

## MATERIAL AGING SEMINAR

- I. THERMAL AGING - ARRHENIUS OR ERRONEOUS?
- II. HUMIDITY AGING - DEVELOPMENT OF  
METHODOLOGY
- III. RADIATION AGING - IMPORTANCE AND  
IMPLICATIONS OF DOSE RATE EFFECTS
- IV. AGING OF PVC AND PE - DISCOVERY AND  
INTERPRETATION OF STRONG SYNERGISM  
OF RADIATION AND TEMPERATURE
- V. FIRE RETARDANT AGING

8011040639

## ACCELERATED AGING

PRIMARY GOAL - PREDICT MATERIAL (COMPONENT) LIFETIME  
UNDER USE CONDITIONS

SECONDARY GOAL - SCREEN FOR BEST MATERIALS

FIRST STEP - KNOWLEDGE OF

1. FAILURE MODES - FROM EXPERIENCE AND FAILURE MODE TESTS
2. IMPORTANT STRESSES - FROM LITERATURE, FAILURE MODE TESTS, COMPATIBILITY TESTS

SECOND STEP - USE ABOVE TO DETERMINE

1. SUSPECT MATERIAL(S)
2. ENVIRONMENTS DAMAGING TO EACH MATERIAL
3. QUANTITATIVE DAMAGE PARAMETER(S) TO FOLLOW DEGRADATION

CONCENTRATE ON THERMAL AGING AT CONSTANT TEMPERATURE -  
STILL HAVE TYPICALLY TWO ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES.

eg. (TEMP, OXYGEN CONCENTRATION), (TEMP, H<sub>2</sub>O)

OXIDATION OF POLY(ETHYLENE OXIDE). II

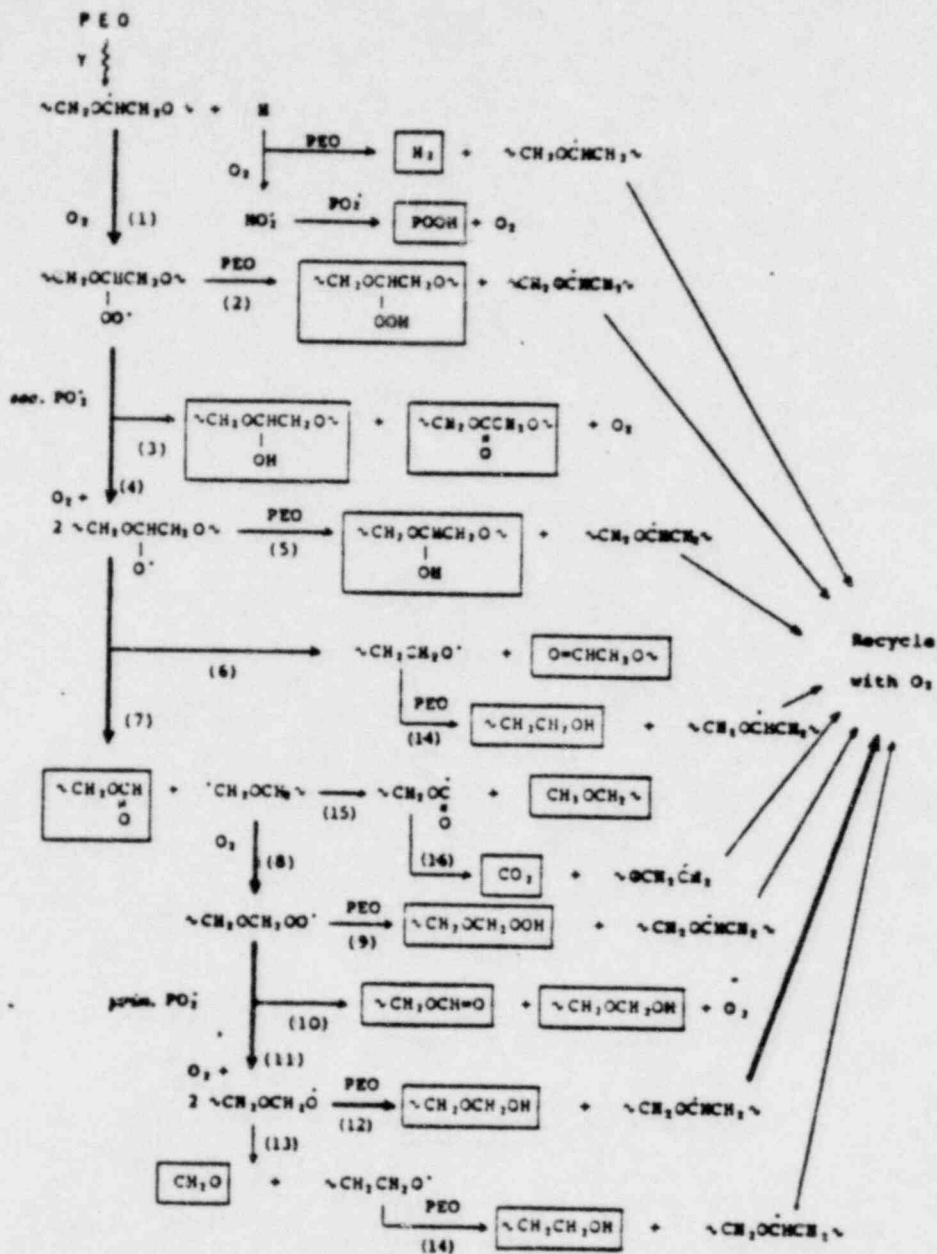
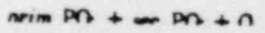


Fig. 1. Scheme for  $\gamma$ -oxidation of poly(ethylene oxide). Final products are in boxes; important routes are marked by heavy arrows. In reactions (10) and (11), cross-interactions of primary and secondary peroxy radicals are also possible:



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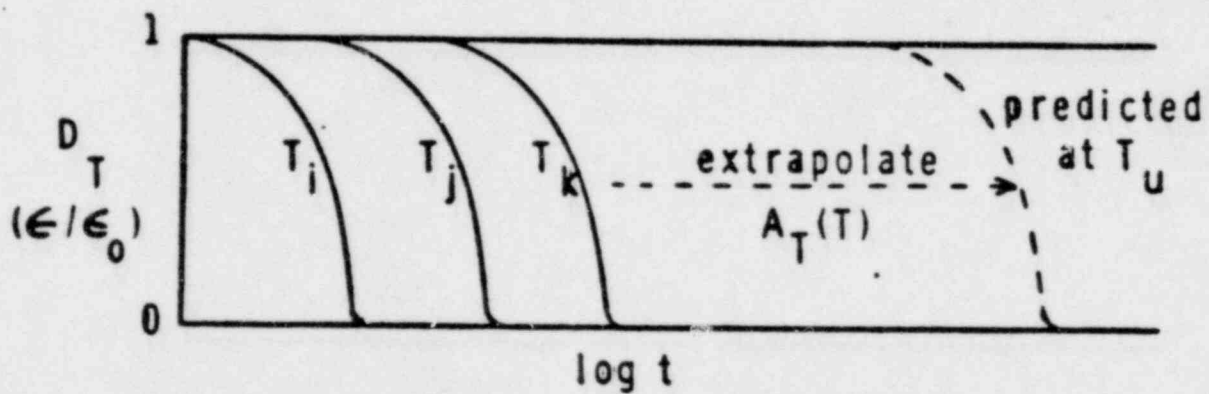
## AGING OF A FILLED POLYMER

Let  $C_A, C_B, C_C, \dots$  be concentrations of chemical species (chemical groups being destroyed or formed, cross-link density, plasticizer).

Parameter  $D$  used to follow degradation under use and accelerated conditions. Assumed

$$D = f(C_A, C_B, C_C, \dots)$$

PRESCRIPTION FOR ACCELERATED AGING - Raise environmental stresses (eg. temperature) to accelerate equally all PERTINENT reactions which change  $C$ 's



Shapes superimposable by horizontal shifts - evidence that all relevant reactions accelerated equally

SHIFT FACTOR  $A_T(T)$  - DETERMINE, RATIONALIZE, EXTRAPOLATE

## HELPFUL SIMPLIFICATIONS

1. D INSENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN SOME SPECIES
2. ONE KINETIC TERM OF MOLECULARITY  $\leq 2$  USUALLY DOMINANT OVER A REASONABLE TEMPERATURE RANGE

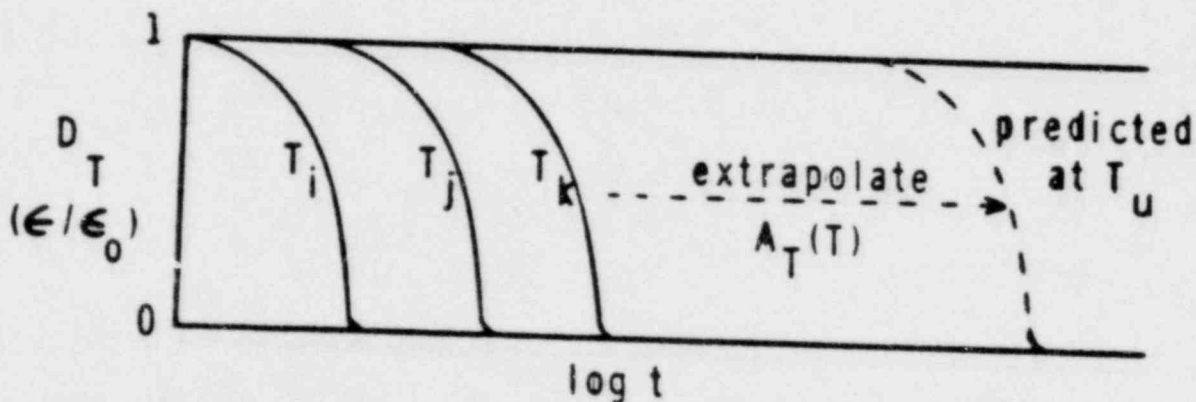
ie. suppose

$$\frac{dC_A}{dt} = k_1(T) C_A^a C_B^b$$

where B = O<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>O and C<sub>B</sub> ~ constant during reaction

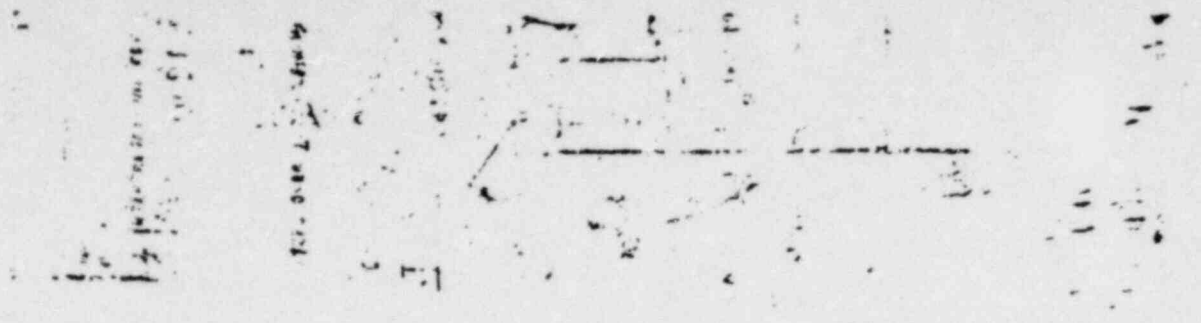
shift factor A<sub>T</sub>(T) from temperature dependence of degradation,

$$k_1(T) \propto \exp(-E_a/RT)$$



## GOOD EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

1. RANGE OF STRESSES AS LARGE AS POSSIBLE TO CHECK FOR EVIDENCE OF CHANGE IN MECHANISM ( CHANGE IN SHAPE OR A<sub>T</sub>(T) )
2. KEEP EXTRAPOLATIONS TO A MINIMUM
3. DON'T EXTRAPOLATE THROUGH A TRANSITION



## SAFETY CABLE AGING

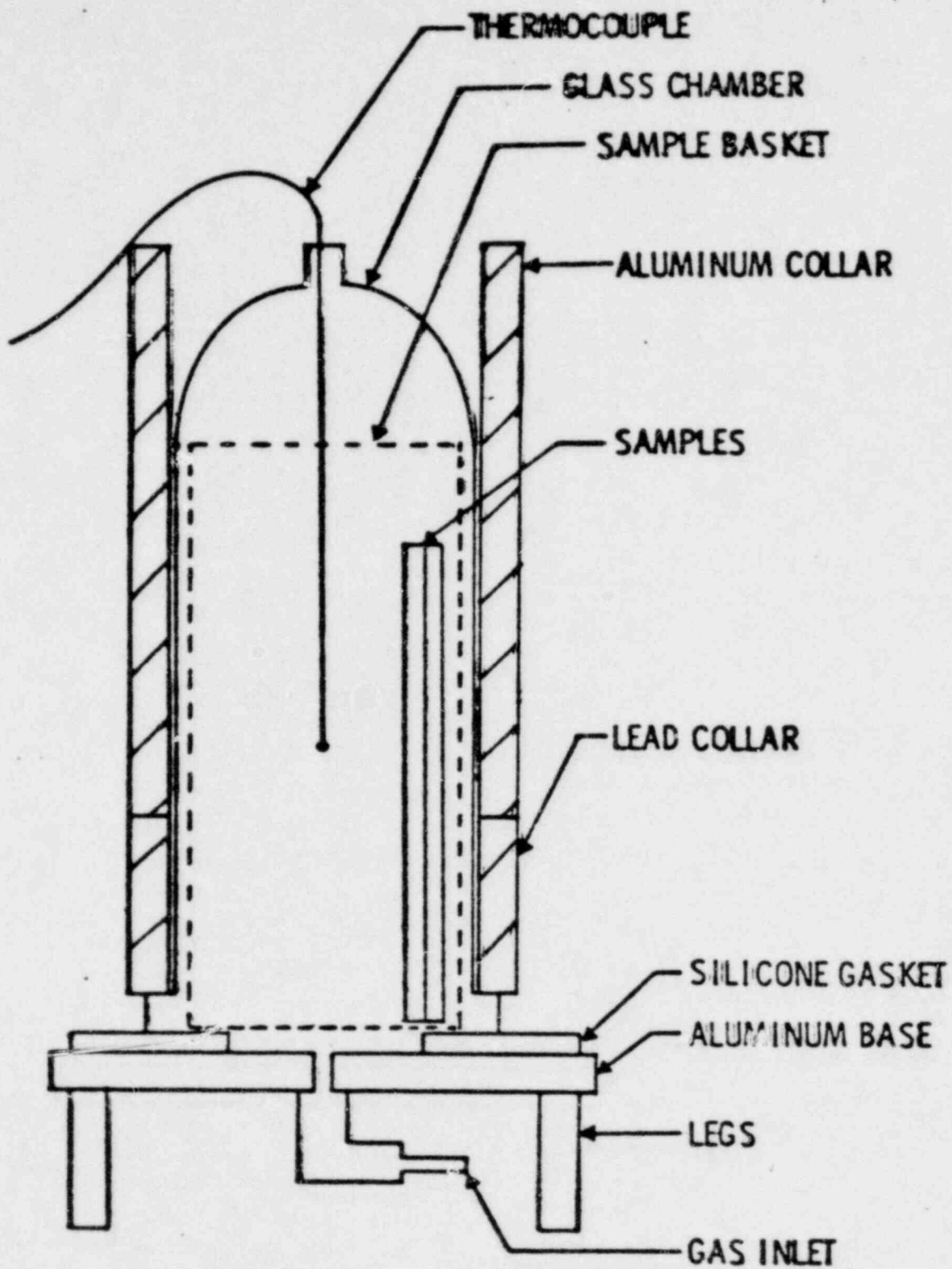
FAILURE MODE - EMBRITTLEMENT OF INSULATION

