

# **The Fleischmann-Pons Calorimetric Methods And Equations**

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# Short Cold Fusion Review

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- ❖ **Martin Fleischmann Had Remarkable Skills in Calorimetry and Mathematical Modelling**
- ❖ **Vastly Inferior Calorimetric Experiments by CalTech, MIT and Harwell Blocked Scientific Acceptance**
- ❖ **A Great Scientific Discovery Became A Scientific Tragedy**
- ❖ **Many Cold Fusion Scientists Suffered Career Damage**

**Stigmatizing of Cold Fusion Research For 27 years**  
**Is The Real Scientific Fiasco**

**Fleischmann and Pons Were Correct**

- **Sometimes Scientists Get It Wrong, But Important Discoveries Are Also Often Rejected For Many Years (Galileo, Joule, Semmelweis, Arrhenius, Wegener And Many Others)**

# **Why Is The Fleischmann-Pons Calorimetry Important Today? (27 Years Later)**

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## **❖ Major Topic Of 1989 Cold Fusion Controversy**

**(Field Has Never Recovered From CalTech, MIT, Harwell Rejection)**

## **❖ Poorly Understood By Most Scientists**

**(Even Cold Fusion Researchers)**

## **❖ Very Accurate When Correctly Applied**

**(Error About  $\pm 0.01\%$  or  $\pm 0.1$  mW)**

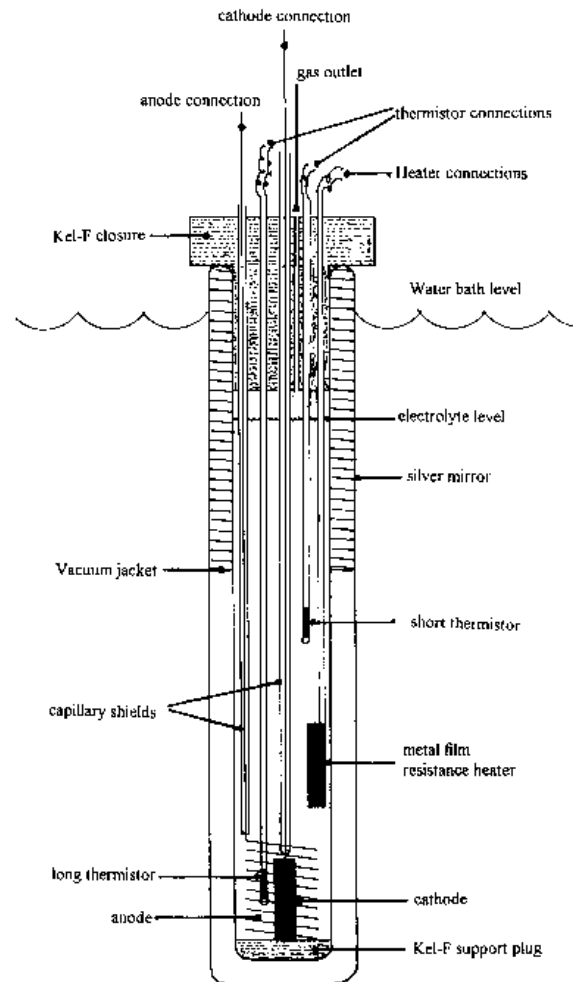
## **❖ Possible Application For Many Other Electrochemical Studies**

### **Martin Fleischman (1927 – 2012)**

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- **Outstanding skills In Mathematics And Modelling.**
- **Mathematical Equations Required In This Presentation.**

# Fleischmann-Pons Dewar Cell



**Inside Diameter = 2.5 cm**

**Height = 25.0 cm**

**Silvered = 8.0 cm (Top)**

**Electrolyte Volume = 90.0 cm<sup>3</sup>**

## **Advantages Of The Fleischmann-Pons Calorimetry (Dewar Cell, Isoperibolic)**

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- **Provides Direct View Inside Cell**
- **No Memory Effect / Heat Transferred By Radiation Photons**
- **Stefen-Boltzmann Constant Provides Estimate Of Radiative Heat Transfer Co-efficient**  
 $k_R \approx (5.670373 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Wm}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4})(\text{cell surface area, m}^2)$
- **Wide Dynamic Range for Cell Temperature and Cell Voltage (100°C, 10 V)**
- **Small Diameter Cell Provides Good Mixing**  
(NHE Cell 2.5 x 25 cm)
- **Inherent Safety / Self Purifying (D<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub> Exit Cell) ,**
- **Relatively Low Cost**
- **High Accuracy / Computer Data Acquisition**  
(Measurements Every 300 seconds)

**Notes: Fleischmann-Pons Considered Various Calorimetric Methods**

**Isoperibolic Calorimetry With Dewar Cell Was Selected As Most Accurate**

# Temperature Measurements Limit Calorimetry Accuracy

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$$P_x = f(T_{\text{cell}}, T_b, I_{\text{cell}}, E_{\text{cell}})$$

Fleischmann-Pons	$T \pm 0.001 \text{ K}$	(Calibrated thermistors)
Miles	$T \pm 0.01 \text{ K}$	(Calibrated thermistors)
Cal Tech	$T \pm 0.03 \text{ K}$	
MIT, Harwell	$T \pm 0.1 \text{ K}$	

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For  $T_{\text{cell}} - T_b = 10.000 \text{ K}$  and 1000 mV Input

F/P Error	$= \pm 0.001/10 = \pm 0.0001$	( $\pm 0.01\%$ , $\pm 0.1 \text{ mW}$ )
Miles Error	$= \pm 0.01/10 = \pm 0.001$	( $\pm 0.1\%$ , $\pm 1 \text{ mW}$ )
MIT Error	$= \pm 0.1/10 = \pm 0.01$	( $\pm 1\%$ , $\pm 10 \text{ mW}$ )

# Mathematical Modelling And Calorimetric Equations

## Poorly Understood / Major Roadblock

### MODEL

### Cell



$$C_p M dT/dt = P_{EI} + P_H + P_X + P_R + P_C + P_g + P_W$$

$$P_{EI} = (E - E_H) I$$

$$P_R = -k_R f(T) \text{ where } f(T) = T^4 - T_b^4$$

$$P_C = -k_C (T - T_b)$$

$$C'_p = C_{p'}(D_2O) + C_{p'}(\text{glass}) + C_p(\text{metals}) = C_p M \text{ (JK}^{-1}\text{)}$$

### Cell Electrochemistry



$$C_p M = C_p M^\circ (1 - \alpha t)$$

$$k_R = k_R^\circ (1 - \beta t)$$

# No Steady State Cell Temperature ( $k_R$ and $C_p M$ Change With Time)

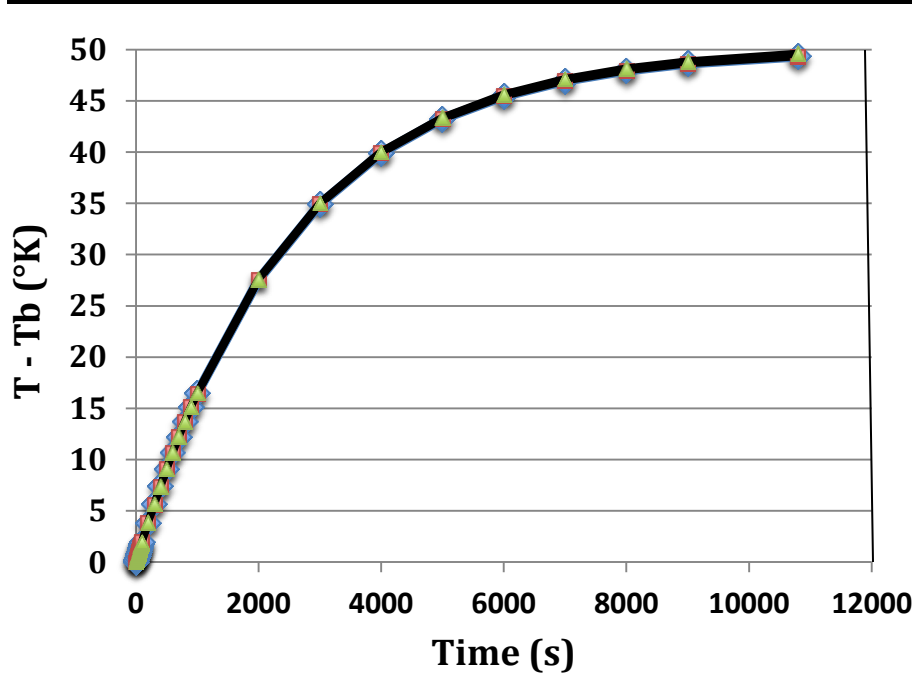


Figure 1. Cell temperature versus time for the first three hours of cell operation.

