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Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



United States  
Department of Energy

# MOLTEN NITRATE SALT TECHNOLOGY Workshop

**Dates:** October 29 & 30, 1980  
**Location:** Howard Johnson's Motor Inn  
Dublin, California  
**Sponsored By:** U. S. Department of Energy  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Livermore, California  
**Chairman:** R. W. Carling  
**Coordinated By:** J. F. Genoni

**Agenda**  
**Molten Nitrate Salt Technology Workshop**  
**Howard Johnson's Motor Inn**  
**Dublin, California**

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Wednesday, October 29, 1980

Session Chairman - R. W. (Bob) Carling, Sandia National Laboratories

- 9:00 Welcome and Announcements
- 9:15 L. G. Radosevich: "Storage Program Overview"
- 9:45 R. W. Carling: "Overview of Molten Nitrate Salt Technology Development"
- 10:15 BREAK
- 10:30 R. W. Bradshaw: "Corrosion Studies in Convection Loops"
- 11:00 S. H. Goods: "Effects of Creep Deformation on the Corrosion of High-Temperature Alloys"
- 11:30 LUNCH
- 1:00 D. Neiswander: "Review of Martin Marietta Experimental Program"
- 1:30 D. A. Nissen: "Physical Properties: Viscosity, Surface Tension, and Density"
- 2:00 R. W. Carling: "Physical Properties: Heat Capacity"
- 2:30 BREAK
- 2:45 C. M. Kramer: "Decomposition Studies"
- 3:15 D. A. Nissen: "Nitrate-Nitrite Reactions"
- 3:30 S. H. White: "Atmospheric (CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O) Effects"

Thursday, October 30, 1980

- 9:00 T. T. Tracey: "Review of Martin Marietta Advanced Central Receiver Experiment"
- 9:30 C. T. Schafer: "Review of Proposed Storage Subsystem Research Experiment"
- 9:45 E. T. Cull: "Salt/Water Heat Exchanger Development"
- 10:00 Spiteri: "Review of Salt Materials Studies for French THEMIS project"
- 10:30 BREAK
- 10:45 Olin Corporation: "Nitrate Salts From a Supplier's Point of View"
- 11:15 R. W. Mar: "Review of Industrial Experience"
- 12:00 Adjourn

# Molten Nitrate Salt Technology Workshop

## List of Attendees

October 29-30, 1980

William D. Beverly  
Charles N. Bolton  
Jean-Marc Bouchez  
Robert Bradshaw  
Jerry B. Brukiewa  
Thomas D. Brumleve  
Robert W. Carling  
Russell A. Chihoski  
Norman Christopher  
William F. Clancey  
Edward T. Cull  
S. Douglas Elliott  
James Elsner  
Donald L. Endicott  
Louis C. Fiorucci  
Anarg Z. Frangos  
Joseph F. Genoni  
Stephen L. Goldstein  
Steven Goods  
George F. Greenwald  
Lee V. Griffith  
Skip Gross  
Gerald A. Habib  
Steve P. Harnden  
John T. Holmes  
Rick L. Howerton  
Ted Johnson  
Robert M. N. Killen  
Carolyn M. Kramer  
Robert L. Lessley  
Donald J. Liffengren  
James P. Maddox  
Raymond W. Mar  
Don Meeker  
Joe K. Mensah  
John B. Mulligan  
T. V. Narayanan  
Russell T. Neher  
David W. Neiswander  
Soeren S. Nielsen  
Donald Nissen  
R. Gerald Nix  
Bill Oberjohn  
William C. Peila  
Lee G. Radosevich  
Jay H. Raggio  
George H. Rowe

Boeing Engineers & Construction  
Martin Marietta Aerospace  
Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Rockwell International/ETEC  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Martin Marietta  
Olin Corporation  
Babcock & Wilcox Company  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Department of Energy/San Francisco  
General Electric  
McDonnell Douglas  
Olin Corporation  
Rockwell International  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Olin Corporation  
Sandia National Laboratories  
McDonnell Douglas  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Mine Safety Appliances Research  
Olin Chemicals  
Arizona Public Service Company  
Sandia National Labs/Albuquerque  
Rockwell International/ETEC  
Rockwell International/ESG  
United Engineers & Constructors  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Bechtel  
Stearns-Roger  
Biphase Energy Systems  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Olin Corporation  
United Engineers & Constructors  
Foster Wheeler  
McDonnell Douglas  
Martin Marietta  
Gould, Inc.  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Solar Energy Research Institute  
Babcock & Wilcox Company  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
Combustion Engineering

Helena T. Rowland  
Patrick M. Russell  
Allen Salmi  
Clifford T. Schafer  
Harold E. Seielstad  
Stuart A. Shiels  
Richard D. Smith  
Robert E. Smith  
Alan Snelson  
Donald J. Spellman  
Pierre Spiteri  
Lorenna Stiles  
Tom Tracey  
Thomas H. Van Hagan  
Joanne V. Volponi  
Daniel L. Vrable  
Robert J. Walter  
Sydney H. White  
William G. Wilson  
Fred F. Witt  
Christine Yang

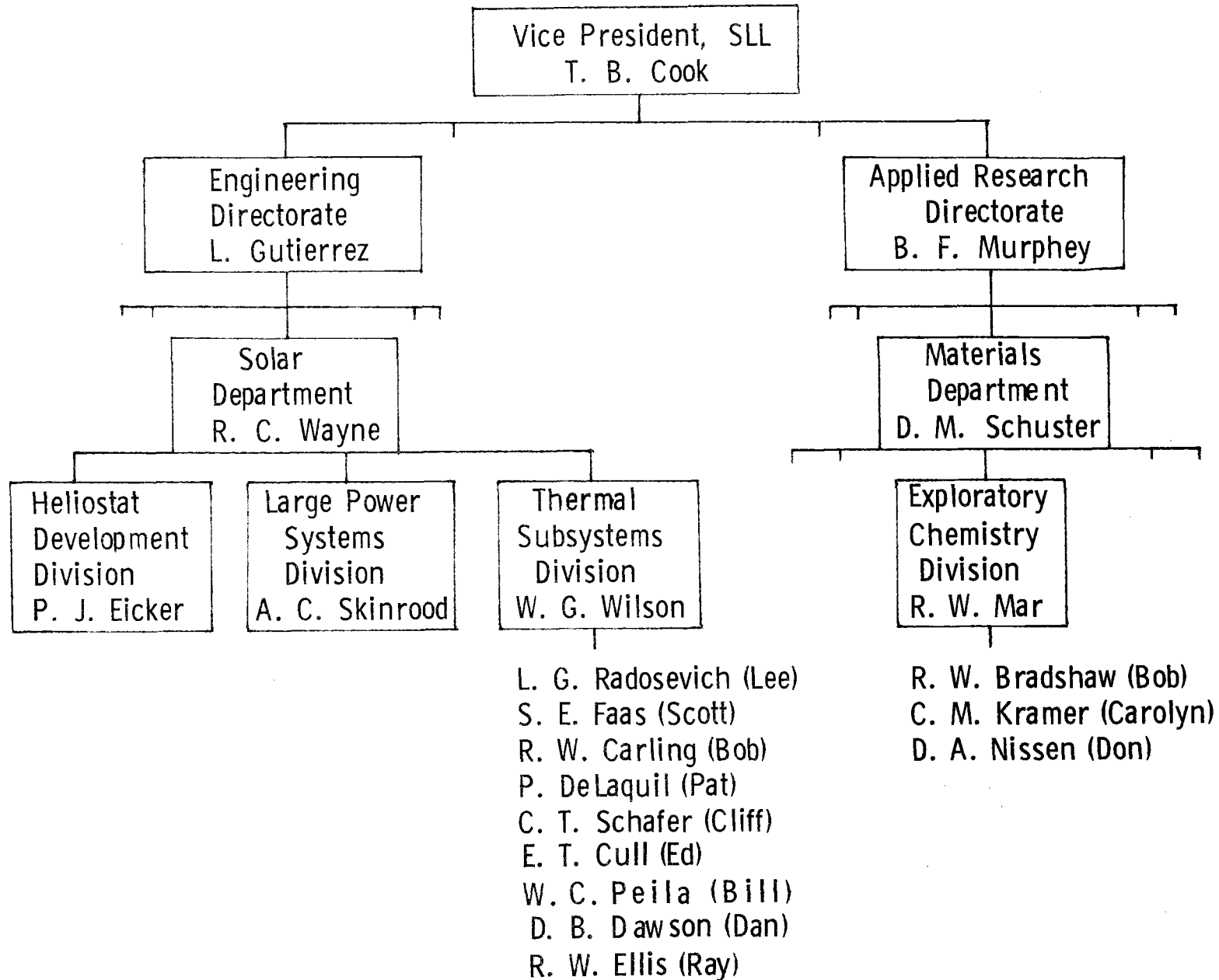
Pacific Gas & Electric  
Solar Energy Research Institute  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Pacific Gas & Electric  
Westinghouse Electric Corp.  
Rocket Research Company  
Olin Corporation  
IIT Research Institute  
Gas Cooled Reactor Assoc.  
EDF - France  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Martin Marietta  
General Atomic Company  
Sandia National Laboratories  
General Atomic  
Rocketdyne  
EIC Labs, Inc.  
Sandia National Laboratories  
General Electric  
Sandia National Laboratories

OVERVIEW OF SOLAR ACTIVITIES AT SANDIA

BILL WILSON

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

# SLL ORGANIZATION

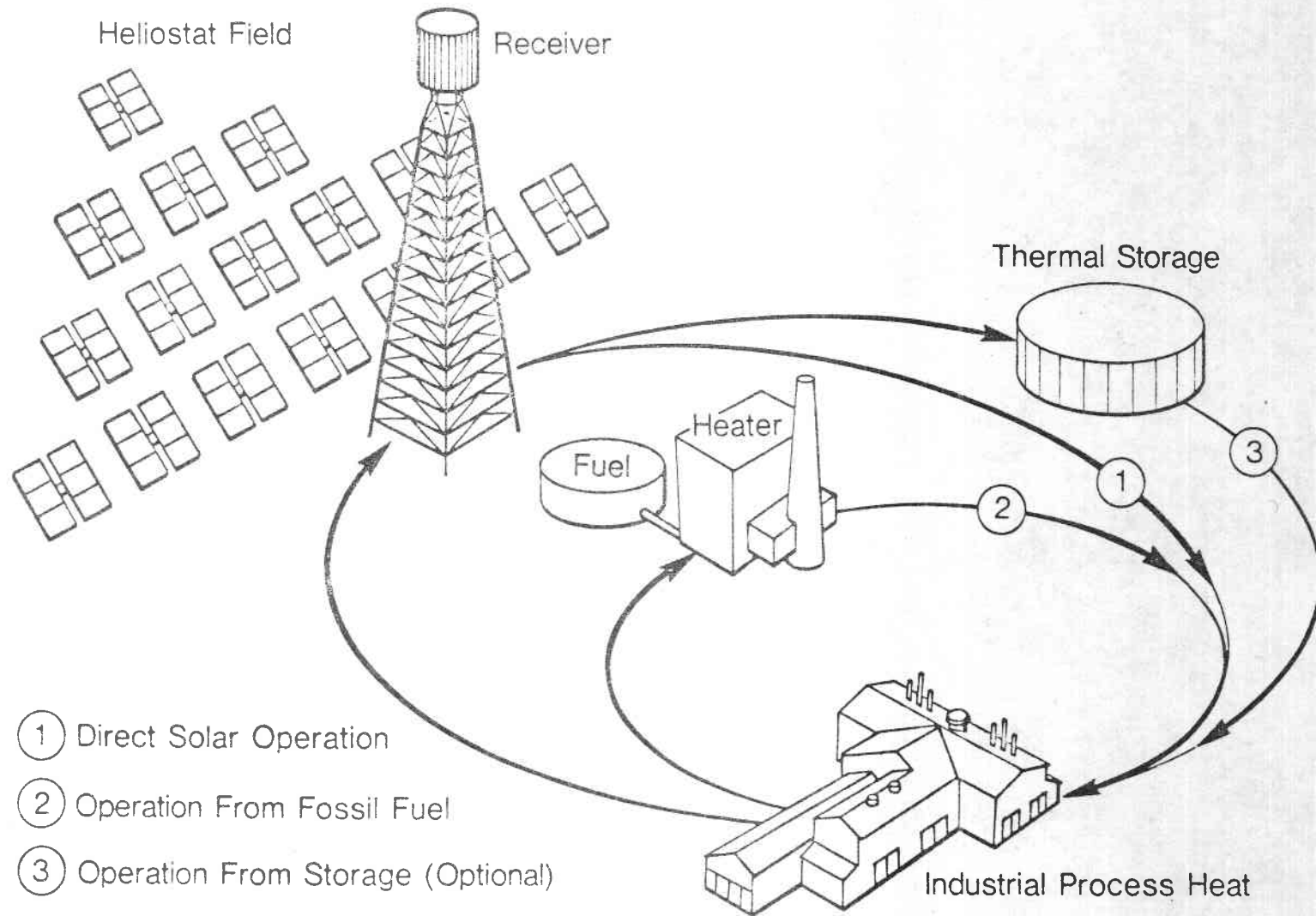


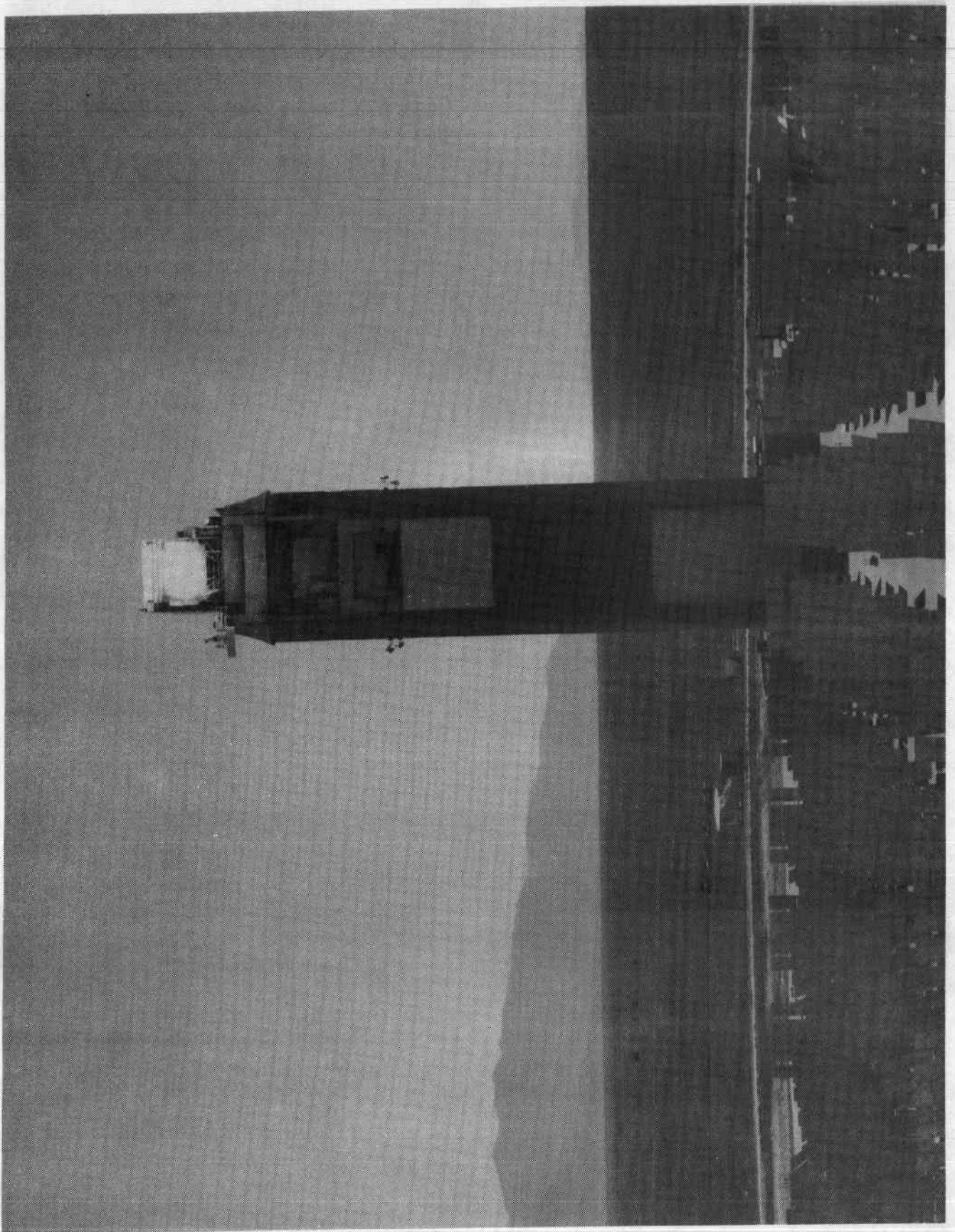
SANDIA LABORATORIES RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CENTRAL  
RECEIVER PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- PLANNING AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
- TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES IN SYSTEM DESIGN  
AND COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT
- SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND SYSTEM ENGINEERING
- MATERIALS, FLUID DYNAMICS AND THERMAL PROCESSES RESEARCH
- SOLAR HARDWARE TEST AND EVALUATION

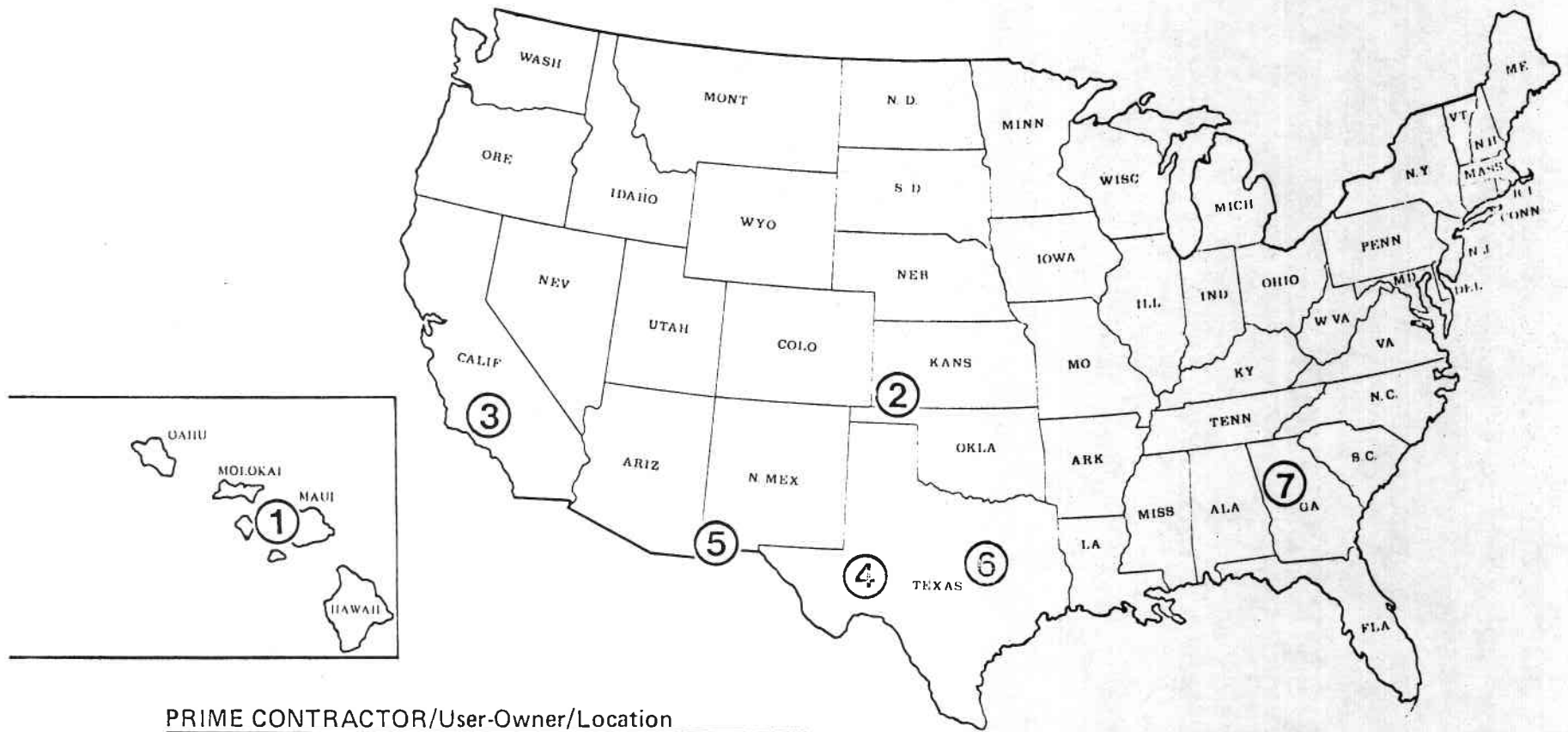


# SOLAR REPOWERING-Industrial Process Heat





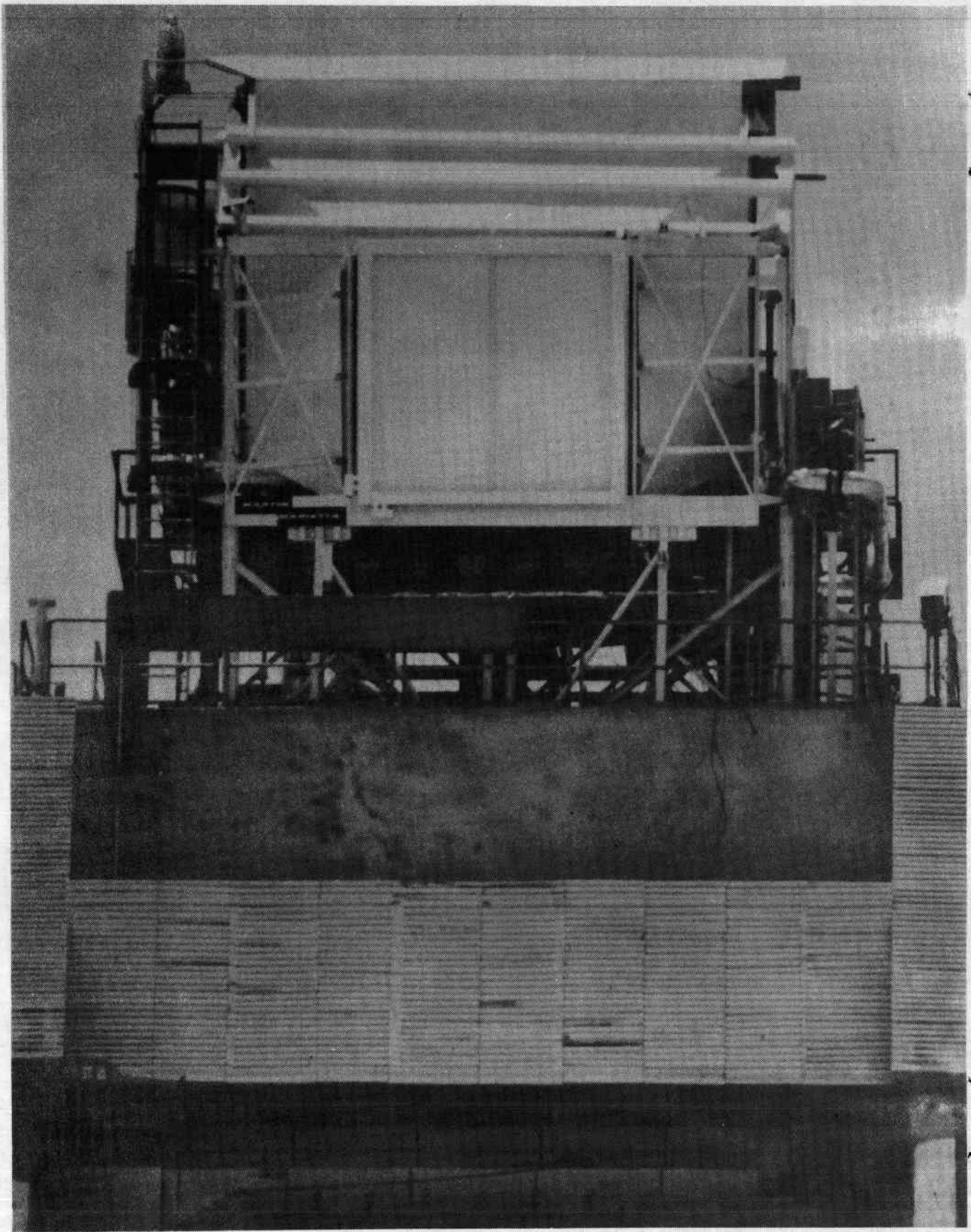
# COGENERATION DESIGN PROJECTS

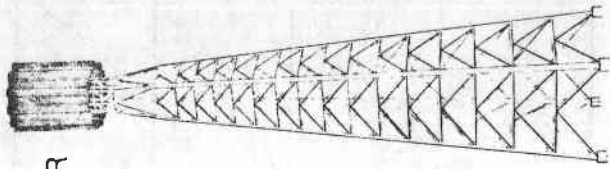


PRIME CONTRACTOR/User-Owner/Location

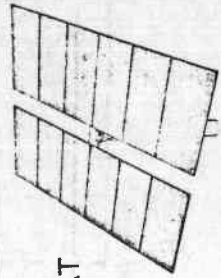
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BECHTEL NATIONAL INC./Ampac Sugar Co./Pioneer Mill Co., Lahaina, Maui, HI</li> <li>2. BLACK &amp; VEATCH/Central Telephone &amp; Utilities-Western Power/Cimarron River Station, Liberal, KS</li> <li>3. EXXON/Exxon/Edison Field, Bakersfield, CA.</li> <li>4. GENERAL ELECTRIC/Texasgulf/Comanche Creek Plant, Fort Stockton, TX</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. GIBBS &amp; HILL/Phelps Dodge Corp./Hidalgo Smelter, Playas, NM</li> <li>6. MCDONNELL DOUGLAS ASTRONAUTICS CO./U.S. Army/Fort Hood, Killeen, TX.</li> <li>7. WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP./U.S. Air Force Logistics Command/Robins AFB, Macon, GA.</li> </ol> |
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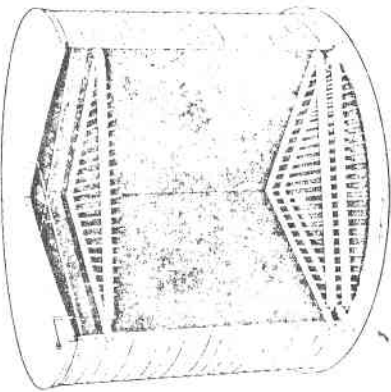




RECEIVER

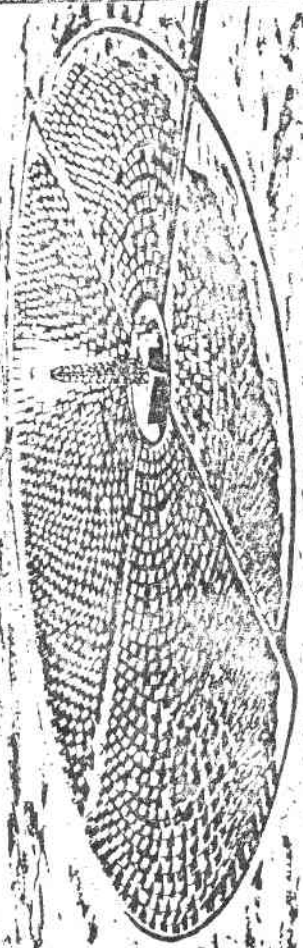


HELIOSTAT

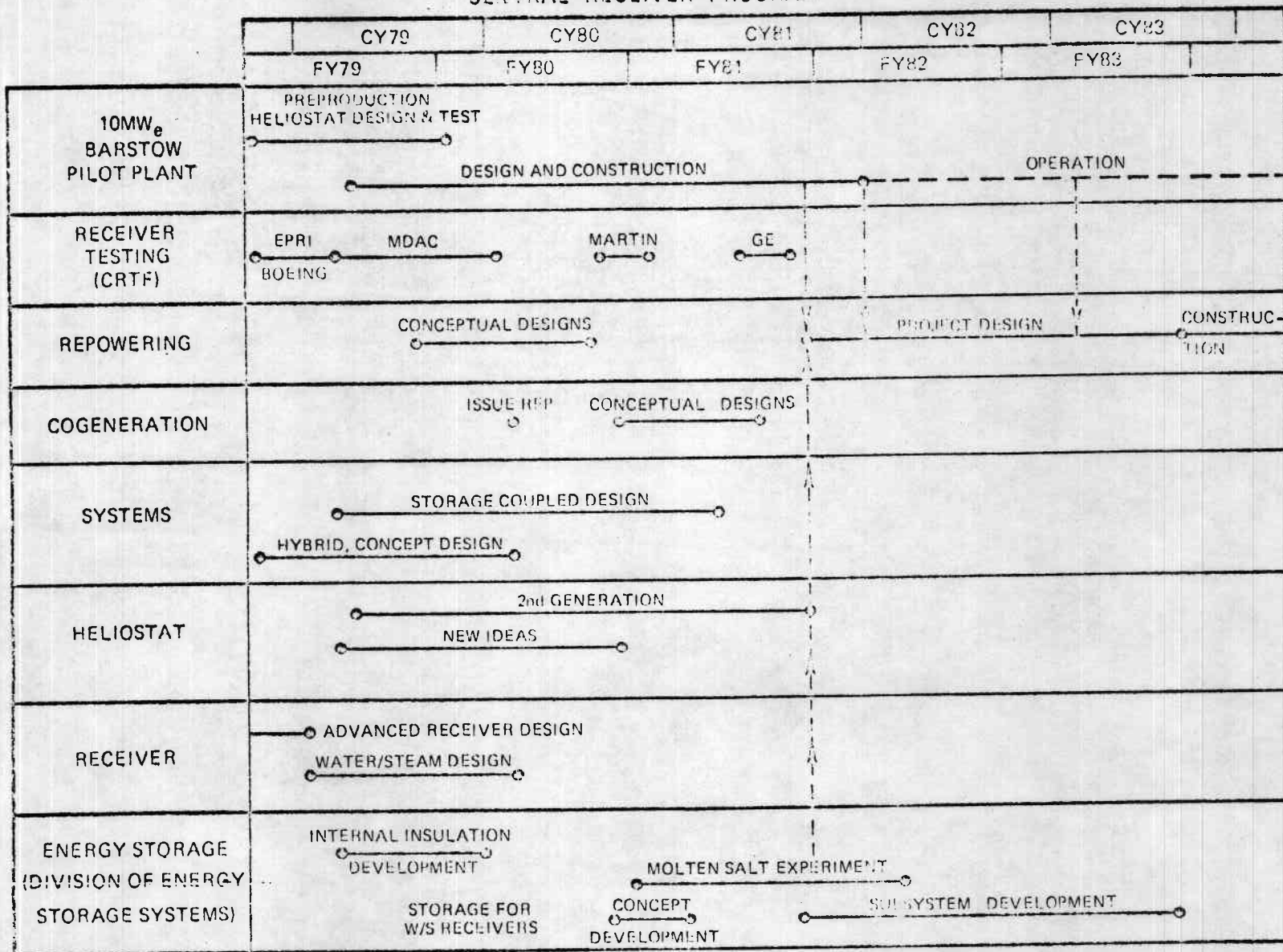


THERMAL  
STORAGE

SOLAR PILOT PLANT - BARSTOW, CA



# CENTRAL RECEIVER PROGRAM



SOLAR THERMAL POWER STORAGE APPLICATIONS

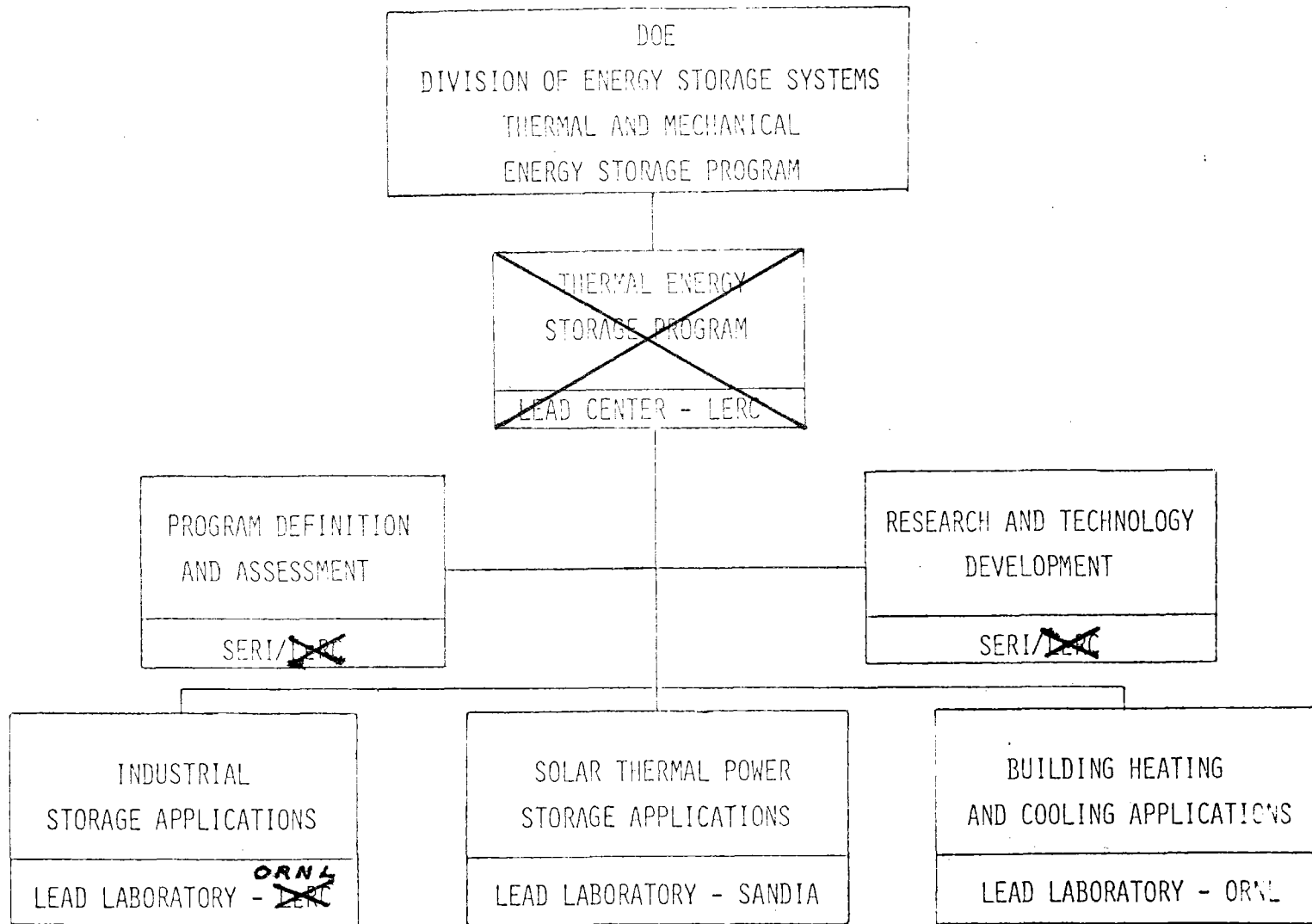
LEAD LABORATORY OVERVIEW

LEE G. RADOSEVICH

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES, LIVERMORE



THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE PROGRAM STRUCTURE





## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

DEVELOP GENERAL SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES THAT PROVIDE:

Second-generation storage subsystems offering cost/performance improvements over the first-generation storage subsystems currently being developed for solar thermal power applications.

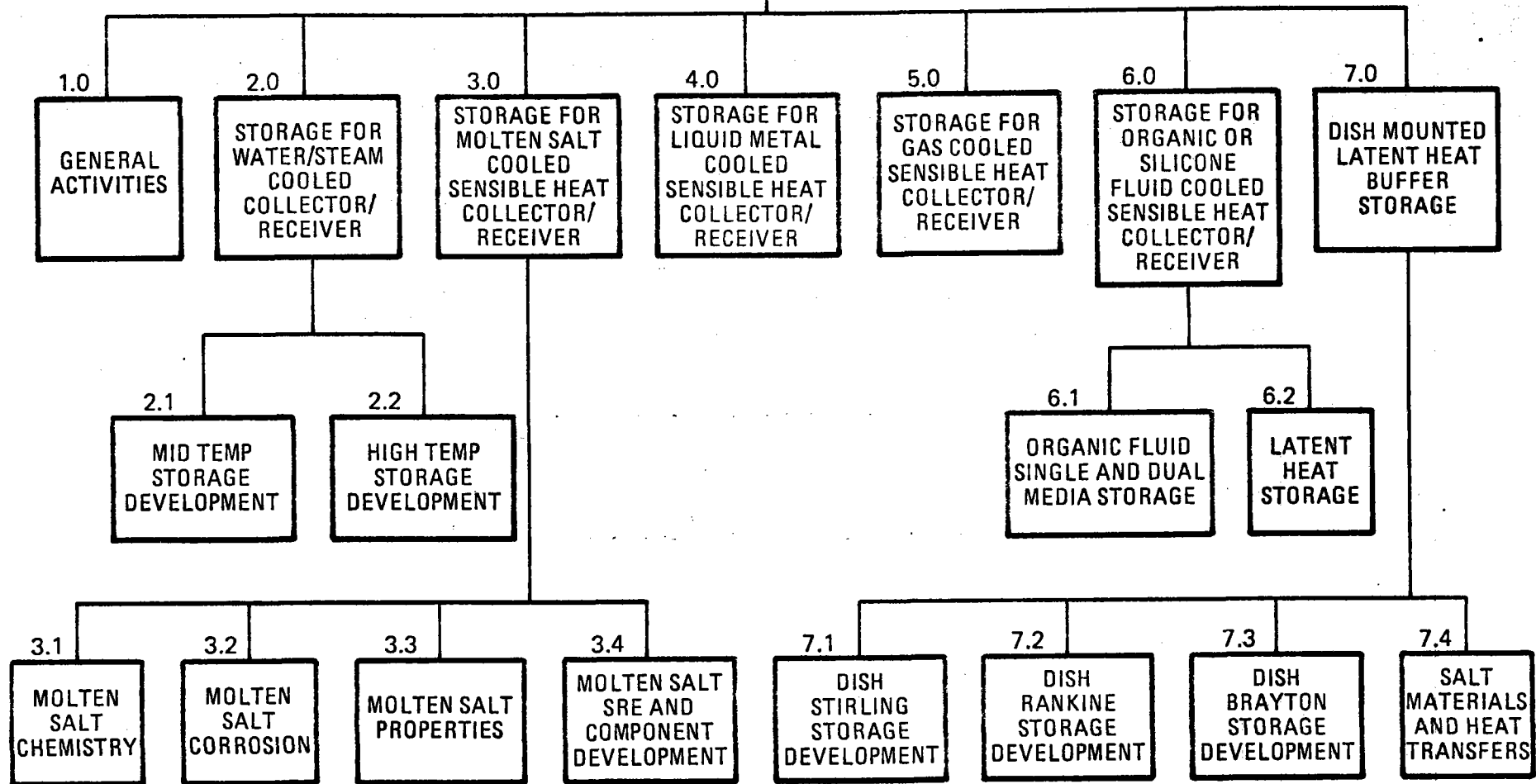
First-generation storage subsystems for those solar thermal applications that presently have no storage subsystems under development.

A technology base to support storage subsystem development for future solar thermal power applications.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

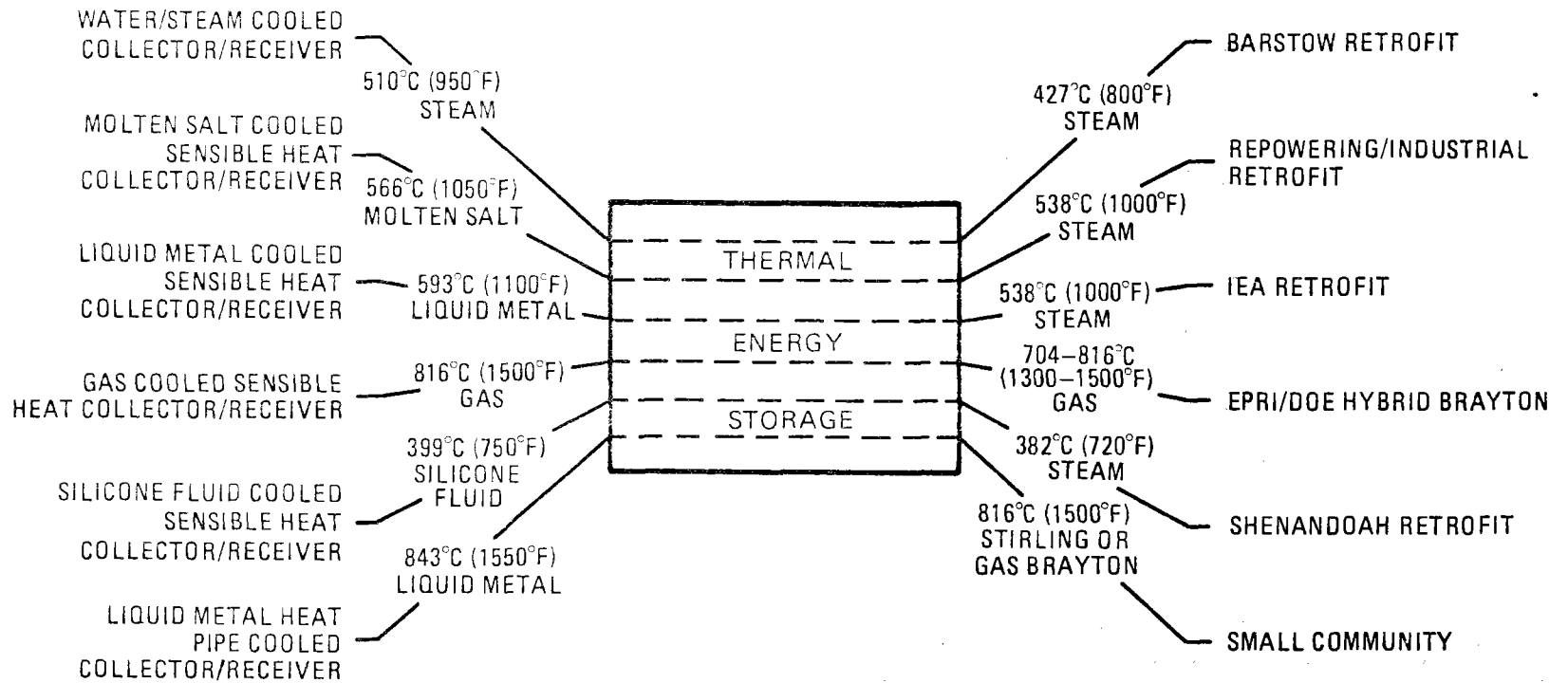
- SANDIA HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FIRST TWO OBJECTIVES
- PROGRAM WAS INITIATED IN FY80 (FUNDING - \$3.0M)
  - STORAGE DEVELOPMENT KEYED TO SPECIFIC COLLECTOR/RECEIVER TECHNOLOGIES
  - APPLICATIONS DEFINED TO PROVIDE A DEVELOPMENT FOCUS
  - COST/PERFORMANCE GOALS ESTABLISHED
  - STORAGE DEVELOPMENT INITIATED IN SUPPORT OF HIGH PRIORITY APPLICATIONS

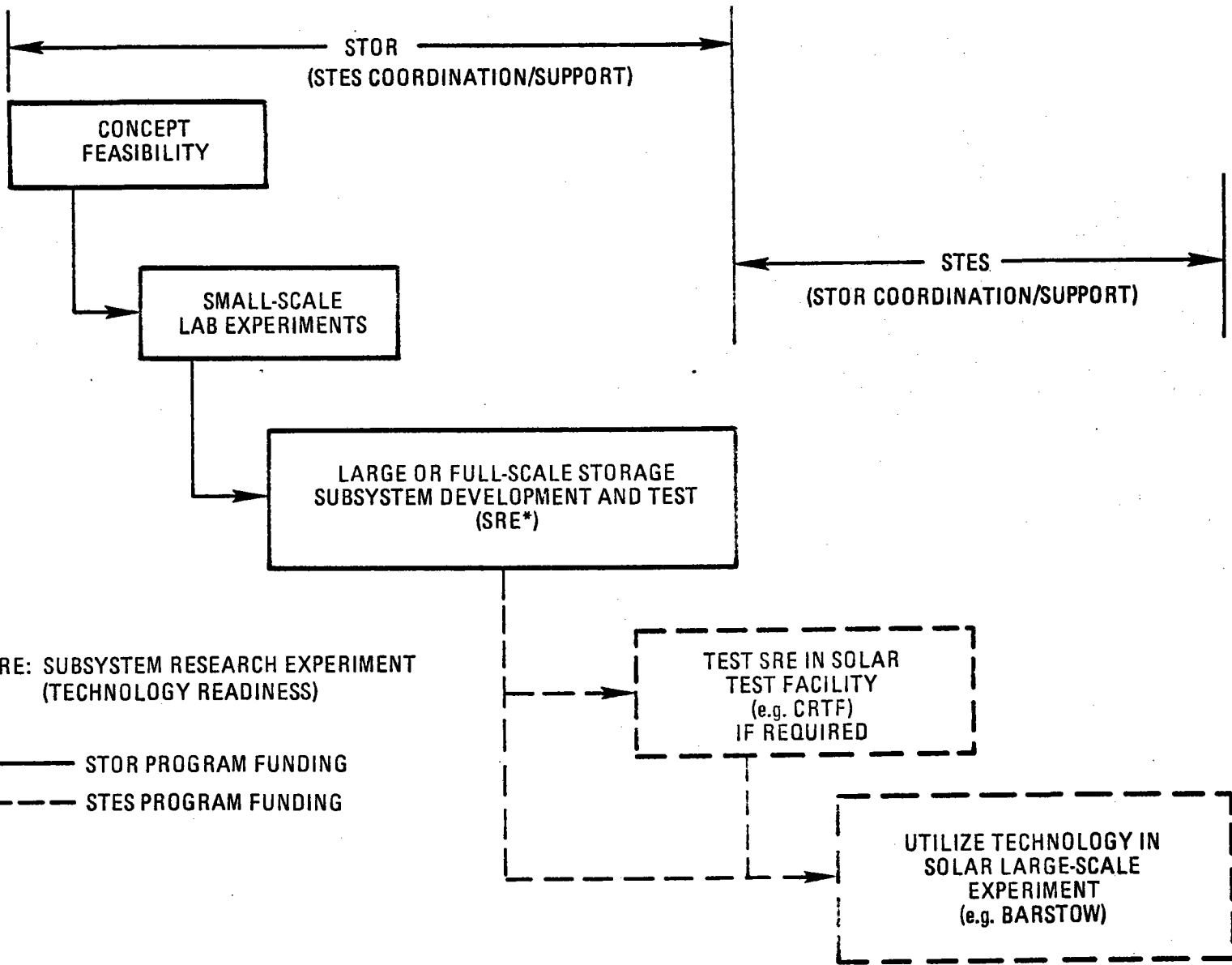
THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE FOR SOLAR THERMAL APPLICATIONS



SOLAR INTERFACE

CANDIDATE APPLICATION





ELEMENT 2.0 - STORAGE FOR WATER/STEAM COOLED  
COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- INITIATED ADVANCED CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT FOR A  
SOLAR PROCESS HEAT APPLICATION  
(COMBUSTION ENGINEERING)
- INITIATED ADVANCED CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT FOR A  
BARSTOW RETROFIT OR REPOWERING APPLICATION  
(BABCOCK AND WILCOX)

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- COMPLETE ADVANCED CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
- INITIATE SUBSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

ELEMENT 3.0 - STORAGE FOR MOLTEN SALT COOLED  
SENSIBLE HEAT COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- COMPLETED INTERNAL INSULATION CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT  
(MARTIN MARIETTA)\*
- AWARDED CONTRACT FOR MOLTEN SALT SRE (MARTIN MARIETTA)
- INITIATED MOLTEN NITRATE SALT CHEMISTRY STUDIES
  - ATMOSPHERIC INTERACTIONS (EIC CORPORATION)
  - SALT DECOMPOSITION (SNLL)
- INITIATED MOLTEN NITRATE SALT CORROSION STUDIES
  - SCREENING EXPERIMENTS (SNLL)
  - OPEN THERMAL CONVECTION LOOPS (SNLL)
  - CLOSED THERMAL CONVECTION LOOPS (OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LAB)
  - ELECTROCHEMICAL CORROSION (UNIV. OF NY AT BUFFALO)
- INITIATED MOLTEN NITRATE SALT PROPERTIES STUDIES
  - DENSITY, VISCOSITY, SURFACE TENSION, HEAT CAPACITY (SNLL)
  - THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY (NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)
- INITIATED GENERIC STUDY OF THERMOCLINE DEGRADATION  
(UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY)

\*THIS WORK WAS FUNDED UNDER THE STES PROGRAM.

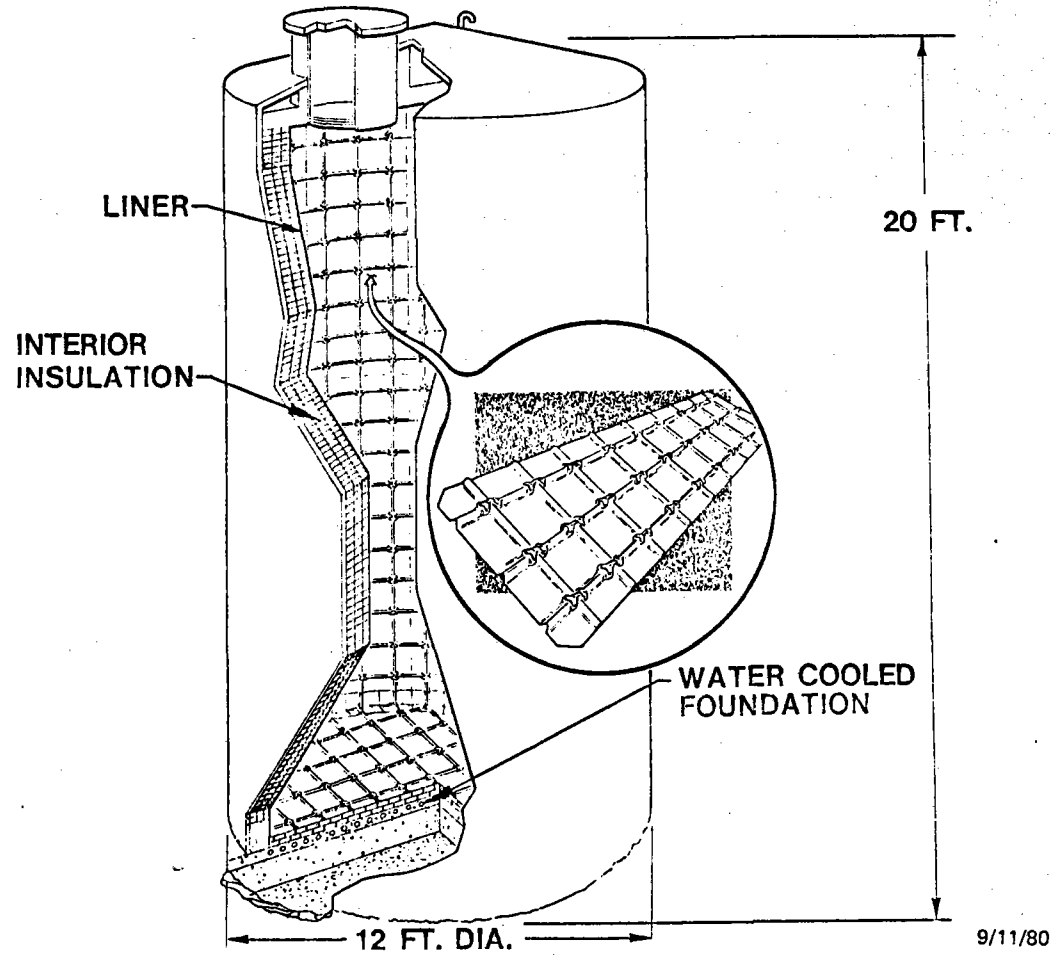
ELEMENT 3.0 - STORAGE FOR MOLTEN SALT COOLED  
SENSIBLE HEAT COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- COMPLETE SRE DESIGN AND FABRICATION
- COMPLETE MOLTEN NITRATE SALT CHEMISTRY AND GENERAL CORROSION LOOP STUDIES
- INITIATE MOLTEN NITRATE SALT GALVANIC CORROSION STUDY
- INITIATE MOLTEN NITRATE SALT REGENERATION STUDY
- CONDUCT MOLTEN NITRATE SALT TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP



# MOLTEN SALT SRE HOT TANK



SL-18583A

9/11/80

ELEMENT 4.0 - STORAGE FOR LIQUID METAL COOLED  
SENSIBLE HEAT COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- COMPLETED FABRICATION AND PERFORMED AIR/ROCK  
THERMAL CYCLING TESTS (SNLL)

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- NONE

ELEMENT 5.0 - STORAGE FOR GAS COOLED  
SENSIBLE HEAT COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- COMPLETED FABRICATION AND TESTING OF A GROUND  
BASED REFRACTORY STORAGE TEST MODULE FOR A  
PARABOLIC DISH COLLECTOR (SANDERS)\*

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- DESCRIBED UNDER ELEMENT 7.0

\*THIS WORK WAS FUNDED UNDER THE STES PROGRAM.

ELEMENT 6.0 - STORAGE FOR ORGANIC OR SILICONE FLUID  
COOLED SENSIBLE HEAT COLLECTOR/RECEIVER

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- COMPLETED INSTALLATION AND INSTRUMENTATION OF THE ENGINEERING PROTOTYPE THERMOCLINE TANK AT THE MIDTEMPERATURE SOLAR TEST FACILITY (MSTF) (SEVERAL CONTRACTS)
- PERFORMED HEAT LOSS TESTING OF THE ENGINEERING PROTOTYPE TANK AND INITIATED ANALYTICAL MODEL DEVELOPMENT TO CORRELATE DATA (SNLA)
- COMPLETED FABRICATION AND INITIATED LABORATORY TESTING OF ALTERNATIVE DIFFUSER DESIGNS FOR THE ENGINEERING PROTOTYPE TANK (SNLA)

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- COMPLETE SINGLE MEDIA THERMOCLINE ANALYSIS AND TESTING AT THE MSTF

ELEMENT 7.0 - DISH MOUNTED LATENT  
HEAT BUFFER STORAGE

FY80 DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- COMPLETED TESTING OF HEAT PIPE RECEIVER/MOLTEN SALT TEST MODULE (GENERAL ELECTRIC)\*
- INITIATED REQUIREMENTS DEFINITION AND SRE DESIGNS
  - DISH STIRLING SYSTEMS (GENERAL ELECTRIC)
  - DISH RANKINE SYSTEMS (FORD AEROSPACE AND COMM.)
  - DISH BRAYTON SYSTEMS (GARRETT AIRESEARCH)
- SELECTED CONTRACTOR FOR NEGOTIATION FOR SOLIDIFICATION CONTROL STUDY
- INITIATED ADVANCED CONCEPTS STUDY (HANFORD)
- COMPLETED FABRICATION AND INITIATED TESTING OF CONTAINMENT CAPSULES AND THERMAL CONVECTION LOOPS TO STUDY CORROSION BEHAVIOR OF PHASE CHANGE MATERIALS (JPL)
- COMPLETED A HEAT TRANSFER COMPUTER CODE AND INITIATED TRANSIENT BEHAVIOR AND HEAT TRANSFER ENHANCEMENT ANALYSES (JPL)

\*THIS WORK WAS FUNDED UNDER THE STES PROGRAM

ELEMENT 7.0 - DISH MOUNTED LATENT  
HEAT BUFFER STORAGE

FY81 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

- COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS DEFINITION AND SRE DESIGN STUDIES
- COMPLETE GENERAL CORROSION STUDY
- INITIATE SOLIDIFICATION CONTROL STUDY
- INITIATE SUBSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

## SUMMARY

### FY80 HIGHLIGHTS

- AWARDED TWELVE CONTRACTS
- COMPLETED THREE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENTS (ELEMENTS 3.0, 5.0, AND 7.0)\*
- INITIATED ONE SUBSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (ELEMENT 3.0)
- INITIATED FIVE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENTS (ELEMENTS 2.0 AND 7.0)

### FY81 PLANS

- MAINTAIN CURRENT PROGRAM EMPHASIS (ELEMENTS 2.0, 3.0, 6.0, AND 7.0)
- CONTINUE MOLTEN SALT SUBSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (ELEMENT 3.0)
- COMPLETE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT AND INITIATE NEW SUBSYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS (ELEMENTS 2.0 AND 7.0)
- COMPLETE SINGLE MEDIA THERMOCLINE TESTING (ELEMENT 6.0)

\*THIS WORK WAS FUNDED UNDER THE STES PROGRAM.