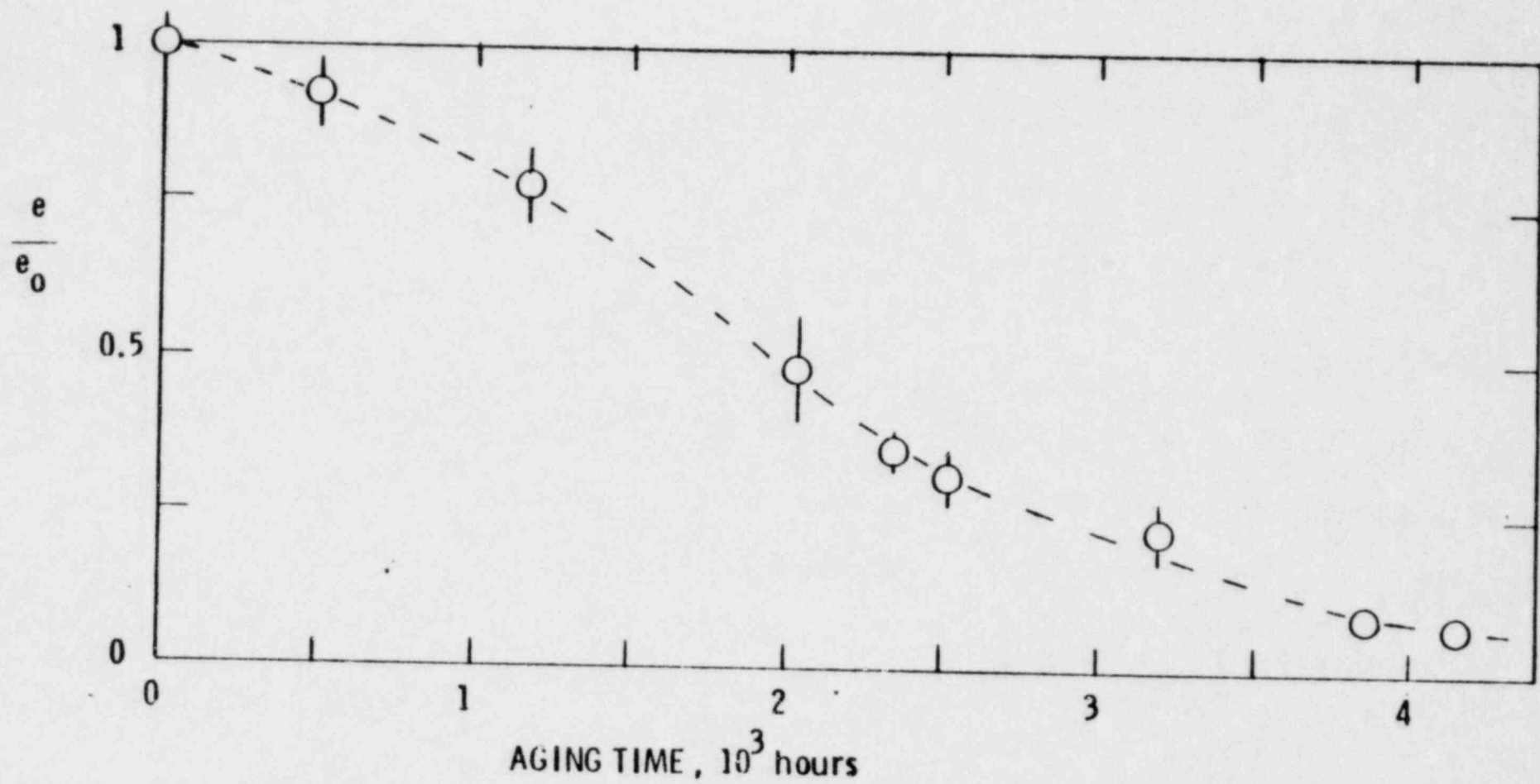
ENVIRONMENT - THERMOOXIDATIVE

DAMAGE PARAMETER - REDUCED ULTIMATE TENSILE ELONGATION

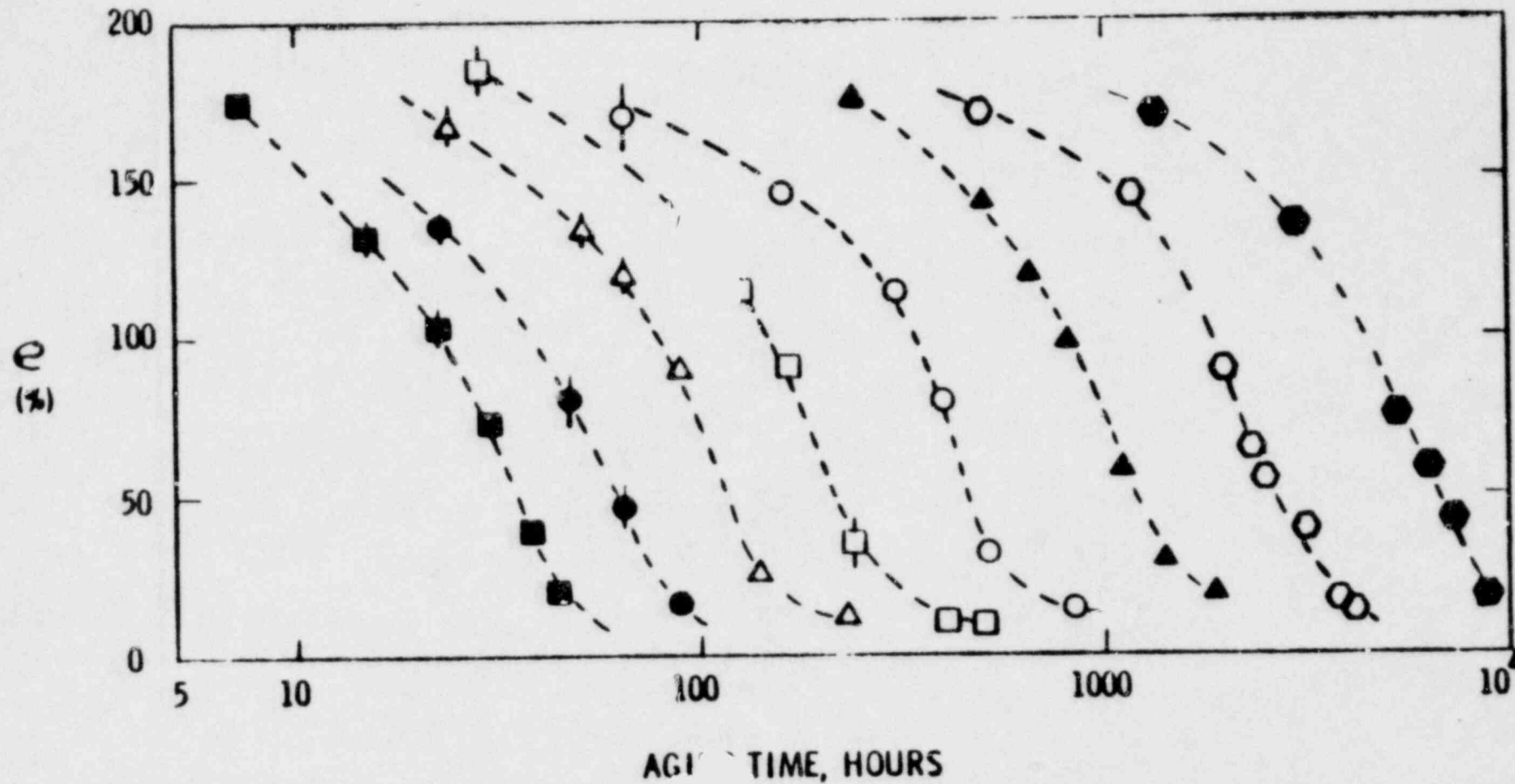
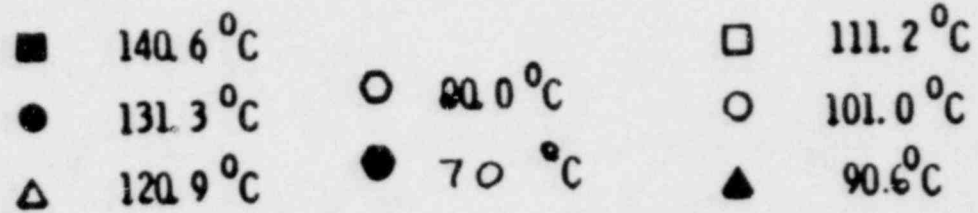
### THREE EXAMPLES

1. NEOPRENE - SUCCESSFUL
2. CROSSLINKED POLYOLEFIN - SUCCESSFUL THROUGH TRANSITION  
(CRYSTALLINE MELTING POINT)
3. ETHYLENE-PROPYLENE RUBBER - DOMINANT REACTION CHANGES

