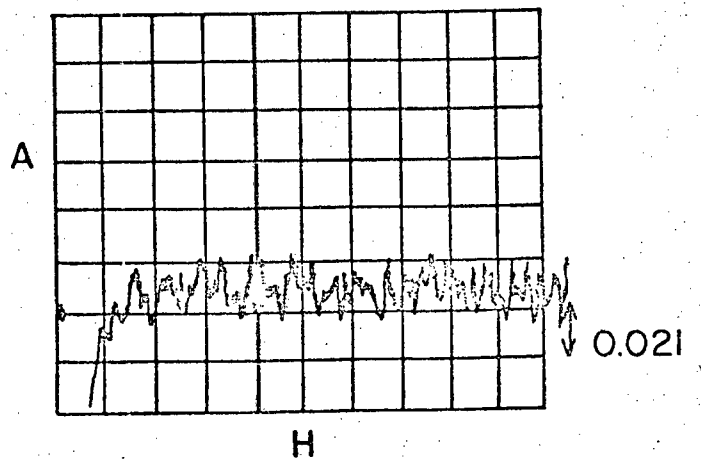
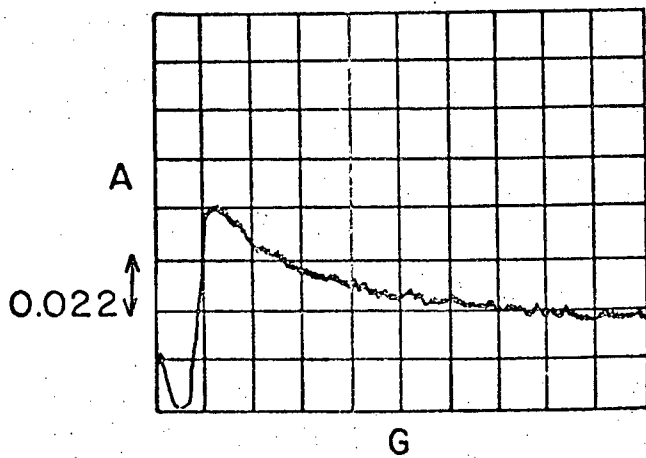
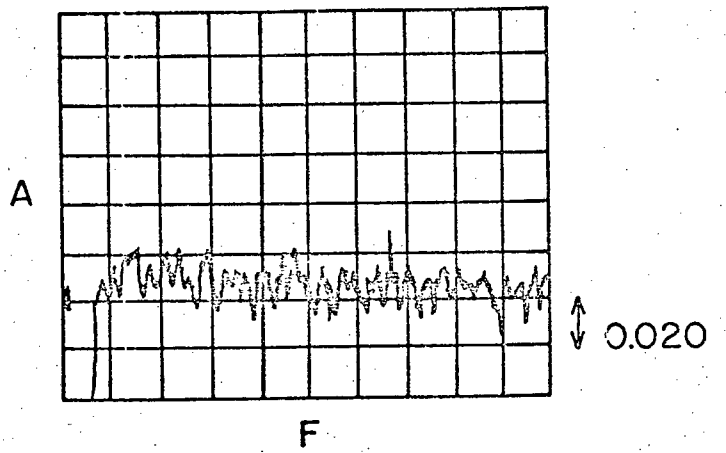
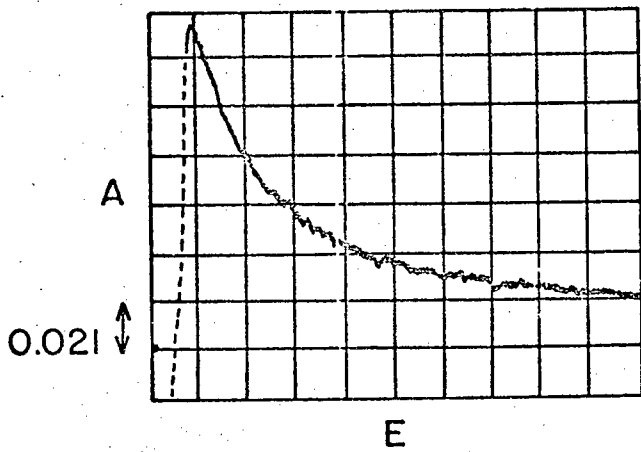