OVERVIEW OF MOLTEN NITRATE  
SALT TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

BOB CARLING

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES



OVERVIEW OF MOLTEN  
NITRATE SALT PROGRAM

- INTRODUCTION
- EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM SUMMARY
- PROGRAMS TO BE IMPACTED BY EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS
- FUTURE DOCUMENTATION OF MOLTEN SALT ACTIVITIES

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF STORAGE MEDIUM

1. Melting point below 350 C
2. Low corrosiveness
3. High specific heat
4. Low cost
5. Good chemical and physical stability with time; low vapor pressure
6. Non-toxic
7. Low viscosity
8. High thermal conductivity
9. Previous industrial experience

## FLUIDS FOR HEAT TRANSFER AND TES APPLICATIONS INCLUDE:

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- Water/Steam
- Oil
- Molten Salt
- Liquid Metal

## ANIONS

## CATIONS

CORROSIVE	$\text{SO}_4^{-2}$ , $\text{S}^{-2}$ $\text{ClO}_3^-$ , $\text{PO}_4^{-3}$	
EXPENSE	$\text{I}^-$	$\text{Li}^+$ , $\text{Ag}^+$ , $\text{Cd}^{+2}$ TRANSITION METALS
TOXICITY		$\text{Hg}_2^{+2}$ , $\text{Pb}^{+2}$ , $\text{Ba}^{+2}$

WHAT'S LEFT? ANIONS:  $\text{F}^-$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{-2}$

CATIONS:  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$

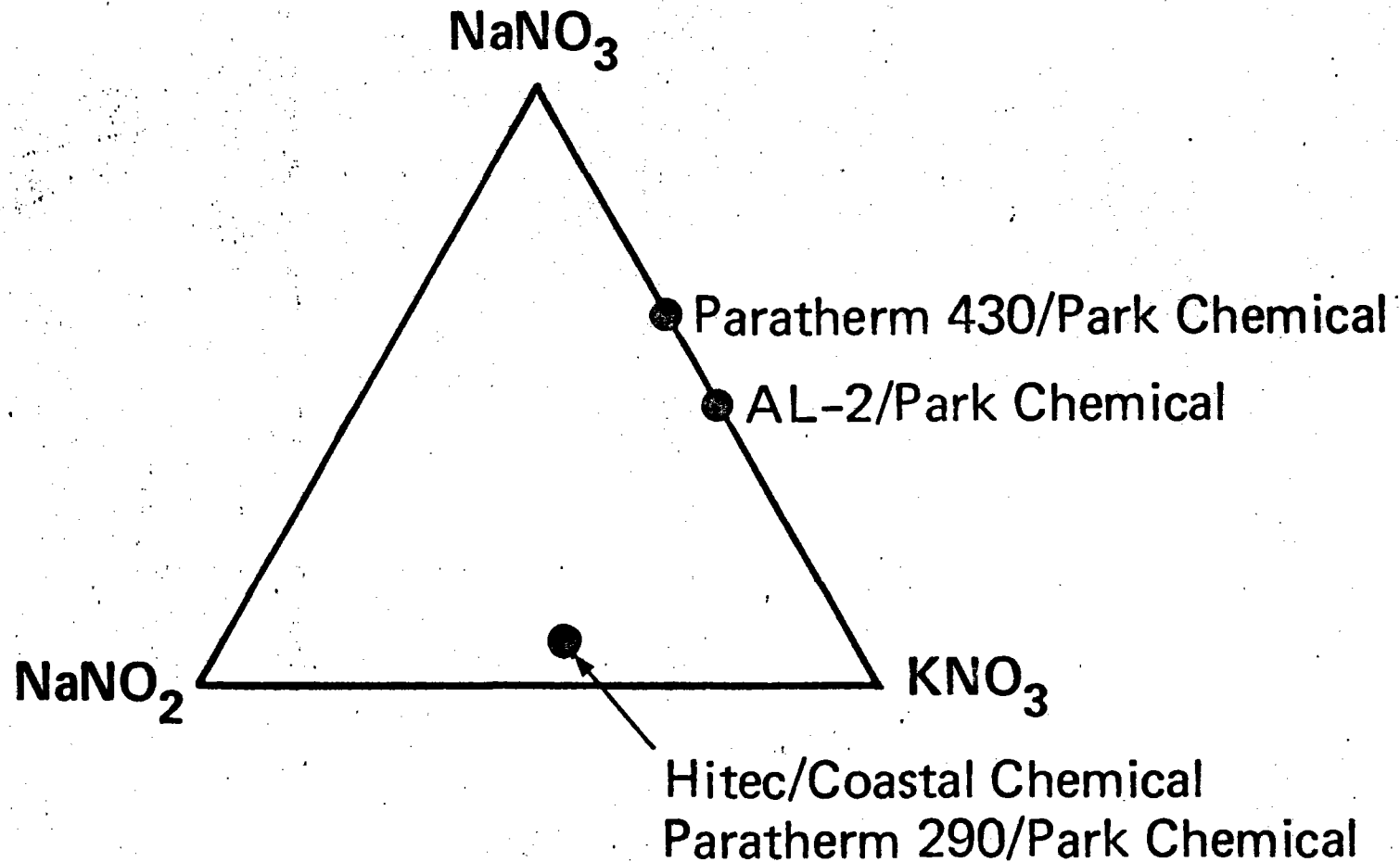
	Na/KNO <sub>3</sub>	Na/ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	K/MgBr <sub>2</sub>	Li <sub>2</sub> /K <sub>2</sub> /Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Li/Na/KF
melting point (°C)	221	262	334	397	459
corrosiveness	med.	med.	med.	high	med.
specific heat <sub>1</sub> (liq., cal g <sup>-1</sup> deg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.40	0.20	0.13	0.40	0.31
cost	1.0	1.8	9.6	2.3	5.2
chem. stability	stable	stable	stable	stable	stable
toxicity	low	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> moderate	low	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> severe	severe
viscosity (cp) <sup>a</sup>	4-1	(2-1)	(2-1)	5-2	(2-1)
conductivity (cal cm <sup>-1</sup> sec <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )	1.3 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(2 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	(1 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	(4 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	(3 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> )
industrial use	yes	no	no	some	yes

<sup>a</sup>viscosity of water at 20°C is 1 cp

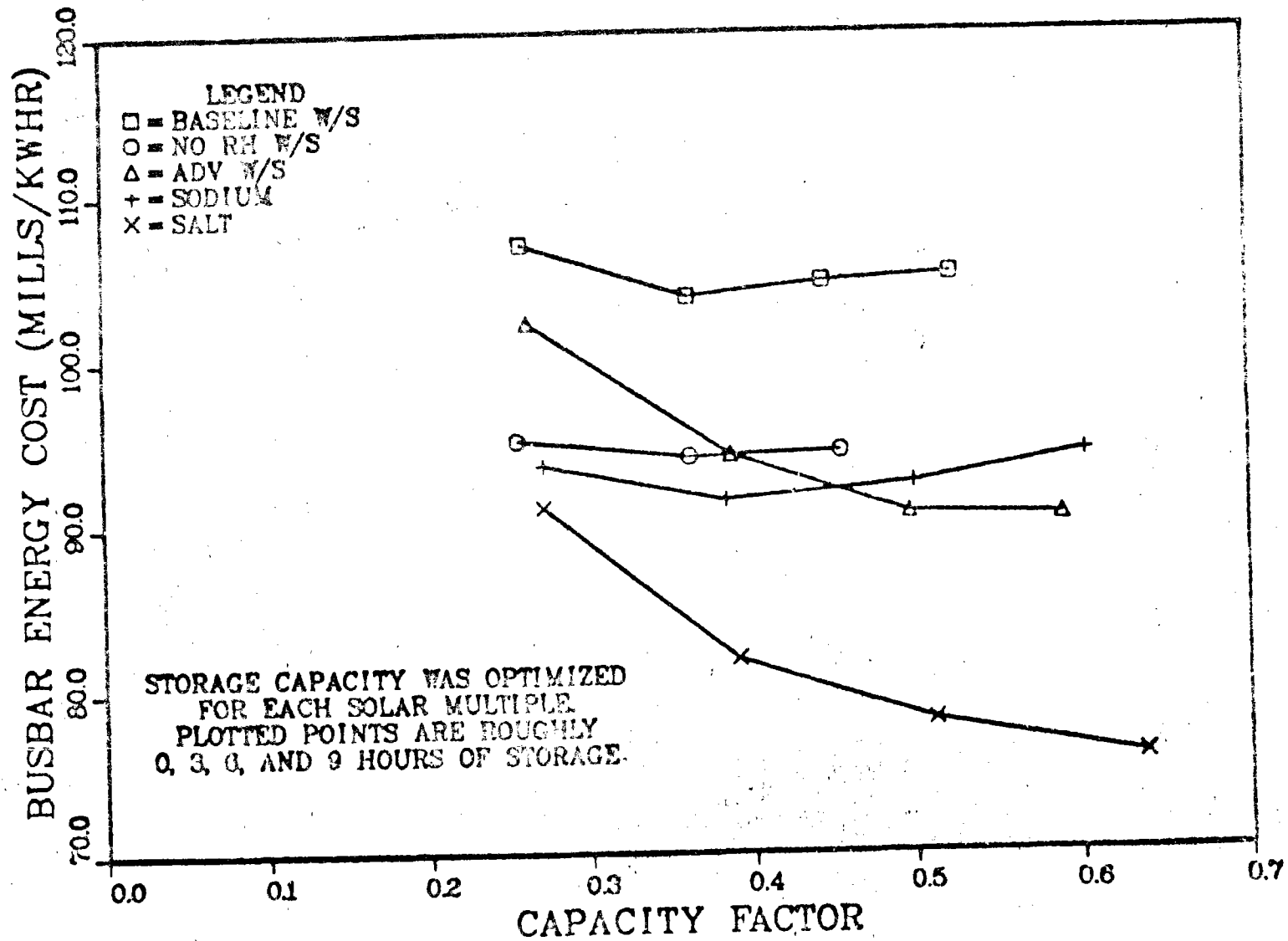
<sup>b</sup>thermal conductivity of liquid sodium is about 2 x 10<sup>-1</sup> cal cm<sup>-1</sup> sec<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>

# COMMERCIAL NITRATE BASED HEAT TRANSFER SALTS

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# SOLAR CENTRAL RECEIVER TECHNOLOGY COMPARISON



**INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE WITH  
NITRATE SALTS IS EXTENSIVE,  
BUT ...**

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- At Lower Temperatures
  - Under Isothermal Conditions
-



## SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTAL ACTIVITIES

### CONTAINMENT

- IMMERSION TESTS - SLL, MMC
- INTERNAL INSULATION - MMC
- CORROSION LOOPS - SLL, ORNL, MMC
- SLOW STRAIN RATE TESTS - SLL, SLA
- CORROSION FATIGUE - SLL, MMC
- CREEP RUPTURE - SLL

### CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

- DECOMPOSITION STUDIES - SLL
- ATMOSPHERIC EFFECTS - MMC, EIC
- HEAT CAPACITY - SLL
- VISCOSITY - SLL
- THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY - NIT
- SURFACE TENSION - SLL
- DENSITY - SLL
- ELECTROCHEMICAL STUDIES - SLL, UNYB
- REGENERATION STUDIES - MMC

## ORNL THERMAL CONVECTION LOOPS

OBJECTIVE: TO INVESTIGATE CORROSION OF 1800, 304, AND 316 IN  
MOLTEN NITRATES UNDER INERT COVER GAS

TASKS: 1. BUILD THREE LOOPS: 1800, 304, AND 316  
2. MEASURE CORROSION OF COUPONS OVER ONE YEAR

STATUS: LOOPS RUNNING, LITTLE CORROSION

## UNYB ELECTROCHEMISTRY STUDIES

OBJECTIVE: TO OBTAIN UNDERSTANDING OF PHENOMENA ASCRIBED TO 1800  
THAT INHIBITS CORROSION OF THE METAL

- TASKS:
1. USING ELECTROCHEMICAL TECHNIQUES STUDY CORROSION  
BEHAVIOR OF FE AND CR AND THE SPECIES THAT FORM IN  
MOLTEN  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{KNO}_3$
  2. ROLE OF  $\text{PO}_2$  AND IMPURITIES SUCH AS  $\text{NO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{OH}^-$ , AND  $\text{CL}^-$

STATUS: CONTRACT PLACED MAY 1, 1980

## EIC CHEMISTRY STUDIES

OBJECTIVE: DETERMINE EFFECT OF CO<sub>2</sub> AND H<sub>2</sub>O ON NITRATE SALTS

TASKS: USING ELECTROCHEMICAL TECHNIQUES OBSERVE SALT  
DEGRADATION DUE TO CO<sub>2</sub> AND H<sub>2</sub>O FROM 350 TO 600°C

STATUS: CONTRACT STARTED JUNE 1980

## NIT THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY

OBJECTIVE: DETERMINE THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF (K, NA)NO<sub>3</sub> FROM  
350 TO 600°C

- TASKS:
1. DETERMINE THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF  
50 NaNO<sub>3</sub> - 50 KNO<sub>3</sub>  
60 NaNO<sub>3</sub> - 40 KNO<sub>3</sub>  
40 NaNO<sub>3</sub> - 60 KNO<sub>3</sub>  
45 NaNO<sub>3</sub> - 45 KNO<sub>3</sub> - 10 KNO<sub>2</sub>
  2. ADD IMPURITIES SUCH AS CO<sub>3</sub><sup>=</sup> AND OH<sup>-</sup>

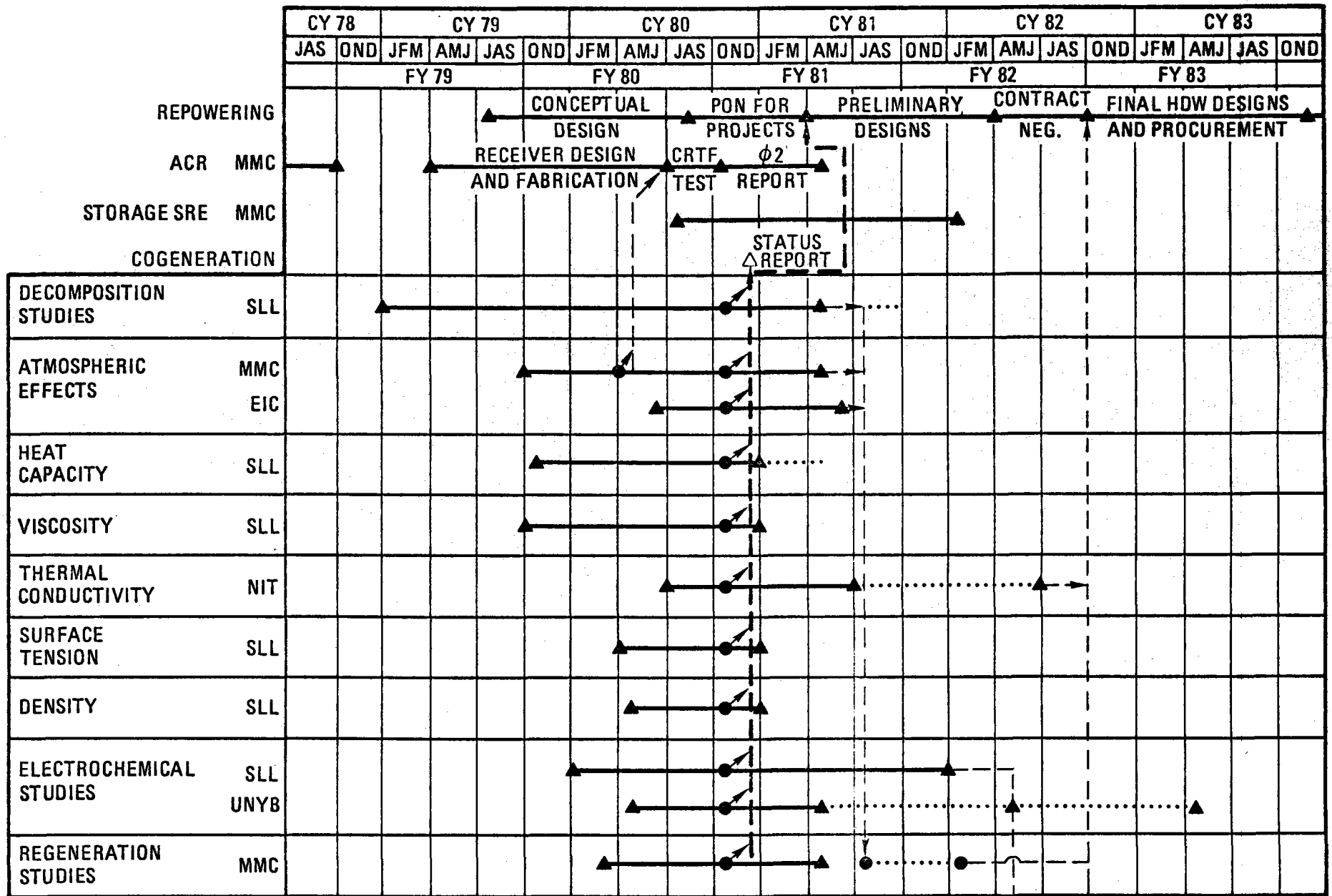
STATUS: CONTRACT PLACED SEPTEMBER 1, 1980

## PROGRAMS TO BE IMPACTED BY MOLTEN SALT ACTIVITIES

- ADVANCED CENTRAL RECEIVER - PHASE 2
- REPOWERING
- THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE SUBSYSTEM RESEARCH  
EXPERIMENT
- COGENERATION



# SALT CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES



● CONTAINMENT EXPERIMENTS



FUTURE DISTRIBUTIONS OF TECHNICAL  
INFORMATION ON MOLTEN NITRATE SALTS

•FINAL REPORTS

ORNL - FEB. 1980 TO MARCH 1981

EIC LABS, INC. - JUNE 1980 TO JULY 1981

UNYB - MAY 1980 TO JUNE 1983

NIT - AUG. 1980 TO JUNE 1982

•IN-HOUSE REPORTS - AS AVAILABLE

•NITRATE SALT STATUS REPORT - JAN. 1981

MOLTEN NITRATE SALT TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
STATUS REPORT

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6. EVALUATION OF THE STRESS CORROSION CRACKING SUSCEPTIBILITY OF INCOLOY 800
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8. THERMAL STABILITY OF NITRATES
9. PRESSURE - TEMPERATURE - COMPOSITION RELATIONSHIPS FOR HEATED DRAWSALT SYSTEMS
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12. PHASE DIAGRAMS OF  $NaNO_3 - Na_2CO_3$  AND  $KNO_3 - K_2CO_3$
13. INDUSTRIAL USE EXPERIENCE

## PURPOSE OF MOLTEN SALT ACTIVITIES

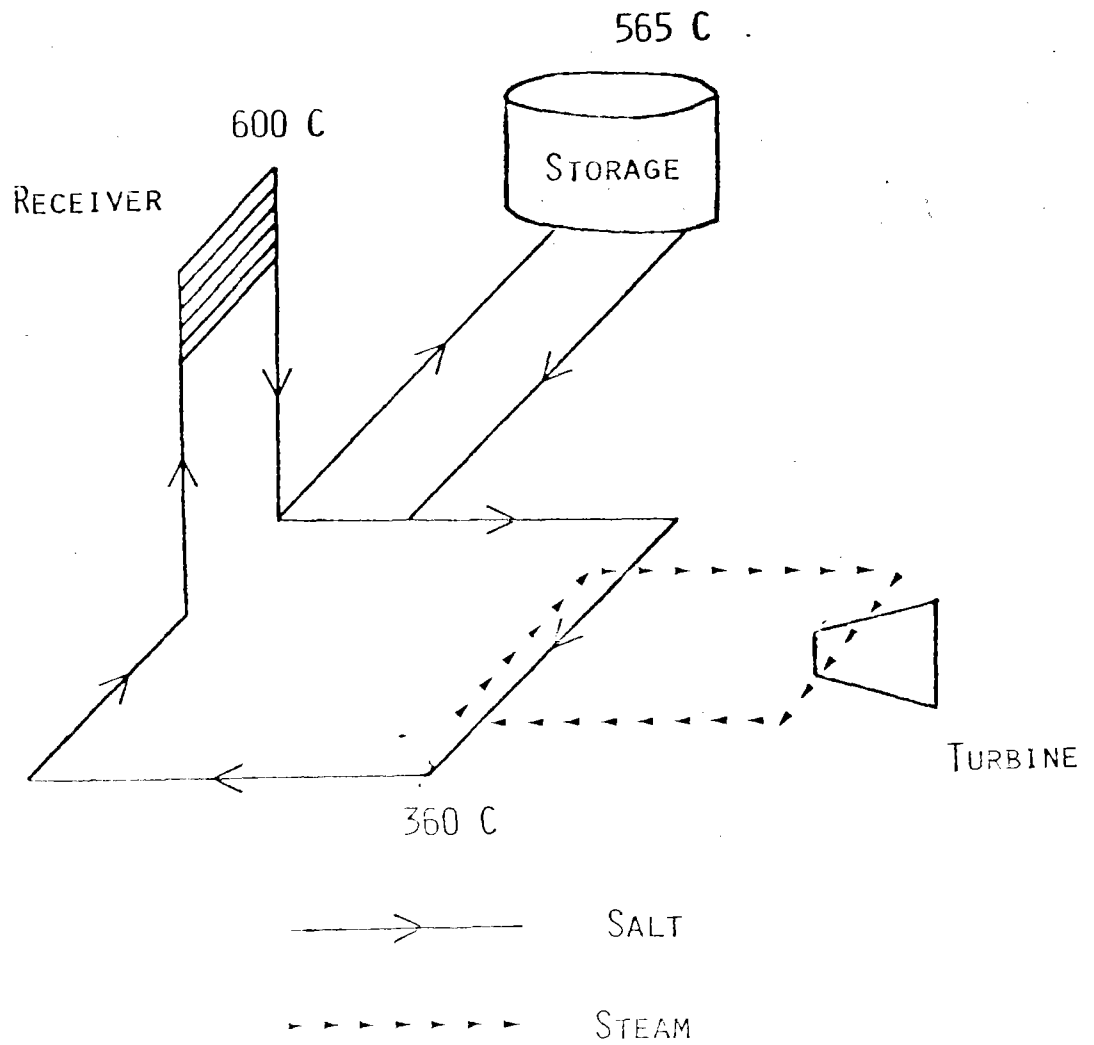
- ADD TO FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE OF MOLTEN SALT CHEMISTRY
- INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF CORROSION REACTIONS AND MATERIAL COMPATIBILITY
- AVOID DUPLICATIONS OF EFFORT
- ANSWER THE NEEDS OF DESIGNERS AND ENGINEERS IN A TIMELY FASHION

CORROSION STUDIES IN CONVECTION LOOPS

ROBERT BRADSHAW

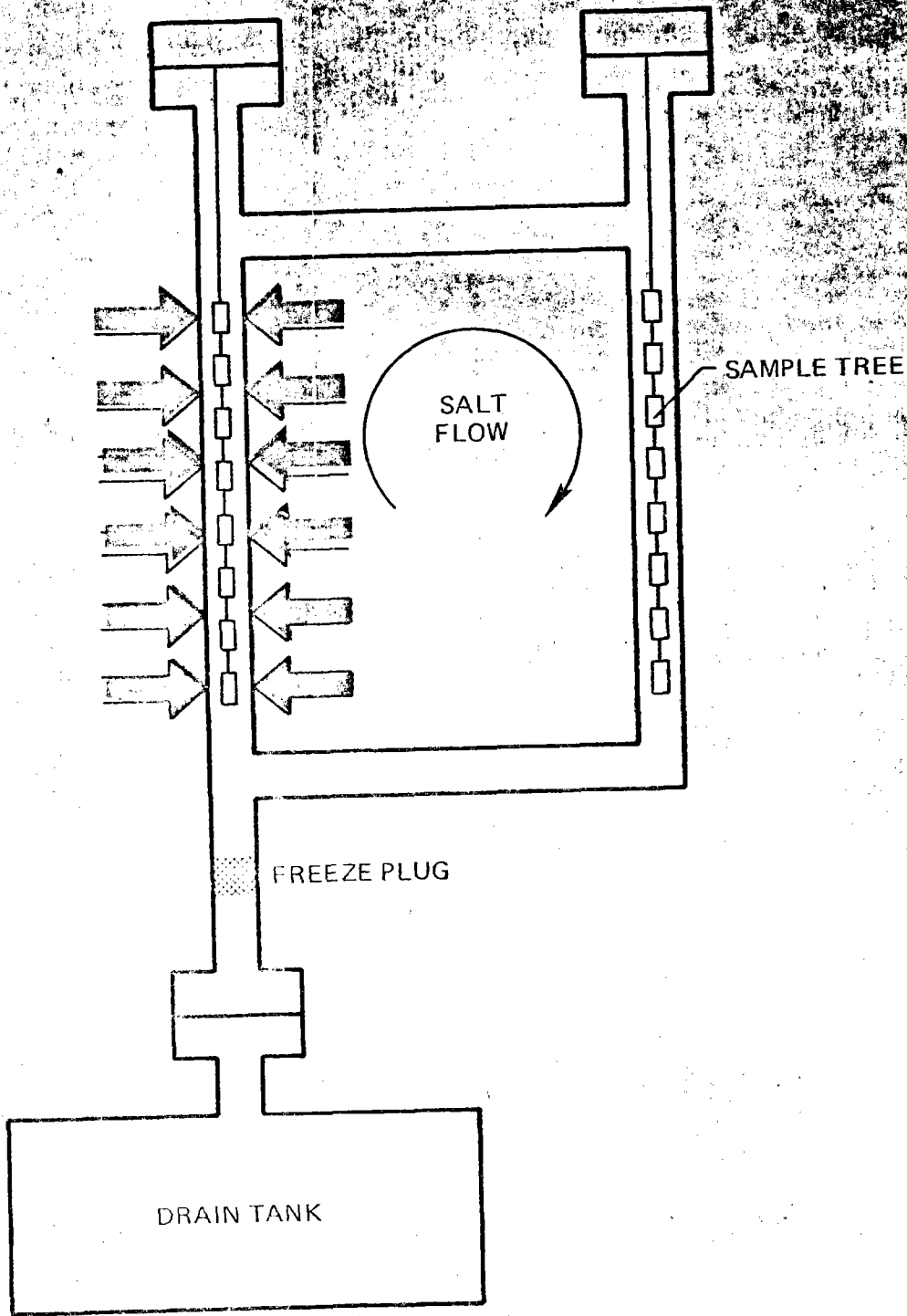
SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

# CENTRAL RECEIVER SCHEMATIC



## PURPOSE

- STUDY CORROSION VS. TEMPERATURE
  - PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
  - MECHANISMS
- BASELINE DATA
  - STEADY TEMPERATURES
  - NO STRESSES OR DEFORMATION
- OBSERVE THERMAL GRADIENT MASS TRANSPORT, IF ANY



## MATERIALS TESTED

- 304 SS  
+ 321 SS  
+ 304 weldments
- 316 SS  
+ 347 SS  
+ 316 weldments
- IN 800  
+ weldments
- SURFACE PREPARATION  
180 GRIT PAPER



## EXPERIMENTAL

### ● TEMPERATURE RANGES

STANDARD 600°C - 350°C

- 304 SS

OVER-TEMPERATURE 630°C - 350°C

- 316 SS

- IN 800

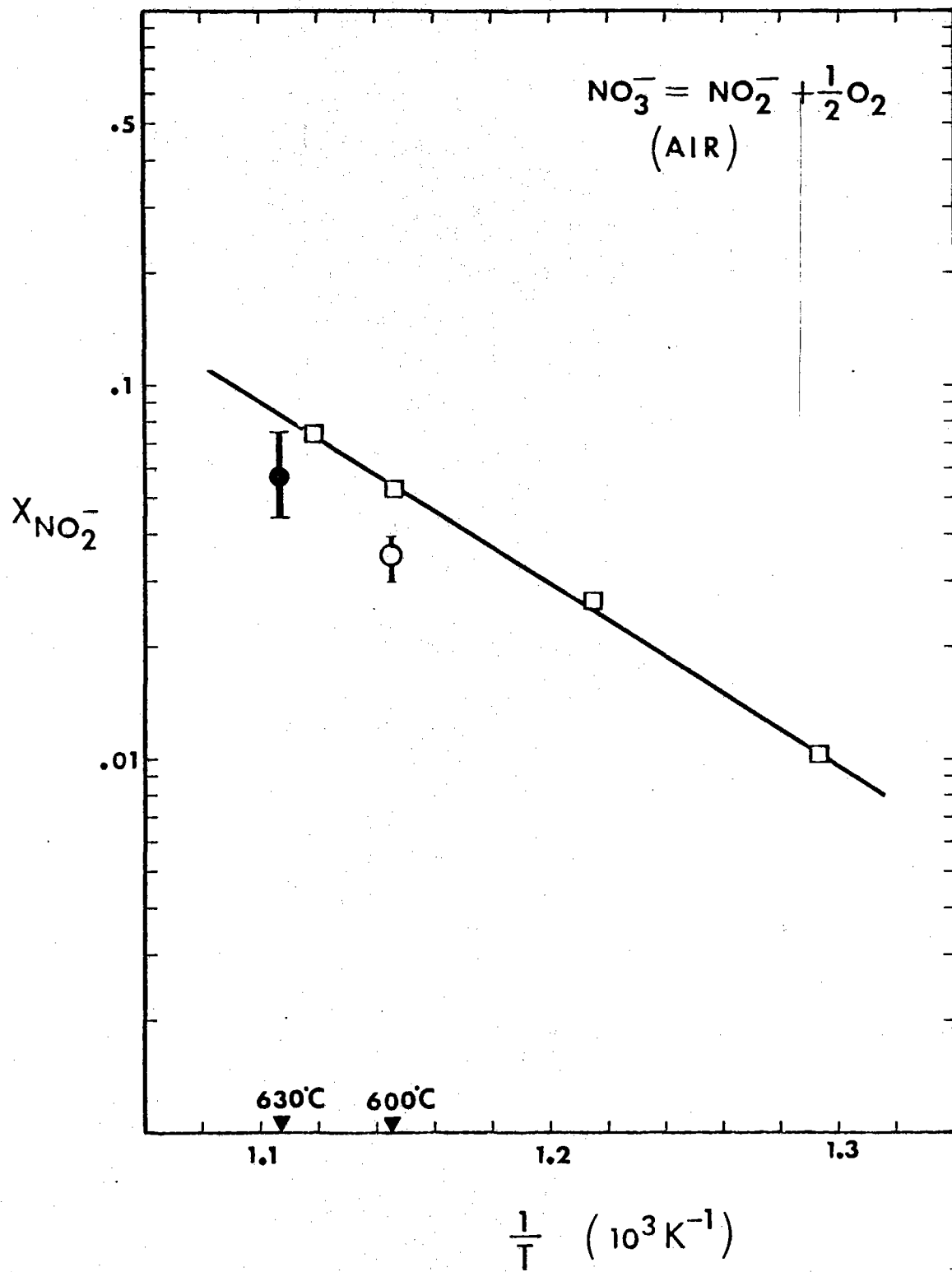
### ● SALT COMPOSITION

- INITIAL

60  $\text{NaNO}_3$  - 40  $\text{KNO}_3$  (w/o)

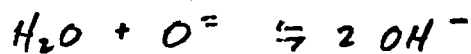
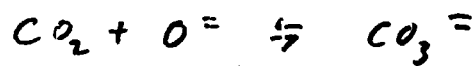
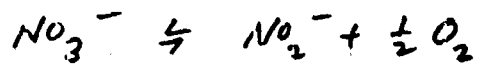
- STEADY - STATE

$\text{NO}_3^- \rightleftharpoons \text{NO}_2^- + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2$  SHIFT



## OPERATING MODE

- BREATHING VS. SEALED LOOPS



- BREATHING LOOPS AT SNLL

- SEALED LOOPS AT ORNL

J. DEVAN

- IN 800

- 316 SS

- 304L SS

- 600°C - 350°C RANGE

## ANALYTICAL METHODS

### ALLOYS

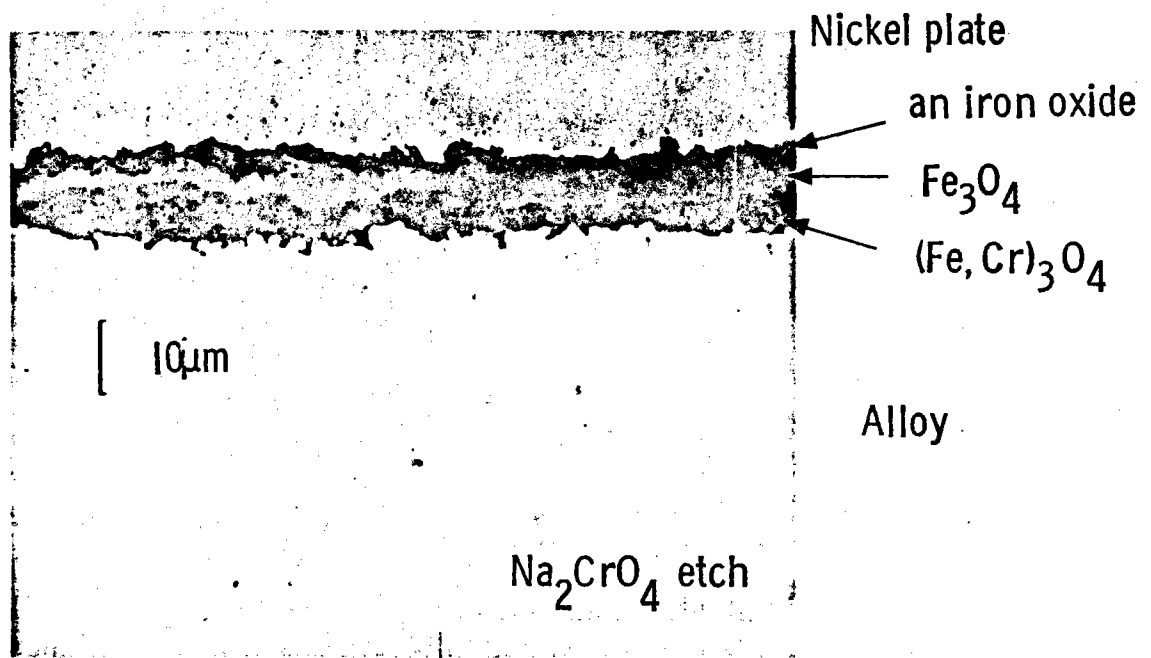
- WEIGHT CHANGES
- SURFACE LAYER ANALYSIS
  - SEM
  - EMPA
  - AES
  - XRD

### SALT

- METALS
  - ATOMIC ABSORPTION
  - CR, FE, NI
- DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS
  - POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION
  - $\text{NO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , OXIDE IONS

## RESULTS

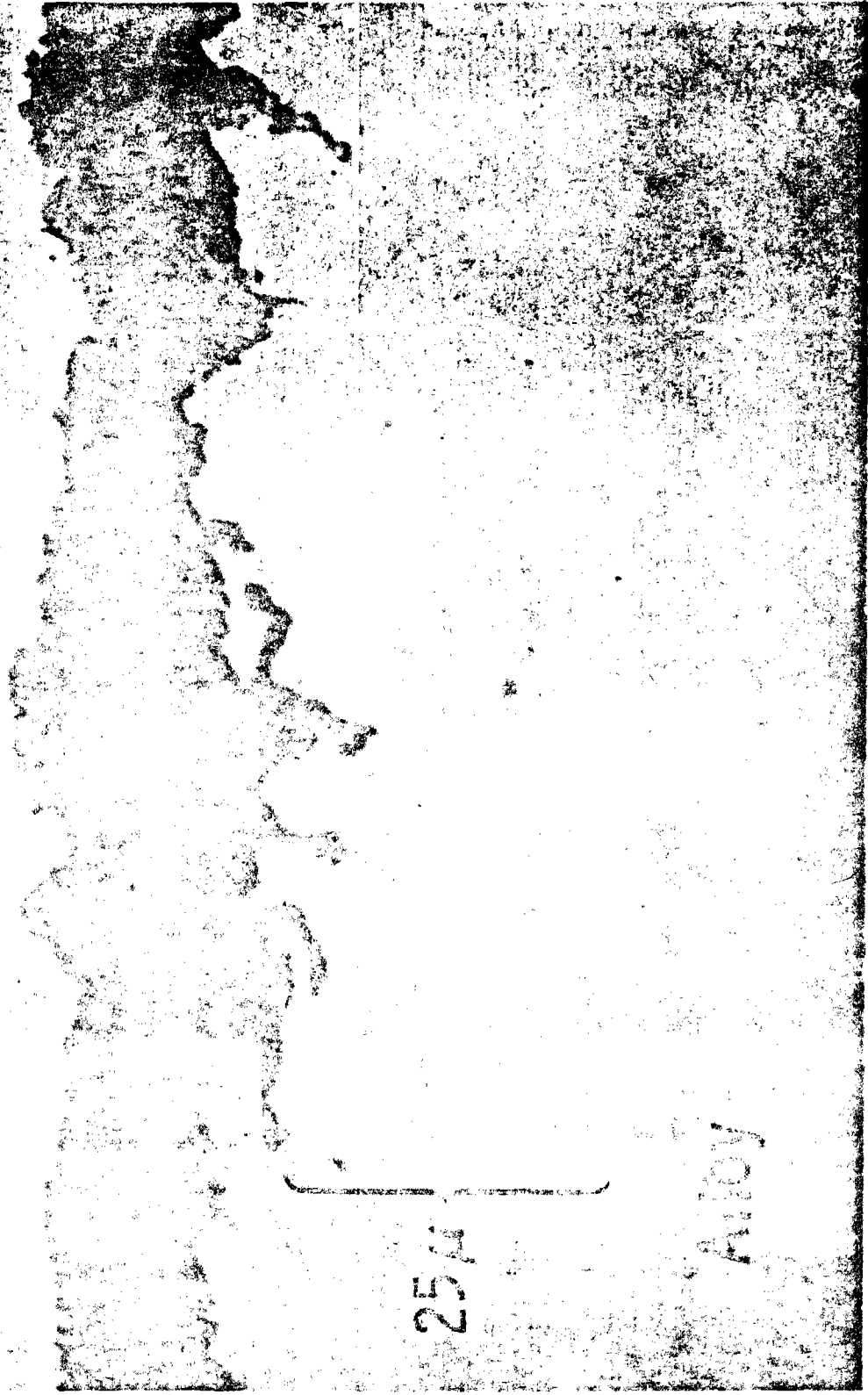
- CORROSION PRODUCTS
- COMPARISON OF ALLOYS
- EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE
- DEPLETION OF ALLOYING  
ELEMENTS



Oxide Structure on 304SS after

4700 hrs at 590 C

Ni pits



25μ

Alloy

304 SS 595 C 8500 Hr.

RES SURVEY

HDD= 3

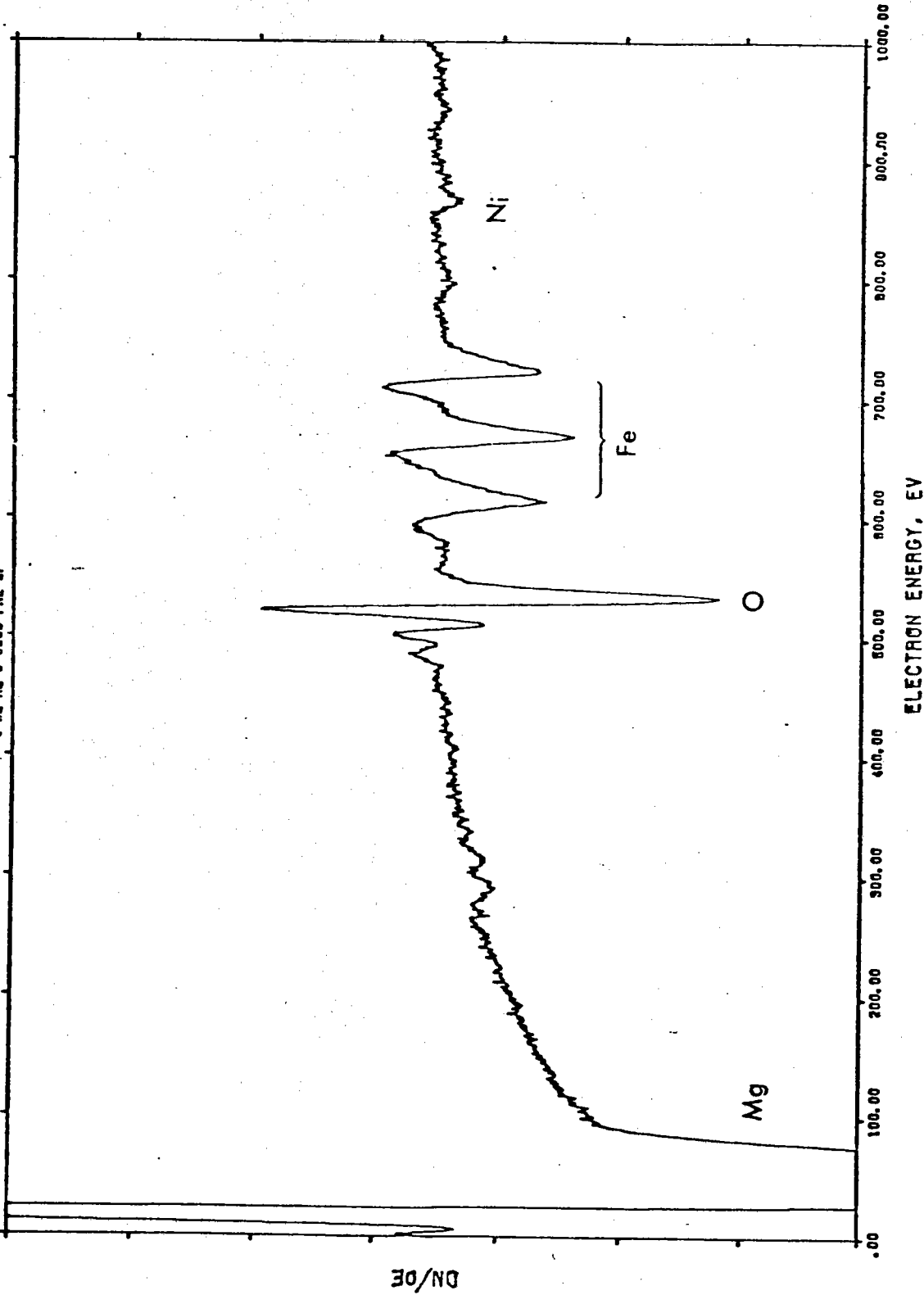
5.00KV, 4.000UR

FILE: OLW1

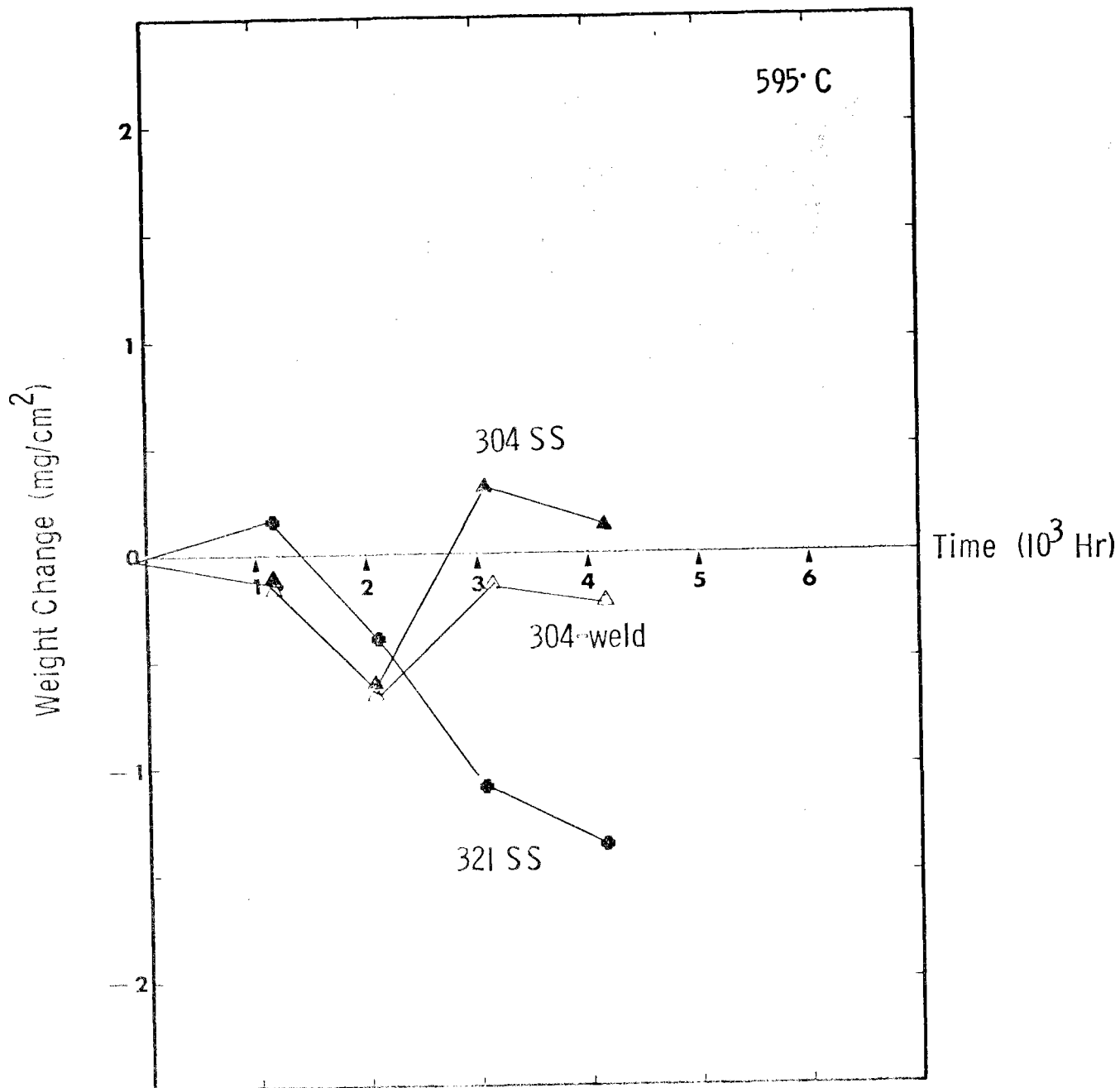
SF= .534

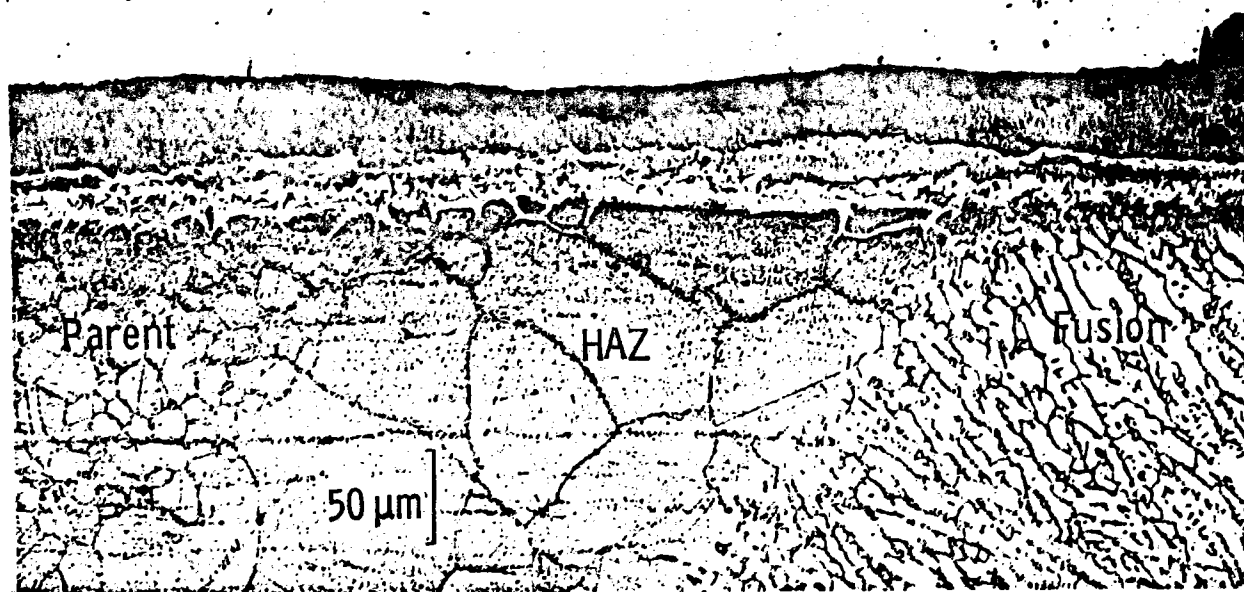
DAT= 29.75

4 ML HL @ 0500 P.M. 8P



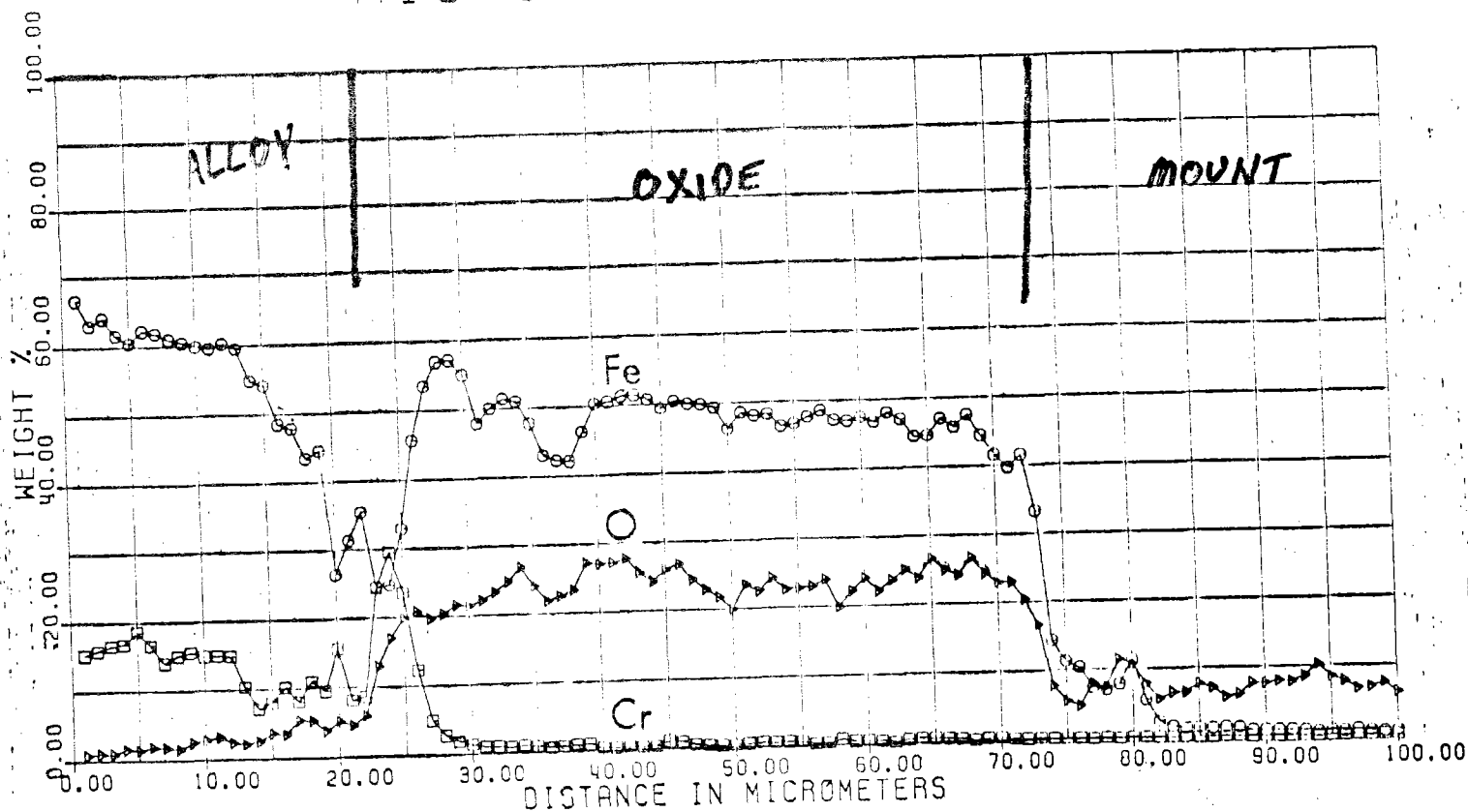






316 SS Weldment after 4700 Hrs. at 630° C

# MICROPROBE ANALYSIS



□ = CR

○ = FE

△ = O

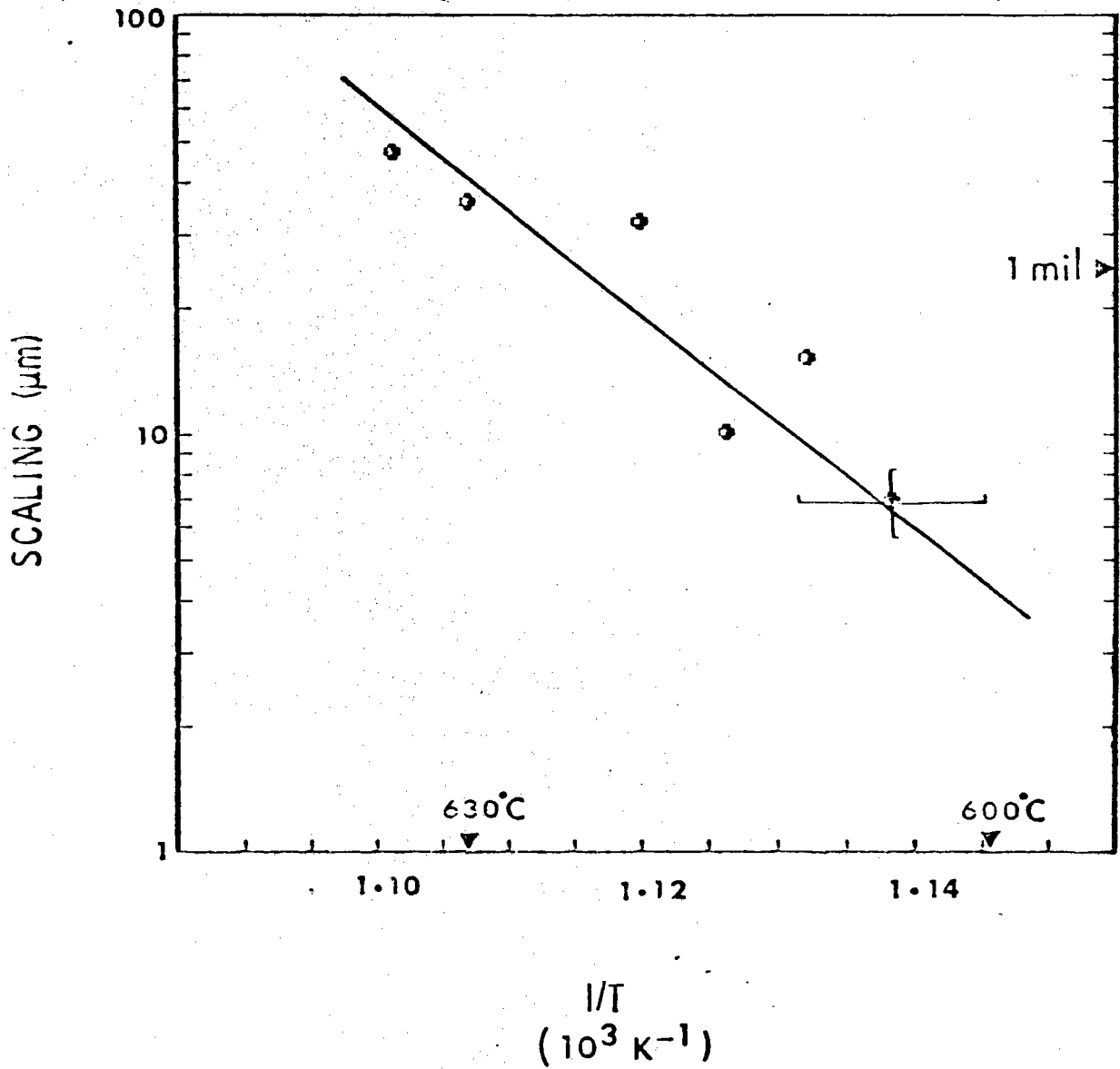
SAMPLE DESCRIPTION: OXIDE FILM W2

SUBMITTED BY: BOB BRADSHAW

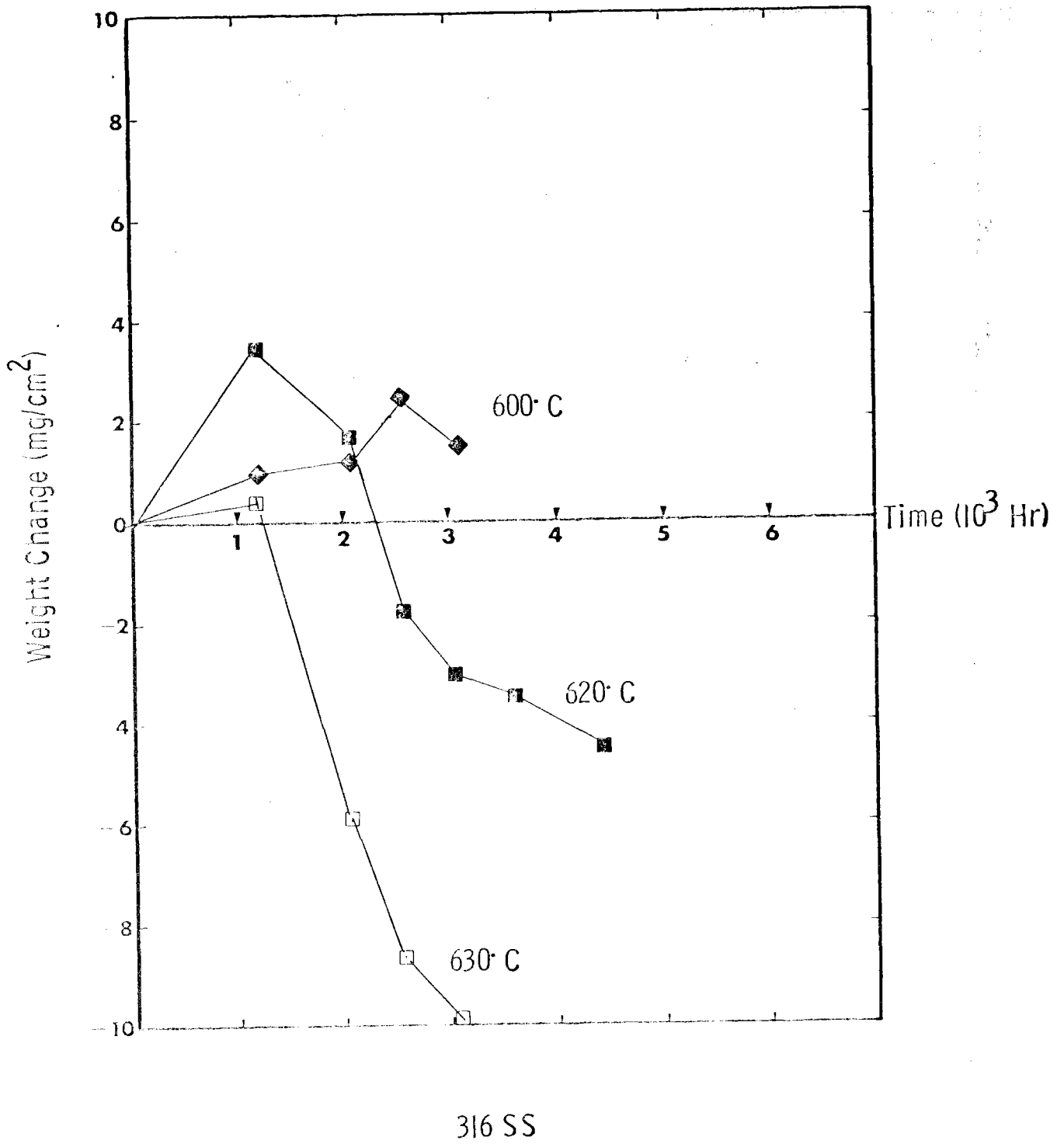
ANALYZED BY: IRON GORNIAK

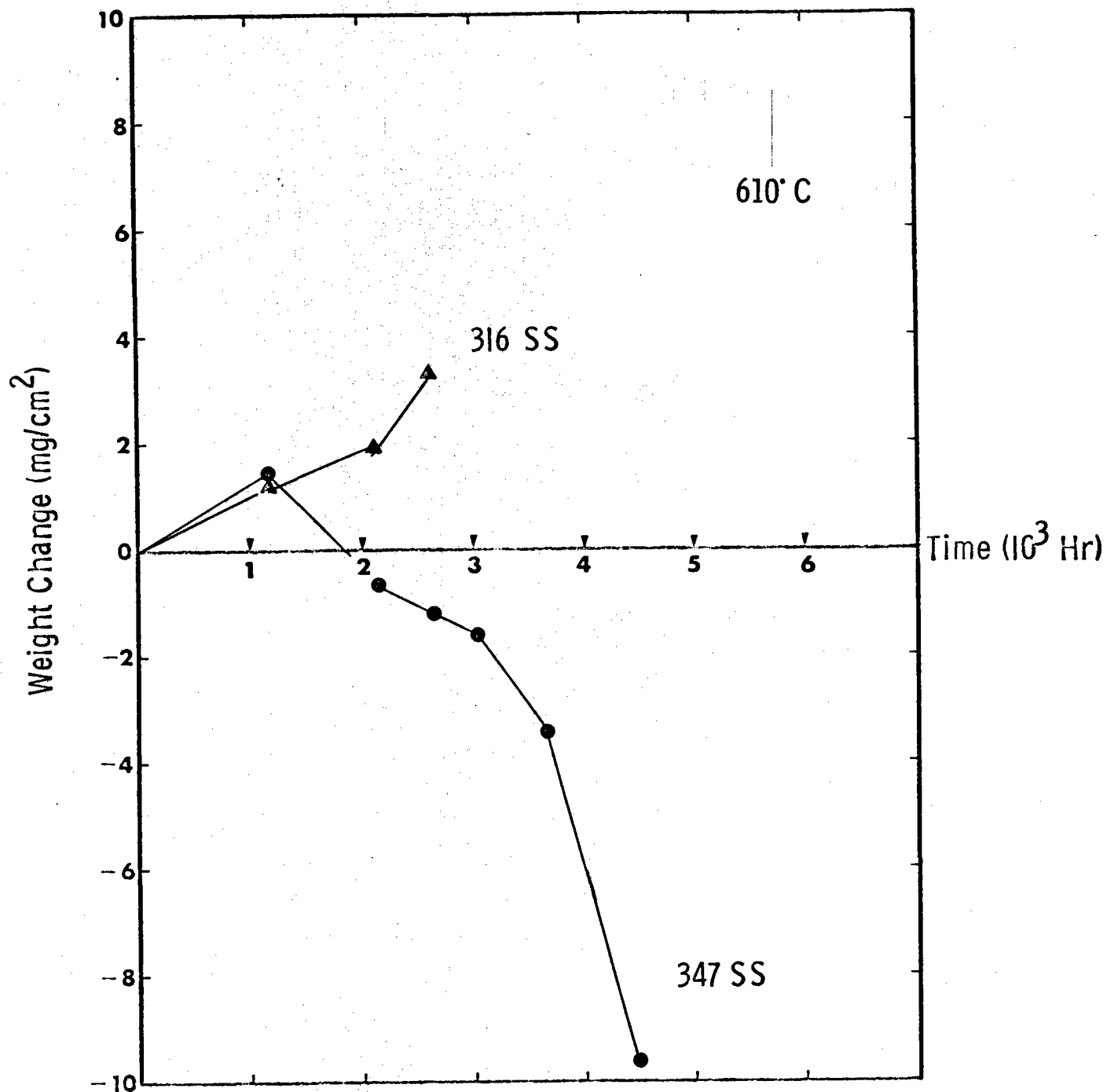
L47

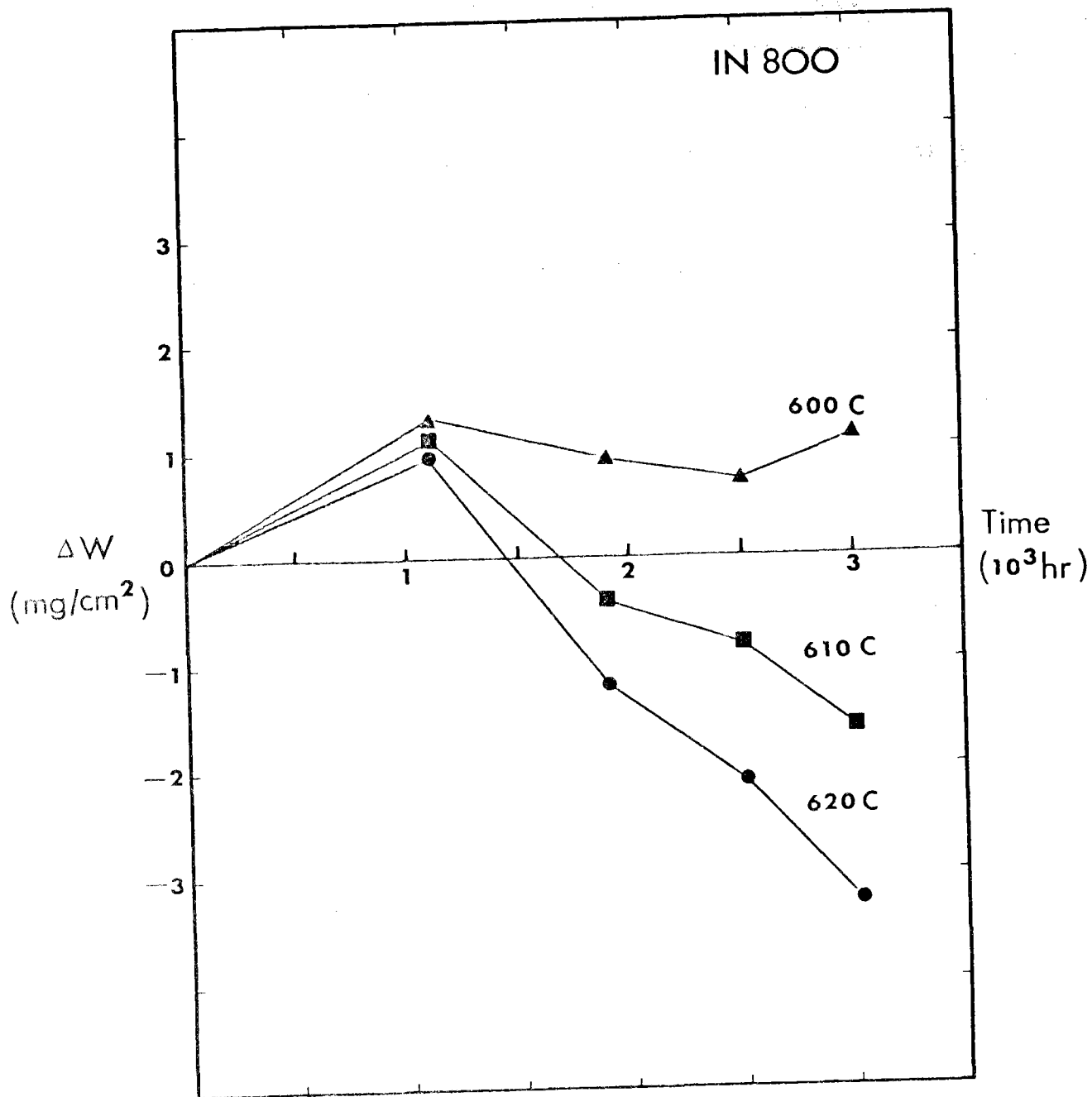
26-AUG-80



Corrosion of 316SS after 1000 Hr







MASS BALANCE

$\Delta W =$  OXIDATION

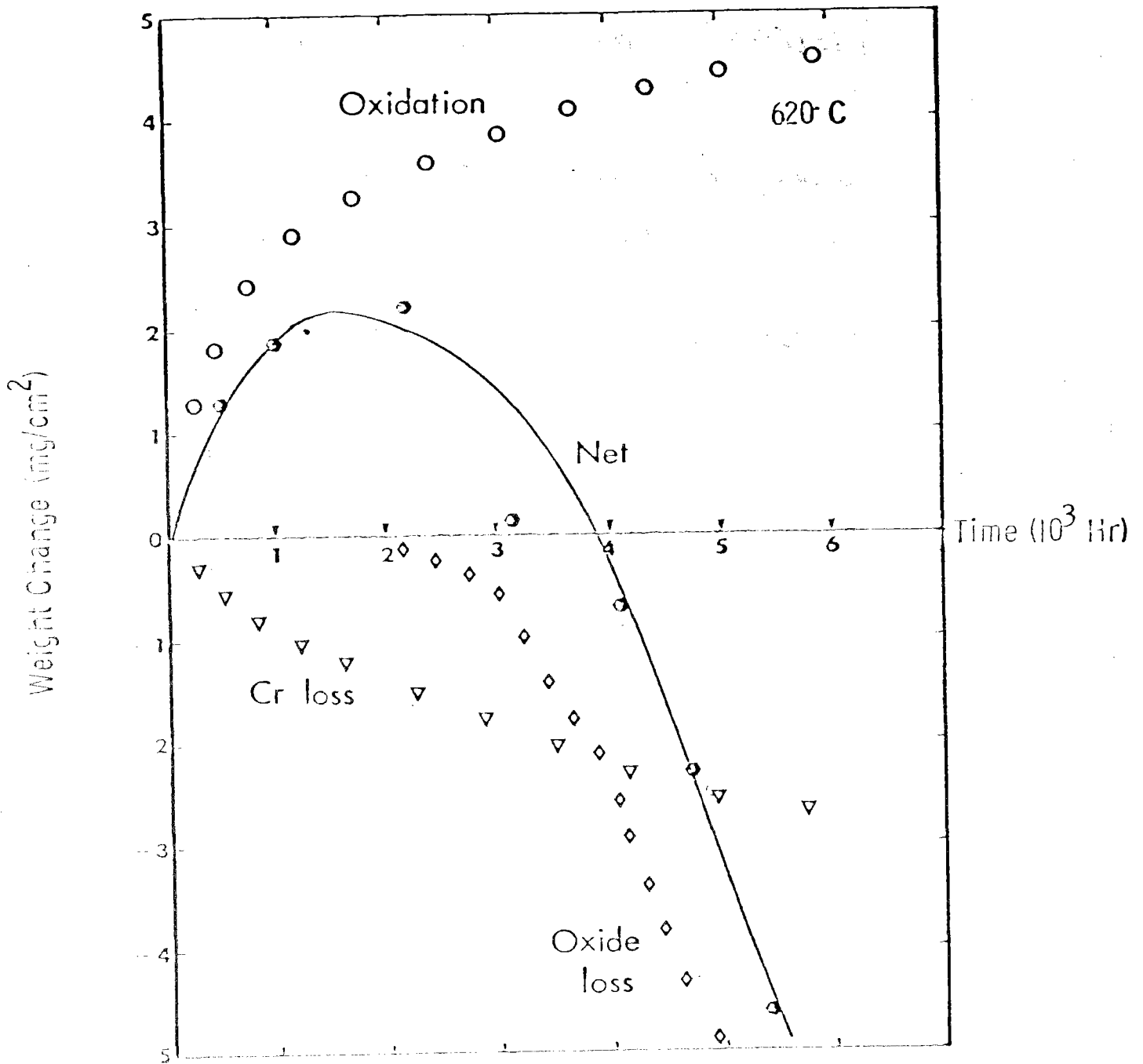
$-$  DEPLETION

$-$  SPALLING

NET  
DAMAGE = SUM OF ABOVE

3 PROCESSES

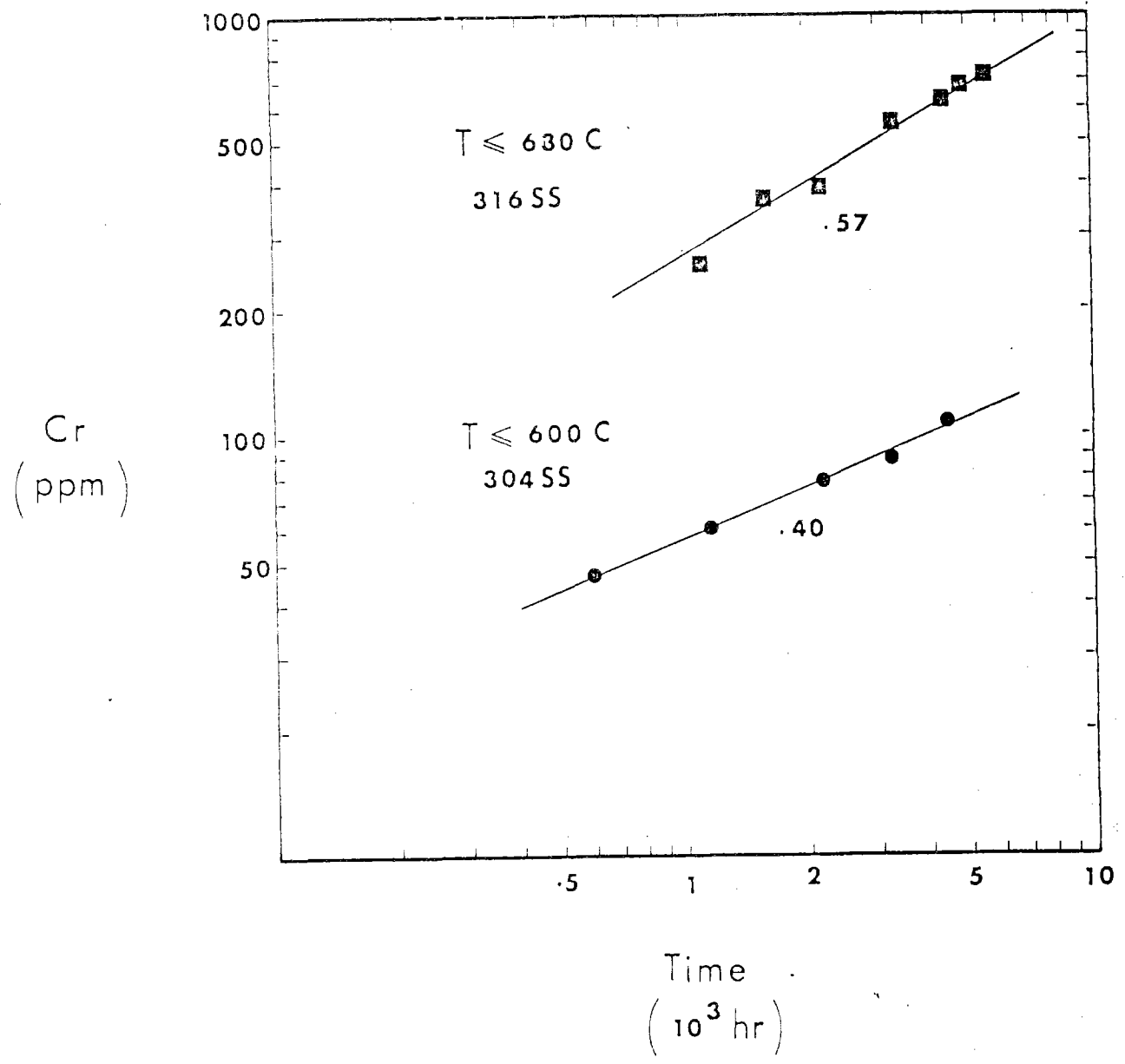




Characteristic Corrosion Curve of 316SS  
 [CONCEPTUAL]