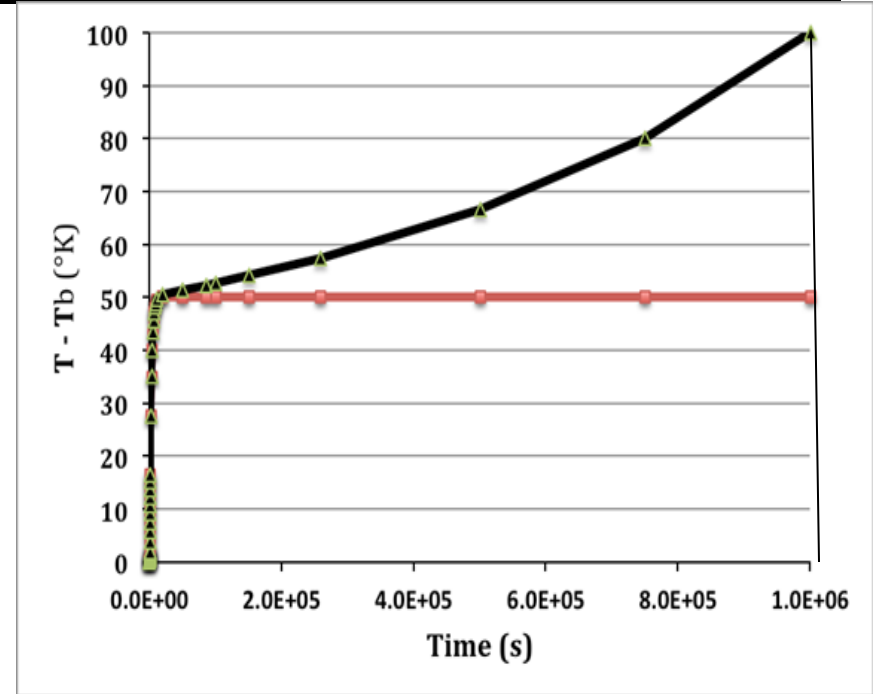


Figure 2. Cell temperature versus time for the first eleven days of cell operation.

$$\Delta T = T - T_b = \alpha t \quad (\text{for } t < 1000 \text{ s})$$

$$\alpha = [(E - E_H) I + P_X] / C_p M^\circ$$

See Melvin H. Miles, J. Condensed Mater Nucl. Sci., Vol. 19, 2016

# Lower Bound Radiative Heat Transfer Coefficient, $k'_R$

(Assumes  $P_X = 0$ )

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$$C_p M dT/dt = P_{EI} + P_H + P_X - k_R f(T) + P_C + P_g + P_W \quad (1)$$

$$C_p M dT/dt = P_{EI} + P_H + 0 - k'_R f(T) + P_C + P_g + P_W \quad (2)$$

Eq. 1 – Eq. 2 ]  $0 = P_X - k_R f(T) + k'_R f(T)$

Therefore  $P_X = (k_R - k'_R) f(T)$  where  $k_R \geq k'_R$  and  $f(T) = T^4 - T_b^4$

Similarly  $P_X = (k_C - k'_C) (T - T_b)$  for Heat Conduction Calorimetry

$$k'_R = (P_{EI} + P_H + P_C + P_g + P_W - C_p M dT/dt) / f(T)$$

☐ Allows calorimetry while determining value for  $k_R$

See M. Fleischmann and S. Pons, Physics Letters A, Vol. 176, pp. 118-129, 1993

$$(k'_R)_{11} = (P_{EI} + P_g - C_p M dT/dt) / f(T) \quad (\text{Eq. 2, p. 4})$$

# Information Provided by Lower Bound Heat Transfer Coefficient

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- ☐ Enthalpy Produced By Palladium Loading
- ☐ Information On D-Loading Behavior
- ☐ Excess Power Production

$$P_X = (k_R - k'_R) f(T)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$k'_R = k_R - P_X / f(T)$$

where  $f(T) = T^4 - T_b^4$

Exothermic Deuterium Loading:  $(x/2) D_2 + Pd \rightarrow PdD_x + \text{Heat} \quad (P_X > 0)$

Initially small  $f(T)$  yields  $k'_R < 0$  (Negative)

## Experimental Results

$Pt/D_2O \Rightarrow P_X = 0$  and  $k'_R = k_R$  everywhere

$Pd/H_2O \Rightarrow$  Initial  $P_X > 0$ ,  $k'_R < 0$ , Later  $k'_R = k_R$

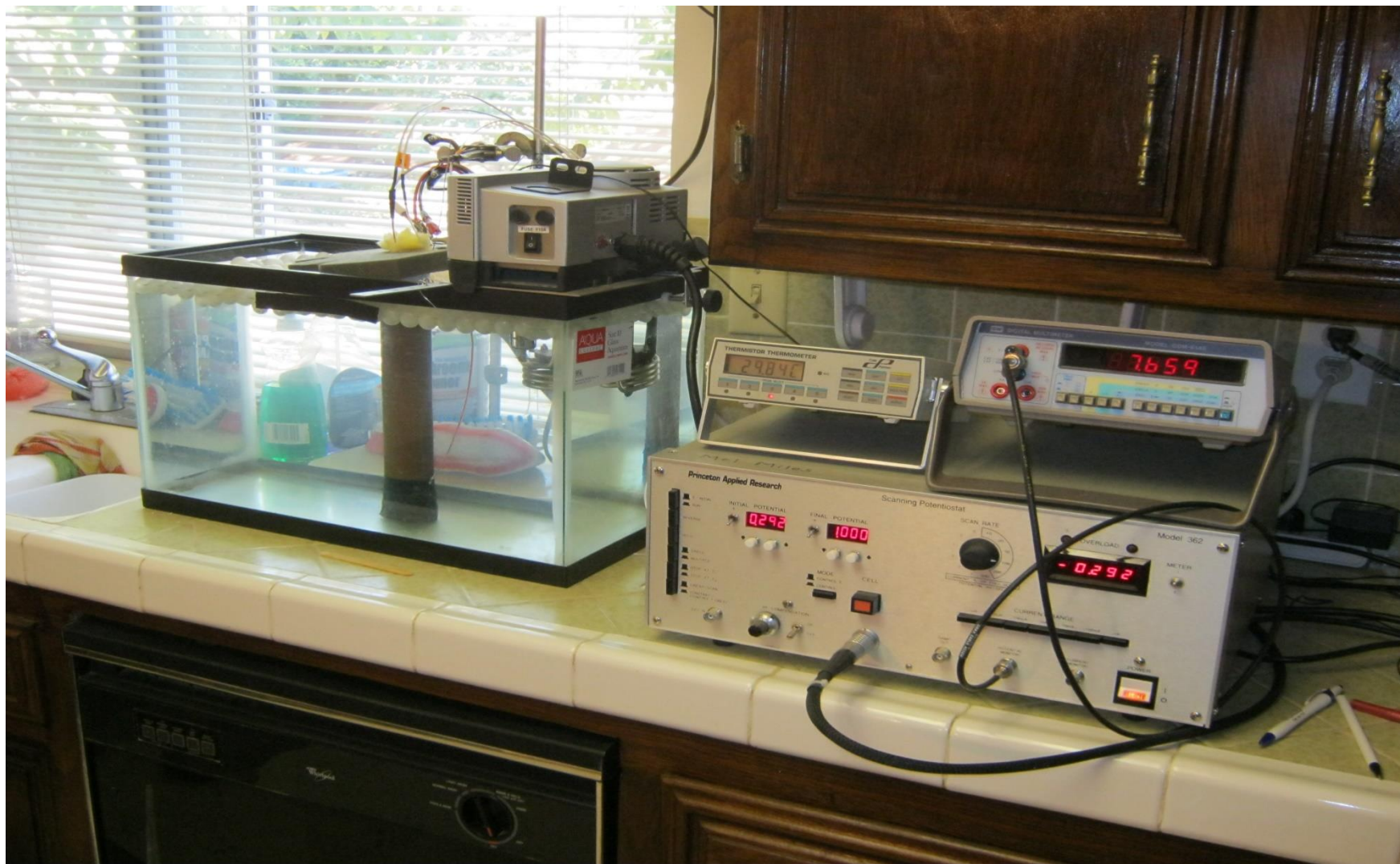
$Pd/D_2O \Rightarrow$  Initial  $P_X > 0$ ,  $k'_R < 0$ , Later  $k'_R < k_R$

