



The development of a procedure to widen the applicability of Beer-Lambert law is appreciated. The idea was deduced from the developments that happened in chromatographs, multi-channel analysers and other instruments in which calculations based on the height of the peak is replaced by the area under it.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Solutions were prepared from analytical grade reagents and bidistilled water. The pH of the prepared solutions and reference samples was adjusted at 5.5 by sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid solution using the pH meter 7018 Electronic Instrument Limited. The absorbance measurements of the prepared solutions were carried out at laboratory temperature 25 °C using CE 599 Universal Automatic Scanning Spectrometer, (Cecil Instruments Limited, England).

The stock solution of 1,2 bis (beta-aminoethoxy) ethane N, N, N<sup>+</sup>, N<sup>-</sup>, Sodium sulfonate triacetic acid (ASTA), which can be noted as NaH<sub>3</sub>Y, having the molarity  $7 \times 10^{-3}$  M was standardized against standard copper sulphate solution using murexide as indicator and ammonium chloride as buffer solution at pH 8 according to the method of Schwarzenbach [6]. Standardization of other solutions was made according to published methods [6,7].

The spectra of prepared solutions at different concentrations were scanned. The absorbance values at  $\lambda_{\max}$  were determined. The areas under the obtained curves were determined by 13201 zero-setting Polar Planimeter. The standard errors of  $\epsilon$  at the working conditions were determined.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figures (1-5) show the absorbance of variable concentrations of NiCl<sub>2</sub>, NiY<sup>-</sup>, CoCl<sub>2</sub>, CoY<sup>-</sup>, and Ce (SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> solutions at pH 5.5. Figures (6-10) show the application of Beer's law and the area under the peak to determine the concentration of the analytes in solutions. It is clear that both approaches give straight lines. This indicates that taking variations of areas as a function of concentration is possible.

A comparison between the degree of accuracy for taking absorbance or area under the peak as a function of concentration has been made. The values of absorbance, standard deviations  $\sigma_n$  and  $\sigma_{n-1}$  and percentage error in calculation of molar absorptivity are compared.

Table (1) shows the average molar absorptivities that are calculated when taking absorbance (Beer-Lambert law) or area  $\epsilon$  as a function of concentration at the prevailing conditions. The determined values of  $\epsilon$  are reasonable and close to what are published [6]. The calculations show that the percentage error of the obtained molar absorptivities  $\frac{\sigma_n}{\epsilon} \%$  and  $\frac{\sigma_{n-1}}{\epsilon} \%$  in case of taking area is generally less than those in case of taking absorbance. The table demonstrates, also, that the molar absorptivity  $\epsilon$ , in case of taking area, is largely higher than that of taking absorbance. Therefore, taking the area and the corresponding molar absorptivity enable us to determine up to 20-100 times less of concentration value than if we take absorbance. Moreover, taking the area instead of absorbance at  $\lambda_{\max}$  may avoid the migrations of maximum wavelength with dilution process [2-3], and as a result the range of applicability of Beer-Lambert law can be widened.

It can be concluded that better application of Beer-Lambert law can be obtained if the value of areas under the peaks are taken as a measure of the

concentration instead of absorbance. Therefore addition of electronic integrators and computer possibilities of addition and subtraction of areas and others, as optional parts, will be important for the new generations of spectrometers to enable users to determine areas under the peaks as well as absorbance at the maximum real wavelength simply and accurately at the same time.

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#### Legends of Figures:

Figure (1) : Absorbance spectra of  $\text{NiCl}_2$  at pH 5.5 of variable concentrations, where: (1)  $5 \times 10^{-2}$ , (2)  $6 \times 10^{-2}$ , (3)  $7 \times 10^{-2}$  and (4)  $8 \times 10^{-2}$  M solution of  $\text{NiCl}_2$

Figure (2) : Absorbance spectra, at pH 5.5, of  $\text{NiY}$  of variable concentrations, where: (1)  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ , (2)  $2 \times 10^{-2}$ , (3)  $3 \times 10^{-2}$  and (4)  $4 \times 10^{-2}$  M solution of  $\text{NiY}$  solution.

Figure (3) : Absorbance spectra of  $\text{CoCl}_2$ , at pH 5.5, of variable concentrations, where: (1)  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ , (2)  $2 \times 10^{-2}$ , (3)  $4 \times 10^{-2}$  and (4)  $6 \times 10^{-2}$  M  $\text{CoCl}_2$  solution.

Figure (4) : Absorbance spectra of CoY, at pH 5.5 of variable concentrations, where:  
 (1)  $0.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , (2)  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ , (3)  $1.5 \times 10^{-2}$  and (4)  $2 \times 10^{-2}$  M solution of CoY.