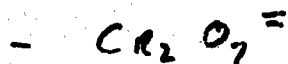
## DEPLETION OF METALLIC SPECIES

- CHROMIUM IS DISSOLVED  
IN THE MELT
- CONCENTRATION INCREASES  
WITH TIME
- IRON AND NICKEL ARE  
BARELY DETECTABLE

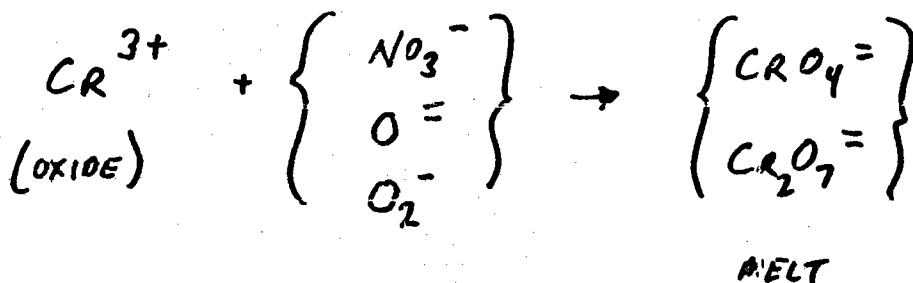


## CR CHEMISTRY

- 6+ VALENCE STATE

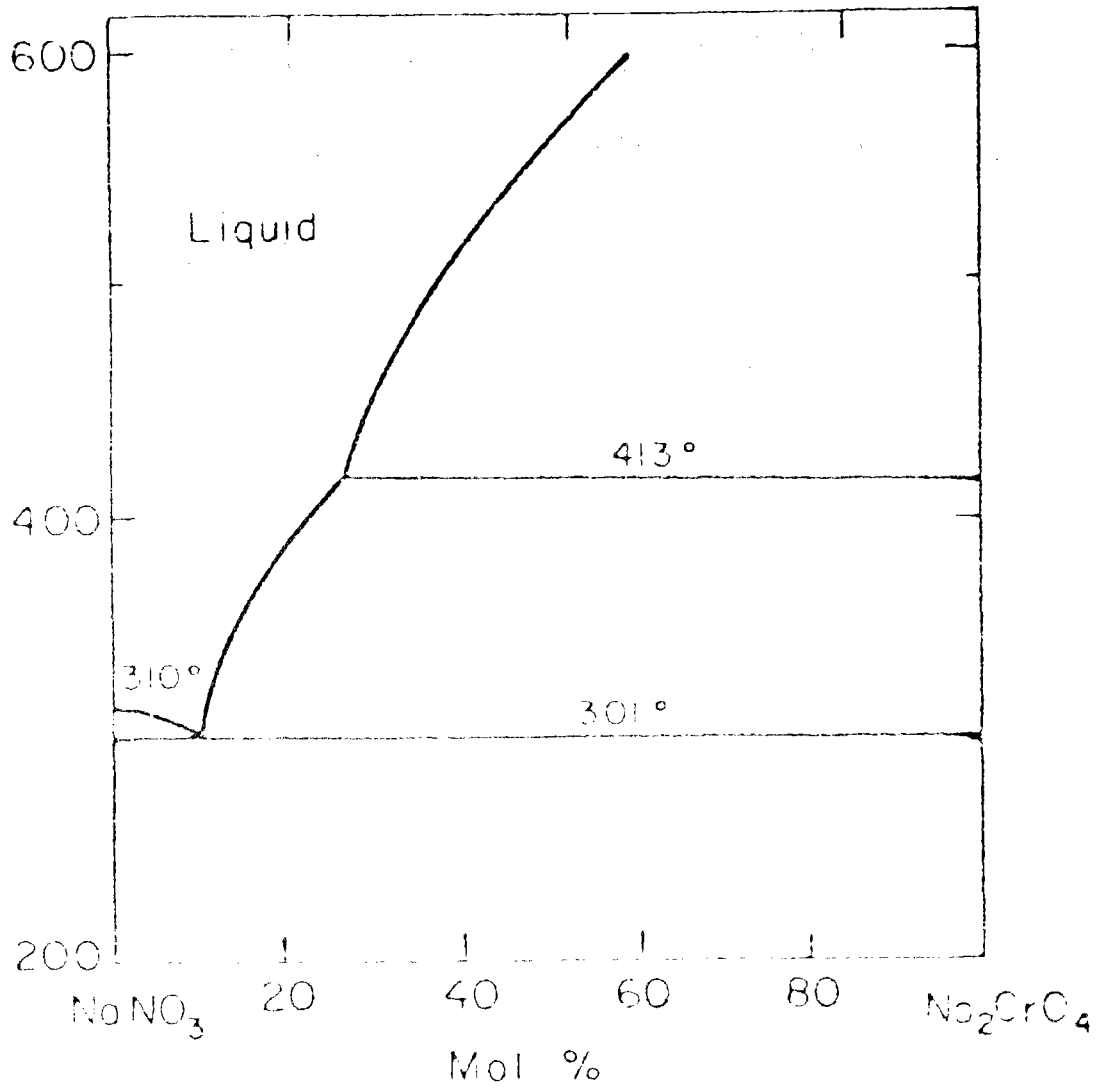


- MANY POSSIBLE FLUXING REACTIONS



- HIGH SOLUBILITY OF  
CHROMATES IN NITRATE MELTS

$\text{NaNO}_3\text{-Na}_2\text{CrO}_4$



## SUMMARY

### ● TEMPERATURE EFFECT

- NORMAL RANGE ( $\leq 600^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

GOOD CORROSION RESISTANCE

- OVER-TEMPERATURE RANGE ( $> 600^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

EXTENSIVE CORROSION

### ● CORROSION MECHANISM

- SCALING OF IRON AND  
IRON - CHROMIUM OXIDES

- DISSOLUTION OF CHROMIUM  
IN MELT

- NO THERMAL GRADIENT  
MASS TRANSPORT

## SUMMARY (CONT'D.)

- A NUMBER OF VARIABLES  
NEED FURTHER STUDY
  - THERMAL CYCLING
  - SURFACE CONDITION
  - ALLOY COMPOSITION
  - MELT CHEMISTRY

EFFECTS OF CREEP DEFORMATION ON THE  
CORROSION OF HIGH-TEMPERATURE ALLOYS

STEVE GOODS

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES



## MOLTEN SALT - MATERIAL COMPATIBILITY

- Screening tests - to identify "best" alloys/  
microstructures, salt chemistries, temperature

Constant load, stress creep-rupture tests  
test material - 1800 tubing  
nominal salt chemistry

Slow strain rate tests ( $\dot{\epsilon} \geq 10^{-7}$  /sec,  $t \approx 500$ hrs)  
test material - 1800 sheet, tubing  
base metal  
weldments  
nominal and off-chemistry salts

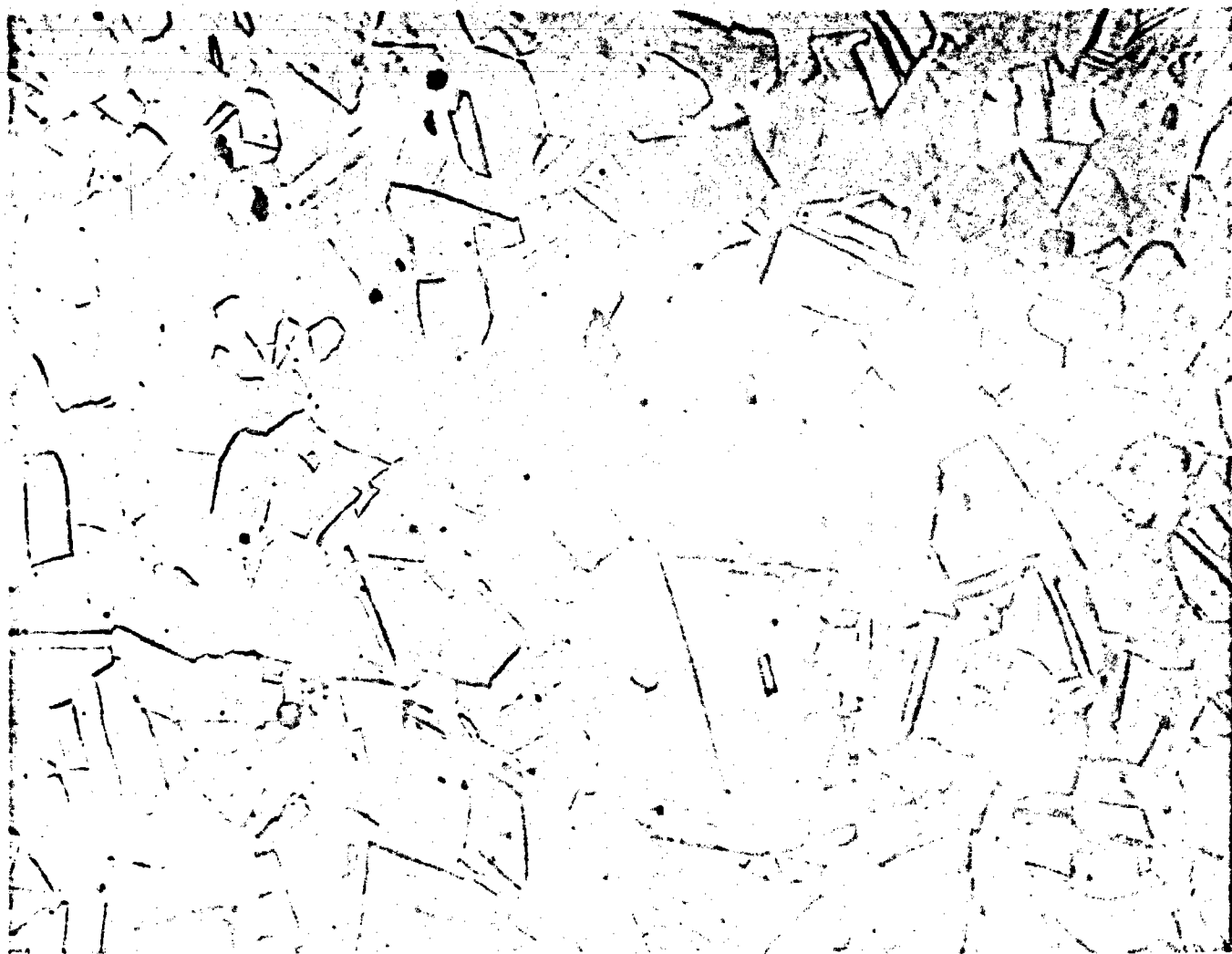
- What are the effects of long term salt exposure  
on ductility and fracture? Do surface oxides  
crack or spall during deformation. Does  
deformation result in increased oxidized thickness?

## MOLTEN SALT - MATERIAL COMPATIBILITY (continued)

- Fatigue Testing (Lifetime Predictions)  
Pre-cracked compact tension specimens  
Material - 1800  
base metal  
weldments  
Nominal salt chemistry
- What are the effects of salt vs. air on crack growth rates?
- What are the effects of hold times (in creep regime) on crack growth rates?

TABLE I  
ALLOY FOT COMPOSITION (wt. %)

Cr	Ni	Fe	C	Ti	Al	Cu	Si	Mn	S
21.16	13.14	44.58	0.03	0.07	0.52	0.52	0.21	1.02	0.02



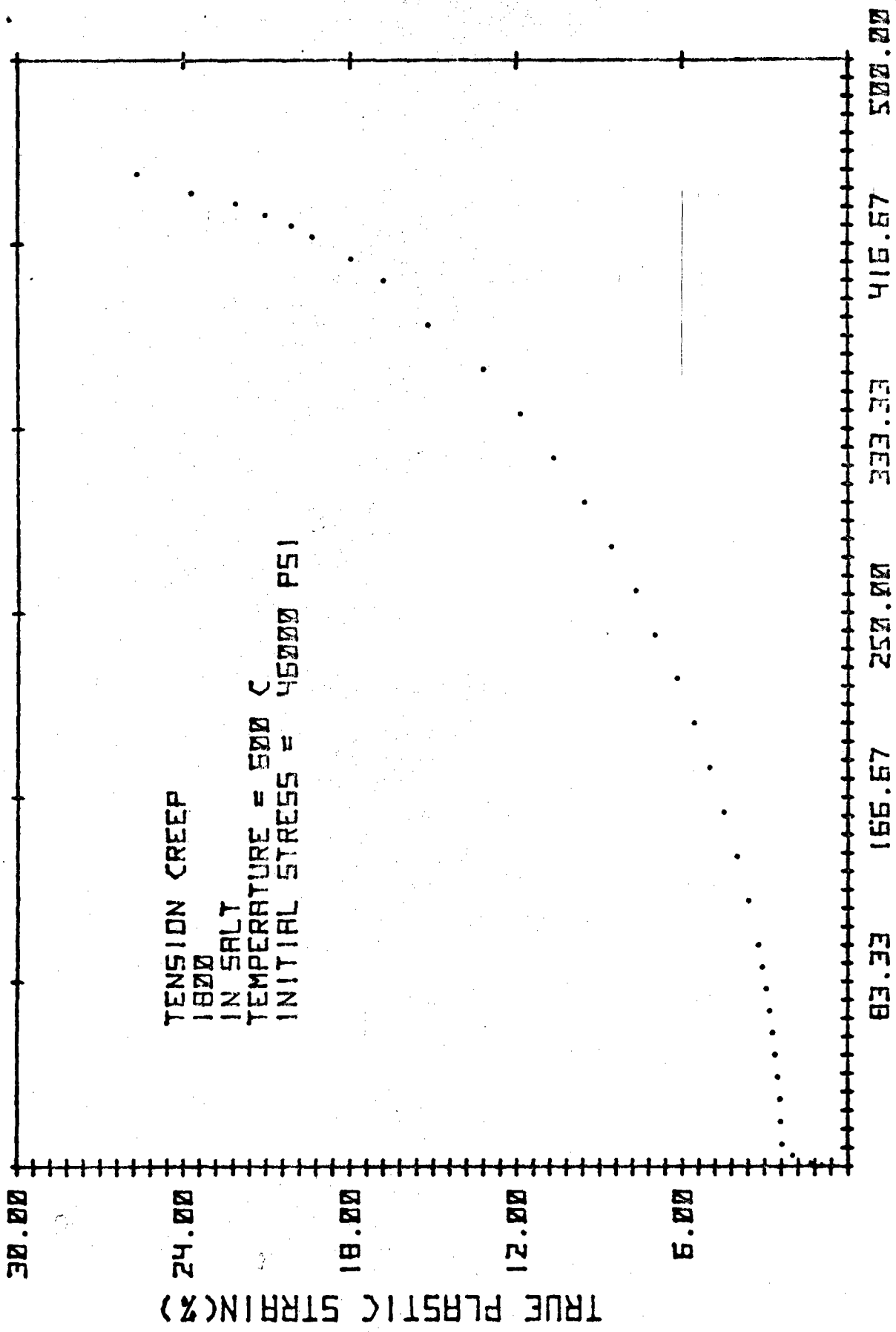
50  $\mu\text{m}$

AS RECEIVED TUBING

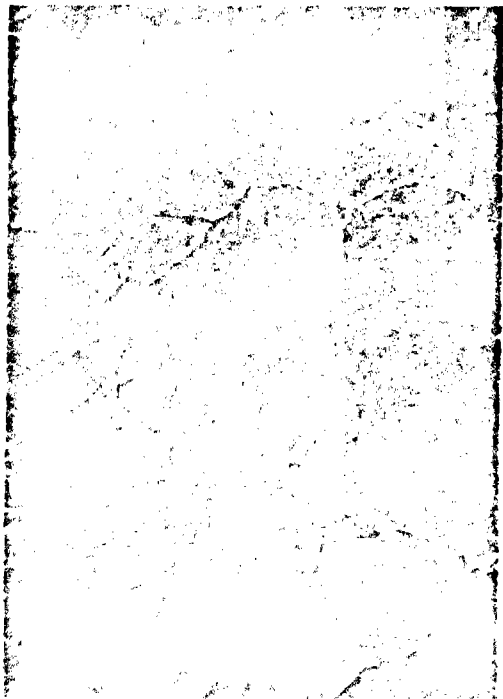


SALT  
SIDE

AIR  
SIDE



TIME (HRS)

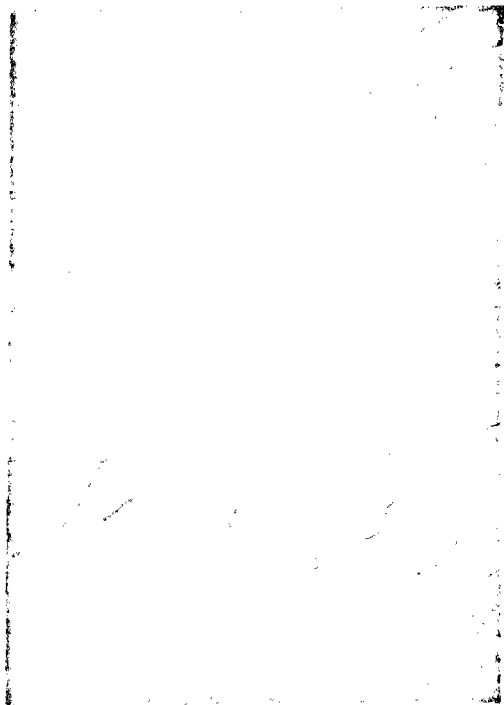


c

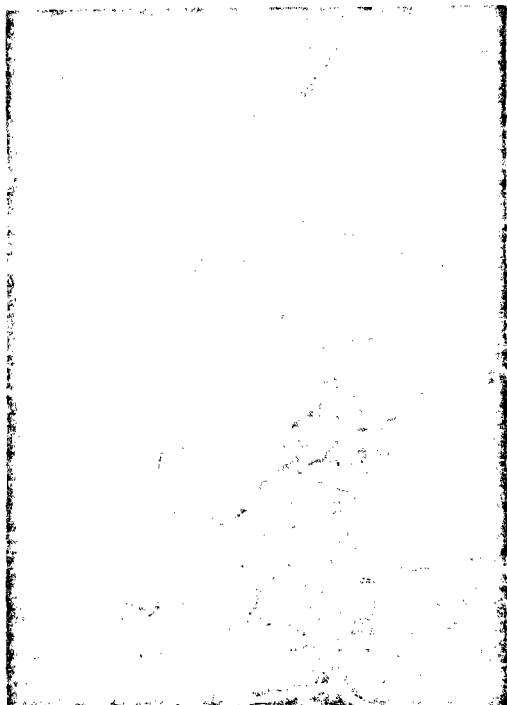


d

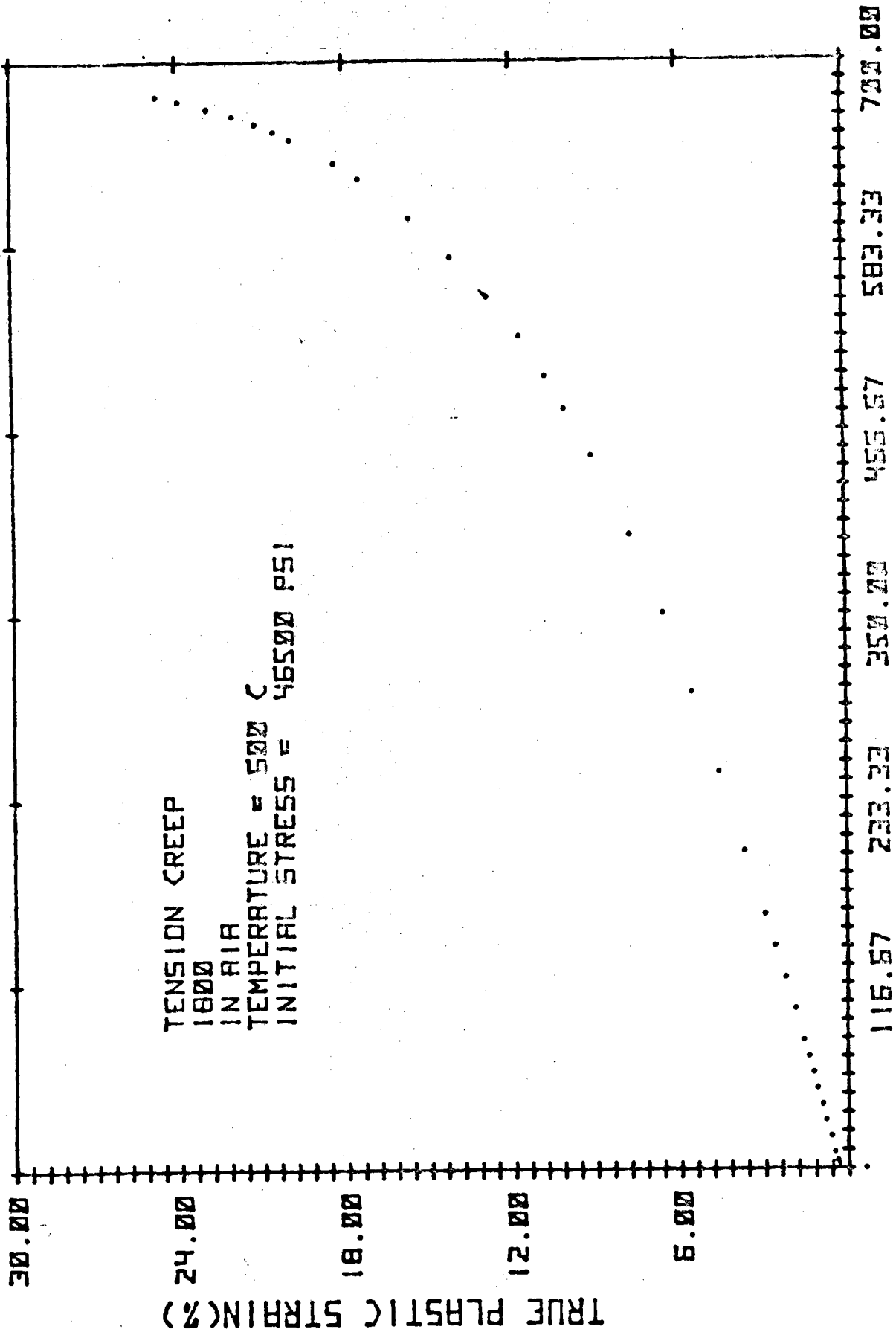
10  $\mu\text{m}$



a

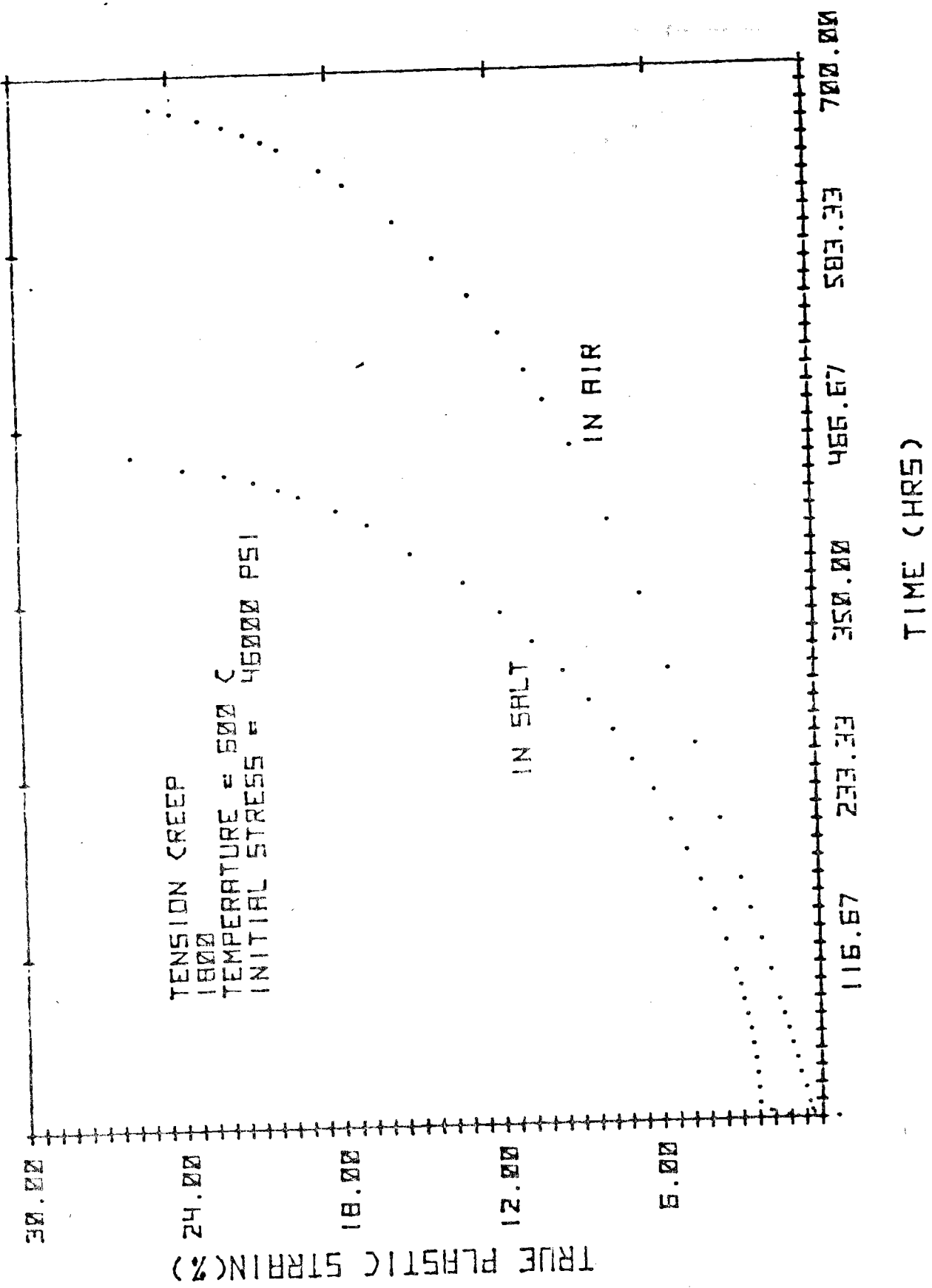


b



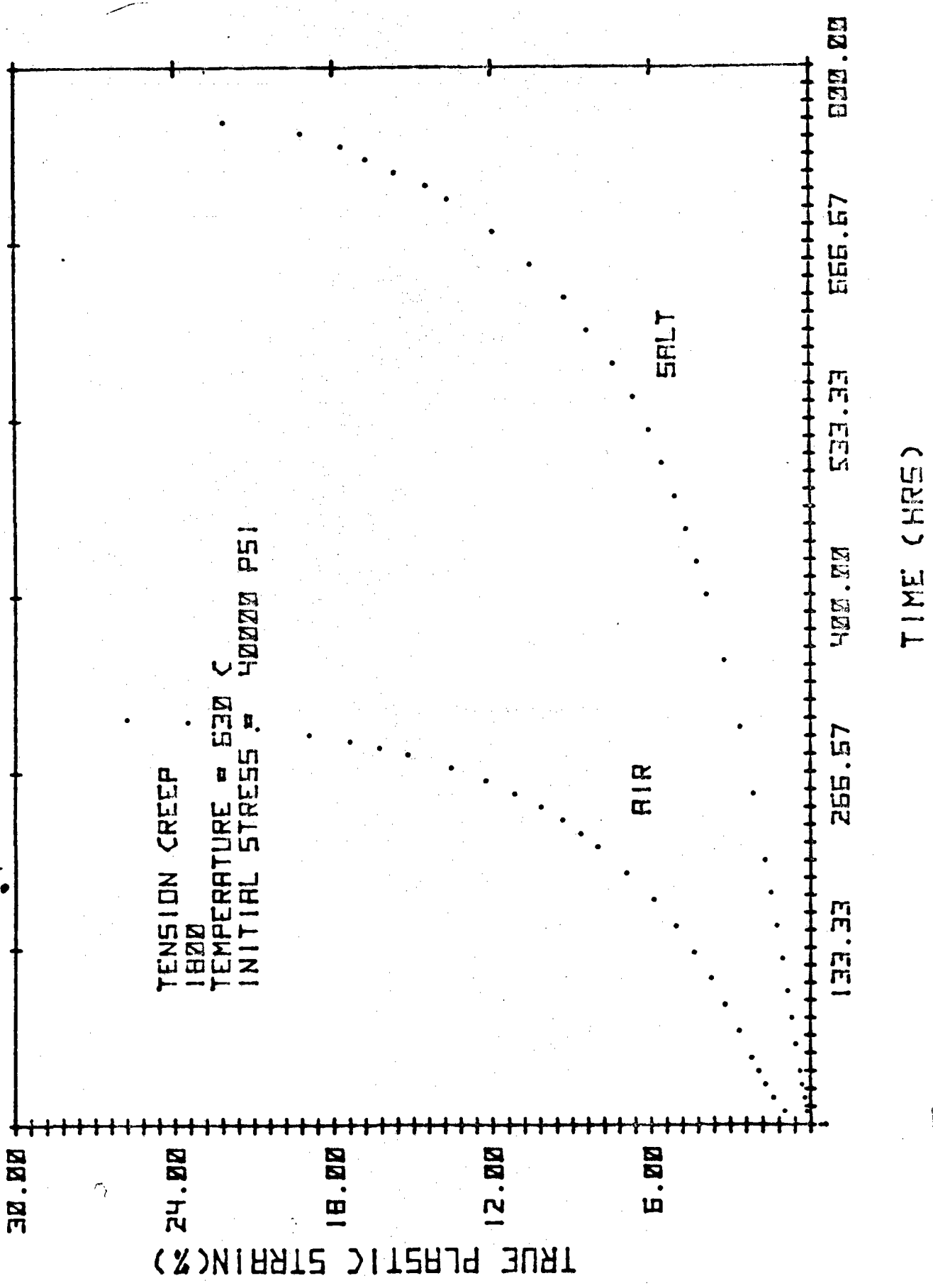
TIME (HRS)





TRUE PLASTIC STRAIN(%)

TIME (HRS)



TIME (HRS)



10 μm

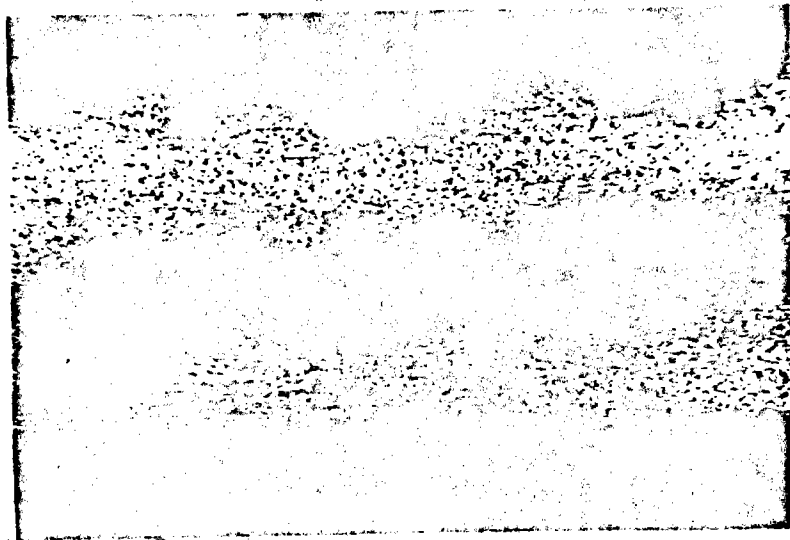
Figure 1. Scanning Electron Micrograph showing the oxides formed on the salt exposed sidewall of an 1800 tube deformed in tension at 600°C for 440 hours.



SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL

600C, 450 HR.

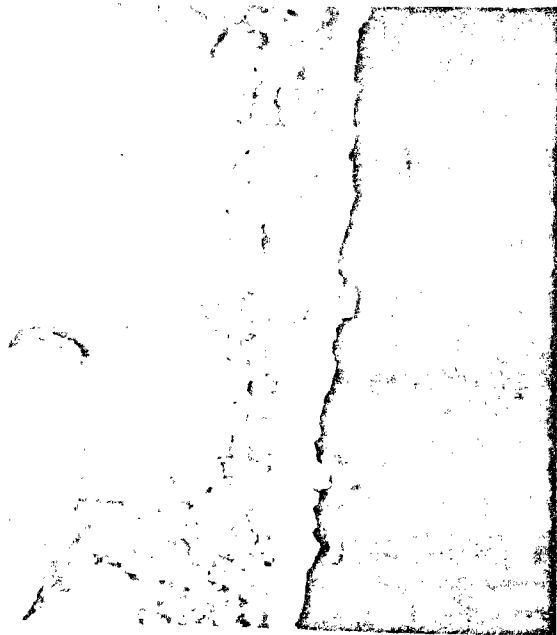
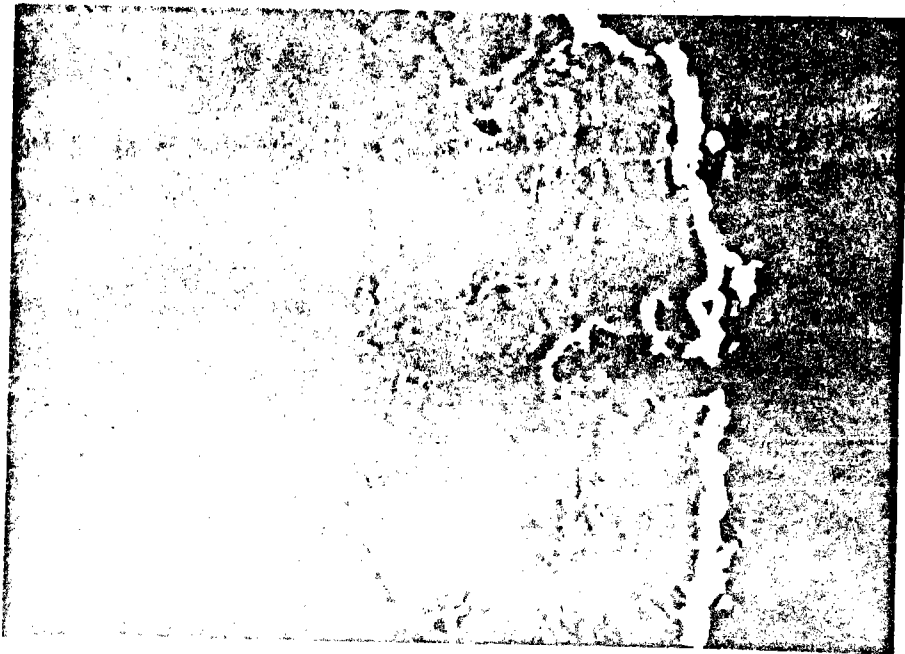
10  $\mu$ m



IRON

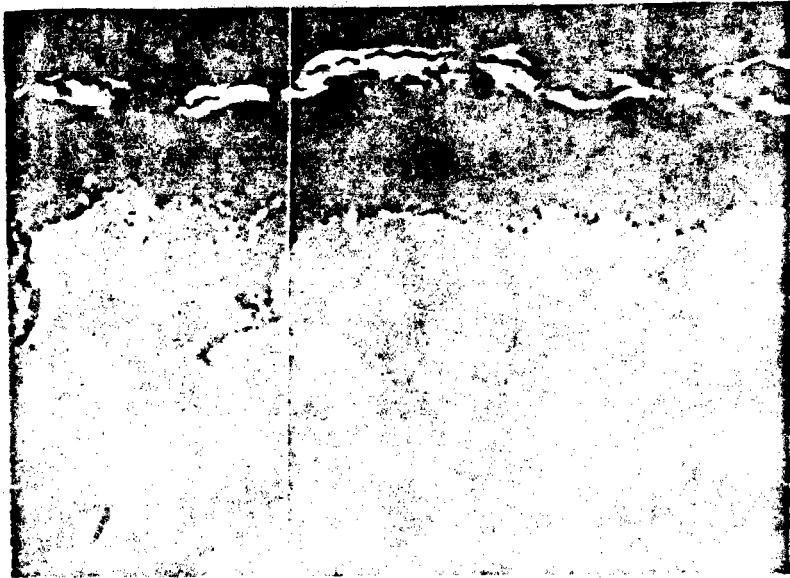


CHROMIUM



20  $\mu\text{m}$

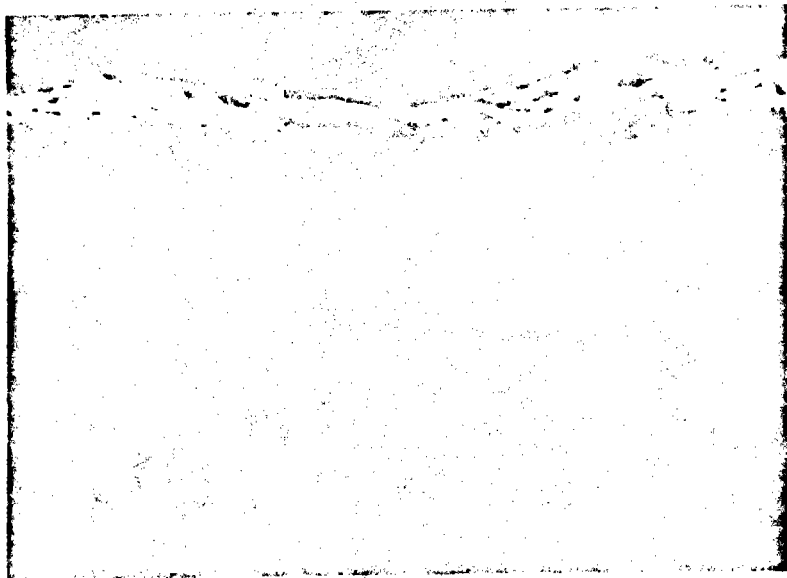
SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL, 630C, 760 HR.



SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
10% STRAIN  
650 C, 550 HR.

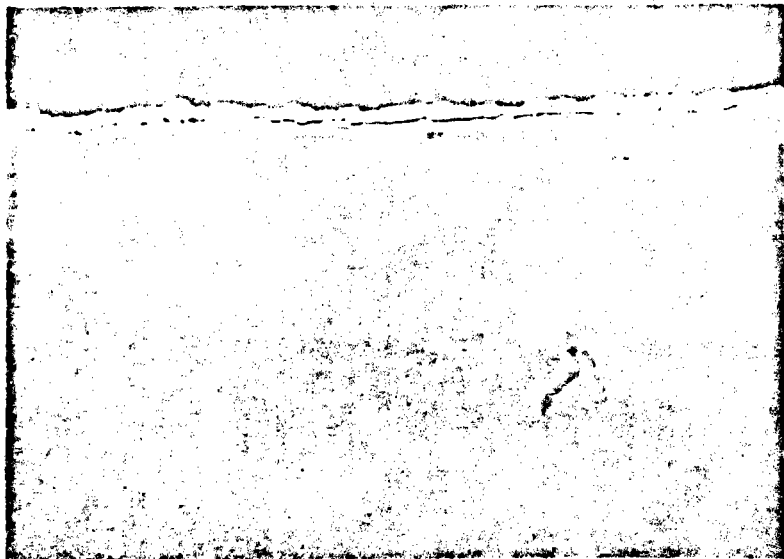
a.

20  $\mu\text{m}$



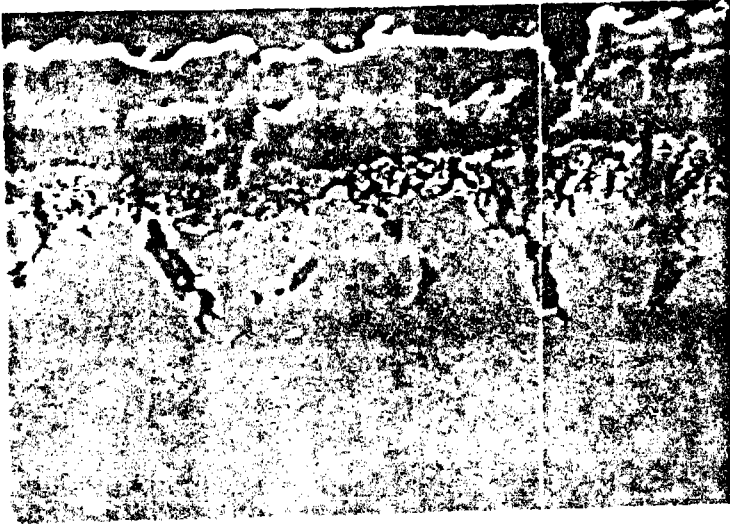
SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
UNDEFORMED

b.



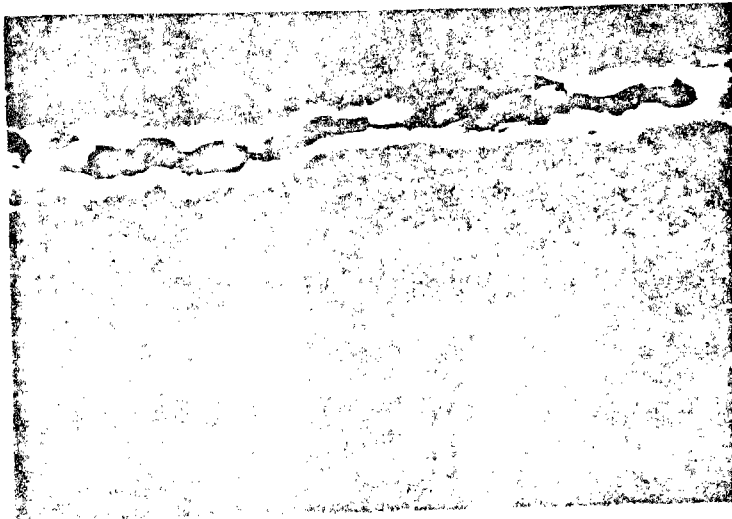
AIR EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
UNDEFORMED

c.

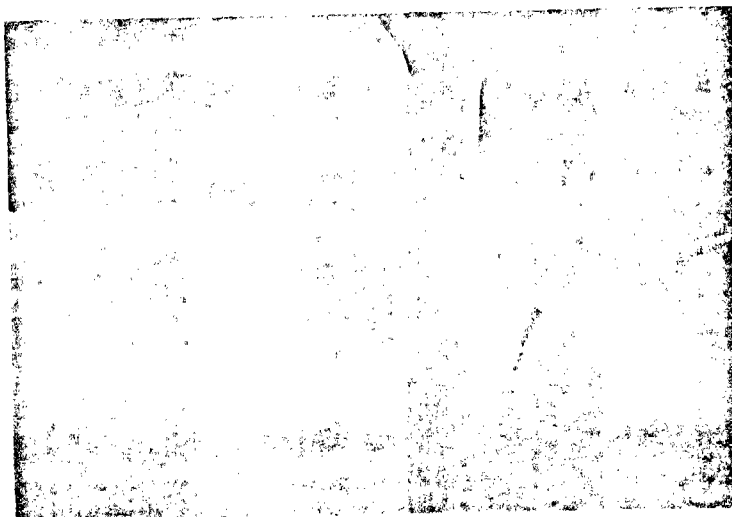


SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
24 % STRAIN  
670 C, 443 HR.

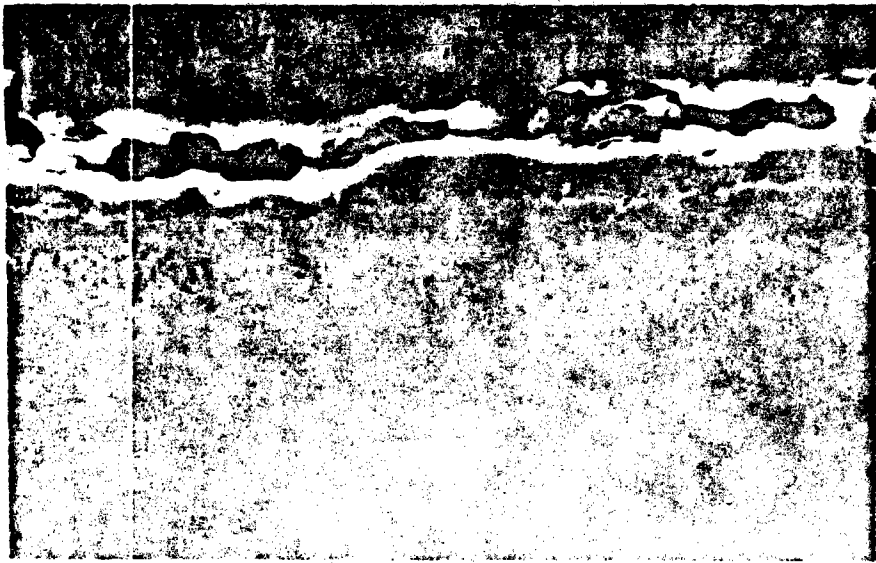
20  $\mu$ m



SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
UNDEFORMED



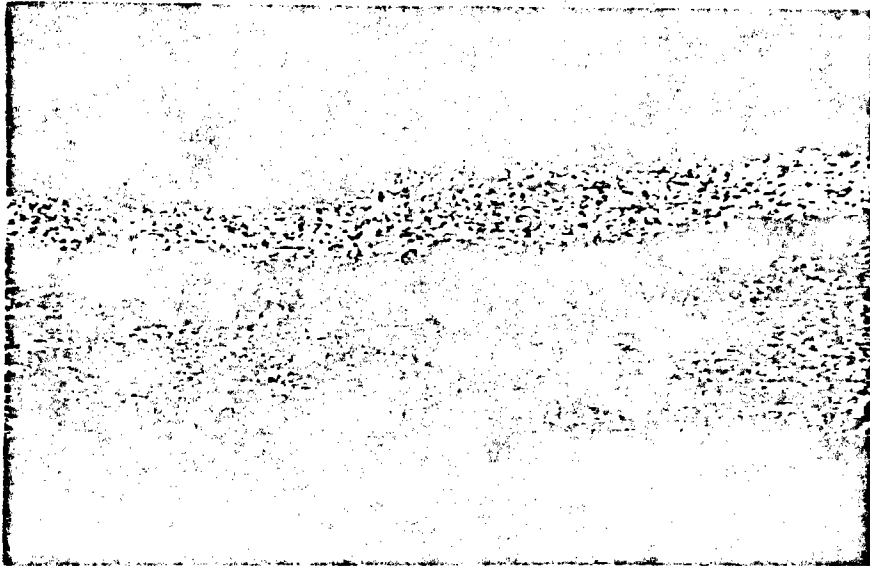
AIR EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
DEFORMED



SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
UNDEFORMED  
670 C, 443 HR.

a.

20  $\mu\text{m}$



IRON

b.



CHROMIUM

c.

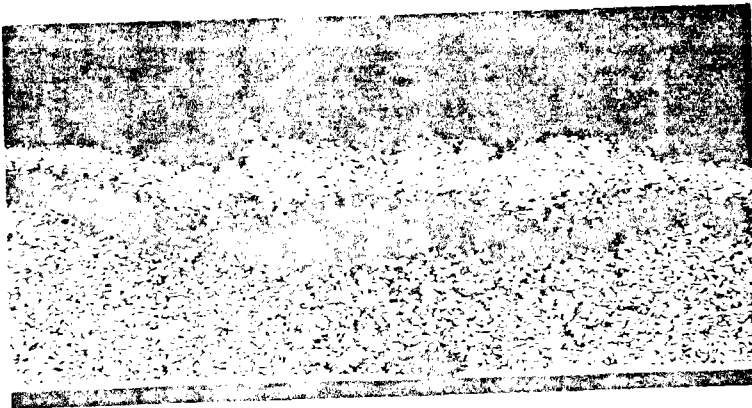




SALT EXPOSED SIDEWALL  
DEFORMED  
570 C, 750 HR.

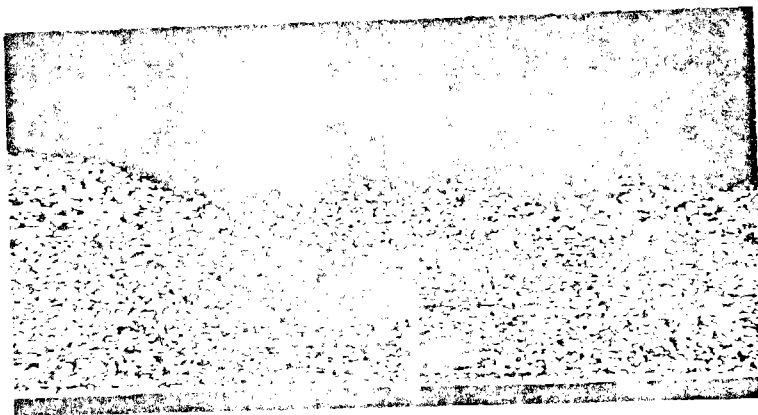
a.

20  $\mu$ m



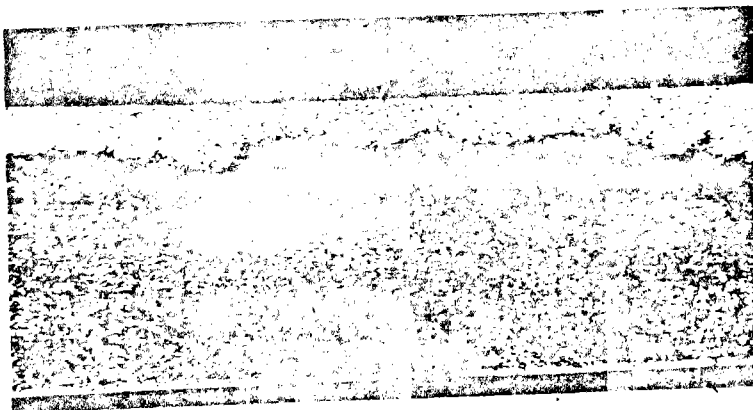
IRON

b.



CHROMIUM

c.



NICKEL

d.

## CONCLUSIONS

- 1800 is subject to oxidation in molten nitrate salts at temperatures representative of receiver tube panel operating condition.
- Oxidation occurs as a general surface attack rather than along grain boundaries.
- Deformation (at large strains) results in thicker oxide layers.
- Short time mechanical testing alone is not adequate to determine salt induced degradation of strength and ductility for long term exposure situations.