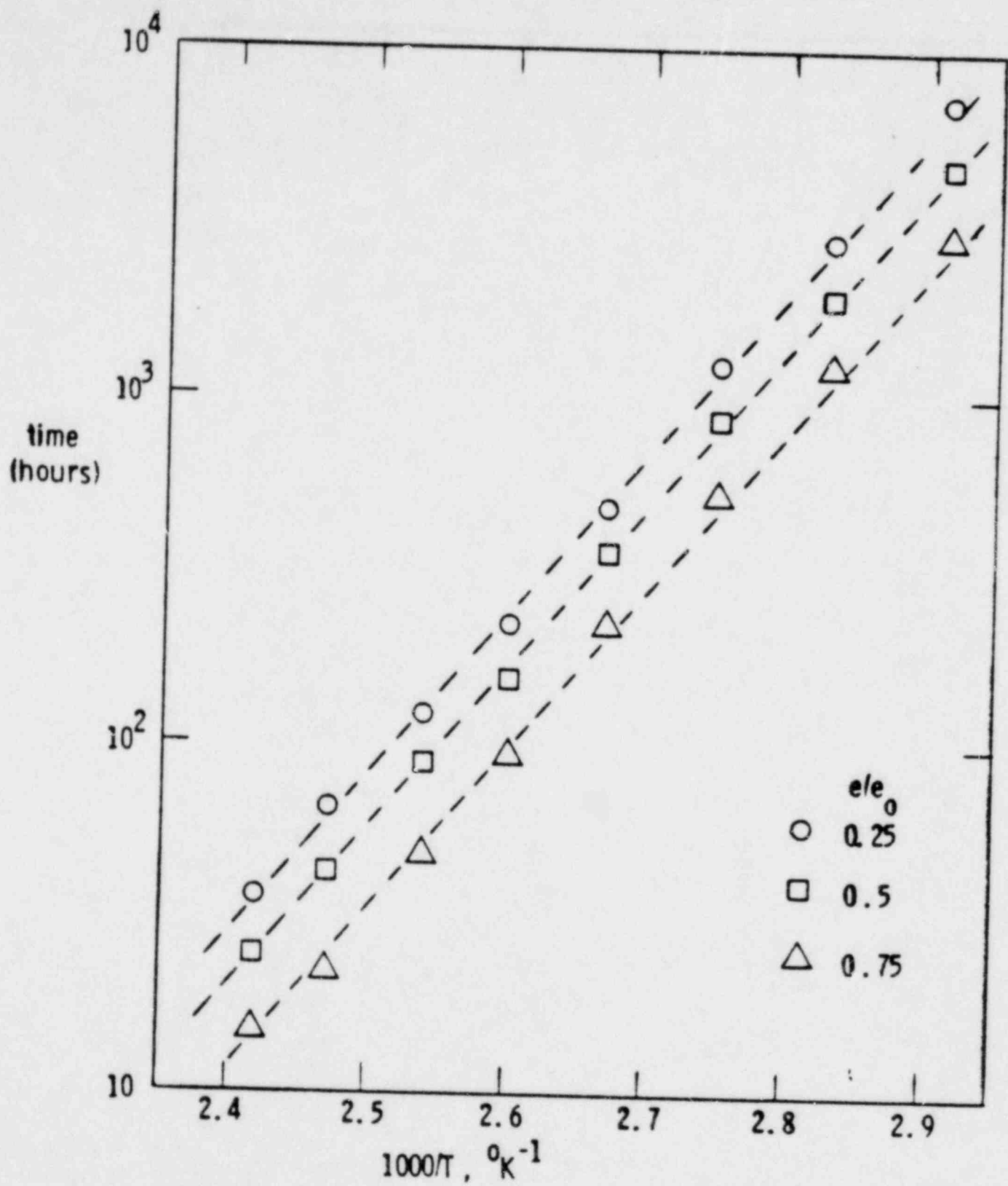


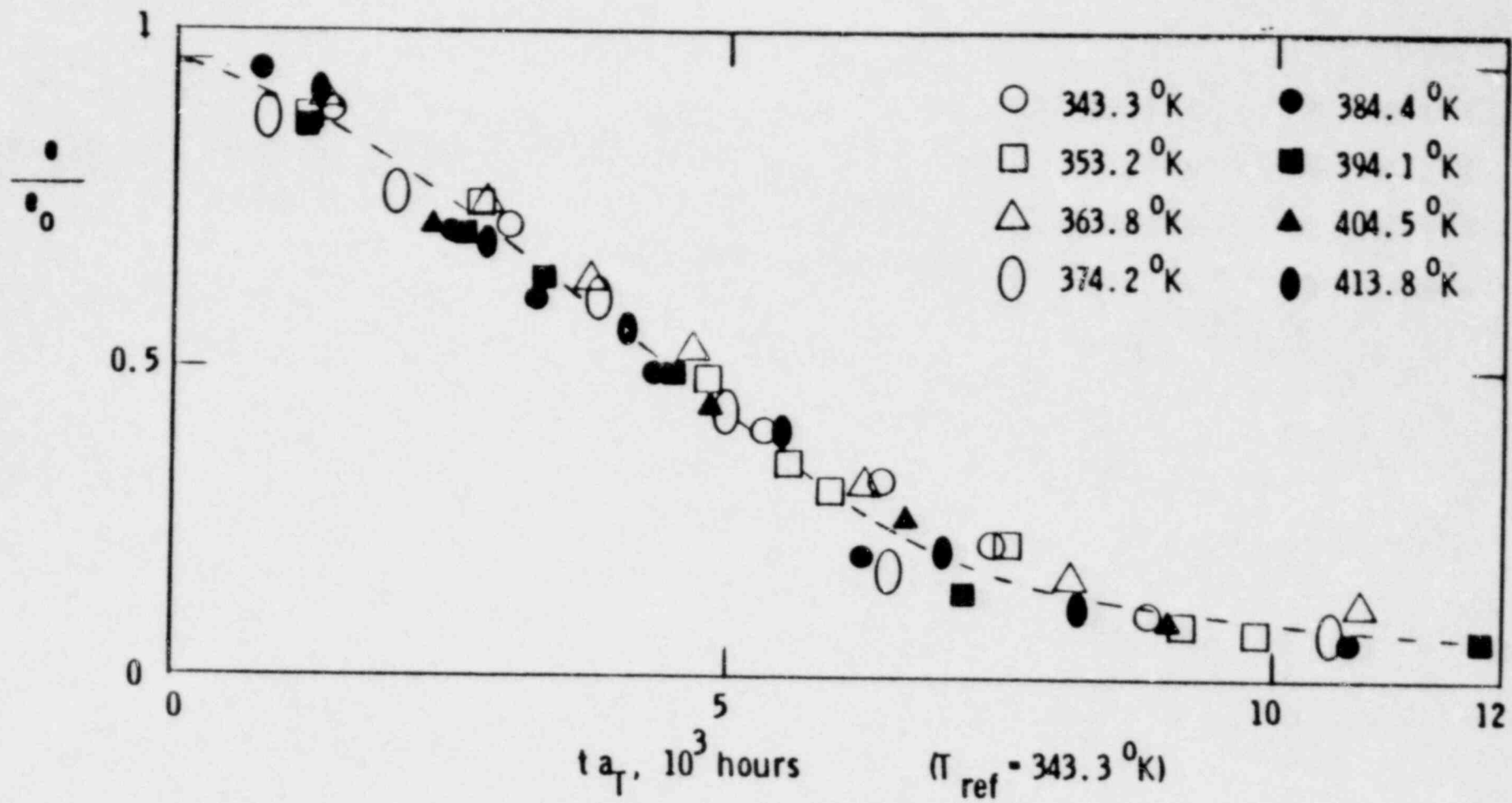


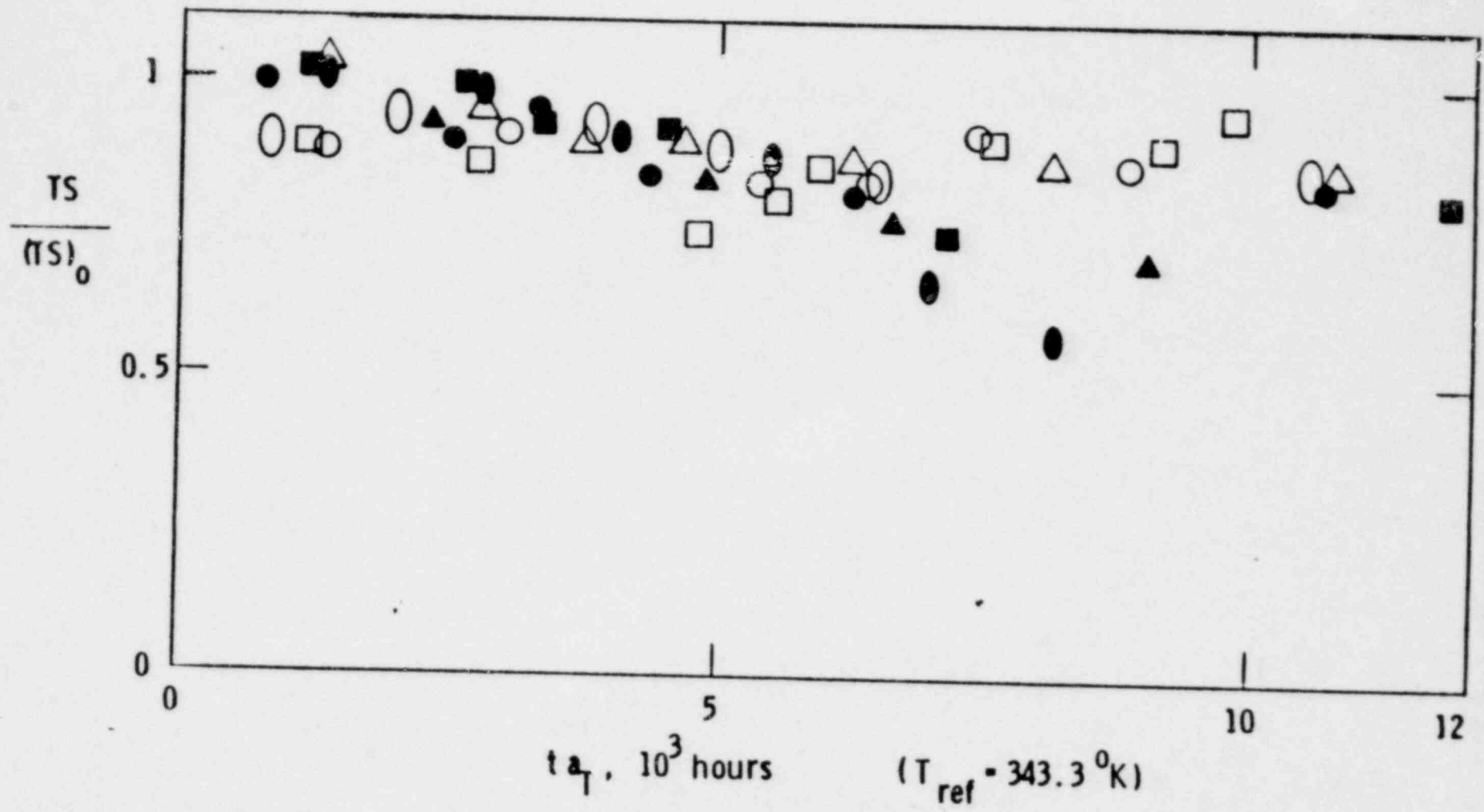


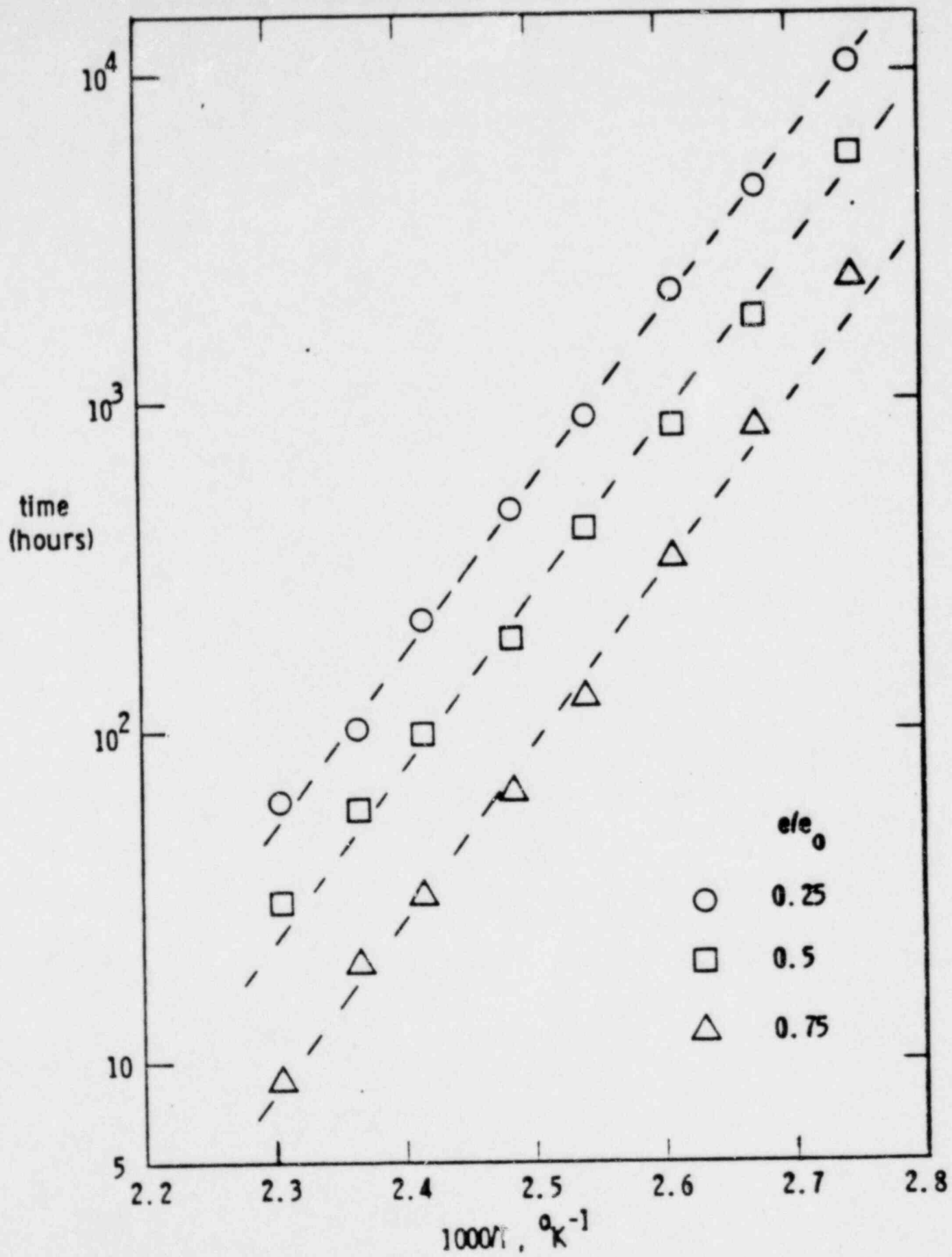


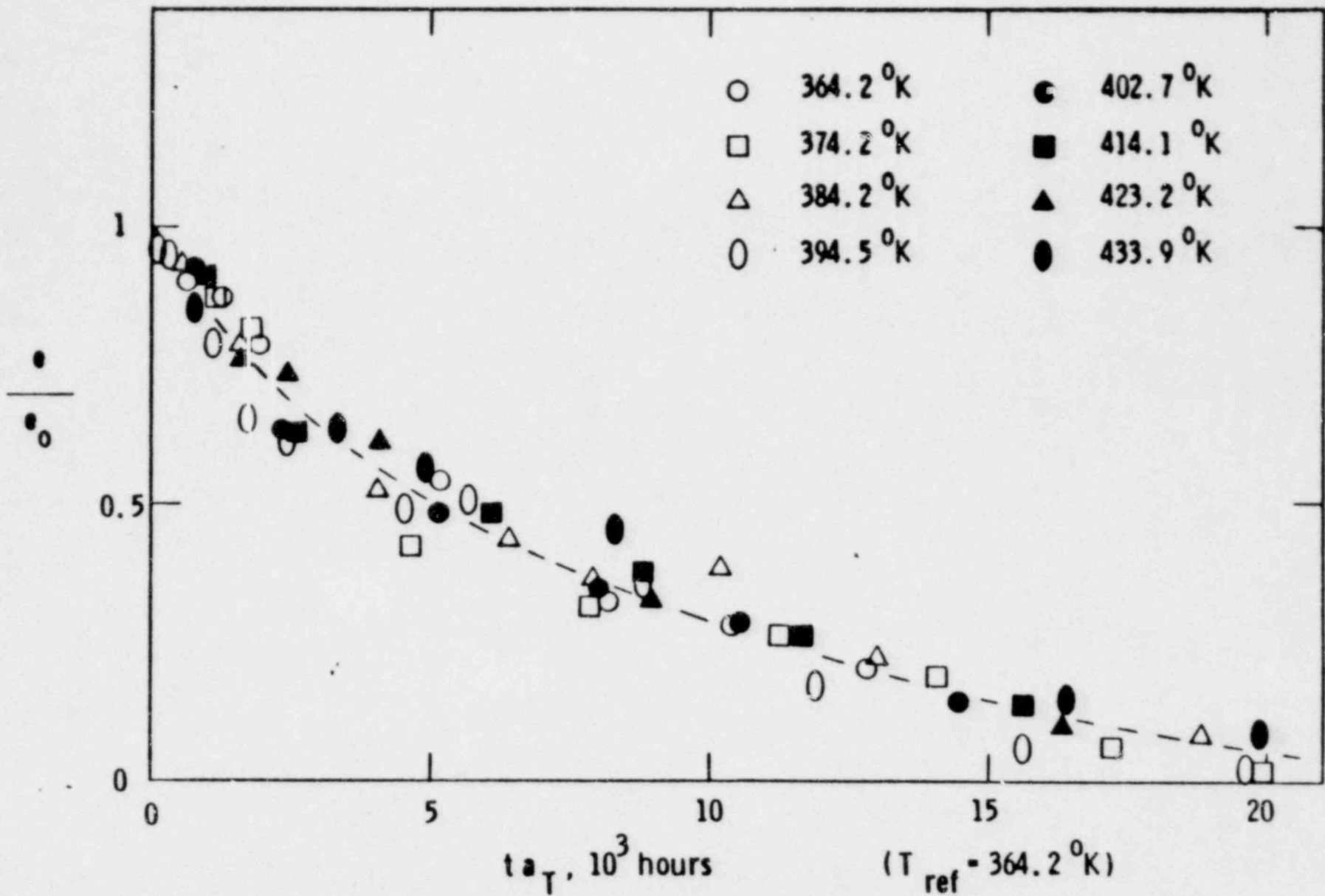
Ultimate tensile elongation (e) vs. aging time for chloroprene material at the indicated temperatures.