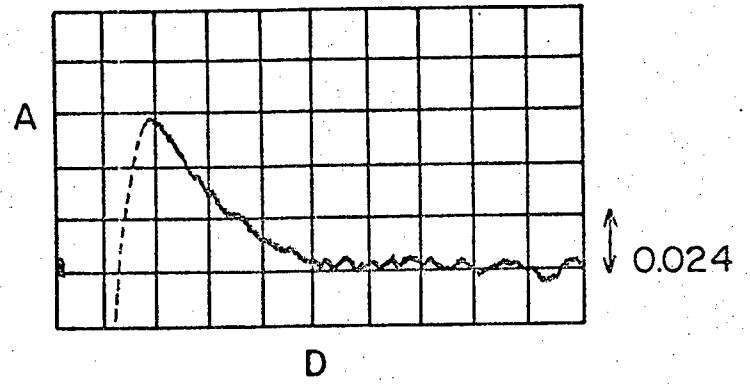
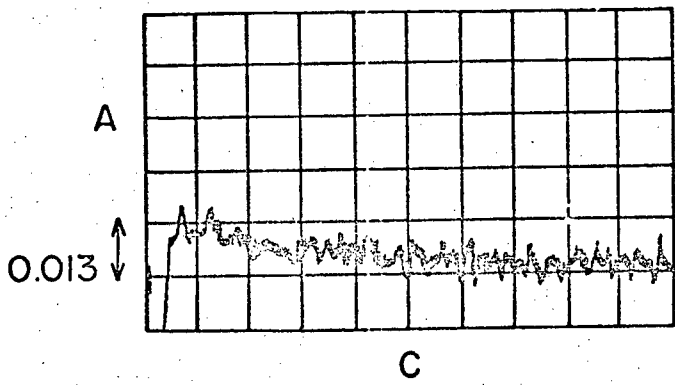
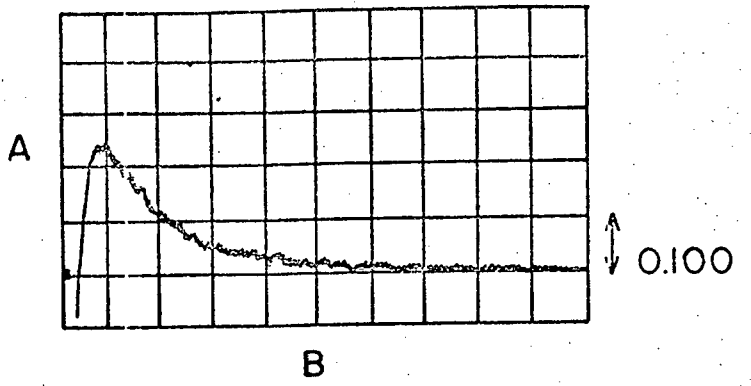
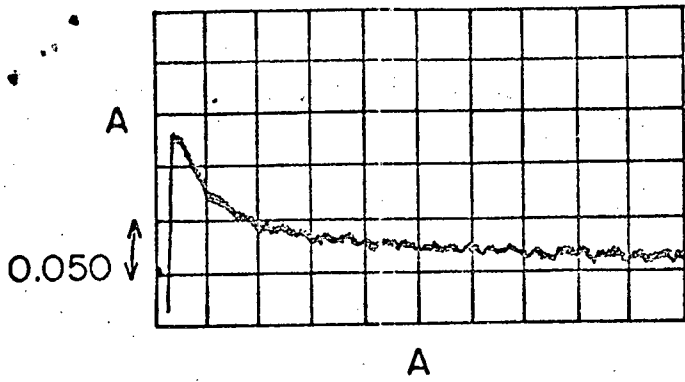