---

MATERIALS TEST PROGRAM STATUS

DAVE NEISWANDER

RUSS CHIHOSKI

**MARTIN MARIETTA**

## MATERIALS TEST PROGRAM

### OBJECTIVES

### STATUS

- o LONG TERM MOLTEN SALT LOOP
    - MASS TRANSPORT PHENOMENA FROM HIGH TO LOW TEMPERATURE PARTS OF LOOP
    - CORROSION IN A FLOWING SYSTEM
    - SALT STABILITY IN A DYNAMIC THERMAL CYCLING SYSTEM
  
  - o TRACE CONTAMINANTS TEST
    - EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTS OF TRACE CONTAMINANTS IN THE SALT ON THE CORROSION OF MATERIALS
  
  - o EFFECTS OF SALT EXPOSURE ON FATIGUE
  
  - o STRESS CORROSION TESTS
    - DETERMINE THE EFFECTS OF STRESS ON CORROSION
- TEST IN OPERATION OVER 5000 HRS
  
  - NO EXCESSIVE WEIGHT CHANGES, PITTING OR FLAKING OF SAMPLES
  
  
  - 4000 HOUR TEST COMPLETE
  - INCOLOY 800, 316L, RA330 APPEAR TO HAVE ADEQUATE LIFE UNDER WORSE CASE CONDITIONS AT 593°C (1100°F)
  - CARBON STEELS APPEAR TO HAVE ADEQUATE LIFE UNDER WORSE CASE CONDITIONS AT 288°C (550°F).
  - TEST COMPLETE
  - NO EFFECT ON FATIGUE STRENGTH
  
  
  - TESTS COMPLETE
  - NO EFFECT ON MECHANICAL PROPERTIES
  - METALOGRAPHY IN WORK

MATERIALS TEST PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

---

OBJECTIVES

STATUS

o INTERGRANULAR CORROSION

- DETERMINE EXTENT AND EFFECTS OF INTERGRANULAR CORROSION, IF ANY

- SIX MONTH EXPOSURE COMPLETE
  - NO EFFECT ON TENSILE STRENGTH
  - METALLOGRAPHY IN WORK
- TWELVE MONTH EXPOSURE IN PROGRESS

o MOLTEN SALT CHEMISTRY TESTS

- EFFECTS OF  $\text{CO}_2$  AND  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  IN AIR ON SALT CHEMISTRY
- DEVELOPMENT OF TREATMENT TECHNIQUES TO REMOVE OXIDES AND CARBONATES

- TESTS COMPLETE
  - $\text{CO}_2$  ABSORPTION FORMS CARBONATES
  - $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ABSORPTION FORMS HYDROXIDES
- TEST COMPLETE
- HYDROXIDES AND CARBONATES REGENERATED WITH  $\text{NO}_2$  GAS

# CARBON DIOXIDE AND WATER EFFECTS ON SALT CHEMISTRY

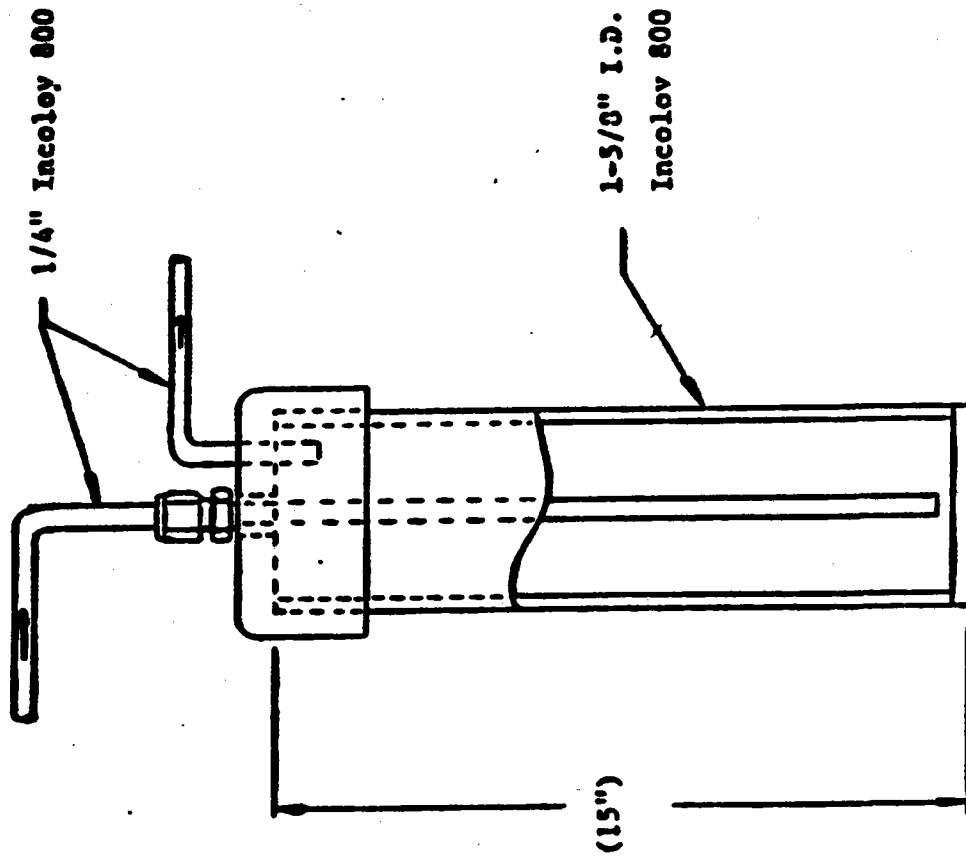
## ● MATRIX

TEST	GAS PURIFIED AIR	COMPOSITION H <sub>2</sub> O	VOL % CO <sub>2</sub>	TEST TIME
A1	100%	0	0	1 Wk
A2	↓	↓	↓	5 Wk
A3	↓	↓	↓	15 Wk
A4	↓	↓	↓	6 Mo
B1	BALANCE	100% R.H.	0	1 Wk
B2	↓	↓	↓	5 Wk
B3	↓	↓	↓	15 Wk
B4	↓	↓	↓	6 Mo
C1	BALANCE	0	1.0%	1 Wk
C2	↓	↓	↓	5 Wk
C3	↓	↓	↓	15 Wk
C4	↓	↓	↓	6 Mo
D1	BALANCE	100% R.H.	1.0%	1 Wk
D2	↓	↓	↓	5 Wk
D3	↓	↓	↓	15 Wk
D4	↓	↓	↓	6 Mo

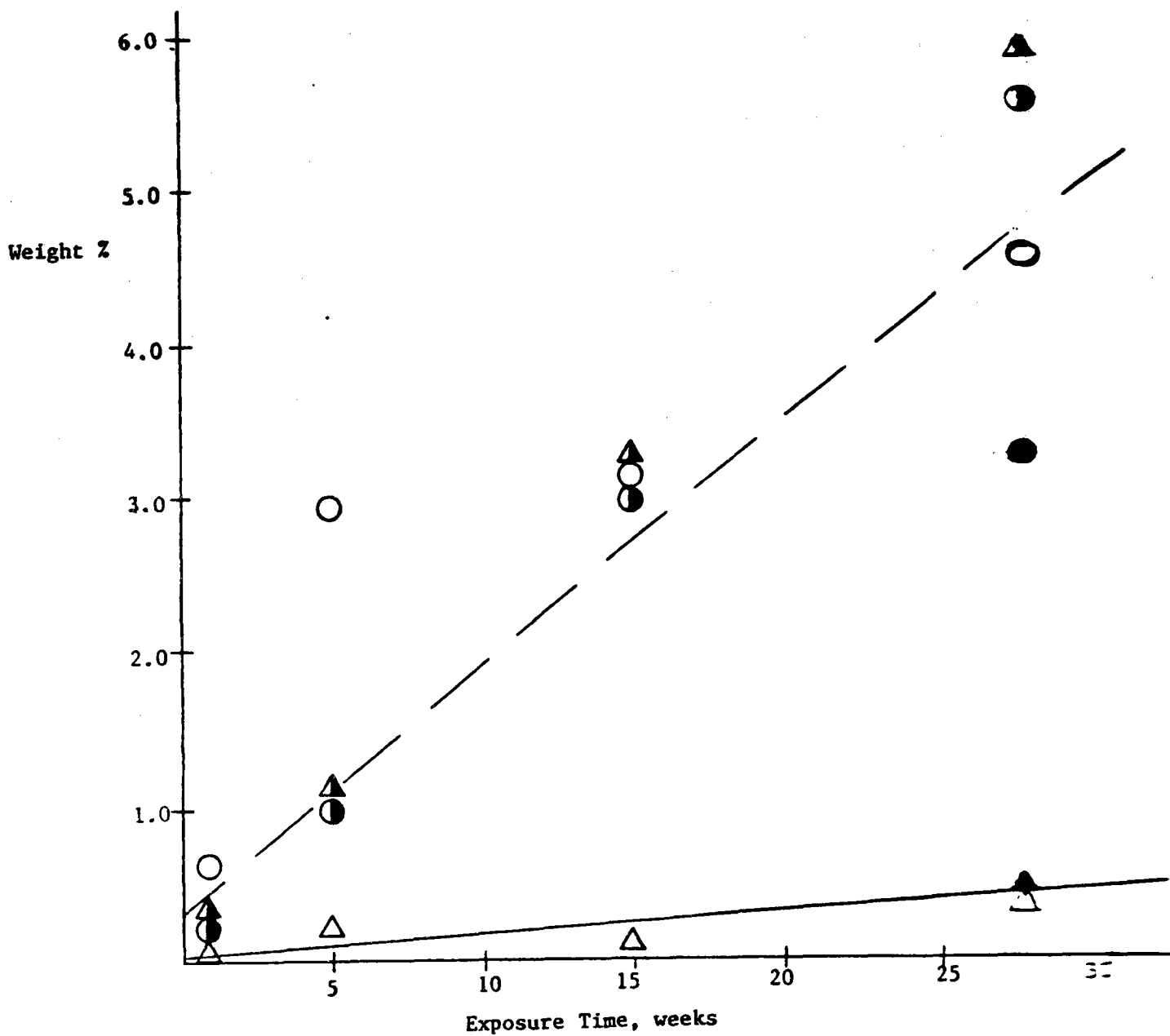
## ● ANALYSIS

- EACH SAMPLE WILL BE QUENCHED IN DISTILLED WATER AND ANALYZED FOR CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, OH<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NA<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, CR<sup>+++</sup>

**REACTOR FOR CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O AND SALT TREATMENT TESTS**



**EFFICIENCY OF CONVERSION OF CARBON DIOXIDE  
AND WATER TO CARBONATES AND OXIDES**



- Carbonate formation, bulk salt ( — — — ), weight %
- CO<sub>2</sub> added, grams CO<sub>3</sub><sup>-2</sup>/100 grams salt
- Carbonate concentration, supernatant
- △ Oxide concentration, bulk salt ( ————— ), weight %
- ▲ H<sub>2</sub>O added, grams O<sup>-2</sup>/100 grams salt
- ▲ Oxide concentration, supernatant
- Nitrate salt bubbled with 1% CO<sub>2</sub> in dry air
- △▲▲ Nitrate salt bubbled with humid air without CO<sub>2</sub>



## SPECIAL PURPOSE MATERIAL TEST

---

MATERIALS:	OBSERVATIONS	# HRS IN TEST	TEMP	WT Δ
<b>GASKET MATERIAL</b>				
- CRANE IX 187	OUTER LAYER GONE, SWOLLEN, BRITTLE	6,000	750°F	--
<b>VALVE TRIM AND SEALS</b>				
- STELLITE #6	NVC (BLUE)	6,000	750°F	-.008%
- TUNGSTEN CARBIDE, CO BINDER	DISSOLVED	140	750°F	--
- TUNGSTEN CARBIDE, NI BINDER	DISSOLVED	3,000	750°F	--
- SILICON CARBIDE	NVC (RED)	5,000	750°F	-.415%
- MICA ASBESTOS VALVE STEM	FRAGMENTED	4,000	750°F	--
- ASBESTOS WITH RUBBER BINDER	FRAGMENTED	4,000	750°F	--
<b>PACKINGS</b>				
- ALUMINUM, CRANE 100 AL	NVC	5,000		
- COPPER, CRANE 100 CU	FOIL DISSOLVED	5,000	750°F	--
- GRAPHITE, CRANE GF	DISSOLVED	816	750°F	--
- NICKEL, CRANE 100 NI	NVC	5,000	750°F	--

## SALT REGENERATION TEST

- PURPOSE - EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF REGÉNERATION OF MOLTEN NITRATE SALTS BY EXPOSURE TO NO<sub>2</sub>
- APPROACH - MOLTEN NITRATE SALTS DOPED WITH CARBONATES AND HYDROXIDES WILL BE EXPOSED TO NO<sub>2</sub> (10% NO<sub>2</sub> IN AIR) AT 288°C IN INCOLOY 500 BUBBLER TUBES
- TEST MATRIX AND RESULTS

TEST NO.	INITIAL SALT COMP	NO <sub>2</sub> ADD RATE	TEST TIME	FINAL SALT COMP	% REDUCTION
1	2.4% CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	5 cc/MIN	132 HR	0.6% CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	75%
2	2.4% OH <sup>-</sup>	5 cc/MIN	132 HR	<0.01% OH <sup>-</sup>	100%
3	2.3% CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	5 cc/MIN	132 HR	0.7 % CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	70%
	2.3% OH <sup>-</sup>			0.01% OH <sup>-</sup>	100%
4	2.3% CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	No NO <sub>2</sub>	132 HR	2.0 % CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	15%
	2.3% OH <sup>-</sup>			2.1 % OH <sup>-</sup>	10%
5	BLANK	5 cc/MIN	132 HR	<0.04% CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	--
				<0.01% OH <sup>-</sup>	--

## MOLTEN SALT WITH TRACE CONTAMINANTS

- o PURPOSE: TO EVALUATE THE EFFECT OF MOLTEN NITRATE SALT ON STRUCTURAL ALLOYS WHEN IT IS ALTERED WITH TRACES OF COMMON ANIONS
- o APPROACH: EXPOSE ALLOYS IN SPECIFICALLY DOPED BATHS OF 60%  $\text{NaNO}_3$  - 40%  $\text{KNO}_3$  THRU 4000 HRS AS FOLLOWS:

ALLOY		1800	RA330	316	347	A570
TEMP		593°C	593°C	593°C	593°C	399°C
DOPANT	WT %	COUPON WEIGHT AFTER EXPOSURE IN 1000 HRS OF 0				
NA OH	.050	-	-	-	-	-
NA <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0.20	-	-	-	-	-
NA <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.35	-	-	-	-	-
NA CL	0.25	-	-	-	-	-
NA CL	0.50	-	-	-	-	-
NONE	0.00	-	-	-	-	-
ALL		-	-	-	-	-

- o ANALYSIS:
  - WEIGH COUPONS EVERY 1000 HRS FOR WEIGHT CHANGE
  - METALLOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION AFTER 4000 HRS
  - CHEMICALLY ANALYZE SALT

## TRACE CONTAMINANTS

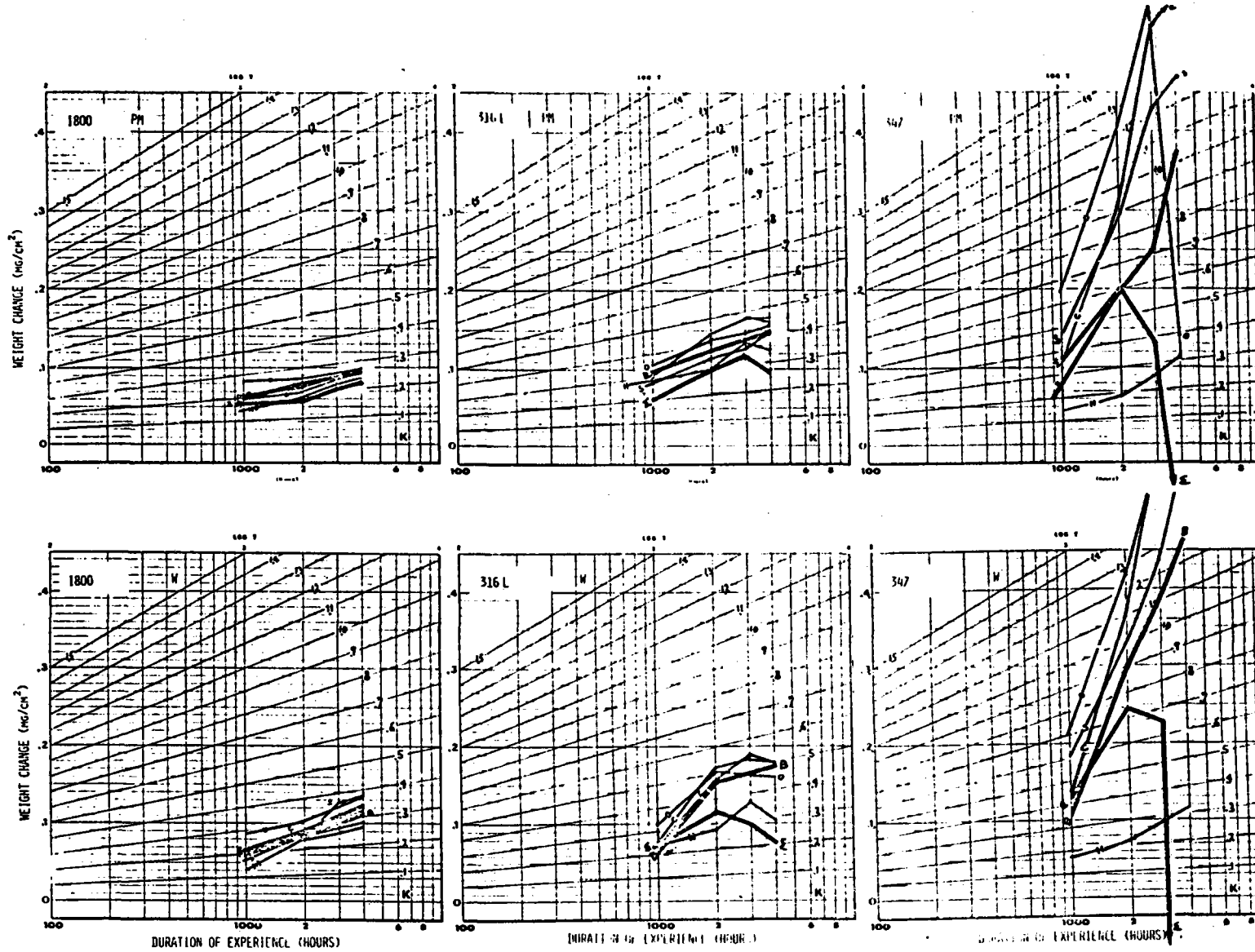
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- o THE OXIDATION OF COATING RATE FOLLOWS A "LAW OF DIMINISHING ACTIVITY" SEEN IN ITS MOST GENERAL FORM AS

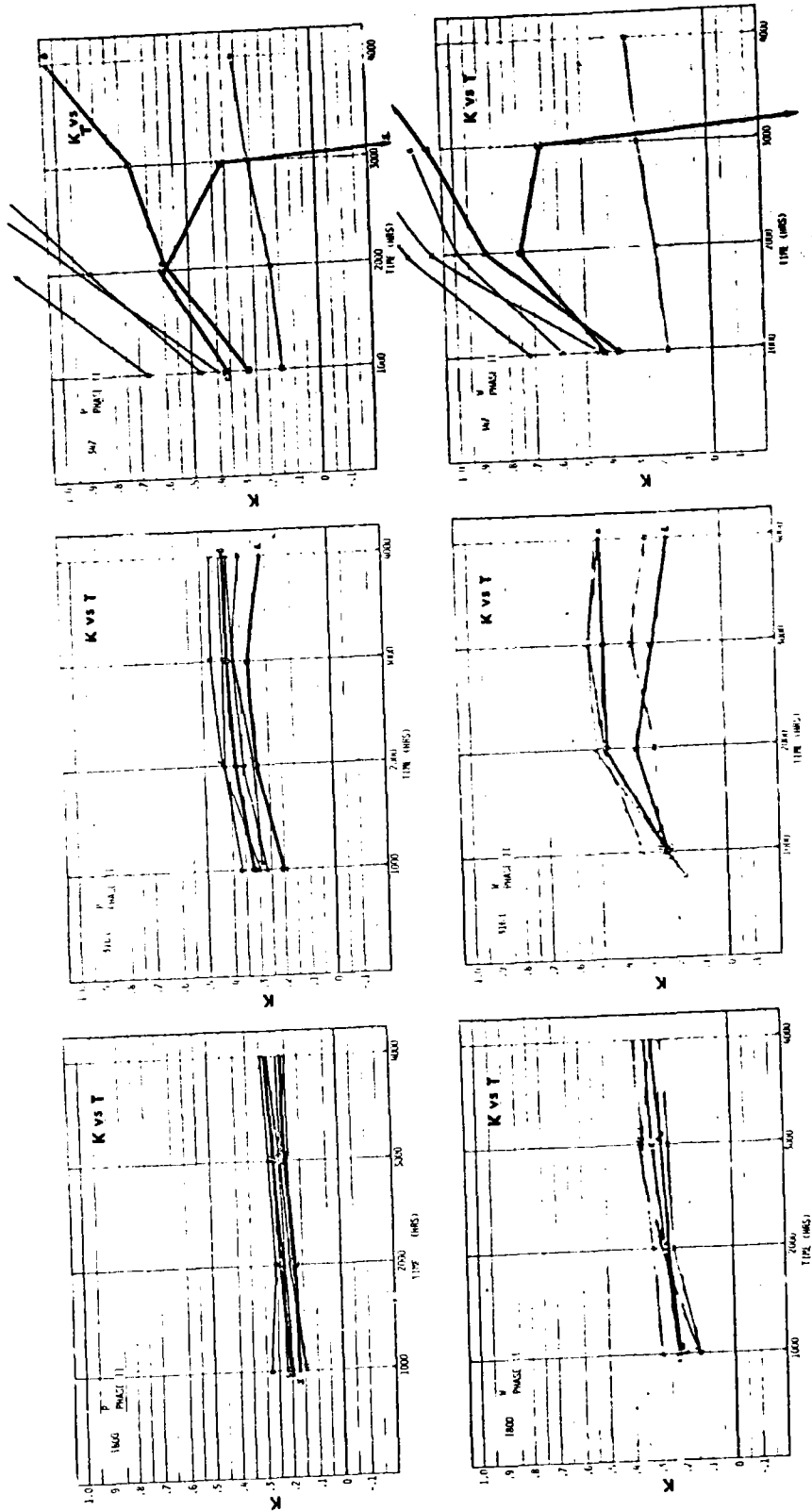
$$\text{WT CHG} = K \text{ LOG } T$$

- o BUT THE LINEAR (ON LOG TIME) WEIGHT INCREASE IS PERTURBED BY EXFOLIATION OF THE OXIDE PRODUCT

# WEIGHT GAIN PLOTTED ON LOG TIME - 1800, 316L & 347



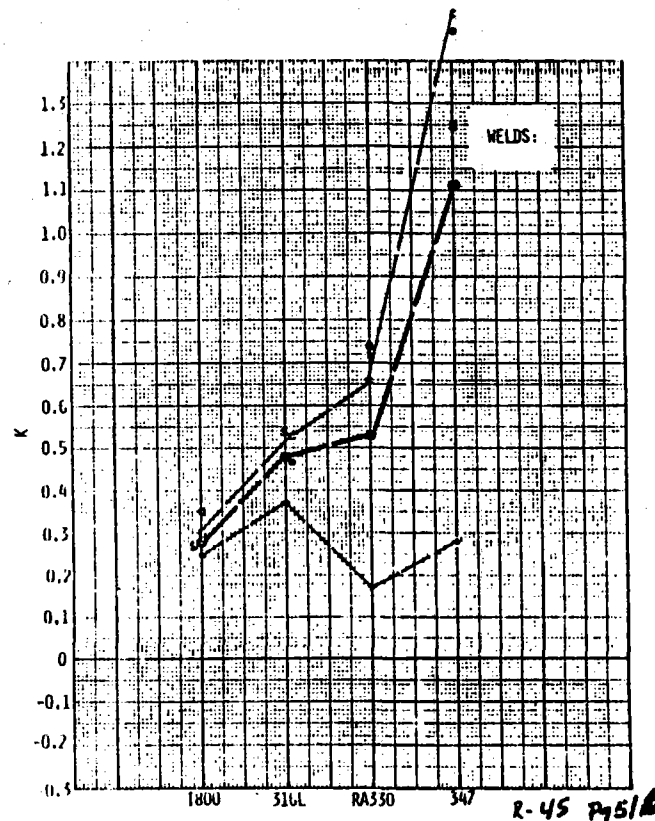
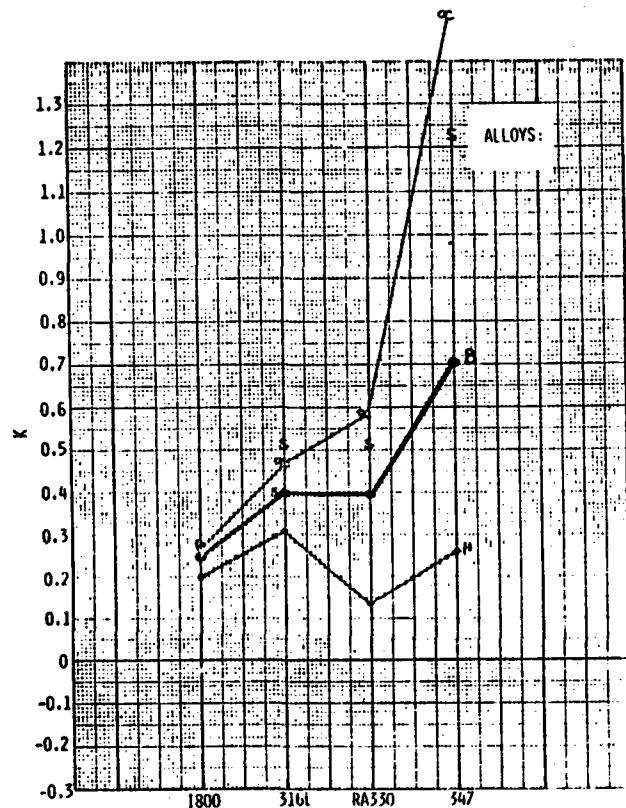
**K vs TIME - 1800, 316L, 347**



# RELATIVE EFFECT OF TRACE CONTAMINANTS ON OXIDATION RATES

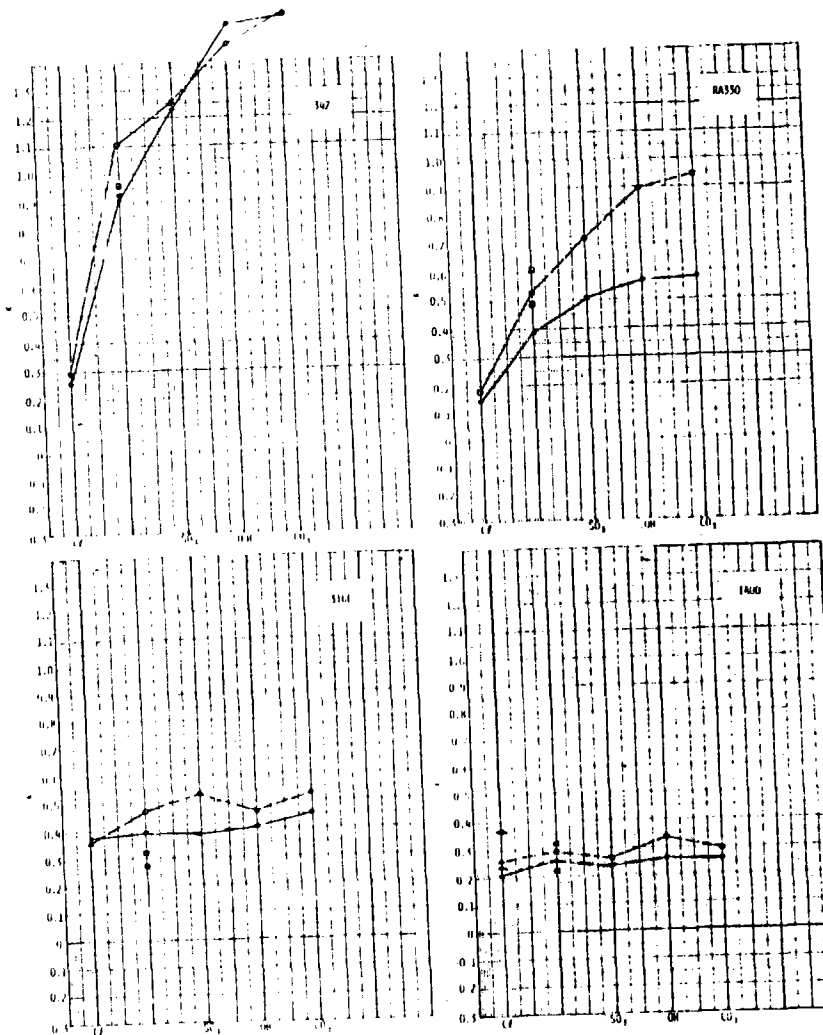
NOMINAL K  
(OXIDATION RATE)  
VALUES AT 1075°F  
ARE SEEN AS

	<u>PM</u>	<u>W</u>
1800	0.25	0.27
316L	0.40	0.48
RA33	0.40	0.53
347	0.70	1.10



OXIDATION RATES ARE EFFECTED BY CONTAMINANTS IN THE SALT

% WT		FACTOR
0.26	$K_2CO_3$	1.8
0.50	NAOH	1.4
0.35	$NA_2SO_3$	1.3
		1.0
0.25	NACL	0.2





## METAL THICKNESS REDUCTION BY OXIDATION, EXFOLIATION, AND EROSION

---

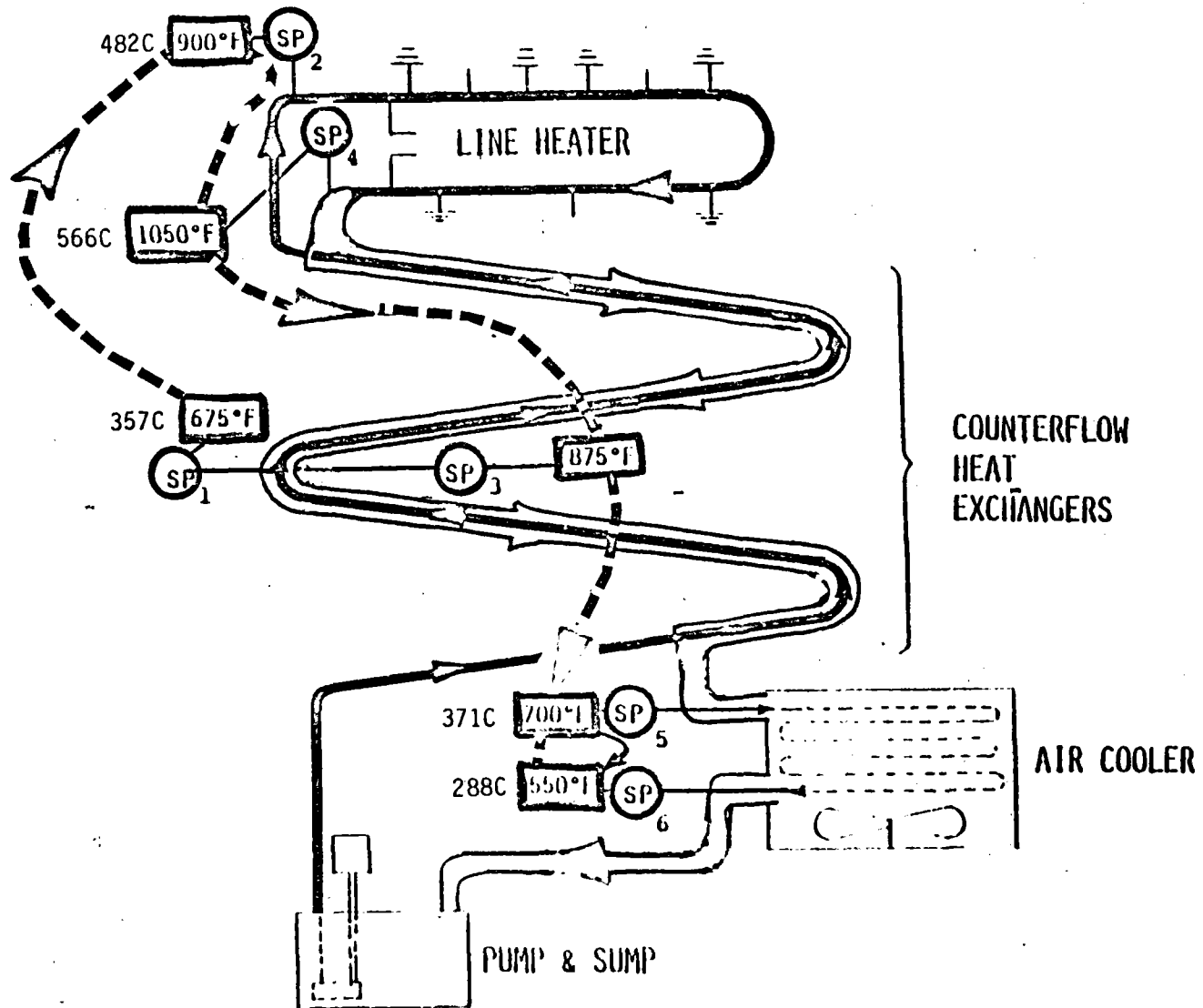
		NOM K	WEIGHT CHANGE IN 1 YEAR (mg/cm )		METAL REMOVED IN 1 YEAR (mm)	FRACTION OF WALL REMOVED	YEARS TO 0.6t REMAINDER
<b>TRACE CONTAMINANTS TEST</b>							
I800	(580 C)	+0.25	+1.0	(1)	0.00045	0.00027	1480
316L	(580 C)	+0.40	+1.6	(1)	0.00072	0.00044	909
RA330	(580 C)	+0.45	+1.8	(1)	0.00081	0.00049	816
347	(580 C)	+0.95	+3.7	(1)	0.00165	0.00100	400
		-	+25.0	(2)	0.01123	0.00680	58
A570	(400 C)	-	+25.0	(2)	0.00749	0.00454	88
<b>LOOP TEST</b>							
I800	(440 C)	-	-3.4	(3)	0.00430	0.00260	153
	(566 C)	+0.22	+0.9	(1)	0.00039	0.00023	1739
A570	(371 C)	-	-5.7	(3)	0.00723	0.00438	91
<b>TUBE WALL THICKNESS</b>					1,65100	1.00000	

(1) CALCULATED BY WT GAIN =  $K \log 8760 h$ , \*OXIDATION W/O EXFOLIATION

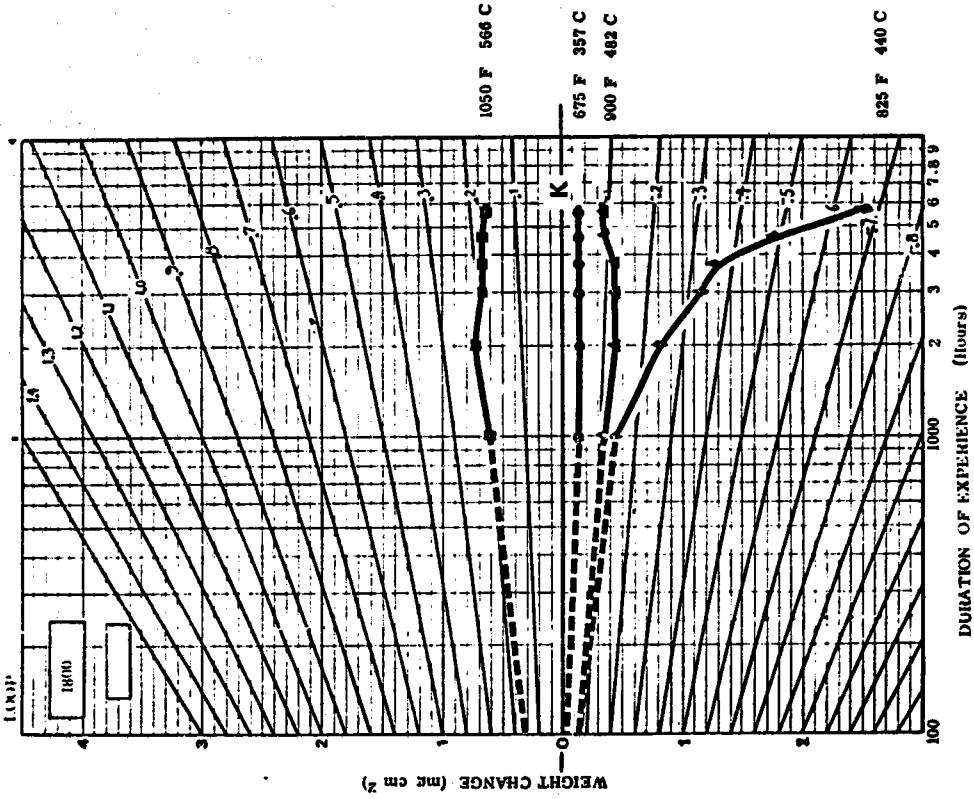
(2) CALCULATED BY WT GAIN =  $8.76 \times (\text{GAIN IN } 1000h)$ , CONSTANT EXFOLIATION OF OXIDES

(3) CALCULATED BY WT LOSS =  $8.76 \times (\text{LOSS IN } 1000h)$ , CONSTANT EROSION

# MOLTEN SALT FLUID LOOP SCHEMATIC

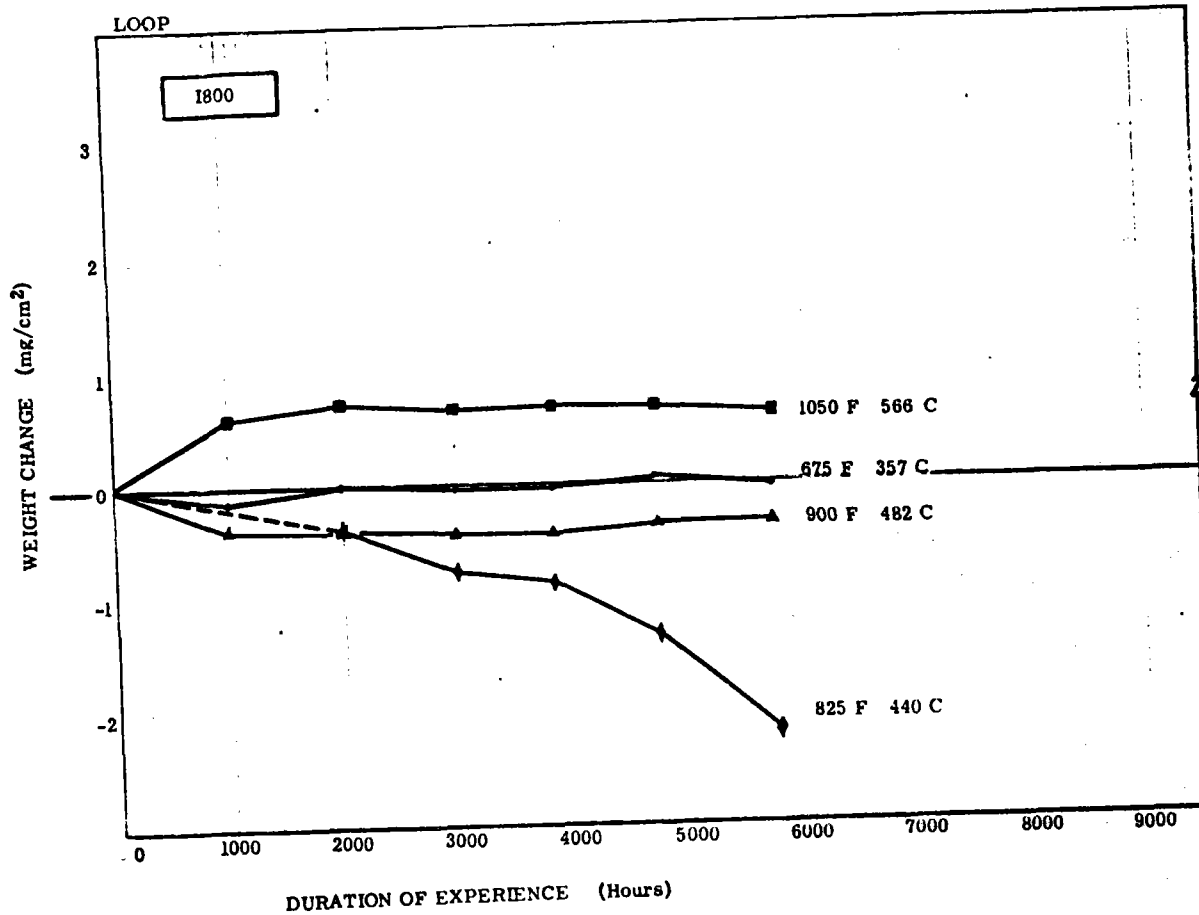


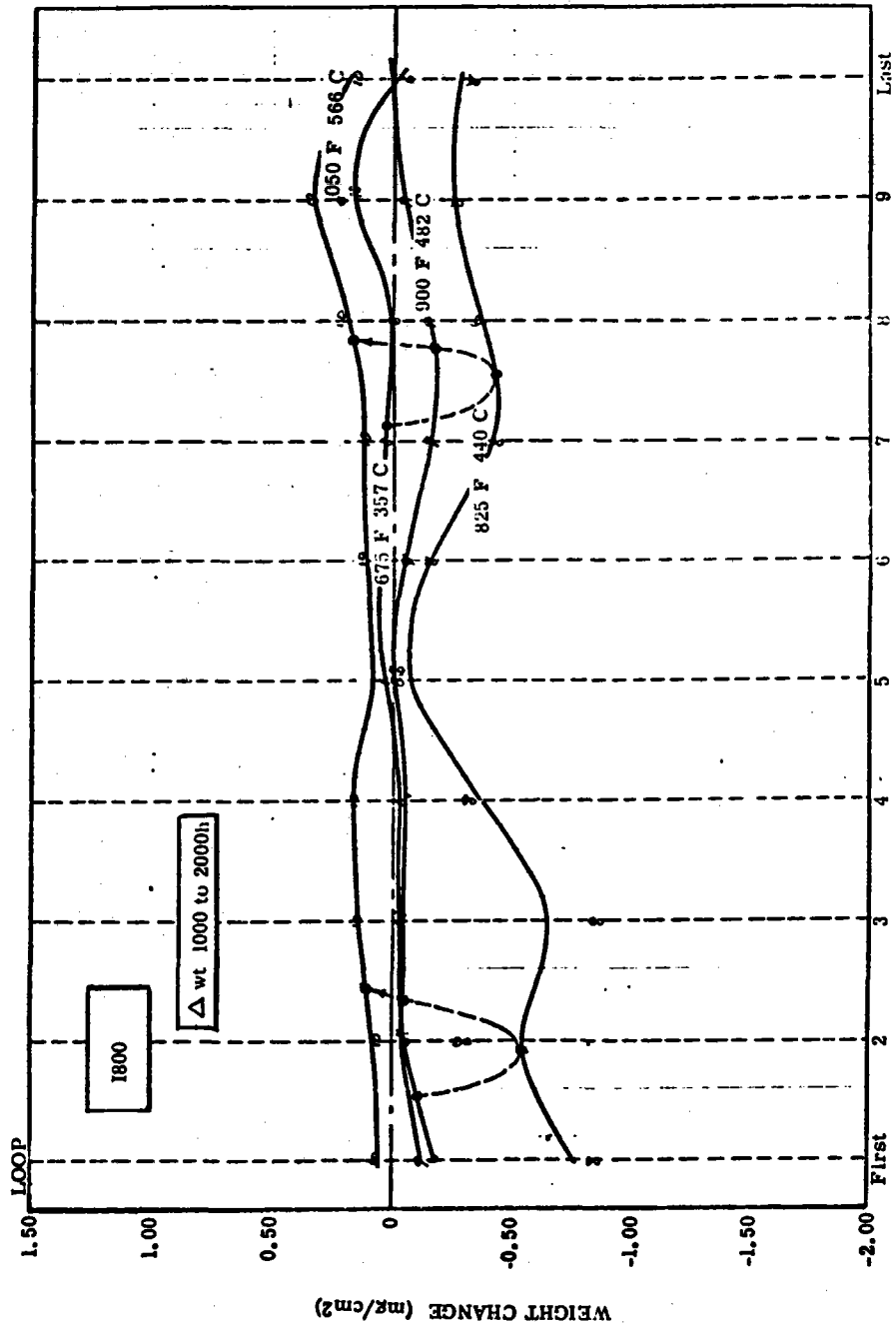
INT CHANGE BY LOOP EXPERIENCE



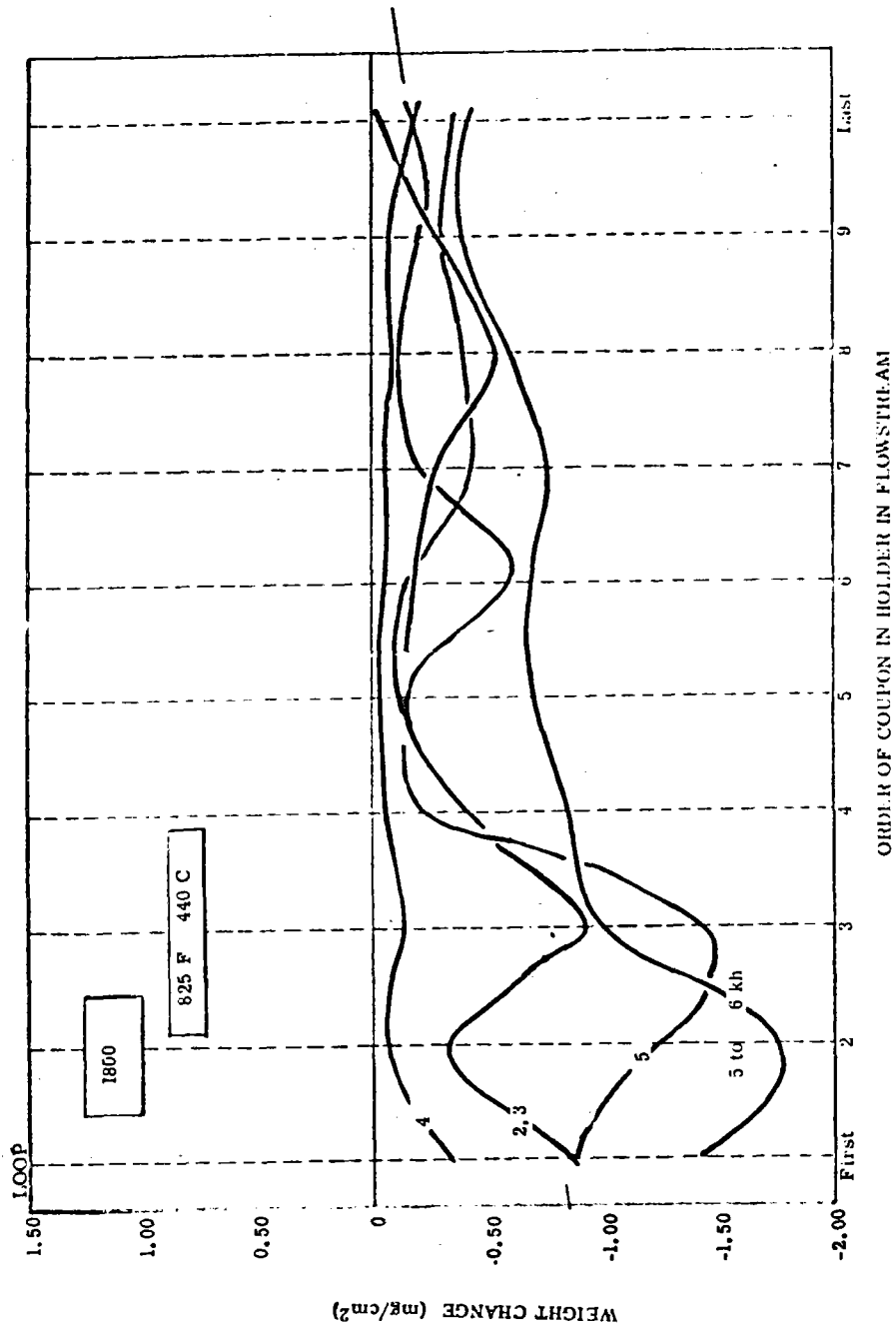
B

WT CHANGE BY LOOP EXPERIENCE  
ENG





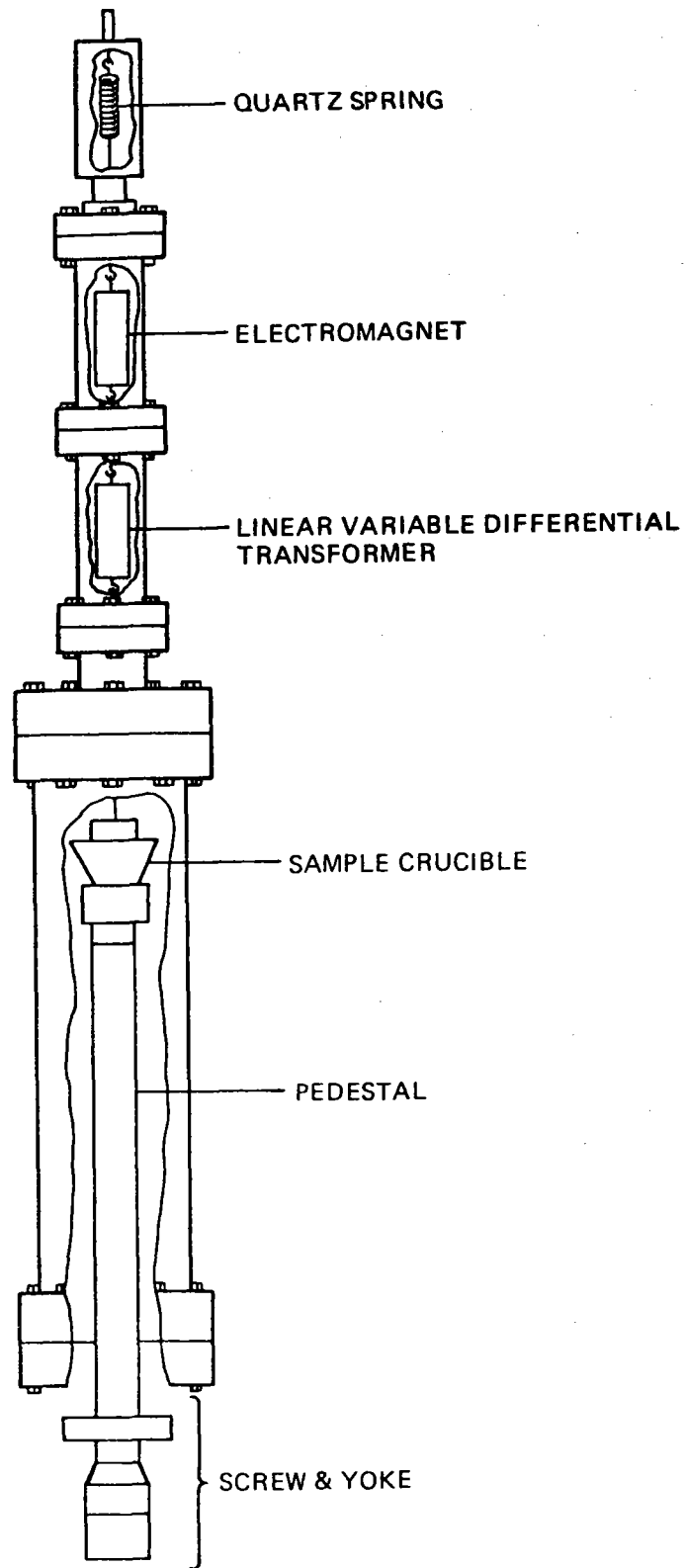
ORDER OF COUPON IN HOLDER IN FLOWSTHEAM



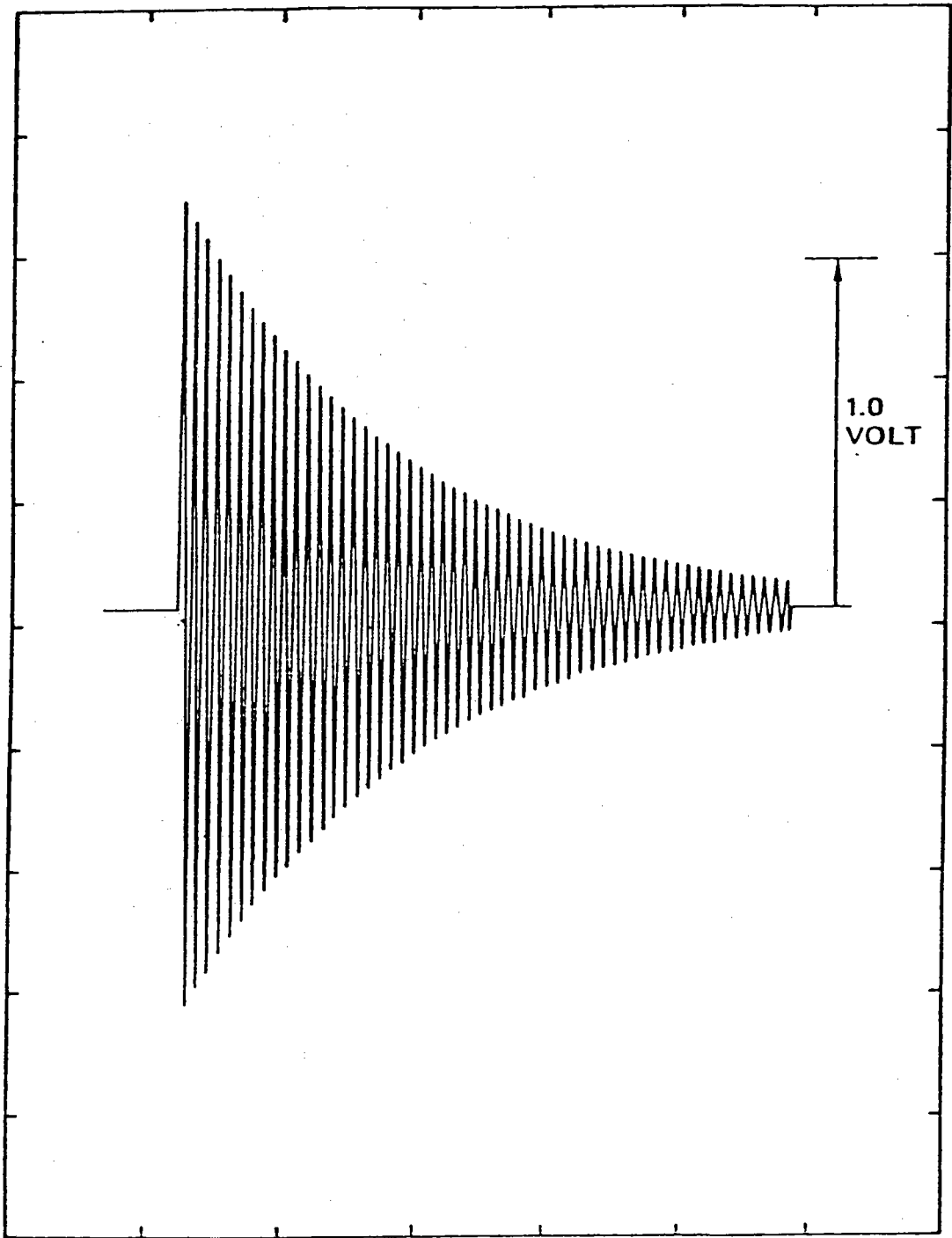
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: VISCOSITY,  
SURFACE TENSION, AND DENSITY

DON NISSEN

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES







For a damped harmonic oscillator

$$\frac{y_0}{y_n} = e^{2\pi n \frac{P}{g}}$$

and

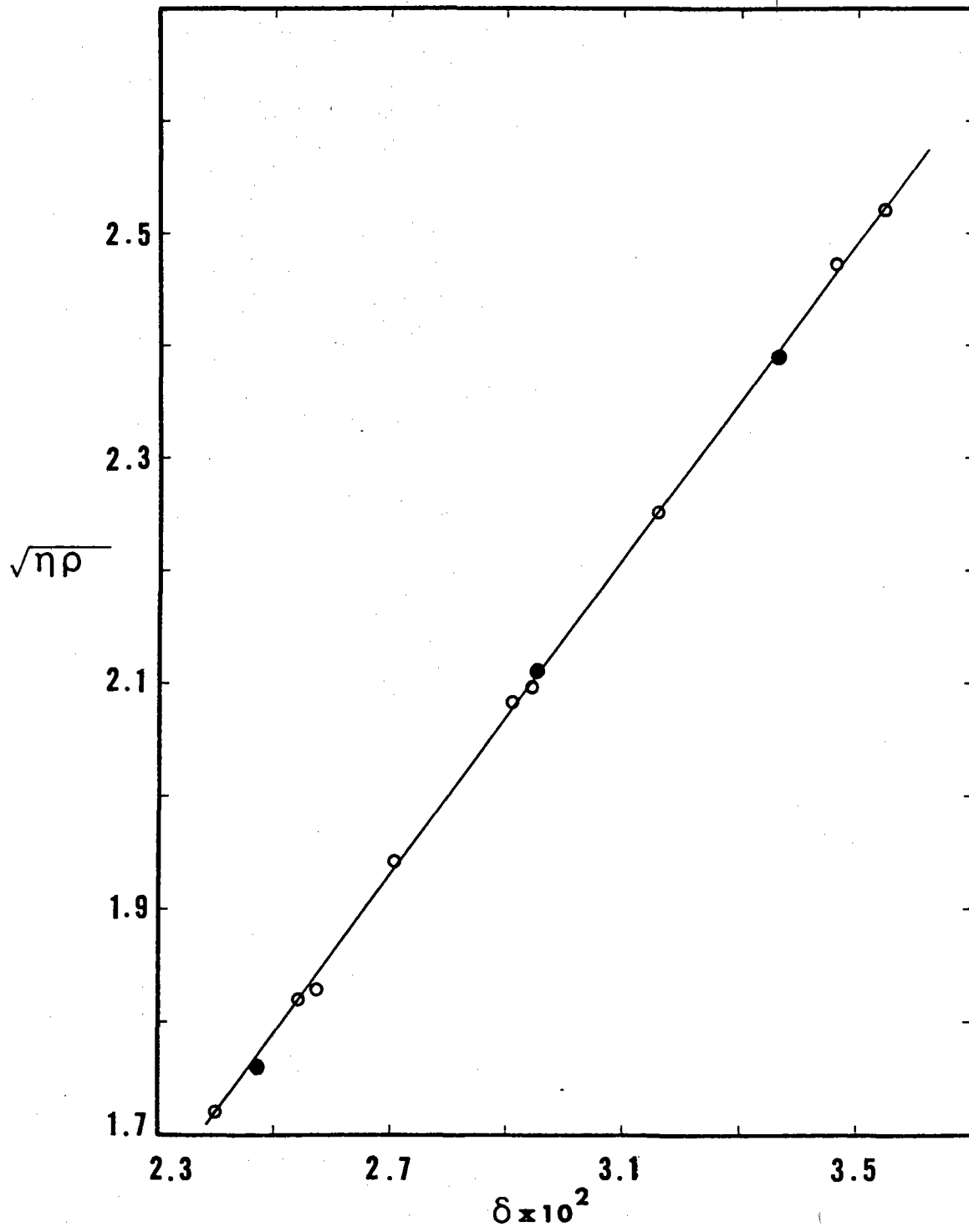
$$\delta = \frac{l}{n} \ln \frac{y_0}{y_n} = 2\pi \frac{P}{g}$$