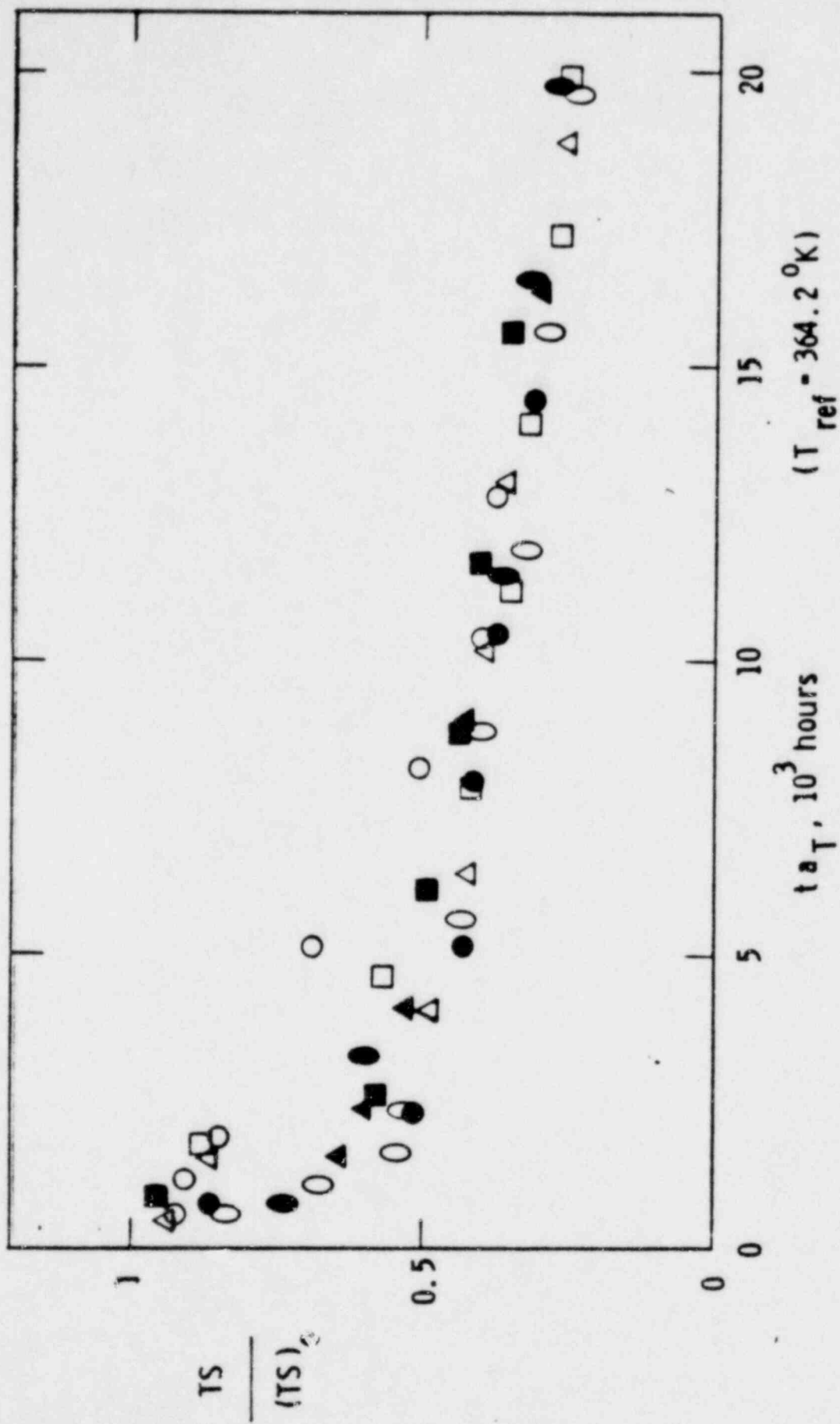












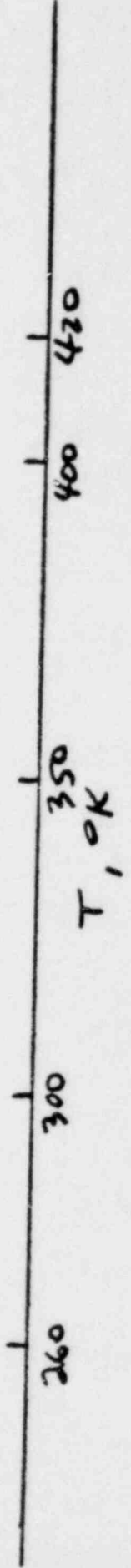
DSC SCANS



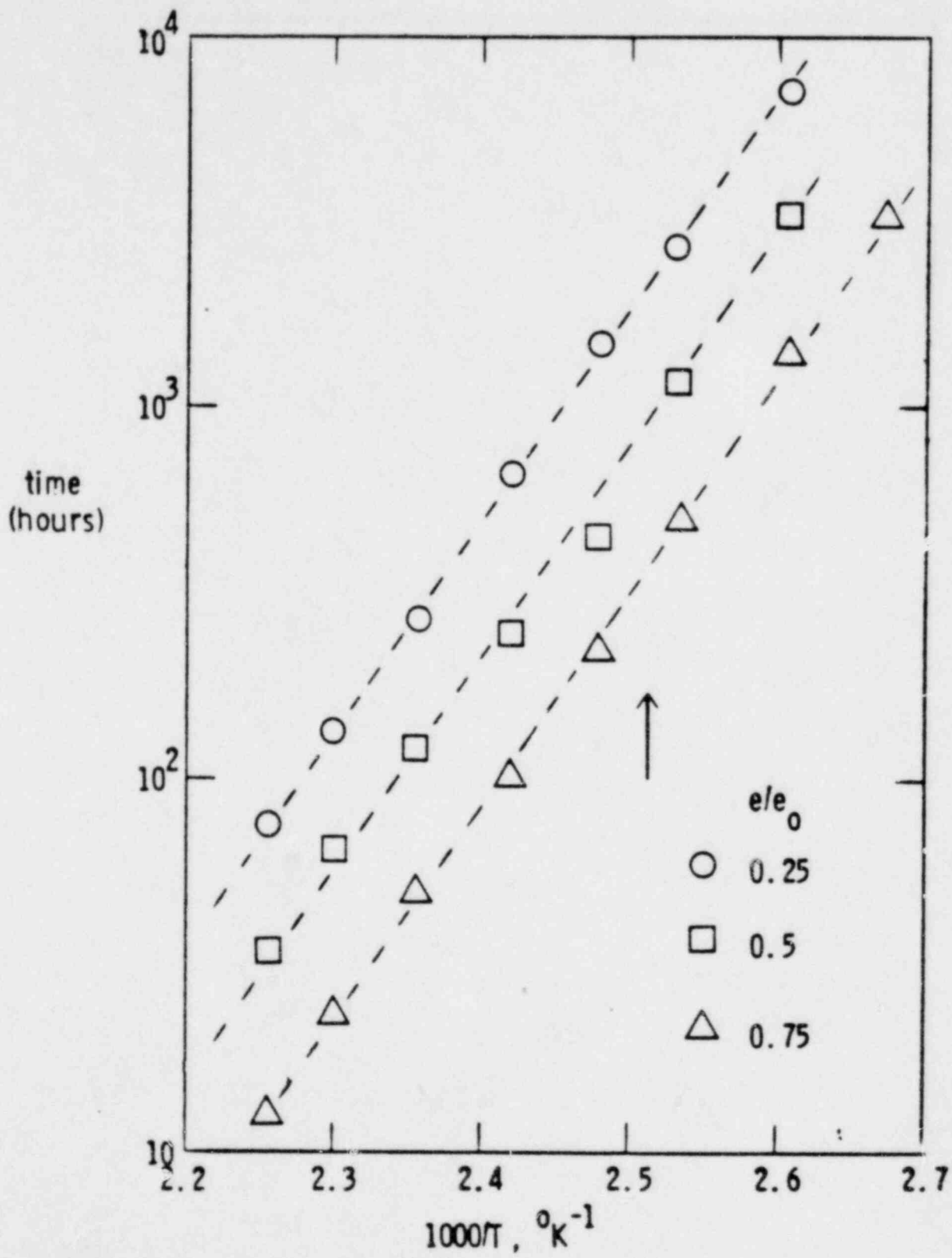
CLPE

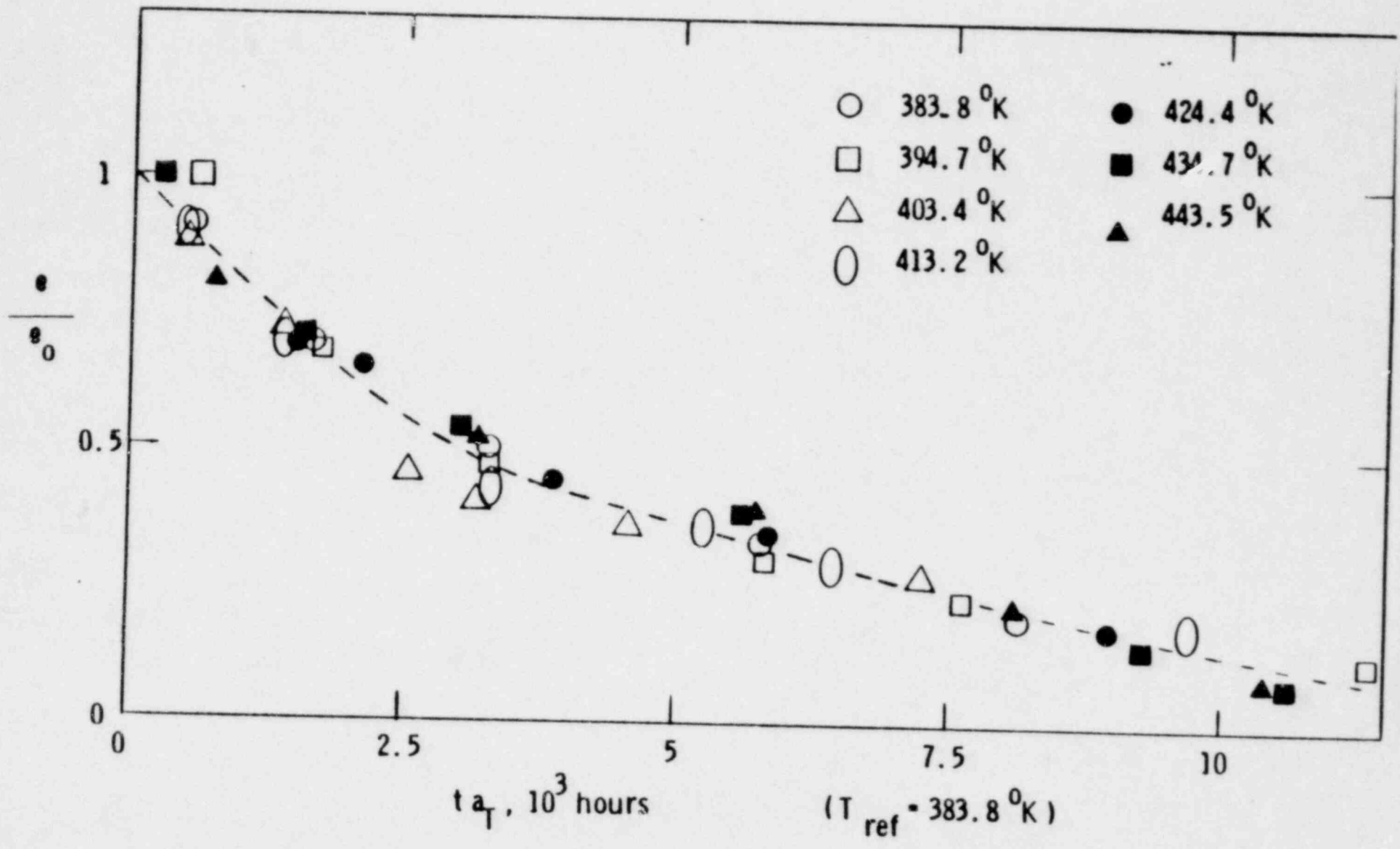


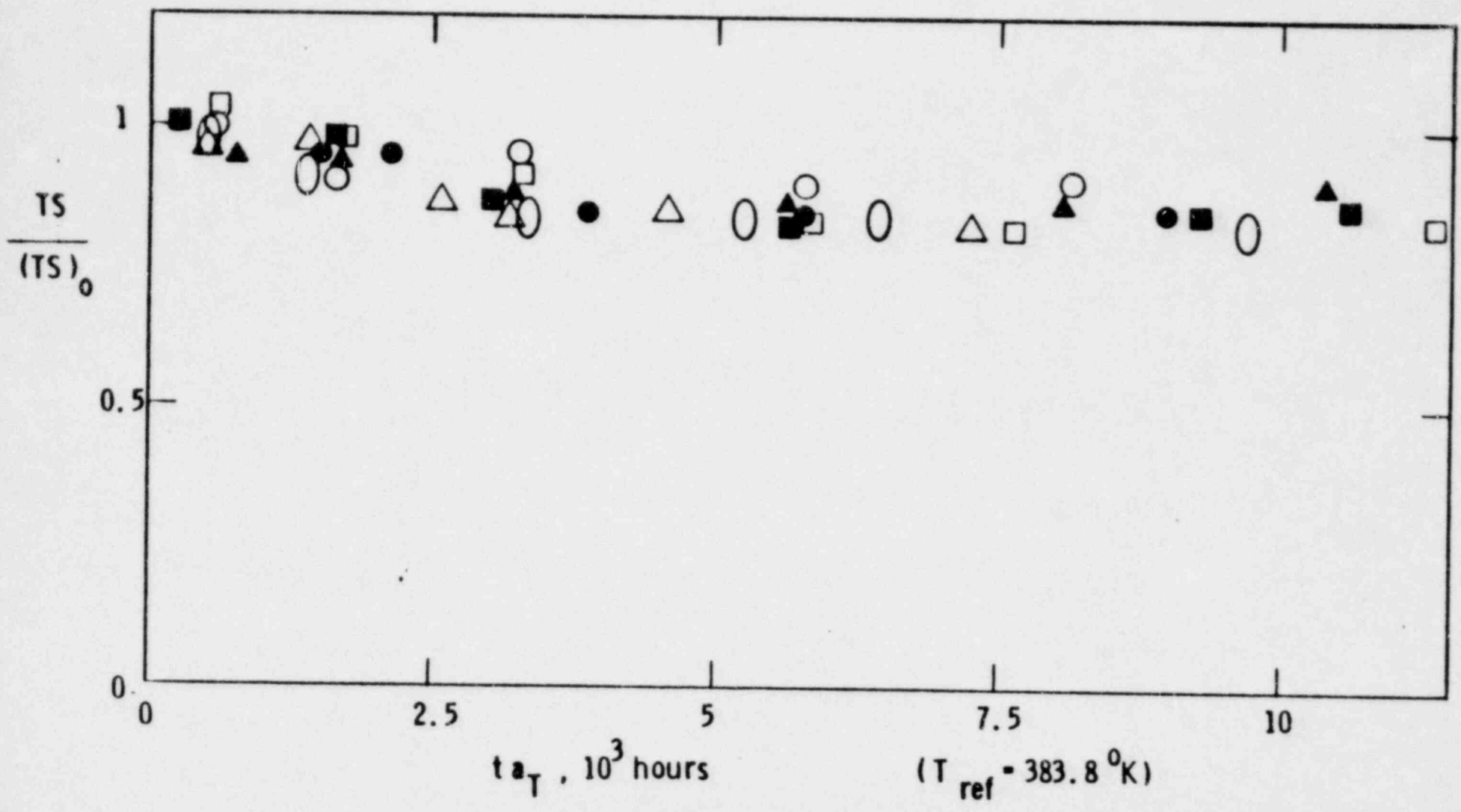
HYPALON

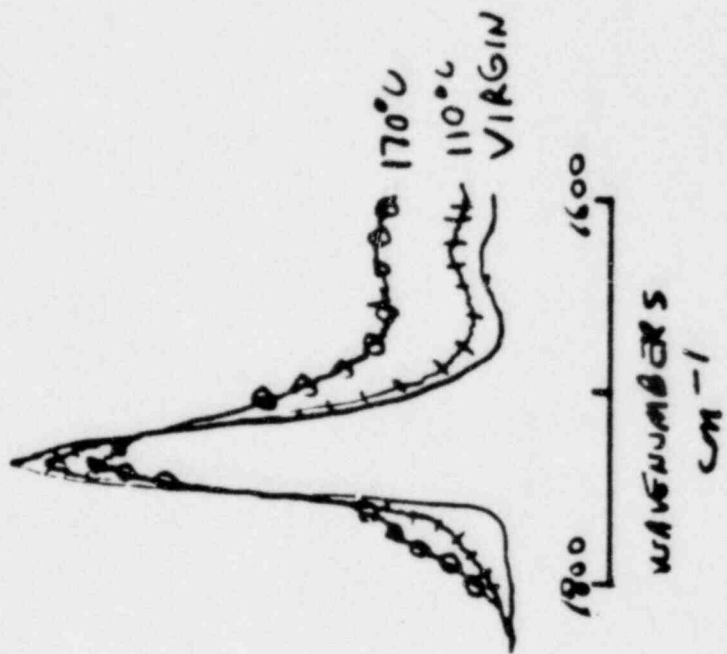


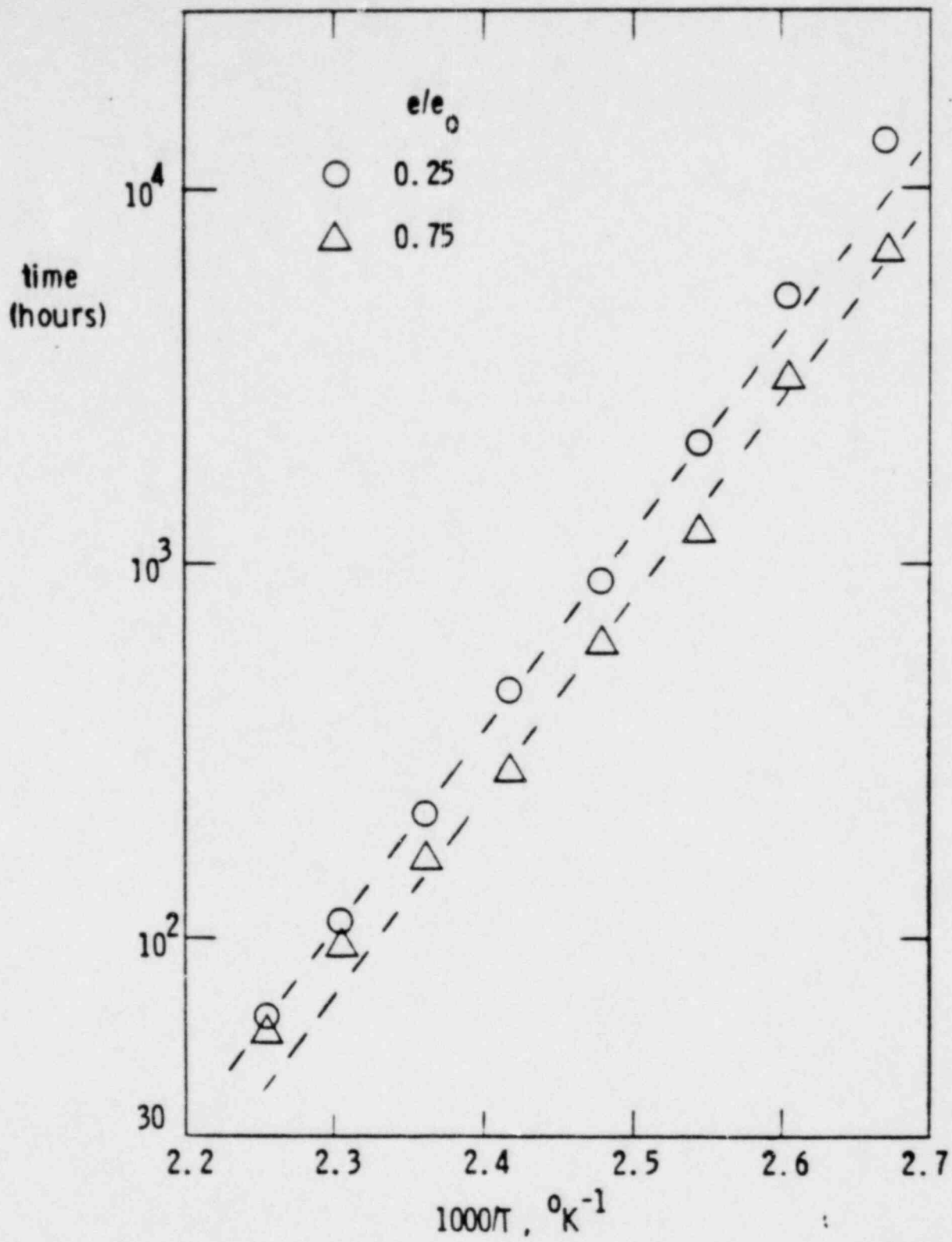


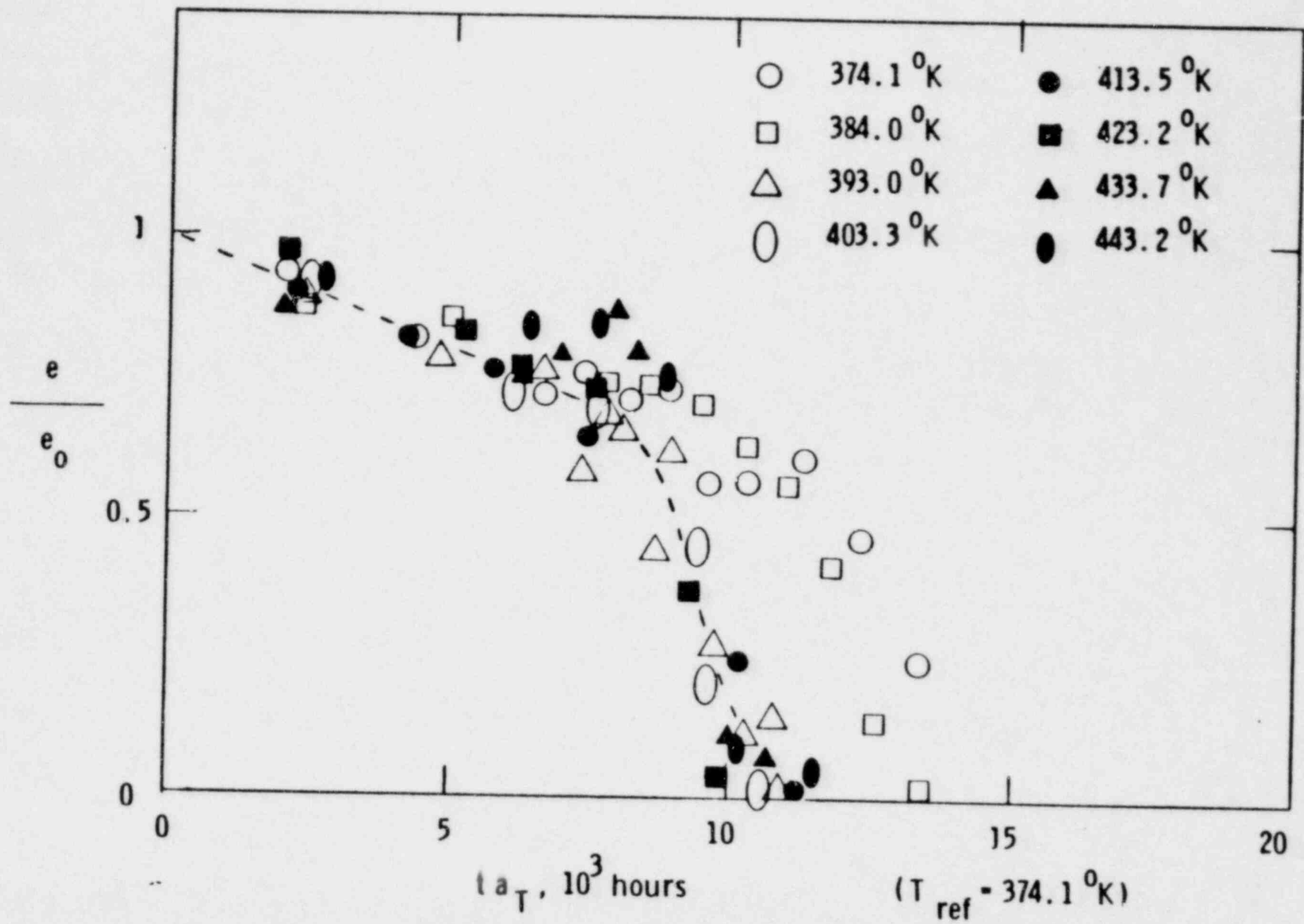




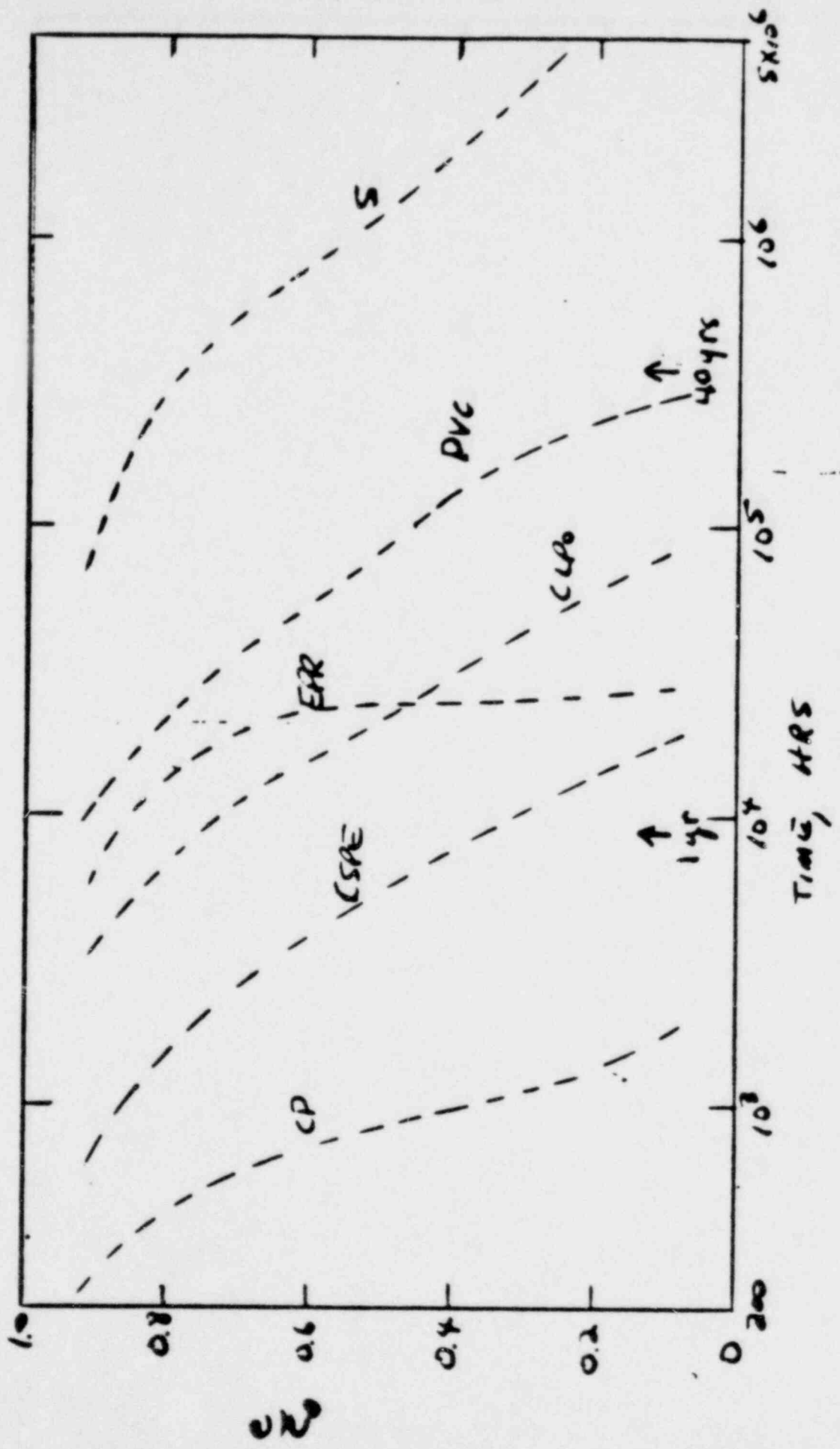








EXTRAPOLATED OR INTERPOLATED RESULTS AT 90°C

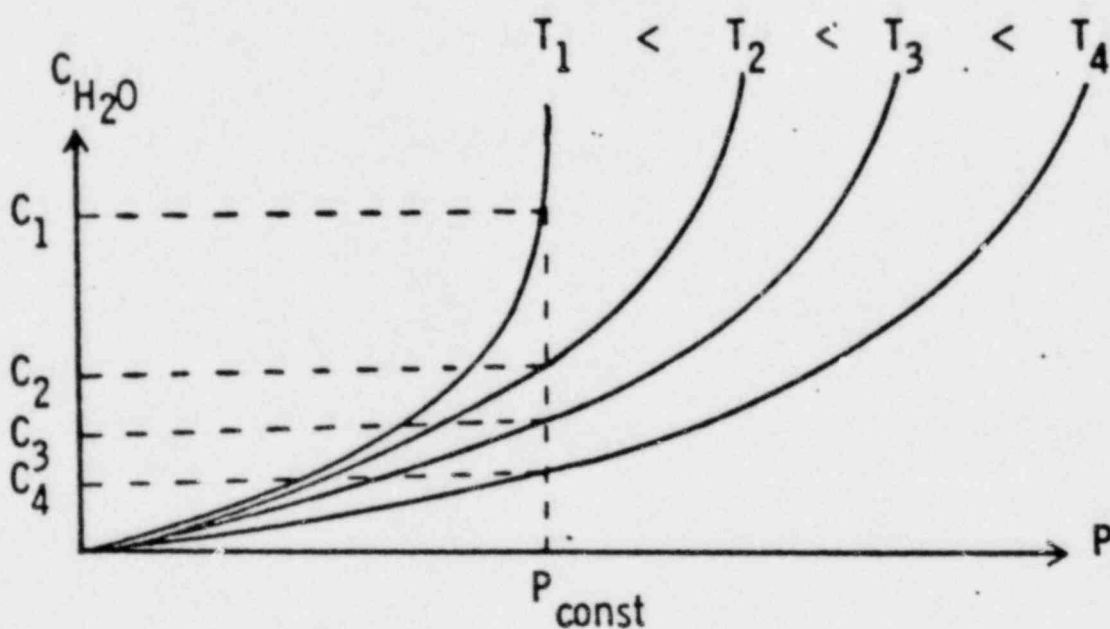


# HUMIDITY AGING

TYPICAL KINETIC EXPRESSION

$$\text{Rate} = k(T) C_A^2 C_{H_2O}(T)$$

$$C_{H_2O} = \underbrace{\sigma}_{\text{solubility coeff.}}(P) \underbrace{P}_{\text{partial pressure}}$$



At  $P_{const}$ , Rate is non-Arrhenius with temperature



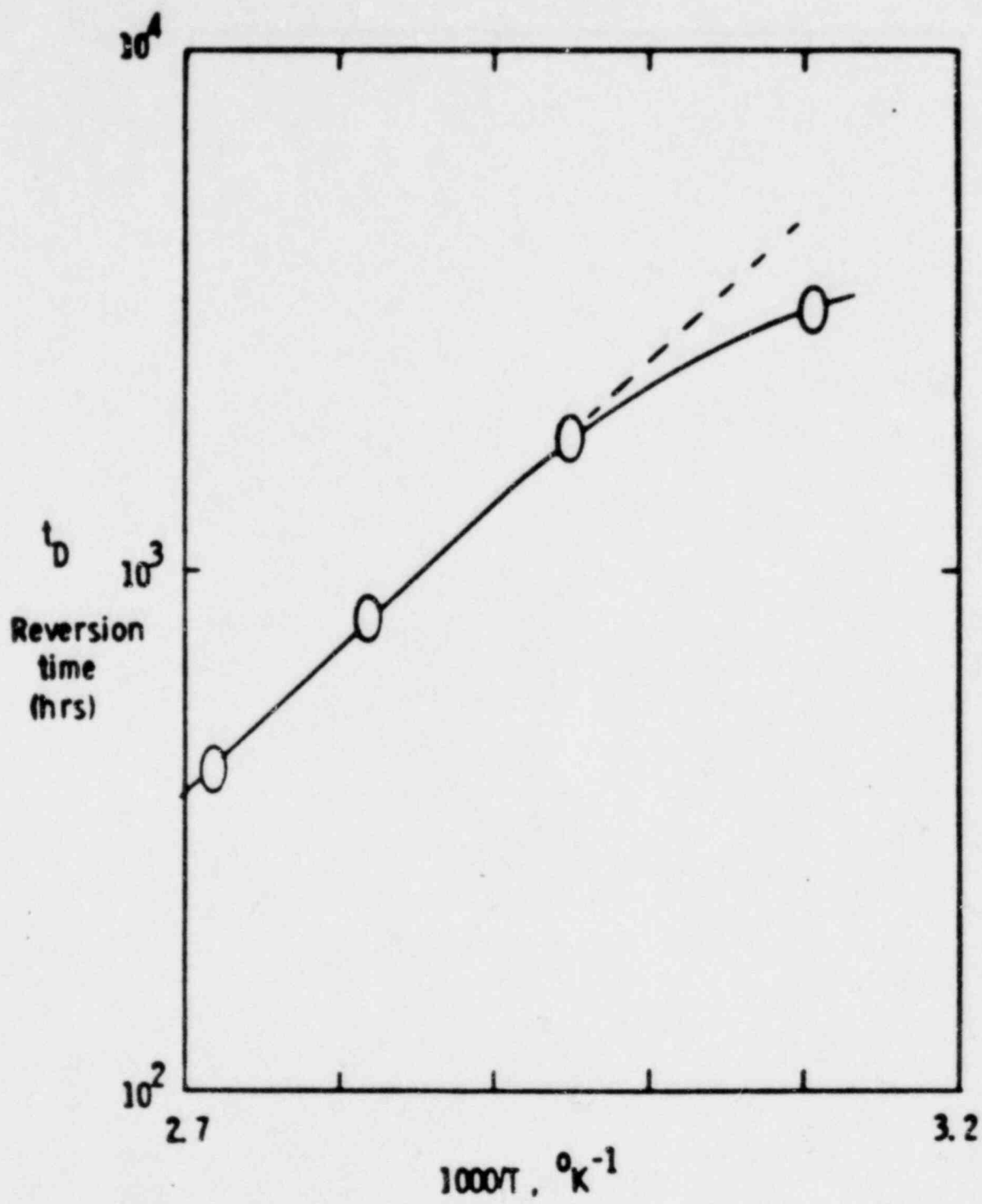
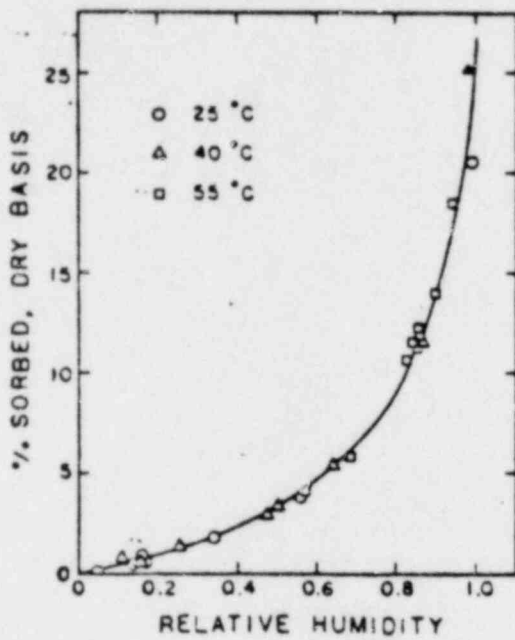