Figure (5) : Absorbance spectra of  $Ce(SO_4)_2$ , at PH 5.5 of variable concentrations  
 where: (1)  $0.7 \times 10^{-4}$ , (2)  $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , (3)  $2.1 \times 10^{-4}$  and (4)  $2.8 \times 10^{-2}$  M solution of  $Ce(SO_4)_2$

For Figures: (6-10) :  
 Application of Beer's Law and the recommended calculation of the area under the peaks :

Fig. (6) for  $NiCl_2$  , Fig. (7) for  $NiY^{--}$

Fig. (8) for  $CoCl_2$  , Fig. (9) for  $CoY^{--}$

and Fig (10) for  $Ce(SO_4)_2$

○ Beer's Law viz; the relation between absorbance and concentration.

● The recommended theorem, viz: the relation between area and concentration.

Table (1) : Comparison between molar absorptivities calculated by the two approaches, viz: Beer-Lambert law and area under the peak.

Type of analyte	molar absorptivity ( $\epsilon$ ) if absorbance A is taken and its statistics					molar absorptivity ( $\bar{\epsilon}$ ) if the area under is taken and its statistics the peak				
	$\epsilon$	$\sigma_n$	$\sigma_{n-1}$	$\frac{\sigma_n}{\epsilon} \%$	$\frac{\sigma_{n-1}}{\epsilon} \%$	$\bar{\epsilon}$	$\sigma_n$	$\sigma_{n-1}$	$\frac{\sigma_n}{\bar{\epsilon}}$	$\frac{\sigma_{n-1}}{\bar{\epsilon}}$
$NiCl_2$	5.34	0.041	0.047	0.76	0.88	123.6	1.83	2.11	1.83	2.11
$NiY^{--}$	12.65	0.41	0.047	3.24	3.72	223.53	2.51	2.89	1.12	1.29
$CoCl_2$	7.36	2.39	2.76	32.5	37.5	342.3	28.52	32.91	8.32	9.60
$CoY^{--}$	23.25	1.92	2.22	8.26	9.55	1058.25	7.69	8.88	0.73	0.84
$Ce(SO_4)_2$	4793.41	719.43	804.35	15.01	16.78	409023	2852.11	9226.11	2.02	2.26

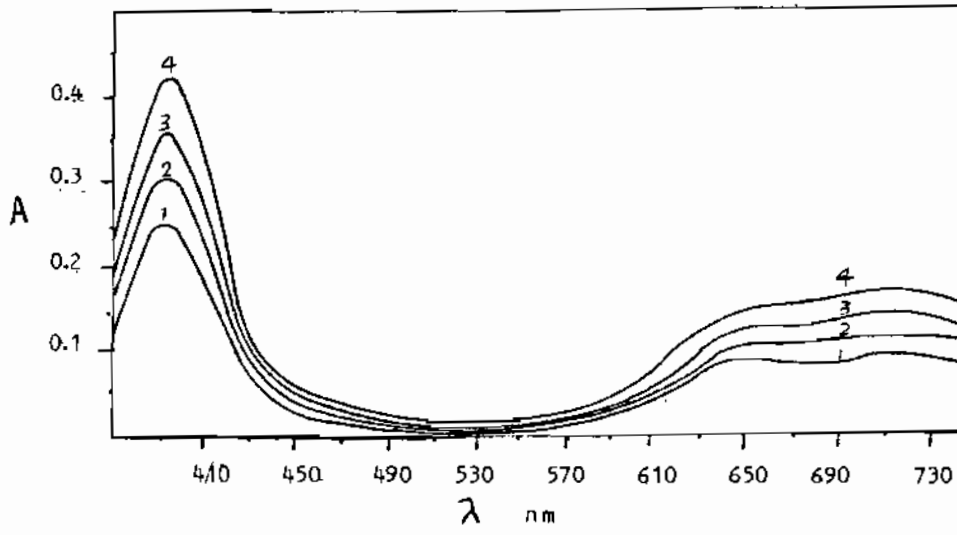


Fig. (1)