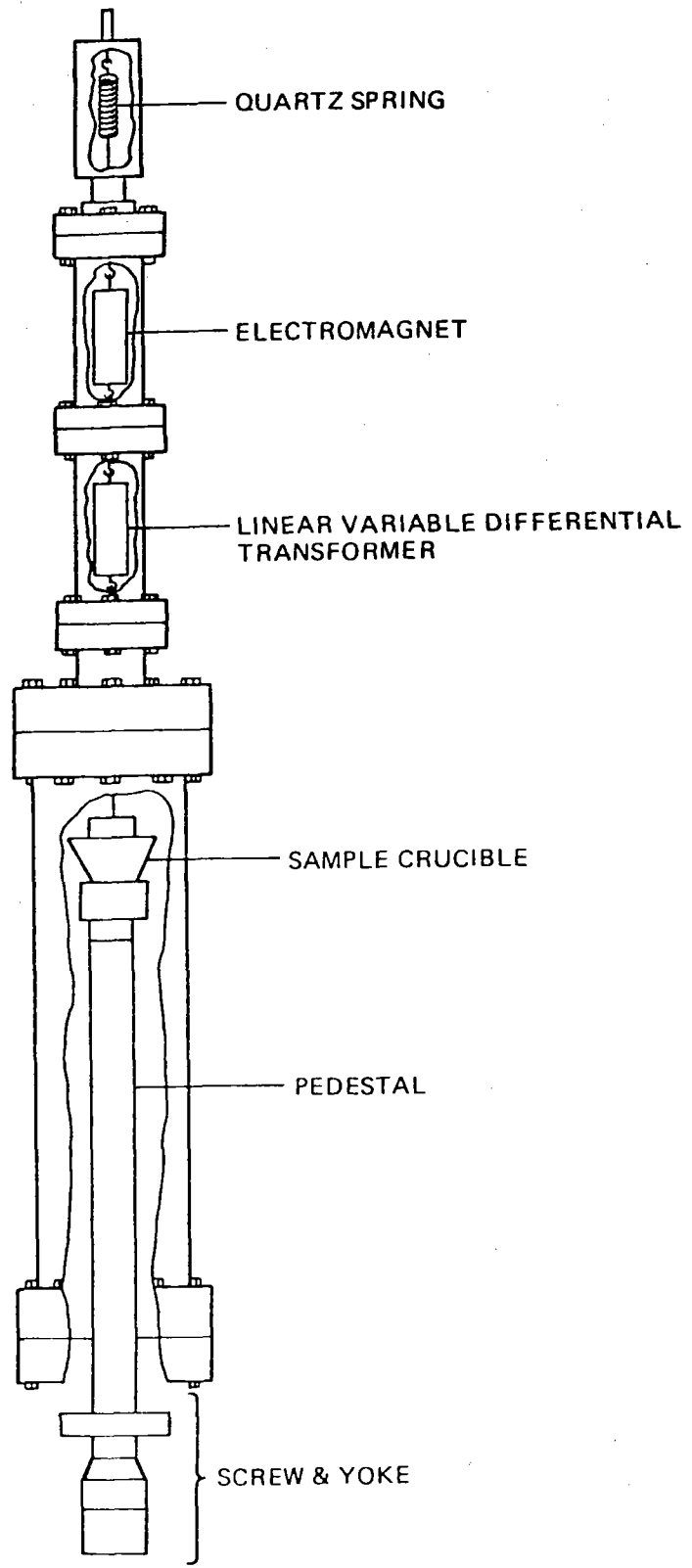
$$\sqrt{\eta\rho} = D\delta - E$$

$$D = \frac{l}{A\pi} \sqrt{\frac{2kM_t}{w}}$$

and

$$E = \frac{\delta g}{A\pi} \sqrt{\frac{2kM}{w}}$$





## SURFACE TENSION

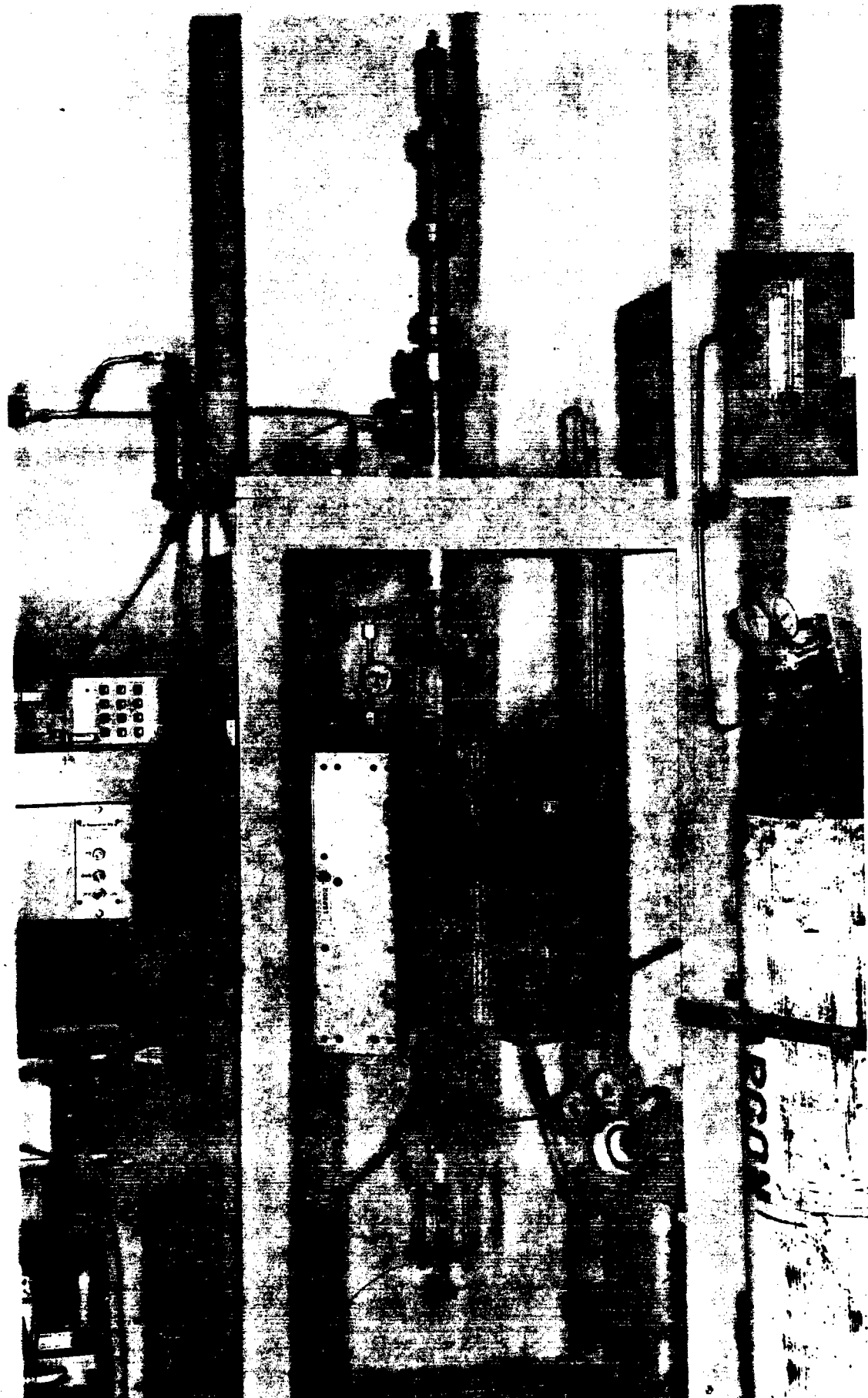
### Plate Detachment Method

$$\gamma = \frac{F}{P \cos \theta}$$

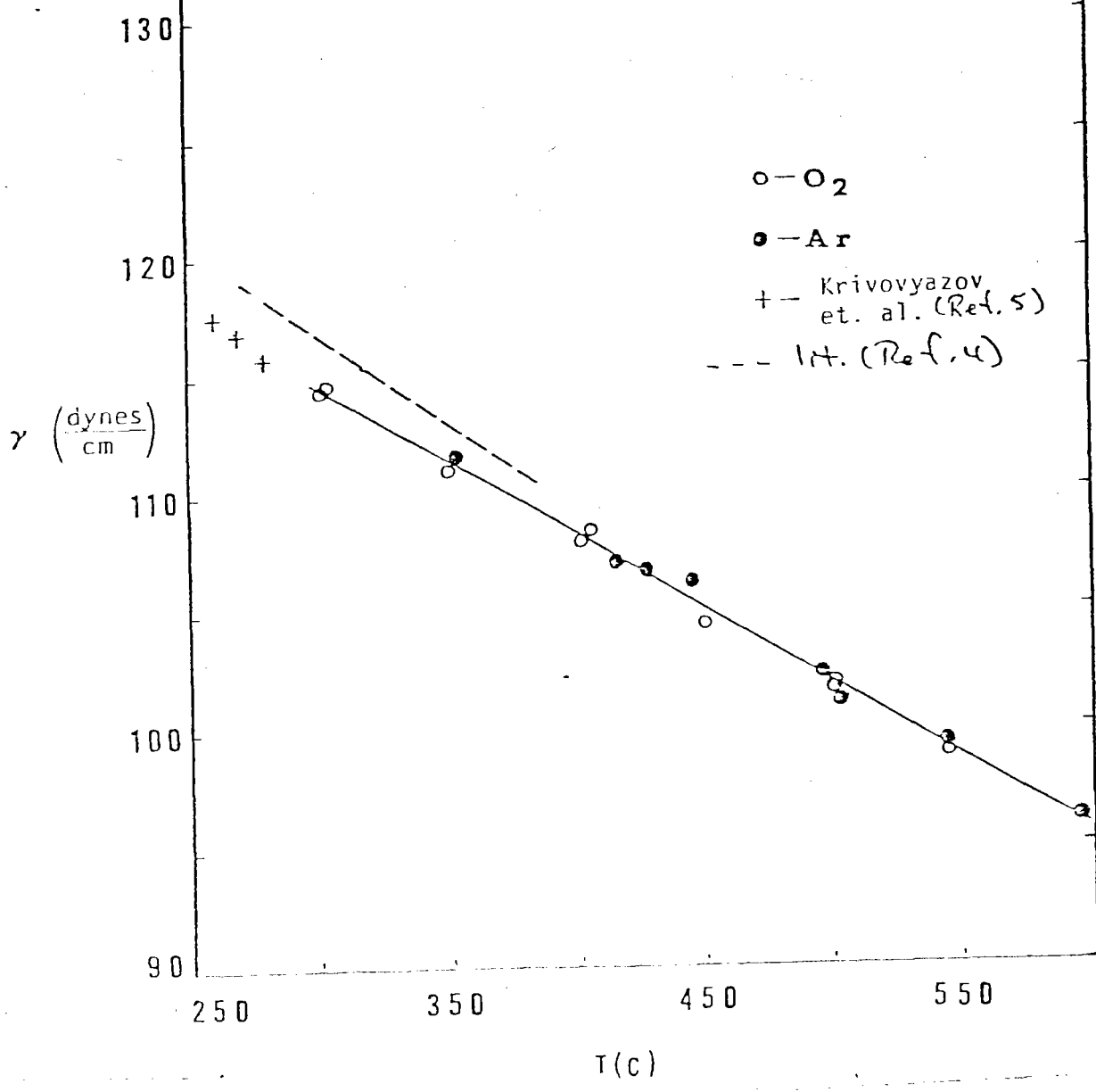
## DENSITY

Archimedes Method

$$\rho = \frac{\Delta W}{V}$$

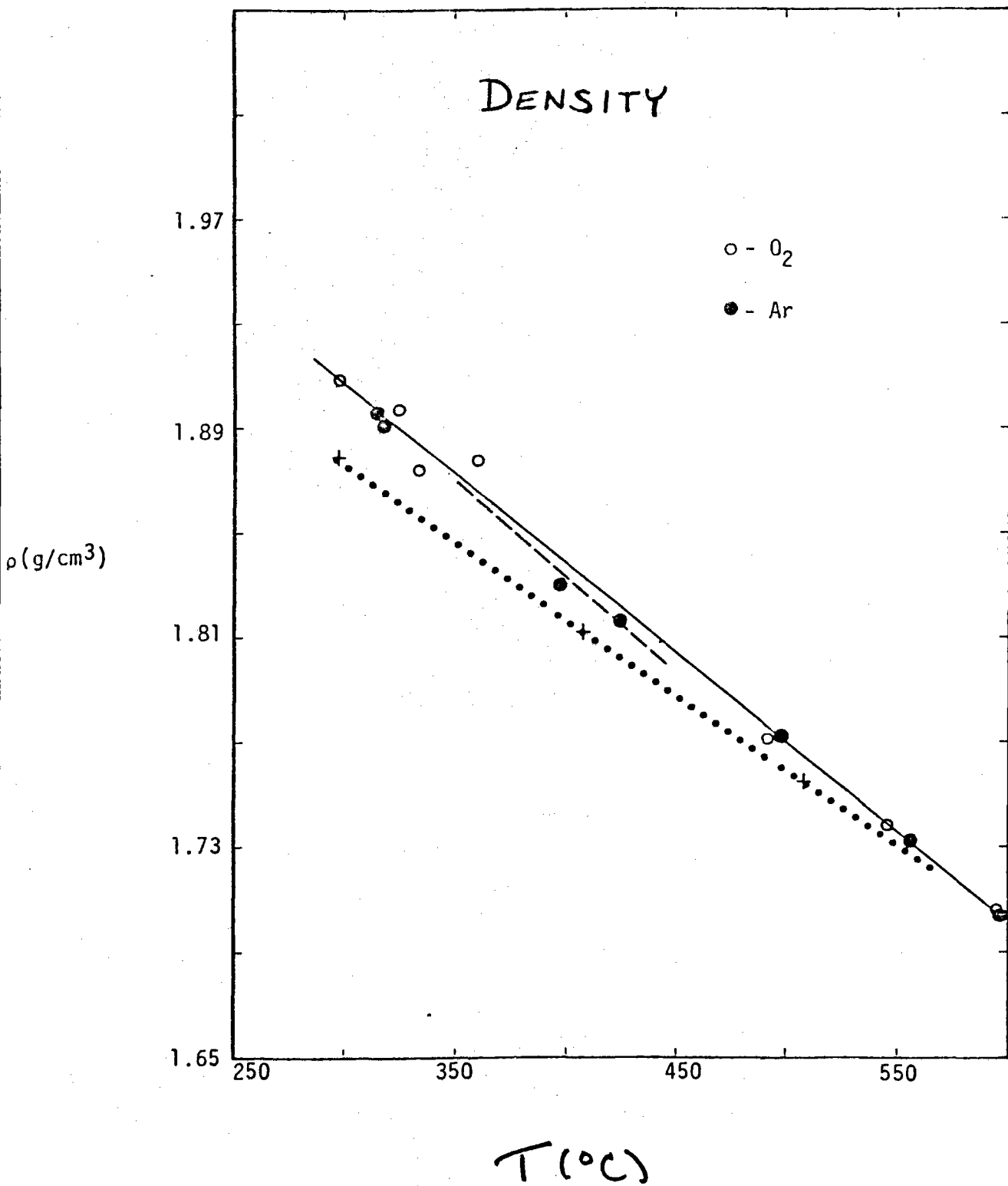


# SURFACE TENSION

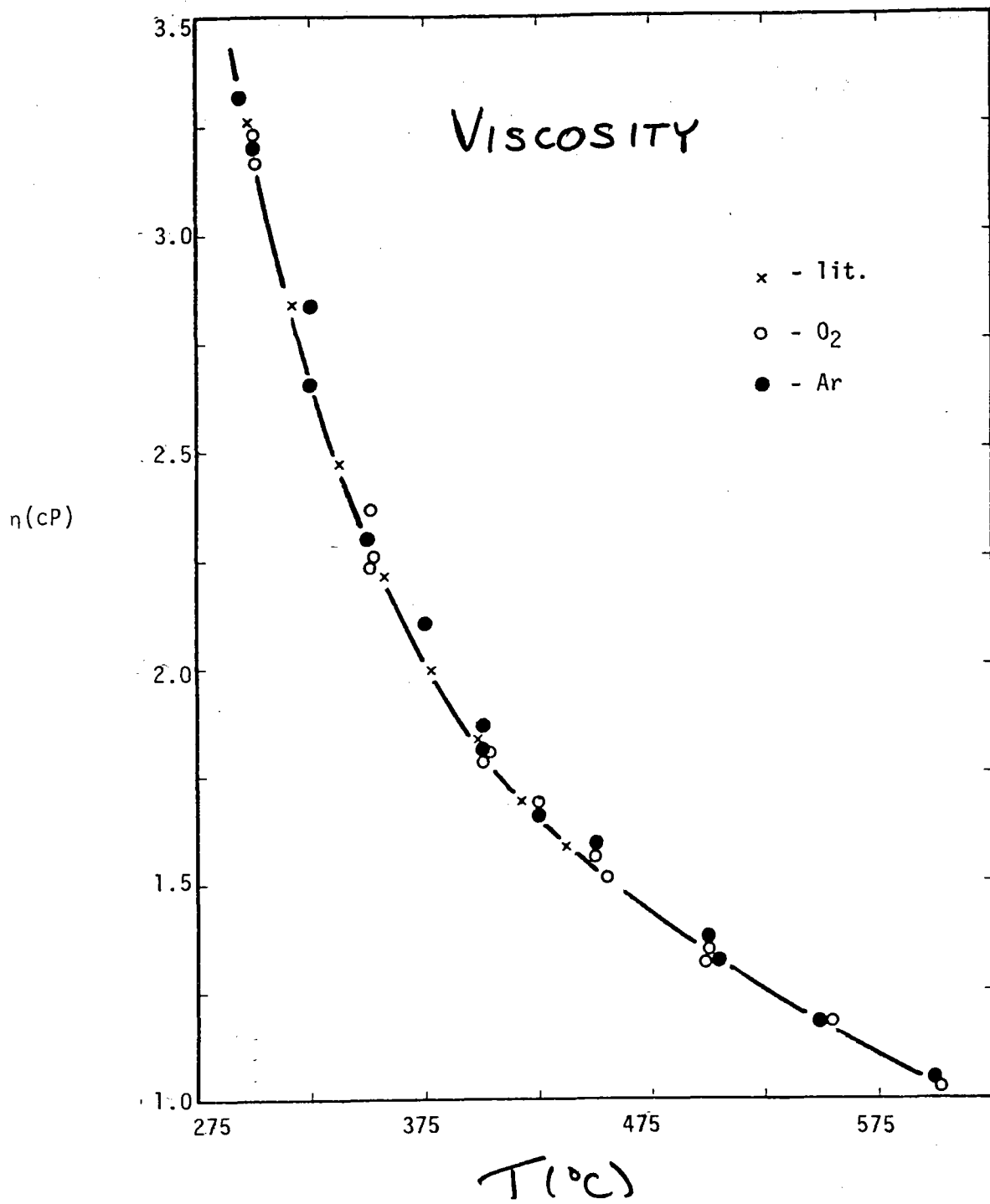


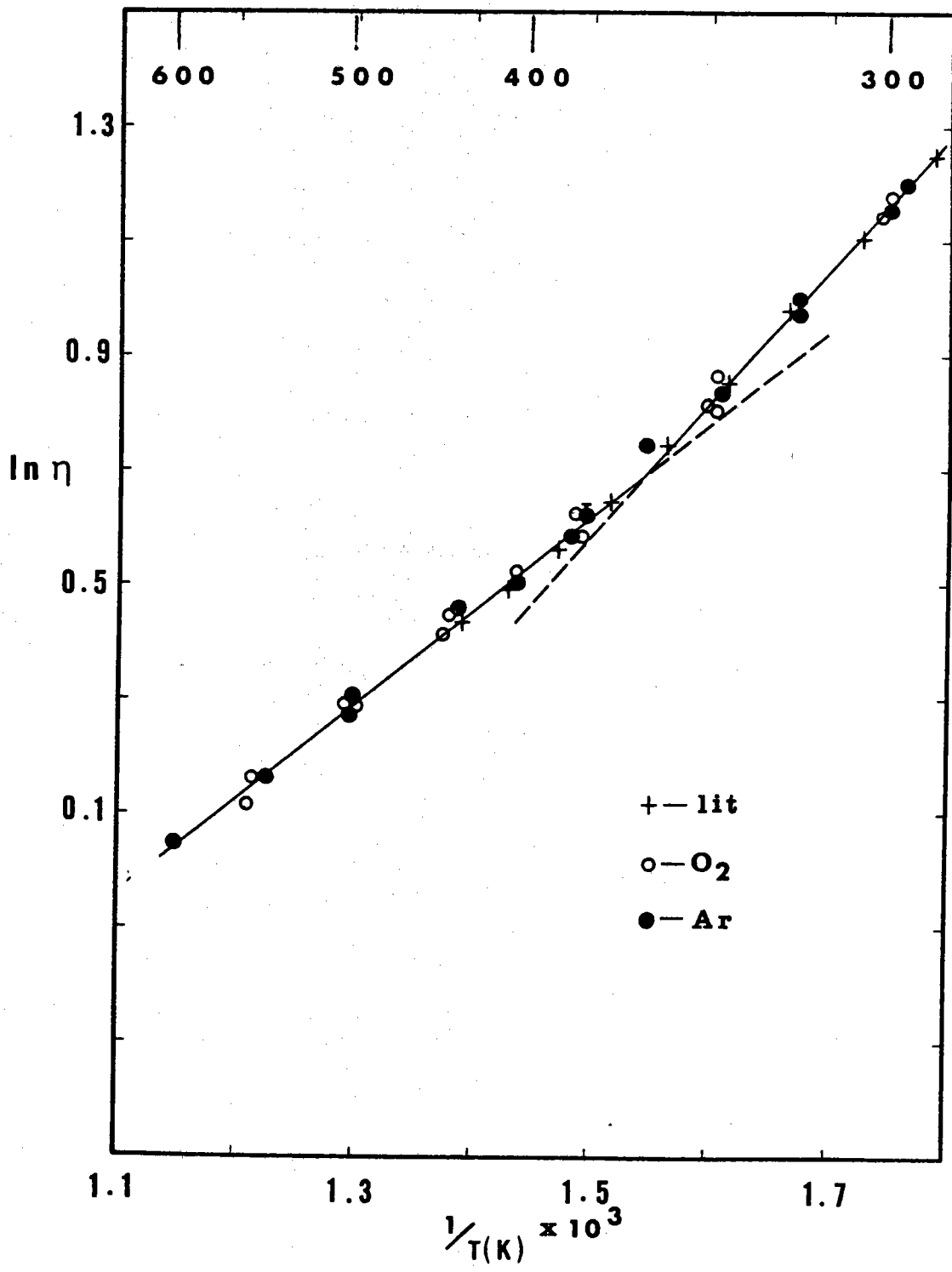


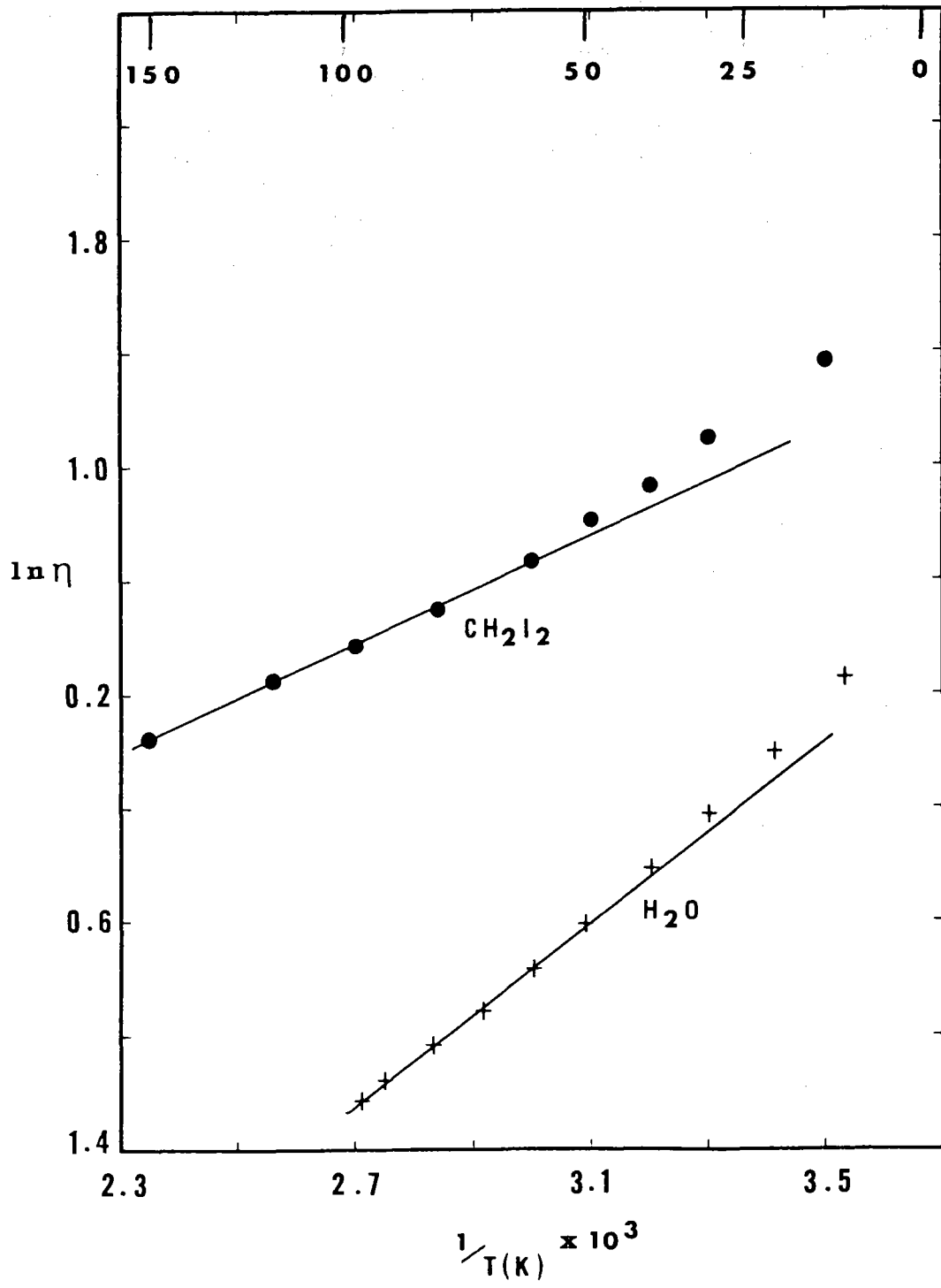
# DENSITY



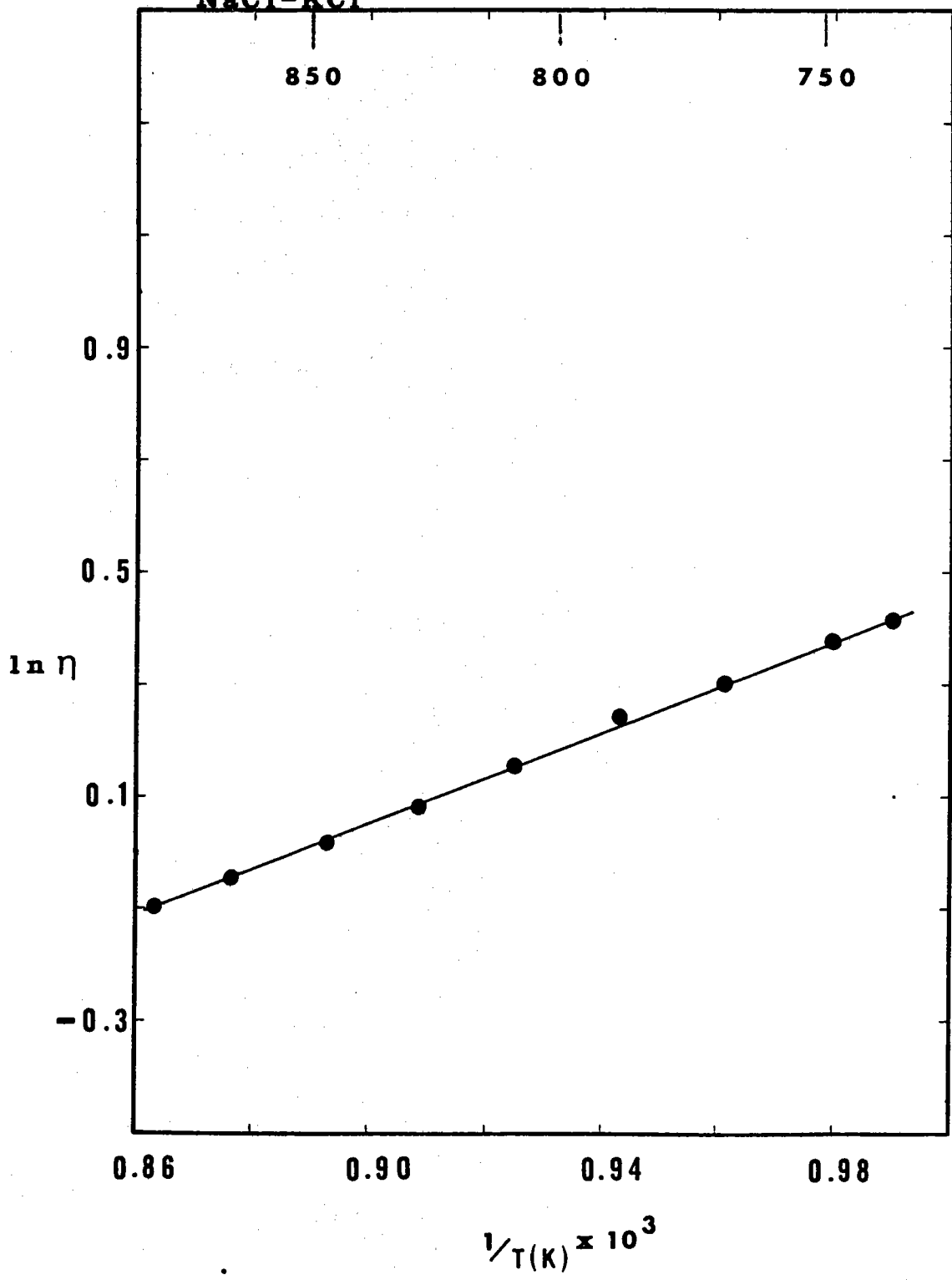
# VISCOSITY







NaCl-KCl



PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: HEAT CAPACITY

BOB CARLING

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

## INTRODUCTION

### BACKGROUND

MOLTEN NITRATE SALT MIXTURES PROPOSED FOR  
HEAT TRANSFER AND ENERGY STORAGE IN SOLAR  
THERMAL POWER APPLICATIONS.

### OBJECTIVE

DETERMINE HEAT CAPACITY OF  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , AND  
 $(\text{K}, \text{Na}) \text{NO}_3$  FROM 350 TO 600°C (623 TO 873 K)

### PURPOSE

TO PROVIDE PHYSICAL PROPERTY DATA TO DESIGNERS  
AND ENGINEERS OF SOLAR THERMAL POWER SYSTEMS.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### SALT PREPARATION

- $\text{NaNO}_3$  AND  $\text{KNO}_3$  RECRYSTALLIZED IN WATER AND DRIED UNDER VACUUM AT 423 K.

### HEAT CAPACITY MEASUREMENTS

- PERKIN ELMER DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETER (DSC 2)
- SYSTEM AUTOMATED TO TAKE AND RECORD DATA
- MEASUREMENTS MADE SEVERAL TIMES OVER EACH TEMPERATURE INTERVAL
- UNCERTAINTY IS 2-3%



## EXPERIMENTAL (CON'T)

### OBJECTIVES

- DETERMINE  $C_P$  OF  $\text{NaNO}_3$  AND  $\text{KNO}_3$  TO:
  - A. CHECK ACCURACY OF RESULTS WITH PREVIOUS MEASUREMENTS.
  - B. PROVIDE  $C_P$  DATA TO CALCULATE  $C_P$  OF BINARY MIXTURES.
  
- DETERMINE  $C_P$  OF 50:50 MOLAR MIX OF (K, Na)  $\text{NO}_3$  TO TEST RELIABILITY OF B ABOVE

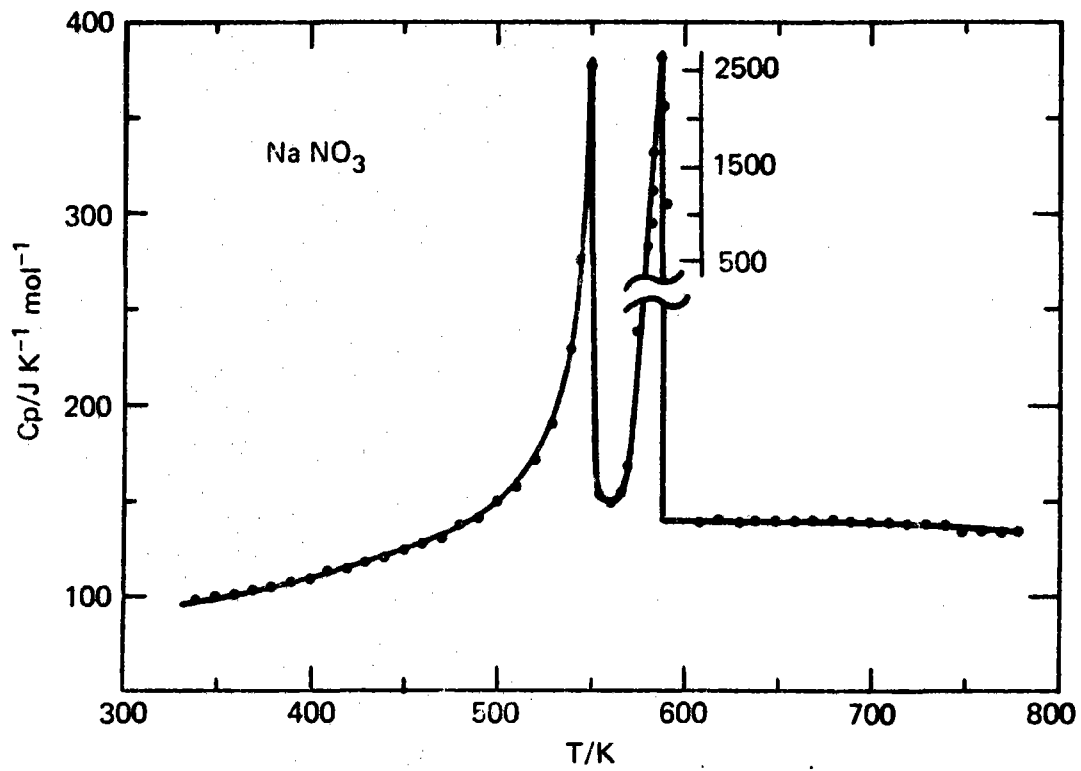
# HEAT CAPACITY

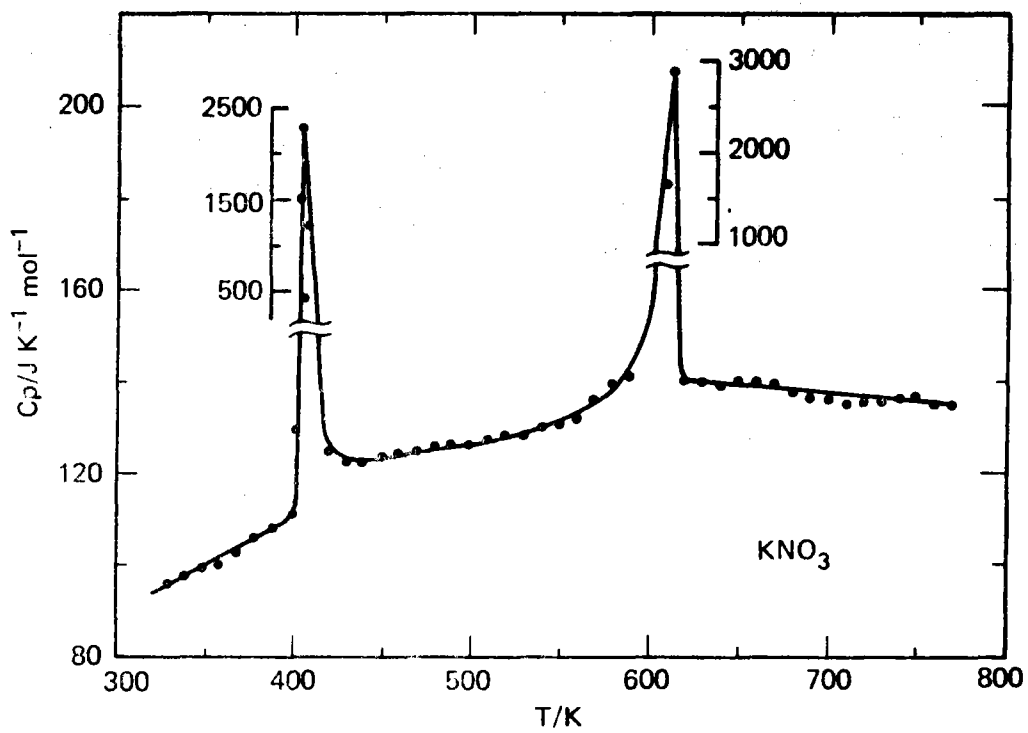
## RESULTS

COMPOUND	TEMPERATURE RANGE
$\text{NaNO}_3$	350 - 740 K
$\text{KNO}_3$	350 - 800 K
(K, Na) $\text{NO}_3$ 50:50	330 - 700 K

## RESULTS (CON'T)

- UPPER TEMPERATURE LIMITED BY SAMPLE CONTAINMENT PROBLEMS
  - A. GOLD PANS - CRACKED WITH SUBSEQUENT LEAKAGE OF SALT
  - B. STAINLESS STEEL - DIFFICULT TO SEAL COMPLETELY RESULTING IN SALT LEAKING.
- OTHER PAN DESIGNS AND SEALING MECHANISMS ARE BEING PURSUED TO PREVENT SALT LEAKS







TRANSITION

$$T = 550\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 4.42 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta S = 8.43 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

MELTING

$$T = 583\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 15.1 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta S = 26.0 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$



TRANSITION

$$T = 406\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 5.64 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

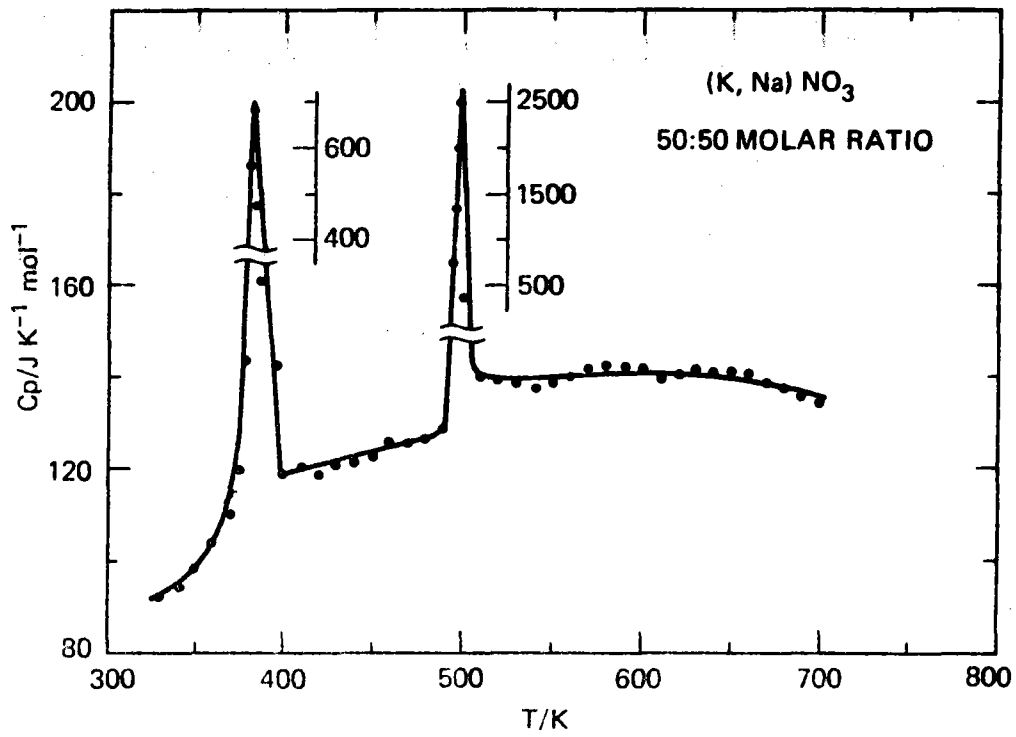
$$\Delta S = 13.8 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

MELTING

$$T = 612\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 10.5 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta S = 17.2 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$



(K,Na)NO<sub>3</sub>

TRANSITION

$$T = 383\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 3.5 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta S = 9.2 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

MELTING

$$T = 494\text{K}$$

$$\Delta H = 10.2 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta S = 20.5 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$



## RESULTS (con't)

### A. ENTHALPY OF MELTING AND TRANSITION

- VALUES AGREE WELL WITH PREVIOUS RESULTS

### B. HEAT CAPACITY OF SOLID AND LIQUID PHASES

- RESULTS AGREE WELL WITH PREVIOUS WORK  
FOR SOLID PHASE
- RESULTS ARE MIXED FOR LIQUID PHASES
- ABOVE TRUE FOR  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , AND  
 $(\text{K}, \text{Na})\text{NO}_3$

## RESULTS (con't)

### C. PREVIOUS METHODS OF DETERMINING HEAT CAPACITIES OF LIQUIDS

- DROP CALORIMETRY
- ADIABATIC SCANNING CALORIMETRY
- ADIABATIC CALORIMETRY

### D. ADDITIVITY OF HEAT CAPACITIES

- WORKS WELL WITH RESULTS IN THIS EFFORT
- DIFFERENCES IN LIQUID HEAT CAPACITIES MUST BE RESOLVED

## SUMMARY

- HEAT CAPACITIES OF  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , AND  $(\text{K}, \text{Na})\text{NO}_3$  DETERMINED
- TRANSITION AND MELTING ENTHALPIES AGREE WELL WITH PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS
- HEAT CAPACITIES OF  $\text{NaNO}_3(\text{s})$  AND  $\text{KNO}_3(\text{s})$  AGREE WELL WITH PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS
- UNCERTAINTIES STILL EXIST IN HEAT CAPACITIES OF  $\text{NaNO}_3(\text{L})$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3(\text{L})$ , AND  $(\text{K}, \text{Na})\text{NO}_3(\text{L})$

**DECOMPOSITION STUDIES**

**CAROLYN KRAMER**

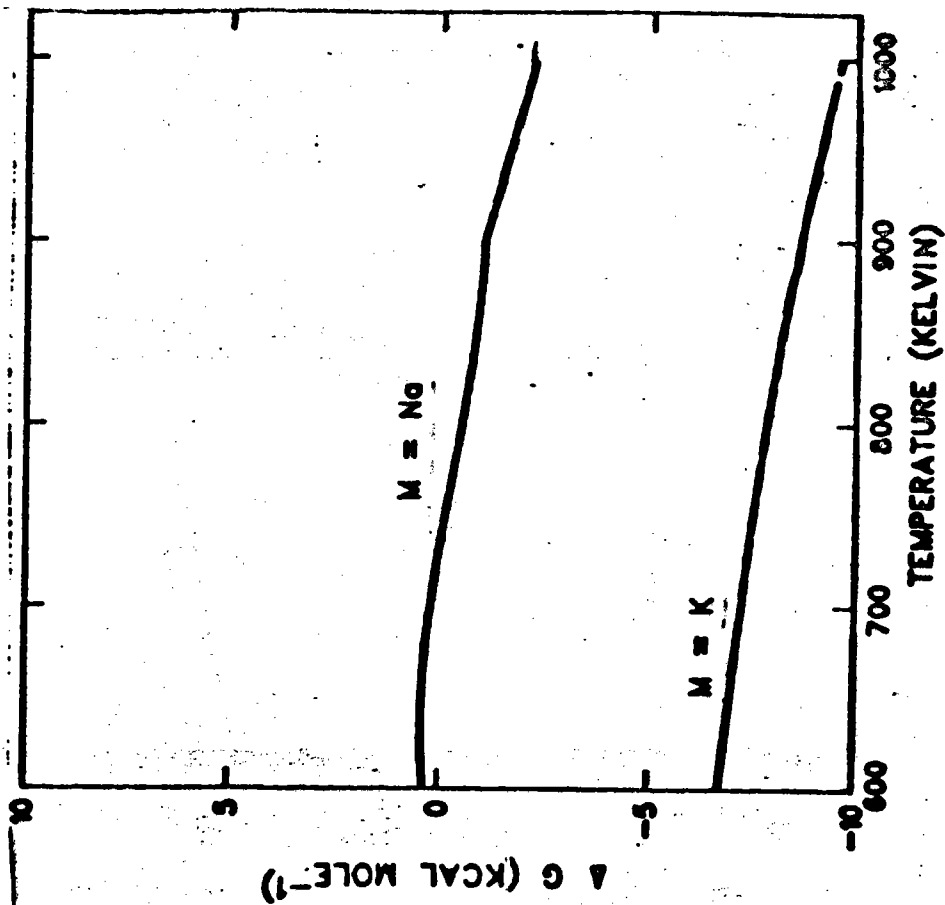
**SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES**

## OTHER OBSERVATIONS CONSISTENT

$\text{NaNO}_2$  SELF OXIDIZED IN VACUUM

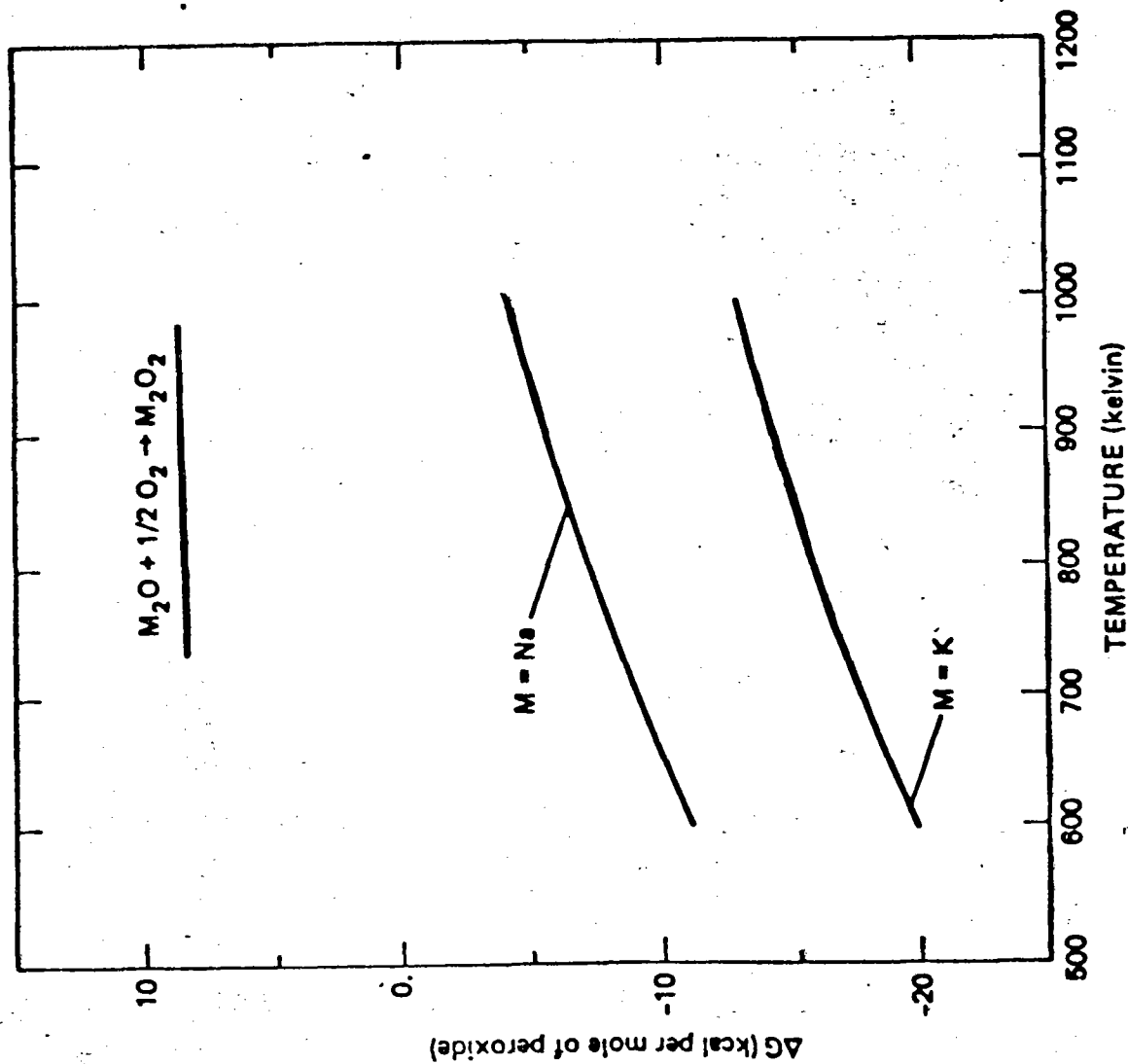
NITRIC OXIDE  $(\text{NaNO}_3)$  > NITRIC OXIDE  $(\text{KNO}_3)$

NITRIC OXIDE  $\rightarrow$  PEROXIDE



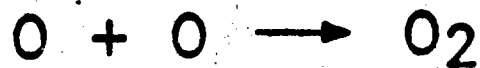
driving force larger for K<sup>+</sup> species

# OXIDE ION IS UNSTABLE IN OXYGEN

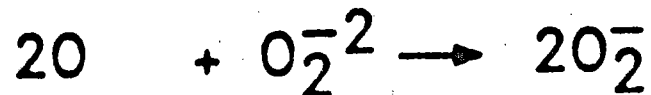


## OXYGEN EVOLUTION DELAYED

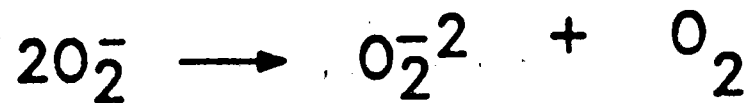
### PREVIOUSLY EXPLAINED BY



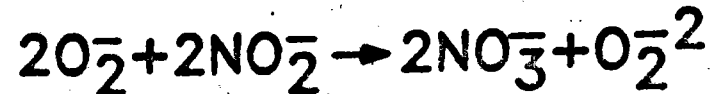
### BUT O ATOMS MAY REACT INSTEAD



### OXYGEN EVOLVED WHEN

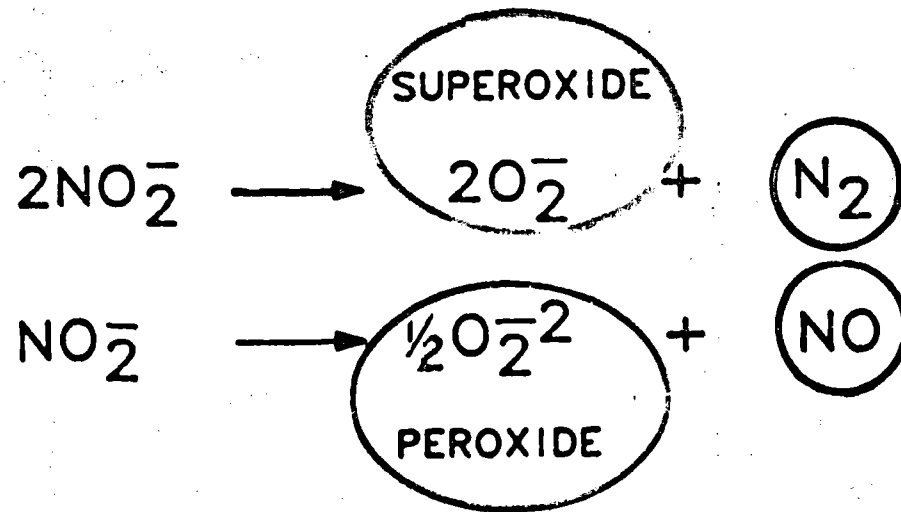


### SUPEROXIDE IN NITRITES CONSUMED

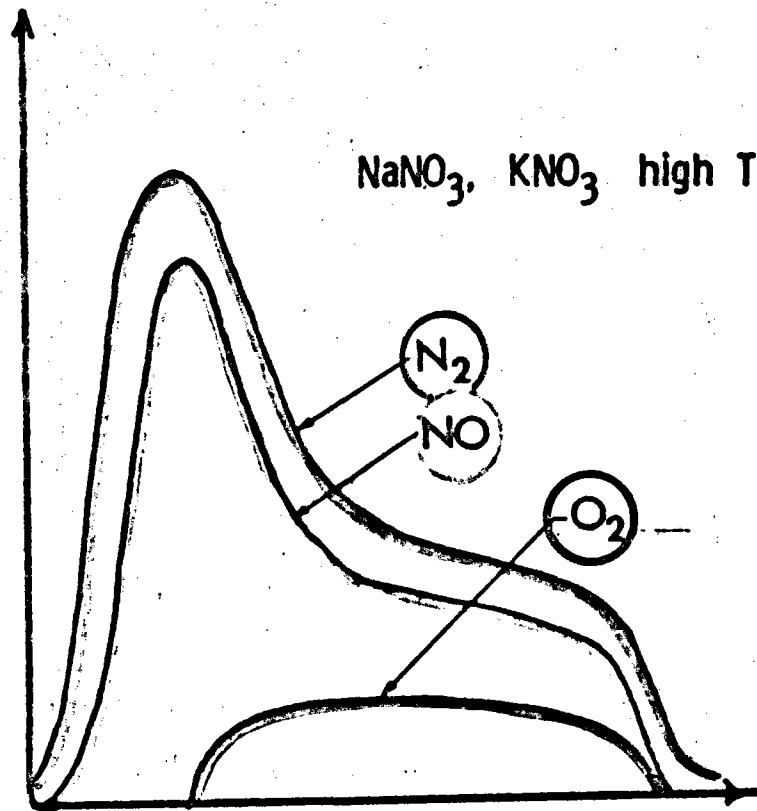
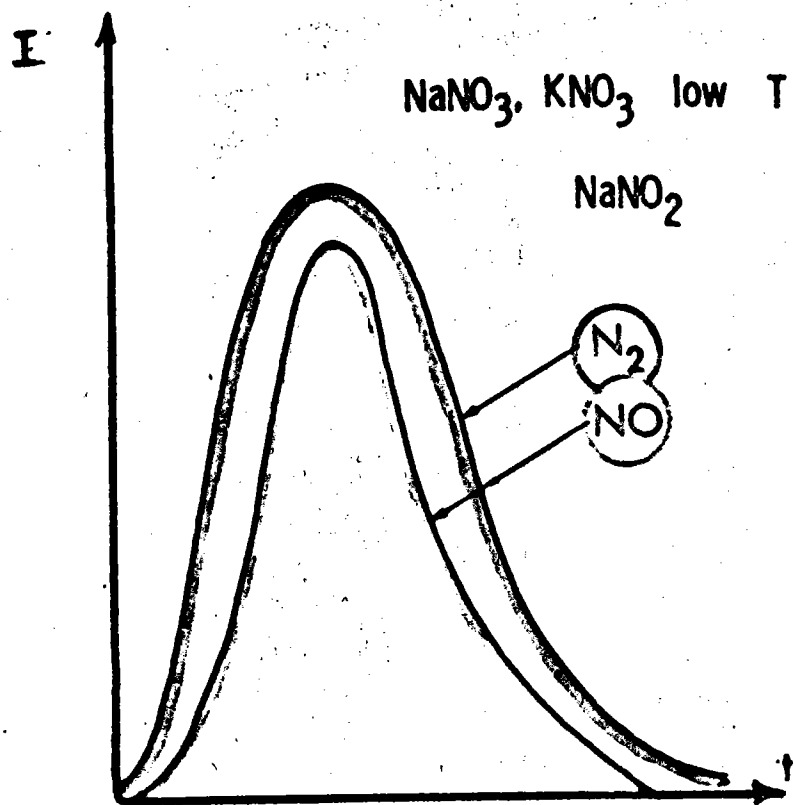




CONSIDER  $\text{NaNO}_2$ ,



# OXYGEN EVOLVED FROM NITRATES ONLY



WE OBSERVED-N<sub>2</sub>, NO, O<sub>2</sub>

AMOUNTS DEPENDENT ON

TIME

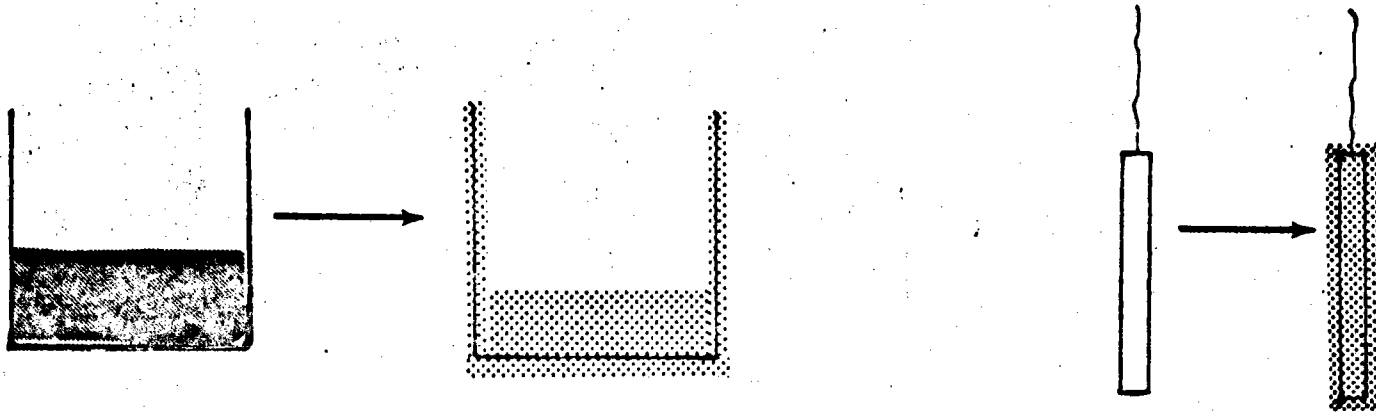
TEMPERATURE

SALT

CONTRASTS WITH REPORTED NO<sub>2</sub>

# CREEP DICTATED FREE SURFACE CONDITIONS

---



RESULTED IN HIGH FLUXES

RESULTS FROM LOW SURFACE ENERGIES

## EXPERIMENTAL SCOPE

3 SALTS:  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_2$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$

FREE SURFACE CONDITIONS

GOLD SUBSTRATES

ISOTHERMAL 350C - 470C

5-10 MG SAMPLES

10 MICROGRAM = MINIMUM DETECTABLE CHANGE

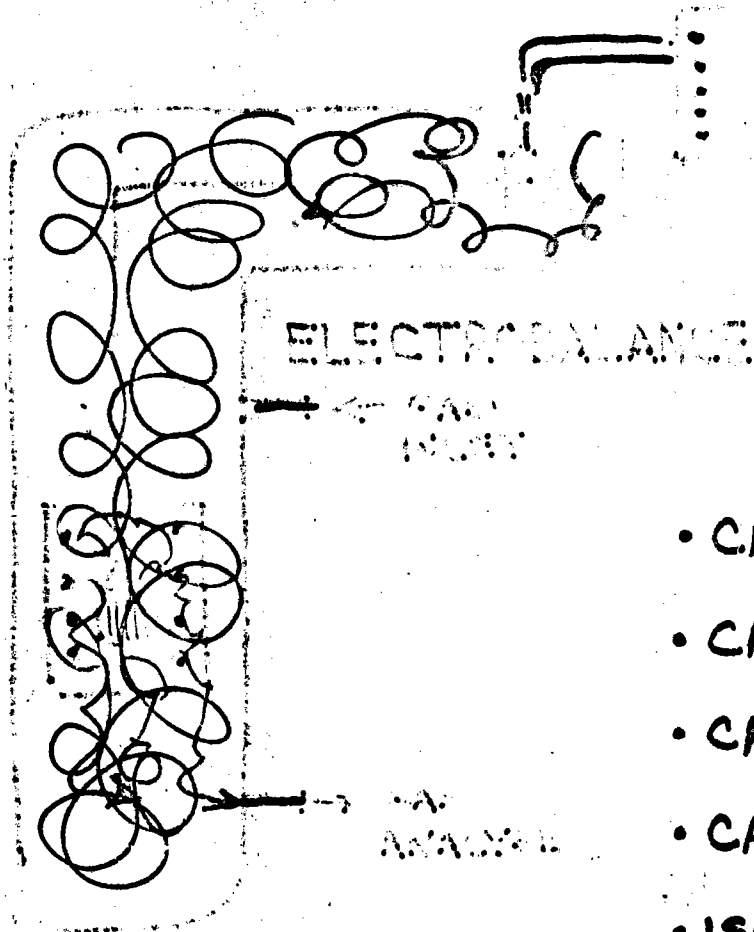
VACUUM-  $10^{-5}$  -  $10^{-7}$  TORR

WEIGHT LOSS KINETICS

TIME RESOLVED GAS EVOLUTION

---

# THERMAL STABILITY IS EFFECTIVELY STUDIED BY THERMOGRAVIMETRY



- CONTINUOUS RECORD OF WEIGHT CHANGES WITH TIME AND  $\frac{d \text{ weight}}{d \text{ time}}$

- CAN AUTOMATE FOR DATA ANALYSIS
- CAN VARY ATMOSPHERE
- CAN ADD GAS ANALYSIS SYSTEM
- CAN ANALYZE SOLID RESIDUE
- ISOTHERMAL OR DYNAMIC HEATING CONDITIONS POSSIBLE

CONCURRENT MASS SPECTROMETRY AND  
THERMOGRAVIMETRY PERFORMED

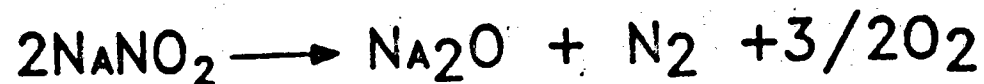
WEIGHT CHANGES ANALYZED

INTRINSIC GASEOUS PRODUCTS IDENTIFIED

NON-CONDENSIBLE GASES STUDIED

## DECOMPOSITION IS COMPLEX

### NITRITES DECOMPOSE

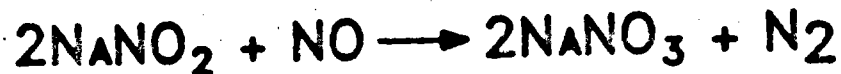


### N<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> REACTS WITH

#### -OXIDE



#### -NITRITES



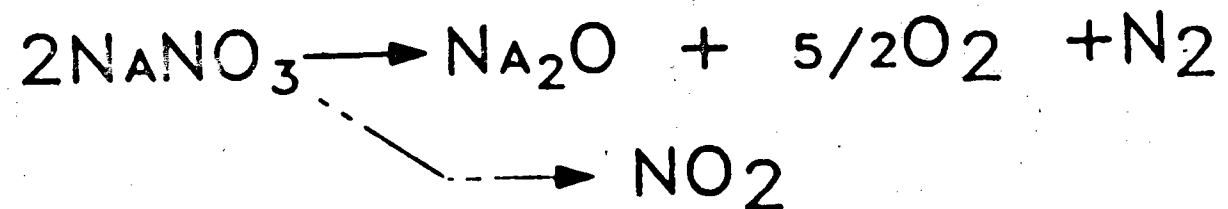


NITRATES DECOMPOSE TO

-NITRITE



-OXIDE



-OR VAPORIZE



# SALT STABILITY CRUCIAL

## TO SOLAR POWER PLANTS'

PERFORMANCE

LIFETIME

COST EFFECTIVENESS

FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING REQUIRED

INTRINSIC DECOMPOSITION STUDIED

$\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$

INTRINSIC DECOMPOSITION OF  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$  STUDIED

MOTIVATION

SOLAR POWER PLANTS  
SALT INSTABILITY

TECHNIQUES

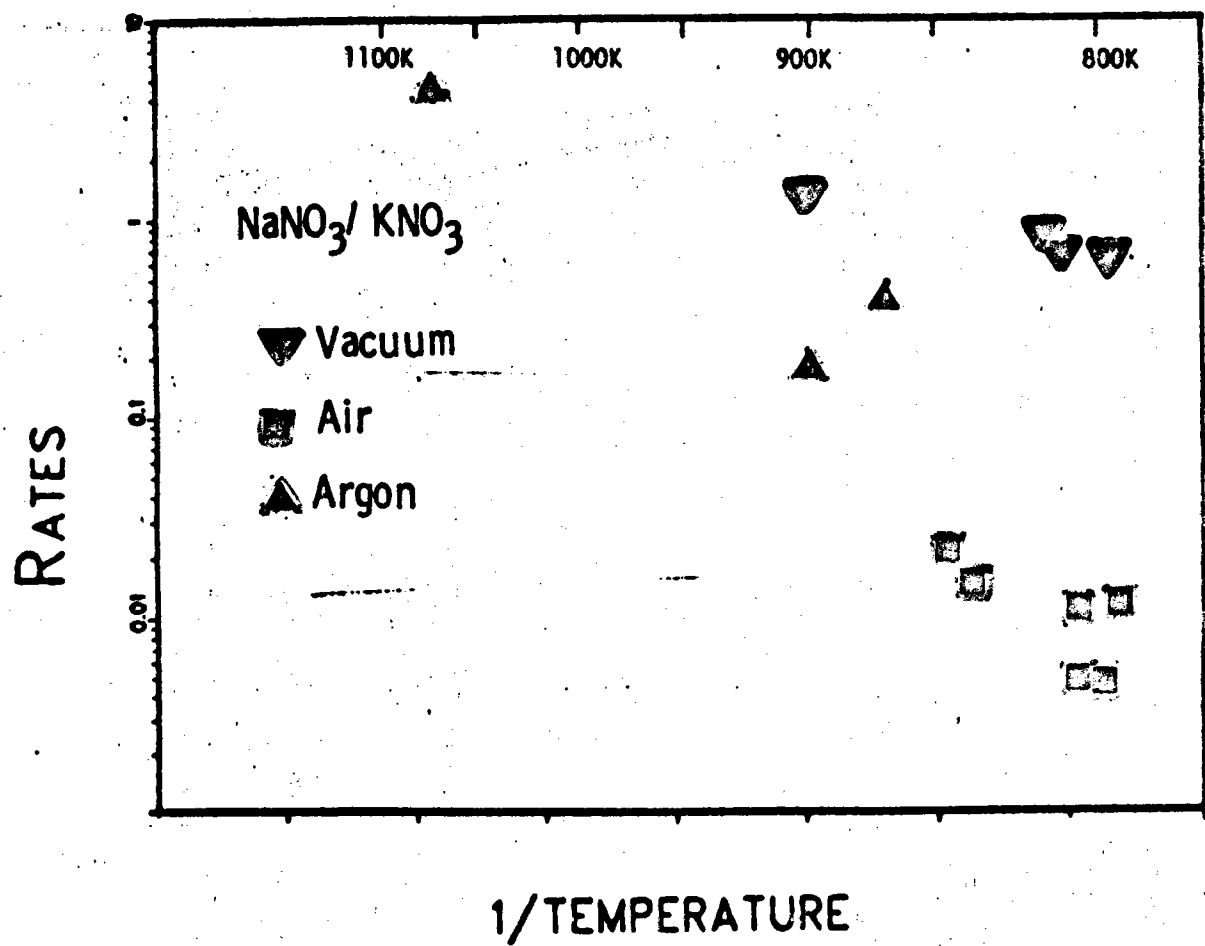
THERMOGRAVIMETRY  
MASS SPECTROMETRY

TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE

GASES  
WEIGHT LOSSES

---

RATES IN VACUUM = 100 X RATES IN AIR



Flowing Argon also enhances decomposition.