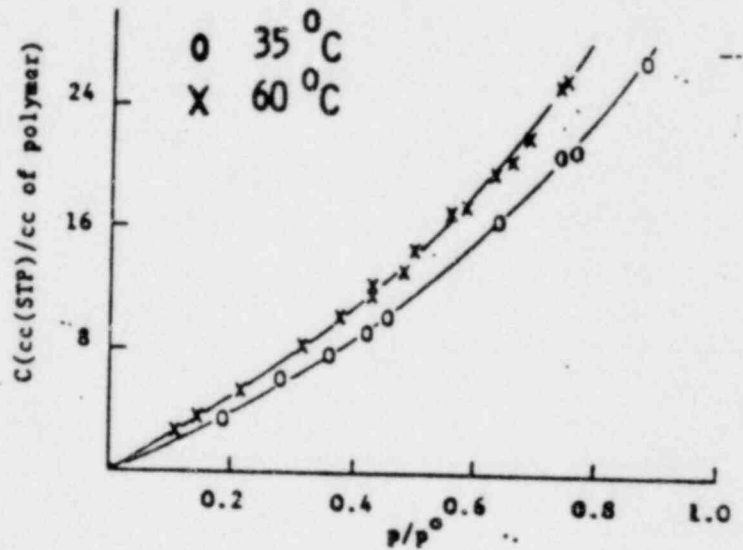
FIGURE 2

# HUMIDITY ISOTHERMS VS. P/P<sub>0</sub> (RELATIVE HUMIDITY)

Ref 3



Ref 4



$$\sigma(RH) = \sigma_0(RH) \exp(-\Delta H(RH)/RT)$$

$\Delta H(RH)$  typically small

DO ACCELERATED AGING AT CONSTANT RH

$$k_{\text{eff}} = k C_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^b \exp(-E_a/RT) \exp(-b \Delta H(RH)/RT)$$

$$E_{\text{eff}} = E_a + b \Delta H(RH)$$

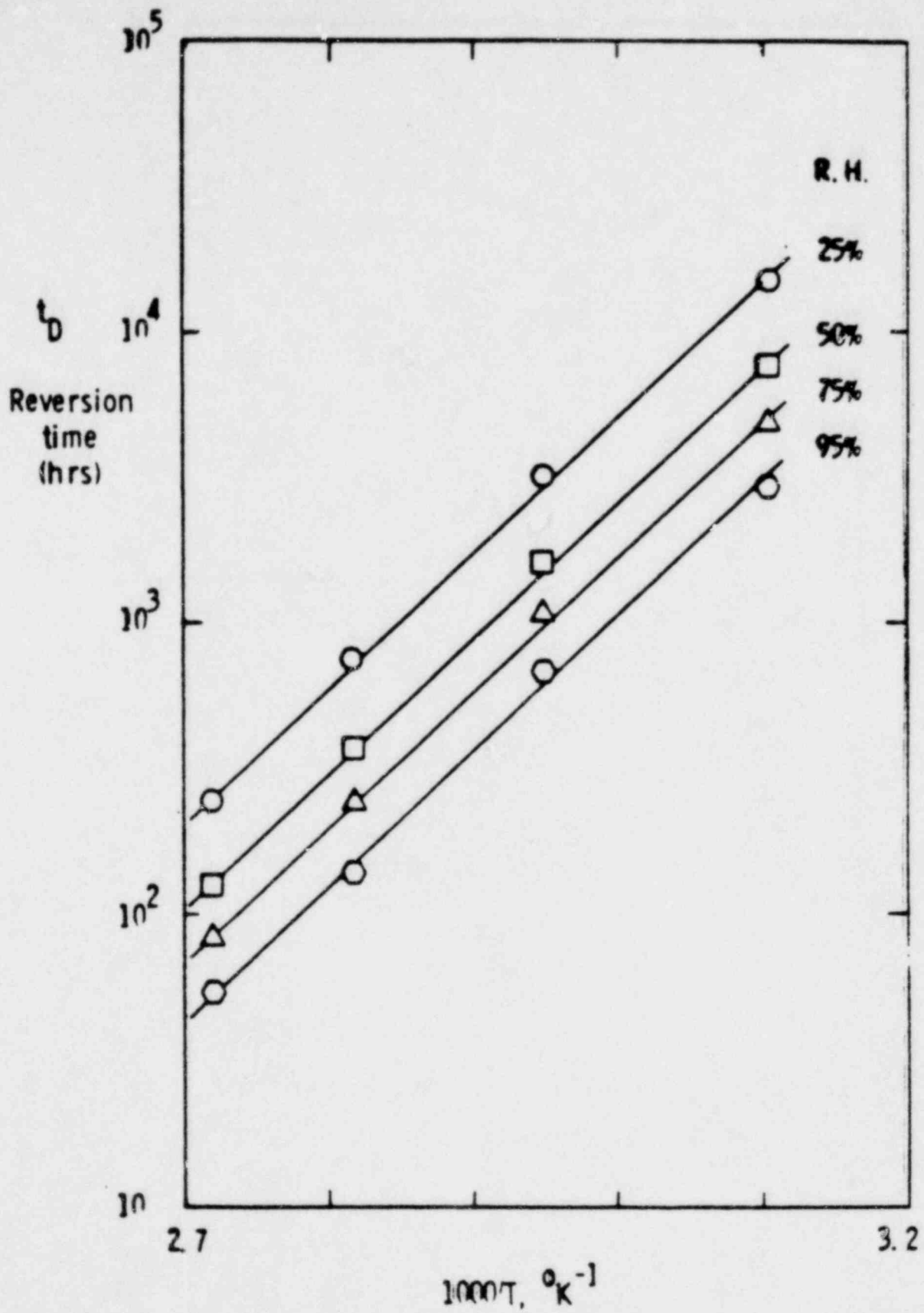
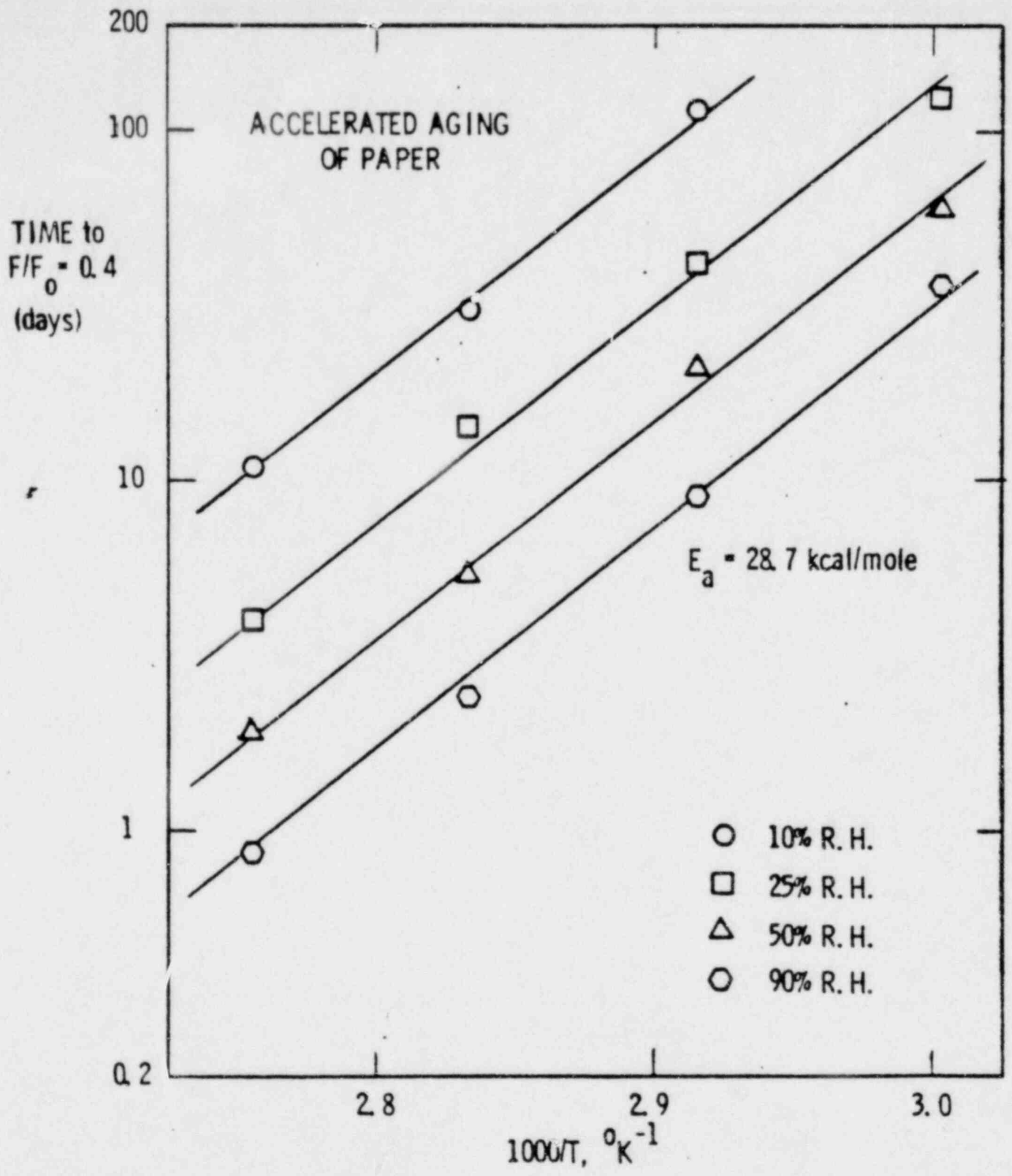


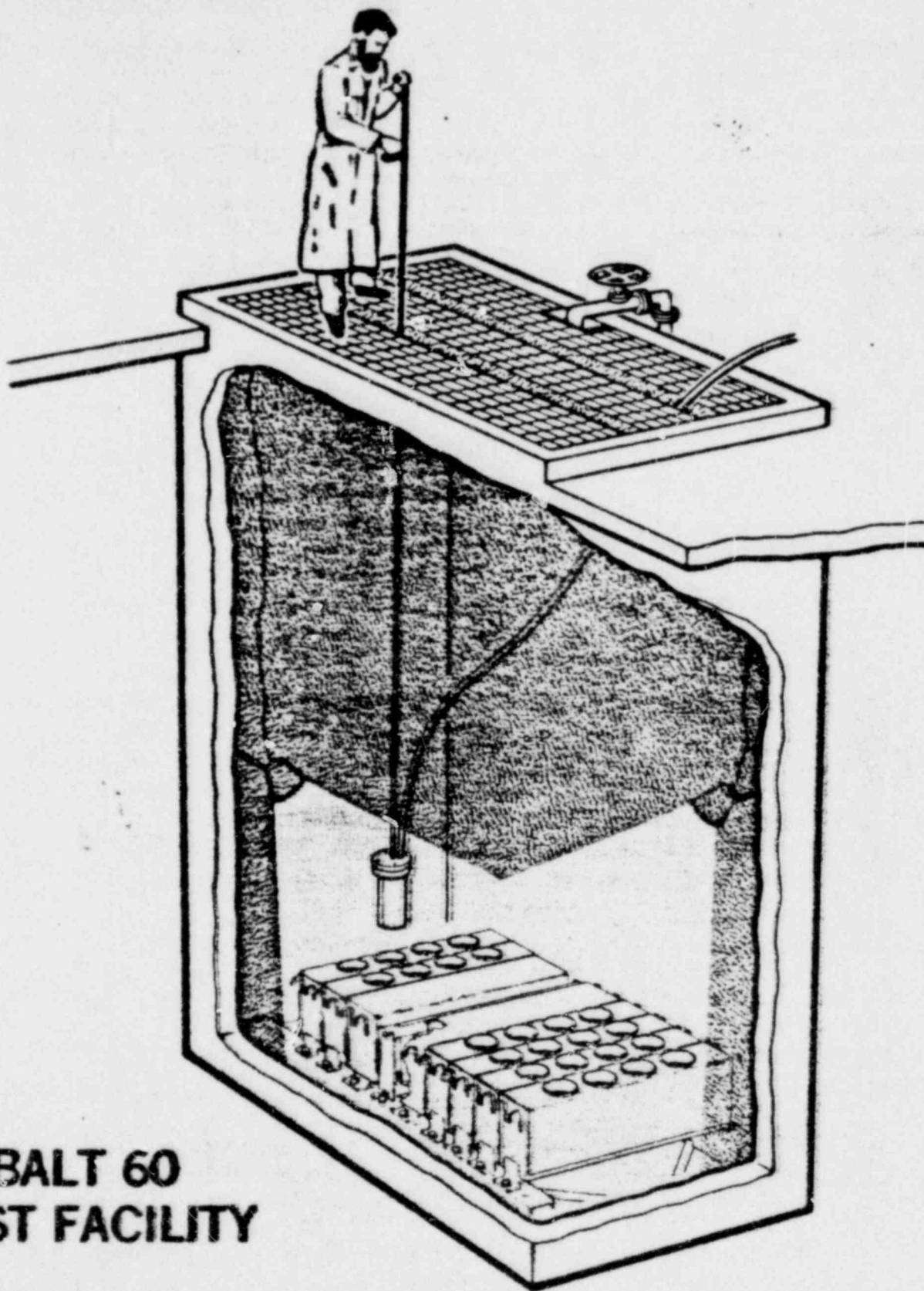
FIGURE 5



## SUMMARY

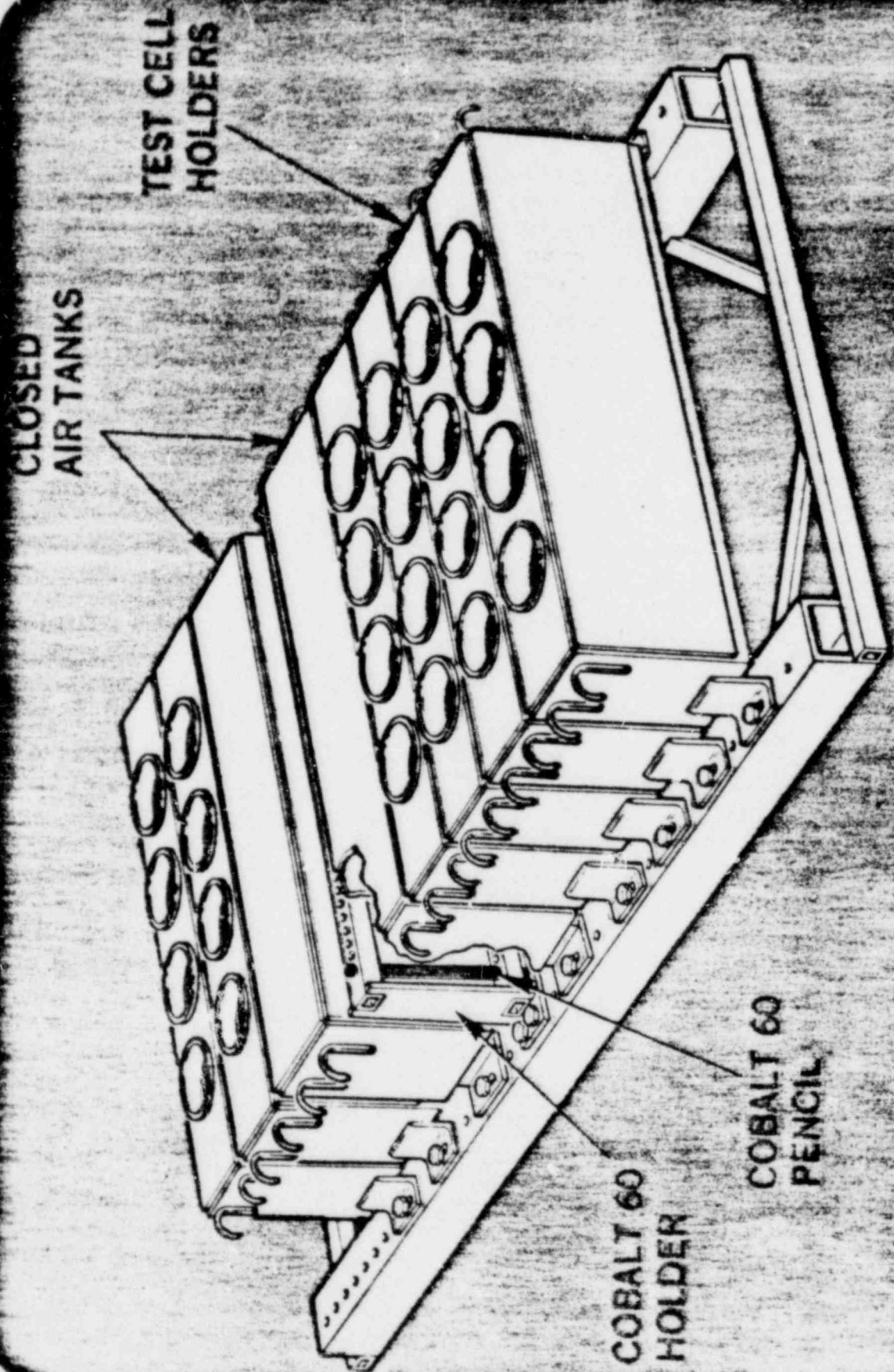
1. DETERMINE FAILURE MODES, IMPORTANT STRESSES, APPROPRIATE MATERIAL DAMAGE PARAMETERS
  
2. CHECK FOR SUPERPOSITION, THEN DETERMINE AND RATIONALIZE  $A_T(T)$ 
  - a. USE LARGE RANGE OF STRESS LEVELS
  - b. KEEP EXTRAPOLATIONS TO A MINIMUM
  - c. DON'T EXTRAPOLATE THROUGH A TRANSITION
  
3. FOR HUMIDITY AGING, ANALYZE AT CONSTANT REL. HUM.

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**COBALT 60  
TEST FACILITY**

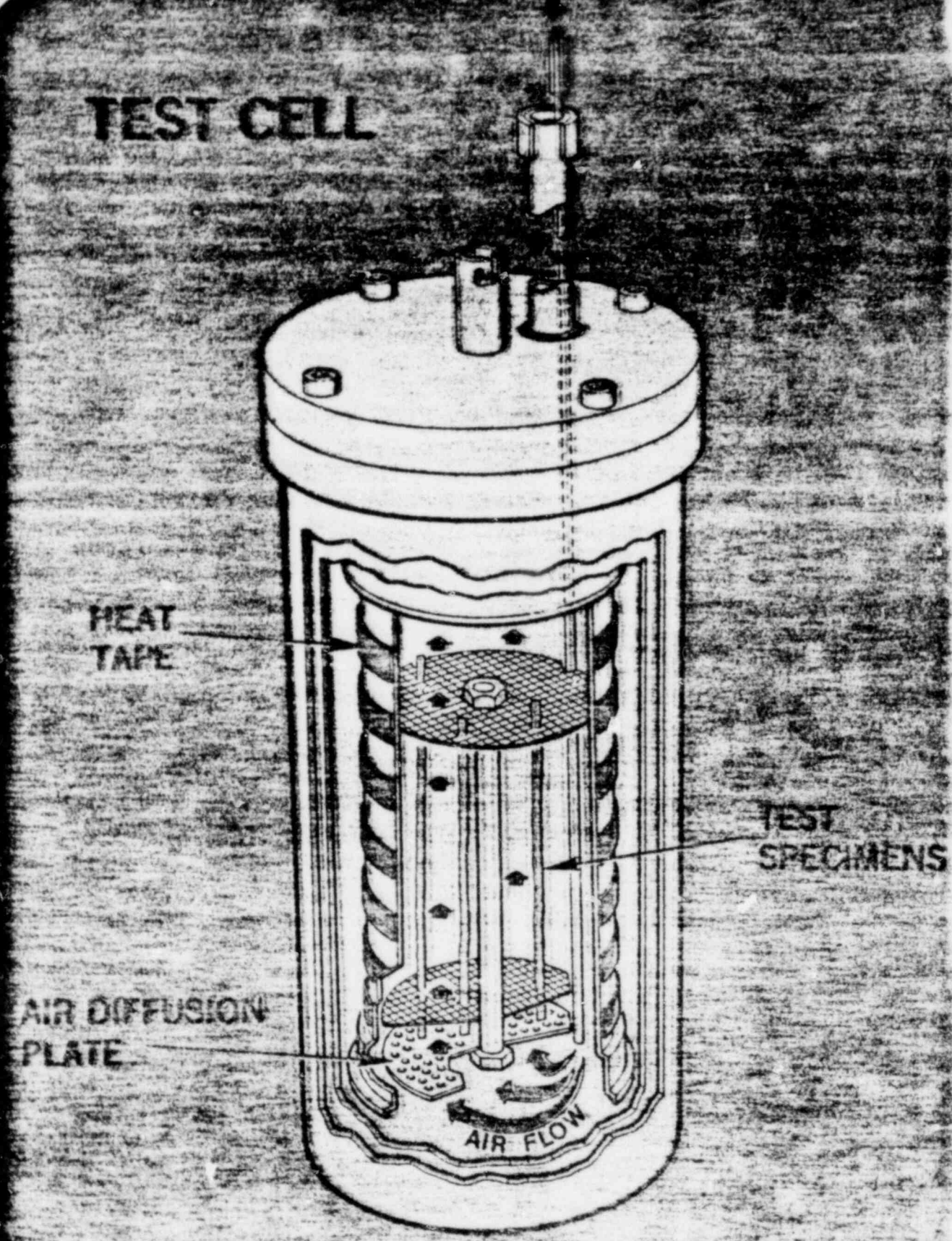
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LINEAR ARRAY RADIATION SOURCE