See M. Fleischmann and S. Pons, Physics Letters A, Vol. 176, pp. 118-112, 1993

$$\Delta H = -\int_0^t P_X dt = -\int_0^t (k_R - k'_R) f(T) dt = -35.1 \text{ kJ/mol } D_2 \text{ (PdD}_{0.6}\text{)}$$

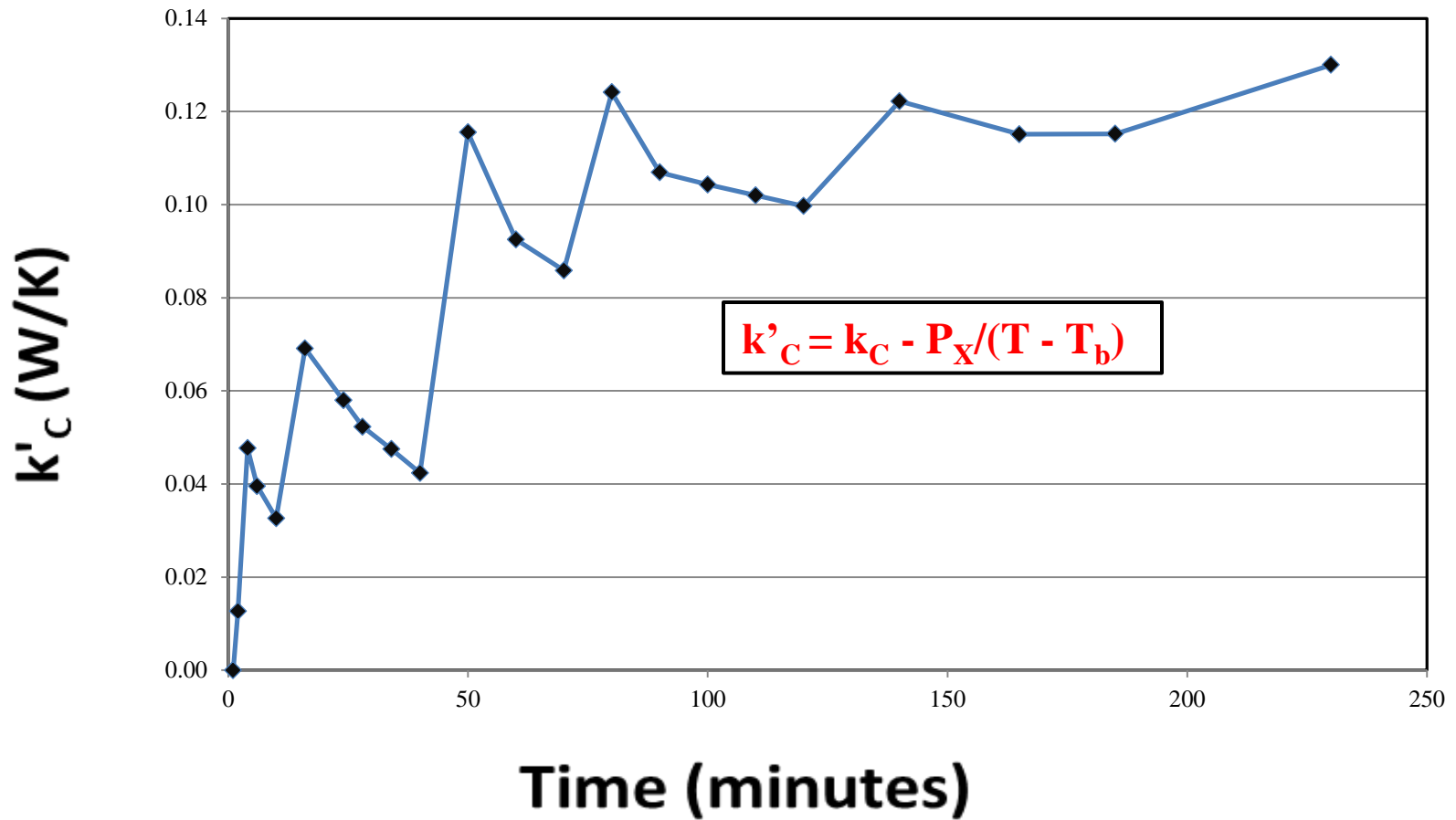
# My Recent Kitchen Experiment

(July, 2016)