INTRINSIC DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS ARE-

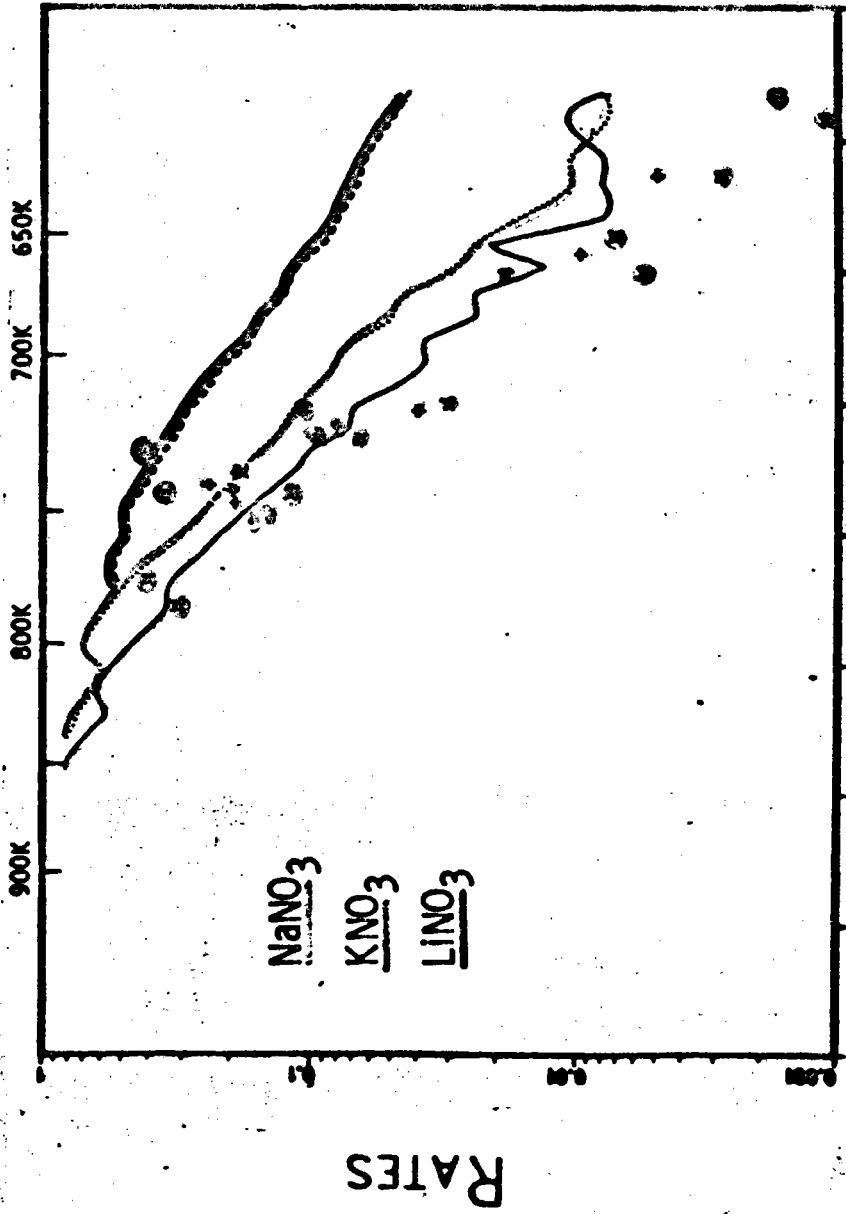
$N_2$ , NO FROM  $NaNO_2$

$N_2$ , NO,  $O_2$  FROM  $NaNO_3$ ,  $KNO_3$

ACTIVATION ENERGIES 32-36 KCAL - MOLE<sup>-1</sup>

RATES ARE 1 MG-CM<sup>-2</sup>-MIN<sup>-1</sup> AT 470C

DYNAMIC AND ISOTHERMAL DECOMPOSITION RATES AGREE



## DYNAMIC HEATING EXPERIMENTS

$\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ ,  $\text{LiNO}_3$

Constant Heating Rate:  $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$

Vacuum

Completely decomposed/ vaporized

Recorded weight every 30 seconds

Instantaneous rates:  $\frac{\text{weight}_n - \text{weight}_{n-1}}{\text{d time}}$   
at temperature =  $\frac{\text{temp}_n + \text{temp}_{n-1}}{2}$

$\text{KNO}_3$  DECOMPOSITION RATES EXCEED

$\text{NaNO}_3$  RATES

$\text{KNO}_3$  more stable than  $\text{NaNO}_3$  in air

Maximum Flux predicted from vapor pressure measurements

$\text{KNO}_3 > \text{NaNO}_3$



# TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCIES CONTRASTED

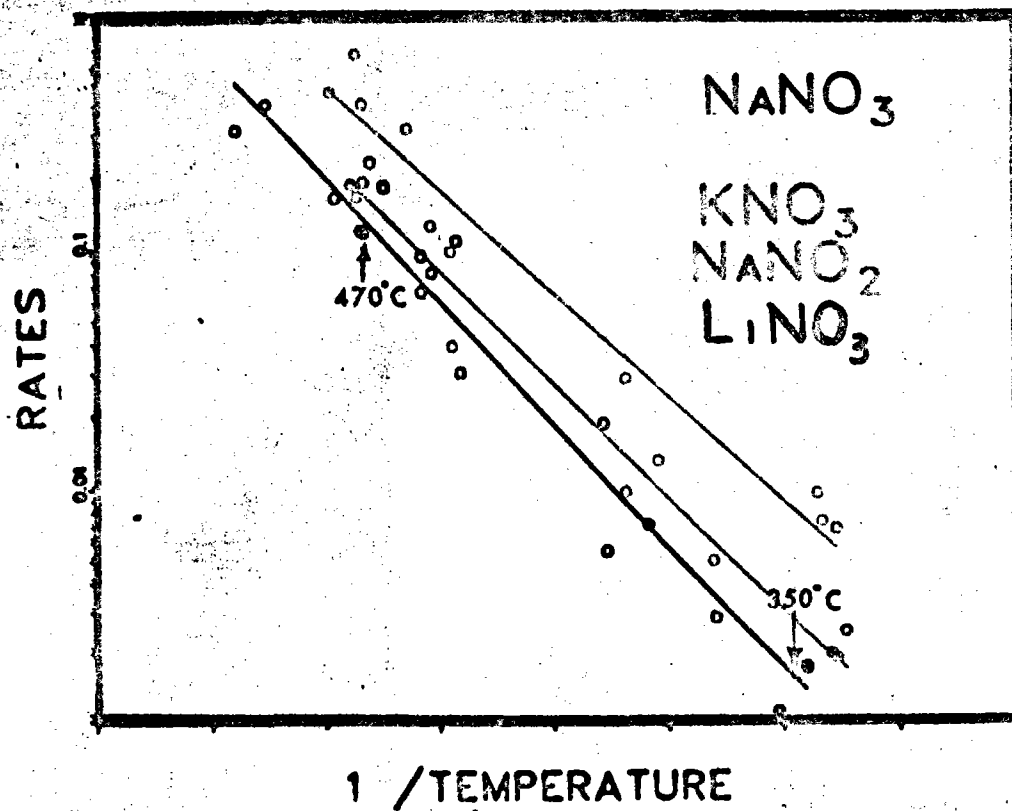
	<u>VACUUM</u>	<u>AIR</u>	<u>VAPORIZATION</u>
		<i>literature values</i>	
$\text{KNO}_3$	35	65	42
$\text{NaNO}_3$	36	44,40	41
$\text{NaNO}_2$	32	43	

*activation energies, kcal/mole*

LOWER ACTIVATION ENERGIES IN VACUUM  
HIGHER RATES

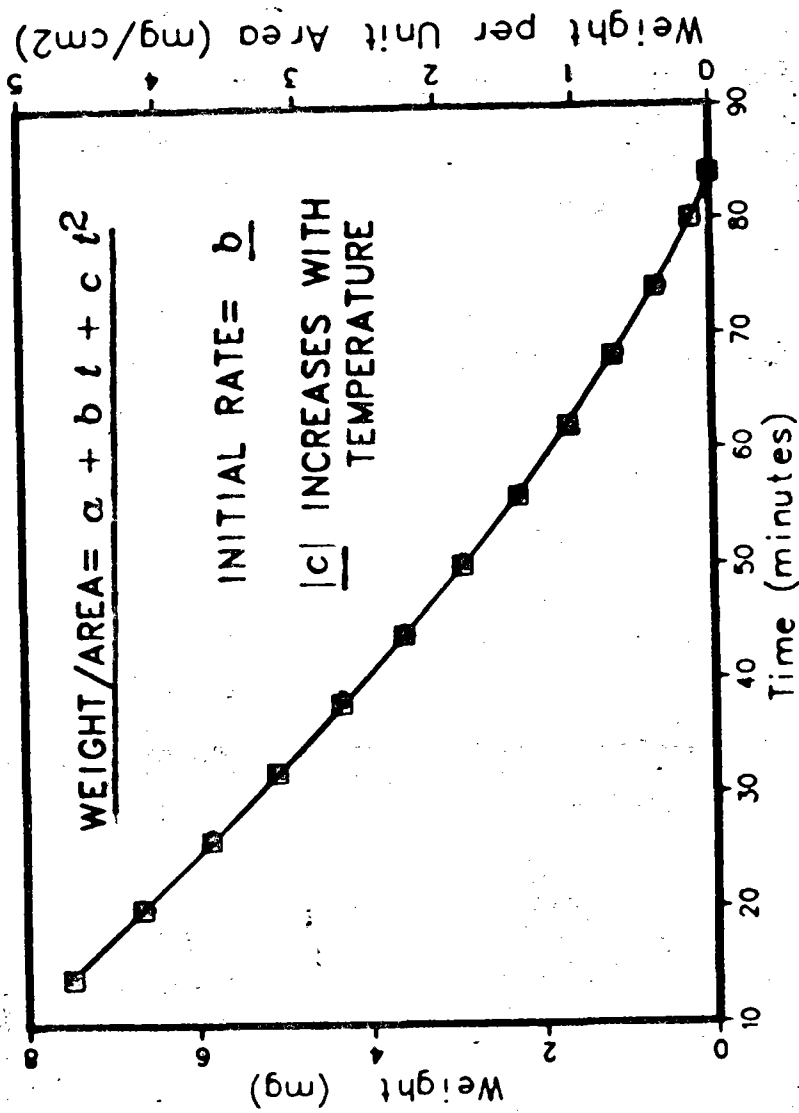
# SALTS COMPARED

Rates of Decomposition in Vacuum

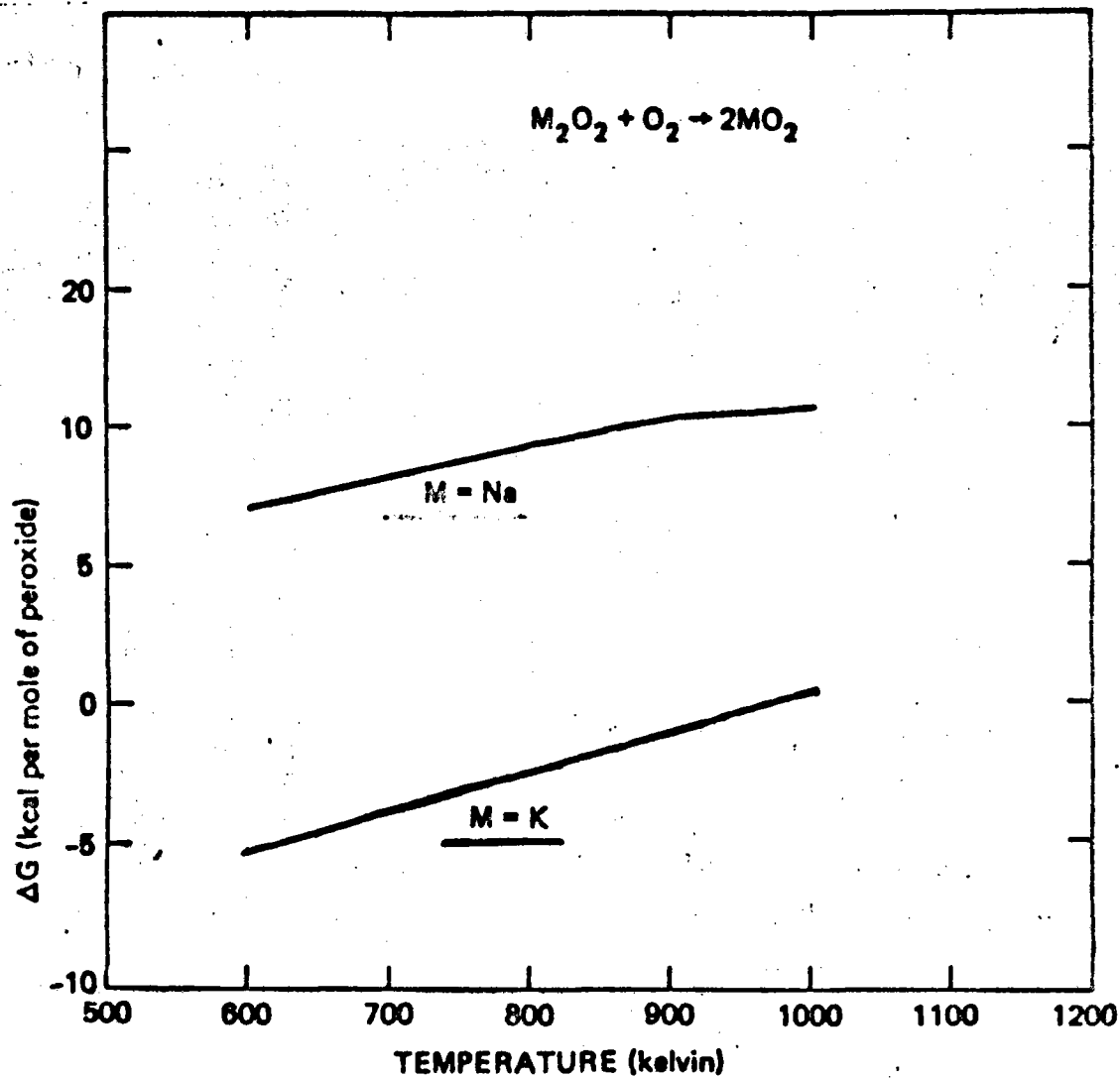


INCLUDES VAPORIZATION, DECOMPOSITION

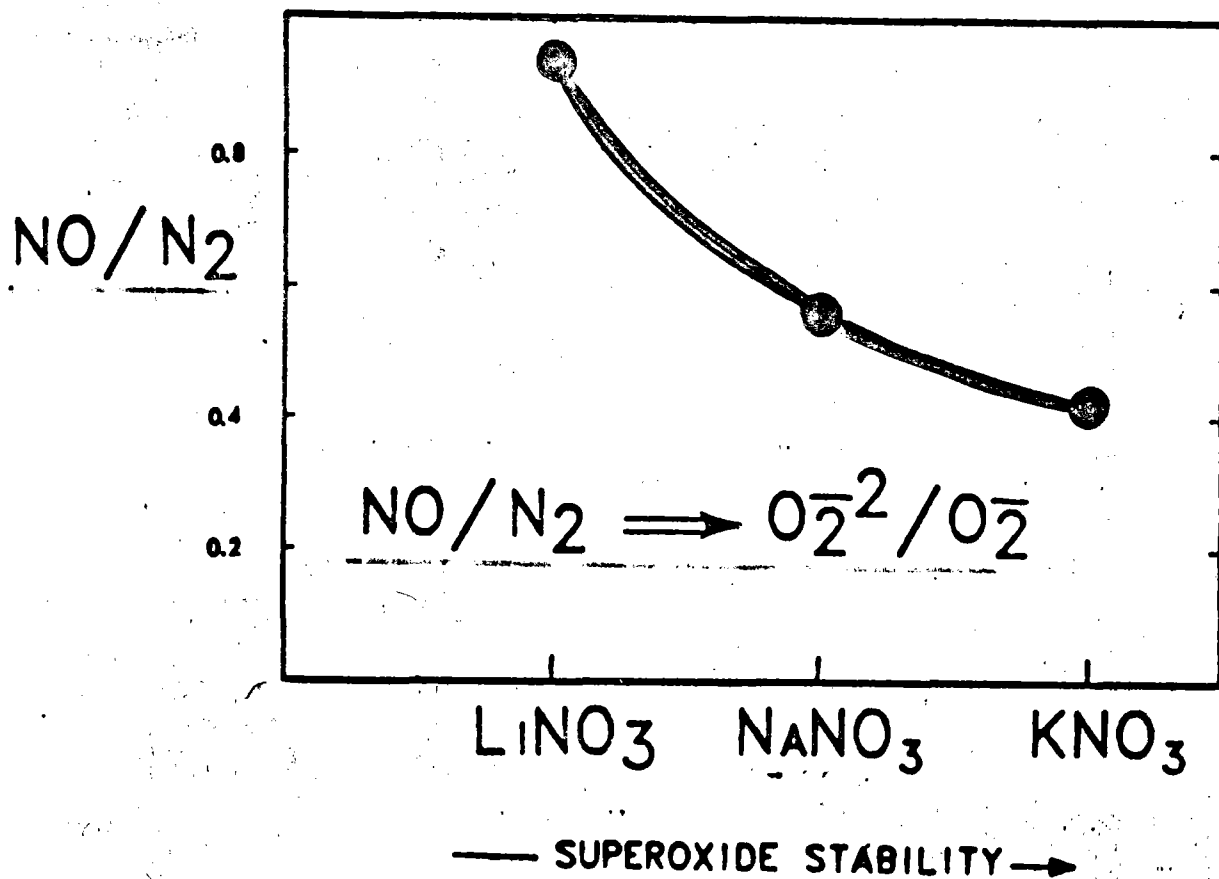
# TG KINETICS ANALYZED



POTASSIUM SUPEROXIDE IS MORE STABLE THAN SODIUM SUPEROXIDE

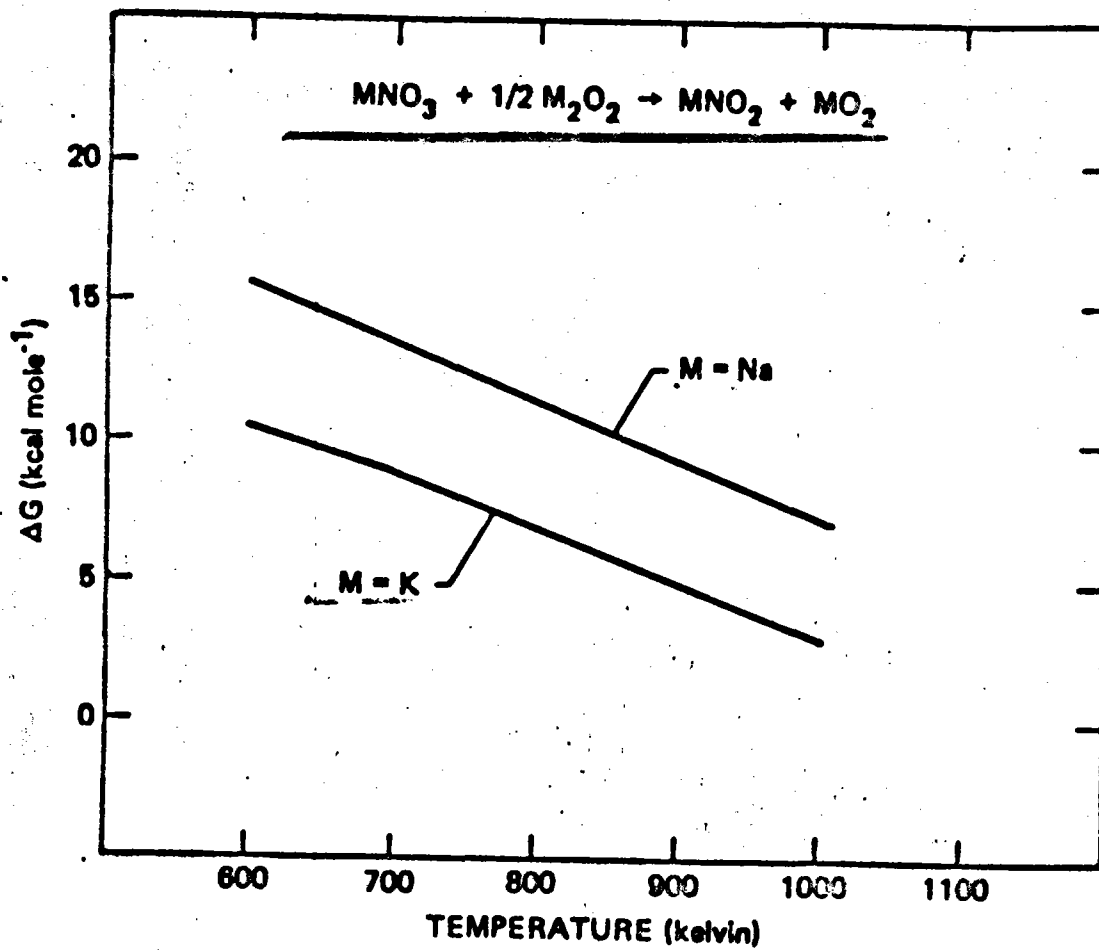


# TOTAL AMOUNTS OF EACH GAS COMPARED



THERMODYNAMICS FAVOR NITRATE, PEROXIDE -

especially for Na species



NANO<sub>2</sub> SELF OXIDIZED

NANO<sub>2</sub>, 400 C, VACUUM

1/2 DECOMPOSED

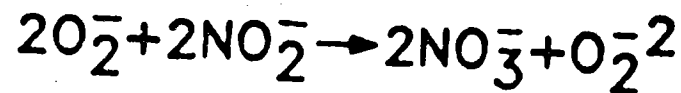
IR ABSORPTION ANALYSIS OF RESIDUE-

Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>

NANO<sub>2</sub>

NANO<sub>3</sub>

SUPEROXIDE IN NITRITES CONSUMED



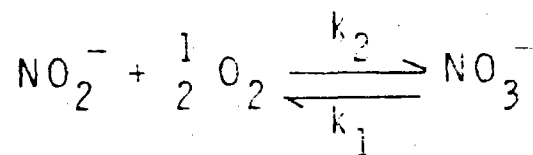
NITRATE-NITRITE REACTIONS

DON NISSEN

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES



## Chemistry of the $\text{NO}_3^-/\text{NO}_2^-$ System



### Thermodynamics

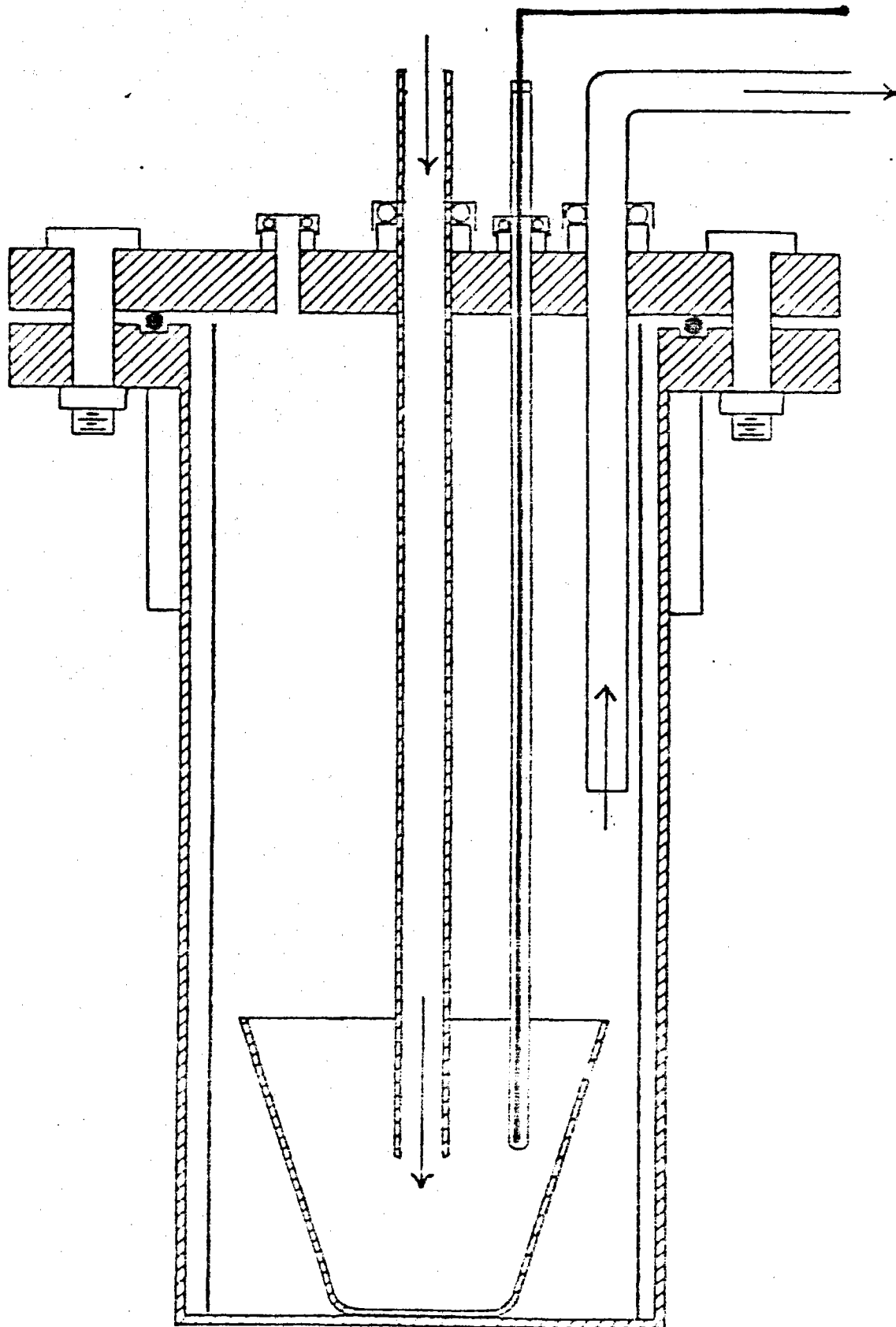
Equilibrium Constant  
Free Energy, Enthalpy

### Kinetics

Rate  
Mechanism

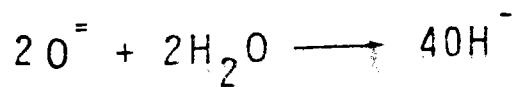
### Conditions

$T > 500^\circ\text{C}$   
Composition of Gas Phase

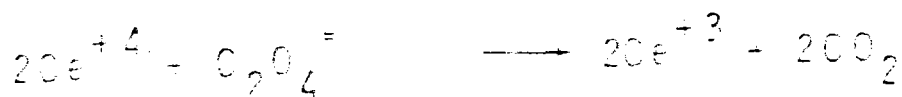


## SAMPLE ANALYSIS

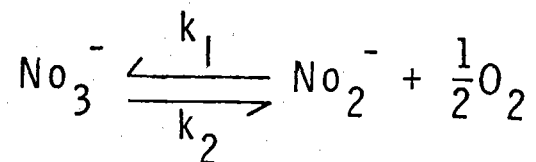
1. pH



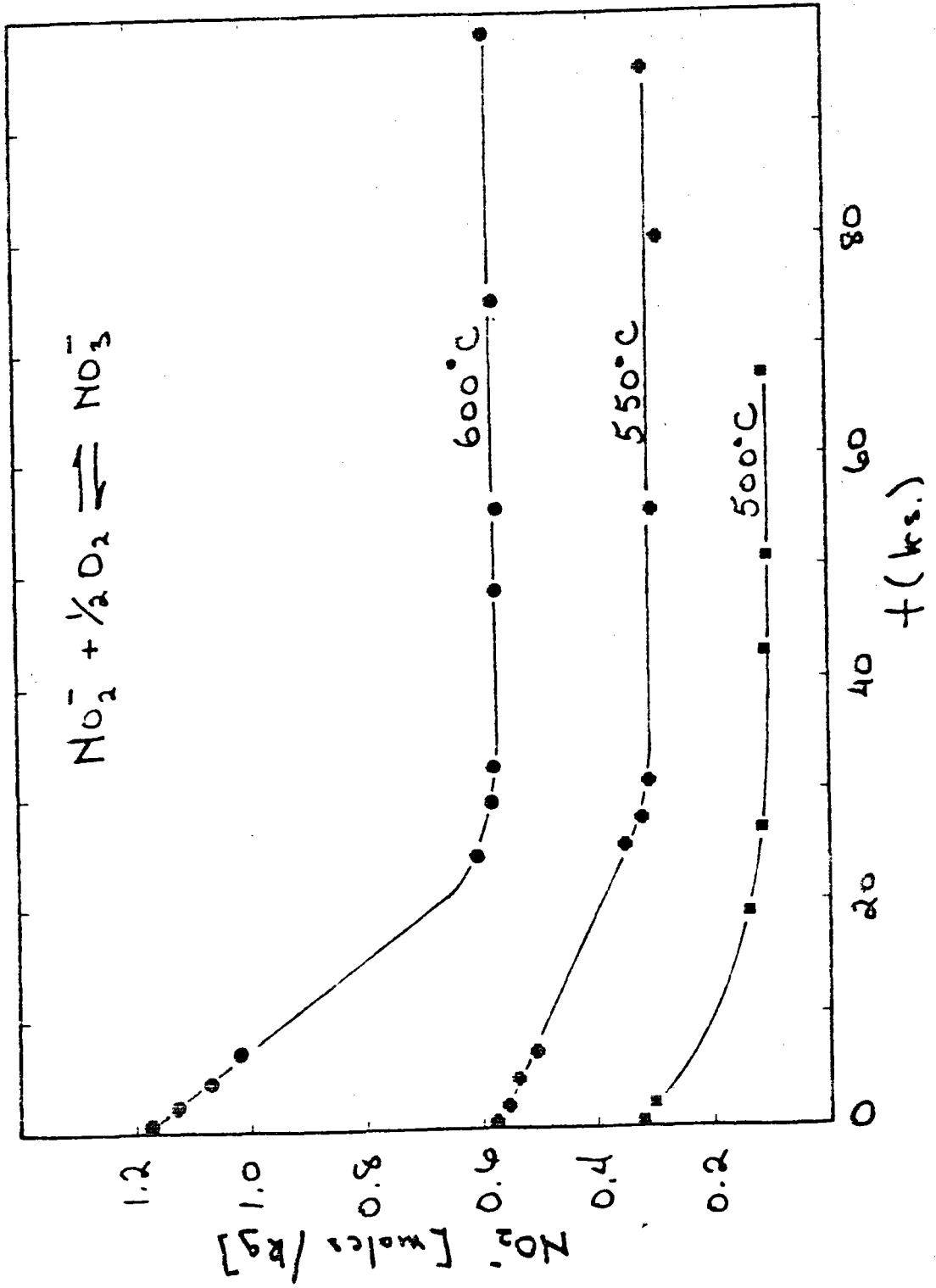
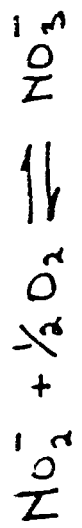
2.  $\text{NO}_2^{\ominus}$



No  $\text{OH}^-$  ( $\text{O}^-$ ,  $\text{O}_2^{-2}$ ,  $\text{O}_2^-$ ) was found in any sample (lower detection limit  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  molal) which implies the reaction



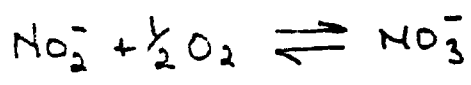
represents the only intrinsic reaction which takes place in  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{KNO}_3$  in either Ar or  $\text{O}_2$ .



## Equilibrium Constants for the Oxidation of Nitrite

<u>T(°C)</u>	<u>K</u>
500	100
550	39.1
550	40.7
600	19.4
600	17.6
620	12.5

$$K = \frac{k_2}{k_1} = \frac{[\text{NO}_3^-]}{[\text{NO}_2^-] \cdot P_{\text{O}_2}} = 1$$



$$K_e = \frac{[\text{NO}_3^-]}{[\text{NO}_2^-]}$$

100

10

KNO<sub>3</sub>

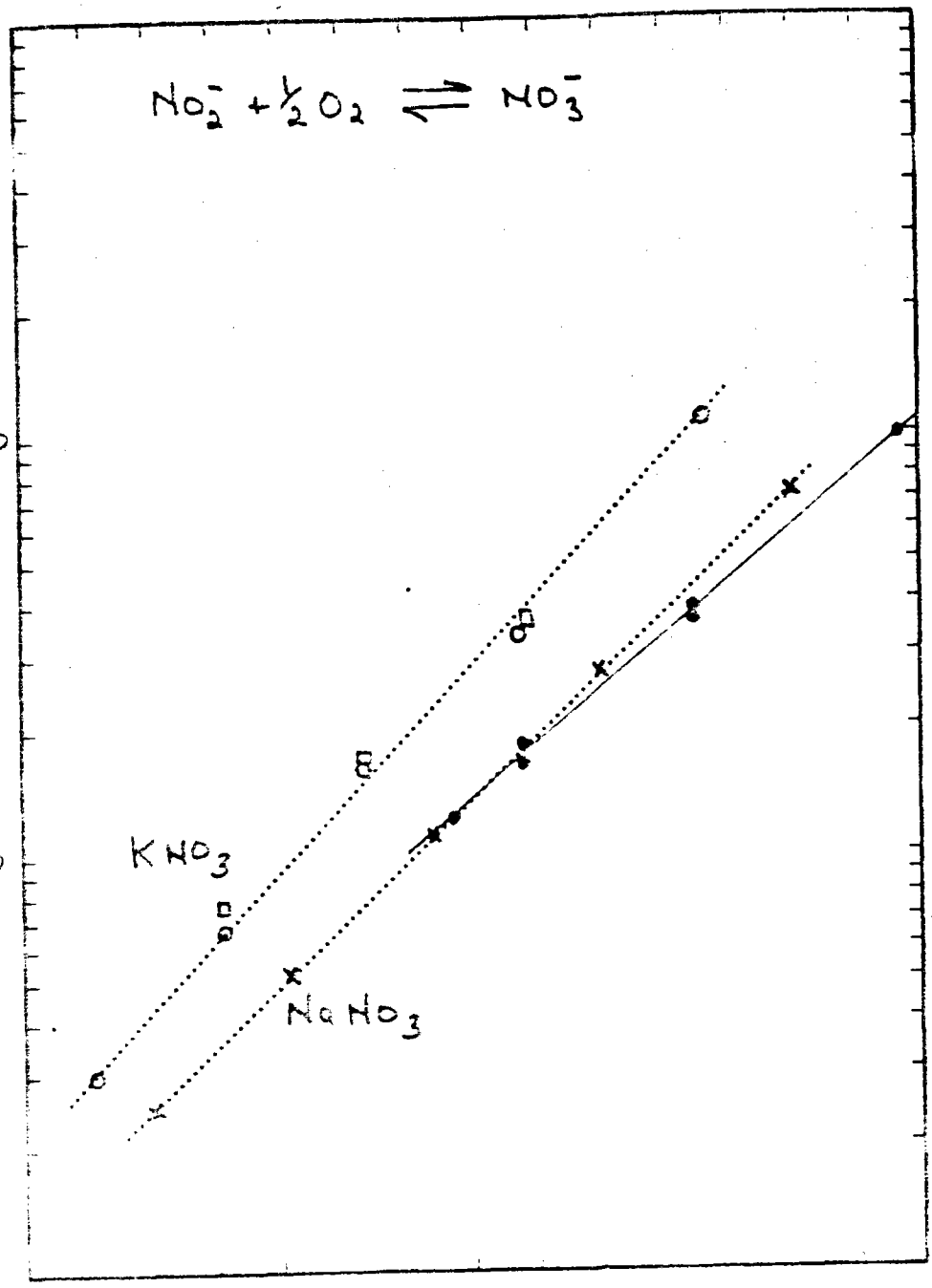
NaNO<sub>3</sub>

1.00

1.10

1.20

$1/T (^{\circ}\text{K}) \times 10^3$



$$\underline{\Delta H^0 \text{ (exp't)} = -23.2 \text{ Kcal/mole}}$$

$$\Delta H_{\text{NaNO}_3}^0 \text{ (lit)} = -24 \text{ to } -27 \text{ Kcal/mole}$$

$$\Delta H_{\text{KNO}_3}^0 \text{ (lit)} = -26 \text{ to } -27 \text{ Kcal/mole}$$

$$\underline{\Delta G_T^0 = -23,200 + 20.9T}$$

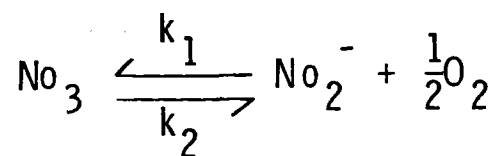
$$\Delta S_{\text{NaNO}_3} \text{ (lit)} = 24 - 25 \text{ cal/deg-mole}$$

$$\Delta S_{\text{KNO}_3} \text{ (lit)} = 23 - 24 \text{ cal/deg-mole}$$



## SUMMARY

The reaction



was found by chemical analysis of molten  
 $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{KNO}_3$  to be the only intrinsic reaction.

For this reaction

$$\Delta G^0 = -23,200 + 20.9T(^{\circ}\text{K}) \text{ cal/mole}$$

ATMOSPHERIC (CO<sub>2</sub> AND H<sub>2</sub>O) EFFECTS

SID WHITE

EIC LABORATORY, INC.

A Study of the Interactions of Molten Sodium Nitrate,  
Potassium Nitrate and their 50 mol% Mixture  
with Water Vapor and Carbon  
Dioxide in the Air

Contractor

Sandia Laboratories  
Livermore, California

## Objective

Study the interactions of water, carbon dioxide with  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , and 50 mol %  $\text{NaNO}_3$ -50 mol %  $\text{KNO}_3$  in the temperature range 300-600°C.

## Methodology to be Employed

The high sensitivity (ppm) and selectivity of the electrochemical methods such as:

- cyclic voltammetry
- chronopotentiometry
- polarography at a rotating disc electrode

should enable the detection of both reactants and products in these high temperature systems.

Electrochemical Data Relating to Oxidic and Other Species in  
Nitrates (NaNO<sub>3</sub>-KNO<sub>3</sub>)

Species	E V *	10 <sup>5</sup> D cm <sup>2</sup> sec <sup>-1</sup>	Temp. °K	Method	Ref.
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$E_{\tau/4} \text{NO}_2/\text{NO}_2^- = -0.44$	5.2 ††	571	Chronopot <sup>n</sup>	22
	$E_{1/2} = -0.44$	0.525	502	RDE	41
		2.48 ± 0.7	523	Chronopot <sup>n</sup>	
H <sub>2</sub> O	$E_{1/2} = -1.19$	1.9	502	RDE	36
O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$E_{O_2^-/O_2}^{1/2} = -0.74$	0.475	502	RDE	32
O <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	$E_{O_2^{2-}/O_2}^{1/2} = -1.28$	0.31	502	RDE	32
OH <sup>-</sup>	$E_{O_2, H_2O/OH^-} = -0.495$	-	502	Potentiometry	4
O <sub>2</sub>	$E_{O_2, H_2O/OH^-} = -0.65$	31 †	520 <sup>¶</sup>	RDE	52
Cl <sup>-</sup>	$E_p = -0.27$	0.152	423	LSV Hg	55
	$E_{1/2} = -0.212$	0.691	518	P.P.Hg	60

¶ Measured over the temperature range 525-575°K

\* versus 0.07 molal Hg<sup>2+</sup>/Ag ref. electrode

† This based on (p) K<sub>0</sub> 4.8 × 10<sup>-6</sup> mol kg<sup>-1</sup> atm<sup>-1</sup> and using wet oxygen i.e. reaction (47) Table 2.

†† The large discrepancy here may arise from the inadvertent presence of oxidic species which in the chronopotentiometric method consume current leading to τ being enhanced, hence resulting in D being too large cf RDE technique.

LSV Linear sweep voltammetry

PP Pulse polarography

Chronopot<sup>n</sup> Chronopotentiometry

C

DATA RELATING TO NITRITE AND WATER  
IN BINARY NaNO<sub>3</sub>-KNO<sub>3</sub>

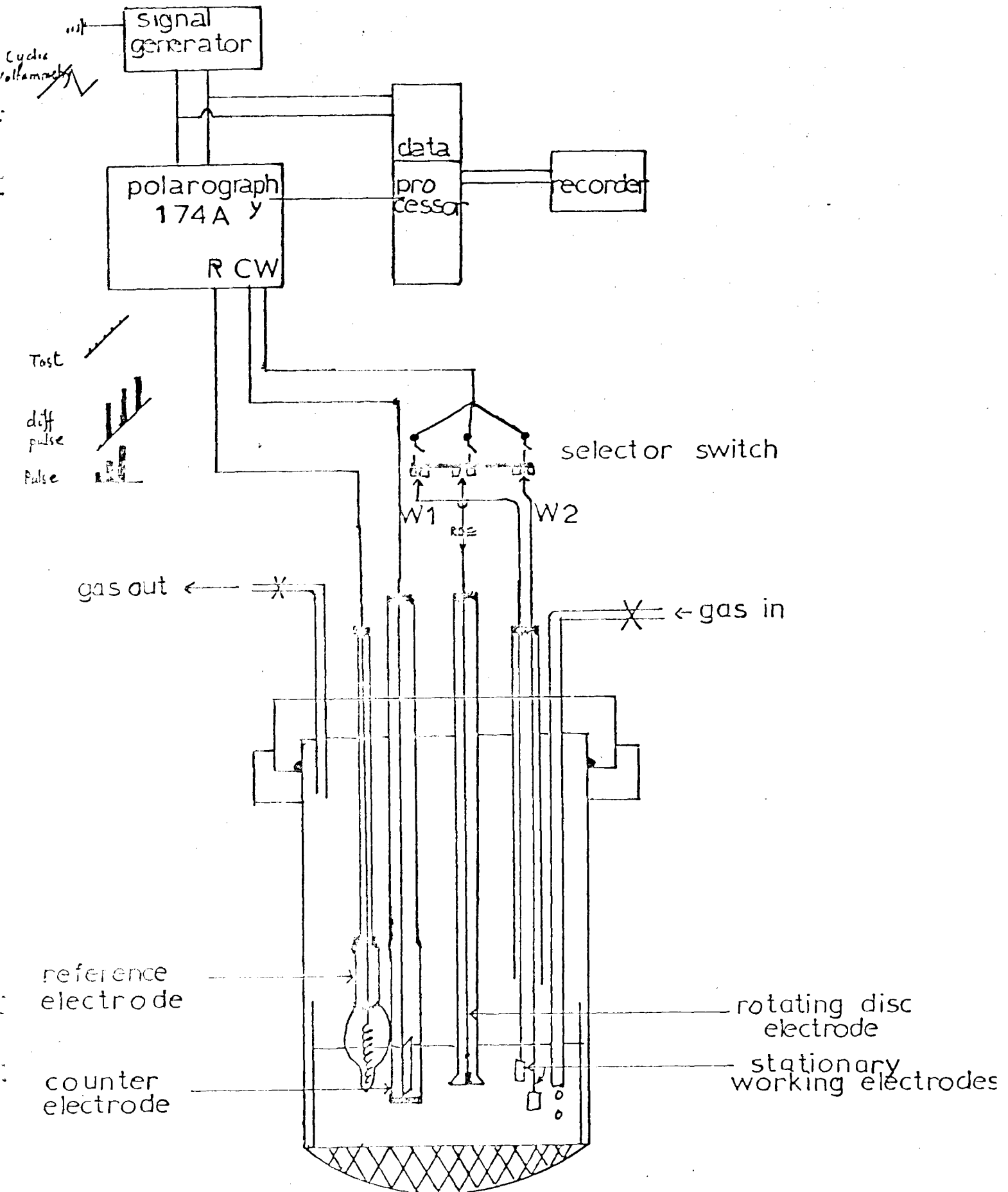
Diffusional Characteristics

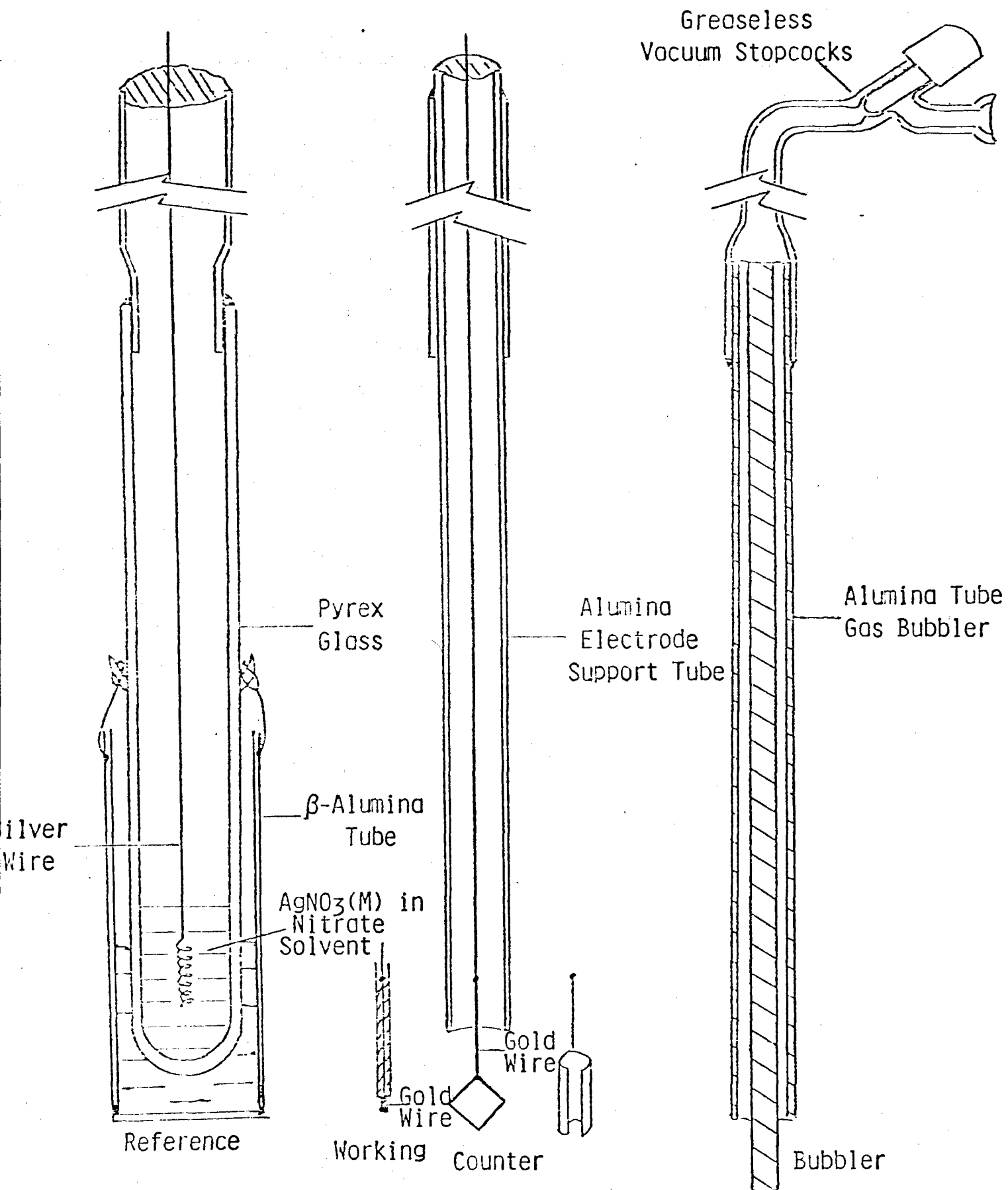
<u>Species</u>	<u>E(V)</u>	<u>10<sup>5</sup>D cm<sup>2</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup></u>	<u>Temp. °K</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Ref.</u>
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$E_{\tau/4}^{\text{NO}_2/\text{NO}_2^-} = -0.44$	5.2	571	Chronopotentiometry	11
	$E_{1/2} = -0.44$	0.525	502	Rotating Disc Electrode	13
		2.4 ± 0.7	523	Chronopotentiometry	14
H <sub>2</sub> O	$E_{1/2} = -1.19$	1.9	502	Rotating Disc Electrode	11

H<sub>2</sub>O Solubility in Molten Nitrates

<u>Solvent</u>	<u>Temp. °C</u>	<u>Henry's Constant mol mol<sup>-1</sup>mm<sup>-1</sup></u>	<u>Range of HL</u>	<u>ΔH<sub>soln</sub> kcal mol<sup>-1</sup></u>	<u>10<sup>5</sup>D cm<sup>2</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup></u>	<u>Ref.</u>
NaNO <sub>3</sub> -KNO <sub>3</sub>	227	176	20 mm	-8.4	1.94	12
50:50 mol%	294	63	20 mm			3

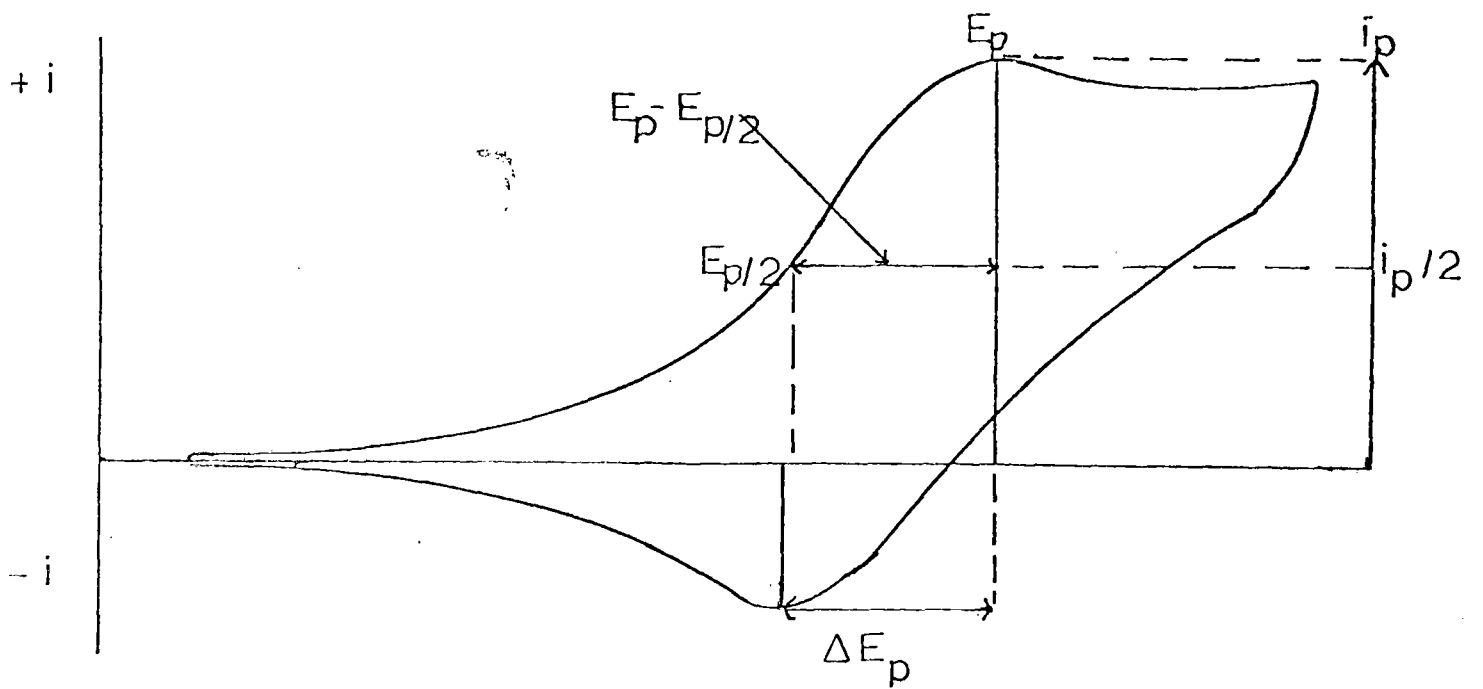
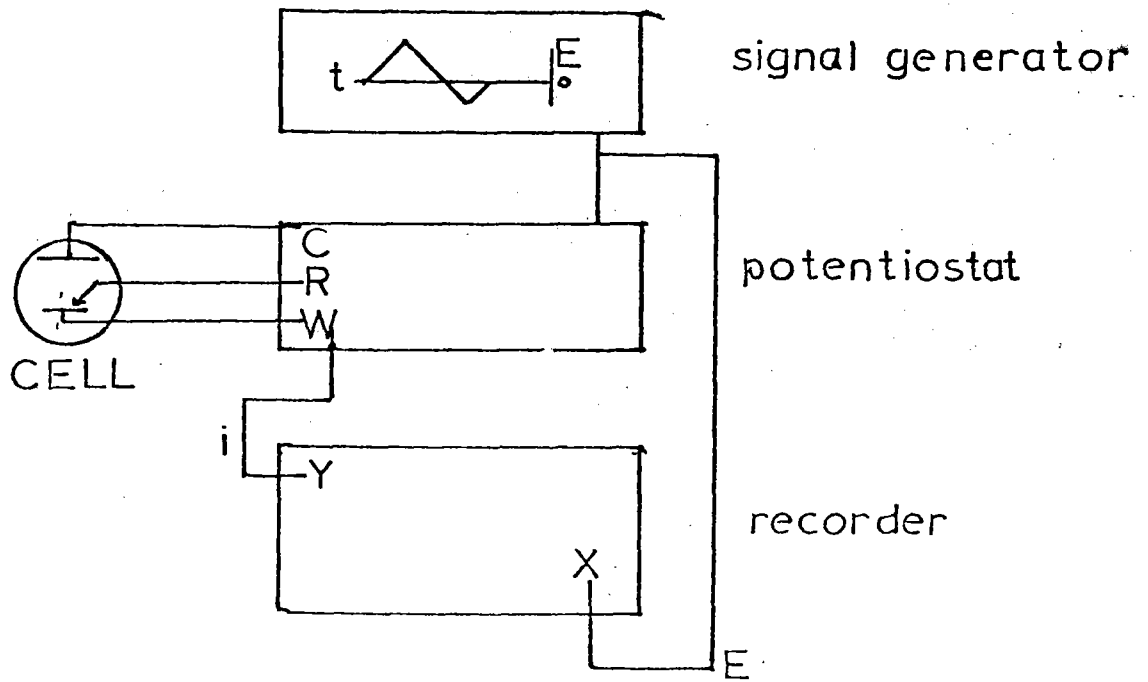
Experimental Cell.

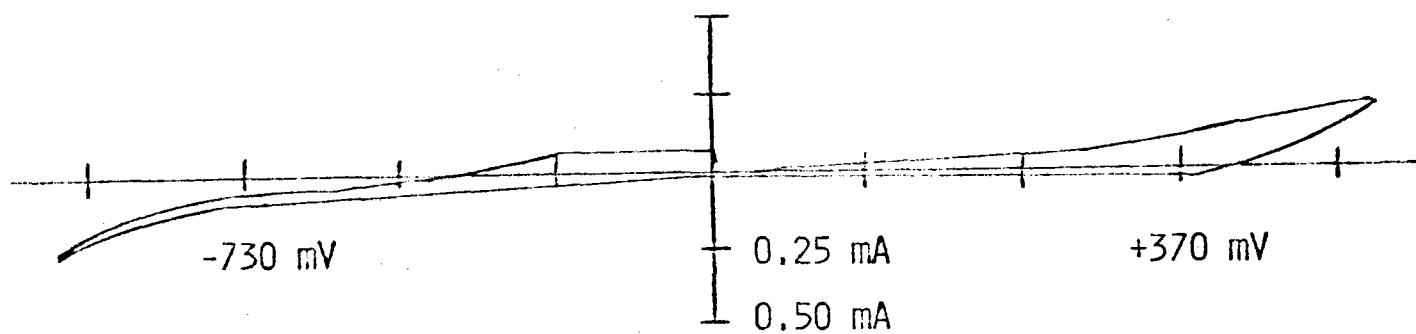




Individual cell components.





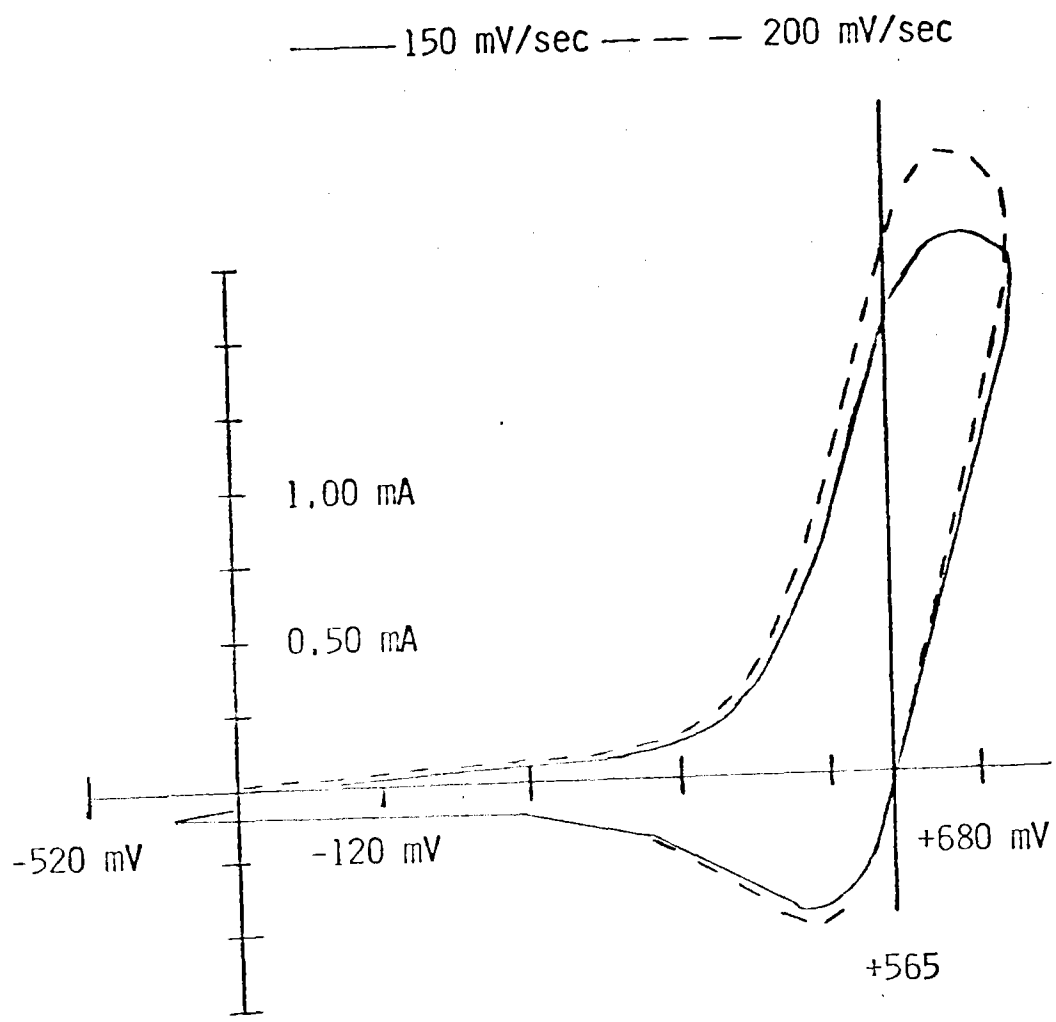


Binary nitrate, background after oxygen treatment.

Area = 0.365 cm<sup>2</sup>

Scan Rate = 100 mV/sec<sup>-1</sup>

Temperature = 350°C



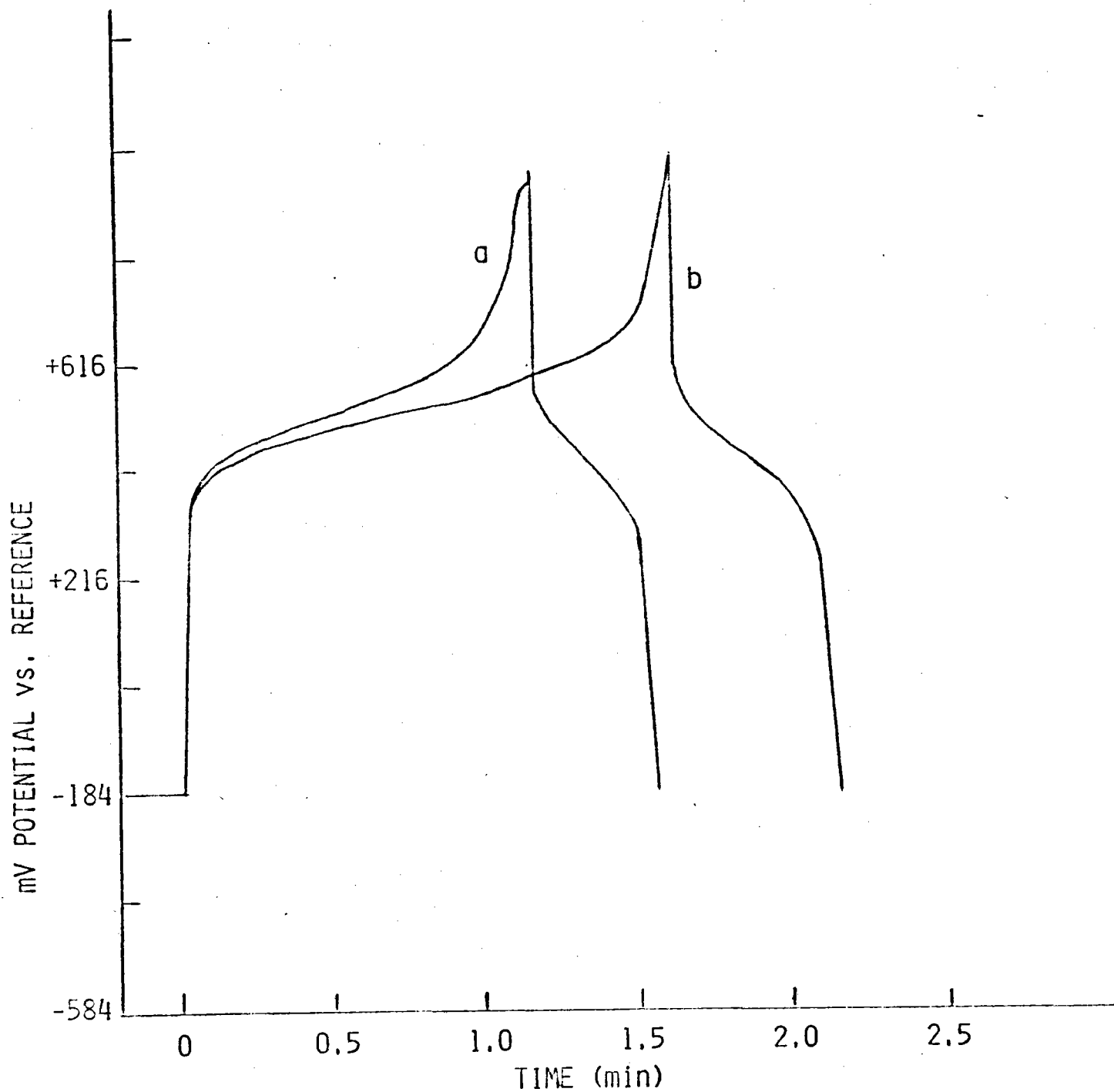
Typical cyclic voltammogram for nitrite ion oxidation.

Conc.  $\text{NO}_2^-$  =  $1.044 \times 10^{-2}$  mol  $\text{kg}^{-1}$

Area = 0.365  $\text{cm}^2$

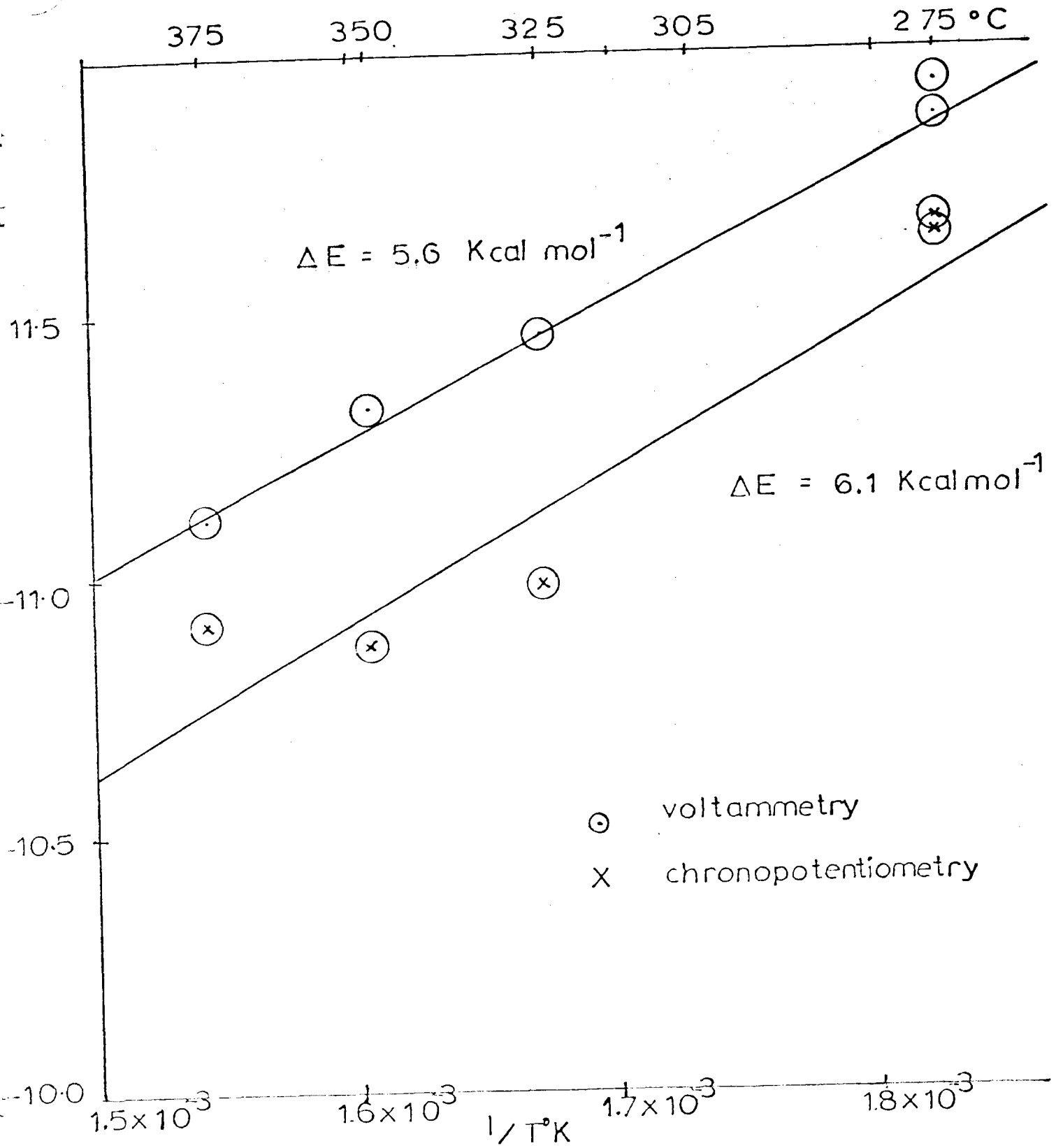
Temperature =  $375^\circ\text{C}$

a - Current =  $3.00 \times 10^{-3}$  amps  
b - Current =  $2.50 \times 10^{-3}$  amps  
Temperature =  $275^{\circ}\text{C}$   
Concentration =  $8.452 \times 10^{-3}$  mol  $\text{kg}^{-1}$   
Area =  $0.365$   $\text{cm}^2$



Typical chronopotentiogram for nitrite ion oxidation.

711



Arrhenius plot for nitrite ion diffusion.

