

**diffuse layer (in electrochemistry)**

The region in which non-specifically adsorbed ions are accumulated and distributed by the contrasting action of the electric field and thermal motion.

Counter and co-ions in immediate contact with the surface are said to be located in the *Stern layer*. Ions farther away from the surface form the diffuse layer or Gouy layer.

See also *interfacial double-layer*.

1983, 55, 1261; 1972, 31, 618