# Example For Lower Bound $k'_c$

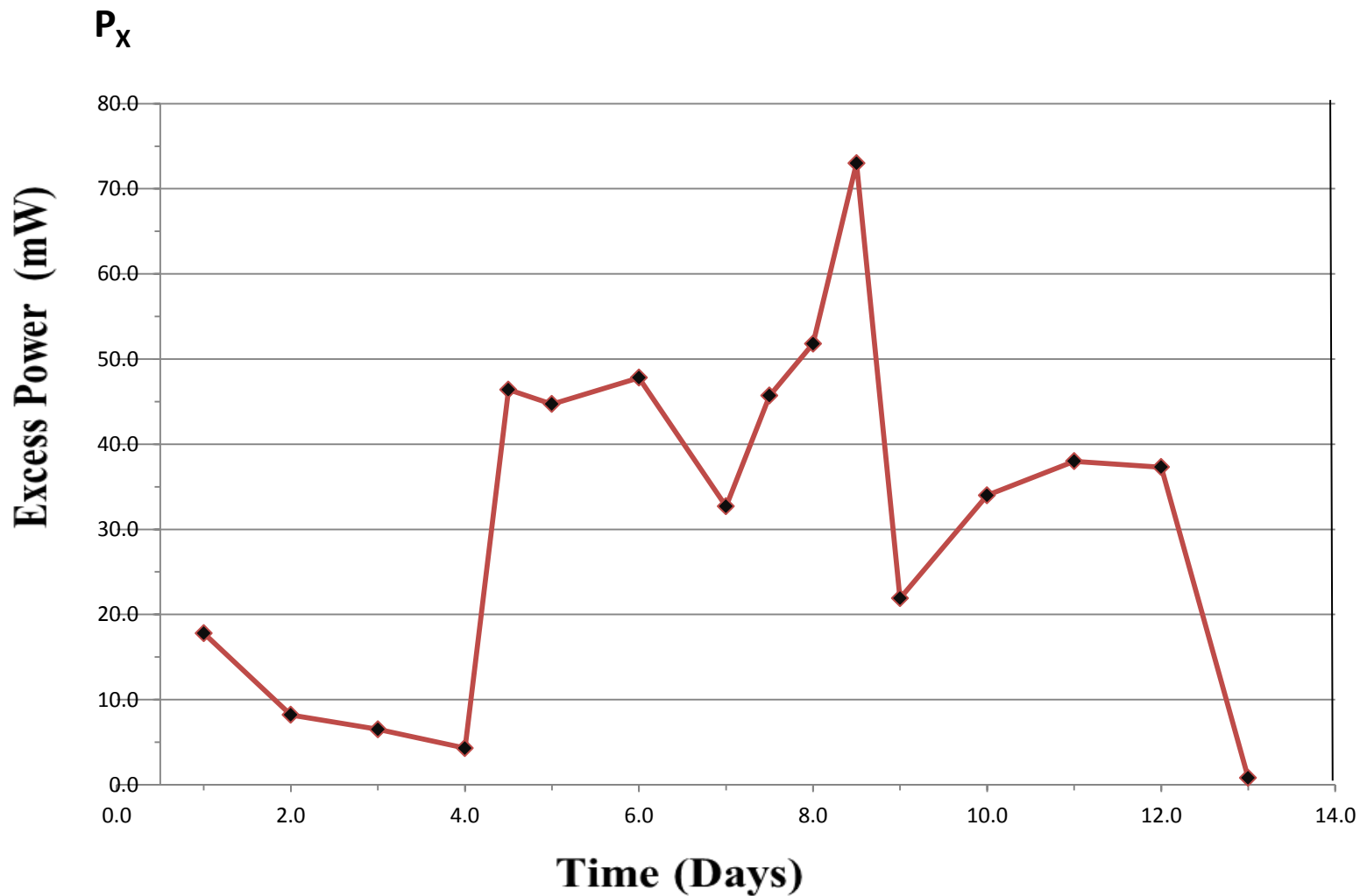
**Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>**



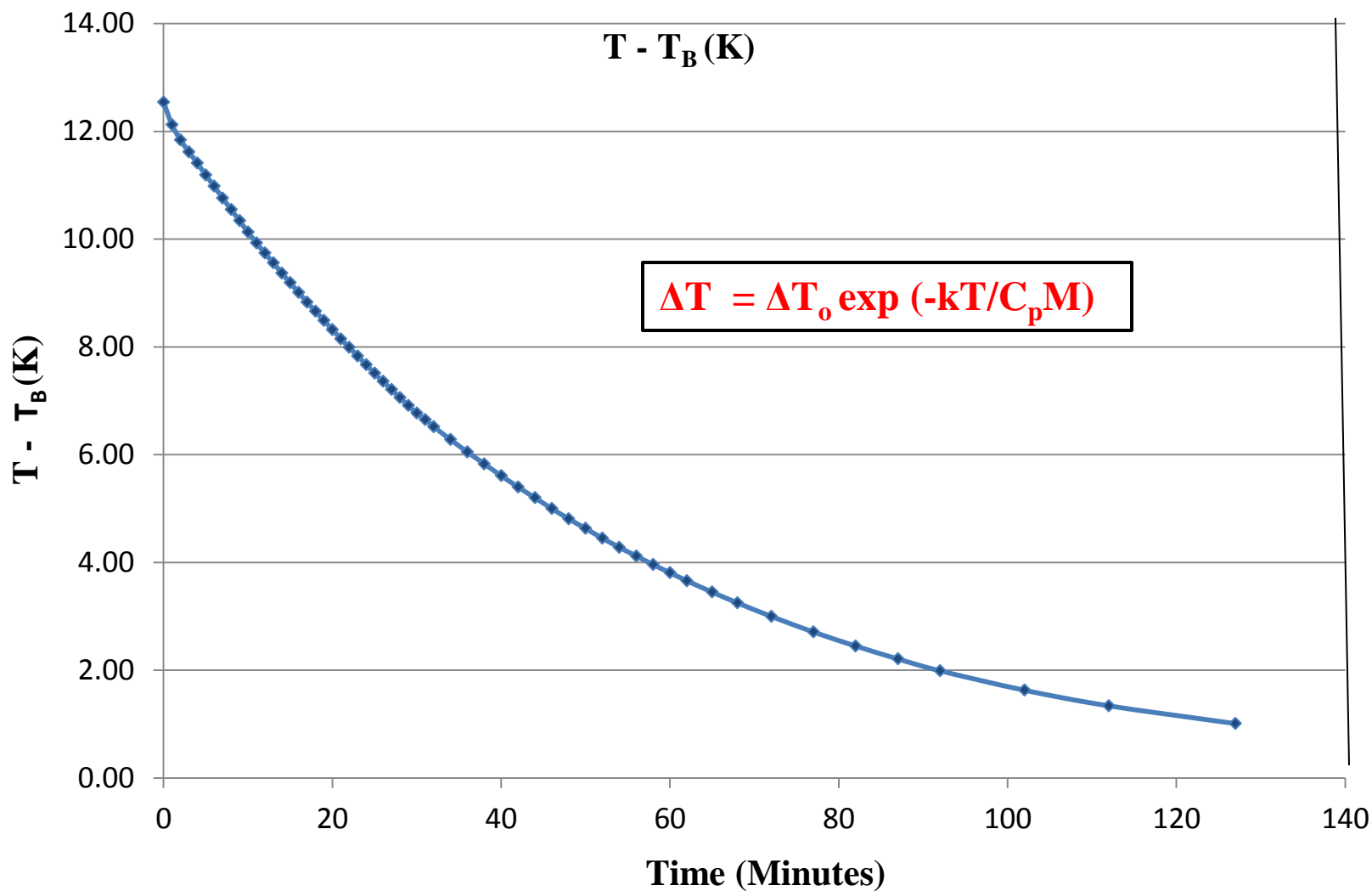
# Excess Power Measurements

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**Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>**



# Experimental Cell Cooling At Zero Current (Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>)



# Experimental Versus Theoretical Cooling Rates

## Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>

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$$\frac{dT}{dt} = - (k/C_p M) \Delta T + P_X / C_p M - P'_X / C_p M$$