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# TEST CELL



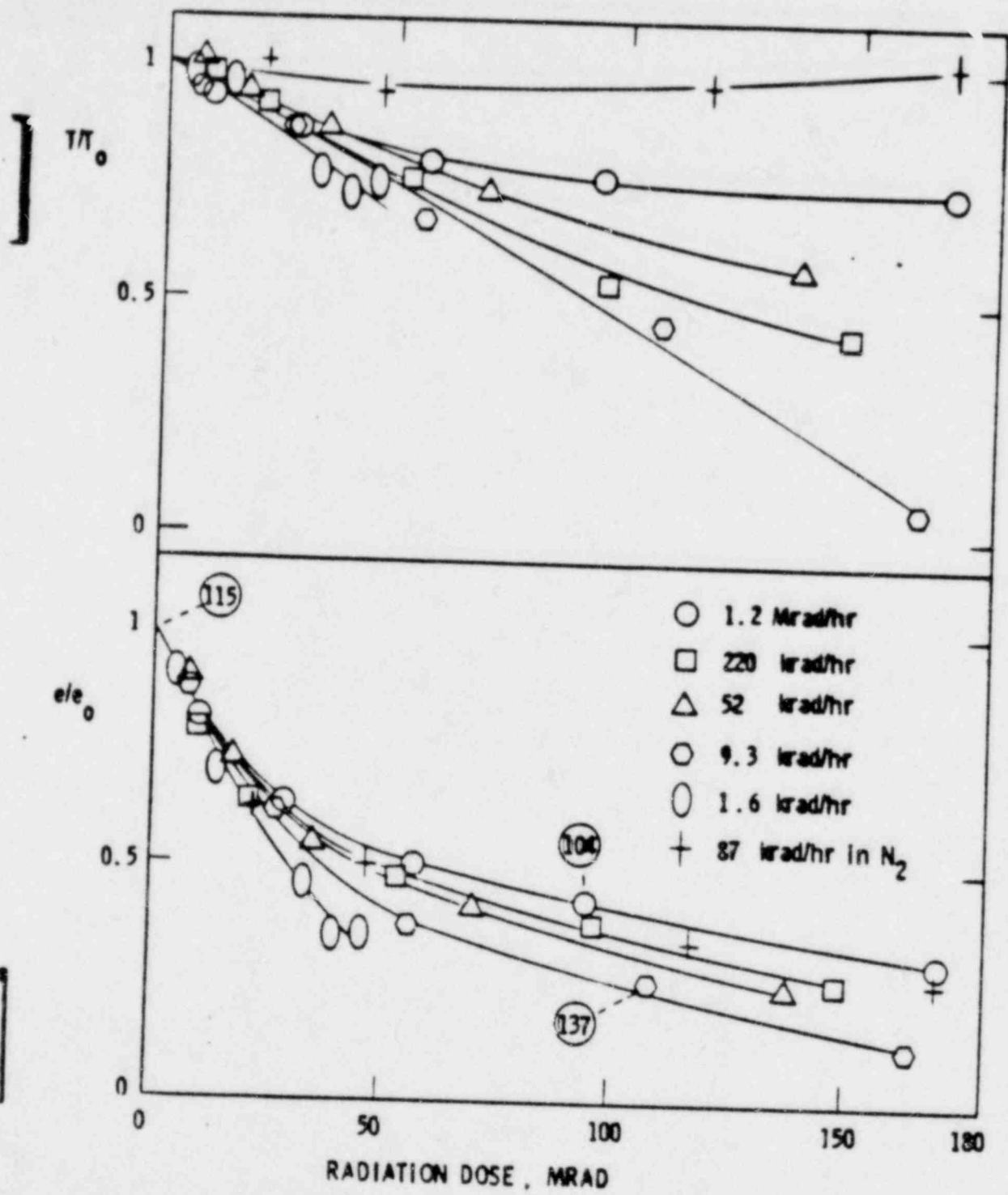
HEAT TAPE

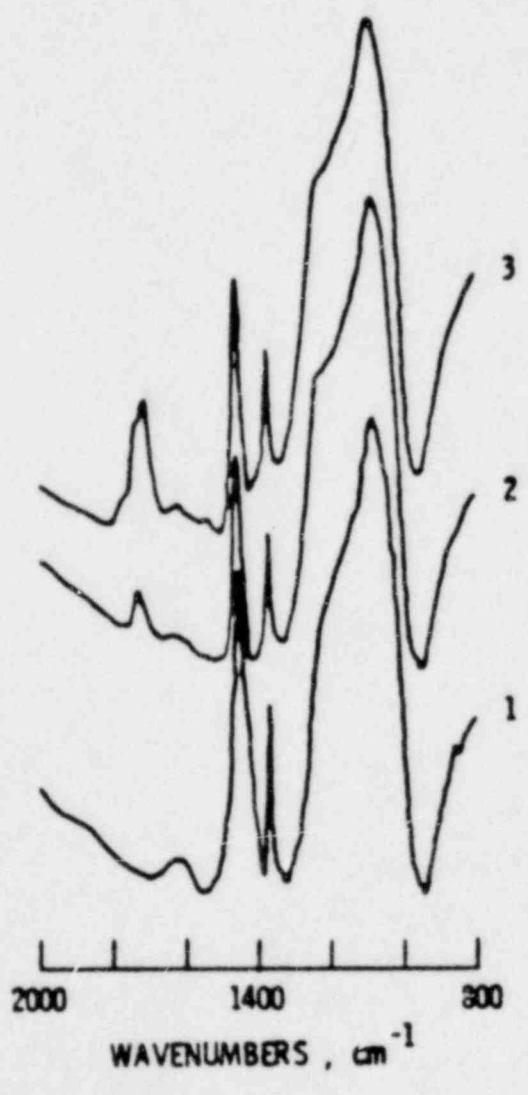
TEST SPECIMENS

AIR DIFFUSION PLATE

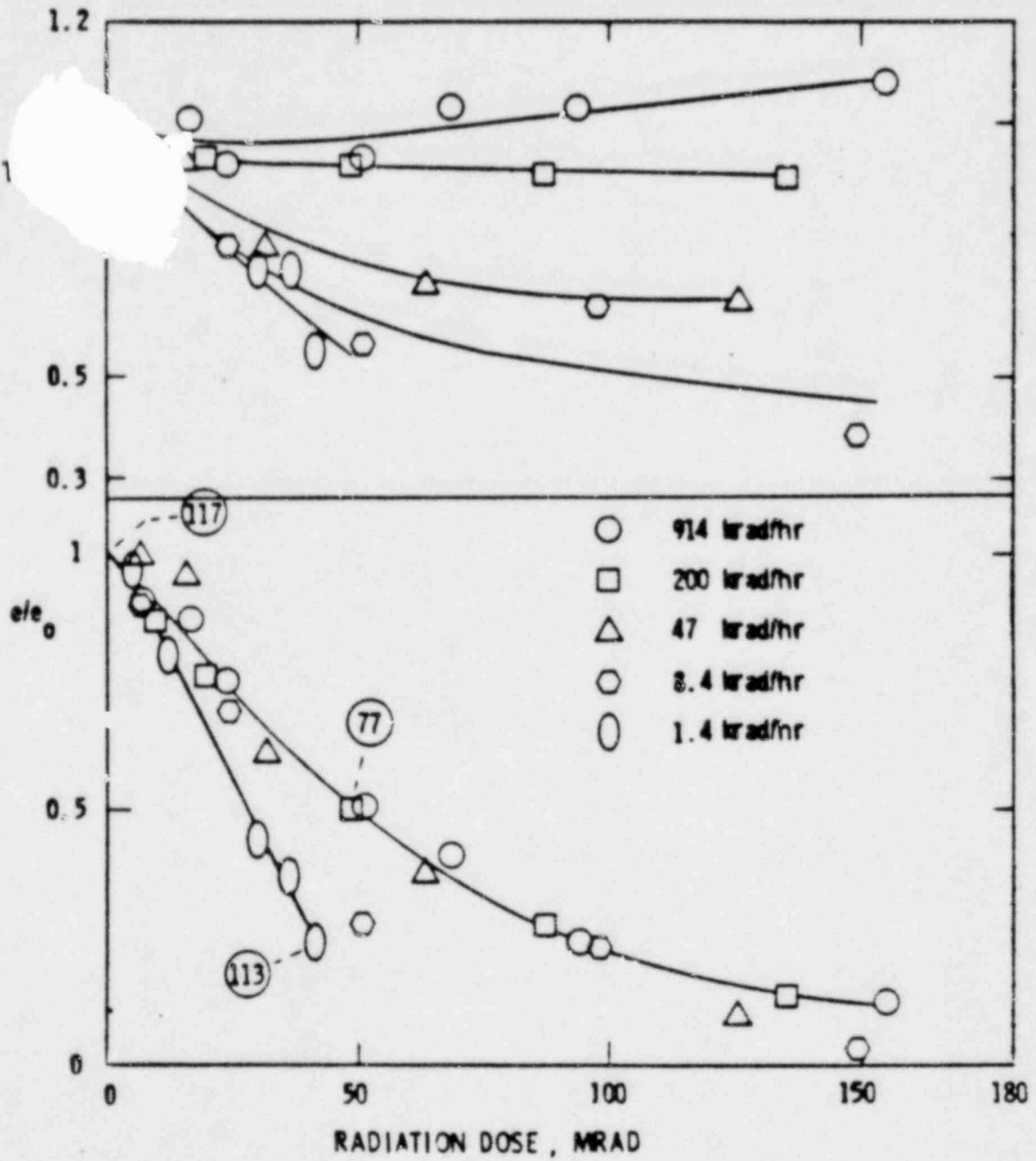
AIR FLOW











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KODAK SAFETY FILM

SAFETY FILM

142

SAFETY FILM

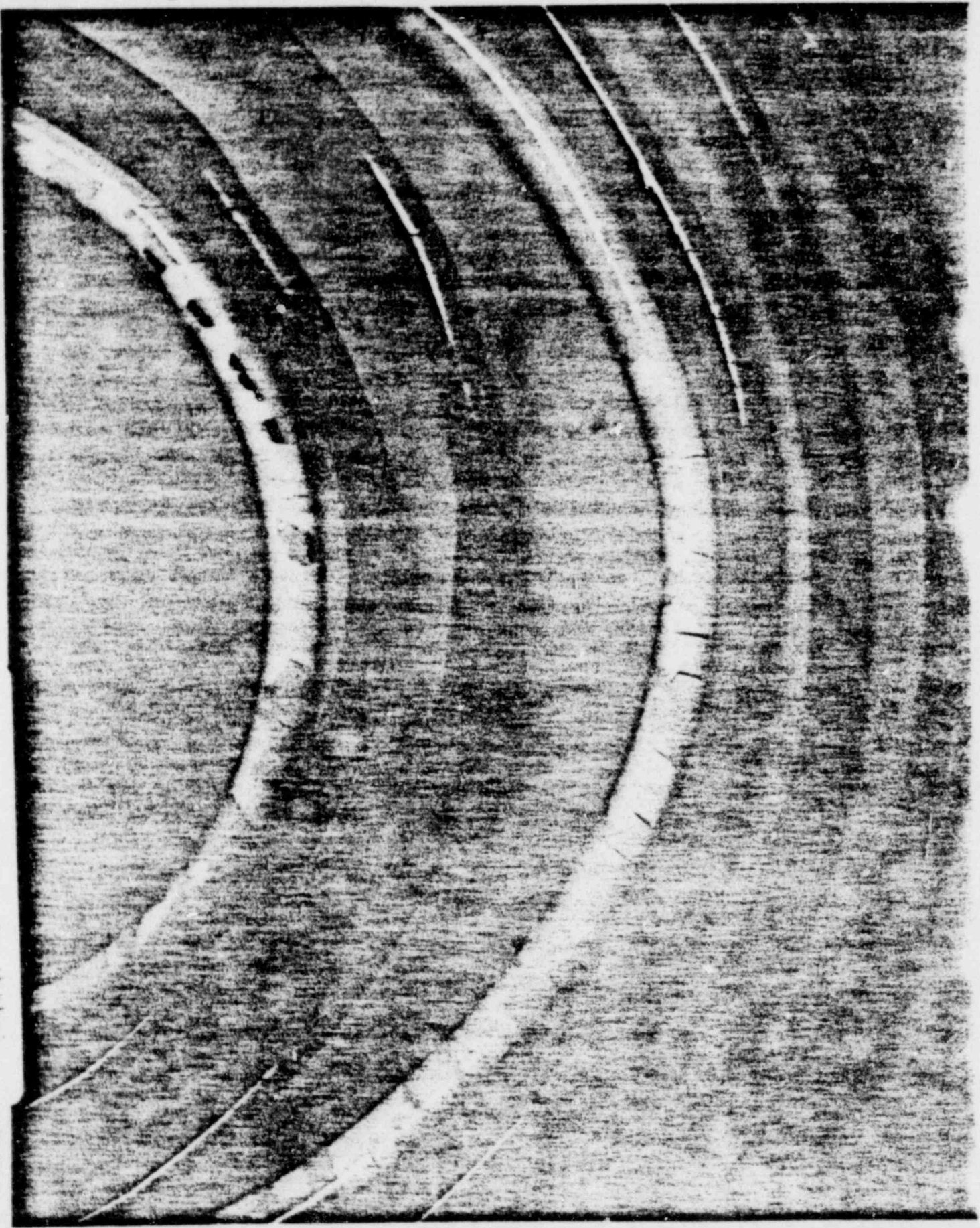
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18000K STAFFY P.M