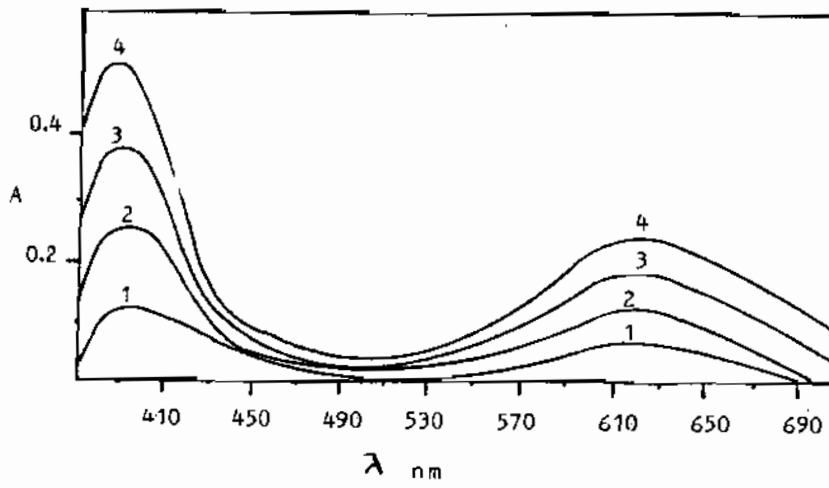


Fig. (2)

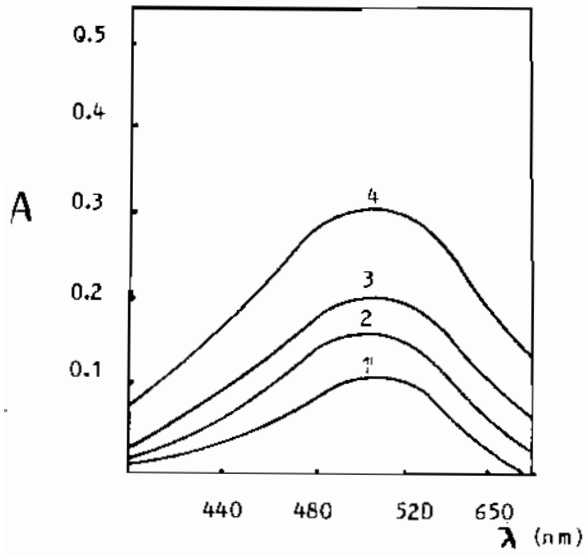


Fig. (3)

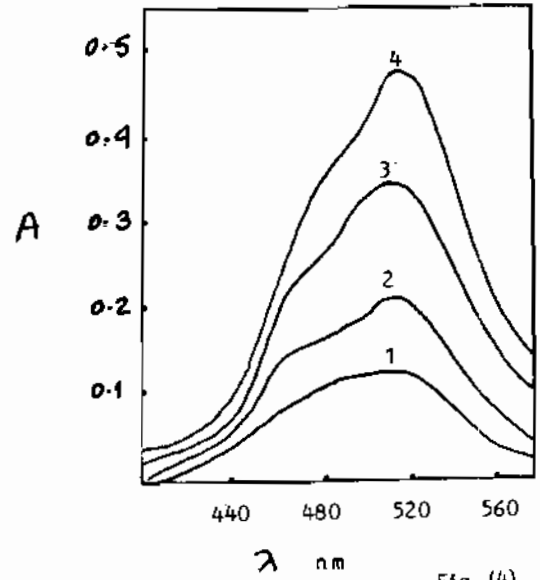


Fig. (4)

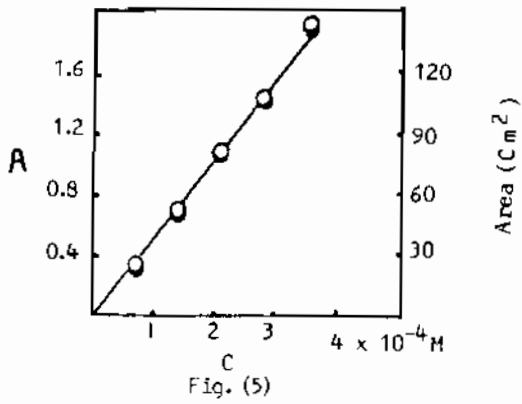


Fig. (5)

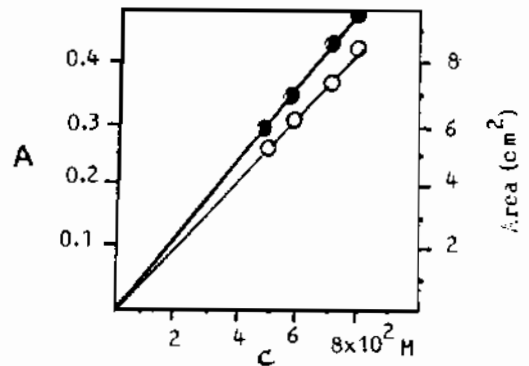
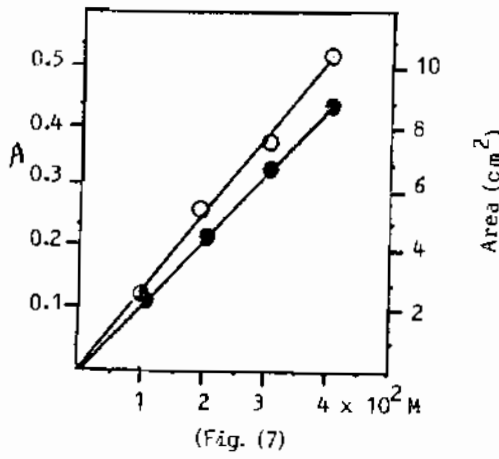