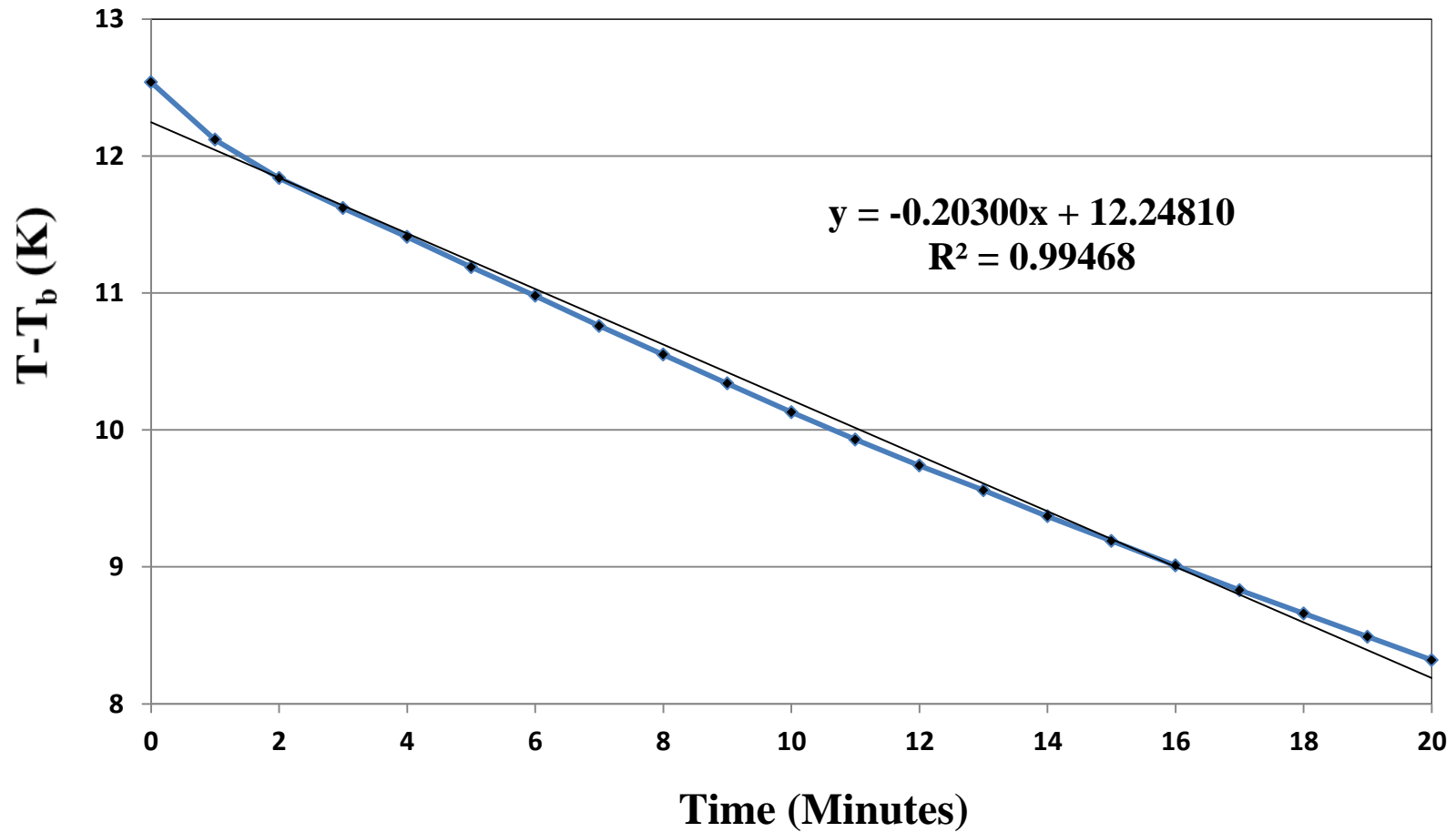
where  $k = 0.1348 \text{ W/K}$  and  $C_p M = 430 \text{ J/K}$

Time (minutes)	$\Delta T$ (K)	Exp. (K/min)	Theoretical (K)
2	11.84	-0.28	-0.223
5	11.19	-0.22	-0.211
10	10.31	-0.21	-0.191
15	9.19	-0.18	-0.173
20	8.32	-0.17	-0.156
30	6.77	-0.14	-0.127
40	5.61	-0.11	-0.106
50	4.63	-0.09	-0.087

**Initial Cooling For Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>**  
 **$\Delta T = \Delta T_0 \exp(-kt/C_p M) \approx \Delta T_0 (1 - kt/C_p M)$**

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**T-T<sub>b</sub> (K)**



# Cell Cooling at End of Experiment

(I = 0)

- ❖ Evidence For Heat-After-Death
- ❖ Ratio of  $k_R / C_p M$  or  $k_C / C_p M$

## Conductive Heat Transfer

$$C_p M dT/dt = -k_C (T - T_b)$$

$$\ln(T_o - T_b) / (T - T_b) = (k_C / C_p M)t$$

$$\Delta T = \Delta T_o \exp(-k_C t / C_p M)$$

## Radiative Heat Transfer

$$C_p M dT/dt = -k_R (T^4 - T_b^4)$$

$$\ln(T_o - T_b) / (T - T_b) - \ln(T_o + T_b) / (T + T_b) + 2[\tan^{-1}(T / T_b) - \tan^{-1}(T_o / T_b)] \\ = 4 T_b^3 k_R t / C_p M = (k'_C / C_p M)t$$

- ✓ Straight-Line Form:  $y = mx$
- ✓ Same Slope if  $k_C = k'_C$  and same  $C_p M$  value

# Expressions For Radiative Power

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$$\Delta T = T - T_b \text{ or } \boxed{T = T_b + \Delta T}$$

$$P_R = -k_R (T^4 - T_b^4) = -k_R [(T_b + \Delta T)^4 - T_b^4]$$

$$P_R = -k_R (T_b^4 + 4T_b^3 \Delta T + 6T_b^2 \Delta T^2 + 4T_b \Delta T^3 + \Delta T^4 - T_b^4)$$

$$\boxed{P_R = -k_R [4T_b^3 \Delta T + 6T_b^2 \Delta T^2 + 4T_b \Delta T^3 + \Delta T^4]}$$

(Exact)

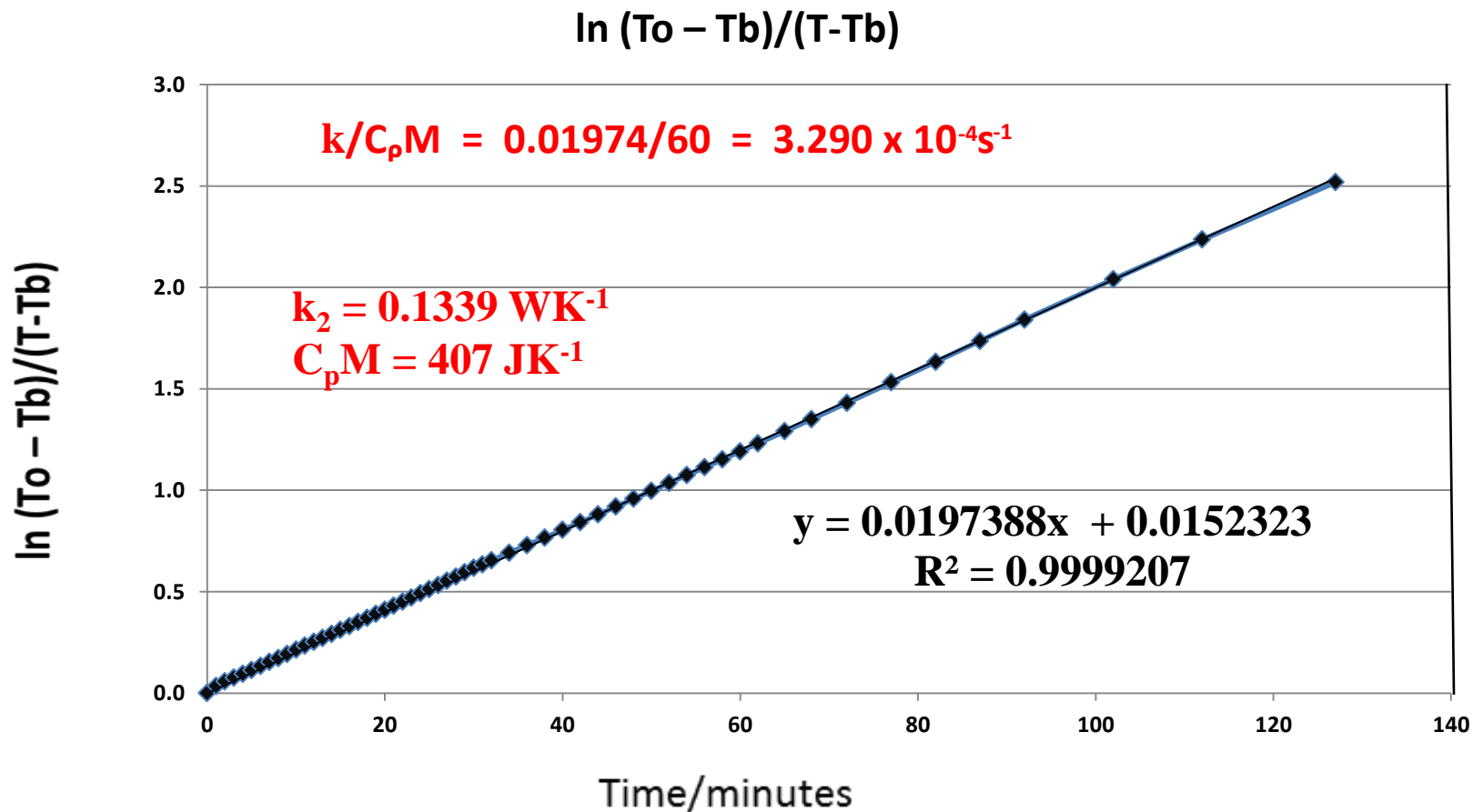
$$P_R \approx -4T_b^3 k_R \Delta T = -k'_C \Delta T$$