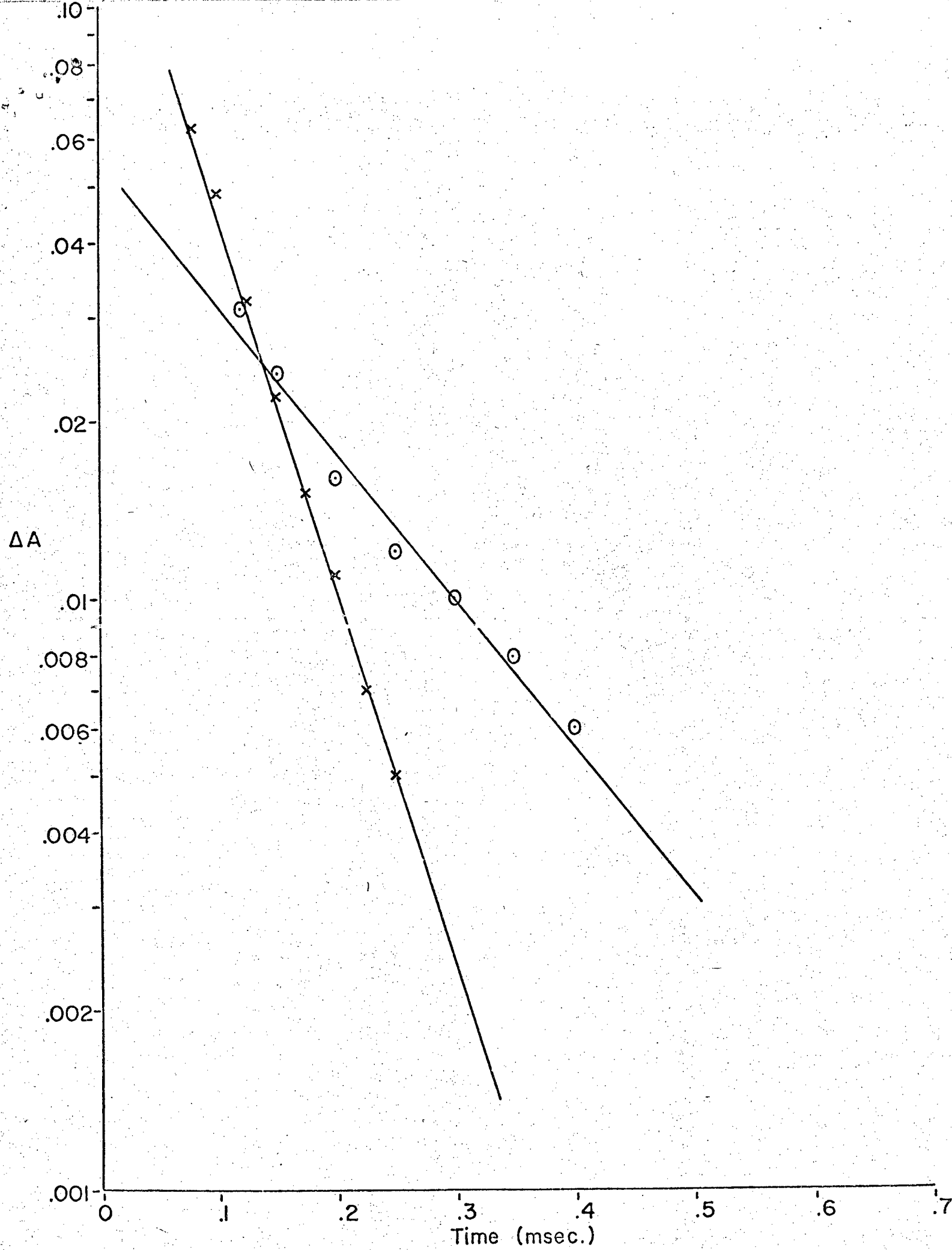


Figure 11







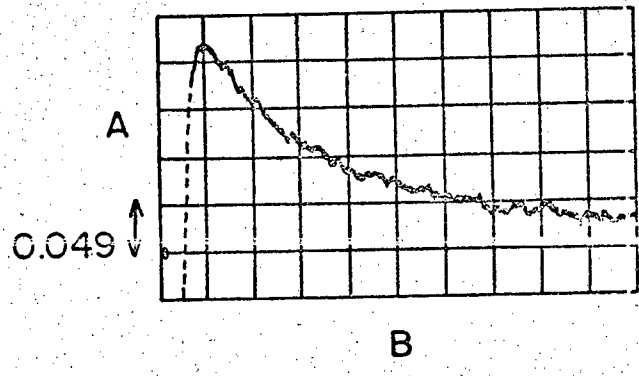
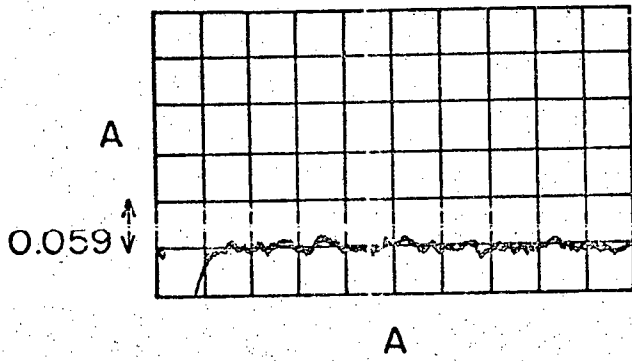


FIG. 15