Fig. (6)



(Fig. (7))

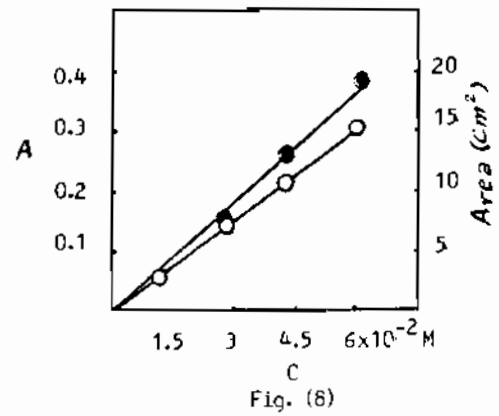


Fig. (8)

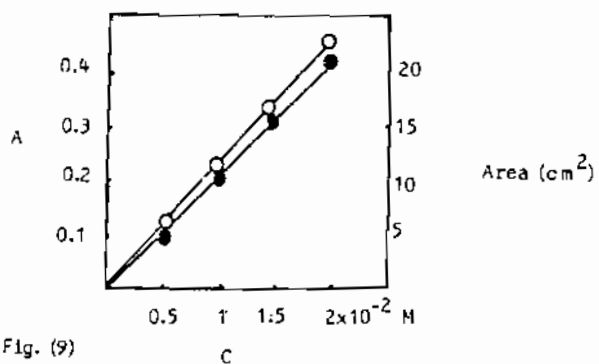


Fig. (9)

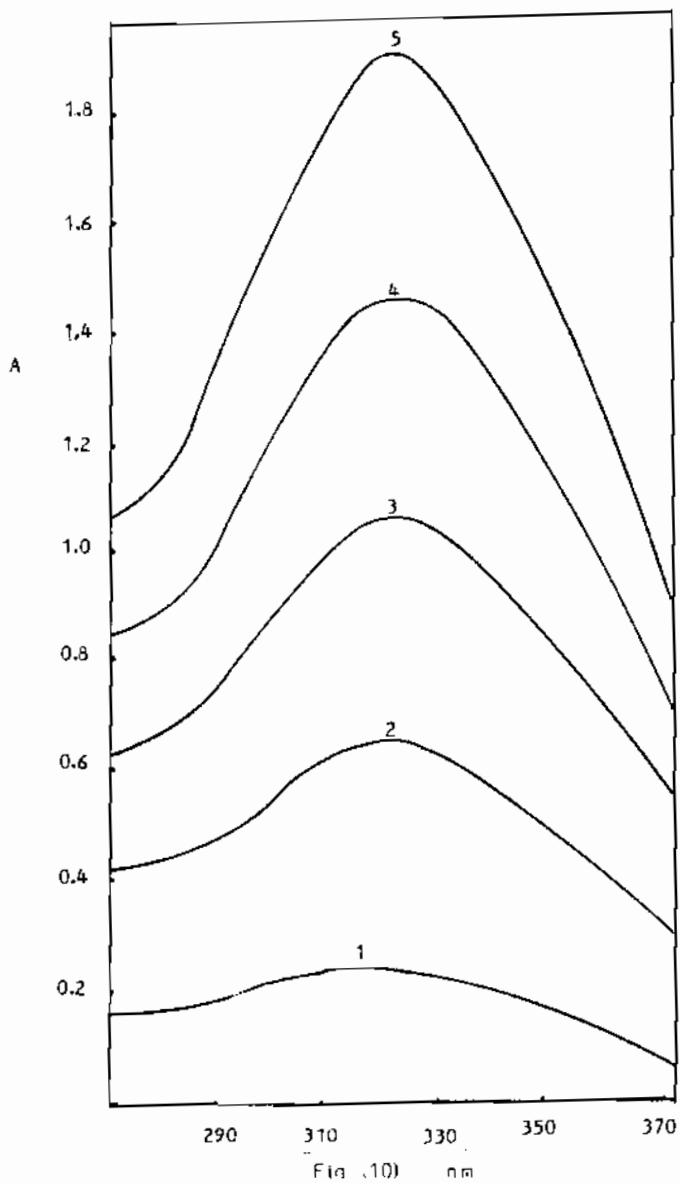


Fig. (10)