18000K STAFFY P.M

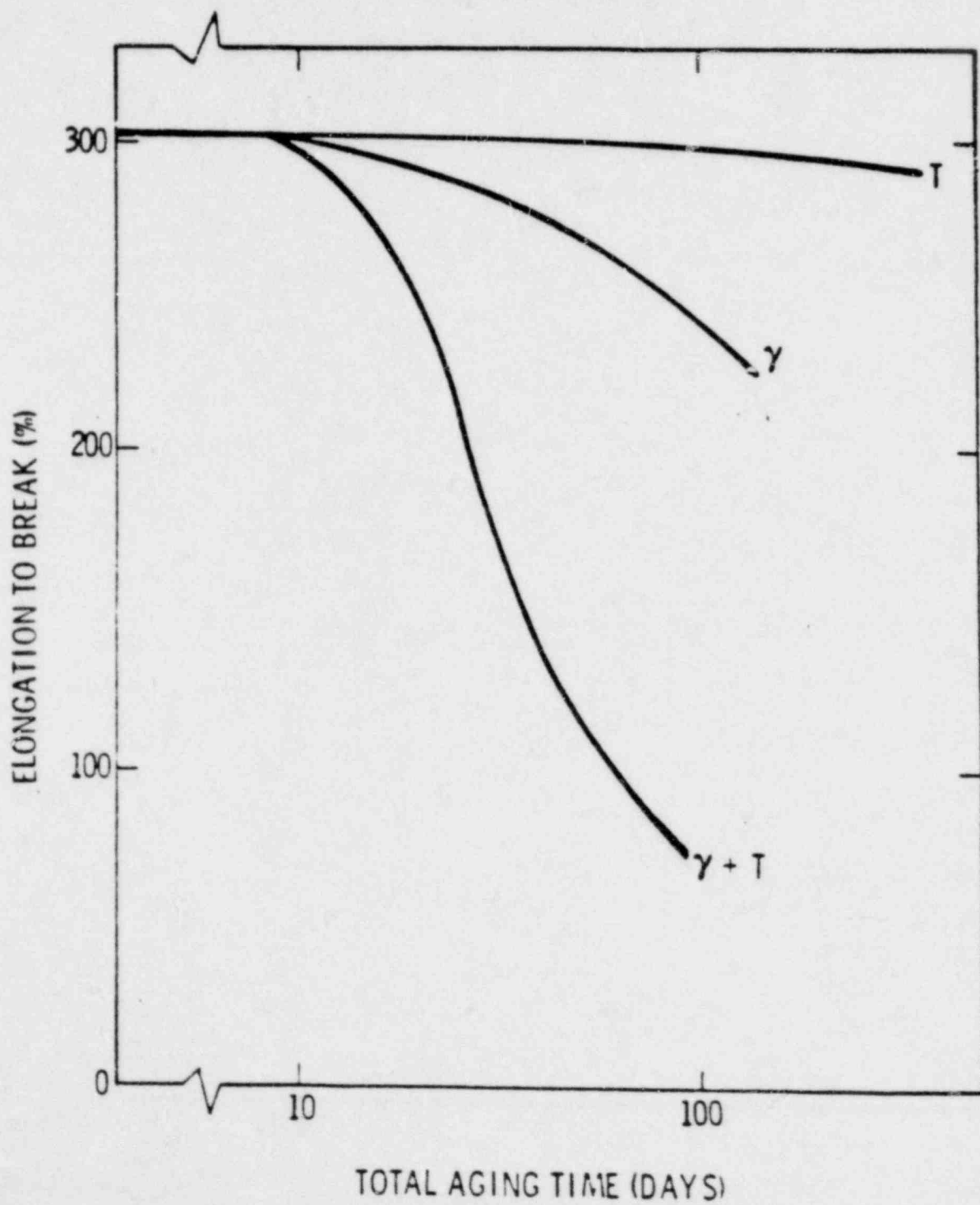
18000K STAFFY P.M

18000K STAFFY P.M

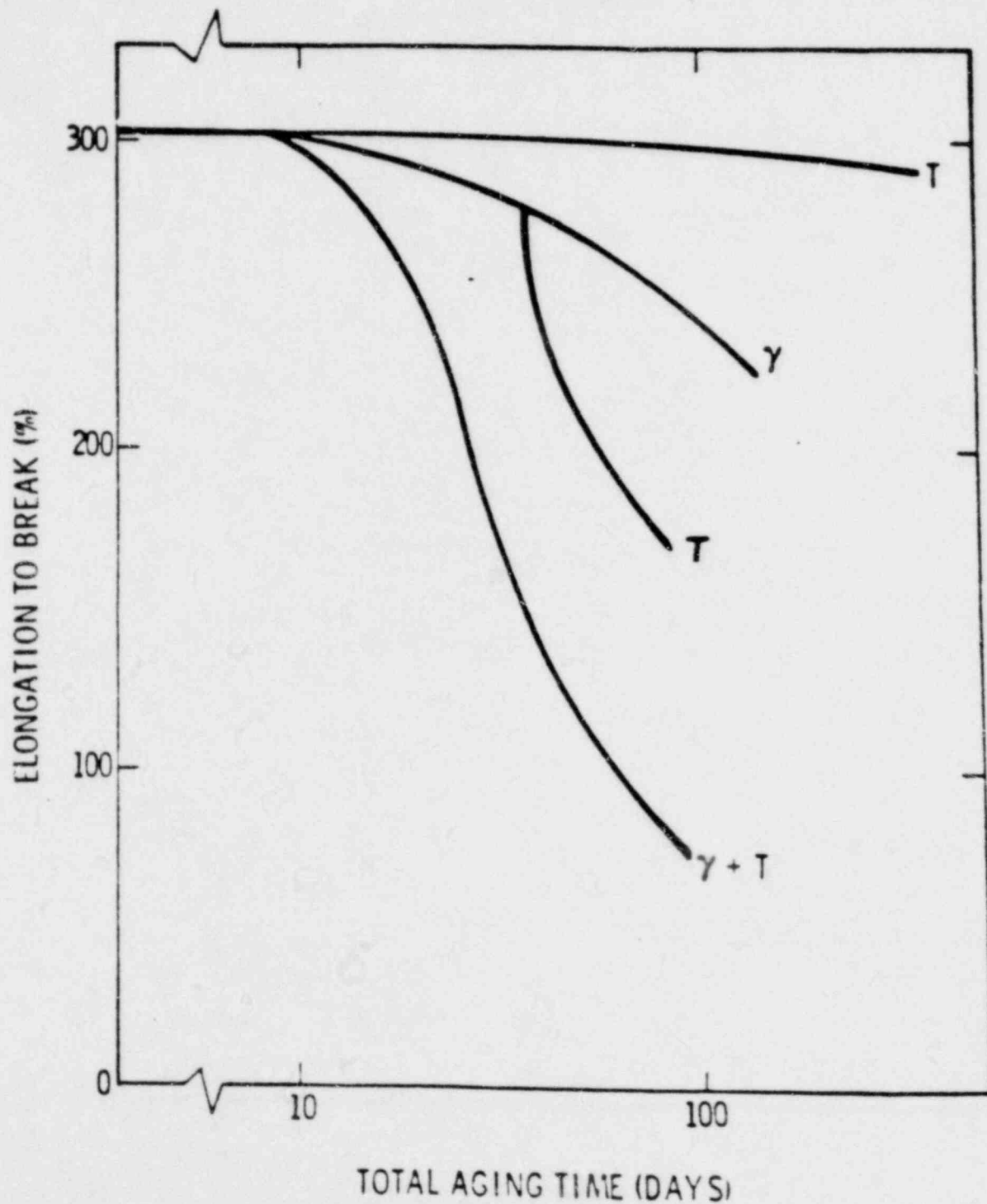


POLYVINYL CHLORIDE DEGRADATION

$\gamma$ : .1 MRAD/DAY T: 80°C

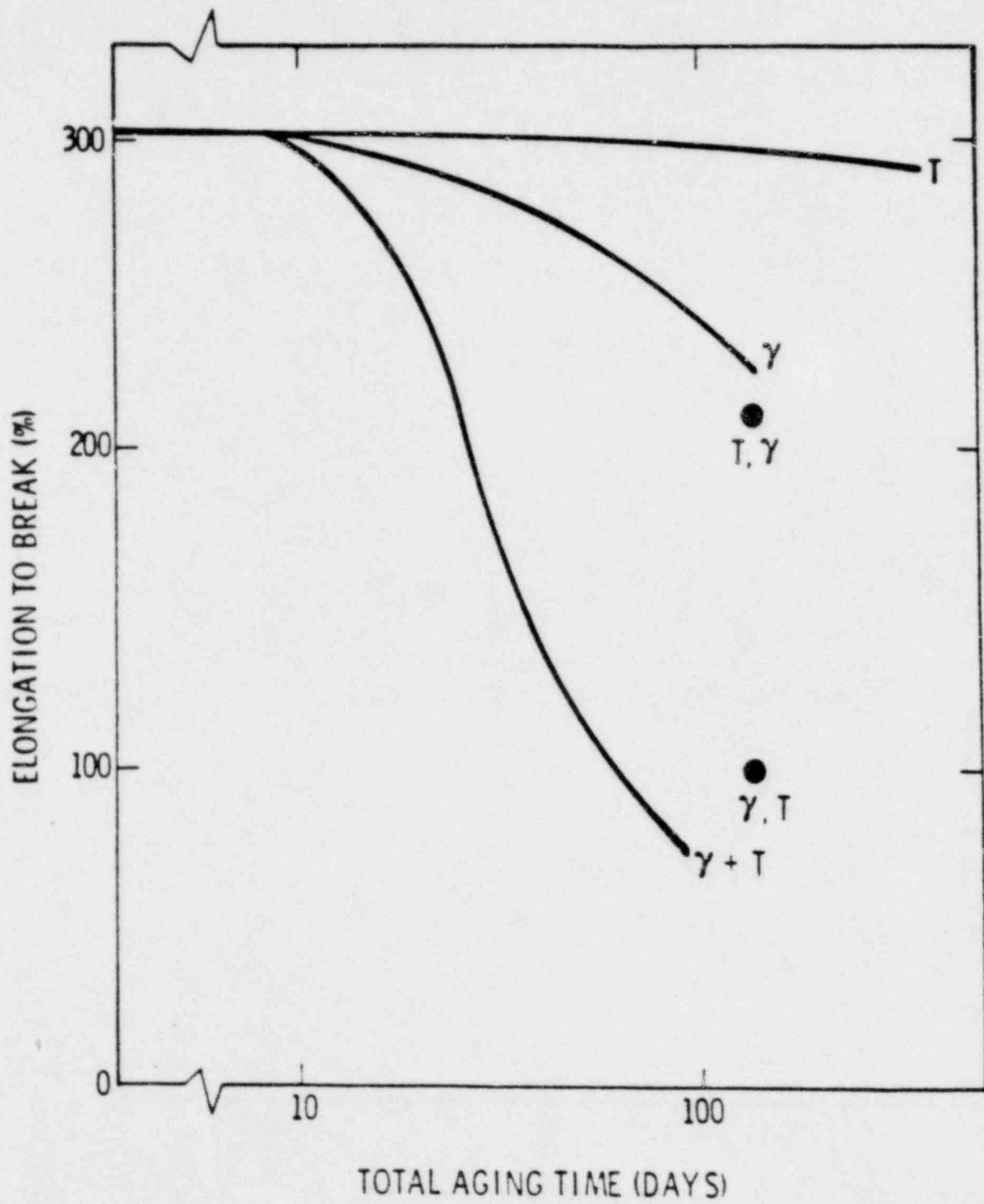


POLYVINYL CHLORIDE DEGRADATION  
 $\gamma: .1 \text{ MRAD/DAY}$   $T: 80^\circ\text{C}$

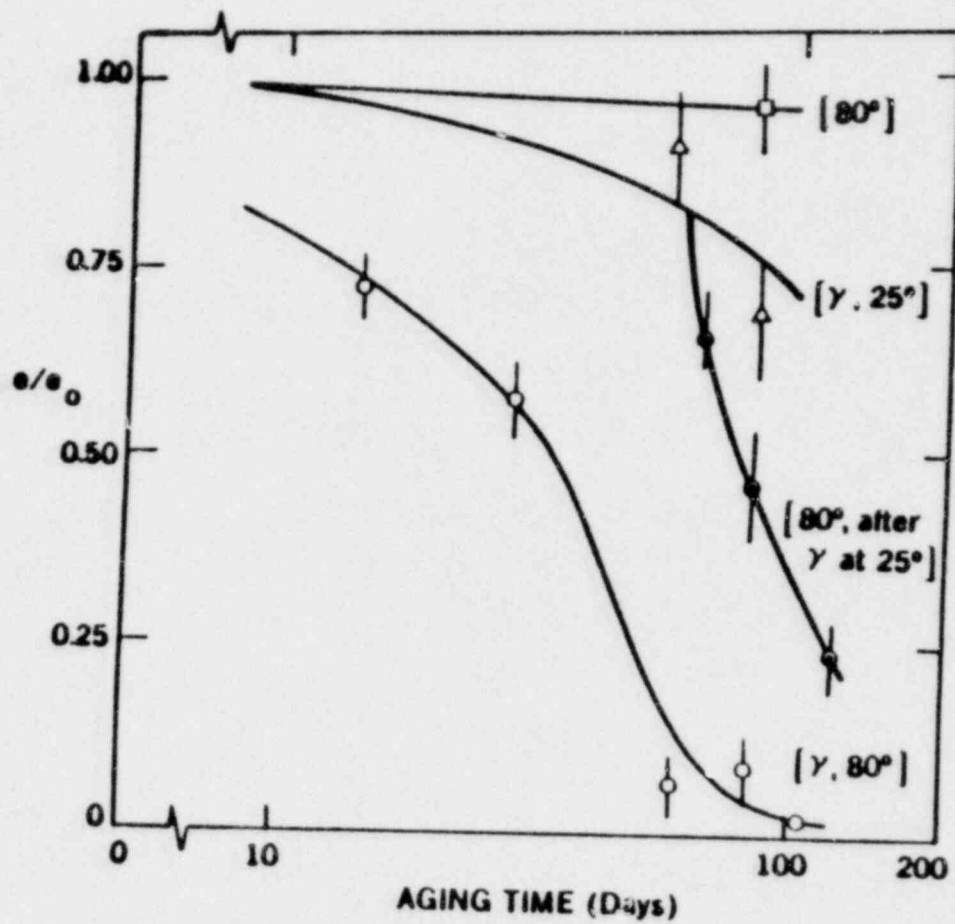




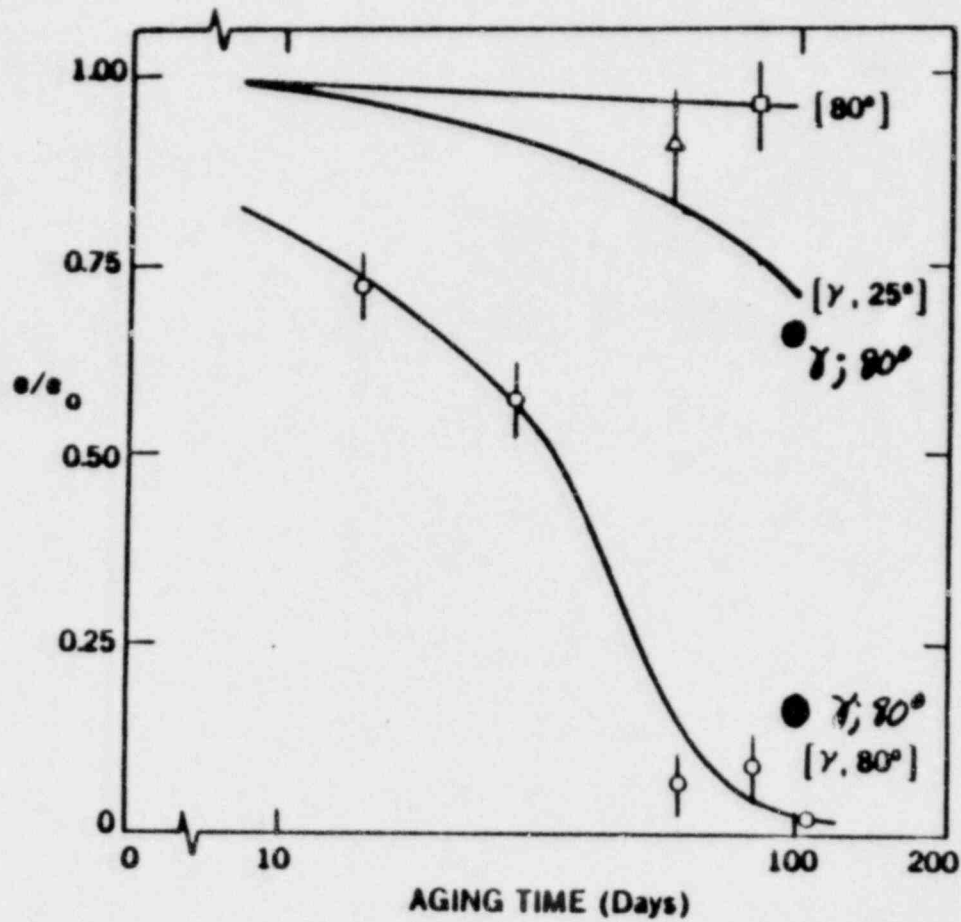
POLYVINYL CHLORIDE DEGRADATION  
 $\gamma$ : .1 MRAD/DAY T: 80°C

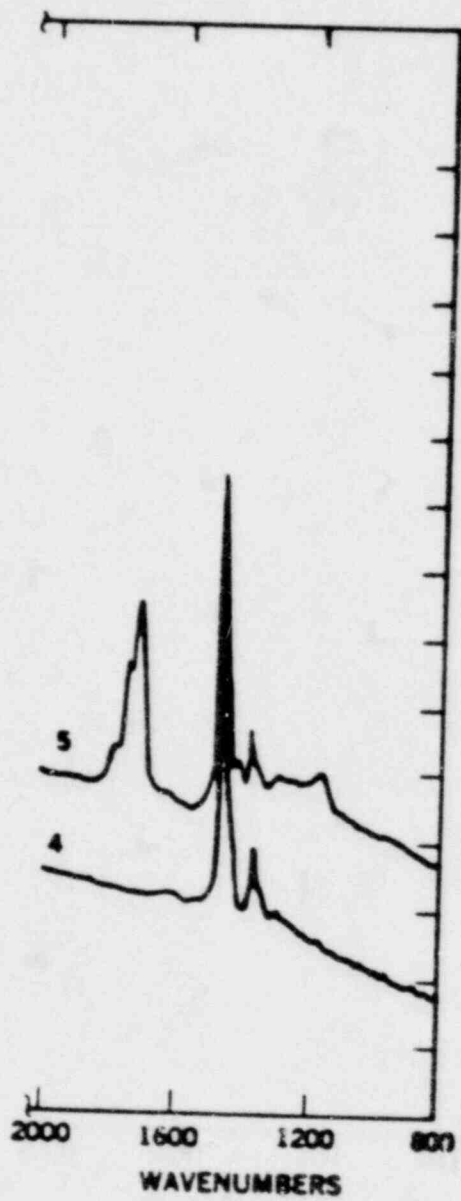
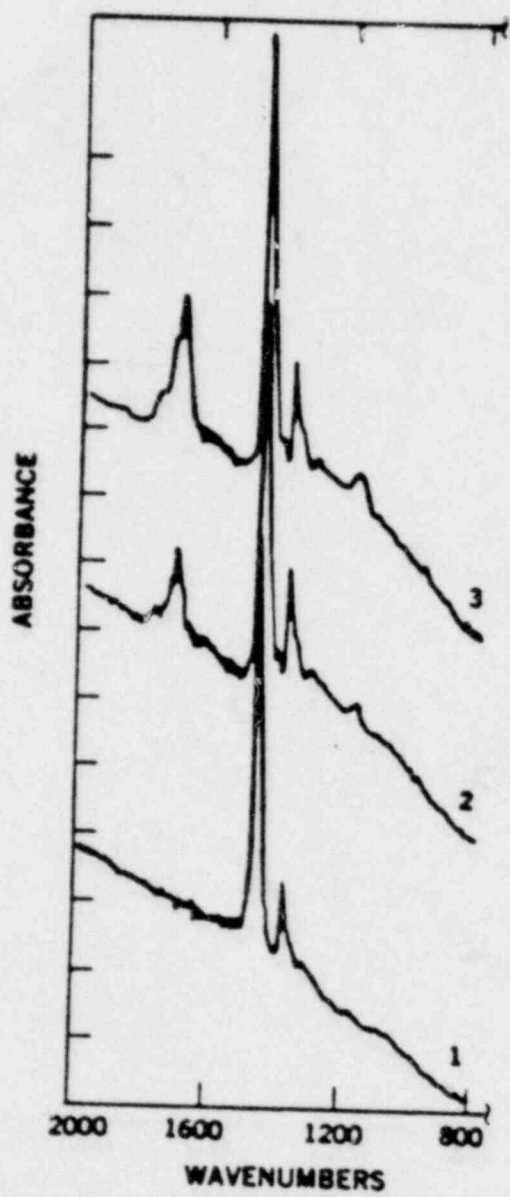