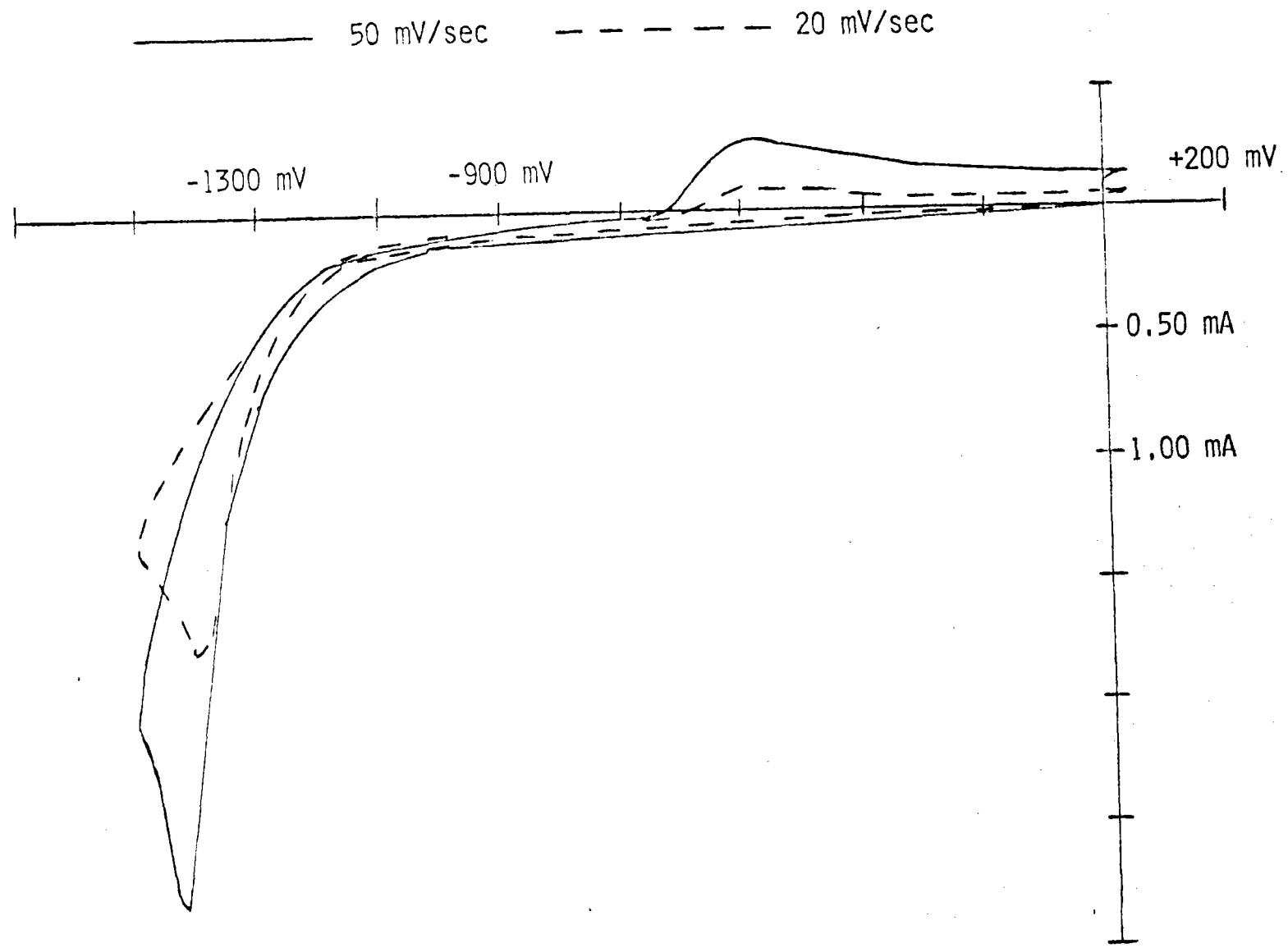
COMPARISON OF EXPERIMENTAL AND LITERATURE DATA FOR  
NITRITE ION DIFFUSION COEFFICIENTS (cm<sup>2</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup>)

<u>Temp. °C</u>	<u>This Work</u>		<u>Literature</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Method</u>
	<u>CV</u> Diffusion Coefficient	<u>CP</u> Diffusion Coefficient			
350	12.1 ± 0.01 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	19.2 ± 0.01 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	-		CP, CV
298	8.2 ± 0.01 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	11.2 ± 0.01 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	52 ± 2 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Topol Osteryoung Christie	CP
250	5.2 ± 0.003 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	6.8 ± 0.003	24.8 ± 7 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Inman Spencer White	CP
250	5.2 ± 0.003 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	6.8 ± 0.003	27.5 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	McCormick Swofford	CP
237	4.6 ± 0.003 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.9 ± 0.003	5.25 ± 0.1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Zambonin	RDE

$$CV \ln D = -6.809 - 2.7939 \times 10^3 \cdot \frac{1}{T}$$

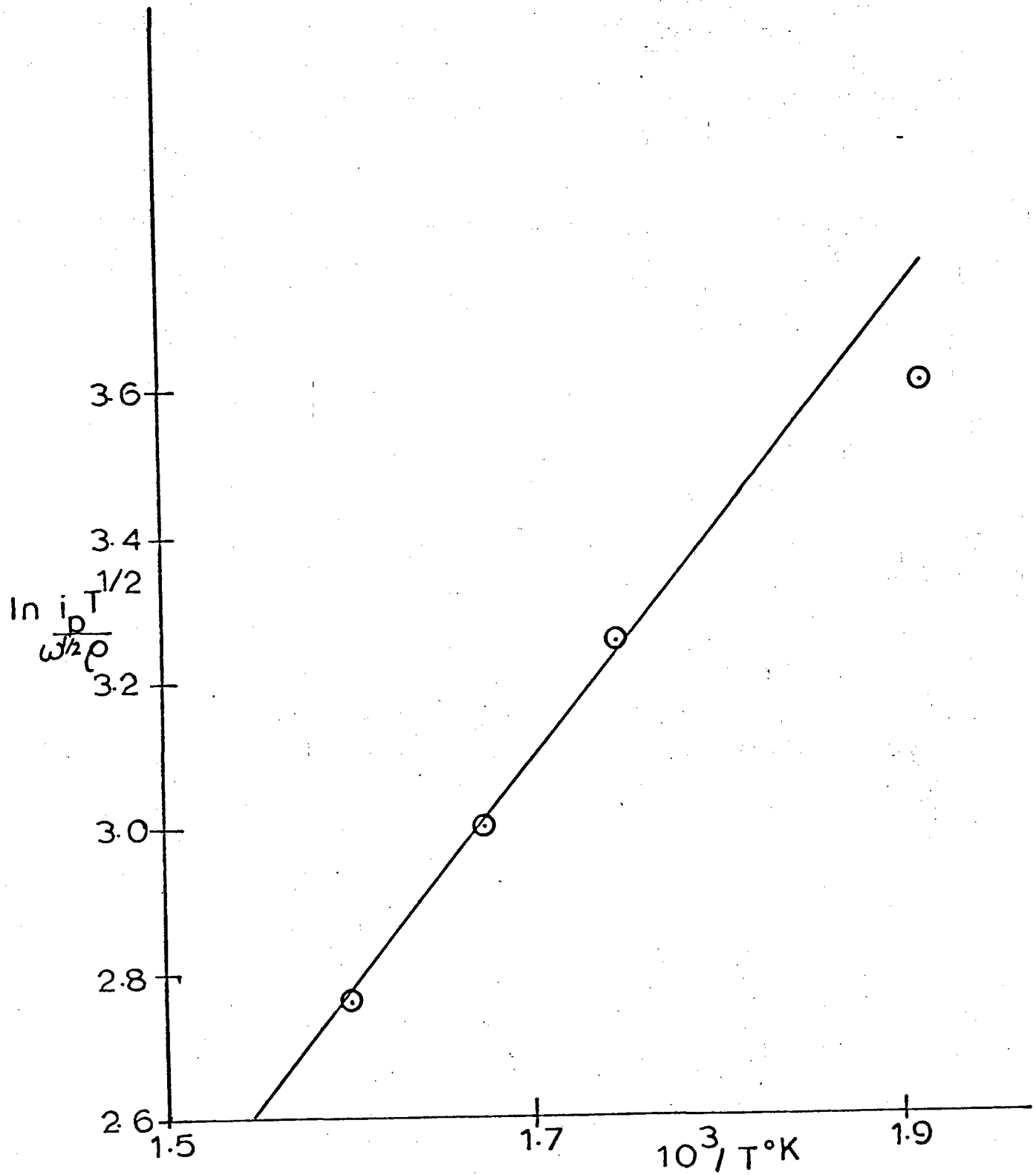
$$CP \ln D = -6.025 - 3.065 \times 10^3 \cdot \frac{1}{T}$$

Condition Coefficient  
CC 0.996



Cyclic voltammograms for cathodic process involving water.  
Temperature = 305°C;  $r_{H_2O} = 20.5$  mm; Area = 0.365.

0



Arrhenius plot for water from cyclic voltammetric data.

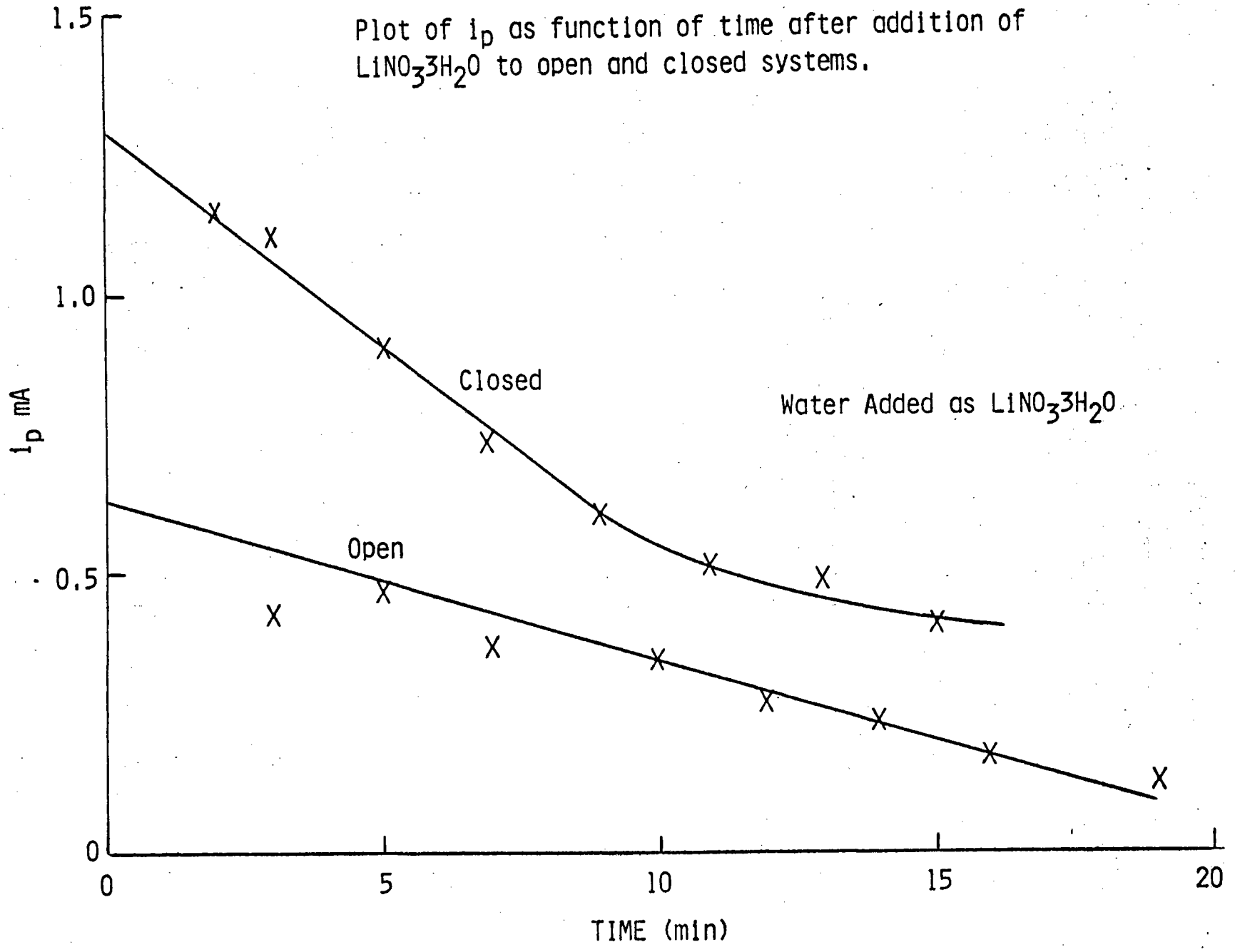


EXPERIMENTAL AND DERIVED RESULTS FOR WATER IN MOLTEN  
SODIUM POTASSIUM NITRATE MIXTURE (50 mol %)

Temp °K	P mm Hg	$i_p/v^{1/2}$ A cm <sup>-2</sup> v <sup>-1/2</sup> s <sup>1/2</sup>	D x 10 <sup>6</sup> cm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	C x 10 <sup>3</sup> mol kg <sup>-1</sup>	K <sub>H</sub> x 10 <sup>4</sup> mol kg <sup>-1</sup> mm <sup>-1</sup>	K <sub>H</sub> x 10 <sup>4</sup> Literature <sup>12</sup> mol kg <sup>-1</sup> mm <sup>-1</sup>
523	20.94	50.98	22	9.82	4.6	6.0
573	9.21	18.85	32	3.20	3.4	-
573	19.35	36.06	32	6.15	3.1	-
573	20.82	33.77	32	5.26	2.5	3.3
573	31.82	45.24	32	7.68	2.4	-
598	8.04	5.76	37	0.94	1.1	-
598	20.94	25.57	37	4.19	2.0	-
623	20.94	19.34	44	2.96	1.4	-

Note: Calculation based upon  $D_{H_2O} = 19 \times 10^{-6}$  cm<sup>2</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup> at 503°K  
and an activation energy for diffusion of 4.4 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.

Plot of  $i_p$  as function of time after addition of  $\text{LiNO}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to open and closed systems.



17 13

## DIFFUSION COEFFICIENT FOR WATER AT 300°C

	<u><math>D_{H_2O}</math> cm<sup>2</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup></u>	<u>Conc. LiNO<sub>3</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O Added</u>
Open (Argon Flowing)	13 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	4.08 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> mol kg <sup>-1</sup>
Closed (Argon Stationary)	21 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	6.65 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> mol kg <sup>-1</sup>
Calculated	32 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	from Zambonin's value of 19 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> at 230°C and our activation energy for diffusion of 4.4 kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> [12]

REVIEW OF MARTIN MARIETTA ADVANCED  
CENTRAL RECEIVER EXPERIMENT

TOM TRACEY

MARTIN MARIETTA CORPORATION

---

CRTF MOLTEN SALT RECEIVER EXPERIMENT

OCTOBER 29, 1980

**MARTIN MARIETTA**

**Badger**

Arizona Public Service Co.

**aps.**  
WE CARE HOW YOU LIVE

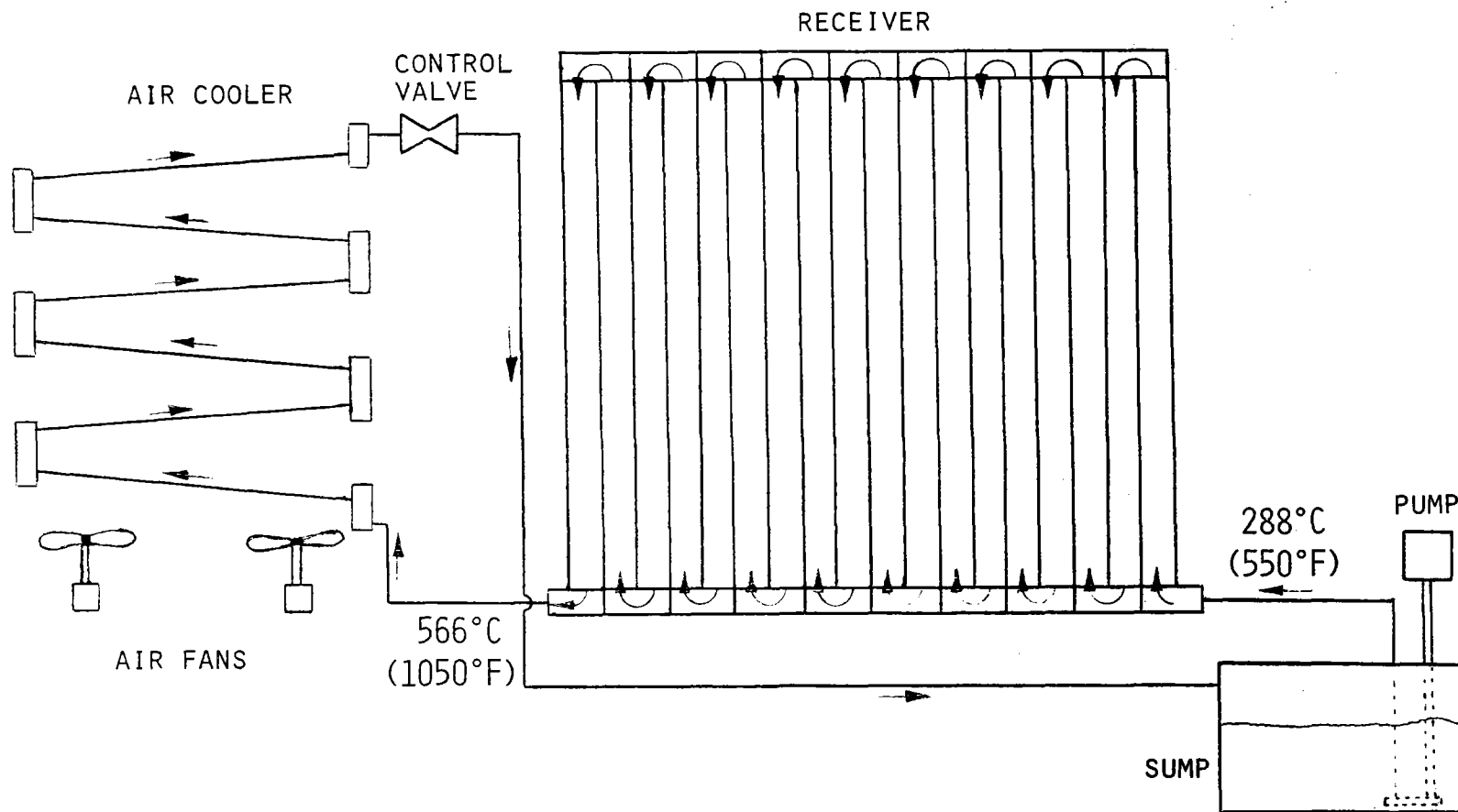
## OBJECTIVES OF RECEIVER EXPERIMENT

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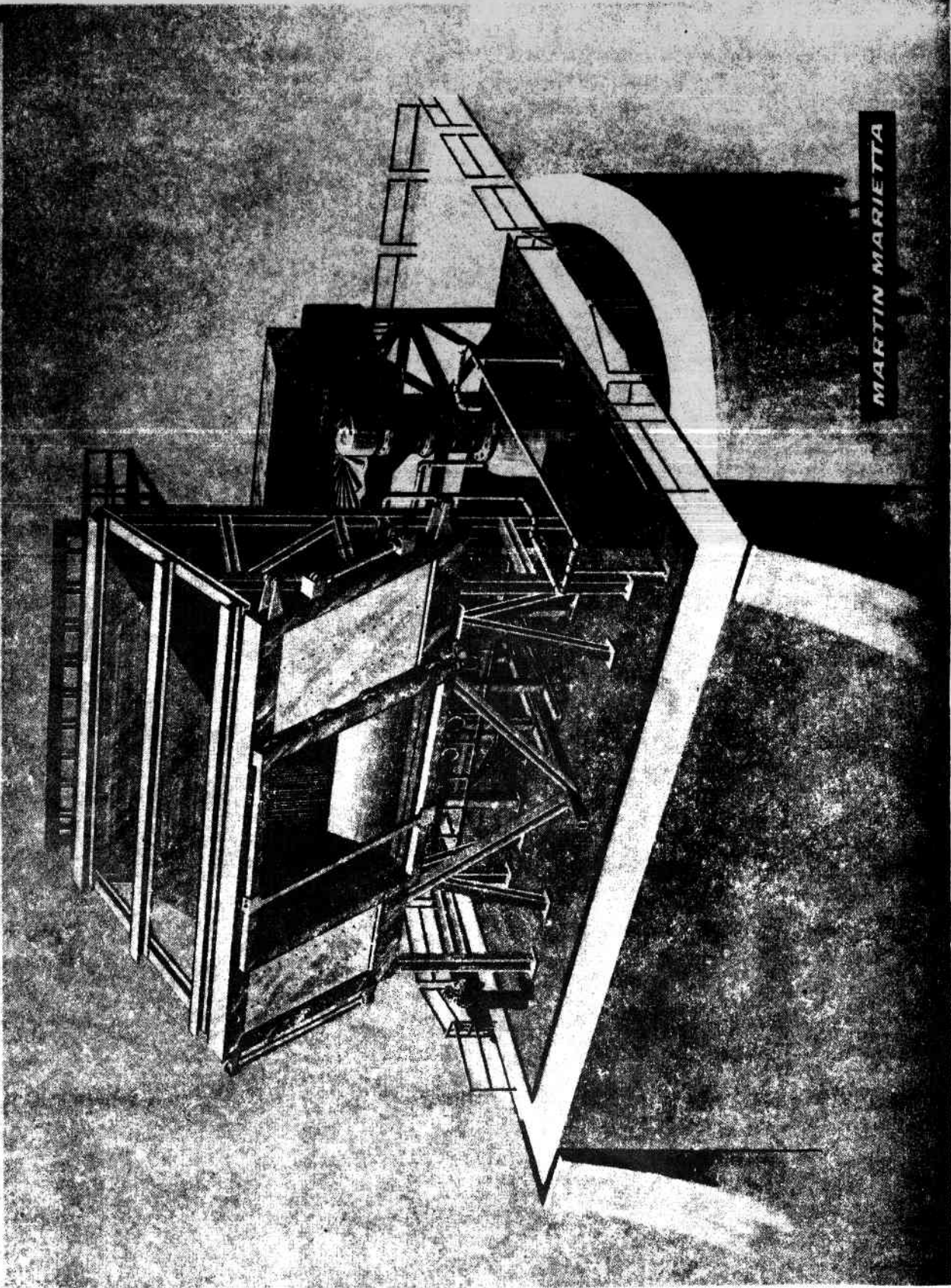
DEMONSTRATE THE SAFE, RELIABLE AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF A SOLAR RECEIVER USING MOLTEN SALT (60%  $\text{NaNO}_3$ , 40%  $\text{KNO}_3$ ) AS THE HEAT TRANSFER FLUID UNDER OPERATING CONDITIONS WHICH SIMULATE A COMMERCIAL RECEIVER INCLUDING:

- FLUID TEMPERATURES
- HEAT FLUXES
- REALISTIC TRANSIENTS
  - STARTUP
  - SHUTDOWN
  - CLOUD INTERRUPTION
- STEADY STATE OPERATION

# RECEIVER SRE SCHEMATIC



# Molten Salt Solar Receiver SRE—Cavity Configuration

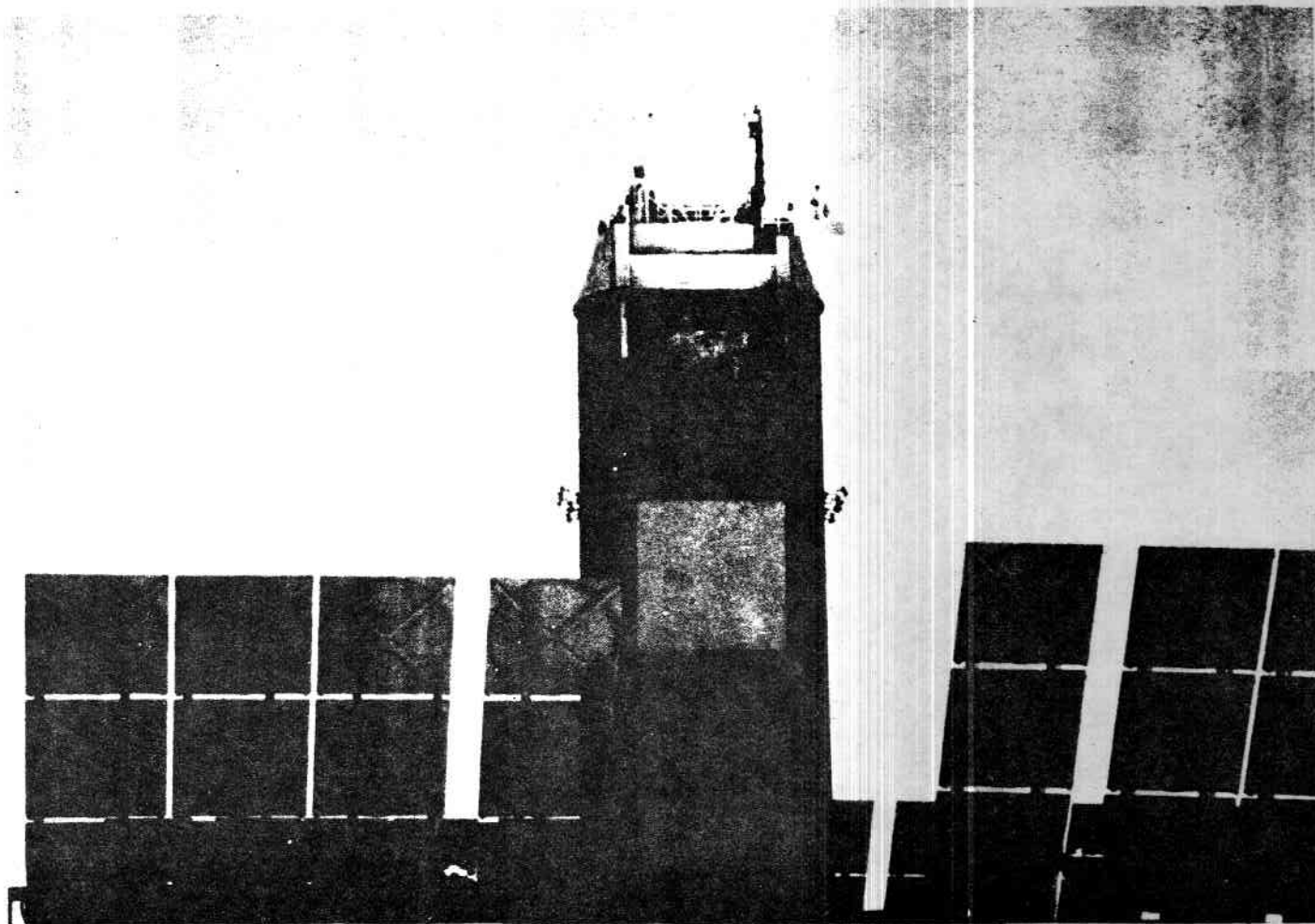


MARTIN MARIETTA

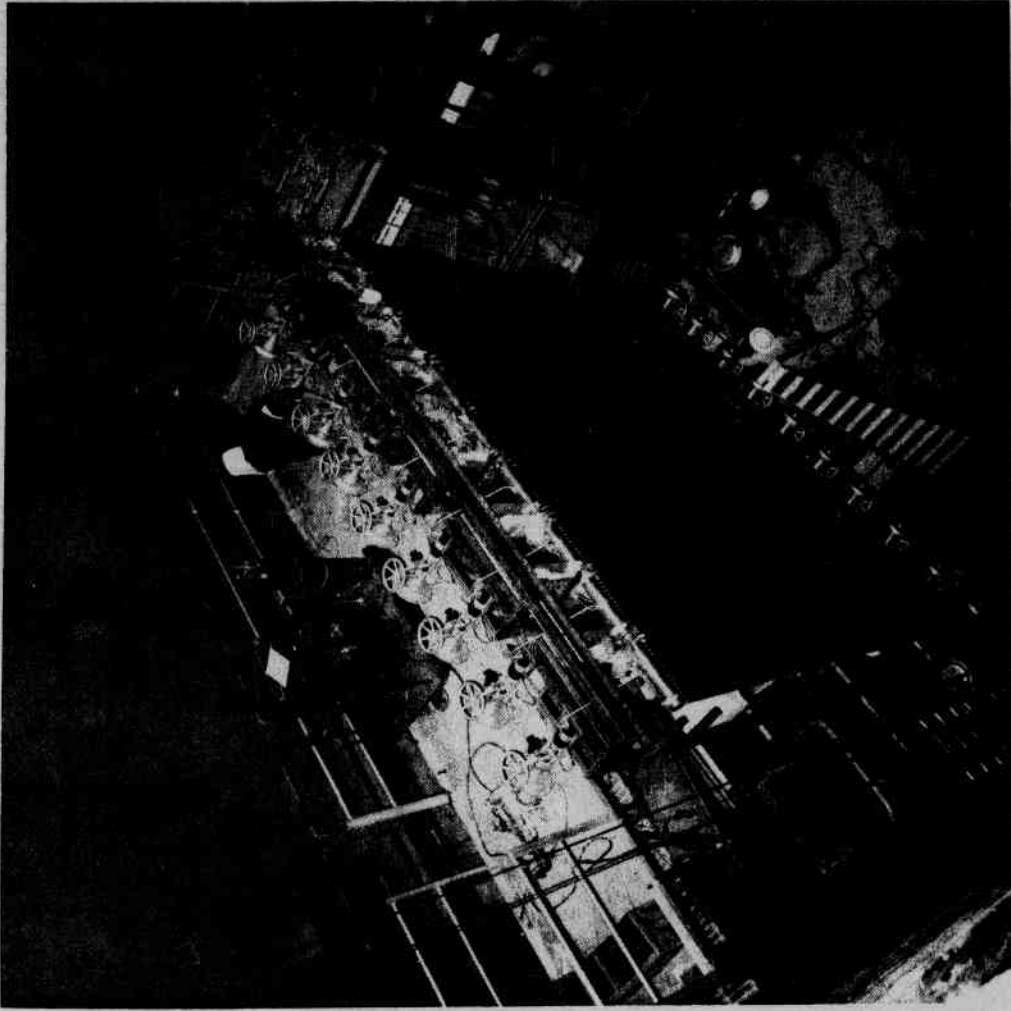


RECEIVER SRE - IN TEST AT THE CRTF

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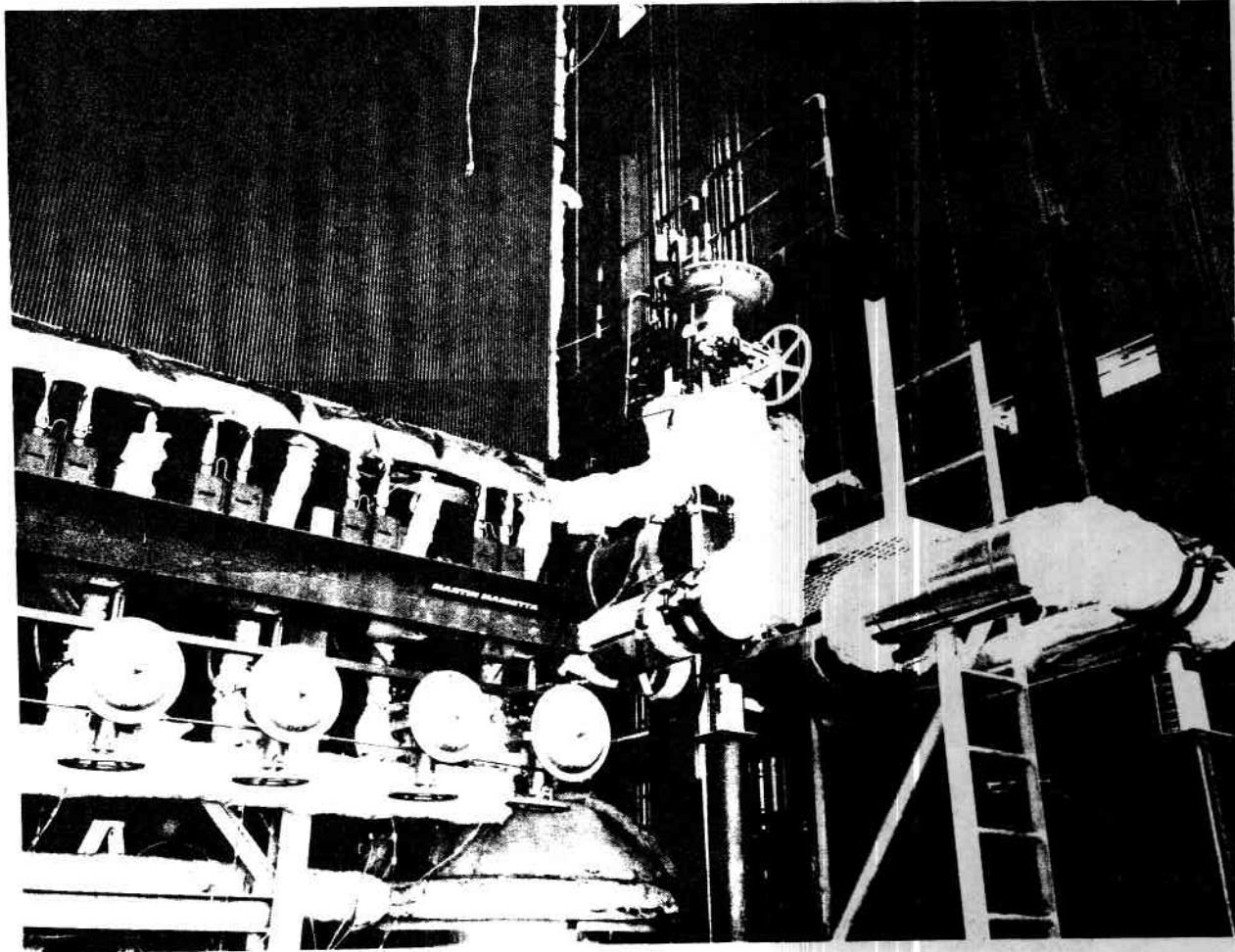


RECEIVER SUBASSEMBLY - TOP

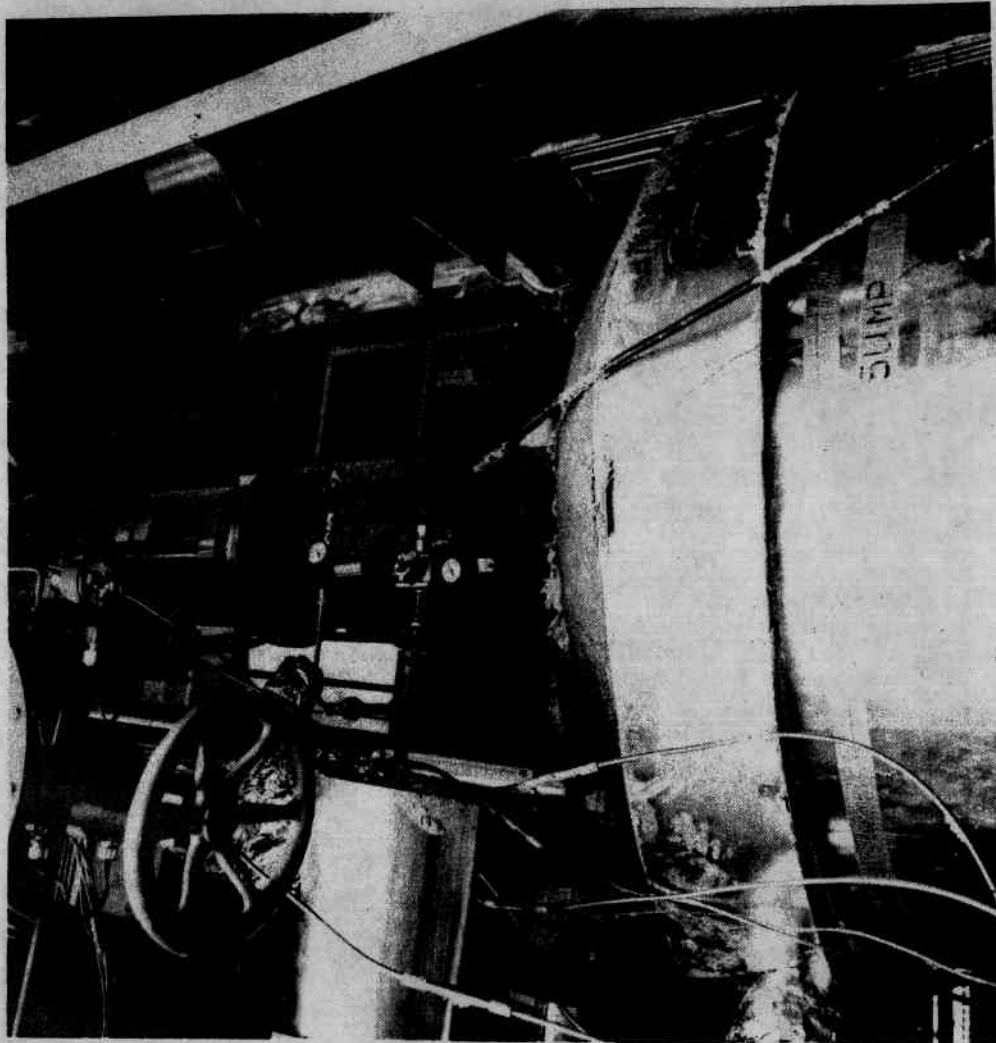


RECEIVER SUBASSEMBLY - BOTTOM

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PUMP ASSEMBLY



## SUMMARY OF INSTRUMENTATION

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o TEMPERATURES	506
- RECEIVER TUBES	306
- RECEIVER HEADERS	18
- CAVITY	48
- AIR COOLER	55
- SUMP	15
- PIPING	59
- OTHER	5
o PRESSURE	5
o SOLAR FLUX	8
o DISPLACEMENT	8
o FLOW RATE	2
- SEGMENTED WEDGE (CONTINUOUS READOUT)	
- IN LINE WEIGHT FLOW CALIBRATION	

## RECEIVER EXPERIMENT PARAMETERS

---

### RECEIVER

NOMINAL THERMAL RATING	-	5 MW <sub>TH</sub> ( $17.1 \times 10^6$ BTU/HR)
ACTIVE SURFACE DIMENSIONS	-	3.35 M (11 FT) BY 5.49 M (18 FT)
MATERIAL	-	INCOLOY 800
MOLTEN SALT TEMPERATURES	-	561 K (550°F) TO 839 K (1050°F)
AVERAGE HEAT FLUX	-	0.315 MW/M <sup>2</sup> ( $\sim 100,000$ BTU/HR-FT <sup>2</sup> )
PEAK HEAT FLUX	-	0.653 MW/M <sup>2</sup> ( $\sim 207,000$ BTU/HR-FT <sup>2</sup> )
TUBE SIZE	-	19.1 MM DIA. X 1.651 MM WALL (.75 IN. DIA. X .065 MM WALL)
NUMBER OF PASSES	-	18
NUMBER OF TUBES PER PASS	-	16

### PUMP

NOMINAL FLOW RATE	-	0.00757 M <sup>3</sup> /SEC (120 GPM)
PUMP HEAD RISE	-	1.17 MPa (170 PSI)
PUMP POWER	-	44.8 KW (60 HP)

### AIR COOLER

COOLING CAPACITY	-	5 MW <sub>T</sub> ( $17.1 \times 10^6$ BTU/HR)
MOLTEN SALT INLET TEMP.	-	839 K (1050°F)
MOLTEN SALT OUTLET TEMP.	-	561 K (550°F)

SUMMARY OF TESTING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1980

---

TOTAL SOLAR TEST HOURS	225 Hrs
TOTAL SOLAR TEST HOURS AT FULL POWER (~200 HELIOSTATS)	115 Hrs
TOTAL SOLAR TEST HOURS AT FULL POWER AND DESIGN TEMPERATURES	70 Hrs
PEAK POWER OUTPUT MW <sub>TH</sub>	4.7MW <sub>TH</sub>

REVIEW OF STORAGE SUBSYSTEM

RESEARCH EXPERIMENT

CLIFF SCHAFER

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES



MOLTEN SALT ENERGY STORAGE SRE

CONTRACTOR: MARTIN MARIETTA

SUB-CONTRACTORS: STEARNS-ROGER  
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY  
AMERICAN TECHNIGAZ, INC.

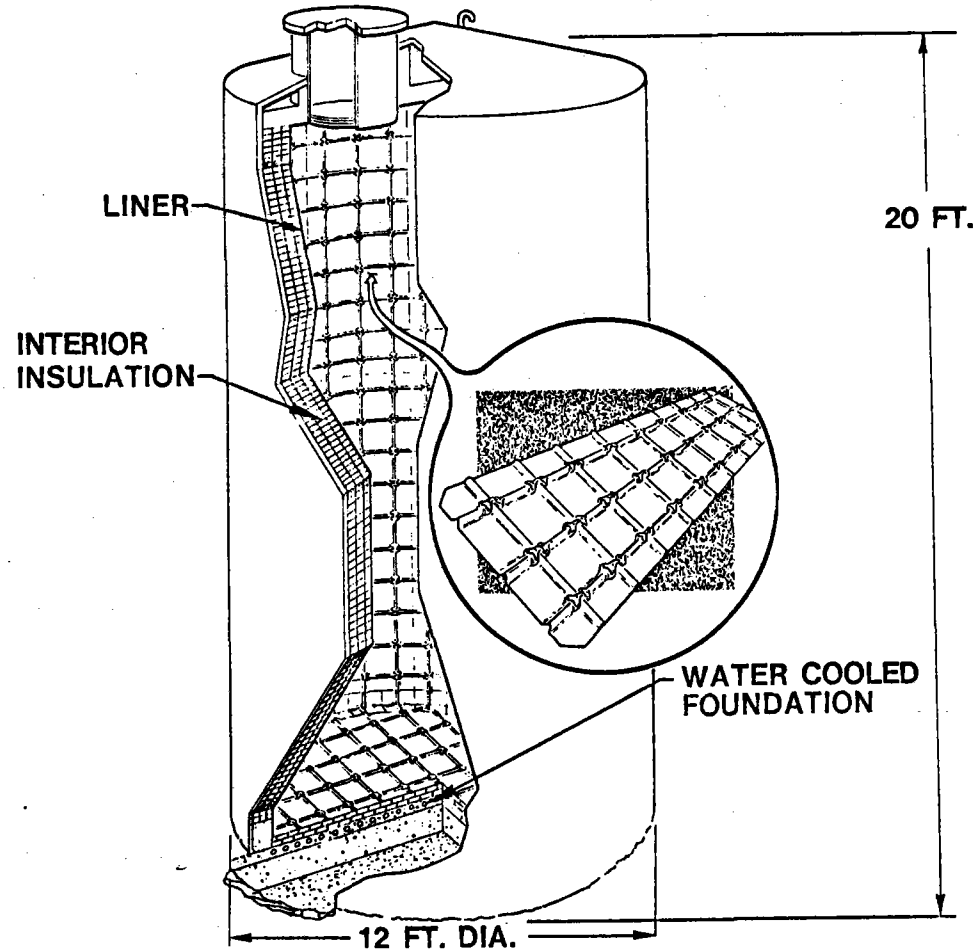
CONTRACT: \$2,384,000

TASKS

1. PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND COSTING OF A FULL SCALE SYSTEM
2. DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF LINER MATERIAL AND CONFIGURATION
3. BUILD AND TEST A 6.9 MWH( $\tau$ ) INTERNALLY INSULATED SUBSYSTEM RESEARCH EXPERIMENT (SRE) AT CRTF.
4. ASSESSMENT OF A FULL SIZE SYSTEM USING SRE TEST RESULTS AND ASSESS APPLICABILITY FOR SODIUM

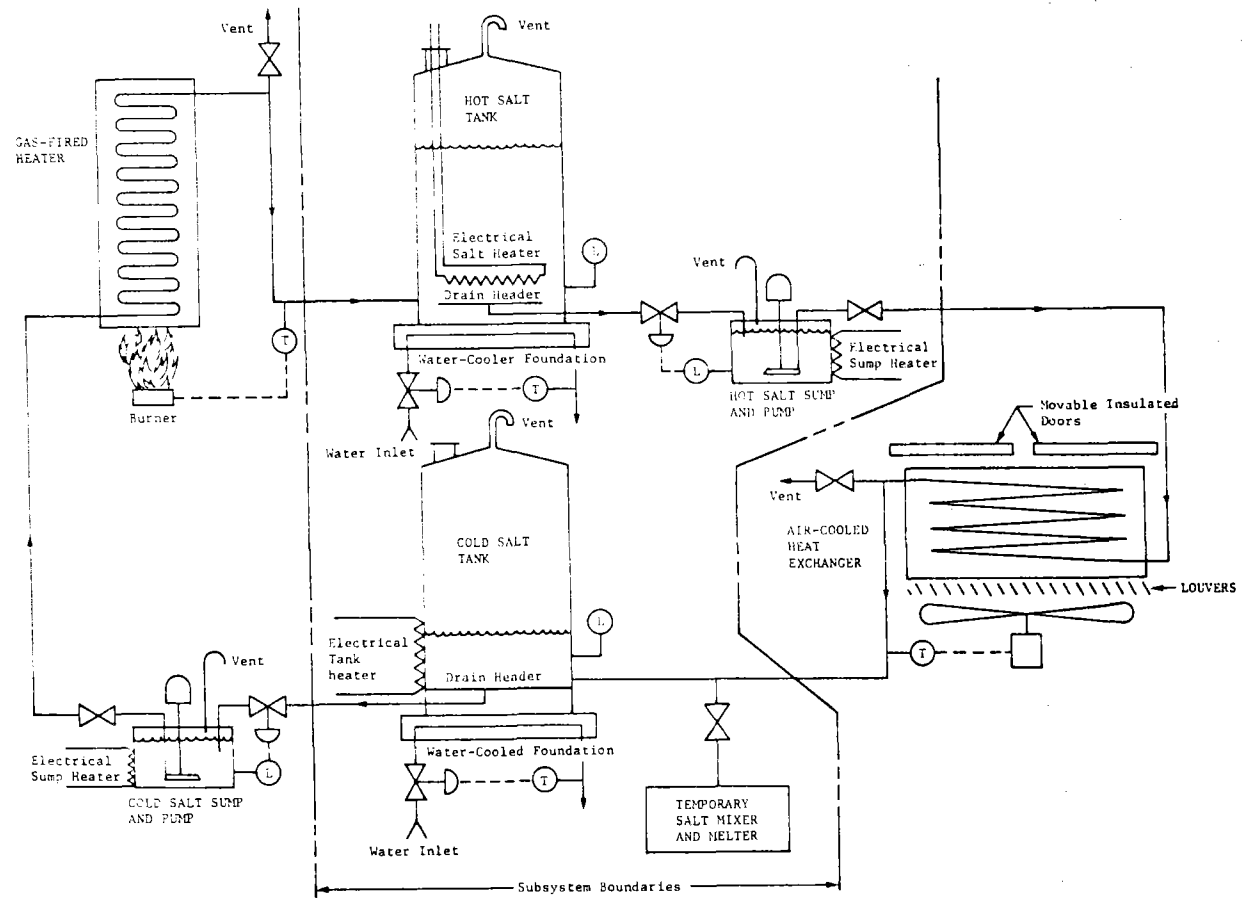
CTS:10/23/80

# MOLTEN SALT SRE HOT TANK



SL-18583A

9/11/80



SRE FLOW DIAGRAM

CTS:10/12/80

MOLTEN SALT SRE MILESTONES

NOVEMBER 1980 - CONTRACT PLACED

JUNE 1981 - LINER DEVELOPMENT WORK COMPLETED

NOVEMBER 1981 - CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE

JUNE 1982 - CONTRACT COMPLETE

CTS:10/23/80

SALT/WATER HEAT EXCHANGER DEVELOPMENT

ED CULL

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

## MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATORS

- MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATORS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED AS PART OF CENTRAL RECEIVER SOLAR THERMAL ELECTRIC PLANTS IN SEVERAL DOE SPONSORED STUDIES
- MARTIN MARIETTA'S ALTERNATE CENTRAL RECEIVER CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, SEPT. 1978
- MARTIN MARIETTA'S SOLAR CENTRAL RECEIVER HYBRID POWER SYSTEM CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, SEPT. 1979
- ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY'S SAGUARO POWER PLANT SOLAR REPOWERING PROJECT CONCEPTUAL DESIGN JUNE 1980
- MCDONNELL DOUGLAS' SIERRA PACIFIC UTILITY REPOWERING CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, JUNE 1980

- THE MARTIN MARIETTA AND ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE STEAM GENERATORS WERE SPECIFIED BY BADGER ENERGY, INC.
  - RECIRCULATION STEAM GENERATING CYCLE
  - SINGLE PASS TUBE AND SHELL HEAT EXCHANGERS
    - FEEDWATER PREHEATER
    - RECIRCULATING EVAPORATOR WITH SEPARATE DRUM
    - STEAM SUPERHEATER
    - STEAM REHEATER
  - STRAIGHT TUBES WITH SEGMENTED BAFFELS
  - FIXED HEADS AND FIXED TUBE SHEETS
  
- THE MCDONNELL DOUGLAS STEAM GENERATORS WERE SPECIFIED BY FOSTER WHEELER
  - RECIRCULATION STEAM GENERATING CYCLE
  - SINGLE PASS TUBE AND SHELL HEAT EXCHANGERS
    - FEEDWATER PREHEATER
    - RECIRCULATING EVAPORATOR WITH INTEGRAL DRUM
    - STEAM SUPERHEATER
    - STEAM REHEATER
  - STRAIGHT TUBE WITH SEGMENTED BAFFELS
  - ONE FIXED HEAD AND ONE FLOATING HEAD WITH EXPANSION BELLOWS

MCDONNELL DOUGLAS

5-105

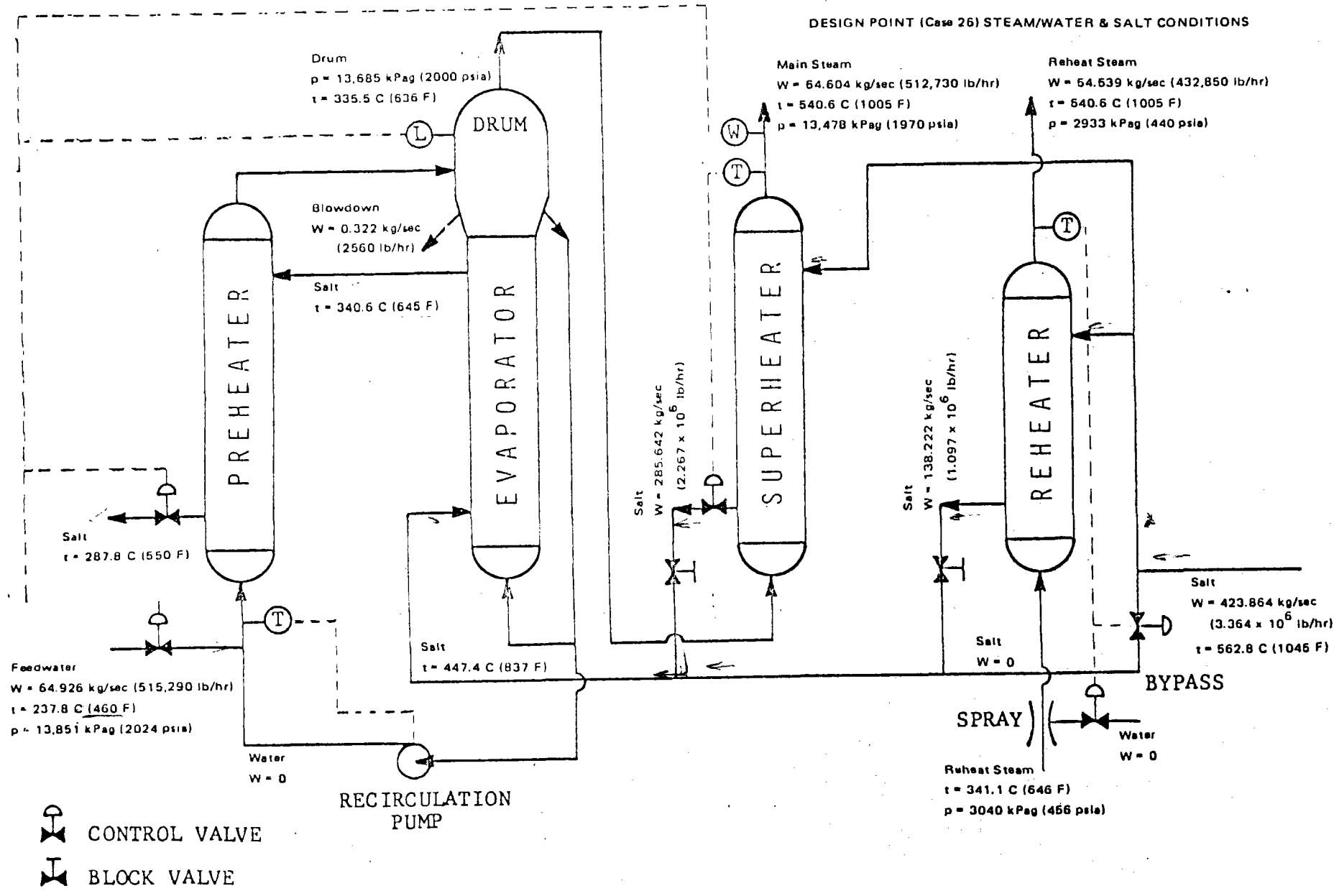


FIGURE 5-40 STEAM GENERATOR SYSTEM



McDONNELL DOUGLAS

5-114

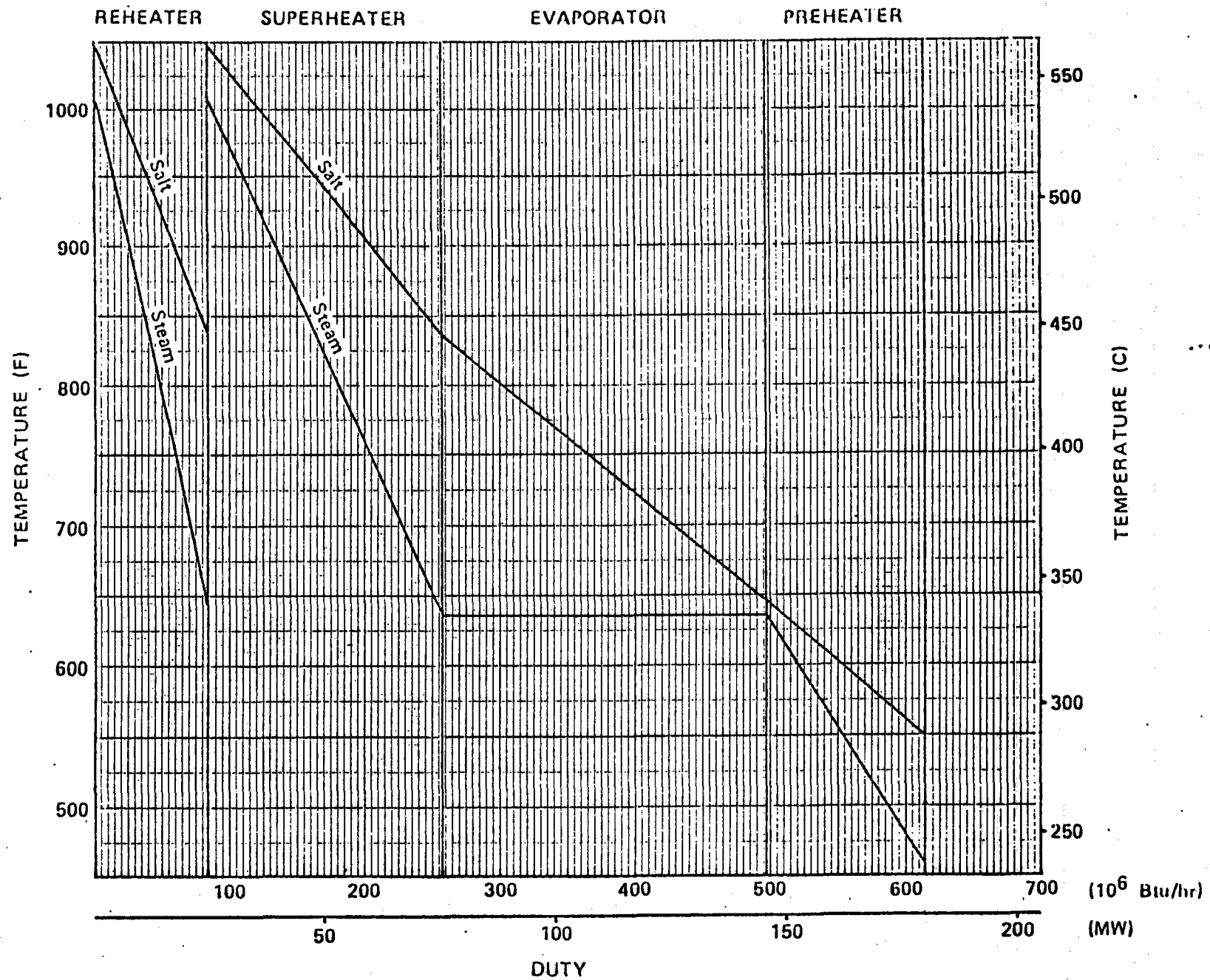
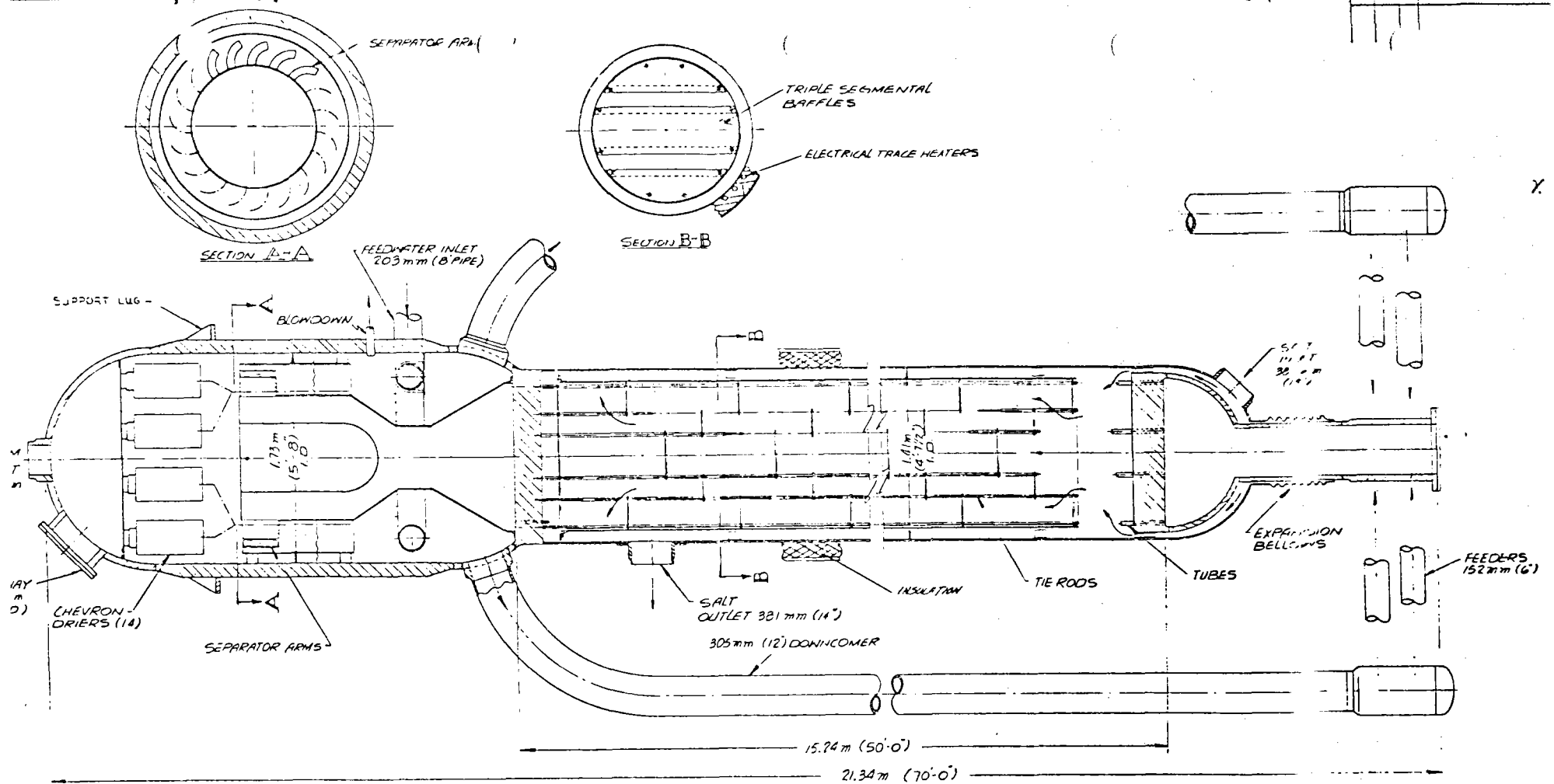


FIGURE 5-43 STEAM GENERATOR PERFORMANCE



DESIGN PRESSURE:  
 SHELL SIDE - 3048 kPa (300 psig)  
 TUBE SIDE - 15340 kPa (2225 psig)

DESIGN TEMPERATURE:  
 TUBE SIDE - 371.1°C (700°F)  
 STEAM DRUM - 371.1°C (700°F)  
 SHELL SIDE - 510°C (950°F)

MATERIALS:  
 TUBES } 10-12mm  
 FORGINGS }  
 SHELL PLATES }  
 SHELL HEADS }

APPLICABLE CODE - ASME SECTION VIII, DIV. 1

TUBE SIZE - 25.4mm O.D x 2.108mm (I.O.D. x 0.053mm)

WEIGHTS:  
 DRY - 69,546 kg (131,300 lbs)  
 FILLED - 95,873 kg (211,400 lbs)  
 (INCLUDES STEAM DRUM, DOWNCOMERS &  
 FEEDERS INSULATION NOT INCLUDED)

INSULATION THICKNESS - 152mm (6")  
 (CALCIUM SILICATE)

ELECTRICAL TRACE HEATERS:  
 NUMBER OF UNITS - 24  
 LENGTH/UNIT - 30.48m (100')


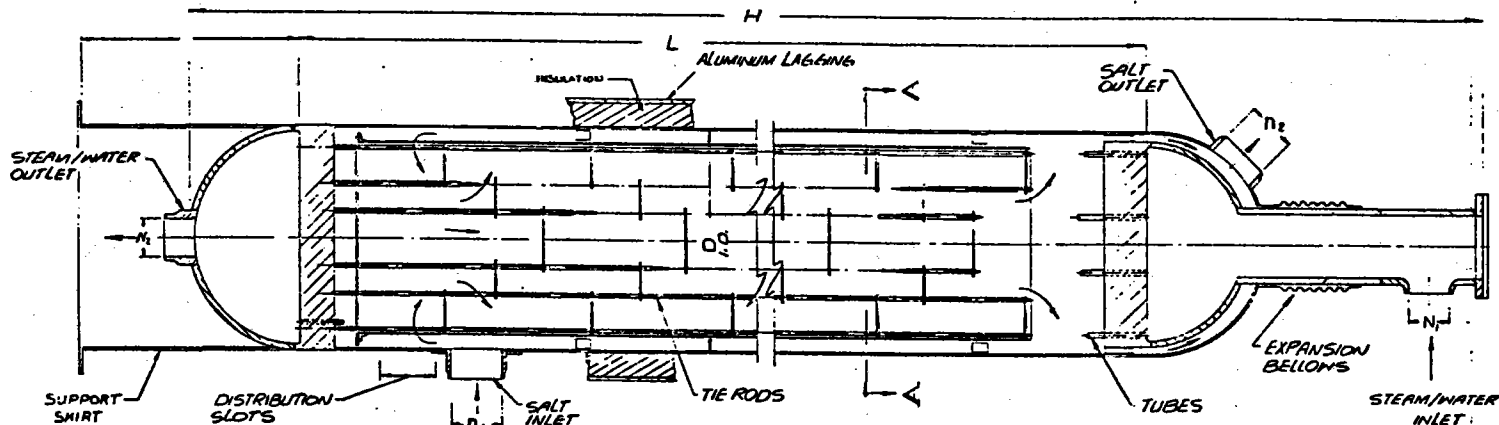
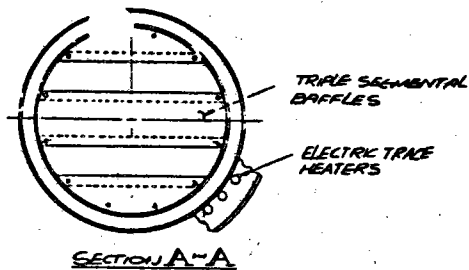
REV		DATE		DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	
					
SIERRA PACIFIC POWER SOLAR REPOWERING STUD EVAPORATOR					
DESIGN BY		DATE			
CHECKED BY					
RD-801-12					

Figure 5-42 PARALLEL FLOW HEAT EXCHANGER



	PREHEATER	SUPERHEATER	REHEATER
H	18.14m (59'-6")	18.14m (59'-6")	13.26m (43'-6")
L	15.24m (50'-0")	15.24m (50'-0")	10.36m (34'-0")
D	1257mm (4'-1 1/2")	953mm (3'-1 1/2")	927mm (3'-0 3/4")
T <sub>1</sub>	356mm (14")	305mm (12")	203mm (8")
T <sub>2</sub>	356mm (14")	305mm (12")	203mm (8")
N <sub>1</sub>	203mm (8")	254mm (10")	406mm (16")
N <sub>2</sub>	203mm (8")	305mm (12")	406mm (16")
TUBE SIZE	15.875 x 0.003 x 0.003mm (5/8" O.D. x 0.003" W.T.)	15.875 x 0.003 x 0.003mm (5/8" O.D. x 0.003" W.T.)	15.875 x 0.003 x 0.003mm (5/8" O.D. x 0.003" W.T.)
DRY WEIGHT ①	31726 kg (70,000 lb.)	16,367 kg (36,000 lb.)	12,880 kg (28,400 lb.)
FILLED WEIGHT	55,687 kg (123,400 lb.)	30,707 kg (67,900 lb.)	20,776 kg (45,700 lb.)
INSULATION THICKNESS ②	127mm (5")	178mm (7")	178mm (7")
ELECTRICAL TRACE HEATERS:			
NO. OF UNIT'S	24	14	8
LENGTH OF UNIT	30.48m (100')	30.48m (100')	20.73m (68')
DESIGN CONDITIONS:			
TUBE SIDE			
PRESSURE	15,512 kPa (2250 psig)	15,940 kPa (2275 psig)	3904 kPa (575 psig)
TEMPERATURE	371.1°C (700°F)	565.6°C (1050°F)	565.6°C (1050°F)
SHELL SIDE			
PRESSURE	2068 kPa (300 psig)	2068 kPa (300 psig)	2068 kPa (300 psig)
TEMPERATURE	371.1°C (700°F)	565.6°C (1050°F)	565.6°C (1050°F)
MATERIAL	CS	304 SS	304 SS

APPLICABLE CODE: ASME SECTION VIII DIV. 1

- KEY:
- ① NOMINAL NOZZLE SIZES
  - ② INSULATION WEIGHT NOT INCLUDED
  - ③ CALCIUM SILICATE
  - ④ TUBES, FORGINGS, SHELL PLATES, SHELL HEADS

REV	DATE	BY	CHKD
This Drawing is the Property of the WESTER ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 15 ROAD 7000, WILSONVILLE, OREGON 97148 All rights reserved. No part of this drawing may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the Corporation.			
<b>SIERRA PACIFIC POWER          SOLAR REPOWERING STUDY          PREHEATER, SUPERHEATER,          REHEATER</b>			
DESIGN NO.		REV. NO.	
DATE			
DRAWN BY: <i>[Signature]</i>			CHECKED BY: <i>[Signature]</i>
APPROVED BY: <i>[Signature]</i>			DATE: <i>[Date]</i>
RD-801-13			

Figure 5-41 COUNTER FLOW HEAT EXCHANGER  
5-107

## MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATORS CONCERNS

- DOE AND SANDIA BELIEVE THAT MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATING HEAT EXCHANGERS CAN BE DESIGNED AND FABRICATED TO THE RELIABILITY, SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS DICTATED BY CENTRAL RECEIVER SOLAR THERMAL PLANTS.
  
- IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT CONVENTIONAL INDUSTRIAL PROCESS TUBE IN SHELL HEAT EXCHANGERS BE USED DIRECTLY IN THE HIGH TEMPERATURE RANGES AND CYCLIC OPERATING CONDITIONS OF LARGE CENTRAL RECEIVER SOLAR THERMAL PLANTS WHILE MAINTAINING THE REQUIRED SAFETY, PERFORMANCE, AND RELIABILITY.

## SANDIA MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATOR RFQ

- IT WILL BE RELEASED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS
- COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION
- TWO PHASE PROCUREMENT
- PHASE 1
  - MULTIPLE AWARDS ANTICIPATED
  - CONCEPTUAL/PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF COST EFFECTIVE MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATOR SUBSYSTEM FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY APPLICATION
- PHASE 2
  - SINGLE AWARD TO ONE OF THE PHASE 1 CONTRACTORS
  - DETAIL DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND TEST OF A MOLTEN SALT STEAM GENERATOR USING THE MOLTEN SALT THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE EXPERIMENT

REVIEW OF SALT MATERIALS STUDIES

FOR FRENCH THEMIS PROJECT

P. SPITERI

EDF

P. SPITERI - EDF, Direction des Etudes et Recherches  
Les Renardières 77 250 Moret - France.

The sodium-potassium nitrate-nitrite eutectic mixture (HTS) has been chosen as coolant for the primary circuit of the first French solar electric plant THEMIS built by EDF in the South of France (Targassone).

This molten salt mixture is commonly used as thermal transfer fluid in chemical industry at a temperature of 450°C or less.

In the case of the THEMIS solar receiver, some of the tubes (1.5 mm thick) will have a nominal service temperature of 500°C on the ID.

In order to assess the corrosion behaviour of different candidate materials in this medium at this temperature, corrosion tests have been carried out in the "Département Etude des Matériaux" of EDF.

At the beginning of 1979, papers dealing with corrosion of steels in molten HTS were not very numerous. Tests were generally performed with the molten salt in contact with open air. Between 250 and 450°C, corrosion rates were reported to be low even for carbon steels ; stainless steels were recommended at higher temperature.

But the duration of these laboratory tests was short and often not indicated in the papers. As the corrosion rate was reported to decrease with time, these results could not be extrapolated towards long service exposures. It was consequently decided to undertake tests on the steels considered in France, in molten eutectic salt in contact with open air, so as to confirm the results already published, and to study in addition the influence of nitrogen cover gas, which is the solution adopted for THEMIS. These tests were performed in 2 industrial salts (referred to as A and B), on the following materials :

.../...

Printed 10-30-80 at <sup>Nitrite Technology</sup> Billton Salt Workshop

- Stainless steels, type 304 L, 321 H and 316 L, with, in the case of the last one, two different chemical compositions, a "normal" one and another with nitrogen addition resulting in improved mechanical properties. This last grade will be quoted 316 L<sup>2</sup>.

- Low alloyed steels, type 2 1/4 Cr-1 Mo and AISI 4 023 (0.3 % Mo).

Tests with salt A were only performed on stainless steels in alumina test pots at 575°C during 60 and 200 h in open air, 60, 200 and 775 h with nitrogen cover gas.

At the end of the tests, specimens were weighted after washing with water and chemical descaling of the oxide layer, the corrosion rate was evaluated by the average loss of thickness computed from the weight loss.

The corrosion of all the stainless steels tested in salt A in open air appears to be parabolic with time (slope = 0.5). The presence of nitrogen cover gas increases the corrosion rate, which then appears to be linear (slope = 1). In this latter test condition, shallow pits have been noticed on some products (in 321 H mainly), and an intergranular attack (20 µm maximum depth) on others (316 mainly). A hardening of the surface, increasing with the titanium content of the products was also observed. This phenomenon is a consequence of a precipitation of nitrides at the surface of the specimens. The presence of nitrogen has been checked by glow discharge spectroscopy, which allowed the average nitrogen content of the steel to be evaluated as a function of the distance from the surface.

X-Ray analysis of oxide scales taken from these specimens revealed the presence of Barium carbonate. Analysis of salt A confirmed the presence of about 1 % of Barium chloride, and showed a rather high sulfur content.

For these reasons, salt A is not in agreement with usual specifications for salts used in thermal transfer plants. Consequently, a second series of tests has been performed in another salt (referred to as B) which

.../...



composition fits specifications.

These new tests were limited to type 316 L\* and 321 H stainless steels at 575, 550 and 500°C. Weight loss values converted into loss of thickness were plotted versus test duration. The corrosion was found to follow a parabolic law as a function of time, with values of average loss of thickness similar to those obtained with salt A in open air. The 316 L\* products exhibit a better behaviour than the 321 H products.

The 2 low alloyed steels were also tested in salt B at 500 and 450°C. The corrosion of 2 1/4 Cr-1 Mo steel was found to be almost ten times lower than that of the 0.3 % Mo carbon steel containing no chromium. For both steels, the average loss of thickness was found to increase linearly with time, and an extensive spalling of the oxide layers was observed.

After test, specimens of 0.3 % Mo carbon steel showed a typical aspect arising from the fact that the edge corroded less rapidly than the flat surfaces. This "edge effect" could perhaps account for the lower corrosion rate of this steel after 1 000 h at 500°C. It is probably the consequence of an intense nitridation, as shown by the following micrographs :

- needles of nitride can be seen in the central part of the 3 mm thick specimens. The corresponding hardness is about 750 Hv (compared to 180 Hv in the as-received condition) ;
- a white phase identified by X-Ray diffraction as iron nitride is present at the grain boundaries at the edges of the specimen. The hardness of this phase is about 1 000 Hv. Nitridation was also found on 2 1/4 Cr-1 Mo steel.

In conclusion, the following results were obtained in a salt fitting the current specifications for thermal transfer use and in the presence of nitrogen cover gas :

- the stainless steels suffer limited corrosion, following a parabolic law as a function of time , similar to that observed when the salt is in contact with air. However, factors which can be responsible for a change from parabolic to linear corrosion rates are not fully understood. For example, ~~oxide~~ <sup>oxide</sup> found

.../...

linear corrosion rates at 500 and 550°C in loop tests with nitrogen cover gas.

- Low alloyed steels show an intense oxidation and nitridation even at 450°C, the corrosion rate being linear as a function of time. This latter observation is not in agreement with reported industrial experience, as carbon steel could be satisfactorily used in molten HTS loops at temperatures higher than 450°C for years.

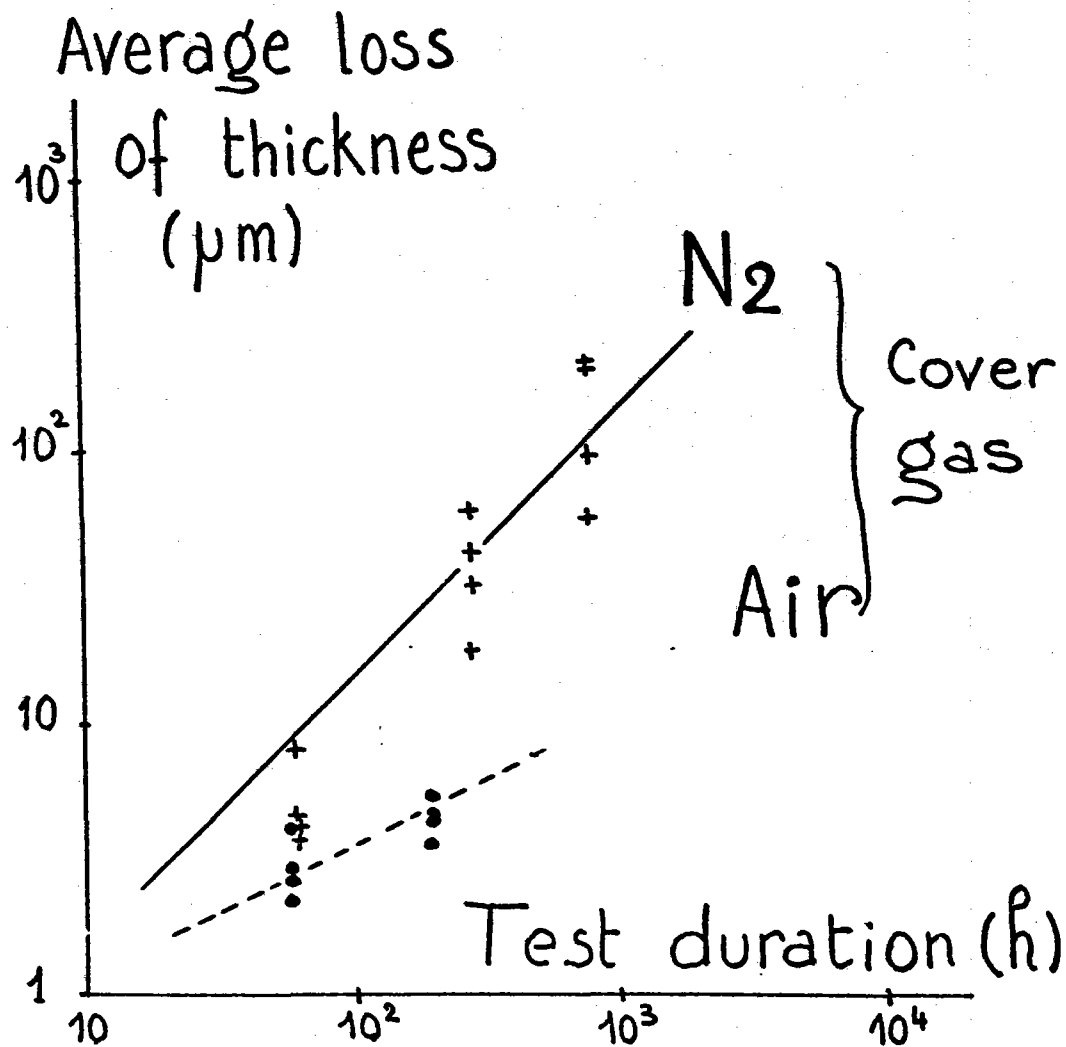
It appears that high corrosion rates result from the possible formation of iron and chromium soluble oxides. Michel, in GOERIG Company (Germany), assumes that the corrosion kinetics depends on the formation of a stable oxide layer. Such a layer which could only form in the presence of oxygen, could remain stable even if the oxygen content subsequently decreased.

Contradictory results could be explained by different  $O^{2-}$  contents in the mixtures used by different workers, this parameter depending itself on the water content of the salts and on the amount of hydroxide ions formed during the test. Further experiments have to be undertaken to precise this point.

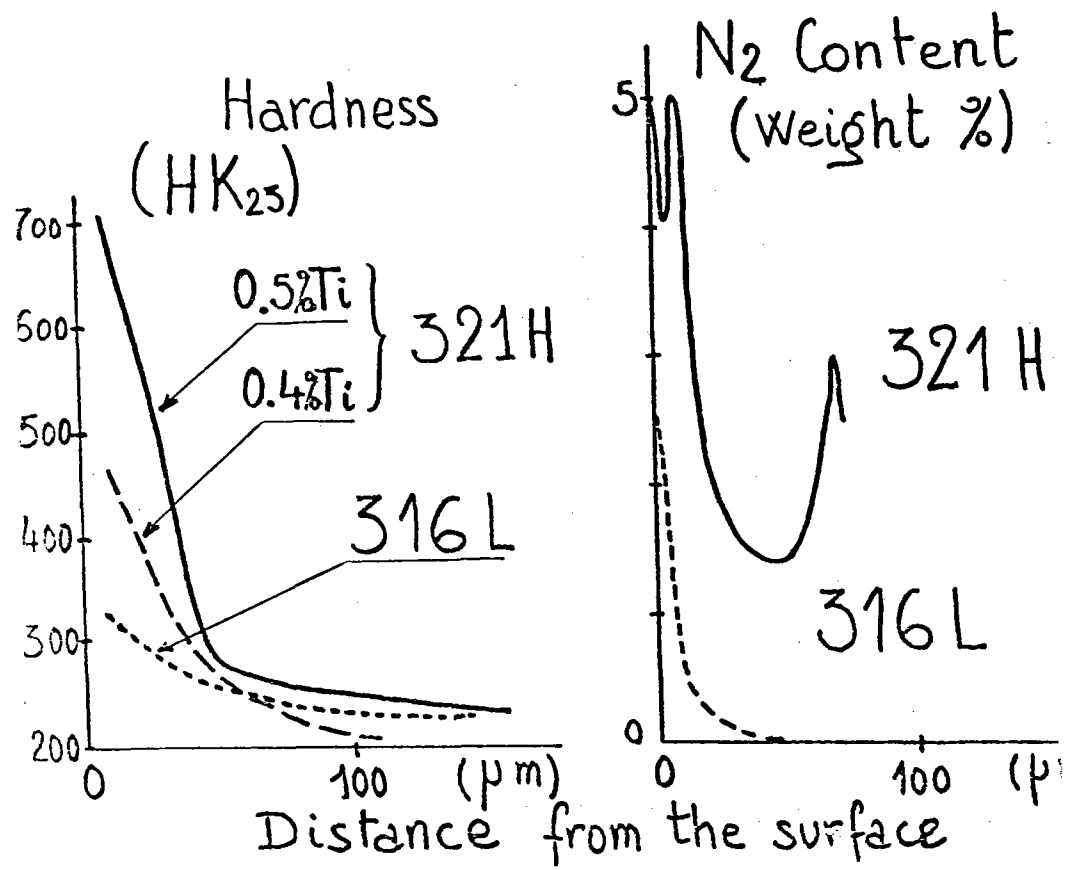
CORROSION TEST CONDITIONS

SALT	POT TEST MATERIAL	COVER GAS	MATERIALS STUDIED	TEMPERATURE (°C)	MAXIMUM DURATION (HOURS)
A	ALUMINA	AIR	304 L 321 H	575	200
		N <sub>2</sub>	316 L	575	705
B	STEEL	N <sub>2</sub>	321 H 316 L*	575	1 000
				550	1 000
				500	3 000
			2 1/4 CR-1 Mo	500	1 000
			4023 (0.3 % Mo)	450	3 000

\* SPECIAL 316 L STEEL WITH CONTROLLED NITROGEN CONTENT.



Stainless steels  
Salt A - 575°C



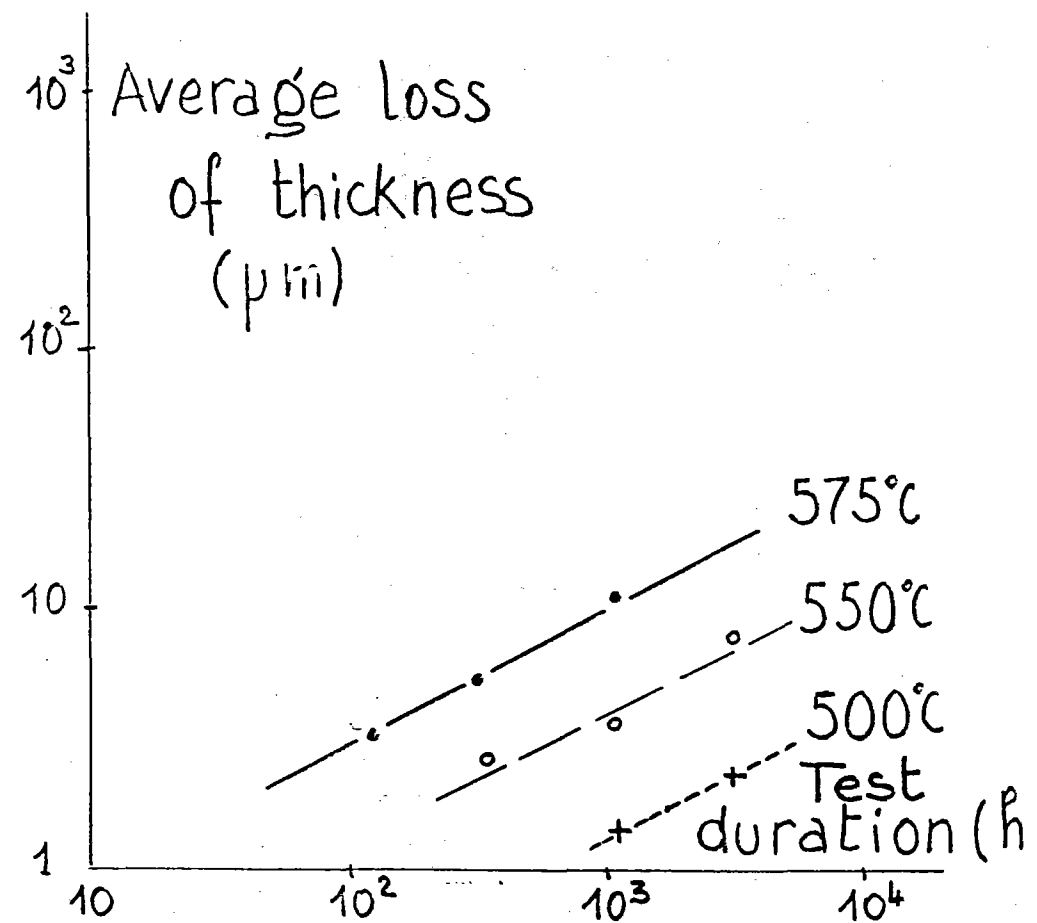
Stainless steels

Salt A -  $\text{N}_2$  cover gas

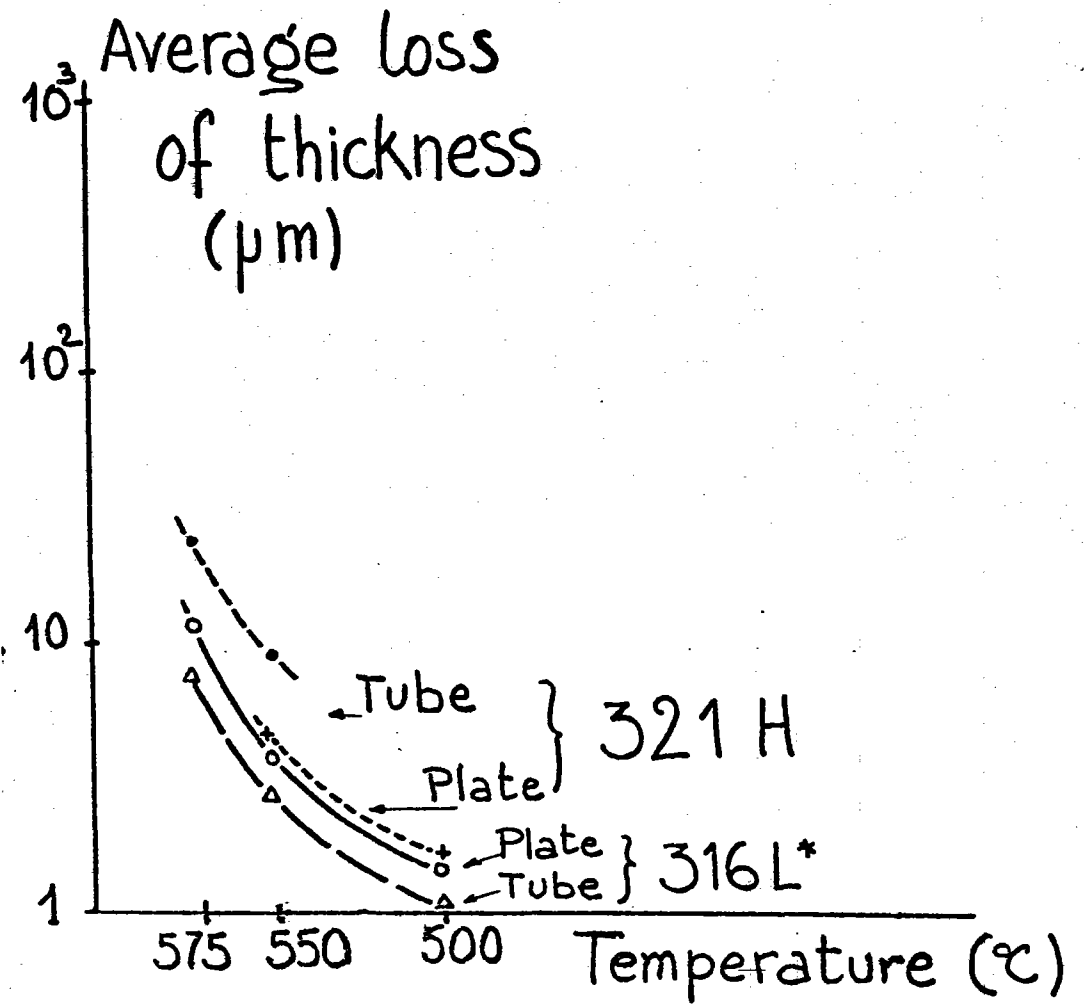
$575^\circ\text{C}$  - 775 h

SALT ANALYSIS (WEIGHT %)

	KNO <sub>3</sub>	NaNO <sub>2</sub>	NaNO <sub>3</sub>	CL <sup>-</sup>	S	BA
TYPICAL SPECIFICATION	52 54	39 41	6.5 7.5	≤ 0.1	≤ 0.025	-
SALT A	53.7	40.8	<u>5.4</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>0.065</u>	0.9
SALT B	53.0	<u>38.9</u>	6.2	0.08		-

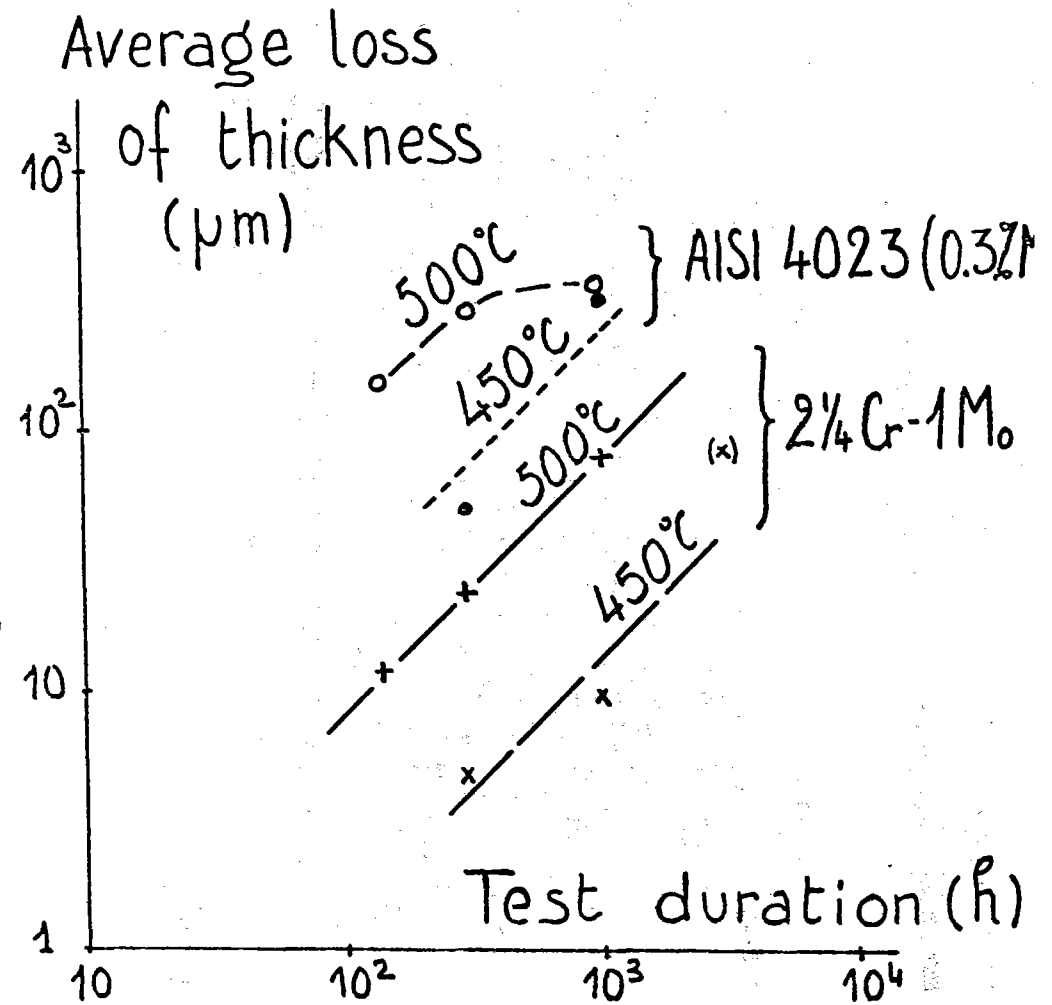


316L\* Stainless steel  
 Salt B - N<sub>2</sub> cover gas



Stainless steels  
 Salt B - N<sub>2</sub> cover gas  
 1000 h



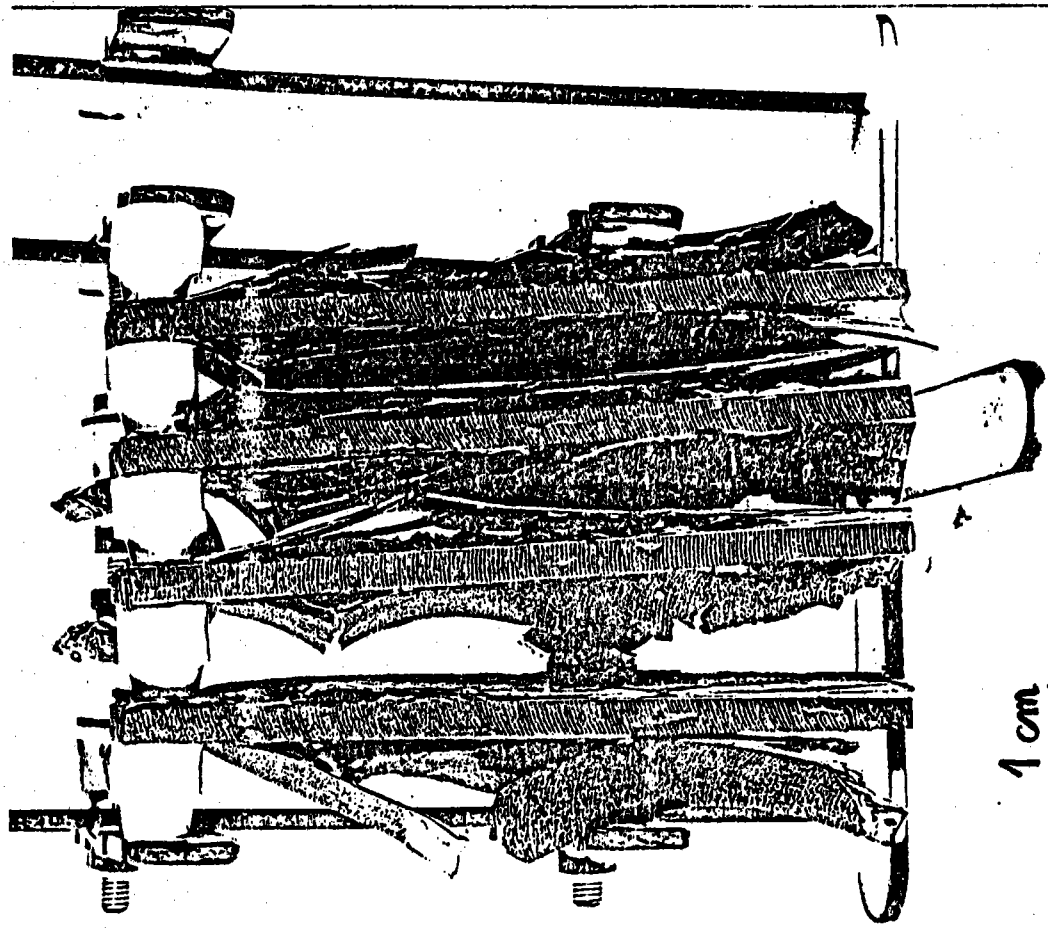


Low alloyed steels  
Salt B -  $\text{N}_2$  cover gas

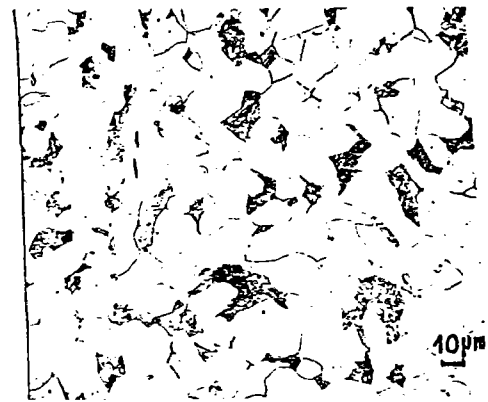
Low alloyed steel

AISI 4023 (0.3%Mn)

salt B 500°C 100 h



1 cm



Structure of the as received material



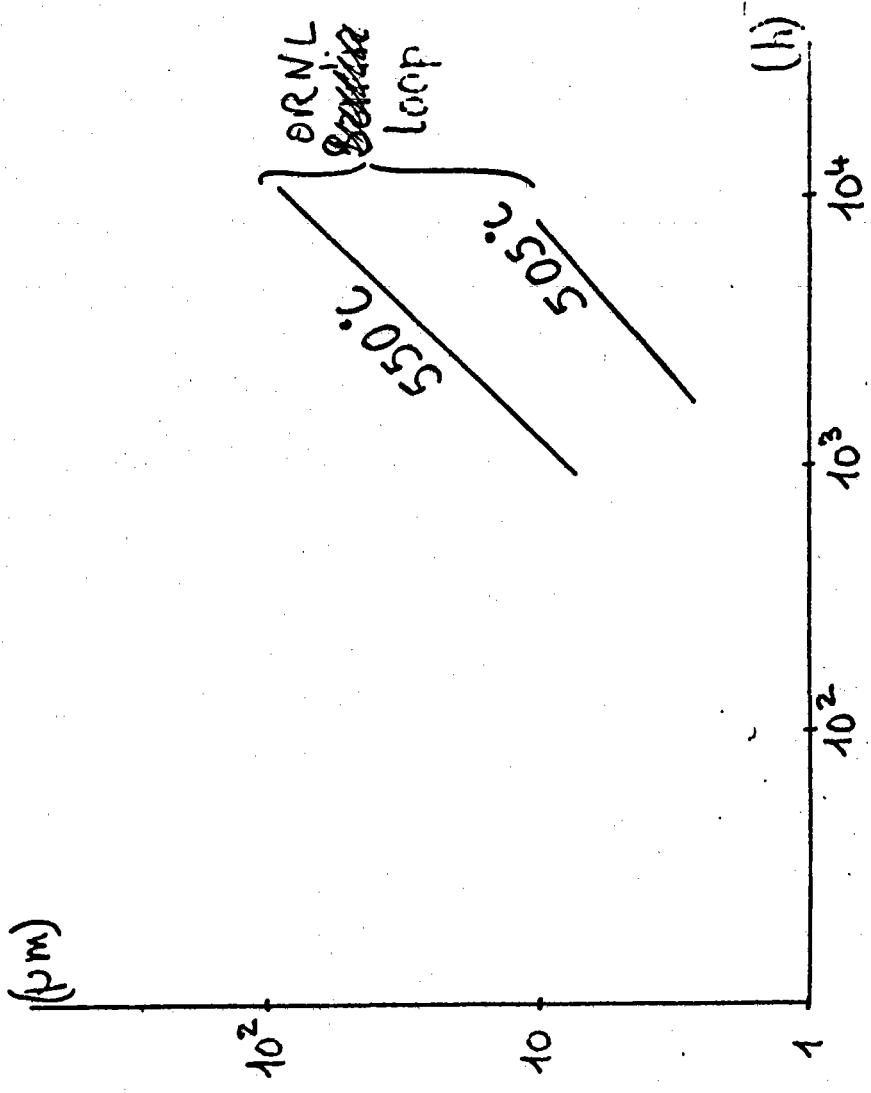
Edges of the specimen

Center of the specimen

Structure after test (presence of nitrides)

Salt B - N<sub>2</sub> cover gas - 500°C - 100

AISI 4023 (0.3% M.) steel

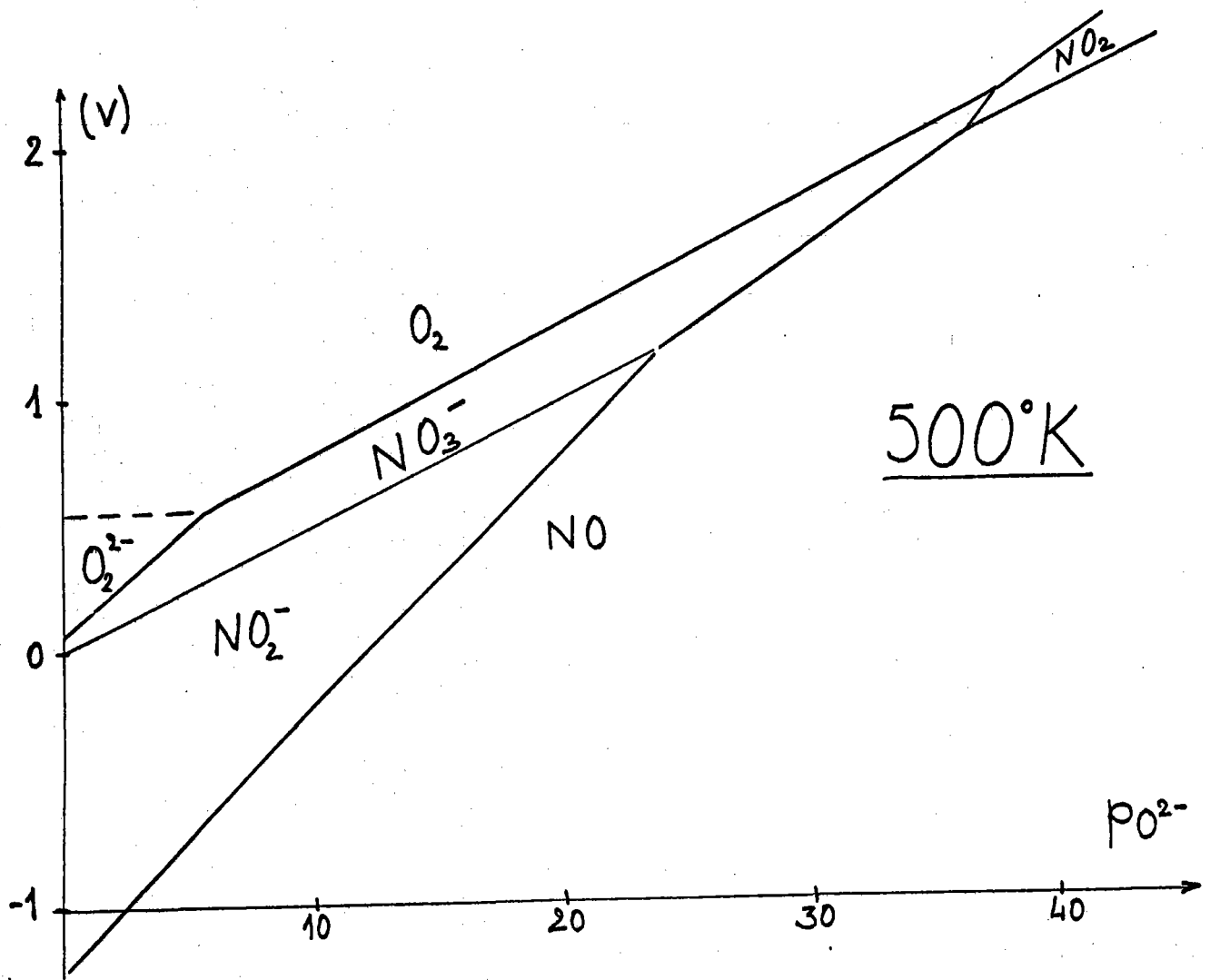


# Chemical composition (weight %)

	C	S	P	Si	Mn	Ni	Cr	Mo	N	B	Co	Cu
316 L	≤0.030	≤0.030	≤0.045	≤1	≤2	10 14	16 18	2 3	-	-	-	-
316 L*	≤0.030 (1)	≤0.025	≤0.035	≤0.50	1.6 2.0	12.0 12.5	17.0 18.0	2.3 2.7	0.060 0.080	0.0015 0.0035	≤0.25	≤1.0

\* With controlled nitrogen addition

(1) 0.024% minimum desirable value



# **Olin Corporation**

**“Nitrate Salts  
From a Supplier’s Point of View”**

F. Norman Christopher  
OLIN CORPORATION  
120 Long Ridge Road  
Stamford, CT 06904  
(203) 356-3583

# **Molten Nitrate Salts**

A future alternative for thermal storage



## **Basic Questions**

**What product do you need?**

**Is the product acceptable?**

**What's the industry use experience?**

**What are the safety considerations?**

**What's the availability?**

**Who are you going to buy from?**

**How is it shipped?**

**What's the price?**

**What's the service like?**

# Molten Nitrate Salt

- Today
- Future

# **Topics**

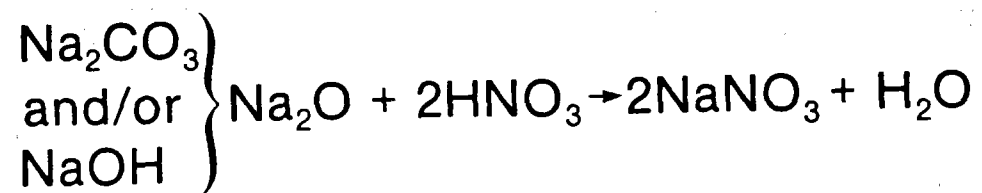
- Manufacturing practices
- Product quality
- Product availability
- Pricing
- Product usage and applications
- Packaging

## **Key Points Through Users' Eyes**

- Purity
- Availability
- Service
- Experience
- Is there a way to receive a higher purity product at a potentially lower cost?

**NaNO<sub>3</sub>  
Today**

## Manufacturing Process



# Typical Analysis Product Quality

<u>Olin</u> Synthetic	<u>Purity</u>	<u>Chilean</u> Mined
99.85	%NaNO <sub>3</sub>	98.12
.007	%NaNO <sub>2</sub>	.001
.020	%NaCl	.30
.09	%Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	.29
.003	%CaO	.009
.002	%MgO	.14
.03	%KNO <sub>3</sub>	.20
.01	%Total Alkali	.04
Yes	USDA Approval	No

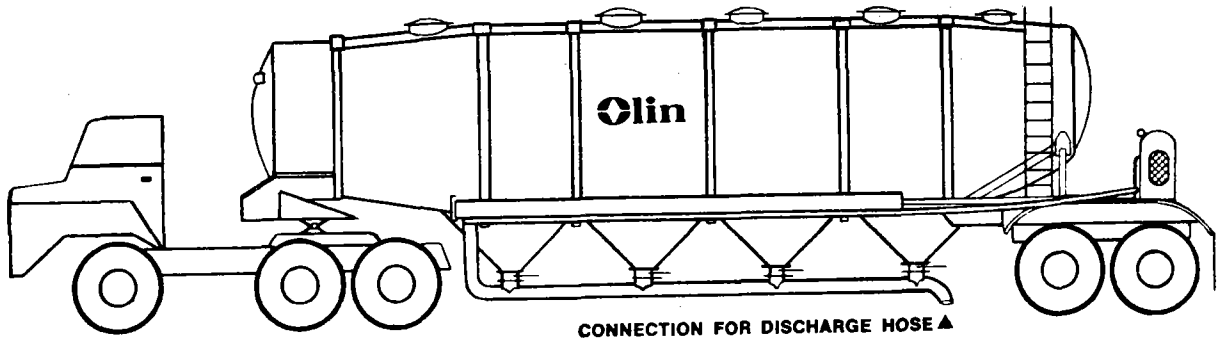
## **Qualitative Properties**

- Hard spherical prills
- Uniform size for bulk handling
- Free flowing material
- Bulk density 75 lbs./ft.<sup>3</sup>



# **Packaging**

- Palletized 50 and 100 pound 5 ply  
PE lined paper bags
- Box rail car
- Hopper rail car
- Pneumatic rail car or trailer



CONNECTION FOR DISCHARGE HOSE ▲

**\*Olin Marketing/Research Data**

**\*\*Includes pulp/paper, food, chemicals soaps, cleaning compounds, photography, porcelain enamels, exports, etc.**

## U.S. Sodium Nitrate Product Availability

	<u>Tons Per Year</u>
Olin capacity	~ 125,000
Chilean Imports*	~ <u>120,000</u>
Total	~ 245,000

\* U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Data

- Olin Plant Lake Charles, LA
- Only domestic production facility
- Olin plant operational since 1949
- Chilean import range 100 - 150M  
TPY from 1972 - 1979\*

\* U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Data

## Typical End Use Market Analysis\*

<u>Market</u>	<u>Tons Per Yr.</u>	<u>% Total Market</u>
Agricultural	~ 80,000	33
Industrial		
Explosives	~ 50-60,000	
Glass	~ 25-30,000	
Charcoal	~ 15-20,000	
All Other**	~ 50-55,000	
Subtotal	~ 165,000	67
Total	~ 245,000	100

## **Market Analysis**

- Olin supplies only industrial market where higher purity is of major concern.
- Chileans supply primarily AG market plus portions of industrial charcoal and explosives market where quality is not of major concern.
- Estimated overall market growth ~2% per year with certain segments growing faster — explosives for coal mining, charcoal and heat treating salts.

- Key growth for future — solar energy applications.
- • Olin has capacity available for solar and other industrial applications.



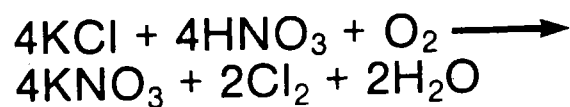
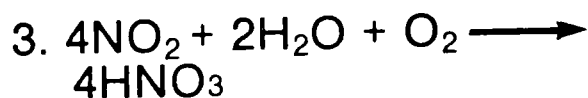
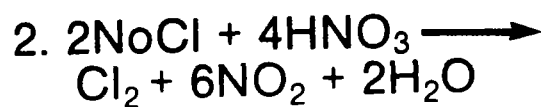
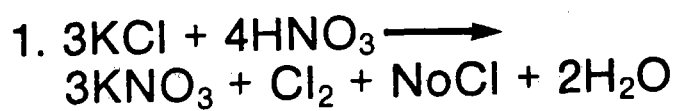
# Price History

<u>Date</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1/75	
1/76	9%
1/77	None
1/78	None
1/79	6%
1/80	14%
Thru 10/80	9%

- Current bulk price — \$183/NT; F.O.B. Lake Charles, LA
- Last 5 year period prices increased average ~8%/year
- Future cost escalations based on ammonia and Na<sub>2</sub>O sources could result in ~10-15% per year increases

**KNO<sub>3</sub>  
Today**

## Manufacturing Process\*



\*SRI Menlo Park, California Data

## **Product Definition**

- **Vertac Chemical, Vicksburg, MS**
- **Only domestic supplier**
- **Synthetic process**
- **Several available grades**
- **Assay ranges  $\text{KNO}_3$  94-99%**
- **Only technical grade available for solar energy applications**

# Technical Grade Typical Analysis

<u>Crystal</u>	<u>Purity</u>	<u>Prill</u>
99.3	% $\text{KNO}_3$	96.4 - 97.8
.55	% $\text{NaNO}_3$	1.8 - 3.2
—	% $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$	.15
—	% $\text{KOH}$	.14
.004	% $\text{KCl}$	.06
—	% $\text{SiO}_2$	.02

## **Qualitative Properties**

- Crystals or prilled spheres
- Uniform free flowing materials
- Bulk density 75 lbs./ft<sup>3</sup>
- Typical screen analysis  
+ 20 mesh 99%

# U.S. Potassium Nitrate Product Availability

	<u>Tons Per Year</u>
Vertac Capacity*	~ 130,000
Imports**	
• Crude $\text{KNO}_3$	~ 37,000
• Refined $\text{KNO}_3$	~ 1,000
• $\text{KNO}_3/\text{NaNO}_3$ Mixture	~ <u>42,000</u>
Total Imports	~ 80,000
Total	~ 210,000

\* Olin Marketing/Research Data

\*\*U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Data



# Industry Characteristics

- Single domestic source Vertac Chemical
- Vertac bought Vicksburg, Ms plant from Amax in 1972
- Imports \*
  - $\text{KNO}_3$   
Primarily Israel  
Import Range 14 - 73M TPY  
from 1970 - 1979

- $\text{KNO}_3$   
Primarily Germany  
Import range 1 - 2M TPY  
from 1970 - 1979
- $\text{KNO}_3/\text{NaNO}_3$  Mixture  
Chile, Israel, Norway  
Import range 25 - 60M TPY  
from 1970 - 1979

\* U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Data

# Typical End Use Market Analysis\*

<u>Market</u>	<u>Tons Per Year</u>	<u>% Total Market</u>
Agricultural	~ 150-170,000	80%
Industrial		
Glass	~ 10-15,000	
Heat Transfer Salts	~ 15-20,000	
Pyrotechnics/Matches	~ 5,000	
All Other	~ 5,000	
Subtotal	<u>~ 40,000</u>	20%
Total	~ 210,000	100%

\*SRI & Olin Marketing/Research Data

# Market Analysis

- Vertac supplies both agricultural and industrial market
- Nearly all  $\text{KNO}_3$  imports go into agricultural market where quality is not of major concern
- Estimated overall market growth 3 - 3.5% per year with certain segments growing faster, e.g., matches, flares and heat treating salts
- Key growth for future — solar energy applications

## **Price History**

- **Current domestic pricing \$385/NT bulk; \$405/NT bags**
- **FOB west of Mississippi**
- **last 3 year period import prices increased ~ 13% annually**

**Olin  
NaNO<sub>3</sub>**

**Vertac  
KNO<sub>3</sub>**

**↓**  
**Packager**  
**Mix, Dry Blend**

**↓**  
**Draw Salt**  
**50/50 Molar**  
**NaNO<sub>3</sub>/KNO<sub>3</sub>**

**Is there a better way  
to produce and ship draw salt?**

- Presently only one domestic manufacturer each of  $\text{NaNO}_3$  and  $\text{KNO}_3$
- Drawbacks to existing nitrate technology
- Current nitrate production serves primarily agricultural market

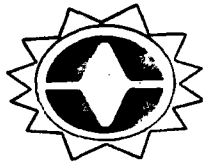


- **Future need for a reliable producer of high purity nitrate salt to service solar industrial uses**

**Olin can meet that need.**

## **Why Olin?**

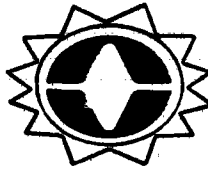
- **Basic supplier**
- **Have capacity in place today to handle incremental requirements and planning for future**
- **Have safety, service, handling, and experience of nitrate uses**
- **New manufacturing process**



**SOLIN™-SPN**

**New Manufacturing Process**

- Proprietary
- R & D stage
- Energy conserving
- Supplies Na<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> mixtures of same high quality in required ratios
- Potential attractive long term economics



**SOLIN™-SPN**

## **Typical Analysis Product Quality**

Purity

**NaNO<sub>3</sub>**

**KNO<sub>3</sub>**

**NaCl**

**Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>**

**CaO**

**MgO**

**Total Alkali**

**Carbonate**

%

**46 - 47**

**53 - 54**

**.03**

**.0004**

**.003**

**.001**

**.015**

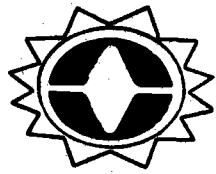
**.01**

# Summary

Long term industry need:

- High purity nitrate salt
- Sufficient quantities
- Cost performance economics
- Product safety and handling

**We think that's possible with**



**SOLIN<sup>TM</sup>-SPN**

NITRATE SALTS - INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

BY

RAYMOND W. MAR

ROBERT CARLING



- OUTLINE -

• HEAT TRANSFER APPLICATIONS

- HEAT REMOVAL: PHTHALIC ANHYDRIDE

- HEAT SOURCE: NaOH CONCENTRATION

RUBBER PYROLYSIS

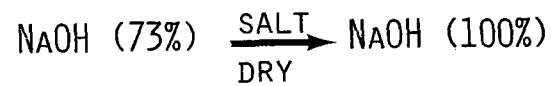
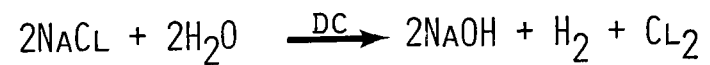
• HEAT TREATMENT APPLICATIONS

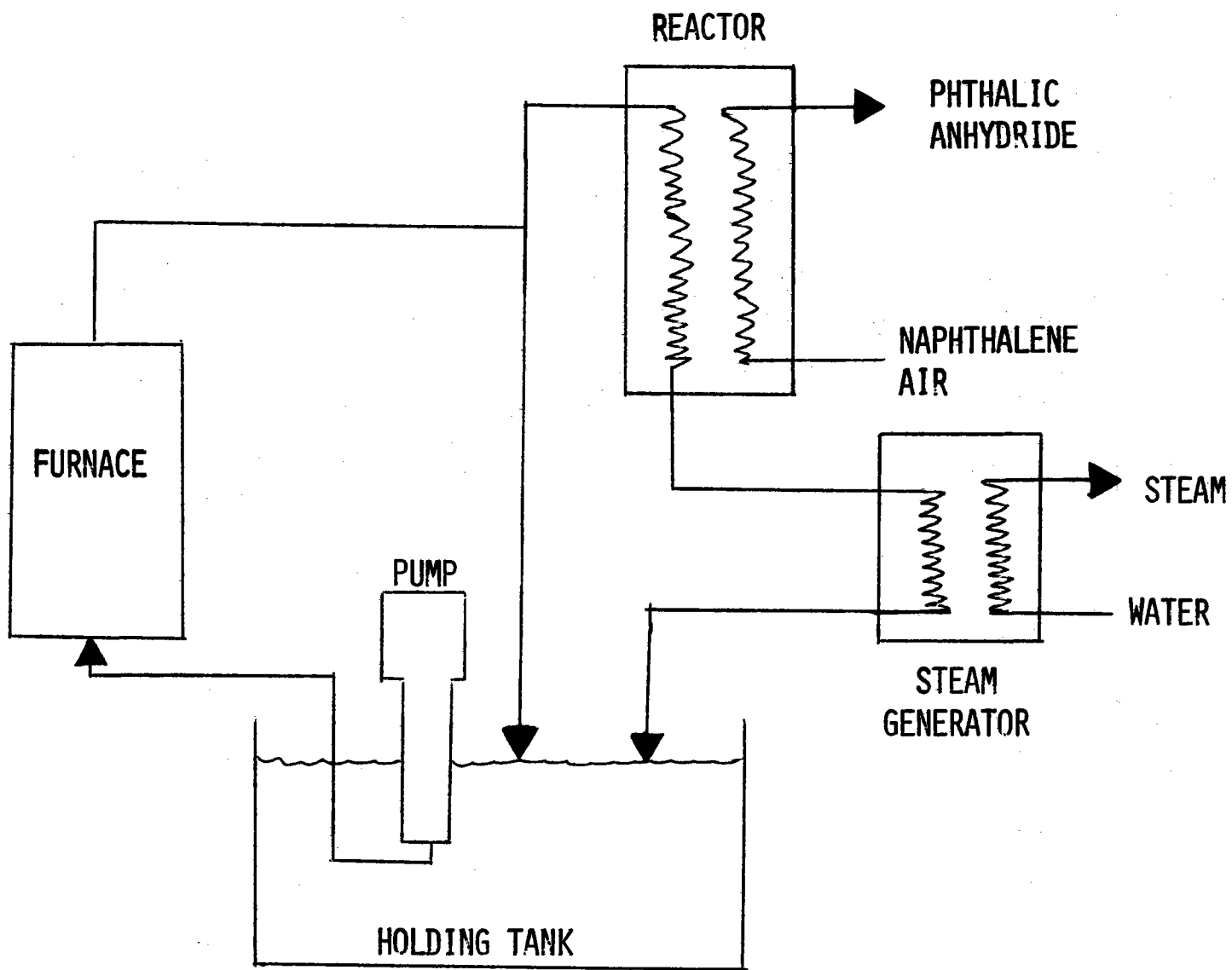
THE MAJOR INDUSTRIES USING NITRATES ARE:

- CHEMICALS - AS HEAT TRANSFER FLUIDS
- METALS - AS HEAT TREATMENT MEDIA

CAUSTIC SODA - NaOH

SYNTHESIS FROM SALT BY ELECTROLYSIS:





PHTHALIC ANHYDRIDE PLANT - SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

OPERATING PARAMETERS:  $T_{\text{MAX}} = 480^{\circ}\text{C}$

$P = 450 \text{ PSI}$

SALT: HITEC (125,000 LB.)

$\text{N}_2$  COVER GAS

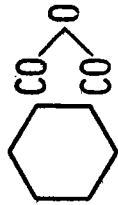
0.3% MAKE-UP PER YEAR

MONITOR  $T_{\text{MELT}}$ , CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

CONTAINMENT: C STEEL

NO CORROSION PROBLEMS

**PHTHALIC ANHYDRIDE**

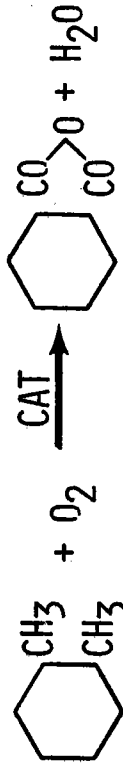


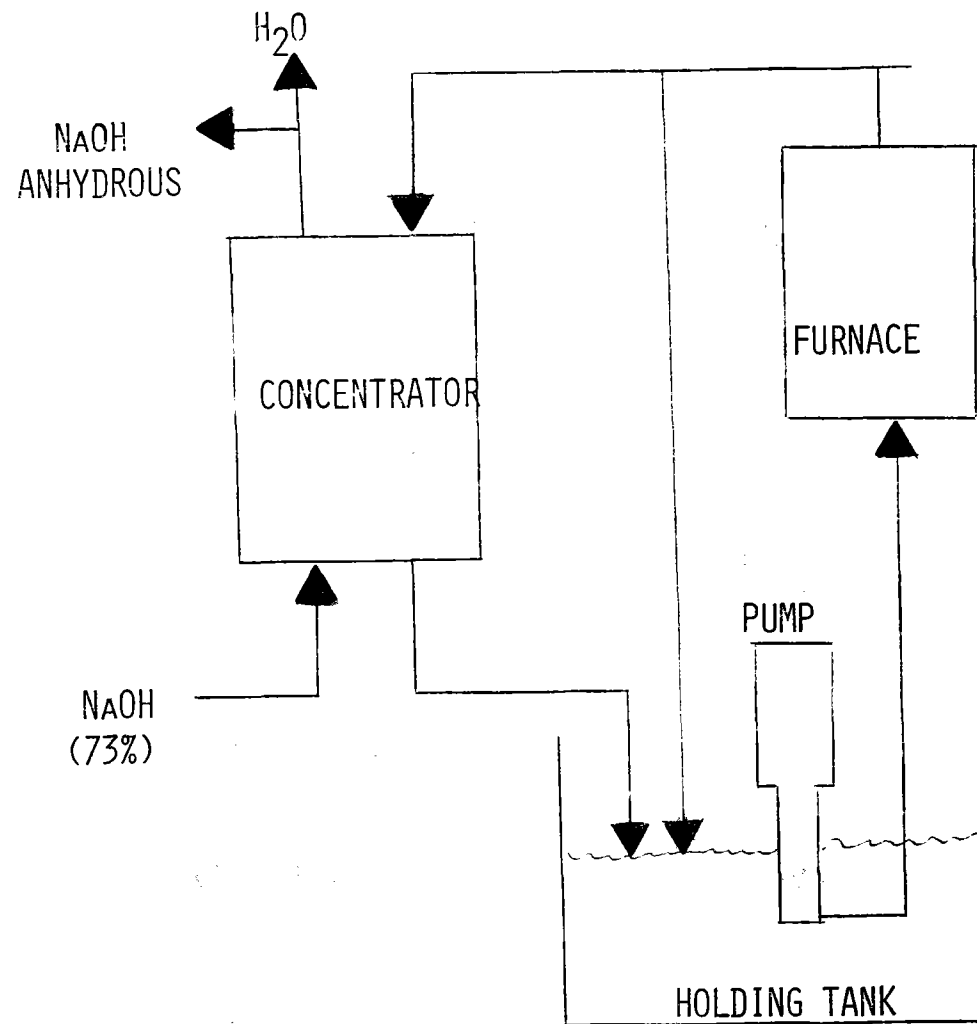
USES: MFG OF PLASTICIZERS, RESINS, POLYESTERS

SYNTHESIS: OXIDATION OF NAPHTHALENE



OXIDATION OF ORTHOXYLENE





CAUSTIC CONCENTRATOR - SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

OPERATING PARAMETERS:  $T_{\text{MAX}} = 750^{\circ}\text{F}$

SALT: HITEC

$\text{N}_2$  COVER GAS

1.5% MAKE-UP PER MONTH

MONITOR  $T_{\text{MELT}}$

CONTAINMENT: C STEEL & IN 600

NO CORROSION PROBLEMS



NITRATE SALTS FOR METAL HEAT TREATMENT:

- QUENCH BATHS (300 - 750°F)
- SOLN. TREATMENT (850 - 1025°F)

IN SUMMARY.....

THE GOOD NEWS - BASED UPON INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

- NITRATE SALTS ARE STABLE
- LOW ALLOY STEELS USEABLE
- NO CORROSION PROBLEMS
- EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE RECORD

THE BAD NEWS -

- LITTLE EXPERIENCE WITH BINARY NITRATES
- TEMPERATURES LESS THAN SOLAR
- LIMITED CYCLIC EXPERIENCE
- NO DATA ON I800, 316