(Approximate)

$$\text{where } k'_C = 4T_b^3 k_R$$

# Cooling Curve For Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub> (Heat Transfer By Conduction)

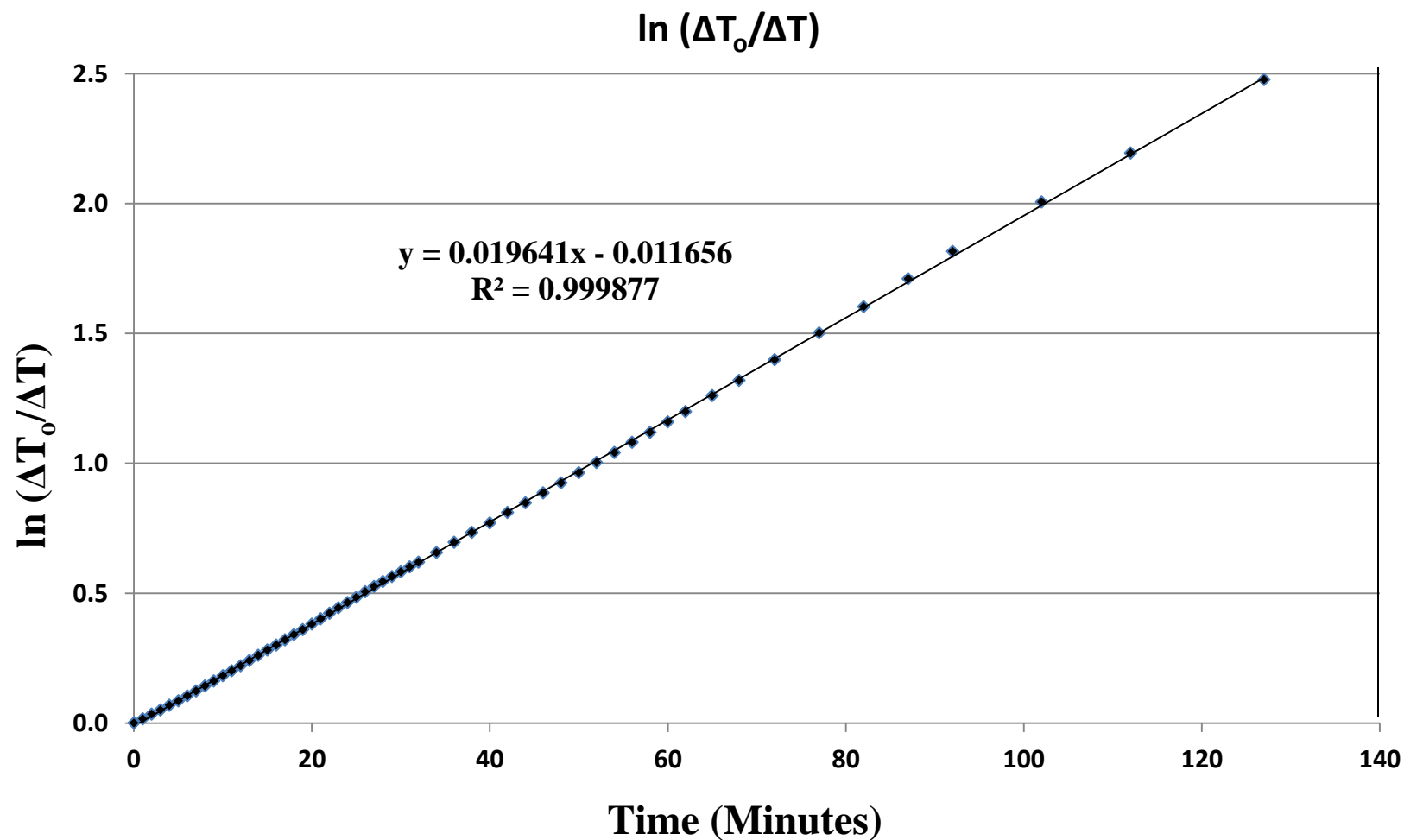
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# Cooling Curve Using Second Thermister

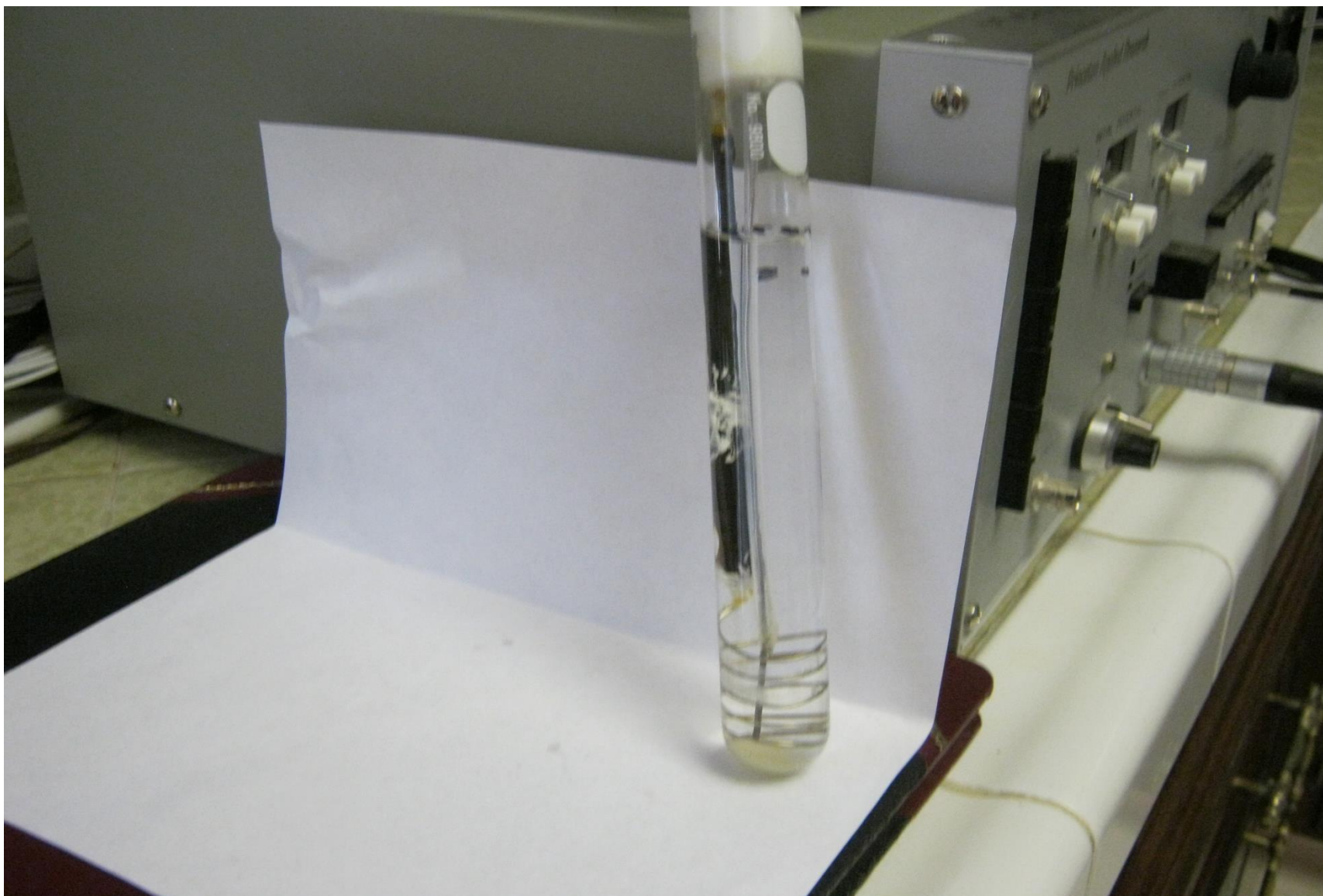
## (Pd/D<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>)