# POLYETHYLENE DEGRADATION



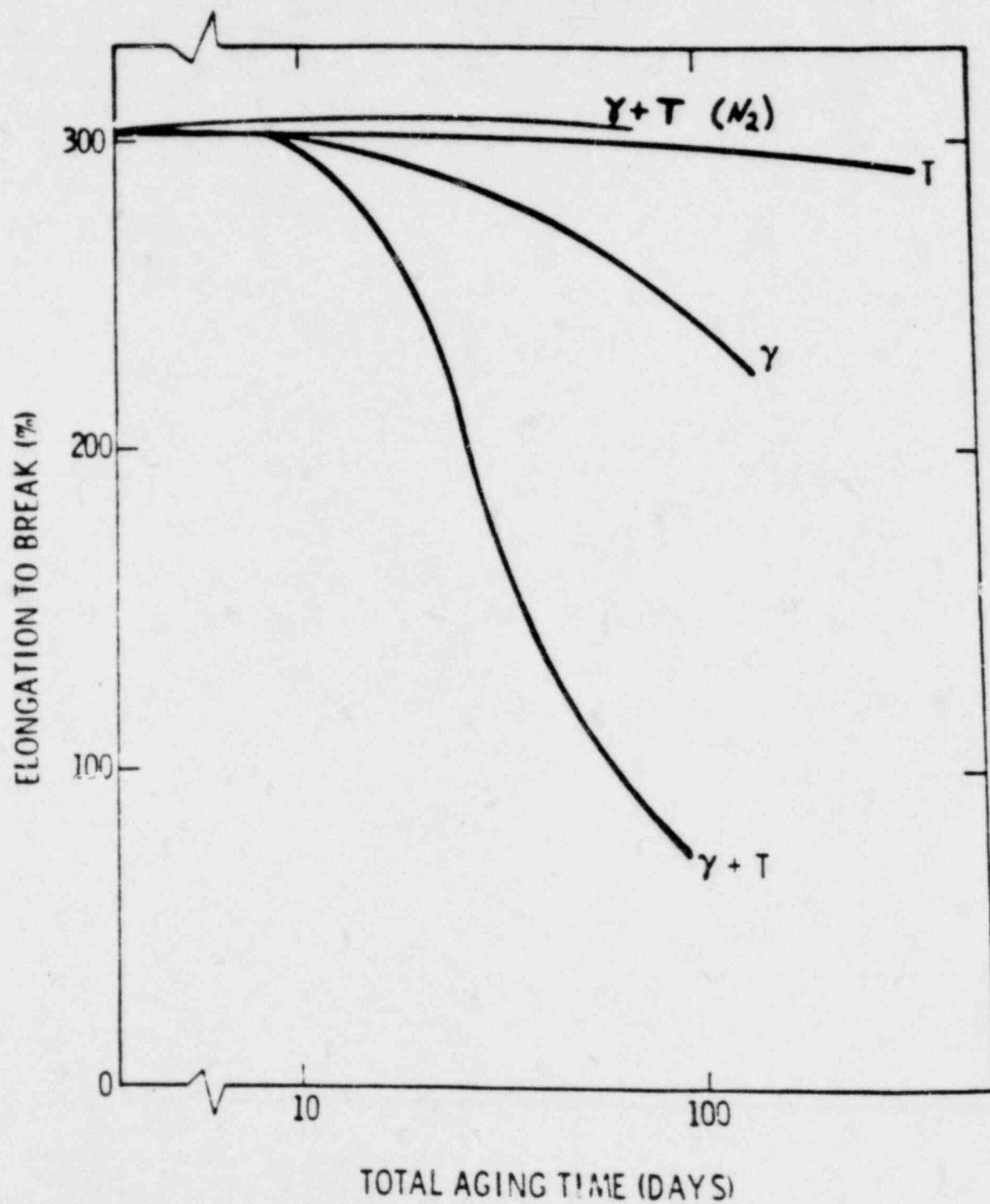
# POLYETHYLENE DEGRADATION





POLYVINYL CHLORIDE DEGRADATION

$\gamma$ : .1 MRAD/DAY T: 80°C

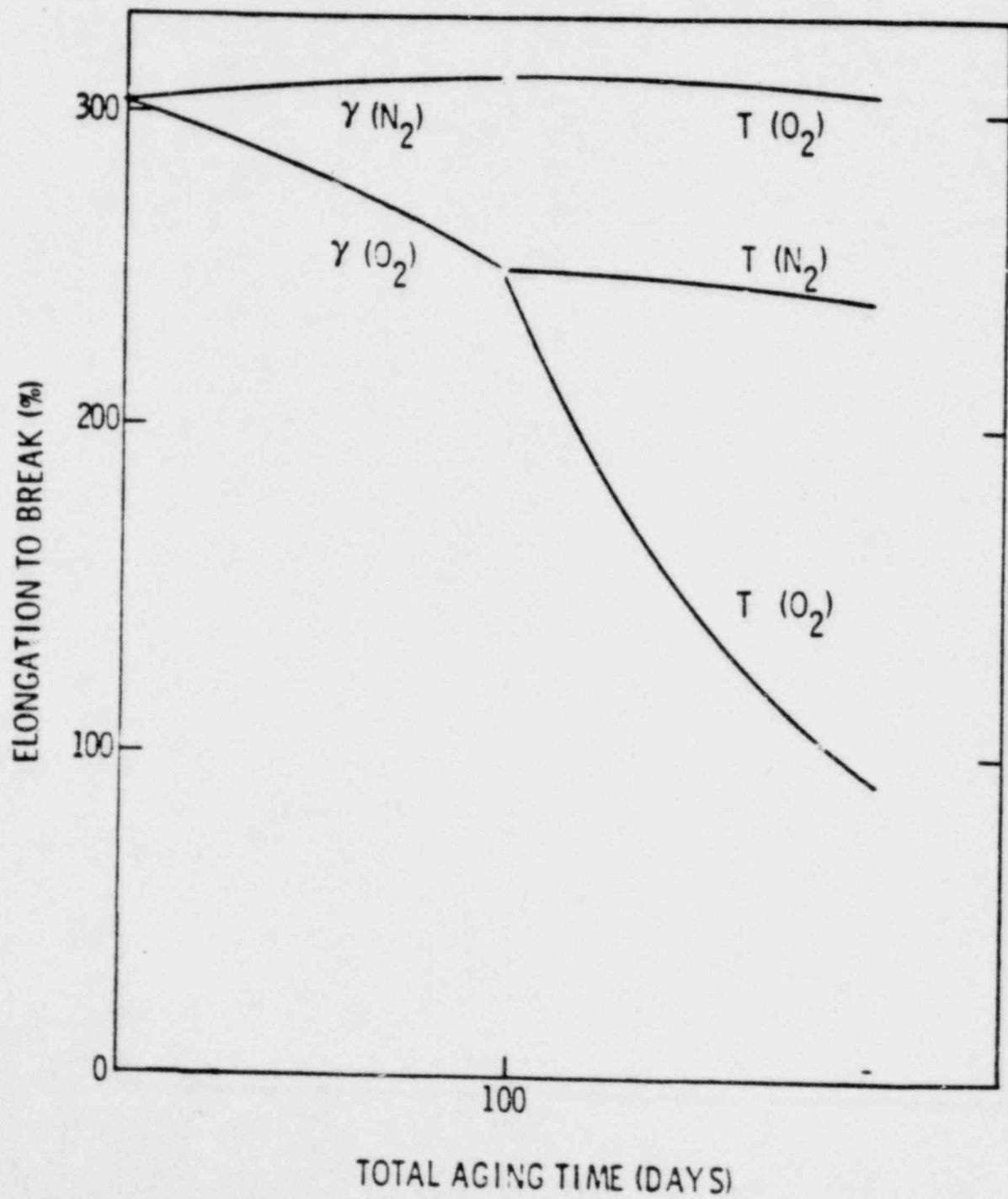




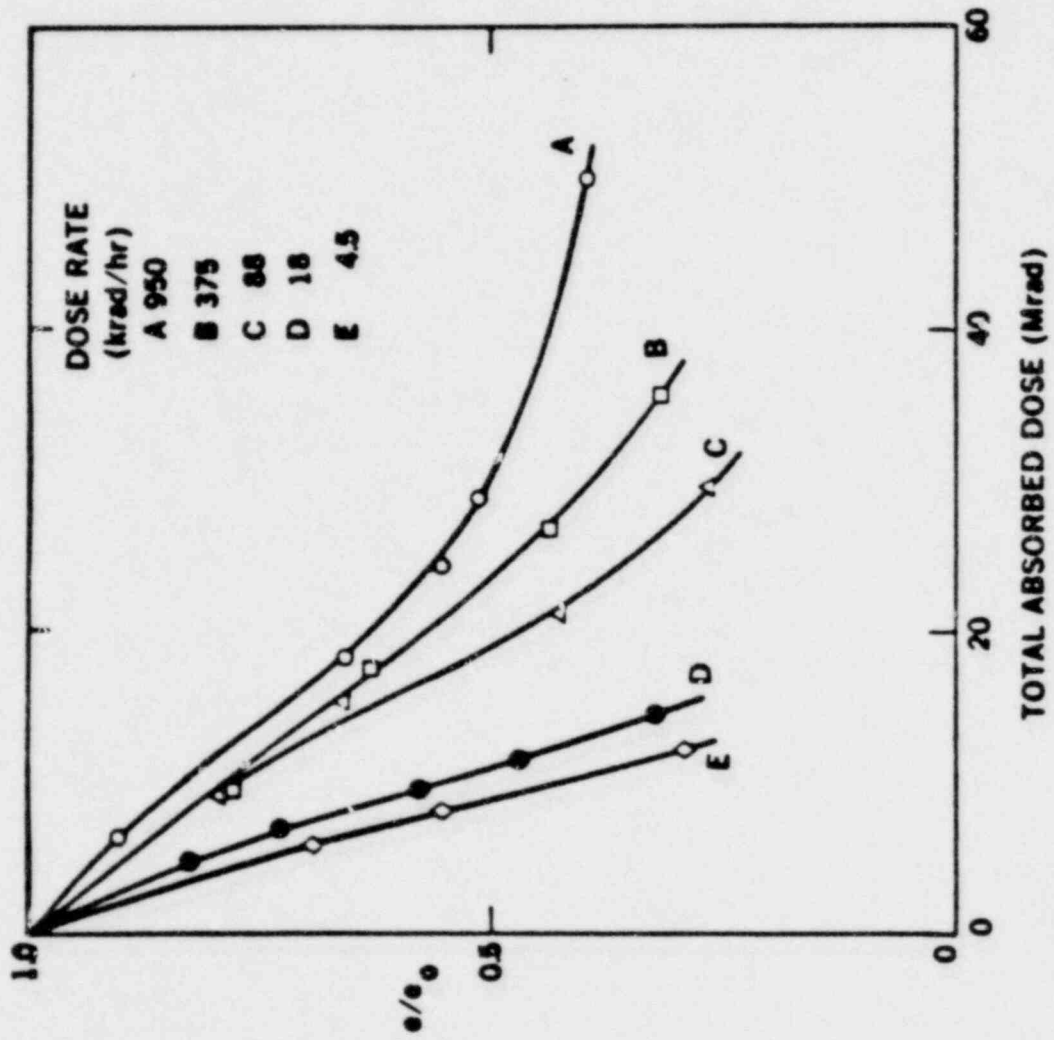
SEQUENTIAL ( $\gamma$  FOLLOWED BY T) EXPERIMENTS, USING  $N_2$ .

IMPLICATE  $O_2$  INVOLVEMENT IN BOTH RADIATION AND

THERMAL STEPS OF THE DEGRADATION



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Table III.3

Radiation stability of organic materials  
at temperatures above 25°C

Material	Temp. °C	Max. dose (electrical) rad	Max. dose (mechanical) rad
<u>THERMOPLASTICS</u>			
Casein	125-140		$2.5 \times 10^7$
Polychlorotrifluoroethylene	200	$5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^6$
Polyamide	100	$5 \times 10^8$	$2.5 \times 10^8$
✓ Polyethylene	85	$5 \times 10^8$	$2.5 \times 10^8$
Polystyrene	75	$5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^8$
Polytetrafluoroethylene	250	$2.5 \times 10^8$	$2.5 \times 10^6$
Polyvinylacetate	130	$5 \times 10^8$	$2.5 \times 10^6$
Polyvinylcarbazole	150	$5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^6$
✓ Polyvinylchloride	85	$10^8$	$5 \times 10^7$
Polyvinylformal	130	$10^8$	$5 \times 10^6$
<u>THERMOSETTING</u>			
Epoxy	130	$5 \times 10^8$	$2 \times 10^8$
Furan	120-160	-	$3.3 \times 10^8$
Melamine formaldehyde:			
cellulose filler	110	-	$1 \times 10^8$
glass-fibre filler	120	-	$1 \times 10^8$
Phenol formaldehyde:			
no filler	120	-	$1.1 \times 10^7$
cellulose filler	120	-	$2.6 \times 10^7$
mineral filler	175-190	-	$3.9 \times 10^8$
Polyester:			
no filler	100	-	$8.7 \times 10^5$
mineral filler	110	-	$3.9 \times 10^8$
Silicones	150	$5 \times 10^8$	$2.5 \times 10^8$
<u>ELASTOMERS</u>			
Butyl	85	$5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^7$
Natural rubber	85	$8 \times 10^8$	$10^8$
✓ Neoprene	100	$1.5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^8$
Polyisobutylene	85	$5 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^7$
✓ Silicones	125	$2 \times 10^8$	$5 \times 10^7$

SDMA!

SDMA!

SDMA

SDMA

if so-called dose, must be high dose rate!!

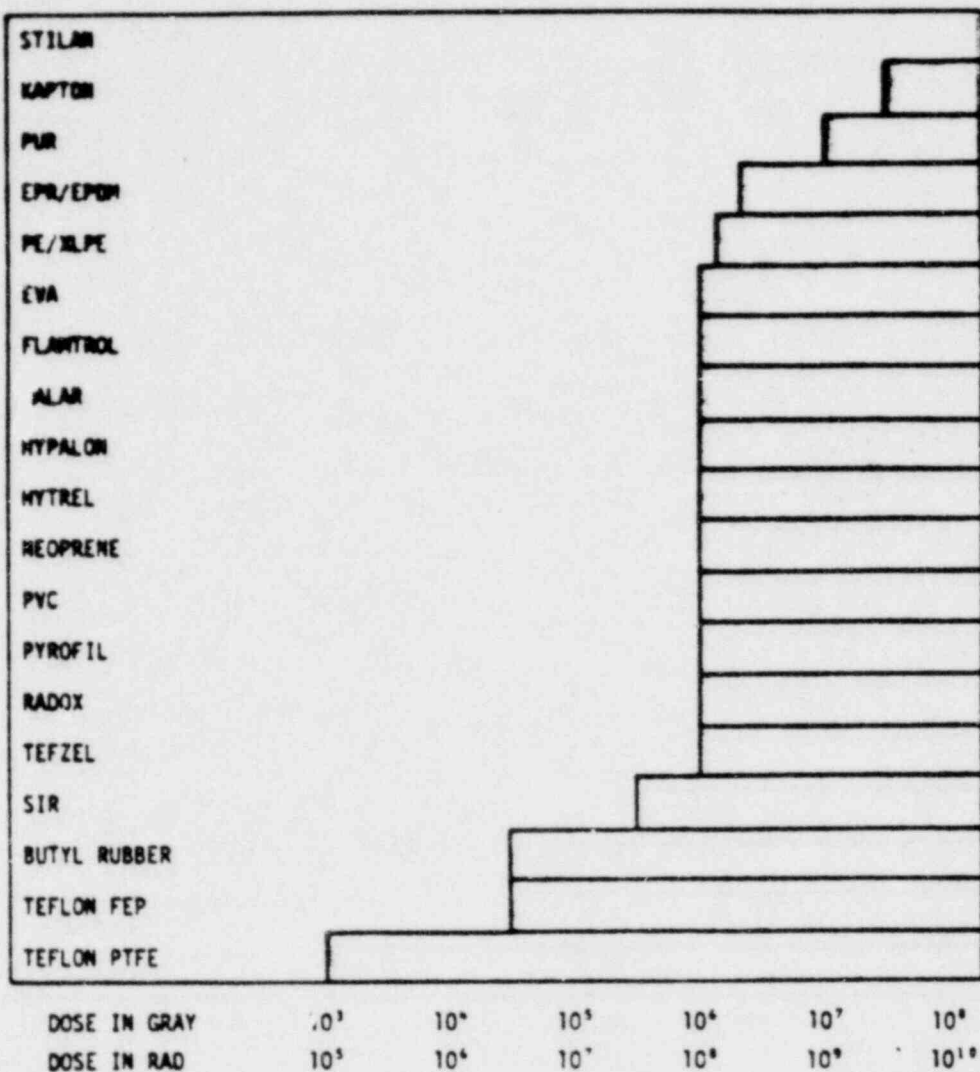
Elastomers Gamma dose rate  $\sim 10^5$  Gy/hr =  $10^7$  rad/hr

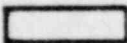
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Table 2

Classification of materials according to their radiation resistance



 USE NOT RECOMMENDED

## FIRE RETARDANT AGING

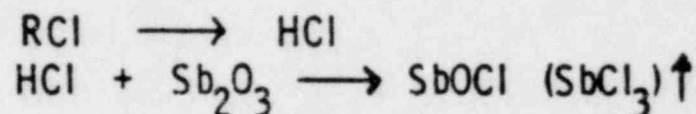
OBJECTIVE : DETERMINE EFFECT OF AGING (  $\gamma$  AND T ) ON FLAME  
RETARDANT PROPERTIES OF POLYMERS

EPR, HYPALON FORMULATIONS  
(WITH CHLORINATED HYDROCARBON +  $Sb_2O_3$  )

WE FOLLOW : 1) LOSS OF RETARDANTS BY CHEM ANALYSIS  
2) FLAMMABILITY PARAMETERS (BY COMBUSTION TESTS)

RESULTS : SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF BOTH Cl AND Sb  
THERMAL IS A MAJOR FACTOR

RCI  $\uparrow$

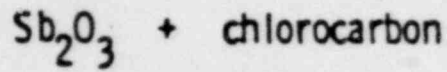


FLAMMABILITY CHANGES NOT LARGE (OXYGEN INDEX)

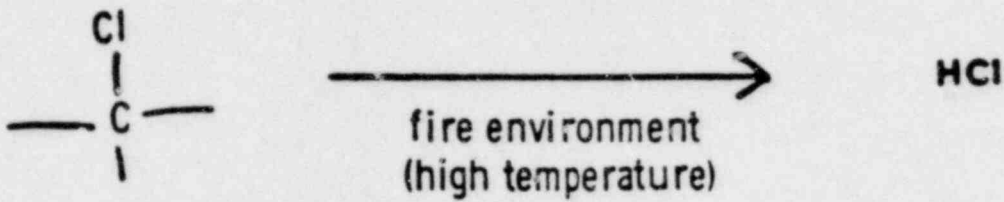
FLAMMABILITY CAN INCREASE OR DECREASE

- INCREASE ▪ LOSS OF RETARDANTS
- DECREASE ▪ LOSS OF VOLATILE COMPONENTS  
(SEEN BY TGA )

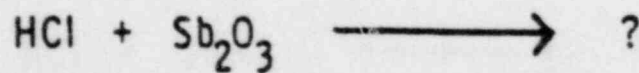
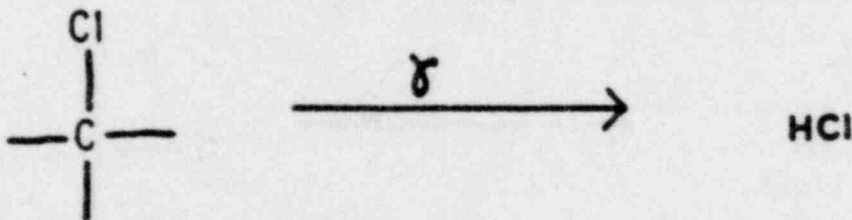
# FIRE RETARDANT SYSTEMS FOR THE CABLES:



## MODE OF ACTION:



## Radiation Environment:



$$\text{O.I.} = \frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{O}_2] + [\text{N}_2]}$$

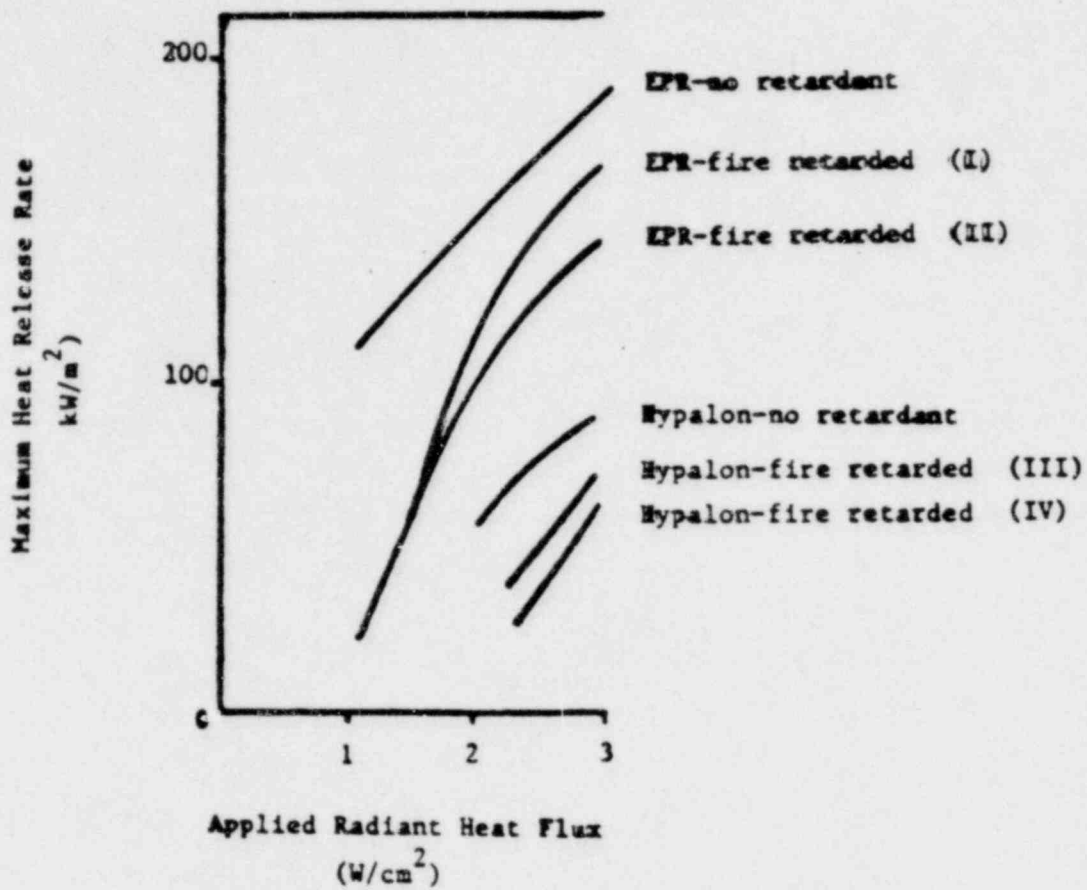
+  
**TABLE I**  
**OXYGEN INDEX RESULTS ON VIRGIN AND HEAT-AGED**  
**POLYMER SAMPLES**

<u>SAMPLE</u>	<u>OXYGEN INDEX</u> <u>VIRGIN MATERIAL</u>	<u>OXYGEN INDEX</u> <u>HEAT-AGED MATERIAL</u>
1. <u>EPR</u> no fire retardant	22.5	24.0
2. <u>EPR</u> with $Sb_2O_3$ + chlorinated component type I	27.5	27.0
3. <u>EPR</u> with $Sb_2O_3$ + chlorinated component type II	30.0	29.0
4. <u>HYPALON</u> no fire retardant	37.5	51.0
5. <u>HYPALON</u> with $Sb_2O_3$ + chlorinated component type III	47.0	47.0
6. <u>HYPALON</u> with $Sb_2O_3$ + chlorinated component type IV	41.0	48.0

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## EPR FIRE RETARDANT AGING

	<u>CL</u>	<u>SB</u>
VIRGIN	4.1 ± .3	3.7 ± .3
117 °, 4.5 Mo	3.5 ± .3	1.9 ± .3
117 °, 6 Mo	3.2 ± .3	.7 ± .3



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NUREG/CR-1466  
SAND79-1561

PREDICTING LIFE EXPECTANCY AND SIMULATING AGE  
OF COMPLEX EQUIPMENT USING  
ACCELERATED AGING TECHNIQUES\*

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ABSTRACT

This document outlines some of the types of experiments which can be used to improve reliability, simulate age, and predict life expectancy of complex equipment. Brief discussion is given of failure mode tests and compatibility tests, which often give useful qualitative aging information. A detailed discussion is presented on accelerated aging methods, emphasizing an approach based on kinetic rate expressions. This kinetic approach offers a convenient framework for describing the importance of competing reaction pathways, transitions in a material, diffusion effects, and sorption effects. It is concluded that, when properly conceived and carried out, accelerated aging studies of materials and simple components offer the best opportunity for making quantitative age simulations and lifetime predictions of equipment.

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