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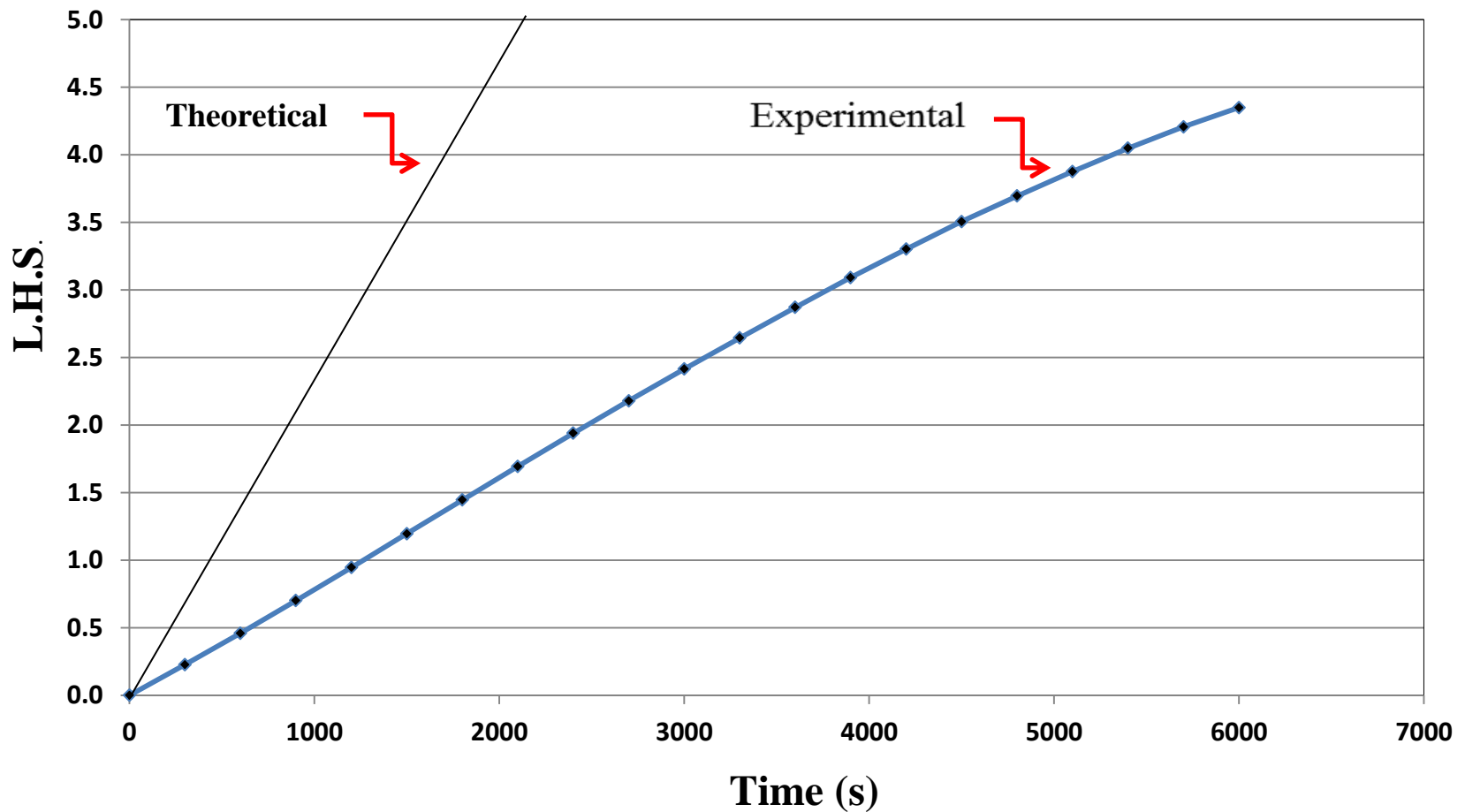
# Electrochemical Cell Following Experiment

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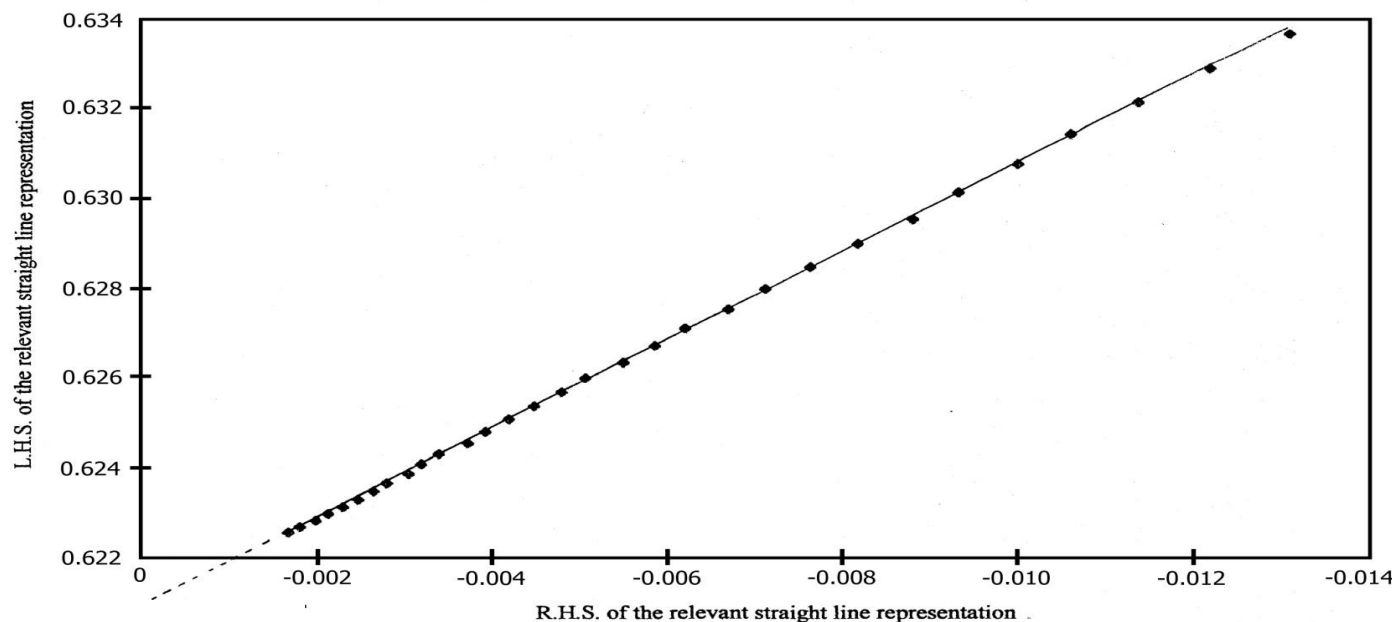
# Cooling Curve For Pd-B Experiment With Excess Power (Dewar Cell)

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# Fleischmann's Straight Line Method (Dewar Calorimetry)

( $y = mx + b$ )



$y$  – intercept yields

Slope =  $C_p M / C_p M'$  yields

$$k_R = 0.62085 \times 10^{-9} \text{ WK}^{-4}$$

5 significant figures

$$C_p M) = 341.1 \text{ JK}^{-1}$$

- ❖ Platinum /  $D_2O$  Control
- ❖ Assumes  $P_x$  is Zero or Constant
- ❖ Uses Backward Integration of Calorimetric Data ( $t_2, t$ )
- ❖  $t_2$  is midpoint of two-day cycle
- ❖  $t$  is near beginning of cycle

# Derivation of Fleischmann's Straight Line Method

$$C_p M dT/dt = P_{EI} + P_H + P_X + P_R + P_C + P_g + P_W$$

$$C_p M dT/dt = -k_R f(T) + P_{net} + P_X$$

$$\text{where } P_{net} = P_{EI} + P_H + P_g + P_W \text{ and } P_R \gg P_C$$

$$C_p M dT = -k_R f(T) dt + P_{net} dt + P_X dt$$

$$(P_{net} + P_X) dt = C_p M dT + k_R f(T) dt$$

$$\int (P_{net} + P_X) dt / \int f(T) dt = C_p M \int dT / \int f(T) dT + k_R$$

$$y = C_p M x + k_R$$

$$\text{Let } x = x' / C_p M'$$

$$y = C_p M x' + k_R$$

Algebraic  
Rearrangements

Integration and  
Substitution

Integrate / Multiply by  $10^9$

Note

$$10^9 [y] = 10^9 C_p M [X'] / C_p M' + 10^9 k_R$$

$[y]$ ,  $[x']$  and  $k_R$

Have units of  $WK^{-4}$

$y$  – Intercept =  $10^9 k_R$

Slope =  $C_p M / C_p M' \approx 1$

## Combining Radiation and Conduction Terms

$(P_R \gg P_C)$

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$$P_R + P_C = -k_R (T^4 - T_b^4) - k_C (T - T_b)$$

$$\text{Let } P'_R = P_R + P_C = - (k'_R) (T^4 - T_b^4) = -k_R (T^4 - T_b^4) - k_C (T - T_b)$$

$$(k'_R) = k_R + k_C (T - T_b) / (T^4 - T_b^4)$$

❑ Small Increase in  $k_R$  Accounts for Heat Conduction Terms.

## Power Term For Temperature Change Of Calorimeter $P_{\text{calor}}$

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$$P_{\text{calor}} = C_p \frac{d}{dt} [M(T-T_b)] = C_p M \frac{d}{dt} (T-T_b) + C_p (T-T_b) \frac{dM}{dt}$$

$$\text{where } M = M^{\circ} - (1+\beta) \gamma It/2F$$

For  $T_b = \text{Constant}$  And  $\gamma = 1.00$

$$P_{\text{calor}} = C_p M \frac{dT}{dt} - C_p (T-T_b)(1 + \beta) I/2F$$

$$P_{\text{calor}} \approx C_p M \frac{dT}{dt}$$

## Power Term For Rate of Work ( $P_w$ )



per Faraday, F

$$W = - P \Delta V = - \Delta n R T$$

$$\Delta n = 0.75 (I/F) \text{ in moles/s}$$

$$P_w = - 0.75 (I/F) R T$$

If  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  vapor is also considered, then

$$P_w = - 0.75 (1 + P')(I/F) R T$$

$$\text{where } P' = P / (P^* - P)$$

### Note

$$E_H = - \Delta H / ZF \quad \text{Does Not Account For Work}$$

$$H = U + PV \text{ (Definition)}$$

$$(\Delta H)_p = \Delta U + P \Delta V \quad \text{where } \Delta U = q - P \Delta V \text{ (1st Law)}$$

$$(\Delta H)_p = (q - P \Delta V) + P \Delta V = q \quad \text{(Heat)}$$

# Power Term For Escaping Gases ( $P_g$ ) ( $D_2$ , $O_2$ , $D_2O$ vapor)

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Per Faraday (F)

$$P_g = - (I/F) [0.5 C_{p,D_2} + 0.25 C_{p,O_2} + 0.75 P' C_{p,D_2O}] \Delta T - 0.75 (I/F) P' L$$

$$\text{where } P' = P/(P^* - P)$$

$$P^* = P_{D_2} + P_{O_2} + P_{D_2O} \approx P_{atm}$$

Notes:  $P_g$  will be small for  $T < 70^\circ C$

Atmospheric Pressure needed for calculations of  $P_g$

## F – P Approximation (1993)

$$P'_g = - 0.75 (I/F) P' [C_{p,D_2O(g)} - C_{p,D_2O(l)}] [\Delta T + L]$$

Note:  $P'_g$  less negative than  $P_g$

# Factors For Attaining The Fleischmann-Pons Calorimetric Accuracy

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- **Accurate Cell and Bath Temperature Measurements ( $\pm 0.001$  K)**
- **Data Averaging (Data collected every 300 s)**
- **$\overline{k_R}$  11-point Average ,  $\overline{\overline{k_R}}$  6 – point Average of  $\overline{k_R}$**
- **Numerical Integration of Calorimetric Data**
- **Straight-Line Method for obtaining  $k_R$  and  $C_p M$**
- **Use of Two-Day Cycles with Heater Application (12 hours)**
- **Control of Room Temperature ( $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ )**
- **Use of all Calorimetric Terms ( $P_{\text{El}}, P_{\text{H}}, P_{\text{R}}, P_{\text{C}}, P_{\text{g}}, P_{\text{W}}$ )**
- **Measurements of Atmospheric Pressure Each Day For  $P_{\text{g}}$  Calculations**
- **Silver Coating of Top 30% of Dewar Calorimetric Cell (Minimizes Electrolyte Level Effect)**
- **Control of Electrolyte and Bath Levels**
- **Adequate Cell Current for Stirring / Small Cell Diameters**

**Calorimetric Error of Only  $\pm 0.01\%$  ( $\pm 0.1$  mW)**

**- Measure When Cold Fusion Effect First Begins**

# Summary

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- ❖ **F-P Dewar Calorimetry Is Most Accurate System Reported For Cold Fusion**  
**Error only  $\pm 0.01\%$  ( $\pm 0.1$  mW)**
- ❖ **Accuracy of Temperature Measurements Determines Error Limit**
- ❖ **Calorimetric Design Offers Many Advantages**  
**(View Inside Cell, Wide Dynamic Range, Safety)**
- ❖ **Initial Period Provides Important Information**  
**D-Loading Behavior , Lower Bound  $k'_R$  or  $k'_C$**
- ❖ **Numerical Integration Provides Accurate  $k_R$  and  $C_{pM}$  Values**
- ❖ **Important Information From Cell Cooling ( $I=0$ )**  
**(Heat-After-Death ,  $k_R/C_{pM}$  Ratio)**
- ❖ **All Power Terms Should Be Considered ( $C_{pM}dT/dt$ ,  $P_{EL}$ ,  $P_H$ ,  $P_R$ ,  $P_C$ ,  $P_g$ ,  $P_W$ )**
- ❖ **Considerable Mathematical Equations Involved**

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